

BULLETIN OF THE

POLONUS PHILATELIC SOCIETY



Meets every 4th Friday at Polish American Congress, 5844 Milwaukee Av., Chgo.

Issue No. 406

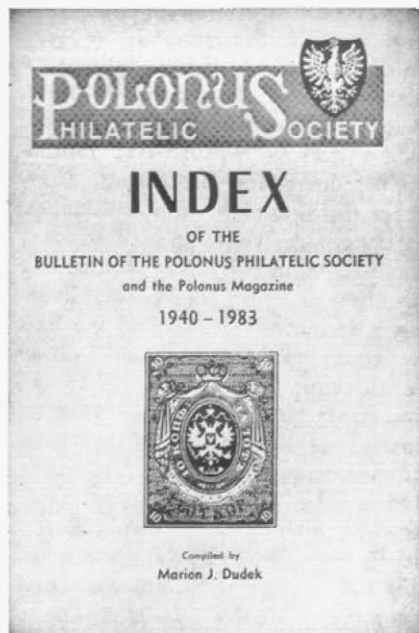
Price \$2.00

Sept.-Oct., 1984

BULLETIN INDEX PUBLISHED!

A major event in Polish philately has occurred—the publication of "The Index of the Bulletin of the Polonus Philatelic Society and Polonus Magazine." For the first time in the 45 year history of the Polonus Society, members have a complete index to the first 401 issues (1940-83) of the Bulletin. Until now the back issues of the Bulletin have been like a treasure room without a key. Now members have the key to unlock over 40 years of cumulative wisdom.

The "Index" is the result of the tireless efforts of Polonus member, Marion Dudek of California. Mr. Dudek has spent over a year reading each and every issue of the "Bulletin" and its predecessor, the "Polonus Magazine." Working at times up to 12 hours a day on this task, constant writing and rewriting, trips to Chicago to consult with other Polonus members, numerous telephone calls, and continual working with the printers, have produced one of the finest reference indexes available to all philatelists and the most comprehensive index available to Polish philatelists. Mr. Dudek deserves the highest commendation of the Polonus Philatelic Society!!!



The Index is almost two hundred pages long, bound in an attractive card cover, featuring a beautiful Poland #1, the premier stamp of Polish philately. The work comprises eight chapters. Chapter 1 contains some general information, lists the editors of the "Bulletin" and offers a table of issues by number, month and year.

(Continued on last page)

SOLIDARITY BEHIND BARS

By JOE MICHAUD

On the evening of December 12, 1981, some 5,000 Polish citizens were arrested and interned in 49 detainment camps that had been hastily set up throughout Poland. By Mar. 11, over 6,800 people had been detained, although by this time some 3,200 of the original 5,000 had been released. For those who were thus taken from their home and family without warning and many without proper clothing on a cold December night, the similarities between what was happening to them and what had happened to other Poles under the Nazi occupation must have come readily to mind. 5,000 Poles were arrested, taken to local militia stations, prisons and detainment camps for processing. Many spent the first night without blankets in unheated, vermin-ridden cells, some running in place throughout the night to keep from freezing. Eventually they received blankets but had to leave their clothing outside their cells overnight. Plumbing was frozen and disgusting, sometimes just an open hole in the floor. Food was often inadequate and of the lowest quality. There were isolated cases of brutality such as the beatings suffered by many detainees in Wierzchowo, but in general detainees were treated humanely. Eventually visits from family members and the reception of food parcels were tolerated. Besides the discomfort, which for the old and the sick was especially baneful, detainees were subject to frequent interrogations. Militia interrogators attempted to convince detainees of the futility of resisting the government and offered them their freedom in return for signing a loyalty oath. Many refused to sign but others

signed with a clear conscience knowing that any pledge signed under duress is meaningless. After only a few days or weeks of imprisonment, some detainees were released apparently without reason. It was thought this was to demoralize Solidarity members and supporters on the outside who would think the people released had gone over to the side of the government.

In spite of harsh treatment and inadequate facilities and care, morale and solidarity in detainment camps remained high. Detainees shared food parcels, sang patriotic songs to keep up their spirits and when one was mistreated this drew an immediate protest from fellow prisoners. Also, the church played an important role providing relief for families of detainees and setting up information centers to establish who had been interned where. Priests visited camps to celebrate Mass, to receive detainees' complaints and were frequently successful in bettering conditions within the camps.

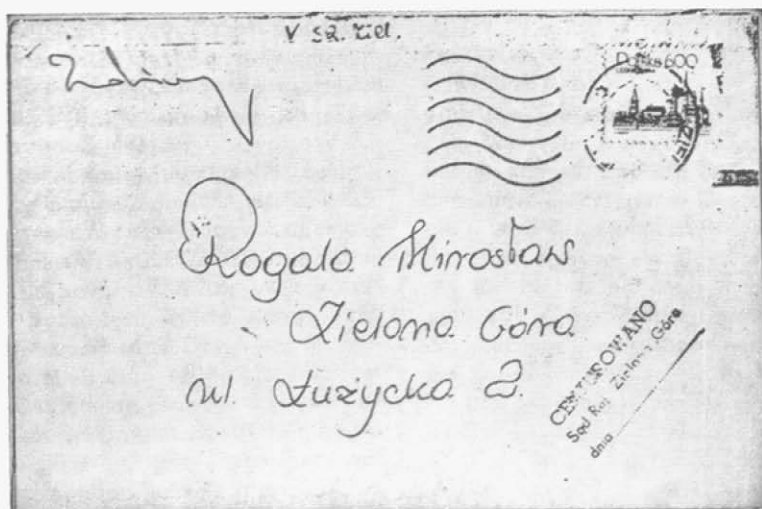
I would now like to describe several covers from my collection to or from such detainment facilities.

From an outgoing letter we show a handstamp from a facility in Zielona Góra, on Fig. 1.

This and another incoming letter to the same facility (same correspondence) bear the word 'CENZUROWANO' (CENSORED) in magenta. The

CENZUROWANO

1. Outgoing letter with Type 5A1 handstamp, date and censor's signature in manuscript on inside of backflap



2. Local cover addressed to prisoner with Type 5C1 handstamp.

handstamp (Type 5A1, Michaud), all in caps, measures 4.5 mm x 45 mm. On the incoming letter it was applied to the back with the date and censor's initials in manuscript. On the outgoing letter it was applied on the inside of the back-flap. Apparently mail leaving the facility was handed to the censor unsealed. Af-

ter censorship, this particular letter was sealed across the point of the flap with tape. This cover is stampless containing only the pencilled address and a mostly illegible CDS.

In Figure 2 we have another cover from Zielona Góra with a 3-line handstamp struck on the face in carmine. The handstamp (Type 5C1,



3. Post card addressed to prisoner in Białystok, forwarded to prison in Warsaw. Card bears military handstamp 6B1.

Michaud) reads in Polish: 'CENZUROWANO/Sąd Rej. Zielona Góra/dnia _____'; in English: CENSORED /Regional Court Zielona Gora/date _____. The caps in the top line measure 3.3 mm and the caps in the lower two lines measure 2.5 mm and the lower case letters 1.5 mm.

In Figure 3 we have a card addressed to a detainment facility (Areszt Śledczy) in Białystok. It carries a military handstamp (Type 6B1, Michaud) struck in violet. The circle measures 29 mm in diameter and the lettering reads in Polish: 'WOJSKOWA PROKURATURA GARNIZONU WA BIAŁYSTOK'; in English: 'MILITARY PROSECUTOR GARRISON OF BIAŁYSTOK. Note the numbers 156/82 in manuscript just to the right of the card. This is found on three other pieces of this correspondence and is believed to be the detainee's identification number. He would be the 156th person detained in 1982 in Białystok. This card and the other 3 pieces addressed to the same person were forwarded to the military prison in Warsaw to which the prisoner

had been transferred.

In Figure 4 we have a cover from this correspondence which carries a 4-line censor handstamp in pink of the Warsaw militia. The handstamp (Type 5D1, Michaud) reads in Polish: 'CENZUROWANO / Sędzia Sądu / Warszawskiego OW/w Warszawie'; in English: CENSORED/Court Judge/Warsaw Militia/in Warsaw. The top line consists of 3.3 mm caps. The caps in the next 3 lines measure 2.2 mm and the lower case letters 1.5 mm. There is also the number 428 in manuscript just to the left of the address and under the registration label. This may be the cell number.

As there were at least 49 and possibly as many as 60 detainment camps, as well as an indeterminate number of prisons that held detainees, many different handstamps will yet come to light. This type of censored mail will be scarce in relation to the great amount of public mail was censored in Poland during martial law.

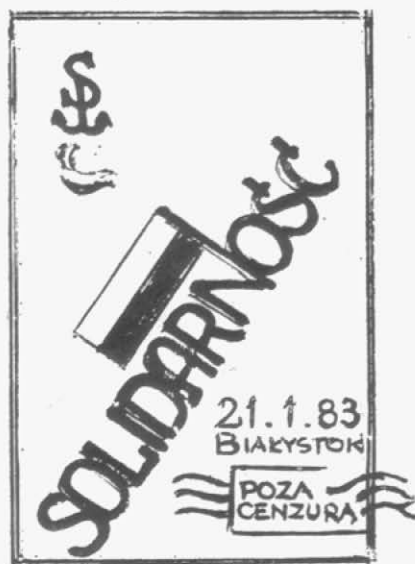
I would now like to turn to some philatelic items that are reputed to



4. Cover to prison in Białystok forwarded to Warsaw with Warsaw Militia Court censor handstamp.

have been produced by detainees while in prison, but also possibly by resisting members of the population on the outside. I introduce these items with caution as there is as yet no way of knowing for sure which pieces are a genuine expression of resistance and which may have been fabricated for sale to collectors.

In Figure 5 we have what I believe to be a genuine piece. It is hand-drawn in marking pens (red, black and green) on a half of a Polish postal card. The card depicts a monument in the Westerplatte suburb of Gdańsk where World War II began for Poland. This in itself may be a symbol of resistance. In the upper left of the reverse is the "S and anchor" logos of Solidarity. This symbol is interesting since it is clearly modelled after the Polish symbol of resistance against the Germans in WW II. The anchor is an ancient christian symbol of hope and salvation. In Figure 6 we see the two com-



5. Solidarity design on back of part of postal card intended as expression of resistance.



6. Left, Solidarity symbol; right, symbol of Home Army of W.W. II.

pared. On the left is the Solidarity logo and on the right the "P and anchor" of the Polish Home Army (AK). The letter "P" stands of course for Poland. In the center of the card is another Solidarity logo and at bottom right we have the late 21.1.83 and Białystok (host city for one of the camps) and the words: POZA CENZURĄ; in English: BEYOND CENSORSHIP. The message here is that the spirit of Solidarity will not be defeated by repression. It is a pun on the words: POCZTA CENZURA; in English: POSTAL CENSORSHIP.

In Figure 7 we have a crudely printed (mimeographed?) cover with a cachet showing Lech Wałęsa, Solidarity's internationally known leader and recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize. In the upper right hand corner is a mock stamp with the words: POCZTA OBOZOWA; in English CAMP POST, and a hand in manacles holding the flower of hope. This is all in black. At the bottom in red we have the Solidarity logo. The CDS reads STRZEBIELINEK (name of camp) WOJENNA (relating to WAR) and the date 31.08.82. The word WOJENNA says that in a sense the detainees are not political prisoners but prisoners of war. The declaration of martial law in Poland was actually a declaration of war by the military government on the Polish people.

Another piece reputed to be from the same camp (see Figure 8), is a post card showing a picture of the

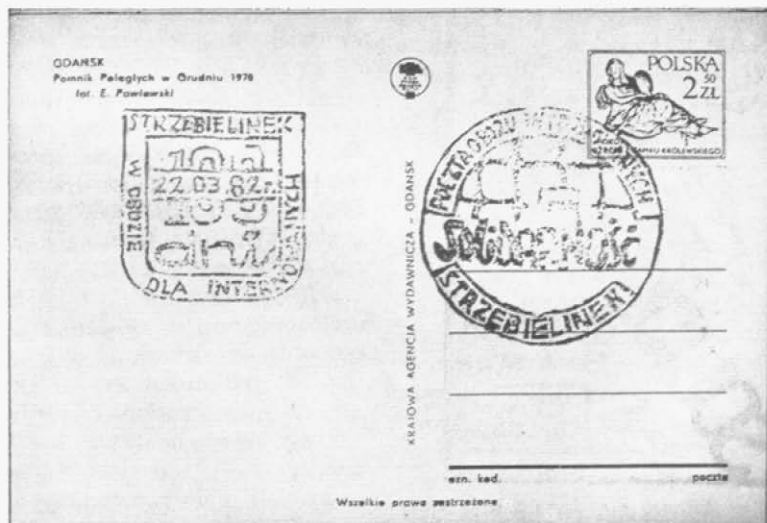


7. Cover reputed to have been produced by prisoners in Strzebielinek Detainment Camp pictures Wałęsa and Solidarity logos.

monument in Gdańsk dedicated to the December martyrs of 1970. This card bears a common definitive stamp tied by a large circular cachet reading at the top: "POCZTA OBOZU INTERNOWANYCH", in English: INTERNMENT CAMP POST. At

the bottom it reads: STRZEBIELINEK and in the center is the Solidarity logo under a representation of what may be bars or stone wall. To the left is another cachet in the shape of a shield. It reads at the top: STRZEBIELINEK, down the side from left to r.:

(Continued on page 406-12)



8. Another card reputed to have been produced in the Strzebielinek camp. It commemorates 100 days of internment.

Censorship Markings: "Gen.-Gouv. Warschau," 1915-1918

by Conrad P. Straub, Ph.D.

Introduction

With the entry of German troops into parts of Russian Poland in Autumn 1914, the Military Administration opened post offices in Bendzin and Wielun on October 20; in Czenstochau and Kalisch on October 22; and in Sosnowitz on October 26, 1914. These were available to the German authorities. (The Postal Museum, Berlin, does not record the cancellation for Sosnowitz).

The troops withdrew and the post offices were closed in mid-November 1914. Following the withdrawal of Russian troops from Poland, the German Postal Administration (first installed in Posen on May 1, 1915) was transferred to Kalisch and then to Warschau. The first stamps for this area, overprinted "Russisch Polen," appeared on May 1, 1915, with the opening of the post offices in Bendzin, Czenstochau, Kalisch, Kolo, Konin, Lodz, Pabianice, Sieradz, and Wloclawek. (German and Polish catalogues show the issue date as May 12, 1915.)

Additional post offices were opened during the period June 1, 1915, through November 25, 1917. A second issue, overprinted "Gen.-Gouv. Warschau" (General Gouvernement Warschau), was introduced during the period August 1, 1917, through October 1, 1917.

Mail addressed to Germany or directed from Germany to the Gen.-Gouv. Warschau was censored at the Office for International Mail (Auslandpostüberwachungsstelle) located in Posen, and later moved to Breslau. Mail within the Gen.-Gouv. Warschau area was censored (Postüberwachungsstelle — the postal inspection station) initially in Czenstochau, subsequently in Kalisch, before a final move to Warschau. From 1917 there existed a censorship office (Zensurstelle) in Lodz.

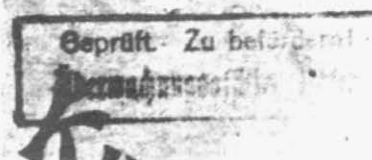
This article describes the censorship marks applied in Posen, in Warschau, and by the VI. Armeekorps. Their periods of use, based on covers in my collection, are indicated in the Table.

Posen Censorship Marks

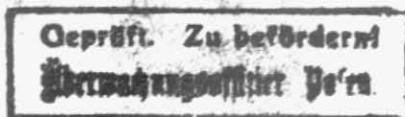
Six major types have been seen, with sub-types described for some (see Figure 1).

Type 1 Boxed, rectangular, 63 by 17 mm, two lines: "Geprüft. Zu befördern! Überwachungsoffizier Posen." Dates: 1.7.15 to 8.5.17 (fifty-three covers).

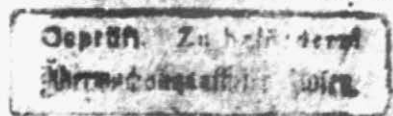
Type 1a First line, Roman letters, upper and lower case (length 48 mm); second line, Gothic letters, upper and lower case (length 50 mm). Roman letter "e's" have a horizontal crossbar, there is a long crossbar on the letter "G," bottom of loop of "p" curves upward, Roman letters are sans-serif, bottom of "t" curves to right, and there is no period after "Posen." Dates: 1.7.15 to 3.12.15 (six covers). Colors: violet-blue, blue.



Type 1a.



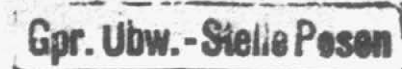
Type 1b.



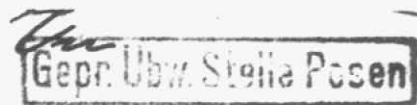
Type 1b'.



Type 2a.



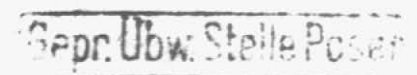
Type 2b.



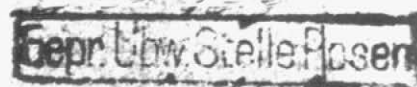
Type 3a.



Type 3a'.



Type 3b.



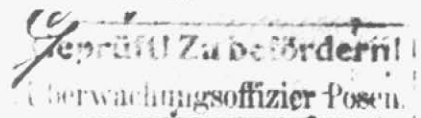
Type 3c.



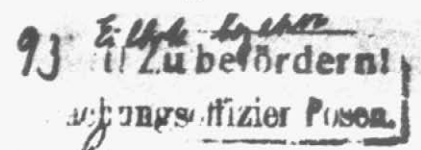
Type 3e.



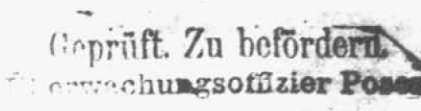
Type 3d.



Type 4a.



Type 4b.



Type 5.



Type 6.

Figure 1. Posen Censorship Markings.

Type 1b First line, Roman letters, upper and lower case (length 52 mm); second line, Gothic letters, upper and lower case (length 52 mm). No crossbar on letter "G," crossbars on "e's" slope downward to left at about a forty-five-degree angle, loop of "p" ends downward to left, "t" does not turn to right at base, letters have serifs, and there is a period after "Posen." Dates: 9.6.15 to 8.5.17 (thirty-six covers). Colors: violet, blue, violet-blue.

Type 1b' Same as Type 1b, but corners of the rectangle are rounded. Dates: 27.5.16 to 14.9.16 (eleven covers). Colors: blue, violet.

Type 2 Boxed, rectangular, one line: "Gpr. Übw.-Stelle Posen." Upper- and lower-case. Dates: 18.12.15 to 9.9.16 (forty-eight covers).

Type 2a 48 by 7.1-7.7 mm, horizontal bar on "G" at height of lower-case letters, letters have serifs, period after "Posen."

Dates: 18.12.15 to 21.7.16 (twenty-eight covers). Colors: red, violet, red-violet.

Type 2b 49 by 9 mm, horizontal bar of "G" below height of lower-case letters, letters sans-serif, no period after "Posen." Dates: 19.4.16 to 11.7.16 (sixteen covers). Colors: red, violet, red-violet.

Type 3 Boxed, rectangular, one line: "Gepr. Übw. Stelle Posen." Upper and lower case, length 51-52 mm. Dates: 14.7.16 to 21.11.18 (eighty-three covers). Color: red.

Type 3a 54 by 8.5 mm, horizontal bar of "G" at mid-height of loop of "e," letters narrower, crossbars on "e's" and "t" horizontal, no period after "Posen." length 51 mm. Dates: 14.7.16 to 30.1.18 (thirty-four covers).

Type 3a' same as 3a, but crossbar of "t" sloped downward to left. Date: 14.8.16 (one cover).

Type 3a'' Same as Type 3a, but no periods after "Gepr" and "Übw." Date: 23.10.17 (one cover).

Type 3b Same as Type 3a, but "b" has a larger loop, length 51.1 mm. Date: 11.2.18 (one cover).

Type 3c Same as Type 3a, but "G" is broader with horizontal crossbar near top of "e," loops of "e's" smaller, all letters wider, in particular "Ü" and "S," length 51.2 mm. Dates: 6.12.17 to 8.11.18 (fifteen covers).

Type 3d Same as Type 3a, but "G" is shaped differently, crossbars of "e's" and "t" go downward to left, lower-case letters are taller, length 51.6 mm. Dates: 15.7.16 to 21.11.18 (twenty-two covers).

Type 3e Same as Type 3d, but with wider "S," narrower "o." Length 52.2 mm, rounded corners. Date: 29.8.18 (one cover).

Type 4 Boxed, rectangular, two lines: "Geprüft! Zu befördern! Überwachungssoffizier Posen." Roman letters with serifs, upper and lower case. Dates: 30.5.17 to 8.7.18 (twenty-three covers). Color: blue.

Type 4a First line, length 65 mm; second line, length 66 mm. Dates: 30.5.17 to 21.6.17 (three covers).

Type 4b Same as Type 4a, but letters are not as sharp and some letters differ in shape, being narrower. Dates: 2.11.17 to

8.7.18 (twenty covers).

Type 5 Two lines: "Geprüft. Zu befördern. Überwachungsoffizier Posen." Roman letters, upper and lower case. First line, length 51 mm; second line, length 65 mm. Dates: 10.9.18 to 7.11.18 (five covers). Color: blue.

Type 6 Double-circle: outer circle, 34.5 mm diameter; inner circle, 32 mm diameter, capital letters: "PRÜFUNGS. U. ÜBERWACHUNGS-STELLE/DES V. ARMEEKORPS, POSEN," with eagle in center. Dates: 9.6.15 to 9.4.18 (six covers). Colors: blue, violet.

Warschau Censorship Marks

Three major types have been seen, with sub-types described for some. Wolter⁴ lists two types, 1a and 1b, with five types indicated for Type 1b (see Figure 2).

Type 1 Boxed, rectangular, two lines: "Geprüft./ Postüberwachungsstelle Warschau." Dates: 12.11.15 to 7.1.18 (twenty-two covers).

Type 1a 61 by 23 mm, period after "Geprüft" and "Warschau." First line 30 mm; second line 56 mm. Dates: 12.11.15 to 21.4.16 (five covers). Colors: black, violet, purple.

Type 1a' 61.5 by 22.5 mm, no period after "Warschau"; first line 28 mm, second line 58 mm. Date: 7.1.18 (one cover). Color: red.

Type 1b 39 by 18 mm, no period after "Geprüft"; no period after "Warschau"; first line 24.5 mm, second line 26.5 mm. Dates: 16.2.16 to 29.8.16 (four covers). Colors: purple, violet.

Type 1c 59 by 14 mm, period after "Geprüft" and "Warschau." First line 24 mm, second line 54 mm. Dates: 26.6.16 to 18.5.17 (seven covers). Colors: violet, purple.

Type 1c' 59.5 by 13.5 mm, period after "Geprüft"; no period after "Warschau." First line 24 mm, second line 53 mm. Dates: 11.6.16 to 30.7.17 (five covers). Colors: black, violet.

Type 2 Boxed, rectangular, three lines: "Geprüft./ Milit. Postüberwachungsstelle/ Gen. Gouv. Warschau." Upper- and lower-case letters, 53 by 20 mm, no period after "Warschau"; first line 31 mm, sec-

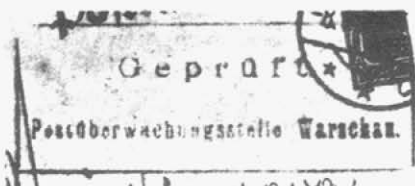
ond line 49 mm, third line 40 mm. Date: 21.12.17 (one cover). Color: purple.

Type 3 Two lines: "Rechnungshof des Deutschen Reiches/ Prüfungsstelle WAR-SCHAU." Second line in italics.

Type 3a First line 71 mm, second line

51 mm, overall height of the two lines 9.5 mm. Dates: 27.11.17 to 3.1.18 (two covers). Colors: violet, purple.

Type 3b First line 68.5 mm, second line 53 mm, overall height of the two lines 10.5 mm. Date: 8.1.18 (one cover). Color: purple.



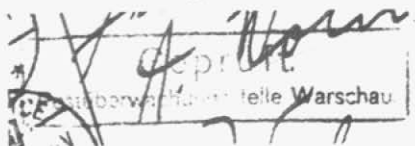
Type 1a.



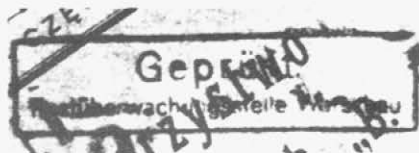
Type 1a'.



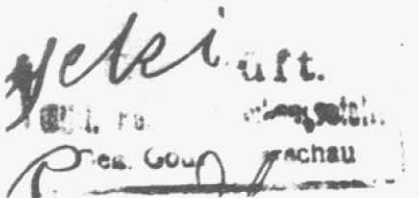
Type 1b.



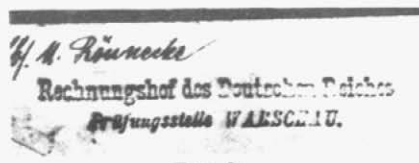
Type 1c.



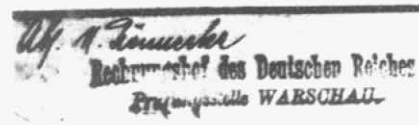
Type 1c'.



Type 2.



Type 3a.



Type 3b.

Figure 2. Warschau Censorship Markings.

VI. Armeekorps Censorship Marks

Six major types have been seen, with sub-types described for some (see Figure 3).

Type 1 Double-line oval, outer oval 37 by 20 mm, inner oval 35.5 by 18.5 mm. Three lines: "Überwachungsstelle/Geprüft!/VI. Armeekorps." Upper- and lower-case letters. Dates: 20.9.16 to 14.6.17

(eight covers). Colors: blue, violet, purple.

Type 2 Oval (incomplete). Three lines(?): "Überwachungsstelle VI. A.K./Geprüft!/./." Upper- and lower-case letters. Dates: 16.6.17 to 19.7.17 (two covers). Colors: violet, purple.

Type 3 Double-line oval: outer oval 43 by 28 mm, inner oval 41 by 26 mm. Three lines: "Überwachungsstelle VI. A.K.*/

Geprüft! Breslau." Upper- and lower-case letters. Date: 10.8.17 (one cover). Color: blue.

Type 4 Boxed, rectangular. Two lines: "Geprüft./Ue.-St. VI. A.-K." Upper- and lower-case letters, 26 by 13.5 mm, first line 18.5 mm, second line 20.3 mm, overall height of the two lines 10.9 mm. Date: 7.10.16 (one cover). Color: blue.

Type 5 Boxed, rectangular. Two lines: "Geprüft/Ü.-St. VI. A.-K." Upper- and lower-case letters, 25.5-26.5 by 14-15 mm, first line 19-22 mm, second line 20.8-23.7 mm, overall height of the two lines 10.2-11 mm, height of "A." 2.7-4.2

mm. Dates: 4.10.17 to 30.10.18 (ten covers). Colors: black, blue, purple, violet.

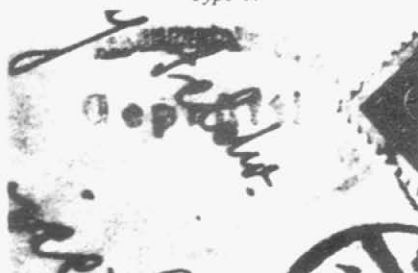
Type 6 Boxed, rectangular, 50 by 19 mm. Two lines: "Stellv. Gen. Kdo. VI. A.K./Postprüfungsstelle." Upper- and lower-case letters, first line 53 mm, second line 41 mm. Dates: 7.10.16 to 2.6.17 (five covers). Colors: violet, red, red-violet.

A second article describing some of the miscellaneous-type censorship marks used during this period will follow.

Reprinted from
The AMERICAN PHILATELIST



Type 1.



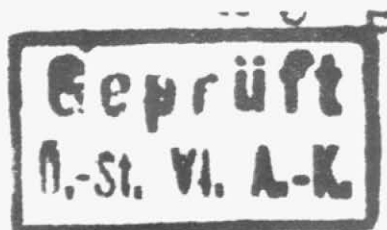
Type 2.



Type 3.



Type 4.



Type 5.



Type 6.

Figure 3. VI. Armeekorps Censorship Markings.

SOLIDARITY BEHIND BARS

(Continued from page 406-6)

'W OBOZIE DLA INTERNOWANYCH' in Eng.: IN THE CAMP FOR DETAINEES, and in the center the date 22. 03. 82. superimposed over the number 100 and the Polish word for days. This card commemorates 100 days imprisonment in Strzeblinek.

As time passes, more and more

information will become available about these camps how the mail was handled and censored and about the validity of these souvenirs of Solidarity behind bars. In anyone has any corrections, additions or further information about this material or about Polish martial law censorship in general, please contact the author directly: Joe Michaud, 1425 Laurel Street, Iowa City, IA 52240.

Polish Underground Stamp on a Postally Used Cover



As a follow up to the note "Underground Stamps From Poland" in the *Polonus Bulletin*, March-April issue, p. 379-4, the *Polonus Philatelic Society* received the cover shown in the illustration. It was mailed anonymously from Wrocław on February 14, 1983 and among the stamps used to prepay the postage is the previously described 2.50 zł. 'Scoti' No. 2501 stamp with the underground overprint: "13. XII. 1981, Wojna WRON z Narodem, 13. XII. 1982" (13 December, 1981, War between the "Military Council for the Salvation of the Nation" and the Nation, 13 December, 1982).

This cover is an interesting and philatelically valuable item. It was mailed by the issuers of these stamps

apparently to demonstrate that these stamps do have postal validity. This of course is not the case; this letter went through the mails thanks to the lack of attention (perhaps even a willful lack of attention) of the postal personnel. They do not study every stamp they cancel and often anything that appears to be a stamp passes. The numerous new issues add to the confusion in all countries. For example, I recently received a letter mailed to me within the USA, which is franked exclusively with a red "Solidarność" label, printed privately in the USA, instead of being franked with a 20¢ U.S. postage stamp.

While these Polish underground stamps do not have postal validity anywhere, they do have some philatelic merit and document a part of the current Polish postal history.

—Stanley Kronenberg

Philately in Nazi Occupied Poland During W.W. II 1939-1945

By EDWARD SUPERSON

Although so tragic and criminally insane, the Nazi occupation of Poland and their creation of the so called "General Government" inadvertently produced a rich philatelic history.

Multi-varieties of provisional mail: forerunners (German stamps used within Polish territories cancelled with postmarks still bearing Polish names of cities, towns and villages); "Dienstpost" and Deutsche Post Osten"; sloppy attempts of by Nazis to germanize Polish names of cities, towns and even villages; variety of postal cancellations of capital cities of the five districts created by the Nazis within the "General Government" (Kraków, Warszawa, Radom, Lublin and Lwów); train (rail-road) and rail-

road stations cancellations; official stamps; rural delivery stamps, only comparable to the Russian issue of "Ziemswo" stamps, a rare event in philately; fieldpost of German armed forces; fieldpost of Nazi S.S. mail; submarine stamp and mail; Ghettos; extermination (death) camp mail; British propaganda stamp; stamps and cancellations of the heroic Warszawa Uprising; are the various and colorful aspects in the Nazi occupied Poland. No other country offers such a variety accumulated within five years.

In addition, there are a vast variety of imperforated stamps of about every issue of "General Government", essays, color trials, specimens, misprints, forgeries, unissued stamps,



Four values of the General Government Polish Landmark issue of 1940 were surcharged with a cross and value in red and issued as semi-postal stamps.

etc., which is a specialized field in itself. In most instances, such items are derivative from printer's waste, which have been removed from Nazi government printing bureau in Vienna (occupied) Austria, either by the Nazi officials in charge, or by the Austrian workers employed, or by the Allied Forces liberating Vienna, and also some of the "General Government" finished and unfinished stamps from the partially bombed printing bureau.

It would be extremely difficult to catalog all of the printer's waste material, because even now, thirty-nine years later, new items appear on the stamp market every day.

Within the so called "General Government", the Nazis managed to print or overprint the total of 168 (basic) stamps within the 65 months (5 years, 5 months) of Poland's occupation, or the average of roughly 34 stamps per year:

- 87 stamps of regular issue
- 41 semi-postal stamps
- 36 official stamps
- 4 rural delivery stamps
- or 94 stamps with swastika
- 41 stamps without swastika
- 33 stamps depicting Hitler

The total number of 168 stamps does not include numerous varieties of printing, overprinting, colors, etc.

In addition, 47 special or commemorative cancellations have been created and used; 9 propaganda-slogan type cancellations; 1 pictorial town postmark; 6 basic postmarks of "V" (for victory) (!) propaganda; and at least 98 rail-way (train) postal cancellations.

Within the postal stationery: basically, 2 envelopes, 13 postcards, 14 (known) postcards utilized for official purposes, and plenty of var-

ieties within.

In territories annexed to Nazi Germany, a special commemorative slogan type cancellations also have been used, the details of which will be presented in another article.

At the present time the stamp market of Nazi occupied Poland is booming and I predict that it will continue to climb in popularity. This is largely attributable to both Polish and German stamp collectors' demand.

There are not too many reliable sources for this material in Germany, especially when one will inquire about items of S.S. fieldpost, extermination (death) camp mail or any other interesting items. Normally, such inquiries are met with suspicion and apprehension, and in most cases they remain unanswered. But most of the desirable items still can be obtained from reliable dealers here and there in the United States and Canada.

A few former Nazi postal officials who managed to escape from the German territories and settled in Central and South America brought with them a large number of "General Government" stamps, stamps from other Nazi occupied countries as well as Nazi stamp issues, including the original postmarking devices and the original inks. At the present they "specialize" in "stamp covers" and sell them on the philatelic market. Also, some stamp dealers and speculative investors in Europe and in New York City have in their stock enormous amounts of certain series of stamps of "General Government" and they gradually trickle them on the stamp market.

Summing up the above, it is obvious that a serious and specialized stamp collector of Nazi occupied

Poland has to combine philatelic science with a good measure of detective work to effect his research, search, expertise and other applications relative to philatelic items of Nazi occupied Poland. It is a tremendous challenge!

Of course, it is much easier for a collector, when he knows the history, geography, customs of Poland and Germany, chain of historical events, Nazis' method of terror, Poland's patriotism, determination and heroism, and so many, many related aspects necessary to arouse and comprehend a philatelist's interest.

K-LINE 1983 SUPPLEMENT

The 1983 Supplement of K-Line pages for Poland new issues. It consists of eight pages (see advertisement on last page).

Most interesting in the supplement is the write-up on the "ENIGMA MACHINE" issue, publicizing the 50th anniversary of the breaking of the Nazi military code transmitted by the Enigma Machine by Polish mathematicians led by Major Maksymilian Cieżki of the Polish Intelligence Bureau. This secret was given to the French and British Intelligence scarcely a month before Germany invaded Poland. This gift, further refined by the British, contributed greatly to the final defeat of Hitler's war machine.

WINNERS CIRCLE

Józef Kuderewicz, Gold Medal for *Disinfected Mail From Germany: 1805-1833* at BALPEX 84, Baltimore, Maryland

John Bartczak, Vermeil Medals for his *Galicja Postal District* at STAMP-SHOW 84, Dallas, Texas, NAPEX 84, Arlington, Virginia, and PIPEX 84, Portland, Oregon

James Mazepa, Gold Medal for *Air Post in Poland to 1939* at INDY-PEX 84, Indianapolis, Indiana

POLPEX 84 GOOD GUYS

The following names just missed the printing deadline to be included in the Polpex 84 Program Catalog:

STANLEY KRONENBERG

FRANK WIERZBOWSKI

DONNA RUDZINSKI

T. Czerkies	Felix Beiner
Robert Sperring	John Jasinski
Henry Kopica	Tom Podl
Charles Satkewicz	T. A. Gackowski
Longin Butewicz	Joe Mistarz
Peter Kozuch	Roman Strzelecki
Leonard Novak	John Drzewicki
M. A. Kamieński	Ronald Small
Lindsey Frederick	Patrick Laffey
Andrew Zajdler	

We are grateful for your support of Polpex 84.

—J. Bartczak, Chairman

MEMBERS MART

SELLING duplicates of a collection; Polish stamps, (Scott Nos. 1—1424) back of the book, as well as Central Lithuania, Danzig, Eastern & Upper Silesia. Please write to: Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Aupperle, 211 North Gardiner Ave., Rockford, IL 61107.

WILL TRADE my Poland and world wide duplicates for Poland I need. List for a SASE. Mark Palen, 2266 Earle St., Port Neches, TX, 77651.

TID BITS

Member Miet Kamieński of Toronto is the Course co-coordinator for "Pleasure and Profit in Philately", offered at the George Brown College in Toronto.

During the visit of Pope John Paul II to Canada in September, the Canadian Post Office issued two stamps, souvenir stamp packets, and postcards. Eleven different post marks were used for the event. Details are available from: Canadian Post Office, Philatelic Service, Ottawa, Canada, K1A 0B5.

BULLETIN INDEX PUBLISHED!

(Continued from front page)

The heart of the "Index" is contained in Chapters Two, Three and Four. Chapter 2 is the "Subject Index", which begins with an explanation of the layout and how to use the "Index" — absolutely necessary reading for the user. This includes a list of the abbreviations used, a locator key table, and the list of headings used in the "Subject Index."

Chapter 3 indexes all the Bulletins by authors of the articles, and Chapter 5 indexes all articles by Scott catalog numbers of the stamps discussed.

The remaining four Chapters ties together topics not directly discussed in the previous chapters, such as a list of all covers pictured in the "Bulletin," a list of Polpex Exhibitions and the winners, Miscellanea and official notes of the Society.

In principle, the "Index" is free to all Polonus members who request it. Enclosed with this Bulletin is an envelope to reserve your copy. The "Index" costs \$8.00 to print and \$1.15 in postage to send. A number of complimentary copies will be sent to philatelic literature reviews, the philatelic press, and philatelic libraries. The Society welcomes and encourages members make a donation to help defray the \$4,500.00 printing cost. Kindly note your gift on the appropriate line on the enclosed envelope and make your check payable to the "Polonus Philatelic Society." The charge to non-members will be \$12.50 plus \$1.50 for postage and packing.

A few complete sets of the "Bulletin" are available for \$250.00 each to members only, only one set to a member. Individual "Bulletins" when available, are \$1.50 per issue regardless of issue date or stated

POLONUS PHILATELIC SOCIETY

James Mazepa, Publications Comm.

P.O. Box 1217, Oak Park, IL 60304

Address all correspondence to:

P.O. Box 82, River Grove, IL 60171

The Polonus Philatelic Society is non-political. Views expressed by authors of articles appearing herein do not necessarily express the views of the Polonus Philatelic Society.

— Annual Dues are \$10.00 —

(Please remit in U.S. Currency)

Stanley Rusin, Treasurer

P.O. Box 56148, Chicago, IL 60656

price from Cheater Mikucki, 4704 N. Overhill, Norridge, IL 60656.

NEW MEMBERS

Stanley K. King

P.O. Box 1000

Dunelton, FL 32630

D. A. Briggs

33 Vista, Camponas

Oceanside, CA 92054

Robert V. Ogradnik

13421 Featherstone Dr.

St. Louis, MO 63131

Frederick J. Kozub

2600 E. Wyburn Ave.

Richmond, VA 23235

K-LINE PAGES FOR POLAND



1983 SUPPLEMENT

\$2.85

(Plus \$1.45 Shipping)

Write us for a special price on
complete Poland pages

K-LINE PUBLISHING, INC.

Geo. C. Kobyłka

Box 159, Berwyn, IL 60402