BULLETIN of the

POLONUS PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meets every 4th Friday at the Polish Youth Association Building,
(Dom Harcerski) 6434 West Belmont Avenue, Chicago, IL

ISSUE NO. 471 Price $2.00 MAY-JUNE, 1995

A Memory From The Past

Rev. Augustine Serafini, editor of The COROS Chronicle, journal of the Collectors of Religion on Stamps, presented to Polonus Philatelic Society, the original drawing by famous Chicago artist, Walter Krawiec which appeared many decades ago in the old "Dziennik Chicagoski" to honor Polish Philately.



Father Serafini received the drawing from the Very Rev. Regis N. Barwig, international Chief Chaplain of the Polish Association S.M.O.M The drawing is reproduced in reduced size to fit our Bulletin. The original size is 6-3/8 by 6-3/8". The drawing will be stored in POLONUS archives.

The drawing shows a girl in Polish costume representing Chicago's Polonia, looking at an enlarged copy of Poland No. 1 in a showcase at the Polish Museum of America in Chicago.

Decades ago Polonus presented its annual Polpex at the museum, located in the Polish Roman Catholic Union building.

--A. Walinski

WARSAW GHETTO MAIL, 1941

In November, 1940, the Warsaw Ghetto became a closed area. Until December, 1941, it was possible for the people in the Ghetto to receive mail from the U.S.A.



This postal card was sent on April 23, 1941 from the Bronx, New York to an address in the Warsaw Ghetto. It is a message part of a double postal card with prepaid answer. Additional postage stamps were affixed for the airmail postage. This card was censored by the Supreme Command of the German Army as is evident from the red censorship mark. It was then delivered on May 20, 1941 to the Ghetto. It has the black Ghetto arrival postmark imprinted: "R.Z.w.W./20 V 41/S.P.D.Z." (Rada Żydowska w Warszawie = the Council of the Jews in Warsaw. Składnica Pocztowa Dzielnicy Żydowskiej = Postal Depot of the Jewish District).

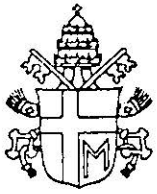
Jews in the Warsaw Ghetto organized their own mail delivery system which was financed by collecting delivery charges. The violet delivery fee rubber stamp: "30 gr./S.P.D.Z." in a circle was imprinted; 30 groszy was the charge for delivery of mail which arrived from abroad

—Stanley Kronenberg and Noe Heitlinger

PETITION FOR URBAN STAMP

Les Taft and Sylvester Oleszkiewicz have undertaken to petition the U.S. Postal Service to issue a commemorative stamp in honor of the late Lt. Col. Matt Urban, the most decorated American soldier. Urban passed away recently. His obituary was carried in newspapers throughout the United States, identifying him as the "most decorated". He has received thirty decorations.

Anyone interested in sponsoring a petition drive in their area or wishing to assist in this most deserving endeavor can write to Mr. Taft at R-1-B-214, New Salem, PA 15468 or call him at (412) 245-2437.



Pope John Paul II in Philately

By: ARKADIUSZ WALINSKI



64th APOSTOLIC JOURNEY OF POPE JOHN PAUL II TO THE CZECH REPUBLIC AND POLAND MAY 20-22, 1995

The Holy Father visited the Czech Republic on May 20-21, and Poland on May 22. The focal point of His visit was the canonization on May 21, of Blessed Jan Sarkander, a priest martyred in 1620, and Blessed Zdislava of Lemberk, a 13th century wife and mother who was a Dominican tertiary known for her charity towards the poor.

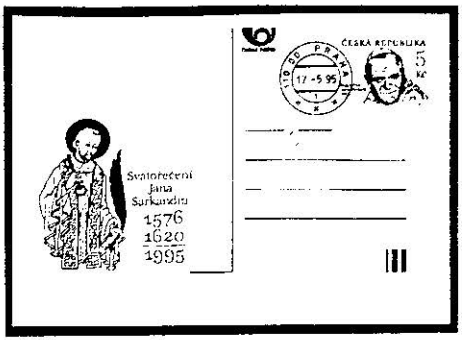
The Holy Father arrived at the Prague airport on Saturday morning, May 20, where he was greeted by President Vaclav Havel and authorities of Church and State. The Holy Father's first day in the Czech Republic, included meeting with the country's Bishops, and a meeting with the leaders of other Christian denominations. In the evening he led a prayer meeting with the people of Bohemia in the Strahov Sports Arena. Later the Holy Father left by helicopter for the city of Olomouc. On Sunday, May 21, the Holy Father celebrated the Canonization Eucharistic liturgy at the Neredin airport in Olomouc. In the late afternoon, the Holy Father met with young people of the Czech Republic in front of the Marian Shrine of Svaty Kopecek.

On Monday morning, May 22, the Holy Father was taken by helicopter to Skoczow, Poland, where he met leaders of the Evangelical Lutheran Church. Later the Holy Father celebrated Mass in front of a chapel dedicated to Saint Jan Sarkander. After the Mass in Skoczow, the Holy Father went by car to the city of Bielsko-Biala, where over 20,000 faithful met him in front of the Bishop's residence. Later the Holy Father went by car to nearby town of Zywiec, where he greeted the faithful in the central square. In the evening the Holy Father was taken by helicopter from Zywiec, Poland to Ostrava in the Czech Republic, for departure ceremonies for his return to Rome.

VATICAN:

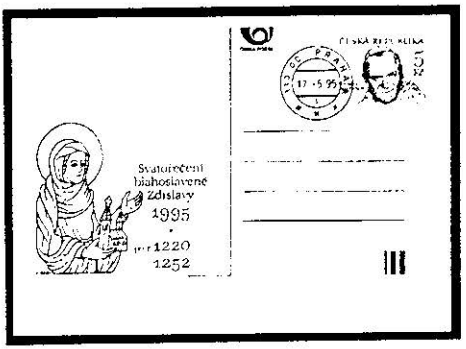


Commemorative travel postmark in Latin:
PRAGAM / OLOMUCIUM / SKOCZOVIUM / INVISIT / IO. PAULUS II / * POSTE VATICANE * 20-22.V.95 *



CZECH REPUBLIC:

Postal Card
Stamp - 5 Kc - violet
Pope John Paul II
Navsteva Jana Pavla II. 1995
(visit of Pope John Paul II 1995)
Illustration: Saint Jan Sarkander
Size: 4 1/8" x 5 13/16"



Postal Card
Stamp - 5 Kc - brown
Pope John Paul II
Navsteva Jana Pavla II. 1995
(visit of Pope John Paul II 1995)
Illustration: Saint Zdislava
Size: 4 1/8" x 5 13/16"

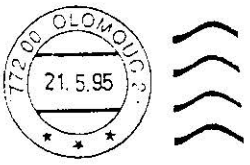
CZECH REPUBLIC:

Olomouc - May 21, 1995
Commemorative postmark



SVATORECENI / OLOMOUC 21.5.1995 /
PAPEZSKA NAVSTEVA / CESKA
REPUBLIKA 95 / OLOMOUC 2/
Coat of arms of Pope John Paul II
(Canonization - Olomouc May 21, 1995 Papal visit - Czech Republic)
Cancel #1 and #2
Size: 1 3/16" x 1 1/4"





CZECH REPUBLIC:

Olomouc - May 21, 1995
Mechanical cancellation:

OLOMOUC / 21.5.1995 / PAPEZSKA NAVSTEVA / +CESKA REPUBLIKA '95+ /
Coat of arms of Pope John Paul II
Size 1 3/16" x 1 15/16"

POLAND:

Skoczow - May 22, 1995
Commemorative postmark:



PAPIEZ JAN PAWEL II NA / PODBESKIDZIU / 22.05.1995 / SKOCZOW /
(Pope John Paul II at the foot of the Beskid Mountains) Coat of arms of Pope John Paul II, St. John Sarkander chapel in Skoczow. Tall steel cross (moved from the city of Katowice, where in 1983 it was erected for the papal Mass during Holy Father's 2nd visit to Poland).

POLAND:



Bielsko-Biala - May 22, 1995
Commemorative postmark:

PAPIEZ JAN PAWEL II NA / PODBESKIDZIU / 22.05.1995 / BIELSKO-BIALA 1 /
(Pope John Paul II at the foot of the Beskid Mountains) Coat of arms of Pope John Paul II, St. Nicholas Cathedral in Bielsko-Biala.

POLAND:



Zywiec - May 22, 1995
Commemorative postmark:

PAPIEZ JAN PAWEL II NA / PODBESKIDZIU / 22.05.1995 / ZYWIEC 1
(Pope John Paul II at the foot of the Beskid Mountains) Coat of arms of Pope John Paul II, Nativity of the Most Holy Church in Zywiec.

POLAND:

Rybnik - May 16, 1995



Postmark commemorating the Canonization of Blessed Jan Sarkander by Pope John Paul II on May 21, 1995 in Olomouc in the Czech Republic. Postmark used in Rybnik during District Philatelic Exhibition "RYBNIK 95" on May 16, 1995.
OKREGOWA WYSTAWA FILATELISTYCZNA "RYBNIK '95" / RYBNIK 1 / +16.05.1995+ / KANONIZACJA BLOGOSLAWIONEGO JANA SARKANDRA

POLAND:



Warszawa - May 18-27, 1995

Special Registration Label used at the National Philatelic Exhibition Post Office. Warszawa, May 18-27, 1995

POLAND:



Rybnik - May 18, 1995
Commemorative postmark:

+LOT SAMOLOTOWY W 75. ROCZNICE URODZIN PAPIEZA JANA PAWLA II + /
RYBNIK 1 + 18.05.1995 + /
Special flight from Rybnik to Wadowice. Small plane carried mail stamped with postmark commemorating the 75th Birthday of Pope John Paul II.

POLAND:

Chrzanow - May 18, 1995



Commemorative postmark used at the Regional Philatelic and Numismatic Exhibition in Chrzanow on May 18, 1995. "John Paul II 1920-1995 Pilgrim of Peace."
REGIONALNA WYSTAWA FILATELISTYCZNA I NUMIZMATYCZNA / CHRZANOW 1
18.05.1995 / 1920 + JAN PAWEL II + 1995 /
PIELGRZYM POKOJU /

75TH BIRTHDAY OF POPE JOHN PAUL II

On May 18, 1995 Pope John Paul II celebrated his 75th Birthday. (Karol Wojtyla was born on May 18, 1920 in Wadowice, Poland)



POLAND:

Stamp - 80gr.

Inscription: 75th anniversary of the birth of Pope John Paul II. The Holy Father in deep prayer. Baptismal font in the Parish Church of Our Lady's Presentation in Wadowice where Pope John Paul II was baptized on June 20, 1920. Stamp issued in sheetlets of 16 stamps. Inscription in center of top border: 75. ROCZNICA URODZIN JANA PAWLA II.

POLAND:

Wadowice - May 18, 1995



Commemorative First Day of Issue postmark showing the coat of arms ot the city of Wadowice.

75 ROCZNICA URODZIN JANA PAWLA II / 18.05.1995 WADOWICE /

POLAND:

Warszawa - May 18, 1995



Commemorative postmark used at the National Philatelic Exhibition, honoring 75th Birthday of Pope John Paul II. Postmark shows Church of Our Lady's Presentaion in Wadowice, birth city of the Holy Father.

75.ROCZNICA URODZIN PAPIEZA JANA PAWLA II / KRAJOWA WYSTAWA FILATELISTYCZNA / WARSZAWA 1 / 18.05.1995



POLAND:

Kielce - May 18, 1995

Postage meter cancellation honoring the 75th Birthday of Pope John Paul II. Monument of Pope John Paul II.
75 ROCZNICA / URODZIN PAPIEZA / JANA PAWLA II /
18 V 1995r.
25-357 KIELCE 12 / KL 5 / 18 5 95 /
Meter printed in red.



HUNGARY:

Budapest - May 18, 1995

Commemorative postmark honoring 75th Birthday of Pope John Paul II.

Budapest 8 / 1995, majus 18 / II. / Joanes Paulus / 75 EVES /



CROATIA:

Cakovec - May 18, 1995

Commemorative postmark honoring 75th Birthday of Pope John Paul II.
RODENDAN SVETOG OCA IVANA PAVLA II / 42300 CAKOVEC 18.5.1995. /



UNITED STATES:

Niles, IL - March 18, 1995

Commemorative postmark used at the POLPEX 95 Exhibition, organized by the Polonus Philatelic Society in Chicago.
POLPEX STATION - NILES, IL. 60714 / MAR. 18, 1995 / POPE JOHN PAUL II / 75th BIRTHDAY /



UNITED STATES:

Milwaukee, WI - June 23, 24 and 25, 1995

Commemorative postmark used at the 1995 Polish Fest.
* POLISH FEST 1995 * / MILWAUKEE, WI 53203 / JUNE 23, 1995 / POLISH FEST / STA. /

SCOTT WILL CHANGE HOLOGRAM SHEET

The big wheels at Scott Publishing Co. do read and listen and will change their catalog listings when shown the light.

THE INSIDER

By LES WINICK

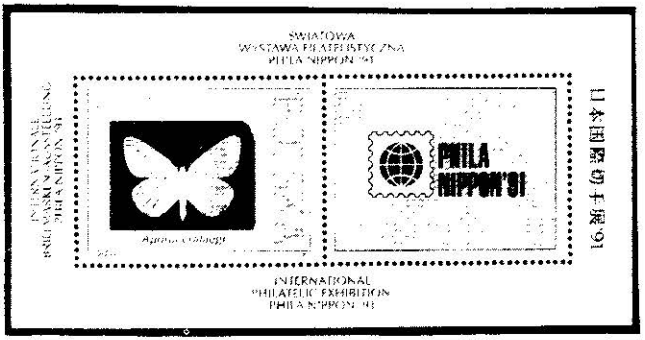
The Insider of Nov., 1994, reported the story of Poland's Butterfly hologram sheets and stamps along with the footnote in the 1995 Scott Standard Postage Stamp Catalogue after the Butterfly stamp set, Scott 3050-56: "It is reported that the printing plates were stolen and counterfeits produced. They are difficult to distinguish.

apparently the stamps did not originate in Poland. The Polish postal administration did not receive revenue for them.

It seems as though the printers sold their share of the stamps substantially below face in order to recover their printing costs, and the stamps started to turn up on mail in Poland.

Because so many Butterfly stamps were being used without matching post office sales, someone assumed that the stamps were counterfeit.

The 1996 edition of Scott catolog will leave out the reference to the stamps being counterfeited. Thank you Scott publisher Stuart Morrissey.



Poland's 1991 Butterfly souvenir sheet with hologram. The sheet is no longer believed to have been counterfeited.

One of the Butterfly sheets. Scott 3056, is pictured here.

I reported that not a single counterfeit stamp has surfaced and that a counterfeit hologram would cost as much to produce as a genuine one. As far as I could find out, the story of the counterfeits originated with the Polish press and not with the Polish postal administration.

Here is the story in a nutshell. The stamps were demonetized on Jan. 15, 1994, because a large number of the stamps were being used for postage within Poland, but

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BEG YOUR PARDON

Last May your editor took sick and was unable to get out the Polonus Bulletins. His condition has recently improved and he hopes to get back on schedule.

The extensive Krakow article that normally appears in the center section of the Bulletin does not appear in this issue. It will be continued in the following edition.

Your patience and understanding is appreciated.

Chester A. Schafer, Editor

POLONUS '95 INTERNATIONAL STAMP SHOW AND BOURSE

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Annual Dues which include a subscription to the Bulletin are $16.00 (U.S. currency only) and should be sent to Polonus Treasurer, Stefan Czarniecki, P.O. Box 458, Berwyn, IL 60402. Membership Dues are payable by December 31st, for the next calendar year. New members will receive all the 'Bulletins' for the year in which they join. Changes of address, problems with receiving the Bulletin, should be addressed to: Polonus Philatelic Society, P.O. Box 458, Berwyn, IL 60402. General matters pertaining to the Society, contribution of articles for the Bulletin, complaints or other matters should be directed to the President.