

BULLETIN of the



POLONIS PHILATELIC SOCIETY

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Polpex 92 Honors Columbus' Discovery Of America

The year 1992 will be remembered for the 500th anniversary of the discovery of the New World by Columbus. Many exhibitions will be held this occasion. The Columbian World Stamp Expo will take place in Chicago in May. Later in the year there will be Granada 92, Genoa 92, Barcelona 92, and the Seville 92 World Exposition.

Polpex 92 is being planned for March 27-28-29 at the House of the White Eagle in Niles, IL. Our show will open world wide celebrations.

A dual theme will be used this year. Besides the Columbus theme, Polpex will honor Jan of Kolno, the half mythical Polish sailor, in the service of the King of Denmark, who reached the American coast in the summer of 1476, just sixteen years before Columbus' discovery. The voyage was poorly documented and lost the right to the discovery claims.



The US \$5 Columbian stamp, Scott 245, pictures Christopher Columbus and two allegorical figures.

Souvenir cards, seals, and cacheted postal cards will be printed. A U.S. Postal Service station will operate at the Polpex using a special cancellation. There will be a program catalog with a list of the exhibits, ads, philatelic and historical articles, patrons and well wishers. Award presentations will take place at the Beeba-Banquet on Saturday evening, March 28th at the House of the White Eagle.

The exhibition committee plans a display of seventy international size frames. Special Columbus medals have been ordered from the Gravarte Mint in Lisbon, Portugal which will be given as awards.

For entry applications write to entries chairman, A. Walinski, 7353 W. Estes Ave., Chicago, IL 60631.

Fred Szebel, Polpex Chairman

Some Perfins In Polish Philately



Dr. Karol W. Franzmann

by the post office to be used solely during the occasion honoring John Paul II at Polish stamp exhibitions (1983, 1987, 1988). When I mentioned the incident that shortly after WWII I had the opportunity to see and examine the unusual sets of French stamps perforated with the initials "W.P." ("Wojsko Polskie" or Polish Army), Dr. Franzmann was moved as he was familiar with the writings of Messrs. Hartman and Stocki on this subject. He asked me to describe this event as it might

be of interest to philatelists in London where some controversy existed on the Official Stamps of the Polish War Office in France.



Military Police who was enrolled with me in a class preparing us for a life as civilians as painters and decorators.

Upon my demobilization in 1949, I had a position as Welfare Officer in the Polish Air Force Veterans Club in London. On my day off, I visited the British Museum admiring antique jewelry. Here I spotted Major Menhardt in a black security guard uniform. Instinctively I said in Polish, "Czotem Panie Majorze!" He then hugged me for joy at this meeting. When I mentioned of my work place in Collingham Gardens in Earls Court, he said it was close to where he lived and invited me to come and see something of interest. The following day, Sunday, I went and to my astonishment he showed me a thin album containing a few pages of current French stamps of the 1940 period, all perforated with the initials "W.P." Not being a philatelist at that time, Major Menhardt explained to me that he acquired these stamps in France while on active

When Dr. Karol W. Franzmann, Secretary of the Polish Philat. Federation of Great Britain visited Chicago last October, he met with Polonus members in a cordial and warm atmosphere. Dr. Franzmann, who is employed by a drug firm, came to Chicago to attend the International Symposium on Atherosclerosis at the Rosemont O'Hare. Long discussions lead to the evaluation of common problems facing collectors of Polish material.

It was here I had a chance to get the full explanation about the perforations "J P II" applied on current British stamps, authorized



service in the Polish Army attached to the headquarters of the Polish War Office.

He told me that the Chancery Chief supervised the use of the perforation machine and recorded the amount of each kind of stamp perforated. The stamps, intended as provisionals, actually were used starting in 1940 for official correspondence of Polish War Office Chancery.

Alas, the Dunkirk disaster came and the Wehrmacht forced the evacuation of the British soldiers. Some Polish Army personnel, including the War Office headquarters, also embarked and reached England. Major Menhardt was certain that, in the confusion, boxes of some documents and perforating machines were probably thrown overboard to make room for soldiers.

The collection shown to me, left from his service in France, was a precious keepsake to the major. Upon reuniting with his son, a former underground army soldier and presently a student in London, we had to say goodbye and never saw each other again.

I moved to the U.S. and in 1954 became an active member of Polonus. My appreciation of stamp collecting only now permits me to realize how lucky I was, among the few, to see a very rare collection of Official Stamps of the Polish War Office in France, held by Major Menhardt, who witnessed and survived this historical period. I only hope that the stamps are still intact and safe in his son's custody.

—Stefan Czarniecki



POLONUS MEETING WITH KAROL W. FRANZMANN OF ENGLAND

Standing left to right: Stefan Czarniecki, Karol Franzmann, Roman Strzelecki, Romuald Odrowski, Stanley Dobrzycki, Ted Sokolowski. Seated: Al Rybarski, Chester Schafer and Fran Rybarski.

(Photo: Mark Dobrzycki)

Gdańsk – Port Gdańsk

By WŁADYSŁAW DZIEMIĄCZUK

The Polish post office existed in the Free City of Danzig by virtue of Article 104 of the Treaty of Versailles, sub. article 29 and signed on November 9, 1920. The Paris Convention and the treaty between Poland and the Free City of Danzig signed on October 24, 1921, were part III of articles 149 and 162 and describe the functioning of the Polish post office in the Port of Danzig.

Following the above, the first Polish post office opened in the Free City and was a postal expedition office in New Port Gdansk (Danzig-Neufahrwasser), which had the function of exchanging mail between the port of Gdansk and Poland.

Officially it opened on April 20, 1920, based on a provisional treaty between Poland and the Free City, but unofficially it started operations on March 10, 1920, accepting parcels from the U.S. and later Great Britain and forwarding them to recipients to Poland. No postal services to customers were provided.

At first this office did not possess its own datestamp and the parcel cards sent from there were marked by a rubber stamp. "Urząd Pocztowy Gdańsk Nowy Port Z Ameryki przez Gdańsk" (Post Office Gdansk Nowy Port from America through Gdansk No. . . .). Later two double circle datestamps with bridges were used with GDAŃSK on top and NOWY PORT on bottom. Diameter of the outer circle: 27 mm., inner circle: 17.5 mm.

From October 1, 1921, telegraph service in Gdańsk was performed by a Hughes type station. It was housed at first, in the general commissariat of the Polish Republic in Gdańsk. It was a branch of the Polish Post Office at Gdańsk 1.

On January 11, 1922, the post office status was changed, the new name became "Polski Urząd Pocztowy No. 1 in Gdańsk" (Polish Post Office No. 1 in Gdansk), instead of old datestamps NOWY PORT. Later in the spring of 1922, a new double-circle canceller with an outer circle of 30mm, inner circle 20mm and width of the bridge 10mm, with POLSKI URZĄD POCZTOWY N- 1 GDANSK. Parcels used labels with: "Z Ameryki przez Polski Urząd Pocztowy No 1 w Gdansku". However, no postal service was listed for individual customers.

On April 17, 1923 Polish Post Office No 2 in Gdansk opened at the main railway station. This office did not provide service to resident customers. Its purpose was to mediate in the transfer of parcels between Poland and Great Britain, also as a mail exchange office for railway post offices on the following routes: Strzebielno-Gdansk + return No 236, and from 1932 on the lengthened route Koscierzyna-Gdansk No 427 and return. Gdansk was the beginning and ending point for other railway post offices such as: Warszawa-Gdansk + return No 5. (Hel) Puck-Gdansk + return N- 503. Through Gdansk other railway post offices passed, for example Luzino-Tczew N- 234 and Hel-Tczew No 235.

On January 5, 1925 the Polish Postal-Telegraphic Office Gdansk 3

was opened in Heweliusz Square, as a main sending/receiving office serving all customers in Poland. With its opening, new stamps with PORT GDANSK overprint were issued, and from Feb. 1, 1934 postal cards were also overprinted. Datestamps with POLSKI URZ. P.T. GDANSK No 3 were also issued.

In all, three offices in Gdansk, Polish postal rates were in use, with a few changes (rates were in grosze but actual charges for postage were paid in Gdansk currency, with an exchange rate of 1 Gulden = 1 Zloty).

Mail with insufficient postage was subject to postage due charges by the Polish post offices in Danzig, at the rate of two times the deficiency, evidenced by regular overprinted PORT GDANSK stamps.

The final reorganization of the postal offices in Gdansk occurred on August 1, 1926. The main sending/receiving office at Heweliusz Square (former post office No 3) was renamed Polish postal + telegraph office No 1, and the former Polish post office No 1 was relocated to a new building at the Vistula harbor in New Port and was renamed Gdansk 3. Again, no postal service to regular customers was provided, only exchange for overseas mail.

Re-engraved datestamps were used, changed from 1 to 3, at Gdansk 3. At Gdansk 1, new datestamps were in use. These were double circle with bridge and Ø27mm to 33,5mm (the rarest one of these Ø28,5 - 20.5mm with bridge of 10mm and inscribed POLSKI URZAD POCZT.-TELEGR. GDANSK 1 with letter "g", is known used in 1929 to 1930.

From 1936 older types of datestamps were slowly replaced with smaller (Ø24 + Ø17mm). From the mid 1938 the second unification datestamps were introduced (Ø24mm) with the inscription "POLSKI URZAD POCZTOWY GDANSK 1" and a star under the date in place of an identification letter. This datestamp is known philatelically used only at Warsaw Post Office No 1.

For registered mail, rectangular markings were used, with a letter "R" on the left side and the name of the office, stamped in black or red ink.

Air mail correspondence was administered by Gdansk 1. At that post office an auxiliary marking, stamped in violet, was used as evidence of payment of an additional air mail fee.

Polish stamps issued for the Polish Post Offices in Gdansk with "PORT GDANSK" overprints, on definitive Polish issues were, beginning from 1937, also used in Poland. Earlier their usage, even though having no formal basis, was tolerated.

Polish Offices in Gdansk also used Polish stamps without overprints, especially on official correspondence but used internally through the postal service.

July 10, 1928 airmail service was inaugurated between Poland and the Polish Post Office in Gdansk.

Letters and parcels were accepted for delivery between the Post Offices of: Warsaw 19, airport; Lwow 1; Krakow 1; and Poznan 1. From these Post Offices, airmail was sent to the Polish Post Office at Gdansk 1, governed by the regulations for airmail service in force in Poland.

	<i>Introduced from day:</i>								
	5.1.25	1.10.25	1.9.26	1.12.27	1.4.29	1.7.31	15.10.31	1.6.33	1.10.34
<i>out-of-town</i>									
<i>up to 20 g</i>	15	15	20	25	25	25	30	30	25
20-100 g	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	45	—
20-250 g	30	30	40	50	50	50	60	60	50
250-500 g	—	—	—	—	80	80	80	80	80
<i>local letter</i>									
<i>up to 20 g</i>	—	—	—	—	—	15	15	—	15
<i>up to 100 g</i>	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	20	—
20-250 g	—	—	—	—	—	25	30	—	30
<i>post card</i>									
<i>out-of-town</i>	10	10	10	15	15	15	20	20	15
<i>photo card</i>	—	5	5	—	—	—	—	—	—
<i>local</i>	10	10	10	15	15	10	10	20	10
<i>printed matter</i>									
<i>up to 25 g</i>	—	—	—	5	5	5	5	5	5
<i>up to 50 g</i>	5	5	5	—	—	—	—	—	—
25-50 g	—	—	—	10	10	10	10	10	10
50-100 g	8	10	10	15	15	15	15	15	15
100-250 g	15	15	15	25	—	—	—	—	—
<i>registered</i>	30	30	30	40	30	50	30	30	30
<i>expres</i>	50	50	50	80	70	80	70	70	50

A LIST OF THE CANCELLATIONS USED IN PORT GDANSK



a - c



№1 - 3



Same with No. 1.
Same—larger letters and
stars farther apart.



Different control letters.



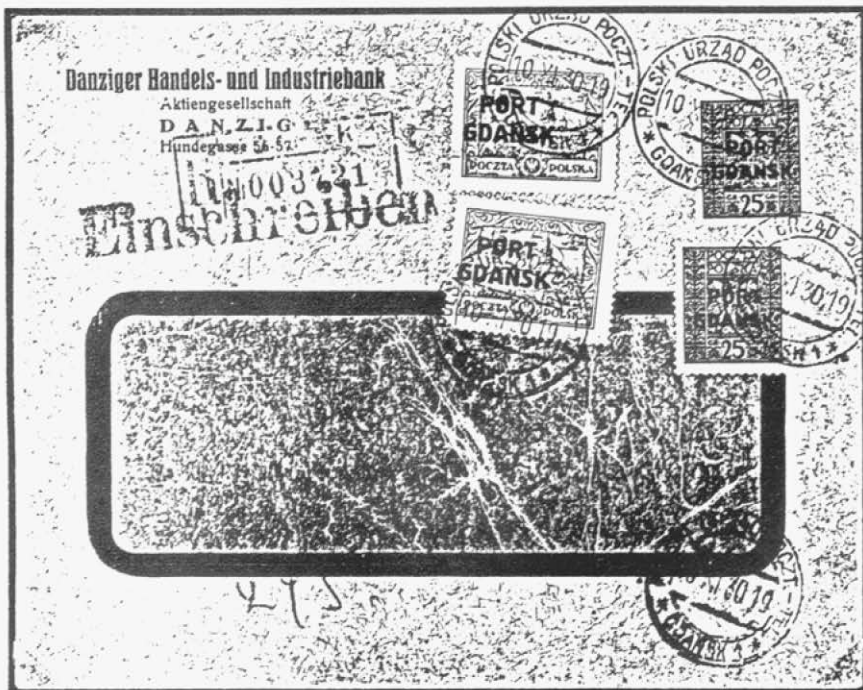


Used copies.

Correct
overprint.

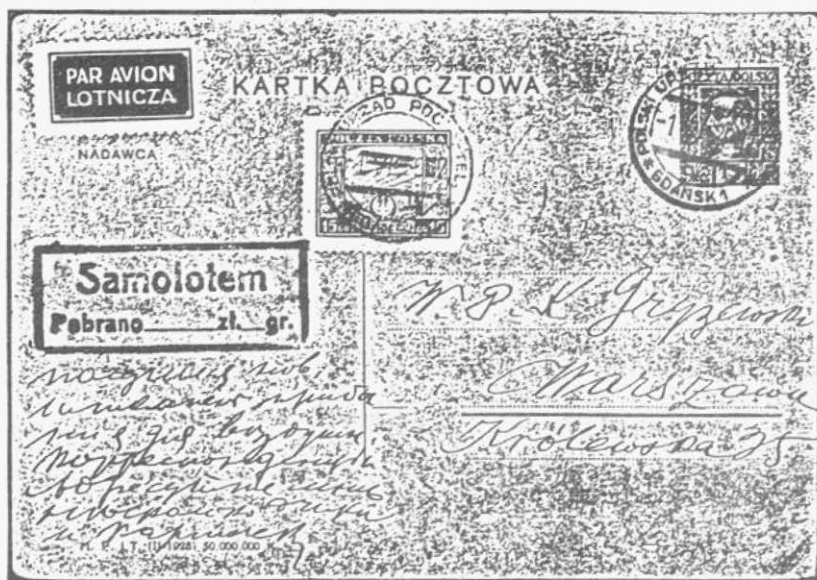


Port Gdańsk
shifted overprint.



Registered cover posted in Gdańsk 1 to Nowy Tomyśl, dated
10.XI.30.19. Backstamped Nowy Tomyśl 11.11.30.9-10.

Shifted overprints are seldom seen.



Air Mail post card posted in Gdańsk 1 with 2-circle cancel 28mm in diameter, to Warszawa dated 1.VI.29.7.
Backstamped: Warszawa 19 Port Lotniczy 1.VI.1929.



Post card sent by mistake to Gdańsk from Margonin. Gdańsk 1 put 2-circle cancel 30mm in diameter, dated 22.X.37.10. and returned card to correct address.

GDANSK 2.

On April 17, 1923, Polish Post Office number 2 was opened at the Main Railway Station. It was to be used only for postal service from Great Britain and railway Mail Cars.



Type 1.



Type 2.



Type 3.



Post card to Zmigret 13.VI.33.9, postal rate 15 Gr.

GDANSK 3.

The Polish Post Office Gdansk 3 was opened on Jan. 5th, 1925 on Plac Heweliusza (Hevelius Square) as a dispatch and receiving office. On Aug. 1, 1926 the numerical designation was changed to Gdansk 1, and the Post Office Gdansk 3 was moved to the Nowy Port of the Harbor area.



Type 1.



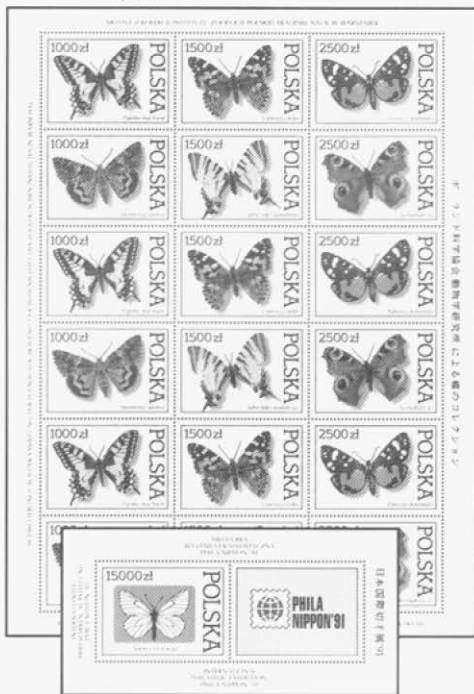
Type 2.



POLAND continues its history making tradition...



ACTUAL SIZES: Mini-Sheet: 178mm x 238mm • Souvenir Sheet: 127mm x 63mm



POLAND is the first country in Eastern Europe to produce a HOLOGRAPHIC IMAGE on a Postage Stamp. This beautiful Butterfly Hologram is integrated into a 5 color Souvenir Sheet honoring Japan's PHILA NIPPON '91.

For the first time, WORLDWIDE, a sophisticated 2 Channel, Full Spectrum Butterfly Hologram is integrated into a valid postage stamp. As a result the butterfly's wings appear to move in flight.

To compliment this Holographic Butterfly Souvenir Sheet, POLAND also issued 6 se-tenant Butterfly Stamps in a 5 color Mini Sheet of 3 full sets. This issue was created by noted designer, Ovidiu Oprescu, using the latest computer imaging techniques to produce exquisitely detailed and entomologically correct Butterflies.

Both the S/S and M/S contain English, German, Japanese and Polish Text in their selvage. This highly thematic issue is limited, as only 2 Million Souvenir Sheets and 835,000 Mini-Sheets are to be issued.

TERMS OF SALE

	MINT	FDC
Hologram Souvenir Sheet.....	\$5.00	\$6.00
Butterfly Mini-Sheet	\$5.50	N/A
Se-tenant Butterfly Set (6)	\$2.00	\$3.00

U.S. ORDERS: Payment with order. Mastercard & Visa accepted for orders of \$25.00 or more. Add Postage & Fees based on amount of order as follows: Up to \$25 (\$1.50) • \$25-\$101 (\$2.50) • \$101-\$250 (\$4.00).

FOREIGN ORDERS: Bank Cheque with order. Mastercard & Visa accepted. Add appropriate payment for Airmail Postage & Fees.



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POLAND ALBUM PAGES SUPPLEMENT

K-Line Publishing has just released its Poland Supplement #35 1990-91. The supplement begins with Revaluation overprints issued January 31, 1990 and continues with all topicals and commemoratives ending up with the Lublin District Icons issue of April 22nd, 1991. A page with the Kings and Queens series has a continuation of Polish history connected with Boleslaw III and Wladyslaw II.

In spite of all the confusion with Poland's postal issues caused by the changing government, K-Line has sorted them out in this 12-page supplement for the Poland collector. (See advertisement).

NEW MEMBERS

- #1417 John Grabowski
Box 10916
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- #1418 H. Daniel Kelly
700 Gentleman Dr., 214
San Antonio, TX 78201
- #1419 Adrian J. Wortman
9561 NW 18th Place
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- #1420 Thomas F. Isett
109 Blossom Hill Lane
Chalfont, PA 18914
- #1421 Raymond Pietruszka
211 Evalyn Street
Madison, AL 35758
- #1422 Susan J. French
500 Rockhouse Lane
Media, PA 19063

DONATION FOR PADEREWSKI EXHIBIT

\$20.00—Artur Szwajkowski

IN OUR MAIL BOX

Dear Mr. Strzelecki,

As part of the International Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, a Symposium on the Preservation of Common European Cultural Heritage took place in Krakow, Poland in May, 1991.

On this occasion a philatelic exhibition "History of Mail in Krakow" was held on May 27, 1991 in the Krzysztofory Palace in Kra-

kow, where the noted Polish philatelist, J. Adamczyk, presented his valuable collection of early mail in Southern Poland.

I was invited to attend the opening ceremony of this exhibition, and was greeted by organizers as a member of "Polonus."

A souvenir folder with stamps and special cancellations were issued on the occasion.

— Adam S. Berestynski
Laguna Beach, California

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