20 Nov. 1942: 3rd Anniversary of the Govt.-General, Contd.

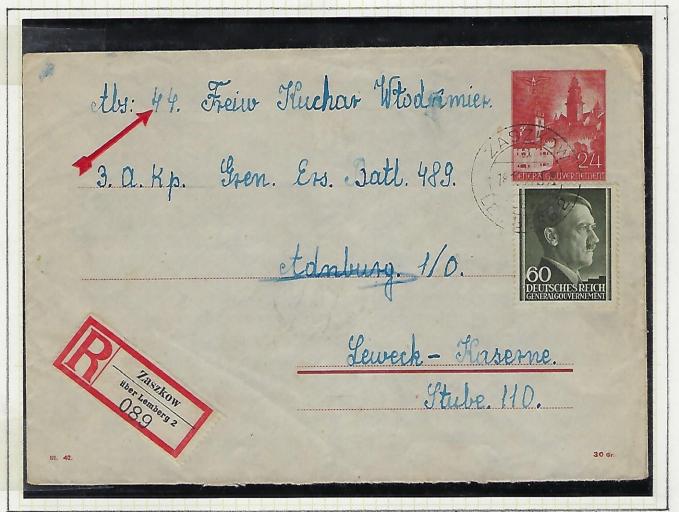
Cover with the insidious "Cultural Fund" series of stamps and FDI postmark.



The FDI postmark "KRAKAU (Cracow) 20.11.42" on this cover addressed to Munich in Germany and the "Sender's name and address on the back obviously intend to show that it has "run through the mail", but there is not only no sign of registration, but also no backstamp showing arrival. And what is worse, the cover has never been sealed and opened. One of those insidious FDC's which have become the bane of philately.

18/1/1943: Rare Cover from Zaszkow (South-Eastern Poland, Eastern Galicia, near Lwów / Lemberg in German / Lwiw in Ukrainian) to a Ukrainian Subject Volunteer in the 489th 44 Grenadiers Reserve Battalion, in his training tamp in Oldenburg (Germany).

Posted in P.O.Zaszków on January 18, 1943, and received by the P.O.Oldenburg on January 21st, 1943.



Registered Pre-stamped Envelope (24 Gr Govt.-General) with an extra 60 Gr Hitler stamp.

The mainly Ukrainian population of Eastern Galicia (= Western Ukraine), recovered by Poland in 1921 in the Polish - Soviet Russian Peace Treaty of Riga, never totally abandoned hope of an independent "Western Ukraine" or, if this were possible at all, joining an independent Ukraine. This hope came alive again when Hitler invaded the U.S.S.R.

The Ukrainian volunteers in the German army did not form a separate Legion, but were directly enrolled into the S.S. Deathhead Division and received their training at Oldenburg.

The envelope's mounting can be lifted from the right for inspection of the back.

GERMAN OCCUPATION IN WORLD WAR II.

19 April, 1943: Prisoner of War card sent by 2nd Lt. Józef Wargala from the German Prison Camp for Officers Offlag II E at Neubrandenburg in Mecklenburg Province on April 19, 1943, to Warsaw.



Circular Date Stamp 19.4.43, "censored" handstamp in red, no postage stamp (not required, as usual), no arrival date postmark.

Feb. - April 1943: Official Service: Coat of Arms of the German Reich Against Background of Wawel Castle, Cracow. Designed by W.Kreb and printed photogravure (with value figures added in typography) by Govt. Printing Works, Vienna, on medium white paper. No watermark. Perf. 14. Sheets in 4 panes of 10 x 10.



Stamps of this issue came into use in several outposts at different times and in different quantities, exhausting adequate supplies on many occasions. Used until the end of the German occupation.



Govt.-General Civil Cervice Cover sent 22.4.43 marked "To be Registered" from Kraków to Zwenkau, a town 10 km south of Leipzig in Eastern Germany, using Official Service stamps Mi.25, 28, 29, and 36.



KRAKAU



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Registered pre-printed with also a pre-printed circular German eagle and swastika cachet, sent on 10.6.1944 from Krakau 3 Post Office to Bremen-Farge in Germany, using a 12 Pf Mi.28 Official Service stamp. Arrival postmark of Bremen-Farge 1 P.O. (on reverse) dated 15.11.44 (1); the sender, according the pre-printed cachet was "The Chief of the German Post [in the] East. Note: Kraków was liberated from German occupation on 15th January, 1945.



Registered cover "Durch Deutsche Dienstpost Osten" ("By German Official Mail in the East"), General-Gouvernment, sent 6 Jan. 1944 from Cracow to Lorch (Wurtthemberg), Germany, using Official Service stamps. Showing Gen.Gouvt. Nazi Eagle cachet with swastika and a handstamp in red "By Express Mail - Messenger Paid".

Arrival postmark Lorch (Württ) dated 10.1.44 on the cover's reverse.

10 April, 1943 - 11 Feb. 1944: Views of Architecturally Important Buildings -High Values, now with legend "DEUTSCHES RETCH / GENERALGOUVERNEMENT" (cf. issue of 20 April - 10 July 1941). Designs by I.C. Fahringer and K. Gessner (2 Zl and 4 Zl), E. Puchinger (6 Zl), and K. Gessner and R. Zenzinger (10 Zl); engravings by F. Lorber. Printed recess by Govt. Printing Works, Vienna, on medium, white paper. No watermark. Perf. $13\frac{5}{4} \times 14\frac{1}{2}$ (2, 4, 6 Zl), or 14 x $13\frac{1}{2}$ (10 Zl). The sheets were in 4 panes of 5 x 5 (2,4,and 6 Zl), or in 2 panes of 5 x 5 (10 Zl).



2 Zl olive-green: Bar-bican in Cracow, gothic defence work (1498-99).

Dates of Issue: 2 Z1 - 10. 4.1941;



4 Zl deep violet: Ro-manesque Benedictine Monastery at Tyniec.



6 Zl brownish violet: View of Lwów, after a photograph.



10 ZI reddish brown & black: "Panorama of Cra-cow", by Hartmann Schedel.

In use until the end of German occupation.



Registered cover by special delivery (Express) sent 2.11.43 from "Lemberg" (= Lwow) to Süderlügum in Schleswig-Holstein hard on the Danish border of Western Germany, to the west of Flensburg. Top of the cover faded, but this is a scarce stamp on cover and very difficult to find.

10 April, 1943 - 11 Feb. 1944: Views of Architecturally Important Buildings - High Values, contd.



Registered Official Cover, regt. "Warschau" 31.1.44, Flight Group R 019 with 421 to Dresden.

20 April, 1943: Hitler's 54th Birthday. Issue with extra premium payable. Three stamps designed by W.Dachauer, and engraved by F.Lorber. Printed recess by the Govt. Printing Works, Vienna on medium white paper. No watermark. Perf. 14 x 132. Sheets in 4 desorated panes of 5 x 5 stamps each.



12 Gr + 1 Zl deep violet



24 Gr + 1 Zl carmine-claret



84 Gr + 1 Zl bluish green

Used until the end of the German occupation.



Registered cover sent on 24.7.43 from Kraków-a to Meiningen in Thuringen, Germany. Arrived there 25.7.43, using the set of Hitler's 54th Birthday stamps.