



# CZECHOUT

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## EDITORIAL

The Philatelic Writers Society organise a number of One day Seminars which are open to non-members. The subject of their most recent seminar was "Techniques of Philatelic Research", so as your Editor and a student researcher I thought this would be a useful subject, and I greatly enjoyed the day both for the programme and the opportunity to meet other colleagues socially and discuss mutual problems. A report of the meeting is enclosed which I hope you will find of interest.

Forgeries are something that we tend to think are well documented as far as the Czech and Slovak stamps/covers are concerned. We are pleased to include a new discovery by Barry Horne and researched by Roy Dehn. Chris Cordes reminds us that we can all be fooled by a clever forgery. When in doubt if buying by auction ask for an extension, or even when buying from a dealer, who will surely allow this in order to seek the advice of one of the Expert Committees i.e.

RPSL Ltd., The Royal Philatelic Society of London Expert Committee, 41 Devonshire Place,  
London W1N 1PE

Colin W Spong FRPS,L

## NEWS & NOTICES

### Meeting of Saturday March 11 1995

The Chairman, Mr. Wm. Dawson, welcomed 15 members to the meeting. He acknowledged the five apologies for absence. Four new applications for membership were announced by the Hon. Secretary, Mrs D.Y. Gren, and after the meeting endorsed their applications, the following were accepted into Society membership. We wish them a long and happy stay with us.

Dr. V. Brown of Maidstone, Kent  
Mr V. Veres of Wodonga, Australia  
Mr B. Arundel of Hemel Hempstead, Herts  
Mr B.W. Coleman of Downham Market, Norfolk

There were only four entries for the George Pearson Competition but it was decided that the Competition should go ahead. The winners were:-

1st.	Mr B.C. Day	.....	Military Posts in Slovakia
Joint 2nd	Mr W.A. Dawson	.....	Allegories Definitive Issue
	Mrs D.Y. Gren	.....	East Silesia

There was only one entry for the Francis Pettitt Competition and the Salver was passed to Mr W.A. Dawson for his entry entitled 'Provisional Postage Paid.'

The Chairman then introduced the following displays of "First Republic" by members:-

Mr B.C. Day	- First Anniversary of Independence Issues
Mr R. Hollis	- Postal Rates of Slovakia
Mr R.A. Dixon	- Sudeten Postal Stationery
Mr W.A. Page	- 1919 and S.O. Overprints in Large Blocks
Mr W.A. Dawson	- Early T.P.O. Covers

In her vote of thanks Mrs D.Y. Gren congratulated all those who had displayed their sheets and remarked on the depth of interest and variety such a meeting brings forth.

The Chairman reminded members about the next meeting on June 17 at Shoreham-by-Sea and there being no further business, the meeting closed at about 4.30 pm.

### Committee Decisions

- Members are reminded that they must inform the Honorary Secretary of changes of address, and also would members please check their address labels, on receipt of publications, and advise of any postcodes or incorrect address.
- The Exchange Packet Secretary urgently requests good stamp material suitable for circulation from members as his stock of stamps is now exhausted.
- It was agreed that following the distribution of this issue of *Czechout* the Commission rates for the Exchange Packet Insurance would be increased to 2½% and Sales to 7%. The Auction commission would remain unchanged at 5% Insurance and 10% on Sales.

### Publications

Ing Josef Tekel informs us that there are two journals published in the Slovak Republic. "Slovenská filatelie" from 1992, and "Zberateľ" from 1995. They cover all aspects of philately from stamps to postal history. STOP PRESS: Ing Tekel has kindly sent us a copy of each journal.

Congratulations

Ernst Gorge on being awarded a Large silver medal for his display of The Masaryk Issues at Plzeň.

Obituary

Alfred Jack Stoyel We regret to announce the passing of Founder Member Jack Stoyel on April 9 1995, aged 81. A member of Vincent Jourdan's Czech Exchange Club, he joined the reformed CPSGB on January 30 1954. Jack served on the Committee from 1954 until 1969, and whilst the Society met at the National Liberal Club he gave a display on June 7 1975 on the pre-1918 Czech Postal History. Although we have not seen him at meetings since the 70's he has always retained his interest. We were delighted when he agreed to give a display of his Prisoner of War & Concentration Camp mail on March 17 1984 at the Czech National House. As far as I know Czechoslovakia was his sole speciality, and he was also a member of our sister society in the USA.

After returning from Naples in January 1946, serving almost five years with the land forces in Sicily and Southern Italy, Jack Stoyel became a Bookseller, working for such companies as, Lewis's, Foyles and finally retiring as Branches Director of Dillon's. Additionally, in 1954, Jack started his own company, The Scientific Subscription Service; he specialized in Scientific and Transport books. Later, he added books for the Alcoholic Anonymous and the Overeater Groups.

In 1946, Jack met his future wife Doreen, they married in 1950, and after sharing 44 happy years of marriage, she sadly died in June 1994 at the early age of 65. Jack had been ill for a number of years, but Alan Knight had been corresponding with him, and nominated him for Honorary Life Membership, which received unanimous approval at the 1993 AGM. We send our sincere condolences to his son Dominic, daughters Rosemary & Susan, and his grandson Rory. C.W.S.

Letters to the Editor

The Revenue Society of Great Britain: Jeffrey Kalp onetime member of the CPSGB writes..."The fastest developing area of philately is Revenue Stamps. The Revenue Society was formed in 1990 in response to renewed collector interest in revenue stamps. UK membership is £15 per year [overseas £20] and the Hon. Secretary Tony Hall, 53a High Street, Whitwall, Hitchin, Herts SG4 8AJ would be delighted to hear from you. Just Published 'Collecting and Displaying Revenue Stamps' by Clive Akerman, £5.00 incl. UK postage." *[Gary Ryan recently reminded the Editor that Czechoslovakia has interesting fiscals!]*

Jeffrey also mentions that he has a "beginner's collection of Czechoslovakia" for sale, anyone interested please contact Jeffrey Kalp, 26 Parkfield, Chorleywood, Herts, WD3 5AZ.

New Issues: Richard Beith writes..."Additional information on persons shown in recent new issues: *Czechout 1/94* Jan Kubelík [Czech Republic, 19.1.94] was the father of Rafael Kubelík (b.1914), the eminent conductor (and occasional composer) who was Musical Director at the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, from 1955-1958. RK returned to the post-velvet revolution Prague in 1990 to conduct Smetana's *Ma Vlast* at the Prague Spring Festival of that year.

*Czechout 3/94* Antoine de Saint-Exupéry [Slovak Republic 25.5.94] is well known to aérophilatelists for his part in the development of the French South Atlantic Air Mail Service. His signature can be found on first flight covers of the French sponsored line *Aeroposta Argentina* (1929). His books "Night Flight" (*Vol de Nuit*) and "Southern Mail" (*Courrier Sud*) are based on his airmail experiences."

1919 Overprints

**THE CZECH TYPE F OVERPRINT:  
AN INTERESTING FORGED SETTING**

Roy A Dehn FRPS,L

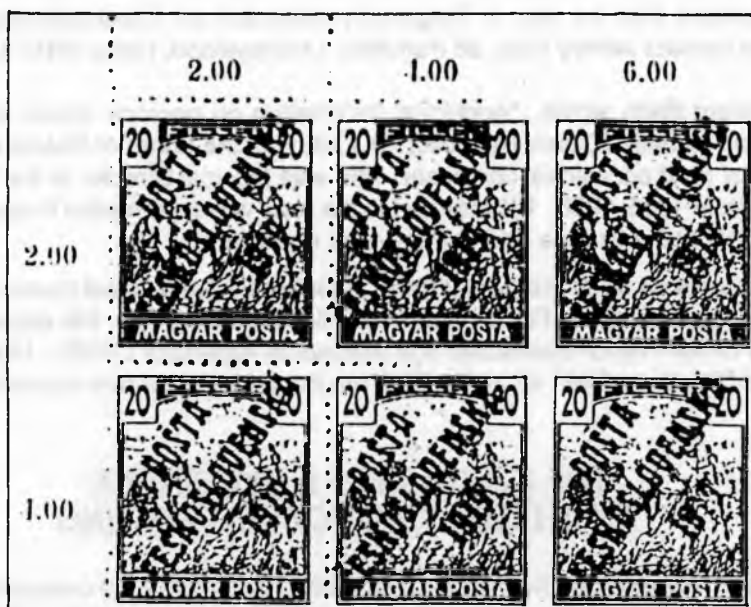
Most of the common forgeries of the POŠTA ČESKOSLOVENSÁ 1919 overprint are lithographic and this method of printing helps in their identification. I have recently, thanks to Barry Horne, had an opportunity of studying some interesting letterpress forgeries of the Type F overprint on the Hungarian reaper series and, in particular, on the 20 Filler value with the legend MAGYAR POSTA rather than MAGYAR KIR POSTA at the bottom. These forged overprints have also been applied to the 10F with>

white figures (SG 141) and to the Hungarian purple savings bank issue (SG Hungary B199). This latter stamp was never officially overprinted. Some other values also, even though of low catalogue value with genuine overprints, have been given the forged one.

The find included a block of six of the rare MAGYAR POSTA variety which if genuine would be of substantial value. This particular stamp should never have been overprinted, since it cannot have been in stock in Czech post offices at the time of Czech independence. The omission of KIRalyi-royal- from the legend indicates that it was issued in Hungary when, following the break-up of the empire, the post there was no longer royal or imperial. Because the overprint was not authorised on this particular stamp, it is conceivable that the clichés chosen for the overprint might not have been those in the standard setting. This belief justifies further consideration of these overprints although they all lack three important indicators of authenticity; the oblique line joining the first 1 and 9 of 1919, the dot on the right side of the O in SLOV, the dot low down between V and E in VEN. In one or two positions in the genuine settings these indicators are not always very clear.

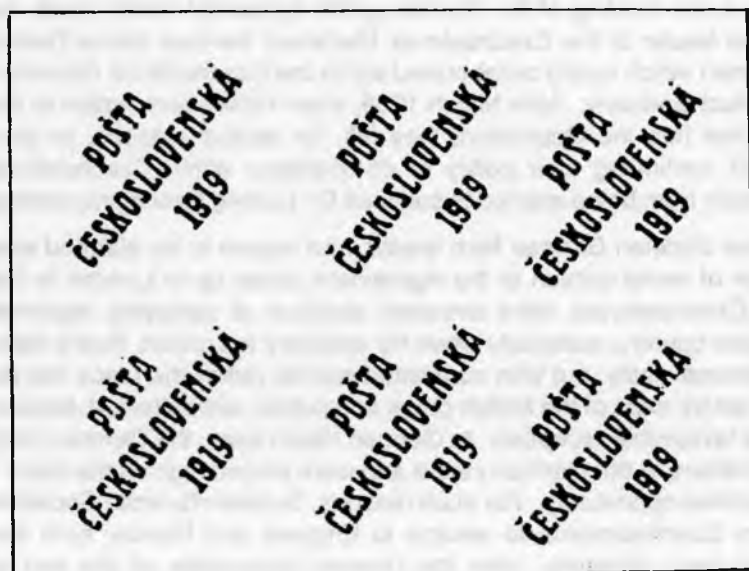
Writing in 1983 in the journal FITALIE 33 No 22 the Czech expert on these overprints, Jan Karásek, estimated that only a hundred of the MAYGAR POSTA with genuine overprint existed. He mentions two blocks of four and 'a (now disappeared block) of nine'. The angle of the genuine overprint on the reaper series is  $55^\circ$ ; for the 20F MAGYAR POSTA alone it is said to be  $53\frac{1}{2}^\circ$ . This might suggest that separate clichés were made for this value. If so, might not some of the indicators of originality legitimately be missing? It is claimed however that the difference in angle arises not from the clichés but from the angle at which the sheet of stamps was inserted in the press. If this is so, we would expect to find stamps at one edge of the sheet with overprints lower than at the other.

I recall three illustrations of this 20F. The earliest is lot 47 in the Kaufmann/Robson Lowe sale in Basel of 19 October 1965. It had a Wallner certificate. The angle appears to be  $53\frac{1}{2}^\circ$  and the overprint is well centred with the Č of ČESKOSLOVENSKÁ eclipsing the M of MAGYAR. In Novotný's Catalogue/Handbook the angle in the illustration is the same but the overprint is so shifted to the left that the P in POŠTA and the Č in ČESKOSLOVENSKÁ are cut by the stamp's perforations at the left. The third illustration is at No 167 in the second volume of the Czech monograph. Here the P and Č fall just within the stamp area, not on the perforation. Because of the angle the left top of the P touches the frame line. The stamp in the Basel sale could not have come from the same sheet as the other two. This suggests that the printing of 100 subjects was perhaps in two multiples each of 50, with the angle of entry into the press differing between the top and bottom half sheet.



We turn now to the group of overprints under study, an enlargement of the block of six of which is illustrated on page 34. It is a corner block, the stamps of which are Nos 1, 2, 3 and 11, 12, 13. It will at once be obvious that the clichés of the overprint on stamps 1 and 2 are not from a single die. In 2 the angle of overprint is less, and it is set lower. This is not due to the sheet being entered at an angle into the press because the overprint on stamp 3 resumes the height of that on 1. The characteristics of stamp 2 are repeated in stamp 12. It would appear that overprints 1 and 2 are repeated throughout the sheet, quite unlike the pattern followed in the known settings of any of the type F POŠTA ČESKOSLOVENSKÁ overprints. We note also in stamps 2 and 12 the rounded left top of P in POŠTA and the absence of serif at the right end of the top of T. In ČESKOSLOVENSKÁ the Č is thicker, the base of S in SKO is rounded rather than flat, the S in SKÁ has a shorter curve at the top and the accent is a dot rather than a line. In 1919 the first 1 is thicker on stamp 2 than on stamp 1. On stamp 1 the gap between POŠTA and ČESKOSLOVENSKÁ is wider than than between ČESKOSLOVENSKÁ and 1919. On stamp 2 it is the reverse. In all the original settings of the F overprint other than on the newspaper stamp the overprint types on these corner stamps were 1 3 1 / 4 2 3. Here they appear to be a b a / a b a.

These and other details make it very unlikely that the clichés used for these overprints came, as did the originals, from the Haase works. Comparison between the style of letters in the Haase overprints and that on the block under scrutiny provides further confirmation.



S.E. Corner.

Illustrated above is another example of the overprint under discussion, applied this time to the SE corner of the sheet of yellow newspaper stamps; since the colour of the stamp is lighter, the overprint can be given greater clarity when enlarged in the photocopier. In POŠTA in the known genuine overprints the base of the P appears clearly triangular rather than straight and the terminals of the S end in tiny points. In most positions the top of the A is flat, not rounded. In ČESKOSLOVENSKÁ the accent on the Č is a dot not an angle and the base of this letter ends in a small vertical spike, not a curve. Indeed the terminals of all the letters S and E come to a point. The counter (open space) at the top of the Ks is rounded rather than angular and the top of the V is seldom closed. In 1919 the base of the first 9 is rounded, never flattened and the second 1 has a clear base serif on the right.

The accumulation of these differences must convince us that the overprints under scrutiny differ in significant detail from the original. I hope this survey of an examination will help those new to this and other similar overprints to become aware of the kind of things to look for. I would like to add two practical hints. The angle of the genuine overprints is consistent, so is an important indicator. It cannot easily be measured simply by placing a protractor on the stamp. For those without special instruments the simplest way is to draw in pencil a thin baseline of some three inches on tracing paper and, taking a large protractor, draw the 55° angle with a line at least 3 inches long. This tracing can then be slid up and down the stamp until the angular line is under the word ČESKOSLOVENSKÁ >

and the baseline on the base of the stamp design or some other line parallel to it. Accurate measurement of the space between the lines of overprint is also difficult. Here too a tracing helps. This tracing should be of lines along the top and bottom of the three lines of type. Either the type 2 or the type 4 overprint should be chosen. Here the distance between POŠTA and ČESKOSLOVENSKÁ is the same as that between ČESKOSLOVENSKÁ and 1919. When this tracing laid on a stamp does not conform, it will either show a larger top gap or a larger bottom gap, identifying the overprint as type 1 or type 3.

Historical PS **ANNOUNCEMENT OF DEATH OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA** Rex Dixon

Two interesting replies have been received on Rex's article:

Heinz Vogel writes...."this postcard is a fascinating reminder of those sad days of Munich in October 1938. I am sure that I am not the first one to recognise the left hand bust as that of the then Ex-President Edvard Benes, i.e. as Rex points out, he resigned the presidency on 5th October (1938) under pressure from Berlin.

As regards Finkelstein and *Taksch* the following may help understand the background to this card.

*Taksch* is actually a mis-reading of the German gothic typescript which reads Jaksch. Dr. Wenzel Jaksch (Ref.1) was leader of the Czechoslovak (Sudeten) German Social-Democratic Party (Sozial Demokratische Partei) which loyally collaborated within the Czechoslovak Government in opposition to the menace from Nazi Germany. After March 1938, when Hitler's annexation of Austria had scared all other German parties into the Opposition, they felt, for tactical reasons, to leave the Government Coalition while still continuing their policy of co-operation within Czechoslovakia. This did not, however, stop Jaksch from being elected to succeed Dr. Ludwig Czech, the retiring Minister of Health.

Konrad Henlein, the Sudeten German Nazi leader, had reason to be alarmed when he observed the favourable reaction of world opinion to the Agreement drawn up in London in February 1937 which showed that the Czechoslovaks were sincerely desirous of satisfying legitimate demands of the Minorities within their country, especially when his emissary to London, Rotha (later committed for trial on a charge of homosexuality, but who committed suicide rather than face the inevitable conviction) was cold-shouldered by most of the British press and public, while Wenzel Jaksch, who also attended there, was given a favourable reception. In German (Nazi) eyes, the German Social Democrats were nothing less than traitors to the German cause and were placed high on the black lists of people to be *dealt with* at the earliest opportunity. For such reasons, Sudeten German Socialists were amongst the first refugees from Czechoslovakia to escape to England and France, both immediately after the Munich agreement and, ultimately, after the German occupation of the rest of the Czech lands (Bohemia and Moravia) in March 1939. Dr. Wenzel Jaksch, (Ref.2), and the writer's father were amongst these.

Finkelstein on the other hand did not exist and is intended in this context simply to serve as an anti-Semitic device by attributing the Jewish name *Finkelstein* to Stalin, alongside Maxim Litvinov who, I believe, was Jewish.

Taking all this into consideration, and noting that the card refers to the forthcoming "ceremonial requiem mass . . . . on 28th October 1938", i.e. the 20th anniversary of Czechoslovakia's independence, there is little doubt in my mind that this card must have been issued between October 10th and 28th 1938 by a Nazi-Sudeten-German source - probably in the newly-annexed Sudetenland.

The *Acknowledgments* to L.Finkelstein etc is of course, a reference to the USSR's betrayal of Democratic Czechoslovakia alongside that of the Western Powers".

#### References

1. Czechoslovakia Keystone of Peace and Democracy by Edgar P Young, published by Victor Gollancz Ltd, London 1938.
2. Munich Prologue to Tragedy by John W Wheeler-Bennett, published by Macmillan, London 1966.

Rex has also sent us a comment made by John Fraser in "Die Deutsche Postkarte", December 1994, page 59.2. The Newsletter of the Postcard Study Group of the Germany & Colonies Philatelic Society.

"This is highly ironic card issued by the Nazis. When Litvinov was working for the Bolsheviks before World War One he used many aliases one being David Mordecai Finkelstein. Litvinov was, in fact, Jewish. I think the Benes-Takšch may be similar as Benes also used aliases during the struggle for Czechoslovak independence. The reference to the Great Entente is the alliance between England, France and Russia before World War One. The card is presenting the argument that Czechoslovakia was one of the products of this alliance thus linking her with Soviet communism and world Jewry."

Stamps

**A FORGERY OF CZECH FORCES IN SIBERIA**

Chris Cordes

For interest's sake, I enclose for *Czechout* a rather clever forgery of the 25 k value 'Czech Army in Siberia' [SG No.7] on a postcard. From the illustrations you will observe that this is an extremely clever forgery which completely fooled me. Unfortunately, I purchased this on auction some 2½ years ago, and did not have it certified quickly enough as I felt fairly relaxed about it

My purpose in writing is not to point fingers at the auction house who sold it in good faith, but to point out that it is wise to obtain certificates for any better Siberian items no matter how attractive they appear. In this case I had assumed it was Philatelic rather than faked. My mistake!

Comments from The Royal Philatelic Society London Expert Committee:

"25 k Carmine and blue has been added to the picture postcard and is a FAKED combination with the Russian stamps."



On the reverse of the card there is a view of Swetlanska Street, Vladivostik.

## AN UNUSUAL RECENT PRINTING STYLE

Alan Knight



Set: "Personalities of the Liberated Theatre" (Czech Republic - 15th March 1995)

Noting the press release details showing this to be a setx3 on a single sheetx100 stamps, I was curious in regard to how one divides 100 by 3! "Obviously...(thought I) there must be a marginal of ten blank fields somewhere on the sheet" - how wrong I was ...! Here is a brief explanation:

I sent to Czech Post for some sheets of this set for examination purposes. Within seven days, these were on my desk at home. Soon, I could see it all and realized that this issue must be a 'first' in printing technique for Czech Republic and even one not seen over the period of the Czechoslovak Republics from 1918 to 1992.

Here's how they did it: The complete printing sheet is 255x292mm, printed from continuous paper rolls of 255mm width. Sheet frames of 100 stamps were divided by 15mm gutters (before cutting). The arrangement of the complete set on one sheet was as illustrated above and in that order horizontally but printed vertically in sets over columns 1 to nine. Column 10 contained a stripx10 of the stamp having the image of Jiří Voskovec.....making a sheetx100 stamps overall. Therefore, we have in front of us, sheets containing 30 complete sets plus the said strip of 10 of Mr. Voskovec, who has the honour of appearing 40 times on every sheet. By this method, therefore, it is possible to obtain either (or both) left and right marginal strips and/or blocks of complete sets or straight sets as illustrated here.

Technical details:

Three values x 3Kč. imaging Jiří Voskovec (1905-1981); Jan Werich (1905-1980) and Jaroslav Ježek (1906-1942) being actors, dramatists, musicians of the Liberated Theatre established 70 years ago.

Stamps printed in sheets x 100 stamps in colours black (recess), green, blue, orange, yellow (photo,). Designs by the painter and graphic artist Miss Clara Istlerová (after the originals of Adolf Hoffmeister). Engraving was by Václav Fajt. Design size is 19x23mm perforated  $11\frac{3}{4}:11\frac{1}{4}$ . Printers: HUP (Post Printing Works), Prague.

FDCs: Three printed in black by flat-plate recess process with commemorative cancels from Praha. Each cover bears engraver's transcriptions of caricatures

**N.B.** The stamps' field colour of yellow extends up to 5mm over the perfs. in four directions. There are extension perfs x2 (horiz.) and x3 (vert.). Finally .... Why make ten blank fields when you can make 30Kč's worth of stamps? After all, it is the Ministry of Economy that controls the Czech Post Office!

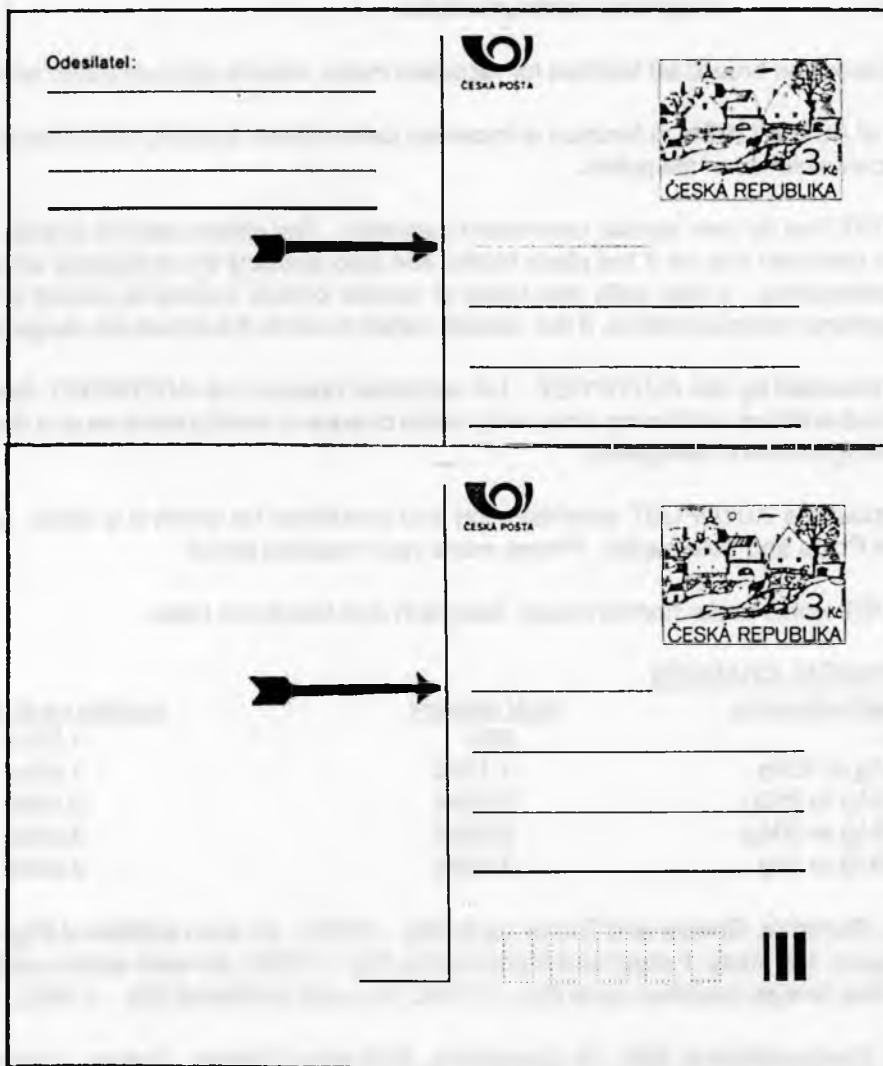


**CZECH REPUBLIC  
PS. POSTCARD  
22.3.1995**

On this date, there appeared a new ps. pc in two versions - one with sender's address lines at top-left and one with no such lines printed. The first was for private and domestic use; the other for commercial printing. According to cards sent to me, the commercial one is cream coloured with the other in white. Printed offset(dk.green)with the same designed stamp as the card issued 23.11.94. The Česka Pošta logo at top is in black.

Printed by two companies: Post Printing House, Prague and Victoria Security Printing, a.s. The printers are identified by their titles appearing in microtype in the address portion, as follows: Commercial card by "PTC ČESKA POŠTA 95" and the other card by "VSP ČESKA POŠTA 95". Both types make up the first address-line.

The stamp design is of a Czech hamlet as was the 2Kč pc of November 1995. Designed by Alfred Fuchs, cards are priced at Kč 3.30 whereas the earlier one was priced at Kč. 2.30.



**"WHAT?. WHEN?. WHERE?"**

- Members' Queries -

Another selection, together with some answers, for which we are sure our inquirers will be grateful; the answers first.

Re the Martin Griggs query in Czechout 4/94

From Garth Taylor: I have an orange/red one used to seal the back of an envelope posted on the 13 December 1938 and I was told it was a propaganda label asking radio amateurs to look out for and report enemy aircraft.

Re the James Ansell Autoposta query in Czechout 3/94

From John Hammonds: John found a Autoposta Leaflet which is now in Jim's collection, and Vladimir Králíček very kindly translated it for us.

AUTOPOST is the mobile postal and telegraph office;  
which accepts: ordinary and registered correspondence articles, postal vouchers,  
telegrams.

Sells: postage stamps, ordinary and picture postcards.

And arranges: telephone communications.

It has at its disposition broadcast facilities for recorded music, reports and any public announcements.

The purpose of AUTOPOST is to function at important celebrations, sporting and other events, and be there for the convenience of the public.

The AUTOPOST has its own special permanent canceller. The colour used is orange. For special occasions the canceller has on it the place name, and also possibly the enterprise where the AUTO POST is in attendance. It also sells two types of special picture postcards priced at 60h. It also arranges telephone communications, if the person called is within the broadcast range of the vehicle.

Services not provided by the AUTOPOST. For technical reasons the AUTOPOST does not accept parcels or valuable letters and boxes, does not provide cheque or saving services and does not deliver any postal consignments or telegrams.

Information about the AUTOPOST administration and conditions for which it is liable, is provided by the Ministry of Posts and Telegraphs. Please make your requests early!

The AUTOPOST works under normal postal, telegraph and telephone rates.

**PRINCIPAL POSTAL CHARGES**

<u>Letters to Czechoslovakia</u>	<u>local delivery</u>	<u>outside local delivery</u>
to 20g	60h	1.00Kč
from 21g to 100g	1.10Kč	1.60Kč
from 101g to 250g	2.00Kč	2.50Kč
from 251g to 500g	2.50Kč	3.00Kč
from 501g to 1kg	3.00Kč	4.00Kč

to Jugoslavia, Romania, Greece and Turkey up to 20g - 2.00Kč, for each additional 20g - 1.20Kč. To Gdansk, Hungary, Germany, Poland and Austria up to 20g - 2.00Kč, for each additional 20g - 1.50Kč. To the remaining foreign countries up to 20g - 2.50Kč, for each additional 20g - 1.50Kč.

Postcards to Czechoslovakia 50h. To Jugoslavia, Romania, Greece, Turkey, Gdansk, Hungary, Germany, Poland and Austria 1.20Kč. Rest of the world 1.50Kč.

&gt;



Vyšlo ministerstvo pošt, seštegrob : L31  
Tabis Cui graficki Unie s. r. e. Prase.

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### HLAVNÍ POŠTOVNÍ POPLATKY

Psalní	do Československa	v místní dopravě	v další dopravě
	do 20 g	60 hal.	1.— Kč
	od 21 g do 100 g	1-10 Kč	1-60 ..
	od 101 g do 250 g	2.— ..	2-50 ..
	od 251 g do 500 g	2-50 ..	3.— ..
	od 501 g do 1 kg	3.— ..	4.— ..

do Jugoslavie, Rumunska, Řecka a Turecka do 20 g — 2.— Kč, za každých dalších 20 g — 1-20 Kč a do Gdinská, Maďarska, Německa, Polska a Rakouska do 20 g — 2.— Kč, za každých dalších 20 g — 1-50 Kč a do ostatní ciziny do 20 g — 2-50 Kč, za každých dalších 20 g — 1-50 Kč.

Dopisnice do Československa 50 hal. a do Jugoslavie, Rumunska, Řecka, Turecka, Gdinská, Maďarska, Německa, Polska a Rakouska 1-20 Kč a do ostatní ciziny 1-50 Kč.

Dopisnice s pozdravem neb blahopřáním, nejvýše 5 slov, datum, podpis a adresa do Československa, Jugoslavie, Rumunska, Řecka a Turecka 30 h. a do ostatní ciziny 50 h.

Příplatek k normálnímu výplatnému	Doporučené	Spěšné
do Československa, Jugoslavie,	listovní záсылky	listovní záсылky
Rumunska, Řecka a Turecka	2.— Kč	2.— Kč
do ostatní ciziny	2-50 Kč	5.— Kč

### HLAVNÍ TELEGRAFNÍ POPLATKY

Ve vnitřním styku. Slovo obyčejného telegramu 40 hal. a listovního 10 hal. (nejméně 4 Kč). Slovo blahopřejného nebo soustrastného telegramu 10 hal. (nejméně 2 Kč). — Příplatek za doručení na ozdobném blanketu 3 Kč.

Mezinárodní telegramy, Maďarsko, Rakousko, Rumunsko 1-50 Kč za slovo, Německo, Polsko 1-60 Kč, Jugoslavie, Nizozemí, Švýcarsko 2-10 Kč, Belgie, Bulharsko, Dánsko 2-30 Kč, Francie 2-50 Kč, Itálie 2-60 Kč, Velká Británie 3-30 Kč, SSSR 3-80 Kč.

### HLAVNÍ TELEFONNÍ POPLATKY

Z veřejných telefonních hovorů lze dosáhnouti telefonního spojení s celým téměř světem. a Z telefonních automatů lze hovořit pouze v místním styku. a Místní hovorné za hovory konané z veřejné telefonní hovorny činí 1 Kč za třiminutový hovor.

Ve styku meziměstském tuzemském, t. j. mezi místy v Československu, jest hovorné odstupováno podle sedmi délkových pásem od 1-50 Kč do 16 Kč za třiminutový hovor konaný v době od 8—19 hodin. V době od 19—8 hodin zlevňuje se sazby o 40%.

Příklady: Poplatek za obyčejný třiminutový hovor v době od 8—19 hodin: z Prahy do Pardubic 7.— Kč, z Prahy do Brna 9.— Kč, z Prahy do Bratislavy 12.— Kč nebo z Pardubic do Brna 9.— Kč, z Pardubic do Bratislavy 12.— Kč, z Pardubic do Kolic 16.— Kč.

Ve styku mezinárodním, t. j. ve styku Československa s cizinou, sdělí poplatky zájemcům každá telefonní ústředna nebo veřejná telefonní hovorna. Na příklad poplatek za obyčejný třiminutový hovor v době od 8—19 hodin: z Prahy, Ústí n./L. nebo Karl. Varů do Berlína 26-10 Kč, z Plzně 31-80 Kč, z Českých Budějovic 37-35 Kč Podobně: z Prahy nebo Plzně do Vídně 26-10 Kč, z Ústí n./L. nebo K. Varů 31-80 Kč, z Českých Budějovic 20-55 Kč, nebo dále: z Prahy, Plzně nebo Českých Budějovic do Várlavy nebo Lvova 46-20 Kč, z K. Varů do Várlavy nebo Lvova 51-75 Kč. Ze všech míst Československa do Paříže 72-60 Kč, do Londýna 117-90 Kč atd.

Postcards with greetings or felicitations, maximum of five words, date, signature and address to Czechoslovakia, Jugoslavia, Romania, Greece and Turkey 30h. Rest of the world 50h.

<u>Surcharge to normal charges</u>	<u>Registered Letters</u>	<u>Express Letters</u>
To Czechoslovakia, Jugoslavia, Romania, Greece and Turkey	2.00Kč	2.00Kč
To the rest of the world	2.50Kč	5.00Kč

#### PRINCIPAL TELEGRAPH CHARGES

Inland: Ordinary telegram 40h/word, letter telegram 10h/word [min. 4Kč]. Greeting or condolence telegram 10h/word [min. 2Kč]. Surcharge for delivery of decorated telegram form 3Kč.

International telegram: Hungary, Austria, Romania, 1.50Kč/word, Germany, Poland 1.60Kč/word, Jugoslavia, Netherlands, Switzerland 2.10Kč/word, Belgium, Bulgaria, Denmark 2.30Kč/word, France 2.50Kč/word, Italy 2.60Kč/word, Great Britain 3.30Kč/word, USSR 3.80Kč/word.

#### PRINCIPAL TELEPHONE CHARGES

It is possible to obtain connection from the public telephone call-office to almost the whole world. From the telephone box it is only possible to make inland calls. For local calls from the public telephone call-office the charges are 1Kč/3 minutes.

Intercities contacts - inland: i.e., within Czechoslovakia, the calls are charged according to seven distance bands and are from 1.50Kč to 16Kč/3 minutes call between 8-19 hours. The charges are 40% cheaper during the period of 19-8 hours.

Examples: For an ordinary 3 minute call during the period of 8-19 hours. From Prague to Pardubice 7.00Kč, Prague to Brno 9.00Kč, Prague to Bratislava 12.00Kč, Pardubice to Košice 16.00Kč.

International calls: i.e., between Czechoslovakia and Other Countries, the charges will be given by the telephone exchange or the public telephone call-office. For example the charge for an ordinary 3 minute call during the period of 8-19 hours: From Prague, Ustí nad Lábem or Karlovy Vary to Berlin 26.10Kč, from Pilsen 31.80Kč, from České Budějovice 37.35Kč. Similarly from Prague or Pilsen to Vienna 26.10Kč, from Ustí nad Lábem or Karlovy Vary 31.80Kč, from České Budějovice 20.55Kč, or additionally from Prague, Pilsen or České Budějovice to Warsaw or Lvov 46.20Kč, from Karlovy Vary to Warsaw or Lvov 51.75Kč. From all places within Czechoslovakia to Paris 72.60Kč, to London 117.90Kč, etc.

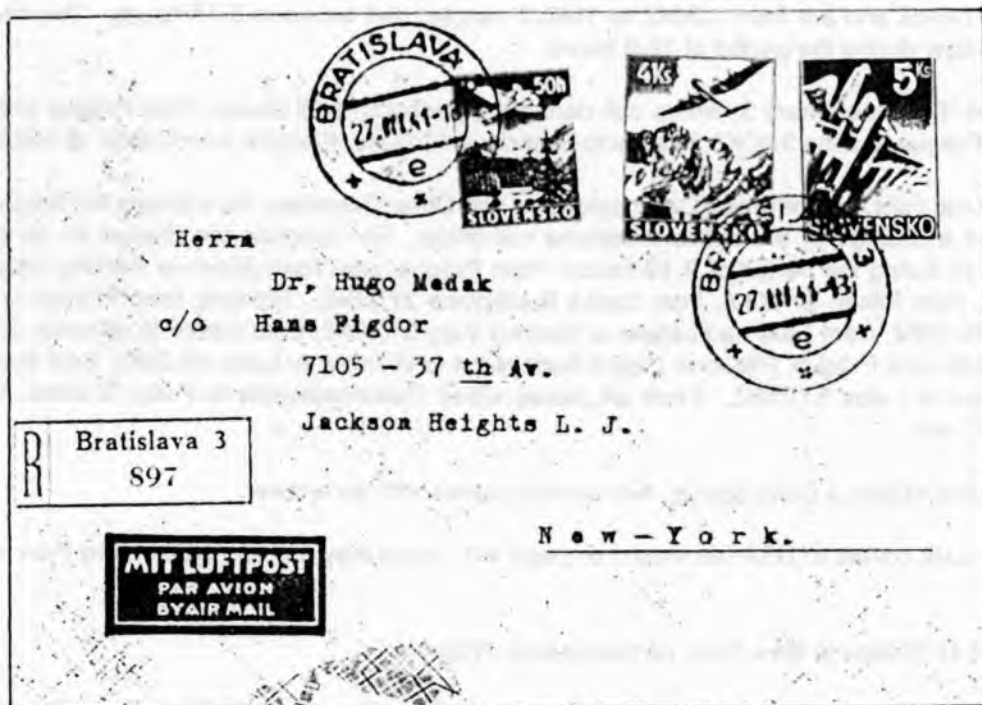
From Yvonne Gren & Colin Spong: two airmail queries with an answer.

Two Slovakia covers to USA (as shown on page 44) - were they routed via Lisbon by PAA or LATI via Brazil??

1] 31 VIII 40 Prešov to New York, no backstamp. (YG)

2] 27.iii.41 Bratislava to Jackson Heights, Registered & backstamped NY Reg'y Div. 4-24-1941.(CS)

Richard Beith comments: 99.9% certain to have flown from Lisbon directly to the USA via the Pan American Clipper service using Boeing 314 flying boats. Probably routed to Lisbon via Rome rather than through Germany [there being no German censor markings]. Absence of British censorship markings suggest that these particular flights did not call at Bermuda to refuel. The British were very good at removing mail for inspection when neutral Clippers called at Bermuda [or Trinidad]. Pan Am would continue to carry mail from Bohemia & Moravia and Slovakia until the USA came into the war at the end of 1941. (After that date they would still carry such mail if the end destination was a neutral country, eg. Argentina) [If these covers had been carried by LATI via Brazil I would have expected a much higher franking].



Re the Brian Day Query in Czechout 3/94

We have received two interesting replies concerning the Slovak Cross.

From Robert Hill: To my certain knowledge the history of Lorraine goes back to at least the 9th century, however my son [researching non philatelic matters] unearthed the following:

Charles Alexander, Prince of Lorraine (1712-1780) An Austrian soldier and statesman who was son of Leopold Joseph, Duke of Lorraine. He was the brother of Emperor Francis I and married Marie Theresa's sister. In the first Silesian war he was decisively defeated by Frederick I in the battle of Chotusitz (Czaslau) in 1742. In the next year he repeatedly defeated the Bavarians, occupied the country and entered as far as Alsace [nearly back to his ancestral home].

On the outbreak of the second Silesian war he was sent to Bohemia from which he drove the Prussians. In Silesia he was routed by Frederick at Hohenfriedburg and was beaten in 1746 by Saxe at Raucoux in the (Austrian) Netherlands. In 1757 he was beaten at Prague and was utterly defeated by Frederick at Leuthen (Silesia) on December 5 1757. *(Bob remarks that the taking of parts of the opponents Standard to show domination was nfc at that time )*

From E.Skovbo Jensen: In January 1988 I wrote a small article about this matter, to which I have added a postscript - you are welcome to publish this as an answer to Brian Day's query.

The Source of Slovakia's Watermarks In the tenth century, the Magyar horsemen broke out of their pastures north of the Black Sea and swept westward through Europe. After many triumphant battles, they met their master in the person of the German emperor, Otto the Great, who beat them in the Battle of Augsburg in 955 A.D. Thereupon, they settled down in Pannonia where they established a land of their own. This country we know today as Hungary, but the name of the Magyars remains on Hungarian stamps: *Magyar Posta*. Though they were of pagan origin, the Magyars came under Christian influence from many sides. They were ruled by princes, one of whom, Geyza, almost managed to unite the country under his leadership. Geyza converted to Christianity and invited German missionaries into the country. To strengthen the ties of friendship with the Germans, he let his son, István, marry a Bavarian princess.

István became the first real king of Hungary. We know him by the name Stephen, from whence St. Stephen's Day arose [August 20]. According to legend, Stephen was under the strong influence of his Christian mother. When Geyza died in 997 A.D. Stephen, then about 28 years old, inherited his not-yet-established kingdom. Though a major part of the Hungarian population was still pagan, Stephen was so impressed by the strong Christian influence in Western Europe, that he decided to convert Hungary and its people into a Christian kingdom with Christian education and upbringing.

The story goes on that in order to get the Pope's blessing of his plans in the Spring of 1000 A.D., Stephen sent a brilliant embassy staff to Rome under the leadership of the faithful, experienced, and indefatigable clergyman, Astrik. Pope Sylvester II, who was eagerly working to increase his papal powers, received the Hungarian envoys cordially and when he learned from Astrik the purpose of their mission, he exclaimed, "I am but apostolic, but thy master who sent thee here is, in truth, the apostle of Christ himself!" He gladly complied with Stephen's wishes and granted him and his successors the right of calling themselves "Apostolic Kings" and to carry before them the apostolic dual cross as an emblem of their independent ecclesiastic authority. The Pope also presented Stephen with a crown as a symbol for all times of God's blessings upon the Hungarian Kingdom.

What has all this to do with Slovakia? The Slovakia we know as one of the provinces forming today's Czechoslovakia [and now since 1993 an independent Republic], was then the northern outskirts of Hungary. It did not even lie within the Hungarian Kingdom, whereas Transylvania later did. From the beginning, Hungary was called the country of three mountains and four rivers. Those rivers include all of the Danube and its tributaries - the Theiss, the Drave, and the Save. The mountains are the Tatras, the Fátas, and the Mátras. They are all embodied in the coat of arms of the country - the mountains as three hills with the dual cross raised above them. Those familiar with Hungarian philately know that the cross on the hills appears as a watermark on Hungarian stamps in no less than five different >



varieties. When Czechoslovakia rose from the ruins of the Austro-Hungarian Empire, the dual cross on the hills became the symbol of Slovakia's coat of arms and when Slovakia became a so-called "independent" nation in 1939, it used the symbol as a watermark on its stamps.

It should be noted that if you travel through present-day Slovakia, you will have no difficulty in finding the Tatras and the Fátras. They are not just individual mountains; they are mountain ranges and part of the complex of ranges that together form the huge Carpathians. The Mátras are not situated in Slovakia. They are a minor mountain group situated in northern Hungary in a straight line about 100 miles south of Gerlakovsky, the highest peak in the Tatras. Sometimes it seems easier to gain knowledge about ancient history than of modern history. When and how it was decided that Czechoslovakia in 1919 - and later Slovakia in 1939 should use the cross on the hills as part of their respective coats of arms and as watermarks on their stamps is a mystery I have been unable to unravel. If you have any knowledge or access to literature on the subject, please let me know.

Postscript: The changes of the political landscape of Eastern Europe since 1988, when the above small article was written, are well known. To-day it may be possible to get access to material about postal history at the postal authorities in Slovakia in order to obtain more exact information about the subject. Anybody interested is hereby invited to undertake the task. E.S-J.

#### References:

HUNGARY IN ANCIENT, MEDIÆVAL, AND MODERN TIMES by Arminius Vambery. T.Fisher Unwin, London. 1887.

*The Czechoslovak Specialist*, January 1988

We thank the author and Mirko Vondra, editor of the Cz Specialist for permission to use this article.

We now have a number of new queries.

From Robert Hill: Can any member tell me where the two 1945 Liberation Issues shown below come from:

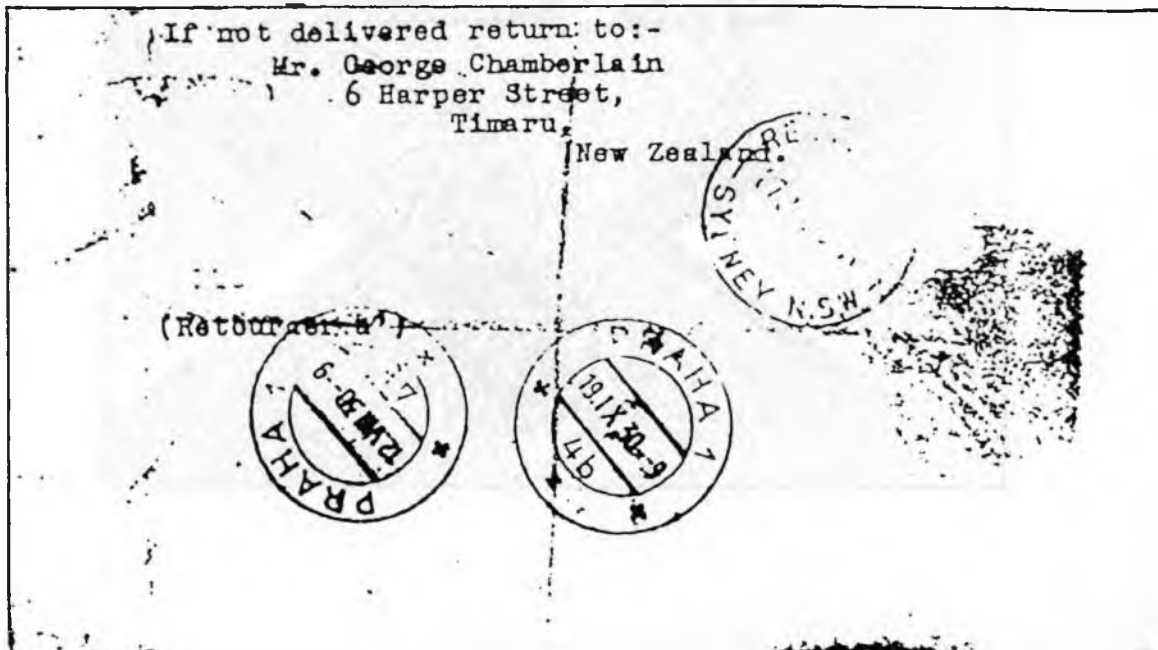
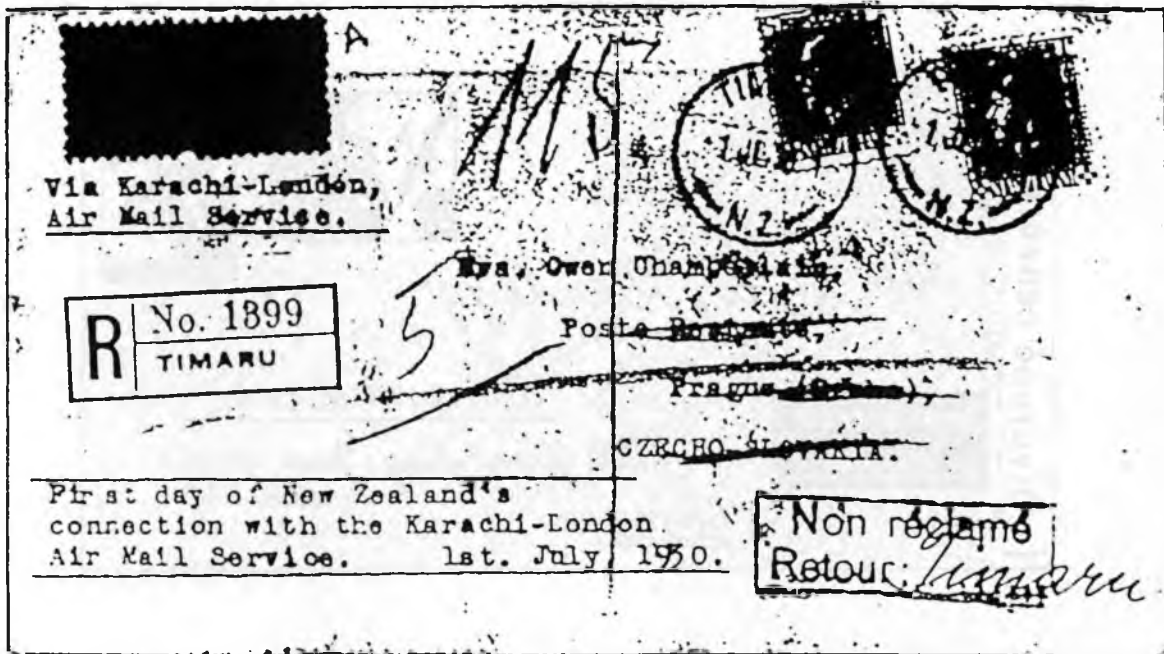


They are Deutsches Reich stamps 25pf (Mi 793) and 30pf (Mi 794), overprinted with CSR and Star. I have looked at the informative Cyril Wackett publication "*A Study of The Czechoslovakian 1945 Liberation Issues*" and the comprehensive "*Revolutionary Stamps and Overprints, 1944/45 Local Issues*" produced by Juan Santaegenia of Barcelona, but cannot find any reference.

Bob also had the honour to be the guest of Karel Holoubek at his home on the outskirts of Hradec Králové on 24 February. He saw something of his vast collection of 1945 Liberation overprints, and learned of his correspondence with many philatelists around the world including Cyril Wackett. Mr Holoubek stated it was his intention to produce an update of his catalogue of verified overprints later this year. He also mentioned that another philatelist living near Praha had an even more comprehensive collection. Mr Holoubek had a interesting query with which members may be able to help.

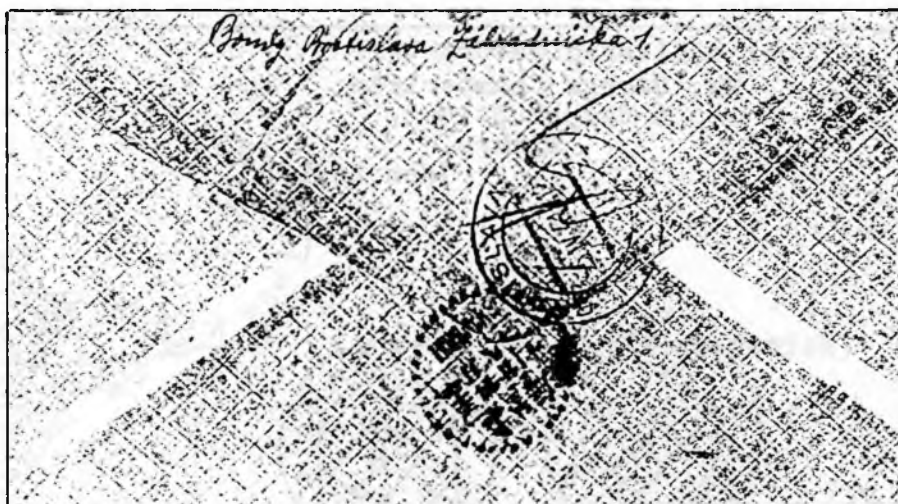
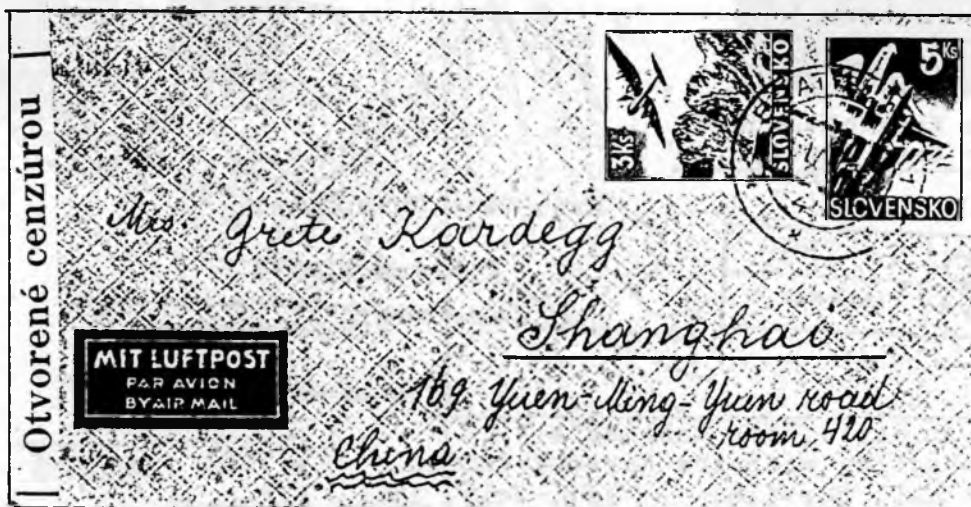
He possesses some cartoon style postcards from the American Army issued at the time Plzen was liberated. In total he has 23 of these cards which depict scenes of the times and inter action between liberators and the liberated. He feels that probably at least 24 cards were issued, as they appear to have been printed 6 to a sheet. Can anyone help with further information? >

From Lewis Giles: Lewis (a member of the British Aerophilatelic Federation) has asked if any member can help with the routing of this cover from London to Prague and if an additional postage rate was needed [1½p]. I understand that the 115 marking in blue refers to the Pneumatic post which operated in Prague. The backstamps would appear to indicate that this was sent by surface from New Zealand to Karachi and then airmail (it still took 6½ days to fly the mail from Karachi to London). A total of 42 days from door to door, and the return as far as Sydney took a further 41 days, then at least another 6 days to across the Tasman, which would indicate that its return was by surface all the way. I assume the mauve Non réclamé Retour cachet was applied in Prague. The significance of the figure '5' in indelible pencil and underlined is not clear.



From Colin Spong: A query which appeared in Czechout 2/93 without an illustration, through Alec's perseverance this can now be shown. 5.iv.41 Bratislava Slovakia to Shanghai, China: route taken - and was this carried by a German/Slovak/or Russian airline? Backstamps Bratislava as on front, and a Chinese arrival.

Richard Beith kindly looked at this and comments: A difficult one! Not necessarily by air all the way. Since this was before the German invasion of Russia, via Russia seems the best bet, ie Lufthansa as far as Moscow? The other alternative would be via the North Atlantic and Trans Pacific services of Pan American, but the 8Ks franking is probably inadequate for that route. There was a modest Slovak airline operating for a time using leased German equipment, but I don't think it comes into the story of this cover. Can anyone help?



New Issues**CZECH REPUBLIC**

A.J. Knight

**March 15th 1995****"Personalities of The Liberated Theatre"**

Three values

(See separate article elsewhere in this issue)

**22.3.1995****PS POSTCARD**

Stamp: Alfred Fuchs

Having same imprinted stamp design as the 2Kč pc issued 23.11.1994 but with face value of 3Kč. Printed in dark-green and rosine colours. The selling price of this pc is Kč. 3.30. This was a joint-printing venture of the Post Printing House and the Victoria Security Printing a.s. of Prague. The printers' initials (in microscopic form) make up the first (short) line of the address lines. Apart from private usage, the card is designed to enable commercial and other advertising to be printed on face.

(See separate article elsewhere in this issue)

**22.3.1995****PRESIDENT VÁCLAV HAVEL (definitive)**

Designed & Engraved by Miloš Ondráček (19x23mm) Face: Kč. 3.60  
Printed rotary recess (violet) combined with photogravure (rosine and blue) in sheets of 100 pcs. Design is the same as previous definitives of The President. Perf.  $11\frac{1}{2} \times 11\frac{1}{2}$ . (No FDC).

**22.3.1995****COUNTRY MOTIFS (definitives)**

**Two values (40h and 60h):** 30x23mm-designed stamps with country images as above.

Design arrangements by Alfred Fuchs. Engravers: Bohumil Šneider (40h) and Václav Fajt (60h). Printed rotary recess in sheets x50 stamps - p. $11\frac{1}{2} \times 11\frac{1}{2}$ .

Colours: (40h) brown and rosine; (60h) brown and ochre.

No FDCs with this set. These are the first Czech Republic stamps in hellers.

N.B. No location names are provided for the designs on these stamps. They are simply imaginary montages Czech country scenery. >

EUROPEAN CONSERVATION YEAR - 1995  
- Endangered Insects -



12.4.1995 (3v) 3Kč: *Bombus terrestris* (Digger bumble bee)  
Colours: yellow, green, violet, black.

5Kč: *Mantis religiosa* (Praying mantis)  
Colours: yellow, green, red violet, black.

6Kč: *Calopteryx splendens* (Banded damselfly)  
Colours: yellow, green, blue, violet, black.

Designed by Josef Liesler; Engraved by Josef Herčík (23x30mm) p. 11½x11½  
Printed rotary recess/four-colour photogravure in sheets x 50 pcs.

FDCs: (3): One bearing 2x3Kč stamps with spl. cancels from Praha and a drawing of *Scolia maculata* within boxed emblem and inscription as title above.  
5Kč: Drawing of *Ascalaphus macronotus* - remainder as above.  
6Kč: Drawing of *Osmylus fulvicephalus* - remainder as above.

EUROPEAN PEACE AND FREEDOM

- 50th Anniversary of ending of 2nd World War -  
["Europa" 1995 - "Peace and Freedom"]

3.5.1995

9Kč. Passing Life: Woman's life phasing (facing right) with a rose and "Europa" (left).

14Kč. As above (facing left) with a small full profile of young woman below a butterfly; 'Europa' right.

Colours: 9Kč. Ochre, red, rose, brown (recess print)  
14Kč. Ochre, blue, rose, brown (recess print)

Designs: Jiří Andrie; Engravings: Miloš Ondráček- size: 40x23mm. Printed rotary recess/photo in 50s, p.11¼x11½

FDCs (2): 9Kč with comm. cancels from Praha and a drawing of woman eating grapes. The cancel is a head of a young woman facing left.

14Kč. This cover has spl. cancel with a 'rose' design and a drawing of a woman's face in profile right with a bunch of grapes. >



BEAUTIES OF OUR COUNTRY  
- Rock Formations -

3.5.1995



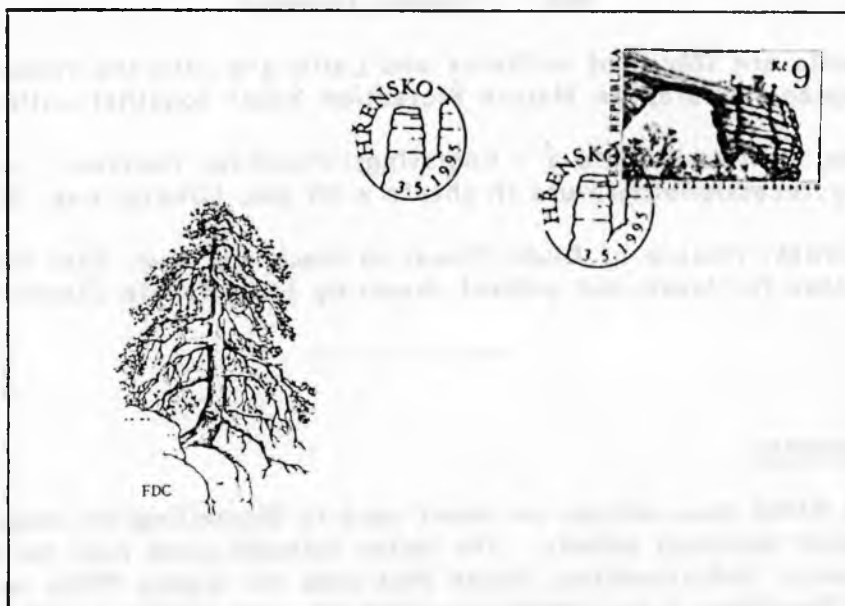
Printed Flat Plate in sheets of eight stamps, p11½x11¼

- 1. 8Kč. Panská Skalá - Kamenický Šenov  
Colours: blue, grey, green, brown-black
- 2. 9Kč. Pravčická Brána - Hřensko  
Colours: ochre, green, gark-green, brown-black  
Designer: Adolf Absolon - Engraver: Martin Srb (40x26mm)

FDCs 2: 8Kč: Cancelled with a basalt syle column and Kamenický/Šenov/3.5.1995. Drawing of a bare beech tree (in colour grey).

9Kč: Cancelled by a rock-stack style cds from Hřensko/3.5.1995. Drawing of pine tree (in colour cinnamon) as depicted atop of the rock on the stamp.

**N.B.** Panská Skála rock formation is called the 'Stone Organ' and is situated in the protected area of the region known as České středohoří (the mountains of Central Bohemia). Pračická Brána, Europe's largest sandstone, is situated in the nature reserve of Labské pískovce. A glance at the stamp will clearly show why the view from the rock 'bridge' is unforgettable.



## SLOVAKIA

The Slovak Ministry of Transport, Communications and Public Works announces the issue of the following new postage stamps:

8.2.1995

## FARMERS ASSOCIATION - SOBOTIŠTE 1845



9Sk Samuel Jurkovič founder of this association in 1845 with background showing architecture of the town where this first European co-operative was created.

FDC: A contemporary cashbox with inscription in Slovak: "First Co-operative on the European Continent". Cover design: Zdeno Brázdil - Engraver: Martin Činovský.

Stamp Designers: (Portrait) - Zdeno Brázdil, (Graphics) - Martin Činovský with engravings by Rudolf Cigáňic. p.11½x11½

Printed rotary recess/photogravure in ochre-brown colour in sheets of 50 stamps.

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EUROPEAN NATURE PROTECTION YEAR  
(Protected Plants in Slovakia)



28. 2.1995

2Sk - Cimnalis Clusii    3Sk - Pulsatilla slavica  
8Sk - Onosma tornense

Names of plants are inscribed in Slovak and Latin and with the following text in Slovak language: "European Nature Protection Year" together with Int. Symbol.

Designs: (Miss) Kamila Štanclová - Engravings: František Horniak. p.11½x11½  
Printed rotary recess/photogravure in sheets x 50 pcs. (Design size: 30x23mm.)

FDCs: (2): 2/3Sk: Picture of Clusii flower in black and blue. 8Sk: Picture of Onosma tornense (in black and yellow) drawn by Miss Kamila Štanclová.

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Author's Footnote:

All Slovakian FDCs now contain an insert card in Slovak/English showing background information and technical details. The latter includes print runs for stamps and First Day Covers. Unfortunately, Slovak Post does not supply FDCs with press releases and therefore, I am unable to quote all the printing numbers. It may be that these can be published en-bloc later in the year. >

THE SLOVAK NATIONAL THEATRE -BRATISLAVA  
75th Anniversary

28.2.1995



Design: Ivan Schurmann : Engraving: M. Srb  
Face: 10Sk.

Design (40x23mm): Symbolic of Theatre Masks with inscription 75 Years/Slovak National/Theatre.

Printed r/recess/multi-col. recess in sheets x 50 pcs.  
(p11 $\frac{1}{4}$ x11 $\frac{1}{2}$ ) in blue, black and rose colours.

FDC: Showing theatre frontage together with Ganymede's fountain in foreground in black and blue. Print run for fdc: 10,000 only - (average fdc run). Stamps: 1m.

N.B. The Slovak National Theatre (founded 1920) is a professional theatre made up of three companies based in the capital city. At present a historical building constructed at the end of the last century by Viennese architects Helmer and Fellner, houses opera and ballet. Repertory theatre performances have appeared at the P.O. Hviezdoslav Theatre since 1955 and at the Malá scéna (or 'Small Proscenium') since 1962. Since establishment, the N.T. has enjoyed intensive development in the quality of its opera, ballet and theatre productions, securing its place in mature European theatre culture.

**Definitive stamp NITRA**

- with fdc -

15.3.1995



2Kc. Showing historical sacred architecture designed by Igor Benca and engraved by František Horniak. (19x23mm). The town arms, showing knight's arm holding a Slovak Cross banner appears top-right with town's name - Nitra.

Printing: Rotary recess/recess in black and rose-violet colours and in sheets of 100 stamps, p11 $\frac{1}{4}$ x11 $\frac{1}{2}$ .

FDC: With commemorative cancel from Nitra and a drawing of an archeological find from the era of the Great Moravian Empire/bunch of grapes (times old and new).

Lying 100 km east of Bratislava, Nitra lies on the left bank of the Nitra river in a fertile plain at the foot of the southern spurs of the Tribeč mountains (627 ft asl). Archeological discoveries here show the area occupied since pre-historic times. The first Christian church on the soil of Slovakia was also in the castle precincts. In 1025 Nitra became the seat of the crown prince of Hungary whilst in the 16th and 17th centuries it suffered badly from constant attacks by the Turks. The present town centre has seen dramatic developments since 1945. >



ICE-HOCKEY WORLD CUP - BRATISLAVA '95  
- Group 'B' -

29.3.1995

5Sk. Designed: Svetozar Mydlo : Engraved: Pavel Kovářik



Stamp Design depicts ice-hockey equipment, a globe and a small drawing of Kriváň Peak together with the inscription as the above title. Design size: 23x30mm vertical.

Printing was by rotary recess/recess in sheets of 50 pcs., perf.  $11\frac{1}{4} \times 11\frac{1}{2}$ .

FDC: Carries drawing of ice-hockey player in dk. blue.

POSTAL STATIONERY POSTCARD  
"DEVIN"

29.3.1995

A ps pc appeared with imprinted 2Sk stamp with design of DEVIN CASTLE. The stamp size is 19x23mm in two colours: the castle in brown-black with rose background. The address lines and Slovak Post logogram are in brown-black. Designer Martin Činovský.

This item underwent two separate print runs: (a) by the printing house Kasico of Bratislava and (b) by printing house PROMPT of Bratislava. Like the Czech ps pc described elsewhere herein, these cards carry microtyped address lines showing "Slovenska posta" and/or the abbreviated form of printers' title.

