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Postal Cancellations and the Language Question In the Czech Lands

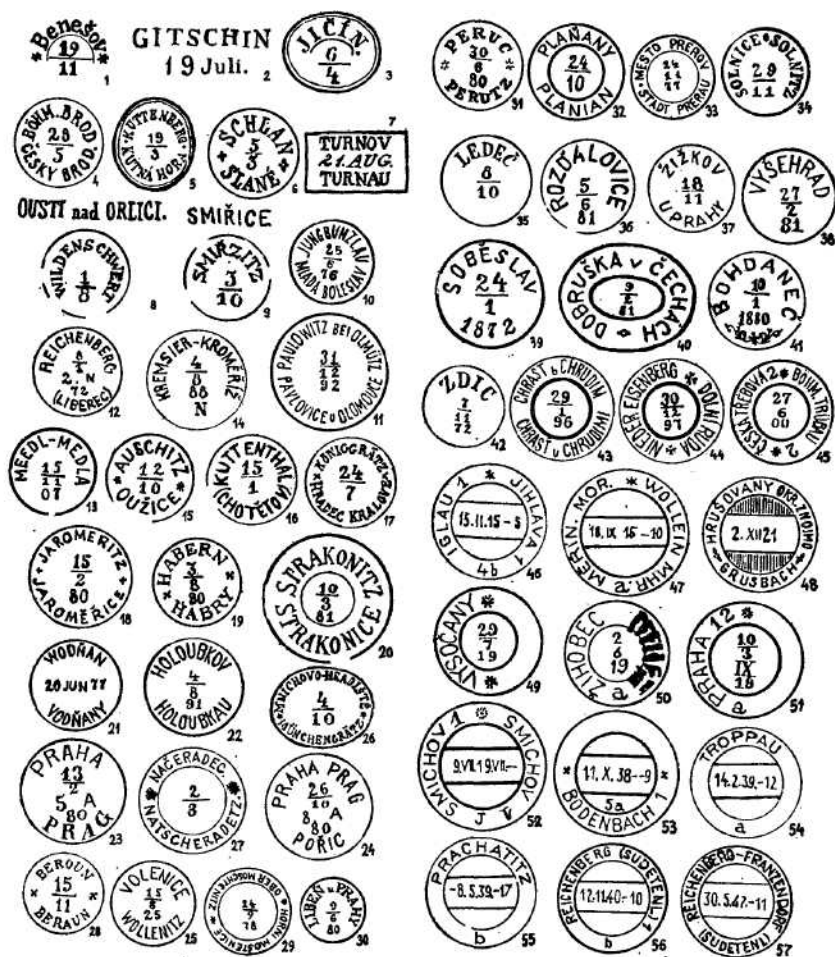
By Dr. Karel Vsetecka

from Filatelie

(Postal cancellations often reflect the true picture of historic events and development. Therefore it is not surprising that they too are a true mirror of nationality questions. Excellent example of this fact are the postal cancellations used on territory of so-called historic Czech lands of Bohemia, Moravia and Silesia, which since the advent of postal services were more or less one of the focal points of clashes between the national interests of the Czechs and the Germans. Thus the variety of this postal material from these lands is language-wise very rich. The following study is an attempt to present—in unified form—several hitherto separate and not easily accessible facts and information.)

Austria-Hungary which included also the territory of the present Czechoslovakia, was until the second part of the 19th century a centrally administered state entity. Its official language was German with all citizens required to use it in their dealings with the state administration. So until 1871 the predominant majority of postal cancellations was also in German. But there were certain exceptions: first, so-called postmaster's cancels, and second, so-called village cancels where the name of a village existed in Czech only. However, even in these cases the spelling of these names on cancels was adapted to the German language and the letters of the Czech alphabet were replaced by German letters or at least with those Czech letters most similar to German spelling. For example, the Czech letter "C" was replaced by "TZ"; instead of the Czech "Č" by the German combination "TSCH" or "CŽ" (i.e. TELČ—TELTSCH) was used; the Czech letter "Š" was similarly replaced by "SCH"; "Ř" by "RŽ"; ě by IE etc. The phonetic spelling of names of Czech villages was not unified, and local postmaster's linguistic whims or deficiencies usually prevailed, correct grammar or spelling notwithstanding! However these Germanized names of towns and villages disappeared gradually and their cancellations remained a very interesting documentary evidence of linguistic development in this field.

The Czech localities which had no equivalent German names, used exclusively Czech cancels of types known and used in the period between 1860 to 1871. But these Germanized linguistic monstrosities began to be replaced slowly by properly spelled Czech names of these localities. For example:



Jaromierz to Jaroměř; Przelauc to Přelouč; Pržibram to Příbram; etc. An oddity of this period is the Czech cancel of town Benešov in addition to the usually used cancellation with its German version Benešchau (see no. 1). Also less used town name of Gitschin was gradually replaced with a Czech cancel Jičín (see 2 and 3). So-called postmaster's cancels were exclusively bilingual. To this class belong for example cancels of Český Brod (4), Kutná Hora (5), Slaný (6), and Turnov (7) where the Czech names of these towns were placed first. Likewise are the cancels of towns Ústí nad Orlicí and Smiřice where the Czech name was added to the German one in the form of a one line cancel (see 8 and 9).

The revolutionary year of 1848 in Europe revived hopes for the establishment of language equality in the Czech lands. However the bloody suppression of the Prague uprising spelled out the end of these hopes. Next, these hopes revived after the defeat of Austrian armies by Prussia in the war of 1866. They were strong especially in 1867 when the Austrian central government granted Hungary full autonomy status. However, it was not

until 1871 when at last the decree on language equality was promulgated between the Czech and German languages in Czech lands.

According to this decree, as of April 1871, the cancellations of all localities where the local Czech name spelling was different one for its German spelling were to remain bilingual. In November same year, this decree was further amended and the above ruling extended to all the new post offices established in localities with the mixed Czech/German population. The same policy was to be followed in case of issuing new cancels to the existing post offices. According to regulations, the German name of a locality was to be inserted into the UPPER part of cancel's circle, while its Czech name in the BOTTOM part of it. Majority of towns and villages did conform to this ruling. (See 10 and 11).

Less common were cancellations with the Czech name of a locality at its bottom and in parenthesis (see 12) or when both names—Czech and German—were placed along the upper part of cancel's circle and divided by a dash line. (See 13 and 14). In rare cases, some purely German localities were furnished bi-lingual cancels—for example the town of Cheb (Eger) and Liberec (Reichenberg)—but these cancels were soon recalled and replaced by monolingual German ones.

Bilingual cancels which some postmasters ordered in addition to their official cancellations, did not always conform to these regulations. Only those with the German local name on top and the Czech one at bottom could be considered as acceptable (see 15 to 21). However there were many cancels, both postmaster and official types, which ignored completely the language and other technical provisions of the above mentioned decree. This applied especially to cancels with the Czech names in their upper part. Officially issued cancels of this type were, for example, cancels of Holoubkov, Chlumec nad Cidlinou, Měšice, Okrouhlice; further some cancels of Praha Volenice, Votice, Zdírec and others (see 22-25). Less common were postmaster cancels of this type (see 26-34).

To this group belonged also other cancels, for example Česká Skalice-Böhm. Skalitz; Něm. Brod—Deutsch Brod; Golčův Jeníkov—Goltsch Jenikau; Kasejovice—Kassejowitz; Moravany—Morawan; Horní Cerekev—Ober Cerekwé. Other cancels, official as well as postmaster type, had the name of the locality in Czech only. Officially such cancels were issued, for example, for Čáslav, Dobruška, Hořice, Ledč, Libeň, Ražďalovice, Sluč, Světlá, Vyšehrad, Žižkov (see 35-38). The monolingual postmaster cancels were often issued in different designs (see 39-41).

Among this group we find some monolingual cancels with incorrect spelling of names of localities either in Czech or German. For example: cancel of town of Zdic (see 42) or Hořic instead of correct spelling Zdice and Hořice. This is also in case of a double-circle cancel of Bernarditz, when the last two letters "t" and "z" were replaced with "c"; also in the single circle cancel of Bubenz, where the last letter "z" was simply dropped so that the spelling of the town's name could be changed to Buben.

This veritable flood of irregular, non-conformist cancels finally led to a new ruling—in 1882—which specified that only officially furnished cancels could be used by all postoffices. While this ruling certainly made these extracurricular activities more difficult, it did not again satisfy the Czech demands. The principle of language equality on these cancels was not even solved by the introduction in the last decade of the 19th century of double circle type cancels (see 43). This new type of cancellation had again the German name of a locality on top and its Czech name on its bottom. In case

of localities with Czech majorities, the Czechs considered this physical arrangement as the breach of the above mentioned principle of national and language equality.

This inadequacy was to be corrected in the second half of the 1890's with the improved type of the double-circle cancels. On these cancellations the names of localities were arranged in the following manner: in places with GERMAN majority, their German names were placed on the LEFT side of the cancel, while the Czech names were on the RIGHT side. This order was REVERSED in localities with CZECH majorities. (See 44, 45.) However even this arrangement did not prevent some postmasters from reversing upside down the date line in postmarks, thus changing a Czech/German cancel into a German/Czech one. The effort to prevent such illegal manipulations had led yet to another type—so called "bridge" cancels which made the reversing of date lines in postmarks impossible. (See 46 and 47.)

These "bridge" cancels did take care of the national equality problem but did not end the language squabbles and the dissolution of the Austrian-Hungarian empire in 1918 did not finish them either—as is evidenced by postal cancellations of that period. Typical examples of this situation are the cancels of Moravian towns Znojmo (Znaim) and Hrušovany (Grusbach) from which the Czech names were removed after the 1918 declaration of the Czechoslovak independence. In the first case, the Czech name of the town—Znojmo—was soon re-inserted into its cancels. However in the second case (Hrušovany) the "temporary" cancel continued in use for some time (see 48).

After October 18, 1918 (Declaration of Czechoslovak Independence) the new Czech authorities took over officially the Austrian bilingual and monolingual cancels, and on Slovak territory, the Hungarian cancels. Against their expressed orders, many bilingual cancels were locally "nationalized" with their German names mechanically removed or simply blacked out. (See 49-51). Lesser amount of these cancels was "nationalized" by simple partial changes in spelling, usually at the ending of the name. For example, the cancel of Smichow was changed to Smíchov (see 52). In some cases there was a switch of 180 degrees between the Czech and German names in cancels, placing the Czech name of a locality into a secondary position. The control mark of these cancels was thus switched from the original normal bottom position of a circle to the top and was reversed as well. It cannot be confirmed whether or not this peculiar switch in the cancels was the result of a mistake or was done intentionally.

The new Czechoslovak postal authorities introduced cancels of their own designs. These included cancels with a new legend ČSP (Československá Pošta), and ornamental small stars in the circle. They also introduced cancels of larger (24 mm) diameter. All these cancels were bilingual (Czech/German) in localities with a German minority and in other only monolingual (Czech).

A new problem had to be faced: the selection of proper Czech names for localities where only a German name was used for several decades or centuries. A special state commission was established to study all the available historic and other evidence and decide on the proper Czech name of such locality. This was not a simple or easy task. In some cases the name of these localities had to be changed several times with simultaneous changes in their cancellations. In some cases there were no less than 3 or even 4 such changes! For example: Freiheit—Vrajt—Svoboda nad Úpou; Grünwald an der Neisse—Grünwald nad Nisou—Mšeno nad Nisou; Spindelmühle—Vřetenový Mlýn—Špindlerův Mlýn; Voitsdorf b. Graupen—Voitsdorf u Krup.

ky—Fojtovice; Karlsbrunn Schles.—Karlsbrunn ve Slezsku—Karlovská Studánka—Karlova Studánka and many, many others.

Another political upheaval ushered again a new period in the history of Czechoslovak cancellations. The forcible annexation of parts of the Czechoslovak territory by Germany, Poland and Hungary resulting from the ill-famed Munich Pact of 1938 was reflected in new cancels introduced in the annexed territories. The first step was the exclusion of the Czech names of annexed localities from the Czech official bilingual cancels (see 53). Soon however, followed the introduction of monolingual German Reichpost type cancels (see 54, 55) which at a later date were exchanged with cancels with added legend "Sudetenland" (see 56, 57).

This period of the Czech postal history has one unique feature, namely, wooden cancels, manufactured by the vocational woodcraft school at Volary during October 1938. When this southwest region of Bohemia (including the Bohemian Forest (Šumava) frontier) was annexed to the Third Reich, the Berlin postal authorities ordered that the postal services in this area were to be renewed as soon as possible. So with their consent, and as an emergency measure, the above mentioned school received an order to make these wooden cancellations. They were to replace the local official Czech cancels previously used there. These wooden emergency cancels were used by 24 postoffices in the area. After the Nazi occupation of the remaining Czech territory, March 15, 1939, and the declaration of the Czech-Moravian Protectorate, new bilingual cancels were introduced with the German name of a locality on top and the Czech name on the bottom. These cancels had a diameter of 24 mm.

After the liberation in 1945, on May 19, 1945, these Protectorate bilingual cancels were replaced with the Czech ones. And the policy was to replace the cancels first in the former Nazi annexed region, the Sudetenland. Other post offices in the liberated Czechoslovakia which could not be immediately equipped with new cancels, received temporary rubber made cancels with the name of a locality and the year date 1945, and later also, 1946. In addition to these official cancels, many post offices supplemented them with various improvisations, using the Protectorate or German cancellations after the deletion of their German text. Even the pre-war Czechoslovak cancels hidden by some postal authorities after the German occupation were put to use. And some other postoffices manufactured or improvised their own cancels from various materials. The Filatelie Magazine of 1952 pp 175, 207 and 373 had an exhaustive study of these emergency cancels, authored by Mr. Hrozinka.

During 1948 the replacement of all emergency cancels by monolingual bridge-type cancellations with diameter of 24 mm was practically completed. Cancellations of this type are now still in use in Czechoslovakia.

Translated/adapted by lhv

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SLOVAKIA: MARCH AND APRIL 1919

Czechoslovak Field Post: 1918-20

By Bohumil Matejka

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In order to secure the unsettled, long and provisional border lines of Slovakia, it was necessary to send further army units to the region in the Spring of 1919. Therefore, the Second Infantry Brigade from Tesin, the newly-formed Fourth Cs. Infantry Division and the battalions of Home Guards from Italy were transferred there in succession. The transfer of the Second Cs. Infantry Brigade from Tesin to the Zilina region, between Feb. 6 and 17, 1919, made imperative a subsequent reorganization of Field Posts in the Zilina region.

Therefore, on March 1, 1919, Field Post No. 38 was set up in Zilina for the servicemen of the Second Infantry Brigade. The head management of field posts announced the fact to the base command March 5, 1919, under order No. 289.

On the same day the Command of the Second Infantry Brigade issued Order No. 305/6 in which it was stated:

"This Field Post will function in Zilina until the Brigade Command is moved to Zvolen upon which it too will be moved and continue to function there."

This transfer took place on March 20, 1919.

Field Post No. 38 used two types of marks. (See figure 1).

The dislocation of the Fourth Infantry Brigade from Tesin to Slovakia took place after Feb. 18, 1919. The units were sent to the region around Trencin, Belusa, Nove Mesto nad Vahom, while the Brigade Command was detached in Trencin. Toward the end of February this Brigade Command was transferred from Trencin to Zilina.

For the units of the Fourth Infantry Brigade, Field Post No. 63 was set up in Zilina. (See Figure 2.) Day's Order No. 66, issued April 19, 1919, reads

"Beginning with April 20, 1919, Field Post No. 63 will function for the use of the Army Command and units of the Fourth Infantry Brigade. This new Field Post Office will carry the designation CESKOSLOVENSKA POLNI POSTA 63. It will service mail of the Fourth Cs. Infantry Brigade to the same extent as all the other Field Posts that have been set up so far.

"Mail forwarded from the army units to hinterland which lies in Czechoslovakia will be accepted free of postal charges. Letters sent to foreign countries should be franked with the necessary stamps. Field mail is free of charge in both directions, from the servicemen to hinterland and conversely.

"Provisionally no parcels or money orders will be accepted or delivered. All mail will be directed to the FP Sorting Office in Zilina, from where also all mail from hinterland will be received."

A week after FP No. 63 had been set up (April 27, 1919), the Brigade Command and the Staff Company, to which FP No. 63 belonged, was moved from Zilina to Banska Bystrica.

Roughly speaking, during this same period another new Field Post—No. 44—was established April 22, 1919. (See Figure 3.) The following notification was sent April 22, 1919, No. 14082-III-19, by the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications to the Ministry of National Defense:

"Beginning with April 22, 1919, a new Field Post, CESKO-SLOVENSKA POLNI POSTA 44, has been established for the Army Command and units of the Cs. Fourth Infantry Division. All post offices have been informed that mail and postal material addressed to this Field Post should be forwarded to

Štefultovo	Štefultov	Taus	Domažlice
Štěpánov Horní	Horní Štěpánov	Tauschim	Toušeh
Štepanove	Popudiny	Tavarna	Tovarné
Štěpánov Trhový	Trhový Štěpánov	Teceu	Tjačovo
Šternberk Lázně	Lázně Šternberk v Čechách	Técső	Tjačovo
Šternberk, Smečno-	Smečno-Šternberk	Teichstatt, Chřibská-	Chřibská- Teichstatt
Štiavnica Velká	Štiavnica, župa liptovská	Teinitzl	Týnec, okr. Klatovy
Štiavnička	Štiavnička	Tejnitz	Týnec nad Sázavou
Turčianska		Tekovská Baračka	Baračka
Štoky, Polná-	Polná-Štoky	Tekovská Beša	Beša
Štola Velká	Velká Štola	Tekovská Píla	Píla
Štubňa Horná	Horná Štubňa	Tekovské Tesáre	Tesáre, župa tekovská
Štvrtok Plavecký	Plavecký Štvrtok	Tekovský Fíš	Fíš, župa tekovská
Šumburk, Tanvald-	Tanvald-Šumburk	Tekovský Sv. Kríž	Svätý Kríž nad Hronom
Šuňava Vyšná	Vyšná Šuňava	Tekov Starý	Starý Tekov
Šurany (Velké)	Velké Šurany	Telgárt	Telgart
Šurovce (Velké)	Velké Šurovce	Tellnitz (Böhm.)	Telnice
		Telnitz (Slov.)	Chltnica
		Tematín	Hrádok nad Váhom
		Tematinský	Hrádok nad Váhom
		Zámok	
Tačová	Tjačovo	Temenice Dolní	Dolní Temenice
Tahanovce	Ťahanovce	Temetvény	Hrádok nad Váhom
Tachau	Tachov	Tepl	Teplá v Čechách
Taikowitz	Tavikovice	Teplá Klášter	Klášter Teplá
Takcsány	Stakčín	Teplá Liptovská	Liptovská Teplá
Talaborfalva	Tereblja	Teplá	Trenčianska
Tallós	Táloš	(Trenčianska)	Teplá
Tannenberg	Jedlová	Teplica Kunová	Kunová Teplica
Tannenberg	Jedlová	Teplica Spišská	Spišská Teplica
Gastwirtschaft	hostinec	Teplice Rajecké	Rajecké Teplice
Tannwald-Schumburg	Tanvald- Šumburk	Teplice Sklenné	Sklenné Teplice
		Teplice	Štubnianske Teplice
Tanvald Horní	Horní Tanvald	Teplice	Trenčianske Teplice
Tany	Taň	Teplice	Liptovská Teplice
Tapolyhanusfalva	Hanušovce nad Toplou	Teplice nad Váhom	Teplice pri Žiline
Tapolyzsep	Slovenský Žipov	Teplice Fovážska	Teplice pri Žiline
Taraczkös	Teresva	Teplice-Fovážska	Teplice-Šanov
Tarasul	Teresva	Teplice-Waldthor	Teplice-Lesní Brána
Tarczafő	Toryska	Tepl Stift	Klášter Teplá
Tardoskedd	Tardošked	Terany Dolné	Dolné Terany
Tarna Mare	Velikaja Tarna	Terebesfejérpatak	Trebuša-Bělýj Potok
Tarnócz	Trnovce	Tergenye	Trgiňa
Tarošked	Tardošked	Terhely	Terchova
Tasovice, Hodonice-	Hodonice- Tasovice	Ternaska	Velikaja Tarna
		Ternova	Ternovo
Tátralomnicz	Tatranská Lomnica	Ternye	Terňa
Tatranský Dolný	Dolný		
Smokovec	Smokovec		
Tatranský Nový	Nový Smokovec		
Smokovec			
Tatranský Starý	Starý Smokovec		
Smokovec			
Tátraszéplak	Tatranská Polanka		
Tattenitz	Tatenice		

Tesáry	Tesáre, ž. tekovská	Tornóc	Tornok
Teschen 2	nyní Český Těšín	Tornyos	Turná
Tesarovce	Tesáre, župa tekovská	Töschén	Deštná
Teschnitz	Deštnice	Tótmegyer	Slovenský Meder
Teszér	Tesáre, župa hontianska	Tótpelsőcz	Pliesovce
Těšín Český	Český Těšín	Tótpróna	Slovenské Pravno
Tetschen a. d. Elbe	Děčín	Tótsóvár	Solnohrad (na Slovensku)
Tetschitz	Tečice	Tótújhely	Slovenské Nové Mesto
Theben	Devín	Totzau	Tocava
Theben-Neudorf	Devínska Nová Ves	Továrna-Osada	Slovenské Nové Mesto
Theim	Týn	Tracht	Strachotín
Theissholz	Tisovec	Trachtín	Strachotín
Theodorov	Teodorov	Trautenau	Trutnov
Theresiendorf	Terezín	Trebnitz	Trebenice
Theresienstadt	Terezín	Tremles	Strmilov
Theusing	Toužím	Trencsén	Trenčín
Theirgarten	Telgart	Trencsénfogas	Zubák
Thomigsdorf	Damníkov	Trencsénhosszúmező	Dlhé Pole
Thron	Třebon, Hluč.	Trencsénmakó	Makov
Tiba	Tibava	Trencsénpüspöki	Biskupice pri Trenčine
Tiefenbach a. d. Desse	Tiefenbach na Desné	Trencsénrákó	Raková
Tiefenbach-Dessendorf	Tiefenbach-Desná	Trencsénselmecz	Štiavnik
Tiefmaispitz	Hluboké Mašůvky	Trencsénteplicz	Trenčianské Teplice
Tichlowitz a. d. Elbe	Těchlovice nad L.	Trenčianske Biskupice	Biskupice pri Trenčine
Tilčák	Tulčák	Treskowitz	Troskotovice
Tinischt a. d. A.	Týniště n. Orlicí	Treublitz	Troubelice
Tirschnitz	Tršnice	Trhové Sviny, Borovany-	Borovany-
Tisch	Ktiš	vany-	Trhové Sviny
Tischnowitz	Tišnov	Tridory	Turo Tridvory
Tisovník Horný	Horný Tisovník	Triebitz	Třebovice
Tissa	Tisová	Triebtsch	Třebošín
Tissaújlak	Vulok	Triebtschitz	Třebošice
Tiszabogdány	Bogdan	Triesch	Třešt
Tiszaborkút	Kvasy	Tri Revúca	Revúca
Tiszapéterfalva	Petrovo nad Tisou	Trličko Horní	Horní Trličko
Tiszar	Tesáre, župa tekovská	Trnava	Ternovo
Tiszolcz	Tisovec	Trnávka	Městečko
Tlumačov, Kvasice-	Kvasice-Tlumačov	Trnia	Trnávka
Tobitschau	Tovačov	Trniva	Terňa
Tökésújfalu	Klátova Nová Ves	Trnovce	Tarnovce
Töketerebes	Trebisov	Trnovec Liptovský	Trnovec
Töltszék	Tulčák	Trnowan	Trnovany u Žatec
Tomášov	Domštát	Troppau	Opava
Tompa	Malá Tompa	Trouby České	České Trouby
Tompl Malá	Malá Tompa	Trpist	Trpisty
Topkowitz	Dubkovice	Trsztena	Trstená
Topolčany Malé	Topolčianky	Trübenwasser	Valná Voda
Topolčany Velké	Topolčany	Trübenz	Hřbinec
Toriska	Toryska	Trupschitz	Strupčice
Torna	Turná	Trzyciesz	Třitěš
Tornalja	Tornala	Trzyniec	Třinec
Tornau	Turná	Třebaň Zadní	Zadní Třebaň

Třebčice	Široké Třebčice	Týnec Hrochův	Hrochův Týnec
Široké		Týnec Panenský	Panenský Týnec
Třebíč, Starč-	Starč-Třebíč	Týnec Velký	Velký Týnec
Třebová Česká	Česká Třebová	Týn Horšův	Horšův Týn
Třebová Dlouhá	Dlouhá Třebová	Týn Karlův	Karlův Týn
Třebová Moravská	Moravská Třebová	Týnec Labská	Týnec nad Labem Labská Týnec ★
Třemešná Bílá	Bílá Třemešná	Týniště, Zubrnice-	Zubrnice-Týniště
Třiblic	Třebivlice	Tyrnau	Trnava
Třténice	Křténice	Tyssa	Tisá
Tschachwitz	Čachovice	Tyssa-Königswald	Tisá-Liboucheč
Tschausch	Čouš		
Tschenkowitz	Čenkovice	Ublya	Ubla
Tschermna	Čermná	Ubresz	Úbrež
Tschernhausen	Černohousy	Udva	Udavské
Tschernoschin	Černošín	Udwitz-Görkau	Otvice-Jirkov
Tschernowitz	Černovice	Ugar	Ubla
Tschirnitz	Černýš	Ugocsakomlós	Komluš
Tschischkowitz	Čížkovice	Uherce (Velké)	Velké Uherce
Tschochau-Hlinai	Řehlovice-Hlíňany	Uhorské Raslavice	Slovenské Raslavice
Tuchorschitz	Tuchořice	Uhrovec Velký	Velké Uherce
Tüppelsgrün	Děpoltovice	Úhřinov Velký	Velký úhřinov
Turas	Brno 20	Uittwa	Útvina
Tura Stará	Stará Turá	Újantalvölgy	Utekáč
Turčianska Blatnica	Blatnica,	Újbánya	Nová Baňa
	župa Turčianska	Újbars	Nový Tekov
Turčianska	Štiavnička	Újbesztercze	Nová Bystrica
Štiavnička		Újezd Dolní	Dolní újezd
Turdossin	Tvrdošín	Újezd Kamenný	Kamenný újezd
Turdošín	Tvrdošín	Újezd, Kanina-	Kanina-újezd
Turina	Tuhrina	Újezd Podhorní	Podhorní újezd
Turabystrá	Turjanskoje Bystroje	Újezd Prašný	Prašný újezd
Turjanské	Turjanskoje Bystroje	Újezd Velký	Velký újezd
Bystré		Újlót	Nový Lot
Turjanské	Turjanskija Remeta	Újtátrafüred	Nový Smokovec
Remety		Újvásár	Rybník
Turjaremete	Turjanskija Remety	Únice Nova	Olomouc 5
Turjasebes	Turjanskoje Bystroje	Uliča	Ulič
Türmitz	Trmice	Ullersdorf	Oldřichov
Turn	Trnovany u Teplic	Ullitz	Úlice
Tümnau Markt	Městečko Trnávka	Ullitz-Pleschnitz	Úlice-Plešnice
Turnitz	Tvrdonice	Umlowitz	Omlenice
Turócznémeti	Sklenô	Ungarisch	Uherský, -á, -é . .
Turóczszentmárton	Turčiansky Svätý Martin	Ungarschitz	Uherčice
	Sklenô	Ungerndorf	Uhřice
Turóczszklenô	Horné Túrovec	Ungtarnóc	Tarnovce
Túrovec Horné	Turzovka	Ungvár	Uzhorod
Turzófalva	Brno 20	Unter . . .	Dolní . . .
Tuřany	Chrlice-Tuřany	Unter Bautzen	Dolní Bousov
Tuřany, Chrlice-	Butoves-Tuř	Unter Dubowan	Dolní Dubové
Tuř, Butoves-	Touškov nade	Untergerspitz	Dolní Heršpice
Tuschkau ob. d.	Mži	Unter Haid	Dolní Dvořiště
Mies	Tuřimice	Unterhammer	Dolní Hámry
Tuschmitz	Stožec	Unter Heinzendorf	Dolní Hynčina
Tusset	Tůča	Unter Kraupen	Dolní Krupá u Nēm. Broda
Tušt			

Unter Langendorf	Dolní Dlouhá Loučka	Várad Dolný	Dolný Várad
Unter Maxdorf	Dolní Maxdorf	Varannó	Vranov na Slovensku
Unter Metzenseifen	Nižný Medzev	Várgede	Hodejovo
Unter Morchenstern	Dolní Smržovka	Vári	Vary
Unter Polaun	Dolní Polubný	Várióvá	Vary
Unter Reichenau	Dolní Rychnov	Várköz	Vrádište
Unter Reichenstein	Dolní Rejštejn	Várna	Varín
Unter Ritschen	Dolní Rišňovce	Várpálánka	Palanok
Unter Tannowitz	Dolní Dunajovice	Vársecz	Vážec
Unter Themenau	Poštorná	Varta, Hauenštejn-	Hauenštejn-
Unter Wisternitz	Dolní Vistonic		Varta
Unter Wuldau	Dolní Vltavice	Vary Karlovy	Karlovy Vary
Unter Wurzelendorf	Dolní Wurzel-	Vásárút	Vášárút
	dorf	Vašardice Dolné	Dolné Vašardice
Úpa Malá	Malá úpa	Vavrissó	Vavrišovo
Úpa Velká	Velká úpa	Vedröd	Voderady
Úpice, Svatoňovice-	Svatoňovice-	Végles	Víglaš
	Úpice	Vehéz	Vechec
Urbau	Vrbovec	Vejprty-Bräuhaustempel	Vejprty 3
Urgarten	Javorina	Vejrec, Dražice-	Dražice-Vejrec
Űrmény	Urmín	Veladin	Feled
Ústí Sezimovo	Sezimovo ústí	Veledín	Feled
Úszor	úsor	Velejte	Velaty
Úsztye	Ustie na Slovensku	Veleshavín, Vokovice-	Vokovice-
Uštčorne	Čorna		Veleshavín
Utczás	Ulič	Velhartice, Nemělkov-	Nemělkov-
Úval	Ouvaly		Velhartice
Űzbégh	Zbehy	Veličná	Oravská Velká Ves
Űžice	Oužice v Čechách	Velikaja Ternavka	Velikaja Tarna
Vága	Vágovca	Velká Blatnice	Blatnice
Vágagyagos	Hliník nad Váhom	Velká, Poprad-	Poprad-Velká
Vágbesztercze	Povážska Bystrica	Velká Senice	Senice na Mor.
Vágdebröd	Drahovce	Velká Slaboška	Slavošovce
Vágfarkasd	Farkašd	Velká	Štiavnica, župa
Vághosszúfalu	Dlhá nad Váhom	Velká	štiavnica, župa
Vágkeresztúr	Kerestúr nad Váhom	Velká Ves Ipelská	Ipelská Velká
Vágkirályfa	Králov nad Váhom	(nad Ipl'om)	Ves
Vágpatta	Pata	Velká Ves, Kojetice-	Kojetice-Velká
Vágsellye	Šala nad Váhom		Ves
Vágszabolcs	Záblatie nad Váhom	Velká Ves na	Velká Ves u
Vágszállás	Sedličná	č. s. dr.	Prahy
Vágszerdahely	Povážska Streda	Velká Ves Oravská	Oravská Velká
Vágsziklás	Skala		Ves
Vágtapolcza	Teplička pri Žilina	Velké Berezné	Velikoje Bereznoje
Vágterbete	Trebatice	Velké Gejovce	Velikije Gejovci
Vágújhely	Nové Mesto nad Váhom	Velké Hamry,	Svárov Velké
Vágváralja	Povážske Podhradie	Svárov	Hamry
Vágvecse	Veča	Velké Chrastany	Velké Chráztany
Vaján	Vajany	Velké Jaseno	Horné Jaseno
Valdice, Kartouzy-	Kartouzy-Valdice	Velkejsá Oravská	Oravská Velká
Valchovec	Olchovec		Ves
Vámos	Mýto na Slovensku	Velké Lučki	Velikije Lučki
Vámosfalva	Mýtina	Velké Michalovce	Michalovce
Vámosladány	Ludany (Tek.)	Velké Mužiovo	Velikoje Mužjovo
Vámošské Ludany	Ludany (Tek.)	Velké Nehvizdy	Nehvizdy
		Velké Ováre	Vyšný Olčvár
		Velké Pečice	Pečice

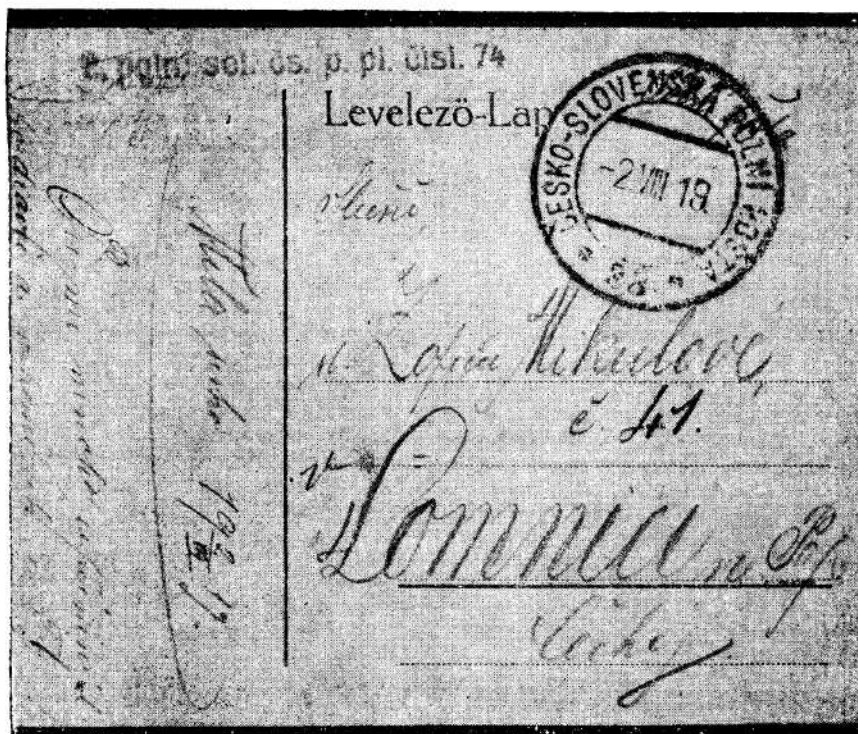


Figure 1. Post card with postmark of Field Post No. 38, dated Aug. 2, 1919.

(like the mail of all the other Field Posts Nos. 22, 38, 46, 50, 63 and 75), the FP Sorting Office in Zilina.

For the Minister: General Director Dr. Fatka"

It is evident from the above notification that FP No. 44 was established for the Army units of the Fourth Infantry Division. This new division was formed by the orders of the Ministry of National Defense on April 1, 1919, out of units dislocated in the Poprad region (the Seventh and Eighth Brigades). First units to form the Fourth Division were Infantry Regiments No. 91, 94 and 71, Rifleman Regiment 29, and the Home Guard battalions from Italy—battalion Nos. 4, 5, 6, 10 and 35.¹

¹ The Czechoslovak Home Guard Battalions from Italy were formed from prisoners of war captured from the Austro-Hungarian Army. They were Czechoslovak nationals—Czechs, Slovaks and Germans who had been captured at the battle of Piava, Nov. 3, 1918, or after, as well as from earlier captives taken before this date who had not joined the Czechoslovak Legion of their own free will. Fifty-five battalions were formed in Italy numbering some 50,000 men. These Cs. Home Guards began to return home to Czechoslovakia toward the end of March 1919. Only ten of these battalions fought in Slovakia. The 18th Battalion filled in the ranks of the 21st Infantry Regiment of Czechoslovak Legionaries from France, and a combined Infantry Regiment No. 101 was formed out of the Second, Third, Fourth (see Figure 4) and 39th Home Guards Battalions from Italy. They differed in their uniforms from the Italian Legionnaires in that the Legionnaires wore a feather in their hat whereas the Home Guards had only a cap.

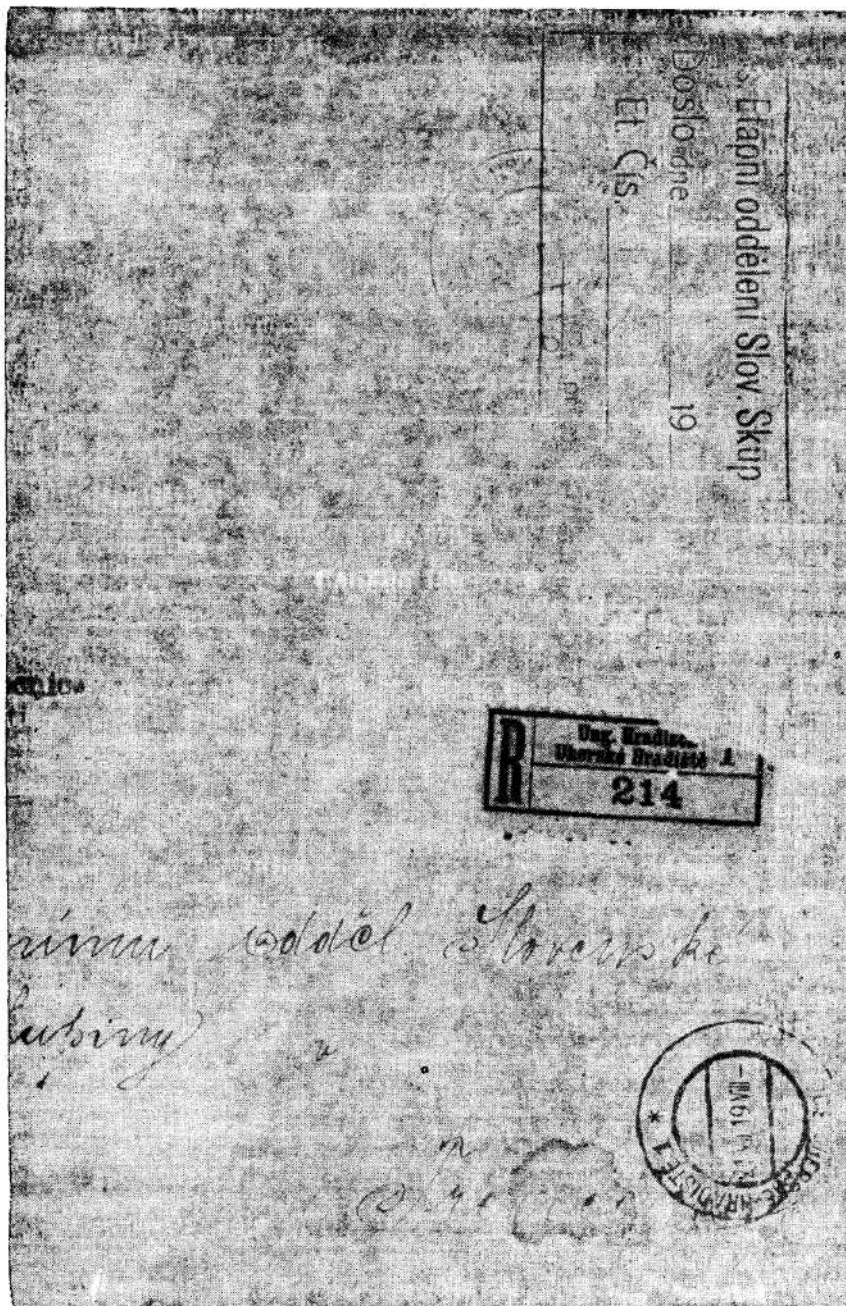


Figure 2. A service letter sent registered mail by the Czechoslovak Reserve Hospital in Uher. Hradiste, Moravia, to the Base Detachment of the Eastern Army at Trencin, Slovakia. Postmarks shown Datestamp of Uherske Hradiste, already nationalized by removal of the German name, dated 21.7.1919. Receiving mark (top right) at Field Post No. 63, on 23.7.1919. Notice the registration label (R214) still contains both Czech and German names.



Figure 3. A post card sent by member of Motor Car Column No. 03, Field Post No. 44. Card shows a sanitary car of the Czechoslovak Army in Slovakia in 1919.

A quotation from the letter of the Head Management of Field Posts in Kosice to the Fourth Cs. Infantry Division might serve as an example to round out the picture as to the operational extent of the Field Posts. In this answer of April 21, 1919, cj. 464, regarding the sending of packages it is stated:

"In answer to your number 101/2-op. According to the express regulations of the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications in Prague, Czechoslovak Field Posts are not equipped for the handling and delivery of parcel post. Their duration was delimited in advance to last only for the period of the army operations after which they will be annulled in succession. Kindly inform all subservient formations that packages must be mailed from the nearest civilian post office.

The Manager of Field Posts, Dr. Zabeňlický"

In the spring of 1919, Field Post No. 46 was transferred from Presov to Uzhorod where it was to serve another newly-formed infantry division.

The Third Infantry Division (Fifth and Sixth Brigades) was formed by order of the Ministry of National Defense, March 20, 1919, in the vicinity of Kosice. It was, at first, composed partly of volunteers of the region and then of the 21st and 23rd Riflemen Regiments, Legionnaires from France, and the following infantry regiments: the 28th from Prague, Third from Brno, 88th from Usti nad Labem and Beroun, 42nd from Vysoke Myto, as well as from further prescribed Army units. French General Hennocque was named Commander of this Third Infantry Division and he was under direct control of the Ministry of National Defense and not amenable to the Chief Army Command in Slovakia, which was headed by the Italian General Piccioni. This

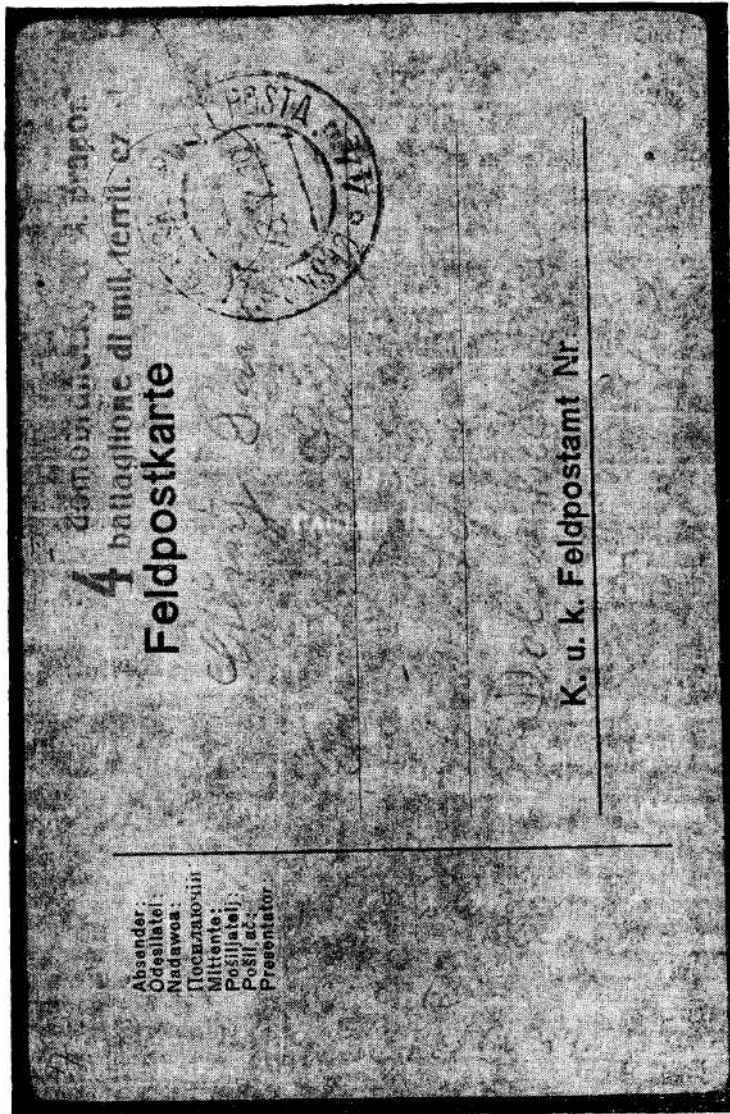


Figure 4. Czech-Italian postmark of Field Post No. 44. Fourth Cs. Home Guards Battalion "4 battaglione di mil. territ. Cz. sl."

division was moved in April 1919 to the area of Michalovce-Sobrance while the Division Command with the Staff Company, Field Post Office and further units were stationed in Uzhorod.

The number of Czechoslovak Field Posts in Slovakia and their dislocation on April 30, 1919, based on the report of the Field Post Sorting Office (No. 492/19), May 9, 1919, sent to the Ministry of National Defense is as follows:

Field Post

No.	Location	Allocated to:
22	Poprad	Third Cs. Infantry Brigade
38	Zvolen	Second Cs. Infantry Brigade

- 44 Zilina — Fourth Cs. Infantry Division—Seventh and Eighth Brigades
 46 Uzhorod — Third Cs. Infantry Division—1st, 5th, 6th Brigades
 50 Nitra — Seventh Cs. Infantry Division—Legionnaires
 63 Banska Bystrica — Fourth Cs. Infantry Brigade
 75 Kosice — Sixth Cs. Infantry Division—Legionnaires

Provincial Army Command for Slovakia in Kosice

In addition to the above-listed Field Posts, there also existed POSTA MILITARE 52 in Bratislava under the direct control of the Chief Command in Bratislava and the Czechoslovak Field Post Sorting Office in Zilina, under the direct command of the Provincial Army Command in Kosice.

Description of Illustrations of Four Postmarks:

Figure 1. Field Post No. 38: (a) Round handstamp with a double circle 32mm in diameter with the inscription, "CESKO-SLOVENSKA POLNI POSTA." The number of the Field Post is placed between two dots that are split in the center by a negative cross (undiscernable in the illustration). Two lines crossing the inner circle form a bridge around the date which is given by the day, month and year, the latter in the last two figures only. (b) Round handstamp with a double circle 33mm in diameter with the inscription "CESKO-SLOVENSKA POLNI POSTA." Field Post number is placed between two dots split by a negative cross inside. The date is marked off by two lines forming a bridge, of which only the bottom one is well discernible as a rule. The date shows the day, month and year; the latter in four figures.

Figure 2. Field Post No. 63. Similar to the stamp of Field Post No. 38(a). The date is marked off by two lines forming a bridge, which however are very badly discernible as a rule.

Figure 3. Field Post No. 44: Similar to the FP No. 38(a). The lines of the date bridge are broken, badly discernible.

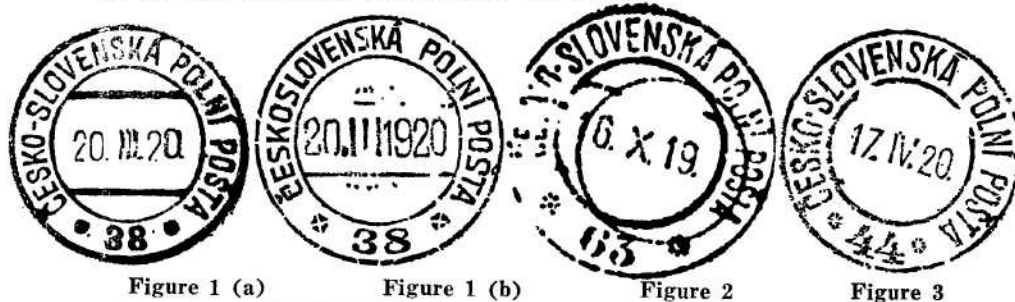


Figure 1 (a)

Figure 1 (b)

Figure 2

Figure 3

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