

# THE CZECHOSLOVAK SPECIALIST



Official Monthly Journal of the

(USPS 808300)

Society for Czechoslovak Philately, Inc.

Silver Award Interphil '76 — Silver Award Capex '78 — Silver-Bronze Praga '78

A.P.S. Unit 18

S.P.A. Branch 284

Vol. XXXXIII

April, 1981

No. 4, Whole No. 409

## Look Out For Counterfeit Covers (*cancellations*).

By Zdeněk Kvasnička

More than a year ago an investigation began of several serious cases of speculation and sale of counterfeited philatelic material. The investigation Branch of the Public Security Police (VB) of the Středočeský kraj (region) conducted the investigation so that those responsible could not avoid their just punishment. When the judgement is made we shall return to this case.

For now we shall limit ourselves to making public the postal cancellation devices that were found in the possession of some of the accused. Essentially we are concerned with canceling devices that were stolen from the TUS printing plant in Prague where the devices had been sent by post offices for destruction. Some of the devices are without the date bridge, or are badly worn, or in some other way damaged. But also included are cancels of other states and counterfeited devices.

In the hands of unscrupulous individuals these devices could do much damage, especially now when collectors seek stamps on cover to document their correct postal usage. For instance, covers from the monetary reform period are sought, as are interesting franking on registered mail, postage due mail and so on. The stamps themselves are usually of low value so the counterfeiter, by manufacturing such covers, stands to make many times the value of the stamps themselves. Even for the expert the manufactured cover is often a tough nut to crack because everything is genuine -- only the whole is counterfeit.

We are thankful to the police for the possibility of making public this listing of confiscated cancellation devices which this time will not pass unnoted.

The Union of Czechoslovak Philatelists will send examples of these illegally used cancels to the International Association of Experts and the stamp associations that are members of FIP. Collectors who have covers

which many may be of questionable authenticity may send them to the Experts Committee, SČF, Celená 26, Praha 1, for authentication.

**Listing of confiscated cancellation devices:**

Břeclav 2. -b- Č.S.P.

Markvartice u České Kamenice  
(bilingual)

Kolín 2. -d- (German text removed)

Valašské Meziříčí -d- (German text removed)

Praha - Pelsdorf 48 -a- (Railroad cancel. German text removed)

Praha 1 - 1 ch -



(continued page 7)

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**NEW MEMBERS WANTED**

HELP your Society to grow! Enlist a fellow collector of Czechoslovak stamps for membership. Application forms are available from our Secretary, Edward J. Sabol, or from the Editorial office.

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*Changes of address to the editorial office.*

# Society for Czechoslovak Philately Annual Convention - COMPEX '81

Co-chairpersons Jane Sterba and Charles Chesloe are in the midst of finalizing plans for the forthcoming annual convention and exhibition of the SCP. This notable philatelic weekend will be held May 1 - 3, 1981, in Chicago at the Expo-Center during COMPEX '81. The Chicagoland Czechoslovak Philatelic Society, a branch of the SCP, is the host organization. The exhibition is under the auspices of The Combined Philatelic Exhibitions of Chicagoland (COMPEX), of which the Chicagoland group is a member.

The COMPEX '81 stamp show is one of Chicagoland's greatest philatelic exhibitions. Approximately 9,000 pages of philatelic material will be on exhibit. There will also be a bourse consisting of 86 dealers. The exhibition promises to be eventful, and we hope that many of you plan to attend.

The Holiday Inn is located on the upper-top premises of the Expo-Center Building, and a special Holiday Inn room-rate card may be obtained from Jane Sterba.

The Society will participate in the following events:

- Saturday, 3:00 P.M. SCP Board of Directors meeting  
May 2
- 4:00 P.M. General SCP membership meeting & Lecture  
Presentation
- Mini-Auction conducted by C. Chesloe. Items to be auctioned include 25 lots of philatelic material, die proofs, and original artists drawings.
- All of the above events will be in the Steamboat Room on the 14th Floor*
- 6:00 P.M. Cocktails - SCP Hospitality Suite
- 7:00 P.M. COMPEX '81 Awards Banquet  
(entree Filet Mignon \$20.00)
- Sunday, 12:30 P.M. SCP 'Sunday Czech Dinner'  
May 3 (details available later or at Society's table)

The location of the SCP hospitality suite will be posted at the Society's booth and hopefully on the main bulletin board.

For planning purpose it is important that we have some idea of how many will attend. **Please send requested information to:**

Jane Sterba  
6624 Windsor Avenue  
Berwyn, Illinois 60402

For those of you interested in participating in the Mini-Auction via mail please write C. Chesloe, Box 237, Willow Springs, IL 60480.

# Society Now Offers Full Expertization Service

by Edwin W. Lehecka, SCP

Our Society has always felt that an expertization service is a necessary and vital function that should be available to its members and other Czecho collectors as well. In the last several months, the Society directors have reviewed our expertization policy and regulations with a view towards updating them and encouraging the use of this Society service.

Our new regulations are included in this issue and we hope that many of you will take advantage of this opportunity to get your better or questionable items expertized.

Unfortunately, Czech stamps have been extensively forged. The Siberian Posts, early First Republic issues, the National Anthem sheets and especially the "POSTA" overprints have all been forged and are oftentimes quite difficult to detect.

So if you have any lingering doubts, consider using the expertization service. An expertized stamp can be resold much easier and in the event of theft or loss, a basis for an insurance claim or tax deduction is established.

The fees that the service receives go directly into the Society treasury and are used to further Society activities. All of our experts donate their time and services. We have assembled a group of outstanding experts in most areas but could use the assistance of any member who is an expert in Sudetenland and Bohemia-Moravia issues.

I am serving as Chairman of this committee and will coordinate expertization activities. Please write me directly if you have any questions or need application blanks.

Edwin W. Lehecka  
217 Hazel Avenue  
Westfield, New Jersey 07090

## *Regulations Governing Examination Of Czechoslovak Stamps By The Expert Committee Of The Society For Czechoslovak Philately, Inc.*

### ARTICLE I

Anyone is eligible to submit philatelic material for evaluation, subject to acceptance by the Committee.

## ARTICLE II

### Definition

A. Evaluation of philatelic material is understood to include: judgement of the genuineness and quality/condition of the material.

B. The evaluation will be performed by the Expert Committee of the Society for Czechoslovak Philately, Inc. The evaluation will be advisory only, except under condition outlined in article IV.

C. The President of the Society shall appoint the Chairman of the Expert Committee to serve for a two year term. The President will appoint, upon the advice of the Chairman, members of the Committee for open-ended terms. Nominations for membership on the Committee shall be based solely upon the qualifications of the individual and his willingness to serve.

D. Neither the Society, Committee or its members are financially responsible for any consequences arising from the evaluation of submitted philatelic material.

## ARTICLE III

### Material Submission

A. A completed application form containing a detailed description of the item to be expertized together with appropriate fee should be mailed to the Chairman. He will acknowledge receipt of the application and advise where the item is to be sent for proper expertization. This is to avoid double mailing and registry fees. When the item is mailed it should be sent insured/registered for full value. Included in this mailing must be a self addressed envelope that has sufficient postage for insured/registered return mailing.

B. To insure proper identity, all material sent must be lightly initialed (use of soft No. 1 pencil is recommended) on the reverse side of the item. Material must be submitted in glassine envelopes with stiff backing.

C. A mailing may contain more than one item.

D. The Committee will return material without evaluation if the above outlined procedures are not followed.

E. Reasonable care will be taken by the expertizing committee of item submitted for examination. However, all items are accepted only with the distinct understanding that neither the Society for Czechoslovak Philately, Inc., nor any members of the expertizing committee are liable in any way for any loss or damage, or for the results of errors in opinion rendered.

## ARTICLE IV

### Expertization and Certificates

A. If found genuine, an expertization mark will be affixed at the appropriate position on the back of the stamp or on the face of the entire. Special characteristics when important, such as perforation measurements, color shades, etc., will also be marked on the back of the stamp or on the face of the entire.

B. When material is found to be forged, altered, repaired, regummed, etc., it will be so marked. The owner of the material is understood to specifically agree to this procedure when he requests expertization.

C. Certificates of Genuineness will be issued if requested. Sharp, glossy photographs must be submitted in 2 copies with each item for which a certificate is requested.

D. When requested, and at the discretion of the Committee, material may be submitted to the Expert Committee of the Svaz Českých Filatelistu v Praze (Union of the Czech Philatelists in Prague) for expertization and/or certification.

#### ARTICLE V

##### Committee Procedures

A. The working procedures of the Committee will be established by the Chairman subject to approval by the Board of Directors of the society.

B. All decisions of the Committee must be unanimous (of these members examining the material) before an evaluation will be rendered. The Committee reserves the right to submit "no opinion" findings.

C. The Chairman of the Committee shall determine the areas in which the committee is competent to make judgements and shall publish such findings in the Specialist for the guidance of the Society membership.

D. The Chairman shall publish periodic reports on the activities of the Expert Committee in the Specialist and will submit a general report to the Board of Directors each time it convenes.

#### ARTICLE VI

##### Schedule of Fees

SCP Members:	FEE
Up to \$200 Scott C.V.	\$3.50
\$200 over Scott C.V.	2½% of Scott C.V.

If Scott value is not applicable than expert's estimate of retail value will prevail.

*Non-SCP Members: Add 20% to above fees.*

Any additional fees and/or expenses for a SVAZ evaluation in Czechoslovakia will be advised by the Chairman at the time of submission.

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### A HISTORIC PERSPECTIVE OF POSTAL SERVICES IN TELTSCH AND VICINITY

By Henry Hahn

The next four pages, (centerfold) contain a continuation of the above titled work, which is being published serially. Publication began in the May 1980 issue.

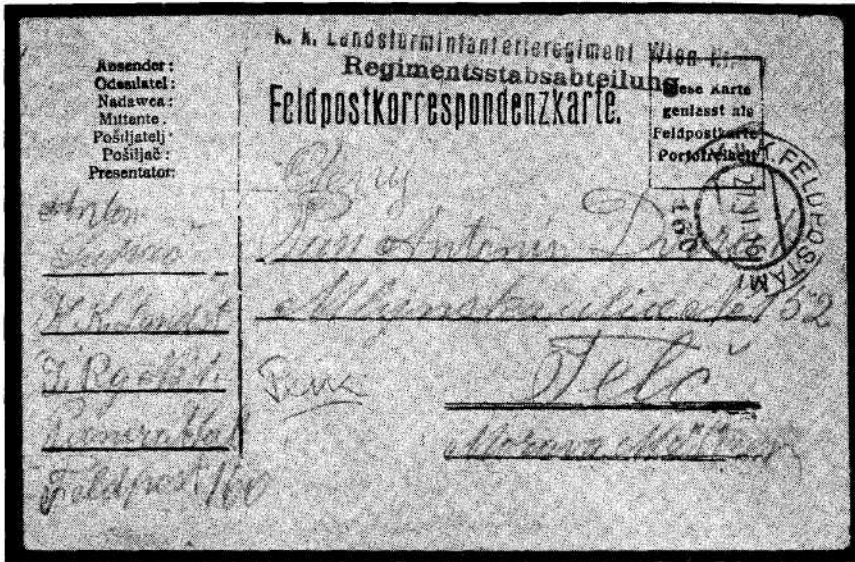


Fig. 30 - Field Post Card, F.P. 160 to Tetsch, Feb. 27, 1916

While no civilian or military censorship markings were applied in Tetsch, mail arriving in Tetsch frequently bore such markings. A typical such marking, applied in Pilsen, is shown in Fig. 31.



Fig. 31 - Military Censor Marking on Civilian Mail, Pilsen, 1916

## POST WWI TRANSITION PERIOD

Independence came to Czechoslovakia officially on October 28, 1918. There followed a philatelically fascinating period of "emergency franking", characterized by such items as the so called "Revolutionary Issues" of Prague, Hluboká, Budweis, Skalica and others. Such issues, however, did not originate in Teltsch.

Military mail addressed to Teltsch reflects transition of military personnel or prisoner of war status to legionaire or member of the Czechoslovak Army. The first military action took place in Slovakia, where the new army was called upon to put down unrest along the Hungarian frontier. Field posts were established late in 1918 and in 1919. An interesting example of such early military mail is illustrated in Figures 32 - 35.

On February 6, 1919 (Fig. 32), an officer of the 23rd Czechoslovak Regiment, 1st Machine Gun Company wrote to Teltsch from Prague, where there was no field post office. Hence he used regular mail, properly franked with the Austrian 20h "Karl", which remained valid through the end of February 1919. (Note American YMCA issue envelope.)



Fig. 32 - Prague, February 6, 1919, Austrian 20h "Karl" Used as Forerunner

On April 17, 1919 the same officer wrote from his post in Slovakia. The cover, (Fig. 33) bears the Field Post 46 post mark, as well as the round unit marking of the 23rd Czechoslovak Regiment, 1st Machine Gun Company. The horizontal two-line rubber stamp indicates that the sender himself is the company commander.





On July 19, 1919 the same officer again wrote from Košice, but listed Field Post 12 as his return address. The cover, (Fig. 35), is routed through the "Military Mission Headquarters of 'Le Général' (Hennocque) in Prague", and bears a regular Prague post mark (July 14th) besides the round unit marking in purple. It is interesting to note that the return address, listed earlier (in Fig. 34) as Headquarters of the Army of General Hennocque, is now listed as Headquarters of the Eastern Slovak Army.



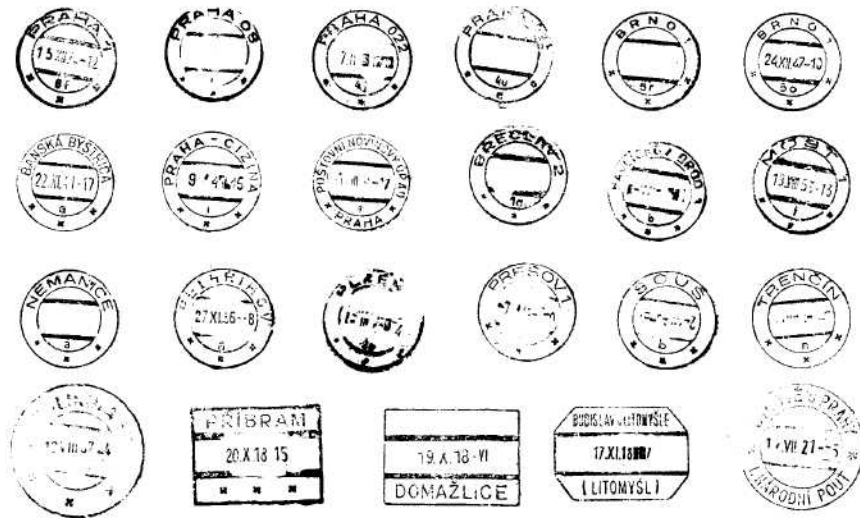
Fig. 35 - Field Post 12 via Prague, July 14, 1919

Returning to civilian use of mails in the chaotic transition period, examples of such correspondence bear ample evidence of shortages of stamps and other postal items. While the first Hradčany stamps were available in Prague in December 1918, Austrian stamps were still in predominant use in Teltsch well into January 1919 and remained in use throughout the period of their validity - i.e. through February 28, 1919. "Emergency Franking" includes the use of postage due and special delivery stamps for regular postage, bisecting stamps and other means of improvisation. Though these practices were fairly common throughout Czechoslovakia, they are fairly rare on Teltsch correspondence. An example of the use of a bisect of the 20h Austrian "Karl" stamp to pay the then prevalent 10h post card rate is illustrated in Fig. 36. The post mark bears the date January 2, 1919.

## Look Out for Counterfeit Covers (Cancellations)

(continued from page 2)

Praha 1 - 6f -  
 Praha 08 - i -  
 Praha 022 - 4j -  
 Praha 022 - 4u -  
 Brno 1 - 5n -  
 Brno 1 - 50 -  
 Banská Bystrica - a -  
 Praha - cizina - i -  
 Poštovní novinový úřad - g -  
 Břeclav 2 - 1c -  
 Havlíčkův Brod 1 - b -  
 Most 1 - f -  
 Nemanice - a -  
 Pelhřimov - a -  
 Plzeň 2 - 2b -  
 Prešov 1 - h -  
 Souš - b -  
 Trenčín - n -  
 Karolinina Hut'  
 Příbram (railroad station)  
 Domažlice (railroad station. Ger-  
 man text removed)  
 Budislav u Litomyšle (post office)  
 Jílové u Prahy - 1. Národní pout'  
 (commemorative cancel)



Fryšava pod Žákovou Horou,  
 rekreace ROH  
 Dux - d (Duchcov is the Czech name)  
 Eger 2 - r - (Cheb is the Czech name)  
 Teplitz-Schönau 4 - d - (Teplice-  
 Šanov is the Czech name)

**Cancels to the former Protectorate Bohemia-Moravia**

Prag 47 - Praha 47 - le -  
 Olmütz 1 - 4d - (Olomouc is the  
 Czech name)  
 Wodnian - Vodňany - h -  
 Pilsen 1 - Plzeň 1 - p -

**Cancels of the former General Government (Poland)**

Oleszno, Distr. Radom - a -  
 Radkow, Distr. Radom - a -

**Counterfeited Cancels**

Danzig - Al (Rubber hand stamp)  
 Riga \* Vokzal' - b - (railroad  
 station. Metal, (brass)



**Dr. Jan Kostelka (translated by Paul Sturman)**

**BOHEMOSLOVENICA (continued)**

Catalog of stamps and postal stationery containing reference to Czechoslovakia, its land, peoples, their fields of endeavor and achievements.

For ease in identification the Michel Catalog is utilized, presumably most widely used in philately.

In some instances catalog numbers for the latest issues were not available at the time of compilation of this work. It is hoped, however, that the description of a particular issue will be sufficiently clear for finding the proper Michel number when available.

**ALBANIA (continued)**

The fifth anniversary of liberation of Albania was commemorated in 1950 by a set of four stamps which were printed by the Government Printing Office, Czech Graphic Union in Praha. Mi 475-478.

In 1949 a set of three stamps to commemorate the 70th anniversary of birth of J. V. Stalin was, according to Michel Catalog, printed in Praha, and according to Lipsia, by the Czech Graphic Union. Mi 479-481.

According to Catalog Michel and Lipsia a set of stamps for the 75th anniversary of UPU in 1949 was printed in the Government Printing Office in Praha. (According to periodical Filatelie the stamps were probably printed in Budapest.) Mi 482-484.

A set of stamps in 1950 honoring writers was printed in the Government Printing Office of Praha, Czech Graphic Union, as reported by Lipsia. Mi 485-488.

Also the airmail series of stamps in 1950 were printed by the Government Printing Office, Czech Graphic Union of Praha. The engraving of stamps was done by Czechoslovak engravers Schmidt, Roule and B. Housa. Mi 489-494. The same series of stamps was overprinted with new values. Mi 521-522. In 1953 occurred another overprint. Mi 523-524.

The fifth anniversary of the declaration of the new republic was commemorated in 1950 with a set of stamps which according to Lipsia were produced in the Printery of Pravda in Bratislava. Mi 500-502.

Two more sets of stamps were printed in the Government Printing Office in Praha according to Lipsia. The first one was a set in commemoration of the 15th anniversary of founding of the Albanian Workers Party in 1957. The engravings were done by Czechoslovak engravers Roule, Housa and Schmidt. Mi 543-545.

In the same year a set commemorating the fourth congress of labor unions in Leipzig was printed. Mi 546-549.

In 1972 a special set of seven stamps depicting camellias (*Camellia japonica*) were printed. The flowers were named after George Camella, a native of Brno, Czechoslovakia. The 1967 set of flowers also features camellias. Mi 1549-1555, Mi 1143-1150.

In the 1972 set of automobiles features a product of Škoda, and also an automobile made in the factories of Liberec. Mi 1565-1569.

## ARGENTINA

Argentina issued a set of stamps "Help to Chile." In connection with the set a first day cover was also made available with an inscription in four languages: English, Esperanto, Spanish and Czech. Such four-language texts or legends appear on other first day covers issued in Argentina, especially in the Province of St. Nicholas. Mi 742-743.

To mark the world championship in marksmanship in 1949 a first day cover was issued featuring the flag of Czechoslovakia.

The name of the Capital of Czechoslovakia appears in the cancellation "Villa de Praga."

In April 1971 a stamp was issued with the picture of Albert Einstein who was on the faculty of the German University in Praha. Mi 4081.

## ASCENSION

A set of stamps to note the worldwide exploration of the universe in 1971 also bears the portrait of Tycho Brahe. (See Denmark.) Mi 138-151.

## BELGIUM

In 1942 a set of stamps was issued with a portrait of Rembert Dodoens (1517-1585) a court physician of Emperor Rudolph II in Praha. It is the 1 F + 15¢ value. Mi 600-608.

In 1945 the Bratislava miniature sheet of 1937 was overprinted at the Philatelic Exhibition in Brussels on October 28, 1945. The overprint was initiated by the Belgo-Czechoslovak group of friends for the liberation of Czechoslovakia in 1945. It was offered for sale with the net proceeds earmarked for the benefit of the village of Lidice as noted in the legend.

In the year of 1958 a set of stamps for an Exposition of UN was issued. The II-F design was created by Kurt Plowitz a native of Karlovy Vary for the benefit of WHO. Mi 1100-1109.

In honor of Czechoslovak Day at the Brussels International Exposition of 1958 a special cancellation for the Day, July 23, 1958, was used with the name of Czechoslovakia appearing thereon.

In 1956 a set of stamps depicting W. A. Mozart, who lived and composed in Praha, was issued. For details see Austria. Mi 1036-1038.

In honor of any American commander of troops in WW II, Gen. G. S. Patton, a set of stamps was issued in 1957. Gen. Patton liberated Western Bohemia. Mi 1077-1081.

In June 1965 a set of three stamps was issued in honor of Joseph Hoffman, an architect and artist of note. Hoffmann was born in 1870 in Brtnice near Jihlava and died in Vienna in 1956. Mi 1480-1482.

In 1966 to commemorate the 70th anniversary of death of Dr. Kenkule a stamp was issued. Dr. Kenkule was of Czech origin born in Stradonice. Details under Western Germany. Mi 1439.

In 1966 a miniature sheet, bearing the portrait of W. A. Mozart was issued. Mozart was active in Praha. Mi 1421-1424.

On December 1969 a set of flowers was issued, among them of camellia named after George Camella born in Brno. A miniature sheet was also issued. Mi 1580-I-1582-I. Mi 1580-II-1582-II.

In 1969 a charity issued contained "pictures drawn by children." On the 6 + 3 F value is a picture "in sunlight" by Helen Rejchl of Hradec Kralové. Mi 1551-1554.

*(to be continued)*

# Society for Czechoslovak Philately Annual Convention and Exhibit

COMPEX '81 May 1 - 2 - 3, 1981

EXPO-CENTER 350 North Orleans Street  
(Across from the Merchandise Mart)  
Chicago, Illinois

EXHIBITION HOURS: Friday 10-8 - Saturday 10-6 - Sunday 10-4

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Room at Holiday Inn \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Arrival Date/Time \_\_\_\_\_ Departure Date/Time \_\_\_\_\_  
Special Holiday Inn Room Rate cards are available for the Holiday Inn located on the upper-top premises of the Expo-Center Exhibition Building. Obtain card from Jane Sterba for discount rate.

Exhibiting frames of material? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Number of frames needed for exhibit \_\_\_\_\_

Attending COMPEX '81 Saturday evening awards banquet \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Attending Society for Czechoslovak Philately Sunday Czech Dinner May 3 at 12:30 P.M.  
\_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Send completed form to:

*Jane Sterba  
6624 Windsor Avenue  
Berwyn, Illinois 60402*

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Please send your ads to the Editorial Office (see masthead)

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Eighth page .....	10.00	28.50	45.00	85.00

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(Advertisement)



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- 1) They'll give you a glimpse into the heart of Europe
- 2) You'll make friends with a people who, in peace, are building a new life for their country
- 3) You'll marvel at the beauty of Czechoslovakia's countryside, extolled by its artists and poets
- 4) You'll become acquainted (or reacquainted) with the old cultural tradition of the Czech and Slovak peoples
- 5) You'll learn of the characteristic fauna and flora of Central Europe
- 6) You'll keep up with the latest in Czechoslovakia's industrial and scientific development, including advanced research
- 7) You'll love their motion — like illustrations of the colorful world of sport
- 8) You'll see why Czechoslovakia has gained international recognition for its advanced techniques of stamp reproduction, harmony of color and outstanding artistry
- 9) They represent the work of their finest artists and engravers
- 10) Czechoslovakia's stamps are neither too large or small — just stamps as stamps should be!

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