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LUREN

SCANDINAVIAN PHILATELIC
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LOS ANGELES, CA.

ISSN 0739-0025
Volume 32 Number 3
March 2000
Whole Number 368

GERMAN OCCUPATION MAIL IN NORWAY

Frederick A. Brofos

In the period following the German invasion of Norway on April 9, 1940, and until the Liberation on May 7, 1945, at least 30 different German fieldpost offices were in operation from time to time in Norway, servicing the occupation forces and the quantities of troops that were trained in winter warfare before being sent to fight the Russians on the vast Eastern Front.

The Germans managed to burden the Norwegian postal system, without giving compensation, in two ways. First, a new postal law was forced through that gave free passage to all official mail (Dienstsache) of the occupation authorities and secondly, for all the fieldpost (Feldpost) of the German Army, Navy, and Airforce.

The identity, or "Kenn", number of each fieldpost office was shown in the postmark on registered letters, but left blank on ordinary mail. Furthermore, each service unit of the armed forces had a 5-figure code, some with an additional letter added for subordinate units.

Not all fieldpost offices have been pinpointed as to their location; indeed some moved around, and not all were operating at the same time. Here are some more or less clarified examples though: Oslo - 234, 436, 459, 531, 779. Bergen - 996. Trondheim - 436. Kristiansand S. - 467. Fauske, near Bodø - 545. Alta - 765a. Kirkenes - 612a. Lakselv - 765e. Nordmo - 867 Ic. Vadsø - 252. Vardø - 803. Hammerfest - 612c, 765g, 838.

The detailed rules organizing all these activities may be seen in the following compilation, together with some illustrations of usage. (See also my articles in "The Posthorn", July, 1956, and "LUREN", November, 1992.)

Regulations in connection with the exchange of mail with the German occupation forces were published in the circulars to postmasters from the Norwegian Postal Administration, No 40, 1940, and No 2, 1941. As these were incomplete, I have chosen to reproduce the complete and corrected version which appeared in Circular No 9, 1941. One change from the original rules occurred when Circular No 2, 1941, stated that "...it has become necessary to cancel the order permitting the sending of ordinary parcels from Norwegian citizens to German military persons..." Whether there were too many practical jokes or time-bombs sent, I don't know, thereafter only postcards and letters were acceptable from the Norwegians. Later in the year this order was rescinded.

Circular from the Norwegian Postal Administration, No 9, April 7, 1941:

REGULATIONS REGARDING THE EXCHANGE OF MAIL WITH THE GERMAN OCCUPATION FORCES.

Free postage for official mail from German civilian and military authorities.

Internal mail from German civilian and military authorities in Norway may be sent postage free. The franking privilege covers all types of mail. The mail is to bear the words "Portofreie Dienstsache" (printed, stamped or written) and an impression of the official seal of the respective civilian or military authority (Dienststelle).

Attention is drawn to the fact that there are certain reservations in regard to the mail of the German Armed Forces (Wehrmacht). Thus, organs (Dienststellen) which belong to the Armed Forces may only send ordinary and registered letter mail, insured letters, and parcels without declared value up to a weight of 20 kilos. The handing in is to occur at German fieldpost offices.

For organs (Dienststellen) and persons who are subject to the German occupation power's civil administration (Der Reichskommissar), there are no reservations, either in regard to the type of mail or to the use of the Norwegian Post Office. (Handing in at and delivery from Norwegian post offices).

One must therefore distinguish between persons and organs (Dienststellen) which belong to the German Armed Forces (Wehrmacht) and persons and organs (Dienststellen) which are subject to the German occupation power's civil administration (Der Reichskommissar). If a post office is in doubt as to whether someone belongs to the Armed Forces or to the Civil Administration, inquiry must be made of the nearest German authority.

Postal connection between German military persons and the civilian population in Norway, and between German military persons and non-enemy countries abroad.

1. Mail from German military persons to the civilian population in Norway:

Permitted are: letters up to 20 grams and postcards. Handing in must take place at a German fieldpost office. For franking, German stamps are to be used, according to the German internal postage rates (Local rate: letter 8 Rpf., postcard 5 Rpf. Internal rate: letter 12 Rpf., postcard 6 Rpf.).

The fieldpost office delivers the mail to the nearest Norwegian post office. Only mail which is delivered in this way is to be sent on. All other mail – particularly that which is put in mail boxes – which have Norwegian stamps affixed or which bear the word "Feldpost", shall be withheld and turned over to the nearest German fieldpost office for further action.

Mail from German military persons must not be charged postage due, as difficulties may arise with the collection in case the mail is refused by the addressees. Such mail shall be sent, with information as to the reason, to the fieldpost office for return to the sender.

2. Mail from the civilian population in Norway to German military persons:

Permitted are: ordinary letters and postcards. The mail is to be delivered to the Norwegian Post Office and franked in accordance with the current Norwegian postage rates. Unpaid or insufficiently paid mail is to be returned to the sender (or handled as prescribed for similar internal mail).

The use of the word "Feltpost" is not permitted. Neither must there be used a place name next to the fieldpost number.

The Norwegian post offices are to hand over the mail to the nearest German fieldpost office. Any mail which is returned to the Norwegian Post Office by the fieldpost offices shall be marked with the reason for their non-deliverance.

3. Mail from German military persons to non-enemy countries abroad:

Handing in and handling is to be done as stated under point 1. The mail must in addition be in accordance with the regulations which are current for mail sent abroad. It is to be franked with German stamps (25 Rpf.). If the mail does not carry any mark of having been censored, it should be handed over by the exchange offices to the German censor office in Oslo or Trondheim.

4. Mail from non-enemy countries abroad to German military persons:

Mail shall be given to the nearest German fieldpost office for further handling.

Postal connection between organs (Dienststellen) of the German Armed Forces and Norwegian circles (private persons, firms, official and private institutions etc.)

1. From organs (Dienststellen) belonging to the German Armed Forces to Norwegian circles (Norwegian addresses):

Permissible are: ordinary and registered letterpost mail, insured letters, and packages without declared value up to a weight of 20 kilos.

Handing in place: German fieldpost office.

Organs (Dienststellen) belonging to the German Armed Forces do not have the right to hand in mail at Norwegian post offices.

Besides this, one should note that: Official mail shall carry the legend "Portofreie Dienstsache" (printed, stamped, or written) and an impression of the official seal of the respective military authority (Dienststellen). In regard to packages, the legend "Portofreie Dienstsache" and the impression of the official seal shall be placed on both the parcel and the parcel card (følgebrevet). The mail will be handed over by the respective German fieldpost offices to the Norwegian Post Office for delivery according to the address.

2. From Norwegian circles (private persons, firms, official and private institutions etc.) to organs (Dienststellen) of the German Armed Forces:

Permissible are: ordinary and registered letter mail, insured letters and parcels without declared value up to a weight of 20 kilos.

Handing in place: Norwegian post office. (ordinary letter mail may be posted in the regular Norwegian mailboxes). One should further note that: Mail shall be franked with Norwegian stamps according to the regular Norwegian rates. Only the respective German organ's (Dienststelle's) fieldpost number must be used as a postal address.

The Norwegian post office is to forward the mail to the nearest German fieldpost office.

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Circular No 11, 2 May 1944:

Mail exchange between private persons (Norwegian and German) and persons attached to the German Armed Forces and Waffen SS, volunteers in Regiment Nordland and the Norwegian Legion.

According to orders, mail to and from persons belonging to the German Armed Forces shall be sent to Oslo or Narvik post office for forwarding to the respective German fieldpost office.

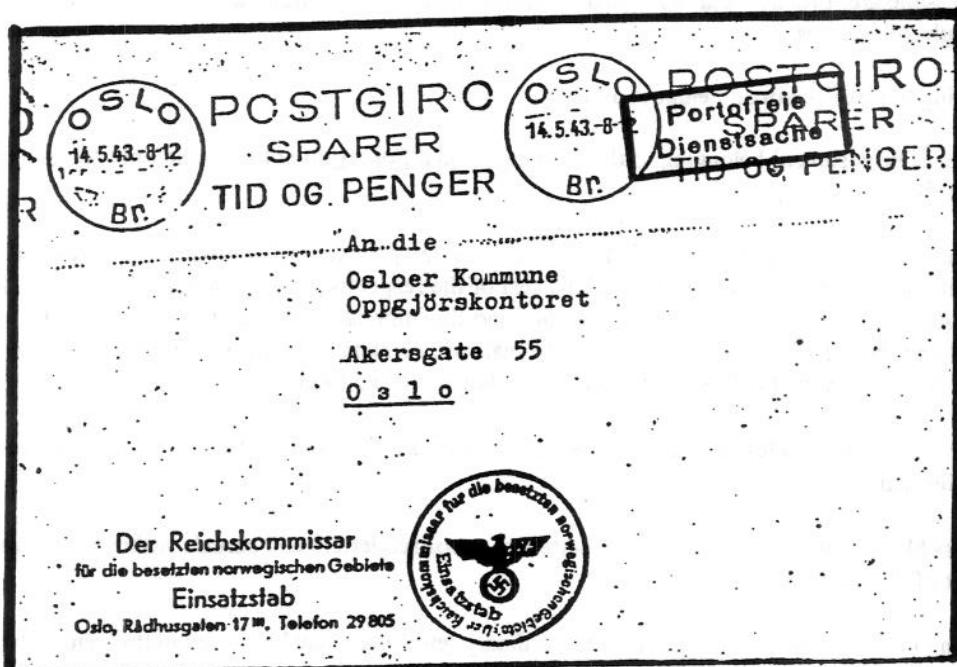
The German authorities have complained that certain Norwegian post offices are not following regulations. It is unavoidably necessary that all mail exchanged between persons in the German Armed Forces and civilians and mail which appears to be destined for persons in the German Armed Forces be sent via the above-mentioned offices. The post offices are ordered to strictly follow the regulations.

Circular No 23, 1944:

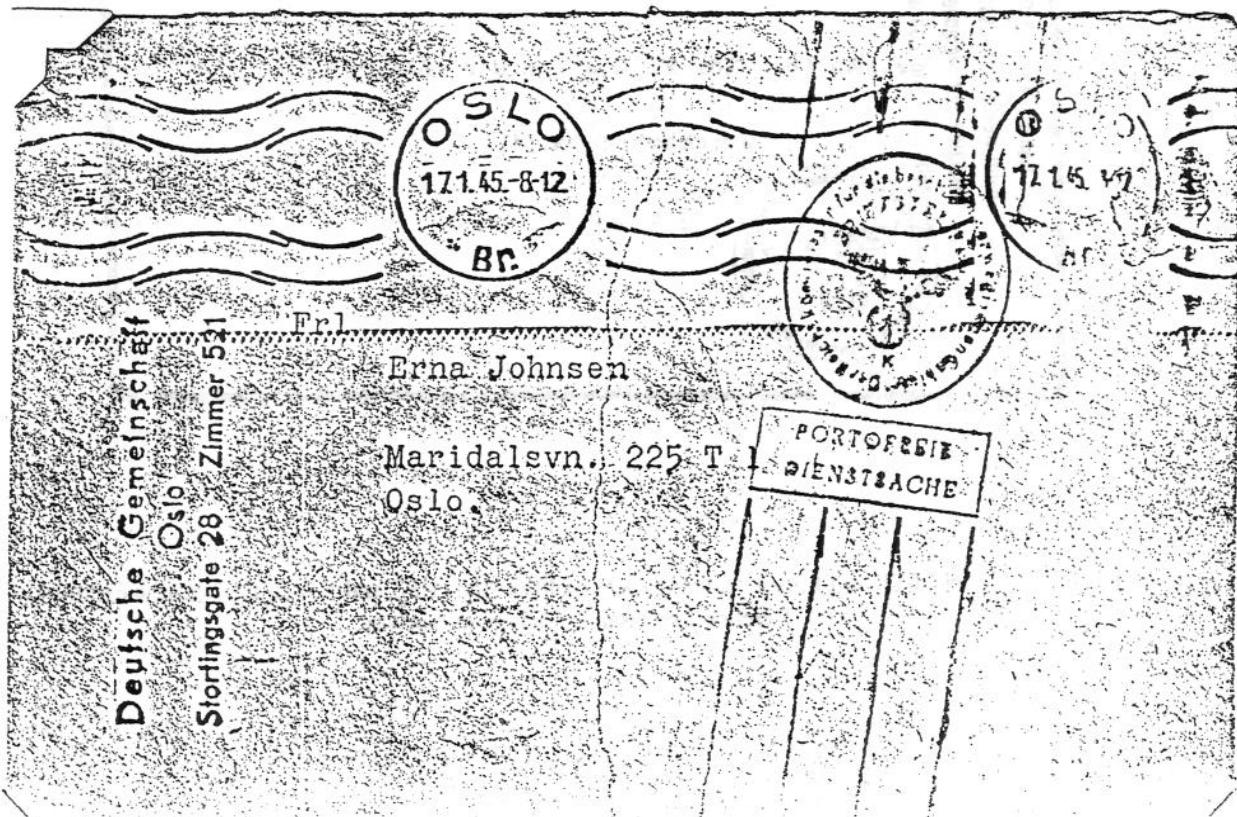
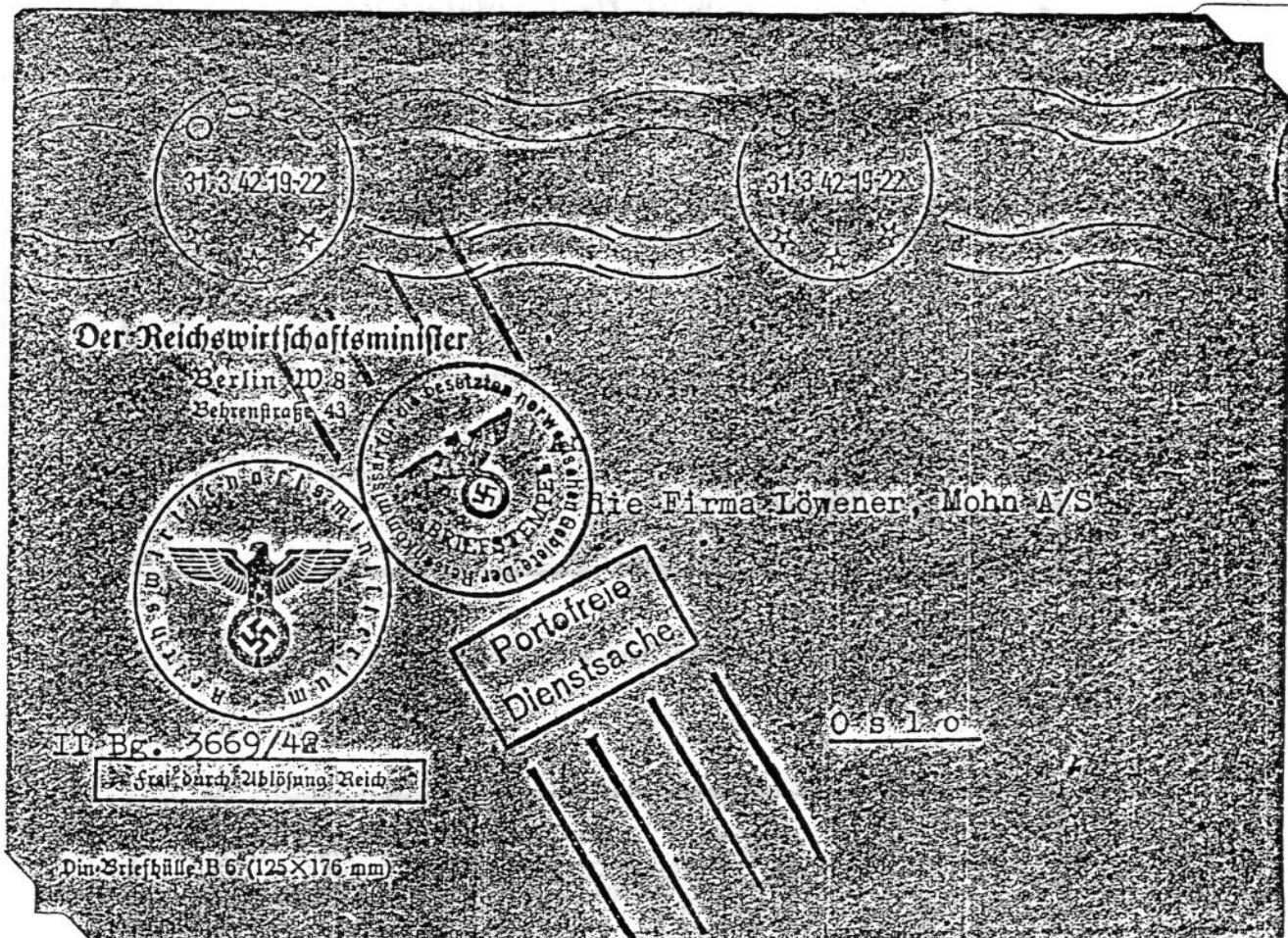
Mail exchange between the German Armed Forces' organs and Norwegian circles.

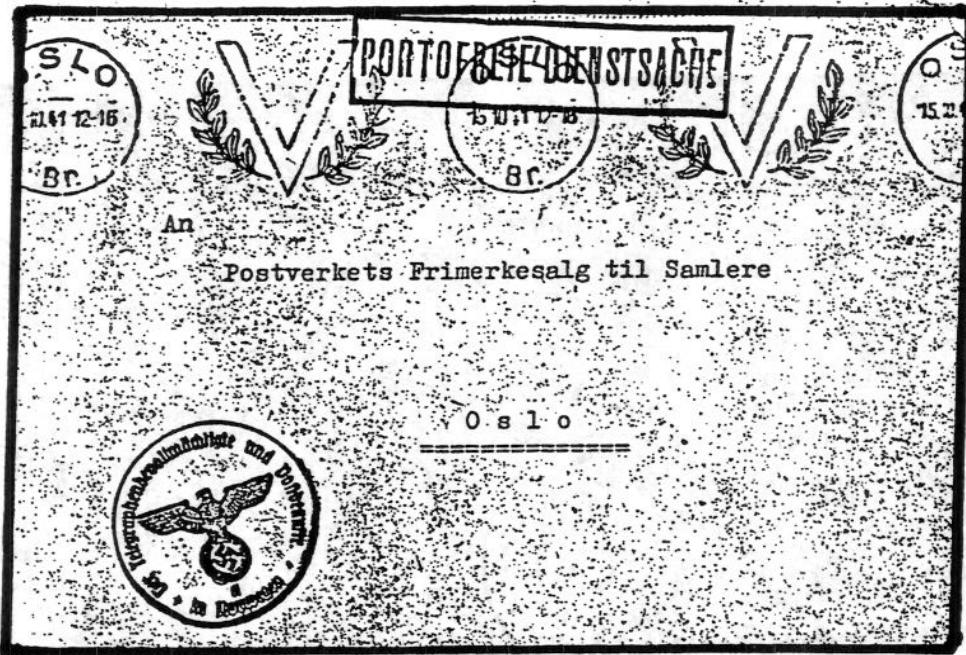
It has become necessary to draw attention to the fact that mail from Norwegian circles to organs belonging to the German Armed Forces, which have a fieldpost number as postal address, shall not be sent at local postage rates. At the same time one reminds that the relative Norwegian receiving post office must not deliver such mail to the local German "Ortskommandantur". It is to be given to the nearest German fieldpost office.

Illustrated below are some covers from German fieldpost offices in Norway during the Occupation.

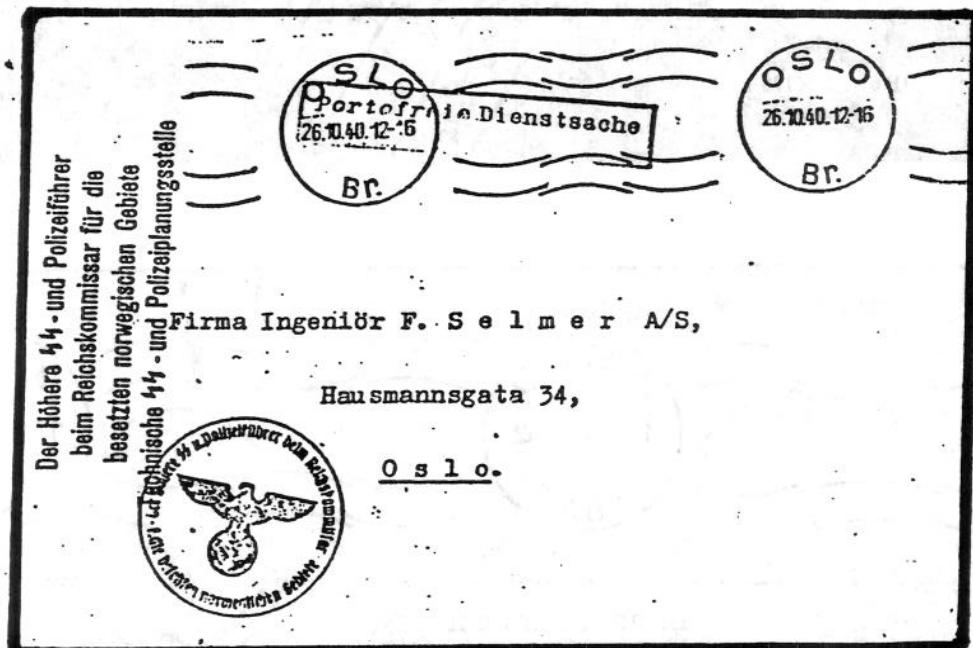


- 1) From the notorious "Einsatzstab" or goon squad of the Reichskommissar, with an expense bill charged to the Oslo Municipality Settlement Office.



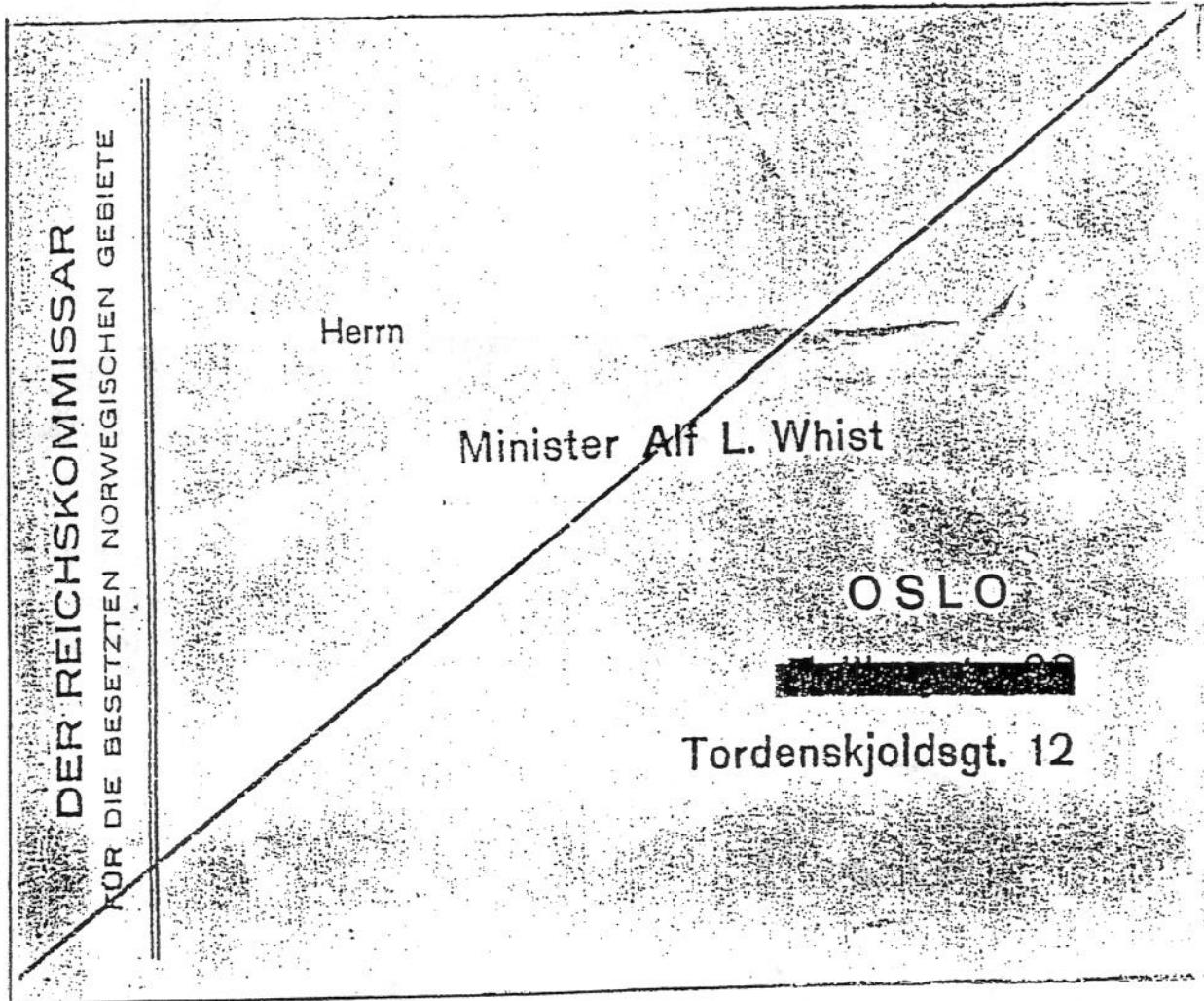


- 2) From the German Telegraph and Postal Executive in Norway to the Norwegian Philatelic Agency.



- 3) From the Technical SS and Police Planning Office of the Higher SS and Police Leader attached to the Reichskommissar for occupied Norway.

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Mr Whist, a minister in the Quisling government apparently got enough reports or orders from the Reichskommissar to warrant the printing of special envelopes.

An

Portofreie Dienstsache

Firma

A/S Löwener - Mohn



oslo

Feldpost

Firma

A/S Löwener Mohn

8.6.42



Kirkegt. 20

oslo

Marine-Ausrüstungsstelle Kirkenes

Naval Armament Office and Place Commander Kirkenes, N. Norway



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SS Feldpost

SS Rott

Nicht Stammkompanie
Nicht (105/4 Pj. Oren. Zus. Befl. II)

Nicht Stammkompanie

Peter Hansen



Der Höhere SS- und Polizeiführer

beim Reichskommissar für die besetzten norwegischen Gebiete

Abteilung Lebensborn



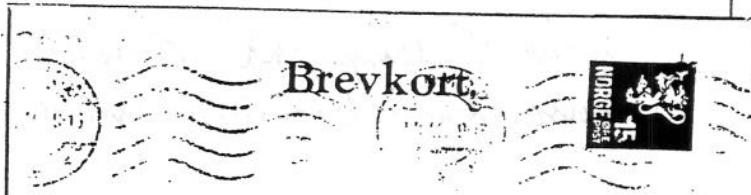
F e l d p o s t .



An das

Gericht der Dienststelle

Feldpost-Nr. 41 282.



An Der Höhere ZZ- und Polizei-
führer

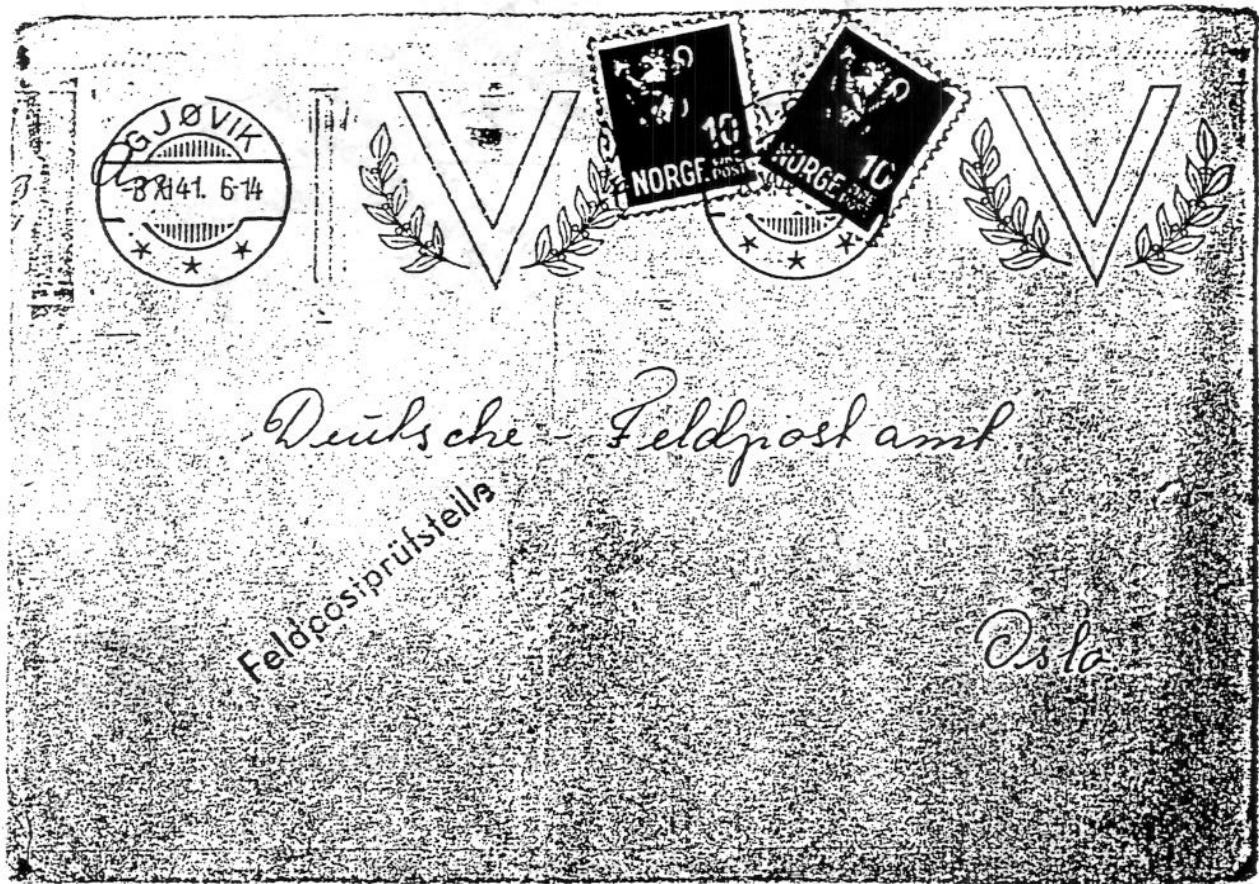


Arbinsgate 7

O S L O.

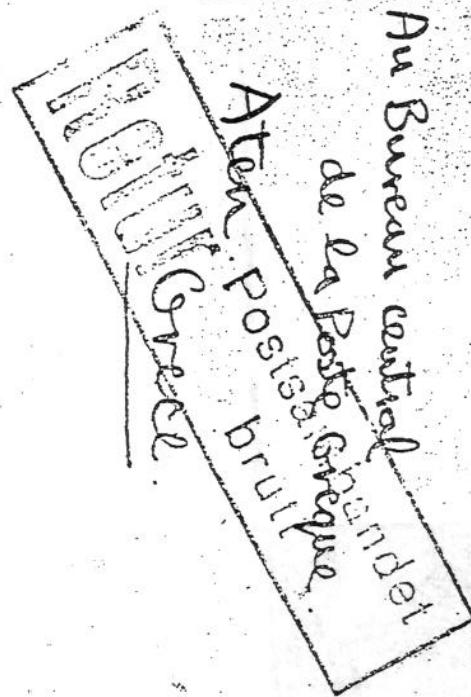
"AS" special pass
marks of SS Censor
Office, Oslo

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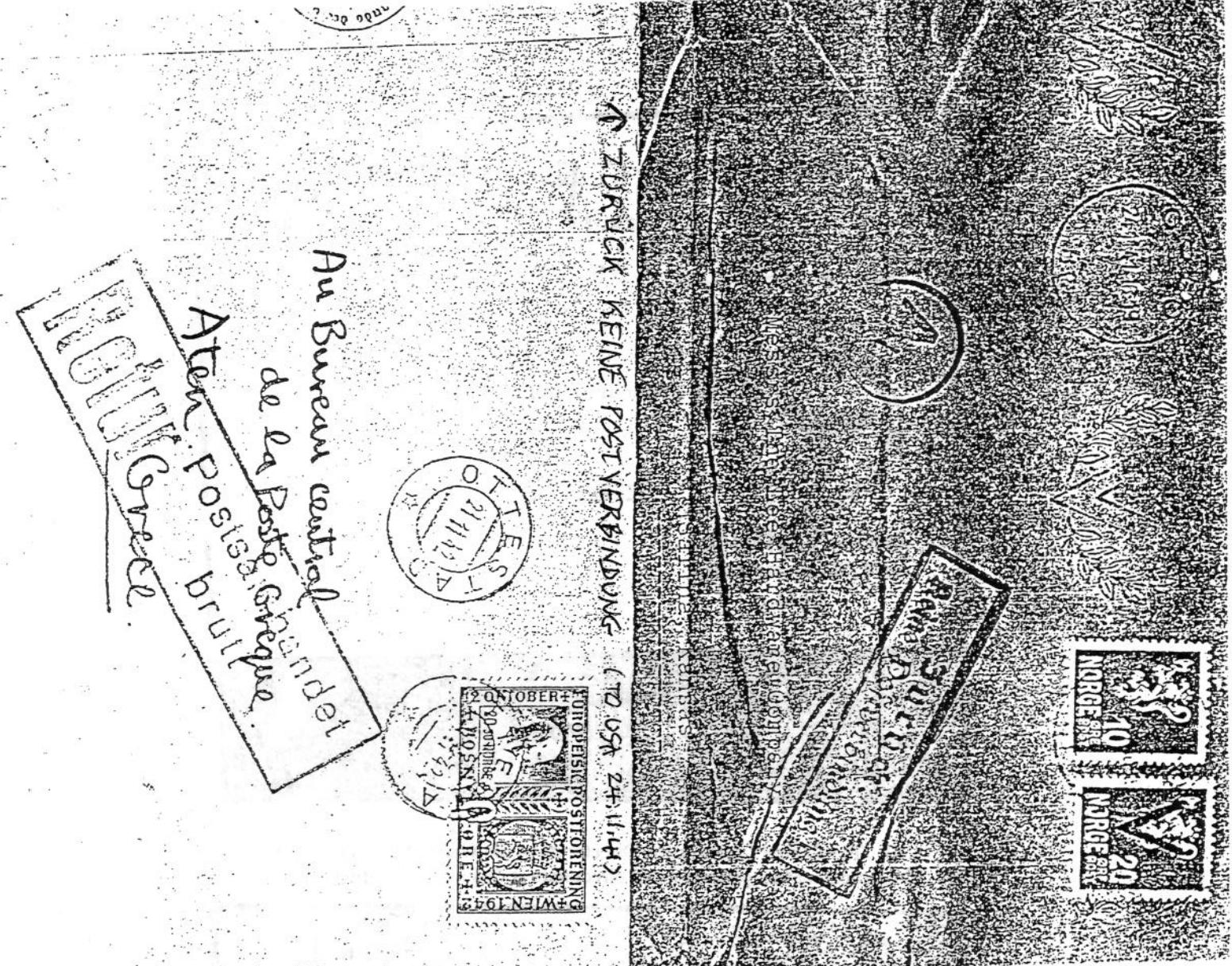
Special "V" stamps and postmark 8.11.41

Censored in red by German Fieldpost censor office

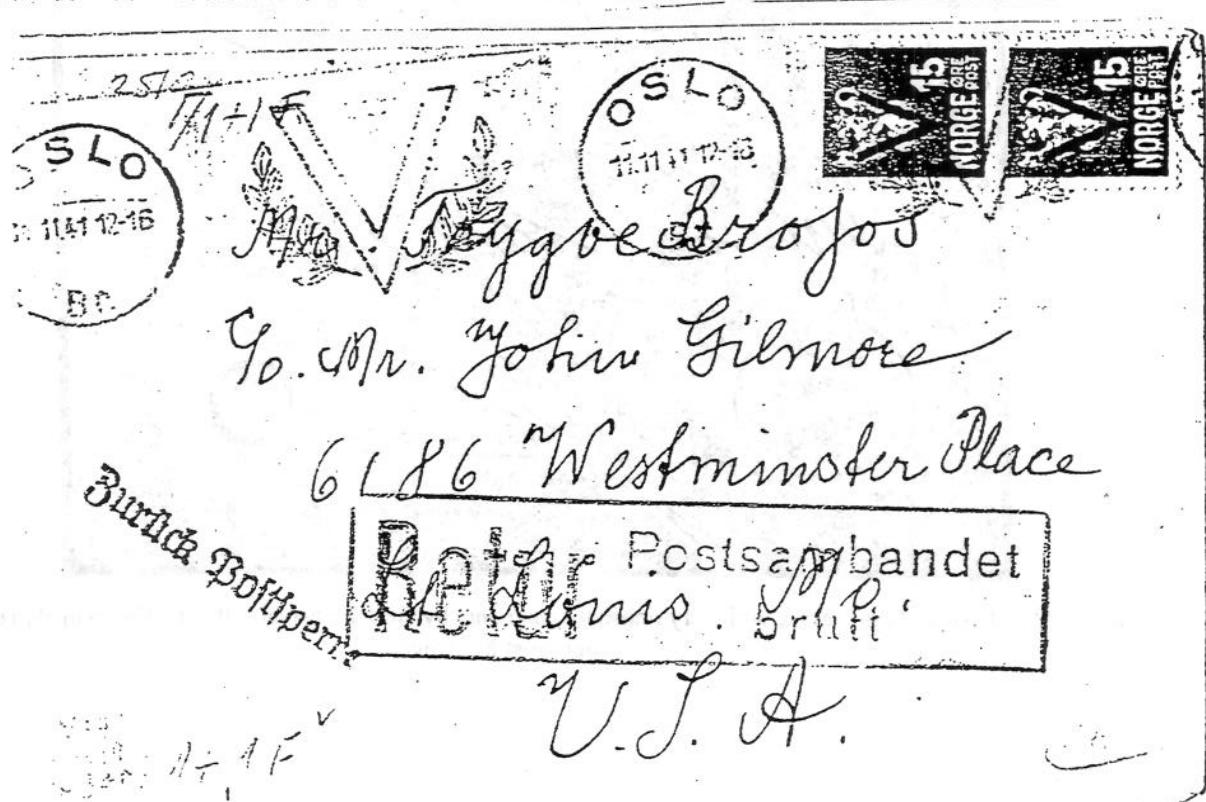


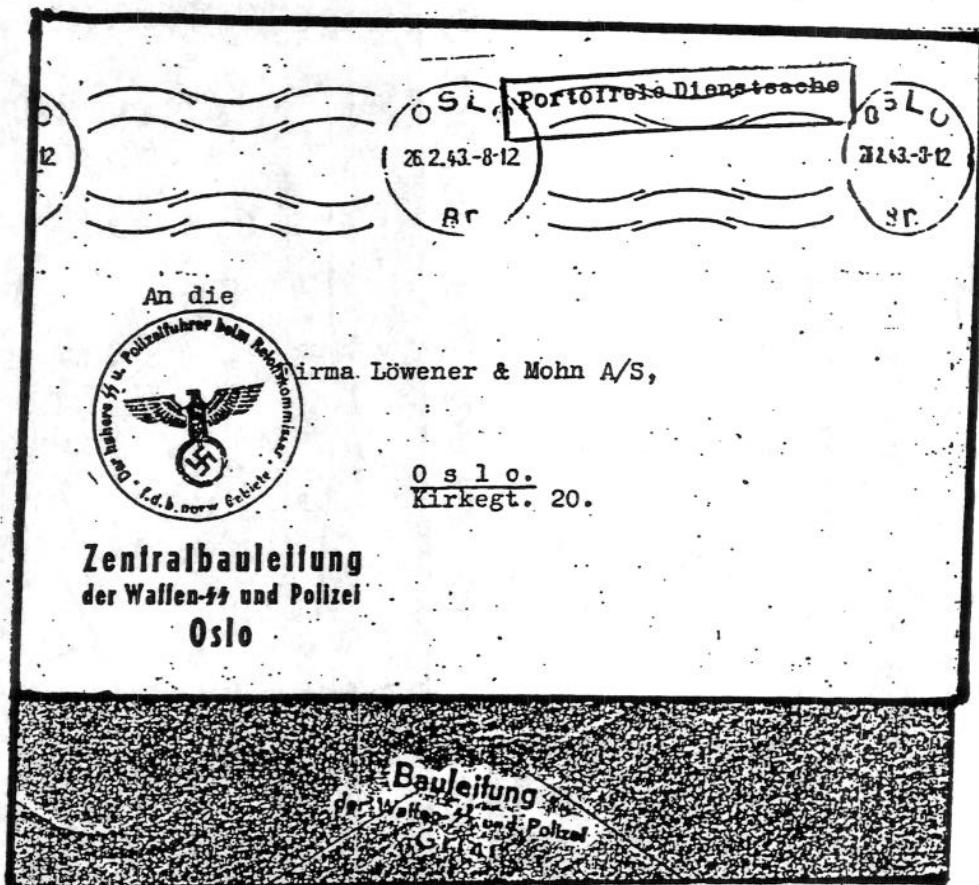
Au Bureau central
de la Poste Grecque.
Aten. Poslig. brullt.

ZURÜCK POSTSPERRE (Returned Postal Barrier)



RETURNED POSTAL CONNECTION BROKEN

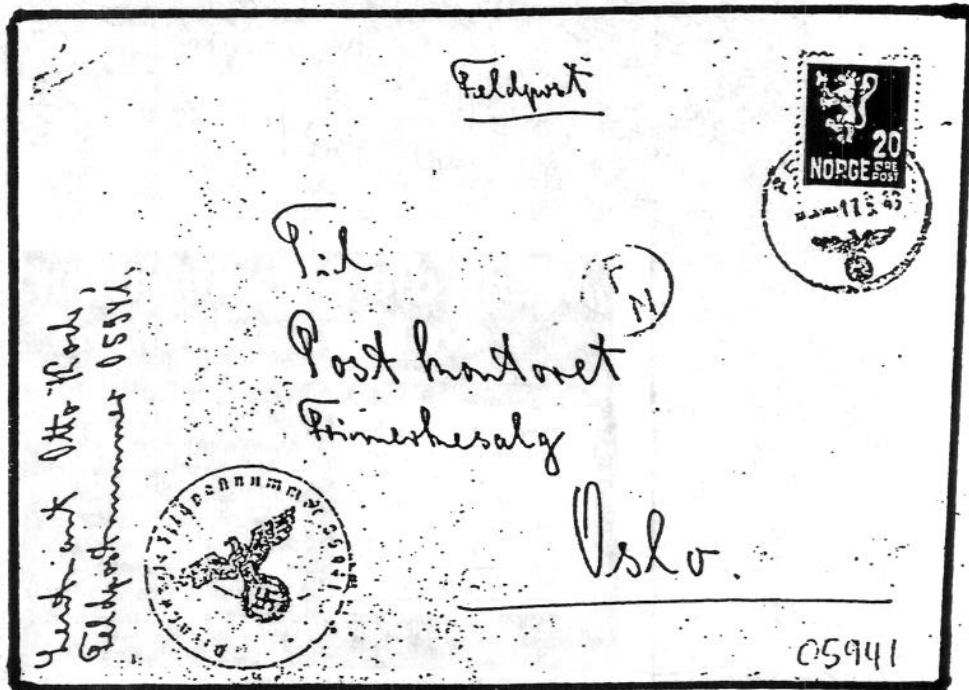




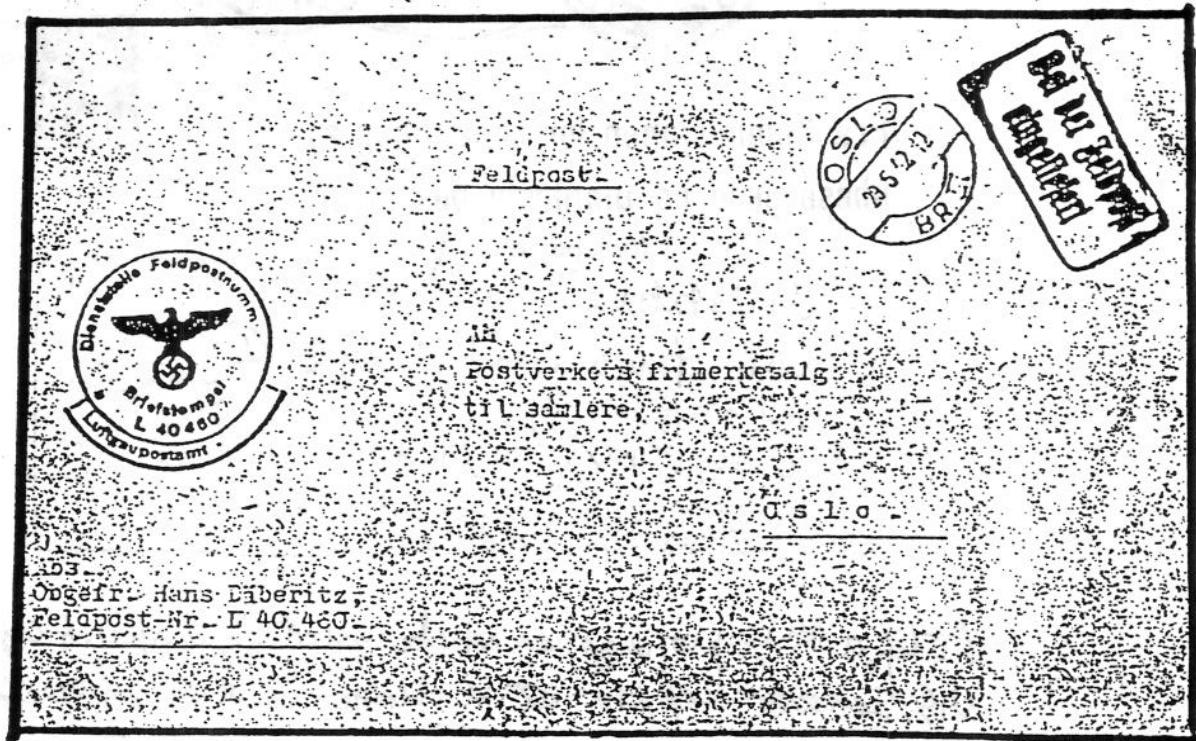
4) The Central Construction Directorate of the Waffen SS and Police, Oslo.
Below, Construction Management of this directorate at Grini Concentration Camp near Oslo.



5) Feldpost cover from Narvik with very unusual censorship by German Naval Officer. FN control mark in red.
(Feldpost Norwegen).

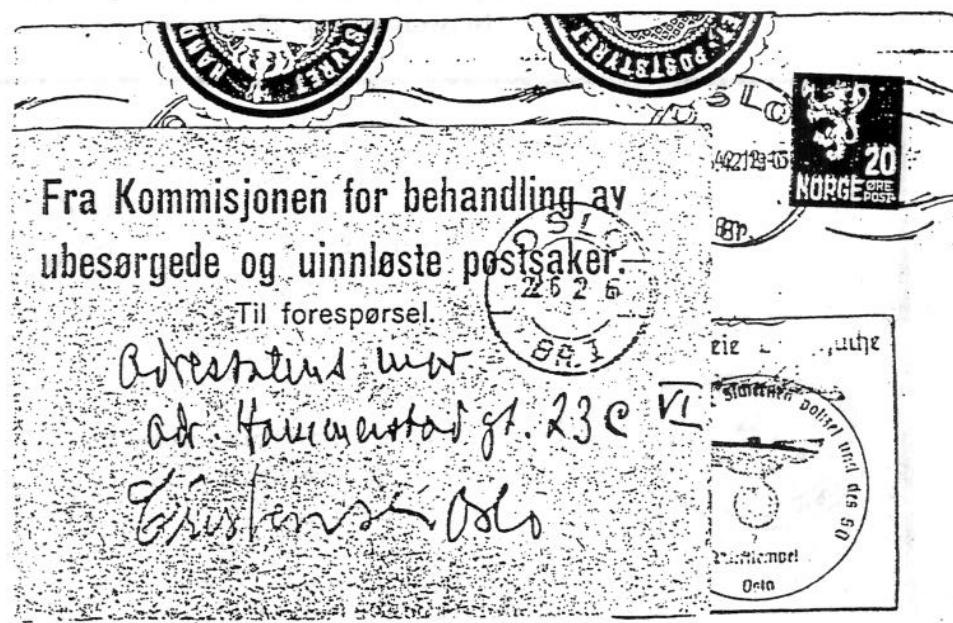


6) Feldpost cover thought to be from a coast artillery battery near Trondheim (FPO – K353) Rare use of a Norwegian stamp. FN control mark.



7) Airforce cover (Fliegerhorst Kommandantur (E) 3/N) with unusual violet boxed fieldpost mark "Bei der Feldpost eingeliefert" (Handed in to the Fieldpost).

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At top, a Nazi propaganda sticker quoting a speech by U.S. Senator Pepper at a dinner in honor of Stalin. Below, a letter to a Norwegian prisoner, but returned. Opened by Norway. P.O. Commission for handling undelivered and uncollected mail -

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Der Höhere SS- und Polizeiführer
beim Reichskommissar für die besetzten
norwegischen Gebiete

Nachrichtenstelle

DURCH

Fernschreiben

Eilt sehr

Geheime Reichssache

URGENT
TELETYPE
MESSAGE
FROM SS
NEWS
CENTER



Durch Deutsche Dienstpost!



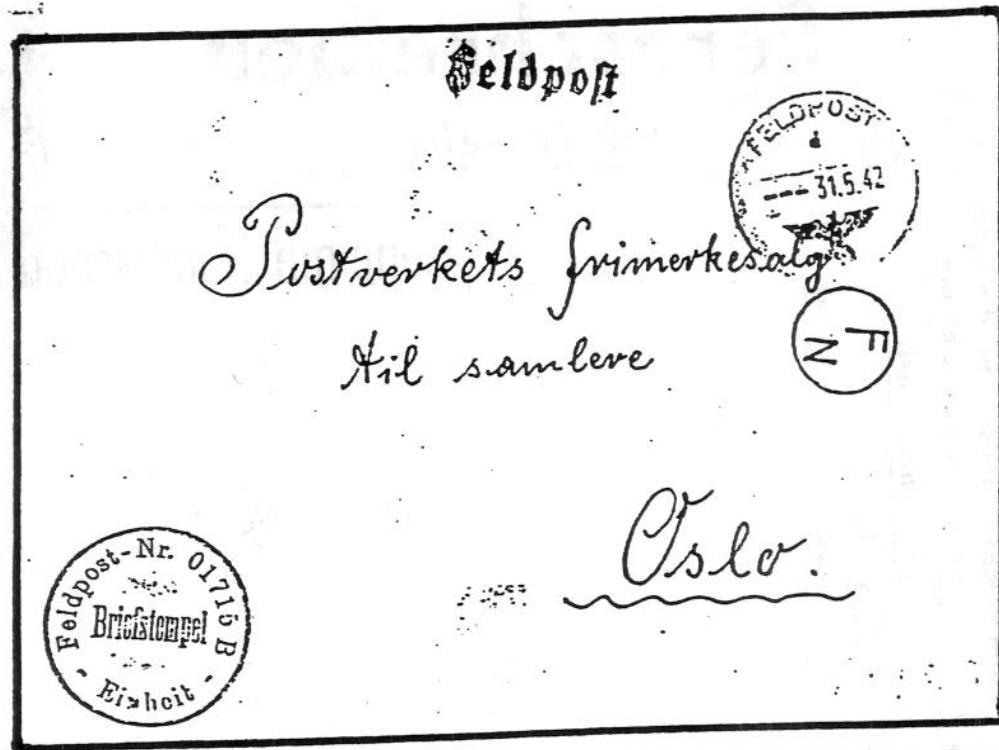
Herrn

Dr. Karl Blankenagel
Abteilungsleiter beim Reichskommissar
für die besetzten norweg. Gebiete

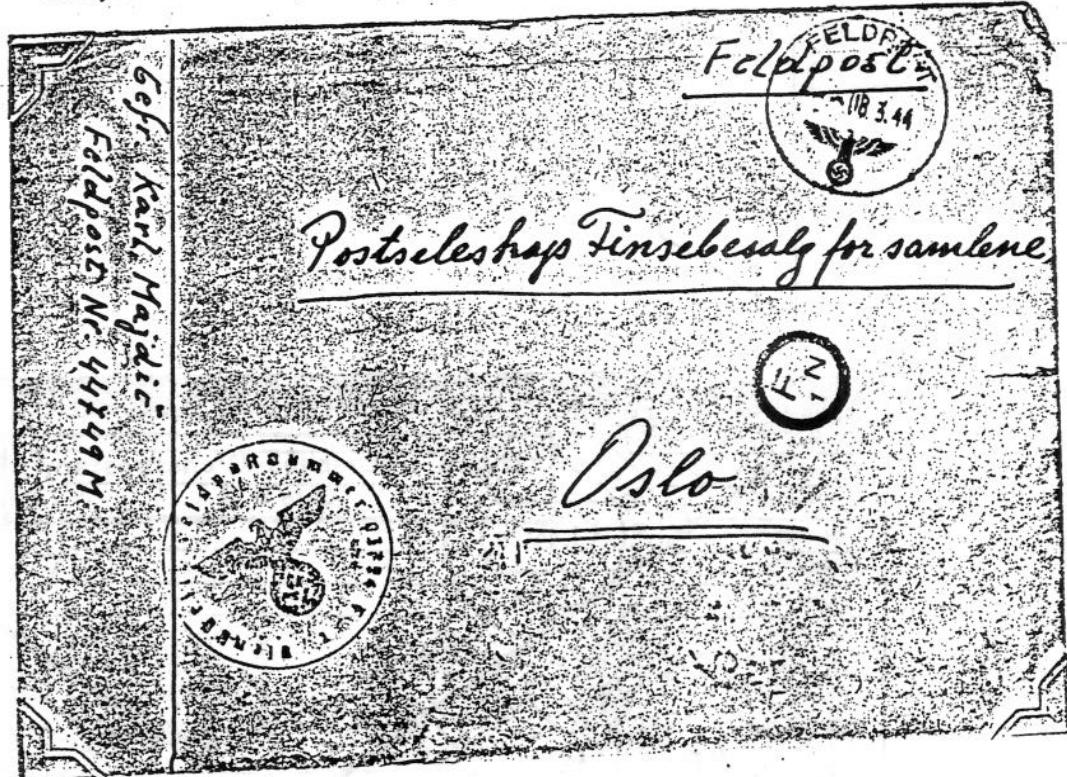
Oslo.



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8) Cover from P.O.W. Construction and Work Battalion 22. Probably Russian Prisoners of War. These outfits usually used marks without the usual eagle and swastika emblem.



At top correct title of Norw. P.O., Philatelic Sales Office.
At bottom a hopeless mixup by a German soldier.
Seems to have been at a party at Finse.



The sale of this card was banned during the war.
"Trolls" swatting at the luftwaffe planes.

F Ø R B U D T

Det er
å stå i vognen så lenge det finnes
sitteplasser. De som ikke etterkom-
mer påbudet blir fra idag bortvist
fra vognen og straffet.

IST VERBOTEN

Das Stehen in dem Wagen
solange es noch Sitzplätze gibt.
Wer dem Gebote nicht Folge leistet,
muss den Wagen verlassen und wird
bestraft.

Oslo. 4. mai 1944.

Politipresidenten i Oslo.

Copy of a poster. Forbidden to stand if an empty seat (next
to a German) is available

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Norwegian and German stamp combination. The Front-Fighter semi-postal saw little use.

Scarce Subsidiary Markings by German Censors

Forsendelse i videreforsendelsen
på grunn av manglende
adressen.

Delayed in sending on because of missing senders address.



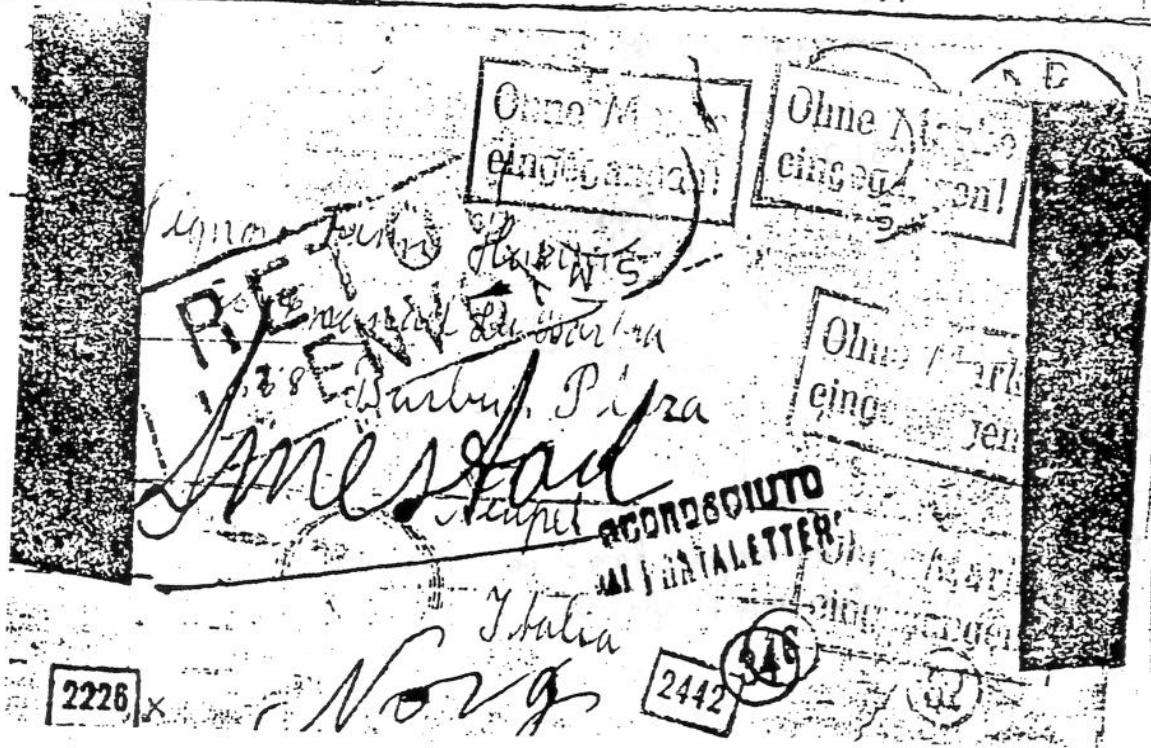
Return to Sender
not allowed by the new regulations
German censorship



Svenn Aug. Petersen

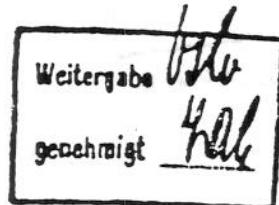
G. Korzhev

Arrived without
stamp!



Some German Censor Marks in Norway

ÅPNET VED TYSK CENSUR



VIDEREBEFORDRING
TILLATT
TYSK CENSUR



Norwegian censor marks after the war

MICROPHON OSLO = Lnr.

211

Telefonsentral



Gepr.

O.T.P.

LV

154

U	!	W	U	W	W	W
				/	/	/

Rare censor mark on telegram from Sweden 1940 (June 5)
= Geprüft Oslo Telegramm Prüfstelle

Bilag til Poststyrets rundskriv nr. 191 av 14 november 1941.

Forskrifter for hemmelig post- og telegramkontroll.

§ 1.

Post- og telegramkontroll settes i verk av lederen av Sikkerheitspolitiet og utføres av ham eller en ham underordnet embetsmann etter lederens nærmere bestemmelse.
Unntatt fra kontroll og tilbakeholdelse er post- og telegrafforsendelser til og fra tyske myndigheter.

§ 2.

Postmester — poståpner — telegrafbestyrer plikter etter skriftlig, i påtrengende tilfelle etter muntlig begjæring fra lederen av Sikkerheitspolitiet eller den ham underordnede politi—embets- eller -tjenestemann som måtte være bemyndiget, å gi politiet adgang til å foreta undersøkelser av post/telegrafforsendelser, og etter skriftlig eller muntlig oppgave fra samme myndighet å tilbakeholde og utlevere post- og telegrafforsendelser og gi mulige opplysninger forsvarig.

Post- og telegrafverket — poståpnere gjennem det overordnede postkontor — skal også uten oppfordring holde tilbake og sende over til statspolitisjefen eller nærmeste avdeling av statspolitiet alle post- og telegrafforsendelser som vedkommende funksjonær under sitt daglige arbeid og etter sitt kjennskap til adressaten, avsenderen eller overbringeren eller på grunn av forsendelsens hyppighet, utseende eller av andre grunner måtte finne mistenklig, som f. eks. trykte eller på annen måte mangfoldiggjorte illegale skrivelser.

§ 3.

Ved kontrollen skal alltid 2 politifunksjonærer være tilstede. Foregår kontrollen på post/telegrafkontor, skal dessuten minst 1 post/telegraffunksjonær være tilstede. Kontrollen må utføres så hurtig som mulig og på en slik måte at post/telegrafverkets arbeid ikke sinkes eller vanskelig gøres mer enn strengt nødvendig.

§ 4.

Lederen av Sikkerheitspolitiet eller den han dertil bemyndiger avgjør hvorvidt post/telegrafforsendelser blir å holde tilbake av hensyn til rikets sikkerhet eller rikets indre ro og orden. For hver forsendelse som holdes tilbake ges særskilt kvittering av politiet.

§ 5.

Sikkerheitspolitiet fører fortegnelse over de lukkete brev, postforsendelser forsvarig og telegrammer som åpnes i kontrolløyemed eller som holdes tilbake. Fortegnelsen skal angi datum for kontrollen, adressatens og avsenderens navn og resultatet av undersøkelsen. Gjenpart av fortegnelsen sendes hver måned til lederen av Sikkerheitspolitiet hvis fortegnelsen føres av andre enn ham selv.

Post- og telegrafforsendelser som ikke holdes tilbake skal snarest og senest innen en uke sendes tilbake til post/telegrafverket så unødig forsinkelse kan unngås.

§ 6.

Mussolini doesn't answer

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A youngster at school was showing off a letter he had succeeded in getting from Field Marshal Mannerheim of Finland. I thought I could go the braggard one better by producing a letter from the Italian dictator. After a great delay, during which time I had given up, there finally arrived a letter from the Italian Diplomatic Representative in Oslo, as follows:

"Your letter has reached its high destination. It was much appreciated, but I must inform you that Il Duce of principal reasons a long time ago made the decision not to give autographs. (G. Setti)"



GERENZA DEGLI AFFARI
CONSOLARI D'ITALIA
IN NORVEGIA

Oslo, den 8. februar 1943, XXI°

N. 416 -

Herr Frederick Brofos
Grimerud, Ottestad

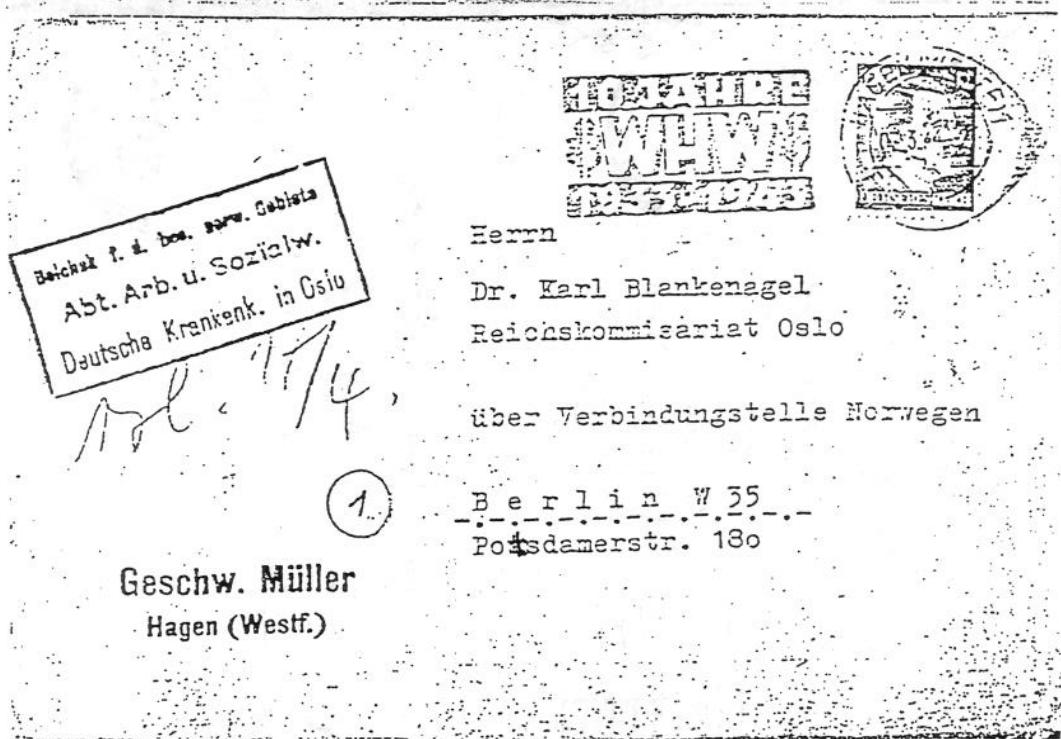
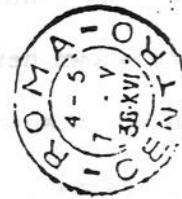
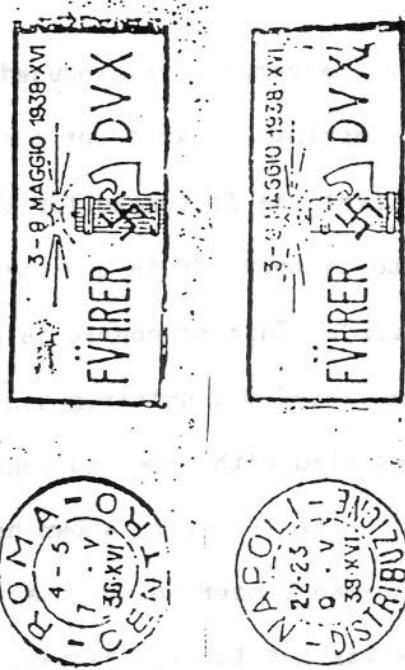
Deres brev er naadd sit høie bestemmelsessted.
Det blev meget paaskjønnet, men jeg maa meddele Dem
at il Duce av principielle grunner for lengere tid
siden tok bestemmelse om ikke aa gi autografer.

(G. Setti)

A MACHINE FOR TWO DICTATORS

by Frederick A. Brofos

A special commemorative machine postmark was used in certain Italian post offices for one week only during the period May 3-9, 1938. Showing the emblems of Nazism and Fascism, it was used in Rome, Naples (and probably Florence) to mark Hitler's State Visit to Italy, the invitation for which had been given the autumn before when Mussolini was in Germany. Every Party boss and Nazi hanger-on tried to squeeze into the four trains which carried the German delegation. The competition to share, at Italian expense, in the endless galas, receptions and banquets was intense. Hitler stayed at the Royal Palace in Rome, was treated to a grand naval review at Naples and medieval-costumed parades and games in Florence. The special postmark used "V"s instead of "U"s, in imitation of old Roman lettering, and DVX meant Il Duce of course. The figures XVI, following the year date in the dial and in the killer, stand for the 16th. year of Fascist rule. Although no doubt common enough at the time, these postmarks are seldom seen nowadays.

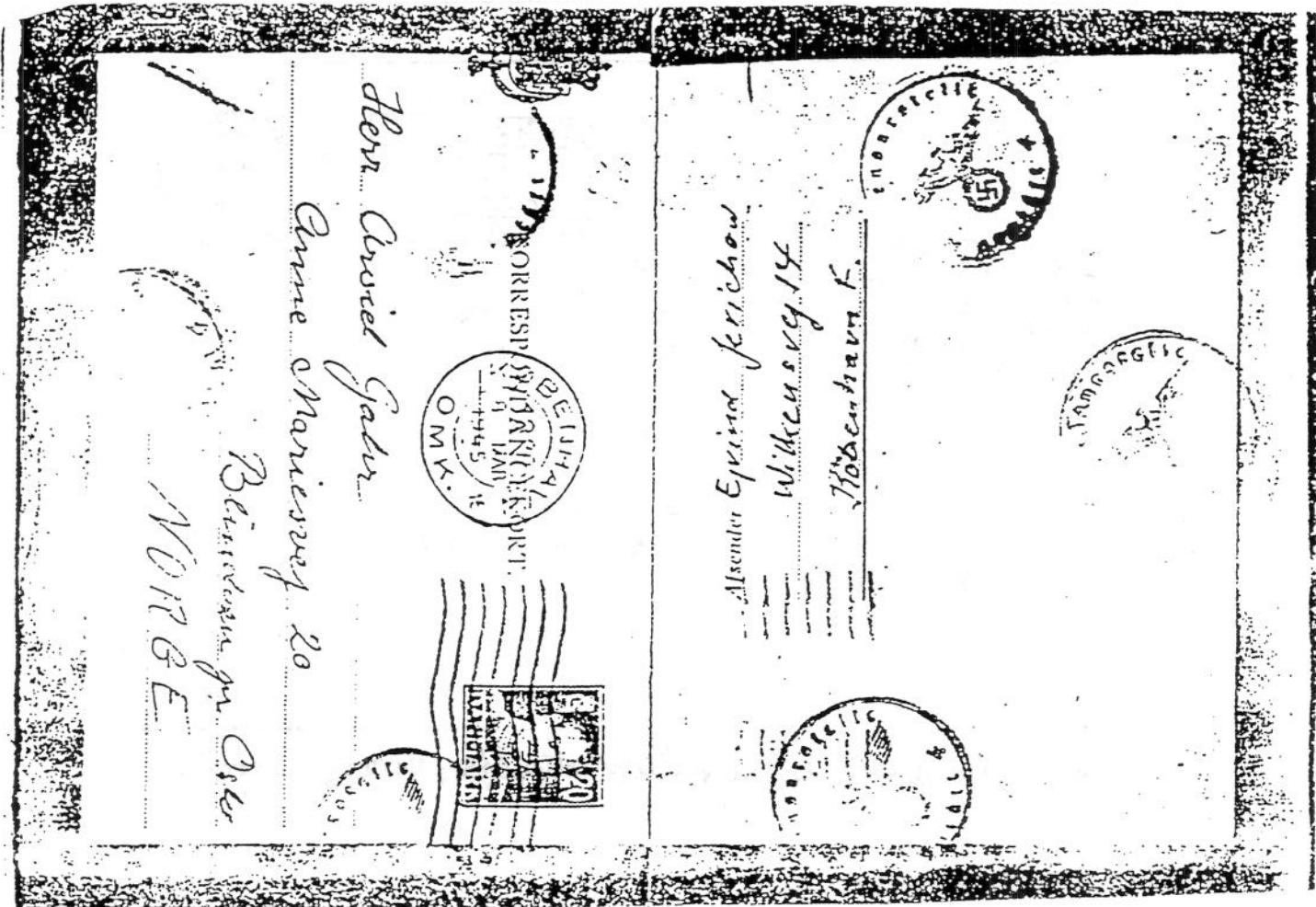


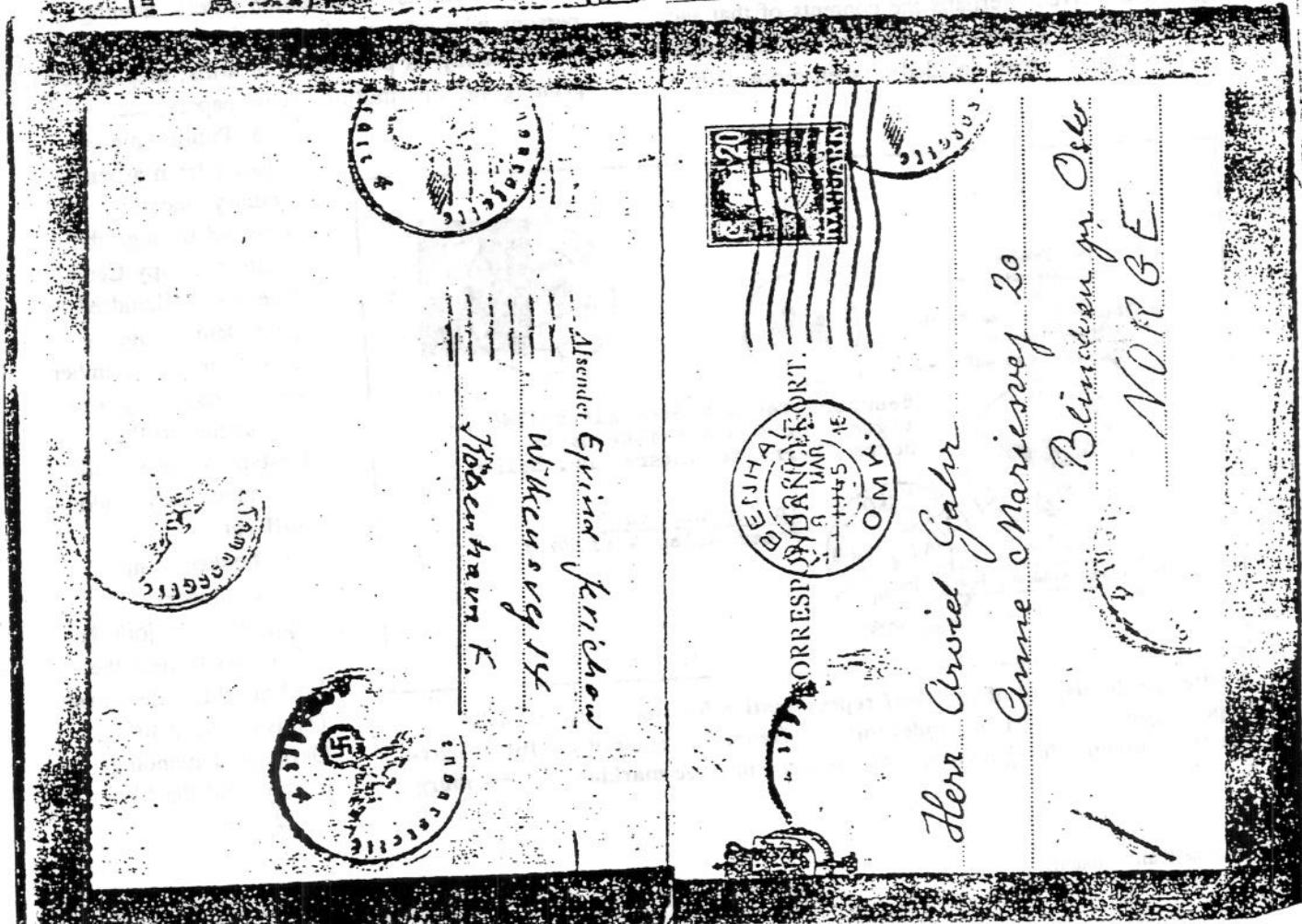
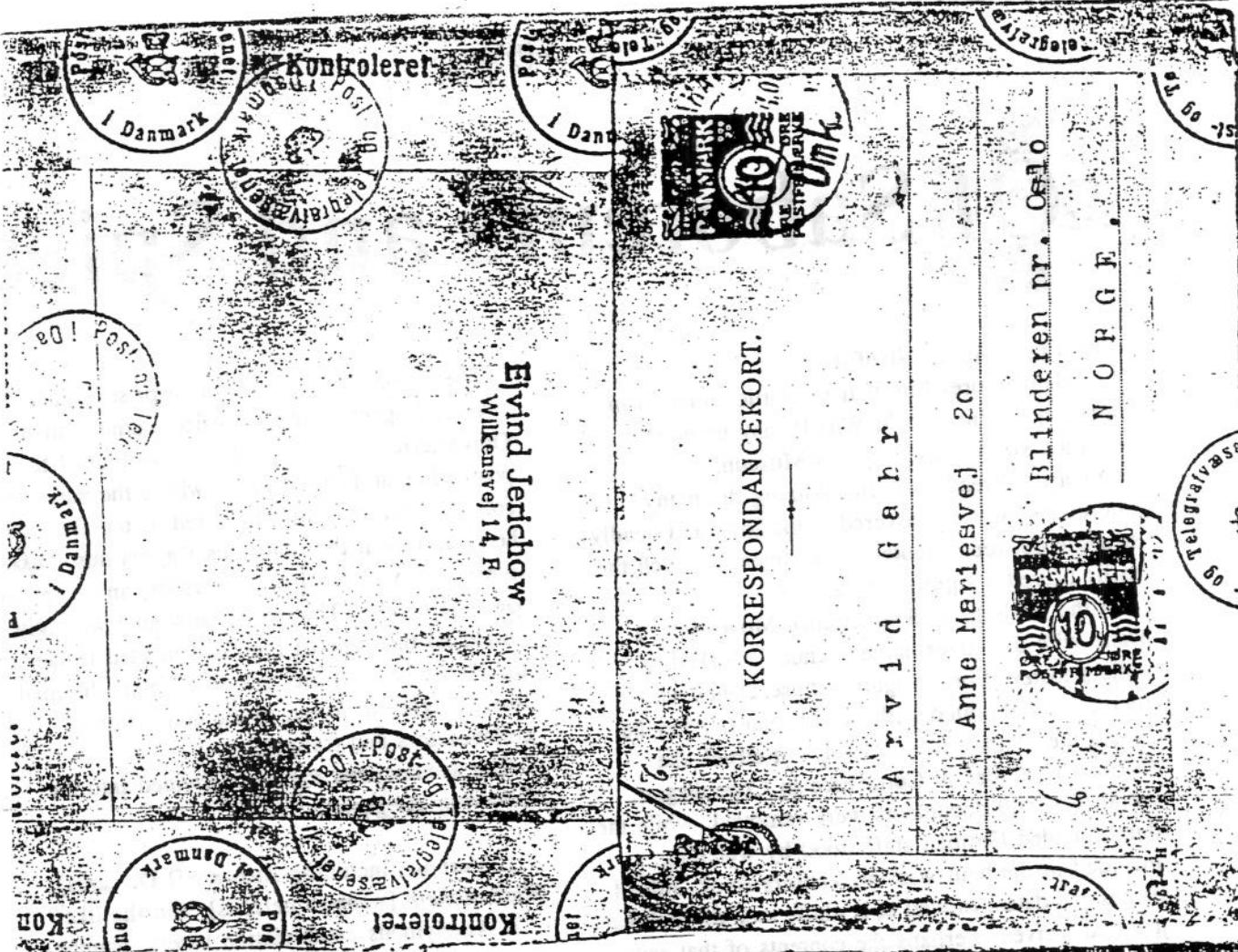
Unusual address, To Oslo via "connection office Norway", Berlin

Those Pesky Lettercards

Lettercards were produced by the Norwegian and Danish Post Office with imprinted stamps for a number of years, but were never very popular. That fact was fortunate for the German censor, as the perforated edges had to be torn off in the opening, without thought of it having to be resealed. This of course is exactly what happened during the war. It was undoubtedly a nuisance when, after opening and examination, it had to be resealed with tape and censor-marked on three sides.

The two examples shown here are from Denmark and bear two versions of the German censor in Copenhagen. The wonder is, that the use of lettercards was not totally banned. I guess it didn't happen too often to warrant that.







Of Saboteurs and Spies

by Frederick A. Brofos

A vivid impression of the volatile situation in Denmark during World War II may be gained from a visit to Copenhagen's Museum for Denmark's Freedom Fight. Among the many interesting subjects covered is the long and deadly struggle between saboteurs and spies in which the mails played a significant part.

In the Underground Resistance Movement, a Dane with the cover-name "Knud" worked to collect material proof against those Danes who secretly collaborated with the Germans. After he joined the illegal group "1944," it struck the German Chamber of Commerce in Copenhagen. About 600,000 documents were removed, while the dumbfounded German staff stood by watching. Included in the haul was the Visitors Book, full of names and dates, as well as a whole sack of mail that just had arrived. Perhaps the contents of that sack convinced the group's members of the importance of the mails — they decided to seek more of it.

The group "1944" paid a surprise visit to several Copenhagen post offices, among them Omkarteringen, the distribution section of the main post office at Tietgensgade, where the mail was collected before being delivered to the German headquarters at the notorious Dagmarhus, *Stikker Sentral* [Spy Center] at Vesterport, and many other German offices. The postal personnel willingly sorted all this type of mail and handed it over to the Resistance. At the end of the war, the mail was brought out to aid in the conviction of collaborators and traitors.

The accumulated mail was divided into the following categories:

1. Various, including *Ausweis* [I.D. cards], *Waffenschein* [weapon permits], and the like.
2. Anonymous denunciation letters, naming persons who were working against *Vernemagten* [Wehrmacht], in possession of arms, helping Jews, printing and distributing illegal papers, etc.

3. Public opinion

reports from around the country, mostly supplied through the Vesterport Spy Center.

The several hundred paid Danish spies — known only by number — also had the job of denouncing to the Gestapo anyone in the Resistance they could sniff out.

4. Letters from Danish senders: applications to join the SS, offers to help the Wehrmacht, letters from Danish women to Germans demanding money, and the like.



A letter to the deputy of the chief representative for work assignment at Copenhagen-Vesterport in "independent" Denmark required the full twenty-five reichspfennig foreign rate. "Af" was a "passage marking" of Hamburg.

5. Letters from German senders: letters to and from Werner Best (the German plenipotentiary in Denmark), reports of gift packages from Germany, information to the German authorities regarding Danish "Ersatz" inventions (new substitutes) and agricultural deliveries, reports from the war front, thank-you letters for a comfortable stay in Denmark, private letters about the situation in Germany, and so forth.

6. Bills from Danish firms to the Wehrmacht for work accomplished and for deliveries important to the German war effort.

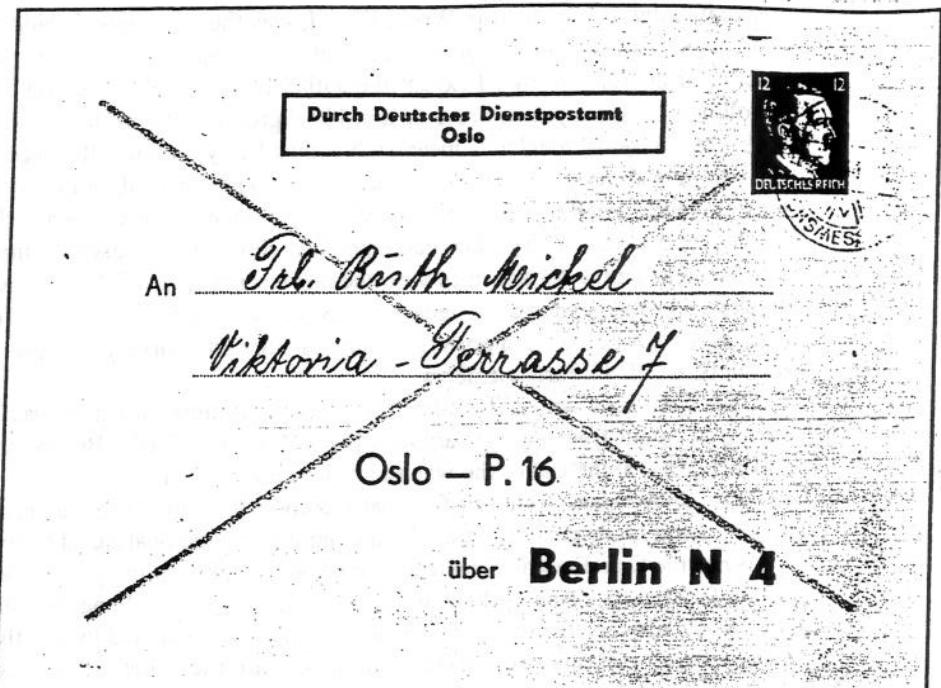
This list spans a variety of dangerous topics about which people wrote. Later the senders undoubtedly were shocked to see their old letters showing up to damn them in court.

As we now look back from this safe distance, it may all seem just like an exciting thriller movie. Of course, in reality, things were deadly serious in the police state of that time. Displayed at the Copenhagen museum is a typical denunciation letter from an informer. Translated from Danish, the stark, typewritten note reads:

To the German Police — One reports that the printer Henning Johansen is familiar with illegal printing. He works at Jydsk Paper Works in the daytime. Doesn't sleep at home at night. Anonymous.

The Author

Frederick A. Brofos, who is retired from the telecommunications industry, collects World War II material. He is a former editor of *The Posthorn* (Scandinavian Collectors Club) and has written many articles on postal history over the past fifty years, particularly about Norway, where as a schoolboy he experienced the German occupation.



Mail to occupied Norway went at twelve reichspfennig, the German "inland" rate. This letter to Viktoria Terrasse — the dreaded address of the Gestapo Headquarters in Oslo, Norway — went from Leipzig via Berlin to the German Post Office in Oslo.



A small selection of handstamps and titles from the German civil, police, military, and naval domination of Denmark. Stamps from left to right: Der Reichsbevollmächtigte in Dänemark [the Reich's chief representative in Denmark], Der Bevollmächtigte des Reiches in Dänemark [the chief representative of the Reich in Denmark]. These two stamps were used in the office of Dr. Best, who was the highest German civil authority in Denmark. Waffen SS in Danemark, der höhere SS - und Polizeiführer [Armed SS in Denmark, the higher SS and police chief], Wehrmachtsbefehlshaber Dänemark [army commander Denmark], Admiral Danemark hauptregistratur [Admiral Denmark main registry].

UNDER THE BANNER OF THE SUN CROSS

Frederick A. Brofos

One of the many acts of oppression enforced by the "New Order" in Norway, during the years (1940-45) of occupation by the Germans in World War II, was the regulation forbidding the flying of the beautiful red, white, and blue Norwegian flag by the general population. Instead, another, new flag was promoted. But it always remained unpopular and unused by all except the authorities themselves, as well as Nazis. This was the infamous Sun Cross ("Solkors") flag - a yellow cross on a red background. It was the emblem of Quisling's Norwegian Nazi Party. The "NS", or "Nasjonal Samling", meaning National Unity, was just the opposite of its name. It had little support among the people and never reached more than 2% at most. Indeed, both party and its leader ("Fører") were treated with cold contempt by all patriots ("Jøssinger").* Five stamps were issued with Quisling's picture on them.

The Sun Cross, with a Nazi eagle perched above it, was used on the whole new set of official stamps issued in 1942 to replace the former ones with the Norwegian Coat of Arms showing the Royal Crown and Lion. The new emblem also appeared in a machine cancel with the slogan (translated) "Toward brighter times"! It was also much in evidence in newspapers, on posters, armbands, etc. Of course, it was prominently displayed, as a small enamel badge, on the labels of NS Party members.

The Sun Cross was said to date back to Viking times when, it was also claimed, the old greeting was the up-raising of an outstretched right arm and the call "Heil og Sæl"! Be that as it may, the NS Party was quietly outlawed and disbanded at the end of the war and its leaders arrested.

It is, nevertheless, a chilling fact that the notorious Sun Cross flag is still flown today, and legally too. It is little known that it represents the letter "R" among the international signal code flags in common use by ships everywhere! **

When the Oslo Electric Streetcar Company was taken over by Nazi elements, the Sun Cross soon appeared in red on the fare tickets. Annoyed citizens used to destroy it by folding the ticket and tearing out the center. A cigarette burn would also be effective. This demonstrating was countered by greatly enlarging the Sun Cross and a note on the reverse stated that any defacement would invalidate the ticket. The discount clipping cards and even parcel freight stamps of the company also bore the hated design.

Those were dangerous times of fear and suffering, when the despised Sun Cross and Swastika flags flew together and a long dark shadow lay across the land.

There had been some idle threats, by patriots during the war, of later packing the worst Nazis off to the desolate Bear Island ("Bjørn Øya"), a Norwegian possession in the Arctic, but that was just wishful thinking.

With the end of World War II, and Victory for the Allies, there followed a real reckoning with those so weak and misguided as to betray their country in its years of need.

Outside Oslo, at the old Grini Concentration Camp, where patriots had formerly been imprisoned, the name was changed to Ilebu and filled with new occupants - the now miserable traitors and collaborators rounded up to await trial.

The cases against these so-called "Landsviker" (Country Failures) dragged on for eight years, until the end of 1952. The final settlement was eventually as follows: Some 92,900 cases were dealt with by the prosecution, out of these, about 37,150 were shelved due to lack of evidence or other reason. In approximately 5,500 cases it was decided by the prosecution that no legal proceedings would be started. Imprisonment terms were levied on about 20,120 people. Punishments by other means than imprisonment were inflicted on around 28,660 people. Death sentences for treason and war crimes effected 46 persons. Out of these, 38, including Quisling himself, were executed. 24 of these were Norwegians, 13 Germans, and 1 Dane. Six other death sentences were changed to life imprisonment. The German "Reichskommissar" and his SS Police Chief had previously committed suicide.

When all was said and done, some thought Justice had been too lenient. However, the judges did not want to duplicate the same brutalities used by the accused themselves.

A new Postwar Era had dawned, with bright hopes of an everlasting peace, brotherly love and cooperation throughout the world. We are still waiting for this Utopia to be achieved.

*The name "Jøssinger", for Norwegian patriots, refers to an inspiring incident on February 19, 1940. The German transport ship "Altmark" was cornered in the Jøssingfjord, near Bergen, by the British destroyer "Cossack" and about 300 British prisoners liberated. These were seamen from ships sunk in the South Atlantic by the German pocket battleship "Graf Spee".

** It is also the flag of the Skåne district of Sweden,
Reference for statistics: The Norway Year Book, Oslo, 1954.

Den nasjonale revolusjon.

Første etappe av den nasjonale revolusjon i Norge endte med at den nasjonale regjering trådte tilbake 15. april.

Tiden for den endelige maktovtakelse var ennå ikke moden.

Ved uthirdig undergravningsarbeide fra det gamle systems speser og fra visse «nasjonale» friflytere, lyktes det å fremstille den nasjonale regjering som en hindring for fred og forsøning.

Hvis bare den nasjonale regjering kom vekk, ville Kongen vende tilbake, fiendtligheten bli bannstilt og landet falle til ro.

Utviklingen har vist at disse påstander så langt fra slo til, at det tvertimot er en kjenslering atعرون og fiendtlighetene breddet sig og vokste i styrke, da den nasjonale regjering var trådt tilbake og dermed Norges selvstendighet var blitt uten vokter og den forbryterske Nygaardsvold-regjeringen uten motvekt.

Disse uundgåelige konsekvenser var jeg og mine kampfeller forberedt på, men vi vilde ikke la strande på motvilje fra oss den ringeste mulighet til å undgå fortsatt nytteles blodutnypdelas og ødelegelse.

Det gamle systems menn har nu fått anledning til ytterligere å demonstrere sin ernehet og sitt egoistiske spill med den norske folks skjene.

Nasjonal Samlings folk og alle andre ærlige nordmenn oppfordrer jeg til ikke å tape motet, men å fortsette arbeidet med skett energi.

Den 9. april fikk det gamle system sitt grunnskudd.

Den 15. april er for oss ikke noe nederlag, men utgangspunktet for velen til den endelige seier!

Oslo, 1. mai 1940.

VIDKUN QUISLING

Gjørde & Co.



Professor W. Rasmussen bytte av Vidkun Quisling.

**NS Fører, ministerpresident
Vidkun QUISLING**

taler 1. februar 1943 kl. 20 i Klingenberg Kino.

NORGE VAR ET RIKE

DET SKAL BLI ET FOLK

20+30 NORGE

FORSKRIFTENES KOMITEE

Dørene Åpnes kl. 19.15. Plassene må være innstilt kl. 19.45.

NS Star-Oslo Fylkesorganisasjon



Foremer for to germaniske folk.
Nazi leaflets and propaganda posters from wartime Norway. (Reduced)



STOMATOL
ALLE TIDERS TANN-CRÈME

Lasseig 15 øre.

Tidens Egen

av og opptil VERDENSGANG - NORSKE INTELLIGENSSEDLER

Nr. 82

Torsdag 9. april 1940

Grunnlagt av O. Thommessen.

Blte. 73de på 178de årgang.

Strom & Serum

Herreskredderi

Kongensgt. 27, Oslo. Tlf. 23328

Tysk ultimatum som regjeringen avslår

Heftig kamp mellom krigsskip og Oscarsborg

En tysk krysser gått på land ved Digerud.

Kommenderende admiral meddeler kl. 7 idag:

I natt har tyske krigsskip forsett Oslo-fjord festning under kamp med festningsens batterier og fortsatt videre. Kl. 4.30 meldtes om heftig kamp mellom en del av krigsskipene og Oscarsborg. En krysser passerte forbi festningen, men er senere

satt på land ved Digerud. Andre fartyer har bombardert Horten. Tyske krigsskip har også under kamp med festningen passert inn til Bergen som er besatt. To skip har passert inn til Trondheim. Byen er visstnok besatt. Et skip er kommet inn til Nærvik, sannsynligvis etter kamp med norske fartyer og har landsatt en mindre styrke. Nærmere opplysninger mangler.

Også fra Kristiansand meldes at tyske skip har angrepet festningen. De opplysnings som hittil foreligger, er meget knappe, og detaljer kan derfor ikke gis ennå. Kri-

stiansend har vært utsatt for flyangrep. Tyske tropper er satt i land i Egersund.

Fra Tønsberg meldes at kl. 5.30 idag morges landsattes en avdeling tyske tropper ved Vallø utenfor Tønsberg. Det skal være ca. 20 man. Befolkningen har forlatt stedet og begir sig innover mot Tønsberg. Fra norsk side blev avfyrt ett skudd, men tyskerne forholdt seg hel rolig.

Efter at tyskerne var gått til land i Bræten, ble det delt ut et opprop som hadde følgende ordlyd:

Til de norske soldater og det norske folk!

Den grunn og mot den tyske

regjering og det tyske folks oppegring om å leve i fred og vennskap med det engelske og det franske folk har Englands og Frankrikes makthavere ifjor i september erklaert Tyskland krig.

Derefter folger en nærmere referanse, og så fortsettes det:

— at Tyskland har besluttet å

forgripe det engelske anstreng og med sine maktmøller selv overta

betydeligheten av det norske og del

danske kongerike neutralitet og

verne dem så lenge kriena varer.

Det er ikke den tyske regjering

hensikt å skaffe seg et støttepunkt

i kampen mot England. Den har

utelukkende det mål å hindre at

Skandinavia blir slagmark for de engelske krigsutvidelser. Av denne grunn har sterke tyske militærstyrker idag morges tatt i be

siddele de viktigste militære objekter i Norge og Danmark. Over disse forholdsregler treffes det for tiden overenskomster mellom den tyske regjering og den kongelige norske

regjering. Disse overenskomster skal sikre at kongeriket består videre, at herren og flaten opprettholdes, at det norske folket frihet

akses og at dette lands fremtidige

utviklingsmuligheter fullt ut sikres.

Den tyske kommandør von

Steder er fornuntige og viser god vilje, slik at de undlaster enhver passiv eller aktiv motstand. Den ville være uten nytte og bli brutt med alle maktmidler. Alle militære og kommunale steder annodes for der om straks å opta forbudsregler om å forlate det

Folks oppfordringer til å fortsette det daglige arbeid og til å sørge for roligheit og orden. For landets sikkerhet mot engelske overgrep ser

vi fra nu av den tyske her og flate.

Den tyske kommandør von

Falkenhayn.

Plakatet er trykt på norsk

i stort format på hvitt papir med

red rand.

til disse forhandlinger er avsluttet

må det ventes at herren og flaten

har forståelse for dette og likeledes at folket og alle kommunale

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Nordwacht

Frontzeitung im Narvikfjord

Nr. 6 Dienstag, den 23. April 1940

Der OKW-Bericht -- eine stolze Bilanz!

Elf Flugzeuge bei Luftangriffen und Luftkämpfen abgeschossen — Panzer erzwangen die Entscheidung bei Gjøvik — Zwei feindliche U-Boote vernichtet

Narvik wurde gestern nachmittag erneut durch feindliche Seestreitkräfte beschossen, ohne dass es zu einem Landungsversuch gegen die von deutschen Truppen besetzten Räume kam. Die im Raum von Drontheim eingesetzten deutschen Verbände erreichten für die Fortführung der Operationen wichtige Punkte. Zu ernsteren Kämpfen ist es hierbei nirgends gekommen.

Im Raum von Bergen erhöhte sich die durch deutsche Truppen sichergestellte Beute um eine Anzahl moderner Geschütze und wesentlicher Materialmengen. Die Landverbindung zwischen den von deutschen Truppen besetzten Räumen von Christiansand bis Stavanger ist hergestellt.

Die in Raum von Oslo in nördlicher und nordwestlicher Richtung vorgehenden deutschen Truppen haben norwegische Abteilungen zum Kampf gestellt und geworfen. Hierbei nahmen unsere Truppen nach Kampf Gjøvik und Lillehammer und den Höhenrücken Landehedde. Der Gegner hatte starke Verluste.

Stärkere Kampffliegerverbände bekämpften feindliche Landungsversüche bei Namsos und Andalsnes und zerstörten die mit feindlichen Truppen belegten Orte und die Bahnanlagen. Ein britischer Zerstörer wurde getroffen, zwei feindliche Handelsschiffe versenkt.

Trotz schlechten Wetters halfen deutsche Kampffliegerverbände mit, den Widerstand nördlich von Hamar zu brechen, und zerstörten rückwärtige Bahnverbindungen des Gegners. Das mit grossen Munitionsvorräten gefüllte Arsenal in Oslo wurde bei Hoevedey entdeckt und sichergestellt.

Bei der U-Bootjagd im Skagerrak und im Kattegatt wurden zwei feindliche U-Boote vernichtet. In der norwegischen Marinewerft Horten wurde der Betrieb wieder aufgenommen.

Die Luftwaffe setzte ihre Aufklärung im Seegebiet um Narvik, an der Westküste Norwegens und über der nördlichen Nordsee fort.

Britische Flugzeuge griffen den norwegischen Flugplatz Alborg an. ohne Personen- und Sachschaden anzurichten. Dabei wurden die britischen Flugzeuge, dazu ein weiteres in der Nacht über deutschem Küstengebiet abgeschossen. Im Westen keine besonderen Ereignisse.

Deutsche Flugzeuge stiessen bei der Fernaufklärung über Frankreich bis Bordeaux vor. Im Laufe des Tages kam es zu einer Reihe von Luftkämpfen, in deren Verlauf zwei britischen Flugzeuge und zwei französischen Flugzeuge abgeschossen wurden. Drei deutsche Flugzeuge kehrten vom Feindflug nicht zurück. Ein Flugzeug musste wegen Benzinmangels auf Schweizer Gebiet notlanden.

Bei der Abwehr feindlicher Luftangriffe und im Verlauf von Luftkämpfen wurden im Verlaufe des gestrigen Tages elf Flugzeuge und zwar neun britische und zwei französische abgeschossen. Von diesen stürzten bei einem Angriff auf den Flugplatz Stavanger zwei britische Bomberflugzeuge sowie auf den Flugplatz Alborg und an der norddeutschen Küste vier britische Flugzeuge in Flammen ab und verbrannten. Die übrigen Flugzeuge wurden an der Westfront durch deutsche Jäger abgeschossen. Die Aufschläge lagen zum Teil auf feindlichem Gebiet.

Wie das OKW bereits bekannt gab, wurde Gjøvik von deutschen Truppen genommen Kampf mit norwegischen Truppen genommen wurde. Der Gegner hatte sich in dem für die Verteidigung besonders geeigneten Gelände festgesetzt und versuchte die Stadt zu halten. Der Einsatz starker deutscher Panzerverbände brachte jedoch eine schnelle Entscheidung. Die Norweger erlitten bei dem Einsatz dieser Verbände, die zum Teil in ihre Rückzugswege hineinstießen, sehr schwere Verluste.

Die aus den von deutschen Truppen besetzten Räumen eingehenden Meldungen lassen erkennen,

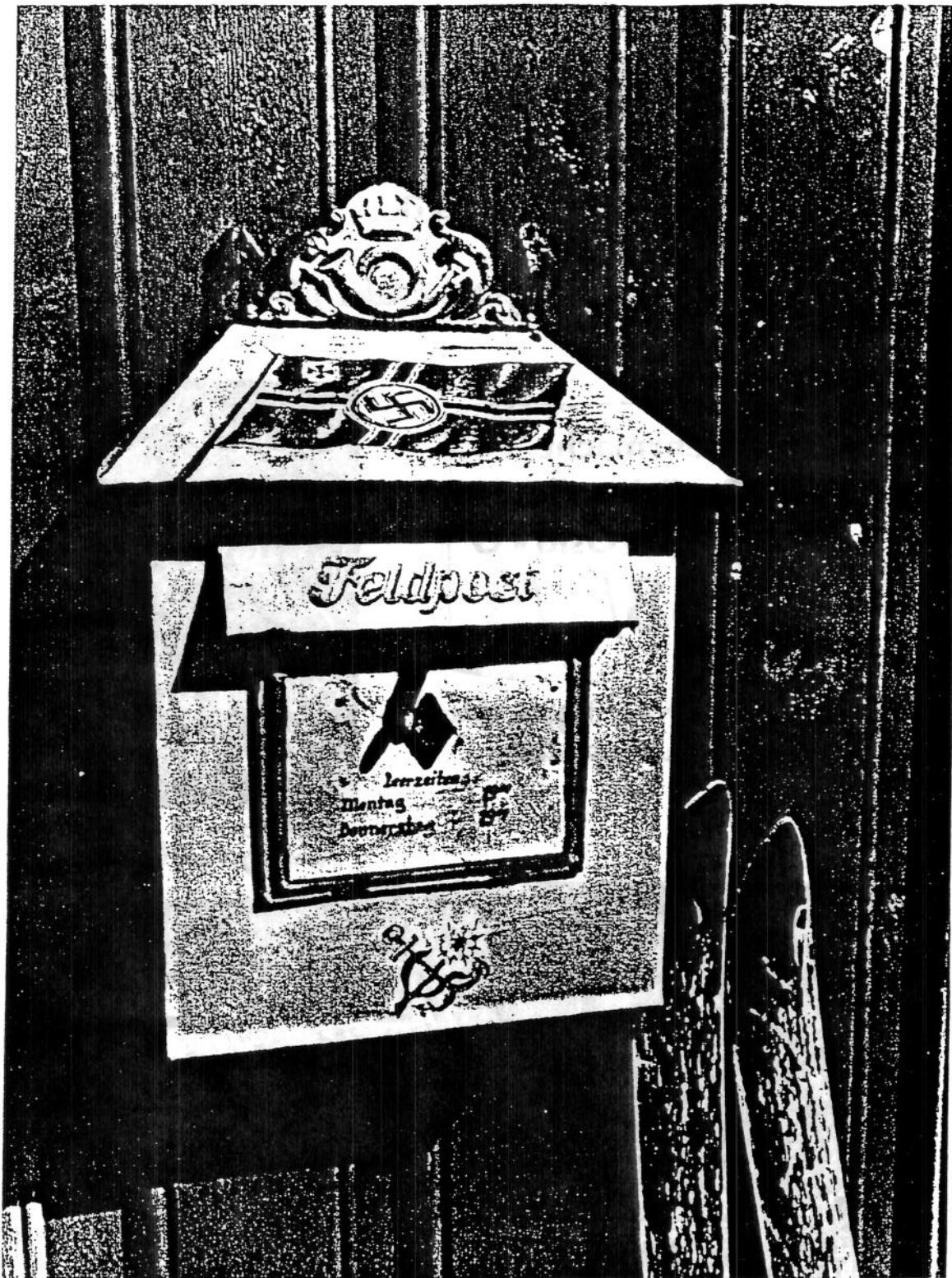
dass die von ihnen sichergestellten Mengen an Waffen und Material keineswegs eine endgültige Übersicht bedeutet. Bei einer systematischen Durchsuchung der Hafen- und Depotanlagen werden neuerdings Beutezahlen gemeldet, die alle Erwartungen übertreffen. So wurden vorgestern in Bergen rund 380 000 Bata-Militäristiefel sichergestellt, die für England bestimmt waren.

Die Heimat wird über Narvik unterrichtet

Informationen aus dem Reich durch gestern eingetroffenen Nachschub besagen, dass die Heimat über die Vorgänge in und um Narvik unterrichtet ist. Die neueste Wochenschau gab bereits Bildstreifen des grossen Gefechts vom 13. April wieder, während die Tagespresse und die Illustrierten Zeitschriften voller Bilder und Berichte von der Überfahrt nach Narvik, der Landung, Besetzung von Stellungen und den Kämpfen sind. Der grossdeutsche Rundfunk hat ebenfalls in mehreren Sendungen Aufnahmen wieder gegeben, die mehrfach über alle Sender und auch mit Richtstrahlern über die verschiedenen Kurzwellensender ging. Die Heimat weiß von Narvik und den Kämpfen, die die Truppen hier durchzustehen haben.

Die Frontzeitung «Nordwacht» wird im Auftrage des Wehrmachtsbefehlshabers von Narvik von der Marine - Propaganda - Kompanie West-Staffel Narvik herausgegeben. Sie erscheint an jedem Werktag. — Die Schriftleitung ist in Grand Hotel Phönix in Narvik, Zimmer 31, zu erreichen. Alle Anfragen und auch Beiträge gehen dorthin. — Druck bei «Ofotens Tiende» in Narvik.

"Northern Watch", German army newspaper, Narvik April 23, 1940



Old Norwegian mail box re-purposed for German fieldpost

Narvik, April, 1940

War memorabilia

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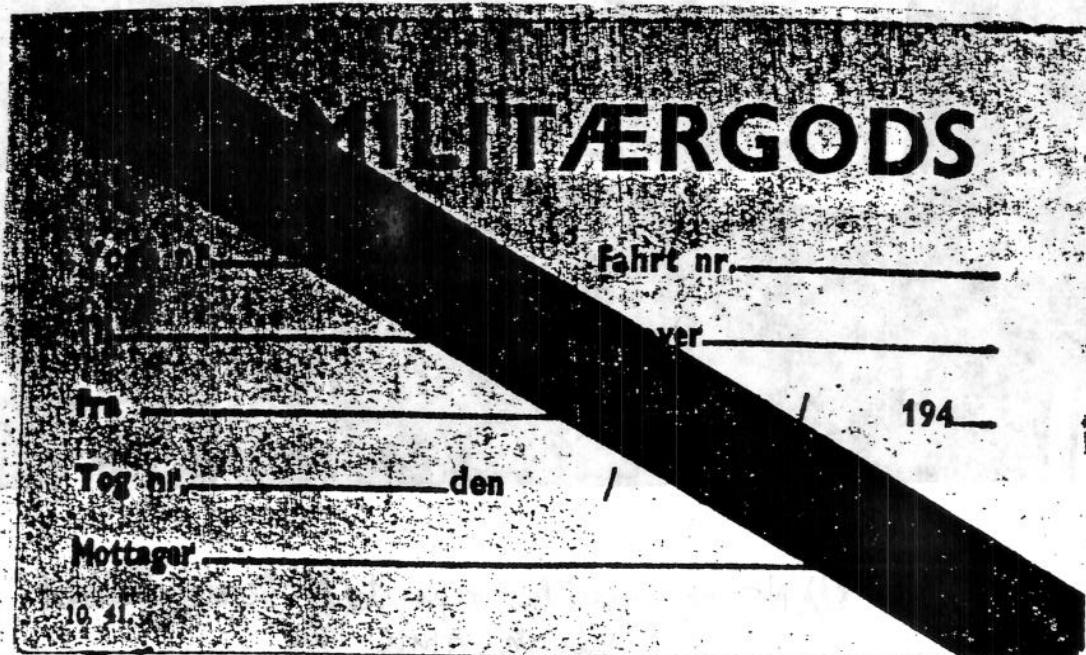
German Army Movie ticket, Folket Hus, Oslo



German Army Baggage office
ticket, Oslo East station

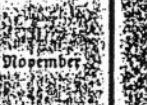
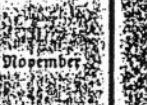
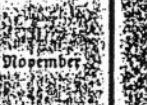


Pack cover of Norwegian
home grown tobacco



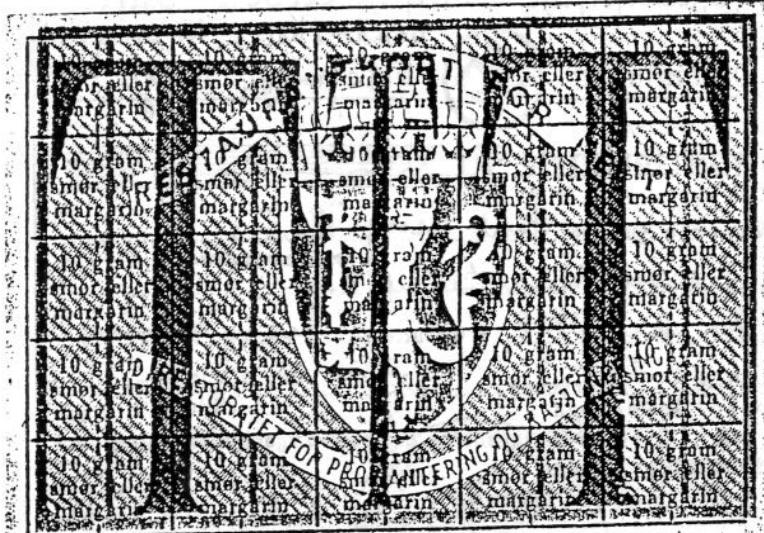
Red striped label affixed to Norwegian railroad cars with
German military equipment

A-4-S

Nationalsozialistische Deutsche Arbeiterpartei Auslands-Organisation		 Landes-Kreis Norwegen Ortsgruppe Bergen																																								
Parteianwärterkarte Nr. 35																																										
Volksgenosse Vor- und Zuname: <u>Paul Georg Wauer</u> Volksgenosse Vor- und Zuname: <u></u> Beruf: <u>Sackbearbeiter beim Schiffs-Kom.</u> Geburtsdatum: <u>26. Mai 1898</u> Geburtsort: <u>Braunschweig</u> Wohnort: <u>Bergen</u> - Wohnung: <u>/</u> Straße Nr. <u></u> <u>Franziger</u> Platz hat am <u>19</u> bei obiger Dienststelle der Auslands-Organisation Antrag um Aufnahme in die NSDAP gestellt. Ort: <u>Oslo</u> 1. Nov. <u>1940</u> <u>C. Spannagel</u> Ortsgruppenleiter / <u>E. Spindeler</u> Kreisgruppenleiter <u>Landeskassenleiter</u> <u>ABGARDE-BERGEN</u>																																										
<small>Form. 45.</small>																																										
<small>Die Parteianwärterkarte ist bei Aushändigung der roten Mitgliedskarte zurückzugeben. Die Parteianwärterkarte ist ungültig, wenn die Beitragswertmarke für den letzten Monat nicht geklebt und ordnungsgemäß entwertet ist.</small>																																										
<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td colspan="4" style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;"> <u>1940</u> </td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;"> <u>Januar</u> </td> <td style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;">  </td> <td style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;">  </td> <td style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;">  </td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;"> <u>Februar</u> </td> <td style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;">  </td> <td style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;">  </td> <td style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;">  </td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;"> <u>März</u> </td> <td style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;">  </td> <td style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;">  </td> <td style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;">  </td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;"> <u>April</u> </td> <td style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;">  </td> <td style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;">  </td> <td style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;">  </td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="4" style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;"> <u>1941</u> </td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;"> <u>September</u> </td> <td style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;">  </td> <td style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;">  </td> <td style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;">  </td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;"> <u>Oktober</u> </td> <td style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;">  </td> <td style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;">  </td> <td style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;">  </td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;"> <u>November</u> </td> <td style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;">  </td> <td style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;">  </td> <td style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;">  </td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;"> <u>Dezember</u> </td> <td style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;">  </td> <td style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;">  </td> <td style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;">  </td> </tr> </table>			<u>1940</u>				<u>Januar</u>				<u>Februar</u>				<u>März</u>				<u>April</u>				<u>1941</u>				<u>September</u>				<u>Oktober</u>				<u>November</u>				<u>Dezember</u>			
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<small>Der Parteianwärter geht seiner Unwirksamkeit zur Aufnahme in die Partei bei Nichtbeachtung der nebenbeschriebenen Vorschriften, perfunkt.</small>																																										

Special red dues tax stamps. Red with green overprint AVSLAND (abroad) and denomination Kr. 4, later Kr. 5, added in ink. Canceled hand in violet. Used in 1940 and 1941.

Collecting Ration Cards is an interesting sideline
These are Noras, cards overprinted with a green "T" = tysk-German
for their use. Spec. Rations office at Reichskommissariat.



Februar 1944.

Butter or margarine



24. körperiode

T³-day
travel
card
for bread

Serie A Mel- og brødkort		for tiden 4. sept. til 1. okt. 1944	
40	40-50-65 25/9-1/10	40	40-50-65 25/9-1/10
40	40-50-65 25/9-1/10	40	40-50-65 25/9-1/10
40	40-50-65 25/9-1/10	40	40-50-65 25/9-1/10
40	Uke 40 brødmerker 160-200-260 25/9-1/10	40	Uke 40 brødmerker 160-200-260 25/9-1/10
40	4 brødmerker 160-200-260 25/9-1/10	40	4 brødmerker 160-200-260 25/9-1/10
40	4 brødmerker 160-200-260 25/9-1/10	40	4 brødmerker 160-200-260 25/9-1/10
39	40-50-65 18/9-24/9	39	40-50-65 18/9-24/9
39	40-50-65 18/9-24/9	39	40-50-65 18/9-24/9
39	40-50-65 18/9-24/9	39	40-50-65 18/9-24/9
39	Uke 39 brødmerker 160-200-260 18/9-24/9	39	Uke 39 brødmerker 160-200-260 18/9-24/9
39	4 brødmerker 160-200-260 18/9-24/9	39	4 brødmerker 160-200-260 18/9-24/9
39	4 brødmerker 160-200-260 18/9-24/9	39	4 brødmerker 160-200-260 18/9-24/9
39	Uke 39 brødmerker 160-200-260 18/9-24/9	39	Uke 39 brødmerker 160-200-260 18/9-24/9
37	4 brødmerker 160-200-260 18/9-24/9	37	4 brødmerker 160-200-260 18/9-24/9
37	4 brødmerker 160-200-260 18/9-24/9	37	4 brødmerker 160-200-260 18/9-24/9
37	4 brødmerker 160-200-260 18/9-24/9	37	4 brødmerker 160-200-260 18/9-24/9
37	Uke 37 brødmerker 160-200-260 18/9-24/9	37	Uke 37 brødmerker 160-200-260 18/9-24/9
37	4 brødmerker 160-200-260 18/9-24/9	37	4 brødmerker 160-200-260 18/9-24/9
37	Uke 37 brødmerker 160-200-260 18/9-24/9	37	Uke 37 brødmerker 160-200-260 18/9-24/9
Næringsdepartementet Avdelingen for proviantering og rationering		Navn:..... Adresse:.....	

Baker
& bread
card

Ration Cards

24. kartongdose

 <p>Næringsdepartementet Avdelingen for proviantering og rasjonering</p>	<p>Kaffeerstatningskort</p> <p>for tiden 4. sept. til 26. nov. 1944</p>	<p>Kortet er bare gyldig når det er stemplet av forsyningssnemda og innehaverens navn og adresse er ført på — På hvert merke tas kjeftet av delen i enhver tid bestemmer. Det kan klippes 2 uker på forsokk. Hvert merke gelder ellers i den tiden det lyder på i de 2 neste uker. Merket gælder ikke om salg, men ikke overdragelse av kort er tillatt.</p>
<p>OSLO 699 FORSYNINGSSNEMND</p>	<p>Salg, ikke overdragelse av kort er tillatt</p>	<p>Navn:</p>
<p>Gjeldende fra 1. januar 1945</p>	<p>Adresse:</p>	<p>Adressen:</p>
<p><i>Coffee substitute card</i></p>		

6. periode for kjøtkort 1. del

 <p>NÆRINGSDEPARTEMENTET Avdelingen for proviantering og rasjonering</p>	<p>TUNGARBEIDERKORT</p>	<p>Kjøpekort for kjøtt m.v. for tungarbeidere</p>
<p>OSLO 699 FORSYNINGSSNEMND</p>	<p>Kortet er bare gyldig når det er stemplet av forsyningssnemda og innehaverens navn, adresse, fødselsdag og år, og forretningsnavn er ført på. For hvert kjøp skal det klippes gyldig merke av innehaverens arbeidsstillslagskort eller ukasjoneringskort. Kjøpet skal dessuten føres på kjøpelisten på kortets baksida. Kjøp bare mot klipp av merke eller bare mot notering på kjøpelisten på listen er forbudt. Nytt kjøpkort leveres ut av forsyningssnemda mot innlevering av det gamle tungarbeiderkort. Kortet kan bare brukes ved kjøp i den forrening hvor innehaveren er innkrevet som fast kunde. Merkene A 41 og B 41 til A 50 og B 50 kan bare brukes etter nærmere bestemmelser av Avdelingen for proviantering og rasjonering. Salg, kjøp eller annen overdragelse av kort er straffbar.</p>	<p>Navn:</p>
<p>Gjeldende fra 1. januar 1945</p>	<p>Adresse:</p>	<p>Adresse:</p>
<p><i>Purchase card for meat etc. for heavy workers</i></p>		

Vendi

Forretningers stempel (navn):

E.M.X. 44. 600 000.

48	45	42	39
47	44	41	38
46	43	40	37
49	46	43	40

	48	45	42
47	44	41	38
46	43	40	37
49	46	43	40

Luren

NORWEGIAN PRISONER OF WAR POSTCARDS, 1942

Frederick A. Brofos

During WWII the captured Allied prisoners of war interned in Germany were placed in special camps. Fortunately, they were quite different from the notorious concentration camps for political prisoners. Treatment was supposed to be guided by the Geneva Convention for P.O.W.s, with help from the Red Cross. The regular troops were often kept in "Stalag" camps and the officers in "Oflag" camps, but sometimes they were together or close by. However, several postcards I have are from a camp simply called "Marlag and Milag Nord". This appears to be a mixture of naval and military prisoners. Interestingly enough, these particular cards were sent from Germany to Norway in 1942, by a Norwegian sailor formerly in British service. He apparently was rescued and interned after his ship was sunk, probably by a U-Boat, and thrown into a camp with other British prisoners. There seems to have been no attempt to separate the different nationalities. The postmarks used were "blind" and gave no clue to the location of the camp. The cards went postage-free as P.O.W. mail and the fronts appear similar to the accompanying illustration.

All mail was examined and stamped with various camp censor marks. One of the cards was additionally marked "Ao", showing that it had passed the German censor office in Oslo. The message, which gives a little insight into things, reads, in translation, "Hallo Mother and Father. Thanks for the letter received today. I saw in the newspaper that Helen had gotten engaged. I should have fixed my teeth in England last year, but I put it off and then we were torpedoed on our last trip. I dont have toothache. Here we think that we will soon be home again. Can you send me some books about fowl - pigs - chickens - and sheep raising, as well as some books by Zane Grey? Of the six others not in the same series which I have received. Got yet a package from Ingeborg. Live well! Regards, Erling".

* This camp was at Tarmstedt, 35 km. N.E. of Bremen.



MILAG NORD, GERMANY.

CHRISTMAS. 1942.

And as the sun sinks in the west,
There's thoughts of those I love the best.
To them, and all, I sincerely send
Christmas Greetings, and append,
The hope, that nineteen forty-three,
A Happy, Good New Year, will be.

Kriegsgefangenenlager

Datum: 16-12-1942

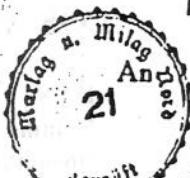


Hælle Annes far. Taaferk... et, fikk dat idag. Så i avisen at
Helene hadde forlevert sitt. Skulde ha reparert min telefon.

it had communicated with home standard.

Kriegsgefangenenpost

Postkarte



Gebührenfrei!



Gute Syste Westhav (Sjeld.)

Absender:

Vor- und Zuname:

Erling Westhav.

Gefangenenummer: 629

Lager-Bezeichnung:

Marlag und Milag Nord

(Milag)

Deutschland (Germany)

Empfangsort:

Colo.

Straße:

Harmegd. 1

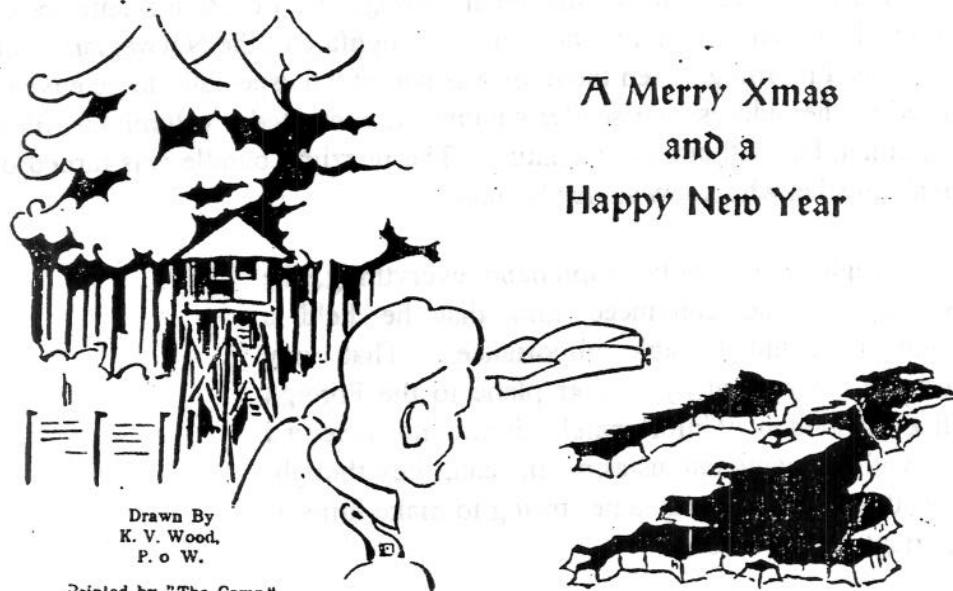
Land:

Norway.

Landesteil (Provinz usw.)

Two other cards, which were sent at Christmas, 1942, have special pictures on the reverse, designed by P.O.W. artists. These were printed by "The Camp" press, apparently a locally operated newspaper. One card shows a guard tower and a prisoner waving to an imaginary map outline of the British Isles, while another pictures barracks and a sunset. The war lasted another 2½ years before dreary prisoners were finally released and sent home.

A Merry Xmas
and a
Happy New Year





LUREN

SCANDINAVIAN PHILATELIC
LIBRARY OF
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA, INC.
LOS ANGELES, CA.

ISSN 0739-0025
Volume 29 Number 11
November 1997
Whole Number 348

THE LETTER THAT WAS TOO DANGEROUS TO MAIL

Frederick A. Brofos

It is to be expected that letters will be censored, especially in wartime. Written material disallowed by the authorities could, depending on the seriousness of the offense, get one arrested, imprisoned, or worse. Any sensible person wishing to safely pass along a treasonable secret message carefully avoided the mails and utilized special couriers.

Late one evening in November, 1939, a man walked quickly through the quiet streets of the Skillebekk residential neighborhood of Oslo. It was dark, cold, and windy. His hat was drawn over his face and his coat collar was turned up. Nearing the building of the British Legation, he slowed down. As he looked around, there was not a soul in sight. Taking a large, thick envelope from under his overcoat, he shoved it through the Legation's letter-box and hastily departed. Soon he had disappeared into the main thoroughfare of the Norwegian capital.

The next morning, when the mail was sorted, an especially large envelope was noticed which carried neither address nor sender's name. It contained a voluminous file of papers, typewritten in German, but without any signature. The puzzling bundle was turned over to Mr. Boyes, the Naval Attaché, who knew some German.

Although he did not comprehend everything, the first pages alone convinced him that he held a document of unbelievable importance. That very afternoon it was sent by courier plane to the Foreign Office in London. Unfortunately, it was not received there with the same enthusiasm. Instead, they thought it was the writings of a dreamer trying to make himself important, or just a hoax.

The Foreign Office named it "The Oslo Report" and after two days, passed it on to the British Secret Service. Eventually it landed on the desk of Dr. Reginald Jones, head of their Scientific Department. He was a physics professor and could hardly believe his eyes at what he was reading. There were descriptions of great rockets developed at a remote research station called Peenemünde, on the Baltic coast, of radio steered glider bombs capable of attacking ships and other targets. There were reports about a German radar system, of poison gas experiments and many other important details of German technical weaponry.



German WWII rockets, smaller than the infamous V-1 and V-2 types.

Was it all an attempt to impress the British into giving up, since Germany was unbeatable? Was the sender really a German patriot, as he indicated, and an opponent of the Nazis? Only a "well-meaning German scientist" could have written it, the experts thought, and it all seemed so precise and well-founded. Nevertheless, the Secret Service leaders gave Jones a deaf ear and refused to take the report seriously. They could not comprehend how one scientist could acquire so much information about basically different projects. The whole document was finally laid aside, marked "for possible later use" and meanwhile nothing was done.

After three years of wasted time, it was proven, one thing after the other, that "The Oslo Report" was entirely correct.

It took over 25 years of wondering who the mysterious author was.

Following much research after the war, it was finally determined to be a certain Dr. Hans Kummerow, a scientist and pacifist working in Berlin. For several years, he had secretly gathered valuable information from his own studies, and from friends in other areas of German industry.

A number of anti-Nazi victims have been commemorated on postage stamps. Several members of the Resistance group of which Dr. Kummerow was a member, have been shown on East German stamps (in 1962 and 1983). However, he himself has not been featured, since he was unknown for so long.

His daring contribution to the Free World was not taken advantage of. The wonderful opportunities had been wasted. Even the Gestapo had apparently not heard of "The Oslo Report". Anyway, once when they arrested and disposed of some 80 members of the Resistance, Dr. Kummerow among them, they were unaware of his importance or he might have undergone special tortures.



DDR stamp showing an executed couple from the same Resistance group as Dr. Kummerow.

As it was, he was considered just another "enemy of the regime" and, as the noose tightened around his neck, the brave Dr. Kummerow died, happily not knowing that his vital scientific data had been ignored by the Allies. Sometimes the truth is thought to be too good to be true.

A Change of Direction

Frederick A. Brofos

This is a remarkable story of World War II, about a rocket fired off from Germany, which unexpectedly crashed in Sweden.

During the Nazi era, a giant rocket research center was established by the Germans. This closely guarded secret city was located at Peenemünde in Pommerania, on the coast of the Baltic sea.

On June 13, 1944, just a week before the Normandy invasion started, a very special type of V-2 rocket was launched from this base. It carried a new kind of steering system, which could control the flight direction from the ground. However, half a minute after the start, clouds came between the rocket and its operator. To avoid a possible crash on the German mainland, the engineer turned the rocket a bit too far Northwards. Soon it was flying in the direction of neutral Sweden. Getting out of control, it finally blew up and larger and smaller pieces rained down near the Swedish city of Kalmar.

The German legation at Stockholm was promptly notified of the mistake. They demanded that the Swedish Government immediately turn over to them all pieces of the secret rocket. Instead, however, they protested directly to Hitler. At first he had a fit, but later commented: "It is quite good that the Swedes realize that we can shoot from Germany into their country. Then they will be more ready for negotiations!"

Agents of the British Secret Service in Sweden, having heard of the German rocket crash, naturally made inquiries and requests. The Swedish Government eventually decided to let the British have the rocket remains. A transport plane flown by the well-known Polar explorer, the Norwegian-American Col. Bernt Balchen, brought them to England. These broken parts were later supplemented by a complete rocket, spirited out of Poland. Thus the Allies got to closely study a V-2 rocket which, unlike the V-1, had been too fast to shoot down.

It is interesting to recall that long ago, in the 17th Century, the whole territory from Stralsund to Peenemünde had been conquered and annexed by the war-like Swedish King Gustav Adolf. After a number of years, the Swedes were eventually chased out again. The land was rather wild and useless anyway. It was deserted except for fishermen until another Adolf, in the 20th Century, found a new use for it.

The site of the German rocket base was accidentally discovered by the Allies from aerial photographs. These had been taken by chance over the area by a pilot using up the end of a film roll. Peenemünde became thereafter a prime target and was destroyed by bombs several times over, until the exasperated Germans were forced to move their rocket manufacture elsewhere and underground.

Adolf Hitler has appeared many times on postage stamps but, oddly enough, never on coins. King Gustav Adolf has appeared on both. He ruled the same Pommerania three centuries before. He is shown with a laurel wreath on his head, like a Roman emperor, on three Swedish stamps. They were issued in 1920 to mark the tercentenary of the



Swedish Post running between Stockholm and Hamburg. Note the House of Vasa emblem in the upper-left corner of the stamps. In 1932, a set of three stamps pictured the equestrian death scene of the king at the Battle of Lützen in 1632.

Illustrated are some of these stamps, providing just the necessary philatelic ingredient permitting this little-known tale to be told here.



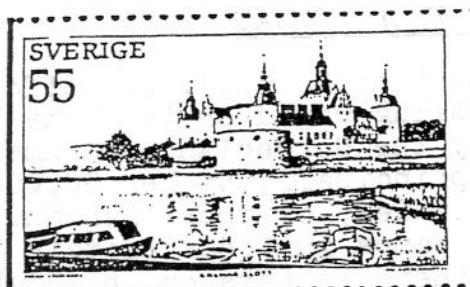
ADOLF H.



ROCKETS AWAY



GUSTAV ADOLF



KALMAR CASTLE

-175-



NORWEGIAN OFFICIAL PHOTO NO.L.4063.

POSTAGE STAMPS FOR FREE NORWAY.

Postage stamps depicting Norway's war effort and the struggle which is being waged on the Home Front have now been printed by the Norwegian Government in London. They will be used principally by her 30,000 seamen, and, in certain circumstances, by those men and women in Norwegian military camps in Great Britain and Canada. When the men post their letters on the High Seas, they will affix these new stamps - stamps which are a tangible symbol of Free Norway, and when Norway is liberated these stamps will supercede those that bear the portrait of a traitor.

The photograph distributed for press use in London in December, 1942, to publicize the January 1, 1943, issuance of the Norwegian London Issue of six values.