

POLISH RED CROSS:

DACHAU CONCENTRATION CAMP STAMPS.

Following the end of the Second World War, on 1st August 1945, The Red Cross & The Polish Committee for DACHAU-ALLACH issued 25Rpf Stamps in Sheets of 25, inscribed "POCZTA" (Postage) which appeared to be POSTAGE Stamps:



The stamps are UNGUMMED & had only strictly limited Postal Validity.

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Block of four Dachau-Allach
25Pf stamps, with special
postmark:



This is a special 1947 Munich
Post Office cancellation for a local
exhibition commemorating the interned
Poles in Germany during World War II.

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Three months after the 'Issue' of the 25Rpf Blue stamp, a Miniature Sheet with 6 stamps making a total Nominal (Face) Value of RM2.85pf was also issued. The design was the same as the Original 25Rpf, and there were 5 new stamps included. The Sheet sold for RM10.00pf, the additional RM7.15pf being for the Victims of Dachau Concentration - Camp:

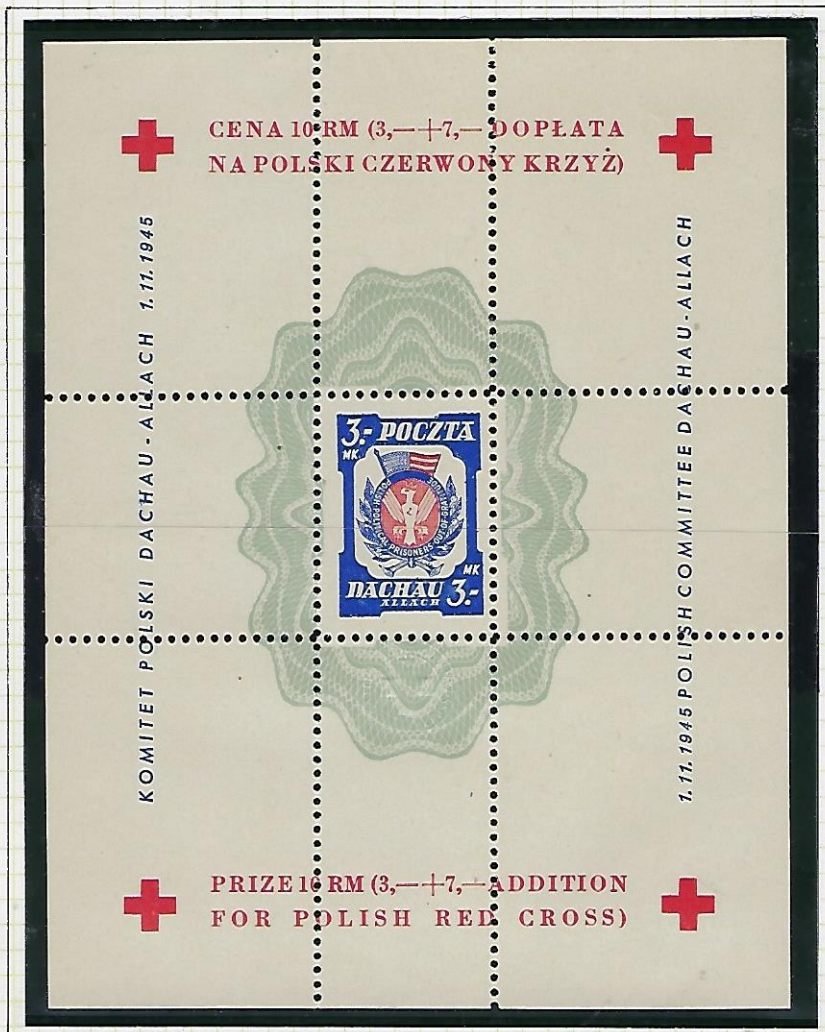


Although inscribed "POCZTA", the validity of these stamps was only of a 'Local' Nature, with the Letter being posted in the Vicinity of the Camp, and addressed to either Germany or Austria. The surcharge of RM7.15pf made the likelihood of the stamps being used for Postage remote:

The Sheet of 6 was Un-gummed, & was designed to be left un-separated.

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At the same time as the Sheet of 6 Stamps, a Sheet containing only a Single RM3.00pf Stamp was issued. This sheet was comprised of a very ornate 'Banknote' design surrounding the RM3.00pf Stamp, together with inscriptions in Red and Blue. In the RM3.00pf Stamp, the 'Flag' of the United States of America becomes more apparent in the Centre..



Closer inspection of the 'POLISH EAGLE' in the very centre reveals a rather less than POLISH Design, again, the influence of the USA is apparent. The Stamps all bear the inscription "POLISH POLITICAL PRISONERS * OUT OF GRATITUDE". Although Blatantly "PHILATELIC" in origin, these stamps performed a very real service in raising hard currency to aid the victims of Dachau-Allach Camp: