

POLISH POST OFFICES ABROAD.

CONSTANTINOPLE.

Issues for franking correspondence handed in to the Polish Consulate at Constantinople, Turkey:

(1) May, 1919: Stamps of Poland
Overprinted in dull carmine:

LEVANT

No watermark.
Perf. 11½.



3f brown



5f yellow-green



10f purple



15f lake



20f blue



25f olive



50f green



1m black-violet



1.50m green



2m brown



2.50m red-brown



5m violet

(2) 25 May, 1921: Polish stamps with new red-brown overprints:



No watermark.
Perf.



1m carmine



2m green



3m pale blue



4m rose



6m rose-carmine



10m vermilion



20m green

The Polish Post Office in Constantinople was closed down on 15/2/22 under the terms of the Treaty of Lausanne. Although ready for use, this issue did not reach postal usage. Stamps which show postmarks have been cancelled to order.

PORT GDAŃSK.

Gdańsk (Danzig in German) is a historically Polish City, and the principal Port of Poland at the mouth of the Wisła, the most important river of Poland; The City had been gradually brought under German control ever since the establishment of the Teutonic Knights on the Baltic coast. After Poland's recovery of its national independence toward the end of World War I, Gdańsk was declared an Independent City, having been heavily infiltrated by an increasingly German population. However, the Poles operated a postal service with a Post Office by the harbour. Currency: 100 Groszy = 1 Złoty.

5 Jan. 1925: Polish Stamps of 1 May - 1 Oct. 1924, overprinted "PORT/GDAŃSK":



1gr yellow-brown



2gr grey-brown.



3gr orange.



5gr sage-green



10gr blue-green.



15gr scarlet.



20gr light blue



25gr claret.



30gr bright violet



40gr slate.



50gr magenta

Quantities: 1gr 398,000; 2gr 500,000; 3gr 490,000; 5gr and 10gr 487,000; 15gr 485,000; 20gr 497,000; 25gr 495,000; 30gr 500,000; 40gr 444,000; 50gr 500,000.

Note: Because the original Polish stamps had to be re-printed for this issue, there are slight differences in colour with the original Polish stamps.

PORT GDANSK

POLECUNY.

6,
JWPan

Leon Babiński

Radca Prawny Ministerstwa Spraw Zagranicznych

R POLSKI URZĄD P.T. №3
GDANSK
Nr. 990 a

Warszawa.

Min. Spraw Zagranicznych.

ul. Wierzbowa.



A rare Registered Cover, sent from Gdańsk to Warsaw on 16/2/25 using seven stamps of the First Series of Port Gdańsk stamps on Front (1gr - 20gr) plus two on Back (25 and 30gr), the 40gr and 50gr not being necessary for correct postage.

PORT GDANSK



A rare Registered Cover, sent from Gdańsk to Warsaw on 16/2/25 using seven stamps of the First Series of Port Gdańsk stamps on Front (1gr - 20gr) plus two on Back (25 and 30gr), the 40gr and 50gr not being necessary for correct postage.



11 Nov. 1938: 20th Anniversary of Poland's Regained Independence. No overprint, but a specially designed issue for PORT GDANSK, by W. Boratynski, and printed recess by Govt. Printing Works, Warsaw. No watermark. Perf. $12\frac{1}{2}$ x 13.

12 April, 1926: Types I of two 1925-27 stamps overprinted with "PORT/GDAŃSK"
Type 1 (as previously, 7.1mm high):

**PORT
GDAŃSK**



5gr green:
Town Hall, Poznań,
(Type I)



10gr violet:
King Sigismund Vasa
Column, Warsaw,
(Type I).

Quantities: 200,220 stamps of the 5gr and 10gr each.

12 April, 1926: Type I of the 15gr 1925-27 stamps overprinted with "PORT/GDAŃSK"
Type 2 (thicker than the first type, and 8.1mm high instead of only 7.1mm):

**PORT
GDAŃSK**



15gr carmine:
Wawel Castle, Cracow
(Type I).

Quantity: 200,220 (as for the 5 and 10gr overprints of Type 1 shown at top).

1926 - 29: Polish Stamps overprinted "PORT/GDAŃSK" Type 2 (thicker than the first type, and 8.1mm high):

**PORT
GDAŃSK**



5gr green:
Town Hall, Poznań,
(Type II)



10gr violet:
King Sigismund Vasa
Column, Warsaw.
(Type II).



15gr carmine:
Wawel Castle, Cracow
(Type II).



20gr carmine:
Galleon.
(Issued 15.2.28).



25gr yellow-brown:
Marshal Piłsudski.
(Issued 15.2.28).



(used)



1zł slate-black/cream:
President Mościcki.
(Issued 30.11.29)

Quantities: 5gr 1,200,000; 10gr 1,160,000; 15gr 1,013,500; 20gr 810,000;
25gr 1,020,000; 1zł 181,200.

28 May 1929: Polish Stamps Overprinted with "PORT/GDAŃSK" Type 3 (in heavy lettering like Type 2, but smaller):

**PORT
GDAŃSK**



5gr violet:
Polish
Coat of Arms



10gr green:
Polish
Coat of Arms
(issued 1930)



15gr deep blue:
King Jan III
Sobieski
(issued 5.1.30)



25gr red-brown:
Polish
Coat of Arms

Quantities: 5gr 2,606,950; 10gr 1,012,350; 15gr 777,300; 25gr 4,273,550.

1 July 1933: Polish Stamp (Pres. Mościcki) Overprinted with "PORT/GDAŃSK" Type 4 (vertical, in the margins, so as to keep the President's portrait free from being overprinted):

Perf. 11 $\frac{1}{2}$.

**PORT
GDAŃSK**



1zł slate-black
/cream:
President Mościcki.

Quantity: 181,200.

22 Sept. 1934 - 1935: Polish stamps in new Coat of Arms design overprinted with "PORT / GDAŃSK" Type 3 (as before, in the 28 May 1929 issue):

**PORT
GDAŃSK**



5gr purple-violet:
New Arms Design.
(Iss.22.9.34).



10gr green:
New Arms Design.
(Iss.30.10.35)



15gr claret:
New Arms Design.
(Iss.22.9.34)

Ditto, colour variations



5gr grey-violet:
New Arms Design.

Quantities: 5gr 322,600 (both varieties together); 10gr 54,000; 15gr 529,950.

1936 - 1937: Polish stamps of the 1935-37 Various Views, Ship and Buildings Issue overprinted with "PORT GDAŃSK" Type 5:

PORT GDAŃSK

(a): Two stamps of this issue printed type:



5gr violet-blue:
Pieskowa Skała,
("Dog's Rock")
near Cracow.



15gr greenish blue:
M.S. "Piłsudski".

Quantities: 5gr 205,000; 15gr 363,500.

1936 - 1937 (Contd.): Polish stamps of the 1935-37 Various Views, Ship and Buildings Issue overprinted with "PORT GDANSK" Type 5:

(b): Stamps of this issue printed recess:



5gr violet:
Jaśna Góra Monastery
at Częstochowa.
(Iss. 5.6.37).



15gr brown-lake:
University
of Lwów.
(Iss. 5.6.37).



25gr deep blue-green:
Belvedere Palace,
Warsaw.
(Iss. 10.9.36).

Note: This stamp is of
Plate 1: 28.3 x 21.3
mm.

Of the 25gr there is a second, larger Plate 2:

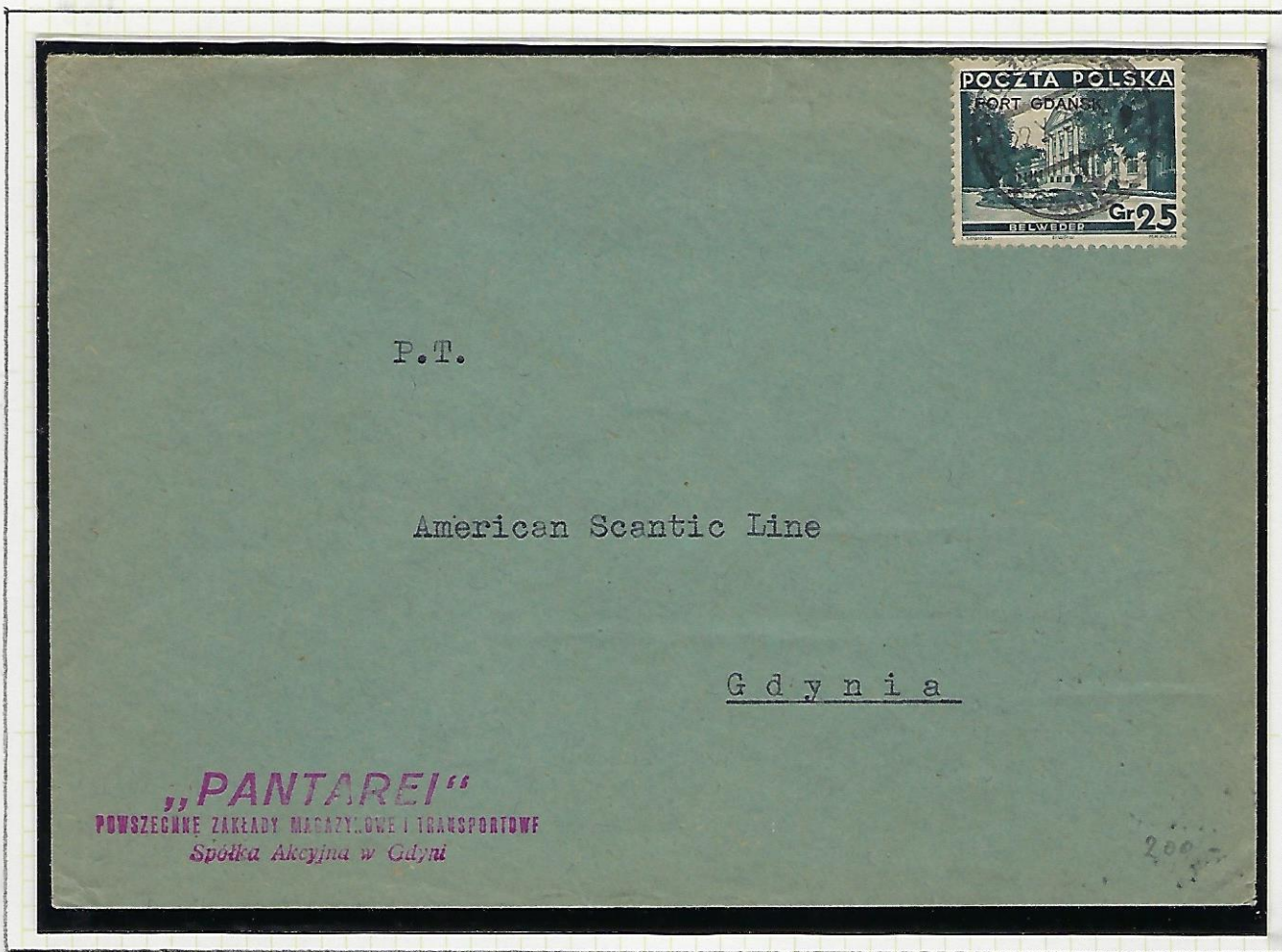


25gr deep blue-green:
Belvedere Palace,
Warsaw.

Note: This stamp is of
Plate 2: 28.5 x 22mm.

Quantities: 5gr 567,500; 15gr 400,000; 25gr 969,500 (both plates combined).

1936 - 1937: Polish stamps of the 1935-37 Various Views overprinted with
"PORT GDAŃSK" Type 5:



Cover sent 22.X.38 from Gdańsk to the new Polish port city of Gdynia, specially constructed by Poland on Polish soil to the north of "The Free City of Gdańsk" because the City Government of Gdańsk was run by Germans who were increasingly more hostile to Poland as the ethnic Germans in the "Free City" became more and more taken in by Hitler's Nazi party. The Polish population of Gdańsk, too, became more and more antagonised by the German ruling class.

This cover uses a single 25gr stamp of plate 2, i.e. of 28.5 x 22 mm.

In 1939 Gdańsk sought and got union with Nazi Germany, which was also used by Hitler to attack Poland, thereby starting World War II. When in 1945 Nazi Germany had been defeated and Hitler had committed suicide, virtually all German settlers in Gdańsk fled the almost completely devastated city, seeking to reach Germany proper, west of the Odra River. The handful of Germans still remaining were expelled and after World War II Poland spent many years reconstructing their recovered principal Port City, which is now twice as large as before, beautifully rebuilt and expanded, and having an approximately 100% Polish population.