

UPPER SILESIA, Contd.

14 - 19 Febr. 1920: OFFICIAL SERVICE: Issue of the International Plebiscite Committee (C.I.H.S., "Commission Internationale de Haute Silésie"):

III: Overprint on German "Aid for Wounded Soldiers" Stamps (Two stamps = Overprint in blue):

(a) Authentication by Richter:



10 + 5 (Pf):
carmine-red.



15 + 5 (Pf):
blackish violet.

(b) Authentication by Haertel ("GEPRÜFT M. HAERTEL"):



10 + 5 (Pf):
carmine-red.



15 + 5 (Pf):
blackish violet.

Quantities: 10 + 5 and 15 + 5Pf: 60 each.

There are numerous forgeries of these stamps (abt. 30 different types), and reliable authentication is absolutely necessary.

The Michel Germany Specialist Catalogue (1992, p.385) warns that authentications by "Haertel" and "Miller" definitely require re-authentication. The bottom pair of these stamps show the authenticator's marks "which are positioned correctly in LR Corner" but they are by M. Haertel!

UPPER SILESIA, Contd.

14 - 19 Febr. 1920: OFFICIAL SERVICE: Issue of the International Plebiscite Committee (C.I.H.S., Commission Internationale de Haute Silésie):

IV: Same overprint on German stamps in Red. (Six stamps):



5 (Pf):
deep blue-green.



15 (Pf):
blackish violet.



20 (Pf):
violet-blue.



40 (Pf):
red-carmine and
black.



75 (Pf):
dark green and
black.



15 (Pf):
dark brown and
green-blue.

Quantities: 5Pf 70; 15 and 20Pf 200 each; 40 and 75Pf 10 each; 15Pf (II) 100.

There are numerous forgeries of these stamps (abt. 30 different types), and reliable authentications are required. This set has been authenticated by Richter.

UPPER SILESIA, Contd.

14 - 19 Febr. 1920: OFFICIAL SERVICE: Issues of the International Plebiscite Committee (C.I.H.S., "Commission Internationale de Haute Silésie"):

II: Overprint on German Weimar National Assembly Stamps (Four stamps - Overprint in blue):

(a) Authentication by Richter:



10 (Pf):
carmine-red.



15 (Pf):
dark brown &
green-blue.



25 (Pf):
green & red.



30 (Pf):
lilac & carmine.

(b) Authentication by Haertel ("GEPRÜFT M. HAERTEL"):



10 (Pf):
carmine-red:



15 (Pf): dark brown & green-blue.



25 (Pf): green & red.



30 (Pf): lilac & carmine.

Quantities: 10Pf 1700; 15Pf 400; 25Pf 150; 30Pf 460.

There are numerous forgeries (abt. 30 different types) of these overprints, and reliable authentication is absolutely necessary.

The Michel Germany Specialist Catalogue (1992, p.385) warns that authentications by "Haertel" and "Müller" definitely require re-authentication.

The bottom set of these stamps show the authenticator's marks "which are positioned correctly in the LR Corner", but they are by M. Haertel!

UPPER SILESIA, Contd.

20 March, 1920: Plebiscite Stamps: Definitive Issue stamps overprinted in black or red as follows (for the small-size stamps):
Eleven stamps in total.

Plébiscite
20 mars
1921

The 10, 15, 20, and 30Pf are overprinted in black; 25 and 40Pf in red.



10 Pf:
vermillion



15 Pf:
violet



20 Pf:
blue



25 Pf:
brown



30 Pf:
orange



40 Pf:
olive-green

The large-size values were overprinted as follows:

Plébiscite
20 mars 1921

The 50Pf was overprinted in red; the others in black.



50 Pf:
dark grey



60 Pf:
blue



75 Pf:
green



80 Pf:
red-brown



1 Mark:
lilac-red

Quantities: abt. 200,000 each.

14 - 19 Febr. 1920: OFFICIAL SERVICE: Issues of the International Plebiscite Commission (C.I.H.S., "Commission Internationale de Haute Silésie"):

I: German Stamps with Hand-stamped Overprints in Blue (18 stamps):



2 (Pf):
lt. grey-olive



2½ (Pf):
olive-grey



3 (Pf):
brown



5 (Pf):
bluish green.



7½ (Pf):
orange.



10 (Pf):
carmine



15 (Pf):
dark violet.



20 (Pf):
blue.



25 (Pf):
red-orange &
black



30 (Pf):
orange and
black.



35 (Pf):
red-brown.



40 (Pf):
carmine & black



50 (Pf):
violet-purple
& black on yellow



60 (Pf):
dark lilac



75 (Pf):
green & black



80 (Pf):
carmine & black
on rose.



1 Mk.:
red.



2 Mk.:
blue.

Quantities: 2Pf 170; 2½Pf 1380; 3Pf 1400; 5Pf 2220; 7½Pf 1660; 10Pf 1900; 15Pf 2400; 20Pf 2330; 25Pf 40 only; 30Pf 1800; 35Pf 1850; 40Pf 1760; 50Pf 1600; 60Pf 1550; 75Pf 1760; 80Pf 40 only; 1Mk 320; 2Mk 150.

There are numerous forgeries of these overprints (abt. 30 different ones), and reliable authentication is absolutely necessary. These have been authenticated by Richter.

KWIDZYN, Contd.

April-May, 1920: Stop-Gap Emergency Issue of the Allied Flebiscite Commission. German Germania stamps and a contemporary 1 Mk red stamp overprinted by the Groll Printing Works in Kwidzyn, as follows: "Commission / Interalliée / Marienwerder":



Perf. 14 x 14½.

Watermark: vertical diamonds.

Overprints in black.

Needed because of faulty distribution and shortages because of theft of the Italian-printed stamps en route.

(1): Main Issue:



5Pf green



20Pf violet-blue



50Pf violet/
black on salmon
coloured paper.



75Pf deep green/
black



80Pf carmine/
black on rose
coloured paper.

GÓRNY ŚLĄSK (UPPER SILESIA)

April 1920: OFFICIAL SERVICE: German Official Service Stamps Overprinted C.G.H.S. (Commission de Gouvernement de Haute Silésie). Overprints by the R.Raab printing works at Opole.

(1): Opt. on Stamps with Control Number "21"; Watermark Diamonds.



5 (Pf):
green.
(overprint
displaced)



10 (Pf):
rose.



15 (Pf):
lilac-brown.



20 (Pf):
violet-blue.
(overprint
displaced)



30 (Pf):
orange on
salmon.



50 Pf:
lilac on salmon.
(overprint
displaced)

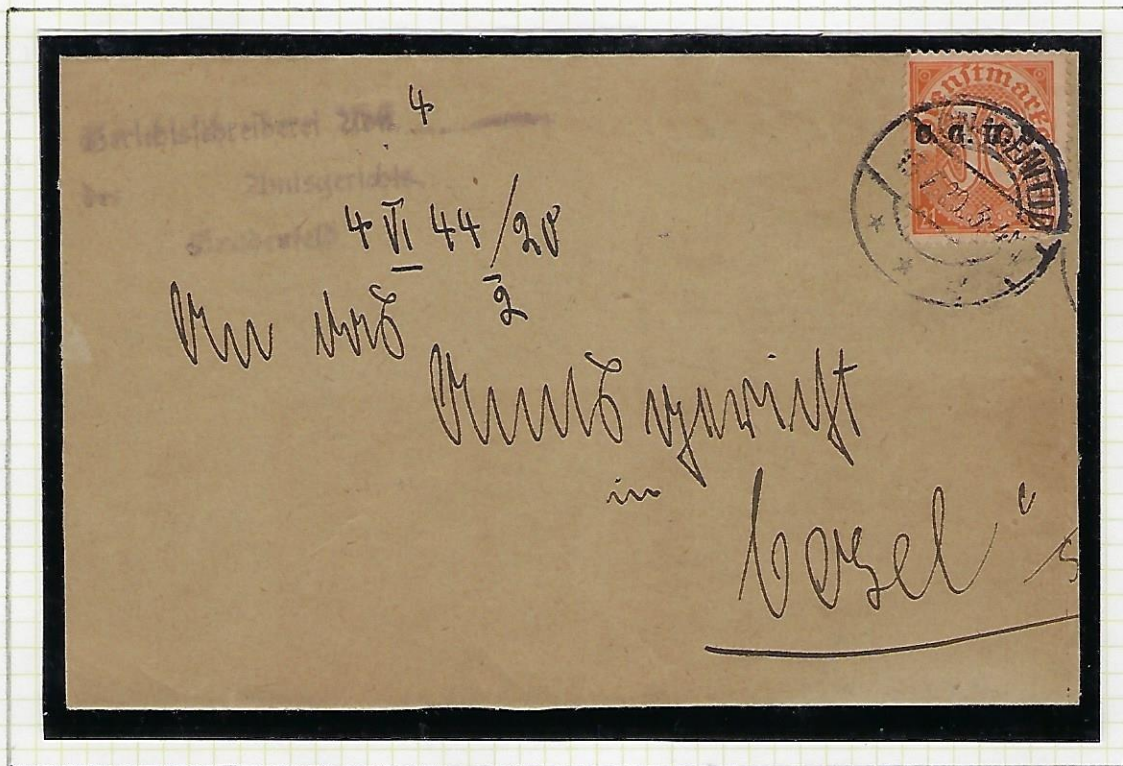


1 Mk:
vermillion on salmon.

Notes: This overprint was meant to be printed horizontally, but in fact vertical prints (in both directions) are easily as common. In addition there are double, inverted, double inverted, and displaced overprints which in some cases are as common as the "proper" horizontals. (See subsequent pages).

GÓRNY ŚLĄSK (UPPER SILESIA)

April 1920: OFFICIAL SERVICE: German Official Service Stamps Overprinted
C.G.H.S., contd.



Cover of official letter with Official Service stamp Mi5 sent 13.7.20 from Pawłowiczki ("Gnadenfeld" in German!), a small village, to Koźle ("Cosel" in German but now part of the considerable industrial town of Kędzierzyn-Koźle. The distance from Pawłowicze to Koźle is only 12km in N.E. direction. Pawłowiczki is also some 48km to the south (very slightly easterly) of the provincial capital of Opole, which now has a purely Polish population (in 1993) of 130,000. Kędzierzyn-Koźle now has some 75,000. In 1920, after many long years of German occupation and intensive Germanisation both Opole and Kędzierzyn-Koźle were less than half as large, but still had Polish majorities. Yet German intimidation, propaganda and economic threats saw to it that after the plebiscite this whole area in Silesia was awarded to Germany. Only at the end of World War II was it returned to Poland.

GÓRNY ŚLĄSK (UPPER SILESIA)

April 1920: OFFICIAL SERVICE: German Official Service Stamps Overprinted C.G.H.S. (Commission de Gouvernement de Haute Silésie). Overprints by the R.Raab printing works at Opole in black typo.

(2): Opt. on Stamps without Control Number; Watermark Diamonds.



5 (Pf):
green



10 (Pf):
rose



15 (Pf):
lilac-brown.



20 (Pf):
violet-blue.



30 (Pf):
orange on salmon



40 (Pf):
carmine.



50 Pf:
lilac on salmon.



60 (Pf):
claret



1 Mk:
vermillion on
salmon



1.25 Mk:
blue on yellow



2 Mk:
blue



5 Mk:
brown-violet
on yellow

(3): Opt. on Stamp without Control Number, but New Watermark Wafers.



2 Mk:
blue.

GÓRNY ŚLĄSK (UPPER SILESIA)

April, 1920: OFFICIAL SERVICE, Contd.

VERTICAL OVERPRINTS (Read Top to Bottom).

(1): Opt. on Stamps with Control Number "21"; Watermark Diamonds.



5 (Pf):
green



10 (Pf):
rose



15 (Pf):
lilac-brown.



20 (Pf):
violet-blue.



30 (Pf):
orange on
salmon



50 Pf:
lilac on salmon



1 Mk:
vermilion on
salmon

GÓRNY ŚLĄSK (UPPOER SILESIA)

April, 1920: OFFICIAL SERVICE, Contd.

VERTICAL OVERPRINTS (Read Top to Bottom).

(2): Opt. on Stamps without Control Number. Watermark Diamonds.



5 (Pf):
green



10 (Pf):
rose.



15 (Pf):
lilac-brown.



20 (Pf):
violet-blue.



30 (Pf):
orange on salmon



40 (Pf):
carmine.



50 Pf:
lilac on salmon



60 (Pf):
claret



1 Mk:
vermilion on
salmon



1.25 Mk:
blue on yellow



2 Mk:
blue



5 Mk:
brown-violet
on yellow

(3): Ovpt. on Stamp without Control Number. but New Watermark Wafers.



2 Mk:
blue.