



Because of a large number of "guest workers" from Belgium and Northern France, the German authorities prepared special postal cards for their use. The first version was issued on 1 December 1916 with special inscription at the top. (The marking in red reading "Zivilarbeitersendung" was a non-postal handstamp but still of interest in that it was applied by local military authorities on cards sent by civil workers.)





Several other versions of the Civilian Workers Cards were printed on chalky paper. The first, issued in August 1917, had the lines for the return address reading vertically. One for inbound messages was issued in May 1918 with the inscriptions in blue. The final card, issued in September 1918, was for outbound messages but the lines for the return address were horizontal.



# THE EASTERN FRONT

## POLAND

Although they were able to occupy small areas in the western part of Russian Poland, the primary German effort on the Eastern Front in 1914 was defensive, i.e. to stem the Russian advances in East Prussia and Austrian Galicia. However, a successful breakthrough at Gorlice in the following year resulted in the capture of Warsaw on 5 August 1915 and forced the Russian army to retreat from the rest of Poland by the end of September, which then remained under German and Austro-Hungarian occupation for the balance of the war.

Kaiserlich Deutsches Generalgouvernement Warschau.  
Abteilung Polnische Wehrmacht.

Dienstbrief.



*Militär-Gouverneur*

Geheimsache.

Nr. 632

Lodz 28. IX Der Kaiserlich Deutsche  
Gerichtsarzt, Lodz, *Waldgaff*

*Liebesvater Regalbohrer!*

*Adrian sein Anwalt soll  
offensivem Weibinger*

*von L. u. Kuzubärgzin off*

*Bestandteil. In Kopie*

*vielleicht für sie, habet*

*schuldig, Kuzubärgzin*

*auf ev. Auf baldigst*

*Waldgaff - Jagdpost*

*Waldgaff*



*Waldgaff*

*Kuzubärgzin*

*Waldgaff*

*Waldgaff*

*Waldgaff*

*Waldgaff*

*Waldgaff*

Warschau (Warsaw)  
Lodz

Official cachets of various military units and agencies were used during the extended occupation period, as indicated by the examples shown above for the two most important cities of German-occupied Poland.



POLAND

Czenstochau  
Grojec  
Kalisch



Mail with official military or administrative cachets exists from many Polish cities and towns during the occupation, of which some representative examples are shown above.



Trial Overprints reading "Poland"



Issued Stamps



Desiring a resumption of civil mail service in occupied Poland, the authorities prepared a set of trial overprints reading "Poland." However, it was considered confusing in that these would not be used in Austrian or German Poland. Therefore, when the new stamps were issued on 12 May 1915, they were overprinted "Russian Poland."







POLAND

Postage Stamps



**Paul R. Schwerdtner**



Kaiserliche  
 Polizei-Direktion  
 für das Industrie-Gebiet  
 des Kreises Bendzin  
 in Sosnowice

*An*



*das Dänische rote Kreuz*

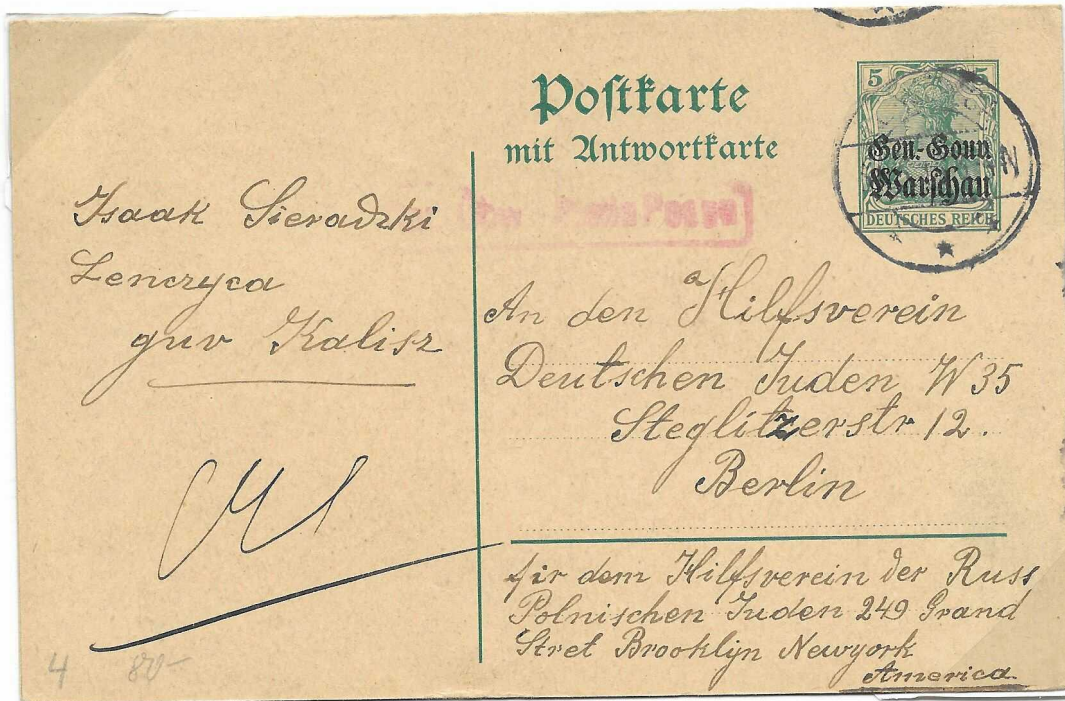


Reichsdienstsache!

*in Copenhagen*  
*Dänemark*

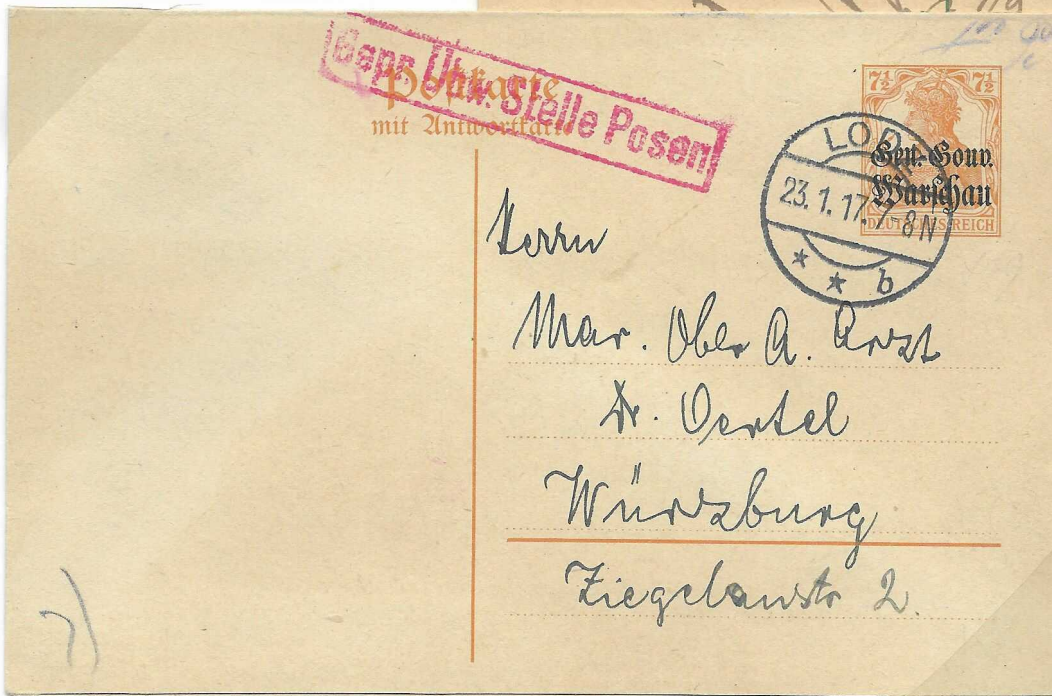
In 1916, administrative responsibilities for Russian Poland were finalized, with Germany in charge of the northern part of the territory (known as the General Government Warsaw) and the Austro-Hungarians the southern area (known as the General Government Lublin). On this basis, a second German set overprinted with the new name of the administrative region, was issued on 1 August 1916. Note that the 15 pfennig value comes in two colors.





In 1916, cards with the "Gen. Gouv. Warschau" overprints were provided on 5 pfennig single and double cards in the version with the "Postkarte" to the right of the centerline.





A second series of cards with "Gen. Gouv. Warschau" overprints was issued later in 1916. These had the inscription "Postkarte" above the centerline.



*Kerr  
Josef Finowasser*



Oepriift. Zu befür  
Überwachungsstelle

Absender:  
Odesilatel:  
Nadawca:  
Посылающий:  
Mittente:  
Posiljatelj:  
Posiljac:  
Presenterator:



Feldpostkarte.



M. Płonowska pinx.

*podziękowania  
za listy i  
prezenty*

*wadawa Gwarancji 47  
2-p.p. II. Baon 7 Gornj  
ostrow*



Wydawnictwo Sędziów Marzy Polskich w Krakowie



*W. S. S. d. a  
Ulica Grodzka  
parter*

*3 p. b. k. o. n. a  
1/2 p. b. k. o. n. a  
1/2 p. b. k. o. n. a*

Ser. 121/26.

The German postal service only delivered mail between post offices. Thus, an opportunity was provided for local delivery services, which were created in Warsaw and several other communities. The Warsaw town council established such its service on 23 September 1915. Ten different local stamps, plus numerous varieties with different color overprints, were used until 20 October 1916. After that date, stamps were discontinued and a tax paid marking in various denominations was applied to the cards and letters to be delivered.





In Lodz, the local delivery service was organized by the volunteer firefighters. The payment of the 5 pfennig delivery fee was attested by the application of a cachet inscribed "L.F.F. (Lodzner Freiwillige Feuerwehr)." The first version of this marking had a double ring, but later a single ring was introduced.



POLAND

Nowo-Georgiewsk  
Nowo Radomsk  
Siedlce

Feldpost



an  
Das Königliche  
Kriegsministerium B.1

Einzeichnen.

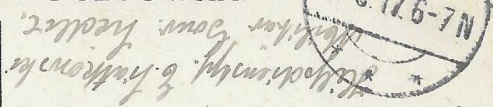


Feldpost  
Siedlce  
31. 8. 15. 5-6 N  
Nr. 146  
Bahnhof Nowo Radomsk  
Herrn Waff  
in Gumburg  
(Abbeeren)  
Hr. B. Schöninger

POSTKARTE.—POCZTÓWKA.

Liebe Cousine, Tante  
u. liebe Onkel!

Vielleicht von hier wird  
die postliche Gewissheit. Ich  
fühle mich sehr gut, und  
hoffe für eine kurze  
Zeit, und man kann mich  
in Küstern Land sehen.  
Hoffe bald wieder von  
hier von und wird mich  
malo vielleicht begrüßen.  
Für die Liebe und Liebe  
Liebe



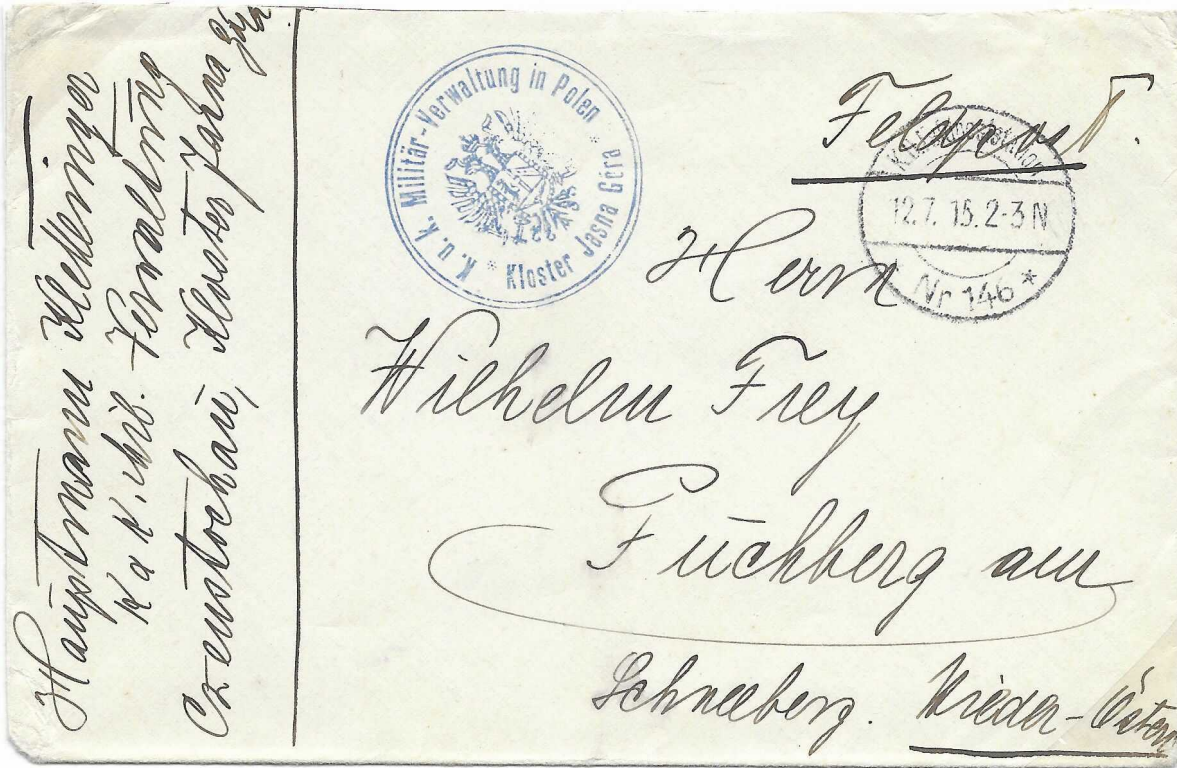
Luise Kerschel

Berlin  
Poststr. 25 III

Maklad. St. A. Canevol w Siedlcach.

Additional examples of official military or administrative cachets are shown above.





The town of Czestochowa and the nearby Monastery of Jasna Gora were in the German zone of occupation. However, for reasons of religious sensitivity, it was decided that Roman Catholic Austrians rather than Protestant Prussians should be assigned to guard the institution. Thus was created the anomaly of the Jasna Gora Enclave with an Austrian military presence within the area of the General Government Warsaw. Special cachets exist.











# Militärkreisamt Wilna-Stadt

Stadtkreiskasse

An

Feldpost



den Stadtmagistrat

in

S a a r b r ü c k e n

*Feldpost*



*Kommune*



No. 178 Verlag Georg Preuss, Berlin S. 14

*Handwritten text in German script, partially obscured by stamps and other markings.*



*Handwritten address:*  
Frau  
Hedwig Rehfeld,  
Berlin W.  
Lützowstr. 4.

Representative cachets related to administrative activities in Vilnius by the German occupation forces.



# ATTEST

PROF. DR. DIETER HOCHSTÄDTER

Bundesprüfer

Mitglied im Bund der philatelistischen Prüfer e. V. des BDPh und des APHV  
D-6380 Bad Homburg v.d.H., Heidweg 3, Tel. 06172/20877

Nr. 175

Datum 5. Juli 1981

## DEUTSCHE POST IN POLEN

*Druckprobe der Reichsdruckerei,  
Germania-Marken mit waagerechtem  
Aufdruck 'Polen' in Frakturschrift.*

*Es handelt sich um nicht-verausgabte  
Probendrucke in den Wertstufen zu  
3, 5, 10, 20, 30 und 60 Pfg.*

*Alle Werte zeichnen sich dadurch aus,  
daß sie rückseitig am Markenoberrand  
mit einem dreiseitig gezähntem Papier-  
streifen von ca. 4-5 mm Breite beklebt  
wurden.*

*Die Probendrucke wurden von mir nicht  
signiert.*

