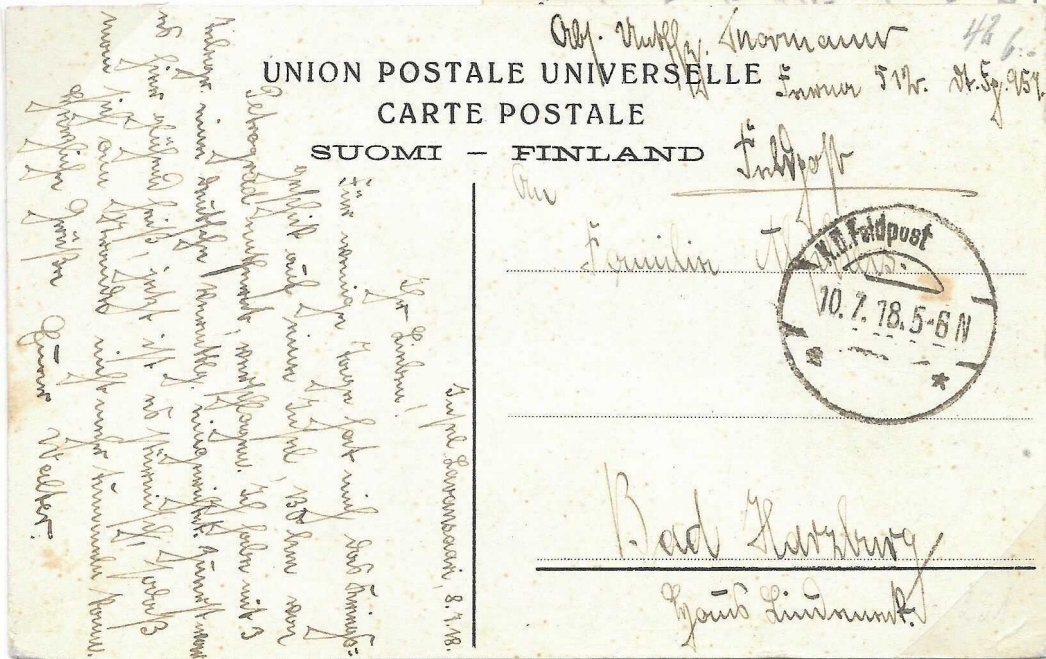
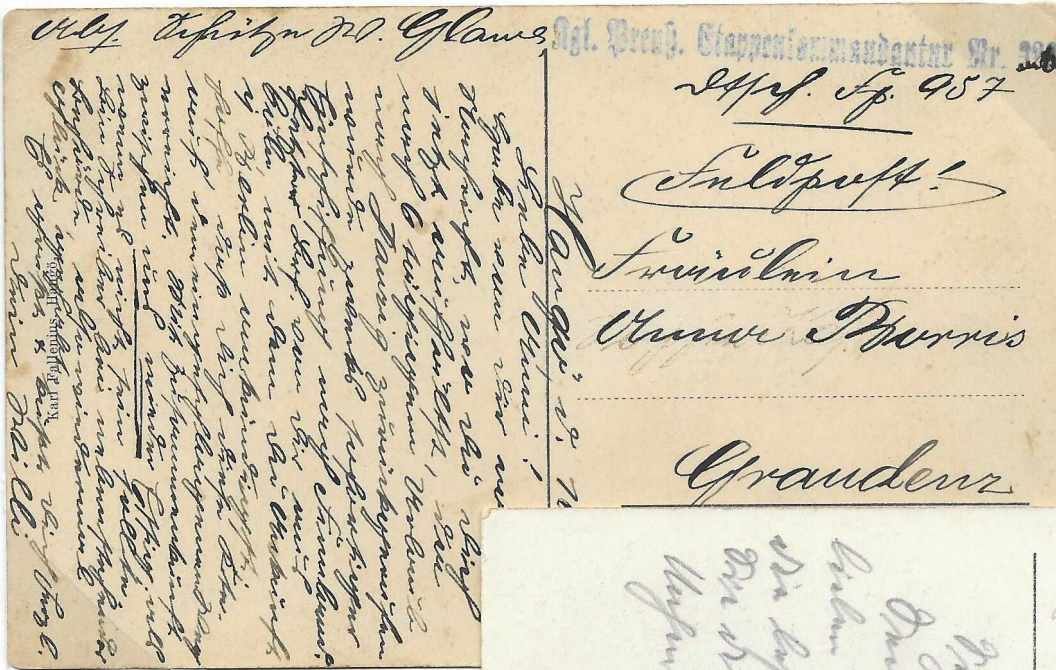


FINLAND

Hango (Hanko)
Kajaani
Lavansaari Island



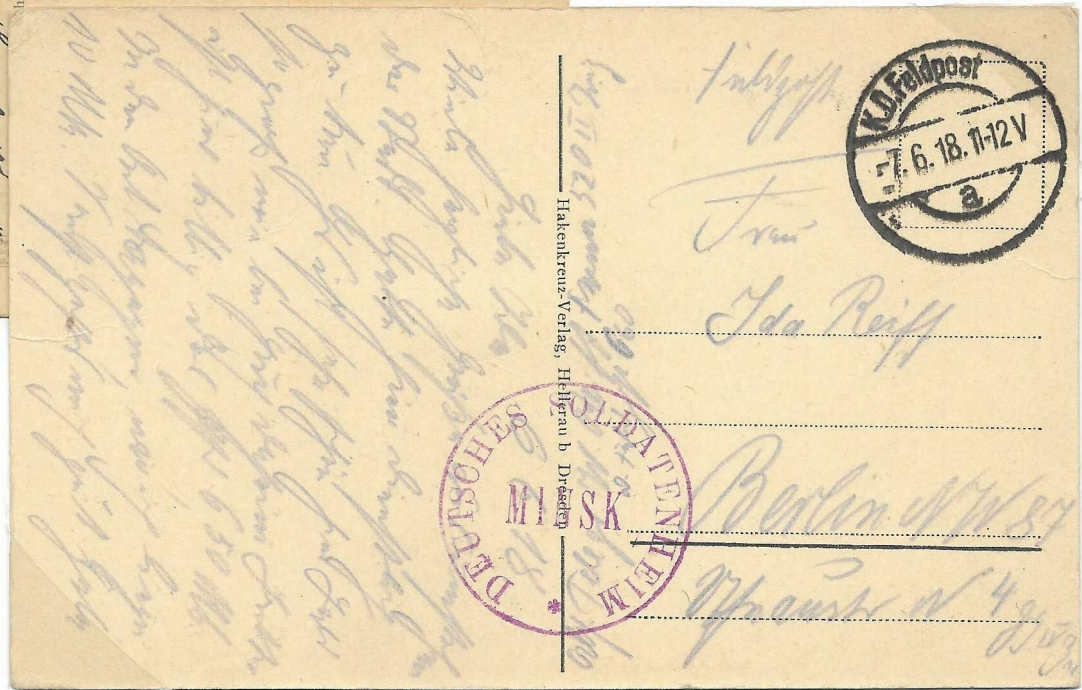
As compared to Helsinki, German fieldpost from smaller Finnish communities is more difficult to acquire. The above examples have the locations specified in the dateline and are picture postcards of the the actual locations.

BELARUS

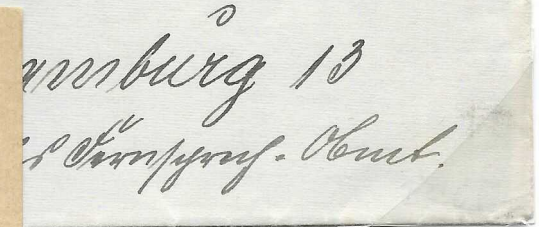
In its peace negotiations with the Germans, the Soviet government agreed to withdraw from all non-Russian territories, including Belarus (White Russia). As a result, German forces advanced eastward in February 1918 and occupied the capital, Minsk, without resistance. Although Belarus declared its independence from Russia on 25 March 1918, the German forces remained in control until the end of the war.



Minsk
Pinsk
Gomel



The German fieldpost accompanied the troops into Belarus and set up military postal stations in key locations. Above examples show cachets from some of the principal towns in the area during the final months of the war.

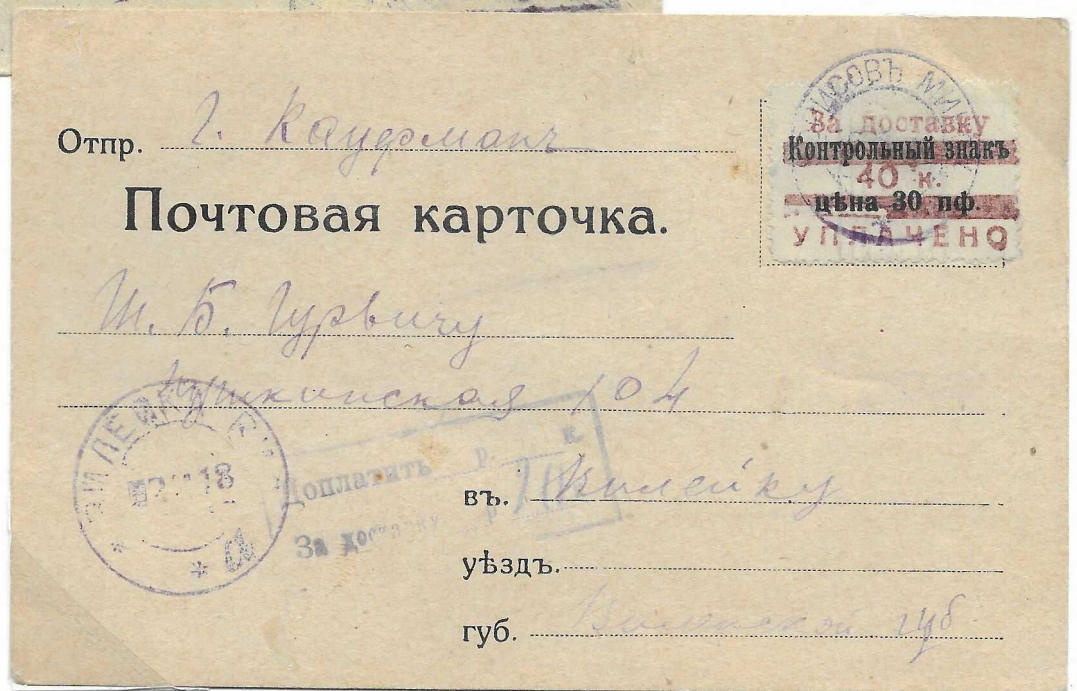


Although Brest Litovsk is in western Belarus today, it was captured by the Germans on 25 August 1915 at the time that Poland was being overrun. Although the city is primarily known as the location of the signing of the treaty by which Russia withdrew from the war, it was also a center of German administrative activity. As a result, a wide variety of unit cachets originated there, a few of which are shown above.



Registered cover from Minsk to Dorpat in Estonia. Because of the destination being outside the zone of operations of the 10th Army, 40 pfg. in additional franking of Germania stamps was required.

Postcard used internally from Borisov and franked with 40 kopek surcharged stamp. An additional 20 kopeks was charged as indicated by the violet rectangular box reading "Doplatit (postage due)."

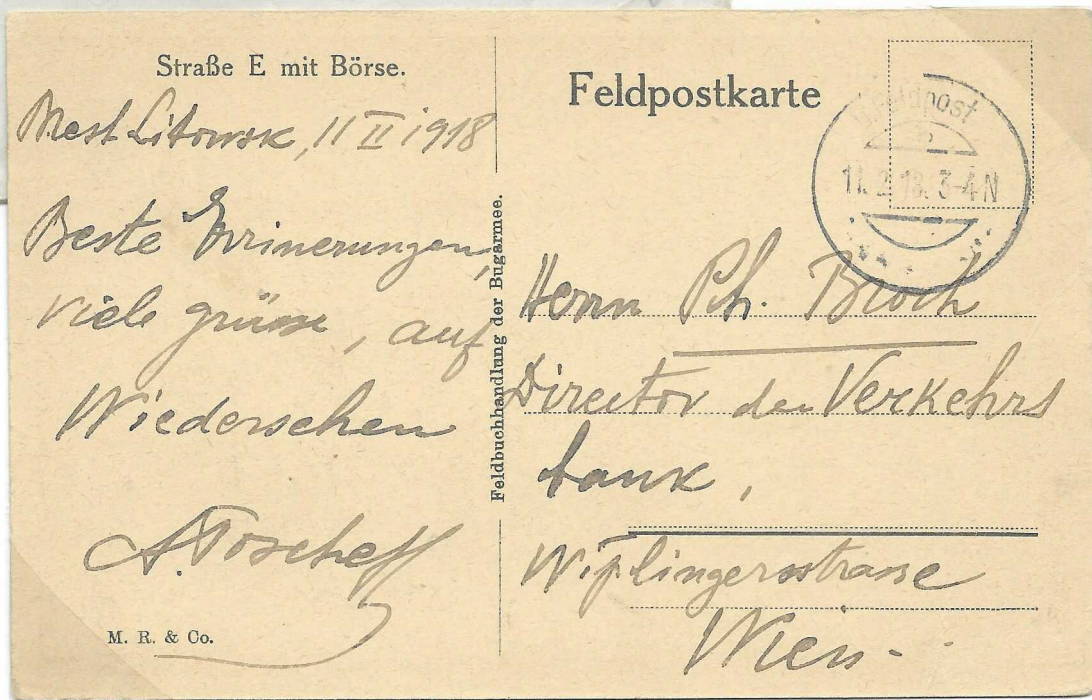
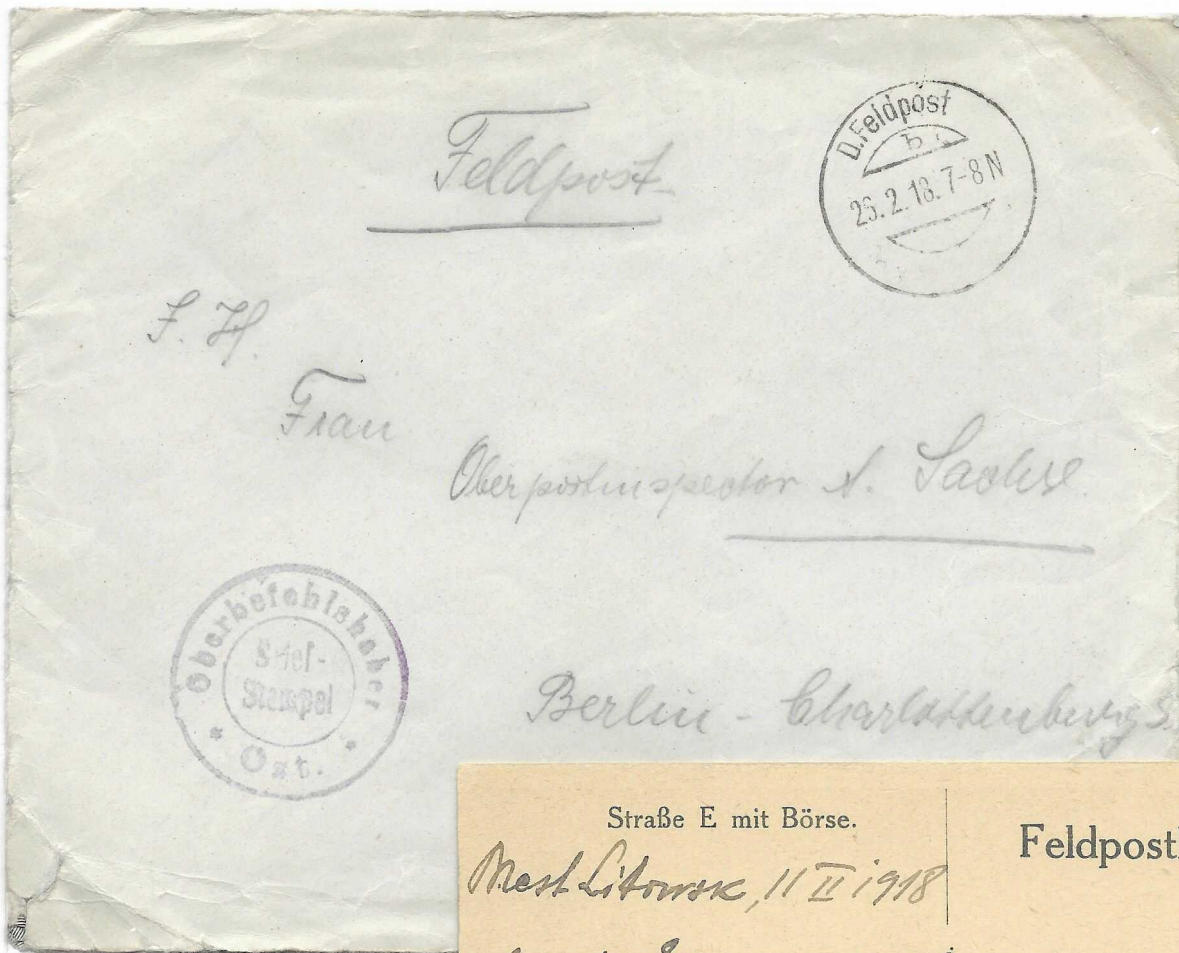


The Reichspost did not undertake to handle civil correspondence in Belarus. However, the commander of the German 10th Army decided that such a service was necessary and even had his printing works prepare stamps. The first two values were inscribed in Cyrillic "Control Stamp" and had denominations of 30 and 60 pfg. The first stamp was later overprinted "For Postage/Paid" and a new value of 40 k(opeks). These stamps were issued in August 1918 but gradually discontinued in the subsequent months.

RUSSIA

Under the provisions of the Brest Litovsk Treaty, the Bolsheviki were required to divest themselves of all of the non-Russian territories of the former empire, including Finland, the Baltic provinces, Poland, Belarus, Ukraine and Transcaucasia.

Treaty Negotiators



Items above sent through the German fieldpost office in Brest Litovsk by participants negotiating the treaty. Postcard sent by A. Toscheff, Bulgarian Minister in Vienna who signed the treaty on behalf of his government. Cover sent by L. Sachse, a member of the German Diplomatic Corps and delegate to the conference.

RUSSIA

Rostov on Don
Taganrog



Most of the German occupation forces were deployed in the areas detached from the former Russian Empire, not in Russia proper. The only exceptions were at the fringes of the divested territory, including Rostov and Taganrog in the south, which were occupied for logistical reasons. Mail from Rostov is very elusive; the only postmark used was an unnumbered fieldpost cancel, so covers must be identified by unit cachets. The location (Taganrog) is mentioned in the text on the postcard.

RUSSIA

Pleskau (Pskov)



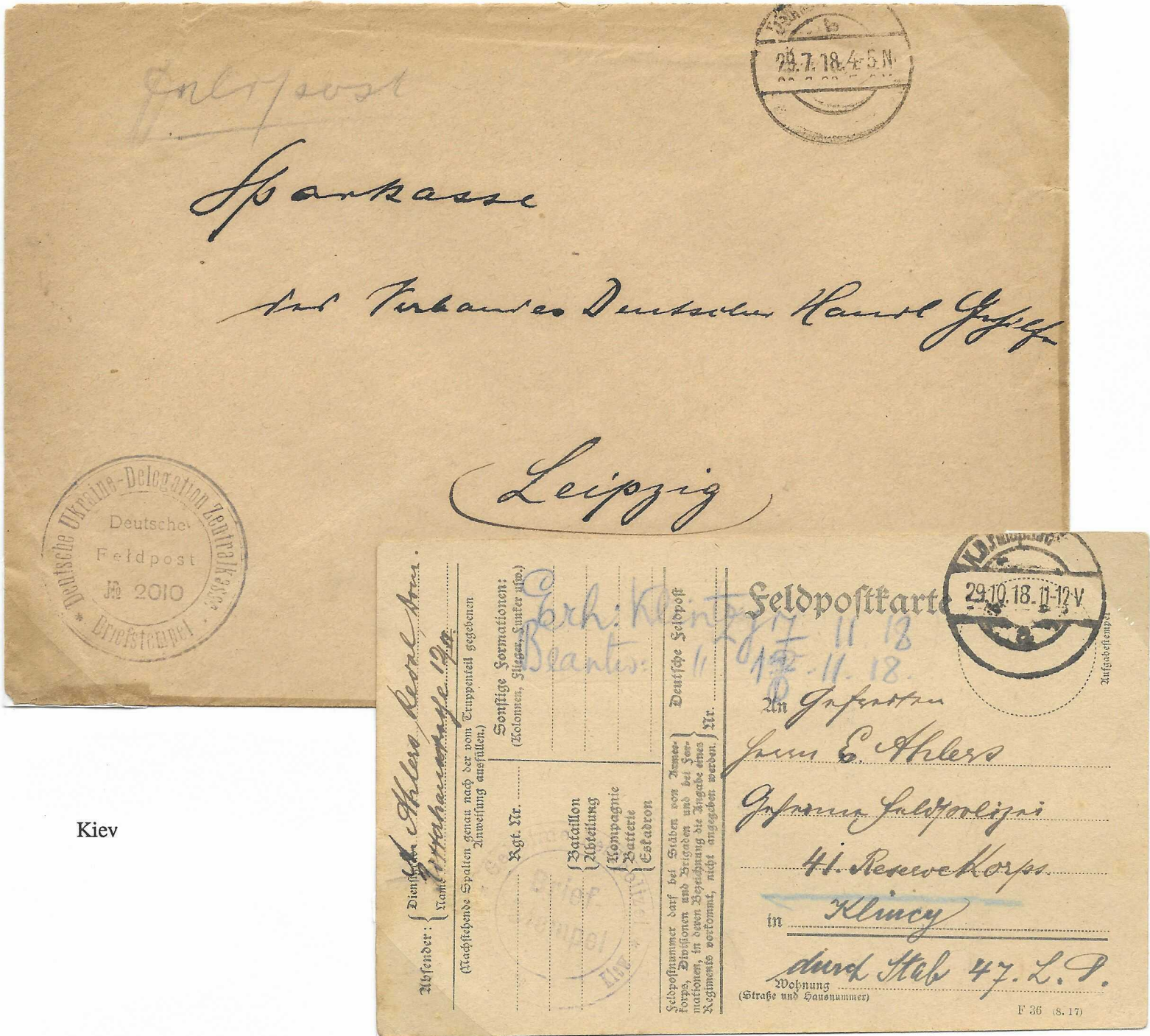
Russian postal card with cachet of the "Hospital and Residence of the German Commission in St. Petersburg" carried by diplomatic pouch to Pleskau. There it received a refugee camp marking and was turned over to the fieldpost office to be forwarded to Berlin.



Pleskau was the only city occupied by the Germans in the north of Russia. No civil post office was in operation, but a fieldpost station was located there, and a single-line marking reading "Pleskau" was used on civil mail from 27 July 1918 until the end of the war.

UKRAINE

In its peace negotiations with the Germans, the Soviet government agreed to withdraw from all non-Russian territories, including Ukraine. On 22 January 1918, a national assembly (rada) proclaimed a "free and sovereign" Ukrainian Republic. However, on 10 February, the Red Army attacked and captured Kiev. As a result, German forces advanced eastward and occupied the capital on 3 March and remained in control until the end of the war.



Kiev

The German fieldpost accompanied the troops into Ukraine and set up military postal stations in key locations. The above examples show cachets of the Central Treasury of the German Ukraine Delegation and the Secret Military Police in Kiev.

UKRAINE

Kiev

Wert: 3000,- M.R.
60g



an die deutsche Kommandantur

4451

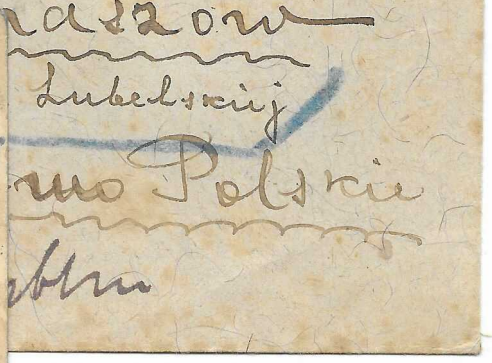
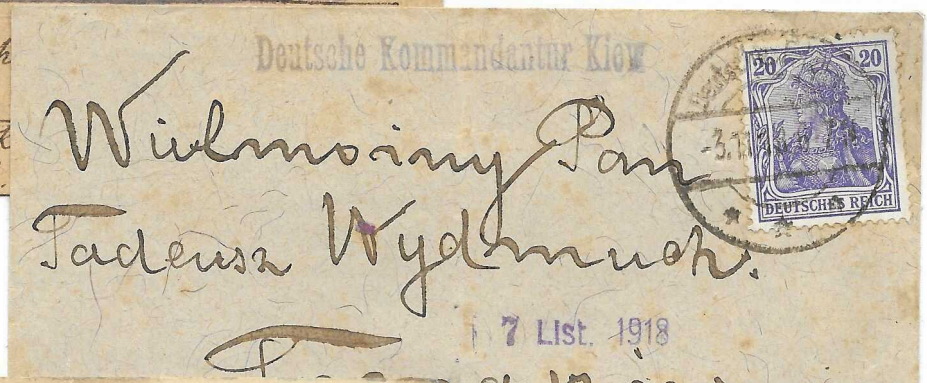
in

Riga

Nr. 4783.

Deutsche Kommandantur Kiev

Value declared insured letter for 3,000 marks sent from the German Headquarters in Kiev, Ukraine to German Headquarters in Riga, Latvia. A most extraordinary usage between fieldpost offices (from FPO 886 to FPO 383).



The Reichspost did not undertake to handle civil correspondence in Ukraine. However, commercial mail franked with unoverprinted "Germania" stamps was allowed to be sent through the fieldpost channels, in some cases with the "K. D. Feldpost" cds and in others with just a unit cachet. Examples above have the single-line and two-line markings of the German HQ in Kiev, one on a Ukrainian postal card that could not be forwarded to Lithuania.



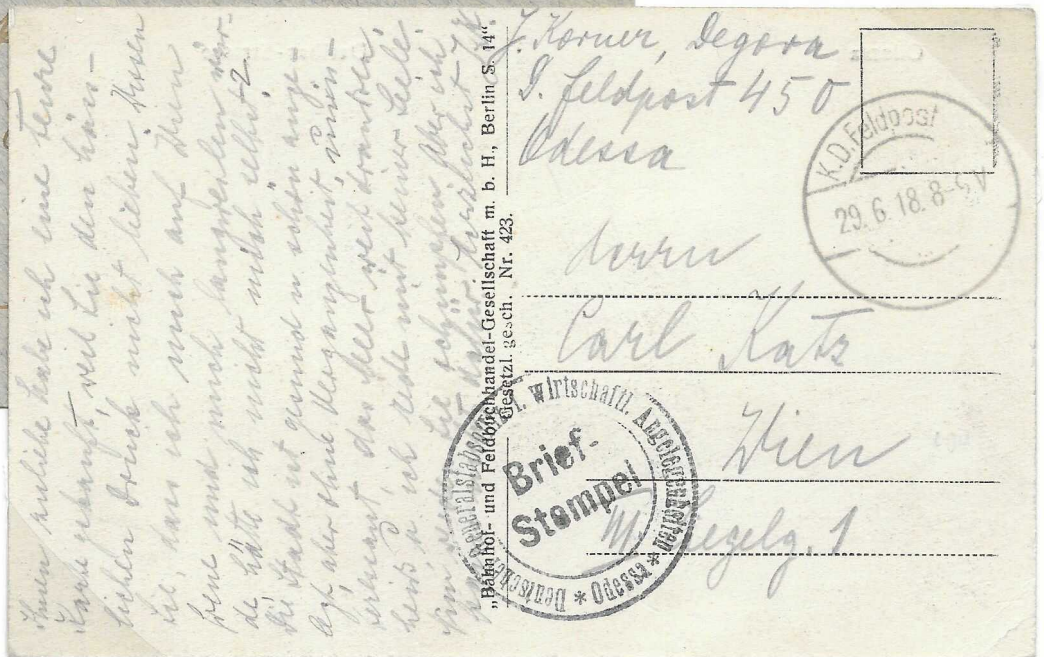
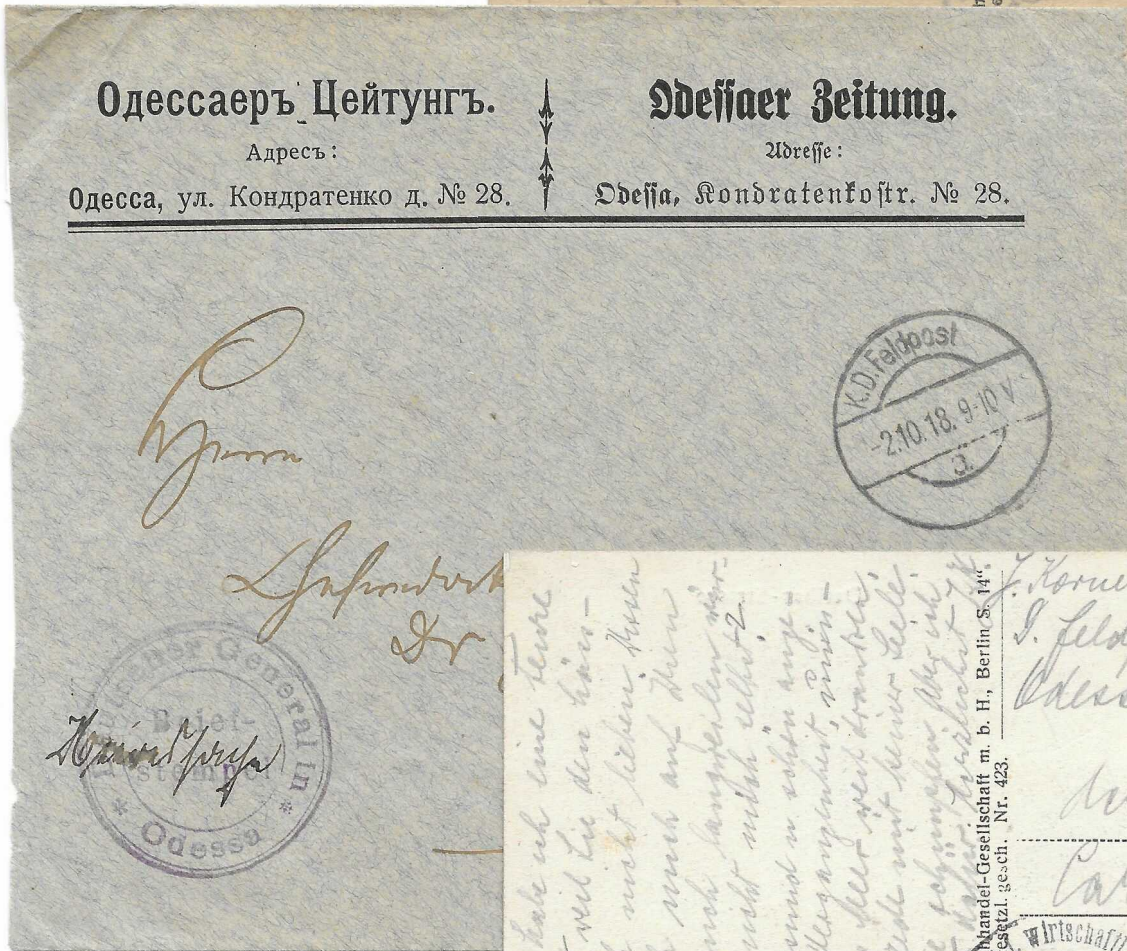
Postcard and cover front from members of the German Delegation in Ukraine, which was responsible for liaison with the Ukrainian government.

UKRAINE

Kiev



Commercial covers from Kiev with corner cards and/or cachet of the "German-Austro-Hungarian Economics Office," one in German and the other in Cyrillic, the latter sent registered through the Ukrainian post to Odessa.



As a major port on the Black Sea, Odessa was the center of a good deal of German activity during the occupation period. As a result, a variety of unit cachets were used from this city.

UKRAINE

Odessa

M. SCHWARZKOPF—ODESSA.

Deutsche Feldpost.



Herren

Dr. KRUEGER & SOMMERFELD

Chemische Erzeugnisse

CASSEL



Deutsch-Oesterreichisch-Ungarische Wirtschafts-Zentrale
Oelkartell.

Feldpost.

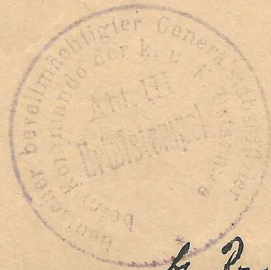


Herrn Peter Schmelzer

Berlin C.

Neue Grünstr. 11.

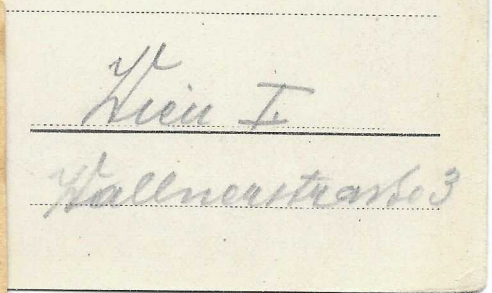
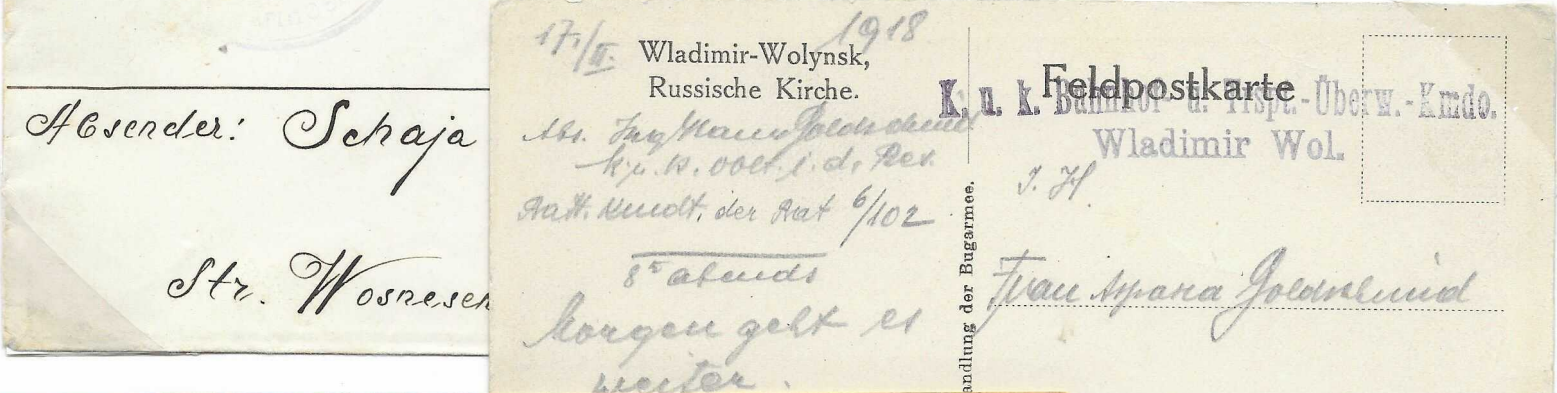
Frücker, Lampe & Co.



Commercial covers from Odessa with cachets of the "Imperial German Government/in Odessa" and "German-Austro-Hungarian Economics Office/Oil Cartel."

UKRAINE

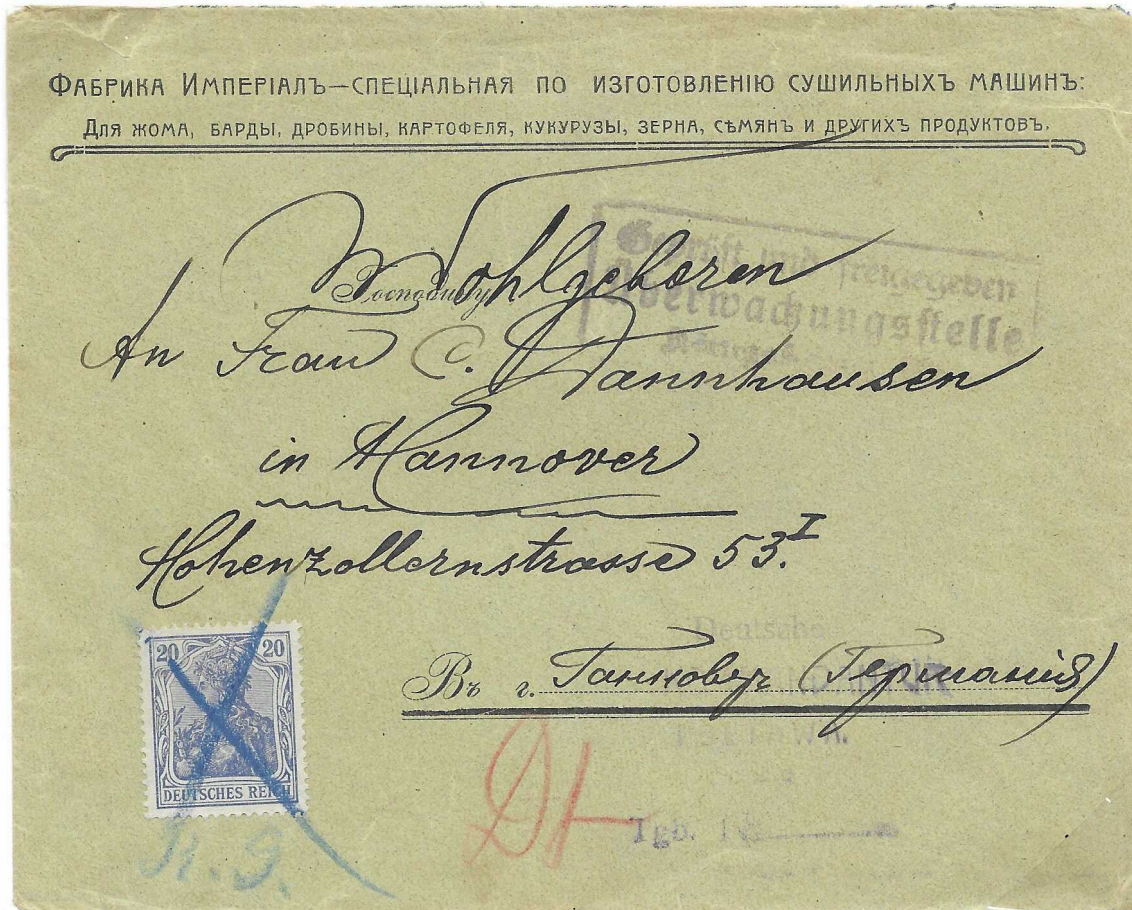
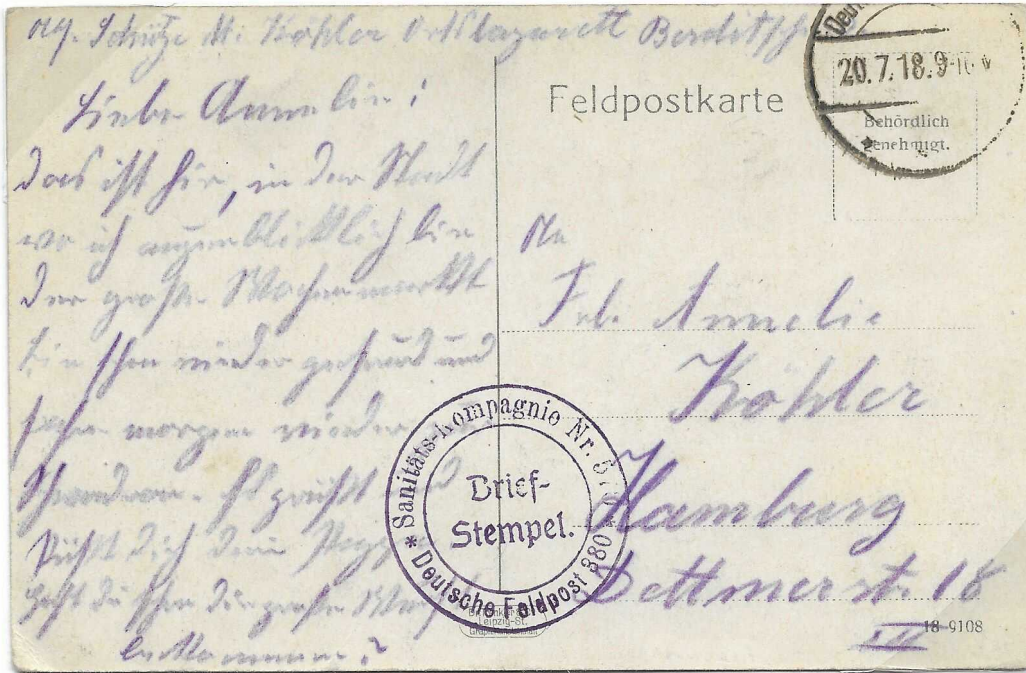
Charkow (Kharkov)
Ekaterinoslav
Vladimir Wolynsk



Cachets identifying use from the more minor cities in Ukraine, such as those shown above, are considered exceedingly elusive, requiring extensive searching.

UKRAINE

Berdichev
Poltava



Additional examples of mail from the interior of Ukraine. Postcard is identified by "Hospital Berdichev" in the dateline, while cover from Poltava has cachet of the German Headquarters in that city. Apparently, no postmark was available, so postage was cancelled with blue crayon.

Mitglied
A. I. E. P.
Association Internationale
des Experts Philatéliques
V Ö B
Verband österreichischer
Briefmarkenprüfer

Dipl. Ing. Z. S. Mikulski

Philatelistischer Experte
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Prüfungsattest 8592/93

St.Gallen, den 7.Dez.1993

LANDESBOTENPOST der 10.Armee,1918.

Eine Postkarte von BORYSOW Minski-25.8.1918
nach WILEJKA, frankiert mit der Bestellgeld-
marke zu 40 Kopeken, Michel Nr. 3, entwertet
mit dem violetten Stempel von Borysow Minski.
Vorne befindet sich ein Ankunftsstempel von
WILEJKA und Bestellungsstempel: handschriftlich
20 k.

Foto der Karte liegt bei.

BEFUND:

Die Karte ist echt in allen Einzelheiten.
Die Bestellgeldmarke wurde hier als Gebühren-
Marke zu 30 Pfg. verwendet.
Sie wurde als Gebührenmarke akzeptiert.
Zustellungsgebühr: 20 k. wurde mit dem Rahmenstempel
mit "20" k. erhoben.

ERHALTUNG:

der Karte und der Marke ist einwandfrei und
sehr schön.
Selten in solcher Erhaltung.

Dipl. Ing. Zbigniew S. Mikulski