

Additional examples of cachets of various administrative organizations that were operating in Romania's capital.



Cachets from units outside of Bucharest are much more elusive and require a good deal of effort to assemble.



Additional cachets of units based in outlying areas.



A number of organizations were involved with the extraction and handling of Romanian oil. An example is the cachet from the Central Office for Oil Transportation in Giurgiu.

Sinaia



Cover from Turnu Severin on the Danube has cachet of the German Harbormaster. Cover from Vida is postmarked from the Austro-Hungarian FPO 442 although it has German franking, showing the close working relationship of the occupying powers.



The Dobrudja was the area of Romania lying between the Danube and the Black Sea. Although it was occupied by the Bulgarians and officially ceded to Bulgaria under the terms of the Treaty of Bucharest, German troops were also stationed there, as attested to by the cachets on these covers.



In addition to the generic "Dobrudja" cachets, some units specifically noted the name of the main city, Constanta, in their markings as per the examples above. Note the very elusive marking of the "Seaplane Station Constanta."

Overprints with only Romanian currency indicated, as printed by the Reichsdruckerei in Berlin.

Not issued as such.



Issued set with M.V.i.R. as added by the Romanian Printing Works in Bucharest. Postal card and stamps with first day cancellation. Postal card with attached reply shown below.



A civil postal service was established in occupied Romania on 24 February 1917. However, the first new postage stamps were not provided until 1 June 1917. There were three values of the standard Germania issue with boxed overprint reading "Military Administration in Romania," as well as 10 bani postal and reply cards issued.



The German authorities decided that a war tax would be imposed on civil mail in addition to the normal postage. To indicate that such payment was made, new M.V.i.R. overprints were made on existing Romanian postal tax stamps in 5 and 10 bani denominations and issued on 25 June 1917. (Higher values exist but are fiscal stamps.)





In addition to postage and postal tax stamps, the Germans overprinted Romanian postage due stamps with the initials "M.V.i.R."



On 2 July 1917, a new set overprinted entirely at the Reichsdruckerei and with a different form of "M.V.i.R." was placed on sale, along with similarly overprinted postal cards.



After the armistice between Romania and the Central Powers, the latter proceeded to occupy the balance of the country. The authorities felt that a new set of overprints reading "Romania" would more appropriately reflect the new status. Thus, five stamps (with the 25 bani in two shades) plus the usual postal and reply cards were issued on 1 March 1918.





A fourth series of overprints was issued for the occupation zone of the German 9th Army in Northern Romania between the territory of the M.V.i.R. and the front lines. Four values of the Germania set were overprinted with "Valid/9th Army" and placed on sale on 10 March 1918. Interestingly, post offices were not operated in this area, but civil mail was collected at the fieldpost stations and forwarded to Bucharest for postmarking and censorship. (Lower cover shows example of a cover originating in Braila but cancelled at Bucharest.)



Postal cards were also issued for the occupation zone of the German 9th Army. In fact, the reply cards come with two different inscriptions at the top, i.e. "Postkarte mit Antwortkarte" and "Postkarte mit Antwort."

THE SOUTHWESTERN FRONT

ITALY

The activity on the Italian front was basically an Austrian show, largely a defensive effort to hold the high ground in the Tirolian Alps while the bulk of the Austro-Hungarian army was trying to stave off the Russian invasion of Galicia. However, after the Russians were no longer a factor, the Austrians with some German reinforcements attacked the Italian positions and scored a major breakthrough at Caporetto on 24 October 1917. From that point until very late in the war, a substantial area in the Province of Venezia was occupied.



Examples of fieldpost mail from German soldiers in Italy. The above have official cachets designated "Occupied Italy" or, in the case of one postcard, datelined in Udine, the one major Italian city held by the Central Powers.

AFRICA

EAST AFRICA PROTECTORATE

The town of Taveta, located in the B.E.A. Protectorate (Kenya) just across the border from German East Africa (Tanzania), was captured by German forces soon after the outbreak of World War I. It attracted special interest as the only British territory to be occupied by Germany during the war.



There was a high degree of philatelic and patriotic interest in obtaining examples of the special Feldpost cancellation shown above. It was in use from 1 October 1914 until 31 July 1915, when the Germans withdrew.

Mitglied

A. I. E. P.
Association Internationale
des Experts Phitatéliques

VÖB Verband österreichischer Briefmarkenprüfer

Expert Committee of the Union of Polish Philatelists in Great Britain

Dipl. Ing. Z. S. Mikulski

Philatelistischer Experte Kammelenbergstr. 15 9011 St.Gallen/Schweiz Telefon 071 22 06 10

Prüfungsattest Nr. 2282

St.Gallen, den 14.5.1982

DEUTSCHE BESETZUNG von Rumänien 1917.

15 Bani/15 Pfg. dkl'violett,25 Bani/20 Pfg.ultram., und 40 Bani/30 Pfg.rotorange a.chromgelb,ungest., Michelkatalog Nr- 1-3 aber ohne Aufdruck:M.V.i.R. Fotos der Marken auf der Rückseite des Atestes.----

weiteren Versand der Marken eingestellt und sofort eine neue Ausgabe für Rumänien, ganz in

Da die Anbringung des zusätzlichen BukaresterAufdruckes ohne Bewilligung der Berliner-Behörden
stattfand, müssen wir die nicht mehr versandten
Bogen, nur mit Berliner Wertübedruck versehen, als
nicht verausgabte offizielle Ausgabe betrachten...Die Auflage dieser Marken, nur mit Berliner-Aufdr.,
die in letzter Zeit auf dem Markt gekommen sind,
war auf 500 Stück pro Sorte begrenzt.------

ERHALTUNG: einwandfrei und sehr schön, postfrisch,-----

Ich habe die Marken signiert: " E.MIKULSKL ".--

