

The Fraktur

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Occupation Duty... In Austria

March 1997

A song particularly meaningful to American GIs returning from battle overseas at the end of World War II went as follows:

After the war was over
I was coming back to you
I saw a rainbow at midnight
Far out on the ocean blue

The stars up in heaven were shining
The moon cast its beams from above
I saw your face in the moonlight
And it made me think of your love.

We'll build a home in the country
And have a baby or two
We'll name them after the rainbow
Because they remind me of you.

But not all GIs stationed overseas, even after combat, returned home immediately. It was called occupation duty, and to many of the folks back home, this meant rest and recreation, time spent in bars, Fraueleins, an occasional inspection and marking the days off the calendar.

MONTHLY NOTGELD QUOTE . . .



Stolzenau/Weser
April 30, 1921 L-1245a



Contentment is taking pleasure
In things we have to do without
Wilhelm Busch (1832-1908)



Salzburg, site of the Roman Juvavum, was given the coinage right in 966. The scene is on 5-Kronen note, June 1920.



Enns, on the Enns River, is the oldest town in Austria, given the town right in 1212. The Romans called it Lauriacum.

But occupation duty can be tough. Ask the American GIs who at the end of World War I were stationed in Murmask. Ask the fellows on the DMZ between North and South Korea -- today. Ask the Army Air Corps pilots flying coal into Berlin. Or ask the U. S. Army soldiers stationed in Austria and Czechoslovakia at the end of World War II. Austria? Czechoslovakia?

David Colley has been telling readers of the "VFW Magazine," published by the Veterans of Foreign Wars, in recent issues, about some long-forgotten hot spots of occupation duty. In the December 1996 issue he told about duty in Czechoslovakia as confrontations occurred with the Soviet army in May 1945. Places mentioned included Prague, Pilsen and Karlsbad. U.S. Forces remained there until November 1945.

A longer stay was experienced by the U.S. Army in Austria, from 1945, told in the January 1997 issue, when there were over 50,000 troops, until the last year, 1955, when only 19 troops were counted.

When matters settled down, the province of Salzburg and area around Linz were under U.S. control; the Soviet Zone was the remainder of Upper Austria, above the Danube River, to the border of Hungary. Vienna itself was divided into four sectors, as was Berlin, but in the city center was an international zone with the four powers in charge on a rotating basis.



St. Gilgen, called the center of the Salzammergut, is on the eastern border of Salzburg province. The 10-Heller note is dated May 8, 1920.



Hoersching was one of the sites occupied by American soldiers in the 1950s, facing Soviet troops during the Cold War.

What has this to do with Notgeld? The best we can do is to illustrate some Notgeld from towns occupied by these forces. Most of the Notgeld had appeared in 1920.

Perhaps Vienna is the logical starting point. The commander of the 796th Military Police Battalion was Lt. Col. Henry G. Thomas. The U.S. Army unit in Vienna experienced tense moments on Sept. 17, 1950.

Soviet-provoked demonstrations dominated the city. Thomas is quoted as saying "It was scary. There were thousands and thousands of demonstrators marching through Vienna."

Conditions in Vienna were described by Col. James V. Milano. He wrote "Vienna was a dangerous place after the war. Gray, desperate people inhabited a dingy, run-down city strewn with the wreckage and rubble of war, barely recalling the glories of old Vienna. There were spies of every nationality, black marketeers, profiteers, smugglers, criminals of every sort, and refugees from every country in Eastern Europe. Milano and Patrick Brogan wrote "Soldiers, Spies and the Rat Line: America's Undeclared War Against the Soviets."

Commanding the U.S. Forces Austria (USFA) was Major General S. Leroy Irwin. Headquarters was at Camp Roeder near Salzburg; units trained at Camp McCauley in Linz and near Saalfelden.

The battles, if not of weapons, were of nerves: each side trying to stand down the other, as the Soviets made desperate attempts to include Austria in the eastern block of countries. The Americans knew they were outnumbered, and had contingency plans in the event their units were overrun. They had instructions to disappear into the woods, head for Switzerland, or fight a guerrilla warfare, using weapons in 79 hidden arms caches.

Patrol efforts in Vienna were a little different. Jeeps held four men, representing the four occupying forces, giving rise to the movie, "Four Men in a Jeep."

At Wiener Neustadt, south of Vienna, in the Soviet zone, was an air strip, about which our spies related that the strip had been plowed after a certain snow storm, so detailed was the information. Also, within the U.S. Army command, several civilian workers with the 796th MP Company were caught passing data to the Soviets.

Units assigned to patrolling the border between the U.S. sector and the Soviet sector included the Fourth and 24th Constabulary squadrons out of Linz. Later the Fourth had moved to Wels in November 1947, and the 24th was in the area of Horsching.

I am acquainted with a member of the Appleton, Wis., Coin Club who was stationed at St. Gilgen/Salzburg. He relates that it was the last outpost in the American sector before the Soviets, who were in the next town to the east. He tells how the troops were quartered in homes. In general, duty was quiet, he recalls.

Clinton Porter, a member of the 24th Constabulary, recalls, "At Enns, I was part of a platoon of outpost border guards manning four checkpoints. Across the Enns River from us were mostly Polish soldiers. During the Berlin airlift my

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Be sure you take your copies of THE FRAKTUR with you on your next trip to Europe, or when you need to plan your next spa.

A regular reader of the paper, living in Europe, recently wrote, "The Notgeld news based on your solid knowledge of both the notes themselves and their places of issue, gives me much pleasure to read and helps to keep me in touch with this intriguing subject."

"Last November I went through a cure at Bad Kissingen, a spa you had treated in the April 1996 issue. Please find enclosed a brochure from the spa. It is a nice little town where, until the Gulf War, an important U. S. Army Post was headquartered."

"Almost every native family has a member living in the United States after getting married to an American soldier. The town and its surroundings, the Rhoen mountains, are beautiful, especially during the spring and fall seasons. A Christmas fair was held during my stay there."

* * *

By the time this is received, readers who ordered the Tudor Morris book, "An Introduction to Serienscheine," will have received their copies. A few remain; more are on order. The book sells for \$21, postpaid.

* * *

One of our readers was introduced to Notgeld when perusing a used book store. We are reprinting "Decorative Geldprints, which must date from about 1931, a decade after the Notgeld heyday."

Printed in English, in New York City, the title and contents of the introduction reflect the lack of background of the subject, and the author approaches the subject from the "official Colored Geldprints."

Also of interest is the method securing the subjects to the paper. Good old rubber cement, generously applied, is sure to keep the "Geldprints" from slipping and sliding.

After 65 years of attachment with the rubber cement, many of the notes had lost their adhesiveness and were a bit the worse for the treatment.

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unit was put on alert. Our orders were not to resist, but to destroy everything, including cutting power and telephone lines. Then we were to head for Switzerland."

Commented Private David Broder, who was stationed at Camp Truscott near Salzburg, "I give thanks that the Army and the draft were there to teach the value of camaraderie during the Cold War." Broder is a columnist for the "Washington Post." He returned to Salzburg Memorial Day 1996.

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TWO VOLUMES

Volume 1

A. BROWN, *Publisher* — 251 WEST 98th STREET, NEW YORK

DECORATIVE GELDPRINTS

DECORATIVE GELDPRINTS as presented within the pages of this volume, have been selected with care and discrimination, from amongst thousands of individual designs.

It was during the exhibition of Official Decorative Geldprints held in New York several years ago, that the writer first became interested in this new and fascinating Geldprint art. He was so attracted to the beauty and charm of these miniature prints, that a committee, now known as the "Decorative Geldprint Society of New York," was promptly organized.

The Decorative Geldprint Society's annual exhibitions now attract hundreds of print collectors and students of graphic art.

The society occasionally distributes pamphlets listing the new designs and many of the prints have already become so scarce that high prices are being demanded.

The official Geldprint designs which had been in circulation throughout Europe in 1921 and which were originated and issued by the magistrates of the various cities as "temporary war-relief money," are at present being greatly prized and sought after.

Artists and craftsmen of distinction, contributed their talents toward the artistic production of these masterpieces of decorative art. Geldprints appeared in woodcut style, etching style, aquatint, steel engraving, poster and modernistic styles. They appeared singly as well as in sets of two to twelve; what an impressive array!

Every known process of reproduction was employed to maintain the artists' original technique.

Printers and amateurs of more or less note also contributed their efforts to the growing number of Geldprint designs with, of course, varied degrees of success, and to-day the Decorative Geldprint Society is proud to have accomplished the task of cataloguing and listing nearly every design which appeared. Thus, they present herewith but a small selection, to serve as merely a "starter" for those who wish to derive the pleasure of possession of a beautiful and extensive collection of official Decorative Geldprints.

THE FRAKTUR PRICE LIST

March 1997

Greiz Oct. 15, 1923 500 Millionen Mark K-1887o \$8.50
 Greussen/Thuer. ND 25 Pf L-458 \$1.75*
 Grevesmuehlen ND 10, 25, 50 Pf L-459b Reutergeld \$2.25*
 Groemitz 50 Pf May 12, 1921 L-460 \$1*
 Groitzsch ND 5 Pf. P-S 787 P. Beirich \$7.50*D
 Gronau/Westfalen ND 1 Mark L-462 Hotel zum Amtsgericht \$13*
 Grossbreitenbach ND 10, 25, 50 ND L-463 Tresselt \$9*
 Grossbreitenbach Aug. 20, 1921 10, 20, 25 Pf; ND 50 (5) Pf
 L-464 \$5*
 Gross-Flottbek Aug. 1, 1921 10, 20, 25, 30, 50, 75 Pf;
 1, 2 Mark L-468 \$5*
 Gross-Graben ND 10, 20 Pf; 1 Mark P-S 815 Hugo Heimann \$20*D
 Gross-Nordende Sept. 1, 1921 50, 75 Pf; 1 Mark L-470 \$3.75*
 Gross-Wirschleben/Anhalt Sept. 1, 1921 25, 50, 75 Pf; 1 Mark
 L-472 \$2.50*
 Grottkau ND 25, 50 Pf P-S 831d \$3.50
 Gruenberg/Schl. ND 50 Pf L-474a Fiedler printer \$.60*
 Gruenberg/Schl ND 75 (2) Pf L-474b \$1.75*
 Gruenberg/Schl. ND 75 (2) Pf; 1 Mark L-474c \$2*
 Gruenberg/Schl. ND 75 (4) Pf L-474d Parcus printer \$5*
 Gruenberg/Schl. ND 50 (6) Pf L-474e \$48
 Grundhof/Schl-Hol April 1, 1920 50 (3), 75 (1) Pf L-478 \$2.50*
 Guestrow ND 10, 25, 50 Pf L-480a Reutergeld \$2.25*
 Guestrow Feb. 1, 1922 50 (3), 75 (3), 100 (3) Pf L-480b \$6*
 Guhrau/Schl ND 5, 10, 50 Pf, 1, 2, 5 Mark P-S 837 \$60*D
 Guhrau/Schlesien ND 50 Pf L-481 Schecks \$1.25*
 Haaburg/Westfalen Nov. 5, 1921 1 Mark L-482 \$.60*
 Hachenburg June 1, 1921 10 (2), 25 (2), 50 (3) Pf L-483 \$4.50*
 Hadersleben (Denmark) March 1920 10, 50 Pf Plebiscite
 Lindman H 849A d \$4*
 Hagenow October 1921 25, 50 Pf L-485a \$1.50*
 Hagenow ND 10, 25, 50 Pf L-485b Reutergeld \$2.25*
 Halberstadt Dec. 1, 1918 20 Mark K-177 Stamp cancelled \$2.25
 Halberstadt Feb. 10, 1920 10 Pf P-S 856A b \$2*
 Halberstadt Sept. 11, 1921 50 Pf, 1 Mak L-488 Red Cross \$4*
 Halberstadt Nov. 2, 1920 10, 25 Pf L-489a \$1.25*
 Halberstadt April 27, 1921 10, 25, 50 Pf L-489b \$1.75*
 Halberstadt April 27, 1921 25, 50 Pf L-489c \$1.25*
 Halle June 1, 1916 5, 10, 50 Pf round cloth POW \$22.50
 Halle May 1, 1920 50 Pf P-S 864A b \$.65
 Halle Nov. 13, 1921 50 (4) Pf L-491 \$6*
 Halle ND 10, 20 Pf L-493 \$1.25*
 Haltern June 1, 1921 25, 50 Pf, 1 Mark L-498 \$2*
 Hamboen/Rhein Aug. 25, 1923 5 Millionen Mark K-2104b \$3
 Hamboen/Rhein June 25, 1923 50,000 Mark K-2106a Thyssen
 tears \$2.25
 Hamboen/Rhein July 15, 1923 200,000 Mark K-2106c Thyssen
 tears \$2.50
 Hamboen/Rhein Aug. 1, 1923 1 Millionen Mark K-2106 i Thyssen
 \$2.75
 Hamboen Sept. 1, 1923 5, 20 Millionen Mark Thyssen steel
 mill scenes on back K-2106 l \$7.50
 Hamburg July 1, 1923 bond coupon 22.50 Mark printed by
 Giesecke & Devrient \$2/50
 Hamburg Nov. 1920 20, 30 Pf Hafenbetrieb-Verein Lindman H
 883C \$4*
 Hamburg ND 2 Pf Hamburger Fremdenblatts Lindman H \$18*D
 Hamburg ND 20 Pf Hochbahn Lindman H 890 karten \$2*D
 Hamburg June 1, 1920 10 Pf Johannes Meyer Lindman H 897
 \$18*D

Hamburg ND (1919) 50 Pf Karl Moeller Lindman H 901 \$12*D
 Hamburg ND 50 Pf Willi Heinrichs Lindman H 887B \$120*D
 Hamburg ND 1 Pf J. B. Wulff Lindman H 923 \$15D
 Hamburg ND Alte Diele 20, 25, 30, 50 (6) Pf L-499 \$27.50*D
 Hamburg July 1, 1921 50 Pf, 1, 2 Mark Buergermilitar L-503
 \$8*D
 Hamburg July 1, 1921 Hamburger Warte 50, 75 Pf, 1 Mark
 L-515 \$2*
 Hamburg Aug. 12-24, 1921 50 Pf silver border L-522a \$.65*
 Hamburg Aug. 12-24, 1921 50, 75 Pf, 1 Mark L-522b \$2*
 Hamburg ND Carl Lange 1 Mark L-525 \$35*
 Hamburg ND 50 (2) Pf, 1 Mark L-542 \$4*
 Hamburg ND 50 Pf, 1 Mark Leherseminar L-545 \$7.50*
 Hamburg ND 50 (4) Pf Zoo set L-546b \$5*
 Hamburg 1921 Rathswinkel 1 Mark L-531 \$3*
 Hameln/Weser ND 1, 2 Pf Georg Schaefer Lindman H 927 \$25*D
 Hameln/Weser July 1, 1918 25, 50 Pf Lindman H 924 \$2.50*
 Hameln/Weser ND 25, 50 Pf, 1 Mark Muenster Cafe Diele L-548
 \$13*D
 Hameln/Weser June 1, 1921 25, 50, 75 Pf, 1 Mark L-549a \$2.50*
 Hameln/Weser Sept. 1, 1921 50 (5) Pf Pied Piper L-549b \$7*
 Hameln/Weser Sept. 1, 1921 75 Pf (4) Pf L-549c \$5*
 Hameln/Weser April 1, 1922 50 (5) Pf L-549d Pied Piper \$5*
 Hamburger Hallig ND 50 Pf, 1 Mark L-547 \$3*
 Hamfelde/Lauenburg 10 Pf Lindman H \$7.50*D
 Hamm/Westfalen Oct. 1, 1921 10 (4), 25 (2), 50 (2) Pf
 L-551d \$6.50*
 Hammelburg/Franken March 10, 1918 10, 50 Pf Lindman H 930
 \$6.50*
 Hammelburg/Franken ND 1, 10, 20 Pfennig; 1 Mark small stamps
 II Bayerischer Armee Korps, overprinted HAMMELBURG. \$5*D
 Hanau/Main Aug. 12, 1920 10 Pf Lindman H 931 \$2.50*
 Hannover June 1, 1919 25, 50 Pf P-S 933d well worn \$1
 Hannover March 15, 1920 25 Pf P-S 933g \$2
 Hannover Feb. 1, 1922 2, 3, 5, 10, 20 Mark L-552 \$11*
 Hannover July 1, 1921 25 Pf L-555 Pfennigen \$1.25*
 Hannover Aug. 10, 1923 1,000,000 Mark K-2148b \$2.75
 Hannover Aug. 15, 1923 1/2, 1 Millionen Mark K-2148b \$5.50
 Hannover-Linden Aug. 10, 1923 1,000,000 Mark Landkreis
 K-2188 \$11*
 Hannoverisch-Muenden (now Gemuenden) July 1, 1921 25 Pf
 L-559 \$.65*
 Hannoverisch-Muenden (now Gemuenden) ND 25, 75 Pf, 1, 1.25,
 Mark \$3*
 Hansberge/Weser January 1921 50 Pf L-507 \$2.50*
 Harburg/Elbe July 5, 1919 50 Pf Lindman H 945Ab \$6
 Harburg/Elbe Set. 15, 1921 50 (4) Pf L-562 \$3*
 Hasloh/Schleswig-Holstein ND 25 (2), 50, 75 Pf L-566a \$7*
 Hasloh/Schleswig-Holstein ND 25, 50 (2), 75 Pf L-566b \$20*
 Heessen/Bad Eil April 1, 1921 25, 50 Pf, 1 Mark L-569 \$2*
 Heidelberg Aug. 1, 1923 100,000 Mark K-2279a castle \$3
 Heiligendamm/Meck-Sch ND 10, 25, 50 Pf L-572 Reutergeld \$2.25*
 Heiligenhafen ND 25 Pf L-574 \$1.25*
 Heisterbach Nov. 1, 1921 50 (3), 75 (3) Pf L-575 \$15*
 Helgoland April 1921 20, 50 Pf L-577 \$2*

*Uncirculated

K-Keller catalogs; L-Lindman Serinescheine; P-S Pick-Siemsen
 or new Lindman H

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