The Fraktur

VOL. VI. NR. 9

September 1993

MONEY USED BY POLISH OFFICERS IN GERMAN PRISON CAMPS IN WORLD WAR II

By John Glynn (Continued)

The fractional currency, 10 and 50 Fenigow, was unsigned and without serial number. The 1, 2, 5 and 10 Mark notes were signed by the camp commander but were also without serial number.

The 2 Mark is the only note with an illustration. It depicts a tower on the left side and the camp name, Camp Woldenberg, is printed on the right. The Polish text states "Kasa samopomocy ob IIC (self-help bank officer camp II C).

The money remained in circulation until the camp closed on Jan. 25, 1945. The prisoners were transferred to Oflag VII-A (Camp Murnau). They were formed into ranks, six abreast, and marched about 300 miles to their new camps. Of the 7,000 who started the march, only 300 survived the grueling journey.

The camp was moved inside the Polish border when the allied powers agreed in 1945 to return to Poland the German

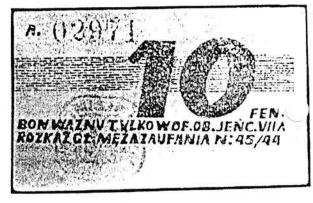
MONTHLY NOTGELD OUOTE . . .

Kahla supplies, for not much money, Porcelain for the entire world.

Kahla, Aug. 15, 1921 25 Pfennig L-650d



Oflag VII-A (Camp Murnau) 10-fenig "Clearing Commission Scrip"



territory east of the Oder and Neisse Rivers, including the southern part of East Prussia. The town where the camp was located has been renamed Dobiegniew.

Oflag VII-A

Camp Oflag VII-A (Murnau) was located outside the town of Murnau, in Bavaria, near the southern border of Germany. The camp was established on Nov. 6, 1942, and remained in operation until its closure in 1945.

Like the other camps for Polish officers, the prisoners issued their own camp currency to replace the depreciated German Kriegsgefangenen-Lagergeld. The new currency was known as "Clearing Commission Scrip," and was issued in values of:

1 Fenig, 65 mm by 47 mm

10 Fenig, 87 mm by 58 mm

50 Fenig, 83 mm by 62 mm

1 Mark, 83 mm by 62 mm

5 Mark, 83 mm by 62 mm

All notes have a prefix letter A followed by a serial number, except the 1 Fenig. They are usually unsigned; they have, however, a rounded square official red overstamp. Centered in the stamp is the date 2-XI (November) 1944, number, except the 1 Fenig. They are usually unsigned; they have, however, a rounded square official red overstamp. Centered in the stamp is the date 2-XI (November) 1944, surrounded with the text "komisja rorvachumkowa" (commission for settlement). The two-line text on the note when roughly translated states "bon waznu tvlkowof ob jenc VII A rozkazgt mezazauf ania N 45/44" (money only for officers' camp VII A from middle man Nr. 45/44).

The money remained in circulation until the advancing allied forces forced the German authorities to evacuate the camp on April 28, 1945. All the prisoners were forced to march across Germany to be established in new prison camps.

Conclusion

All prisoner of war camp money used by the Polish officers, although named differently and with different denominations, performed the same function. It was used in canteens and for an internal postal system. The notes were crudely printed on one side only on unwatermarked paper and without illustrations (except the 2-Mark used at Oflag II-C).

They were considered bank of issue and all the camps based the money on cigarette parity. Two English or two American cigarettes were the equivalent of one unit of the camp money.

The writer welcomes hearing from anyone who may have any information regarding these issues and also, any other Polish prisoner of war issue.

Acknowledgment

I owe a debt of thanks to Angus Bruce who patiently supplied valuable data from his collection.

I am also particularly grateful to Wally Pawlowski for his excellent advice and contribution on the Camp Woldenberg issues.

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(The featured appeared in "Paper Money," January February 1982, Volume XXI, Nr. 1, issue 97, pages 3, used here with

permission of the author. OFLAG (O FIZERLAGER) A CAMP FOR OFFICERS

(See map for actual location of prisoner of war camps for officers.)

STALAG (STAMMLAGER) A CAMP FOR ENLISTED MEN

| | | 41. IX-B | Bad Orb |
|---------------------|--|--|---|
| 2 7 X | Stablack | 42. *IX-C | Bad Sulza |
| 1. I-A | Hohenstein | 43. X-A | +Schlesvig |
| 2. I-B 3. II-A | +Neubrandenburg (Transferred to Stettin) | 44. X-B | Bremervorde (also known as Sandbostel) |
| | Hammerstein | 45. X-C | Nienburg |
| 4. *II-B | Greifswald | 46. XI-A | Altengrabow |
| 5. II-C 6. *II-D | Stargard (Transferred to Stettin) | 47. XI-B | Fallingbostel |
| | Schwerin | 48. XII-A | Limburg am Lahn |
| 7. II-E | Luckenwalde | 49. XII-B | Frankenthal |
| 8. III-A | Furstenberg/oder | 50. XII-C | Wiebelsheim |
| 9. III-B | Altdrewitz | 51. XII-D | Wahbreitbach (also known as Trier Petriburg) |
| 10. III-C | Berlin-Steglitz | 52. XII-F | Freinecheim |
| 11. III-D | Kirchhain | 53. XIII-A | Bad Sulzbach |
| 12. *III-E | Eisterhorst | 54. XIII-B | Weiden |
| 13. IV-A | Muhlberg | 55. XIII-C | Hammelburg |
| 14. *IV-B | Wistritz Bei Teplitz | 56. XIII-D | @Nurnburg (Transferred to Stalag Luft III) |
| 15. IV-C | Torqau | 57. XVII-A | Kaisersteinbruch-Austria |
| 16. IV-D | Hartmannsdorf | 58. XVII-B | Krems-Greisendorf-Austria |
| 17. IV-F | Oschatz | 59. XVII-C | Grau Zalz-Austria |
| 18. IV-G | Ludwiksburg | 60. XVIII-A | Wolfaburg-Austria |
| 19. V-A | Ludwiksburg | 61. XVIII-B | Spittal a/d Drau-Austria |
| 20. V-B | Villingen-Schwarzwald | 62. XVIII-C | Markt Pongau-Austria |
| 21. V-C | Offenburg | 63. XVIII-D | Maribor |
| 22. *V-D | Strassburg | 64. XX-A | Thorn-Poland |
| 23. *V-E | Muhlhausen | 65. *XX-B | Marienburg-East Prussia |
| 24. V-G | Roem | 66. XXI-A | Schildberg-Walkenland |
| 25. VI-A | Hamer | 67. XII-D | Posen-Poland |
| 26. VI-B | Neuversen | 68. XXI-E | C/H |
| 27. *VI-C | Bathorn-Elmsland | 69. 344 | Lamsdorf |
| 28. VI-D | Dortmund | 70. 357 | Oerbke |
| 29. VI-F | Bocholt | 71. 375 | Fallingbostel |
| 30. VI-G | +Bonn a Rhein | 72. 383 | Hohenfels |
| 31. *VI-H | Eisenborn | 73. 396 | Pupping-Austria |
| 32. VI-J | Krefeld | 74. IVD/Z | Annaburg |
| 33. VI-K | Paderborn | 75. IXC/Z | Unterbreizbach |
| 34. *VII-A | +Moosburg | 76. XIC/Z | Marbach |
| 35. VII-B | Mimmingen (Transferred to Camp 344) | 77. XVIIIA/Z | Klagenfurt |
| 36. VIII-A | Gorlitz-Moys | | 0.0000000000000000000000000000000000000 |
| 37. *VIII-B | Lamsdorf (Changed to Camp 344 in 1944) | •Indicates comps | which used German kriegsgefangenen-lagergeld. |
| 38. *VIII-C | @Sagan (Changed to Stalag Luft III) | +Indicates camps with Polish prisoners of war. | |
| 39. VIII-D | Trechen | @Stalag Luft is a camp for airmen. | |
| 40. IX-A | Ziegenheim | | |
| | [1] 27697 P | | |

Classified Advertising

GERMAN METAL NOTGELD bought and sold. Sell municipal, private, POW, transportation, encased postage, beer tokens and some French. Also sell related literature. T.J. Orlik, P.O. Box 947, Lewiston, N.Y. 14092.

* * *

GERMAN- FRENCH world paper Notgeld. Over 10,000 pieces in stock! Large free lists. Ian A. Marshall, Parkway Mall Box 62509, 85 Ellesmere Road Scarborough, Ontario, Canada MIR 568 Courtney asked me to write about Numismatics in Germany. I understand that readers of THE FRAKTUR might show special interest in German Notgeld, both the collecting and perhaps in the changes that have occurred in consequence

of the German reunification.

After a certain pick of Notgeld collecting between World War I and about 1950-1960, Otto Ernst Schulze, a German policeman who was one of the best known collectors of these times, paid one Pfennig per paper Notgeld piece. And there were plenty of offers!

Schulze, from Dortmund, published "Rundschau der Geld-

zeichensammler."

It must have been a fairly good time for the few Notgeld collectors. A considerable number of prewar collections had survived the war while their former possessors had been lost in battle.

The renaissance of Notgeld collecting in Germany started not before 1970. Although there still are general collectors, many more people than before try to build specialized collections.

And even the kind of specialization has changed.

While in former times specialized collectors tried to accumulate Notgeld of certan periods (Notgeld issued during the war, billion nominals or Notgeld related to gold or U.S. dollars), today many collectors have found other approaches.

Now there are many collecting Notgeld of special areas or even only items of a special town or district (often including different papers, watermarks, even serial numbers.) Many of those collectors (in German: Heimatsammler) include metal Notgeld, tokens, commemorative medals, etc., in their area of interest.

Other Notgeld collectors are specializing in certain artists. In my own coin club, in Schweinfurt, there are two collectors trying to complete the notes designed by the Wuerzburg artist Heinz Schiestl.

Finally, there is a growing number of collectors searching special topics on Notgeld, such as windmills, flowers, Christmas, maps, sports, etc.

Concerning recent changes in German numismatics there

would be much to tell.

I would like to concentrate on the coin clubs over here.

Most serious collectors of coins, medals or bank notes, including Notgeld in Germany are members of a coin club. Some of them are of considerable age. The Berlin Coin Club, for example, was founded in 1843, and is now celebrating its 150th anniversary.

In that part of Germany which used to be West Germany, there might exist about 100 coin clubs. About 60 of them, generally those more engaged in serious numismatics than in mere collecting, are members of the German Numismatic

Society, founded in 1951.

In that part of Germany which used to be under communist rule every district had to have a coin club (more than 300), strictly organized and controlled by the leading party. Unlike collectors who were not members in those clubs, the members had privileges such as the possibility of buying commemorative coins, exhibiting, publishing, etc.

After Germany's reunification most of the East German coin clubs vanished but a considerable number survived. Of course, in the months and years after the collapse of the communist regime many clubs in Western Germany tried to help their fellow clubs in the East.

East German clubs were invited for a visit, spare literature and other material was sent and thus, German numismatists took part in the difficult task of mental reunification.

At the moment about 10 of the 50 surviving East German clubs are regular members of the German Numismatic Society.

Others will follow.

There are no special clubs in Germany for collectors of Notgeld but virtually every club has some members collecting these items.

Reinhold Jordan

(Herr Jordan is a school teacher in Schweinfurt. He is an officer in the German naval reserve.)

THE NOTGELD CORNER

Metal Monnaies de Necessite are featured in a recent pricelist of Victor Gadoury, 21, Boulevard d'Italie, Monte Carlo, Monaco.

A "Check List of Ships (boats, watercraft) on German Notgeld has been compiled by Dwight L. Musser, Box 905, Lacoochee, Fla. 33537. He asks \$1 for the list (\$5 in a special edition keepsake library format in a plastic binder). There are six pages which list some 170 varieties from 100 issuing authorities.

Natzweiler concentration camp, southwest of Strasbourg, France, halfway to St. Die in the vicinity of highway N420, near Schirmeck, issued a concentration camp note, reported by Lance Campbell in a recent issue of the Journal of the International Bank Note Society.

Typical of publications from the former East German coin clubs is a feature by Klaus Schmeil, "Die Burg Dueben als Motiv im Exlibris eines Numismatikers," and by Hans Funk "Das Duebener Notgeld 1919-1923."

The publication was from the Kulturbund der DDR, titled "10 Jahre Fachgruppe Numismatik Bad Dueben." (See letter from Rheinhold Jordan in this issue.) Readers will recall that Bad Dueben is on the Mulde River, listed in our May 1993 issue of Notgeld-issuing towns along the Mulde.

Notes illustrated range from five-Pfennig issues dated Nov. 1, 1919, to 100 Milliarden Mark issues of Nov. 1, 1923.

Funk cites laws of the city which initiated the printing of the notes and the number of each denomination authorized.

September 1993

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Duisburg, Stadt Sept. 25, 1923 100 Millionen Mark K-1179m
   GR 7242 $3
Eckarsberga April 1, 1921 10 Pf L-293a $.65*
Eckarsberga May 1, 1921 25, 50 L-293a $1.25*
Eckernfoerde ND 1 Mark L-295 $.60*
Ehrenbreitstein/Rhein Aug. 3, 1921 25, 50, 75 Pf L-299 $1.75 Einbeck Dec. 20, 1920 25, 50 Pf P-S 533b $4*
Eisbergen/Weser March 1921 50 Pf L-305 $1.25
Eisenach Octs. 24, 1918 10 Mark K-112 $3
Eisenach Oct. 24, 1918 50 Mark K-112 $3 Punch cancelled Eisenach Nov. 20, 1919 50 Pf P-S 535c $1
Eisenach ND 25 (2), 50 (2), 75 (2) Pf L-308c Martin Luther
    Schiest1 designer $3.75*
Eisenach ND 50 (6) Pf L-208b Luther set Schiestl designer $4*
Eisenach Oct. 25, 1923 1 Milliarde Mark K-1278c $3
Eisenberg/Waldeck (in Corbach) May 15, 1921 20, 50 Pf L-309
Eisenberg/Thuer. ND 10, Pf L-310a $2*
Eisenberg Thuer. 1921 50 Pf L-310b $2*
Elberfeld Oct. 25, 1918 5, 10, 20 Mark K-114 $15
Elberfeld Nov. 15,1918 1 Mark K-114g $1
Elberfeld Nov. 15, 1919 25 (2) Pf P-S 540a $1.50*
Elberfeld March 10, 1920 5, 10 (2) Pf P-S 540g \$3* Elberfeld Sept. 8, 1923 50 Millionen Mark K-1294k \$3
Elbing/Westpreussen Aug. 5, 1914 K-91 Punch cancelled $5
Elbing/Westpreussen March 1, 1921 50 Pf P-S 542f $1.50
Eldagsen June, 1921 25, 50 Pf, 1 Mark L-315 $2.50*
Ellrich Harz Sept. 1, 1921 50 Pf L-319 $1.25*
Emden ND (to Feb. 1, 1919) 1 Mark K-119 $2.50* Emmerich Dec. 15, 1918 50 Pf P-S 554e $.75
Emmerich Dec. 1, 1920 50 Pf P-S 554f $.50
Ems, Bad Nov. 18, 1918 10, 50 Pf P-S 555a $2.75*
Eppelborn-Dirmingen Feb. 15, 1921 10, 25, 50 Pf L-326
Erbach Odenwald Nov. 1918 50 Pf, 1 Mark P-S 557 $1.25*
Erfurt April 7, 1921 50 (2) Pf L-331b $2.25*
Erfurt April 7, 1921 10, 25, 50. 75 Pf L-331d $2
Erfurt Aug. 1, 1923 500,000 Mark K-1377a $2.75
Erkelenz Aug. 22, 1921 50 Pf L-334 $1.75*
Eschershausen/Braunschweig June 1, 1921 10, 50, 75 Pf, 1, 2
    Mark L-337 $4*
Esens/Hannover ND 10 Pf P-"S 580 $1.25*
Esingen ND 25. 50 (2) 75 Pf L-339 $8*
Esslingen ND 50 Pf P-S 584a $2*
Eutin Dec. 1920 25 Pf L-345 $.65*
Eschwege ND 50 Pf L-338 $1.25*
Eschweiler Nov. 1, 1918 50 Pf P-S 579b $.65
Essen July 20, 1923 100,000 Mark K-1415a $2.50
Essen Aug. 3, 1923 500,000 Mark K-1415b $2.25
Essen Aug. 12, 1923 | Millionen Mark K-1415c $3
Essen Aug. 19, 1923 5 Millionen Mark K-1415e $2.75
Essen Sept. 22, 1923 100 Millionen Mark K-1415h $3
Essen July 10, 1923 100,000 Mark Fried. Krupp K-1429b $3.50
Essen-Ruttenscheid August 1923 3 Millionen Mark Steinkohlen-
     bergwerk Langenbrahm K-1439 $4
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Essen-Ruttenscheid August 1923 5 Millionen Mark Steinkohlen-
     bergwerk Langenbrahm K-1439 $4
Ettenheim March 1, 1922 50 Pf L-338 $.65*
Eutin Dec. 1920 50 Pf L-345 $.60*
Fallersleben Oct. 1, 1920 10, 25, 50 Pf L-346 $1.75*
Finsterwalde/N.L. Dec. 5, 1919 10 Pf P-S 602 torn corner $.60
Finsterwalde N.L. July 1921 25, 50, 75 Pf L-348 $2.25*
Flensburg Jan. 16, 1920 25 Pf L-355a $.60
Forst/Laustiz July 1, 1921 10, 20, 25, 50 Pf L-357 $2.75*
Frankenhausen Kuffhaeuser June 19, 1921 50 (6) Pf L-359a
$7.50*
Frankfurt/Main May 1, 1917 25, 50 Pf P-S 622 $1.25
Frankfurt/Main Oct. 15, 1918 5 Mark K-137a $3
Frankfurt/Main Nov. 1, 1919 25 Pf P-S 622b $.60*
Frankfurt-Griesheim Oct. 28, 1918 5 Mark K-138 $2.50*
Frankfurt/Oder 1921 10, 25, 50, 100 Pfennig L-363 $2.25*
Fraustadt deutsch Posen ND (1917) 25, 50 Pf P-S 629 $3*
Freiberg/Sachsen ND 1, 2 Pf P-S 631g $1.25*
Freiberg/Sachsen Am Streittag (July 22, 1921) 100 Pf
      (97 + 1, 2 Pf) L-365a \$.65*
Freiburg/Breisgau March 30, 1920 50 Pf P-S 636d $.75*
Freienwalde Pomm. 1920 75 Pf L-2 371a $1.25*
Freyburg/Unstrut May 15, 1920 5, 50 Pf P-S 639a $1.25*
Friedrichroda/Thuer. ND 10 (3), 30 (4) 50 (2) L-379a
      Wintersportplatz $16*
Friesack/Mark Nov. 1921 25, 50 Pf L-382 $1.25*
Frohse/Elbe May 1, 1921 25, 50, 75 Pf L-383 $1.75*
Frose Anhalt March 15, 1921 10, 25, 50 (4) Pf L-384a $3,25*
Frose Anhalt June 27, 1921 25, 50 (2), 75 Pf, 1 Mark (50+50
     Pf) L-384b $3.50*
Frose Anhalt ND 75 Pf L-384c Loesungsschein $1.25*
Fuerstenau Hannover Dec. 6, 1921 25 Pf L-386 I $.65
Fuerfstenberg/MKeck-Strel Aug. 1, 1821 10, 25, 50, 75 (2) Pf,
     1 Mark (2) L-386 I $4.25*
Fuerstenwalde/Spree 19821 20 (3), 25 (2), 50 (3), 75 (2) Pf
     L-389 Heinz Schiestl $6.50*
Gatersleben July 30, 1921 25, 50 (4), 75 Pf L-395 4* Geldern March 30, 1921 25 Pf P-S 697c 1.25*
Geldern ND 25, 50, 75 Pf, 1, 2 Mark L-400 Schecks $7.50
Geldern Nov. 4, 1921 75 )8) Pf L-402 $10
Geldern April 15, 1923 5,000 Mark K-1922 Nr. 678 $3
Genthin July 1, 1921 25 (2), 50 (2), Pf, 1 (2), 2 (2), 5 (2)
     Mark L-405a $7*
Genthin July 1, 1921 25, 50 Pf, 1, 2, 5 Mark L-405b $3.50*
Gera ND (to Feb. 1, 1919) 5, 10 Mark Red control Nrs. K-158
     $10
Gera ND (to Feb. 1, 1919) 20 Mark black control nrs. K-158
     $2.50 (with and without punch cancelled holes)
*Uncirculated
K-Keller catalogs; L-Lindman Serienscheine; P-S Pick-Siemsen
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