

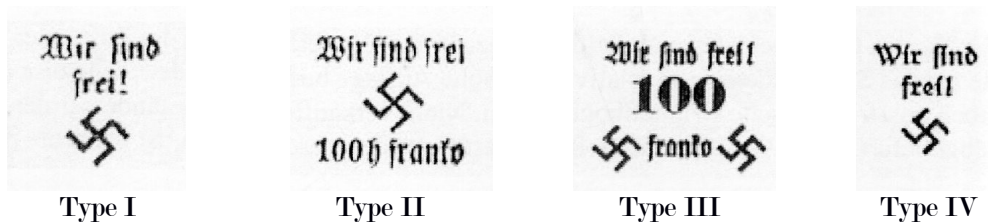
Rumburg Overprint 1938

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On September 21st, 1938 at 5 pm the radio aired the Czechoslovak note towards governments of The Great Britain and France. This was the final impulse to SdP chieftains who, on September 22nd, practically overtook executive power in the Šluknov Hook. Based on SdP order the postmaster Robert Erben took over the post management of the whole area.

Because of reluctance of German citizens to use Czechoslovak stamps it was decided to post-wide collect all Czechoslovak securities and overprint them with „Wir sind frei!“ along with black swastika.

Stamps were overprinted by publisher Rumburger Zeitung in Heinrich Pfeiffer's printing house. Overall, 52 types of stamps were overprinted using 4 types of overprints:



For manufacturing of overprint plates of each overprint type ten basic blocks were produced. Overprint plates were manufactured by reproduction of basic blocks sorted to individual columns. Basic blocks used to produce the overprint plate show flaws thanks to which we can distinguish various overprint types in individual columns.

The exhibit will show distinct types. Type notation in this exhibit is derived from overprint type (roman number I-IV) and column (1st to 10th column). For type I overprint 8 overprint plates are known. A necessity to use multiple plates with this overprint type was caused by various formats of overprinted stamps but also by relatively high number of copies of stamps with type I overprint. This is why the notation of type I overprint uses symbols I-1 through I-8.

The exhibit also shows overprint flaws with determination of overprint position. Some overprint flaws are premiered in this exhibit. In overprint position tables attached in exhibit sheets the distinct types are shown in green and overprint flaws in red.

Exhibit contents:

- chapter I – general collection,
- chapter II – overprint flaws and type positions in stamp fields,
- chapter III – plate numbers and marks,
- chapter IV – post use of stamps and stationery with Rumburg overprint.

The exhibit contains rare items that are noted **R** – rare, **RR** – very rare, **U** – unique.

From all the interesting and rare items I would like to highlight:

- sheets 24 and 33 – mirrored swastika on ZP 91 and ZP 5 (unique),
- sheet 35 – exchanged stamp block on 30 h nominal Falcon in flight – ZP 1 (unique),
- sheet 53 – exclamation point tapped from above on ZP 84 on the Bachmač stamp (2 pcs.),
- sheet 71 – use of stamp with overprint 50 h 1st day of issue on whole (very rare)

Used literature:

1. Hörr J. H., Dub E. – Die Postwertzeichen des Sudetenlandes
2. Späth G. A. – Sudetenland 1938 – Handbuch der Sudetenphiletelie
3. Engel H. – Sudetenland Stempelkatalog

All exhibit items are either certified or were checked by a commission of experts member Mr. T. Pazdernik.

The exhibit is meant to be used for collectible and study purposes only. In no way it is to be understood as a support or propagation of movements aimed at suppressing human rights and freedoms.