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The Yugoslavia Study Group

Founded in 1984 to promote the study of the stamps and postal history of Yugoslavia, its predecessor and successor states

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There will be no monograph published in 2014.

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Jugopošta



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Cover story

Slovenian postal 10 vinar imprinted revenue stamp on a postal delivery note (poštna spremnica) for a 6 kg delivery from Domzale to Kumanovo in Macedonia on 22 July 1920. The printed notation “16v” showed payment for the form, the postage stamps paid for the delivery and the 10 vinar imprinted revenue was the government’s cut. See article starting on page 5.



From the President

In the past four Jugopoštas I have made an appeal for a replacement Auction Manager, so far I have had no response. I would ask you to consider taking over this job, because it is a very important part of the Society's activity, which is a benefit to buyers and sellers alike, and is a low cost method of enhancing your collection, as well as providing an avenue for selling your surplus material. Anybody taking up the post will inherit a smooth running efficient system; and obviously help or advice would be given initially, so previous experience is not a necessity.

Please give this your urgent consideration, because the alternative without a volunteer coming forward would be to have no auction at all.

Many of you have a good knowledge of your aspect of Yugoslavian philately, and may feel that it does not get enough coverage in our publication; so why not produce an article or even better a monograph to share your knowledge with our members. Help or advice is always available to get you started.

Please also let your Editor know of any philatelic awards or achievements for publication in the magazine.

We are looking to organise a meeting for YSG members in order for them to be able to display material to other members. A date in October is most likely with a location fairly central in London. We will circulate information as soon as we have something definite.

A J Bosworth FRPSL

From the Editor

In this edition of Jugopošta we have an article on Slovenian revenue stamps, a topic which has not been covered much before. There is also the first part of an article on the stamps of Serbia in World War II. My note at the beginning of the article explains more. I have also included an article on new issues and a short article on a Serbian postcard.

The Membership Secretary reports that the YSG as at 1 January 2014 had 77 members, remaining more or less constant over the last year. We welcome Mr T Healy of Guildford and Mr R Plevcak of Queensland, Australia as members.

Member Dr Henk Buitenkamp has made contact, noting that, together with Johan Sevenhuijsen, he is making a study of handstamps in the Prekmurje during the period 1919 to 1921. He is looking for scans of Slovenian cancellations from that period in order to show the use of Hungarian, nationalised Hungarian, regional Slovenian and new hand stamps (with use of Latin and Cyrillic text). If you are able to help, please contact Dr Buitenkamp at henkbertha@gmail.com.

SLOVENIA 1918-1919: IMPRINTED REVENUE STAMPS ON RAIL FREIGHT DOCUMENTS

Andy Waters (Vienna)

I am a collector of the postal history of the Krona and vinar values of Slovenia's Chainbreaker series. I have never had an interest in revenue stamps. However, a recent opportunity to acquire some items documenting rail transit through Slovenia in 1919 caused me to reflect on the fact that revenue stamps from this period -- and especially the imprinted stamps -- have been much neglected. For sure, these are not postage stamps, but they and the documents they are on relate to a delivery from sender to recipient -- albeit a package usually weighing tons and enclosed in a steel railway wagon. And such items do actually have much in common with some other documents that are happily collected by postal historians of this period and others.

Revenue stamps Revenue stamps have been defined by The Revenue Society as "stamps, whether impressed, adhesive or otherwise, issued by or on behalf of International, National or Local Governments, their Licensees or Agents, and indicate that a tax, duty or fee has been paid or prepaid or that permission has been granted." ¹

Two issues of adhesive revenues are known to have been used in Slovenia in 1918/1919, although little detail has been published. I have seen almost nothing published about the imprinted revenue stamps of the same period. Indeed, the publications on revenues I consulted barely considered them.

- Jelinčič (2010) ² limited its scope to adhesive revenues.
- Barefoot (2003) ³ provided only "tentative notes" under "Yugoslavia imprinted revenues" and urged contributions from readers.
- Spahić (1968) ⁴ did not mention imprinted revenues.

I looked at rail freight documents ⁵ recording deliveries both originating in Slovenia and transiting Slovenia in 1919 and came to the following tentative findings.

Two values of imprinted revenues on rail freight documents The freight documents carried two values of imprinted revenue, which were used concurrently. A 30 vinar, which was possibly for domestic freight deliveries, and a 1 krona 20 vinar, which was possibly for freight deliveries arriving from abroad. Some documents also carry additional adhesive revenues -- predominantly a 1 krona adhesive added to a 30 vinar document. Further research is needed here.



Figures 1 and 2: 30 vinar and 1 krona 20 vinar imprinted revenue stamps (first issue) from unused rail freight documents ; each measures approximately 22.5 x 30.5 mm.

Two main issues of imprinted revenues on rail freight documents There were two main issues of the imprinted revenues, one bearing the text "Narodna vlada v Ljubljani, SHS" (National Government in Ljubljana, SHS) and the other with that text removed. The first issue is found on documents marked "Vozni list," Slovenian for waybill, while the second issue appears on documents marked "Tovorni list" that are in both the Latin and Cyrillic scripts.



Figures 3 and 4: 30 vinar and 1 krona 20 vinar imprinted revenue stamps (second issue) from unused rail freight documents ; each measures approximately 22.5 x 30.5 mm, although the outer margins are usually less distinct than on first issue imprints.

These two issues echo the adhesive revenues, which had two main issues indicated by the presence or absence of the text. Spahić dated both adhesive issues to 1919, giving 15 January as the first date of issue. Jelinčič dated the first issue to "before November 1918" and the second to 15 January 1919, which seems reasonable considering the importance of tax revenues for a new government such as the State of the Slovenes, Croats, and Serbs established on 29 October 1918 (and the earlier announcement of national councils on Slovene territory in August and September). It seems likely that a revenue stamp would be introduced into service long before a postage stamp.



Figures 5 and 6: 10 vinar adhesive revenue stamps from the first and second issues (Barefoot 2 and 12); the "Narodna vlada v Ljubljani, SHS" text of the first issue was replaced by a coloured circle in the second issue.

The format of the imprinted revenues evolved from the 1916 issue of Austro-Hungarian imprinted revenues, maintaining a somewhat similar form and the existing values; 30 heller and 1 krona 20 heller.



Figures 7 and 8: Austro-Hungarian 30 heller and 1 krona 20 heller imprinted revenue stamps on "Frachtbrief" rail freight documents used in Slovenia in 1919; they measure approximately 23 x 29 mm.

10 Vinar Imprinted Revenue The 10 vinar imprinted revenue stamp is well known in the existing literature.⁶ It is found on complete copies of the postal advisory note (poštna spremnica) and cash-on-delivery postal remittance (poštna nakaznica) forms from 1919.

The use of the 10v imprinted revenue on these forms is evidently for the same purpose as those on rail freight documents; the collection of revenue by the state. Therefore, it is not "an officially authorised pre-printed stamp or device or inscription indicating that a specific face value of postage or related service has been prepaid" according to the FIP's definition of postal stationery.⁷ It follows that the postal advisory note and cash-on-delivery postal remittance documents can not be considered to be postal stationery.

NB: I have only seen "first issue" 10 vinar imprinted revenue stamp on postal advisory notes. A "second issue" with the "Narodna vlada v Ljubljani, SHS" text removed does not appear to exist.



Figures 9 and 10: 10 vinar imprinted revenue stamp from an unused postal advisory note (approximately 22 x 29.5 mm) and a 1916 issue Austro-Hungarian 10 heller imprinted revenue from a similar form (approximately 24 x 29 mm) that was used in Maribor on 26 February 1920.



Figure 11: Postal 10 vinar imprinted revenue stamp on postal advisory note (*poštna spremnica*) for a 6 kg delivery from Domzale to Kumanovo in Macedonia on 22 July 1920. The printed notation "16 v" showed payment for the form, the postage stamps paid for the delivery, and the 10 vinar imprinted revenue was the government's cut.

Rail Freight documents There appear to be four types of documents used in Slovenia in 1919/1920:

- Austro-Hungarian "Frachtbrief" documents bearing either a 30 heller or a 1 krona 20 heller imprinted revenues. Other values may exist. The examples I have documented deliveries originating both in Slovenia (Hrastnik, Ljubljana) and from abroad, (Danzig, Warsaw), with dates from 1 May 1919 to 8 December 1919.
- "Vozni list" bearing the first issue of Slovene imprinted revenues (30v and 1k20v). The examples I have documented deliveries both within Slovenia and from Slovenia to Serbia with dates from 2 May 1919 to 7 August 1919.
- "Tovorni list" bearing the second issue of Slovene imprinted revenues (30v and 1k20v). All the examples I have documented deliveries from Germany, transiting Slovenia, to Serbia. Dates ranged from 1 to 29 December 1919.
- "Brzovozni list" -- apart from the name, it is identical to the "Tovorni list" -- bearing the second issue of Slovene imprinted revenues (30v and 1k20v). The earliest use I have seen was 7 November 1919, with other uses in 1920.

There are also "duplicate" forms -- "duplikat voznega lista" with Latin script only, and "Duplikat voznega listka." in Latin and Cyrillic. These forms do not have imprinted revenues.



Figure 12: Too big for me to scan: a photograph of a complete "Vozni list" rail freight document with a 30 vinar first issue imprinted revenue and additional 1 krona first issue adhesive revenue. The document records a delivery of one wagon containing 10 metric tons of glass bottles from Ljubljana to Sombor in Vojvodina, Serbia on 23 June 1919. The document measures approximately 325 x 385 mm. Rail freight documents are rarely clean and well kept, having served hard duty in an industrial context.



Figure 13: Upper part of an Austro-Hungarian "Frachtbrief" rail freight document for delivery of a 10 metric ton load of "pharmacy material" (lekarniski materijal) comprising "medicine and other bottles" sent from Hrastnik to Sombor via Sisak, on 19 June 1919. Delivery cost 1,850 kroner 20 vinar. It has a 30 heller imprinted revenue and a 1 krona adhesive revenue.

Vozni list.

(Za vozno pogodbo veljajo obratni pravilnik in tarife, ki pridejo v poštev)

Prejmi: *Glavni magistral*
Ljubljana - državna železnica
Ljubljana

(Stanovanje) _____

Namembna postaja: *Ljubljana d. ž. kol.*

Namenišče: _____

Pot prevoza, ki bi se morda predlagala _____

Tarife, ki jih je uporabljal _____

19. V. 1919

VOZ		
Številka in serija 1)	Znak lastnine 2)	Nakladna teža (kg) / Nakladna površina (m²)
15452 9/10	11,000	
Vozni list št.		
Listek št.		

1) Naj vpiše pošiljatelj, ako je ob oddaji založil blago.
 2) Je treba navesti, ako je nakladnja blaga, ki je ob oddaji založil blago.

Figure 14: Upper part of an SHS rail freight document (Vozni list) for the movement of a 10 metric ton load from Ljubljana's main railway station (Glavni kolodvor) to the state railway (državna železnica) -- presumably shunting of the wagon -- on 19 May 1919. The charge was 159 kroner 30 vinar.

Tovorni list. — Товарни лист.

(Za vozno pogodbo veljajo obratni pravilnik in tarife, ki pridejo v poštev)
 (За во́зную по́годоу прилага́ются обратный прави́льник и тари́фы, ко́е при́дут в употребле́ние)

Prejmi: *Primož Indurkalo*
Primož Indurkalo

(Stanovanje) _____

Namembna postaja: *Ljubljana*

Namenišče: _____

Pot prevoza, ki bi se morda predlagala _____

Tarife, ki jih je uporabljal _____

29. XII. 1919

VOZ — БОЗ		
Številka in serija 1)	Znak lastnine 2)	Nakladna teža (kg) / Nakladna površina (m²)
22234 (Sombor)	15	
Tovorni list št.		
Listek št.		

1) Naj vpiše pošiljatelj, ako je ob oddaji založil blago.
 2) Je treba navesti, ako je nakladnja blaga, ki je ob oddaji založil blago.

Figure 15: Upper part of an SHS rail freight document (Tovorni list) for the movement of a 10 metric ton load of salt originating in Baden, Germany from Spielfeld Strass to Sombor on 29 December 1919.

Additional franking While the addition of 1 krona adhesive revenues -- possibly for further government services such as customs -- appears to be common, I have not observed the addition of postage stamps serving as revenues on rail freight documents used in Slovenia in 1919.

However, I have seen the addition of the 1920 issue of adhesive revenue on later documents has been observed, as has the use of Chainbreaker stamps on rail freight documents used in Croatia.



Figure 16: top part of a "Brzovozni list" document, with additional 10 and 20 para adhesive revenues (Barefoot 23 and 24). It recorded the delivery of 7,720 kg of machine oil from Ljubljana to Sombor on 30 July 1920.



Figure 17: Hungarian rail freight document with vinar- and para-value Chainbreakers used as revenues. It recorded the delivery of a load originating in Hungary (MAV) from Suhopolje in Croatia to Sombor on 3 July 1920.



Figure 18: Hungarian rail freight document with vinar-value Chainbreakers used as revenues. It recorded the delivery of a load originating in Hungary (MAV) from Suhopolje in Croatia to Sombor on 3 June 1920.

References and notes:

1. Definition posted on the website of The Revenue Society -- <http://www.revenuesociety.org.uk>.
2. Zmago Jelinčič Plemeniti, *Upravni Koleki na Slovenskih Administrativnih Ozemljih* (Administrative Revenues of Slovenia), 2010.
3. John Barefoot, *Yugoslavia Revenues* (1st edition), 2003.
4. Dimitri Spahić, *Fiscal Stamps of Yugoslavian States*, 1968.

5. For this article, the author examined over 50 complete rail freight documents bearing imprinted revenues used for deliveries on the rail system in Slovenia between May and December 1919.
6. Igor Pirc, "Postal Stationery from the Chainbreaker Period" in *Proceedings of the International Symposium Ljubljana 17-19 April 2009*, 2009.
7. Website of the Federation Internationale de Philatelie (FIP) -- http://www.f-i-p.ch/regulation/pdf/Stationary_Srev.pdf.

SERBIAN POSTAL SERVICE IN WORLD WAR II – Part 1

Dr. H.-J. Zydek, Bonn

The Editor writes:

In Jugopošta 42 (1995), an article entitled “Public Postal Service in Serbia during World War II: A Report in Instalments” by Dr H. –J. Zydek was published. It was translated from the original by Frank Delzer. A footnote stated:

“This article is a translation of the first two instalments of a larger work by Dr Zydek appearing in the Arge “Jugoslawien” newsletter Nr 5/76 pp 63 – 65 and Nr 6/77 pp 73 – 75. The remaining third instalment will appear later.”

In fact, the remaining instalment never appeared. However, our member Frank Delzer, having translated the original parts, made contact in 2013 offering to translate the third instalment. This offer was gratefully accepted. This was duly received by the Editor, along with a reviewed version of the original article in JP42. In view of the length of the complete article, I have published here the reviewed version of the original article and the newly-translated additional section will appear in the next edition of Jugopošta. My thanks to Frank Delzer for his work.

I have reproduced the small number of illustrations from the original article excluding Illustration II-1 but, as these are scans of copies, inevitably these are of poor quality.

A) A Necessary Explanation

“The Arge Yugoslavia would like to learn a little something about the subject of public postal service in Serbia during World War II”. Thus or in some similar fashion was the form of the request that was presented to me by a person in charge of the society in approaching me on the subject.

Now I don’t wish to complain nor at the same time hide the fact that in a publication of this type, printing sections as part of a continuing series will only present the tip of the iceberg. This is particularly true if restricted to listing unusual items and varieties following a catalogue-style arrangement. Not to say that preparing a presentation in this format cannot work with a little bit of journalistic padding. However that will not deceive those who truly wish to learn and understand nor experts on the topic. Even going into detail, which is a necessity and must be recognized, does not help, when the basis of the presentation rests upon experience alone; empirical knowledge is only about one half philatelic, or more politely expressed, only a part of the larger whole.

And yet more: the following statements are far removed from guaranteeing that all has been said on any subject. In my opinion based on my current level of understanding, it is clearly evident, that there still remain a multitude of problems to be resolved, before anyone can provide an all-inclusive description of the public postal service in Serbia during this period. I am even more firm in this belief since publishing my book “The Serbian Public Postal Service in the Second World War (Part I)” in 1973. Since then a plethora of new discoveries has been documented, along with so many new questions, which have arisen, that it is difficult to decide which take precedent over the others. Among the especially weighty matters are the official publications of the Serbian authorities, and first among them being those of the PTT-Ministry, which, in spite of considerable effort, have as yet to be made accessible. Even the Yugoslavian Embassy in the Federal Republic of West Germany—to use polite words—has denied us access. The search continues for a contact in Yugoslavia, which could provide assistance. Another path must be taken to achieve this goal. Might there be members of the *Arge* or readers of the newsletter who have access to such archives or who can further this effort?

Discussion here will be minimal on the presentation of historical, particularly the wartime conditions, which naturally serve for better understanding of the situation. The reasons for this omission are, on the one hand, all that can be offered here would be a simplified narrative and, on the other hand, this material was all covered in my previously mentioned book. Since 1973 no new, enlightening information has appeared on that subject. My statements from that date until now with respect to Serbia cannot be improved upon.

B) Introduction

The philatelically-relevant period of time in Serbia does not begin with the first issue of stamps on 5 June 1941. The Postal Service and the unavoidable censorship of correspondence definitely functioned earlier.

The period from the effective surrender date on 18 April 1941, or with respect to Serbian territory, from the end of military operations up until the issue of the first stamps I will divide into two periods, in spite of the fact that theoretically the public postal service covered the entire area.

1. Until May 11, 1941 nothing was published by the Postal Ministry. Only on the 11th – according to SFIB 1942—with issuance of Circular 1. from the PPT-Ministry was there a description of the postal services to be provided and the functioning thereof. This was not carried out throughout the country in all post offices from one day to the next. Owing to transport difficulties extension to all post offices took place over a two-week or longer period of time. Only then could it be said that compliance with Circular 1. was effectively and uniformly in place.

The shortage of new stamps was addressed in the Circular and a listing of certain prewar Yugoslav stamps was provided, which were those of the King Peter issue of 1939/40 with the values of 0.50, 1.00 and 2.00 Dinars (Michel Nos. 394, 395 and 397) as being

permitted for use on mail. All other Yugoslavian postage stamps were declared to be invalid.

The three values were valid for postal use until June 5, 1941.

That [May 11 through June 5, 1941] is the period in which “forerunner stamps” were valid. These are extremely rare.

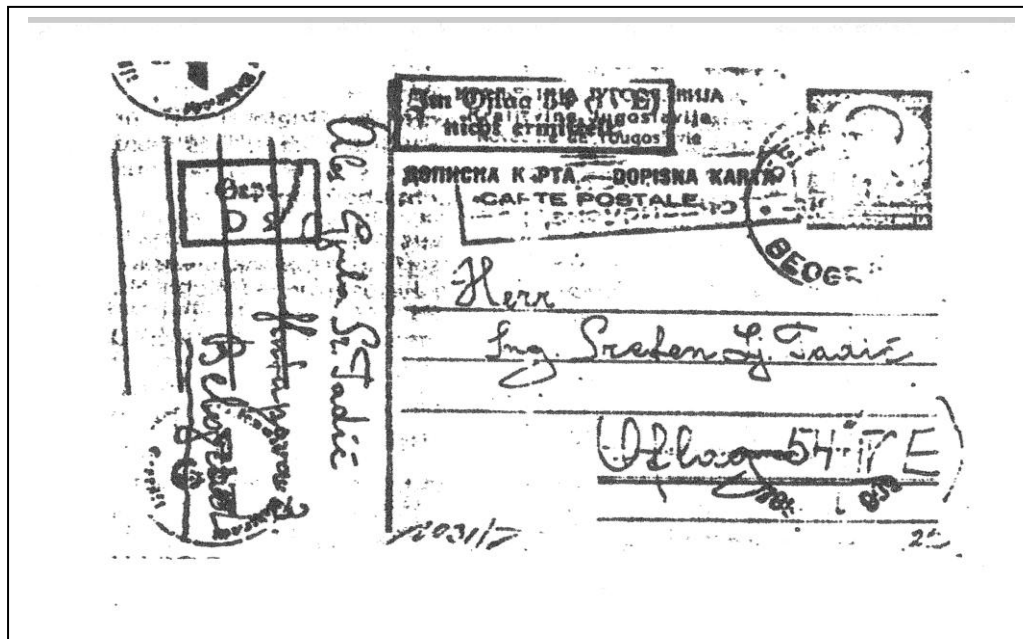


Illustration I-1

In the references available nothing was said in the Circular of May 11, 1941 to specifically authorize the use of the three stamp values only or whether the postal card with the imprinted 1 Dinar King Peter stamp was included in the authorization for use. Illustration I-1. shows an example of the postal card as having been received by the post office and delivered to the addressee without any problems. This piece of postal stationery, which received a censor stamp, was cancelled in Belgrade on June 3, 1941, the date however is not to be seen clearly.

*Dr. Zydek numbers all illustrations in each article beginning with No. 1. To avoid confusion the translator will preface illustrations with a Roman numeral to indicate in which of the three articles the illustration appears.

2. The other period includes the period of time before the publication and effective date of the ministerial Circular mentioned previously.

In view of the lightning-like progress of the invasion and the relatively slight damages and the undebatable fact that Serbia was among the few countries in the Balkans with genuine and diverse postal service needs, it is not surprising that provisional regional and urban postal service was restored before the PTT regulations could be formulated and published. It is also no surprise that very shortly after the German invasion franked envelopes were appearing at post offices.



Illustration I-2

Illustration I-2 shows one of a pair of franked letters that were offered in Köhler's Auction 211. Mirko Verner certified these letters as genuine (errors in the German text by the expertiser have been corrected):

“A letter from the period of the German Occupation of Yugoslavia (Banat Province) has been presented to me with stamps of the Yugoslavian postage due issue (Michel Nos. 64-68) along with the King Peter 1.50 Dinar postage stamp (Michel No. 396) cancelled with the circular date stamp of PANČEVO (=Pantschowa) in black in addition to a rubber double ring stamp in lilac with the swastika in the centre and the inscription above stating “POST” and below “PANTSCHOWA” in Gothic script. The date of the postal cancel is 1. V. 1941”.

“The letter is an example of a local cancellation approved by the Postal Directorate in Veliki Beckerek (=Gross Betschkerek), which during 28 days was the norm and obligatory for usage. Similar cancellations on envelopes and on piece are extremely rare. To date I have only seen six similar envelopes. “

Verner, an expertizer certified by the Serbian Philatelic Society of Belgrade and a

member of the expertizer's association "A.I.E.P.", guaranteed the genuine character of the cancellation on both of the envelopes in the Köhler auction and one was further certified by the now deceased Juli Bar in Ljubljana.

Unfortunately to date nothing more about these letters and the cancellation has been provided by Mr. Verner. The assumption is that the supervisor of the postal directorate in Veliki Beckerek was still alive; and just thirty years after the end of the war it should be possible to contact him in order to obtain postal documentation of the circumstances surrounding the authorization of the stamps and the cancellation.

Perhaps the *Arge* could arrange a contact with the corresponding Yugoslavian philatelic group. Even though I am remote from this area and without the expertise to provide an opinion, I would agree with the position that the envelopes are genuine rather than say they are philatelic "trash".

Joking aside, this is not a forerunner in the framework of the Public Postal Service, because this was not a valid usage in all of occupied Serbia. It also has no parallel with the Sudeten Commemorative Overprints, because those had no postal validity.

If Verner's opinions are correct then these really are Local Overprints in the sense of the definition provided by Häger on p. 263. [This publication lacks further details of the reference.] I would use the phrase of "Local Issue" even if Mr. Häger's definition makes a finer distinction.

Here are the facts and circumstances as I know them:

---In the case of the double circle cancellation – per Verner – no cancelling over the Pančevo cancellation was done. Furthermore, the double circle lilac cancel was struck first on the stamps and then the black postal cancel was applied. An envelope even exists with several stamps, among which there is one, which is only cancelled with the lilac swastika. It may have been an oversight, because – based on verbal communication—stamps with the lilac swastika marking should only have been sold in pre-cancelled condition to customers.

---From this it could be concluded that stamps were not sold individually in uncanceled condition but only after the swastika "control cancel" had been applied. However this was not apparently the case as almost all stamps known with the swastika are tied by the cancel to the cover.

---The time frame of 28 days from the date of Serbia's surrender and the publication of the Ministerial Circular appears to be excessively long, above all since in Verner's certificate the question is left unanswered whether this local issue cancel was authorized by the Circular of May 11, 1941 or, perhaps previously by an order from the postal directorate in Veliki Beckerek and rescinded by the Circular.

---I know of no other similar envelopes or stamps on paper.

---In total I know of five letter-envelopes on which prewar Yugoslavian stamps were cancelled in the form described and all, with the exception of one as mentioned above, "over-cancelled" with the circular date cancel in black. These have Michel Nos. 340-347, 393-407, 426, 427, 429-432 and P64-68 used on them.

Furthermore two cut-outs have surfaced with three copies of Michel No. 395 on them.

Who might know anything more about these stamps or anything to the contrary?

C) The Stamps in Order of Issuance:

1. **The provisional overprinted issue (Serbia I) of 5. June 1941:** A 15 value issue on reprints of the Yugoslavian King Peter stamps (Michel Nos. 393-407).
2. Network overprint (not an underprint) in green and rose-lilac as well as
3. Black overprint "SERBIEN" running from upper left diagonally downward to the lower right

Design of the King Peter 1939/40 stamp issue by Sreten Grujic

Engraved by Rade Stojanovic

Printed by typography in the National Printing Plant in Belgrade in counter panes of 10 x 10 = 100 stamps

Paper is coated

Perforation: comb perforated 12-1/2

Number Printed: varied from 6 million to 50,000 = 50,000 complete sets

Date Issued: 5 June 1941 (but not all values at the same time) but rather Nos. 2, 3 and 5 appeared first.

Period of Validity: until February 23, 1943 (disputed)

Catalogue Listing (g=green, r=rose-lilac)

Catalog Number	Denomination / Color	Quantity Printed	Network Color	Michel Number
1	0.25 Din. brown-black	200,000	g	393
2	0.50 Din. orange	3,000,000	r	394
3	1.00 Din. green	4,000,000	g	395
4	1.50 Din. red	1,000,000	r	396
5	2.00 Din. lilac carmine	6,000,000	r	397
6	3.00 Din. lilac brown	100,000	r	398
7	4.00 Din. ultramarine	2,000,000	g	399
8	5.00 Din. dark blue	100,000	g	400
9	5.50 Din. dark brown-violet	100,000	r	401
10	6.00 Din. dark blue	100,000	r	402
11	8.00 Din. dark brown	100,000	g	403
12	12.00 Din. violet	100,000	g	404
13	16.00 Din. dark violet brown	100,000	r	405
14	20.00 Din. light blue	100,000	g	406
15	30.00 Din. lilac-rose	50,000	g	407

Varieties

1. Overprint Varieties

A) Plate Flaws

-First E with protruding upper horizontal bar

This variety varies in intensity. Frequently is reduced to a thin line or even a free-standing dot (on some stamps in a partial printing shows as two dots). The arrangement on a pane is uniform (10 x) however the different variations in shape or form are not, perhaps owing to plate wear.

-First E broken between the vertical and upper horizontal bar.

Only found one time on several values in a partial printing. Location not yet determined.

-Second E with a prominent dot outside left at the level of the middle bar. To date not found on all values in the same pane position.

-Letter R with a dot below the end of the right foot in variable sizes and intensity.

These should not be confused with line segments from the printing cliché. Determination of which case you are dealing with often can only be made when taking other minor overprint details into account. The variety occurs in an entire vertical column of stamps 10x on a pane, but because of wear is often indistinct.

Other plate flaws are known (e.g. a dot below the letter N), but these are in no way comparable to the four described above in terms of consistency.

B) Overprint Damage

Especially frequent with the letters “IEN”. Not to be confused with a weak or misstruck overprint. Typically found on a partial printing of Nos. 2 and 13 in the same pane positions. Exact locations on the panes not yet determined.

C) Overprint Spacing Variations

The spacing between the overprint on the 5th and 6th vertical rows varies. It is either narrower or wider than the spacing on the other columns on the panes. The dimension varies from 22.5 to 24.5 mm as measured from the top ends of the feet on the pair of the letters “N”.

The reason for the variation is because the overprinting was done using a plate consisting of 50 clichés, five stamps wide by ten stamps vertically. On a cautionary note, this variation shouldn't be confused

with the minimal spacing differences on stamps from other vertical or even horizontal rows. These are constant features of the overprinting plate and occur regularly on the same pane positions.

D) Missing Overprint

This variety has been listed for some time in German catalogues. In the Michel Specialized Catalogue it is listed as (Roman numeral) II. There are two distinct groups that can be identified:

1st Group: Only the overprint ink is missing. The impression is discernible and these would be termed “blind overprints.”

2nd Group: The overprint is missing completely—no ink and no impression on the stamps.

Of the first group I am only familiar with the 1.00 and 2.00 Din. values (Michel Nos. 3 and 5). These have been seen on partial panes and it is therefore relatively certain that these were “printed” in full sheets. . . not in the same category as single stamps from Macedonia which are surrounded by stamps with overprints. (See Zydek in *DS* 10/11 1976 p. 130 under 6a.) That is not to say that if blind overprints of other values of the Serbia I set appear that they might not belong to a Macedonia-type of occurrence, rather than coming from a full sheet of errors.

Of the second group Michel once again only lists the 1.00 and 2.00 Din. values and these in my opinion occur only in full panes. Older listings of values with this error show Nos. 10, 11 and 12. (6, 8 and 12 Din.) as also existing with the network overprint but without the country name.

E) Double Overprint

Michel reports the following values with this error:

No. 2DD (0.50 Din.)	No. 8DD (5.— Din.)
No. 3DD (1.— Din.)	No. 9DD (5.50 Din.)
No. 5DD (2.— Din.)	No.12DD (12.—Din.)

Several sources, particularly Yugoslavian writers, omit the No. 8DD, which according to my present knowledge may be rebuttable. Other writers not only omit No. 8DD but also replace No. 12DD with No. 13DD (16.— Din.). I have never seen either 8DD nor 13DD, and can offer no further opinion.

F) Inverted Overprint

All accessible, reliable sources show No. 2 (0.50 Din.) as the stamp value from the Serbia I issue with an inverted overprint. Michel however does not recognize the error. I concur with Michel as I have never seen a stamp with this error, and can neither say that this is an error affecting an entire pane, or simply the result of attempting to replace a damaged overprint

cliché and the replacement cliché inserted upside down. In the American translation (The Trumpeter March 1976 p. 3) about Croatian Provisional stamps Dr. Rommerskirchen describes this type of “repair” as a typical, misguided effort by the staff at the Belgrade National printing plant. The reader can reach his own conclusion as to what happened and how it occurred.

G) Shifted Overprint

The idea here is that the shift must be pronounced (at a minimum at least one letter of the word “SERBIEN” must be entirely or substantially missing from a stamp).

Such shifts exist on different values and even on the same value but shifted in a different direction. In the majority of cases the shift is both vertical and horizontal

Noticeable shifts have been reported for the following values:

No. 2 (0.50 Din.) two variations

No. 3 (1.00 Din.)

No. 4 (1.50 Din.)

No. 5 (2.00 Din.)

No. 13 (16.00 Din.) [confusion in German text says No. 14 and if so then is the 20 Din. Value.]

H) Offset Overprint

Michel’s opinion about offset impressions being worthy of catalogue listing is well known. From my point of view pronounced offsets are collectable and for that reason should be listed in catalogues. In any case, these do enjoy great popularity among collectors.

Normal Offset: This type of offset overprint can be found on almost all values of this set of stamps. However those that I have seen have so light an impression that I would not judge them to be worthy of collecting.

Diagonal Offset: The 0.50 Din. value (No. 2DD) is known with an offset on the design-side or front of the stamp. The offset occurs as a mirror image on the face of the stamp—not as a normal offset on the gum or reverse side of a stamp—and runs from top right to bottom left, which is the reverse of a normal overprint.

2. The Network Overprint

A) Missing Network

As Michel variety I the following stamps are reported without the network: Nos. 2, 3, 4, 5 and 7.

Other reporters go further as covered in SFIB 1942 and that should be evidence enough, even though I cannot say anything more than what Michel lists.

Seven values have been reported with a missing network overprint as follows:

No. 2 I	(0.50 Din.)
No. 3 I	(1.00 Din.)
No. 4 I	(1.50 Din.)
No. 5 I	(2.00 Din.)
No. 7 I	(4.00 Din.)
No. 12 I	(12.00 Din.)
No. 13 I	(16.00 Din.)

B) Shifted Network

In so far as network shifts go, most of these amount to only fractions of a millimetre when measured on the white or colourless margins of the stamp design. This type of a shift occurs so frequently that it does not merit discussion. Only shifts that measure

1 mm or greater are worthy of recognition.

Of these there are

---vertical shifts from left to right and not in the opposite direction, and

---shifts in a horizontal direction from bottom to top and not in the opposite direction.

Vertical shifts have been found in the first vertical row of the pane on Nos. 1, 5, 10, 11 and 13.

Horizontal shifts appear only on the lowest or bottom horizontal row of the pane. [The author, Zydek, reports Nos. 1, 6, 8, 9, 13 and 14 in this condition.]

Pane position 91 could show both the vertical and horizontal shift but to date not one stamp of any value has been reported.

C) Network Breaks

At a minimum, one pane of No. 5 (2.00 Din.) shows this flaw. The network overprint is broken in the form of a horizontal stripe running through two rows of stamps.

3. The Stamp Design

A) Plate Flaws and Errors

Contrary to the presentation in the previously mentioned book, “The Serbian Postal Service During World War II” pp. 31/32, I wish to present only such errors as I can personally attest to. What is noticeable is that with many (if not all) values of Serbia I at least two different clichés of the design can be distinguished. As a result of this situation plate flaws and errors exist on partial, but not all printings.

In general this means that design line breaks are only listed when they are distinct and clear. It is also especially necessary to be aware of the influence of variable paper thickness.

No. 1 :

- a) Colourless line on the left lapel which ends at the top like a button (partial printing).
- b) Circular colourless spot before the second J in JUGOSLAVIJA (partial printing).

No. 2 :

- a) Centreline of the medallion frame is missing in the lower one third of the oval (lowest oak leaf lacks flower cluster among others).
- b) The letter I in DIN is extended to join the colourless inner frame line.

No 3 :

- a) Second J in JUGOSLAVIJA has a hook at the outside lower right.
- b) Break to the outer frame line from the stem of the lower pair of leaves to the left of the medallion.
- c) Two shading lines to left of and near the crown are broken.
- d) Value block upper right above the number “1” is bent in a teardrop shape.

No. 4 :

- a) Spherical indentation in hair over forehead with connecting break in the shading in the medallion.
- b) Frame line below the A in ДИНА [Cyrillic DIN] is broken.
- c) Frame line upper left over crown is first bent in a wedge and second is broken.
- d) Similar to c) but with three indentations.
- e) Frame line to upper left of crown with one indentation.
- f) Similar to e) plus an interruption in the shading to upper left of crown.

- g) Letter C in Cyrillic “JUGOSLAVIA” with a “thorn” or hook at outer, lower right.
- h) Frame line of the left leaf in the second three-leaf cluster from the upper left is open on the left near the medallion below the tip of the leaf.

No. 5 :

- a) The “ear ring” (partial printing).
- b) Colourless spot on right near numeral “2”.
- c) Colourless spot on left near the numeral “2” at the edge of the value block.
- d) Broken shading line below the crown.
- e) Two broken shading lines on right near the cross on the crown.
- f) Colourless circle on the right lapel at shoulder height.

No. 6 :

- a) Coloured dot inside a colourless border on the right leg of the first “A” in Cyrillic JUGOSLAVIA; the white frame is connected with the “A” in a partial printing.
- b) Left frame line in the lower one third of the design over the value block as well as the facing inner frame line are broken in a partial printing.
- c) Colourless circle on the knot of the necktie (a partial printing).
- d) Letter C in its upper arc has a “thorn” on the inside (partial printing).

No. 7 :

- a. Colourless circle in hair above ear and cheekbone.
- b. Colourless spot on left near the number “4” (partial printing).
- c. “Pearl” on the necktie (partial printing).
- d. Very large colorless spot below the crown (partial printing).
- e. Middle frame line of the medallion broken in the lower one third (partial printing).
- f. Second oak leaf from the bottom open at the tip.

No. 8 :

- a) Left leaf of the lowest three-leaf cluster left of the medallion with a distinct coloured dot on the left side of the leaf.
- b) Upper right corner of design is split similar to an open bird’s beak.
- c) Shading on neck is broken appearing to be a hole.

No. 9 :

- a) “C” in Cyrillic JUGOSLAVIA like an “E”.
- b) Value block below *ДНН* indented several times at bottom.

No. 10 :

- a) Middle frame line of the medallion broken several times in the bottom half (several variations in the pane).

- b) Left frame line deeply indented on the outer side.
- c) “Pearl” on the necktie (partial printing).

No. 11 :

The clichés of No. 11 show a variety of broken frame lines among which are the following:

- a) Frame line below the H of *ДНН* broken.
- b) Frame line below the D of DIN broken.
- c) Frame line below the first J of JUGOSLAVIJA broken.
- d) Upper frame line and shading below on left near the centre of the design broken.
- e) Upper frame line and shading below just before the tip of the fourth leaf from the right broken.

No. 12 :

- a) Upper frame line on right above the crown broken and the shading line below deeply indented.

No. 13 :

- a) Tip of the right leaf of the upper leaf-pair joined with the stem of the leaf cluster below in the shape of a wave.
- b) Middle line of the medallion frame in the upper right quadrant broken narrowly in three places.

No. 14 :

- a) Two shading lines on left near the cross on the crown are joined by a coloured Dot.
- b) Two shading lines over right eyebrow joined by a coloured dot.
- c) Centre line of medallion frame broken in the lower left half

No. 15 :

There are so many panes with defective impressions, deficient inking and coarse paper structure surfacing that cliché flaws cannot be recognized with certainty.

In a partial printing the following flaws were to be seen distinctly;

- a) Plate crack nearly vertical through the king’s face, neck and necktie.
- b) Plate crack beginning from the O in Cyrillic JUGOSLAVIA progressing upward.

B) Double Printed Design?

A stamp has surfaced of the 6.00 Din value (No. 10) with a very weak impression next to the clear impression of the design shifted about 0.2 mm.

The verdict of a well known but no longer active stamp expert is that this is a “Schmitzdruck”, which was produced by paper movement or slippage during printing.

Certainly an expert in printing methods and processes could judge whether vibration or paper movement could produce a second impression of the complete stamp. In any case, since the printing method was typography, it would seem that this is a double printing. I will go into this topic deeper when discussing the airmail overprints of the series FLUG I.

C) Colour

Colour differences are in many cases subjective rather than objective. Nuances of colour that occur with stamps that are printed in large quantities are particularly prone to this situation and such are not included in my presentation. Those that do deserve mention are as follows:

No. 2 :

- a) orange
- b) red orange

No. 3 :

- a) pale yellow-green
- b) dark green

No. 9 :

- a) dark brown-violet
- b) dark violet-brown

No. 12 :

- a) violet
- b) reddish violet
with a strong difference under UV-lighting

No. 13 :

- a) dark violet-brown
- b) dark brown-violet

4. The Design Frame

Setting aside the different types of security strips and rectangles or blocks which can be of assistance in differentiating between counter panes and printings, there are two features that are of interest:

A) Identifying Printing Number

Because the pane margins are cut so narrowly plate numbers are exceedingly rare. According to *SFIB* the following are known:

No. 2 at the bottom either number 1 or 2

No. 4 on the right with the number 1 or 2

Who possesses any of these or comparable examples from other values of this set?

B) Blank Fields

I am including these in the Design Frame section although they arise most often as part of the perforating process. In my opinion these are peculiarities of the State Printing Works in Belgrade which—not only in the case of SERBIA I—on the left margin of the pane the second comb perforation strike, oriented vertically, frequently is set too narrowly. And when the individual panes are cut apart and wide margins are left then narrow unprinted “fields” are the result. Stamps with the double perforation of the left margin originating from the first vertical row of stamps in a pane frequently also have an irregularly shaped crossing hole (see the illustration below).

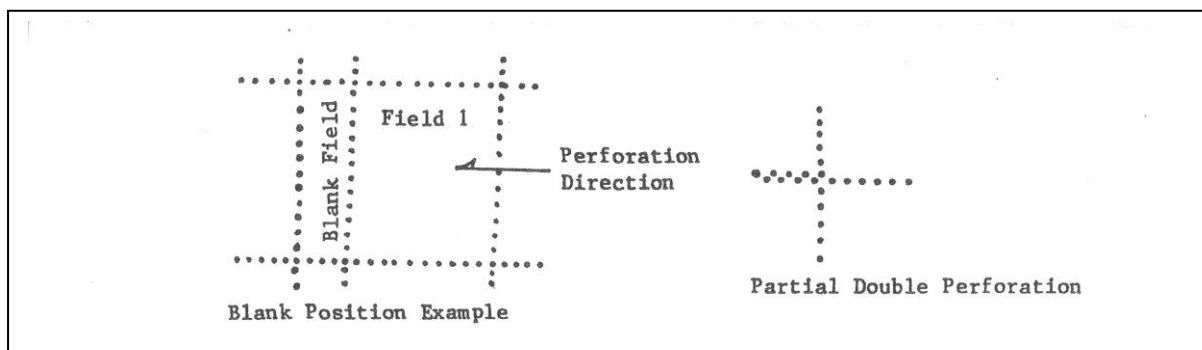


Illustration II-2: Double Perforation and the Crossing Hole

5. Perforation, Paper and Gum

There is nothing in particular to say further about the perforation process that has not been said above with respect to unprinted fields. With respect to the paper again there is little to be said. In the case of the gum to the contrary there are clear differences to be noted. I will not list these as much depends upon whether only reprints of the King Peter stamps were overprinted or whether stocks of existing pre-war stamps were also overprinted.

New Issues

The Editor

“New issues” have not featured in Jugopošta for some time now. I know that they featured more or less from the start when David Kerr was the Editor (but, of course, we were just talking Yugoslavia in those days). “New Issue Notebook” continued to be provided by David

when Geoff Barling took over as Editor from Issue 22. I am not entirely sure when it ceased but I seem to remember that there was some debate in Jugopošta as to the merits of including new issues or not and the conclusion at the time was that new issues were not of great interest. I decided to include a feature here on new issues and to invite members to comment on whether this is of interest to them or not. Clearly it is not possible to include information on all new issues from all the present countries which make up YSG interest so I have just included a selection. If I include new issues in future then I will do a more balanced and recent selection but the websites of some of the relevant postal authorities do not always include sufficient information or it is impossible to download the images. Please let me know what you think – my email address and home address are to be found on page 2. What I do know is that new issues feature regularly in the journals of other societies such as Czechout, Austria and Germania. Like myself, many of you members of YSG are members of these other societies.



Slovenia: 22nd Winter Olympics at Sochi, Russia, 7th to 23rd February 2014. Issued 31st January 2014. Values of 0.64 and 0.97 euro. Ski-jumping and ice hockey. Printed in sheetlets of 6 stamps as shown in 4-colour off-set. 75000 stamps printed.



Slovenia: Damselfish (Črník in Slovenian). Issued 27th September 2013, one of a set of 4 marine animals. Values of 0.6, 0.64, 0.92 and 0.97 euro. Printed in 4-colour offset in sheets of 25 (0.97 is a minisheet). 70000 of each value printed. Part of the design is covered with salt from the Piranske Soline saltworks!



Slovenia: Kosjansko National Park. Issued 27th September 2013. Value of 1.25 euro. Printed in 4-colour offset in minisheet of 1 stamp. 70000 sheets printed. The park is one of the oldest protected areas in Slovenia and has a special status within a UNESCO programme.



Bosnia and Herzegovina (Croatian Post): The Otter. First day cover of the issue of 4 stamps on 1st November 2013, each with value of 3.10 BAM. Printed in sheets of 8 stamps, with 2 of each value.



Bosnia and Herzegovina (Croatian Post): Medjugorje. Issued on 1st June 2013 with a value of 1.00 BAM. Printed in sheets of 8 stamps. Medjugorje is a small village in Herzegovina which is a famous site of pilgrimage.



Montenegro: Art in Montenegro in 2014 through the ages. Issued on 31st January 2014 with values of 0.3 and 0.95 euro. Printed in sheets of 20.



Croatia: Children's World – Pets. Four stamps issued on 21st February 2014. Each stamp has a value of 3.10 kuna. Pets shown are hamster, guinea pig, rabbit and chinchilla. Stamps are issued in sheets of 8, 2 of each stamp per sheet with 150,000 stamps of each value.



Croatia: Winter Olympics. Issued on 7th February 2014 with a value of 3.10 kuna. Printed in sheets of 9 stamps with 150,000 stamps issued.



Slovenia: Mehdi Huseynzade – “Mihajlo”. Issued 12th December 2013. Commemorates “Mihajlo”. During World War 2 he was drafted into the Red Army. He was severely wounded in 1942 and captured by the Germans and drafted into an auxiliary unit but in February 1944 he defected to the Slovenian partisans. He took part in many acts of sabotage and was killed in battle with the German army in November 1944.

CAPTE POSTALE

Prof. dr. Milan Radovanović

In the catalogue “Postal stationeries of Yugoslavia” (Cjeline Jugoslavije, Catalogue 2002) from D. Stojšavljević (1) in the Serbian language, edited in 2002, under the code DK86 a postal card from 1937 is described as “11th regular edition uprated in comparison with previous as a consequence of rate increase – both for interior and exterior postal traffic ...”. Taking into account colour, this postcard (the value of one dinar) comes in two shades of green – as a yellowish green and dark olive green – and the paper used is determined with “minor differences” of colour tone. In the same catalogue, a postcard for international postal services under the DK number 87 is described, which has a value of two dinars and carmine-red colour.

Reviewing a large number of postcards from this period, a postcard from the catalogue number DK86 was observed with an error in the text in the French language – “CARTE POSTALE” (Figure 1). This was, namely, instead of the above text, the Latin letter “R” has been replaced with the Cyrillic letter “R” which is the same as the Latin letter “P”. In this way, instead of “CARTE”, “CAPTE” is printed (Figure2). Only one will be shown and described.



Figure 1



Figure 2

The postcard (Figure 3), printed in yellowish-green colour, was sent from Bela Crkva, Deliblato, and bears the date stamp Deliblato 1.X.1937. All other properties are equal to those on the cards without error. However, it should be noted that the presented card has the length of the text “The Kingdom of Yugoslavia” (“Kraljevina Jugoslavija”) 42.5 mm and the length of the text “CAPTE POSTALE” is 35 mm. Dimensions of the presented card are 139 x 90 mm (as usual).

The same error exists in this edition of the postcard for exterior traffic listed under catalogue number DK87 (from D. Stojšavljević) and has a value of two dinars and carmine red colour. This postcard (unused) appeared at an auction in Serbia. Unfortunately, when the author of this story identified the same error, the card was already sold.

At the end of this short communication it should be noted that, despite examining a large number of cards available for a period of almost two years, only four cards DK86 type and only one card DK87 type with this error have been found. So, one can conclude that such postcards are very rare. Of course, what should now follow is the entering of postcards with this error in the corresponding catalogues with valuation.

Reference

1. Stojasavljević D., Postal stationeries of Yugoslavia (in Serbian), Katalog 2002, edited by Studio filatelije, Beograd 2002.



Figure 3: Postcard DK86 with the error “CAPTE POSTALE” instead of “CARTE POSTALE”

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2. *Catalogue of the Perfins of Yugoslavia* (JP75)
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