

CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE PRUSSIAN NETWORK OF RAIN GAUGES IN THE GREATER POLAND (WIELKOPOLSKA) 1919-1920

The network of meteorological posts, operating since the 1870s in Prussia, recording the amount of precipitation and meteorological phenomena has not stopped its work in the Greater Poland (Wielkopolska) despite the outbreak of the Wielkopolska Uprising on 27.12.1918. Every month, the observer filled in an appropriate report, which, during the period to which the exhibit refers, was in the form of postcard forms of extra-occupational nature and sent to the Royal Prussian Meteorological Institute (DMI) in Berlin [1]. Until 31.03.1920, these items were exempt from the postage charge, which was confirmed by the appropriate printing in a box.



The aim of the exhibit is to show that the correspondence from the Prussian network of rain stations sent from the area of Greater Poland after the outbreak of the Wielkopolska Uprising (see map) until the entry into force of the Treaty of Versailles and integration with the Republic of Poland (i. e. from the period 1919-1920) documents historical facts, the process of gradual nationalization of the Greater Poland and the decisions of the Supreme People's Council (NRL) and above all, presents the process of transformation of the Prussian post office into a post office managed by the Polish administration.

Plan of the exhibit
I. Censored and uncensored meteorological consignments (January 1919 to December 1920)
II. Stopped and returned consignments (1 June 1919 - 3 August 1919)
III. Consignments of the railroad ambulance's (1919-1920)
IV. Abolition of the exemption of meteorological mail from postal charges (1 April 1920)

Introduction to the exhibit



Non-postal card form sent from Krynów (germ. Krynau), on the 30th June 1919. There are on the form, a 2-ring German dated postmark with the distinguishing mark "BZ, POSNEN" and a 3-line censorship stamp of the NRL Post Office Decree in Poznań. The inscription **Frei d. Abbls. No. 21, Kgl. Pr. Meteorol. Institut** means exemption from postage. The 2-line German-language stamp **Zurück/Vorkehr eingestellt**, informs about the return of the consignment due to the interruption of the connection from 1.06.1919. The stamp indicating the suspension was crossed out, as the card continued to circulate.

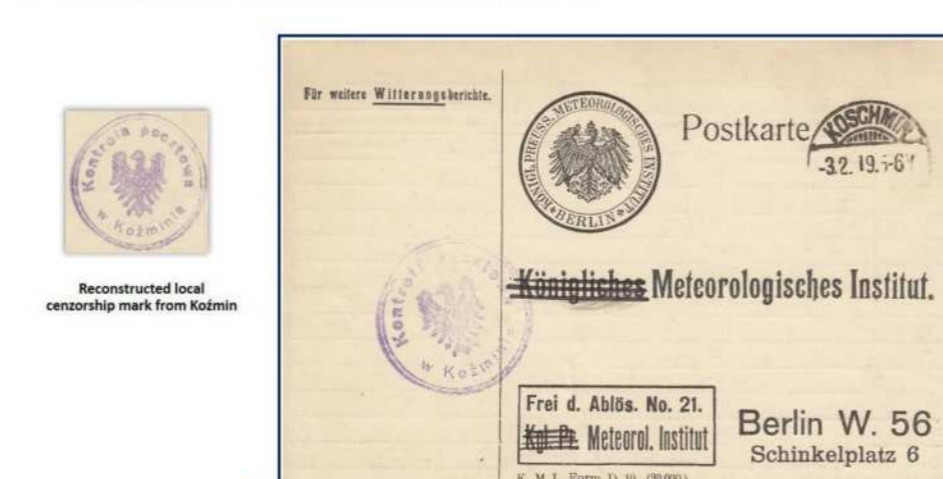
- Literature**
1. Aulheimer J., 2016. *Pracota w Wielkopolsce 1919-1920*.
 2. Bronowski B., Talar J., 2001. *Polscy Cenzuranci korespondencji w latach 1919-1920*.
 3. Alpiński M., 2016. *Korespondencja przesyłana pocztowo-kolejową w odległych miejscach polski. Wielkopolska 1919-1920*.
- Unique item** - cards no. 2-4, 6
- Earlier unknown
 - Known from less than 5 items
 - Known from less than 10 items

I. CENSORED AND UNCENSORED METEOROLOGICAL CONSIGNMENTS (JANUARY 1919 TO DECEMBER 1920)



Postcard form sent on **January 1, 1919**, during the first days of the insurgent fights in Mosina (germ. Moschin), post office of the 3rd class. The form was cancelled by a two-ring German dated postmark with a bridge and a distinguishing mark "***".

The NRL and its subordinate local authorities as well as units of the Wielkopolska Army started censoring correspondence. Its traces can also be found in postal documentation sent from many meteorological stations.



Kolbini Wielkopolski (germ. Koscshin), post office of the 2nd class, **3 February 1919**. The non-postal form was cancelled by a two-ring German dated postmark with a bridge. There is a mark of local censorship on the form. This censorship mark was used, according to literature, in April 1919.

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I. CENSORED AND UNCENSORED METEOROLOGICAL CONSIGNMENTS (JANUARY 1919 TO DECEMBER 1920)



Pakość (germ. Pakosch), post office of the 3rd class, **3 February 1919**. The form was cancelled by a two-ring German dated postmark with a bridge and a distinguishing mark "***". The consignment was subject to censorship by the uprising, as evidenced by the rectangular censorship mark. This censorship mark was used, according to literature, in February 1919.



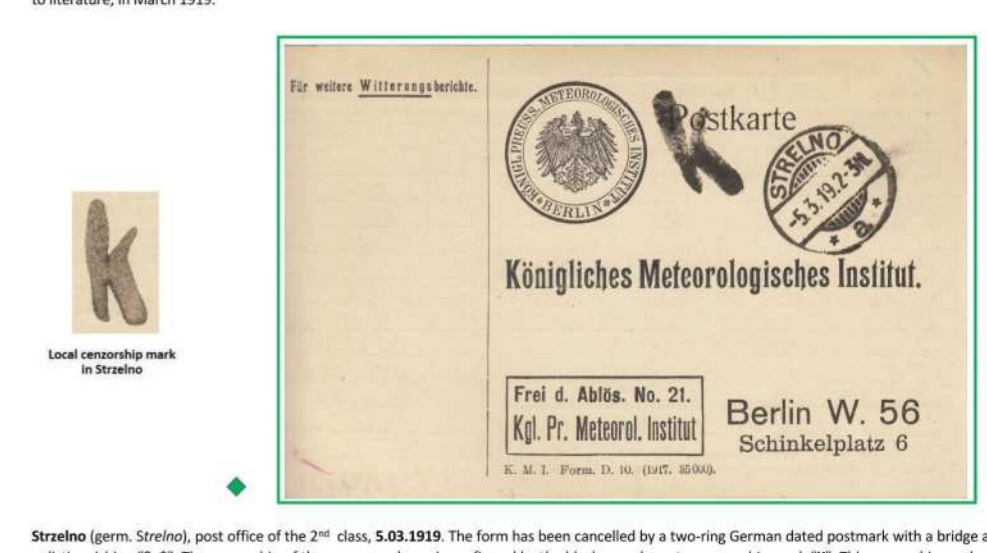
Garzyn (germ. Garzyn), postal agency, **9 February 1919**. The form was cancelled with a one-ring German dated postmark. The censorship of the correspondence is confirmed by a handwritten three-line censorship sign "Cenzura/Gostyl/Cenzura" in red. A unique item.

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I. CENSORED AND UNCENSORED METEOROLOGICAL CONSIGNMENTS (JANUARY 1919 TO DECEMBER 1920)



Pakość (germ. Pakosch), post office of the 3rd class, **3 March 1919**. The form was cancelled by a round German dated postmark with a tear and a distinguishing mark "KR, RAWITSCH". There is a sign of local censorship in Jutrosin on the form. This censorship mark was used, according to literature, in March 1919.



Szreńsk (germ. Szrenzl), post office of the 2nd class, **13 March 1919**. The form was cancelled by a two-ring German dated postmark with a bridge and a distinguishing mark "***". The censorship of the correspondence is confirmed by the black one-character censorship mark "K". This censorship mark was used, according to literature, in June 1919.

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I. CENSORED AND UNCENSORED METEOROLOGICAL CONSIGNMENTS (JANUARY 1919 TO DECEMBER 1920)



Szeki (germ. Schekken), post office of the 3rd class, **9 April 1919**. The form was cancelled by a circular German dated postmark with a distinguishing mark "***". There is a one-line local censorship mark on the card. In the literature, there are known consignments censored in this town but with a different censorship mark from July 1919. A unique item.



Pempowo (germ. Pempow), post office of the 3rd class, **9 May 1919**. The form was cancelled by a two-ring German dated postmark with a bridge and a distinguishing mark "***". There is a one-line local censorship mark on the card. In the literature, there are known consignments censored in this town but with a different censorship mark from July 1919. A unique item.

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I. CENSORED AND UNCENSORED METEOROLOGICAL CONSIGNMENTS (JANUARY 1919 TO DECEMBER 1920)

In addition to the Polish censorship marks, the forms also bear the German censorship marks.



Gostyn (germ. Gostyn), postal agency, **2 May 1919**. The form was cancelled by a round German dated postmark. The consignment contains a one-line Polish local censorship mark from Gostyn with a handwritten black pencil censor's signature and a one-line German-language censorship mark in dark violet. A unique item.



Gostyn (germ. Gostyn), post office of the 2nd class, **14 June 1919**. The form was cancelled by a two-ring German dated postmark with a bridge and a distinguishing mark "***". There are local censorship marks with a black pencil and a blue handwritten German inscription "gostyn". A unique item.

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I. CENSORED AND UNCENSORED METEOROLOGICAL CONSIGNMENTS (JANUARY 1919 TO DECEMBER 1920)



The card form sent on **16 February 1919** in post office of the 3rd class in Kargowa (germ. Kargow) and cancelled by a circular German dated postmark with a bridge and a distinguishing mark "***". The consignment was subject to censorship by the uprising, as evidenced by the rectangular censorship mark. This censorship mark was used, according to literature, in February 1919.



The card form containing the report from **Białostok** rain gauge (germ. Bialostok) for **September 1919**. It was cancelled by the dated postmark of the German field post office (Deutsche Feldpost) on **3 October 1919**. The meteorological shipments with the dated postmark of the German field post are only known in this one copy.

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I. CENSORED AND UNCENSORED METEOROLOGICAL CONSIGNMENTS (JANUARY 1919 TO DECEMBER 1920)



Card form sent in **Chelme** (germ. Chelml), postal agency, on **7 July 1919**. Despite the exemption from postage charges for these items, the form has been franked with a German post stamp value of 10 fen. In accordance with the German postal tariff of 1.10.1919. The fee was cancelled by the German dated postmark. There are also light green handwritten signatures, which is probably a censorship mark.



The fact that there was a problem of franking the mail exempted from the fee under the agreement with the German post office is evidenced by a handwritten inscription in Polish "letters outside the demarcation line must be franked" written in purple pencil probably by a post office clerk in Szreńsk (germ. Szrenzl), post office of the 2nd class, on the form posted on 21 July 1919. A unique item.

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I. CENSORED AND UNCENSORED METEOROLOGICAL CONSIGNMENTS (JANUARY 1919 TO DECEMBER 1920)

With the entry into force on 1 October 1919 of the new postal tariff (both Polish and German), the meteorological items sent in **Sroda** (germ. Srodka), post office of the 2nd class, started being franked according this tariff independently of the German Post Office's exemption. This is documented by the card forms sent from the above-mentioned office.



Form sent on **1 December 1919** from **Inowroclaw** (germ. Hohensalzw), the 1st class post office. The form was cancelled by a Polish two-ring dated postmark with the Polish name of the town "INOWROCLAW", with a bridge and with a distinguishing "***". The form additionally bears a censorship mark in the form of a stylized letter "I" in question marks "I?" of light purple colour. The above censorship mark was used according to literature since February 08 April 1919.

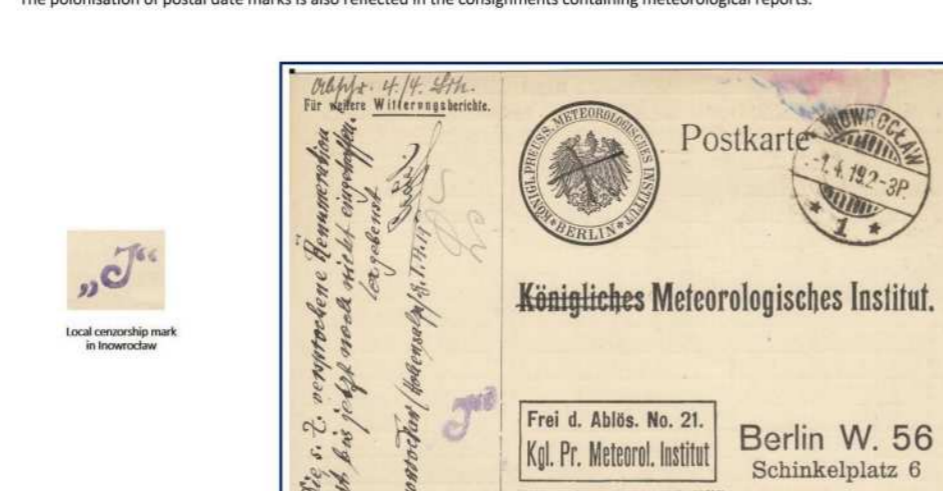


Form sent on **August 30, 1919** from **Labyszyn** (germ. Labischin), the 3rd class post office. The form was cancelled by a Polish two-ring dated postmark with a bridge and with a distinguishing "***".

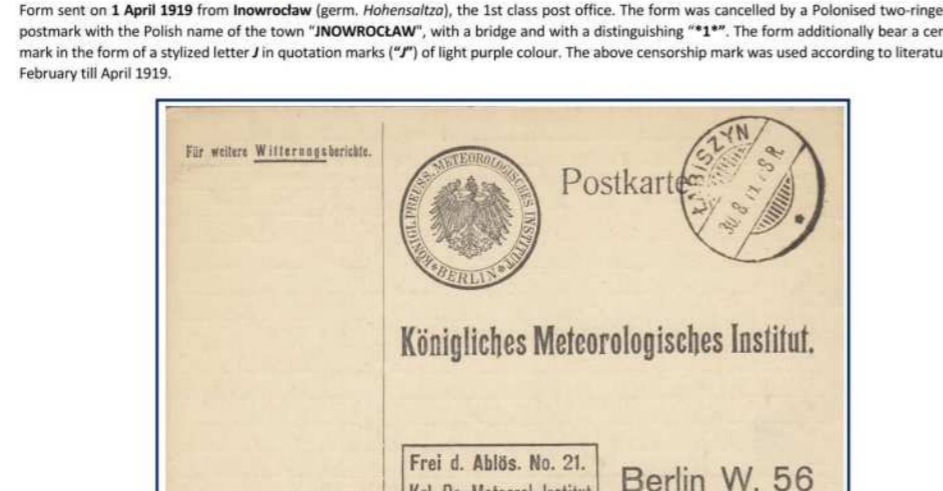
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I. CENSORED AND UNCENSORED METEOROLOGICAL CONSIGNMENTS (JANUARY 1919 TO DECEMBER 1920)

The nationalization of postal date marks is also reflected in the consignments containing meteorological reports.



Form sent on **1 June 1919** from **Inowroclaw** (germ. Hohensalzw), the 1st class post office. The form was cancelled by a Polish two-ring dated postmark with the Polish name of the town "INOWROCLAW", with a bridge and with a distinguishing "***". The form additionally bears a censorship mark in the form of a stylized letter "I" in question marks "I?" of light purple colour. The above censorship mark was used according to literature since February 08 April 1919.



Form sent on **August 30, 1919** from **Labyszyn** (germ. Labischin), the 3rd class post office. The form was cancelled by a Polish two-ring dated postmark with a bridge and with a distinguishing "***".

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II. STOPPED AND RETURNED CONSIGNMENTS (1. JUNE - 3. AUGUST 1919)

Consignments stopped and returned are very rare! In the scale of the entire Greater Poland there are no more than 100 consignments with annotations of stopping or turning back, but from a number of small towns and villages such consignments usually are known in only one copy.



Form sent on **1 June 1919** in the 3rd class post office in **Inowroclaw** (germ. Hohensalzw) was suspended what confirms the German 1-row seal of the "Wagen offene enden". The Polish dated postmark with the town name **INOWROCLAW** and with the date **1.6.19** has been crossed out. The reason for the suspension was the NRL's decision introducing state of emergency. Postal circulation of this form was resumed on **4.08.19**, what is confirmed by another dated postmark. The form bears the mark of local Polish military censorship. The period in which the above censorship mark was used, known in literature, is **June 1919 - January 1920**.



Form sent in the 3rd class post office in **Jaraczewo** (germ. Jaroschewo) on **3 June 1919**. It was cancelled by a two-ring German dated postmark with a bridge and with a distinguishing "***". In addition, the form bears the 2-line dark purple stamp "Zurück/Vorkehr eingestellt", i. e. "Back/Connection suspended" and the censorship mark in Poznań. The above censorship mark was in use according to literature in July 1919.

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II. STOPPED AND RETURNED CONSIGNMENTS (1. JUNE - 3. AUGUST 1919)

Consignments stopped and returned are very rare! In the scale of the entire Greater Poland there are no more than 100 consignments with annotations of stopping or turning back, but from a number of small towns and villages such consignments usually are known in only one copy.



Form sent in the 3rd class post office in **Szreńsk** (germ. Szrenzl) on **3 June 1919** was cancelled by a two-ring German dated postmark with a bridge and a distinguishing mark "***". In addition, the form bears the 2-line dark violet stamp "Zurück/Vorkehr eingestellt", i. e. "Back/Backward/Connection interrupted" and the stamp of local military censorship. The above censorship mark was in use according to literature from March to July 1919.



Form sent in the 2nd class post office in **Wronki** (germ. Wronken) on **2 June 1919** was cancelled by a two-ring German dated postmark with a bridge and with "***". In addition, on the form there is a 3-line stamp of dark blue and black ink. The location of this activity is unknown. The form was also censored, which is confirmed by the frontal censorship mark "K" in the light red triangle. A unique item.

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III. CONSIGNMENTS OF THE RAILROAD AMBULANCE'S (1919-1920)

On 30 March 1920, the regulation exempting consignments of certain institutions from the obligation to franking them expired. The decision was made suddenly, shortly before it was implemented, therefore all weather reports sent in April were not paid for.

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Form sent on **5 March 1920** in the railroad ambulance's of the Poznań-Obornice line (germ. Posen-Obornitz) TRAM 628 (DUG 628) with monthly precipitation report from station Trzostowo (germ. Troschow).



Form sent on **July 2, 1919**, in the railroad ambulance's of the Berlin-Taszew line (germ. Berlin-Taschau) TRAM 2 (DUG 2) with precipitation report from station in halo (germ. Assel).

Form sent on **April 30, 1920** in the 1st class post office in Leszno (germ. Lissa) was cancelled by a German dated postmark with a bridge and a distinguishing "***". In addition, the form bears the annotation **No fee** in the form of a handwritten number **15** in blue and, previously unknown, a circular mark in violet. The ink of this stamp is unknown, perhaps it is a form of censorship mark called "silber".

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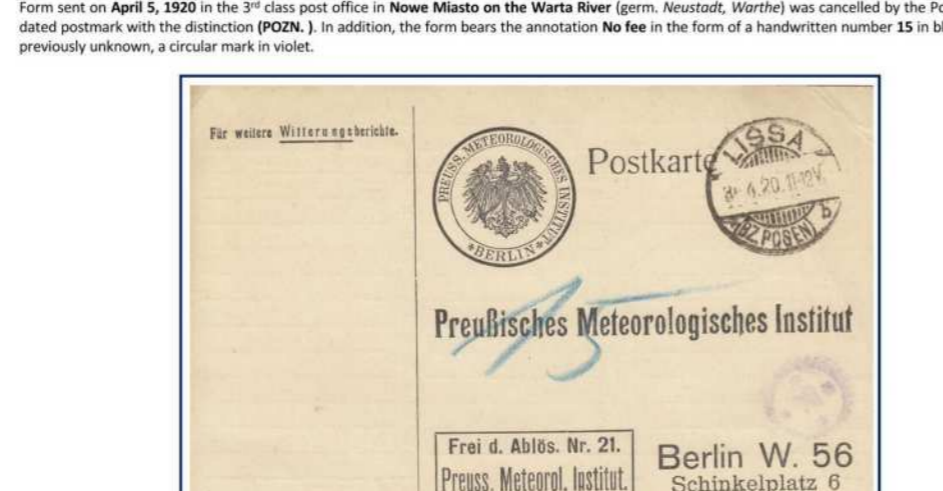
IV. ABOLITION OF THE EXEMPTION OF METEOROLOGICAL MAIL FROM POSTAL CHARGES (1 APRIL 1920)

On 30 March 1920, the regulation exempting consignments of certain institutions from the obligation to franking them expired. The decision was made suddenly, shortly before it was implemented, therefore all weather reports sent in April were not paid for.

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Form sent on **May 6, 1920** in the 3rd class post office in **Gniezno**, the 3rd class post office, on **May 6, 1920**. It was franked with a German official stamp value of 15 fen. cancelled by a Polish dated postmark of the post office Gniezno, 4.05.20.



Form sent on **October 2, 1920**, in a postal agency in **Chelme**, franked with a German official stamp value of 15 fen. cancelled by a Polish two-ring dated postmark with a bridge and a discrimant (POW, SZREŃSK). Additionally, this form bears the numeric censorship mark from Poznań "994" inside a small red-violet triangle.

Form sent on **October 2, 1920**, in a postal agency in **Chelme**, franked with a German official stamp value of 15 fen. cancelled by a Polish two-ring dated postmark with a bridge and a discrimant (POW, SZREŃSK). Additionally, this form bears the numeric censorship mark from Poznań "994" inside a small red-violet triangle.

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IV. ABOLITION OF THE EXEMPTION OF METEOROLOGICAL MAIL FROM POSTAL CHARGES (1 APRIL 1920)

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Form sent on **May 2, 1920** in **Leszno**. In spite of the fact that it had been franked with 2 German official stamps with a total value of 40 fen, the post official marked the fee as improper and applied the "No fee" mark in the form of the capital letter "T" in dark blue pencil. The form has been cancelled by the May two-ring dated postmark. Most likely, a post office in Berlin additionally marked the form with the capital letter "T" in blue. In view of the existing procedure for accepting German official stamps on meteorological consignments, this item is very rare.



Form sent in the 3rd class post office in **Pępowo** on **4 September 1920**. The form was cancelled by a German official stamp value of 15 fen. The post office clerk marked the fee mark as incorrect, applied the sign of "No fee" (letter "T") and additionally marked the amount of the fee to be charged with the number 25. At the same time, in black pencil, he made a note stating "No fee to be franked". The form has been cancelled, which is confirmed by the dated postmark, which was additionally cancelled by adding a hook to the letter "T" in the village name. The handwritten information on the amount of the fee to be charged was crossed out twice with dark blue and black ink. The location of this activity is unknown. The form was also censored, which is confirmed by the frontal censorship mark "K" in the light red triangle. A unique item.

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IV. ABOLITION OF THE EXEMPTION OF METEOROLOGICAL MAIL FROM POSTAL CHARGES (1 APRIL 1920)

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I. CENSORED AND UNCENSORED METEOROLOGICAL CONSIGNMENTS (JANUARY 1919 TO DECEMBER 1920)

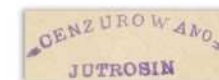
**CENZURA POCZTOWA
STR-LUD. W PAKOSCI.**

Local censorship mark
in Pakość



Pakość (germ. *Pakosch*), post office of the 3rd class, **3 February 1919**. The form was cancelled by a two-ring German dated postmark with the distinguishing mark “*(NETZE)*”. The consignment was subject to censorship by the uprising, as evidenced by the rectangular censorship mark. This censorship mark was used, according to literature, in February 1919.

I. CENSORED AND UNCENSORED METEOROLOGICAL CONSIGNMENTS (JANUARY 1919 TO DECEMBER 1920)



Local censorship mark
in Jutrosin

Pokoslaw Rawicki (germ. *Pakoswalde*), post office of the 3rd class, **3 March 1919**. The form was cancelled by a round German dated postmark with a tear and a distinguishing mark “(KR. RAWITSCH)”. There is a sign of local censorship in **Jutrosin** on the form. This censorship mark was used, according to literature, in March 1919.



Garzyn (germ. *Garzyn*), postal agency, **9 February 1919**. The form was cancelled with a one-ring German dated postmark. The censorship of the correspondence is confirmed by a handwritten three-line censorship sign “Censored/Gostyh/Censored” in red. **A unique item.**



Local censorship mark
in Strzelno



Strzelno (germ. *Strelno*), post office of the 2nd class, **5.03.1919**. The form has been cancelled by a two-ring German dated postmark with a bridge and a distinguishing “**a**”. The censorship of the correspondence is confirmed by the black one-character censorship mark “K”. This censorship mark was used, according to literature, in June 1919.

I. CENSORED AND UNCENSORED METEOROLOGICAL CONSIGNMENTS (JANUARY 1919 TO DECEMBER 1920)



Reconstructed local censorship mark from Skoki

Skoki (germ. *Schokken*), post office of the 3rd class, 9 April 1919. The form was cancelled by a circular German dated postmark with a distinguishing "****". There is a one-line local censorship mark. This censorship mark was used, according to literature, in June 1919.

cenzurowane Pempowo

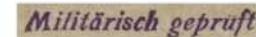
Local censorship mark in Pempowo



Pempowo (germ. *Pempowo*), post office of the 3rd class, 9.05.1919. The form was cancelled by a two-ring German dated postmark with a bridge and a "****". There is a one-line local censorship mark on the card. In the literature, there are known consignments censored in this town but with a different censorship mark from July 1919. A unique item.

I. CENSORED AND UNCENSORED METEOROLOGICAL CONSIGNMENTS (JANUARY 1919 TO DECEMBER 1920)

In addition to the Polish censorship marks, the forms also bear the German censorship marks.



The German-speaking mark of military censorship

Garzyn (germ. *Garzyn*), postal agency, 2 May 1919. The form was cancelled by a round German dated postmark. The consignment contains: a one-line Polish local censorship mark from Gostyn with a handwritten black pencil censor's signature and a one-line German-language censorship mark in dark violet. A unique item.

cenzurowane Gostyn

Local censorship mark in Gostyn



Gostyn (germ. *Gostyn*), post office of the 2nd class, 14 June 1919. The form was cancelled by a two-ring German dated postmark with a bridge and a distinguishing mark "***a". There are a local censor's mark with a black pencil and a blue handwritten German inscription "geprüft". A unique item.

I. CENSORED AND UNCENSORED METEOROLOGICAL CONSIGNMENTS (JANUARY 1919 TO DECEMBER 1920)



The card form sent on **16 February 1919** in post office of the 3rd class in **Kargowa** (germ. *Unruhstadt*) and cancelled by a circular German dated postmark with a bridge and a distinguishing **“(Kr. BOMST)”**. Double rings light violet stamp with a Prussian eagle in a middle and the inscription around **“MAGISTRAT ZU UNRUHSTADT”** is a mark of censorship. A unique item.

I. CENSORED AND UNCENSORED METEOROLOGICAL CONSIGNMENTS (JANUARY 1919 TO DECEMBER 1920)



Card form sent in **Chelmce** (germ. *Chelmce*), postal agency, on **7 January 1919**. Despite the exemption from postage charges for these items, the form has been franked with a German post stamp value of 10 fen, in accordance with the German postal tariff of 1.10.1918. The fee was cancelled by the German dated postmark. There is also a light green handwritten signature, which is probably a censorship mark.



The card form containing the report from **Babimost** rain gauge (germ. *Bomst*) for **September 1919**. It was cancelled by the dated postmark of the **German field post office** (Deutsche Feldpost) on **3 October 1919**. The meteorological shipments with the dated postmark of the German field post are only known in this one copy.



The fact that there was a problem of franking the mail exempted from the fee under the agreement with the German post office is evidenced by a handwritten annotation in Polish **“letters outside the demarcation line must be franked”** written in purple pencil probably by a post office clerk in **Strzelno** (germ. *Strzelno*), post office of the 2nd class, on the form posted on **21 July 1919**. A unique item.

I. CENSORED AND UNCENSORED METEOROLOGICAL CONSIGNMENTS (JANUARY 1919 TO DECEMBER 1920)

With the entry into force on 1 October 1919 of the new postal tariff (both Polish and German), the meteorological items sent in **Środa** (germ. *Sroda*), post office of the 2nd class, started have been franked according this tariff independently of the German Post Office's exemption. This is documented by the card forms sent from the above-mentioned office.



December 12, 1919, form sent with the Polish post stamps value of 5 and 10 fen. The post stamps have been cancelled by the Polish dated postmark with the distinguishing mark "****".



January 1, 1920, franked with post stamps of the issue "First Session of the Legislative Sejm" value of 10 fen and the ministerial issue with the value of 5 fen. Post stamps have been cancelled by the Polish dated postmark.

I. CENSORED AND UNCENSORED METEOROLOGICAL CONSIGNMENTS (JANUARY 1919 TO DECEMBER 1920)

The polonisation of postal date marks is also reflected in the consignments containing meteorological reports.



Local censorship mark in Inowrocław

Form sent on **1 April 1919** from **Inowrocław** (germ. *Hohensaltza*), the 1st class post office. The form was cancelled by a Polonised two-ringed dated postmark with the Polish name of the town "**INOWROCLAW**", with a bridge and with a distinguishing "****1****". The form additionally bear a censorship mark in the form of a stylized letter **J** in quotation marks ("**J**") of light purple colour. The above censorship mark was used according to literature since February till April 1919.



Form sent on **August 30, 1919** from **Łabiszyn** (germ. *Labischin*), the 3rd class post office. The form was cancelled by a Polonised two-ringed dated postmark with a bridge and with a distinguishing "****1****".

II. STOPPED AND RETURNED CONSIGNMENTS (1. JUNE – 3. AUGUST 1919)

Consignments stopped and returned are very rare! In the scale of the entire Greater Poland there are no more than 100 consignments with annotations of stopping or turning back, but from a number of small towns and villages such consignments usually are known in only one copy.

Cenzura wojskowa Inowrocław

Military censorship mark from Inowrocław

Wegen sperre zurück

Stamp indicating the return of the ambulance



Form sent on **1 June 1919** in the 1st class post office in **Inowrocław** (germ. *Hohensaltza*) was suspended what confirms the German 1-row seal of the "Wegen sperre zurück". The Polonised dated postmark with the town name **JNOWROCLAW** and with the date **1.6.19** has been crossed out. The reason for the suspension was the NRL's decision introducing state of emergency. Postal circulation of this form was resumed on **4.08. 919**, what is confirmed by another dated postmark. The form bears the mark of local Polish military censorship. The period in which the above censorship mark was used, known in literature, is June 1919 - January 1920.

Kontrola Decernatu Poczty Komisarjatu N.R.L. w Poznaniu

Local censorship mark of the Board of NRL in Poznań

Zurück! Verkehr eingestellt

Stamp indicating the return of the ambulance



Form sent in the 3rd class post office in **Jaraczewo** (germ. *Jaratschewo*) on **3 June 1919**. It was cancelled by a two-ringed German dated postmark with a bridge and with a distinction "(Kr. **JAROTSCHIN**)". In addition, the form bears the 2-line dark purple stamp "Zurück!/Verkehr eingestellt", i. e. "Back!/connection suspended" and the censorship mark in Poznań. The above censorship mark was in use according to literature in July 1919.

II. STOPPED AND RETURNED CONSIGNMENTS (1. JUNE – 3. AUGUST 1919)

Cenzura wojskowa na powiat śremski

Military censorship mark from Śrem



Form sent in the 3rd class post office in **Śrem** (germ. *Schrimm*) on **3 June 1919** was cancelled by a two-ring German dated postmark with a bridge and a distinguishing mark *1a. In addition, the form bears the 2-line dark violet stamp **Zurück!/Verkehr eingestellt**, i. e. **Back!/breakdown/connection interrupted** and the stamp of local military censorship. The above censorship mark was in use according to literature from March to July 1919



Local censorship mark in Wronki

Z POWROTEM
* * *
Listy nie dozwolone

Indicator that exchange of letters has been suspended



Form sent in the 2nd class post office in **Wronki** (germ. *Wronken*) on **2 June 1919** was cancelled by a two-ring German dated postmark with a bridge and with *1a. In addition, on the form there is a 3-line stamp of dark violet **BACK/graphical element/ Letters forbidden** and a round stamp of military censorship in Wronki. This censorship mark was used, according to literature, from January to June 1919.

III. CONSIGNMENTS OF THE RAILROAD AMBULANCE'S (1919-1920)

Station Trzebow Monat April 1919
 Kreis Trzebow Provinz Posen Beobachter Kerker

Smaller scale scan of the header of the reverse side of the form with information on the place and time of measurements

Für weitere Witterungsberichte.

folgende Gefrierung am 2/3/19

abgef. 2/3/19

10

Postkarte

OSTROWO (POZEN) BAHNPOST ZUG 828 5 3 19

Preuss. Meteorologisches Institut BERLIN

Königliches Meteorologisches Institut.

Frei d. Ablös. No. 21.
Kgl. Pr. Meteorol. Institut

Berlin W. 56
Schinkelplatz 6

K. M. I. Form. D. 10. (1917. 95 000).

Form sent on **5 March 1919** in the railroad ambulance's of the **Poznań-Ostrowo line** (germ. *Posen-Ostrowo*) **TRAIN 828 (ZUG 828)** with monthly precipitation report from station **Trzebow** (germ. *Trzebow*).

Station Nakel Monat Juni 1919
 Kreis Nakel Provinz Posen Beobachter Nakel

Smaller scale scan of the header of the reverse side of the form with information on the place and time of measurements

Für weitere Witterungsberichte.

Postkarte

BERGSCHEIDUNG ZUG 2 27 19

Preuss. Meteorologisches Institut BERLIN

Königliches Meteorologisches Institut.

Frei d. Ablös. No. 21.
Kgl. Pr. Meteorol. Institut

Berlin W. 56
Schinkelplatz 6

K. M. I. Form. D. 10. (30 000).

Form sent on **July 2, 1919**, in the railroad ambulance's of the **Berlin-Tczew line** (germ. *Berlin-Dirschau*) **TRAIN 2 (ZUG 2)** with precipitation report from a station in **Nakel** (germ. *Nakel*).

IV. ABOLITION OF THE EXEMPTION OF METEOROLOGICAL MAIL FROM POSTAL CHARGES (1 APRIL 1920)

On 30 March 1920, the regulation exempting consignments of certain institutions from the obligation to franking them expired. The decision was made suddenly, shortly before it was implemented, therefore all weather reports sent in April were not paid for.

Für weitere Witterungsberichte.

Postkarte

MIESTO (POZN.) -5 4 21 5-6-

Preuss. Meteorologisches Institut

Frei d. Ablös. Nr. 21.
Preuss. Meteorol. Institut.

Berlin W. 56
Schinkelplatz 6

N. 12.

Form sent on **April 5, 1920** in the 3rd class post office in **Nowe Miasto on the Warta River** (germ. *Neustadt, Warthe*) was cancelled by the Polish dated postmark with the distinction (**POZN.**). In addition, the form bears the annotation **No fee** in the form of a handwritten number **15** in blue and, previously unknown, a circular mark in violet.

Für weitere Witterungsberichte.

Postkarte

LISSA 4 20 11-20V

Preuss. Meteorologisches Institut

Frei d. Ablös. Nr. 21.
Preuss. Meteorol. Institut.

Berlin W. 56
Schinkelplatz 6

N. 12.

Form sent on **April 30, 1920** in the 1st class post office in **Leszno** (germ. *Lissa*) was cancelled by a German dated postmark with a bridge and a distinguishing "**(BZ. POSEN)B**". In addition, the form bears the annotation **No fee** in the form of a handwritten number **15** in blue and, previously unknown, a circular mark in violet. The role of this stamp is unknown, perhaps it is a form of censorship mark called "**silent**".

IV. ABOLITION OF THE EXEMPTION OF METEOROLOGICAL MAIL FROM POSTAL CHARGES (1 APRIL 1920)

On **April 15, 1920** the German postal tariff ceased to apply on the territory of the former Prussian Province. From that moment, meteorological shipments should be paid for in the amount of **15 gr** (from the date of entry of this provision - according to the fee for a long distance postcard). However, forms with meteorological reports sent from 15. 04. 1920 onwards were franked with **German official stamps (Dienstmarke)** value of **15 fen**, and the Polish Post Office recognized it. **The legal basis for this procedure is unknown. This is the only known example of such a procedure so far.**



Non post office form sent in **Gniezno**, the 1st class post office, on **May 6, 1920**. It was franked with a German official stamp value of 15 fen. cancelled by a **Polonised two-ringed dated postmark with a bridge and a discriminant '*1f'**.



Form sent on **October 1, 1920**, in a postal agency in **Chelmce**, franked with a German official stamp value of 15 fen. cancelled by a **Polonised two-ringed dated postmark with a bridge and a discriminant (POW. STRZEL.)**. Additionally, this form bears the numeric censorship mark from Poznań "P54" inside a small red-violet triangle.

IV. ABOLITION OF THE EXEMPTION OF METEOROLOGICAL MAIL FROM POSTAL CHARGES (1 APRIL 1920)



The card form sent on **May 1, 1920 in Leszno**. In spite of the fact that it had been franked with 2 German official stamps with a total value of 40 fen. the post official marked the fee as improper and applied the **"No fee"** mark in the form of the capital letter **T** (in dark blue pencil). The form has been cancelled by the German two-ringed dated postmark. Most likely, a post official in Berlin additionally marked the form with the capital letter **T** in blue. **In view of the existing procedure for accepting German official stamps on meteorological consignments, this item is very rare.**



Handwritten nationalised dated postmark of the post office Pępowo (see red box)

Form sent in the 3rd class post office in **Pępowo** on **4 September 1920**. The form was franked with a German official stamp value of 15 fen. The post office clerk marked the fee mark as incorrect, applied the sign of **"No fee"** (letter **T**) and additionally marked the amount of the fee to be charged with the number **25**. At the same time, in black pencil, he made a note stating **"must be franked"**. The form has been canceled, which is confirmed by the dated postmark, which was additionally Polonised by adding a hook to the letter **"E"** in the village name. The handwritten information on the amount of the fee to be charged was crossed out twice with dark blue and black ink. The location of this activity is unknown. The form was also censored, which is confirmed by the Poznań censorship mark **"P4"** in the light red triangle. **A unique item.**