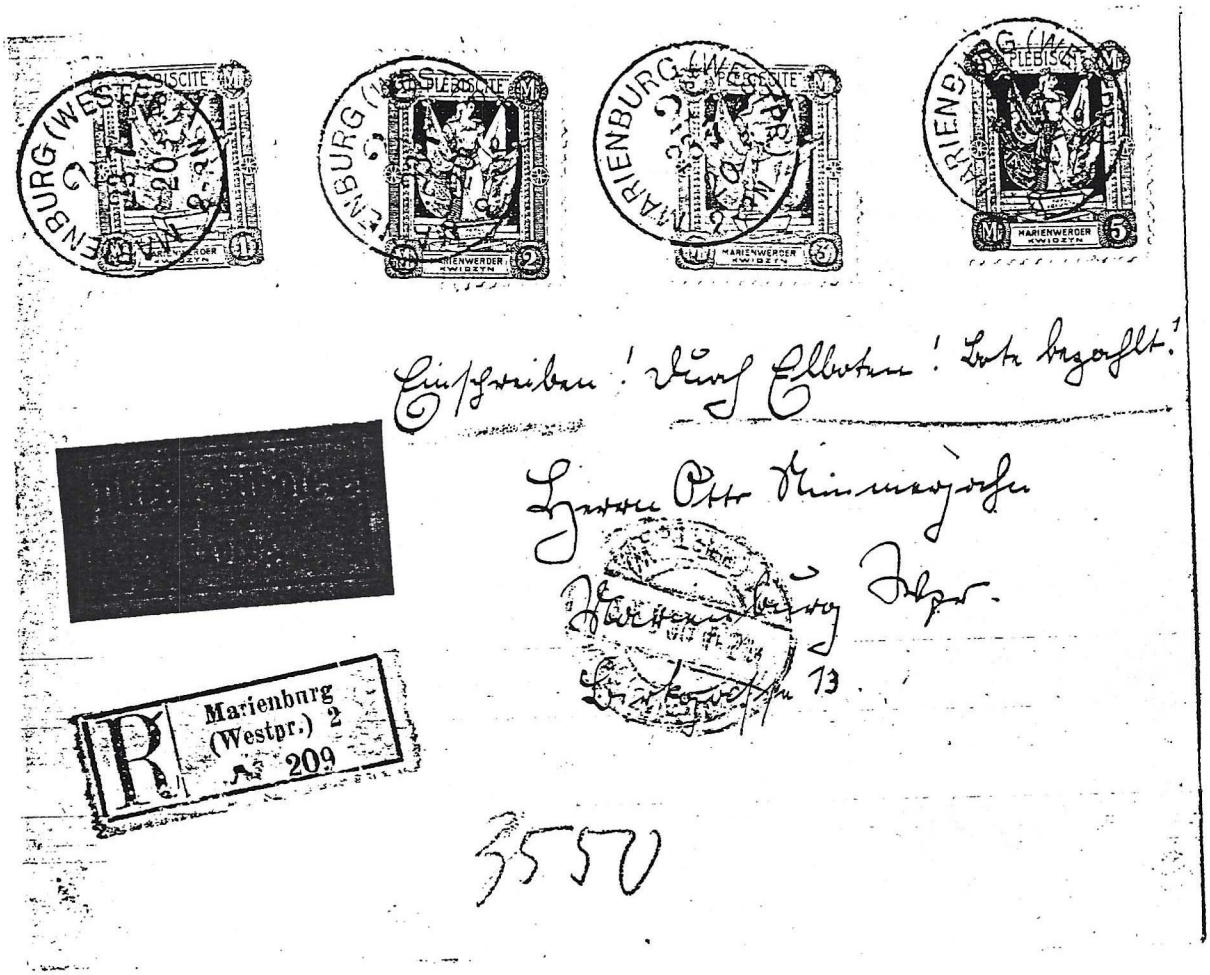
MARIENWERDER
Plebiscite Territory

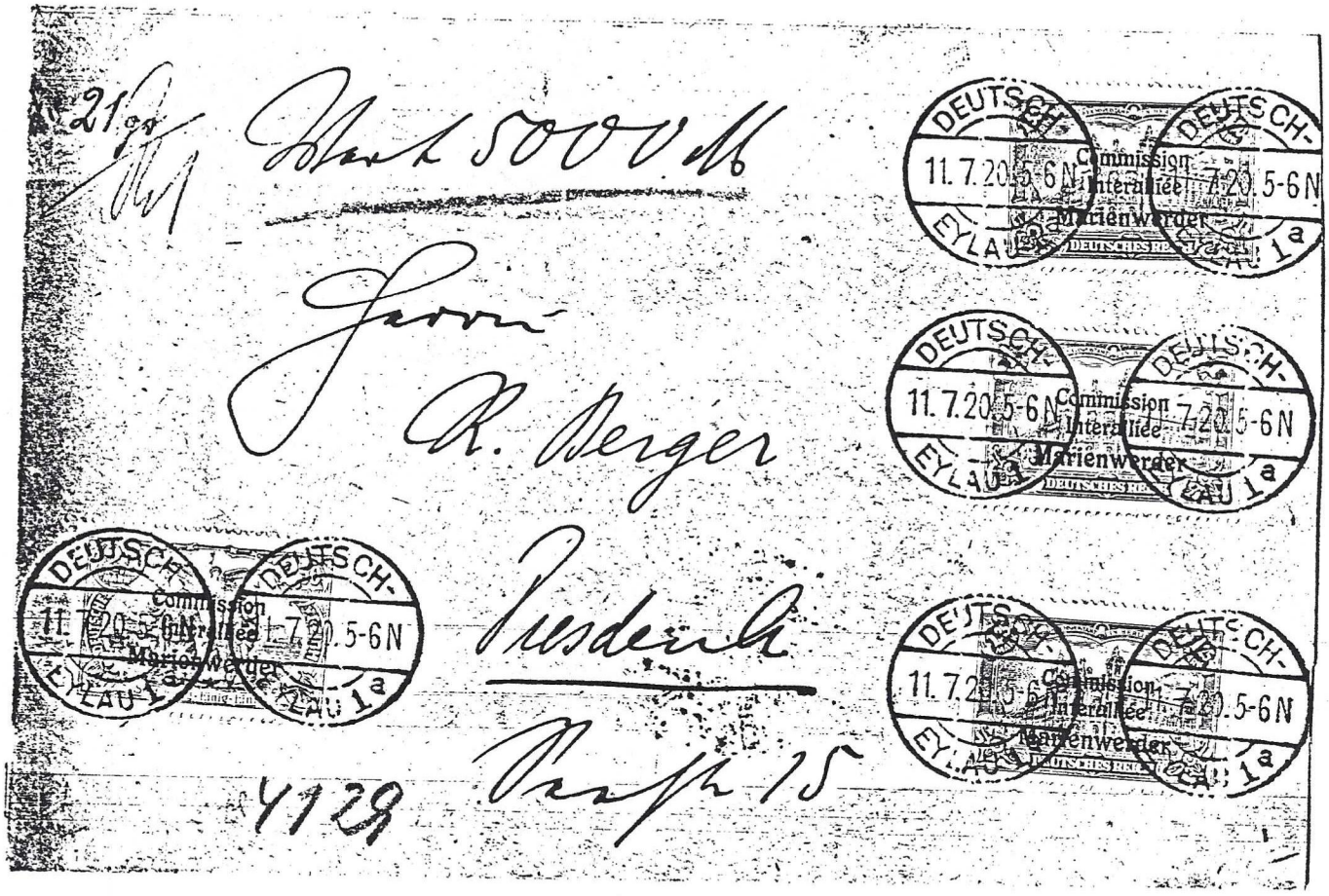
Marienburg (Westpr.)
23 July 1920



The Poles objected to the fact that the first three issues had the name of the territory spelled only in German. As a result, a new printing was ordered from Milan which included the Polish name of Kwidzyn. All of the Marienwerder stamps lost their postal validity on 14 September 1920.

MARIENWERDER
Plebiscite Territory

Deutsch-Eylau
11 July 1920



The third set for Marienwerder was overprinted on the new German postwar printing of four mark values, issued on 9 July 1920, seldom seen on cover.

MARIENWERDER
Plebiscite Territory

Deutsch-Eylau
27 May 1920

Marienburg (Westpr.)
11 June 1920



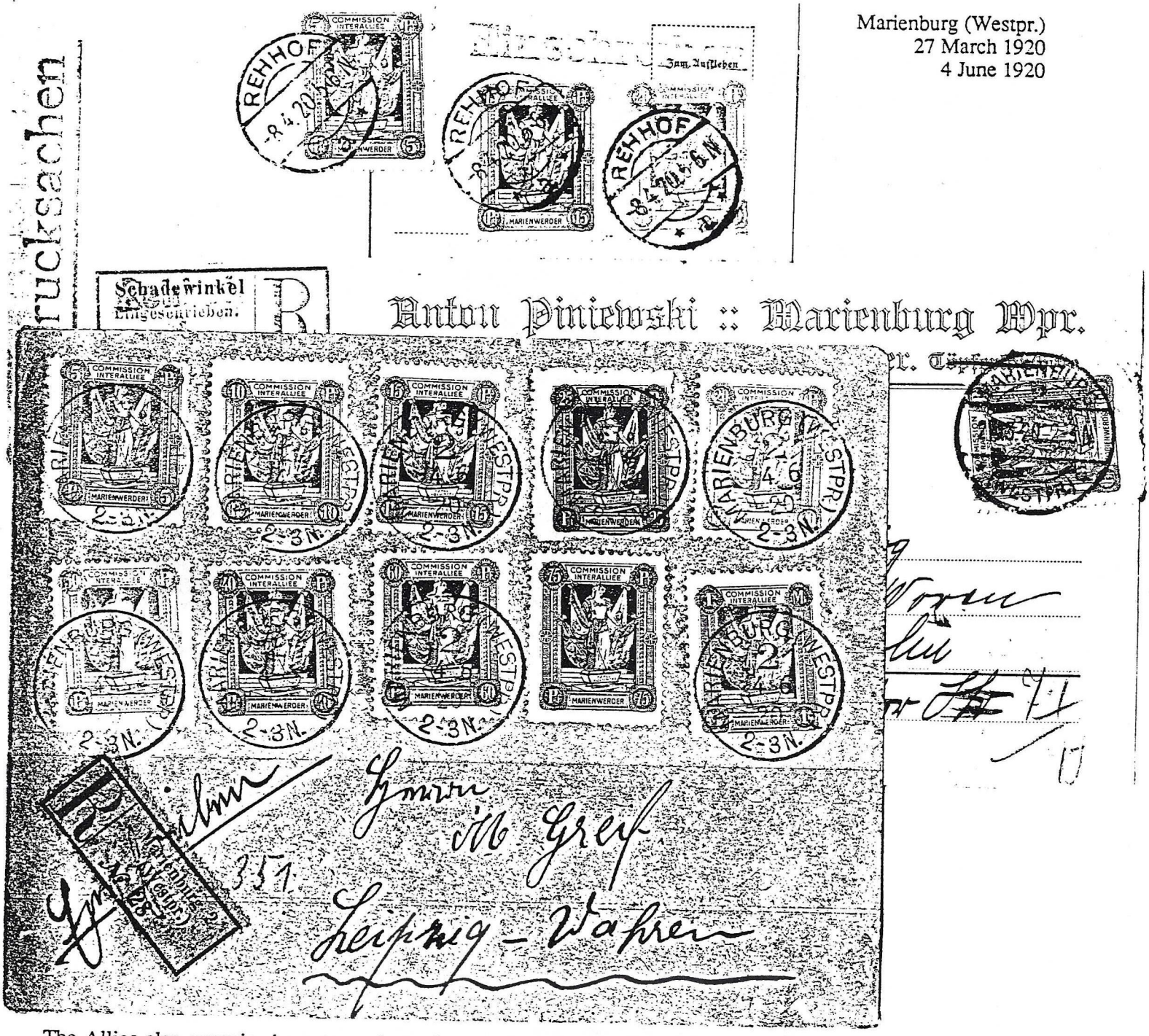
Overprints were also applied to German stamps, with the first set issued between 27 March and 11 May 1920. Quantities of these were much more limited than in other territories, with only 2,600 of the 50 pf. overprinted.

MARIENWERDER

Plebiscite Territory

Rehhof
8 April 1920

Marienburg (Westpr.)
27 March 1920
4 June 1920

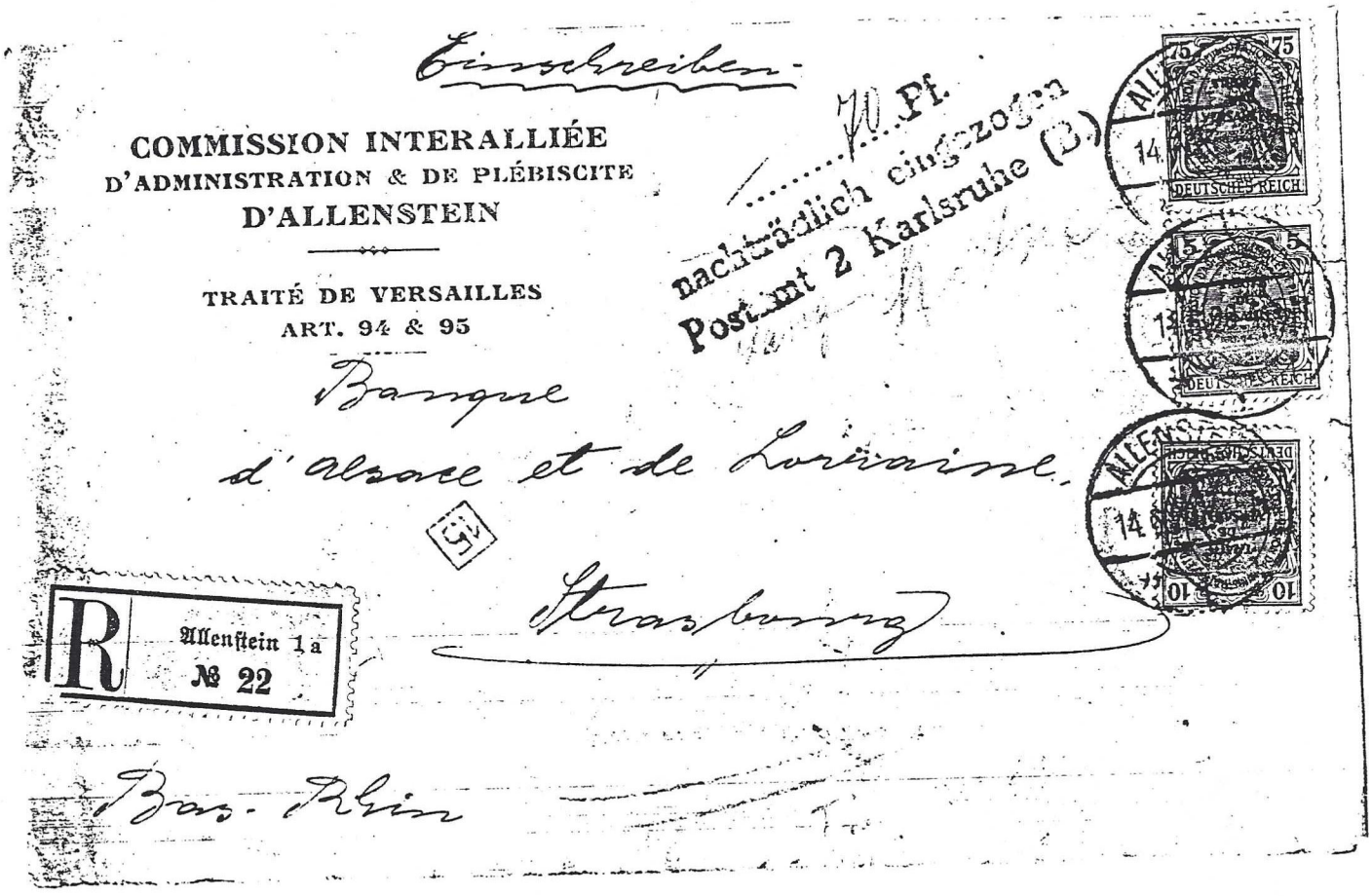


The Allies also organized a vote to determine whether the inhabitants of the westernmost part of East Prussia wished to join Poland or remain with Germany. The Plebiscite Commission arrived on 17 February 1920 and issued their first stamps (a set of 14 printed in Milan depicting the victory of the Allies) on 13 March. The vote was heavily in favor of staying with Germany, and the Commission departed on 16 August.

Post cards and a registered cover showing use of the first pictorials.

ALLENSTEIN
French Forces

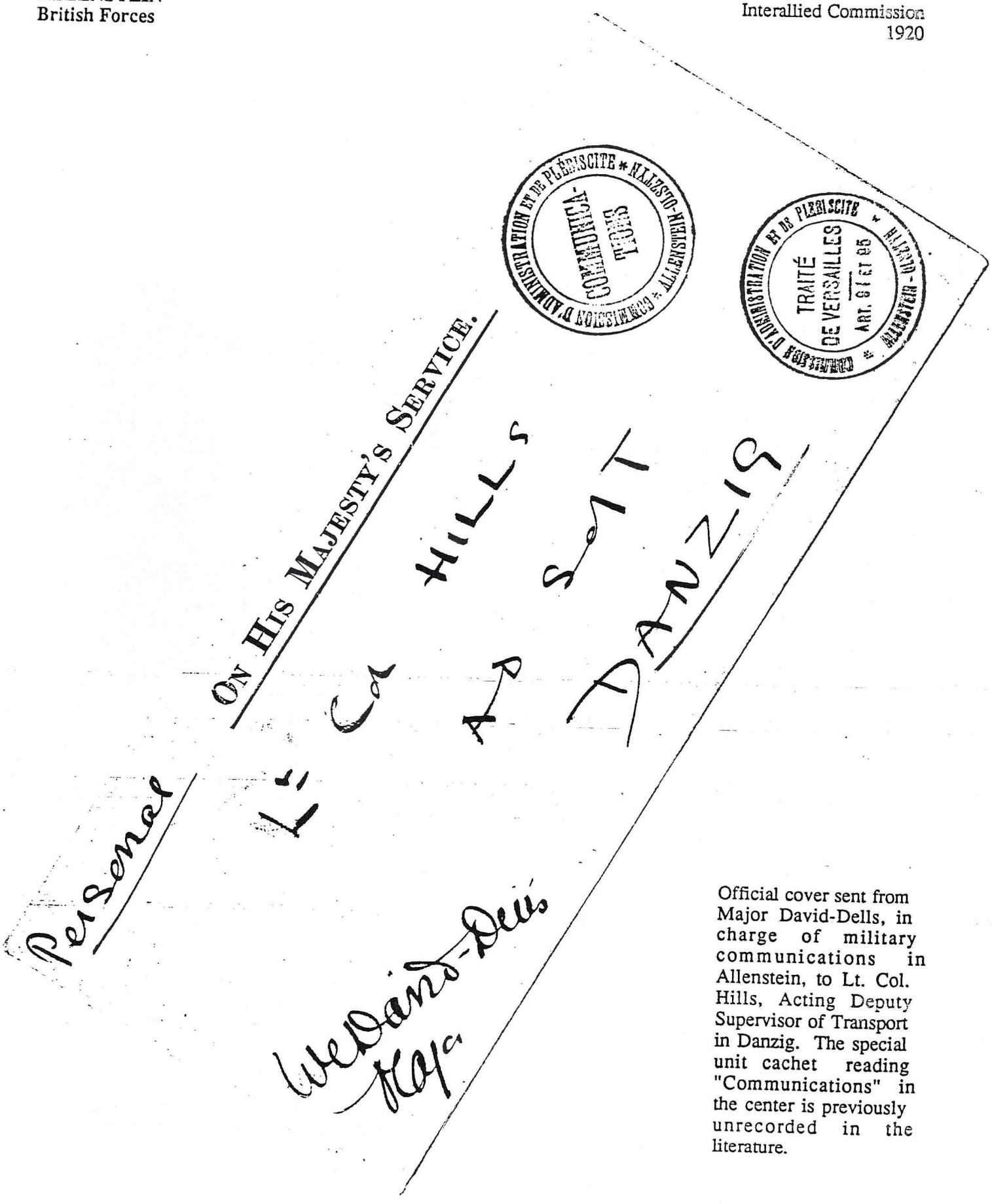
Allenstein
14 June 1920



French presence in this area was limited to the plebiscite commission staff and guard. Thus, no fieldpost facilities were required. Cover shown with official corner card of the Interallied Commission of Administration and the Plebiscite was sent to Strasbourg in liberated Alsace.

ALLENSTEIN
British Forces

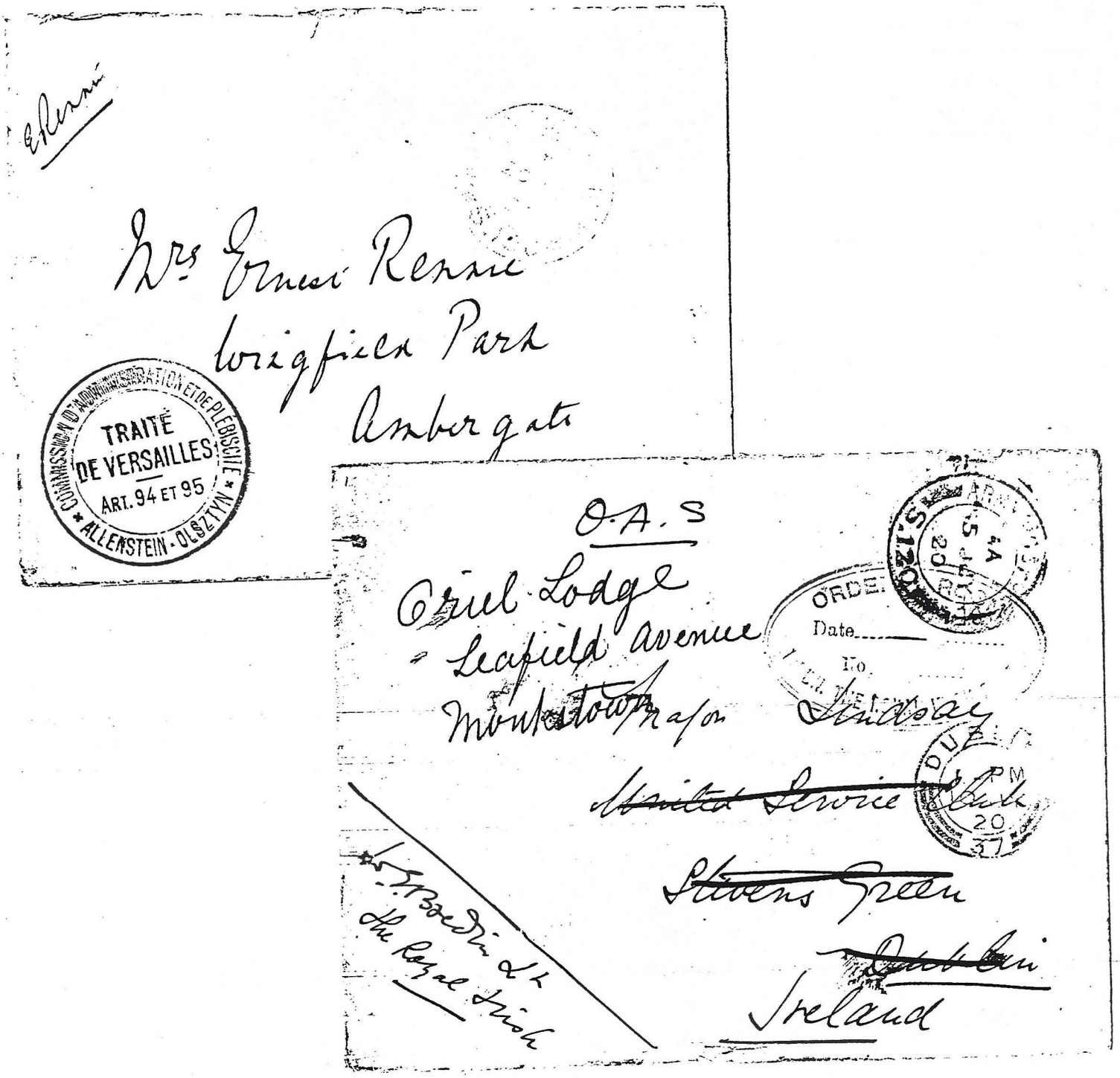
Interallied Commission
1920



Official cover sent from Major David-Dells, in charge of military communications in Allenstein, to Lt. Col. Hills, Acting Deputy Supervisor of Transport in Danzig. The special unit cachet reading "Communications" in the center is previously unrecorded in the literature.

ALLENSTEIN
British Forces

Field Post Office S.120
20 February 1920
15 July 1920



The First Battalion of the Royal Irish Regiment arrived in Allenstein at the beginning of February 1920 to supervise the plebiscite. The vote was overwhelmingly in favor of Germany, and the forces were withdrawn soon thereafter. Unit markings are those of the Plebiscite Commission and the Orderly Room of the Royal Irish.

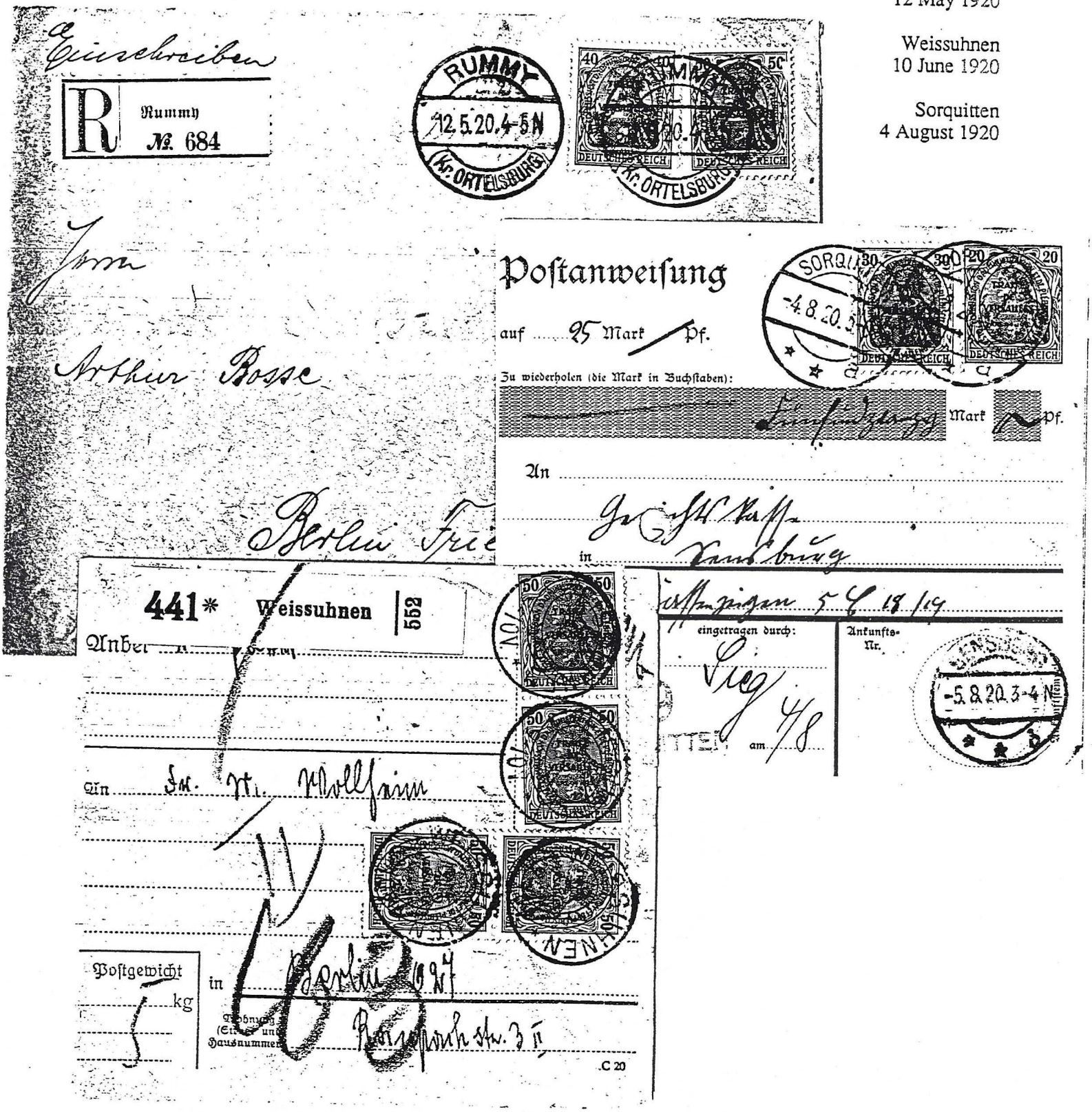
Upper cover was sent by Sir Ernest Rennie, president of the Interallied Commission, to his wife in England.

ALLENSTEIN
Plebiscite Territory

Rummy (Kr. Ortelsburg)
12 May 1920

Weissuhnen
10 June 1920

Sorquitten
4 August 1920



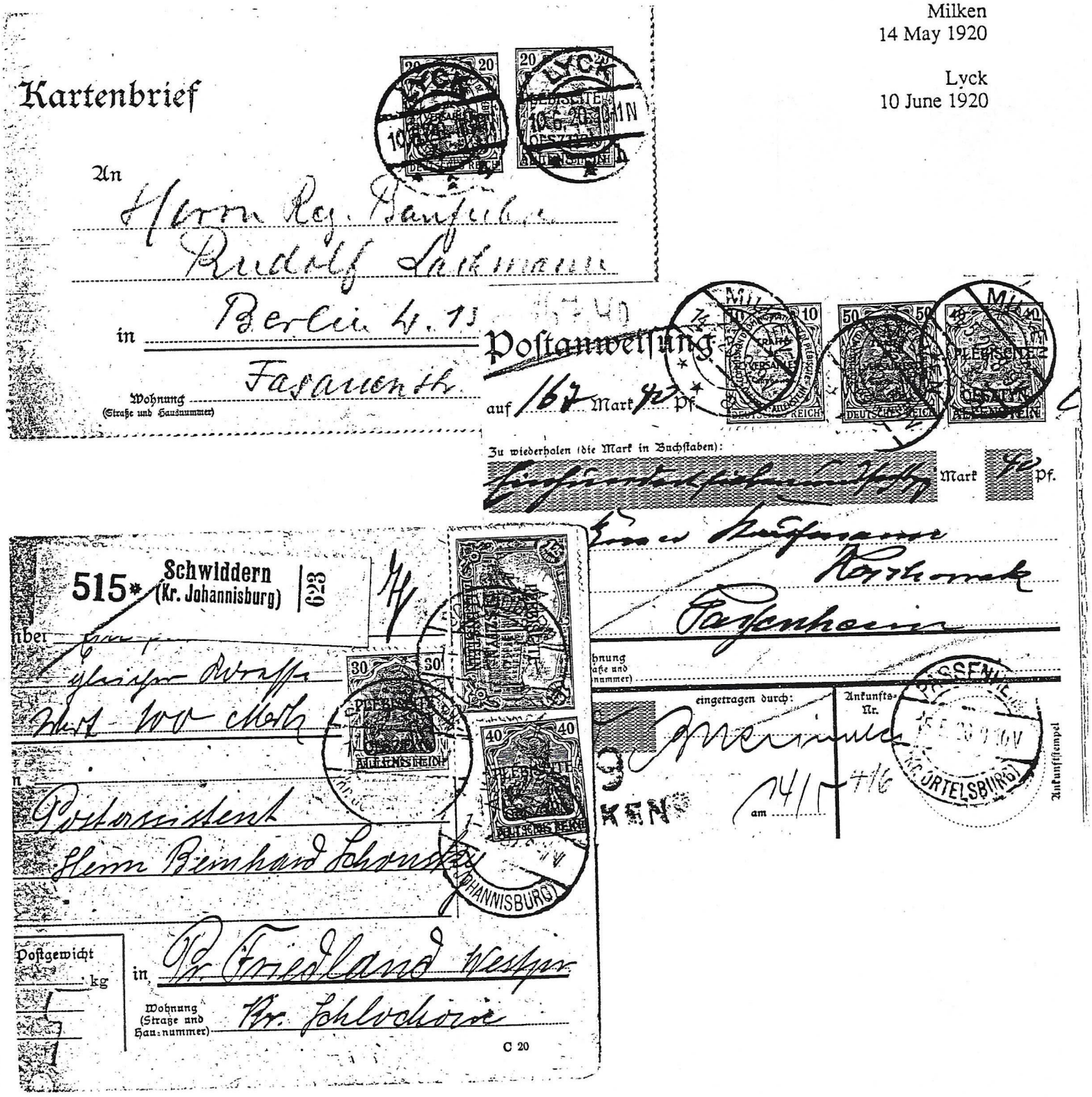
A second set of overprints with an oval and wording "Treaty of Versailles" was brought out in early May. Above examples of registered cover, money order card (particularly elusive with fewer than five examples recorded), and parcel card (also quite difficult to acquire).

ALLENSTEIN
Plebiscite Territory

Schwiddern
1 May 1920

Milken
14 May 1920

Lyck
10 June 1920



Overprints were also applied to Germania postal stationery. The money order card is a very elusive item used, with fewer than five examples recorded. Below it is a parcel card with the first Allenstein overprints, also very difficult to acquire.

ALLENSTEIN

Plebiscite Territory

Rössel
10 August 1920

Sensburg
12 August 1920



The Allies decided to organize a vote to determine whether the inhabitants of the southern part of East Prussia wished to join Poland or remain with Germany. The Plebiscite Commission arrived on 14 February 1920 and issued their first stamps (3-line overprints on the Germania series) on 3 April. The vote was taken on 11 July (98% in favor of staying with Germany) and the Commission departed on 12 August.

SCHLESWIG
French Forces

Flensburg
9 February 1920
30 April 1920



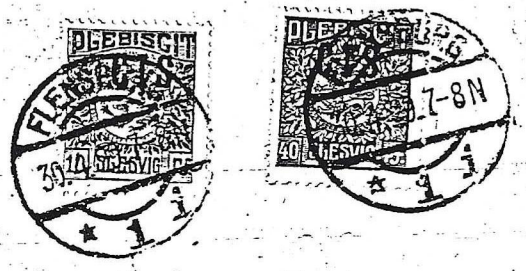
Paymaster Commander Adams,
U.S. Unterrichtsgebäude



Mürwik

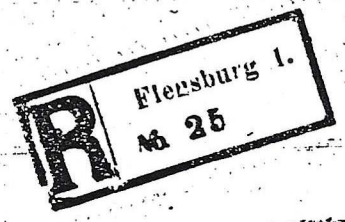
Commission Internationale Slesvig.

Einschreiben



Herrn Telegraphendirektor Rubiewsky

hier



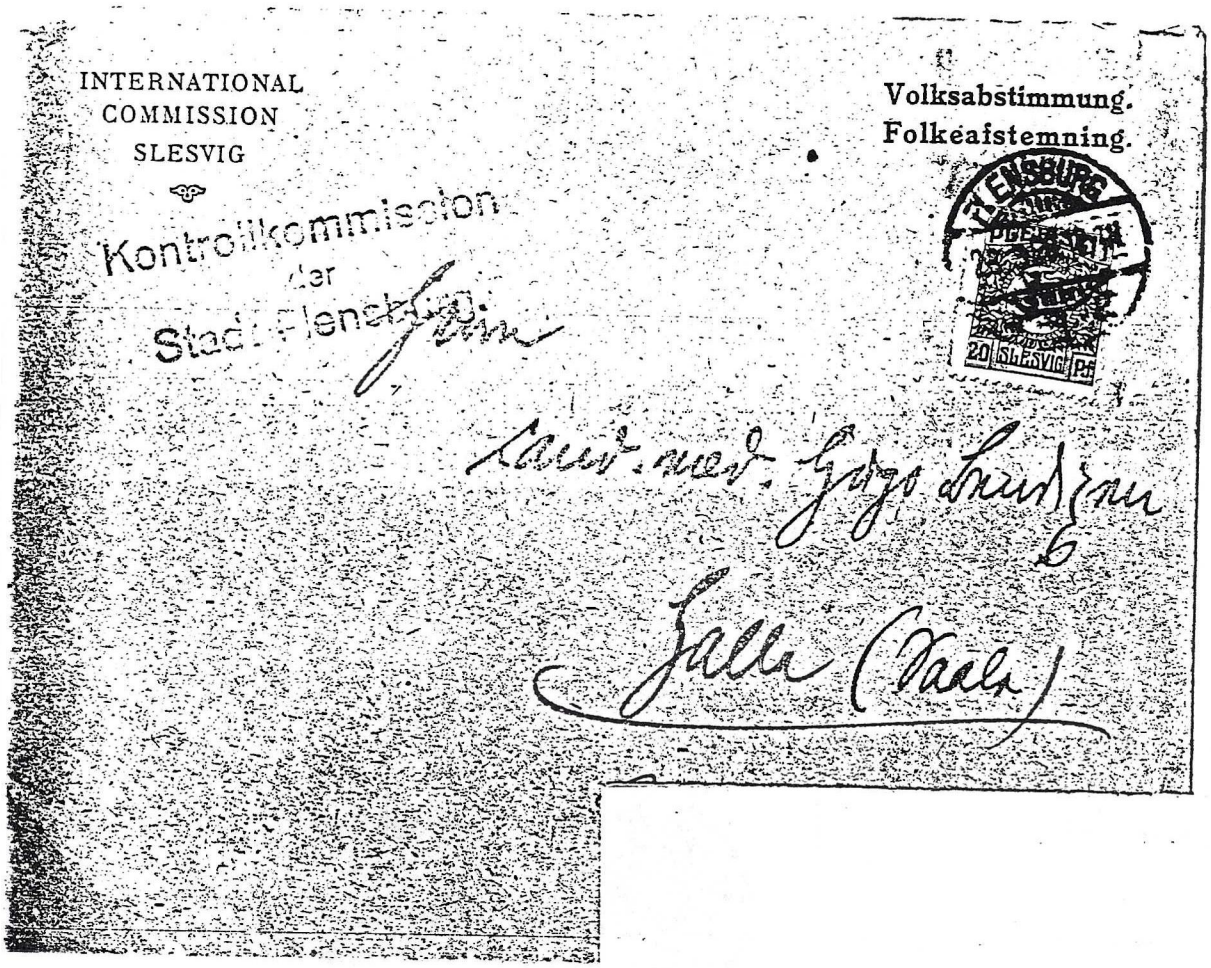
8713

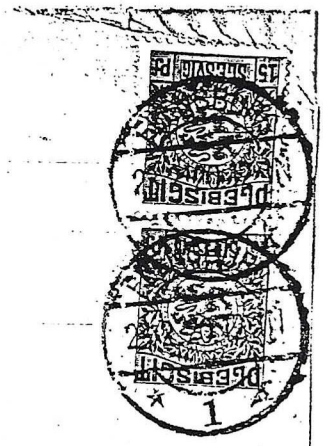
FLENSBURG.

The mail of the Allied Plebiscite Commission was designated with either a special cachet or printed corner card. On 26 January 1920, a small quantity of the German-denominated stamps was overprinted "C-I-S" for the International Schleswig Commission. The use of these stamps on cover is very uncommon.

SCHLESWIG
French Forces

Flensburg
23 February 1920
23 September 1920





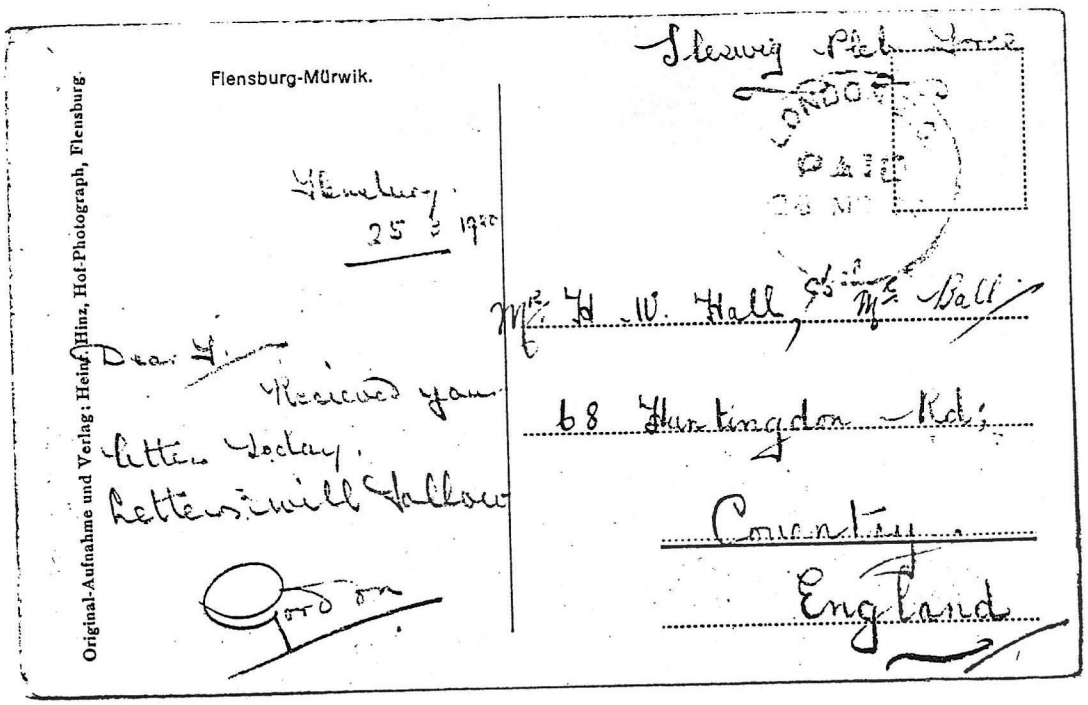
Turisthotellet,
Vester Boulevard,
Kjöbenhavn.

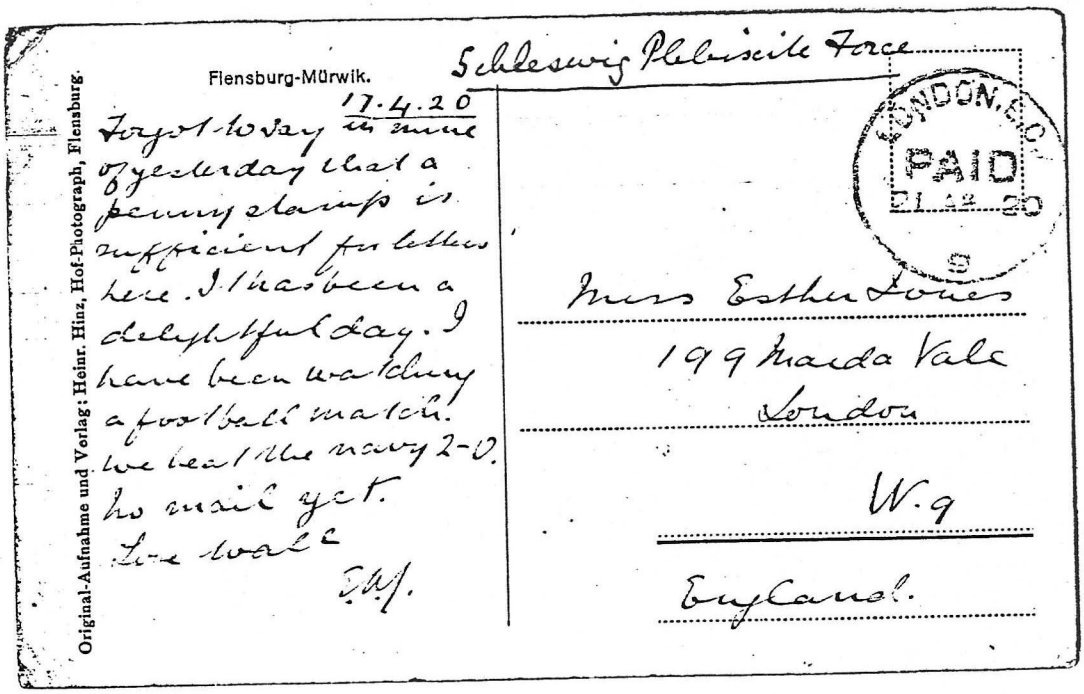


Official mail of the plebiscite authorities, with markings indicating origination from the Control Commission for the City of Flensburg and the Plebiscite Surveillance Group, respectively.

SCHLESWIG
British Forces

Schleswig Plebiscite Force
25 March 1920
17 April 1920





The First Battalion of the Sherwood Foresters arrived in Flensburg on 25 January 1920 as part of the Allied commission to conduct the plebiscite in Schleswig. No fieldpost station was established in this area, but the mail was sent by military pouch to London where it was postmarked and placed in the mail stream.

SCHLESWIG
Plebiscite Territory

Tondern
29 May 1920
2 June 1920



A vote was taken on 10 February 1920 in the northern half of the province (Zone 1), with 75% favoring joining Denmark. This caused a second set denominated in Danish currency and then overprinted "1 Zone" to be issued on 20 May. However, these stamps were valid for less than two months until 17 July 1920 when Danish stamps were introduced.

SCHLESWIG
Plebiscite Territory

Flensburg
3 April 1920
19 May 1920



The vote in the southern portion of the province (Zone 2) was 14 March 1920 with 80% favoring remaining with Germany. Stamps denominated in pfennigs and marks remained valid for postage until 27 June 1920.

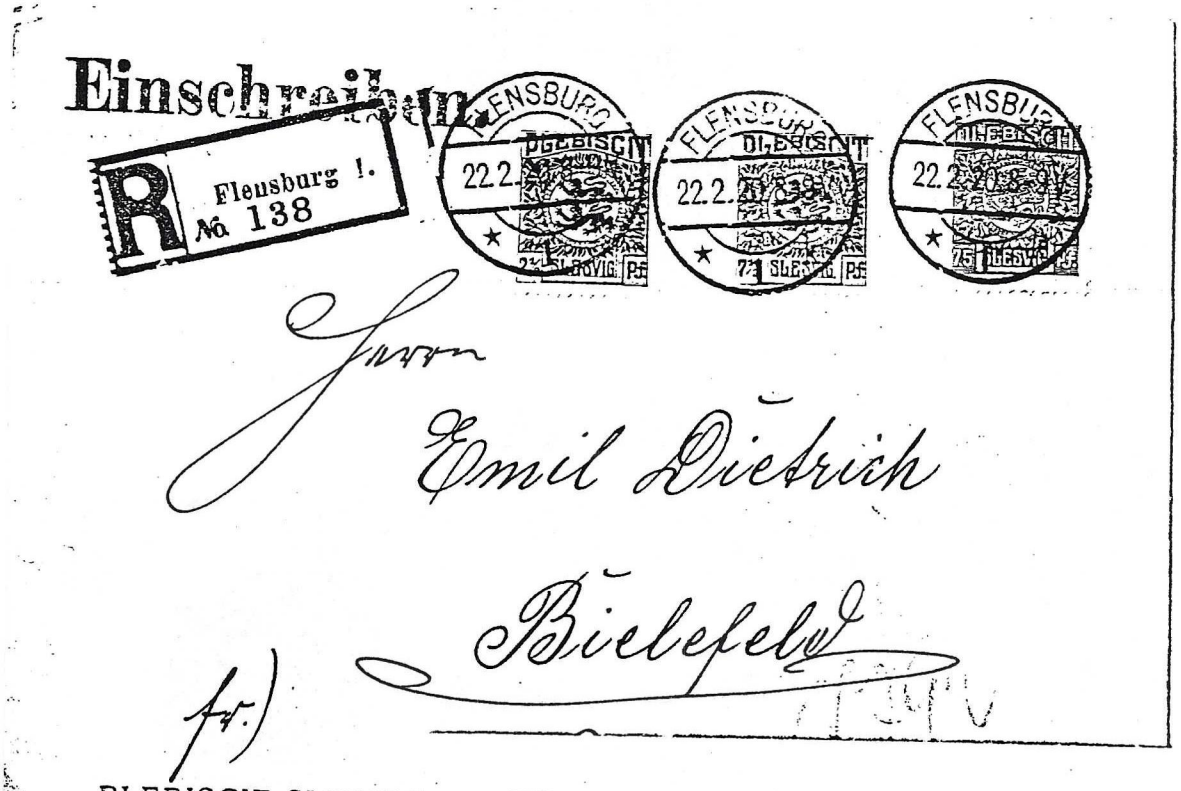
Examples shown on registered cover to U.S.A. and registered C.O.D. to Germany.

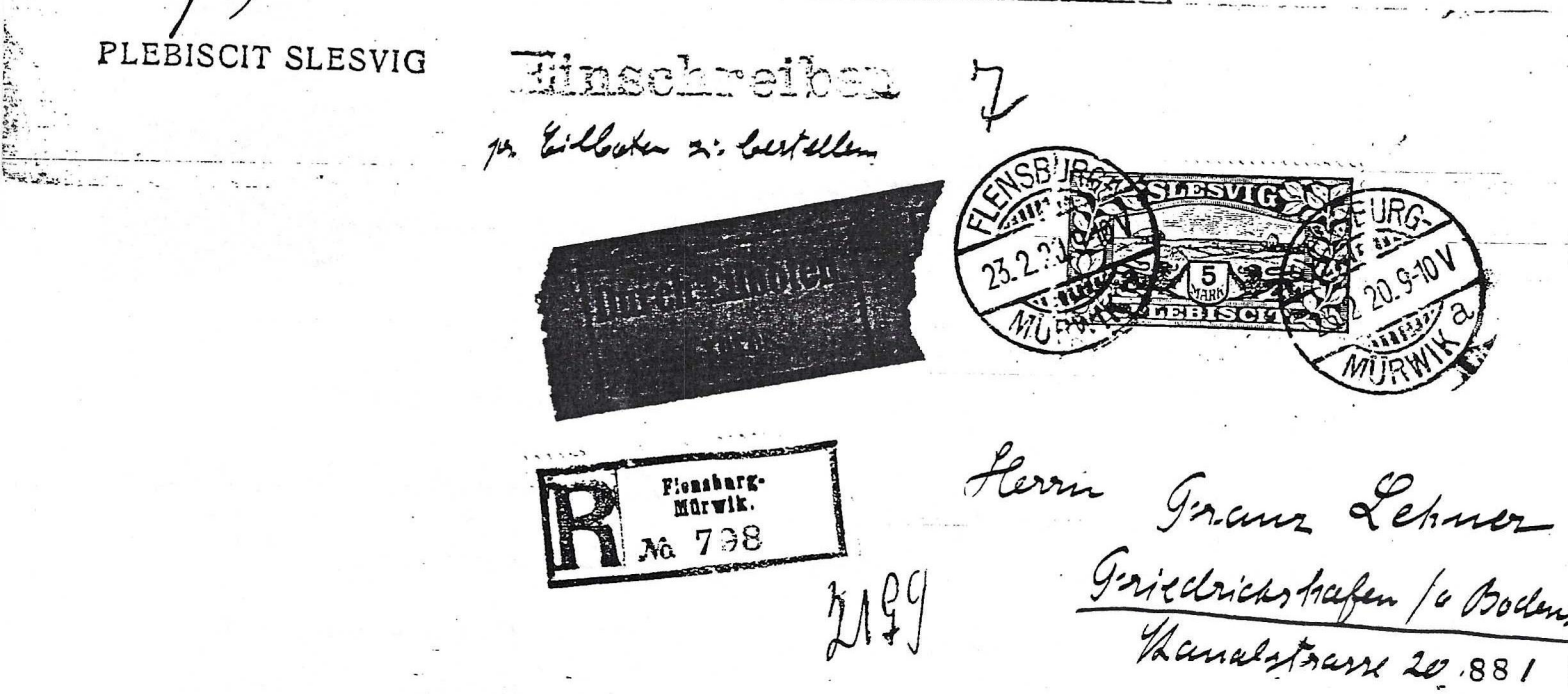
SCHLESWIG

Plebiscite Territory

Flensburg
22 February 1920

Flensburg-Mürwik
23 February 1920





The Allies organized a plebiscite to determine whether the inhabitants of Schleswig wished to join Denmark or remain with Germany. The Plebiscite Commission arrived in January 1920 and issued their first stamps on the 25th of that month, which depicted the coat of arms of the province and a landscape. Denominated in marks.

Registered covers (one also Special Delivery) showing use of stamps of the first series.