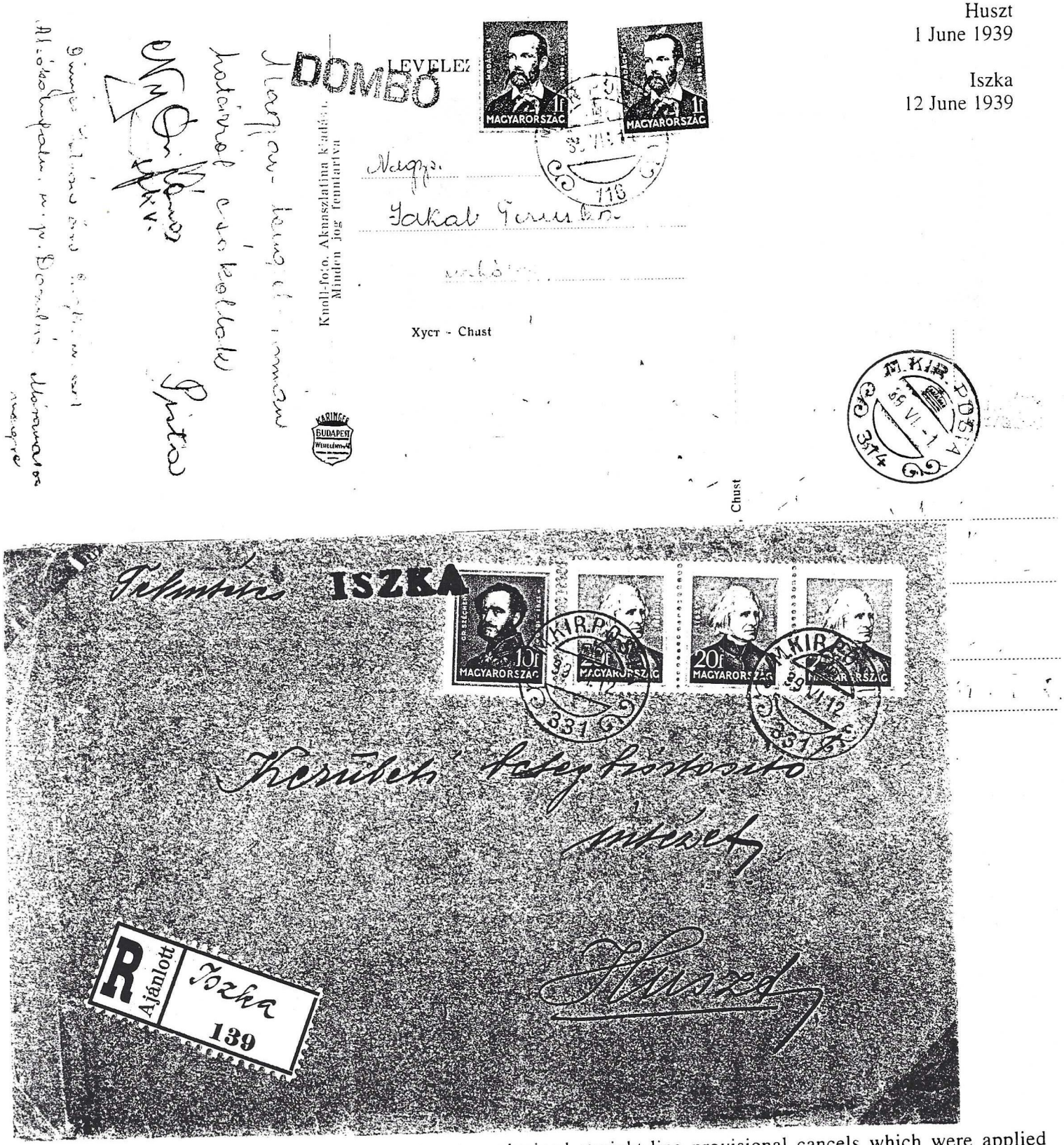
RUTHENIA
Provisional Postmarks

Dombo
14 July 1939

Huszt
1 June 1939

Iszka
12 June 1939



For clearer identification, some postmasters obtained straight-line provisional cancels which were applied alongside the numerical postmarks. Examples are from Dombo (Dubove), Huszt (Chust) and Iszka (Izky).

RUTHENIA
Provisional Postmarks

Majdanka
26 June 1939

Raho
1 August 1939



Straight-line provisional cancels used from Majdanka (Majdan) and Raho (Rachov).

RUTHENIA
Standard Bilingual Postmarks

Alsonereszníce
4 September 1939

Bilke
21 March 1940

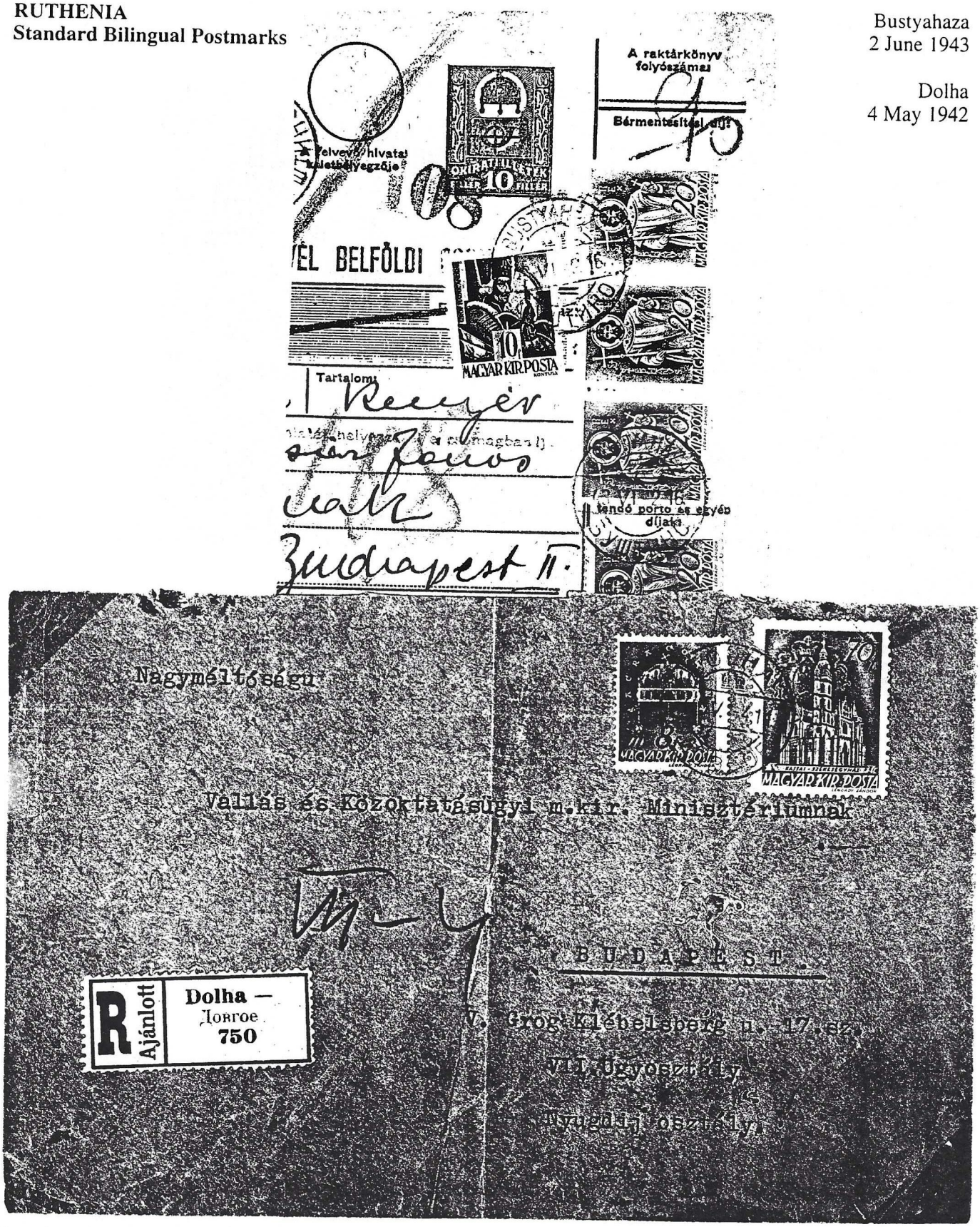


As civil government was extended throughout Ruthenia, new steel bilingual (Hungarian and Ukrainian) postmarks and registry labels were introduced on 1 August 1939. This and the following pages will show a selection of usages and frankings with such cancels. Above are an airmail letter to the U.S. with 1.20 pengo postage from Bilke (Bilky) and a domestic registered letter from Alsonereszníce (Neresnice).

RUTHENIA
Standard Bilingual Postmarks

Bustyahaza
2 June 1943

Dolha
4 May 1942

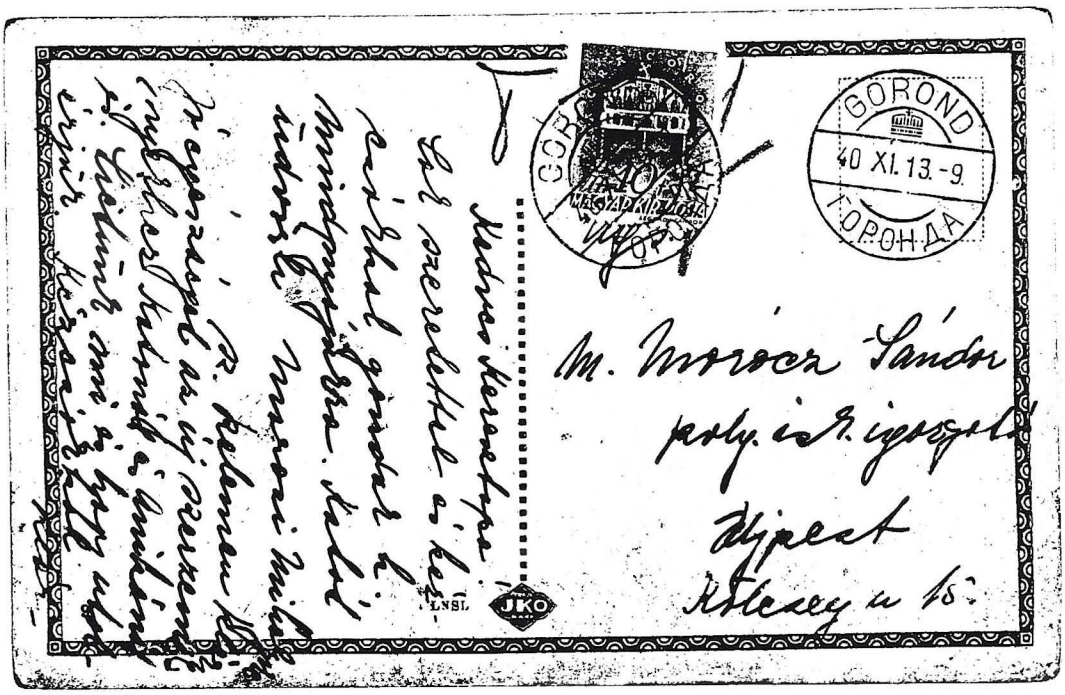


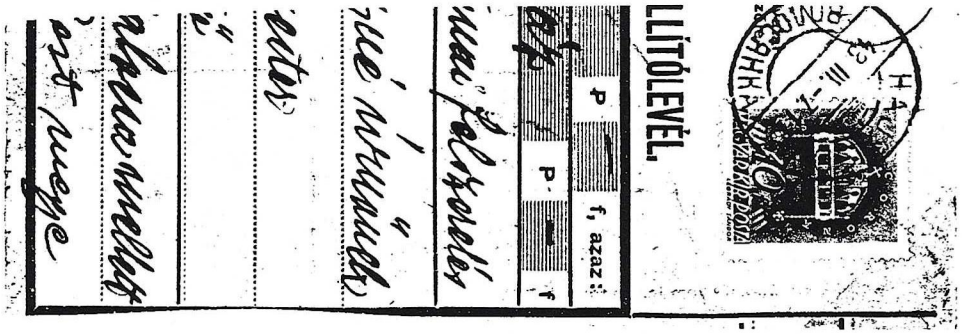
Parcel post usage with 90 filler franking with adhesives from Bustyahaza (Bustina) to Budapest. Lower cover shows domestic registration from Dolha (Dovhoje) with 78 filler franking.

RUTHENIA
Standard Bilingual Postmarks

Gorond
13 November 1940

Hajasd
7 March 1943





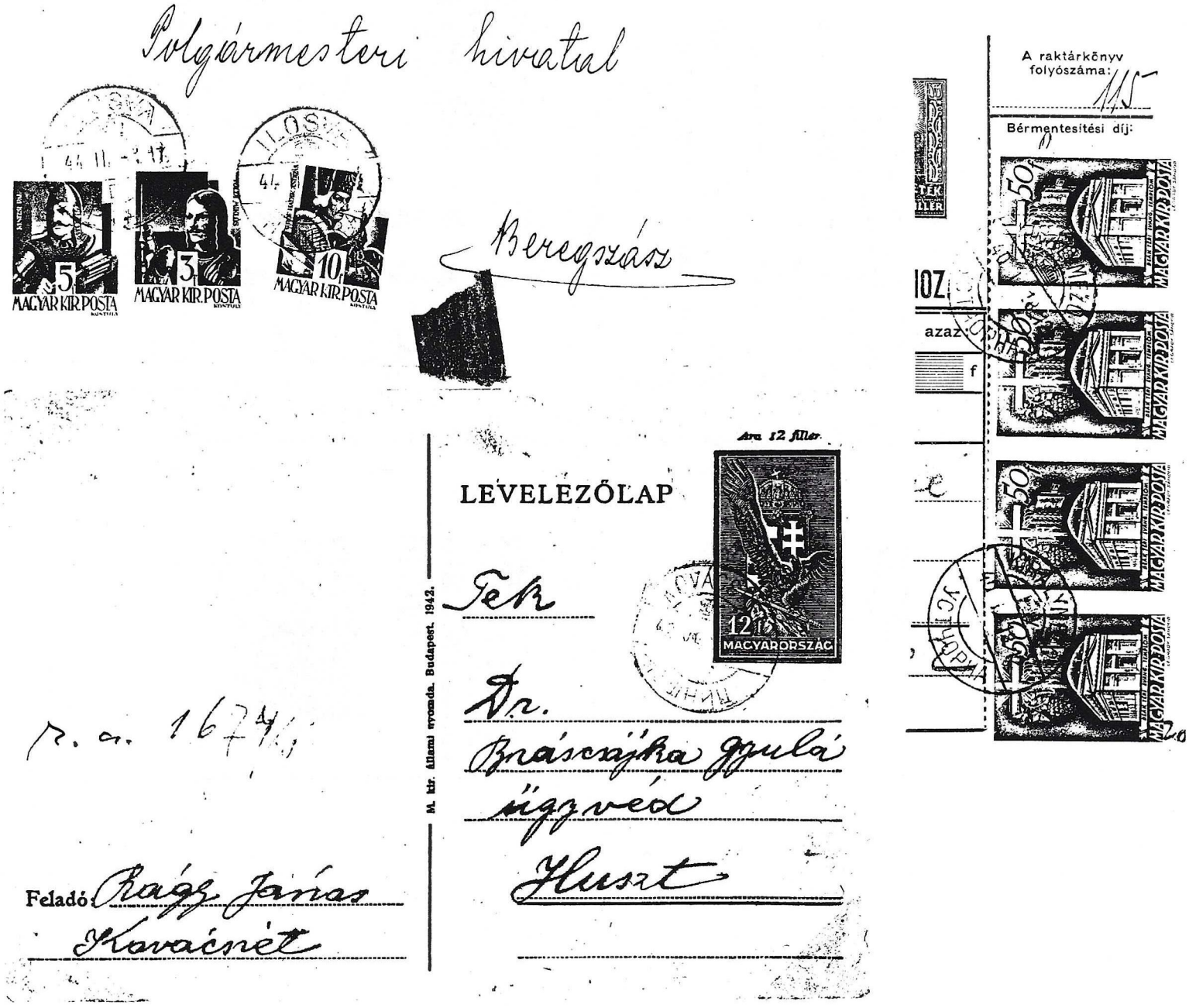
Domestic postcard paid at 10 filler rate from Gorond (Goronda) and a cutting from money order form used from Hajasd (Volosjanka).

RUTHENIA
Standard Bilingual Postmarks

Ilosva
1 February 1944

Kiralymezo
18 January 1940

Kovacsret
13 June 1942

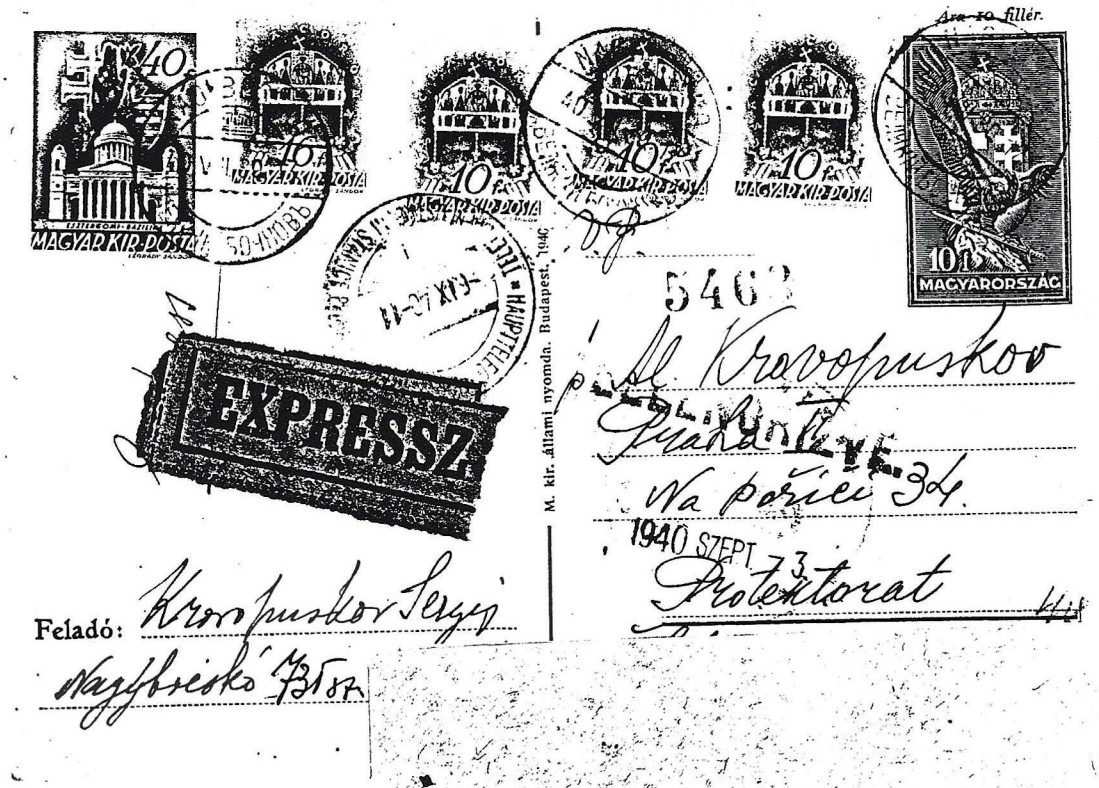


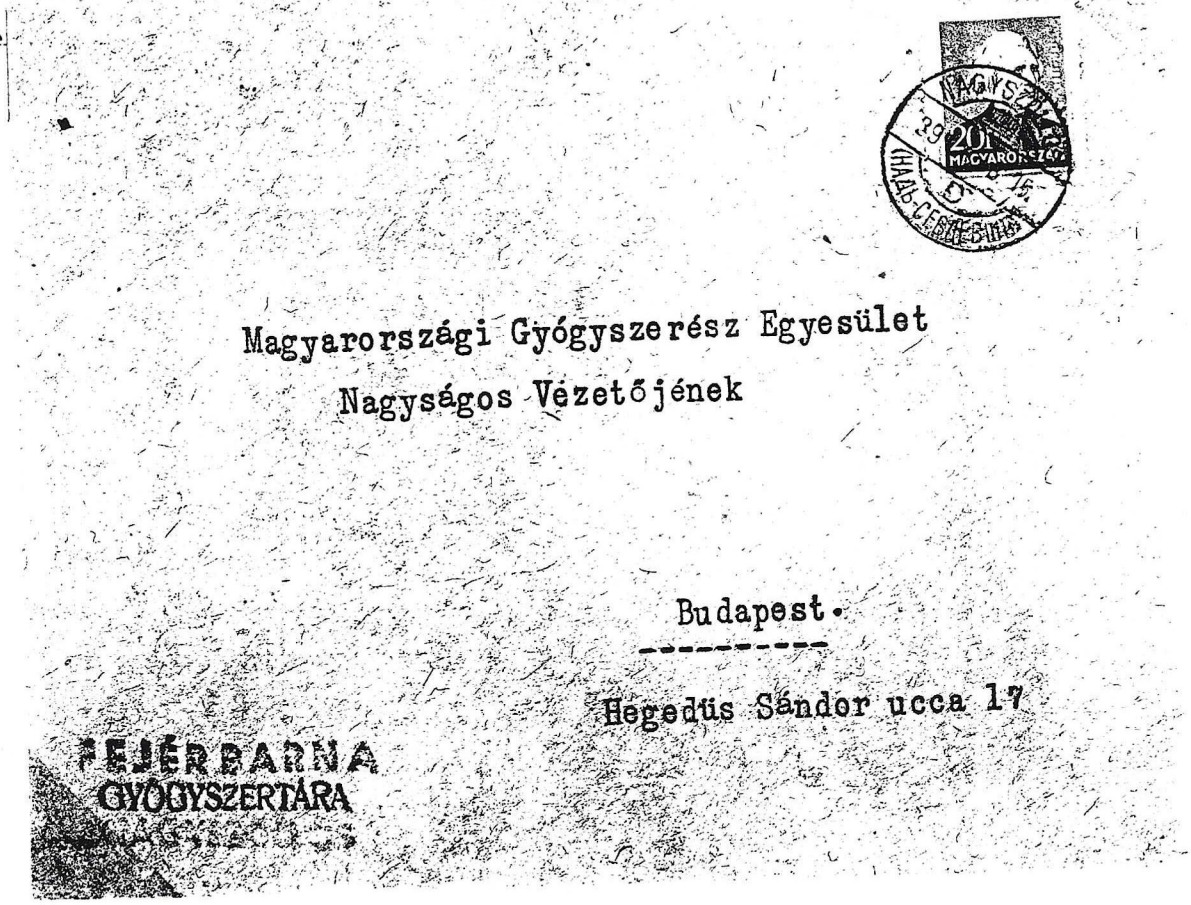
Printed flyer sent at 18 filler rate from Ilosva (Irsava), parcel cutting with 2 pengo in adhesives from Kiralymezo (Brod nad Tisou), and 10 filler domestic postal card from Kovacsret (Kusnice).

RUTHENIA
Standard Bilingual Postmarks

Nagybocsko
30 August 1940

Nagyszollos
8 September 1939



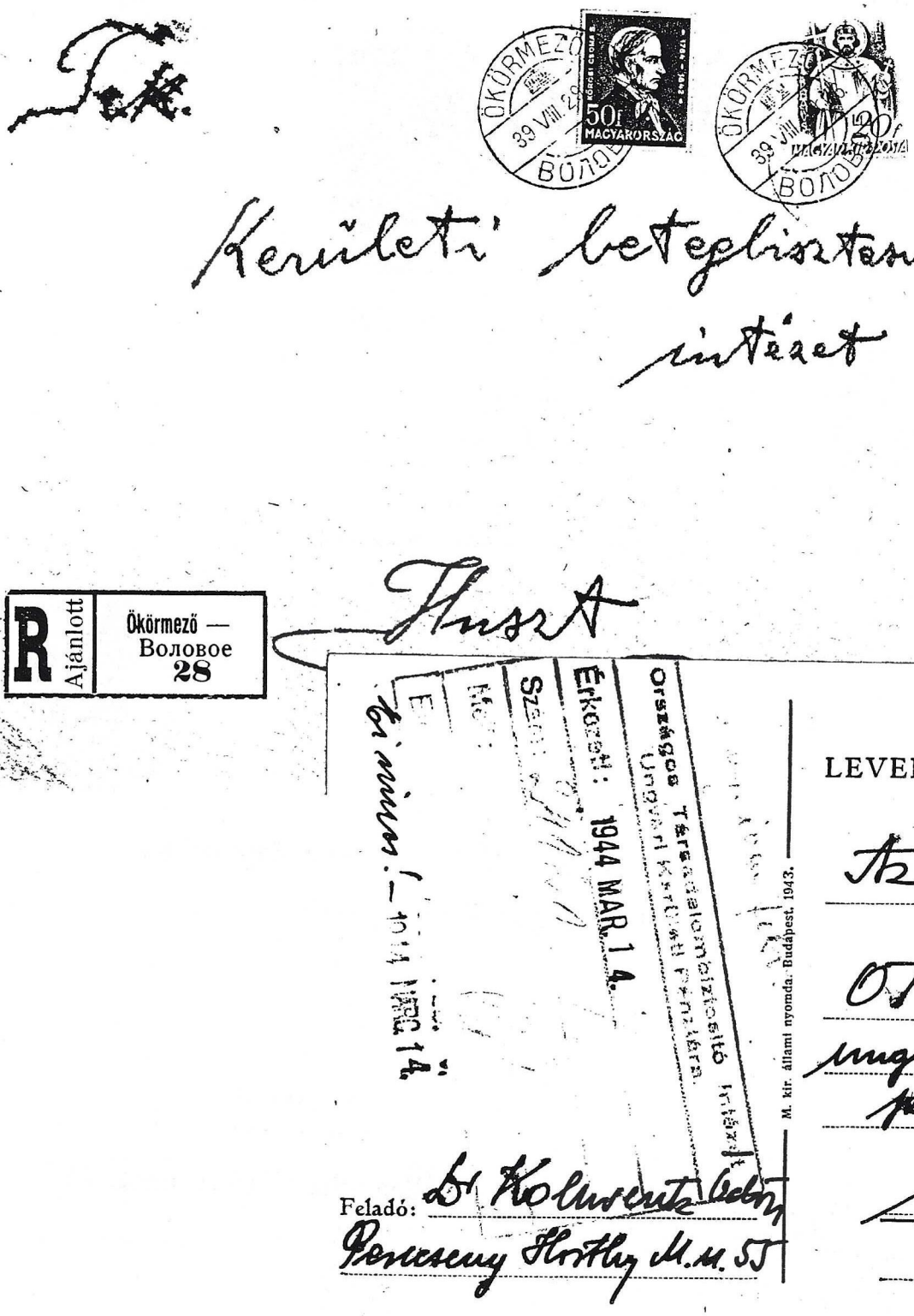


Postal card sent special delivery for 96 filler to the Protectorate of Bohemia-Moravia from Nagybocsko (Vel. Bockov) and domestic letter franked at 20 filler rate from Nagyszollos (Sevljus) to Budapest.

RUTHENIA
Standard Bilingual Postmarks

Okormezo
29 August 1939

Perecseny
13 March 1944



Domestic registered cover sent for 70 filler from Okormezo (Volovoje) to Huszt and postal card from Perecseny (Perecin) to Ungvar.

RUTHENIA
Standard Bilingual Postmarks

Raho
22 December 1940

Szerednye
6 April 1943

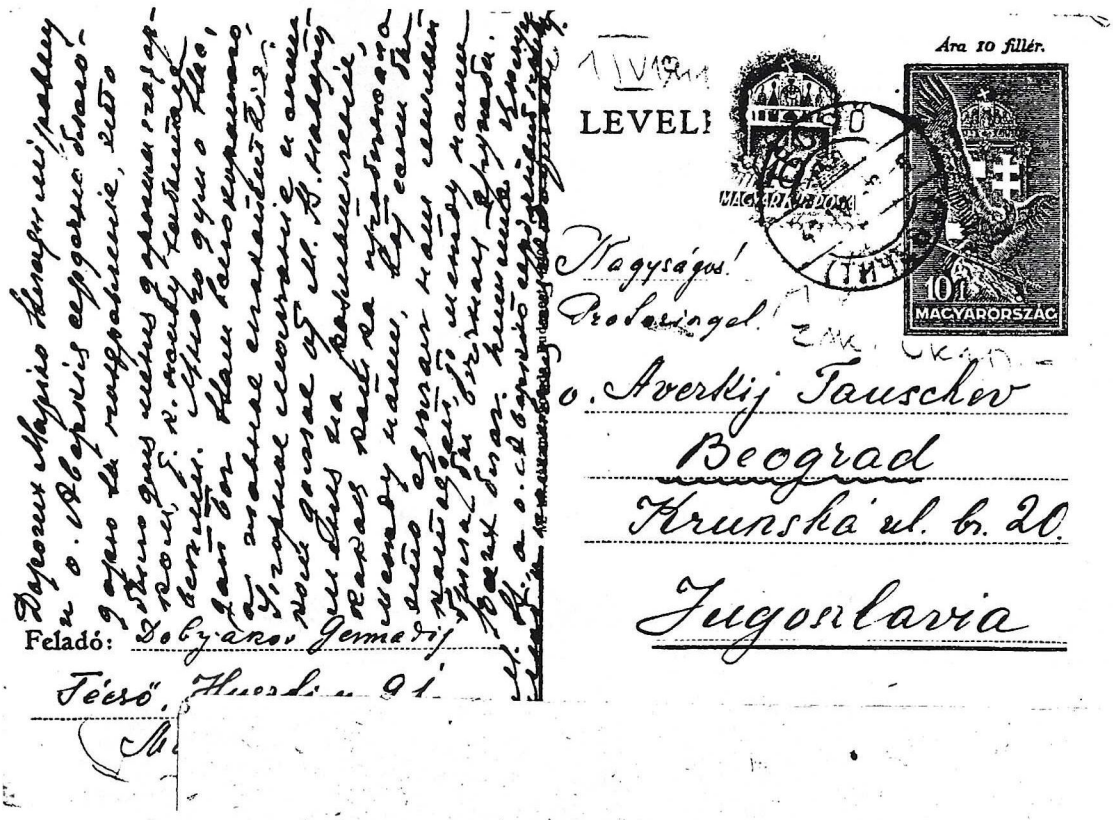


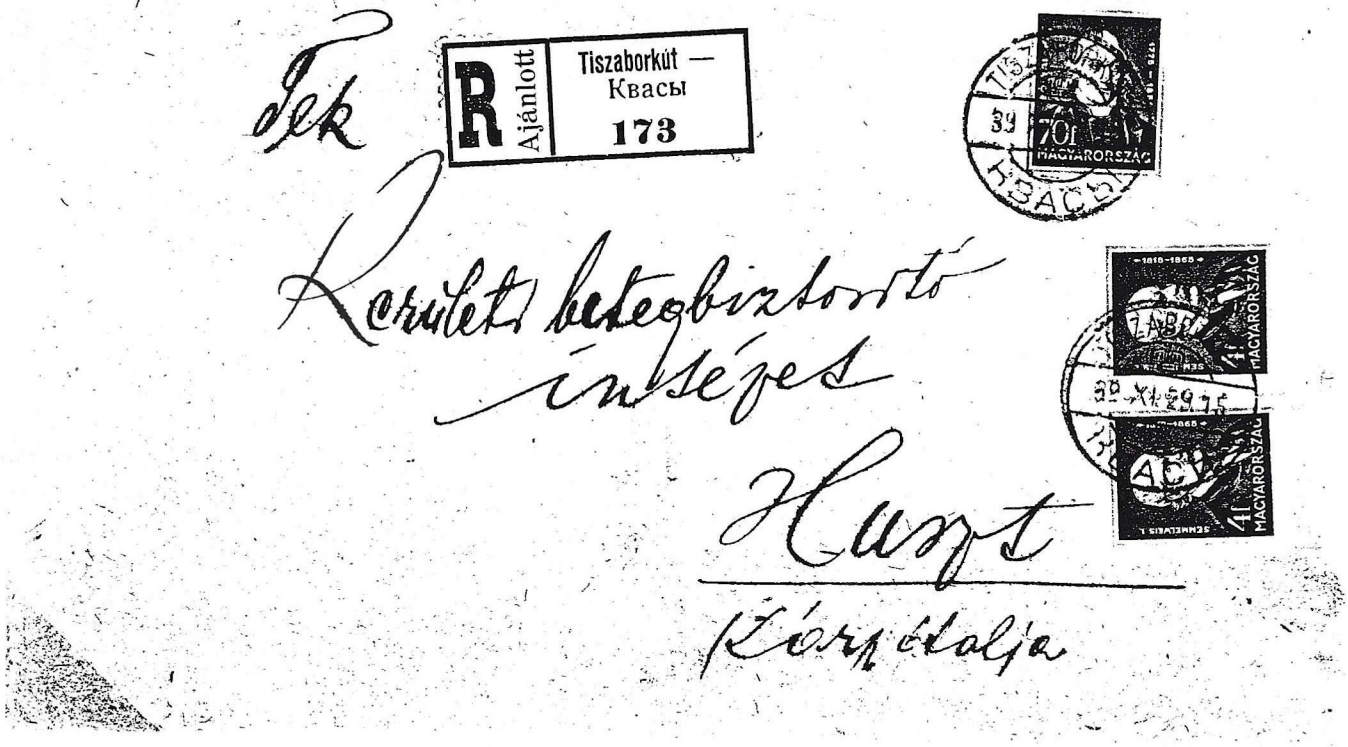
Domestic postcard from Raho (Rachov) and domestic registered cover sent for 86 filler from Szerednye (Serednoje) to Ungvar.

RUTHENIA
Standard Bilingual Postmarks

Tecso
2 April 1940

Tiszaborkut
29 November 1939





International postal card uprated to 20 filler for use to Belgrade, Jugoslavia from Tecso (Tacovo) and domestic registered letter paid at 78 filler from Tiszaborkut (Kvasy) to Huszt.

RUTHENIA
Additional Towns

FPO 229
April 1939

FPO 301
15 April 1939





Herrn G. Thoolen,
Poste Restante,
Rotterdam,
Holland.



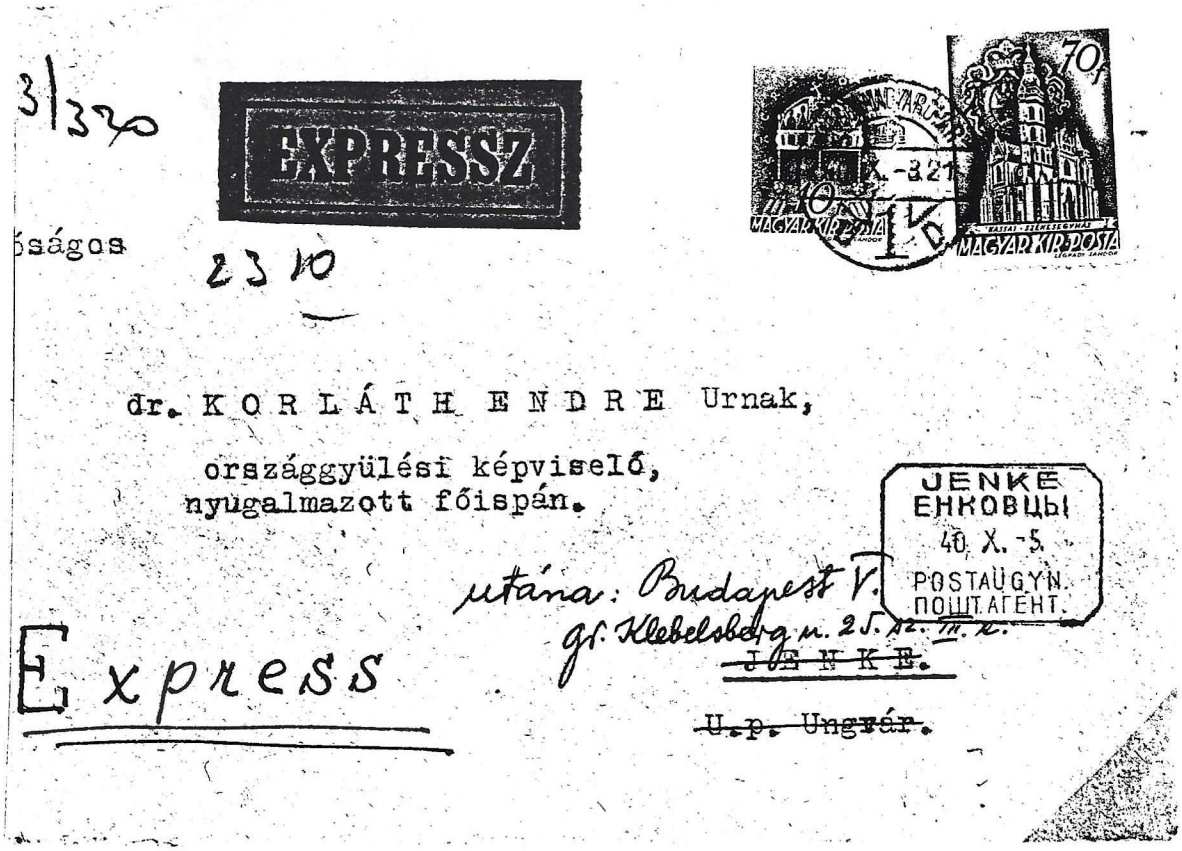


Herrn G. Thoolen
Poste Restante
R O T T E R D A M
Holland

When Slovakia became independent on 14 March 1939, it was agreed that several villages in Upper Hungary would be restored to the Slovaks. In return, several villages populated by Ruthenes in Eastern Slovakia were given over to Hungarian control. Mail from these places is very elusive, but a few philatelic souvenirs were made at the time. These examples are from FPO 229 in Remetevasgyar (Remetske Hamre) and FPO 301 in Szobranc (Sobrance). They were backstamped for receipt in Rotterdam on 18 and 19 April, respectively.

RUTHENIA
Additional Towns
Inbound Mail

Jenke
5 October 1940



Inbound Special Delivery letter addressed to Jenke (Jenkovce) in the area transferred from Slovakia to Ruthenia in March 1939. However, the addressee had moved to Budapest so the letter had to be forwarded. Jenke had a postal agency at the time (but no full post office until 1943), so its very elusive agency marking was applied.

TRANSYLVANIA

Once the Soviet Union had successfully pressured Romania into giving up Bessarabia and Bukovina in June 1940, the Hungarians demanded border rectification based on the fact that the boundaries awarded the Romanians in 1919 included 1.5 million Magyars. The Axis powers were again asked to mediate, resulting in another Vienna award on 30 August that granted Hungary 16,600 square miles of northern and eastern Transylvania with a population of more than 2.5 million. This area was called Erdely by the Hungarians. Some 4 million copies of a commemorative stamp were printed. Issued on 5 September 1940 and valid for postage until 30 June 1941.

Commemorative Stamps

Gyergyoszentmiklos
5 September 1940

Budapest
17 September 1940



First Day usage of the commemorative for the annexation of Northern Transylvania, prominently depicting the crown of St. Stephen. Stamp pays proper domestic postcard rate of 10 filler.



Cover with six copies of the commemorative for Transylvania. It is properly franked at 60 filler for an airmail letter to occupied Denmark.

TRANSYLVANIA
Commemorative Stamps

In addition to the Liberation stamp, there was a semi-postal set that commemorated the reunification, with the proceeds from the surcharge being used by the Pro-Transylvania Fund for charitable work in the territory. Some 195,000 sets were issued on 2 December 1940, which were valid for postage until 31 January 1941.

Budapest
2 December 1940

FIRST DAY COVER

PREMIER JOUR D'EMISSION!





Ngs. Szilárd Róbert urnak,
Budapest, VIII.
Sándor-u. 5-7. M.T.I.

The designs of the semi-postals depicted an advancing Hungarian soldier, a Szekler farmer being welcomed home by the Patroness of Hungary and a Transylvanian mother offering her child to the fatherland.

TRANSYLVANIA
Liberation Postmarks

In connection with the recovery of northern and eastern Transylvania, the postal authorities provided special commemorative cancels for twenty of the most important cities and towns in the territory. These were used for several weeks following the annexation by the Hungarians. There was a common design, with the name of the location and its coat of arms. These will be shown in alphabetic order on the ensuing pages, in most cases accompanied by a commercial cover or card with the normal steel cds.

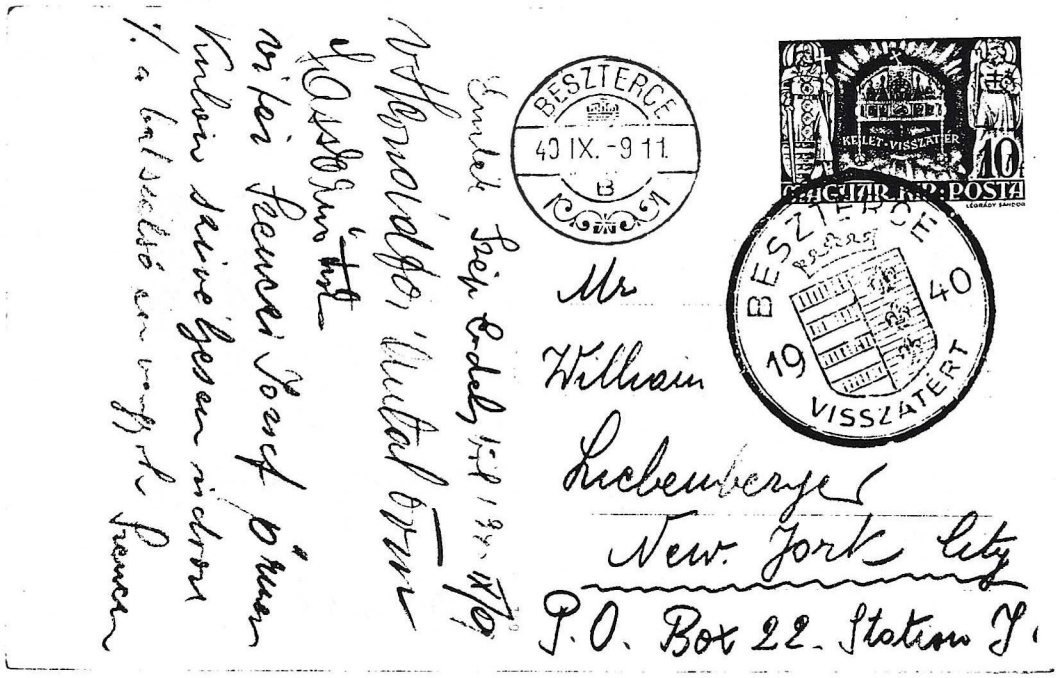
Banffyhunyad
12 September 1940
30 November 1943

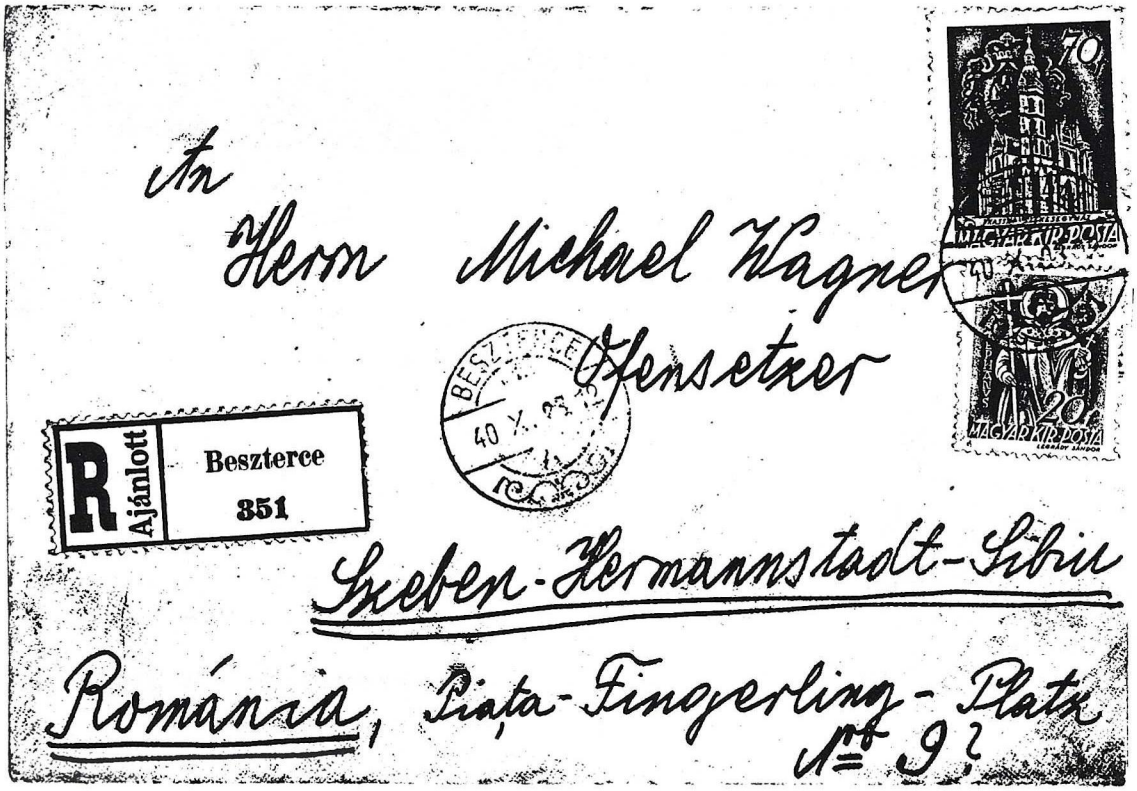


The Liberation cancel used in Banffyhunyad (Huedin during the Romanian period) included the name of the town and "Visszatert (Liberated) 1940." The period of usage was 9 to 28 September 1940.

TRANSYLVANIA
Liberation Postmarks

Besztercze
9 September 1940
23 October 1940





The Liberation cancel for Beszterce (Bistrita during the Romanian period) was used from 9 September to 15 October 1940. First day of use shown above.