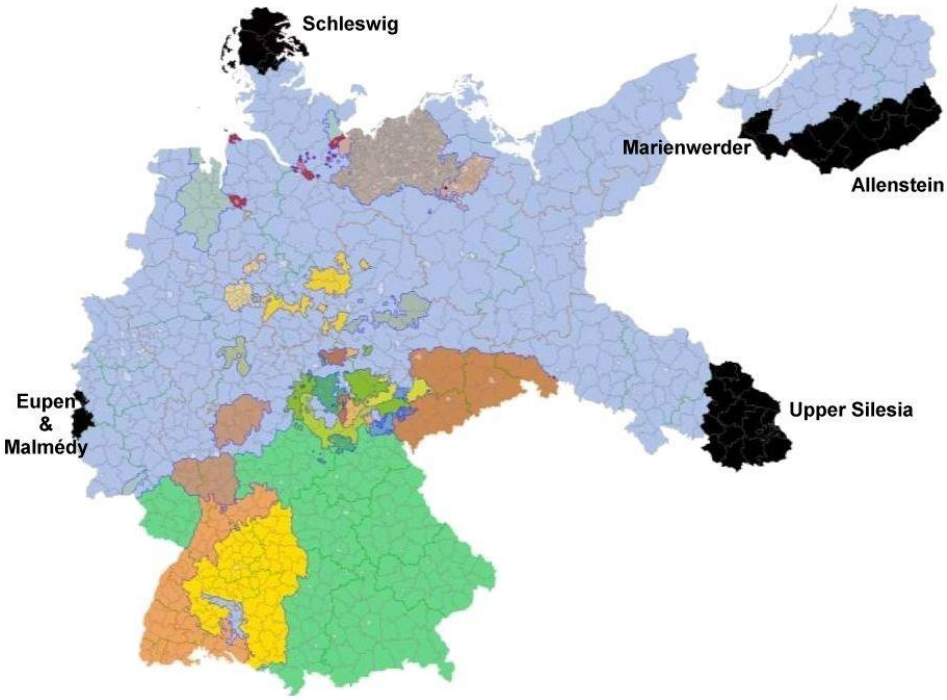
German Plebiscite Areas



The Treaty of Versailles of 1919 provided for plebiscites to be held in several border areas of the German Empire to determine whether the areas furtheron belonged to Germany or to its neighboring states (Denmark, Poland, France, or Belgium).

Plebiscites were scheduled in the following areas (see map):

- Schleswig in the north, on the border with Denmark,

- Allenstein (Olsztyn) and Marienwerder (Kwidzyn) in the east on the border with Poland,

- Upper Silesia in the southeast, also on the border with Poland, and

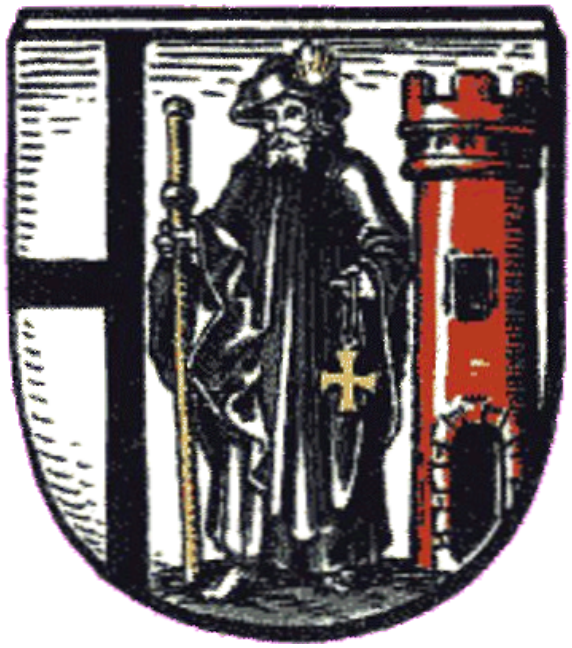
- Eupen and Malmédy in the west on the border with Belgium.

In all these regions, stamps were issued in the run-up to and around the respective plebiscite. They are listed in this album text.

A plebiscite was also held in the Saar region - but not until 1935. In accordance with the Treaty of Versailles, the Saar region was given to the League of Nations as a trustee for 15 years under foreign administration. The stamp issues of the Saar region are the subject of a separate AlbumEasy text, including the issues from 1947 to 1956.

German Plebiscite Areas

Allenstein



In the plebiscite held in Allenstein on July 11, 1920, over 97 percent voted to remain part of the German Empire.

In accordance with this Allenstein remained part of Germany.

Designed by Alexander Barthel with AlbumEasy

German Plebiscite Areas

Allenstein

1920

German Empire Issues, Overprint 'PLÉBISCITE/OLSZTYN/ALLENSTEIN'





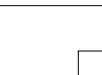


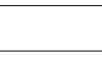
violet

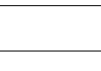


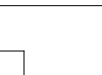
brown-red



















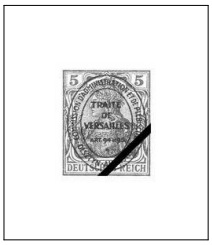


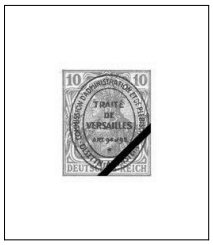
German Plebiscite Areas

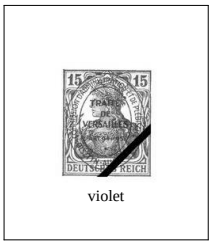
Allenstein

1920

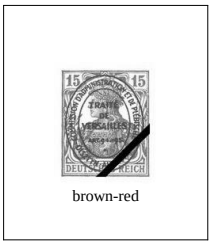
German Empire Issues, Overprint 'TRAITÉ/DE/VERSAILLES/ART. 94 et 95' in Oval







violet



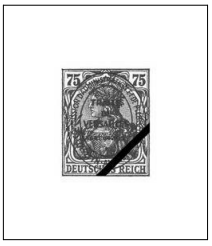
brown-red

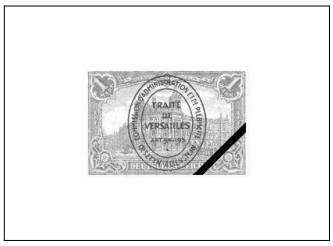


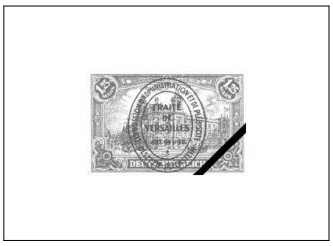


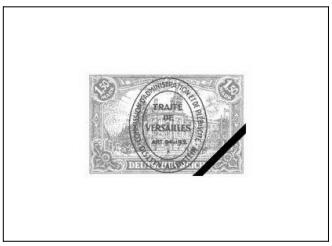


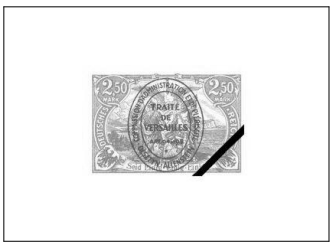


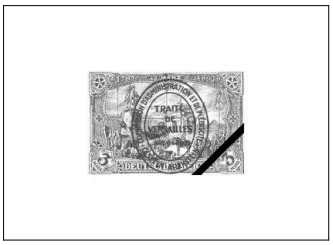












Marienwerder



In Marienwerte, too, a clear majority of more than 92 percent voted to remain part of Germany on July 11, 1920.

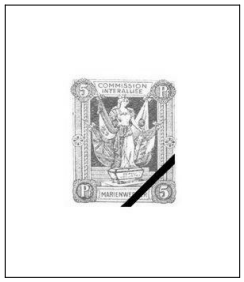
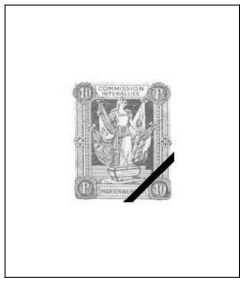
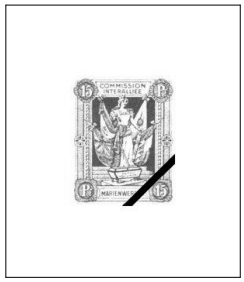
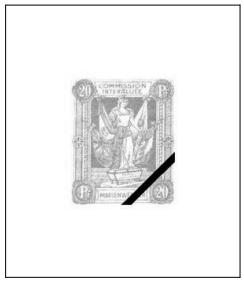
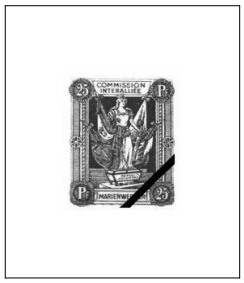
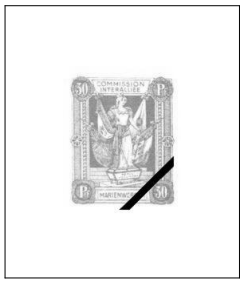
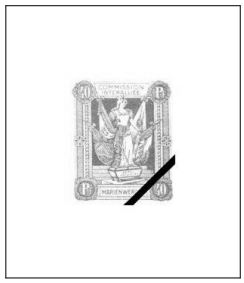
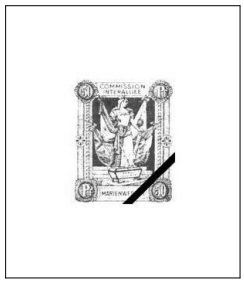
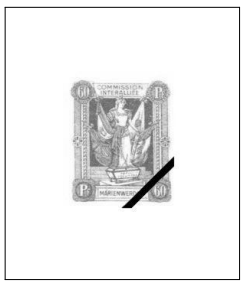
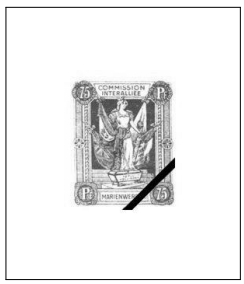
In accordance with this majority decision, Marienwerder remained German territory.

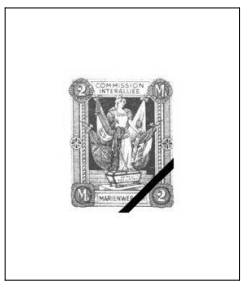
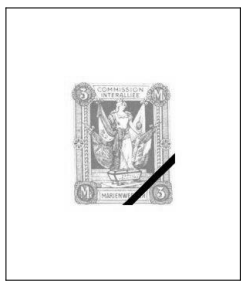
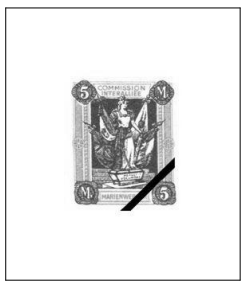
German Plebiscite Areas

Marienwerder

1920

Allegorical Female Figure on Ballot Box,
Inscription 'COMMISSION INTERALLIÉE', Thick Paper, Perforated 12½

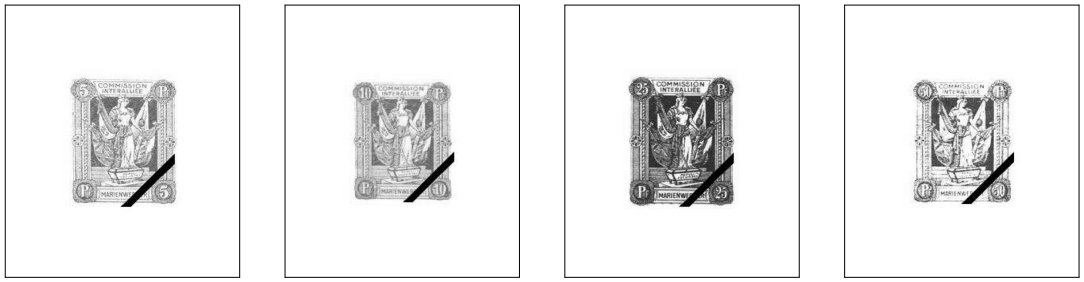




German Plebiscite Areas

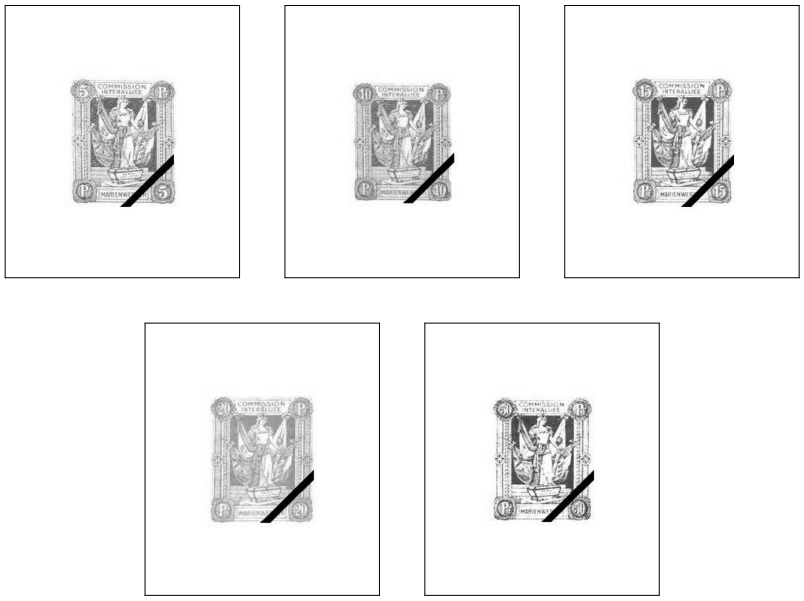
Marienwerder

1920

Allegorical Female Figure on Ballot Box,
Inscription 'COMMISSION INTERALLIÉE', Thick Paper, Needle-like Perforation



Likewise, Thin and Yellowish Paper, Perforated 12½



German Plebiscite Areas

Marienwerder

1920

German Empire Issues, Overprint 'Commission/Interalliée/Marienwerder'



German Empire Issues,
Overprint 'Commission/Interalliée/Marienwerder', Surcharge



German Empire Issues,
Larger Overprint 'Commission/Interalliée/Marienwerder'

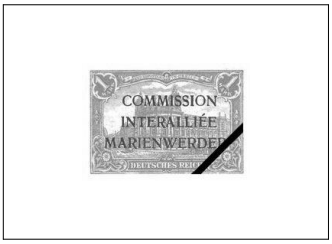


German Plebiscite Areas

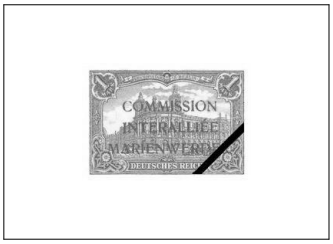
Marienwerder

1920

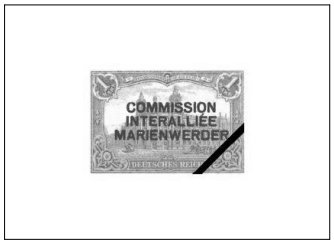
German Empire Issues,
Trial Overprint in Capital Letters
'COMMISSION/INTERALLIÉE/MARIENWERDER'



capital letters with serifs, black overprint



capital letters with serifs, red overprint



capital letters without serifs

German Plebiscite Areas

Marienwerder

1920

Allegorical Female Figure on Ballot Box, Inscription 'PLÉBISCITE'



German Plebiscite Areas

Upper Silesia



In Upper Silesia, on March 20, 1921, the majority (almost 60 percent) voted to remain with Germany. However, this result was not recognized by the Polish side. This led to violent clashes between armed Polish and German groups in Upper Silesia.

Despite the result of the vote, the eastern part of Upper Silesia, dominated by industry and mining, was finally transferred to Poland in 1922, while the western part, dominated by agriculture, remained with Germany.

This album text lists all stamps issued under the direction of the International Commission for Upper Silesia. For the official stamps overprinted C.G.H.S. only those with horizontal overprint are included, as well as the Opole emergency issues.

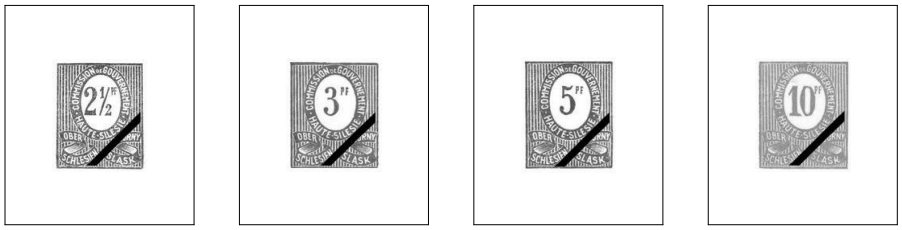
In 1921, the Polish insurgents in eastern Upper Silesia issued their own stamps (Korfanty issue), which were not officially recognized, but were nevertheless accepted in postal service. In 1922, the Polish Post temporarily issued regular stamps for the then Polish part of Upper Silesia. These issues are also included in this album text.

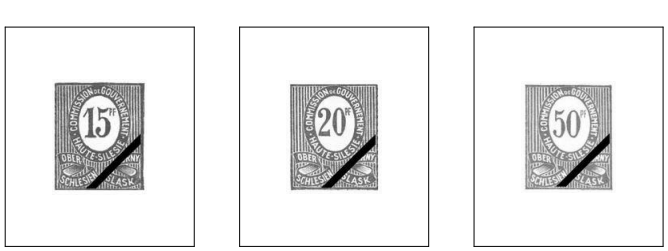
German Plebiscite Areas

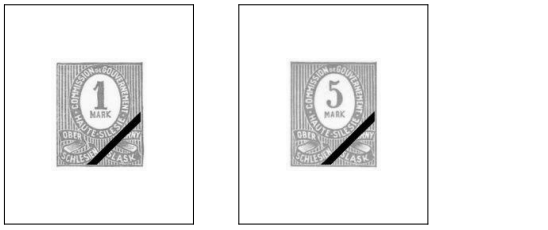
Upper Silesia

1920

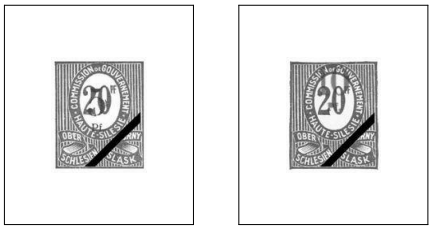
Numerals

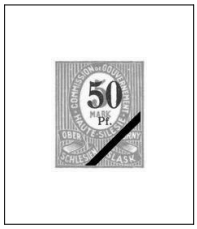






Numerals, Surcharge





German Plebiscite Areas

Upper Silesia

1920

Dove of Peace over Upper Silesian Landscape



German Plebiscite Areas

Upper Silesia

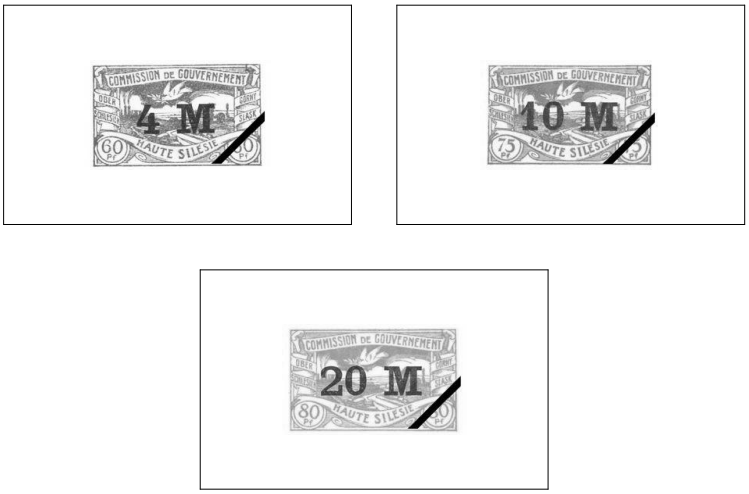
1921

Dove of Peace over Upper Silesian Landscape,
Overprint 'Plébiszite/20 mars 1921'



1922

Dove of Peace over Upper Silesian Landscape,
Changed Colors, Surcharge



Designed by Alexander Barthel with AlbumEasy

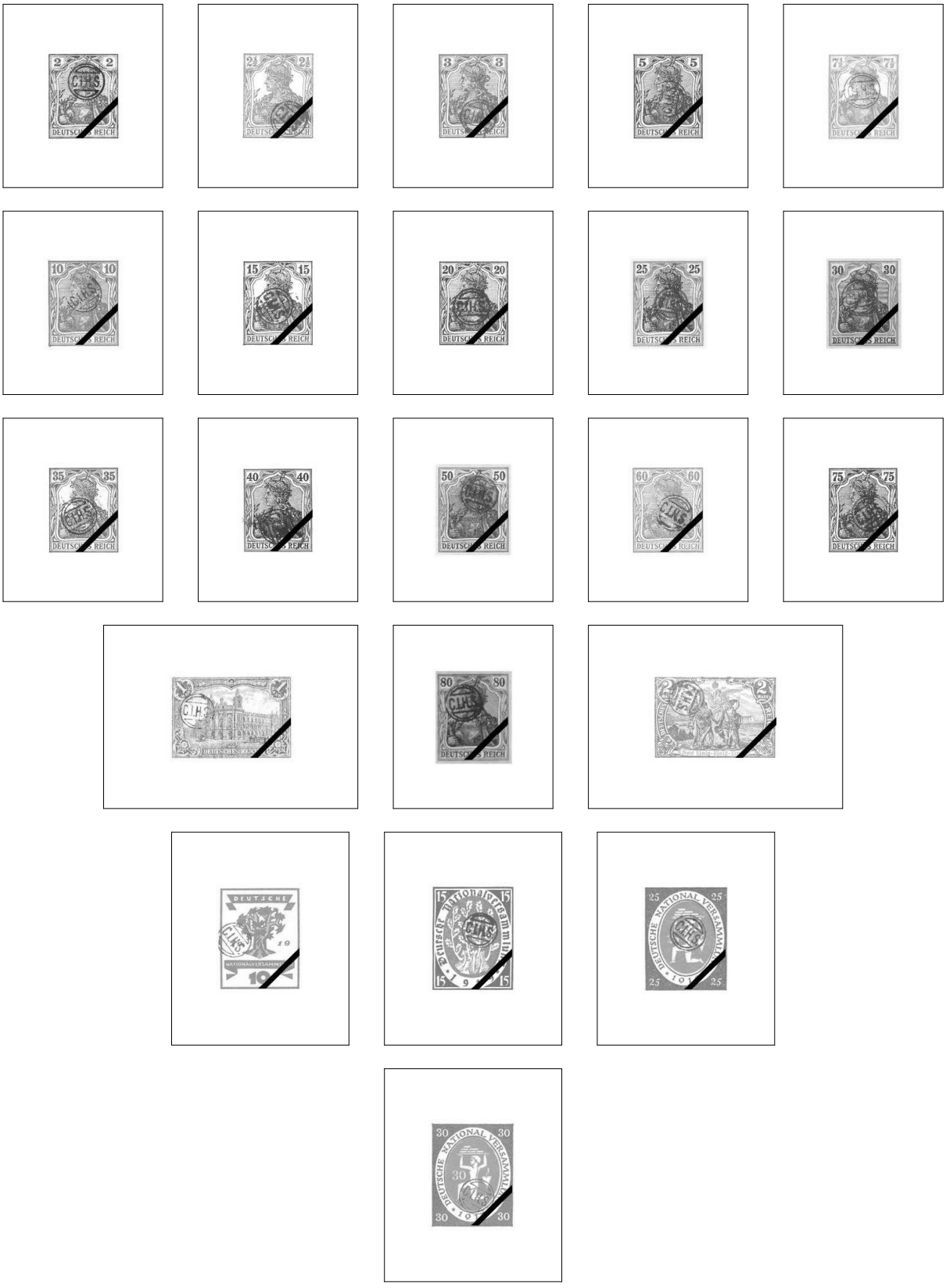
German Plebiscite Areas

Upper Silesia

Official Stamps

1920

German Empire Issues, Blue Handstamped Overprint 'C.I.H.S' in Circle ('Opole Provisionals' I)



German Plebiscite Areas

Upper Silesia

Official Stamps

1920

German Empire Issues,
Red or Lilac Handstamped Overprint 'C.I.H.S' in Circle ('Opole Provisionals' II)













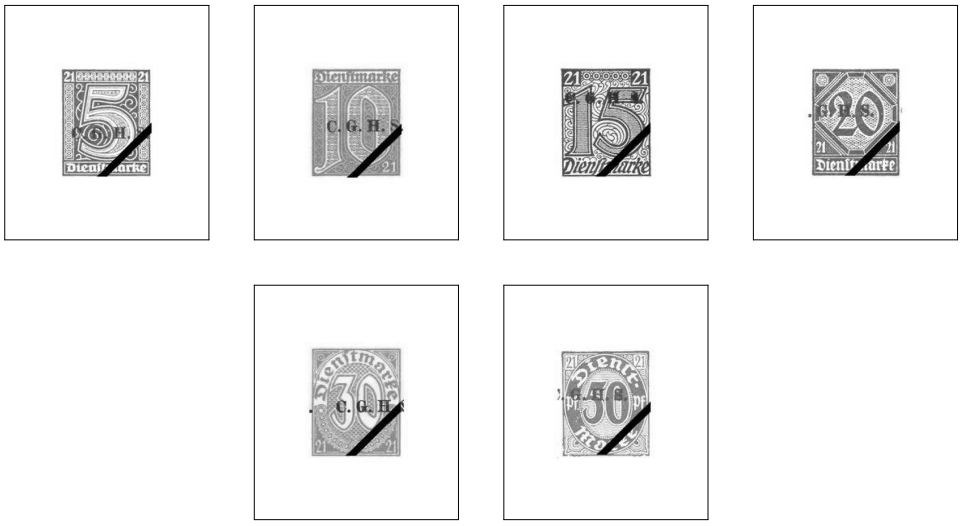
German Plebiscite Areas

Upper Silesia

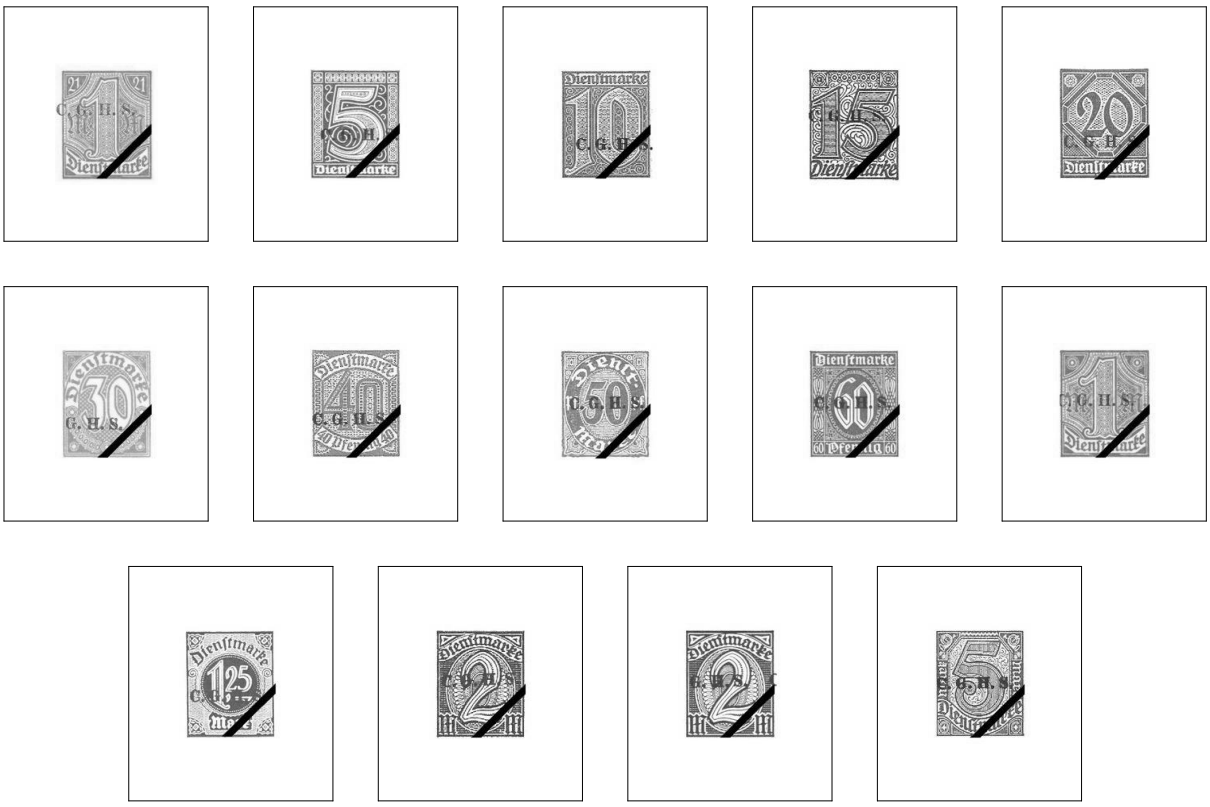
Official Stamps

1920

German Empire Official Stamps (with 21), Overprint 'C.G.H.S.'



German Empire Official Stamps (without 21), Overprint 'C.G.H.S.'



unwatermarked watermarked

German Plebiscite Areas

Upper Silesia

Korfanty Issue

1921

Upper Silesian Industrial Landscape and Polish Heraldic Eagle, Perforated



Likewise, Imperforate



Designed by Alexander Barthel with AlbumEasy

German Plebiscite Areas

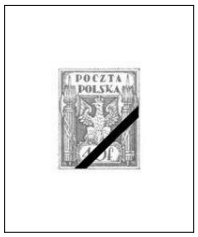
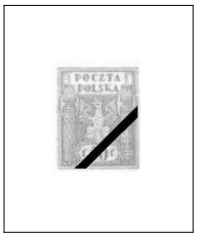
Upper Silesia

Issues of Polish Post

1922/1923

Polish Heraldic Eagle and Miner

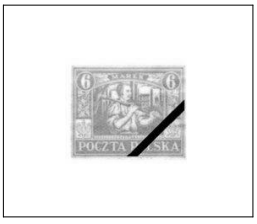




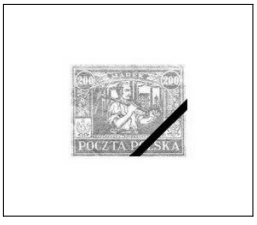











Designed by Alexander Barthel with AlbumEasy

German Plebiscite Areas

Schleswig



Schleswig was divided into three zones, and referendums were held in the northernmost zone (North Schleswig, Zone I) and in the central zone (Central Schleswig, Zone II).

On February 10, 1920, almost 75 percent of Zone I voted to join Denmark, while in Zone II, on March 14, 1920, 80 percent voted to remain in Germany.

With some modifications to the course of the border between the two zones, the respective majority votes were implemented: Zone I became part of Denmark, Zone II remained German territory.

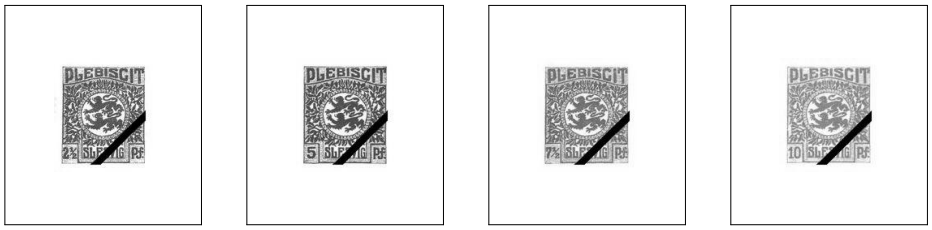
The stamps overprinted '1. ZONE' and with face values in Danish currency were issued after the referendum and were valid only for that zone.

German Plebiscite Areas

Schleswig

1920

Coat of Arms of Schleswig and Pastoral Scene, German Currency

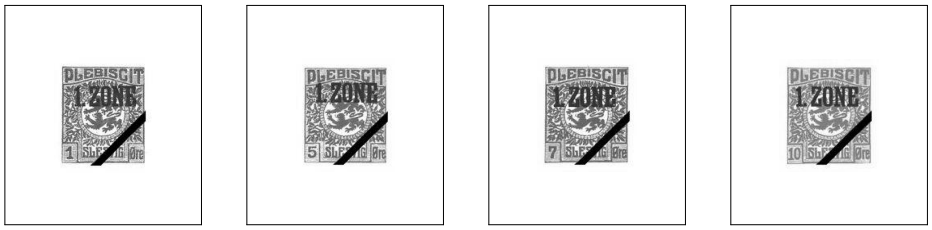


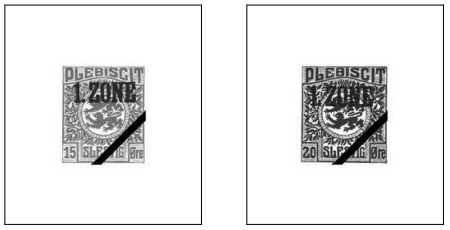
German Plebiscite Areas

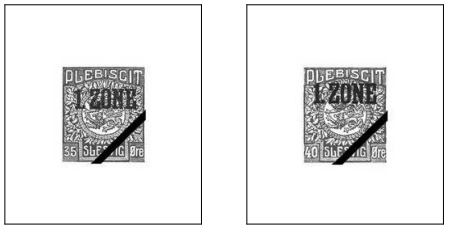
Schleswig

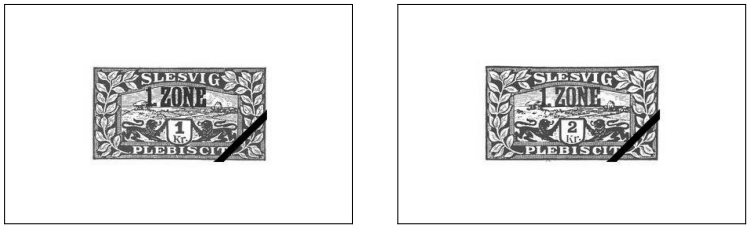
1920

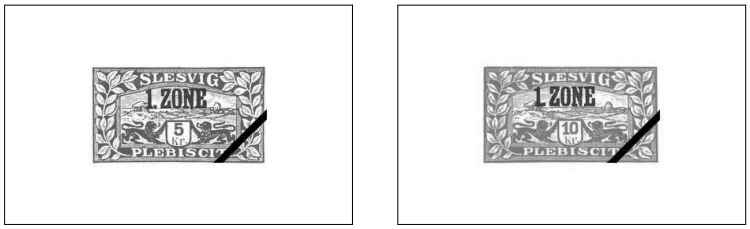
Coat of Arms of Schleswig and Pastoral Scene, Danish Currency, Overprint '1. ZONE'











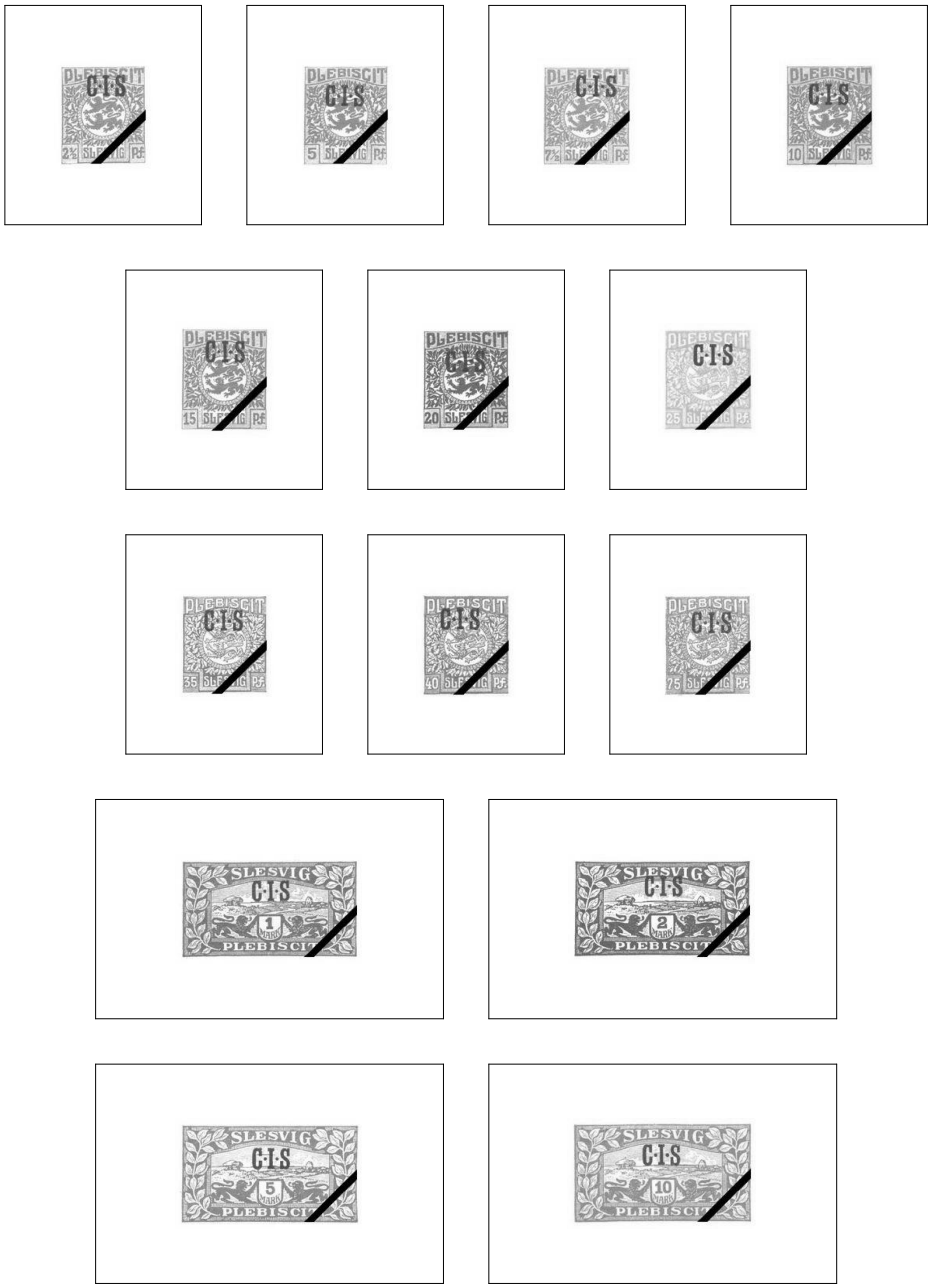
German Plebiscite Areas

Schleswig

Official Stamps

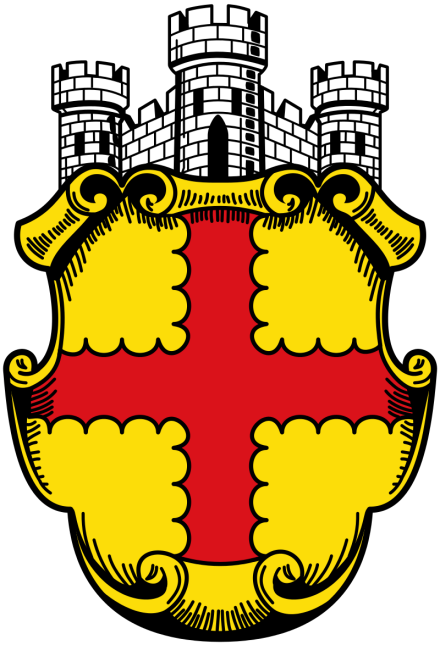
1920

Coat of Arms of Schleswig and Pastoral Scene, German Currency, Overprint 'C•I•S'



German Plebiscite Areas

Eupen and Malmédy



Wappen von Eupen



Wappen von Malmédy

No referendum was held in Eupen and Malmédy. Instead, a so-called public consultation took place. Those eligible to vote could only express their reservations about the annexation of these regions to Belgium by registering on two publicly accessible lists (one in Eupen and one in Malmédy) by July 24, 1920.

Because of possible or actual discrimination, very few people in both regions registered on these lists (271 out of a total of 33,726 eligible voters). As a result, Eupen and Malmédy were annexed to Belgium.

Initially, common stamps in German currency were issued for Eupen and Malmédy, then separate stamps in Belgian currency were issued for both territories - Belgian postage and postage due stamps with overprints.

German Plebiscite Areas

Eupen and Malmédy

1920

Belgian Issues, Overprint
'EUPEN/&/MALMÉDY', Surcharge in German Currency







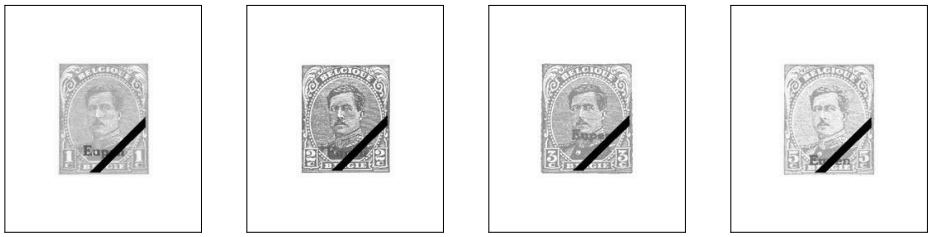
Designed by Alexander Barthel with AlbumEasy

German Plebiscite Areas

Eupen

1920

Belgian Issues, Overprint 'Eupen'












German Plebiscite Areas

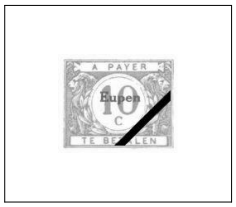
Eupen

Postage Due Stamps

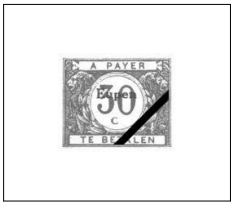
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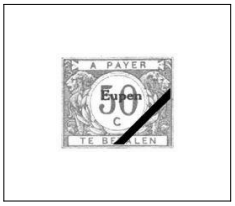
Belgian Postage Due Stamps, Overprint 'Eupen'











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German Plebiscite Areas

Malmédy

1920

Belgian Stamps, Overprint 'Malmédy'



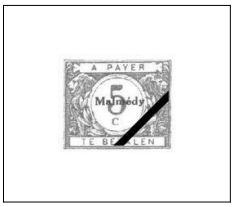
German Plebiscite Areas

Malmédy

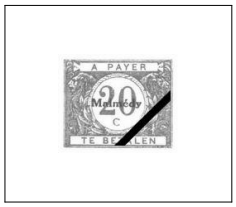
Postage Due Stamps

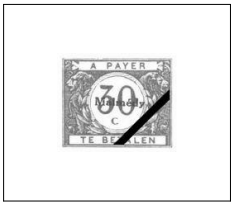
1920

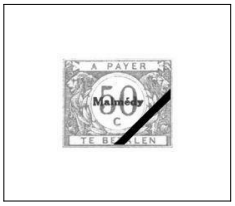
Belgian Postage Due Stamps, Overprint 'Malmédy'











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