

CATALOGING and CORRELATING the POSTAL CARDS & LETTER SHEETS of TRIESTE “A” AMG-FTT... 1947 to 1954

OBJECTIVE

The Exhibit intent is to present a logical and comprehensive numbered catalog listing and cross reference for the Postal Cards and Letter Sheets issued by the Allied Military Government Administration in the Free Territory of Trieste. This is to include the issues for Trieste “A” (AMG-FTT) and the forerunner issues from Venezia Giulia (AMG-VG). The format will include all of the basic issues and where available errors and varieties. It will include all issues between 17 September 1947 and the last issue in May of 1954. A complete and comprehensive correlation to all specialized catalogs and literature will also be included for an ongoing working reference.

BACKGROUND

All Postal Cards and Letter Sheets issued by the AMG Administration were created by overprinting the issues of Italy with the letters AMG-FTT, T.L.T. and combinations in various formats of the two. Overprints were similarly applied for Venezia Giulia (AMG-VG). The overprints on the early AMG issues were applied by hand-stamp on a local basis and by the end of 1949 they were machine applied by the Government Printing Office in Rome. The AMG-VG issues were valid for the last two weeks of September 1947 at which time the AMG-FTT issues became available. There are four formats ... Postal Cards, Postal Cards with Reply Cards, Letter Sheets and Air Letter Sheets. Early catalogs and literature listings were inconsistent and not always complete from source to source, particularly where the early hand-stamped issues were used. The need for a complete consolidated listing and an accurate correlation between all listing was therefore undertaken.

SIGNIFICANCE of the MATERIAL

The overprinted quantities issued, range from over one million as with the September 1952 Letter Sheet to as few as 500 in the case of the Natale Tristino Postal Card issue of December 1953. There are many issues of less than 6000. These low quantity issues as well as many unique over-print combinations and other varieties and errors are difficult to locate after 60 years. Of particular significance is the “Missing Color Green” variety of the Natale Tristino issue which is represented. Along with the regular issues, the low quantity issues and various errors and varieties exhibited. Examples of bogus overprints are also shown. Materials shown have been assembled over a 30 year period.

ORIGINAL WORK

The organization, background of the issues and general exhibit content is based on an in-depth review of specialty catalogs, literature, auction catalogs, correspondence and personal observations. Further this work has resolved conflicts in issue dates and quantities released. This review yielded the format and outline for the exhibit and the information to assemble the “Types and Correlation Charts” shown with each issue.

EXHIBIT STRUTURE

The exhibit is organized as follows:

- Title Page / Introduction
- Venezia Giuilia ... AMG – VG
 - Introduction and Overprint Type
 - Postal Cards (VG-)
- Trieste “A” ... AMG-FTT
 - Introduction
 - Descriptions of the 9 basic “Overprints”
 - Postal Cards (PC-) ... Genuine & Bogus
 - Postal Cards with Rely (PR-) Genuine& Bogus
 - Letter Sheets (LS-)
 - Air Letter Sheets (AL-)

LISTING METHODOLOGY

- The four format types are treated separately.
- Each issue within the types are numbered sequentially using a prefix which defines the format type.
- For major variants the prefix and numbers are followed by a sequential capital letter.
- Minor variants are distinguished by number and should further distinction be needed, lower case letters are used.

TYPES & CORRELATION CHARTS

- Includes all known and recorded types for the issue.
- The first page for each issue contains a chart.
- Notes are provided for exhibit content and reference.