



Eingang des Generals v. Lettow-Vorbeck mit unseren heldenmütigen Ostafrikasoldaten in Berlin.  
 3782 Begrüßung der tapferen Heer auf dem Pariser Platz durch den neuen Reichskanzler Dr. Baumbach (1), rechts von ihm Kriegsminister Reinhardt (2) und Dr. Wolf (3).

Vorbeck (wearing a Prussian Pickelhaube or spiked helmet) being lauded on the Paris Place in Berlin by the Colonial Minister Dr. Baumbach, and to his right War Ministers Reinhardt and Dr. Wolf. Press photo by R. Sennecke, Berlin.



The scene in the photo above re-enacted in Schleswig-Holstein on May 25, 1919 is depicted on a 50 Pfennig Notgeld note from Quern (district of Schleswig-Flensburg, in Schleswig-Holstein).

Despite all of the celebration of Vorbeck's return the Treaty of Versailles severely hampered Germany in loss of territories and financial retributions. Below, Treaty of Versailles Allenstein Plebiscite overprints.





The New Germany

The Weimar Republic

The fall of the Imperial Government resulted in posturing and revolts after the Armistice. On January 19, 1919 National Assembly elections were held, and the new government convened in Weimar to draft a constitution. The Republic National Assembly stamp issue commemorated the new government.



← Formation of the Weimar Republic. First Day Card of the start of the National Assembly February 6, 1919.



Above: November 19, 1919 Registered letter from Berlin to Nürnberg. 70 Pfg. paying the 1919 domestic letter rate (30 Pfg. up to 250 gr.) plus registry fee (30 Pfg.). The franking overpays the letter rate by 10 Pfg. Franked by 10 Pfg. and 25 Pfg. Republic National Assembly stamps plus two semi-postal stamps of 1919.

Below: Republic National Assembly stamp issue of 1919



1870 1880 1890 1900 1910 1920 1930 1940 1950 1964 EPILOGUE

The New Germany

Lettow Freikorps

Vorbeck married his former fiancée Martha Wallroth. In July 1919 he assumed command of the Lettow Freikorps (militia) in Schwerin.

Below, Schwerin Notgeld currency issued circa 1920.



Spezialaufnahme  
**Generalmajor v. Lettow-Vorbeck und seine Gemahlin, geb. Wallrath**  
 v. Lettow-Vorbeck, der ruhmgekrönte Verteidiger Deutsch-Ostafrikas, stellt ein Freikorps auf, das dem Garde-Kavallerie-Schützenkorps zugeteilt wird.

May 1919 newspaper photo of Vorbeck and his new wife.  
 Overlay, Schwerin cancel on Germania issue paying the 5 Pfg. card rate to Saar.



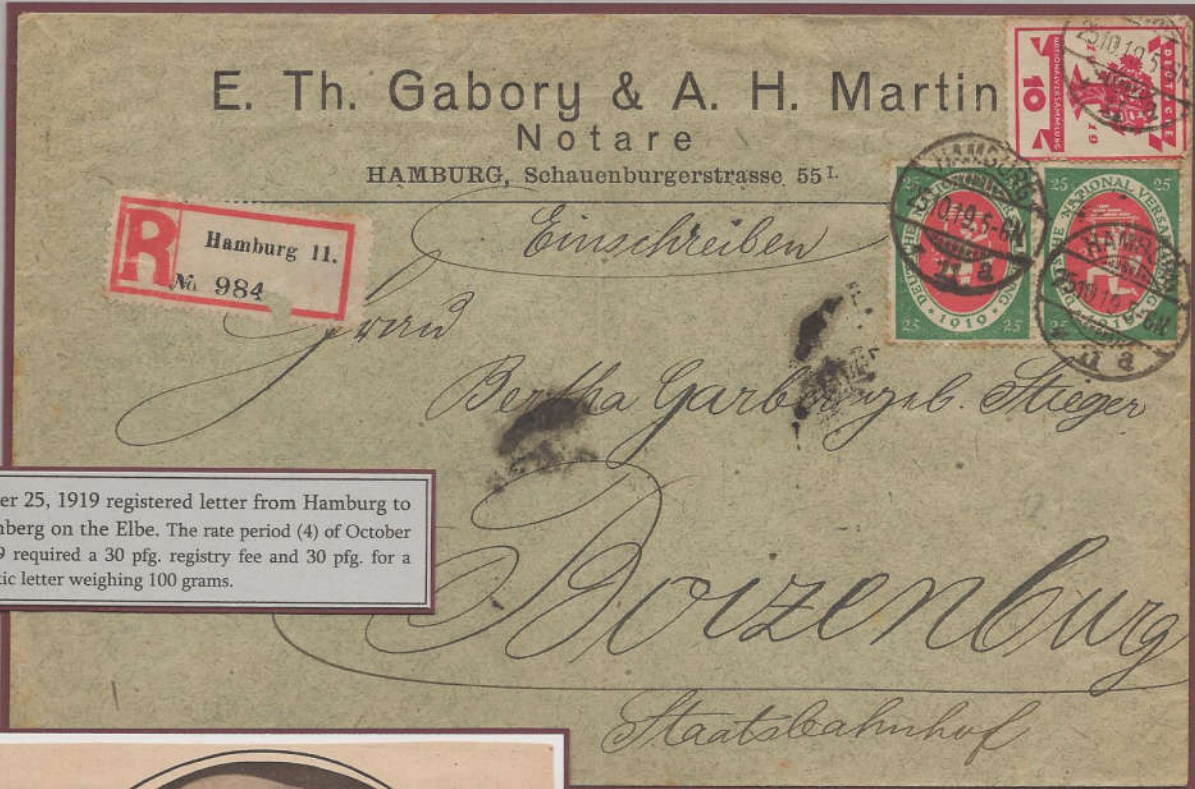
The Freikorps were mainly composed of ex-military and many were monarchists resistant to the precepts of the Versailles Treaty.

Real photo card of a member of Vorbeck's Freikorps unit wearing an Iron Cross, First Class and a Combat Wound Badge. Note the GEA colonial influence in Vorbeck's adoption of a lion's head emblem for the unit's arm patch. The emblem was part of the GEA coat of arms (inset below).



Freikorps field post card from Schwerin dated August 13, 1918. Addressed to Munich and forwarded to Cologne.

In 1919 Vorbeck commanded a Reichswehr Division and aided in quelling riots instigated by the communist Spartacus League in Hamburg.



October 25, 1919 registered letter from Hamburg to Roisenberg on the Elbe. The rate period (4) of October 1, 1919 required a 30 pfg. registry fee and 30 pfg. for a domestic letter weighing 100 grams.



General von Lettow-Vorbeck, der Führer der Reichswehrtruppen in Hamburg.



Mannschaften einer bayrischen Schützendivision vor dem Hauptbahnhof in Altona.

Photo clips from July 13, 1919 edition of *Illustrated World Review*, a Hamburg pictorial magazine showing Vorbeck in his Freikorps uniform and troops in the Altona district of Hamburg.





Angriff auf ein Spartakisten nest

Real photo card of Freikorps guarding captured Spartacus League members during the 1919-1920 Communist Revolution riots.



Local registered cover sent from Hamburg during the period of riots, November 15, 1920. The rate period (5) of May 6, 1920 required a 50 pfg. registry fee and 40 pfg. for the domestic letter rate per 20 grams.