

7th WORLD SCOUT JAMBOREE

BAD ISCHEL, SALZKAMMERGUT, AUSTRIA : 3rd – 13th August 1951

INTRODUCTION

The 7th World Jamboree was held on the golf course of Aschau, near the town of Bad Ischel, east of Salzburg. As the gateway to the Alpine lakes and mountains of the Salzkammergut region, it is widely considered as one of the most beautiful landscapes in Europe. German Scouts participated at this Jamboree, for the first time since the end of World War II, as full members of the worldwide brotherhood of Scouts. It was also widely reported that a lone Scout – Shinichiro Ueshima, traveled all the way from Japan to attend the event. Communication proved to be difficult, as the only non-Japanese word he knows is “Jamboree”.

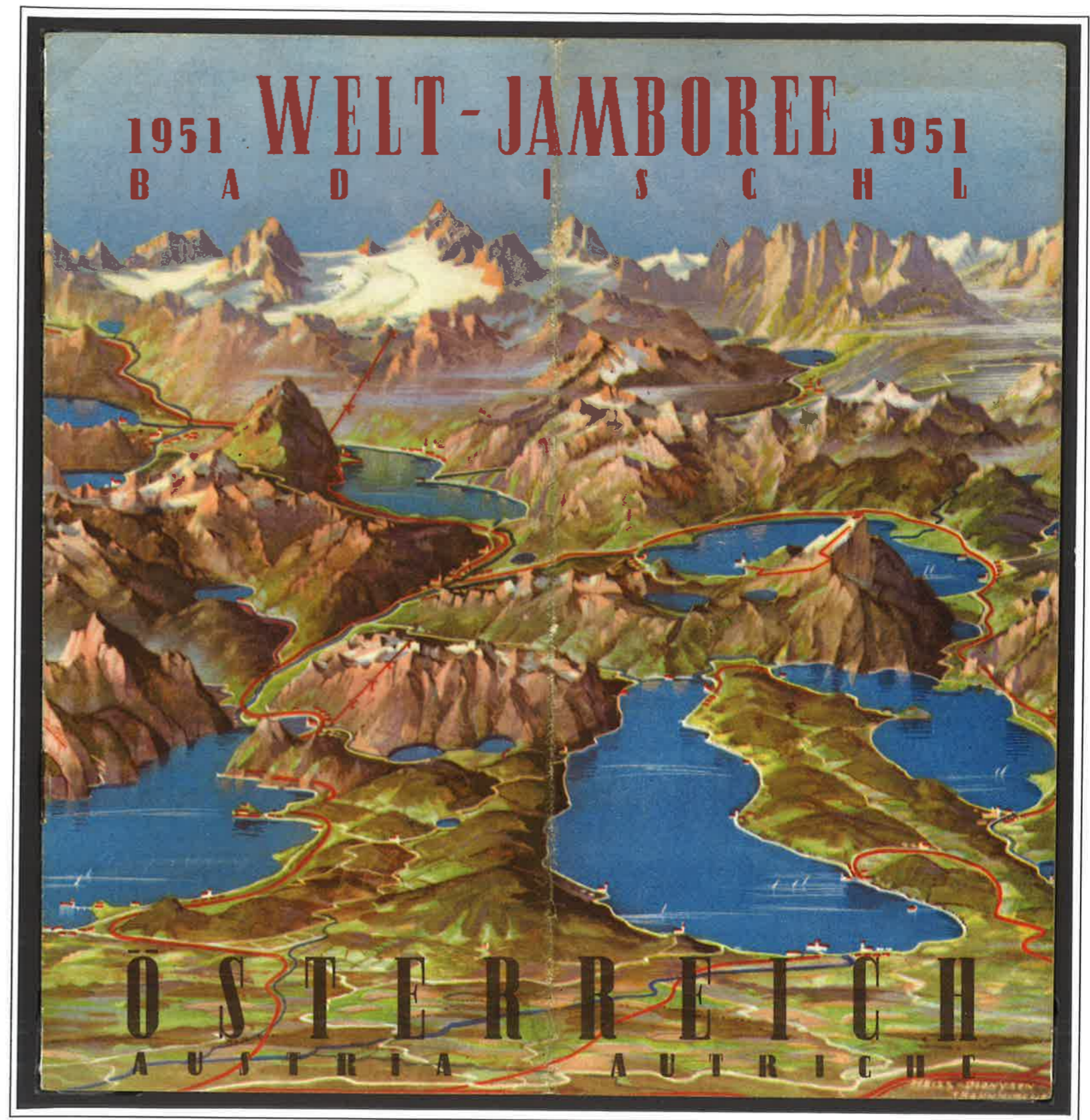
Post war shortages, limited the participation in this ‘Jamboree of Simplicity’, with 12 884 Scouts from 61 countries attending. The South African Contingent numbered 83.

SCOPE OF THE EXHIBIT

This open class exhibit tells the story of this Jamboree, through the special commemorative stamp issued to mark the occasion, and the covers, postcards and postmarks from the Jamboree site. Non-philatelic material is also used to illustrate and provide an understanding of the Jamboree experience.



Unused postcard with views of the Jamboree campsite. Published by Erich Bährendt, Bad Ischel.



Advertising brochure, printed in German, English, Spanish and French, outlining the arrangements for the Jamboree. The centre page contains a detailed map of Austria surrounded with drawings of Scouting activities. Published by the Austrian Tourism authority.

A Special Postage Stamp Issue

Austria issued a single one shilling stamp on the opening day of the Jamboree. Designed by Ernst Schrom, and engraved by Maria Olinowetz, one million stamps were produced. The Jamboree logo featured a maultrommel, an Austrian musical instrument, which is also depicted on the stamp as part of the date '1951' below the Scout emblem. Also at the bottom of the stamp, below the Scout emblem, is a portion of the world intended to show Scouting as a world wide movement.



Mint and used stamps – engraving for the frame, photogravure for the badge, and typography for the shield on the badge and background. Perforation 14½ x 13¼, no watermark.

The village of Molin, Austria, produces most of the world's supply of mouth harps. Each participant received a mouth harp as a gift from the Austrian Scouts, with the challenge to return home and play the instrument at their local campfire, remembering the fun and fellowship from the Jamboree.



Commemorative first day cover, cancelled with Jamboree cancel on the opening day.



SONDERPOSTMARKE ANLÄSSLICH DES 7. WELTJAMBOREES

Anlässlich des in der Zeit vom 3. bis 13. August 1951 am Gelände zwischen Bad Ischl OÖ. und St. Wolfgang OÖ. stattfindenden 7. Weltjamborees gibt die Österreichische Post- und Telegraphenverwaltung eine Sonderpostmarke zu 1 S Nennwert (ohne Zuschlag) heraus. Die Auflage beträgt 1.000.000 Stück.

Die in der Österreichischen Staatsdruckerei im Hochformat hergestellte Marke weist Gesamtdimensionen von 29,8 x 38,5 mm auf, während die Bildgröße 25,8 x 34,5 mm beträgt. Die Zähnung ist 14½ x 13¼ auf 2 cm.

Die Sonderpostmarke ist in schwarzgrünem Grundton, das Pfadfinderabzeichen in Ockergelb, der Wappenschild in Rot-Weiß-Rot gehalten.

Das in der weißen Fläche freistehende Markenbild zeigt auf dunklem Hintergrund in einem von Ornamenten umgebenen Rahmen das Abzeichen der Pfadfinder Österreichs — eine stilisierte Lilie mit dem Wappenschild des österreichischen Bundeswappens — darunter in lichter Tönung einen Ausschnitt der Weltkugel als Symbol der weltumspannenden Idee der Pfadfinderbewegung. Der Ausschnitt weist die Maultrommel — das Abzeichen des 7. Weltjamborees — links davon die Ziffer „19“, rechts die Ziffer „51“ auf. Die Wertbezeichnung „1“ befindet sich oberhalb des linken, die Währungsbezeichnung „S“ oberhalb des rechten Seitenarmes der Lilie. Die Beschriftung „Republik Österreich“ ist unterhalb der ornamentalen unteren Randleiste zu lesen, mit dem Ornament aber durch ihren grünen Farbton verbunden.

Die Sonderpostmarke ist im Sächtdruckverfahren hergestellt; lediglich die Herstellung des Abzeichens der österreichischen Pfadfinderbewegung erfolgte im Raketiefdruckverfahren und die des Wappenschildes im Buchdruckverfahren.

Der Entwurf stammt vom akademischen Maler Ernst Schrom, der Stich von Maria Olinowetz; die Signa befinden sich links und rechts unterhalb des unteren Perforierendes.

Die Gedächtnismarke wird am 31. Juli 1951 ausgegeben und besitzt ab 3. August 1951 Freimeisungsgültigkeit.

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Österreichs Pfadfinder — und mit diesen das ganze Land — sind stolz, daß Ischl, die idyllisch gelegene Metropole des Salzkammergutes, zum 7. Weltjamboreetreffen in der Zeit vom 3. bis 13. August auserwählt wurde. Über 15.000 Pfadfinder aus 48 Ländern der ganzen Erde werden auf einer 300.000 Quadratmeter großen Fläche in 4000 Zelten einträchtig und fröhlich zusammenleben und damit beweisen, daß die Jugend, deren Väter vor einigen Jahren an den Fronten noch feindlich gegenüberstanden, friedlich im Geiste hilfsbereiter Nächstenliebe zur Eintracht unter dem Banner des Pfadfindertums lebensfroh beisammen bleiben will!

Als im August 1920 hunderttausend Pfadfinder aller Rassen und Religionen in London den zwölften Jahrestag der Gründung der britischen Pfadfinder feierten, prägte Sir Robert Baden-Powell, der Begründer des Pfadfindertums, für das mit einer Ausstellung von Pfadfinderarbeiten verbundene achtstägige Fest den aus dem Indianischen stammenden Namen „Jamboree“. Dieses Wort bedeutet „Jahrmarkt“ und — fürwahr: wer jemals das Glück hatte, Pfadfinderjugend aller Welt unter Wahrung der nationalen Eigenart in Tracht, Brauch und Spiel, bei einem solchen Jamboree geeint beisammen zu sehen, der weiß, daß solch ein Treffen internationaler Jugend mehr als eine internationale Warenmesse, mehr als ein bloßer Jahrmarkt von Waren aller Länder, sondern vielmehr eine Dokumentation friedensbereiter Jugend — mit einem Wort —: ein „Jahrmarkt des Friedens“ ist!

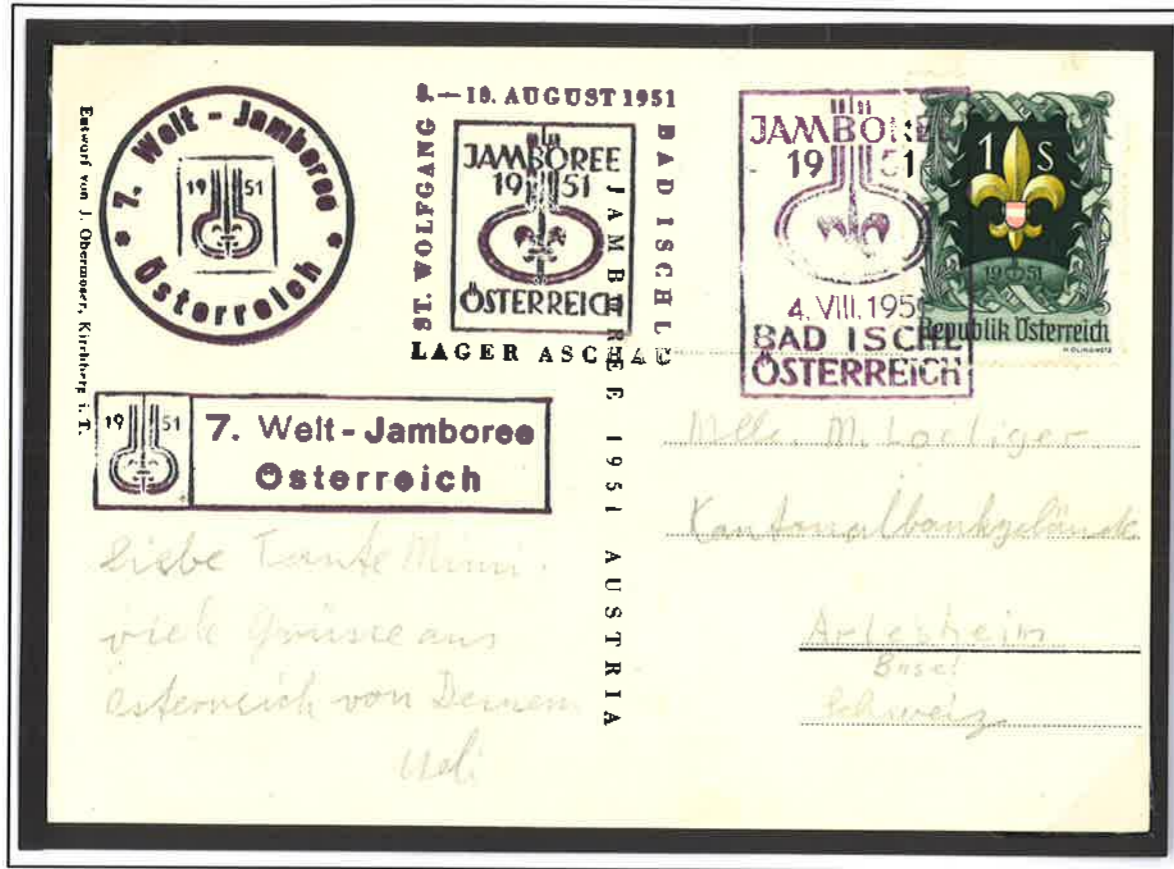
Was ist es nun, das die von General Baden-Powell im August 1907 auf der Insel Brownsea mit 20 Buben begründete Pfadfinderorganisation zu einer solchen Größe emporwachsen ließ? Ist es bloß die Romantik des freien Lagerlebens in der herrlichen Natur, das Tragen einer eigenen Tracht, die Übung eigener Grusse und die Übernahme bindender Verpflichtungen? Gewiß, das alles mag für den Aufschwung dieser weltumfassenden Jugendbewegung mitbestimmend gewesen sein. Das Wesentliche aber war es nicht! Gemeinsame Spiele, Wanderungen, Uniformen, Grusse und Bräuche hatten vor und nach der Gründung der Pfadfinderorganisation auch andere Jugendgruppen in aller Welt. Was die Pfadfinder zuvörderst von allen anderen Jugendorganisationen unterschied, war und ist: ihr geistiges Programm!

Otto Ernst erklärte einmal bedeutsam: „Die Zukunft unserer Erziehung liegt im Freien und in der Freizeit, im Schauen und in der Tat.“ In dieser Formulierung liegt vielleicht das Wesentliche des geistigen Programms des Pfadfindertums: das Erzieherische! Wer es einmal erleben durfte, von einem kleinen Jungen das feierliche Pfadfinderversprechen bei einem Lagerfeuer oder in einem Gotteshaus mit einem fast männlichen Ernste zu hören: „Ich verspreche bei meiner Ehre“, dem wird es bewußt, daß die Appellation an das Ehrbare und Ehrenhafte, das Denken und Handeln sowie die Persönlichkeit des jungen Pfadfinders charakterlich formt. Und was verspricht der Junge bei seiner Ehre?

Official leaflet announcing the issue of the special Jamboree postage stamp.

Sub-Camps and Postmarks

The Jamboree site was divided into 9 sub-camps, each named after a State in Austria – Vienna, Carinthia, Tyrol, Lower Austria, Upper Austria, Styria, Vorarlberg, Salzburg (the adult leaders camp) and Burgenland (for Rover Scouts and visitors, also known as the “camp of the old bones”).



Where possible, the national contingents were divided into various sub-camps and assigned to Troops between Austrian and other foreign Troops. So, in effect, each sub-camp would become a small Jamboree in itself.

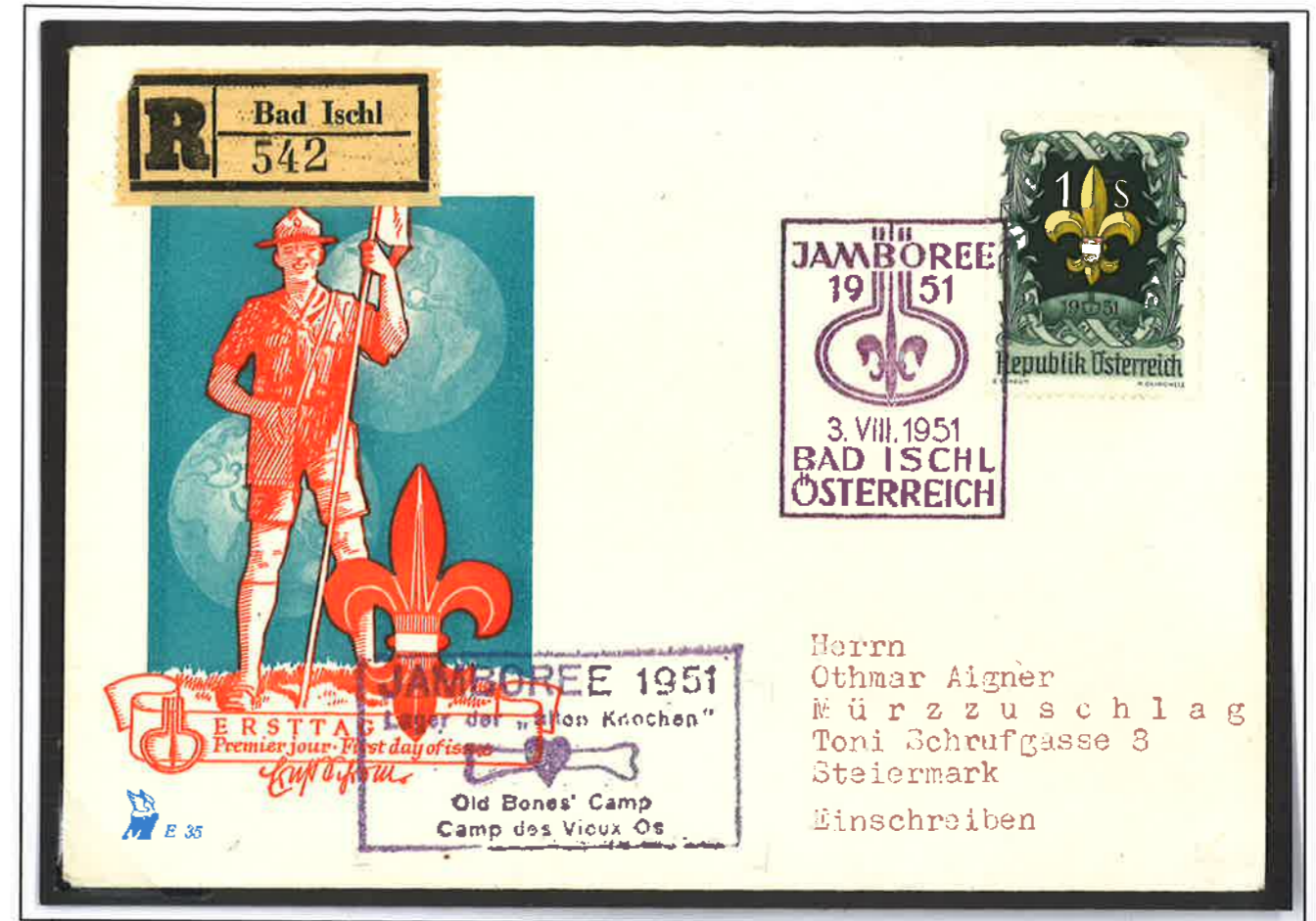
Postcard sent from the Jamboree to Basel, Switzerland. Postmarked in violet ink and dated 4th August. It also contains examples of three different cachets applied at the campsite.



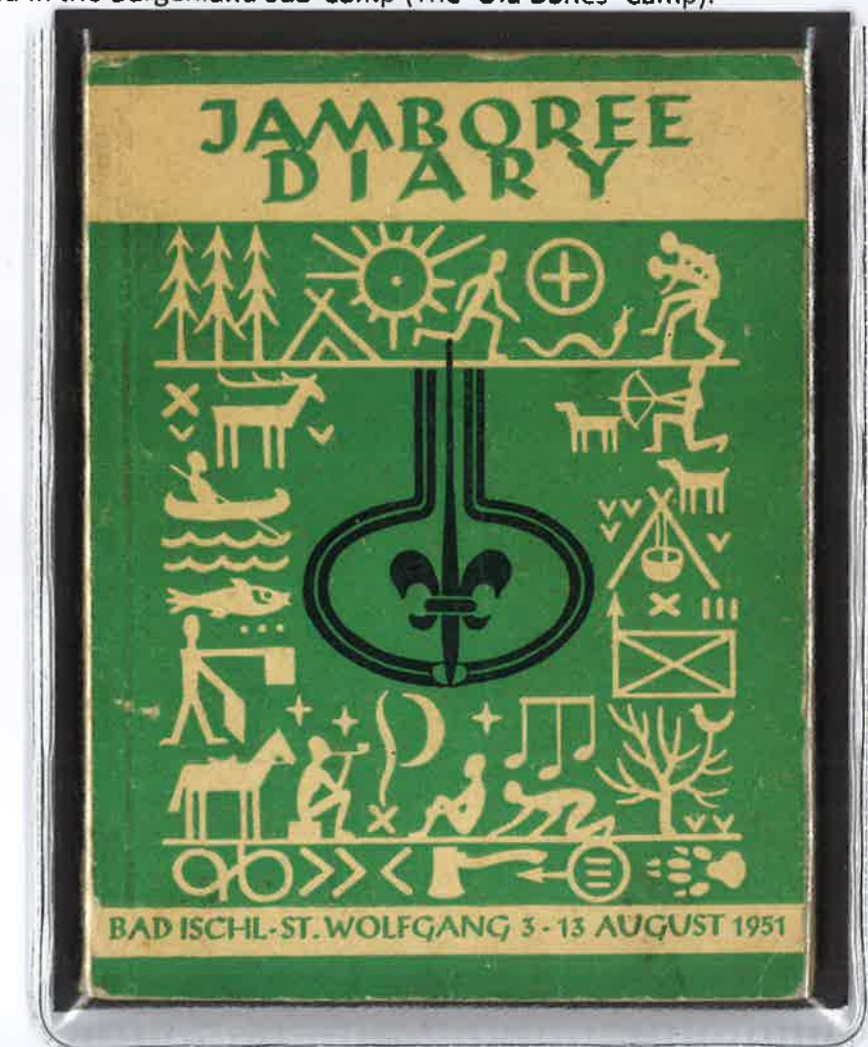
Unused postcard item (left), with the first day camp postmark in violet ink and a special campsite ‘Lager Aschau’ cachet in blue ink. A further example (right) of the same cachet in red ink, was applied to an unused postcard depicting the town of St. Wolfgang.



Jamboree medallion, depicting Baden-Powell, with the Jamboree logo on the reverse side.



Registered cover (above) with the Jamboree cancel dated 3rd August, and with a purple cachet indicating that it was posted in the Burgenland Sub-Camp (The ‘Old Bones’ Camp).



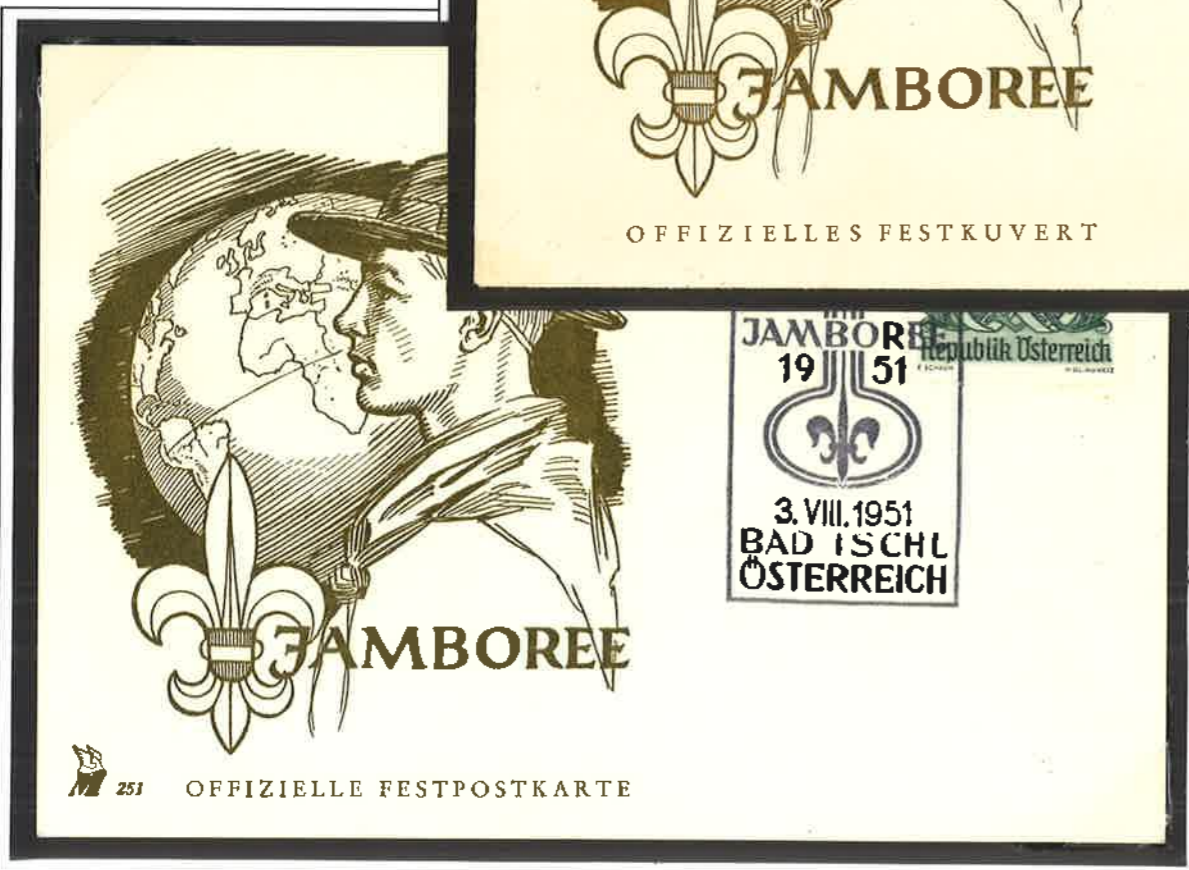
Participant's Jamboree Diary, with daily calendar of events, activities on offer and fold out map of the Jamboree site.

Internal Difficulties Overcome ... the Spirit of the Jamboree

At the 1949 International Scout Conference in Norway, the vote was overwhelmingly in favor of Pfadfinder Österreichs (the Austrian Scout Association) to host the next World Jamboree, as Austria was a small country and a World Jamboree had never been staged there before. In addition the Conference wanted to encourage the recent resumption of Scouting activities in Austria, after it had been forbidden by Nazi Germany in 1938.

Unfortunately, a number of leaders of the former Österreichischer Pfadfinderbund (OPB) separated from the Pfadfinder Österreichs (PO) and founded the OPB again in 1951. This meant that the OPB lost its international recognition and membership of the World Organisation of the Scout Movement. OPB members were therefore not allowed to take part in the Jamboree. So that their members could attend the Jamboree as visitors at least, the OPB organized their own federal camp close by the Jamboree, in Schwarzenbach near St. Wolfgang.

In the end, the OPB Scouts were allowed to march in the Jamboree parade after the PO Scouts at the opening ceremony on the 3rd August. These Scouts were often seen in the Jamboree campsite and sent their greetings, including the OPB camp postcard (top right), from the Jamboree Post Office.



Examples of the 'official festival cover' posted to Cape Town, South Africa (above) and a similar 'official festival postcard' (bottom left). Both are postmarked cancelled with Jamboree cancel on the opening day - 3rd August.



Unaddressed postcard depicting the OPB campsite in Schwarzenbach, St. Wolfgang, postmarked at the Jamboree Post Office on the 8th August.



Further example of a postcard sent from the Jamboree site to Vienna on 6th August. This card has a green cachet from the Österreichischer Pfadfinderbund camp in Schwarzenbach, St Wolfgang. Two additional cachets in red are applied, its purpose unknown.

Jamboree mail

Mail from the Jamboree site is generally postmarked in black ink, although examples of violet postmarks are also known to exist. The square camp postmark depicts the fleur-de-lis within a maultrommel – an old Austrian form of the Jew's Harp. It was reported that 13 000 items of incoming post was received at the Jamboree site, while approximately 220 000 outgoing mail items were also handled. For registered mail, the usual Bad Ischl label was used, with 818 registered items being posted. The Jamboree Post Office was open daily from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. and again from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m.



Express letter from the Swiss Contingent Reporter, Bruno Knobel to the editor Edwin Arnet of the Neuen Zürcher Zeitung (New Zurich Newspaper). Knobel posted his detailed Jamboree report on the 8th August, which arrived in Zurich the next day at 6pm. The Zurich arrival stamp appears on the back of the envelope. His article appeared in the Monday 13th August noon edition no.1774 of the newspaper.

Postcard (right) with Swiss Scouts from the Basel Troop in front of their tents. Sent from the Jamboree site on the 13th August. Postmarked in violet ink.



Postcard (above) depicting bell tents against a mountain backdrop at the Jamboree site, sent to Sheffield, England on the 3rd August. Postmarked in black ink.



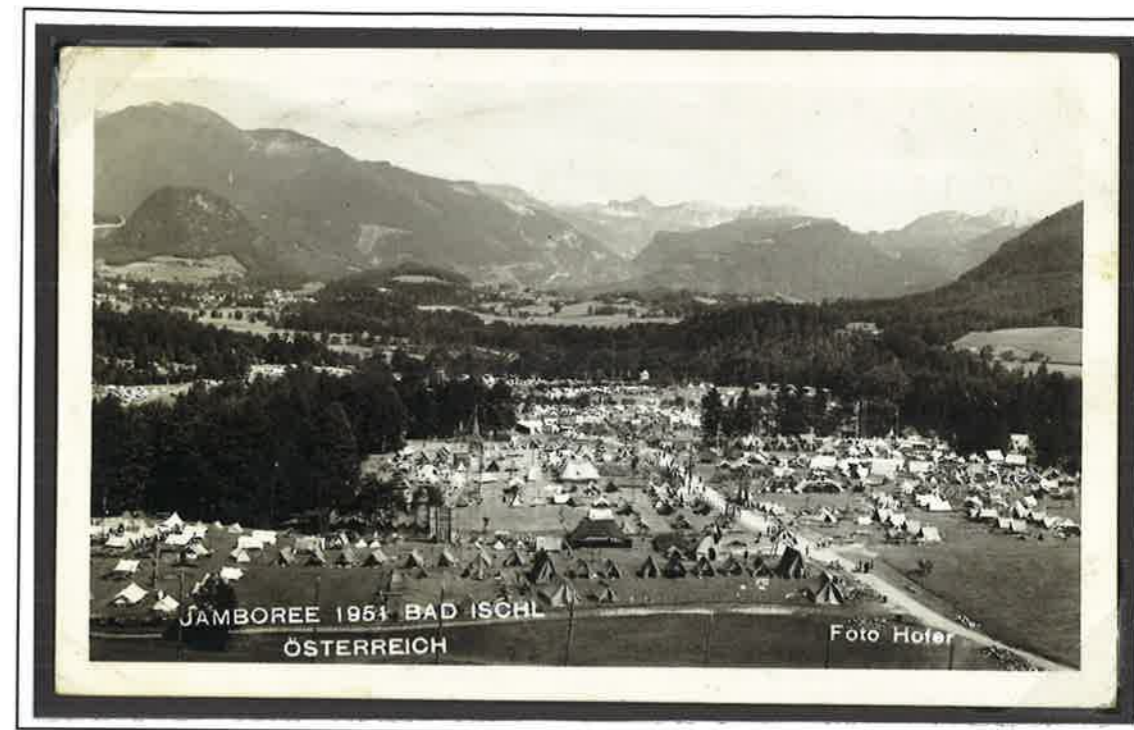
A Philatelic Souvenir

In 1948 Franz Pospisil founded the Austrian Scout Postage Stamps Guild (OPBSG). For the 1951 Jamboree, Pospisil was appointed as the Bundesfeldmeister (Chief Scout) of the Austrian Scouts (PO) and in this role was part of the management of the Austrian Jamboree contingent. Souvenir folders with Austrian postage stamps were prepared as a gift for every foreign patrol attending the Jamboree, and the PO Scouts collected 196800 stamps for this purpose. Franz Pospisil also wrote the welcoming dedication on the front of the folder.

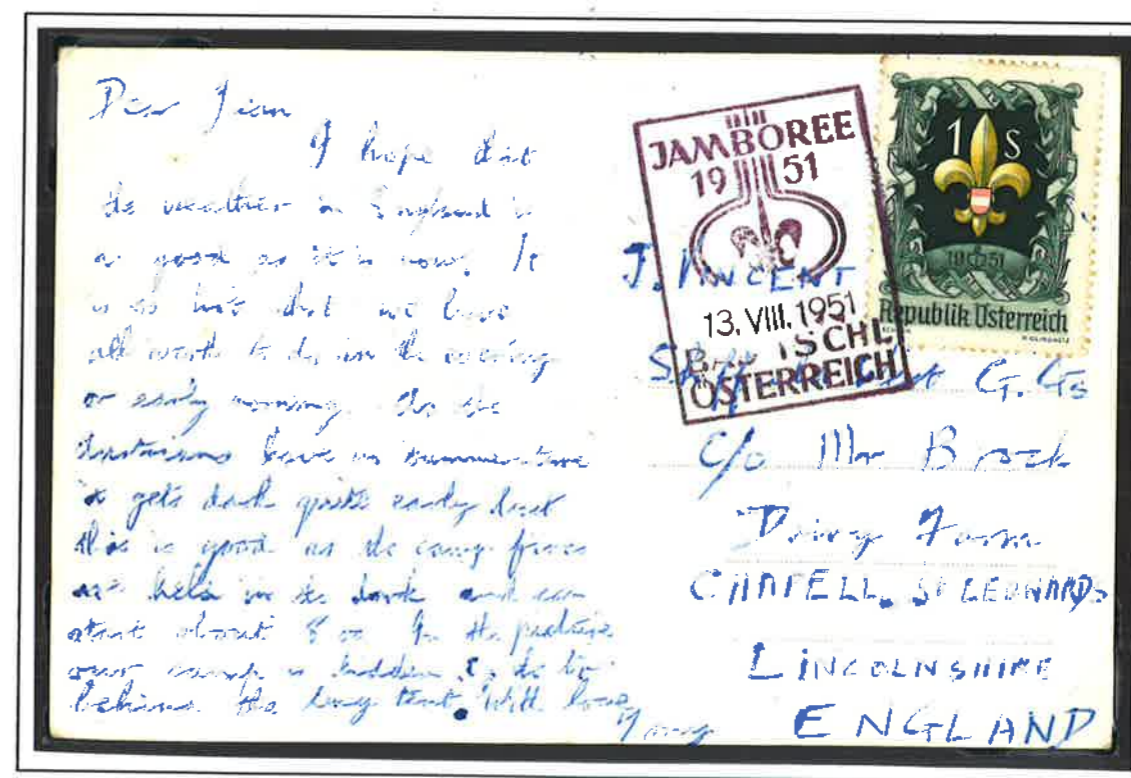
In addition, Bundesfeldmeister Pospisil showed his collection of Scouting stamps in two showcases at the counter of the Jamboree Post Office.



Example of the special Souvenir Folder and the letter of welcome on the front cover.



Postcard depicting aerial view of the Jamboree campsite, sent to Belgium on the closing day – 13th August. Postmarked in black ink.



Postcard sent to Lincolnshire, England on the 13th August. Postmarked in violet-black ink. The reverse side depicts tents at the Jamboree site.

Views of the Campsite

A number of photo postcards, depicting different views of the Jamboree campsite, were available on sale and posted through the Jamboree Post Office. These examples below were printed by Osterreichischen Luftbild-Industrie, Bad Ischl.



Scouts made excellent use of the one million five hundred thousand feet of timber provided by the hosts. Pioneered structures, including bridges, gateways and towers could be seen all over the campsite.

Unused postcards depicting camp scenes – a bridge pioneered from poles and ropes in the foreground (left) and a gateway at the entrance to the Irish Contingent campsite (right).



Postcard (left) depicting open-air showers at the campsite, sent to Sheffield, England on the 12th August. Postmarked in black ink.

Unused postcard (right) illustrating rows of tents. Note the tower in the foreground, with a tent pitched on a platform in the background.



Postcards as a Fundraiser

Private postcards sold by the Kirchberg Scouts from Tyrol, to raise funds for their participation in the Jamboree. A set of 5 woodcut printed postcards, with 'Jamboree 1951 Austria' printed on the reverse, were designed by Josef Obermoser, then a 16 year old apprentice at a Kirchberg sculptor in Tyrol. The Kirchberg Scouts were able to sell 800 sets at S2.00 (Austrian Schilling) per set. The proceeds were used to reduce the costs of the Kirchberg Jamboree participants and to purchase a tent. Josef Obermoser attended the Jamboree at no cost, for his contribution. After attending the art academy in Vienna, Obermoser became a well-known painter and sculptor.



Part set of three of the five designs, of the Kirchberg Scouts private postcards issued to raise funds for their Jamboree participation.