

## Saint George On Stamps And Covers

As the legend goes, he saved a king's daughter, on her way to be sacrificed to a dragon, that had been terrorizing the country for years. St. George promised the king and all that he would kill the dragon, after he did he told the people it was done to show them the power of God. The people then gave up their idols, and accepted Christianity.

St. George was a devout and outspoken christian so when the Roman emperor Diocletian began his persecution of the christians he objected so firmly, that he was ordered arrested. He was tortured and put to death, on April 23rd. 303 AD. In 494 he was canonized a saint, by Pope Gelasius.

He was lost in history until King Edward III of England, in 1349, declared St. George as the Patron Saint of England.

Lord Baden-Powell, founder of the Scouting movement adopted St. George as the patron saint of Boy Scouting, for his high ideals and moral strenght.

He is also the patron saint of other countries and groups. The following pages depict St. George on stamps and covers.

### Page

- 1 Title and Contence
- 2 Russia
- 3 Russia / Georgia
- 4 Great Britain
- 5 Great Britain
- 6 Different Mediums
- 7 Different Interpretations
- 8 Icons and Murals
- 9 Hidden Designs
- 10 Malta
- 11 Malta
- 12 Spain
- 13 Germany
- 14 Germany
- 15 Liechtenstein
- 16 Czechoslovakia



The use of St. George, as part of the design of postage stamps, began with local Russian Post Offices of the 19th. century. The provinces of Bogarodsk and Gadiach opened the way, followed by the Coat of Arms of Czarist Russia. The Russian Army, in 1919, printed their own stamps, with St. George as part of the design.

Bogarodsk

Gadiach

1877

1888

1889

1896



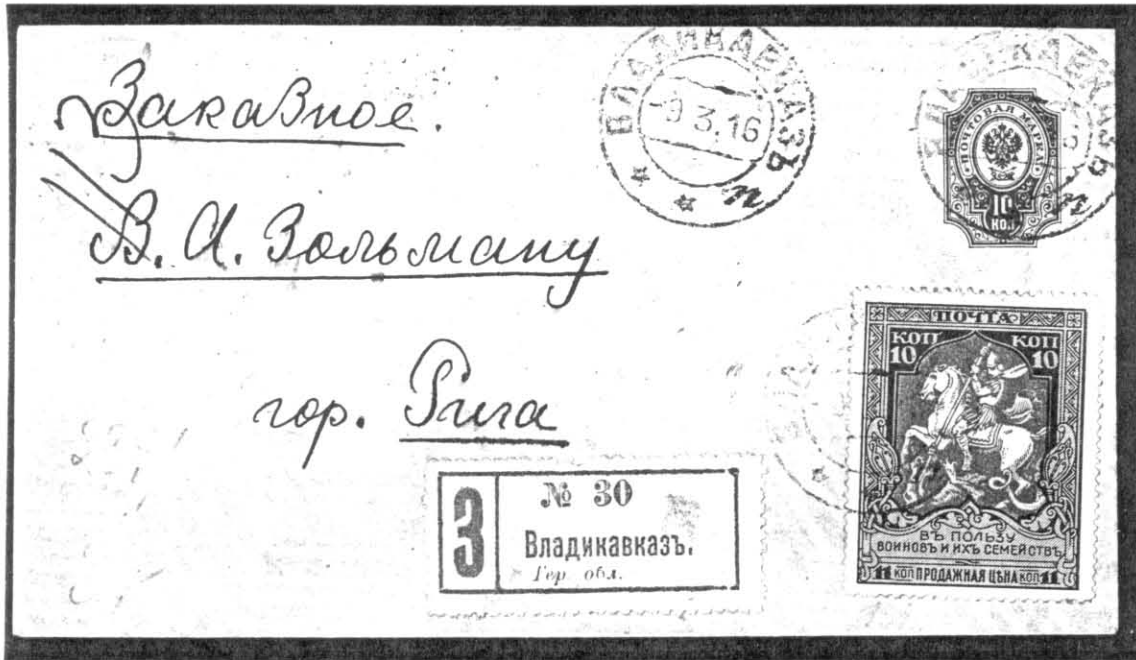
Czarist Russia with blow-up of Coat of Arms



Southern Russian Army of 1919



The large stamp was issued with a surtax that went to charities connected with the war of 1914-1917.



The Russian province of Georgia used St. George, as part of the design of their stamps, of 1919-1920.



This stamp was issued for the Ninth Congress of the Universal Postal Union held in London, in 1929. Delegates were presented with a complimentary series of commemorative stamps. This one was added to the four others in the set, to make it a generous memento. It seems odd that a stamp that was given away, is today one of the most expensive of all the St. George issues.



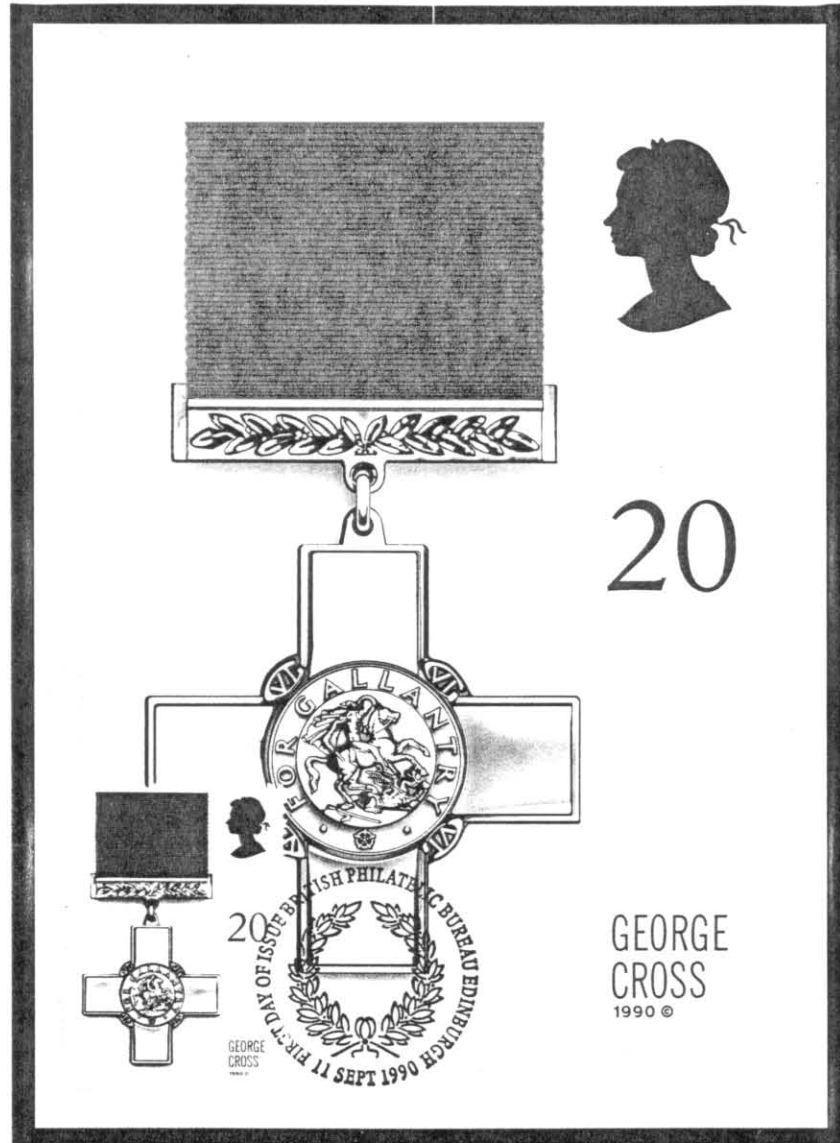
The chain around King George V, is that of the Grand Master of the Order of the Garter, at the bottom is a pendent of St. George slaying the dragon, which the Order was dedicated to, by King Edward III in 1344.



This issue carries the art work of Benedetto Pistrocei. It has become a favorite design in Great Britain for coins, stamps and medals.



The George Cross was introduced during the German Blitz, by King George VI in 1940. The silver cross has St. George slaying the dragon, with the motto "For Gallantry". It is the highest award to civilians in the United Kingdom.



The town seal for St. George, Bermuda.



Various statues, sculptures, figures, wood carvings, and jewels, all with St. George at the heart of their designs.



These stamp designs of St. George, show the many different interperations that artists have had about him, over the past centurys.



Stamp designs taken from murals and icons of Europe, Asia and Africa.



INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF MUSEUMS FIRST DAY COVER  
 ENVELOPPE PREMIER JOUR DU CONSEIL INTERNATIONAL DES MUSEES



ST. GEORGE AND THE DRAGON





Here are some of the harder to see designs of St. George.



Wood Carvings

Pendent hanging below the bust



Front and side of the King's crowns

George Hall weathervane

This is the weathervane



Atop the pillar in back, and to the left of the wagon

In the fountain at the right of the hallway

Atop the pillar at the far right of the stamp

Malta has issued a large number of stamps relating to St. George. All have a George Cross emblem, of Great Britain on them. This medal was awarded to Malta, by King George, on April 15th, 1942, for it's war effort, while still part of the Commonwealth. Here are some examples of covers and stamps.

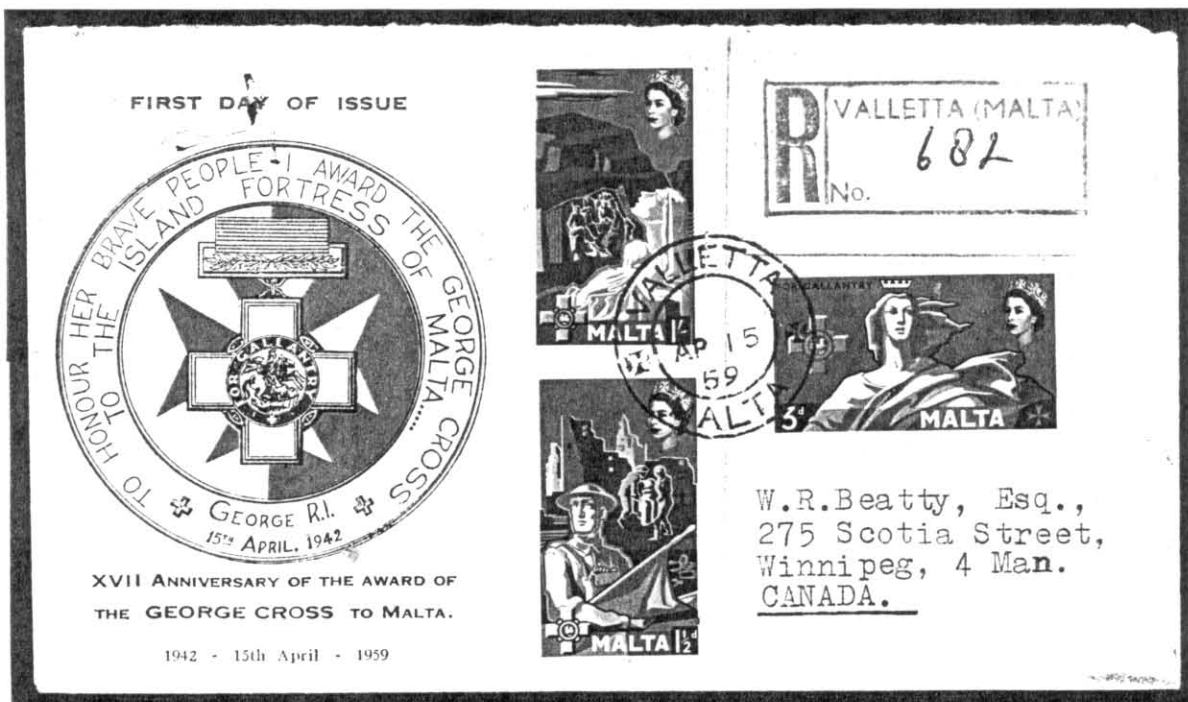
War Memorial

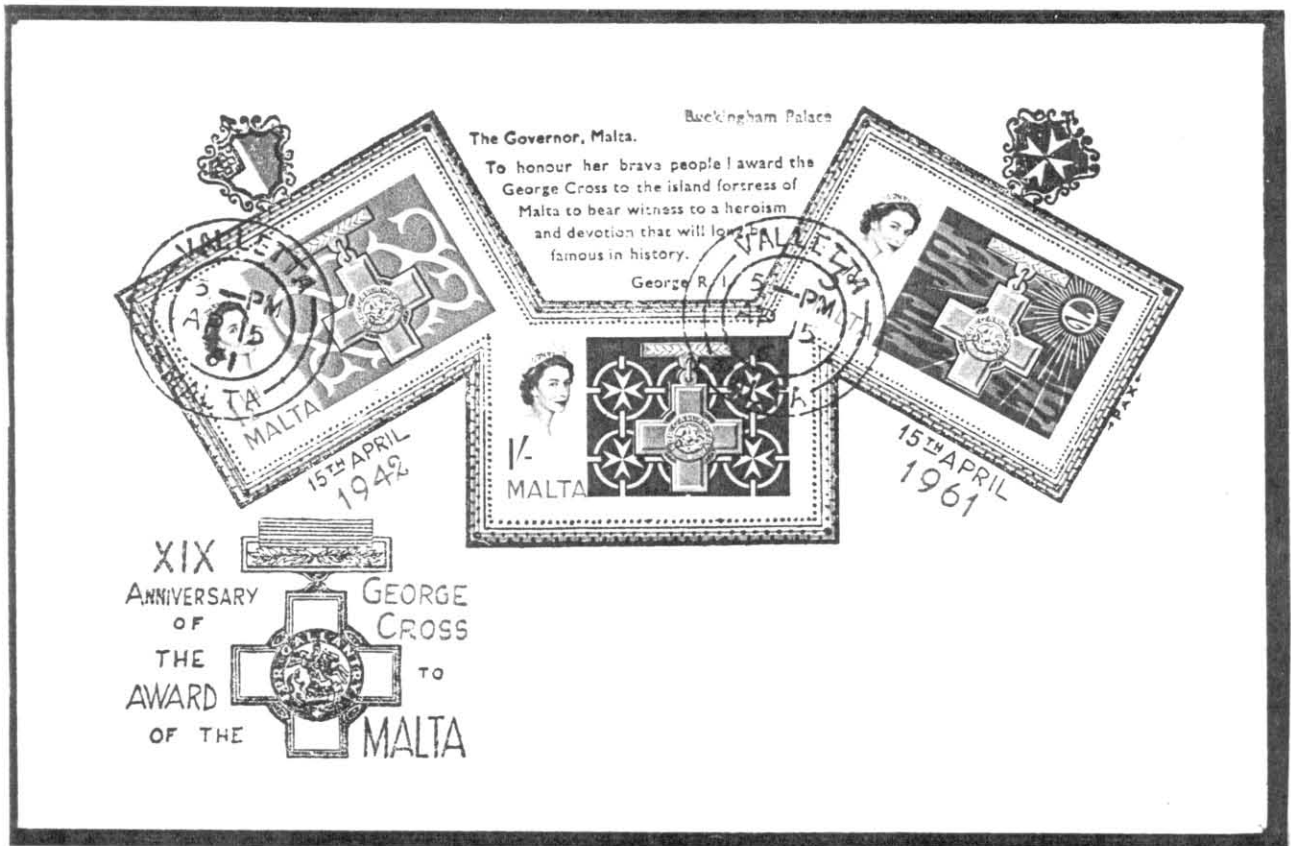
King's Scroll



15th Anniversary

The death of Winston Churchill





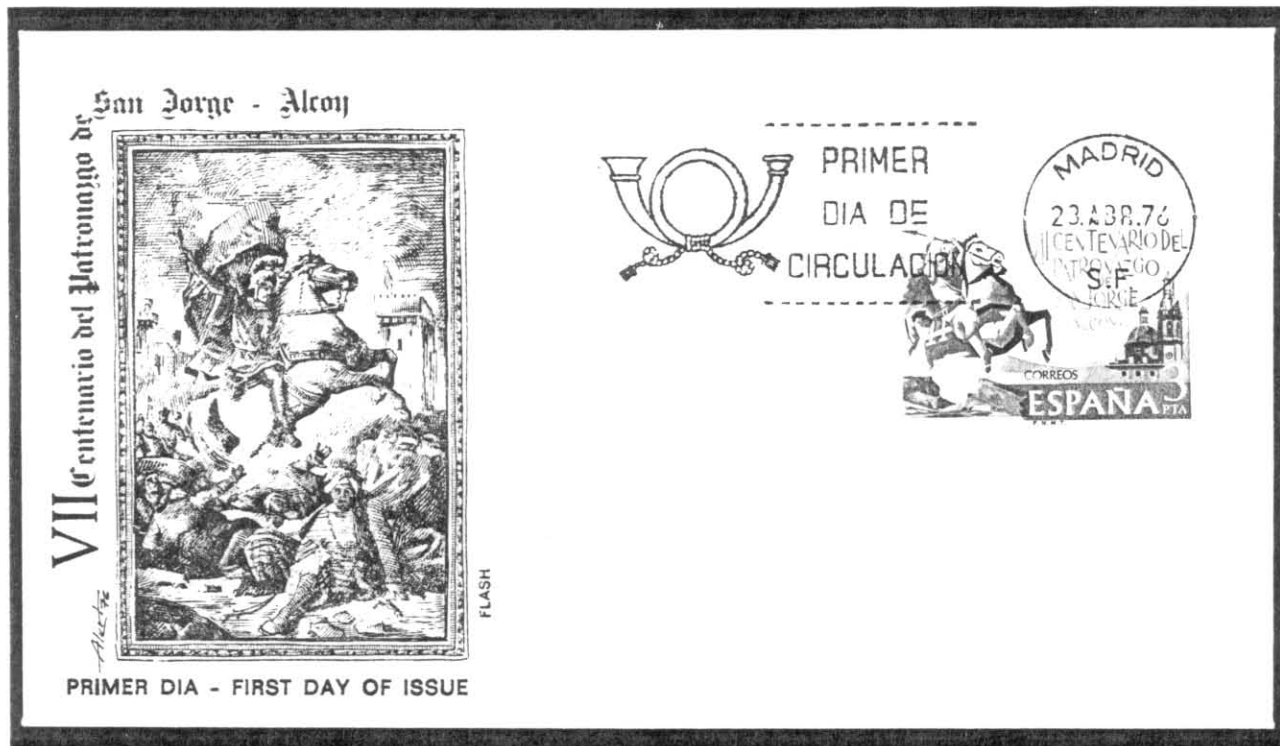
25th. Anniversary



50th. Anniversary



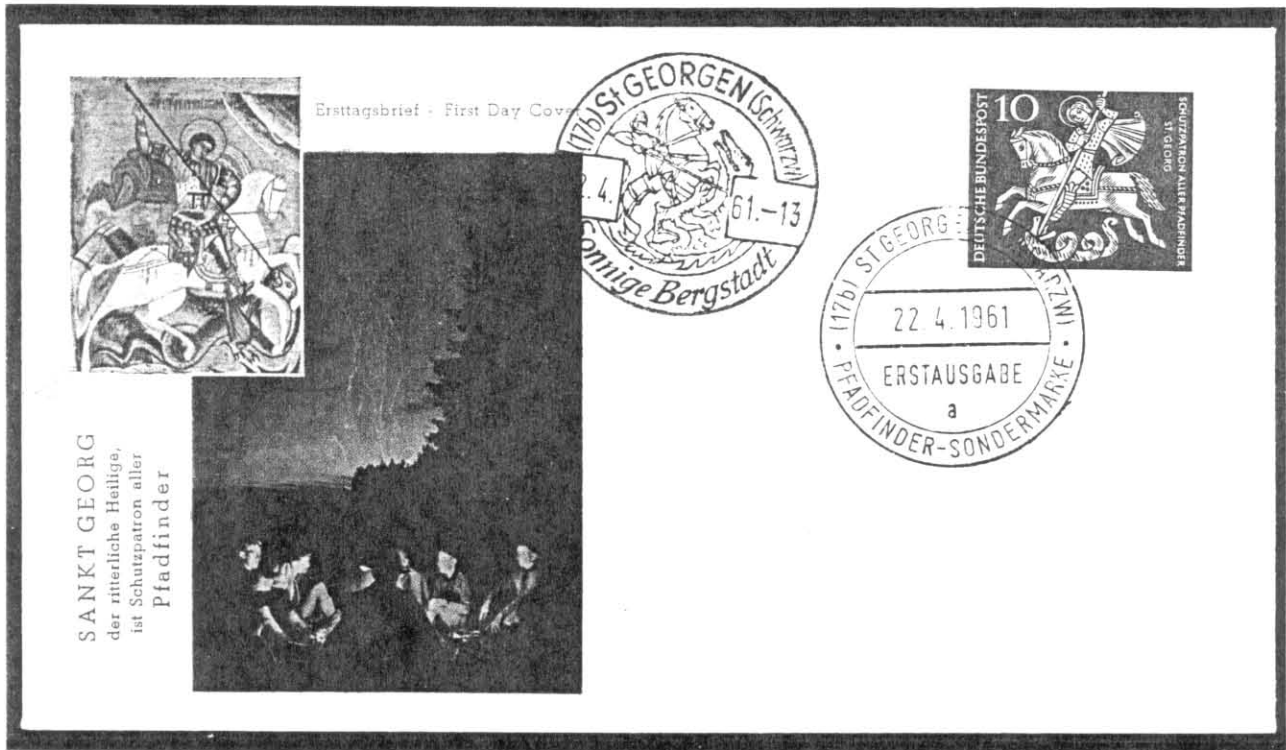
Issued by Spain, on St. George's day, April 23rd. 1976, for the 700th. anniversary of the saints Apparition in front of the Cathedral in Alcoy.



These semi-postal stamps were issued with a surtax. It was used in the fight against Tuberculosis. The design of St. George slaying the dragon was used, as in medical science defeating the evils of disease.



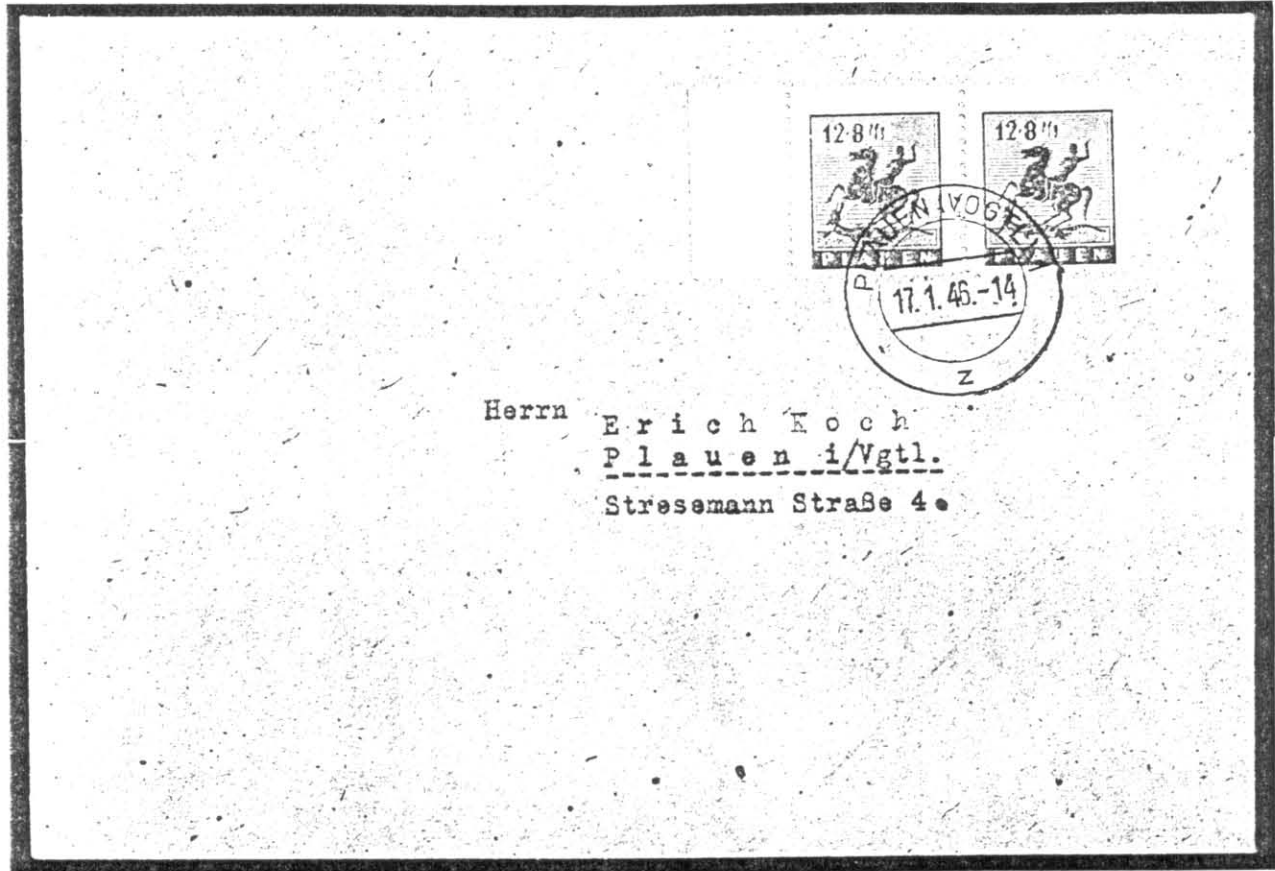
To honor the Boy Scouts of the World, on St. George's day, April 23rd, 1961.



The doors to the German Goldsmiths Society, with a golden statue of St. George slaying the dragon, on the stamp.



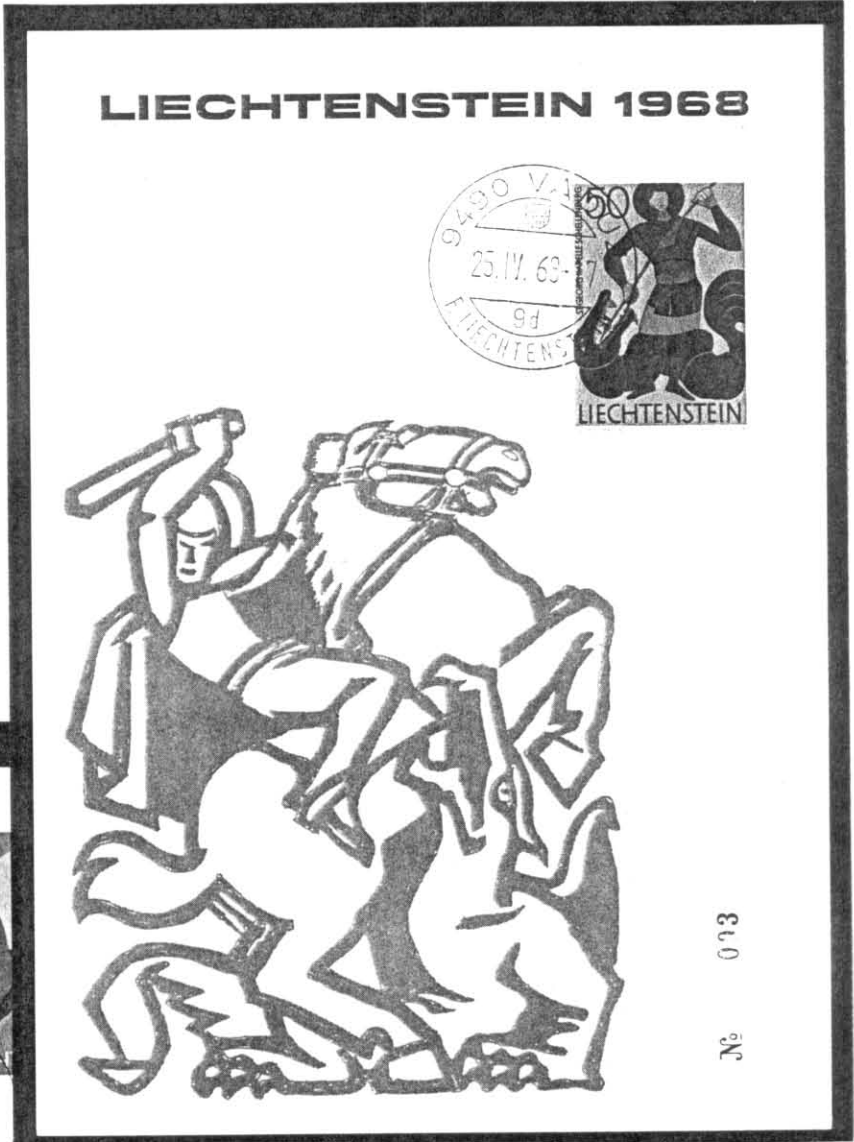
A envelope from Plauen. with local postage.



A postal card celebrating the 50th. anniversary of the Pathfinders.



This is one of 13 stamps issued to commemorate the Patron Saints of Liechtenstein. St. George is the patron of Schellenberg Chapel.



Czechoslovakia has issued many stamps with a St. George design. They were taken from many different mediums such as stained glass windows, murals, coat of arms and art treasures.

