

Philatelic Propaganda

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Smithsonian National Postal Museum

Border Changes in Eastern
Europe: 1938 - 1941

Philatelic Propaganda: How it Works



Required Elements:

- Depiction of Occupying Power:
 - head of state
 - army/soldiers
 - national flag
- Depiction of Occupied Territory:
 - happy natives in ethnic costume
 - map of territory
 - culturally significant landmarks

Optional Elements:

- borders now null and void
- historical precedent
- acknowledgement of alliance with Axis

Map: Czechoslovakia after Munich, 1938



Poland, 1938



Teschen Comes to Poland

Inscription: "Powrót
Zaolzia do Macierzy"

2 X 1938

Map: Hungary – Treaty of Trianon, 1920



Map: First Vienna Award, 1938



Hungary: First Vienna Award



Inscription: "Hungarians Help Hungarians"



Statue representing Northern Territories



Admiral Horthy leading Troops into Komaron



Hungarian Girls offering Flowers to Hungarian Soldiers



Kassa (Slovakia): Cathedral



Munkacs (Sub-Carpathian
Ruthenia): Fort

Map: Hitler-Stalin Pact, 1939



Soviet Invasion of Eastern Poland September 17, 1939



Inscription: "The Liberation of the Fraternal Peoples of Western Ukraine and Western Belorussia"



Crowd Waving to Tank Column

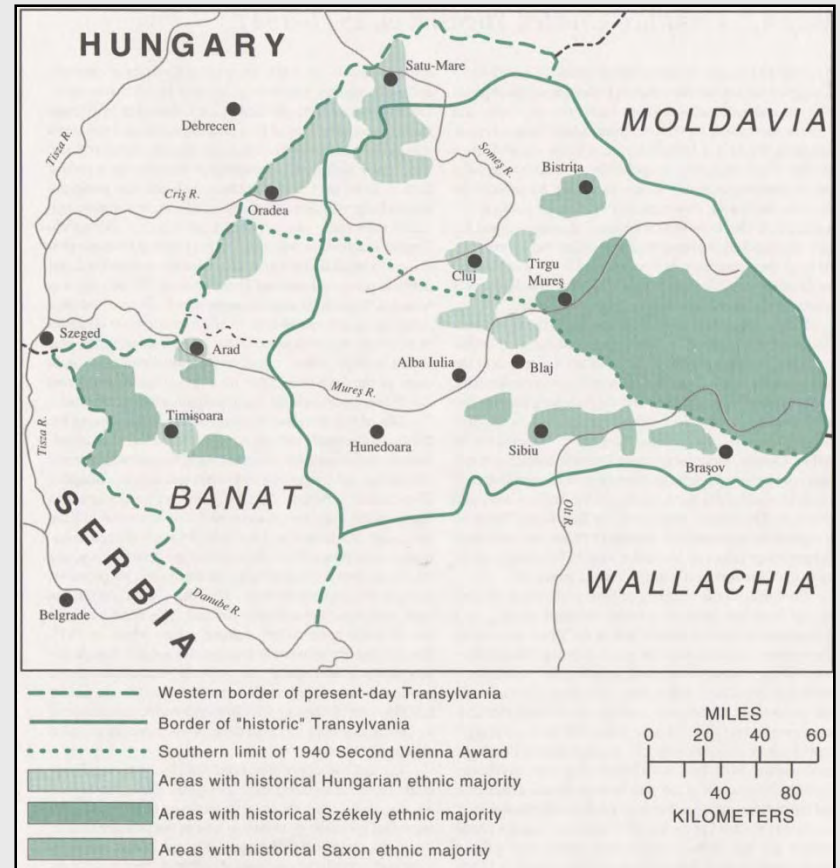


Villagers Welcoming Tank Crew



Villagers Welcoming Red Army Soldiers

Map: Second Vienna Award, 1940



Hungarian Occupation of Transylvania (Romania), 1940



Madonna and Martyr



Hungarian Soldier



Mother offering Child to the
Fatherland

Map: Treaty of Craiova, 1940



Bulgarian Occupation of Southern Dobrudja (Romania), 1940





Tsar Boris and Map of Dobrudja



Bulgarian Peasant Couple and Tsar Boris



Bulgarian Flags over Field of Wheat, Tsar Boris

Map: Bulgarian Acquisition of Territory from Yugoslavia and Greece, 1941



Bulgarian Acquisition of Territory from Yugoslavia and Greece, 1941





Map of Macedonia with Miniature of Tsar Boris



Macedonian Woman



City of Ohrid (Macedonia)



Southern Thrace: View of the Aegean Sea and the
Island of Thasos

Map: Romanian Re-conquest of Bessarabia, 1941



Romanian Reconquest of Bessarabia, 1941





Romanian Troops crossing the Pruth River to retake Bessarabia, Marshall Antonescu



King Michael, Marshall
Antonescu, and Stephen of
Moldavia



Map of Bessarabia plus
King Michael, Marshall
Antonescu, and Friends

Image Credits

Crampton, Richard and Ben Crampton. *Atlas of Eastern Europe in the Twentieth Century*.
New York: Routledge, 1997.

Hupchick, Dennis P. and Harold E. Cox. *The Palgrave Concise Historical Atlas of Eastern Europe*.
New York: Palgrave, 2001.

Stamp Images: Private Collection, Robin Gates Elliott

The End



