

# The "Austrian Heroes" set of 1935



The "Famous Austrians" selected for portrayal on the 1935 Christmas Charity Set were mostly army commanders with one naval. The stamps were designed by Professor Wilhelm Dachauer and engraved by Professor Ferdinand Lorber for production by recess printing. The "100 Jahre Österreichische Briefmarke" p.37 shows the unaccepted designs by Georg Jung and Professor Rudolf Konopa, and compares Professor Dachauer's accepted and unaccepted portraits for the 24g and 30g values. The stamps are:

12g sepia **Prince Eugen of Savoy**: born 18.10.1663 in Paris; died 21.4.1736 in Vienna; on the stamp the date of birth is wrongly given as 1667.

24g deep green **Fieldmarshall Laudon**: Gideon Ernst, Freiherr von Laudon; born 2.2.1717 in Swedish Lavonia in today's Latvia; died 14.7.1790 in Neutitschein, Mähren.

30g maroon **Archduke Charles**: Erzherzog Carl Ludwig Johann Joseph Laurentius von Österreich, Herzog von Teschen; born 5.9.1771 in Florence; died 30.4.1847 in Vienna.

40g slate-blue **Fieldmarshall Radetzky**: Johann Joseph Wenzel Anton Franz Karl Graf Radetzky von Radetz; born 2.11.1766 in Schloss Trzebnitz bei Seltshan, Böhmen; died 5.1.1858 in Milan.

60g ultramarine **Admiral von Tegetthof**: Wilhelm von Tegetthoff; born 23.12.1827 in Marburg an der Drau, Untersteiermark; died 7.4.1871 in Vienna.

64g violet **Fieldmarshall Conrad von Hötzendorf**: Franz Xaver Josef Conrad von Hötzendorf; born 11.11.1852 in Penzing bei Wien; elevated to Freiherr in 1910 and Graf in 1918; promoted to Feldmarschall in 1916; died 25.8.1925 in Bad Mergentheim, Württemberg.

The set was issued on 1st December 1935 and remained valid for postage until 31st March 1936. Only 70,000 sets were issued and the stamps could only be bought at selected Post Offices as complete sets at double the face value. The surcharge was devoted to the benefit of general charitable funds. The stamps were line perforated 12½; there are no known perforation varieties and no known printing errors. The usual range of imperf sides, unissued colours, blackprint-proofs etc exists.