

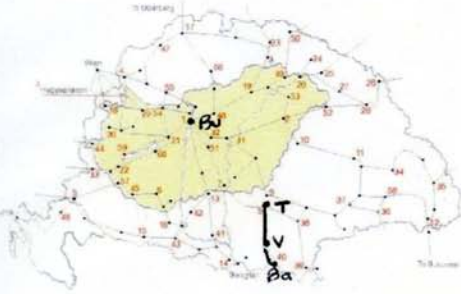


HUNGARIAN POSTAL HISTORY



Hungarian Railways and the Post

Damaged Mail



2Kr. postal stationery postcard to Temesvár from Versetz (German language still used in southern Transylvania despite Hungarian autonomy.) Damaged in transit, it was repaired using special labels prepared for the purpose and carrying the **individual TPO number** printed in the anonymous-route styling of the auxiliary/emergency cancellers used in later years when normal types were not available. **TPO No. 3** by now ran from Budapest to Báciás (on the Danube east of Belgrade) via Temesvár and Versetz (Hungarian Versec(z).) This was one of two important early main through lines from Vienna to the Balkans, meeting Ottoman territory, still, across the river, with trade links to Turkey and beyond.

It is very exciting to find something that is perhaps the only one that exists. There is often a human story. The Hungarian train post office was sorry to damage a postcard- perhaps important to the people involved. So each train had its own repair system!