





REPUBBLICA SOCIALE ITALIANA

After the Allied landings in Sicily 1943, King Victor Emmanuel (the 3rd) had Mussolini arrested, but the German Army rescued him, and together Hitler and Mussolini established a new Nazi-Fascist puppet government in Northern Italy (informally known as the Salo' Republic) intended for the purpose of resisting the Allies which were rapidly advancing from Southern Italy.





Italy's new Social Republic issued new stamps and overprinted existing stamps

A. DE CALIFFI DI VILLALTA
CORSO CAVOUR 10
VERONA



REPUBBLICA SOCIALE ITALIANA





































































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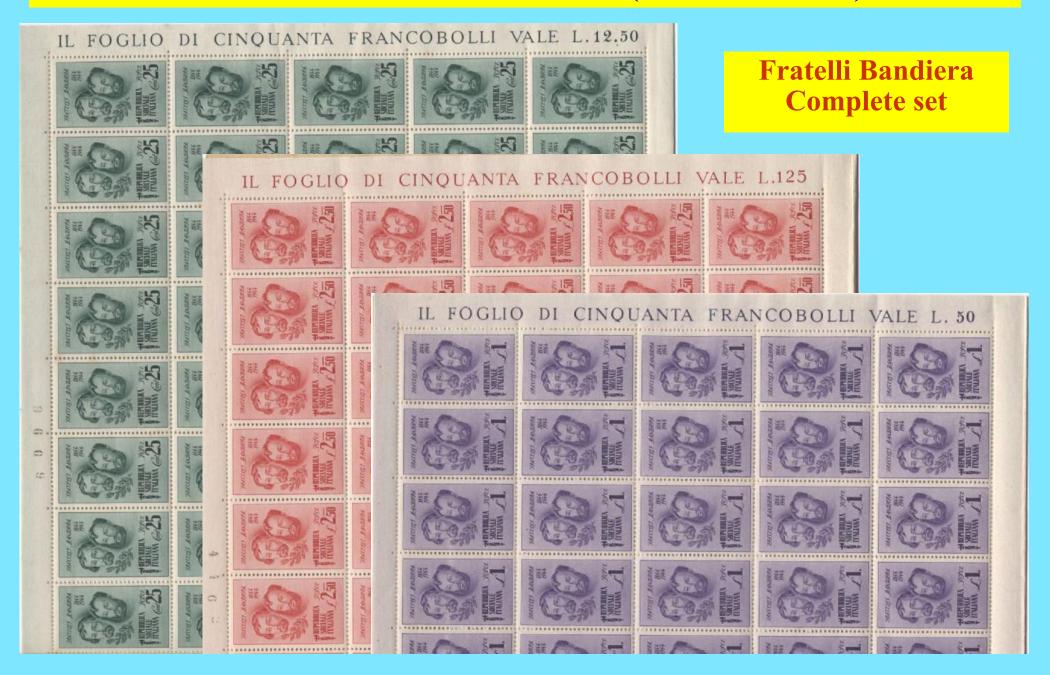






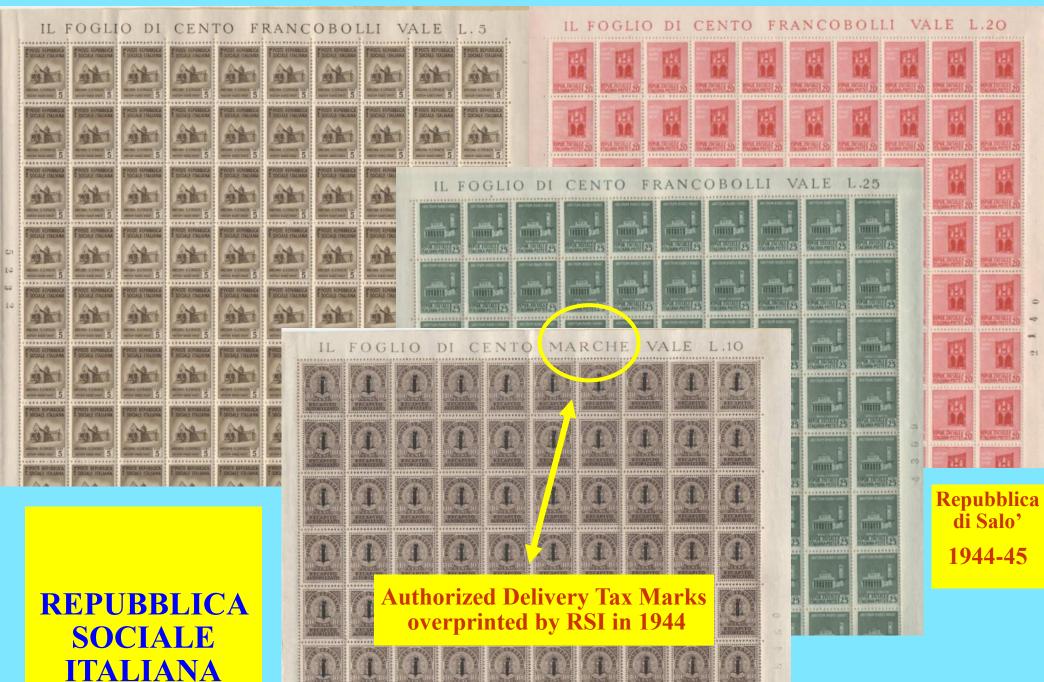
REPUBBLICA SOCIALE ITALIANA (Overprints) 1944

REPUBBLICA SOCIALE ITALIANA (Fratelli Bandiera) 1944









ITALIANA





RSI stamps overprinted G.N.R. (Guardia Nazionale Repubblicana)



Note the differences of these two GNR overprints. The top style is not found in most catalogs.



GNR stands for "Guardia Nazionale Republicana"



After having established the Republica Sociale of Salo', Mussolini disarmed the Italian Carabinieri Police Force and replaced it with the GNR, who were loyal Fascists and willing to cooperate with the German Army.





Soon after the separation of "the Salo' Republic" from the rest of Italy, the RSI-Fascist office of propaganda began a campaign to encourage Italians to migrate to Germany for work. Below is the front and back of a propaganda leaflet which shows an Italian worker's letter to his wife telling her that the Germans are still "good friends" who treat the Italian workers very good.

Sempre alto il morale, se fra i martine la pracisi potrai parlare con qualche tedereo, fotegli buona accagliesa che lo moritorio, che amere loso con moi mi trattano poraprio bene e se sentira Rorse qualche dunc a parlar male tu firmagli la bosca, e dii pure che noi namo proprio trattati came prima non se ne pun ne meno. Halia (Show Stergamo)

Hai letto attentamente questa lettera scritta da un lavoratore italiano occupato in Germania?

Chiunque lavori nel Reich sta bene e preserva la sua famiglia dalla miseria!

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While the Salo' Republic (RSI) remained engaged with Germany in attempt to defend against the oncoming Allies, the rest of Italy was welcoming the Allies. The 1944 postal cancel below declares that Rome is now an "Open City" to the oncoming Allies.



Verona was in RSI territory and was also the city where opposition members of the Fascist Grand Council were tried for treason and then executed by Mussolini's new regime in 1944. This included Mussolini's own son-in-law and father of his grandchildren Count Galeazzo Ciano. Ironically the adjacent 1944 new-year greeting postcard (with RSI stamp) quotes the Bible book of Isaiah 26:4 in German: "Trust in the LORD forever, for the LORD is the Rock eternal". Our English King James version translates it this way: "Trust ye in the LORD for ever; For in the LORD JEHOVAH is everlasting strength". The very accurate New World Translation reads: Trust in Jehovah, you people, for all times, for in Jah Jehovah is the Rock of times indefinite".



Verlassereuch, aufden Herrn ewiglich, denn Gott ver Herrist ein Fels ewiglich.