

The 1966 United Nations European Caravan

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Scope: This exhibit illustrates the path of the 1966 European Caravan as shown by the cancels and collateral material created to publicize and commemorate the event.

	<p>Historical Background The story of the 1966 United Nations European Caravan actually begins in 1965 in the United States. 1965 was the 20th anniversary of the founding of the United Nations. In celebration of that event the United Nations Postal Authority sent a mobile philatelic exhibit from New York to San Francisco stopping in twelve cities along the way. The exhibit was extremely successful and led to the creation of a similar exhibit which was to take place in Europe the following year.</p>	<p>are arranged at the cities for which they were created thereby creating a visual record of the path the Caravan took. The most commonly seen postal item from the Caravan are the 11c airmail card and a wide range of these and the varieties of both dates used and colors used are included. This includes cancels from every stop including rarer cancels such as Warsaw and the Brussels cancel in Flemish. This cancel was intended to be used during the stop but could not be located and as a result very few items were serviced. One item <i>NOT</i> included is the Cracow cancel. As a result of Polish military exercises this stop could not be made and so not covers or cards would have been serviced at an official stop of the Caravan. In several countries local philatelic groups also prepared items to be serviced and a variety of these are shown as well. Finally in several countries local postal authorities created promotional cancels to be used on commercially posted mail, and these are included as well. The exhibit concludes with a very brief look at the Saarlouis Caravan stop in 1967. This is included as the logical end point because this stop was arranged during the 1966 Caravan stop in Luxembourg. Members of the local stamp club in Saarlouis convinced the UNPA to add the 1967 stop. In addition the official UN cachet used was identical in format to those that were used during the 1966 Caravan.</p>	<p>Importance This event was the first time that the United Nations had taken their philatelic material on a mobile tour. This exposed may folks to the United Nations Postal Service that might otherwise not have seen this material. In addition the 1965 event was in support of the 20th Anniversary of the founding of the United Nations while the 1966 event introduced much of Europe to United Nations philately.</p>
<p>Exhibit Plan</p>	<p>Purpose and Scope This exhibit is a look at the 1966 European Caravan, and specifically the path that the Caravan took, and includes examples of many of the philatelic items created to commemorate the event.</p>		<p>Knowledge, Study & Research The exhibit looks at the Caravan in a new way by drawing attention to the actual tour route and brings together the official UN cachet, local promotional cancels, and collateral material to provide one of the most comprehensive displays of this material.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1965 Pre-cursor event • 1966 European Caravan • 1967 Saarlouis Germany Caravan stop with 1966 "style" cancels 	<p>Treatment The exhibit begins with a very brief look at the 1965 United Nations Mobile Philatelic Exhibit. This was the first time that the United Nations had tried to stage a mobile event such as this and it became the model for the European Caravan in 1966. Brochures from 1965 are difficult to find as a result of a "one per visitor" policy which was in place during the exhibit. Following that is a comprehensive look at the main focus of this exhibit which is the 1966 European Caravan. The exhibit breaks this event into three stages. Roughly eastern Europe, northern Europe and western Europe. The philatelic covers, cards, and collateral</p>		<p>Rarity & Condition Items in this exhibit are in the best condition possible and include several scarce items including official period publicity photos.</p>
<p>Selected Highlights</p>			<p>References Arlagh Gaines ed.; United Nations Philately; New York, NY; R&D Publications; 1980. Lindner Falzlos-Gesellschaft ed.; 1972 United Nations Stamp Catalog; Germany; Lindner Publishing; 1972. Lindner Falzlos-Gesellschaft ed.; UN Philatelic and Numismatic Catalog and Handbook 6th edition; Germany; Lindner Publishing; 1976.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Original UN Caravan publicity photos • 1965 Caravan souvenir brochures • United Nations cachet cancel in Flemish language cancels used at Brussels • United Nations cachet cancel used at Warsaw 			

A significant recent addition to this exhibit is the scarce Flemish language cancel used at Brussels during the 1966 Caravan.