

**United Nations Conference on International Organization,
San Francisco, California, April 25 to June 26, 1945**

Scope

The exhibit documents the postal history of the San Francisco Conference.

History

The objective of the conference, which was held before World War II in the Pacific was over, was to create a new World organization to keep the peace after the war. The conference wrote a UN Charter, which, when ratified, became the basis for the United Nations, which has helped to avoid another World War for 75 years.

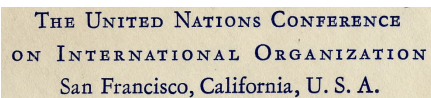
Conference Arrangements

The conference sessions and meetings were held in the San Francisco Opera House. The conference secretariat had offices in the Veterans War Memorial Building. The Army-Navy Coordination Group and the Hospitality House were in the Civic Center. Delegations were lodged in a number of San Francisco hotels, where they also had their offices. The International Press also had offices in various hotels.

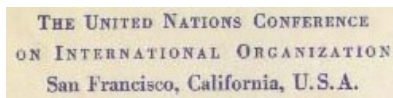
There was no special conference post office. Mail was sent from a number of post offices. The secretariat provided conference stationery, which was used by many of the delegations. Some delegations also printed their own special corner card stationery.

Conference Corner Cards

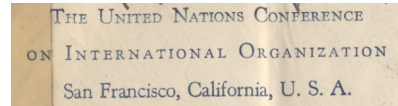
I keep an on-going census of all outgoing mail from the conference that has been identified. The following is a summary of the Corner Cards census. I have made a study of these corner cards and have identified the types which were used.



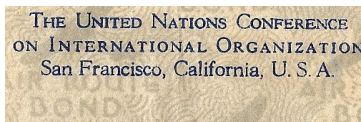
Type 1, 40 Recorded
Observed Apr. 25 to June 17, 1945



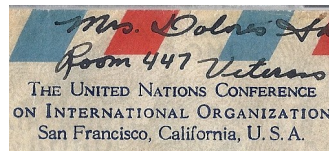
Type 2, 51 Recorded
Observed Apr. 25 to Jun. 27, 1945



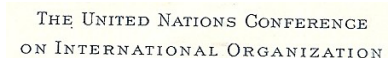
Type 3, 8 Recorded
Observed June 19 to Jun. 26, 1945



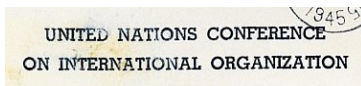
Type 4 (Air Mail), 5 Recorded
Observed Apr. 25 to Jun. 29, 1945



Type 5 (Air Mail), 12 Recorded
Observed Apr. 25 to June 25, 1945



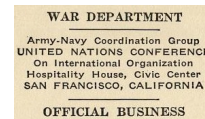
Type 6 (On black flap, Note size),
2 Recorded
Observed May 19 to Jun. 16, 1945



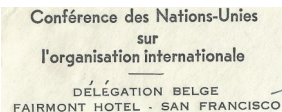
Type 7 (On preprinted post card)
1 Recorded, Date unclear



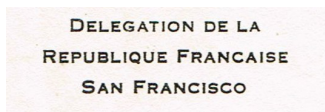
UN Conf. Committee, 2 Recorded
Observed May 22-23, 1945



Army-Navy Coord. Group, 2 Recorded
Observed Apr. 24 to May 11, 1945



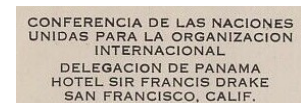
Belgian Delegation, 3 Recorded
Observed Jun. 6-27, 1945



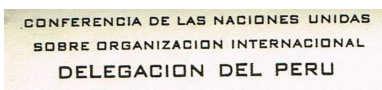
French Delegation, 2 Recorded
Observed Jun. 1-19, 1945



Norwegian Delegation,
1 Recorded
Observed May 16, 1945



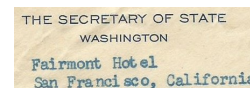
Panamanian Delegation,
1 Recorded
Observed 5/23/1945



Peruvian Delegation, 2 Recorded
Observed May 1- Jun. 1, 1945



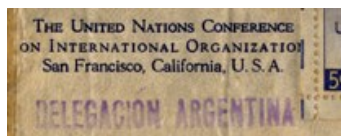
Chinese News Agency, 1 Recorded
Observed May 16, 1945



United States Delegation, 2 Recorded
Observed May 15 - June 25, 1945

Delegation covers using Conference or Hotel Corner Card covers with typed or ink return addresses for the delegations of Belgium, Czechoslovakia, El Salvador, Iran, Lebanon, the Netherlands, Peru, South Africa and Syria are also in this exhibit. Also a Conference CC cover from the Argentina delegation is shown with a delegation cachet. Incoming mail to delegations of Belgium, Norway, Saudi Arabia and the United States are also shown. In all, 27 covers from 15 delegations are represented in this exhibit, undoubtedly more than has ever been assembled. As can be seen from the Census, delegation covers are very uncommon.

Delegation Cachet and Receiving Mark



Argentina Delegation Cachet
1 Recorded



United States Delegation Receiving Mark,
4 Recorded

Postmarks used on Conference outgoing mail

Machine wavy line cancels:

San Francisco 1, 3 recorded
San Francisco 2, 1 recorded
San Francisco 3, 6 recorded
San Francisco 4, 59 recorded
San Francisco 5, 17 recorded
San Francisco 6, 3 recorded
San Francisco 8, 2 recorded
San Francisco 9, 3 recorded
San Francisco 12, 1 recorded
San Francisco 13, 2 recorded
San Francisco 15, 7 recorded

Hand cancels:

San Francisco 1, 3 recorded
SF Rincon Annex 2, 3 recorded
SF Rincon Annex 3, 3 recorded
Double oval, 7 recorded

First Day cancels:

Machine, 2 recorded
Hand, 11 recorded

Special Features (highlighted in dark blue)

1. UN Conference Committee Corner Card cover. *Only two recorded*
2. Conference Headquarters of Central News Agency of China Corner Card cover. *Only one recorded.*
3. Hotel CC pouch cover to Yugoslavia, censored, from cartoonist. *Only one recorded.*
4. Corner Card #4 cover to Arkansas. *Only five recorded.*
5. Corner Card #6 cover to Belgium. *Only two recorded.*
6. Corner Card #7 on Post Card to San Francisco. *Only one recorded*
7. Corner Card cover from Army-Navy Coordination Group. *Only two recorded.*
8. Typed address cover from Army-Navy Coordination Group. *Only one recorded.*
9. Delegation covers with *only one recorded*: Argentina with special cachet, Norway CC, Panama CC.
10. Delegation covers with *only one recorded*, with typed or ink inscription: El Salvador, Lebanon, Netherlands, Peru and Syria.
10. Delegation covers with *only three recorded*: France CC, Peru CC

Original Research

I was Conference Contributor to Gaines Catalog, author of the UN Conference Study, 1981-83 and author of the UN Conference Catalog, 2011-13 (on-line, continued to be updated). I have written several articles on the San Francisco Conference for the Journal of the UN Philatelists. Among other findings, I have identified a number of Conference Corner Card types that were previously unknown. My Conference outgoing mail census has provided not only data on scarcity of various corner cards, but of the relative occurrence of various San Francisco postmarks.

References

1. United Nations Philately, Arleigh Gaines, 1980-96, R&D Publications, NY
Pages 932-34
2. United Nations Conference Catalog, 2011-13 on-going, Blanton Clement, Jr., UN Philatelists, Inc,
Pages C2-C6
<http://www.unpi.com/clem/unpostcards/UNCatalog1.pdf>
3. Journal of United Nations Philatelists articles:
1-1, 3; 1-6, 10; 4-4, 74; 4-6, 120; 7-3, 62; 8-1, 24; 8-6, 156; 12-6, 80; 13-6, 78; 19-2, 1;
19-4, 4; 24-5, 8; 25-2,16; 28-2, 13; 28-5,16; 28-6, 8; 33-4, 12; 40-3,17; 40-5, 14; 40-6, 9
http://www.unpi.com/journal_archive.asp
4. Census of San Francisco Conference outgoing covers, Blanton Clement, Jr., 2019 on-going:
<http://www.unpi.com/clem/unpostcards/sfconferencecensus.pdf>

Exhibit

<http://www.unpi.com/clem/unpostcards/sfconferenceexhibit.pdf>