

**United Nations Conferences and Meetings, 1945-1995**

**Scope**

The exhibit documents the postal history of the Conferences and Meetings of the United Nations over its first 50 years, 1945-1995. Service mail to and from the Conferences and their Secretariats will be shown. Specialized Agencies of the UN and not part of this exhibit.

**History**

The United States was founded at a 1945 conference in San Francisco. The first session of the UN General Assembly was held in London in 1946. Sessions of the General Assembly were subsequently held in Lake Success, NY and in Paris, France in 1948 and 1951. Starting in 1952, all sessions of the General Assembly have been held at UN Headquarters in NYC. Sessions of the Economic and Social Council have generally been held in NY or Geneva, but one session was held in Santiago, Chile in 1951. Special Conferences on diverse subjects has been held in many cities around the world; however, many have been held in Geneva or Vienna.

**Conference Arrangements**

For special conferences, generally a Secretariat is set up to make arrangements beforehand and to follow-up afterwards. These secretariats usually are located in New York, Geneva, or Vienna. Mail to or from the secretariat is included in the postal history of the conference.

**Mailing Arrangements seen for Conference covers:**

1. Placed in the regular mail stream (Many examples)
2. Sent by UN Diplomatic Pouch to a UN office (Examples: Pages 20, 41, 44, 47, 52 and 55)
3. Sent by UN Diplomatic Pouch to a UN office, then forwarded to destination by regular mail (Examples: Pages 22, 23, 25, 29, 33, 48, 54, 57,78, 95 and 96)
4. Sent by UN Diplomatic Pouch to the office of a UN Specialized Agency, then forwarded by regular mail (Example: Page 76)
5. Sent by Commercial Bulk Carrier to country of destination, then placed in regular mail (Example: Page 90)
6. Sent by Pneumatic Mail to or from Conference (Example: Page 9).
7. Sent by inter-office mail (Example: Page 37)
8. Sent by Governmental Bag, then forwarded to destination by regular mail (Example: Page 53)

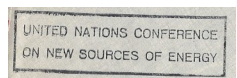
**Franking seen on Conference covers:**

1. Postage stamps of host country (Many examples)
2. Postage stamps of UN in New York or Geneva (Pages 20, 22, 42, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 72, 73, 75, 80 and 94)
3. Special meter used by Conference (Examples: Pages 6, 7, 9, 12)
4. Meters used by UN in New York, Geneva, or Vienna (Pages 19, 26, 33, 40, 42, 45, 46, 48, 49, 53, 54, 57, 58, 68, 74, 78, 80, 81, 82, 83, 85, 86, 91, 94, 95 and 96)
5. Meters used by UN Specialized Agency (Pages 24, 38, 39, 74 and 76)
6. Postage stamps of UN Specialized Agency ( Pages 70 and 72)
7. Meter used by Delegation to Conference (Pages 16 and 18)
8. Post Paid Imprint (Page 35 and 81)

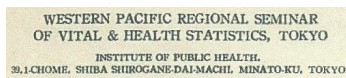
**Features on Conference covers:**



Conference Cancel



Conference Cachet



Conference Corner Card



Conference Registry Label



Geneva Cachets with no Conference named



Conference Meter



Special Cancels with no Conference named



Special Registry Labels with no Conference named

### **Special Features (highlighted in dark blue)**

1. UN General Assembly, 1948, page 9. Service cover with Assembly meter. *Meter rarely observed.*  
& Pneumatic mail from Assembly. *Only 3 examples observed.*
2. UN General Assembly, 1951, page 11. Bureau Temporaire cancel. *Only observed example.*  
& page 12. Assembly meter tapes & service cover. *Meter rarely observed.*  
& page 13. Assembly registry label on Service cover. *Label seldom observed.*
3. ECOSOC, 1950, page 20. ECOSOC cachet on service cover, using LON Stationery overprinted for UN use.  
*ECOSOC cachet use & use of overprinted stationery rarely observed.*  
& 1956, page 22. ECOSOC cachet in Service cover. *Only observed use of cachet in 1956.*  
& 1958, page 23. ECOSOC cachet on Service cover. *Only observed use of cachet in 1958.*  
& 1959, page 24. ECOSOC cachet on Service cover. *Only observed use of cachet in 1959.*  
& 1963, page 25. ECOSOC cachet on Service cover. *Cachet rarely observed.*  
& 1972, page 25. CONF. 5 cachet on Service cover. *Cachet rarely observed.*
3. ECAFE, 1947, page 27. Service cover from Netherlands Delegate. *Delegate service mail rare.*  
& 1948, page 28. Registered service cover from UK Delegate. *Rare use of special Registry label.*  
& 1949, page 28. Service mail from Session. *Service mail rarely observed.*  
& 1956, page 29. Service mail with machine cancel. *Only observed use of this cancel.*  
& 1959, page 30. Service mail with session corner card. *Only observed use of this corner card.*  
& 1962, page 31. Service mail with session corner card. *Only observed use of this corner card.*
4. ECA, 1965, page 32. Service mail with session corner card. *Rarely observed corner card.*
5. Racism, 1953, page 42. Service cover with CONF. 3 cachet. *Few examples of cachet observed.*  
& 1978. Service cover with CONF. 3 cachet. *Few examples of cachet observed.*
6. Disarmament, 1962 page 45. Service cover with CONF. 8 cachet. *Cachet rarely observed.*  
& 1963. Service cover with CONF. 8 cachet. *Cachet rarely observed.*  
& 1964, Service cover with CONF. 10 cachet. *Cachet rarely observed.*
7. International Law, 1960, page 53. Service cover with CONF. 4 cachet. *Cachet rarely observed.*
8. Development, 1986, page 54. Service cover with CONF.11 cachet. *Cachet rarely observed.*  
& Technology Transfer, 1979, page 58. Service cover with CONF. 2 cachet. *Cachet rarely observed.*  
& Steel Industry, 1952, page 58. Service cover with Conference CC. *Only observed use of Corner Card.*
9. Trade & Employment, 1947, page 61. Conference cancel with "S.E.E." & Registry imprint. *Both rarely observed.*  
& Page 62. Meter with Conference slogan. *Meter usage rarely observed.*  
& Page 62. Two-line Conference cachet. *Only two observations of this cachet.*
10. Commodities, 1956, page 63. Service cover with CONF. 16 cachet. *Cachet rarely observed.*  
& 1964, page 64. Service cover with CONF. 8 cachet. *Cachet rarely observed.*
11. Atomic Energy, 1955, page 70. Service cover with CONF. 8 cachet. *Cachet rarely observed.*  
& 1958, page 72. Service cover with CONF. 8 cachet. *Cachet rarely observed.*  
& New Sources of Energy, page 75, 1961, Service cover with boxed Conference cachet.  
*Only example of this cachet observed.*  
& Energy optimization, page 77, 1966. Service cover from Organizing Committee. *Only example such mail observed.*
12. Environment, 1972, page 80. Service mail from Conference. *Service mail from Conference rarely observed.*
13. Crime Prevention, 1955, page 87. Service mail with Office Temporaire cancel.  
*Service mail with this cancel rarely observed.*
14. Administration, 1952, page 94. Service mail from Tribunal with cachet. *Rarely observed.*  
& 1957. Service mail from Tribunal with different cachet. *Rarely observed.*  
& 1973, page 95. Service mail with Tribunal cachet & CONF. 8 cachet. *Such a combination rarely observed.*

### **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. I have written many articles on UN Conference discoveries for the Journal of the UN Philatelists. Most of the Geneva, Paris and Vienna cancels, cachets and registry labels without conference identification have been researched and identified by me.

### **References**

1. United Nations Philately, Arleigh Gaines, 1980-96, R&D Publications, NY  
Pages 941, 975-87, 1461-66, 1485-6, 1489-90, 1505-32
2. United Nations Conference Catalog, 2011-13, Blanton Clement, UN Philatelists, Inc,  
Pages A5-A14, C1-C104, D1-D22, M1-M34  
<http://unpi.com/clem/unpostcards/catalog.asp>
3. Journal of United Nations Philatelists [http://unpi.com/journal\\_archive.asp](http://unpi.com/journal_archive.asp)
4. Yearbooks of the UN, 1946-95 <http://unyearbook.un.org/>

### **Exhibit**

- Part 1: <http://unpi.com/clem/unpostcards/unconfexhibitpart1A.pdf>  
Part 2: <http://unpi.com/clem/unpostcards/unconfexhibitpart2.pdf>  
Part 3: <http://unpi.com/clem/unpostcards/unconfexhibitpart3.pdf>  
Part 4: <http://unpi.com/clem/unpostcards/unconfexhibitpart4.pdf>