

Exhibit Synopsis

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

Scope

The exhibit tells the story of the San Francisco Conference using postal history, postcards and memorabilia.

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 by the five future permanent members of the UN Security Council and a majority of the other Charter signing nations, became the basis for the United Nations, which has helped to avoid another World War for the last 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.

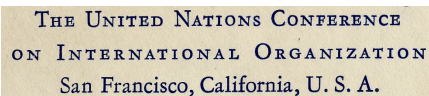
There was no special conference post office. Mail was sent from a number of post offices. The secretariat provided conference stationery, which was used by many of the delegations. Some delegations also printed their own special corner card stationary.

Original Research

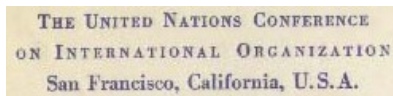
I was Conference Contributor to Gaines Catalog, author of the UN Conference Study, 1981-83 and author of the UN Conference Catalog, 2011-13 (on-line, continuing to be updated). I have been Editor of the Journal of the United Nations Philatelists for the last 9 years. I have written several articles on 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 (and their periods of use), but of the relative occurrence of various San Francisco postmarks. Also, in the census, I have identified delegation members, secretariat members, members of the Army-Navy Co-ordination Group, and members of the Press who sent most of the covers listed in the census. The census, which is updated when new information is found, is on-line at:

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

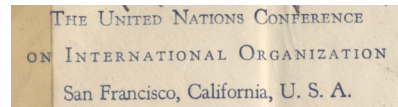
Conference Corner Cards



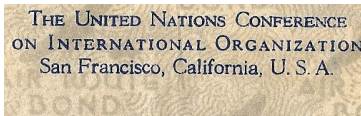
Type 1, 44 Recorded
Observed Apr. 25 to June 17, 1945



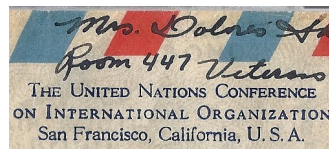
Type 2, 54 Recorded
Observed Apr. 25 to Jun. 27, 1945



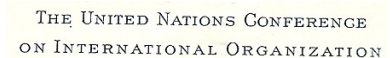
Type 3, 8 Recorded
Observed June 19 to Jun. 26, 1945



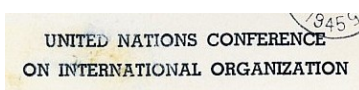
Type 4 (Air Mail), 5 Recorded
Observed Apr. 25 to Jun. 29, 1945



Type 5 (Air Mail), 13 Recorded
Observed Apr. 25 to June 25, 1945



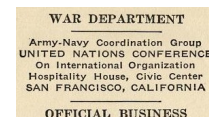
Type 6 (On black flap, Note size),
2 Recorded
Observed May 19 to Jun. 16, 1945



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

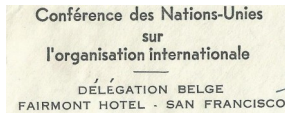


UN Conf. Committee, 2 Recorded
Observed May 22-23, 1945

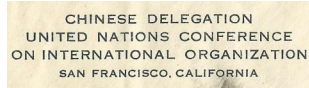


Army-Navy Coord. Group, 2 Recorded
Observed Apr. 24 to May 11, 1945

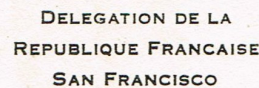
Corner Cards of Delegations and News Agency to the Conference



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



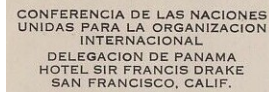
Chinese Delegation, 3 Recorded
Observed Apr.30-May 20, 1945



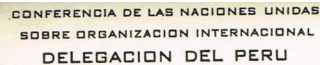
French Delegation, 3 Recorded
Observed Jun. 1-27, 1945



Norwegian Delegation,
1 Recorded, Obs. May 16, 1945



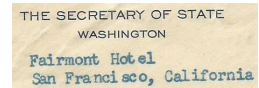
Panama Delegation, 1 Recorded
Observed 5/23/1945



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



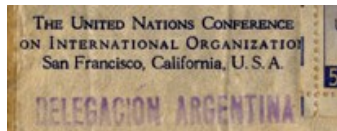
Chinese News Agency, 1 Recorded,
Observed May 16, 1945



U.S. Delegation, 3 Recorded
Observed May 10 - June 25, 1945

Delegation covers using Conference or Hotel Corner Card covers with typed or ink return addresses for the delegations of Belgium, Canada, 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. Covers with Conference CC and pencil notations are included from Costa Rica and the United Kingdom. Incoming mail to delegations of Belgium, Norway, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, United States and Yugoslavia are also shown. In all, 45 covers to or from 21 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, 1 recorded
San Francisco 2, 2 recorded
San Francisco 3, 6 recorded
San Francisco 4, 63 recorded
San Francisco 5, 19 recorded

San Francisco 6, 2 recorded
San Francisco 8, 2 recorded
San Francisco 9, 3 recorded
San Francisco 12, 1 recorded
San Francisco 13, 1 recorded
San Francisco 15, 7 recorded

Hand cancels:
San Francisco 1, 3 recorded
SF Rincon Annex 1, 1 recorded
SF Rincon Annex 2, 3 recorded
SF Rincon Annex 3, 6 recorded
Double oval, 7 recorded

First Day cancels:
Machine, 2 recorded
Hand, 13 recorded

With no cancellation. 5 recorded

Special Features (highlighted in dark blue)

- UN Conference Committee Corner Card cover. *Only two recorded*
- Conference Headquarters of Central News Agency of China Corner Card cover. *Only one recorded.*
- Hotel CC pouch cover to Yugoslavia, censored, from cartoonist. *Only one recorded.*
- Corner Card #4 cover to Arkansas. *Only three two recorded.*
- Corner Card #7 on Post Card to San Francisco. *Only one recorded*
- Corner Card cover from Army-Navy Coordination Group. *Only two recorded.*
- Typed address cover from Army-Navy Coordination Group. *Only one recorded.*
- Delegation covers with *only one recorded*: Argentina with special cachet, Canada Hotel CC, Norway CC, Panama CC.
- Delegation covers with *only one recorded*, with typed or ink inscription: Lebanon, Netherlands, Peru and Syria.
- Delegation cover with *only three recorded*: France CC
- US Delegation to UN Preparatory Committee letterhead letter from Adlai Stevenson, Jan. 3, 1946. *Unique*

References

- United Nations Philately, Arleigh Gaines, 1980-96, R&D Publications, NY, Pages 932-34
- 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>
- 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
- 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/sfconfexhibitfourframesRev2.pdf>