

The 1970 United Nations Fight Cancer Issue

PURPOSE & SCOPE: An exhibit of the two-stamp commemorative set issued for the 1970 Fight Cancer initiative of the United Nations World Health Organization.

TREATMENT: The 1970 Fight Cancer issue from the United Nations was issued in support of the 10th World Cancer Congress meeting which took place in Houston TX in October of 1970. The exhibit begins with several un-adopted essays which were created for this issue followed by pre-production material for the

actual stamp issue. Following that are first day covers. A significant section of the FDCs are covers which utilized repurposed cachets from the 1965 United States Crusade Against Cancer issue. These are scarce as few unused cachets were available to be used in this manner.

PERSONAL STUDY & RESEARCH: Personal study over the past 10 years has led to the discovery of repurposed cachets previously mentioned which were created in very small numbers.

CONDITION & RARITY: The material shown was chosen specifically for condition and rarity. Much of the material included, especially the pre-production material and the hand drawn/hand painted FDCs are either unique or exist in populations of fewer than ten. As a result, this exhibit could not be duplicated.

Items of significance are highlighted with an olive double line.

1.0 Stamp Essays – Pre-Production

A. Karim – Un-adopted Essays

Shown are two gouache on card un-adopted essays attributed to A. Karim of Pakistan. The essays each have the same the same design however the example at left was completed with the 6¢ surface rate in blue while the example below has the 13¢ airmail rate and is in green.

Essay Process – Design Confusion

There was clearly confusion during the essay proposal phase of this stamp issue. Note the essay below not only includes the phrase “Fight Cancer” but also includes the phrase “Peace and Progress” which was to be included on the 25th Anniversary stamp issue which followed the Cancer issue.

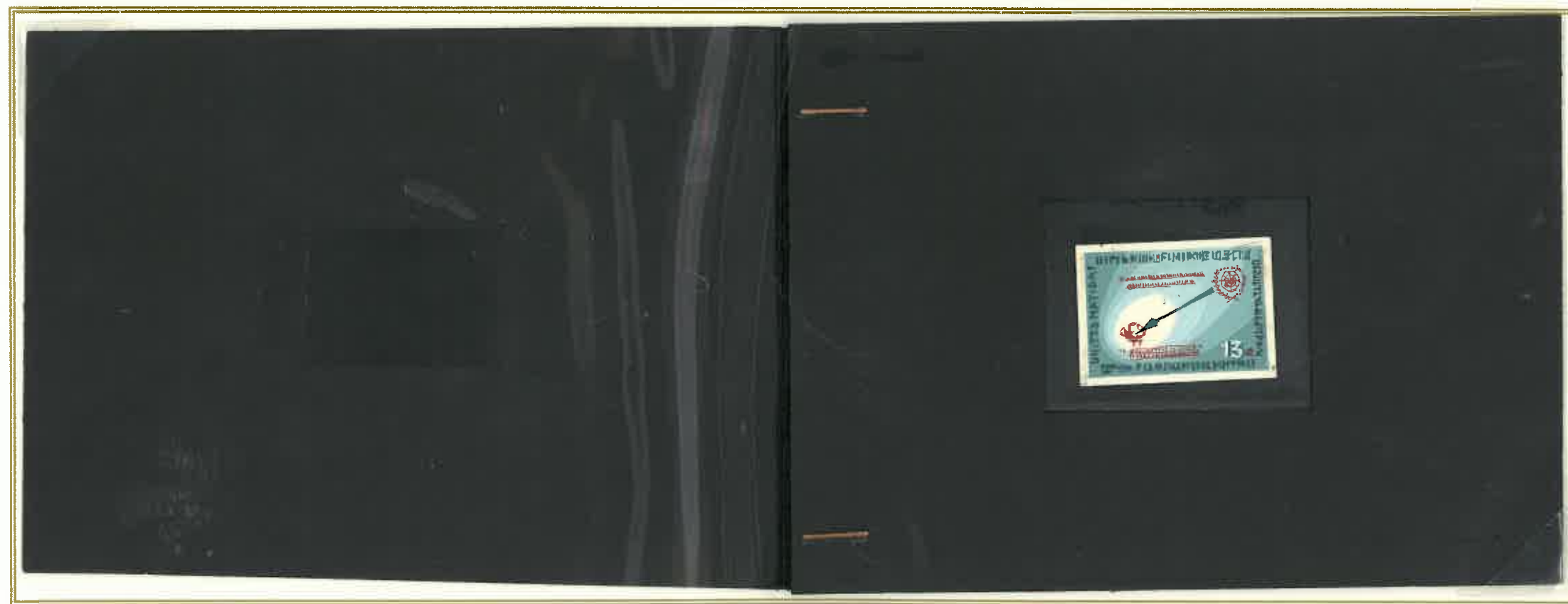


Unlike the essay at right this example includes “perforations drawn in.”



Tracking Slip used by U.N.P.A.

The United Nations Postal Administration used the tracking slip at left to record essays as they were received. Note that this is “NO. 1” which was the first essay received for this issue. In addition, these essays were received by the UNPA on 22 April.



Presentation Folder

The essay above is shown in the original presentation folder. The UNPA typically utilized the presentation folder when the essay was small in size as these two stamp size essays are.