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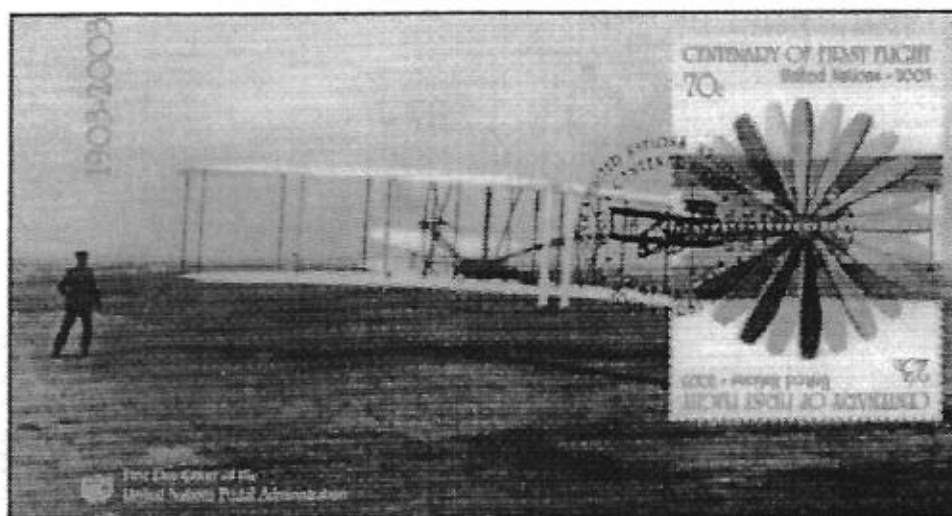
Number 2

April 2003

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# journal

OF THE UNITED NATIONS PHILATELISTS, INC



## CENTENARY OF FIRST FLIGHT

# The Journal of United Nations Philatelists

Affiliate #71 of American Philatelic Society

A unit of the American Topical Association

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Production Manager: Dan Gapinski

www.unpi.com

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Inquiries concerning replacement copies of recent issues which failed to arrive in the mail or back issues from 2002, should go to the Production Manager: Dan Gapinski, 118 North 14th Street, Clear Lake, IA 50428.

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UNPI is an organization of philatelists devoted to the collection, study and exhibition of the issues of the UNPA, the postal history of the UN, the issues and postal history of its branches, specialized agencies and forerunners, as well as world-wide topical issues that honor the UN, its agencies and programs.

The annual domestic dues of the UNPI are US\$18.00, of which US\$17.00 apply to the subscription to *The Journal*.

Unless otherwise stated, catalogue numbers are from the latest edition of the *Scott Standard Postage Stamp Catalogue* (Scott). (Lindner) refers to the *Lindner United Nations Catalogue* (1976) and (Gaines) indicates *United Nations Philately* by Arleigh Gaines.

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## Disclaimer

Opinions expressed in this journal are the responsibility of the author and not necessarily those of the Editor, UNPI officers or members.

## Reprinting

Permission to reprint articles published in this journal is granted to philatelic journals as long as the source of the article is properly cited. The Editor would appreciate a reprint copy.

## Cover Illustrations

**Front cover:** UNNY stamps on special post card honoring the centenary of first flight. **Rear cover:** New UNNY postal cards and prestamped envelopes.

## MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR

The 2003 Annual UNP Meeting in Los Angeles

### **Bienvenidos to Los Angeles**

By the time you read this message there will be less than four months to anticipate your travel needs for attending the 2003 UNP Meeting in Los Angeles. This year's get-together will be held at SESCAL, the 59th annual stamp exhibition of Southern California sponsored by the Federated Philatelic Clubs of Southern California, which will be held October 3rd-5th, at the Radisson Hotel, which is located barely two blocks from Los Angeles International Airport (LAX). The hotel is located at 6225 West Century Boulevard in Los Angeles. A special hotel rate at the Radisson Hotel for SESCAL visitors is anticipated but the rate has not yet been published. For latest show or hotel information check the SESCAL website: [www.sescal.org](http://www.sescal.org).

### **Information for Exhibitors**

For those of you thinking about entering a philatelic exhibit in competition, the deadline for submitting an application is August 20th. You can download application forms and instructions from the SESCAL website. Or you can obtain this information by mail at the following address:

Howard P. Green, Exhibits Chairman  
15125 Arlette Drive  
Victorville, CA 91358-1116.

More SESCAL information follows on pages 2 and 3 of this issue of the *Journal*.

Potential exhibitors are encouraged to contact the UNP Exhibits Chairman, Tony Dewey at the e-mail or postal address listed on the inside back cover of this issue.

### **Getting Around in Los Angeles**

LAX and the show venue are situated close to the San Diego Freeway (Interstate 405), which allows convenient access by car

to such Southern California attractions as Hollywood, Universal Studios, the Aquarium of the Pacific (Long Beach), the Getty Museum of Art, the Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA), the Museum of Contemporary Art (MOCA) and downtown Los Angeles.

The unmotorized can pick up a Green Line shuttle bus at LAX, which brings travelers directly to the Metropolitan Transit Authority Rapid Transit System {Green (LAX-Orange County), Blue (Long Beach - Downtown Los Angeles), Red (Downtown Los Angeles - Hollywood - San Fernando Valley) and Gold (Downtown Los Angeles - Pasadena) Lines}, which interconnect with metropolitan area trains and service most tourist attractions in Southern California.

### **Show and Tell Presentations**

As usual, time will be set aside at the annual meeting to allow members to show off some of their UN-related treasures. An overhead projector will be available for use with transparencies. Those of you who would like to make an oral presentation of ten to fifteen minutes are encouraged to contact the Editor so that he can prepare a program. There is no better way of getting your fellow club-members to admire your UN-related items than to include them in the annual UNP *Show and Tell Presentations*.

### **Journal Corrections**

On page 5 of the February issue of the *Journal* are the Scott Catalog Numbers of United Nations stamps issued in 2002. Missing are the surcharged stationery items which were issued in June. The Editor mistakenly numbered the semi-postal Aids Awareness souvenir sheets as normal stamps. A corrected list of the Scott numbers appears on page 23 of this issue.

# **SESCAL 2003 PROSPECTUS**

**59<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL STAMP EXHIBITION OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA**

***An APS World Series of Philately Show***

***October 3 - October 5, 2003***

Featuring the

***SPORTS PHILATELISTS INTERNATIONAL***

***and***

***UNITED NATIONS PHILATELISTS***

at the

***RADISSON HOTEL at LOS ANGELES AIRPORT***

6225 West Century Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90045

Friday 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. / Saturday 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. / Sunday 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

## **NATIONAL AND REGIONAL MEETINGS**

Sports Philatelists International - United Nations Philatelists

U.S. Philatelic Classics Society - Éire Philatelic Association - Scandinavian Collectors Club and Philatelic Library

COPAPHIL: Columbia/Panama Philatelic Study Group - Canal Zone Study Group - Society of Israel Philatelists

American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors - United Postal Stationery Society - Philatelic Computing Study Group

American Air Mail Society - American First Day Cover Society - Others to be announced.

## **CLASSIFICATION OF ENTRIES BY SECTION NUMBERS**

**Section 1: Postal: Traditional**

**Section 2: Postal: Postal History**

**Section 3: Postal: Postal Stationery**

**Section 4: Postal: Aerophilately**

**Section 5: Postal: Other**

**Section 6: Revenue**

**Section 7: Thematic**

**Section 8: One Frame**

**Section 9: Youth**

See separate prospectus for Philatelic Literature entries.

## **AWARDS**

Federation Grand Award

George Bennett Memorial Reserve Grand Award

5 Levels of SESCAL Medals + Platinum for Single Frame Exhibits

American Philatelic Society Research Medal and Medals of Excellence

SESCAL Chairman's Merit Award - WESTPEX Merit Award

United Nations Philatelists - Sports Philatelists International

United States Classics Society Medal - Bureau Issues Association Medal

Lynne Warm-Griffiths Memorial Award - International Philippines Society Medal

Michael Rogers Best Asia Award - Postal History Society Medal - Rossica Award

AAPE Awards of Honor - AAPE Creativity Medal - AAPE Youth Grand - American Air Mail Society Medal

Germany Philatelic Society Medals - India Study Circle Medal - American Revenue Association Awards

UPSS Marcus White Medal - Junior Philatelists of America Awards

American Topical Association Medals, Youth Award, and One-Frame Award

Back-of-the-Book Award. Others to be announced.

**All correspondence concerning exhibits should be forwarded to the Exhibits Chairman:**

Howard P. Green, 15125 Arlette Dr., Victorville, CA 92394 or E-mail: [HowBetGren@aol.com](mailto:HowBetGren@aol.com)

**See our Web Site at [www.sescal.org](http://www.sescal.org) for the latest information.**



## SESCAL 2003 ENTRY FORMS AVAILABLE

By Robert de Violini, SESCAL Webmaster

The exhibit prospectuses and entry forms for **SESCAL 2003**, the 59th annual Stamp Exhibition of Southern California, are now available. The show is scheduled for October 3-5, 2003 and will be held at the Radisson at LAX Hotel, 6225 West Century Boulevard, Los Angeles.

There are 260 sixteen-page frames available. In addition to the usual five exhibiting classes: traditional postal, postal history, postal stationery, aerophilately and other postal, there will also be exhibits in the following classes: revenue, one-frame, youth and philatelic literature. This year's featured societies will be the United Nations Philatelists and the Sports Philatelists International, each holding their national meeting at the show. There will also be regional meetings by a number of other specialty groups.

The complete stamp exhibit prospectus and instructions are available on the SESCAL website, [www.sescal.org](http://www.sescal.org) <<http://www.sescal.org>>, and by mail from the following address:

Howard P. Green, Exhibits Chairman  
15125 Arlette Drive  
Victorville, CA 92394-2001.

The prospectus appears on page 2 of this issue of the *Journal*.

The entry form for SESCAL's 26th annual exhibition of philatelic literature is also available. The literature exhibition has two sections: one for Handbooks and Special Studies and one for periodicals. Details are in the literature prospectus. This is also posted on the SESCAL Web site and is available by mail at the following address:

Larry Parks, Literature Chairman  
P.O.Box 1116  
Thousand Oaks, CA 91358-1116.

The SESCAL Web site will have the latest information about the show, including hotel reservation information, listings of meetings, dealers and exhibits, as it becomes available.

## SHOW AWARDS

UNP-Vice President Tony Dewey received a gold award for his exhibit *First UN Issue 1951* at **Nojex 2001**, sponsored by the North Jersey Federated Stamp Clubs. It was held May 26-28, 2001 in the Meadowlands Crowne Plaza Hotel in Secaucus, New Jersey.

Former UNP-President Jack I. Mayer received a vermeil award for his one-frame exhibit *UN Conference on International Organization* at the **National Topical Stamp Show**, sponsored by the American Topical Association. It was held June 22-24, 2001 at the Sheraton Convention Center in Mesa, Arizona.

UNP-Vice President Tony Dewey received a gold award at the **Omaha Stamp Show** for his one-frame exhibit, *Service of Intellectual Aid to Prisoners of War*, an exhibit of material from the International Education Bureau. The show took place September 28-30, 2001 at the Nebraska National Guard Armory in Omaha and was sponsored by the Omaha Philatelic Society.

UNP-Vice President Tony Dewey won two awards at the Southern New England Stamp Exhibition, **SONEX 02**, which was held April 6, 2002 at the New Haven Post Office on Brewery Street. This show was sponsored by the New Haven Philatelic Society. Tony received a gold award for his exhibit: *Swiss Official Stamps for the UNEO and International Agencies*. He also received a gold award for his one frame exhibit: *Service of Intellectual Aid to Prisoners of War*.

Harlan Stone received a gold award for his one-frame exhibit, *Switzerland's 1924 UPU Commemorative* at the **Philatelic Show 2002** stamp show, sponsored by the Northeastern Federation of Stamp Clubs, which was held May 3-5, 2002 at the Boxborough Holiday Inn in Boxborough, Massachusetts. Anthony F. Dewey received a vermeil award for his one frame exhibit: *Service of Intellectual Aid to Prisoners of War*.

## NEW UNPA DEFINITIVES AND STATIONERY

By Richard Powers

### New York Definitives

On March 28, 2003 the United Nations Postal Administration (UNPA) issued three new definitive stamps for use at United Nations Headquarters in New York. The denominations of these stamps were designed to accommodate the recent (June 30, 2002) changes in domestic postal tariffs in the United States.

Figure 1 shows the new 23¢ definitive, which corresponds to the new tariff for domestic post cards as well as the new incremental rate for first-class mail above 1 ounce. Before June 30th these rates had both been 21¢. I believe that this is the first time that UNNY has had a definitive corresponding to this denomination.



Figure 1: New 23¢ UNNY definitive.

The design shows a network of hands and forearms of various non-realistic colors, such as green, pink, purple, orange and yellow, interlocking to form a network of joined people. This network serves as the backdrop for the word *peace*, which forms the central theme of the stamp. The network of joined hands suggests both cooperation and solidarity: people working together. Undoubtedly the current unstable international situation inspired the design.

Figure 2 shows the new 60¢ definitive,

which corresponds to the new domestic tariff for a 2-ounce first class letter or a 1-ounce letter to either Canada or Mexico. This stamp replaces the 60¢ *Léger Mural* (Scott #673), which was released on February 2, 1996. It was withdrawn from sale on the day that the new stamp was released.

The design shows the UN emblem of the planar projected globe surrounded by a wreath, both in gold. In the background are the words United Nations repeatedly in English, Chinese, Arabic, French, Spanish and Russian.



Figure 2: New 60¢ definitive for UNNY.

Figure 3 shows the new 70¢ definitive, which corresponds to the new international post card rate to all countries except Canada and Mexico, for which it is only 50¢. This is the first time that this denomination has appeared on a UNNY stamp.

The stamp portrays a photographic view of United Nations Headquarters in New York with the legend Greetings from the United Nations, which is particularly appropriate for a post card. The black and white photo is surrounded by a blue frame.

Four other definitive stamps were withdrawn from sale on March 28th. The 17¢ *Respect for Human Rights* stamp (Scott #368) issued in 1982, the 28¢ *Independence* stamp (Scott #369) also issued in 1982, the

22¢ *Peoples of the World* stamp (Scott #445) issued in 1985 and the 10¢ *Dove of Peace* stamp (Scott #644) issued in 1994 are no longer on sale from the UNPA.



Figure 3: New 70¢ UNNY definitive.

#### New York Stationery

A new 37¢ pre-stamped envelope (in two sizes: standard and legal sized) was also released on the same day. These envelopes replaced the surcharged 34¢ + 3¢, which were issued on June 30, 2002. The cost of either item is 11¢ over the face value of the stamped envelope, that is 48¢.

The design is shown in Figure 4. The stamp image in the upper right-hand corner is dominated by the UN Secretariat Building in New York. In the lower left-hand corner is a view of the New York City skyline as seen from the East River centered on the United Nations Headquarters. The skyline design on the standard-sized envelope is less extensive than that on the legal-sized envelope.

The UNPA also issued five new picture postal cards, satisfying the new domestic post card rate of 23¢, as well as five, satisfying the new international post card rate of

70¢. Eight of the reverse sides of these postal cards appear on the rear cover. The picture sides display views of the UN Secretariat, the Peace Bell, the General Assembly Hall, the Security Council Chamber and the UNPA stamp counter, among others.

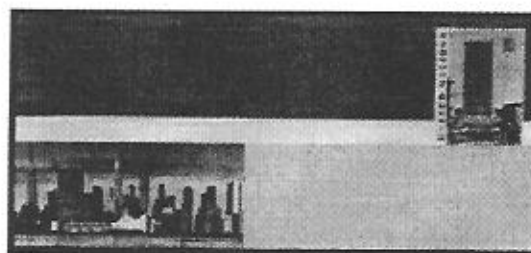


Figure 4: New legal-sized 37¢ pre-stamped envelope.

#### Vienna Definitives

To complement the six euro-denominated definitives issued last year by the UNPA for Vienna, it added two more in its pictorial series. The € 0,22 stamp displays (Figure 6) the Art History (Kunsthistorisches) Museum in Vienna. This stamp is a make-up rate. When added to the priority rate of € 0,51 for up to 20 g within Europe, it makes up the non-priority rate of € 0,73 for up to 50 g within Europe.



Figure 6: New € 0,22 UN Vienna definitive.

The € 1,09 stamp pictures (Figure 7) the Belvedere Castle (Schloss Belvedere). This stamp pays the non-priority rate within



Europe for letters or post cards up to 100 g (but more than 50 g).



Figure 7: New € 1,09 UN Vienna definitive.

### Centenary of First Flight

Mixed in among these definitives are a pair of tête bêche stamps (Figure 8) issued in honor of the centenary of the first controlled power flight by man. The two stamps form a head-on view of a bi-plane dominated by the propeller, which nearly fills the stamps. The top stamp in the pair is a 70¢-stamp, valid internationally for post cards. The inverted stamp is a 23¢ stamp, valid for the domestic post card rate in the United States. The official first day cover with a cachet based on a vintage photo from the Library of Congress appears on the front cover of this issue of the *Journal*. A post card (Figure 9) with another vintage photo with a first day

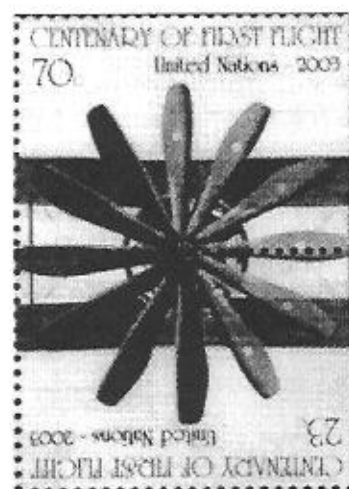


Figure 8: Centenary of First Flight commemoratives.

cancel of the stamps was also released.

The stamps commemorate the flights at Kitty Hawk, North Carolina by Orville and Wilbur Wright on December 17, 1903. The early UNPA announcements of these stamps indicated they honor a century of airmail. According to a recent article by Rick Miller in the February 10, 2003 issue of *Linn's Stamp News* (page 28), this year marks the ninety-second anniversary of the first official airmail flight by a powered heavier-than-air craft. According to the article, the first airmail flight was by an Anglo-French team in Allahabad, India on February 18, 1911.

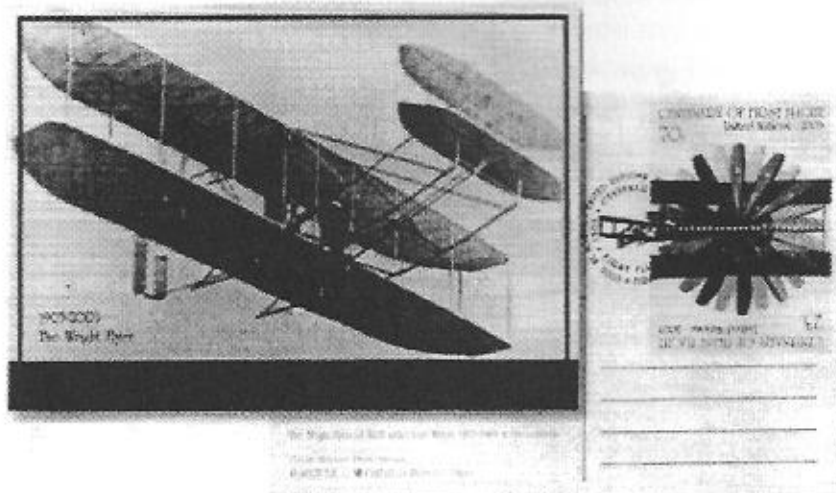


Figure 9: Special picture post card showing the Wright Flyer with Orville Wright at the controls in 1908 bearing first day canceled UNNY Flight commemoratives.



## INTER-PARLIAMENTARY CONFERENCE IN 1939

By Richard Powers

In the wake of the recent acknowledgement by the United Nations of the importance of the Inter-Parliamentary Union as a player in international affairs by the issuance of a definitive stamp for use at United Nations European Headquarters in Geneva, I have begun to keep my eyes open for postal history of this international organization which was founded even before the League of Nations in 1889.

I came across an interesting conference cover at **Orcoexpo** in January 2003 from the XXXVth Inter-Parliamentary Conference in Oslo, Norway, which took place

from August 15-19, 1939, barely two weeks before the outbreak of World War II. The cover (Figure 1) bears a special conference cancel dated on the first day of the conference. It appears to have been sent by a delegate staying at the Grand Hotel in Oslo, presumably the venue for the conference. It is addressed to Mr. Carl Willing Kane at the House Office Building of the House of Representatives in Washington, D.C.

It would be interesting to know what was on the agenda for this meeting of parliamentarians from around the world in light of the impending war.



Figure 1: Conference cover from the XXXVth Inter-Parliamentary Conference in Oslo in 1939 two weeks before the outbreak of World War II.

## THE 1961 PLEBISCITE IN CAMEROONS

By Richard Powers

I recently came across a couple of airmail letters, which had been sent from Buea, Cameroons towards the end of 1960 to Chicago, at **Orcoexpo** in Cottage Grove, California. For the UN specialist in me it was philatelically interesting because they originated from a region which at the time was a United Nations Trusteeship under British Administration and bore clear postmarks and overprinted stamps attesting to the fact. For the historian in me the message inside gave insights into the plebiscite process, where people get to decide under which government they prefer to live. These insights are provided by a government official, whose vacation plans were being put on hold until the election took place.

In the April 1999 issue of the *Journal* (page 10) there is an article on League of Nations mandates, many of which became United Nations trusteeships at the end of World War II. The former German colony of Kamerun is one of these cases. In 1915 it was occupied jointly by British and French troops. In 1922 it was made a mandate of the League of Nations. The northwestern sector was placed under British administration and called Cameroons; the southeastern sector, under French administration and was called Cameroun (Figure 1). The two adjoin at the "armpit" of Africa, where the east-west Atlantic Ocean coast of West Africa meets the north-south coast near the equator. The capital city of Cameroons, Buea, was near this point and was located in the British mandated area in Southern Cameroons.

When the British mandated area became a United Nations trust, the change of authority was clearly made visible in the postmarks of certain cities in the region. Before the change, postmarks read **Under British Mandate** (Figure 2). After the change this became **U.U.K.T.** (under United Kingdom Trust) (Figure 3) or **U.U.K.A.** (under United Kingdom Administration) (Figure 4).

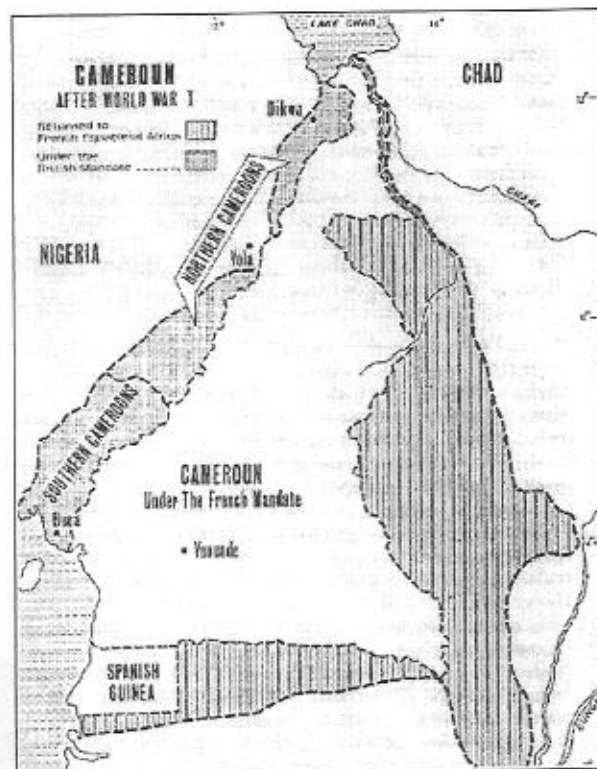


Figure 1: Regional map after World War I showing British and French mandates (after Rubin, op. cit. p. 26).



Figure 2: 1941 British mandate cancel from Bamenda (after Gaines, op. cit. p 1702).



Figure 3: May 30, 1957 (inverted date) U.U.K.T. registered postmark from Buea.

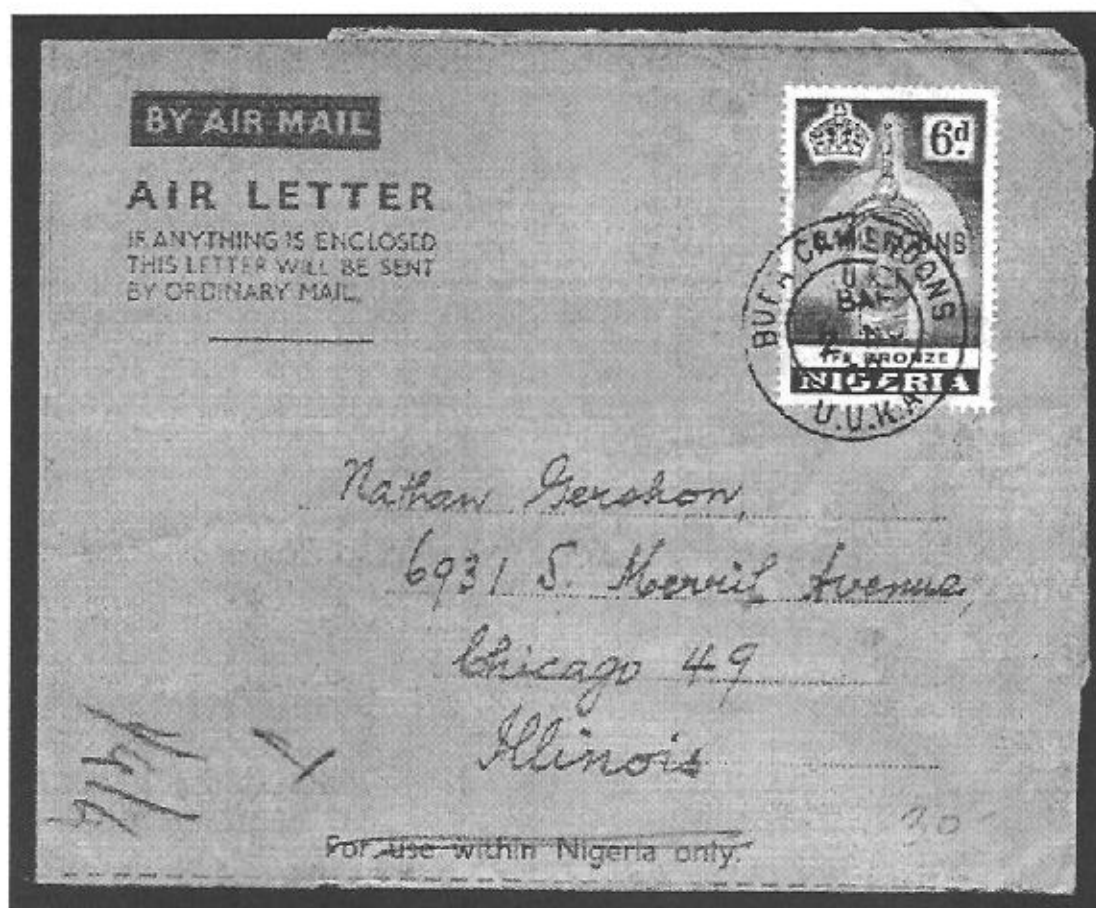


Figure 4: Airletter from Buea, Southern Cameroons mailed November 2, 1960 just before the plebiscite.

The airletter, which appears in Figure 4, bears a clear townmark of Buea, Cameroons with the initials U.U.K.A in the bottom of the ring. It is dated November 2, 1960. The stamp is a 6-pence Nigerian stamp (Scott Nigeria #86) overprinted for use in Southern Cameroons (Scott Cameroons #72). The red overprint reads **CAMEROONS/U.K.T.T.**, meaning United Kingdom Trust Territory (of the United Nations).

The former British colony and protectorate of Nigeria, directly to the west of Cameroons, became an independent country on October 1, 1960. The French trusteeship territory Cameroun became independent on January 1, 1960. People living in Northern and Southern Cameroons were given the choice of joining Nigeria or Cameroun in plebiscites. The choice was made along eth-

nic (tribal) lines rather than linguistic lines.

Prior to the independence of Nigeria, Cameroons had been administered by the British as part of its colony and protectorate Nigeria. Nigerian (colonial) stamps were used but the postmarks revealed the difference via the initials **U.U.K.T.** or **U.U.K.A.** On October 1, 1960 the overprinted colonial Nigerian stamps were made available for use in Cameroons. However, unoverprinted colonial Nigerian stamps continued to be used. Two separate plebiscites were held in Northern and Southern Cameroons on February 11, 1961.

The message in the illustrated airletter was written barely two months before the plebiscite. I would like to share the portions of the letters that relate to the changing political situation.



Federal Ministry of Labour  
Buea, S(outhern) Cameroons  
1st November 1960

Dear Nate,

Further to my letter dated 22nd October 1960, I have to inform you that my vacation leave have (sic) been deferred for 6 months after 2 years continuous service from the due date 16.12.60. An uncalled for disappointment. I am forced to defer it until the constitutional determination of the Southern Cameroons, now United Kingdom Trust Territory is known. The Territory is holding a plebiscite on 11.2.61 - either to unify with the French Cameroun Republic or integrate with the Federation of Nigeria. Until this is known, it means I cannot leave the territory with 6 other Nigerian staff.

You will continue to communicate with me as normal in the same address. Should any change forthcome you will be notified....

You will be pleased to hear of many changes in Nigeria. Doctor Azikiwe will be **crowned** (Editor is responsible for the bold type) the first Governor-General of the Federation of Nigeria on 16.11 his 50th Birthday. We hear through Radio Broadcast of the forthcoming Presidential Election in USA (Ed. when JFK became President)....

Yours sincerely M.C.O.

A letter mailed January 18, 1961, just three weeks before the plebiscite provides additional insight.

Federal Ministry of Labour  
Buea, Southern Cameroons

Nate,

Thank you very much for your interesting letter dated 10th January, 1961.

I am fairing well as you do up to the moment of writing. Late in December, I lost my father-in-law by death and the mourning has now died down.

As I have told you earlier, my vacation leave and transfer had been deferred awaiting the Southern Cameroons Plebiscite - which will take place on 11.2.61, a month from now. That may not be the end of it for the Nigeria Government, if the plebiscite disfavors them, may wait a month or two duration to hand over the Government properly - before we leave or if it favours them, would automatically send me on leave and transfer immediately. You will then be informed of the positions then...

There had ...been great changes in Nigeria, since the attainment of independence. There have been many international conferences in Nigeria and representatives of the world over attended. There have been many visitors from U.S.A. including junior Kennedy....

Your friend, M.C.O.

On February 11, 1961 Northern Cameroons voted to join the Federation of Nigeria. Unfortunately for M.C.O. the people in Southern Cameroons voted to join Cameroun and not Nigeria. I hope he eventually got his leave and transfer.

### Bibliography

Eyongetah, Tambi and Brain, Robert, *A History of the Cameroun*, (London: Longman Group Limited, 1974).  
Gaines, Arleigh, *United Nations Philately*, (New York: R. & D. Publications, 1980).  
Rubin, Neville, *Cameroun, An African Federation*, (New York: Praeger Publishers, 1971).



## UN PHILATELY-RELATED WEBSITES

By B. Clement, Jr.

### UNP Website

#### UN Abbreviations and Acronyms

UNP published a short monograph in 1994 giving a listing of abbreviations and acronyms used by the UN, its agencies and its predecessors, particularly on origin cachets, bar codes and conference cancels and cachets. This information has been updated and has now been placed on the UNP website. Go to [www.unpi.com](http://www.unpi.com) and click on [UNAbbreviations](#). The first page is shown on the right.

The listing will be kept up-to-date as new information becomes available. If you have found a UN-related abbreviation or acronym that is not in the listing or you have corrections or questions about the listing, please contact me at [bclemjr@yahoo.com](mailto:bclemjr@yahoo.com).

If you have any suggestions to make the UNP website more useful, please contact our Home Page Editor Dennis Hamilton at [who@tiac.net](mailto:who@tiac.net).

#### 1945 San Francisco Conference Service Covers on the Internet

One of our members, Fran Adams, has created a very informative site on the Internet. He is attempting to inventory all San Francisco Conference covers. To see images of 37 covers go to [www.franadams.com/unciogem](http://www.franadams.com/unciogem). Among these are 3 FDCs, 10 domestic destinations, 1 foreign destination and 2 personal delegate letters. The introduction to these pages is shown on the right.

If you have a San Francisco Conference service cover that is not pictured, Fran would certainly welcome your contribution. Contact Fran at [fran@franadams.com](mailto:fran@franadams.com).

*home*  
*nav - map*  
*workshop*  
*workshop upi*  
*symposium*  
*sample pages*  
*rules & forms*  
*words*  
*fran adams*  
*alan campbell*  
*ted lockyear*  
*bob markovits*  
*jack mayer*

*links*  
*admin*

#### Abbreviations and Acronyms used on Origin Cachets, Bar Codes, Conference Cancels and Cachets, etc. THE UN, ITS AGENCIES, & ITS PREDECESSORS

##### Where used:

UNNY-UN New York  
UNG-UN Geneva  
UNV-UN Vienna  
BC-Bar Code  
CC-Corner Card  
CON-Conference Cancel or Cachet, etc.  
DM-Dispatching Mark  
LON-League of Nations  
OC-Origin Cachet  
RM-Receiving Mark

##### Language:

Eng.-English  
Gr.-German  
Fr.-French  
It.-Italian  
Por.-Portuguese  
Sp.-Spanish  
Sw.-Swedish

##### Note:

This list is maintained by B. Clement.

Additions, Corrections, or Questions should be directed to him at [bclemjr@yahoo.com](mailto:bclemjr@yahoo.com)

Revised 12/29/2002

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z

#### Abbreviation - Where Used - Language - Meaning

ACABQ - UN - Eng - Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions

ACC - UN - Eng - Advisory Committee on Coordination (1946-date)

ACCIS - UNG OC - Eng - Advisory Committee for Coordination of Information Systems

ACT - WHO OC - Eng - Accounts

*u.n.c.i.o. 1945*

To solidify the ideals of WWII's allied nations into a functioning world entity for peace, a United Nations Conference on International Organization (UNCIO) was held in San Francisco, Ca. during April and June of 1945. Special first class and airmail envelopes were provided to attending representatives. This specially prepared stationery carried the official correspondence of the new organization and this webpage attempts to inventory these covers. A total of 33 covers with a service corner card are presented and indicate the rarity of such in the overall scheme of postal history when compared to the postal history of other countries and organizations. Additionally, two conference committee and two personal delegate mail examples are also recorded here.

These covers are presented through the courtesy of Fran Adams, Blanton Clement, Jean-Louis Emmenegger, Arleigh Gaines, Ron Krzmarzick, Bob Markovits, Jack Mayer and Hans v.Renesse.



FDC | Domestic | Foreign | Delegate | Services | Associated

# A LETTER HOME FROM A CANADIAN UNPROFOR PEACEKEEPER IN CROATIA (1992)

By Richard Powers

In 1991 when Slovenia and Croatia declared independence from Yugoslavia, fighting broke out among various ethnic groups, principally the Croats and the Serbs. Following prolonged negotiations a cease-fire between the Republic of Croatia and the remains of Yugoslavia was arranged which would be monitored by the United Nations. On February 21, 1992 the Security Council created the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR). Its initial deployment was in three "UN protected areas" in Croatia: Eastern and Western Slavonia and Krajina.

The Canadian contingent of monitors assigned to both Croatia and Bosnia-Herzegovina used locally-produced blue and white stationery labeled "Blue Helmets Letters" as shown in Figure 1. This cover was sent June 4, 1992 via the UNPROFOR Free Mail System (Gaines, page 2111) back home to St-Jean Richelieu, Quebec, Canada. The enclosed letter (written in French) provides interesting insights into the establishment of a United Nations Peacekeeping installation abroad. A rough translation appears below. Abbreviated terms in the original text are indicated in parentheses next to my translation.

Croatia, June 3, 1992

Greetings to the two of you.

I just received your second letter. I am surprised by the slowness of the mail as this is already my third letter. As you were saying, the media are not reporting much news about the situation here. I have noted this myself because we get the newspapers from Quebec on a regular basis.

There is no shortage of reporters

here, particularly those from magazines like McLean's, among others. I have been able to read some accounts of those that report on the IR22R. (Editor's note: probably the military group of the writer.)

I have changed assignments. I have left reconnaissance (recce) and am now in the infantry (inf) because an adjutant (adj) has just left. Hence I am an adjutant of a platoon of 1/39, which is pretty big.

For the time being we are a reserve unit until July. We are also the intervention platoon. We are living in two houses, which were abandoned by Serb refugees. The houses are in good shape. Naturally we are near the Company Command Post. Hence there is a kitchen. The others out on the front receive per diem.

For several days now everybody has shelter in houses. Tents are no longer being used.

Headquarters and Services are occupying a former camp of the federal (Yugoslav) army. The camp has been fixed up but there is still a lot of work to do.

Nevertheless there is a cafeteria (food mess) for which I am sharing in the costs. They have even hired a barmaid.

In any case, things are going very well here. We will begin the disarmament phase soon, as the belligerents separate towards June 15th.

Odette and the children are all very fine.

I will keep you informed as things progress.

Marc





## INTERNATIONAL CONTROL OF DRUGS BY THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS

By Richard Powers

Modern efforts at the international control of drugs can be traced back to a convention that was signed but never adopted in the Hague on January 23, 1912. Notwithstanding further conferences in 1913 and 1914 the convention could not be brought into force because of insufficient signatories. These efforts were interrupted by World War I.

The convention was subsequently brought into force for thirty nations via the League of Nations Article 23c when the Assembly met in 1920 by which the Members "intrust the League with the general supervision over the execution of agreements with regard to...the traffic in opium and other dangerous drugs." **The Advisory Committee on Traffic in Opium and Other Dangerous Drugs** was appointed in February 1921 "to secure the fullest possible co-operation between the various countries".

A conference met from November 17, 1924 to February 19, 1925 to draw up a new convention to embody the conclusions on which the forty-one governments could agree. Though the USA withdrew from the conference because it did not limit the production and manufacture of drugs strictly to medical and scientific uses, the convention of February 19, 1925 was such a major advance in suppression and control that its coming into force occurred relatively fast on September 25, 1928, three and a half years later.

Chapter VI of this convention provides for general international supervision of the narcotics trade by the **Permanent Central Opium Board** consisting of eight persons possessing "full technical independence".

In 1919 the Advisory Committee examined a scheme for limiting the manufacture of drugs to national requirements as notified in advance, a principle which the Assembly thought should be adopted by the manufacturing countries. The draft, which was con-

sidered by a conference in 1931, broadened the idea, and the convention for limiting the manufacture and regulating the distribution of narcotic drugs, Geneva, July 13, 1931 became a landmark in the campaign for the suppression of this international evil.

The convention was so large a step forward that 25 ratifications were required to bring it into effect. Thirty-nine nations had ratified or acceded when it entered into force on July 9, 1933. The convention named fifteen habit-forming drugs by their chemical formulas, prohibits all of them not of medical or scientific value and makes the procedure for determining habit-forming substances more efficient. Fidelity to this program is checked by the supplementary international control resulting from expanded powers given to the Permanent Central Opium Board and an increase of the data submitted to it.

A **Supervisory Body** was set up under the convention to establish statements of the narcotics requirements of every territory in the world for each year in advance. By August of each year it examined government estimates of national needs of each drug for medical and scientific purposes and could frame estimates for any of the 188 states, mandates, colonies or territories in the world in which the authorities did not provide data.

Suppression of the use of opium for smoking was the special problem in the Far East. The Advisory Committee made the preparations for the first Opium Conference, which met from November 3, 1924 to February 11, 1925, alongside the larger conference which concluded the convention of February 19, 1925. The agreement concerning the suppression of the manufacture of, international trade in and use of prepared opium of February 11, 1925, also took steps for the suppression of opium smoking. A protocol signed with the agreement provided for the



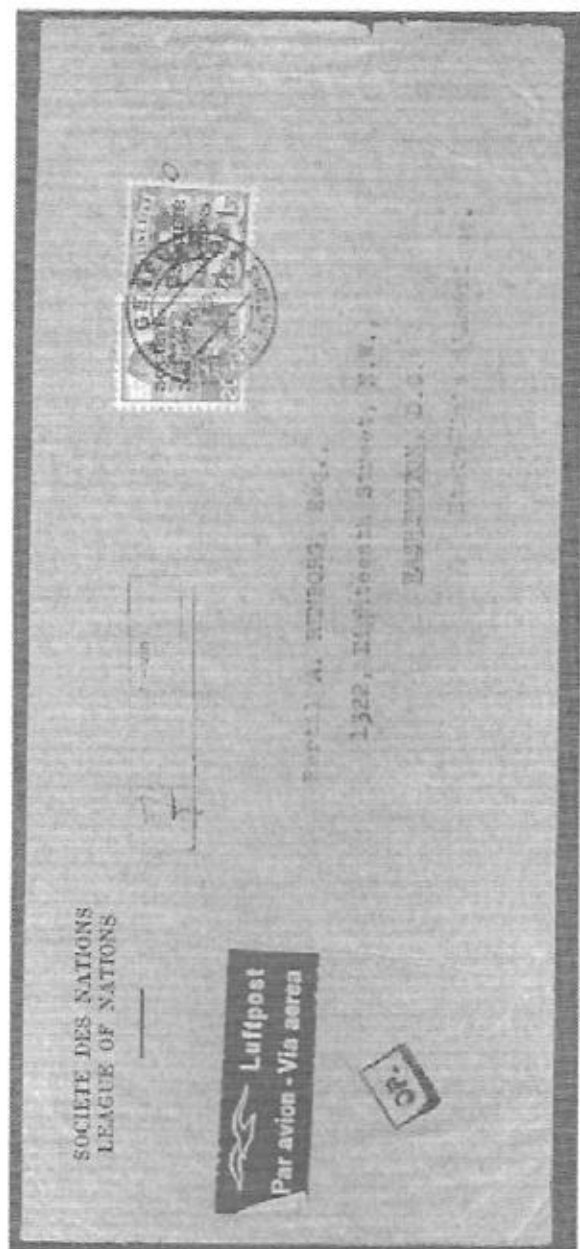


Figure 1: 1942 service cover from the Opium Traffic Section of the League of Nations.

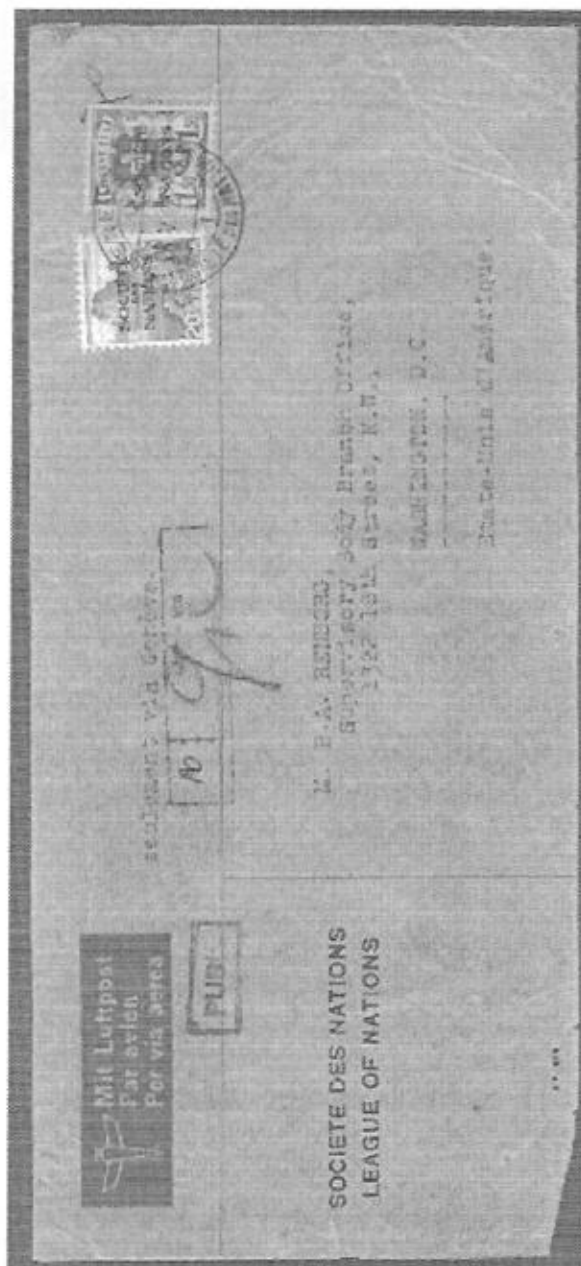


Figure 2: 1942 League of Nations service cover to the Supervisory Body Branch office in Washington, D.C.

reduction and suppression of the use of prepared opium within a period of fifteen years. On the initiative of the British Government the Council in 1928 had appointed a Commission of Inquiry into the Control of Opium-Smoking in the Far East, which brought in an extensive report in November 1930. This investigation delayed the convening of the conference to review the position on the application of the agreement, which was scheduled to be held in 1929. That conference, devoted to the suppression of opium smoking, met at Bangkok, Thailand, November 9-27, 1931. The agreement concluded by it provided for the retail sale of opium in government shops only and in several respects tightened up the system of control. In 1946 the UN set up the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) Commission on Narcotics to continue the work of the League.

Documenting the League Drug Control activities philatelically can be a real challenge but is not impossible. In Figure 1 the origin cachet **OP** identifies the League of Nations cover as having come from the Opium Traffic Section. This cover (bearing Swiss Scott #2024g and 2070) is postmarked July 15, 1942 during World War II. It is addressed to Bertil A. Renborg, who was at the Supervisory Study Branch Office, which had been set up in Washington, D.C. This is confirmed by the cover postmarked on May 28, 1942 in Figure 2, which displays the more complete address of Mr. Renborg.

Figure 3 shows a cover from the Permanent Central Opium Board in Geneva after its work had been transferred to the United Nations. The cover is postmarked June 19, 1952 and bears a service stamp of the United Nations European Office (Scott # 7014). The origin cachet **OPCC** confirms that the sender was associated with the Opium Traffic Central Committee.

Documenting Drug Control conferences during the League era is even more challenging. I am aware of material coming only from

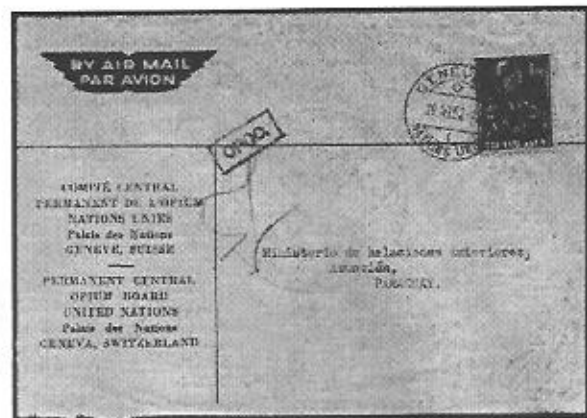


Figure 3: 1952 service cover from the Permanent Central Opium Board.

the Bangkok conference in 1931. Figure 4 shows a cover postmarked November 14, 1931 and bearing, from left Scott #208-11, with a barred cachet **OPIUM CONFERENCE**. The official nature of this cover is suggested by the addressee, who is Opium Control Inspector in Batavia, Java, Dutch East Indies.



Figure 4: 1931 Opium conference cover from Bangkok (courtesy of Firma Gernot Roidl).

I am unaware of any conference covers having been preserved from the Geneva conferences in 1924, 1925 or 1931 or the Hague conferences in 1912, 1913 or 1914.

### Bibliography

Myers, Denys P., *Handbook of the League of Nations* (Student Edition), (Boston: World Peace Foundation, 1935), p. 221.

# UN CONFERENCE ON TRADE AND EMPLOYMENT, HAVANA 1947-8 NEWLY DISCOVERED CORNER CARD

By B. Clement, Jr.

One of the early important conferences of the United Nations was the UN Conference on Trade and Employment, held in Havana, Cuba from November 21, 1947 to March 24, 1948. There is extensive postal history already known for this conference, as covered on pages 1485-6 of Gaines, in the I.T.O. section. The Havana conference was supposed to have founded the International Trade Organization. But that agency never came into being, since not enough nations ratified the treaty. Instead, a "temporary" agency, the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), existed from 1948 to 1995, when it was finally replaced by the World Trade Organization (WTO).

A newly discovered conference cover, bearing a previously unknown official corner card appears in Figure 1 (address side) and in Figure 2 (back side). This cover was sent from the conference to Geneva, Switzerland. (The name of the addressee has been erased.) The corner card, in the upper left-hand corner, gives the name of the conference in Spanish. The printing in the upper right-hand corner, partially covered by the stamps (Scott #C12 and 14), appears to be similar to the U.S. penalty inscription. It begins "Asunto Oficial" (Official Business). On the back is printed "Presidencia" (Chairmanship).



Figure 1: Address side of conference cover with newly discovered corner card.



Figure 2: Rear side of conference cover with conference cachet A.

It is believed that the "Official Business" designation was used on official Cuban government mail. The word "Presidencia" refers to the office of the conference president (or chairman), who typically is an official of the host government. In this case, the President of the Conference was Don Rafael González Muñoz, the Cuban Minister of State.

UN postal history continues to be written, sometimes many years after the fact. You too can add to our knowledge. What do you have that has not been documented in UN philatelic literature?

[Editor's Note: Gaines mentions (but does not show) conference stationery known with an embossed UN emblem on the back flap. Figure 3 shows such a cover with cachet A.

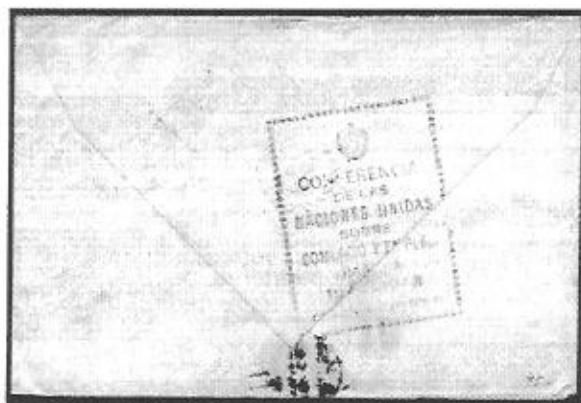


Figure 3: Conference cover with embossed UN emblem.]

## DISCOVERY OF A LEAGUE OF NATIONS ORIGIN CACHET

By B. Clement, Jr.

One of the advantages of having an Editor who travels to Europe now and then is that he can seek out missing links in our origin cachet story. One of those areas when we have missing links involves the origin cachet of the League of Nations in Geneva. In this case, we have lists from the Archives of authorized origin cachets for use on official mail. Referring to pages 5-10 of the UNP monograph *Origin Cachets of the United Nations, its Agencies and its Predecessors*, we can see that there are nine cachets listed as "authorized but not observed".

During his recent stay in Switzerland, Richard Powers located one of these missing cachets in a European collection. Figure 1 shows a 1945 League cover with the cachet "ITR" in violet-black. This cachet, which was used by the Interpretation, Translation and Editing Service, is illustrated in actual size in Figure 2. The counterpart of this cachet already reported from the United Nations European Office (UNEO) in Geneva is shown on a 1957 cover in Figure 3.

What League cachets are still unaccounted for? We are still looking for "ALAT.", "C.I.", "ITR.A", "ITR.FR.", "SDOC.", "S.M.",

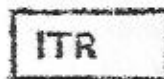


Figure 2: UNEO version of "ITR." cachet.

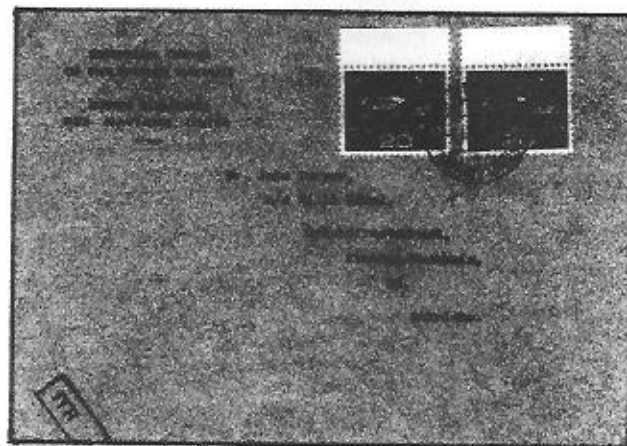


Figure 3: UNEO cover with "ITR." cachet.

"STENO." and "TEL." It is interesting that the "ITR." cachet has space to the right in the box to accommodate the ".A." or ".FR." One of these missing cachets, "STENO.", has been observed as a UNEO origin cachet, as shown on the 1952 cover shown in Figure 4.

So our documented League postal history is now more complete as a result of our Editor's stay in Europe. What will we find next?

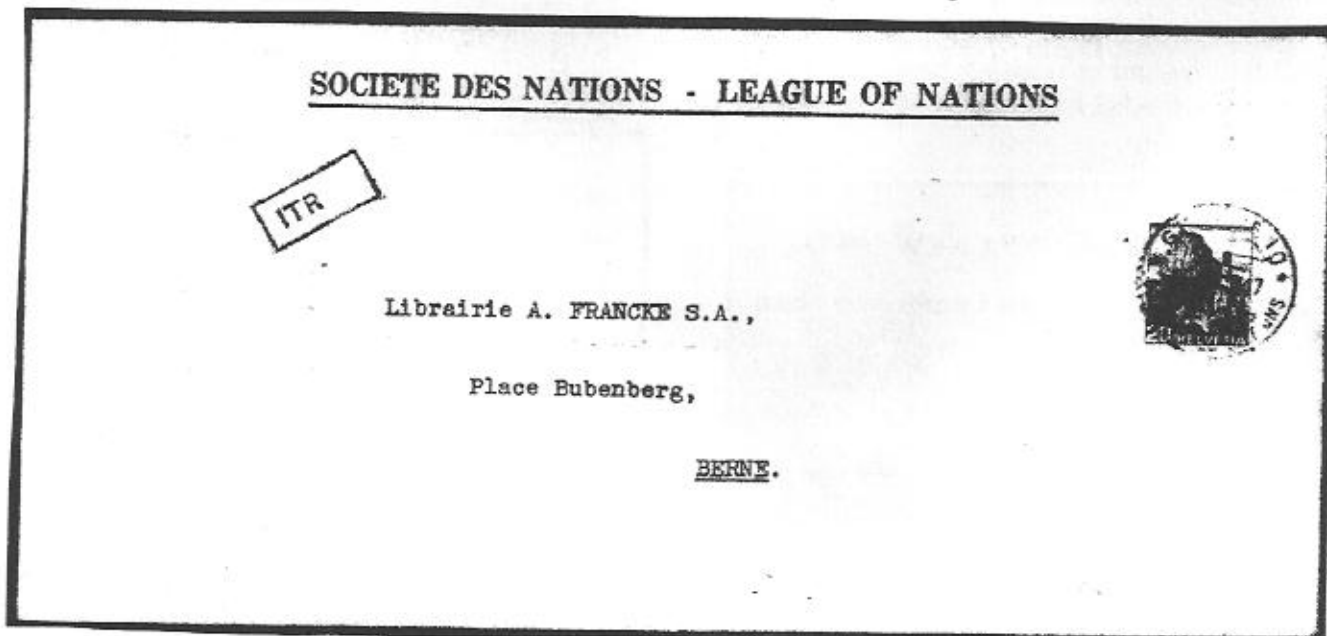


Figure 1: 1945 League of Nations cover bearing "ITR." origin cachet.



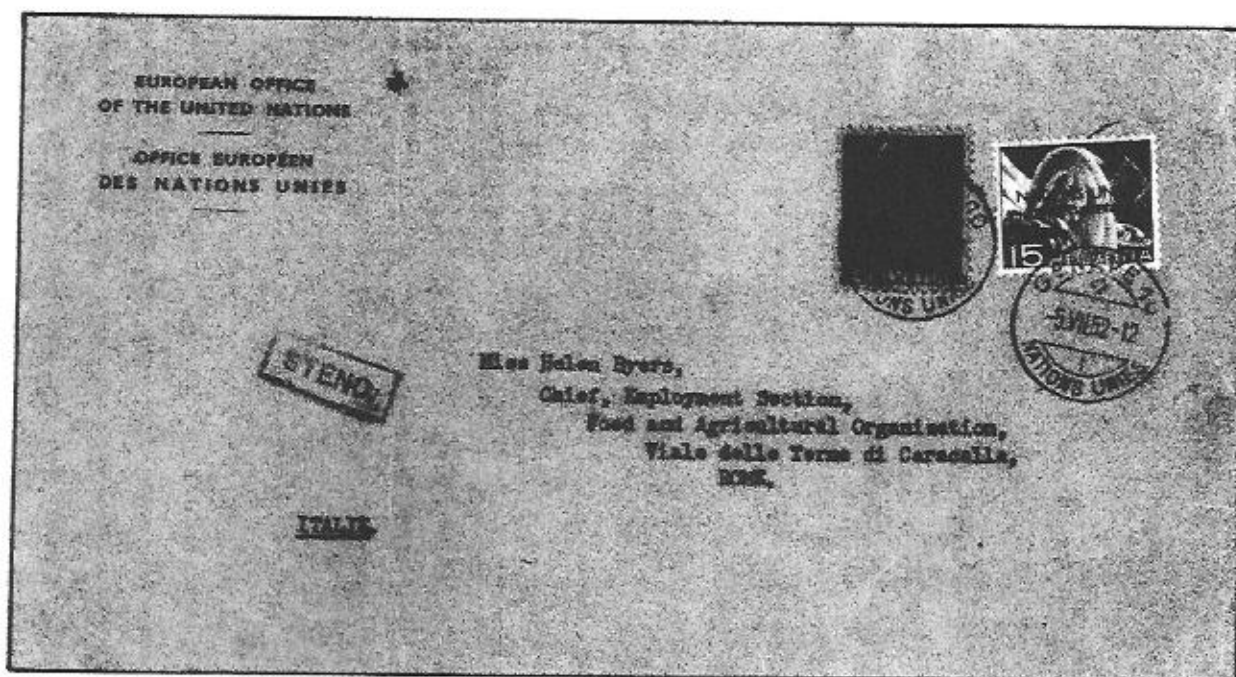


Figure 4: 1952 UNEO cover with "STENO." origin cachet.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE UN POSTAL ADMINISTRATION

### NEWS FROM UNPA VIENNA

#### Euro stamps only

The UNPA in Vienna reminds philatelists that as of July 1, 2002, only euro-denominated stamps are valid for use at the United Nations Post Office in Vienna. Stamps in Austrian schillings or doubly denominated in schillings and in euros are no longer valid. This is particularly important for those who like to prepare envelopes to receive slogan cancels or special cancels.

### NEWS FROM UNPA NEW YORK

#### Johannesburg Summit Conference Card

To commemorate the 2002 Johannesburg Summit on Sustainable Development, a special conference card has been produced by the UNPA. Designed specially for this event by Peter Max this card features two vertical strips of the New York values of the Johannesburg Summit stamps and is canceled with a special conference cachet, also

designed by Peter Max.

This special product (Figure 1) is priced at \$3.00 (Item No. 324-2870). Customers with a standing order for New York Miscellaneous Products received this item automatically through their subscription accounts with the October 2002 issue. Others desiring this conference card will have to order it directly from the UNPA.

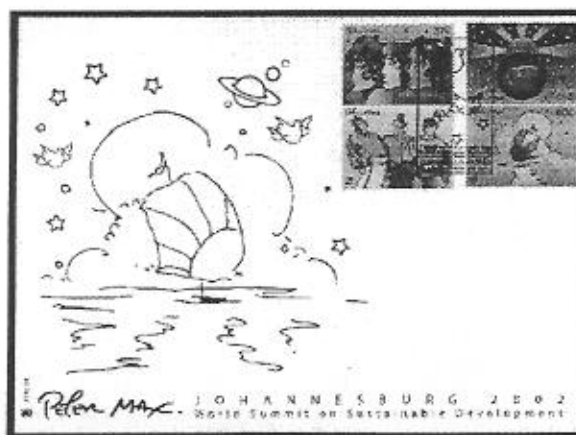


Figure 1: 2002 Johannesburg Summit Conference Card

## THE THREE HOMES OF THE ILO IN GENEVA

By Richard Powers

During its more than eighty years existence the International Labor Organization (ILO) has been headquartered in three buildings. These three structures still serve as landmarks in Geneva, Switzerland. With the exception of its first headquarters, they can be documented philatelically here.

The ILO was founded in 1919 in the wake of World War I as a forum, which would allow governments, unions and employers to deal with labor issues. In June 1920 the headquarters was established in the Thudicum Institute, which is located in the vicinity of the Palais des Nations, which houses the European Office of the United Nations today. This building appears in Figure 1 on a postcard that was used in 1922. Today it serves as the headquarters of the International Red Cross.

Almost immediately the Director-General Albert Thomas began negotiations with the Swiss Government as well as other member Nations to build its own headquarters. On June 6, 1926 this building was officially dedicated. Two views of this building appear on two stamps issued by the Swiss Post Office (Scott #238 and 241), which were issued on May 2, 1938. A registered first day cover on International Labor Conference stationery of these two stamps appears in Figure 2. The cover is addressed to Robert Fath, who probably created the cover himself, as he appears to have been very active in the 1930s and 40s in documenting philatelically the postal history of the League of Nations and the ILO. (I understand that he worked as a concierge at the League of Nations.) The connection between these two international organizations is nicely underlined by the postmark and registration label which are those of the League. These two stamps were overprinted for the exclusive use of the League of Nations (Scott #2057, 60, 61, 64) and the ILO (Scott #3049, 52, 53, 56).

The S.f. 1.00 stamp on the right also portrays the Albert Thomas Monument located near this second headquarters building. The maximum card in Figure 3 for the Swiss official stamp (Scott #30102) shows a close-up of this monument in the foreground. The stamp shows a detail portraying a group of miners, which appears on the base of the monument.



Figure 2: FDC of Swiss stamps showing the second headquarters building of the ILO.

On the occasion of the fiftieth anniversary of the ILO the French Post Office issued a stamp (Scott #1247), which portrays this same motive and a likeness of Albert Thomas. Figure 4 shows a first day card prepared by UNESCO in Paris.

In December 1946 the ILO became the first specialized agency affiliated with the United Nations. The ever-increasing demands on its services forced the ILO to commission the construction of a new headquarters building. This building was dedicated on November 12, 1974 and remains today the headquarters of the ILO. The Swiss Post Office released a stamp (Scott #30104) on May 30, 1974. Figure 5 shows a postcard showing a view of this building and bearing this official stamp tied by a postmark commemorating the 60th anniversary of the founding of the ILO on the first day of use of the cancel (January 2, 1979).

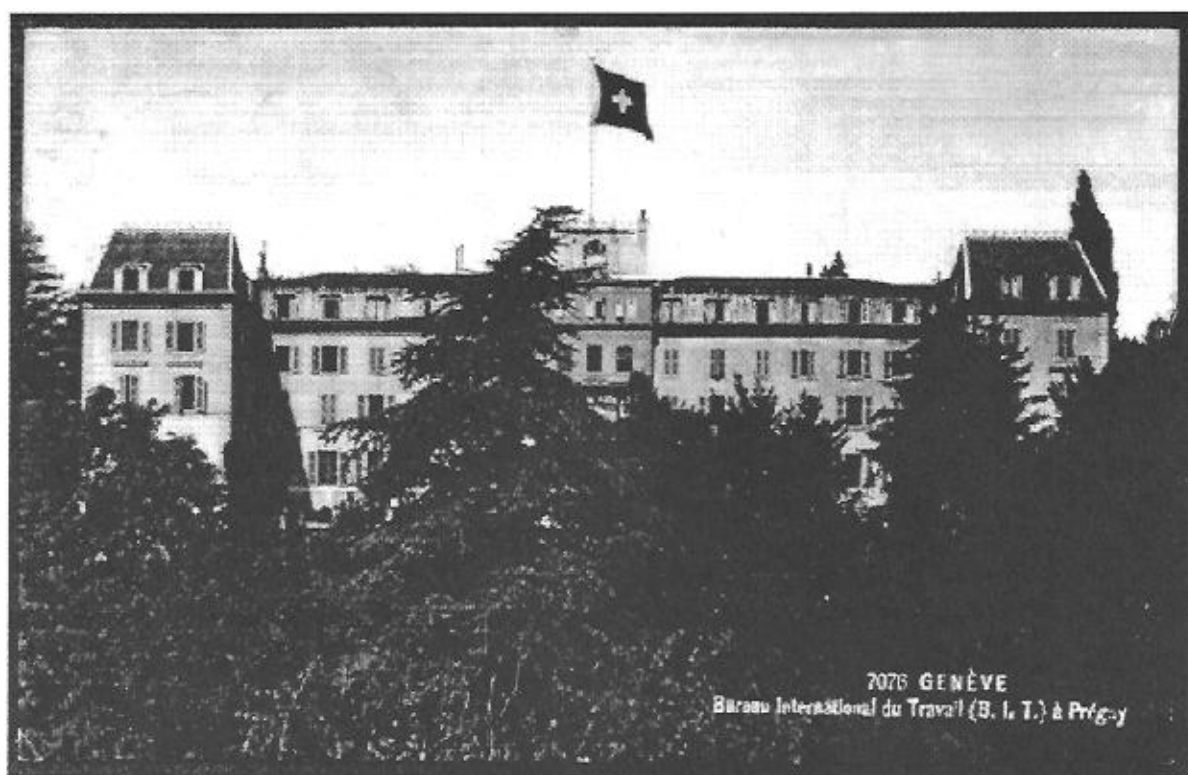


Figure 1: First ILO Headquarters in the former Thudicum Institute about 1922.

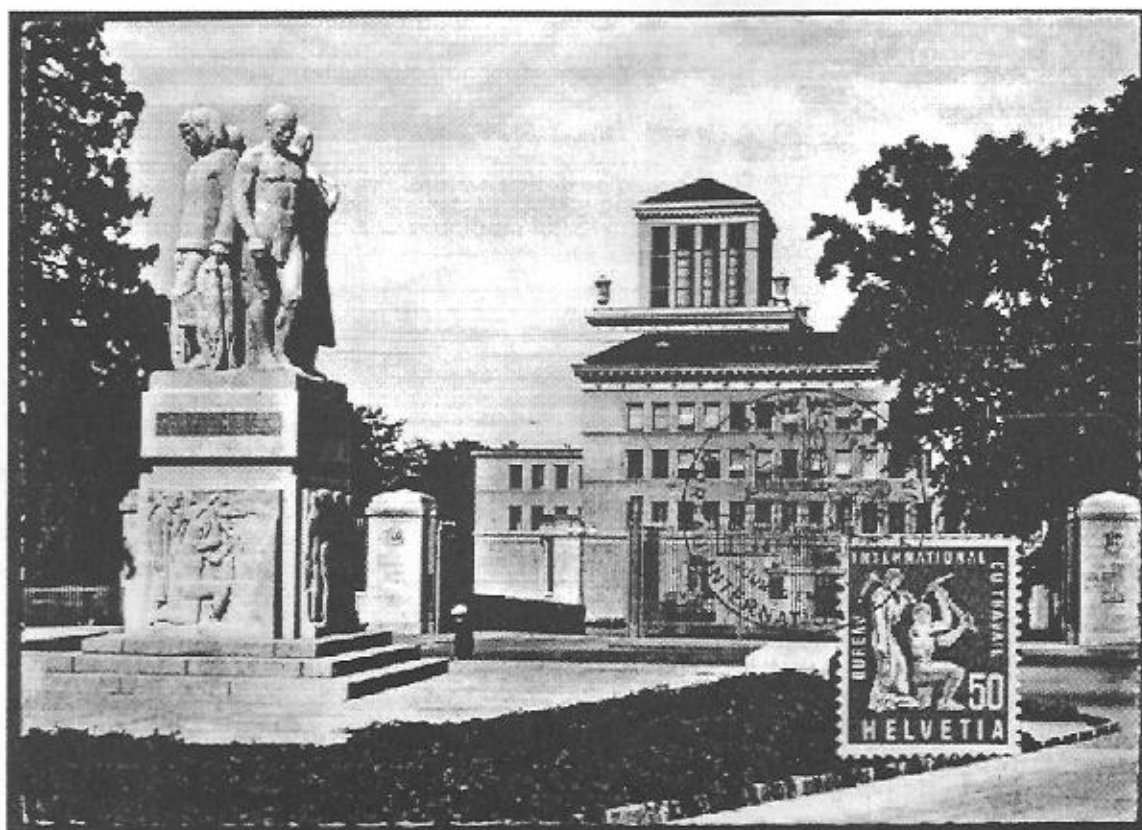


Figure 3: Maximum card (Scott #30102) showing Albert Thomas Monument and second ILO Headquarters.





Figure 4: First day card of French stamp honoring Albert Thomas and the fiftieth anniversary of the founding of the ILO in 1919.



Figure 5: Postcard with view of current ILO Headquarters bearing Swiss stamp (Scott #30104) postmarked on the first day of use of commemorative cancel honoring the ILO 60th anniversary.



# CORRECTED SCOTT CATALOGUE NUMBERS OF 2002 UNITED NATIONS STAMPS

Date of Issue	Item
<b>March 1</b>	<b>Definitive stamps and Stationery</b> 80¢, F.s. 1,30, € 0,07, € 0,51, € 0,58, € 0,73, € 0,87, € 2,03 New York 817, Geneva 385, Vienna 302-7 F.s. 1,30 postal card, € 0,51 postal card Geneva UX15, Vienna UX14
<b>April 4</b>	<b>Endangered Species</b> 34¢, F.s. 0,90, € 0,51 New York 818-21a, Geneva 386-89a, Vienna 308-11a
<b>May 20</b>	<b>Independence - East Timor</b> 34¢, 57¢, F.s. 0,90, F.s. 1,30, € 0,51, € 1,09 New York 822-3, Geneva 390-1, Vienna 312-3
<b>May 24</b>	<b>International Year of Mountains (IYM)</b> 34¢, 80¢, F.s. 0,70, F.s. 1,20, € 0,22, € 0,51. New York 824-7a, Geneva 392-5a, Vienna 314-7a
<b>June 27</b>	<b>Environment Summit + 10 (Johannesburg Summit)</b> 37¢, 60¢, F.s. 0,90, F.s. 1,80, € 0,51, € 0,58 New York 828-31a, Geneva 396-9a, Vienna 318-21a Souvenir card 57 € 0,51 pre-stamped envelope, € 1,09 pre-stamped envelope Vienna U4-5
<b>June 30</b>	<b>Postal Stationery</b> 2001 standard and legal-sized 34¢ pre-stamped envelopes surcharged to 37¢ New York U16, U17 1998 21¢ postal card surcharged to 23¢ New York UX23
<b>August 30</b>	<b>World Heritage - Italy</b> 37¢, 70¢, F.s. 0,90, F.s. 1,30, € 0,51, € 0,58 New York 832-3, Geneva 400-1, Vienna 322-3 {3 Prestige Booklets with 12x(5¢, 15¢, F.s. 0,10, F.s. 0,20, € 0,07, € 0,15 )} New York 834a-f, Geneva 402a-f, Vienna 324a-f
<b>October 24</b>	<b>UNAIDS Awareness</b> 70¢, F.s. 1,30, € 1,53 New York 835, Geneva 403, Vienna 325 37¢+6¢=43¢, F.s. 0,90+ 0,30=F.s. 1,20, € 0,51+ 0,25 = € 0,76 semi-postal souvenir sheets New York B1, Geneva B1, Vienna B1 <b>Geneva Definitve</b> F.s. 3,00 Geneva 404

## **2003 UNITED NATIONS STAMP PROGRAM**

(As of March 15, 2003 but subject to changes of date of issue and denomination.)

See the UNPA World Wide Web Site at <<http://www.un.org/Depts/UNPA>>

**January 31**

### **Indigenous Art of Latin America**

6×37¢, 6×F.s. 0,90, 6×€ 0,51

(3 Sheets of 6 stamps)

**February 20 Inauguration of the Inter-Parliamentary Headquarters**

F.s. 0,90

(1 Sheet of 20 stamps)

**March 28**

### **Definitive stamps and Stationery**

23¢, 60¢, 70¢, € 0,22, € 1,09

5×23¢, 5×70¢ postal cards, 37¢ legal- and standard-sized pre-stamped envelopes

### **Centenary of First Flight**

23¢ and 70¢ in tête bêche pairs

(6 sheets of 20 stamps)

**April 3**

### **Endangered Species - 30th Anniversary of CITES**

37¢, F.s. 0,90, € 0,51

(3 Sheets of 16 stamps with 4 blocks of 4 se-tenant stamps.)

Set of 3 maximum cards and 2003 Endangered Species Annual Collection Folder

**June 20 International Year of Freshwaters** (Joint Issue with Switzerland)

23¢, 37¢, F.s. 0,70, F.s. 1,30, € 0,55, € 0,75

(6 sheets of 12 stamps)

Souvenir card

**August 7**

### **Ralph Bunche**

37¢, F.s. 1,80, € 2,10

(3 Sheets of 20 stamps)

### **Definitives**

€ 0,04, € 0,51 (New printing)

(2 sheets of 20 stamps)

**October 24**

### **World Heritage - United States**

37¢, 80¢, F.s. 0,90, F.s. 1,30, € 0,55, € 0,75

(6 Sheets of 20 stamps)

{3 Prestige Booklets with 12×(5¢, 15¢, F.s. 0,10, F.s. 0,20, € 0,10, € 0,15 )}

### **Personalized stamps**

(Details not reported)

2003 Annual Collection Folders

## **2003 SLOGAN CANCELLATIONS**

**January 1**

**Visit your United Nations - 50 years of guided tours**

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**UN Collectors of Chicagoland** meets the second Monday of the month except in July and August at Stamp King, 7139 West Higgins Rd., Chicago, Illinois. Contact: Dr. Ben Ramkisson, P.O.Box 606, Hindsdale, IL 60522-0606.

**The Western Arm** meets intermittently at San Francisco Bay area shows. Contact: Alex Bereson, 18 Portola Drive, San Francisco, CA

**Mid-Atlantic UN Collectors Club** meets at shows in the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic regions. Contact: Greg Galletti, MAUNCC, P.O. Box 466, Mt. Airy, MD 21771-0466

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**WANTED,** by explorer ex-Timor, Timor covers, postmarks. Also covers from UNMEE (Eritrea-Ethiopia), PNG, W. Sahara; UN, APO, Navy. For info, buy, swap contact: Dr. Raymond, Box 228, Sugar Land, TX 77487.

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¼ page - \$15

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The deadline for submission of material for publication is the first day of the month preceding the issue month. The deadline for the June issue is May 1st.

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