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2003 ENDANGERED SPECIES SERIES

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Editor: Richard Powers

Production Manager: Dan Gapinski

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Correspondence regarding editorial content should be sent to the Editor: Richard Powers, 2445 East Del Mar Boulevard #422, Pasadena, CA 91107-4871.

Changes of address should go to the UNP Secretary: Blanton Clement, Jr., P.O.Box 146, Morrisville, PA 19067.

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. Orders for earlier back issues should go to the UNP Archivist: Ray E. Ward, 302 East 19th St., Russellville, AR 72801. Back issues cost US \$0.75 plus postage (US addresses: \$0.50; Canada: \$0.75; others: \$2.00 air-mail).

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Deceased Member

We regret to inform you that UNP member #1091 Marvin (Greg) Berryhill of Moulton, Texas has passed away.

New Members

1476 Edna C. Becker.....	Denver, CO
1477 Robert W. Edwards.....	Sherwood, OR
1478 Antonio E. Nunez.....	Miami, FL
1479 David M. Weiman.....	Washington, D.C.
1480 Brian D. Price.....	Winter Park, FL
1481 Donald Shulman.....	St. Petersburg, FL

Disclaimer

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

Cover Illustrations

Front cover: Sheet of 2003 UNNY stamps honoring Endangered Species. **Rear cover:** Sheets of UN Geneva and Vienna for Endangered Species.

MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR

Feedback About the February Issue

In spite of the legend on the front cover, which identified the date of the first issue of 2003 as January, the issue of the *Journal* with Whole Number 152 was actually the February issue, as indicated by the Table of Contents on the inside front cover. This issue seems to have been particularly jinxed.

I sent the camera-ready text to Dan Gapinski on January 8th. Normally the printer in Iowa is able to deliver the finished product to Dan within a week after he (the printer) receives the text. Unfortunately the "special" price UNP pays for printing and the size of our standing order occasionally allows the printing of the *Journal* to get delayed in processing whenever the printer gets inundated with work orders. This often delays production of the December issue.

The February issue was doubly hexed. Not only was there delay at the printer, there was also a loss of more than a week when United Parcel Service (UPS), which provides transport between Iowa and the United Nations Post Office (UNPO) in New York, could not "find" the latter address, after more than three years of successfully finding it for previous issues and returned the shipment to Iowa. Eventually UPS was able to locate the UNPO. I received my February issue on March 21st, a bare nine days before the auction deadline. As I write this message, I understand that you should be able to receive the April issue before the end of the month. My goal remains to have the *Journal* reach members about the fifteenth day of the month of record.

However, I am pleased to say that the February issue did elicit responses from several members. The editorial discussing the 2003 UNPA stamp program prompted UNP-member Kai Mortensen to forward a copy of a letter that he had written to Mr. Toshiyuki Niwa, who was until very recently

the head of the UN Office of Central Support Services (formerly the OGS) of which the UNPA is a part. Portions of his letter appear on the following page as a Letter to the Editor.

One of the issues raised in this letter concerns the release of stamps by the UNPA of stamps not directly related to UN activities, either past, present or future. A case in point involves the Centenary of Flight definitives released on March 28th. I have raised this issue too in a couple of recent editorials. In this particular case I believe that the UNPA ought to have included a reference to the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) - such as "The ICAO salutes a Century of Flight".

My article concerning a cover with (contrived?) mixed franking from the West Bank (page 17) brought letters from Jean-Louis Emmenegger, UNP Military Editor and Moss Fairmont, who lives in Ramat Hasharon, Israel. Moss supplied me with the name of a specialist in Palestine Authority stamps, who ought to be able to answer the questions, I raised concerning the validity of such stamps. If and when I receive additional information on the subject of postal validity, I shall update my article.

Jean-Louis confirmed my suspicion that the cover might have been "contrived" to create a philatelically interesting cover. He was able to supply me with a photocopy of a similar cover, which he received at home in Pully, Switzerland. The corner card address is identical: United Nations Truce Supervision Organization (UNTSO) - Visa Section. The cover was postmarked July 17, 1995 in Mevo Azza and bears three Israeli stamps and the same Palestinian Authority stamp (Scott #2) with a "felt tip pen" marking.

UNP Treasurer Jim Matyasovich reported via e-mail my error in the Scott Catalog

Numbers for the 2002 UN semi-postal stamps (page 5). The corrected catalog numbers had already been included in the April issue (page 23).

UNP-member Dmytro Bykovetz noticed some changes in the UNPA 2003 stamp program mentioned on page 24. In particular he noted that the General Assembly issue planned for September 2003 had been postponed until 2004 on account of the illness of the designer Czeslaw Slania. He also noted the disappearance of the Disarmament issue planned for August 2004, which had previously been announced by the UNPA. The latter has been replaced by two UN Vienna definitives, one of which (€0,51) is a reprint of a definitive (Scott #303) issued in 2002. (The original printing will have been on sale barely eighteen months since its release.) Both of these changes had been duly noted in the April issue. Generally the current Stamp Program listings indicate the announcement date.

I am pleased that so many readers took out a couple minutes from their busy lives to react to something that they had read in the *Journal*. Please keep those notes and e-mails coming in.

I wonder if the advance announcement of the reprint of a definitive reflects a change in UNPA policy. In the past the existence of reprints were publicly acknowledged only after the stamp had been released. For those of us who like to document the first day of use of all reprints, this would be a welcome change.

Two weeks after the April issue went to press I received a UNPA press release that showed the "business side" of the ten new postal cards, which were released March 28th. The picture side of seven of these cards appear on the rear cover of the April issue of the *Journal*. What I now know is that the indicia on each postal card matches the design of the picture side of the card.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

February 11, 2003

The recently issued UNPA Philatelic Bulletin No. 65 prompts me to share a few thoughts with you concerning the current stamp issuance policy of the Organization.

I do so

- as a former staff member (1950 - 1986);
- as a former vice president of the UN Philatelic Society (UNPS);
- as a former member of the UN/OGS Stamp Selection Committee;
- as co-author of Study 4, a catalog entitled "United Nations and Related World-Wide Stamps" prepared and issued by UNPS in February 1973; and
- as an avid collector of stamps related to the United Nations.

The United Nations became a stamp issuing agency because stamps were seen as a means "to spread the good word" about the UN System and its work. UN stamps have done that well over the years. The fact that the sale of stamps produced income for the Organization was a secondary but naturally welcome consideration.

The bulk of the revenue earned by UNPA has always come from sale of stamps to philatelists; not from sale of stamps to be used for postal use. This is a situation which carries with it a temptation to push towards more and more issues of stamps and related products aimed at the philatelic market. The UN Philatelic Society (UNPS) has on several occasions cautioned the administration against excessive or gimmicky issuances aimed exclusively at increasing revenues from sale of UN stamps. UNPS has done so because it is a known fact that the interest of collectors wanes when they feel themselves

being taken undue advantage of by a stamp issuing authority. A succession of heads of OGS seemed to value the input of UNPS, which they recognized as having one aim only - to ensure that UN stamps would continue to enjoy their high standing and the support and interest of philatelists around the world.

For some time there have been signs that this policy of restraint no longer applies. Many cases could be cited, but the upcoming issue of New York definitive stamps announced in the UNPA Philatelic Bulletin No. 65 will serve as an illustrative example. The two stamps that celebrate the centenary of the first flight give rise to serious questions. The first of these is the decision to issue the stamps as a tête-bêche set, a typical case of creating an artificial philatelic need. Secondly, and more serious in my view, is the occasion for this issue, which totally disregards the original purpose for which United Nations stamps were introduced. I for one fail completely to see any connection between the United Nations and the first flight. Hopefully, this is a "one of a kind" issue that will not be followed by stamps carrying other non-UN messages.

The official policy of the Organization may have changed from the original idea that its stamps should serve as "carriers of the UN story" towards an emphasis on simply making as much money as possible. This would be a sad development in my view, but if it has to be then the need to guard against the negative effects of excessive and irrelevant issues becomes even more important.

Yours sincerely

Kai Mortensen
Millwood, NY

VARIETIES AND FREAKS

UNP-Member Robert Snyder reports having bought a copy (Figure 1) of the S 1 Vienna definitive (Scott #A194) released in 1996 with a major perforation shift of 3.5 mm of the vertical perforations at **STAMP-SHOW 2002** from Henry Gitner Philatelists, Inc. Apparently it came from a sheet from which some of the stamps had already been used for postage until someone recognized that they were "different". The shift is so extreme that a portion of the adjacent stamp design is visible on the right side.



Figure 1: Vienna definitive #A194 with shifted perforations.

There is also a slight vertical shift downward of the horizontal perforations. In addition the second "9" in the date at the bottom of the design is broken. Whether this is a constant variety or simply a feature of this specimen only is currently unknown.

2003 UNITED NATIONS STAMP PROGRAM

(As of May 1, 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 Freshwater (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**

THE 2003 UNITED NATIONS ENDANGERED SPECIES SERIES

By Richard Powers

On April 3rd of this year the United Nations Postal Administration (UNPA) issued its eleventh set of twelve stamps depicting endangered species of fauna. The purpose of these stamps is to publicize the work of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), which was signed in Washington, D.C. on March 3, 1971. As of 1998 the convention had a membership of 139 nations. The Government of Switzerland serves as the depository of the Convention. This year marks the thirtieth anniversary of the establishment of CITES.

The aim of the Convention is to ensure that international commerce does not threaten the survival of species of wild animals and plants in recognition of the fact that unrestricted exploitation is the second major threat to the survival of some species, the first being the destruction of their habitat. For this purpose, species of wild animals and plants are listed in three appendices to the Convention. Appendix I concerns species where international trade is prohibited except under exceptional circumstances. Appendix II handles species where trade is controlled. Appendix III lists species where international trade is restricted from certain countries.

The 2003 Endangered Species



Buceros bicornis: The great hornbill occurs

from south-west India, eastwards to Myanmar and south China and southwards to the Malaysian Peninsula and Sumatra in large tracts of primary forests. It is not globally threatened but is declining in several parts of its range because of habitat destruction. In 1992 it was included in Appendix I, so that international trade could no longer be a threat.



Eudocimus ruber: The scarlet ibis can be found from north and east Columbia and east Ecuador to north Venezuela, the Guiana region and coastal Brazil as far as the delta of the Amazon River. The species was included in Appendix II in 1987 because several States were concerned about the increase in the trade, mainly of their colorful feathers.



Sarkidiornis melanotos: The knob-billed goose has a very wide distribution from Africa south of the Sahara (including Madagascar) to tropical Asia (from Pakistan to

south China) and South America (from Colombia to north Argentina). It lives in swamps, lakes or rivers in areas with thinly scattered trees. The species has been included in Appendix II since the Convention entered into force in 1975.



Dendrocygna viduata: The white-faced whistling duck occurs on two continents: in Africa south of the Sahara and in South America (from Costa Rica to northern Argentina and Uruguay). It lives in a wide variety of habitats, including artificial ones, but has a preference for freshwater in open country. The species has been included by Ghana in Appendix III, because the country wanted to regulate all trade in its wildlife.



Branta ruficollis: Red-breasted geese breed over more than a million square kilometers in the Russian Arctic, mostly on the Taimyr Peninsula, and winter in temperate regions around the Black Sea in Romania, Bulgaria and Ukraine. In summer they live in dry shrub and lichen-covered tundra not far from water. They are recognized as globally threatened and are listed in Appendix II.

Geronticus calvus: The bald ibis has a re-



stricted area of distribution and is only found in the highlands of the Transvaal (South Africa), Lesotho and Swaziland. It prefers high-altitude grasslands between 4000 and 6000 feet altitude), where it feeds in low grass. It has undergone a dramatic decline in the twentieth century. Its population remains stable at around 6500. It has been included in Appendix II since 1975.



Dendrocygna bicolor: The fulvous whistling duck has a wide distribution from the southern United States to northern and eastern South America down to northern Argentina. It is also found in parts of Africa and Asia in the Indian subcontinent. This species lives in a wide variety of habitats, including artificial ones, but has a preference for freshwater in open country. While this species is not globally threatened, it has been included by Ghana and Honduras in Appendix III, because they wanted to regulate all trade in their wildlife.

Ramphastos vitellinus: Channel-billed toucans are distributed from eastern Venezuela to Guyana and eastern Brazil. They live in rainforests up to 3500 feet altitude.



They are not globally threatened but like other toucans may become so due to habitat degradation and the logging of large trees and are listed in Appendix II.



Anas formosa: The Baikal teal occurs during the summer breeding season in eastern and central Siberia. The majority winter in southern Siberia, throughout Korea, Japan, Mongolia and eastern China. They prefer rivers, small ponds, marshes and lakes in well-wooded country or in Arctic tundra. Excessive hunting and habitat reduction reduced the population to an estimated 40,000 in the 1980s. It is listed in Appendix II.



Bostrychia hagedash: The hadada ibis is widely distributed in sub-Saharan Africa,

except in the drier areas of eastern Somalis and the south-west of the continent. Its habitats included wooded streams, swamps, marshes, flooded areas, edges of lakes, pastures and rivers with tree-lined banks. It is not globally threatened. It is listed in Appendix III by Ghana because this country intended to protect its entire fauna.



Ramphastos toco: The toco toucan is found throughout eastern South America, from the Guiana region through Brazil to northern Argentina. This species frequents the canopy of the tropical rainforests. It is common throughout its range. However, current extensive logging operations may cause problems in the future because these Appendix II birds like to nest in old, rotted trees.



Alopochen aegypticus: The Egyptian goose is found throughout Africa, south of the Sahara and in the Nile Valley. It was introduced in Western Europe, where well-established feral populations occur. This species prefers almost any wetlands in open spaces, where it usually lives in pairs or in family groups. The species was listed in Appendix III by Ghana.

LIMITED EDITION 2003 ENDANGERED SPECIES FDCs

Some autographed by the designers: the three Hautman Brothers

To commemorate the thirtieth anniversary of CITES, the United Nations Postal Administration has produced 5000 special first day covers in silk. This special cover appears below (Figure 1). The cover bears one stamp from each of the United Nations offices portraying a Baikal teal, two red-breasted geese and two white-faced whistling ducks. A limited number (1000) of these covers were signed by the designers of the 2003 United Nations Endangered Species stamps, the three Hautman Brothers: Joseph, James and Robert. The signed covers were sold at a slight premium and were available only at the ASDA Postage Stamp Event in New York (April 3rd to 6th).

Joe Hautman designed the four 37-¢ stamps. His first experience as a professional artist came when he won the Federal Duck Stamp contest in 1991. Since then he has won several state contests and a second Federal contest.

The four F.s. 0,90 stamps were designed

by Jim Hautman. In 1889 he became the youngest artist ever to win the Federal Duck Stamp contest.

Bob Hautman designed the four € 0,51 stamps. He image of a majestic, solitary Canada goose won the Federal Duck Stamp contest in 1997. He has since won a second time for his pintail duck design. He also painted the 1999 Texas Duck Stamp, the 1999 South Carolina Waterfowl Association Stamp and the 2001/2002 New Jersey Duck Stamp. He won the Minnesota Duck Stamp contest for 2001/02.

The unsigned covers (item #324.2901) were automatically provided to customers who maintain a standing order account for New York miscellaneous products and then to regular customers on a first-come, first served basis for \$3.95.

As with past Endangered Species series, it is possible to buy the 2003 Endangered Species Annual Collection Folder triple-canceled on the day of issue in New York, Geneva and Vienna.

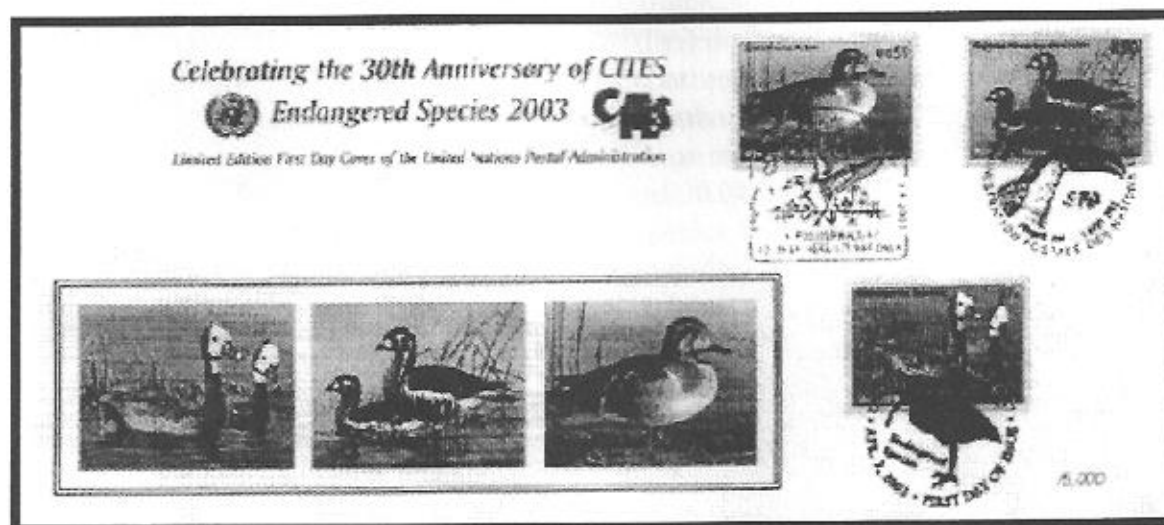


Figure 1: Special limited edition first day cover from the 2003 Endangered Species series celebrating the 30th Anniversary of CITES.

A LETTER FROM THE 1954 ILO CONFERENCE

By B. Clement, Jr.

The 37th session of the International Labor Conference was held June 2-26, 1954 in Geneva, Switzerland. Below is a letter back to the States from one of the American delegates. The letter was mailed in a small manila envelope (seen in Figure 1) with the official conference corner card. A regular Swiss stamp was used. It was postmarked with the conference cancel on June 16, 1954.



Figure 1: Cover from 1954 ILO Conference.

The first page of the letter, written on official conference letterhead paper, is shown in Figure 2. The text of the letter is as follows:

June 16, 1954

Dearest,

Received your letter from R. C. today. Glad to hear you folks arrived safely & that you found things reasonably satisfactory at home.

Henry Howard, one of our labor attachés in Germany, is here for a few days. We just had lunch at the Restaurant at the Palais, where we have our meetings.

As far as I know now we will be leaving for the United States as soon as our meetings are over, that is on June 26. We are flying, of course; so we should be in Washington on either June 27 or June 28, depending on the flight we are able to get.

If our budget situation wasn't desperate, we might stay a few days & go into Germany, but we will not be doing it under the present circumstances.

Weather is a bit warmer here now, though still not too good - looks like rain again.

With Love,
Arnold

ILO Conferences have always had "tripartite" representation: from government, employers and labor. We do not know much about Arnold, not even his last name. Since he was returning to Washington, perhaps he was a U.S. government representative, probably from the Department of Labor.

You never know what you might find. It makes things more interesting when the original letter is inside. Keep your eyes open!

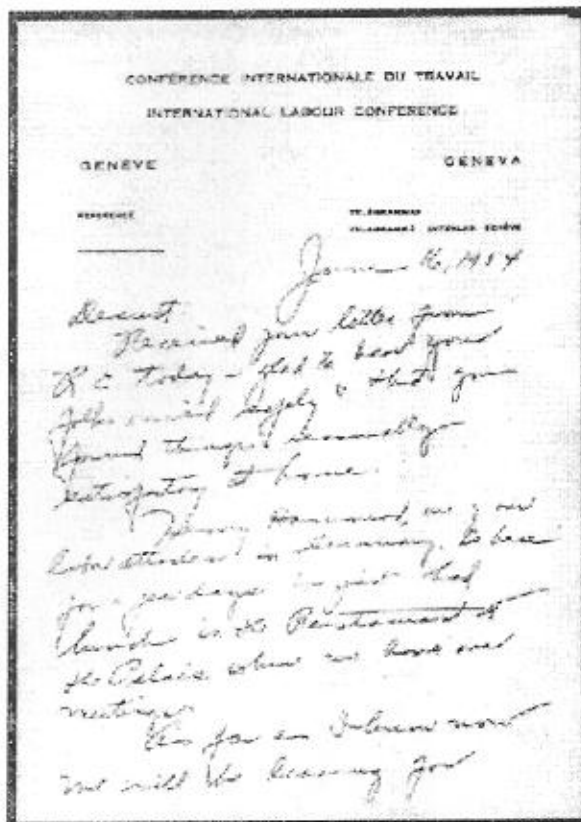


Figure 2: First page of conference letter.

A WELL-TRAVELED INTERNATIONAL REPLY COUPON

By Richard Powers

I find international reply coupons (IRCs) intrinsically fascinating philatelic items. How better can one induce a correspondent in a foreign country to reply to a letter than by enclosing an IRC? One need only go to one's local post office, purchase the coupon in local currency, enclose the coupon in a letter and wait for the answer. The correspondent normally redeems this coupon at his post office and receives stamps allowing for return postage to the country of origin.

In 1972 when the IRCs followed the rules set down by the Universal Postal Union (UPU) during its Congress in Vienna, which took place in 1964, the ground rules for use were simple. On the back of each coupon one finds in German, English, Arabic, Chinese, Spanish and Russian the following instruction:

This coupon is exchangeable in any country of the Universal Postal Union for one or more postage stamps representing the postage for an ordinary letter of the first weight step sent by surface to a foreign country.

The IRC in Figure 1 shows how an enterprising user could bend the rules a bit. It shows a cover bearing an IRC bought in Copenhagen, Denmark on January 13, 1972 to cover partial postage in 1980 from Valdivia, Chile to Münster in the Federal Republic of Germany. The IRC has been glued to an airmail envelope and is tied to the envelope by the Valdivia postmark, which also cancels a regular 1 peso Chilean stamp Scott #475, which was used apparently to upgrade the postage from the surface rate provided by the IRC to the airmail rate. I doubt if the UPU would encourage such usage as it interferes with its bookkeeping. The redeemer of the IRC normally should not retain the IRC.

If you buy an IRC today, the airmail postage is automatically included in the price of the IRC. Now the instruction reads:

This coupon is exchangeable in any country of the Universal Postal Union for the minimum postage for an unregistered priority item or an unregistered letter sent by air to a foreign country.



Figure 1: 1972 IRC bought in Denmark and used in Chile for airmail service to Germany.

EIGHTH SESSION OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE

By B. Clement, Jr.

The eighth session of the Conference of the Parties (COP-8) of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change was held in New Delhi, India from October 23rd through November 1st last year. India issued four stamps honoring the conference and used a special first day cancel showing a mangrove forest. A first day cover showing the stamps and the cancel is shown below in Figure 1.

UN Environmental Conventions were discussed in some detail in the December 1997 of the *Journal*, pages 12-15. In that article, Conference of the Parties for the Climate Change Convention were listed through 1997. The intervening conferences

are as follows:

COP-4, Buenos Aires, Argentina
November 2-14, 1998

COP-5, Bonn Germany
October 25- November 5, 1999

COP-6, The Hague, Netherlands
November 13-24, 2001

COP-7, Marrakech, Morocco
October 29-November 9, 2001

No philatelic recognition of these last four conferences is known. Perhaps some of our readers might know of some and bring it to our attention.

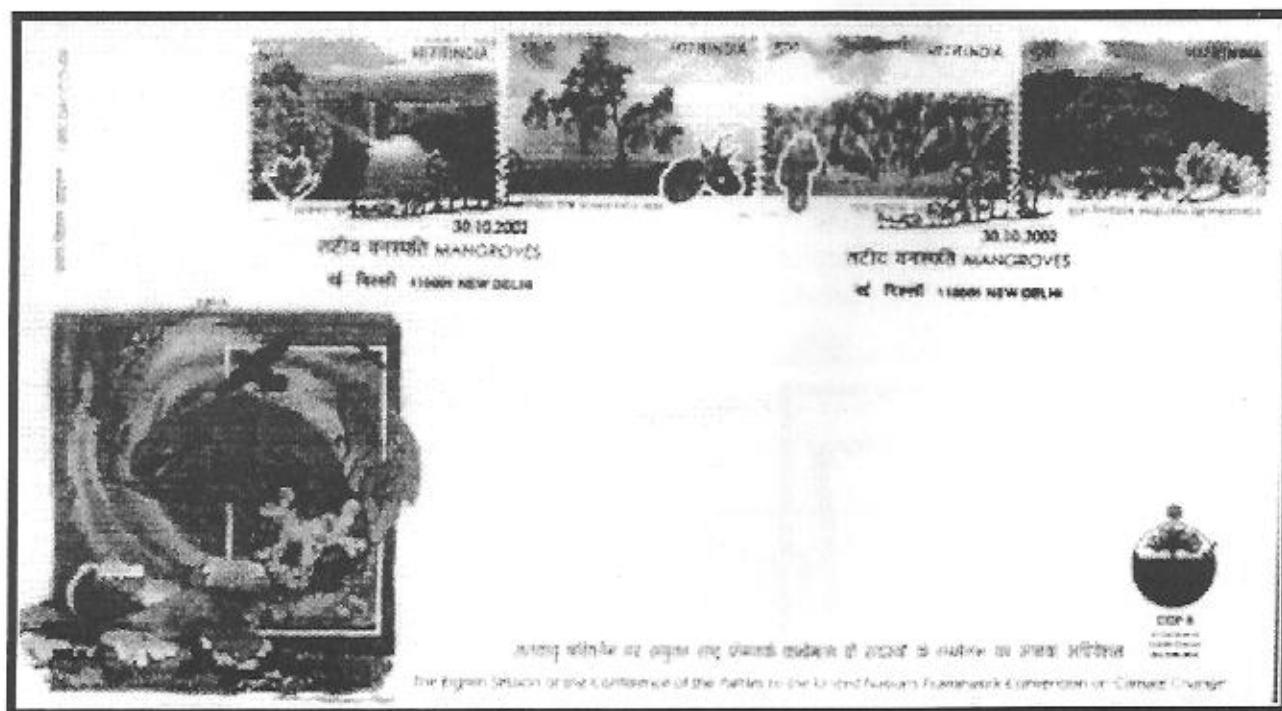


Figure 1: Indian first day cover honoring the 8th session of the Conference of the Parties of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change held in New Delhi, India October 23 through November 1, 2002.

INTERESTING IMPRINTS ON UN COVERS FROM ISRAEL

By B. Clement, Jr.

Here are two UN Technical Assistance Board covers from Israel to the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) in Montreal, both of which have unusual imprints in Hebrew.

The first cover, Figure 1, is franked with an Israeli stamp (Scott #126) and postmarked in Jerusalem on November 18, 1957. On the back is a violet boxed origin cachet (Figure 2) with the legend in Hebrew. The English translation of the text is "Office of the Prime Minister".



Figure 2: Origin cachet on the reverse side of the cover pictured in Figure 1.

The second cover (Figure 3) is franked with two Israeli stamps (Scott #116) and postmarked in Jerusalem July 5, 1959. On the back is a violet boxed dispatching mark (Figure 4) with a legend in Hebrew. The text translates "State of Israel, Office of the Prime Minister, July 5, 1959, Jerusalem, Official Mail".



Figure 4: Dispatching mark on the reverse side of the cover pictured in Figure 3.

Thus we see two UN official covers, eighteen months apart, both with stamped imprints indicating that they passed through the Israeli Prime Minister's Office. What could this mean? Here are my speculations:

1. There was an Israeli representative to the Technical Assistance Office who actually has his office at the Office of the Israeli Prime Minister. When he was conducting UN business, he used UN stationery.
2. For security reason, UN mail was routed through the government office instead of going directly to the post office.

[Editor's note: Lurking off to the side on the reverse side of each letter is an additional mark (Figure 5) which appears to be a circle enclosing some sort of mark or letter (Hebrew?). I suspect this might identify the person who performed the verification or censoring.]



Figure 5: Additional control (censor?) marks on the cover in Figure 1 (above) and on the cover in Figure 3 (below).

Perhaps one of our readers may have a better explanation than I do for the presence of these imprints on these covers. What do you think?

UN postal history is a fascinating subject. You never know what you will find next. I would like to thank UNP member Lawrence Fisher for his help with the translations.

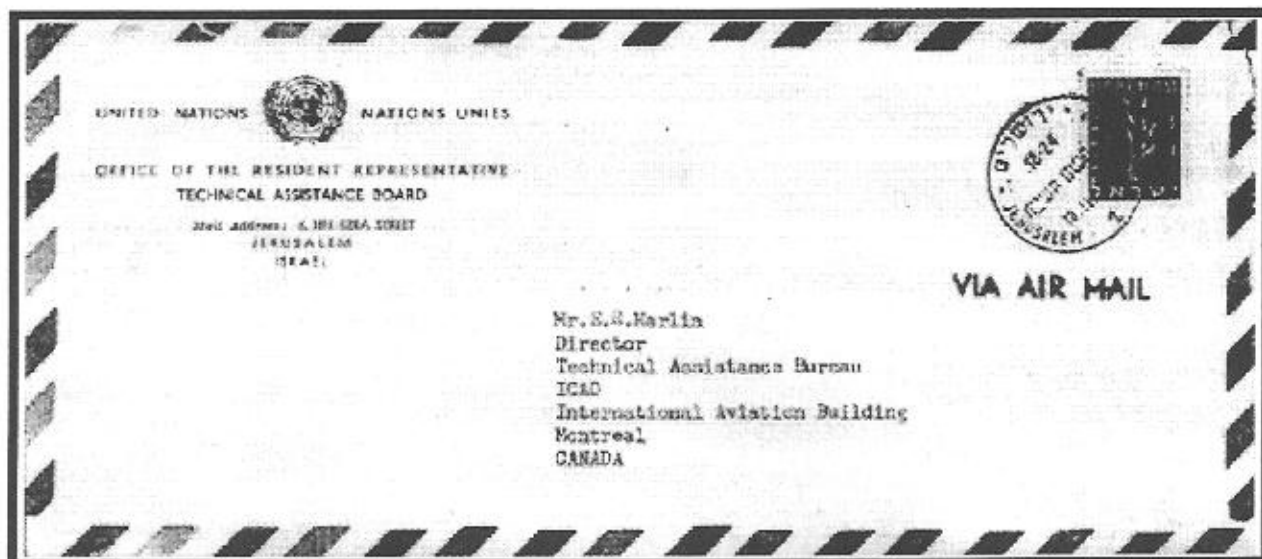


Figure 1: Service cover from the Jerusalem office of the resident representative of the UN Technical Assistance Board bearing the boxed origin cachet shown in Figure 2.

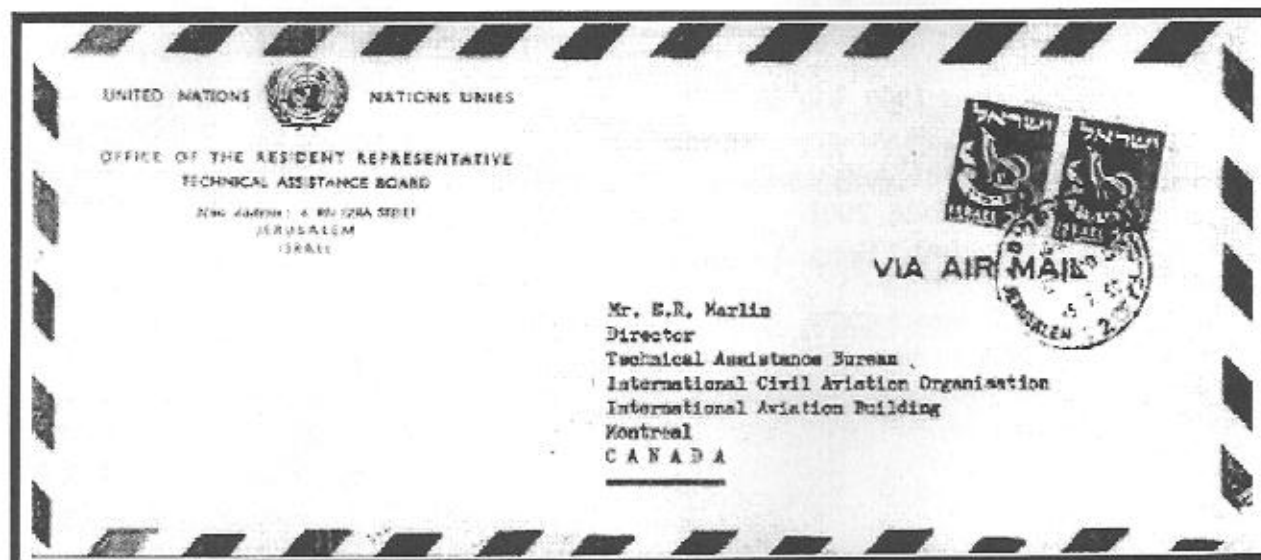


Figure 3: Service cover from the Jerusalem office of the resident representative of the UN Technical Assistance Board bearing the dispatching mark shown in Figure 4.

UNPA ANNOUNCEMENT

Color Bars to Remain in Selvage

In his message in the April 3rd issue of the *Philatelic Bulletin* UNPA chief Robert Gray announced that from now on the color reference bars on the selvage of stamp sheets will remain on corner blocks available for sale to collectors. An example appears on the FDC shown to the right.



RECENT TELECOM SHOWS ORGANIZED BY THE ITU

By B. Clement, Jr.

Telecom shows organized by the International Telecommunications Union (ITU) were discussed in the August 1998 issue of the *Journal* and updated in the October 1999 issue. This is a further update.

Americas TELECOM 92, held in Acapulco, Mexico April 6-11, 1992 was discussed previously. Figure 1 shows the Mexican stamp and first day cancel honoring this show.

TELECOM Asia 2000 was held in Hong Kong December 2-9, 2000. Figure 2 displays the FDC of a Hong Kong souvenir sheet issued for this show.

Here are past and upcoming Telecom shows since the original articles on Telecom:

TELECOM Americas 2000, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, April 10-15, 2000.

TELECOM Africa 2001, Johannesburg, South Africa, November 12-16, 2001.

TELECOM Asia 2002, Hong Kong, December 2-7, 2002.

TELECOM World 2003, Geneva, Swit-

zerland, October 12-18, 2003

TELECOM Africa 2004, Cairo, Egypt, May 3-7, 2004.

No philatelic or postal recognition of these shows is yet known to me. If any of our readers know of anything, please let me know.



Figure 1: Mexican stamp honoring Americas TELECOM 92.

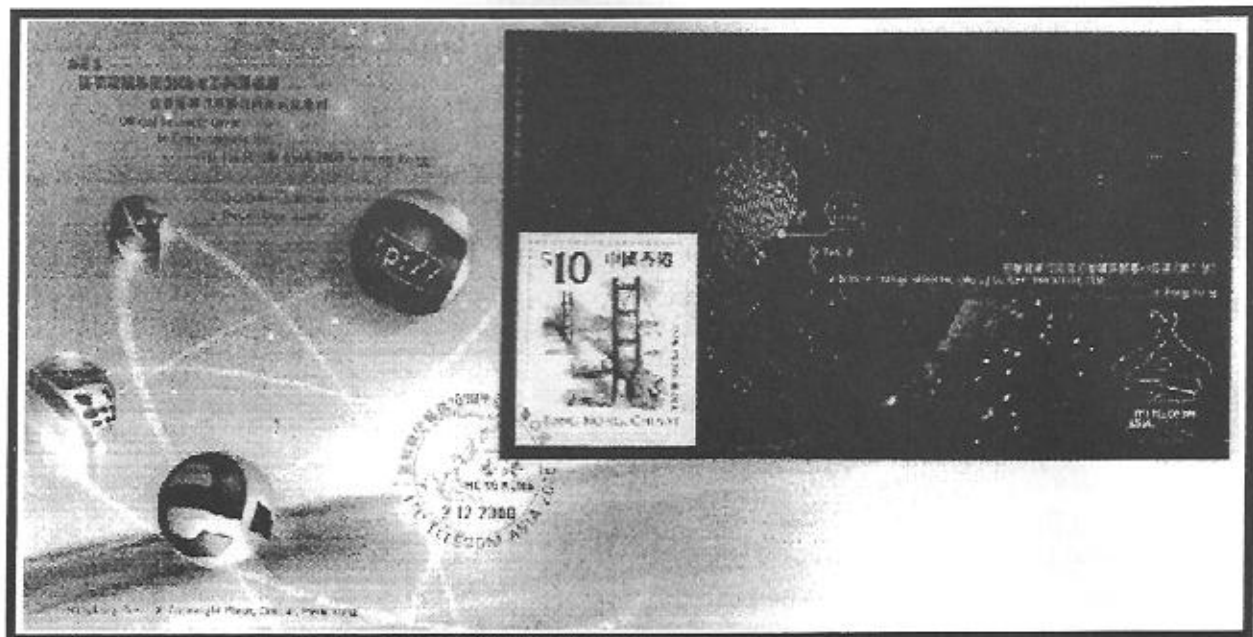


Figure 2: Hong Kong FDC commemorating TELECOM Asia 2000.

UN CONFERENCE DISCOVERIES

By Blanton Clement, Jr.

United Nations Seminars

The Second United Nations Social Welfare Seminar for the Arab States and the Middle East was held in Cairo, Egypt from November 22 through December 14, 1950. The special conference cancel is known and is listed on page 1461 of *Gaines*. The special registry imprint for the conference has now been found, as seen on the philatelic cover in Figure 1.

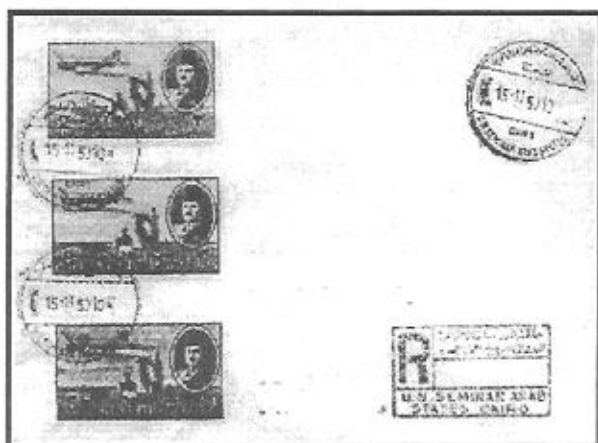


Figure 1: Philatelic cover bearing registry imprint and cancel from the 2nd UN Social Welfare Seminar for the Arab States and the Middle East in Cairo in 1950.

A cover with the corner card of the United Nations Seminar on Building Research and Housing Programmes has been discovered, as shown in Figure 2. This seminar, apparently held in Copenhagen, Denmark about 1961, has not yet been found in any United Nations documents. If anyone has any information on this seminar, please consider sharing it with our readers.

Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC)

In the *Gaines Catalog*, page 1494, are listed known labels used on ECLAC mail

that contain documents on upcoming meetings. Two additional such labels have been discovered. The first is seen on the cover in Figure 3. The cover was sent by Pouch Mail to the UN in New York. A UNNY meter tape was applied and then delivered to the Mission of El Salvador to the United Nations. The label in Spanish reads "Contains Working Documents for the Eighteenth Session of the ECLA Plenary Committee, Buenos Aires, Argentina, August 21-23, 1984".

The second label is on the cover in Figure 4, which was sent by priority mail. This cover had a similar routing. The label in Spanish reads "Urgent - Contains Documents for the Twenty-second Session of ECLAC, Rio de Janeiro, April 20-27, 1988". The English version of this label is shown in *Gaines*.

International Telecommunications Union

The International Telecommunications Union (ITU) held its World Administrative Radio Conference, CAMR-92, in Torremolinos, Spain February 3 through March 3, 1992. The special conference cancel used was shown in the December 1992 issue of the *Journal*. A publicity slogan cancel for the conference was also used in Malaga and has been found on the cover illustrated in Figure 5.

United Nations conference postal history is still being written, even for conferences held more than fifty years ago. A UNP monograph on the postal history of United Nations conferences is being planned to be published about 2005. If you have something that you think may not be in the philatelic literature, please let me know. Your contribution will help make the story as complete as possible.

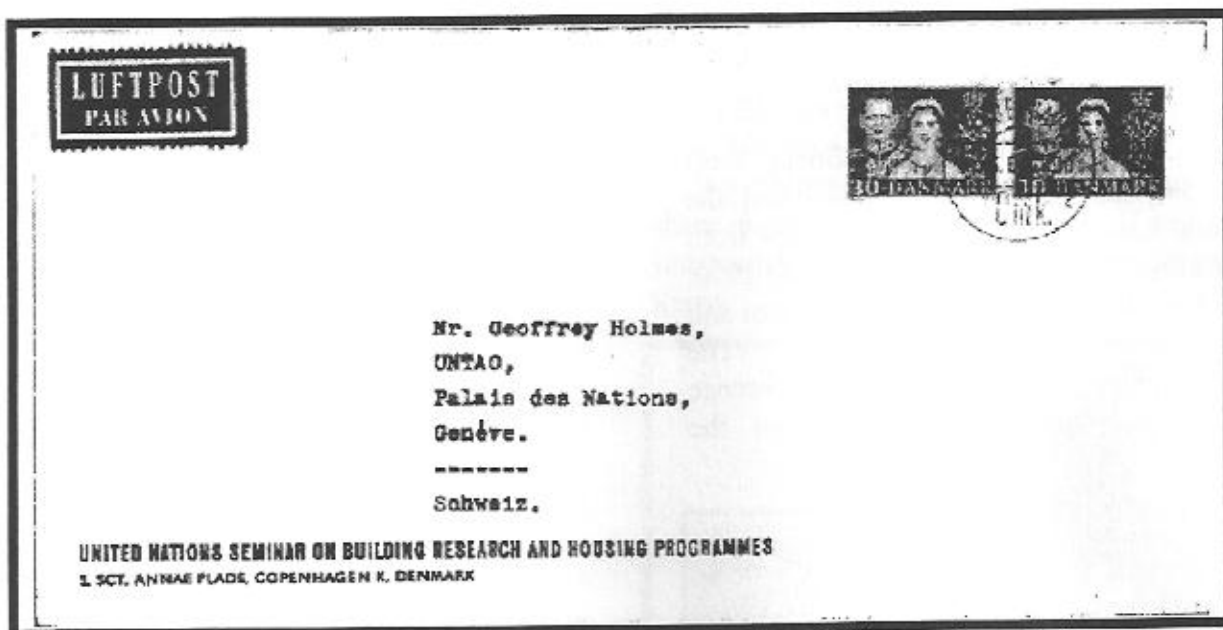


Figure 2: Seminar cover from the UN Seminar on Building Research and Housing Programmes in Copenhagen about 1961.

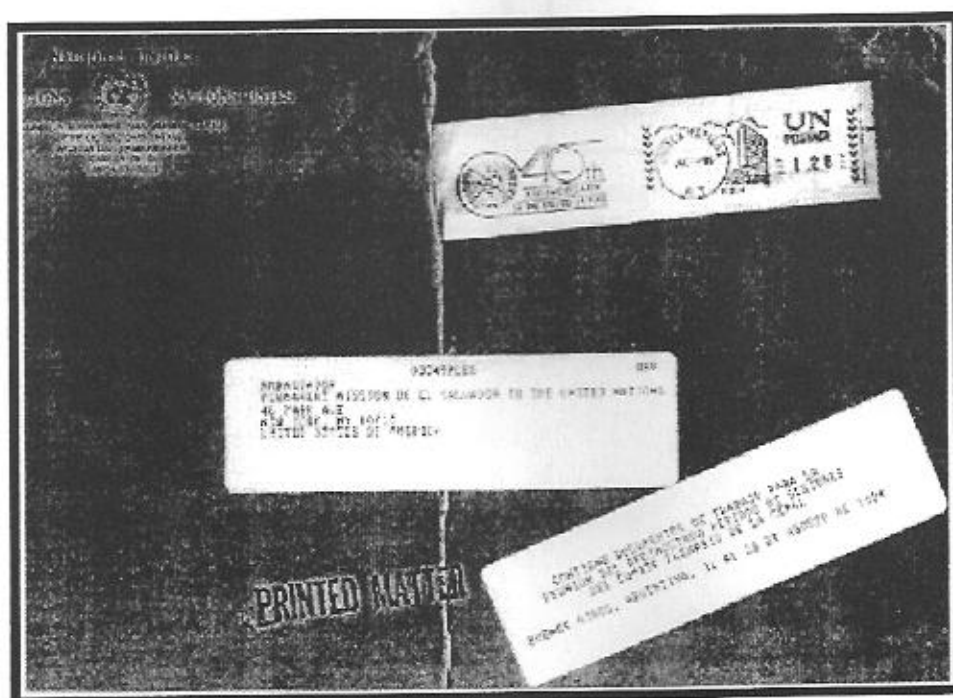


Figure 3: Service cover originally containing documents for the upcoming 18th Session of the ECLA Plenary Committee in Buenos Aires in 1984.

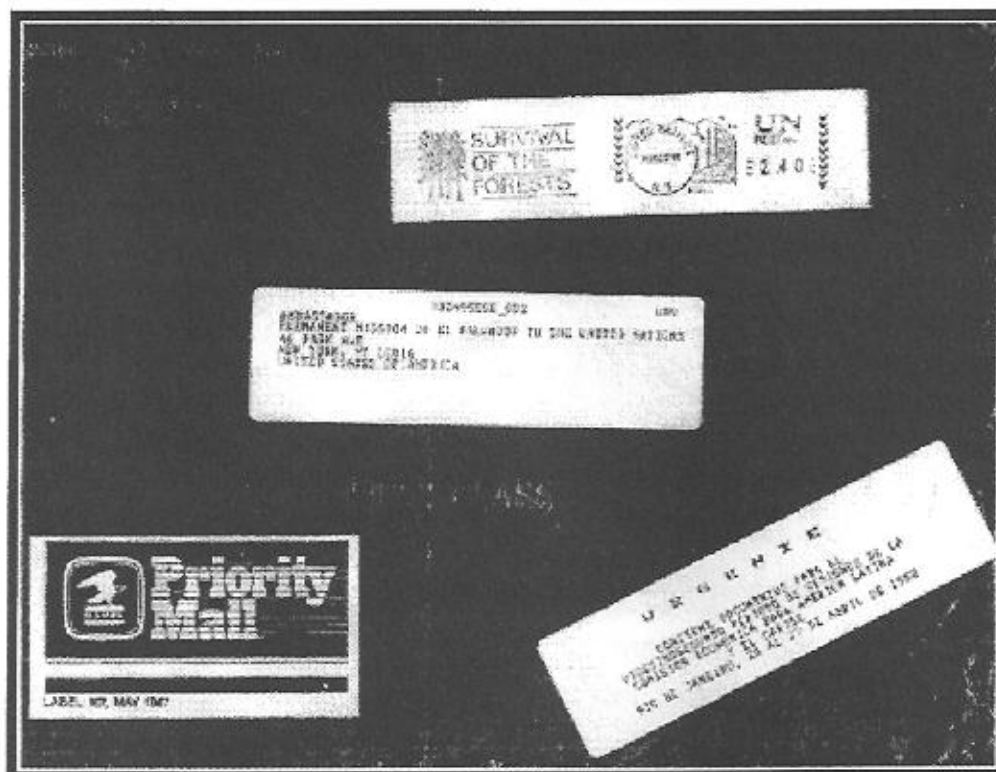


Figure 4: Service cover originally containing documents for the upcoming 22th Session of ECLAC in Rio de Janeiro in 1988.

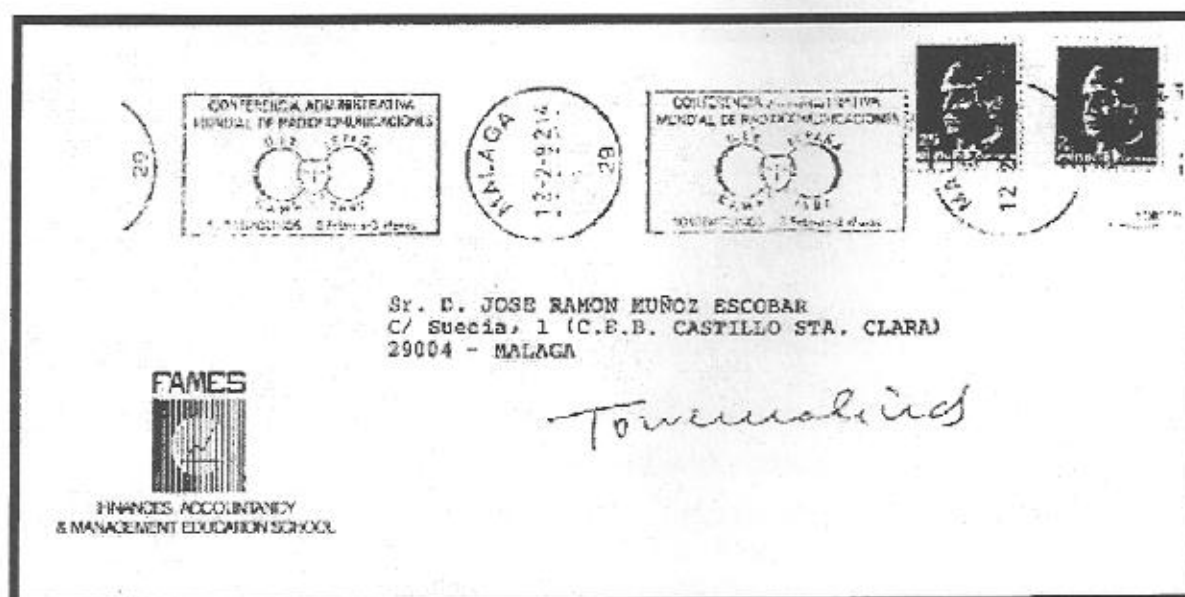


Figure 5: Commercial cover bearing publicity cancel in Malaga for the ITU World Administrative Radio Conference in Torremolinos in 1992.

SIXTEENTH ITU PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

Marrakech, Morocco - 2002

By B. Clement, Jr.

The sixteenth Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunications Union (ITU) was held in Marrakech, Morocco September 23 through October 19, 2002. The conference, abbreviated PP02, is the top policy-making body of the ITU and was held at the Palais des Congrès. The conference is held every four years, the last, in 1998, being held in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

The official emblem of the conference is shown in Figure 1. The emblem incorporates a Moroccan tower, palm trees, an eight-sided star and the ITU globe symbol. Morocco issued a special stamp for the conference. The cover shown in Figure 2 shows the stamp (on the left), a first day cancel on September 23rd and two other Marrakech postmarks on October 10th. Both cancels bear the legend "Marrakech P. P. A. L.". Whether the "P.P.A.L." refers to the conference is not known. In the lower left corner of the cover is a stamped cachet

for the conference, which has similar design features to the official emblem.



Figure 1: Official emblem of the PP02 Conference in Marrakech 2002.

The author would welcome any additional information on the postal history of this conference.

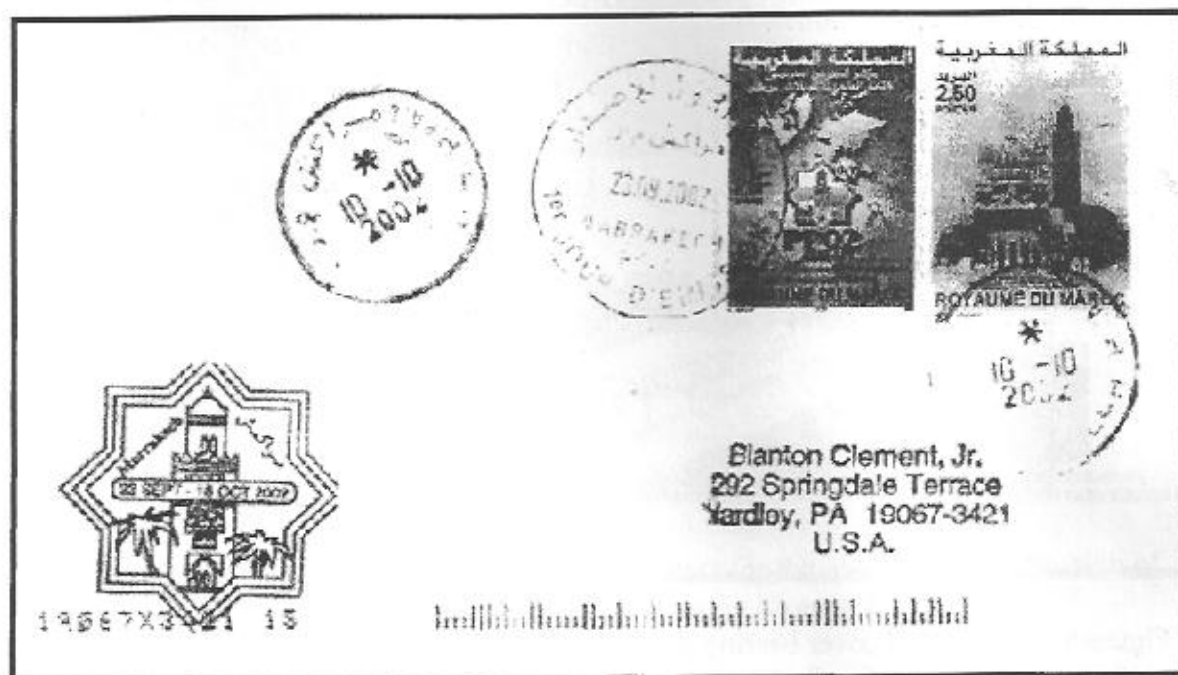


Figure 2: First Day Cover of PP02 commemorative issued in Marrakech, Morocco in 2002.

CHECK YOUR SCOTT #2062 FOR INVERTED OVERPRINTS

By Richard Powers



Figure 1: Inverted overprinted on Scott #2062.



Figure 2: Normal overprint of Scott #2062 with portion of first day cancellation.

For those of you who include League of Nations stamps in your brand of United Nations philately, I recommend that you check your Scotts #2062, a 30-centime stamp pictured the old International Labor Office headquarters in Geneva. On two or three sheets of 25 stamps the overprint was applied upside down. The

words "Des Nations" appear at the top (Figure 1) instead of the bottom (Figure 2) of the overprint. This is not an easy error to catch but a bit of research is worth the effort. Zumstein lists the inverted overprint at more than forty times the value of the normal stamp: at current exchange rates roughly \$270 instead of \$6.40.

SCOTT #928: TOWARD UNITED NATIONS

The stamp that (probably) could not be issued.

By Richard Powers

A few years back I came across an interesting letter from the office of the Third Assistant Postmaster General of the Post Office Department dated March 17, 1945 in response to a suggestion made to President Roosevelt that a "special stamp be issued in connection with the United Nations Conference at San Francisco in April". The letter appears in Figure 1.

The letter continues:

"This is an occasion worthy of special recognition, but, due to the unfavorable condition of productive facilities at this time, it may not be possible to approve a stamp of this character. You may be assured, however, that the same will be given our careful consideration."

(Signed) Ramsey S. Black

Third Assistant Postmaster General

Undoubtedly the unfavorable conditions was a reference to manpower and material shortages occurring as a result of World War II, which would drag on for another seven weeks in Europe and nearly six months in Asia.

And yet even the Post Office can occasionally do the impossible. Figures 2a and 2b show both sides of an official postal card from the Division of Stamps of the Office of the Third Assistant Postmaster General announcing the release on April 25, 1945 of a special 5-cent stamp commemorating the United Nations Conference in San Francisco. This postal card was postmarked April 16, 1945, less than a month after the discouraging letter was written.

Figure 3 shows the design of this stamp, which is often referred to simply as Scott #928. I believe that the simplicity of this design contributes greatly to the beauty of this stamp. If only the USPS could follow suit in maintaining such high standards.

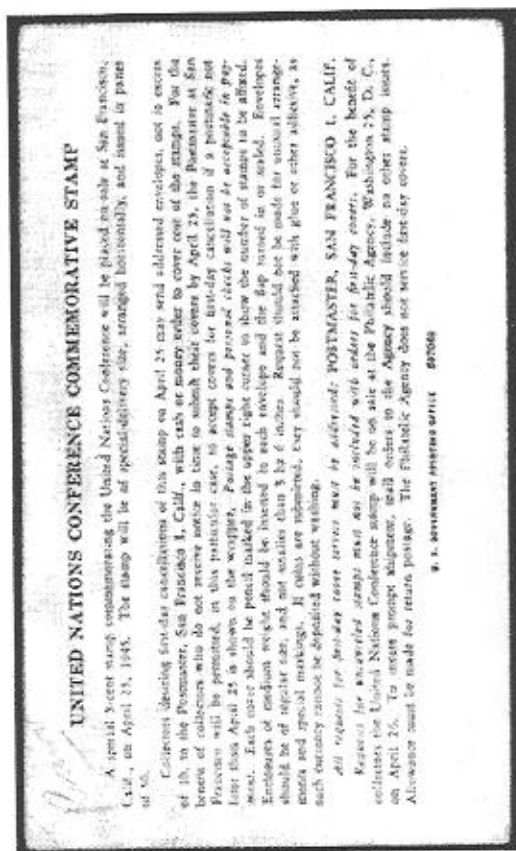


Figure 2a: Message side of Post Office Department postal card mailed on April 16, 1945 announcing release of the United Nations Conference commemorative stamp.

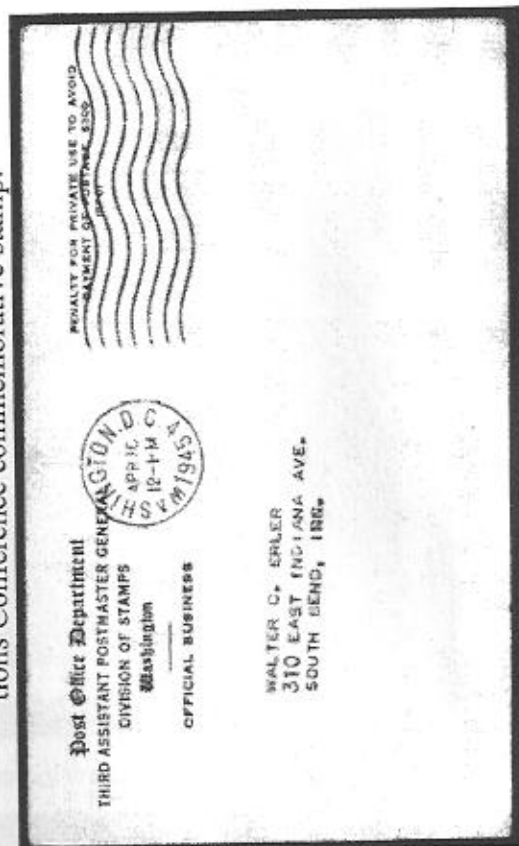


Figure 2b: Address side of above postal card showing the postmark.

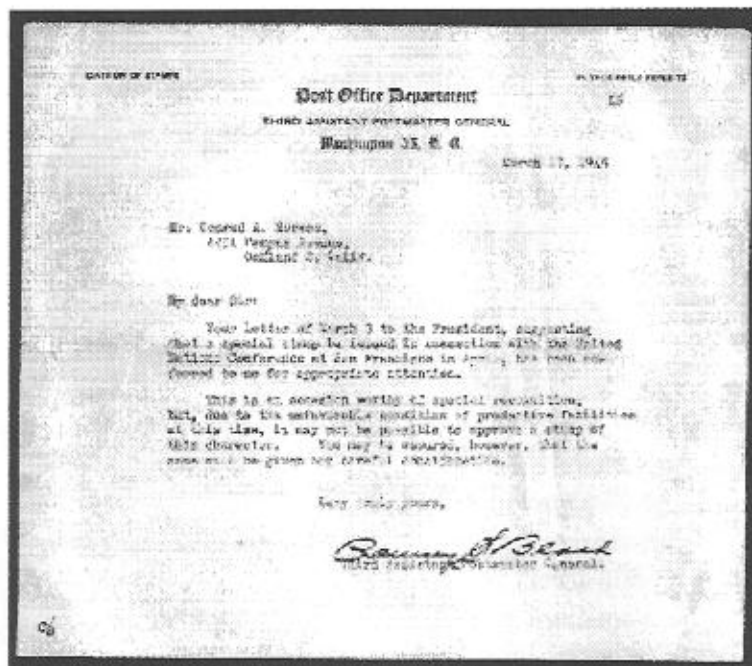


Figure 1: Letter from the Post Office Department dated March 17, 1945 responding not too enthusiastically to a suggestion made to President Roosevelt that a commemorative be issued on the occasion of the Conference on United Nations Organization to be opened five weeks later on April 25, 1945.

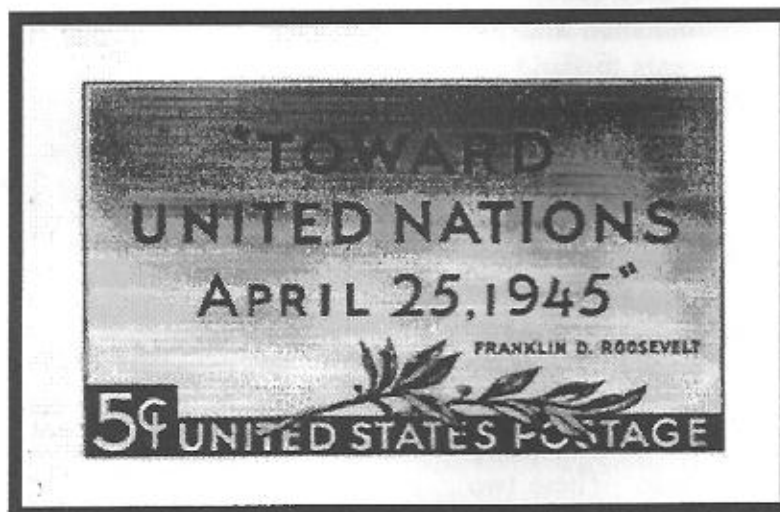


Figure 3: The design of Scott #928, which was prepared on remarkably short notice, to debut on the opening day (April 25, 1945) of the United Nations Conference on International Organization in San Francisco. The words and elements of the design are attributed to President Franklin Delano Roosevelt. Unfortunately he died on April 12, 1945 less than two weeks before the Conference opened.

THREE UNMEE POST CARDS

By Richard Powers

Dr. Gale Raymond
P. O. Box 228
Sugar Land, TX 77478

In the August 2001 issue of the *Journal*, UNP Military Editor J.-L. Emmenegger wrote a article (page 19) on the United Nations Mission in Eritrea and Ethiopia (UNMEE). This peacekeeping operation was approved after a cease-fire was signed between Eritrea and Ethiopia in Algiers on December 12, 2000. Within a few months contingents of UN-observers from the Netherlands and Canada had arrived. This article pictures a postcard bearing a CFPO 5108 postmark dated in February 2001.

Dr. Gale J. Raymond has sent me colored reproductions of three attractive post cards bearing stamp-like labels, which refer to either the UNMEE or SHIRBRIG. All three post cards bear what appears to be a military postmark dated January 2, 2001. The upper legend reads MPO 32(?)3 BPM, which I suspect means "Military Post Office 32(?)3 Bureau de Poste Militaire". The lower legend reads "ASTRA ON KOK 3W0". All three cards bear a destination with a Canadian address.

Figure 1 bears a gold and blue stamp-like label with a 46 (cent?) denomination and the legend SHIRBRIG, which appears to stand for (UN) Stand-By (Forces) High Readiness Brigade. At least that is the legend which appears in Figure 3. Below this legend are the words "OP(eration) ECLIPSE". The label bears the name Canada but does not bear the words "Postage/Postes". Next to it is a 1-cent Canadian postage stamp with these words present. The cachet bears the flags of the member states of the UN Standby Forces.

The cards in Figures 2 and 3 bear a mostly red label with a 47 denomination. These two cards bear the typed legend "Flown to CFB Trenton". The cachet in Figure 2 shows two military personnel flanking a shield bearing the image of a camel and a rainbow. The cachet on the card in Figure 3 appears to be the escutcheon of the HQCOY of SHIRBRIG.

Dr. Raymond solicits any information readers might have concerning these items at the following address:



Figure 1: "UN Post Card" with 46 (cent?) label bearing the legend SHIRBRIG - OP ECLIPSE.



Figure 2: "UN Post Card" with 47 (cent?) label bearing the legend UNMEE.



Figure 3: Another "UN Post Card" with the same label.

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1. Twenty-six covers to IAEA-Vienna, 1976-78, 7 metered, 19 pouch, all from different UN offices worldwide, #10 or smaller MB\$8.
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MOSTLY UPU CONGRESSES AND ANNIVERSARIES

3. UPU Congress - London, 1929 - piece of large congress corner-card cover, stamps, 3 strikes of C9.1 and registry label C9/RM.1 (fold which does not distract) MB\$40.
4. UPU Congress - Stockholm, 1924, post card mailed from congress post office to Belgium, stamp has small corner tear MB\$15.
5. UPU Congress - Lausanne, 1974, small congress corner-card cover to Belgium, congress cancel, congress note card inside MB\$10.
6. UPU Exec. Committee - St. Gallen, 1951, small UPU CEL corner card cover to US, special cancel MB\$10.
7. League of Nations Monetary & Economic Conference - London, 1933, small mailed cover, Gaines p. 1027, cancel 1933/1b MB\$15.
8. World Forestry Congress - Antalya, Turkey, 1997, #10 congress corner card mailed
- cover with meter of congress secretariat MB\$12.
9. UPU 75th Anniversary stamps - 17 commercial covers from 17 countries with 1949 UPU stamps MB\$12.
10. UPU Centenary - 13 commercial covers from 13 countries with 1974 UPU stamps MB\$9.
11. UPU Switzerland - 17 mostly philatelic covers, 1953-83, FDCs, special cancels, etc. MB\$12.
12. UPU Congresses - Stockholm, London, Cairo, Rio de Janeiro, Lausanne, Vienna, Hamburg, 13 commercial covers with stamps issued for these congresses MB\$15.
13. UPU Centenary, 1974, 12 different FDCs MB\$9.
14. UPU Congress Vienna, 1964, 4 FDCs with congress cancels #17, 23, 29, 53 MB\$6.
15. UN Charter signers from Canada, 1951 and 1974 FDCs honoring two signers of the Charter: Mackenzie King and St. Laurent MB\$6.
16. UPU Switzerland, 1909, two unused postal cards honoring inauguration of UPU monument: 5c and 10c MB\$10.

MOSTLY UN FOLDERS

17. UNPA folder - Conference Natural Disaster 1994 Japan with FDCs MB\$15.
18. UNPA folder - Peace 1993 Korea with FDCs MB\$15.
19. Combo UNNY Environment 1982 FDC unaddressed MB\$6.

20. UNPA card FD Geneva, Pompidou Center 1977 MB\$10.
21. UNPA folder New York World Fair MB\$8.
22. UNICEF Day folder, India with UN stamp FDC and Calcutta cancel 1961 MB\$6.
23. UNPA folder Expo 1967 with mint stamps MB\$8.
- 23a. Two UNSG England souvenir cards, 1983 with Geneva and London cancel MB\$8.
24. United Nations University, Japan, souvenir card, NY cancel MB\$10.
25. 1998 UN postal card Palais Wilson, Swiss cancel MB\$5.
26. Scandinavian Airlines private souvenir card for Starek stamp FD cancel, 1968 MB\$10.

MISCELLANEOUS

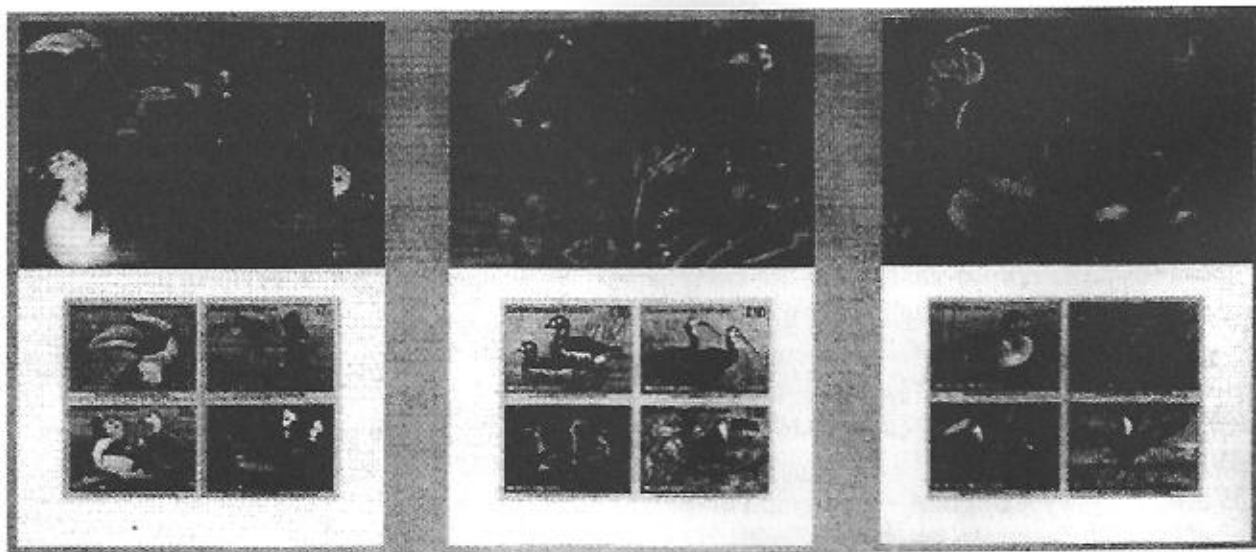
27. Italy admitted to UN membership (2) 1957 Italian stamp maxicards MB\$10.
28. UN #C7 BISECT top and bottom on two Artcraft FDCs - unusual! MB\$10.

29. Different used UNNY blocks, mostly first day cancels, off paper, Endangered Species, etc., cat. \$20 MB\$7.
30. Wolfgang Hütter, 1984, #10 FDC, Fifth Anniversary, Vienna MB\$6.

WFUNA LITHOGRAPHS

31. Carol Christian 1973 #2 FDNY MB\$30.
32. Normal Rockwell mint 1973 MB\$59.
33. Frank Reichenthal 1974 #8 mint MB\$17.
34. Hall Groat 1974 #9 mint MB\$20.
35. Ramon Olivera Space 1974 #12 mint MB\$125.
36. Henry Bencsath 19975 #15 mint MB\$17.
37. Hall Groat 1975 #16 mint MB\$20.
38. Philip Brandon 1975 #17 FDNY MB\$100.
39. Roger Christian 1977 #23 FD Geneva MB\$40.
40. Ole Hamann 1978 #32 mint MB\$25.
41. Gary Trudeau (Doonesbury) 1979 #35 mint MB\$50.
42. Ole Hamann IYC 1979 #37 mint MB\$50.

2003 ENDANGERED SPECIES MAXIMUM CARDS



Chapters of the UNPI

Midwest UN Collectors meets intermittently at shows in Iowa, Kansas, Nebraska. Contact: Dorothy Green, 2200 36th St., Des Moines, IA 50310 or dotgreen@worldnet.att.net

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

UNPI Officers and Board of Directors

July 1, 2002-June 30, 2004

President: Greg Galletti
P.O. Box 466, Mt. Airy, MD 21771-0466
e-mail: info@unstampz.com

Vice President: Anthony Dewey
157 Warrenton Ave. Hartford, CT 06105-3931
e-mail: afdewey@aol.com

Secretary: Blanton Clement, Jr.
P.O.Box 146, Morrisville, PA 19067
e-mail: bclemjr@yahoo.com

Treasurer: Jim Matyasovich
712 Meadowbrook Avenue,
Orange, CA 92865-1322
e-mail: jimmaty@socal.rr.com

Director: Dan Gapinski
118 North 14th Street, Clear Lake, IA 50428
e-mail: gapinski@netins.net

Director: Richard Powers
2445 East Del Mar Boulevard, #422
Pasadena, CA 91107-4871
e-mail: 9rpowers@mtsac.edu

Director: Brian Reiser
7505 Democracy Boulevard, #439
Bethesda, MD 20817
e-mail: thebcgo@aol.com

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14 Dawn Drive
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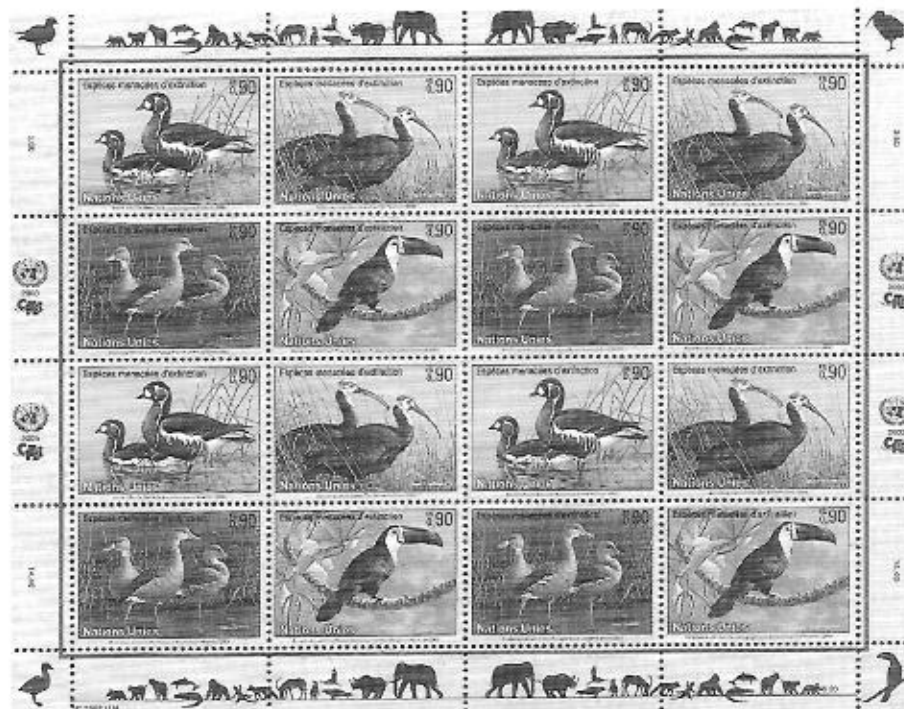
Committee Chairmen

Archivist Ray E. Ward
302 E 19th St., Russellville, AR 72801-7220
Auctions Alex Bereson
18 Portola Dr., San Francisco CA 94131-1518
e-mail: bereson@pacbell.net

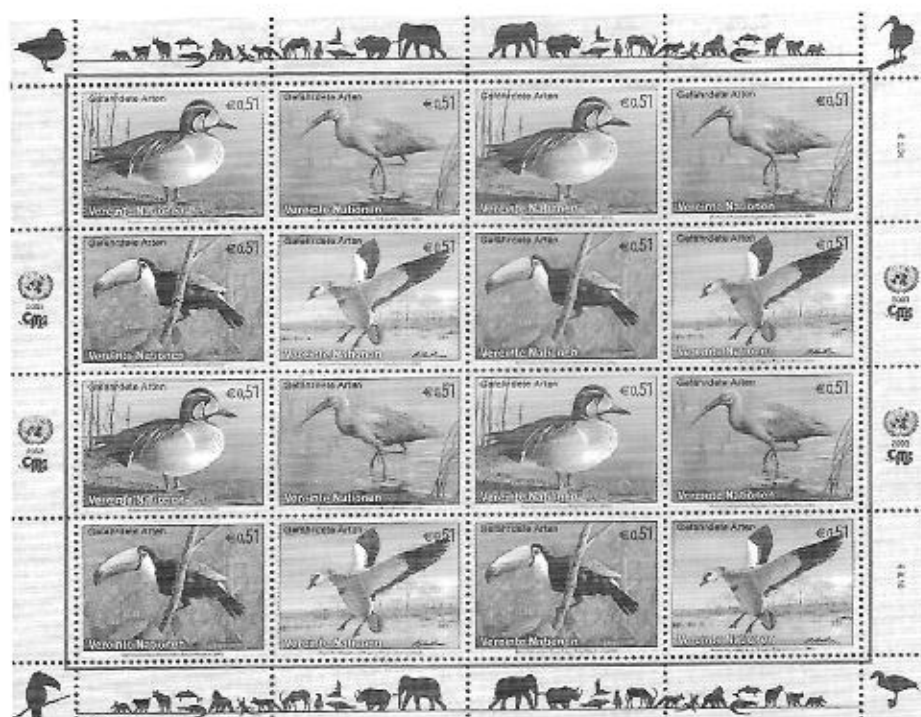
Exhibits Anthony Dewey
157 Warrenton Ave., Hartford, CT 06105-3931
e-mail: afdewey@aol.com

Home Page Editor Dennis Hamilton
P. O. Box 812785, Wellesley, MA 02181-0025
e-mail: who@tiac.net

Publicity Steven Scheibner
16-70 Bell Blvd, #219
Bayside, NY 11360-1621
e-mail: unmaven@aol.com



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