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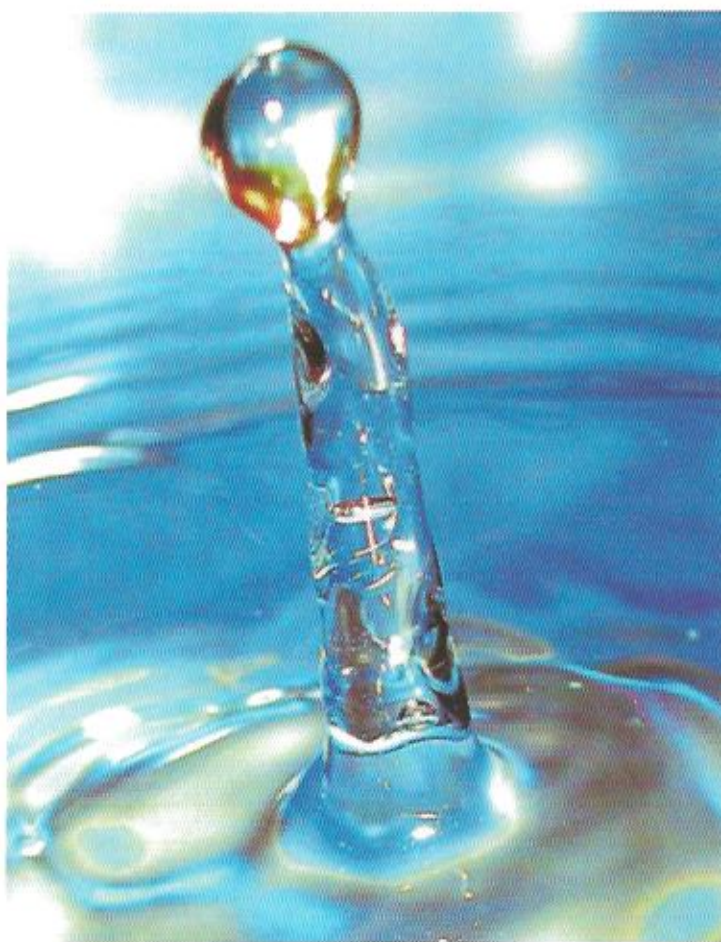
Number 4

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OF THE UNITED NATIONS PHILATELISTS, INC



INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF  
FRESHWATER - 2003

# 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

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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.

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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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## New Member

1482 George D. Heinz.....Bronx, NY

## Disclaimer

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

## Reprinting

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## Cover Illustrations

**Front cover:** Consequences of a projectile entering a water surface. **Rear cover:** UNPA commemoratives honoring the International Year of Freshwater - 2003.



## MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR

### The UNPA Archives Have Been Auctioned Off

On May 12, 2003 the archives of the United Nations Postal Administration (UNPA) became the property of the Champion Stamp Company of New York. This occurred at the (David) Feldman (Auction) Galleries in Geneva, Switzerland in a single lot, which sold for \$3,068,000, which included a 15% buyer's premium and 3% fees and taxes. The material sold from the archives covered the period from 1951, when the first United Nations stamps were produced, until late 2000.

According to an ad in the April 28, 2003 issue of Linn's Stamp News, the lots auctioned off consisted of "millions of proofs, imperforates, artwork, etc." It has been announced that many of these items are unique and will appear for the first time in the *Scott 2004 Specialized Catalogue of United States Stamps*.

Originally eight lots were made available for bids. Lot 1 contained designs for UN stamps during the period from 1951 through 2000. Of these 3991 were for UNNY stamps; 733 for UNGeneva and 317 for UNVienna. Bids for this lot started at €140,000. (As of June 1st, the euro had a value of about \$1.18.)

Lot 2 consisted of six original paintings for the 1986 issues: Africa in Crisis and Development Program. Bids started at €4000.

Lot 3 was the highlight of the lots with all existing essays, partial test printings and imperforate stamps for UNNY. Included were 9850 essays and partial test printings of 180955 stamps and 1493 souvenir sheets. There were also 34807 imperforate stamp pairs and 409 imperforate souvenir sheets and miniature sheets. The estimate value for the 220119 items was around €1,000,000.

Lot 4 was a similar lot for UNGeneva with 203815 items from the period from 1969 to 2000, which had a starting bid of €500,000.

Lot 5 was a similar lot for UNVienna from

the period from 1979 to 2000 with an opening price of €400,000.

Lot 6 was a box with 927 Essays, test printings and partial printings of stationery which opened at €7500.

Lot 7 consisted of twelve boxes with metal and rubber dies, cancelers and meter hubs, which had been used by UNNY, Geneva and Vienna. The lot originally had a minimum opening bid of €4000 but was withdrawn from sale.

Lot 8 included printing plates for the Hundertwasser Series in 1983 honoring the Universal Declaration of Human Rights with a minimum bid of €3500.

Initially the seven available lots were auctioned off individually and then reopened for a single bid for all of the lots, which would have to exceed the sum by 10%. This the Champion Stamp Company did and won all seven lots.

Less than a month later, on June 1st, the Champion Stamp Company sold this lot to auctioneer Greg Manning, who plans to auction off this material on November 23rd.

### Some Personal Reactions

When I first heard of the plans of the UNPA to sell its postal archives, I became seriously conflicted. The collector of specialized United Nations material in me was overjoyed at the possibility of acquiring some "neat" material which would complement my "First Issue Exhibit". Surely in light of the mammoth amount of material contained within the archives, the collector in me would be able to snare a few items.

As indications of the true nature of the archives began to trickle out, the philatelic researcher in me began whispering words of caution. The vast majority of the material would be essays, proofs, trial printings, pre-



liminary designs, partial test printings, unaccepted designs, imperforate stamps as well as other material accumulated during the production of the stamps. In general the UNPA had displayed particular zeal in guarding such material from falling into the hands of philatelists, either collectors or researchers.

Such zeal can benefit the researcher, if preservation allows access to researchers. My own recent experience with the UNPA in New York with regard to this point was quite discouraging.

In February 2001 the UNP published a monograph by Duane Lamers, *United Nations Postal Stationery Issued and Reprinted - 1952 - 1984*. Duane proposed the publication of this monograph at least two years before the final publication date. The major hangup was the incompleteness of documentation concerning the eight different printings of the first postal card: Scott #UX1, which first appeared on July 18, 1952.

I, as editor, encouraged Duane to try to seek access to the UNPA archives to see if any more information might turn up. The hope was that as the postal cards were reprinted in December 1952, December 1953, August 1954, November 1955, November 1956, October 1957 and July 1958, the UNPA might have preserved in its records, more precise dates of printings, maybe even samples of the reprinted items as they were received. For more than a year Duane with the support of UNP officers tried to arrange access to the Archives. The response was always a firm no.

I was particularly dismayed because my own experience with the personnel of the UNPA in Geneva and the Philatelic Museum in the Palais des Nations had always been quite supportive of research efforts. In 1995 the UNP published a translation of the classic book by Charles Misteli *Étude sur les Timbres-Postes et Oblitérations de la Société*

*des Nations, du Bureau International du Travail et des Conférences Internationales*, which first appeared in September 1943. As translator and editor of the work, I spent several days at the United Nations Philatelic Museum and at the League of Nations Archives in Geneva, trying to track down documents and obtain photocopies of philatelic material with which to illustrate the monograph. Madame W.G. Wezenberg of the Philatelic Museum was particularly helpful in arranging access to the Archives and in obtaining photocopies for the monograph. She and Mr. Hugo Valdés, who at the time was Chief of the UNPA in Geneva, both understood that fostering the publication of serious philatelic literature would enhance the position of the UNPA and the Philatelic Museum in the eyes of serious philatelists. There seemed to be no such attitude at the UNPA headquarters in New York.

One can only hope that before the material gets dispersed to collectors throughout the world, that efforts will be made to preserve knowledge of the philatelic items, which are emerging from the Archives. Apparently the *Scott Catalog* will document some of the less specialized items. If ever the world of United Nations Philately needed an Arleigh Gaines, it needs him NOW.

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## SECRETARY'S REPORT

### Membership Census

As of early May, when essentially all renewals for the year 2003 are in, UNP has 256 members. It should be noted this is the low point of the year, since additional renewals and new members would add to that. Of the 256 members, 233 are from the United States, 8 from Canada and 15 from other countries.

Of the US members, 36 are from New York, 26 from California, 21 from New Jersey, 16 from Pennsylvania, 15 from Illinois, 10 from Virginia and 9 from Texas and Florida. There are 8 from Michigan, 7 each from Massachusetts and Missouri, 6 each from Ohio and Wisconsin, 5 each from Maryland and Colorado, and 4 each from Connecticut,

Delaware, Minnesota and Iowa. There are 3 each from Arizona, Indiana, Tennessee and Washington. Alabama, Oregon, Louisiana, North Carolina and Oklahoma have 2 members each, while the following have 1 each: Rhode Island, Nevada, New Hampshire, West Virginia, South Carolina, Nebraska, Arkansas, District of Columbia and the Marshall Islands.

Of our Canadian members, 4 are from Ontario, 2 from British Columbia and 1 each from Nova Scotia and Alberta. From other countries we have 3 from the Netherlands, 2 each from Israel, Japan and Switzerland and 1 each from Austria, Australia, France, Germany, Luxembourg and the United Kingdom.

## UNITED NATIONS PHILATELISTS, INC.

### BALANCE SHEET

For the fiscal year: May 1, 2002 through April 30, 2003

Prepared by UNP Treasurer Jim Matyasovich

Balance: May 1, 2002		\$8595.36
Income		
Dues	\$4462.00	
Auctions	\$177.30	
Total income		\$4639.30
Expenses		
Journal printing and shipping	\$3545.35	
Secretary's expenses	124.33	
Treasurer's expenses	66.68	
Journal Editor's expenses	304.84	
Delaware Franchise Tax	71.50	
Total expenses		\$4112.70
Balance: April 30, 2003		\$9121.96



## THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF FRESHWATER

By Richard Powers



On June 20th the United Nations Postal Administration (UNPA) issued six new stamps honoring the year 2003 as the International Year of Freshwater. The United Nations declared this year as such "to raise awareness and galvanize action to better manage and protect this critical resource".

The six stamps were issued as three se-tenant pairs, one for each office of the UNPA. The UNNY pair of 23¢- and 37¢-stamps portrays a marshland landscape sheltering insects and waterfowl. The UN Geneva pair of F.s. 0,70- and F.s. 1,30-stamps pictures a national park-like scene with a towering waterfall, a snow-covered mountain and a family enjoying a lake. The UN Vienna pair of €0,55- and €0,75-stamps depicts a winter scene with a horse in a snowcovered meadow next to a pond. A souvenir card on the same theme picturing the six stamps was also released. The six stamps appear on the back cover.

Of all the water on Earth, only 2.5 per cent is freshwater, the rest is salty. Of this freshwater, most is frozen in icecaps, present as soil moisture or inaccessible in deep underground aquifers, leaving less than 1 per cent accessible for direct use.

Sustainable human development depends on the availability of freshwater. It is estimated that more than one third of the global food production is based on irrigation, a significant portion of which may rely on unsustainable groundwater sources. Despite progress in the last two decades to improve access to safe drinking water, some 1.1 billion people go without. Areas of water scarcity and stress are increasing particularly in North Africa and West Asia. In the next two decades, total water demand is expected to increase by 40 per cent. By 2025, two-thirds of the world's population may live in countries with moderate or severe water shortages.



Figure 1: First Day Cover of Scott #1142 honoring the United Nations Conference on Water in Mar del Plata, Argentina March 14-25, 1977.



The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) is one of several UN agencies working to improve access to freshwater around the world. The Agency applies nuclear and isotopic techniques to improve water management practices, to study soil conditions and the effects of pollution on soils and water systems, and to breed plant varieties able to grow in poor soil conditions. The Agency also provides technical assistance to those Member States interested in pursuing the use of nuclear energy for desalinating seawater as an option for providing freshwater. Support and technical assistance for these and other water-related activities are provided through the technical cooperation program of the Agency.

Also directly involved in water programs are the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) and the World Meteorological Organization (WMO).

### Conferences

It is not too difficult to document philatelically many of United Nations related conferences dealing with the theme of freshwater. In Figure 1 is a first day cover of a stamp (Scott #1142) released by the Argentinean post office on March 19, 1977 in honor of the United Nations Conference on Water, which took place in Mar del Plata, Argentina from March 14-25, 1977. Although the conference was a general UN meeting, the stamp design seems to stress the role of the UNEP in the organization of this conference.

Later that same year the UNEP organized the United Nations Conference on Desertification in Nairobi, Kenya from August 20th - September 8th. Strangely enough the Kenyan post office did not commemorate this conference with a stamp but Pakistan did. In Figure 2 is a first day cover of the Pakistani stamp (Scott #435) issued on September 5, 1977.

The Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East (ECAFE) has been very active in organizing regional water resources conferences. Figure 3 shows a philatelic cover bearing a special cancel from the Seventh Regional Conference on Water Resources Development of ECAFE which took place in Canberra, Australia September 19-26, 1966.

### UN Water Projects

Occasionally one can identify specify freshwater programs of the UN and its affiliated agencies by referring to the corner cards of service covers. Figure 4 shows a service cover from a project of the United Nations Special Fund in Jordan. This program supported the development and use of groundwater resources of East Jordan and monitored in Amman, Jordan. The date of the postmark is not legible but the cover bears a stamp (Scott #313) issued in 1954. Note that the globe and wreath logo of the United Nations in the corner card is a mirror image of that normally seen.

Figure 5 shows a joint service cover of the United Nations Special Fund, Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the Lebanese Research Institute for Agronomy supporting Pedologic (Science of Soil) Studies and Irrigation Programs. Note that return address is c/o of UNTAB (United Nations Technical Assistance Bureau) in Beirut, Lebanon. The cover was sent April 6, 1964 and bears Lebanese stamps Scott #C362 and C364.

Figure 6 shows a service cover from the joint project of the Food and Agriculture Organization and the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) for the Hydroagricultural Development of the Souss Valley in Agadir, Morocco. The cover was sent January 19, 1971 and bears Scott #172, 178 and 235, the latter honoring UNESCO's International Education Year (1970).



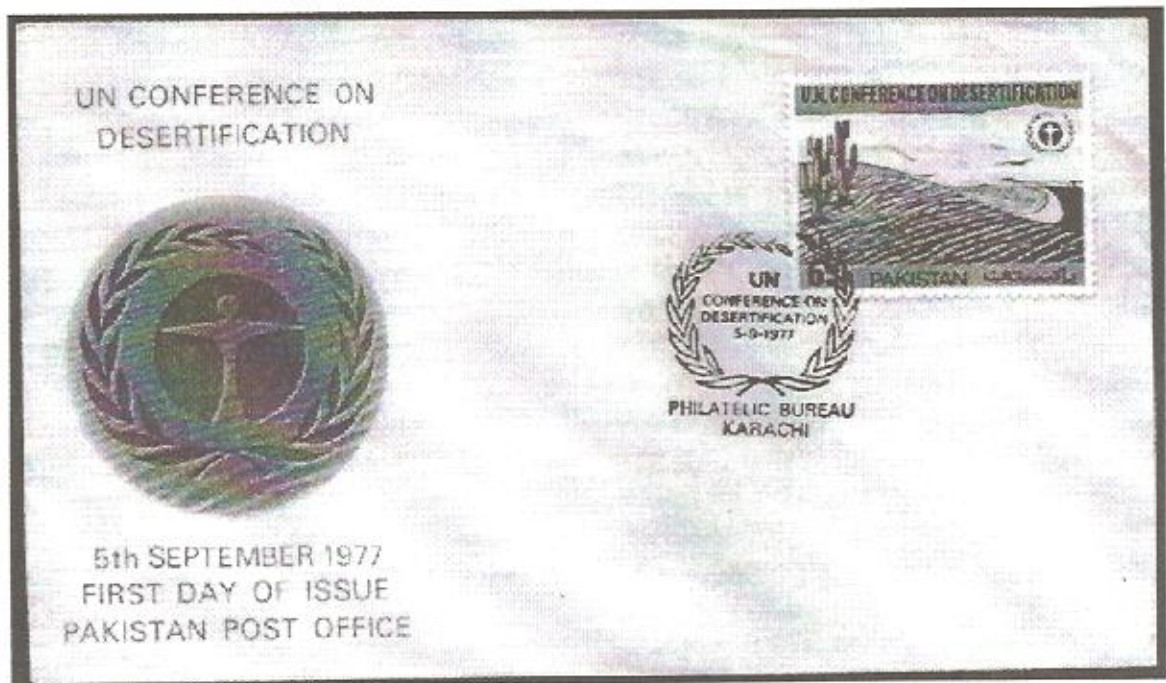


Figure 2 First Day Cover of Pakistani stamp (Scott # 435) honoring the UN Conference on Desertification in Nairobi, Kenya August 29-September 9, 1977.



Figure 3: Cover from the 7th Regional E.C.A.F.E. Conference on Water Resources Development in Canberra, Australia dated September 19, 1966. Note that the water theme is carried over in the theme of the Australian stamp (Scott # 421) which shows a lifeguard rescuing a swimmer in honor of the 75th Anniversary of the Royal Life Saving Society.





Figure 4: Service cover from the UN Special Fund program for the Development and Use of Groundwater Resources of East Jordan sent from Amman, Jordan bearing Scott #313. The stamp was issued in 1954.

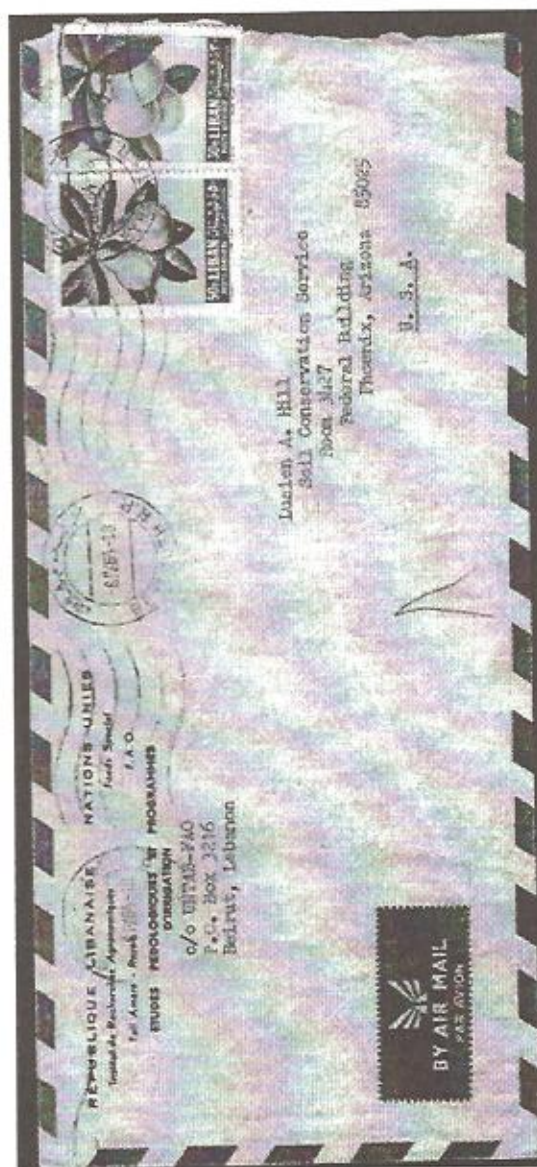


Figure 5: 1964 joint service cover of the UNTAB, UN Special Fund, FAO and the Lebanese Research Institute for Agronomy for its Pedologic (Science of Soil) Studies and Irrigation Programs in Beirut, Lebanon.



## NGO Program

Although the United Nations is an important contributor to Freshwater programs, it is not the only "player". In July 1950 an international Non-governmental Organization, the International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage (ICID) was established with headquarters in India. In 1975 its membership included sixty-four member countries.

Figure 7 shows a first day cover of a stamp honoring the Twenty-fifth Anniversary of (ICID) issued by the Indian Post Office (Scott #686) on the occasion of the Ninth International Congress on Irrigation and Drainage in Moscow in 1975. ICID was founded to stimulate and promote the development and application of the science and techniques of irrigation, drainage and flood control and river training.

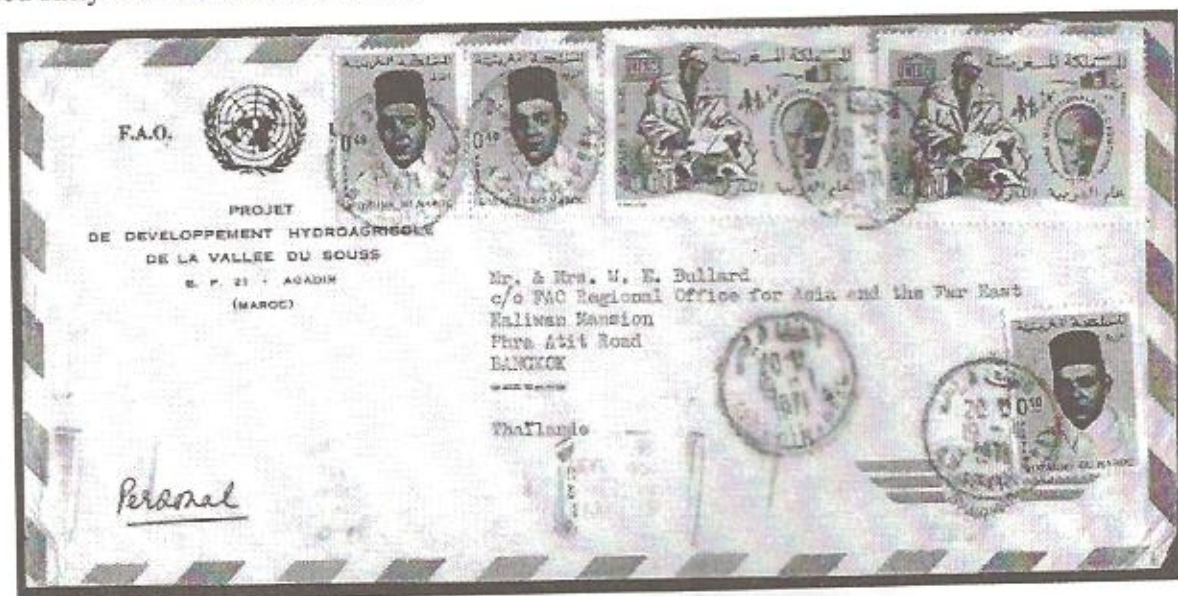


Figure 6: 1971 service cover from the joint project of the FAO and the UNDP for the Hydroagricultural Development of the Souss Valley in Agadir, Morocco.



Figure 7: First Day Cover honoring the 25th Anniversary of ICID issued by the Indian Post (Scott #686) and the 9th International Congress on Irrigation and Drainage in Moscow in 1975.



## SPECIAL JOINT FRESHWATER COVER FROM THE UNPA-SWISS PTT

To celebrate the International Year of Freshwater 2003, the UNPA in Geneva and the Swiss PTT issued a special joint first day cover (Figure 1) on June 20th. A se-tenant pair of the UNPA International Year of Freshwater stamp in Swiss francs and a stamp issued by the Swiss PTT are affixed to the cover and canceled with a special cancellation created for this occasion (Figure 2). Note that the cancel is a joint Swiss - UN cancel and makes no reference to June 20th



Figure 2: UNPA Geneva - Swiss PTT special joint cancel for the International Year of Freshwater issue.

being the first day of issue and is distinct from the Geneva first day cancel (Figure 3) for this commemorative. The envelope for the cover, in limited edition of 20,000, will be numbered from 1 to 20,000.



Figure 3: Geneva first day cancel for the International Year of Freshwater issue.

This special cover (Item # 524.5032 is priced at \$3.00 and can be purchased from the UNPA in New York. Subscription account holders will automatically receive the cover if they have a standing order for Geneva miscellaneous products.

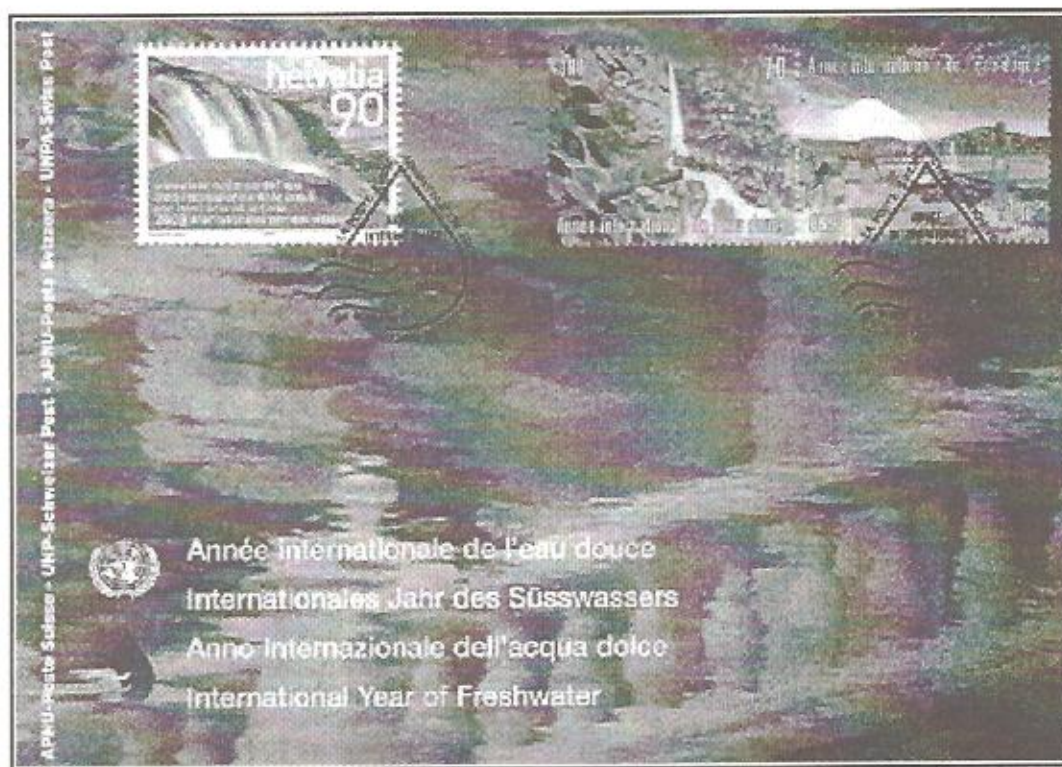


Figure 1: Special joint cover of the UNPA - Swiss PTT for the International Year of Freshwater.



## MIXED FRANKING FROM PALESTINE AND ISRAEL: AN UPDATE

By Richard Powers

In an article (page 17) in the February issue of *The Journal*, I reported coming across a cover bearing the corner card of the Visa Section of the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization (UNTSO) postmarked in Mevo Azza, Israel on July 6, 1995 and addressed to Giv'atayim in the same country. The cover bears stamps issued by the Palestine Authority and Israel. I requested information from readers concerning the conditions under which Palestine Authority stamps were valid.

UNP-member Moss Fairmont, who lives in Ramat Hasharon, Israel suggested that I contact Dr. Josef Wallach from Rehovot, Israel, who is a specialist in the stamps of the Palestine Authority and who has published extensively on this topic. Dr. Wallach very kindly sent me a wealth of background material. The following is taken from an article which he published in the volume IV #65/66 of the *Journal of Holy Land Postal History* and in the June 1998 issue of *The Israel Philatelist (USA)*.

On May 4, 1994, the day the Oslo Agreement was signed in Cairo, the postal services of the Israeli Military Government throughout the Gaza strip were terminated. All stamps and postmarks were withdrawn from post offices. May 17, 1994 was declared "Official" Last Day. In Jericho all postal activities ended on May 9th. The Palestinian Authority (PA) kept the Post Offices running, supplying services and distributing incoming mail. No mailing services were available due to the lack of stamps and postmark devices.

The agreement with Israel brought about the establishment of the PA as a governing entity, which was not allowed to develop its own monetary system. It could not print its own money. However, it was agreed that the PA could, within certain limitations, issue its own stamps. This item was hurriedly applied, when the PA issued its first stamps, printed by the Bundesdruckerei in Berlin. Flag stamps were introduced on August 15, 1994 (Scott #

8-12). On September 1st a landscape and eagles series (Scott #1-7,13) was issued. The denomination used was "mils", reminiscent of the British Mandate period. The denomination 100 mils was equivalent to 100 agorots or 1 shekel and was used in determining the formal rates, generally identical (but not always) to those used in Israel. Stamps appeared in Europe before they appeared in the Palestinian Authority's own territory. In October - November 1994 the stamps first appeared in the Gaza Strip and Jericho post office. For approximately three months, however, the postal authorities had no postmark instruments.

Actual postal activity was limited since the agreement between the two parties was that mail could be posted only within the boundaries of the governed areas of the PA. Outgoing mail services were not available and mail could not be posted directly from the Gaza Strip and Jericho areas to either Israel or to any other country in the world. The small stream of outgoing mail from the Gaza Strip was routed via the Israeli Mevo Azza branch, situated at the Erez Checkpoint (Machsom Erez), while the people of Jericho routed their outgoing mail via Jerusalem. Such outgoing mail had to bear Israeli stamps. Letters bearing only stamps of the PA with Israeli destinations were considered stampless and were returned to the sender. The Jericho post office found an original solution to the problem by selling both Israeli and PA stamps for use. Provisional canceling devices began to be used in post offices on January 10, 1995.

As a result of the Second Oslo Accords, the PA was allowed initial direct postal communication with Israel and the rest of the world on November 8, 1995 subject to the following limitations set by the Oslo Accords:

- a) The postal tariff would be identical to that in use in Israel.
- b) The name of the political entity on the stamps must be the "Palestinian Authority".



"Palestine" must not appear in any form.

c) The monetary value of the stamps could be neither "mil" nor "mils" (corresponding to the currency during the British Mandate). "Fils" was agreed upon as the currency to be used. As the PA does not have its own currency, the indicated value on the stamp actually refers to Israeli currency.

The cover with mixed franking bears two copies of Scott #2 which has a 10 mil value. These stamps were valid at the time the letter was posted in July 1995, presumably in the Gaza Strip. However, as of November 8, 1995, these stamps became invalid as they bore the proscribed denomination "mil". From then on the stamps had to be surcharged with the denomination "fil" as per the Oslo Accords.

Dr. Wallach also provided information about the activities of the Visa Section of the UNTSO. It has to request visas from the Israeli Immigration Department in Jerusalem for military observers and staff members of UNTSO, who travel extensively into and out of Israel.

As far as the cover shown in the article in the February issue, Dr. Wallach diplomati-

cally characterized it as "for sure a philatelic one but NICE. As you know in a transition period, all kind(s) of postal/postage use is done!"

Figure 1 shows a similar cover courtesy of UNP-member J.-L. Emmenegger. A close-up of the PA stamp (Scott #1) appears in Fig. 2.



Figure 2: 5 mil Palestinian Authority stamp "canceled" by a 1995 Israeli postmark on the left.

Readers interested in contacting Dr. Wallach directly to obtain more information can reach him at the following address:

Dr. Josef Wallach  
P.O. Box 1414  
Rehovot 76113 Israel

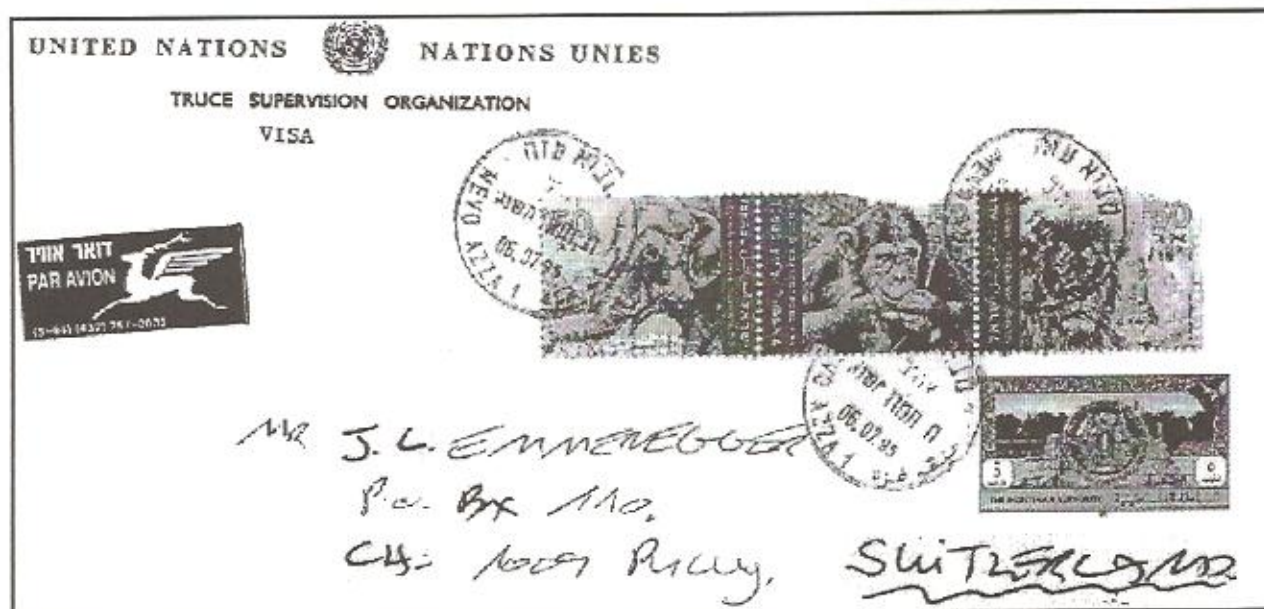


Figure 1: 1995 UNTSO cover to Switzerland bearing Israeli and Palestinian Authority stamps courtesy of J.-L. Emmenegger.



## LETTER FROM WIPO FORERUNNER CONFERENCE: MADRID 1890

By B. Clement, Jr.

As a United Nations Conference specialist, one of my dreams is to find postal history of early conferences of UN agencies which had their beginnings in the 19th century. I am pleased to present to you a newly discovered cover from the conference of the International Union for the Protection of Industrial Property held in Madrid, Spain in 1890. This organization, whose origins go back to 1883, was a forerunner of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), which was established in 1970 and became a UN specialized agency in 1974.

The cover mailed from Madrid on April 15, 1890 and bearing the corner card of the United States Legation is shown in Figure 1. The cover was backstamped in London on April 19th and in New York on April 28th. The first page of the four-page letter from a U.S. delegate, Francis Forbes, to his wife is shown in Figure 2.



Figure 1: 1890 cover sent from the U.S. Legation in Madrid at the time of the Conference of the International Union for the Protection of Industrial Property.

The text of the letter is as follows:

Dear Emma,

I wrote you a very hurried letter yesterday to take mail. I have a little more time today. The conference closed yesterday. I did not go to the Palace on Sunday night for your sake. I am told that the affair was very grand, a thousand people having been invited. Mrs. Seely is quite beside herself with having had a long personal talk with the Queen. A dozen people have asked why I was not there, and I have replied that my family did not go to receptions on Sunday. They commiserate me for not seeing one of the greatest spectacles which occur in Spain so very rarely and must I only reply that the loss is only to be gauged by my own feelings. I have just bought a lot of photographs of horses for your ? \_\_?. I could get no books on the horse. I have bought Frankie a cap of the kind peculiar to this country.

We had a parting breakfast yesterday which was very enjoyable. Eight languages were spoken. The whole (?) was very interesting.

Tomorrow I go to the ??? with the German delegate in the morning and in the evening to Paris.

I expect to leave Paris Friday night then I may go to Stuttgart from there. Then to Vienna, Berlin, Brussels, London and home. I expect to arrive about May 18th.

Your loving husband

Tuesday April 15

In the following annual report for 1890 of the commissioner of patents one can find a description of the United States involvement in the Madrid Conference.



## The Conference at Madrid

In my last annual report I directed attention to the Conference at Madrid of the members of the International Union for the Protection of Industrial Property then about to be held in April 1890....At the same time I expressed the opinion that the United States should be represented at the conference by delegates learned in matters pertaining to the American law of patents and trademarks, in order that through the efforts of such delegates a change might, if possible, be effected which would make the treaty subserve the needs of American inventors seeking patents in foreign countries...

In according with these suggestions an act was passed authorizing the Secretary of State to appoint delegates and Examiner F. A. Seely, of this office, and Mr. Francis Forbes of New York were appointed. These delegates, acting in conjunction with the United States Minister at Madrid, represented the United States at said conference, and although well-directed efforts, prosecuted with zeal and ability, were put forth by them they were not able to bring about the result anticipated.

So we see that the letter in Figure 2 was from one of the two U.S. delegates to the conference and that the wife of the other delegate was also in Madrid and went to the "grand reception". Who were these delegates? I was able to find considerable information on F.W. Seely:

Franklin A. Seely, of Pennsylvania...was born in 1834, graduated from Yale College in 1855, served in the Federal army during the war of the rebellion as assistant quartermaster of

volunteers, and was discharged in 1867 with the brevet rank of lieutenant colonel. He was appointed assistant examiner in the Patent Office in November 1875 and chief clerk of that office in April 1877. He held the latter office until June 1880, when he was appointed principal examiner and put in charge of the classes of invention which had heretofore formed the philosophical division, except electricity, which was made to constitute a separate division. To the new division was added trade marks, which had heretofore constituted a division by itself...When the United States became a member of the International Union for the Protection of Industrial Property, the work of reviewing the Convention of Paris in 1883 was assigned to Examiner Seely, and his interpretations of that instrument have been accepted here and abroad as correct. Since then he has had charge in the Patent Office of all questions arising under the convention, and growing out of international relations, and a year ago was a delegate from the United States to the International Conference at Madrid.

Unfortunately, I have been unable to find much about our letter writer Francis Forbes except that he was the delegate from the Eleventh District to the New York State Constitutional Convention in 1894.

So what was accomplished at the Madrid Conference? The Madrid Arrangement Concerning the Prevention of False and Misleading Indications of Source was the result. The Agreement is discussed in the following:

In 1886, at the Rome Conference, delegates sought to increase the pro-



tection for indication of origin...These Acts, while adopted, were never ratified. The Arrangement was proposed again at the Madrid Conference of 1890. It was suggested that the proposal could take the form of a draft Arrangement and member countries of the general Union could become signatories, thereby securing greater protection for indications of origin... Norway and Sweden co-proposed what is now Article 3 of the Arrangement. This provision allows the producer to place the name and address of the seller on goods of foreign origin provided the country or place of its manufacture is also clearly indicated. The first Article of the Arrangement reads: All goods bearing a false or misleading indication, by which one of the countries to which this Agreement applies is...indicated as being the country or place of origin, shall be seized on importation into any of the said countries.

A number of UN agencies had their origins in the 19th century, and many of the early conferences have no known postal history. Here are some possibilities for diligent searchers to find some more gems.

#### WIPO - Industrial Property Union Conferences:

Paris, March 1883  
Rome, 1886  
Brussels, 1897

#### WIPO - Literary and Artistic Union Conferences:

Bern, 1886

#### UPU - Congresses:

1st, Bern, September 15-October 9, 1874  
2nd, Paris, May 2-June 4, 1878  
3rd, Lisbon, February 3-March 21, 1885

#### ITU - International Telegraph Conferences:

Paris, March 1-May 17, 1865  
Vienna, June 12-July 21, 1868  
Rome, December 1, 1871-January 14, 1872  
St. Petersburg, June 1-July 19, 1875  
London, June 11-July 28, 1879  
Berlin, August 10-September 16, 1885  
Paris, May 16-July 21, 1890  
Budapest, June 16-July 21, 1896

#### WMO - International Meteorological Congresses:

Vienna 1873  
Rome 1879

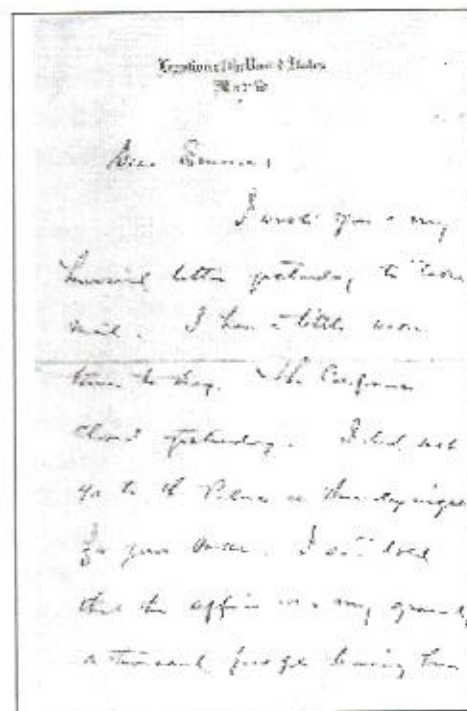


Figure 2: First page of letter from U.S. delegate Francis Forbes to the 1890 Industrial Union Property Conference Forbes to his wife.

#### References

1. Gaines, Arleigh, United Nations Philately, 1980, (R. & D. Publications, New York).
2. Internet references to Madrid 1890, Francis Forbes, Franklin Seely, WIPO, Industrial Property, Intellectual Property.



## AN "ANTIQUE" UPU SERVICE COVER

By Richard Powers

I enjoy finding philatelic "antiques". It is generally accepted that antiques are artifacts that were produced more than one hundred years ago. As a result, service covers from the nineteenth century from the four UN-related organizations mentioned in the previous article (Universal Postal Union (UPU) and the forerunners of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), the International Telecommunications Union (ITU) and the World Meteorological Organization (WMO)) qualify.

Figure 1 shows a service cover from the International Bureau of the UPU in Bern dating from 1895. The cover is addressed to the Inspector-in-Chief of the Post and Telegraph office in Batavia in the Netherlands Indies, commonly known as the Dutch East Indies. This cover has both the return address and the destination printed on the address side. On the rear is an embossed symbol of the UPU (Figure 2).

As this letter was a UPU service cover to one of its member states, it bore no postage.

It was postmarked in Bern on October 7, 1895. At that time this letter was sent, the International Bureau was installed in its second location in the second and third floors of the building at Christoffelgasse 6 in Bern. Today this building is occupied by the Schweizerische Volksbank. This building was home to the UPU from May 1, 1877 until October 31, 1905.



Figure 2: Embossed symbol of the International Office of the UPU next to the receiving cancel dated November 8, 1895 in Batavia.



Figure 1: 1895 service cover from the International Office of the UPU.



## END OF "VALEUR DÉCLARÉE" SERVICE AT UN GENEVA

By J.-L. Emmenegger

March 29th, 2003 was the last day of use of "Valeur Déclarée" (declared value) service for all post offices in Switzerland. The purpose of this service was to guarantee payment for the declared value if the item were lost in the mail. Items using this service could be sent to any address in Switzerland and to certain countries abroad. The maximum value guaranteed varied from country to country.

This type of mail received special handling and bore a special label with a pinkish red V. A clear indication of the declared value had to be written on the front side. A wax seal was used to seal the letter. The equivalent value in "Droits de tirages spéciaux", a special international money reference, was indicated, mostly for use by the delivering postal administration.

Until March 28th this service was offered

at the UN post office "1211 Genève 10 Nations Unies". A cover on service stationery from this last day of service appears in Figure 1. It ended a day earlier than in the rest of Switzerland since this office was closed on Saturday March 29th. I do not know whether this service will be replaced by another one. The label is catalogued by Gaines as G/IM2 and was in use since February 1973.

A cover (Figure 2) postmarked March 8, 1972 bears a V-label, which does not bear the 1211 postal code. This label is listed as Gaines G/IM1 and was used during the United Nations European Office (UNEO) forerunner days until early 1973.

A few covers bearing the V-label of the League of Nations post office "Genève 10 S. D. N." are known. The cover in Figure 3 was sent December 24, 1930.

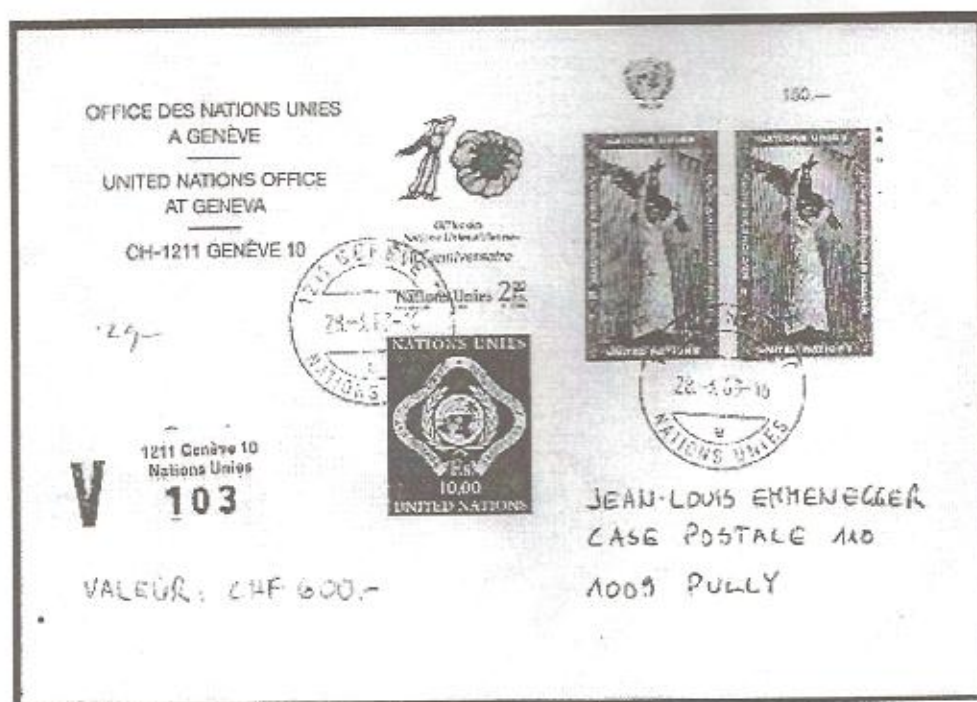


Figure 1: "Valeur déclarée" cover sent the last day of service at "1211 Genève 10 Nations Unies" on March 28, 2003.





Figure 2: 1972 cover bearing a V-label without the postal code 1211.

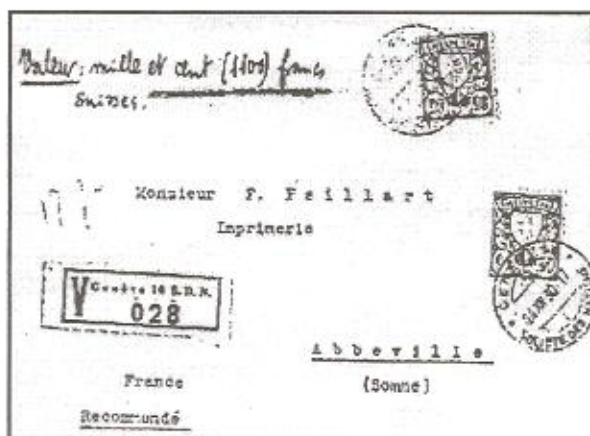


Figure 3: 1930 V-label cover used at the League of Nations.

## THE INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT IN THE HAGUE

By J.-L. Emmenegger

After our article appeared in the October 2002 issue of *The Journal* (pp. 14-16), we received a letter from Advance Team of the International Criminal Court (ICC), postmarked on December 30, 2002. This service cover appears in Figure 1. As this new court, which started its work officially on

July 1, 2002, is headquartered in the Hague, it is using normal Dutch stamps. As it is not located in the Peace Palace of the International Court of Justice (ICJ), it is not using the ICJ service stamps.

It will be interesting to see how the official ICC-mail develops in the years to come.

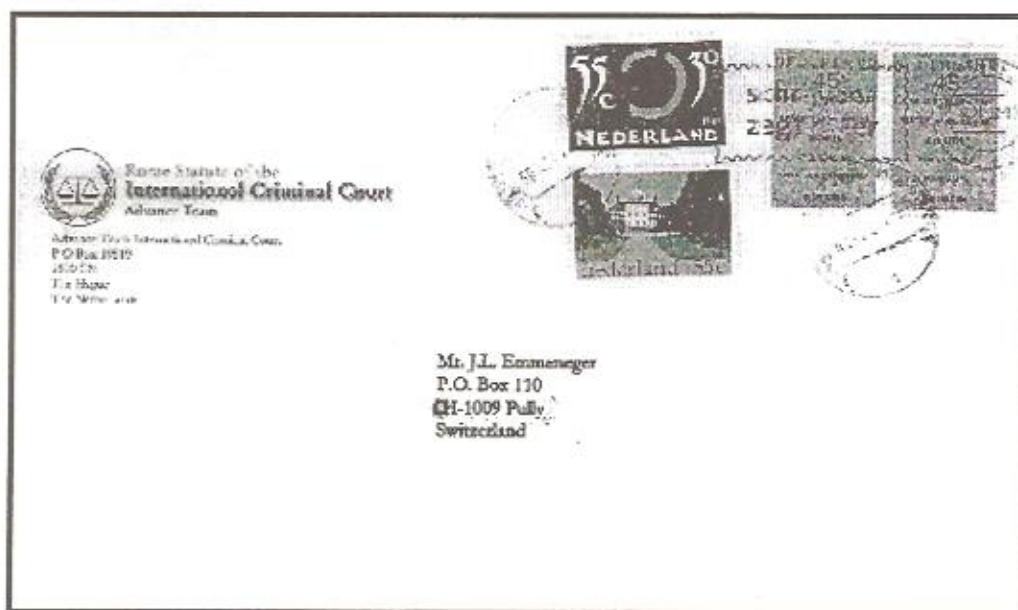


Figure 1: 2002 service cover from the International Criminal Court in the Hague.



## THE NEW UNNY POSTAGE METERS

By Jack I. Mayer

A few months ago it was noted that the United Nations in New York had appeared to have made some radical changes in their meter numbering system. Upon investigation through a contact at the United Nations Post Office (UNPO), I received the following information.

Meter # PB 6999950

First Day of Use: 5 AUG 02

Meter # PB 6999951

First Day of Use: 5 AUG 02

Meter # PB 6999952

First Day of Use: 19 AUG 02

Two of the machines are used regularly with one held in reserve. Experience since August tells me that all three are in intermittent use, with apparently no more than two in use on any given day.

These first days of use did not coincide with any new slogan or prior announcement. Hence few copies have reached the hands of philatelists. Copies are generally collected from any source that may be a recipient of mail from the United Nations. This, one soon learns, is not easy, even for this collector who has been doing it for over thirty years. From the very few copies that I have thus far accumulated, I can offer the following illustrations:



Meter # PB 6999950

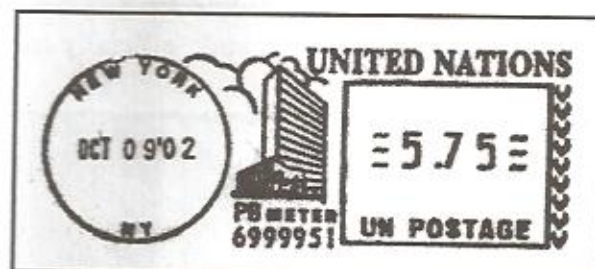
AUG -- '02: no slogan



Meter # PB 6999950

AUG 06 '02: no slogan

The next two examples represent the other two meter machines available.



Meter # PB 6999951

OCT 09 '02: no slogan



Meter # PB 6999950

AUG 06 '02: with slogan "The UN works to build a society for all ages."





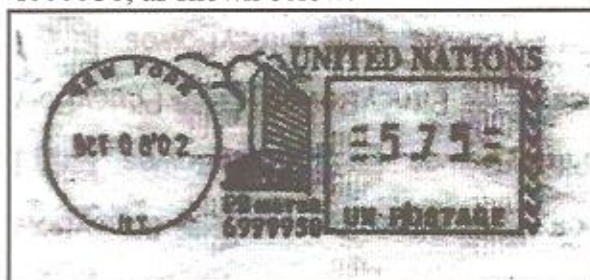
Meter # PB 6999952  
NOV -- '02

Notice the (red) bars at the top and bottom of the meter tape from PB 6999952. This bar is a warning to the machine operator that the end of the tape approaches. This signal is required by postal regulations. Since this bar is not continuous across the top and bottom of the tape, it signifies that this is the beginning of the end and that the operator still has approximately three feet of tape left that can be used before he has to insert a new coil.

For many years the tape rolls that the UNPO used were supplied by Pitney Bowes. These tapes have a security underprinting. Starting in late 1994, about the same time that the UN Secretariat was acknowledging that a budget crisis was looming, it was noted that most UN offices were starting to use private commercial mail couriers to carry their mail. That put a real crunch into collecting habits. Mailings from the UN in Geneva franked with their office meter machines were drastically reduced or even eliminated. Several carriers were contracted to carry the mail, mostly by POUCH to central locations in various countries where it would get a reduced rate for forwarding. This did save some money, but it raised havoc with our collecting. At the same time the UNPO in New York started using a generic white tape paper. In addition by not using slogans continually, one was able to get more frankings per tape roll, creating even more savings.

Nearly four years later in early 1998, the UNPO once again started using the Pitney

Bowes tape rolls. This continued only to mid-1999 when the generic white tape rolls were back in use, continuing to this day but with one exception. Machine # PB 0015007 was once again using Pitney Bowes tape during March and April 200, no doubt some formerly unused stock. Now suddenly we note one day use of PB tape on meter # PB 6999950, as shown below:



Meter # PB 6999950

OCT 08 '02: with underprinting

The light underprinting displays the Pitney Bowes logo design on a tape dated October 8, 2002. It is not too clear in the above figure but can be easily seen on the original tape. The name Pitney can be seen inverted just above the 5.75 denomination in this figure. No doubt more of that former stock is being used. No other recent impressions with that meter have been noted using the Pitney Bowes roll of tape.

I would like to add one last comment. On September 13, 1978 machine # PB 4 also used the generic white tape. This was the only known use until late 1994.

## SHOW AWARDS

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*.



## UN VIENNA: REVALUED STATIONERY AND TWO DEFINITIVES: ONE NEW AND ONE REPRINTED

By Richard Powers

As a result of the change in postal rates in Austria effective June 1, 2003, the United Nations Postal Administration (UNPA) was forced to revalue its stationery. The revalued items appear in Figure 1.

The € 0,51 postal card, which had been issued on March 1, 2002 (Scott # UX14) was surcharged by € 0,04 to bring the value of the card up to € 0,55. This corresponds to the Austrian domestic postcard rate as well as that for Europe.

The € 0,051 pre-stamped envelope, which had been released on June 27, 2002 (Scott #U4) was surcharged by € 0,04 to bring the value of the envelope up to € 0,55. This corresponds to the A priority rate (airmail) for letters weighing no more than 20 g domestically or to Europe.

The € 1,09 pre-stamped envelope, which had been released the same day (Scott #U5) was surcharged by € 0,16 to bring the value of the envelope up to € 1,25. This corresponds to the A priority rate (airmail) for letters weighing no more than 20 g to any other destination in the world.

On August 7th the UNPA released a reprint of the € 0,51 definitive (Scott #303, which had been released on March 1, 2002. The first printing was withdrawn from sale on August 6th so that the two printings were not on sale simultaneously.

The same day the UNPA released a new definitive with € 0,04, whose immediate use is as a make-up rate when the first class domestic letter rate (A priority) went up to € 0,55 from € 0,51. The design was taken from a photograph of the Schloss Eggenberg in Graz, which dates from 1625. This is another of the new pictorial series that UNPA Vienna is using for its definitives.

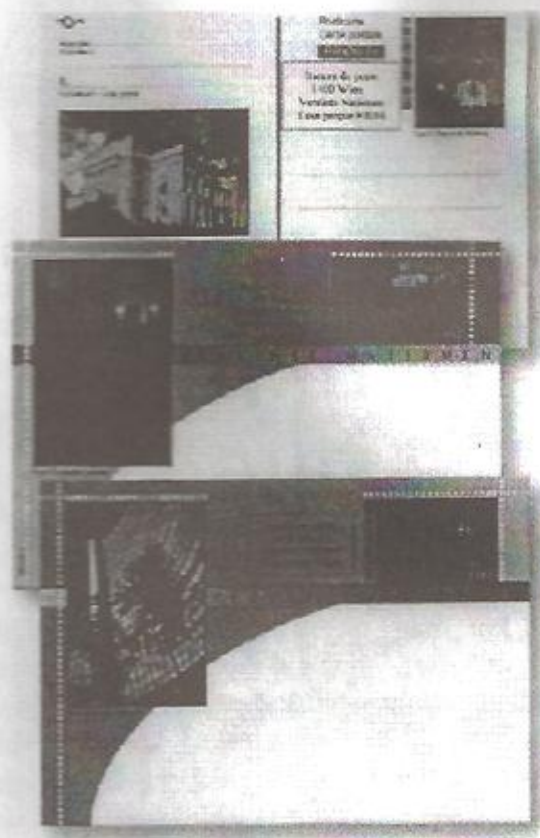


Figure 1: Surcharged stationery: (top) postal card revalued to € 0,55; (middle) pre-stamped domestic envelope now € 0,55; (bottom) overseas envelope now € 1,25.



Figure 2: New Vienna € 0,04 definitive.



# INTERNATIONAL RADIOTELEGRAPH CONFERENCE LONDON 1912 - ADDENDUM

By B. Clement, Jr.

The International Radiotelegraph Conference in London 1912 was featured in an article in the October 2002 issue (page 10) of the *Journal*. An additional cover, also ad-

ressed to Dr. Webster, has come to light. Both sides of the cover are shown in Figures 1 and 2. This is the first cover found with a corner card from this important conference.



Figure 1: Front of cover with violet oval conference cachet with red OFFICIAL PAID LONDON postmark.



Figure 2: Back of cover with official conference corner card in French on back flap.



**2003 UNITED NATIONS STAMP PROGRAM**  
 (As of July 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¢, € 0,25, € 1,00  
 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 2**                      **Surcharged Stationery**  
 Postal card € 0,51+0,04, pre-stamped envelopes € 0,51+0,04, € 1,09+0,16
- 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 20 stamps)  
 Souvenir card
- August 7**                      **Ralph Bunche**  
 37¢, F.s. 1,80, € 2,10  
                                  **Definitives**  
 € 0,04, € 0,51 (New printing)  
 (5 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**



## STAN SIMPSON, EDITOR OF UNSG PHILATELIC BULLETIN, DIES

### UNSG will probably be disbanded

By Richard Powers

In June I received word from Ron Howard, the Treasurer of the United Nations Study Group (UNSG), based in Great Britain, that the Secretary and Editor of the UNSG *Philatelic Bulletin* had suffered a severe stroke on May 8th. He never recovered and died at the age of 75.

Stan had been editor since 1991 and at times he was also President and New Issues (Non-UNPA) Secretary of UNSG.

With Stan's passing the UNSG has no one willing to take over his work. It has been decided by the Executive Committee that the group should be dissolved. It has been suggested that the annual general meeting be held in London in October 2003 in order to wind up the organization. It has also been suggested that any balance of funds in the treasury be contributed to UNICEF or some similar organization.

The UNSG was founded in 1968 nine years before United Nations Philatelists (UNP). I joined the group as a member in 1989. It published more than thirty volumes of its journal, whose scope had been recently expanded to include Europa philately as well as United Nations philately. During the years of my membership the journal appeared four times a year. Each volume of six issues covered eighteen months. The April 2003 (final) issue of the *Philatelic Bulletin* should be mailed shortly.

For the present, UNSG members will continue to receive the journal of the United Nations Postal Administration (UNPA) in Geneva *Fascination* and the UNSG will continue its New Issue service. The New Issues Secretary John Peddie will inform members of the future of this activity. In no case will membership renewals for the UNSG be accepted.

During recent years Stan and I had been sharing articles for the journals in order to encourage a better rapport between UNP and UNSG. In 1984 during my four-month stay in Karlsruhe, Germany as a visiting scientist at the Kernforschungszenrum, I had a chance to spend a week-end in England and met the current Treasurer Ron Howard. Unfortunately interactions between UNSG and UNP have been few and far between.

As far as I know, this leaves only two other active groups in the world besides UNP involved in United Nations philately: UNO-Philatelie, the group based in Germany and Verenigde Naties en Verenigd Europa Filatelie, the group based in the Netherlands. Actually the Dutch group also divides its interest between the UN and Europa as did the UNSG. It has been active for forty years. It has issued at least sixty-nine issues of its current bulletin *Grenzenloos* (without frontiers). But I have not received an issue since the summer of 2000.

UNO-Philatelie has a bit more than 300 members. Twenty years ago when I first became a member, I believe that it had as many as 500 members. At the present time UNP has a bit less than 300 members. This number has remained more or less constant during the past twenty years.





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**San Francisco, CA 94131**

**e-mail: bereson@pacbell.net**

**(Please put "BIDS FOR UNPI Auction" in e-mail header)**

Mail or e-mail bids only please. No phone calls please.  
Payment can be made via PAYPAL. Please inquire for details.

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1. UPU Paris Congress Book - 1947. Great Britain, large deluxe book with mint hinged stamps, including definitives and stationery. Scarce. MB\$100.
2. UPU Paris Congress book collection (7). British Commonwealth: Antigua, Basutoland, Nigeria, Nyasaland, Somaliland, Turks & Caicos Islands, British Virgin Islands. Each with complete hinged definitive set - very scarce group. MB\$200.

### MISCELLANEOUS

3. Set of 1998 UN Souvenir folders (3): NY, Geneva and Vienna. Stamps MNH including oceans sheets MB\$20.
4. Endangered Species 1998 folder, stamps, sheets MNH MB\$10.
5. UNFICYP (4) #10 covers. 3 with corner cards. 3 different origin cachets. Stamps of Cyprus and Austria MB\$8.
6. League of Nations manila piece with Distribution Service cc. League stamp #40. Weak 1935 cancel. Addressed to Czech League Delegate. MB\$4.
7. Respect for Refugees year 2000 set (3). FD souvenir cards: NY, Geneva and Vienna. Excellent condition. Scarce. MB\$10.

8. International Year of Volunteers year 2001 set (3) FD souvenir cards NY, Geneva and Vienna. Excellent condition. Scarce. MB\$10
9. Mixed lot: space covers Vienna with 13 numbered cancels, rocket mail seals from Canada, set (3) MNH tree sheets 1988 MB\$10.
10. Two hundred different United Nations official Geneva cachet FDCs. All excellent condition. Unaddressed. MB\$40.

### WFUNA LITHOGRAPHS

11. #1 Joan Luby Drug Abuse FDNY MB\$20.
12. #3 Chaim Gross Namibia FDNY MB\$50.
13. #11 Jacques Cousteau Law of the Sea FDNY (1974) MB\$28.
14. #14 Ilya Glazunov Women's Year FDNY MB\$28.
15. #71 Mark Weiner ILO FDVienna (1985) MB\$25.
16. #75 Wolfgang Hutter, 1985 Flags FDNY MB\$25.
17. #86 Elisabeth Janota-Bzowski UN Day Mint (1987) MB\$25.
18. Ting Shao Kuang "Chinese Erte" Year of the Family Mint (1994) MB\$95.
19. Ting Shao Kuang "Chinese Erte" Religion and Peace Mint (1994) MB\$95.



## 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, Hinsdale, 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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Run an ad in five consecutive issues, get the sixth one free. Please make check payable to the United Nations Philatelists, Inc. and mail it with the photo-ready copy to the Editor.

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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 October issue is September 1st.

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