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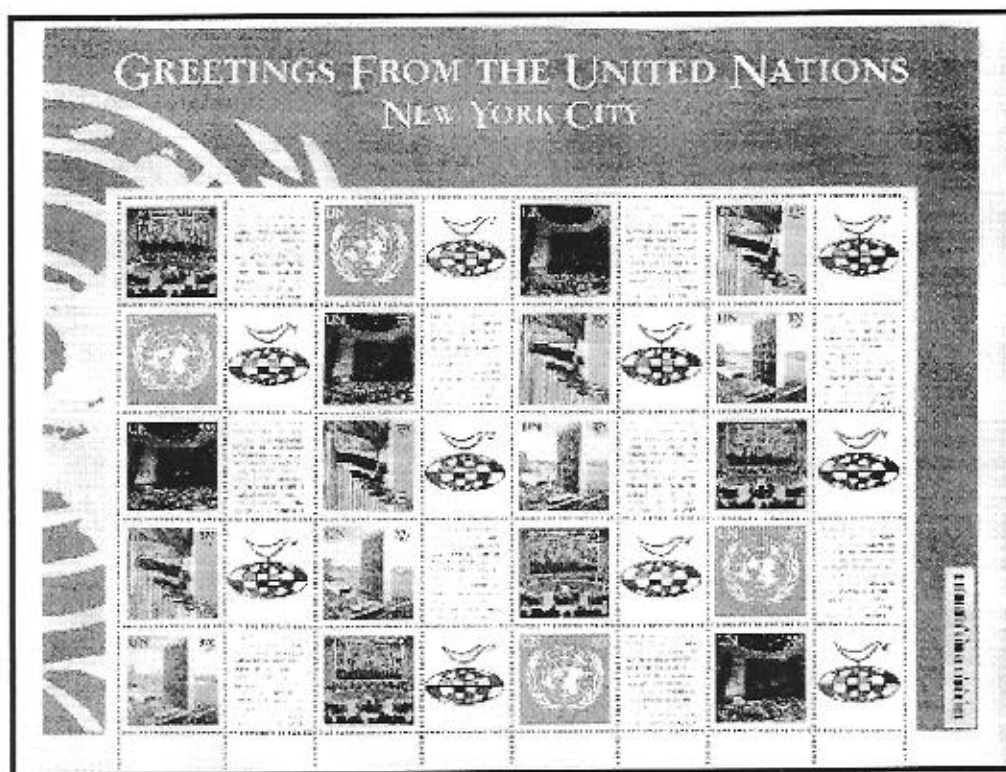
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OF THE UNITED NATIONS PHILATELISTS, INC



UN NEW YORK

GENERIC PERSONALIZED STAMPS

The Journal of United Nations Philatelists

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1488 David J. Simmons.....	St. Louis, MO

Disclaimer

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

Reprinting

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

Cover Illustrations

Front cover: Sheet of UNNY Generic Personalized Stamps released November 26, 2003.

Rear cover: Legacy of Sergio Vieira de Mello: Voting Information Pamphlet of UN Mission in East Timor.

MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR

First Call for Participation in the 2004 Annual UNP Meeting

I would like to invite you to be thinking about reserving the weekend before Thanksgiving 2004, so that you can join your fellow UNP members at the UNP Annual Meeting at Chicagopex 2004.

Those of you who do make it to Chicago sometime from Friday November 19th through Sunday November 21st, will be rewarded not only by having another opportunity to get together with other United Nations specialists, but will also be attending one of the most important postage stamp shows in the country.

The Chicago Philatelic Society (CPS) will be presenting its 118th annual show, which date back to 1886, when the CPS was founded. The venue will be Sheraton Chicago Northwest Hotel, located at 3400 W. Euclid Avenue in Arlington Heights, Illinois. The hotel is located about ten miles northwest of Chicago's O'Hare International Airport.

It is a bit early to know exactly the details concerning this year's show, but a look back at the 2003 show is sufficient to give an idea of the scale of the event. The 2003 show featured seventy dealers in its bourse, including a number of dealers from outside the United States. More than 300 sixteen-page frames of stamp exhibits were on display at Chicagopex, which is American Philatelic Society (APS) World Series of Philately event. Both the United States Postal Service and the United Nations Postal Administration had booths at the show with ample supplies of their recent stamps on sale at face value.

Chicagopex 2003 also featured a 57-entry philatelic literature competition, including at least thirty philatelic handbooks, fourteen philatelic periodicals and nine auction catalogs.

For additional information concerning the show, members are encouraged to call Charles Berg (himself a UN specialist) at 773-775-2100 (daytime) or to visit the CPS website located at www.chicagopex.com or to send an e-mail to CPS at chicagopex@hotmail.com.

The United Nations Philatelic Museum in Geneva Closes

December 12, 1963 saw the inauguration of the U.N. Philatelic Museum housed in the Palais des Nations in Geneva. Figure 1 shows an official cover bearing the four stamps that had been issued six weeks earlier by the Swiss PTT for use at the U.N. European Office, Scott # 7034-7. When I prepared the UNP Monograph in 1995 translating the Charles Misteli book *Study on the Postal Stamps and Cancellations of the League of Nations, the International Labor Office and their International Conferences*, I had the pleasure of spending two days at the Philatelic Museum doing a bit of background research and obtaining photocopies of several items, which found their way into the monograph.

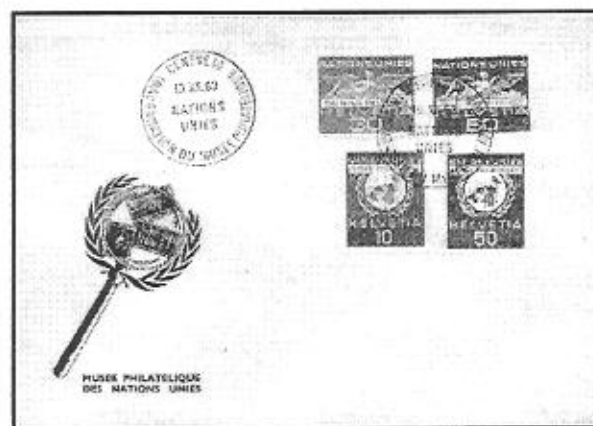


Figure 1: 1962 UNEO stamps honoring the United Nations Philatelic Museum.

In November 2003 I received an e-mail from Ms. M. Wezenberg, the curator of the U.N. Philatelic Museum, indicating that, as of November 30, 2003, the philatelic collection in the Museum would no longer be open to the public. Due to lack of funds the U.N. is no longer able to keep the Museum open to the public. However, the collection will remain in Geneva. I have been given the impression that philatelic researchers may still receive information via requests through Mr. Peter Torelli, the manager of the UNPA in Geneva. He can be reached via e-mail at: ptorelli@unog.ch.

PERSONALIZED STAMP UPDATE

By Richard Powers

Some of the details concerning the release of a sheet of personalized stamps were reported in the December issue of the *Journal* on page 4. These stamps had originally been scheduled for release on October 24, 2003. In the October issue of the UNPA *Philatelic Bulletin* (No. 68), the date was publicized as sometime during September or October. Later *Linn's Stamp News* announced a release date of January 29, 2004, which we cited in the tentative 2004 program on page 3 of the December issue.

The actual launch date turned out to be Wednesday November 26, 2003 with Secretary-General Kofi A. Annan announcing the opening of the personalized stamp shop at UNPA headquarters in New York City. The shop is located in the visitors' lobby (Room GA-100) across from the UN Guided tour desk and is open seven days a week.

As a result of my being a member of the "Media", I received a "Press Kit" which contained a press release, a flyer listing the conditions of sale, a complementary sheet of the stamps bearing the photos of a young couple, a VIP coupon for another sheet of the stamps which I can pick up during my next visit to the United Nations in New York and a company profile of the NuFx, the private company which is "partnering with the UNPA in the development, implementation and joint marketing of the Personalized Stamp Service for their customers in the USA and around the world".

Based on my own copy of the sheet I can report at least two significant differences between the sheet pictured on page 4 of the December issue of the *Journal* (which was taken from the UNPA *Philatelic Bulletin*). The actual sheet has a 4-cm long bar code in the selvage next to the label in the lower right hand corner of the sheet. In contrast to the sheet picture in the *Journal* there is no wreath appearing in the selvage above the

ninth position in the top row of the actual sheet. However, the UNPA proposes that one can request a wreath cancel be applied to the selvage when the sheet is produced.

In a flyer that came in my Press kit I noticed a few interesting items under the terms and conditions of sale. First the UNPA promises to keep your photograph on file for eighteen months in case you wish to reorder some more personalized sheets. But it does not promise that the price will be unchanged! Secondly a person cannot reproduce or authorize the reproduction of the UN Personalized Stamp image without prior written approval of the UN.

These stamps mark a couple of firsts for the UNPA. Apparently it does not plan to prepare first day covers for this issue even for the generic version, which can be ordered by mail for the price of \$14.95 - as compared to \$9.25 face value of the twenty-five stamps bearing a 37¢ denomination. The twenty-five labels cost nearly 23¢ apiece whether they bear your photo of choice or not.

Undoubtedly it was possible for people at the UN on November 26th to have their photo taken on the day of issue and have the selvage stamped on the first day of issue. These items could end up being quite rare.

Notice that these sheets contain no inscriptions in the selvage adjacent to the stamps so that collectors of tab singles with the UN logo have been slighted. (As a member of this elite group I feel somewhat relieved.) As far as I can remember this is the first time that the UNPA has issued a stamp in a sheet with twenty-five stamps or more without inscriptions. In 2002 it issued sheetlets of sixteen stamps honoring the International Year of Mountains and the Johannesburg Summit without inscriptions.

Stay tuned for the next installment as the UNPA explores new marketing possibilities.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR ✍

December 28, 2003

In reference to the personalized stamp program at the NY UN (page 4, December 2002 issue of the *Journal*) it went into operation on November 29 (Editor's note: According to a UNPA press release, it was actually November 26, 2003. See the update on page 2 of this issue.), not January 29, 2004....My wife and I mailed our Christmas and Hanukkah cards from the UN. There was only a ten-minute wait. Unfortunately, most people we sent cards did not look at (the personalized) stamps. We kept one full sheet and the unpersonalized one for framing. After all, what are the chances I'll be on a stamp dead or alive. And my sheet is the only one in the world. Any bids???



Henry Hersh
Robbinsville, N.J.

January 2, 2004

The UNPA did in fact issue these stamps in late November. Both the personalized and generic stamps are only available from the Personalized

Stamp Shop which is on the mezzanine level of the General Assembly Building. They are not available - as of this writing anyway - from the regular UNPA sales area, which is located in the basement of that building.

The bulk of the sales are aimed at tourists and visitors who want a souvenir of their visit to the U.N. Headquarters here in New York. They are not really aimed at U.N. philatelists.

You may also be interested in knowing that the 23¢ and 70¢ postal cards issued by the UNPA in packs of five are available individually from the UNPA Sales Counter. They are selling at 40¢ (or 50¢) for the 23¢ cards and \$1 each for the 70¢ cards. Again these are aimed at tourists and not collectors.

On a personal note, I did have a few personalized stamp sheets made up with photographs of my wife and I (sic). Some were used on holiday mail to friends and relatives. I got some pretty nice feed-back from the people I sent these to.

Happy New Year!



Steven Scheibner
Bayside, New York

2004 UNITED NATIONS STAMP PROGRAM

(As of January 1, 2004 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 30

Endangered Species

37¢, F.s. 1,00, € 0,55

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

Set of 3 maximum cards and 2004 Endangered Species Annual Collection Folder

Vienna Definitive

€ 0,55

(1 sheet of 20 stamps)

March 4

Indigenous Art

6×37¢, 6×F.s. 1,00, 6×€ 0,55

(3 Sheets of 6 stamps)

April 7

Road Safety

37¢, 70¢, F.s. 0,85, F.s. 1,00, € 0,55, € 0,75

(6 sheets of 20 stamps)

June 3

50th Anniversary of Japanese Peace Bell

80¢, F.s. 1,30, € 2,10

(3 sheets of 20 stamps)

Vienna Stationery

Postal card € 0,55, pre-stamped envelopes € 0,55, € 1,25

August 12

World Heritage - Greece

37¢, 60¢, F.s. 1,00, F.s. 1,30, € 0,55, € 0,75

(6 Sheets of 20 stamps)

{3 Prestige Booklets with 12×(10¢, 20¢, F.s. 0,10, F.s. 0,30, € 0,15, € 0,20)}

September 21 My Dream for Peace One Day - Opening of the General Assembly

37¢, 80¢, F.s. 0,85, F.s. 1,20, € 0,55, € 1,00

(6 sheets of 20 stamps)

October 14

Human Rights (Education Decade 1995 - 2004)

37¢, 70¢, F.s. 0,85, F.s. 1,20, € 0,55, € 1,25

(6 sheets of 20 stamps)

October 15

Disarmament Definitive

37¢

(1 sheet of 20 stamps)

2004 Annual Collection Folders

2004 SLOGAN CANCELLATIONS

January 2

Eliminate Terrorism

UNP CLUB NEWS

NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE FOR THE 2004 UNP ELECTION

UNP President Greg Galletti has been soliciting nominations for positions of UNP officers and board of directors who will take office beginning July 1, 2004 and will serve until June 30, 2006.

Thus far the following names will appear on the ballot, which will be printed on the rear page of the mailer for the April issue of the *Journal*:

President: Anthony Dewey
Vice President: Greg Galletti
Secretary: Blanton Clement, Jr.
Treasurer: Jim Matyasovich
Board of
Directors (4): Fran Adams
Larry Fillion
Mike Krejci
Richard Powers
Brian Reiser

Greg would appreciate receiving any other nominations - including self-nominations - from members, who are interested in giving a little extra of their time to the Club. Nominations should reach him by February 23rd so that they can be included in the April issue of the *Journal*.

CLUB AUCTIONS

Auctions Chairman Alex Bereson is planning two major UNP Auctions this year: one in the April issue and one in the October issue.

INTERNATIONAL SHOW AWARDS

Two UNP-members won silver awards for their one-frame exhibits at the Bangkok 2003 World Philatelic Exhibition, which took place from October 4 -13, 2003 at the Impact Convention Center in Bangkok, Thailand.

UNP-President Tony Dewey had a frame exhibiting BIE labels in *Service of Intellec-*

tual Aid to Prisoners of War. Jack Mayer showed his exhibit entitled: *Conference on International Organization, Founding of the United Nations, San Francisco*.

PUBLISHED ELSEWHERE

UNP-military editor Jean-Louis Emmenegger recently published an article on the early activities of the United Nations which took place in Paris, particularly in 1948 and 1951-2, entitled *L'ONU était à Paris* in the French philatelic journal *L'Écho de la Timbrologie* in the October 2003 issue.

Readers interested in getting a reprint of this interesting article (in French) on the early days of United Nations history should contact Jean-Louis by email at the following e-mail address: jemm@hispeed.ch. People without Internet access can contact him at the following mail address:

J.-L. Emmenegger
P.O. Box 110

Ch-1009 Pully Switzerland.

UNP AUCTION 2003B PRICES REALIZED

Amount Realized \$311
Lots Sold 20/42 (48%)

Lot #	Price	Lot #	Price	Lot #	Price	Lot #	Price
1	\$8	2	\$25	3	\$40	5	\$10
6	\$10	7	\$15	8	\$15	9	\$15
10	\$9	11	\$12	12	\$26	14	\$6
15	\$6	17	\$15	21	\$8	23	\$8
28	\$10	29	\$7	30	\$6	41	\$60

UNP AUCTION 2003C PRICES REALIZED

Amount Realized \$100
Lots Sold 5/19 (26%)

Lot #	Price	Lot #	Price	Lot #	Price	Lot #	Price
3	\$24	6	\$4	9	\$10	10	\$42
11	\$20						

THIRTY-SECOND UNESCO GENERAL CONFERENCE, PARIS - 2003

By B. Clement, Jr.

The Thirty-Second General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) was held at UNESCO Headquarters in Paris September 29 through October 17, 2003. The highlight of the conference was the return of the United States to UNESCO membership. The U.S. had left UNESCO in 1984, charging mismanagement and the muzzling of press freedom. According to the U.S., UNESCO has reformed and our return was marked by a speech given by First Lady Laura Bush, shown in Figure 1.



Figure 1: Mrs. Laura Bush addressing the 2003 UNESCO General Conference.

Two important actions of the conference were the adoption of a Convention on the Preservation of Intangible Heritage (such as language, performing arts and rituals) and a

Declaration on Human Genetic Data. UNESCO declared that human genetic data should not be used to infringe on human rights and freedom.

A registered letter from the conference is shown in Figure 2. The cover is franked with UNESCO World Heritage stamps showing the Pyramids in Giza, Egypt and the Komodo National Park in Indonesia. Figure 3 shows the registry receipt for that letter.

A temporary postal station was set up for the conference. The conference postmark is illustrated in Figure 4. A special registry label, seen in Figure 5, has the printed inscription "Paris Bureaux Temporaires" (for Paris Temporary Offices) and is stamped "2"



Figure 4: Conference cancel used during the 2003 UNESCO General Conference in Paris.



Figure 5: Special registry label used during the 2003 General Conference.



Figure 2: Registered cover from UNESCO General Conference - 2003.

LA POSTE
517 / 517 bis

RÉCÉPISSÉ D'UN ENVOI - RECOMMANDÉ AVEC VALEUR DÉCLARÉE

À remplir par l'expéditeur

DESTINATAIRE : B. CLEMENT - JR.
P.O. Box 146
MORRISVILLE - PA 19067-0146
USA

Code Postal: Localité: Valeur déclarée: Centre Remboursement: Paise: Valeur déclarée:

RECOMMANDATION CHOISI (voir au dos)

R1	R2
R3	Ret <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Date: 15-10-03 H: 15 PRIX: 15 Services spéciaux: Taux Rec.: Centre Remboursement:

Signature de l'expéditeur: [Signature]

BUREAU TEMPORAIRE N°2 PARIS

LA POSTE
BOUEZ AVEC LA POSTE

Figure 3: Registry receipt for letter in Figure 2.

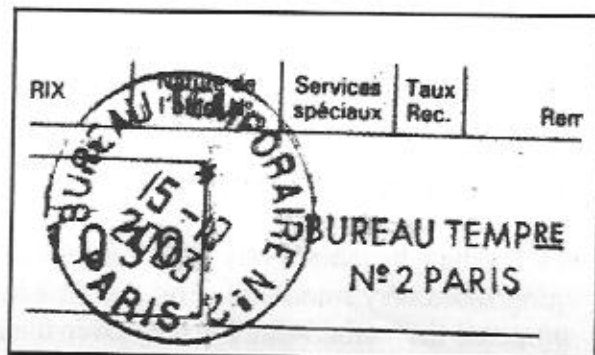


Figure 6: Conference auxiliary postmark.

for Office No. 2. Figure 6 shows an auxiliary postmark "Bureau Temporaire No. 2" and a two-line imprint "BUREAU TEMPORAIRE No. 2 PARIS".

United Nations postal history is being made every day as the UN and its agencies, such as UNESCO, do their work. It is up to us, as interested philatelists, to document this history. Let us know what you have seen that may not have been recorded.

DIARY OF A BIDDER AT THE 2003 MANNING UN AUCTION

By Jim Matyasovich

The recent Greg Manning Galleries (GMG) auction of UN archival material was the first major auction I have ever attended. The following is a summary of my thoughts and experiences at this auction.

When I first heard about the GMG auction I was a bit skeptical about bidding on anything because of how the David Feldman auction was held in Geneva, Switzerland earlier in 2003. Remember how all seven UN lots were combined into a single lot #8 after all lots had been successfully auctioned off. Plus I felt that, with my lack-of-success rate for mail-in auctions, I would not get very much material. Of course I had not yet seen the catalog so I had no idea what was going to be in the auction.

I called GMG and talked to a few persons regarding the auction. I found out that a catalog was in the works and would be available at SESCOAL in October. The auction would be held late in November 2003. It would be held in New Jersey at GMG because Greg wanted auction inputs over the Internet from ebay.

At SESCOAL I bought an auction catalog. I spent the next week poring over the material and made a spread sheet in my computer to list and categorize all the material I was interested in. As the list grew and the cost got higher and higher, I realized that I would never be able to afford all the items I wanted to get. I also realized that to get the items I really wanted, I would have to attend the auction in person. So I made plans to attend.

While going through the catalog in my areas of main interest, I realized that some of the items were very large and would not lend themselves very well to an exhibit. So I had an idea. I again called GMG and talked to Larry Gibson. We agreed that I would e-mail him my list of large items a week before the auction and he would have them scanned at a high resolution rate suitable for printing. Therefore, I would have the item and at any size I want to print it at. This is one aspect of how nice the GMG personnel were. A couple of days later Chris Romono e-mailed 20 images to me from items

related to UNNY Scott #12 and #38 and Expo '67. This was material I now didn't have to worry about bidding on.

I noticed in the catalog that GMG would not take any credit cards as payment. So, another call to GMG and I got a form faxed to me for establishing a line of credit. This was one week before the auction. I filled it out and faxed it back to GMG. Before I left for the east coast I learned my line of credit had been approved. Before I left, while reading the terms and conditions regarding the auction on ebay, I noticed that they would accept credit cards.

I got to GMG on Monday November 17th early in the morning. All the auction material was along one wall in the auction room either in notebooks or in large envelopes, depending on the size of the item. All the material was well organized and it was very easy to find any item of interest. I spent four hours going through the material that was on my list and other items that merited a closer look because of the small image in the catalog or no image at all. This I found was one of the biggest advantages of attending the auction in person, actually being able to see and to examine the material. This process eliminated some material from my list, while at the same time adding some material to my list. I even decided to bid on one of the items I had had scanned.

Tuesday November 18 was the first day of the auction and it was to begin at 10:30 AM. Several tables were set up for the bidders. The attendees consisted of the auctioneer, the bidder at a computer for the book bidding, a person at the telephone to make calls to interested bidders, a person at another computer to monitor the bidding on ebay, Frank Mandel and Jeff Purser both agents, Bill Langs (dealer), a fellow from Michigan, Tony Dewey, three Germans, two others and myself.

Bidding began slightly after 10:30AM and progressed very smoothly. For the first issues some of the items went for well over the start price while others went for only slightly over start price. I did get the imperforate pairs I

wanted. Scott #12 was next. I got some of the original sketches and the die proof. I had scans of the paintings so I didn't bother with them. The rest of the auction that day covered the issues from 1952 through Expo '67. I got some nice imperforate pairs of some issues during that period as well as some nice material from Expo '67. Best of all were the 10th anniversary issues including #38. There was a lot of bidding on some of the items. I got some fantastic lots including the #35-7 color die proofs and imperfs and several of the #38 lots. I did not get the two sheets of progressive proofs - too big and too expensive. By the way GMG has an uncut sheet of nine #38's which will be in the auction later this year.

I learned two things during the auction this day: 1) That someone had bid on every lot at the start price before the auction began. I had wondered why, at the start of bidding on each lot, that the person at the book computer always started the bidding at or above the start price in the catalog. So I asked at one of the breaks. I thought that was interesting that someone bid on all lots and never thought about it again. 2) If you missed bidding on something or decided later that you should have bid on it you could still bid on it only if the item were sold to the book. All you had to do was to ask what the highest bid would have been, if the bidding had continued. If you wanted it one increment above that bid, it was yours. I bought two lots this way.

I think that everyone on the floor bid except the Germans. I don't recall them bidding at all. They did take some photos later in the day, however. There was some bidding on the telephone and several bids and winners on ebay. The session ended around 2 PM. That were 705 lots and lunch in 3 1/2 hours!

That night I sat down at my computer and analyzed what I had won and what I was going to do the next day. My bidding strategy was ever changing because of costs. The desirability of items on my list which had started out quite large was now shrinking.

Day 2 saw the floor bidders shrink to four:

the two agents, one other and myself. Bidding continued at a reasonable rate. I picked up some nice stamp specimens and die proofs of the fifteenth anniversary souvenir sheets. That night more planning for next day's auction.

Day 3 saw the same four floor bidders. The hot items usually were die proofs, imperfs and certain paintings. I did not pick up any items this day although I went back after the auction and inquired about some imperforate sheets. Too high. Flag die proofs and imperforate sheets seemed to do well this day.

Day 4 saw the floor down to three: two agents and myself. One other fellow came in just before lunch and bid on about five items. Again proofs and imperfs did well. Certain flag paintings also did well. I picked up some imperforate sheets and souvenir sheets. I was going to bid on several post cards in the stationery group, but I was reaching my limit. I did get a few of the early post cards though.

At the close of the auction, all lots sold with the exception of 22 lots that were withdrawn (see the errata list on the GMG website) and four lots listed in the catalog as no lot.

The end of the day brought the worst part of the whole auction. Having to pay for it. The cost of the material I won wasn't so bad. It was the additional 15% that was a killer. As it turned out they did take credit cards. So part was paid with a check and part by credit card. The accountant was very accommodating. She even agreed to delay posting the credit card payment for two weeks so that I could pay during my next billing cycle which would give me 60 days to pay it off. Great people at GMG.

Attending this auction was a great experience even with the expense of attending it in person. I don't think I would have won all the material I did get. The benefits of actually seeing the material were immense and helped me make decisions I couldn't have made at home. Even seeing the material I didn't buy was a experience.

Would I do it again? You bet. I heard that this year's auction will be about half as large as last year's sale. It remains to be seen.

CHINA IN THE FORTIES: AN "INTERESTING" DECADE FOR INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

By Richard Powers

The fifth decade of the twentieth century was not kind to the Chinese people. In 1940 much of Chinese population was under Japanese occupation. With the end of World War II in September 1945, the struggle between the Chinese Nationalists under the leadership of Chiang Kai-shek and the China Communists led by Mao Tse-tung resumed.

Open civil war began in late 1946. Initially Chiang controlled 340 million citizens with an army of 4 million and 1 million irregulars. The Communists controlled 110 million citizens with an army of 1.2 million and 1.5 million irregulars. By June 1949 the size of the armies switched with the Nationalists deploying only 1.5 million whereas the Communists controlled an army of 4 million.

On October 30, 1948 Mukdan (today known as Shenyang) in Manchuria fell under Communist control. Peking (today Beijing) fell on January 31, 1949. Mao arrived on March 25th to establish a permanent residence. In April 1949 the Nationalist capital Nanking (today Nanjing) was taken over by the Reds. Shanghai fell on May 27th. Figure 1 shows a map of eastern half of China in which the vast majority of Chinese live. The names of the cities reflect the official *pinyin* spellings used in China today.

The Peoples Republic of China was proclaimed on October 1, 1949. It began to issue stamps a week later on October 8th.

As far as the United Nations was concerned, nothing had changed. The Republic of China, which moved its capital to Taipei, Taiwan, continued to represent the Chinese people at the United Nations until October 26, 1971. From that date on, the world body would recognize only the Peoples Republic of China. The Republic of China and its more than 20 million people do not exist diplomatically although many countries still have informal contacts.

ILO

The instability of the political situation in China is clearly reflected in the service covers from international organizations during this decade. Before Japanese occupation of China, the International Labor Organization (ILO) had its headquarters in Shanghai. When Chiang Kai-shek moved his capital from Nanking to Chungking, the ILO followed. Figure 2 shows an airmail registered censored ILO service cover from Chungking in East Szechuen to its interim headquarters in Montreal, Canada. In order to avoid Japanese censorship, the letter was routed via British Overseas Airways (BOAC) over Durban, South Africa via Calcutta, India. Eventually the letter was subjected to Allied censorship as indicated by the tape on the right side bearing a British Imperial Crown. The letter also received Canadian postal inspection in Montreal. The letter left Chungking on March 24, 1942. It arrived in Montreal on May 21st, almost two months later. The cover bears three Chinese stamps: Scott #461 (\$2), #361(\$5) and #354 (10 cents) totaling \$7.10 (yuan).

Figure 3 shows a service cover sent after World War II but during the civil war from the head office which had returned to Shanghai. The airmail registered letter is postmarked April 1, 1948. It arrived a week later in Geneva (April 8th), where it was delivered to ILO Headquarters which had returned to Geneva from Montreal. The cover bears three different denominations of Chinese stamps: Scott #757 (\$50000), #756 (\$20000) and #752 (\$5000) totaling \$125000. This indicates that in six years the yuan had decreased in value by a factor of about 20000. On August 19, 1948 the yuan would be devalued by a factor of 3000000 relative to its value on April 10, 1933 and would be renamed the gold yuan.

UNRRA

The Allies established the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration (UNRRA) to provide refugee assistance in liberated areas. UNRRA was active in China between November 1944 and December 31, 1947. Shanghai housed its headquarters except during the activities of an advance team in Chungking, which arrived in June 1944.

Figures 4 and 5 show an even more striking example of the effects of monetary devaluation. They show the address and reverse side of a UNRRA service cover sent from Shanghai to the USA in early 1948, during the time when its activities were being assumed by the International Refugee Organization (IRO). The cover bears \$2235000 (yuan) in postage. There are $44 \times \$50000 + \$20000 + 3 \times \$500$ stamps! The envelope itself has been turned inside out. On the inside is the printed corner card of the UNRRA in Shanghai. The printed destination on the inside is that of the Peiping (now Beijing) liaison office of the UNRRA. The registered airmail letter arrived in Seattle on March 21, 1948. It seems to have left Shanghai on March 19th.

PCIRO - IRO

A Preparatory Commission of the International Refugee Organization (PCIRO) was established as of July 1, 1947 to assume the responsibilities of the UNRRA. The International Refugee Organization (IRO) formally came into being on August 20, 1948, with headquarters in Geneva. A center for the Far East was set up in Shanghai. Figure 6 shows the address side of an airmail cover sent December 19, 1948 from Shanghai to the United States. Figure 7 shows the reverse side, bearing seven 1-gold yuan stamps (Scott #861), which were produced by surcharging the old 40-cent (#497) stamp with 1 gold yuan.

Figure 8 (taken from Ebay) shows a similar airmail cover sent from the Hong Kong office on September 1, 1950 to the IRO office

in Copenhagen. This cover bears three fifty-cent Hong Kong stamps (Scott #162). Gaines indicates that both offices were open from July 1947 until February 1952. At the time the Peoples Republic of China was proclaimed on October 1, 1949, the United Nations continued to recognize the Republic of China on the island of Taiwan as the sole representative of the Chinese peoples. I suspect that IRO activities in Shanghai were transferred to Hong Kong long before 1952. The fact that the cover in Figure 8 has a Shanghai corner card but bears Hong Kong postage, seems to indicate that the transfer took place about the time that the civil war had concluded.

WHO

Gaines mentions that the Western Pacific Regional Office of the World Health Organization (WHO), which is currently in Manila, was originally in Hong Kong in 1950. The service cover for the Interim Commission of the WHO, which appears in Figure 9, may be an indication that this office was located earlier in Shanghai. This cover was sent from an office in Shanghai located near the IRO office to the USA. It is postmarked December 13, 1947 and bears $3 \times \$10000$ stamps (Scott #755) totaling \$30000 (yuan). The WHO did not officially come into existence in Geneva until April 7, 1948. I suspect there was a WHO office in Shanghai until the Chinese Communists came to power in October 1948. At about this time the office was moved to Hong Kong. The regional office was moved from Hong Kong to Manila at the end of 1951 or the beginning of 1952. Eventually the WHO opened up a branch office in Taipei, Taiwan.

Figure 10 shows a registered airmail service cover from the WHO office in Taipei, Republic of China postmarked August 17, 1959. It arrived in Geneva five days later on August 22nd. The cover bears two stamps: Scott #1196 (\$10) and #1223 (\$1).



Figure 4: Address side of 1948 service cover from the UNRRA Shanghai to the USA.

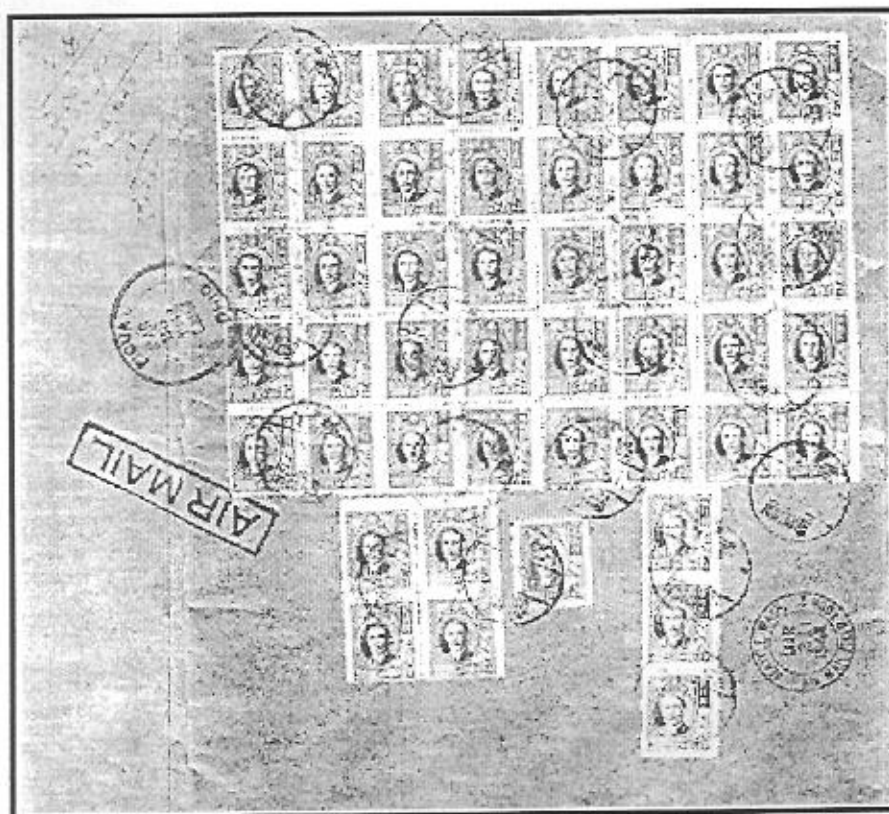


Figure 5: Rear side of cover in Figure 4 with \$2235000 (yuan) postage for airmail registered service to the USA.



Figure 3: 1948 airmail registered ILO service cover from its China Branch in Shanghai to ILO Headquarters in Geneva.

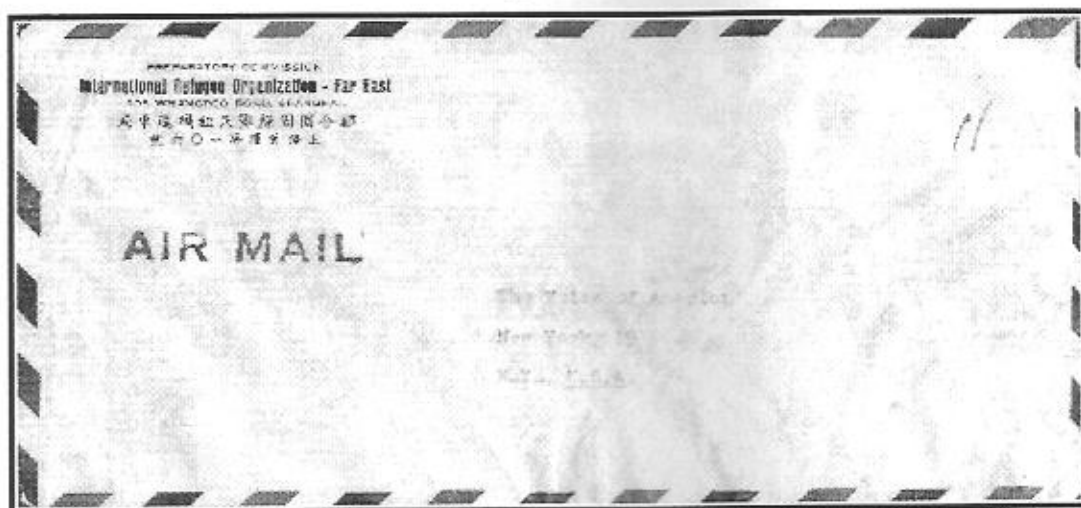


Figure 6: 1948 service cover from the PCIRO Far East Regional Office in Shanghai.

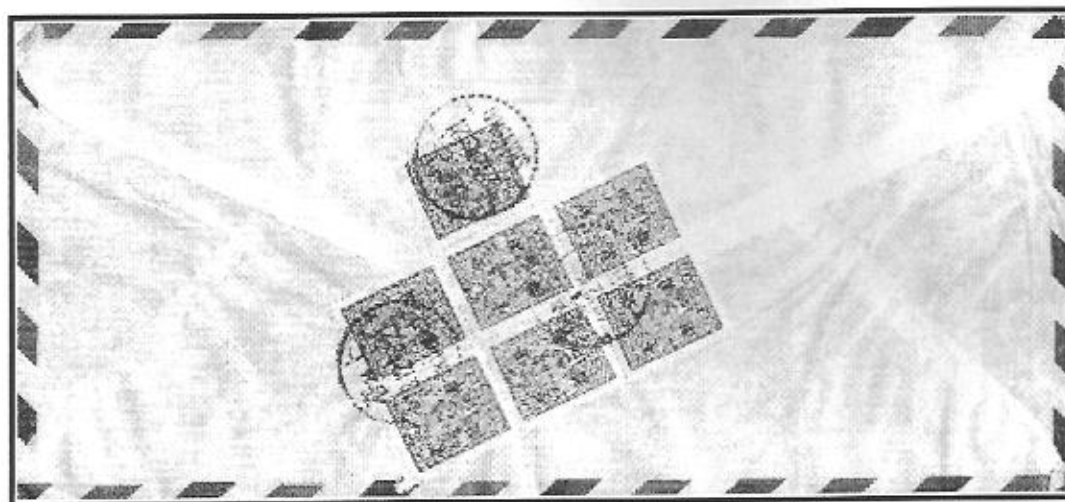


Figure 7: Reverse side of cover in Figure 6 bearing \$7 (gold yuan) postage.



Figure 8: 1950 service cover IRO Far East Regional Office mailed in Hong Kong.



Figure 9: 1947 cover of the Interim Commission of the WHO sent from Shanghai.



Figure 11: 1988 service cover from WHO office in Manila to Israel.

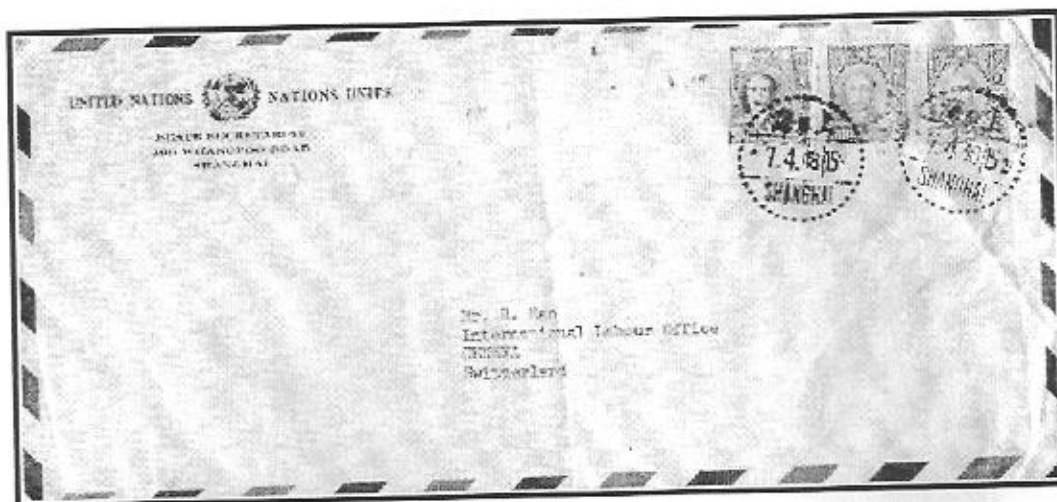


Figure 12: 1948 ECAFE service cover from Shanghai to the ILO in Geneva.

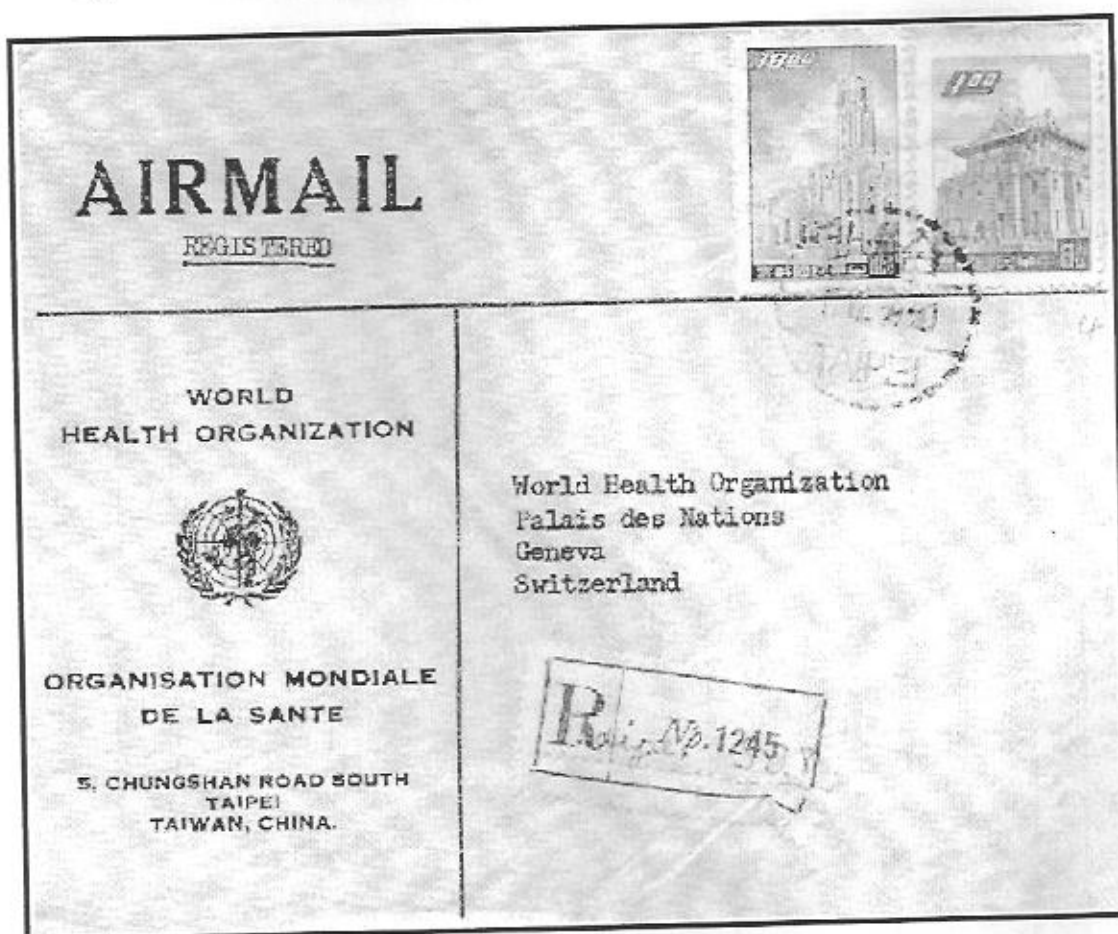


Figure 10: 1959 airmail registered WHO service cover from Taipei, Taiwan to the WHO Headquarters in Geneva.

Today WHO activities in Taiwan are performed only with the permission of the health authorities in Beijing. During the recent episodes of SARS in Taiwan, the WHO was not allowed to intervene without the approval of health authorities of the People's Republic of China. This undoubtedly was responsible for the relatively large number of cases in Taiwan.

Figure 11 shows a WHO service cover from the Regional Office for the Western Pacific in Manila. The meter cancel bears the date March 29, 1968. The slogan cancel commemorates the twentieth anniversary of the founding of WHO.

ECAFE

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) was created by the Economic and Social Commission (ECOSOC) on March 28, 1947. It was originally called the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East (ECAFE). It was first located in Shanghai. The following year the headquarters moved to Bangkok, Thailand.

Figure 12 shows an airmail service cover from the ECAFE secretariat in Shanghai post-

marked April 7, 1948 to the ILO headquarters office in Geneva. The cover bears two different Chinese stamps: one \$50000 (Scott #757) and two \$20000 yuan (Scott #756) totaling \$90000. Again the transfer of the headquarters from Shanghai to another country in 1948 is undoubtedly related to the establishment of the People's Republic of China.

Figure 13 shows an airmail cover from the ECAFE secretariat in Bangkok. The meter datemark shows that the cover was mailed September 6, 1960 and was sent to the Headquarters of the International Telecommunication Unions at the Palais Wilson in Geneva.

References

John King Fairbank, **The Great Chinese Revolution 1800 - 1985**, (Harper & Row, Publishers, New York 1986).

Lawrence H. Officer, **Information on Exchange Rates of Africa, Asia and Australasia**. URL: <http://www.eh.net/hmit/exchangerates/infoafr.htm>.

Harrison E. Salisbury, **China 100 Years of Revolution**, (Holt, Rinehart and Winston, New York 1983).



Figure 13: 1960 airmail service cover from the ECAFE Secretariat in Bangkok sent to ITU headquarters in Geneva at the Palais Wilson.

THE LEGACY OF SERGIO VIEIRA DE MELLO

By Richard Powers

In my article on the new *In Memoriam* stamps issued by the United Nations Postal Administration (UNPA) in October 2003 on page 12 of the December 2003 issue of the *Journal*, I mentioned that the most prominent victim of the suicide bomber in Baghdad on August 19, 2003 was Sergio Vieira de Mello, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General in Iraq. With the help of UNP Military Editor Jean-Louis Emmenegger, I would like to share with you some philatelic documentation of Mr. Vieira de Mello career in international diplomacy, who appears in Figure 1 in a photo taken by the AP not long before his assassination in Baghdad.

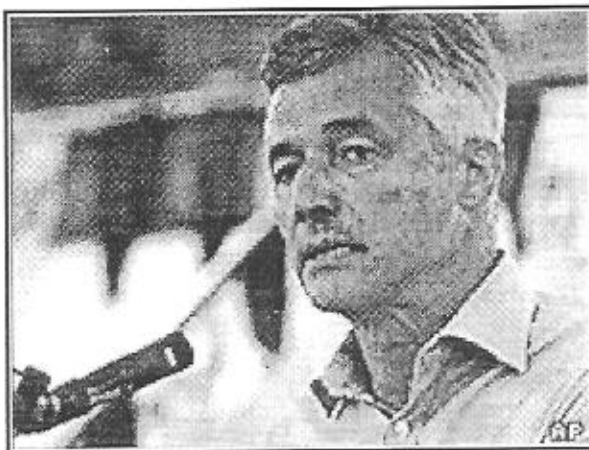


Figure 1: AP photo of Sergio Vieira de Mello taken from BBC website: www.bbc.co.uk

Figure 2 shows a service cover sent by Mr. Vieira de Mello during his service as envoy of the United Nations Secretary-General Kofi Annan in conjunction with the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR) in Sarajevo in Bosnia-Herzegovina. The cover bears a 1993 French Christmas stamp postmarked January 17, 1994. The cover was sent via the French Military Post Office.

Figure 3 shows a service cover sent by

Mr. de Mello during his assignment as special representative of the Secretary-General (SRSG) in Dili, East Timor, where he was head of United Nations operations. The cover is postmarked April 29, 2000 in Dili and bears a special East Timor stamp issued under the administration by the United Nations Transitional Administration in East Timor (UNTAET) before elections, which paved the way for independence of East Timor, which took place on May 20, 2002.

Commentators say his successful overseeing of the territory's fractious transition from Indonesian province to independence was his greatest achievement. Mr. Vieira de Mello described the peaceful election of independence leader Xanana Gusmao as president as "a truly historic moment".

Pictured on the back page of this issue of the *Journal* is a pamphlet, which provided information to residents on the procedure for registering for this election under United Nations Mission in East Timor (UNAMET) supervision. Notice the information is supplied in three local languages, including Portuguese.

As the UN's special representative in Iraq, he seemed to have developed a good rapport with the US administrator Paul Bremmer, despite the tension which developed between Washington and the UN over the US-led invasion of Iraq. Although he played no overt role in the formation of Iraq's new governing council - chosen by the US-led coalition - Mr. Vieira de Mello toured Iraq's neighbors urging them to give their backing to this entity. He had no illusions concerning the fragility of the UN's presence in Iraq. In July 2003 he told the Security Council, "The United Nations presence in Iraq remains vulnerable to any who would seek to target our organization." Unfortunately his prediction became reality on August 19, 2003.



Figure 2: Service cover from S. Vieira de Mello, Envoy of the Secretary-General in Bosnia-Herzegovina sent from UNPROFOR in Sarajevo postmarked January 17, 1994.



Figure 3: Service cover from S. Vieira de Mello, Special Representative of the Secretary-General sent from UNTAET in Dili dated April 29, 2000.

**UNPA STATIONERY:
OUT OF THE RECYCLING BIN AND INTO SERVICE**

by Duane E. Lamers

Over the years some of the postal cards issued by the Geneva office of the United Nations Postal Administration (UNPA) have been given new life as rate changes and the adoption of new categories of postal service were introduced. In a sense the same thing can be said for some postal stationery released for use at New York, although these tend to be "airmail" items whose labeling has become superfluous in these days of "all up" mail service by United States Postal Service.

This article, it may be correctly said, serves no truly practical purpose, for most of the postal cards being discussed are no longer available at the sales counters in Geneva or at the other two UNPA offices. Such pieces now finding their way into the mailstream come from the accumulations of collectors, it can be safely assumed.

Nonetheless, a review helps to refresh our memories of philatelic things past, and it ties in nicely with the references found on some of the items to the fact that they are printed on recycled paper. (Do we really need the references to recycled paper on the postal cards themselves?)

At the bottom of UNPA's recycling bin we find the postal card issued June 27, 1977 at the rate of F.s. 0,70 (Scott #UX4) in Figure 1. This was the higher-value card of the second set of postal cards issued for use at Geneva, and it was designed for mail going to the CEPT countries of Europe. For all practical purposes this meant airmail to western Europe. The design was replaced by UX6, a stylized dove on a rose background, in May 1985 (Figure 2); but the airmail rate to the CEPT countries remained the same—well, for almost eight months anyway. This brings up the matter of UNPA sometimes finding itself in the unfortunate position of releasing postal stationery that

will have a short shelf life because new postal rates are quickly put in place or information regarding proposed changes is not shared with UNPA.

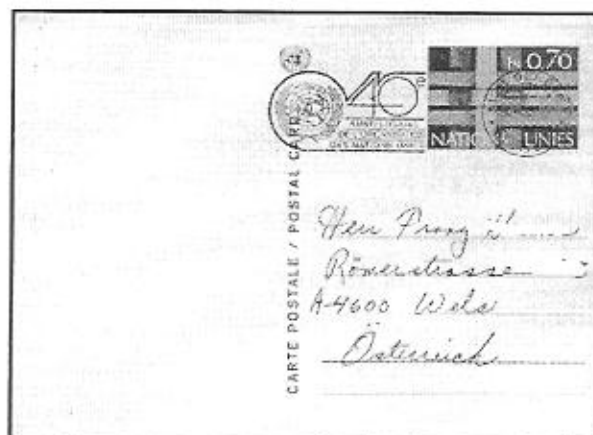


Figure 1: 70-centime postal card #UX4.

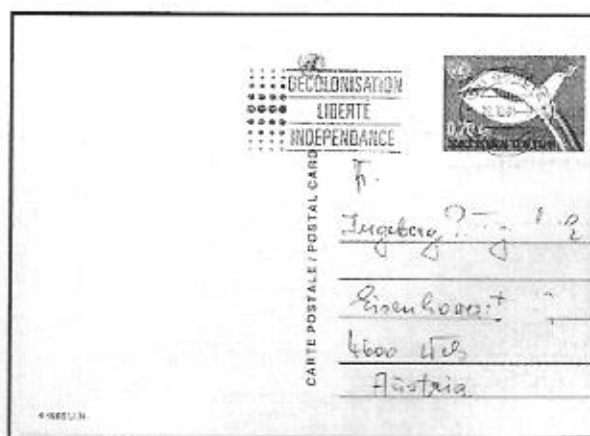


Figure 2: 70-centime postal card #UX6.

In any event, UX4 and its successor were valid as issued for posting in Europe outside Switzerland through December 31, 1985. At this time UX4 had to leave the scene, and UX6 was surcharged January 2, 1986 (becoming UX7) to meet the new rate of F.s. 0,80 for airmail service in Europe.

The two F.s. 0,70 cards would be given new life, however, on February 3, 1992. At that time or earlier the Swiss PTT instituted postal rates labeled *A* (Priority) and *B* (Non-priority). The former was guar-

guaranteed delivery within two days. The latter made no such guarantee. Under the new plan, the F.s. 0,70 cards would now meet the *A* rate for domestic mail and the *B* rate for Europe and the Mediterranean countries of the Middle East and Africa. This rate structure would remain in effect through March 21, 1996.

Beginning March 22, 1996 the *B* rate for domestic mail was hiked to F.s. 0,70. Once again the oft-revived duo of UX4 and UX6 could serve some useful purpose. The pair would not be found at the sales counters, of course, because UX4 had long since been replaced by the newer design of UX6, and the latter had been transformed by the 1986 surcharge and withdrawn from sale May 7, 1993 when it was replaced by a new F.s. 0,80 design. Nonetheless, the two cards, UX4 and UX6 remain valid for use within Switzerland at the non-priority rate to this day.

The UNPA issued a card (UX8) at the value of F.s. 0,90 on September 4, 1992 (Figure 3). This card met the new *A* rate to Europe that had gone into effect earlier in the year and reprised the design of the F.s. 5,00 definitive released in 1990. It had to serve a new purpose in just four years. Rate changes effective beginning March 22, 1996 give UX8 a dual purpose, for domestic priority mail and for non-priority mail to other European countries.

Still another card is available for non-priority domestic mail in Switzerland. The companion card to UX6 was the F.s. 0,50 card issued for domestic use and featuring the UN emblem against a background of varicolored squares and featuring the six official languages of the UN as a border. It was surcharged twice: in May 1993 to meet the new domestic *B* rate of F.s. 0,60 and in March 1996 to meet the new domestic *B* rate of F.s. 0,70, which continues to this day (Figure 4). For the second rate increase cards from the original stock were sur-

charged F.s. 0,20 (UX11). The card was withdrawn from sale May 20, 1998 when it was replaced by a new design, UX13, but it remains valid for use.



Figure 3: 90-centime postal card #UX8.



Figure 4: 70-centime postal card #UX11.

Thus, there are three cards previously issued or reissued at the value of F.s. 0,70 by UNPA that are still valid for use at Geneva: UX4, UX6 and UX11. The current F.s. 0,90 card, formerly for priority mail in Europe, now meets the tariff for domestic priority use and non-priority mail in the rest of Europe.

Collectors who still desire to secure postally used specimens of these postal cards can do so by submitting them to UNPA in Geneva for cancellation. Cards must be addressed to recipients in Switzerland to be posted at the F.s. 0,70 rate.

TWO NEW SWISS SERVICE STAMPS FOR INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

By Richard Powers

On September 9, 2003 the Swiss PTT issued two new service stamps to cover the domestic priority tariff, which is 90 centimes for use at two international organizations affiliated with the United Nations: the Universal Postal Union (UPU) in Bern and the International Telecommunications Union (ITU) in Geneva. These two five-colored stamps were issued in sheets of twenty stamps. They were printed by Joh. Enschedé, Haarlem, the Netherlands. They should be available for sale at Swiss philatelic bureaus for two years until September 9, 2005.

The design of the UPU stamp appears in Figure 1. It shows a large letter "Q" superimposed over an out-of-focus letter franked with a red stamp. The letter "Q" represents "quality" of postal service. The letter appears blurred to suggest dynamism in the ceaseless development of the world postal system according to a UPU press release.



Figure 1: New UPU domestic-rate stamp.

Several criteria are used to evaluate quality of service: access to postal services, speed and dependability of deliveries, security in the handling of letters, customer satisfaction and the conception and imple-

mentation of methods of checking costs and determining tariffs. This stamp is valid for postal use only on mail from UPU headquarters in Bern.

The design of the ITU stamp appears in Figure 2 and is entitled "Information community". This title refers to the World Summit on the Information Community, which took place in Geneva in 2003 and will continue in Tunis in 2005. The purpose of this summit, organized by the ITU is to communicate a vision of our information era and to prepare a plan of action guaranteeing that the benefits of the information community profit the largest number of people.

The stamp is valid for use only from the ITU headquarters in Geneva.



Figure 2: New ITU domestic-rate stamp.

More information about these stamps can be found on the Swiss PTT website: www.post.ch. The mail address of the Swiss PTT is as follows:

Swiss Post
Stamps and Philately
Customer Services
Ostermundigenstrasse 91
CH-3030 Bern Switzerland.

THIRTIETH SESSION OF ECOSOC

GENEVA, July-August 1960

By B. Clement, Jr.

I bought the Swiss air letter illustrated in Figure 1 simply because it had a Genève 20 Montbrillant hand cancel dated July 11, 1960. This cancel was used by the International Telecommunications Union (ITU) and other United Nations agencies in the 1960's. However, I found a fascinating message related to the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) session being held at the time in Geneva (and an interesting description of Baghdad).



Figure 1: 1960 Swiss airletter bearing Montbrillant hand cancel.

The ECOSOC, one of the principal organs of the United Nations, for many years held a session in Geneva during July and August. Another session was typically held in New York or elsewhere, such as Santiago, Chile in 1951 and Mexico City in 1959.

Some excerpts from the letter are below.

July 9

Dear Charlie,

You must be pretty hard up for something to do. It's too bad you couldn't get a half decent job in New York. I tried getting a job with the UN for the current ECOSOC conference, but as it usually does, it turned out negative....

My father came back to Geneva for this ECOSOC conference rather unexpectedly; so I won't be going to Baghdad at all. I've heard enough about the place and everything makes me want to go less and less. Temperature-wise, the place is supposed to be the closest facsimile to Hell on this goodly earth....

Right now the Japanese ambassador to the UN in New York is here for the conference with his supposedly charming and good looking daughter who goes to prep school in the States....

Que te quedes ocupado,
Frank

So Frank's father is either a UN staff member or a delegate to the ECOSOC sessions, had plans to go to Iraq canceled, and must have his family (or at least his son) with him. We don't know his last name, so tracking down any further is unlikely.

I have one other item of postal history related to this session. Figure 2 shows a UNESCO-Paris meter cover dated July 27, 1960, sent to a member of the "UNESCO Delegation to ECOSOC". Normally we think of delegates being representatives of Member Countries, but UN agencies must send delegates too, perhaps in a consultative, non-voting status.

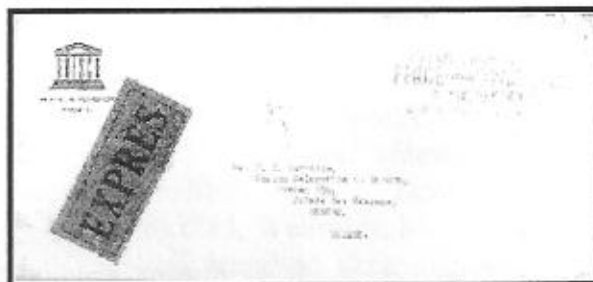


Figure 2: 1960 service cover from UNESCO to its ECOSOC Delegation.

The Economic and Social Council consists of representatives of fifty-four nations, each elected for a three-year term. The Council co-ordinates economic and social work of the United Nations. As such, it has

authority over the regional economic commissions and the specialized agencies. Currently the Council only meets once a year for about five weeks. Its sessions alternate between New York and Geneva.

UN WORLD STATISTICAL CONGRESS, WASHINGTON 1947

By B. Clement, Jr.

At the first session of the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), held in London in early 1946, it established a Social Commission. That commission held its first session January 27 to February 7, 1947. One of the actions of that session was to recommend that the ECOSOC convene a World Statistical Congress. The ECOSOC, at its fourth session February 28 to March 29, 1947, decided to convene such a congress.

As a result the United Nations World Statistical Congress - the first worldwide congress of statisticians convened under the auspices of the United Nations - became one of the interrelated International Statistical Congresses held in Washington, D.C. from

September 6 through 18, 1947. Delegates and participants from fifty countries met and discussed matters of common interest in regard to their statistical activities.

In Figure 1 is a newly discovered cover from the Joint Arrangements Committee of the International Statistical Conferences. This cover was sent airmail from Washington on August 8, 1947. Perhaps Mr. Girard was one of the French delegates to the Congress.

References

1. Internet listing of the United Nations Archives.
2. Yearbook of the United Nations, 1946-47 and 1947-48.



Figure 1: Cover from the Headquarters of the Joint Arrangements Committee for the International Statistical Conferences held in Washington, D.C. in September 1947.

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 Ramkissoon, P.O.Box 606, Hindsdale, IL 60522-0606.

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

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

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WANTED: Postally used specimens of the first UN postal card (2¢). Acceptable are cards with added postage to accommodate the rate increase to 3¢ in August 1958 and thereafter. I am willing to return items to owners. They are wanted as I try to identify the 8 printings of this card. Duane Lamers, 5677 Cliffside Dr., Troy, MI 48085. e-mail: kglamers@yahoo.com.

WANTED: Mint UNNY 1-11, all printings, MI4/6, cutouts, guides. If you have for sale, I shall send want lists. R. Snyder, 8127 Langbrook Rd, Springfield, VA 22152.

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THE LEGACY OF SERGIO VIEIRA DE MELLO

[illegible]

UNITED NATIONS MISSION IN EAST TIMOR

VOTING INFORMATION PAMPHLET