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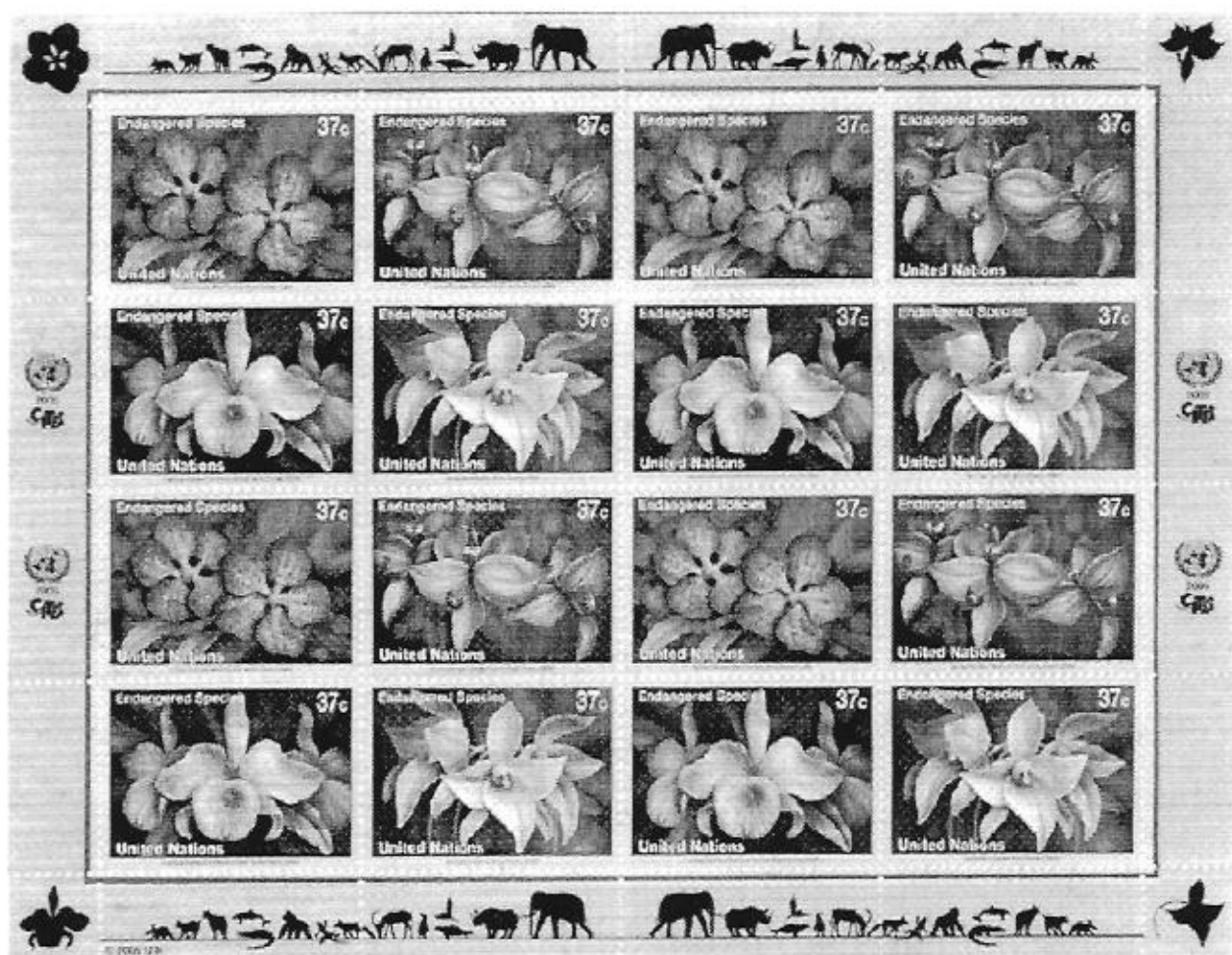
Number 2

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OF THE UNITED NATIONS PHILATELISTS, INC



UN NEW YORK

2005 ENDANGERED SPECIES SERIES

The Journal of United Nations Philatelists

Affiliate #71 of American Philatelic Society

A unit of the American Topical Association

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Inquiries concerning replacement copies of recent issues which failed to arrive in the mail or back issues from 2003, should go to the Production Manager: Dan Gapinski, 118 North 14th Street, Clear Lake, IA 50428 or at gapinski@netins.net.

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

The annual domestic dues (effective January 2004) of the UNPI are US\$22.00, of which \$21.00 apply to the subscription to *The Journal*.

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

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Disclaimer

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

New Members

1493 Paul Rontanini.....Williston Park, NY
1494 Paul Harris.....Newark, DE

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 2005 UNNY Endangered Species Stamps issued March 3, 2005.

Rear cover: Sheets of 2005 UN Geneva and UN Vienna Endangered Species Stamps.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

UNP Regional Meeting in Boxborough

United Nations Philatelists (UNP) will hold a regional meeting at **Philatelic Show** in Boxborough, Massachusetts, a "World Series of Philately" show of the American Philatelic Society (APS). The show will be held April 29th through May 1st at the Holiday Inn Boxborough on Route 111. Take exit 28 off of I-405.

The meeting will be held in the Boxwood Room from 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm on Saturday April 30th and is open to all interested parties, members and non-members alike. In addition to a general meeting UNP-President Tony Dewey will give a presentation *First Issue Gems and Surprises from the U.N. Archive Sale*.

For more information about Philatelic Show, visit the show website at www.nefed.org.

UNP Annual Meeting in Seacaucus

UNP will hold its 2005 annual meeting at **NOJEX**, the annual "World Series of Philately" show sponsored by the North Jersey Federated Stamp Clubs May 28 through 30 at the Meadows Crowne Plaza Hotel in Secaucus, New Jersey. On May 29th the Board of Directors will meet and there will be a general meeting (1:00 pm) which will include presentations on interesting topics of UN philately. Our booth will provide a spot for members to gather and to invite show attendees to join us. Members often get together for dinner or lunch and to trade or sell items for their collections.

In addition to UNP activities, there will be plenty to do and see at the show. The bourse will feature over forty dealers. Northland Auctions will conduct a public auction at the show, as well. Three other stamp societies, United Postal Stationary Society, Society of Israel Philatelists and New Jersey Postal History Society, are convening at the show. These groups will be holding meetings and giving presentations that may be of interest to UNP members. The 200-300 frames of exhibits, including a number of UN and related exhibits, will provide hours of fascinating reading.

A large segment of our membership resides

within a short drive of this show. Newark Airport is 20 minutes away making it convenient for more distant members to attend and air fares are available at bargain prices. A special rate of \$105 (single) or \$115 (double) per night has been arranged at the show hotel. When making hotel reservations (201-348 6900), mention that you are attending NOJEX. Contact me for the special form needed for these special rates. Hotel guests may use a free shuttle to go to area restaurants and attractions and a train station for trips into Manhattan, just four miles away.

The deadline for submitting exhibit applications for NOJEX is April 15. Hopefully, you have already sent in your exhibit application. If not, a call (973-955-8070) or an e-mail (rrose@pitneyhardin.com) to chairman Robert Rose may be able to reserve your frames until you can send the application and frame fees. The application was printed on the wrapper of the February issue of The Journal. Special awards are available to exhibits of U.N.- related material. Awards will be presented at the awards banquet on Sunday night at the Crowne Plaza.

I hope to see many of you at NOJEX.

Call for Lots for August 2005 UNP Auction

Auction Chairman Alex Bereson is soliciting lots to be included in the UNP Auction which will appear in the August 2005 issue of the *Journal*. Lot submitters are asked to follow the following guidelines:

1. Each lot must have a minimum bid of **\$10**.
2. An inventory sheet with lot description and minimum bid value should be included.
3. Send no more than 20 lots per member per auction.
4. Please ship items via **INSURED** mail and pack protectively.
5. Lots should reach the chairman at least 45 days before the Journal issue date of the auction. For the August auction, lots should be shipped by May 15th to:

Alex Bereson, 18 Portola Drive
San Francisco, CA 94131-1518.

If you have any questions, contact Alex via his e-mail address: bereson@comcast.net.

MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR

A Look at the 2005 UNPA Program

By late fall 2004 the United Nations Postal Administration (UNPA) had announced a tentative schedule of emissions for 2005. If the schedule, which appears on page 3, holds, there will be seven commemorative issues, four of which are continuing series: Endangered Species (March 3rd), International Year of Sports (June 3rd), World Heritage - Egypt (August 4th) and "My Dream for Peace" (September 21st). Noticeably absent is the Indigenous Art series which was part of the 2003 and 2004 stamp programs.

The Endangered Species Series has been an annual issue since 1993. This was a remarkable series in that all the stamps ever issued in this series remained on sale indefinitely. As of December 31, 2004 the stamps from the first ten years were removed from sale.

The International Sports Year 2005 series will come to an end after only two sets. The series began last year with a single stamp that was a joint issue with Switzerland so that the stamp is valid at any post office in Switzerland, including the Palais des Nations in Geneva for the UN and in Lausanne for the International Olympic Committee (IOC). Sports has already been the theme of two other sets: 1988 and 1996.

The current World Heritage series began in 1997 with the Terracotta Warriors and are distinguished by the emission each year of six single stamps and three prestige booklets.

In the three-year program for the "My Dream for Peace" series 2005 will be the second year. Presumably the UNPA will be more careful in vetting the designs created by children to avoid the embarrassment of 2004 when the flag of the Republic of China (Taiwan) appeared on an announced stamp and drew the protests of the Peoples Republic of China.

Three issues will commemorate noncontinuing themes: Celebrating the Sixtieth Anniversary of the UN (February 4th), Nature's



Wisdom (April 21st) and World Food Day (October 16th).

The 60th Anniversary stamp was already featured in the February 2004 of the *Journal*. This marks the eleventh time that the UNPA has celebrated the birthday of the UN. With the exception of the fifth birthday, when the UNPA began issuing stamps, commemorative stamps have marked every fifth birthday, often with a special first day cancel in San Francisco in addition to the New York cancel.

Nature's Wisdom is the theme of the World Exposition **Expo 2005** Aichi (Japan) beginning in March 2005. The show will demonstrate innovative environmental technologies and show how countries around the globe draw on "nature's wisdom".

Food has already been the theme of six series either honoring the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO in 1954, 1960) the World Food Program (WFP in 1971, 1983), the World Food Council (WFC in 1976) or the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD in 1988) and now World Food Day (2005).

Only one definitive is currently on the schedule: the € 0,75 hologram stamp for Vienna which was issued on February 4th.

The UNPA released two new personalized sheets of stamps in February which appear on the back page of the mailer. One contains ten 80¢ stamps using the designs used last year and ten labels. The other (a student stamp sheet) has ten cancelled 37¢ stamps with new designs and labels. The UNPA anticipates releasing more personalized stamps in October. The theme will be Seasons Greetings.

If any member is interested in tackling any of these topics, please drop me a line or send me an e-mail, so that I can offer you my enthusiastic support and so that I can devote my own creative energies to other projects.

2005 UNITED NATIONS STAMP PROGRAM

(As of March 1, 2005 but subject to changes of date of issue and denomination.)
See the UNPA World Wide Web Site at <<http://www.un.org/Depts/UNPA>>

February 4 Celebrating the Sixtieth Anniversary of the UN

80¢, F.s. 1,30, € 0,55

(3 Sheets of 20 stamps)

Souvenir Sheets \$1.00, F.s. 3,00, € 2,10

Vienna Definitive (Hologram)

€ 0,75

(1 sheet of 20 stamps)

Personalized International Stamps

1 sheet of 10 stamps @ 80¢ for \$14.95

Personalized Student Sheet

1 sheet of 10 cancelled stamps @ 37¢ for \$4.95

March 3 Endangered Species (Orchids)

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 2005 Endangered Species Annual Collection Folder

FDC with Silk Cachet

April 21 Nature's Wisdom

37¢, 80¢, F.s. 1,00, F.s. 1,30, € 0,55, € 0,75

(6 sheets of 20 stamps)

Souvenir Card

June 3 International Year of Sports (Joint issue with Swiss Post)

37¢, 80¢, F.s. 1,00, F.s. 1,30, € 0,55, € 1,10

(6 sheets of 20 stamps)

August 4 World Heritage - Egypt

37¢, 80¢, F.s. 1,00, F.s. 1,30, € 0,55, € 0,75

(6 Sheets of 20 stamps)

{3 Prestige Booklets with 12×(23¢, 37¢, F.s. 0,20, F.s. 0,50, € 0,25, € 0,30)}

September 21 My Dream for Peace One Day (2nd series out of 3)

37¢, 80¢, F.s. 1,00, F.s. 1,30, € 0,55, € 1,00

(6 sheets of 20 stamps)

October 27 World Food Day (October 16th)

37¢, 80¢, F.s. 1,00, F.s. 1,30, € 0,55, € 1,25

(6 sheets of 20 stamps)

Personalized Stamps (Seasons Greetings)

2005 Annual Collection Folders (New York, Geneva, Vienna)

2005 SLOGAN CANCELLATIONS

January 3 Sixty Years of Building Foundations for Lasting Peace

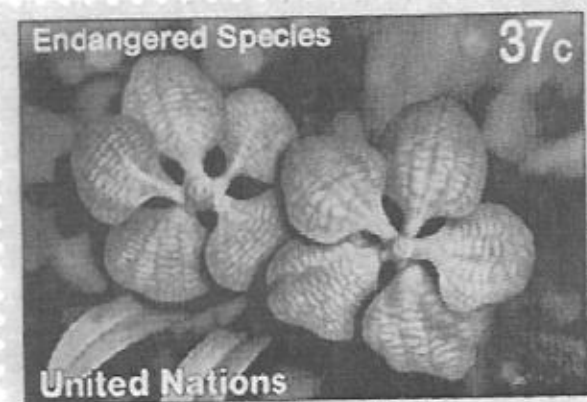
THE 2005 UNITED NATIONS ENDANGERED SPECIES SERIES

By Richard Powers

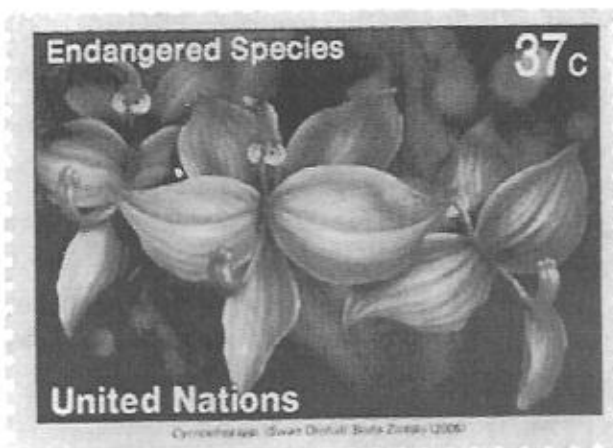
On March 3rd of this year the United Nations Postal Administration (UNPA) issued its thirteenth set of twelve stamps depicting endangered species. This is the second series showing flora (orchids) instead of fauna. This stamp issue coincided with the Postage Stamp Mega-Event show in New York City. The purpose of these stamps is to publicize the work of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), which was signed in Washington, D.C. on March 3, 1971. As of 1998 the convention had a membership of 139 nations. The Government of Switzerland serves as the depository of the Convention.

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

The 2005 Endangered Species



Vanda coerulea: This variety is the best known of the approximately 50 types of this species, which thrive throughout all tropical Asia. Vandas have numerous trailing roots and can even be grown in pots without any soil with the roots poking out through holes in the pot. They are treasured by orchid fanciers because of the bluish color of their petals. Since 2004 this variety has been classified in Appendix II.

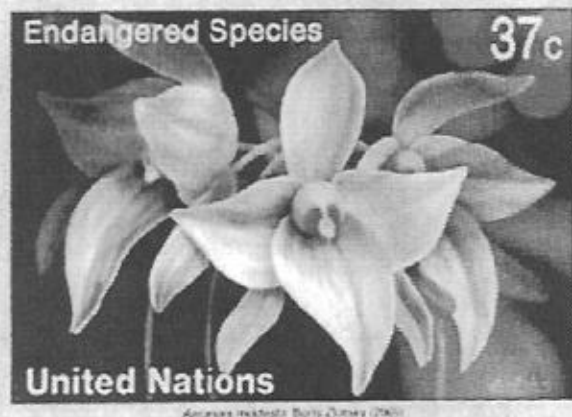


Cynoches cooperi spp: The species name stems from the Greek words for swan neck, which refers to the slender curved stems of the male flowers. They are often called swan orchids. They originate in warm, damp forests in tropical South America and thrive up to 5000 feet in altitude. The main threat to this Appendix II species is destruction of habitat.

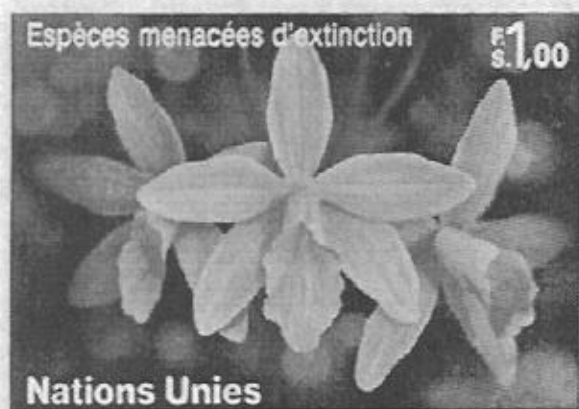


Cattleya trianae: This orchid, also known as

the Christmas orchid, is found only in the upper Columbian Andes around 5000 feet. It is the national flower of Columbia. The genus was first described in 1821 by John Lindley. The blossoms can be as large as 10 inches in diameter and range in color from white to pink to deep violet. This orchid was placed in Appendix II in 2004.



Aerangis modesta: This variety of *Aerangis* (one of sixty) is found throughout humid evergreen forests of Comoros and Madagascar. This Appendix II variety is cultivated for its small size and its attractive, evening-scented flowers, which are adapted to polination by night-visiting moths.



Laelis milleri: More than fifty varieties of *Laelis* are found from southern Mexico to Peru and Brazil, as well as in the West Indies. This rock-dwelling Appendix II variety created a sensation, when it was discovered in the early

1960s because of its fire-engine red blossoms. It is nearly extinct.



Psychomorphis pusilla: This truly miniature variety is popular with orchid fanciers. This Appendix II variety grows wild on trees and shrubs in pastures, coffee plantations and hot, humid forests in Central and South America.



Dendrobium cruentum: This tree-growing orchid has been included in Appendix I since 1995. The flower is a blood-red, warty structure in the center of the lip. The present population of not more than a few thousand plants is scattered over a few coastal islands near Thailand.

Orchis purpurea: This Appendix II variety, also called lady orchid, can grow as tall as 32 inches, making it the largest of the *Orchis* genus. It is found from the United Kingdom north to Denmark, east to the Caucasus and Turkey and south to northern Africa.



Ansellia africana: Known as the leopard orchid because of its brown-spotted yellow blossoms, this plant has a wide-spread distribution throughout Africa, where it has been used traditionally as a love charm and as an antidote for bad dreams. It was classified in 1844.



Phragmipedium kovachii: This Appendix I orchid was discovered in 2003 by an orchid

collector, who spotted a few plants at a roadside stand in Peru. This 20 varieties of this species are found from southern Mexico and Guatemala through Central America down to Bolivia and Brazil. They thrive beneath cliffs or on trees and are found predominantly near waterfalls or other damp areas.



Cymbidium ensifolium: This species was referred to by Confucius over 2500 years ago. Known as the oriental orchid, this species grows on the forest floor of broad-leaf forests throughout Asia, into the Philippines, Indonesia and Papua New Guinea. It generally flowers between January and April but it can blossom throughout the year in tropical climates.



Renanthera imschootiana: This Appendix I variety, known as the fire orchid, is native to northeastern India and Myanmar. The species is famous for its bright flowers, being spotted with blood-red dots over a yellow background.

INTERNATIONAL LAW COMMISSION

By Richard Powers

In a dealer's cover box at a local stamp show, I found the intriguing cover in Figure 1 with the corner card of the International Law Commission (ILC) at the Palais des Nations in Geneva dated March 13, 1958. I speculated that this commission must have some connection to the United Nations. The first website Google found (www.geneva.ch/ilc) was a "hit". It identified the ILC as a UN body devoted to the (a) codification of and (b) the progressive development in international law. It was established by the UN General Assembly (GA) in 1947 and holds meetings in Geneva each year for up to three months each summer (May through July). It is composed of thirty-four experts representing the world's principal legal systems, each elected for a term of five years by the Assembly to serve in their personal capacity rather than as government representatives. The cover was sent by Douglas L. Edmonds, an ILC member from the USA from 1954-1961.

The twin tasks for the United Nations of developing and codifying international law is an obligation imposed on the Assembly by Article 13 of the United Nations Charter. Paragraph 1 of that Article provides that the GA shall initi-

ate studies and make recommendations for the purpose of "promoting international cooperation in the political field and encouraging the progressive development of international law and its codification." Examples of early legislation by the GA includes the Convention on the "Prevention and Punishment of Genocide", adopted during the first part of the third session in 1948 in Paris and the "Universal Declaration of Human Rights", adopted at the same GA session. To carry out these missions the GA established the ILC, which held its first session from April 12 to June 9, 1949 at Lake Success.

Besides promoting the development of international law through international legislation, the ILC has the other function of promoting the codification of international law. The League of Nations made similar efforts.

Figure 2 shows a philatelic cover documenting the opening (March 13, 1930) and the closing (April 12, 1930) of the First Conference for the Codification of International Law in the Hague on the grounds of the Peace Palace, the home of the International Court of Justice. Three subjects were considered by separate committees:



Figure 1: 1958 service cover from the International Law Commission from ILC Member.

- On nationality, a convention on questions relating to the conflict of nationality laws, a protocol relating to military obligations in certain cases of double nationality, a protocol relating to a certain case of statelessness and a special protocol relating to statelessness were signed.
- On the legal status of the territorial sea a resolution was adopted for transmission to governments embodying articles provisionally approved and proposed as a basis for future agreement.
- On the responsibility of states, the conference was unable to reach agreement.

In general, the efforts at this conference were not too fruitful as delegates arrived armed with instructions from their own governments. The attitude was that the governments prefer to reserve freedom of judgment until an actual case arises between two states, rather than to pledge in advance what their view of international law should be.



Figure 2: Philatelic cover from the 1930 Conference for the Codification of International Law at the Peace Palace in the Hague.

The ILC undertook as the first phase of its work the codification in the form of restatements of three subjects: regime of the high seas, treaties and arbitral procedure.

The fifty-sixth session of the ILC took place from May 3 - June 4 and July 5 - August 6, 2004. (See the website: www.un.org/law/ilc.) Two new topics were included in its work pro-

gram: "Expulsion of Aliens" and "Effects of Armed Conflicts on Treaties".

The UNPA honored the twenty-fifth anniversary of the ILC in 1974 with a special slogan cancel (Gaines UNNY slogan #42.) A souvenir cover (Figure 3) canceled on the first day of slogan use and signed by Stephen McCaffrey, an American Member of the Commission.

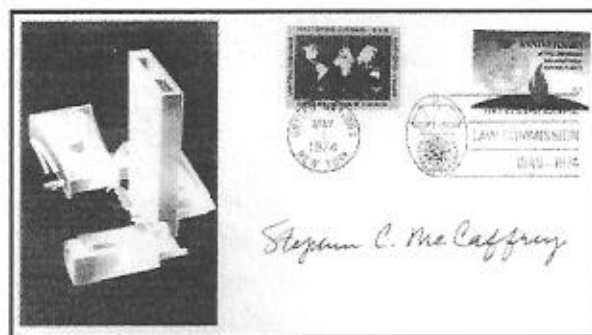


Figure 3: UNNY slogan cancel honoring ILC (courtesy of B. Clement, Jr.)

Figure 4 shows a conference cover sent on June 28, 1983 a few days after the thirty-first session ended bearing origin cachet CONF. 3. The enclosed correspondence identified that this was an ILC session.



Figure 4: 1983 ILC session cover from the UN in Geneva bearing CONF. 3 origin cachet (courtesy of B. Clement, Jr.)

References

- Annual Review of United Nations Affairs 1949*, edited by Clyde Eagleton, (New York: New York University Press, 1950), p. 268-71.
- Myers, Denys P, *Handbook of the League of Nations*, (Boston: World Peace Foundation, 1935), p. 261-268.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS FOR PRIVATE LAW

By Richard Powers

In contrast to the International Law Commission, which was set up by the United Nations General Assembly to handle international legal affairs, there are two intergovernmental organizations, whose concern is international law which affects individuals and corporations: the International Institute for the Unification of Private Law (UNIDROIT) and the Hague Conference on Private International Law (HCPII).

UNIDROIT

UNIDROIT is an independent intergovernmental organization with its seat in the Villa Aldobrandini in Rome. (See its website: www.unidroit.org.) Figure 1 shows a 75 centesimo Italian postal card, which pictures the Institute. It was postmarked in Bolzano on March 15, 1932 and sent airmail to Berlin necessitating an additional 2 lire stamp (Scott # C17).



Figure 1: 1932 Postal Card Picturing the International Institute for (the Unification of) Private Law in Rome.

The purpose of the Institute is to study needs and methods for modernizing, harmonizing and coordinating private and, in particular, commercial law among States and groups of States. Figure 2 shows a service cover bearing Scott # 632 tied by a

Rome postmark in Rome on March 12, 1956. It was sent to the (state) Supreme Court Library in Salem, Oregon. I suspect that much of its correspondence is with Courts of its Member States.



Figure 2: 1956 Service Cover from UNIDROIT.

It was set up as an auxiliary organ of the League of Nations. Following the demise of the League, it was reestablished on the basis of a multilateral agreement, the UNIDROIT Statute.

Membership in UNIDROIT is restricted to States acceding to the UNIDROIT Statute. There are currently (as of April 2004) fifty-nine member States, including all members of the European Union, China, the Russian Federation and the United States.

Much like the United Nations, it has a three-tiered structure, made up of a Secretariat, a Governing Council and a General Assembly. The Institute is financed by annual contributions from its member States, which are determined by its own General Assembly.

Its work can best be understood by considering the following example. In October 1934 the Governing Body of the Institute established the texts of draft international laws on sales and a draft uniform law on the responsibility of hotel keepers with regard to the loss of property by travelers. On January

14, 1935 the Council had them forwarded to governments for their reactions.

The Institute, through committees of experts, works on drafts on arbitration in private matters, insurance, exchange and exchange operations and credit notes.

HCPIL

The Hague Conference on Private International Law is a global intergovernmental organization with more than sixty Member States. (See the website: hcch.net) An increasing number of non-Member States are also becoming parties to the Hague Conventions. As a result, the work of the Conference encompasses more than 110 countries around the world.

Personal and family or commercial situations which exist inside more than one country are commonplace in the modern world. These may be affected by differences between the legal systems in those countries. With a view to resolving these differences, States have adopted special rules known as "private international law" rules.

The statutory mission of the Conference is to work for the "progressive unification" of these rules. This involves finding internationally-agreed approaches to issues such as jurisdiction of the courts, applicable law and the recognition and enforcement of judgments in a wide range of areas, from commercial law and banking law to international civil procedure and from child protection on matters of marriage and personal status.

The Conference held its first meeting in 1893, on the initiative of T.M.C. Asser (Nobel Peace Prize 1911). It became a permanent intergovernmental organization in 1955, upon entry into force of its Statute.

The Organization meets in principle every four years in Plenary Session (ordinary Diplomatic Session) to negotiate and adopt Conventions and to decide upon future

work. The Conventions are prepared by Special Commissions or working groups held several times a year, generally at the Peace Palace in the Hague, but increasingly in various member countries. Special Commissions are also organized to review the operation of the Conventions and adopt recommendations with the object of improving the effectiveness of the Conventions and promoting consistent practices and interpretation.

The Organization is funded principally by its Member States. its budget is approved every year by the Council of Diplomatic Representatives of Member States. The Organization also seeks and receives some funding for special projects from other sources.

The activities of the Conference are coordinated by a multinational Secretariat - the Permanent Bureau - located in the Hague at the Center of International Justice. The Secretariat prepares the Plenary Sessions and Special Commissions, and carries out the basic research required for any subject taken up by the Conference. It also engages in various activities to support the effective implementation and operation of the Conventions. Figure 3 shows a service cover (bearing Scott #344 and 2x#349) from the HCPIL to the Supreme Court Library in Salem, Oregon. It is postmarked in the Hague on October 15, 1957. On the rear of the cover is a handstamped origin cachet, which reads Bureau Permanent - Conference de la Haye de D.I.P. (Droit International Privé), which is the French-language acronym for HCPIL. The origin cachet appears in the inset in Figure 3.

The Permanent Bureau regularly publishes and maintains a Collection of Conventions together with handbooks on the operation of certain Conventions. It also edits the Proceedings of each of the Sessions in its collection of "Acts et Documents".

Between 1893 and 1904 the Conference adopted seven international Conventions, which have all been subsequently replaced by more modern instruments. These Hague Conferences should not be confused with the Hague Conference of 1899, which was convoked by the Czar of Russia to discuss disarmament. The latter led to the creation of a court of judges, The Hague Court, to which questions could be submitted for mediation and arbitration. The modern day successor to the Hague Court is the present International Court of Justice, which fills a most important place in the organization of the United Nations.

Between 1951 and 2003, the Conference adopted thirty-five international Conventions, the practical operation of many of which is regularly reviewed by Special Commissions. Even when they are not ratified, the Conventions have an influence upon legal systems, in both member and non-Member States. They also form a source of inspiration for efforts to unify private international law at the regional level, for example within the Organization of American States or the European Union.

The most widely ratified Conventions

deal with:

- The abolition of legislation
- Service of process
- Taking of evidence abroad
- Access to justice
- International child abduction
- Inter-country adoption
- Conflicts of laws relating to the form of testamentary dispositions
- Maintenance obligations
- Recognition of divorces.

Two recent Conventions are the Convention on Jurisdiction, Applicable Law, Recognition, Enforcement and Cooperation in respect to Parental Responsibility and Measures for the Protection of Children (1996) and the Convention on the International Protection of Adults (2000).

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Annual Review of United Nations Affairs 1949, edited by Clyde Eagleton, (New York: New York University Press, 1950), p. 133.
Myers, Denys P, *Handbook of the League of Nations*, (Boston: World Peace Foundation, 1935), p. 268.

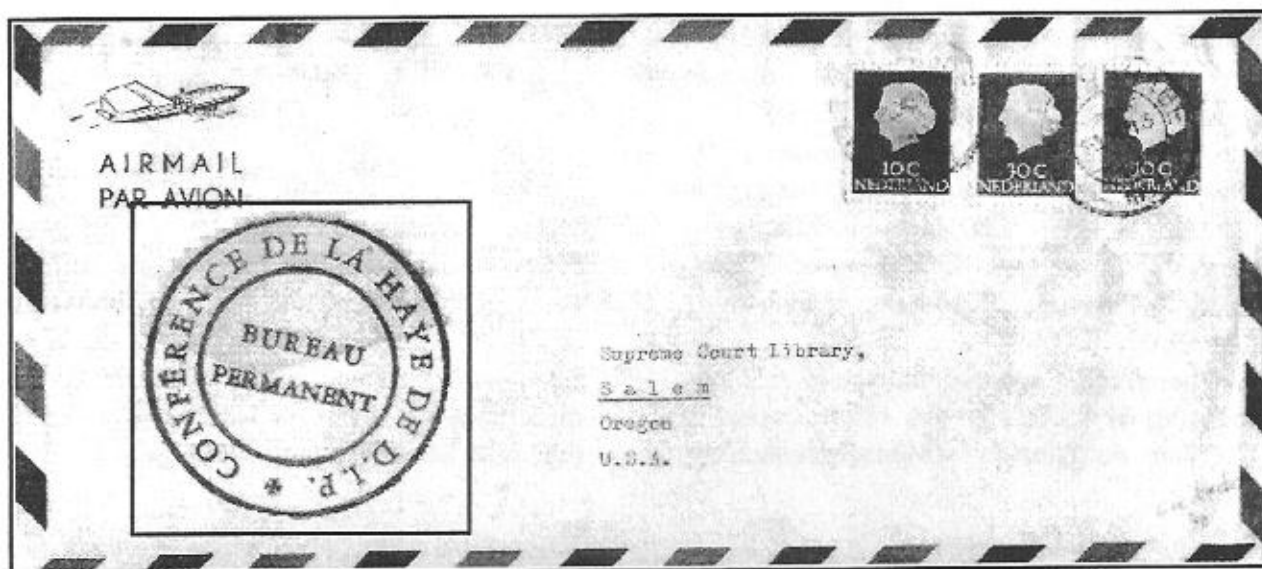


Figure 3: 1957 Service cover from the HCPIIL with origin cachet on the rear shown in the insert.

MYSTERIOUS UN GENEVA ORIGIN CACHET

By B. Clement, Jr.

A new origin cachet, a boxed "S.G." has been discovered on a 1971 UN Geneva cover, shown in Figure 1. At first blush, one would naturally assume that "S.G." stands for Secretary-General. However, on further reflection, perhaps this is not the case. Although the UN Secretary-General visits the Geneva office from time to time, it would seem odd for mail to have been sent by him while there to a local Geneva company, such as the addressee "Constructions métalliques Thibault" (Thibault Metal Construction) found on this cover.



Figure 1: UN Geneva Service Cover with "S.G." Origin Cachet.

A clue is available from a known Geneva origin cachet, a boxed "SGRF", which is listed as S111 on page 31 of the UNP Monograph "Origin Cachets of the United Nations, its Agencies and its Predecessors". An example of the use of this cachet is shown on the cover in Figure 2. "SGRF" was listed in the monograph as unidentified. However, since the monograph was published, "SGRF" has been identified as "Service de Gestion de Ressources Financières" (Financial Resources Management Service).

Therefore, it appears that the most likely meaning of "S.G." in this origin cachet is "Service de Gestion" (Management Service).

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www.un.int/pakistan/16970718.html
www.unpi.com/unabbrevs.html

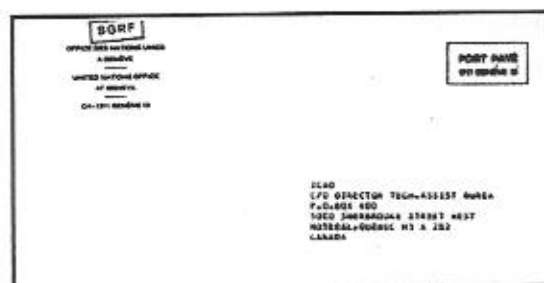


Figure 2: UN Geneva Service Cover with "SGRF" Origin Cachet.

IAEA CONFERENCE DISCOVERY Copenhagen - 1960

By B. Clement, Jr.

A special cancellation for a 1960 Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), previously unknown to UN philatelists, has been discovered. This postmark is shown in Figure 1. Thus was for the IAEA Conference organized with the co-operation of UNESCO and held in Copenhagen, Denmark in September 1960. The conference theme was "Radioisotopes in the Physical Sciences and Industry".



Figure 1: IAEA Special Cancellation

Help us make the postal history of conferences and meetings of the UN and its agencies more complete. If you know of a postmark, stamped cachet, registry label or corner card for a conference which you think might not be listed in Gaines Catalog or other UN literature, please let us know.

Reference

International Atomic Energy Publications Catalog 1978/79, (IAEA, Vienna, 1960) p. 138.

SCOTT CATALOGUE NUMBERS OF 2004 UNITED NATIONS STAMP PROGRAM

- January 29** **Endangered Species**
 37¢, F.s. 1,00, € 0,55
 New York 858-61a, Geneva 418-21a, Vienna 342-45a
 Vienna Definitive
 € 0,55
 Vienna 341
- March 4** **Indigenous Art - Europe**
 6×37¢, 6×F.s. 1,00, 6×€ 0,55
 New York 862a-f, Geneva 422a-f, Vienna 346a-f
- April 7** **Road Safety**
 37¢, 70¢, F.s. 0,85, F.s. 1,00, € 0,55, € 0,75
 New York 863-4, Geneva 423-4, Vienna 347-8
- June 3** **50th Anniversary of Japanese Peace Bell**
 80¢, F.s. 1,30, € 2,10
 New York 865, Geneva 425, Vienna 349
 Souvenir card No. 59
 Postal Stationery
 Postal card € 0,55, pre-stamped envelopes € 0,55, € 1,25
 Vienna UX16, U8-9
- August 12** **World Heritage - Greece**
 37¢, 60¢, F.s. 1,00, F.s. 1,30, € 0,55, € 0,75
 New York 866-7, Geneva 426-7, Vienna 350-51
 {3 Prestige Booklets with 12×(23¢, 37¢, F.s. 0,20, F.s. 0,50, € 0,25, € 0,30)}
 New York 868a-f, Geneva 428a-f, Vienna 352a-f
- 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
 New York 869-70, Geneva 429-30, Vienna 353-4
 Surcharged Postal Stationery
 Postal cards F.s. 0,70 + 0,15, F.s. 0,90 + 0,10, F.s. 1,10 + 0,10
 Geneva UX16-8
- October 14** **Human Rights (Education Decade 1995 - 2004)**
 37¢, 70¢, F.s. 0,85, F.s. 1,30, € 0,55, € 1,25
 New York 871-2, Geneva 431-2, Vienna 355-6
- October 15** **Disarmament Definitive**
 37¢
 New York 873
- November 23** **Sport 2005 (Joint issue with Switzerland)**
 F.s. 1,80
 Geneva 433

TWO ATTRACTIVE (BUT PROBABLY CONTRIVED) UN COVERS

By Richard Powers

I recently came across two attractive UN covers, whose high degree of thematic coordination strongly suggests the philatelic (as opposed to service) origin of these two items. But the ingenuity used in their design deserves a bit of exposure in these pages.

The first cover, which appears in Figure 1, is a study in the logos of the World Health Organization (WHO). It appears to have been produced at the Eleventh World Health Assembly, which opened on May 28, 1958 in Minneapolis, Minnesota. The cover was created using a service envelope of the WHO office in New York. The corner card includes a logo commemorating the ten anniversary of the WHO (1948-1958). This theme is repeated in the slogan of the meter cancel (Pitney-Bowes #115088), which is dated May 26th, the first day of use of this meter cancel.

Next to the corner card are two red cachets: one (Gaines Cachet A.11A) noting the 10th anniversary of WHO and the site of the assembly with matching date May 26th; the other (Gaines Cachet A.11B) proclaiming the cover to be official correspondence of the 11th World Health Assembly. The former cachet features the WHO emblem - a caduceus superimposed on a globe and surrounded by a wreath. This emblem also appears on the 3¢-commemorative (UNNY #43), which appears in the lower right corner of the cover tied by a UNNY wreath cancel dated May 26th as well as on the 40-centime stamp WHO (Switzerland 5031), tied by a Geneva cancel dated July 11, 1958.

The cover was originally addressed to the WHO-OMS at the Palais des Nations in Geneva. In addition to the 3¢-stamp the cover bears a meter cancel with 36¢-denomination, totaling 39¢. The cover bears a special delivery rubber stamped legend. At that time the European surface rate (8¢) with special delivery charge would amount to 38¢. The fact that the Geneva address has been crossed out and "forwarded" to the UN in New York might be used to "explain" the presence of the Swiss of-

ficial stamp dated in July 1958. But first class mail is normally forwarded without additional postage. And there are absolutely no receiving cancels on the rear, which would document that special delivery service took place.

Of course, one might wonder: Why ask for special delivery service for a letter to be sent by boat across the Atlantic? A second mystery involves the fact that the meter cancel seems to have been applied in Minneapolis on the same day as the UNNY wreath cancel, which should not have been anywhere near the Assembly.

The second cover (Figure 2) originated in Paris in 1952 during the Sixth General Assembly Session and displays a strong UNESCO theme. The cover, which was sent to the Netherlands, bears a UNESCO corner card. It bears a 30f General Assembly commemorative (France # 672) along with UNESCO gifts stamps, from the left, for France (GS2), UK/Australia (GS3) and the USA (GS1). All four are tied by a roller cancel of the Rue La Perouse post office with the legend "Par l'Education, la Science, la Culture, l'UNESCO sert la Paix" (UNESCO services peace through education, science and culture). The back flap of the envelope is rubber-stamped with a cachet of UNESCO, Assemblée Générale des Nations Unies (UN General Assembly) - Paris 1951-1952. This appears below in Figure 3. This cover undoubtedly passed through the mail stream but appears deliberately designed to be a study in UNESCO philately.



Figure 3: UNESCO cachet on the rear.



Figure 1: 1958 WHO-themed cover from Minneapolis during the Eleventh Health Assembly



Figure 2: 1952 UNESCO-themed cover from Paris during the Sixth UN General Assembly.

DOCUMENTING PHILATELICALLY THE CREATION OF THE ATLANTIC CHARTER

By Richard Powers

Many historians trace the origins of the organization today known as the United Nations to a meeting held between Prime Minister Winston Churchill and President Franklin D. Roosevelt in mid-August in Placentia Bay off the coast of Newfoundland near Argentina. At the time the United States was officially neutral as far as World War II was concerned, although the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor in Hawaii four months later on December 7, 1941 would rapidly change the status of the United States. On the other hand the United Kingdom and the Soviet Union were in battle against the Axis powers, predominantly Germany and Italy.

During this meeting the two leaders agreed "to make known certain common principles in the national policies of their respective countries on which they base their hopes for a better future for the world." The text of the resulting document known as the Atlantic Charter appears on the front cover of the June 1996 issue of the *Journal*. The eight points in this document provided inspiration for the United Nations Charter which was agreed to at the United Nations Conference on International Organization in San Francisco in June 1945.

I recently came across a fascinating book entitled *Atlantic Meeting*, which was written by H. V. Morton, a journalist, who accompanied Churchill on his trip across the Atlantic aboard the battleship H. M. S. Prince of Wales. The book, published in April 1943, is essentially a journal of the trip to meet Roosevelt, who arrived on August 9th. The two met for four days with Roosevelt leaving on August 12th. Dispatches were sent to Washington and London, which resulted in a document, which was proclaimed to the world on August 14th.

Beside the H. M. S. Prince of Wales, the

British ships that were present at the meeting included the destroyers: H. M. S. Harvester, Havelock and Hesperus (page 42). The host country Canada sent the destroyers Ripley, Restigouche and Assiniboine (page 63). Accompanying the President's cruiser the U. S. S. Augusta, were the battleship Arkansas, the cruiser Tuscaloosa and a flotilla of destroyers including the McDougal (page 85). During the past twenty years I have been looking for philatelic documentation of this pivotal meeting in the formation of the United Nations.

Thus far I have found two covers from the Augusta: one clearly a souvenir (Figure 1) and one clearly official (Figure 2). The cover in Figure 1 bears a special cachet commemorating the arrival of the U.S.S. Augusta on August 9th. At 11:00 am Mr. Churchill appeared on deck with his Chiefs of Staff to board the Augusta. The cover is postmarked with the ship's cancel of the U.S.S. Augusta, tying a 3¢ Presidential stamp (Scott U.S. 807). According to a memo (found in a similar cover) from G. I. Russel, Flag Secretary to the U.S. Atlantic Fleet to Commanding Officer of the U.S.S. Mayo three hundred such covers were to be distributed to men, who were actually present at the meeting per order of the President. In the past twenty years I am aware that at least five of these covers have made it into collectors' hands. But I suspect that the vast majority of these souvenirs remained in military hands. Recently a few of these covers have been sold on eBay for prices varying from \$30 to \$150.

The second cover (Figure 2) was postmarked August 14th tying a 3¢ Defense stamp (Scott #301), the day that the Atlantic Charter was published. It is on official stationery of the Augusta and is addressed to

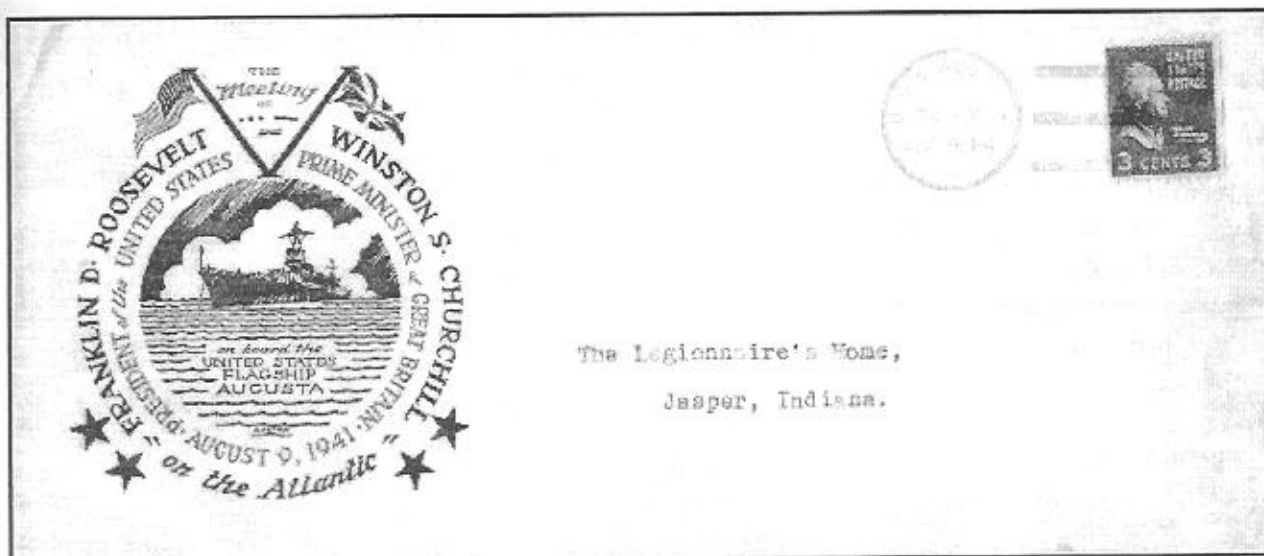


Figure 1: Souvenir cover commemorating the arrival of President Franklin Roosevelt aboard the cruiser U. S. S. Augusta in Placentia Bay off the coast of Newfoundland on August 9, 1941 to confer with Prime Minister Winston Churchill of Great Britain.

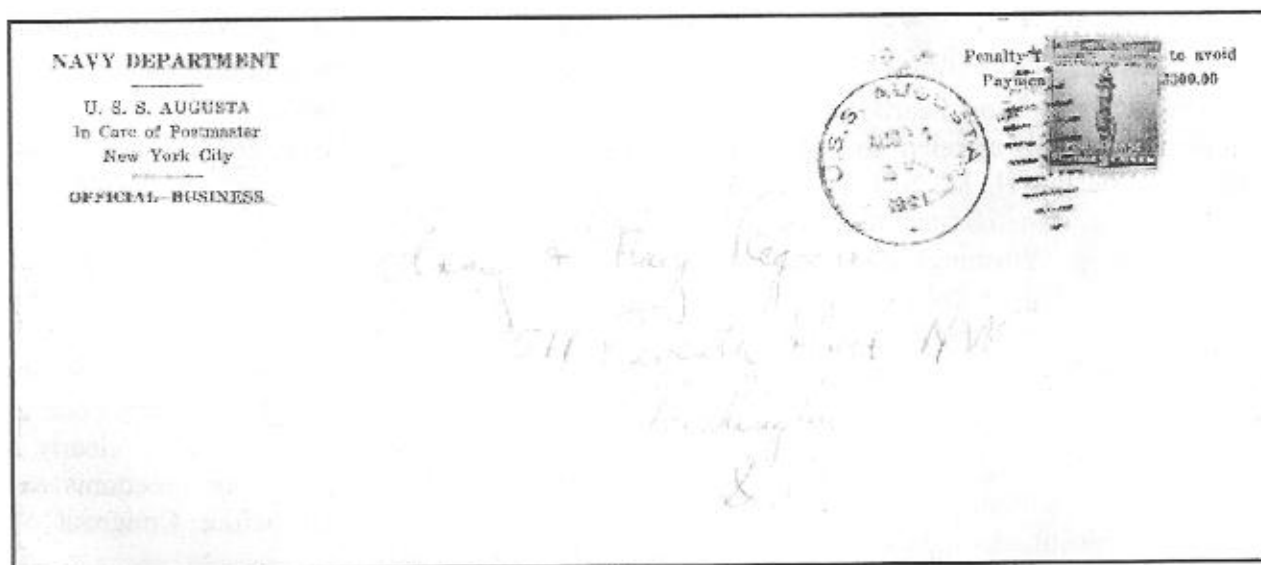


Figure 2: Official service cover of the U. S. S. Augusta postmarked on August 14, 1941 and sent to the Army & Navy Register in Washington, D.C. This was the day of the official proclamation of the Atlantic Charter. President Roosevelt had already departed aboard the Augusta two days earlier from Placentia Bay and was returning to Washington, D.C.

the Army & Navy Register in Washington.

I have looked for years in vain for similar covers from the British ships present. I am afraid that such a search is liable to be frustrated by the fact that Great Britain was in a state of war at the time of the meeting. British ships were forbidden to use ship cancels which revealed their position on given dates. This situation is demonstrated by the cover in Figure 3.



Figure 3: Philatelic cover commemorating Churchill's voyage on the H. M. S. Duke of York to confer with Roosevelt after the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor.

After the attack on Pearl Harbor, Prime Minister Churchill traveled aboard the new British battleship H. M. S. Duke of York. The cover commemorates the trip but is postmarked in Washington on Christmas Day at noon. The cancel ties the two U. S. Defense stamps: Scott #899 and 900. On the reverse side is the rubberstamped legend (Figure 4):

MARTIME ruling
forbids ship cancels,
postmarks indicating
actual arrival, departure.

The return address on the rear of the cover indicates that the sender was "First Day Covers" in Teaneck, New Jersey. But the legend clearly indicates why I have not found any covers from the H. M. S. Prince of Wales postmarked on August 14, 1941. Presumably Canadian ships were not al-

lowed to reveal position and date too as they, as members of the British Commonwealth were at war too.



Figure 4: Rear of cover in Figure 3, which bears a rubberstamped legend indicating the ban on dated ship cancels.

In closing I would like to add a few words about the book mentioned in the reference below: *Atlantic Meeting*. This fascinating 160-page work provides a very detailed look into everyday life aboard a battleship in the midst of war during the two weeks that Churchill was traveling to meet Roosevelt and to return home via Iceland. It also provides marvelous insights into the characters of the two protagonists. The author maintains that he can distinguish the contributions of Churchill and Roosevelt to the final wording of the Atlantic Charter. According to an observer present during the negotiations, Churchill added the flourish "being met together" in the introductory sentence. But in Clause 6 the reference to "freedom from fear and want" is clearly a citation of Roosevelt's Four Freedoms expressed in a speech before Congress on January 5, 1941.

During the past year I have noticed at least five copies of this book on sale on eBay. Including shipment from England, these books have been going for about \$7.

Reference

Morton, H. V, *Atlantic Meeting*, (London: Methuen & Co Ltd, 1944).

UNITED NATIONS INTERIM ADMINISTRATION IN KOSOVO

By Richard Powers

In the course of its sixty years of existence, the United Nations has been involved in the administration of territories for which special postage stamps were issued.

Between October 1, 1962 and April 30, 1963, the western half of the island of New Guinea, now West Irian, was under United Nations administration during the time that this territory passed from its status as a colony of the Netherlands until it was transferred to Indonesia. During these seven months Netherlands New Guinea stamps overprinted with the acronym "UNTEA" (United Nations Temporary Executive Authority) were used in West Irian. These stamps were sold to collectors by the UNPA and are listed in the Scott Catalogue in volume 4 under Netherlands New Guinea.

In October 1999 the United Nations Security Council established the United Nations Transitional Administration in East Timor (UNTAET) to assume trusteeship over East Timor during its transitional from Indonesian control to complete independ-

ence which took place on May 20, 2002. On April 29, 2000 UNTAET issued two stamps for use in East Timor. These were not sold by the UNPA and are listed in the Scott Catalogue in volume 6 under Timor.

On March 15, 2000 the United Nations Interim Administration in Kosovo (UNMIK) issued five stamps for use in this former part of Yugoslavia. An article on these stamps appeared in the June 2000 issue of the *Journal* (page 8). This first set of stamps was sold to collectors by the UNPA and are listed in the Scott Catalogue in volume 1 under UN Kosovo. These stamps were issued in German marks.

A second set of five stamps were issued on November 12, 2001 with the denomination given in both German marks and euros. These are listed as Scott UN Kosovo #6-10. They were not sold by the UNPA.

A third set of stamps was released on May 2, 2002 with the same designs as the second set but denominated only in euros. These stamps were not sold by the UNPA.

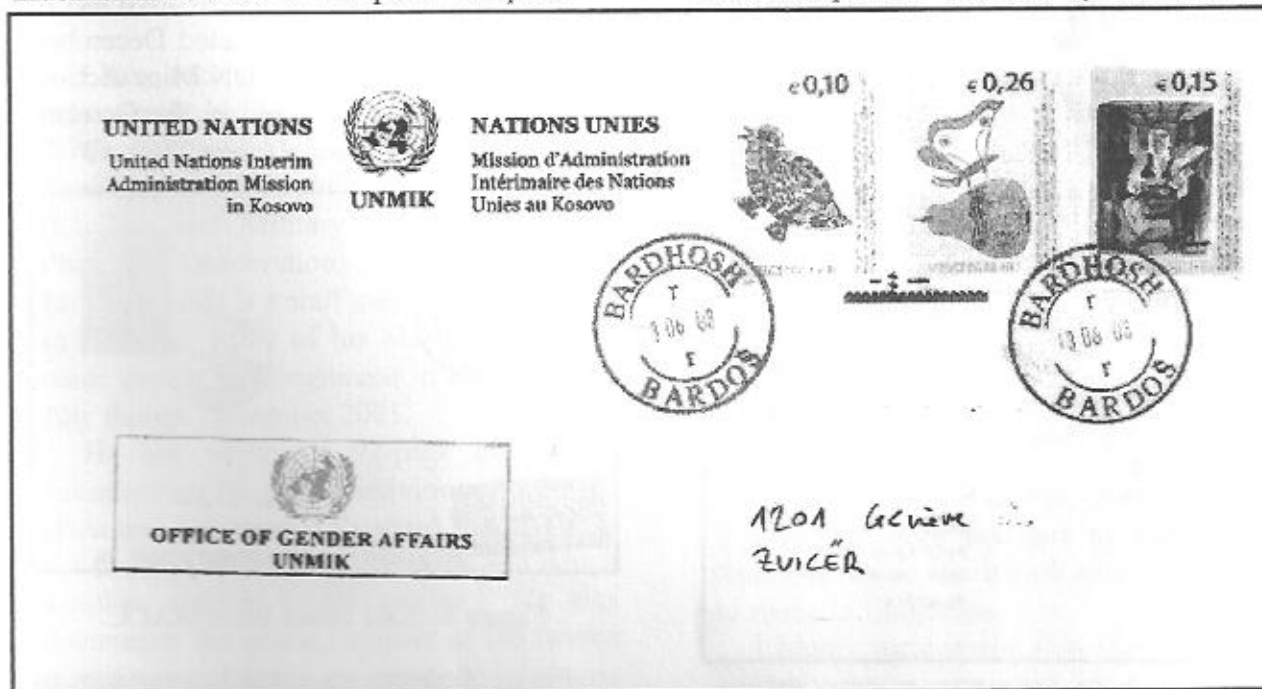


Figure 1: 2003 UNMIK service cover from the Office of Gender Affairs.

They are listed as UN Kosovo 11-15.

All three of these set clearly label the stamps in three languages as being issued for the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo. They all bear the legend (in three languages) Peace. Are these UN-related stamps in your collection?

UN Service Covers

In an article which appeared in the August 2001 issue of the *Journal* (page 19) is a cover with a UNMIK corner card printed on a label which is from the Press and Information Department in Pristina. The cover bears (UN Kosovo #1, 2) stamps tied by a Pristina postmark.

Below are some other covers bearing UN related cachets or corner cards. Figure 1 shows a cover with a printed UNMIK corner card and a rubberstamped origin cachet from the Office of Gender Affairs. The cover bears three stamps from the third series (UN Kosovo 11, 12, 13) tied by a postmark of Bardos dated June 13, 2003.

The remaining four covers all bear stamps from the first series and have rubberstamped corner cards and/or origin cachets. Figure 2 shows a cover sent to Vienna, Austria with an origin cachet of the Pouch Unit of UNMIK. It bears two stamps (Kosovo #3) tied by a Pristina postmark dated October 9, 2001.



Figure 2: 2001 cover from UNMIK Pouch Unit.

Figure 3 shows an airmail cover sent to

Geneva with a rubber stamped corner card of the Post & Telecom Department operated by UNMIK in Pristina. It also has a circular origin cachet with the legend UNMIK POST KOSOVO. The stamp (Kosovo #4) is tied by a Pristina postmark dated December 11, 2001.



Figure 3: 2001 cover with corner card and origin cachet of UNMIK Post in Kosovo.

Figure 4 shows an airmail cover sent to Geneva bearing the origin cachet of the United Nations Mine Action Coordination Center (MACC). The stamp (Kosovo #4) is tied by a Pristina postmark dated December 11, 2001. An article on the UN Mine Action Service (UNMAS) appeared in the October 2003 issue of the *Journal* (page 22).



Figure 4: 2001 cover from MACC.

Figure 5 shows an airmail cover sent to UNITAR (United Nations Institute for Training and Research) in Geneva bearing

the cachet of UNMIK Municipal Administration in Suva Reka. The stamp (Kosovo #4) bears a Suva Reka postmark and is dated December 24, 2001. Next to the stamp from the corner of the sheet is the date of printing of the stamp: January 19, 2000. On the reverse side is the receiving cancel of UNITAR in Geneva date January 2, 2002.

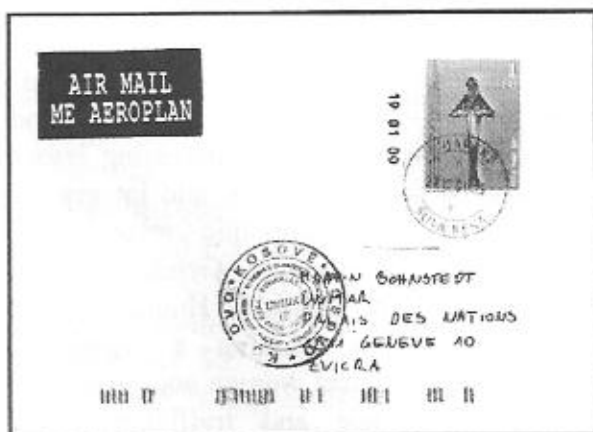


Figure 5: 2001 cover with origin cachet of UNMIK Municipal Administration in Suva Reka.

Book Review: *Zivile Post und Feldpost im Kosovo* (Civilian and Military Mail in Kosovo)

I have recently come across a fascinating monograph by Martin Bohnstedt entitled: *Zivile Post und Feldpost im Kosovo - Philatelistische Beobachtungen im Jahr 2001* (Civilian and Military Mail in Kosovo - Philatelic Observations in the Year 2001). Mr. Bohnstedt is a staff member of UNITAR in Geneva. Most of his observations were made during an assignment in Kosovo from July through December 2001.

He has written a 92-page monograph documenting the postal activities of the PTK (Post and Telecom of Kosovo), which is under the administration of UNMIK and which supplies civilian postal service. He also documents the postal facilities of the twelve military postal facilities operated by troops from twelve nations: Denmark, Germany, Finland, France, Greece, Great Britain, Italy,

Norway, Austria, Sweden, Switzerland and the United States. Although the work is in German, it is generously illustrated and has numerous tables. The majority of the figures are images of philatelic items such as commercial covers, first day covers, postal vignettes and international reply coupons. But there are also photos of KFOR military personnel, and PTK post offices.

There are two pages dedicated to the military postal facilities of the USA. One is the Army Post Office in Camp Bondsteel, which is the headquarters for the American KFOR-units located between Ferizaj/Urosevac and Viti/Vitina. (Note that the names of communities in Kosovo are generally given in two forms: Albanian/Serbian.) The other is the Mail Room in the upper floor of the Barracks of the American National Support Element (NSE) in KFOR-headquarters *Film City* in Prishtinë/Prishtina.

In this work there are sections on the PTK-Post Offices, the postal services available from the PTK, the cancellations and origin cachets of the PTK, postal forms, the first day of the second Kosovo stamp series, authentic and counterfeit first day covers, relations with the UNPA, which has been boycotting the sale of all but the first series of Kosovo stamps, and the third Kosovo stamp series.

This publication is directly available from the author, who can be reached at the following address:

Martin Bohnstedt
Rue Charles-Cusin 10/53
CH-1201 Genève
Switzerland.

The price is €10 postpaid, currently about \$14.00. My copy was sent by surface mail from Geneva so that it took about five weeks to arrive in California.

I highly recommend this monograph for anyone who is interested in a completely new field of United Nations Philately, the UN Mission in Kosovo.

OFFICE OF GENDER AFFAIRS

By Richard Powers

The first figure in the previous article on Kosovo shows a cover on service stationery of the United Nations Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK) bearing a handstamped origin cachet from the Office of Gender Affairs. On the website of the Inter-Agency Network on Women and Gender Equality (IANWGE) (see the website: www.un.org/womenwatch/ianwge/activities/sf) I found an indication of current activities of the Offices of Gender Affairs in Kosovo and East Timor as well as in the Congo (MONUC), Sierra Leone (UNAMSIL) and Ethiopia and Eritrea (UNMEE).

Security Council Resolution 1325

In 2000 the United Nations Security Council released Resolution 1325 on Women and Peace and Security mandating that Member States implement fully international humanitarian and human rights law that protects the rights of women and girls during and after conflicts. As a result the plan of action of the UN Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO) spells out measures to mainstream gender in all of its activities: to increase the participation of women in peacekeeping, including numbers of women at decision-making levels in field missions and to address the needs of women working in all its field operations. This includes the development of a training curriculum of gender awareness and sensitivity for military personnel and civilian police. In collaboration with UNITAR, it is developing a training course for civilian staff on the impact of armed conflict on women and children, which will include a module on gender awareness and sensitivity.

The DPKO is committed to establishing gender affairs offices/units in large multidimensional missions and gender focal points in smaller missions where gender units may not be feasible. The missions in East Timor

and Kosovo, with dedicated Gender Affairs Offices, have been able to accomplish a great deal to transform gender issues into their activities.

UNMIK Office

The Office of Gender Affairs in UNMIK has focused on three priority areas; increasing the representation of women in decision-making in the reconstruction and peace-building processes; addressing issues of violence against women; and integrating women into the economic recovery of Kosovo. The Office of Gender Affairs, working with the Office of Human Rights, has focused on building a legislative framework to protect women and girls from domestic violence and trafficking. A regulation prohibiting the trafficking of human beings was enacted in January 2001. A draft domestic violence code is in the final stages of development.

UNTAET Office

The Gender Affairs Office in the United Nations Transitional Administration in East Timor (UNTAET) has raised awareness about the critical link between gender equality and sustainable development with UNTAET staff. It also emphasizes the importance of concrete action to achieve equality for Timorese men and women.

The Office has ensured that the Transitional Administration's policies and programs promote gender equality in key areas of concern to East Timorese women, including participation at decision-making levels, legislation protecting equal rights, prosecution of gender-related crimes which took place during the violence of 1999, violence against women, equal participation of women in the political process and at least 30% representation of women in the public service.

AN ILO COVER FROM THE HINDENBURG

By Richard Powers

Recently an very interesting and very expensive cover sent from the International Labor Organization (ILO) in Geneva in 1936 appeared for sale by Matthew Bennett International in Baltimore, Maryland on January 21st. It was also arranged so that bidders not present could participate by absentee bid via eBay.

The cover, which appears in Figure 1, is on service stationery and bears three very high valued stamps: a green F.s. 10 (Scott # 3026), a red F.s. 3 (# 3023) and a grilled green and red F.s. 0.90 (# 3027a). Gaines estimates such a service cover would be worth about \$833, priced for the rare 10 franc stamp, which is usually seen only on packages (only 8000 printed) plus the off-cover prices for the two other stamps.

But this cover is much more tantalizing. It traveled on flight LZ 129 of the Hin-

denburg, the first flight to North America which took place May 6-14, 1936. The cover was postmarked in Geneva on May 5th. The F.s. 13.90 postage corresponds to the Zeppelin printed matter rate to North America for a 375 gram (roughly 13 ounces) cover. The cover is addressed to the Minister of Labour, Department of Labour at Ottawa, Canada. On the front of the cover is a red Zeppelin flight cancel. The cover was backstamped in New York on May 9th.

The Auction House quoted an "under-priced" Michel value of €5000. The estimated value was \$10000 to \$15000. The opening price was \$7000. Clearly this cover has more value on the "pricey" Zeppelin cover market than it has on the United Nations market. The winning bid was \$7500 plus a 15% buyer's premium bid by a live floor bidder in Baltimore.



Figure 1: 1936 ILO service cover bearing Scott #3026, 3023 and 3027a to the Minister of Labour at the Department of Labour in Ottawa, Canada via the Hindenburg, which was making its first North American flight.

MORE ON THE 2004 JOINT UN-SWITZERLAND SPORTS ISSUE

By Richard Powers

In the December 2004 issue of the *Journal* (page 4) there was an article on the Sport 2005 stamp which was issued jointly by the United Nations Postal Administration (UNPA) in Geneva, the Swiss Post Office and the International Olympic Committee (IOC) on November 23, 2004.

Traditionally a joint issue of two postal administrations consists of two distinct stamps with a common design or theme bearing the denomination in the respective currency of the countries involved. In 1991 the United States Post Service (USPS) and the Swiss Post Office issued a joint issue picturing the U.S. Capitol in Washington and the Swiss Bundeshaus in Bern on the occasion of the 700th anniversary of the foundation of the Swiss Confederation. The 50¢ U.S. stamp (Scott # 2532) is valid postage only at a U.S. post office. The Swiss Post Office issued four 50 centime versions of this stamp (Switzerland #884-7) distinguished by the word for year in 700 years was given in either German, Italian, French or Romanche. These stamps were valid for use only in Switzerland.

The recent UN-Switzerland joint issue gives a different meaning to the word joint. There is only one stamp in this joint issue as the currency in use at the United Nations Palais des Nations in Geneva, at the IOC in Lausanne and in Switzerland in general is the Swiss franc.

Thus the Swiss Post Office produced the "triple FDC" seen in Figure 1. To the left is the Sport 2005 stamp tied by a UNPA first day cancel in Geneva 1211 at the Palais des Nations. In the middle is the stamp is canceled with a Lausanne 1000 first day cancel. To the right a third copy of the stamp is tied by a Geneva 1200, a regular Swiss post office. This triple FDC was available from the UNPA in New York for around \$6 (the exact cost depending on the US\$-Swiss franc exchange rate) until February 23, 2005. Notice that the cachet bears in German, French, Ital-

ian and English the legend indicating the stamp theme: International Year of Sport and Physical Education 2005. The Physical Education aspect of the theme was not obvious in the UNPA announcement for this stamp.

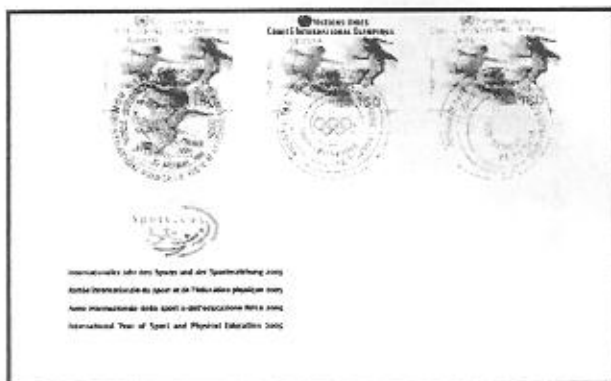


Figure 1: Triple FDC of the Sport 2005 stamp prepared by the Swiss Post Office.

It is interesting to add that the stamp sheet follows the general format of Swiss stamps. Figure 2 shows a block of four from the lower right corner of the sheet. Note that there



Figure 2: Lower right corner block.

is no UN logo in the selvage, i.e. no inscription singles. The selvage to the right contains only the running total price of the stamps from the top. The lower (and upper) selvage contains the name of the issue, normally in at least four languages. This issue adds English to the list in the fifth column.

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, 3011 White Oak Lane, Oak Brook, IL 60523-2513.

The Western Arm meets intermittently at San Francisco Bay area shows. Contact: Alex Bereson, 18 Portola Drive, San Francisco, CA 94131-1518

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

Member Advertisements

Members are reminded that they may submit two philatelic advertisements per year for inclusion in *The Journal* free of charge. Neither should be more than about five lines. These will appear in the order received according to space available.

Prices for Advertisements

1 page (6½"×9") - \$40

½ page - \$20

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.

Journal Deadlines

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

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July 1, 2004-June 30, 2006

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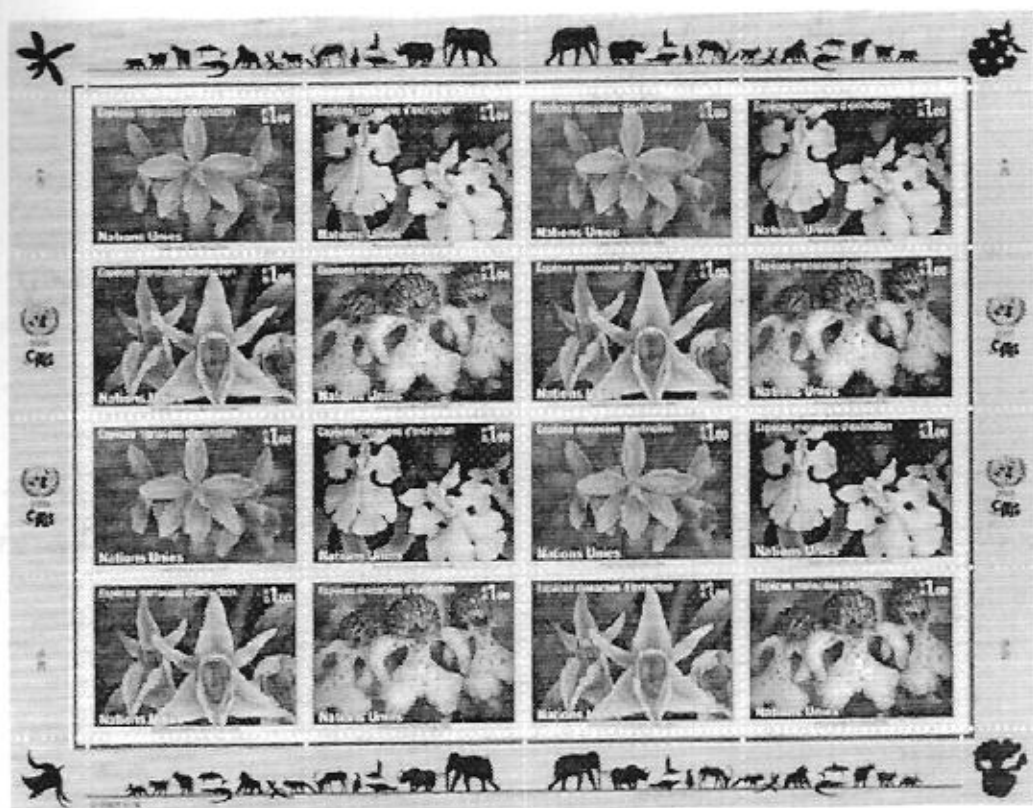
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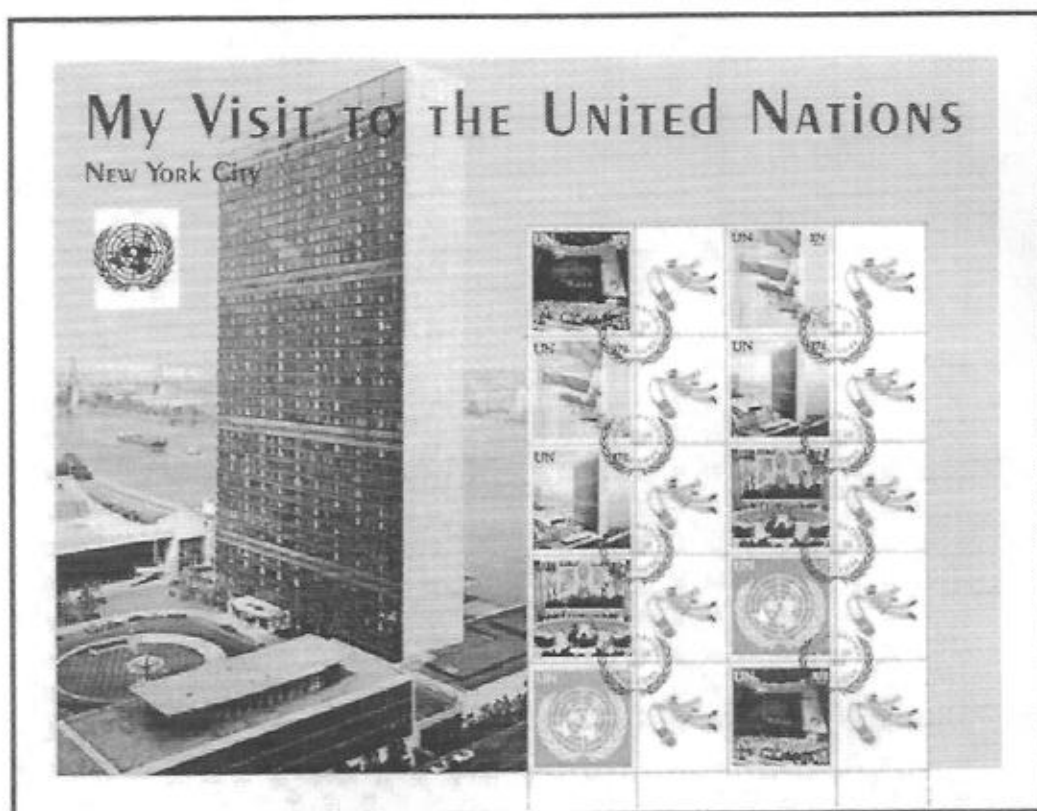
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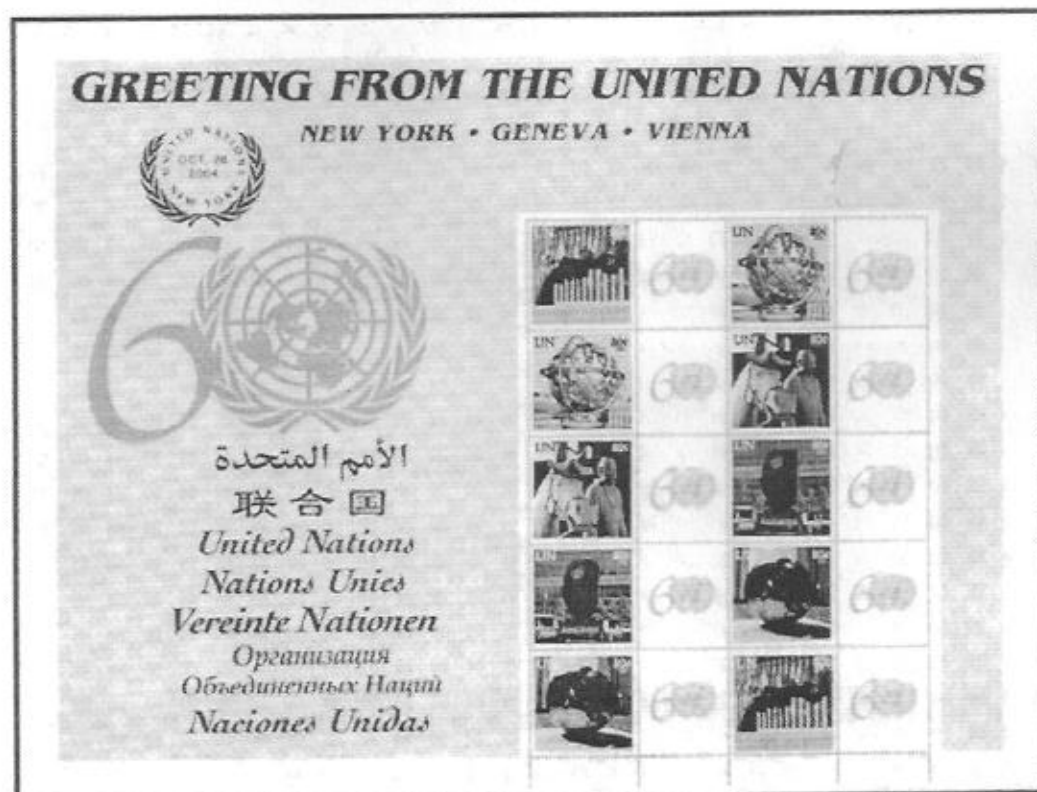
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