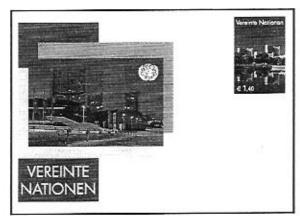


Volume 33 Number 3 June 2009 Whole Number 190

JOURNAL OF THE UNITED NATIONS PHILATELISTS, INC.





2009 UN VIENNA ENVELOPES

### The Journal of United Nations Philatelists

www.unpi.com

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

The annual domestic dues of the UNPI are US\$24.00, of which \$23.00 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); (Gaines), *United Nations Philately* by Arleigh Gaines; (Zumstein), *Spezialkatalog über die Briefmarken der Schweiz* (1992).

Table of Contents	June 2009
Message from the President	1
World Heritage-Germany	2
Letter to the Editor	
2009 UN Vienna Postal Card	4
2009 UN Geneva Postal Cards	5
UN Conference on Human Enviror	nment,
Stockholm 1972, R. Powers	6
UNEO Origin Cachet: "RON", B.	Clement, Jr9
Where was the CCIF Located, B. C	Clement, Jr10
WHO Meeting on Alcohol-Related	l Problems,
San Marino 1989, B. Clement,	Jr12
1919 Paris Peace Conference, B. C	Clement, Jr13
United Nations Supply Depot, R. I	Powers14
Great Neck Penalty Envelope for U	IN Post Office
in Lake Success, R. Powers	16
International Healthy Cities, B. Cl	ement, Jr19
WMO Tropical Cyclone Committee	
Mozambique 1979, B. Clemen	
2009 UNPA Stamp Program	
UNP Special Auction #14	

### Reprinting

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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.

### **Cover Illustrations**

Front cover: 2009 UN Vienna Prestamped Envelopes issued May 7, 2009. Back cover: Personalized sheet honoring the International Stamp Fair in Essen, Germany 2009.

### MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

I was reading the February 2009 issue of our Journal. It is another beautiful issue, the work of our dedicated and hard working editor, Dick Powers. Under Dick's editorial hand our Journal has achieved high awards in literature competitions. Last year it received a Vermeil medal at the STAMP-SHOW of the American Philatelic Society. This is the highest award ever received by The Journal of the United Nations Philatelist. Hats off to Dick for bringing this distinction and honor to the UNP!

In Dick's "Message from the Editor" in the February issue, he notes that the vast majority of articles are written by only a few members. While these articles have been interesting, enlightening and well written, The Journal and the UNP membership would benefit from articles by a greater number of our members.

Philately is a very large tent. The tent for UN and related philately is almost as big. Just one look at the Gaines Catalog *United Nations Philately* with its many hundreds of pages is evidence of how broad the scope that is covered by that tent. There are many, many subjects that would provide a nearly endless supply of articles to share with your fellow society members.

When was the last time you read an article in *The Journal* about your particular area of interest? Perhaps, **you** could write an article on your specialty. Worried that you are not a skilled writer? Don't be. Dick is a very skilled editor and will help you prepare and polish your article. It doesn't need to be an in-depth study. Indeed, short articles about a particular cover or other philatelic item would be fine.

Here's an idea that may generate more articles, help you in your collecting interest, and build up the society. I propose the formation of Study Groups. Each group would take stewardship of one area of UN or related philately, such as: the First Issue, a particular agency (International Labor Organization, World Health Organization, UNESCO, etc.), postal stationery, League of Nations, conferences, and so on. The possibilities are endless. Each group needs to have a "champion" who will head the group, get it going and keep it active. While members may participate in any number of Study Groups, each member should head up only one group.

To put my money where my mouth is, I am stepping forward to head the Study Group for the UN First Issue of 1951 (including the precancel). Send me a note if you are interested in being part of this Study Group. [See contact information on the inside back cover.] I would also participate in Study Groups formed for my other collecting interests: FDCs, each of the agencies in Switzerland, and UN Cinderella Stamps.

The Study Groups would bring members with similar collecting interests to share information and for camaraderie. The Groups would also share their findings and general information with the rest of the society by publishing articles in *The Journal*. Given the potential number of Groups, if each submitted an article once or twice a year, Dick will have plenty of material to easily fill every issue. To that end, I will revive the "First Issues" column that used to run several years ago, as the "voice" of the First Issue Study Group. Look for the first column in the next issue!

I hope that you will take up my challenge. If you want to form a Study Group, send Dick a brief article describing your proposed Group, along with information about how other like-minded members may contact you. He will put it in *The Journal*. I guarantee that you will find yourself having more fun with this great hobby that we share. Cheers!

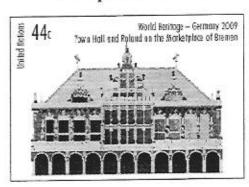
### **WORLD HERITAGE (2009) - GERMANY**

On May 7, 2009 the United Nations Postal Administration (UNPA) issued a set of six commemorative stamps and three prestige booklets on the theme "World Heritage- Germany". This is the fourteenth UN stamp set to illustrate World Heritage sites. It is the twelfth in a series of stamps and prestige booklets focusing on either one specific World Heritage site or a group of World Heritage sites in one geographical location. That is the objective of the Convention concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage.

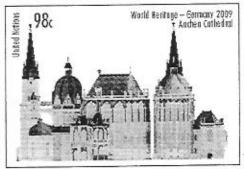
This international agreement, signed to date by more than 175 States parties, was adopted by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in 1972. Its primary mission is to define and conserve the world's heritage by drawing up a list of sites whose outstanding values should be preserved for all humanity and to ensure their protection through a closer cooperation among nations.

Six German sites appear in this stamp issue.

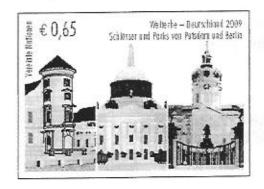
44¢: Town Hall and Roland on the Marketplace of Bremen



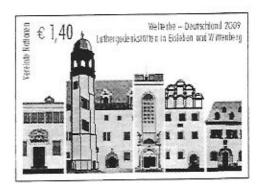
98¢: Aix la Chapelle (Aachen) Cathedral.



€ 0,65: Castles and Parks of Potsdam and Berlin.



€ 1,40: Martin Luther Memorial Sites in Eisleben and Wittenberg.



F.s. 1,00: The Wartburg.



F.s.1,30: The Reichenau Monastic Island.



### LETTER TO THE EDITOR

The February - March issue of the United Nations Postal Administration (UNPA) Philatelic Bulletin No. 89, in my opinion, contains bad news.

The UNPA has decided to stop publishing its Stamp Catalogue. It appears that there will be no more supplements for updating this famous handbook. [Editor's Note: Instead the UNPA "has decided to partner with MICHEL, the internationally recognized stamp catalogue publisher, to provide the official United Nations postage stamp catalogue....Each year, MICHEL will issue an updated UN postage stamp catalogue with current information on United Nations stamps and related philatelic products. The catalogue will be issued in English and German together to reduce costs The MICHEL UN to the customers." Catalogue - 2007/08 in English costs \$32.77 through the UNPA Philatelic Bulletin.]

I have long since given up hope of ever seeing in this handbook any information concerning personalized stamps, which clearly belong in such a catalogue. The UNPA has left this important duty to the commercial market.

In Europe there are heated arguments concerning how the personalized stamps and sheets should be catalogued. The UNPA has refused to get involved in these discussions.

I cannot understand the actual role of personalized stamps except to bring money into the coffers of the UNPA. I suspect that not one personalized sheet has ever passed through the United Nations Post Office (UNPO) serving as postage for mail entering the mail stream. There was certainly little motivation to use them for postage as each personalized stamp cost twice its facial value - even the stamps from generic sheets which contain no "personalized photos".

[Editor's Note: Actually at least two UNP members mailed me covers from the UNNY bearing 37¢ stamps from the first personalized sheet with their own photographs. A third

member gave me a cover bearing his personalized stamp and photo tied by a hand cancel and handed back to him over the counter. On November 1, 2007, Mr. Guhl sent me a manuscript in an envelope from the UNNY bearing a block of six 41¢ personalized stamps and six of his photos.]

But there is more bad news. The February-March Bulletin announces that the "UNPA is pleased to advise customers that DAVO has created a new Personalized stamp collector album exclusively for all United Nations personalized stamps issued since 2003 to 2008". But I have yet to find a table of contents, which names the sheets, which will be included in this album. Will the Aichi sheet be there? Or the Kobe sheet? Or the Microcredit sheet? Or the sheet honoring the 50th Anniversary of the Japanese Mission? Or the Pope Benedict sheet? [Editor's Note: According to Clay Wallace's review copy of the DAVO album, they are all present.]

Perhaps this album contains other sheets, which were never officially sold by the UNPA for postal use at the UNPO in New York but remained in Vienna. For \$150 one can buy the album and then be informed what UNPA personalized sheets are included. I find this unacceptable that the UNPA is allowing a commercial enterprise to decide, which sheets should be collected.

According to the Bulletin, most of the personalized stamp sheets "have sold out within weeks of the issue date. Once the sheets go off sale at UNPA, they can only be purchased from stamp dealers who have stock."

Why does the UNPA not prepare enough stock of Event-Sheets to allow sale for one year, as is done for commemorative stamps? Has the UNPA decided to deliberately under produce stock as part of an agreement with UN-specialized dealers? I have many questions and no answers.

Cordially Klaus Guhl

Kiel, Germany

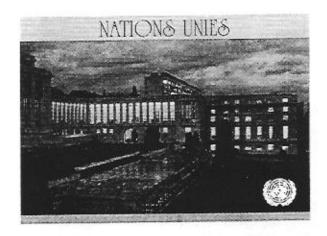
### 2009 POSTAL CARD FOR UN VIENNA

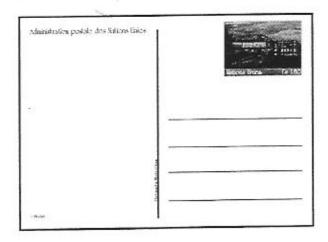


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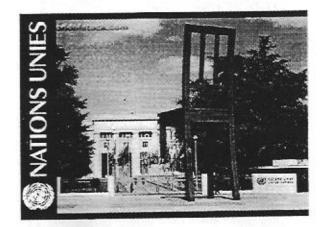
NEW UN VIENNA  $\in$  0,65 POSTAL CARD ISSUED MAY 7, 2009

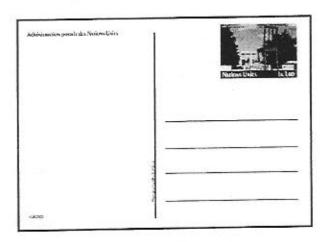
### 2009 POSTAL CARDS FOR UN GENEVA ISSUED MAY 7, 2009



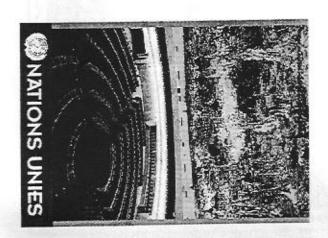


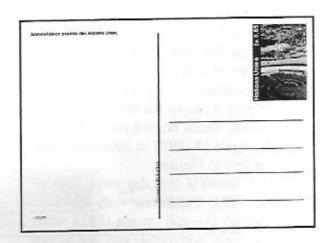
Fs 1,80 postal card for overseas destinations.





Fs 1,00 postal card for European destinations





Fs 0,85 postal card for domestic desinations (within Switzerland).



### UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE

### ON THE HUMAN ENVIRONMENT

Stockholm - 1972

By Richard Powers



The appearance of the three mini-sheets commemorating "Climate Change" issued by the United Nations Postal Administration (UNPA) in 2008 brought to mind the first UN Conference on the Environment which was held in Stockholm, Sweden from June 5-16, 1972. At the time the UNPA issued four stamps (Scott UNNY#229-20, UN Geneva 25-6) honoring the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment bearing the Emblem of the Conference and two of which appear above. The motto of the conference was "Only One Earth".

Preparations for this conference began in 1968. Intergovernmental working groups were formed to prepare reports on the status of environmental protection in member nations. Recommendations on international measures that ought to be taken were included in these reports.

Radio Sweden provided significant coverage of the conference and produced special QSL cards confirming broadcasts reported received by listeners. The picture side of such a QSL card appears in Figure 1 showing one of the three commemorative stamps issued by the Swedish post office (#935) based on a wood relief entitled "Spring" beneath the conference motto "Only One Earth". Figure 2 shows the message side of this QSL card, which bears a red meter cancel dated August 18, 1972 in Stockholm and which was sent to Finland.

Figure 3 shows a first day cover sent to Woodland Hills, California with all three stamps: two 65 Öre coil stamps (#933 vertical coil and #934 horizontal) and one 85 öre coil stamp (#935) pictured in Figure 1. The 65 öre stamps picture the emblem and the

motto of the conference in seven languages. The stamps were tied to the cover by first day cancels (Clement F4-H10A) on the opening day of the conference. An intimidating image of a smoke stack belching smoke in an urban setting dominates the cachet in the lower left corner of the envelope.



Figure 1: Picture side of QSL card produced for Radio Sweden which shows the 85 öre stamp commemorating the 1972 UN Environment Conference picturing a wood relief entitled "Spring" by the Swedish artist Bror Hjort.

Thank you for your reception report during the United Nations Conference of the Human Entronment in Stockholm, June 5 10 11 1050 SVERIGE Your report has been found to be correct and hereby verified. Date of reception: 27th June 1972. Time KHZ 191 GMT. With best wishes from Radio Sweden Sincerely Yours, NEVER BEFORE has Sweden hosted such a large international conference. 51600 Hankivuni NEVER BEFORE has the United Nations organization sponsored such a large congress about the environment. NEVER BEFORE has RADIO SWEDEN had such thorough coverage of any event. This verification card, printed in a limited edition. will only be used for this occasion. Let's together make people aware of the importance and the urgency of these problems! Listen to This QSL card, printed in a limited edition RADIO SWEDENI Talk to your people about en-vironmental problems and help spread information for Radio Sweden's DX friends, shows one of the Swedish stamps honouring the U.N. Environment Conference in Stockholm. The original is a wood relief, "Spring", by the celebrated Swedish artist Bror Hjort. about the threat to mankind of environmental pollu-RADIO SWEDEN, S-105 10 Stockholm, Sweden.

Figure 2: 1972 QSL card sent by Radio Sweden from the UN Conference on the Human Environment.



Figure 3: FDC of 1972 Swedish stamps commemorating the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment in Stockholm with the opening day conference cancel.

But the UNPA did more than just issue stamps for the conference. According to the Gaines Catalogue the Geneva office of the UNPA organized a caravan tour beginning in Stockholm on June 5th and remaining there until the end of the conference, which was held in the Parliament Building. The UNPA van then visited six other Swedish cities (Uppsala, Norrköping, Linköping, Jönköping, Göteberg, Malmö), then three Danish cities (Copenhagen, Odense and Arhus) and then eight West German cities (Flensburg, Hamburg, Braunschweig, Cologne, Frankfurt, Nürnberg, Stuttgart and Munich) with the last stop in Munich on August 6th and 7th.

The van contained an exhibit entitled "Information Through Postage Stamps - S.O.S. Environment". Each visitor received a publicity flyer for the new UN Environment stamps and a 8"×10.5" poster. If one requested it, the UNPA would apply a one-line cachet with the location and the date. Apparently a green two-line postal caravan cachet was also available. It read:

### UNITED NATIONS MOBILE POSTAL CARAVAN

Figure 4 shows the address side of a post card prepared by the Swedish post office printer (Postverkets Tryckerei 1972), which has the same picture side as that prepared for Radio Sweden in Figure 1. This card bears the 85 öre tied by a conference cancel (Clement F4-H10B) on the opening day of the conference. The caravan cachet appears on the left side of the card beneath a description in Swedish of the illustration on the picture side. Presumably the Swedish post office sold this card at the conference.

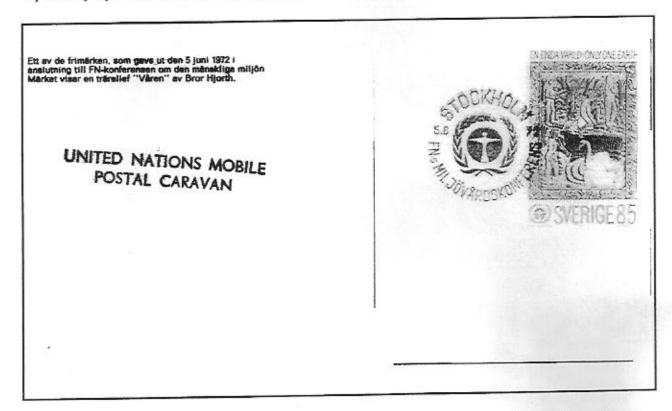


Figure 4: Back of postcard printed by the Swedish post office with same picture side as that in Figure 1 and bearing the green imprint of the UN Mobile Postal Caravan and the 85 öre tied by the Environment Conference cancel of June 4, 1972, the opening day of the conference and the first day of issue of the stamp..

### EARLY UN GENEVA ORIGIN CACHET DISCOVERY: "RON."

By B. Clement, Jr.

A previously undocumented origin cachet from the early days of the European Office of the United Nations European Office (UNEO) in Geneva has been discovered. Figure 1 illustrates a 1952 cover bearing two 5-centime stamps (Scott #7001) with a boxed "RON." origin cachet in violet. "RON." stands for "Ronéo", or Mimeograph Service. A redrawn and enlarged image of the origin cachet is shown in Figure 2.



Figure 2: UNEO origin cachet: RON.

The "RON." origin cachet was used by

the League of Nations and is listed as League of Nations origin cachet R3., observed in a violet box in 1938. The dimensions of that cachet are different from the newly found UNEO cachet. A different UN Geneva cachet R2. (a boxed "RONEO" with no accent) is listed as observed in 1947.

If you have an origin cachet, dispatching mark, or receiving mark that you think may be unknown to UN philately, please tell us about it. You can do your part in increasing our knowledge of UN postal history.

#### Reference

 Origin Cachets of the United Nations. Its Agencies, and Its Predecessors, B. Clement, Jr., 2000, UNP Monograph



Figure 1: 1952 UNEO service cover with origin cachet "RON.".

### WHERE WAS THE CCIF LOCATED?

By B. Clement, Jr.

This article explores the question: Where was CCIF located? CCIF was a unit of International Telecommunications Union (ITU) from 1924 until it merged with CCIT to form CCITT in 1956. CCIF, in English, was the International Consultative Committee on Telephone. Actually, CCIF stands for the French version, Comité Consultative International Téléphonique, but "F", was used for Telephone, from the German "Fernsprecher", to distinguish CCIF from CCIT, the Committee on Telegraph (Ref. 1).

The ITU was located in Bern, Switzer-land from 1869 to 1948, when it moved to Geneva. However, the two covers in Figures 1 and 2 prompted the question of CCIF's location. The Figure 1 window cover mailed from CCIF-Paris in 1948, and Figure 2 is a similar cover mailed from CCIF- Geneva in 1951. Both covers have a CCIF- Paris corner card, enlarged in Figure 3. The 1948 Paris cover has an added origin cachet changing the CCIF-Paris address, as shown in Figure 4. The 1951 Geneva cover also has an origin cachet, giving a CCIF-Geneva address, as seen in Figure 5.

Internet searches gave some hints that



Figure 3: CCIF-Paris corner card.



Figure 4: Added CCIF-Paris origin cachet.



Figure 5: 1951 CCIF-Geneva origin cachet.

CCIF had been located in Paris, but did not give a complete story. An inquiry of the ITU Archivist in Geneva finally yielded the following results (Ref. 2):

The International Consultative Committee on Long-distance Telephone (CCIF) was founded at a meeting in Paris in April 1924. A preliminary technical committee had met in March 1923 to prepare the basis for this first plenary assembly. At the 1924 meeting, it was decided to establish a permanent commission and a permanent secretariat in order to prepare for yearly meet-At the International Telegraph Conference (Paris, 1925), the CCIF was officially recognized by the International Telegraph Union and attached to it. The CCIF retained its own secretariat, though, which was by then installed in Paris . Its first location was at 23 avenue de Messine, Paris (8e). During World War II, the Secretary-General, Mr. G. Valensi, transferred the office from Paris to "a more remote part of France", and then returned to Paris after the war.., it appears that the secretariat moved into a new office at this point, since all documents and publications from 1945 onwards bear the address 44. Boulevard des Invalides, Paris (7e).

In 1928, the CCIF inaugurated a specialized laboratory for its work, the Laboratory of the European fundamental system of reference for telephone transmission (SFERT), located in the Conservatoire National des Arts et Métiers, 292 rue Saint-Martin, Paris.

As a result of decisions taken at the ITU Conferences in Atlantic City (1947), ITU head-quarters moved from Bern to Geneva on 26 October 1948. The CCIF secretariat and SFERT Laboratory were transferred from Paris to Geneva during 1948 and in January 1949. Finding accommodation in Geneva proved difficult. The ITU Secretariat and its permanent organs were therefore housed in three buildings from 1948 to 1962.

- ITU Secretariat: Palais Wilson
- CCIF Secretariat and laboratory: Maison des Congrès (an addition to the north side of the Palais Wilson)
- CCIR Secretariat: Villa Bartholoni.

The archivist's story answers the question, but raises others for the UN postal historian.

- 1. There should be covers from the CCIF at its original location in the period 1928 to 1940. Where are they?
- There also should be covers from the SFERT laboratory at its different address. Of course, we didn't even know to look for these until now.
- And where was the "more remote location in France". This was probably somewhere in Vichy France, to avoid the direct thumb of the Nazis. We do know that

the "Office International d'Hygiène Publique", a unit of the League of Nations, relocated from Paris to Royat, France (a 1941 cover from that address was shown in a Journal article). Ref. 3

4. Another question is where were CCIT and CCIR (Radio) located before 1948? Does anyone have covers from their secretariats in the years before Geneva?

If you can add to this discussion, please let us know.

#### References

- 1.www.ieee.org/portal\_docs\_iportals/iportals/aboutus/history\_center/oral\_history/pdfs /Chapuis176.pdf
- Heather Heywood, Head of Archives Service, ITU-Geneva
- 3,UNP Journal 29-5, 8-9

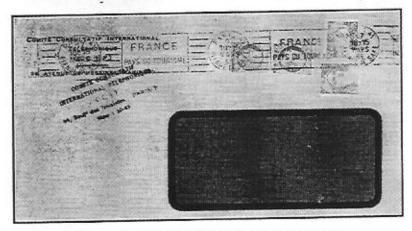


Figure 1: 1948 CCIF-Paris service cover.

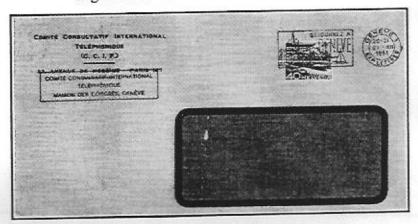


Figure 2: 1951 CCIF-Geneva service cover.

### WHO MEETING ON ALCOHOL-RELATED PROBLEMS

### San Marino - 1989

By B. Clement, Jr.

Newly discovered is a special cancel used in San Marino in 1989. Illustrated in Figure 1 is a cover bearing a 650 lire stamp (Scott #1174) from the Third Meeting of the Principal Investigators in the World Health Organization (WHO) Collaborative Study on Community Response to Alcohol-related Problems, held in San Marino April 25-28, 1989. An enlarged view of the conference



Figure 2: 1989 WHO cancel honoring a conference on alcohol-related problems.

cancel is shown in Figure 2.

San Marino is a tiny European country, completely surrounded by Italy. The meeting was sponsored by the WHO Regional Office for Europe. Principal investigators were present from Bulgaria, Denmark, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Norway, Poland, Portugal, San Marino, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the USSR and the United Kingdom.

Reference was found on the Internet to the Second Meeting of this group, held June 22-25, 1987 in Lisbon, Portugal, but no reference has yet been found for the first meeting in this series.

This was an obscure meeting of the WHO, but it serves to show the breadth of the activities of WHO and other UN Specialized Agencies. Let us know what you find.

### References

whqlibdoc.who.int/euro/-1993/EUR\_ICP\_AD A 017(1).pdf

www.who.int/entity/substance\_abuse/publicat ions/en/Glonbal/AlcoholRef.pdf

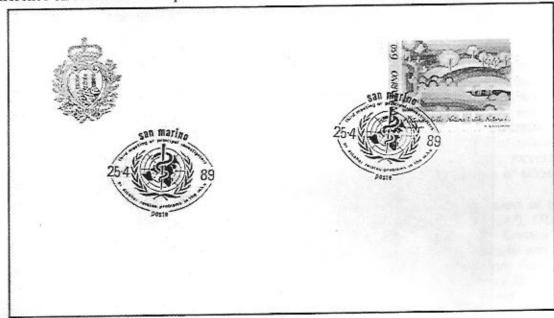


Figure 1: 1989 philatelic cover commemorating the Third Meeting of WHO Principal Investigators on Alcohol-Related Problems in San Marino.

### PARIS PEACE CONFERENCE OF 1919 A Postal History - Addenda

By B. Clement, Jr.

An article in the April 2008 UNP Journal detailed what was known of the postal history of the Paris Peace Conference of 1919. Additional findings have been made and are documented here.

Figure 1 shows a conference service cover mailed from Paris on July 17, 1919 to the Director of Infantry at the War Ministry. The cover has a conference corner card (same as Figure 2 in the original article) and an origin cachet of the Conference General Secretariat. The cover is unfranked, apparently as permitted by its official status. The red origin cachet is shown enlarged in Figure 2.



Figure 1: 1919 service cover from the Paris
Peace Conference.

Figure 3 shows a large (241x130mm) cov-

er with the corner card of the Portuguese Delegation to the Peace Conference. The cover is unaddressed and bears eight different French stamps, all canceled with the Versailles Congrès de la Paix postmark of May 7, 1919. Unfortunately, the cover is a philatelic creation, but is the only known example of a Portuguese Delegation cover. The corner card is shown in an enlarged view in Figure 4.



Figure 2: Red corner card of the General Secretariat at the Paris Peace Conference.

CONFÉRENCE DE LA PAIX
DÉLÉGATION PORTUGAISE

Figure 4: Corner card of the Portuguese Delegation at the 1919 Paris Peace Conference.

What can you add to the story?

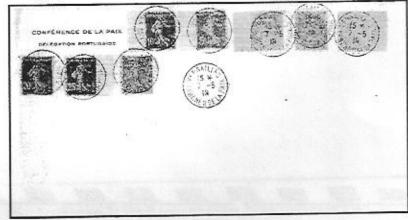


Figure 3: Philatelic cover from the Portuguese Delegation to the Paris Peace Conference.

### UNITED NATIONS SUPPLY DEPOT

By Richard Powers

The original storage facility for the Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO) was the United Nations Supply Depot (UNSD), which was first located in Naples and later moved to Pisa. Italy. This supply depot was first established to receive assets available upon the closure of the United Nations Emergency Force (UNEF 1) in 1956. During the 1980s and in the early 1990s, the end of the Cold War brought about an immense increase in UN Peacekeeping activity worldwide.

Figure 1 shows a 1968 service cover from the UNSD in Pisa. The letter contained within (Figure 2) indicates the it was written on November 29, 1968. The cover was sent to Buffalo, New York via the Army Post Office, whose blurred postmark cancels a USA 10¢ stamp (Scott #C72). The APO office number is not legible in the postmark but the cover bears the return address:

APO New York 09019.

UNSD, consisting of a 3200 square meter facility, had become too small to receive the quantities of usable surplus equipment that had become available upon the closure of several UN missions. In recognizing the limitations of UNSD and the need for a well-supported location in which to store and maintain reserves, DPKO sought to avail itself of a more strategically located facility.

The Republic of Italy's experience with Peacekeeping and the need to ensure adequate logistical support to the missions guided the United Nations to establish the United Nations Logistic Base (UNLB) in Brindisi. UNLB has been in operation since later 1994 under a rent-free arrangement with the Republic of Italy. The memorandum of understanding regarding the use by the United Nations of the facilities was signed by the Secretary-General and the Republic of Italy on November 23, 1994 and was amended on December 7, 2001. The General Assembly, in Section XIV of its resolution #49/233 of December 23, 1884, welcomed the establishment at Brindisi, Italv, as the first permanent UN logistics base to support peacekeeping operations.

#### Reference

www.un/b.org/history\_unlb.asp

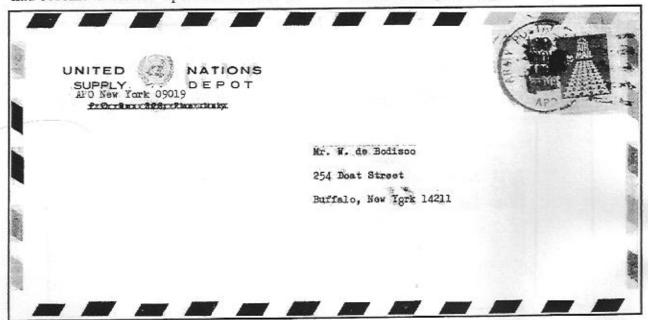


Figure 1: 1968 service cover from the UN Supply Depot in Pisa, Italy.

Tel. Piss 45309 45304 Telegrams: UNATIONS Plea Telex: 57095

### UNITED NATIONS



### SUPPLY DEPOT

P. O. Box 323, Pisa, Italy

29 November 1968

Dear Mr. de Bodisco,

We are in receipt of your letter of 20 November wherein you inquire if we have knowledge of your relative who is cerving with the UN Observation Group in West Pakistan.

Inasmuch as you have not given us the name of your relative, we suggest that you direct your inquiry to:

Nr. Albert Belauro Rose 2141-6 P.O. Box 20 United Nations New York 10017

are presuming that the relative is a military observer and our office here in Pisa does not have information on such observers

Very truly yours.

E.G. Moore Administrative Officer

Figure 2: 1968 service letter from UNSD in Pisa.

# GREAT NECK PENALTY ENVELOPE FROM THE UNITED NATIONS POST OFFICE AT LAKE SUCCESS

By Richard Powers

The United Nations Secretariat spent a bit more than four years at Lake Success, New York in the former Sperry Building. From August 20, 1946 until December 31, 1950 the post office at Great Neck, New York was in charge of handling UN mail. From August 20, 1946 until September 22nd, metered UN mail bore the Great Neck cancellation.

The inauguration of a United Nations branch of the Great Neck post office took place on September 23rd and was marked by the introduction of a new machine cancellation bearing the townmark "UNITED NATIONS/LAKE SUCCESS, N.Y." and a slogan "COURIER OF THE UNITED NATIONS". This branch office was meant to provide a full range of postal services.

For the first time I recently came across a penalty envelope cover from this United Nations office in Lake Success. It appears in Figure 1. The cover postmarked December 5, 194(?) bears the corner card of the (U.S.) Post Office Department in Great Neck, N.Y. in the upper left corner of the (No. 54) envelope. In the upper right corner is the three-line penalty indicia (Gaines Type A) pictured in Figure 2 including the acronym (PMGC). This cover ties the Great Neck Post Office via the corner card to its U.N. branch in the townmark.

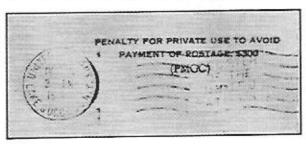


Figure 2: Penalty indicia from the cover in Figure 1 underneath a December 5, 194(?)

Lake Success machine cancel.

Figure 3 shows a similar penalty cover from the United States Post Office at the United Nations in New York City dated October 17, 1960. The (P-26) corner card (Figure 4) of the United States Post Office in New York has been augmented by a purple hand-stamped legend.

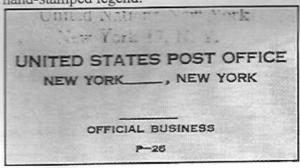


Figure 4: United Nations New York corner card from cover in Figure 3.

In the upper right corner is a two-line penalty indicia (Gaines Type B-1) under which is a generic United Nations (Gaines Type 1) machine cancel.

What makes this latter cover interesting is that it still contains the original correspondence dated October 16th that the United Nations Post Office (UNPO) sent to a client in Glendale, California. This appears in Figure 5. It is a form letter listing eight standard reasons for returning a "First Flight" service request, among which are (1) lack of U.N. stamps affixed to the cover or (2) mixed U.S. and U.N. postage or (3) insufficient postage or (4) service request was too late or (5) request for a flight emanating from a city other than New York or (6) no postal service available for this flight or (7) U.S. stamps could not be canceled at the U.N. or (8) service request was unintelligible. A 9th category (other) was present for particularly creative philatelists, whose problem could not be pigeon-holed in the previous 8 reasons.

Since - at the time the Lake Success cover in Figure 1 was posted - there were no U.N. stamps or first flights from Lake Success, I suspect that penalty letters to collectors involved fewer problems as the only probable service requests were for the various United Nations/Lake Success cancellations.

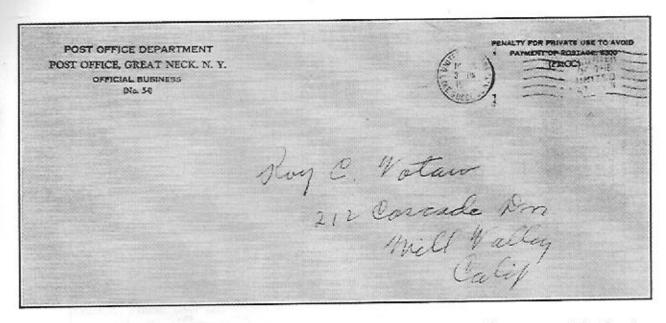


Figure 1: (U.S.) Post Office Department (type 54) penalty envelope with corner card for Great Neck, NY in upper left corner with UN Lake Success "Courier of the United Nations" machine cancel Gaines LSC.1 dated Dec. 5, 194(?) and type A penalty indicia in the upper right corner containing the acronym (PMGC).

UNITED STATES POST OFFICE	PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE TO AY PAYMENT OF POSTAGE, \$500.
NEW YORK NEW YORK	

Figure 3: United States Post Office (type P-26) penalty envelope for the United Nations Post Office in New York 17, N.Y. postmarked with generic machine cancel 1. dated Oct. 17, 1960 and type B-1 penalty indicia in upper right corner and type 1 return address rubber stamp in upper left corner.

-

### Einited States Bost Office

17 OCT 1980

United Nations New York New York 17, N. Y. NEW YORK L. N. Y.

We regret that it is necessary to return your "First Plight" service request for the reason checked below.

- 1. Pailure to affix UN stamps before their submission.
- Mixed postage UN and US postage stamps cannot be used together to cover the required sirmail postage.
- 3. Lack of sufficient postage \_\_\_\_\_ per \_\_\_\_ ot.
  4. Your order received too late for "Pirst Flight" service requested.
- 5. Only flights emanating from New York will be given philatelic service from the United Nations.
  - 6. Flight requested not scheduled for philatelic service.
- 7. US Postage stamps may not be postmarked at the United Nations. Your covers were forwarded to the General Post Office for processing.
  - 8. Service desired is not understood, please specify.
  - 9. Other\_\_\_\_

Correspondence related to the above should be directed to the Superintendent, United Nations Station, New York 17, N.Y.

May Ou Aller

Figure 5: Form letter sent from the United Nations post office in New York enclosed in the penalty envelope pictured in Figure 3 dated October 17, 1960 and bearing the signature of the postmaster. The recipient was to have his request for a first flight cover returned because it arrived "too late for 'First Flight' service requested".

#### Reference

Robinson, Norris G, Postal History of the United Nations, (New York/Cologne: UNOP, 1985) p.34.

### INTERNATIONAL HEALTHY CITIES CONFERENCE

Zagreb - 2008

By B. Clement, Jr.

The International Healthy Cities Conference, sponsored by the WHO Regional Office and European cities taking part in the Healthy Cities Program, was held in Zagreb, Croatia October 15-18, 2008. In connection with the conference, and the 20th Anniversary of the Healthy Cities Program, Croatia issued a stamp, Scott #705, on October 17, 2008.

A first day cover of the stamp is shown in Figure 1. The stamp itself only refers to the 20th Anniversary of the Program, but the attached tab has two of its four sections with appropriate references to WHO Europe and to the Conference. These two tab sections are shown enlarged in Figure 2. The first day cancel, picturing the sun rising over a city, is shown in Figure 3.



Figure 1: FDC of stamp honoring the 2008 International Healthy Cities Conference.



Figure 2: Conference stamp tabs.

In the WHO European Region there are over 1200 cities and towns from over 30 countries called "healthy cities". These are linked through national, regional and metropolitan Healthy Cities networks. The WHO Healthy Cities Program involves local governments in health development and promotes policy and planning on issues involving the health of city residents. The main conference venue was the Congress Center HYPO EXPO XXI, which is situated in the business building of the Hypo Centre, on the corner of Slavonska Avenue and Marohnié Street in Zagreb. The Conference Centre has seven congress halls.



Figure 3: 2008 first day cancel of Healthy Cities Conference in Zagreb.

The main themes of the conference were 1) health on the agenda of cities; 2) inclusion of vulnerable groups such as the elderly, children, and migrants; 3) healthy living; and 4) healthy urban planning and development.

The Healthy Cities Program started in Europe, but is now a global movement. Healthy Cities networks have been established in all six WHO regions.

#### References

- 1. Information from William Ingram
- 2. www.euro.who.int/healthy-cities
- 3. www.healthycitieszagreb2008.com

### WMO TROPICAL CYCLONE COMMITTEE SESSION

### Mozambique-1979

By B. Clement, Jr.

Newly discovered is a philatelic cover for the 4th Session of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) Tropical Cyclone Committee for Regional Association I, the South West Indian Ocean, held in Maputo, Mozambique October 15-22, 1979. This cover is shown in Figure 1. An detail of the special postmark is seen in Figure 2.



Figure 2: 1979 cancel of 4th Session of the WMO Tropical Cyclone Committee Session in Maputo, Mozambique.

The Committee, formed in 1974, has 15 members, countries in the southwest Indian Ocean and in southern Africa. The Committee has held a session every two or three years since 1974, the most recent one being the 18th session, held in Lilongwe, Malawi October 6-10, 2008.

Such obscure meetings of organs of the UN and its agencies help to show the "big picture" of the UN's nitty-gritty work to improve the lives of people all over the world. In this case, this committee does comparable work to the US Weather Service in warning the people in the area of developing cyclones and their likely path. (What we call "hurricanes" are "typhoons" in the Pacific Ocean and "cyclones" in the Indian Ocean.)

Let us know when you find some UN postal history which may be unrecorded.

#### Reference

www.wmo.ch/pages/prog/www/tcp/Commit tee-SW-Indian



Figure 1: Cover honoring the 1979 Session of the WMO Tropical Cyclone Committee for the South West Indian Ocean in Maputo, Mozambique.

### 2009 UNITED NATIONS STAMP PROGRAM

(As of May 1, 2009 but subject to changes of date of issue and denomination.) See the UNPA World Wide Web Site at <a href="http://www.un.org/Depts/UNPA">http://www.un.org/Depts/UNPA</a>

February 6

100th Anniversary U Thant

94¢, F.s. 1,30, € 1,15

(3 sheets of 20 stamps)

New York Definitives

1¢, 9¢, 10¢,

(3 sheets of 20 stamps)

April 16

**Endangered Species** 

42¢, F.s. 1,00, € 0,65

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

Set of 3 maximum cards and 2009 Endangered Species Annual Collection Folder FDC with Silk Cachet

May 7

World Heritage - Germany

44¢, 98¢, F.s.1,00, F.s. 1,30, € 0,65, € 1,40

(6 sheets of 20 stamps)

Three Prestige Bokklets

{3 Prestige Booklets with 12×(27¢, 42¢, F.s. 0,35, F.s. 0,50, € 0,30, € 0,35)}

Postal Stationery for Geneva, Vienna

Geneva: postal cards F.s. 0,85, F.s. 1,00, F.s. 1,80

Vienna: prestamped envelopes € 0,65, € 1,40, postal card € 0,65

Personalized Sheet (Vienna) - IBRA in Essen

(sheet of 10 stamps - € 0,65 with five designs and se-tenant labels)

June 5

Personalized Sheets (New York)

(sheets of 20 stamps - 44¢ domestic, 10 stamps - 98¢ international)

Revalued Postal Stationery for New York

44¢ (41¢+3¢) prestamped envelopes (regular and legal), 98¢ (90¢+8¢)airletter sheet

August 6

**Economic and Social Council** 

44¢, 98¢, F.s.1,00, F.s. 1,80, € 0,55, € 0,75 and a souvenir card (6 sheets of 20 stamps)

Personalized Sheet (Vienna) - UNPA Vienna 30th Anniversary

(pane of 10 stamps with se-tenant labels)

September 25

**UN Millennium Goals** 

44¢, F.s. 1.30, € 0,65

(3 mini-sheets of 8 designs)

October 2

NY Definitive - International Day of Non-Violence

\$1

(1 sheet of 20 stamps)

Personalized Sheet (Geneva) - UNPA Geneva 40th Anniversary

(pane of 10 stamps with se-tenant labels)

October 8

Indigenous People

44¢, F.s. 1,30, € 0,65

(3 mini-sheets of 6 designs)

2009 Annual Collection Folders (New York, Geneva, Vienna)

2009 SLOGAN CANCELLATION

January 2 United for Peace (continuation of 2007, 2008 slogan)

### UNPI Special Auction#14-Jack Mayer Collection Gems & Other Material Closing Date: July 15, 2009

Send Bids to Auction Chairman (or bid on-line at: www.unpi.com): B. Clement, PO Box 146, Morrisville, PA 19067-0146

e-mail: bclemjr@yahoo.com

(Say "UNPI Auction Bids" in e-mail header).

Color images are available by e-mail and at: www.unpi.com

### UN NY First Issue (Gaines pg. 1 -20.6)

Note: C/O = cutout, C/N = Control Number, G/C = Gaines Certificate, All mint F-VF NH 1. #C3.5b, Prussian Blue, MI4, G/C, MB \$205

- 2. #8.1i, MI4 LR C/N with color band, Open 2, MB \$22
- 3. #9.1, MI single, flag touching 25¢, MB \$5
- 4. #9.1f, MI4LL, Imperf left margin, MB \$11
- 5. #9.1f, MI4 UL, Imperf margin, MB \$11
- 6. #9.1g, MI4 UR, Flag touching top of 2, MB \$11
- 7. #10.5c, MI6 LL, Anvil C/O, MB \$41
- 8. #10.5c, MI6 UR, Anvil C/O, MB \$36
- 9. #10.5c, MI6 UL, Anvil C/O, G/C, MB \$63
- 10.#11.1d,MI4LL,KeyholeC/O,G/C,MB \$18
- 11.#11.1d,MI4UL,KeyholeC/O,G/C,MB \$27
- 12. #11.2c, MI4 LL, Arrow C/O, MB \$27
- 13. #12.2c, MI4 UR, Arrow C/O, MB \$27
- 14. #11.3c, MI4LL, Heart C/O, G/C,MB \$45
- 15.#11.3b.i, MI4UR, Heart C/O, C/N, MB \$40
- 16.#11.5b, MI6UL, Heart C/O, G/C,MB \$31
- 17. #11.7c, Bk4 with PL2, MB \$13
- 18. #C1.1i, MI4 LR with extra vertical perfs, MB \$9
- 19. #C1-4, MI4 LR with C/N's, MB \$14
- 20. #1.1d, MI4 LR with extra horizontal perfs, MB \$13
- 21. #2.1b, MI6's, UL,LL,LR,UR, each with reverse L C/O, one with C/O, MB \$5
- 22. #2.1c, MI6 LR, L C/O, C/N, MB \$36
- 23. #2.2b, MI6 UL, LR, each with Spade C/O, MB \$5
- 24. #3.1b, MI6 UL,LL,UR,LR, each with triangle C/O, MB \$21
- 25. #3.2b, MI6 UL, MI8 LR, Diamond C/O, MB \$45
- 26. #3.1b, MI6 LL, Triangle C/O, MB \$5
- 27. #4.1g, MI4 UR, Extra horiz perfs,MB \$7
- 28. #4.1h. MI6LL, left margin imperf,MB \$9

29, #6.2b, MI4 UR, C/O, MB \$68

30. #7.1d, MI4LR, Extra horiz perfs, MB\$13



31.#7.1c,MI4UL,Imperf left margin, MB\$20

Note: All FDC's Clean and Unaddressed,

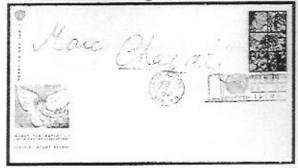
A/B = Autographed by

32.#C1-4 Combo FDC, Hqtrs cachet, MB\$76 33.#C1-4 Single FDCs, Hqtrs cachet, MB\$76

34. #C1-4 MI4 FDCs, Hqtrs cachet, MB \$81

WFUNA Cachet FDC's (Gaines p.461-88)
(Listed by WFUNA Cachet #)

- 35. #1 MI4's, Dali Cachet, MB \$36
- 36. #1 Combo, Dali Cachet, MB \$9
- 37. #134 A/B Tony Bennett, MB \$7
- 38. #111 A/B Doug Kingman, MB \$7
- 39. #178 A/B Lorenzo Quinn, MB \$7
- 40. #5 A/B Marc Chagall, G/C, MB \$90



41. #141 A/B Leroy Neiman, G/C, MB \$45

42. #147, A/B Peter Max, MB \$18

43. #168, A/B Peter Max, MB \$22

44. #114, A/B Anthony Quinn, MB \$13

45. #144, A/B Anthony Quinn, MB \$13

46. #137, A/B Gloria Vanderbilt, MB \$9.

47. #51, A/B Jacques Cousteau, MB \$22

48. #19, stamps G1-14, combo, MB \$18

49. #19, stamps G1-14, singles, MB \$27

50. #19, stamps G1-14, MI4's, MB \$40

### Other UNNY FDC's (by stamp #)

51. #C6-7 combo, Hqtrs cachet, MB \$22

52. #53 2nd print, UNNY CC, G/C, MB \$13

53. #134-36, Tiffany cachet, combo, MB\$90



54. #149, MI6 Bundesdruckerei Berlin, Geneva cachet, MB \$22

#### Miscellaneous Items

55. WHO Souvenir Card, First Print, Geneva FD, MB \$54

56. UNNY #85a Mint Souvenir sheet, broken "v", MB \$27

### UNNY #100-101 Housing Shifts and Error

57. 4¢, 5 singles: 4 mint, 1 used, with color shifts, including black up 1 mm, and black 1 mm left, 3 other minor shifts, MB \$8

58. 7¢, MI4 mint, black shift to left, figures have double image, MB \$20

59. 7¢, mint (off-center). Red shift 3 mm right, MB \$20

60. 7¢ error, mint, missing red-orange color, MB \$150

#### Other UNNY Varieties

61. #148.1(c) i, MI4, mint, left vertical row of windows all white, 20¢ blurry, MB \$30

62. #132 a), perforation shift right 5mm,horiz pair including margin, MB \$35 63. #C13, mint, unlisted variety, distinct circle around nose of plane, MB \$5



**UPU Meeting & Congress Covers** 

Executive & Liasion Committee, Lots 64-68

64. Montreux, 1950, mailed cover, MB \$8

65. St. Gallen, 1951. Mailed cover, MB \$8

66. Luzern, 1954, Mailed card, MB \$6

67. Lugano, 1955, Unadd. cover, MB \$6

Lausanne, 1957, Mailed cover, MB \$8
 Postal Studies Committee, Lots 69-70

69. Tokyo, 1961, Post card with message to Berne, 1961/3, CCEP 5.2, MB, \$12



70. Berne 1971, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76 and 77, Unaddressed covers, card & PTT leaflet, MB\$10

8th Congress, Stockholm, 1924 - Congress cards w/ Congress cancels at visited towns (Lots 71-73)

71. Copper mine, Falun 7/28/24, unaddressed, MB \$12

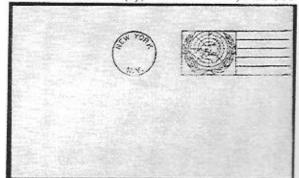
72. Waterfalls, Alfkarleo, 7/28/24, unaddressed, MB \$12

Waterfalls, Rock in center, Alfkarleo,
 7/18/24, Mailed to Switzerland, MB \$12

## UN-NY Cancel Essays and Proofs, Gaines pg. 551, 567, 387,

All with Gaines Certificate

74. SLOGAN 1P (a), on blank card, MB \$85



- 75. Hand Cancel SP.1, on piece, MB \$70
- 76. Hand Cancel SP.2, two strikes, on piece, MB \$100
- 77. Hand cancel, S.1(c), red, on piece, MB \$50
- 78. Hand cancel, S.1 (d) iii), red, on piece, MB \$40
- 79. Unlisted cancels, Pitney-Bowes photo of two essays, MB \$40
- Unlisted cancels, Pitney-Bowes photo of three essays, MB \$60
- 81. FD Cancel, FD/P1, on blank small cover, MB \$90

### United Nations Week 1943 Meter

82. Columbia Pictures NY CC cover front with 1/13/43 purple meter, Tear on right side, including part of meter, MB \$15

# UN Meter Forerunners (Gaines p.940-954)

### New York, NY

 In War and Peace United Nations, PB 109534, 9/24/43, on piece with UN Information Office CC, MB \$85

### Meter Tapes

- 84. In War and Peace UN, PB 108314, 4/4/45, MB \$85
- 85. Slogan II, PB 113436, 6/3/46, MB \$25
- 86. Slogan III, PB 108314, 10/2/47, on piece with UN-Lake Success CC, MB \$45
- 87. Slogan V, PB 182488, 1/12/51, MB \$15

### Lake Success, NY (all meter tapes)

- 88. Slogan II, PB 115515, 12/4/46, MB \$50
- Slogan IV, PB 116728, 12/19/47, MB
   \$65

- 90. Slogan IV, PB 126118, 6/21/48, tape has small tear & light brown spots, MB \$50
- 91. Slogan IV, PB 138421, 11/4/48, MB \$85
- 92. Slogan IV, PB 150815, 3/29/48, MB \$85
- 93. Slogan V, PB 126118, 5/4/50, MB \$25
- 94. Slogan V, PB 138421, 1/12/50, MB \$25

### Great Neck, NY (meter tape)

95. Slogan V, PB 180705, 4/5/51, MB \$85

Long Island City, NY (meter tape)

96. Slogan V, PB 163706, 7/28/50, slight fold, MB \$250



### Early UN-NY Meter Tapes

- 97. Slogan 4, UN Exhibition, PB 4, 6/25/52, MB \$15
- 98. Slogan 5, Forestry Congress, PB 1, 12/7/54, MB \$15

### Miscellaneous Postal History

- 99. UN Lake Success CC #10 cover to IND. With LS/C.1 Courier cancel, 8/9/48, VF, MB \$12
- 100. UN Hunter College CC small cover to Canada, Meter PB 113436/Slogan II, 6/30/46, UN Registry mark (NY/REG-1) in red box on back, Stamped "Returned for Better Direction", Two hole punches in cover, MB \$25
- 101. ECAFE-Bangkok CC airmail #10 cover to NY, 11/16/49, VF, \$8
- 102. UN Lake Success CC airmail small cover sent from Greece to NY, 1949, In pen: UNSCOB, (Gaines p. 1718), VF, MB \$35
- 103. ILO 1950 Bandung Conference on Plantations, small cover to UN-Geneva, Conference cachet, MB \$12
- 104. Rome 1958 CC cover for International Information Office the UN and Specialized Agencies, to ICAO, MB \$8
- 105. UNICEF Worldwide covers, 23 covers, 1949-1999, #10 or smaller, mostly UNICEF offices in different countries (at least 13), MB \$15

### 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 Tuesday of the month except in July and August at Stamp King, 7139 West Higgins Rd., Chicago, Illinois. Contact: Dr. Ben Ramkissoon, 3011White Oak Lane, Oak Brook, IL 60523-2513.

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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I page (61/2"×9") - \$40; 1/2 page - \$20

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The Journal goes to print on the first day of the month preceding the issue month. The editorial deadline for the August 2009 issue is June 30, 2009. Material to be submitted for publication should reach the editor at least ten days before this deadline.

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