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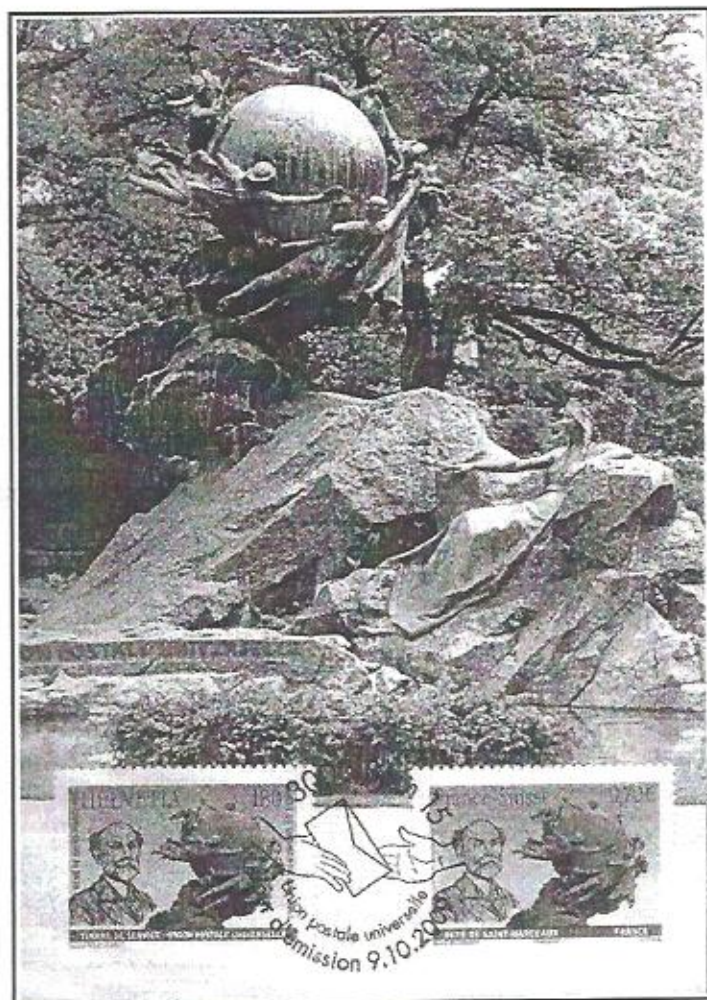
Number 3

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OF THE UNITED NATIONS PHILATELISTS, INC



UPU MONUMENT CENTENARY

1909 - 2009

JOINT UPU-FRENCH MAXIMUM CARD

# The Journal of United Nations Philatelists

Affiliate #71 of the American Philatelic Society

A unit of the American Topical Association

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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 of *The Journal*.

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## Reprinting

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## Disclaimer

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

## Cover Illustrations

**Front cover:** UPU Monument Centenary Joint UPU-French Maximum Card. **Back cover:** Six Mini-sheets of 4 for One Planet, One Ocean. **Back Mailer:** 2010 Lunar Calendar Event Sheet.



## MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR

### 2010 UNP ANNUAL MEETING AT AMERICOVER

United Nations Philatelists (UNP) will hold its 2010 Annual Meeting in conjunction with AMERICOVER 2010, which will be held from Friday August 6th through Sunday August 8th at:

Chicago Marriott Oak Brook  
1401 West 22nd Street  
Oak Brook, Illinois 60523.

Oak Brook is a suburb of Chicago about twenty miles west of downtown Chicago (the Loop) and about twenty miles from both O'Hare International Airport and Midway Airport. Information about getting to the show from either airport can be found in an article on page 2 of this issue of the *Journal*. The hotel is conveniently situated in the vicinity of Oak Brook Center, which has numerous restaurants and theaters. And one can get to the Loop via public transportation in not much more than an hour and at reasonable fare.

The Marriott is offering a special show rate of \$99 per night. More information can be obtained through the website of the American First Day Cover Society (AFDCS) at ([www.afdcs.org/americovert](http://www.afdcs.org/americovert)).

AMERICOVER 2010 is being organized by the AFDCS around its 55th Annual Convention and Exhibition.

It is anticipated that UNP will be manning a table and will organize a Friday evening dinner and a Saturday afternoon Annual Meeting so that members can get together to "hang out". Members, who would be willing to volunteer a couple hours of time to manning the UNP table are encouraged to contact either the UNP-President Anthony Dewey or UNP-Secretary Clem Clement or the Editor.

The Editor is currently trying to organize a session of "Show and Tell" at the Annual Meeting. Members are being encouraged to

prepare ten- to fifteen-minute talks with about five transparencies to be used in conjunction with an overhead projector on some element of UN-related philately. The Editor would appreciate receiving the title of your presentation so that he can prepare a program. However, if you have a last minute inspiration for "Show and Tell", perhaps even something that you "snared" at AMERICOVER 2010, feel free to bring it along.

After the Annual Meeting it would not be surprising if members might be able to profit by the presence of UNP exhibitors to take a guided tour of some of the exhibits prepared by UNP members in competition at AMERICOVER 2010.

It is not too late for out-of-town members of UNP to begin making travel and hotel reservations for what should be a fine opportunity to meet with the numerous UNP-members in the Chicagoland area. You might even consider coming a day early or leaving a day later. As an ex-Chicagoan, I can eagerly testify to the many opportunities to do a bit of sight-seeing in the Chicagoland area including visits to the Chicago Art Institute and the Field Museum just south of Millennium Park. Americover 2010 itself is organizing a trip to the Field Museum on the eve of the show.

The new or returning UNP Officers and Board, who will have been elected or re-elected in the 2010 Election, and who will be serving from July 1, 2010 until June 30, 2012, hope to see all of you at the 2010 Annual Meeting of UNP at AMERICOVER 2010.

It is anticipated that the UNP Board will also hold its Annual Meeting during AMERICOVER. If you have any issues or items that you would like to have the Board discuss, please send a note to the UNP-Secretary Clem Clement.



## CLUB NEWS

### GETTING TO AMERICOVER IN OAK BROOK FROM THE AIRPORTS

Hopefully numerous UNP members are currently planning to attend the 2010 Annual Meeting at AMERICOVER in Oak Brook, Illinois beginning Friday August 6th. Oak Brook lies about twenty miles west of downtown Chicago, which is known as the Loop.

The Chicagoland area is well tied together by public transportation. For those who will be arriving in Chicago via either O'Hare International Airport or Midway Airport, it is relatively simple and very inexpensive to reach Oak Brook by public transportation. Both airports are served by elevated lines, which service the Loop.

Travelers arriving at O'Hare can catch a CTA Blue Line train, which passes through the Loop as a subway train and then turns west to a terminal in Forest Park via the median strip of the Eisenhower Expressway. Direct bus connections via Pace Bus #747 to Oak Brook Center are available to bridge the ten-mile gap from the Blue Line terminal in Forest Park.

Those who arrive at Midway Airport can take the Orange Line to the Loop and transfer to the Blue Line subway train and then head for the Forest Park terminal.

Local travel plans can be made by searching with Google for "RTA" which will flag the [tripsweb.rtachicago.com](http://tripsweb.rtachicago.com) website of the Regional Transit Authority of Chicago. The user selects his itinerary (i.e. O'Hare Airport to Oak Brook Center) and the time of departure from O'Hare. The trip planner then supplies a lengthy list of suggestions and indicates the total price. The entire trip should cost about \$2.50 and will last about ninety minutes to two hours.

Direct PACE buses from the area near O'Hare are also available to Oak Brook but are less frequent.

### UNP BULK ORDER OF 2009 UNESCO AND UPU ISSUES

On October 9, 2009 the Universal Postal Union (UPU - thanks to the Swiss PTT) issued a joint commemorative issue with the French PTT honoring the centenary of the UPU-Monument in Bern, Switzerland. More details on the issue appear on page 8 of this issue of the Journal. In January 2010 I placed a Bulk order for mint stamps (UPU and French - S.f. 3), official FDCs (S.f. 3.90), souvenir folders (S.f. 3.90) and presentation sheets (S.f. 3.60) from the Swiss PTT and engraved proofs (€2) and philatelic documents (€2) from the French PTT. These were available for shipment to participants in the bulk order at the beginning of January 2010.

On December 9, 2009 the French PTT issued two new service stamps for exclusive use at UNESCO headquarters in Paris in the World Heritage and Endangered Species series. An article on these stamps will appear in the August issue of the *Journal*. In February 2010 I placed a bulk order for mint stamps (€1.55), philatelic documents (€5) and engraved proofs (€2) from the French PTT. These were shipped to participants in the Bulk order in March 2010.

Some of the above items can still be obtained from the Swiss and French PTTs at the following addresses:

Swiss Post  
Post Offices & Sales  
Customer Service Stamps & Philately  
CH-3030 Bern Switzerland  
Internet: [www.swisspost.chh/philashop](http://www.swisspost.chh/philashop)  
La Poste/Philaposte  
Service Clients  
Z.I. Avenue Benoit Frachon  
BP 106 Boulazac  
24051 Perigueux Cedex 09  
France  
Internet: [www.laposte.fr](http://www.laposte.fr)

## 2010 UNITED NATIONS STAMP PROGRAM

(As of May 1, 2010 but subject to changes of date and denominations.)

See the UNPA World Wide Web Site at: [www.un.org/Depts/UNPA](http://www.un.org/Depts/UNPA)

- February 5**                      **Coin and Flag Series**  
44¢. F.s. 0,85, € 0,65  
(3 mini-sheets of 8 stamps)  
Human Trafficking (Special event sheet of ten stamps - € 0.65)
- April 15**                      **Endangered Species**  
44¢. 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 2010 Endangered Species Annual Collection Folder  
FDC with Silk Cachet  
**International Year of Biodiversity** (Geneva and Vienna Definitives)  
F.s. 1,60, F.s.1,90, € 0,05, € 0,20  
(4 sheets of 20 stamps)  
**Revalued Postal Card for Geneva F.s. 1,90**  
**World Malaria Day** souvenir cover
- April 25**
- May 1**                      **Shanghai Lunar Calendar** (special event sheet of ten stamps - 44¢)  
Shanghai Lunar Calendar souvenir cover - 1×44¢
- May 6**                      **One Planet, One Ocean**  
44¢, 98¢, F.s. 0,85, F.s. 1,00, € 0,55, € 0,65  
(6 mini-sheets of 4 stamps)  
Three Prestige Booklets with 12×(28¢, 44¢, F.s. 0,30, F.s. 0,50, € 0,30, € 0,35)
- June 4**                      **Shanghai World Expo** (Special event sheet of ten stamps - 98¢)  
Shanghai World Expo souvenir cover - 2×98¢  
**Definitives - New York**  
3¢, 4¢  
(2 sheets of 20 stamps)  
**Postal Stationery for New York**  
Pre-stamped envelopes, airletter
- June 28**                      **65th Anniversary of the UN**  
98¢, \$1.96, F.s. 1,80, F.s. 3,60, € 0,75, € 1,50  
(3 sheets of 15 stamps, 3 Souvenir sheets of two stamps)
- September 2**                      **UN Transport Land/Sea/Air**  
44¢, F.s. 1,00, € 0,65  
(3 sheets of 20 stamps)  
Child Labor (Special event sheet of ten stamps - S.f.)
- October 18**                      **International Year of Biodiversity** (New York Definitives)  
15¢, \$1.50 and souvenir card  
(2 sheets of 20 stamps)
- October 21**                      **Indigenous People**  
44¢, F.s. 1,30, € 0,65  
(3 mini-sheets of 6 designs)  
UN Working Dogs (Special event sheet of ten stamps - 98¢)  
2009 Annual Collection Folders (New York, Geneva, Vienna)
- 2010 SLOGAN CANCELLATION**
- January 2**                      **United for Peace** (continuation of slogan for 2007, 2008 and 2009)



## 50 YEARS INTERGOVERNMENTAL OCEANOGRAPHIC COMMISSION

### One Planet, One Ocean

By Richard Powers

On May 6th the United Nations Postal Administration (UNPA) issued six mini-sheets of four different stamps for a total of twenty-four commemorative stamps on the theme "One Planet, One Ocean", on the occasion of the Fiftieth Anniversary of the International Oceanographic Commission (IOC). The designs of the six mini-sheets appear on the outside rear cover of this issue of the *Journal*. Two sheets of four different stamps were issued for use at UNNY in denominations of 44¢ and 98¢; two sheets of four distinct stamps, for use at UN Geneva in denominations of S.f. 0,85 and 1,00; two sheets of four different stamps, for use at UN Vienna in denominations of € 0,55 and 0,65.

Three prestige booklets containing twenty-four stamps were also released. Each booklet contains sixteen pages of text and six pages of four stamps for a total of twenty-four stamps for each UNPA office. The UNNY stamps will bear 28¢ and 44¢ denominations; the UN Geneva stamps, S.f. 0,30 and 0,50 values; the UN Vienna stamps, € 0,30 and 0,35 denominations.

These issuance of these stamps coincides with the fiftieth anniversary of the founding of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) of UNESCO in 1960 to promote international cooperation and to coordinate programs in research, services and capacity building, in order to learn more about the nature and resources of the ocean and coastal areas and to apply the knowledge gained to the improved management, sustainable development and protection of the marine environment, and to assist the decision making processes of its 136 Member States. In addition to its member states, the IOC consists of an Assembly, an Executive

Council, subsidiary bodies and a Secretariat, which is based in Paris, France.

Two articles on the early congresses of the IOC appeared in the April 2009 issue of this *Journal* (p. 14 and 16).

Fifty years after its establishment, IOC plays a pivotal role in developing and coordinating global ocean observations through the Global Ocean Observing System (GOOS), in saving lives and property in coastal areas through establishing multi-hazards warning systems, and in making available up-to-date science-based information and knowledge on the status and functions of oceans and coasts.

The celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of IOC in 2010 begins on June 8th and will coincide with World Oceans Day announced by the UN General Assembly in 2008 by Resolution 63/111. This Day creates an opportunity to raise global awareness of the current challenges facing the international community in serving oceans, their habitants and the millions who depend on them for a living. For example, the 2009 World Ocean Day was observed with the theme "Our Oceans, Our Responsibility" in order to emphasize the threat to the vitality of the oceans due to human activity and climate change.

"Human activities are taking a terrible toll on the world's oceans and seas", said Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon in a message of the day. The objectives of World Ocean Day emphasize, as he stated, "our individual and collective duty to protect the marine environment and carefully manage its resources".

Oceans and their adjacent seas cover more than two-thirds of the surface of the Earth.



## INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF BIODIVERSITY

The UN has declared the year 2010 the International Year of Biodiversity in an attempt to call attention of the public to the importance of multiplicity of species and the risks associated with decreasing diversity.

On April 15, 2010 the United Nations Postal Administration (UNPA) issued two definitive stamps for use at the UN in Vienna (€ 0,05 with a species of colony forming algae and € 0,20 with a species of trunk fish), and two definitives for use at the UN in Geneva (S.f. 1,60 with a species of arachnid and S.f. 1,90 with a species of star fish). On October 18th the UNPA will complete the series with two definitives for use at the UN in New York (15¢ with a species of hummingbird and \$1.50 with a species of liverwort).

Figures of the six stamps appear on this page. The illustrations were taken from the book *Kunstformen der Natur* (Art Forms in Nature) by the German Zoologist and Artist Ernst Heinrich Haeckel (1834-1919).





## THE SECOND VERSION OF SEVERAL PERSONALIZED SHEETS

By Richard Powers

In the February 2010 edition of the *Philatelic Bulletin* (Vol. 93) the United Nations Postal Administration (UNPA) acknowledged that four recent International Personalized sheets in the ten-stamp format had been issued into two formats because of a change in printing contractors. This had resulted in the use of a new perforation die tool, which had changed the perforation size from 13.5 (finer perforations) to 11.5 (coarser perforations). These issues include the sheets honoring Thirty Years of Vienna International Centre (VIC), Fortieth Anniversary UNPA-Geneva, 2009 Climate Change and 2009 98¢ New York International Sheet. During the printing process of these sheets a partial quantity of the sheets were printed with the new perforation die tool. The sheets printed with the new tool are labeled with "vers. 2" under the copyright symbol and year in the lower right corner of the sheet.

Figure 1 shows a block of four stamps from the VIC sheet from the lower right corner produced by the old tool. A picture of the complete sheet appeared in the August 2009 issue of this *Journal* (page 4). Figure 2 shows the same stamps produced with the new tool.

It is interesting to note that the UNPA

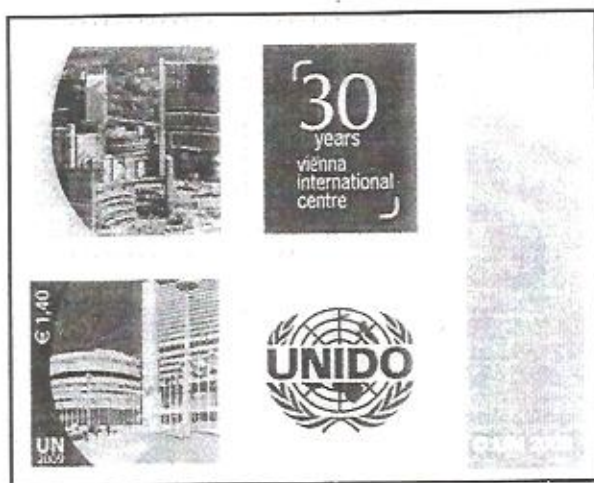


Figure 1: Original version of VIC sheets.

prepared a commemorative cancel (Figure 3) noting the VIC anniversary, which corresponded to the first day of issue of this personalized stamp. I believe that this is the time that the UNPA prepared a "first day cancel" for one of its personalized sheets. It followed suit with a special cancel for the Fortieth Anniversary UNPA-Geneva sheet which was released on October 2, 2010. I have seen a picture of a first day cover of the five different Geneva stamps on a Geneva cachet in *UNOPost* Issue 2/2009, p.7.

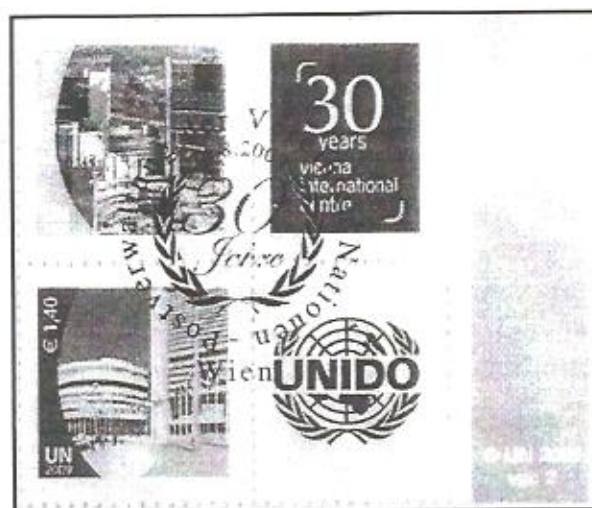


Figure 2: VIC stamps perforated with new tool bearing special cancel.



Figure 3: Special commemorative cancel used on the VIC sheets on the day of issue.



## PHILATELICALLY YOURS FROM VIENNA: LATE 2008

By Richard Powers

On January 11, 2010 I received a shipment of special covers with "Sonderstempel" (special cancellations) on specially prepared cacheted envelopes issued by the United Nations Postal Administration (UNPA) in Vienna recently. These two special items were issued November 2, 2008 (Stockerau) and December 5, 2008 (NUMIPHIL - Vienna). This year's shipment of two covers cost \$6.16 plus a \$3.00 mailing fee, for which I received € 2.13 in CTO-canceled UN Vienna stamps. Below are descriptions of some of the features of the two covers.

On November 2nd the UNPA issued a commemorative cover (Figure 1) for a Dealer and Collector Get-together in Stockerau, Austria organized by the Austrian Stamp and Coin Dealers' Federation in the Volksheim of Stockerau. The cover bears a special UN-cancel which ties the 2008 € 0,65 "Sport for Peace - Games of the XXIX Olympics - Beijing, China" stamp (Scott #A429). The cachet declares 2008 to be the Year of Events in recognition of the European Soccer Championships (EURO 08) and the Beijing Olympics.

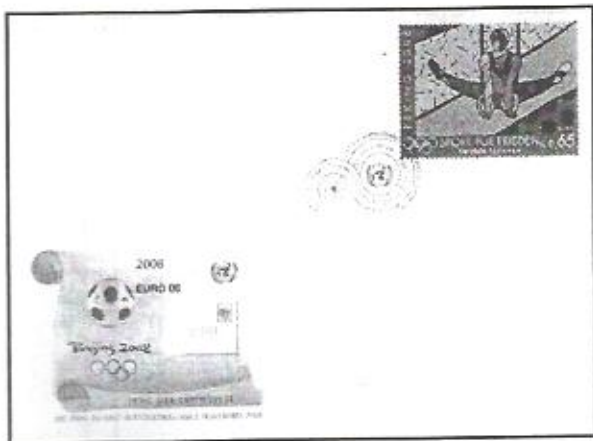


Figure 1: Cover honoring the 22nd Dealer and Collector Get-together in Stockerau in 2008.

On December 5th the UNPA released a special cover (Figure 2) honoring its participation at NUMIPHIL 2008 organized by the Austrian Stamp and Coin Dealers' Federation at Hübners Kursalon in Vienna. The special UN-Vienna cancel features a pair of hands protectively lending support to the Earth, a theme repeated in the cachet. The cancel ties a € 0,65 "We Can End Poverty" commemorative (#A432). A white show card was also released by the UNPA at this show.

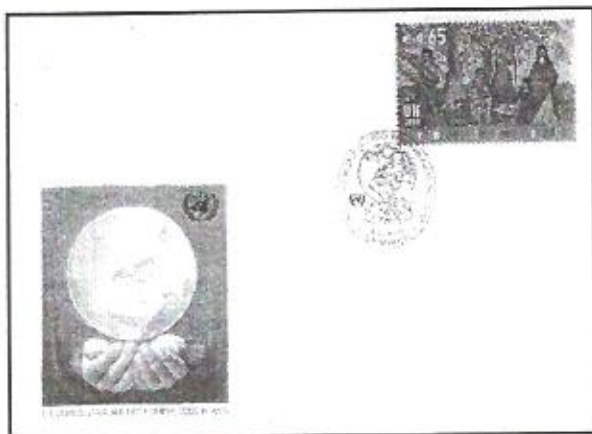


Figure 2: Cover honoring the UNPA visit to NUMIPHIL 2008 in Vienna.

Neither of these covers was available from the UNPA in New York. The only way to purchase them is to order each item in advance or to set up a customer account for Sonderstempel items with the UNPA Vienna. The account can be set up by sending a check (U.S. checks are welcome) or by paying with a credit card (Visa or Mastercard) to the UNPA in Vienna at the address below:

Postverwaltung  
der Vereinten Nationen, Wien  
Postfach 900  
A-1400 Wien-Vereinte Nationen  
Austria.

## JOINT FRENCH-UPU ISSUE COMMEMORATING THE UPU-MONUMENT CENTENARY

By Richard Powers

In October 2009 the Universal Postal Union (UPU) celebrated the centenary of its monument, which was designed by the French sculptor René de Saint-Marceaux and which stands in the "Kleine Schanze" Park in the heart of Bern near the main train station. Erected to commemorate the UPU's founding, it was inaugurated on October 4, 1909 and has served as the emblem of the Bern-based organization.

The occasion was marked by the release of virtually identical stamps by the French PTT (La Poste) and the Swiss PTT on World Post Day October 9, 2009. The former issued a €0,70 stamp; the latter, a S.f.1,80 stamp. A joint French-UPU FDC prepared by the Swiss PTT appears in Figure 1. The Swiss PTT also prepared FDCs with just the Swiss commemorative.

Both stamps depict a sketch of the artist to

the left facing his sculpture on the right. The stamps were both designed by the Swiss artist Silvia Brüllhart of Bern and printed by La Poste in Paris. The legends on the stamps differ somewhat.

The Swiss stamp bears the country name in Latin "Helvetia" in the upper left corner of the stamp. In the red bar along the bottom of the stamp is the legend in French "Service stamp - Universal Postal Union".

The French stamp bears the legend "France Switzerland" (in French) in the upper left hand corner. In the red bar along the bottom are the name of the sculptor and the country name France.

The Swiss PTT released collection sheets (Figure 2) and special folders (Figure 3) with just the Swiss stamp and also with both the French and Swiss stamps in either mint condition in mounts or first day canceled.



Figure 1: Official Swiss PTT FDC of the joint French (left) -UPU (right) stamps honoring the Centenary of the UPU Monument issued on October 9, 2009. The cachet depicts the Bern skyline and the UPU emblem based on the sculpture.



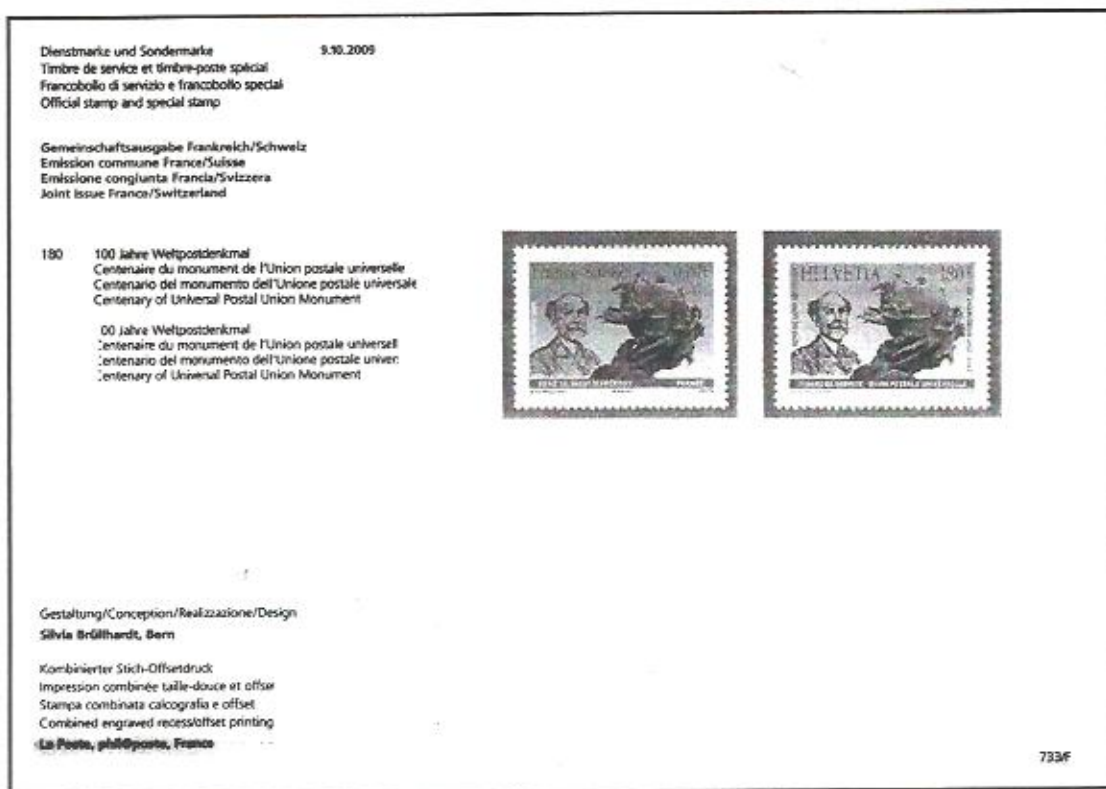


Figure 2: Swiss PTT Joint Collection Sheet of Mint UPU-Monument Centenary Stamps.

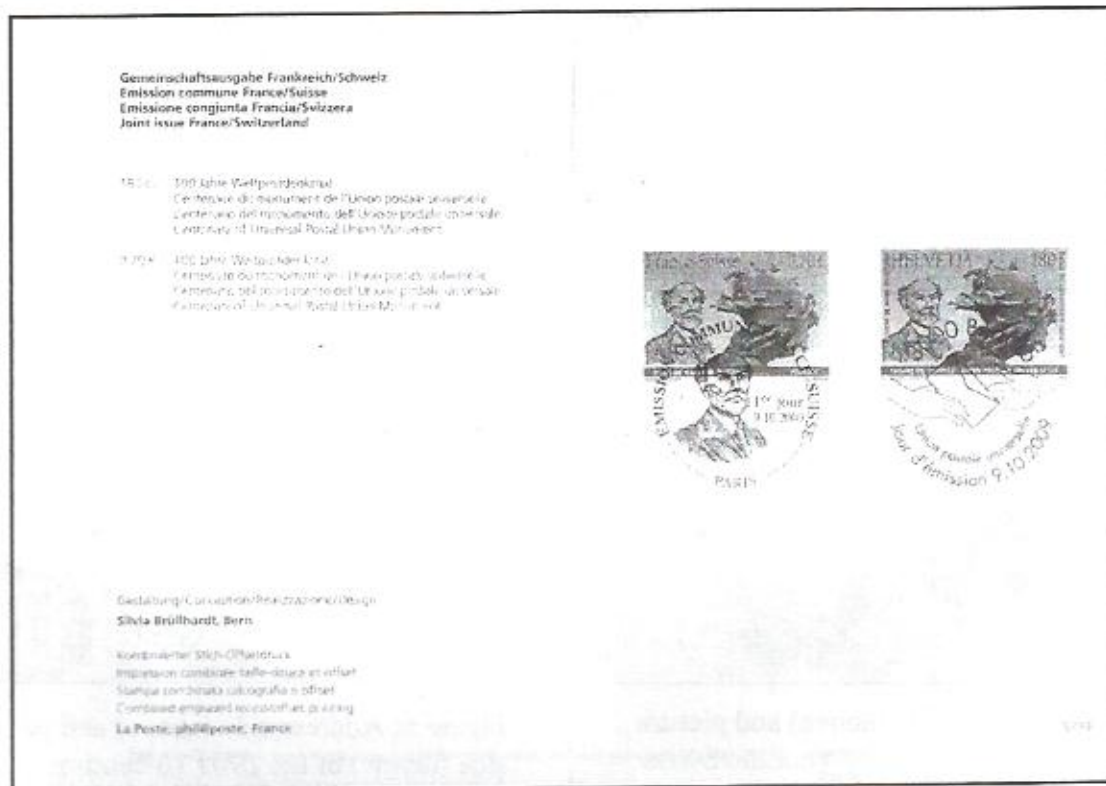


Figure 3: Swiss PTT Joint Folder with First Day-Canceled UPU-Monument Centenary Stamps

The French post office (La Poste) issued a supplementary "philatelic document" with a proof of the French stamp and joint issues tied by first day cancellations. (Figure 4).

On October 4, 1909 the actual day of the dedication of the UPU-Monument, the Swiss PTT issued two postal cards, whose one hundred years of existence earns them the title of philatelic antiques. Figure 5 shows both sides of the 5-centime postal card (Michel #P38a) which was issued for domestic use. Two million copies of this card were issued. The left side of the address side pictures a portion of the monument: a seated female next to the shield of the Swiss canton of Bern and the name of the name of the sculptor R. de St.-Marceaux. The card bears a green 5-centime stamp portraying Wilhelm Tell's son behind his father's bow (similar to Scott #148) on buff card stock.



Figure 5: Address side (above) and picture side (below) of the 1909 5-centime Swiss postal card honoring the inauguration of the UPU-Monument in Bern.

The picture side has a legend noting the Inauguration of the UPU-Monument.

Figure 6 shows both sides of the 10-centime postal card (Michel #P68a), which was issued for international use. Note that the legend Union Postale Universelle is next to the stamp-like vignette indicating that the card is valid for international use. One million copies of this card were issued. The address side of the card bears a carmine 10-centime stamp portraying the allegorical figure Helvetia (similar to Scott #164) on buff card stock. The picture side portrays another view of the seated figure from the and the Canton of Bern shield featuring a bear of the UPU-Monument as well the name of the sculptor and has a legend mentioning the Inauguration of the UPU-Monument. The name Bern is actually a variation of the German word for "bears".

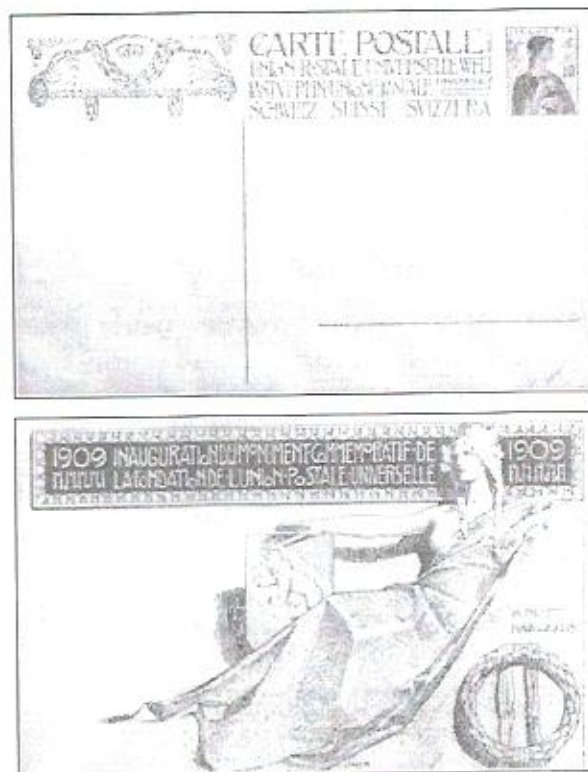


Figure 6: Address side (above) and picture side (below) of the 1909 10-centime Swiss postal card honoring the inauguration of the UPU-Monument in Bern.





# France - Suisse

René de Saint-Marceaux

L'UNION POSTALE UNIVERSELLE est née à Berne le 9 octobre 1874 à l'issue d'une conférence réunissant les délégués de 22 pays d'Europe, bien décidés à lever les obstacles qui entravaient les échanges postaux entre les nations. Ainsi, la constitution d'un territoire postal unique se substitua à un ensemble complexe de tarifs et de règlements postaux internationaux. Née sous le sigle d'Union générale des Postes, l'organisation fut rebaptisée Union postale universelle en 1878. Devenue une institution spécialisée des Nations unies en 1948, l'UPU regroupe aujourd'hui 191 pays. Son objectif principal est de fournir un service postal universel de qualité à un prix abordable et de faciliter une communication efficace entre les personnes dans le monde entier. Pour l'atteindre, l'UPU met en œuvre des équipes de projets qui traitent de sujets variés comme la sécurité postale, la coopération technique, le développement postal, l'environnement... Elle encourage la réforme postale tournée vers la libéralisation des marchés et fait la promotion de nouveaux produits et services. Le dôme-poste représente l'emblème de l'UPU, une statue de bronze et de granit inaugurée à Berne en 1909. Cette œuvre du sculpteur français René de Saint-Marceaux figure cinq messagers, symbolisant les cinq continents, qui se transmettent des lettres autour du globe.



Créateur de Béla Brochant, gravure en taille-douce : Ben Cabell. Impression mode offset - taille-douce. Suivi : Anquet de. Photo Martine Dethle pour la Poste suisse. Mise en page : Patte à Beurre. [Phil@poste.ch](mailto:Phil@poste.ch) / 21 00 619 / © La Poste

Figure 5: Philatelic document for the UPU-Monument stamps released by the French Post Office.

# THIRTY YEARS OF THE FRENCH POSTAL SERVICE FOR UNIFIL

By Richard Powers

The United Nations Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) was created on March 19, 1978 to police an area of southern Lebanon south of the Litani River and extending south to the Israeli border. It became operational on March 22, 1978 and had a maximum authorized strength of 6000. Its headquarters is in Naqoura, Lebanon.

The French contingent began arriving on March 24, 1978 and provided infantry, engineers and logistics personnel. On April 20, 1978 the French contingent began operating the UNIFIL postal system. The post card, pictured in Figures 1 (address side) and 2 (picture side) was produced in honor of thirty years of this postal service in 2008.

The picture side shows views of UN facilities including a large tent in Naqoura in 1978 and a mobile home in 2008. In the lower left corner bears the inscription BPI 125 (Bureau Postal Interarmées - Interarmy Post Office), Liban 1978-2008 (Lebanon).

Figure 3 shows a detail of the machine cancel dated July 2, 2008 and a slogan, which repeats the message of the picture side:

1978 - 2008  
30 Years of French Presence in Lebanon  
in the Service of Peace.



Figure 3: Machine cancel of UNIFIL dated July 2, 2008 and the station number BPI 125 (Bureau Postal Interarmées).

The printed message on the left side of the rear of the postcard, superimposed on a light blue United Nations logo, provides a brief history of the postal facility operated

by the French contingent and reads as follows:

"Created April 20, 1978 to serve the peacekeeping forces of UNIFIL and the 420th Battalion of Logistical Support, the Military Post Office (BPM) 125 provided for the receipt and transmission of mail of the various foreign contingents. Set up in Naqoura near the Israeli-Lebanese frontier, the BPM 125, also known as the United Nations Base Post Office (UNBPO), carried out daily connections with Tel-Aviv, the place of transit for all force mail. Beginning in 1998, the routing of mail was gradually switched to a mail facility in Beirut. In 2002 all the mail was routed through Beirut and BPM 125 was renamed Bureau Postal Interarmées (BPI) 125. In 2008, the BPI will change its location, while still preserving its role in relaying communications between the French soldier in the service of peace and his family."

Figure 4 shows a cover on official UNIFIL stationery addressed to Clichy, France bearing two hand cancels dated March 11, 1979: the one on the left identifying the Base Post Office in Naqoura and the other a UNIFIL force cancel (Gaines type #200(a)).

Figure 5 shows UNIFIL cover bearing a 2.50 franc French stamp (Scott #1981) tied by a hand cancel with the legend "Poste aux Armées" (Military Mail) dated March 7, 1986

Figure 6 shows an aerial view of UNIFIL headquarters in Naqoura on a postcard mailed November 17, 1980 through the Swedish contingent of UNIFIL. Figure 7 shows the address side of the post card with the Swedish contingent cancel (Gaines type #133(b)).



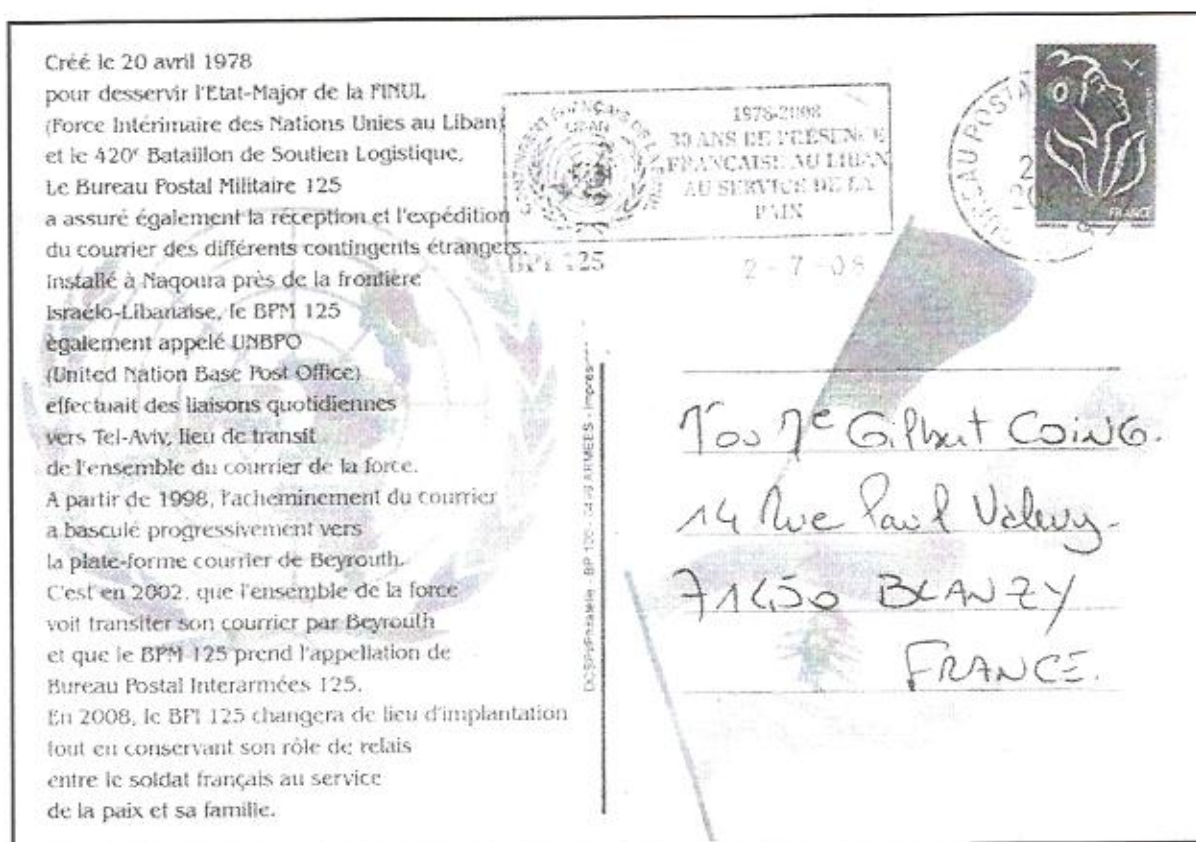


Figure 1: Address side of UNIFIL 30th Anniversary Postcard with BPI 125 cancel of July 2, 2008.



Figure 2: Picture side of postcard honoring 30 years of French peacekeeping in Lebanon.

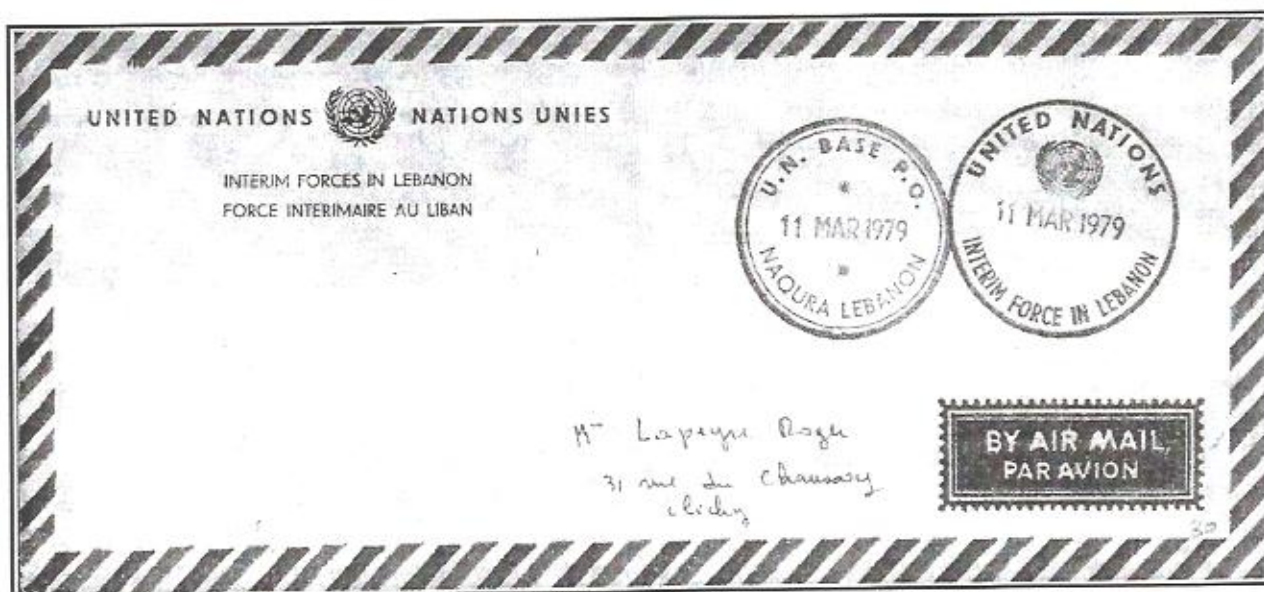


Figure 4: UNIFIL airmail cover bearing a March 11, 1979 UNIFIL force cancel (right) and a U.N. Base P.O. cancel in Naqoura, Lebanon (left) addressed to Clichy, France. Note that the corner card has "Interim Forces" instead of the normal "Interim Force". Note that the city name of Naqoura (French spelling) in the base post office cancel at the left is written "Naqura" (English spelling).

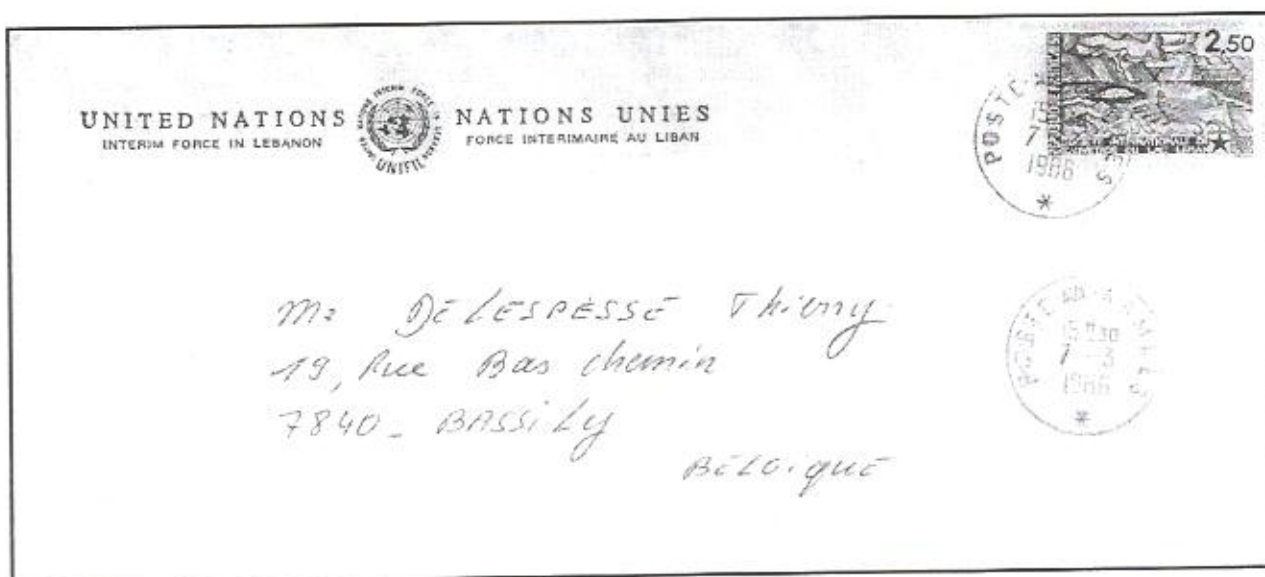


Figure 5: UNIFIL cover bearing March 7, 1986 hand cancel of the French contingent (Gaines type #048(a)) with the legend "Poste aux Armées" tying a 1985 2.50 franc French stamp (Scott #1981) to the cover and addressed to Bassily, Belgium. This cancel first went into use for UNIFIL in 1978. This cancel is also known with the asterisk at the bottom of the cancel replaced by a "125" but primarily used as a receiving or forwarding cancel.



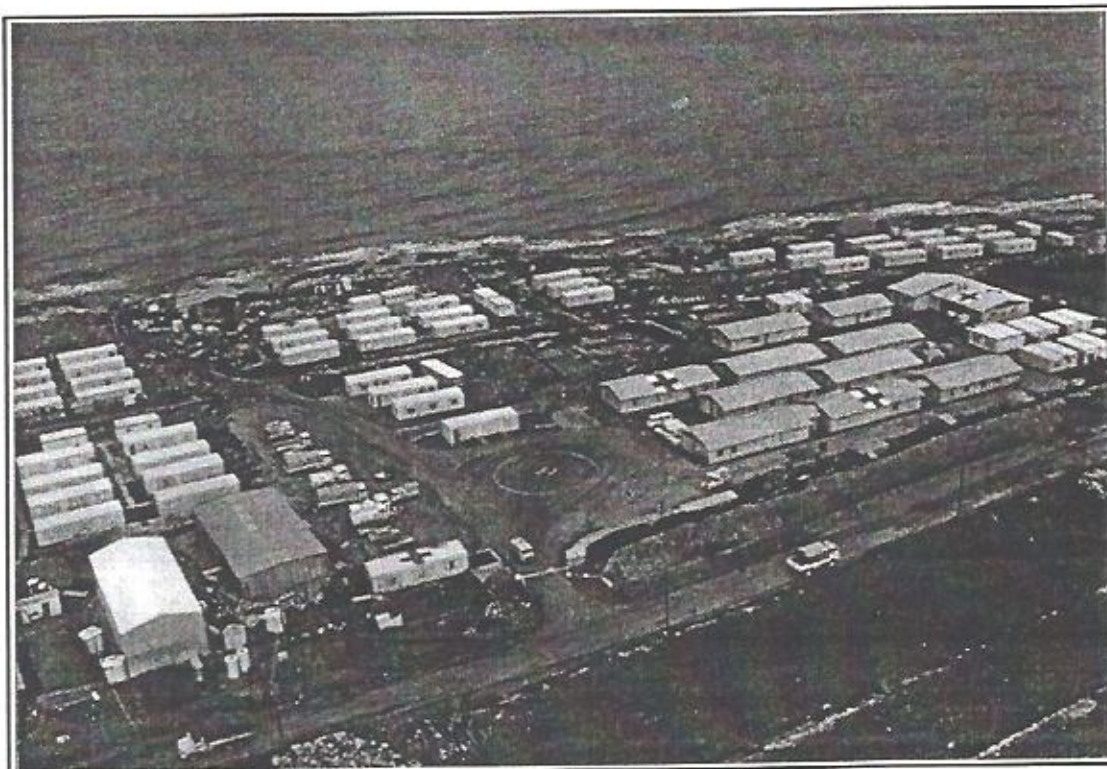


Figure 6: Aerial view of UNIFIL Headquarters in Naqoura around 1980.

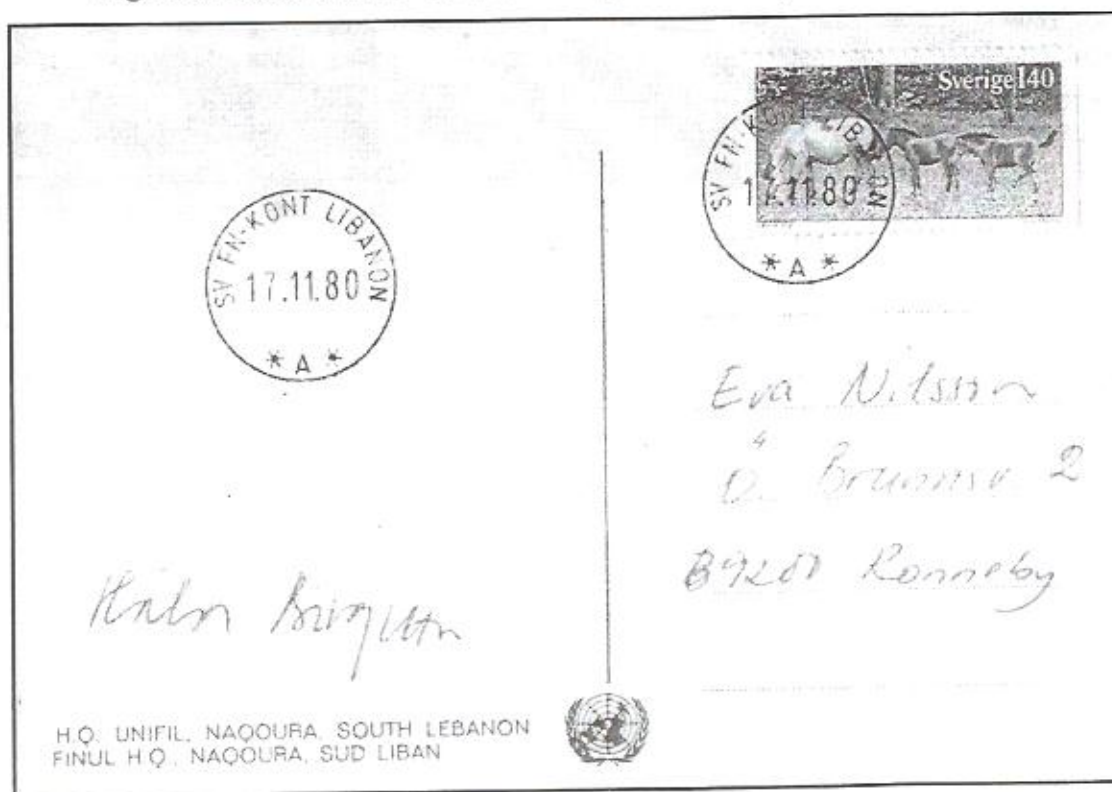


Figure 7: Address side of UNIFIL post card in Figure 6 bearing 1980 Swedish contingent cancel.

## THE 2009 TYPE NAIROBI INTERNATIONAL REPLY COUPON

By Richard Powers

In the December 2008 issue of the *Journal* (page 7) I introduced a specimen of the 2009 Nairobi type international reply coupon (IRC), which at the time was scheduled to begin circulating on January 1, 2009. According to a letter to the editor of Linn's *Stamp News* in the September 28, 2009 issue (page 4) Fred Korr quoted information he obtained from the IRC specialist Claude Voirol. The Beijing Type 2 IRC was valid from July 1, 2006 until December 31, 2009. The Nairobi type IRC was valid beginning July 1, 2009 and will remain in use until December 31, 2012.

Figures 1 and 2 show a Swiss IRC of the Nairobi type (front and back, respectively) which varies a bit from the image of the IRC that I downloaded from the UPU (Universal Postal Union) website in October 2008, which appears in the December 2008 issue of the *Journal*. The specimen bears the legend in the center of the IRC just above the bottom white bar which reads:

Le timbre-poste vector d'échange

(The postage stamp vector of exchange)

This legend also appears on the actual IRC but has been moved to the upper left-hand corner beneath the UPU emblem.

Directly above the square box on the left, which is intended for the possible postmark of the country of origin, the specimen bears the inscription:

UNION POSTALE UNIVERSELLE

(Universal Postal Union)

This inscription also appears on the actual IRC but located next to the UPU emblem in the upper left-hand corner. The actual IRC has a different legend directly above the square box on the left:

UNis contre le changement climatique

(United against climate change)

The first word has a double meaning. "Unis" means normally "united". But the

first two letters are capitalized "UNis" stressing the role of the UN in the battle against climate change. And these two letters are printed in the bright blue of the United Nations flag. To the right of this legend is the symbol of the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP).

The hologram, which is located to the right of the left square box and underneath the name of the country of origin, is quite interesting. The right side of the hologram is dominated by the UPU emblem. On the left side of the hologram are two circles. If one observes directly over the hologram (perpendicularly), one sees an envelope in the upper circle and mutually perpendicular intersecting lines of text reading UPU in the bottom circle. But if one looks at the hologram at a grazing angle to the surface, the envelope appears in the lower circle and the intersecting lines of text appear in the bottom circle.

According to Voirol, individual postal administrations could begin ordering the Nairobi type of IRC in March 2009. The Beijing type 2 IRCs were not supposed to be sold after August 31, 2009 and could be exchanged for airmail postage to any participating country in the world through December 31st.

I have inquired several times through the fall of 2009 at several local post offices in Pasadena, if they had any IRCs, new or old. The response was always negative.

I find it interesting that the new IRC is being referred to as the Nairobi type IRC even though the Nairobi UPU Congress never took place in Nairobi. Political unrest in Kenya forced the 24th UPU Congress to be held in Geneva from July 23, 2008 through August 12, 2008. It was at this Congress that the new design (Nairobi type) was approved.



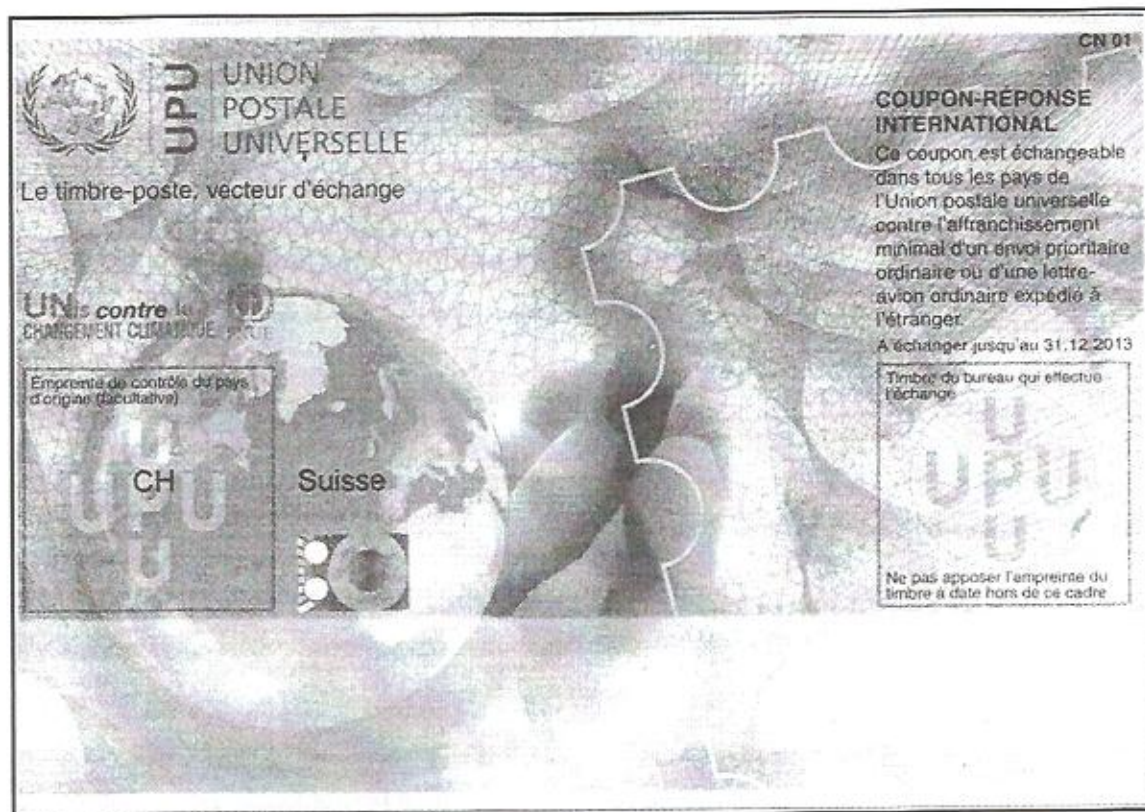


Figure 1: Front side of Nairobi International Reply Coupon Valid Beginning July 1, 2009.

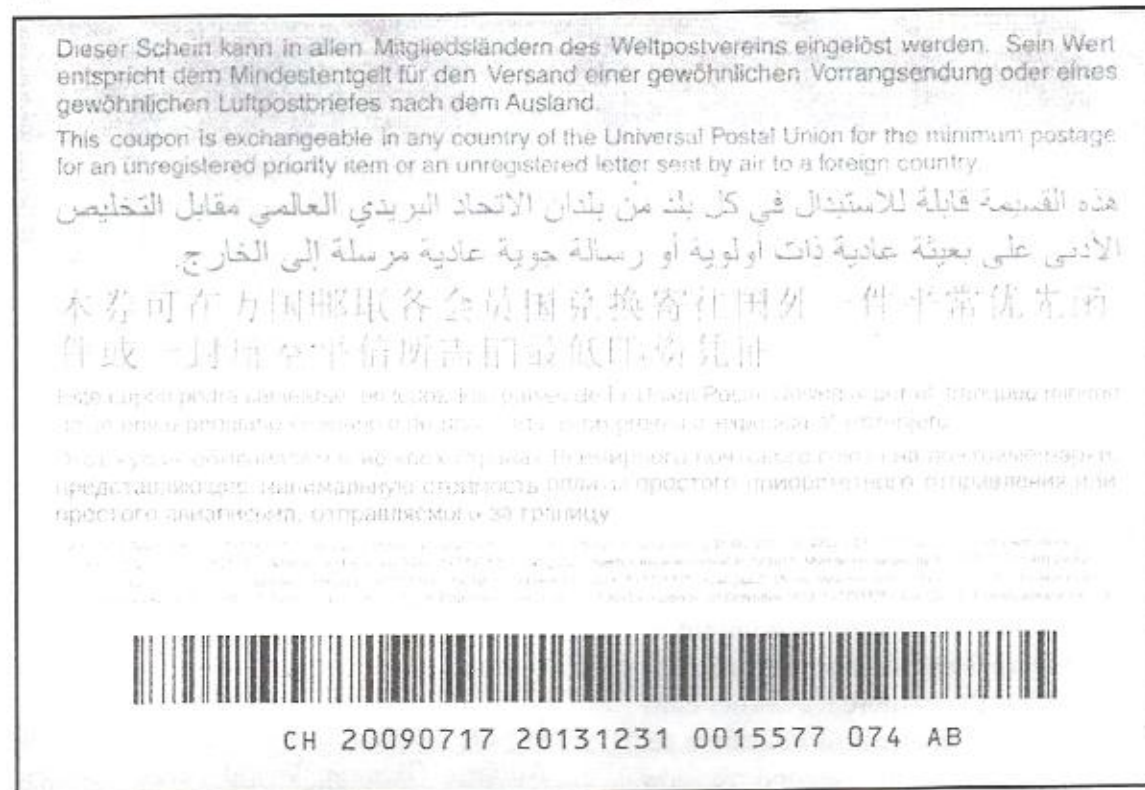


Figure 2: Rear side of Nairobi Type International Reply Coupon.

## MIXED COMMISSION FOR THE EXCHANGE OF GREEK AND TURKISH POPULATIONS

By Richard Powers

In the June 2006 issue of *The Journal* (page 10) I published an article on the Mixed Commission for Greco-Bulgarian Emigration which oversaw the reciprocal and voluntary emigration of nationals from Greece and Bulgaria from territories transferred as a result of World War I.

UNP-member Jean-Louis Emmenegger sent me a related cover from this region from the Mixed Commission for the Exchange of Greek and Turkish populations during the same time-frame. Figure 1 shows a cover sent from this commission in Istanbul postmarked on January 17, 1933 to a local address and bearing two 5 kurush Turkish stamps (Scott #745). The 1935 *Handbook of the League of Nations* by Denys P. Myers supplies background material for this cover.

On January 30, 1923, a convention was signed at Lausanne concerning the obligatory exchange of Turkish nationals of Greek Orthodox religion from Turkish territory and of Greek nationals of Muslim religion from Greek territory, with the exception of Greek inhabitants of Constantinople (Istanbul) and Muslim inhabitants of Western Thrace. According to the terms of this convention, a mixed commission was appointed of four Turkish members, four Greek members and three members chosen by the Council of the League of Nations.

Figure 2 shows an official cover from the Swiss Federal Tribunal postmarked January 9, 1923 and bearing a slogan cancel honoring the Conference for Peace in the Orient in Lausanne. Figure 3 shows a portion of a favor cover bearing the conference corner card and hand cancel postmarked in Lausanne on July 23, 1923 during the second session (indicated by the Roman numeral II above

the city name) two days before the close of the conference. The cover bears a Swiss 10-centime Tell stamp (Scott #169).



Figure 3: Conference corner card and hand cancel from favor cover from the second session of the Conference for Peace in the Orient postmarked July 23, 1923 in Lausanne.

A major event which increased the emigration of Greek nationals was the repulse of the Greek army of invasion by Turkey in Asia Minor. Ultimately about a million and a half persons were displaced to Greece, necessitating the establishment of a Greek Refugee Resettlement Commission. More on this topic can be found in an article I published in the October 1994 issue of *The Journal* (page 9).

The settlement and confirmation of claims was effected by a convention signed at Ankara on June 10, 1930. The mixed commission was terminated on February 19, 1934, under a convention concluded at Ankara on December 9, 1933. The Council of the League of Nations approved the final report of the commission on January 14, 1935.

### Reference

Myers, Denys P., *Handbook of the League of Nations*, (Boston: World Peace Foundation, 1935), p.134, 239.



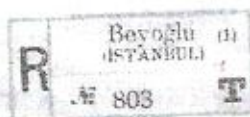
COMMISSION MIXTE POUR L'ECHANGE DES POPULATIONS GREQUES & TURQUES

N° 59045

Monsieur Anastas Yervandis

Buccar

Hacı İskeles N° 51



Istanbul

Figure 1: 1933 Registered cover from the Mixed Commission for the Exchange of Greek and Turkish Population mailed locally in Istanbul.



Figure 2: Official cover of the Swiss Federal Tribunal postmarked on January 9, 1923 bearing a slogan cancel noting the Conference for Peace in the Orient in Lausanne.

## UN WORLD HERITAGE STAMPS FOR GREECE ON IOC FDCs HONORING THE 2004 SUMMER OLYMPIC GAMES IN ATHENS

By Richard Powers

In an article on the UN stamps for the 2008 Summer Olympic Games in Beijing in the October 2008 issue of the *Journal* (page 2), I mentioned that the International Olympic Committee (IOC) had prepared official FDCs of the UN stamps honoring the 1996 Summer Olympic Games in Atlanta, Georgia. These covers bore complete sets of the UNNY or UN Geneva or UN Vienna Olympic sets.

Recently I came across a set of FDCs prepared by the IOC of the UN World Heritage stamps for Greece on the occasion of the 2004 Summer Olympic Games in Athens. These stamps appeared in an article in the October 2004 issue (page 4) of the *Journal* and were released on August 12, 2004. Although these stamps do not mention the Olympics and do not display the Olympic logo, it would not be surprising

that the choice of the Greek World Heritage sites as the theme of the 2004 World Heritage stamps was inspired by the 2004 Summer Olympics in Athens. The Olympic logo does appear in the UNNY cancel. Both in 1996 and 2008, UN stamps were issued bearing the Olympic logo. As with the Atlanta covers, the Athens envelopes were prepared by Bolaffi in Turin, Italy.

Figure 1 shows a 2004 IOC official first day cover with a cachet depicting two participants practicing Taekwondo and bearing the 60¢ (UNNY #867) stamp.

Figure 2 shows an IOC FDC depicting two athletes in a Greco-Roman wrestling match and bearing the F.s. 1,30 (UN Geneva # 427) stamp.

Figure 3 shows an IOC FDC depicting a volleyball competition and bearing the € 0,55 (UN Vienna #350).

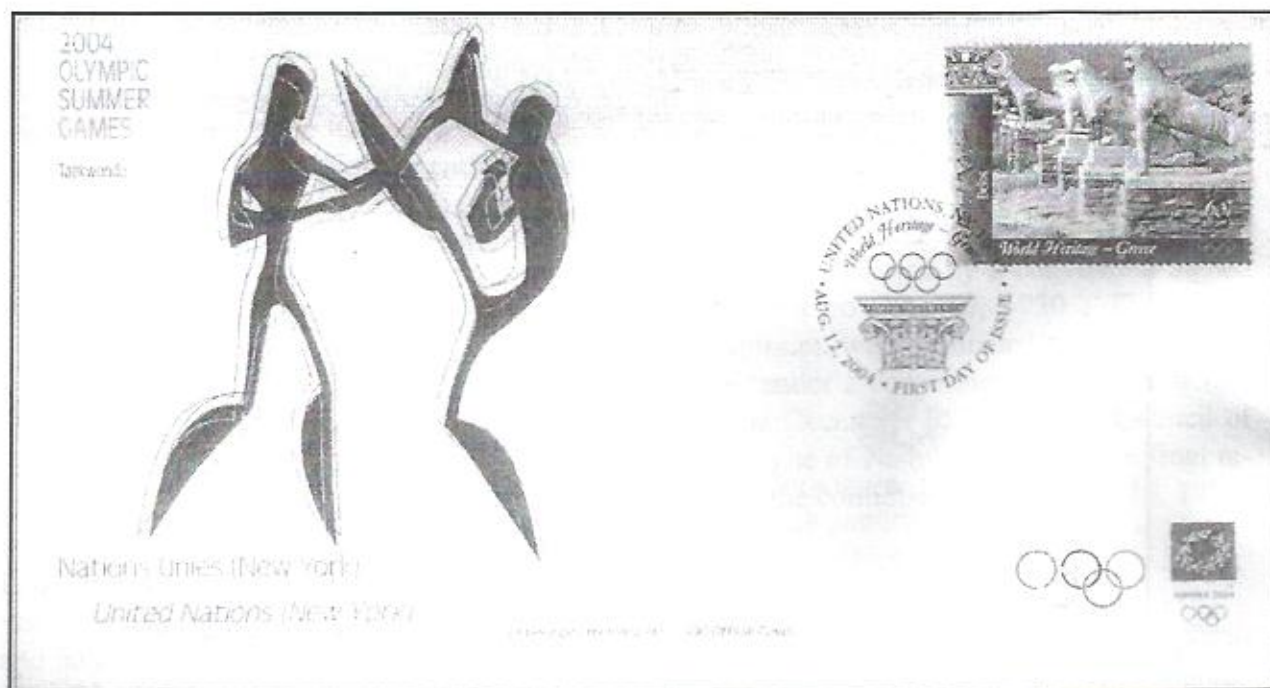


Figure 1: IOC official FDC of the UNNY 60¢ Greek World Heritage stamp issued in conjunction with the 2004 Summer Olympic Games held in Athens. The cachet depicts Taekwondo.



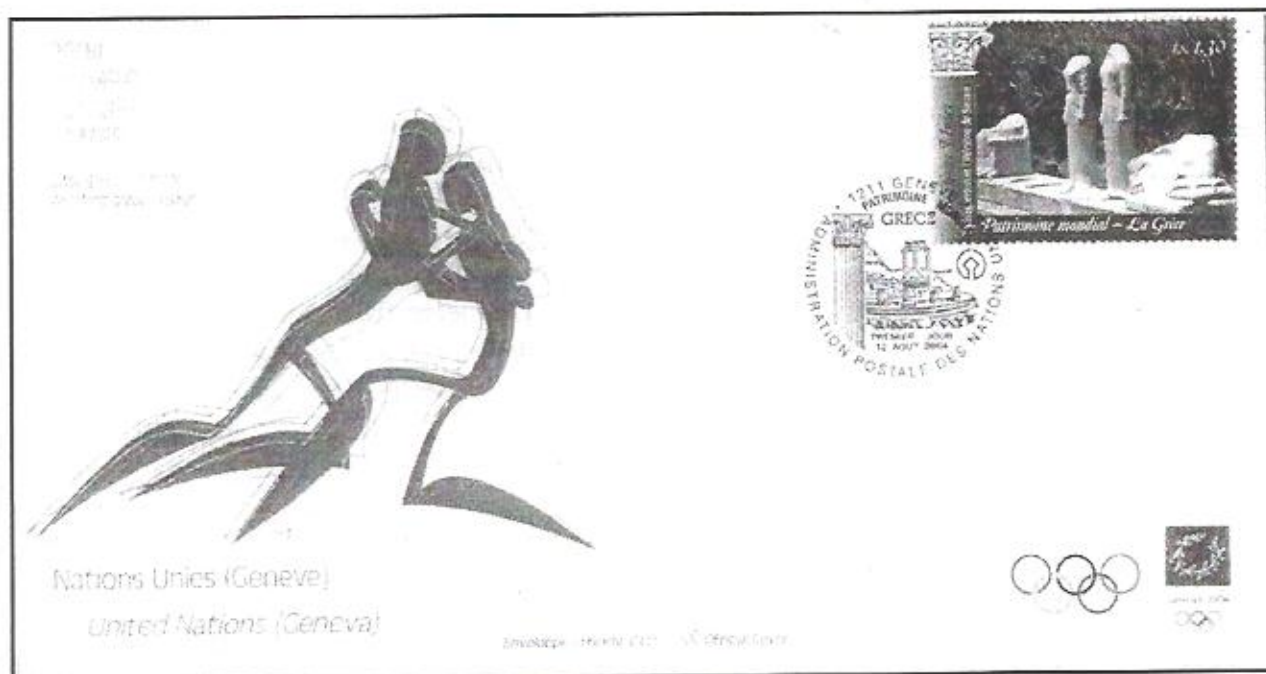


Figure 2: IOC official FDC of the UN Geneva F.s. 1,30 Greek World Heritage stamp issued in conjunction with the 2004 Summer Olympic Games held in Athens. The cachet depicts Greco-Roman Wrestling.

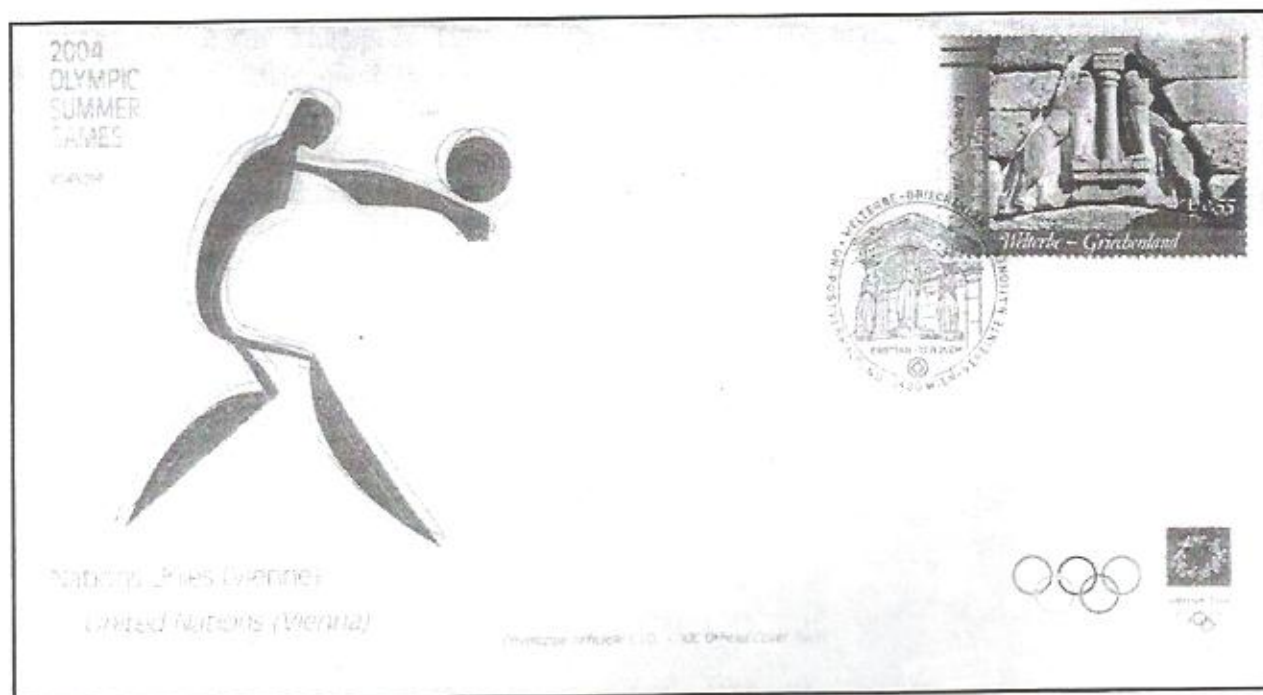


Figure 3: IOC official FDC of the UN Vienna € 0,55 Greek World Heritage stamp issued in conjunction with the 2004 Summer Olympic Games held in Athens. The cachet depicts Volleyball.

# UN NUCLEAR ENGINEERING PROJECT IN BARILOCHE, ARGENTINA

By Richard Powers

Below you will find a metered cover from Argentina bearing a United Nations corner card. The cover was metered in (San Carlos de) Bariloche on February 5, 1981 with a \$1300 denomination (Argentinian pesos). The city is located in western Patagonia (Rio Negro Province) close to the Chilean border.

The Spanish-language corner card reads:

United Nations  
Nuclear Engineering  
Atomic Center Bariloche  
8400 San Carlos de Bariloche  
Republic of Argentina.

The lower right corner is a cachet of the Centro Atomico Bariloche (CAB) of the National Atomic Energy Commission (CNEA). The letter was sent to the Field Procurement Section of the Division of Technical Assistance of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in Vienna, where it was received on February 12, 1981 as indicated by the receiving cancel on the rear.

The CAB is one of the three main research centers of the CNEA and contains the Instituto Balseiro, which depends academically on the National University of Cayo. It has trained

a couple hundred physicists and nuclear engineers and produced hundreds of peer-reviewed scientific papers as well as other important contributions to applied and basic science.

The IAEA continues to organize in the facilities of the CAB training courses for nuclear engineers from around the world, particularly in Latin America. A recent course was in August 2008 and involved the Physical Protection of Nuclear Research Reactors.

My research for information about this Argentinian institute (CAB) on the Internet proved to be nostalgic. I learned that the Library at the CAB is named for Professor Leo Falicov, a former student there, and who was one of my professors at the University of Chicago in 1962. In 1969 he was lured away by the University of California at Berkeley for their program in theoretical solid state physics.

## References

[en.wikipedia.org/wiki/National\\_Atomic\\_Energy\\_Commission](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/National_Atomic_Energy_Commission).

[51.cab.cnea.gov.ar/data\\_2008/taller\\_ppnrr](http://51.cab.cnea.gov.ar/data_2008/taller_ppnrr)



Figure 1: 1981 United Nations service cover from the Nuclear Engineering (Section) of the Atomic Center in Bariloche, Argentina to the Field Procurement Section of the IAEA in Vienna.



## UNPA MARKETING CARD IN SINGAPORE

By Richard Powers

On the occasion of the fiftieth anniversary of the 1951 founding of the United Nations, the United Nations Postal Administration (UNPA) issued a marketing picture post card offering those, who mailed the card to the UNPA in New York, information on the advantages of collecting United Nations stamps.

The picture side of the card shows a view of the United Nations headquarters complex in Manhattan from across the East River. Along the bottom of the card are pictured seven UN stamps issued between 1992 and 1995: UNNY #645, UNNY #614, UNNY #660, UNG #255, UNNY #636, UNV #138, UNG #262. The latter stamp, honoring the 50th UN Anniversary, indicates that the card was produced in 1995.

This date of production of the card is confirmed by the presence on the address side of the card (Figure 2) of the UNPA show cancel, which was prepared for UNPA participation in the Singapore 1995 World Philatelic Exhibition, which took place September 1-10, 1995. This cancel ties a UNNY #655 50th UN Anniversary stamp to the card. It has been my experience that the UNPA conscientiously tries to prevent a

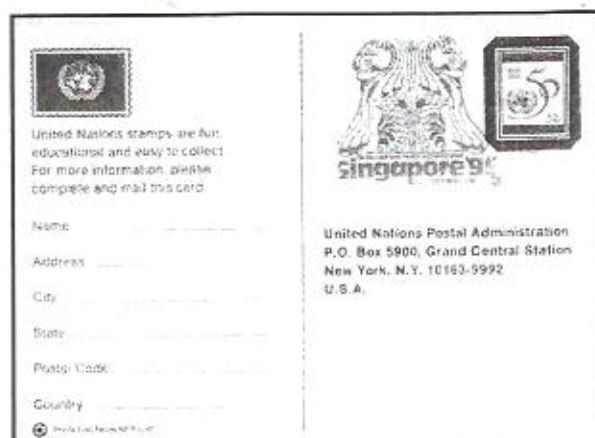


Figure 2: Rear of Marketing Post Card Bearing Singapore '95 Show Cancel.

show cancel from touching a UN stamp, since the show cancel is not a postmark. I find it strange that a UNNY stamp has been placed on a post card that could not be mailed in Singapore and should have been taken back to UNNY Headquarters by the UNPA staff attending the show. Since the final destination of the card was the UNPA, no postage should have been necessary.

Ultimately the unmailed post card made its way into the hands of an Indian philatelist who auctioned it via a Belgian auction house in 2009.



Figure 1: 1995 UNPA Marketing Card picturing UNNY Headquarters.



## UNESCO CRASH COVER

By Richard Powers

I recently came across the remains of a UNESCO service cover, which had been mailed in 1988 in a small village in France and was on its way back to headquarters in Paris, when it became involved in a plane crash. Figure 1 shows fragments of this UNESCO crash cover (illustrations courtesy of Delcampe Auctions), which was put up for sale by a European on-line auction service. The cover involves a return envelope on UNESCO stationery, which had been sent to a Municipal Library in the Midi-Pyrénées region of France, along with a renewal form for a subscription to the information journal *Le Courrier de l'UNESCO*.

Included in the envelope was a fragment of the renewal form (Figure 2), which was being returned to Service des Abonnements (Subscription Service) of UNESCO in Paris with a request for a two-year continuation of the subscription. The cover had been mailed on January 28, 1988 in a small commune St. Laurent d'Olt in the Department of Aveyron, which had a population of 619 in 1999 and is situated on a hill above the River Lot about

100 km north west of Montpellier, where there is an airport. A French 2.20 franc stamp (Scott #1884) is tied to the cover.

Beneath the UNESCO corner card is a hand-stamped red cachet, which reads:

COURRIER DETERIORE  
SUIVE ACCIDENT AEROPOSTALE  
DU 29-1-88

which translates as:

DAMAGED MAIL  
AS A RESULT OF AIRMAIL ACCIDENT  
OF JANUARY 29, 1988.

About 90% of the envelope survived the crash with considerable signs of scorching near where the lower right corner of the envelope used to be. The renewal form shows matching 10% damage, which suggests that UNESCO did actually receive the renewal form and that the patrons of the Municipal Library were able to continue their pursuit of information concerning UNESCO projects.

## Reference

[en.wikipedia.org/Saint-Laurent-d'Olt](http://en.wikipedia.org/Saint-Laurent-d'Olt)



Figure 1: 1988 Crash Cover on UNESCO service stationery en route to Paris.



Figure 2: Remains of a Completed Subscription Renewal of *Le Courrier de l'UNESCO*.



## 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: Charles Berg at Stamp King at the address given above or at stampkingchicago@hotmail.net.

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# 50th ANNIVERSARY OF THE INTERNATIONAL OCEANOGRAPHIC COMMISSION

One Planet, One Ocean



UN New York Mini-sheets of 4



UN Vienna Mini-sheets of 4



UN Geneva Mini-sheets of 4





UNPA CHINESE LUNAR CALENDAR EVENT SHEET ISSUED ON MAY 1, 2010,

THE OPENING DAY OF THE SHANGHAI WORLD EXPO 2010 AND  
MARKING THE THIRTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF CHINESE ZODIAC STAMPS.

THE PANE CONTAINS TEN 44¢ STAMPS AND TEN LABELS PORTRAYING A  
MONKEY FROM THE 1980 CHINESE ZODIAC STAMP ISSUED BY THE CHINA POST.