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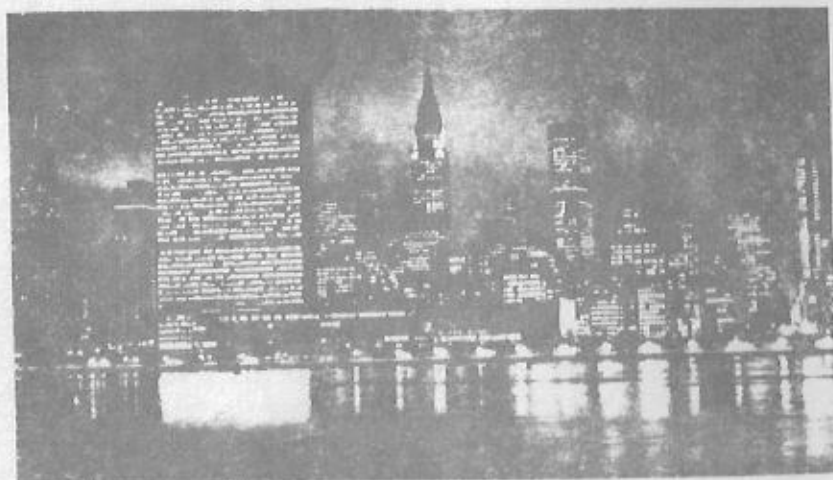


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the journal

OF THE UNITED NATIONS PHILATELISTS

Whole Number 15

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February 1980

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June 21-23, 1974

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Editor Benjamin H. Cohen Contributing Editor Ronald L. Ginns
Business Manager Hannelore E. Kober-Knoeckel

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CHAPTERS OF UNPI:

Midwest UN Collectors: meets intermittently, usually at shows in the Iowa-Kansas-Nebraska area. For information, write to Ruth Grissman, 2817 61st St., Des Moines, IA 50322.
Turtle Bay Philatelic Society: meets the first Friday of each month, September through June, at the Collectors Club, 22 East 35th Street, New York City, at 7:45 p.m. For information write to Paul J. Kravitz, Box 369, New City, NY 10956.
UN Collectors of Chiegeoland, Inc.: meets the first Tuesday of each month, September through June, at the Swedish Club of Chicago, 1258 North LaSalle Street, Chicago. Dinner is at 6:00 p.m., the meeting starts at about 7:30 p.m. For information write to Rudy Waldukat, Box 1674, Chicago, IL 60690

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Some clubs have club ties, some have pins, and some have t-shirts. We can get t-shirts at an attractive price so that we could make them available to members for less than \$5. These would be good white t-shirts with the UNP logo in blue. Or would you rather have some other item with the club logo on it? Drop me a line at Box UNP, Placida FL 33946, to let me know what you think.

REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

In accordance with Article VIII, Section 2, of the By-Laws, the Nominating Committee, Ronald Ginns, Chairman, respectfully reports as follows and nominates the following persons to elective office:

For President	Charles C. Smith, Virginia
For Vice President	Paul J. Kravitz, New York
For Treasurer	Michael Meyer, New York
For Secretary	Ronald Hollinger, Illinois
For Directors at Large	Robert Kvarnes, Maryland Robert Paterson, British Columbia Benjamin H. Cohen, Illinois

In making these nominations, the Committee has taken note of the contributions which these members have made to UNPI and the need for regional — even international — representation.

The committee notes that under the By-Laws the current President, Gustave Knoeckel, will become ex-officio a Director at Large.

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

In accordance with Article VIII, Section 3, of the By-Laws, petitions nominating candidates in addition to those proposed by the Nominating Committee may be submitted to the Secretary, Benjamin H. Cohen, Box 1674, Chicago, Illinois 60690, on or before April 30, 1980. Petitions may nominate candidates for one or more of the offices listed in the Nominating Committee's report. All petitions must be signed by a minimum of six members (which may include nominees) and be accompanied by the written consent of each nominee.

CLASSIFIED AND MEMBERS' EXCHANGE ADS

(Members may insert up to two free exchange or wanted ads per year, up to 2 lines of text (not including name and address). For sale ads are treated as classified. Classified advertising is \$1.00 per line (including name and address), with a three line minimum. A classified or exchange ad line is about 75 characters. Please type or print.

WANTED: O.N.U (United Nations Swiss Service Office) material from 31 January 1950 to 4 October 1969. Seeking all regular, service, registered covers, cancels and literature. Indian forces mail also sought. Francis Adams, 53 Cairnhill Road, Singapore 0922. (#13-15)

WANTED: 1945 London UN slogan cancel covers, will pay fair prices or have several to trade. Need help to complete collection of all post offices that used this cancel. Earl Merriman, 9415 Goddard, Overland Park, KS 66214. (#15)

#

AID TO REFUGEES - THE FIRST DECADE UNDER THE UNITED NATIONS

By Arleigh Gaines and Paul Kravitz
(Continued from Journal #14, page 29)

The primary European UNRRA administrative office was located in London. Pouch mail from that office survives, with several routing stamps. Much of that mail was numbered, and noting the progression of numbers between dated items indicates that approximately 25 letters a day were sent from London to Washington by pouch.

It is not known to the authors whether the pouch stamps were in used simultaneously or introduced consecutively as one wore out. The latter hypothesis seems more likely in view of the small volume of mail originating from London, and the fact that the covers observed were all carried by air bag (pouch) to the Washington office. The stamps generally used in 1945 and 1946 are shown in Figures 6 through 11.

Figure 6. Pouch cover with rubber stamp of UNRRA Communications Unit.

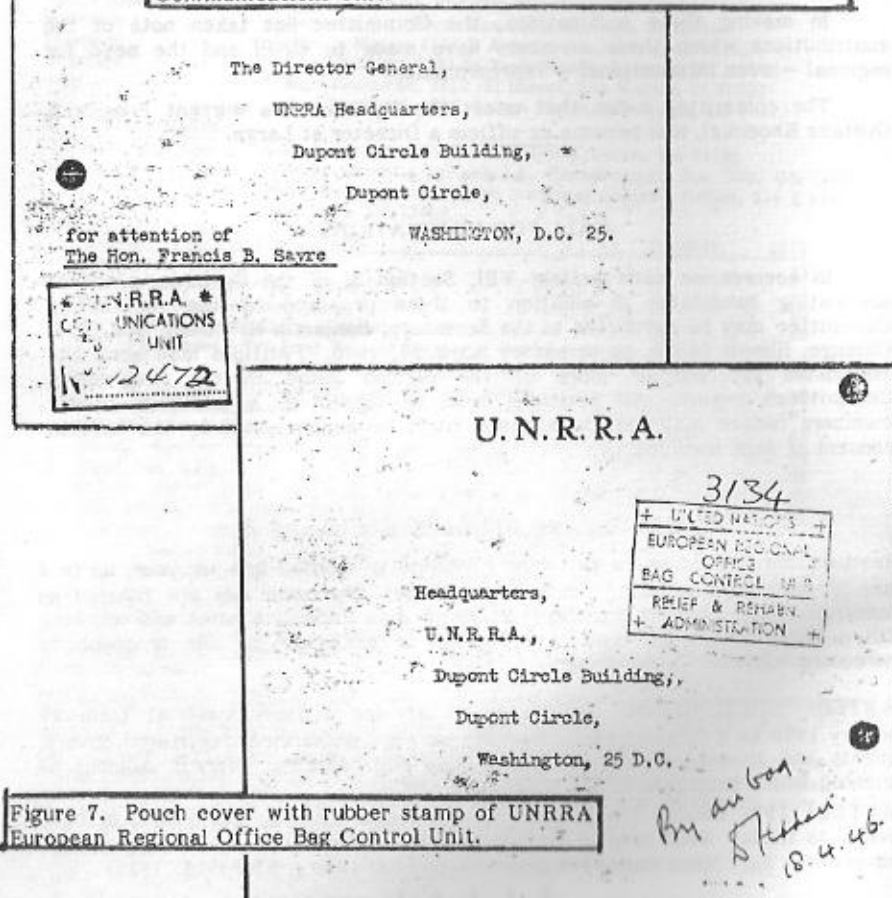


Figure 7. Pouch cover with rubber stamp of UNRRA European Regional Office Bag Control Unit.

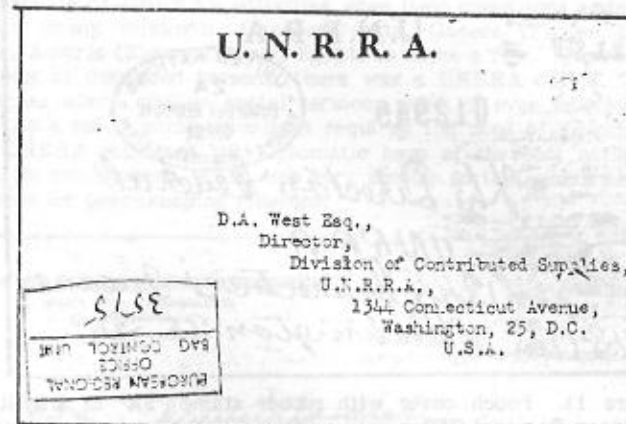


Figure 8. Pouch cover with a second style of rubber stamp of UNRRA European Regional Office Bag Control Unit.

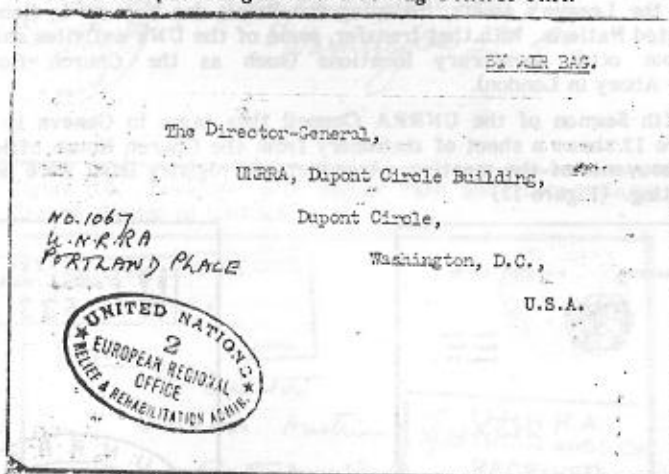


Figure 9. Pouch cover with rubber stamp "2" of UNRRA European Regional Office.

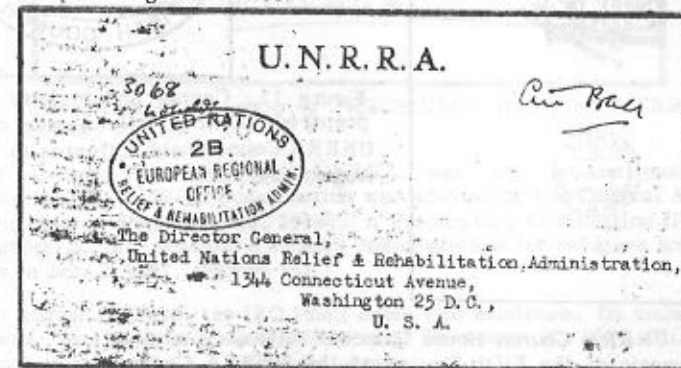


Figure 10. Pouch cover with rubber stamp "2B" of UNRRA European Regional Office.

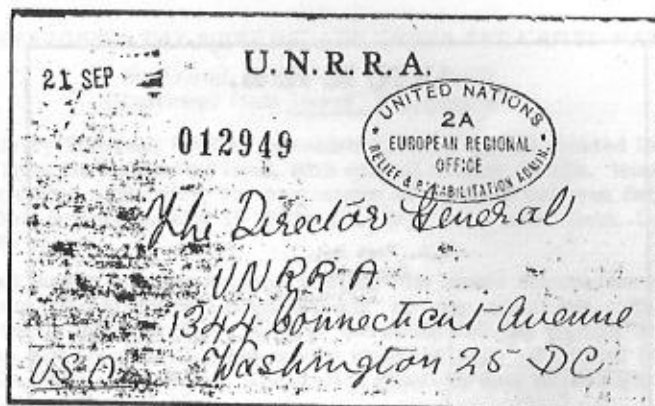


Figure 11. Pouch cover with rubber stamp "2A" of UNRRA European Regional Office.

At its final session in April 1946, the Assembly of the League of Nations transferred the League's assets, including the Palais des Nations in Geneva, to the new United Nations. With that transfer, some of the UN's activities shifted to Geneva from other temporary locations (such as the Church House of Westminster Abbey in London).

The Fifth Session of the UNRRA Council thus came to Geneva in August 1946. Figure 12 shows a sheet of stationery from the Church House office used to make a souvenir of the meeting. A cachet and registry label were prepared for the meeting. (Figure 13)



Figure 12. UNRRA Church House (London) stationery used to make a souvenir of the Fifth Session of the UNRRA Council held in Geneva in August 1946.



Figure 13. Cachet and registry label prepared for the Fifth Session of the UNRRA Council held in Geneva in August 1946.

The essence of UNRRA's activities were field operations assisting refugees. There were many missions: Czechoslovakia, Greece (Figure 14), Shanghai, Manchuria, Austria (Figure 15), and Egypt, to name a few. Wherever there were major groups of displaced persons, there was a UNRRA office. These offices were in areas where civilian postal services were, if even existing, of minimal efficacy. As a result communications required the use of diplomatic pouches. Initially, UNRRA relied on the diplomatic bags of the host nations. Later, it developed its own system, which was very similar to that employed by the UN's Field Service for peacekeeping missions.

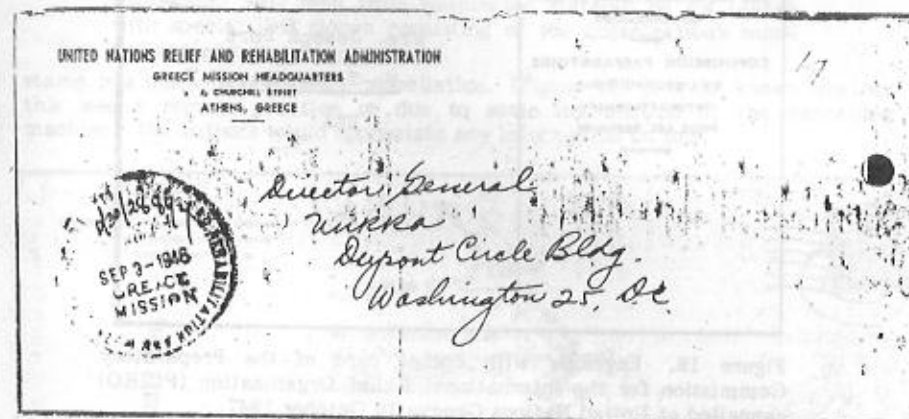


Figure 14. Envelope with corner card and rubber stamp of Greece Mission of UNRRA.

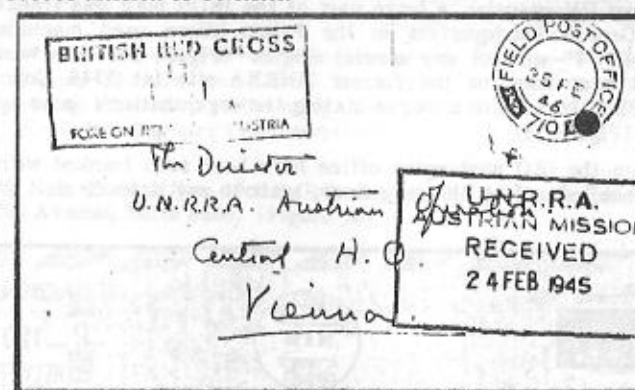


Figure 15. Cover showing "RECEIVED" stamp of UNRRA Austrian Mission.

An indirect successor to UNRRA was the International Refugee Organization (IRO). IRO's Constitution was adopted by the General Assembly at Lake Success on December 15, 1946. A Preparatory Commission (PCIRO) was established. PCIRO assumed UNRRA's responsibilities for refugees and displaced persons on July 1, 1947. (Figure 16)

On August 20, 1948, the IRO itself came into existence. Its main office was in Geneva. By the time of its dissolution on December 31, 1951, IRO had given assistance to more than 1.6 million refugees.

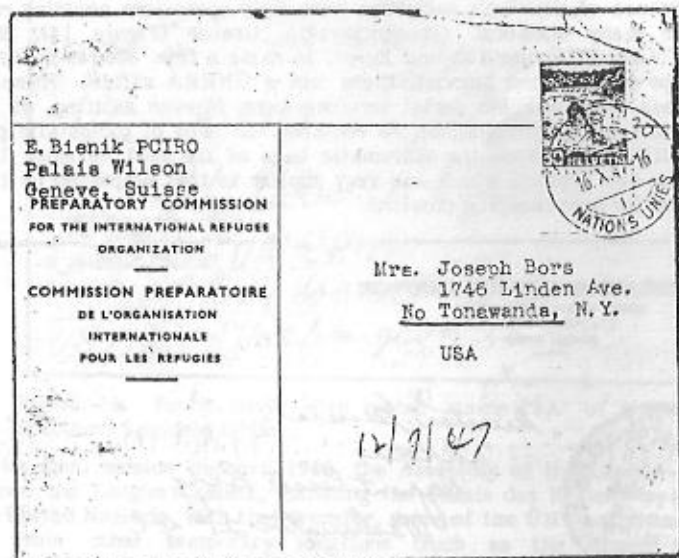


Figure 16. Envelope with corner card of the Preparatory Commission for the International Relief Organization (PCIRO) cancelled at United Nations Geneva 16 October 1947.

As with most UN agencies, a large part of the IRO's mail was franked with meters. The Geneva headquarters in the Palais Wilson used machine 1575, "GENEVE I, DEPOT" without any special slogan. (Figure 17) The Washington office, located next door to the former UNRRA site (at 1346 Connecticut Avenue), used PB 139845, with a slogan stating the organization's name against a life preserver. (Figure 18)

Covers from the IRO Washington office have been seen franked with 3¢ US postage and cancelled only with wavy lines, without any date circle. Over the



Figure 17. IRO mail from Geneva metered on machine 1575 without any special slogan.

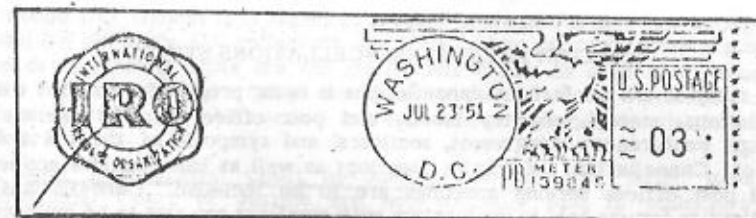


Figure 18. IRO mail from Washington metered on PB 139845 with special IRO slogan consisting of the organization's name and acronym in a life preserver.

stamp is a black oval registry cancellation. (Figure 19) It is not known whether this was a regular practice or due to some malfunction of the cancelling machine. The authors would appreciate any information on this.

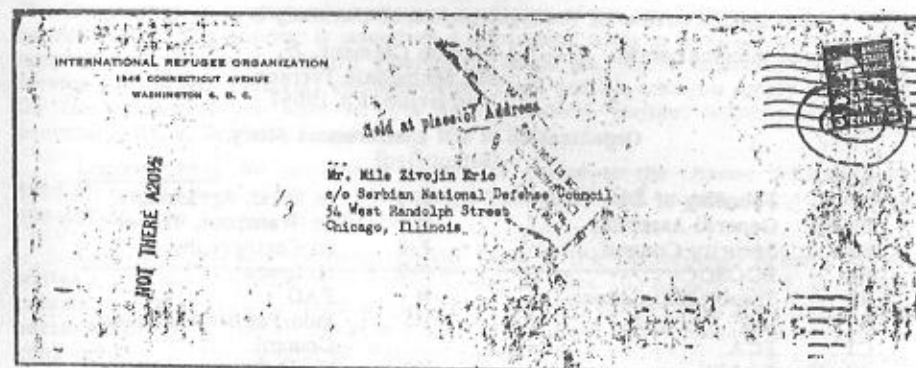


Figure 19. IRO mail from Washington with ordinary postage stamp cancelled with wavy lines cancellation without date circle plus registry type cancellation.

The New York office of the IRO was located in the Empire State Building, 350 Fifth Avenue, Suite 6006. (Figure 20)



Figure 20

(To be continued)

UN CONFERENCES CANCELLATIONS STUDY

A study of UN conference cancellations is being prepared. Included will be cancellations, meters, registry labels, and post office stamped cachets for meetings, conferences, congresses, seminars, and symposia of the UN and its agencies. Cancellations publicizing meetings as well as cancellations applied at special post offices serving meetings are to be included. Cancellations for exhibitions or forums held in conjunction with meetings are also to be included.

Information on dates and types of such cancellations which readers may have would greatly assist in making this study more nearly complete. Particularly useful would be information on cancellations used in countries other than the USA, Switzerland, West Germany, and Austria, or for agencies other than ITU, ILO, and UPU (but information not included in the UNOP studies on ITU and ILO is needed). If possible, photocopies would be appreciated.

A simplified outline of the organization of the study is given below.

Send information to: Blanton Clement, Jr.
292 Springdale Terrace
Morrisville, PA 19067

Organization of UN Conferences Study (Simplified)

A	Founding of UN	F-6	on Food, Agriculture
B1-B2	General Assembly	F-7	on Transport, Travel
B3	Security Council	F-8	on Cartography
B4	ECOSOC	F-9	on Space
B5	Trusteeship Council	H	FAO
B6	ICJ	H5	Indo-Pacific Fisheries Council
C1	ECA	H6	World Forestry Congress
C2-C3	ECAFE	J	GATT
C4	ESCAP	K	IMCO
C5	ECE	L	IAEA
C6	ECLA	M	IBRD, IMF, IFC, IDA
D1-D2	UNCTAB	N	ICAO
D3-D4	UNICEF	P	ILO, since 1926
D5-D6	UNIDO	Q	ITU, since 11/47
D7	UNDP	Q2	CCIF
D8	UNEP	Q3	CCIR
D9	World Food Council	Q4	CCIT
E-F	UN Meetings	Q5	CCITT
E-1	on Peace	R	UNESCO
E-2	on Disarmament	R3	International Education Conferences
E-3	on Refugees	S	UNP, since 7/47
E-4	on Human Rights	S3	CCEP
E-5	on Women	T	WHO
E-6	on Diplomacy	U	WIPO
E-7	on Crime	V	WMO, since 12/51
E-8	on Narcotics	W1	UNRRA, from 1/46 to 7/47
E-9	on Law of the Sea	W2	IRO, until 2/52
F-1	on Atomic Energy		
F-2	on Energy		
F-3	on Trade, Development		
F-4	on Environment, Population		
F-5	on Water, Desertification		

NOTES FROM ALL OVER

(Through this column it is hoped to present some useful and interesting notes about UN philately, UN collectors, and UNP. Some concern recent discoveries and developments; some are old stories not known to have been reduced to print before; others are things we saw elsewhere that we think some of you might have missed. All readers are encouraged to send contributions to the Editor.)

Mint International Court of Justice Stamps: The Dutch issues for the International Court of Justice are not normally sold to collectors in mint condition. They are supposed to be used only on official mail. The 1950 2¢ and 4¢ (Scott O25-O26) and the 1951 set of 14 (Scott O27-O40), all mint, were sold (with Dutch expert certificate) by Cherrystone Stamp Center, Inc., in an auction conducted September 26-27, 1979. The 1950 set brought \$1,800. The 1951 set brought \$1,700.

Pictorial Eleven: The Pictorial Eleven is an affiliate of the American Philatelic Society for collectors of modern US pictorial cancellations. It publishes The Obliterator on a quarterly basis and a catalog of all contemporary US pictorial cancellations. The catalog is issued on a continuing basis in monthly instalments, keeping you current if you are attempting to do so. There is also a forwarding service for current pictorial cancellations. Dues are \$4, and you supply #10 SAEs for the catalog if you want it. For an application, contact Robert M. Hedges, Secretary, Rt. 9, Box 102, Hagerstown, MD 21740.

London 1980: We have some flyers for a tour to the London 1980 show at \$699 for one week and \$899 for two weeks. Send us an SAE or call Austin Travel at 800-621-3337 (in Illinois, 312-889-3660).

League of Nations Mandate and UN Trust in the Cameroons: Arleigh Gaines writes a monthly UN column in Stamp Collector (Box 10, Albany, OR 97321). His column usually contains a word or two on the current scene plus a good article on a particular subject. Sometimes it is a survey of a field, other times it is deeper. A good column on the League of Nations Mandate and UN Trust in the Cameroons appeared in the November 10, 1979 issue of SC.

Inventory Service: Some collectors try to keep an inventory and periodically to figure the value of what they have. Now a computer service offers to keep your inventory and calculate values. Collections under 2,000 items run \$25 setup and \$30 a year, up to 5,000 items \$50 setup and \$45 a year. New items can be added, old deleted, special printouts at any time are offered, and, of course, annual updates of prices. Collectors Inventory Service, Box 2302, Dublin, CA 94566, offers the service. We haven't tried it, so if you do, please give us a report.

Ross's Stamp Tips: John Ross tipped the so-called Hammerskjöld Memorial issue, Scott 108-109, in his column in Stamps issue dated December 15, 1979. Ross said dealers were paying \$1.50, up 50% from a year ago, and that he believes a large number were sold to noncollectors in Sweden making the pair difficult to find.

On November 17, 1979, Ross tipped the 15 and 25 cent airmails, Scott #C11-12. Many collectors, Ross says, wait to buy definitives and air mails and get caught holding the bag when they go off sale. He says these stamps could be bought for a percentage over face value a little while ago but now are up to \$1.20 for the pair.

10 Years of UN Geneva Cancellations: That is the title of a small blue pamphlet issued by UNOP in commemoration of the 10th anniversary of Geneva issues of UNPA. Illustrated, without explanatory text, are first day cancellations, souvenir cachets, special event souvenir cachets, meters, slogan cancellations, UNPO and UNPA working day cancellations, postage paid cancellations, UNPA special date cancellations, and philatelic museum cancellations. Mike Konnick had some of these, and you might write him to see if he has any left (send a #10 SAE to Box 1555, Wilkes-Barre, PA 18705).

UNPA Wins Medal for Film: UNPA's movie, "Design for a Better World", was awarded a gold medal for excellence at the International Television and Film Festival in New York. To borrow a print for showing at a club meeting, school, etc., contact UNPA.

Sic Transit Gloria Mundi Department: We received in the mail an ad for a cover cancelled at UNNY on the day of the Pope's visit, franked with a Vatican John Paul II stamp as well as UNNY postage and bearing the reproduced signatures of the Pope as Pope and as Cardinal. "Advertised in . . . Linn's & Stamps at \$12.95 each. Dealer's price - \$2.25 each." No comment.

ATA's 1979 Listing of Topical Issues: The American Topical Association annually publishes a handbook of topical issues by topics. United Nations and many UN related topics are covered. We haven't seen the 1979 issue yet, but it is available (HB97A, \$5.00) from ATA, 3308 North 50th Street, Milwaukee, WI 53216.

INJUNPEX-IYC Awards: UNPI awards at INJUNPEX-IYC, were given as follows: UNPI Gold to Jean Burger for "Help the Children through UN Cancels", Silver to Stefan Geens for International World Refugee Year, and Bronze to Alan K. Davis for "UNICEF Around the World".

UN Stamps in Austrian Denominations: In the December 29, 1979 issue of Stamps, an article on Austrian issues by John Terins made an effort to cover the new Vienna issues, the cancellations, meters, and services available. The meters are covered more comprehensively in Jack Mayer's column in this issue, but both Terins and Stamps are to be commended for this effort.

London 1945 Study Still Available: Earl Merriman reports that as of March 10, 1980 there were 30 copies of the London 1945 UN slogan monograph still on hand. Send \$4 (\$1 extra for overseas postage) to Jack Mayer, 4114 R Avenue, Anacortes, WA 98221, before it is too late!

ATA Sets TOPEX '80 for Portland, ME: Before you know it June will be upon us and the American Topical Association will be meeting at TOPEX '80. The dates are June 20-22, at the Holiday Inn in Portland, ME. For a prospectus send an S&B to Earl C. Brooks, Sandy Point, ME 04972.

APS Offers Correspondence Course: The American Philatelic Society, in conjunction with Pennsylvania State University, is offering a non-credit correspondence course in philately "for the young". Total charge is \$29, including study guide, tongs, perf gauge, hinges, and a starter pack of stamps (on paper). An experienced collector will evaluate and comment on all lesson assignments. Gift certificates are available. Write to Pennsylvania State University, Independent Study by Correspondence, 3-P Shields Building, University Park, PA 16802.

APS STaMpsHOW Prospectus Available: UNPI's annual convention this year will be held at the APS STaMpsHOW, September 25-28, 1980, at the Riverpark Convention Center, Spokane, WA. If you want to exhibit, you may obtain a prospectus now from STaMpsHOW '80 Prospectus, American Philatelic Society, State College, PA 16801. Let's get some top notch UN exhibits for this nationally judged event.

Counterfeit UN Stamps: We do not ordinarily reprint UNPA's press releases, on the theory that you read the weekly philatelic press and see them long before we could ever get them to you, but this one bears repeating:

"Recently, a questionable-looking block of four of the 3-cent United Nations Day (Palais des Nations) stamp, issued on 25 October 1954, was presented to the United Nations Postal Administration for examinations.

"Laboratory tests revealed that these stamps were counterfeit.

"This stamp was officially printed by the firm of Thomas De La Rue, United Kingdom, by the steel-engraving process. The counterfeit stamps were produced

by photo-offset. The text on the counterfeit stamps and the wreath of the United Nations seal are heavier and less clearly defined than on the original issue. The language border is also less distinct than the original, particularly in the area of the Chinese characters for the text 'United Nations'.

"The United Nations Postal Administration is issuing this announcement to advise collectors and dealers of the existence of these counterfeit United Nations stamps.

"The United Nations Postal Administration is not in a position to honour individual requests to examine or authenticate questionable stamps which collectors or dealers may discover."

#

"IN THIS CORNER"

By Jack Mayer

Collectors of postal history often see little things that make stamp collecting the interesting hobby that it is. Here, for example, we have evidence that printers around the world have the same problems. Note Figure 1, with "UNTIED" Nations, Figure 2 with the same mistake plus an inverted UN emblem. Figure 3 has it right.



Figure 1. "UNTIED" Nations



Figure 2. "UNTIED" Nations with inverted UN emblem



Figure 3. Correct corner card.

#

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UNITED NATIONS EUROPEAN EXHIBITION IMPRINTS

By Charles C. Smith

As I write this issue's commentary, I am in the midst of preparing for the forthcoming UN gathering at INTERPEX, March 6-9. Our visit to New York City last year was such a memorable occasion for both my wife and me that we hope to become regular visitors. There will be no blue card exhibition this year, although I do plan to show more European exhibition imprints, namely material from the three UN Mobile Stamp Exhibitions conducted through Eastern and Western Europe from 1966 through 1972. I hope that this year, as well as in future years, more exhibition imprint collectors not only will attend, but will take an active part by exhibiting their imprint collections.

Some time ago I acquired two rather unusual blue cards. (Figures 1-4.) The face of each card is identical to other blue cards distributed by UNPA-Geneva since their first officially recognized exhibition which was held in Munich, West Germany, during May 1973. The face of these particular cards, however, is overprinted with the text shown in Figure 1. The reverse of the card (Figure 2) is imprinted with the common "402" text.

These cards do not represent official UNPA-Geneva exhibition imprint items since UNPA-Geneva did not attend the Frankfurt Book Fair. Rather, from October 12 through 17, 1977, the sales section for publications of the UN and its specialized agencies, a part of the Documents Division, participated in the Frankfurt International Book Fair with exhibits of available publications and a publications sales counter. The overprinted blue cards were prepared in Geneva by the Documents Division and distributed free of charge to visitors of the UN sales stand.

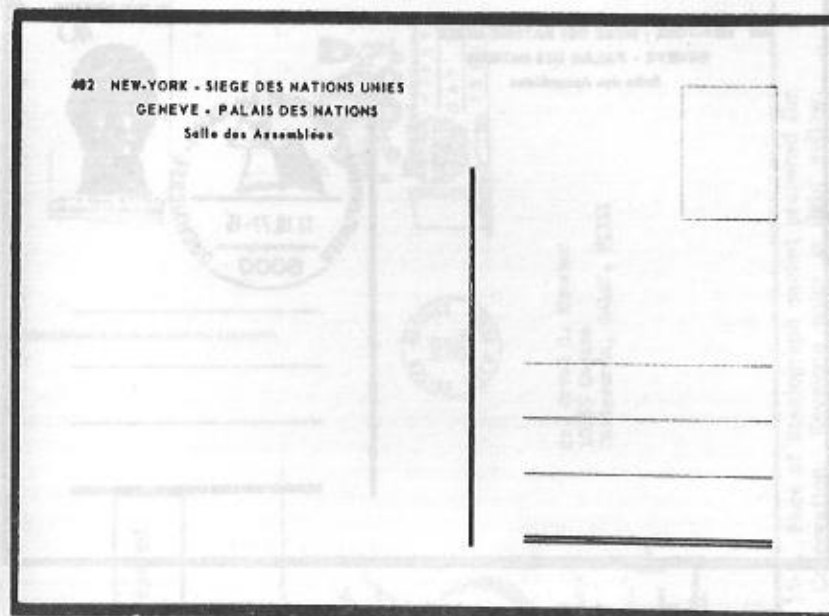


Figure 2. Reverse of blue card shown in Figure 1.

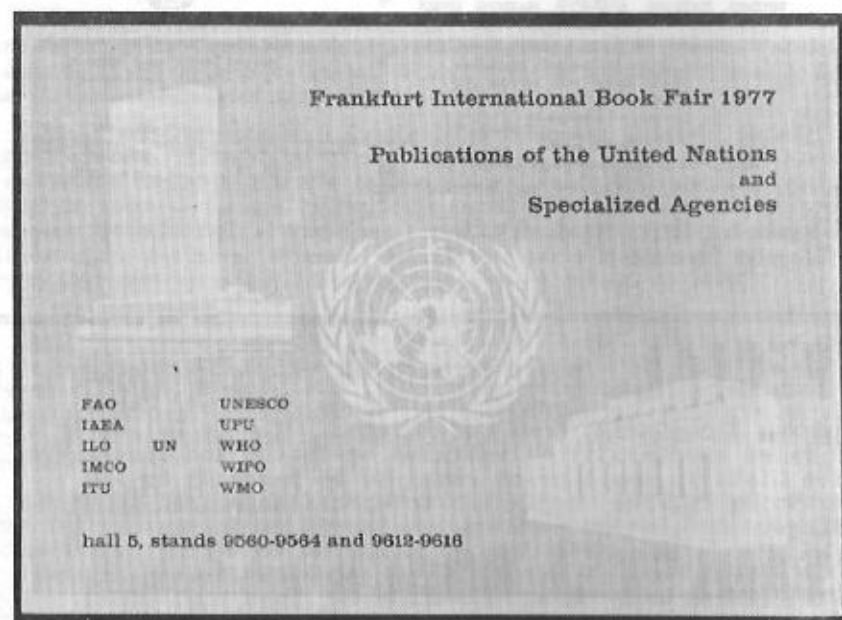


Figure 1. Face of overprinted blue card distributed by the UN publications sales section during the 1977 Frankfurt International Book Fair.

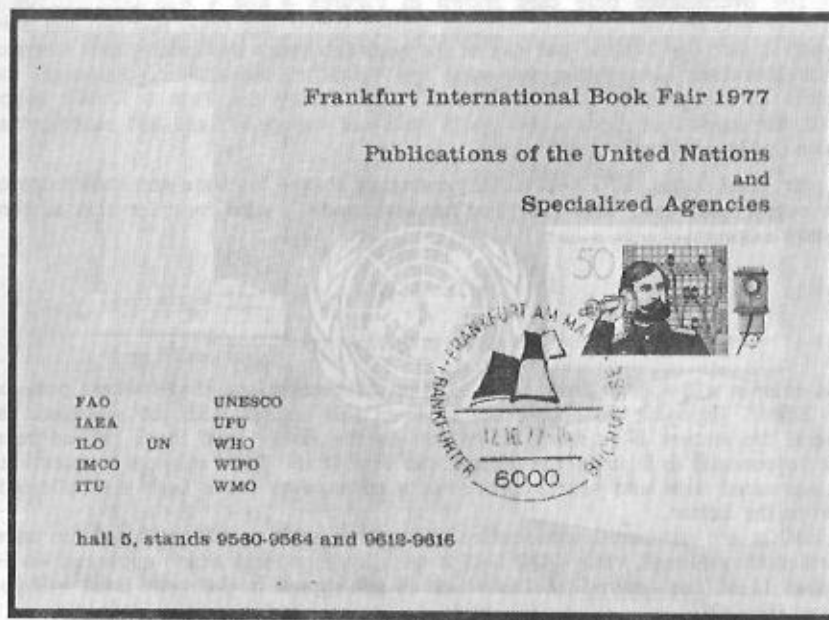


Figure 3. Face of Frankfurt Book Fair overprinted blue card with West German stamp affixed and cancelled with the special Frankfurt Book Fair commemorative cancellation.

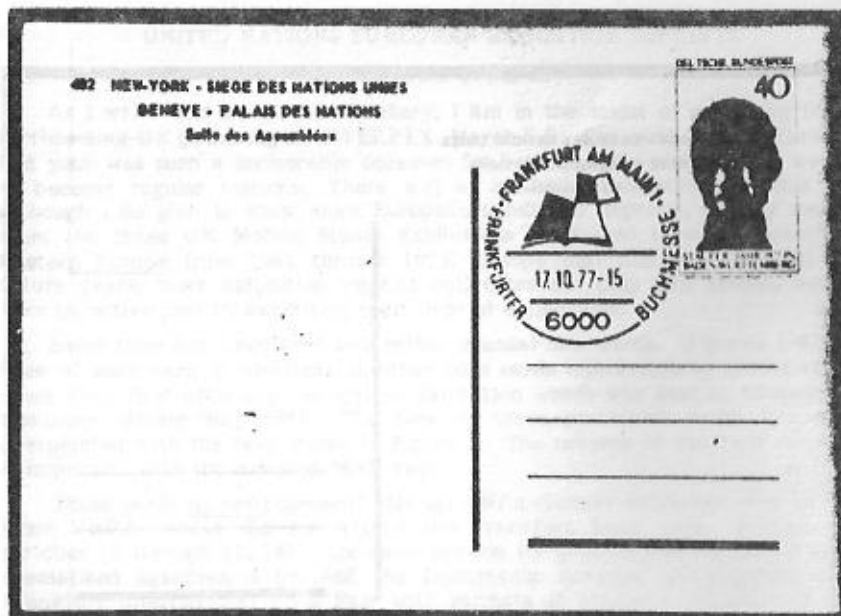


Figure 4. Reverse of blue card shown in Figure 3.

The overprinted blue card shown in Figures 3 and 4 was obtained by a collector who affixed the West German stamps (front and rear) and had the card cancelled October 17 (the last day of the book fair) with the special West German commemorative cancellation honoring the Frankfurt Book Fair. Although the number of overprinted blue cards distributed during the Fair is known to be 3,500, the number of cards which had a stamp or stamps affixed and cancelled as shown in Figures 3 and 4 is unknown.

Mr. Kurt Reiss, UNPA-Geneva, generously shared his time and knowledge of this overprinted card with me. For his assistance, I wish to offer this sincere acknowledgment.

#

QQQ and AAA

This column will appear from time to time with questions that readers pose to the Editor. In some instances, the answers will appear with the question. In others, the answer is as much an enigma to the Editor (and those he has been able to consult) as it is to the person who sent it in. Your answers to questions not answered here and your improvements on answers made here are solicited. Send to the Editor.

QQQs are numbered consecutively, together with an indication of the issue in which they appear, viz.: QQQ 1-12 is question number 1 which appeared whole number 12 of The Journal. AAAs which do not appear in the same issue will not repeat the QQQ.

AAA 4-13 As we went to press with Journal #14 we received a letter from member Michel Musy with a photocopy of the cover shown as Figures AAA 4-13-3 and Figures AAA 4-13-4. This cover bears the same cachet design as seen

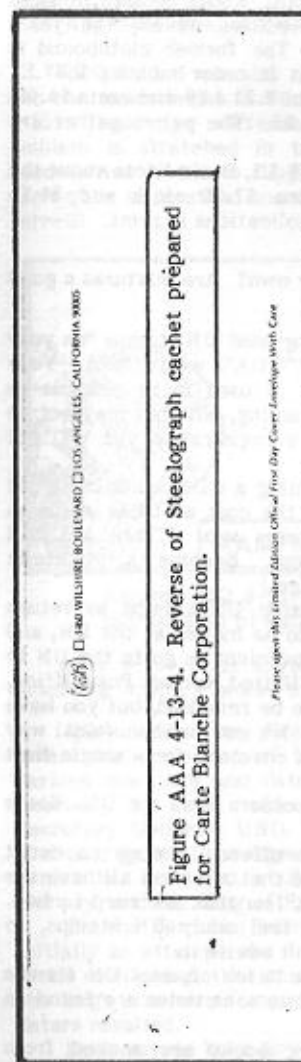


Figure AAA 4-13-4. Reverse of Steelograph cachet prepared for Carte Blanche Corporation.

Please open this limited edition cover at First Day Cover Convention With Care

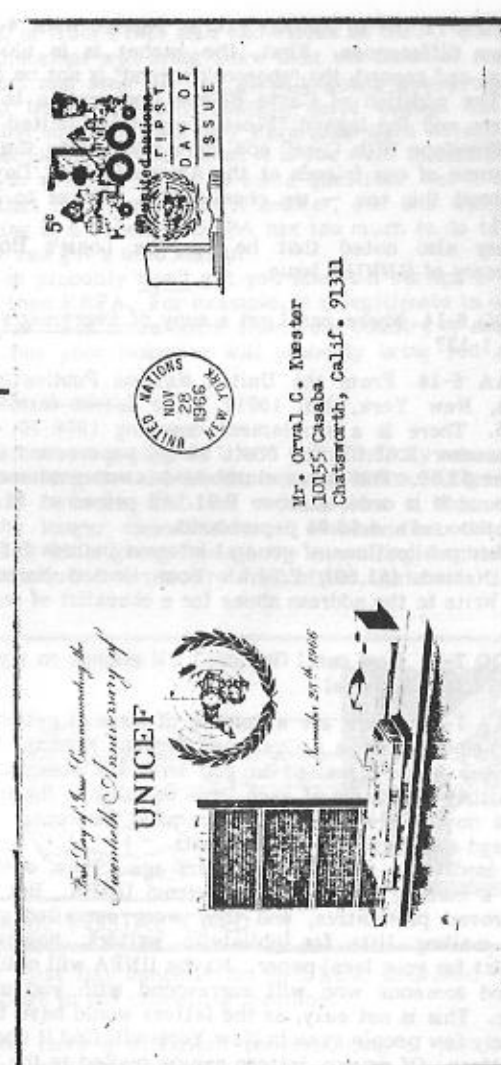


Figure AAA 4-13-3. Face of Steelograph cachet prepared for Carte Blanche Corporation. Envelope color is light yellow, cachet is printed in blue-green.

in Figure 4-13 and in Journal #14 as Figures AAA 4-13-1 and AAA 4-13-2, but with two differences. First, the cachet is in blue-green on a light yellow envelope, and second, the "sponsor's legend" is not on the front, but rather on the back. The addition of Carte Blanche Corporation to the stable of Steelograph customers and the legend "Please open this Limited Edition Official First Day Cover Envelope With Care" add more mystery to the Steelograph story. We are asking some of our friends at the American First Day Cover Society what they know about this one — we checked the indexes to First Days and have found nothing!

Musy also noted that he has the Loew's Hotels cachet for the 20th Anniversary of UNICEF issue.

QQQ 6-14 Where can I get a copy of Everyman's United Nations, mentioned in AAA 1-13?

AAA 6-14 From the United Nations Publications, Room A-3315, United Nations, New York, NY 10017. The latest (8th) edition covers the years 1945-65. There is a supplement covering 1966-70. The former clothbound is order number E.67.I.2 and costs \$6.00, paperbound it is order number E.67.I.5 priced at \$2.50. The latter clothbound is order number E.71.I.10 and costs \$4.00, paperbound it is order number E.71.I.13 priced at \$1.95. The pair together are 7.50 clothbound and \$3.95 paperbound.

Other publications of general interest include E.77.I.3, Basic Facts about the United Nations (\$1.50), E.77.I.5 Your United Nations \$7.50 cloth and \$4.75 paper. Write to the address above for a checklist of publications in print.

QQQ 7-15 How can I find used UN stamps on my own? Are mixtures a good source? (Gene Iannone)

AAA 7-15 There are a number of ways of getting used UN stamps "on your own". You could open a Customer Deposit Account ("CDA") with UNPA. Your new issues will be mailed to you with UN stamps. It used to be possible to request that one stamp of each issue be used on the mailing, but that may not be possible now. Of course, if you request insurance or registration you will get more used stamps (at face value cost).

It used to be much easier, years ago. Then, opening a CDA would have put you on a mailing list for releases from UNPA. But the cost of those mailings soon proved prohibitive, and they were curtailed years ago. (There are still UNPA mailing lists for philatelic writers, however. Become a philatelic columnist for your local paper. Maybe UNPA will oblige.)

Find someone who will correspond with you using UN stamps as return postage. This is not easy, as the letters would have to be mailed at the UN, and relatively few people even in New York will find it convenient to go to the UN to mail letters. Of course, letters can be mailed to the United Nations Post Office, Outgoing Mail Section, New York, New York 10017, to be remailed, but you have to put first class postage on the letter to the UNPO. It's not an economical way to do it, though several postal cards can be put in an envelope for a single first class rate, reducing the cost per item.

Deal with dealers who mail their advertising and orders from the UN. Some of our advertisers do it, inquire.

I haven't seen any mixtures of all UN stamps offered, though no doubt someone has done it. If you are offered one, be aware that mixtures all have the same problem — many duplicates of common stamps, few that are hard to find. General mixtures would seem an unlikely place to find many UN stamps, so unless you have use for the rest of the stamps I wouldn't advise it.

Occasionally a collector will have accumulated a batch of used UN stamps on cover and will make it available for sale. These lots sometimes are found on dealer table at bourses or in stores.

Many used UN stamps found in dealer stock books are soaked from

uncached first day covers, or from FDCs that had blocks on them. Often these are addressed and the used stamps will bring more than the block of four FDC. You might find some covers and soak off the stamps giving you a collectible stamp plus three more to trade. "Purists" disdain these stamps since their obvious first day cancellation suggests that they were hand-back covers and did not go through the mail. Decide for yourself what it is you want to collect.

One obvious source is to write to UNPA to ask a question. But it ought to be a legitimate question that calls for a UNPA answer, and one which is not generally available by looking in a catalog. UNPA has too much to do to answer questions just so a collector can get a used stamp.

An obvious source which probably won't get you used UN stamps is a letter to anyone at the UN other than UNPA. For example, it is legitimate to write for the catalog of publications, or to an ambassador from your country or another on an issue before the UN. But your response will probably bring you a meter imprint, not stamps.

Any more ideas out there, readers?

QQQ 8-15 I recently ran across a copy of UXC3 with first day cancel M1-B, but the cancellation is 90mm long instead of the normal 82mm. (Figure QQQ 8-15) The major difference between the two cancellations is that the UN emblem is stretched in the longer cancellation. I assume that the longer cancellation is due to slippage while going through the cancelling machine, but I can't quite understand how it resulted in the stretched effect that I see. (Rodger Jarrell)



Figure QQQ 8-15. First Day cancellation on UXC3, stretched out because of slippage in the cancelling machine.

AAA 8-15 Does anyone have a sufficient understanding of just how the cancelling machine works to explain exactly how this happens?

QQQ 9-15 Paul Kravitz's series on forerunners noted that the UN early established a system of logging incoming correspondence into "registry" with various markings and date stampers. I have an Indian postal card, cancelled February 2, 1946, addressed to "Trygve Lie (Foreign Minister Norway)", Secretary General, UNO London, Norwegian Legation, London S.W.1 England". The card generally congratulates Mr. Lie on his selection as Secretary General (which had occurred on February 1), and praises Mr. Lie, the UN, the King of Norway, and the King of England (then also the Emperor of India).

On the card has been written, in pencil, "Registry 5005". I theorize that initially an attempt was made to log every piece of incoming correspondence by serial numbering, that this plan was abandoned in 1946 as impractical in view of the large number of incoming letters, and that the previously reported receipt dates resulted.

Does anyone have any information on this topic? (Anon.)

WREATH CANCELLATIONS ON FIRST ISSUE FIRST DAY COVERS

By Arleigh Gaines

Lindner lists special wreath design presentation hand cancelling devices used by UNPA. (Lindner, p. 244) As noted in Lindner these cancellations were used primarily for dignitary and other presentation items.

Lindner also notes that examples have been found in a variety of colors, including black, green, blue, and magenta. The black cancellation is genuine. The magenta and reddish shades are probably also made with the genuine cancellation device, albeit not officially done. In the early days several UNPA employess had free access to cancelling devices and supplies and were liberal in their "creations". The green and blue cancellations (which I have not seen) are probably of the same status.

Lindner also mentions gold, silver, and bronze colors, noting that they were created privately after the fact. This is correct. These colors were created by a (then) UN employee who had access to the wreath cancelling device. First he backdated the cancellation to October 24, 1951 (and other dates). Then, applying a process called "thermography", he dusted a powder over the cancellation while the ink was still wet. When the ink dried, he blew away the excess powder, leaving powder adhering only to the cancellation image itself. The cover, with the powdered cancellation, was then subjected to a controlled heat source causing the powder to crystallize. If done properly, the cancellation would have a smooth raised image, similar to engraving or embossing. Most of the concocted covers were done amateurishly, and the cancellation has a raised bubbly appearance.

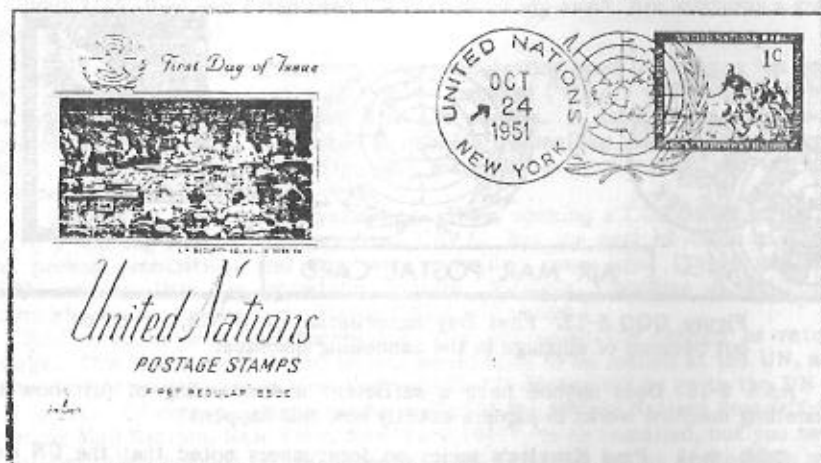


Figure 1. Genuine wreath cancellation from October 24, 1951, with "24" set to right of center.

The backdated items differ from the genuine cancellations in more than color. On the actual first day usage the date numerals were not neatly aligned. (Figure 1) When the backdating was done the ever-neat forger set the date precisely in the center. (Figure 2)

It is my opinion that this, and the handful of similar concoctions, should not command the exalted prices placed on them (primarily by their creators). As curiosities from the the early days of UNPA, when security was not as diligent as it has been of late, they are collectible. But the collector should

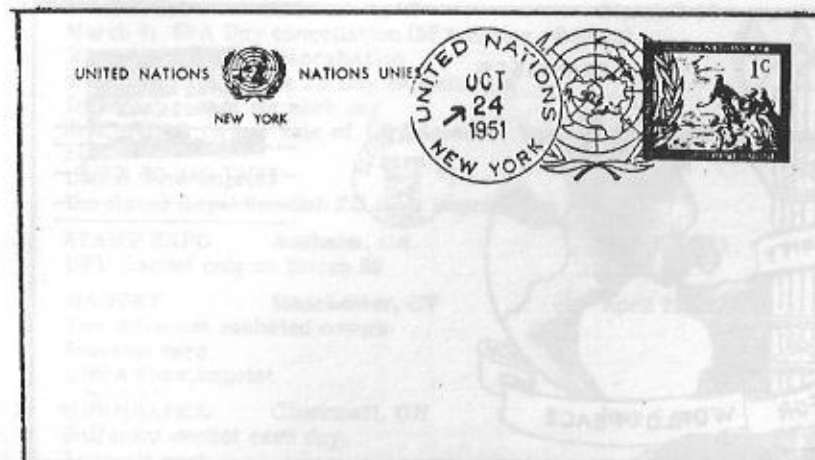


Figure 2. Backdated wreath cancellation for October 24, 1951, with "24" neatly centered.

pay only modest prices, as would be commanded by any other forgery.

In future issues I intend to examine other items in the same questionable category, including the multiple and various positioned surcharges on the 4¢ and 1¢ revalued air mail postal card, the surprising number of Scott #53-54 first day covers, UC2 first day covers (of which 1000, not 200, were created).

* * * * *

THE MAE WIEGAND 928 FIRST DAY COVER

by Benjamin H. Cohen

(This is the 4th installment of a series on different cachets of the US stamp issued in 1945 to commemorate the opening of the United Nations Conference on International Organization, San Francisco. Previous installments appeared in issues numbers 8, 9, and 10, all in volume 2.)

When I first started collecting different cachets of Scott #928 I decided that I would have two limitations on the collection. First, the cachet had to be related to the San Francisco Conference, for there were any number of patriotic cacheted envelopes that were used to make first day covers for the issue. It would be folly to attempt to find them all and there did not seem to be much sense to collecting war propaganda cachets that had no relation to what was happening at the Conference. Secondly, I would collect only cachets which had been commercially produced in some quantity. A single hand drawn cachet could be added much later rather than being a current item, and a hand-colored edition of a plain printed cachet added nothing to what I was attempting to find, all the different cachets relating to the Conference.

Somewhere along the way, years back, a dealer offered me a hand drawn cacheted FDC of #928. I passed it up at the outrageous price the dealer demanded, largely because it did not seem to comply with my second requirement. Only later did I learn that Dorothy Knapp had hand drawn a commercial but small quantity of these cachets at the time of the issue. I'm still looking for that one.

When a second opportunity came my way, I did not hesitate. Figure 1 is a



Figure 1. Hand drawn multi-colored Mae Wiegand first day cover.

Mae Wiegand hand drawn cachet for the 928 issue. Copies of correspondence furnished by auctioneer William K. Guthrie attest to the fact that Mae Wiegand was a creator of cachets back in the forties, originally located in Brooklyn, that in about 1946 she moved to Florida, and that her hand drawn cacheted first day covers were sold for 50¢ each to her customers. A letter from her husband to a customer, dated 10-24-50, advised that Mrs. Wiegand was too sick to carry on the cover business. Mr. Wiegand advised:

"... it will be necessary for you to make other arrangements for future first day covers.

"All her accounts are being closed and each collector is being sent a few extras for their collection out of her stock."

I made a search of the indexes (actually lists of the article titles) of *First Days*, but found no reference to Mae Wiegand. Her covers are not listed in Mike Mellone's encyclopedia of cachets of the forties, nor in any other literature that I could find easily.

* * * * *

A CHECKLIST OF PICTORIAL AND SLOGAN HAND CANCELLATIONS IN WHOLE OR IN PART HONORING THE CENTENARY OF THE UNIVERSAL POSTAL UNION

By M. William Tyrell

Pictorial Cancellations

Except as noted a special cacheted envelope was available, the cachet was the same for all days of the event, the cancellation was the same for all days of the event (except for the date), all additional materials mentioned (cachets, souvenir cards, show imprints) relate to the UPU Centenary, all materials are privately produced, and all materials were produced by the organization sponsoring the exhibition. The numbers in the left hand column are the key to the illustrations for the pictorial cancellations.

- | | | | |
|---|--------|----------------|----------------|
| 1 | BAYPEX | Clearwater, FL | February 15-17 |
|---|--------|----------------|----------------|

- | | | | |
|----|--|--------------------|-----------------|
| 2 | MILCOPEX | Milwaukee, WI | March 8-10 |
| | March 8: SPA Day cancellation (SPA Spring meeting) | | |
| | March 9: UPU Day cancellation | | |
| | March 10: Milwaukee PS Day cancellation | | |
| | Different cachet for each day | | |
| | Site of first day of sale of US Bureau of Engraving and Printing souvenir card | | |
| | UNPA Show Imprint | | |
| | Unrelated Royal Swedish PO show imprint | | |
| 3 | STAMP EXPO | Anaheim, CA | March 29-31 |
| | UPU Cachet only on March 30 | | |
| 4 | MANPEX | Manchester, CT | April 28 |
| | Two different cacheted covers | | |
| | Souvenir card | | |
| | UNPA Show Imprint | | |
| 5 | KENMALPEX | Cincinnati, OH | May 4 and 5 |
| | Different cachet each day. | | |
| | Souvenir card | | |
| | UNPA Show Imprint | | |
| 6 | COMPEX | Chicago | May 24-26 |
| | 3 different cachets, one for each day. | | |
| | Souvenir card. | | |
| | Cachet and souvenir card by UN Collectors of Chicagoland | | |
| | Meter slogan and cachet by Czechoslovak PS | | |
| | UNPA Show Imprint | | |
| | Unrelated Royal Swedish PO show imprint | | |
| 7 | INTERNABA '74 | Basel, Switzerland | June 7-16 |
| | USPS temporary post office. | | |
| | Cancellation frequently used on USPS souvenir card. | | |
| | Cancellation honoring Montgomery Blair. | | |
| 8 | ROPEX-TOPEX | Rochester, NY | June 21-23 |
| | Cachet in different color for each day | | |
| | American Topical Association cachet | | |
| | UNPA Show Imprint | | |
| 9 | LAPEX | Two Rivers, WI | July 13-14 |
| 10 | EAST BAY | Oakland, CA | August 3-4 |
| | COLLECTORS CLUB | | |
| 11 | NOPEX-TPA | New Orleans, LA | September 13-15 |
| 12 | LAGUNA HILLS | Laguna Hills, CA | October 22 |
| 13 | SESCAL | Los Angeles, CA | October 25-27 |
| | Different cachets each day | | |
| 14 | CUY-LORPEX | Rocky River, OH | October 26 |
| | UNPA Show Imprint | | |
| 15 | PARPEX XIII | Dallas, TX | November 1-3 |
| 16 | JOJEX | Johnstown, PA | November 17 |

Slogan Cancellations

- | | | |
|--------|-------------|----------|
| MILPEX | Milford, Ct | April 21 |
| | No cachet | |

Other Materials

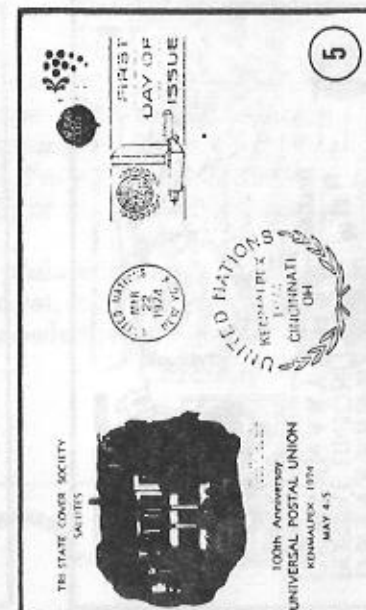
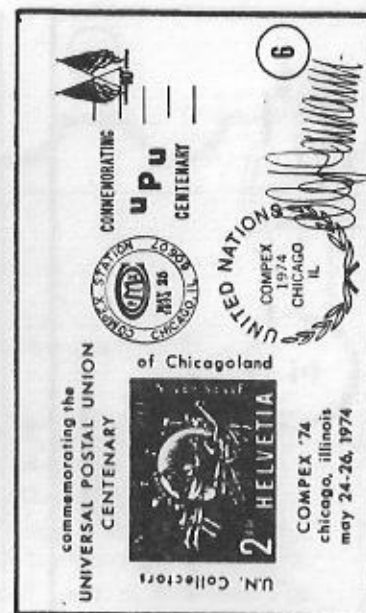
The following had UPU related cachets, but not a cancellation related to the centenary:

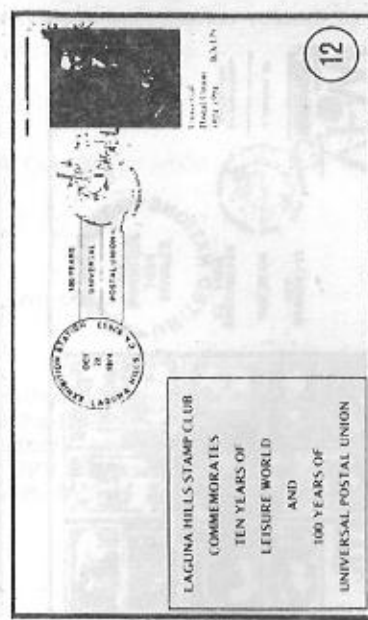
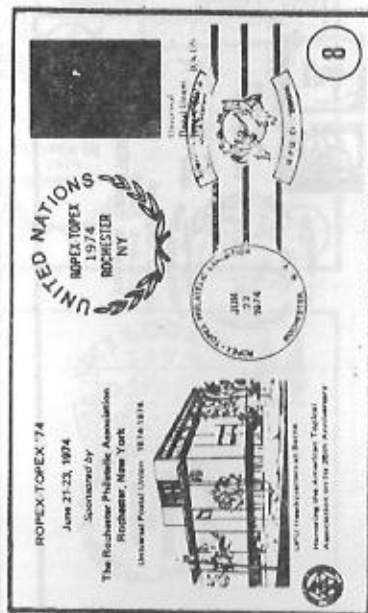
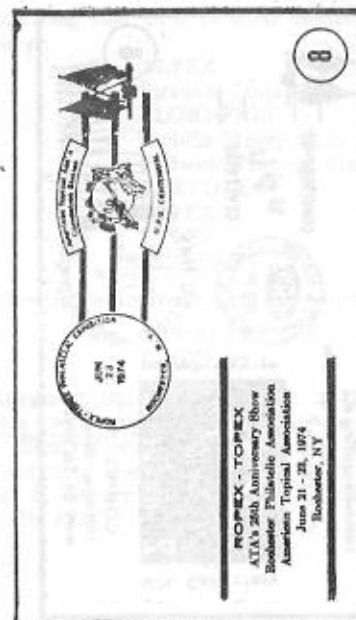
ALPEX
Fireside Local Post
FLORI-PHIL
Wichita Stamp Club
Midwest Postage Stamp & Coin Show (ASDA)
PARFOREX
SOPEX
SUPEX
WESTPNEX

The following had privately issued souvenir cards only:

APS-STAMPEDE
FLOREX

The foregoing list was compiled by the author of The Universal Postal Union, Members and Stamps, published by Van Dahl Publications, Inc., Box 10, Albany, OR 97321. Illustrations were provided by the Editor. Any reader knowing of any UPU show cachet or souvenir and especially any UPU show cancellation not included in this list is sincerely requested to write to M. William Tyrell, St. Clair Building, Eaton, OH 45320.





F.U.N. FHILATELIC'S

214 East 51st Street, New York, New York 10022 (212) PL 2-0268

Dear Friends,

My name is Steven F. Cohen. Many of you may recognize me as a stamp collector specializing in U.N. philatelic material.

U.N. philately is so important to me that I've recently decided to become a dealer in it. This makes me somewhat unique, because I'm a dealer/collector who knows what another collector wants.

I'll be carrying military mail (my first love), forerunners (pre-51's), meters, stationery, errors and varieties, First Day covers, special events, and oh yes, mint and used stamps.

I'll also be selling a full supply of philatelic necessities such as hinges, albums and catalogs such as Lindner and Borek.

Just for the record, I'm a Charter Member and Life Member (L-18) of the United Nations Philatelists.

So, for your U.N. philatelic needs, send me your want list or better yet, call me. You couldn't be in better or more knowledgeable hands.

Cordially

Steven F. Cohen

Steven F. Cohen

Member UNP, ASDA, WCC, SPA