



the journal

OF THE UNITED NATIONS PHILATELISTS, INC.

Whole Number 44

Volume 8
Number 2
December 1984



44

8-2

THE JOURNAL of United Nations Philatelists, Inc.

ISSN 0164-6842

Affiliate Number 71 of the American Philatelic Society

A unit of the American Topical Association

Volume 8, Number 2, Whole Number 44, December 1984

Editor Blanton Clement, Jr. Production Asst Benjamin H. Cohen

Published bi-monthly by United Nations Philatelists, Inc., Box 1674, Chicago, IL 60690. UNP is an organization of collectors of philatelic material of or concerning the United Nations and its associated activities. Annual dues are \$8.00: \$7.00 applies to a subscription to The Journal. Second Class Postage paid at Chicago, IL 60607. Office of publication, 35 W Monroe St, #2400, Chicago, IL 60603.

Unless otherwise stated, catalog numbers are Scott. References to Lindner mean Lindner United Nations Stamp Catalog, 6th edition, 1976; to Scott mean the latest edition of Scott Standard Postage Stamp Catalog; to Gaines mean United Nations Philately, by Arleigh Gaines.

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CHAPTERS OF UNP

Midwest UN Collectors: Intermittent, usually at shows in the Iowa-Kansas-Nebraska area. Contact Ruth Grissmann, 2817 61st St, Des Moines, IA 50322.

UN Collectors of Chicagoland, Inc.: second Thursday of each month, September through May, at 55 W Monroe #2400 Chicago, 7:30 p.m. An informal dinner gathering precedes the meeting. Contact Harry Collier, Box 1674, Chicago, IL 60690.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

Very recently, I responded to one of our member's request for information made through our Journal. As I sometimes have an extra few minutes when writing, I guess I moved from a pure "technical" to a more "personal" response. This I've found often adds a nice element to my hobby as new developing philatelic friendships are made. Unexpectedly the response to my letter was filled with such insight I want to share it with you, of course with the writer's permission.

"Thank you for your letter of October 10 concerning my inquiry to our UNP editor on Nansen passports and/or stamps. I'm somewhat disappointed as to their scarcity, but I guess that's what's known as "adventures in collecting".

"I sympathize with "demands" one's wife and children make. My wife is a very non-collector and my four children (boys of 20, 17, and 13; girl of 8) look at me like I'm crazy. However I find that when I'm permitted my privacy I lose myself in another world. Stamps are a tonic to me in many ways and I thoroughly enjoy them. The challenge to acquire elusive items introduces me to dealers and collectors all over the world and I guess I just like the contact. Anyhow...

"I started collecting refugee material back in 1960 when I was separated from the Army Reserve, was rich (at 18 it sure seemed that way!), and found myself in the midst of World Refugee Year. I suppose I succumbed to the advertising and, once into it, just branched out into forerunners, material depicting "The Flight into Egypt", which was a familiar theme of WRY philately, Cinderella material, etc.

COVER

Illustrated are examples of the stamps issued 15 November 1984 to honor International Youth Year - 1985. The New York stamps were issued in \$0.20 and \$0.35 values, and were designed by Raymon Mueller of West Germany. The Geneva stamp, in S. Pr. 1.20 value, was designed by Eliezer Weishoff of Israel. The Vienna stamps, in S 3.50 and S 6.50 values, were designed by Ruel A. Mayo of the Philippines. A souvenir card was also issued. The stamps and card were printed by Waddingtons Ltd. of the United Kingdom.

"My "related" material covers the gamut from "Soup to Nuts" and is quite massive. There are also a number of U.S. Naval covers of the Spanish Civil War where U.S. ships were involved in the rescuing of Spanish refugees.

"I don't know what else to tell you other than that I wish I had more time to work on them. I gather, though, that I'm far from alone!

"You asked about Wantagh, my home town. It's about 45 miles from midtown Manhattan which is what most people consider New York City. I'm only about 15 miles from the actual NYC border. I just know that you're going to ask what Wantagh is famous for and you know I'll answer Jones Beach, so we can let that matter rest. Anyhow, since I'm fairly close to NYC (actually I work there), I get to go to the bigger stamp shows when they appear. The next one will be held around Thanksgiving at Madison Square Garden, I think.

"My collection is pretty extensive. With the exception of a few errors and varieties, I would guess I'm complete in regular WRY stamps, FDC's, souvenir sheets, etc. In addition, I've got a majority of deluxe souvenir sheets, artist's proofs, trial color proofs, etc., of those countries issuing them.



Pictured above are some of the UNP members who attended the 1984 Annual Meeting in Dallas, Texas. From left to right, front row: Director Harry Collier, Director Robert B. Smith, back row: President Jack Mayer, Editor Clem Clement, Mac Weintraub, Treasurer Ronald Hollinger, Director Donald Miller, Vice President Greg Galletti, Charles Berg, and Past President Charles C. Smith.

"I remember spending time out your way back in '62 when Seattle hosted that year's World's Fair. I spent a beautiful couple of days in Seattle, visiting Vancouver, Victoria, and the surrounding countryside, too. Afterwards, flew down to San Francisco, then L.A., and home. Someday I'd like to repeat that trip again - this time with my wife."

As you can see, the joys of philately can be so much more than just collecting stamps and covers. Friendships abound, if only we take the time.

Oh yes, and to whom am I indebted for this refreshing letter?

Jeff Beller UNP # 541

EDITOR'S MESSAGE

Welcome to two new writers for the Journal, Robert B. Smith and Moss Fairmont. Bob begins a series of articles on one of his favorite subjects, UNTEA. And Moss writes of his "Philatelic Odyssey" from Israel to London, and across the U.S.A. I know you will enjoy what they have to offer. New writers are always welcome. Let me hear from you!

With this issue, we have begun an advertising promotion campaign. In recent years we have not had the kind of advertising support that we would have liked. For those dealers who are advertising in the Journal, please mention that you saw their ad and thank them for it. For those dealers who aren't yet advertising, why don't you ask why they don't support UN Philately and UNP by advertising in the next Journal? Thanks for your help.

UNP Auction #8 is currently accepting consignments. Lots will be accepted until 1 February 1985. The auction catalog will be mailed with the June Journal. Bids will be accepted until 1 September 1985. Any material received after 1 February cannot be included in our catalog and will be returned at owner's expense.

The same rules apply that first appeared in the October, 1983 Journal.

1. Each item, including literature, must be UN-related.
2. Each lot must have a minimum bid value of \$1.00.
3. Each lot should be enclosed in a protective mount, glassine envelope or other appropriate protective cover and accompanied by a description, minimum bid, and a Gaines catalog section and number, Lindner number, or Scott number.
4. Lots must be sent to the auction chairman by insured or registered mail. Neither UNP nor the auction chairman will accept responsibility for any material shipped without such coverage. Return postage, including insurance or registry fees, for unsold lots will be charged to the owner.
5. Every effort will be made to assure the protection and safety of material while in the possession of the auction chairman. However, in the unlikely event of fire, storm, theft, or other act resulting in either damage or loss, neither UNP nor the auction chairman can assume responsibility for such loss.
6. A total of 20% of the realized price will be retained by UNP.
7. Lots with fault must be so described.
8. Failure to comply with the rules may result in rejection of submitted material.
9. Inclusion or rejection of any item is at the discretion of the auction chairman.

NOW is the time to examine your duplicates and material that perhaps does not fit into your collection. Shipments of any number of lots will be accepted. Your participation will ensure the success of your auction.

All correspondence and items for our auction should be sent to:

Clay Wallace
2143 Clear View Circle
Benicia, California 94510

By David S.J. Alexander

I could write about the last issue of the year for International Youth Year but I don't particularly like the design of the stamps and I would rather address myself to a much more important question, a more general one, namely the status of UN stamps in this country at the present time.

Let me start by saying that all over this vast land of ours, there are keenly committed UN collectors. Some specialize and are avidly doing their thing, whilst others happily collect every new UN issue and nothing deters them from doing so. But having said that, we all know that we are now a long way from the days when UN stamps were in the news, advertised in all US Post Offices, discussed in the schools, when most people collected UN along with US and when there was very real interest on the part of collectors in general. Now we see very little material in the hands of dealers, at shows or advertised in the philatelic press. The magazine of the American Philatelic Society displays a deafening silence about anything connected with the UN. And so it goes.

A year or so ago I had really hoped that this sad situation (which let us emphasize prevails here in the USA) would be turning around. Many of us welcomed the new ventures UNPA brought about during the first five months of the year. We drew more than attention to them in this column; we welcomed the long overdue reduced printings. I would have thought that the issue of the Stars and Stripes and of the Star of David on UN flag stamps, as well as the well-chosen view of the Grand Canyon this year would have helped, now that the effects of the so-called PLO issue have all but been forgotten. But this is not so.

I feel sure that all of us have encountered a great deal of actual hostility towards the Organization itself so often on the part of people who are just not informed or who simplify everything. This hostility has spread over to philately. Some people seem reluctant to contribute even a dollar or two to a budget which supports a cause which they consider no longer a good one. The result is that many dealers won't carry UN stamps any more; some have rid themselves of the stocks they carried at below face. This has further swamped the market with the unwanted issues of the late 50's and 60's. Yet others often volunteer disparaging remarks about UN stamps. Herbert Conway's valuable "UN Commentary" we have noticed now appears only every two weeks, having been sharply curtailed despite my own protests to the Editor. The ads in the philatelic press show no interest in UN material apart from some specialized items. One of the most recent examination of Trends in Linn's Stamp News (15 October 1984) covered United Nations and the story was down, down, down, even with Geneva and Vienna issues, where the UN stamps continue

to be popular. "It appears - say the editors - that the overall drop in retail prices for issues of the UN had subsided. But such is not the case..."

Some months ago I wrote to the Editors of the Scott Catalogue to point out that their quotations for used UN stamps are not in step with reality. We all know that the more recent UNNY stamps (of the last few years in particular) are just not available except on FDC's - an expensive way of getting what is after all not a genuine McCoy. Not only was my letter ignored but the reply was in the form of action putting quotations in the 1985 Catalogue down further for both mint and used. I will refrain from suspecting evil intent, but will certainly go as far as stating that there is an awful lot of absence of good-will on the part of those who try to manipulate the stamp market according to their whims.

This may seem a somber picture. But I believe it is a realistic one. I feel quite certain that the great mass of readers of the Journal share my concern and deplore this state of affairs. We have seen it everywhere: at shows, at auctions, in the press and in our contacts with individual collectors.

I have always been a staunch defender of UN stamps. I refuse to despair even though I detect some trends at the United Nations itself that I do not particularly like. I am not referring to politics, for about that we can do nothing as the General Assembly can decree what it wants. But there is a trend for the UN Secretariat to becoming more and more of a huge bureaucracy with all too many employees who do not seem to really care about what they are doing or public relations. However, I have reason to believe that the most recent Secretary-General Mr. Perez de Cuellar is aware of this state of affairs and how we outside feel. We, UN collectors, are in this thing for keeps! I content that it is up to us to go on the offensive and tell "the world" what pleasure and satisfaction we derive from collecting UN stamps. Let our voices be heard! Are they not educational, international; are their designs not at times among the most beautiful in the world? And to my way of thinking UN stamps, particularly used, have a future one day. Let our voices be heard!

There are of course two main reasons for the low ebb to which things have got to in this country. One is the hostility or rather disillusionment so many people have towards the UN, who often conclude so rashly that the UN can accomplish nothing and is a waste of money. The other is the total lack of use of UN stamps on the official mail that leaves the UN daily by tens and hundreds of thousands (the exception being UNPA and WFUNA) I have made strong representations about this at the highest possible level but they have been ignored. The letter was not even acknowledged probably because it would have proven embarrassing. But few things would do more good to the cause of UN stamps if these became widely available through use in the mails. This is a long story and we cannot go

into it here for lack of space. Suffice it to say that UNPA has within its own potential the ability to turn this thing around if it is not hamstrung by negative attitudes from above.

On another occasion I would like to go into this total official lack of use of UN stamps. They were allowed in the original Agreement signed between the United Nations and the US (host) Government, so that they could be used on mails. The problem I have referred to applies to the United Nations in New York and it is here in the United States that UN stamps are in trouble. United Nations philatelists take note and let's do something about it!



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VARIETIES ON FDC'S ARE
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ALL VARIETIES ARE BEST
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	MINT	ONE THE SING.	A PAIR THE VARIETY
ALL CLEAR 0.6, MINT N.Y.			
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INCLUDING
OUR OWN DIS-
COVERIES AS



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UPDATED: ALL
KNOWN ERRORS
& VARIETIES
INCLUDING
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COVERIES AS

	MINT	ONE THE SING.	A PAIR THE VARIETY
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PLATE ERRORS ON FIRST DAY COVERS ARE DOUBLE OR MORE THE PRICE OF MINT COPIES. IMPERFECT SHEET OF THE 4¢ VALUE IS KNOWN (MOST LIKELY 2 ONLY)			

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UN SPECIALIST
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New York, NY 10012

The first day cancellations for the International Youth Year stamps issued 15 November 1984 for New York, Geneva, and Vienna are shown below.



Geneva show cachets for Linköping, Sweden (13-14 October 1984) and Verona, Italy (24-25 November 1984) are illustrated.



The tentative 1985 stamp issue calendar is shown elsewhere in this Journal. The first issues will be on 1 February 1985, when four stamps and a Souvenir card will be issued for the ILO - Turin Centre.



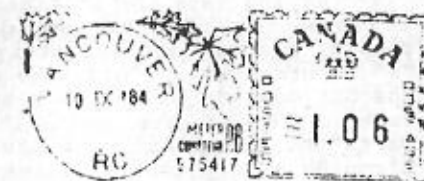
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1. Bernie Kosmoski has been exhibiting at a number of stamp shows recently. His exhibit is called "League of Nations and the birth of the United Nations". So far he has won a Gold medal at Stamp Festival 84, in New York, NY, a Silver at SEPAD in Philadelphia, PA, and a Vermeil medal at NOJEX 84 in Secaucus, NJ. His exhibit is also entered in the National Stamp Show in New York, NY. Good going, Bernie!

2. The booklet "UNO City Wien 1979-1984", published by the German UN society, UNOP, is available from the Secretary, Pearl Borah at 261 E. Walnut St., Long Beach, NY 10977, for \$2. The booklet contains a complete record of UNPA-Vienna, including stamps, cancels, first flights, show cachets, and labels, as well as meters and origin cachets for the UN, UNIDO, and IAEA since 1979.

3. In the August 1984 issue, in the article on International Years, Hans Renesse lists past international years and mentions some future ones. Here is an interesting slogan on a meter being used by the UN Centre for Human Settlements Information Office in Vancouver, B.C., Canada. The slogan notes "IYSH-1987, International Year of Shelter for the Homeless".



BUY, TRADE, SALE

Your ad could appear here. UNPI members are entitled to two free ads of three lines or less in the Journal each year. Send your ad to the editor.

I have covers, mint and used singles, MI blocks, stationary, souvenir cards, folders to sell or trade. Send want list. David Albert, QTRS 4513B, USAFA, CO. 80840

Collector buying and selling excess material. Send large SASE for want list and price list. Rodger Jarrell, 302 Cardinal Creek, Duncanville, TX 75137

WANTED: #1-5, C1, 12 Control No. Blocks, Presentation Folders, Contact Ira Lee Riddle, 400 Newtown Rd., Warminster, PA 18974, 215-674-9049. Have some duplicates to trade.

ISRAEL - LONDON - U.S.A. - A PHILATELIC ODYSSEY

By Moss Fairmont

Which of us has never dreamed of taking a long vacation and looking up fellow-collectors with whom one has corresponded for years and wandering from one stamp dealer to another, looking hopefully through piles of covers for that "hidden treasure" to be picked up for a song? Unfortunately, for most of us, vacations are short, and while our wives are duly sympathetic and understanding, they feel - probably rightly - that a vacation should be spent admiring objects considerably larger than postage stamps (or even covers) such as mountains, lakes, shops - or even relatives.

This year, however, I decided that the time had come to make an attempt at realizing my dream. I hadn't been to the USA for nearly ten years and there was quite a collection of elderly relatives whom I had to see again while they were still "live and spry". Fortunately I had to my credit an ample supply of vacation days (one of the compensations of being an underpaid civil servant) and more important still, some savings schemes that had just fallen due, so the wife and I decided that we could afford to make the trip to the "New World".

Having made the initial decision, we then had to plan a two-month trip that would satisfy all three "p's" - people, places, and philately (I nearly forgot the fourth "p" - purchases). This time we wanted to see something of the USA outside of New York and Los Angeles and decided to take in Florida, the south, the midwest, the northwest, the parks and lakes and even Las Vegas. Have you ever tried planning a trip that will take you 10,000 miles around the USA to all the places you wish to see and at the same time enable to visit your philatelist pen-pals at times convenient to them all? I can assure you that it is no simple job. But after a hectic exchange of letters, a few transatlantic telephone calls and the drafting of a dozen detailed plans, wonder of wonders, we had a final (?) plan that met all our requirements and we could go ahead and book our tickets.

Came the 6th of June and there we were at Lydda airport - my wife clutching the gifts we had bought for our friends and relatives and I clutching a small collection of items of UN philately that I hoped to be able to exchange in the course of my trip.

London was our first stop. Lack of time prevented me from meeting members of the UNSG but I did manage to find time to wander around the stamp shops of the Strand, the new Stamp Centre and even a "Hobby Centre" on the Thames Embankment that had boxes of covers to be browsed through. But London proved disappointing - most dealers carried no UN items beyond the usual First Day covers of NY and Geneva

- total haul - one nice "London 1945" cover to add to my collection.

Serious stamping began at our second stop - New York. There, while my "better half" sipped coffee with her old college girl friends and compared notes on the bringing up of children (and husbands), I was free to slip away and meet some of the stalwarts of UN philately. The Sunday morning found me breakfasting with Arleigh Gaines, looking enviously at parts of his collection which, as befitted the editor of the definitive catalogue of UN philately, contained quite a few items that were "just what I needed for my collection". However, I was able to find him some items that he lacked and so didn't come away empty handed.

My other pleasant memory of New York is of meeting Steve Cohen who is not only the expert on UN military mail but also has a wide-ranging collection of service mail (corner cards) from all over. I found myself wondering how it is that other people manage to find generous sources of supply of just those items that I collect. Thanks to Steve I was able to cross quite a few countries off my lists of missing service and pouch mail.

The next stop was Orlando, Florida - no philatelic connotations this time but an unforgettable visit to Disney's EPCOT Centre which combines an imaginative world of the future presenting the past, present and future of communications, energy, travel, agriculture, etc. with World Showcase where nine countries provide a reproduction of their typical architecture together with examples of their local food and products. We had been told by several friends that EPCOT was something "not to be missed" and we heartily concur. Even the heat, humidity and occasional drizzle couldn't dampen our enthusiasm and we spent two full days just walking around and sampling all the pavilions.

From Orlando we flew to New Orleans to see "Ole Man River" at first hand. And of course one can't visit New Orleans without a visit to Bourbon Street where we squeezed ourselves into a crowded Preservation Hall to listen to some real old-time jazz played as it deserves to be - without it being "improved" by thousands of dollars' worth of amplifying equipment. Then, of course, we toured the French Quarter - or the "vieux Carre", to give it its correct title - which is really more Spanish than French. There we sampled some typical southern cooking such as hush puppies, gumbo, beignets and crawfish.

From the deep south we flew up to Houston for a short visit with ex-President Charles Smith and his charming wife in their lovely home outside - way outside - Houston. As Charles put it "you'd have to be crazy to live in Houston". Here, of course, time was found for stamping and I was able to admire a part of Charles' collection of UN cover cards. During the day we toured the area - oil derricks everywhere - and took a trip out to NASA to see the much-televised

Mission Control plus a fascinating display of space hardware of all shapes and sizes.

From Texas up to Overland, Kansas, just across the border from Kansas City, Missouri to spend July 4 with Earl Merriman, co-author of the authoritative handbook on the "London 1945" postmark. Here I was able to see for myself the collection that formed the basis of this excellent work and was able to persuade Earl to part with a few of his duplicates and help me build up my own modest collection of "one example from each day's postmark". Kansas City is a fascinating old town with a distinctly Spanish flavour about it. The July 4 celebration were something special with a day-long "Soul Festival" culminating in a lavish display of fireworks with a rousing musical accompaniment provided by the local symphony orchestra, no less. It must be admitted that our spirits were somewhat dampened by the fact that it took us a good couple of hours to make our way home as the celebration came to an end, but it was worth it. This was a July 4 in the true American tradition - in the view of this Englishman at least.

From the midwest we flew way up to the northwest to Seattle and from there made our way to the lovely little town of Anacortes, hometown of President Jack Mayer. The locals all claim that Anacortes is a paradise and that they wouldn't dream of living anywhere else and after a week's stay in the area I can appreciate their point of view. The town is set on a strip of land surrounded by water, served by a highly-developed ferry service that takes you out to the San Juan Islands and on to Victoria and Vancouver over the Canadian border. The scenery in this part of the state of Washington is a sheer delight - islands big and small for the holidaymakers' enjoyment and the Canadian Rockies and even Alaska not too far away. Jack, as we all know, is the expert on UNNY meters but I was also able to see for myself that he has no mean collection of corner cards and other choice UN items. I thought that I had a lot of covers until I saw Jack's accumulation which spilled out in all directions from his "stamp den". So it was not too difficult for me to find a selection of corner cards and pouch covers to fill in some of the gaps in my own collection and I even managed to provide him with some choice items to add to his collection.

My visit to the northwest brought my philatelic activities to a close. From there on it was all sightseeing - a few days in San Francisco where we picked up a car and drove up to Lake Tahoe where we saw Mondale who had flown in for the weekend and were able to cheer the Olympic torch as it made its way south to Los Angeles. Then for a beautiful drive to Yosemite via the 10,000 ft. Tioga Pass where we toured and admired all that this beautiful National Park has to offer. From there we made our way to the coast to visit Hearst Castle and thence to Los Angeles and San Diego with a side trip to the stampless city of Las Vegas where we took in two excellent stage shows (at half of New York prices!), ate ourselves sick and "oohed and

ahed" at the sight of the Strip at night where the millions of electric light bulbs blazing away turn night into day.

And so from California back home via New York, arriving home clutching my collection of newly acquired covers and full of the most pleasant memories of all the UN collectors and their families whom I had met in the flesh after many years of long-distance correspondence and whom we now number among our friends and wait an opportunity to welcome them to our own country. Whoever said that stamp collecting was not only the hobby of kings but also lots of fun, never said a truer word.

1985 STAMP ISSUE CALENDAR

TENTATIVE

1 February	International Labour Organization - Turin Centre. S. Fr. 0.80 and 1.20, \$0.23, and S 7.50 Souvenir card
15 March	United Nations University - Research, Training, Knowledge. S. Fr. 0.50 and 0.80, \$0.50, and S 8.50
10 May	Definitives and Stationary S. Fr. 0.20 and 1.20, \$0.23 and \$3, S 4.50 and 15. \$0.23 envelope, S. Fr. 0.50, 0.70 and S 4. postal cards.
26 June	40th Anniversary of the United Nations. S. Fr. 0.50 and 0.70, \$0.23 and 0.35, S 6.50 and 8.50 Souvenir sheets S. Fr. 1.20, \$0.58, S 15.
20 September	Flag Series Sixteen stamps at \$0.23
22 November	Child Survival S. Fr. 0.50 and 1.20, \$0.23 and 0.35, S 3.50 and 6. Souvenir card

By Robert B. Smith

Between 1 October 1962 and 1 May 1963, the United Nations was directly responsible for the administration on the western half of New Guinea, the world's second largest island, which is inhabited by over 900,000 people, most of whom are Papuans. The island is just north of Australia, close to the equator (Fig. 1).



Fig. 1

The territory of West Irian, the Indonesian name for West New Guinea, had been in possession of the Netherlands since 1848 until it was captured by the Japanese in 1942. Following VJ Day in 1945, the turbulence of political awakening in the region resulted on 27 December 1949, the creation of the Republic of Indonesia. West New Guinea alone remained a Dutch possession. Indonesia brought her claim before the UN, basing it on the geographical location, while the Netherlands disputed, that this land was inhabited by Papuans and, therefore, they should be allowed to decide their own future, when they were ready to do so.

Under the guidance of Secretary-General U Thant, (Fig. 2) a settlement was negotiated in 1962. Under the terms of the agreement signed 15 August 1962 (Fig. 3), the power of administration would pass over to the United Nations Temporary Executive Authority (UNTEA) for an interim period, and then would pass on the responsibility of Indonesia.

In addition to assuming responsibility for governing West New Guinea for the transition period of seven (7) months, the United Nations had a peace-keeping role under UNTEA. To monitor compliance with the cease fire between

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Resumed sixteenth session,
beginning debate on

ANGOLA

President
KENNEDYduring his news conference urged both
the Dutch and the Indonesians
to cooperate withSecretary-General
U THANTof the
United Nations

to contain the fighting over

WEST NEW GUINEA

January 15, 1962



Fig. 2

UNITED NATIONS
INDONESIA
and the
NETHERLANDSsigned an agreement on the future of
NETHERLANDS NEW GUINEAThe Netherlands will transfer administration
of the territory to the UNITED NATIONS
TEMPORARY EXECUTIVE AUTHORITY (UNTEA)
for an interim period beginning October 1,
1962. The United Nations flag will be flown
during the period of United Nations admin-
istration.The United Nations will transfer the respon-
sibility to Indonesia on May 1, 1963.
The agreement also provides that Indonesia
will arrange for an "act of self-determination"
or plebiscite by 1969 with United Nations
participation.UNITED NATIONS
August 15, 1962
UNITED NATIONS

Fig. 3

Foreign Minister
PAUL-HENRI SPAAKof
BELGIUM
Addresses
the

SEVENTEENTH SESSION

of the
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

October 1, 1962



Fig. 4

the Netherlands and Indonesia signed on 15 August 1962, a team of 21 observers were drawn from Brazil, Ceylon, India, Ireland, Nigeria, and Sweden. These observers were under the command of Brigadier-General Indar Rikhye of India. On 24 September 1962 the UN Observer Team was withdrawn.

On 1 October 1962, all Dutch post office officials were replaced by UNTEA postmasters, mostly Indonesians. At the same time, Foreign Minister Paul-Henri Spaak of Belgium was addressing the 17th General Assembly of the UN, on the transition of the territory (Fig.4).

U Thant, the UN Secretary-General asked Pakistan to supply 1,000 troops to serve West New Guinea during this transition period, as the police/security arm of UNTEA. Logistic support came from small Canadian and US air units. (A separate article will be written at a later date on military mail).

To meet the need for local postage during the transition period, existing stocks of the Netherlands, New Guinea stamps were overprinted, "UNTEA", locally in Hollandia. The overprint was applied by hand and shows many irregularities, such as uneven or clipped letters. The width of the overprint is 17mm. The gum and paper is "yellowish" in color. The base of the "T" is straight in nearly all cases, and the "N" is shorter than the "U". (Fig.5)



Fig. 5 The most important difference is in the height of the left leg of "N" compared to the right leg of "U". In the first printing the "N" is smaller, in the second printing both letters are equal. In addition the upper bar of the left leg of the "N" is much larger than in the second printing.

Eleven (11) stamps of the overprint first printing were issued 1 October 1962 (1c, 2c, 5c, 10c, 17c, 25c, 30c, 40c, 1 Guilder, 2 Guilder and 5 Guilder). One month later, November 1, 1962, the remaining 8 values were issued - 7c, 12c, 15c, 20c, 45c, 55c, 80c and 85c. The complete set of 19 values were sold and available only in West Guinea. Approximately 28,700 sets were overprinted.

Genuine first day covers exist on blank covers only. Figs. 6 and 7 are PD covers on official UNTEA envelopes. Most CTO covers were backdated "Hollandia", the capital. Fig. 8 is an 1 October 1962 airmail CTO cover with "Manokwari" cancellation.

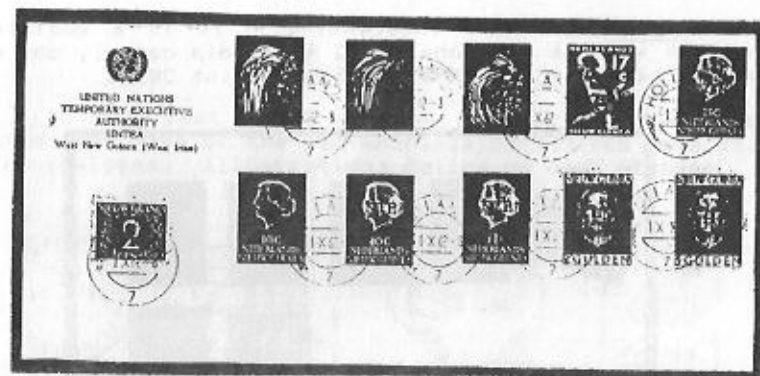


Fig. 6

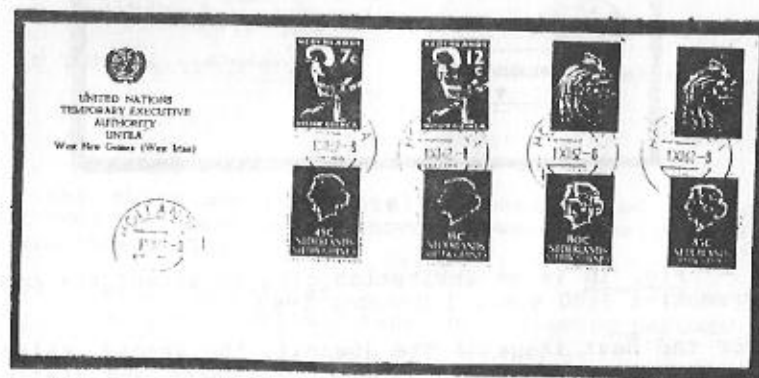


Fig. 7

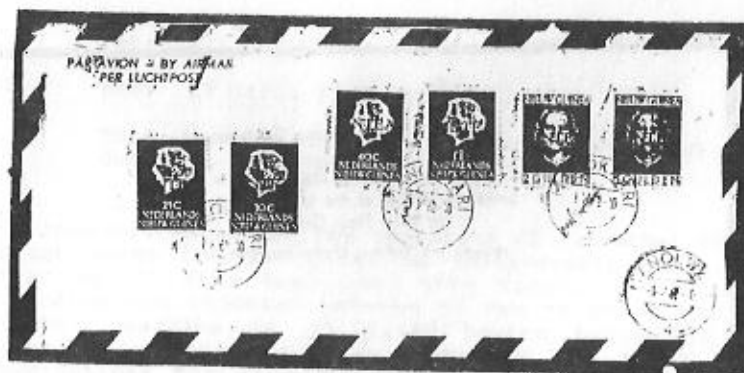


Fig. 8

There were many overprint errors in the first printing. A separate article in a later issue will discuss these errors. The 2 and 5 Guilder overprints in Fig. 6 are examples of the errors.

Fig. 9 is most interesting. It is a Registered envelope with an 1 October 1962 Hollandia cancel, but only one of the six (6) stamps is an overprint UNTEA.



Fig. 9

Fig. 10 is an invitation card to attend the opening ceremonies 8:00 a.m., 1 October 1962.

(For the next issue of The Journal, the second, third and fourth printings of the stamps, postcards and stationery will be discussed.)

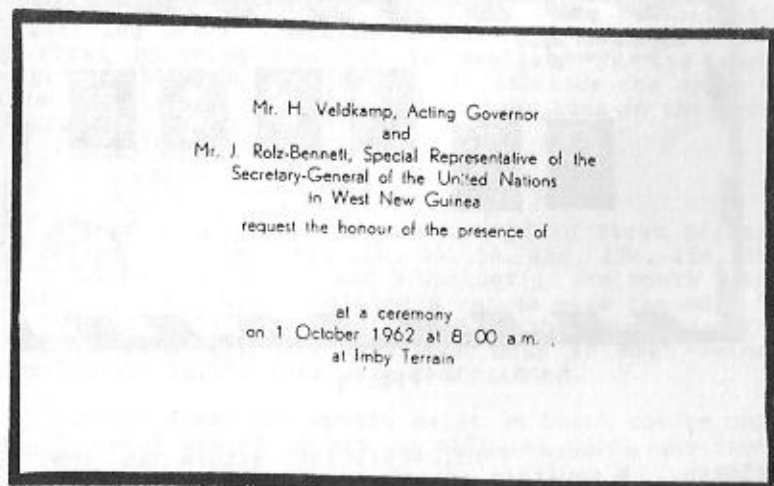


Fig. 10

UNESCO METER NOTES

By Jack I. Mayer

In the last issue of The Journal (October 1984) mention was made of the two machines UNESCO has been using without slogan. Illustrations follow on each of them.

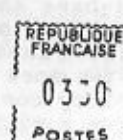


Fig. 1

Fig. 2

F 1226 without slogan

T92843 without slogan

Why these machines have not been fitted with the usual UNESCO slogans is not known. However, their dates of use are interesting.

T92843 EKD: 24 July 82

No use reported during the following periods:

28 Jul 82 - 27 Oct 82
27 Oct 83 - 13 Jan 84
12 Mar 84 - 14 Jun 84

Frequent use has been reported during all other periods. Currently in use.

F1226 EKD: 13 March 84 LKD: 13 June 84

This machine appears to have been used only during a short period.

Inconsistencies in the operation of two other UNESCO machines seems to have given us unanswerable questions. Machine #T-1645 has been used very regularly except no impressions are reported between 15 Feb 84 and 5 Apr 84. The other machine is #G 2253, having begun its use reportedly in 1964. Only one copy of the "1983 World Communications Year UNESCO" slogan has been reported.... 11 Jan 84. No reports have been made of the current slogan "Education For all UNESCO 1984" which went into service on other machines on 16 Mar 84. Perhaps this machine has finally been retired from service.

If anyone has any information to help evaluate the dates of use above, please let me know.

NOTES ON NEW YORK METERS

By Jack I. Mayer

Since the advent of the new meters at the United Nations post office in August of last year, we have seen some interesting things occur. First we note that because of the advanced technology, two machines can usually handle the volume of mail in any given day. In view of this, one would have thought that the UNPO would have replaced the four aging machines with perhaps only three new style meters. Instead, they opted for four available machines plus two more for spares. As things turned out, it was well that they considered six machines as now all six have seen service - within one year's operation. It seems that these new electronic devices have had numerous break-downs. Consistency of use is unknown and may never be able to be followed with any certainty as a machine may be out of service for only a few days. A review of reported use during this time reveals the more rare usages.

SLOGAN	Approximate days of use (25 Aug 1983 - 23 Aug 1984)					
	#1	#2	#3	#4	#5	#6
25th Anniversary of the IMO	1	18	12	18	0	0
Conservation and Protection of Nature	18	123	84	12	0	4
Children's Health: Tomorrow's Wealth	12	46	38	0	0	40
No Slogan	1	3	5	0	15	5

From the above table it can be seen that PB #5 is known only without slogan during this time period. Its first day of use was 16 July 1984 as shown in Fig. 1.



Fig. 1 First Day of PB #5, 16 July 1984

The UN post office first day CTO (cancelled to order) covers have been issued for many years on three different machines for each slogan first day. This practice initially continued with the new machines, then changed to the four different machines in current use. Since four machines are not necessary for the daily mail, we may find that not all of the CTO cancels (often applied on days other than the actual PD by adjusting the date) will appear as cancels on the official mail of the UN on the first day date. Thus far we can report the following:

SLOGAN	FD	CTO cancels	Official known use
Conservation and Protection of Nature	3 Oct 83	2, 3, 4	2, 3, 4
Children's Health: Tomorrow's Wealth	9 Apr 84	1, 2, 3, 6	1, 3
5th Anniversary - UNPA Vienna	24 Aug 84	2, 3, 5, 6	3, 5

The newest slogan is shown in Fig. 2



Fig. 2 PB #2, 3, 5, 6, 5th Anniversary UNPA Vienna

Interestingly, the indicia on these new machines have some pronounced differences. Most noticeable to the naked eye are 1) the distance between the left vertical wreath design and the townmark circle, varying from 1 to 2 mm; 2) the wavy lines on PB #5, particularly the left grouping; 3) the townmark spacing on PB #6 compared to the others; and 4) PB #5 value bank with some numbers of slightly different proportions, particularly the '3' which has a flat top versus the round top known on the others.

One of the advantages of the new electronic meter machines is the ability to print rates higher than \$9.99. As postage rates continue to escalate this is being seen as a real benefit. Fig. 3 shows the highest rate thus far reported, \$34.46. The impression is on PB #3 with the slogan not used. It can be noted that the rate pays for shipping 34 lbs. 10 ozs. by parcel post to ICAO at Montreal.

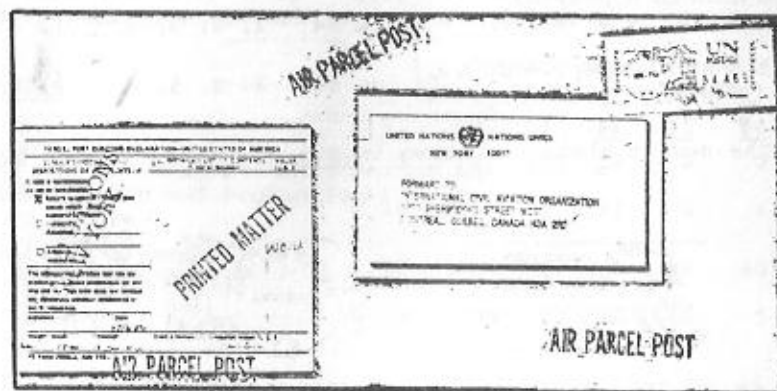
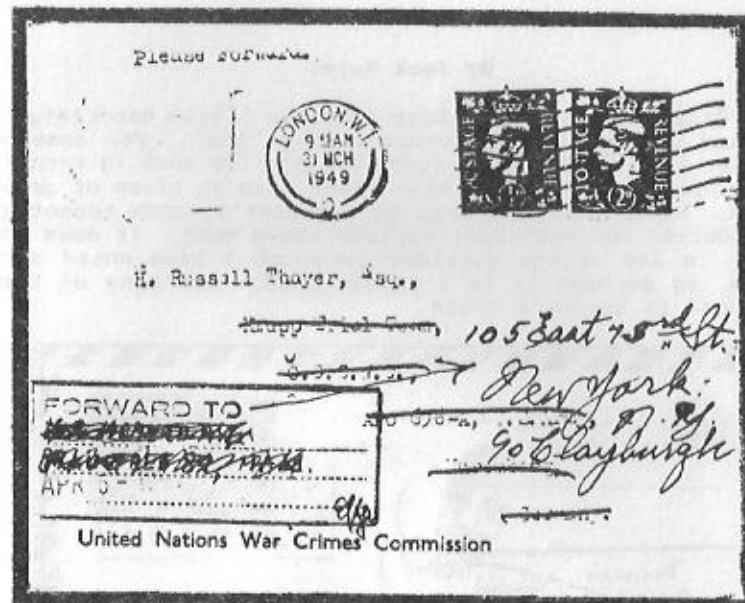


Fig. 3 High rate meter on piece with parcel post label

ODDS AND ENDS

United Nations War Crimes Commission

Here is a 1949 cover from London with an Army Post Office backstamp from Nuremberg, Germany with a blue cachet from the United Nations War Crimes Commission. This commission was organized in London in 1943 by the allies and representatives of the occupied countries. The purpose was to collect evidence of war crimes and make lists of persons suspected of being war criminals. After World War II, war crimes trials were held in various places, including Nuremberg, Germany between 1945 and 1949.



UN Decade Against Racism and Racial Discrimination

The years 1973 to 1983 were declared to be a Decade against Racism and Racial Discrimination by the UN. Here is a pouch cover from the UNDP in Togo with a special blue-green cachet noting this special decade.



FIRST FLIGHT COVER DISCOVERY

By Jack Mayer

First flight covers have received little notoriety in the past few years with interest at a "low". For some of us, that is a good time to start looking for them in earnest as the prices are usually much lower than at times of great demand. While browsing through a dealer's stock recently, I discovered the backstamp variety shown here. It does not appear in any of the catalogs in which I have noted such things, so perhaps it is a unique find. How many of them are about is anyone's guess.



Note that the backstamp appears twice. On most covers of this flight, the backstamp appears only once with the date "JA 16 66". This cover carries a second stamp which was the first one applied and carries the date "JA 16 65" with a correction made in ink. If you have a few flight covers, you might check to see if you have this flight and what the backstamp says. You just might have a "gem" and not know it.