

the



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OF THE UNITED NATIONS PHILATELISTS, INC.

HAPPY
BIRTHDAY
WFUNA
1946 - 1986

WORLD FEDERATION OF
UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATIONS
1946 1966



FIRST DAY OF ISSUE
OFFICIAL WFUNA CACHET

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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.: usually fourth Wednesday of each month, September through May, at 55 W Monroe #2400 Chicago, 7:30 p.m. An informal dinner gathering precedes the meeting. Contact Ben Cohen, Box 1674, Chicago, IL 60690.
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Buy, Sell, Trade

<Late breaking ad:>

For Sale: Meters - Covers & Tapes. E.V. Smith, 481 E. Division, Fond du Lac, WI 54935.

A Word About Mailing Labels

by Benjamin H. Cohen

I have again taken over the management of the mailing list. You may notice a few changes. As address changes come in we'll be converting to upper and lower case. We've noted some errors in the data base and will try to correct those. If your label is grossly wrong, or if you'd simply like it corrected, please drop a postal card to me at Box 1674, Chicago, IL 60690.

COVER

Front: The first product of the WFUNA philatelic program - a first day cover cachet designed and autographed by Salvador Dali for the WFUNA 20th anniversary stamps Gaines # 154-155.

Rear: The UN souvenir sheets issued in honor of the 40th anniversary of WFUNA.

President's Message

By Clem Clement

It is my sad duty to report that our Secretary, Pearl Borah, died unexpectedly on October 21st. Pearl was a good UNP officer and we will all miss her. We are fortunate to have found an excellent replacement, Jeffrey Beller, of Wantagh, New York. Jeff had previously served ably as Election Chairman. Jack Mayer had featured a letter from Jeff in his *President's Message* awhile back. Welcome to the UNP Board, Jeff!

There was a massive foul-up with the UNP mailing list back in about March, at the time the mailing list operation was being switched from California to Chicago. As a result, about eighty members did not receive two issues of their *Journals*. A review of the mailing list was made after several complaints were received. The missing issues were sent at the same time that the October issue was mailed. We apologize for the great inconvenience. Steps have been taken to avoid this happening again.

I am happy to announce that we have a new Auction Chairman, Dave Martin. Announcement of the next auction will be found elsewhere in this *Journal*. Also I am pleased that Bernie Kosmoski has agreed to be our Exhibition Chairman. UNP can still use more volunteers to help out in Publicity and Membership. You can make a difference! Let me hear from you.

On October 29th I participated in a roundtable discussion at UN headquarters sponsored by the UNPA. Ten visiting UNOP members from Germany, Austria and the Netherlands were visiting New York and discussed the future of UN philately with UNPA Chief Gisela Grünwald, WFUNA's Annabelle Weiner, Arleigh Gaines, Herb Conway and three members of the UN Philatelic Society (Club for UN staff). Differences between US and European collectors, investing versus collecting, UNPA show cards and UNPA stamp designs and formats were all subjects of a lively discussion.

On November 1st at the National Postage Stamp Show, we had a successful meeting to discuss organizing an Eastern Chapter of UNP. Attending were Steve Cohen, Bernie Kosmoski, Julius Lokin, Max Alexander, Jeff Beller, Steve Liebman, Richard Schulman, Herb Conway, Gisela Grünwald and myself. In addition, a number of UNP members had written expressing interest, but were unable to be there. A discussion was held, and the group was enthusiastic about forming a chapter. An organizing committee was named, consisting of Cohen, Kosmoski and Lokin. Anyone interested in joining the group can contact Steve Cohen at 214 East 51st St.; New York, N.Y. 10022.

UNP presently has two study units: *Exhibition Imprints* and *Military Mail*. Is there interest in forming other groups for your special interest? If so, please write me.

Editor's Message

By Richard Powers

This issue represents a conscious effort on my part to dedicate a portion of the articles to recent United Nations stamp topics. The latest postal issue of the UNPA in November 1986, honoring the fortieth anniversary of WFUNA, explains the presence of three articles on WFUNA. I hope to continue this policy for the next few issues of the *Journal*. In light of the January 1987 UNPA stamps honoring Trygve Lie, I intend to feature articles on the first secretary-general in the February issue. The April issue will feature the theme "Shelter for the Homeless", the subject of the UNPA stamps in March 1987. I am particularly interested in soliciting articles from members concerning these two topics. However, I consider any UN-related subject fair game for publication. The cupboard is particularly bare as I write this message in November.

This issue represents my first effort at editing a journal. At the present time I consider this issue transitional with the major difference between this edition and the October issue being the word-processing unit used to produce the text. The text for this issue was produced directly on a laser printer, which was driven by the IBM-AT in which the text was entered. A type-setting program *PC-TEX* was used to create the printed page as you see it. In general the text has been set directly in a 9-point almost-modern Roman style without intermediate photographic reduction. We shall be discovering together how well this type style reads when the issue arrives about December 15th. I would appreciate receiving comments about the present format - particularly matters concerning type size and style.

My deadline for getting the February issue to the printer is January 15th. I would appreciate receiving articles for this issue before the end of December. It is unfortunate that this coincides with the holiday season when so many of us are otherwise occupied by the demands of the season. On the other hand a good way to fight the holiday let-down after the gift wrappings have been cleared away might be to write an article for the February or April issues of the *Journal*.

Perhaps you recently acquired an interesting UN-related cover, which you may or may not be able to identify. Perhaps during recent efforts to organize your collection, you discovered some new "fly-speck" varieties. We would like to hear from you. Perhaps you had an interesting experience the last time you visited the UN or your local WFUNA office or an auction or a stamp show. Maybe you discovered something that is definitely not in Gaines' catalog. Whatever the topic, we would like to hear from you.

I plan to have regular sections containing "Letters to the Editor" and "Questions and Answers". Even if you

have no article at the present time to submit, we would enjoy hearing from you to find out what is on your mind and what you would like to see in this journal.

It is my intention to try to maintain a reasonable mixture of articles linked to recent UN issues with news from the UNPA offices and with reprints of articles from other journals particularly the journal of UNOP. I admit a certain bias towards writing articles myself dealing with United Nations postal history. I therefore need your help in maintaining a balance of material.

It is likely that I shall be spending the months of February and March of 1987 in Germany. I would like to urge authors of articles for the April issue, which should be at the printer by March 15th to try to send me material before January 15th so that I can do most of the organization of the April issue before I leave. Otherwise this issue runs the risk of being delayed by a few weeks.

UNP AUCTION # 10

By Dave Martin

UNP Auction #10 is currently accepting consignments. Lots will be accepted until February 15, 1987. The auction catalog will be mailed with the June *Journal*. Bids will be accepted until August 1, 1987. Any material received after February 15th cannot be included in our catalog and will be returned at the owner's expense.

The following rules will apply to this mail auction:

1. Each item, including literature, must be UN-related.
2. Each lot must have a minimum bid of \$3.00.
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 registration fees for unsold lots, will be charged to the owner.
5. Every effort will be made to assure 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 accept responsibility for such loss.
6. A total of 20 % of the realized price will be retained by UNP.
7. Lots with faults 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.

Substantial cash can be raised by auctioning your duplicates and items no longer needed for your collection. Shipment of any number of lots will be accepted. Your participation is needed to ensure the success of our auction. All correspondence and items for our auction should be sent to:

Dave Martin
1803 Westminster Drive
Greensboro, N.C. 27410

IN MEMORIAM

On October 21st of this year, UNP secretary Pearl Borah, in her late sixties, passed away. The cause was heart failure brought on by lingering health problems.

Pearl was a most ardent fan of United Nations philately, having enjoyed membership in UNSU (United Nations Study Unit), the Turtle Bay Philatelic Society, and most recently as a charter member of United Nations Philatelists, where she was commencing her second term as secretary. She was also a member of the Society of Israel Philatelists, an area she collected with near equal fervor.

As a life-long resident of Long Island, New York, she was an avid UN collector from the beginning when she stood in line for her new issue stamps on October 24, 1951 at the United Nations. She was, for over 40 years, a consistent attendant at the area shows where she was always around to help with a club booth, mount and dismount exhibited collections, or to talk up UN philately to a prospective member.

Though she never exhibited, she did maintain a very comprehensive collection of United Nations philatelic items. Perhaps her favorite topic was the Tiffany Cover released on December 7, 1964. She also was in the envious position of having bought the 15th Anniversary Souvenir sheet at face value (15 cents), of which she had many.

So what will be the disposition of her extensive collection? Her wish, voiced so frequently, was to give each of her grandchildren a complete collection of UN stamps and covers. And to this end, a willing daughter is stepping in to see that her mother's wishes are carried out.

Pearl will be so well remembered by those of us whose lives she touched, always there, always willing, always supportive. United Nations Philatelists is most grateful for her many, many hours of participation.

Jack I. Mayer
Past-president, UNP

40TH ANNIVERSARY OF WFUNA

An Introduction to WFUNA

By Richard Powers

In 1946 the United Nations General Assembly adopted resolution 13, declaring that the United Nations "cannot achieve the purposes for which it has been created unless the peoples of the world are fully informed of its aims and activities". It was exclusively to promote this understanding and support that a few months earlier on August 2, 1946 a group of dedicated men and women from twenty-two countries met in Luxemburg and established the World Federation of United Nations Associations (WFUNA). As of 1986 the more than eighty national UN associations affiliated with WFUNA are located in countries of different ideologies and political systems.

The relationship of WFUNA to the United Nations was established in Article 71 of the UN Charter, which gives the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) of the United Nations authority to "make suitable arrangements for consultation with non-governmental organizations (NGO's)", which are "concerned with matters within its competence". WFUNA was granted "Consultative Status" in Category B in 1947 and raised to Category A in 1948. (These categories have since been changed to I, II and the Roster for NGO's that make only occasional contributions to the work of the United Nations.) WFUNA is one of thirty-one international NGO's in Category I.

The Federation is headquartered today in Geneva in the Palais des Nations, the home of the United Nations in Europe. Earlier it had been located in the Villa Rigot on the Avenue de la Paix in Geneva. Fig. 1 shows an early cover from this location. It also maintains a presence at United Nations headquarters in New York, in Vienna and at UNESCO in Paris, making it possible for WFUNA to be represented at all United Nations meetings and NGO conferences in which it has a stake. There are also two regional offices: for Africa in Accra, Ghana and for Asia in New Delhi, India.

The aims of WFUNA, as spelled out in its own Constitution, are to build a peoples' movement for the United Nations and its related agencies, to promote tolerance, understanding, solidarity and cooperation among all peoples; to work for justice, security and disarmament; to strive for the recognition of and respect for human rights and for their corresponding obligations; to stimulate information and education about the United Nations and its agencies; to promote social progress and better standards of living for all peoples and to give expression to the views of its Member Associations.

The work of the Federation is almost completely financed by annual dues from member United Nations Associations (UNA's). These are based approximately on the United Nations system of assessments. In the United States the member association is known as the United Nations Association of the United States of America (UNA-USA). The founding chairman was Robert S. Benjamin, who was Chairman of the Board of Directors of United Artists Corporation and active for many years in philanthropic and civic affairs both locally in New York and nationally. At the time of the 35th anniversary of the United Nations in 1980 WFUNA prepared a special cover honoring Mr. Benjamin. (Fig. 2.) One of the earliest covers related to the US member organization is from the American Association for the United Nations, which is the forerunner of the UNA-USA and is shown in Fig. 3. The New York postmark from November 5, 1946 was struck barely three months after WFUNA was organized. Fig. 4 shows a philatelic cover prepared by the UNA-USA in honor of the 25th anniversary of the United Nations in 1970. A small proportion of its funds stems from the philatelic program and from foundation grants.

Because WFUNA has consultative status with ECOSOC and with the main United Nations specialized agencies (such as UNICEF, WMO, FAO, ILO, WHO and UNESCO), each national association has, through its membership in WFUNA, access to and influence in UN bodies it would not otherwise have. This is only one of the benefits UNA's the world over derive from their association with WFUNA. By attending WFUNA meetings, plenaries and symposia, delegates representing many UN Associations have the opportunity to develop working relationships with leaders of their sister UNA's from different parts of the world. Joint projects have sprung up over the years that had their origins in delegates' meetings at WFUNA plenaries, exchanging information and ideas and resolving to work jointly on an issue of mutual concern. And in these days, when travel to far-away places is no longer unusual, the hospitality extended by UN Associations to visitors from UNA's in other countries is an added component in WFUNA's attempt to strengthen bonds among UN-support groups. At symposia sponsored by WFUNA, UN Associations have the opportunity to submit their comments and recommendations on a variety of subjects that have engaged their nations' interests. Each UNA delegation has its chance to influence and shape the final documents or resolutions that emerge from a symposium or a plenary assembly. This is also the case of the UNA-USA, whose delegates make important contributions to the elaboration of WFUNA policies on disarmament, economic and social development, and on human rights' issues. The UNA-USA has participated as well in WFUNA-wide projects such as "A New Information and

Communication Order"(1981) and "The Role and Future of the United Nations"(1983).

Almost every state of the fifty United States has a UNA presence either in the form of Chapters (branches) - there were 175 of these in 1983 - or as Divisions (state organizations) of which there were 21 in 1983. At that time there were 25000 members nation-wide. Adding to the influence of UNA is a group of some 130 other national NGO's joined together in the Council of Organizations of UNA-USA. Among them are educational associations (the National Education Association of the United States has a membership of 1,400,000 classroom teachers), religious organizations, women's service organizations, men's service clubs, labor unions, environmental groups, etc.

A major program for reaching the public is the national observance of United Nations Day, which UNA-USA supervises. This year the Pasadena chapter sponsored a United Nations luncheon on Saturday October 25th at the California Institute of Technology. A spe-

cial effort was made to attract students to the festivities, which included exhibits dealing with United Nations activities throughout the world.

I would like to thank the staff of the Pasadena chapter of the UNA-USA for kindly providing me with background material on WFUNA and its Member Associations. Much of what has appeared above was based on an article by Peggy Sanford Carlin in the March 1983 issue of the WFUNA Bulletin. At that time she was vice-president of the UNA-USA. I would also like to thank Jack Mayer for photocopies of some of the WFUNA-related covers shown here.

Perhaps the most useful brochure, which I picked up at the UNA-USA office in Pasadena was an application blank for membership in the UNA-USA. It costs only \$35 a year to sign up out here. I must admit that now that I know that UNA-USA does more than sell UNICEF cards, I am inclined to join.

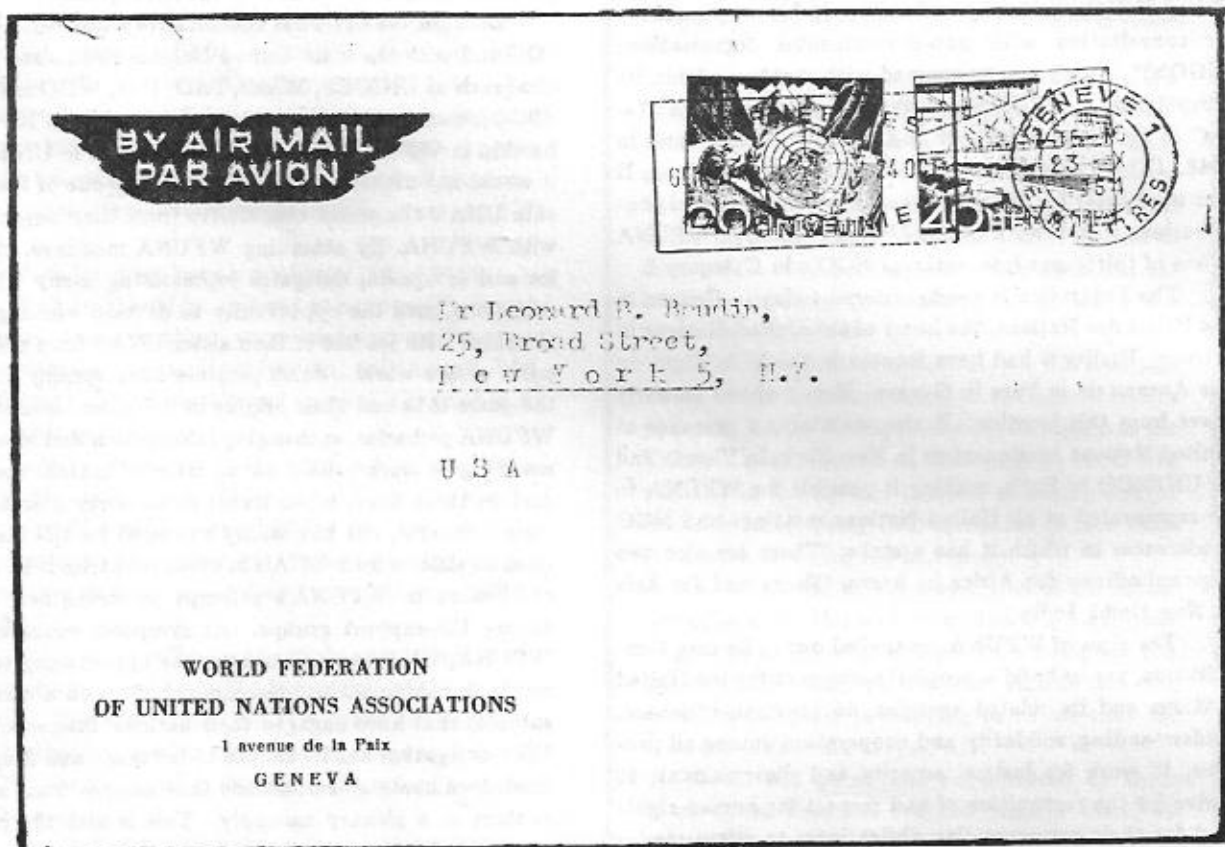


Fig. 1. Service cover from WFUNA headquarters in Geneva dated October 23, 1964

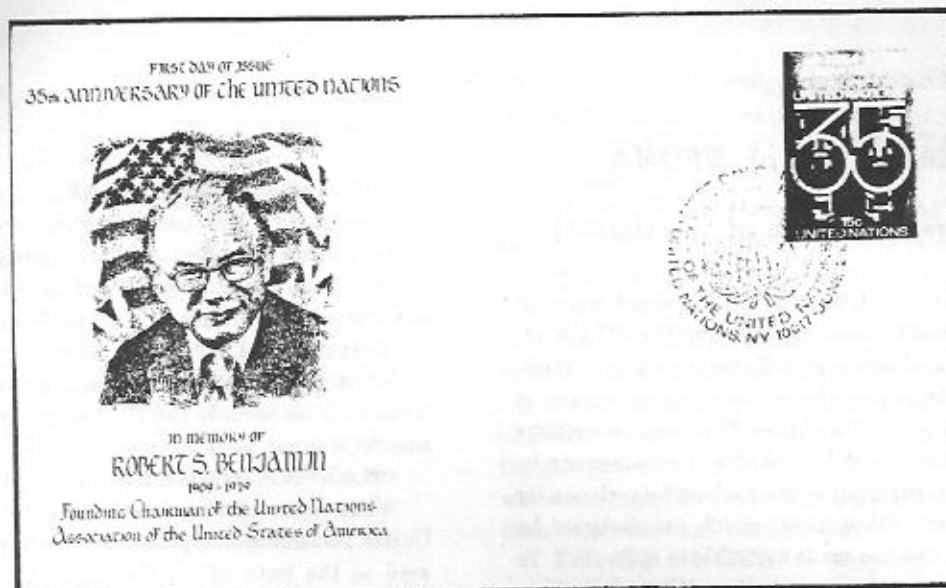


Fig. 2. Philatelic cover issued in memory of WFUNA founding chairman Robert S. Benjamin.

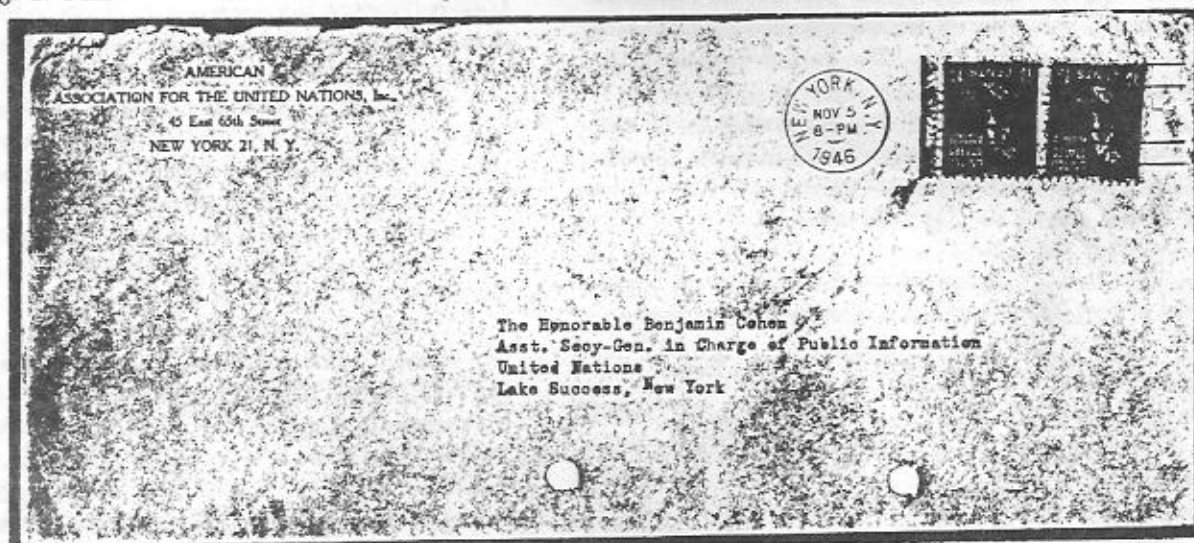


Fig. 3. Service Cover from UNA-USA forerunner, the American Association for the United Nations, Inc., in New York dated November 5, 1946.

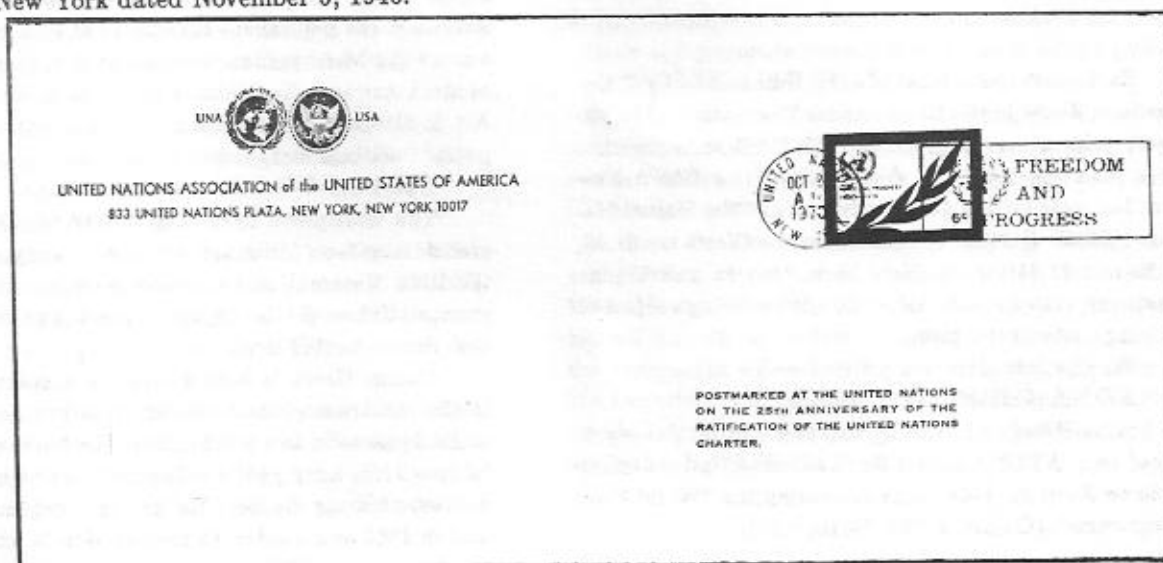


Fig. 4. Philatelic cover created by the UNA-USA postmarked at the United Nations on the 25th anniversary (October 24, 1970) of the ratification of the United Nations Charter.

UNPA

40th Anniversary of WFUNA

(From a Press Release of the UNPA)

On November 14, 1986 the UNPA issued a set of three souvenir sheets - one for each of the UNPA offices in New York, Vienna and Geneva - each containing four stamps in honor of the fortieth anniversary of the World Federation of the United Nations Associations (WFUNA). Whenever new United Nations stamps are issued, WFUNA, in turn, produces cacheted envelopes for first day covers and lithographs, which are designed by prominent artists and are made available to collectors. To commemorate this anniversary twelve different designs, which have been featured in the past on WFUNA first day covers, were selected for reproduction on miniature sheets of four stamps each. The designs appear on the back cover of this issue.

The stamps measure 26 mm horizontally by 36 mm vertically, perforation to perforation. The sheets measure 120 mm horizontally by 65 mm vertically. The sheets are perforated 13 x 13 1/4. The sheets were designed by Rocco J. Callari of the U.S.A.

The special first day hand and machine cancellations used in New York, Geneva and Vienna appear below.

Vienna

Geneva

New York



Each sheet was printed in offset lithography by J. Enschede en Zonen in the Netherlands. There were 1,800,000 sheets printed for each of the UNPA offices, somewhat more than the 1,400,000 sheets printed for UNPA-New York last year for the 40th anniversary of the United Nations (Gaines # 449). The prices for the sheets are \$1.38, \$1.30 and \$1.64 for the New York, Geneva and Vienna sheets respectively - the latter two prices being subject to exchange rate fluctuations.

We now introduce the artists for this issue.

EDNA HIBEL (22 cent stamp)

Edna Hibel's oil painting "Mother Earth" was reproduced on a WFUNA cachet for the United Nations stamp issue on April 22, 1983 commemorating the "World Food Programme" (Gaines # 396, G116, A33).

When Miss Hibel was only 23 years of age, the Boston Museum of Fine Arts purchased one of her paintings for its permanent collection, making her the youngest living artist to be so honored by a major American museum. She was elected to a Fellowship in the Royal Society of Arts in London in 1964.

The Hibel Museum of Art in Palm Beach, Florida, is the only museum in the United States dedicated to the work of a living woman artist.

SALVADOR DALI (33 cent stamp)

The watercolor by Salvador Dali, which hangs at the United Nations and appears on the cover of this issue, was used as the basis of the design for the WFUNA cachet which accompanied the United Nations stamps issued on January 31, 1966 to commemorate the 20th anniversary of the World Federation of United Nations Associations. (Gaines # 154-155)

Salvador Dali, the most famous and most influential of the surrealist painters, was born in Figueras, Spain in 1904. In addition to painting, he has designed jewelry, furniture and fabrics, as well as theatrical sets and costumes. His writings include two autobiographical works - *The Secret Life of Salvador Dali* (1942) and *Diary of a Genius* (1965).

DONG KINGMAN (39 cent stamp)

Dong Kingman's watercolor, "New Dawn", graced the WFUNA first day cover, which was issued at the same time as the UN stamps commemorating "FAO World Food Day 1984" on May 15, 1984 (Gaines #419-420, G122-123, A40-41).

A Chinese-American, Dong Kingman was born in Oakland, California, and lived for many years in Hong Kong, where he studied art and calligraphy. Acknowledged as one of the world's greatest watercolorists, his work is in the permanent collections of such major museums as the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Museum of Modern Art and the Whitney Museum in New York; the Art Institute of Chicago and dozens of other museums, public buildings and private collections.

CHAIM GROSS (44 cent stamp)

The watercolor by Chaim Gross for the WFUNA cachet issued on February 3, 1984 in conjunction with the UN's "International Conference on Population 1984" stamps (Gaines #417-418, G121, A39), was his fourth cachet design for WFUNA.

Chaim Gross is best known as a sculptor but he is also an accomplished master in watercolor, tapestry, stained glass and as a print maker. His works are included in more than forty public collections and he has been the subject of many books. He has received many awards and in 1983 was elected to membership in the American

Academy of Arts and Letters. Limited to only fifty members, the Academy is chartered by the U.S. Congress to promote fine arts in the United States.

BENIGNO GOMEZ (F.s. 0.35 stamp)

On May 27, 1977, a WFUNA cachet designed by Benigno Gomez was issued in conjunction with the United Nations "Security Council" stamps (Gaines #285-286, G67-68).

Benigno Gomez is one of the most important artists in Honduras. He is a graduate of the National School of Fine Arts in Tegucigalpa and of the Accademia di Belli Art di Roma, Italy. He has received many awards and has exhibited widely in South and Central America, the United States, Europe and Mexico. His work may be found in many institutions and private collections in Europe and the United States.

ALEXANDER CALDER (F.s. 0.45 stamp)

WFUNA's 30th anniversary was commemorated by a United Nations stamp issued on March 12, 1976 (Gaines #272-273, G57). For that special occasion, the WFUNA cachet was designed by the world-famous American artist Alexander Calder.

Born in Lawnton, Pennsylvania in 1898, Alexander Calder was one of the few creative masters in history who actually created a new art form, changing the course of contemporary art. His mobiles and stabiles, have fascinated everyone, from children to scientists and philosophers.

Alexander Calder died in 1976.

JOAN MIRÓ (F.s. 0.50 stamp)

Joan Miró's design for a WFUNA cachet accompanied the "Peace-keeping Operations" stamps issued by the UNPA on May 16, 1980 (Gaines #320-321, G92, A11).

Regarded as one of the world's most outstanding and influential artists, Joan Miró was born in Barcelona in 1893. His works of the 1920's and 1930's are all characterized by a wonderfully humorous imagination, together with one of the most extraordinary feelings for color in modern painting. His later works sometimes took on a more somber quality.

His work includes sculpture and ceramic decorations. He has also done scenery for the Ballets Russes de Monte Carlo.

OLE HAMANN (F.s. 0.70 stamp)

Ole Hamann's design "Sextet with Dove" was issued on a WFUNA cachet on June 6, 1983 (Gaines #397-398, G117-118, A35-36) to accompany the UN's "Trade and Development" stamps; it was his ninth first day cover design for WFUNA.

A Danish national, Ole Hamann joined the United Nations in 1946. He was Chief of the UNPA from 1971 to 1979. Prior to 1971, he was head of the UN Graphic Presentation Unit and had, up until his appointment as

Chief of the UNPA, designed 32 United Nations stamps, as well as stamps for other countries.

ELISABETH VON JANOTA-BZOWSKI

(S 4 stamp)

For the United Nations 1983 "Flag" stamps issued by the UNPA on September 23, 1983 (Gaines #399-414), Elisabeth von Janota-Bzowski designed a special WFUNA first day cover.

"La Janota", as she is internationally known, is a specialist in graphic design, portraiture, drawing, painting and stamp design. A national of the Federal Republic of Germany, she is also acclaimed for the numerous striking portraits of world leaders and prominent personalities, which are regarded as the best portrayals ever achieved of these statesmen and celebrities.

ERNST FUCHS (S 5 stamp)

The Viennese artist, Ernst Fuchs, designed the WFUNA cachet for the "World Heritage" stamps issued by the UNPA on April 18, 1984 (Gaines #421-422, G124-125, A42-43).

Ernst Fuchs is known the world over as a visionary artist with a bold personality and strong convictions. His paintings are charged with dynamic mystery and fantasy and have inspired a large and dedicated following in Europe. Almost as notable as his unique subject matter is the wide variety of media in which he expresses his artistic talents. He has received critical acclaim for his sculpture tapestry, stained glass, costumes and his paintings.

VICTOR VASARELY (S 6 stamp)

WFUNA's cachet for the 40th anniversary of the United Nations stamps, issued on June 26, 1985 (Gaines #447-449, G135-137, A52-53), was the work of Victor Vasarely.

Victor Vasarely was born in Hungary in 1908 but has lived in France since 1930. His works of art are represented in private collections and in almost every major museum in principal cities throughout the world. During a career which has spanned five decades, he has received countless artistic and honorary awards from all parts of the globe.

WOLFGANG HUTTER (S 7 stamp)

A mythological painting by Wolfgang Hutter was reproduced on the WFUNA first day cover for the "Flag" stamps issued by the UNPA on September 20, 1985 (Gaines #450-465).

Born in Vienna in 1928, Wolfgang Hutter began painting at the age of 14 and sold his first work in 1948. He studied at the Vienna School of Arts, devoting himself initially to abstract painting but later turning to the surrealist style. In 1966 he was named Director of the Department of Painting at the Academy for the Performing Arts in Vienna, which later sponsored his first exhibition in the United States.

WFUNA AND UNA FORERUNNERS

By Blanton Clement, Jr. and Richard Powers

In the August 1986 issue of the Journal, Clay Wallace and Clem Clement wrote an article concerning the efforts of President Woodrow Wilson and the League to Enforce Peace to get the United States to join the League of Nations. One could argue that this organization, which tried to inform the American public of the benefits of a truly international organization of nations, was a spiritual forerunner of UNA-USA. In Fig. 1 is another cover from the League to Enforce Peace. This one has the same corner card and was also mailed from New York City in 1919, but has a different illustration.

UNOPost 3-86 illustrates a 1924 cover (Fig. 2) with a corner card from the League of Nations Non-Partisan Association in New York City.

During the League of Nations era, WFUNA had its counterpart in the International Union of League of Nations Associations with headquarters in Geneva. The equivalent of the UNA-USA was the League of Nations Association, Inc. in New York City. Fig. 3 shows a travel worn cover from this office to the American consul in Mexico City in 1935.

Does anyone have any more information about these organizations? Was there any direct evolution of these organizations into the present-day WFUNA and its Member Associations such as took place when the League of Nations dissolved itself in 1946 and transferred its assets in Geneva to the United Nations?

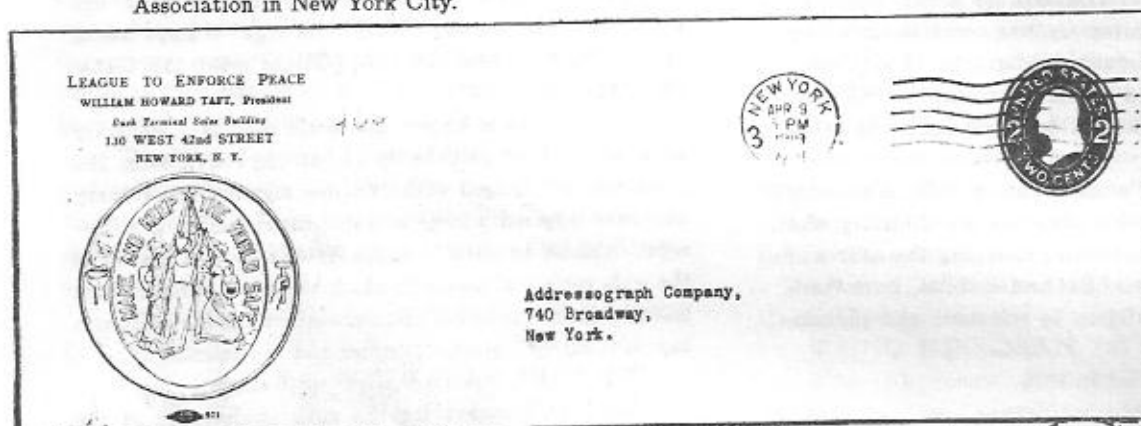


Fig. 1 (top) Cover from the League to Enforce Peace.



Fig. 2 (center) Cover from the League of Nations Non-Partisan Association.



Fig. 3 (bottom) Cover from the League of Nations Association, Inc.

UNITED NATIONS UPDATE (XVII)

By David S. J. Alexander

In this column we want to focus on what is coming up in 1987.

I remember suggesting to the current Chief of the United Nations Postal Administration (UNPA), Madame Grünwald, that the UNPA should aim at having sets of stamps on topics that would really interest the general public (not, for instance, the International Labor Organization Turin Center, or such and such a UN program but stamps related to refugees, victims of famine, drugs, natural disasters, etc.). By and large the UNPA has been moving in that direction. "Philately, the International Hobby", the "International Year of Peace", "Child Survival", "Africa in Crisis" are all good examples. Now next year, it seems that the UNPA is going to do better still. With appealing subject matters and magnificent designs – that is what most UN stamps have today – new inroads should be made into the ranks of non-UN collectors.

The first issue of 1987, due on January 30th, is to be a stamp honoring former Secretary-General Trygve H. Lie of Norway, who died in 1969. He was one of the builders of the United Nations. He was there at the very beginning. During World War II he had been one of the Ministers of the Norwegian Government in exile in London. He served as Secretary-General from 1945 until 1953 during the difficult immediate post-war and cold war periods. He well deserved to be so honored. I understand that contrary to what had been announced at MILCOPEX last spring, the UNPA is not planning a whole series of stamps on former Secretaries-General.

To coincide with INTERPEX in New York City is a set of six stamps on the theme "Shelter for the Homeless", a subject which is very real throughout the world and even in our wealthy industrialized countries. Indeed as we approach the United Nations Headquarters in New York City, we are always reminded of this subject in seeing homeless men and women lying hopelessly on benches or on sidewalks, surrounded by a couple of dirty bags containing their only possessions. The UN indeed does not need to look far to focus on the problem.

Perhaps the most important issue of the year is planned for June 17th. Six stamps plus a souvenir card will draw attention to the world-wide fight against the use of drugs. This has become almost as important an issue as nuclear weapons. The motto on the stamps will be "Yes to Life, No to Drugs". This was the note sounded by President and Mrs. Reagan in their joint talk to the nation on Sunday night September 14th. Saying "No" to drugs has been one of Nancy Reagan's special projects. She related how from visiting one school and getting the kids to pledge

themselves to say "No" when offered drugs, there are now over 10,000 "Say No to Drugs" clubs in US schools. What possibilities exist to get these particular UN stamps to these committed children? If the UNPA wishes to enlarge its constituency, it must get school children – the collectors of tomorrow – interested and involved in UN stamp collecting. After all the UN is part of their curriculum at one stage and there is room for this. UN collectors can also play a role in fighting this scourge by buying a supply of these stamps, using them on their mail and sending it to be cancelled to the Supervisor, US Post Office at the United Nations, New York, N.Y. 10017. I personally am immensely looking forward to this issue and to see how this ugly topic will be treated, hopefully in not too ugly a way by the designers commissioned for this project.

We do not have space to comment in detail on the other issues of 1987 except to mention them briefly.

On September 18th we shall have the usual flag stamp series, the eighth. Then there is to be a set on UN Day (actually to be issued on October 23rd, a Friday). This is something collectors have been asking for. The UN used to have a regular UN Day stamp issue from 1951 until 1962. If the UN does not honor its own anniversary philatelically, how does it expect its members to do so? Then, to coincide with the National Postage Stamp Show in New York City on November 20th, there is to be a set on the theme "Immunize Every Child", again an appealing down-to-earth topical subject, one that I have been seeing on my TV set recently with increasing regularity.

Added to the above are two new Swiss definitives on January 30th: one a replacement (0.90 F.s.) and the other a new value (1.40 F.s.). An Austrian aerogramme will also appear on that date. Two new Austrian definitives (2 S and 17 S) will appear on June 17th. The latter is quite a high value and it is going to cost us something.

Unfortunately the total number of stamps is rather high – 41. But faced with the present financial crisis, the United Nations can be excused for trying to sell more stamps and get more revenue. In fact it would be forgiven if it replaced the 3 F.s. and 10 F.s. stamps in Geneva issued 16 years ago and also that ugly \$1. stamp in New York, which has been in much use since 1978. However, the UNPA needs to be congratulated on the choice of the subject matter – and I suppose the UN Stamp Design Committee has a share in this – and for continuing to resist pressure from some governments, which ask for the issuance of stamps on subjects dear to them but which perhaps would not be appreciated universally.

COMMENTS ON THE AVAILABILITY OF THE UNPA-GENEVA

40-CENTIME POSTAL CARD REPRINT

Ed. The following two articles are comments and reactions to articles written by Murray Abramson on the reprint of the 40-centime Geneva postal card. These articles were published in Linn's Stamp News and in this Journal. The views expressed in the following articles are those of the authors.

ON THE SECOND PRINTING OF THE GENEVA 40 CENTIME POSTAL CARD

By Duane Lamers

In an article in Issue #54 of the Journal, Murray Abramson posed some interesting questions regarding the reprint of Gaines # G/UX3, the domestic-use postal card issued first in 1977 for use at the UN in Geneva. A few additional facts and some speculation can further the discussion of this issue.

Contributing to the scarcity of the reprint is the fact that the UNPA did not publicize its existence for the first eleven of its fourteen months of service. The reprint was placed on sale March 1, 1984, the same date that new postal rates took effect with the Swiss PTT. Undoubtedly the reprint had been scheduled without knowledge of the impending rate increases. This resulted in 200,000 cards being obsolete before they reached the sales counters. Needing a replacement for depleted supplies of the original printing, the Postal Administration released the reprint and, as required by Swiss regulations, affixed a ten-centime stamp to each card prior to sale, bringing the 40-centime card up to the value required for use.

The collecting public was not informed of the existence of the reprint until the Geneva office noted it in its press release of January 1985, just four months prior to its scheduled withdrawal and replacement by the current 50-centime card, G/UX5. By the time various publications could spread the word, of course, G/UX3.2 was history.

For certain, G/UX3.2 is a rarity in mint form. There was no collector demand for it, out of ignorance of its existence. Demands in the marketplace for it had been satisfied shortly after the original release in 1977. Lacking postal validity in New York, clerks there sold the new printing, presumably, mainly to latecomers to the collecting field. Assuming that most used specimens of the reprint were not destroyed by recipients (not a safe assumption, by any means), about 28,000 cards lie on desks and in drawers in Switzerland. The initial printing sold at

a rate of 2,500 cards per month, assuming supplies were nearly exhausted at the time of the re-release (235,000 mint copies available during a period of 94 months).

This also left about 170,000 copies of the reprint for the incinerator when the card was withdrawn!

As for the availability of the reprint without the surcharge affixed, this writer can attest that the "unsullied" card could be purchased as late as February 25, 1985 in New York. Ignorant of the postal regulations but wanting "unspoiled" copies for himself and a few for a dealer, this writer purchased thirteen of them before he and the clerk were informed that such sales were prohibited. During a visit to a dealer in SoHo, the writer spotted what appeared to be a small pack of about fifty more of the unsurcharged cards. More might have reached circulation in the preceding year of sale.

Yes, unsurcharged copies of G/UX3.2 are no doubt quite rare. Mint surcharged copies are also very rare, for reasons cited already. Postally used copies probably exist in abundance in Switzerland, but for collectors, especially on this side of the Atlantic, these can hardly be said to exist.

Postal stationery does not sell at a quick pace, not in recent years. Visitors to UN Headquarters are more likely to buy postcards and affix stamps. Geneva and Vienna cards cannot be used in New York at all. The market among collectors was satisfied, for the reprint was still available. UNPA knew that stationery is not a "hot" item. For this reason the release of the reprint, perhaps, was not acknowledged earlier than it was. This writer, however, would prefer a more timely publication of information about any reprint. Collectors should have ample opportunity to purchase what they desire.

Along the same lines, it does not seem unreasonable that UNPA announce a few weeks in advance the appearance of a reprint. This would enable collectors to make additional purchases of older printings before they are withdrawn. They could make purchases of new printings, of course, once releases are publicized.

A reminder: UNPA surcharged only 90,000 copies of G/UX6. Presumably the other 210,000 were sold in the seven months following release in May 1985. This suggests a limited "shelf life" remaining for the card.

UNITED NATIONS – THE MARKET

Remarkable Information

Concerning the Geneva Postcards

By Hans H. v. Renesse

Translated by Richard Powers

Ed: The following is a translation of a recent article by H. v. Renesse published in the bimonthly journal UNOP – Mitteilungsblatt mb 5 - 86 (the newsletter of the International Society for United Nations Philately).

On pages 18 and 19 in UNOPOST – 2 - 86 I published a report on the printings of the UNPA Geneva postcards (Gaines No.) G/UX3. I mentioned there that the second printing of the 40 centime postcard, which was sold for the first time on March 1, 1984, can be positively considered a rarity, particularly the cards without the 10 centime stamp added. Now in the major American journal Linn's Stamp News two articles were published by Murray Abramson, which deal specifically with this postcard and with the meter surtaxed item G/UX7. There it is reported that the second printing of the 40 centime card without additional postage had been sold only in New York and only on two or three days and that only 65 to 100 of such cards exist. In the first of these articles (May 26, 1986, p.8) the author estimates that fewer than 20000 postcards of the second printing had been sold with the 10 centime stamp affixed. But in a second article (July 28, 1986, p. 39) these figures were "improved" to 65 sold without the stamp affixed and "only 100 or so" with the stamp. This second figure was qualified –to be sure– by a question mark but it is apparent, however, that something is in the works. This suspicion is confirmed for me by a dealer advertisement in the U.S., where beneath the explicit reference to the articles in Linn's, the second printing is being offered for \$17.50. UNOP members know that just in Geneva and Vienna alone clearly over 8000 cards had been sold. (*Ed: In an article printed in UNOPOST 2 -86, p. 19, Mr. v. Renesse cites the UNPA Geneva figure of 5127 surtaxed cards (G/UX3.2) sold in Geneva and UNPA Vienna figure of 3505 copies sold in Vienna.*) This admittedly is not very many but certainly enough to label this price as pure nerve.

In the most recent price list of UNOPHILA Posch GmbH, which will finally appear in the weeks to come – one reads and marvels – that the second printing of the card with the 10 centime stamp affixed will cost DM 1,50 (\$0.73) mint and DM 4,00 (\$1.95) with a first day cancel. This seems to me to be substantially fairer. There are no

postcards listed without the stamp affixed. They would be worth at least \$17.50.

Now it would be nice if the UNPA in New York would announce in Linn's Stamp News or in one of its own printed newsletters the number of cards sold of the second printing. It is only the total sold in New York, which is missing. This would cut the ground out from under the speculation. But whether the UNPA in New York can bring itself to make an exception to the rule is not very likely. The sales figures for definitives and stationery in New York are top secret.

BUY, SELL AND TRADE

FOR SALE: Doesn't anyone want my duplicate UN stamps or FDC's? I have practically everything! Send want list and offer with stamp to: David Fearon, Box 183, Norwich, Ontario, Canada NOJ 1P0.

WANTED: Swiss PTT Collection Sheets No. 52-55, 60-63 for the League of Nations and 56-59, 64-67 for the ILO with first day cancels 2/1/1944. Richard Powers, 1155 East Del Mar Blvd., Pasadena, California 91106.

UNPA VIENNA

A New Meter

Below is a copy of a new meter recently observed (June 5, 1986) in use at the United Nations Vienna International Center. No further information is available at this time.



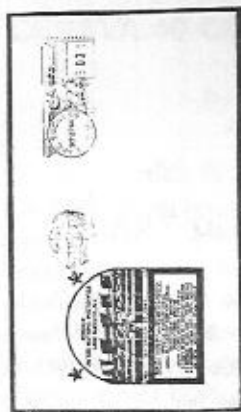
UNITED NATIONS
Vienna International Centre
P.O. Box 500
A-1400 Vienna, Austria



*The United Nations
Collector*

APS 1338 86
UNP 530
AHPS 1801
AAPE 143

Every member of the United Nations Philatelist is entitled to receive the next four issues of the United Nations Collector free of charge. All you have to do is send me your name, address and UN# number. Help me help you. Your want list is optional. I have all of the material displayed in this ad for sale. Better hurry



RECENT AUCTION RESULTS

I propose to publish periodically selected results of recent auctions both here in the United States and in Europe as a way of monitoring price trends in United Nations related items. I would appreciate hearing from members, who have auction results to share with the rest of the membership.

In the auction held by Jacques C. Schiff, Jr., Inc in New York City on October 31, 1986 there were 87 United Nations lots. There were 10 lots of sheets of early issues before Gaines # 45. These lots sold for roughly 15 % of the Gaines catalog value. A very fine never hinged copy of the first souvenir sheet went for \$155. A copy of # 2 precancel on cover from the seventh mailing with contents went for \$55. It catalogs for \$200.

But errors did much better. A copy of the first 5-centime Geneva definitive imprint single with the olive green color omitted went for \$320. It catalogs for \$600. A copy of an A9 imprint single with the "green continents shifted down 3.5 mm" went for \$340.

For UPU devotees the Peter Kenedi of California, Inc. auction in Encino, California on September 8th had one item of interest. A copy of the *Annex* to the *Appendix* to the famous *Circular no. 45*, which lays down the instructions for standardization of color for stamps

used between affiliated countries, was auctioned off for \$2100.

UNPA – VIENNA

The Return of the Globe Cachet

By Richard Powers

Remember that all-purpose Globe cachet envelope that the UNPA in Geneva issued in November 1974 with the inscription "Official Geneva Cachet" (Gaines p. 409) and the UNPA in New York issued in October 1975 with the inscription "Official United Nations Cachet" (Gaines p. 407A). This was my favorite cachet for use with first day slogan cancellations. I regretted very much the UNPA decision to remove it from sale on December 31, 1984, particularly since there was no all-purpose replacement. The current headquarters cachet bears the inscription "First Day of Issue" and seems appropriate only for first day covers.

Well according to a recent announcement from the UNPA-Vienna, the Geneva version of the globe cachet is back due to popular demand. I presume it is also on sale in Geneva. I have not yet seen any similar announcement from New York. I would encourage any interested readers, who would like to see this item on sale again in New York, to express their wishes to Madame Grunewald, the Chief of the UNPA in New York.



FORTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
WORLD FEDERATION OF UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATIONS



QUARANTIÈME ANNIVERSAIRE DE LA FÉDÉRATION MONDIALE
DES ASSOCIATIONS POUR LES NATIONS UNIES



40 JAHRE WELTVERBAND DER GESELLSCHAFTEN
FÜR DIE VEREINTE NATIONEN

