

the



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Fourth World Conference on Women

The Journal of United Nations Philatelists

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Prices for Advertisements

1 page - \$40

1/2 page - \$20

1/4 page - \$15

Run an ad in five consecutive issues, get the sixth one free. Please make checks payable to the United Nations Philatelists, Inc. and mail them with the photo-ready copy to the Editor.

Cover Illustrations

Front cover: Commemoratives issued by the UNPA on September 5, 1995 in honor of the Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing, China.

Rear cover: New 20¢ definitive issued September 5th, 1995

Message from the President

The October mailing represents a great deal of work contributed by Dick Powers, Herby Lam, Don Bakos, Mark Corrinet and yours truly. We hope you find items that rekindle your fervor in United Nations philately.

A special welcome to the A.P.S. members who have joined us in the past year. I look forward to your suggestions and articles for the *Journal*.

The term of the current officers will end on July 1st next year. I am in the process of selecting an "election committee" which will solicit a slate of officers for each position. As per our club's charter, I will select a committee by December 1st. They will present a slate for publication in the February issue of the *Journal*. If you are interested in volunteering for a position, you can either contact one of the election committee members or simply get a petition signed by six club members specifying which position you are most interested in. The purpose of the election committee is not to discourage competition but to make sure we at least have one person for each position. Further information regarding the election will be published in future issues of the *Journal*.

A corollary note - I will NOT run for reelection as President for another term. I feel that I have accomplished most of my "agenda: finding a dedicated editor for the *Journal*, purchasing a club computer for the editor's use, improving the quality and size of the *Journal*, soliciting new membership and simplifying some of the more arcane rules of our Charter.

But frankly, I have been wearing too many hats for the club as President, *Journal* Production Manager and Auction Chairman. This is not healthy for the group. I think the club is very fortunate to have its current roster of officers and several enthusiastic members who will carry the torch.

Message from the Editor

CAPEX and WFUNA Alerts

It is my pleasure to announce that UNP will hold its annual general meeting in Toronto, Canada during the world philatelic exhibition CAPEX '96, which will take place June 8 - 16, 1996. Our meeting will be at 9:00 AM on Sunday June 9, 1996. Keep an eye on this editorial page as the time approaches for more information concerning the agenda and meeting location. It should be a good occasion for club members to get together to swap stories, gossip and UN material.

Since the World Federation of United Nations Associations (WFUNA) inaugurated its program of providing United Nations specialists with a series of remarkably high quality cachets for first day covers in 1966, I have been a devoted fan of these philatelic gems. For years Mrs. Annabelle Wiener has commissioned some of the world's most outstanding artists to create the cachets for the FDC's. These include Salvador Dali, Marc Chagall, Alexander Calder, Joan Miró and Andy Warhol. I still enjoy flipping through the eleven White Ace albums which house my treasures.

A few weeks ago I learned that "due to the unusual size of the stamps" for the issue honoring the Fourth World Conference on Women the standard covers will be "slightly larger than normal". Like any picky philatelist who likes his FDC's to conform to traditional sizes so that they will all fit in his album, I am quite disappointed. I have yet to see the covers, but I have already seen the stamps and they would have easily fit on a standard-size envelope. I hope that this policy change is not permanent. If you are as concerned as I about this, you might consider writing Mrs. Wiener, as I have already done, at the following address:

Mrs. Annabelle Wiener
WFUNA, Room DC 1-1177
United Nations, New York, NY 10017.



FOURTH WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN

(Based on a UNPA Press Release)



The sixth set of United Nations stamps for 1995 were issued on September 5th. This set honors the "Fourth World Conference on Women", which was held in Beijing, China from September 4th through the 15th. These stamps are pictured on the front cover of this journal.

This meeting had as its theme "Action for Equality, Development and Peace". Participants assessed how women's lives have changed over the past decade and took steps to keep issues of concern to women high on the international agenda.

Are women better or worse off? The picture is mixed: a greater proportion of women are literate and more of them are visible at high political levels. At the same time many women are poorer than ever before and the human rights of women are being violated on an unprecedented scale. The United Nations Decade for Women (1976-1985) witnessed progress in some areas, backsliding in others.

Since 1975 - International Women's Year and the year of the first world conference on women in Mexico City - there has been increasing awareness that what happens to women and their children has a profound impact on the well-being of nations. At the second conference, held in Copenhagen in 1980, participants adopted a Program of Action for the Second Half of the United Nations Decade for Women. The third conference, which was held at the end of this decade in Nairobi, Kenya, had as its theme Equality, Development and Peace.

At Beijing, delegates from United Nations member countries looked at recent trends affecting the status of women, with an eye to the future. They reviewed how women have fared in the areas of health, education, em-

ployment, family life, politics and human rights. Despite the progress that has been made during the past twenty years, disparities between North and South, rural and urban, rich and poor, continue to concern women everywhere.

The 1995 Conference adopted a "Platform for Action", analyzing obstacles to women's advancement and recommending steps for overcoming them. Both the Platform and the preparatory work leading up to the Conference at the national, regional and global levels were intended to mobilize society to meet the challenges and demands of the next century. The Platform focuses on ten critical areas of concern: power sharing; commitment to women's rights; poverty; economic participation; access to education, health and employment; violence against women; the effects of armed conflict; the image of women in the mass media; women and the environment; and the girl child.

Today women are perceived less as passive "beneficiaries" of economic growth and social and political development and more as key players in their own right, contributors of knowledge, skills and energy. They are active and activists - in the family, their communities and their nations - determined to ensure a better world for the next generation. It is hoped that the Fourth World Conference on Women has determined what can be done to eliminate gender discrimination and promote new partnerships between women and men into the twenty-first century.

The United Nations Postal Administration (UNPA) first noted this activity in the field of women's affairs with a series of four stamps in 1975 issued on the occasion of Interna-

tional Women's Year (Scott # UNNY 258-9 and G 48-9). Five years later it marked the halfway point of the United Nations Decade for Women with a series of six stamps (UNNY 318-9, G 90-1, A 9-10). Representative members of these sets are shown above.

The host countries of the first two conferences publicized these meetings philatelically. In Figure 1 is shown the commemorative stamp issued by Mexico (# C464) and the special first day cancel noting the conference. Five years later the Danish post office issued a stamp (# 663) commemorating the second

conference, bearing symbols for occupation, health and education. A first day cover of this stamp on a WFUNA cachet designed by Gloria Swanson for the UN Decade for Women issued by the UNPA appears in Figure 2.

But this series of conferences was not the first effort of the United Nations to deal with Women's issues. From March 28, 1960 until April 14th the United Nations sponsored the Conference on the Juridical and Social Condition of Women in Buenos Aires. A cover bearing the conference cancel on the opening day appears in Figure 3.



Figure 1: Mexican 1975 stamp honoring the First

World Conference on Women in Mexico City.



Figure 3: Philatelic cover bearing the special cancel for the Conference on the Juridical and Social Condition of Women dated March 28, 1960.



Figure 2: First day cover (left) of the Danish commemorative honoring the Second World Conference on Women in Copenhagen on a WFUNA cachet designed for the UNPA stamps honoring the UN Decade for Women and (right) a conference cancel dated July 17, 1980.



FIRST ISSUES

By Anthony F. Dewey



It gives me great pleasure to extend congratulations to Larry Davidson. His exhibit titled "A specialized Study of the 1½¢, 3¢, and 6¢ stamps of the First United Nations Issue, 1951" received a silver medal at STaMpsHOW '95 held in St. Louis, Mo. August 24-27. STaMpsHOW is the annual convention and exhibition of the American Philatelic Society. In addition to the open competition, in which Mr. Davidson's exhibit was entered, the show also hosts the "World Series of Philately" where the best exhibit in the nation is chosen from the grand award winners from each national-level show. A literature competition is also held at the show.

Mr. Davidson has been collecting UN stamps, and the First Issue in particular, since the early 60's. He first tried his hand at philatelic competition with a three-frame version of this exhibit in Toronto at STAMPEX in 1986. A four-frame version was entered at UN Expo '91, which was co-sponsored by the UNPA, the American Philatelic Society, and our own UNP. There it was awarded a vermeil medal. The completely revised exhibit, now spanning 5 frames (80 pages), contains some very scarce and significant pieces - hopefully to be featured in future editions of this column. It is encouraging to see such fine exhibits of the First Issue being shown at national exhibitions. Let's hope to see Larry's exhibit, as well as others, more often.



United Nations Philately edited by Arleigh Gaines continues to be the primary source for information about the First Issue. The June 1995 supplement, Number 52, includes three updates pertaining to this topic. A sharp-eyed collector has found a pane of the first printing of the 2¢ stamp with a 4.5 mm. control number (Gaines 3.1i). A normal control number for this issue is just 4 mm. tall. Until

now only one example of this variety has been reported. The original block has number 048 while the recently certified pane bears number 092. Control numbers were used by the UNPA as a security and inventory control device and were applied by the printers. Gaines surmises that the oversized control numbers were added to panes found to be without one. No price is listed for this rare item.

Another update also pertains to control numbers. A second copy of an upper-left marginal inscription block of the 20¢ issue with an inverted control number (Gaines 8.1c) has been discovered. The first printing block (Figure 1) bears the inverted number 017, which has been partially erased. Remarkably, an offset of number 018, also inverted, appears on the reverse (Figure 2). Thomas De La Rue, printer of the horizontal format definitive stamps of the First Issue, used four type faces for the control numbers. Both numbers on this block appear to be Type 4, distinguishable by the flattened right side of the '0' (on normally printed numbers) and by the curves above and below the horizontal bar of the '7'.



Figure 1: MI4 Block of First Issue 20¢ definitive with inverted control number 017.

Control numbers were applied after the printed sheets of 100 images (definitive issues) were perforated and trimmed into two "post office" panes of 50 stamps. The airmail stamps were printed in 50-image sheets. Occasionally, a pane was placed in a stack upside-down so that the control number was printed in the upper-left margin. In addition to the 20¢ issue inverted control numbers are known on the 1¢ (1.1i), 2¢ (3.1d), 3¢ (4.1d), 5¢ (5.1c), and 25¢ (9.1c) definitives as well as the 6¢ (C1.1e) and 10¢ (C2.1e) airmail issues. The values in parenthesis are the Gaines catalog numbers. Prices range from \$200 to \$300 with no price given for the once unique 20¢ MI block. Forgeries are known, so caution, and a certificate of authenticity, are advised.



Figure 2: MI4 Block of First Issue 20¢ definitive with offset of inverted control number 018 on the gum side.

A new listing has been added for the 10¢ issue. A pane from the third printing with a preprinting paper crease has been discovered. The crease, which affects stamps 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, and 22 in the fourth and fifth rows of the pane, can be seen as a jagged white gap in Figure 3. The perforations are also affected. There is an extra long gap between two perforation holes on the right side of stamp number 20, and an elongated hole between stamps 19 and 20. An extra



Figure 3: Portion of MI12 Block of First Issue 10¢ definitive with preprinting paper crease photographically cropped.

hole (18 vs. 17 from top to bottom) appears in the column of perforations between stamps 17 and 18, and a partial double row of perforations exist between stamps 17 and 22.

An upper-right MI block of 12 has been separated from the pane, the rest of which remains intact. The printing plate for this issue was formatted as two side-by-side panes of 50 images arranged in ten rows of five stamps each. The error pane is from the left side of the printed sheet. The crease progresses through the right margin and theoretically should continue into the right pane. However, the gap diminishes as it goes from left to right, so the effect on the companion pane, if found, would be less dramatic. Gaines prices one of the affected stamps at \$100. So far, this is the only paper fold or paper crease known for this stamp.

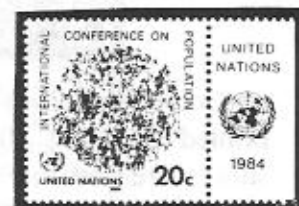


First Issues is a regular column dedicated to the topic of the First Issue of the UN (Scott nos. 1-11, C1-4). It is intended to be a forum for discussing items of interest, topics, and issues regarding this classic stamp issue. Comments and questions are welcome and may be sent to: Tony Dewey, 157 Warrenton Avenue, Hartford, CT 06105-3931.



POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT

By Richard Powers



In 1946 the United Nations set up the first panel on population questions, namely the Population Commission of the Economic and Social Council. For years this commission was principally engaged in gathering authoritative statistics and working out the consequent socioeconomic factors related to population.

A turning point in the attitude of the UN towards population problems occurred in 1966, when the General Assembly decided that the UN and its affiliated organizations should aid in the establishment and development of institutions to provide research, training, information and advice in the field of population problems. In recognizing the reality that each country has the right to formulate its own population policy, the General Assembly advanced the principle that the decision of family size should be the affair of the individual families. In 1970 the General Assembly designated 1974 to be "World Population Year".

The UNPA has duly commemorated the international population conferences sponsored by the UN beginning with the "World Population Conference" in Belgrade in 1964 (Scott UNNY #151-3). Ten years later a similarly named conference took place in Bucharest from August 19th through the 30th (UNNY #252-3, UNG

#43-4). The next in the series of decennial meetings was the "International Conference on Population", which took place from August 6-13, 1984 in Mexico City (UNNY #417-8, UNG #121, UNV 39).

The most recent in this series, the "International Conference on Population and Development" (ICPD '94) convened in Cairo last year from September 5th through the 13th. Not only did the UNPA issue a series of six stamps (UNNY #651-2, UNG #255-6, UNV #174-5) on September 1st honoring this conference, but also each of the three offices issued slogan cancellations on July 11th.

Blanton Clement Jr. attended the first day ceremony at UN Headquarters in New York and deposited some plain covers with the new population stamps in the mailbox. A few days later he received the covers in the mail not with the first day cancel but with the working day cancel (Gaines UNNY slogan cancel #99), which commemorated the conference on the day of issue of the population stamps (Figure 1).

According to Clem, the UNPA-Geneva had a sales stand at the conference in Cairo, at which a special cancel and a special cachet were used as seen in Figure 2. As of June 1995 these cancels applied to a blue card and to the UNG pop-

ulation stamps on a Geneva cachet cover honoring the conference were still available for sale as part of the Population and Development Conference Folder (item # 11314) at the UNPA in New York. The Egyptian Post Office also issued two commemoratives and a special Cairo cancel in honor of the

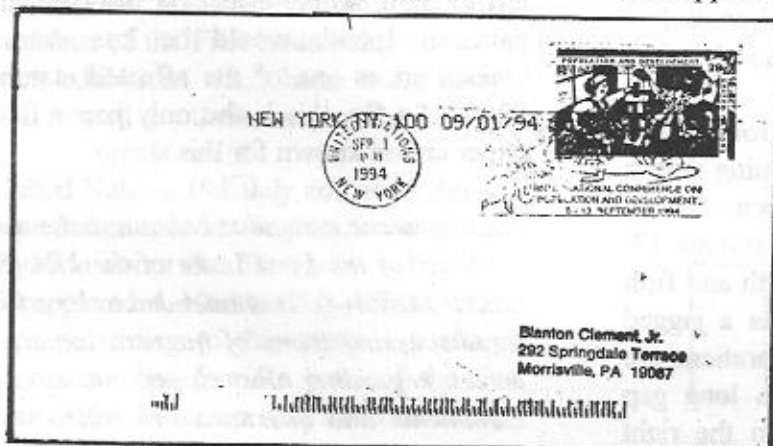


Figure 1: First day cover of population stamp with working day cancel.



Figure 2: UNPA-Geneva cancels in Cairo honoring ICPD '94.

ference (Figure 3). These appear affixed to a souvenir folder included in the above-mentioned conference folder.



Figure 3: Egyptian stamps and cancel honoring ICPD '94.

CANADA POSTAGE PAID ON INCOMING ICAO MAIL

By Jack I. Mayer

During the late 1980's there continued to be pressure on the United Nations agencies to cut mailing costs. Since much of UN-originated mailings from foreign offices directed to the ICAO in Montreal were sent by pouch to the UN Headquarters in New York, they were franked at the UN post office by meter. For many years each piece was separately metered.

It was then concluded that savings might ensue by grouping these daily accumulation of mail and sending them in larger envelopes. Such a policy was the meter collectors' nemesis: far fewer meter imprints! The values on the meter tapes used on such groupings have soared as postal rates have increased and the parcels grew in size, today reaching the \$60.00 range. Additionally, more and more of the foreign agencies' mailings to Montreal were and are being sent directly by private carrier.

As they were passed through the various postal facilities, these large parcels of individual pieces occasionally broke open. The outer envelopes were often destroyed in the process and the individual pieces became mixed with the other mail being processed. Unfranked pieces were then either returned to the sender or sent pos-

tage due. Both processes were cumbersome and costly as well as adding significant delay to the delivery of the mail. It was not long before another method was employed: that of franking each piece with a rubber stamp imprint signifying that postage had been paid. Thus far three devices are known to have been used. Each is illustrated in Figure 1, providing another aspect of collecting UN covers destined for ICAO Headquarters in Montreal, Canada.

CANADA
POSTAGE PAID
PORT PAYÉ

POSTAGE PAID
PORT PAYÉ

CANADA
POSTAGE PAID
PORT PAYÉ

Figure 1: Post paid rubber stamp imprints on mail forwarded to the ICAO by the UN post office in New York.

TEMPORARY INTERNATIONAL PRESENCE IN HEBRON

By J.-L. Emmenegger

(Previously published in the Winter 1995 issue of the *Military Postal History Society Bulletin* and is reprinted with the permission of the publisher.)

Based on the agreements signed in Washington in September 1993 by the Israeli government and the Palestine Liberation Organization, the so-called "Occupied Territories" of Gaza and Jericho were handed over to the civilian Palestine authorities. To supervise and control this change of power, the two parties agreed to keep an international commission in place, named the "Temporary International Presence in Hebron" (TIPH), operated under United Nations mandate.

Three countries sent observers as members of the TIPH at their own expense: Denmark (28), Norway (55) and Italy (35).

The commission was in Palestinian territory from May 8 to August 8, 1994.

Official preprinted envelopes (see Figure 1) were at the disposal of the TIPH observers for their mail. A post office box was rented in Jerusalem for incoming mail. Mail sent by the TIPH observers went through the Israeli post office bearing a Jerusalem postmark.

Any further information about TIPH mail would be appreciated by the author at the following address:

J.-L. Emmenegger
P.O.Box 110
CH-1009 Pully
Switzerland.

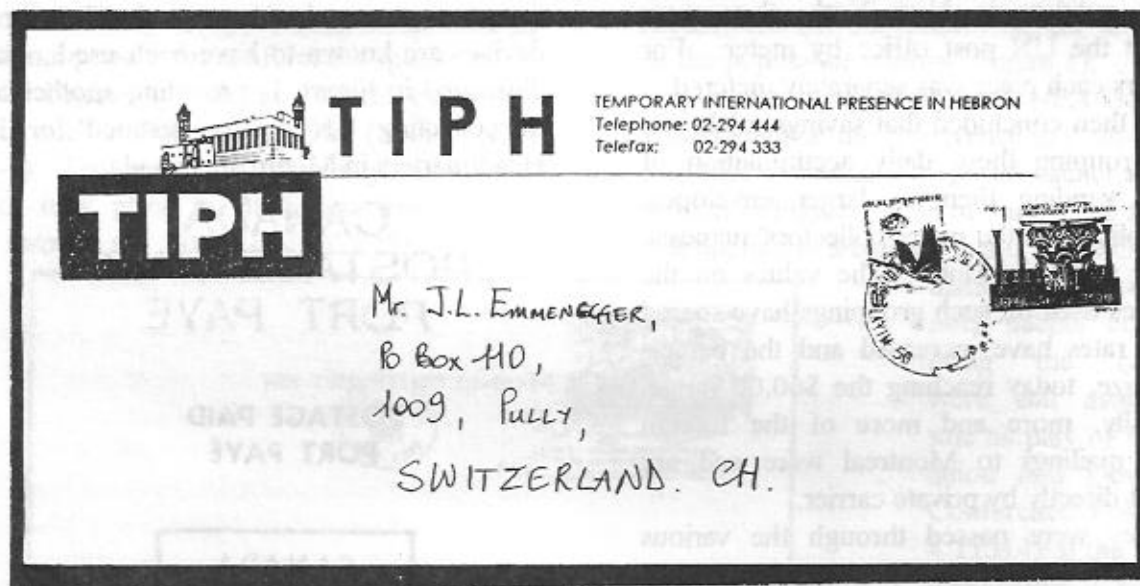


Figure 1: Service cover from the UN-mandated Temporary International Presence in Hebron.

THE UNITED NATIONS UNIVERSITY

By Jack Mayer and Richard Powers



In September 1969 then Secretary-General U Thant proposed the founding of a United Nations University (UNU) with a genuine international character, which would serve the goals of the Charter, namely peace and progress and should foster international understanding not only in political but also in cultural domains

The proposal was studied by committees of the United Nations and UNESCO. As a result the concept was established, which would take into consideration the present day and future needs of the world. In 1973 the General Assembly founded the UNU, which operates under the patronage of the UN and UNESCO. In September 1975 the University established its headquarters in Tokyo. A cover bearing a meter cancel from machine 597 appears in Figure 1.

Just like a traditional university its responsibility is the dissemination of knowledge. In contrast to normal universities it grants no degrees nor does it have a permanent faculty or campus. It is a completely new institution: an international society of scientists active in research, in academic instruction or in the transmission of knowledge.

The UNU works with affiliated institutions and a system of Research and Training Cen-

tres (RTC) throughout the world. According to its statutes its responsibilities encompass the urgent worldwide problems of development, survival and welfare. In 1985 the first RTC, the World Institute for Development Economics Research, opened in Helsinki, Finland. The International Institute for Software Technology is located in Macao. Figure 2 shows a meter tape from this office.



Figure 2: Meter tape from the UNU/IIST office in Macao.

The UNU also has an office in Washington, D.C. at 4421 Garrison Street, N.W. Mailings have been observed with meter imprints (Figure 3) from Merrifield, Virginia, which could possibly be the location of the printer that does the mailing for the UNU. A bulk permit indicia for the UNU has also been observed (Figure 4).



Figure 3: Merrifield, VA meter cancel used by the UNU Washington office.



Figure 1: A cover bearing a meter cancel from the UNU Headquarters in Tokyo.

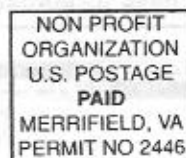


Figure 4: Merrifield, VA bulk permit indicia used by the UNU Washington office.

BURIED TREASURE

By Dan Gapinski

"Left, right, center, back. Left, right, center, back. Left right, center, back. Aha!" I added another little gem to my growing pile of buried treasure. The dealer with the parrot on his shoulder and a patch over one eye glowered at me.

I was at a quarterly bourse in Des Moines. It's a small bourse with only eight dealers. All the dealers apologized for forgetting to bring their UN material. "But hardly anyone asks for it," lamented one dealer. Two hours later, \$28 poorer and with a feeling of satisfaction I walked out with over 40 UN-related covers and miscellaneous items. You just need to know how to hunt for buried treasure. The following UN Hunter tips will prove invaluable:

Tip #8: Never believe a dealer, who has a world-wide cover stock, when he says that he doesn't have any UN covers.

Tip #46: Knowledge leads to discovery.

Tip #107: Read. Study. Browse.

Tip #45: Be persistent, patient, and unhurried.

Tip #118: Left, right, center, back.

Never believe a dealer

As mentioned earlier, each dealer indicated a lack of UN material except "some singles and a #38". One dealer made a point of telling me, for what seemed like hours, how sorry he was to have forgotten his UN boxes (which he had

not brought last time I was there). I finally convinced him, that I still wanted to go through his five worldwide cover boxes. (Believe it or not, he actually had a section in the "U's" marked United Nations.) Very few dealers can stay on top of their inventory or can specialize in more than one or two areas. I've never met a UN-specialized dealer in person.

My favorite cover from the show (Figure 1) was found at this table. I'd be interested in hearing from readers who know anything about *Scholastic Magazines'* UN Stamp Clubs. They seem to have had access to the UNPA addressograph machines. I never realized that the producers of my daughter's *Weekly Reader's* were involved in UN philately. I would love to see some of their material from that era. That cover was \$1. I also found several "Cocteau" covers, a Turkish cover from the 10th International Monetary Fund meeting of the Board of Governors, a few commercial UN covers, and the UNDP cover shown in Figure 2 for 50¢. I passed on several duplicates.

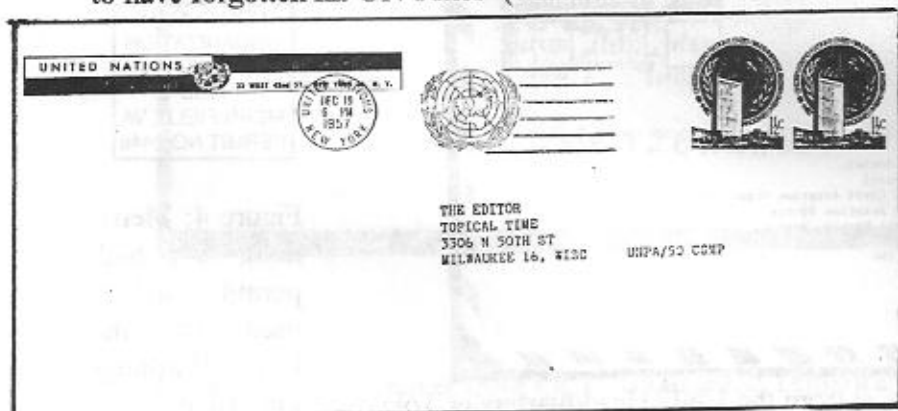


Figure 1: Cover from Scholastic Magazines' UN Stamp Clubs.



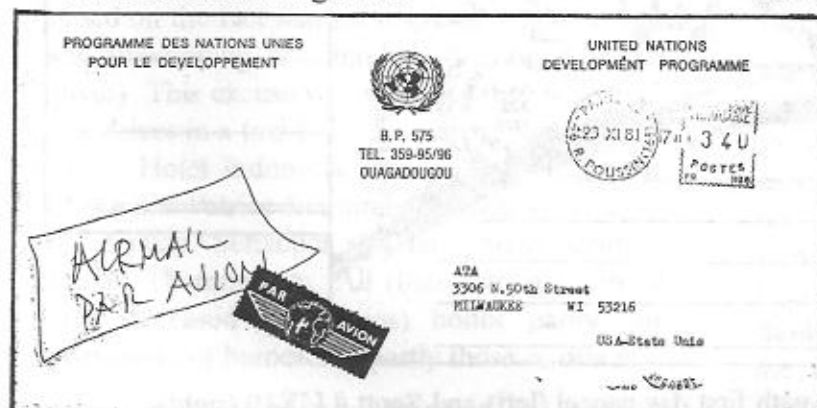
Figure 3: Bolivian Presentation Booklet Honoring the 1957 ECLA Meeting in La Paz.

Knowledge leads to discovery.

I cannot stress enough that a UN hunter needs to invest some time in reading about the UN, its history, its forerunners, and its various affiliated agencies. The more you know, the better map you will have to lead to **buried treasure**. At one table the dealer, between mouthfuls of his "Big Mac", assured me that I would be wasting my time in his cover boxes, as he "knew" there was nothing to be found. Under the "B's" I found the item in Figure 3 for \$4. (I also found several other items.)

Read. Study. Browse.

This tip is related to the above tip. I spend a lot of time browsing, reading, and rereading UN catalogs (e.g. Gaines, Terins, etc.) and articles to enable me to recognize items. Recognition is the key to finding buried treasure. Keeping in your head terms like "international, committee, session, congress, development, etc." and acronyms will cause you to look at a cover more closely. Also, it is a wise idea to familiarize yourself with these words and "United Nations" in different languages. Take a Scott catalog and browse through it looking for topical UN issues. Then look at the foreign words and lettering for these terms, so that you stop for closer inspection, when you see a cover with these words. This tip caused me to take a chance on the two covers (\$1 each) from Sweden (Figure 4). At this point I am not sure whether or not they are related to the UN, but I'm a sucker for very small covers. Each cover was 3 1/4" x 4 1/4". I'll have fun researching them.



Be persistent, patient, and unhurried.

I don't know about you, but I find the hobby very relaxing. Spend time looking in the worldwide cover boxes. If you flip quickly through the covers, you may miss a real gem. That's why it's called **buried treasure**. Look at each cover. A cover sticking to the sleeve of another may be just that "special" one. Take your time and use:

Left, Right, Center, Back.

When paging through covers in a box, I always look left (top left) first to look at the return address area or corner card as it is known - usually the best give away of a UN related item. Next I look right (top right) at the cancel, stamp, or free mail markings. Many items like the FAO in Rome can be identified only by the postmark or meter indicia. Next I look at the center (who it's addressed to), which sometimes makes me look again at the corner card or postmark area. Last I look at the back of the cover, which sometimes has a return printed address such as the WHO assembly cover which I found at this show.

Don't assume that a particular country might not have any UN-related items. The UN is truly international in scope, and has agencies listed and unlisted in catalogs everywhere, as well as new ones cropping up all the time.

So get out that shovel and start digging for buried treasure at that next show and for the thrill and satisfaction of discovery that comes with each gem you recover.



Figure 2: UNDP cover from Burkina Faso mailed in Paris. Figure 4: UN(known?) Swedish cancels.

POSTAL RATE CHANGES AND CURRENT UNPA STATIONERY

By Duane E. Lamers

The United States Postal Service (USPS) instituted new postal rates for international mail effective July 9, 1995. All rate changes, as you know, affect United Nations Postal Administration (UNPA) and United Nations Post Office (UNPO) operations as well. Two items of UN postal stationery have been rendered obsolete or given a more limited use by the international rates now in effect.

The 45¢ aerogramme (Scott # UC18), first issued in September 1982, can no longer be used without additional postage. Remaining stocks—or a portion of them at any rate—have been revalued to meet the new 50¢ rate. UC18's bearing the 5¢ surcharge (Figure 1) will undoubtedly be known as UC19.

The 40¢ postal card UX19, issued with the aerogramme in 1992, is no longer valid for overseas use, since that rate has also jumped to 50¢. The card now has a more limited but valid use if posted to Canada, since 40¢ is now the rate for postal cards to

that country. A post card to Mexico is only 35¢.

It remains unclear whether any of the 40¢ cards will be surcharged for overseas use. The aerogramme has been surcharged and has been on sale since July 9th, the day that the new rates became effective. Of course, UC18 and UX19 remain valid for use if an extra 5¢ or 10¢, respectively, in UN stamps is affixed.

Incidentally, surface rates for overseas mail have been discontinued. All such mail is sent by air. [Editor's Note: The USPS actually only dropped the surface tariff for first class mail. It was 70¢ for a letter weighing up to one ounce, which, strangely enough, made a one-half-ounce letter sent by boat costlier than the same letter sent by airmail, which cost only 50¢. According to my local post office printed matter rates for surface mail still exist and are approximately 50% cheaper than printed matter airmail rates.]



Figure 1: The revalued aerogramme with first day cancel (left) and Scott # UX19 (right).

FROM DJAKARTA WITH LOVE

(The following article was furnished by Mike Armus, who owns one of these items. It was previously published in the Netherlands in 1971 in *Mijn Stokpaardje* (My Hobby-Horse) and appears here with the permission of the editor. It has been translated by Richard Powers, who would like to hear opinions from members.)



UNTEA 3 cent

Someone from Irian Barat claimed to possess a real printer's proof of the 3-cent UNTEA stamp. He asked 600 Guilder for it.

This value, already with tropical stains, was stuck on a long cover with seventeen other values (a broken set missing among others the 2-Guilder value). It was postmarked in Hollandia on April 30, 1963 at 1:00 PM. The 3-cent stamp was not cancelled.

This story sounded very intriguing. Mr. Djalal Abdoh, an Iranian, who was Chief of UNTEA Civil Affairs, obtained a copy of this proof as a memento. There were three stamps in all, of which the remaining two are now in Djakarta. An illustration of the 3-cent stamp appears above. Can anyone tell me if it is a real proof or a fraud?

Mr. Djalal Abdoh was known as a connoisseur of mementos. Not that he took everything with him. He would even have liked to have left behind a memento. For he did his utmost best to make Irian Barat more beautiful. When Hollandia was renamed Sukarnapurna, he deemed it just that one of the main streets should bear the name Djahan Djalal Abdoh. One was actually so discourteous as to refuse him this memorial based on the fact that his respiratory system was still functioning as intended. (i.e. he was still alive!) This excuse was valid because whenever one drives in a taxi from the airport Kemajaoran to the Hotel Indonesia, one passes (the names of) Djalan Patrice Lumumba, Djalan Diponegoro, Djalan Setiabudi, Djalan Imam-Bondjot, Djalan Thamrin, etc. All (these streets) named after deceased (luminaries) honor partly our own series of heroes and partly those of others.

Note from the Editor of *Mijn Stokpaardje*

At the time we were (as conceited as this

may sound) quite well-informed regarding the history of the UNTEA overprints. Hence we are still puzzled by a 3-cent stamp with that overprint. Of the van Krimpen numeral stamps only the orange 2-cent value was in stock and hence overprinted. For other low values one used the bird of paradise (1, 5, 10 cent) and the Queen Victoria crowned pigeon (7 cent). The 3- and 4-cent van Krimpen overprints were unnecessary at this time.

When preparing (overprint) proofs (the options varied between large, medium and small type sizes), one used readily available sheets of stamps. It sounds pretty foolish to think that one looked in every nook and cranny for a scrap piece of three stamps! And the 3-cent stamps would then have been waiting all that time for Djalal Abdoh? We believe not one bit of it.

The 3-cent Stamp with UNTEA Overprint

Mr. F. Bender from Rijswijk wrote us concerning the affair mentioned above. In 1964 a Dutchman returning from Irian Barat showed him a block of 4 stamps of the 3-cent van Krimpen stamp with the original UNTEA overprint. Apparently an Indonesian had gotten hold of a block of eight of the 3-cent stamps. He had this overprinted with UNTEA by request at the National Printing Bureau. This happened during the period October 1, 1962 until April 30, 1963. The Indonesian sold half of this block to the Dutchman, who in turn offered this denomination for sale to Mr. Bender. The asking price for this "curiosity" was really more than Mr. Bender cared to pay. Later the Dutchman went back to Indonesia. Whether some stamps from the block were sold or whether he returned with the block intact, is unknown to Mr. Bender. Naturally one cannot exclude the possibility that afterwards one of the 3-cent stamps was glued onto the "last day cover" mentioned above.



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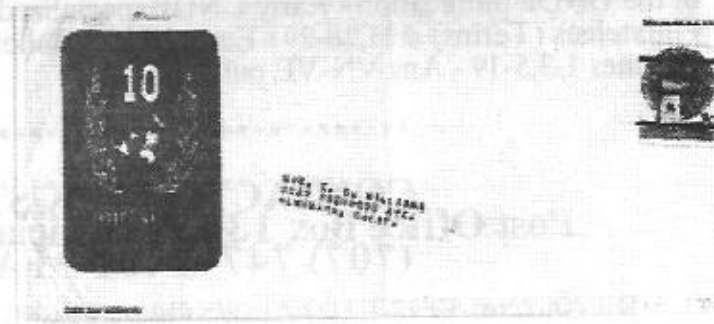
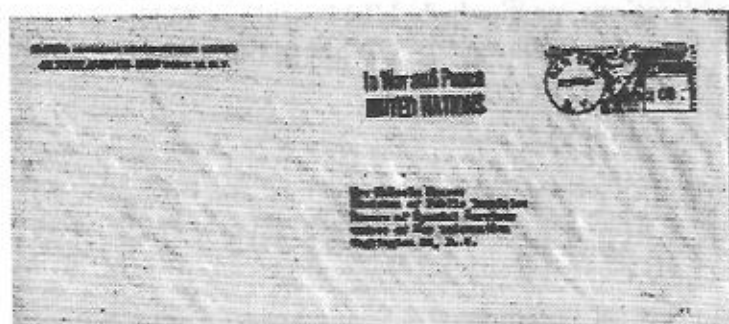
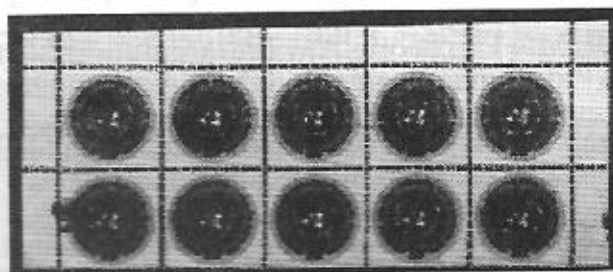
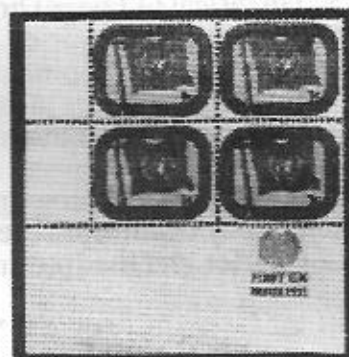
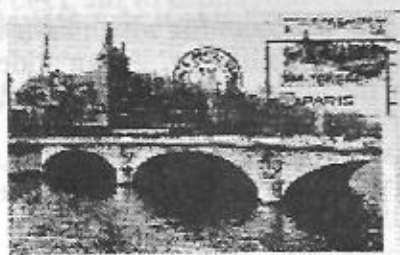
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Members are reminded that they may submit two philatelic advertisements per year for inclusion in the *Journal* free of charge. Each should be no longer than about five lines per inclusion. These will appear in the order received according to space available.

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The deadline for submission of material for publication is the first day of the month preceding the issue month. The deadline for the December issue is November 1st.

