

# the journal

OF THE UNITED NATIONS PHILATELISTS, INC.

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**CHAPTERS OF UNP**

Midwest UN Collectors: meets intermittently, usually at shows in the Iowa-Kansas-Nebraska area. For information, write Ruth Grissman, 2817 61st St., Des Moines, IA 50322.

UN Collectors of Chicagoland, Inc.: meets each month, September through June, at the 55 West Monroe, Suite 2400, Chicago. An informal dinner gathering precedes the meeting. For time and place call Ben Cohen, 726-3555. The meeting starts about 7:30 pm. For information, write to Harry Collier, Box 1674, Chicago, IL 60690.

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## EDITOR'S NOTES

The center of this issue contains the cumulative index to the first five volumes of The Journal. It is bound in its own cover and can easily be removed for handy reference or for binding with the appropriate issues. Our thanks to the compiler.

Some new bylines appear in this issue of The Journal, thanks to the responses of UNP members who desire to contribute to the understanding of all of us.

The Journal is more than a technical publication for a few specialists. We see our magazine as a service to every UN collector. To serve all our present members and to attract new subscribers, our publication must speak to a variety of interests among hobbyists.

For the new contributors we are thankful.

Some wishes for the New Year:

That UNPA-Vienna begin using stamps on mail from its own offices;

That all UN agencies based at the Headquarters, Palais, or Conference Center complex use stamps on outgoing mail to promote UN goals and themes;

That UNPA continue its conscientious efforts to print stamps in quantities that reflect market demands;

That the ever-increasing cost of collecting UN stamps will be kept in mind by UNPA officials as they plan new stamp programs;

That Ms. Grunewald at UNPA be able to cope with all those demands and requests from inside and outside the UN;

That UNPA & WFUNA continue their traditions of excellence in cachet designs, and that there be new Vienna cachets for each issue;

That our members find their Journal informative;

That more of the same be inspired to offer their thoughts for publication;

That all find much happiness in the New Year!

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UNP members are invited to gather at Milwaukee, at MILCOPEX, for their next convention. If you wish to exhibit, contact Ron Hollinger before 30 January 1983 for a prospectus, which must be filed with MILCOPEX by 15 February.

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

### Is Our Hobby Threatened?

Over the last few years as I have become more involved in the United Nations philatelic community, I've heard complaints from time to time from collectors of United Nations stamps. Perhaps one of the greatest cries coming from these philatelic devotees who threaten to give up United Nations collecting is that they are opposed to the actions of the UN organization, the lack of enforcement, or the inability of the UN body to achieve its stated goals.

Those expressing this view form a small group, and there are probably many more harboring similar thoughts, though they say and do nothing. If we listen to the promotions of the UNPA, we should be buying UN stamps to assist in supporting the goals of the United Nations. Conversely, then, are these collectors correct in wanting to discontinue their buying when directions are taken by the UN which appear contradictory or of which they disapprove?

The true answer to this must be formulated in the long-term view. From within our own families many analogies can be drawn to the operation of our national governments. If we were to all leave at any point of disagreement, chaos would surely rule. We must have faith in the long-term goals, which helps us over the rough short term.

United Nations philately can be one of the most interesting ways available to help keep us abreast of what is going on in the world. The United Nations is everywhere, whether it be the highly-visible peacekeeping troops in the Middle East or the programs of the Food and Agriculture Organization which in the United States are administered through the Department of Agriculture. Did you ever relate those machine slogan cancellations about malaria, cancer, clean air and water, hunger, and education to the United Nations programs or its agencies? The list is endless and continues daily, all around the world. It would be a rare occurrence to go through a dealer's "shoebox" of world covers and not find franking commemorating some event related to the United Nations.

Perhaps the greatest boon ever to our hobby has been the Gaines catalog, United Nations Philately. Though edited by Arleigh Gaines, material is supplied by collectors the world over. One needs to spend only a few moments thumbing its pages to realize that collecting possibilities are limitless and for any budget. We can give ourselves as much challenge in each of these areas as we may wish. What a great opportunity to collect at any monetary level, any interest area, and at the same time learn about the world around us. No other field can offer so much.

Who, then, suffers if collecting ceases because of

what the UN is doing or not doing today? One should not "cut off one's nose to spite one's face". As the world body collectively makes its decisions, we as followers and philatelists can enjoy the rich rewards of discovery and accumulation related to those decisions. No, our hobby is not threatened - but an occasional perusal of our direction can certainly be useful as we learn more about our chosen field of philately.

- Jack I. Mayer

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## UNITED NATIONS EUROPEAN EXHIBITION IMPRINTS

By Charles C. Smith

My notes in this column in Whole No. 28 (vol. 5, no. 4) illustrated and briefly described some printing, cancelling, and imprinting errors on Blue Cards distributed by UNPA Geneva. I have also previously discussed several types of errors on the UNPA Vienna White Card. Although not generally known, similar errors have occurred on other official UNPA Geneva philatelic souvenir items once widely used to obtain European exhibition imprints. Today, very few collectors specialize in these items and thus serious research and documentation of printing varieties and errors is especially rare. I do not recall any of the following printing errors having been illustrated or described previously.

The UNPA Geneva Dove Art Cards were introduced in April, 1975, and the last card removed from sale in June, 1978. The cards consisted of two basic printing styles, a so-called Type 1 card in which the dove and olive branch were white with the multicolored background being overprinted "UNITED NATIONS NATIONS UNIES," and a Type 2 card with the wording overprinted on the dove and olive branch while the multicolored background lacked the overprinted wording. Both cards were available for purchase at the philatelic sales counter in the Palais des Nations in Geneva. The cards were also available for purchase in mint condition at exhibitions where they could be imprinted and franked on either the face or address side and returned to the UNPA in Geneva for subsequent cancelling. At eight exhibitions during the period from June, 1975, through October, 1976, the UNPA sold fully prepared cards: already exhibition imprinted, franked, and cancelled in Geneva with the opening day and hour of the exhibition. These cards constitute the official exhibition imprint Dove Art Cards (refer to listing in Gaines).

As noted previously, few printing errors have been observed on the Dove Cards. Figure 1 shows the face of a mint Type 2 art card with the "orange" color bands being smeared during the printing process. The faulty color printing is also evident on both the lower right leaf and lower part of the stem of the olive branch. The reverse or address and message side of this card is normal.

Another popular philatelic souvenir item on which the European exhibition imprints were collected was the UNPA Geneva Tan or Beige Card (Figure 2). As with the Dove Art cards, the Tan Cards were available for sale mint at the Palais in Geneva as well as at exhibitions attended by the Geneva UNPA. The first Tan Card was made available at the Ludwigshafen, West Germany, exhibition held during 13-15 September 1974, just slightly over one year following release of the popular Blue Card. Unfortunately, sales of the Tan Card were discontinued in late 1976, although previously purchased cards continued to be exhibition imprinted and cancelled as late as the PORTOCALE '77 exhibition held in Porto, Portugal, during 19-28 November 1977. Unlike the Dove Art Cards, the official

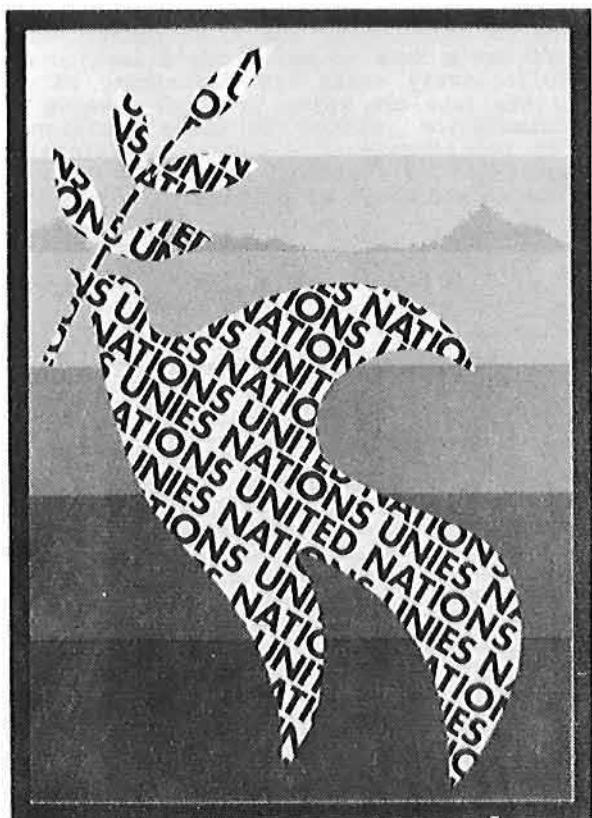


Figure 1

Tan Cards, those prepared in advance for a European exhibition, were given away free in small information packets to visitors to the UNPA booth. Both the official and unofficial (privately produced) Tan Cards have been listed in my previous imprint column in *Whole No. 21* (vol. 4, no. 3) dated February, 1981.

I am aware of only one significant printing error involving the Geneva Tan Card, where the printing on the face of the card is shifted rather dramatically toward the right leaving a distinct white border along its left margin. The reverse or address side of this same card shows an even more spectacular error in that the commemorative text is printed upside-down in the address area (Figure 3).

Another popular philatelic item on which European exhibition imprints are collected is the UN Globe Cover or Official Geneva Cachet envelope, available at the philatelic sales counter at the Palais in Geneva as well as at its exhibitions since early September, 1974. As with the Dove Art Card and Tan or Beige Card, on six occasions (see listing in *Gaines*) the UNPA has sold special official UN Day cancelled and pre-exhibition Imprinted Globe Covers at their respective exhibitions. The Globe Cover has been relatively free of printing errors. One printing error of which I am aware is shown in Figure 4, a Globe Cover imprinted at the exhibition held in Thessaloniki, Greece, and later machine slogan cancelled in Geneva, 30 September 1980. Note the absence of the UN wreath emblem and "Official Geneva Cachet" beneath the globe.

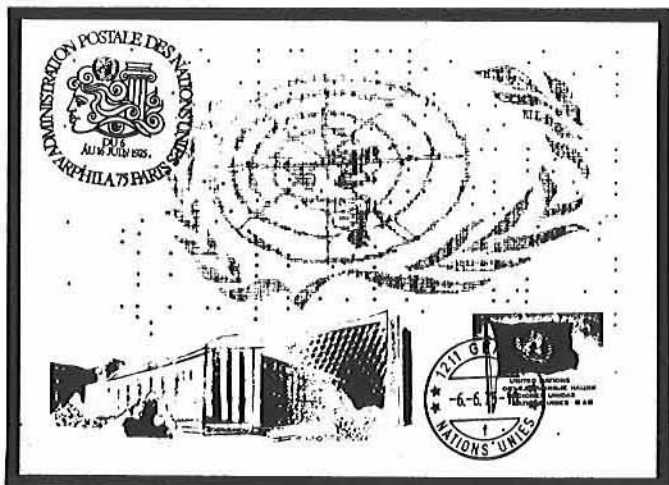


Figure 2.

Face of "normal" official Tan Card showing Paris 1975 exhibition imprint and UN Geneva cancel -6.-.6.75-10 "f."

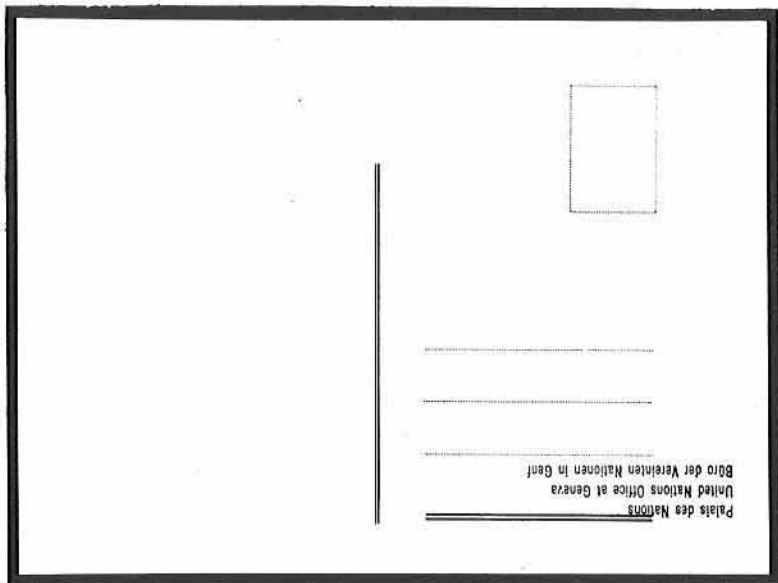


Figure 3. Reverse or address side of Tan Card shown in Figure 5. Note the commemorative text printed upside-down in the address area of the card.



Figure 4.

Printing error on exhibition imprinted and cancelled Globe Cover. Note the complete absence of the UN Wreath and text.

As always, I will appreciate hearing from anyone who may possess examples of either these or other printing errors on Art Cards, Tan Cards, Globe Covers, or other exhibition imprint stationery items. It is only with your help that we can eventually have a more complete documentation and a better understanding of these printing errors.

## VISIT TO UNPA 24 SEPTEMBER 1982

By H. M. McLellan

September 24th was a beautiful, sunny fall day in New York, and after a short walk through the UN Plaza I entered and found myself going through a security inspection just as one goes through at the airports. Everyone was pleasant and there was no real inconvenience.

I noticed the UNPA special booths on the first floor and walked over to see the display of stamps and covers for sale. There was an exhibit of UNPA history depicted in stamps, covers, cards, etc. There also was a special exhibit to show the WFUNA cachets, FDC's, etc. I decided to return later to look at the exhibits in detail.

Then down to the UNPA Post Office area where a very large group of people awaited a turn at the counter where



four clerks were busy with sales of all kinds.

In various places adjacent were counters tended by volunteers from WFUNA, busy helping purchasers of covers, graphics, and jumbo covers produced for the Flag issue.

Near by was the UNICEF counter selling not only Flag and other issues but also greeting cards, souvenirs, and other specialty items.

Further along one comes upon a counter offering special UN medals featuring the many activities and UN special events.

Further walking about brings one to a store selling stuffed animals and dolls dressed in the native costumes of many of the UN member nations.

A book store next catches one's attention with an enormous supply of the many UN reports, studies, critiques, etc. You may mail a purchase and obtain a meter cancellation for your collection.

Then, a gift shop for your attention. Just about any item is there for purchase for you and your friends.

By this time you may wish a cup of coffee, tea, etc., along with other services in the food line in a pleasant restaurant. You are served at a counter, quickly, and with a smile.

In many places about you could come upon a person at a table giving special attention to requests for cancellations on a hand-back basis. You could also drop mail in a box for regular delivery.

I noted that every fifteen minutes or so elevator doors opened and out walked another tour group of ten to 20 people. The Post Office was the terminal point of interest for these groups following visits to the many meeting chambers. It was interesting to see many people's eyes light up when they spotted the stamp displays.

I had hoped in walking about to meet old friends of UN philately and kept my eyes open for John Terins, Mike Konnick, Stan Roach or Rudy Repasky. No luck so far, so seeing a chair near the WFUNA group I sat down. A polite volunteer informed me it was alright, but at 10:30 a.m. they expected Joan Belserene to appear and autograph covers. So I could be first?

Shortly, a most interesting development happened. A WFUNA volunteer, Dick Anthony, approached me and we exchanged greetings and talked about WFUNA.

Recently I separated my WFUNA covers from other cachets, and while doing so two questions came to mind regarding use of the cacheted envelopes.

Figure A illustrates the WFUNA cover issued for use

on 28 May 1971. It honored the UPU with the cachet in silver with the stamps depicting UPU Headquarters.

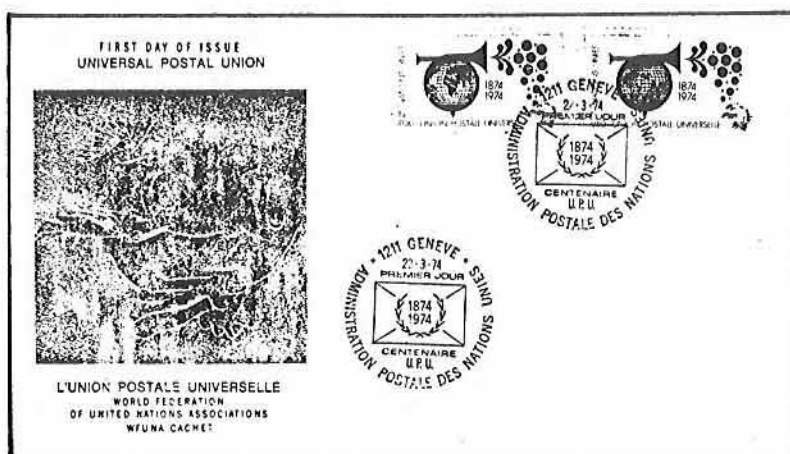


Figure A



Figure B

Figure B illustrates the WFUNA cover issued for use 22 March 1974. It honors the UPU Centenary. The artist credited is Janis Gailis (USA).

Figure C illustrates the WFUNA cover issued for use 7 April 1972. The blue cachet honors World Health Day. However, the stamp is a Swiss service stamp cancelled 7-5-79 honoring the World Health Organization. The artist is Edgar Stareck (USA).



Figure C

Mr. Anthony was so friendly that I asked his opinion of the three covers. A most interesting group of people took notice with varied opinions. One thought "C" to be very rare and the use of "A" and "B" puzzling. The group was joined by Mrs. Wiener and a little later by Herb Conway. As no conclusion was reached, Mrs. Weiner asked Dick Anthony to show me WFUNA Headquarters and to give me a photostat of the WFUNA Headquarters listing of the 100 different covers with data recorded.

A general opinion developed that covers "A" and "C" were "bastards." The use of cachets, although related, was not proper for FDC use at a later date.

It was now past noon, so I decided on a New York "must": Grand Central Station and the famous Oyster Bar for an oyster stew.

Enroute, on the UN periphery, I found a policeman every 15 feet along both sides of Third Avenue from E. 42nd to E. 44th watching an enormous crowd of PLO followers and the Arab Students League demonstrating against Israel.

On my way back to UNPA after lunch I found about 30 or so gentlemen in black, long-tailed coats and flat hats. They were carrying signs "Jews Against Zionism". Someone said they were Hesidics from Brooklyn.

Back at the UN it was busy as ever and after another look around I visited the UNPA exhibit set up near the main lobby.

As 3:00 p.m. was approaching, I left, took a walk in the UN Garden, and headed back to the Tudor Hotel to meet my wife and sister.

Ed. note: Readers are invited to solve the puzzle.

NO

Welcome to our new members:

Tom Ellgass, Illinois  
Walter McClintock, Illinois  
Marion Cudzilo, Indiana  
Florence Pakizer, Michigan  
Ronald Klimley, New York

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News from UNPA-Geneva: Deputy Chief O.A. Madsen announces that the Federation française de philatélie has approved an exhibition at Nice, France, 24-26 June 1983 dedicated solely to UN philately. There will be a minimum of 500 frames displayed at the Palais des expositions.

Look for additional information in these pages and in the philatelic press generally as it is made available. Meanwhile, those hot to trot to the Riviera should contact President Jack Mayer for details.

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Our past president, Charles Smith, has taken on the task of organizing our next UNP auction. He will have announcements in these pages in February. The anxious may wish to contact him sooner. In order to give our European colleagues the opportunity to participate, the closing date for the next auction will be later in 1983.

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Director Robert Kvarnes has resigned his position and is now replaced by Don Miller, Lincoln, Nebraska.

UNP's new librarian is Audrey Harter, Des Moines, Iowa.

Congratulations to Don and Audrey on their appointments.

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The UNP Board has decided that a service charge of one dollar plus return postage will be levied for each use of the library's resources.

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*Copy deadline for February issue:  
15 January!*

It was deja vu for member Richard Powers of Pasadena, California, after reading in our Notes of the different cancellation devices used on the Space issue in June. Powers sends us photostats (below) of 1981 Flag Series stamps on Geneva cachets. Reproduced in actual size, the cancellations are different in size (33 mm vs 30 mm) and in thickness of impression. Both covers were purchased directly from UNPA, Powers adds. His order of 16 included eight of each.



Members are requested to inform the editor of cancellation varieties appearing on the 1982 Flags and the recently-released Conservation issue.

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CIAPEX '83, the Central Iowa Philatelic Exhibition, will be held at the Howard Johnson Motel, 4800 Merle Hay Road, Des Moines, Iowa 22-24 April 1983. The show is sponsored by the Iowa Women's Philatelic Society and the Des Moines Philatelic Society. Gwen Herker and Dwayne Davenport will co-chair the exhibition. There will be competitive exhibits, a twenty dealer bourse, show cachets, and a show cancel. Admission free. For more information write to CIAPEX '83 or Wilma Hinrichs, P.O. Box 4171, Des Moines, Iowa 50333.

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Without a doubt the most prestigious of publications devoted to UN philately is that of United Nations Organization-Philatelie (UNPO), appearing six times yearly. In addition, UNOP produces a major study each year and a monograph or two. Although UNOP publishes in the German language, its work is considered invaluable by the many American UN collectors who subscribe to it. The yearly subscription price of \$30 includes airmail shipment of the magazine. For surface mail delivery the price is \$24 yearly. For further information contact Mr. Hans H.V. Renesse, Sedanstrasse 11, D-5000 Koln 1, Federal Republic of Germany.

## THE FIRST ISSUE

(COLUMN #5)

By Robert G. Kvarnes

### Fluorescence and the First Issue

In differentiating reprintings or varieties of any particular stamp, a number of characteristics are examined. Perforations, shades of ink color, shades and thickness of paper, and plate marks are among the features examined and compared.

In the first UN issue another method of differentiation is most useful, especially in analyzing those stamps printed by De La Rue (the horizontal stamps of the first issue). This is the use of long-wave fluorescent light, often known as "blacklight". The blacklight lamp picks up light waves at the upper end of the visible spectrum and somewhat beyond. Since it emits light at the violet end of the spectrum and those shorter waves just beyond the visible end, it is an "ultraviolet" lamp, but of the longer wave type (length). As the ultraviolet waves become shorter, they become more dangerous. Short-wave ultraviolet lights are used to locate the "tagging" that facilitates the cancelling of stamps by modern post office equipment.

Whereas the short-wave ultraviolet light can be harmful, producing a temporary burning of the retina of the eye of one looking directly at it for a minute or more, the long-wave light is harmless unless it also produces short waves as well. A "shielded" blacklight removes this danger.

As you may already know, for the fluorescent light to be of use there must be some fluorescence to detect. Rock hunters know that certain rocks emit long-wave ultraviolet rays and use fluorescent lamps to find or verify the identification of certain minerals.

Beginning in the 1940's and '50's, paper manufacturers began to experiment with the use of whiteners to accentuate the images printed on the paper, to make the inks stand out more. The whiteners are fluorescent. The De La Rue firm began to add whiteners to their stamp papers in the mid 1950's, and it is this process which added fluorescence, providing another method of differentiating printings.

In the next column we will go more fully into the use of whiteners in the production of paper. In subsequent columns we will detail the methods of telling the printings apart. The rest of this column will address the question of providing oneself with the equipment to study fluorescence.

First, there are long-wave and short-wave portable

and stationary lamps for sale. There is a fundamental guiding principle, however, that must be observed in studying fluorescence in the first UN issue: The fluorescent lamp must provide strong light. The hand-held commercial models are not strong enough to provide the light needed. Strength is a matter of wattage. A second important feature is that the lamp cover a large enough area so that several blocks can be examined and compared at the same time.

Since the writer claims no special knowledge of electricity nor of electrical products, perhaps a review of my experience may be a guide to the reader in developing a setup.

My correspondence with Ray Goodey in England having convinced me of the importance of a strong light, I bought the ceramic ends and outfitted a wooden box so I could insert the fluorescent tube. Much better than my hand-held lamp, it still had the disadvantage of too limited an area of coverage.

After some searching, I located a used, heavy-base desk light fixture that accepts two 15-watt black light bulbs in a head attached to a flexible arm. This was a great improvement, for it enabled me to set out as many as a dozen MI-4's on a gray blanket covering my work table. The solid gray blanket does not distort the stamp colors and enables me to pick up the stamps easily with a pair of tongs. Goodey used a black velvet covering in the lamp fixture he designed for his own use. He also used a 30-inch tube.

It is not the writer's intention to suggest that all First Issue buffs spend a fortune on a blacklight setup. If one wants a large space to examine specimens of the one-, ten-, fifteen-, twenty-, and twenty-five-cent stamps, what has been described here is one way to do it. There are smaller desk lamps, stationary and flexible, that can be adapted for blacklight usage. At least one 15-watt tube is needed, however, to provide the light required for making reasonably certain identifications.

It is always useful to supply philatelic students with specific data about equipment. The writer is not able to provide a full range of data about possible setups, but this is what he has found so useful:

- Fixture: at least 25 years old, it was manufactured by Dazor Mfg. Corp., St. Louis. Model UL-P-2324-16.
- Lamp: Sylvania Blacklight Blue F 15 T8/ BLB 15-watt, available locally for about \$17.

Several companies manufacture the same blacklight tube. Prices are comparable. It may be possible to find an economically priced desk lamp with a flexible arm and outfit it with one or two tubes for less than the price of a small hand-held lamp. And both hands are now free for inspecting the stamps!



I can assure you that adding the study of fluorescence to your work with the First Issue can be most interesting and rewarding.

So far the Enschede stamps (vertical) have not been discussed. They, too, provide interesting fluorescent features. The fourth and fifth printings of the one and one-half cent stamp and the sixth and seventh printings of the one-dollar stamp are labeled "hibrite" fluorescent. In these printings a considerable amount of whitener was added, enough to attract the attention of even the casual observer.

Perhaps the most striking recent use of whitener is to be found on the U.S. State Birds and Flowers issue. You have probably noticed the intense whiteness of the paper. Take a look at the stamps under the fluorescent light!

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Brief report: A second "missing" pane has been reported. It is the left pane of the second printing of the 20-cent stamp, #8. Like the recently discovered right pane of the second printing of the 10-cent regular, #6, it is resting among the holdings of a devoted First Issue collector in Florida. There are still four panes unreported: left panes of the second, third, and fourth printings of the 15-cent flag stamp, #7, and the second printing of the 25-cent flag stamp, #9. Does anyone have them?

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## UNITED NATIONS PHILATELISTS CONVENTION

22-24 OCTOBER 1982

By Ronald Hollinger

CHICAGOPEX '82 was the site of the 1982 UNPI convention. The weather was cool - in the 40's - but attendance was good. We set up a table next to the UNPA booth and our officers spent much time talking to Eddie Hynes, the UNPA clerk. Sales at the UNPA booth were brisk, with many people picking up the 1982 Flag stamps and the new UNPA catalog. Based on past experience, the clerk brought only ten copies of the catalog. These were sold out by Friday afternoon. By show's end he had orders for over 40 more.

Many people stopped by our table after making their purchases and we enjoyed talking to them about UN collecting. In all, we registered over forty people. One collector brought along an album of over one hundred League of Nations and UN Relief Organization covers he



had accumulated.

Some real bargains were found among the dealers' lots, with one collector picking up three "London, 1945" covers for fifty cents apiece.

Unfortunately, there were no UN-related exhibits at the show, but the exhibits that were there were nice to look at. This only proves that we UN collectors have to start doing more exhibiting to let the public know what UN philately is all about.

Since there was no UN First Day in conjunction with the show, most UN enthusiasts did not spend much time milling around. But Jack Mayer, our president, and Steve Cohen, our vice president, spent many hours digging through each dealer's stock to be sure no San Francisco cancels or other goodies lied buried somewhere.

On Saturday, fifteen of us got together for lunch, along with Eddie, at Gene and Georgetti's, an interesting Italian restaurant just north of downtown Chi-town. When UN collectors get together, as usual, the main topic of conversation is interesting covers picked up, etc.

A short meeting of the UNPI membership was held at the Holiday Inn where the show was being held. Only ten people showed up. Unfortunately, advertisement of our attendance at the show wasn't what it should be and several of the normally active United Nations Collectors of Chicagoland were out of town this weekend. Those present discussed their collecting interests and Jack discussed the UN Building in New York. Future topics of monographs and Journal articles were also discussed.

The UNPI Board held a three-hour meeting at the show on Saturday afternoon. Board member Bob Kvarnes resigned. Don Miller of Lincoln, Nebraska, was appointed to fill his vacancy. Librarian-Historian Phil Okney also resigned his position. Audrey Harter of Des Moines, Iowa, will assume his duties. A list of library items available should be published shortly.

Future convention sites were decided. We will be at Milwaukee in March. We will hold our annual convention in New Jersey in October. If you are interested in exhibiting at either of these shows, contact Secretary Ron Hollinger for information. Tentative sites for 1984 are Houston and Los Angeles.

Charles Smith, our past president has agreed to handle our next auction. Please contact him at 15615 Valley Bend, Houston, TX 77068 if you have any material you would like to sell. He hopes to have two auctions a year, but he needs material.

Membership is a growing concern of your board. Remember, you can obtain a \$1 credit for signing up a new member. Request application forms from Secretary Ron Hollinger, put your membership number on the bottom of the form and give it to a prospective member. A one-

dollar credit will be applied to next year's dues for each new subscriber. Sign up eight members and get a year's dues rebated.

We hope to see a much larger turnout at Milwaukee and New Jersey next year. Come out and meet your officers, and let us meet you.

## FIRST DAY CANCELLATIONS



**Geneva**



**New York**



**Vienna**

## 1983 PROGRAMME OF UNITED NATIONS STAMP ISSUES

(subject to alteration)

28 January	World Communications Year
18 March	Safety at Sea
22 April	World Food Programme
6 June	Trade and Development
23 September	Flag Series
18 November	35th Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights

The slogan cancellation "World Assembly on the Aging" has been rejuvenated. The announced last day of use, 11 February 1983, has been postponed.



**Official WCY 83 Emblem**