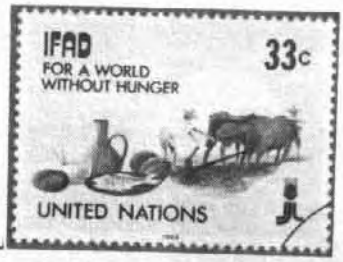
Volume 11
Number 3
February 1988
Whole No. 63

the journal

OF THE UNITED NATIONS PHILATELISTS, INC.

IFAD - FOR A WORLD WITHOUT HUNGER



ISSN 0164-6842
Affiliate #71 of American Philatelic Society
A unit of American Topical Association
Editor Richard Powers
Production Assistant Benjamin H. Cohen

Correspondence regarding changes of address and back issue requests go to the Secretary.

Correspondence regarding editorial content goes to Richard Powers, Institut fuer Physik der Universitaet Experimentelle Kernphysik, Klingelbergstrasse 82, CH-4056 Basel, Switzerland.

Published bi-monthly by United Nations Philatelists, Inc., Box 1674, Chicago, IL 60690. UNP is an organization of collectors of philatelic material of or concerning the United Nations and its associated activities. Annual dues are $10.00: $9.00 applies to a subscription to the Journal. Second Class Postage paid at Chicago, IL 60607. Office of publication, 55 West Monroe Street, #2400, Chicago, IL 60603.

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

Postmaster: PLEASE SEND Entire magazine and form 3579 to UNP, c/o Jeffrey D. Beller, 3724 Greetree Drive, Wantagh, NY 11793

UNP Board of Directors July 1, 1986 to June 30, 1988
President: Blanton Clement, Jr., 292 Springdale Terr, Morrisville, PA 19067
Vice President: Robert B. Smith, 1015 Locust St. #600, St. Louis, MO 63101
Secretary: Jeffrey D. Beller, 3724 Greetree Drive, Wantagh, NY 11793
Treasurer: Charles Berg, 4850 S Lake Park #1610, Chicago, IL 60015
Directors: Don Bakos, Box 70263, Sunnyvale, CA 94086
Audrey Harter, 2200 36th St., Des Moines, IA 50610
William L. Hilbert, 33 Canongate Ln., Highlands Ranch, CO 80126
Past President: Jack Mayer, 1379 Islewood Drive, Anacortes, WA 98221

UNP STUDY UNITS
Universal Postal Union: Norma McCumber, 3340 Del Sol Blvd., Sp. 28, San Diego, CA 92154
Exhibition Imprints: C. C. Smith, Route 4, Box 142, Northport AL 35476
Military Mail: (Except N. America) J.L. Emmenegger, Box 230, CH-1009 Pully, Switzerland; (N. America) S. Cohen, 214 E 51st, New York, NY 10022

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 preceeds the meeting. Contact Ben Cohen, Box 1674, Chicago, IL 60690.
The Western Arm: at four major San Francisco Bay area shows, from September through April of each year. Contact Don Bakos, Box 70263, Sunnyvale, CA 94086.
Eastern UN Collectors Club: at shows in the New York, New Jersey area. Contact Steve Cohen, 214 E. 51st, New York, NY 10022.

Table of Contents February 1988

President's Message.....25
Editor's Message.....25
UN Update(XXIV): A 1988 Preview.....26
IFAD - A Fund to Fight Poverty.....28
UNPA - New Definitives and IFAD Commemoratives.....28
More About G/UX3, Duane E. Lamers...29
Group of 77, B. Clement, Jr.....30
Centenary of Siam's Entrance in the UPU, Bonnie Davis.....32
U.N. Exhibitions at the National Show, Bernie Kosmoski.....35
The Headquarters Committee, Clay Wallace.....36

New Members

Hans Bauer, Milwaukee, WI
Jack Blasenstein, New York, NY
James F. Danner, Latham, NY
Michael Dragutsky, Memphis, TN
David S. Durbin, Blue Springs, MO
A. E. Ellison, San Mateo, CA
Al Gollinge, Staten Island, NY
A. O. Herrnsdorf, Jakarta, Indonesia
John J. Kile, West Caldwell, NJ
George Kira, Staten Island, NY
Jacob Kleiman, Willowdale, Ontario
Fred Miller, New York City, NY
Alexander Mordvinov, Closter, NJ
Edward W. Rimasz, North Brookfield, MA
James Sadler, Calgary, Alberta
Bill Smith, Charlotte, NC
John M. Sweeney, New York City, NY
Forrest J. Thompson, Babylon, NY
Leslie Vork, Minneapolis, MN
Don J. Young, Huron, OH

Journal Deadlines

Issue	Deadline
April	February 15
June	April 15
August	June 15

Covers

Front:
The new commemoratives issued by the UNPA on January 29, 1988 honoring the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD).

Back (Outside):
Photos of Selected Lots from Journal Auction #5.

Back (Inside):
Listing of Lots for Journal Auction #5.

President's Message

By B. Clement, Jr.

United Nations philately is a rich and varied specialty. Browsing through Gaines' Catalog gives one an appreciation of the diversity of interests of UN collectors. Most of us started our UN collecting with UN mint singles. Such a collection still has the advantage that completion is possible. From there, we moved in many directions: MI blocks, printing varieties, FDC's with various commercial, official and WFUNA cachets, postal stationery, souvenir cards, IRC's, first flights, show cachets and blue or white cards.

Even for collectors of UN mint singles, there is the possibility of extending one's interests beyond UN-New York, UN-Geneva and UN-Vienna. There are Swiss stamps issued for use by the UN and Dutch stamps issued for use by the International Court of Justice. There are Swiss stamps issued for use by the UN-specialized agencies (ILO, ITU, WHO, WMO, IRO, IBE and UPU) and French stamps issued for use by UNESCO. There are stamps issued by the UN Temporary Executive Authority for use in West New Guinea and stamps issued by Belgium for use in the UN Pavillion at the Brussels World Fair. Also, as forerunners to the UN, there are Swiss stamps issued for use by the League of Nations and the ILO and Dutch stamps issued for use by the Permanent Court of International Justice.

In all of these areas and more, there is the possibility of moving into postal history, the collecting of official service covers of the UN, its agencies and forerunners. Here there is the possibility of collecting genuine usages of service stamps, postmarks, corner cards, origin cachets, meters, registry labels, receiving marks, etc. There is also the collecting of such postal history as covers from conferences, meetings, special missions and of UN peacekeeping forces throughout the world.

UN philately also includes topical stamp collecting, with Malaria, Refugees and International Year of the Child being popular topics. Such collections cannot only include stamps, but also postmarks, meters, first day covers, etc.

No one can tell us what to collect. Each of us follows his or her changing interests as we build our collections. Our Journal tries to cover as many of these areas as possible. If you would like to learn more about some specialized area, why don't you request the Editor to find someone to write about that subject? If you have some specialized knowledge, why don't you write about it and share it with others?

Editor's Message

Saluts les collectionneurs de Paris

By Richard Powers

This issue's byline in French conveys my greetings from Paris, which I visited a few days after Christmas. There, during a weekend of visits to the theater and to museums, I made my nearly yearly pilgrimmage to UNESCO headquarters and its philatelic agency to pick up the official FDC's of the most recent issues of UNESCO stamps. It is possible to buy the current UNESCO stamps in almost every major post office in France (although they are valid for use only in UNESCO headquarters). However, even in France, it is difficult to obtain the official FDC's and souvenir folders and maximum cards prepared by UNESCO. Only a few specialized UN dealers and, of course, UNESCO itself seem to handle them.

It is possible to visit the UNESCO philatelic agency with only a bit of red-tape. For security reasons access to the building is limited to those with "official business" with UNESCO. However, a request to visit the philatelic agency is sufficient to gain entrance if one has brought along his passport or other official identity card, which the reception desk holds until one checks out.

The philatelic counter in UNESCO is essentially a combination U.N.P.A. post office and U.N. thematic stamp store. It sells at face value all current U.N. stamps, but only over the counter. There seems to be modest

interest on the part of employees in UNESCO to forward mail bearing UN stamps to the three stamp-issuing centers in New York, Geneva and Vienna via pouch. The letters are then inserted into the mail stream at the UN post offices in these cities. I met one American employee at UNESCO a few years ago who said it was much cheaper for him to send his non-urgent private mail to the UN in New York and to pay U.N.N.Y. (U.S.) postal rates for delivery in the U.S. than it was to pay the French post office to perform the same task. I know from experience in Switzerland that this is the case. A 10-gram (1/3 ounce) letter from here in Basel to the U.S. costs 1.4 Swiss francs (about $1.10). Whereas a return letter of 1/2 ounce from the U.S. to Basel costs less than half that amount (44 cents).

The counter also sells all past issues of U.N. stamps, which are no longer on sale at the UNPA, at the current Paris market rate. According to the latest UNESCO catalog one can buy the first UNNY souvenir sheet (Scott #38) for 4,100 French francs or about $750 at current exchange rates. Needless to say I usually do not buy the back issues of U.N. stamps there as prices are appreciably above U.S. market prices. However, what keeps bringing me back, is the interesting selection of old UNESCO- and UN-related FDC's and special occasion covers. One can still buy official UNESCO FDC's going back as far as 1966 for quite modest prices. (And the French salesladies there are irresistably charming and accommodating. They even interrupted their year-end inventory-taking to sell me the most recent UNESCO FDC's.)

If you are interested in receiving a catalog and are not intimidated by reading catalogs in French with catalog references to Yvert instead of Scott, I suspect that you can receive a copy by sending your request to the following address:

Programme philatelique et
numismatique de l'UNESCO
7 place de Fontenoy
F-75700 Paris
France

UNITED NATIONS UPDATE (XXIV)

A 1988 Preview

By David S. J. Alexander

Before making some preliminary observations on the 1988 stamp program of the United Nations, I have a couple of points to make.

First, it was great to see so many entries of UN-material obtaining prizes at the October Stamp Show at Madison Square Garden. In this column I have been advocating the exhibition of UN material at stamp shows, as a sure remedy for the current general lack of interest in UN philately in this country. I urge all UN collectors who have exhibits on some aspect of UN philately to do all they can this year to get in at shows throughout the country. The earning of prizes or awards is fine, but it is not the primary purpose. Let us get UN philately on the map.

One does not hear very much about the UN Philatelic Society these days; that is because it is largely dormant due to lack of interest at the UN itself among the Secretariat staff and diplomats. But at a meeting on October 26th, the current officers of UNPS, in consultation with former Presidents of the Society, decided to donate $3000 of its assets - mostly interest earned over the years - to UNICEF, as the Society has done on several occasions in the past.

And now a look at the 1988 UN stamp program. Before going into details about individual issues in this and future columns, some general observations are in order.

What strikes this writer at first glance is the number of stamps planned. I counted several times and come to this tally: 45 stamps, 3 souvenir sheets, 7 sheetlets and 2 souvenir cards! Is this not a record? With the scheduled rate increases this coming spring, all this is going to cost the UN collector a "pretty penny", as they say in England. Fully realizing that the Organization is more than ever in need of revenue, especially now that Congress is dragging its feet over the payment of vast sums the United States owes the Organization, I

nevertheless think that this proliferation is short-sighted. Beginning with the first issue of the year there are to be drastic reductions in printing. That issue will have 800,000 fewer stamps than the last issue of 1987. For instance, the Geneva duo will have printings of 900,000 each and this will be the first time in UNPA history that the printing total for a commemorative will be under one million. This should help sales.

Now the topics. The year 1986 was noted for exceptionally fine designs; 1987, for appealing subjects: Africa in Crisis, Homelessness, Drug Abuse, UN Day, Protection of Children against Disease. Now in 1988 I am not sure that the topics will arouse the same interest. The most important issue will be the one marking the 40th Anniversary of the signing of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights with only three stamps and three souvenir sheets. As human rights continue to be abused all over this planet, no better subject could be chosen by UNPA than this one. The abuse of human rights forty years after the solemn signing of the Declaration is something that is totally inexcusable in our modern world. In most cases it is the deliberate policy of Governments who signed the Declaration.

The first issue of the year on January 29th is one requested by FAO: "For a World without Hunger". This is a good topic even though the words chosen for inscription on the stamps have a realization that is somewhat distant amd illusory.

This is followed by a March issue drawing attention to the "survival of the forests". This is a timely, urgent subject. It is heart-rending to see how huge expanses of forests are systematically erased to make room for industrialization, while other vast areas burn up in forest fires often set deliberately. From my own house, in fact, as I write these lines, I look into a forest that has been neglected for years. People either don't care or there is no money to take out all the dead wood and thin out the trees that are struggling too close together to enable the better trees to grow and expand.

The following month (why so close together?) UNPA has scheduled another set on "International Volunteers Day", an issue it could well have omitted from its program. And on June 10th comes a sport issue, inspired by WHO, on the subject of "health through sports". It is the first time that UNPA has touched on sport and it is doing so most suitably in an Olympic year.

But now we must ask: Why constantly six stamps, two in each location? This is overloading. I have noticed how wholesale dealers now tend to lump UN issues as a package, as if one could not purchase the stamps of one location without those of the other two as well. With the lower dollar and when we get into blocks of four, six or ten, the prices listed are very high indeed. It is no wonder that a lot of people, as well as would-be new collcetors, shy away from UN issues. Wholesale dealers should be urged to advertise the stamps of the three locations separately. If some collectors discovered that they could purchase single stamps from the New York office alone to start with, I rather believe that we would have many new collectors joining our ranks. Both UNPA and wholesale dealers do not make it too easy for new collectors to bite, for the bait is sometimes rather awesome!

Finally, we shall have the one but last series of flag stamps in September, this time at the 25-cent rate. Among the nations honored are little-honor deserving countries such as Iran, Libya and Cuba. But that is the UN and that is the way the cookie crumbles. The series will be over next year. Speaking of flag stamps, it would seem to this writer that the collection of flag stamps is beginning to enhance UN stamp collecting. This issues of 1984, 1985 and 1986, in particular, seem to be hard to get, especially full sheetlets. Certain dealers who have them are already charging at least double face. This is a good omen for the future. UNPA's gradual lowering of printings is beginning to pay off.

IFAD - A Fund to Fight Poverty

UNPA Press Release

The International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), the United Nations youngest specialized agency, expresses and embodies a pragmatic new approach to the world food problem.

In 1974, the international community at the UN World Food Conference in Rome agreed to launch an all-out effort to wipe hunger and malnutrition off the face of the earth. It was clear that bold measures were needed. Billions of dollars had been spent on aid, yet more of the world's people than in any previous period, nearly a fifth of humanity, were going hungry. A new weapon was wanted for the decisive battle against hunger - an innovative international financial institution.

IFAD, which was created by the World Food Conference, has a strategy based on a new perception of the causes of hunger. The Fund sees starvation and malnutrition as resulting not just from lack of food but essentially, from poverty - poverty so dire that food can neither be purchased nor produced. Who, in fact, are the world's hungry? They are the world's poorest - one billion, living mainly in the rural areas, who subsist on annual incomes often below 100 dollars.

IFAD's objective is, therefore, to fund rural development programs specifically aimed at this most neglected segment of the world's population. Previously, the approach had been to channel money or food and hope that the benefits would somehow "trickle down" through all the social strata of the receiving nations. There was just one problem with that method. It didn't work or it worked too slowly. In 1978, IFAD went into action with a new "percolate up" approach to the problems of poverty and under-development. The Fund would combat poverty and despair from the bottom. It would fight hunger at its roots.

IFAD extends a different kind of help-self-help. Not charity, welfare or handouts but a hand-up to a better life for people, who for complex reasons beyond their control, find themselves at the bottom of the pile.

Costly schemes based on sophisticated technologies have never been much help to the very poor in developing countries. To them, a hoe may be far more precious than a tractor, a fishing net mpore relevant than a deep-sea trawler and a reliable market outlet vital beyond anything else.

Even the world's poorest farmers and fishermen know how to farm and fish. What they lack is the means to do so effectively and profitably. IFAD's role is to help make these means available, so releasing the creative energies of millions of people into shaping a better future for themselves and their communities.

The Fund does this through grass-roots projects designed to reach the maximum of recipients. Individual free enterprise and entrepreneurship are fostered and stimulated. In this way, even a little money can trigger far-reaching effects. IFAD projects are built around people, their skills and their aspirations, rather than on environmental resources to be exploited. To IFAD, the most precious resource is people.

UNPA

New Definitives and IFAD Commemoratives

On January 29th the UNPA issued two definitives and six commoratives to honor IFAD and its work. The six commemoratives, shown on the cover, display what IFAD feels are the real solutions to the world food problems. A fifty-centime UN-Geneva definitive complements this theme with a depiction of the world's greatest resource: people. The three-cent UNNY definitive shows one of IFAD's aspirations: bountiful wheat. The two definitives are pictured below.

More about G/UX3

By Duane E. Lamers

Controversy continues over identification of the two printings of the 40-centime postal card issued for use in Geneva in 1977 and reprinted March 1, 1984. Collectors will recall that the reprint was not announced by the UNPA until four months before its replacement by a 50-centime card on May 10, 1985. The reprint was issued on the same date that new postal rates took effect in Switzerland and the card was sold to customers with the 10-centime definitive G2 affixed, as required by Swiss PTT regulations.

It has recently been determined (Bernie Kosmoski called it to our attention) that G/UX3.1 was sometimes pressed into service, even after G/UX3.2 was available, to obtain show cachets. All cancelled and cacheted cards, of course, carry the added postage to meet the new rate.

What collectors must keep in mind, then, is that not every surcharged 40-centime postal card, mint or cancelled, is necessarily G/UX3.2.

We know also that there is some variation in the fluorescence of the carton (paper) in each printing. Kosmoski also reports a hibrite fluorecent variety in the reprint. Generally collectors should not give too much weight to relatively minor fluorecent variations when they attempt to identify the printing of a particular issue. This is true, perhaps, for every printing of every item ever released by the UNPA.

There is plenty of evidence, despite some variables, to make an accurate determination of the printing of G/UX3.2.

1. In general the carton of G/UX3.2 is slightly lighter in shade than the original. There is some very slight variation at times in the carton of G/UX3.1, but all varieties still appear noticeably darker than the reprint.
2. Always, UV light reveals that G/UX3.1 has a mottled indicia (stamp) amd a mottled border around the indicia. There is some variety in the intensity of the mottling. The reprint, however, has no such mottling and appears much brighter as a consequence.
3. The carton of the original printing contains numerous bright fluorescent fibers. The reprint does not contain these, although one will find a couple such fibers on a card, perhaps.
4. A close examination of the border of the indicia will reveal that the border is thicker on the reprint. One can actually see the ridge defining this phosphorescent overlay. This overlay is not nearly as heavy on the original.

Earlier published remarks about the two printings called attention to the darker blue of the UN emblem amd text on the reprinted card. It can now be reported that considerable variety exists in the blue on first-printing cards, perhaps the result of over- or under-inking. The same may be true for the reprint.

Collectors, then are advised to focus on carton shade and thickness of the indicia border and examine specimens for mottling in the indicia and border and for fluorescent fibers in the carton and use these findings to determine the printing.

Chances are that cards without a surcharge are from the original printing. Surcharged cards, especially those of a philatelic nature, could be from either printing.

Details are important if one is intent on acquiring printing varieties.

Group of 77

By B. Clement, Jr.

What is the Group of 77? What connection does it have with the United Nations? See Fig. 1. Here is a cover with a corner card referring to the Group of 77, mailed to the Philippin Mission to the UN, and franked with the meter of the United Nations. This means that the United Nations is paying for the postage of this group. Similar covers have been observed in 1983, 1984 and 1985. Does this mean that the Group of 77 is an organ of the United Nations?

The Group of 77 is an intergovernmental group of Third World members of the United Nations. The group was organized about 10 years ago, and had 77 initial members. Since that time, many more countries have joined, and the current membership is probably over 120. The group is not an official part of the United Nations, but since it represents a controlling majority of the UN membership, it appears that the UN defers to this power by paying its postage.

Another example of the situation is shown in Fig. 2, which illustrates another UN meter franked cover. In this case, the stamped corner card is for the Yugoslav Mission to the UN. However, a second stamped imprint is the emblem for the Group of 77. Surely the United Nations does not provide postage to all the missions to the UN. (Such missions typically have their own meters or put US or UN stamps on their mail.) Apparently the Group of 77 imprint was what authorized the use of the UN meter on this letter.

An interesting Group of 77 cover is illustrated in Fig. 3 This is a cover mailed from Argentina to the United Nations in Geneva. The cover has a special postmark and uses a special corner card for the Fifth Ministerial Meeting of the Group of 77. The writer would be most interested to see covers from other Group of 77 meetings or offices.

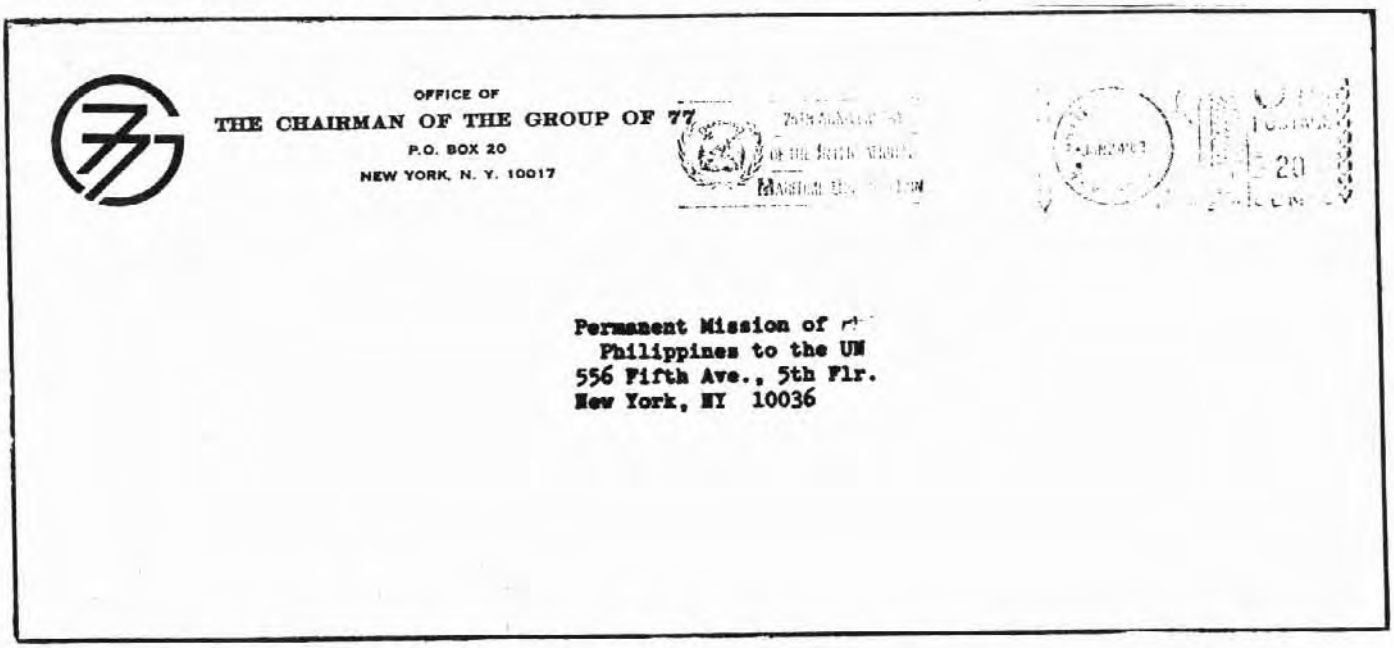


Fig. 1 - A 1983 cover from the Group of 77 to the Philippine Mission to the UN, franked with a UN meter.

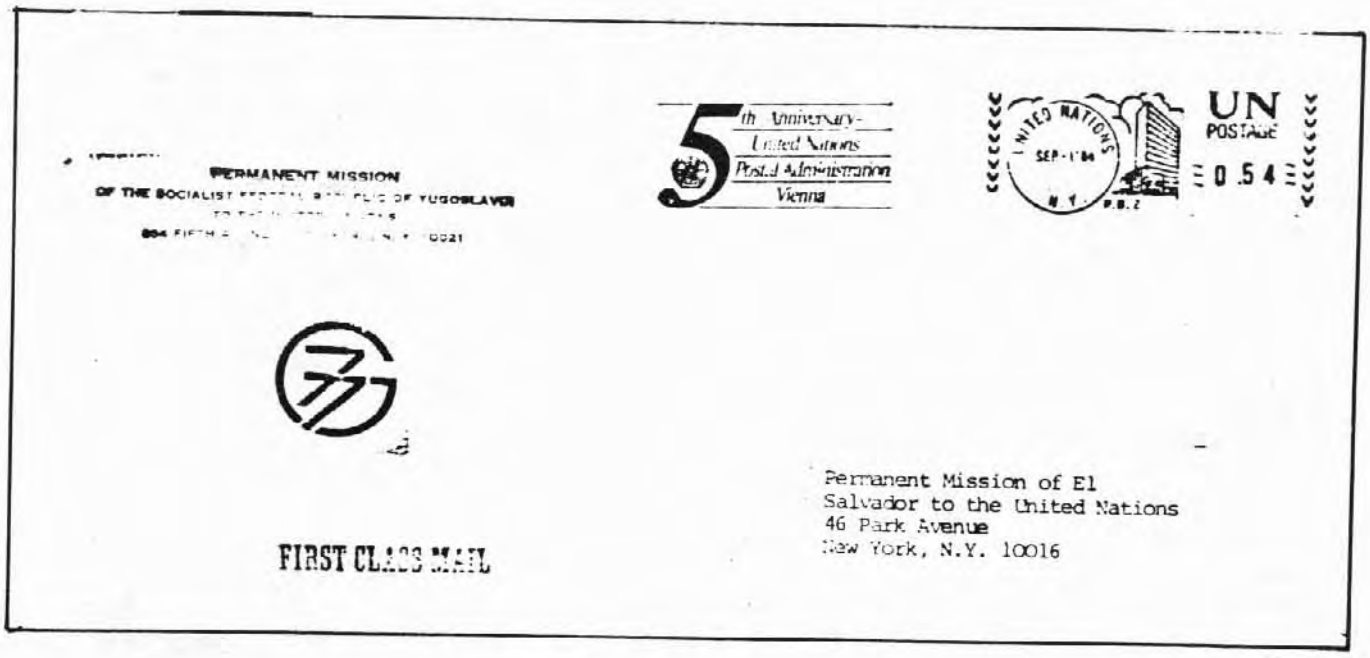


Fig. 2 - A 1984 cover from the Yugoslav Mission to the UN to the El Salvador Mission to the UN, with a Group of 77 imprint in blue, franked with a UN meter.

Fig. 3 - A 1983 cover from the Fifth Ministerial Meeting of the Group of 77 in Buenos Aires, Argentina, to the UN in Geneva. It bears a meeting corner card and cancellation.

Centenary of Siam's Entrance into the UPU

By Bonnie Davis

[Editor's note: The following article was first published in The FIAP JOURNAL, vol. 3/86 and is reprinted with the permission of the author.]

The Kingdom of Siam opened her first post office on August 4, 1883 Its acceptance by the people and its rapid growth surprised many people including His Majesty King Chulalongkorn. In his birthday address in September 1883, His Majesty said that he didn't expect the Siamese people to write so many letters!

It was not long before Siam realized the need for adequate international postal provisions, without dependence on any individual foreign power. So it was that His Highness Prince Prisdang Jumsai (Fig. 1), at that time still His Siamese Majesty's Envoy to several European countries, attended the Postal Union Congress in Lisbon in 1885 and signed the convention by which Siam became a full member of the UPU. On July 1, 1985, this old kingdom, now Thailand, celebrated 100 years as a member of the Universal Union. During the past 100 years, Thailand has made vast strides in advancing both her domestic and international postal services.

The Austro-Hungary Postal Union was founded in 1850, but ended due to the war between Austria and Prussia in 1866. In 1862, Montgomery Blair (Postmaster General under President Lincoln) sent a memorandum referring to the chaos existing in cross-boundary posts, to several postal administrations. His suggestion was that representatives be sent to a conference where an effort could be made to overcome some of the existing problems. The French Government hosted the conference which convened in Paris on May 11, 1866. He had suggested that experienced postal administrators be sent as representatives to by-pass the "slower method of diplomacy"; however, seven of the fifteen attending delegates were from their respective diplomatic services! The conference ended on June 6th with their total accomplishments summarized in "34 opinions", and no commitments by attending governments. The conference debates had, however, produced a new idea - that inter-country postal services should not be merely a tool of politics or a means of increasing the revenue of one at the expense of another.

Figure 1. Prince Prisdang Jumsai

Dr. Heinrich von Stephan (Fig. 2) did not attend the Paris conference, but in 1868 he published an article advocating an early formation of a world postal organization. His article created wide-spread interest, and he obtained permission from his superiors to ask the opinion of other governments. Following the end of the Franco-Prussian War in 1871, the German Government encouraged Stephan to revive his plan.

The Swiss Government was host to the new postal conference, which convened in Bern on September 15, 1874. Representatives were present from twenty-two countries, and nineteen of those delegates were postal administrators! The conference adjourned in mid-November 1874 with the treaty signed by all delegates, except the

Figure 2. Dr. Heinrich von Stephan, father of the UPU.

French. By January 1, 1875, the treaty had been signed and ratified by all members and the world organization began to function.

When Prisdang attended the conference in 1885, he was accorded a "place of honor" by Herr Stephan because of his Royal lineage. Stephan was helpful to Prisdang in many other ways too, including finding German Post Office Officials who were willing to go to Siam and help in expanding the postal service there.

Dr. Heinrich von Stephan was ennobled by the German Emperor in 1885, and died in 1897. Although he received many honors during his lifetime, his greatest monument is the organization which still functions as the regulatory body of international postal service - the Universal Postal Union.

Figure 3. One day cancel commemorating the 25th anniversary of the entry of Siam in the UPU.

With the entry of Siam into the UPU came also the need for new postage stamps to conform to the regulations of that body. The 1 Solot value of the first Siamese stamp issue, was surcharged "1 Tical" and for the past 100 years collectors and philalists around the globe have been arguing about which are genuine and which are forgeries, how many types were done and the amounts of each. Since so few records are available of what was really done at that time, no one - regardless of how "expert" he might consider himself to be - can be absolutely certain of what was done, when and by whom! The final opinions can still only be conjectures, based on what has been seen and compared. In addition, since 1 Tical was above the postage rate of the time, it has been surmised that these were prepared primarily for large, bulky items and parcels. This is plausible since so many foreign firms and missionaries were in Siam then, and much of the correspondence out of the Kingdom was in the form of reports and orders. Since we today see only empty envelopes (in most instances) we cannot possibly know what had been enclosed originally except in the rare cases where reference was made on the envelope to the contents.

The second set of Siamese postage stamps arrived in 1887. Certain values which were needed were missing. In 1899 Siam embarked on a policy of surcharging existing stamps to fill any void which appeared and for ten years surcharged postage stamps poured forth in such amounts and types that today they are either the bane or the

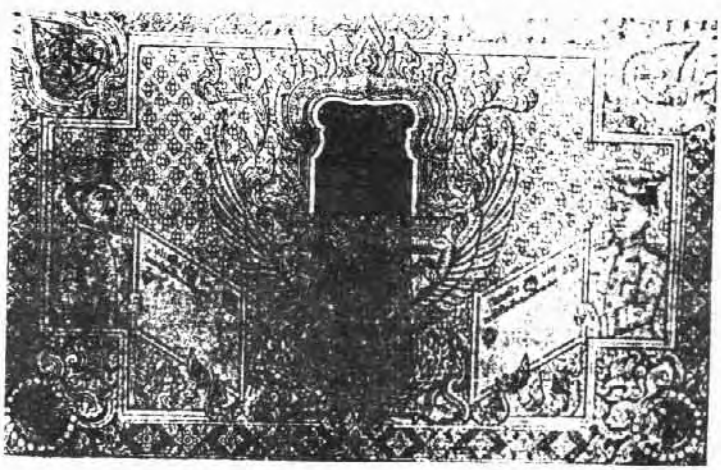


Figure 4. King Culalongkorn featured on UPU entry anniversary card.

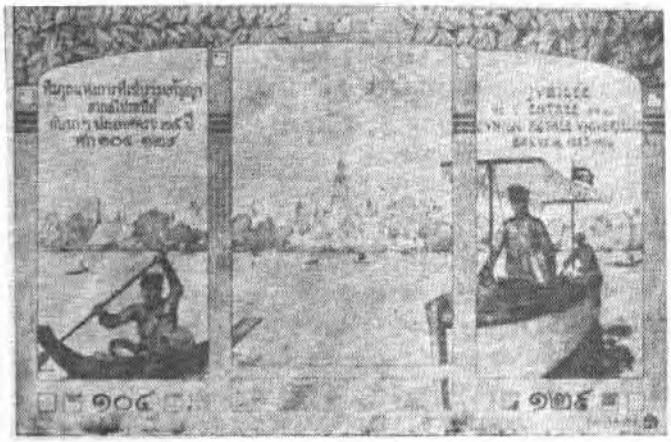


Figure 5. UPU entry anniversary card featuring mail delivery methods in Siam.

Figure 6. UPU entry anniversary card featuring mail delivery methods.

delight of Siam's early postal issues. A great many high value stamps were reduced in value and the question still remains: why surcharge a 24 att stamp to 4 att and then use six or more of the surcharged adhesives on a letter? In this case, since no positive answer is available, just sit back and enjoy any of those nice covers with multiples of surcharged stamps - if you are lucky enough to have some!

Siam regularly participated in the postal Congress by sending representatives. In 1909 the Siamese delegation was present at the inauguration of the monument of the Universal Postal Union in Bern. Newspapers in the Kingdom were not always easy on the postal service - or the lack of it; and they frequnetly accused the post office officials of "contriving philatelic monstrocities" solely for the benefit of stamp collectors.

On Wednesday June 29, 1910, an editorial in a Bangkok paper mentioned this: "...We fancy an enthusiastic collector might find Siamese stamps rather a trial if he aims at completeness over at least a few years, for surcharging has had to be frequently resorted to. Those interested in these things should therefore note that a special date stamp is to be used in post offices in Siam on Friday and will never be used again..."

The special cancellation mentioned was used only on July 1, 1910 (Fig 3) and was to commemorate what was called at that time "the semi-jubilee of the country's membership in the Postal Union". The cancellation is seen most often in black, but purple was also used. Then it was probably thought unimportant but today collectors become quite excited at acquiring a purple type!

The reason for the purple is more likely than not, a simple one - the postal worker just happened to have a pad with purple ink. (It still happens today!) It may have been that those with purple cancels may have come from some small post office where fewer people went to have stamps and/or covers cancelled.

Three types of picture post cards also commemorated the anniversary of the UPU in 1910. One design had a small portrait of King Chulalongkorn (Fig 4) as the focal point, while the other two showed ways of delivering the mail in Siam (Fig's 5 and 6).

Each design was available in three colors: red, blue and purple. Many people have incorrectly described one card design as showing "a woman with a parasol". In fact, it shows a POSTMAN with his umbrella.

By 1910, several reorganizations had taken place to increase the efficiency of the Siamese postal service, and the general opinion seemed to be "a great deal had been accomplished" in twenty-five years. After 100 years of UPU membership, it can again be said that a great deal has been accomplished. The Thai postal service can stand proud beside that of any country or postal services, anywhere. Indeed it surpasses in efficiency service in many so-called "developed countries".

The 19th meeting of the Universal

Postal Union Congress took place in Hamburg in the Federal Republic of Germany in June and July of 1984, with Thailand again in attendance. Dr. Christian Schwarz-Schilling, Minister of the Federal Post and Telegraph said in his message to the attending delegates: "Everywhere in the world postal services are part of people's daily lives. A well organized postal system is essential to every social order - to international cooperation in particular .." This is a fact of which His Majesty King Chulalongkorn of Siam was well aware more than one hundred years ago.

U.N. Exhibits at the National Show

By Bernie Kosmoski

Who said that United Nations philately is dead? You wouldn't believe it by the amount of U.N. material on display at the National Stamp Show! It took a lot of phone calls and letters and, most of all, financial assistance from the United Nations Postal Administration to accomplish it. We had 94 frames of competitive material plus a 10-frame Court of Honor exhibit provided by the United Nations. There were a total of 18 different exhibits. This figure represented one-half of the entire show exhibition.

The actual work began the evening before the show. A small group of club members worked together in mounting all of the exhibits. Steve Cohen, Charlie Berg, Rudy Waldukat, Ron Gins, Jack Mayer and I spent about two hours mounting all the U.N. exhibits in the new Ameripex metal frames. My knowledge of U.N. philately was expanded by the conversations with everyone and, most importantly, by reading each individual page that I mounted.

I personally feel that the show was a complete success and I accomplished my established objectives as club exhibition chairman. Some significant events indicative of the show success are:

1.) 94 frames of U.N. material were displayed.
2.) 17 active U.N. exhibitors are ready to participate next year.
3.) A novice, Ken Blevins, received an APS silver.
4.) The UNPA is willing to assist us at up to three shows a year.
5.) I have identified a group of club members who want to exhibit and can be ready in a year.
6.) 5 U.N. exhibits were upgraded in their awards by APS judges since the last time they were exhibited.
7.) We now have the assistance of two APS judges.

Eileen and Harry Meier have decided that the best way to attempt to help UNP exhibitors improve their exhibits is by a one-on-one approach. They have offered to do critiques on individual exhibits. They are willing to offer every UNP member an important educational opportunity, that is, to receive a written critique of one submitted philatelic exhibit per year. As a ground-rule, the exhibit must be the property of the exhibitor. To receive the best critique possible they suggest you submit photocopies of all pages from your exhibit. The copies should be as clear as possible, full-sized and in the order in which they appear in your exhibit. A self-addressed, return 9"x12" envelope with sufficient postage should be sent with your photocopies. It is also siggested that you give your complete exhibiting history of your exhibit, such as shows entered, awards, etc.

They cannot guarantee that their critique will result in higher APS national show awards. Judging is not an exact science. They have received many letters from thankful exhibitors saying that they found their suggestions very helpful. Please write to:

Eileen Meier
P. O. Box 369
Palmyra, VA 22963.

The Headquarters Committee

By Clay Wallace

The United Nations Headquarters Committee can trace its origin to December 22, 1945, when the Preparatory Commission established an Interim Committee to consider offers and proposals of locating in Massachusetts, New York and New Jersey, both temporarily and permanently. Dr. Stoyan Gaurilovic of Yugoslavia was the Chairman of this group's seven members and Huntington Gilchrist of the USA was the first Secretary. Inspection began on January 5, 1946.

Initially, the Headquarters Committee looked only at temporary locations and made its home in the Waldorf Astoria Hotel in New York City. Upon returning to London at the end of January, Hunter College was recommended, and on February 14, 1946, the General Assembly decided to accept New York City as the interim headquarters.

Three separate Headquarters Committees continued the work in 1946, inspecting sites in New York, Boston, Philadelphia and San Francisco. A final report was submitted to the General Assembly in October 1946. From June 27, 1946 until December 31, 1946 the Headquarters Committee used the 16th floor of the New York Life Building at 51 Madison Avenue in New York City for their offices. Figure 1 is currently the only known cover sent by the Headquarters Committee from this address. The addressee is Serge Wolff, the Russian translator for the UN during this period.

Following the Committee report and subsequent squabbling by the General Assembly, came the generous offer by John D. Rockefeller on December 10, 1946 to the Chairman of the Permanent Headquarters Committee, Eduardo Zuleta Angel, for land on the East River. The offer was accepted on December 14, 1946 by an overwhelming majority of the General Assembly.

Inspection of the cover in Figure 1 sheds some light on another interesting aspect of UN pre-philately. The use of PB108314 at 51 Madison Avenue was unknown prior to the discovery of this cover. The meter was used at 610 Fifth Avenue before this dated used (October 10, 1946) at the Empire State Building beginning on October 30, 1946.

The history of this meter is quite amazing in UN philately. It has carried every early slogan: "IN WAR AND PEACE/UNITED NATIONS", "UNITED NATIONS/GIVE ONE DAY/APPEAL FOR CHILDREN" and "UNITED/NATIONS/OFFICIAL/MAIL" and has transferred from 610 Fifth Avenue starting early 1944 (United Nations Information Office) to the Headquarters Committee to the Empire State Building to 405 East 42nd Street (the old Manhatan Office) and finally to the basement of the permanent Headquarters, where it was finally retired on October 23, 1951. This meter deserves a shrine of its own.

As a final note, there is a second explanation (and in some collectors' opinions a more likely one) for the use of this meter in October of 1946. Mail could have been shuttled from 51 Madison Avenue to the Information Office or the Empire State Building, where it was metered and put into the mailstream. This may account for the extreme scarcity of covers from the 51 Madison Avenue office. Readers may wish to check the corner cards of PB108314 meters used in 1946. Perhaps a second Headquarters Committee cover is waiting to be discovered.

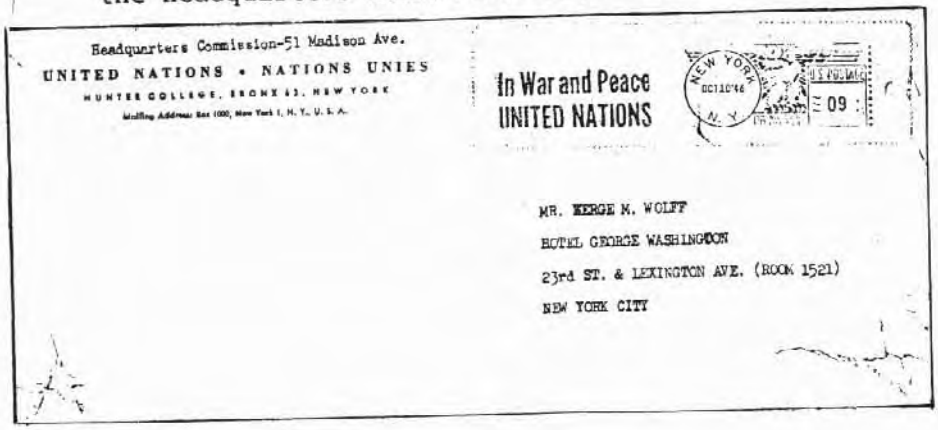


Fig. 1 - The only known Headquarters Committee cover bearing the 51 Madison Avenue address.

UNP Journal Auction #5 - Closing Date March 15, 1988

1. NY C1-4 MATCHED CORNER MI4'S VFMNH MB$10
2. HUNDERTWASSER MINIATURE SHEETS (6) NY,GEN.,VIE.,VFMNH COMPLETE MB$40
3. ALLENSTEIN (BECAME PART OF GERMANY UNDER VERSAILLES TREATY IN 1920) #1-14 COMPLETE MVFLH PLEBESCITE OVPTS. MB$10
4. ALLENSTEIN #15-28 COMPLETE MLHVF VERSAILLES TREATY OVPTS. MB$20
5. IYC MINIATURE SHEETS MNHVF (4) NY#310-1, G#84-5 MB$30
6. SOUVENIR CARDS #2A ART FD GENEVA WALDHEIM SIGNATURE FLAW RET$25 MB$10
7. " " #3,4 MINT, FD NY GENEVA (6) MB$10
8. " " #13,14 MINT, FD NY GENEVA,VIENNA (8) MB$10
9. " " #17 DECADE FOR WOMEN (THE KEY) MINT MB$10
10. " " #17 DECADE FOR WOMEN (THE KEY) FD NY, GENEVA,VIENNA (3) MB$15
11. " " #20,21 MINT, FD NY GENEVA,VIENNA (8) MB$10
12. PRIVATE CARDS ALL COLOR MOSTLY SHOW CANCELLED/FRANKED 1975-7 (14) MB$12
13. SOUVENIR FOLDERS GENEVA 1969-70 VF (2) MB$10
14. " " GENEVA 1971-4 VF (4) MB$11
15. " " GENEVA 1975-6 VF (2) MB$10
16. " " GENEVA 1977-81 VF (5) MB$11
17. " " NEW YORK 1970-5 VF (6) MB$10
18. " " NEW YORK 1961, 1965, 1967, 1969, 1970 VF (5) MB$10
19. " " NEW YORK 1963, 1966, 1967 (3) MB$10
20. FIRST FLIGHTS NY #7 VF 670 FLOWN, #11 VF 610 FLOWN (2) MB$12
21. " " NY #2 ON GEN UC1 VF MB$12
22. " " NY #1, #4 VF ON GENEVA UC1 NO BACKSTAMP MB$10
23. " " GENEVA SWISSAIR CACHET 34A,70-1A,78-81A (7) VF MB$10
24. " " GENEVA PHILASERVICE CACHET #72B,78-81B (5) VF MB$10
25. NETHERLANDS INTL.COURT OF JUSTICE O27-40 COMPL. USED VF MB$10
26. FDC GENEVA CACHET VF UNAD NY #81-2 MI4 (2) MB$12
27. " " " " NY#92,102-3,110-1 (5) MB$10
28. " " " " FLAGS 1983-5 (12) COMPLETE MB$14
29. " " " " AUSTRIA #1-6 BLOCKS OF 4 (6) MB$10
30. " " " " NY #238-55 (18) COMPLETE MB$14
31. FDC WFUNA CACHET VF UNAD GENEVA #1-14 MI4 (14) MB$22
32. VIENNA SHOW IMPRINT COVERS VF NICE COMMEM FRANKING ALL DIFF (12) MB$10
33. FIRST DAY SLOGAN COVERS VF UNAD NY 1979-86 COMMEM FRANK (29) MB$10
34. " " " " " GENEVA 1979-84 " " (16) MB$10
35. FDC VF NY DIFF. COMMERCIAL CACHETS 95% UNAD INC NY#29-30,85 (47) MB$10
36. VARIOUS COVERS MOSTLY SHOW COVERS, FDCS 1974-6 (24) MB$10
37. POSTAL STATIONARY PC,AIRLETTER,ETC ALL VF UNAD FDC VAR CACHET (57) MB$10
38. FRANCE UNESCO IMPERF #893-4 MNHVF WITH TABS PURPLE/BROWN MB$32
39. FRANCE UNESCO IMPERF #893-4 MLHVF BLUE/BLACK MB$22
40. ECE 1959 FD ON GENEVA CACHET, COMBO WITH MC UNAD CAT $25 MB$10
41. 1960 PALLAIS CHAILLOT MI TAB FD COMBO GEN,CACHET UNAD CAT$35 MB$12
42. VIENNA FIRST FLIGHTS #6,7,9,11-3,15,17 (8) MB$10
43. EARLY GERMAN SHOW IMPRINTS ON PC,COVER #2-4,6,11 (5) MB$10
44. CONFERENCE CANCELS 1970-9 MOST OFF. STATIONARY (9 ILO,1WMO) (10) MB$10
45. UN DEFIN. COVERS FD ISSUE ACTUAL USE FOR VARIOUS RATES 1974 (7) MB$10
46. 25TH ANNIV & IYC FDC ACTUAL USE FOR VARIOUS RATES (8) MB$10
47. GENEVA UC1 LAST DAY AND FIRST DAY COVERS (8) MB$10
48. 1977 AMPHILEX WHITE CARD + PHILATELIC ICJ COVERS (2)+ITU COVERS(2) MB$10
49. FLAG FDC ODD ITEMS 1980 LAST DAY GENEVA CACHET (20),FIRST DAY 1981 ON GLOBE CACHET COMBO (4), LD 1981 ON HQ CACHET (16), FD 1982 ON 10C ENVELOPE (16), FD 1982 ON GLOBE CACHET (16), LD 1982 ON NY HQ STAT. (16) UNOF FD CANCEL ENTIRE LOT MB$25
50. MIXED COVER LOT NY #73-4 ON HQ STATIONARY MI4 LUMINESCENT AND NON "L" COVERS, SAVANNAH ATOMIC COVER, NY#41-2 FD A/C CACHET MI4 #1A,#1B, FLEETWOOD CACHET: NY#18-20,#31-2 VF FDC UNAD. MB$10
51. UPU CONGRESS PRESENTATION BOOKLET 1929 LONDON VF SCARCE ALGERIA MINT VF #33-67, J1-24 + BOB MOUNTED IN FOLDER MB$18
52. WFUNA #1 EXPO 1867 FDC HELICOPTER COVER SIGNED BY PILOT (RET$25+)MB$10

The rules for participating are the same as those found in the April 1987 issue of the Journal. Bid should be mailed so as to be received by March 15, 1988 to the following address:

Alex Bereson
458 Woodrow Street
Daly City, CA 94014

Selected Lots from UNP Journal Auction #5

#51