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# the journal

OF THE UNITED NATIONS PHILATELISTS, INC

MR. ANTHONY J. FOURACRE
NEW UNPA CHIEF

# THE JOURNAL OF THE UNITED NATIONS PHILATELISTS

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UNP is an organization of collectors devoted to the collecting, studying, and exhibiting of the issues of the United Nations Postal Administration (at New York, Geneva, and Vienna), the postal history of the UN, the issues and postal history of the UN's branches, specialized agencies and forerunners, and world-wide topical issues that call attention to the UN and its agencies and programs. The UNP is Affiliate #71 of the American Philatelic Society and is a unit of the American Topical Association. UNP's annual dues are US$12.00; US$11.00 of that amount applies to a subscription to The Journal.

Send correspondence regarding membership, changes of address and requests for back issues to the Secretary: Don Bakos, P.O. Box 70263, Sunnyvale, California 94086.

Send correspondence regarding editorial content to the Editor: Mark Steven Corrinet, 1408 Creekside Drive, Walnut Creek, California 94596.

Unless otherwise stated, catalogue numbers are from the latest edition of the Scott Standard Postage Stamp Catalogue ("Scott"). "Lindner" means the 6th edition of the Lindner United Nations Stamp Catalogue (1976). "Gaines" means United Nations Philately by Arleigh Gaines.

## CHAPTERS OF THE UNP

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

UN Collectors of Chicagoland, Inc.: usually 4th Wednesday, September through May, at 55 West Monroe - Suite #2400, Chicago, IL 60603. Contact Ben Cohen, P.O. Box 1674, Chicago, IL 60690.

The Western Arm: at several San Francisco - Oakland Bay Area shows, from September through April, Contact Mark Steven Corrinet, 1408 Creekside Drive, Walnut Creek, CA 94596.

Eastern Un Collectors Club: at shows in the New York-New Jersey area. Contact EUNCC, P.O. Box 333, Morganville, NJ 07751.

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## JOURNAL DEADLINES

The deadline for submission of material for The Journal to the Editor is the 1st day of the month before the date on the issue, e.g. the deadline for the December issue is November 1st.

## PRICES FOR DISPLAY ADVERTISEMENTS

Prices are valid only for camera-ready copy: full page - US$40.00; half page - US$25.00; quarter page - US$15.00; eighth page - US$10.00. A discount of one sixth the total billing will be given for the same size advertisement contracted for an entire year of The Journal.

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## COVER DESCRIPTION

OUTSIDE FRONT: Publicity photo of new UNPA Chief Tony Fouracre. Additional information in the UNPA Press Release section.

OUTSIDE BACK: The last word on the UN Flag Series! Mr. Frank J. Gauglitz from Staten Island, New York visited the UNPA the other day to proudly show three of the very special "first day covers" he produced of the United Nations Flags Series. Over the last 10 years Mr. Gauglitz came to the UNPA on every first day of issue of the Flag Series, had the flags of the 16 member states affixed to a poster, and had them cancelled on the first day of issue. A truly unique philatelic item!

## EDITOR'S CORNER

Many of you must be old enough to remember the problems WWII flyers experienced with Gremlins. You may have wondered were all the little guys disappeared to after the war. Well, I am here to tell you that a small company of them has taken up residence at The Journal.

First, we have mis-numbered pages, now we have a late edition. We have decided to go for an invert error next. Who knows maybe by 1992 we can get it together!

Speaking of getting it together, we must have an awfully shy group of members out there. Here they have a chance to see their names in print and the response has been the equivalent of a herd of slow turtles. Come on people I know your out there - I've seen the mailing list.

If I run out of material I intend to publish several blank pages with "THIS SPACE AVAILABLE" written on them. You think I am kidding don't you!

You may have noticed some changes in the layout and wording in The Journal. Many of these changes came from the kind recommendations of Mr. Charles Berg.

I would also like to thank Mr. M. Hardjasudarma and the American Philatelic Society for permission to reprint his article on "UNTEA: The 7-cent Postal Card." The article originally appeared in the September 1988 issue of The American Philatelist - Pages #860-863. (Yes, I know Charles that this should be at the end of the article, but the layout was too tight).

## ELECTION INFORMATION

In case you slept through the election (which might be the case given the voter turnout) here are the final election returns:

| POSITION | NAME/VOTES RECEIVED |
|---|---|
| PRESIDENT: | CLAY WALLACE (109) |
| VICE PRESIDENT: | BERNIE KOSMOSKI (107) |
| SECRETARY: | DON BAKOS (108) |
| TREASURER: | JEFFREY BELLER (106) |
| DIRECTORS: | ALEX BERESON (108)<br>MARK CORRINET (109)<br>FRANKLIN SILVERMAN (99) |
| PAST PRESIDENT: | BLANTON CLEMENT (N/A) |

## AUCTION INFORMATION

By the time you read this the Premier Auction will be over. So far the bidding has been excellent, there have been several requests for auction catalogues from people outside our organization, and I have even received several phone calls with requests for special information on lots.

The 10% is now a permanent fixture. But the auctions still need material. Consider eliminating all that unwanted material that has accumulated over the last several years.

Lastly, all winning bids can now be paid, on a permanent basis, by CREDIT CARD.

## SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

The UNP Board is seeking a competent publicist. Someone with good writing skills and determination to keep articles on the UNP flowing to the philatelic press. Notify Clay Wallace if interested.

## THE PRESIDENT'S PAGE

By Clayton Wallace

With naive optimism I take the reins of our organization and enter into the 1990s. UN philately is on the verge of a metamorphosis and I intend to leave a growing, dynamic organization to my successor. A foundation has been constructed by the previous Board of Directors. The new Board intends to build on that foundation.

On this page I will communicate the actions of the Board, communicate my administration's goals and aspirations, and communicate the results of our actions toward those ends. Obviously, communication is at the top of my priority list.

We enter this decade with the financial resources to achieve the goals that will be defined. I will learn from how how the organization became strong financially, focus on staying strong financially, and communicate the Boards intentions on using this strength in the October edition of The Journal.

The product that we will be bringing to you will continue to improve dramatically. The Journal, under the capable stewardship of Mark Steven Corrinet, improves with each successive issue. We have enlisted the aid of several capable columnists and are continuing to seek other columnists - such as someone to write a "Beginners Column." Other articles are actively sought from our readership to keep The Journal vibrant and an effective communications vehicle.

Several of you have written letters commenting on the improvements in the auctions. We have introduced the 'Mini' and 'Premier' auction formats so a continuous flow of material is available. We have also lowered the commission rate to 10% for the seller (none for the buyer), to make consigning more appealing. With the October edition of The Journal will come my long-awaited update to Bill Barnes' London 1945 U.N. Slogan Cancellation. You will be surprised at the new information and format. Soon this will be followed by Duane Lamars' study of postal stationary reprints. What else can we be doing to improve our product?

Now that we have the resources and a quality product, we need to go out and market it! This is the second priority goal of my Presidency - to double our membership in the next four years. Mainland Europe is seeing a renaissance in UN philately. Prices are improving in Europe and all three of the UN Clubs (UNSG, UNOP, and VN-VE) are growing in strength. There is no reason why we cannot also expand.

Welcome to the NEW UNP!

## SIXTH PRINTING FOR .02 CENT DEFINITIVE

By Duane E. Lamers

Back in issue #52, in April 1986, this writer noted in discussing the fourth and fifth printings of Scott UNNY #249 (Figure 1) that none of the later definitives had had a sixth printing. Since that time both the .08 cent and .02 cent definitives have gone into their sixth printings.

The latest printing of the simple, but attractive .02 cent dove stamp, was released on February 15, 1990 in a quantity of 400,000 stamps. This represents the smallest printing total so far for the stamp. It took somewhat more than four years to use up the half million stamps of the fifth printing.

Figure 1. Scott UNNY #249.

#249.6 is not immediately recognizable. The paper is identical to the fifth printing, with the ink being a slightly deeper and brighter shade. The gum is grayish in shade. The UV lamp reveals a bluish-gray fluorescent gum, duller than the hibrite gum of #249.5. The blue ink becomes black this time, darker than the blue-black of its predecessor.

In this age, when postal rate scales seem to be in .20 cent increments, it is difficult to imagine there being a need for the lowly .02 cent stamp. Obviously, there is a need, and the beauty of this stamp enhances the quality of the entire definitive stock.

The is a challenge out there, now, to distinguish amoung the printings of #249. Enjoy!

## SPECIAL NOTICE

The Editor is looking for the columnists in the following subjects (frequency of publication: minimum of every other issue):

UNITED NATIONS MILITARY MAIL
LEAGUE OF NATIONS MATERIAL
CINDERELLAS AND RELATED
A UN BEGINNER'S COLUMN
UN FORERUNNER COLUMN
ANYTHING ELSE SOMEONE CAN THING OF!

# UNPA PRESS RELEASE

## NEW UNPA CHIEF

After fifteen years with the UN Postal Administration - and eight of those as Chief - Gisela Grunewald will return to Europe at the end of July 1990 and will hand over the reins of the UNPA to her successor, Anthony J. Fouracre.

In less than twenty years, Tony Fouracre's UN experience has been diverse, to say the least. His career started in the Budget Division, whence he transferred to spend 2.5 years in the Office of the Secretary-General. Then followed six years in the Office of General Services where he was Special Assistant to three Assistant Secretaries-General who held the office consecutively - Clayton Timbrell, Alice Weil and Richard Foran, the present ASG.

"Although I seemed to be fairly remote from the UN Postal Administration at that time", He said, "I was nevertheless involved in just about every major policy decision concerning the UNPA during those six years."

His most recent listing in the UN telephone directory is in the Office of Human Resources Management as Senior Security Co-ordination Officer.

He is quite at home in the world of stamps, having started his own collection during early boyhood. "My first stamps were also my first geography lessons", he said.

Tony Fouracre was born in England and grew up there and in Canada. He and his wife have two children, a boy aged 10 and a girl of 7, both of whom have already started on their travels down the colorful road of stamp collecting.

President's Personal Note: We would like to extend to Gisela Grunewald the heart felt thanks of our entire organization for all the excellent work she has performed in the interest of UN philately worldwide and would like to wish the very best to her successor Mr. Anthony J. Fouracre.

## UNITED NATIONS SELL-OUT

The AS 5 value of the "United Nations Office in Vienna 10th Anniversary" stamp issue was sold out on July 6, 1990. This stamp was part of a set of six values issued on August 23, 1989 and featured the interpretation of world-known Austrian artists on the subject of the 10th anniversary of the United Nations Office in Vienna, Austria.

The AS 5 value was designed by Gottfried Kumpf. The other values were designed by Paul Flora (.25), Rudolf Hausner (.90), Anton Lehmden (FS 0,50), Arik Brauer (FS 2,00), and Andre Heller (AS 7.50).

## METER SLOGAN - NEW YORK

A new meter slogan, "UNITAR Unified in Knowledge" will be put into use on October 15, 1990. Those interested in obtaining copies of this meter slogan, restricted to .40 US cents, should send in a self-addressed envelope, together with a certified check to cover the costs of return postage plus .10 cents US service charge for each envelope to:

UNITED NATIONS POSTAL ADMINISTRATION
POST OFFICE BOX 1586
GRAND CENTRAL STATION
NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10163
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

The outside wrapper should be clearly marked "Meter Slogan." All orders must be received by October 1, 1990. Requests received too late will be returned to sender.

No responsibility is accepted for items lost or mislaid in the post or for non-treatment of insufficiently prepaid items.

## UNPA VIENNA SPECIAL COVER

On the occasion of the Vienna exhibition "In service of Peace", the UNPA, Vienna Office will, in addition to its traditional white card issue a special cover with a design similar to that of the Nobel Peace Prize issue of March 17, 1989, but with a special text reading:

"BRIEFMARKENAUSSTELLUNG IM DIENSTE DES FRIEDENS WIEN _ 20.22-23 September 1990
OFFIZIELLER UMSCHLAG DER POSTVERWALTUNG DER VEREINTEN NATIONEN"

Editor's Note: This is not an exact representation.

The cover will have the AS 6.00 "Nobel Peace Prize" stamp affixed to it and will be available over the counter at Door 6 of the Palais des Nations at Geneva. The price will be AS 15.00 or approximately S.Fr 1.85. Collectors wishing to acquire this cover through the mail are requested to address themselves to:

UNPA Vienna
POST OFFICE BOX 900
A-1400 VIENNA
UNITED NATIONS

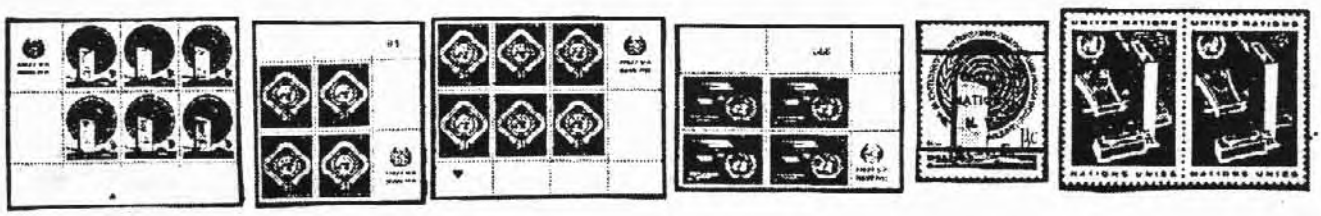
A SASE is recommend to insure proper handling of your order. Time to use the extra UN Vienna postage you have.

# The United Nations Collector

Bernie Kosmoski
458 Madison Hill Road
Clark, New Jersey 07066
(201) 499-8679 Evenings

APS 133886
UNP 530
AHPS 1801
AFDCS 20871

UNSG 402
UNOP 1615
AAPE 143



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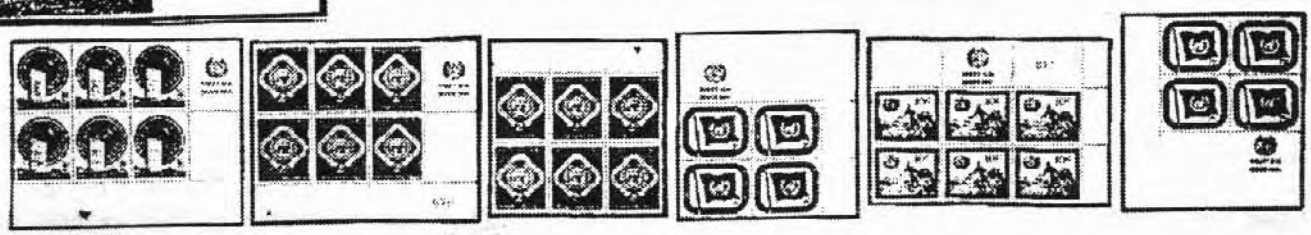

## CLAY'S UN COVER CORNER #2

By Clayton Wallace

Before looking at this issue's cover, I wanted to point out a couple of minor changes. First I added "UN" to the title of this column, after all it is about UN and UN forerunner covers. Second, I decided to number the columns. I'm working on a project (still incomplete) to organize all of Arleigh Gaines' Stamp Collector articles into one booklet. Since they did not appear in every issue, I hope I have not omitted any. Numbering may save someone a headache latter should they feel a need to organize this material. (Confidential to Arleigh - I'll try to complete the project this year.)

This cover (Figure 1) was a recent find at Westpex in San Francisco. It is from the League of Nations Office for the Resettlement of the Assyrians (Not to be confused with the Syrians).

I am told that four covers are known, two of which are registered (I have not seen the registered covers). The other non-registered cover achieved a very high price in a recent L.D. Mayo auction. I was told the high bidder was over $500.00, although the price realized was under that.

The Assyrians were equivalent to the modern day Kurds. After being striped of all enfranchisement, the Assyrians were forced to flee the violent persecution of the Turks, and migrated from Turkey or Northern Persia into Iraq.

In 1929, as a condition for admittance into the League, Iraq was asked to guarantee the rights of all the minorities within its borders. The Assyrians, led by the charismatic Mar Shimum, wanted autonomy with allegiance through Mar Shimum to the king of Iraq.

Iraq refused to grant this request saying the Assyrians should have no rights beyond those enjoyed by the rest of the citizenry. Tensions rose, inflamed by the local press, misunderstandings happened on both sides, and eventually an outburst led to the massacre of 600 innocents at the hands of the Iraq army.

A League committee, chaired by Lopez Olivan, searched in vain for a new homeland for the Assyrians, including attempts to move them to Brazil and British Guiana.

Meanwhile, the Assyrians that fled Iraq were allowed to gather along the banks of the Upper Khabur in Syria and by the summer of 1935 nearly 6,000 were living there under tolerable conditions. By 1937, after most of the efforts to resettle had failed, the Committee reported back to the Council that it could do no more. The only solution was to establish the Khabur as a permanent settlement.

As feelings on both sides had cooled considerably over the intervening years, the Iraqis allowed the Assyrians still in Iraq to remain in the Northern districts. The Assyrians that had emigrated to Syria were also allowed to stay and remained under the management of representatives of the League of Nations.

It was decided in early 1942 to hand the charge over to the Syrian government. Each family became the owner of their house and of enough land to live on. In addition, all the refugees acquired Syrian citizenship.

It never ceases to amaze me how much history can be tied up in one simple cover.

Figure 1. League of Nations Office for Resettlement of the Assyrians.

## LETTER FROM BRITAIN

By Bill Barnes

In our next issue we shall be introducing a new regular feature - a column from Bill Barnes (President of the British U.N. Study Group) providing us with his views of aspects of UN philately from the other side of the pond.

Knowing something of Bill's attitudes and background I can safely predict that the "Flavour of the month" (as he calls it) will be pertinent, factually accurate, and occasionally controversial. Bill Barnes is a retired mini-legal-eagle (he insists "more like a fairly bright sparrow"); he has a fair number of legal books to his credit, plus a couple of articles on UN affairs (he was a member of Great Britain's UN Association's National Executive Committee for years) - and, of course, he writes regularly for UNSG's Bulletin.

To add to that international flavor he was a navigator in WWII and his pilot was an American from Massachusetts - a Blue Eagle (and he now has a number of good friends in Germany also). We are looking forward to his new feature.

Editor's Note: Below is an excellent article previously published in the October 1989 issue of Stamp Mail by Bill Barnes that I am sure will intrigue our readers.

## 'REAL HISTORY'

By Bill Barnes

One of the great things about 'stamp' collecting is its extraordinary diversity. There is no reason on earth why you should not include bus tickets (or toffee papers!) in your collection if that's the way you want it (and don't let any philatelic 'expert' convince you otherwise!). There are a few sensible, and more or less, common practices about stamp collecting but no rules about what you should or should not collect.

Of course we have to have rules about exhibiting and if you want to show you'll have to conform to them or suffer the consequences. But even those rules sooner or later have to follow changes in popular collecting trends - as witness the rules that now apply to modern thematics. (I must admit that I find some of those rules a little odd - and even unintelligible in parts - but they are a genuine attempt to come to terms with philatelic developments.

But exhibition rules that do not keep pace with modern collecting trends can and do represent a serious factor inhibiting the proper development of our hobby. Nowhere is this more apparent than in the philately of 'Real History': I call it 'Real History' to distinguish it from 'Postal History' with which it is all too frequently confused by dealers, judges, and a host of other 'experts'. Postal Historians seek, collect, and show items that possess some postal significance. For Real Historians any postal interest is of secondary importance - they are seeking, collecting, and showing items that (primarily) possess some historical significance. Thus, to the Real History collector, a cover bearing a cheap and common stamp and a totally insignificant cancel, may be of great interest and value because it marks a particular historical event or is addressed by or to an organization or person of importance at a turning point in history.

I am aware that some of the items I have mentioned (e.g. appropriate maps and news-cuttings) have been allowed (or tactfully overlooked?) in some such exhibits but the practice of including such items is usually frowned upon - at least to the extent (as I have been informed authoritatively on several occasions) that no marks are awarded for those items (the relevant exhibit space is accordingly wasted). I can understand the arguments in respect to non-Real History exhibits and some 'non-philatelic' items. But I find difficulty in appreciating the 'reason' (if there is one) for the exclusion from any collection or exhibit of, for example, appropriate (propaganda and other) labels (Figure 1) on, or intended to be stuck to, covers and the picture (or 'wrong') sides of postcards where the picture side is of significance and the stamp side unimportant (as is often the case in Real History collections and exhibits. Surely such labels and the picture side of postcards are postal items...?).

Figure 1. A label used at the time of the UN's inaugural meeting in 1945 in San Francisco.

By now - roughly 150 years after the advent of stamps and so of philately - there are many such historically significant items - each of them marking some event in this most important and fast-moving period of the World's history. Add in the many issues of stamps relating to such events (especially those relating to the League of Nations and the UN) and we have the essence of a very comprehensive Real History collection - a new dimension (and growth industry) in philately (it is particularly popular in mainland Europe and the USA). Most Real History collections are,

of course, limited to one or two connected events, periods of history, or organizations.

Those of us who are interested in the League of Nations and the UN (the most international aspect of the world's most international hobby) can - and most of us do - collect and show stamps (League and UN and related issues from all over the world) following the normal collecting patterns and exhibition rules. But, because the growth of international organization has, in the main, taken place in the last 100 years or so, very many League and UN collectors are (also) 'Real History' collectors. My own main collection - arranged chronologically of course - comprises very many historically significant covers and many stamps. But it also includes a fair percentage of other items - maps, news-cuttings, labels, picture postcards (usually showing the picture side), autograph letters, etc. And this is a common practice amongst Real History collectors.

But this sort of collection presents difficulties when one is exhibiting - partly because, historically, philately has naturally been related to postal items and items of postal significance - and also because a Real History exhibit usually requires more writing-up than is usually considered to be reasonable. Happily there are now moves (especially in the USA) to meet the needs of Real History collectors and, in particular to proved more appropriate rules for Real History exhibits.

To encourage this 'Real History' - this new, dynamic and fascinating dimension in philately (and in my opinion we need new dimensions if philately is to survive) - I suggest the following:

1. Writing-up: it must be recognized that Real History items almost invariably require more writing-up than do most other items: intelligent commentary should be welcomed and encouraged (I envisage a time when history could be taught by a good Real History collection put into book form! I have certainly learned more about international organization from the pursuit of my philatelic interests than I have from the many books that I have read!)

2. Unusual Items: a percentage (perhaps 10% or at most 15%) of the items in a Real History exhibit could comprise the sort of items I have mentioned (maps, news-cuttings, labels, etc.); the remainder would, of course, be made up of the commonly accepted philatelic items.

Real History matters - and I believe it will soon matter a great deal more. So please - especially if you disagree with my contentions - take up the argument.

Reprinted from: Stamp Mail - October 1989 issue.

## UN: Why Have Prices Fallen?

By Stephen R. Datz

Editor's Note: The following article was published in May 1977. Yet, as one reads the article it is startling how accurate the viewpoint remains today.

The issues of the United Nations Postal Authority (UNPA) are interesting in many respects. The stamps are generally valid in only two places on Earth - United Nations headquarters in New York and the European office in Geneva, Switzerland (Editor's Note: This article was published three years before stamps were issued from the UN office in Vienna, Austria). Theoretically, they were created for use on official mail sent by the United Nations. They are, of course, valid on private correspondence as well.

Like most postal entities, the UNPA issues several commemorative stamps each year. The stamps, usually very attractive, reflect a high degree of quality in design and production. The stamps enjoy popularity with collectors from many parts of the world because of this quality and, I think, because of the concept the United Nations represents - a harmonious world in which all people cooperate to their mutual benefit. And the United Nations stamp-issuing program is, by almost any standard, conservative.

Why then the recent downturn in the market for United Nations material? The immediate answer is, of course, that supply exceeds demand. But as we look deeper, we will see once again that it is demand - rather than supply - that is the more important price determinant.

Most commemorative issues of the UN do not exceed 2,000,000 - few compared to the 150 million plus printings of U.S. commemoratives. But the absolute printing figure has little to do with the final determination of price of the issue. The thing of importance is the "number of people collecting" in relation to the total number of stamps sold.

Consider for a moment how many UN stamps are actually used for the purpose for which they were created, e.g. the prepayment of postage on a piece of mail. During 1975, the United Nations printed more than 25 million commemorative stamps (New York only). It is safe to assume that most of these stamps found their way into the hands of the philatelic community - collectors, dealers, hoarders, investors, etc. Over the years, most UN commemoratives have been purchased for philatelic purposes rather than for use on mail. The relative scarcity of used United Nations stamps is evidence of this. Many buyers purchase sheets and blocks - more than they need for their immediate collections. Consequently, there is an over-supply in relation to hard demand (album spaces which need filing).

### Safety Value

The identical situation occurs with U.S. stamps. Many, many collectors buy more U.S. new issues than they need. Sometimes it is only a block or two, sometimes and extra sheet or two or five. Once they realize that these stamps are not going to appreciate in value, they can use them for postage or sell them to someone who will. The safety value keeps a lot of surplus U.S. material from falling way below face value.

United Nations issues do not have such a safety mechanism. People outside the New York area cannot from a practical standpoint dispose of their excess UN stamps by using them on mail. They can only hope that another collector or dealer will buy them.

Recently, a lot of United Nations material has come on the market. So much, in fact, that most dealers are offering to pay only 50-80% of face value. The scarce early material is the exception. As a result of this sell-off, prices have fallen. Consequently, UN material has gotten a negative image: it is a poor investment. And this opinion gains strength each time it is uttered. Many people have told me that they have canceled their standing orders for UN new issues because they are a waste of money. And this has been going on for quite some time.

Never assume that serious collecting interest in UN material with wane. It will not. Excessive buying of new issues as an investment or a nest egg will certainly decrease (as we have seen) as buyers realize that their holdings will not make them a profit.

Editor's Note: This sell-off still continues today. Don't believe me - Look at any current major auction catalog.

### Market Adjustment

From a purely technical standpoint, United Nations material is simply undergoing a market adjustment. Price is seeking a new level as supply and demand are finding their equilibrium. However, everything that happens today lays the groundwork for tomorrow's market activity. If as many people have quit hoarding UN material as the situation seems to indicate, then material currently being issued may not (this is a big if) be around in large quantities in the future.

Over-supply which has accumulated during the last twenty years is extensive. After all, these stocks set aside by collectors and investors are what have allowed the number of UN collectors to expand without great price increases for the stamps. Twenty years of expansion have not been sufficient to make a dent in the reserve supply held by collectors and investors. If this reserve supply had run thin, prices for UN stamps would be climbing rather than falling right now.

### Collecting vs. Investing

Just because the market in a country has suffered does not mean that that country is a poor thing to collect. Not at all. Those who have purchased over the years what they need to keep their collections current have not lost anything. They have accomplished their goal - collecting.

Those who have overbought have lost. They have been lured by the two most irresistible sirens of philately: 1) "You can't go wrong buying at face value" and 2) "The printing figures are so low that these stamps will surely be scarce in the future."

Once again, this reinforces the wisdom of buying older, more desirable material for investment purposes. Any investment in stamps of which there is a large supply is vulnerable to downward fluctuation. But this should not affect one's interest in collecting a country. If anything, such occasional fluctuations provide the collector with an opportunity to fill spaces at very advantageous prices.

United nations is a excellent collecting topic. It should be remembered, however, that in all probability, the great majority of UN stamps ever issued are in the hands of the philatelic community. Investors: Take note. Collectors: Have fun!

Editor's Note: Mr. Stephen R. Datz published a philatelic index of U.S. Postage stamps (before running into problems with Scott about their numbering system) and is a respected analyst of stamp price fluctuations.

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## CONFERENCE NEWS

By B. Clement, Jr.

An additional postmark used at the Universal Postal Congress in November-December 1989 has been observed. Figure 1 shows the red double circle cancel used at the congress post office, on such things as receipts, registered mail, etc. Also, considerable additional information is now coming to light on the Autopost labels available from two machines at the congress; a separate article will discuss these findings.

Figure 1. UPU Congress Cancel.

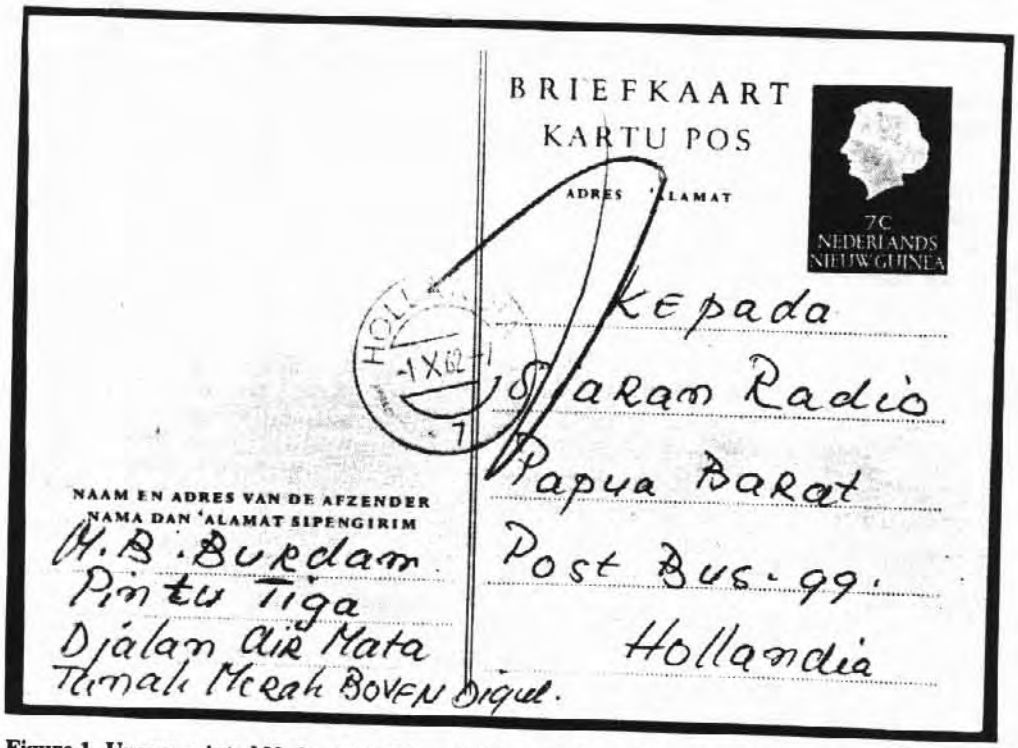


**Figure 1. Unoverprinted Netherlands New Guinea postal card. Arrival CDS: Hollandia, October 1, 1962, 7 a.m.**

# UNTEA: The 7-Cent Postal Card

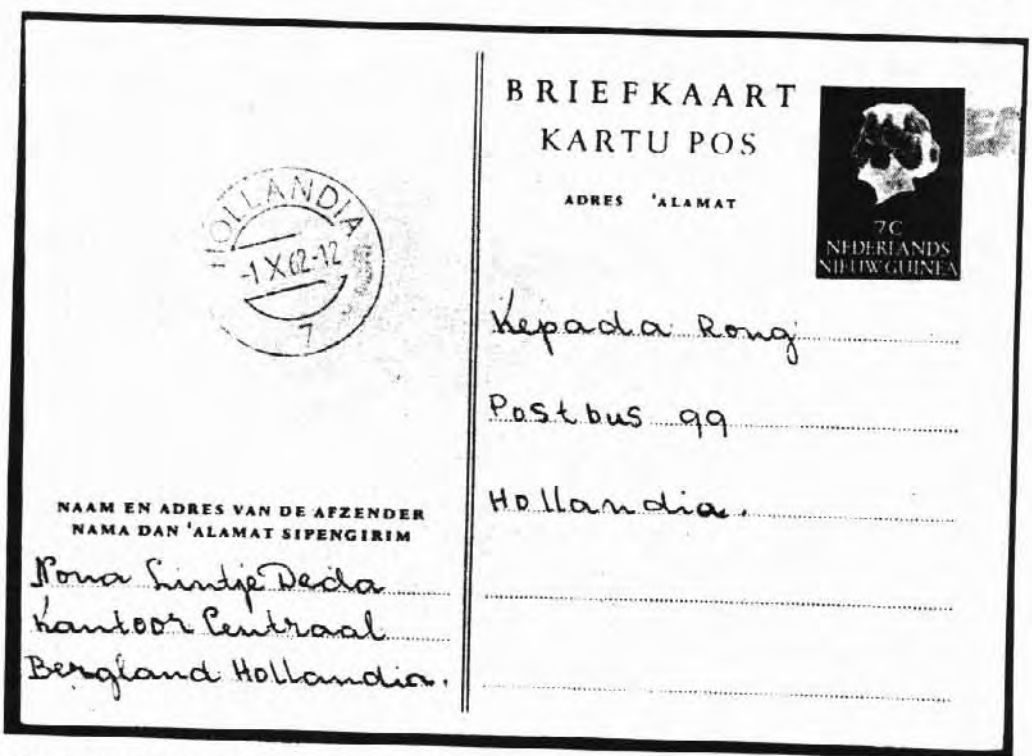


**Figure 2. Postal card with handwritten UNTEA overprint. Arrival (?) CDS: Hollandia October 1, 1962, 12 noon. Presumably, the postal was mailed earlier the same day.**

**by M. Hardjasudarma**

From October 1, 1962, to April 30, 1963, the western portion of the Pacific island of New Guinea was governed by the United Nations through its administrative body UNTEA, the United Nations Temporary Executive Authority. Throughout this period, the 7-cent Netherlands New Guinea postal card (brown on tan cardboard) continued to be used, usually with an overprint but sometimes without. This was the only postal card with an imprinted stamp used during the seven-month period.

## *Unoverprinted Postal Cards*

Except in the capital city of Hollandia, overprinted postal cards were not generally available to the public on the first day of the UNTEA administration. Even in Hollandia, sale of the postals was limited to three per customer.[1] As a result, unoverprinted postal cards were commonly used during these early days.

The card depicted in Figure 1 must have been posted before October 1, 1962, because of the considerable distance between the town where it was mailed — assuming that town is the one indicated by the return address — and its destination. But it was not canceled at Tanah Merah, either because it slipped through, or because the postal clerk did not know quite where to put the postmark. The Hollandia post office canceled the card away from the stamp, at or around 7 a.m.

Similar treatment was given to the postal card illustrated in Figure 2, which was mailed between two Hollandia addresses. However, someone — presumably a postal clerk — applied his own handwritten "overprint" to the imprinted stamp, using what appears to have been a felt tip pen with very dilute blue ink.

By November 1962, after two batches of the 7-cent postals had been overprinted (locally and in the Netherlands) and distributed, they became more readily available in the larger cities. Nevertheless, even toward the end of the UNTEA period, unoverprinted postal cards still were being used in many remote areas. This is illustrated by the unoverprinted card shown in Figure 3, which also bears unoverprinted Netherlands New Guinea stamps and is postmarked February 7, 1963.

## *The Type I Overprint*

The Type I overprint consists of the letters UNTEA in black and is 17 mm long. It was applied locally at Hollandia to nineteen stamp values and three types of postal stationery. Type I overprints were applied to 6,500 postal cards (Figure 4).

**Figure 3. Unoverprinted Netherlands New Guinea postal card bearing a pair of 25-cent stamps also without overprint. Rural postal station CDS: Steenkool, February 7 (1963).**

Because of the severe sales restrictions mentioned above, and apparent lack of interest on October 1, only three postal cards genuinely canceled (albeit "to order") on that first day of issue are on record. Another is known to have been postally used, having gone through the mails.[1]

All other "first day of issue" postal cards were made later, with predated cancels. Whether they actually can be differentiated from the "real thing" is another matter, because in most cases genuine cancelling devices were used.

## *The Type II Overprint*

The Type II overprint also is 17 mm long, but it is more regular in appearance than Type I, because it was applied using modern machinery at the Joh. Enschede & Sons printing works in the Netherlands. An example is illustrated in Figure 5.

Another example of the Type II overprint is shown in Figure 6. This card also bears the "World Freedom from Hunger Campaign" rubber stamp, which is the only propaganda marking known to have been used during the UNTEA period. It

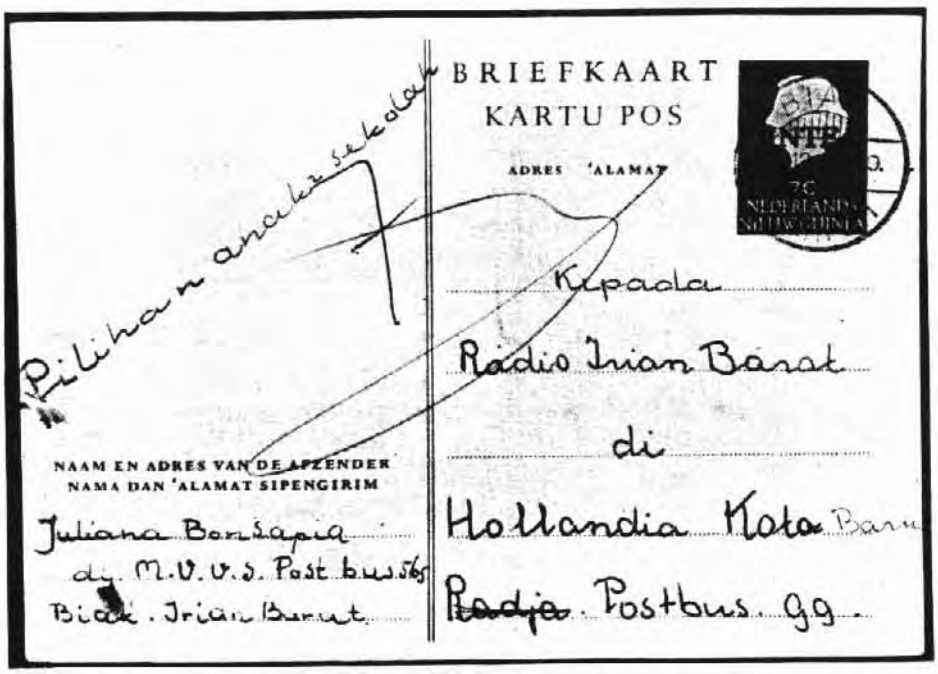


**Figure 4. Type I overprint. CDS: Biak Luchtpost (air mail), December 13, 1962.**

**Figure 8. At left, a Type I overprint. The "U" is slightly higher than the "N," and the horizontal bar at the upper left of the "N" is sharp and long. CDS: Biak Luchtpost, December 13, 1962.**

**At center, a Type II overprint. The "U" is slightly lower or at the same level as the "N," and the "N" has a short and stubby horizontal bar at upper left. CDS: Biak Luchtpost, December 20, 1962.**

**At right, a Type III (14 mm or "small") overprint. CDS: Hollandia, April 9, 1963.**

was applied to both incoming and outgoing mail, as well as to mail sent within West New Guinea, at selected offices.

Two simple differences between the Type I and Type II overprints are illustrated in Figure 8. The examples shown at the left and center of this illustration both were canceled at Biak, and only one week apart, so it is likely that supplies of both types of overprint were on sale simultaneously.

The earliest known usage of the Type II postal card is November 2, 1962, canceled "Hollandia 7."[1] Quantities overprinted are unknown. This type is known with an inkless ("albino") overprint.[1]

## *The Type III Overprint*

The so-called "small" overprint, Type III, measures 14 mm. During the last months of the UNTEA administration, a shortage of low-value stamps arose. Because supplies from the Netherlands had not arrived, a local printer was given the task of overprinting sheets of eight different values. Perhaps because of inexperience, he chose letters that were too small,[2] and he also included postal cards in this operation. And that's why we are blessed with Type III overprints.

As the story goes, the printer later realized his mistake and switched to a larger type. This time, he chose type that was too large and, thus, Type IV. Only 1-cent and 10-cent stamps exist with the Type IV overprint. More about this later.

An example of the Type III overprint is shown on the imprinted 7-cent stamp on the postal card illustrated in Figure 7. The 25-cent stamps affixed to the card bear Type II overprints. Figure 8 shows a close up of the Type III overprint, along with overprints of Types I and II. An unknown number of postal cards received the Type III overprint.

The 7-cent postal card was a domestic postal card, and its usage was overwhelmingly for that purpose. A few such cards were mailed abroad, with the appropriate additional postage affixed. But why are so many of these postal cards grossly overfranked, when they were used only within West New Guinea? Philatelic excess? Far from it. In an area so severely deprived economically as West New Guinea, this would have been furthest from the minds of the senders.

In fact, practically all postal cards salvaged from this period were addressed to the radio station in Hollandia. This station, like many others in neighboring Indonesia, had a very popular "listener's choice" program. On request, the station would play certain records and announce who had asked for them and who they were intended for, and would broadcast, in addition, a short message. This was usually done free of charge but, at times, charitable donations were called for. In the case of the postal card shown in Figure 7, the additional postage (fifty cents) was for the benefit of the local Red Cross Society.[3] Through an arrangement worked out among the society, the radio station, and the postal service, all revenue from stamps affixed to postal cards addressed to the radio station was handed over to the local Red Cross. The cards were then stored in archives, presumably that of the post office, and from there an unknown number later became available on the philatelic market. Such postal cards are by no means easy to obtain, but without the Red Cross fund drive, they would have been extremely scarce indeed.

Inverted overprints on postal cards are not known, although a variety of mal-positioned overprints are on record. The large 19-mm Type IV overprint is not known on postal stationery. However, some of the Type II overprints were heavily inked, which resulted in fat letters that sometimes measure 18 or even 19 mm.[1] If only the measurements are considered, these can be mistaken for Type IV. However, side-by-side comparison with a real Type IV overprint on a 1-cent or 10-cent stamp reveals obvious differences.

West New Guinea was incorporated into the Republic of Indonesia on May 1, 1963. The area was renamed West Irian and, subsequently, Irian Jaya. UNTEA postal cards used after this date are rare, because remainders were destroyed on April 30, 1963, by a United Nations administrator.[3]


### *The Author*

***Dr. John Hardjasudarma, who was born and raised in Indonesia, is now a practicing neuroradiologist in Toronto, Canada. He started collecting stamps as a youngster, then neglected philately for a time following his graduation from medical school. Since his return to the hobby in 1983, he has concentrated on the postal history of Indonesia. His work has previously been published in the journals of the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada and the American Society of Netherlands Philately.***



**References**

1. Stapel, C. "The UNTEA Overprints on Postal Stationery of Netherlands New Guinea" (in Dutch). *Postzak*, No. 99, June 1973.

2. Conway, H.E., United Nations commentary. *Linn's Weekly Stamp News*, October 26, 1964.

3. Wheatley, R. "U.N.T.E.A., Its History and Stamps." (Not known where published. Perhaps in the *Journal of the British U.N. Club*, Vol. XII, No. 7).

Figure 5. Type II overprint on a postal card additionally franked with stamps bearing Type I overprints. The overprints on the pair of 25-cent stamps are so-called "low position" overprints. Rural postal station CDS: Wamena, December 27, 1962.

Figure 6. Type II overprint. CDS: Hollandia, Binnen, March 23, 1963. At left is a purple rubber stamp, "World Freedom / from Hunger / Campaign / 23–30 March 1963."

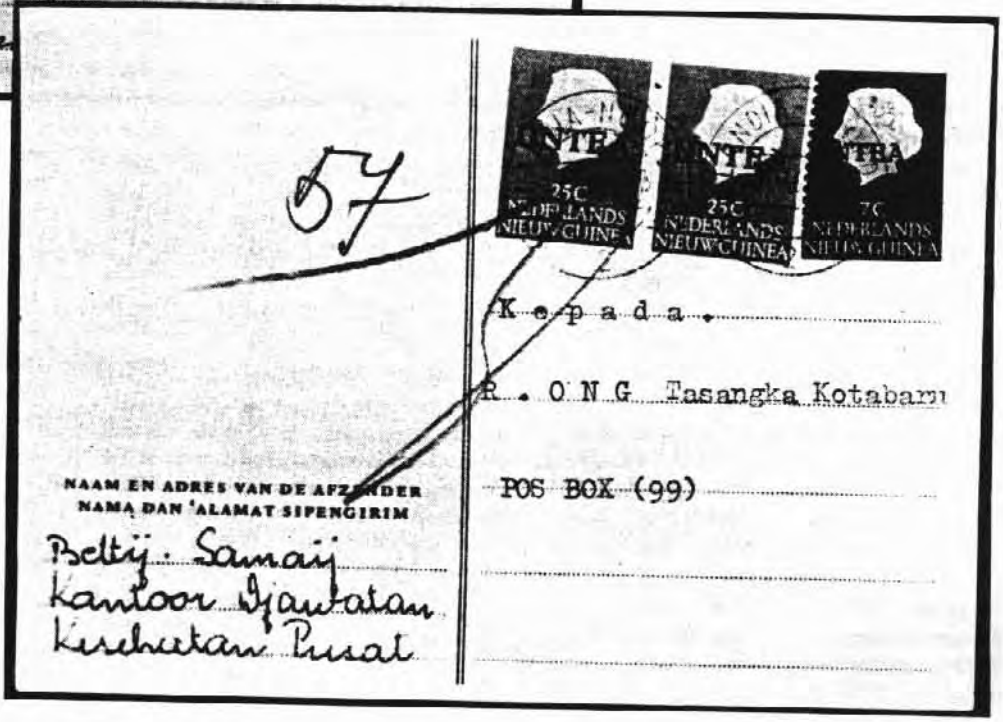


Figure 7. Type III overprint. CDS: Hollandia-Noordwijk, April 8, 1963. Additional postage (fifty cents) affixed to the postal card was donated to the Red Cross Society.

UNITED NATIONS PHILATELISTS, INC. MINI AUCTION 1990D
CLOSING DATES FOR BIDS IS OCTOBER 10, 1990

ALL BIDS SHOULD BE SENT TO AUCTION CHAIRPERSON:

MARK STEVEN CORRINET
1408 CREEKSIDE DRIVE
WALNUT CREEK, CALIFORNIA 94596
OFFICE NUMBER: (415) 932-6986
FAX BID NUMBER: (415) 932-4861

## BIDDING RULES

1. All bids are per lot as numbered in the listing. Please check your bids. Bidders are responsible for their mistakes. All bids will be confidential.
2. The highest bidder shall prevail. Lots will be sold at one advance over the second highest bid. If only one bid is received, the lot will be sold at the minimum bid. In the event of identical bids on the same lot, the lot will be awarded to the first bid received. No bids below the minimum level will be accepted.
3. The right is reserved to remove any lot from this sale.
4. Photocopies of lots are available for .25 cents for each lot, except for bulk lots. When more than one photocopy sheet is required for a lot, the charge is .20 cents after the first sheet. A SASE is also required for return of the photocopies.
5. Catalog numbers are Gaines unless specified otherwise.
6. Bidding increments are as follows:

| | |
|---|---|
| $ .00 to $25.00....$1.00 | $ 50.00 to $100.00....$ 5.00 |
| $25.01 to $50.00....$2.00 | $100.01 to $250.00....$10.00 |
| $250.01 and up.....$25.00 | |

Bids not conforming to these increments will automatically be reduced to the appropriate level.

## PAYMENT

7. Successful bidders will be notified by mail and must remit in full before any lots are sent. Buyers are expected to remit payment immediately upon receipt of the notice. Payment must be sent to the Auction Chairperson, payable to him. Failure to remit payment will carry UNP membership penalties.
8. Payments may made by CHECK or CREDIT CARD in U.S. dollars only.
9. All postage costs for mailing lots, including insurance and registration, plus a .50 cent handling fee, will be charged each successful bidder.

## AUTHENTICITY

10. To the best of the Chairperson's ability, every effort has been made to ensure that all lots are correctly described. Any bidder contesting the description of a lot must do so within five days of their receipt of the questioned lot.
11. The placing of a bid shall constitute acceptance of the foregoing conditions of sale.
12. Prices realized will be published in a subsequent issue of the The Journal.

## AUCTION 1990D LOTS

LOT 01 Scott UNNY #149 "Bundesdruckerei Berlin" MI6 - Min. Bid $10.00
LOT 02 Scott UNNY #C1-C4 Lower Right MI4 w/control #'s - Min. Bid $25.00
LOT 03 Scott Cyprus #232-236, 265-268 & 424-427 also Scott Belgium "Fair" #467-476, C15-C20 (All Singles - All MNH) - Min. Bid $10.00
LOT 04 Gaines UNNY #11.6 "6th Printing" Upper Right MI4 "Partial Triangle C/O" MLH - Min. Bid $30.00
LOT 05 8 ILO FD/LD Meter Proofs on envelopes w/ILO Corner Cards (1978-79) - Min. Bid $10.00
LOT 06 FDC Geneva Cachet w/Scott UNNY #77-78 Combo (Gaines $50.00) - Min. Bid $25.00

LOT 07 7 covers each w/Scott UN Geneva #4 canceled w/Geneva Cancels "a" to "g" (Same Day) - Min. Bid $10.00
LOT 08 Scott #7o21 Coil Strip of 4, used on UNEO Postal Card, cancel s.1 (09/03/57), w/Gaines Cert. - Min. Bid $60.00
LOT 09 Gaines UNESCO Gift Stamp #GS 38 BK6 "Shift of Black" (Gaines $45.00) - Min. Bid $15.00
LOT 10 UPU - 4th Session CCEP (Eastbourne, G.B. - 06/27/60), Gaines Pg. 1204 1960/2 - Min. Bid $10.00
LOT 11 Scott UNNY #61/#151 (Missing Only a Couple) (Complete Sets) MNH MI4 (Face $21.00) - Min. Bid $10.00
LOT 12 Scott UNNY #154/#208 (Complete Sets) MNH MI4 (Face $18.52) - Min. Bid $10.00
LOT 13 Scott UNNY #218/#266 (Missing #166,170-174,179-180,190-191,197-198,205-206) (Complete Sets) MNH MI4 (Face $32.00) - Min. Bid $16.00
LOT 14 Scott UN Geneva #1-14 MNH MI4 (Retail $37.50) - Min. Bid $15.00
LOT 15 Scott UN Geneva #18-29 MNH MI4 (Retail $47.50) - Min. Bid $10.00
LOT 16 Scott UN Geneva #30/#56 (Missing #G52) MNH MI4 (Retail $75.00) - Min. Bid $20.00
LOT 17 Large Size Registered Cover from NANSEN Refugee Office in Beirut, Lebanon (Stamped Corner Card) Hand Addressed to NANSEN Office in Geneva w/circular Lebanese NANSEN office backstamp (Cover Torn in Several Places) - Min. Bid $75.00
LOT 18 1937 Registered Cover from London to NANSEN Office in Geneva - Min. Bid $50.00
LOT 19 WFUNA FDC w/UNNY #154-155 Combo - Min. Bid $10.00
LOT 20 Scott UN Vienna #1-6 on WFUNA, Geneva, Vienna Headquarter & NY Headquarter Cachet FDC Singles (24 Covers Total) - Min. Bid $10.00
LOT 21 Scott UN Vienna #1-6 on WFUNA, Geneva, Vienna Headquarter & NY Headquarter Cachet FDC Combos (4 Covers Total) - Min. Bid $10.00
LOT 22 4 Covers Scott UNNY #126, 167, C6, C7 (Each Signed by Stamp Designer) - Min. Bid $10.00
LOT 23 Scott UNNY #2 (1st & 5th Printings) & #5 (1st Printing) (All Full Sheets) (All w/Cut Outs) - Min. Bid 12.00
LOT 24 Gaines UC1 Airletter (Folded) - Min. Bid $11.00
LOT 25 Assortment of UNNY Stationery (52 Items) (Some Printings) - Min. Bid $13.00
LOT 26 Scott UNNY #278-279 (25th Anniversary Sheetlets) MNH - Min. Bid $30.00
LOT 27 Scott UN Geneva #61-62 (25th Anniversary Sheetlets) MNH - Min. Bid $40.00
LOT 28 UNICEF 1980 Jumbo Flag FDC Stamp Cover (16 Stamps) - Min. Bid $10.00
LOT 29 WFUNA 1980 Jumbo Flag FDC Stamp Cover (16 Stamps) & WFUNA Chaim Gros Graphic for Issue - Min. (Upper Right Corner of Graphic Dinged) - Min. Bid $10.00
LOT 30 WFUNA 1981 & 1983 Jumbo Flag FDC Stamp Covers (16 Stamps Each) - Min. Bid $11.00
LOT 31 UNP Auction Catalogs (Auction #1-8,10 - Most w/Prices Realized), UN Collector Auction Catalogs #16/33 (15), UNP Mini Auctions #1-6 (Photocopies) & Lg Selection of UN Dealer Material - Min. Bid $15.00
LOT 32 Misc. Lot of U.S. Committee for Refugees (8) & UNICEF Corner Card Covers (10) (Most w/Contents), also 8 SS Folders & 3 SS Cards (1960-70 Period) - Min. Bid $10.00
LOT 33 Cover from UNRRA Team Camp #341 Member to Jewish Newspaper "Forward" in New York - Cover has UNRRA Backstamp & U.S. Censor Tape and Cancel - Min. Bid $20.00
LOT 34 3 Covers to UN Administrative Tribunal from Egypt (1956/1958) - Min. Bid $10.00
LOT 35 16 Different Private Souvenir Cards Honoring the UN or UN Events w/Various Cancels - Min. Bid $10.00
LOT 36 White Cards #7-12, 17-20 & 22-23 - Min. Bid $10.00
LOT 37 Blue Cards #63-71, 73-74 Each w/Additional Show FD Cancels - Min. Bid $20.00
LOT 38 Blue Cards #98-104, 106 - Min. Bid $10.00
LOT 39 Blue Cards #107-115 - Min. Bid $10.00
LOT 40 Scott Swiss Officials #3o62-3o82 MNH - Min. Bid $20.00
LOT 41 Scott Swiss Officials #3o83-3o93 MLH - Min. Bid $34.00
LOT 42 Scott Swiss Officials #4o23-4o28 MNH - Min. Bid $10.00
LOT 43 Scott Swiss Officials #4o23-4o28 MLH - Min. Bid $10.00
LOT 44 Scott Swiss Officials #4o23-4o48 MLH - Min. Bid $28.00
LOT 45 Scott Swiss Officials #5o1-5o5 MLH - Min. Bid $10.00
LOT 46 Scott Swiss Officials #7o1, 7o8, 7o10, 7o12, 7o13, 7o16-7o17 Used - Min. Bid $15.00
LOT 47 Scott Swiss Officials #4o40-4o45 PTT Booklet - Min. Bid $10.00
LOT 48 Scott Swiss Officials #1o01-1o06 PTT Booklet - Min. Bid $12.00
LOT 49 Scott Swiss Officials #4o40-4o48 Official FDC (Addressed) - Min. Bid $10.00
LOT 50 Scott Swiss Officials #5o26-5o34 Official FDC (Addressed) - Min. Bid $10.00
LOT 51 Scott Swiss Officials #7o21-7o26 Official FDC (Unaddressed) - Min. Bid $20.00
LOT 52 Scott Swiss Officials #7o27 Official FDC (Unaddressed) - Min. Bid $14.00

LOT 53 Scott Swiss Officials #7o31-7o39 Official FDC (Unaddressed) - Min. Bid $10.00
LOT 54 Scott Swiss Officials #8o1-8o6 Official FDC (Unaddressed) - Min. Bid $10.00
LOT 55 Scott Swiss Officials #9o1-9o6 Official FDC (Addressed) - Min. Bid $10.00
LOT 56 Scott Swiss Officials #1o01-1o06 Official FDC (Unaddressed) - Min. Bid $10.00
LOT 57 Geneva Cachet Error #98E (Gaines Page 455) - Min. Bid $10.00
LOT 58 WFUNA Graphic #9 (Hall Groat) (Airmails) Mint - Min. Bid $23.00
LOT 59 WFUNA Graphic #24 (Sonja Eisenberg) (Water) FDNY - Min. Bid $17.00
LOT 60 WFUNA Graphic #32 (Ole Hamann) (ICAO) FDNY - Min. Bid $25.00
LOT 61 WFUNA Graphic #34 (Krishna Reddy) (Technical) FDNY - Min. Bid $14.00
LOT 62 WFUNA Graphic #41 (Chaim Gross) (Economic) FDVienna - Min. Bid $45.00
LOT 63 WFUNA Graphic #43 (Joan Miro) (Peacekeeping) FDGeneva - Min. Bid $100.00
LOT 64 WFUNA Graphic #44 (Ole Hamann) (35th Anniversary) FDNY - Min. Bid $26.00
LOT 65 WFUNA Graphic #45 (Chaim Gross) (Flags #1) FDNY - Min. Bid $50.00
LOT 66 WFUNA Graphic #52 (Bruno Zupan) (Flags #2) FDNY - Min. Bid $25.00
LOT 67 WFUNA Graphic #53 (Herman Uterman) (Volunteer) FDNY - Min. Bid $25.00
LOT 68 WFUNA Graphic #71 (Mark Wiener) (ILO Turin) FDNY - Min. Bid $25.00
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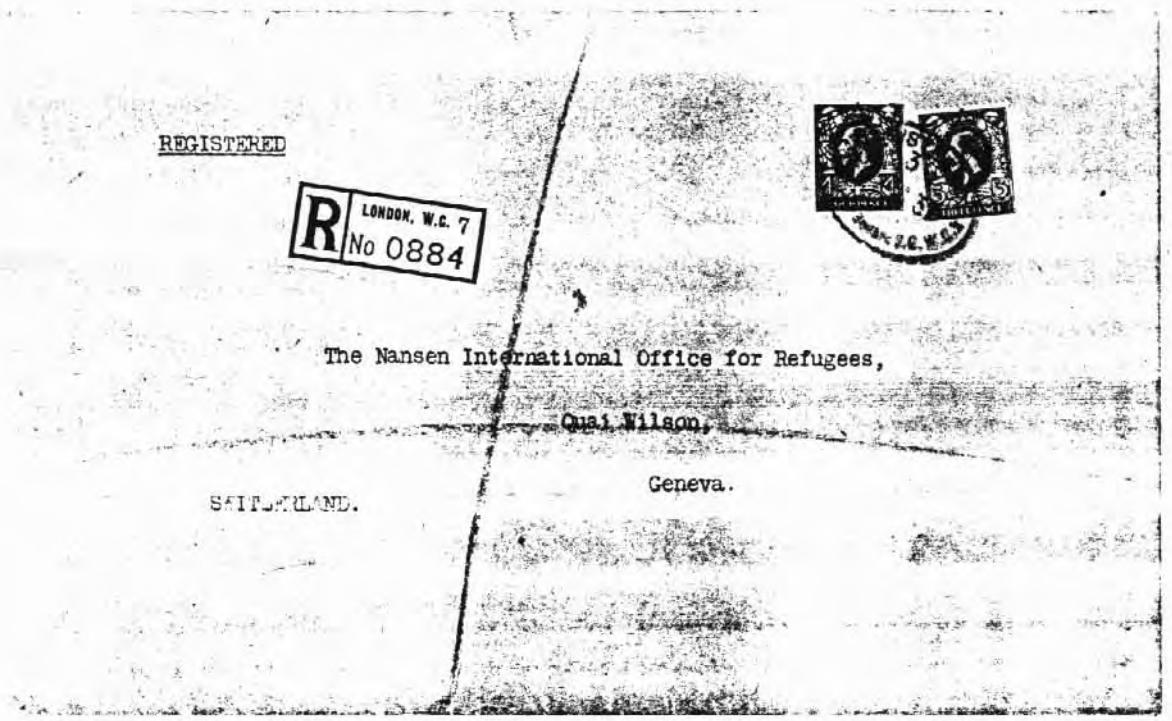
LOT 70 WFUNA Graphic #78 (Xing Fei) (UNDP) FDNY - Min. Bid $35.00
LOT 71 Belgium 1949 FR 0,50 UPU Surcharge Essay Single, OG, MNH, VF - Min. Bid $15.00
LOT 72 Belgium 1949 FR 0,50 UPU Surcharge Essay Tab Single, OG, MNH, VF - Min. Bid $20.00
LOT 73 Two (2) Different types of Japanese Nuclear Test Protest Cards - Min. Bid $10.00
LOT 74 Two (2) sets of NY #1/30 (MH) - Min. Bid $10.00
LOT 75 France Scott #636 (25F) UPU Issue (11 Different Imperf Trial Color Proofs), OG, MNH - Min. Bid $75.00

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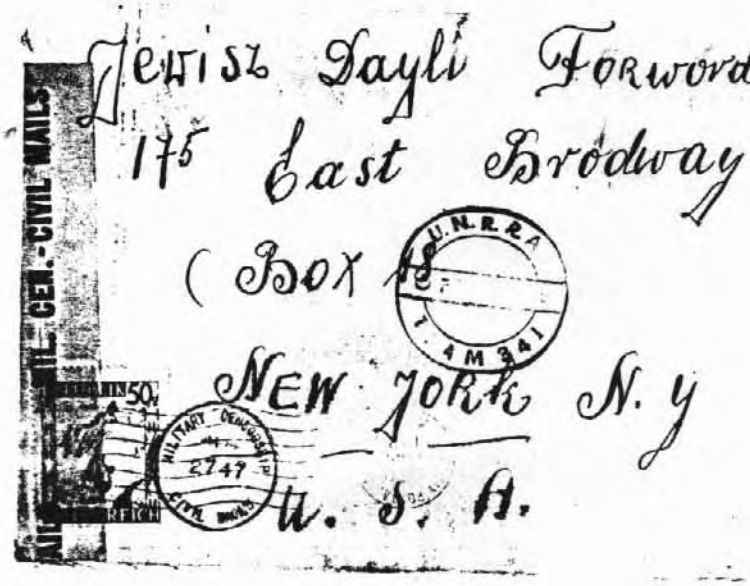


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