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Schönbrunn Palace

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All opinions expressed in this journal are the responsibility of the author and are not necessarily those of the Editor, UNPI Officers or the club membership.

Cover Illustrations

Front cover: Cover of the stamp booklet issued by the UNPA for use in NY honoring the World Heritage site: Schönbrunn Palace.
Rear cover: Six commemoratives issued by the UNPA honoring the Schönbrunn Palace.

MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR

1998 - A Busy Year for the UNPA

Following this message you will find the final listing of the United Nations Postal Administration (UNPA) stamp program for 1998. Included in this listing are the ***Scott Catalog*** numbers. In light of the fact that the ***Gaines Catalog*** is no longer publishing this information on a regular basis, we have decided that it would be useful to compile this information once a year in the February issue of the ***Journal*** as a service to our members. I would like to take advantage of this listing to take a look back at and discuss the philatelic program of the UNPA last year.

For the first time in its forty-eight year existence the UNPA has broken its tradition of never having more than six distinct issues of stamps. In 1998 there were seven distinct first days of issue. This year the UNPA issued forty stamps, one souvenir sheet and two items of postal stationery for use by its New York office. For its Geneva office it issued thirty stamps, one souvenir sheet and two items of postal stationery. The Vienna branch issued thirty-one stamps, one souvenir sheet and two items of postal stationery.

The major source to this spate of stamps came in May, when the UNPA issued a sheet of twelve different stamps for each office honoring the International Year of the Ocean. The next most prodigious set contained eight different stamps - six of which were issued in a prestige booklet - in December honoring the Schönbrunn Palace, a World Heritage site.

To get a sense of how this compares to UNPA productivity in previous years, we need only consider the Scott catalog number of the last 1998 issue for the New York office. It took forty-eight years for the UNPA to arrive at the total of 742. This means an average of about sixteen stamps (including souvenir sheets) per year. Admittedly the precise average is a bit low because it does not take into account the fact that Scott sometimes issues a single catalog number for se-tenant issues such as #669 the United Nations Fiftieth Anniversary sheetlet which contains twelve different stamps (#669a-l) or stamps issued in a prestige booklet such as #670, the corresponding booklet which also has twelve different stamps. But the trend is clear. In this past year the UNPA issued nearly three times as many stamps for its New York office as its did on the average during the past forty-eight years.

Where would this productivity place the UNPA among the postal administrations of the world? The information is not yet in for 1998. However, one can get a sense by comparing the 104 stamps and souvenir sheets that the UNPA produced for all of its offices in 1998 with the rankings released in the ***Michel-Rundschau*** annual survey of worldwide new issues for 1997 published in the December issue of ***Michel-Rundschau***. ***Michel*** lists 264 distinct stamp-issuing authorities. The UNPA counts as three: one each for New York, Geneva and Vienna. Based on its total output the UNPA would have ranked thirty-third between New Zealand (106 stamps and souvenir sheets) and Uruguay (103). As a separate entity UNNY would have tied for 104th place along with Belarus, Colombia, Greece, Slovenia, Ukraine and the United Arab Emirates, all of which issued forty stamps and souvenir sheets. UN Vienna would have tied for 137th place along with Albania, New Caledonia, Czech Republic and Montserrat with thirty-one stamps issued. UNGeneva would have been in 140th place tied with Gibraltar with thirty stamps issued.

For the record in 1997 the United States issued 175 stamps for a 16th place ranking. The Gambia far and away led the pack with 358 stamps issued. At the opposite end of the productivity scale were twenty-one stamp-issuing entities, which released no stamps at all. Fourteen of these were various Malay States.

The 104 stamps (and souvenir sheets) can be divided into three groups: four commemorative series, three special series and one set of six definitives. The four commemorative series honored the International Year of the Ocean (36 stamps), the Rainforests (three stamps and three souvenir sheets), Peacekeeping (six stamps) and the Human Rights Declaration (six stamps). The three special series included eight flag stamps, twelve endangered species stamps and twenty-four World Heritage stamps (Schönbrunn Palace).

In the spirit of ***Linn's Stamp News***, I present here my personal winners of the 1998 United Nations Popularity Poll. Let me warn you that these choices often fell victim to strong prejudices on my part. I do not like philatelic products for which the United Nations does not service normal size first day covers with single stamps. This automatically causes stamps which are issued in prestige booklets or sheetlets with twelve different stamps to be relegated to my booby prize category. If the UNPA does not consider the distinctively denominated Schönbrunn stamps (11¢ and 15¢ as opposed to the normal 32¢) to be sufficiently qualified for normal first day cover service, then why should I, as a collector, take them seriously?

For best designed set I nominate the Peacekeeping series. Each stamp in this series clearly portrays an easily recognized activity of the United Nations in this program. I think no other series this year better told the United Nations story.

For worst designed set I propose the International Year of the Ocean sheetlets. The New York sheetlet is particularly cluttered with sea creatures, many of which are divided up to appear on four different stamps. One can easily ask why it was necessary to break up the overall scene into twelve segments, none of which indicate the nature of United Nations activity in this field. I feel sorry for the artist, whose name in the lower right corner has been rendered illegible by a bed of sea anemones. But presumably he has only himself to blame.

For most important set I favor the Peacekeeping series, particularly the S 7 stamp which shows a peacekeeper observing people casting votes. I believe that no activity of the United Nations deserves more commemoration than do its fifty years of efforts in maintaining peace worldwide.

For least important set I suggest the Rainforest series. These very distinctively colored stamps leave one wondering how the United Nations contributes to this field aside from concerns. I believe successful designs need to explicitly publicize in a non-generic way the activities of the United Nations.

For the most exploitive series there can be no question. The International Year of the Ocean with its thirty-six face-different stamps honoring a single theme wins hands down. But the Schönbrunn Palace series with twenty-four different stamps is not far behind. I believe that the French PTT does a far superior job of honoring World Heritage sites with its almost annual pair of service stamps. Each site is honored by only one stamp.

For the most disappointing series, I am obliged to mention the Human Rights Set. I realize that it is not easy to represent graphically the principles of the Universal Declaration. But I think the series of thirty stamps issued between 1989 and 1993 by the UNPA do a much better job of publicizing the thirty article text of the Declaration than the six stamps which were issued this year. I find these designs a bit too abstract.

Compared to the highly exploitive policy of the United States Postal Service, the UNPA looks down right conservative. It compares favorably with Switzerland, which issued only thirty-two stamps in 1997, if one compares individual office numbers. On the other hand, the relatively small number of United Nations stamps actually used commercially makes one realize that the latter comparison is not too meaningful. UNPA products, like many of the USPS counterparts, are meant to be saved by collectors and not used to transport mail. Or so it seems to me! How do you see it?

SCOTT CATALOGUE NUMBERS OF RECENT UNITED NATIONS STAMPS

Reported by Jim Matyasovich

Date of Issue	Item
November 19, 1997	**Terracotta Warriors**
	32¢, 60¢, F.s. 0,45, F.s. 0,70, S 3, S 6
	New York 716-7, Geneva 314-5, Vienna 230-1
	3 Prestige Booklets
	6×8¢, 6×F.s. 0,10, 6×S 1
	New York 718a-f, Geneva 316a-f, Vienna 232a-f
February 13, 1998	**Flag Series**
	8 × 32¢ stamps.
	New York 719 (Federated States of Micronesia), 720 (Slovakia), 721 (North Korea) 722 (Azerbaijan), 723 (Uzbekistan), 724 (Monaco), 725 (Czech Republic), 726 (Estonia)
	Definitives
	1¢, 2¢, 21¢, F.s. 2,00, S 6,50, S 9 stamps.
	New York 727-9, Geneva 317, Vienna 233-4
March 13, 1998	**Endangered Species**
	4×32¢, 4×F.s. 0,80, 4×S 7 stamps.
	New York 730-3, Geneva 318-21, Vienna 235-8
	Postal Stationery
	S 13 prestamped envelope
	Vienna U3
May 20, 1998	**International Year of the Ocean**
	12×32¢, 12×F.s. 0,45, 12×S 3,50stamps.
	New York 734a-l, Geneva 322a-l, Vienna 239a-l
	Postal Stationery
	21¢, 50¢, F.s. 70, F.s. 1,10, S 6,50 postal cards.
	New York UX20-1, Geneva UX13-4, Vienna UX11.
June 19, 1998	**Rainforests**
	32¢, F.s. 0,70, S 6,50 stamps.
	New York 735, Geneva 323, Vienna 240
	$2, F.s. 3,00, S 22 souvenir sheets.
	New York 736, Geneva 324, Vienna 241
September 15, 1998	**50 Years of Peacekeeping**
	33¢, 40¢, F.s. 0,70, F.s. 0,90, S 4, S 7,50 stamps.
	New York 737-8, Geneva 325-6, Vienna 242-3
October 27, 1998	**50th Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights**
	32¢, 55¢, F.s. 0,90, F.s. 1,80, S 4,50, S 7 stamps
	New York 739-40, Geneva 327-8, Vienna 244-5
December 4, 1998	**Schönbrun Castle**
	33¢, 60¢, F.s. 0,70, F.s. 1,10, S 3,50, S 7 stamps.
	New York 741-2, Geneva 329-30, Vienna 246-7
	3 Prestige Booklets
	(3×11¢, 3×15¢, 3×F.s. 0,10, 3×F.s. 0,30, 3×S 1, 3×S 2)
	New York 743a-f, Geneva 331a-f, Vienna 248a-f

MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARY

A Renewal Reminder

Warning! If you have not paid your 1999 UNP dues, this February 1999 issue of the ***Journal*** will be your last. How do you know whether you have paid? Look at your mailing label. The first number is your UNP membership number. The second number (98, 99, 00, etc.) is the year through which you are paid (1998, 1999, 2000, etc.) If you have not paid, please mail me your check right away to avoid missing an issue of the ***Journal***.

Canadian members should note that their dues have been reduced substantially to better reflect our actual postage cost. This was in response to your letters to me questioning why Canadian dues were so much higher than US dues. We do listen! I requested the change and the UNP Board approved the change starting with the 1999 dues.

For those members who sent in their e-mail addresses and their collecting interests with their dues renewal, thanks! For those who okayed publishing the information, I plan to submit for use from time-to-time in future issues of the ***Journal***. If any of you did not have to renew this year and would like to submit your e-mail address or collecting interests, please do so by mail or e-mail to the addresses in the listing on the inside back cover.

UNPA NEWS

The UNPA Vienna has announced in the most recent issue of its newsletter ***Faszination*** (Volume 1/1999) the availability for sale of three new items after the fact. One is a special folder commemorating the 50th Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The second is the surcharge of the 32¢ stamped envelopes by 1¢. The third is the Fourth Supplement to the UNPA's own catalogue.

The Italian PTT has issued a stamp using the same design as that on the S.Fr 2 stamp, created by Michel Follon for the UNPA. This joint issue was released in a special folder (Figure 1) and put on sale on the first day of issue October 27, 1998, on the occasion of the international stamp exhibition ***Italia '98*** in Milan. The folder sold for Lit 6,000 (approximately $4) in Milan and is currently on sale from the UNPA offices in Geneva and Vienna. Presumably the office in New York will also place it on sale.

Figure 1: Special Folder released at ***Italia '98***.

As a result of the recent increase (effective January 10, 1999) in domestic first class postage rates in the United States, the UNPA released new versions of the 32¢ stamped envelopes (both standard Scott U-11 and legal sized U-11A) with an imprinted surcharge of 1¢ to bring the postage up to the required 33¢. The price for these items is 43¢. They are available in both mint and cancelled forms. The cancelled form presumably bears the date when these items were first put on sale. Account holders, who normally receive UNNY stationery items, will automatically receive these surcharged envelopes in a future delivery.

The UNPA has just released the Fourth Supplement of its full color ***Stamp Catalogue***, which has been updated to include all issues as of September 1998 (UN Peacekeeping). It has been updated to include FDCs serviced through November 1997 and quantities of stamps sold for off-sale items through December 1995. The supplement costs $3 plus postage and handling.

SCHÖNBRUNN PALACE

From a UNPA Press Release

On December 4, 1998 the United Nations Postal Administration (UNPA) issued a set of six commemorative stamps and three prestige booklets featuring the Schönbrunn Palace in Vienna, which is on the UNESCO World Heritage List. Each of the three booklets contains twenty-one stamps with six differently denominated variations of the six stamps issued in sheets, making eight different stamps for each office of the UNPA. The six basic designs of the sheet stamps appear on the rear cover of this issue. In the booklet issued for the New York office the six designs appear grouped in blocks of four stamps with a denomination of 15¢ (corresponding to the 60¢ international airmail rate) or strips of three stamps with a denomination of 11¢ (corresponding to the 33¢ first class domestic rate). This is the second time the UNPA has issued a set of twenty-four different stamps honoring a single UNESCO World Heritage Site. In 1997 the UNPA issued six commemorative sheets and three prestige booklets featuring the Terracotta Warriors discovered in Xian, China.

The UNPA first publicized this UNESCO program, under which sites around the world are designated for preservation and assistance, in 1984 with a set of six commemoratives (Scott UNNY421-2, G124-5, A42-3). A second series on the same theme showing six other sites appeared in 1992 (UNNY601-2, G211-2, A125-6).

The Palace and Gardens of Schönbrunn is an especially well-preserved example of a baroque royal residential ensemble and constitutes an outstanding example of *Gesamtkinstwerk*, a totally coordinated work of art.

From the sixteenth century Schönbrunn (which means Beautiful Spring) was the site of a hunting lodge and summer residence of the Hapsburg family. After total destruction in 1683, the palace was rebuilt by the architect Johann Bernhard Fischer von Erlach in 1695. The new building was commissioned as a *château de plaisance*, but during its construction its function became that of an imperial summer residence and hence its size was increased. Apart from some minor nineteenth-century additions, the palace and gardens attained their present appearance in the eighteenth century.

The architectural ensemble contains precious eighteenth-century interiors. The vast baroque gardens and their buildings, such as the Gloriette, testify to the Imperial functions and dimensions of the palace. The public has had full access to the gardens and park since they were opened late in the eighteenth century. The Schönbrunn zoological garden located on the grounds was founded in 1752 and hence is the oldest in the world.

Since the palace became the property of the Austrian Republic in 1918, its protection and maintenance have been assured. It is the major cultural site in the country. In terms of the categories set out in the 1972 World Heritage Convention, the Schönbrunn ensemble is a group of buildings. The inclusion of the park qualifies this to be considered a designed cultural landscape.

The main part of the palace is featured on the S 3,50 stamp. The white and gilt porcelain stove illustrated on the S 7 stamp can be found in the bedroom on the first floor of the State Apartments. The blue and white porcelain table vase featured in the F.s. 1,80 stamp, can be found in the Mirror Room of the State Apartments. A detail from one of the paintings on fabric which cover the walls of the Bergl Rooms on the ground floor of the East Wing appears on the 60¢ stamp.

The Great Palm House, illustrated on the F.s. 0,70 stamp, is an impressive iron-framed structure erected in 1880. On the palace's garden facade, the Great Parterre spreads out, leading to the monumental Neptune Fountain with the transitional Baroque-Neoclassical Gloriette (illustrated on the 33¢ stamp) rising above to complete the vista.

PROFILE OF A UN PHILATELIST

Greg S. Galletti
E-mail: galletti@erols.com

By Richard Powers

[Editor's note: We will publish regularly profiles of officers and contributors to the ***Journal*** to promote fellowship among the members.]

Newly-elected UNP-President Greg Galletti began collecting stamps when he was seven. He was introduced to UN stamp collecting by his uncle Jerry, a collector himself, who presented him with an H. E. Harris UN album for his tenth birthday. Later he went to the UNPA in New York and purchased his first set of stamps "over the counter". They were the 1972 commemoratives for the prevention of drug addiction.

About a year later he attended a local ASDA show LISDA, where he met Paul Kravitz and Ron Ginns, who were at the joint booth of the United Nations Study Unit (UNSU) and the Turtle Bay Philatelic Society (the New York-based UN collectors group). They suggested he join the club.

He became very active in the NY group which entailed traveling often into NY City for the meetings. They were first held at the Ninth Avenue YMCA (Sloan House) and later at the NY Collectors Club. The "Club" was a great place for gatherings. He treasures some of the fascinating stories of the early years of the United Nations and getting to see first hand all those "new" discoveries presented by Pearl Borah, Paul Kravitz, Mike Meyer, Eileen Maisannes (Meier) and, of course, Ron Ginns.

He attended the founding meetings of the UNP during the Wayne, New Jersey show in 1977 and was given UNP membership #15, corresponding to his age at the time, by the newly-appointed Board of Directors.

Greg's UN interests include UN postal history and the League of Nations. His interest in UN exhibitng began at about the same time and has never ceased. He recalls getting "expert" advice from Jack Mayer, Paul, Ron, and others on how to select and write up material. He has exhibited at more than twenty national shows. Perhaps his fondest memories as an exhibitor occurred as a junior collector, receiving the UNPA Bronze Medal of Excellence from UNPA Chief Gisela Grunewald at **Milcopex '77** and serving as UNP Exhibits Co-Chairman for the 1978 and 1979 conventions in New York. Believe it or not, there were nearly two hundred frames of exclusively UN material in those grand shows. All in all, the last twenty-five or so years of collecting UN stamps has brought him much joy and some lasting friendships.

Greg received a BS at the University of Michigan and an MS/IEOR at the University of Massachusetts. He is now an engineer with the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC).

Born in Brooklyn, New York, Greg currently resides in Mt. Airy, Maryland with his wife Lynne, the host of a weekly show on raising children, and a radio and television personality in their local region. They have two boys: Michael and Anthony, ages 5 and 3, respectively.

Aside from philately, he has rekindled his interest in N-scale model trains (primarily to develop a layout for his boys) and is active in the community as a baseball coach and a member of the Mt. Airy Ethics Commission. He enjoys travelling (in spite of the fact that he gets to do much of that with the NRC), woodworking, camping, fishing, golfing, homebrewing and almost anything else that allows him to tinker around the house and in the garden with his tools.

PHILATELICALLY YOURS FROM VIENNA - IV

By Richard Powers

On December 28, 1998, I received a shipment of special covers with "Sonderstempel" (special cancellations) issued by the United Nations Postal Administration (UNPA) in Vienna during the previous year. These involved special items issued between November 22, 1997 and ending with December 10, 1998. This year's shipment cost $15.81 plus $2.50 in handling, for which I received AS 26,00 in cancelled UN-Vienna stamps with first day cancels. It is a nice touch that the UNPA ships the covers using a printed Port Payé insignia but encloses the equivalent in used stamps. Below is a summary of the covers which I received.

On November 22, 1997 the Austrian Federation of Philatelic Clubs (VÖPH) organized an Open House at its facilities in Vienna. The UNPA was invited and set up a special post office. The one-day cancellation shows the giant Ferris Wheel, the Prater, in Vienna. The UNPA prepared a cover using one of its standard Austria Center cachets (based on a photograph of the Austria Center by Christian Marzinger), which it uses for International Atomic Energy Agency (IAAE) meetings. The cover bears the 50-gröschen definitive (Gaines #A167) as well as the AS 6,50 Tribute to Philately commemorative A228.

Figure 1: VÖPH Open House Cover.

On November 28, 1997 the UNPA-Vienna issued a holiday greeting card (Figure 2) bearing a cachet entitled "Buntes im Nebel (Colorful Object in the Fog)" designed by the artist Anne Hausner on the occasion of the Vienna Advent Magic. The UNPA set up a special post office in the Norbbuffett of the Vienna City Hall at **Weihnachtsphila**. The special cancellation shows a street car in front of the City Hall and ties one of the AS 7 Transportation commemoratives A224.

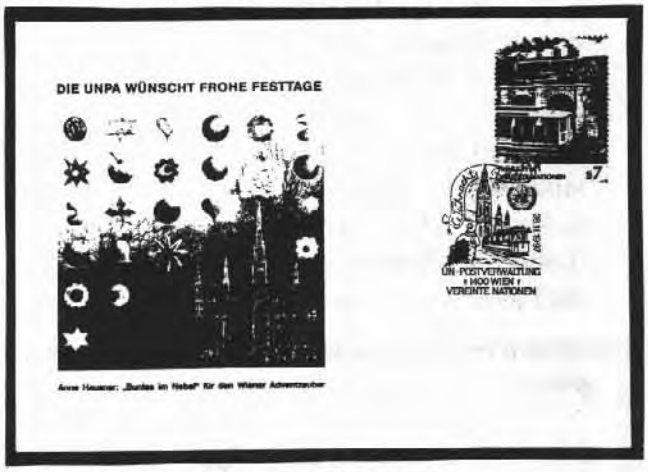


Figure 2: **Weinachtsphila** Cover.

The Seventh Session of the General Conference of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) was held from December 1st through 5th at the International Center in Vienna (UNO-City). The UNPA set up a special post office and for the duration of the conference used a special cancellation. It prepared a cover cancelled (Figure 3) on the opening day of the conference using the standard Austria Center cachet. The special cancel ties a AS 6 Terracotta Warrior stamp A231 and a AS 1 definitive A168.

The UNPA-Vienna participated the following week at a Viennese coin and stamp show **Numiphil Plus** on December 7th and

Figure 3: Cover honoring the 7th General Conference of UNIDO in Vienna.

8th in the Wiener Kursalon in the Stadtpark. It set up a special post office and prepared covers (Figure 4) bearing a special cancellation on December 7th showing a star and a candle. The cachet for the envelope was designed by Gundi Groh, who was responsible for the design of the current AS 5,50 definitive A137. The cancel ties a AS 6,50 Tribure to Philately commemorative A228 as well as a 50-gröschen definitive A167.

Figure 4: Cover Honoring **Numisphil Plus**.

On December 13th the UNPA-Vienna organized its second mail run delivered by a team of Noriker Horses. The event took place in the Schönbrunn Zoo. The UNPA prepared a cover (Figure 5) with matching cachet and cancellation showing the horse team pulling a stage coach. The endangered species Przewalski's Wild Horse appears on the AS 7 stamp A216.

Figure 5: Cover from Second Noriker Horse Mail Run.

This year the UNPA prepared two special covers for the **Weihnachtsphila '98**, which took place on December 5-6, 1998, as usual, in the Nordbuffett of the Vienna City Hall. In honor of the UNESCO-World Heritage commemorative issued the previous day, the UNPA prepared a cover (Figure 6) showing the Schloß Schönbrunn from the Front Garden in both the cachet and the cancellation, which ties a pair of the AS 3,50 Schönbrunn commemoratives A246.

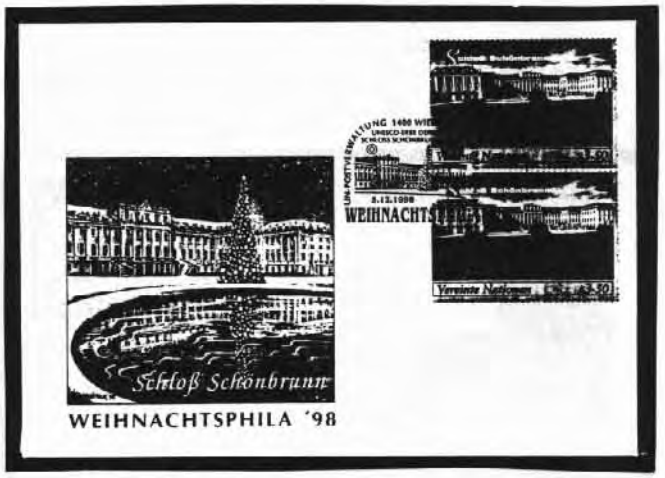


Figure 6: Cover Issued at **Weihnachtsphila '98** on December 5, 1998.

The following day the UNPA issued a second cover (Figure 7) bearing a motif showing singing children of different races and nationalities in both the cachet and the special cancellation, which ties a AS 6,50 definitive A233 and the 50-gröschen definitive A167. The cachets and the cancellations used in these two covers were designed by Hannes Margreiter.

Figure 7: Cover Issued at **Weihnachtsphila '98** on December 6, 1998.

The fourth Christmas Stamp and Coin Bourse NUMIPHIL α took place on Tuesday December 8th in the Wiener Kursalon. The UNPA set up a special post office and issued special covers (Figure 8) showing a view of the Gloriette of the Schloß Schönbrunn in the matching cachet and special cancellation, which tied the AS 7 Schloß Schönbrunn commemorative A247. The cachet and the cancellation for this cover were also designed by Hannes Margreiter.

Figure 8: Cover issued at **Numisphil α** in 1998.

Finally on the 50th Anniversary of the signing of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights on December 10, 1948 in Paris, the UNPA-Vienna released a special cover (Figure 9) and cancellation, which tied the AS 7 Human Rights commemorative A245, which was issued on October 27, 1998 to celebrate this anniversary. The common design in the cachet and the cancellation uses an allegorical representation of a woman caressing a dove of peace. This design was produced by Maria Schulz.

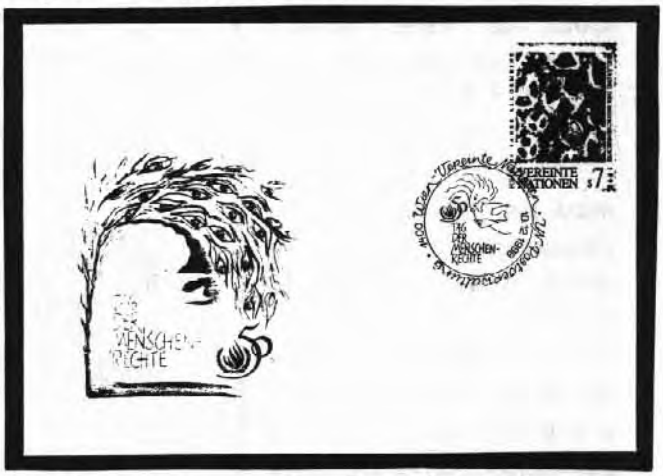


Figure 9: Cover Honoring the 50th Human Rights Day.

Future "Sonderstempel" can be ordered via a customer account from the UNPA-Vienna and delivered once a year. A year's worth of these covers cost about $20, which can be paid with a check written in US$ and drawn on a bank in the U.S.A. One can obtain more information by writing the following address:

United Nations Postal Administration
Postfach 900
A-1400 Wien Vereinte Nationen
Austria

TWO NEW WORLD HERITAGE STAMPS FOR UNESCO - 1998

By Richard Powers

On October 24, 1998, the French Post Office (La Poste) issued two service stamps honoring sites officially declared by UNESCO to be part of the World Heritage, places both manmade and natural, worthy of preservation for future generations. The sites commemorated are Pompeii on a Fr 3,00 stamp and Easter Island on a Fr 3,80 stamp. Both of these service stamps are restricted for use at UNESCO Headquarters in Paris.

As usual La Poste issued an Official Philatelic Document (Figure 1), which bears monocolored proofs of the stamps next to the actual stamps, which are tied to the document by a first day cancel. It costs Fr 22,39 (approximately $4.50) for deliveries outside of France. It also provides background material on the two sites.

Figure 1: Official Philatelic Document for 1998 UNESCO stamps.

Easter Island

The Dutchman Jacob Roggeveen discovered an island bristling with giant statues 2380 miles from the coast of Chile on Easter Sunday April 5, 1722. Its inhabitants called it Rapa Nui. Its European discoverers christened it Easter Island. The island with an inhospitable climate is a tiny volcanic rock eight miles wide by sixteen miles long. The first inhabitants likely came

from the west and settled the island around 500 AD. Later they had to share this tiny rock with settlers of Polynesian origin. A relatively refined civilization developed judging from the six hundred monumental statues, which for a long time were enveloped in mystery. These effigies made of tuff and basalt called moai were not totems but representations of important personalities, whose memory one wished to perpetuate. Coifed with a sort of chignon (pukao), the majority of the moai have elongated earlobes in the image of the ancient Easter islanders. Certain statues possess eyes carved from phosphorescent coral. These stone colossuses with prominent navels were decorated with tattoos, which were probably red and blue.

Figure 2: First Day Notice for the 1998 UNESCO stamps.

Pompeii

The Roman city Pompeii, located at the foot of Mt. Vesuvius near Naples, was buried under a thick layer of ashes at the time of the eruption of the volcano, which occurred in the year 79 AD. Rediscovered in the eighteenth century, the city revealed its secrets slowly with the rhythm of the excavations. Pompeii extended over 160 acres. It was surrounded by a city wall traversed by seven gates. This rich city was an important commercial center, with numerous workshops and specialized shops, which spanned the range of urban fabric. Temples, thermal baths, theatres and patrician residences, as well as numerous murals and mosaics, make Pompeii one of the most thrilling evocations of Antiquity. The fresco from the Villa of Mysteries, which appears in part on the stamp, is undoubtedly one of the most important pictorial ensembles of the Roman world. The fresco, which includes ten scenes, was consecrated to Dionysus. One can identify twenty-nine personalities, including his mother Semele.

A First Day Notice (Figure 2) without the proofs bears first day cancelled stamps and costs Fr 10,78 (approximately $2.25). These items, as well as mint stamps, can be easily ordered using a credit card. More information can be obtained at the following address:

Service Philatélique de La Poste
18, rue François-Bonvin
F-75758 CÉDEX 15
FRANCE.

UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE NEWS

By B. Clement, Jr.

International Telecommunications Union (ITU)

The World Telecommunications Development Conference (WTDC-98) was held in the Mediterranean Conference Centre, Valetta, Malta, March 23 through April 1, 1998. The special postmark used at the conference postal station is pictured in Figure 1.

Figure 1: WTDC-98 conference cancel in Valetta.

Universal Postal Union (UPU)

The third session of the UPU Postal Operations Council was held at UPU Headquarters in Bern, Switzerland during April and May of 1998. A special cancellation, illustrated in Figure 2, was used for the session.

Figure 2: 1998 UPU Postal Operations Council conference cancel in Bern.

World Health Organization (WHO)

The fifty-first session of the World Health Assembly was held in Geneva May 11-16, 1998. The special postmark used at the assembly is shown in Figure 3. The assembly has been held annually since 1948. Most of the assemblies have been held in Geneva, except for those held in Rome (1949), Mexico City (1955), Minneapolis (1958), New Delhi (1961) and Boston (1969).

Figure 3: 1998 World Health Assembly cancel Geneva.

International Labor Organization (ILO)

The eight-sixth session of the International Labor Conference was held in Geneva June 2-19, 1998. The special cancel displayed in Figure 4, was used at the conference. International Labor Conferences have been held since 1919, generally annually in Geneva. Non-Geneva conferences have been held in Washington, DC (1919), Genoa, Italy(1920), New York City and Washington, DC (1941), Philadelphia (1944), Paris (1945), Seattle (1946), Montreal (1946) and San Francisco (1948). Since 1948 all conferences have been held in Geneva, with two conferences being held in 1958, 1970, 1976, 1987 and 1996.

Figure 4: 1998 International Labor Conference cancel in Geneva.

SPECIAL COVERS ISSUED IN 1998 BY THE UNPA-NY

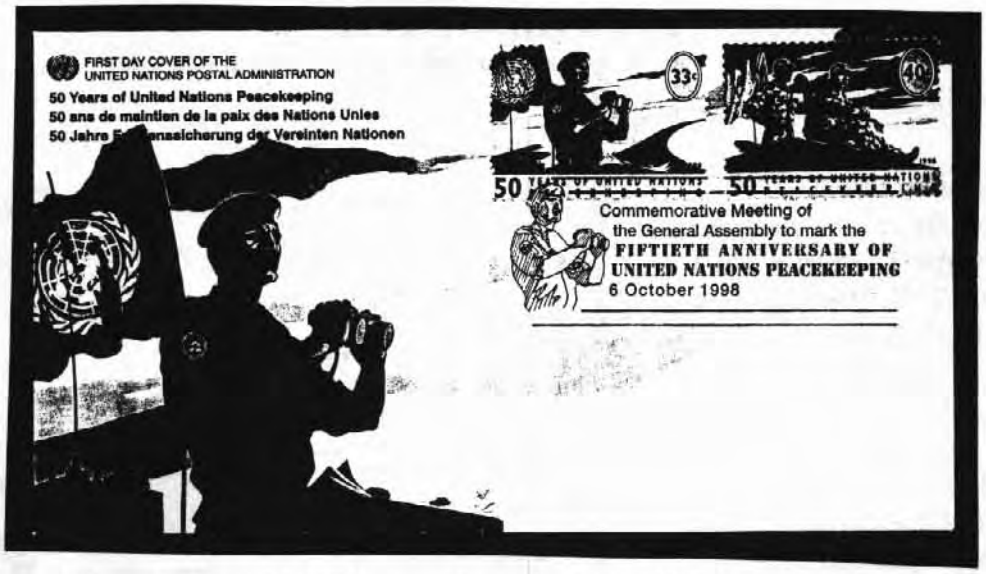


Figure 1: Special UNPA cover honoring United Nations Peacekeeping.

On Tuesday October 6, 1998 a commemorative meeting of the United Nations General Assembly was held to mark the Fiftieth Anniversary of United Nations Peacekeeping. At related ceremonies, a number of dignitaries were presented with presentation albums of the United Nations stamps on the theme **Fifty Years of United Nations Peacekeeping**. Each album included a specially cancelled cover as illustrated in Figure 1. The covers bear copies of the UNNY peacekeeping stamps issued September 15th on the cacheted envelope used for the United Nations Postal Administration (UNPA) first day cover. The UNPA has prepared a limited number of these covers for interested collectors. These can be bought from UNPA agents at selected philatelic shows or directly from the UNPA in New York for $1.50.

Earlier this year on May 4th the UNPA participated philatelically in the celebration of the centenary of Peking University (1898 - 1998). To mark this occasion, the China National Philatelic Corporation produced a commemorative cachet to which was affixed and cancelled a special Chinese stamp (Figure 2). To the left of this stamp was affixed the United Nations F.s. 0,10 Terracotta Warriors stamp from the Swiss franc-denominated prestige booklet. It was "chopped" with a commemorative UNPA cachet in English and in Chinese, reading: United Nations Postal Administration, Centenary of Peking University - 1898-1998, 4 May 1998. As of the end of November it was still available from the UNPA for $1.25.

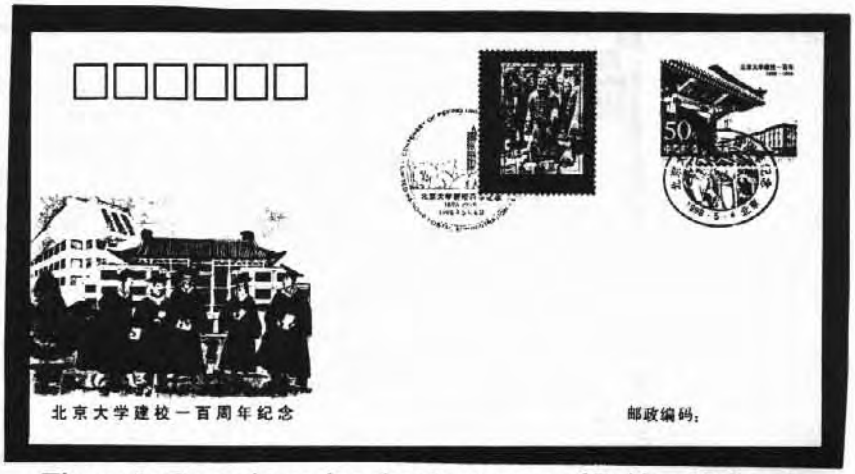


Figure 2: Cover honoring the Centenary of Peking University.

UPU CONFERENCE DISCOVERIES
A SEMINAR IN ADDIS ABABA (1971)
A UPU STUDY COURSE IN BANDUNG (1974)

By B. Clement, Jr. and Richard Powers

A previously unlisted UPU conference cancellation was recently discovered. Figure 1 shows a violet cachet from a UPU Seminar held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, October 11-23, 1971. The probably philatelic cover pictured bears several intriguing markings. This registered cover was postmarked in Gobba on October 19th and was backstamped three days later in the Registered 2 office of A(ddis) A(baba). The seminar cachet was applied over the registration label in the lower left corner. There is an additional boxed cancel containing characters in Ethiopic and the letters A. R., which undoubtedly mean Avis de Reception, which requests an acknowledgment of receipt. A second cover with this cachet is known which was postmarked in Addis Ababa on October 11th. It bears a Dire Dawa backstamp of October 12th.

Figure 1: Cover from UPU Seminar in Addis Ababa

Figure 2 shows an interesting cover bearing the cachet of a UPU Study Course, which was held in Bandung, Indonesia from January 29 through February 21, 1974. The registered letter left Bandung on March 23rd and arrived in Chicago six days later.

Do you have UPU or other UN or UN agency conference items which are not listed in the ***Gaines Catalog***? If you do, please share your knowledge with the rest of us. Either write the item up yourself or send one of us a photocopy. We would be happy to write it up, citing you for the discovery.

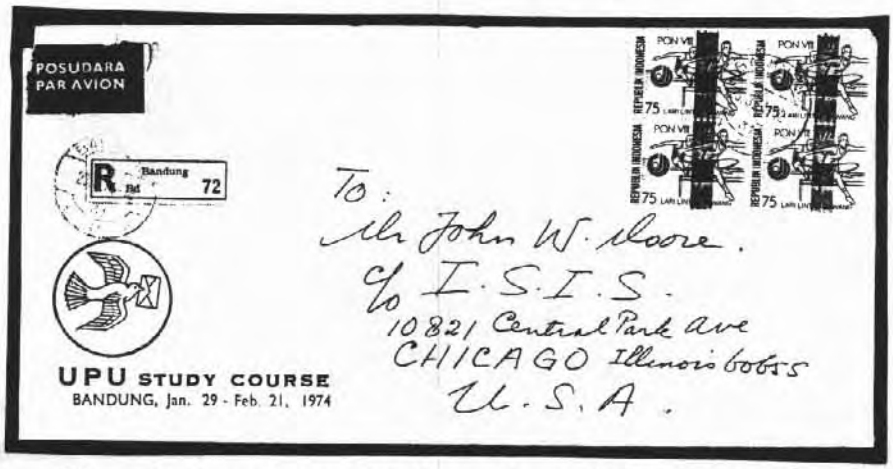


Figure 2: Cover from UPU Study Course in Bandung 1974.

FORERUNNERS OF THE UNPA/UNPO VIENNA BALLOON (CHARITY) FLIGHTS

By Ray Johnston

Have you ever heard of the expression "things learned while looking up other things"? While browsing through back issues of ***Postal Stationery*** dating from 1947, I read in the new issue chronicle, articles about the Vienna Balloon Flights for the Austrian Children's Village Association. For collectors of this specialty area of UN, I made a listing of the available information, which appears below. If you would like further information, contact me directly at the following address:

Ray Johnston, 1439 Darrel Road, Toledo, OH 43612

[Editor's Note: See ***Gaines***, page 765 for additional information.]

Vienna Balloon (Charity) Flights

Flight	Date	Balloon Name	Arrival Postmark	Remarks
1	Nov. 2, 1948	Helvetia	Salzburg 2.XI.48	Flight cancelled first day, balloon destroyed second day.
2	May 2, 1949	Forsanose	Salzburg 4.V.49	Carried 16,000 letters.
3	Oct. 23, 1949	Helvetia	Reutte 24.X.49	
4	May 28, 1950	Helvetia	Weiz	
4A	July 30, 1950	Zürich	Hohenams 30.VII.50	Carried 169 letters.
5	Oct. 22, 1950	Helvetia	Kufsetien 24.10.50	Carried 20,000 letters.
6	Mar. 25, 1951	Helvetia	Arnoldstein 26.III.51	Carried 32,430 letters.
7	Oct. 21, 1951	Helvetia	Kuchl 21.X.51	Carried 29,200 letters.
7A	Aug. 1, 1952	Zürich	Siezenheim 1.VIII.52	Flight honored Edward Spelterini.
8	Apr. 12, 1952	Zürich		
9	Oct. 19, 1952		Feldkirch 13.4.52	Balloon set new altitude record.
10	May 24, 1953			
11	May 3, 1954		Golling 03.5.54	
12	Oct. 3, 1954		Radegund 3.X.54	
13	Apr. 10, 1955	Zürich		
14	Oct. 2, 1955			Honors World Children's Day.
15	Apr. 29, 1956			
16	Oct. 20, 1956		Tullin 20.X.56	Honors World Children's Day
17	Apr. 30, 1957			
18	Oct. 11, 1957		Paternion	
19	Apr. 27, 1958		Mauerbach	
20				10th Ann. of European Bridge Championships.
21	Aug. 30, 1957			
22	Oct. 26, 1959			
				Permit not renewed for a short time.
29	May 22, 1963			
45	Oct. 1971			

POST CARD FROM THE UN ATOMIC CONFERENCE - Geneva 1958

By B. Clement, Jr.

The Second UN International Conference on the Peaceful Uses of Atomic Energy was held in Geneva, Switzerland September 1-14, 1958. In conjunction with the conference, the Second International Exhibition on "The Atom for Peace" was held in the Palais des Expositions. In addition to the special hand postmarks used at the conference and at the exhibition, the Swiss post office also used a machine slogan cancellation in Geneva honoring the "Atoms for Peace" Exhibition.

The post card pictured in Figure 1 was found recently in a "stamp corner" of an antique shop in Memphis, Tennessee. What attracted me to the card was the use of the special slogan cancel, dated September 4, 1958. After I got home, I looked at the card more closely and discovered that it had the following interesting message:

> Dear C & B - Zurich is the most attractive place we've ever seen. BUT guess what happened?! We landed in Geneva along with von Braun, etc., etc. for the "Atoms for Peace" conference! We just spent the whole day at the exhibitions & have acquired a wheelbarrow load of pamphlets - some in Russian, for you. A twin to Sputnik III's cone was on display & we photographed it. We are quivering!!!
>
> Much love, Jack

The von Braun referred to is Werner von Braun, the father of the US space program. Sputnik III was the third satellite launched by the Soviet Union. At the time of the conference, the US was starting to catch up, with two satellites launched in 1958: Explorer I in January and Vanguard I in March.

It looks like I have to start reading the messages on post cards, especially when they are mailed from UN conference venues. You never know what you might find.

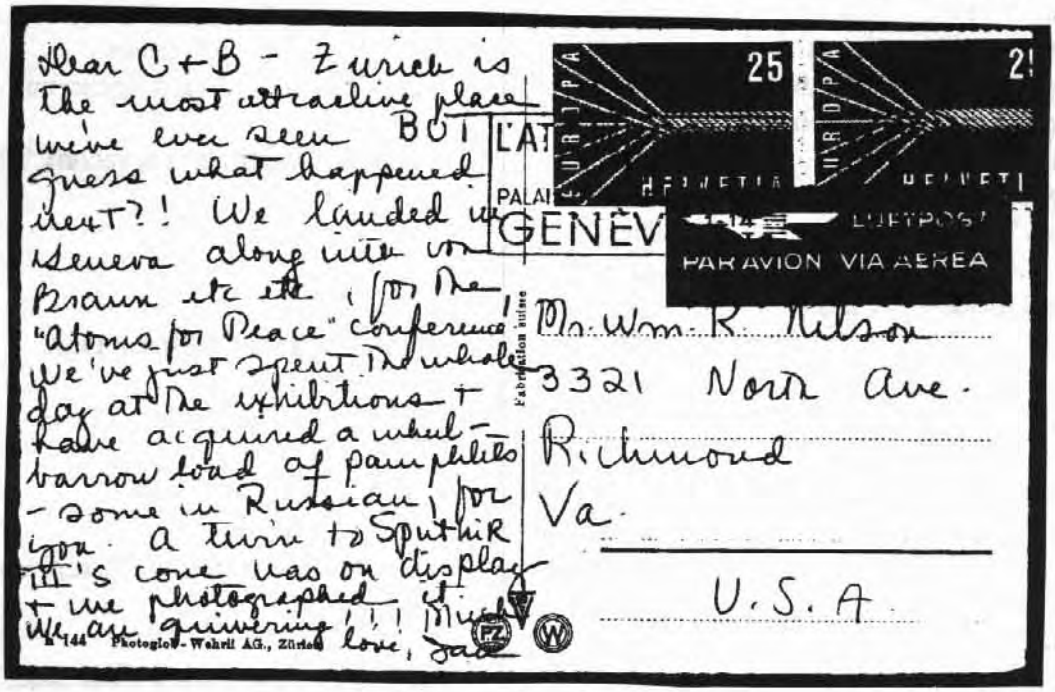


Figure 1: Post card from Geneva during the 1958 Atomic Energy Conference.

1999 UNITED NATIONS STAMP PROGRAM

(As of January 1, 1999 but subject to changes of date of issue and denomination.)

February 5

Flag Series
8 × 33¢ stamps.
(2 Sheets of 16 stamps with 4 se-tenant blocks of 4.)
Definitives
33¢, $5, F.s. 1,70, S 8 stamps.
(Sheets of 20 stamps.)
Postal Stationery
S 7 postal card

March 19

World Heritage
33¢, 60¢, F.s. 0,90, F.s. 1,10, S 4,50, S 6,50
(Sheets of 20 stamps)
3 prestige booklets

April 22

Endangered Species
33¢, F.s. 0,80, S 7 stamps.
(Sheets of 16 stamps with 4 se-tenant blocks of 4.)
Set of 3 maximum cards.
1999 Endangered Species Annual Collection Folder

July 7

UNISPACE III
33¢, F.s. 0,45, S 3,50stamps.
(Sheets of 10 stamps.)
$2.00, F.s. 2,00, S 13
Souvenir sheets

August 23

Universal Postal Union - 1874 - 1999
33¢, F.s. 0,70, S 6,50 stamps.
(Sheets of 20 stamps)

November 11

To be announced
33¢, 60¢, F.s. 0,70, F.s. 1,80, S 7, S 13 stamps.
(Sheets of 20 stamps.)
Souvenir card
1999 Annual Collection Folders
1999 Flag Series Folder

1999 SLOGAN CANCELLATIONS

April 26 — **One Less Mine - One Life Saved**
August 30 — **Poverty Eradication**

UNPI 1999B AUCTION

CLOSING DATE: March 10, 1999

Send bids to: Alex Bereson
18 Portola Drive
San Francisco, CA 94131
e-mail: Bereson@ix.netcom.com

WORLDWIDE UN THEMATIC FDCs

Nice collections 95% 1950-1960s
Cacheted sets, vf, unaddressed

1. UNESCO (30) different MB$14.
2. ICY-International Cooperation Year 1965 (22) different MB$10.
3. WMO World Meteorological Organization (weather satellites) (15) different, MB$10.
4. ITU International Telecommunications Union (33) different MB$15.
5. WHO World Health Organization and Freedom from Hunger (23) different MB$10
6. Human Rights (54) different MB$20.
7. ILO International Labor Organization (11) different MB$6.
8. Miscellaneous UN themes: Refugees, Forestry, UN Day, Admission to UN, etc. NICE collection (30) different MB$30.

MISCELLANEOUS

9. Swiss #244 and 246 strips of three, #245 block of four USED with early UNEO cancels rare vf MB$10.
10. Very early League small cover 1922 with Swiss stamps tied with League cancels airmail to London rare MB$85.
11. Early League #10 embossed envelope; posted with Swiss stamps tied by 1924 League cancel airmail to US; vertical fold not affecting stamps nor cancel MB$25.
12. Early ILO 1921 #10 cover with Swiss stamps tied by "Geneva Letter" League cancel airmail to USA xf condition very rare Gaines $125 MB$85 PHOTO
13. 1950 Official letter from the Institut International d'Agriculture in Rome (FAO Forerunner) to Director General of FAO at first office in Washington, DC, posted through Luxemburg with Luxemburg stamps rare MB$20.
14. Five FAO official covers from first Washington, DC office and Geneva regional office; Includes one posted from Costa Rica (Gaines $35 each) MB$15.
15. UNICEF 1922 forerunner cover from Hungary to California with special Children's Relief cancel MB$12.
16. UNICEF 1946 forerunner pc cancel from Austria with ARA European Children's Relief cancel MB$12.
17. UPU set of 4 Prexies for UPU Collectors 25th Anniversary plus 2 covers with two each used MB$15.
18. IMO 50th Anniversary commemorative cancel covers with cachets and special cancels MB$5.
19. First Day for first UNPO cancel (Gaines UNPO/C.1 machine) 1/3/51 ties US#928 to unaddressed cacheted FDC MB$8.
20. Same as last lot but different cachet MB$8.
21. Same but ties USA #930 MB$8.
22. UNNY Scott #2A precancel in UL MI6 with inverted "L" FAKE MB$15.
23. UNNY Scott #2A precancel in UL MI6 double overprint FAKE MB$15.
24. UN 50th Anniversary celebration in San Francisco parking pass, brochure and luncheon ticket MB$20.
25. Early United Nations Information Office information PC + PC sent to UNIO with

dater receipt + 1946 cover to 5th Street address MB$15.
26. Early United Nations Industrial Development cover from Austria posted with Austrian stamps to UNNY with censor tape at left MB$6.
27. 1948 United Nations European Office cover to Food and Ariculture Organization in Washington, DC with UNEO stationery, origin marks and cancel MB$8.
28. UN Day 6/14/42 English cover posted from Cheshire using two British UPU Congress stamps from 1929, unusual MB$20. **PHOTO**
29. UN Association covers from the 1950s USA and Jamaica with corner cards and special meter MB$8.
30. WRY Cocteau set (43) different missing 3 to be complete + European envelope MB$25.
31. WFUNA Courier cover collection #1 NIEO to #50 Trade complete (54) MB$650.
32. WFUNA Courier cover collection #41 AIDS to #85 50th Anniversary complete (40) MB$375.
33. WFUNA jumbo covers Human Rights full sheets 1983, 1989-1993 complete MB$130
34. WFUNA jumbo covers Flag series full sheets 1980-9 complete MB$85.
35. WFUNA jumbo covers Endangered Species full sheets complete MB$85.
36. Flag booklets (privately made) 1980-9 /90 blue booklet complete MB$95.
37. Geneva Flag FDCs 1980-9 complete MI4s very fine unaddressed MB$45.
38. WFUNA Flag FDCs singles, 1982, 1984-9 very fine unaddressed MB$40.
39. Artmaster Flag FDCs MI4s 1982, 3, 6 very fine unaddressed MB$15.
40. Flag Series special FDC singles on jumbo country cachet MB$15.
41. Flag Series special FDC MI singles on jumbo 1981 Atlanta Convention MB$15.
42. Flag Series special FDC MI singles on jumbo 1980 Spokane Convention MB$15.
43. Flag Sheets MNH 1980-9 complete + extra set 1989 MB$100
44. Endangered Species 1993-8 complete Folders mint MB$45.
45. Endangered Species 1993-8 complete Folders First Day cancel MB$45.
46. Human Rights 1989-93 complete Folders mint MB$80.
47. Human Rights 1989-93 complete Folders First Day cancel MB$80.
48. Paris art cards all ten color varieties MB$70.
49. Special European cards: Amphilex, UNAZUR #1+2, Carriage (4) MB$10
50. UNNY #C1-4 control blocks vf MNH MB$10.

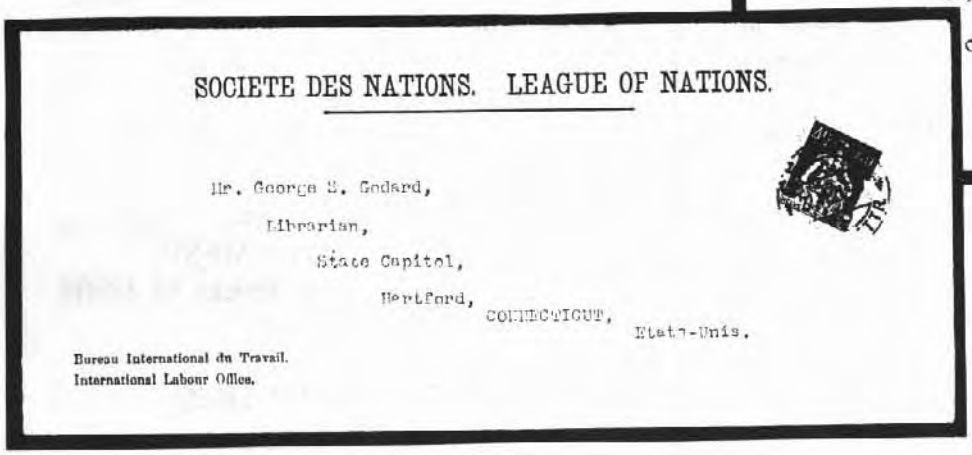
WFUNA GRAPHICS

excellent condition
with certificates as issued

51. #45 Chaim Gross 1980 Flags MINT MB$40.
52. #48 Michael Tsvoras Palestinian Rights MINT MB$29.
53. #50 Rocco Collari Fresco MINT MB$24.
54. #52 Bruno Zupan 1981 Flags MINT MB$25.
55. #53 Herman Uttermann Volunteers MINT MB$15
56. #54 Ole Hamamm Instruments 1981 MINT MB$16.
57. #57 Sophia Loren 1982 Flags MINT MB$65.
58. #58 Octavio Roth Conserve Nature MINT MB$25
59. #59 Hans Erni Communication MINT MB$70.
60. #60 Roberto Mattiello Dolphins at Sea MINT MB$25.
61. MYSTERY BOX - happy hunting for a collector with lots of time to sort through covers, stamps and different things U.N., includes several unsold lots. EASILY worth $100++ MB$40.

PHOTOS - UNP AUCTION 1998E

Lot # 12 ↓



Lot # 28 ↑

UNP AUCTION 1998E
PRICES REALIZED

Amount Realized $1318

Lots Sold 63/125 (50%)

Lot #	Price	Lot #	Price	Lot #	Price	Lot #	Price
1	$55	2	$22	3	$11	5	$10
7	$8	8	$240	9-29	WD	31	WD
33	$24	34	WD	38	$75	39	$12
40	$10	41	$12	42	$14	43	$16
44	$20	45	$20	46	$12	47	$10
48	$65	49	$60	54	$28	59	$7
60	$16	61	$15	62	$5	74	$8
75	$15	76	$6	77	$8	78	$8
80	$9	82	$12	83	$15	84	$6
87	$6	88	$6	89	$6	90	$7
91	$7	92	$7	93	$13	94	$9
95	$6	96	$9	97	$9	98	$8
99	$21	103	$10	104	$17	105	$6
107	$10	108	$5	110	$80	111	$70
112	$12	113	$20	114	$14	115	$11
116	$14	117	$10	118	$12	120	$14
			125	$45			

BLUE CARD SALE

1975

#13	$7.00	#20	$6.00
#14	$6.50	#21D	$12.00
#15	$25.00	#22A	$11.00
#16A	$12.00	#22B	$11.00
#16B	$12.00	#23	$7.00
#17	$8.00	#25A	$6.50
#18	$7.00	#27	$5.50
#19	$7.00	#28	$8.00

#13 with additional UNSG imprint: $4.00

1975 complete set (#13-28): $100.00

1976

#29	$6.50	#38	$5.00
#30	$6.00	#39	$5.00
#32	$6.00	#40	$4.50
#33	$75.00	#41	$4.00
#34	$6.50	#42	$4.00
#35	$6.50	#43	$5.00
#36	$5.00	#44	$4.00
#37	$6.00	#45	$5.00

1976 complete set (#29-45): $100.00

Postage and insurance, $3.00 per order

Charles C. Smith (UNP #117)
7801 Lake Sherwood Circle
Northport, AL 35473

Chapters of the UNPI

Midwest UN Collectors meets intermittently usually at shows in Iowa, Kansas, Nebraska. Contact: Dorothy Green, 2200 36th St., Des Moines, IA 50310 or dotgreen@worldnet.att.net

UN Collectors of Chicagoland meets the second Monday of the month except in July and August at Stamp King, 7139 West Higgins Rd., Chicago, Illinois. Contact: Dr. Ben Ramkissoon, P.O.Box 606, Hindsdale, IL 60522-0606.

The Western Arm meets intermittently at San Francisco Bay area shows. Contact: Alex Bereson, 18 Portola Drive, San Francisco, CA

Mid-Atlantic UN Collectors Club meets at shows in the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic regions. Contact: Greg Galletti, MAUNCC, P.O. Box 466, Mt. Airy, MD 21771-0466

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

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July 1, 1998-June 30, 2000

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