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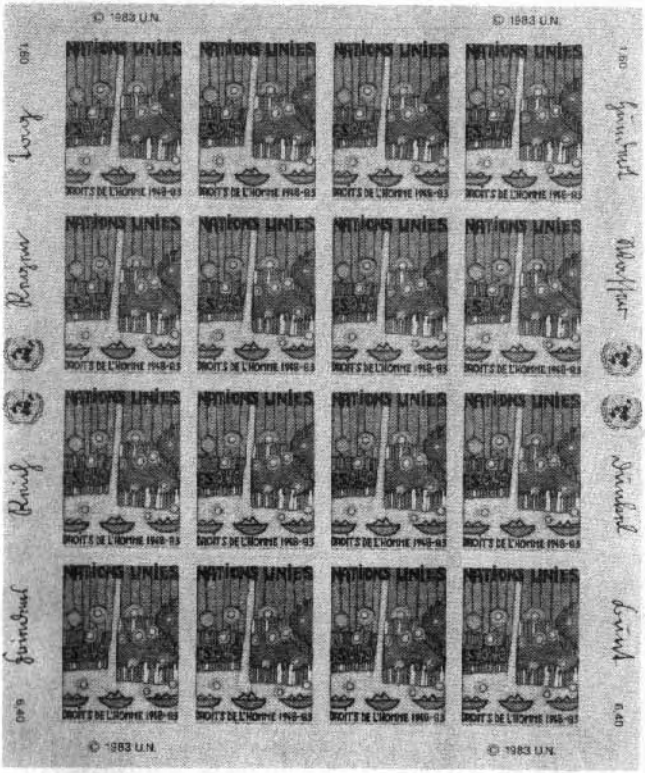

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Unless otherwise stated, catalog numbers are Scott. References to Lindner mean Lindner United Nations Stamp Catalog, 6th edition, 1976; to Scott mean the latest edition of Scott Standard Postage Stamp Catalog; to Gaines mean United Nations Philately,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

Correspondence regarding:
Editorial content: Blanton Clement, Jr., 292 Springdale Tr, Morrisville, PA 19067
CHANGES OF ADDRESS and back issue requests: The Secretary
Advertising: Business Mgr. Mac Weintraub, 7127 Crooked Oak Dr, Dallas, TX 75248

Postmaster: PLEASE SEND ENTIRE MAGAZINE and form 3579 to UNP, c/o Hollinger, 2017 Broadway, Blue Island, IL 60406.

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CHAPTERS OF UNP

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

UN Collectors of Chicagoland, Inc.: first Wednesday of each month, September through May, at 55 W Monroe #2400 Chicago, 7:30 p.m. An informal dinner gathering preceeds the meeting. Contact Harry Collier, Box 1674, Chicago, IL 60690.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Jack I. Mayer

As collectors of United Nations stamps, how often do we get an opportunity to share United Nations collecting experiences with fellow philatelists? For most of us the answer is mostly never. For those that are able to participate in such exchanges, the experience can be most enjoyable and rewarding. Such was the case for nearly two dozen avid UN enthusiasts who attended our annual United Nations Philatelists convention meeting at NOJEX, 28-30 October, at Secaucus, New Jersey.

In addition to seeing award winning United Nations competitive exhibits we had an opportunity to meet and hear noted cataloger Arleigh Gaines discuss UN activities through an explanation of postal history covers and colateral material which he displayed.

Informal group discussions went on continually through show hours and "after hours". The dealer shoe boxes and stock albums got a good going over as we searched and found items to enhance our collections, then shared those finds with others. Then there was the inevitable trading and disposing of duplicate stock brought by various members.

These opportunities will again await us at our United Nations Philatelists Spring Board meeting to be held in the American Philatelic Society headquarters city, State College, PA, 28-29 April, 1984 (SCOPEX '84) and again at our Fall Convention planned for Stampshow '84 at Dallas, Texas, 23-26 August, 1984.

If at all possible I encourage you to attend. The fellowship is extraordinary, even if one buys nothing. Put the dates on your calendar for the vacation extra. You'll be glad you did.

COVER

Shown on the cover is one of the full sheets of 16 of the Human Rights issue, showing the novel features such as the designer's signature in the margins. See David S.J. Alexander's column for a discussion of this issue.

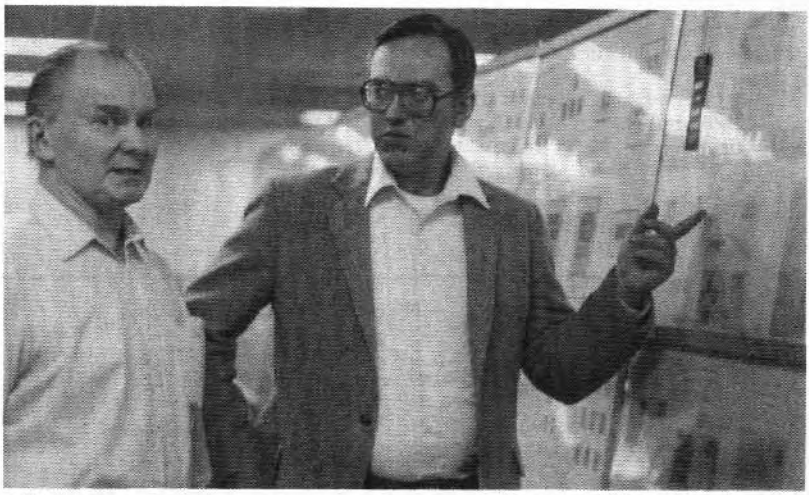
EDITOR'S MESSAGE

It was a pleasure meeting many of you at the annual meeting. I was pleased that the Board showed its support of the Journal and to the future of UNP by agreeing to enlarge the Journal. You will note that this issue is 50 percent larger than those in the recent past. It is hoped that with a larger Journal, more of you will find something that interests you in each issue.

In order for the Journal to maintain this size and perhaps continue to grow, your contributions are needed more than ever. We have one new author in this issue, Clayton J. Wallace. Welcome, Clay! I hope that more of you who have not written on your specialty previously will consider doing so. Let me hear from you.

With this issue, we are introducing a "Question Corner" in which we will present questions submitted by readers. If you have a UN item about which you have a question, why don't you submit it for consideration?

Your comments on what you like or don't like in the Journal, your suggestions for additional features, and your additions or corrections to material presented are encouraged. I can promise you that you will be heard.



Neil Kosnick (left) and Bernie Kosmoski discuss their award winning exhibits at NOJEX.

SECRETARY'S MESSAGE

By Ron Hollinger

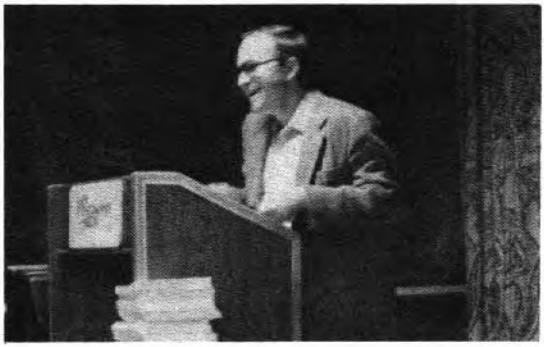
NOJEX '83 was the site of the United Nations Philatelists convention. The show was held in the Meadowlands, New Jersey Hilton Hotel on 28-30 October. The facilities were excellent. Many UNP members attended including UNP's President, Jack Mayer; Vice President, Steve Cohen; Secretary, Ron Hollinger; Treasurer, Marcia Galletti; Director and Past President, Charlie Smith; and Journal Editor, Blanton Clement.

Only two United Nations exhibits were exhibited, and they were classed with the United States. Neil Koshnick of Illinois displayed an excellent "Pot-Pou-Ri" of Forerunner meters, cancels, essays, and proofs of material from 1942 to 1951. Bernard Kosmoski of New Jersey showed an excellent exhibit of League of Nations stamps and cancels. For Bernie, this was his first venture into exhibiting. Neil received a Silver-Bronze and Bernie received a Silver award. This is quite good when one considers that their exhibits were judged against classic US material.

On Friday of the show, UNP arranged a tour of the UN Postal Administration. This was a superb tour taking us through the order processing, first day cancelling, graphic art, and other interesting behind-the-scenes areas. The only door locked to us was the archives; we would have all liked to have seen that, and maybe have picked up a souvenir or two.

The UNPA order filling room where clerks sort and fill stamp orders.

On Saturday, UNP held our annual meeting at the Hotel. The highlight of the meeting was a talk by Arleigh Gaines, author of the Gaines UN catalog. He gave an extremely interesting talk on the history of the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration. UNOP Journals and "C" folders were given out to those in attendence. We would like to see more participation by our members. Next year's convention will be held in Dallas, Texas in August. If you are interested in attending, contact the secretary now and make your plans.



Arleigh Gaines speaks on UNRRA to UNP Convention.

Left to right: Editor Clem Clement, Sec. Ron Hollinger, V.P. Steve Cohen (Back), Pres. Jack Mayer, and Treas. Marcia Galletti discuss the future of UNP at our Board Meeting.

UNITED NATIONS UPDATE (II)

By David S.J. Alexander

As I write these lines another big United Nations Philatelic Exhibition is being held at Africa House in London under the joint sponsorship of the UN Study Group (UK) and UNPA in Geneva. The UNSG members are full of expectations and they have worked very hard to make the thing a success at the time that Stanley Gibbons has become the official agent for United Nations stamps in Great Britain. There will be a special Post Office cancellation and a number of goodies will be available: a UNSG cover with UK stamps and special cancellation; a UNSG cover bearing UN Geneva stamps with UNPA cachet; a mint UNSG miniature sheet; blue cards with UNPA cachet; and finally UNPA covers with cachet (N.Y., Geneva, and Vienna)

On this side of the Atlantic, the UN received bad publicity, again, just before the flag stamp issue and the opening of the 38th session of the General Assembly. I do not need to recall here what was said; we all heard it or read about it. This time the very suitability of the United States as a site to house United Nations Headquarters had been raised publicly and I wondered whether this might not curtail the sale of flag stamps. But at the first day of issue of these stamps on 23 September, there were long lines of customers at the several philatelic windows at the UN and the lines remained most of the day. Herbert Conway who was there as usual, told me he had not seen such crowds since the International Year of the Child issue in 1979. For me it was a tonic to have been there in person. I felt that some of the ill-effects of the so-called PLO issue of January 1981 were finally being buried. What impressed me was the number of persons who were busy affixing the stamp bearing the Star of David on covers. I looked over the shoulder of one of them and there were many envelopes addressed to Israel bearing two 20c stamps. I thought to myself: the Arabs and their friends can block Israel from being elected to certain organs; they can condemn Israel with blocks of votes; they can even attempt to have it expelled, but no one can prevent the United Nations from issuing the flag of one of its Members as the selection is done by lot. Ambassador Blum of Israel was at the joint UNPA/ WFUNA Luncheon given in honor of the sixteen ambassadors to the UN (or their deputies) whose flags were being honored. He was evidently enjoying the whole thing. I overheard it said that two of his sons were avid UN stamp collectors.

After the luncheon, Miss Gisela Grunewald invited me to her office to show me the proofs of the coming human rights issue whose designs have since been distributed in

color. They are abstract and it is difficult to understand what they mean. Some people will probably love them while others may hate them. Yet I cannot imagine anyone not admiring the fine art production and the very special relief effect. These stamps are indeed quite special. UNPA has meant them to be so. The largest in size the UN has ever produced, they are in sheets of 16 and have the name of the artist and the engraver below the design area on each stamp, as well as the name of the Austrian printer, the year of issue and the titles given by Hundertwasser to each of the six drawings. Can you think of anything else? Yes, the name Friedenreich Regentag Hundertwasser Dunkelbunt will be inscribed in old German writing along two of the margins of each sheet - on all six of them. That is certainly novel. I am not terribly excited or impressed. While, of course, I have no objection to the Secretary-General obtaining the services of a world famous Austrian artist on the occasion of this 35th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, I fail to understand why UNPA has to by-pass some of its long-standing "rules". Many of us will remember what a fuss there was when over the years two designers of UN stamps managed to slip in their initials into the designs; or when the BUNDESDRUECKEREI advertised on the margins of what became Scott No. 149 the fact that its printing press was located in Berlin; or when the English printing firm of the blue 8c definitive (Scott No. 64) inscribed the full address of the firm "Bradbury Wilkinson & Co. Ltd., New Maldon, Surrey, England" on the margin of each sheet. As far as I know no other UN stamp has been printed by Bradbury Wilkinson; Bundesdrueckerei had to reprint the stamps without the free advertisement on the selvage and this caused us collectors to have two different kinds of marginal inscriptions. It may be argued that a famous artist ought to have his name on a stamp but UNPA has used many famous artists in the past and they are not any less famous for not having crammed in their name on their chef d'oeuvres.

Another thing I cannot understand is what these beautiful, magnificent, interesting designs - and they are all that - have to do with human rights at a time when millions are being persecuted for their faith or political opinions, held illegally in detention camps and prisons, and when all over the world there is an outcry against the rule of force and systematic violation of human rights. I would have thought that a more vivid design showing for example, barbed wire with stretched out hands imploring for help would have been more appropriate for our times. Perhaps next time!...

But having said this - and I hate to criticize because I am so completely sold on UN stamp collecting - I think it behooves us all to help make this issue a success. If everyone of us who believes in UN stamps does his utmost

now to take advantage of the slight betterment in the standing of UN stamps in this country, the questionable features of this issue, outlined above, could be turned to the good of UN stamp collecting. Many people are now tired of constant world-wide proliferation on the part of so many postal administrations, of having for example to pay $9.35 for a stamp and $15.35 for a cover that has taken a ride etc., and collectors are ready to turn to less costly and more conservative areas of stamp collecting.

On 10 October, I was visiting a stamp shop in a large department store in Towson, Maryland. I asked the man in charge who told me he was a collector and that he collected only the Isle of Man, how UN was doing - I always ask that question wherever I go. He shrugged his shoulders and grumbled "Not too well". But during the half hour or so I was there, two other customers came both to purchase UN stamps, one of them to get the most recent flag stamps he had ordered and for which he paid through the nose - something like three times face! Interest in UN stamps there is, but there is also quite a lot of prejudice and greed on the part of some dealers. Perhaps UNPA can now turn its attention to this particular problem.

BUY, TRADE, SALE

Your ad could appear here. UNPI members are entitled to two free ads of three lines or less in the Journal each year. Send your ad to the editor.

WANTED: TAB, UNDP, corner cards also pouch mail. Exchange for worldwide Agency corner cards and meters. Moss Fairmont, POB 6729, 47 166 Ramat Hasharon, Israel.

WANTED: League of Nations Conference Cancels and any League on cover, ILO Conference cancels prior to 1947, League Cinderella on and off cover. Quote price to Bernie Kosmoski, 458 Madison Hill Road, Clark, NJ 07066.

UN official 25th Aniv. Commemorative Medal, 1945-70, Sterling Silver Proof. In original packing with FDC San Francisco cancel April 25, 1970. $20. Joe M. Kemp, 92939 Woodruff Lane, Langlois, OR 97450.

WANTED: Publicity Leaflets #75-76 and $216-17, G16 Mint or FDC; Canadian Bank Note Company FDC #75-76. Jeffrey D. Beller, 3724 Greentree Drive, Wantagh, NY 11793.

WANTED: Netherlands Saar troop cover (Gaines p. 1771-099) and London Slogan cancel W.C.1 with "B" or "C". Have London slogans, presentation folders and/or cash. Clayton Wallace, 2143 Clear View Circle, Benicia, CA 94510.

WANTED: Full Sheets; will pay $400 for #29 & 30, $45 for #41 & 42, $45 for #43 & 44. Must be unfolded, VF to superb. Mac Weintraub, 7127 Crooked Oak Dr., Dallas,TX 75248

UN VIENNA BALLOON MAIL

Column #2

Varieties in the Issues of 1980

by Joseph E. Full

1980 was a successful year for the Pro Juventute Association and its UN Vienna Balloon Mail flights. There were seven flights scheduled with only one having to be delivered by normal carrier means because of poor wind conditions: Bad Tatzmannsdorf on March 5, 1980. In 1980 the following Balloons were added to the "fleet": OE-AZK, OE-DZE, OE-DZF, D-ERGEE V, and OE-DZC. D-ERGEE VII was used in both 1979 and 1980.

Fig. 1 Example of Furnitz cover

Fig. 2 Example of Schwanberg cover.

The Balloon Mail statistics are as follows for the 1980 flights:

Furnitz	12,200 Covers	5 March 1980
Schwanberg	12,200 Covers	5 March 1980
Bad Tatzmannsdorf	12,200 Covers	5 March 1980
Kossen	11,450 Covers	30 March 1980
Oberndorf	11,200 Cards	30 March 1980
Pfaffenschlag	11,750 Covers	24 October 1980
Karlstein	13,700 Cards	24 October 1980

Numbered Cachets "3" and "4" began their use with the 30 March 1980 flights. The first use of a First Day Cancel on UN Vienna Balloon Mail appeared on the Furnitz flight. United Nations Slogan Cancels began with the "Smoking" Cancel on the Furnitz flight and the "Olive Branch" Slogan on the Karlstein flight.

Cachet and Cancel Combinations 1980

Cover/Card Names	Cachet Number	Stamp Cancels	Slogan Cancels	Landing Site Cancels
Furnitz	1,2	FD2,V,W,X,y	Smoking	a,d
Schwanberg	1,2	V,W,X,y	Smoking	c
Bad Tatzmannsdorf	1,2	V,W,X,y	Smoking	b,c
Oberndorf	1,2,3,4	V,W,X,d		e
Kossen	1,2,3,4	V,W,X,e		a
Karlstein	1,2,3,4	V,W,X,y	Olive Branch	a,b,c
Pfaffenschlag	1,2,3,4	V,W, y	Olive Branch	a,b

In 1980, the public's participation in the Balloon Mail Flights greatly added to the variety of Stamp Cancels possible, and Furnitz (FD2) and Oberndorf (d) are but two examples. Journal readers - can you add some unlisted Cancels??

Update Information: Add to the 1979 Rottenmann I and II a Stamp Cancel "g".

Fig. 3 Example of Bad Tatzmannsdorf cover.

Fig. 4 Example of Oberndorf card.

Fig. 5 Example of Kossen cover.

Fig. 6 Example of Karlstein card.

Fig. 7 Example of Pfaffenschlag cover.

SOME NOTES ON A RESEARCH PROJECT ON THE UN FIRST ISSUE

By Robert G. Kvarnes

Introduction: In 1951 the UN inaugurated a stamp issuing program with eleven definite and four airmail stamps. Because these "work-horses" were reprinted a number of times over the next fifteen years, the UN unwittingly created a fascinating area of philately. One denomination, the 5¢, was never reprinted, whereas the $1 value and the 15¢ airmail were reprinted six times, for a total of seven printings each. The challenge to the First Issue philatelist has been to unequivocally identify and differentiate the various printings of each denomination.

Much work has already been done. The third printing of the 1¢ value has been clearly differentiated by the use of blacklight fluorescence. This is also true of the reprintings of numbers 6 through 9. However, there are areas which demand an unquestionable method of differentiation. Here I am thinking of the first three printings of numbers 10 and 11 and the last four printings (4 through 7) of C3. It is to this problem that a colleague and I have directed our attention for the past two years.

E.L. Peyton is an entomologist whose career work has centered on the description and classification of mosquitoes. I am a psychiatrist who since medical school has been interested in the process of identification and classification in a wide range of subjects.

In the early 1970's, recognizing that the ultimate research in some of the key areas of the First Issue would require the availability of full panes, I began the accumulation of a stock of full panes (upper and lower, and right and left) of the eleven definitives. As you probably know the airmails were printed in press sheets of fifty stamps so that the accumulation of the airmails was in full sheets of fifty. This indeed turned out to be a fortunate decision as it enabled E.L. and myself to have the material available for the research on which I am reporting.

The Problems: Although there seem to be minor color and paper differences between the first three printings of numbers 10 and 11, it has not been possible to feel entirely confident that one has identified these printings properly. What is needed is a foolproof method of identifying each of the corner blocks of both the upper and lower panes of the first three printings of each value.

On C3 the ink color and the fluorescence enable the First Issue student to be confident of the identification of the first three printings. Such is not the case with the 4th through 7th printings. There seem to be at least two papers on each of these printings and the ink colors are not distinctive enough to differentiate these printings.

The Method: E.L. and I started by trying to differentiate the printings of these three values by the use of blacklight, comparing our findings against the paper and ink variations in daylight. We simply could not convince ourselves that we had a foolproof system. At that point we turned to studying the presence or absence of moderate to small plate marks and scratches referred to as "flyspecks". We reasoned that if we could start with the last use of a particular plate and move toward the first use of that plate we might be able to discern on which printings new plate marks appeared. For example, we started with the third printing of number 10, searching for plate marks in the corner blocks which were present on the third printing but not on the first and second. (Because we had full panes with which to work we were assured of the printing by the shape of the particular cutout. The position of the cutout also differentiated the upper from the lower panes.) We now have been able to recognize plate marks and varieties which with certainty assure us from which printing a particular block of number 10 originated. In a subsequent issue of the Journal, E.L. and I will present these key identifying marks.

As with number 10, we approached the problem similarly with the first three printings of number 11. This work is in progress but we have not yet completed the identification of all the corners of all the printings of number 11.

On C3 we have carefully scrutinized the 7th printing, marking down every plate mark or scratch that we were able to find. We will now compare these marks with the known sheets of the 6th printing. (The 6th printing is characterized by a paper of very dull fluorescence.) We will then proceed to examine full sheets of what may be the 5th and 4th printings. We are not certain that we even have a sheet of the 5th printing, except for one sheet of the Prussian Blue which is known to be the 5th printing. As with number 11 this work is still in progress and it may be several months before we can report on it.

Conclusion: One of the happy surprises for E.L. and myself has been the awareness that is this field of philately the usually demeaned "flyspecks" may become the solution to the problem of identifying the printings. Obviously this is an area of study in which we need all the help we can get. It will be some time before we can report on our findings on numbers 11 and C3. If you have a penchant for the scrutiny of "flyspecks" we invite you to study along with us.

QUESTION CORNER

Send in questions you have about an UN item in your collection. If of general interest, it will appear in this column. If we can't find the answer, then we'll throw it out to our readers.

Q.1 What is this Norwegian item (Fig. 1) which appears to include the World Refugee Year symbol?

A.1 This is a lottery ticket to raise money by the Norwegian Refugee Committee, which was apparently a national committee connected with the World Refugee Year effort of the UN. The detachable portion is the lottery ticket, and is also gummed and could be used to frank an inland letter on or before 10 August 1964. It is interesting to note that this is before the lottery drawing on 14 August. Does a reader know any more about the nature of such Norwegian "stamps"?

Fig. 1

Q.2 I recently acquired a letter (Fig. 2) from South Africa postmarked in 1948 with the slogan HELP UNAC SAVE THE WORLD'S CHILDREN in English and Afrikaans. Wasn't UNAC a forerunner of UNICEF? UNICEF already existed in 1948. What's the explanation?

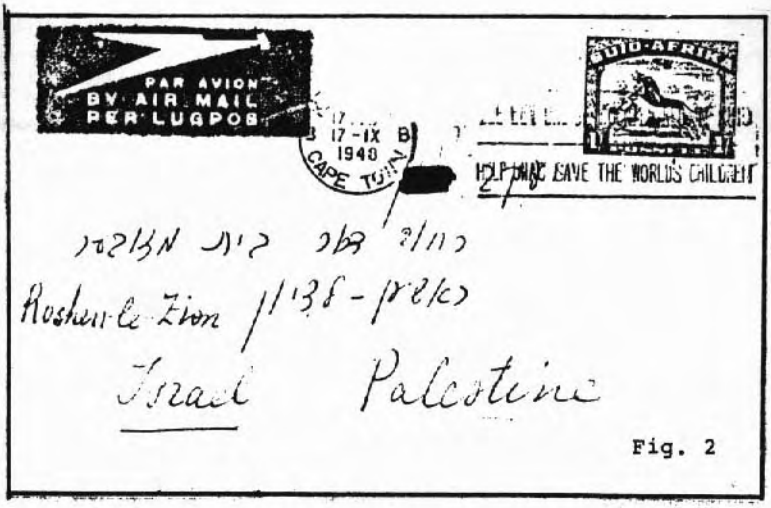


Fig. 2

A.2 UNICEF (originally UN International Children's Emergency Fund, later UN Children's Fund) was founded 11 December 1946, taking over relief efforts from UNRRA (UN Relief and Rehabilitation Administration) for children, and expectant and nursing mothers. UNAC (UN Appeal for Children) was a separate organization founded 29 March 1947 as a world-wide appeal for non-governmental contributions for child relief. The fund raising was conducted by UNAC national committees. In some countries, all of the funds raised were given to UNICEF. In other countries, a portion of the funds were given to national organizations involved in child relief. UNAC appears to have phased out of existence by 1953.

NEW MEMBERS

W. David Tallmadge, Santa Monica, CA

James Rockwell, Phoenix, AZ

John Iacovelli, Quincy, MA

Wadim De Bodisco, Buffalo, NY

Arthur Bissell, Jr., Alexandria, VA

Stuart Kremsky, San Francisco, CA

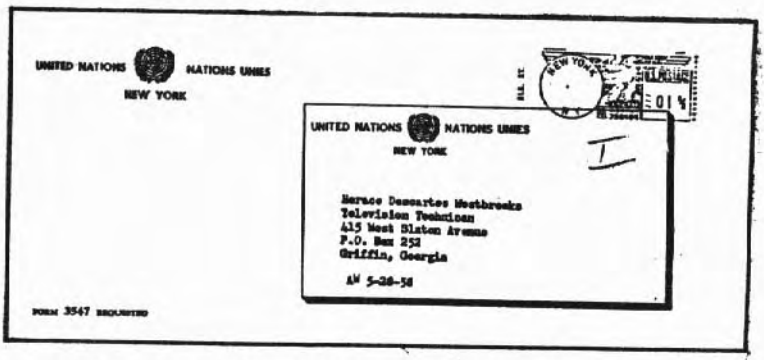
Kerry Hauck, Forest Hills, NY

Pat Miola, Jackson Heights, NY

A THIRD-CLASS PUZZLE

By Richard Powers

Recently I came across an interesting but puzzling UN cover in a dealer's oversized-cover box at SESCAL in Los Angeles. The cover is a third-class envelope with a United Nations corner card bearing a United Nations mailing label. The cover bears a Pitney-Bowes meter cancel #358484 with a New York City town mark. The postage paid was 1½¢, the U.S. bulk rate until 1958. The legend "BLK. RT." appears as part of the meter cancel.



What makes this cover interesting is that I cannot find any mention of this Pitney-Bowes meter in the literature (neither Gaines nor Lindner). Unfortunately, since the cover was mailed at the third class rate, there is no date. But there is weak circumstantial evidence that it may have been as late as 1958. The mailing label, which is identical to that shown on page 951 in Gaines, bears the notation AW 5-28-58 below the address. This could be a date (28 May 1958). The address seems to be either a carbon copy or to have been produced by an addressograph machine. The envelope is similar to the third class envelopes used on the eighth mailing of the 1½¢ precancel in January 1958. The principal difference is that on this cover the legend on the reverse side "PULL OUT FOR POSTAL INSPECTION" is 36 mm long instead of 40 mm as on the precancel cover. Also the legend "FORM 3547 REQUESTED" in the lower left corner is in different type (with serifs) and the words FORM and REQUESTED are only 1½ mm on this cover instead of 2½ mm as on the precancel cover.

It was my impression that all UN bulk mail had to be mailed at the UNPO with UN meters or postage and not with US postage. Gaines mentions (page 8) that certain 7th mailing precancel covers (November 1956) exist with white labels underneath the precancel stamp covering a Pitney-Bowes New York City cancel with bulk rate postage. Apparently these UN covers had been cancelled mistakenly in violation of the bulk rate agreement between the UN and the USPO. Could this cover have similarly been cancelled by mistake but, escaping detection, entered the mail stream?

It is possible that the cover predates the UN postal era which began in October 1951. Yet the style of the envelope and the mysterious notation on the mailing label suggest a usage in 1958. Does anyone know where and when Pitney-Bowes meter #358484 was used? Perhaps it may have been located in an outside private firm which made mailings for the UN.

NOTES

1. In the October Journal, preliminary information on the new UN New York meters was presented. As you will note in Jack Mayer's article on the subject, the information presented on first days was inaccurate. You may want to correct your copy.

2. Herb Conway recently issued "The Ninth One Hundred and One on the U.N". The price is $7.95 postpaid. Copies are available from Herbert E. Conway, 55 Birchwood Drive, New Hyde Park, NY 11040.

3. By now members (except very recent new ones) should have received UNP Monograph 4, the supplement to the UN Conference Study. This monograph was produced in conjunction with UNOP, the European UN collector's group.

4. Recent Berne and Geneva conferences at which special cancellations were used are the UPU Executive Council (Berne, April), World Health Assembly (Geneva, May), World Meteorological Congress (Geneva, May), International Labour Conference (Geneva, June), UN Conference on the Question of Palestine (Geneva, August - used 1211 Geneva 10 Nations Unies UNPO hand cancels "e" and "f"), and the UPU Consultative Council on Postal Studies (Berne, October).

NOTES ON THE LONDON 1945 UNITED NATIONS CANCELLATION

by Clayton J. Wallace

The definitive treatise on the 1945 UN slogan cancellation was written by William J. Barnes and edited by Earl S. Merriman in 1979 (1). Since that date, several new discoveries have been made regarding the cancel. Messrs. Barnes and Merriman have updated the available information (2). (Editor's note-We hope to reprint the Barnes and Merriman article in a subsequent Journal).

Since that time, more information has come to light regarding the cancellation. The following notes are based on the author's observations.

1) The most startling discovery is an entirely new variety; Paddington W.2 with machine letter "B". Previously, only "A" had been observed. The two "B" items observed are both dated 16 Jan 1946, possibly indicating a single day of use on that letter (Fig. 1). Note also the letter "A" above the month and day on one piece. This is the first time this has been observed. The author invites interpretation of its meaning.

Fig. 1

2) Many of the lists of post offices using the UN cancel (including Barnes and Merriman and Gaines) show E.18 as South Woodford. However, this post office shortened the name on the die to Woodford. (Fig. 2)

Fig. 2

3) Two types of Late, "L", are observed for Upper Holloway N.19. The normal "L" is seen on the 7 Jan 1946 piece and a different type of "L", the "Bold L" on the 11 Jan 1946 piece. (Fig. 3)

Fig. 3

4) A "Bold L" is also observed on the Putney S.W.15 piece dated 10 Jan 1946. (Fig. 4) .

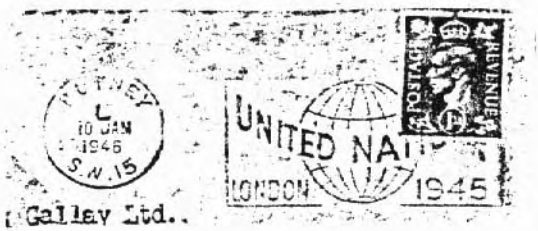


Fig. 4

5) Barnes and Merriman (2) first pointed out the two types of Willesden N.W.10 dies. The first piece in Fig. 5 shows the N.W.10 centered at the 6 o'clock position (Type I) and the second piece shows the N.W.10 centered at the 2 o'clock position (Type II). The second piece also shows the unusual "L" first described in (2). Type II dies appear to be rarer as this is only the second one to be reported.

Fig. 5

Fig. 5

6) A very unusual prisoner of war cover used in December 1945 is observed with the red handstamp FRIEGSGEFANGENEN POST. There was free postage for prisoners of war. (Fig. 6)

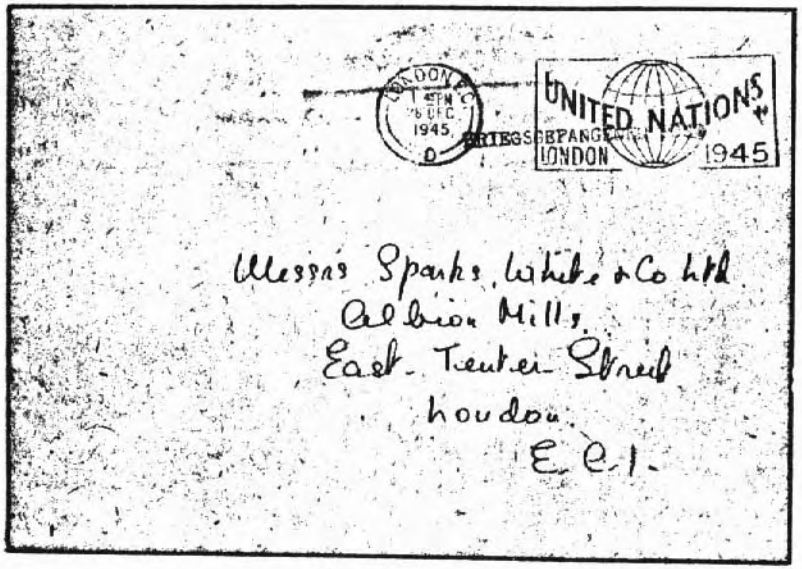


Fig. 6

7) A broken "F" is observed on a 10 Jan 1946 London E.C. piece. (Fig. 7)

Fig. 7

8) Here we have a minor mystery. On page 50 of (1), it is stated that the later die with the cross on the top of the "J" was in use by 13 December. However, as can be seen in Fig. 8, the old die was in use on 14 December. This seems to indicate overlap of the die varieties. Perhaps both were in use during mid-December.

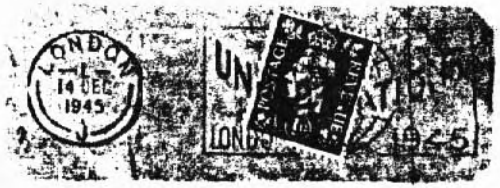


Fig. 8

9) Finally, for those who would like to see an example of the only London post office not to use the UN slogan cancellation, Fig. 9 shows a piece dated 17 Jan. 1946 from Abbywood S.E.2.

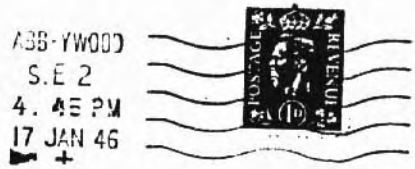


Fig. 9

The author welcomes comments on this article and the London 1945 UN slogan cancellations in general sent to him in care of the Journal.

References:

(1) The London 1945 United Nations Slogan Cancellation by William J. Barnes, Earl S. Merriman, Ed., Collectors Club of Kansas City, September 1979.

(2) "The London 1945 United Nations Slogan Cancellation", W.J. Barnes and E.S. Merriman. Bulletin of United Nations Study Group (U.K.), Vol. 14, No. 4, July-Aug. 1982.

UNO-SALON OSNABRUCK

By Arleigh Gaines

Each year, the European UN collectors group, UNOP, arranges a special exhibition in connection with its annual meeting, and this year's event, at Osnabruck, West Germany (13-16 October) was a showing of ten invited exhibits. Most previously had competed in FIP International shows and had won gold awards.

For the UN postal history collector, the exhibits were like an illustrated catalog. Most unusual was a 38 frame exhibit on the UPU by Dietrich Oldenburg, which featured not only delegate mail from the various UPU Congresses, but also an exceptional selection of UPU topical material. While most UPU collections still await their first 19th century Vienna UPU Congress cover, this collection had three! Two exhibits focused on the theme of the development of the UN: One, by Dr. Balram Maitin, is most unusual in its concept in that it traces the UN's roots, through postal documentation, to various Peace Congresses in 19th Century Europe. The other, by Thomas Radzuweit, was particulary well-documented with forerunner covers form New York and Geneva.

Two exhibits which probably are the best in their topics, worldwide, were the League of Nations of Hans Paikert, and the ILO collection of Aloys Furstenberg. I had seen versions of both of these before, but each contains so much in both material and write-up that I still was able to find a few new points for future inclusion in the United Nations Philately chapters on these organizations.

The other exhibits were: League and UN Conferences, Eugen Schwitalia; The UN in Vienna, Adolf Schipper; Peacekeeping Forces, Walter Wahener; WHO, Irmgard Furstenberg; and my UNRRA-IRO exhibit.

One of the stars of the exhibit was Elisabeth von Janota-Bzowski, an internationally known commercial artist and designer of the WFUNA cachets for this year's flag series FDC. "La Janota" as she is popularly known, also has been a prolific designer of stamps over the past six years, having won open competitions for some 23 West German issues. One of those designs, commemorating the 500th anniversary of Martin Luther's birth, was issued on the first day of the show. The demand for Janota's autograph and the WFUNA rubber-stamped emblem kept the WFUNA delegation, headed by Director Annabelle Wiener and Vienna Office Director Peter Feeg, very busy. By mid-Sunday, the entire stock of several thousand blank Janota cachets had been sold out, and Janota's horses could be seen all over the exhibition hall.

While the UNO-Salon and Osnabruck show obviously represented over a year's efforts by many people, two should be singled out for special commendation: Karl-Heinz

Riedger, leader of the host stamp club (which, in effect, organized a convention for several thousand persons and 20,000 visitors in spare time, and did so in a manner which would put many professional U.S. convention centers to shame). Hans H.V. Renesse, leader of UNOP, who organized the UNO-Salon exhibits in between editing the UNOP Bulletin (some several hundred pages a year) and the Borek UN catalog.

In general, the interest in UN philately in Germany appears undiminished. By far the most popular items are anything related to UN Vienna. While the number of collectors who are interested in postal history (forerunners, conferences, specialized agencies) is limited by the cost of better items in these fields, those who do pursue these interests are serious exhibitors and researchers. While many UN philatelic exhibitions here tend towards the commercial element, UNO-Salon '83 demonstrated that such meetings can also be an enjoyable and rewarding opportunity for serious philatelists to meet and discuss their interests.

THE BIRTH OF A NEW ERA

By Jack Mayer

For several years rumors persisted that the United Nations Post Office was acquiring two new meters, to be numbered 5 and 6 and added to the existing and aging 1, 2, 3 and 4. Officials quickly denounced this as untrue. However, a new mailing machine (machine to which the meter head is affixed) was added approximately a year ago to alleviate the strain caused by breakdowns in existing equipment. That, it seems, might have solved the problems. However, age finally conquered and in August, 1982, new machines were ordered of revolutionary design, the new era electronic machines known as the Pitney Bowes 6100 series with 6501 meter heads. Parts were no longer being manufactured for the old machines which undoubtedly contributed to the decision.

One might have expected the new machines to be numbered 5, 6, 7 and 8. That is not the case. Numbers 1 to 4 were retained. Why then, if the machines were ordered in August 1982, did it take a year to get them installed? It seems, according to officials, that design approval of the new indicia was slow to come about, with several designs submitted by Pitney Bowes being rejected by the UN. Finally, one was accepted and manufacture commenced.

Unlike the former era of three machines in use and one in reserve, a new policy was adopted to have four machines in use at any one time. Of the four machines, three are the new generation "mailing machine" and one is a "tape shooter" (PB model 5975), which produces tapes only. The four heads (PB 1, 2, 3 and 4) are interchangeable on any of the four machines so one would never know which head might be used on the tape shooter.

The first day of use of the new meters occurred 25 August 1983. Officials indicate that all four machines were set up for use. How many were actually used on this date or had later first days, only time will tell as collectors locate used copies. As of this writing, known copies are as follows:

First day PB 1 25 Aug '83 (Fig. 1)

(PB1 is reported to have broken down on its first day of use and was withdrawn from service and as of this writing has not been returned.)

First day PB 2 25 Aug '83 (Fig. 2)

Earliest known date PB 3 26 Aug '83 (Fig 3)

Earliest known date PB 4 -2 Sep '83

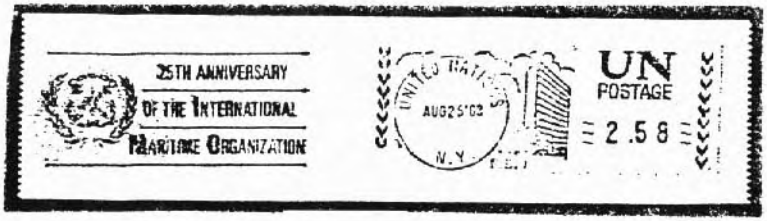


Fig. 1

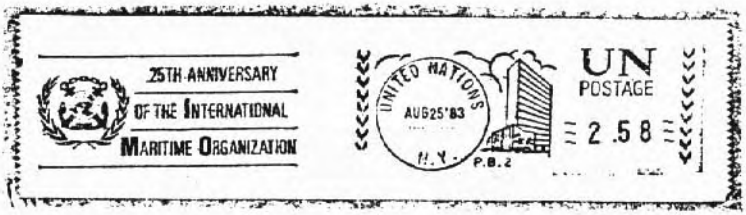


Fig. 2

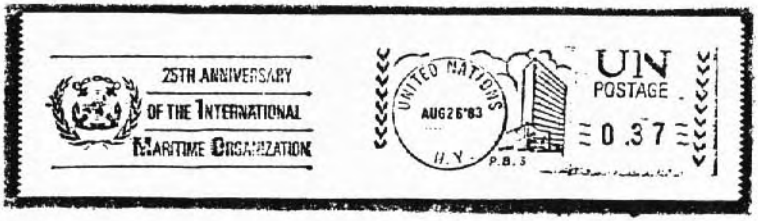


Fig. 3

The new meters can produce as many as 160 imprints per minute. This is a substantial improvement over the old machines. These electronic machines are also equipped to handle higher rates of postage - up to $99.99 versus the $9.99 previous maximum and can be set to contain $99,999.00 in postage versus the former high of $9,999.99. Fractions are not available on the UNPO machines as they were formerly, but current postage rates do not require them.

Note Fig. 4 whereby a rate of $18.00 appears on tape affixed to a cover that was sent Express Mail.

This might appear to be the end of the report of changes. Not quite. Two more meter heads have been ordered from Pitney Bowes which should be available by the end of 1983. These are to be numbered 5 and 6! Reportedly, these two meters will be kept by Pitney Bowes in reserve and used as replacements for 1, 2, 3 and 4 in case of breakdown. So we may yet see 5 and 6!

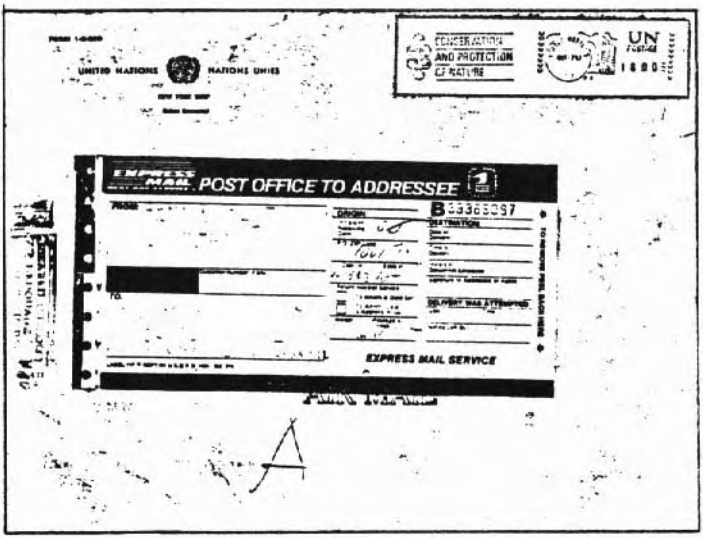


Fig. 4