Aerogramme of South Africa 2000 with African Monarch butterfly.

“It is very easy to break and destroy, the heroes are those who make peace and who build”

Revenue Stamp with ‘secret dot’, top left corner, on the 1956 £2 stamp

NATIONAL Stamp Exhibition 2018
Centurion - 17 to 20 October
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Botswana’s Night Sky makes me Smile

I enjoyed the article Botswana’s Night Sky by Andrew Briscoe (SAP 94:2 April 2018, p 56).

The simplicity of the stamp designs that show four of the most conspicuous constellations visible from the Southern hemisphere adds to their beauty. I have seen the stamps several times, but the article allowed thorough inspection for the first time. I could not help but think that they could also fit Volker Janssen’s column Stamps that make you Smile.

On the stamps, all four constellations are shown over the same horizon. That is not possible! The skyline obviously depicts dusk or dawn. Centaur and Crux, however, are visible towards the South between March evenings and August mornings, and when in an upright position, high above the horizon at an approximate angle of 50 degrees.

As shown, Orion and Scorpius are in an upright position - not seen from the Southern hemisphere. If the stamps are turned to stand on the left upper corner, the shown constellations would be as seen when rising in the East, and when turned on the right upper corner, when setting in the West. Orion may be seen during summer and Scorpius during winter. This implies that the foliage of the trees depicted on the stamps would also be different as affected by the changing seasons!

Prof G Osthoff,
OFS Philatelic Society.
BILL BARRELL LTD

Fine perforation errors, others available.

1911 1d rose-red (SG272).
Very fine misperf. £110.00

1911 1d rose-red (SG272). Fine misperf. £25.00

1911 KEDV11 2½d (SG284). Superb misperf. £175.00

1911 1d rose-red (SG272).
Fine misperf. 45.00

1887 3d Purple/Yellow (SG202). SUPERB MISPERF. £1250.00

1902 1d Scarlet (SG219) block of four misperforation.
£35.00

1966 4d World Cup (SG693) Superb error of perforation. £750.00

1887 1½d Jubilee (SG198). SUPERB MISPERF.
£1250.00

£225.00

1971 3p machin (2 bands) (SGX855) Fine error of perforation. £225.00

1965 6d 700th Anniversary of Parliament. Superb error of perforation. (SG663)
£375.00

1955 1½d wilding (SG542) excellent misperforation due to paper fold. £475.00

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01476 594698

e-mail: bill@barrell.co.uk  website: www.barrell.co.uk
EXHIBITION NEWS

NATIONAL STAMP EXHIBITION 2018 - Centurion - 17 to 20 October 2018
Venue address: 87 Jim Van der Merwe Street, Clubview Centurion 0140

Our venue: www.kleinkaap.co.za in Centurion

The Organising Committee look forward to welcoming all visitors, dealers and exhibitors to the annual National Stamp Show 2018. The Palmares, the most prestigious event of our philatelic year, will also take place at the Kleinkaap venue on Saturday evening (secure your tickets now). This, together with the Awards ceremony, offers an event that gives us an opportunity to meet and greet friends and partners. The Exhibition promises to be as exciting with a chance to see the results of the newly developed frames, designed for the best possible viewing and enhanced with a new lighting technique. International as well as local dealers will have a lot to entice even the most discerning collectors - don’t miss this opportunity to see what’s on offer. Guest speakers have been selected with care and the Kleinkaap restaurant meals on offer are mouthwatering.

SEE YOU THERE... Andre du Plessis, email andredups@gmail.com cell +27(0)83 399 1755.

Let your spirit be touched by the history of our country.
Retain your sense of wonder at the world you live in ...

Retiring?

NOW is an ideal time to explore:

There are traders all over the world who can help you buy the items that would assist you in discovering a new look at the world through stamps and at the same time offer you a thrilling store of value.

Go even further... link to a process that offers an ability to illustrate the world in which you have lived, loved and hurt. Exploring the exhibit segment ‘Open Class’ philately and see what it can do for you; it’s the only segment that attracts ‘non-collectors’ of stamps.

Discover what could make your exhibit special. Remember, half the ‘Open Class’ exhibit could include family documents and photos, newspaper cuttings of events which you have experienced, even letters and documents from those who similarly have shared losses and victories.

There are a handful of dealers who offer the wide range of material required for such appealing exhibits. Even fewer who’ve themselves regularly exhibited in the ‘Open Class’ segment. If your soul calls for specialness, ask me for help to navigate your journey of a past you want to re-walk ... for South Africans, usually a path less travelled.

A PROUD MEMBER OF SAPDA

PAUL VAN ZEYL trading as RAND STAMPS

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NEW FRAMES

New lightweight frames created in time for the exhibition.

Let your spirit be touched by the history of our country.
Retain your sense of wonder at the world you live in ...
Phun with postmarks
by Alex Visser RDPSA, Pretoria Philatelic Society

Email: alex.visser@up.ac.za

The Dutch connection

Pioneers or settlers often related to place names where they were born, or which had a significant influence on their history to name new towns. This was true for the British, the Germans and also the Dutch. One often encounters these names, without appreciating how many place names corresponded with the fatherland. A comparison of place names in the Netherlands and South Africa spelt exactly the same was extracted from Putzel’s The Encyclopaedia of South African Post Offices and Postal Agencies, and is shown in Table 1. The mother post office name, where applicable, is also shown to assist with locating the office. Opening and closing dates are also given in case postmark collectors wish to visit these offices. The names are given by province.

Table 1. Names of corresponding post offices in South Africa and the Netherlands

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Mother post office</th>
<th>Opening date</th>
<th>Closing date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cape Province</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dordrecht</td>
<td>Aliwal North</td>
<td>1859</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gouda</td>
<td>Wellington</td>
<td>12.9.1927</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Haarlem</td>
<td>Uniondale</td>
<td>1875</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middelburg</td>
<td></td>
<td>17.11.1853</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oosthuizen</td>
<td>Colesberg</td>
<td>1.1.1906</td>
<td>12.5.1958</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rustenburg</td>
<td>Pearston</td>
<td>1858</td>
<td>1881</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Voorburg</td>
<td>Great Brak River</td>
<td>4.5.1925</td>
<td>17.3.1958</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zandberg</td>
<td>Eendekuil, Piketberg</td>
<td>1.1.1911</td>
<td>1.8.1913</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Z.A.R./Transvaal</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alkmaar</td>
<td>Nelspruit</td>
<td>1.7.1903</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amersfoort</td>
<td></td>
<td>1.6.1896</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amsterdam</td>
<td></td>
<td>1881</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assen</td>
<td>Brits</td>
<td>13.9.1926</td>
<td>1.5.1978</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bergen</td>
<td>Piet Reif</td>
<td>1.9.1894</td>
<td>11.3.1963</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ermelo</td>
<td></td>
<td>1885</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kralingen</td>
<td>Nylstroom</td>
<td>14.12.1925</td>
<td>10.3.1969</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marken</td>
<td>Polgietersrus</td>
<td>28.6.1948</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middelburg</td>
<td></td>
<td>1.12.1872</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rustenburg</td>
<td></td>
<td>1.6.1852</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Schagen</td>
<td>Machadodorp</td>
<td>28.7.1924</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vlaardingen</td>
<td>Middelburg</td>
<td>16.8.1926</td>
<td>25.8.1930</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Interesting observations may be made from this Table.

1. The naming of Dutch place names only occurred in the Cape and Z.A.R./Transvaal. This is surprising as the Orange Free State was also settled at about the same time as the Z.A.R., and the Voortrekkers were mainly of Dutch descent, but no towns were named.

2. The offices were established at different times, and not only at the time when the Voortrekkers travelled to the interior. Some places were established in the mid- to late 1800s. Other places were named in the 1920s, and Marken was only opened in 1948.

The reasons for naming places makes interesting reading. For example, Dordrecht, initially a parish, was named after the historic synod of the Reformed Churches held in 1618/9 at Dordrecht. Amsterdam was named by the Z.A.R. Volksraad after the birthplace of State Secretary Edward Bok. In many instances there is no reason given in Putzel’s encyclopaedia.

Some of the offices were short-lived, such as Vlaardingen and Zandberg. Date stamps from these offices are shown in Fig.1. Although Zandberg operated from 1911 to 1913, the office then moved to Station. From the evidence (usage dates 1913/27) the same date stamp was used until 1928, when Station office was closed.

Fig.1: Date stamps of Vlaardingen and Zandberg, two short-lived offices.

Both the Middelburg towns were named when they were located in different provinces, so there was no confusion. The town in the Cape was named as it lay in the middle and almost equidistant from the main towns in the area, namely Graaff-Reinet, Craddock, Steynsburg, Colesberg and Richmond, so no direct Dutch connection. For the town in the Transvaal there are several explanations which included naming after the Dutch town, and being midway between Pretoria and Lydenburg. After the formation of the Union, these two towns were distinguished by the indication of Cape and Transvaal in various styles, as shown in Figs.2 and 3.

Fig.2: Date stamps of Middelburg, Cape.

Fig.3: Date stamps of Middelburg, Transvaal.

Many Dutch words were however used, for example Bloemfontein.

Collectors love putting an exhibit together of the so-called ‘Heimat’ collection of a town or region, often an area or town where they have lived and where they are intimately familiar with the region. I have seen fascinating collections of Port Elizabeth and more recently Boksburg. This Dutch connection could form a similar heimat exhibit. As always, missing information or anecdotes are welcome.
BOGUS STAMPS

A bogus stamp is one that is fictitious or a fake from a real country. A bogus stamp has usually never been available in the country it purports to come from. It is not a forgery since the actual stamp does not exist. The term also includes stamps which have fake overprints and surcharges. An example of such trickery is shown in Fig.1. This stamp, originally issued by the Belgian Congo, has been partly obliterated by two bars (see the June SA Philatelist). The stamp has then been overprinted with Etat Autonome Du Sud-Kasai and surcharged 6.50 francs. South Kasai separated from the rest of the Congo in August 1960, but 16 months later rejoined the Congo. These stamps were sold exclusively by the Philatelic Agency of Sud Kasai Autonomous State, which was located in Brussels.

In April 1950 Maluku Selatan broke away from Indonesia. This was followed by several years of bitter struggle ending the uprising. In that period Maluku Selatan never issued any stamps. Yet, New York stamp dealer, Henry Stolow sold the stamp (Fig.2) to eager collectors. Stamps which the collector needs to be wary of are those from the Central African Republic. A significant number of stamps are produced carrying the name Republique Centrale Africaine, but have never been available in the country – see Fig.3. How would you know if a stamp is bogus? It’s not possible to tell just by looking at the stamp. Even experienced collectors are duped; however look out for an article by Dr Ian Mattheson in the next issue. A test would be to check if the stamp is listed in a catalogue. A listing would validate the stamp as being genuine.

BONC

BONC is an acronym for Barred Oval Numeral Canceller, a type of postmark that is encoded with a number as shown in Fig.4. This example was used at Adventur in the Uniondale District. Some BONCs have vertical bars, while others are known with horizontal bars, each of differing thickness. If the BONC is used together with a circular date stamp then it is known as a Duplex Canceller (Fig.5). Cape Town has the honour of being allocated the number 1. BONCs were used in the Cape Colony, starting in 1863 and remained in use for nearly a hundred years. With some 1400 BONCs known, such coded cancellations are a collecting speciality on their own.
I must have taken many glances at the Customs labels before I read them properly and sparked a couple of: “say what?” moments.

In front of me are two World War II South African postal history items. Dealt a few knocks over the years, they remain something a little out of the ordinary and (by the way they have been crudely stitched around card inserts) appear to have survived by being glued into a family scrap book. They are large (they overlap my scanner’s platen on all sides) linen bags used, in 1943, by a South African soldier in North Africa to send gifts back home. Both are franked with Union ‘Bantam’ issues and each shows a censor’s handstamp struck in violet.

One, with two pairs of 3d stamps cancelled by an unreadable datestamp, states its contents as ‘Leather Goods (NCV)’ (no commercial value) but with an estimated worth of 10s (not illustrated). The second, (one orange stamp and four blues) is the one shown and has a total franking of 1s 6d, all tied by the datestamp of an Egypt Field Post Office (its number illegible) and declaring contents as a handbag, bracelet and brooch plus a fourth entry (partially deleted by violet crayon) that looks as if it could read ‘Cigarettes (Local).’ Declared value on this one was £2/10/-.

To the point of this article: when arriving in Cape Town, both bags had a Customs Parcel Docket attached - an official little form (‘B. & F.P.P. 5’) that details any monies still payable, such as customs dues, wharfage, clearance fee, other postal charges, etc. In amongst the mundane fees you might expect are provision for, rather more intriguingly: ‘USA Complementary Postage’ and ‘Exchange Dumping Duty’ (the latter shown in the Afrikaans alternate as: wissel-koersdumpingreg).

The lesser package was assessed free of additional charges; whilst the second (with the stated more valuable contents) was charged 1s 4d customs dues; plus 5d for wharfage; and 6d clearance fee, for a total due of 1s 3d.

So (albeit not relevant to these specific items) the “say what?” questions arising are: what exactly was ‘exchange dumping duty’ and what were the circumstances at that time re the ‘USA complementary postage?’

I have already researched a couple of answers but it may also be interesting to throw the challenge out to readers to do their own hunting.

Anyone with any explanations or theories to contribute, please feel free to get back to the Editorial team.

We will collate responses and reply to you with some definitive answers.

Email dcrocker@lando.co.za
DEFECTIVE PRINTING

The colours printing the advertisements were often poorly aligned and overlapping. Badly, overprinted figures and over/under inking are common in both values.

Vic Sorour from the Witwatersrand Philatelic Society in his article JIPEX Commemorative Panes: The ½d Springbok in The SAP of April 2016 described the different varieties of the ½d stamp in detail. An article by G.N. Gilbert on this value appeared in The SAP of March 1937.

There were only ten advertisement settings for the ½d; varieties on each pane help to identify their position on the orginal sheet.

Observations regarding recurring flaws of the advertisements are supplementary to identified and described varieties. The position mentioned, i.e. top left, indicates the position of the advertisement on the sheetlet Fig.1A&B).

ERRORS & VARIETIES

These constant varieties were also observed. Although the list is not exhaustive, the following feature was identified for the 1d by G. Ward (Fig.2 on page 115).

A new observation, one digit of the sheet number is printed in the right margin of pane 18. The other 3 digits are printed on pane 21.

EXHIBITION LABELS

Different exhibition labels were printed with gold and blue backgrounds and made available to the public free of charge.

Printing and perforation of the labels were not of the best quality and label images are found to be misplaced in any direction. Dr. Zerbst described two sizes of the blue label (45mm x 35mm and 43mm x 33mm) perforated 11 and three for the gold label.

The first two being the same size and perforation as the blue ones
### 1d Varieties Not Mentioned

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pane 1</th>
<th>Pane 2</th>
<th>Pane 3</th>
<th>Pane 4</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Row 1/2 – Red dot on inside edge of oval at 8 o’clock</td>
<td>White spot under ‘I’ of BRIEWE. (Top middle)</td>
<td>½d Varieties Not Mentioned</td>
<td>Row 13/4 – Red spot between ‘P’ and ‘O’ of POSTAGE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Row 1/3 – Tiny dot in ‘F’ of AFRIKA</td>
<td>White spot above ‘E’ of BRIEWE. (Top right)</td>
<td>Rows 11/2 and 11/12 – White streaks in the green caused by paper folds before overprinting</td>
<td>Row 14/3 – White spot before ‘S’ of SOUTH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Row 2/7 – Very faint projection on leaf next to frame line</td>
<td>Limb on ‘C’ of OFFICE. (Top right)</td>
<td>These white streaks will also be found on certain sheetlets of panes 6, 9, 12, 15, 18 and 21</td>
<td>(Fig.2a)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Row 7/4 – Red mark in top of middle leaf</td>
<td>Oblique stroke through SAFETY FIRST. (Bottom middle)</td>
<td>(Fig.2b)</td>
<td>Although the list is not exhaustive the following varieties were identified for the 1d from the work of G. Ward.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### ½d Varieties Not Mentioned

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pane 3</th>
<th>Pane 4</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rows 1/12 and 2/12 – White streaks in the green caused by paper folds before overprinting</td>
<td>Row 20/6 – Red spot above ‘K’ and ‘A’ of AFRIKA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>These white streaks will also be found on certain sheetlets of panes 6, 9, 12, 15, 18 and 21</td>
<td>(Fig.2b)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

Fig.3c: The small gold label measuring 28mm x 22mm, separated by rouletting.

Fig.3d: Rare example of an experimental proof of the Exhibition label, size 45mm x 35mm.

Fig.3e.
JIPEX COVERS

Official JIPEX illustrated covers were printed and made available at 3d each at the exhibition. Variations are found in the cream colour of the paper used, with Type 1 typically being a darker shade.

Covers were designed to accommodate a full JIPEX sheetlet. They proved very popular and the demand was such that extra printings were made. Most of the postally used covers are of a philatelic nature with overrated postage. It is estimated that over 25,000 covers were sold and sent all over the world.

Four printings (types) can be distinguished by comparing the position of NOVEMBER in line 2 with the word INTERNATIONAL in the first line (Fig. 4).

**Type 1:** Left limb of ‘N’ of NOVEMBER starting under ‘G’ of JOHANNESBURG. NOVEMBER printed the same size as the first line. JIPEX is 4mm high.

**Type 2:** Left limb of ‘N’ of NOVEMBER starting towards the left of ‘I’ of INTERNATIONAL. NOVEMBER printed the same size as the first line. JIPEX is 4mm high.

**Type 3:** Left limb of ‘N’ of NOVEMBER starting under ‘I’ of INTERNATIONAL. NOVEMBER is printed smaller as the first line. JIPEX is 5mm high.

In the first printing (Type 1) several covers had the red colour in the lower half of Africa omitted (Fig. 5). These are rare.

In all printings the red colour also differs in shade and is found misplaced in any direction.

By the last day, all stocks were sold out and the organisers issued ‘emergency’ covers. This was necessitated by a frenzy to get a last day cancellation. These covers had JOHANNESBURG INTERNATIONAL PHILATELIC EXHIBITION. NOVEMBER 2nd - 14th, 1936 typed on plain envelopes.

THE 1½d STAMP

Under the Empire Airmail Scheme all first-class mail was conveyed over the Empire air routes at a rate of 1½d per half ounce. Consequent on the introduction of the Empire Flying Boat service in 1937, the postal authorities decided to prepare a 1½d stamp to meet the demand for such a denomination.

Stamps were prematurely released and placed on sale on 12 November 1936. They were also available at the Exhibition Post Office. The early release was justified by the increasing demand for a 1½d stamp to frank
mail intended for transportation by air within the Union and South-West Africa.

It was found that several stamps on the first sheets sold at the Exhibition Post Office had the shading on the mine dump partly (Fig.6), and in some instances, completely missing (Fig.7). The variety appeared on various places on the sheets. Stamps with this variety are mostly found in used condition with the Exhibition First Day cancel of 12 November 1936. All stamps are from the first printing – Head plate 6933 and Frame plate 62

EXHIBITION AIR MAIL POST CARDS

Special exhibition Air Mail Post Cards, printed in blue, were issued on 19 October 1936. The design of the post card symbolises Johannesburg’s 50 years of progress - from a mining camp to a modern city.

On the left is shown a wagon being drawn by a span of oxen and an Imperial Airways ‘Atalanta’ aircraft flying towards the Tower of Light against a silhouette of the Golden City in the background. The words: EMPIRE EXHIBITION JOHANNESBURG 1936 / RYKSTENTOONSTELLING JOHANNESBURG 1936 feature on the front of the card, reading upward and downwards. If posted at the

Fig.6: First Day Cover featuring stamps with partly missing shading.

Fig.7: Completely missing shading on mine dump

Exhibition Post Office, it could be sent by airmail to any part of the world at a ½d rate. Six different cards showing photographs of airmail being handled by the Post Office were sold for 3d per set at the Exhibition.

The following pictures appear at the back of a card (Fig.8b left to right):
1. Air Station, Rand Airport,
2. Rand Airport - Arrival of airmails from Europe and intermediate Countries,
3. Rand Airport - SA Airways’ machine and postal van,
4. Delivery of mails at Rand Airport,
5. Airmail Section, General Post Office, Johannesburg,
6. Posting boxes General Post Office, Johannesburg, with illuminated map of principal world airmail routes.

EXHIBITION POST CARDS

A set of six Exhibition Post Cards for general use appeared simultaneously with the Airmail Post Cards. The Tower of Light with the wording: EMPIRE EXHIBITION JOHANNESBURG 1936 RYKSTENTOONSTELLING featured on the front of the card.

The following pictures were printed at the back (Top left to right):
1. Telephone Tower, Johannesburg 1907:
2. Interior, Telephone Tower, Johannesburg (1894 - 1907):
3. Post Office Stone:
4. First Post Office Telegraph Office, Johannesburg (1887):
5. General Post Office, Johannesburg (1904):
6. General Post Office,
   Johannesburg, 1935 (Fig. 9).

EXHIBITION SOUVENIR
TELEGRAMS
Special souvenir telegram covers
were printed. The Tower of Light
with the wording: ‘Souvenir
telegram/Aandenkingstelegram’
and ‘EMPIRE EXHIBITION
JOHANNESBURG 1936 RYKSTEN-
TOONSTELLING’ featured on the
front of the cover (Fig. 10). In some
instances, the colour of the paper
has faded appearing as a bluish/brown
colour.
The inside telegram paper was on
60gsm with a bilingual simulated
watermark. The wording is:
‘POST OFFICE TELEGRAPHS. This
form should accompany any enquiry’
and ‘POSTKANTOOR TELEGRAMME.
Hierdie vorm moet navrae vergesel’
The ‘watermark’ was printed in reverse
onto the back of the paper in purple ink.
Viewed from the front, it appears as a
true watermark.

PRIVATE POST CARDS (Fig. 11)
During the 1924 Empire Exhibition held
at Wembley, post cards were issued by
Fleetway Press, London. Beanes Photo
Services, PO Box 6954, Johannesburg
followed this trend and ordered post
cards from England with images of
Johannesburg and other cities in the
Union, Southern Rhodesia, flora and
fauna. Two types were ordered, Picture
Post Cards and Real Photo Cards.
However, it appears the original order
arrived too late and none were sold during
the Exhibition and as a result, no cards
with any of the Exhibition cancellations
exist. The assumption is that Beanes
Photo Services printed a few cards locally.
because of the late delivery of the original order from London and it was these cards that were most likely sold at the exhibition.

**FORGERIES**

Stamps have been found showing ‘trial overprints’. Examples exist with different fonts as well as the overprint in red and black ink, upright or inverted as well as JIPEX without the date (Figs. 12 a-d).

The only reference found about ‘trial overprints’ appeared in an article in *The SAP* August 2005 by Danie Scheepers RDPSA, who wrote: “…There is no reference to these ‘trials’ and though it is conceivable that trials would have been done prior to deciding on an overprint which would be used on thousands of stamps, they might well be bogus”.

This is the most acceptable description of these stamps as no mention is made of them in any of the *Union Handbooks* as well as by the early South African philatelists discussing the JIPEX issue.

**MIDGET TOWN**

Interesting to note is the existence of an unofficial ‘postmark’ associated with JIPEX. A midget town was erected in the Amusement Park of the Exhibition centre where souvenirs and other items were sold. The troupe came from the UK and were part of Fred Roper’s Midgets accompanied by Dinny Duffy, an 8-foot (2.4m) tall Australian giant (Fig.13).

The midgets gave performances for the amusement of the spectators.

A ‘Post Office’ was erected where the midgets sold postcards and had their own ‘special date stamp’. If franked, the item was postmarked with this date stamp and then handed back to the owner. It follows that some were sent through the post (Figs.14 & 15). The midgets made money from purchasing JIPEX sheets, especially on the opening day. As a ticket holder was entitled to only one pair of sheetlets, the midgets stood repeatedly in the queue, obtaining many sheets that they later sold at a premium.

**PUBLICITY**

Apart for the Exhibition labels, the exhibition was widely advertised in the media as well as by the Post Office. An example is the Metered Cover with Empire Exhibition advertisement and small gold label (Fig.16). *Image courtesy of Dr Nic Zerbst*

The publicity folder was in the shape of a red post box with space for the address at the back. When franked with a 1d stamp, it could be posted at the Exhibition Post Office (Fig.17).

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

Permission to publish appropriate images is acknowledged with thanks:


**REFERENCES**

- Personal research - Dr. N Zerbst and D Scheepers RDPSA, (personal communication)
It has been a privilege to represent South Africa as Commissioner and Juror at the Newcastle Stamp and Coin Expo held in Newcastle in Australia from 25 to 27 May 2018.

The Newcastle Philatelic Society had their Centenary Exhibition in the form of a National Philatelic Exhibition at the Newcastle Showgrounds. This was a half National Exhibition with the following selected FIP plus APF classes: Postal History, Postal Stationery, Picture Postcards, Aerophilately, Polar Philately and Literature organised by the Society under the auspices of the Australian Philatelic Federation.

The Newcastle Jury under the able Chairmanship of Geoff Kellow judged 66 competitive entries and the following results were achieved:
- Large Gold -10, Gold - 10, Large Vermeil - 17, Vermeil - 10, Large Silver - 9, Silver - 7, Silver Bronze - 1 and Bronze - 1

The three South African Exhibits garnered two Large Gold medals and one Large Silver medal:
- Howard Green: South West African Revenues and Allied Tax Stamps: 92, Large Gold with a Special Prize as one of three runner-ups for the Best in Show - the Grand Prix prize.
- Ian Matheson: Entertainment Tax in South Africa: 91, Large Gold plus a Special Prize as Best from Aero/Modern/Revenue/Frugal.
- Peter van der Molen: Large Silver for Picture Postcards of Swaziland.

A total of 11 exhibits were entered into the Postal Stationery section focusing mostly on Australian Airletters and Aerogrammes. However, the Best in Show (Grand Prix) was won by Ian McMahon from North South Wales for his collection Air Letters and Aerogrammes of Canada with a Large Gold – 92 marks.

I also had the privilege to serve in a small group of three, judging non-Australian postal history under the able and experienced leadership of Geoffrey Lewis from Australia together with Sue Vernall from New Zealand. The standard in the non-Australian section was extremely high with amongst others the following interesting exhibits:
- Sweden and Great Britain: Mail Connections till UPU by Wayne Donaldson (NSW) – 91 Large Gold plus a Special Prize.
- A Postal History of the Airmails from Iraq 1919 – 1945 by Armad Bin Eisa Alserkal (UAE) – 90 Large Gold plus Special Prize: Best in Postal History Class.
- The Boer War 1899-1902. Prisoner of War Mail by John Pugsley (NSW) – 90 Large Gold with a Special Prize: Best Postal History Runner Up.
- Postal Routes for International Mail of China during the Sino Japanese War of 1937-1945 by Albert Cheung (NSW). – 86 Gold
There were 28 stamp, coin and banknote dealers in attendance.

• Postal History of the British Isles to 1711 by Stephen Browne (NSW) – 85 Gold

In his exhibit Postal History of the British Isles, Stephen Browne displayed very rare and interesting Corsini-letters as part of his exhibit of which one of eleven Corsini-letters from Ireland is illustrated as part of this report. The Corsini family were Florentine merchants resident in London. Only 374 letters in the Corsini correspondence originated from towns and cities within the British Isles and of these only 49 internal letters show post rates.

Fig.5: Stephen Browne from NSW in front of the frame with the Corsini-letter dated 1574 with Gerhard Kamffer.

Fig.6: (At right) The only Corsini letter from Ireland showing a postal rate and believed to be the earliest letter from Ireland showing a postal marking dated 22 September 1574. Letter from Janais Disistant in Waterford sent to Filippo Corsini in London. Annotated on the front: ‘Payd le port’ (paid the post) and ‘gyve for the Kerrying 4d’ (give for the Carrying 4d) on the reverse. (Collection of Stephen Browne from NSW in Australia).

LETTERS TO THE EDITORIAL BOARD

Comic Corner

Stamps

that make you SMILE

by Volker Janssen, Fish Hoek Philatelic Society and the Royal Philatelic Society of Cape Town

Episode 48

Errors on Stamps...

‘WRONG CORONATION YEAR’

The Italian Europa stamp of 1982 shows a scene from the Coronation of the famous German Emperor Karl der Grosse (Charles the Great or lat.Carolus Magnus) by Pope Leo in Rome in the year 800. This is a well known date of an important event that all Italian children have to learn at school, so why has Italy changed the year to 799 on the 200 Lire stamp...?

Die interessante seëlflose koevert van David Wigston (SAP948 p83) laat dink dat die Spaanse posdiens die registriestrokie beskou as bewys van betaling van posgeld, registrasiegeld en wat ook al. Jy kry die registrasie plakker tog net as jy alles betaal het. Anders gestel die registrasie plakker DIEN as ‘n (genommerde) posseël. [Vergelyk met ons spoedpakket seëls en onthou seëls word aldag nie ge-rojeer by ons registrasies nie.]

Is die stempel so geplaas dat daar ruimte gelaat is vir aanvullende posgeld? Die jaarval is sonder die 1 van 18. Die kolletjie se posisie wys dalk die uur van die dag.

A PHILATELIC ENIGMA

Wat die kompetisie-georienteerde filatelistie gaan doen om ‘used stamps’ te erken, word al moeiliker.

Monus Flemming
PFSA REGULATIONS

THE JUDGING OF CINDERELLAS
by Hugh Amoore RDPSA and Dr Neil Cronjé RDPSA

Cinderella collecting is growing and is an unusual exhibiting area. Locally it falls in a special class: Cinderellas. In South Africa there is no Cinderella Society active to our knowledge.

These are proposed special PFSA regulations for the local judging of Cinderella exhibits.

This class is not, as yet, recognised by FIP.

1. These special regulations apply at PFSA for the local judging of Cinderella exhibits. These are proposed special PFSA regulations.

2. This class includes labels and other similar items that resemble postage stamps but are not postage stamps. These labels are not part of the system for the advance payment of carriage of mail or other postal items.

3. We do not provide an exhaustive definition of ‘Cinderella material’ and we do not believe it necessary to do so. However ‘Cinderella material’-

   3a) includes labels that resemble postage stamps (sometimes called ‘poster stamps’) produced
   • to raise money [for a charity or institution] and/or;
   • to publicise/advertise an event or institution or geographic location; and/or
   • advance a cause; where any payment made does not pre-pay for the carriage of letters or postage or any postal related [official] charge.

   3b) includes airmail labels but airmail labels that include the airmail fee are postage stamps and are thus excluded. The Cinderella airmail label is simply a directional label indicating that the sender intended the item to be carried by air.

   3c) includes registration labels;

   3d) may include ‘locals’ (but see regulation 5 below);

   3e) may include Cinderella material that has been though the post in combination with postage stamps or similar material;

   3f) It excludes
   • postage stamps;
   • railway stamps;
   • postage due stamps;
   • revenue (fiscal) stamps; and
   • stamps or etiquettes of any kind that denote payment has been made for the conveyance of mail, or for postal service.

4. Cinderella exhibits typically include
   • Christmas stamps / seals,
   • TB stamps / seals
   • airmail labels
   • registration labels
   • poster stamps
   • labels associated with exhibitions (especially but not exclusively philatelic exhibitions; e.g. the labels produced for trade fairs, the Franco-British Exhibition of 1908)
   • bogus and phantom issues; and
   • advertising labels.

5. ‘Local issues’ represent a difficult area: for example Zemstvos are locals but there is no doubt that Zemstvos [pre- or post 1864] are not Cinderellas (they were adhesives used to prepay postage).

   5a) includes Zemstvos but not local revenue stamps or labels;

6. Other locals may also be seen differently: for example most philatelists would accept that the College stamps of Oxford and Cambridge are Cinderellas.

7. All philatelists would accept that the College stamps produced for training purposes by US and Canadian business colleges served no postal purpose and must be classified as Cinderellas.

   8. [Postal] fakes and [postal] forgeries of postal material to avoid postage and defraud the Post Office of Revenue are not proper Cinderellas.

   9. Fakes and forgeries made to defraud collectors, or to be used by collectors as facsimiles/space fillers are Cinderellas.

10. A study of perfin patterns could be entered under the Cinderella class while an exhibit of stamps with perfin patterns would not be accepted. Here the distinction lies in the intention, and the intention of the study of perfin patterns would place emphasis on the identification of patterns and the firms each represented, as opposed to a display of the postage stamps carrying the perfin patterns only for security reasons.

   One must be sure that the Cinderella material shown would not be more appropriately displayed in the social philately class, but this will depend on the treatment of the exhibit.

Archival material dealing with Cinderellas is rare but has a place in a Cinderella exhibit.

Judging of Cinderella exhibits

Point breakdown will be as follow:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Treatment</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Knowledge and research</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Condition and rarity</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Presentation</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Importance</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Comments and suggestions will be welcome.

CHRIS MOBSBY
provides comment to this article:

“To quote the Cinderella Stamp Club of London, surely the ultimate authority when it comes to defining that particular category of philately, it is stated in each of their bi-monthly journals that the term ‘Cinderellas of Philately’ includes: “Local stamps; Telegraph stamps; Railway stamps; Revenues/Fiscals; Forgeries; Bogus and Phantom issues; Poster Stamps; Christmas, Red Cross, TB and Charity seals; Registration labels and Airmail etiquettes and Advertising and Exhibition labels”.

Of particular note in this list are ‘Railway’ and ‘Revenue’ stamps, both of which are specifically excluded by Hugh and Neil. However, what is possibly a more contentious issue is the definition of ‘Local stamps’. Personally, I feel that the word ‘Local’ says it all. If the validity of a stamp is limited to a finite destination or range, then I would contend that it justifies the epithet ‘local’. This would be regardless of the magnitude of the area involved so that even such issues as the Zemstvos of Russia and the Treaty Ports of China would still be classified as ‘local’. Nor would their appearance in Stanley Gibbons stand in the way of any particular stamp earning the ‘local’ tag. To name but three, the ‘Lady McLeod’ of Trinidad of 1847, the Stockholm issue of Sweden (1856-62) and the lone stamp of Tierra del Fuego of 1891 all appear in the latest copy of Gibbons on my library shelves but each is undeniably of a local nature. Remember too that in the days when there was a Part 3 of Gibbons, it was dedicated to local posts. Other than certain towns that had their own stamp issues during the Anglo-Boer War, I cannot think of very many South African Local Posts but, for the sake of interest I will illustrate three from my collection, those of the Rijndende Dienst Macht as used by the mounted police in the OFS (1896-1900), Mount Currie Express of East Griqualand (1874-1877) and a used postage due stamp of F.H.Bakker’s Express a post cart that ran between Pretoria and Marabastad via Nylstroom in 1887.”
In response to Chris Mobsby; We suggest that what has been proposed should be seen as facilitating exhibitors to enter Cinderella exhibits, and as guidelines that need to be interpreted flexibly by juries, always having in mind two things:

a) the need to encourage exhibits and
b) the need to give an exhibit the best possible result.

So, in that spirit we suggest that:

1. While a collector may wish to show revenues as Cinderellas, revenues are now generally accepted (by both FIP and FIAP) as belonging in a section of their own;

2. Many ‘locals’ do and should continue to find a home in traditional (and thematic) exhibits where other forms of Cinderellas do not (Zemstvos are a good example, and an exhibitor would not fall foul of FIP GRVs for including College stamps in a thematic, but would were he or she to include other forms of Cinderellas);

3. Railway stamps (for example the Belgian Railways parcel stamps) though issued by rail companies and not postal administrations are now generally shown in the class for ‘traditional’ entries (and are to be found in standard catalogues of postage stamps).

Our suggested guidelines are intended to encourage Cinderella collectors to exhibit by providing a new class. As there is already provision for collectors of revenues we propose that they not be included in the Cinderellas section. And, finally, the onus remains on each jury to move an exhibit to a different class if it believes that the exhibit would do better elsewhere.

One of the best known of the few flaws that occurred on the recess printed 2d London Printings is known as the ‘Split d’ of 2d, which is found on row 8/8 of the left pane and row 8/2 of the right pane. It only occurred on the two pane printings.

It is an acquired flaw which made its first appearance on the September 1929 printing of Issue 4 perforation Group 1, in the form of a vertical line through the ‘d’ of 2d.

The second ‘split d’ flaw occurred in February 1930 on the second two pane printing which was now perforated Group 111. At the same time, an additional acquired flaw in the form of a ‘split A’ on rows 10/1 and 10/7 made its first appearance. The vertical line through the right leg of the last ‘A’ in AFRIKA is similar to the ‘split d’ flaw (Fig.1).

The third and final ‘split d’ as well as the ‘split A’ occurred on the third Issue 4 printing in September 1930. In this case, the perforation was now Group 11 (Fig.2).

The third and final ‘split d’ as well as the ‘split A’ occurred on the third Issue 4 printing in September 1930. In this case, the perforation was now Group 11 (Fig.2).

This was the last time these flaws were seen, as they do not occur on the final Issue 4 cleaned plate printing as they had, in some way, been corrected.

REFERENCES:
• The Stamps of the Union of South Africa - S.J. Hagger RDPSA. 1986.
The Plain Tiger butterfly with scientific name *Danaus chrysippus*, also known as the African Monarch, (Fig.1) belongs to the same scientific genus as the American Monarch butterfly, considered to be the most famous butterfly in the world thanks to the tremendous distances it migrates.

The African Monarch is one of the most well-known species of butterfly in the world (Fig.2). Besides occurring across Africa it is found in southern Europe and most of southern Asia. Its bright colour protects it from predators because it is very unpalatable. The African Monarch butterfly feeds mainly on the milkweed plant (Fig.3, illustrated on the next page) and its body retains some of the milkweed’s toxicity, which makes it smell and taste unpleasant to predators. It is therefore able to escape being eaten most of the time and as a result, it is able to fly more directly than other species that have to fly erratically to avoid predators. Thus our summer months are filled with the lazy and flaunting flight of the African Monarch butterfly. Flying slowly and near the ground, potential predators have ample opportunity to view the bright colours on their wings and seek food elsewhere (Fig.4). This colouration of the African Monarch is so effective that other butterflies have evolved similar colourations even though they are not poisonous.

These beautiful orange, black and white medium-sized butterflies start life as brightly coloured caterpillars, which mostly feed on toxic plants. Females lay one egg per leaf on a suitable plant (Fig.5), thus ensuring that the baby caterpillars do not have to compete for food. The unique ability of the larvae of the African Monarch to absorb the toxic compounds from their food plants makes them distasteful to predators. In addition, the bright colour contrasts in both larvae and adult insects, such as black, yellow, red, orange, and white, also serve as a warning, thus protecting the species. This type of colouration is known as Aposmatic colouration.

Once the larva has pupated into a brightly coloured adult butterfly it absorbs bitter, poisonous alkaloids from certain plants, like some Senecio and Heliotrope species. The male Monarchs suck the alkaloids and create useful chemicals such as pheromones to attract female Monarchs, and bitter compounds that are distasteful to predators. The males then transfer some of these chemicals to the females when they mate, allowing them to create their own protective defense.

African Monarch Butterflies are located in many environments throughout southern Europe and Africa (Fig.6). They can be found in deserts or open countryside and in the mountains, up to altitudes of 9,000 feet.

From the deepest, darkest caves have emerged pictures of humanity from thousands of years ago. In an Egyptian tomb, that of Nebamun in Luxor, on a painting called *Fowling in the Marshes* (from around 1350 BCE) comes one of the oldest human depiction of butterflies; And it happens to be of the African Monarch, *Danaus chrysippus*, sometimes called the Plain Tiger, a close relative of our beloved North American Monarch butterfly, *Danaus plexippus*. This butterfly has the
distinction of being the oldest known to have been represented by man. Seven specimens of it (with typical white-dotted Danaus body) are shown flitting over the papyrus swamp (Fig.7). Of course, there is nothing special about being the oldest depiction of a butterfly by Homo sapiens. But suffice it to say, butterflies, metamorphosis, wing patterning, and the beauty of nature have been on our minds for a very long time.

The Author is ready to help philatelists in creating philatelic exhibits on butterflies and moths. His address: Vladimir Kachan, street Kulibina 9-49, Minsk-52, BY-220052, Republic of Belarus, E-mail: vladimirkachan@mail.ru

Fig.3 Lesotho 1984 Proof with African Monarch butterfly.

Fig.5 Deluxe Sheet of Togo 1990 - African Monarch butterfly lays one egg per leaf.

Fig.6 Artwork for stamp of Burundi 1968 with African Monarch butterfly.

Fig.7 Stamp of Central African Republic 2016 with fragment of the painting in an Egyptian tomb with illustration of the African Monarch butterfly.
The Bechuanaland

In 1885 the British Government despatched an expeditionary force under the command of General Charles Warren to establish control of the strategic corridor of land north of the Cape Colony which was threatened by German expansion from the west and the settlement of Boer farmers to the east. Following the successful completion of Warren’s mission, the territory south of the Molopo River became the colony of British Bechuanaland, and that north of the Molopo as far as latitude 22 degrees south was declared a Protectorate.

The next task was the establishment of a military force to patrol the borders of the new territory. The initial recruits of the Bechuanaland Border Police came mainly from the disbanded mounted units of Warren’s Expeditionary Force.

The Border Police headquarters were in Mafeking, south of the Protectorate in British Bechuanaland. The first Police camp within the Protectorate was established in December 1885 at Shoshong, the capital of the lands ruled by Khama III, Chief of the BaNgwato. Additional, smaller camps were established at Kanye and Molepolo in early 1886 and later at Fort Elebe, Ramotswa, Macloutsie, Mochudi and Gabarones. Gabarone (Gabarones) is today the capital of Botswana. According to Sir Henry Loch, the High Commissioner, “The Gabarones fort was built with the view of keeping in check the somewhat turbulent chiefs Linchwe and Sechele, who at one time threatened to interrupt the line of communication”. Figure 1 illustrates an underpaid envelope mailed from East London in the Cape of Good Hope on Friday 3 March 1893, which arrived at Gabarones on Wednesday 15 March, just after midday. The envelope was underpaid by 2d which required a surcharge of 4d to be paid by the addressee, representing double the 2d deficit.

Although the primary role of the BBP was to patrol the borders and villages of the new Protectorate, the carriage of the Administration’s mail was an important additional responsibility.

In British Bechuanaland

The Border Police conveyed government and other official letters by horseback rider and wagons between Barkly West in the northern Cape and Vryburg in British Bechuanaland. For a few months in 1885, the Police also conveyed the civil post on behalf of the Post Office, but this task was not performed satisfactorily. Jurgens makes reference to ‘numerous complaints...about registered letter going astray, also of other irregularities which were all credited to the opening of the mailbags by the Police at their camp instead of the bags being brought directly to the Post Office to be opened. To use the Postmaster-General’s words, “such a state of affairs could not be tolerated”. An attempt was again made to persuade the Police to deliver the mail bags to the post office. The Police had a contrary opinion and maintained ‘that as the conveyance was entirely at the expense of their department, they were entitled to open the postbags and remove therefrom any letters addressed to members of the force.’ In early 1886 the Post Office resolved this stand-off by employing contractors to convey the civil mails.

In the Bechuanaland Protectorate

Here the Police initially only conveyed government mail and despatches on an ad hoc basis, as the need arose and resources were available. Despatch riders journeyed between Shoshong and Mafeking in British Bechuanaland. The Protectorate’s first official postal service was introduced in 9 August 1888. The mails to and from Mafeking, Kanye Molepolo and Shoshung were served by native runners weekly. A fortnightly service was operated northwards to Tati and Gubulawayo.

In May 1889, the main body of the Border Police was moved up from Mafeking to Macloutsie in the far north-east, in anticipation of the invasion of Mashonaland by Rhodes’ ‘Pioneer Column’. This relocation led to a considerable increase in the weight of mail to be conveyed through the Protectorate, and although the service was restricted to letters and newspapers only, the native runners were unable to cope with the resulting demands. Colonel Carrington of the Border Police was accordingly asked to provide an estimate and proposal for the cost of providing the weekly service from Mafeking to Shoshong by Police carts. This proposal envisaged the deployment of two ‘light carts’, a total of 30 mules and five revictualling stations.

There being no immediate viable alternative, this arrangement was implemented. The Police cart service was initiated on 31 July 1889. Postal agents were also informed that the

**POSTAL HISTORY**

**The Bechuanaland Border Police**

by Andrew Briscoe, Witwatersrand Philatelic Society

The coach was pulled by four mules and also carried four passengers. The envelope arrived at Fort Gabarones on Wednesday 15 March, just after midday. The envelope was underpaid by 2d which required a surcharge of 4d to be paid by the addressee, representing double the 2d deficit.

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There being no immediate viable alternative, this arrangement was implemented. The Police cart service was initiated on 31 July 1889. Postal agents were also informed that the
services of the native runners should be discontinued from this date. 

In anticipation that the Border Police would be unable to provide an acceptable service, an interim contract was simultaneously negotiated with the Bechuanaland Exploration Company to transport the mail northwards from Shoshung to Tati and Gubuluwayo together with a back-up runner post service from Molepolole to Shoshung, for utilisation if the Police cart failed to arrive; an event which immediately occurred.

The first Police cart was scheduled to arrive from the south at Shoshong on 6 August, but had not done so by 10 August. The resident Superintendent of the Bechuanaland Exploration Company expressed his frustration to the Company’s General Manager in Cape Town: ‘The post due on 6th inst has not yet arrived at Shoshong. Our native runners returned on the 7th without the mails, and reported that the Post cart had passed Molepolole en-route for either Shoshong or the Police Camp …. The delay is very annoying and it is likely that we shall have much more of the same sort of thing before the new system is in fair working order …’

Compelling evidence that the Border Police had little ability and/or appetite for carrying the mail soon materialised. 

In the second month of the service, on 27 September 1889, J. E. Middleton, the Postmaster-General in Vryburg, reported to Sir Sidney Shippard, the Administrator of British Bechuanaland and Deputy Commissioner of the Protectorate:

‘Postmaster Mafeking reports that Protectorate mail arrived there this morning Wednesday at 8 am. Trooper in charge reports supply fresh ones – mail will consequently be delayed at Mafeking as Police cart has broken down - we must revert to native runners between Mafeking and Shoshong to avoid collapse to the Shoshong to Gubuluwayo service. Kindly communicate with His Honour on this subject.’

Two days later, Middleton amplified his report: ‘The police cart did not go to Shoshong at all but merely dropped the Shoshong mail at the Police Camp, Crocodile Pools and proceeded direct to Head Quarters Camp. Mail was taken from there to Shoshong by a passing wagon and arrived four days late. I would also be glad if the Police Authorities could be advised that under no circumstances are the seals of mail bags to be broken or the bags opened by anyone except those to whom they are actually addressed ….

In the Shoshong bag, several letters and newspapers were extracted. This is strictly forbidden by the Postal
On the following day, Shippard sent his instructions to Middleton:

'I have shown your telegram to Sir F Carrington who has telegraphed to Capt McGregor to let PMG have available mules for the Protectorate Post so as to get off the two weeks’ accumulations at least as far as Mafeking. Mr Johnson, on behalf of the Bechuanaland Exploration Company, has written to Col Carrington to say that he will undertake the post between Kimberley and Mafeking from 3rd proximo as agreed with me but that his company will not be able to undertake the Protectorate Post for another six weeks at least. I authorise Post Master General to revert to native runners system for the Protectorate Post until the Bechuanaland Exploration Company can get their system into working order. Of course the mails must be carried via Kanya, Molopo and Khama's Town to the Tati, the objective point for the govt being Bulawayo, everything else should be made to yield to the paramount necessity of speedy communication with Mr Moffat [Assistant Commissioner for the Protectorate, who was then in Matabeleland, meeting with Chief Lobengula].

The Police, therefore, must make their own arrangements to fetch their letters from the most convenient point on our line of post. Of course letters and despatches should have priority over newspapers and all other postal matters, so long as the native runner system lasts. It will of course be necessary to have separate bags for the Police mails, so that these may be handed over without delay or difficulty to the Police post cart or post riders at the point agreed. As at present advised I think this point should be Khamas New Town in Chapong Hills East of Palachive, where we ought to have a postmaster to whom all mails shall be delivered and who would hand over the Police bags to the Police postcart driver and forward to the Matabeleland mails at once ….'

The last Police post cart to carry civil mail reached Mafeking on 22 October 1889. Throughout this period, complaints about the Border Police and the indiscipline of its officers came from many quarters. Figure 2 is a letter to the Officer Commanding the BBP, Gabarones, from postal contractor Wirsing Brothers, complaining of the lack of co-operation and obstruction by police transport wagons on the roads preventing timely passage of the mail carts.

Bibliography

Dear Reader,
A special request...
If you change your address, please let our Membership Secretary know.
We do need to keep on top of our mailing list in order to ensure that you continue to receive your copy of The SA Philatelist.

Kindly notify Jill Redmond of any changes by sending an email to pfsasec@mweb.co.za or call 011 917 5304.
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RARITY AUCTION
Consign Now!
To cancel, or not to cancel...

With apologies to William Shakespeare’s Hamlet

by David Wigston, East Rand Philatelic Society

INCOME PROTECTION

To any collector, the cancelling of a stamp with a ballpoint pen is nothing short of sacrilege - the guilty party, none other than the servants of Royal Mail. Anyone receiving mail from the UK, particularly packages, will, at some other time, encounter the scourge of the ballpoint pen.

The purpose of a stamp is to prove payment for a service - delivery of the letter. The cancellation of the stamp has two purposes. For the Post Office it’s to ensure that the stamp is not used a second time to avoid payment for delivery. For the collector the cancellation provides evidence of when and where that stamp was used. However, given that in 2009, Royal Mail handled some 75 million items a day the chances are good that some items will miss being cancelled. There are a number of reason why this could happen.

- The letter is not processed through the correct machine configuration
- It was not detected by the machine, for example, due to a dirty scanner
- The printer may have run out of ink
- The printer may be faulty or not maintained

But stamps on parcels, packets, and large letters cannot be machine cancelled because of their size and have to be cancelled with a hand stamp. This is usually done at the receiving office and can be overlooked by the sheer pressure of work. It is then only during the manual handling of the item that an uncancelled stamp will be cancelled by means of a ballpoint pen.

This action led to such vociferous complaints from stamp collectors that in 2015 Royal Mail introduced a hand-stamping tool (Fig.2a&b) to postmen who are considered to be the last line in catching uncancelled stamps.

But, alas and alack, to no avail. As recently as November 2017, a vitriolic letter from a reader appeared in the Stamp Magazine expressing the contempt of Post Office workers for regulations. Then there were two more in the January 2018 issue. And so, it would seem, the ballpoint pen remains the tool of choice amongst postal workers.

As a postscript, Article RL117 of Article 8 in the Letter Post Manual issued by the Universal Postal Union in 2013 reads as follows.

4. Unless designated operators have prescribed cancellation by means of a special stamp impression, postage stamps left uncancelled through error or omission in the service of origin shall be cancelled by the office which detects the irregularity, using one of the following means:

4.1 with a thick line in ink or indelible pencil;

4.2 using the edge of the date-stamp in such a way that the name of the post office is not identifiable.

So, it looks like the ubiquitous ballpoint has won the day. Any comments?

OPERATION GUM-GUM

A new generation of people are now unaware that the re-use of unfranked stamps is considered serious fraud. In 1989 the police, in association with Royal Mail, started an investigation under the name of ‘Operation Gum Gum’. They built up evidence against a number of people who were buying kiloware, extracting unfranked stamps (and in some cases even cleaning off light postmarks), and selling them on to others. Those who were targeted found it a surprising and scary ordeal. Some individuals were arrested, some of these tried and convicted, and some ended up with prison sentences. For a while this had the predictable effect of stopping the re-use of used stamps without postmarks.

However, his brother, György Bíró, a chemist, created an ink with just the right viscosity. They gave their name, biro, to the invention and took out a patent on 15 July 1938.

With the outbreak of WWII Biro fled Hungary, eventually ending up in Argentina where he continued to develop the ballpoint. The pen gained popularity when the Royal Air Force placed an order for 30,000 for use by pilots. Unlike fountain pens which leaked and smudging and got his idea from watching a printing press which used quick-drying ink. Initially he used fountain pen ink, then tried printing ink; neither worked successfully.

The ballpoint pen was invented in 1938 by Ladislao José Biro, in Budapest, Hungary. He was frustrated with fountain pens blotting and smudging and got his idea from watching a printing press which used quick-drying ink. Initially he used fountain pen ink, then tried printing ink; neither worked successfully.

NOTE: When Biro left Hungary for Argentina, he changed his name from László József Bíró, to Ladislao José Biro.

Fig.1: Rendered worthless to any collector.

Fig.2a&b: Handheld, self-inking, canceller used by Royal Mail.

Fig.3: One that got away! A package received from the UK by the author, with no cancellation.
As in 2011 and each subsequent year, the South African National Defence Force (SANDF) was a major exhibitor at the Johannesburg Rand Show from 30 March to 8 April 2018. This annual trade and industry show is held at the Exhibition Centre (Expo Centre) in the suburb of Nasrec over the Easter holiday period. Field Post Office 3 (FPO 3) has participated at the Rand Show since 2011. Details of the use of the FPO 3 datestamp remain unchanged from previous years apart from the date, which have been recorded in previous issues of The South African Philatelist.

In 2018 a privately produced cover (Fig.1) and a postcard (Fig.2) issued by the Field Post Office received the datestamp on the first day of the show – 30 March 2018 – ‘Good Friday’.

**FIELD POST OFFICE 3 AT THE RAND SHOW, JOHANNESBURG, 2018**

by Jim Findlay RDPSA, Philatelic Society of Johannesburg and S.A. Military Mail Study Group

**Fig.1. A privately produced cover used on the first day of the Rand Show.**

**Fig. 2. A souvenir postcard issued by the Field Post Office for distribution at the show.**
REVENUES

REVENUE STAMPS OF THE UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA
Series Six (1954) - Queen Elizabeth II Head, and Series Seven (1954-1961) - Coat of Arms
by Dr Gerhard Kamffer RDPSA, Pretoria Philatelic Society

Introduction
The issue of the use of the effigy of the King in the design of the Union's Revenue Stamps was raised in parliament on 23 February 1943 by Dr P.J. van Nierop representing Mosselbaai for the Herenigde (Reunited) Nasionale Party when he asked the Minister of Posts and Telegraphs whether he intends changing the design of the revenue stamps so as to give them a more South African character. This tendency of a resurgent Afrikaner nationalism started during the Great Trek Centenary celebrations in 1938 and also had an impact on the postage and revenue stamp designs. The Queen’s Heads issue of 1954 was the last Union revenue stamp issue where the monarch’s head was used.

The Queen's Head issue was replaced by the Coat of Arms design for the Union revenue stamps from 1955 onwards. The National Party won the 1948 elections and after this date there was a new approach whereby they wanted to get of all symbols referring to royalty and South Africa being a “British Colony”. In this regard Minister Tom Naude, the Minister of Posts and Telegraphs, wrote to Minister Klasie Havenga, the Minister of Finance on 17 April 1954 requesting that “…ons nou hierdie seëls (the revenue stamps with the Queen's head) moet vervang en 'n Suid-Afrikaanse ontwerp moet gebruik, instede van die kop van die Koningin.” (He requested that the current revenue stamps in use with the head of the Queen as part of the design, must be replaced with a more ‘South African’ design). This was probably the reason why the Queen’s Head issue had such a short life span.

The Sixth Union Revenue Series issued in 1954: The Queen’s Heads
There were no revenue stamps issued in 1953 and the Queen’s Heads were printed by the Government Printer in Pretoria (Fig.1). According to the Day - book records of the Government Printer the 2d and 3d values were printed during February 1954, the 6d, 1/-, 2/- and 5/- values during June 1954 and the £1 stamp during August 1954 (Fig.2). The 2d stamp was again introduced after 21 years to cater for the 2d cheque fee (Fig.3). Certain values were also overprinted for Assize/Yk and Consular/Konsulair purposes (Figs.4 & 5). This series of stamps was only available for one year. These stamps were printed by the Government Printing Works in Pretoria in two colours on paper with watermark multiple Springbok head.

The Seventh Union Series (1954-1960): Coat of Arms design
This series introduced an entirely different type of stamp. The stamp is bilingual and the center plate contains the Coat of Arms of the Union of South Africa. This series was printed in two colours by the Government Printer in Pretoria with perforation 14 and watermark the Multiple Springbok head sideways facing left. Printing started in October 1954 in sheets of 120 stamps (Fig.6).

Although the date was printed in the background just below the Coat of Arms a system was introduced whereby ‘secret dots’ were printed on the stamps referring to a certain date (Figs. 7 & 8).
The position of these dots on the stamps was changed every year as a security measure. Stamps of 1954 and 1961 seem to have no ‘secret’ dots. The different positioning of the year-codes is illustrated below:

Stamps of this series were used on a variety of documents and were also overprinted for Penalty, Consular and Assize purposes and examples of these overprints should be included in any Union revenue collection (Figs.9, 10, 11, 12, 13 & 14).

The Seventh Union Series (1961): The Decimal Issues

The Union Government decided to move from Sterling to decimal coinage from 14 February 1961. This necessitated the production of a new series of revenue stamps with values expressed in the new currency. The same design was used as the Sterling issues and a total of 18 values from 1½c to R200 were issued (Fig.15).

Revenue stamps of decimal issue used between 14 February 1961 and 31 May 1961 when the Republic of South Africa was formed, can be regarded as the last revenue stamps used in the Union of South Africa.

The stamps used in this short period of 4½ months can only be identified by means of the date they were cancelled (Fig.16).

Stamps of Series 7: overprinted for the MAFUE and BASUBIA in the Eastern Caprivi Zipfel in South West Africa.

One of the most interesting overprints on Union revenues was done for the Mafue and Basubia tribes in South West Africa. In 1939 the administration responsible for the Caprivi Strip was officially split in two. The western Caprivi continued to be administered from Windhoek and the eastern Caprivi from Windhoek. The Mafue and Basubia were regarded as a special tribe living in that area and stamps with special overprint were issued (Fig.19).

Fig.3: The 2d stamp used on a cheque dated 1 July 1954.

Fig.4: Revenue stamps of Series 6 overprinted ‘Assize/Yk’ in September 1954.

Fig.5: Stamp overprinted ‘Consular/Konsulair’ by the Government Printer in Pretoria.

Fig.6: Example of the £25 revenue stamps printed in two panes of 60 stamps divided by a gutter. (Source: Post Office Archives Pretoria).

Fig.7: Example of the ‘secret dot’ in the bottom left corner indicating the year code 1958.

Fig.8: A 6d stamp with the year ‘55’ printed below the Coat of Arms and the year code printed in the top left corner.

Fig.9: Transfer Deed lodged on 2 August 1960 for a farm sold in the Britstown district for a purchase price of £25,496 and stamped with revenue stamps of Series 7 to the value of £174 10s. The duty to be paid was described as follows in the Stamp Duties and Fees Act of 1911: “Relating to immovable property – for every £10 or part thereof of the consideration or value – 6d”. 

The SA Philatelist, August 2018.
The SA Philatelist, August 2018.

The eastern Caprivi was the sole responsibility of the South African Minister of Native Affairs based in the South African capital, Pretoria. Subsequent SA legislation in 1951 and 1968 continued to distinguish between laws applied to SWA and the eastern Caprivi Strip. This arrangement was based on the remoteness of the region and the fact that it was closer to Pretoria than to Windhoek.

Otto Reisener has pointed out that the Post Office in Katima Mulilo was run by local inhabitants and used South African postage stamps in the 1970s despite the fact that it was technically part of SWA soil.

The Caprivi Zipfel Affairs Proclamation of 1930 made provision for the establishment of trust funds for the tribes in the Eastern Caprivi Zipfel (ECZ), see The SA Philatelist, August 2011, for an explanation of Native Taxation in SWA.

Two tribes, the Basubia and the Mafue were recognised by the Union government as the main inhabitants of the ECZ and stamps were made available for payment of these Native Tribal Levies (Fig.17). In line with the administrative arrangements for the ECZ these stamps were not overprinted ‘SWA’ although the overprints ‘MAFUE’ and ‘BASUBIA’ referred to two tribes located on SWA territory. The following was indicated in one of the Government Printer’s record books below examples of these stamps: Eastern Caprivi Tribal Levies and issued only to the Magistrate Katimo Mulilo via Livingstone Northern Rhodesia.

These interesting overprints can be included in both a Union or a South West African revenue stamp collection. The fact however remains that they are Union Revenue Stamps not overprinted ‘S.W.A.’ in the first place, but overprinted for two tribes on SWA soil.

Sources:
• State Archives, Pretoria: Union of South Africa, National Treasury, NTS 2548, File 622/293.

Fig.13: Visa issued on 1 April 1957 at the Office of the Embassy of the Union of South Africa in Brussels and the fee of 16s 8d paid with revenue stamps overprinted ‘Consular/ Konsulair’.

Fig.14: (above) Example from the Daybook of the Government Printer with the ‘ASSIZE/YK’ overprint that was done in June 1955. (Source: Post Office Archives, Pretoria).

Fig.15: Part of a sheet of 100 R100 revenue stamps out of the Daybooks of the Government Printer that was already printed in September 1960 in preparation for decimalization on 14 February 1961. (Source: Post Office Archives, Pretoria).

Fig.16: A Promissory Note (skuldbewys) for the sum of R1633.00 signed on 22 March 1961 in Zastron and stamped with the Series 7 Decimal Revenue stamps to the value of 85c. The Stamp Duties and Fees Act made specific provision for Promissory Notes to be defaced by a Postmaster: ‘Defacement by a postmaster will be effected by an impression of the postmasters’ steel office and date stamp showing the date of such defacement on each stamp denoting the payment of duty’.

Fig.17: The last revenue series of the Union overprinted in red for the MAFLIE and BASUBIA tribes in SWA. The five figures in black are an indication that these stamps were originally printed by the Goebel 840 machine (Source: Post Office Archives, Pretoria).
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The SA Philatelist, August 2018.
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South African Commissioner: Ian Matheson RDP SA
FIAP Co-ordinator. Dr Prakob Chirakiti, FIAP Patronage.
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General World All Classes
South African Commissioner: Vernon Mitchell.

Study Groups
EUROCIRCLE STAMP STUDY
Meetings in the Captain’s Table at Woodmead - last Wednesday of each month at 20h00 (except December).

TBVC STUDY GROUP
Contact: Chairperson Jan de long djhome606@gmail.com Secretary Eugene du Ploooy eugeneduploooy@gmail.com
Meeting 1st Saturday of the month at 09:00am for 09:15am at the Greek Orthodox Church Pretoria Stamp Fair. Corner Lynwood Rd & Roper St, Hillcrest, Pretoria - right opposite the entrance to the University of Pretoria

RSA SEEILSTUDIEGROEP
Vergader elke 2de Wensdag van elke maand, (Januarie, Maart, Mei, Julie en) by Filatledienste in Silverton. Kontak: djhome606@gmail.com. Doen uitstekende maandelikse maandeliks nuusbrief, 10vm.

SOUTH AFRICAN STAMP STUDY CIRCLE
Meetings: First Saturday of month at 13h00 at the Thornhill Manor Retirement Village Hall, Modderfontein. Contact: Secretary, Keith Perrow 083 379 6262, email: keith.perrow232@gmail.com

RHODESIAN STAMP STUDY
The Rhodesian Study Circle holds regular member meetings and events across the world. Visitors are welcome to attend. For more information on meetings, visit http://www.rhodesiastudycircle.org.uk/engage/meetings or Contact Us (http://www.rhodesiastudycircle.org.uk/about-us/contact-us/)

PINELANDS STAMP CIRCLE
Meets on the last Wednesday of every month (except December) at 19h30 in the Activities Hall of Pinelands Library, Howard Centre, (except December). Contact: Chairperson Jon de Jong djhome606@gmail.com, email: robrita@mweb.co.za

PHILATELIC SOCIETY PORT ELIZABETH
Meetings: 3rd Wednesday of the month, 70 Jarvis Road, Berea. Contact: Secretary: Carlos Da Fonseca 082 334 7603, Email: prestee@telkomsa.net

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WEST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY
Meet 3rd Wednesday monthly at 19h30 at Panorama Sports Grounds, Cornelius St, Weltevreden Park. PO Box 198 Florida Hills 1716. Contact: Andries Nel, 083 269 9374, Chairman or Secretary Ian Walker. Tel: 011 4721161. email: twalker@vodamail.co.za

PRETORIA, MPUMALANGA, LIMPOPO
PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY
Meets on the first Monday evening of the month at 19:30 at Statech Centre, St. Albans College, Clearwater Street, Lynwood Glen. Monthly newsletter, active exchange section and loads of expertise on traditional philately and postmarks. Day meeting meets every first Thursday of the month following the first Monday in Glen Carpendale’s shop, Kilner Park, Galleries, 6 Wilkinson Street, Kilner Park, Pretoria. Stamp displays, talks and socialising. President: André du Plessis. andredup@gmail.com 083 399 1755 Vice-President: Alex Visser. alex.visser@up.ac.za

AFRIKAANSE FILATELIEVERENIGING VAN PRETORIA
Vergader elke 3de Saterdag van die maand om 10:00 by Glen Carpendale se Seëlwinkel in Kilnerpark. Baie aktiewe groep wat gereeld bywoon. Nuusbrief 'Die Postduif' versky n maandeliks. Voorsitter is Petra Heath en Sekretaris is Herman van Niekerk. Contact: arnot@telkom.co.za

POLOKWANE PHILATELIC SOCIETY
Meet last Tuesday of every month Contact: Peter Gutsche, Box 11933, Bendor Park 0713. Tel 083 276 1124. email: pgutsche@mweb.co.za

THEMATICS SA PRETORIA CHAPTER
Meeting 1st Saturday monthly at the Greek Orthodox Church. Pretoria Stamp Fair @ 1000 for 10:15. Vibrant & active group of attendees – loads of expertise and lots of topical discussions. Group Leader: Helena Snyman. Helena.snyman@gauteng.gov.za

OFS PHILATELIC SOCIETY
Society meets every 4th Friday monthly, (except December), at 19h15 at the museum of the Boer Republics in Memorium Road, Bloemfontein. For information contact: Dr Neil Cronjé and Speaker. Burncree45@telkomsa.net, aubrey.bowles45@gmail.com

ZIMBABWE - BULAWAYO
Royal Philatelic Society of Zimbabwe meets the second Saturday of each month (except December) - 2:00pm for 2:30pm. At the National Natural History Museum, Park Road, Suburbs, Bulawayo. E-mail: phslsoc.zim@gmail.com

DE POSBOOM FILATELIE VERENIGING
Tweede Maandag van elke maand om 7nm Posbus10647, Danabaai, 6510. St Peter’s Kerkstraat, Marsh Straat, Mosselbaai. Jaarlike Algemene Vergadering: November. President: Japie de Vos 082 767 5004 / 044 695 0705 epo: sanjari@mweb.co.za Sekretaresse: Gerrie Conradie 082 952 6700 Tel / Faks 044 698 1074. epo: gajcon@gmail.com

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF KWA-ZULU NATAL
Meetings are held at the Classic Motorcycle Club, 137 Taria Road, Bluff, Durban at 10h00 on the 2nd Saturday of the month. Contacts: Zbigniew Kawecki, (President) 082 968 6888 Ted Brown, (Vice-President) 083 284 6554 Trevor Harris, (Secretary) 082 377 8465 email: trevor@3i.co.za

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HHPS, Durban, meets at the German Club, 7 Barnham Rd, off Essex Terrace, Westville. 09h00 - 11h30 every 2nd Saturday of the month. Open invitation to other Philatelic Societies and interested visitors - from beginners to seasoned collectors. Youth encouraged to attend. 'Theme' Exhibits & 'Show-and-tell' Frames by Members, Instructive talks and general networking. Free entrance. Teas/ coffees available. Safe parking. German Restaurant open for lunch. The Committee encourages past and new visitors to join us and get involved in this wonderful social hobby of Kings. President: Ian McMurray, ianjarvismcn@gmail.com Secretary: Bronwen Eduards, edwards@worldonline.co.za Memberships: Barry Lacey, lizeye@netsolutions.co.za

EDENVALE PHILATELIC SOCIETY
Meet first Saturday monthly at Thornhill Manor Retirement Village Hall, Modderfontein at 1pm Meetings consist of club competitions, workshops, themed events and many other fun activities. Membership is varied and mainly consists of general stamp collectors. Light refreshments are served. All are welcome - from the novice to more advanced collectors. Our Facebook page allows club activities to continue 24/7; search for Edenvale philatelic Society. All welcome. Contact: Colin Bousfield 082 309 8636

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG
For 2018 the meetings - Bishops at Woodmead. The second meeting of each month, except December, is held on the last Wednesday of the month. This is effectively a study group.

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JHB
President: Peter Gutsche, Box 11933, Bendor Park 0713. Tel 083 276 1124. email: pgutsche@mweb.co.za Meetings: 9am, 3rd Saturday monthly at the Greek Orthodox Church. Pretoria Stamp Fair @ 1000 for 10:15. Vibrant & active group of attendees – loads of expertise and lots of topical discussions. Group Leader: Helena Snyman. Helena.snyman@gauteng.gov.za

VOORSITTING: 1. Ordinary Stamp Club meeting every third Monday at 16h00 St Mathews Parish Hall, 115 Henketh Drive, Hayfields Pietermaritzburg 2. Thematics Group meeting every third Saturday at 08h00 8a Sanders Road Scottsville 3201, Pietermaritzburg The Executive Committee meets on the first Saturday of every month at 11h00. President: Dave Wyllie - Club President/ Competitions and Speaker. Treasurer: Heather Wyllie. Secretary: Aubrey Bowles. 082 316 3308. burncree45@telkom.co.za, aubrey.bowles45@gmail.com • Ron Buchell - Deputy Treasurer, • Janet Kimmence - Membership Secretary, • Gordon Bennett - Stamp Book Circuit Officer, • Graham Bruce - Librarian, • Joyce Hulse - Assistant Librarian, • Val de Jager - Catering Officer Publicity and Monthly Newsletter, information on Society activities can be obtained from Aubrey Bowles.

East Rand Philatelic Society
Meetings every first Monday monthly (Feb to Dec) Venue: Blairgowrie Recreation Centre, Park Lane (off Susman Avenue), Blairgowrie. Time: 7:30 for 8:00 PM. The society has an active exchange packet circuit and members with a wide range of philatelic interests. Visitors are welcome. For further information contact: Chris Carey 083 6622150 / 011 6732229 / ccarey@icon.co.za

Sandton Philatelic Society
Meets on the first Monday monthly (Feb to Dec) Venue: Blairgowrie Recreation Centre, Park Lane (off Susman Avenue), Blairgowrie. Time: 7:30 for 8:00 PM. The society has an active exchange packet circuit and members with a wide range of philatelic interests. Visitors are welcome. For further information contact: Chris Carey 083 6622150 / 011 6732229 / ccarey@icon.co.za

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SACC 337a

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