



******FORERUNNERS*

JOURNAL OF THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY FOR GREATER SOUTHERN AFRICA

Affiliated with the American Philatelic Society and the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa

Volume XXIV, Number 2, Whole No. 69

November-February 2010/11



Aerial view of the landing strip at Serowe, Bechuanaland.

Highlights

Folded and Mailed Airgraph Forms
Philatelic Microscope
Port Paye/Postage Paid Markings
The Color Purple and Bophuthatswana
Oranjevrijstaatsche Spoorwegen Envelope
Bechuanaland National Airways
Joburg 2010 Personalized Stamp
Griqualand West Surcharged Stamp
Botswana Cinderella
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The Philatelic Society For Greater Southern Africa

Founded 1987

OFFICERS

Founder

Bill Brooks, 2854 W. Calle Vista Dr., Rialto, CA 92377;
billpatti99@sbcglobal.net

President

Alan J. Hanks, 34 Seaton Dr., Aurora, Ontario, L4G 2K1, Canada;
alan.hanks@sympatico.ca

Secretary-Treasurer

David McNamee, 15 Woodland Dr., Alamo CA 94507;
dmcnamee@aol.com, tel. 1-925-934-3847

Directors

Bob Hisey (Treasurer Emeritus and Publications), 7227 Sparta Road,
Sebring, FL 33872; bobhisey@comcast.net
Timothy Bartshe (Library and Archives and Convention Coordinator),
13955 West 30th, Golden, CO 80401; timbartshe@aol.com
Jan Stolk (International Affairs), Waterhoenlaan 24, B-9120 Melsele,
Belgium; jan.stolk@telenet.be
Robert Taylor (Programs), 674 Chelsea Drive, Sanford, NC 27330, USA

Speciality Editors

Hans Ulrich Bantz (South West Africa and Namibia); P.O. Box 6913,
Westgate 1724, South Africa; ulib@mweb.co.za
Timothy Bartshe (Boer Republics), see address above
Alan Hanks (Rhodesians), see address above
Kendall Sanford (Aerophilately), 613 Championship Drive, Oxford,
CT 06478; kaerophil@gmail.com
Jan Stolk (Taxed Mail and Postal Stationery), see address above
Peter Thy (Bechuanalands), see address below

Web Page Editor

Clive Levinson, 186-8120 No 2nd, Suite 812, Richmond, BC, V7C 5J8,
Canada; clivel@bundu.com

Journal Editor

Peter Thy, P.O. Box 73112, Davis, CA 95617-3112; thy@kronestamps.dk

<http://psgsa.thestampweb.com>

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Stamp of the Issue.

Front Illustration:

Postcard showing an areal view of the landing strip at Serowe, Bechuanaland, probably in the 50's. Published by the Missionary Film Committee, 59 New Oxford Street, W.C.1.

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Vermeil at JOBURG, 2010; Vermeil at STAMPSHOW 2010, Richmond; Vermeil at CHICAGOPEX 2009; Silver at STAMPSHOW 2007, Portland; Large Silver at WASHINGTON 2006; Vermeils in 2005 at STAMPSHOW and C7NPLE, Toronto; Silver at CHICAGOPEX 2005; Silver-Bronze at LONDON 2000; Silvers at JOPEX 99, STAMPSHOW 99, and COLOPEX 99; Silver-Bronze at PACIFIC 97; Vermeil/Certificate of Merit at OKPEX 96; Large Silver at New Zealand National Philatelic Exhibition 96; Silvers at SESCAL 95, CAPEX 96, WAPEX 93, and HAFNIA 94; Silver-Bronze at ESPAMER 96, SINGAPORE 95, and PHILAKOREA 94.

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Editorial Notes

I keep being surprised when a new issue of Forerunners begins to take shape and it becomes clear that a new issue again will be ready on time for the printer. This issue is no exception. If you carefully scrutinizes it, you will discover two things. First, it is shorter than previously (only 28 pages instead of the customary 32 pages). Second, a fair number of the articles has been written by the Editor. This is the clear symptoms of an empty inbox. The remedy is fortunately simple: let the Editor have your contributions in time for the next deadline on June 15.

We have for some time seen that specialist society journals being offered in either a print or an electronic version. The electronic version is being distributed as email attachments so the member can print his/her own copy if so desired. The advantage of the electronic version is that the membership fees are less than if including the print version. As an example, the United Postal Stationary Society offers the electronic version at \$18 compared to the \$25 domestic fee, \$29 Canada, and \$44 for other countries. A substantial saving for the member, particularly if one lives in the 'other countries' part of the world, without affecting the financial status of the society. We would like to hear if you think that such an arrangement would be beneficiary to the PSGSA. Let the Editor have your comments.

Joburg 2010 is over and the results are now well known. Particular gratifying is a vermeil to Forerunners. The members of the PSGSA did also particularly well with several Golds and a Grand Award. Joburg 2010 was also the Editors first attempt at an international exhibition. Although the Large Vermeil award was very pleasing, the full story may be of interest and worth telling. Preparing myself for the application form, I discovered that oversized pages were not permitted. Since the exhibit I really wanted to show required several oversized pages, I opted for my second choice: the postal cards. Thus filling out the application I clearly stated that I wanted to show my 4 frames postal card exhibit (the experienced exhibitor has already here spotted the problem). I got notice that my 4 frame exhibit was accepted and I paid the various fees and communicated with the US commissioner. All apparently fine without any red flags. That is until the exhibit was framed and somebody finally discover that there only were four frames. I was told by the US commissioner that the judges wanted to reject my exhibit because five frames and not four were required. It caused a lot of trouble and a lot of effort at the frames by the US commissioner to make the judges make an exception for Joburg only. So carefully read regulations before submitting. And thanks to the US Commissioner!

The deadline for the next issue will be June 15. Please let me have your contributions - small or large - as soon as possible.

Instructions for Manuscript Submissions

Manuscripts should be sent to the appropriate member of the Editorial Board or directly to one of the Editors. Electronic versions of submissions are preferred either embedded in an email message, email attachments or on a floppy disk or CD. MS Word files are preferred. Avoid complex tables, unless in text format. Illustrations should be in color and scanned at least at 150 dpi and submitted in tif, gif, or jpg formats. Illustrations should not be embedded in manuscript files. Contact the Editors if you have any questions and your submission requires special attention. Needless to say, good old fashioned typed or hand written manuscripts and photocopies can still be submitted and are most welcome.

Vermeil to Forerunners

We were able in the last issue to break the news that Forerunners had been awarded a Vermeil at JOBURG 2010. Now it is official as the Editor has received the medal shown below. Congratulations to members and active contributors to the journal without all we could not have done it again.



Society Affairs

The Forerunners is the official journal of the Philatelic Society for Greater Southern Africa. The journal is published three times per year for the periods July/October, November/February, and March/June. Subscription to the Forerunners is included in the membership fees to the Philatelic Society for Greater Southern Africa (PSGSA). Membership fees are US\$25 for USA mailing addresses and US\$30 for all other addresses. Those that join before July 1st will receive the complete back issues for that year. Thereafter annual renewals occur in August and are due by September 1st. A sample copy of Forerunners is available from the Editor for \$6. Presentation issue can be freely downloaded together with application form from psgsa.thestampweb.com. Advertising rates can be found in the Market Place section. Payment options are (1) check drawn on a US bank and made payable to PSGSA, (2) £ Sterling checks made payable to E. Hisey, (3) US \$ or £ Sterling bank notes at the current exchange rates and mailed at the sender's own risk, or (4) PayPal plus \$1 fee to the Society Treasurer at dmcnamee@aol.com. All membership fees and other payments should be mailed directly to the Treasurer. All communications about membership, subscriptions, publications, activities, and services of the Society should be sent to the Secretary.

Back Issues Available

Back issues of the Forerunners are in stock and available for purchase. These are listed by whole number: #1-4, 6-9, 11-17, 22-27, 28/29,* and 30-63. The price per copy is #1-3, \$2; #4, \$4, #6-11, \$3; #12-13, \$4; #14-15, \$5; #16-17, \$6; #22-27, \$7; #28/29, \$10; #30-33, \$7; #34-69 \$6. Prices include shipping by lowest rate. Many back issues only exist in few remaining copies. Send orders to the Editor together with payment. * Combined as a British Africa Anthology with articles from 15 speciality groups celebrating PSGSA's 10th Anniversary during PACIFIC 97.



President's Corner

Greetings once again from Ontario, where the weather has been fairly kind to us northerners, alternating between clear, fine days and occasional deposits of the 'white stuff', but no major falls. In my last message, I referred to the upcoming celebrations for the "Double Head" anniversary gathering in London, which have been written up in the latest RSC journal, which arrived today (Feb. 24th) and will be summarised below.

The year 1910 was quite a remarkable year, since a commemorative 2½d stamp was issued for the Union of South Africa, following the Postmasters General conference in February. Edward VII had passed away and the stamp had the image of George V. English music enthusiasts were delighted when Ralph Vaughan-Williams produced his "Fantasia on a theme of Thomas Tallis", a popular work found on many polls of popular classical music!

In November, of course, the Double Head issue of Rhodesia appeared and after 100 years, new facts are still appearing on the intricacies of the issue. Double Head Centenary celebrations were held in London on November 11th and 12th, organised by Mark Thomas and other members of the Rhodesia Study Circle. The festivities were held at Dukes Hotel in the London St. James area, and the appropriateness of the DH abbreviation did not go unnoticed. Thursday the 11th was given over to discussions on the various ramifications of collecting the issue, with a buffet brunch produced by Dukes and later, following the afternoon session, a "grand evening dinner" with flowers, good food and wine, rounding off a day of convivial fellowship.

On Friday, the gathering was in front of the fabulous Vestey collection at Spink, with a couple of old time Double Head collectors present. Spink provided refreshments and Colin Hoffman, the R.S.C. Chairman, previewed and constructed a window into some very special and unique material. One of the members, Anita McCullough provided some "goodie bags" with an impressionistic design taken from the tiara of the Queen on the Double Heads! Among the contents of the bag was a 'hot off the press' pre-publication copy of the latest Memoir of cancellations on the Double Heads (R.S.C. Memoir # 16). I wish I had been able to attend! To finish off my column, a scan of some nice Double Heads seems appropriate.

Until next time...



Joburg 2010

by Ken Sanford



Entrance to Johannesburg 2010.

Johannesburg 2010 was held in the Sandton Convention Centre from 27 to 31 October. It was held under the auspices of the Philatelic Federation of South Africa and under the patronage of the Federation of Inter-Asian Philately (FIAP) and the International Philatelic Federation (FIP). Admission was free. The U.S. Commissioner was Kees Adema and the only U.S. judge was Stephen Schumann.

The Convention Centre is a modern facility and is next to a very large shopping & restaurant complex called "Nelson Mandela Square". It was also only a block away from the new high speed train from Johannesburg Airport called the "Gautrain". In spite of what some people have heard about safety in Johannesburg, I felt completely safe, even at night.

There were 301 exhibitors from 35 countries, and about 1,500 frames. A strong thematic section gave impetus to the thematic collecting of South Africa. There were 36 judges from around the world, all of whom were qualified at FIAP or FIP level.

There were 35 dealers with a mix between South African, British and others from Europe and Asia. There were booths from six postal administrations.

One of the most popular attractions was the South Africa Post Office booth where you could have your photo printed on a personalised stamp (see Uli Bantz' sheet on page 47).



South Africa Post Office Personalised Stamp Booth.

Various specialist societies held meetings during the exhibition, which included the following:

- Rhodesian Study Circle, where this writer gave the main display “Imperial Airways Crash Mail with a Rhodesian Connection”.
- Philatelic Federation of South Africa
- Thematics South Africa
- South West African Study Circle
- Transvaal Study Circle
- Postal Stationery Workshop
- Aerophilatelic Society of Southern Africa, where I also gave a display “Imperial Airways Crash Mail with a Southern Africa Connection”. Another one frame display was made by Adrian de Bourbon “The Airgraphs of Rhodesia”. Also, the last nine back copies of the Aeroletter (Numbers 92 - 100) were shown.

There were a number of functions, including:

- Philatelic Federation of South Africa reception
- China 2011 – 27th Asian International Stamp Exhibition reception.
- Philatelic Federation of South Africa Congress
- Tour of Maropeng at the Cradle of Humankind
- Palmare Banquet



Ken Sanford giving his display to Rhodesian Study Circle Meeting.

The following is a summary of the exhibits from the U.S. exhibitors and their awards:

- Timothy Bartshe – Orange Free State Republican Postage Issues, 1868 - 1900 – Large Gold & Special prize
- Mary Ann Bowman – Cape of Good Hope – The Triangular Issues – Large Gold & Special prize
- Keith Klugman – Classic Victorian Natal (1836-1879) – Large Gold & Grand National Prize
- Robert Hisey – The Official Overprints of South Africa, 1926 - 1949 – Gold & Special Prize
- Edward Laveroni – Imperial Postmarks of the Trans-Siberian Railroad Chelyabinsk to Manchzhuriya – Gold
- John Cress – Australian Airmail. The First Twenty Years 1914 - 1934 – Gold
- James Maxwell – Rates During the Post-War Chinese National Currency Era – Large Vermeil

Peter Thy – The Postal Stationery Cards of Bechuanaland – Large Vermeil

Claire Nutik-Nogid – Postal Stationery of the Palestine Mandate – Vermeil

Stephen Washburne – Portuguese Postal Cards of the Empire – Vermeil

Peter Thy – Forerunners. Journal of the Journal of the Philatelic Society for Greater South Africa – Vermeil & Special Prize from Philatelic Society for Greater Southern Africa



Dave Morton & Neville Polakow Conducting Meeting of Aerophilatelic Society of Southern Africa.

My overall impression is that it was a well run exhibition and everyone really enjoyed it.

(Photos by Ken Sanford & Terry Devine.)

Transvaal Study Circle 55 Years



The Transvaal Study Circle has commemorated its forty-fifth anniversary by a Royal Mail label attached to a first class celebration stamp. Only 400 labels exist. Contact the Editor if you must have this stamp in your Transvaal collection.

Congratulation to Jan Stolk

The Congress 2009 of the Philatelic Federation of South Africa, held on 29 October 2010, has awarded the Manfred Weinstein Memorial Medallion to Jan Stolk for his research and subsequent publications on postal stationery of South Africa and South West Africa. This is a most prestigious award and a great honor to be the recipient. Join me in congratulating Jan.



The new PFSA logo was unveiled during Joburg 2010.

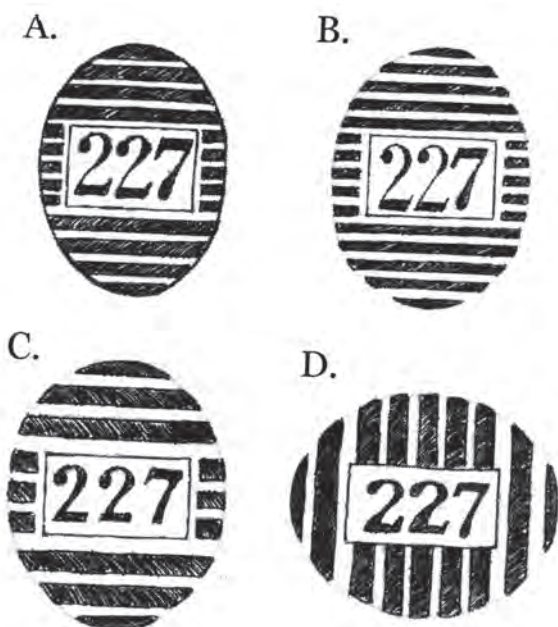
Postmark Quiz: Kimberley 227

by Peter Lodoen

The post office of Kimberley, the rail and diamond center then found in Cape Colony, stamped a great quantities of five Shilling Hope Standing adhesives with its trademark 227 oval.

Which of the following barred oval cancels is the imposter, and was never used in Kimberley?

A canceller similar to the incorrect oval, displaying the single digit 2, was used at Port Elizabeth.



Answer: A was not in use at Kimberley. However, the Editor think that Peter made an error drawing B. It should be a 5-6-5!

Promotional Exhibition Class

The recent FIAP Executive Committee meeting held on October 29, 2010 at Johannesburg, South Africa, approved a new exhibition class known as the "Promotional Class." This Class 13 will be implemented in CHINA 2011 (27th Asian International Stamp Exhibition) from November 11 - 15, 2011.

The objectives of the Promotional Class are to encourage collectors of Modern Philatelic materials to exhibit at the highest level and to demonstrate to Postal Administrations that there are an extensive body of philatelists who collect and study materials issued by them in the past 20 years (1990 - 2011).

The organizing committee is making this class available for exhibits complying with the special regulations for Traditional, Postal History, Postal Stationery, Aerophilately, Thematic and Revenue classes.

Qualifying exhibits for the promotional class must contain philatelic materials issued by Postal authorities within the last 20 years. Stamp series or philatelic topics chosen for this class which were substantially issued after 1990 are qualified as topics for the promotional class.

Promotional class exhibits will be judged according to the respective SREVs currently in force for the above-mentioned classes with the points awarded as follow:

Presentation	10 points
Treatment	30 points
Knowledge and Research	35 points
Condition (10 points)	
Rarity (10 points)	
Difficulty of Acquisition (5 points)	25 points
Total	100 points

The distribution of points available recognizes that Modern Philatelic material is worthy of study and in many instances is difficult to acquire, treat and present while the short passage of time since their issues have not provided an accurate indication of importance or rarity.

The promotional class will be treated as experimental and medals will not be provided, nor will they be recognized in the FIP/FIAP records. They will be appropriately recognized and encouraged by other means.

Acceptance of entry into the promotional class for CHINA 2011 will be based on the recommendation of national commissioners and at the discretion of the CHINA 2011 Organizing Committee. Exhibitors are entitled to apply for three frames per exhibit. Acceptance of any entries in the promotional class will not preclude acceptance of entries in any other class. All other requirements of the IREX will apply.

Postcard from Ken Sanford



I just got back from a trip to Victoria Falls (on the Zambia/Zimbabwe border) and South Africa. The highlight was a 30 minute flight in a micro-light aircraft over Victoria Falls. Shown is a photo taken from a wing tip camera. You are not allowed to take your own photos because of the danger of dropping the camera and it going into the propeller, which is immediately behind you.

For you aerophilatelists, no covers were flown on this flight.

On Folded and Mailed Airgraph Forms

by Peter Thy

Airgraph forms were required to be completed by the sender and to be handled in over the counter at a post office. As an alternative, for privacy reasons or simply for convenience, completed airgraph forms could also be submitted in cover postage free to 'Airgraphs Foreign Section,' at least in London. The receiving clerk was required to check that it fulfilled the requirements to be accepted. Most important among these requirements was that a service indeed should be available to the intended destination.

This necessary requirement was (and still is) subject to considerable confusion. For example, a postal customer who wished to mail an airgraph to reach Cape Town, South Africa, only would have four options when the service was fully developed (from London, Melbourne, Wellington, or Naples (the Allied Forces from June 1944)). If the costumer was located in Cape Town and wanted to send an airgraph, it would have to be transmitted to one of three airgraph processing facilities (London, Melbourne, or Wellington). There was thus no direct airgraph connection between South Africa and India, although such traffic could have gone via Cairo with forward transmission by the regular mail system. It is perhaps more surprising that there were no direct service between South Africa and the Italian and Mediterranean war theaters, probably because of sufficient transport and supply flights and ships serving the South African troops. It should also be understood that the services were slowly build-up and changed as the war progressed. Also remember that a fully reciprocal service required two components (filming and printing), which were not always simultaneously installed at a location. The first experimental service was established in April 1941 from Cairo to London. The airgraph service was from that point slowly expanded to include most of the British Empire engaged in war activities to both military and civilian uses until finally terminated in July 1945 at the London hub. As an example, the Johannesburg, South Africa, plant was established in May 1942 and transmitted airgraphs to the London, Melbourne, and Wellington plants (the latter two from Aug. 1943). The airgraph services in southern Africa thus only operated for about 3 years with an ever changing and expanding framework.

The list of countries to which the airgraph was available was with regular intervals made public. The London Post Office thus, as an example, listed eastern African (Zanzibar, Tanganyika, Kenya and Uganda), Indian Ocean (Reunion, Mauritius, and Madagascar), and southern African (Southern Rhodesia, South Africa, Nyasaland, and Northern Rhodesia) countries that could be served from the Nairobi and/or Johannesburg facilities using the local postal services and routes. Each facility had its own delivery envelope that identified the printing plant. In some cases when envelopes were not available, the printed airgraph was simply folded and sealed and went through the mail such

that only the address panel could be seen (e.g., the Cairo facility).

The main function of the receiving postal clerk was, as already said, to ensure that a service was available to the destination of an airgraph. If not, the airgraph was rejected and returned to the sender with a marking or notice stating the reason for the rejection. Keeton (1987), Collyer (1988), and Kulpinski (2003) illustrate examples of returned airgraphs and associated explanation forms. The airgraphs are mostly marked with various handstamps or manuscript markings stating 'No Airgraph Service,' or the like. It appears that some may have been returned in an envelope with explaining form, but others may have been folded and returned without cover through the mail, although it is difficult to tell from the available illustrations. An Ceylon example of a rejected airgraph form was shown by Menuz (2007) addressed to South India that includes a note on the front written by the sender and stating that the form was rejected by the Colombo post office. The imprinted stamps on the reverse were thus not cancelled and the sender must later have forwarded it under cover. The reason was simply that airgraphs were not exchanged between the Colombo and Bombay facilities.

More problematic for the Airgraph Service was clearly how to handle airgraph forms that were accepted and cancelled despite that a service either never existed or was unexpectedly terminated at end of the service in 1945. Watson and Menuz (2009) illustrate and discuss such a Ceylon airgraph form without any markings or attached label. The form has four prominent horizontal folds that would have allowed it to be forwarded in the mail only showing the address box. The illustration, however, does not clearly reveal remains of sealing or stable holes and also shows less prominent vertical folding. Kulpinski (2003) shows a very similarly treated form again without explanatory marking and label, but dated 1944 well before termination of the airgraph service. The lack of explanatory forms for these can simply be that they were either lost in the mailing or removed by the recipient.

Other forms that were folded and forwarded in the mail exist. Three examples are discussed here. The first (Figure 1) is an Indian or Ceylon airgraph dated August 1944 and addressed to South Africa. A label simply states that it was sent by ordinary mail because no services to South Africa existed. The form that was accepted by canceling of a 3d stamp on the reverse was simply folded three times vertically to allow the address label and part of the instructions on the reverse to be seen. The folded form was stabled in each ends and an explanatory label was also stabled to the front in part covering the address box. The alternative treatment would have been to place the form in the airgraph submission to London and from there to have if forwarded by regular mail as a printed airgraph in a British envelope, as sometime happened. The second form (Figure 2)

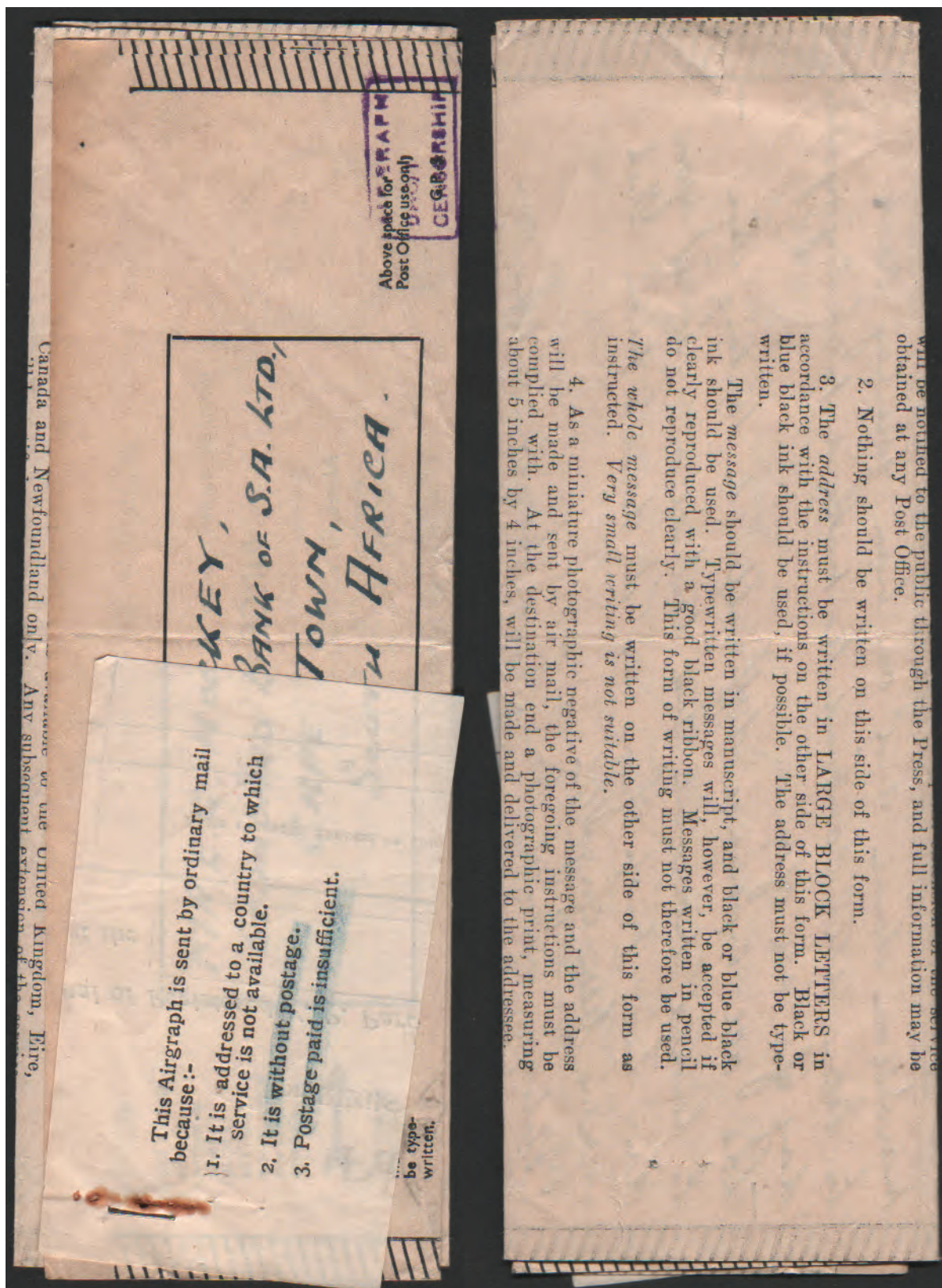


Figure 1. Folded Indian airgraph to South Africa.

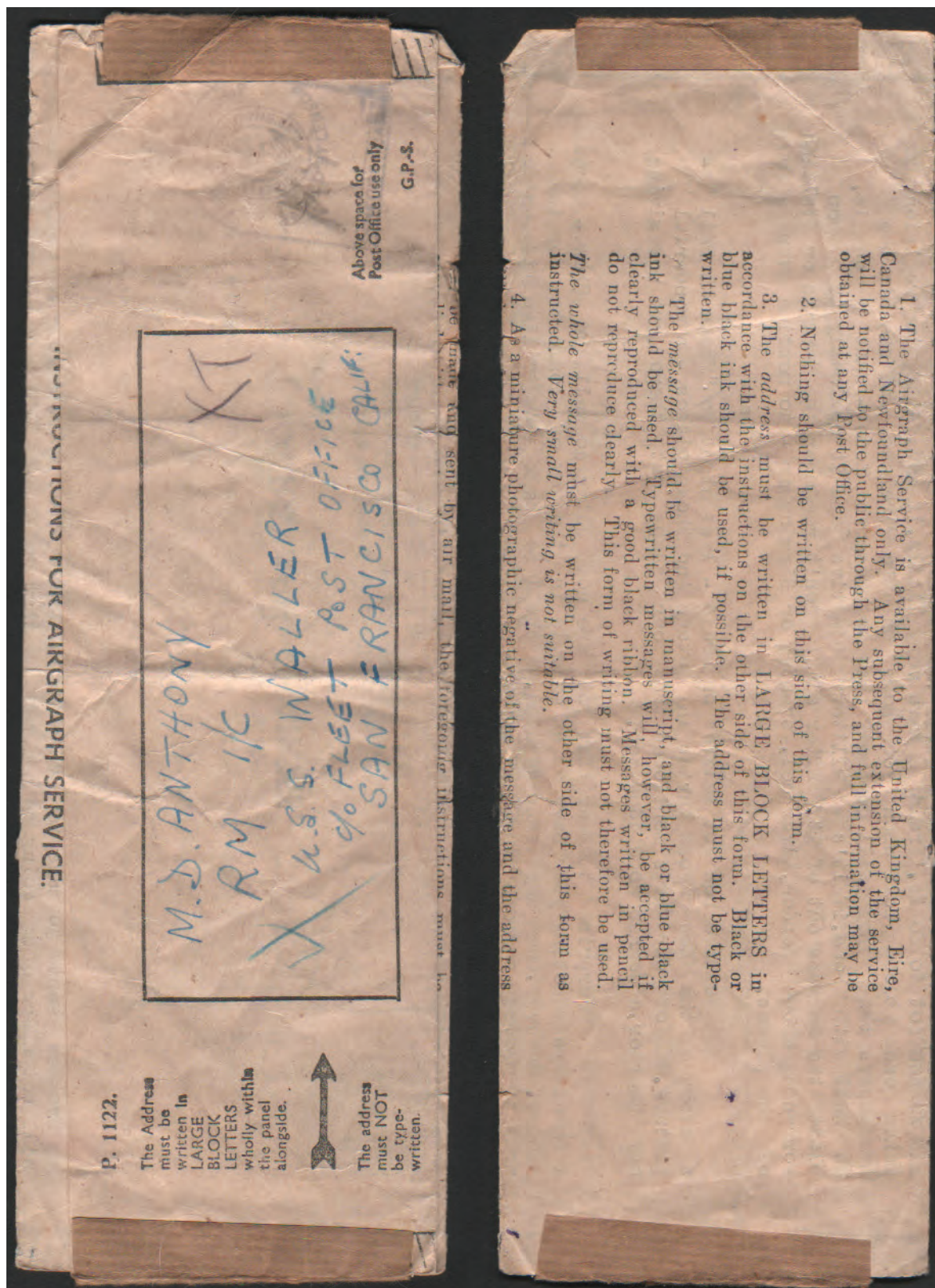


Figure 2. Folded South African airgraph to Fleet Post Office, San Francisco, USA.

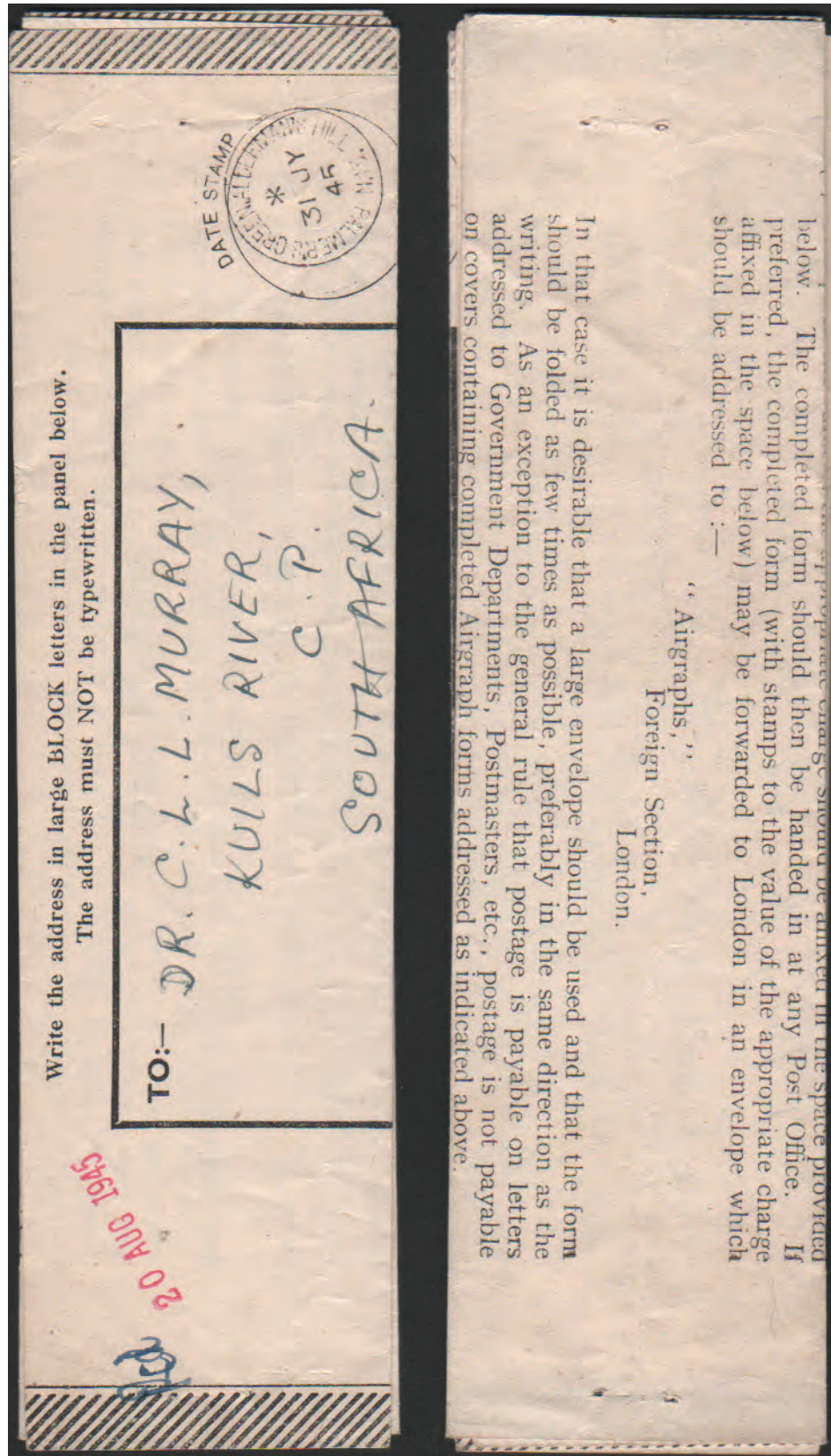


Figure 3. Folded British airgraph to South Africa.

is a South African form addressed to San Francisco in 1944. There is no explanatory markings or labels. The form was again folded three times and sealed at both ends with tape. The reason is simply that no service was available to the US from South Africa (or any other airgraph location). The final form (Figure 3) was accepted at British post office on 31 July 1945 addressed to South Africa. It was after some trials folded four times to allow the address box and date stamp to be seen on the front and part of the instructions on the reverse. The folded form was again stabled. The reason for the rejection by the airgraph service was that it was too late for the last airgraph dispatch to South Africa. A receiving red date stamp is seen left to the address box.

All the folded forms show no postal marking that could have traced the route to the destination, except for the dispatch office's cancelling on the stamp on the reverse. There is also no indication whether the forms went by air or surface mail. This commonly was the way airgraphs were treated. Since the sender had paid for an expedited air service it is probably that this privilege was also extended to the folded airgraph forms that was left stranded without any clear fault of the sender.

The folding pattern of the forms is clearly a matter of interpretation since many forms also show sign of (less dominating) vertical folding. There are two obvious reasons for this. The recipient may have vertically folded the airgraph form to better fit the size to the regular printed airgraphs. But there is another perhaps more obvious reason. As mentioned earlier, airgraph forms could be mailed under cover to the London airgraph office (probably likewise to other facilities). The instructions seen on the reverse of the form shown in Figure 3 clearly outlines the procedure: "If preferred, the completed form (with stamps to the value of the appropriate charge affixed in the space below) may be forwarded to the London in an envelope which should be addresses to :- 'Airgraphs,' Foreign Section, London.' In that case it is desirable that a large envelope should be used and that the form should be folded as few times as possible, preferably in the same direction as the writing." It is in this connection interesting that contemporary photos from the London airgraph handling facility illustrate a large flat press used to flatten the forms prior to filming.

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Philatelic Microscope

by Peter Thy

Stanley Gibbons has for some time offered a ZOOM Digital Microscope. The microscope attaches to and is powered by a computer (PC and MAC) using a UBS cable. The microscope is controlled by a small program with a rather skimpy guide. Go to monitor/video settings/source to set the source to camera. Place the microscope on top of the item that you wish to examine and adjust focus and magnification. When satisfied click the bottom on top. The image appears in jpg format in a window that can be saved in various formats. Unfortunately there is no magnification scale build-in, but that can easily be constructed by the user. An example is illustrated here together with the original stamp and a standard computer scan done at 1200 dpi. The reader can judge the results and make his/her own conclusions.



Microscope image



Computer scan.

Port Paye/Postage Paid/Postgeld Betaal Markings

by Jan Stolk

From 1966, these markings are found on mail to countries abroad, posted in a letter box; the postal item should have a senders name and address within the Republic of South Africa. Also 75 % of the airmail postage must be paid. With less than 75 % postage paid, the letter would be sent by surface mail.

The Post Office would forward the letter to its addressee with the Postage Paid marking applied and at the same time send the sender a request card P1/191A to affix stamps for the deficiency on the card. This was called the honoured system which was in use till 1st September 1980. After this, payment would be delayed before being forwarding.

The Postal Guide of February 1996 states that the system is only used at the following major post offices:

Blomfontein
Durban
Cape Town
East London
Germiston

Johannesburg
Kimberley
Pietermaritzburg
Port Elizabeth
Pretoria

The guide also states that at least 50 % of the postage should have been paid.









Figure X1.

Figure X2.



Reduced to 75 %
of the originals.

P.D.MARKING	SIZE	USED AT	EARLIEST DATE	LATEST DATE
 X 1	27 mm red/purple	Tzaneen Cape Town Pieter Maritzburg Pretoria Johannesburg Springs Germiston Port Elizabeth Vanderbijlpark	22/05/1969	6/01/1997
 X 2	35 mm red	Tzaneen Johannesburg	14/08/1986	16/06/1991
 X 3	25 mm red	Pretoria	26/08/1996	
 X 4	26 mm red	Pretoria	12/05/1999	8/03/2001
 X 5	30 mm red	Vereeniging	25/01/1994	11/10/1995
	50 x 33 mm black	Secunda	31/03/1990	

Reduced to 95 % of original.



Figure X3.

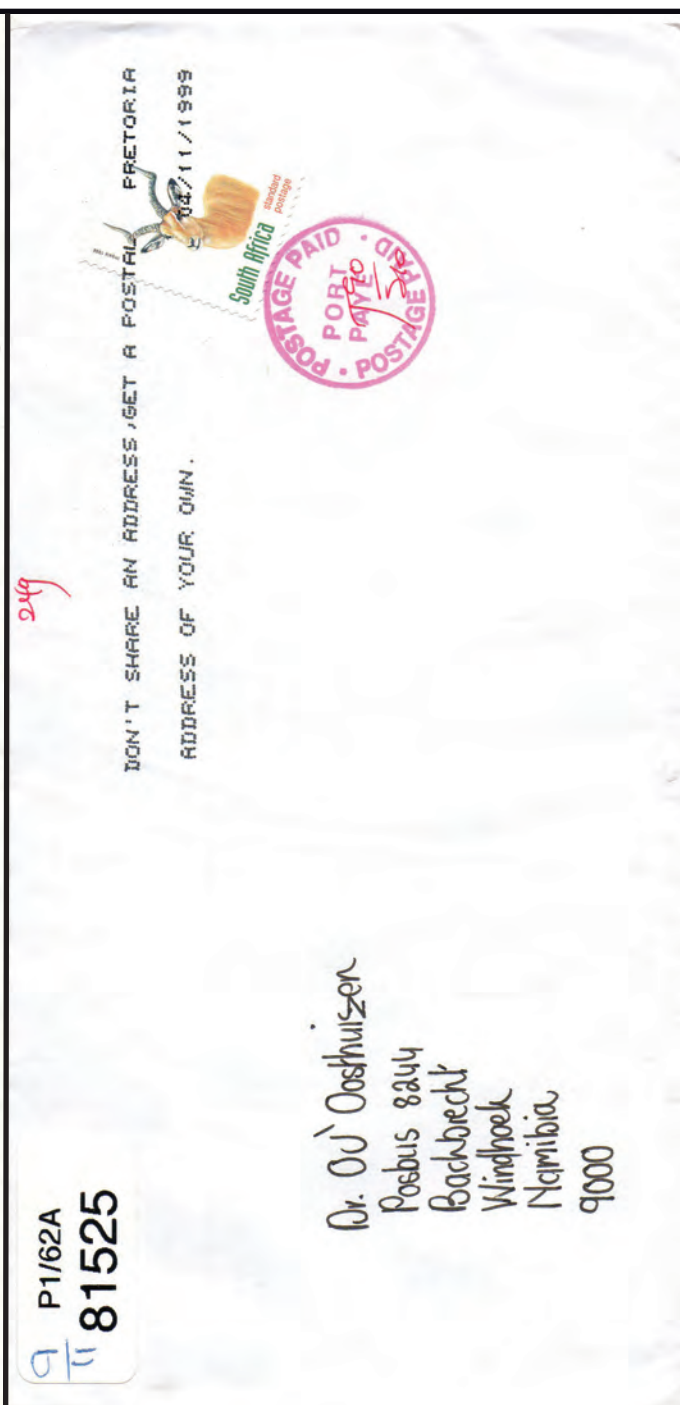


Figure X4.



The Colour Purple

by Tony Davis

When I was working in South Africa during the 1970s and early '80s, I was always amused when travelling to the Southern Africa resort complex of Sun City in neighboring Bophuthatswana that after leaving Rustenburg and arriving at Phokeng township one came across the highway billboard signs “you are now leaving South Africa” and “you are now entering Bophuthatswana” and these signs would continue back and forth as the road weaved in and out and you entered-and-left the two coexisting territories.

and turning around I saw that a line-up had instantly drawn up behind me, also seeking autographs.

Bophuthatswana (1977-1994) was a collection of seven parcels of land where South African government authorities consolidated and resettled communities of Tswana-speaking people, removing their South Africa citizenship and making them citizens of this new ‘country’ (Figure 1). There was some logic to the larger parts of Bophuthatswana that were adjacent to the Botswana border in the Northern Cape and Western Trans-

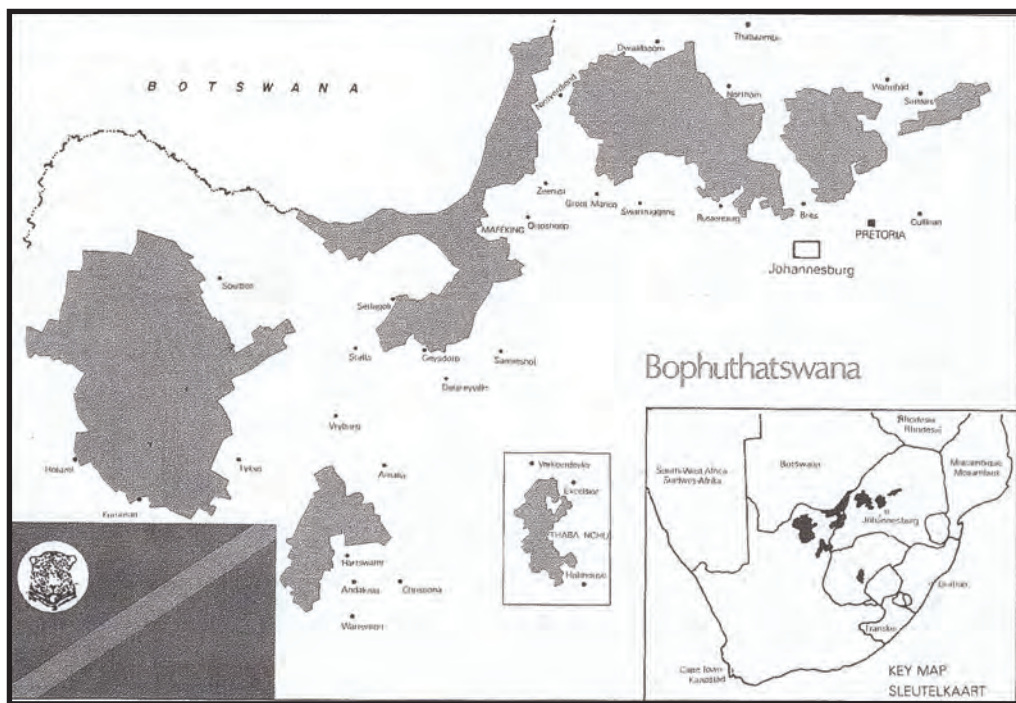


Figure 1. Map of Bophuthatswana issued by Bophuthatswana authorities, 1977.

My philatelic interest in Bophuthatswana was first sparked when I attended as a journalist the independence celebrations in Mmbatho (near Mafeking) on December 6, 1977. Visiting the nearby Montshiwa township I dropped into the post office there to pick up some philatelic souvenirs. I mailed some registered covers to Canada, thinking in the back of my mind that - similar to mail from UDI Rhodesia - these Bophuthatswana covers would be franked with invalid postage markings or revenue stamps as the homeland was not recognized outside of South Africa and its sister independent homeland of Transkei. It didn't happen however, the Canadian postal authorities kindly delivered the mail to my parents' home near Toronto without any surcharges.

While at the Montshiwa post office I happened to meet up with Bophuthatswana's Secretary for Foreign Affairs, Mr. R. Ramphele, whom I'd previously interviewed, and he graciously offered to autograph a Bophuthatswana first day cover for me. While handing it back to me he expressed "oh, no, Mr. Davis"

vaal, but what sparked my philatelic interest was the single tiny enclave in the southern Orange Free State province, centered around the town of Thaba Nchu, west of Bloemfontein. The northern regions were separated by corridors that remained part of South Africa, usually for military, agricultural, transportation and other economic reasons.

In 1982 it came to the attention of some philatelic colleagues that the Ga-rapulana postal authorities in this southern portion were using a colored relief cancel in purple on its mail. Colored postmarks for registered or other special delivery services are not uncommon, but not for regular mail.

I arranged for a friend who was travelling through the area to have some letters mailed to me in Johannesburg by regular and registered post. As one can clearly see (Figures 2 & 3), regular and registered mail received the same purple handstamp in November 1982. The reverse of the registered letter also includes a Bloemfontein postmark. An example of Ga-rapulana registered mail from July 1981 (Figure 4) has an ordinary black



Figure 2. Regular mail from Ga-rapulana, dated 12 Nov. 1982.



Figure 3. Registered mail from Ga-rapulana, dated 12 Nov. 1982.

double circle strike (and transit postmark from Thaba Nchu). I also have a photocopy of another Ga-rapulana cover dated August 1981 which has the large purple relief strike.

In April 1983 I subsequently learned that a single circle purple datestamp was also in use in the northern Bophuthatswana town of Motswedi (adjacent to the Botswana border). I again obtained a couple of examples of what is a simple postmark with the name and date only (Figure 5). Another example of registered Bophuthatswana mail is a cover from Itsoseng (near Lichtenburg), dated May 14, 1981, in red ink, shown as Figure 6.

What is the reason for not using the standard black double

circle postmark on regular and registered mail at this time and why the usage of various colored inks? Several viewpoints come to mind:

- * temporary replacement due to damage or loss of the regular black double circle datestamp
- * mere caprice – a postal official liked using colored inkpads
- * some postal regulation requiring certain postmarks on certain mails (i.e. by route)
- * lack of central controls for franking mails

Note: Bophuthatswana postal authorities operated under much the same practices as their South African counterparts.

Perhaps a reader can conclusively address this issue?

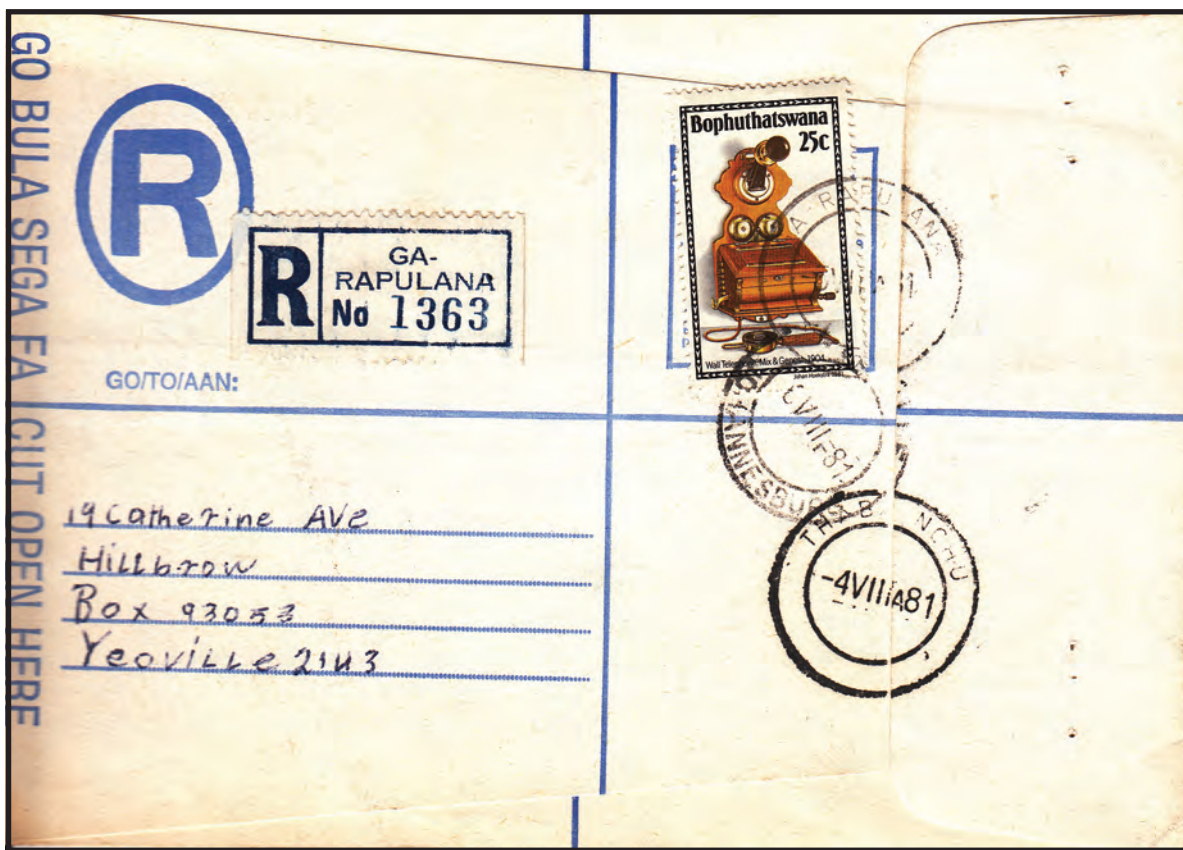


Figure 4. Registered mail from Ga-rapulana, dated 3 VIII 1981.

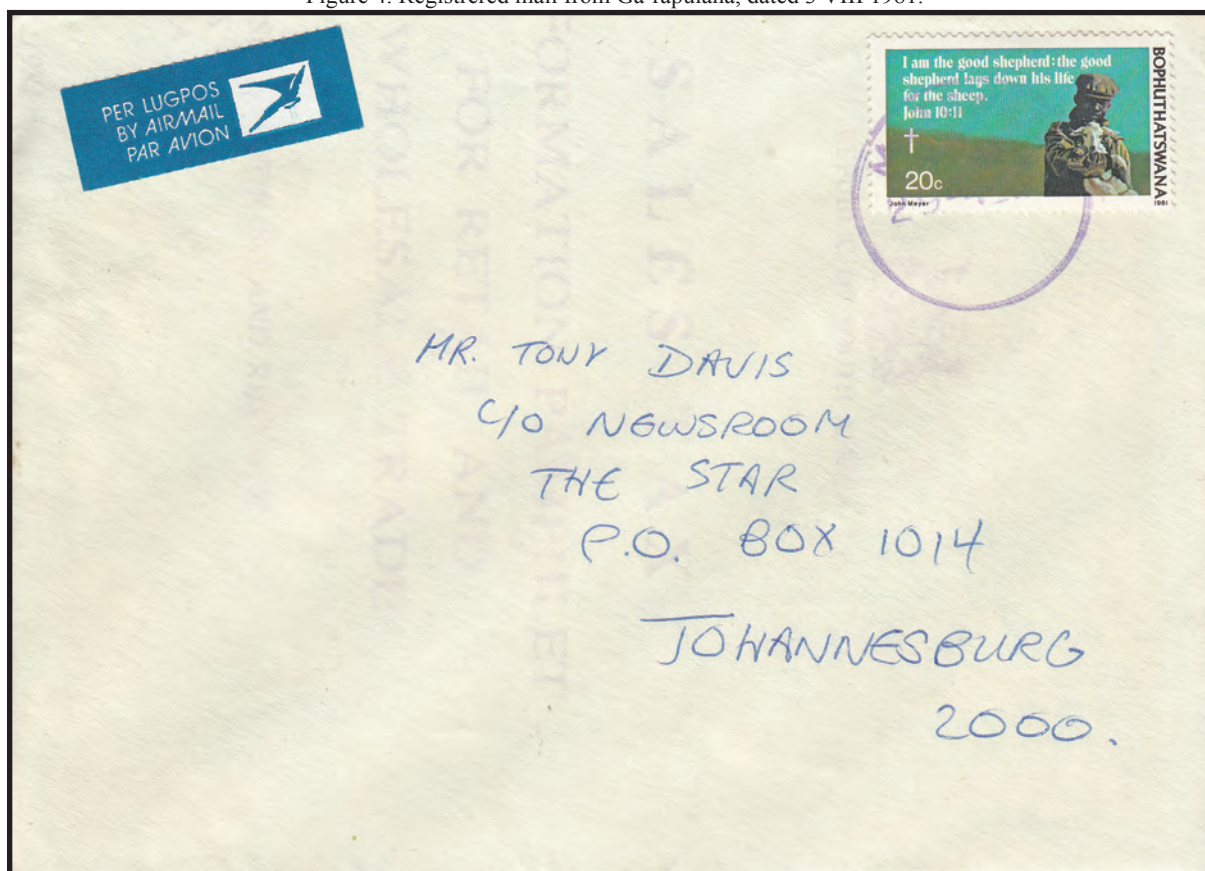


Figure 3. Airmail letter from Motswed, dated 29 Apr. 1983.



Figure 6. Registered mail from Itsoseng, dated 14 5 1981.

Official Oranjevrijstaatsche Spoorwegen Envelope by Tim Bartshe



Rare and unusual official envelope printed-up for use by the OVSS (Oranjevrijstaatsche Spoorwegen) at the important offices of the system. This envelope is a size G3A (238 x 108 mm.). It is "countersigned" by the Landrost of Kroonstad and was mailed 19 April 1900 arriving in Johannesburg the next day. Bloemfontein had then fallen and the government had moved north. Not only a rare usage during the final days of the war of the Republic, but a rare official envelope as well. Reduced to 75 % of the original.

Aircrafts of the Bechuanaland and Botswana National Airways

by Peter Thy

The following photos of aircrafts belonging to Bechuanaland and Botswana Airways have puzzled me a bit. Perhaps some of your readers can provide resolutions despite there being little aerophilately involved.

Bechuanaland National Airways was based in Francistown and operated from November 1965 initially with two Douglas C-3s. The airline operated domestically to seven cities from Francistown. International destinations were from Francistown to Bulawayo and to Livingstone and from Lobatsi to Johannesburg. The airline was taken over by Botswana National Airlines in late 1966.

The first photo (Figure 1) shows what I have been told is a Douglas C-54A Skymaster (VQ-ZEC) belonging to Bechuanaland National Airways, presumably having replaced the early DC3s. The background suggests that it has landed, or is about to take of, at London-Gatwick Airport. The photo most likely was from 1966, but it is possible that Botswana National Airways

flew the aircraft so close to independence. The second photo (Figure 2) shows the same aircraft prior to departure also at Gatwick (the truck below the tails display 'Gatwick ..' on the side).

The problem is however, what did a Bechuanaland National Airways aircraft do in Gatwick since the airline did not have any London flights scheduled?

The third photo (Figure 3) shows a Botswana National Airways aircraft (AZ-ZEF) on the tarmac of an unidentified airport. Botswana National Airways suspended operations in late 1969 (Air Botswana was born as late as 1972). The airline operated from Gaborone to Livingstone, Lusaka, and Johannesburg. Later was also included Bulawayo. The aircrafts listed as having been used is Vickers Viscount, Fokker F-27 for the regional flights. Domestic flights mostly utilized a Britten-Norman Islander or a Beech Baron.

Can anybody identify the type of aircraft on the photo and perhaps also the landing field/airport?



Figure 2.

Figure 1.





Figure 3.

Personalized Stamp from Joburg 2010

by Uli Bantz

Uli Bantz has forwarded a copy of the JOPEX 2010 sheet of personalised stamps showing his wife Elsa and himself on the tabs attached to the standard postage stamp. The postal value of the sheet is R12.00 (5 x R2.40 fee for a STANDARD inland letter). They had to purchase the sheet at R50, went to the the photographer, and then collected the sheet later after it had been processed. Uli explains “that it is not really a personalised stamp: it’s stamps with tabs. Personalised would have been a frame with our picture inside. But then we would have been licked and cancelled when used on an envelope.”



For the Record

132. **Spink** sold the “**Wilkin**” collection of **West Africa postal history** and the **Vestey** collection of **British Africa** in their December 2010 sale. The later contained a large section of 110 lots of **Cape of Good Hope triangulars** in addition to strong selections of **Swaziland** and **Transvaal**.

133. **Cherrystone** sold in December 2010 a collection of **German East Africa**. A total of 200 lots were offered very strong in postal history.

134. The **Bartolomeu Dias** journal of the **FVZA** has got a new editor and greatly improved the quality of printing and organization. It is now possible to identify authorship to the main articles. The new journal is in A4 format and in full colors. Congratulations to the FVZA.

135. The **Philatelic Literature Review** of the **APS** has continued it's listing of philatelic exhibits available from the **APRL**. This time **South Africa** is included with only one exhibit by Bob Hisey.

136. The **South African Post Office** released in October 2010 in connection to **World Post Day**, a miniature sheet celebrating **print techniques** used for South African stamps.

137. **Linn's Stamp News** in a regular feature ‘Tip of the Week’ points out that the “**Orange Free State military stamp (Scott M1)** in used condition is undervalued and is a good buy in the \$50 price range.” See *Forerunners* #63, p. 32 for some background information.

138. The **world's largest stamp mosaic** was unveiled at **Joburg 2010**. It is 90 feet wide and 20 feet high. It received a **Guinness World Record** certificate. <http://rainbowstampclub.blogspot.com/2010/10/worlds-largest-stamp-mosaic-created-at.htm>

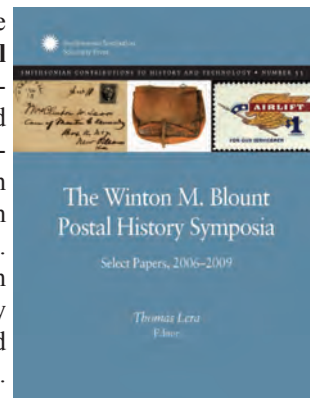


139. **NamPost** has released its 2011 **stamp program**. Included are a lot of animals and nature stamps: the Big Five, frogs, endangered marine life, aloes, grebes, and grasses. Order from www.nampost.com.na.

140. **Otto Peetoom**, Ormskirk Stamps has released his 2011 price list 34 containing offerings of **Basutoland, Bechuanaland, and Swaziland**. Contact Otto Peetoom for other lists and get on his mailing list by visiting www.southafricanstamps.net.

141. A reader wishes to draw our attention to the 4th edition of “**Historical Railway Postcard Journeys in Southern Africa**” by **Rhind and Walker** (ISBN: 0958415668 / 0-9584156-6-8). Of particular interest may be Chapter 6 Kruger's Railway and Chapter 7 The Quickest Route to Mashonaland.

142. Selected articles from the ‘**Winton M. Blount Postal History Symposia**’ 2006-2009 have been published by the Smithsonian Institution. The whole volume can be downloaded free from <http://www.scholarlypress.si.edu/>. It is Smithsonian Contributions to History and Technology, No. 55 and was edited by Thomas Lera.



New Books

Burke, S., Reah-Johanson, S., and Berry, J., 2010. Postmarks on the 1910-1913 ‘Double-Heads’ Issue and their Rarity. Memoir 16, Rhodesian Study Circle, 128 pages. Available from Publications Officer (Brian Coop), 5 Warwick Court, St. Neots, Camb PE19 8HH, UK. £18 surface and £23 air-mail.

Hackmey, J., 2010. Kap der Guten Hoffnung. Band 22 Edition D'OR, Heinrich Köhler Auktionshaus, Wilhelmstraße 48, D-65183 Wiesbaden, Germany.



Hurté, M.A. 2010. Catalogue Mondial des Coupons-Réponse, Tome 1, Pays de “A” a “H”. Bibliothèque de l'Académie de Philatélie. Information on ordering may be obtained from brigitte.abensur@wanadoo.fr. Base cost of the catalogue is €55. Shipping is €9. Payment outside of the Euro-zone can be made via PayPal at an additional cost of €2.50.

Highlights From Journals and Newsletters

- Barth, J., 2010. CGH: the octagonal postmarks. Cape and Natal Philatelic Journal v. 14, 126-136.
- Board, C., 2010. The first day if issue of the Union commemorative stamp in the Transvaal. Transvaal Philatelist v. 45, 96-97.
- Dickson, J., 2010. Kaapse Plakkaat of 1785 – 1792. Cape and Natal Philatelic Journal v. 14, 149-152
- Dickson, J., 2010. Spme Cape postal notices 1806 – 1810: the inland post. Cape and Natal Philatelic Journal v. 14, 144-147.
- Drysdall, A., 2010. A letter from a lonely philatelist. Journal Rhodesian Study Circle no. 237, 198-199.
- Drysdall, A., 2010. The Curle collection. Transvaal Philatelist v. 45, 72-73.
- Frescura, F., 2010. When celestials came amongst us. Chinese miners on the Rand, 1904-1910. South African Philatelist v. 86, 156-163.
- Higson, A., 2010. A return to southern Africa: a personal view of Joburg 2010. Transvaal Philatelist v. 45, 74-77.
- Higson, A., 2010. The 1901 1d overprinted "E.R.I/" with the "E." omitted. Transvaal Philatelist v. 45, 95.
- Hurst, B., 2010. 1884-5 military telegraph stamps and their use during the Warren expedition to annexe the Bechuanalands. A display. Runner Post no. 79, 1987-1994.
- Kalkhoven, V., 2010. More on CGH briefstok letters. Cape and Natal Philatelic Journal v. 14, 139-141.
- Leefflang, B., 2011. De speurtocht naar Granaatfontein. FVZA Bartolomeu Dias no 2011-1, 4-5.
- Richards, C., 2010. Printing of Zimbabwe's stamps by Natprint. Journal Rhodesian Study Circle no. 237, 203-204.
- Schemper, B., 2010. Chirundu. Edited extracts from a study for the RSC, Harare, Zimbabwe. Journal Rhodesian Study Circle no. 237, 194-197.
- Stanford, T., 2010. Mor eon CGH and Natal perfins. Cape and Natal Philatelic Journal v. 14, 138-139.
- Swart, D., 2010. Early airmails of the Belgium Congo. South African Philatelist v. 86, 170-171.
- Thy, P., 2010. On folded and mailed airgraph forms. Postal Stationery no. 375, 182-185.
- Trotter, B., 2010. The opening of Rhodesia – early mails 1860 to c. 1900. A display and presentation by Colin Hoffman to the RPSL on 30 September, 2010. Journal Rhodesian Study Circle no. 237, 192-193.
- Vroom, J.M., 2011. Omtrent de pictorials. FVZA Bartolomeu Dias no 2011-1, 3,14.
- Warrender, B., 2010. Checklist of Botswana Ppostmarks (second series). Runner Post no. 79, 1975-1987.
- Whitmore, P. and Sergay, C., 2010. The Zululand £5 forgery. Cape and Natal Philatelic Journal v. 14, 156-165.
- Woolgar, J., 2010. The "Mrs. Head" correspondence. Transvaal Philatelist v. 45, 83-94.

Forerunners Forum

Questions, Comments, and Answers

Griqualand West Manually Surcharged Stamp

The inquiry by **Michelle McQuade** in last Forerunners has generated a couple of responses.

Morgan Farrell (mtf3@usfamily.net) "Hi Michelle. I was very interested in your question to the Forerunners. As you can see from my attachment, I have a similar example. I would say that it is SG #1 of Griqualand West except that stamp is only reported to have this manuscript surcharge in red. I did wonder if the ink color could have "changed" after so many years, but I have never investigated this stamp further. As you likely know, Griqualand West stamps have be forged extensively. I do find it interesting that both of our stamps are on a stamp with the correct watermark. The postmarks of both of ours are not much help. I would think that a forger would have used the correct color ink - but I do have other forged GW stamps with the wrong color "G" overprints, so who knows. The other thing I find interesting is that the ink used on mine is very old. Yours appears to be as well. I would guess that we would not know for sure unless we tried to have these expertized. I know this doesn't help much, but I felt like I had to show you your stamp's twin."



Hugh McMackin (Ovptphmc@aol.com) also emails to say "In response to Michelle McQuades' question the stamp illustrated is SG #1 an 1874 provisional. I should probably not stick my neck out, but from the scan I believe that it is a forgery based on the color of the surcharge. I would be happy to see a better scan."

The 2010 FIFA-SAPOA Stamp Issues

The Editor keeps promising to give an overview of these issues. Unfortunately, there are still unanswered questions despite lots of help. One surprise has been that a Malawi miniature sheet has appeared without the gold foil/ink, but issued much later than the other sheets. I have also so far failed to get information on what actually was issued by Lesotho, although we know that the miniature sheet appeared, but what about the sheet stamps without the gold foil. I will again have to postpone the discussion. Help will be very much appreciated.

Perfins

These scans of perfins have mysteriously appeared in my inbox. This is a reminder for the person that promised me an article on perfins.



Botswana Cinderellas

Peter Lodoen (Molepolole, Botswana) writes to offer some background to the Co-Op label shown in Forerunners #66 "In philatelic parlance a cinderella is a stamp that looks like a postage stamp, and perhaps desired to be a postage stamp. But in fact, it is not.

The stamp is issued for private or charitable use, may or may not have a country name, may or may not have a monetary denomination and might well be locally printed and perforated, or rouletted, in the case of the CO-OP/GCC label.

These savings stamps were prepared by the Gaborone City Council, for use at local co-operative grocery and dry good shops. Stamps were given to customers as a small percentage of the total value of their purchases. Then, when customers reached a sufficient number of stamps, usually filling a book, they could cash the stamps in, or make additional purchases.

Smaller towns such as Letlhakeng have periodic shops, where supplies were purchased only ones a week. At such places, blue stamps were given as purchases were made."

SA Training Stamps

Volker Janssen (janssenp@iafrica.com) has emailed to discuss the SA training stamps that were included with last Forerunners. He writes: With quite some delay I would like to say thank you for the last issue No. 68 of "Forerunners" and specially for the little surprise bag of SA Training Stamps. Maybe you don't even know how special this gift was, cause it seems that nobody in this country (the origin of the stamps) has ever seen them before!!

I spoke to a dealer recently who has been in business for decades and one of the best experts on South Africa. He had no idea what I was talking about and never saw them in his life. Then I remembered your little note on page 2 of the magazine with sort of "Good luck to members to research themselves"....

Well, I really tried in the meantime. First on Google + Wikipedia (as usual), then possible offers on eBay and elsewhere, but absolutely nothing, except a bit information on training stamps in general. I'm sure you know there are many from the U.K. and the U.S.A., where they are quite popular and still available from dealers and at auctions. I also found out that there were some training stamps in other countries like France, Germany, Sweden and even one in Nigeria, but nothing about SA.

The only person who had at least seen them before was the postmaster of our little Post Office here in Simon's Town, who is in his late 50's and hardly remembered that he had to use them when he was a young man and training for his job in the early 1980's. The same info I got from the director of the Post Office Training School in Cape Town who told me a similar story and remembers that they went out of use by ca. 1990 or so, but no details when they have been released and how long they have been used. At least it seems to be a fact that they have never been traded or sold to collectors outside the school. He couldn't believe that the set you were kindly donating to our members came from the U.S.

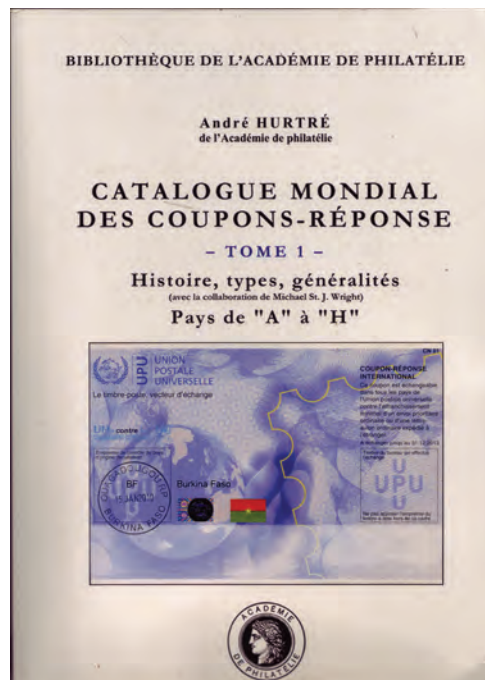
I think the whole story is getting very interesting and worth to be published as a small article in the SA Philatelist. As an ex-publisher and journalist I have already two periodical col-

umns in that magazine and like to find new subjects to write about, like stamps that make us smile., my favorite cover, or my favorite stamp, etc.. So my final question is: "Do you have any information about these training stamps and do you know where they come from?"

The Editor ads: "I have no more information than you have already revealed by talking to your local postmasters. I can only state, since the donor wanted to remain anonymous, that they definitely are of South African origin. Keep researching and also think about the Forerunners when you have reached a conclusion."

Book Review

Catalogue Mondial des Coupons-Réponse, Tome 1, Pays de "A" a "H" by M.A. Hurtré. Published by Bibliothèque de l'Académie de Philatélie. Information on ordering may be obtained from brigitte.abensur@wanadoo.fr. This is the first volume of a two volume international study of worldwide reply coupons. Volume one includes 662 A4 pages. The main groups are the UPU, French, British, Spanish, and Arabian coupons. The first 257 pages is an introduction. The remaining are systematic listings of coupons of the countries A to H. The countries of the southern African area included in this first volume are Bechuanaland, South Africa, Botswana, and Cape of Good Hope. Also included is USA. This is an amazing assemblage of all possible information on reply coupons and an indispensable resource for postal stationery and history collectors. Amendments and corrections are listed on <http://www.academiedephilatelie.org/pdf/cr-t1-errata.pdf>.



Society Publications

Hisey and Bartshe, 2003. Philately of the Orange Free State, Vol. 1, The Postage Stamps. Hardbound, 280 pages in full color, \$35 plus \$5 s/h in the US, plus \$10 elsewhere by air.

Hisey and Bartshe, 2004. Philately of the Orange Free State, Vol.

2, The Telegraphs. Hardbound, 250 pages in full color, \$35 plus \$5 s/h in the US, plus \$10 elsewhere by air.

Hisey and Bartshe, 2009. Philately of the Orange Free State, Vol. 3. Hardbound, 205 pages in full color, \$35 plus \$5 s/h in the US, plus \$10 elsewhere by air.

Forerunners on CD, Issues 1 to 50 (CD-ROM). \$30 plus \$5 s/h.

Taylor, Robert. Early Postal Services of the Cape of Good Hope PSGSA Exhibit Series (CD-ROM). \$15 pp.

Lodoen, Peter. Accepted - Rejected: Life of a Botswana Stamp Designer. \$25 full color print, \$10 on CD-ROM. Postage paid.

Hisey, B. (compiler), 2006. Postal Office Names of Southern Africa According to Ralph Putzel (CD-ROM). \$15 pp.

To order contact David McNamee at the addresses given on page 1.

The Market Place

Union machine and parcel postmarks. Wanted by specialist collector. Single items, collections, or unsorted bulk accumulations. Please contact Bas Payne on bas@paynes.demon.co.uk, or Saltbox Barn, Edney's Lane, Denmead, Waterlooville, PO7 6JL, UK.

Union pictorials 1926-1940. Wanted by specialist collector. Single items, collections, or unsorted bulk accumulations including singles. Please contact Bas Payne on bas@paynes.demon.co.uk, or Saltbox Barn, Edney's Lane, Denmead, Waterlooville, PO7 6JL, UK.

Cape of Good Hope. I buy postal history material, specially the period 1652 - 1853. Please send scan or photocopy with price. Johnny Barth, Nivavaenge 25, DK 2990 Niva, Denmark. E-mail: barth@post3.tele.dk.

SA Homelands used. Seeking postally used stamps and covers (larger lots with duplication OK). Have used Homelands and GB, Commonwealth (Australia, NZ, others) to trade. Send description/scan/price to Chris Oberholster, 2013 Yancy Drive, Bessemer, AL 35022; pangolin100@aol.com.

Wanted: Postal Savings Books and related items from any southern African territories and countries. Send photocopies/scans and descriptions to Peter Thy, P.O. Box 73112, Davis CA 95617-3112, thy@kronestamps.dk.

Bophuthatswana used. Wish to trade for used in/off cover, including revenues and postal stationery. Have all Homelands used, some mint and older general worldwide to trade. Write Will Ross, 4120 Schuylkill Dr., Calabasas, CA 91302.

South West Africa postal stationery. I am seeking pre-1969 items. Please send offer to Jan Stolk, Waterhoenlaan 24, B-9120 Melsele, Belgium; janstolk@belgacom.net.

Mafeking covers. Want to purchase or trade for covers to/from, or through Mafeking, 1885 to present. Send photocopies, prices or trade want list to Frederick Lawrence, 658 W. Douglas Ave., Gilbert, AZ 85233-3219; ieconsulting@cox.net.

South African postage due covers. Looking for postage due mail from and to South Africa, all periods welcome. Please send offers to Jan Stolk, Waterhoenlaan 24, B-9120 Melsele, Belgium; janstolk@belgacom.net.

Bechuanaland and Botswana postal stationery. Used, stamped and unstamped, stationery from any territory and any period are needed for collection and exhibit. Send offer to Peter Thy, P.O. Box 73112, Davis, CA 95617-3112 or email thy@kronestamps.dk.

GSWA, OFS postal stationery & the Cape of Good Hope pre-stamp period are my interests. Philatelists wishing to correspond and exchange information / material can write to me at: Hennie Taljaard, P O Box 816, Ceres, 6835, RSA or stadsbeplanner@ananzi.co.za.

Old Zimbabwe Currency. Wanted a few pounds, any condition, and any value. For Show give away. Bob Hisey at bobhisey@comcast.net.

Perfins Wanted. I buy/trade for perfins of Cape, Natal, Transvaal, ORC, and South Africa. Especially interested in on cover examples, but will give generous return for any loose stamps. Write or email with trade/sale proposal. Robert Weeden, 1446 Grenac Rd, Fairbanks, AK 99709 or email weeden@mosquitonet.com.

Numerical Cancellers (BONCs) used in Southern Africa sought by collector. Contact me for wantlist or let me know what you can offer. Werner Seeba, In Den Wannenaekern 14, D-70374 Stuttgart 50, Germany.

Airmails from SA to South America. Wanted airmail covers from SA to South or central America between 1932 and 1952. Send scan or photocopy with price to Hugh Amoore, (9 Bishoplea Road, Claremont, South Africa, 7708); email to: hugh.amoore@uct.ac.za).

Send request for your free non-dealer membership ad to the Editor. Multiple ads per issue per member are admitted as long as space is available. Ads will run for several issues unless specified otherwise. Limits of 40 words plus name and postal and email addresses.

Commercial Ad Rate Schedule

Premium positions:

1/1 page inside front cover single issue \$60, annual \$150, two years \$280.

1/1 page inside back cover single issue \$50, annual \$120, two years \$200.

1/1 page outside back cover single issue \$60, annual \$150, two years \$280.

Contact the Editor for smaller ad sizes.

Non-premium positions:

1/2 page: single issue \$20, annual \$60, two years \$100.

1/1 page: single issue \$40, annual \$95, two years \$170.

All advertisers who reserve a full page ad for one year or longer will receive full membership to the PSGSA. Contact the Society Treasurer or Editor for any special requirements and for booking your premium spaces. All payment should be addressed to the Treasurer. The Editor will assist with ad designs if required.



Antique South Africa brass postage scale with weights on a wood base with bun feet from around 1910. Brass weights are: 8 oz, 4 oz, 2 oz, 1 oz, and 1/2 oz. Measures 9 1/2" x 5 3/8" x 4 3/4" overall. Impression on tray reads: S.A. Postal Rates - Letters 1d per 1/2 oz to any part of South Africa - except Bechuanaland Protectorate 2d per 1/2 oz - Book Packets 1/2d per 2 ozs - Newspapers 1/2d per 4 oz.

Membership Application

Membership fees are \$25 to US mailing addresses and \$30 for other addresses. Membership includes a subscription to the Society's quarterly journal Forerunners. Those that join before July 1 will receive the complete back issues for that year. Thereafter annual renewals occur in August and are due by September 1. If sending in dues by mail, please provide funds in US\$ either in currency or a check on a USA bank account made out to "PSGSA." Mail all payments to David McNamee, PSGSA Treasurer, 15 Woodland Drive, Alamo, CA 94507 USA. Paypal to "dmcnamee@aol.com" is also acceptable, but please add US\$1 extra to cover part of the PayPal fees we must pay to use the service. For some overseas members, it might be more advantageous to send in dues for two or more years to avoid the annual conversion fees.

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THE RARE AND UNUSUAL

Registration Receipt Forms of the South African Republic



Examples of 1889 registration receipt forms from the South African Republic. The first three are from Nylstroom written by Emil Tamsen to Germany and Pretoria.

Each color is from a different month, green January, blue May, and red-purple July. From the perforations on the top and bottom it would appear that they are from at least a sheet of 3 or 4 forms, perhaps in booklets of multiple sheets. The other two are from Marthinus Wesselstroom, ochre in October to Ermelo and the white in December to Volksrust sent by the local Landrost. All except the last are annotated by G.P.K. Vorm D or GPO Form D. Forms are reduced to 75 % of the originals.

Colorful, unusual, and most likely quite rare.