



France & Colonies Phîlatelist



USPS #207700

A LOOK AT THE DIVERSE WORLD OF A.E.F. POSTAL MARKINGS (II)

By Robert G. Stone

(Cont. from FCP July p. 76)

Special-Function Postal Markings

These include date-postmarks for special types of mail, administrative cachets, auxiliary or instructional marks, franchise, slogan, and censor cachets. Many of these are not normally found on stamps. Nearly all the ones shown are believed to be "official," i.e. used in or by postoffices. We group them by functional categories, without regard to particular colony; but in some cases the purpose is not certain. Probably quite a few more of these marks exist which we happen not to have seen or not reported in the literature—but we think we have at least identified all the types of categories.

Restored Chad Post:

- 47. 1947?-1950s, 3 p.o.s, scarce.
- 48. 1953-1959?, unique type.
- 49. 1956-1960s, 30+ p.o.s.

Machine Cancels of A.E.F. and Restored Colony Posts ("Flammes")

- 50a. A.E.F. postmark duplex with illustrated touristic promotion in box (all the machine cancels have the box to the right); about 15 p.o.s 1954-59 had these slogan machine cancels, with various inscriptions (see lists in Stone, Fr. Cols. Ph., #s 111, 142, and 164).
- 50b. Gabon postmark with touristic slogan (3 or more p.o.s and various promotions.)

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
Diverse World of A.E.F. Postal Markings (II) — Stone	Front
Plater's Corner	107
Key To The Color Numbers On French Proofs — Stone	108
French Atomic Bomb Test Covers — Filipkowski	110
Names Of Post Offices In Postmarks On General Issues	111
Ruth M. Brown — Obituary	121
Hamilton's Continental Balloon Post — Cohn	121

- 50c. Oubanghi-Chari postmark with slogan in words, no illustration, 3 or more p.o.s; also some in Chad.
 50d. Middle-Congo postmark of the type used with slogan boxes, 2 or 3 p.o.s.
 50e. A.E.F. postmark type in duplex with wavy flag lines instead of slogan box (a different make of machine than in #s 50a-d).

Newspapers, Periodicals—"A.E.F."

51. 1941?-1950s?. "P.P" used for domestic bulk-mail prepaid in cash or to account; also on stamped wrappers to foreign destinations but not cancelling the stamps.
 52. 1950s, in red, used similarly to #51.
 53. 1950s, in blue, seen on mailing wrappers for the "Journal Officiel" of A.E.F., mailed from Brazzaville, with #52 on back in red.

Parcels Post—"A.E.F."

54. 1940s-?, probably used mainly on the "Bulletin d'Expédition" and "petit colis" forms for parcels, retained by the administration hence seldom seen; also on mail of the parcels clerks?

Special-Event Postmarks (Promotional)

55. For the Expo-Fair at Brazzaville 1938—was it used at a p.o. at the Fair? (See also #101c).
 56. For the visit of a cruise ship to Pointe Noire 22/1/58.
 (Note: straightline cachets, framed or unframed, struck on covers to advertise local events, meetings, FD celebrations, etc. 1940s-50s—several seen—but not clear which are official and which private; not used on stamps. See #s 100a-101e.)

FRANCE & COLONIES PHILATELIST

USPS #207700

Published quarterly by the
FRANCE AND COLONIES PHILATELIC SOCIETY, INC. (N.Y.)

Affiliate No. 45, American Philatelic Society

October 1984 — Vol. 40, No. 4, Whole No. 198

Second-class postage paid at Lawrence, Kansas

Office of Publication: 821 Vermont Street, Lawrence, Kansas 66044

Dues \$7.50 per year. Parent Chapter \$10.00 (plus 50c admission fee),
 \$4.50 of which is for a subscription to the F. & C. Philatelist.

All communications about membership, subscriptions, activities, and services of the Society be sent to the Corresponding Secretary, Walter E. Parshall
 103 Spruce St., Bloomfield, N. J. 07008

All contributions to and questions concerning the contents and policy of this magazine should be sent to the Editor:

Robert G. Stone, P. O. Box 356, Blue Ridge Summit, Pa. 17214

President: Richard M. Stevens

Vice President: William Wallis

Treasurer, Beatrice M. Berner

Recording Secretary: Eli J. Goldberg

Corresponding Secretary, Walter E. Parshall

Editor, Robert G. Stone

Directors—

Class of 1985:

Ira Zweifach, Eric Spiegel

Class of 1986:

Stanley Luft, Martin Stemplen

Class of 1987:

Marc Martin, John Lievsay

Postmaster: Send form 3579 to 821 Vermont St., Lawrence, Kans. 66044



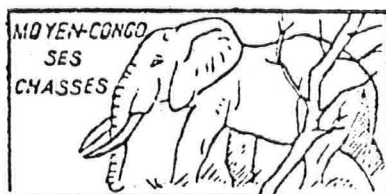
47.



48.

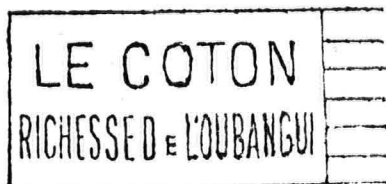
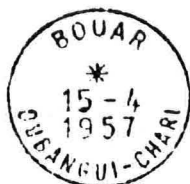


49.



50a.

50b.



50c.



50d.

50e.





51.



52.



53.



54.



55.



56.



57.



58a.



59.



60a.



24a-60b.



60c.



61.

First-Day-of-Issue Postmarks—"A.E.F."

- 57. 1955-1958, for FDCs when no special fancy cancel of the type like #58a-b was prepared (an omnibus FD cancel).
- 58a. 1947-58, FD type without fancy design at center, each mark for the FD of a different stamp; about 8 marks of this type reported used on FDCs, mostly at Brazzaville, for A.E.F. stamps having subjects related to AEF, or for omnibus colonial commemorative stamps for which a celebration was held at Brazzaville.
- 58b. Like 58a but with fancy design in center (like in #59), only several reported.
- 59. Type used as cachet on FDCs at other p.o.s than the one where the FD ceremony was held (Brazzaville in most cases), but not used as a postmark on stamps.

Provisional Postmarks for Newly-Opened or Temporary P.O.s

(see also Fig. A in Part I, and Type 21a)

- 60a. Early provisional postmark? (in Type 7a style), 1901?-1910?
- 60b. Type 13a with name of p.o. cut out, probably for provisional or administrative use, 1920s-1930s?
- 60c. "Moyen Congo," nos. 1 to 5 seen, 1910-50s, scarce, each No. probably used at more than one place over time, places mostly unknown (Gamboula used #5, 1933); Type 13 style.
- 61. "Tchad," nos. 1 to 3 known, 1930s, scarce. (A "Tchad/A.E.F." postmark reported, probably similar in purpose but for a later period.)

Military Correspondence

- 62. "Corr(espondance) d'Armées," for letters prepaid in stamps sent by military personnel entitled to a reduced rate (=domestic French rate, for overseas-stationed personnel), 1862-1900; Gabon mark of this type is very rare, reported 1870s-80s.
- 63. "Correspondance Militaire," rare, 1890-1904? (in effect the term is equivalent to Corr. D'Armées in many cases prior to 1901, but was used also on stampless covers under full free-franchise during a military campaign, as authorized in A.E.F. 1894-1905).
- 64. W.W. II Army P.O.s, 1940-45? Probably several types exist, very scarce in AEF as the military personnel generally used the civil p.o.s.

Straightline Postmarks and Cachets

- 65a-b. 1890s to early 1900s, as alternatives to circular date postmarks—Talagouga and Sam-Kita did not have a cds before 1906. Rare.
- 65c. Used at Libreville 1940s-50s to cancel stamps on covers not postmarked on departure; probably other uses.
- 66. Examples of cachets used mainly on registry labels, money-order forms (mandats), and other postal forms—every p.o. had such cachets. Some were used in irregular ways, such as cancelling stamps in emergencies, and on philatelic covers (Am-Timane, e.g.); 1890s-1959.

Registry Marks

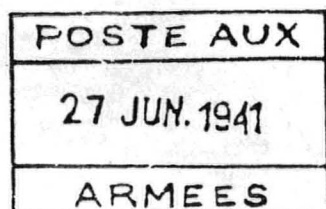
- 67. "R," framed or unframed, sometimes in ms, 1870s-1890s (discontinued when registry labels came in).
- 68. "Recommandé" (registry), sometimes in ms, 1930s- (not common).
- 69. "AR" for acknowledgment of receipt or return receipt requested, on registered mail and forms, rather rare, 1890s-, various sizes, framed or unframed.



62.



63.



64.

TALAGOUGA
17 MARS 99
CONGO FRANÇAIS

QUESSO
MOYEN CONGO

ABÉCHÉ
Baboua

SAM-KITA
CONGO FRANÇAIS
MARS

65a-b.

LIBREVILLE A.E.F.

65c.



67.

RECOMMANDÉ

68.



69.

2^E ARRIVEE

69a.



70.



71a.



71b.



72.

- 69a. "2E ARRT," mark seen cancelling stamps on a notice of receipt of registered article or payment, at Libreville, 1950s; meaning of abbreviation not clear.
70. "Chargements" postmarks for use of the p.o. window or clerk responsible for handling registry and insurance, not common, only a few main p.o.s, 1940s?—

"Special-Agent" Postmarks

For official-franchise business mail between p.o.s on matters related to money orders, fund transfers, etc.

- 71a-b. Odd types for Chad p.o. of Am-Timane, 1930s, often on philatelic-stamped covers sent to collectors on request.
72. Unusual type for Bangassou.
73. General type with banderole at bottom inscribed "Agent Spécial," issued to many p.o.s in Middle Congo and a few in Gabon, 1908-1920s. Used on stampless official-stationery envelopes as a rule, rarely on postage stamps but seen on fiscal stamps. Reported for: Baboua, M'Baiki, Brazzaville, Franceville, Impfondo, Mindouli, Nola, Soufflay, and Ouessou.
74. An unusual variety of Type 73, inscribed: "Gabon/R. Ogooué N'Goumie"—implies presumably an administrative use at a central p.o. (Lambaréné?) for collecting mail picked up by pirogues or small steamers on the Ogooué and N'Goumie rivers. Very rare.
- 75a. "Trésorier-Payeur" postmark of Brazzaville, 1910-20, used on official franchise mail to and from the "Special-Agents" at outlying p.o.s of the colony, relative to disbursing funds, reporting money orders they have written, etc. (Similar marks for Libreville and Bangui might exist.) (Reported is a mark in style of Type #73 inscribed "Fort Lamy/Tchad/Agent du Trésor," 1930s, having the same function.)
- 75b. Same function and use as #75a, Brazzaville, 1910-20.

Maritime and River-Mail Marks

76. One of several postmarks used by post agents on board the French mail packets of Ligne L (Loango to Bordeaux), struck on military free-franchise mail received from military operations in Upper Ubangi 1896-1903, rare (—see Salles, Tome III, #s 1224-1226).
Used also after 1903 at Bordeaux on stamps on mail that had not been cancelled at origin in Congo or Ubangi, probably by oversight; very scarce.
77. Cachet used on mail posted on board the Brazzaville-Bangui steamers operated jointly by Congo and Belgian Congo, 1930s, rare.
78. Cachet on mail salvaged from a shipwreck on the Ubangi or the Shari rivers in 1908, used at Brazzaville, very rare.
79. Cachet on mail salvaged from wreck of a Congo River boat in 1927, used at Brazzaville, rare. Seen also on faked post-dated covers made up by a postal clerk at Brazzaville with Mondou postmark never issued (see Fig. D, in Part I).
80. "Par Pirogue Postal" cachet struck on closed mail carried by contract Pirogues on the Ogooué River to or from p.o.s located up-river from N'Djolé, 1940s, rare. Apparently used at N'Djolé, Booué, and Lastourville p.o.s; perhaps also on loose mail picked up at intermediate points or brought down from higher reaches of the river.
81. River "Paquebot" mark seen on cover postmarked Lambaréné 1953, addressed to Paris—may be used by Lambaréné p.o. on letters re-



73.



74.



75a.



75b.



77.

Parvenu en mauvais état
78. à Brazzaville le 12 oct. 08

COURRIER NAUFRAGE
SUR LE CONGO

79.

Deterioré dans L'OUBANGHI-
CHARI-TCHAD.
--- NAUFRAGE ---



81.

80.



ceived loose from the contract mail steamer on the Ogooué R. or by the steamer agent, originating up-river as far as N'Djolé by posting at docks or on board. Note also the "Paquebot" marks used at Pointe Noire in 1950s on loose ship-letters put off by passing steamers—see #s 109-110.

"Pediposte" and "Aviposte"-Service Marks

82. Cachets (three slightly different types) used at Mayumba, Gabon, 1942-45 on mail carried by fast foot-runners along the coastal beaches to Loango or over the hills to the N'Goumie R., rare; both on dispatch and arrival. Most strikes very smudgy. "Mayumba" separately struck, sometimes omitted. (See art. in Fr. Cols. Ph., Jan. 1982).

A cover of 1944 to Port Gentil seen with ms end. "Par courrier à pied," indicating similar service in another area farther north.

83. Cachet of the Aviposte, used at Mayumba on mail carried by the foot runners to Pointe Noire, there to be sent on by airmail, 1942-48, rare. "Mayumba" separately struck. Usually unclear or smudgy strikes.

Air-Mail Markings

- 84a-b. Cachets seen on covers sent on early regular flights from Congo to Algiers, 1934-36; used at Fort Lamy on covers franked at surface-mail rates, taken and cacheted to advertise the service. Similar marks used at Brazzaville. Mostly seen on philatelic covers, but scarce.

- 84c. The first airmail from Congo to France left 22 March 1930 from Brazzaville, via Ft. Archambault, Bangui and Ft. Lamy (23 March); most of the covers (from Brazzaville) have a cachet on back "Postes de l'A.E.F./Par Avion—Cap. Goulette/Brazzaville-Paris" (official?)

- 85a-b. Like 84a-b but used at Fort Archambault, 1934-35.

- 85c. Analogous to 84a-b but used at Bangui, 1935

86. "Par Avion" instructional mark 1950s, probably several p.o.s used similar marks; private marks also, like "Avion," seen on many early regular flown covers, 1930s-40s. A "PAR AVION" in rectangle of 12x50 mm seen on cover from Lambaréné, 1939.

87. Cachet of Brazzaville P.O. on stampless covers, for which the postage was charged to the account of the p.o., on official business, 1950s.

Auto-Bus Service

88. "Voie Transsaharien" instructional mark of Ft. Lamy, Chad 1930s, for routing of mail via the Transsahara auto-bus line to Niamey and on to Algeria. Rare. (Ms marks also used, e.g.: "Par ligne du Hoggar, service d'Auto," etc.) (Auto-bus mail Ft. Lamy to Abecher and the Sudan frontier also operated in 1930s but no marks seen, only ms instruction.)

Naval-Franchise Mail

89. Local mark on free franchise mail of WW II from Free-French coastal naval-patrol boats. Rare.

Telegraph- And Radio-Service Marks

90. An early telegraph-office mark, seen 1902 cancelling stamp on cover, very rare. Probably used at Brazzaville on messages received from Ubangi. Telegraph offices were often located in the p.o.s on telegraph lines.

- 91a-c. Radio ("T.S.F.")-station postmarks, 1950s, known for ca. eight places (not normally used on stamps?).



82.



83.

**TRANSPORTE
EXCEPTIONNELLEMENT
PAR AVION**

84a.

84b. **TRANSPORTÉ EXCEPTIONNELLEMENT
PAR AVION**

**TRANSPORTE
Exceptionnellement
Par AVION CONGO-ALGER
5 VOYAGE RETOUR**

85a.

85b. **Lettre Transportée
Except. par AVION Congo
Alger 10 voyages RETOUR
Titre de Propagande**

**Transporté Exceptionnellement
par AVION après BANGUI**

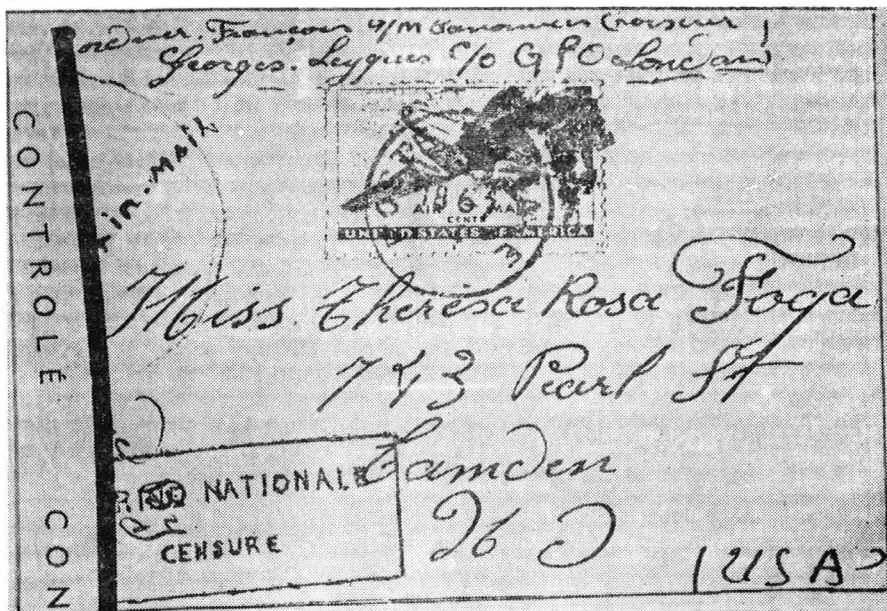
85c.

PAR AVION 86.



PLATER'S CORNER

The "R.F." overprints on U.S. airmails
 Scott (Specialized) series CM 1-10 and stationery UCM 1-5.



The RF cover from the Georges Leygues sender.—Slightly reduced.

This cover raises enough questions to have us re-examining what we thought we knew about the "R.F." overprints and their use. Clearly the return address—Croiseur George Leygues, c/o GPO LONDON—is at variance with the published wisdom that these overprints were used only at North African naval bases. Nor is the strike of "RF" (badly smudged) any of the ten types illustrated in Scott, or even the 17 types illustrated by Mayer in his Liberation catalogue.

Well then, is it possible to take Sinais/Delhomez' 1979 listing of the ship assignments and Mayer's geographic assignments and reconcile to Scott? No Way! The "Georges Leygues" was indeed stationed in England, but from October 1944, not August as listed by Sinais; I've seen two covers with late September postmarks and N. Africa return addresses. OK then, what about another author's suggestion that the overprints were onboard, unique to each ship? Nope; I've seen three examples of covers from personnel assigned to shore facilities, and the same type on mail from different ships, and seven (!) different types of mark on mail from the single ship "Georges Leygues."

Is it possible to establish even a partial reconciliation? Yes. The following Scott types have been documented by location: (a) Casablanca, Morocco, (c) Toulon, France, (d) Alger, (f) Oran, and (j) Bone, Algeria.

Besides UK, what other locations might be found? We have seen Nice, France, and others seem to agree that Scott type (g) was used in Marseille. The squadron assigned in UK included at least three other cruisers, so that provenance may be less scarce than previously recognized. Bizerte-Tunisia,

Dakar-Senegal, and Cotonou-Dahomey have been suggested, but no examples seen by us.

What next? Obviously we need more information. Specifically, anybody who can identify for us the port(s) to which the smaller ship "Dogue" was assigned; any examples of Scott types (b), (e), (h), or (i) on covers which give the ship name, Poste Navale unit number, or have the location mentioned in the return address; and any examples from ports not seen or not mentioned above. I'll reimburse xerox/postage expenses.—J. E. Lievsay, 630 5th Ave., 38 fl., New York 10111.

RF

An "artist's conception" of probable original configuration of this RF cachet.

KEY TO THE INK-COLOR NUMBERS ON FRENCH PROOFS—Addenda

By Robert G. Stone

Since the publication of our original study of the ink-color numbers in a Supplement to France and Cols. Phil. #177, July 1979, several correspondents have kindly sent us records of additional proofs including some numbers missing from our lists, and many confirmations of the colors for numbers already listed. S. Serebrakian gave us his tally from a large collection of Tunisian and Moroccan proofs. Other additions came from proofs we have acquired.

The additions are listed below for "new" numbers and some confirmations to the list of "Old System" numbers:—

101 — add: deep blue; blue	418 — add: red
102 — deep blue	430 — add: red
105 — blue	432 — red
110 — blue	434 — red
122 — blue	438 — red
132 — blue	444 — red
207 — brownish yellow	452 — red
211 — dark yellow	503 — add: violet
301 — add: green	506 — add: dark maroon
303 — add: green	508 — dark maroon
306 — add: yellow green	517 — violet
307 — deep yellow green	531 — violet
310 — light turquoise blue	532 — violet
311 — turquoise	604 — black
313 — add: medium yellow green	614 — add: black
316 — green	702 — brown
331 — green	721 — brown
403 — red	730 — brown
412 — red	1421 — red (LX)
415 — add: deep reddish orange	2003 — light greenish yellow

Plus a great many confirmations of numbers between 1102 and 1719.

Additions of numbers to the "New System" list:

- BL 6 — dark gray blue (LX)
- (G) Gris 4.50 — gray (1947)
- VE 1 — light bluish gray (LX)
- VT 3 — reddish violet (LX)
- VT 4 — dark violet (LX)

George Brett has questioned our statement on p. 3, 2nd paragraph, that the "H," "M," and "B" on some proofs of the "paintings" stamps printed by combination recess and offse-recess, refer to an inverse sequence of overprinting of the colors so noted. He thinks, in analogy with the similar process on some U. S. printings from the Giori presses, that the sequence of overprinting was the opposite: "H" first, etc. Normally, he notes, the sequence of overprinting is from lighter to darker colors. That would agree with the sequence in the example quoted in our text for France Sc. #1237.

According to DeLizeray (L'Echo, Feb. 1968), the order of color impression on the Chambon 3-color presses in typo on the Marianne de Décaris stamp was: red brown (+ coin datés), gray (+ gutter bars), then perforated. On the multicolor typo Blason d'Oran stamp the yellow color was printed first (lightest). In general the practice has been to start with the lightest color and progress to the darkest. An exception was made when the first color was so light that the coin datés would be invisible. Also it was deemed best to have the frame color last to help with the registration. In case of superimposition of colors they generally print the dark colors on top of the light ones. The order of colors also may depend on using successively less-drying inks so that the last one does not "lift" the preceding color.

It is reported that in 1957 the printery at Périgueux had as many as 72 or 92 different ink colors available (Doc. Phil. #100, p. 43-4).

We have seen trial-color proofs of the heliogravured stamps from the government helio press on which apparently a different code of ink nos. is used; following the hue letters of the "New System" there are 5-digit nos. No doubt the ink formulas for helio are quite different from the recess and typo inks.

MEMBERS APPEALS

WANTED: Varieties of the Group Type of Ivory Coast 1892, chalky paper, wide-space surcharges, and of later issues to 1944.—Robert Picirilli, 301 Greenway Ave., Nashville, Tenn. 37205 (Mb. #2381)

WANTED: Would appreciate any information concerning French-U.S. postal relations during W.W. II, dates and reasons for start and end of relations, censorship policies, internal French policies for occupied and unoccupied zones. Would like to purchase covers sent between France and US, both directions, and postmarked between June 1940 and Sept. 1944. Send Xerox copies (will pay for). Ken Estabrook, P. O. Box 521, Fort Dix, N. J. 08640 (Mb. #2357)

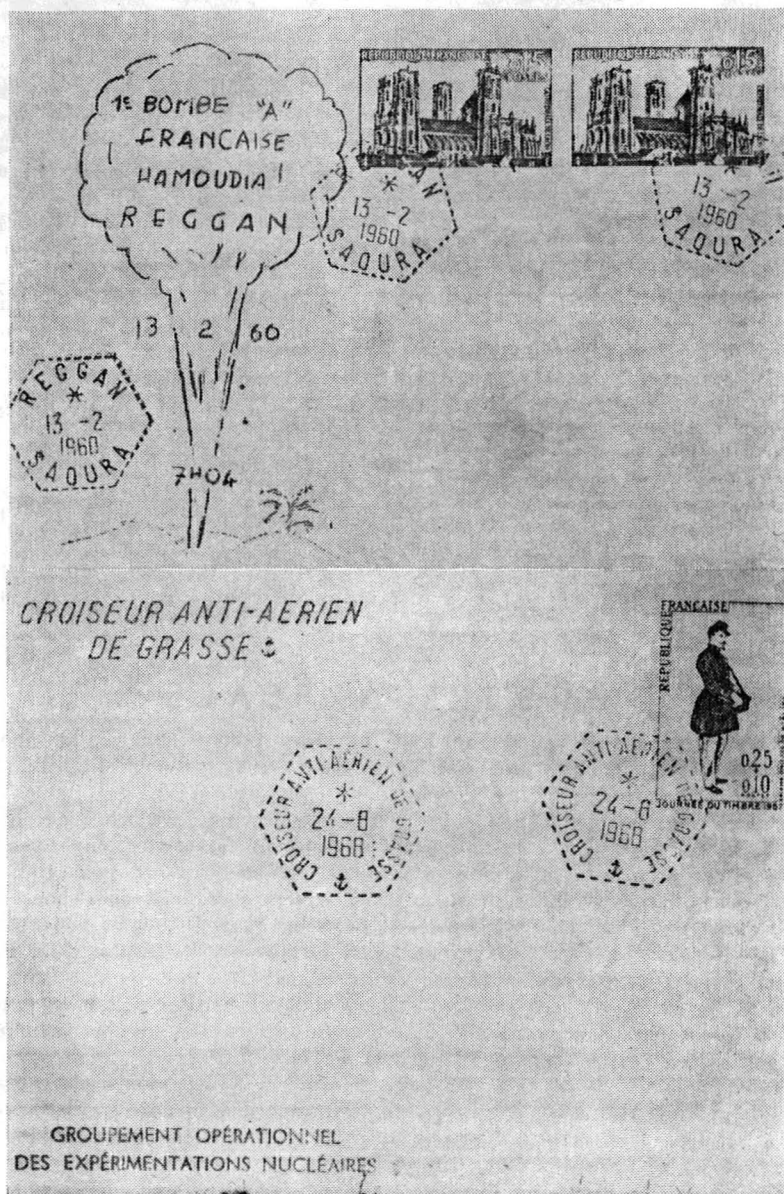
TRADE OR SALE: French labels, semi-official air shows, philatelic expos, war related, Red Cross, etc., seals, etc. Buy or trade.—James Reinhardt, 928 Pierce, San Francisco, Calif. 94115 (Mb. #1973)

OFFER AUCTION RESULTS: "Track Record," a new computerized newsletter listing results of French stamps at auction, is now available. \$20 subscription for four quarterly issues. — James Reinhardt, 928 Pierce, San Francisco, Calif. 94115 (Mb. #1973)

FRENCH ATOMIC BOMB TEST COVERS

By Paul Filipkowski (#2417)

Many postal-history collectors have seen covers from Operation Crossroads, the 1946 American atomic bomb tests at Bikini Atoll. Some fewer collectors have seen examples of the semi-official "Megaton" cachet from the 1957 British H-bomb test at Christmas Island. But scarcer still are bomb covers from the much more secretive French Atomic Bomb program!



France became the fourth atomic power on February 13, 1960 by exploding her first A-bomb at the Reggan, Algeria, testing grounds. This plutonium device was the culmination of Charles De Gaulle's \$200 million dollar race to achieve a nuclear arsenal of her own. A light purple stenciled cachet was created to commemorate this atomic milestone. (Fig. 1). France continued to test atomic weapons in Algeria until 1966, but work had already begun on a Pacific testing area by 1963. Just as the USA and Great Britain had chosen sparsely-occupied islands, so did France (with the headquarters of its "Centre d'Expérimentation du Pacifique" at Papeete, Tahiti) base its testing range several hundred miles to the south of Tahiti at Mururoa and Fangataufa, in the Tuamotu islands. On August 24, 1968, France tested her first H-bomb off of Fangataufa Island to become the fifth country possessing a hydrogen bomb. Fewer than twenty covers were cancelled that day aboard the Croiseur Anti-Aerien De Grasse, the flagship of the naval support group. (Fig. 2).

Collectors interested in this fascinating cover topic are invited to write the author at P. O. Box 2069, Gainesville, Fla. 32602.

SOME MORE NAMES OF POSTOFFICES IN POSTMARKS ON THE GENERAL ISSUES OF COLONIES

Since my pamphlet on this subject appeared as Supplement to the Philatelist #171, Jan. 1978, and an addendum published as Supplement to the Philatelist #172, April 1978, a number of additional postmarks have shown up in auctions or reported by correspondents. For the record I list these herewith:—R. G. Stone

Badumbé/Soudan Français	1890-	R
Bamma(1) ?/Senegal	1888-	R
Cambodge/Taum Pot ?	1880s	R
Corr. d'Armées/Suse ?	1883	R (Tunisia?)
Cotonou/Benin	1892	R
Dabou/Côte D'Ivoire	1890-	R
Grand Lahou/Côte d'Or d'Afrique	1892	R
Koniakary/Soudan Français	1892	R
Magassola/Soudan Français	1891-	R
N'Diaen/Senegal	1890-	R
Podor/Senegal	1886-	R
Procession/Reunion	1880s	R (incorrect spelling for "Possession")
Seguiri (or Siguiri)/Soudan Français	1889-92	R
Sokolo ?/Soudan Français (or Senegal?)	1891-	R
Suse (Tunisia?) ?	1883	
Taum Pot ?/Cambodge	1880s	R

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND NEWS

◆ On 2 Sept. the 3.20F Télécom I Satellite stamp was issued; on 8 Sept. the 2.10 Rame Postal TGV; on 15 Sept. the 3.70 Chateau de Monséur, on 22 Sept. the 2.40 Marx Dormoy and the set of four bird stamps 1.00, 2.00, 3.00 and 5.00F (species of raptors).



◆ On 20 Oct. the set of three UNESCO stamps will be issued: 1.70F Labela—Eglise Monolithic of Ethiopia, 2.10 Saana of Yemen Arab Republic, and 3.00 Eglise Ste. Marie at Kotor, Jugoslavia.

◆ On Nov. 3 the 2.10F Pres. Vincent Auriol will be issued; on 10 Nov. the 2.10F Evariste Galois, and on 24 Nov. the 2.10F+0.50F "La Corbeille Rose" (Red Cross issue) after a work by Caly, also to appear in booklets of 10 with two labels promoting use of the Red Cross stamps (—this is a departure from previous years as only one Red Cross stamp will be issued instead of two; the booklet covers will be in 4 colors with a design by Caly, sold open, not folded).

◆ In the first quarter of 1985 6 stamps will be issued in the celebrated personages series (V. Hugo, R. Rolland, Fr. Mauriac, J. Romains, R. Dorgelès,



J.-P. Sartre); in addition to the usual sheet versions for each, the 6 stamps will be collected into a booklet containing one of each stamp se-tenant to two decorative labels and an illustrated cover.

◆ On 7 Sept. the 3.00F Centre de Rencontres des Cultures Pyrénéennes of Andorre was issued.

◆ The Philex-Jeunes entires issued last April which we announced in July (p. 87) suffered some troubles: many examples were badly printed and had to be returned to the printery. Hence the quantity actually issued was much less than 500,000 and may become a scarce item.

◆ A flamme machine postmark for the VIII Foire Commerciale will be used at St. Pierre during 2-11 November of 1984.

◆ On 1 October the first TGV (high-speed train) mail service between Paris and Lyon was to begin. A 2.10F stamp was issued 8 sept. to comemorate the event with a special cachet for covers sent on the first train. The trains will make the trip daily in 3½ hours each way. The airmail service between Paris and Lyon will now be abolished as superfluous.

◆ Our members will be pleased to learn that our esteemed past-President and Director John Lievsay has been elected an Associate Member of the Académie d'Etudes Postales, joining Stan Luft, Ernst Cohn, and Gardner Brown in that august group.

◆ **Reminder:**—RIPEX XX next April is coming up. Now is the time to get your exhibit ready. It will be the APS National Spring Meeting and FCPS will hold a meeting. Write for your "kit" of information and prospectus to Ray Gaillaguet, 15 Fletcher St., Rumford, R. I. 02916.

◆ At BALPEX Labor Day weekend, members Mark Isaacs and Bob Stone won Golds (for Indochina, and French West and Equatorial Africa rarities, resp.). Walter Brooks showed ballon montés, and Frank Bachenheimer his pictorial issue of Saar 1921-23 (in honor class). FCPS members attending included: Herbert Bloch, Jeff Bohn, Bill Bogg, Mel Garabrant, Lee Gordon, Ed Grabowski, Mark Isaacs, Abbot Lutz, Larry MacKallor, Walter Parshall, Dr. A. L. Putterman, Dick Stevens, Bob Stone, Theo Van Dam (judge), Keith Wagner, Dick Winter, and Bill Waugh.

◆ Member Colin M. Spong has become the Editor of the Newsletter of the France and Colonies Phil. Soc. (G.B.) replacing George Barker who is now the editor of the London Philatelist.

◆ Stanley Jersey is off to Aussipex and PhilaKorea as the U.S. Commissioner. He plans to publish a book on New Hebrides; his exhibits of N.H. have won some good awards. Robson Lowe is publishing his book on Japanese Military Forces in the Solomon Islands.

◆ Take note that members Madeleine Jamet, John Lievsay and Stan Luft carried the FCPS banner with articles in the latest issue of Feuilles Marcophiles (#238), devoted especially to Franco-British relations, for the occasion of Marcophilex X '84.

◆ Member Stan Luft showed his 20c Empire imperfs at the Trans-Miss. stamp show at Omaha receiving the Reserve Grand award. He also won a Gold for his Champlain pneumatic stationery at the APEX show in Colorado.

◆ **Cameroun Research Project**—Member Dr. M. ("Marty") P. Bratzel, Jr., is an enthusiastic student of Cameroun postal history. He has a project to prepare a "handbook" of postmarks and censor marks of French Cameroun. Existing publications are rather incomplete. He aims to at least illustrate the more than 400 postmarks and 100 censor marks with dates and purpose of use, etc. For this project he invites collaboration, perhaps even forming a study circle. Information to be sought includes official documents on the post, publications, photocopies of postmarks and censor marks. Interested readers please contact Marty at 1233 Virginia Avenue, Windsor, Ont. N8S 2Z1, Canada.

◆ Joseph Schatzkes, a prominent French philatelist, died last April 28 after a long illness. He is well remembered by French specialists for his magnificent collections of French classics, maritimes, Colonies General Issues, and Mexican postmarks, which came on the market several years ago. His collections won high awards, Grand Prix, and Courts of Honor at international shows. His warm and aimable personality and great philatelic knowledge were given important recognitions as Vice-Pres. and Hon. Pres. of the Académie de Philatélie, Pres. Club Philatelique de France, signer Roll of Distinguished Philatelists, Councillor of the postal museum, Vice-Pres. Soc. des Amis du Musée Postal, Chevalier de la Légion d'Honneur, Officer du Mérite National. He will be greatly missed from the French philatelic scene.

- ◆ *Le Monde des Philatélistes* this year has changed its formats and editorial policies. Four color printing is used extensively for covers and ads, and the long serialized studies will no longer be published. The effort seems to be to popularize the journal.
- ◆ An amusing contretemps has surfaced recently between the authors (Storch, Francon, and Brun) of the *Marianne Catalogue* and the publisher of the *Cérès Catalogue*. An open letter to Roger Loeuillet of Ceres, presents a bit sarcastically Marianne's compliments to *Cérès* for the improvements in the 1985 *Cérès Catalogue*. They note that these are copied almost verbatim from features which appeared the year before in the *Marianne Catalogue* without any originality as well as other changes inspired by Marianne. It is suggested that *Cérès* read the 1985 *Marianne* attentively to find more material to copy, but first note the bottom of page 2 where it says that all of the *Catalogue* is protected by the Law of 11 March 1957. Touché. That may be better than a court suit. Moreover, imitation is the sincerest form of flattery—or so they say.
- ◆ The Minister of PTT appointed an independent Commission to study and make recommendations on the future of the post. Its report, now being discussed with the postal employee unions and the public, will be the basis for a PTT plan. The report says the postal service risks a spiral of decline which can be reversed by adopting the new technologies of electronic mail, telecopiers, teleprinting, etc., in close relation with the banking system. The present products of the service must be improved and more efficient adaptations made. The postal monopoly will be out-flanked by new developments which present both an opportunity and a risk. The postal employees must be re-motivated and their rigidity loosened. Giving the post an autonomy as a public corporation might be a way to separate the technical matters from the disturbing politics. Decentralization is needed. The post so far has been barely maintaining its level of services by minor adaptations, but it must take a more positive optimistic approach and exploit the new technologies aggressively. The future is not guaranteed by following the present organization and modes of operation.
- ◆ Bill Waugh tells us that if you need a conversion table of the French Revolutionary Calendar to the present calendar you will find an excellent one on p. 170 of the 1th volume of the 11th Edition of the *Encyclopedia Britannica*.
- ◆ The study by Henri Tristant on "Les Premiers Paquebots Francaises de la Ligne de New York 1783-1793" which started serially in *Le Monde* several months ago will not be continued in *Le Monde* for policy reasons. The author is now seeking subscriptions to have it published by Union Marcophile or privately. The work will be in ten chapters which contain much new documentation not in the works of Vaillé, Dubus and Marc Martin. Tristant would appreciate hearing from readers who would be interested in the work so he can judge the demand. (1 rue de la Mission-Marchand, 75016 Paris).
- ◆ Jacques Daucet the Dir. Gen. of Posts, and Geo. Laveau the chief of the bureau of stamp emissions, have been promoted to Officiers of the Order National de Mérite; Jean Varga of the Champion firm and A. Vitalyos the founder of *Le Monde des Phil.*, have been named Chevaliers of the Ordre.

NEW BOOKS, PAMPHLETS, AND CATALOGS

- "Catalogue Cérès 1985, Vol. I. France, Vol. II Andorre, Monaco, T.O.M., Colonies, Nations Unies." 1984, v. I, 368 pp., illustr. all in color; v. II 448 pp. b and w illustr., 35Fr+10 post. Eds. Cérès, 23-25 rue du Louvre, 75001 Paris. (Some amplifications of documentation, such as 1st dates of use and a chapter on the Commune. Prices generally stable with small decreases—large decreases in the Orphelins and paintings stamps. Olympics and Philexfrance '82 large raises.)
- "La Marianne de Décaris." By J. L. Traessaert, 3rd ed., Le Monde Etude #243, 1984. 32 pp. 37.20Fr p.pd. Le Monde des Phil., 24 rue Chauchat, 75001 Paris. (Revised and corrected ed.)
- "Cotation des Flammes des Origines à 1981." 1984, 96 pp. Le Monde des Phil., 125Fr+6.30 post. (Prices for the Lafon cat. of flammes and its supplements, publ. by Le Monde.)
- "Recueil des Oblitérations des Bureaux Temporaires et des Premiers Jour de France pour l'Année 1980." 1984, 28 pp. 30Fr+3.10 post. Le Monde Etude #256.
- "Courrier Recupéré—Recovered Mail (Accidents d'Avions—Airplane Crashes)." By H. L. Nierinck. 1984, 368 pp. illustr. of each cachet. 1800 Fr. Belg. (=31.80 US \$). Editions Katelijnevest, 34 2000-Antwerpen, Belgium. (Exhaustive world-wide compilation of data on all airplane crashes 1918 to 1978 and effects on mail; in French and English).
- "Les Carnets de Timbres Croix Rouge," By P. Monot and F. Ragnieu, Charlier, Grasse. 1983.
- "L'Aventure à Travers le Temps de la Poste." By D. Kandaouroff Deka. 1984. 272 pp. 95Fr. Libr. Académie Perrin, 8 rue Garancière, Paris. (A broad view of world postal history from the earliest times to present—luxuriously printed.)
- "Marques Postales et Oblitérations de Savoie des Origines à 1876—Mise à Jour 1984." By M. Domenech. 60 pp. 1984. 66.30F p.pd. The author, 147 rue Marcoz, 73000 Chambéry. (An up-date of prices and list of Sardinian cancels from his 1966 book, still available at 200Fr incl. the update.)
- "Concorde à Travers les Timbres et les Oblitérations." By J. Schutz. 1984. 165 pp. 150Fr p.pd., 6a rue des Pres, Gumbrechtshafen, 671110 Niederbrunn.
- "Frankreich und Seine Departements 1-134." By Werner Munzberg. 1984, 350 pp. Leitfadens zur Postgeschichte und Briefkunde Bd. VI. DM48, p.pd. From Annalise Munzberg, 0-8120 Weilheim i OB., or Postfach 46, giro Frankfurt-a-M. No. 645 44-600. (Covers postoffices, markings, rates, post-routes, bibliogr., on the 1792-1815 Napoleonic period.)
- "Essai de Nomenclature des Etiquettes des Services Postaux et Télégraphiques de France 1868-1983." By J. Dumont and A. Sauvanet. Union Marcophile, 95Fr p.pd., U.M. Secretariat, 19 Ave. du Chatelet, 77330 Lesigny. (Registry and other labels.)
- "Le Sommaire des Articles Publiés dans Les Feuilles Marcophiles, Du Numéro 101 au 235." 1984, 10Fr plus 4Fr postage to foreign. Union Marcophile, 19 Ave., du Chatelet, 77330 Lesigny. (Cumulative index of articles in F.M.)
- "Les Marques Postales Pré-Philatélique de la Belgique." By L. P. Herlant. 1982. 409 pp. 500Fr Begl. Pro-Vest, Petit rue des Minimes 2, B-1000

- Brussels. (Includes material for the French occupations of Belgium.)
- "Les Camps d'Internées Civils en France et Afrique Française Pendant la Première Guerre Mondiale 1914-19." By M. Carnévalé-Mauzan. 1984. 92 pp. 66.30F p.p.d. Philoffset Editions, 18 rue Elimir-Bourges, 13004 Marseille.
- "Les Tarifs Postaux dans le Régime Intérieurs et les Relations Assimilés de 1869 à nos Jours." By Gerard Rauvergne. 1984. 30 pp. 50Fr+post. The author, Croas-Hent, Sainit Méen, Saint Quay Perros, 22700 Perros-Guirec.
- "La Poste Allemande dans le Nord de la France dans les Cantons de Belgique, Luxembourg et en Lorraine 1940-44." Tome II. 1984. 344 pp. 250Fr p.p.d. By R. Daniel and X. Pigéron, 202 Blvd. St. Germain, 75007 Paris. (Pay to Daniel.)
- "Les Postiers—Les Métiers des P.T.T." By Louis Cumin. 1984. 240 pp. Illus. Eds. Universitaires. For sale by subscr. from Union National des donneurs de Sang Bénévolés des P.T.T., 127 Blvd. Brune, 75014 Paris. (An experienced postal employee writes a history of the postmen, their tasks and problems, postal techniques, with many anecdotes and illustr. based on the PTT archives.)
- "Monographie des Timbres au Type Blanc." By J. Storch and R. Francon. Repr. 1984, 140Fr+20F post. from Yvert et Tellier, 37 rue Jacobins, Amiens.
- "(The stamps of the Norwegian Mission in Madagascar 1894-97)." By O. Grontoft. 1984, 20 pp. The author, Dalsveien 30, N4600 Kristiansand, Norway. (Text in Norwegian with English and French summary.)
- "Etat Algérien—Etude sur les Surcharges Provisoires E. A. sur les Timbres de France—les Surcharges Interdepartmentales." By Claude Bosc. 1984. 28 pp. 29.20F p.p.d. id, "Dept. de Tlemcen" 20 pp. 27.20F p.p.d. The author, 24 rue de Provence, 77270 Villeparisis.
- "Catalogue Abad d'Andorre, 8th Ed." 1984, 20 pp. 400 pesetas+post. From Abad, Auyda Carlemany, 41 Les Escaldes, Andorre.
- "Catalogue Yvert et Tellier 1985, 89th Ann. Vol. I, France, Andorre, Europa, Monaco, Nations Unies," 432 pp., 53Fr. "Vol. II, Pays d'Expression Française, Anciennes Colonies Afrique du Nord, Bureaux Etrangers, Sarre." 568 pp., 55Fr. Vol. II is same as 1984 ed., but a new one will appear in early 1985. Yvert et Tellier, 37 rue des Jacobins, 80036 Amiens Cédex, or from Theo Van Dam, Box 26, Brewster, N. Y. (Prices raised selectively, general in classics and certain items of 20th, topical/thematic interest items also. Prices now given for 1900-14 issues on cover.)

* * *

Reviews

"Franco-Maltese Postal Relations From Their Origins to 1870."

By Henri Tristant. Published by Emmanuel Said, Valetta, Malta. 52pp, 1983. (No price given.)

Henri Tristant, the well-known French postal historian, who has devoted much study to the 18th and 19th Century maritime postal relations of France, with the Colonies and foreign countries, has recently turned his interest to the relations between Malta and France. This led him to study in more detail the larger area of French and British steamer and packet services in the whole Mediterranean area, results of which are now appearing in an on-going

serial started in *L'Echo de Timbrologie* Feb. 1983, titled "Les premières paquebots à vapeur de la Méditerranée." He spent considerable time in the Malta archives and consulting newspapers and private collections of Malta, as well as of France.

A ms prepared in 1982 on "Les relations postales Franco-Maltaise de l'origine jusqu'à l'année 1870" has been translated by Godwin Said of Malta and published at Valetta by E. Said. It will be equally of interest to British and Maltese specialists as to French. There is naturally some overlap of information with the serial in *L'Echo*.

Because of its geographical position, south of Sicily and in the center of the Mediterranean Sea, Malta has had a long history of foreign conquests and occupations and at one time or other belonged to the Greeks, Carthaginians, Romans, Vandals, Goths, Byzantines, Arabs, Normans, Spaniards, French and English. In 1530, the Emperor Charles V gave Malta to the Knights of St. John, who kept the island until Napoleon Bonaparte on his way to conquer Egypt occupied it in 1798 and established the first postal service. The British, in turn, took it from the French garrison in 1800 and kept it until after W.W. II.

Before 1798 correspondence to and from Malta was mostly with Italy, France, and to a lesser degree with Spain and Greece. It is interesting to note that over 5 or 6 centuries, France supplied the majority of the Knights to the "Military Hospitaller Order of St. John of Jerusalem." Tristant's work gives a general view of the Malta postal history in relation to France, outlining the principal maritime routes and showing examples of letters, starting with one dated 1643.

The majority of described covers are from the collection of Mr. Godwin Said, a well-known Maltese specialist who is owner of a beautiful international-award winning postal-history collection of his country.

The work consists of 52 pages of which 29 carry interesting illustrations of 38 covers and 3 pages reproduce 40 postal markings of which 18 are Malta's and 22 show French, Italian and Spanish entry marks, French pre-paid postage, Mediterranean packets and Maltese disinfection marks. There are about 16 pages of text divided into 7 sections:—Pre-Revolutionary period of the 17th-18th centuries illustrated with letters carried by commercial ships and with pictures of French letters and entry marks and inland tax (also some Italian and Spanish transit marks);—the French administration of 1798-1900 with a reproduction of the first public postal service letter to France and with the first known postmark "Malta";—the British administration of Malta from 1800 to 1837 with, in 1802, the establishment of a British shipping Agency, attached to the British Post Office and responsible for mail carried by packet boats under contract. There are no examples of postally-marked letters with "Malta" until 1828. The 1832-1852 period is noted by the British Service to India, the new French postal steamers, the new rates of 1837 and 1843, and the routes of the French and British lines. The 1853-1863 period brings in the postal rates of 1856 and the first usage of British postage stamps in Malta. The 1868-1870 period shows the abandonment by the British of Malta as a stop over and the continuation of the French *Fraisinet* Line in connecting three times a month with Marseilles. The last section describes the disinfection marks of the Malta Lazaretto from 1837 to 1865.

Both specialist and unspecialized collectors will find this a very informative compilation, bringing together both archival and previously published but scattered and relatively inaccessible sources. The treatment of the pre-1800 period is regrettably short for want of sufficient documentation.

Although printed on excellent paper and very good typography, the brochure has a few shortcomings: spelling mistakes, typographical errors, captions under the illustrations too short with the additional explanations buried in the text; the 52 pages are not numbered and it is not easy, at times, to relate the illustration to its detailed description. In spite of these unimportant deficiencies of the publisher the author is to be congratulated on his ability to assemble the material from such scattered and diverse sources.—W.M. and R.G.S.

* * *

"Le Type Paix 1932-1941." By Derek J. Richardson. 1982, 52pp. Fr. and Cols. Phil. Soc. of G. B., Brochure #6.

A well-produced compilation from the very scattered literature, mostly in French, with some of the author's own original observations. The Type Paix of Laurens and Delzers was issued in various denominations and formats from 1932 to 1939 and with surcharges in 1941. It is considered one of the Marianne series for regular use. The author has presented a lot of information in well-organized and systematic arrangement. An introduction relates the intent of the PTT to supplant the Sowers for values above 25c, and gives a bit of biography of Laurens and Delzers. Chapter I describes the identifications and clearly illustrates the four die sub-type groups of the design with explanation of how they arose. Chapter II covers the basic issues, sheet-printing details, overprints and surcharges, formats (coils, booklets, stationery), tariffs to which the value corresponded, shades, mixed types set-tenant within sheets; some details of sheet printings and stationery are tabulated in an Appendix. The 1941 overprints (Vichy issue) are treated in a separate Chapter. A list of references is at the end. The printing of this book is of excellent quality, on coated paper, with clear half-tones and cuts, a clear easy-to-follow typography—the editors chose well. The work has recently been translated by R. Diana and published by Philoffset Eds. in Marseille. A very useful one in either language.—R. G. Stone

* * *

"The French Post Office of Yokohama And Its Epoch"

By Jun Ichi Matsumoto. June 1984, 250 pp., hardbound in red pebble-grain finish with title on black label and embossings of a French and a Japanese stamp. 116 figures including 5 in full color. Text is in Japanese (168 pp.) and repeated in English (74 pp.) with some figure captions in French. Published by Japan Philatelic Publications, 2 Yoyogi-2, Shibuya-ku, Tokyo 151, Japan. Price Y8000 (= ca. \$35).

A beautifully executed and printed work which will be cherished both by postal historians interested in Japan and the French post there and by those philatelic bibliophiles who collect fine works regardless of subject.

The author has for over a decade been seriously collecting and studying covers and documents related to the French postoffice at Yokohama, and his collection has won Golds in international exhibitions. He has had the co-operation of leading Japanese specialists as well as Salles in France and Prof. Spaulding in U.S., to whom he modestly gives full credits. In pursuit of the background on the office he visited France to get a personal view of postmaster Degron's life, home, and tomb.

The figures and some tables are located within the Japanese text and only referred to by number in the English text. The Table of Contents is

repeated in English but there is no index. The illustrations include many covers (4 in excellent color), many documents and several maps.

Part One of the text presents a chronological history, starting with French activities in the Orient before the Yokohama postoffice was opened, then the opening of the French P.O., the effect of the Great Fire in Yokohama in November 1866 (with a list of known covers from the P.O. during 1866-67), the growth of the office in 1867-69, effects of the Franco-Prussian War, the era of prosperity 1872-76, and the decline and closing of the P.O. 1877-80.

Part Two is an analysis of official documents, the postal routes, postmarks, French stamps used, combination covers, the people whose names appear on the covers, and biography of Henri Degron the postmaster. Matsu-moto makes some emphasis on the social background to the postal history. A list is provided of valuations in yen of covers of various types of use, claimed to be "market prices" as of 1983-84.

In a Postscript the author suggests the aspects of the subject which a younger generation of postal historians will find rewarding not only to collect but for further research on many unsolved problems. He thinks there exist about 3000 items or covers related to the Yokohama French P.O., and even the rarest items exist in at least three examples. The bibliography is mainly to publications in Japanese but a few English and French works are cited.

The English text is very well written and there are very few typos. The illustrations are of excellent quality and the printing in a clear easy-to-read type on a heavy matte-finish paper. Many nicely chosen illustrations of collateral material are scattered through the book. The whole ambience is one of elegance (not a "coffee-table" book), thoughtful convenience, attention to detail, and pride in its appearance. The author and publisher deserve an accolade for such a scholarly and handsome work.—R. G. Stone

* * *

"The Postal History of Forwarding Agents."

By Kenneth Rowe. 1984. 296 pp. \$35.00 hardbound, post paid. Leonard H. Hartmann, P. O. Box 36006, Louisville, Ky. 40233.

This is a completely revised and greatly enlarged edition of a work that had two previous editions. It is an excellently printed book with clear type and illustrations. The arrangement is planned to give maximum convenience to the user. A 32-p introduction discusses the methods and history of forwarding. The listings are alphabetical by cities and name of agents, coded for style of marking, size, type of agent, color of mark, earliest and latest dates reported, and a rarity factor. Many illustrations are scattered through the text. At the end are a world-wide alphabetical listing by agent name, a listing of cities by country, and a bibliography.

The coverage seems to be rather complete as far as the literature and data from many collectors could provide, 3723 marks and 344 cities in all. Apart from its importance and utility to postal historians at large, specialists in French countries will find extensive listings: there are 24 cities of France, and 9 in the colonies. Notably, Paris has 58 listings, LeHavre 93, Marseille 61, Bordeaux 43, Calais 24, Nantes 7.

This is a work highly recommended for collectors of the 19th Century. French covers especially sent abroad, and covers to France via certain foreign countries or ports. The transatlantic and maritime specialists will find some connections here too.—R. G. Stone

RUTH M. BROWN

We have lost a very good friend and French philately one of its most assiduous collectors and students of 1870-71 postal history and the Bordeaux issue. Ruth died unexpectedly on 20 July of a massive heart attack. FCPS members have seen the many articles jointly written by Ruth and her husband Gardner, the latest of which appeared in the July issue—a fitting swan song to their long devotion to the Bordeaux issue. Ruth was very personable, of kindly generous spirit, always pleasant company and one to inspire respect and cooperation. These qualities were recognized over many years by organizations in which she was active: as State President of the Womans Fellowship of Congregational Churches of Ohio, Past President of the Akron YWCA, and President of the American Association of University Women Mid-Coast Branch. She was a member of the Académie D'Etudes Postales and of many philatelic societies. Besides her husband, she is survived by two daughters and four grandchildren—daughter Nancy Zielinski is a well-known philatelist and a leader in philately for juniors.—R.G.S.

HAMILTON'S CONTINENTAL BALLOON POST

By Ernst M. Cohn

Readers of the "Philatelist" know that Georges Naudet—historian, air enthusiast, and well-known philatelist—died in May 1983. In July 1984, his aerophilatelic collection was sold at Paris. I have meanwhile received two photocopies of documents from his collection, bearing on 1870, each bearing on a different balloon flight out of besieged Paris. Though neither is a balloon cover, both are important collateral documents.

Here, however, we are concerned with lot 669, listed under Great Britain and described as follows:

1845 HAMILTON. Poste par ballon. Envelope essai ou de propagande portant un dessin de timbre en jaune surchargé d'un ballon.

The last sentence may be translated as "essay or advertisement envelope carrying the design of a stamp in yellow, surcharged with a balloon."

In contrast to the other lots, the price for this one was not estimated. It brought FFr 9500 which, with the added commission, amounted to a total of over \$1260. Not unreasonable for an 1845 balloon cover, you may think; but is it?

I have given its history in "The Aero Philatelist Annals" vol. XXV, No. 2 (Jan. 1982) pp. 36-37, the last issue of that journal. With the help of British philatelists Francis J. Field and Robert I. Johnson I found out that Hamilton's Diorama was started in 1848 (not 1845, as stated above) and that this bit of advertisement, which was made to look like the envelope for a balloon letter, was probably distributed around 1871 or so, during or after the Franco-German War of 1870-71, when Hamilton featured many scenes from that war.

In those days, the scrap book was a common repository for souvenirs of all sorts, which may account for at least a couple of these items surviving as fronts only, the backs having been firmly pasted in. This one apparently was a complete envelope, one of four known survivors of an advertising campaign, made to look as though it carries a hand-written address.

There is a yellow rectangle in the upper right corner in the form of a stamp, the four corners of which show the letters HCBP, the initials of the title of this note. That is "overprinted" with a dark blue balloon, where the middle of the gas bag is inscribed HAMILTON'S. Another handstamp, this one imprinted in tile red and more or less in the center of each envelope, reads "Continental Balloon Post." At the bottom left, struck in the same color, is a spiked circle inscribed PARIS and a couple of lines above and below, looking almost like a miniature postmark. In the upper left corner, struck in black and at various angles on different envelopes, are the directions "Via Marseilles" (sic).

This is an original, fancy advertisement produced in England a little over a century ago. It is also a perfect example of how, by sheer ignorance coupled with tradition, a worthless piece of paper can be traded for the price normally paid for a recognized airmail rarity.

FOR THE RECORD

(Continued from FCP #197, p. 91)

467). Jean-Francois Brun sent us a photo of a Corps Expeditionnaire de Mexique cover of 1865 with five 10c Empire perforated stamps each cancelled (several tied) by a peculiar handstamped cross mark. (See Fig.)

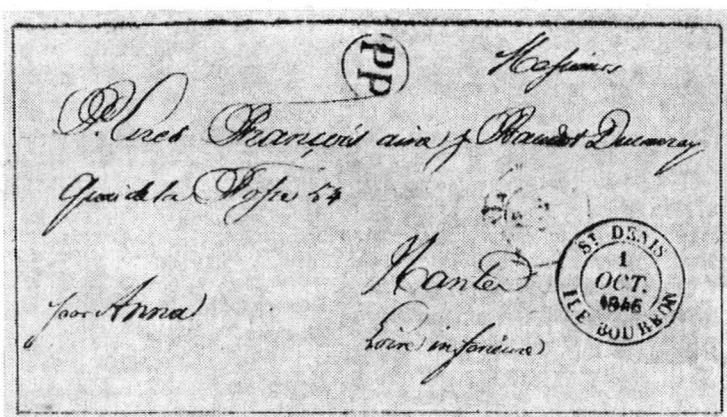


468). Jacques Desrousseaux has a son who was stationed with the French troops in Chad during 1984. He sent Bill Waugh covers showing Liberté stamps cancelled by "Poste aux Armées" postmarks of several types, one mute and one including BPM #617 (located at N'Djamena and also a stamp cancelled by a straightline "SP 85300" the number of a postal sector at N'Djamena, used at the military headquarters there, appears on another cover. A letter sent to SP 85323 was returned "inconnu" as the SP had been discontinued. There is a rectangular-framed "Franchise Postale" mark on one cover. It is supposedly prohibited to show a location on a cover which has a BPM no. or SP no., except on registered and official mail. The rules were

apparently not always observed. The military situation in Chad has been rather fluid so there have been probably changes and location shifts in the SP numbers (which are assigned to the unit vaguemestres).

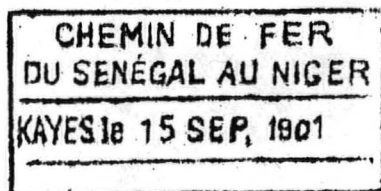


469). Alain Millet sends us this photocopy of a very rare early letter from Nossi Be in 1846. It was taken by private or naval vessel to Reunion and posted at St. Denis prepaid ("PP") to Nantes.

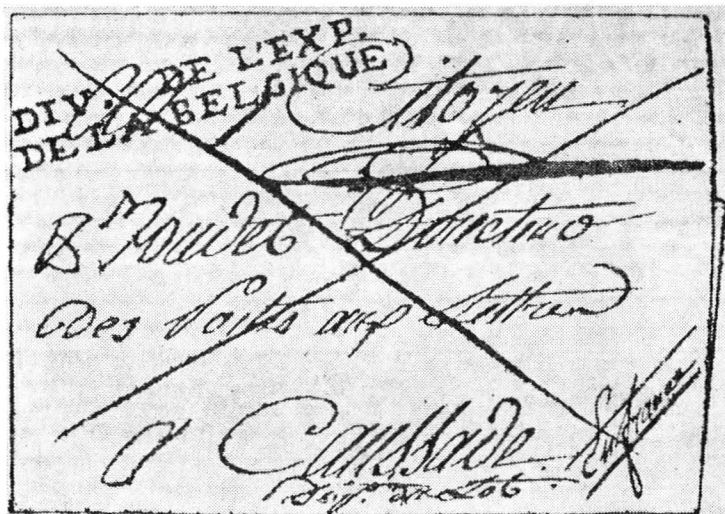


470). Ed. Grabowski reports he has acquired a used 1c black Group-Type stamp of a colony which is on a yellowish or pinkish-tinted paper (instead of bluish) similar in shade to paper of some 25c black stamps faded from soaking or extra pale print.

471). Pierre Raynaud shows us a cover from Kayes, French Soudan,



1901, to France in military free franchise, bearing on back a cachet not reported in the literature—a rectangle inscribed “Chemin de Fer/Du Sénégal au Niger/Kayes 15 Sep. 1901.” The sender was an officer in the “Corps Expeditionnaire du Soudan Francaise, Compagnie 23 Sqdr, du Génie, Kayes.” The railroad from Dakar to Soudan was under construction at this time.



472). The cover illustrated here is Lot No. 1013 of Robineau's 129th auction sale (cf April 1984). To the best of my knowledge, this marking: DIV DE L'EXP./DE LA BELGIQUE (50-mm long, struck in red) has hitherto been unreported. The contents consist of personal news from a captain in the Armée des Ardennes to (apparently his father) the Director of Posts at Caussade (Lot Dept.)—hence untaxed. It was written 13 March 1793, somewhere between Louvain and Brussels. The so-called Armée (or Expedition) de Belgique was an invention of Gen. Dumouriez, in honor of his combined, personal command of the Armées du Nord and des Ardennes. The letter is more correctly one from the very real Armée des Ardennes, and is more closely related to the wing (of the combined armies) then commanded by Gen. Valence (under Dumouriez). Five days later, Dumouriez and Valence were defeated at Neerwinden, and soon after deserted to the Austrians.—S. J. Luft

473). R. Altériet reported recently to the SOCOCODAMI society about some fakes that will concern collectors of the regular Mariannes stamps of the last decade. He says: “For the last two years or so there are circulating some stamps, Sabines principally, in abnormal colors. These stamps have been treated chemically so that the gum and phospho bars are left intact, and offered as ‘essais de couleur’ (color trials), perforated, to credulous and ill-informed collectors. The audacity and lack of conscience of the faker(s) knows no bounds. I submit an example of the 10c Sabine in blue(!) (issued in red-brown) which was sent to me. In this case the fakery was gross—the ink had been altered, but there exist other values where the color has been only somewhat transformed (e.g., from the 0.01 issued grey to a 0.01 violet grey and the design intact. The maker of these fantasies confined his ef-

forts to the low values, and have distributed them widely—reported to me from Pas-de-Calais, Bouches-de-Rhone, Doubs, etc. So prudence is advised.”

474). We remind you again that the term “phosphor bars” is a misnomer; there is no phosphorus in the ink used to print the bars, only a zinc sulphate which phosphoresces (not fluoresces) in UV light. The bars should be called “phospho.”

475). An odd postmark of Martinique in the standard type of the period, was reported in Feuilles Marcophiles #236. It is inscribed “Capitainerie * Fort de France * 30/Juil/93,” on a cover to Paris with 10c+15c Group Type stamps cancelled Fort de France, 30 July 1893. The “Capitainerie” suggests an official office of some sort related to the Gendarmerie or a port facility.

476). Collectors are fairly familiar with the French stamps overprinted “F M” for use by military personnel from 1901 to 1972 on a limited number of letters sent free per month—at first 2 per month, and from 1951 on 8 per month. What is probably not well known is that also from 1 June 1951 the military were entitled at one free package-mailing of up to 3 kg per month. A label for this “bon” was furnished once a month to each personnel, dated at end of the month and indicated to be valid up to three months from that date. The franchise for both letters and the package ended on 1 July 1972. As the French small-parcels weight limit was raised on 1 Feb. 1972 to 5 kg from 3 kg, the Administration decided by a circulaire (not published in the Bull. Officiel) at the end of May 1972 that from 1 June the military could have their package-franchise weight limit raised to 5 kg. But the “bon” label was only valid for the 3 kg at equivalent of 5.65 Fr, whereas the tarif for the 5 kg weight limit was 8.65Fr, so the military would have to pay in postage stamps the difference between the 3 kg and 5 kg tarif, that is 1.50 for 4 kg or 3.00 for 5 kg. Some very rare pieces can be found used during only a period of 5 months with the “bon” label plus the adhesives for 1.50 or 3.00 Fr. The last “bon” issued to the personnel was dated 30 June 1972 and was valid to 30 Sept. 1972.

CURRENT JOURNAL ARTICLES

Le Monde des Philatélistes

- #361, Feb. 1983: Guillard: “Automation du Courrier” (begin); Sohier and Madron: “Sabine, les états de phosphorescence” (begin); Fromageat: “Genèse de la Semeuse”; conts. of DeWailly, Tristant, Monchicourt, Perrin, Savélon.
- #362, March 1983: Conts. of Sohier et Madron, Fromageat, DeWailly, Perrin, Tristant, Monchicourt, Guillard.
- #370, Dec. 1983: Roup: “Le Poste du privilège au service public”; conts. of Joffre, Monchicourt, Danan, Tristant, Fromageat, Trassaert.

Feuilles Marcophiles

- #235, 4th Trim 1983: De Zanche: “La poste française au Levant durant la période Napoléon 1812-13”; Noel: “Lettre locale par Courrier-Convoyeur”; Lamar: “La machine Fodor à recommandée les lettres”; Migliavacca: “Le prisonniers de Guerre Italiens en Afrique du Nord

- pendant la 2ème G.M."; conts. of Cuny and Delwaulle, Harder.
- #236, 1st Trim. 1984: "Les districts revolutionnaires" (addenda); Tristant: "Les premiers paquebots Francaises transatlantiques à vapeur—Ligues de New York et du Brésil"; Lamar: "La fin de la vacance du Bur. de Cuero (Var) (1794"; Bergier: "Analogie entre les marques postales Américaines du 18th siècle et les marques des paquebots—poste Francaises"; Floch: "Les cachets 21, 13, 14, utilisees au déla du. 1er Janv. 1849 dans le Finistère"; Noel: "Le timbre 'Après le Départ' "; Malévergne: "La correspondances Havas pendant la Guerre de 1870-71"; Kirsch: "La base de ravitaillement de Casablanca"; Desarnaud: "Les ordres de réexpédition des PTT"; Goin: "Les chasseurs et Alpains en 1965"; Mathieu: "La censure à Madagascar au cours du 2ème conflit condiale 1939-45."

Documents Philatéliques

- #98, 4th trim 1983: De Fontaines: "La Corse" (cont.); DeZanche: "Le rôle des Correspondents postaux en temps de guerre"; Alexandre: "Les conventions de poste entre la France et les pays étrangers depuis la Restauration, 3.—les cantons Suisse" (cont.); Tristant: "Les premiers paquebots poste à vapeur francaises dans la Méditerranée" (end); conts. of Schraeder, de la Méttrie, Desarnaud.

Bulletin da l'Amicale Philatélique l'Ancre de Nantes

- #32, Oct. 1983: Vincent: "Changement de Tarif au Juin 1, 1983"; Vincent: "Transport de courrier par ballon 26 Juin 1983"; Brillouet: "Impressions sur TEMBAL '83"; cont. of Simon.

Indo-China Philatelist

- #62, Nov.-Dec. 1983: Marinescu: "Empire and the post card"; Carol: "Update on 1982 Laos surcharges"; Toops: "Word from Kampuchea"; Toops: "Viet Cong postal department."
- #63, Jan.-Feb. 1984: Marinescu (cont.)

Philatelic Literature Review

- #121, 4th Qtr. 1983: Stone: "Bibliography of philatelic literature on the French Soudan Region."

London Philatelist

- Nov.-Dec. 1983: J. and M. Moubray: "British overseas routes and rates 1840-1875" (some French connections) (begin).

La Philatélie au Québec

- #83, Dec. 1983: Gondier: "La Carte Postale (Francais)."

Lore (Milwaukee Public Museum) (APRL)

- Vol. 33, #4, Winter 1983: Frank: "A philatelic journal with the French explorers" (topical).

Postgeschichte (Switzerland) (CC)

- #s 11/12 and 13/14, 1982-1983: L. Vuille: "Relations de M. M. Fischer avec la France de 1786 à 1828" (cont.)

Relais

- #4, Dec. 1983: Conts. of Boussac, Beaufol et al; Boussac: "Poste aux chevaux et publicite."

Chronicle of the U. S. Classic Postal Issues

- #121, Feb. 1984: Pratt: "USA-France private ship covers."

F. & C. P. S. OFFICIAL

President's Letter

As I write this, the fall philatelic season is fully under way. I trust everyone had an enjoyable summer, and may have added something interesting to their collection.

All members are always invited to attend our monthly meetings at the Collectors Club, 22 East 35th St., New York. The meetings are held at 8:00 p.m. the first Tuesday of each month from September through June. For those who wish, we meet at the Club at 6:00 p.m. and go around the corner to the Chinese restaurant for dinner. I will be the speaker at the November meeting, concluding my presentation on "The Serbs in Exile (1916-1918)" with material from the Salonika Front, and mail across the lines. In December Dr. Martin Stempien will speak about "Mail from the United States to France during the Three-Month Period at the Beginning of 1857."

The directors have decided not to publish a new membership directory. In view of concerns regarding the publication of addresses, and a lack of substantial demand from the membership, we could not justify the time and expense involved. I strongly urge that all members correct their present directories: the zip code in my address should be 07839. In spite of all the jokes and stories, the post office does use the zip code and letters to me are significantly delayed when sent by way of Lightstreet.—Richard M. Stevens

STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT AND CIRCULATION

Date of filing: Oct. 2, 1984

1. Title of publication: France and Colonies Philatelist. Publication No. 207700
2. Frequency of issue: Quarterly

3A. Annual Subscription Price: \$4.50

4. Location of known office of publication: 821 Vermont St., Lawrence, Ks. 66044
5. Location of the headquarters or general business offices of the publishers:
103 Spruce St., Bloomfield, N. J. 07003

6. Names and addresses of publisher, editor, and managing editor:
Publisher: France & Colonies Philatelic Society, Inc. (N. Y.)
Editor: Robert G. Stone, P. O. Box 336, Blue Ridge Summit, Pa. 17214
Managing Editor: None

7. Owner: France and Colonies Philatelic Society, Inc.
103 Spruce St., Bloomfield, N. J. 07003

8. Known bondholders, mortgagees, etc.—None

10. Extent and nature of circulation	Average no. copies each issue during preceding 12 months		Actual no. copies single issue pub. nearest filing date	
A. Total No. copies	1050		1050	
B. Paid circulation				
1. Sales thru dealers, carriers, vendors, counter	0		0	
Mail subscriptions	785		788	
C. Total paid circulation	785		788	
D. Free distribution, samples, complimentary, etc.	18		18	
E. Total distribution	803		806	
F. Copies not distributed, office use, over, etc.	247		244	
Returns from news agents	0		0	
G. Total	1050		1050	

I certify that the statements made by me above are correct and complete.

Robert G. Stone, Editor

NEW MEMBERS

- 2432 SCHULER, William F., 2822 Polk St., San Francisco, Calif. 94109
(General France, mint, used. Semi-postals, air mails, DeLuxe proofs, Imperforates, artist's proofs, color trials, specimen, annulé, fictifs. Omnibus issues)
- 2433 CHAPIN, William H., 1018 9th Ave., Yuma, Ariz. 85364
(Topical: French Foreign Legion. Algeria: 1924-1962 (stamps mint and used). Exchange)
- 2434 STUT, Daniel J., 012 Golmon Circle, Daphne, Ala. 36526
(General France, mint. Offices Abroad)
- 2435 KILLIEN, Dr. F. Christian, 3910 N. E. Belvoir Pl., Seattle, Wash. 98105
(General collector: 20th Cent. Offices Abroad. CFA. Colonies General Issues, mint. Group Type. All colonies and territories. Vichy issues. Philatelic literature. Exchange)
- 2436 BALBATON, Richard J., 116 Fisher St., North Attleboro, Mass.
(General France, used, on cover. World War I and II Emergency Scrip Notes)
- 2437 THACHER, Charles G., 7 Mayberry Road, Chappaqua, N. Y. 10514
(General France, mint. Classics: 1849-1876, mint)
- 2438 HEASMAN, Robert G., 2401 Toronto Dominion Tower, Edmonton, Alb., Canada T5J2X1 (General France, mint, used, on cover. Paris Marques Postales. Used Abroad. Regular issues, cancellations. Philatelic lit.)
- 2439 GOFILL, David, 1734 Dell Cove Dr., Fort Wayne, Ind. 46804
(General collector. No specialty given)

REINSTATEMENTS

- 2148 LOEFFLER, William L., 72-12 Manse St., Forest Hills, N. Y. 11375
(Already in directory)
- 2123 PURCELL, Leonard P., Apartado Postal 99-016, Unidad Independencia, 10100 Mexico D.F., Mexico (Colonies General Issues, mint, used, on cover. Covers of Guadeloupe. Dealer, part time, new issues of Mexico only)

CHANGE OF ADDRESS AND CORRECTIONS

- 2416 BENNETT, Kira, P. O. Box 56432, Houston, Texas 77256
- 2266 SLATTERY, James M., 55 Villa Road, Apt. A-1-131, Greenville, S. Car. 29615
- 2138 BEAN, Robert W., P. O. Box 224, Urbana, Ohio 43078
- 1601 FAGAN, John R., Correction of name spelling
- 1675 KRASSOWSKY, Alexander, Zip code should be 11372
- 2419 AYRES, Robert G., 19 Munn Drive, Asheville, N. Car. 28805
- 1959 MONTELLO, Lawrence J., P. O. Box 4513, E.C. P.O., Weed, Cal. 96094
- 2305 CARLSON, Patricia L., 1405 10th Ave., N. E., Rochester, Minn. 55904
- 2061 ANDERSON, Allen, R. R. 1, Oskaloosa, Iowa 52577
- 1960 MARINESCU, Constantin A., 140 W. 238th St., Apt. A51, Bronx, N. Y. 10463
- 2018 COE, Joffre L., II, 221 Bryan Bldg., Cameron Village, Raleigh, N. Car. 27605
- 2208 REENSTJERNA, Frederick R., 6347 Pine Dr., Huntington, W. V. 25705
- 1593 KOHAGEN, Roger A., Box 274, Sparkill, N. Y. 10976
- 1631 McNICHOLS, Robert A., 622 Glacier Trail, Roselle, Ill. 60172
- 2037 GREENE, Inslee B., 3404 Jefferson Ave., Yakima, Wash. 98902
- 368 MALMGREN, Ralph T., P. O. Box 69, Wolfeboro Falls, N. H. 03896