



France & Colonies Philatelist

October 2006

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Vermeil Medals at CHICAGOPEX 2003 and NAPEX 2004



During the period of Classic stamp production, a defective stamp would sometimes be cut out of a sheet and replaced by another one glued in its place. These are now rare, as well as hard to see and recognize. Here is a highly visible example, Paris, 31 October 1863 to Mexico, bearing five perforated Empire 80c stamps, of which the replacement stamp in the middle had fallen off; a handstamped boxed P.P. indicates that the cover had been fully prepaid. (ex Dubus; Zanaria 2006 Rarities sale)

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POSTAL ISSUES OF THE 1925 PARIS DECORATIVE ARTS EXPOSITION - IV - "L'ARCHITECTURE"

Thomas W. Broadhead (FCPS #2830)

At the time the Exposition opened on 28 April 1925, the 25c Potier stamp had been in use for almost five months, its principal use being the payment of the 1st weight class of sealed domestic letters. The intent to replace it with another design was expressed by Commissioner General Fernand David, who had presided over a committee that had selected four designs, including the much-reviled "Pot des Fleurs." A letter of 30 October 1924 from the Director of Postal Usage to the Subsecretary of State indicated David's preference to utilize the "La Femme et la Biche" design, one of the group proposed by David's committee as designs in addition to Le Potier, for both a new 25c stamp and the 45c postal card. An additional design mentioned in the same letter was "l'Architecture," proposed by David for a new 75c stamp.

Within three months, those proposed changes had been abandoned. Writing to the Subsecretary on 6 February 1925, David expresses his disappointment over a letter of 23 January from the Subsecretary indicating that "La Femme et la Biche" would not be used, despite its unanimous support from artists and artistic groups whom he had consulted.¹ In the same letter, however, David indicates that he would then prefer that the design "l'Architecture" be used for both the second 25c design and the postal card.

"L'Architecture" was designed by Henri Rapin, a painter and decorator, who was widely exhibited and became an officer in the Légion d'Honneur.² Moreover, Rapin is credited with contributing "to the success of the 1925 Art Deco Exhibition in the position of deputy chairman of the Association of Decorative Artists, and as an artist had a hand in the design of many of the pavilions."³ Execution of the design was by Louis Ruet, an engraver, who earned many medals for his work and was president of the Société des Aquafortistes français.⁴

The final design chosen, 81 proofs of the new 25c and 45c denominations were prepared by the Chief Engineer of the Atelier to the Subsecretary (letter of 3 March). With a letter from the Subsecretary, 14 proofs for the 25c and four for the 45c postal card were submitted to Commissioner General David for approval, noting that he was free to choose the color for the 25c but was required to select red for the 45c,⁵ to conform to UPU rules for international postcard stamps. Delays in production were duly noted, but the Subsecretary promised the highest level of attention.

Melot (2002) suggests that the 25c l'Architecture stamp had been printed by mid-April (a sheet of

stamps dated 16 April in the Musée de la Poste) and distributed to major post offices in late April (*Bulletin Officiel des Postes* no. 9 de 1925, p. 105). Although Melot questions the 11 May date of issue reported in most catalogs, important documentation of the intended date of issue is provided in a copy of a press release dated 11 May from the dossier in the library of the Musée, which clearly indicates its issue on that date.⁶ The 11 April date given in the 1973 Françon and Storch catalog⁷ can safely be considered a typographical error.

The date of issue for the 45c postal card has never been particularly clear, and is not reflected in catalogs. Melot (2002) does not address this date of issue, but illustrates an archival example of the card dated 6 June 1925 from the Musée de la Poste. A press release dated 27 June from the dossier at the Musée may provide the strongest circumstantial evidence for a late June issue, announcing the availability of the card at major post offices⁸ but lacking the precise indication of the date of issue found in the announcement of the 25c stamp. If 27 June is the official date of issue, then the card was only usable without additional stamps for 20 days.

"L'Architecture" was more favorably received in the philatelic press than was its predecessor, "Pot des Fleurs," although some considered it not to be an improvement over Le Potier⁹ and also not an understandable duplication printed in tasteless colors.¹⁰ Nonetheless, the significance of its design, showing one of the wine region towers from the exposition - appropriately designed by one of the Exposition's designers - was lost on most reviewers. It was variously described as an "Architectural design showing what appears to be a Palace,"¹¹ "Castle and steps,"¹² "Terrace of a Chateau,"¹³ "Entrance of the exposition,"¹⁴ and "View of the Exposition."¹⁵ In fact, the last of these is the most appropriate, although only the wine tower pavilion is recognizable as an Exposition building.

Production

The sheet format and production of the 25c l'Architecture were identical to those of the other Arts Décoratifs issues - 3 panes of 25 stamps in each half sheet. The archives of the Musée de La Poste indicate a total of 124,383,750 stamps printed in the 25c denomination, but do not report individual figures for Le Potier and l'Architecture. Postal cards were printed in a modest quantity of 53,172.¹⁶

Essays and Proofs



Figure 1. Sepia-toned photographic essay showing numerous differences with the final design, most notably the figures of artisans and the basal inscription, "L'architecture."

An early photographic essay (Figure 1) has the general appearance of the final stamp (Figure 2), but

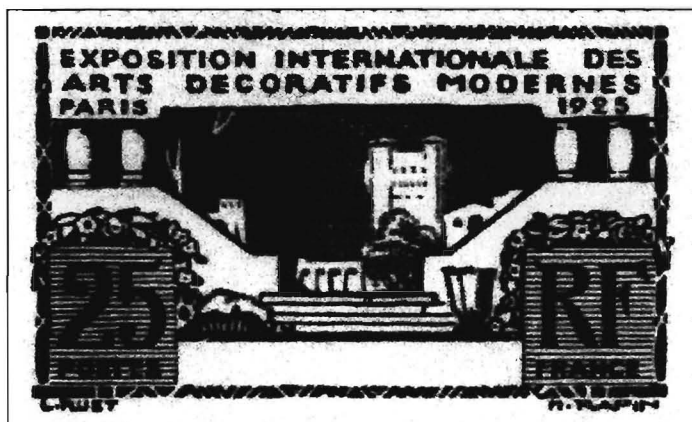


Figure 2. Well-centered example of the *l'Architecture* stamp.

exhibits numerous differences. The most striking are the figures of artisans and the inscription "L'architecture" in the center lower tablet - both aspects absent from the final design. The shrubbery at the left is the same in both, but different at the right; flower garlands above the value and RF tablets are more elaborate in the final form; the numeral 25 is simpler with a flat base in the final; the top and side borders are distinctly different, but the lower borders more nearly similar. At the top, the inscriptions "Paris" and "1925" are moved to the sides in the final, and the lower margin of this lintel extends farther at the sides to the tops of the columns. Whereas buildings shown in the essay are purely artistic elements, the final design shows one of the four wine region towers (Figure 3),



Figure 3. Portion of photographic postcard showing one of the four wine region towers, with its prominent balconies, evident in the *l'Architecture* stamp design. Photo taken during construction.

which were the tallest structures of the exposition. At least one intermediate photographic essay exists, now in the dossier of the library at the Musée de La Poste in Paris. It is most similar to the essay shown here and bears the *L'architecture* inscription, but lacks the figures of artisans, and has "Paris" and "1925" spaced widely at the top.

Françon and Storch (1973)¹⁷ report essays in different colors and on different paper types with designs very different from the final, including the inscription "l'Architecture" in the lower tablet. Additionally they indicate essays (more likely color proofs) in diverse colors showing the adopted design (Figure 4).



Figure 4. Color trial proof in red (frame) and gray green (vignette) without value in tablet.

Loeuillet and Françon (1994)¹⁸ additionally list artist's proofs and imperforate examples printed on reference sheets and a 75c essay of *l'Architecture* with the inscription in the lower tablet (also confirmed by George Barker, FCPS UK, personal communication 2002). The only proof reported for the postal card is that of the frame design in the issued color (Figure 5).¹⁹



Figure 5. Color proof in dark red of the frame for the 45c postal card (ex Luft).

Varieties

Constant design variants have not been reported for *l'Architecture*, and reported varieties are limited to the 25c stamp: color shades, inking, image registration, and perforation. The absence of reports of differences among examples of the 45c postal card may reflect a lack of previous study. A card with a rounded "4" in the value tablet may represent a significant variety, but so far is known only from a single example (Figure 6).

unusual as an example that passed successfully through the mails after the 31 December demonetization of the Arts Décoratifs issue.

The postal card (Figure 10) was issued with a single purpose - the 45c international post card rate of 1

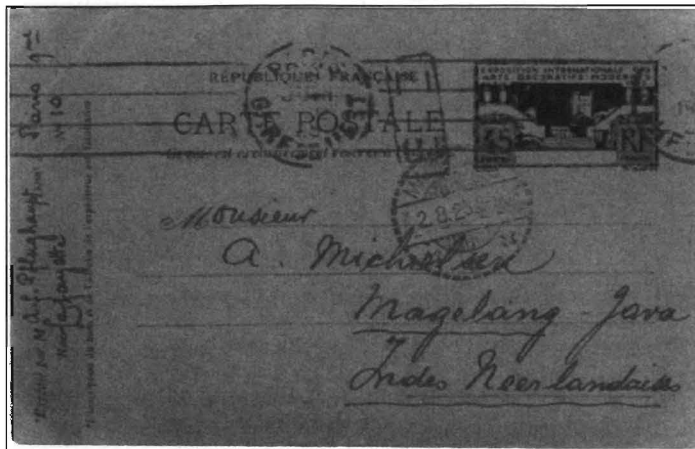


Figure 10. 45c postal card mailed 29 June 1925 from Paris to Magelang, Java - received 2 August. Possible very early use, suggested by press release of 27 June. Between the time the card was mailed and received, the international post card rate had increased on 16 July from 45c to 60c.

April 1924 (it had originally been planned as a 30c card for the rate of 1 January 1922). Unfortunately, the comprehensive postal rate change of 16 July increased the rate to 60c, requiring additional stamps (Figure 11). Cards mailed prior to the rate increase are notably scarce, and most used copies have the additional 15c.

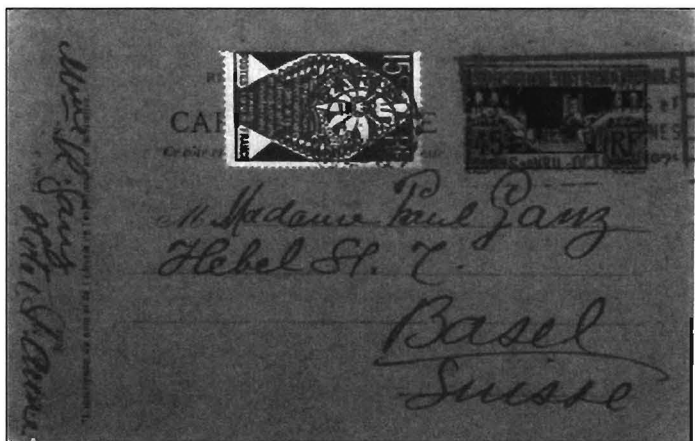


Figure 11. 45c postal card uprated with 15c Pot des Fleurs stamp (60c rate of 16 July 1925), postmarked with the Exposition slogan cancel from Paris, St. Roch on 4 September to Basel.

Endnotes

¹"Vous avez bien voulu me faire connaître, le 23 janvier, que vous n'aviez pu accepter le timbre-poste du type 'La Biche'. Permettez-moi de vous exprimer mes regrets de cette décision qui écarte le projet qui avait retenu particulièrement l'attention de l'unanimité des artistes et des Présidents des Groupements artistiques j'avais consultés."

²Bénézit, E. 1999. *Dictionnaire critique et documentaire des Peintres, Sculpteurs, Dessinateurs et Graveurs*, Nouvelle Édition, Tome 11, p. 442.

³http://www.teien-art-museum.ne.jp/museum/e_museum.html

⁴Bénézit, *op. cit.*, Tome 12, p. 86.

⁵"...la figurine, de 0,45 obligatoirement rouge; la couleur à attribuer aux figurines de 0,10 et 0,25 est libre." [Universal Postal Union regulations required that stamps issued for international postcard rates be in shades of red].

⁶"Un timbre special de 25 centimes des "Arts Décoratifs," à l'effigie "L'Architecture" est mis en vente, dans les principaux bureaux de poste, à partir d'aujourd'hui 11 mai. L'approvisionnement de tous les établissements de poste sera réalisé à bref délai."

⁷Françon, Robert and Storch, Jean. 1973. *Catalogue Spécialisé des Timbres-Poste de France 1900-1940*. Cercle Lyonnais d'Études Philatéliques et Marcophiles. Annonay.

⁸"Des cartes postales revêtues d'une figurine de 45 centimes des "Arts décoratifs," à l'effigie "L'Architecture," sont mises en vente, dans les principaux bureaux de poste. Ces cartes peuvent être utilisées pour la correspondance avec les Pays étrangers." Melot, M. 2002. "Arts Décoratifs: Un série à 200,000 francs," *Timbres Magazine*, No. 27, September 2002.

⁹Frankreich. *Illustriertes Briefmarken Journal*, Nr. 12 (1116), p. 186. 13, June 1925.

¹⁰Unnötig Markenausgaben. *Die Postmarke*, Nr. 96/97, p. 131, 25, May 1925, Vienna.

¹¹*The Stamp Lover*, v. 18, no. 1, p. 9, June 1925.

¹²Stanley Gibbons *Postage Stamp Catalogue, Part Two, Europe and Colonies*. 1967, p. 190.

¹³Thorp, Prescott H. 1934. *The Commemorative Stamps of the World*. Scott Publishing, New York.

¹⁴*Catalogue Spécialisé des Timbres de France*. 1982. Vol. 2, page 59. Editions Yvert & Tellier, Amiens.

¹⁵Bertrand, G. 1932. *Mémorial Philatélique I*. page 151. Librairie L. Cros, Paris.

¹⁶Memorandum of 18 November 1925 from the Director of Services of the Central Depot to the Secretary General of Posts and Telegraphs, 3rd bureau.

¹⁷Françon and Storch, *op. cit.*, p. 316.

¹⁸Loeuillet, Roger and Françon, Robert. 1994. *Cérès France, Variétés*. Éditions Cérès. Annonay.

¹⁹Storch, Jean and Françon, Robert. 1989. *Les Entiers Postaux de France et de Monaco*. 4th edition. Annonay.

²⁰Wanōs, Léonard. 1975. *Catalogue des Variétés de France*. 5th edition 1975-76. Éditions Cérès. Paris.

²¹Dubost, C. L. 1951. "Pictorial Varieties, Exposition Internationale des Arts Decoratifs Modernes - 1925." *France & Colonies Philatelic Society Newsletter*, vol. 1, no. 9, January, 1951.

²²Broadhead, T.W. 2005. "Postal issues of the 1925 Paris Decorative Arts Exposition II - "Le Potier." *France & Colonies Philatelist* No. 279 (Vol. 61, No. 1), p. 4-5.

THE MARKINGS AND MANUSCRIPT NOTATIONS IN RED OR BLUE ON LETTERS FROM OR TO COUNTRIES OUTSIDE THE POSTAL UNION (1875-1892): THE "TABLE C"

Robert Abensur (FCPS #3201)

[This is the author's highly condensed version of his important article, on a previously poorly explored subject, and which appeared in Documents Philatéliques N° 187, January 2006. Requested for our Journal by the Editor, who did the translation from the French]

This article explains how the Postal Union (GPU, later UPU) fixed the problem of payments to countries which assured postal transit to entities outside the Union. It then studies the markings on mail that followed this resolution.

Some countries simply arranged mail carriage outside the Union. For example, before South American countries joined the Union, South Atlantic packet lines acted outside the Union. European countries that wished to partake of regular British or French packet services had to pay a surcharge over the normal Union rates.

A number of countries served as intermediaries for the payment of inland postage for those not yet within the Union. As an example, and long before the Cape Colony joined the Union, it was possible to pre-pay postage to destinations within the Colony from much of Europe; Great Britain had a postal arrangement with the Colony to allow for this convenience. Union countries wishing to correspond with the Cape Colony (and with most other British colonies) paid Great Britain for the maritime transit plus any inland rates within that colony.

Each country that provided maritime transit (and sometimes inland as well) to a non-Union entity would list a tax that would be due to it for letters or printed matter, according to a series of weight bands. Each of these countries would show these taxes in a "Table C" for every different origin and destination, and provide these Tables to other countries.

For postage-paid letters departing from a Union country an extra fee would be paid to those Union countries that provided service beyond the Union. The amount of the fee would be shown in **red** on the letter by the departure country's exchange bureau.

For postage-due letters from non-Union entities, this would be a debt due to the Union country that delivered them. The amount would be indicated in **blue** by the Union country's entry bureau.

The red or blue notations are always expressed in French centimes and francs, being as that was the Union's official currency. They are usually in manuscript form but may also have been applied with a handstamp.

In all instances, the amount to be paid either by the sender when postpaid or recipient when unpaid was the total of the Union tariff **plus** the Table C tax remunerating the intermediary Union country.

The original article provided several examples. An 1876 letter from Havana to France (Figure 1), via the United States, was taxed 8 décimes: 70 centimes for an unpaid Union letter from the U.S. to France plus the 10 centimes Table C tax. The letter shows a blue handstamped 10 applied at New York, indicating that 10 centimes was due to the U.S. for conveyance outside the Union, from Havana to New York.

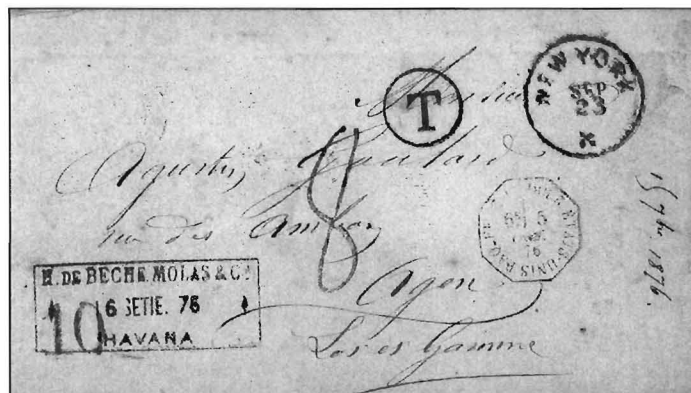


Figure 1.

As another example, an 1876 letter from France via Great Britain to St. Lucia in the British West Indies (Figure 2), prior to that island's entry into the Union, was franked at 1,40F. This consists of 30 centimes for a prepaid Union letter between European countries plus a 1,10F Table C tax, this latter due to Great Britain. The 1,10 is shown in red crayon on the envelope, and represents the amount to be paid to the Britannic office for English maritime transit plus the internal St. Lucia charge.



Figure 2.

This system was inaugurated on 1 July 1875 and ended on 1 July 1892. It was replaced by fixed charges that no longer needed to be shown on mail.

WORLD WAR II - THE COLONIES "GENERAL ISSUES" CHARITY STAMPS

by Bill Mitchell (FCPS #715)

The charity stamps of 1943-44 listed by Yvert as Colonies françaises 60-66 and Poste aérienne 1 are not, I imagine, very popular with collectors. Buy them, if so disposed - mint, "used" or both according to taste - stick 'em in the album and forget about them. Nor can they have been very popular with the public at the time of issue, with their high cost but low franking power (the most blatant example being Yv 65, where for 100 francs one could post a first step letter by surface mail to anywhere in the liberated parts of the French Empire - normally this cost 1.50 franc¹. But a study of the *Journal officiel* (JO) de l'Afrique occidentale française (AOF) shows that some interest can be extracted from even this unpromising material (the five designs are illustrated in Figure 1).

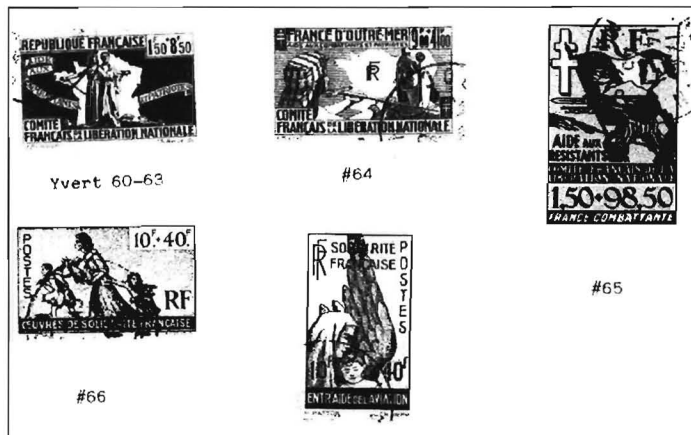


Figure 1.

The issue of 4 December 1943 printed an *arrêté* signed at Algiers on 26 October by the Commissioner for Communications and the Merchant Marine, René Mayer (Figure 2). This authorised (Article 1) the issue by the Algerian P.T.T. of five "*timbres-poste grand format*"² with franking values of 0fr 50, 1fr 50, 3 francs, 5 francs and 9 francs but also with surtaxes of 4fr 50, 8fr 50, 12 francs, 15 francs and 41 francs. Article 2 provided that the total amount of these surtaxes was to be vested in the *Comité exécutif de la Résistance française*, and Article 3 limited the printing to 300,000 of each value, the first four to be sold only in complete sets at 50 francs a set, the 9 francs + 41 francs to be sold separately, also at 50 francs.³

Article 4 provided that all post offices accepting the authority of the *Comité française de la Libération Nationale* (that is, de Gaulle's Free French movement) were entitled in principle (which I take to mean, were not obliged) to sell the new stamps for a period of six months. Those that did so were required to remit the total value of the stamps sold, less 1 per cent for their handling expenses, to the P.T.T. of Algeria and to return unsolds to the *Agent Comptable*

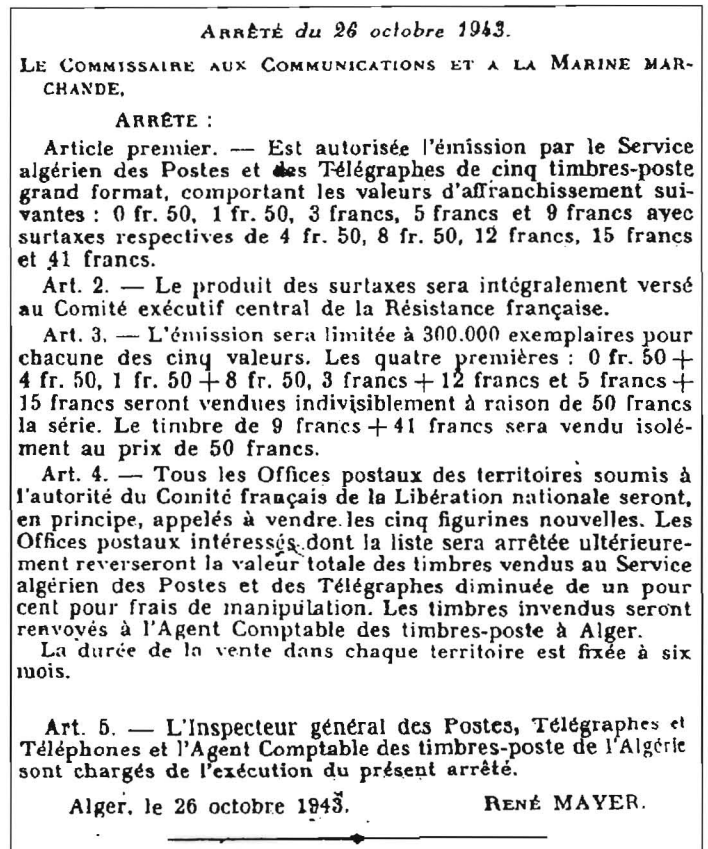


Figure 2.

des timbres-poste in Algiers (in France, at any rate, the latter was an official of the Ministry of Colonies, not of the P.T.T.)⁴ A list of participating offices would be published in a subsequent *arrêté*.

Finally, the Inspector-General of the P.T.T. and the *Agent Comptable* were charged by Article 5 with giving effect to the foregoing provisions.

Three weeks later, on 16 November, these provisions were repealed and replaced by a further *arrêté*, also signed by M. Mayer, making somewhat different provisions. This was printed in the AOF JO dated 8 January 1944 (Figure 3). Article 1 contained the repeal provisions and Articles 2, 3, 4 and 6 repeated the previous Article 1, 2, 3 and 5 except that the 1fr.50 + 98fr.50 value, also to be sold separately, was added and the number to be printed was omitted.

The interesting differences are to be seen by comparing the new Article 5 with the old Article 4. It now said that the (now) six "figurines" "will have...the same franking power as in Algeria," and the accounting principles were changed. The amount to be remitted to the P.T.T. in Algeria was to be the surtaxes only, the colony selling the stamps to retain the

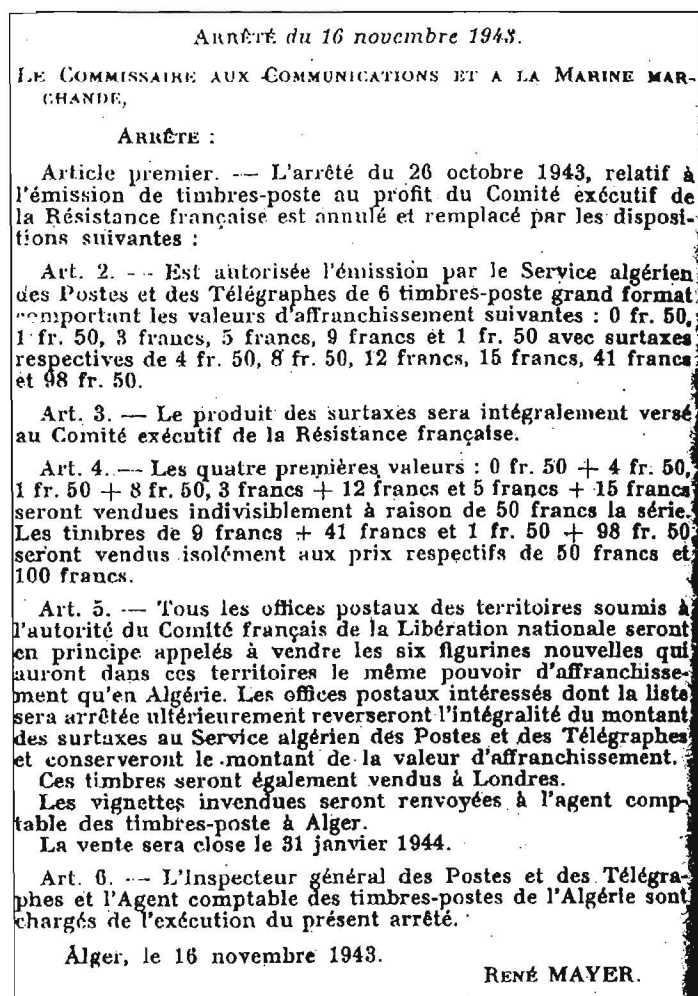


Figure 3.

franking value. Unsolds were still to be returned to the *agent comptable* (now with a lower case "a" and "c") in Algiers. The period of sale was drastically reduced; the stamps were to be withdrawn on 31 January 1944, giving the stamps a maximum life of some six weeks. Finally, there was now provision for the stamps also to be sold in London.

I have searched in vain through the *JO* (I have a copy of extracts relating to postal matters, which include an Index) for any reference to the promised list of participating post offices or to the remaining two stamps issued at about this time, the "*Solidarité française*" stamps (Yv 66 and PA 1), both of which sold at 50 francs (10fr. + 40fr.). This may have been because little interest had been shown in the others, but it's strange that, like the latter - which must have been issued late in the year - the postage stamp was issued in 1943 (the "air" stamp appeared in 1944).

Casting my net further afield (I have similar extracts covering the War years from the *JOs* of Tunisia, Madagascar, Cameroun and French Equatorial Africa (AEF)), I find no reference to any of these stamps in the *JOs* of Tunisia, Madagascar or Cameroun, but - surprisingly, in view of Cameroun's apparent indifference to them - the *arrêté* of 16

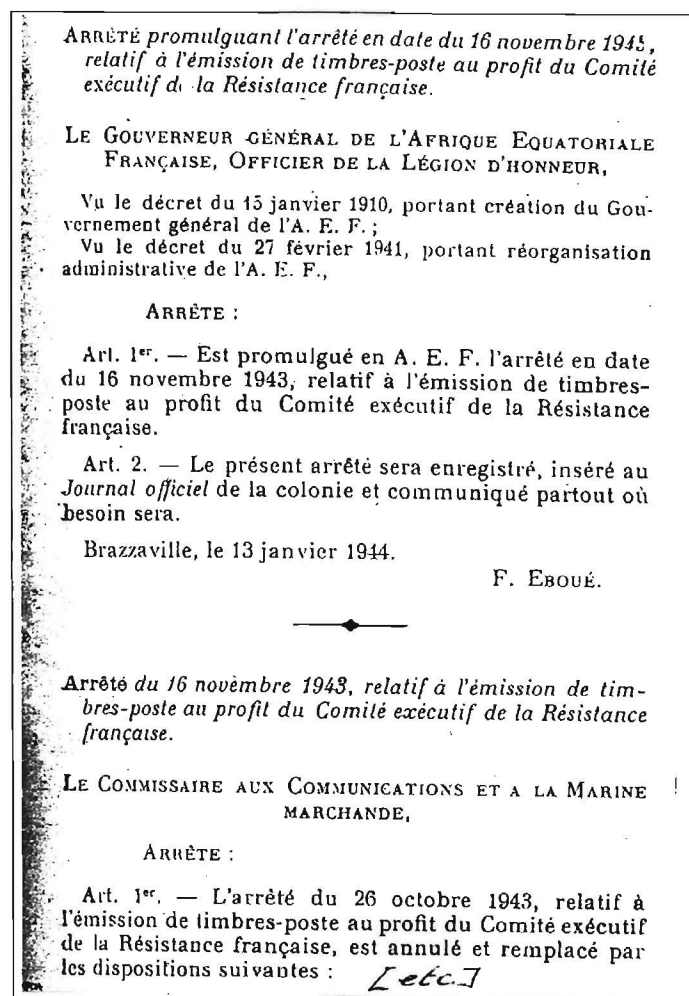


Figure 4.

November 1943 was given effect in AEF by an *arrêté* of the Governor-General dated 13 January 1944 (Figure 4). Both were published in the *JO* of 15 January (the *JOs* of AOF, in which the *arrêtés* were included in a Section headed "TEXTES PUBLIÉS A TITRE D'INFORMATION," omitted to print the formal adoption). The earlier *arrêté*, of 26 October 1943, is not to be found in the AEF *JOs* (perhaps the file consulted was incomplete), nor is there any reference to the promised details of participating post offices or the two "*Solidarité française*" stamps.⁵

One other puzzle - what precisely is meant by the phrase "have...the same franking power as in Algeria"? Most probably, I think, it records that these were really Algerian stamps which were being given extended validity.

This is all of interest that I can extract about these rather boring stamps from the information in my possession. Perhaps somewhere in the archives there is a record of sales and receipts, maybe even a draft *arrêté* listing participating post offices, and perhaps one day someone will come across them and write more authoritatively about this fund-raising exercise. Meanwhile, I have to thank Marty Bratzel and Bob Picirilli, who kindly made the *JO* extracts available

to me. They did all the work of locating and copying them; I only browsed through the results of their labours!

Postscript

In Note (3) below I remark that "There can have been little or no expectation that any of the stamps would be used for the purposes for which they were nominally intended." That, I think, is true, but once the stamps had been sold the purchaser could, obviously, do what he liked with them and since this article was completed I have received evidence that the stamps were in fact affixed to envelopes and transmitted through the post. Bertrand Sinais' sale #57, 25 March 2005, includes a selection of such covers. M. Sinais has kindly sent me photocopies of some of them, and an analysis of the franking may be of interest.

One is actually *seul sur lettre*, or rather an *Avis de Réception* form No. 515. This (lot 2232) is the 1.50 franc (plus 8.50 franc) value, Yv 61, correctly meeting the A.R. fee under the (French) tariff of 5 January 1942.⁶ Addressed locally, the stamp is canceled TUNIS COLIS POSTAUX PORT TUNISIE, 28 April 1944.

Three of the lots are probably philatelically inspired covers from normal correspondence, since all are comparatively heavy for airmail items (all, incidentally, were also sent by registered post). The first two (lots 1977 and 1978) were sent on consecutive days (2 and 3 September 1945) by the same person, writing from Moundou in Chad (AEF) to Paris and Marseille respectively; both transited Fort Archambault, also in Chad, on 15 September and arrived at their destination on 10 October. They are correctly franked at a total of 18 francs, the charity stamps being the 9 francs (plus 41 francs) and the 10 francs (plus 40 francs) values, Yv 64 and 66, respectively. The franking can be accounted for thus: the basic surface rate and registry fee were 2 francs and 4 francs respectively ((French) tariff of 1 March 1945;⁷ the airmail surtax from AEF to France was 6 francs per 5 grams under the local tariff as recorded in the AEF *JO* for 15 November 1944,⁸ so these were letters weighing between 5 and 10 grams, surtax 12 francs.

The third cover in this group is interesting because it hails from Eseka in Cameroun which, as noted above, seems to have been lukewarm in its attitude to the stamps. Posted on 27 January 1944 (quite an early date), it was addressed to a dentist in Tananarive in Madagascar, where it arrived on 14 February. The total franking is 27 francs, including the 5 francs (plus 15 francs) charity stamp Yv 63. This can be broken down as follows - the basic and registry fee in Cameroun were still 1 franc and 2 francs under the (French) tariff of 1 December 1939⁷

(the rates were not increased to 1.50 franc and 3 francs respectively until 1 February 1944).⁹ This leaves 24 francs for the airmail surtax. I have been unable to trace a note of the Cameroun - Madagascar surtaxes, but in the reverse direction it was the 8 francs per 5 grams¹⁰ which would be correct for a letter weighing between 10 and 15 grams, so it apparently applied in both directions.

The remaining covers cannot be accounted for so conveniently. Lot 7074 is a local cover posted in Abidjan (Ivory Coast, AOF) on 19 December 1943 (a very early date, only a fortnight after the first, 26 October, *arrêté* was published in the AOF *JO*) when, as noted at the beginning of this article, the charge for a first-step letter was 1.50 franc. The sender not only affixed a copy of the 9 francs (plus 41 francs) stamp, Yv 64, he also added a 50c Ivory Coast stamp.

Lot 7278 is a large (9½" x 4½") envelope sent by registered airmail from Fort de France in Martinique to New York on 25 February 1944, transiting San Juan and Miami on 4 and 5 March; New York arrival cachets are dated 13 and 14 March. The cover bears the complete set of six stamps authorised by the *arrêté* of 16 November 1943, including the notorious 1.50 franc plus 98.50 francs value, plus a 1.75 franc Martinique stamp. So the total franking was 22.25 francs. Since Martinique did not join the Free French until 30 June 1943¹¹ the French tariff of 1 February 1942 presumably applied. The basic foreign postage rate and registry fee, both of which were 4 francs,¹² leaves 14.25 francs for the airmail surtax from Martinique to the United States. In February 1944 this was 4.50 francs per 5 grams¹³; for a letter weighing between 10 and 15 grams it was 13.50 francs, which gives an over-payment of 75c.¹⁴

The last two covers (lots 7092 and 7093) are also decidedly philatelic; they were sent by registered airmail from Lambaréné in Gabon (AEF) to Cairo, Egypt, on 23 October and 16 August 1944 respectively - the arrival cachets are illegible. Stamps are affixed to the franking value of 40 francs (a block of four of the 10 francs plus 40 francs air stamp, P.A.1) and 32.50 francs, including #60-64 and 66. As explained in Note 5, by this time the basic rates in AEF were the same as those that applied in France, so the charge for a foreign surface letter was 4 francs to 20 grams, then 6.40 francs; and the registry fee was a further 4 francs.¹² There were two alternative rates for transportation by air from AEF to Egypt - 3 francs per 5 grams via French military planes and 6 francs per 5 grams via BOAC⁸; subtract either 8 francs or 10.40 francs from 40 francs or 32.50 francs and what is left just will not fit these surtaxes, although, assuming carriage by BOAC, lot 7093 gives an over-payment of only 50c. It has to be said, though, that although both are endorsed "*Affranchissement par l'expéditeur*" (usually a give-away indicating philatelic franking) they appear to have been written by an expat to his parents; they have

been roughly opened and show every sign of having been part of regular correspondence.

This article has turned out to be a good deal longer than I expected when I began work on it. The stamps, too, are more interesting than I thought. They are unabashed money-spinners, but at least it can be shown that, whatever the expectations of the sponsors, some public-spirited individuals did use them on their letters, sometimes franking them correctly. So, if so disposed, by all means include them in your collections.

2.433. — ARRÊTÉ portant relèvement des taxes d'affranchissement en A. E. F. par alignement sur les taxes de même nature en vigueur dans les colonies ralliées postérieurement au 24 octobre 1943.

LE GOUVERNEUR GÉNÉRAL DE L'AFRIQUE ÉQUATORIALE FRANÇAISE, OFFICIER DE LA LÉGION D'HONNEUR,

Vu le décret du 15 janvier 1910, portant création du Gouvernement général de l'A. E. F. ;

Vu le décret du 31 décembre 1937, portant réorganisation administrative de l'A. E. F., et tous actes modificatifs subséquents ;

Vu le décret du 23 décembre 1942*, modifiant les taxes d'affranchissement applicables en France métropolitaine, en Algérie, dans les colonies, protectorats et pays sous mandat dans leurs relations et dans les relations internationales ;

Vu le rapport du Directeur des P. T. T. de l'A. E. F. ;

La Commission permanente du Conseil d'Administration entendue en sa séance du 1^{er} décembre 1943 ;

Sous réserve de l'approbation du Comité Français de la Libération Nationale,

ARRÊTE :

Art. 1^{er}. — Dans les régimes intérieur, franco-colonial et intercolonial, les taxes postales des objets de correspondance désignés dans le présent article sont fixées comme suit :

I. - Lettres et paquets clos

Jusqu'à	20 grammes.....	1 50
De 20 à 50	—	2 »
De 50 à 100	—	3 »
De 100 à 200	—	4 »
De 200 à 300	—	5 »
De 300 à 400	—	6 »
De 400 à 500	—	7 »
De 500 à 1.000	—	9 »
De 1.000 à 1.500	—	11 »
De 1.500 à 2.000	—	13 »
De 2.000 à 2.500	—	15 »
De 2.500 à 3.000	—	17 »

(Poids maximum, 3.000 grammes)

.....

Art. 6. — Le présent arrêté sera enregistré, publié au *Journal officiel* et communiqué partout où besoin sera.

Brazzaville, le 1^{er} décembre 1943.

F. EBOUÉ.

Notes and References

(1) Richardson, D.J. - *Tables of French Postal Rates 1849 to date* (France & Colonies P.S. of Great Britain Brochure No 7, second edition, 1996), page 4.

(2) It will be noted that neither of the designs of these five stamps incorporates the word "Postes." The same may be said of the 1fr.50 + 98fr.50 stamp added by the *arrêté* of 16 November. The remaining two, Yv 66 and P.A.1, which are not mentioned in any of the documents in my possession, do at least purport to be postage stamps.

(3) For what it may be worth, the presumed franking purposes of the remaining values of these issues are -

0fr.50, printed papers up to 20 grams.

3fr.00, registry fee; letters weighing 51-100 grams.

5fr.00, letters weighing 201-300 grams.

9fr.00, letters weighing 501-1000 grams.

10fr.00, registered letters weighing 401-500 grams.

These details are all taken from Richardson and come from the French tariff of 5 January 1942. There can have been little or no expectation that any of the stamps would be used for the purposes for which they were nominally intended.

(4) Stone, R.G. - "The Paris 'Agence' for the sale of Colonial Postage Stamps"; *Thirty-fifth American Philatelic Congress Book*, Philadelphia, 1969, pages 123-126.

(5) It may be significant that AEF, which had rallied to General de Gaulle as early as the summer and fall of 1940 (see below) and so was not subject to Vichy legislation, did not adopt the Metropolitan French tariff of 5 January 1942 until they were given effect by an *arrêté* of 1 December 1943 published in the *JO* of 1 January 1944. As the extract illustrated as Figure 5 shows, this is described as an "ARRÊTÉ portant relèvement des taxes d'affranchissement en A.E.F. par alignement sur les taxes de même nature en vigueur dans les colonies ralliées postérieurement au 24 octobre 1943" - in other words, bringing the postal tariffs of A.E.F. into line with those adhering to de Gaulle after 24 October 1943 where the 5 January 1942 tariff already applied. Is there any significance in the choice of this date, 24 October? The first *arrêté* relating to the stamps with surtax (not, so far as is known to me at present, published in A.E.F.) came two days later. This can hardly have been a coincidence. Interestingly, the corresponding *arrêté* in Cameroun, which is dated 19 January 1944, does not purport to bring tariffs into line with elsewhere. It is merely an "ARRÊTÉ portant réaménagement de certaines taxes postales dans le régime

Figure 5. *This should read "1941"

interieur du Cameroun français, le régime franco-colonial, le régime intercolonial," a revision (upwards) of Cameroun's rates.

The following dates of adherence to de Gaulle of the four A.E.F. colonies are given by Theo van Dam in *A Century of War Dates and More! 1859-1959*; Postal Covers, Anaheim, CA, 1996, as - Chad, 26 August; Gabon, 12 November; Middle Congo, 27 August; Ubangui-Shari, 30 August (pages 67, 68, 71 and 75).

(6) Richardson, *op. cit.*, page 23.

(7) *Ibid.*, pages 4 and 21.

(8) Bob Picirilli's French Colonies Airmail Rates Study Group Newsletter 16, January 2003, page 4.

(9) *Arrêté* of 19 January 1944, printed in the Cameroun *JO* of 1 February, pages 95-97.

(10) *Arrêté* of 16 November 1943, printed in the Madagascar *JO* of 20 November, pages 744-745.

(11) van Dam, *op. cit.*, page 70.

(12) Richardson, *op. cit.*, pages 42 and 49.

(13) Picirilli, Newsletter 15, June 2002, page 3.

(14) The envelope is addressed to Sam Bayer at 116 Nassau Street, New York City. I am obliged to Ed Grabowski and Colin Spong for confirming my suspicion that Bayer was almost certainly a stamp dealer, so the contents may well have been a supply of these stamps.

SOME SHOW REPORTS

(Continued from N° 285, July 2006, p. 65)

[Almost too brief to publish at this time but we didn't want to delay mention of our members' achievements, just because show committees have been unusually slow or lax in posting their Palmares; hopefully, there'll be many more in the next issue].

- Garfield-Perry March Party 2006 (Cleveland, March): Grand Award and Gold medal to Larry Gardner for "Morocco Foreign Post Offices and Agencies" (Congratulations, Larry!); Gold medals to Paul Larsen for a Barbados exhibit (must be a new one!) and to Norman Shachat for "Philadelphia - French Mail 1784-1900 (he's not a member but someone should be recruiting him!).
- Ameristamp Expo 2006 (Toronto, April): Vermeil medal to Ken Nilsestuen for "Algerian Military Mail 1830-1835".

PLATER'S CORNER

On a good map of France, eyeball 75 miles east of Bordeaux to Périgueux in the Dordogne Department. Go 33 miles north on the SN21 through hills and forests to the small town of La Coquille; turn off main highway three or four miles to the village of Miallet. Then another mile to the country chateau, on 57 acres and a pond in the woods, of our recently deceased member Guy de Rivasson. Nearby is the River Dronne, notable for when government construction of the Miallet dam broken into an iron-ore deposit, turning the river red. Having established the rustic setting of his home, now factor in his son and daughter moving away to raise their families, add a divorce some 20 years ago, and you have M. de Rivasson -- reclusive philatelist and dealer by correspondence. My file goes back to 1974. His net-price listings, PROposals PHilatéliques, offered an eclectic assortment of 2500-3000 documents, stamps and covers from pre-stamp into the 20th Century. Most were modestly priced at under 100F, with rarely a lot over 1000F. He had considered opening a shop in Paris, but never found a spot to his liking.

His own specialized collections were of France, Scott #33 (20c Lauré) and #60 (25c Cérès, types I and III). The 14 volume collection of the 25c type I went on the market in 1985. He loved plating varieties and shared his passion with his correspondents and clients. He disliked the 450 km drive to Paris, and neither Stan Luft nor I could arrange to meet him at any of the international shows there.

Speaking of plating, at Washington 2006 our UK "cousin" John Levett showed the 25c Cérès, emphasizing the same plate positions printed perforated for France and imperforate for the Colonies. I also noted in type III a mint pane of 150 stamps, and a used pane with five damaged and 14 lost, net 131 stamps -- both the largest reported pieces!

-- J.E.L.

FOR THE RECORD

(Continued from N° 285, July 2006, p. 63)

- **873.)** Figure 1 shows a considerably reduced copy of a Bulletin d'Expédition bearing a 20c A.O.F./Upper Volta revenue stamp used 1936 in the Ivory Coast. According to Marty Bratzel, it is listed by Donald Duston as Upper Volta - Effets de Commerce - catalog number 4, quite scarce off document, and should be considerably more so on full document. Few of us have ever seen this type of Colonies revenue document, correctly used.

Figure 1.

NEW BOOKS, PAMPHLETS AND CATALOGUES

- *Catalogues Dallay: Timbres de France 2006-2007*: 848 pp., 20€; *Timbres des DOM-TOM 2006-2007*: 832 pp., 34.90€; *Timbres d'Andorre, Monaco, Terres Australes, Monaco 2005-2006*: 528 pp., 18.90€; *Timbres de l'ex-Empire français d'Afrique 2005-2006*: 800 pp., 34.90€; *Catalogue de cotations des Timbres des bureaux français, anciennes colonies et zones d'occupation en Europe et Asie 2006-2007*: 768 pp., 34.90€; all plus postage. With difficulties in ordering from the publisher, I suggest contacting Image-Document, Boite Postale 104, F-92323 Châtillon cedex, France; e-mail: info@image-document.fr, or fax: +01 46 55 01 00 for availability and mailing charges. (The Dallay catalogs are presently the most complete and detailed semi-specialized ones of the Yvert-Cérès-Dallay trio).
- *Le Maître de Poste et le Messenger*, by Patrick Marchand; 365 pp., 15.5 x 24 cm; Editions Belin; 24€ (+ postage?); details from the Musée de La Poste, Paris. (A well documented study of the post by horseback and by coach and their relay stations during the 1700-1850 period; however, all notes and references used can be found only in the original Thesis, which can be consulted at the Musée).
- *Les étiquettes P.P. des bulletins d'expéditions de colis postaux déposés en nombre en Alsace-Moselle*, by Laurent Bonnefoy and Michel Frick, 2006; 61 pp. (4 in color), A4 format; published by Editions SPAL; 20€ (+ postage), from André Lader, 52 rue de Monswiller, F-67700 Saverne, France. (Some 250 étiquettes are described and shown; one should be aware that packet cards for parcels mailed in Alsace-Lorraine during this 1929-1944 period are franked with postage stamps and not with railway stamps as per the rest of France).
- *Les guichets annexes en France, étude des timbres à date*, by Patrick Lavenas; Supplement to *Feuilles Marcophiles* N° 316 (2004); 153 pp., A4 format; 22,50€ (+ postage), from l'Union Marcophile, 47 rue de Maubeuge, F-75009 Paris. (A detailed study of the date stamps of French secondary post offices).
- *Les boîtes mobiles de la voie de terre*, by Jean Lissarrague and Hervé Tanter; Supplement to *Feuilles Marcophiles* N° 314 (2003); 96 pp., A4 format; numerous illustrations; 15€ (+ postage), from l'Union Marcophile, see above. (A very detailed study of the terrestrial mobile boxes, their markings, and their function).

- *Catalogue des P.P. Imprimés & P.P. Journaux*, by Gabriel Dutripon; Supplement to Feuilles Marcophiles N° 321 (2005); 50 pp., A4 format; numerous illustrations; 8€ (+ postage), from l'Union Marcophile, see above. (A very detailed listing of the well-known markings for prepaid mailings of printed matter and newspapers used in France and certain other places, with value indices).
- *Timbres de Touts les Jours* [Studies of the Marianne definitives of France, from 1967-on], by Jean-Jacques Rabineau; a new quarterly journal by a well-known specialist; subscriptions: France 27€, Europe \$35(US); rest of world \$42(US); from Editions R.J.C., Boite Postale 20-154, F-03304 Cusset cedex, France.
- *Catalogue Cérès Junior France 2007*; 320 pp., 12 x 18 cm; all-color illustrations; 9,90€ (+ postage) from Cérès Philatélie, 23 rue du Louvre, F-75001 Paris or your usual sources; details at www.ceres.fr (A simplified version of their standard, 2006 catalog, designed mainly for the beginner).
- *Catalogue Cérès Colonies 2007*; in two volumes: Tome A, 512 pp., covers Colonies, Mayotte, New Caledonia, St. Pierre & M., Wallis & F.; Tome B, 272 pp., covers Andorra, Monaco, Fr. Polynesia, TAAF; all illustrations in color; 35€ (+ postage); see above.
- *Histoire de la Poste dans le Morbihan*, by R. Bouvier and others; 400 pp., 17 x 23.5 cm; 35€ + 5€ P&H (more outside France?); inquire of Liv'Editions, 20 rue de Portz-en-Haie, F-56320 Le Faouët, France. (All that one could possibly want to know about the posts and markings of the Morbihan Dept., from origins to end of 20th Century; richly documented study).
- *Les "Luquets" en euros*, by SOCOCODAMI; 52 pp., 14.5 x 20.7 cm, black-and-white illustrations; 8€ postpaid (more outside France?); inquire of SOCOCODAMI, Jean-Claude Gagné, 18 rue Danièle-Casanova, F-77330 Ozoir-la-Ferrière, France. (Complete data on printings for sheets and for booklets of the Mariannes de Luquet printed in euros).
- *Le petit Yvert*; 512 pp., 12.5 x 18.5 cm; 9,90€ (+ postage), from the usual sources or inquire at site: www.yvert.com (Another new catalog of France for beginners and non-specialists).
- *Opus 6*; published by the Académie Européenne de Philatélie; 190 pp. Mostly in color, A4 format; 45€ postpaid, from AEP, 23 rue du Paquis, F-55000 Bar-le-Duc, France. (Numerous mainly short arti-

cles by members of the AEP, a number of them on French philatelic subjects).

- *Inventaire des marques et oblitérations des Basses-Pyrénées de 1627 à 2005*, by Jacques Conséjo; 743 pp., A4 format, 6810 illustrations; 59€ (+ postage); inquiries to the author, Boite Postale 769, F-64107 Bayonne cedex, France. (Detailed postal history and marcophily of this Department).

MEMBERS' APPEALS

FOR SALE OR TRADE: Upper Volta revenue stamp on Bulletin d'Expédition used 1936 in the Ivory Coast. (See For the Record N° 873, in this issue). Please contact Alan Morvay, P.O. Box 48195, Los Angeles, CA 90048, USA. (Mb. #3167).

WANTED: Used Scott Specialty Album for France, or even just the pages without the binder. Make offer to W. Mark Anderson, e-mail: wmaiii@world-net.att.net. (Mb. #2931).

OFFER: 20th Century French covers and cancels: flammes, Daguiens, ships, airmail, philatelic literature, etc., from the estate of our late member Louis Rediger. Literature includes Dr. Bernard Raynaud's "Les Empreintes Postales" (2nd ed., 2001) and other works on French machine cancels and other cancels. Contact, for lists of specific available categories: Angelina Rediger-Capmajo, 213 RedBud Lane, Auburn, IL 62615-9342, e-mail: harguesshope@hotmail.com.

OFFER: Two lots of *hors-sac* envelopes (see article in FCP N° 267, January 2002), ranging in use from the 1920s to the euro rate. About 65-70 covers per lot. Much duplication of rate periods, but fair variety of stamps, cancels and newspaper destinations; mixed condition. \$50(US) per lot or \$85(US) for both. Contact Stanley J. Luft at address shown on masthead, or fcpsed@att.net. (Mb. # 915).

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND NEWS

- Collectors of official (**not** local) *prêt-à-poster* (PAP) envelopes may wish to check this site: <http://mapage.noos.fr/entiersfr/>.
- Clarification regarding the Andorra 0,53€ Bicentennial of the Napoleonic decree stamp, issued 22 March 2006 and listed on page 71 of our July issue: On 27 March 1806, Napoleon I signed the decree that reestablished the co-administration of Andorra with himself (and later French kings and presidents) as the French co-ruler.
- Private booklets of the Pasteur issues, and other rare Pasteur items, generally did very well at Sinais' 61st auction of June 2006. A unique(?) complete Cycles Chantecler booklet of 20 stamps sold for 16,152€. Less rarified items went for as much as 4,002€ and several sold in the low four figures.
- Our members should be aware of our British sister society's web site: www.fcps.org.uk, which has useful links to their journal's contents, to available publications, and other information.
- Geoff Gethin's long awaited book, *Fakes and Forgeries of 20th Century French Postage Stamps*, will have been published before you read this. We expect to publish a review of this work early in the coming year.
- Correction of Bob Seeke's e-mail address, as per bottom page 69 of the July issue. It should have read cwseeke_2@msn.com. Mustn't forget that dash!
- For those blessed with internet access and who can handle French, Bob Kinsley reports and interesting website covering a very wide range of philatelic topics: perso.wanadoo.fr/voyages.transversales/annu0039.htm
- Jamie Gough was awarded, this past June, the Lee Medal of the Royal Philatelic Society London for the presentation he gave before the Society in October 2005.
- André LeGuillou, a past president of and a very effective and dynamic member of SO.CO.CO.DA.MI, died 21 July 2006. He had kept the French philatelic press abreast of new stamp printings, reimpresions and *coins datés* for many years.
- The machine that applied the Bar le Duc cancel on the envelope shown on our April 2006 cover is, more correctly, a Neopost IJO 85. It was first tested at Rennes in October 2005 and beat out its competition. As of 31 January 2006, 128 IJO 85s had been delivered to post offices throughout France plus Réunion (Data from article by Luc Guillard in *Feuilles Marcophiles* N° 324, 2006).
- One can now send registered mail in France via the internet, at any time on any day, right from office or home. One starts by getting on La Poste's site (www.laposte.fr/LRE/) and follow the instructions. La Poste takes care of printing and sending the message (within an envelope), applying that legally all-important date and time, and sends back a guaranteed confirmation of the transmission. Payment for the service is made by major credit card or via PayPal. Sure does sound simple and safe though, of course, cannot be used for transmitting valuables, such as stamps and covers.
- According to a note in *Le Cagou* N° 33 (2006), the Marquesas Islands were at one time called the Washington Islands. Which hopefully served French Polynesia's booth well during Washington 2006, where they were selling their new Iles Washington stamp and sheetlet.
- A new organism, "Phil@poste", has or will absorb the functions of the Paris Service Nationale des Timbres-Poste (SNTPT) and of the Périgueux ITVF [I forget what the acronym of the Périgueux stamp printery stands for, but a reasonable guess would be Imprimerie des Timbres et Valeurs Fiduciaires]. The word Phil@poste will be replacing ITVF at the bottom of French and French-produced postage stamps.
- New Caledonia's official stamps (Scott 01-030, Cérès Service 1-30) were utilized from 1 January 1958 until officially retired 21 October 1993. Unsold remainders were destroyed 15 December 1993, according to Alfred Roire, writing in *Le Cagou* N° 33, Suppl. N° 3, 2006. They have become quite desirable on cover and now generally command high prices.
- With regards to Ray McGarrity's good review of TOM web sites and sources of new issues, in our July issue we may now add Wallis & Futuna: <http://www.wallis.co.nc/philatelie>. Ray reports that the site is quite useful but still needs work and is not entirely in English. One must buy year sets; some older special cancellations going back a few years are available. Not yet ready to accept credit cards but accepts bank drafts in euros or dollars and international money orders [one needs to know the exchange rates for French Pacific Francs (FCP)]. Free registration stated on both English and French sites, but French site says postage is extra, which we interpret rightly or wrongly as postage is extra but no charge for registration. E-mail is ft.tui@wallis.co.nc, for more ordering and payment information; only pre-2005 collections available as of June 2006. (Very much "a work in progress").
- The Musée de la Communication en Alsace, in Riquewhir, Haut-Rhin (apparently the renamed postal museum there) will hold an exhibition dedicated to the late Eugène Lacaque, his many engraved postage stamps, and his other works, between now and 5 November 2006 and again 2-

17 December, Tuesdays excepted. E-mail musee@shpta.com for more information.

- Mail carriers on electric scooters may soon be rolling along (at 6 km/hour) Paris sidewalks. Watch for them!

REVIEWS

Table of French Postal Rates 1849 to 2005, by Derek Richardson; 3rd edition, 2006; ISBN 0-9519601-4-B; 96 + iv pages, A5 format, card covers; published by the France & Colonies Philatelic Society of Great Britain; US residents may order from The Philatelic Bibliopole, P.O. Box 36006, Louisville, KY 40233-6006, for \$20.00 + \$3.00 for P & H. For others, orders should be placed with Peter Maybury, 18 Courtneys, Wheldrake, York YO19 6BR, Great Britain (e-mail stock@fcps.org.uk); pricing varies according to destination and is somewhat complicated, so best to first contact Mr. Maybury.

The first edition of this very useful, compact booklet was published in 1992 (I don't have the 2nd edition) and consisted of 54 + v pages. The new, enlarged and corrected edition uses cleaner and more legible fonts, and the numerous tables are easier to use. The original 19 sections of different Internal Rates have been increased to 29 and their places in the handbook have been rearranged, mainly for the better. New (since the first edition) rate sections now include the "simple tax", election literature, prices for postal stationery, debt and COD collection, money transfers, rates to the overseas departments and territories, and postal service for the blind.

Foreign Rates again begin only with 1876 and UPU times. The original seven sections have grown to eleven, and now include mail for the blind; additionally, newspapers, books, maps music scores have been moved from the general section for printed matter, *et al.*

For pre-1849 Internal Rates and pre-1876 International rates, as well as information on non-franchise military rates, etc., the long out-of-print and accordingly dealer-priced hardbound *Les Tarifs Postaux Français 1627-1969*, by J.-P. Alexandre, *et al.*, remains the "bible" though readers having some difficulty with French might find it hard to navigate. The Alexandre, *et al* work is listed here in a concluding two-page bibliography.

For collectors and exhibitors of French covers of the period covered in the tables, this still modest booklet is a must!

-- Stanley J. Luft

[*NDLR: The review of Dick Winter's book published in our July issue was designed by reviewer Steve Pacetti for a general audience of transatlantic collectors. I then asked Jeff Bohn for another review, with collectors of France transatlantic covers specifically in mind, and here it is.*]

Understanding Transatlantic Mail, Volume 1, by Richard F. Winter, 2006, 8½ x11 inches, 482 + xiii pages + CD-ROM, hardbound, available from The American Philatelic Society, 100 Match Factory Place, Bellefonte, PA 16823 at \$76 postpaid for APS members, or \$95 postpaid for non-APS members. Foreign postage additional (\$20 surface/\$35 airmail).

Richard Winter is regarded as the leading student of U.S. transatlantic mails, and he has written a formidable treatise that is destined to become the standard "bible" on the subject for present-day collectors, and for a generation of enthusiasts to come. Volume 1 of Winter's book deals exclusively with mails exchanged under the first four postal conventions that the United States entered into with foreign postal administrations, namely the Free City of Bremen, Great Britain, Prussia, and France. A subsequent volume will deal with the later postal conventions that the United States concluded prior to the formation of the General Postal Union. This book is richly illustrated, containing hundreds of images of covers, as well as tracings of both manuscript and handstamp postal markings. While the covers within the book are shown in black and white, an accompanying CD contains scanned images of the postal history items in full color, with enough resolution to allow detailed enlargement. Another great aspect of this book is that it not only contains information on ordinary transatlantic letters, but that the author discusses and illustrates (when available) less often encountered examples of Registered mail, returned letters, and printed matter.

The first chapter of Winter's book is written as an introduction to the study of transatlantic mail, and is one of the most important portions of the book. Here, the author provides illustrated examples of how to analyze a particular letter and how to make use of the visible postal markings to determine which postal organizations were involved in transporting the letter from its origin to its destination. The information and guidelines in this chapter should be required reading for all postal historians, whether or not they are collectors of transatlantic mail.

Those interested in French postal history will find Chapter 5 of particular interest, wherein Winter devotes more than 240 pages to the description of mails exchanged between the United States and France. Since the first U.S.-French Convention did not go into effect until 1 January 1857, a large portion of the chapter is dedicated to pre-treaty mails, and the author presents very detailed descriptions of the various rate periods involved. Examples of mail exchanged via British, American, and French service

are illustrated, and the associated postal rates are explained. 1857 Convention mails are described in similar detail, with appropriate discussions of the accounting (credits and debits) associated with the British, American, and French maritime services involved. Winter also illustrates many examples of transit mail originating from, or destined for countries other than the United States or France, as provided for under the Treaty. The first U.S.-French Convention ended in 1869, and many interesting routes and rates were established for the exchange of mails between the two countries. Winter aptly describes all aspects of this interim non-treaty period, and explains the sometimes complicated rate structures that evolved. A considerable section of this Chapter is also devoted to the short-lived 1874 U.S.-French Convention, which has previously received little attention in the philatelic literature. Of considerable interest are the sections devoted to printed matter, returned letters, and registered mail, which provide detailed information that is difficult, if not impossible, to find in any other single source.

Two Appendices provide a listing of the U.S. exchange offices established under each Convention, plus a guide to deciphering manuscript rate markings that are often found on transatlantic covers. A detailed Bibliography is also included in the book, providing general references for postal regulations, rates, and markings, as well as lists of publications that are specifically related to the individual Chapters.

This book is highly recommended for any postal historian, and it should be on the shelf of every collector of U.S., German, British, and French foreign mails. Add this book to your library now, before it is out of print, and be ready to place your order for Volume II, now in preparation.

-- Jeffrey C. Bohn

THE CARNET CORNER

by Bob Seeke (FCPS #1334)

This time let's look at a cover variety that is easy to miss with only a casual look. C484a/Y2614-C11a/D435a [see previous "Carnet Corners" for the definition] is the "missing period after Blois" variety. Figure 1 shows the normal cover inscription and the variety for this booklet, which contains two strips of 5 of the 2.30 Franc red Briat stamp with normal gum. The normal inscription (with period) is on top; printing is quite even throughout both lines of text.

You can see that the printing on the bottom booklet is heavier at the top of the printed lines and then fades downward. This uneven printing is the cause of the missing period variety, and all copies without the period that I have seen have this uneven printing.

This is a nice little variety to be on the lookout for, as it adds a bit of spice to any booklet collection.

Correspondence about this or any other modern French booklet item is always welcome. Until next time, bonne philatélie! Bob Seeke, 866 La Costa Lane, N. Fort Myers, FL 33917, or cwseeke_2@msn.com

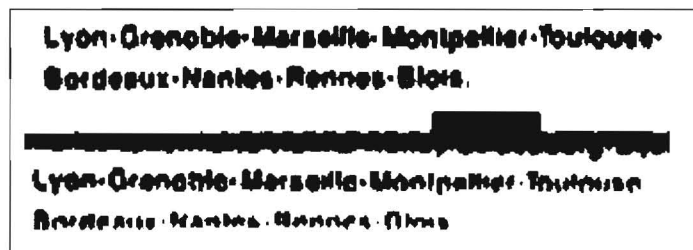


Figure 1.

United States Postal Service		Statement of Ownership, Management, and Circulation	
1. Publication Title France and Colonies Philatelist		2. Publication Number 0897-1299	
3. Issue Frequency Quarterly		4. Annual Subscription Price \$20.00	
5. Complete Mailing Address of Known Office of Publication (Not printer) (Street, city, county, state, and ZIP+4) France and Colonies Philatelic Society, Inc. (N.Y.) P.O. Box 102, Brooklyn, NY 11209-0102		6. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer) France and Colonies Philatelic Society, Inc. (N.Y.) P.O. Box 102, Brooklyn, NY 11209-0102	
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9. Known Bondholders, Mortgagees, and Other Security Holders Owning or Holding 1 Percent or More of Total Amount of Bonds, Mortgages, or Other Securities. If none, check box Full Name None		10. Publication of Statement of Ownership If publication required, it must be printed in the October 2006 issue of this publication. (Check one) Publication required: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Publication not required: <input type="checkbox"/>	
11. Signature and Title of Editor, Publisher, Business Manager, or Owner I certify that all information furnished on this form is true and complete. I understand that anyone who furnishes false or misleading information on this form or who omits material or information requested on the form may be subject to criminal sanctions (including fines and imprisonment) and/or civil sanctions (including civil penalties). Signature Stanley J. Luft Title Editor		12. Tax Status (For completion by nonprofit organizations authorized to mail at nonprofit rates) (Check one) The purpose, function, and nonprofit status of this organization and the exempt status for federal income tax purposes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Has Not Changed During Preceding 12 Months <input type="checkbox"/> Has Changed During Preceding 12 Months (If checked, publisher must submit explanation of change with this statement)	
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15. Extent and Nature of Circulation a. Total Number of Copies (Net press run) 582		b. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date 605	
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TYPES AND SUBTYPES

States of the 6F Marianne de Gandon

*[Having published the Types of the 15F Marianne de Gandon in our April 2006 issue, I decided to go back and show the four **states** (neither types nor subtypes) of the 6F value. Some other states (états) have been identified, but are extremely difficult to see and distinguish. What follows is reprinted (and very slightly modified) from our N° 233 of July 1993, along with a larger illustration--SJL]*

All of the 6F violet-blue and carmine rose values show distinct states in position 44 and 94 of the pane of 100 stamps. In the normal state (state 1), the first strands of hair, immediately below the bonnet, do not touch, and thus look like all other issued 6F Gandons. For some unspecified reason, type metal was introduced into position 44 of the 50-subject plate, and the hairlines re-engraved so as to be touching (state 2, Yvert 720a and 721 Aa). The type metal eventually degraded to seldom seen state 3, and was re-engraved in 1948 to an approximation of state 1 (state 4). The illustration below is from the *Marianne 1984-1985 Catalogue Fédéral*, page II-277.

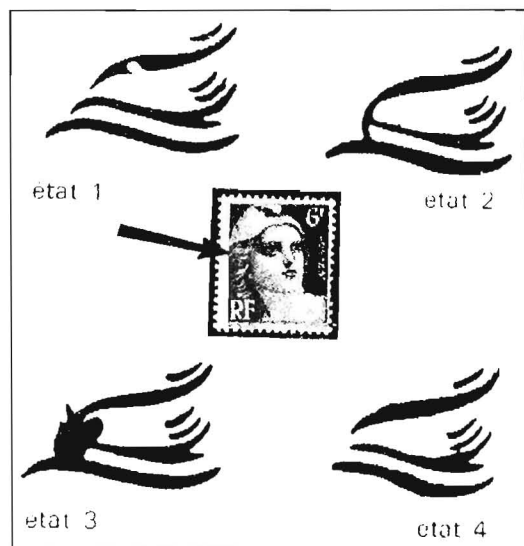


Figure 1.

RANDOM EDITORIAL JOTTINGS

Once again, I'm pleading for more active participation from those members we never seem to know and hear from. You can act by sending Questions and, even better, Answers (for that terribly dormant feature); Letters regarding your thoughts on the direction - present and future - of our Journal; Reviews of books, etc. (but contact me beforehand as someone else could be reviewing the same thing); short (or long) notes that can be used in "For the Record" or "Announcements and News"; your recent philatelic exploits; show reports that don't make it into the APS site, *Linn's*, or the British and French philatelic press; even stand-alone articles or shorter contributions. Although we have a comfortable backlog of articles (see below), that may not always be the case in the future.

Remember that the contents of the Journal are written by our members, and should not be just by the Editor and a small group of dedicated writers!

Our Society will be holding a Membership and Board meeting, and one or more programs, at the Garfield-Perry March Party, March 23-25, 2007, in Cleveland, Ohio. We hope to see a good number of our members out there and, hopefully as well a number of personally carried exhibits (even mailed-in ones if you cannot attend) of France or Colonies. Though called the March Party, it really is also an accredited WSP exhibition. Please contact our Vice President, Ken Nilsestuen, for details, at nilsestuen@sbcglobal.net.

Overseas members will now have the option of receiving the Journal via airmail for an additional \$8.00(US) per year. This option will appear on the dues notices you will be receiving in the near future.

Articles to be published in future issues

"Flammes Issue" [two short articles]

The French Military Intervention in Crete (1897-1909)

Guadeloupe Postal History - Reflections

French Marcophily - Periodicals

Lebanon in World War II - Censorship of Outbound and incoming Mail

On Distinguishing the Bordeaux Issues from the Ceres Issues of the Colonies: the Low-face Values

The Centennial of French Algeria (Algiers 1930)

The Courbet Expedition to Formosa (1884-1885)

Carnet Corner (continued)

NEW ISSUES AND WITHDRAWALS

(Continued from N° 285, July 2006, p. 72)

France

- (6) June: 1,22€ Art of Claude Viallat;
- 17 (26) June: Mozart Operas, six at 0,53€ each, and sheetlet of same at 4,80€ (surplus going to the French Red Cross); 0,53€ Provins and 0,90€ Mont St. Michel [joint issue with the UN];
- 18 (26) June: 0,53€ + label for 79th Congress of French Federation of Philatelic Associations (at Paris);
- 19 (26) June: Babar the Elephant "letter to 20 gm" [= 0,53€] and sheetlet of five at 2,65€;
- 21 (26) June: 0,53€ and 0,90€ Tango [joint issue with Argentina];



- 22 (26) June: Fondation d'Entreprise La Poste "letter to 20 gm" [= 0,53€];
- 23 (26) June: 3,00€ Airbus A380 airmail; 2,12€ sheetlet of four 0,53€ stamps for Nicosia [European Capitals series];
- 24 (26) June: 0,53€ Cent. of French Golf Open;
- 8 (10) July: 0,53€ Museum of the Quai Branly (Paris);
- 12 (13) July: 0,53€ Cent. of rehabilitation of Capt. Alfred Dreyfus;
- 13 (17) July: 0,53€ Rouget de Lisle (1760-1836);



- 15 (17) July: 0,53€ Antibes/Juan les Pins;
- 29 (31) July: 0,53€ Pablo Casals (1876-1973).



Withdrawals: 16 June: Jules Verne novels (six at 0,53€), and the following sheetlets: 2€ European capitals, 2,20€ farm animals, 2,50€ heart-shaped Chanel 2004, 2,50€ 2004 anniversaries, 2,50€ sliding sports, 3,80€ Gardens of France (Tuileries and Parc Floral), 5€ Athens Olympics; 21 July: 0,53€ Avicenna, 0,53€ Jacob Kaplan, 0,53€ separation of Church and State, 3€ Airbus A300, 50F/7,62€ Couzinet 70.

Andorra

- 9 May: 0,53€ Europa (integration theme);
- 12 June: 0,55€ Sorteny Valley Nature Park;
- 1 July: 0,90€ Pablo Casals.



Withdrawals: 28 April: 1€ and 2€ Margineda Bridge, XIth Games of Small European Countries (four stamps), 0,55€ Europa (Gastronomy theme), 0,53€ motorcycle, 0,82€ Prats de Santa Coloma J. Mir.

French Austral and Antarctic Terrs. (TAAF)

- 17 June: Salon du Timbre & de l'Écrit 2006: 4,53€ albatross single in miniature sheet.

French Polynesia

- 27 May: 60F and 130F stamps in 190F Washington Islands sheetlet [correction of entry in our July issue];
- 5 June: 300F scene of daily life;
- 21 June: native birds, two at 250F each.



Withdrawals: 21 July: 5F tifaifai, 90F scene of daily life, 130F bamboo, Polynesian women (two), 250F tapa, 320 aviation in Polynesia, fish (four) and 440F sheetlet of same.

Mayotte

- 15 May: 1,07€ amphidrome (ship); 0,53€ market at Brousse.

Withdrawals: 21 July: 0,50€ Ylang-ylang, 0,53€ traditional dress of Mahoraise woman, 0,64€ bread-fruit tree, 0,90€ Rotary Int'l, Mayotte marine mammals (sheetlet of four).

Monaco

- 27 May: 0,90€ Washington 2006; 1,80€ John Huston Birth Cent.;
- 6 June: 0,48€ 20th "Prince Albert challenge" saber competition;
- 17 June: 0,82€ 2006 Monte-Carlo TV festival; 0,53€ 400th Birth Anniv. of Corneille; 1,22€ 250th Birth Anniv. of Mozart;
- 20 June: 2,50€ 40th Anniv. of Prince Pierre Foundation;
- 17 July: 0,55€ Birth Cent. of Dino Buzzati; 0,90€ 10th Anniv. of ACCOBANS marine conservation accord; 1,75€ Birth Cent. of movie director Luchino Visconti.

**New Caledonia**

- 24 May: 180F Immigration of northern France farmers [reported as 13 April in July issue];
- 8 June: 110F World Cup soccer [reported as 17 June in our July issue];
- 17 June: endangered native birds, three at 75F each, and 330F sheetlet of three additional designs at 110F each; native climbing flowering vines, triptych at 110F each.



Withdrawals: 21 July: 75F tour de côtes of St. Pierre, 80F 2005 triathlon, 100F Year of the Rooster and 200F sheetlet of two, 110F Rotary Int'l., 135F Francophonie, 300F dolphins triptych, Caledonian railway.

St. Pierre & Miquelon

- 6 June: 0,30€ houses on the ocean;
- 20 June: 2,53€ arctic gull; 0,53€ houses and longboat;
- 21 June: "Petit Barachois" two at 2€ each.



Withdrawals: 21 July: 0,30€ view in fog, 0,50€ Henri Claireaux, 0,53€ common dolphin, 0,75€ Allumette Bay, 0,90€ Pointe au Cheval farm, 1,15€ white-beaked dolphin, 2,50€ migratory plover, valley of seven swamps (two).

Wallis & Futuna

Withdrawals: 21 July: 100F butterflies, warlike frescos (five), 135F Francophonie, 190F game of cricket, 205F family budgeting, 220F Wallis *Conus* sheetlet, 280F stories and legends sheetlet, 330F traditional dugout canoe.

F.C.P.S. OFFICIAL**PRESIDENT'S LETTER**

by Dave Herendeen

I have recently returned from Stampshow 2006 which was held in Rosemount, IL (Greater Chicago) this year. I am pleased to say that I saw a number of FCPS members, including VP Ken Nilsestuen, Director John Lievsay, Colin Fraser, Al Kugel, Eliot Landau, Roger Quinby, Steve Tucker, Steve Washburne, and Dick Winter. Also in attendance was our Recording Secretary Dr. Ed Grabowski, still fresh from winning the Grand Prix d'Honneur at Washington 2006. Ed tells the story of how he left for Paris not knowing the outcome, and it was several days, due to logistical difficulties, before he even found out that he won! (My apologies if I missed a member, I have yet to meet everyone face-to-face).

Ken and I held an informal meeting to discuss our upcoming Society meeting next March at the Garfield-Perry show in Cleveland. We have at least six members who indicate that they will be applying to exhibit. Please contact Ken if you are interested in showing your exhibit. While we appear to have things under control, the show itself has (at this writing) not yet released its prospectus. We hope to meet as many members as possible at the show. Please come and see some great French-area exhibits and meet a number of your Directors.

We have already been invited to have Society meetings at shows in California, Colorado, Washington (DC) and New York. We will not make any further commitments until after the show next year.

Honorary Life membership

The Board of Directors has approved a resolution, effective 1 January 2007, creating an Honorary Life Membership. To qualify for this difficult status requires membership in the FCPS for fifty (50) years! Thus, any member who joined the Society prior to 1 January 1957 will qualify. According to the Membership Directory, anyone having a number lower than 668 qualifies. It appears there are five members who satisfy this requirement. The Honorary Life Members will receive a special certificate, and they are exempt from the payment of dues for life or until they resign from the Society. These members will be honored in the January *FCP*.

NEW MEMBERS

3361 OLANDER, RAYMOND M., Monson, MA
 3362 GOEDERT, JAMES L., Wauna, WA
 3363 FRASER, COLIN G., Woodstock, NY
 3364 DOUGLAS, DAVID F., Gerton, NC

REINSTATEMENTS

1965 BONNEL, PATRICK, Lucenay, France
 2004 ROUND, MICHAEL, London, U.K.

ADDRESS CHANGES

2693 MANWELL, EDMUND R., Lafayette, CA
 3150 SURACE, RONALD J., Johnstown, CO

MORE ON "CHARGEMENT D'OFFICE"

Robert Johnson (FCPS #2027)

This note follows Peter Kelly's article in *FCP* No. 285 at page 55.

I came across the *Chargé d'Office* mark some twenty-five years ago. Martin Willcocks [an eminent GB postal historian] and I entered into a correspondence as we had similar covers sent from Sandhurst, Victoria, Australia via the UK and France to the Italian-speaking part of Switzerland; one was posted in April 1856 and the other in June 1856. Martin's cover had *Chargé d'Office* on it and mine did not but otherwise the covers were just about identical. Martin's cover is illustrated in the Cavendish sale of the Willcocks Registered collection (25th June 1999, Lot 1898).¹ The covers were prepaid with a Victoria 1/0d registration stamp for the registration fee and a Victoria 6d stamp for the postage. Both covers had a boxed COLONIES Art - 18 mark under the then current Anglo-French postage convention [1843 - there was an 1856 convention later in 1856]. Both covers bore a 6d handstruck due mark. There was a third registered cover [also in the Willcocks sale (Lot 1897)] but no *Chargé d'Office* and it was dated in 1855, again bearing a 6d due mark, this time in manuscript.

This is not the place to analyse those covers; the point is to say that the French did apply *Chargé d'Office* to mail between two foreign countries transiting through France.

This leads to the next bit of information: I have in my library a book called *Manuel de l'Agent des Postes et Télégraphes* published in Paris in 1919 by the Librairie de l'Enseignement Technique. This book sets out in 488 pages all the details that anyone operating an ordinary post office in any town or village in France would need to know. It has in it a section [under the head "Recommandation"] on "Recommandation d'Office."

Loosely summarised the section says:

Postal matter to which official registration applies:

1. To correspondence addressed to the Head of State;
2. To postal matter paid at the reduced rates containing coins, post office money orders which do not have the payee's name on them, bank notes and bills of exchange;
3. To postal matter which bear obvious signs on the outside that they contain coins, blank post office money orders, bank notes or bills of exchange payable to bearer;
4. To postal matter bearing a forged stamp or a stamp which has been used previously;
5. To correspondence taken and held as part of a judicial process and then put back into the post;
6. [*this may be the successor provision to the one affecting the Willcocks letter*] To correspondence originating abroad which appears to contain prohibited matter or matter subject to customs duties or provisions;

7. To invoices, for which the sender wishes the post office to obtain payment, found in a letter box;

8. To statements of account by the post office relating to invoices, payment of which has been collected;

9. To postal matters dealing with taxes and contributions due to the State [*there are more provisions here, but they are hard to follow*].

The section also required that PTT envelope 467 be used for items falling within above paragraphs 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6.

During the correspondence between Martin Willcock's and myself I referred to the unsigned article [written by Robert Stone] in *FCP* No. 180, April 1980 at page 49 entitled "Articles d'Argent, Changements, Recommandation, Valeurs and Mandats - A brief History and Their Markings." This article is extra useful background and members who have that back number are recommended to have a look at it.

Finally I want to note that I have an envelope similar to Fig. 2 in Peter Kelly's article, but mine is used in the 1920s in Senegal. Can we assume that French national postal regulations applied in exactly the same way in French colonies or not? This is deliberately set out as an innocent question!

1. A slightly abbreviated Lot 1898 description, for those keeping track: 22nd March 1856 env. to Locarno with 4m 1/- regd. + 3m 6d orange tied by Sandhurst "4" numerals with fine red boxed "COLONIES/ART-18" (rare on Australian mail) as well as Calais T.P.O. black "CHARGÉ/D'OFFICE" (compulsory - officially - registered) and v. fine black Liverpool "d6" charge on the front, with sundry backstamps incl. Swiss oval "MAG-GIA" and fine black "AUSTRALIAN/LIVERPOOL.PACKET" c.d.s. [Ex Tony de Righi.]

FRENCH SOMALI COAST CENSORED MAIL (1936-1945)

Alan J. Morvay (FCPS #3157)

(Continued from July 2006)

Phase Five: November 1942 - late 1944. "The switch of the CFS (and Madagascar) from Vichy France to de Gaulle's Free France cut postal connections between the CFS and Metropolitan France. However, it became possible to restore postal relations between the CFS and other Free French territories - French Equatorial Africa, Madagascar, French Levant, etc. from early 1943. "The Free French 'Lignes Aeriennes Militaires' had been in existence since 1941. 'Liberated' Air France planes were re-registered 'FC' (France Combattante) or 'FL' (France Libre); e.g. two Air France Farnams became FL-AFM 'Paris' and FL-ARM 'France'. In 1942 they



Figure 13. January 1944 to Algeria; Free French CM in circle and A/3 censor markings and sealing band



Figure 14. 27 May 1944 to no-longer-Italian Ethiopia; Free French censor marking in triangle and A/1 in circle, and sealing band.



Figure 15. 2 August 1944 to Ethiopia; Free French "2" censor marking in rectangle and sealing band; 7 August Addis Ababa backstamp.



Figure 16. 22 August 1944 to British-held Eritrea; Free French "2" in rectangle and sealing band; British octagonal censor marking.

were flying the Riyak (Lebanon) - Cairo - Wadi Haifa - Kartoum - El Fasher - Fort Lamy - Fort Archambault - Bangui - Brazaville trans-Africa route. As other territories changed allegiance, new routes were opened by Free French LAM.⁷⁵

Phase Five mail is the most commonly found (various examples are shown in Figures 13-16). Incoming mail was also censored in the CFS (Figures 17-18).

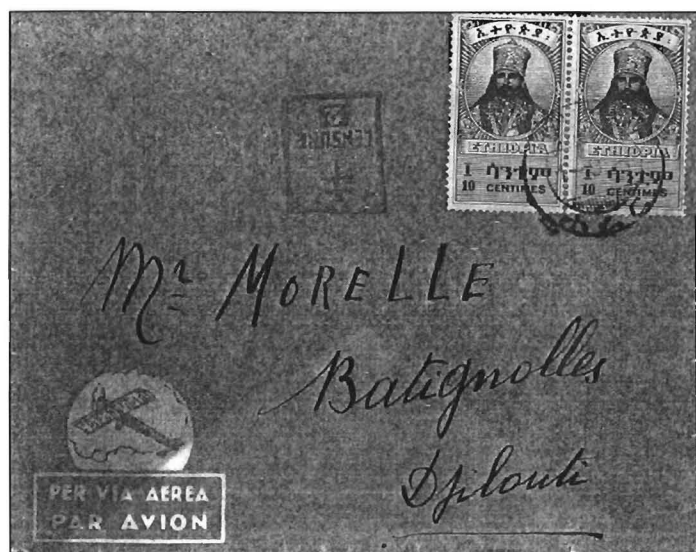


Figure 17. Incoming from Ethiopia with Free French "2" censor marking.



Figure 18. Incoming military mail from Free-French Levant with Free French "2100" in triangle censor marking.

First Flight Cachets: "Most of these 'first connections' were commemorated by a special cachet, using a standard format but changing the name of the territory.

"The dates of the first airmail connections between Djibouti and other Fighting French territories are given by Tristant as follows (the cachets themselves are not dated; no evidence is offered for these dates (all 1943):

"Beyrouth (Lebanon)	- Djibouti	22 January
"Damascus (Syria)	- Djibouti	22 January
"Djibouti	- Tananarive (Madagascar)	28 January
"Tananarive	- Djibouti	7 February
"Djibouti	- Beyrouth	12 February
"Djibouti	- Damascus	14 February
"Djibouti	- Brazzaville (Congo)	6 February
Brazzaville - Bangui	- Djibouti	17 February"

All these inaugural flights are, of course, within the timeframe of Phase Five. Figure 19 (from Torrance) shows the 1943 routes. Figure 20 is a typical and very philatelic example of one of these first flight covers.

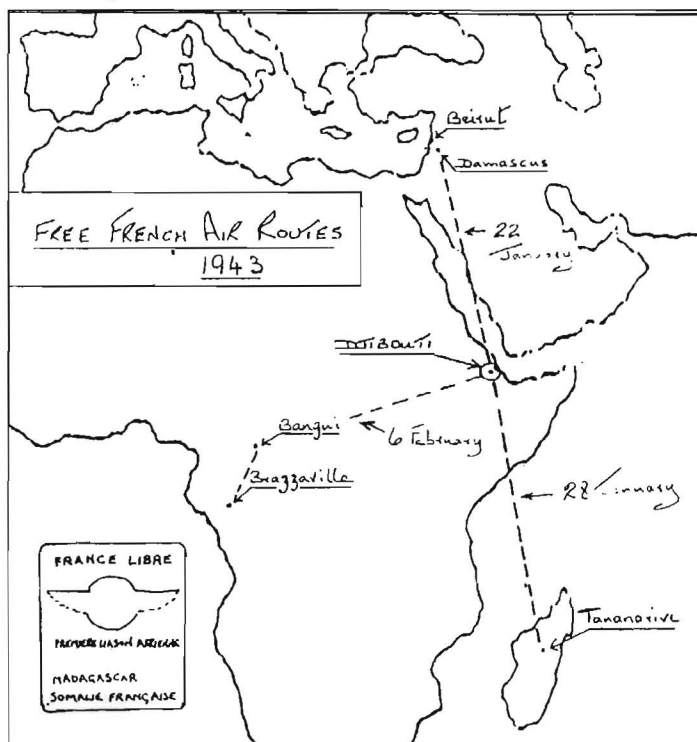


Figure 19. Map of the inaugural 1943 air routes (from Torrance).

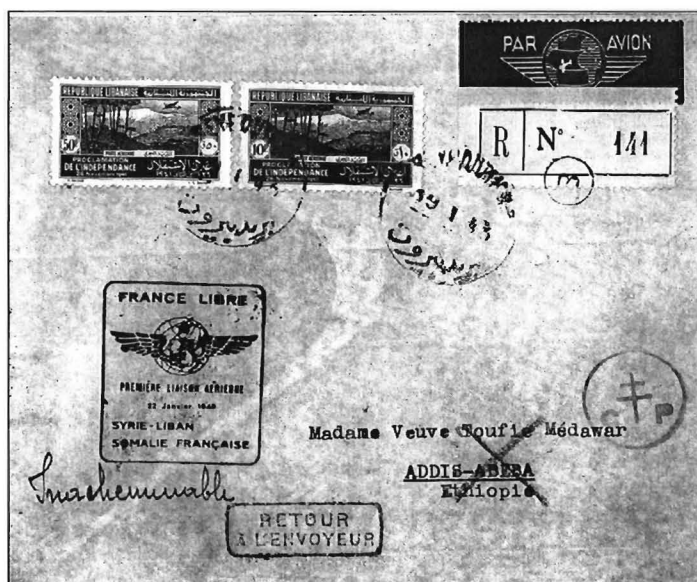


Figure 20. First-flight cachet for the Levant-CFS route, to a fictitious person in Ethiopia and returned to the collector; Free French CP (Contrôle Postale) in circle; backstamps; 19 January 1943 Beyrouth registry window departure (for the 22 January flight), 28 January Djibouti transit and 11 February Beyrouth return.

Phase Six: Early 1945 (liberation of France to the end of the war). "The liberation of Southern France began from 15 August 1944 when

Operation Dragoon forces (previously code-named 'Anvil') landed on the Mediterranean coast. It became possible soon after this date to send mail from the CFS to liberated France, and gradually normal postal relations became re-established. Mail posted in Paris on 23 October 1944 for airmail transport to Djibouti is known with arrival cachets of 'DJIBOUTI-AVION' dated 7 November 1944 (Type PM3). Presumably this mail was carried by a military plane; the cachet is the one used on philatelic mail, so this may not indicate a genuine commercial mail connection. The first airlift of French colonial troops from the CFS to France after the liberation was signalled by a postal cachet which recorded the renewed air connection. The cachet took the form of a circle with a central anchor - dated '30 March : 15 April 1945' (Type C3). Tristant states that there were two flights from Djibouti to France, the first on 30 March and the second 12 days later on 11 April and that this cachet was used on mail carried on both flights. From 16 May 1945 a regular airmail service was set up between Madagascar and France with a stop-over at Djibouti.⁷⁷

Phase Six mail is the second most commonly seen, second only to Phase Five mail. Examples are shown on Figure 21-23.



Figure 21. 5 January 1945 to USA; Free French "2" in rectangle, and oval (on back) contrôle marking.

Acknowledgements: I thank John Atullah, Heinrich Dieckmann, Robert Kinsley, Michael Rogers, Peter Singer and Ed Wener for their invaluable assistance.

Notes

1. Torrance, p. 8
2. *Ibid.*, p. 10
3. *Ibid.*, p. 11



Figure 22. 19 February 1945 registered airmail to Egypt with additional stamps on back; various censor markings, including Free French "1" in rectangle; 22 February Aden transit backstamp



Figure 23. 19 July 1945 to Greece; Egyptian sealing band and various censor markings, apparently none of them French.

4. *Ibid.*, p. 15
5. *Ibid.*, p. 20
6. *Ibid.*, p. 20-21
7. *Ibid.*, p. 24

Bibliography

Torrance, A.R., *French Somali Coast: The Postal History 1939-1945*; Chavril Press, Bloomfield, Scotland.

Tristant, Henri, "Histoire Postale de la Cote des Somalis"; *Le Monde des Philatélistes*, chapters XLVIII (N° 235, September 1971) through LIII (N° 240, February 1972), for additional information on World War II flights and descriptions of the censor markings.

Van Dam, Theo, *A Century of War Dates and More! 1859-1959*; 1996, Anaheim, CA, p. 61.

[NDLR: Figures 14-16 sealing bands bear no censor notations and are not shown in the illustrations].