

FRANCE and COLONIES PHILATELIST

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*French Equatorial Africa
to Syria.*

See page 68



*St. Pierre &
Miquelon to
France.
See page 78.*

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Editorial

Norval Rasmussen

Greetings. We are in summer garden mode in West Virginia. So far we are beating the rabbits to asparagus, zucchini, peas, raspberries and blueberries.

In This Issue

Alan Morvay leads with part one of an article on censor markings on mail from French Equatorial Africa. Part two will come in October. **James Taylor** returns with another St. Pierre & Miquelon piece. **Frank Correl** shares some memories of St. Pierre & Miquelon sparked by a previous James Taylor article. **Ed Grabowski** returns with a thoughtful essay on the subject of exhibiting. Thank you.

Looking Forward

In the membership notices I see a gain in membership of seven new members, offset by a loss of three. A net gain. Welcome to the new members.

The editorial in the most recent issue of "The Journal of the France & Colonies Philatelic Society" (UK) contains a plea for a new editor of that journal. It appears that they may stop publishing if no editor is found. Peter Kelly writes, "The Journal is an essential part of what we do in the society. It is the cement that binds the membership together. The Rules of the society are very clear on this point, stating that the object of the society is to promote the study of the stamps and postal history of France and her former colonies and to provide facilities for this purpose. Without the Journal it is hard to see how we can achieve this." I pass on his plea for help as many of our members are also members of the France & Colo-

nies Philatelic Society (UK). Please step forward if you can help.

I am looking for someone to write fundamental articles on French stamps and postal issues. Who can put an article out on the green letter rate? How is it that France issues non-denominated "forever" stamps valid on international mail? I am sure you are out there and we would all love to profit from your knowledge.

Web Site

As President Nilsestuen tells us, we are on the net! <http://www.FranceandColPS.org> is the address. Check it out.

That's All

Being out of words, I'll leave you with a picture of your editor spreading compost on his new raspberry bed.



How about a couple of cover descriptions instead?

Foreign Censorship on World War II French Equatorial Africa Mail

Alan Morvay

This article will examine some of the more common foreign censorships found on French Equatorial Africa covers. There is much similarity in the types of foreign censorship found on Belgian Congo and French Equatorial Africa mail. This is because they are located in the same region with similar relationships to other countries. Walter Deijnckens prepared an amazing foreign censorship study for the Belgian Congo study circle journal which ran from March 2005 (Bulletin 134) through September 2008 (Bulletin 148). The study circle members submitted copies of their covers for this study to provide a good representation of the censorship for this research. This study is also applicable to French Equatorial Africa. Much of the identification of the censorship in this article is drawn from Walter Deijnckens' censorship study which is mentioned throughout this article. It is my hope that another collector will develop this article into an in-depth censorship study of French Equatorial Africa correspondence. This would involve compiling photocopies from collectors of this area. If he would also involve the study of the censorship of the many countries whose censorship markings were applied to French Equatorial Africa mail as it traveled through the postal system to reach its destination.

Belgian Congo.

The first two covers illustrate the use of Belgian Congo censor tape. Twenty major cities in this country were established as censor stations to censor mail traveling through its postal system. A few of the largest cities used black hand-stamped numbers to identify individual censors

(See backside of figure two). There are a large variety of griffes applied to Belgian Congo correspondence which is a study in itself. Griffes exist on covers with and without censor tape. Some of these should be found handstamped on French Equatorial Africa covers and postcards with the wording "Censure Congo Belge".

There were a large number of Americans working as Christian missionaries throughout Belgian Congo during world war two. The first cover bearers the Brazzaville July 28, 1944 cancel. It traveled through Leopoldville where it received a Belgian Congo censor tape and three Leopoldville transit cancels. It received a March 13, 1944 New York, New York transit cancel before it was forwarded to its Georgia destination.



Figure 1 front and back (top of page 73) of cover from Brazzaville to New York illustrating the "Censure Congo Belge" tape.

Since French Equatorial Africa was a French colony, Belgian Congo mail often transited through this country to France as is illustrated by the cover in figure 2. This cover was sent from Matadi,



Belgian Congo on February 28, 1945. It transited through Leopoldville where Belgian Congo censor tape was applied. On the back, the number censor 17 was handstamped in black along with two Leopoldville town cancels dated March 9, 1945. A March 10, 1945 Brazzaville transit cancel was applied to the back and a Controle Postale censor mark was applied on the front of this cover as it transited through French Equatorial Africa to France.

Egypt

Egypt was a major hub for censored mail as a large number of countries had mail transiting through Egypt, sent to Egypt, and / or received from Egypt. In Egypt a vast number of civilian and military censor markings were used in censoring this mail. Egypt is strategically situated in both the mid-east and the African regions with close proximity to Southern Europe. Australian, Canadian, New Zealand, and Indian contingent forces were deployed in Egypt and the region. All of this made for a wide array of countries whose mail traveled through Egypt.

The next cover, figure 3, is a French Equatorial Africa cover sent to the Free French army in Egypt. This cover was sent on May 28, 1943 from Brazzaville where it received a French Equatorial Africa censor tape and a Controle Postale Commission A cachet. It received a purple, circular Uganda censor mark and a June 28 1943 Free French Forces in Lebanon cancel in transit on the back. It has a British military censor tape, a deputy chief field censor mark, and a four digit number censor mark applied in Egypt.

The registered Brazzaville, French Equatorial Africa cover in figure 4 has white tape with blue letters used for Egyptian civilian censorship. It also has two different Egyptians censor marks. The Controle Postale Commission A cachet was applied in Brazzaville. On the back are an April

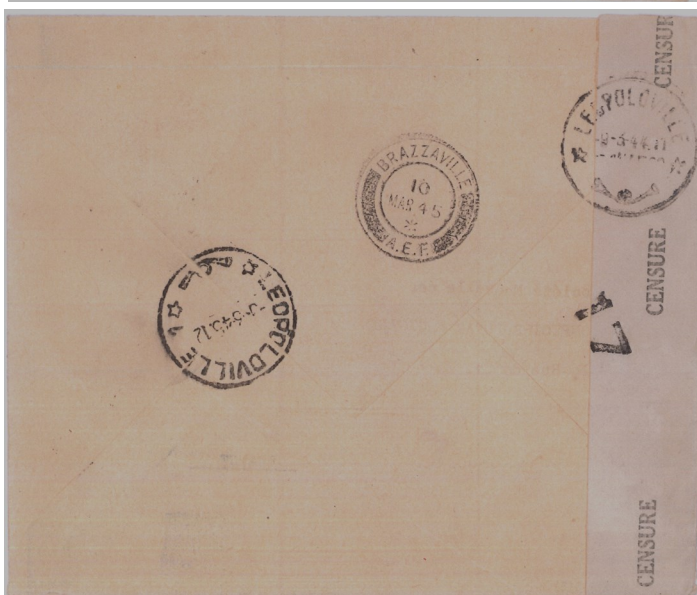
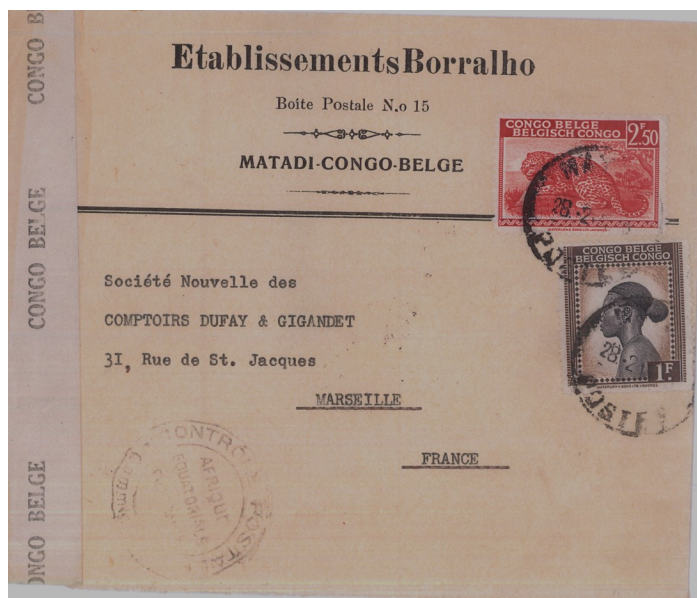
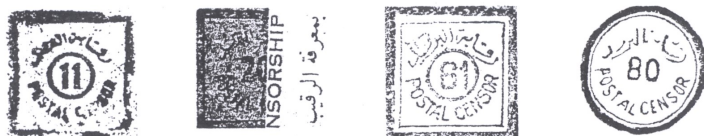


Figure 2 front and back of cover from Matadi, Belgian Congo to Marseilles via French Equatorial Africa.

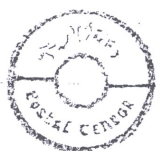
Group IV

Various square and circular marks incorporating a censor number with a translation in Arabic.



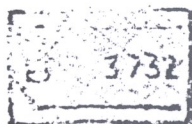
Group V

Various designs, similar to Group IV but no censor number.



Group VI

Small rectangular handstamps containing a letter and numbers identifying the censor station.



Group VII

Rectangular marks with a letter and numbers without a frame. Used from September 1940 to October 1941. Two examples below.

E3540

S 1109

Group X

Numeric handstamp only. Two examples next column.

2124

7226

French Cameroun

Since French Cameroun and French Equatorial Africa were neighbors as well as French Colonies, there is certain to be quite a bit of censored correspondence between these two countries. The book by R. J. Maddocks, *Facets of Cameroun in Wartime the Cause and Effect of Postal Censorship 1939 to 45*, is necessary in understanding the types of Cameroun censorship which can be found on French Equatorial Africa covers. Pages 32 and 33 of this illustrate some of the most commonly used cachets and are reproduced in appendix A along with an illustration of censor marks from the same publication. Maddocks also describes the large variety of censor tapes that were used in French Cameroun.

The 1942 Libreville cover to Douala, Cameroun (figure 5) received all three censorships in Cameroun, which are the censor tape, the oval censor mark, and a circular control Postale Commission A Territoire du Cameroun cachet.



Figure 5. Libreville to Douala.



Figure 5a. Rear of the Libreville cover in figure 5.



Figure 6a. Rear of the Bangui to Kribi cover in figure 6.

The April 10, 1942 Bangui, Ubangi-Chari cover, figure 6, received a plain manila censor tape, oval censor marks and Controle Postale Commission E cachet in French Equatorial Africa. It received the Controle Postale Commission B Territoire du Cameroun cachet and the April 27, 1942 Eseka transit cancel in Cameroun on its way to its Kribi destination.

French Guinea

There was a large censored correspondence within the British and French Colonies in West Africa during World War II with a wide variety of censorship markings and tape as shown by the next cover, figure 7. This 1940 Pointe Noire, French Equatorial Africa cover has both British military censor tape and French Guinea censor tape tied with two oval French Guinea censor marks. A faint Controle Postale Commission C cachet was applied in French Equatorial Africa and the censor circle containing A5 was applied in French Cameroun. This cover has a faint Conakry, French Guinea transit cancel on the back.



Figure 6. Bangui to Kribi cover.



Figure 7. Pointe Noire to Conakry cover front (above) and rear (page 77 top).



Figure 8a. French Equatorial Africa to England cover rear.

Great Britain

Great Britain was one of the most common transit points and destinations for covers from West Africa. On page 11 of the Belgian Congo Study Circle Bulletin Number 145 Deijnckens illustrated several of the most common British censor marks and censor tapes. Excerpts are shown in appendix B.

Postale cachet and a December 20, 1941 transit cancel which were all applied in French equatorial Africa. It also has a censor tape which was applied in England.



Figure 8. French Equatorial Africa to England cover front



Figure 9. French Equatorial Africa to New York cover front and rear.

The December 12, 1941 French Equatorial Africa cover, figure 8, has a plain white censor tape, an oval censor mark, as well as a circular Controle

The September 27, 1943 French Equatorial Africa to New York cover, figure 9, only has censorship which was applied in transit. It has a censor tape applied in Great Britain. It has a censor tape, an oval censor mark, and a circular Controle Postale Commission B Territoire du Cameroun cachet which were all applied in transit in French Cameroun.

Lebanon

As a French colony in the mid-East Lebanon was a major hub for French military correspondence with the free French movement in West Africa. This February 1942 in French Equatorial Africa cover, figure 10, was sent to the French Levant where it received a circular censor mark. It has a Controle Postale Commission G cachet and a circular Tirailleurs Senegalese Du Tchad cachet which were applied in French Equatorial Africa.

A number of Lebanese censor tapes and censor marks have been described in a previous article in this journal, number 289, July 2007, Lebanon and world war two a censorship overview.



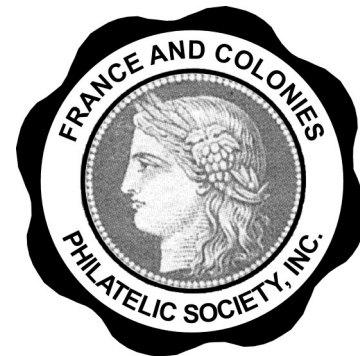
Figure 10. French Equatorial Africa to Syria

Acknowledgements

I would like to thank Heinrich Dieckmann, Walter Deijnckens, Brian Gardner, Stanly Luft, and Peter Riemen for their help in the preparation of this article.

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Appendix A

French Cameroun

CHAPTER 3

3. THE POSTAL CONTROL COMMISSIONS AND THEIR CACHETS

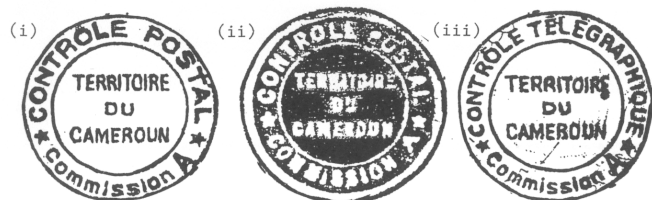
As mentioned in the preceding chapter there were three basic cachets used in the censorship process by each postal control commission, except Commission C which is known only to have had one. These are :-

- 3.1 Postal Control Commissions cachet (The "master" cachet)
- 3.2 Commission Censor's Identification cachet
- 3.3 Resealing Tape Tie-ing cachet

3.1 Postal Control Commission Cachet

Each Control Commission had an official cachet for operational purposes; for the sake of clarity in identification within this study I refer to this as the "master" cachet. For both Commissions A and B two basic types have been noted and only one for Commission C. In addition Commissions A and B had a third cachet for 'Telegraphic' control purposes. These cachets were all basically similar to the standard 35mm double ring type common to French territories.

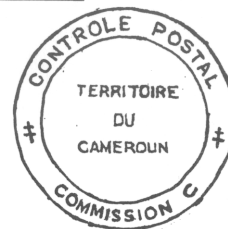
3.1.1 COMMISSION A (DOUALA)



3.1.2 COMMISSION B (YAOUNDE)



3.1.3 COMMISSION C (EBOLOWA)



Comments and Observations

(a) Cachets A(i) and B(i) - were the ones used throughout the entire censorship period. Through usage both developed defects as early as March 1940 and these became more pronounced as time passed as can be seen by the following illustrations taken from covers postmarked in mid-1942. (Fig.27).

Commission B does not appear to have had more than one cachet of the B(i) type since it persevered with the damaged one. Commission A too continued with its damaged cachet but it did in fact also have an unblemished one. This cachet is first seen by me on covers postmarked June 1941 but thereafter only spasmodically, probably as a reserve canceller. It also appears on several seemingly philatelically inspired covers. (Fig.28). Of further interest is the fact that the illustrated cover shows very late and resuscitated usage of a censor's personal identification cachet viz. A1 - usage of such cachets generally fell away after the end of 1942.

Also shown is a cover postmarked Yaounde 2 August 1945 to England; it is unusual in that it has received the "passed" mark of both Commissions A and B though being mailed at the end of the war it was not opened by either control. (Fig.29).

There is an unusual and puzzling variation of cachet A(i); it is seen on a cover from Ebolowa to the U.S.A. postmarked 29 November 1939 and is the only one encountered by me. (Fig.30).

The following differences are noted :-

- most prominent bump in the outer circle above 'L' in 'Contrôle'
- overall diameter is 1mm greater
- 4-point star each side of the words "Commission A" instead of the usual five-point one
- different type and setting of letters within inner and outer circles

Commission A - five censors numbered A1-A5 have been recorded for this control; of these A5 is the most commonly seen; A4 the least.



Somewhat confusingly Cameroun covers are also found with censor cachets A0 and A6 but further research has determined that these were applied elsewhere; in fact at Dakar, Senegal which was up to late 1942 a transit stop for mail to Unoccupied France. Here too, as part of the A.O.F. Postal Controls, there was a Control Commission A. Since mid-1940 however this and associated Commissions in French West Africa had discontinued the use of "master" cachets, using only the respective censor's personal identification cachet. In terms of the Armistice Agreement censorship in Vichy controlled territories had passed from military control to a civil one. Thus all references to military control in the censoring process were expunged; the word "militaire" was cut out by the Authorities in Dakar from their resealing tape, which originally read "Contrôle Postal Militaire", as is seen on this cover posted on 24.12.41. from Douala to Lyon via Dakar. The oval cachet 'Ouvert Par les Autorités de Contrôle' and circular cachet A6 were applied at Dakar. The "Contrôle Postal Commission A" master cachet and the respective though indistinct A(?) censor's cachet were applied at Douala beforehand. (Fig.35).

Commission B - only censors B1 and B3 have so far been noted by me though it is logical to assume that censor B2 would have existed also.



Commission B rarely used its censors' cachets up to the time of the Free French take-over in August 1940 and even less so thereafter.

3.3 The Tie-ing Cachet - the final cachet of the trio required initially to complete the censoring process was the one for tie-ing resealing tape to an opened cover. This was also a standard French type: an "eye" cachet containing the words "Ouvert Par L'Autorité Militaire" and was utilised at both Commissions A and B but not C as above explained. It tied the resealing tape to both sides of a fully censored cover. Usage was more evident at Commission B since Commission A particularly from around September 1944 preferred to use its "master" cachet both as a passed mark and a tie-ing device on opened covers. (Figs.36 and 37).

Appendix B

Great Britain

Censor 'Marks'

The three types seen are illustrated in figures 1, 2, and 3. The style/format of figure 1 was the forerunner of that in figure 2 and the prefix letter 'P' is that most commonly found.

Figure 3 – It is not understood with certainty what the prefix letters 'P' and 'T', signify and whilst other letters are known to exist^[2] none have been seen on mail from the Belgian Congo. With regard to the letter 'T', only 3 examples have been reported in this study - one on a letter to Tadworth and the other on the postal stationery card to Bruxelles, shown above in figure 4. Both marks are relatively uncommon on inward mail to the U.K. and most occur on post cards.



Figure 1

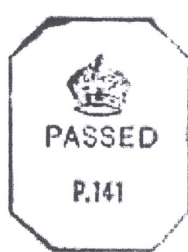


Figure 2



Figure 3

P.C. 90 labels without the 'Printers identification and reference number' are first recorded in October 1940 on a letter from Elisabethville to Huddersfield and the last on a letter in transit to Ireland in September 1942. Each label incorporated a *Censor number* and the following have been seen: #335, 1100, 1207, 1268, 1294, 1817, 1824, 2794, 3878, 4197, 4316, 4326, 4373, 4491, 4763, 6224, 6491 and 6638.

Thereafter, all had the 'Printers identification etc.' through to December 1944. Censor numbers seen: #1484, 1901, 2310, 2585, 3600, 5459 and 6208.

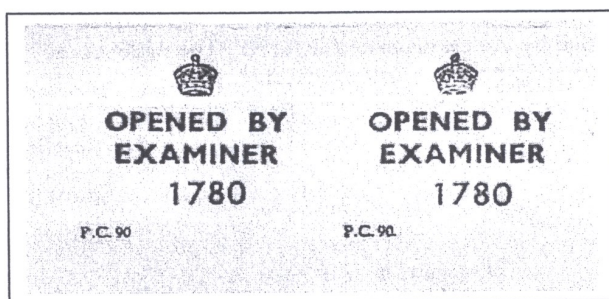


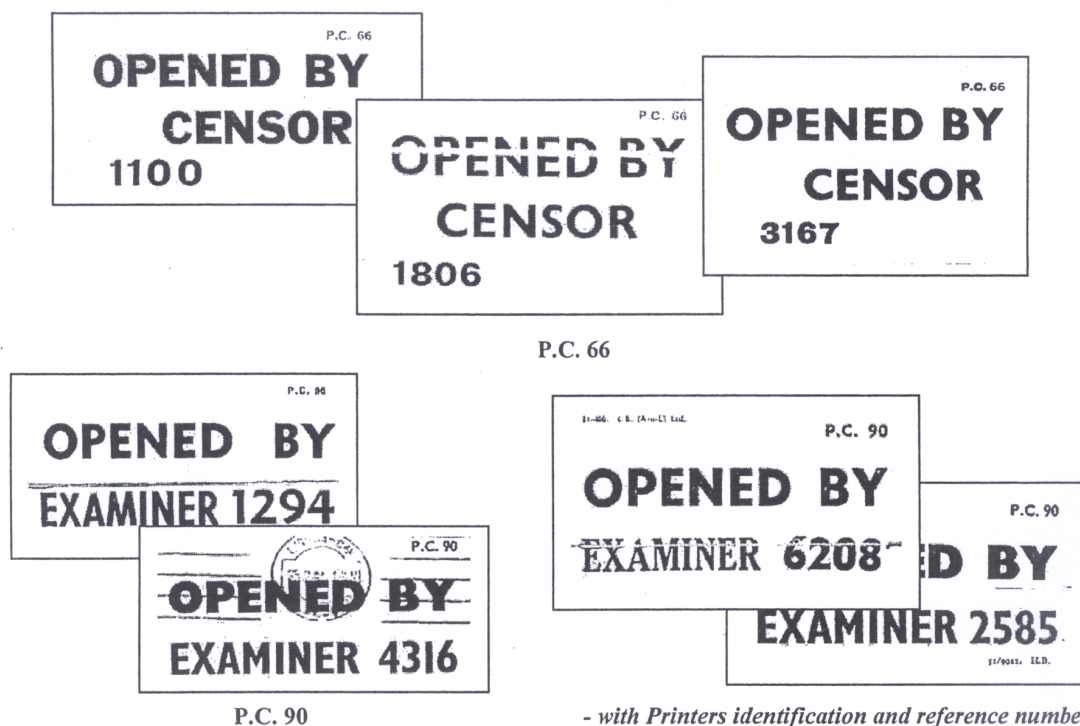
Figure 5

Figure 5. An alternative style 'P.C. 90' label was introduced in 'reel form' and incorporating a 'Crown' in the design. These were used concurrently with the previous design.

The earliest example reported appeared on a cover from Elisabethville to Bath in February 1940 though the majority date from 1944 to 1945. *Censor numbers* seen:

#383, 708, 1780, 2260, 2497, 2876, 3735, 3746, 4039, 4057, 4466, 5264, 6621, 6634, 6645, 6678, 6699, 7091 and 9607.

Whilst a record has been made of the date and route on which Censor numbers' were applied to specific design of label, there appears to be no significance in their allocation. As a consequence that information has not been tabulated here, but if any reader wants such detail they should enquire of the author or editor who will be happy to supply it.

P.C. (Postal Censorship) Labels

The British censorship sealing labels are classified under a **P.C.** (*Postal Censorship*) reference. As from 28 August 1939 they were identified as 'P.C. 22' labels, and by the beginning of 1940 a 'P.C. 66' was introduced. This latter was short lived and superseded in June of the same year by the 'P.C. 90', which remained in place for the remainder of the war. No 'P.C. 22' labels have been seen in this study and only examples of 'P.C. 66' recorded – each illustrated above.

The lettering style and type varies and as stated previously, no attempt has been made to classify these other than noting that later printings of the P.C. 90 labels carry a '*Printer's identification and reference number*' – typically:

51 – 2107----G.W.D.
51 – 1436 ---- H & S

Postal Censorship and Intrigue at St. Pierre & Miquelon 1939-1945

© James R. Taylor

A censorship handstamped marking reading OUVERT / PAR / L'AUTORITÉ MILITAIRE in a double-pointed oval frame-line, 44 mm in the long dimension, by 23 mm is shown struck on a St. Pierre and Miquelon cover posted on November 11, 1939 in Figure 1. Similar double-pointed oval censor markings from other French Colonies are reported during the 1939-1945 war time period. This is the first one that I had seen that was used at St. Pierre (Taylor, 2003). Subsequent to this discovery, several more strikes on cover have shown up after diligent searching.

(1965, p. 652) reports that the double-pointed oval “appears to be the only mark which was used quite generally by all the Free French in most areas during World War II”. The problem with this statement is that the Free French movement and its forces did not form until after the French defeat in June 1940. The usage at St. Pierre in 1939 would have used a handstamp prepared and supplied from Paris in Republican France. The colonial handstamps of this type were probably issued and their use carried on (in colonies other than St. Pierre) through the Republican - Vichy - Free French transition that occurred in most of the French Colonial Territories in 1940-1945. Of

course the transition at St. Pierre from Vichy to Free French control occurred rather abruptly on December 24, 1941 with the arrival of Vice Admiral Muselier's Free French Naval Forces on the islands.

Military censor markings are usually only applied on mail controlled by the military authorities. Outgoing soldiers' or seamen's letters may have been subject to this marking. Sometimes these types of markings

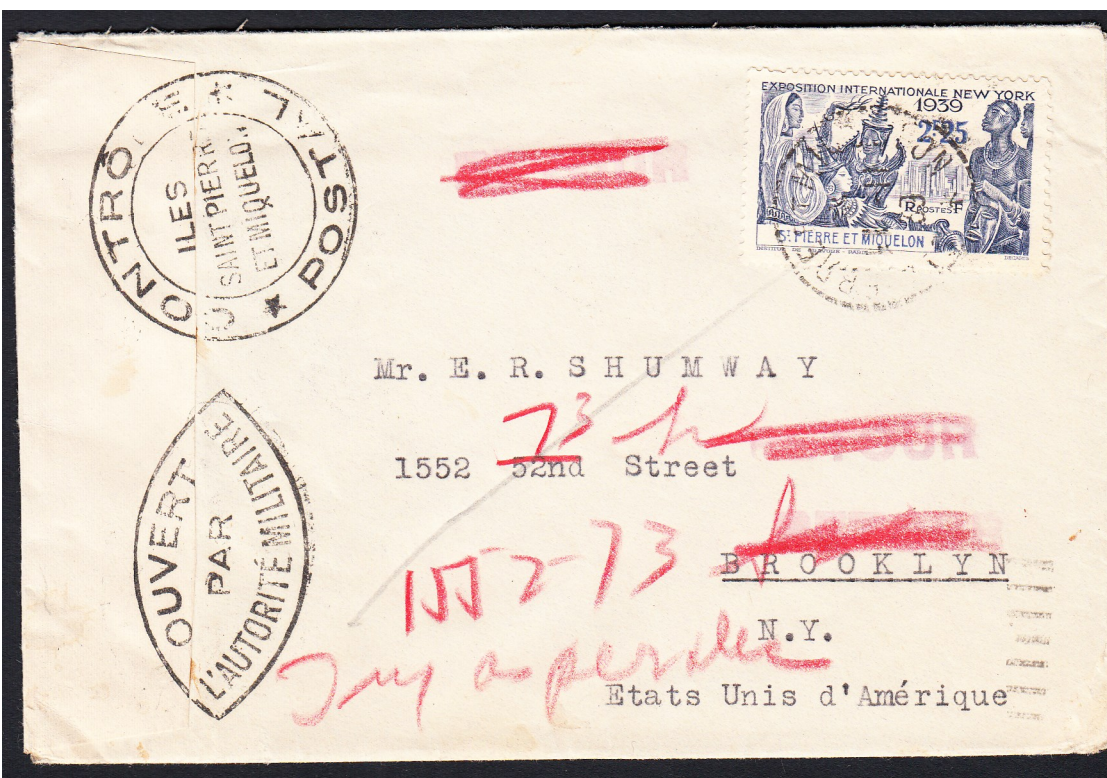


Figure 1. Cover to Brooklyn, New York. Censor marks tie white re-sealing tape.

Previous articles on St. Pierre and Miquelon postal censorship by David Allen (2003) and by Everel Keys (1965 and 1967) don't record this double-pointed oval marking as used at St. Pierre. Keys

were also applied on inbound soldiers' or seamen's mail addressed to military camps. The illustrated cover (Figure 1) is not an ordinary soldier's letter. The address is type written which marks it as out

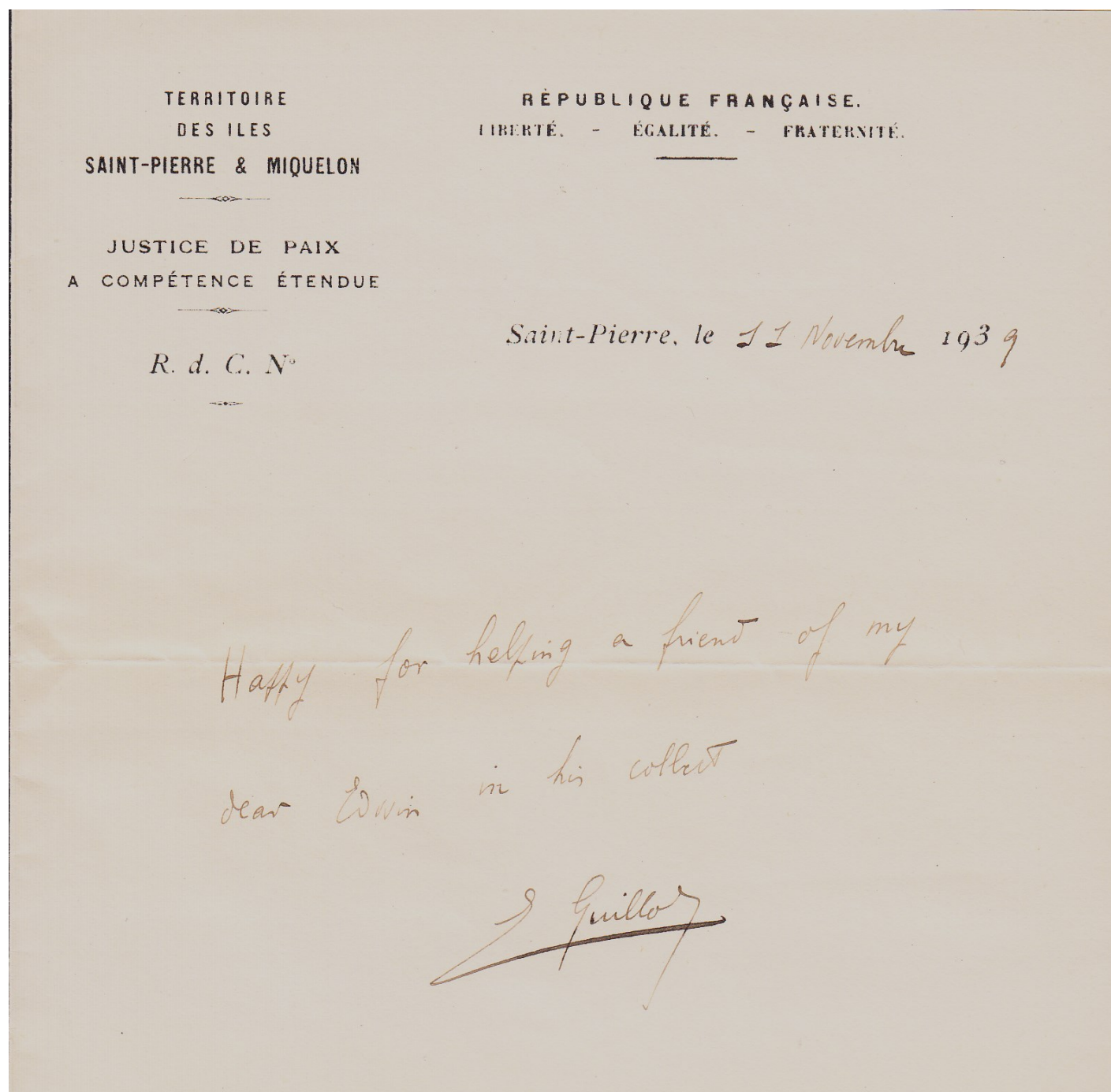


Figure 2. Letter enclosed in Figure 1 from St. Pierre Chief Censor Emile-Jean Guillot.

of the ordinary – typewriters were only commonly used in businesses or military headquarters. Also there is no name, return address or regimental details on the cover, which would have been a normal requirement for ordinary outbound soldiers' mail.

Happily, the signed letter enclosed in the envelope (Figure 2) identifies the sender as Emile-Jean Guillot and uses the official letterhead of St. Pierre and Miquelon Chief Justice. Guillot was also the St. Pierre and Miquelon colonial Secretary of Defense and the Chief Censor on the islands in 1939-1940. Naturally a cover originating from his high office displays the marvelous well

struck censor markings front and back and positioned strictly according to regulations.

The envelope has neat, white, sealing tape made from postage stamp selvage on the left. After all the Chief Censor was censoring himself! The usual censor tape used at St. Pierre was plain, brown manila. The then current 2.25f ultramarine New York World's Fair stamp, Maury # 198 (2010), is scarce as a single on cover and prepays the correct surface letter 20 gm rate to the United States. The letter has a machine receiving cancel BLYTHEBOURNE STA. BROOKLYN. N.Y./ NOV 17 / 2:30 PM/ 1939 on the back. It also was hand-stamped in purple as undeliverable because of "No such Number". A purple INCONNU handstamp was applied four times to the back and a purple RETOUR handstamp three times on the front. The letter looked likely to make the return trip back to St. Pierre. All was not lost however, and at the last minute directory service at Brooklyn came up with the corrected address and wrote in red pencil "Try as per Alec". It apparently made it to the intended addressee thanks to an alert mail clerk.

On the same cover is the double circular 35 mm diameter, "* CONTRÔLÉ * / ILES/ SAINT PIERRE/ MIQUELON/ POSTAL", civilian censor handstamp which is more commonly seen [without the military making] on St. Pierre civilian covers during 1939 to 1943. This double censorship marking, civilian and military, on the Figure 2 cover appears to be redundant. Perhaps it just signifies that the particular piece of military mail has entered the regular civilian mail stream. Keys (1965, p. 654) reports that French Guiana and French Oceania both utilized the double pointed oval together with the postal control double circular marking in tying the sealing tape on censored covers, so perhaps this combination of markings, while uncommon, followed the proper censorship procedure.

Emile-Jean Guillot, the sender, was an outspoken judge at St. Pierre in the years 1938 through 1940. As head of the judiciary, Guillot was the ranking official, after the Governor, in the territory. He was second in command to Governor Gilbert de Bournat during the period from the French Republican administration through the French Armistice with the Germans (June 1940) and part of the period of de Bournat's pro-Vichy regime. In addition he served as a member of the *Conseil d'Administration*, Secretary of Defense, Code Officer and Chief Censor. As Chief Censor of the Colony, Guillot was required to intercept and inspect all mail, both incoming and outgoing.

A serious divide in the top leadership of the islands occurred following the June 1940 French Armistice with Nazi Germany and the formation of Marshal Philippe Pétain's government at Vichy, France. Guillot opposed the pro-Vichy views of Governor de Bournat. Guillot favored General de Gaulle and the Gaullist Free French cause that was also popular with many of the islanders.

On the September 4, 1940, seventieth anniversary of the founding of the French Third Republic, he had openly defied de Bournat by flying the French *Tricolor* flag from the widow of his apartment that overlooked the public square at the center of town. Even bolder, he raised the Cross of Lorraine colors of the Free French on Armistice Day, November 11, 1940 and also on the occasion of de Gaulle's Free French Forces entry into Libreville, Gabon (Anglin, 1999). Guillot, with his power of Chief Justice, also delivered judgments that appeared to many to favor St. Pierrais Gaullist sympathizers.

Another interesting philatelic observation is that a number of covers and registered covers from the local Government Medical Chief Dr. Bertrand Gau to his relatives back in France had the tell tale Military Censor handstamps and characteristic white paper censor tape (Figure 3). This special censor treatment could only have been at the



Figure 3. Cover from Dr. Gau in St. Pierre to his wife in France with Military and Civilian censor markings.

hands of Guillot. Dr. Gau was well known in the community for his strident pro-Vichy, anti-Gaullist views.

These actions and Guillot's growing split with the Governor were quite public. This outward show of disloyalty to Vichy and de Bournat's Vichy-inspired vision of law and order was leading to a confrontation. Guillot knew he was a marked man. He was at the point of arranging a nighttime escape by boat to nearby Newfoundland, ahead of his possible arrest. In a surprise move in December 1940, Guillot was ordered to take up a judicial appointment at Fort-de-France in the French West Indian island of Martinique. Announced as a promotion, the move was actually contrived by de Bournat and Vichy to quietly remove Guillot and his influence from St. Pierre.

Supposedly *en route* to Martinique, Guillot arrived by ship at Halifax, Nova Scotia. When he disembarked, Guillot was sought out by the Canadian authorities. The Canadians, who had been following the events in St. Pierre, offered him every assistance including political asylum. The Canadians had secretly suggested his name to the Americans as a possible friendlier, alternative to de Bournat as island Governor (Anglin, 1999).

However, Guillot had his own plans to go on to New York City, which he did after a brief visit to Montreal, Quebec to confer with the Pierrais expatriot community there. He formally joined the Free French on January 6, 1941. Early in 1941 Guillot prepared a comprehensive, first-hand report for General de Gaulle on conditions at the St. Pierre & Miquelon colony. Guillot was later awarded *Médaille de la Résistance française* for his wartime activities.

Pro-Vichy Emile-Raoul Macé was appointed by de Bournat to replaced Guillot as Chief of the Judicial Service in St. Pierre in April 1941. He also assumed Guillot's duties as Chief Censor. Macé was eventually relieved of duties by Vice-Admiral Muselier in December 1941. Macé along with Dr. Gau, the Medical Chief, and many of the pro-Vichy administrators, were arrested on Muselier's orders and removed from St. Pierre (Anglin, 1999).

General de Gaulle wired from London to Muselier on January 24, 1942 ordering him to set up an Administrative Council at St. Pierre under Alain Savary as the new Governor with extensive powers and a Free French officer as Defense Secretary. Several liaison officers helped control the radio station and the port facilities. Censorship of the wartime mail continued. Because the St. Pierre Administration was now, again, aligned with the war efforts of Canada and Newfoundland, cross-border censorship was now on a more cooperative footing.

The straight-line hand stamp *CONTROLÉ*, 35mm x 5mm with a larger 7mm tall "C" and "É" was used in 1943-1945 on out bound civilian mail (Figure 4). The uncommon marking usually tied the plain manila St. Pierre censor tape. It is also frequently found on the same unopened cover fronts from St. Pierre with the Canadian "*PASSED BY CENSOR*____" in purple with manuscript "*DB/XXX* with the 102, 107 or other number in pencil. It is possible as suggested by Keys (1965, p. 9) that these letters may have been sealed after having been censored. The marking is also known on airmail (Figure 5).

Censorship of mail at St. Pierre and Miquelon ended in 1945 with the end of the war. Many of the French officials involved in the intrigues of 1941-1942 continued their French government careers in various French territories world-wide or in liberated France after their exploits in wartime St. Pierre and Miquelon. They are remembered today by historians and also by inquisitive



Figure 4. Straight line *CONTROLÉ* censor marking used on cover to Halifax, Canada.



Figure 5. Straight line *CONTROLE* censor on airmail cover to Kansas City, Missouri.

philatelists, who come across their surviving postal artifacts on their album pages.

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St. Pierre & Miquelon Memories

Frank Correl

James R. Taylor's article "St. Pierre and Miquelon: the 1942 Vichy 'Ghost of RF' Varieties" in the January 2014 issue of the FCP awakened some fond memories of my own encounter with the 20 franc denomination of this phenomenon. It was during my second visit to Saint Pierre in 1951 following an earlier initial visit in 1948.

In 1948 a large variety of stamps going back to the marathon pictorial series of 1938 to 40 (four denominations: 40 centimes, 50 centimes, one franc and two franc were still in stock) and including Free French regulars and airmails, the regular and airmail series and postage due stamps of 1947, as well as some of the French Colonies general issues (semi-postal with large surcharges and all one of the postage due series of 1944) were available at the little post office. I did not buy any of the semi-postals but picked up examples of everything else the post office had. Total cost was 860.60 francs, equivalent to \$4.82, for which I obtained 53 different regular and airmail stamps as well as 21 postage due stamps.

Returning to New York I purchased a variety of other SPM stamps which were still valid for postage. I took these to the islands with me in 1951. I arrived in St. Pierre as the sole human passenger on board the small costal freighter "Eskimo," which was ferrying a variety of animals from Prince Edward Island to Newfoundland. During my stay I used some of the stamps on correspondence and also on covers addressed to myself at my place of lodging, the Café de la France facing the harbor.

One sunny afternoon, I was sitting in front of the café shooting the breeze with a local friend, Eu-



Stamps from the author's collection. On the left is the ghost of RF variety and on the right a 10 franc postage due stamp.

gene Bechet, and examining some of the envelopes that had been delivered to me at the café earlier that day. M. Bechet who had a peripheral interest in stamps was also looking at the covers when he stopped at one and pointed to one of the stamps. It was the 20 franc value of the 1938 to 40 series supposedly without the RF in the lower right hand corner and he remarked about what seemed like a crude, uncompleted pattern forming a vague RF monogram where there was supposed to be nothing other than the stony shore. I had not even noticed it until then. Well, there was the variety on the envelope with a 5 September 1951 cancel from the post office on the Ile-aux-Marins across the harbor from Saint Pierre. The Ile-aux-Marins is now a museum of maritime affairs but in 1951 it was inhabited and featured a small post office with a lady postmaster and its own cancel.

At the time I was really only interested in stamps rather than postal history and the ghost of RF variety and the various other stamps on the envelopes were soaked off and put into an album where they rest today. I never thought much about the variety but I am pleased to see it receive recognition these many years later.

I was also able at the time to obtain cancellations on the French Colonies general issue postage due stamps at the main post office in Saint Pierre.

However I have always been curious regarding the use of the stamps. Can anyone advise in which Colonies these postage due stamps did postal duty and what cancels and on cover examples exist today? Where I might be able to do the necessary research to find out.

I am grateful to Jim Taylor for relating his own experience and speculations regarding the ghost of RF stamps of Saint Pierre and Miquelon in his article and for helping me recall my own first encounter with them 63 years ago. “

A Different View on Exhibiting

Ed Grabowski

We have all heard of the EXPONET – Virtual Exhibition web site organized by Milan Cernik and his associates in the Czech Republic. People are encouraged to put their exhibits on line for all to see. Alain Millet, a Collectors Club and France & Colonies Philatelic Society member and a long-time friend, has taken a different approach to philately and the web. I consider Alain to be the world's foremost collector of French Colonies postal history. A while ago he decided to give up the rigors, complexities and expenses associated with formal national and international exhibiting, and go his own way. He discovered a web site named ISSUU, which provides apparently unlimited space for people to put up files in their areas of interest in their own section of the site. Alain's part of the site is accessible via the link ISSUU.COM/CODAXA, which I accessed recently in search of some minor French Colonial point. I found that Alain has been working hard on his web exhibits, and now has fourteen of them! Because of the breadth and depth of material that he has, his New Caledonia postal history is shown over a group of six exhibits alone. Without question he has the definitive collection of New Caledonia postal history, save for modern material, and it is available for all to see all of the

time. The material is presented in typical mounted exhibition style, but with the freedom to do so as he sees fit. He does not have to be concerned about page or frame limits, fine details on organization, whether items fit under his given title, etc. His definitive collection of New Hebrides postal history is presented in two exhibits, and, in my view, is the best ever assembled, as is his New Caledonia material. In addition to these, he has six further exhibits on different French Colonial or French Offices areas. His presentations on Mayotte & Nossi-Bé and the French Colonial Dubois Issue are among my favorites, and represent reference standards of what exhibits in these areas could contain. His ISSUU exhibits stand as a resource for collectors, exhibitors, researchers, judges, etc. to use as needed. I have been struggling for the past few years as to what to do with my Indochina and Madagascar Group Type exhibits which have exceeded the ten frame size allowed for national level exhibits. With Alain's gambit, I may have found a proper place for them.

President's Letter

Fellow philatelic enthusiasts (and closet collectors and everyone else reading this):

Let's cut to the chase. Two items that I consider pretty darned good news. First, we have a website up and running. See <http://www.FranceandColPS.org> for our site. The thanks goes to Ralph DeBoard, who designed it, prodded us for the initial content, and tweaked it to make it look as good as it does right now. We are back on the web!

The directors agree that the key to making our website valuable is to have good content. Already you will see some of the presentations our members have made at our WSP show meetings over the past five years or so. We hope to add others from the past and to continue adding programs from our future meetings. Suggestions for additional content are welcome, and you will see a few more expressed below.

Just as a comment to future speakers, we really hope you will release your presentation for our website. If you agree, keep in mind that we want your presentation to provide information even without the benefit of your oral commentary, so please consider using the Notes feature if using PowerPoint, or adding sufficient detail to the presentation that a subsequent viewer will appreciate your subject matter.

The second matter, which has been a steady "wait and see" for at least three years, probably more, is our journal digitization project. I believe I wrote some time ago that our journals were scanned for us before our consultants had to abandon our project. After using the database assembled by the American First Day Cover Society, I realized that they were just using the Adobe Acrobat search engine, which is included in

the free Acrobat Reader that most of us download and use to read PDFs.

So I tried searching a portion of our scanned database with the Acrobat search engine. It works! And it works pretty well, although far from perfectly. So we have a way forward to make our journals available electronically in a way that will be fruitful for our membership.

As of today, the plan our directors and officers have set is to put a small sample of journals on our web site, available for all to see. The idea is to include one from each major editorial period – Bob Stone, Stan Luft, Dave Herendeen, and Norval Rasmussen. We hope that the scholarship, news, illustrations and other items in our journals will intrigue potential new members.

The second part of this is to get all our journals on the website. We anticipate the journals being in a "members only" area of the site that will require passwords to access. Our hope is that the open area teasers will encourage others to join to be able to read, research and enjoy our journals. The full database is not yet on our site (at least as I am writing this), so please don't expect to find them there quite yet. We'll be sure to update the site so that it is plain when the database is available.

The search feature (and our website) are significantly less than called for in our original plan. However, this lower tech version will work. We hope it will be easy to maintain, so that it is always up to date, although if a few recent journals aren't yet in the member area, we should all have paper copies to reference.

Now for the "ask." We need several things from you. First is to test drive our site. Please offer your comments to me at nilsestuen@sbcglobal.net and to Ralph DeBoard at rcd3015@cox.net. We want our site to be robust and interesting. Your opinions are important.

Item two: Our website needs content. We would like you to write short articles about the aspect of French philately that appeals to you so that we can post the content (including illustrations) on the site. We think it is critical that a browsing collector or researcher can find a short (100-200 words) article and a few illustrations about each colony, as well as about many areas of France itself. Please do this for the benefit of our society as your personal contribution to attracting new members.

Item three: Steer people to our site. It will be a while before it pops up in a Bing, Google or similar search. Our friends are going to need help to get to this site, at least for a while. Broadcast our web address however you can.

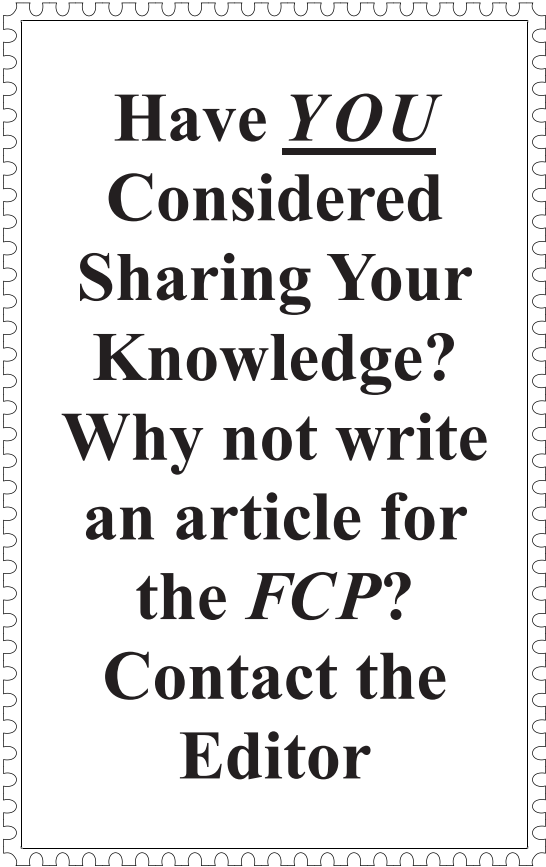
So I feel pretty good this quarter that we have made real progress towards energizing our society again. Your comments are welcome, but I repeat myself. We want to entice new members as well as providing continual support and encouragement to all of you, our current membership.

Now it's time to change the subject completely. Some of you may know that I am on the search committee for the new APS executive director. We are working hard to find that new ED. We hope to find a visionary to serve as the APS leader, one who can be an ambassador for our great hobby. I bring this up because I believe a strong APS can help us, too.

You will also see comments in several places that there are ideas for the major groups in philately, especially the APS and ASDA, to work together to increase the number of people engaged in "organized" philately. We know there are thousands, if not millions, of buyers and sellers on ebay, Delcampe and perhaps other internet sites, some of whom might be enticed to join us, the APS or both. I hope that if any of you are invited to participate in the efforts to promote philately,

you will eagerly agree. Our hobby will get better as we promote the ideas of learning, sociability, fun and more.

I hope to see many of you in Hartford! It should be a lot of fun.



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9th June 2014

France and Colonies Philatelist

Norval Rasmussen

Please find below a most exciting announcement from the British Library. As I'm sure you will be aware, the British Library holds a fabulous and almost complete collection of philatelic literature that was published prior to 1913.

You can readily check the titles held in the Crawford Library by visiting www.rpsl.org.uk/catalogue_search.asp and searching for 'Crawford'.

With best wishes

Chris King
President

Frank Walton
Vice President

The Crawford Library Digitisation Project

The British Library's Philatelic Collections, with the support of funding from the British Philatelic Trust, is undertaking to digitise the Crawford Library of philatelic literature.

Bequeathed by James Ludovic Lindsay, 26th Earl of Crawford in 1913, the Crawford Library comprises of circa 4,500 volumes, (including books,

periodicals, and catalogues). All languages and places of publication are represented, from 1860 until about 1913, it is undoubtedly the most important and comprehensive library in the world of philatelic literature from this period.

For preservation purposes in the 1990s the British Library prepared high-resolution microfilms of every page of every publication: this is approximately 900,000 pages! Trials have been conducted and these films are still in excellent condition and of sufficiently fine granularity to be converted into digital images and then successfully made searchable by optical character recognition techniques.

The Library is listed in the Catalogue of the Crawford Library of Philatelic Literature at the British Library, which was first published in 1911, and reprinted in 1991 with amendments and additions to the text, including where appropriate the British Library shelfmark.

Thanks to a generous grant by the British Philatelic Trust, this project can now move from being a feasibility study to reality. When the digitisation has been completed, this incredible resource will be made available online, there will be links directly to the digitized text so that researchers from around the world will be able to freely access and download the content. This will be available on both the British Library website and hosted by our partner in this part of the project, The Royal Philatelic Society London, via the Global Philatelic Library.

IMPORTANT COPYRIGHT NOTICE FOR RIGHTS HOLDERS

The British Library is inviting rights holders in works that may be included in the Crawford Library Digitisation to support the project. If rights holders prefer content not to appear, they are requested to communicate with the Library as early

as possible, so that to any such works can be restricted to traditional access.

Paul Skinner FRPSL
Head Curator, Philatelic Collections

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NEW PUBLICATION

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Email exhibiting@abps.org.uk

Norval Rasmussen
France and Colonies Philatelic Society
nrasmu@gmail.com

Dear France and Colonies Philatelic Society

I am writing to ask you for help in publicizing the forthcoming Autumn Stampex which takes place at the Business Design Centre, in London from 17 September 2014 to 20 September 2014.

Autumn Stampex is a national exhibition judged by nationally qualified and FIP qualified judges where exhibits can qualify to enter at Continental

Continued on page 94

New Issues

France

- ◇ 31 Mar 2014: Joan Mitchell commemorative stamp. €1.65.
- ◇ 3 Apr 2014: Henri Langlois. Sheetlet of 4 non-denominated stamps valid for international mail up to 20 g. €5.90.
- ◇ 7 Apr 2014: Caroline Aigle commemorative air-mail stamp. €3.55. Also available in a sheetlet of 10 stamps for €35.50.
- ◇ 7 Apr 2014: Raid on the Jews of Izieu commemorative stamp. €0.61.
- ◇ 7 Apr 2014: Clermont-Ferrand Spring Philatelic Salon commemorative stamp. €0.61.
- ◇ 22 Apr 2014: European capitals: Vienna. Block of 4 €0.66 stamps of different designs. €2.64.
- ◇ 28 Apr 2014: Grand times in the history of France: Saint Louis - Battle of Bouvines. Block of 2 €1.65 stamps of different designs. €3.30.
- ◇ 2 May 2014: World War I commemorative stamps. Sheetlet of 5 non-denominated stamps valid for international mail up to 20 g. €6.50. Also available in an illustrated booklet for €14.90.
- ◇ 2 May 2014: World War II commemorative stamps. Sheetlet of 5 non-denominated stamps valid for international mail up to 20 g. €6.50. Also available in an illustrated booklet for €14.90.
- ◇ 5 May 2014: Poitiers. €0.61.
- ◇ 5 May 2014: Europa. Harp commemorative stamp. €0.83.
- ◇ 5 May 2014: Vacations. Booklet of 12 stamps of different designs. Nondenominated. Self adhesive. €7.32.
- ◇ 7 May 2014: 20th anniversary of the tunnel under the English Channel. €0.66.
- ◇ 12 May 2014: Tourism issue. Boulogne-sur-Mer. €0.61.
- ◇ 15 May 2014: Marianne. Booklet of 12 non-denominated stamps for the green letter rate in France. €7.32.
- ◇ 19 May 2014: Marguerite Duras commemorative stamp. €1.10.
- ◇ 26 May 2014: Red Cross commemorative stamp. Booklet of 10 flower designs. Nondenominated. Green letter rate in France. €8.10.
- ◇ 30 May 2014: Honey bee stamps. Sheetlet of 10 non-denominated stamps for the green letter rate in France. €9.10.



- ◇ 10 Jun 2014: Martyrs of Tulle commemorative stamp. €0.66.
- ◇ 10 Jun 2014: Tourism issue. Abbaye de Pontigny - Yonne. €0.61.
- ◇ 10 Jun 2014: 70th anniversary of the Normandy invasion. €0.66.
- ◇ 14 Jun 2014: 150th anniversary of the Red Cross. FD cancelled. Two sheetlets of 5 stamps each. €12.00.
- ◇ 14 Jun 2014: Ceres reproduction. Souvenir sheet of 20 stamps FD cancelled. €20.00.
- ◇ 14 Jun 2014: Baccarat crystal commemorative. Cancelled on the date of the Salon de Paris. €15.00.
- ◇ 14 Jun 2014: Dore commemorative block of 4 different designs cancelled on the date of the Salon de Paris. €6.20.
- ◇ 15 Jun 2014: Mint (flora). Sheetlet of 4 different non-denominated designs for the green letter rate in France. €6.50.
- ◇ 15 Jun 2014: French philatelic treasures. Five sheetlets of different old French stamps. No postage value. €120.00.
- ◇ 16 Jun 2014: Embroidery. Sheetlet of 10 different non-denominated designs for the green letter rate in France. €9.10.
- ◇ 23 Jun 2014: Paris Zoo commemorative stamp. €0.98.
- ◇ 23 Jun 2014: Jean Jaurès commemorative stamps. Two se-tenant stamps of €0.61 and €1.02. €1.63.
- ◇ 23 Jun 2014: Jean Dufy commemorative stamp. €1.65.
- ◇ 23 Jun 2014: Benjamin Rabier commemorative stamps. Sheetlet of 2 stamps of €0.66 and €1.10. €1.76.
- ◇ 23 Jun 2014: 87th Congress of the FFAP. €0.61.
- ◇ 23 Jun 2014: Tourism issue: Brittany. €0.61.
- ◇ 23 Jun 2014: Tourism issue: Coaraze - Alpes-Maritimes. €0.61.
- ◇ 23 Jun 2014: Baccarat crystal commemorative stamp. Sheetlet of 5. €15.00.
- ◇ 23 Jun 2014: Philatelic French history. Sheetlet of 4 different designs. Two €1.45 and two €1.65 stamps. €6.20.
- ◇ 23 Jun 2014: Ceres. Sheetlet of 20 reproductions. €20.00.
- ◇ 23 Jun 2014: Trains. Booklet of 10



- 12 different nondemoninated designs for the 20 g. rate in France. €7.92.
- ◇ 27 Jun 2014: 50's decade commemorative stamps. Sheetlet of 6 different designs. Cancelled and not valid for postage. €3.96.
- ◇ 30 Jun 2014: Between heaven and earth. Nine different sheetlets of 6 nondemoninated stamps each depicting regions of France. €6.50 each sheetlet.

Andorra

- ◇ 29 Mar 2014: Cars. La Hispano, Guadalajara, 1917. €0.98.
- ◇ 3 May 2014: Fauna. Tintipella. €0.66.
- ◇ 24 May 2014: Europa. La buna (bagpipes). €0.83.
- ◇ 17 Jun 2014: Tourism. Vall del Madriu. €0.98. Also available in a sheetlet of 10 stamps for €9.80.
- ◇ 17 Jun 2014: Tourism. Plaça d'Engordany Escaldes-Engordany. €0.66.



New Caledonia

- ◇ 23 Apr 2014: lagoons of New Caledonia : North and East. 110F. €0.92.
- ◇ 17 May 2014: Jubilé de la Maison du Combattant. 150F. €1.26.
- ◇ 20 May 2014: La maison de Caujolle. 750F. €6.29.
- ◇ 7 Jun 2014: World day of blood donors. 110F. €0.92.
- ◇ 7 Jun 2014: Konè Reef. 75F. €0.63.
- ◇ 7 Jun 2014: The flooded forest. 190F. €1.59.
- ◇ 7 Jun 2014: Fish. Damsel. 110F. €0.92.
- ◇ 7 Jun 2014: Birds. Perruche. 120F. €1.01.



French Austral & Antarctic Terrs. (TAAF)

- ◇ 4 Apr 2014: District de Crozet. €7.00.
- ◇ 28 Jun 2014: Dolphins. Block of 4 different designs in a single sheetlet. €0.63, 0.66, 0.66, 1.05. €3.00.

French Polynesia

- ◇ 20 Apr 2014: Cartoons. Wild pig. 100F. €0.84.
- ◇ 16 May 2014: Booklet of 6 stamps. Graffiti. 100F each. €5.04.
- ◇ 10 Jun 2014: World Ocean Day. Black tip shark.

10F. €0.08.

- ◇ 10 Jun 2014: World Ocean Day. White tip shark. 75F. €0.63.
- ◇ 10 Jun 2014: World Ocean Day. Tiger shark. 190F. €1.59.
- ◇ 10 Jun 2014: World Ocean Day. Polynesian sharks. Sheetlet of 4 different designs. 10F, 40F, 75F, 190F. €2.64.



Monaco

My source had no new issues for Monaco.

St. Pierre & Miquelon

- ◇ 30 Apr 2014: Lebailly Forge. €0.66.
- ◇ 21 May 2014: Les Voiles Blanches by Jean-Claude GIRARDIN. Two stamps, se-tenant. €1.40 and 0.60.
- ◇ 18 Jun 2014: La Palais de Justice, before and after. €1.35.

Wallis & Futuna

- ◇ 27 Apr 2014: Canonization of Pope John Paul II and Pope John XXIII. Two stamps 100F each.
- ◇ 27 Apr 2014: Pilgrimage to Poi Futuna. 130F.
- ◇ 23 May 2014: Mother's Day. 115F.
- ◇ 19 Jun 2014: Marine life: Turtles. 65F.

Membership Notices

New Members

3449 Mariner, Dr. Francis, Ames, IA
3450 Raphael, Stephen, New York, NY
3451 Tyler, Maurice S., Bucks, UK
3452 Thompson, Robert J., Limerick, ME
3453 Darby, Joseph W. III, Natchitoches, LA
3454 Henderson, George D., Santa Cruz, CA
3455 Hodas, Mike, San Francisco, CA

Address Changes

2941 Adams, James A., Jr.
PO Box 358, Glendale, SC 29346-0358

Resignations Received

3203 Thomas, Dudley B.

Deceased

1394 Lambert, Laurence H.
1327 Lyman, Robert W.

Members Appeals

WANTED: Tunisian high value airmail stamps, Scott numbers C17-C20 on cover. Scans with asking price to Norval Rasmussen at nrasmu@gmail.com or 224 Wilson Ave, Morgantown, WV 26501.

Show Reports

COLOPEX

Columbus, OH June 13-15, 2014

Gold to **Ken Nilsestuen** for "Minnesota Territorial Centennial Stamp - 1949." Also the American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors Creativity Award and American Philatelic Society 1940-1980 Medal of Excellence.

March Party

Cleveland, OH April 11-13, 2014

Gold to **Michael Bass** for "French and Austrian Postal Operations in the Holy Land 1852-1914." Gold to **Paul Larsen** for "Caroline Islands to 1914: The Spanish & German Periods." Also Dale Pulver Award for the Best Foreign Exhibit. Vermeil to **Ken Nilsestuen** for "Minnesota Territorial Centennial Stamp - 1949." Also the American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors Award of Honor.

NAPEX

McLean, VA June 6-8, 2014

Gold to **Alfred F. Kugel** for "Allied Occupation of the Former German Colonies, 1914-1922." Also German Colonies Collectors Group Col. W.E. Davis Award, Germany Philatelic Society Gold, Military Postal History Society Award. Single frame Silver to Alfred F. Kugel for "Communist Revolution in Germany, 1918-1922." Also Germany Philatelic Society Silver.

Philadelphia National Stamp Exhibition

Philadelphia April 4-6, 2014

Gold to **Edward Grabowski** for "The Era of the French Colonial Group Type - New Caledonia & Dependencies and French Oceania."

PIPEX

WESTPEX

Portland, OR May 9-11, 2014

Gold to **Stephen Tucker** for "Pan American's Pacific Clippers 1935-1942." Also American Airmail Society Gold and American Philatelic Society 1900-1940 Medal of Excellence.

Plymouth 2014

Westland, MI April 26-27, 2014.

Gold to **Paul Larsen** for "Federal Issues of the Leeward Islands: King George V Reign."

Rocky Mountain Stamp Show

Denver, CO May 16-18, 2014

Vermeil to **Lewis Bussey** for "U.S. One Cent Postal Card - the GPO McKinley Designs of 1910-1911." Also the American Philatelic Society 1900-1940 Medal of Excellence. Vermeil to **Charles LaBlonde** for "The Postal History of Swiss WW II Cards." Single frame Gold to **Stanley Luft** for "France: The 15 Centimes Sage Goes to Sea."

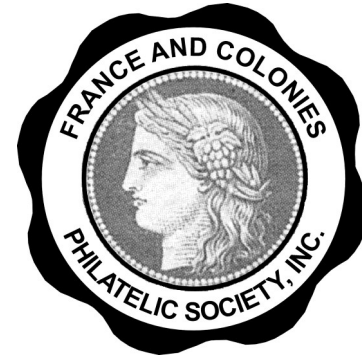
St. Louis Stamp Expo

St. Louis, MO March 21-23, 2014

Gold to **Paul Larsen** for "Federal Issues of the Leeward Islands: King George V Reign." Also British Caribbean Study Group Gold. Single frame Gold to **Paul Larsen** for "Leeward Islands Federal Postal Stationery of King George V Reign: Registered Envelopes." Also British Caribbean Study Group Gold.

San Francisco, CA April 25-27, 2014

Gold to **Ralph DeBoard** for "The Postal History of Tahiti through the First Pictorial Issue." Also the SESCAL Award of Merit.

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Further information and ordering details are in the We Get Letters section on page 89.

Letters...Continued from page 89

and International level. All philatelists are invited to apply. The competition is open worldwide, although no customs assistance can be offered.

This exhibition includes all FIP Classes together with Cinderella and Picture Post Card entries.

For this event specially invited displays and exhibits have been requested from the Germany and Colonies Philatelic Society and exhibits will be displayed in association with the Bund Deutscher Philatelisten (BDPh) e.V. www.bdph.de

The entry forms are to be found [here](#) and need to be with the organizers by 16th July 2014.

Completed paper forms should be sent to ABPS Exhibitions Ltd, c/o RPSL, 41 Devonshire Place London W1G 6JY, and scanned entries to exhibiting@abps.org.uk

Please note also the dates of Spring Stampex, which will take place from 17-21 February 2015 and which is a limited exhibition of at least 200 Frames to celebrate the "Diamond Jubilee of the [Great Britain Philatelic Society](#)". The [Great Britain Collectors Club – USA](#) will also be in attendance.

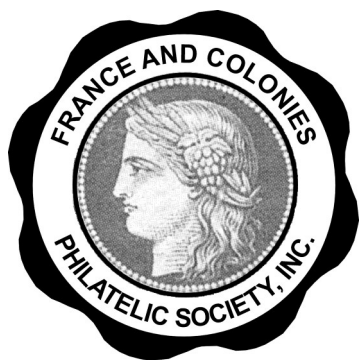
Please note also the London 2015 Europhilex exhibition taking place from 13 to 16 May at the Business Design Centre which will be the biggest philatelic event in Europe during 2015. The organisers look forward to welcoming you to the show.

With best wishes

Francis Kiddle
Chairman

**Have YOU
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Contact the
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**It only takes 200 words
to fill this space.
Think about what you
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Help Wanted

Assistant editor with knowledge of modern France philately. Duties include soliciting, reviewing and critiquing articles submitted to this journal.

Contact the editor if interested.

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304-292-7652 or 304-290-6117

Instructions for authors

I spent a great deal of time with the old issues before putting this one together. I found very detailed instructions for authors in the July 2007 *F&CP* volume (whole number 289). These should continue to guide you in your submissions. Electronic submission using Microsoft Word © is preferred. Pictures scanned at 300 dpi reproduce well and can be shown larger without losing clarity. The preferred format for the pictures will remain TIF. I note David Herendeen's instructions in the July 2007 issue concerning the use of JPEG scans. Some of the illustrations in the last issue lost clarity and sharpness in the final printed issue. They were in JPEG format. Although they looked fine in my document they degraded going forward.

In all cases if you need assistance in producing your article, cover write up, column closer, or other submission contact me: nrasmu@gmail.com or 224 Wilson Ave., Morgantown, WV 26501, or 304-292-7652, or 304-290-6117.

Deadlines are the 15th of the month proceeding publication (December 15, March 15, June 15, September 15) but I can be reasonable.

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