

BELGIAN CONGO



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Postal Auction Sale - Postal Stationery (3) Lots 1 through 203.
Conditions of sale are the same as used in the first two Postal
Stationery sales.

NEWS AND VIEWSNEW MEMBER

We wish to welcome to our group Mr. Ken Doig of North Fork, California. He was referred to us by Alan Morvay, as both have a strong interest in the country of Ethiopia.

Ken is age 51 and has been collecting on and off since age 6. At the present he is collecting only, but in the past he has operated occasionally as a part-time dealer.

His main interest in the Congo has to do with cancellations, both town and river, and he hopes to learn more about this area. He collects the cancellations of all Caribbean islands and all African countries, except RSA. In addition he also collects the used stamps of Somalia, Eritrea, Sudan, Cameroon and British Honduras/Belize.

Ken is a member of the American Philatelic Society, Ethiopian clubs in U.S. and England, Br. Caribbean Philatelic Society, France and Colonies, Belize Society and the Mobile Post Office Society.

POSTAL AUCTION SALE

Enclosed is the list of lots for the third and last of the present series of postal stationery auction sales. The next sale with the list of lots probably being distributed with the June Bulletin will be of postal history interest.

ON THE EXHIBITING FRONT

There was good news and bad news for your editor during the months of January and February of this year. One showing took a Large Gold at the International in India, another took two Gold Awards in National shows, and on the last showing also took the Grand Award at San Diego - both collections completed by the editor's typing. On his own collection showing a plating study of the Mols issues of the Congo only brought a Silver Award - an award that led one to say "Considering the rarity of the material shown and the excellent presentation, the award was much too low."

Your editor's showing of the Booklet Pane Stamps will be shown at WESTPEX in San Francisco this coming April. It is believed to be the first showing of a study of these stamps in any competitive exhibition. It will be interesting to see if the jury goes beyond the American Scott Catalogue in judging the showing.

We are delighted to hear that our member Ron Strawser has been accepted for a showing of his postal stationery of the Congo at STaMpsHOW '89 to be held at Anaheim, California this coming August. Ron has promised a complete revision of his last showing, so it hoped the new showing will be in the Gold class.

A Review of the Pennycuick Sale of East African Campaign Covers

by Regis Hoffman

Recently, the Dr. Kenneth Pennycuick collection of mail from the Western campaign of the 1914-18 war in East Africa was auctioned by Phillips (London). As a collection of this magnitude comes on the market once every decade or so, I thought members might be interested in some of the auction results. The sale featured 129 lots and realized slightly over \$30,000. This review will focus on the 37 lots of Belgian forces covers. I have collected World War I East Africa for over 10 years, and many lots in the auction were the first examples of certain markings I have seen. In this review, the lot number, description, and estimated value are taken from the sale catalog. Proceeding this is the realized price (exclusive of the 10% buyer's premium) and a short commentary. I've converted the prices into U.S. dollars - at the time of the sale, L1 = \$1.80.

- Lot 93 "F.P.O. #1: 1916 (November 30th) envelope to Switzerland franked by Belgian Congo 25c cancelled B.P.C.V.P.K. / NO. 1 c.d.s. in blue with violet CENSURE MILITAIRE / CDT. CAMPS DE PRISONNIERS, *TABORA* cachet. Photo. Est. \$140-180". Realized \$325. A very scarce marking from a camp for German internees/prisoners in Tabora, German East Africa. Occasionally one finds covers from Germans in British camps in German East Africa - this is the first example I have seen from a Belgian camp.
- Lot 98 "F.P.O. #6: 1917 (April 9th) 'Active Service' envelope to England franked Belgian Congo 15c, 40c and 1F cancelled B.P.C.V.P.K. / NO. 6 c.d.s. in blue with violet boxed PASSED BY / (CROWN) / NO. 3301 / CENSOR. Photo. Est. \$90-130". Realized \$135. A cover with a censor mark believed used by the Indian Expeditionary Forces and an example of the intermingling of Allied force's mail.
- Lot 108 "F.P.O. #13: 1917 (September 27th) envelope to Kilossa bearing B.P.C.V.P.K. / NO. 13 c.d.s. Photo. Est. \$70-90". Realized \$135. A nice non-philatelic internal use cover. Also, envelopes are more difficult to find than the ubiquitous postal cards.
- Lot 111 "F.P.O. #15: 1917 (December 26th) Indian I.E.F. 1/4a postcard written by a Belgian Officer at Kilossa, cancelled B.P.C.V.P.K. / NO. 15 c.d.s. Est. \$50-70". Realized \$110. Again an example of the intermingling of Belgian and Indian forces mail. Also, used I.E.F. postal stationary is not common.
- Lot 114 "F.P.O. #17: 1918 (August 25th) Telegram form to Kindu bearing B.P.C.V.P.K. / NO. 17 c.d.s. Est. \$70-90". Unsold. Unsold? Telegraph forms generally bear clear strikes - why this item did not sell for even a few dollars or pounds is a mystery to me.
- Lot 117 "Kigoma: 1916 (September 2nd) set of three postcards to the same addressee in France (the message is spread over the three cards), franked by Belgian Congo 10c, 25c, and 50c cancelled by 'Kigoma' unframed mark. Photo. Est. \$180-220". Realized \$290. The "Kigoma" mark is one of the gray areas of East Africa philately. I have never found a definitive answer to its status - official or unauthorized? Also this mark has been extensively forged.
- Lot 118 "1917 (July 4th) registered envelope to Holland franked by Belgian Congo 40c cancelled 'I KIGOMA I' c.d.s. in black with EST AFRICAIN ALLEMANDE / OCCUPATION BELGE / DISTRICT D'UDJIDI / CENSURE MILITAIRE cachet on reverse, also 11 Belgian Congo stamps all with 'I KIGOMA I' c.d.s. Est. \$90-130". Realized \$235. I was a bit surprised at the high price paid for this item. However, the military censor mark is scarce.

- Lot 121 "Kisumu: 1916 (October 21st) 'F.P.M.' envelope to Holland bearing KISUMU / B.P.C.V.P.K. c.d.s. Est. \$70-90". Realized \$110. See comments after lot 122.
- Lot 122 1916 (November 1st) opened out envelope to France bearing German 'MUANZA' circular cancel with on reverse KISUMU / B.P.C.V.P.K. c.d.s. Est. \$70-90". Realized \$180. I was very surprised at the low estimate and realizations for these two lots. The KISUMU / B.P.C.V.P.K. mark is very scarce (much more so than lots 108 or 111 which realized more), and are the only two examples I have seen in an auction in the past 8 years.
- Lot 123 Rutshuru: 1915 (December 13th) 'Service Militaire' envelope to Holland bearing 'RUTSHURU' datestamp, blue OPENED BY CENSOR / UNDER / MARTIAL LAW label. Photo. Est. \$90-110". Realized \$200. Again, a significantly higher bid than the estimate. However, the censor tape is East African (probably Ugandan) and shows a rare example of Uganda censorship of Belgian forces mail.

Certificates of Authenticity and Identification

Three members have informed me that they each have a few stamps for which they require certificates but in all there are insufficient to justify the cost of the necessary photography.

Will members please send me stamps, cancellations, covers and post cards for which they require certificates to reach me not later than 11 April - R. H. Keach, 25 Kingswood Road, Tadworth, Surrey KT20 5EE.

R. H. KEACH

A List of the Combinations of Plates of the 1894-1923 Mols Issues

Bulletin No. 69, Pages 21-25 - Corrigenda

In listing the various plate combinations and the issues in which they exist, I made three grievous errors and I apologize for them. Please correct your copies of the list.

1 FRANC In II2 + A5 EAAOB(S,L1) should be EAAOB(S, L1, L2a).

In II3 + A5 EAAOB(L2a) should be EAAOB(L1, L2a).

In II6 + A6 1922/L is not known and should be deleted.

Moreover it may be thought desirable to add a note in 50 CENTIMES III3 + B 1922/M(L2a) and EAAOB/M(L2a) that both matt and shiny 5c surcharges exist.

R. H. KEACH

THE VICE PRESIDENTIAL COLUMNA New Type of Telegraphic Cancellation

In Bulletin No. 59 I listed all the telegraphic and TSF cancellations that I had seen with their years of use, as far as my limited collection showed. Since then several members have taken the trouble to provide information on additional cancellations and extended dates of use of those originally included in the list. I intend, in the June Bulletin, to list the additions and alterations so that anyone interested may update the list.

However, Mr. Jeukens has shown me a new type of cancellation.

The normal telegraphic cancellation of the 1940's and 1950's was circular, about 30mm diameter, with the name of the office at the top and the shortened word 'TELEGR.' at the bottom and no stars as were normal with postal cancellations. This new type has ELISABETHVILLE at the top, TELEGRAPHE, in full, at the bottom and stars between the words. Unfortunately, the example is a poor one and incomplete although it is clear what the wording is. The date is unclear but the stamp is a 60c 'palms' restricting the date to the 1940's or 1950's. Sight of a better example or information on other offices with the same type of cancellation will be gratefully appreciated.

Unusual Treatment of an Underpaid Post Card

A postal stationery card recently submitted for a certificate is worthy of recording.

It is a 10c internal card, Stibbe No. 14, sent from Albertville to Bruges, Belgium but without an added 5c adhesive to provide the 15c overseas rate. The stamp is cancelled M'TOA 4 October 1898 (the M'TOA post office was transferred to Albertville on 1 April 1898 and the M'TOA canceller with it). The card arrived at Leopoldville 24 November and the absence of a 5c adhesive observed. The normal procedure would have been to apply the cachet 'T' to indicate the underfranking and advise the Belgian post office that postage due was payable. Instead, 'Retour pour insuffisance affranchissement' (sic) was written on it and the card was returned all the way back to Albertville where the required 5c adhesive was added and cancelled ALBERTVILLE 7 March 1899. The card then again started its journey travelling via Boma (12 June) arriving at Bruges 10 July 1899. Sadly, the 5c adhesive is missing.

The card was wilfully delayed for more than six months to avoid the state losing its 5 centimes!

On the back of the card is a very much overlapping group of five STANLEY-FALLS cancellations; they are so intermingled that only three dates are legible: ? November 1898, 9 January 1899 and 28 April 1899; these agree with the various river trips that the card made. It would be interesting to know the dates of the other two cancellations and their purpose.

The CHUTES FRANCOIS-JOSEPH Post Office

Mr. Maulding has sent me for inspection a 1910 postal stationery card

(Stibbe 31TT, outward half with BOMA CARTE INCOMPLETE), unaddressed and without message, with the stamp cancelled CHUTES FRANCOIS-JOSEPH 30 OCTO 13 1905 and with 'transit' mark BOMA 1 MARS 8-9 1911.

I am confident that both the CHUTES FRANCOIS-JOSEPH cancellation 1.1 and the BOMA 1.11 (this designation covers at least two cancellations, this particular one that with the broken B and certainly in use until 1914) are genuine and how does one explain this particular obviously faked card? The only reasonable explanation that I can imagine is:

When the CHUTES FRANCOIS-JOSEPH post office closed, officially on 5 December 1905, its canceller was returned to the 'dead' store at the Boma post office. On 1 March 1911 someone was given access to this store and permitted to use the cancellation on the card and had added also a strike of the BOMA cancellation that was then in use.

What is of particular interest to me is the date on the CHUTES FRANCOIS-JOSEPH cancellation; it clearly indicates to me that, although the post office was officially closed on 5 December, the last date of use of its one and only canceller was 30 October 1905. A later date will prove me wrong but the cancellation is so rare that I doubt if proof will be forthcoming.

Early Picture Post Cards

I wrote to the Abbe Gudenkauf on the use, around 1900, of 50c stamps on picture post cards when the post card rate, both internal and foreign, was 15c. His reply will be of interest to many members and I quote it below.

'At the beginning the words "~~carte postale~~" meant only the postal stationery cards officially issued by the postal service and the tariff established in 1885 was only for them.

'As is precisely stated in De Cock's book "Le Congo Belge et ses Marques Postales" page 42, the 1885 Postal Instructions, Article 12, "Post cards are provided by the Administration; the front is reserved for only the address; the message should be written on the back. It is forbidden to stick or attach to post cards any objects whatsoever. When post cards do not comply with all of these conditions they will be taxed as ordinary letters if to an internal destination and they will not be allowed to go to a foreign destination."

'If I understand correctly, private picture post cards were then admitted to the interior but they had to pay letter rate; they were however excluded from international traffic, from the Congo Free State to elsewhere.

'Now, this situation changed at the end of the 19th century and picture post cards were in fact admitted for dispatch overseas, but they had to pay letter rate. I never read any postal instruction on this subject either in "Mouvement Geographique" or elsewhere but I have seen something like twenty picture cards sent to Belgium between May 1899 and April 1902, all with stamps to 50c on them. I send you herewith photocopies of some of them.

'This morning Mr. Jeukens sent me a photocopy of a picture card sent in an envelope where in the text the sender explains that to send picture post cards is prohibited, this in July 1899. I think he alleged the legal prohibition to avoid payment of 50c on many picture cards she had to send to Belgium.

'Anyway, from 20 April 1902, as I have read in "Mouvement Geographique" the sending of picture post cards was officially permitted for international use and at the same tariff as the postal stationery card. Cards in 1900, 1901 and the beginning of 1902 are not common; they are still rarer in 1899 and I have not so far seen an earlier example.'

The earliest card of which the Abbe sent a photocopy was dispatched to Belgium from Matadi 12 May 1899. By chance I have a card sent from Matadi on the same day by the same writer to the same addressee. Maybe the sender was celebrating the first day of the facility.

An Unusual 'CARTE POSTALE INCOMPLETE' Marking



Illustrated above is a post card, Stibbee No. 33TT, reply half, sent from KAMBOVE 29 July 1912 to Brussels and bearing, in violet, the printed pseudo-manuscript cachet CARTE POSTALE INCOMPLETE.

The Abbe Gudenkauf knows of another such example, also sent from Kambove, and he states that General Du Four considered the marking official and applied by the Kambove post office to its split reply-paid cards.

In order to come to a conclusion about this mark it would be very helpful if members would disclose 1) if they have cards with this type of mark and if from Kambove and 2) if they have cards from Kambove of the same period with different CARTE POSTALE INCOMPLETE marking.



Another 'incomplete' card, Stippe No. 23T, outward half, is illustrated above. It has the words 'AVEC RESPONSE PAYEE' obliterated by a strip of paper stuck over them to indicate that only half of the double card was sent. Fortunately, the Brussels arrival cancellation ties the strip of paper to the card.

It is curious that, so very many half-cards having been sent abroad without any 'Carte Incomplete' marking, some people should have gone to such trouble to indicate they were legitimately sending only the half-card.

R. H. KEACH

CUMULATIVE INDEX

It is planned to produce a cumulative index covering Bulletin issues (plus accompanying papers of reference interest) up to and including issue No. 70. According to present plans the index will appear in the latter half of 1989.

The previous cumulative index (1-50) was well-received and it is intended to keep to the same basic layout. However, suggestions for amended detailed treatment of members' pet subjects would be welcomed: in particular, the compiler admits to unease in past treatment of the important subject of 'Printing'. In order to save time, please send any suggestions direct to Norman Clowes, 20 Ogwen Drive, Lakeside, Cardiff CF2 6LL, Great Britain. Please write within a fortnight of receipt of this Bulletin as the job will have started by then.

NORMAN CLOWES

WW2 CENSORSHIP IN THE BELGIAN CONGO

This is a follow-up to requests for information for a survey, which appeared in the Bulletins of both the Civil Censorship Study Group and the Belgian Congo Study Circle a year or so ago. In order to make sense, whilst using the same article for both Bulletins this time, it will be necessary to repeat certain information which may be redundant in one or the other, and I apologise for this in advance. Further, as I am trying to cover quite a bit of ground, no doubt this note will be rather disjointed, with a number of digressions, but I ask you to bear with me.

First of all, I have to thank the many members of both Societies who sent in completed questionnaires or, in quite a number of cases, photocopies of their covers. In all, the information sent took in well over 1000 covers, of which just over 800 form the basis of the survey. This difference in numbers is for several reasons.

- 1) Quite a number of forms/copies were received which had not been censored in the Congo, but only at the other end. While interesting, these formed no part of the survey.
- 2) Some of the forms received were incomplete. Unless they looked as if they would provide unusual information, I did not request the owners to go to any extra trouble.
- 3) Similarly, a number of photocopies had illegible dates and I ignored these except where the marks were unusual, or the dates looked as if they were early or late. A variant of this was that most photocopies did not have the colours of the marks and cancellations indicated. I have included these in the survey but, of course, the data is incomplete to that extent.

Point 2) above is, I fear, largely my own fault, as I made an unwarranted assumption as to the degree of knowledge about routes, postage rates and, hence, modes of travel in and from the Belgian Congo. For this reason, one of my digressions will be to provide something about this for future reference.

Perhaps unusually, the next thing I have to say here concerns what the survey was not able to prove. This perhaps follows from having set my sights too high to begin with, however.....

The first thing which must remain unproven is whether certain examiner numbers can be co-ordinated with specific languages. There is some evidence of this in one or two cases, but, contrary to regulations, the requirement to indicate on the cover the language of its contents appears to have been honoured more in the breach than in the observance. On the other hand, none of the series of numbers seems to be complete from the survey sample and this may well indicate numbers set aside for infrequently used languages. In fact, a question remains in my mind as to whether some examiners, with their numeral handstamps, didn't perhaps have to travel to other locations when particular languages were needed.

Next, although 2 new censor stations have been discovered, we cannot be sure that the list is as yet complete. Those listed accounted for about 47% of the European and 3% of the native population of the Congo by the beginning of 1948 (although the absolute numbers were smaller for Europeans during the war, we can hopefully assume the percentages would remain roughly similar), while a further 21 towns held 17% of the Europeans and 2% of the natives, some of these latter having larger populations than a number of towns which are known to have been censor stations.

Further, there is little consistency between censor stations as to the way in which marks were applied. Certainly in Léopoldville, it was normal for the examiner No. and the censorship cancellation to be struck at the same time; this is clear from the ink used for both on the same cover, frequently either a deep blue-black or greyish purple. However, at every other station where coloured ink was used for a censor mark or examiner No., the ink used for the actual cancellation was black.

Then, although the reason for most censor stations can be seen from their geographical location, or the main routes passing through them, this is not always the case. However, the Congo was set up in a series of Provinces, Regions, Districts, Sub-Districts, etc. and this might explain some of these anomalies. My friend Mr. A. Jeukens is currently trying to find official Belgian records of the wartime censorship in the Congo and, if he has some success, he will also publish his findings.

Finally, I have had considerable trouble in working out the postal rates for official Red Cross covers. I suspect that those I have were used to transmit a number of P.O.W. forms between Red Cross centres - in this case Léopoldville and Cairo. One has no franking at all (nor ever had) but obviously travelled, while others are variously registered, air mail, etc. Were there special rules applying to such mail?

At this point, I should like to list the censor stations again (new ones marked with an asterisk). The list is followed by a map showing where each was located.

Aba	Elisabethville	Lusambo
Albertville	Irumu	Matadi
Boma	Kindu	Stanleyville
Bunia*	Kindu-Port Empain	Tshikapa
Buta	Léopoldville	Usumbura
Coquilhatville	Libenge	Watsa
Costermansville	Luluabourg*	



The following information comes from two main sources, the "Guide du Voyageur au Congo Belge" published 1950, for the detailed population figures applicable to 1 January, 1948, and the British Naval Intelligence Division "Handbook to the Belgian Congo", published 1944, for the total wartime population figures and major means of external communications.

First, total population figures.

Belgian Congo	Europeans	Asians	Natives
1941	27790	?	10326000
1948	43408	897	10761000
Ruanda-Urundi			
1938	1227	957	3782000
1948	2349	2367	3777000

Note the increase in numbers of Europeans following the end of the war.

On a town-by-town basis:-

Aba	E107	N3994	The frontier post on the main road to the Nile route via Juba, Sudan
Albertville	E704	N9226	Main departure point for Lake Tanganyika steamers and Kigoma to Dar-es-Salaam railway. Terminus of internal railway from Kabalo and Kindu
Boma	E395	N10689	Maritime port on River Congo. Terminus of railway from north
Bunia	E108	N3311	
Buta	E212	N9050	On main road to Sudan at junction of internal routes from Bumba to the west and Stanleyville to the south

- Coquilhatville E299 N9939
On Léopoldville-Stanleyville air route. One of the Congo stops on the B.O.A.C. service between Sudan and West Africa
- Costermansville E1511 N8228
On main road east. On Stanleyville-Elisabethville air route
- Elisabethville E6240 N61749
Second city of the Congo. Major departure point on railways to Rhodesia-South Africa-Mozambique and to Angola west coast. Main road routes to same destinations. Terminus on air route to Rhodesia and South Africa. Internal air connections via routes to Stanleyville and Léopoldville
- Irumu no population figures given
On main roads north and east. On air route between Stanleyville and Elisabethville
- Kindu E284 N10840
River port on Upper Congo (Lualaba). Rail route south to Albertville. On air route between Stanleyville and Elisabethville. (Name changed to Kindu-Port Empain in 1945)
- Léopoldville E7244 N118871
Capital and by far the largest Congo city. River port on Middle Congo. Railway to Matadi (Atlantic sea port) and via Brazzaville to Point Noire (Senegal). Air services by B.O.A.C. to West Africa, Sudan, Egypt, India, etc. From end-1941, by P.A.A. to America. Via Brazzaville, air services to French Colonies in Africa and Indian Ocean. Terminus for internal air services to Kikwit-Tshikapa-Luluabourg-Bukama-Elisabethville and Banningville-Inongo-Coquilhatville-Libenge-Lisala-Bumba-Basoko-Stanleyville
- Libenge no population figures given
Road connection with French Equatorial Africa and Cameroun. On air route between Léopoldville and Stanleyville
- Luluabourg E486 N10375
Main road via Tshikapa to Angola. On air route between Léopoldville and Elisabethville

Lusambo	E168	N7213
Matadi	E570	N21809
Main Atlantic sea port. Railway to Léopoldville		
Stanleyville	E1517	N24261
River port - limit of navigation on Middle Congo (from Léopoldville) Internal air services to Léopoldville (as above) and Irumu-Goma- Costermansville-Usumbura-Kindu-Kasongo-Manono-Elisabethville		
Tshikapa	E194	N5246
Nearest sizeable town on main road to north east Angola. On air route between Léopoldville and Elisabethville		
Usumbura	no population figures given	
Main city of Ruanda-Urundi. Lake steamers to Albertville and Kigoma. Main road to Uganda and East Africa. On air route between Stanleyville and Elisabethville		
Watsa	E160	N4932
On main road north to Sudan, etc.		

If population, and particularly European population, was one of the main criteria for the establishment of censor offices, then it would not be surprising if further research were to turn up evidence of censorship at the following towns:-

Aketi, Butembo, Jadotville, Kamina, Kikwit, Kilo, Kipushi, Kolwezi, Kongolo, Manono, Moerbeke, Mongbwalu, Nizi, Paulis, Thysville, Uvira.

It may well be that covers censored at Kikwit and Nizi have already been seen with the Baa type handstamp. However, in all cases, these covers had transit cancellations from towns where censor stations are already known, and there is thus no clear evidence as to where the marks were struck. Similarly, the only covers found in the survey which might have been censored at Libenge had also passed through Léopoldville, so I have not recorded them.

So to the results of the survey. In the following tabulation, for each censor station and each type of tape or mark, or examiner number, is shown, first, the number of examples seen, then the earliest and latest dates recorded, and any relevant comment.

Aba

Aa	1	440119		
Baa	4	411013	430802	seen in black, Blue- black & violet violet
Ex 1	1	430405		
Ex 2	1	430802		

Albertville

Aa	4	420326	420918	
Ad	6	410224	420515	
Bc	2	400826	401130	violet
Da	1	420724		
Ea	2	420520	421014	violet
Ex 3	1	421014		violet

Boma

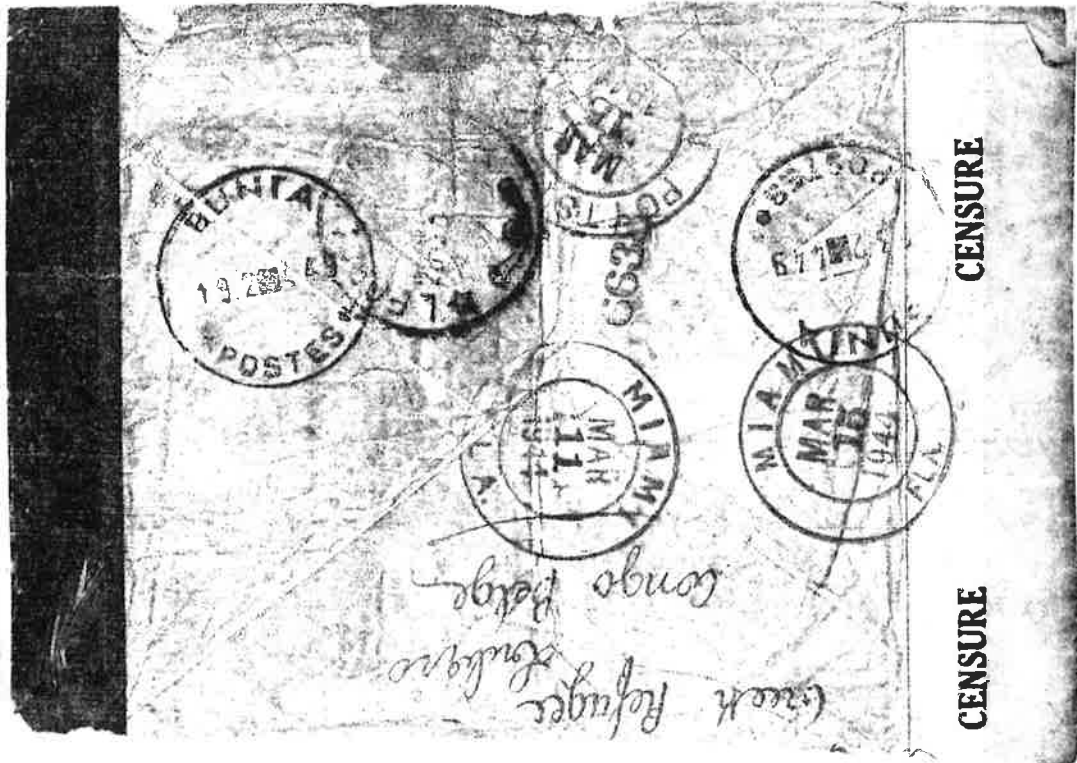
Aa	2	420529	440217	
Baa	5	400831	421218	
Ex 3	2	420529	421218	purple
Ex10	1	440217		

Bunia

Aa	3	440223	450412	
Ex 6	1	440223		
Ex 9	2	450229	450412	

purple)
purple) these numerals are totally different from each other, but with the spread of dates could all be 6s or 9s. All the covers are from a Greek refugee and one states "written in Greek". As these are the only examples from Bunia, It may be that a Greek specialist censor had to spend his time at several locations.





Buta

H	6	411005	421112
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Coquilhatville

Aa	15	400914	450706
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Baa	18	400914	450420
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Ex 1	4	420411	421130
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Ex 2	7	430315	441114
------	---	--------	--------

Ex 3	3	450213	450605
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Ex 4	4	430603	450706
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sometimes in violet
or blue-black
also in blue-black
sometimes in violet
or bright blue
also in bright blue
also in bright blue

Costermansville

Aa	30	410507	450203
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Baa	7	400606	450219
-----	---	--------	--------

Bd	2	420829	450430
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Ex 1	8	420216	441128
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Ex 2	5	430422	440212
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Ex 4	3	440925	450203
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normally in violet

normally in violet
normally in violet

Elisabethville

Aa	83	410722	450605
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Baa	5	400715	450515
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Bb	5	450125	450327
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Db	7	440910	441219
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Eba	17	410822	430731
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Ebb	15	401011	430131
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Ex 3	12	440115	450327
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Ex 6	9	431023	441215
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Ex 7	1	440404	
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Ex 8	24	440115	450525
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Ex10	1	450202	
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Ex12	1	450605	
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Ex15	1	440126	
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normally in blue
sometimes in blue; no
way to tell whether
this is 6 or 9
blue
also known in blue
and violet
blue-black
blue

Irumu

Aa	6	410409	431007	
Baa	12	410830	430430	also in blue-black
Fa	5	410331	410626	in red
Fb	2	400821	411030	in red
Ex 1	2	420728	421029	also in blue-black
Ex 2	1	420521		
Ex 3	1	431007		

Kindu

Aa	14	410416	440511	
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Luluabourg

Aa	1	440412		
Baa	2	440412		date illegible
Bd	1			date illegible

Lusambo

Aa	12	400822	450521	
Ex 1	1	421027		
Ex 2	4	420814	450521	in violet
Ex 3	2	420701	431105	in violet
Ex 4	1	431225		in violet

Matadi

Aa	3	440226	450202	
Baa	4	440226	450516	
Ex 3	1	450516		

Stanleyville

Aa	42	410315	450323	
Baa	17	400801	450504	
Ex 1	9	410317	430407	
Ex 2	2	421228	430702	
Ex 4	2	420425	430608	
Ex14	5	450115	450504	

Tshikapa

Aa	4	420712	440511	
Baa	1	440904		
Ex 1	1	420519		violet
Ex 2	1	420712		violet
Ex 3	3	430714	440511	also in violet

Usumbura

Aa	19	400628	440626	
Ac	3	400719	401007	
Baa	33	400628	450515	normally in violet
Ex 2	1			has been seen in violet, but no details to hand

Watsa

Aa	1	420418		
Ab	6	411103	430918	
Baa	3	420418	420828	also in blue-black
Ex 2	1	430918		
Ex 3	2	420421	420828	
Ex 5	1	420418		

Léopoldville

Aa	330	400603	451110	
Baa	44	400603	450601	also in blue-black
Ex 1	1	430727		
Ex 2	1	441123		
Ex 3	26	421007	450602	also in blue-black
Ex 4	2	420421	440119	
Ex 5	1	440215		
Ex 7	5	421202	450331	also in blue-black
Ex10	5	420402	421005	also in blue-black and greyish-violet
Ex11	1	440515		
Ex12	11	410401	441215	
Ex13	5	430524	440327	
Ex14	5	420526	440424	also in blue-black
Ex15	8	440325	441121	
Ex16	5	421113	430929	also in blue-black
Ex17	2	431105	450321	
Ex18	2	420624?	420810	first is red m/s, second blue-black h/s

Léopoldville (continued)

Ex19	1	441031		
Ex20	15	420602	450420	also in blue-black
Ex21	5	420501	450119	
Ex26	1	420417		
Ex27	4	440809	440927	also in blue-black
Ex28	10	430817	450510	also in blue-black
Ex29	1	440201		
Ex30	7	420601	450213	
Ex31	10	420506	421210	also in blue-black and greyish-violet
Ex34	9	440513	441130	
Ex36	2	420508	450330	also in blue-black
Ex37	20	420522	430617	also in blue-black and greyish-violet
Ex38	4	420505	420824	also in blue-black
Ex40	1	430130		
Ex41	2	421001	440819	
Ex42	1	421104		blue-black
Ex43	2	430115		
Ex44	5	430225	450223	also in blue-black
Ex45	10	430324	440413	also in blue-black
Ex46	9	430102	431227	also in greyish-violet
Ex47	9	430504	450108	also in blue-black
Ex48	5	431027	451110	
Ex49	1	430719		
Ex50	4	430520	450504	

Note: most of the handstamps are in black, except where otherwise stated.

Although the sample was something like 5 times as large as that used for Mr. Heim's study in 1975, no examples at all were found of handstamp types C and G. Type J is known with the numerals 15 and 17, but has yet to be positively ascribed to a censor office, although it may relate to Kindu. Type Bd has now surfaced in a single example at Luluabourg, as well as the normal Costermansville - could this be a case of an examiner moving around and taking his handstamp with him?

More interestingly, single examples have been seen of two new items, one a small printed label and one a handstamp, and these are illustrated.

M. E. C. M.
Wembo Nyama
Lusambo
Congo Belge.



Mrs. Bertha Dishman,
Piney Woods, Miss., U.S.A.

CENSURE
↓

(CENSURÉ)

Imprimés

The small printed label appears attached to the face of a printed matter cover from Lusambo, dated (probably) 411116. Although affixed next to a "Imprimés" sticker, it is entirely separate. The cover emanates from one of the many missions and it is tempting to assume that it contained some kind of newsletter or religious booklet. In that case, perhaps the text was censored beforehand and the stickers used to denote this. If so, it would be interesting to know the means by which the mailing was controlled to ensure that nothing else was inserted into the envelopes.

CENSURE
C.B



impunitis

Mr. & Mrs Clifford Atwater
35- Carlson St.
New Britain, Conn.
U. S. America

The second item is a crude handstamp struck in black ink, also on a printed matter cover, but emanating from Watsa. Unfortunately, in this case, the date is totally illegible. It would, of course, be helpful to find other examples of these items, but, so far, they are unique. If they were used specifically on printed matter, presumably the attrition rate would have been considerable.

One further item has come to light, although at this stage I have no idea if it is a Congo mark at all. It is a large "C.R." found on the reverse of about a dozen covers from the Congo and going south by surface mail via Elisabethville to, or through, Rhodesia and/or South Africa. Presumably a rubber handstamp, because of the extreme wear and distortion it seems to have suffered over a limited period - all the examples seen date between March and September, 1941 - it is found struck in bright blue or deep violet. It would be of particular interest to know if this mark appears on any covers originating in other countries - e.g. Northern Rhodesia. The example shown is the clearest so far seen.



Perhaps this is the place to insert some notes about the main postal rates from the Belgian Congo (and Ruanda-Urundi) during the 1939-45 period. The rates, and more particularly the precise dates, shown may not be absolutely accurate, but they should work for at least 90% of covers.

SURFACE MAIL	INTERNAL	BELGIUM	AFRICAN POSTAL UNION	ALL OTHER
Letters a) first 20gm				
b) per additional 20gm.				

.....-400630	a) 1,25fr	1,50fr	1,50fr	2,50fr
	b) 0,75fr	0,90fr	0,90fr	1,50fr
400701-401130	a) 1,25fr	1,50fr	1,75fr	2,75fr
	b) 0,75fr	0,90fr	0,90fr	1,50fr
401201-411231	a) 2,50fr	2,50fr	2,50fr	2,75fr
	b) 1,25fr	1,25fr	1,25fr	1,50fr
420101-.....	a) 2,50fr	2,50fr	2,50fr	3,50fr
	b) 1,25fr	1,25fr	1,25fr	2,00fr

Postcards

.....-401130	0,75fr	0,75fr	0,75fr	1,50fr
401201-411231	1,00fr	1,00fr	1,00fr	1,50fr
420101-.....	1,00fr	1,00fr	1,00fr	2,00fr

Printed Matter

Basic rate	0,30fr(?)	0,30fr(?)	0,30fr(?)	0,50fr
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Registration Fee (also A.R.)

.....-411231				2,50fr
420101-.....				3,50fr

AIR MAIL

This was a surtax in addition to the surface rate, and was normally per 5gm stage.

	INTERNAL	BELGIUM	AFRICAN POSTAL UNION
.....-400930	1,00fr	3,00fr via Bangui 3,50fr other routes	3,00fr
401001-411231	2,00fr	5,00fr	2,25fr
420101-441130	2,00fr	6,75fr	2,25fr
441201-.....	2,00fr	6,00fr	2,00fr(?)
		OTHER EUROPE, ETC.	AMERICA
.....-400930	3,50fr		?
401001-401231	5,00fr		21,00fr via Hong Kong
410101-410630	5,00fr		27,50fr via Hong Kong
410701-411208	5,00fr		25,75fr via Auckland
411209-411231	5,00fr		15,00fr PanAm
420101-441130	6,75fr		15,50fr PanAm
441201-.....	6,00fr		12,50fr PanAm

I hope these will be helpful.

Meantime, the survey will continue for as long as anyone has anything to add to the above. Once again, many thanks to all those who have already contributed.

Peter Foden

LIST OF PROCES REALIZED

Lot No. 1 - NS; 2 - £23; 3 - £3.30; 4 - £123; 5 - NS; 6 - £56; 7 - £10.25; 8 - £36; 9 - £3.60;
 10 - £47; 11 - £24; 12 - £127; 13 - £62; 14 - NS; 15 - £33; 16 - £33; 17 - £78; 18 - 75p;
 19 - £8.25; 20 - £2.10; 21 - 70p; 22 - £15.50; 23 - 70p; 24 - £15.50; 25 - £2.10; 26 - £2.30;
 27 - £19; 28 - 45p; 29 - £3.30; 30 - £2; 31 - £3; 32 - £2.20; 33 - £14.50; 34 - £2.30; 35 - £25;
 36 - £25; 37 - £1.10; 38 - £6.50; 39 - £3.30; 40 - £2.20; 41 - £14.50; 42 - £13.50; 43 - £15.50;
 44 - £2.90; 45 - £10.75; 46 - £4.70; 47 - £26; 48 - £4.20; 49 - £4.20; 50 - £26; 51 - £1.90;
 52 - £7.25; 53 - £1.90; 54 - £6.25; 55 - £1.90; 56 - £4.30; 57 - £5.25; 58 - £1.50; 59 - 60p;
 60 - £5.25; 61 - 35p; 62 - £6.50; 63 - 80p; 64 - £47; 65 - £4.30; 66 - £1.10; 67 - £9.50;
 68 - £9.25; 69 - £5.50; 70 - £7.25; 71 - £5.50; 72 - 45p; 73 - £2.70; 74 - £3.20; 75 - 55p;
 76 - £2.60; 77 - £2.60; 78 - £2.10; 79 - £2.10; 80 - £11; 81 - £154; 82 - 55p; 83 - £3.90;
 84 - £4.80; 85 - £2.20; 86 - £154; 87 - 55p; 88 - NS; 89 - £1.10; 90 - £2; 91 - £21; 92 - £154;
 93 - £3.10; 94 - £5.25; 95 - £10.50; 96 - £5.25; 97 - £8.50; 98 - £5.75; 99 - £127; 100 - £2.10;
 101 - £5.25; 102 - £5.50; 103 - £3.10; 104 - £5.25; 105 - £6.75; 106 - £3.30; 107 - £44;
 108 - £4.60; 109 - £5.50; 110 - £9.25; 111 - £6.25; 112 - £5.25; 113 - £12; 114 - £56; 115 - £10.50;
 116 - £13; 117 - £15.50; 118 - £12; 119 - £10.50; 120 - £5.75; 121 - £42; 122 - £4.10; 123 - £25;
 124 - £5.75; 125 - £46; 126 - £5.25; 127 - £46; 128 - £6.25; 129 - £44; 130 - £44; 131 - £4.70;
 132 - £4.10; 133 - £3; 134 - £6.25; 135 - £4.70; 136 - £5.25; 137 - £4.70; 138 - £5.50; 139 - £6.50;
 140 - £3.10; 141 - £6.25; 142 - £6.25; 143 - £44; 144 - £11.50; 145 - £3; 146 - £2.30; 147 - £12.50;
 148 - £3.10; 149 - £2.30; 150 - £12.50; 151 - £4.10; 152 - £8.25; 153 - £3.10; 154 - £2.30;
 155 - £34; 156 - £4; 157 - £13.50; 158 - £61; 159 - £81; 160 - £31; 161 - £52; 162 - £101; 163 - £30;
 164 - £101; 165 - £4.10; 166 - £2.10; 167 - £10.50; 168 - £5.50; 169 - £3.20; 170 - £6.25; 171 - £8.50;
 172 - £14.50; 173 - £17.50; 174 - £16; 175 - £32; 176 - £6.50; 177 - £4.10; 178 - £5.25; 179 - £6.50;
 180 - £6.50; 181 - £4.50; 182 - £6.50; 183 - £3.25; 184 - £6.50; 185 - £90; 186 - £1.10; 187 - £6.50;
 188 - £4.50; 189 - £11; 190 - £5.50; 191 - £3.30; 192 - £2.30; 193 - £3.10; 194 - £3.10; 195 - £5.25;
 196 - £11; 197 - £2.30; 198 - £3.30; 199 - £3.70; 200 - £4.10; 201 - £9; 202 - £8.25; 203 - £32;
 204 - £25; 205 - £11.50; 206 - £10.50; 207 - £16.50; 208 - £7.50; 209 - £16; 210 - £171; 211 - £1.10;
 212 - £6.75; 213 - £9.50; 214 - £3.10; 215 - £4.30; 216 - £24; 217 - £13.50; 218 - £4.10; 219 - £4.10;
 220 - £1.60; 221 - £3.30; 222 - £2.10; 223 - £6; 224 - £3.10; 225 - £2.10; 226 - £4.10; 227 - £3.10;
 228 - £3.60; 229 - NS; 230 - £3; 231 - £6; 232 - £1.70; 233 - £3; 234 - £1.10; 235 - £6.50;
 236 - £1.60; 237 - £5.50; 238 - £4.10; 239 - £5; 240 - £5.50; 241 - £8.50; 242 - £4.50; 243 - £31;
 244 - £1.60; 245 - £14.50; 246 - £5.25; 247 - £1.10; 248 - £2.10; 249 - £3.10; 250 - £15.50;
 251 - £2.20; 252 - £17; 253 - £8.75

NS = unsold