

BELGIAN CONGO



STUDY CIRCLE

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BULLETIN 115

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MARCH 2000

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*** Not received. Cannot delay longer. Will send with next Bulletin.

NC

AN UNUSUAL TRAVELLED COVER

(At the meeting of the BCSC held in connection with BRUFILA in Brussels last year Ph. Lindekens presented an exceptional collection of covers from unusual places TO the Congo. The following, most interesting, offered to us by Alan Morvay, falls in this category Ed)

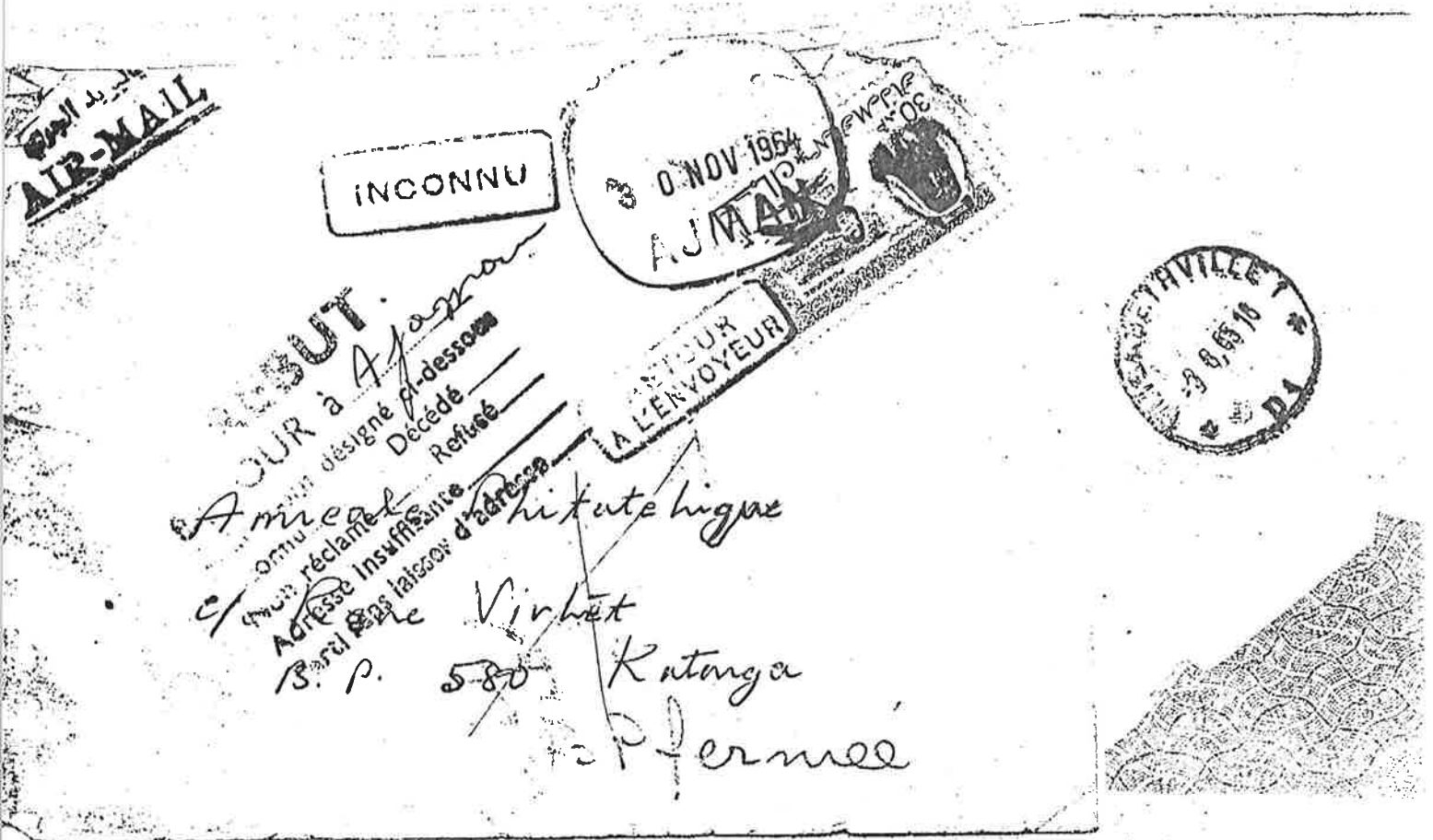
The early issues of the Trucial States (called the Sand Dune Countries) of which there were 7 located on the Arabian Gulf Coast and the independent period of the province of Katanga overlapped during the early 1960's. The stamps of both areas were not recognized for international postal use during that time.

The cover, here illustrated was sent on November 30, 1964 from Ajman (one of these Trucial States). It arrived in Elizabethville some three months later on March 8, 1965 but was returned to Ajman. It may well have been that the company it was sent to was out of business during the war.

Later, some of these postally traveled covers which were returned to the Trucial States governments were sold to one Gamil Atallah in Beirut, Lebanon, who, at that time, was the largest philatelic dealer in the Mid East.

I was fortunate when his son, John Atallah, gave me some of these to stimulate my interest into collecting unusual world wide covers.

Alan Morvay



THE RESPONSE COUPONS OF BELGIAN CONGO AND OF RUANDA URUNDI

C. R. I. No. 1

Issued in 1942 and similar to coupon No. 14 of Belgium except that the Dutch text is on top and the French text is on the bottom of the coupon.

Price Fr. 5



Diefer Schein wird in allen Ländern des Weltpostvereins gegen ein oder mehrere Postwertzeichen im Gesamtwert der Gebühr für einen einfachen gewöhnlichen Auslandsbrief umgetauscht.

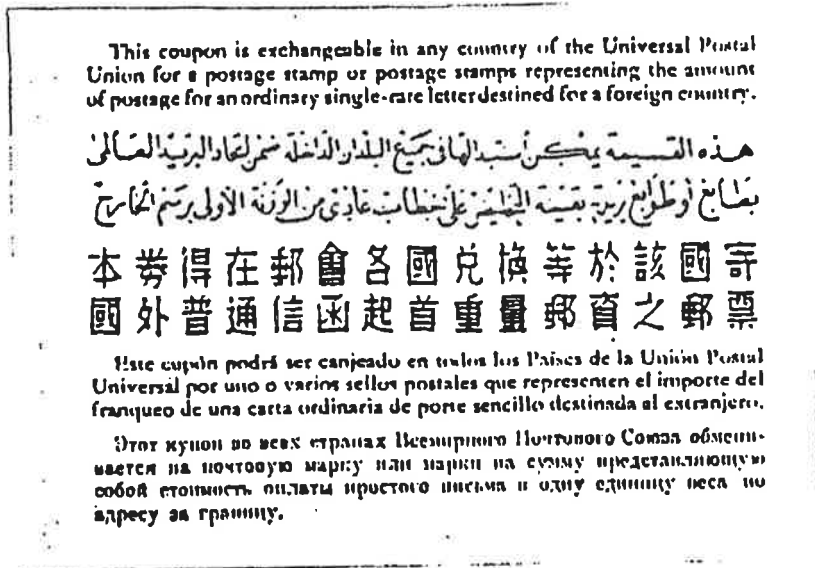
This coupon is exchangeable in any country of the Universal Postal Union for a postage stamp or postage stamps representing the amount of postage for an ordinary single-rate letter destined for a foreign country.

Este cupón podrá ser canjeado en todos los Países de la Unión Postal Universal por uno o varios sellos postales que representen el importe del franqueo de una carta ordinaria de porte sencillo destinada al extranjero.

Questo buono può essere cambiato in tutti i paesi dell'Unione postale universale con uno o più francobolli rappresentanti l'importo della franchitura di una lettera ordinaria di porto semplice a destinazione dell'estero.

C. R. I. No. 2

Issued in 1948 and identical to coupon No. 1 on its face (recto). Text is changed on the reverse of the coupon. Price Fr. 5



C. R. I. No. 3

Probably issued in 1948 or 1949. Front and back are identical to No. 2 but with a change in the price viz.: Fr. 6. Note also the changes in the spelling of the Flemish text.



C. R. I. No. 4

Probably issued around 1953. The coupon is identical to No. 3 but with a change in the price.

Fr. 7



The International Reply Coupons were used after independence into 1967-1968.

Likewise, in Ruanda Urundi, the Belgian Congo reply coupons were used until 30.6.1960



RUANDA URUNDI

C. R. I. No. 1

Put into circulation beginning 1.7.1960. Change in the text. Ruanda-Urundi is at the bottom of the coupon in place of Congo Belge. Price Fr. 7



C. R. I. No. 2

Identical coupon to the preceding but with a change in the way the price is printed
Price Fr. 7



Reply coupons of Ruanda Urundi served until the independence of Rwanda and of Burundi in 1962. We do not know of any coupons used after that date.

Emile Hoorens

History of the Waterlows - Bulletin 114

I too found Colin Hoffman's article in the 'Journal of the Waterlow Study Circle' most informative and am pleased that we were able to reproduce the content in the last issue of our own Bulletin.

As part of any display of the Mols issue which I give, I have the good fortune to be able to show the illustrated postcard from the 1894 Antwerp Exhibition, which accompany's these notes. It was a fortunate and modest purchase from one of our own auction sales many years ago. At that time serious interest in the Waterlow's had not produced a dedicated Study Circle, otherwise I suspect that competition for the card might have been more aggressive.

Whatever - the writer, the recipient and the content are interesting. It was written by P.H. Waterlow at the time of the Antwerp Exhibition to his son Edgar at home - presumably keeping an eye on the mill ! His father might not have been enthusiastic about the exhibition but if nothing else it got the company the contract for what we now refer to as the Mols - which were printed and issued later that year.



June 16 1894

Dear Edgar

I thought you would like to have a card from our Exhibition so I send you this to let you know I am all safe and sound. On the whole I am not impressed with the show but there are some very fine Exhibits.

The charges in Antwerp are very high so I am going back to Brussels tonight to the Hotel d'Europe where I was very comfortable. Merryweather the Fire Engine man and another man named Broadley, whom I know, are staying there.

(Such a horrid pen) Love to all
Your affectionate father PHW

June 16.94
Dear Edgar I thought you would like to have a card from our Antwerp Exhibition so I send you this to let you know I am all safe & sound on the whole I am not impressed with the show but there are some very fine Exhibits. The charges in Antwerp are very high so I am going back to Brussels tonight to the Hotel de l'Europe where I was very comfortable. Merryweather the fire engine man & another man named Broadley whom I know are staying there I am to all such a horrid pen Your aff' father PHW

S.S.S.

NOTES ON THIS AND FUTURE BULLETINS

Appended to the Bulletin is the monumental index of all Bulletins prepared by Norman Clowes. A Herculean task well done. As R. Keach observed, "the index is constantly at my elbow and is an exceptional resource for us all". We are all in Mr. Clowes debt.

Also appended ~~are the prices realized in the last auction and~~ the new auction list. Try to get your bids in promptly. Apologies for the late Bulletin. The Auctioneer and your Editor will try to defeat the post by use of E Mail and/or fax so that we will be back on track with the June issue.

Future Bulletins will contain some important observations by M. Frenay on the "carte postale incomplete", M. Hoorens on the Benguela Railway Line (Angola) and the post which used it, a list of opening and closing dates of various post offices with an inquiry by C. Stockmans, M. Hoorens study of the Internment camps in the Belgian Congo 1940-45, a 16 page study of the Censorship marks from the works of the late M. Jeukens, some more jiggery-pokery with the Paquebot marks and much more.

NEW MEMBERS

We welcome these new members:

Mrs. Jacoba Bouckaert Gentsstraat,27, 8870 Izegem, Belgium
Mrs. Martine De Boeck, Ninoofsesteenweg, 1058, 1080 Brussels, Belgium
Dr. Harry Webers, Kayenberg, 6, 3550 Heusden Zolder, Belgium
Mr. Y. Winand, Nerenaard, 26, 2550 Kontich, Belgium

BELGIAN CONGO CENSOSHIP MARKS 1940-1945

Two new censorship marks have been recently discovered and are shown on the following page.

1: Censure Elizabethville (2 lines) (figure 1);

This mark was applied on a Belgian postal stationery card sent from Belgium to Portugal on 27.9.1941, sent on to Belgian Congo under cover, quite probably with other letters and correspondence. The card traveled through Angola and was censored separately upon its arrival in Elizabethville. It had been censored by the German censorship in Munich before it went to Portugal. (Ad).

2: Censure Congo Belge (figure 2)

This postcard was sent from Brussels to Belgian Congo on 1.9.1940 and reached the colony at Dilolo after traveling on the Benguela Railway through Angola, despite the fact that the final destination was located in Uélé Province in the North East of Congo.

These two marks not appear in the works of Mr. Heim or Mr. Jeukens.

If any of our members have found these marks on other covers or cards the author would be most indebted for photocopies and any information which the finder may have.

Emile Hoorens

fig 1

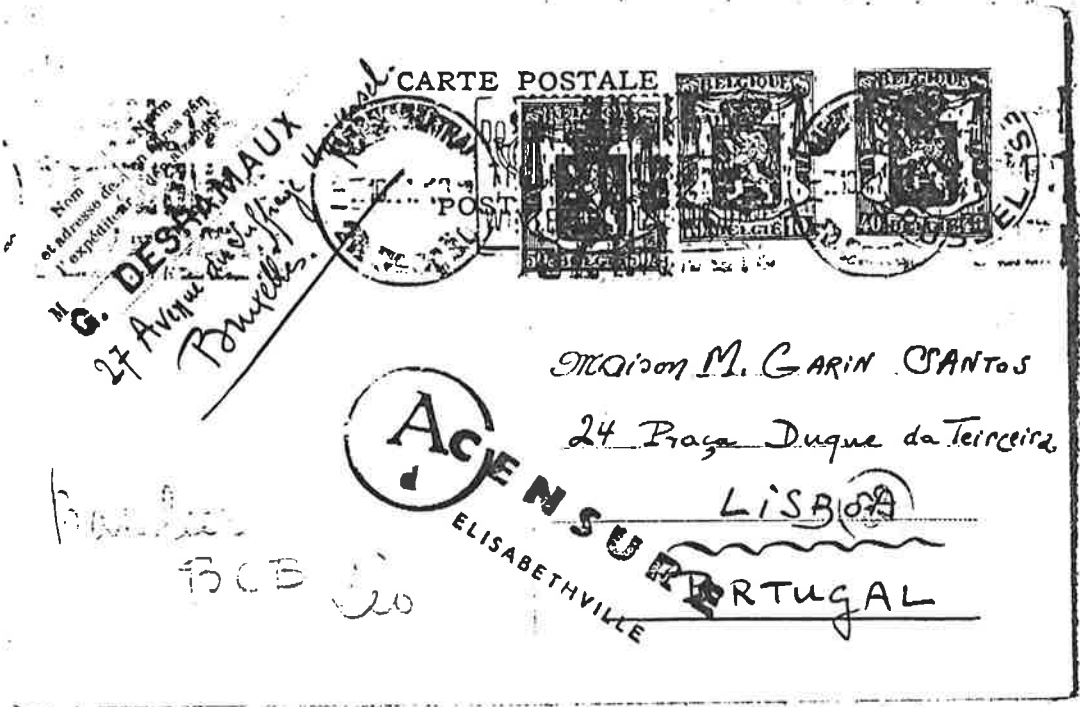


fig 2



LITERATURE

MM Stockmans and Gallant have produced an English edition of their book:
"Mailboat Service - ANTWERP-CONGO".

In 57 pages they list for each of the thirty-nine Compagnie Belge Maritime du Congo mail boats the departure and arrival dates of all journeys between Antwerp and the Congo between 1896 and 1960.

Apart from the general interest it makes possible the determination of the boat by which a letter or post card from Congo to Europe (or beyond) traveled during that period, a useful and interesting piece of information to add when mounting a cover or post card.

In addition to the timetables there are pictures of the different ships and descriptions, and illustrations of the cancellations and cachets known to have been used by each ship.

A most valuable book and available from R- Gallant, Kalenbergstraat 105, 1700 Dilbeek, Belgium for 400 francs + packing (25 Fr.) and postage (110 Fr. for EEC countries, 125 Fr. for non-EEC Europe and 160 Fr. for non-European countries).

E. and M. Deneumostier have produced another useful little book:
"Documents de l'Histoire du CONGO - Prècuseurs & Première Emission 1883-1900."

In 90 pages it includes many illustrations of covers and cancellations used on the early portrait stamps and the text is full of useful information on the postal history of the period.

Somewhat out of context the book includes details of the method of printing of stamps of the first issue, a subject covered admirably in one of their earlier books.

The book is available from the authors at Rue Fays 149, 4400 Ivoz-Ramet, Belgium for 500 francs plus postage (65 Fr. for EEC countries, 68 Fr. for non-EEC Europe and 88 Fr. for non-European countries)

When it is inconvenient for members to pay for either of these books in £'s members should contact our new librarian or for US \$ E. M. Lavitt).

RHK

CONGO - CINQUANTE ANS D'HISTOIRE POSTALE

A copy of General Du Four's book - our 'bible' - is available. It has been rebound in hard covers and is said to be in fine condition. The price is £100 plus postage.

The book is indispensable to any serious collector of Belgian Congo and its 500 pages are full of valuable information. Unfortunately it is now a scarce book and copies are hard to find

Will would-be buyers please say if they wish it sent by air mail or sea mail

(It will be shipped from Australia).

Enquiries to R. H. Keach, 25 Kingswood Road, Tadworth, Surrey KT20 5EE, England.

OUR NEW LIBRARIAN

Mr. A. J. D. MacLaren, whose address is Moray, 43 Millar St., Angus DD7 7AT Scotland, UK has kindly consented to take over the duties of R. H. Keach with respect to the publications offered by the BCSC.

Members may contact him in this regard. Payments in dollars by, USA members, may still be made to E. M. Lavitt P O Box 900 Rockville, CT. 06066

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING: SATURDAY 20TH MAY

The AGM will be held in London and this year is at a new venue 'The Plumbers Arms' 14 Lower Belgrave Street, London - which is within 3 minutes walking distance from Victoria Station. For anyone traveling by car there are always plenty of spaces in Chester Square just round the corner. After 1:30 PM parking is free.

The meeting will start at 11am, lunch, or bar snacks are available and all those attending are encouraged to bring items of interest for the usual 'share of interests and information' during the afternoon session.

Overseas members may care to note the British premier exhibition. 'The Stamp Show 2000' starts on the following Monday, 22nd May, at Earls Court, London and runs until 28th May.

The treasurers report appears on the following page.

SUBSCRIPTIONS REMINDER

Unfortunately there was an error in the last Bulletin concerning this year's subscription level for European members living outside Belgium. By way of a reminder the following is a complete summary:

Region	
Belgium	B.Fr.300
UK and rest of Europe	£8.00
USA and Canada	\$15.00
Rest of the World	£10.00

S. S. Smith

1922 MALINES 10c/5c WITH IMPERF RIGHT MARGIN

Your Editor, in examining a pair, Plate V1 +F, with imperf right margin found that it was perforated 15. According to Hudson this perforation is not common, not rare, but not common. 14 is the common perforation of V1 +F of this issue. I would be interested in having any member who does possess a copy, with imperforated right margin, in checking as to whether his stamp is perf 14, perf 15 or perf 13 ½.

The two stamps I have are plate positions 29 and 30.

Please reply to E. M. Lavitt, PO Box 900 Rockville, CT USA.

EDITORS NOTES

Our members continue to exhibit their collections with good success. This endeavour is much to be commended as it undoubtedly increases interest in the field of Belgian Congo Philately.

Congratulations to Clinton Many whose exhibit *The 'Mols' Etat Independant du Congo et Congo Belge 1894-1925* won a Gold Medal and Best of Show at the Steuben County Philatelic Exhibition in Elmira New York last October.

It is our intention to publish a list of Email addresses for our members. I ask that those members, who are willing and wish to have their Email addresses published, Email me and I will put them in later bulletins.

I must thank my good friend, Ivan Robinson, who is president of the Connecticut French Genealogical Society for translating the Hoorens article on response coupons. Ivan is currently translating a most interesting commentary by M. Frenay on the Cartes Incompletes which will appear in the next bulletin.

Treasurer's Statement. As detailed below the accounts for the year ending 31st December 1999 will be presented for approval at the **A.G.M. to be held at The Plumbers Arms, 14 Lower Belgrave St., London SW1 on Saturday 20 May at 11am.**

It should be noted that 'Subscriptions received' do not include those of our Belgian or American members who pay directly to their respective National Treasurers. The income from subscriptions is approximately equal to the cost of printing and distributing the quarterly Bulletins. Any small surplus or deficit from the Belgian and American funds is incorporated in the accounts as a contribution to 'Books and Document sales' or 'Bulletin cost'.

RECEIPTS and PAYMENTS ACCOUNT, YEAR to 31 DECEMBER 1999

<u>Income</u>	<u>Year to 31 Dec. 1998</u>	<u>Year to 31 December 1999</u>
	£ Sterling	£ Sterling
Subscriptions received	164.00	197.00
Subscriptions in advance	41.00	13.00
Commission on stamp sales	310.32	211.19
Expert Committee Certificates	338.50	471.35
Books and Document sales	429.45	30.00
Bank Interest (net of tax)	125.43
Miscellaneous (net)	0.25
Total Income	<u>1283.52</u>	<u>1047.97</u>
<u>Expenditure</u>		
Bulletin cost	889.46	347.52
Expert Committee expenses	174.38	392.58
Replacement of stolen records	221.36
Cost of Commission sales	132.41	65.56
Miscellaneous expenses	45.81	2.82
Purchase of Documents etc. for sale	484.54	184.97
Postages	285.43	102.31
Insurance	231.71	128.94
Subs. to Waterlow Soc. & ABPS	25.40	25.40
Corporation Taxes	292.49	1.57
Total Expenditure for the period	<u>2782.99</u>	<u>1251.67</u>
Surplus (deficit) for the period	<u>(1499.47)</u>	<u>(203.70)</u>
Balance on hand at start of period	<u>3997.62</u>	<u>2498.15</u>
Balance on hand at end of period	<u>2498.15</u>	<u>2292.14</u>
Represented by:		
Balance held at The Halifax	2495.84	2292.14
Cash in hand	2.31
	<u>2498.15</u>	<u>2292.14</u>