



JOINT STAMP ISSUES

Quarterly Report of the
International Philatelic Society of Joint Stamp Issues Collectors

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August 2002

Dear JSI collectors,

The word Philately comes from the Greek "*philos*" that means "friend" and "*ateleia*" that means "without taxes, exempt of taxes", but also "independent, liberated", i.e. "free of ... taxes". Therefore philatelists are people loving objects that have been circulating and are "free of taxes", or pre-paid, such as stamps.

What inspires you the term "Gemellophily"? I found it in the article written about our society by Fabio Bonacina in *Cronaca Filatelica* of April 2002. He introduced myself as the president of the "gemellophilists". This word is coined with the Greek prefix "gemellus", which means "related to twins" and again the suffix "philos" for "friend". In other words, "friends of twins" or "those who likes the items related to twins". I found it funny to see a new word created for a specialized part of philately. At a certain stage we will have to reduce the expression "collector of joint stamp issues" in something shorter, like we will have to simplify the name of our society. Why not "gemellophilist"? It will take years before a new word will be accepted, but this is just to open the discussion. May be you have other proposals.

The contest did not reach the success I hoped. May be questions were too difficult. This resulted in a very easy way to select the final winners as all of the participants also thought the participation would be much higher. Only 10 members provided a list of answers and among them only three had all 5 answers correct. Therefore the first prize goes to **Ehsan Mahmood (Pakistan)**, the second prize to **Rindert Paalman (The Netherlands)** and the third prize to **Nahum Shereshevsky (Israel)**. Congratulations to the winners. All other participants will also receive a small present as thank you for having spent time to find the answers. We will try next year to organize a new

contest with perhaps easier questions. Details of answers to this contest are given on page 11.

You will see in the Society page that our group did grow a lot in the past quarter. Within three months 9 new members joined the Society, which is a kind of a record for such a short period. A special mention has to be reported concerning the group of collectors growing in Pakistan with the help of Ehsan. This happened also thanks to articles written recently in American, German, Italian and French journals. I can only encourage you to provide more information to specialized philatelic journals. By giving our references, our society will grow by alone.

At the same time some of our members are going, not because they are no more interested in the topic, but because philatelists are also growing older. I lost one of my best friends very recently. Alain Carles died on July 14, 2002, after having suffered from a bad disease for a long period. I remember that he was the first one to encourage me to start and continue collecting joint issues, more than 15 years ago. He provided me with a lot of information and material, and pushed me to write the catalogue and to create the society. He was one of these collectors who discovered stamp collecting when he retired, so very late. For that reason it was probably also done with such a passion. He started collecting different topics until he discovered joint issues. Recently he became interested in round stamps. About 8 months ago he told me that he would limit himself to one topic and stopped collecting joint issues. Apparently this was also a sign that he became too much tired. I will miss him a lot. I have lost a friend.

You will find in the Society pages, a long explanation about the journal and budget situation. I encourage you to read the complete article, as, by accepting these proposals we also enter in a new era for the society. This

Content

Editorial	1
Society Life	2
New members	3
Letters to the editor	4
Sources	4
New issues	5
Latest	5
Twin issues	5
Joint issues	6
Omnibus series	7
New issues to come	7
Twin issues	7
2003 and 2004	7
Concentrates	8-9
<i>China Hong Kong Macao</i>	
<i>- False JI - Dialog -</i>	
<i>Siamese - Belgium -</i>	
<i>Postal Stationery - eBay -</i>	
<i>Red Baron - New</i>	
<i>Catalogue - ...</i>	
Advertisement	9
Caught in the net - in the press	10
Publications - Articles	10
Web sites	10
JSI Competition	11
Countries' update	
Scandinavian Joint Issues	12-14

Monograph 8: Wings for Norway - A non-issued Twin Stamp Pair - March 28, 1946
see pages 15-16

is another consequence of the fast growing of our group (which is a good sign) but will have consequences on your budget as well.

Finally, you will find another new type of article, requested since months: we start in this journal with the publication of the updated list of joint issues country by country. This time: Scandinavian countries.

Thanks to H. Budidharmono, E. Chan, V. Dietze, G. Dooley, C. Feingersh, D. Josse, P. LeBlond, E. Mahmood, B. Newton, A. Raynaud, R. Tabbert, for having provided material and information that was used to write this quarter's journal. RZ

SOCIETY LIFE

Comments about our journal

In the last journal, I mentioned my participation to Canada's Sixth National Philatelic Literature Exhibition (May 4-5, 2002, Toronto) with our journal "Joint Stamp Issues", resulting in a Silver Bronze award. I received very recently the "critique sheet" and the "judge's comments". I wanted to share those comments with you, as this was the first time that an external and neutral reviewer gave his opinion.

1. *Treatment of contents (authorship):* **Font size should be increased to at least 10 points, as it is very difficult to read.** An interesting subject well covered.
2. *Originality, significance, depth of research (Philatelic features):* Research demonstrated, but **no information source is quoted.**
3. *Technical matters (Editorial features):* **No running headers and footers** - this is important.
4. *Presentation (Publishing features):* empty

I can only approve these comments. It is obvious that the font is too small: this is the result of the research for the cheapest way of producing information, by putting the maximum of data on the smallest surface of paper. There were already complaints and some of our members have accepted to pay almost twice the membership fees to get a document twice the size.

Sources are actually quoted when available (except when this information is coming from postal administration), but are within the body of the text. One should perhaps separate or highlight these quotations.

Headers and footers are easy to add, so the easiest problem to solve, but this requires also a certain space on top and bottom of the pages.

As an answer to these comments, I am proposing to revise completely the presentation of the journal. Increasing the size of the font would result for me in the production of a single journal, and reduce also my workload. I have estimated that doubling the number of pages (from 16 to 28 or 32) would allow putting even more information, as images do not require to be doubled in size as well. The presentation could be lighter, JSI - August 2002

easier to read for everybody and become more professional. I will work on this new presentation starting with the May 2003 issue.

However this will have a cost. Doubling the number of pages will almost double the printing costs. Printing cost can be reduced only if the number of printed items becomes higher than 300, by using another printing technology. We are not yet so far. Doubling the number of pages will also double the weight of the journal and hence, have an important impact on the postage fees. Therefore such a change can only be performed if we increase the membership fees.

Budget limitation

An estimation of this year's overall budget shows again an even result (no spared money). As the number of journals increased again (which is a good sign but results in about 100 samples to print, fold and staple each quarter), I was unable to find that time and "subcontracted" this work to a printer. The quality became better, but the costs increased of course. So, the money we could have saved by increasing the number of members was again lost in supplementary printing costs. We also have to take in account the fact that the US\$ currency lost about 15 percent of its value over the past 12 months compared to the Euro.

New membership fees

As a consequence, the new membership fees are proposed as follow: we separate first the true membership fees including journal-printing costs from postage fees. The membership fees should be a fixed amount independent from the geographic location. Considering the above mentioned printing cost for a larger journal (estimated € 6.20) and general costs for diverse mails between board members and members, banking fees, promotion and website general costs, it is proposed to fix the basis membership fees at 7.00 Euros.

To this figure should be added the postage fees. Unfortunately the French Post announced an increase of its rates by 5 to 10% (not fixed yet) effective probably by beginning of

2003. Mailing fees have not increased in the past five years in France. Depending on the area of shipment (we consider only airmail, the difference being small with surface mail), the membership fees for 2003 should be as follow:

- the postal fees will be respectively 5,00 € for EEC members (including French members), 9,00 € for North American and non EEC Europeans and 10,00 € for all other countries
- this makes a total of **12,00 € for European members** (instead of 7,50 €), **16,00 € for North American and non EEC members** (instead of US\$ 12,00) and **17,00 € for all other countries** (instead of US\$ 13,00)

This results roughly in an increase of € 4,00 for each member. On the contrary for those already paying for a large size journal, this will result in a reduction of fees.

- Moreover, a single payment **entrance fee of 3,00 €** will also be requested from all new members starting January 1, 2003, to cover information package costs.

As today the ratio between the Euro and US\$ currencies stays by 1 to 1, all these figures remain the same if paid in US\$. We will reconsider these figures only if the ratio changes by more than 10% (in either direction).

Special online-only-member fees

For those who think that it becomes too expensive, we had to find a way to keep them as members, and still to provide them with the most updated information. This can be solved via the society web site.

There will be a possibility to have access on line to the journal via e-mail or the site. Individuals who prefer to print themselves their journal (with an opportunity to get a color edition) will of course avoid postage fees. The locally printed version will not be the same as the paper version (html), but the information content will be identical. Actually all members will have access to this service. A special **on-line-only-member fee** is proposed at a level of the membership fees i.e. 7,00 € plus a symbolic 1.00 €, which results in a total of **8.00 €**. This will include the mailing of the printed February catalogue update, as this part

will not be available on line. This money will also allow reimbursing some specific required software (see below). A test phase will be proposed within the next weeks.

Member page on the web site

Those who are used to check some information on joint issues in our society web page have probably noticed that there is a yellow button entitled "Members" which redirects to a "Under construction" page. This member page should be ready within the next weeks and will give (only to members) the access to supplementary information such as:

- all yearly catalogue pages with embedded images (easier to print in one operation)
- on-line quarterly reports (see above mentioned online-only members)
- specific information for members
- special topics such as detailed lists of joint issues, country per country
- and much more depending on your interest and suggestions.

In order to check the feasibility, all members having given their e-mail address will be informed individually and **will receive their password**. If other members wish to have access to this new tool, they should provide me with an e-mail address first. I hope this new member page will answer to some specific requests and I am awaiting your comments and improvement suggestions.

Board members

No election is supposed to be organized before the end of the three-year term of this board, but there are still open positions, as mentioned in the last November issue. In the meantime two volunteers showed up:

- **Dominique Josse** (060/00) is proposed as Account Book Auditor, in replacement of the late Mr. Schramm
- **Abdul Latif Rashad** (102/02) is proposed as new Vice President for Asia. Mr. Rashad is a stamp dealer and the publisher of the first color catalogue of Pakistan stamps.

I would myself highly recommend these two volunteers to join the board. This will be effective only if there are no negative comments or other candidates for the same positions by end of October 2002.

By laws

All these proposals, including modification of the fees, new member status and new board members can be effective only if there are no major comments by October 2002. If there is a single opposition, we will be obliged to organize a vote for acceptance of these proposals. If requested, this will be included in the November journal.

If the proposals are accepted by all members, the by laws will have to be adapted accordingly. Therefore the proposals of the by-laws modifications will be published in the next journal.

Usually the Society page is not as long. I am sorry for that, but from time to time we have to be sure that everything is adapted to the increase of the number of members, which is actually a very positive sign. RZ

New members and Addresses

New members:

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

This section is intended to allow discussions between members or to provide general comments about your society, the reports or joint issues in general

● **United Nations:** *Independence of East Timor is one of the latest United Nations series released by all three offices on the same day. As mixed first day covers are officially available can we consider them as joint issues?*

Stamps from the United Nations offices (Geneva, New York and Vienna) have never been considered as real joint issues but only as local joint issues, due to the fact that they do not represent distinctive countries. As some of our members collect these stamps, we report, without details the list of stamps issued by these offices, only if they have the same design. Of course you will always find official mixed covers bearing all stamps of a series. We continue not to consider the United Nations as joint issues. On the contrary when a second country is involved United Nations becomes part of a true joint issue. This happened in the past with Austria or Italy for example.

● **Soccer World championship:** *Several countries have issued stamps at the occasion of the 2002 Soccer World Championship. Which one can be considered as joint issues?*

Like for each important event involving several countries (anniversary, international competition, friendship,) postal authorities produce philatelic items commemorating this particular day. It happens even that these authorities use the same picture or design without consulting each other. Concerning soccer, in the past, thousands of stamps have been produced to commemorate championships. This year is not an exception, and tens of countries have already issued stamps. However we can consider as joint issues only those



announced by the respective countries as such. This is the case for the round stamps issued by Argentina, Brazil, France, Germany and Uruguay (Italy is still missing at the time of printing) described elsewhere in these journals. We can also consider the stamps produced on 31 May 2002 by the organizing countries Japan and South Korea, although there is still a doubt concerning these last issues. And finally there is a Siamese miniature

sheet produced by China, Macao and Hong Kong on May 16, 2002 that has to be reported as well. All other stamps dealing with soccer and released in the last weeks are not considered as joint issues, even if you find dual (mixed) covers (which are actually easy to produce at a private level) unless you can show an officially cancelled dual item. I am of course ready to reconsider this list if you provide the requested proof.

● **Joint issues in albums:** *I found joint issues collected on special album pages apparently designed for that purpose. Where can I find such material? (Eric Chan)*

Several companies (Leuchtturm, Philswiss,) are proposing such type of material for which, instead of having predefined spaces for specific country stamps, the pages are limited to pairs of joint issues, usually twin issues.

I have seen these album pages proposed in Germany, Switzerland and the USA. However I am unable to precise the addresses of the companies selling this material. In particular who could provide the address of Philswiss? May be one of our members is collecting joint issues in such a way and could give this information.

RZ

SOURCES

In the last journal we published a first list of dealers following Charles Feingersh (CF) suggestion to providing names of vendors who carry both stamps and covers and which have proven to be reliable as well as of interest in terms of prices. Ehsan Mahmood (EM) strongly recommended the following address. Please feel free to recommend other dealers you have worked with recently in a satisfactory way.

Worldwide stamps and Asia
A Latif Rashad
51-A New Shalimar Town
Gulshan Ravi
LAHORE 54500
Pakistan
e-mail: stamps@brain.net.pk
tel. + 92 42 7463529

fax: + 92 42 7463529
Source (EM) - catalogue available

Worldwide stamps
Fa Stolow
Postfach 101349
80087 MÜNCHEN
Germany

tel: + 49 89 22 0606
fax: + 49 89 22 56 37
Source (RZ): just send a list of very recent stamps you are looking for. There is a large stock and this dealer is reliable.

NEW ISSUES

Latest issues

Twin issues

At the time of printing this journal, we are still waiting for the released of the announced **Italian** stamp related to the World soccer championship, together with **Argentina, Brazil, France, Germany** and **Uruguay**. All other countries are selling now their pair of stamps. Direct contact with the Italian administration did not succeed yet. Jürgen Lübke draw our attention to the Italian Post web page in which the date of issue for this stamp was shifted from May 2002 to a "to be defined". Dominique Josse was told by a French dealer that this issue is expected by late September, Volker Dietze has heard about October...

In the meantime, **France** started issuing covers (postal stationery) bearing the round stamp from the joint issue as well as a nice postal card with the same stamp and showing on the front side the whole French soccer team. **Germany** produced also the first stationery items with this round stamp.

In order to write an exhaustive article about this series of joint issues in one of the next journals, Richard Zimmermann is looking for all information relative to the items produced by the six countries (Argentina, Brazil, France, Germany, Italy and Uruguay). In particular, he would be glad to know if these countries have issued special packages or folders, FDCs, mixed FDCs, postal stationery, maxi cards, ...

Information from South America is quite difficult to obtain.

Volker Dietze found a twin issue



released by **Peru** and **Honduras** that commemorates the 100th anniversary of the Pan-American Health Organization (OPS). Although one could expect that more than a dozen countries could participate, up to now only these two countries have issued identical stamps. We even do not know yet the exact date of issue, but it seems that the stamps were released around **June 1, 2002**. Argentina issued also a stamp, but with a completely different designs.

The issue on local birds to be released jointly by **Singapore** and **Malaysia** and originally scheduled for 20 June 2002 was launched on **27 June 2002**. This set of 4 stamps for each country features the Asian Fairy Bluebird (*Irena puella*) and the Black-naped oriole (*Oriolis chinensis*) representing Singapore birds, while Malaysia is represented by the Red-throated sunbird (*Anthreptes rhodolaema*) and the White-bellied

woodpecker (*Dryacopus javensis*). Stamps are available in individual sheets of 10. Mixed FDCs are available as well.

Two twin issues were proposed during the Belgian international philatelic exhibition Fila Kortrijk 2002 held between 11 and 14 July 2002.

On **12 July 2002**, **Belgium** and **Azores (Portugal)** issued a pair of stamps related to windmills. Dual first day covers are of course available.

The day after, on **13 July 2002**, **Belgium** issued two other stamps in collaboration with **Croatia**. The illustrations show local lace products. Again dual first day covers are available.

The issue announced since the beginning of the year and involving **Australia** and **Thailand** was finally released on **August 6, 2002**. It is produced at the occasion of the 50 years of diplomatic relations between





both countries (1952-2002). Two identical stamps and a miniature sheet containing the same stamps are on sale. The stamps feature water lilies: *Nymphaea immutabilis*, a Northern Australian water lily, and *Nelumbo nucifer*, an aquatic perennial native to Northern Australia, Papua New Guinea and South East Asia.

As usual Australia is providing beside stamps and miniature sheet, FDCs and mixed FDCs but also stamp packs and mixed stamp packs.

Joint issues

Ehsan Mahmood was the first to provide the information about a joint issue between **Pakistan** and **Kyrgyzstan** at the occasion of the 10th anniversary of their diplomatic relationship. Although the design is identical, the gap between the dates of issues is such (Kyrgyzstan **April 18, 2002** - Pakistan **May 25, 2002**) that we cannot consider them as twin issues and this pair has to be classified as joint issue.

Japan issued on **April 12, 2002**



four different stamps, each one related with the 50th anniversary (30th for Bangladesh) of diplomatic relationship with one of the other Asian countries. All other Asian countries have issued one stamp at this same occasion, unfortunately with different designs and at another date. **India** released on **April 26, 2002** a pair of se-tenant stamps showing a Kabuki dancer with sword and a Kathakali dancer, while the Japanese stamp shows the Taj Mahal (printed 6 Mio). The **Pakistan** stamp released on **April 28, 2002** shows statues and flags while the corresponding Japanese stamp depicts



the ruins of Moenjodaro. **Sri Lanka** and **Bangladesh** stamps have not been seen yet, but Japanese counterparts show respectively a statue of a woman with the ancient city of Sigiriya and a statue of a man with the ruins of the Buddhist Vihara at Paharpur.

Due to the difference in design and the too large difference in issue dates, these stamps are not supposed to be reported in the catalogue. However we prefer wait until we have seen the missing stamps before taking a final decision. For your information, Japan released also another stamp in honor of another country in the past months (relationship with Mongolia, February

15, 2002) and the Mongolian counterpart has not been seen yet. At the same time several countries claimed a partnership with Japan with the issue of a special stamp (Uruguay, September 24, 2001; Egypt, October 6, 2001; Jordan, December 6, 2001; Honduras December 21, 2001). No Japanese counterparts have been seen so far. Postal stationery items have not been explored.

As usual, some issues are discovered after they have been issued, at the time were it becomes too late to create dual covers. This is the case for the **Chile - Poland** stamps related to the 200th birth anniversary of Ignacy Domeyko (1802-1889), a Polish patriot and scientist who was also living for more than 50 years in Chile. The Chilean stamp was released on **April 11, 2002** while the Polish stamp only on **July 3, 2002**. Designs are identical.



Freshwater Pearl Oyster is the common topic of the **6 June 2002** issued stamps involving the **Czech Republic** and **Germany**. Several dates had been proposed for this issue until it was fixed to the 6 June. Also, Austria had been announced as participating country, finally withdraw its participation.



The stamps that are different for each country show a freshwater bivalve, a critically endangered mollusk to be found in both countries. The

largest and most significant Central European population is to be found in the South Bohemian river Blanice, where young pearl oysters are also bred under semi-natural conditions.

June 14, 2002 is the 20th anniversary of the Falkland liberation. **Falkland Islands**, but also **Ascension Island** and **Saint Helena** participated all three to a joint issue showing different scenes of the war between Great Britain and Argentina. Stamps are different and each country produced from 4 to 6 different stamps. However, no indication was found yet that these three issues have been produced jointly.

Vietnam and **Laos** celebrated on **July 18, 2002**, the 40th anniversary of their diplomatic relationship and the



25th anniversary of the friendship and

cooperation treaty with stamps of different designs issued by both countries on the same date.

Omnibus series

In memory of Her Majesty the Queen Mother Elisabeth, several countries decided to produce on **2002 5 August** stamps showing pictures of her. Up to now we have seen stamps from the following countries:



Ascension - Bahamas - Bermuda - British Antarctic Territories - British Indian Ocean Territories - British Virgin Islands - Caymans - Falkland - Nauru - Pitcairn - Saint Helena - Saint Lucia - Seychelles - Solomon Islands - South Georgia and South Sandwich Islands - Tokelau - Tristan da Cunha.

This omnibus series consists of two to four stamps and a souvenir sheet including two stamps (in some cases two of the sheet stamps) per country. The style is the same, but pictures are different.

New issues to come

Twin issues

The **United Nations** issue yearly a series devoted to the world heritage of a specific country. This year stamps are describing specific Italian protected sites and towns such as Roma, Pompeii or Florence. **Italy** has decided to issue on the same date, **August 30, 2002**, the two stamps identical to those that are issued by the office of Geneva and representing Pisa and the Aeolian islands. Joint packages will be provided as well.

The Italian stamps are sold with vignettes as they are issued at the same date as the opening of the

international philatelic exhibition held in Riccione between August 30 and September 1, 2002.

The illustrations given below are excerpt of the official advertising documentation provided to collectors before the date of issue.

The joint issue involving **New Caledonia** and **Norfolk** is confirmed by both countries (the New Caledonian stamp is already shown on the web site of the New Caledonian postal authority) but will be released by **September 18, 2002**, not June as initially planned. The good news is that it will be a twin issue, with a design similar to the triptych issued in 2001 by New Caledonia with the same topic at that time jointly with Vanuatu.

A **Kazakhstan - Russia** stamp pair is supposed to be released by **August 29, 2002**. In October we are expecting following joint issues: **Thailand - Sweden** (October 5), **China - Slovakia** (October 12) and **Denmark - Faeroe - Greenland** (October 21).

2003 and 2004

Jürgen Lübke informed us about a new issue to come in 2003 involving **Germany** and **Austria** and related to the Salzbach Bridge Oberndorf - Laufen. Austria has announced the date of **June 12, 2003**

Apparently the **United States** should be included in the joint issue under preparation to commemorate the arrival of Champlain to Canada. This issue initially planned for 2003 and involving **Canada** and **France** is now expected during the summer 2004.

RZ

CONCENTRATES

China Hong Kong Macao

Eric Chan gave us some complementary information about the 16 May 2002 joint issue produced jointly by **China, Hong Kong and Macao** at the occasion of the first participation of Asian countries to the world soccer championship. Each country issued different stamps and there was a common Siamese souvenir sheet produced. Siamese souvenir sheets are imprinted with a serial number on the bottom left of each sheet. The initial alphabet actually denotes the country of origin. The alphabet 'A' stands for Mainland China, 'B' for Hong Kong and 'C' for Macao. These only apply for the Siamese souvenir sheets. And for the latest World Cup Siamese souvenir sheets (in a folder identical for all 3 regions), local stamp shops are selling these 3 kinds of folders at different prices.

False joint issue

Padre Pio, to be known as St. Pio de Pietrelcina, was canonized on the 16th June 2002. He was born in Pietrelcina near Benevento, on 25 May 1887. He entered as a cleric in the Capuchin Order on 6 January 1903 and was ordered a priest on 10 August 1910, in the Cathedral of Benevento.

On Friday 20 September 1918, praying before the Crucifix in the choir of the old church, he received the gift of the stigmata, which remained in his body, fresh and bleeding for half a century. He died on 23 September 1968 in San Giovanni Rotondo. His funeral attracted more than 100,000.

There is a strong devotion to Padre Pio in **Ireland** and An Post decided to commemorate this event with the issue of a single stamp on 17 June 2002. Poste Italiane as well produced on 16 June 2002 a stamp at this occasion. Probably other countries worldwide have or will issue stamps in honor of Padre Pio. Unfortunately, these stamps are not to be considered as joint issues even if they are realized on the same day (the design is different), as this was never claimed by one of both postal administrations.

Dialog

In the journal Michel Rundschau 7/2002 on pages 84 and 86, there is a short article describing some surprising design found on some stamps of the "Dialog between civilization" stamps from 9 October 2001. Initially Urska Golob from Slovenia designed these stamps and all countries took this design as basis for their own stamp. **Kyrgyzstan** took the design of Slovenia in such a good way that they even introduced the emblem of the Slovenian on their local stamps. The State of **Kuwait** wanted to show the origin of the design and printed the name of Slovenia on the stamps in such a way that one could think before looking closer that it is a Slovenian stamp.



Gene Dooley noticed that some countries (**Brunei, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates**) issued at this occasion a stamp showing colored acacia leaves instead of the children design. By the way notice the nice lozenge shape of the Qatar stamps. Actually these stamps have been issued in parallel to the common design and at the same date (October 9, 2001). Another design showing a modern art portrait facing an ancient art portrait has also been used by some countries (at least Iran and Brunei).



We are continuing to collect information on these series and add new countries (information about South American and African countries is just appearing) and we hope that we will be able to publish in the next catalogue complement an updated list and hopefully complete list of stamps issued at this occasion. Today the most updated list is the one appearing on the Society web page.

Siamese issue

The 2008 Olympic games stamps from **China, Hong Kong and Macao** issued on 14 July 2001 in commemoration of Beijing's successful bid for housing 2008 Olympic games were presented in the catalogue update as twin issues. These stamps were issued the next day of the decision taken during the 112th plenary session of the international Olympic Committee held in Moscow on 13th July 2001 and are identical with

different labels, available in panes and in mini-sheets of twelve stamps. In the description of these stamps it was not mentioned that these stamps were also sold in a special stamp pack containing a sheet formed of the 3 miniature sheets from all 3 countries printed together. Therefore we have to consider this issue as a local Siamese issue and not only a Twin issue.

Belgium Stamps

Our friend, Pierre Sonveaux, Sentier du Biéreau, 1348, Louvain la Neuve, proposes to provide directly **Belgium** new joint issue stamps to those who want to buy these stamps on top of what is normally provided by our New Issues service. If interested, please contact him directly.

Postal Stationery

Anthony Raynaud continues to provide us with information related to postal stationery bearing a joint issue stamp and privately illustrated (but sold at post offices). The first list deals with new French PAPs (Prêt-à-Poster - Ready to send) bearing the Magritte stamp:

- Balma (Haute Garonne)
- Bourth (27)
- Deville lès Rouen (76)
- Dunkerque Rosendael (59)
- Gisors (27), cartoon Mallefosse - 10-26 March 2000
- Meudon la Forêt (92) - SPBB
- Pellegrue (33)
- Plainville(27)

The first illustrated French Soccer 2002 postal stationery item was also released in Vouziers (5 different illustrations).

The first illustrated German Soccer 2002 envelope can be found as first day item canceled from June 6, 2002. It was printed at the occasion of the 103rd Philately day of Garmisch-Partenkirchen.

In **Germany**, the Europa 2000 stamp continue to be used on postal stationery, the last example being illustrated with a portrait of Adolf Friedrich von Mecklenburg-Schwerin, IOC member between 1926 and 1956.

eBay

The auctions shown on the net by eBay provide a nice tool to follow prices of items but also to discover items that have not been seen before. Joint issue stamps remain at a relatively low price level, but some items show final prices much more higher than catalogue values. The market is not stabilized at all. One can also find items that have never been depicted before. Here is one item I have found in the past months and that has not been reported yet:

A large unaddressed dual first day cover featuring both the **US** (Scott#1757) and **Canada** (#756a) Capex'78 souvenir sheet issued in 1978 for the Canada International Philatelic Exhibition. The cachet is by Artmaster. The sheets are franked with June 10th first day cancellations for both countries, the US cancel being from the temporary station in Toronto. These stamps have not been reported in the catalogue yet, but on the basis of this document, they should be now. Stamps issued by several countries at the occasion of a philatelic Exhibition are not reported in the catalogue unless there is a mixed document released. This is now the case.

Around the same period of time I found also the first dual first day cover with all four stamps (elephants) from the 1995, July 1, **China Thailand** twin issue.

Red Baron

Snoopy is a favorite subject for stamp illustrations, and much more since his creator died very recently. The **United States** illustrated their May 17, 2001 stamp with the dog Snoopy playing the role of the famous WWI Red Baron pilot, Manfred von Richthofen. By June 13, 2001, **Portugal** issued a Snoopy stamp and one can find now both stamps on dual first day covers entitled Snoopy "Red Baron" joint issue. Due also to the difference in design, these stamps are definitely not considered as joint. Unfortunately!

New Catalogue

Our friend A. Latif Rashad is preparing a new catalogue of Pakistan. This catalogue will contain the names of countries and SG catalogue numbers of all joint issues, international or omnibus series, issued by Pakistan Post Office. References to the major stamp catalogue numbering will be given (Stanley Gibbons, Scott, Yvert et Tellier and Michel). It should be released soon and for details you can write to Popular Enterprises, GPO Box 517, Lahore, Pakistan. A more detailed description will be provided in this journal as soon as the catalogue will be published.

Advertisement

This section is free for all members and might contain all your ads for buying, selling or exchanging stamps.

- Giovanni Valente, 449 Gregory Ave., Weehawken, NJ 07086, USA, would like to exchange mint stamps and FDCs with other collectors.

- Charles Feingersh is collecting all information on First Day Issues covers related to joint issues in order to compile a complete international listing. If you know about FDC items not reported up to now contact him

directly under PO Box 34067, BETHESDA, MD 20827, USA.

- Rindert Paalman has for sale a collection of the Portuguese booklet (mentioned by Volker Dietze in the August 2001 journal) containing the 18 different mixed FDCs of the May 22, 1992 Christopher Columbus issue. Sales price is fixed at € 105,-. Please contact him directly under Kees van Baarenstraat, 4, 7558 DD HENGELO (OV (The Netherlands), e-mail: r.paalman@freeler.nl.

- M.A. Naeem, Amariz Printers, 43a Rattigon Road, Lahore, Pakistan, can

provide all the joint issues and other thematic stamps of Pakistan against worldwide WWF sets of mint stamps and FDCs.

- R: Zimmermann is collecting all data about philatelic items (first days, mixed covers, maxi cards, stationery, cancellations, ...) produced by postal administrations related to the joint issue about the world soccer championship involving Argentina, Brazil, France, Germany, Italy and Uruguay and issued in April - May 2002.

CAUGHT IN THE PRESS - CAUGHT IN THE NET

Publications - Articles

Our friend R. Schmalenberg wrote again a nice 3 page summary about recent joint issue in the German journal *Deutsche Briefmarken Zeitung*, 12/2002 pages 60-62, entitled "Bildgleiche Gemeinschaftsausgaben - ein globales Sammelgebiet (Joint stamp issues - a global collecting area)". A list of all joint issues not reported yet in this series of articles as well as the most recent issues is given there.

Another of our friends, Werner Kluge, completed the list of new joint issues involving at least one European country, as each year in the German journal *Michel Rundschau* 7/2002 pages 52 and 54. The article is entitled "Gemeinschaftsausgaben 2001 (Joint issues 2001)". Thanks to R. Schmalenberg and W. Kluge for advertising also for our society.

For those interested in the evolution of the value of the Europa stamps, there is a complete article to be found in the *Deutsche Briefmarken Zeitung*, 11/2002 pages 10-15, written by Michael Burzan and entitled "Europa Marken im Höhenflug (Europa stamps have a great success)". Europa stamps showed regular interest among collectors until end of the 80's then loosed interest with stagnation of value. Since 1998 prices are climbing again. The article analyzes this situation year per year.

I was in contact with Paul Albright, editor of "The Posthorn", the journal of the Scandinavian Collectors Club, for almost one year, as he was interested in publishing a list of joint issues

involving all Scandinavian countries. Finally this article was published in the May 2002 Posthorn issue, on pages 10 to 13, under the title "Scandinavian Joint Issues". A modified version of this article is published in this issue of "Joint Stamp Issue".

A two pages' article (p 14-15) entitled "The New Sweden Issue in International Mail" written by Alfred A. Gruber follows the joint issue article. In this paper it is reminded that the US stamp issued at the occasion of the New Sweden joint issue with Finland and Sweden on March 29, 1988, has a postage value of 44 cents that was valid only for 5 days. The international airmail rate was raised to 45 cents on April 3, 1988. Therefore covers bearing the US stamp without additional one-cent postage are extremely rare.

The 2002 Australian French joint issue is described in details with its historical background by Michel Bilhaut in the French journal *L'Echo de la Timbrologie* from June 2002 on pages 72-74 under the title "L'Australie, terre partiellement française? (Australia, partly French territory?)".

Caught in the 'Net'

eBay is the classical site when you look for online stamp auctions. I found another nice site that looks similar, but with the great advantage that it is only dealing with philatelic items. Structure and presentation of the site are very nice and it is easy to select only joint issue items for example. This Belgium site run by Seb Delcampe is located under <http://stamps.delcampe.com>.

Seb Delcampe runs also the official site of the 2002 international philatelic exhibition Fila Kortrijk 2002 held between July 11 and July 14, 2002 to be found under <http://www.filakortrijk.be/>. Details about the very recent issues involving Belgium and Portugal or Croatia are given there.

Under the address <http://jcmunch.mytopsitelist.com/philatelic> you will find a selection of very nice philatelic sites, in the case in which you start to become interested in a new topic.

Details about recent joint issues can be found under the following addresses: www.cpost.cz/postaAn/filatelle (Czech Republic, freshwater pearl oyster, 6 June 2002), <http://stampcity.topcities.com/stamps.htm> (Malaysia, 27 June 2002),

Rob Vlaardingebroek runs a Dutch and English site dealing mostly with Scandinavian countries. You can find there a web page on St. Brendan's voyages to Iceland and the Faeroes, illustrated with the April 18, 1994 joint stamps. Take a look at www.xs4all.nl/~pkv/nordic/saint-brendan.htm.

The summer of 2004 will mark the 400th anniversary of the French settlement at St. Croix Island, near Calais, Maine and St. Stephen, New Brunswick. All information in preparation to commemorate this event are to be found under www.stecroix2004.org/en/plans.htm. This includes the preparation of commemorative stamps and coins to be issued in Canada, the US and France.

New Issues Service

Almost all new twin issues can be provided at face value plus handling i.e. postal fees from the "New Issues Service" of the Society. For those who want to join this service, please contact directly **Volker Dietze, Kneippweg 7, D-30459 HANNOVER, Germany** or e-mail Dietze-Volker@t-online.de.

I just want to remind that this service works on the basis of a yearly subscription. Volker cannot provide specific single stamps, not even stamps from a specific country, as it is already difficult to manage this activity. He is doing a great job, but should not be bothered with individual requests for very recent issues. All requests have to be known by him before stamps are ordered, i.e. before they are issued. Thanks for taking this remark in account. This will avoid a lot of mail exchanges and limit overcosts. On the other side Volker is like all of us collecting joint issues and sells older owned stamps. But this is independent from the New Issues Service he is providing to the Society.

JOINT STAMP ISSUES COMPETITION

Prizes

First prize: Triple mixed first day cover of the May 5, 1993 Georges Simenon issue bearing all three stamps from Belgium, France and Switzerland. Catalogue value: about € 15-20 attributed to **Ehsan Mahmood** (Pakistan). He gave a good answer to all five questions and expected 10 to give the good answers. Only 6 values away from reality.

Second prize: Siamese mixed first day cover of the November 1, 1996 tercentenary of the Willem de Vlamingh journey bearing the pair Australia Christmas Island stamps. Catalogue value: about € 7-10 attributed to **Rindert Paalman** (The Netherlands) who came with the same number of expected good answers (10), unfortunately did send his answers four days later.

Third prize: The four mint stamps of the China - Thailand twin issue representing elephants, issued July 1, 1995. Catalogue value: about € 4-6, attributed to **Nahum Shereshevsky** (Israel), who expected 28 good answers.

Among the other 7 participants, only **Giovanni Valente** gave the 5 exact answers to the questions. All others had one or two wrong answers, usually the same. All these participants will receive a pair of stamps from the 1999 Norfolk-Solomon joint issue as thank you for participating.

Questions and Answers:

1. The Regional Co-operation for Development is mentioned in one of the short articles in this journal. These stamps were produced during several years in the seventies. But do you have any idea about how many RCD series have been issued in total. We just need to know the number of years during which these countries issued together RCD stamps, and not the number of countries, nor the number of stamps.
The answer is **12**. The RCD involved Pakistan, Iran and Turkey and the agreement was signed in 1964. The first celebration took place in 1965 and the second celebrated the 5th anniversary in 1969. Afterwards, each year was honoured by 3 stamps. The last one was produced in 1979, just before the Revolution in Iran. Therefore only 12 issues have to be taken in consideration and not 15. This was the most frequent error made by the participants, as they haven't noticed there was no issue in 1966, 1967 and 1968.

2. Very recently North Korea produced, together with stamps, two aerogrammes bearing the joint issue stamps. This was one of the first times that aerogrammes were involved in a twin issue. Around the same period another country released also an aerogramme bearing the joint stamp (twin issue, non colonial issue). Could you precise the year of this issue?

The answer is **1998**. The aerogramme was released by Switzerland as part of a joint issue with China. This aerogramme was used for first air trips in 1999, but this date could not be the right one.

3. Siamese issues are joint issues in which the stamps from both countries are produced se-tenant. Can you remember the year when a unique Siamese issue was produced as a souvenir sheet including 4 stamps from 2 different countries and which corresponds probably to the first real Siamese issue?

The answer is **1965**. It corresponds to the Iron Doors stamp issued by Yugoslavia and Romania. The miniature sheet included two stamps from both countries. Several other Siamese issues were issued later (almost a dozen), but the 1965 one was the first and unique including 4 stamps.

4. We know only one case of a true twin issue produced as stationery items for both countries. It involved USA and Italy. But could you precise the year of this issue?

The answer is **1986**. I do not know postal stationery issued jointly by the US and Italy in 1992 or 2001, dates that were proposed by some candidates, but I would be really happy if they exist. In this case the cards show the portrait of Francesco Vigo (1747-1836), an Italian participant to the American independence war.

5. On September 1, 1938, France issued a series of identical colonial stamps devoted to Pierre and Marie Curie and the fight against cancer. Surprisingly two other countries, not related at all to France or its colonies issued a stamp similar to the French stamp in the same year. One of them is identical in design, format and colors except concerning the language. About which country are we speaking?

The answer is **Cuba**. The design and the colors were identical, the language was however Spanish instead of French. **Afghanistan** was the second country and this answer was also considered as a good one.

Subsidiary question: *How many participants to the contest will give the five exact answers?*

At the time of closing the contest 85 members were allowed to participate. Actually only 10 did send their answers among which only four gave all five good answers. Answers went from 10 to 60. That was what we expected as well. May be next year we will see a higher participation.

Next Issues (tentative): November 2002 - February 2003 (including catalogue update) - May 2003

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COUNTRIES' UPDATE

Scandinavian Joint Issues

The following listing collects all twin (*same date, same design*) and joint (*same design and different issuing date or same issuing date and different design*) stamp issues involving at least one of the Scandinavian countries (Aland, Denmark, Faeroes, Finland, Greenland, Iceland, Norway or Sweden). None of these countries have issued in the past a Siamese stamp (*same stamp for several countries or stamps from both countries linked together*). Common issues (*only common topic without officially being recognized by postal administrations*) have not been reported, therefore excluding recent Norden issues. Europa, Norden and territorial joint issues have been reported separately, only id dates and/or designs are identical.

Twin and Joint Issues

- 1946 (22 Mar) **Norway - Canada:** Little Norway (Canada non issued) - see complete article in this journal
- 1956 (30 Oct) **Denmark - Finland - Iceland - Norway - Sweden:** Northern countries day; Swans - Twin issue - *all stamps printed in Sweden*
- 1961 (24 Feb) **Denmark - Norway - Sweden:** SAS Airline - Twin issue
- 1963 (14 May) **Denmark - West Germany:** Ferryboat line - Joint issue - *dual FDCs available*
- 1966 (15 Jan) **Sweden - West Germany:** Nathan Söderblom - Joint issue - *dual FDC*
- 1967 (16 Jun) **Finland - Sweden:** Finnish community in Sweden - Twin issue - *dual FDC*
- 1985 (21 Feb) **Denmark - West Germany:** Bonn Copenhagen link - Twin issue - *Dual FDC*
- 1985 **Finland** (28 February) - **URSS** (25 February): Kalevala - Joint issue
- 1985 (21 May) **Denmark - Sweden:** Knut IV - Twin issue - *Dual FDC*



- 1969 (28 Feb) **Denmark - Finland - Iceland - Norway - Sweden:** Postal cooperation, 100th anniversary; Ships - Twin issue - *mixed document with 11 stamps cancelled First Day from the Postal Museum, Stockholm*
- 1973 (26 Jun) **Denmark - Finland - Iceland - Norway - Sweden:** Nordic Cooperation, Building - Twin issue
- 1977 (2 Feb) **Denmark - Finland - Iceland - Norway - Sweden:** Nordic Cooperation, water lily - Twin issue
- 1986 (23 Jan) **Sweden - USA:** Stockholmia Philatelic exhibition - Twin issue - *for each country, strip of four stamps with only one showing the same design - Dual FDC*
- 1986 (5 Sep) **Finland - France:** French expedition in Lapland - Joint issue - *Dual FDC - special presentation pack with mint stamps*
- 1987 (8 May) **Norway - Somalia:** Red Cross in Mogadiscio - Twin issue - *souvenir sheet for each country*
- 1988 (29 Mar) **Finland - Sweden - USA:** 350th anniversary of the first Finnish in America - Twin issue - *mixed FDC document "The American Letter" - mixed FDC*



- 1983 (24 Mar) **Sweden - USA:** Diplomatic relationship - Twin issue - *Dual FDC*



- 1988 (22 Sep) **Denmark - France:** Robert Jacobsen - Twin issue - *Dual FDC - special presentation pack with mint stamps*
- 1991 (7 Sep) **Belgium - Finland:** Alfred Finch - Twin issue - *Dual FDC and cards*
- 1992 (6 Apr) **Faeroes - Iceland:** Discovery of America - Twin issue - *stamps and souvenir sheets*
- 1992 (3 Oct) **Estonia - Latvia - Lithuania - Sweden:** Baltic area birds - Twin issue - *booklets for each country - black print without country name*
- 1992 (27 Nov) **Russia - Sweden:** Icons - Twin issue - *blocs of four stamps - Dual FDC*
- 1993 (8 Feb) **Estonia - Finland:** Friendship - Twin issue - *Dual FDC and cards - souvenir sheet showing the four color printing process offered by Finland*
- 1993 (17 Jun) **Denmark - Russia:** Friendship, Optic fiber - Twin issue - *Dual FDC*



- 1994 (18 Mar) **France - Sweden:** Cultural cooperation - Twin issue - *booklets with only two identical stamps - Dual FDC*
- 1994 (18 Apr) **Faeroes - Ireland - Iceland:** St Brendan's journey - Twin issue - *two stamps and souvenir sheets - official 6 pages document - dual FDC (6 stamps)*
- 1994 (26 Sep) **Finland - Sweden:** Sport - Twin issue - *booklets - dual FDC*
- 1995 (1 Mar) **Finland - Russia:** Nature protection - Twin issue - *bloc of four - dual FDC*
- 1995 (12 Sep) **Aland - Faeroes:** Olaf II - Twin issue *dual FDC*



- 1995 (18 Sep) **Iceland - Luxemburg:** Icelandair - Twin issue - *special package with mint and FDC cancelled blocs of four stamps - dual FDC*
- 1995 (27 Oct) **Denmark - Sweden:** Tycho Brahe - Twin issue - *Dual FDC*



- 1995 (9 Nov) **Germany - Sweden:** Alfred Nobel Centenary - Twin issue - *Dual FDC - special presentation package including also German Roentgen stamp*
- 1997 (14 Jan) **Denmark - Faeroes - Greenland:** Margaret II's 25th reign anniversary - Joint issue
- 1997 (9 May) **China - Sweden:** Pheasants - Twin issue - *Dual FDC - maxi cards*
- 1997 (13 Nov) **Sweden - Switzerland:** Paul Karrer Nobel Prize - Twin issue - *Dual FDCs*
- 1998 (3 Oct) **Poland - Sweden:** King Sigismund III Wasa - Twin issue - *Dual FDC - black progress print offered by Swedish Post*
- 1999 (28 Apr) **Aland - Finland:** Flowers - Twin issue - *Dual FDC - self-adhesive stamps*
- 1999 (12 Aug) **Sweden - Singapore:** Butterflies - Twin issue - *four stamps and souvenir sheet for Singapore - dual FDC*
- 1999 (30 Sep) **Belgium - Sweden:** Peace Nobel Prize - Twin issue - *Dual FDC*
- 1999 (5 Nov) **Finland - Italy:** Christmas - Twin issue - *Dual FDC*
- 2000 (12 Jan) **Estonia - Finland:** Dance and Music Festival - Joint issue - *postal stationery (cards)*
- 2000 (4 Feb) **Iceland - Vatican:** 1000 years conversion to Christianity - Twin issue



- 2000 (9 May) **Denmark - Sweden:** Oresund bridge - Twin issue - *pair of stamps - dual FDC cancelled from July 1, 2000, date of the official opening of the bridge*
- 2001 (22 Mar) **Sweden - USA:** Nobel Prize centenary - Twin issue - *dual FDC - special 6 pages mixed folder*
- 2001 (16 Aug) **Australia - Sweden:** Daniel Solander - Twin issue - *dual FDC - mixed stamp pack with mint stamps*
- 2002 (2 May) **New Zealand - Sweden:** Swedish glass and Maori handcrafts - Twin issue - *dual FDC*
- 2002 (Oct?) **Sweden - Thailand:** Cooperation, Buildings
- 2002 (21 Oct?) **Denmark - Faeroes - Greenland:** Sharks

Europa stamps

This list reports all Scandinavian countries involved in a Europa CEPT issue for which stamps have the same design. From 1974 on, designs but also date of issues differed in such a way that they could not be considered anymore as joint issues, except for years 1984 and 2000.

1960	Denmark (16 September) - Finland (19 September) - Iceland (19 September) - Norway (19 September) - Sweden (19 September); <i>Total 19 countries involved</i>	1968	Iceland (29 April); <i>Total 18 countries</i>
1961	Iceland (18 September); <i>Total 14 countries</i>	1969	Denmark (28 April) - Finland (27 April) - Iceland (28 April) - Norway (28 April) - Sweden (28 April); <i>Total 26 countries</i>
1962	Iceland (17 September) - Norway (17 September); <i>Total 13 countries</i>	1970	Iceland (4 May); <i>Total 19 countries</i>
1963	Finland (16 September) - Iceland (16 September) - Norway (14 September); <i>Total 14 countries</i>	1971	Finland (3 May) - Iceland (3 May); <i>Total 21 countries</i>
1964	Iceland (14 September) - Norway (14 September); <i>Total 17 countries</i>	1972	Finland (2 May) - Iceland (2 May); <i>Total 22 countries</i>
1965	Iceland (27 September) - Norway (25 September); <i>Total 16 countries</i>	1973	Finland (30 April) - Iceland (30 April) - Norway (30 April) <i>Total 23 countries</i>
1966	Iceland (26 September) - Norway (26 September); <i>Total 19 countries</i>	1984	Denmark (3 May) - Faeroes (2 April) - Finland (7 May) - Iceland (3 May) - Norway (4 June) - Sweden (9 February); <i>Total 34 countries</i>
1967	Iceland (2 May) - Norway (2 May); <i>Total 18 countries</i>	2000	Aland (9 May) - Denmark (9 May) - Faeroes (9 May) - Finland (9 May) - Greenland (9 May) - Iceland (18 May) - Sweden (9 May); <i>Total 55 countries.</i>

Norden stamps

The following Norden issues have been reported in a separate list, as design is different for each country. They have however to be considered as joint issues. When date of issue also changed they cannot anymore be included.

1980 (9 September)	Denmark - Finland - Iceland - Norway - Sweden: Handcrafts
1983 (24 March)	Denmark - Finland - Iceland - Norway - Sweden: Tourism
1986 (27 May)	Denmark - Finland - Iceland - Norway - Sweden: Town twinning
1989 (20 April)	Denmark - Finland - Faeroes (10 April) - Iceland - Norway - Sweden: Costumes

Territorial twin issues

The following list includes all stamps issued by dependencies, but which have the same design. Otherwise (different design or different issue dates) they cannot be considered as true joint issues (this rule applies also for colonial issues which are not considered as joint issue)



1963 (21 November)	Denmark - Greenland: Niels Bohr - Territorial twin issue
1967 (10 June)	Denmark - Greenland: Margaret's marriage - Territorial twin issue
1968 (12 September)	Denmark - Greenland: Help for Children in Greenland - Territorial twin issue
1969 (11 March)	Denmark - Greenland: Frederick IX - Territorial twin issue
1973 (18 October)	Denmark - Greenland: Heimaey - Territorial twin issue
1984 (6 June)	Denmark - Greenland: Prince Henrik 50 th anniversary - Territorial twin issue
1985 (21 May)	Denmark - Greenland: Queen Ingrid's arrival, 50 years - Territorial twin issue
1992 (10 June)	Denmark - Greenland: Royal Silver wedding - Territorial twin issue

This article was also published under a slightly different form in "The Posthorn", the journal of the Scandinavian Collectors Club. This American Association founded in 1935 keeps track of all information related to stamps issued in the Scandinavian countries. If you are interested in joining this collectors club, write to Donald Halpern, PO Box 930, New Providence, NJ 07974-0930, e-mail halperndon@att.net or find out more about SCC, including "The Posthorn" and membership information, at www.scc-online.org.

Next issue:
Countries' update
The United States of
America

MONOGRAPH 8

Wings for Norway - A non-issued Twin Stamp Pair

Joint issues result from a common will between two countries or postal administrations to produce together a philatelic item commemorating a common event. This process is initiated by one of these countries that must be persuasive enough to have the partner entering in the process. Many attempts have failed about which we even haven't heard about. In some rare cases, following the "polite" refusal of the potential partner, the initiating country pursues the process and issues a stamp alone. In very rare cases, the process went so far that identical stamps are produced on both sides, but close to the end, usually for political reasons, the release is cancelled and the stock of already printed stamps from one country is destroyed. This is such a story where the process could not come to a final agreement.

Norwegian training camp

After the invasion of their country during the last World War, the Norwegian Air Force regrouped in Canada at a training camp opened in November 1940 at Island Airport near Toronto. This training camp called "Little Norway" was first under the command of Hjalmar Rüser-Larsen, and then, Major Ole Reistad from New Year's 1941. In 1943, this camp was sold to the Canadian government and

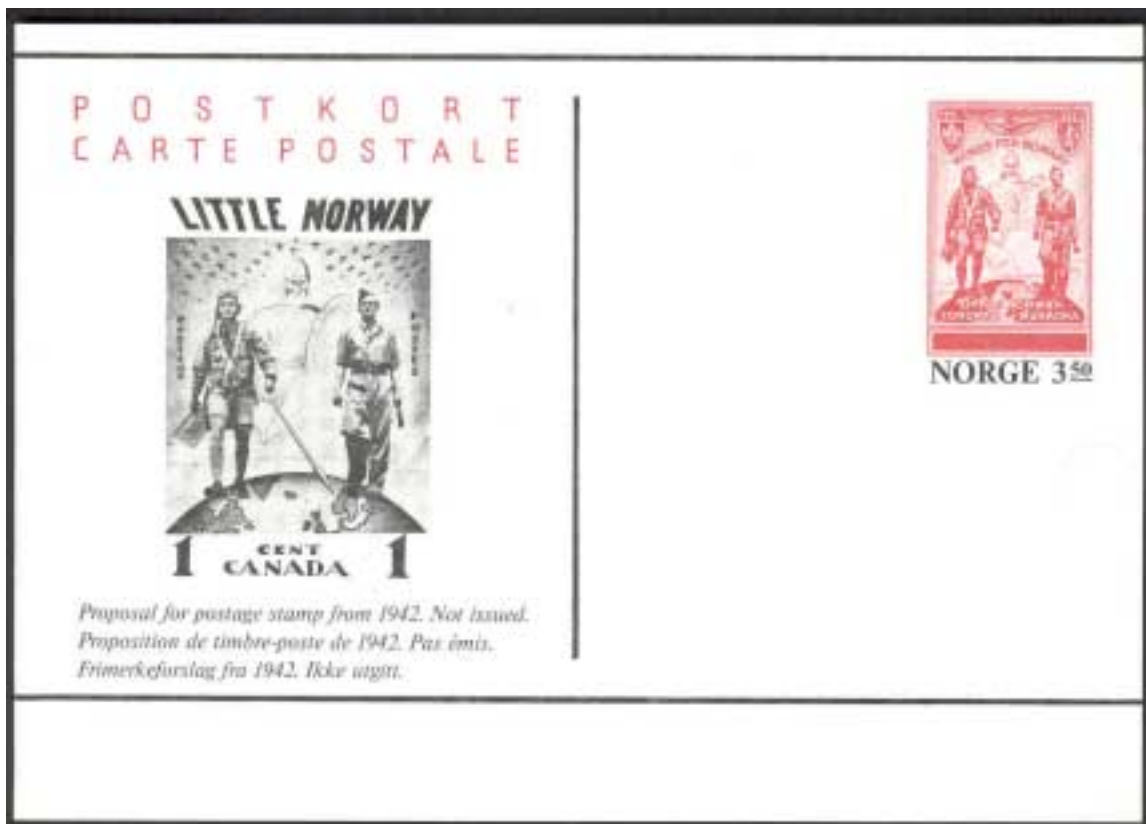
the group moved to Muskoka, about 110 kilometers north of Toronto where the training continued until finally, it was moved to the air base Winkleigh in Devon, England, in the autumn of 1944.

Already in 1941...

Already in December 1941, Mrs. Howard McCart of Toronto suggested that "Little Norway" should have a special postage stamp. Major Reistad, working himself with John Darnall

from Glendale, Ohio, the group's civilian public relations officer, actively supported this idea. Major Reistad sent a letter to the Canada Post Office Department on 13 January 1942 requesting authority for Camp Little Norway to officially use their own postage stamps.

Stamps were to depict Norwegians at war and be valid for postage from Norwegian camps. They were also intended to publicize and help finance the Norwegian war effort. The rationale for the stamp was based on the fact that American military post



Postal card issued by Norway on June 15, 1987 in commemoration of this event. It is illustrated with the never issued Canadian stamp.

offices in Canada were authorized to use United States stamps. The initial request of a series of 9 stamps was soon reduced to a single one, chosen from among them. The design of the stamp was based on the cover of a publicity booklet entitled "Wings for Norway" drawn by Captain "Nick" Nicolaysen, chief of the radio-school.

Reistad got financial assistance from George Unger Vetlesen, a Norwegian-American businessman and soon arranged with the Canadian Bank Note Co., Ottawa to print the stamp. Herman Herbert Schwartz, an employee of CBN prepared the final artwork and Silas R. Allen engraved the plate of fifty subjects.

December 1942, first supply

On December 9, 1942, the Canadian Bank Note Co., had prepared a supply of 50,000 stamps, based on a printing order sent by Reistad on 7 November 1942 and supported by Vetlesen, who confirmed in a letter dated 10 November 1942 that he would pay for the \$ 1,000.00 production costs. Plate inscription strips show the text "Canadian Bank Note Co. Limited Ottawa N° 1 (or N° 2 - *number of the plate*) - The Canadian-Norwegian issue - The 15 Øre stamp "Wings for Norway".

Government-in-exile

In the meantime, H.M. King Haakon VII authorized a set of stamps to be released in London on 1 January 1943. These stamps were intended for letters posted at sea on Norwegian merchant ships. Probably the Norwegian government-in-exile did not want two different sets of stamps available and therefore never supported the Reistad initiative. As a consequence, the Canada Post Office Department refused to grant permission to issue the "Little Norway" stamp. They were waiting for a formal request from the Norwegian government. By end of December, Reistad received a cable from London stating, "The Norwegian Government has just issued stamps, and you will therefore have to stop issuing yours."

At the beginning of 1943, to provide sufficient postage for an urgent posting of a book called "Little Norway in Pictures," it was proposed to overprint the existing supplies of Canada's 1935 6¢ Daedalus airmail stamp with "Little Norway" and an increase value to 7¢ to meet the domestic air mail rate. The stamps were to be cancelled at Little Norway with special cancellations. Peter Coolican, Assistant Deputy Postmaster General, rejected this initiative in his letter of 21 January 1943 to John Darnall.



Continued persistent efforts by Reistad and others failed. The Government-in-exile in London continued to oppose the issue and, in another telegram of 31 March 1943, stated that they did not wish to risk that "Norway would be placed in the same class with certain small states which have the reputation of printing stamps, not for postal use, but mainly to make money out of them".

After war issue

The stamp was therefore never issued or used in Little Norway, but was later presented as a gift to the Post office in Norway (12 May 1945). After the liberation, the Norwegian government finally ordered a supplementary issue of one million stamps from the printers in Canada, to acknowledge Norwegian gratitude for Canada's assistance and to pay tribute to those who served at Little Norway. These stamps, that had to be identical in all respects to the 50,000 printed in 1942, were sent by ship around 15 January 1946. The Norwegian Government reimbursed Mr. Vetlesen his costs, which he donated to the

Relief Fund for families of Norwegian airmen lost in the war.

The stamp was issued in Norway on 28 March 1946, on Crown Princess Martha's birthday. The stamp was so popular that it had to be rationed to 10 stamps per person and the whole issue was quickly sold out.

Two heroes

The stamp depicts two men walking on the top of the globe with a Viking shown in the background. Actually the two men are Norwegian Air Forces heroes. On the left side, Sergeant and flyer Ulf Wormdal is "standing on Canada". He was killed while on maneuvers with the Royal Air Force in the Orkney Islands on March 1942. Quartermaster and plane mechanic Henry Bernhard Malmøe is "standing on Norway" on the right side of the stamp. He was lost in action during a patrol flight from Scotland on 12 October 1943. Both men were 24 years old when they died, but both were still alive when the proposal came out.

Postal stationery

The Canadian stamp was never issued. To remember this story, the Norwegian Post issued on 15 June 1987, a postcard with the same stamp, the value being adapted to the actual rate. This postcard is illustrated at the left side with the never-issued Canadian stamp.

References

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- C.R. McGuire, *The "Little Norway" story*; 1980. RZ