

# NETHERLANDS PHILATELY



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Volume 1/4



# Netherlands Philately

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PHILATELY  
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June 1, 1976

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This is the last issue of Volume 1 of *Netherlands Philately* which you will receive. Of course, in September Volume 2 will make its appearance. And just for this fourth issue the editor would like to thank all those people whose contributions - in whatever form - have made this journal possible. From the contributors of articles - may their tribe increase - to those who helped with photographs - take your bow, Mr. Landau - and to those who sent in all kinds of information. They have made it generally a pleasure to edit the journal.

We have a very interesting article on the two printing varieties of the Netherlands "dove" stamps. They really should be distinguished in the catalog. And then you will find the article on the Merauke covers, which was long promised. Our President continues his article on the Dutch influence in the U.S. with a second instalment. As was mentioned in the April newsletter, you will find some biographical information on the present officers. With some photos! Our Chairman of the Membership Committee, Mr. MacDonald, has a contribution on the Surinam Red Cross overprints of 1942. Some smaller items may be of interest too.

Finally, the centerfold of this issue does not carry an alluring picture of a buxom blonde - brunette, redhead - but even better, the equally long-awaited Glossary of Dutch philatelic terms. As you will notice, the numbering does not follow that of the rest of the journal. As a matter of fact, these pages are an extra. You can take them out, cut the top open and fold both pieces once in the center, and you have a handy eight-page small-size glossary which you can carry around. The ASN&P has extra copies of the Glossary which can be obtained by sending 50 cent in unused American stamps to the secretary. They will be sent postpaid.

And now, farewell for the summer. Have nice vacations, and I hope to see you all (in the spirit) in the fall when the ASN&P will begin a bigger and better second year. Let's hope all the wrinkles are ironed out by then!

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# The Rotogravure Varieties of the Dove Numerals

by Laurence H. Rehm

The rotogravure varieties of the Lebeau Dove Numerals have received far less attention than they deserve. Only two short articles have appeared in English on these issues, both in journals of relatively limited circulation.<sup>1,2</sup> The introduction of the rotogravure process at Enschede was covered in an article in the 1966 UPHILEX Catalogue.<sup>3</sup>

The dove or seagull issues, designed by Chris Lebeau, first appeared in 1924 and were in use until replaced by the van Krimpen design in 1946. All values of the dove design were originally printed by the offset process, but this method of printing was gradually replaced by rotogravure, starting in 1936.

The main reason for switching from offset to rotogravure was the ability of Enschede's newly installed Albert Frankenthal rotogravure press to produce stamps on a continuous web of paper; this was especially valuable for the production of coil stamps, but was very useful for printing stamps to be issued in sheet form as well. The offset presses at Enschede used pre-cut sheets of paper only and therefore were not only slower, but required hand assembly of coils from strips of stamps separated from sheets.

The first rotogravure dove numeral was the 1½ ct coil, ordered by the PTT from Enschede in April 1936. This was followed shortly by the 3 ct coil. Subsequently, the 1, 2, 2½ and 4 ct values made their appearance, all in sheet form. By wartime, offset printing of the dove numerals had been completely discontinued.

Identification of the two kinds of printing is difficult, and is made most readily by the type of markings on the top and bottom margins of the sheet. Coils and loose stamps cannot be so identified, so an examination must be made of the character of the printing. The gravure process requires that a screen or raster, containing approximately 300 small square cells per linear inch, is employed to contain the ink which is to be transferred to the paper, while in the offset process a solid area exhibits no screen pattern at all and is essentially a smooth printing surface. A close inspection by a strong glass or lens can show the difference between the two types of printing. For the 1½ ct, which is also slightly darker in hue, the top edge of the stamp shows the screen design best. Note the photomicrographs below, which show the jagged lines characteristic of gravure, in contrast to the smooth lines of offset. This difference is easier to see in some colors than in others.



OFFSET



ROTOGRAVURE

Due undoubtedly to this problem in differentiating between the two kinds of printing, the rotogravure varieties have been treated as a kind of step-child. The *Speciale Catalogus*, for instance, has given just the 2½ cent value a separate number, obviously because in this one instance the two methods of printing are readily identified; the offset printings (nos. 146 and 174) are in a lighter shade of green while the rotogravure 2½ cent was printed in a darker green ink (No. 379). The balance of the rotogravure dove numerals have had varied recognition; the 1950 edition ignored their existence completely. In 1955 the other values (1, 1½, 2, 3 and 4 ct) were mentioned in a footnote after No. 379d.

This footnote was changed in the 1962-1965 editions to omit the 3 ct value, and in the 1966 and 1967 editions the entire footnote was omitted (thus removing all reference to the rotogravure printings of these low values).

However, starting with the 1968 issue, the footnote reappeared in altered form, and included the 3 ct value. The probable reason for this was the publication of figures showing quantities printed of these values, in both offset and rotogravure, and which were originally presented at UPHILEX in Utrecht in May 1966, by the Chief Director of the Post Office (*Hoofddirecteur der Posterijen*).<sup>4</sup>

Lebeau Numerals, perforation 12½:13½

<i>Offset Printing</i>		<i>Rotogravure Printing</i>	
½ cent	2,810,400	1 cent	6,504,000
1 cent	33,353,600	1½ cent (grey)	493,959,200
1½ cent (red-violet)	167,810,600	2 cent	9,512,400
1½ cent (grey)	792,858,600	2½ cent	52,615,000
2 cent	63,857,600	3 cent	10,327,600
2½ cent	95,072,000	4 cent	3,801,200
3 cent	232,750,000		
4 cent	56,825,600		
		<i>Rotogravure Printed Coils</i>	
		1½ cent (red-violet)	55,360,000
		1½ cent (grey)	30,000
		3 cent	649,000
		7½ and 2½ cent	8,596,000

I have not included the dove values above 4 cent as these war-time issues were all printed by rotogravure only. A 4 ct rotogravure coil had also been prepared, but never used due to a change in rates.

However, the biggest surprise in the released figures was the 55,360,000 rotogravure 1½ cent coils printed in red-violet. The existence of red-violet 1½ cent stamps printed by rotogravure was hitherto unknown, and this new information created quite a stir. The search was on for copies of this stamp.

So much interest was aroused that the figures were rechecked and in the October 1967 issue of the *Maandblad* it was announced that an error had been made. The correct figures were:

1½ cent (red-violet)	30,000
1½ cent (grey)	55,360,000

This, of course, intensified the search for the stamp, which was beginning to assume some aspects of a real rarity. The editors of the *Maandblad* offered a reward of fl 25.00 for the first copy to be shown to them.

Many collectors sent copies of the 1½ cent red-violet to the *Maandblad* in hopes of collecting the prize, but none could be positively identified as being printed by rotogravure. Meanwhile, a number of serious researchers inspected the records at Enschede in Haarlem and at the PTT. Their conclusions, published in the January 1968 issue of the *Maandblad*, stated that an erroneous supposition had been made with regard to the figures released at Utrecht, and that in point of fact, no 1½ cent doves were ever printed by rotogravure in red-violet.

Thus ended the curious story of the elusive rarity, but it did serve to bring out the existence of the rotogravure varieties of the dove numerals, which (except for the 2½ cent) to this day are not accorded even subvariety status in the *Speciale Catalogus*.

References:

1. "Rotogravure Issues of Lebeau's Seagull Stamps 1 ct-4 ct," Barkla, Reus and Tops. *The Netherlands Philatelist*, April 1950.
2. "The Rotogravure Dove Numerals," Laurence H. Rehm. Newsletter of the Netherlands Philatelic Society, January 1969.
3. "Dertig Jaar Rasterdiepdruk aan de Rol," Jan Dekker. *UPHILEX Catalog*, Utrecht, May 13-15, 1966.
4. "Oplagecijfers van Nederlandse Postzegelemisssie's," A.G. de Vries, *Maandblad voor Philatelie*, June 1966.

\* - \*

SORRY AND ALL THAT!

The Editor is sorry to announce that he made a real stupid error in the postage due article in the preceding issue, by Jan Dekker and L. Goldhoorn. In Table 2 there should be no underlining for the 60 ct opposite 01.06.50 and 15.11.55. Likewise in Table 3, opposite 01.03.49 and 01.06.50. As the text clearly explains, the 60 ct did not come out until April 11, 1958.

# MERAUKE—Forgotten Outpost of the Indies

by John W. Van Buskirk and Paul E. van Reyen

In Appendix 1 of the *Dai Nippon Catalog of Japanese Occupation Stamps, 1942-1945*, we find a facsimile of a rectangular handstamp in which FRANKERING BETAALD / POSTAGE PAID, divided by a rule. Written in it is f 1 followed by a scribble. The description says:

1944. In the southern part of New Guinea, the only part of the Netherlands Indies that never fell into Japanese hands, use was made of a franking stamp after the supply of postage stamps was exhausted.

We find: Merauke, 29-9-1944; 4-12, 1944, 22 May 1945; Digoel, 31-7-1944.

So far the *Dai Nippon Catalog*.

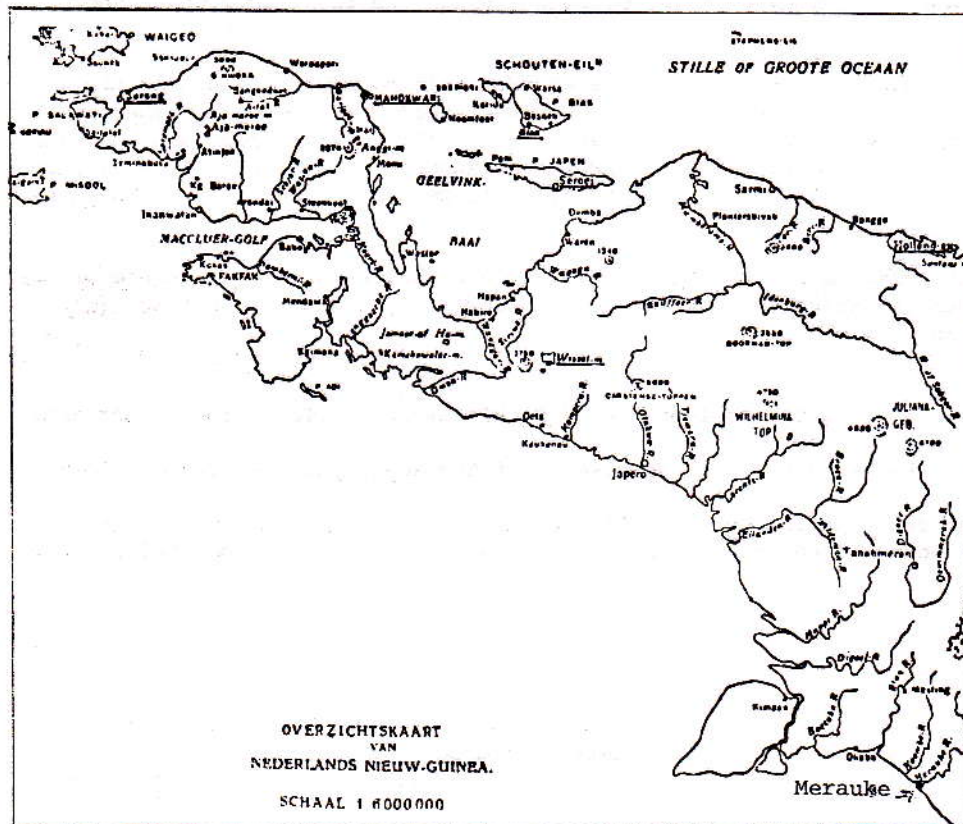
What is or was Merauke? To answer that question, let's first turn to the map of New Guinea (Fig. 1). Merauke is located on the south-west coast. If we are then looking for Digoel, go a little north until we hit the Digoel River, and Digoel is about 3 days upstream. To the west of New Guinea, but not on the map, there are three groups of islands. The Kei Islands, the Aroe and the Tanimbar Islands. When the Japanese had overrun most of the Netherlands Indies, it was decided in Australia to put Netherlands Indies troops at Merauke (154 men, among which 4 officers); at Dobo (Aroe Islands), 43 men (2 officers); at Toelal 41 men (one officer); and at Saumlaki 19 men under a sergeant first class.

The detachment for Merauke left Townsville in Australia on June 23, 1942, and arrived at Merauke without hindrance. The other three detachments left Melbourne on the same day, traveling by train to Darwin from where they left for their respective posts.

All these island posts within the next



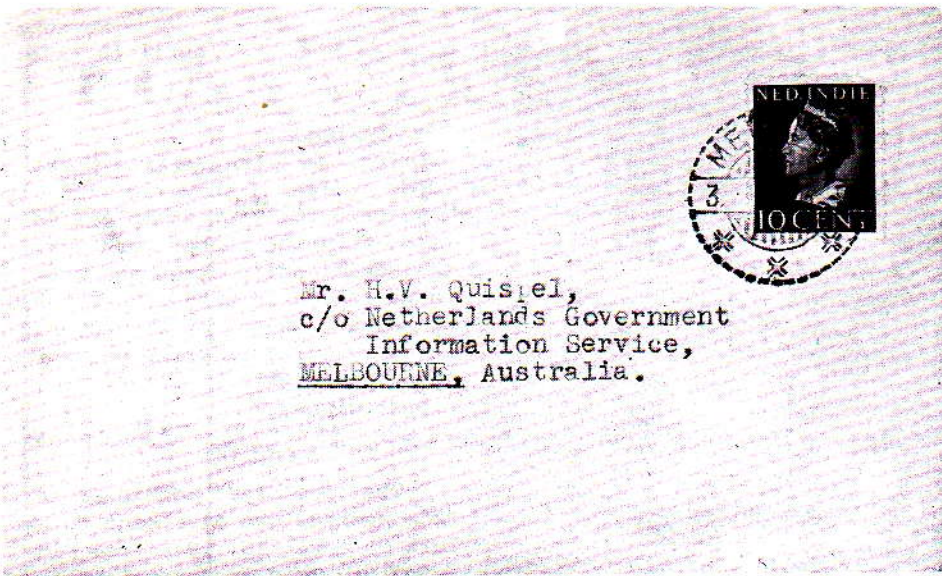
Figure 2



few months were captured by the Japanese troops. Only Merauke was left alone. The decision was made to transfer the civil service post "Toelal and Dependencies" to this safe outpost. The reason why Merauke was left alone soon becomes apparent; the Allied counterattack had started up the east coast of New Guinea with the capture of Buna on January 3, 1943. Actual fighting in that region had started on November 20, 1943. Although it took the Allies a year to advance the next 240 miles north of Buna, it doesn't take much imagination to realize that the Japanese were not about to let some of their soldiers go traipsing off to capture a completely unimportant outpost like Merauke.

So, presumably, the detachment in Merauke had some kind of mail connection with Australia, where the headquarters of the Netherlands East Indies Army was located. The first surviving cover that has

Figure 1



Mr. H.V. Quispel,  
c/o Netherlands Government  
Information Service,  
MELBOURNE, Australia.

come to our attention is illustrated in the catalog of the Netherlands Centenary Exhibition, 1952, National Philatelic Museum, Philadelphia.

This cover (see Fig. 2) is addressed to Melbourne, Australia - Air Mail - and is franked with 38 cents, consisting of a 2 and 3½ ct "caribou" stamp, a 5 ct numeral (1940), a 7½ ct "dancer," and two 10 ct Konijnenburg stamps. The date is October 4, 1943.

So, in October 1943 the post office in Merauke still had stamps to sell. We can carry this - somewhat - a month further. A cover to Melbourne, dated November 3, 1943, shows one 10 ct Konijnenburg stamp (see Fig. 3). There is no backstamp to this cover, and it certainly poses a question whether this cover ever really went to Mel-

Figure 3

bourne, although it is possible that the rest of the postage was paid.

This last cover, though, proves that the post office had run out of stamps. We surmise that the rate to Melbourne by air was 17½ cent up to a certain weight and 35 cent for the double rate. Our first cover was only slightly overfranked, perhaps because the sender wanted to put at least one copy of each stamp available on the envelope.

A solution was found, however. Between early November and December 31, 1943, a rubber stamp was ordered, most likely in Australia, showing the FRANKERING BETAALD / POSTAGE PAID within a rectangle divided by a horizontal rule. There has only been one handstamp which is shown by the different "overlaps" of the lines that make up the rectangle.

Figure 4 shows this December 31, 1943, cover to Melbourne. The stamp was applied in purple ink. The amount of postage paid is not filled in. There is also no backstamp.

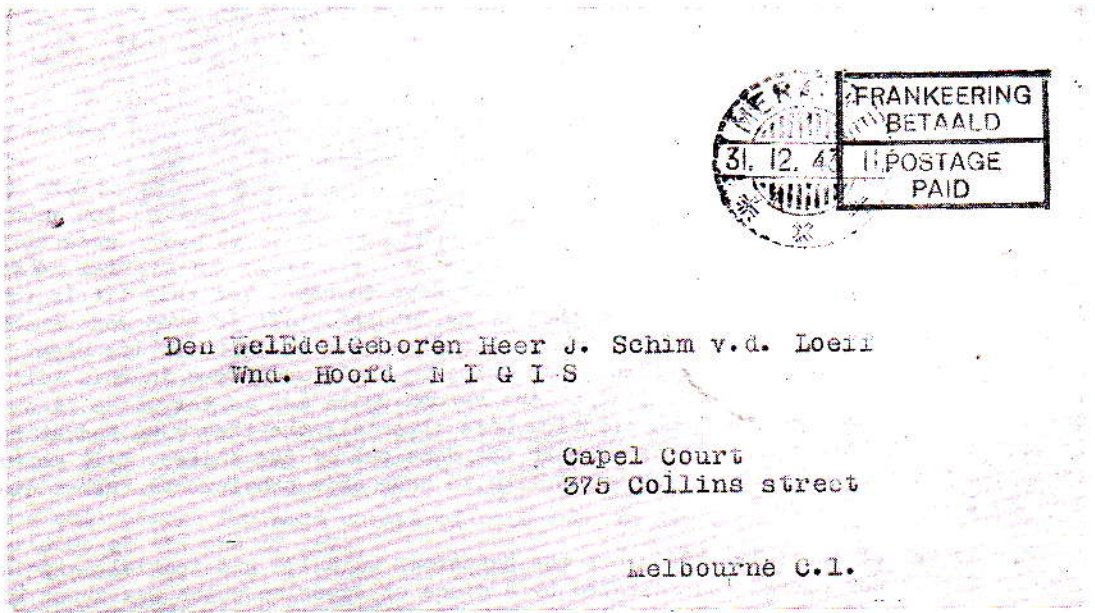
We also know of a cover which went by air mail to San Francisco, mailed March 14, 1944. Here something new is found: the amount of postage - f 0.80 - is filled in in light blue ink followed by an initial. This is also the ONLY stamp we know in black ink.

Our next item is extremely interesting. Although the post office had run out of stamps, apparently there was still some postal stationery around. Figure 5 shows an old Netherlands Indies 3½ cent "caribou" post card, but the rate had gone up, so in addition there is a handstamp with the amount 7½ with initial filled in in pencil. Looking at this card and the next one it seems clear that the rate for a post card to the United States was 11 cent. The card also carries a purple stamp HOOFD VAN PLAATSELIJK BESTUUR \* MERAUKE with a centered coat of arms in a circle. Also in a circle "3." in purple. This is most likely a censor mark. There is no message on the back.

On April 19, 1944, another post card was sent to New York. The 7½ and the initial are in dark blue ink. The front of the post card carries the same stamp HOOFD VAN PLAATSELIJK BESTUUR \* MERAUKE, and in red crayon PASSED BY CENSOR B(oots?). There is also a diamond-shaped purple marking with a "3" in the top, followed by PASSED BY CENSOR in 3 lines, and a "22" in the bottom part. This is an Australian censor marking as far as we know.

The post card reads:

Figure 4



Den WelEdelegeboren Heer J. Schim v.d. Loeff  
Wvd. Hoofd N I G I S

Capel Court  
375 Collins street

Melbourne C.I.

Merauke  
April 19, 1944

1

Dear Stoppelman:

Greetings from the free Netherlands Indies! I know you will like this card for your stamp collection. Note the rubber mark for the additional postage and the value filled in with ink. The P.O. of Merauke is out of stamps, but we carry on! I'll write you more in a "postblad".

Best wishes,

John Boots

The "postblad" mentioned in this message was also sent to New York on April 19, 1944 (see Figs. 7 and 8). This is a regular 7½ ct purple "caribou" postblad with a purple marking FRANKERING BETAALD / POSTAGE PAID, plus 7½ and initial in dark blue ink. Front carries the same address as the previously listed post card.

This postblad was censored twice. Once it was opened and sealed with greenish thin paper on which is typed PASSED BY CENSOR twice with space in between. It was also opened and sealed with a white strip of paper on which in red "3 Opened by Censor" twice in such a fashion that one line reads upside down. It is also stamped in purple with a diamond-shaped stamp with "3" in the top, followed by three lines PASSED BY / CENSOR and "17" in the bottom. Again, this is most likely an Australian censor marking.

The postblad reads:

Merauke  
April 19, 1944

2

Dear Stoppelman:

Here I am "again", assuming that you read the postcard first. It's nice to be back in the N.E.I. after 14 years of absence. However, and won't be on your map anyway. I'll be the second white man in the place. I am glad I /cut out by censor/ too long as we only get some practice here after all the theory we had at the school in Melbourne. Our real job will start as soon as we beat the Japs out of the Indies. I'll continue the letter on another piece of paper as I know you would like to have this provisional rubber stamp also on a plain envelope. So long. Boots.



Figure 5

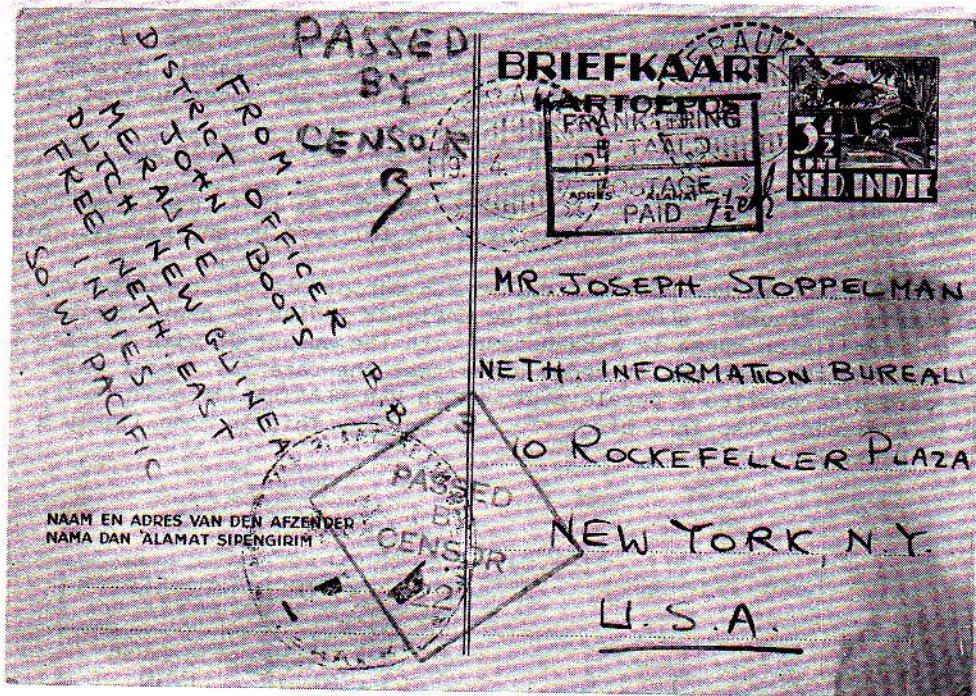


Figure 6

I must say this is not the best part of what we used to have. Yet this little town reminds me very much of the small Javanese towns as I knew them in my "youth". Life is even more inconvenient. No electricity, no waterpipes, the refrigerator does not work and we have not got our ice plant. All this is still luxury when you compare it with the place I am going to. It's somewhere in this little part of the free N.E.I. and won't be on your map anyway. I'll be the second white man in the place. I am glad I /cut out by censor/ too long as we only get some practice here after all the theory we had at the school in Melbourne. Our real job will start as soon as we beat the Japs out of the Indies. I'll continue the letter on another piece of paper as I know you would like to have this provisional rubber stamp also on a plain envelope. So long. Boots.

This letter of April 19, 1944, has the handstamp with 17½ and initial, and is censored twice. Again, once the letter was opened and resealed by a piece of paper on which was typed PASSED BY CENSOR, twice,

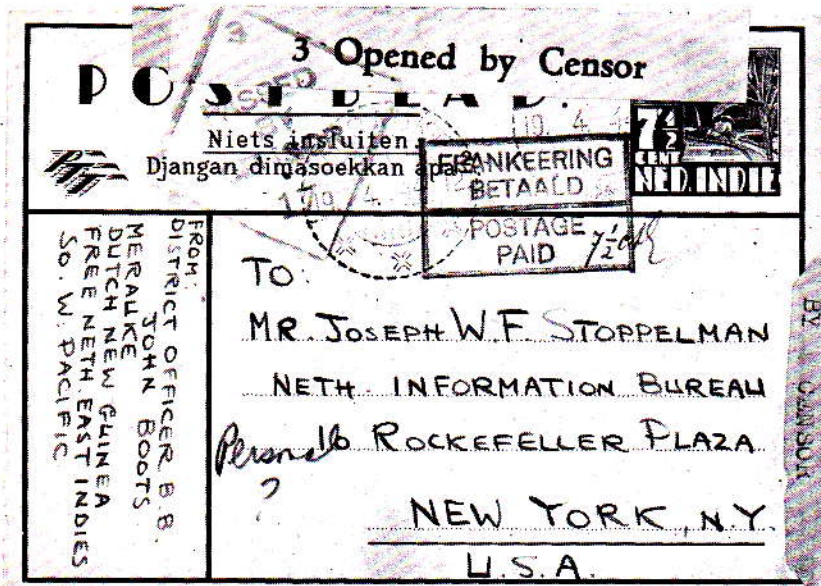


Figure 7

and once by the Australian censor with the resealing label described above.

In the meantime the American and Australian troops under General MacArthur as Supreme Commander had captured Buna on the East coast of New Guinea, as already related. Flushing the Japanese troops out of the mainland of New Guinea proved to be a heavy task. The next 240 miles north took another year! In the spring of 1944 MacArthur decided to make a big "jump" to Hollandia, an important depot for the Japanese troops in the Pacific. Because the operation was prepared in all secrecy, the Japanese were totally surprised.

April 22, 1944 was D-Day for Hollandia; at 3 o'clock MacArthur, and Generals Robert L. Eichelberger and Krueger landed at Tanamerah Bay. On April 27 the airfields were captured, and the next day the bulldozers started work to make them ready to support the invasion of Wakde which took place May 15. The operation to liberate Biak - which was held by 10,000 Japanese - began on May 27. Biak was taken on June 22, 1944.

From this moment on what importance Merauke may have had completely evaporated; Hollandia was now the most important town in that part of the Netherlands Indies.

On May 13 a number of letters were sent to New York. As far as we can say, only one had the amount 17½ with initial added in pencil. This one had no backstamp, although it had been opened.

Three letters of this date had no amount on them.

Four days later a large cover was sent to New York. The handstamp is in purple, and the amount 35 ct and the initial are in dark blue ink. See Fig. 9. There is also a large purple stamp ASSISTENT RESIDENT AFD. TOEAL VRY NED INDIE with coat of arms in the center. This proves the removal of the assistant residency seat from Toeal to Merauke.

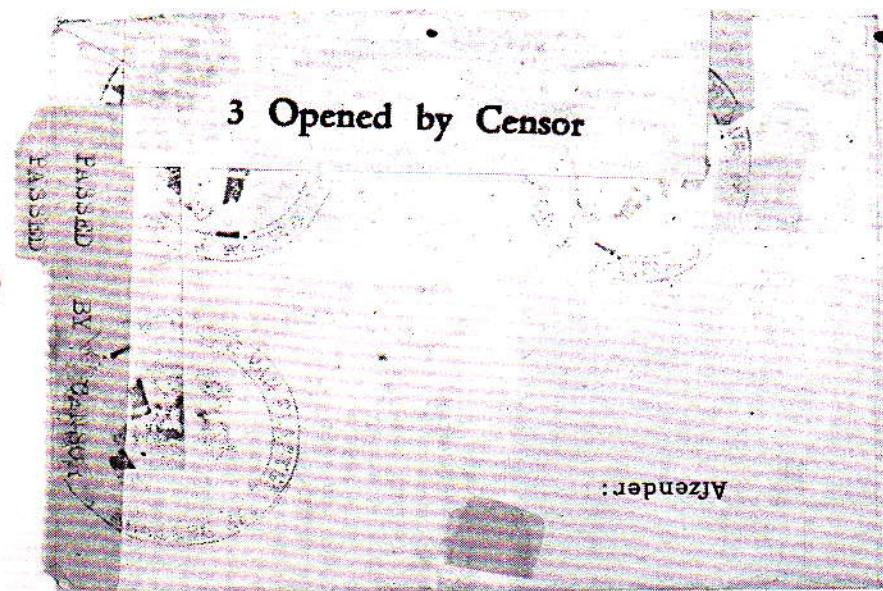


Figure 8

rauke. Finally, there is a "3." in circle applied to the front in purple. A letter from Melbourne to New York sent at that time, but having connection with the Dutch community in Melbourne, also carries this "3." in a small purple circle. (Courtesy Mr. L.E. Kieffer.)

The next cover (see Fig. 10) is also interesting. This one went to Melbourne on June 28, 1944, with the usual purple marking, filled in with 17½ ct and initial in dark blue ink. On the back (Fig. 11) we find a strip of blue paper with the typed-on words PASSED BY CENSOR in two lines with space between, and two strikes of a purple marking ONDERAFDEELINGSBESTUURDER \* VRY ZUID NIEUW GUINEA with a coat of arms in the center.

By December 8, 1944 - and probably before that date - the expedient of applying a typed-on censor label, on various colors of paper, was finally abandoned, because on a letter of that date we find the first printed censor label. The cover was sent by air mail to New York, with the usual purple marking, this time with 80 ct and initial in dark blue ink (see Fig. 12). On the back, taped over the flap is a white strip of paper, 82 by 30 mm, on which is printed CENSUUR--MERAUKE, 42 mm long, in black with a line in between, and one text upside down. This label is tied to the cover with one strike of a purple marking ONDERAFDEELINGSBESTUURDER \* VRY ZUID NIEUW GUINEA with a coat of arms in the center. Mr. L.E. Kieffer has an identical cover in his collection. Two more covers of this date to New York with 80 ct inscribed were auctioned in the Netherlands at the end of 1972.

Two covers are known of December 20, 1944, without the amount of postage filled in. These were auctioned in the Netherlands at van Dieten, March 5, 1976.



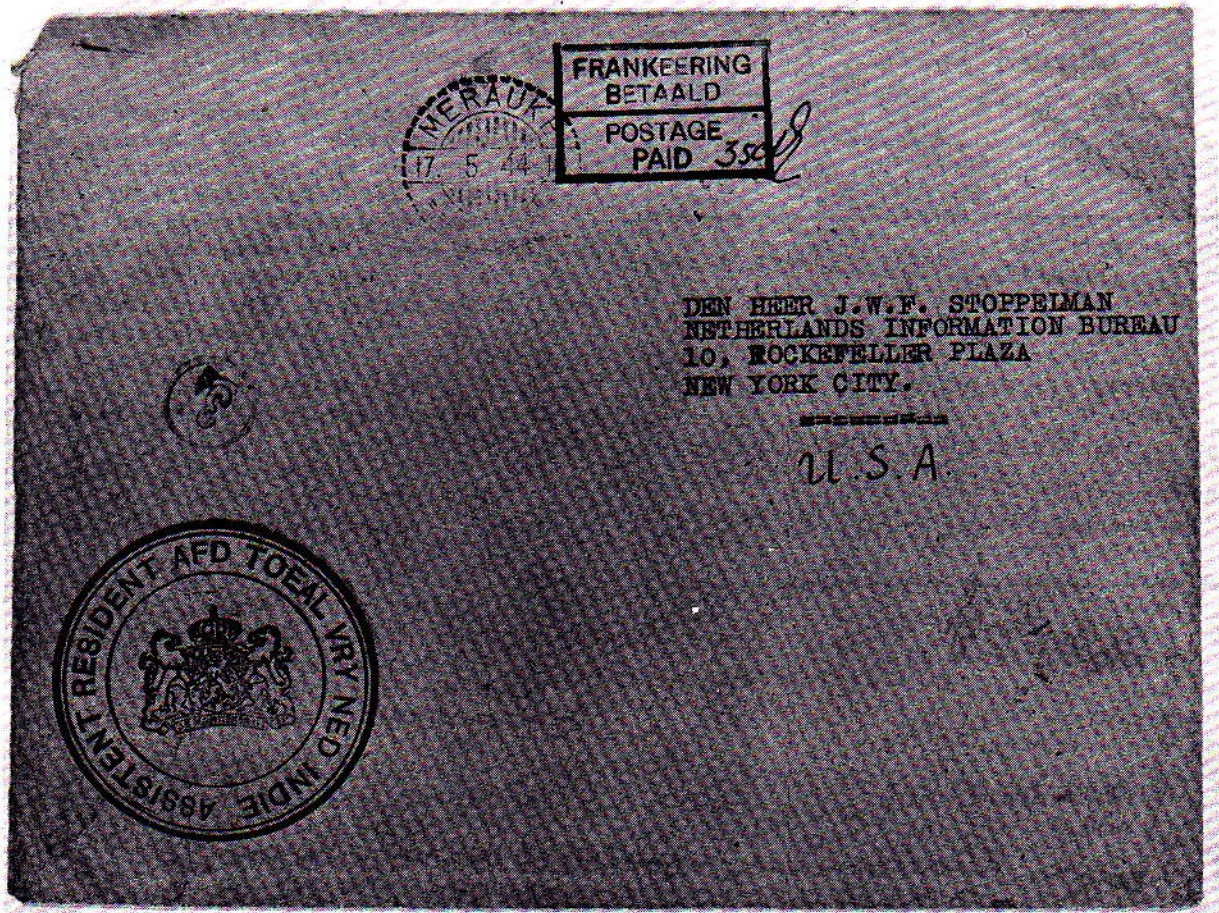


Figure 9

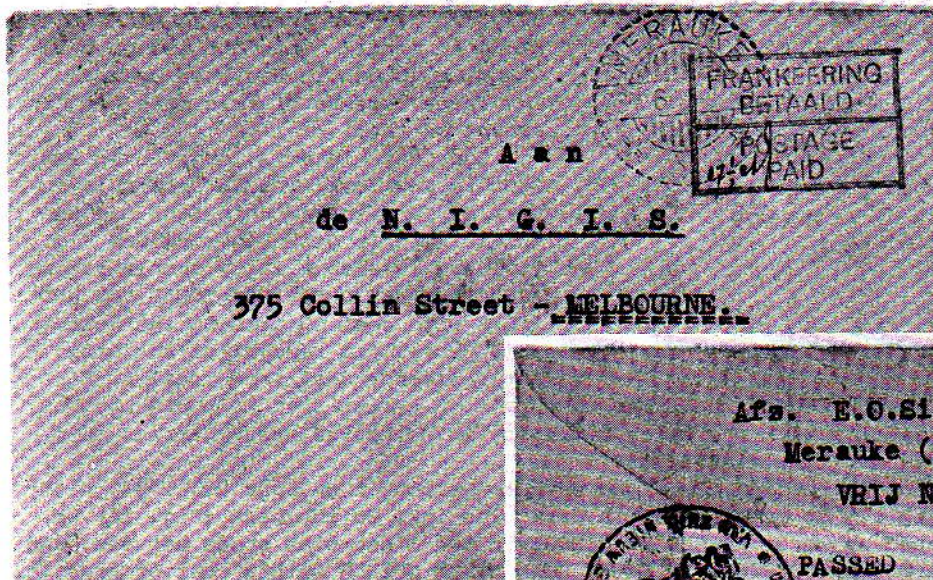


Figure 10

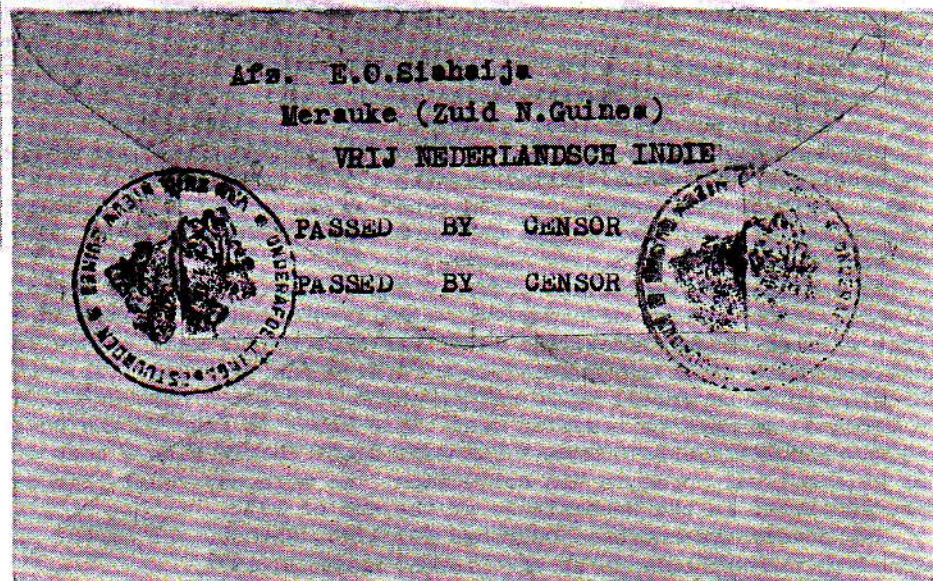


Figure 11

Verbs and words that are made from parts of verbs are very tricky. In general, most Dutch verbs are words that end in -en. Except for a few such as *gaan* and *staan*, which mean to go and to stand. With verbs a knowledge of French might also be helpful: Many Dutch verbs are made of a French verb with the addition of -en. Let's pick an example which could be philatelic. To repair a stamp would be "een postzegel repareren." Once the Dutch -en is eliminated, one immediately spots the French verb *reparer*. And there are literally dozens of examples.

The Dutch past participle is - usually - made up of the stem of the verb (that part which is left over after you take away the -en) preceded by ge- and followed by -d. Let's take a nice philatelic verb *tanden* which means to perforate (a stamp). The past participle then is ge-tand (perforated). In this case there is no final -d because the stem itself already ends in a "d." Now, if you find some unknown Dutch word which begins with a ge- and ends with a -d, take away these two parts and see what is left, and whether that makes any sense.

We also have to count with one typical aspect of Dutch and that is the doubling (or halving) of vowels. One pair is *een paar*, but two pairs is *twee paren*. In this case the plural - as is usual - was made by adding -en to the singular word. So we get *paar-en*, but that is not the Dutch way. The "a" in an open syllable - ending in a vowel - is pronounced the same way as a double "a" so the second "a" is dropped. So don't get upset by differences in double and single vowels; they all come to the same end.

Finally, if nothing else helps, try to pronounce the word and don't look at the printed form. Once you repeat the word several times without looking at the text, all of a sudden a resemblance to an English word might hit you, and there you are. The only example that comes to mind right now is an easy one. Try *jubiläum* and you will soon get *jubilee*.

Comments are gladly awaited by the editor of this journal.

#### A

aankomststempel arrival postmark  
 aantal number  
 aantekenen to register  
 aantekensterokkjes registration label of stamp  
 achtergrond background  
 achterkant back  
 afstempeling cancellation, postmark  
 afwijking(ien) variety(ies)  
 alleen only, alone  
 arceerstrepen cross-hatch lines  
 automaatboekjes vending machine booklets

#### B

balk bar  
 bepaald definitive  
 beschadigd damaged  
 bezetting occupation  
 blauw blue  
 blok block (of four)  
 boekdruk typography (letterpress)  
 bovenkant top  
 brief (enveloppe) cover  
 brief (contents) letter  
 briefkaart post card  
 briefstuk (op) piece (on)  
 brugpaar bridge pair  
 bruin brown  
 buitenland foreign country(ies)  
 bijzonder stempel special cachet  
 bijzondere enveloppe special cover (envelope)  
 bijzonderheid(heden) speciality(ies)

#### C

catalogus (katalogus) catalog(ue)  
 couvert cover (envelope)  
 cursief in Italic type  
 cijfer figure, numeral  
 cijfertype numeral type

#### D

dagelijks daily  
 datum date  
 defect, onvolmaakt faulty  
 dienst official  
 diep (in diepblauw) deep (in deepblue)  
 diepdruk recess printing  
 dik thick  
 dof dull  
 donker dark  
 doorstoken rouletted  
 driehoekig triangular

druk  
drukkfouten  
drukkerk  
dubbele druk  
dun

printing  
printing errors  
printed matter  
double impression  
thin

E  
echt  
editie  
eerste dag enveloppe  
eerste vlucht (le)  
eiland  
en  
envelop (pe)  
exemplaar (plaren)  
expresse

genuine  
edition  
FDC  
first flight  
island, isle  
and  
envelope, cover  
copy(ies)  
special delivery

F  
fout(en)  
foutdruk  
frankeerzegels

errors, etc.  
misprint  
postage stamps

G  
geadvverteerd  
gebroken  
gebruikt  
gecentreerd  
gecombineerde vlucht  
geconouneerd (papier)  
gedecentreerd  
gedeelteeljk  
gedrukt  
geel

advertised  
broken  
used  
centered  
combined flight  
filled (paper)  
off-center  
partial (ly)  
printed  
yellow

geen bijzonder stempel  
gegraveerd  
gehalveerd  
gekleurd (papier)  
gemengd  
gerepareerd  
geribbeid  
gesloten  
gestempeld  
gestreep (papier)  
getand  
gewoon  
glanzend (papier)  
gom  
groen  
groot  
grote gaten  
gris

no special cachet  
engraved  
bisected (halved)  
tinted (paper)  
mixed  
repaired  
ribbed  
closed  
cancelled  
laid (paper)  
perforated  
regular, normal  
glossy (paper)  
gum  
green  
large  
large holes (perf.)  
grey

M  
waarde  
watermerk  
weinig  
wekelijks  
weldadigheidszegel  
wit  
wijd  
wijnrood

value  
water mark  
few, little  
weekly  
semipostal stamp  
white  
wide  
magenta

X  
x (in perforation)

indicates line perf.  
: indicates comb perf.

IJ  
ijsvluchten

ice-flights

Z  
zegel  
zeldzaam  
zetfouten

stamp  
rare  
printing errors (in typo-  
graphy)

zomerzegels  
zonder (gom)  
zwart  
zweefvluchten  
zwendel  
zijkant

summer stamps (issued in the  
without (gum)  
black  
glider flights  
swindle  
side

#### SOME REMARKS AND EXPLANATIONS

Dutch and English are really very much alike; it just looks completely different. Of course, we have a problem: As in German, in many (most) Dutch sentences the verb comes at the end. Another thing which Dutch has in common with German is the tendency to string words together. So one of the first rules would be to try to separate a word into recognizable "units." *Lucht-postzegel* would then become either *Luchtpost* and *zegel*, or *Lucht* and *postzegel*. The first separation makes more sense, but that will become clear after looking at the glossary. A little practice of this sort goes a long way.

We then have the "look-alike" words, except for a change in vowel. A philatelic example is *slap* which of course means *sleep*. When you see a Dutch word that stumps you, try shifting the vowel a bit, and see if it begins to make sense. While doing this, also turn the "sch" at the beginning of a word into a "sh" sound; that might help too. An example of this, again non-philatelic is *schieten* which of course means to shoot. Simple, for a Dutchman who speaks English too!

T  
tanding  
tandingsverschillen  
taxatie('s)  
tekst  
telblokje  
tentoonstelling  
terugvlucht, retourvlucht  
tint  
toeslag  
tussen  
tussen haakjes  
tussenstrook

U  
uitgave, uitgifte  
uitgeworpen  
uitverkocht

V  
van  
variëteit  
veiling  
vel(len)  
velletje  
veljnpapier  
vermiljoen  
verkocht  
verschil  
verschuiving  
versleten  
versnijding  
vertrekstempel  
vervalsing(en)  
vervoerd  
verzamelgebied  
verzamelwaardig  
vignet  
violet  
vloeipapier  
vloeiachtig  
vlucht  
voor  
voorafstempeling  
voorkomen  
voorloper  
voorlopig  
voorstelling  
vroeg(st)

perforation  
perforation varieties  
estimate(s)  
text  
counting dot (square)  
exhibition  
return flight  
shade  
surcharge  
between  
between parentheses  
gutter  
issue  
dropped  
sold out

from  
variety  
auction  
sheet(s), pane(s)  
souvenir sheet, miniature  
sheet  
wove paper  
vermillion  
sold  
variety, difference  
shift  
worn  
wrongly cut (booklet)  
departure postmark  
counterfeit(s), forgery(ies)  
carried  
collecting area  
worth collecting  
vignette  
violet  
blotting paper  
like blotting paper  
flight  
for  
precancel  
exist  
forerunner  
provisional  
design, representation  
early(liest)

H  
half  
handgemaakt  
handstempel  
heen en terug  
helder  
helft (de)  
herdenkingsuitgave  
herdruk  
hoek  
hoofnummer (in catalogus)  
hoorn (posthoorn)  
horizontaal  
hulpzegel

I  
in reliëf  
inschrift

J  
jaargang  
jaarlijks  
K  
kaart  
kaft (booklet)  
kamtanding  
karmijn  
keerdruk  
kenmerk(en)  
Kerstvlucht  
kinderzegels  
kleine gaten  
kleur  
kleurfouten  
kolom  
kopstaand

L  
landing  
latere vluchten  
licht (in lichtbruin)  
lila  
links  
lithografie  
los(se zegels)  
luchtlijn  
luchtpost  
luchtpostblad  
luchtpoststrookje

half  
handmade  
hand stamp  
both ways (to .. and back)  
bright  
half (one)  
commemorative issue  
reprint  
corner  
main number (in catalog)  
post horn  
horizontal  
provisional issue (stamp)

embossed  
inscription

volume (of a journal)  
yearly

map or card  
cover (booklet)  
comb perforation  
carmine  
tete-beche  
characteristic(s)  
Christmas flight  
child welfare stamps  
small perf. holes  
color  
color faults  
column  
inverted (inverse)

landing  
subsequent flights  
light or pale (in light brown)  
lilac  
left  
lithography  
single stamps  
air line  
air mail  
air letter sheet (aerogramme)  
air mail label

luchtrecht  
lijntanding  
lijst

air mail fee  
line perforation  
list (ings)

M  
manco  
meerkleurig  
meervoudig  
melk (in melkblauw)  
met  
midden

missing item in collection  
multicolored  
multiple  
milk (in milk blue)  
with  
center

N  
naar  
nacht  
nadruck  
nauw  
niet  
niet uitgegeven  
nieuw  
normaal  
notering (prijs)  
nummer  
nummering

to  
night  
reprint  
narrow  
not  
not issued  
new  
normal  
price (notation)  
number  
numbering

O  
offsetdruk  
olijf  
omgekeerd  
onbekend  
onderbroken  
onderkant  
ongebruikt  
ongeluksvlucht

offset printing  
olive  
reversed  
unknown  
broken  
bottom  
mint or unused  
accident (interrupted)  
flight  
imperfected  
about, ca.  
irregular  
design  
not issued  
original  
on  
overprint

ongetand  
ongeveer  
onregelmatig  
ontwerp  
onuitgegeven  
oorspronkelijk  
op  
opdruk, overdruk  
open  
oplaagcijfers  
opplakken  
opruimingsuitgifte  
opschrift  
oranje  
origineel  
originale gravure, stempel

Open  
numbers printed  
mount  
overprints on superfluous  
stamps  
inscription  
orange  
original  
die

4

P  
paar  
pakketpost  
papier  
papiersoorten  
particulier  
penvermenigvuldig  
pinperforatie  
plaat  
plaatfout  
plakker  
plakzegel

pair  
parcel post  
paper  
paper varieties  
private  
pen canceled  
pin perforation  
plate  
plate fault  
hinge  
revenue stamp

portzegel  
postafgifte  
postkantoor  
poststukken  
postvlucht  
postzegel  
postzegelboekje  
proef  
proefdruk  
proefvlucht  
prijs(zen)  
puntig  
purper

postal flight  
postal flight  
postage stamp  
booklet (stamp)  
proof  
proof  
trial printing  
trial flight  
price(s), prize(s)  
sharp (pointy) of perf.  
purple

R  
raket  
raketpost  
raasterdiepdruk, rotogravure  
rechthoekig stempel  
regelmatig  
registerstrepen  
roltanding  
rond stempel  
rood  
rose  
rotatiedruk  
ruimte

rocket  
rocket post  
photoengraving  
rectangular cachet  
regular  
registry marks  
syncopated perforation  
circular cachet  
red  
pink  
rotary printing  
space

S  
samenhangend  
scherp  
serie  
sluitzegel  
small  
soort  
speciale vlucht  
staal (in staalblauw)  
steendruk  
stempel  
ster  
strook

se-tenant  
sharp  
set, series  
vignette  
narrow  
variety, type  
special flight  
steel (in steel blue)  
lithography  
postmark  
star  
strip

5

The next cover we mention provided us with a great surprise. On July 16, 1945, this registered cover was sent to Brisbane, with 37½ ct filled in, with an initial. It looks like ink (see Fig. 14).

The surprise is that the cover proves that there were at least two printings of the censor labels, because in this example, the line between CENSUUR and MERAUKE is noticeably thinner. Also, the registry label is - so far - unique!

Small wonder that this cover at the van Dieten auction of May 7, 1974, brought 660 guilders, plus 15 percent.

A few more covers are known. On August 20, 1945, a cover was sent to Brisbane, 17½ ct and initial being filled in. This was marked air mail. (Van Dieten auction, October 3, 1975.)

Finally, two covers, both marked with 17½ ct and initial, were sent to Brisbane on September 6, 1945. (Van Dieten auctions, October 27, 1972, and May 29, 1973.)

Some readers might possibly wonder why we spent - so far - six pages on these illusive Merauke covers.

The answer is that we felt that there was a need for a "definitive" although incomplete listing of the Merauke covers. Some facts have come forward: the usual marking is in purple ink; black is highly unusual. Around April 1944 censor labels - typed - were being used, which were later replaced by regular printed models. There have even been TWO printings of these labels! We have established a date for the "final"

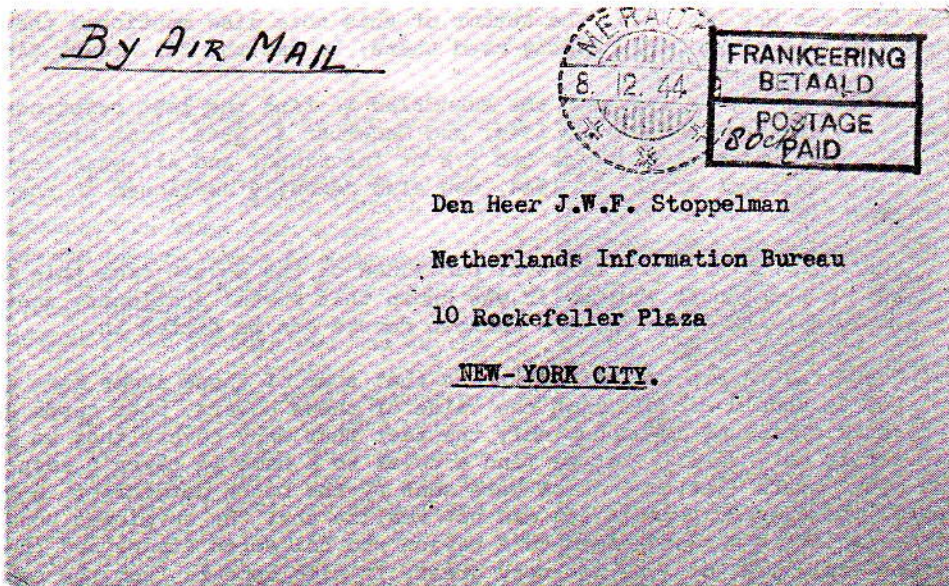


Figure 12

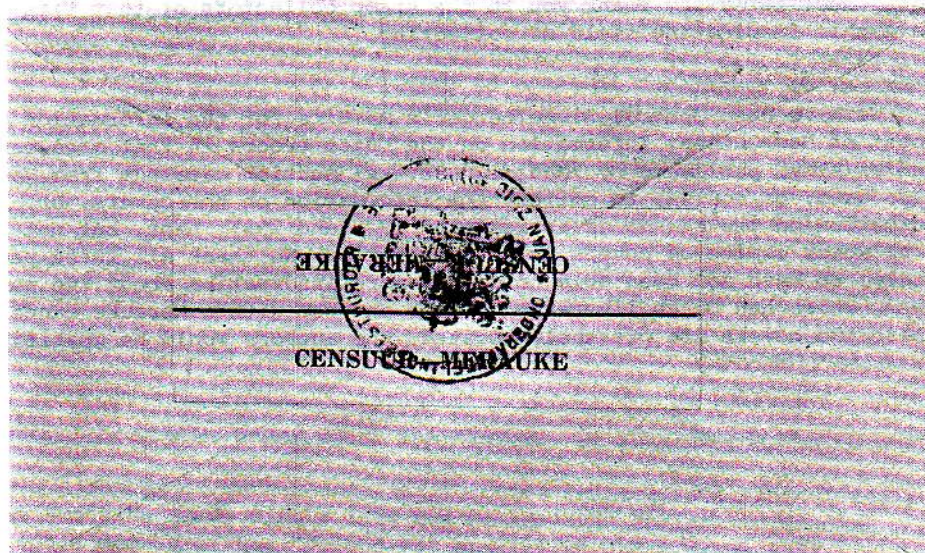
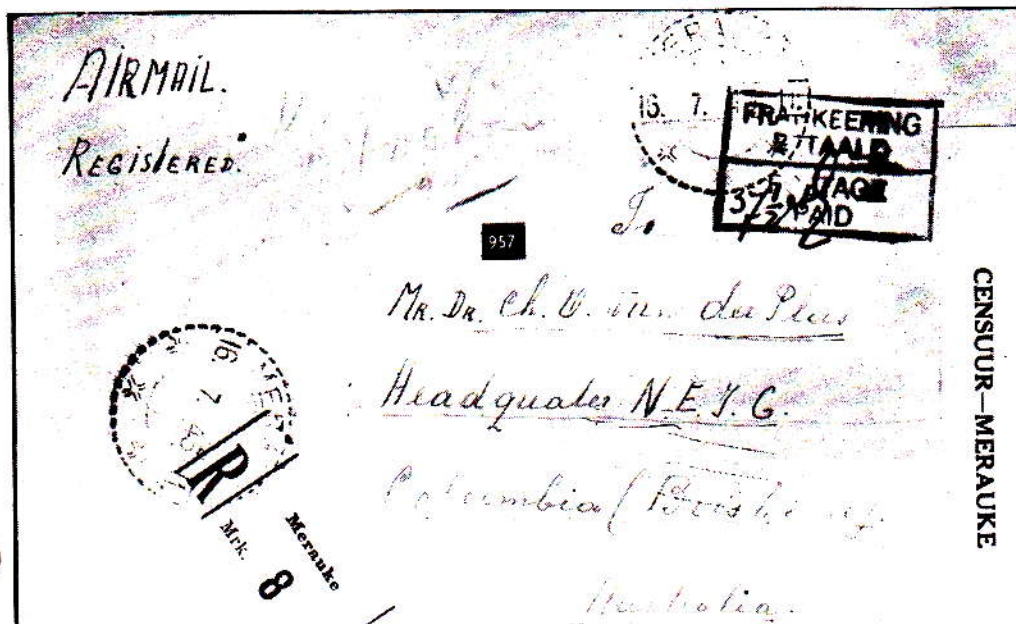


Figure 13



use of regular postage stamps. We have also established that sometime in April 1944 post cards and "postbladen" were still available.

Up to this time the only information available in printed form had been in the *Maandblad*, in very short notices. In the July-August 1946 issue they were first mentioned. The date mentioned was December 4, 1944, and the value filled in 17½ ct, in ink (p. 86).

The October issue showed a photo of the marking from Merauke. This one was in black ink (not purple). The value filled in was 50 ct.

Figure 14

The date was May 22, 1945. The author of this note also mentioned that after the liberation of New Guinea Australian stamps were mostly used there; he has the 3d. brown, King George, with cancellations from Hollandia and Merauke.

In the June 1947 issue of the *Maandblad* we find the last reference to the Merauke covers. Dates from Merauke given were August 29, 1944, and December 4, 1944. From Digoel a cover was mentioned with a date of July 31, 1944. All of these had 17½ ct inscribed, and all were sent to Australia.

A Digoel cover of May 3, 1944, was also recently auctioned in the Netherlands. We have not seen any of these Digoel covers.

And this was all that was ever published on the covers from this forgotten outpost of the Netherlands Indies. We even doubt whether it was known that postal stationery sent from Merauke existed. So, now we have some kind of schedule, and unknown covers can be fitted in.

One final remark: It has struck us that some of these items have a "philatelic" flavor. This may be so, but it should not diminish the value of these covers, post cards and "postbladen." A reason for this "philatelic" flavor is undoubtedly the fact that many covers that we know are addressed to the same person. It is only rarely that we find a cover to a name we haven't seen before. One explanation is that of the many covers (letters) which were sent by the Dutch detachment in Merauke, very, very few have been saved. The average person just did not realize that the envelopes constituted a rarity. However, if by chance a letter was addressed to a person who collected stamps and the like, the possibility that this person would ask for more was very great. It also appears from the correspondence we quoted that Boots was very well aware that Stoppelman was a stamp collector. Hence the many Stoppelman letters. Conversely, if everybody at the time had realized that these envelopes were worth saving, we would now be swamped with them. Let's say Thank you to the stamp collectors of that time. Without them we probably wouldn't have this fascinating field of collecting.

#### Sources:

We have used General Eichelberger's memoirs for the information on the Allied activities on the east coast of New Guinea. Information on the Dutch troops in that area came from a history of the Netherlands Indies Army, published by "Madjoe." Several auction catalogs from Van Dieten, Rietdijk and Postema were also used, of course, to collect the information on the covers. Dr. A.M. Benders supplied us with the information on the *Maandblad* articles of 1946 and 1947. Last, but not least, Mr. L.E. Kieffer supplied several xerox copies of covers in his collection. We thank all these people for their helpfulness. Unfortunately, we have not been able to gather more information about two covers, which one of the authors has seen, which had Dutch liberation stamps on them with a Merauke cancellation. If any reader knows where these two covers are presently located, the authors would be gratified to hear about them.

#### TOO SPECIALIZED?

It is sometimes assumed that the average collector - is there such a person? - has very little profit from "specialized" articles. Of course, we have to decide first what is meant by "specialized" articles. I can think of some articles, mainly consisting of lists of post offices, or sub-post offices, which indeed might offer very little to the average collector. On the other hand, there are articles which contain what might be considered specialized information which might be of great value, especially to the average collector. An article dealing with cancellations on what may be very common stamps might prove this point. The average collector may not want to collect cancellations, but he or she should be aware that a stamp listing for a few cents all of a sudden may be worth quite a bit more if it happens to be cancelled in a small town with little correspondence. Some of the "riverboat" cancellations of Surinam make a stamp perhaps ten times as valuable. Such a cancellation on a cover or post card may be worth sending to a Dutch auction for sale. Things such as date of issue may be very unimportant, except that an 1892 provisional Surinam stamp on post card with the earliest known date of use was considered to be worth about \$300 by Van Dieten auctions. This is information which is surely of value to the average collector.

Let's consider what we hope will be a series of small articles on fakes and counterfeits. It should be obvious that knowing in the first place that fakes exist of a certain stamp or various stamps in a set is important information. It should also be a help in detecting these fakes when they are offered for sale or appear in an auction. Some weeks ago a member wrote me asking me whether a particular perforation which was not listed in the *Speciale Catalogus* might be a rarity or what? Unfortunately, this particular perf was known to be that of a well-known (to some) forgery. In some cases it might be possible to get a refund; isn't it better to be aware and not buy the stamp in the first place?

As usual, your editor will be delighted with comments, pro or con.

# AANGENAAM...

THOSE of you who read Dutch will undoubtedly recognize the expression printed above. For those who do not read Dutch it requires a little bit of explaining. When two Dutchmen are introduced, one invariably will say: "Aangenaam" which is short for "Aangenaam kennis te maken," which translates as "Happy to make your acquaintance," or some such thing.

We used this heading here because now we are going to introduce your officers for you - the people who have been running ASNP for a year now - and who will all be up for election come September.

First, let's listen to the President, whose picture you see to the right:

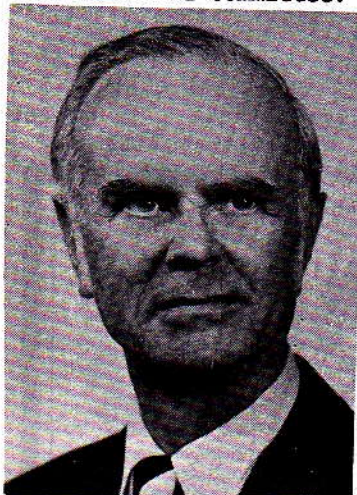
I am a native of Kalamazoo, Michigan, living there until I went off to college in Holland, Mich. I graduated from Hope College in 1965 with a B.A. The second semester of my junior year I spent in Jordan, in the Middle East, studying archaeology, having the intention of becoming an Old Testament professor. When I entered Western Theological Seminary in Holland, Mich., I decided to major in church history. Toward this end I spent a summer in Europe and studied church history, focusing my attention on the Netherlands in her Golden Age. At this time my boyhood hobby of stamp collecting was revitalized and I collected in three primary areas: United States, Netherlands and former colonies, and Religion on Stamps.

Following seminary graduation in 1969 and ordination in the Reformed Church in America I spent two years working as an administrative assistant at both seminaries of the denomination: Western in Holland, and New Brunswick, in New Jersey. In 1971 I began specialized training in hospital chaplaincy at the Texas Medical Center in Houston. In 1972 we moved to Denver, Colorado, where I began work at my present place of employment, Bethesda Hospital and Community Mental Health Center.

I have been active not only as a stamp collector, but I have also exhibited, written and judged. My main interest in the Netherlands, besides having a general collection of stamps, is in WW II censored material from the colonies. I am a member of the American Philatelic Society; APS Writers Unit #30; American Philatelic Research Library; American Topical Association; COROS (Collectors of Religion on Stamps); War Cover Club; and the Denver Stamp Club. I am the immediate past president of the Aurora (Colorado) Stamp Club; the secretary of the Collectors Club of Denver; and Vice-Chairman of the Rocky Mountain Philatelic Exhibition (ROMPEX).

I am married and have two small daughters. Besides stamp collecting I also love to hike, ski, climb mountains, play tennis and garden.

And now we'll let the Vice President, Laurence H. Rehm, speak for himself. He is also the Chairman of the Editorial Committee:



Larry has been a member of Netherlands and Colonies Philatelists since 1944, a member of the Scottish Study Circle (now the Netherlands Philatelic Circle) since 1947, and a member of the "Po and Po" specialist group since 1952.

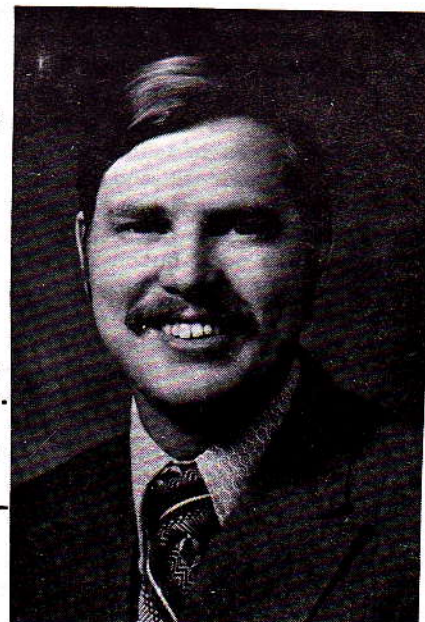
He has been an active member of the Chicago-based Netherlands Philatelic Society since 1947, recently serving a six-year stint as editor of their monthly newsletter, *The Post Coach*. Larry has had the job of editor and publisher for all the books issued by the Chicago group, and is currently working on their fifth book, *The Philatelic Service of the Netherlands PTT*.

Larry has been involved in the organization of ASNP long before its formal inception, and has been working closely with Editor van Reyen in the selection, editing and illustrating of articles for the ASNP Journal, as well as having submitted a number of articles of his own.

Larry is also a member of the Kontaktgroep van Automaatboekjes en Rolzegels, the Perfin Club, APS, and the Hollandia Club of Amsterdam. His collection of Netherlands POKO's was recently awarded a silver at ELPEX.

His main interests are in general collections of Netherlands and Netherlands East Indies, postal booklets, perfins and Poko's, coil stamps, revenues, and railroad adhesives. Professionally, Larry is Technical Director of a large mid-west rotogravure printing firm, and includes photography and steam locomotives (the real kind, not toys) as his other interests.

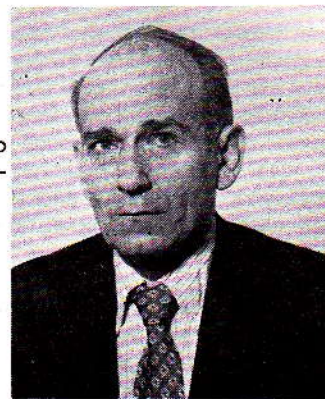
The secretary has had a checkered life: born in the Netherlands Indies, he went back to the Netherlands after WW II, visited the U.S. in 1951, decided to make his home here, and returned for good to the U.S. in 1955. He started collecting stamps in 1937, decided two years later that the whole world was too much to collect and concentrated on Europe only, but after another two years felt that Netherlands and Colonies was more than enough for a lifetime of collecting. He lost his entire collection during the Japanese occupation, and after many years went back to this youthful hobby in 1969, when he joined the New





York N.C.P. (for the second time; he was scared away in 1955). At first he merely wanted to collect the Netherlands Indies, but pretty soon he got fascinated by the other "colonies," so that at present that is almost his main interest. Paul is also a member of the A.P.S., the Writers Unit of the A.P.S., the APRL, and the Haarlem stamp club "Op Hoop van Zegels" (a pun in Dutch). He is an editor with a nonprofit educational organization in New York which has given him the professional background (he hopes) for doing the job of editing the journal and newsletters.

Our treasurer is a shy person. It took the editor quite a few phone calls to elicit the information which you will now read. John W. Van Buskirk (who notwithstanding his good Dutch name doesn't read Dutch) was born in East Orange, N.J., and got his higher education at the Colorado School of Mines (BPE), and the University of Denver (BSBA, 1960). He got married the year after he got out of the U. of D., and has three children. From 1961 to 1965 he was Treasurer of Missile Materials, Inc., in Denver, Colorado, and has been President and Treasurer of C.J. Holt & Co., Inc., in New York since 1965. He is a Life Member of Alpha Kappa Psi Professional Business Fraternity. He collects the Netherlands Indies, all phases except stampless (pre-1864) covers. As a matter of fact, the editor met him for the first time at an auction preview where we discovered we both wanted to see the Netherlands Indies lots. So John and I started to talk and I told him about the New York N.C.P., which he joined and of which he has been President for the 1975 and 1976 calendar years. He is also A.P.S. member (61715), and SPA member (28050). Don't look for a photograph; John hasn't gotten one, and he is too busy this time of the year to have one made expressly for us.



## A Bicentennial Reflection: Dutch Involvement in the United States

### PART II

"Continued Struggles with England and Attempts at Colonization"

Rev. Richard J. Bennink

After the English took New Amsterdam from the Dutch in 1664, there existed strong animosity between certain parties in both countries as well as in the New World. Dutch merchants continued to maintain their businesses in New York and it is estimated that 10,000 Dutchmen lived in the city at that time. Peter Stuyvesant, the former Dutch governor, retired to his "bouwerij," or farm, and died there in 1672. (The Bowery in New York City was the road leading to that farm.) That same year (1672), Lord Shaftesbury declared that the Dutch were "the eternal enemy" of the English and should be destroyed. However, he had not reckoned with the continued strength of the Dutch navy, led by the famous Michiel Adriaanszoon de Ruyter. De Ruyter was born in 1607 and the tercentenary of his birth was honored by the Netherlands on March 23, 1907, with a set of three stamps. (See: Netherlands, Scott Nos. 87-89. These stamps were also overprinted and issued on November 1, 1907, as postage due stamps.) He was honored again with two commemoratives on the 350th anniversary of his birth. July 2, 1957, saw the issuance of one stamp depicting Admiral de Ruyter and one stamp his ship "De Zeven Provinciën." (See illustrations to the right.) And in April 1976 the Dutch commemorated the 300th anniversary of his death, fighting in the Mediterranean against the French. This stamp shows part of his monument in Vlissingen, his birthplace, against a blue sky and a red-white-and-blue pennon.



Even though waging war on the high seas with England, de Ruyter sent a force west under the command of Admiral Cornelis Evertsen, popularly known as "little Keith the Devil." With a fleet of 23 ships, Evertsen recaptured New York in 1673 and quickly renamed it New Orange. Evertsen and de Ruyter had stamps issued in the 1944-45 series (see illustrations on next page). This set shows three admirals named Evertsen. The family was noted for their abilities as naval leaders. It was Cornelis Evertsen, Jr. (1642-1706) who recaptured New York. Following Evertsen's victory, the Dutch claimed all New Netherland to be under their control again. All citizens were directed to swear allegiance to the Dutch Republic.



No. 303. The de Ruyter obelisk in the harbor of St. Eustatius is depicted on quite a few stamps: For No. 165, see below left; it also shows stylized on the 20 and 35 ct stamps of the 1958 definitive set, as well as on Nos. 341 and 346.)

The defeat by the English in 1674 did not leave the Dutch citizens with the same privileges they had enjoyed in 1664. The English restrictions went so far as to limit the activities of the Dutch Reformed Church. This culminated in the Assembly of New York meeting at Albany in 1693 establishing the Church of England, known as the Protestant Episcopal Church, as the state Church. The effect of this was that even non-Episcopalians had to support that denomination through their taxes.

During these stormy years, which found New Amsterdam becoming New York, then New Orange,



and again New York, many Dutchmen left that colony and migrated down to the Raritan Valley in New Jersey. Sir Philip Carteret was governor of the area and believed to be more lenient toward the Dutch than the leaders in New York. (Illustration: U.S. No. 1247. Issued June 15, 1964, showing Carteret landing at Elizabethtown.) Other Dutchmen thought that Carteret would be intolerant and preferred to sail as far as St. James Island in South Carolina and begin a new life. The Dutch who remained in New York adapted to the English style of life and government. The mayor, aldermen and sheriff were substituted for the burgo-master, schepens and schout. Tensions between the English and the Dutch appeared to have ended.



(To be continued.)

## THE ASNP SURINAM CATALOG

The ASNP has decided to go ahead with the preliminary work on the Surinam catalog which was mentioned in the February newsletter. We have had enthusiastic letters with offers of assistance, and we feel that the names of some of these members are almost a guarantee that the catalog will be a worthwhile addition to the whole Netherlands philatelic output in English.

Again we ask all our members to keep this in mind. If you have any unusual stamps, let us know about them. If you have what you think may be fakes or counterfeits, give us a description, if possible. We also think - in line with the words on page 58 - that this kind of information is very important. Members who have other information they think might be useful, please write the editor about it. In short, we feel that this catalog should be as much as is possible a membership effort.

No definite publication date has been set yet. This depends on the amount of material we will be able to collect this summer, but we hope that the first let's say 24 pages with the loose-leaf cover will be ready for distribution by the time of NOJEX. If we experience delays we will let you know about it in one of the newsletters, of course.

## THE ASNP LIBRARY FUND

The may newsletter contained our plans for the mail sale of donated stamps for the benefit of the Library. If you haven't decided yet, give it another thought. Stamps can be sent in until June 25.

# Surinam Red Cross Issue

by Harold F. MacDonald

The stamps (NVPH Nos. 202-205, airmail No. 23; Scott Nos. B37-40, CB1) were locally overprinted in red and issued on January 2, 1942, and sold through April 30, 1942. The overprint consisted of 50 cliches (5 rows of 10); each sheet of 100 was printed twice. Only one setting of printing type was used for the overprint of the five stamps: the 2 was replaced by 5, and for the air mail, the spacing was changed - because the stamp was larger - and the 5's rearranged.

The C appears in two types: large (3.3 mm tall), 56 times per sheet, and small (3.0 mm tall), 44 per sheet. The bars of the cross are 5 to 6 mm long and 1 to 1.5 mm wide. It is claimed that there was a small cross which was replaced after discovery. This may have been due to an inking problem. Sometimes the cross shows up as a white cross surrounded by an oval red spot! The layout of the C's is given in Figure 1 (twice per sheet). This figure is intended primarily to show the two different C's.



large C

small C

C C C C C C c c c c  
 C C C C C C c c c c  
 C C C C C C c c c c  
 C C C C C C c c c c  
 C C C C C C c c c c

Figure 1

The placement of Type II and type III 5's are shown in Figures 2 and 3. All the rest are Type I. Figure 2 is the 5 on 7½ ct overprint (twice per sheet). Figure 4 is the 5 on 10 ct airmail overprint (twice per sheet).

C C C C C 5c c c c c  
 C C C C C C c c c c  
 C C C C C C c c 5c c  
 C C C C C c c c c c  
 C C C C C c c c c c

Figure 2

The total number sold for each stamp is given in the table on the next page.

**References:**

John van Rietdijk, *Stamps*, March 28, 1942.  
 Netherlands & Colonial Philately, Vol. VIII, No. 3  
 March 31, 1942.  
 Nederlandsch Maandblad voor Philatelie, December 1945, pp. 28-29; June 1946, p. 68.  
 Letters from A.R. Kamphuis of the Dutch Postal Museum.

There does not appear to be any variation in the numeral 2. There are several varieties of the 5's. Type I is the 5 ending in a ball. Type II is the 5 with a pointed end. Type III is a 5 with a large curl (see illustrations below). It was also claimed that a variation exists in Type I in which the 5 has a thicker belly which has a width of 1.5 to 2 mm instead of the normal 1 mm (position 42). This variation only appeared on part of the printing for the 5 on 7½ ct. It is now believed to be due to the ink spreading, and not to be a different 5.



C C 5c 5c c c c c c c  
 C C C C C C c c 5c c  
 C C C C C C c c c c  
 C C C C C c c c c c  
 C C C C C c c c c c

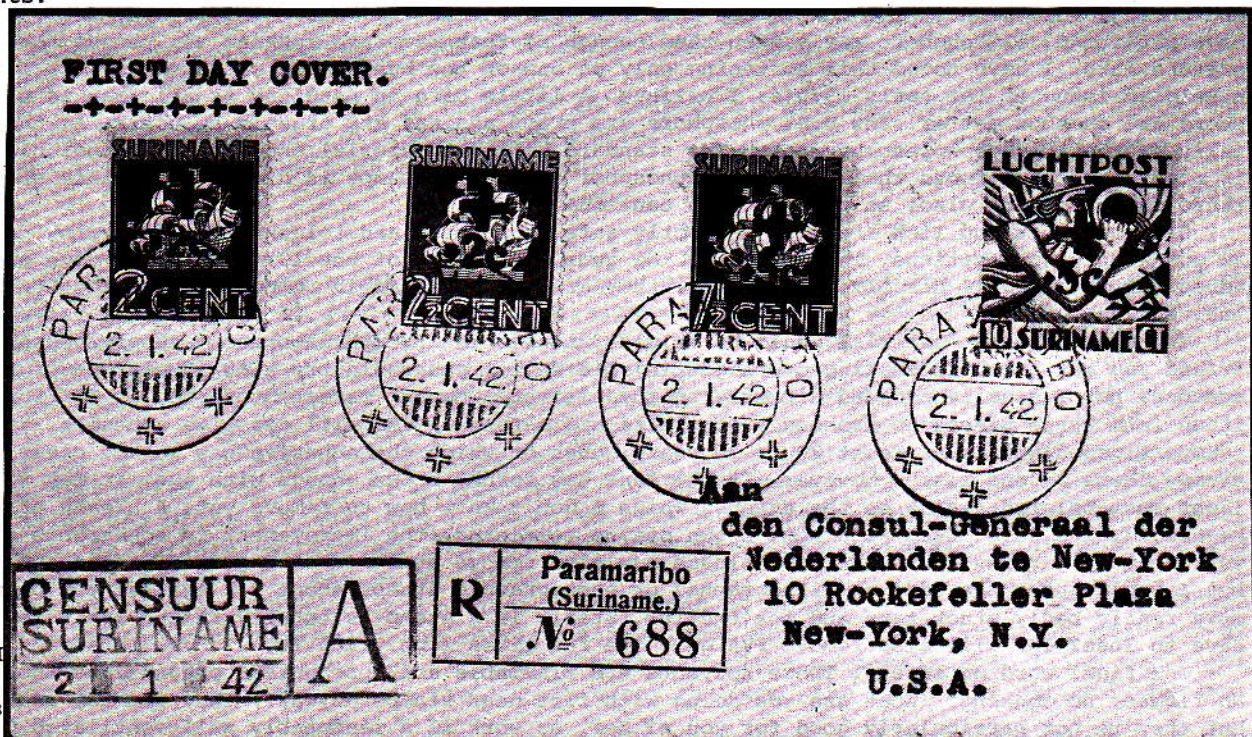
Figure 3

NVPH No.	Scott No.	Large C		Small c		Total all Stamps
			Type II 5		Type III 5	
202	B37	9,408	-	7,392	-	16,800
203	B38	5,600	-	4,400	-	10,000
204	B39	10,297*	-	3,091*	-	13,388
205	B40	10,713*	396*	8,332*	396*	19,837
Air 23	CB1	12,439*	956*	10,047*	478*	23,920

\*These are in error by some small amount as the number of stamps sold does not equal full sheets.

Editor's comments:

Although both the *Speciale Catalogus* and Scott give this Red Cross set four numbers, it seems perfectly obvious that the intention was to overprint three regular stamps and one airmail. That two types of 2 ct stamps were used for the overprint - the Haarlem printing (NVPH No. 160; Scott No. 145) and the Bradbury Wilkinson (NVPH No. 201; Scott No. 169) - does not seem to



have been done on purpose. Hence, it is my belief and conviction that these 2 ct stamps should be listed under one number, with a division in an a. and b. number. That the average person who bought these stamps believed that in buying a set of three normal and one airmail stamp he or she would have a complete set is proved by the existence of a number of FDC's which carry only these four stamps (see illustration above). The FDC catalog should also be changed to list three different FDC's: one which carries only the Haarlem 2 ct; one which has only the English 2 ct; and one which has both. It is obvious that later in the day some very bright persons discovered the difference between the two types of 2 ct stamps, and began to use both on FDC's.

It also astonishes me - seeing that there are just as many sharp-pointed 5's per sheet as curly 5's on the + 5 on 7½ ct that the price listed for these two varieties in the *Speciale Catalogus* is so vastly different. The "excuse" of a difference in demand does not hold; if somebody collects the one variety, he or she would surely also collect the other. The difference in price between the two varieties in the airmail stamp does make sense; there are twice as many sharp-pointed 5's as curly 5's in the airmail stamp.

FROM THE EDITOR

This issue of *Netherlands Philately* goes to the printer on April 30, 1976. We hope that it will be possible to mail it to the members during the first week of May so that you will have it before INTERPHIL which some of you may want to visit. Your editor is also planning to be at INTERPHIL some days - not the entire ten days - so if you want to let me know when you are going to be there, perhaps I can arrange to visit Philadelphia on the day it would be possible for me to see most members.

During March I had a pretty stiff bout with the flu - which left me quite without much pep for a much longer period than I was out from my job. As a result many letters have not yet been answered; many requests have not yet been filled; and in general, the situation is a "mess." Do not give up hope yet; your letters will be answered. Have a little patience, and if you are anxious, write a follow-up letter.

# How To: Scotch Brand Tape Stains

James F. Francis, Ph.D.

What to do when you have just bought a collection, and on carefully going through the mass of stamps you discover that some of the better ones have Scotch brand tape stains or marks.

To start with, simple petroleum distillates (naphtha), as found in lighter fluid and some spot removers, will dissolve the adhesive on not-too-old Scotch brand tape. The older the tape, the longer it takes to dissolve the adhesive. If overnight soaking does not have any effect, stronger solvents must be used. These stronger solvents have their dangers, however, as they may dissolve some inks used in lithographic and photogravure printing methods. Pure petroleum distillates will not dissolve any ink on any stamp I have yet found, although it may soften them enough so that moderate rubbing may remove some of the photogravure inks. I have noted this softening only on one of the hundred or so recent stamps I have tested - a Belgian issue of the early 1970's, I believe. A little care in handling is all that is required. Phosphors are another matter. The U.S. phosphors are proof against any organic solvents, as they are essentially synthetic phosphorescent rocks. The standard hibright material seems pretty insoluble too, at least in naphtha. I have found that the yellow phosphor of Sedish stamps is dissolved by this solvent, and there may be others also, so proceed with caution!

All gums that you lick are also perfectly safe in naphtha and toluene, PVA (polyvinyl alcohol) as well as gum arabic compositions. The self-sticking gums, like that of the 1974 Christmas dove stamp, the Tonga adhesives, etc. will dissolve. After all, they are very similar in composition to the Scotch brand adhesive.

The next stronger material would be toluene, available through laboratory supply houses, or a chemist friend you may have. If soaking overnight in this fails, you could try a 50-50 mixture of toluene and acetone, but I usually proceed directly to the ultimate weapon: tetrahydrofuran, or THF for short. (Break it up into three pieces to pronounce it: tetra-hydro-furan.) THF will dissolve adhesive, tape and all, of stamps taped down for at least 20 to 30 years, ones on which the adhesive has soaked clear through the stamp. There is one catch, however. If the tape has turned brown enough with age, it may well leave some light rust-colored stains on the stamps, which I don't know how to remove yet. A bleach of some sort will be needed, I'm sure. Even with some brown stains remaining, the improvement in appearance can be amazing. To repeat my warning above, THF or toluene may also remove stamp inks. Engraved stamps are pretty safe, but I would guess the odds on lithographed or photogravure stamps about 2:1 against you being able to remove really badly stuck tape and not the ink. Still, if a stamp is totally ruined as it is, what do you have to lose? THF will also remove PVA gum, the few times I've tried it.

One final word on safety. These solvents are flammable and appropriate precautions should be taken. No flames, no smoking. (What are you doing with fire near stamps anyway?) They are not acutely poisonous, but they're not particularly good for you either, so work in a reasonably well-ventilated place, particularly with THF.

## Editorial comment:

Although Dr. Francis has worked with all these chemicals, neither he nor the editor of this journal can assume responsibility for any damage caused by the application of these solvents to your stamps. If the stamp in question is fairly expensive, try the solvent first with an identically printed one which is not that expensive. In other words, before you soak a No. 101, try another reddish stamp from that set.

NOJEX 1976

The prospectuses for this first regional show the ASNPF will be participating in were sent out with the May newsletter which was somewhat delayed because the editor was waiting to receive them from the North Jersey Federated Stamp Clubs.

As was explained in the newsletter, we ought to show that ASNPF members can compete with others in making this first Netherlands and Colonies exhibition at NOJEX a great success. In the prospectus you can see that we are now only a sub-division. If we can come up with 40 or more frames we will rate a division by ourselves. Let's give it a try.

Finally, all those who send the application form to Bradley Arch, please let your secretary know about it: How many frames, etc. In that way we can estimate the final number of frames devoted to the Netherlands area, and we can do some propagandizing too.

Beginners really don't have to be afraid. There will be a special prize for them!

# Letters

Dear Editor:

Well, the ASNP is following all the other societies. Why must we have black blots mentioned in our newsletter too? Postal authorities around the world are gathering a nice extra income by selling mint stamps and some sets do not even see the country where they are issued. Let the collectors pay for these stamps, if they want to.

It is impossible nowadays to collect worldwide and there are many ways to collect stamps. For myself, I stopped collecting both Netherlands Indies and Surinam after their independence and not to limit myself in collecting stamps I started a topical collection "Around the World with Children on Stamps." If my topic is blackblotted anywhere, I pay no attention and buy a set as long as I can afford it.

The tropical fish issue of Surinam will be a beautiful set for the "Fish" collector, and when there will be a nice set with Children on Stamps issued, blackblotted or not, I buy it.

The ASNP and many other societies are advising me not to buy these issues. By what authority? Who are they? All the blackblots are sold everywhere and I wonder if the persons who do this blackblotting don't collect the stamps themselves.

Now it is up to the Board of Governors of the ASNP to keep on or to stop blackblotting. For myself, I will pay no attention from anyone who tells me what to collect.

If anyone agrees with me, let the ASNP hear from you.

F.H. Möllenkramer

## Editor's comment:

The "Black Blot" program which is being practiced, among others, by the A.P.S. was never meant to tell people what to collect or what not to collect. Its main purpose has been - and again this is the case for the A.P.S. - to be on record as protesting against the issuance of certain stamps which in the opinion of the society are not only unnecessary, but are "a blatant attempt to raise funds by gouging the nation's collectors." In this case, the ASNP is of the opinion that some of the forthcoming issues of Surinam are exactly that: an attempt to gouge the collector of Surinam's stamps. Any collector of tropical fish on stamps would be better off if the stamps in question are of low denominations rather than the 50c, f 1.00 and f 1.50 which are proposed. The same, of course, goes for the orchids. What disturbs us at this writing is that the Easter set of five values was accompanied by a three-value miniature sheet which was not obviously announced. The already outrageous listing published in the April newsletter may not be complete at all, and more surprises (!) may be in store.

Members of the ASNP of course can collect whatever they want to collect. Our blackblotting program is mainly meant for the postal authorities of the countries involved. But, to quote from the *American Philatelist* of January 1976 (p. 10), "Believe me, fellow collectors, unless we continue to raise our voices of protest in concert, through such vehicles as the "Black Blot" program, the situation can only become worse—much worse!"

## SHORT ADS

Desire to exchange with any member by want list. Have Netherlands and Colonies, mint and used, also FDC's. Send your list of needs. Robert D. Gilchrist, P.O. Box 276, Nashua, New Hampshire 03060.

Trade Netherlands Scott No. B50 and B52 mint hinged for B50a and B52a mint hinged. F. Möllenkramer, 6301 Downey Avenue, Long Beach, California 90805.

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