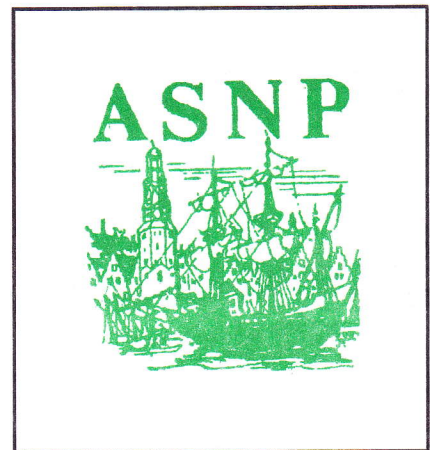


NETHERLANDS PHILATELY



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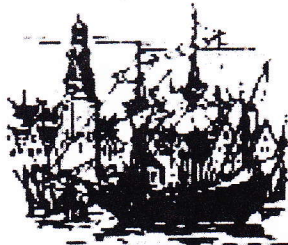
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THE JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR NETHERLANDS PHILATELY

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From the Editor:

In my May editorial I mentioned that I have completed ten years of being the ASNPN Journal editor. What I also should have mentioned is that Jan Enthoven was the publisher for most of that time. When Jan was the publisher I just sent him the articles to be published and he would fit it all in to get to 24 pages. This is a lot harder and time consuming than one realizes. It often involves enlarging or scaling back some of the illustrations, and sometimes even some editing. Not an easy task and I would like to give Jan credit for having done such a fine job all these years. Since I am on the subject of the job of editor/publisher, it is no secret that I would like to have a successor. I think it would be good idea to put a time limit of five years on the position. This gives the editor plenty of time to get comfortable with the job and at the same time he/she knows that after five years somebody else will take over. If this sounds like something you might want to tackle, under these conditions please get in touch with me. We'll have an entire year to make the transition.

Before giving more details in the November Newsletter I would like to pass on that the ASNPN meeting and dinner during next year's Washington 2006 Stampshow are planned for Wednesday May 31, 2006. We'll have a meeting at 10 a.m and dinner later that day/evening. Plan on being there!

Since I'm writing this editorial on Sept. 1, I would like to welcome our newly elected officers: Ed Matthews as President, Robert Kan as Treasurer and Ralph Van Heerden as Governor. Of course congratulations to the reelected officers as well and a heartfelt thank you to those occupying these positions previously. By sharing the load we'll keep the ASNPN going.

This is the first issue of Volume 30, and in it you'll find a short article/question by president Ed Matthews about a combi-mail cover, an article by first time author and fellow ASNPN member Ben Jansen about mail that has been returned to sender and then the first installment of a series on the postal history of what used to be called Dutch New-Guinea, by Han Dijkstra.

Enjoy the current issue; as always, you might not like what we offer in this issue, but in another four months the subjects will be quite different.

Hans Kremer

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Partially Flown Airmail - A Question

by Ed Matthews

Note: In the ASNPN Journal of May 2005 (Volume 29/3) John Van Rysdam discussed a number of partial flown airmail covers.

President Ed Matthews has another one of these partially flown covers, which has posed a question. Maybe one of our readers will be able to help Ed.

Partially Flown Airmail - A question

A short while ago I acquired this card which was transported by mail steamer from the Indies to Marseille and flown from there to Rotterdam and then by train to 's Gravenhage.

'Poststempels Nederlands-Indië 1864-1950' states that this marking was introduced sometime in 1930; we can now move that date by at least half a year earlier.

The mail steamers normally stopped at Sabang to take on coal.

The first question: where was the rectangular marking with EERSTE INDISCHE MAILVERZENDING per luchtpost in 1929 ROTTERDAM-MARSEILLE v.v. applied, in the Indies or upon arrival in the Netherlands?

The card was delivered to the addressee G.A.G Thoolen, air mail specialist in the Hague, by postman B172.



So far so good.

Someone applied a 1 1/2 ct stamp which is postmarked 's Gravenhage Oct. 13 1929.

The 2nd question: why that 1 1/2 ct stamp? The card was correctly franked for delivery to destination. Thoolen was a well known dealer and I thought, maybe he sent the card on to one of his customers and wrote his

customer's name and address in soft pencil and added the stamp; 1 1/2 ct was the correct rate for printed matter in Holland. The customer then erased the penciled markings leaving us with a puzzle. There are no indentations from the pencil on the surface of the card and no visible marks from the erasing.

Is there any other possibility that required that 1 1/2 ct stamp? I would appreciate any suggestion that ASNPN members might have.

Ed Matthews, 406 Yale Crescent, Oakville, Ont L6L 3L5, Canada.

It is a picture postcard without any written text and hence was considered printed matter and required a 3 ct stamp to any European destination. The original function of the 10 ct airmail stamp was to prepay air mail within the Indies, but here it is used to prepay the Marseille - Rotterdam flight. I have not been able to find any rate schedule for this.

The card was originally mailed in Sabang on Aug. 26 1929 with a notation that air mail was wanted between Marseille and Rotterdam and the sender stuck on an air mail label. The post office stamped on PER VLIEGTUIG (by air plane). Bulterman in his book

Return to Sender

by Ben H. Jansen

Introduction

This article illustrates the variety of postal labels and markings (primarily stamps) that have been used to return undeliverable mail to its sender. The examples shown come from my collection, and are limited to the 1970's, with most of them originating from Enschede or Amsterdam. Consequently, the information presented here provides only a limited overview of the many return-to-sender labels and markings that may exist, and I would welcome any additional information you may have.

The next two sections present examples of the use of (rubber) hand stamps, and paper labels, respectively, to return mail to its sender. The final section contains some concluding remarks.

Rubber stamps

Rubber stamps with the text 'TERUG AFZENDER' (return to sender) were frequently used. Examples can be found in Figures 1 through 4, showing the variety in size and type fonts for these stamps, which were applied with red or dark blue ink.

Figure 2 shows that the postal authorities in the city of Hengelo used a bi-lingual return to sender stamp (Dutch and French). The use of French as the second language is understandable given that it is the Universal Postal Union's (U.P.U.) official language.

Additional stamps were sometimes used to provide the reason why the mail was not deliverable. For example, Figure 3 shows a stamp informing the sender that the street name did not exist. Stamps with similar texts, but smaller font size and without a box around the text were used in Amsterdam, as shown in Figure 4. Yet another stamp was used to indicate that the addressee had left without leaving a forwarding address (see Figure 5), but the stamp shown in Figure 6 is less helpful.

Difficult cases were forwarded to the District's Post Office in The Hague, Department of Delivery of Letters, Office for Undeliverable Mail, where mail could be legally opened to determine the proper forwarding (or return)

address. There was no need to violate the privacy of letters for the example presented in Figure 7, which made a trip from Doetinchem, to Denmark (Lyngby), The Hague, back to Doetinchem, and then finally to Enschede. The Danish authorities placed a stamp on the back, exclusively in Danish, indicating that the addressee had moved, but one did not know whereto. They also placed a label on the front, sending it back to the 'return post office,' which probably meant the undeliverable mail office in The Hague.

Labels

On March 13, 1973, the PTT announced in Circulaire no P4747 the formal introduction of postal label P4582 (p. 178, de Vries, 1985). This label was introduced to facilitate the treatment of undeliverable mail, and it provided information in Dutch and French as to why the mail was returned. Reasons for return included: addressee unknown (ONBEKEND), mail refused (GEWEIGERD), moved (VERTROKKEN), deceased (OVERLEDEN), not collected (NIET AFGEHAALD), incomplete address (ONVOLLEDIG ADRES), no longer exists (BESTAAT NIET MEER), which was later changed into street name/house number does not exist (STRAATNAAM/ HUISNUMMER BESTAAT NIET). According to de Vries (1985), the PTT had experimented with labels similar to P4582 as early as 1970, but these did not contain a P-code. Hand stamps may have been used as well. Several varieties of the P4582 exist, with de Vries (1985) listing types A through J as being introduced during the 1970s. Figure 8 shows an example of type B.

In addition to label P4582, returned mail often carried imprints of hand stamps as well. In most cases, these additional hand stamps seem superfluous, such as the case shown in Figure 9, but sometimes they provided information that could not be conveyed through the use of P4582. For example, Figure 10 shows the use of a hand stamp indicating that the mail in question was not intended for the post office box indicated in the mailing address. By the way, the bilingual (Dutch/French) return-to-sender stamp used in Figure 9 differs from the one shown in Figure 2,

suggesting that the Oldenzaal and Hengelo post offices had their own stamps created.

Although the incorrectly addressed piece of mail shown in Figure 11 eventually reached me, it carried a label encouraging the use of the correct address to prevent having the mail returned to sender. The label is of the type 314 B, first introduced in 1930 (de Vries, 1985)!

The item shown in Figure 12 is interesting for two reasons. First, it shows an incorrect use of the P4511 label, which was intended to return mail with insufficient postage. The text on the label requests the sender to affix additional postage, and to remove the label before putting it back in the mail. The rate for domestic letters till 20 gram was raised to 45 cent on September 1, 1974, so the mail in question must have been returned because it was undeliverable as addressed. The second interesting aspect of this item is that the label is not listed in de Vries (1985), but is of a type somewhere between the de Vries types 2.2.G and 2.2.H. The latter two types were printed in 1967 and 1976, respectively, and the one shown in Figure 12 was printed in 1972.

Most curious was the practice of the PTT to affix a label with the correct(ed) address, and yet to return the mail to sender (see Figure 13). On the basis of the examples I have in my collection, this practice must have started early 1974.

Concluding remarks

Several observations can be made from the examples presented here. First, it is likely that the various hand stamps used to return mail were not issued centrally, but each postal district or office must have created its own stamps. This observation is supported by the variety in shape, size, text, and type font of the stamps used on returned mail, as is evidenced from the examples presented above and the additional examples shown in Figure 14.

Second, the introduction of label P4582 did not lead to a uniform treatment of mail to be returned, and the hand stamps continued to be used well beyond March 1973. In many cases, label P4582 should have been used, but hand-written notes or cancels were used instead. For example, Figure 15 shows a case where P4582 should have been used to indicate that the letter

was not collected, rather than the hand-written note. Figure 16 presents a letter refused for insufficient post, as indicated by a rubber stamp, but again, P4582 could have been used to convey the same message.

Third, it appears 'out-of-city' mail was handled differently than the mail within the city. For example, an envelope identical to the one shown in Figure 9, and also mailed on September 1, 1975, but this time from Enschede to Enschede, was returned one day later bearing the 'TERUG AFZENDER' hand stamp of Figure 3 and 5, instead of the P4582 label used in Figure 9. This practice was not limited to Amsterdam, as I have a pair of flyers showing a similar differential treatment. The flyers were mailed from Amsterdam on April 18, 1979, one to Amstelveen and one within the city, and both were returned as undeliverable. The one to Amstelveen carried a P4582 label, while the other one had a return to sender hand stamp applied. In fact, of the 25 examples of returned mail with the P4582 label, only two have that label applied for within city mail, both having been mailed in Amsterdam.

My last observation concerns the order in which the various types of label P4582 were issued. Types B through G, as identified by de Vries (1985), do not carry a printing date as the later types do, hence there is some uncertainty as to their date of issue. The earliest dates of use of the examples in my collection are: 1/23/1974 for type B, 1/31/1975 for type C, no example of type D, 8/23/1976 for type E, 9/20/1974 for type F, and 4/22/1974 for type G. It seems therefore that the numbering by de Vries is not chronological, but that types F and G must have been introduced before type C. Interestingly, types B, F and G have the option 'BESTAAT NIET' to indicate that the street or house number does not exist, whereas type C (and D, E, H, I and J) use the more specific 'STRAATNAAM/HUISNUMMER BESTAAT NIET.' This lends additional support to the notion that type F and G must have been introduced before type C. Whether type F precedes type G or vice versa is less clear. However, I venture to state that G precedes F because G uses the same spacing for 'RETOUR' as type C, while the spacing on type F conforms to the spacing used on D, E, H, I and J.

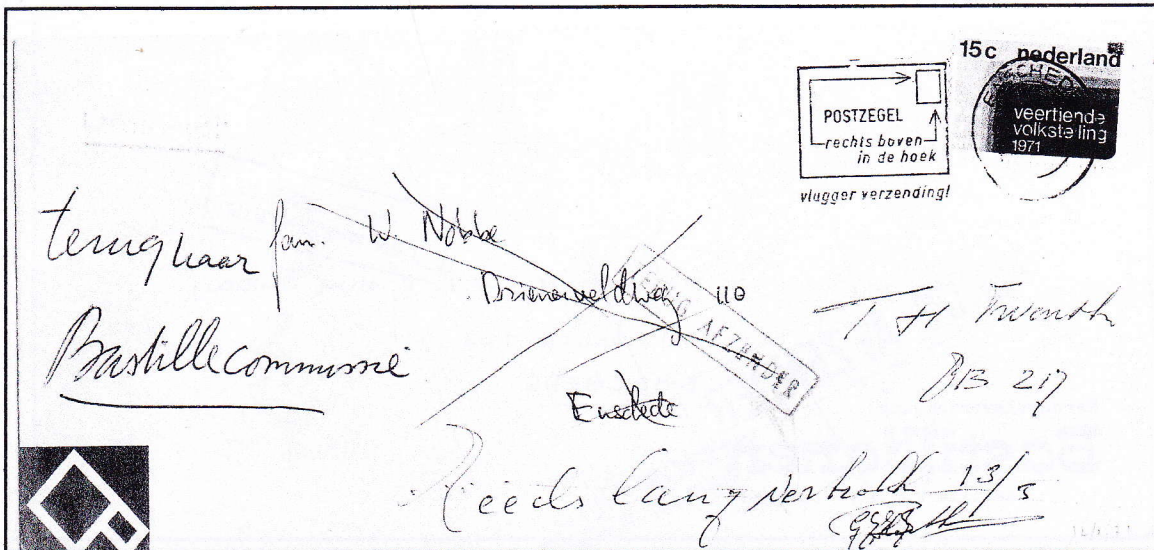


Fig. 1. RETURN TO SENDER ('TERUG AFZENDER') stamp in red ink on mail sent within Enschede, probably on March 12, 1971 (the month indicator is not quite clear). The National Census stamp, issued between February 16 and March 13, 1971 was used to pay the 15 cent printed matter rate. The script notation at the bottom reads "Since long departed" (Reeds lang vertrokken) and is dated March 13.

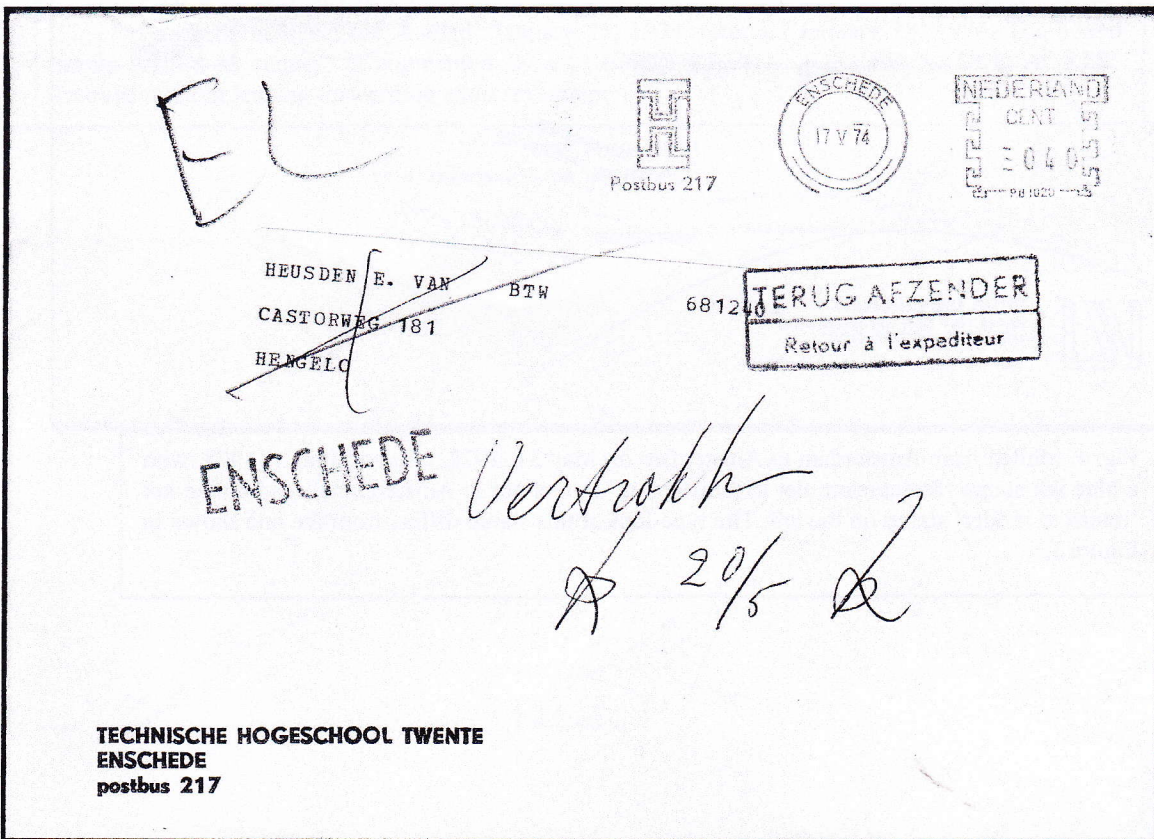


Fig. 2. Bilingual (Dutch and French) return to sender (TERUG AFZENDER/Retour à l'expéditeur) stamp on a letter from Enschede to Hengelo, mailed May 17, 1974. Handwritten note: Moved (Vertrokken). A separate stamp (ENSCHÉDE) is used to indicate that the mail has to be returned to the city of Enschede.



Fig. 3. Cover from Enschede to Enschede, mailed on July 18, 1974. In addition to the large return to sender (TERUG AFZENDER) stamp, it contains a boxed stamp indicating that the street does not exist (STRAATNAAM NIET / TE ENSCHEDE).

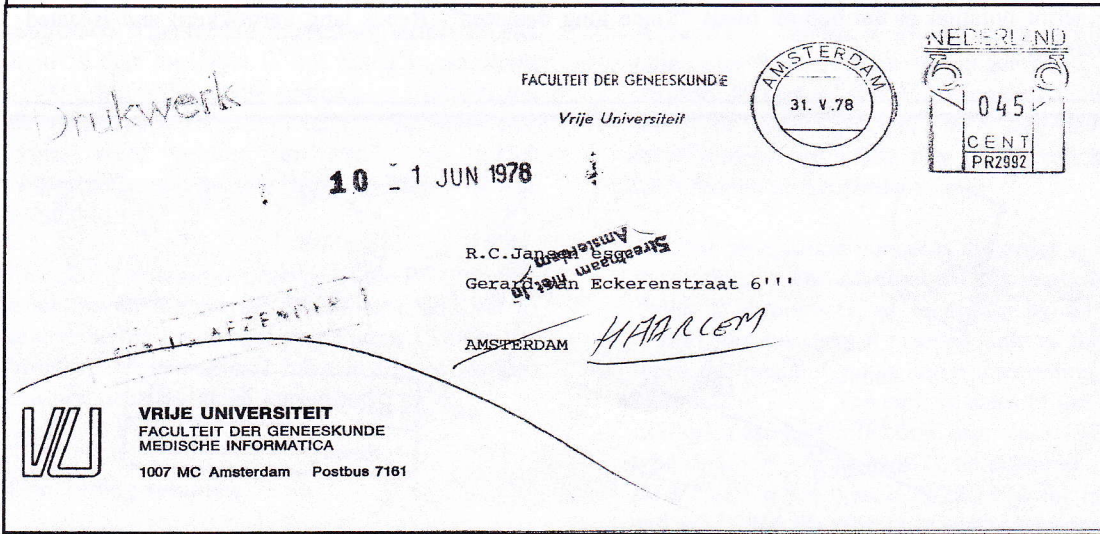


Fig. 4. Mailed from Amsterdam to Amsterdam on May 31, 1978, returned June 1, 1978, with a blue ink stamp 'Straatnaam niet in Amsterdam' (street not in Amsterdam). Also a blue ink 'return to sender' stamp on the left. The type font of this stamp differs from the one shown in Figure 1.

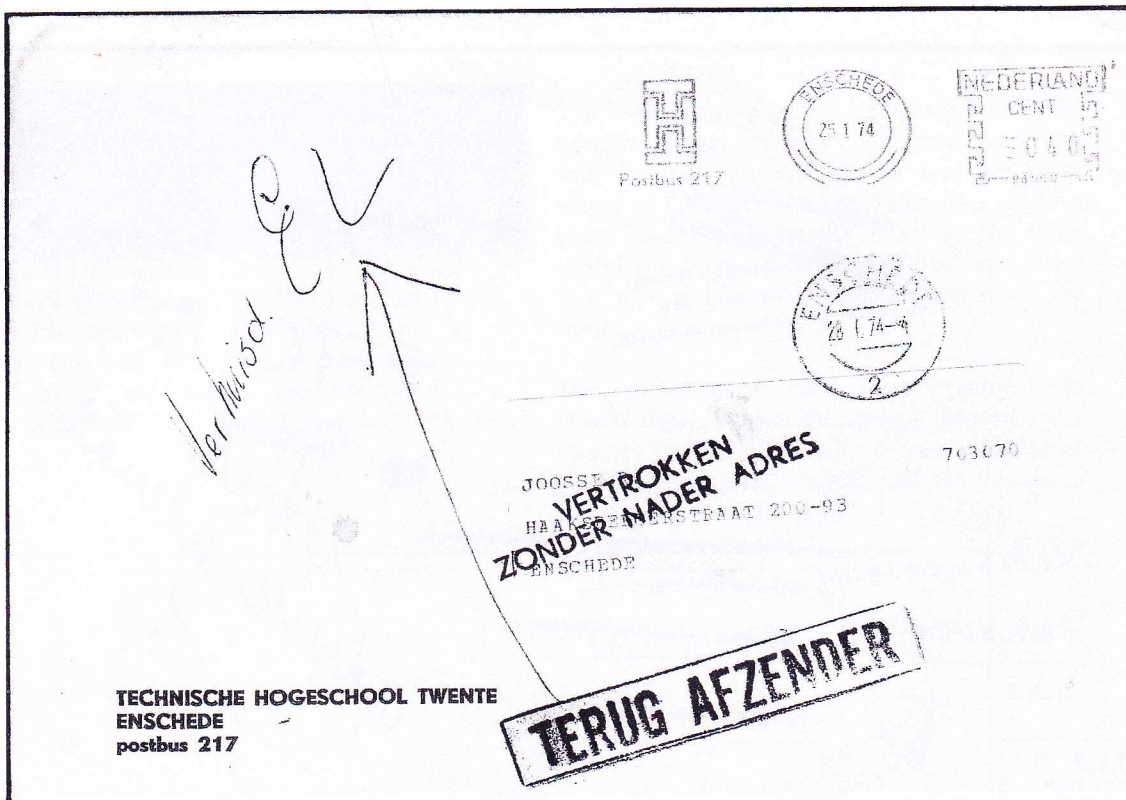


Fig. 5. Enschede to Enschede, mailed January 25, 1974, returned January 28, 1974. The boxed stamp 'return to sender' is augmented by a 'VERTROKKEN / ZONDER NADER ADRES' (moved without leaving forwarding address) stamp.

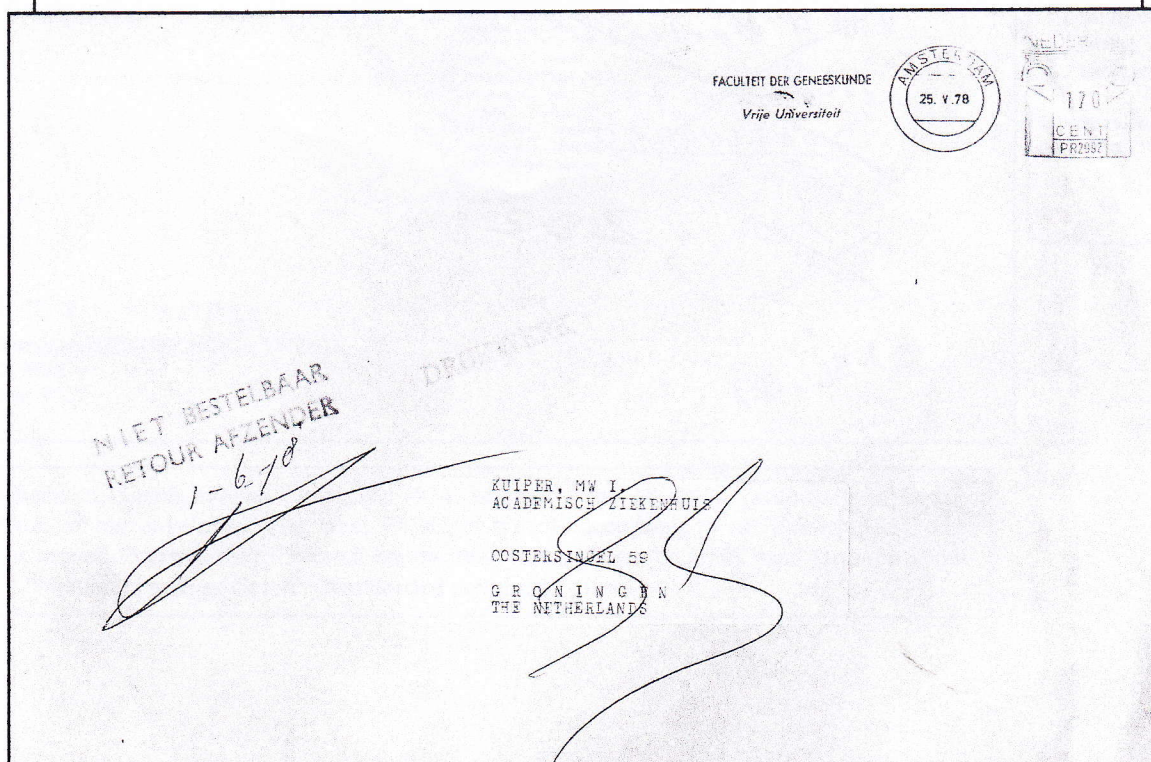


Fig. 6. Amsterdam to Groningen, May 25, 1978, returned June 1, 1978, with the not very informative hand stamp 'NIET BESTELBAAR / RETOUR AFZENDER' (not deliverable, return to sender).

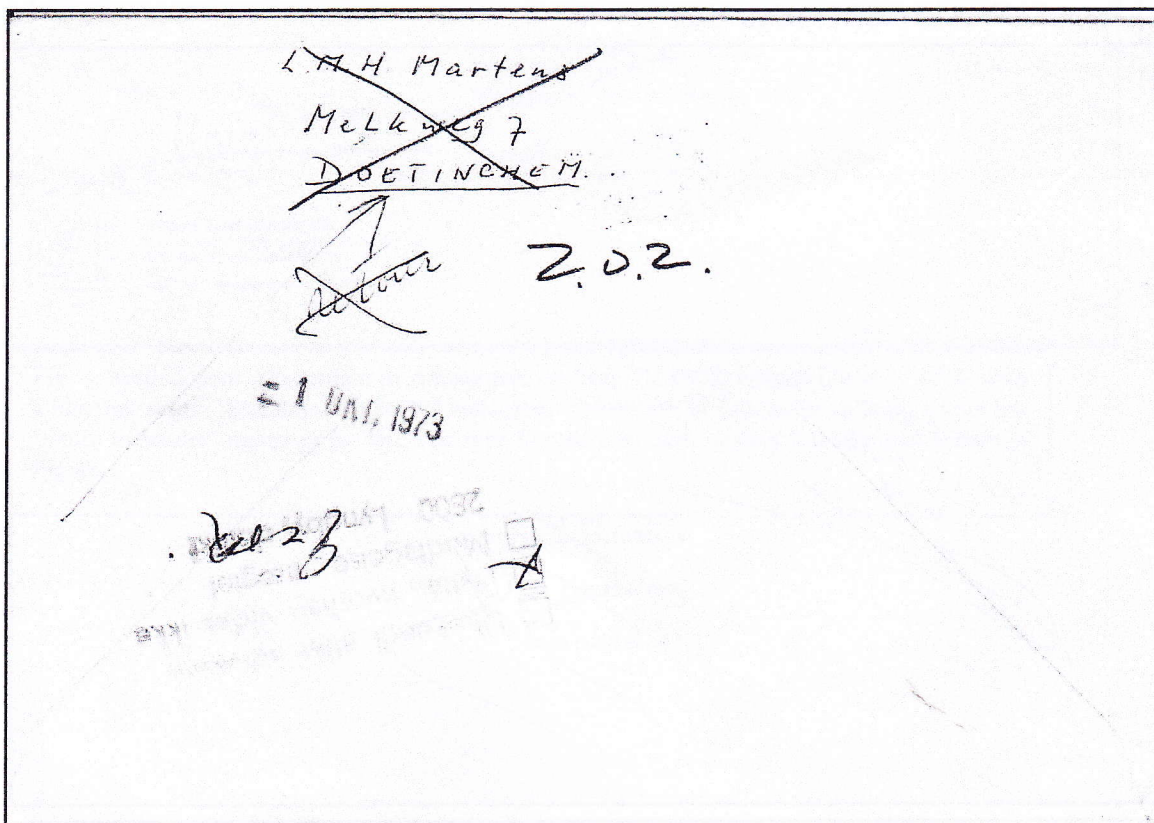
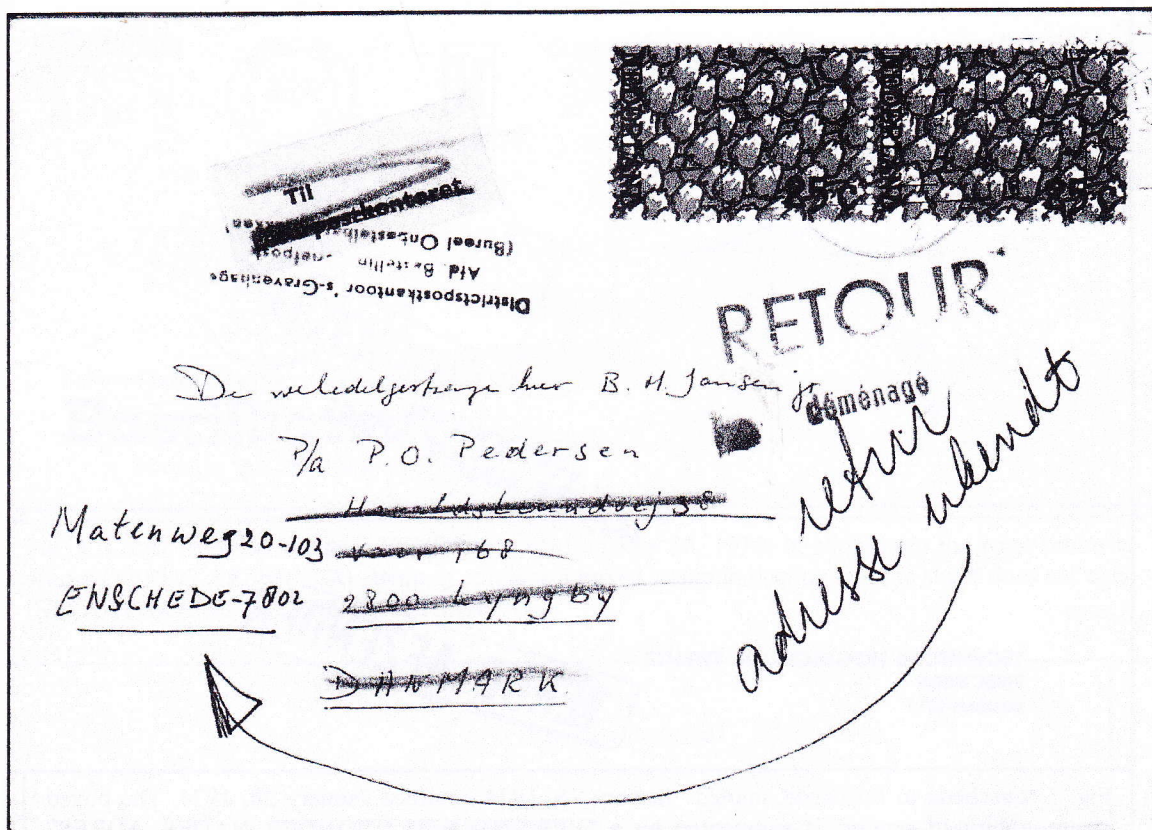
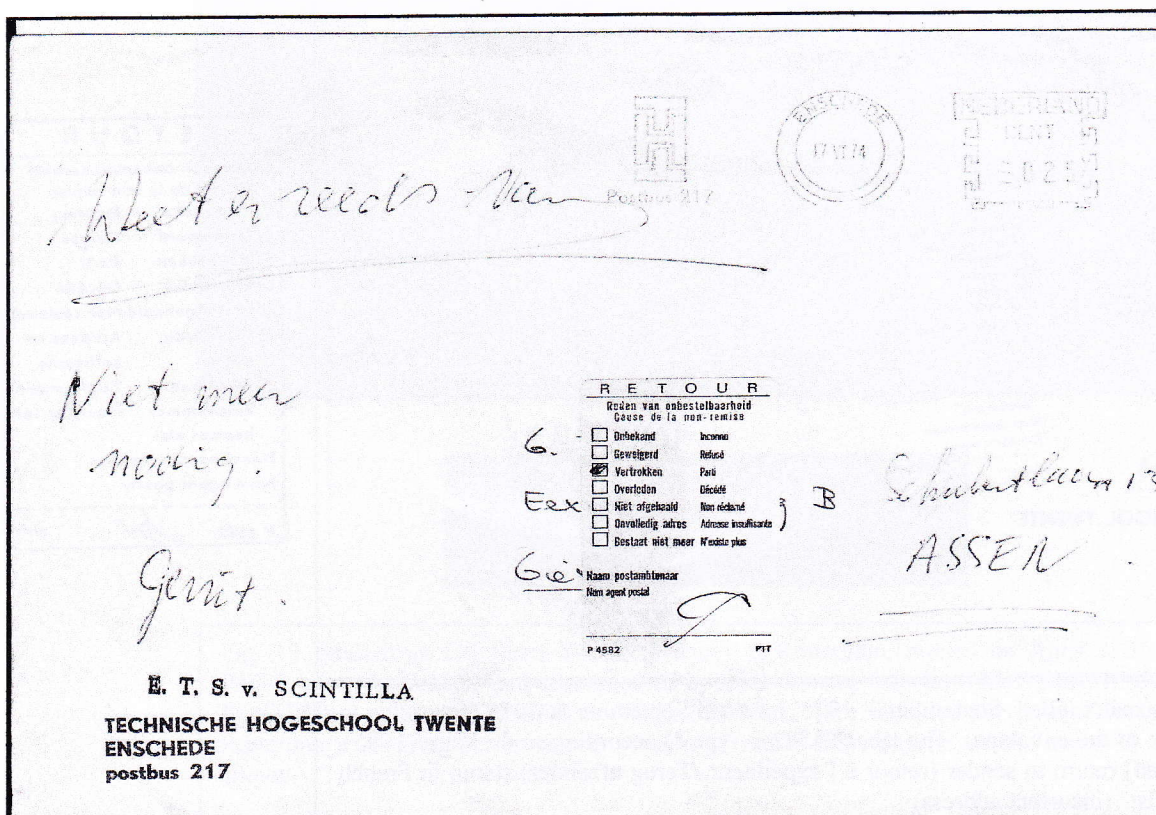


Fig. 7. Front and back of cover sent from Doetinchem to Lyngby (Denmark) on September 18, 1973.

The front shows a green cancel with the French text 'RETOUR déménagé' to indicate that the recipient has moved, a pink label in Danish 'Til returpostkontoret' to send the letter back to the return post office, and a hand-written note 'retur adresse ukendt', which is Danish for unknown address. All of these must have been applied by the Danish authorities. The pink label is scratched out with blue pencil, and partially covered by a red cancel applied by the undeliverable mail office in The Hague.

The back shows a purple stamp applied by the Lyngby postal district indicating that the addressee has moved, but one does not know where to ('Flyttet, hvorhen vides ikke'), and a green date cancel October 1, 1973. The latter cancel was probably applied by the same office that applied the green 'retour' cancel on the front.

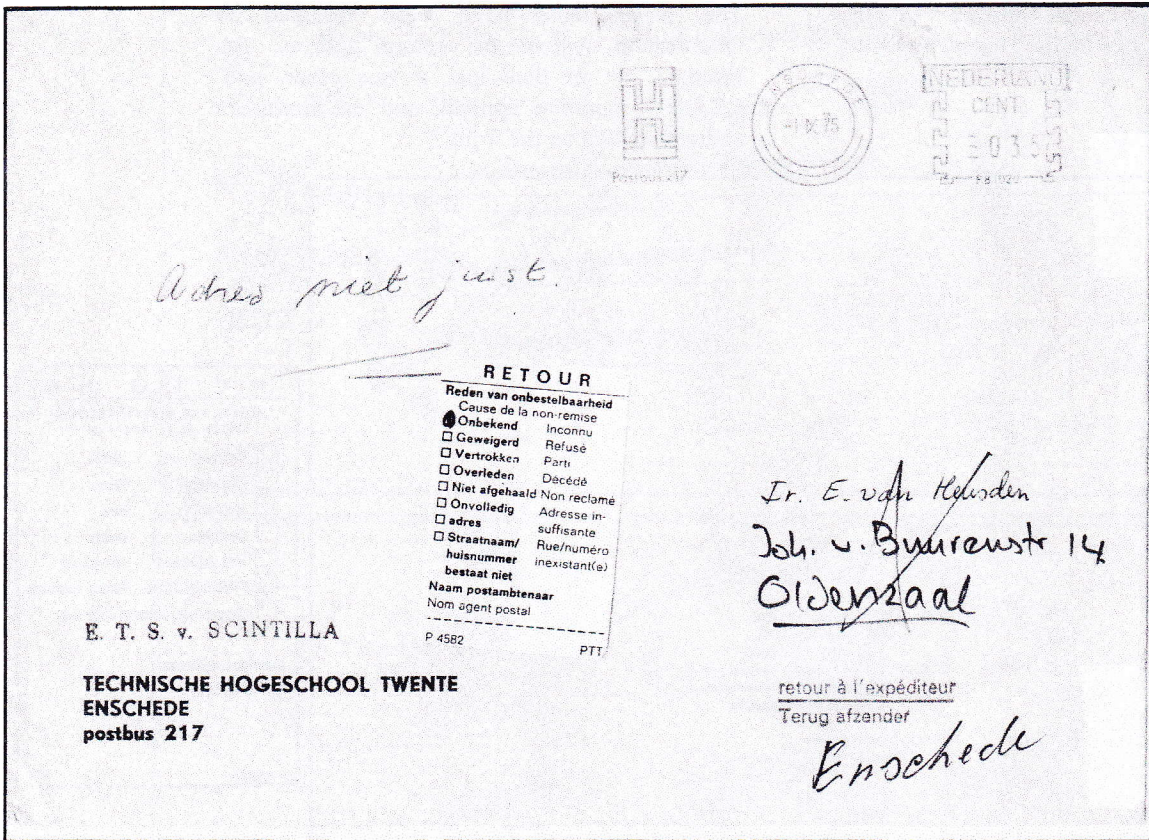
The piece must have been returned to Doetinchem, where the return address was scratched out in blue ink, a 'see other side' ('Z.O.Z.') notation applied, and the Enschede address written on the front.



2.12.B

| R E T O U R | |
|--|----------------------|
| Reden van onbestelbaarheid Cause de la non-remise | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Onbekend | Inconnu |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Geweigerd | Refusé |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Vertrokken | Parti |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Overleden | Décédé |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Niet afgehaald | Non réclamé |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Onvolledig adres | Adresse insuffisante |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bestaat niet meer | N'existe plus |
| Naam postambiteenaar Nom agent postal | |
| P 4582 PTT | |

Fig. 8. Enschede to Gieten, mailed June 17, 1974, returned June 18, 1974 (according to Gieten cancel on back of the envelope). The label P4582 is type B according to de Vries (1985). The addressee has moved (Vertrokken). Unusual handwritten notes "Weet er reeds van" (I know about this already); "Niet meer nodig / Gerrit" (Not needed any more / Gerrit)



2.12.D

| RETOUR | |
|--|--------------------------|
| Reden van onbestelbaarheid | |
| Cause de la non-remise | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Onbekend | Inconnu |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Geweigerd | Refusé |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Vertrokken | Partir |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Overleden | Décédé |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Niet afgehaald | Non réclamé |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Onvolledig | Adresse insuffisante |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Straatnaam/ huisnummer bestaat niet | Rue/numéro inexistant(e) |
| Naam postambtenaar | |
| Nom agent postal | |
| P 4582 | PTT |

Fig. 9. Enschede to Oldenzaal, mailed September 3, 1975, returned September 3, 1975 (according to Oldenzaal cancel on back of the envelope). The label P4582 is type D according to de Vries (1985), and accompanied by a (red) return to sender (retour à l'expéditeur /Terug afzender) stamp in French and Dutch. 'Adres niet juist' (incorrect address)

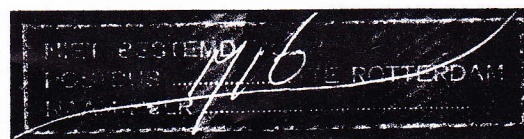
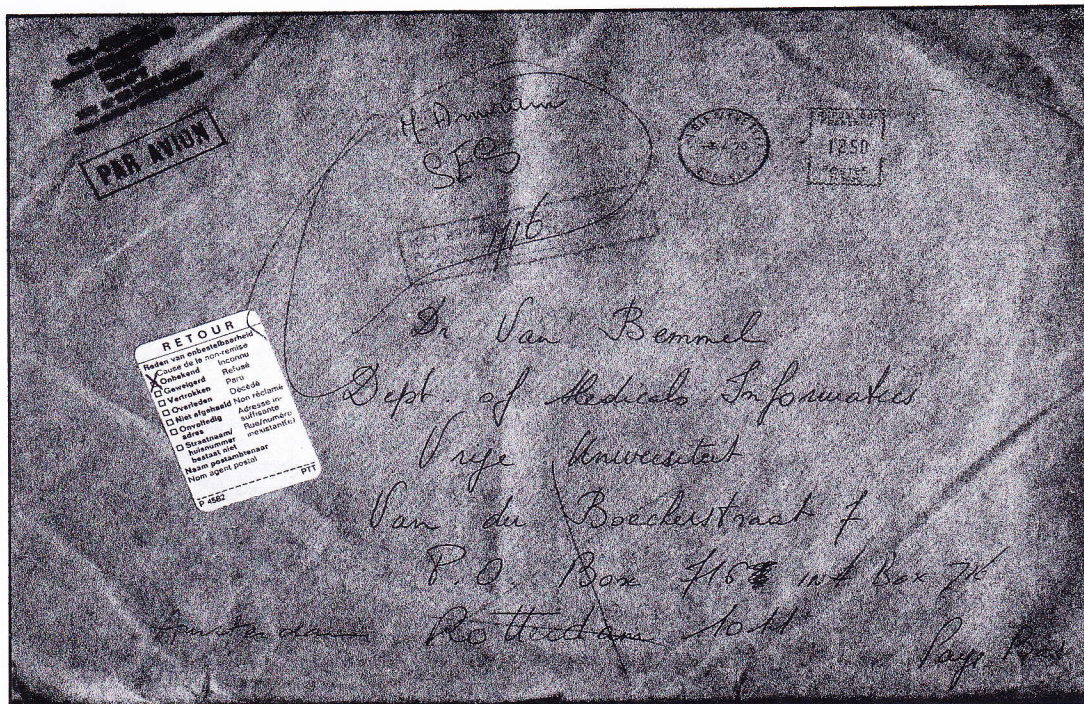


Fig. 10. Mail from Gif Saint Yvette (France) to Rotterdam, mailed on April 3, 1978. Label P4582 is of type 2.12.E, and accompanied by a hand stamp imprint 'NIET BESTEMD VOOR / POSTBUS ... TE ROTTERDAM / NAAM?????.....' (not intended for post office box ... in Rotterdam). A computer-enhanced version of rather faint imprint of the stamp is replicated above.

2.12.E

| RETOUR | |
|--|--------------------------|
| Reden van onbestelbaarheid | |
| Cause de la non-remise | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Onbekend | Inconnu |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gewetigd | Refusé |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Vertrokken | Parti |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Overleden | Décédé |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Niet afgehaald | Non réclamé |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Onvolledig adres | Adresse insuffisante |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Streetnaam/ huisnummer bestaat niet | Rue/numéro inexistant(e) |
| Naam postambtenaar | |
| Nom agent postal | |
| P 4582 | PTT |

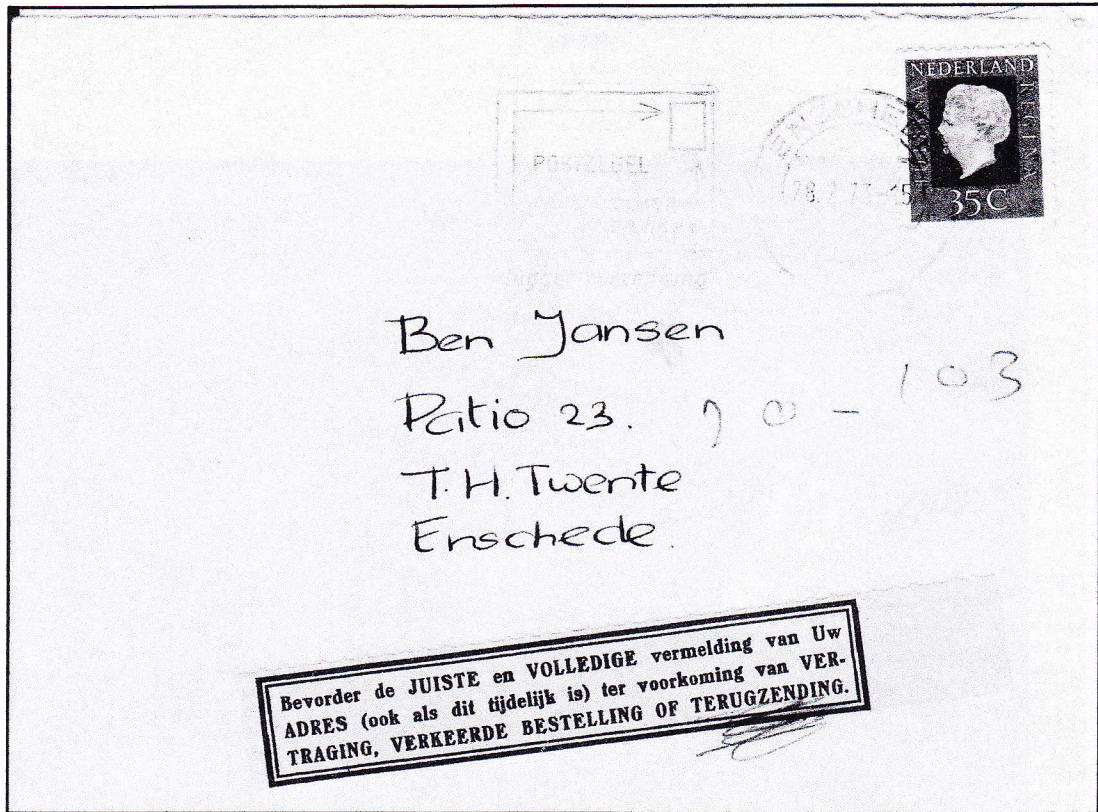


Fig. 11. Enschede to Enschede, mailed February 28, 1973. The (yellow) label is of type 314 B (de Vries, 1985), and admonishes the use of the correct and complete address to prevent delay, incorrect delivery or return to sender. The latter (TERUGZENDING) is underlined in ink by the postal carrier. This label was first issued in 1930(!), so it must have been laying around for awhile.

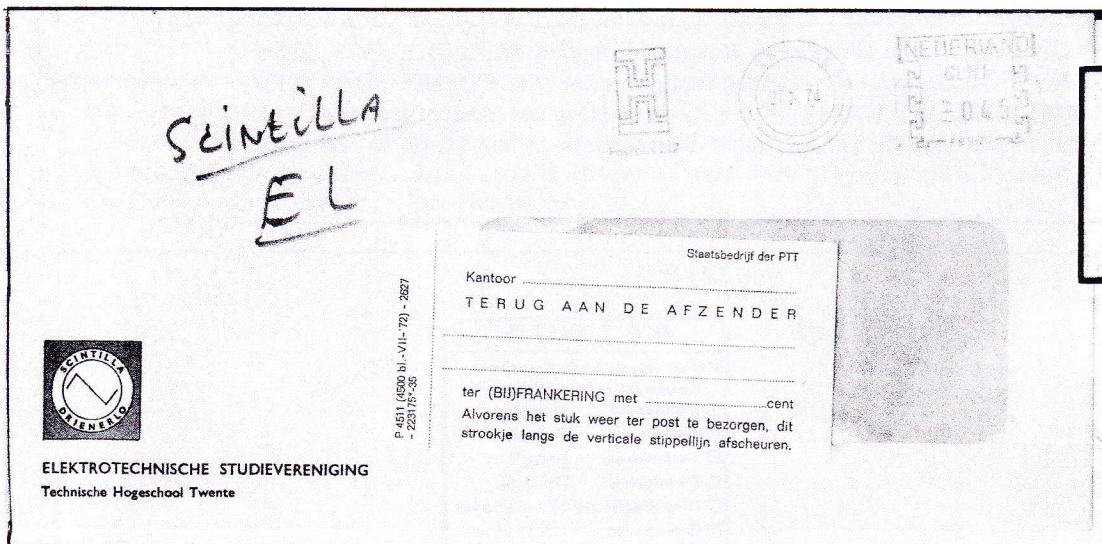
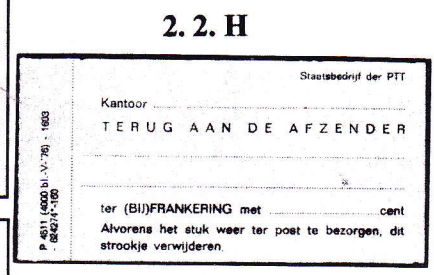
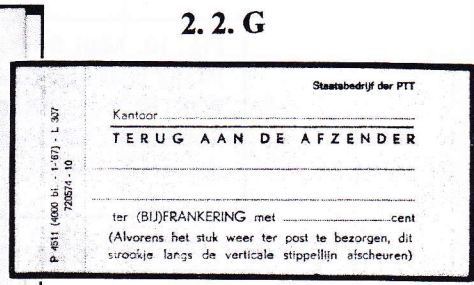


Fig. 12. Mailed in Enschede September 27, 1974. A (white) P4511 label (ter (BIJ)FRANKERING) was (incorrectly, for no additional postage was needed) used to return the mail to sender.



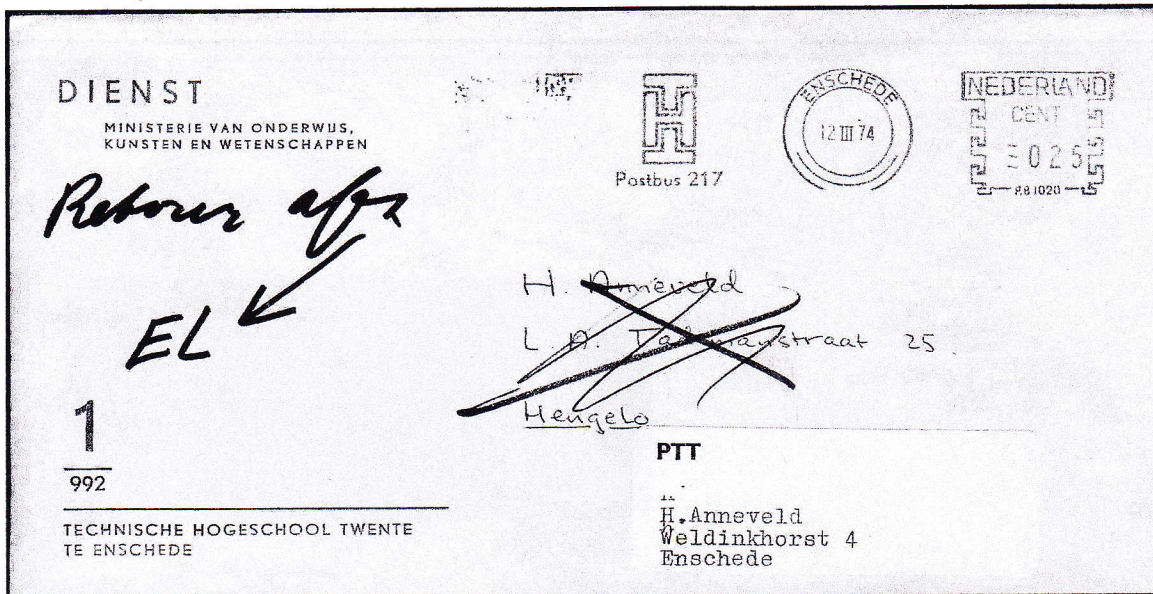


Fig. 13. Mailed from Enschede to Hengelo on March 12, 1974. A white label with the new address was affixed by the PTT before returning the mail to sender. 'Retour afz' (return to sender)

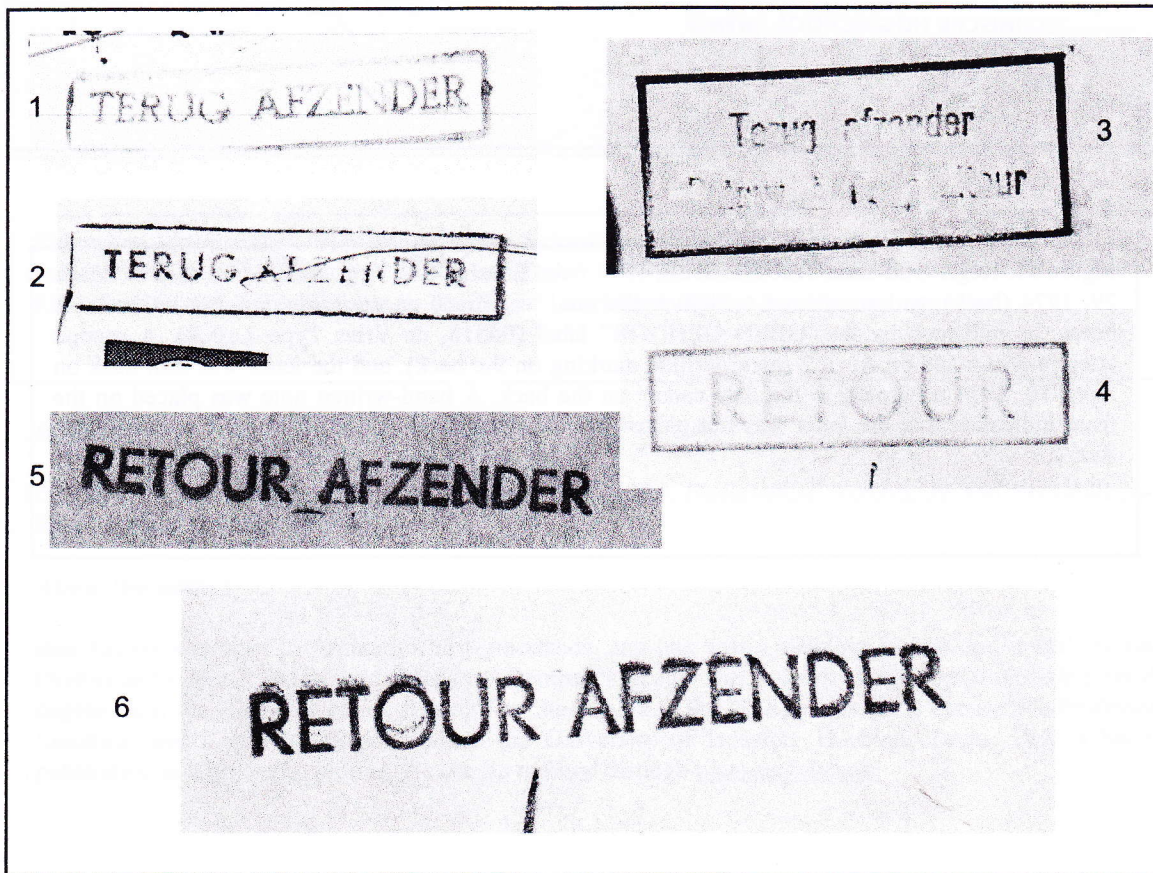


Fig. 14. Examples of return-to-sender hand stamps. These stamps were used on mail returned from Nijmegen (1), Amsterdam (2 and 3), The Hague (4), Breda (5), and Hillegom (6).

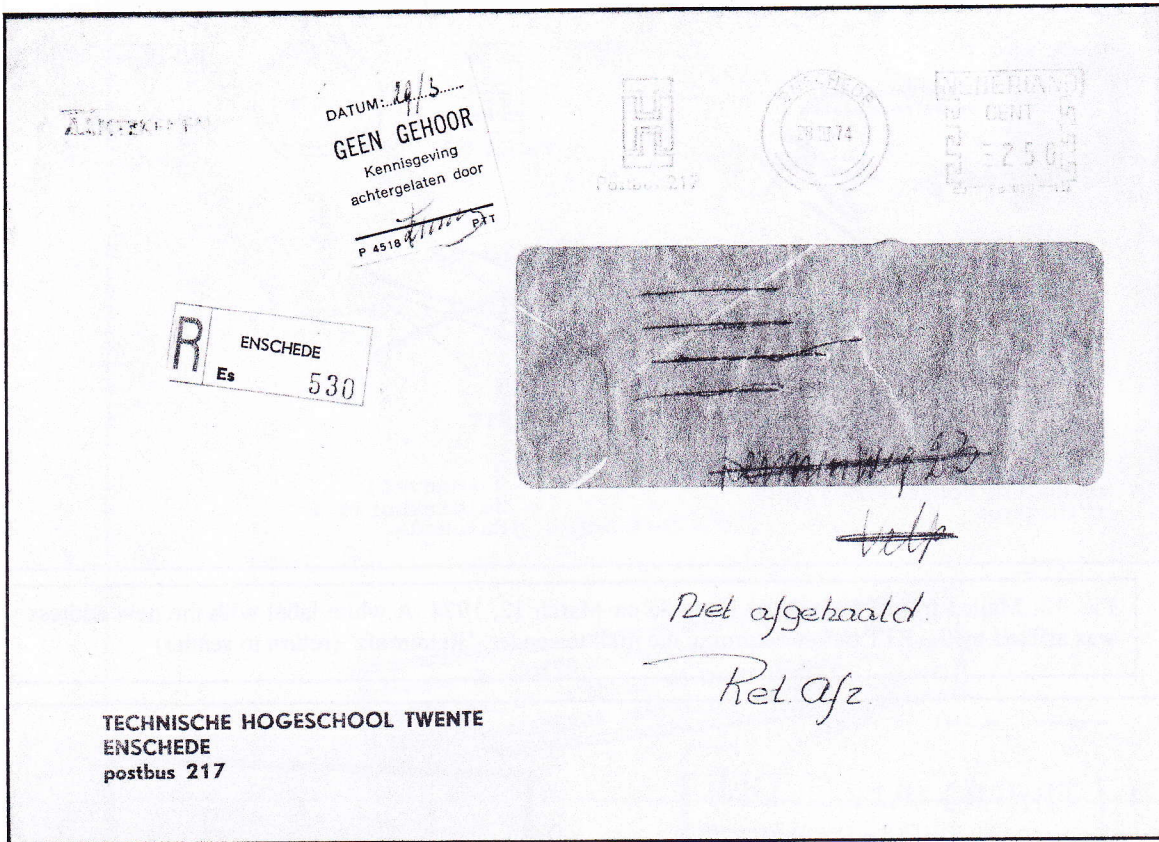


Figure 15. Registered letter sent March 28, 1974 from Enschede to Velp. Arrived in Velp on March 29, 1974 (back), and an attempt to deliver the mail was made on the same day, but no one was home, as indicated by the 'GEEN GEHOOR' label (P4518, de Vries Type 2.10.A). A second attempt was made on April 2 (hand written marking on the back), and the letter was sent back on April 10, 1974 according to the date cancel on the back. A hand-written note was placed on the front indicating that the letter was not picked up ('Niet afgehaald') and returned to sender ('Ret. Afz.').

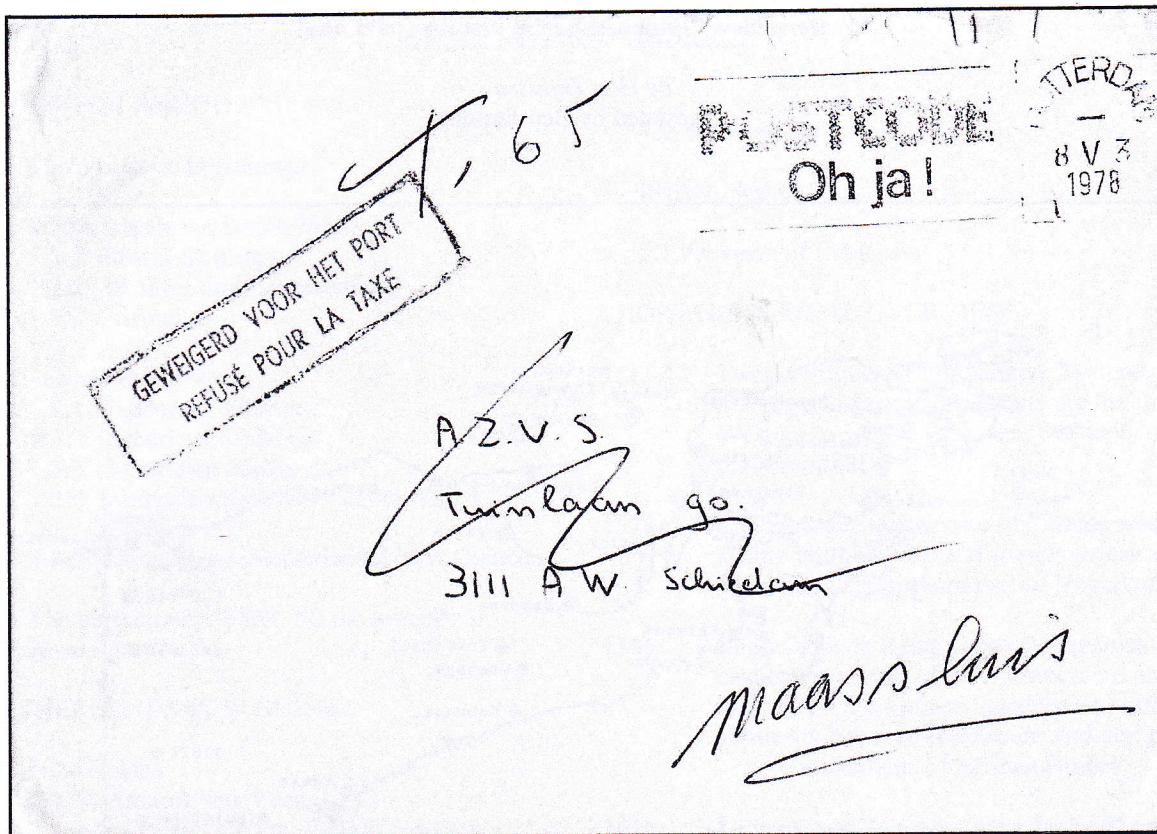


Figure 16. Letter mailed from Maassluis to Schiedam on May 18, 1978 and refused for insufficient postage as indicated by the blue, bi-lingual (Dutch and French) 'GEWEIGERD VOOR HET PORT / REFUSE POUR LA TAXE) cancel. The 'T, 65' marking indicates that 65 cents were due.

Bibliography

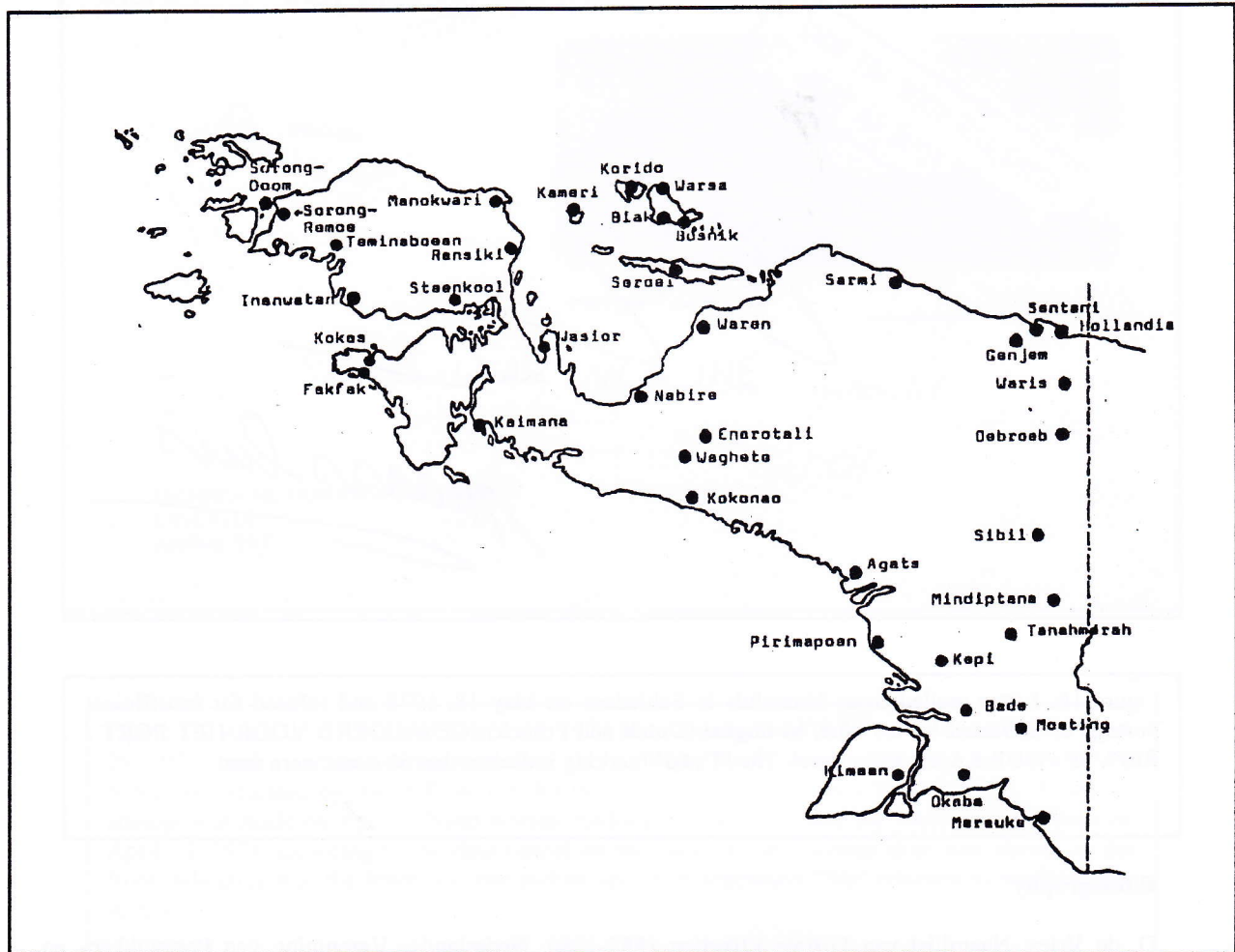
D. de Vries, Naamlijst van Postale Etiketten 1882-1984. Nederlandse Vereniging van Poststukken- en Poststempelverzamelaars, 1985.

About the author

Ben Jansen was born in Arnhem, The Netherlands, and has been collecting stamps and postal stationery (Netherlands, Dutch Indies, and 'Maps on Stamps') since he was 9 years of age. Upon receiving his PhD degree from the Free University, Amsterdam, he moved to the USA, where he is currently a Professor in Electrical and Computer Engineering at the University of Houston, Houston, Texas. This is his first publication in a philatelic journal. He can be reached through bjansen@uh.edu.

Western New Guinea, a postal history (part one)

by Han Dijkstra
(translated by Ben Jansen)



Note: This is part one of a series of articles about the postal history of what used to be Dutch-New-Guinea. The articles reflect the philatelic exhibit author Han Dijkstra has put together and was gracious enough to share with us. We thank Han for his permission to share this information with our readers.

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SHORT HISTORICAL OVERVIEW

1511-12 Two Portuguese Commanders, Antonio d'Abey and Francisco Serrano are the first Western to see New Guinea, but they don't make landfall.

1528 The Portuguese governor of Ternate washes ashore with his ship and spends a year at Warsai in the Northern part of Vogelkop.

1545 Inigo Ortiz de Retes plants the Spanish flag east of the mouth of the Mamberamo and calls it 'Nueva Guinea' because he notices the similarity between the Papuas and the inhabitants of African Guinea.

1616 Lemaire and Schouten map the northern coast of an island that is "for sure Nova Guinea; the Inhabitants are called Papoos, mostly black..."

1623 Commander Jan Carstensz notices "higher mountains, at many places covered with snow, which is strange for mountains so close to the equator"

1660 Treaty between the V.O.C. and Tidore, ending forever the Spanish presence in the Indian archipelago.

1678 The first Dutch flags handed out on the West coast.

1705 The Geelvinkbaai is mapped. A number of Papoos are captured and brought to the Netherlands.

1780 A pretender for the throne of Tidore, Prince Noekoe, is passed over, moves to New-Guinea and starts a guerilla war against the Dutch.

1793 The English establish fort "Coronation' on the bank of the Bay of Doreh. Abandoned in 1795.

- 1828 The founding of Fort du Bos in the Triton Bay. By proclamation of August 24, the western part of New-Guinea is occupied; 48% of the entire island.
- 1836 Abandonment of Fort du Bos after many people had died.
- 1855 German missionaries Ottow and Geissler take up residence near the Bay of Doreh.
- 1862 Start of the missionary activities of the Utrechtse Zendings-Vereeniging.
- 1884 The English flag is raised in Port Moresby (S.W.-New-Guinea), the German flag in Kaiser Wilhelmshafen (N.W.-New-Guinea)
- 1891 The Koninklijke Pakketvaart Maatschappij (K.P.M.) appears in New-Guinea.
- 1894 The Roman Catholic Mission starts her work on the west coast.
- 1895 The Treaty of May 16, 1895 establishes the eastern boundary.
- 1898 The Fakfak and Manokwari administrative offices are set up; this is first regular government.

The exhibit starts in 1891. The rest of the Western-New-Guinea history (this covers the western part of the island New-Guinea), we'll call it New-Guinea, will be followed based on the material shown in this and coming articles. We'll pay special attention to the postal consequences of political and related governmental developments.

Main Sources

- Bulterman, P.R., *Poststempels Nederlands-Indie 1864-1950*. Deventer, 1981.
- Hoffmann, E.R. *UNTEA*. 1985.
- De Neef, A.J. *Papoealand*, het arbeidsveld van de Utrechtse Zendings-Vereeniging. Oegstgeest, 1937.
- Ponitz, G.C.F.W., various articles about Netherlands New-Guinea appeared in the '*Nederlandsch Maandblad voor Philately*', 1966-68.
- Storm van Leeuwen P., *Poststempelcatalogus Nederlands-Indie 1864-1942*. Den Haag, 1995.
- Storm van Leeuwen, P., *Binnenlandse en Netherlands Philately Vol. 30 No. 1*

Buitenlandse Posttarieven van Nederlands-Indie 1864-1949. Published as an appendix of the Mededelingenblad of the Studiegroep ZWP from Januari 1997 on.

- Studiegroep Zuid-West Pacific (Z.W.P.). Various articles form the *Mededelingenbladen nrs. 1-138*. 1968-2004.
- *Vademecum voor Nederlands-Nieuw-Guinea*, published by the Nieuw-Guinea Instituut in Rotterdam, 1956.

Additional literature references can be found at the specific subjects.

1 THE DUTCH-INDIES PERIOD

1.1 THE PHILATELIC PREHISTORY

It was not until the end of the 19th century that West New-Guinea, which was part of the Dutch Indies colony, was placed under regular government. Around that time, the area was known as New Guinea, and it was divided into two regions, namely

- North New Guinea, belonging to the Ternate department, and
- West- and South New Guinea, belonging to the Amboina residency.

The postage for mail from West New Guinea was paid with stamps from the Dutch-Indies, according to the rates and regulations in force in the Dutch Indies.

As early as the 1880s, the Dutch-Indies Steamship Company (Nederlands-Indische Stoomvaart Maatschappij) maintained the so-called New-Guinea line. Certainly, ships of this company and other trading companies, which primarily visited the west coast, must have transported mail.

Effective January 1, 1891, the newly founded Royal Packet Navigation Company (Koninklijke Pakketvaart Maatschappij -- KPM) obtained the Dutch-Indies contract for shipping packages. Since all known postal articles from the 19th century originate from the last decade, we are mainly concerned with the KPM with regards to the postal connections.

Early 1890, the most important lines for New Guinea were:

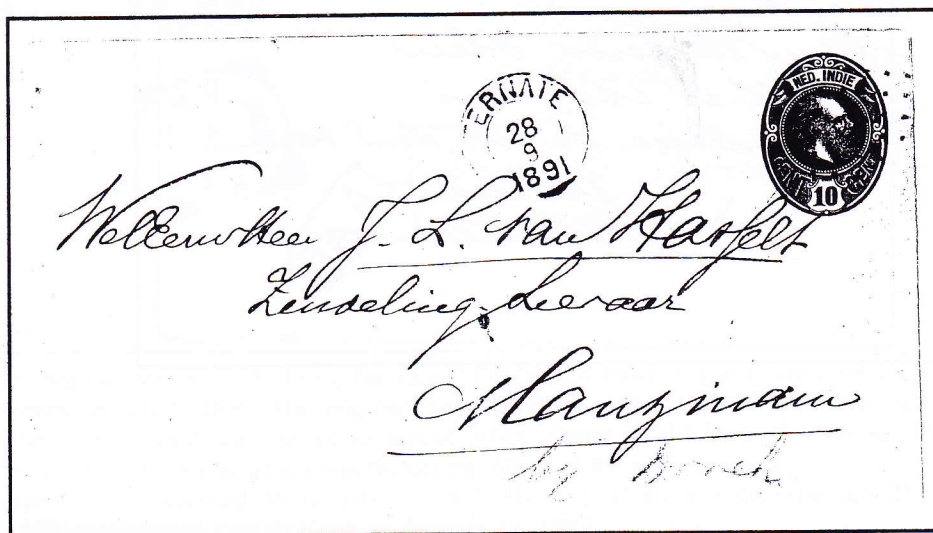
- Line 12 (once every two months) from Singapore, which visited Sekar and Skroe (near FakFak), among other places;
- Line 13 I and II (once every three months) from Amboina. Line 13 I sailed along the north coast to the Humboldt's bay and docked, among other places, at Doreh and Roon.

The presently known earliest piece of mail from West

New Guinea dates from the end of 1892. Virtually no mail from the period 1892-1899 (the first postal institutions opened in 1899) has survived. Traders and missionaries were the main correspondents.

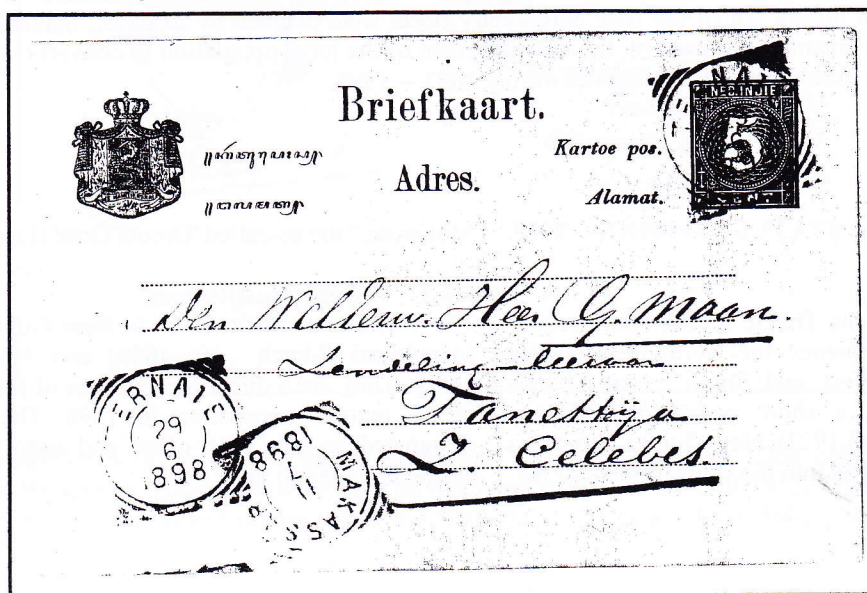
Incoming mail from this period is also extremely scarce. Almost all mail from the pre-historic phase deals with the activities of the Utrecht Missionary Union (Utrechtse Zendings Vereeniging), which was active in the area around Manokwari since 1861.

The oldest known piece, in the context of the postal history of New Guinea, is an example of incoming mail from 1891.

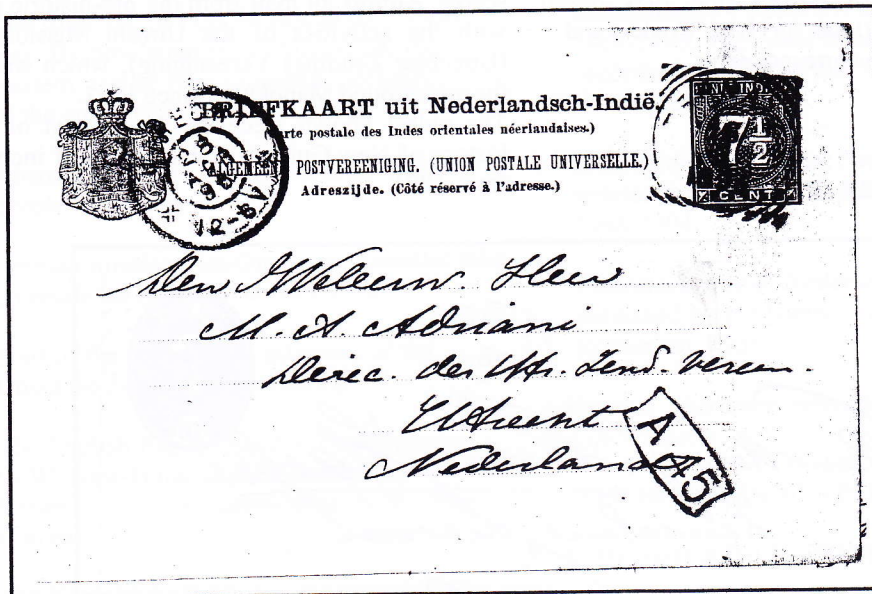


Cover Geuzendam 6. Ternate numeral cancel 63 and small round 28.9.1891. Rate for domestic cover 10 cent January 1, 1878 -- February 1, 1921. Mailed to the well-known "missionary teacher" J.L. van Hasselt, who worked in New Guinea from 1862 till 1907. Mansimam is a small island at the entrance to the Geelvink bay, opposite Doreh, which was visited by KPM ships of line 13. (Ex Bunge, Bender, Jennings)

Two post cards mailed by missionaries from the area around Manokwari



Post card Geuzendam 10a, Ternate 29.6.1898. Rate for domestic postcard 5 cent April , 1874 - January 1, 1922. Written in Doreh on June 22, 1898, and the text includes: "Here, and in Manzinam and also in Andai, everything is mainly well." Mailed by way of Ternate to missionary teacher in Tanette near Makasser. Arrived on July 11, 1898.



Post card Geuzendam 12y. Ternate 16.3.1896. Rate for postcard to the Netherlands 7.5 cent April 1, 1879 - March 1, 1907. Mailed by assistant missionary J.L.D. van der Roest, who replaced missionary van Balen. Written in Windessi, on March 1, 1896. By way of Roon, on the route of KPM line 13, arriving at Ternate on March 16, 1896, and subsequently transported to the Dutch Indies, and via international sea routes, to finally arrive in Utrecht on April 28, 1896.

The written text includes the phrase "The Lord creates glory after suffering," which is in reference to the birth of a child following a period during which the first missionary posts were plagued by diseases, madness and deaths, and, not least of all, the frustration caused by the unwillingness of the local population to convert (to Christianity). Van der Roest served as missionary in New Guinea during 1893 -- 1898.

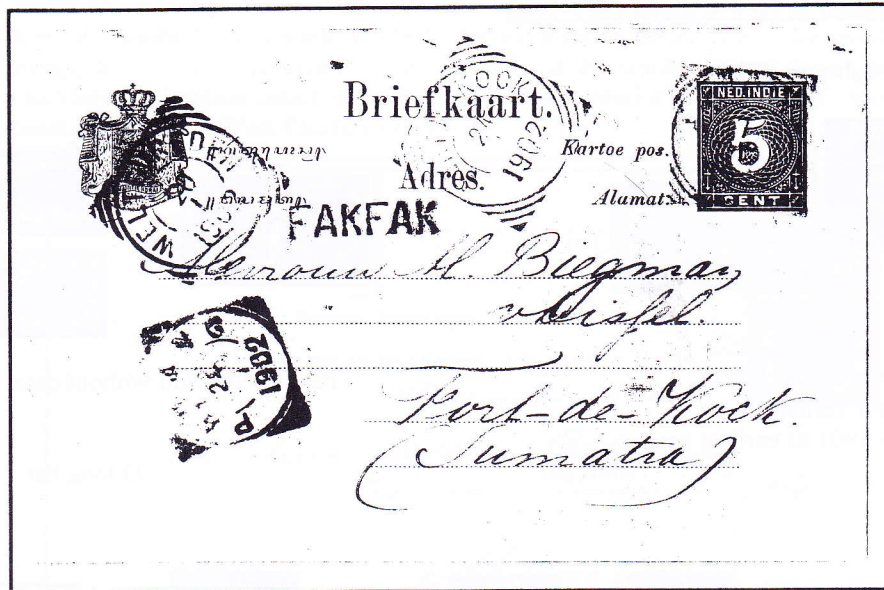
1.2 DEPARTMENT STATUS WITHIN THE DUTCH INDIES

Under management of the Dutch Indies, the territory consisted of two departments: the North New Guinea Department, and the West and South New Guinea Department. Following a short period of residency status (between 1921 and 1923), New Guinea, Amboina and Ternate were combined into the "Government of the

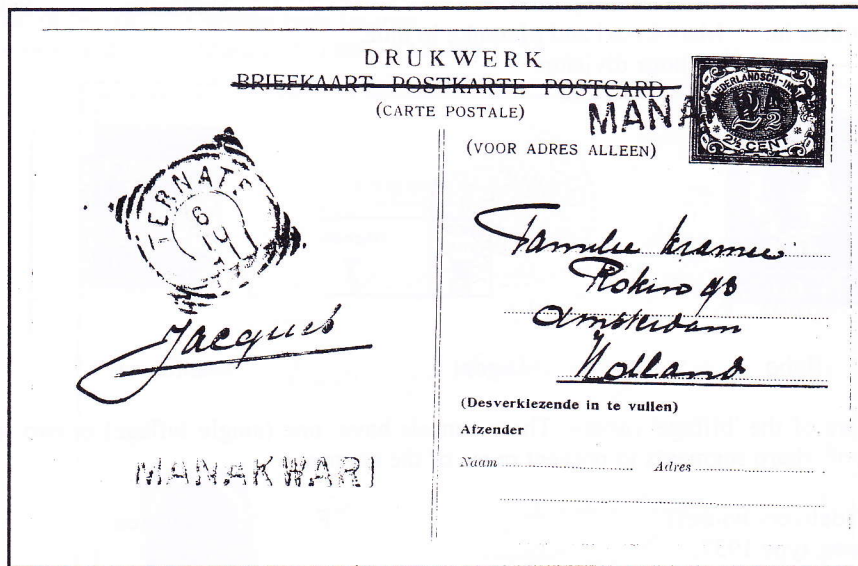
Moluccas," the so-called 'Groote Oost' (Large East).

1.2.1 Postal institutions

The first postal institutions in New Guinea opened in Manokwari (March 10, 1899) and Fakfak (July 1, 1899). They are a direct consequence of the introduction of the regular government in 1898. The offices were designated as sub post office and used the long bar cancel assigned to them.



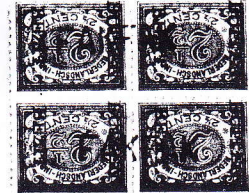
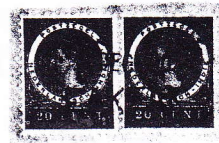
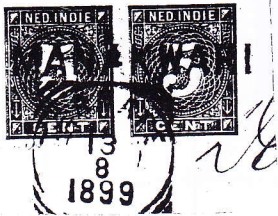
Domestic post card Geuzendam 10b. Long bar cancel Fakfak (24 mm) in black, seen 1902-1911. Sub post office Fakfak was opened on July 1, 1899. The long bar cancel has been placed on the front of the card, above the address, in black ink, because the card was mailed to a post office. Dated on the back ff (=Fakfak) December 31, 1901. Transported by KPM to Amboina, which was the central office of the region, where the stamp (imprint) was cancelled on January 7, 1902. By way of Weltevreden (January 21, 1902) and Padang (January 24, 1902) it arrived in Fort de Kock on January 24, 1902.



Manakwari cancelled with the oblong stamp Manakwari (39 mm), in violet. This color ink was used till 1905 (according to Bulterman, 2004), and from then on black ink was used, seen till 1912. Transit stamp Ternate 6.10.1911. Printed matter rate to the Netherlands 2.5 cent July 1, 1902 - May 1, 1921.

Dutch Indies cancels used in New Guinea 1899-1942

A long bar cancel for sub-post offices



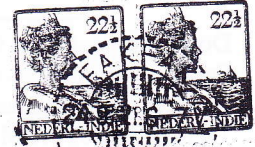
Manokwari (exists in violet, and black) 1899, with transit stamp Ternate. Bulterman (2004) lists 1901 as earliest use.

Fakfak with and without date.

B square cancel

C short bar

D long bar

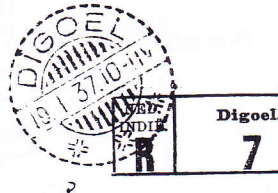


Merauke was the only user of the square cancel in New Guinea in 1902 -1916.

1912 - 1920 period. Manokwari and Merauke in blue, no hour division.

Hollandia

Fakfak



Seroei

Babo

Digoel

Manokwari

Many long bar cancels are of the 'biffage' variety. These cancels have one (single biffage) or two (double biffage) outside rings consisting of sharp segments to prevent reuse of the stamps.

E cancel 'bestelhuizen' (delivery houses) and acting sub-post offices, type 1937.

F dotted area



Acting sub-post office Ransiki, with mandatory second cancellation by the main district office.

Used only in Manokwari. PV1 solid ring, fill in bar, 1935-37 PV2 biffage, crosses, 1937-42

The sub-post office Merauke opened on February 12, 1902. Sender of the card: R.L.A. Hellwig, appointed Assistant-Resident of South New Guinea in 1905. An exploration detail was made available to him in 1907. Among other things, he writes (in German): "I am currently at the south coast of New Guinea, charged with the leadership of a military exploration detail, deep in the unknown interior" See also Mededelingen Blad ZWP (Information Sheets of the South-West Pacific) 135.15/19.



Merauke square cancel 28.1.1908 to München, Germany. Faint imprint of the German delivery cancel. No transit markings, hence route unclear: possibly by way of a combination of KPM lines 12, 13 I, and 13 II to Amboina, and then onwards, or by way of German New Guinea. Sea mail rate for postcard 5 cent March 15, 1882 - October 1, 1937.

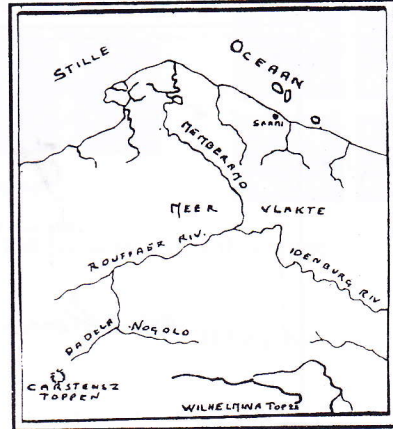


Sub postoffice 'Humboldtsbaai', opened 1-2-1910, closed 22-05-1912. Longbar cancel in black, 37 mm Humboldt Bay, with transit cancel Ternate 27.1.1912. Arrival cancel The Hague 9.3.12 (on the back). Rate 12.5 cent for letters to the Netherlands - 20 gram by mail March 1, 1907 - May 1, 1921. Sender: M.J. Kruyt, luitenant-commander second class with the Dutch Navy, assigned to the exploration detail charged with establishing the eastern border between Dutch and German New Guinea. In 1909, this detail constructed the 'Bivac Hollandia' on the Humboldt's Bay, from which later the governmental seat of Hollandia arose.

Postal stationery without markings by a postal institution in New Guinea

In 1926, an American/Dutch expedition was carried out under the leadership of Professor M.W. Stirling to the Nassau mountain range in central New Guinea, which is part of the watershed of the Upper Rouffaer river.

This expedition took place in the April -- December period, and a water-plane was used for two months, after which it became unusable and was subsequently abandoned.



Amboina 1.11.26 to Malang. Rate for domestic letter - 20 gram 12.5 cent February 1, 1921 - October 1, 1937. Shipment of goods and mail to and from the expedition members, who were in New Guinea from the end of April through December, took place by means of a supply ship by way of Amboina, which was also the correspondence address for the expedition. Sender Le Roux, in his capacity as topographer and ethnologist, described three new Papoea mountain tribes who used languages that were completely unknown at that time.

(to be continued)