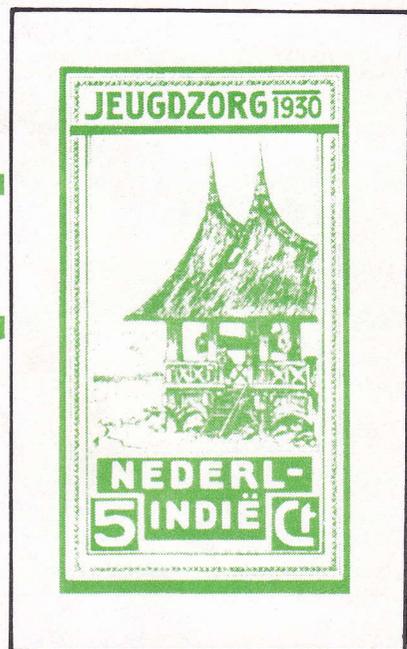


June 1986

# NETHERLANDS PHILATELY



**JOURNAL of the American Society for Netherlands Philately**

Volume 20/4

# ASNPHilately

# Netherlands

# Philately



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PHILATELY

Volume 20, Number 4

June 1996

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From the Editors,

Another three months has passed and you are reading yet another issue of the Journal.

In the mean time not only has Mike Connolly made some changes to his ASNPHilately homepage on the WWW, we also now have the membership application and recruitment pamphlet out there. The address is: [http://cornell.cs.edu/Info/People/aswin/NL/neth\\_philately.html](http://cornell.cs.edu/Info/People/aswin/NL/neth_philately.html). Another way to get there is to go to the Hotbot browser, and type in "Netherlands Philately". You'll find many other interesting references there as well.

In cooperation with the Netherlands Philatelists of California we now have reserved meeting rooms on June 1, 3, and 6 (all from 2-4 pm) at the PACIFIC'97 World Philatelic Exhibition in San Francisco, May 29 - June 8, 1997. We are open for suggestions on how to best use these times. This will be a unique opportunity to meet each other, let's make optimum use of it.

This month we have a followup article by Stuart Leven on the NEI Straight Line Cancels. Stuart has received quite a few additions. We are also bringing you the first installment of John Hardjasudarm's article on the Postal history of the Japanese Occupation of the Netherlands Indies, 1942-45. Leon Stadtherr, who previously published an article about this subject (1987), follows it up with an addendum to the Cancels of Netherlands New Guinea, while Frans Rummens contributes with his article on Unusual Child Welfare Frankings.

One more item I would like to mention is the fact that our organisation steadily has been losing money the last couple of years. The cost of printing the Newsletter and Journal alone substantially exceeds the income derived from the membership dues. The President and Treasurer are in the process of deciding how to handle the situation; an increase in dues appears likely and seems fully justified.

The co-editors.  
[hphager@aol.com](mailto:hphager@aol.com)  
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## Table of Contents

Netherlands Indies Straight-Line Cancellations (a follow up).....	46	Unusual 'Child Welfare' Frankings ....	59
Postal History of the Japanese Occupation of the Netherlands Indies, 1942-45.....	51	Addendum: Cancels of Netherlands New Guinea.....	62

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# NETHERLANDS INDIES STRAIGHT - LINE CANCELLATIONS

(a follow up)

by Stuart Leven

Previous articles on this subject appeared in Volumes 20/1,2 and 3 of this Journal.

I have been asked how I determine the postoffices that the sub-postoffices were sending their mail to. Over the years these have changed; sometimes a single sub-postoffice could have changed its parent postoffice. When possible I have used the postoffice that the subject mail has passed through, or, if I have two or more postoffices, I have used the nearest one.

I have been able to get some photocopies of straight line cancels from several other collectors of the Netherlands Indies, and I have noted their items with their initials after the entry.

- (JJ) J. Jackson of England
- (MH) M. Hardjasudarma of Louisiana
- (JH) J. Heimans of California



AJERBANGIS (Sumatra) Postoffice Padang  
type 1 letters 36mm x 5mm sans-serif  
Bulterman listed seen in black and violet  
between 1906 and 1910 (JJ)



AMAHEI (Moluccan Islands) Postoffice Amboina  
type 1 letters 21.5mm x 5mm sans-serif  
Bulterman listed seen in black  
between 1908 and 1909 (JJ)



BABAT (Java) Postoffice Soerabaja  
type 1 letters 21.5mm x 5.5mm sans-serif  
Bulterman listed seen in black and violet  
between 1907 and 1911 (JJ)



BALANG NIPA  
type 2 letters 27mm x 4mm sans-serif  
Bulterman type B seen in black and violet  
between 1902 and 1911 (JJ)



BANGLI (Bali) Postoffice Den Pasar  
type 1 box 32mm x 11.5mm  
letters 29mm x 4mm serifs  
Bulterman listed seen in black  
between 1909 and 1912 (JJ)



BANGSALSARI (Java) Halte on the east line near Djember  
type 1 box 49mm x 9.5mm  
letters 40mm x 5mm sans-serif  
seen in violet in 1931 (MH)



BATOE (Java) Postoffice Malang  
type 1 letters 17mm x 4mm sans-serif  
Bulterman listed seen in black  
between 1909 and 1912 (MH)



BAWEAN (Java) Postoffice Rembang  
type 1 letters 23mm x 3mm sans-serif  
Bulterman type A seen in black, blue and violet  
between 1885 and 1903 (JJ)

BELAWAN

BELAWAN (Sumatra) Postoffice Laboan Deli  
type 1 letters 24mm x 3mm sans-serif  
Bulterman listed seen in blue  
between 1889 and 1893



BLINJOE (Bangka) Postoffice Pangkalpinang  
type 1 letters 24mm x 4mm sans-serif  
Bulterman listed seen in violet  
between 1903 and 1906 (JJ)



BOELELING (Bali) Postoffice Soerabaja? became Singaradja  
type 1 box 58mm x 8.5mm

letters 51.5mm x 5mm sans-serif  
 Bulterman listed seen in red and green  
 between 1876 and 1888

**BOELOEKOEMBA**

BOELOEKOEMBA (Celebes) Postoffice Makasser  
 type 1 letters 42mm x 4mm sans-serif  
 Bulterman listed seen in black and violet in 1912

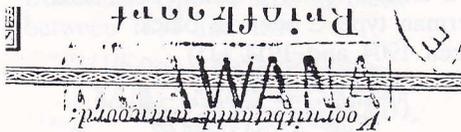
(JJ)

**BONTHAIN**

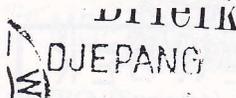
BONTHAIN  
 type 2 letters 20mm x 4mm sans-serif  
 Bulterman type B seen in black  
 between 1906 and 1912 (JJ)



DAMPIT (Java) Postoffice Malang  
 type 1 letters 24mm x 4mm sans-serif  
 Bulterman listed seen in black  
 between 1910 and 1911



DJAWANA (Java) Postoffice Pattie(Pati)  
 type 1 box 44mm x 10mm  
 letters 41mm x 7mm sans-serif  
 Bulterman listed seen in blue  
 between 1876 and 1879 (MH)



DJEPANG (Java) Postoffice Semarang  
 type 1 letters 21mm x 4mm sans-serif  
 Bulterman listed seen in black  
 between 1886 and 1889 (JJ)



ECLIPSKAMP/KARANG SARGO (Sumatra) Postoffice Padang

type 1 line 1 letters 33mm x 4mm serifs  
 line 2 letters 38mm x 4mm serifs  
 Bulterman listed seen in black  
 Camp was open for the solar eclipse expedition  
 between 1 April and 23 May 1901 (JJ)



GENENG (Java) Halte on the east line near Madioen

type 1 box 34mm x 8.5mm  
 letters 30mm x 6.5mm serifs  
 seen in blue in 1932



GRATIE (Java) Halte on the east line near Pasoeroean

type 1 box 28mm x 7mm  
 letters 26mm x 5mm serifs  
 seen in blue, cover not dated



GOENOENG SITOLIE spelled GOENOENGSITOLI  
 type 2 letters 46.5mm x 5mm sans-serif  
 Bulterman type B seen in black, blue and violet  
 between 1901 and 1908

**HUMBOLDTSBAAI**

HUMBOLDTSBAAI (New Guinea) Postoffice Ternate became Hollandia

type 1 letters 38mm x 4mm sans-serif  
 Bulterman listed seen in black  
 between 1910 and 1911 (JH)

JAPARA

JAPARA (Java) Postoffice Koedoes  
 type 1 letters 17mm x 3mm sans-serif  
 Bulterman listed seen in red  
 between 1865 and 1876



KISARAN (Sumatra) Postoffice Tandjoeng Balei  
 type 1 letters 28mm x 4.5mm sans-serif  
 Bulterman listed seen in black in 1910 (JJ)

**KLATTEN**

KLATTEN (Java) Postoffice Djokjakarta  
 type 1 letters 23mm x 4mm sans-serif  
 Bulterman listed seen in red  
 between 1864 and 1871



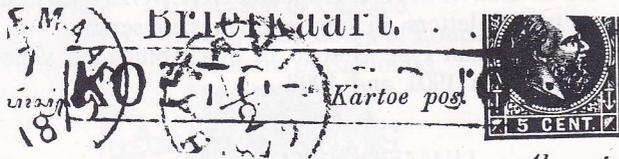
KLOENGKOENG (Bali) Postoffice Den Pasar  
 type 1 letters 31mm x 4mm sans-serif  
 seen in black in 1908 (JJ)



KOETEI (Borneo) Postoffice Postagent Singapore  
 became Samarinda  
 type 1 box 40.5mm x 10mm  
 letters 35mm x 7mm sans-serif  
 Bulterman type A seen in black, blue and violet  
 between 1883 and 1901



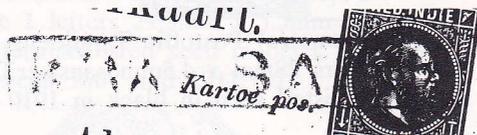
type 2 letters 13mm x 3mm sans-serif  
 Bulterman type B seen in black, blue and violet  
 between 1893 and 1899 (JJ)



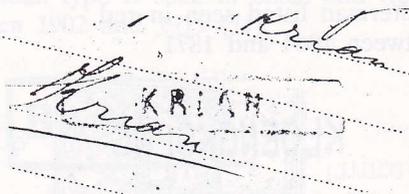
KOETOARDJO  
 type 2 spelled KOETO - ARDJO  
 box 60mm x 10mm  
 letters 58mm x 5.5mm sans serif  
 Bulterman type A seen in black  
 between 1875 and 1886



KOTABAROE BATANG HARI (Sumatra) Postoffice  
 Sawahloento  
 type 1 box 49mm x 13mm  
 letters 46mm x 4mm sans-serif  
 Bulterman listed seen in black in 1910 (JJ)



KRAKSAAN (Java) Postoffice Probolinggo  
 type 1 Box 58mm x 9mm  
 letters 51mm x 5mm sans-serif  
 Bulterman listed seen in red  
 between 1874 and 1878



KRIAN (Java) Halte on the east line near Soerabaja  
 type 1 box 38mm x 7mm  
 letters 16.5mm x 3mm sans-serif  
 seen in violet in 1907



LABOEAN ROEKOE (Sumatra) Postoffice Medan  
 type 1 letters 48mm x 5.5mm sans-serif  
 Bulterman listed seen in black and violet  
 between 1905 and 1913 (JJ)



LEBONG - DONOK (Sumatra) Postoffice Benkoelen  
 type 1 letters 36mm x 5mm sans-serif  
 Bulterman listed seen in black and violet  
 between 1909 and 1910



LOEBOE PAKAM spelled LOEBOEG PAKEM  
 type 2 letters 46mm x 3.5mm sans-serif  
 Bulterman type C seen in black  
 between 1904 and 1911 (JJ)



LOEMADJANG (Java) Postoffice Probolinggo  
 type 1 letters 32mm x 3mm sans-serif  
 Bulterman listed seen in red  
 between 1864 and 1874



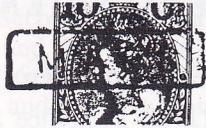
LOEWOEK (Cebeles) Postoffice Makasser  
 type 1 box 46mm x 10mm  
 letters 36.5mm x 5mm sans-serif  
 Bulterman listed seen in black  
 between 1909 and 1912 (JJ)



LONG IRAM (Borneo) Postoffice Samarinda  
 type 1 letters 33mm x 5mm sans-serif  
 Bulterman listed seen in black and violet  
 between 1907 and 1912 (JJ)



MANGAR (Billiton) Postoffice Tandjongpadan  
 type 1 box 23.5mm x 9mm  
 letters 19mm x 4mm sans-serif  
 Bulterman listed seen in black  
 between 1887 and 1904 (JJ)



MAOS  
 type 2 box 26mm x 7mm  
 letters 19mm x 4mm sans-serif  
 Bulterman type C seen in black and blue  
 between 1900 and 1905 (JJ)



MARABAHAN ("M" has different shape from type 1)  
 type 2 letters 27mm x 4mm sans-serif  
 seen in blue in 1910 (JJ)



MENES spelled MENEZ  
 type 2 letters 15mm x 3.5mm sans-serif  
 Bulterman type A seen in black  
 between 1884 and 1890



MOEARA ENIM (Sumatra) Postoffice Lahat  
 type 1 letters 42mm x 4mm sans-serif  
 Bulterman type B seen in black and red  
 between 1907 and 1911 (JJ)



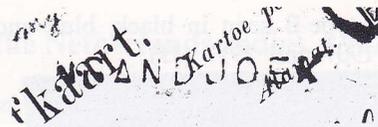
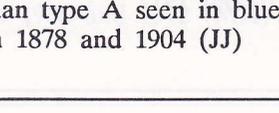
MOEARATEBO (Sumatra) Postoffice Djembi  
 type 1 letters 32mm x 4mm sans-serif  
 Bulterman listed seen in black in 1910 (JJ)



MOEARA TEWEH (Borneo) Postoffice Banjarmasin  
 type 1 letters 30mm x 4mm sans-serif  
 Bulterman listed seen in black, blue and violet  
 between 1892 and 1910 (JJ)



NATAL (Sumatra) Postoffice Loeboesikaping  
 type 1 box 24mm x 8mm  
 letters 15mm x 4mm serifs  
 Bulterman type A seen in blue, violet and red  
 between 1878 and 1904 (JJ)



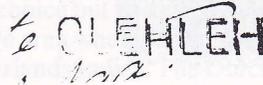
NGANDJOEK  
 type 2 letters 35.5mm x 4mm sans-serif  
 Bulterman type D seen in black, blue and violet  
 between 1897 and 1902



type 3 letters 32mm x 4mm serifs  
 Bulterman type E seen in violet in 1901 (JJ)



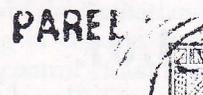
OENARANG (Java) Postoffice Semarang  
 type 1 letters 26mm x 5mm sans-serif  
 Bulterman type B seen in black  
 between 1894 and 1908



OLEHLEH (Sumatra) Postoffice Kota Radja  
 type 1 letters 27mm x 5mm sans-serif  
 Bulterman listed seen in black  
 between 1907 and 1908 (JJ)



PANGKADJANE (Celebes) Postoffice Makasser  
 type 1 letters 46mm x 5mm sans-serif  
 Bulterman listed seen in black and violet  
 between 1904 and 1907 (JJ)



PAREE (Java) Postoffice Kediri  
 type 1 letters 15mm x 4mm sans-serif  
 Bulterman type A seen in black  
 between 1893 and 1903



PARON (Java) Halte on the east line near Madioen  
 type 1 box 25mm x 6mm  
 letters 23mm x 4mm serifs  
 seen in black in 1897



PASIRIAN  
 type 2 letters 29mm x 4mm sans-serif

Bulterman type B seen in black, blue and violet between 1907 and 1911 (JJ)



**PENJABOENGAN** (Sumatra) Postoffice  
Loeboesikaping

type 1 letters 30mm x 3.5mm sans-serif  
Bulterman type C seen in black and red  
between 1895 and 1909 (JJ)



**SAPAROEA** (Moluccan Islands) Postoffice Amboina  
type 1 letters 34mm x 5mm sans-serif  
Bulterman listed seen in black  
between 1906 and 1912 (JJ)



**SINABANG** (Sumatra) Postoffice Sabang  
type 1 letters 26mm x 4mm sans-serif  
Bulterman listed seen in black and violet  
between 1907 and 1911



**SOEMBERPOETJOENG** (Java) Halte on east line  
near Wlingi

type 1 box 50mm x 7mm  
letters 48mm x 4mm serifs  
seen in blue in 1905 (MH)



**TALOE** (Sumatra) Postoffice Loeboesikaping  
type 1 box 38.5mm x 16.5mm  
letters 22mm x 4mm serifs  
Bulterman listed seen in black, blue, red and violet  
between 1882 and 1905 (JH)



**TANGERANG** (Java) Postoffice Batavia  
type 1 letters 35mm x 5mm sans-serif  
Bulterman type E seen in blue  
between 1907 and 1910 (MH)



**TEBING - TINGIE** (Sumatra) Postoffice Palembang  
type 1 box 70mm x 10mm  
letters 64mm x 6mm sans-serif  
Bulterman listed seen in blue in 1874

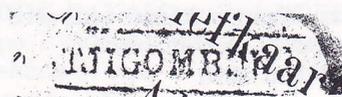


**TJERIENGIEN** (Java) Postoffice Anjer  
type 1 letters 34mm x 3.5 serifs  
Bulterman listed seen in black and red  
between 1874 and 1883 (MH)



**TJIAWIE** (Java) Halte on west line near Buitenzorg\*  
type 1 box 49mm x 6mm  
letters 39mm x 3mm serifs  
seen in blue in 1895 (MH)

\* NOTE: My map shows two Tjiawi(e)s one near Tasikmalja and the other near Buitenzorg. This cover is canceled at Buitenzorg.



**TJIGOMBONG** (Java) Halte on west line near  
Buitenzorg

type 1 box 34mm x 7.5mm  
letters 30.5mm x 3mm serifs  
seen in blue in 1896 (MH)



**TJIKEUSAL** (Java) Halte on west line near Serang  
type 1 box 38mm x 8mm  
letters 30mm x 3mm sans-serif  
seen in blue in 1908



**TJILAKOE** (Java) Halte on the west line near Tjimahi  
type 1 box 28mm x 8mm  
letters 24mm x 3mm serifs  
seen in blue in 1908



**TJILEGON** (Java) Postoffice Serang  
type 1 letters 26mm x 3.5mm sans-serif  
Bulterman type B seen in black and red  
between 1901 and 1912

# Postal History of the Japanese Occupation of the Netherlands Indies, 1942-45

by M. Hardjasudarma

The study of philatelic aspects of Japanese-occupied areas during the Second World War is fascinating, since it shows what can, and did, happen when an aggressor occupies a land and expects to run the postal services with no plan in particular, and wishes to spend next to nothing doing it. The geographical area that exemplifies this best is the Netherlands Indies – after China, the most populous and largest territory the Japanese ever occupied, and the richest in natural resources. Very little original documentation has survived from the occupation period: the Japanese forces in the Netherlands Indies were, in effect, left alone for months after their official capitulation, giving them ample time to destroy their records and files. Most of what subsequently became known has been compiled painstakingly, primarily by Dutch philatelists. Much of the material was provided by postal money orders – study material par excellence, because the very purpose of money orders guaranteed strict bookkeeping and safekeeping rules, even under Japanese rule of the time, and the virtual lack of express philatelic intent contained within them. This article is in essence, an overview of material long familiar in the Netherlands but, to my knowledge, presented in the English literature for the first time in this manner. It is a much neglected area within

the multiple facets of philately in the United States - undeservedly so. The absence of a decent listing in major world catalogs should not be a hindrance to interest in this field, precisely because – to paraphrase a common quote – "philately begins where the catalog is inexplicably silent." It is hoped this article will kindle an interest in the Japanese-occupation era of the Dutch East Indies in the hearts and minds of many.

## INVASION, OCCUPATION, CAPITULATION

An oft-forgotten fact about Japan's participation in the Second World War is that its belligerency stemmed from the increasing Allied restrictions on its oil imports. This, in turn, was a manifestation of the concern felt by the western powers about the relentless buildup of Japan's war machine and its expansionist policy in East Asia, especially in China. As it had no intention of halting or even curtailing its activities and as it was not an oilproducing nation, Japan felt it had no choice but to secure for itself the nearest and most productive area where that commodity could be obtained – the Netherlands Indies. The Dutch colony, aside from being a major agricultural producer, was also a significant supplier of rubber, bauxite (aluminum), tin, etc. – all essential elements for the production and maintenance of armaments.

Thus, following the declaration of war by the Dutch after Pearl Harbor (which in the Netherlands Indies took place on December 8, 1941, since the archipelago is located west of the international date line), the Japanese thrust southward as fast as they could. After the fall of Singapore, the capital of British Malaya, the fate of the Netherlands Indies was essentially sealed since the Dutch Air Force was virtually destroyed in the defense of that strategic city.

The invasion of the Netherlands Indies was carried out by troops sailing in convoys from staging areas already under Japanese control - Cam Ranh in Indochina, and two ports in the southern Philippines, Jolo in the Sulu Islands and Davao on Mindanao. Territorial incursions began early, and Tarakan, an important oil center in East Borneo (Kalimantan Timur)<sup>1</sup>, fell on January 11, 1942. Over the next eight weeks, the main island of Java (Jawa) was isolated, and the Dutch surrendered unconditionally at Kalidjati on March 9. Despite the loss of the Air Force at Singapore and of the Navy in the Battle of the Java Sea, the Dutch still commanded significant numbers of land forces. That their downfall was nonetheless so swift is the probable result of a combination of factors – the Dutch troops' paralyzing lack of preparedness in the face of the acceleration of adverse events, an overenthusiastic estimation of their own fighting capacity and a low esteem for that of the Japanese; the latter's superiority in numbers, quality and fighting spirit; and last but not least, the almost total lack of support by the indigenous inhabitants, who formed 98% of the population. That last factor was a direct and catastrophic result of Dutch inflexibility in the face of native demands for a greater degree of self-determination leading to independence – a



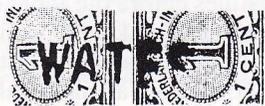
TOEREN (Java) Postoffice Malang  
type 1 letters 19mm x 4mm sans-serif  
Bulterman listed seen in black  
between 1889 and 1891



TONDANO (Celebes) Postoffice Manado  
type 1 letters 23mm x 4mm sans-serif  
Bulterman type A seen in black and blue  
between 1898 and 1907



TRENGALEK  
type 2 letters 31.5mm x 4mm sans-serif  
Bukterman type B seen in black and violet  
between 1906 and 1912



WATES (Java) Postoffice Djokjakarta  
type 1 letters 21mm x 5mm sans-serif  
Bulterman listed seen in black  
between 1906 and 1912 (MH)

movement that had begun in the early decades of the century.

Two Japanese armies took part in the invasion - the 25th, which secured central and northern Sumatra (Sumatera); and the 16th, which dealt with the remainder of the colony. Both were part of the Nanyo (South Sea) Army Group, commanded by General (later Field Marshall) Count Terauchi.

The territory was then split into three separate administrative units - i.e., Sumatra (under the 25th Army), Java (under the 16th Army), and Borneo and the Great East (under the Navy). The Great East consisted of the island of Celebes (SuIawesi), Bali and the Lesser Sunda Islands (Nusa Tenggara) the Moluccas (Maluku) and West New

Guinea (Irian Jaya). The southeastern corner of West New Guinea - i.e., the town of Merauke and its surroundings - was the only area in the Dutch colony that did not fall under Japanese control.

This administrative division was based on a secret accord struck in November 1941, which gave the Japanese Army the responsibility for ruling the more populous regions where complex government decisions needed to be made, while the Navy was to govern sparsely populated areas that would be kept for the benefit of the empire - i.e., that would not be granted independence even in the distant future. Since the Army and the Navy were not only completely independent of one another but also intense rivals, it is not surprising that regulations (including those relating to postal matters) differed sharply. Indeed, even between the two armies there were different sets of policies.

It is difficult to pinpoint the end of the Japanese occupation. While the occupying forces surrendered unconditionally on August 15, 1945, in many parts of the archipelago the Allies let them remain in control, since the severe shortage of Allied troops prevented an immediate takeover. In his famous leapfrogging strategy, General MacArthur used all available personnel to race across the southwest Pacific toward Japan, leaving large numbers of Japanese troops without resupply routes, thus forcing them to wither on the vine - literally in left field for those stationed in the East Indies.

Two days after the Japanese surrender, the independent Republik Indonesia was proclaimed. This significantly complicated matters for the Allies, especially on the populous islands of Sumatra and Java, where the nationalists had large numbers of followers and sizable armies, Japanese-trained for the most part. In many places, the Japanese voluntarily surrendered their arms to the Indonesians; elsewhere, they were often forced to do so. Realistically, the end of their reign should coincide with the transfer of power, either to the Indonesians or to the Allies. Though this seems to be a simple solution, it is really easier said than done.

Some consider the end of the Japanese period in the Celebes to be sometime in September. Formal takeover of Java by the Republik Indonesia was on September 12; of Sumatra, on October 8. Large areas of East Borneo were freed by the Allies before the Japanese capitulation - Tarakan on May 1, 1945; and Balikpapan on July 1. In addition, one authority takes August 15, 1945 as the end of Japanese rule in Borneo and the Great East; indeed, Morotai and almost all of West New Guinea had been liberated by then. It is noteworthy that regional capitulations occurred at different levels. At the highest level in southeast Asia, Terauchi's headquarters in

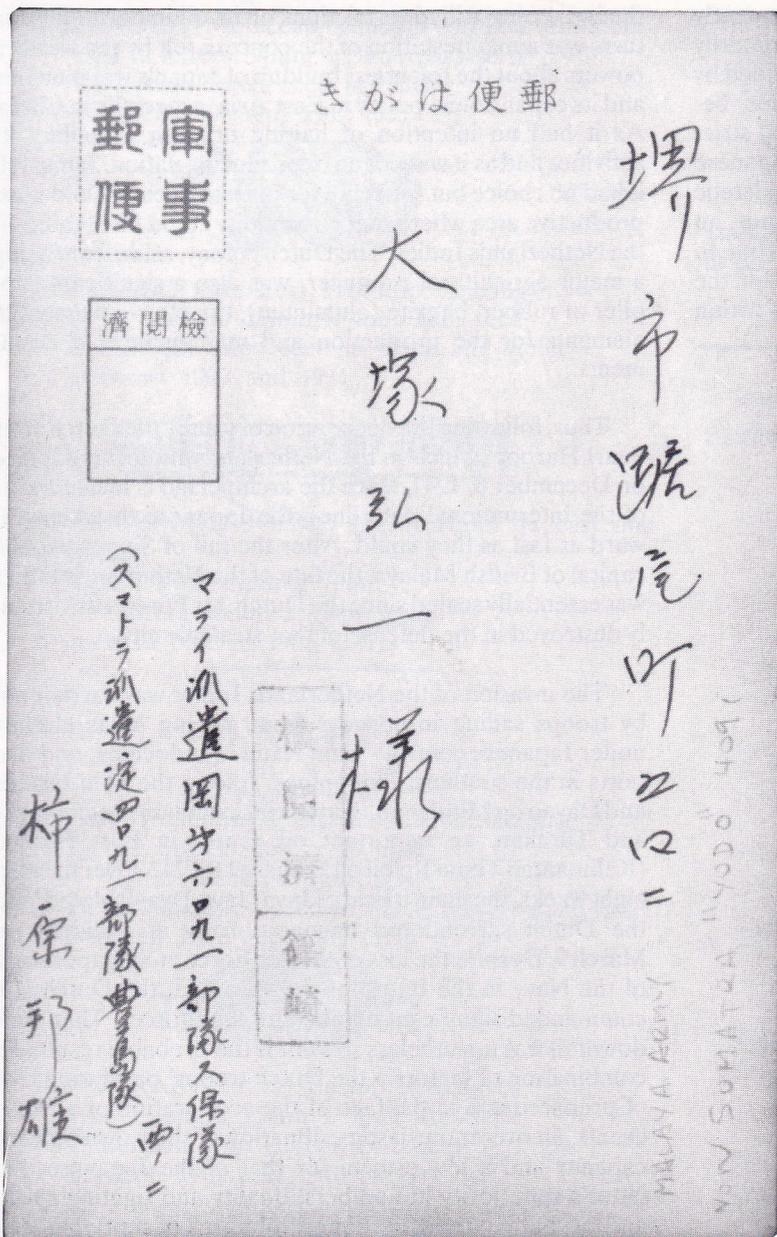


Figure 1 Stampless and uncanceled military postcard from a member of the 4th Division Field Hospital in Sumatra, to Japan.

Saigon was contacted by radio on August 20. The Count was reportedly ill; he therefore sent a delegation to Rangoon to sign a provisional capitulation document on August 27. The definitive one was signed in Singapore on September 12. Six days later, a rear admiral from the Royal Navy cruiser Cumberland, at anchor in the Bay of Batavia, accepted the capitulation of the 16th Army for General Mountbatten.

Three different capitulations took place in Borneo and the Great East – on September 8 in Samarinda from the commander of Japan’s troops in Dutch Borneo; on September 9 at Morotai from the commander of Japan’s 2nd Army;

and on September 11 at Koepang (Kupang) from the commander of enemy troops in Timor. All of these capitulations were made to the Australian military.

Interestingly, the signing of the peace treaty with Japan took place years later; the Netherlands (and the United States) signed it in 1952; Indonesia, in 1958. Portugal, whose colony of East Timor (now part of Indonesia) had been occupied by the Japanese, did not sign the peace treaty since it had neither declared war on Japan nor considered itself to be at war with that country.

#### POSTAL SERVICES <sup>2</sup>

For philatelic purposes, what date should be considered the beginning of the Japanese occupation? It would be convenient to use the date of the Dutch capitulation – March 9, 1942 – but many areas outside Java had by then already been taken by the Japanese. In other regions, they did not take control until up to six months later.

Since the Japanese would invariably keep the postal system in a newly conquered area shut down for several months, it is reasonable not to expect used stamps and letters dating from those periods. Exceptions are military mail, but these are very difficult to date and locate since they are, as a rule, devoid of postal markings (Figure 1). At the most, only an officer’s chop was applied as a censor mark.

The following is known regarding the dates of reopening of civilian mail services between Japan and the Netherlands Indies: on Java and Sumatra, the Field Post Offices at Batavia (Jakarta) and Palembang were opened on May 1, 1942 to Japanese subjects only and on October 1 to all nationalities. On Java, mail services officially resumed on April 29; initially, only postcards were allowed; in September 1942, letters were also permitted, but they had to be submitted unsealed at post offices for censoring.

In southern Borneo, Celebes, Ceram(Seram), and

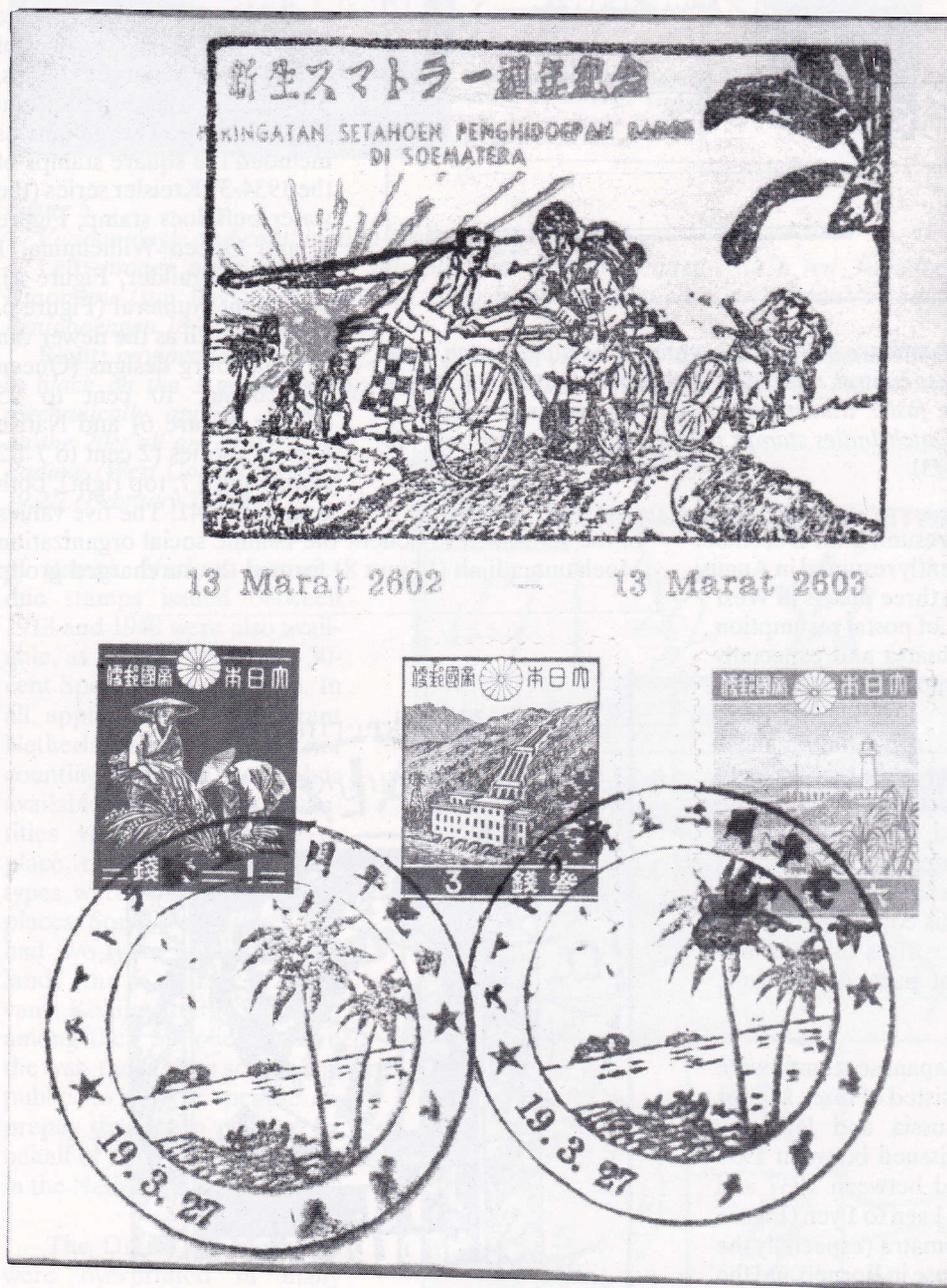


Figure 2 Three stamps of Japan with propaganda cancels of Medan, 19.3.27 (Showa) or March 27, 1944 celebrating two years of Japanese rule. The bicolored cachet showing Indonesians greeting Japanese soldiers with bicycles (a favorite mode of transportation of the occupation army) is obsolete by one year.

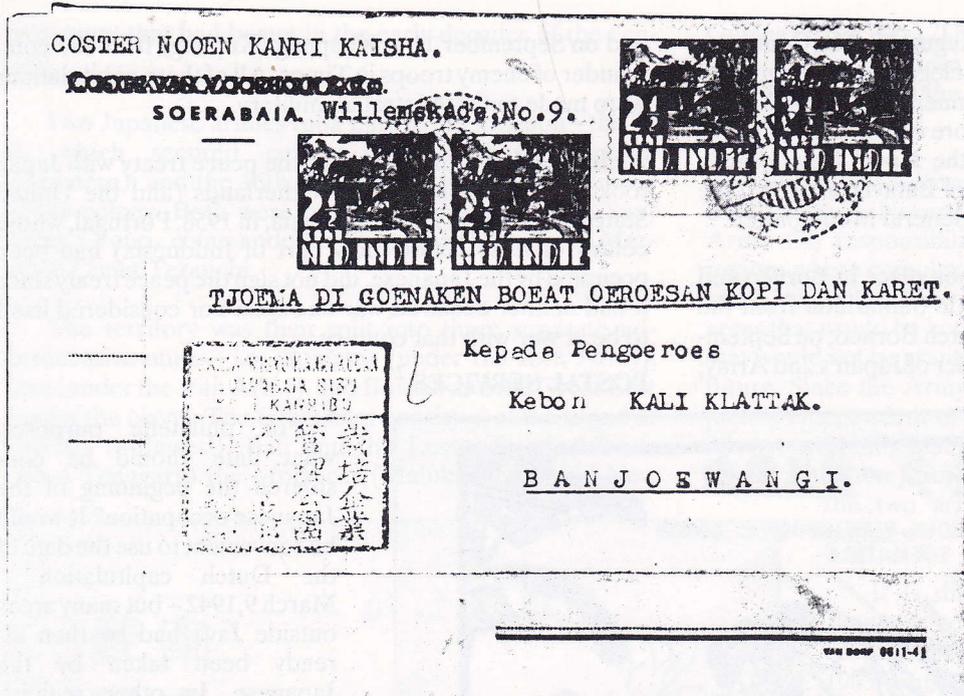


Figure 3 This envelope used for correspondence between a company and a plantation, both formerly Dutch but now under Japanese control, utilized a label stamped with a red, square permission chop. This allowed for faster transmission, since it bypassed the usual censorship. The four unoverprinted Dutch Indies stamps paid the domestic letter rate (10 c); Soerabaja, 20.3.03 (March 20, 1943).

the Lesser Sunda Islands, services resumed on December 10. In the Moluccas, the posts apparently resumed in August 1942, and this included contact with three places in West New Guinea. On Sumatra, the dates of postal resumption ranged between March (South Sumatra and especially Palembang) and August 1942 (Lamong).

In preparation for their southward drive, the Japanese had printed special banknotes for use in the territories to be occupied. No such planning existed with regard to stamps and postal stationery. Indeed, the deliberate lack of policy in this area seems to indicate that they intended to use whatever postal supplies were available locally and to improvise as they went along. This contributed to the confusing array of stamps and overprints used on different islands and even in different parts of the same island.

Grossly inadequate supplies of Japanese stamps were brought in by the troops. These consisted of three stamps commemorating the war with Russia and featuring General Nogi and Admiral Togo, issued between 1937 and 1942, and 12 definitives issued between 1937 and 1940, ranging in denomination from 1 sen to 1 yen (Figure 2). They were commonly used on Sumatra (especially the East Coast province), whereas their use in Borneo and the Great East was uncommon. Stamps of Japan were never used on Java.

Since non-demonetized stamps of Japan were declared valid in all conquered territories, one oc-

asionally finds other stamps of this nation, or even stamps of Mandchukuo (the Japanese name for Manchuria, which was occupied by Japan in the 1930s), used in the East Indies. These were most likely brought personally by stamp collectors among the military, civil servants etc., and their use is invariably philatelic.

Dutch East Indies stamps available at the time of the Japanese invasion consisted of definitives, surcharged stamps, postage dues, and the Special Flights stamp. The definitives included the square stamps of the 1934-37 Kreisler series (the water buffaloes stamp, Figure 3, and Queen Wilhelmina, 1 cent to 5 guilder, Figure 4), the 5-cent Numeral (Figure 5, right), as well as the newer van Konijnenburg designs (Queen Wilhelmina, 10 cent to 25 guilder, Figure 6) and Native Dancers series (2 cent to 7 1/2 cent, Figure 7, top right), both issued in 1941. The five values

of the set issued to benefit the Islamic social organization Moehammadijah (Figure 8) formed the surcharged group

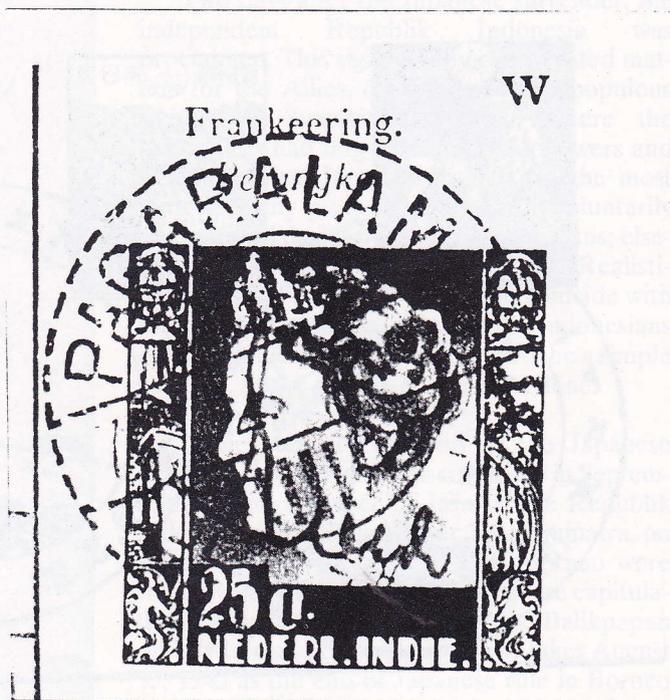


Figure 4 Postmaster Roesli's (of Pagaralam) signature overprint, 7.12.2 (December 7, 1942) on a money order fragment.



Figure 5

Various single and combination overprints of Sumatra.

Left: money order fragment; this pair was first overprinted with a red Tapanoeli Hinomaru (sun flag) and later with the semi-general framed "Dai Nippon" in black; Penjaboengan 18.7.9 (July 9, 1943).

Right: cropped from reverse of parcel postcard; ink cross and large 'Dai Nippon Yubin' in black on the 1 guilder stamp; small 'Dai Nippon Yubin' (purple) on the 5c, and mechanically applied "bar-T" on the 20c; all are canceled at Padang (West Coast Province) 19.2.7 (February 7, 1944).

of stamps. Various postage-due stamps issued between 1913 and 1940 were also available, as was the triangular 30-cent Special Flights stamp. In all, approximately 70 different Netherlands Indies stamps, not counting subtypes, were thus available in the colony. Quantities varied from place to place, of course, and certain types were sold out in some places. Some post offices still had two types of the Netherlands (the 5- and 12 1/2-cent van Konijnenburg designs) among their supplies. Before the war, these were sold to the public to enable people to prepay the return postage on behalf of their correspondents in the Netherlands.

The Dutch Indies stamps were overprinted in many areas of the occupation zone. Most of the overprints bear the three Japanese characters for "Dai Nippon" or Great Japan (Figure 7). Stamps of the

Japanese motherland were never overprinted for use in the Netherlands Indies, unless in error.

A similar situation prevailed with respect to Netherlands Indies postal stationery, although far fewer varieties existed. Only later were locally printed stamps and stationery produced by the Japanese.

Three different calendars were used during the occupation – the Sumera (Figure 8), the Showa (Figure 6), and the Christian or Gregorian calendar (Figure 9). The Sumera calendar was based on the founding of the imperial dynasty in 660 B.C.; the Showa, on the ascension of Hirohito to the imperial throne in 1926.

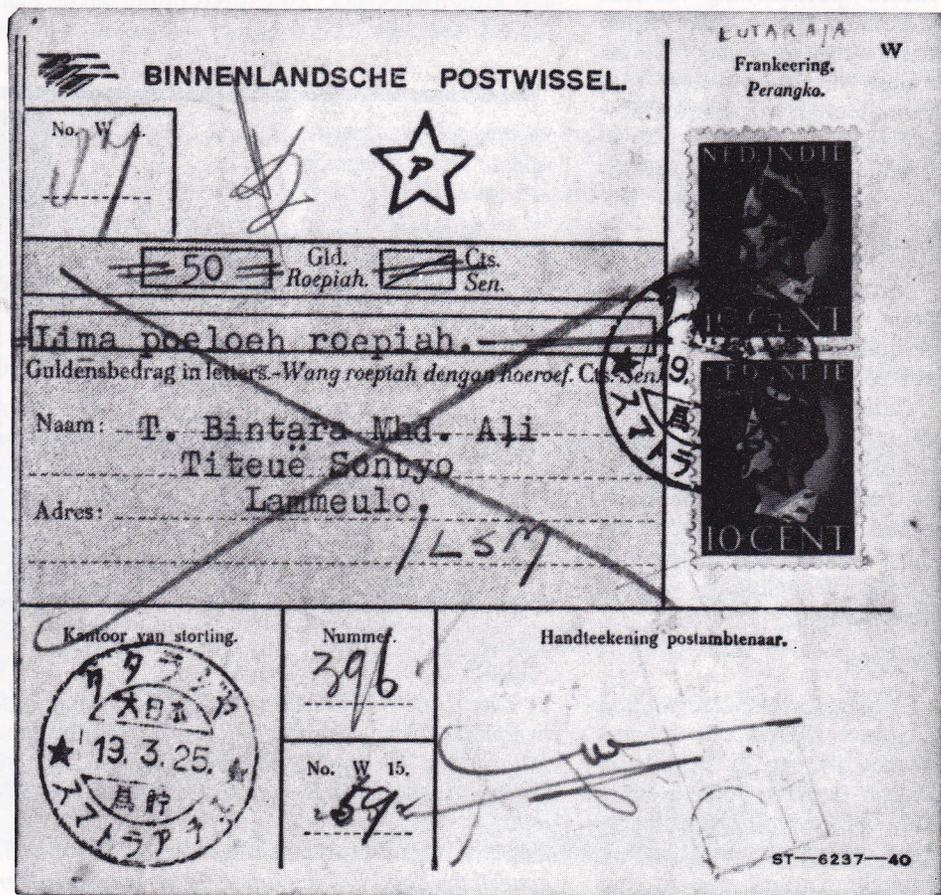


Figure 6 The Atjeh "star" overprint applied to both the stamps and the money order form; Koetaradja 19.3.25 (March 25, 1944).

Thus the years for the period examined here are as follows in the three calendars:

Christian	1942	1943	1944	1945
Sumera	2602	2603	2604	2605
Showa	17	18	19	20

In postmarks based on the Sumera calendar, the first two or three digits in the year were often omitted. In the Showa system, the date is usually indicated as year/month/day, whereas the Christian and Sumera use the day/month/year arrangement; for example, March 9, 1942 would be shown as 9.3.02 in Sumera-based postmarks and 17.3.9 in Showa-based cancels.

The Christian calendar was used in Sumatra until October 1942, and by some offices in Borneo and the Great East in 1942-43. Several offices in the Lesser Sunda Islands used the Christian calendar throughout the entire occupation period. The Sumera system was used in West Borneo and on Java during the entire period, and in Sumatra with certain variations between provinces. The Showa calendar was most popular in Borneo (except in its western part) and the Great East, as well as on Sumatra.

In many areas, Dutch East Indies postmarking devices continued to be used; when they were modified, it was usually the date system that was affected. In addition, new canceling devices were manufactured, usually partially or entirely in Japanese.

#### JAVA

From the philatelic viewpoint the situation was least complicated on Java – and the adjacent island of Madoera (Madura) – because the occupation authorities simply decided to use all available Netherlands Indies stamps and postal stationery (except for those bearing the likeness of Queen Wilhelmina), without modification.

#### Stamps

No overprints were applied (Figures 3, 8), but a few stamps altered by pen or pencil are known to have been used in July 1942. An official order issued early in the next month brought a quick end to that practice.

On March 9, 1943 a set of four large pictorials (2, 3, 5,

and 10 sen) was issued to commemorate the first anniversary of the occupation of Java. The 2 sen featured part of the globe showing East Asia, and the 5 sen depicted Mount Fujiyama (framed by coconut palms!). The two other stamps pictured native scenes.

Beginning in April 1943, a set of eight definitives emerged in two sizes – small (3 1/2, 5, 10, 20, and 40 sen) and large (60 and 80 sen, and 1 rupiah). All featured Indonesian themes – landscapes, art, historical monuments, a map, and mythological figures. Some of these stamps were designed by Basuki Abdullah, who was subsequently to become a foremost Indonesian painter. Several values exist as proofs without gum and imperforate.

Finally, two large propaganda stamps (3 1/2 and 10 sen) were also issued in 1943, commemorating the accumulation of five million guilders by the postal savings bank.

All stamps were printed in Batavia by G. Kolff & Co. in double sheets (2 x 100) for the larger stamps and quadruple sheets (4 x 100) for the smaller. A few minor plate errors exist on these three sets.



Figure 7

**Left:** Dutch Indies domestic postal money order form with a framed "Dai Nippon" overprint (arrow). The strip on the left is usually removed and kept by the addressee, but not in this case. The pair of stamps bear the mechanically applied "bar-T" general Sumatra overprint; canceled at Koetaradja 19.S.4 (May 4, 1944); rectangular censor marking at center right.

**Top right:** administrative straight-line postmark of Seulimeum (Atjeh) used as a provisional cancel; the date, 19.7.1. (July 1, 1944) is handwritten.

**Bottom right:** a 10 c stamp of Pahang, Malaya, overprinted in black 'Dai Nippon' (2062/Malaya', used on Sumatra; this single stamp, as well as the pair in the left part of the figure, were canceled with postmarks bearing the inscription 'Dai Nippon' in the top portion of the inner circle.



Figure 8 Dutch Indies 3 1/2 c stamp (domestic postcard rate) with a surcharge for the benefit of the Islamic Indonesian Moehammadijah organization. The printed message in the lower left-hand corner encourages respondents to also use Moehammadijah stamps to frank their replies. The writer ended with "continued on the fourth [postcard]." There must have been at least three other postcards to convey the whole message; canceled at Djokjakarta, 13.11.02 (November 13, 1942).

### Postal Stationery

From the very beginning, the most popular item was the postal card (Figure 10). The reason was not only its economy (domestic rate: 3 1/2 sen), but also because it was often the only type of correspondence allowed by the Japanese. On Java, this restriction was in force for about one year, starting in late 1942. Thus it is not uncommon to find two or more postcards having been used as one letter containing a very long message (Figure 8). The supplies of Dutch East Indies 3 1/2 cent postcards of the water buffaloes type (designed by Kreisler) were sold first. The Japanese then printed new postcards (September 1942) that were similar to the old ones, except that the wording 'Ned. Indie' was substituted by 'Dai Nippon'. Oddly enough, other Dutch indicia were left unchanged, perhaps because the Japanese letter-type was not yet available. Subsequently, in January 1943 the word 'BRIEFKAART' (postcard) was changed to its Japanese equivalent as well. Much later, an entirely dif-

ferent design was used, although it still featured the water buffaloes theme. The value was now 3 1/2 sen, and later 5 sen. These latter two types are also known on stocks of military (field) postcards.

One change-of-address and one propaganda postcard were issued, with imprinted values of 2 sen for the former and 3 1/2 sen for the latter. These were the only cards of their kind to be printed by the Japanese in the entire occupied East Indies region during the war.

### Postal Markings

Censorship was applied to all letters, and a multitude of markings were produced by rubber stamps and personal chops, as well as signatures and initials (Figure 10). Ink and pencil were used, usually in black or purple, but also in other colors. Many letters, on the other hand, bear no trace of censorship. The old Dutch cancelers were used

throughout the period, except where the town names were changed from Dutch to Indonesian (e.g., Batavia or Weltevreden to Djatinegara) or where the entire cancel design was replaced (e.g., Maos or Saketi). A few propaganda postmarks were also produced.

Many companies placed under Japanese control used their own "permission" chops (handstamps). This facilitated



Figure 9 Severe scarcities of paper necessitated usage of old Dutch Indies forms to make envelopes such as this official, postage-free one; Bandjermasin (South Borneo) July 31, 1942.

correspondence, especially during the period when only postcards were allowed. Often, the same permission chop would be struck on a piece of paper with the company's name and address on it, and mailed together with the letter. The addressee then affixed this label on the cover of his reply. Thus the chop made correspondence in closed envelopes possible in both directions (Figure 3).

## SUMATRA

Sumatra, the second most populous island of the Indonesian archipelago, was initially incorporated with Malaya by the Japanese occupation army to form one administrative unit. On September 29, 1942, it was divided into a number of provinces, each headed by a Japanese governor. The territorial extent of the provinces coincided with that of the residencies under Dutch rule, with a few exceptions.

The town of Blangkedjeren, previously part of Atjeh (Aceh) province, was added to the East Coast province. The Riouw archipelago (Riau in Indonesian; the Japanese used the name "Rio") became part of Syonan (Singapore) province and was administered from there; the Natoena (Bunguran) Islands were incorporated with northern Borneo. Riouw province, now stripped of its small islands, was enlarged by adding the Bengkalis region which previously was part of the East Coast province.

On April 1, 1943, Sumatra became "selfgoverning." However, the insular portion of Riouw remained with Malaya until the end of the war.

### Stamps of Malaya

Following the resumption of postal services, stamps of Japan and Malaya were used in Sumatra – the former without, the latter with, overprints. Some 15 different values of Malaya were utilized, mainly from the Straits Settlements (1, 2, 5, 10, 15, 40, and 50 cents, \$1 with a red overprint applied manually; and 8 and 15 cents with a black overprint); stamps from Negri Sembilan (10 and 30 cents), Pahang (10 cents), Perak (10 cents), and Selangor (40 cents, Figure 7, bottom right) were also used. With the exception of the red overprint on the Straits stamps, all other overprints were in black; all read, in Japanese characters, "Dai Nippon /2602/ Malaya"

and were applied mechanically. The 8-cent stamp was apparently first used after the Japanese surrender, however.

The 10-cent Straits stamp is known with an inverted overprint. This was the result of unfamiliarity with the Japanese language of a British postal employee in Singapore, who had already treated a half-sheet in that manner before he discovered the mistake. Fearing a reprimand by the Japanese, he hastily dispatched these errors "across the water" to Sumatra, when orders came to send supplies to that island.

Since all Malayan stamps were technically valid for use on Sumatra during the latter's brief incorporation with the former, other types can be found with Sumatra cancels, but these are quite rare. As well, all types of Malayan stamps may exist with cancels of the Riouw archipelago, since these islands remained part of Syonan province.

*To be continued*



Figure 10

*Postcards used on Java:*

**Top left:** Netherlands Indies 3 1/2 c of the Kreisler type; bilingual: Dutch and Indonesian. The oval double-ring censor marking was used by the Japanese army in the Sultanate of Soerakarta (Central Java).

**Top right:** as above, but "Ned. Indie" replaced by "Dai Nippon".

**Middle left:** as above, but Dutch indicia replaced by Japanese. The large, red rectangular chop was used in Kediri as a censor marking for civilian internees mail.

**Middle right:** Japanese design; 3 1/2 sen.

**Bottom left:** as above, but 5 sen.

**Bottom right:** as above, but printed on Japanese field postcard (see also Figure 1); canceled at Solo 11.9.05 (September 11, 1945), one day before the Republik Indonesia formally took over from the Japanese on Java.



Fig. 1: Here we see a partially burned letter from the doomed 'Uiver' flight to the Indies, in December 1934. To find the correct franking rate, one has to start with the land mail rate. For the Indies this was 6 ct. at the time. We find Child Welfare stamps of 5 and 1 1/2 ct, together 6 1/2 ct. This is 1/2 ct overfranked, but most collectors will accept this. In addition there is the triangular special flights stamp for the 30 ct air rights. Many, many covers to the Indies were franked with a 12 1/2/ct stamp, this being the surface mail letter rate for foreign destinations. Most Dutchmen did apparently not realize that there were special *reduced* rates for the Colonies. As has been recounted before in N.P., the 'Uiver' DC-1 was forced down by an enormous rainstorm above a Syrian desert. Crew and passengers all perished, but part of the mail was saved, be it that some letters were partly burned.

Fig. 3: Train letters are all rare, but a train letter franked with a Child Welfare Stamp (plus the Railway stamp)? In those pre-fax times newspaper reporters could file their reports by mailing them into special boxes mounted onto or into the mail carriage that was then part of each inter-city train. On the destination side a co-worker of that newspaper would then retrieve the letter. The Dutch Railways (N.S.) demanded 25 ct for her service, to be paid with a special Railway stamp. The PTT, who had contributed absolutely nothing in this process, nevertheless demanded her first class letter rate, this being 18 ct at the end of 1965. The PTT would do this on the basis of her official monopoly on the handling of first class letter mail.

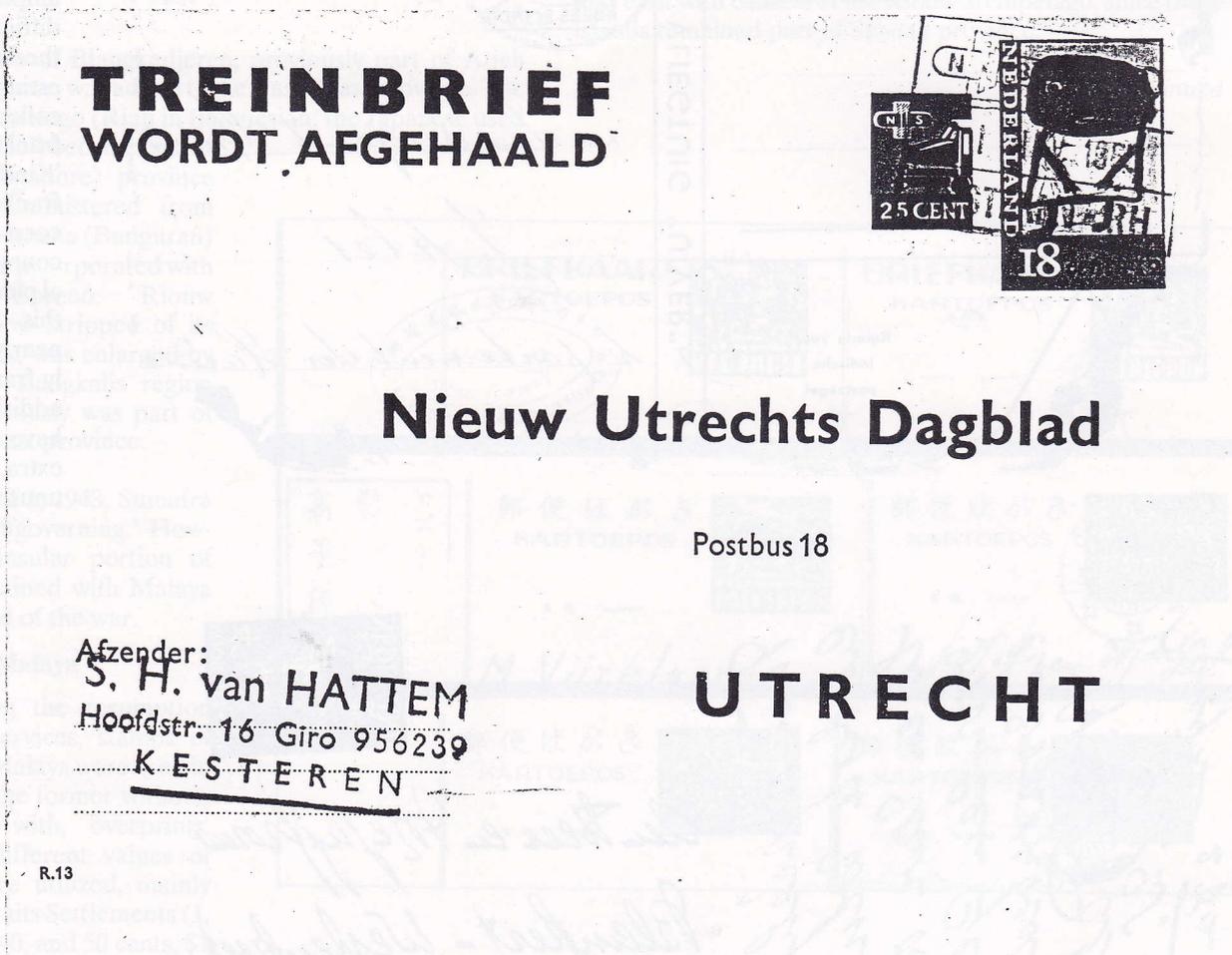


Figure 3

Fig. 2: This is one of the rarest if not the rarest correct single franking with a Child Welfare stamp. This is a 1942 post card with a written New Year's message from Waardenburg to Waardenburg. At that time there were still local rates, hence the 4 ct franking. The rarity does not stop here. All frankings with 1941 Child Welfare stamps are rare. This in spite of the very high numbers printed. Undoubtedly, many of these stamps were bought on speculation, but that still does not explain why so few of these stamps survived on piece; they are dirt cheap as soaked-off used stamps.

Fig. 4: An entirely impossible piece! For more than ten years we searched for a used pictogram puzzle card, that is with the stamps canceled. Such cards customarily come with the purchase of a 'Child' sheetlet. By solving the puzzle and sending the card with solution to the 'Voor het Kind' Foundation, one could qualify for attractive lottery prizes. (Ex-Dutchmen may have noticed already that our present puzzle solver made a mistake and therefore disqualified him/herself). The amount of overfranking (fl 2.70 in this case) would go to the Foundation. People were encouraged to use Child Welfare stamps for this purpose, but this was not obligatory.

Schrift s v p met biokletters, dit adresstrookje wordt zonnig gebruikt voor de trekkinglijst

Oplissing: bekröon het jaar van het kind met kinderzegels op uw post



INZENDING SLUIT 31-12-1979 TREKKING  
 STICHTING VOOR HET KIND  
 285 EMMASTRAAT 38  
 1075 HW AMSTERDAM

Figure 4

In the present case an additional fl 1.00 in surcharges did accrue to the Foundation. All stamps on these cards were immediately cancelled, but what happened to these cancelled cards? One would think that after all the administrative niceties were completed that the cards would be sold

for yet more cash in bulk lots to stamp dealers, just like used to happen with parcel address forms. In fact, none of this ever happened; all cards, with stamps and all, go to the paper mill where they are shredded – under strict supervision. One can only speculate how the present card escaped that fate but one may take it that this card is a first class rarity.

Fig. 5: Three times 60 ct plus 10 ct is 190 ct. A rather high amount for a post card franking! Especially since official postcards to the PTT are usually free of franking. The 190 ct is indeed not the franking of this card; it is a postage due card that originally was attached to a postal piece that was underfranked by this amount. The card requested the addressee to return the card with the dues affixed in stamps. People receiving such cards usually are not very happy about it; not exactly in the frame of mind to be expansive and attach Child Welfare stamps! We have seen a few such cards; rare they are perhaps not, but still unusual for sure.



Figure 5

## Addendum: Cancels of Netherlands New Guinea

by Leon G. Stadtherr

A number of errors and typos were made in the article on the cancels of Netherlands New Guinea (NNG) in the September 1987 issue of this Journal<sup>1</sup>.

The following list corrects the errors the author is aware of at this time.

List of corrections for article on NNG cancels in NP, 12, #1, (1987) p. 13-26.

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <p>p. 13 last footnote at bottom of righthand column should be 15 not 13</p> <p>p. 15 Table II cancel type<br/>             4.1a Kokanoa should be Kokonao<br/>             4.1b two-line name/canceler number/no ornaments</p> | <p>p. 17 fourth paragraph, second line: Type 3.9a should be Type 3.9</p> <p>p. 17 7th line from bottom should be:<br/>             emergency-use-only cancel as few impressions are</p> <p>p. 18 Table III FD2 date reads 1 okt. 1958 on the cancel</p> <p>p. 20 Table IV change references to: 10 ⇒ 11 19 ⇒ 21<br/>             7A ⇒ 8 20 ⇒ 22</p> <p>p. 22 9th line should be: designated Sp3a, Sp3b, and Sp3c.</p> <p>p. 23 5th line left column: omit 'these'</p> |
|---|---|

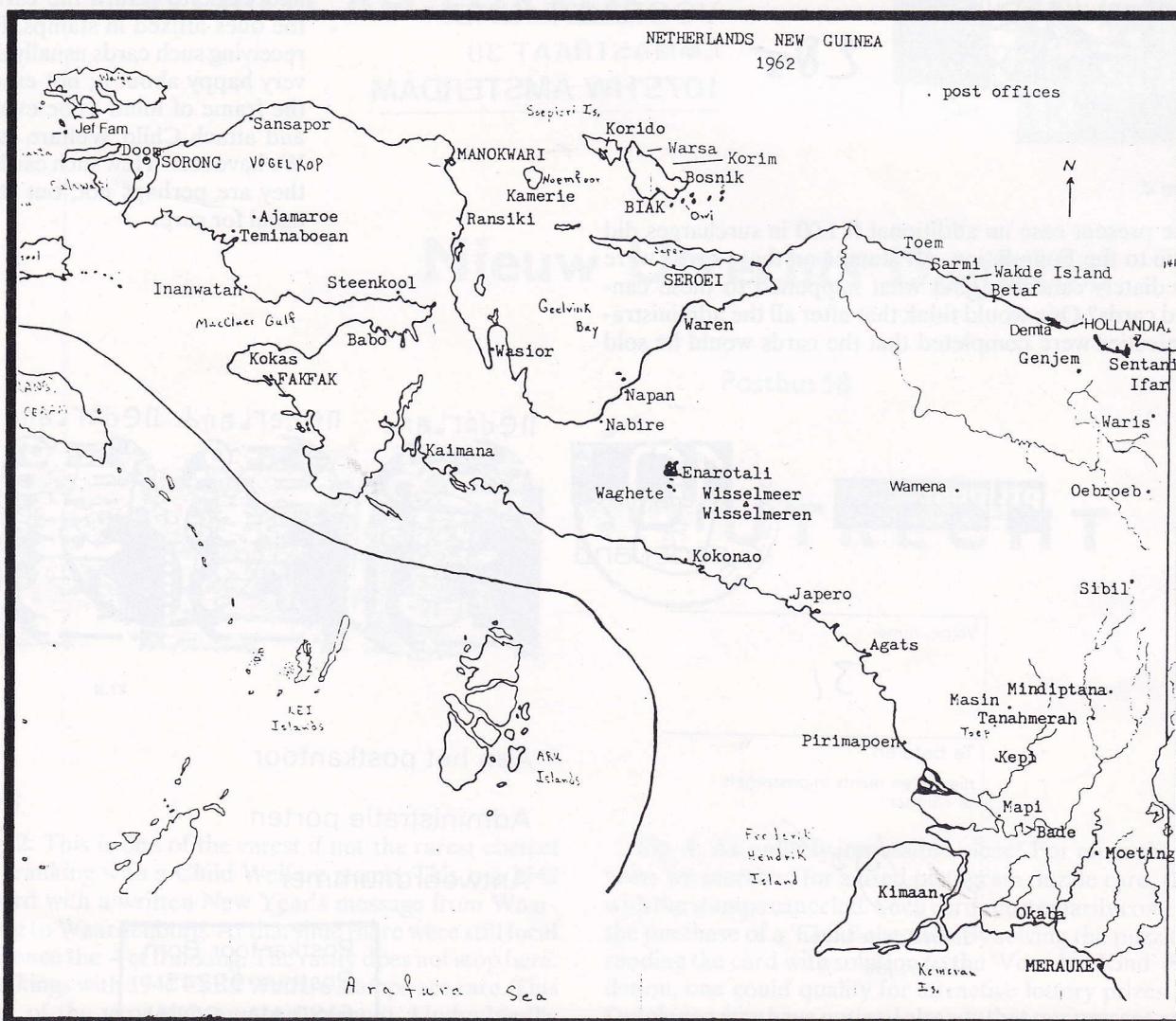


Figure 1 A postal history map of Netherlands New Guinea.

- p. 24 Both MANOKWARI and FAKFAK opened in 1899 (see preceding article in NP)
- p. 24 left column: TEMINABOEAN is at the mouth of the Kaibus River
- p. 24 bottom right column: KEPT should be KEPI
- p. 25 PIRIMAPOEN is on the south coast, south of Agats
- p. 25 INANWATAN is one word
- p. 25 fourth line of Acknowledgements: .... for ever more .....
- p. 26 reference 4 should be p. 755-7.
- p. 26 reference 10 should be Vic Esbensen.

Some of the errors are significant, others are not. If you have the earlier article please photocopy this list and put it with that article. If you do not have the article but are interested in NNG cancels, contact the ASNP librarian for a copy of this issue of our journal.

A map of NNG showing the locations of the postal offices was omitted from the 1987 article. It was to be

included as Figure 8. This map is given here as Figure 1.

In the period after 1949, after the separation of Netherlands New Guinea from Indonesia, some of the postmark devices used in NNG between 1945 and 1949, continued in use. Those known to the author in 1987 were listed in Table I of the earlier article. Since then another has come to light. This is the HOLLANDIA single circle cancel with the date in the center. This cancel type is shown as Figure 14 in Bunge<sup>2</sup>. It is the only pre-1950 single circle dated cancel used in NNG. Figure 2 shows use of this cancel on a July 1950 airmail cover to the USA.

This is the latest use of this cancel known to the author. This canceler must have been used extensively in the early months of 1950 as the author also has a cover with this cancel dated -8MY50 and de Weijer shows a cover with a 14MR50 date<sup>5</sup>.

A revised Table I is given below. Dates of latest-known-use of each canceler have been updated from those given in the 1987 article.

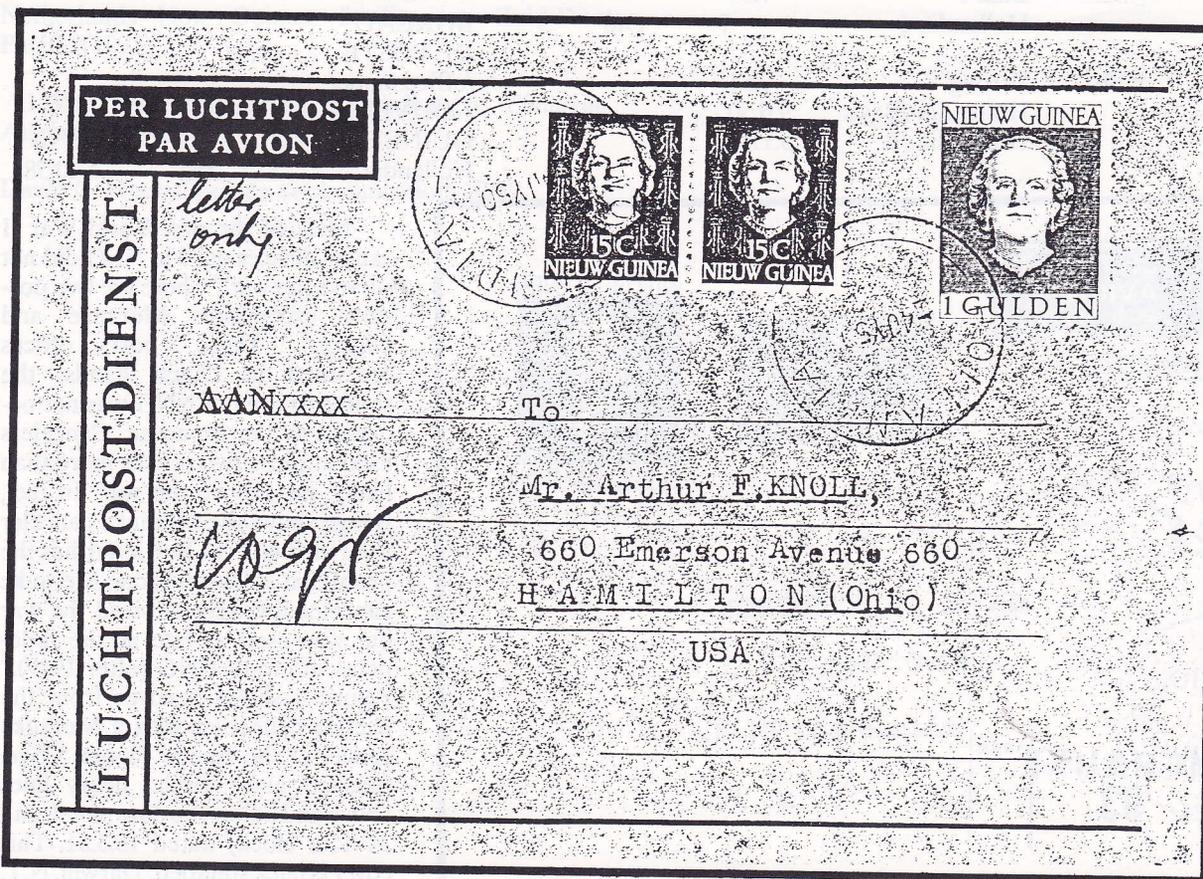


Figure 2 Pre-1950 cancel of type 3.7 used on a 1950 cover from Hollandia to the U.S.A.

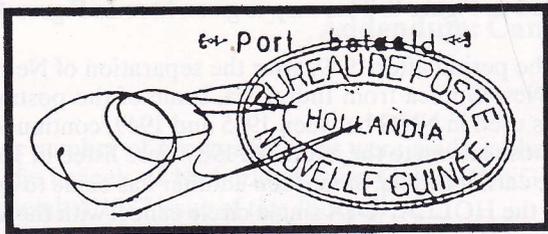


Figure 3 BUREAU DE POSTE / NOUVELLE GUINEE. PTT Office in HOLLANDIA handstamp type Of6 used on a 1958 registered cover<sup>5</sup>.

Table I. Cancels used before and after 1/1/1950 in NNG.

cancel type	Bunge <sup>2</sup>	Houwink <sup>3</sup>	Post Office	Latest use *
3.7	14	E.7	Hollandia	4 JY 50
3.8a	18	E.8	Biak	15.6.59
			Fakfak	12.9.50 (1.10.62)
			Hollandia	20.10.60 ( . .63)
			Sorong	51
	20		Monokwari	3.7.50
3.8b	19		Sorong-/Doom	21.2.51
3.9	21	E.9a	Biak 1	7.59 <sup>4</sup>
			Hollandia 1	?
3.10	22	E.9b	Sorong	2.51 <sup>5</sup>
			Hollandia-/Basis	9.6.50 <sup>5</sup>
			Hollandia-/B	8.11.55

\* Subject to change as new dates are reported. Dates in parenthesis are from the UNTEA period.

Table II in the earlier article lists the cancels introduced in NNG between 1950 and 1962. Only one additional cancel has come to the author's attention since that article was written. Nabire used a type 4.3b cancel, a straight line cancel with date, as well as a type 4.3a cancel, a straight line cancel without date<sup>4</sup>.

The MANOKWARI JAARMARKT special cancellation, listed in Table III of the 1987 article, was used at a trade fair which ran from August 27 to September 5, 1959. During this 10-day period a temporary sub-postoffice was located on the fairgrounds at Manokwari. Both purple and blue cancellation inks were used.<sup>7</sup> No other changes or new information concerning special cancels (Table III) have come to the author's attention.

One more administrative handstamp can be added to those given in Table IV. This new postmark can be designated as Of6 and is shown in Figure 3.

Add to Table IV. NNG PTT Administrative Handstamps:

cancel type	other ref	Description	size	use	date used
Of6	5	BUREAU DE POSTE /office name/ NOUVELLE GUINEE Hollandia	oval	?	-1.10.58

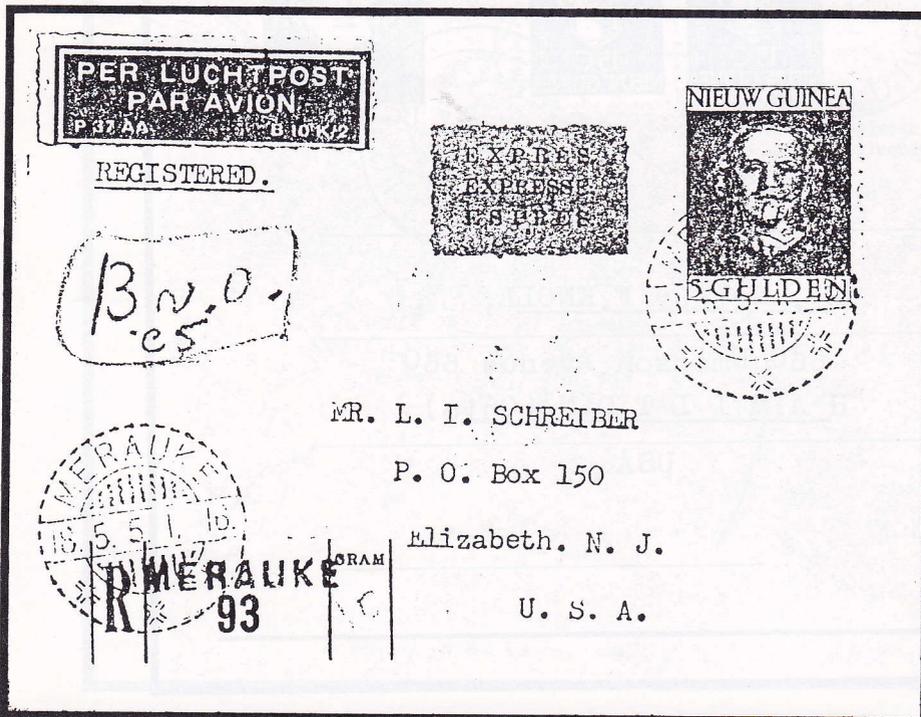


Figure 4 Pre-WWII cancel used on a May 1951 registered express airmail cover to New Jersey.

Most of the pre World War II cancel devices used in NNG did not survive the war.<sup>6</sup> There are two possible exceptions: Merauke and Digoel.<sup>2</sup> These post offices remained in Dutch hands; the southeast area of NNG was not occupied by the Japanese. Cancelers used at these two offices more than likely did survive the war. In fact, Bunge shows the Merauke canceler used in 1946.<sup>2</sup> L. E. Kieffer has the proof that at least this one Merauke canceler not only survived the war but was used as late as the independent era of NNG (after 1949).<sup>4</sup> Figure 4 shows a cover from the Kieffer collection with a Merauke cancel of the Bunge Figure 5 type (dashed outer circle, heavy lines above and below the date panel, and 24-hour clock) dated 18.5.51. This cover is back stamped: Darwin, N.T. (Australia) 5 Je 51; Sydney 7 Je 51; and Elizabeth, N.J. June 13, 1951.

If you have any additions, corrections, or changes to make concerning any NNG postmarks please contact the author or the editors so this information can be shared with the readers of *NP*.

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