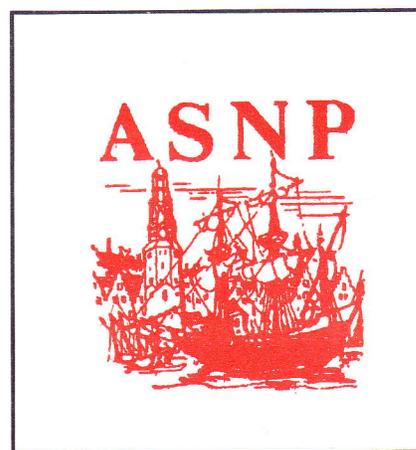


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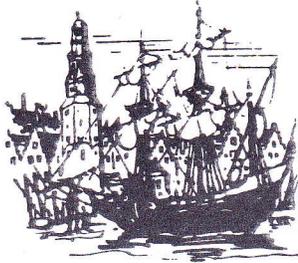
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THE JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR NETHERLANDS PHILATELY
Volume 29, number 2

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From the Editor:

The new year is upon us so let me first wish each and every one of you all the best. I know that there are many more important things going on in your lives than philately, but I also believe that philately is a great way to get away from it all once in a while. To keep yourself interested and to be stimulated were most likely some of the reasons you became a member of the ASNP.

To make your membership worthwhile I do my best to gather philatelic material that covers a wide subject area. Not all of us are experts, and even if we are an expert, it is most likely only on a specific subject. Nobody knows it all.

Of course I would love to publish articles that have not been published before but I've found that to be impossible, so when I come across an article that I think would interest some (preferably most) of our members and that I think is not widely accessible I'll try to get permission to translate (if necessary) and re-publish. Such is the case with the articles about the 'D.E.I. - Indonesia 1945 -1949' (which is published in Dutch on the Internet), and the 'Postal Consequences of the New Guinea Question' which came from the Dutch ZWP (South West Pacific) publication. I would like to thank the original authors for their consent, and Ben Jansen for his excellent translation job on the ZWP article.

The other articles were written by fellow ASNP members Max Lerk (who is our Dutch representative) and Dick Phelps (our Auction Manager). Although one covers stamps issued in 2003, and the other cancels used during the 1880s and 1890s I think you'll find it interesting reading. Governor Ed Matthews has compiled the index of the Journal for Volumes 24-28, which cover 1999-2004. We appreciate their contributions, and may it stimulate others.

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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Greetings Mail 2003

by Max Lerk

Note:

Recent publications about the cancellations and sorting codes applied to the Dutch mail around Christmas time (called the KNJ-mail: (K(erst) and N(ieuw)J(aar)) post in the Netherlands) made me curious. As a philatelist what could I find out about this mail, which I will refer to here as 'greetings mail'.

Introduction: It is obvious that the contents of greetings mail is of great importance to the receiver: well meant wishes for the coming holidays and the new year from friends and family strengthens one in knowing, in these often hard or troublesome times, that you have friends that think of you.

The philatelist is interested also in the envelopes in which these wishes arrived. It possibly shows the latest advances in which way this type of mail is handled. Collecting a large number of envelopes is not too hard to do for this kind of mail; nearly everybody receives some greetings mail.

My interests cover three areas:

What stamps were used by the senders? Here it is interesting to see to which degree the senders followed the recommendations of the postal service i.e. the use of the discounted Christmas stamps

Which cancels were used in the various sorting centers, or at the local postoffices?

What sorting codes were used during the 2003 Holiday season?

Research Approach

The first thing I had to do is collect enough envelopes to gather some meaningful results. I collected all the mail received in my household and I also asked family members and friends to keep the envelopes for my study. Most of the mail examined came from the area around my home: Maarn, Hoogland, Leusden, Rotterdam, and Langbroek.

The 'sample' can not be called representative. A total of 281 envelopes out of the millions sent is too small. In addition, the geographical area these 281 envelopes represent, is too limited; it does not cover the Netherlands from North to South, and East to West. If that had been the case all six sorting centers would have been more equally represented. Since I'm only looking for an 'impression' of what went on I accepted the limited sampling.

All pertinent information on the envelopes was recorded on a list. Peculiarities were also noted.

Some 'technical' information regarding the postal cancels.

In 'Machinecancels' by van der Wart there is a reference to some of the cancels used in my study. These cancels consist of a town name and a date, called the 'pole' of the cancel, as well as a 'flag'. The flag often is a number of wavy lines or some type of advertising. Accordingly sometimes these cancels are referred to as flag cancels.

Of importance to us are:

The 'square' cancels (v.d. Wart type XV). The pole consists of a square box, in which the town name is written in the shape of horse shoe, with below it first the day-, month- and hour-indication, and then the year written in full. The flag can be to the right or left of the pole.

This type has been in use since 1945, and starting in the mid 1960s it was gradually replaced. However, it still sees limited use these days.



Illustr. 1 Example of the 'square' machine cancel

The Klüssendorf cancel (v.d. Wart type XVI). The pole has diameter of 29 mm. In the upper part of double circle one finds the town name. At the bottom one often finds a number (representing the number of the cancel, not time or anything like that).

A short bar in the middle of the cancel contains the day, month and hour of cancellation.

The flag is usually a square of 30 x 30 mm. Text is to the left of the pole. This type of cancel was first used in Groningen in 1965 and gradually introduced at other postoffices.

There are three types of Klüssendorf cancels:

A: Day, month, and year are separated by a dot. The hour indication is separated from the year through the use of a short horizontal dash. The year is in Roman numerals.

B: The day is followed by a dot. The year and month are written as one number; the month is written in Arabic numbers. A long horizontal bar separates the hour from the year

C: In this version the day, month, and year are separated by spaces; a short horizontal dash separates the hour and year.

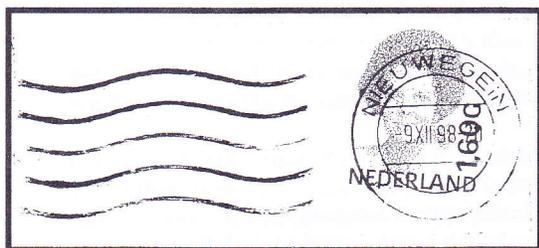


Illustr. 2 Example of a Klüssendorf cancel

The Braungardt machinecancel (v.d Wart Type XVII). I deliberately added the word machine cancel because there are also Braungardt hand cancels.

This type of cancel has a small pole, with a diameter of 23 mm. Between the rings one reads the town name on top. In the center one sees two horizontal lines, forming the short bar. There in you'll find the day, month, year and hour indication. The month is written in Roman numerals. The year (only the last two digits are printed) is separated from the hour by a horizontal dash. Following the day and month is a dot. The flag generally is 41 or 42 x 20 mm.

This type of cancel came into use at 50+ postoffices, starting in 1973. Through consolidation in first twelve expedition centers, and then six super sorting centers one can find this type of cancel now only with an Amsterdam, 's-Gravenhage, 's-Hertogenbosch, Nieuwegein, Rotterdam, or Zwolle cancel.



Illustr. 3 Example of a Braungardt cancel

Analysis of the use of the various stamps

The 281 envelopes contained the following stamps:

- 226 with the 2003 discounted (€ 0.29) Christmas stamps.
- 3 with the discounted € 0.29 stamp with a personalized picture attached.
- 27 had a discounted 2002 Christmas stamp (€ 0.29).
- 3 had a discounted 2001 Christmas stamp (€ 0.27), two of which had additional franking, the other one didn't.
- 1 had two 2000 Christmas stamps (fl 0.60) and was overfranked. (€ 1 = fl 2.20)
- 1 had a 1999 Christmas stamp (fl 0.55), with two € 0.02 stamps added.
- 1 had a 1998 Christmas stamp (fl 0.55) with two added € 0.02 stamps.
- 1 had a 1995 Christmas stamp (fl 0.55) with an added € 0.05 stamp
- 15 had € 0.39 stamps, of which four were Child welfare stamps.

One envelope came from France, and two from Belgium. They had Dutch sorting codes and were included in the study.

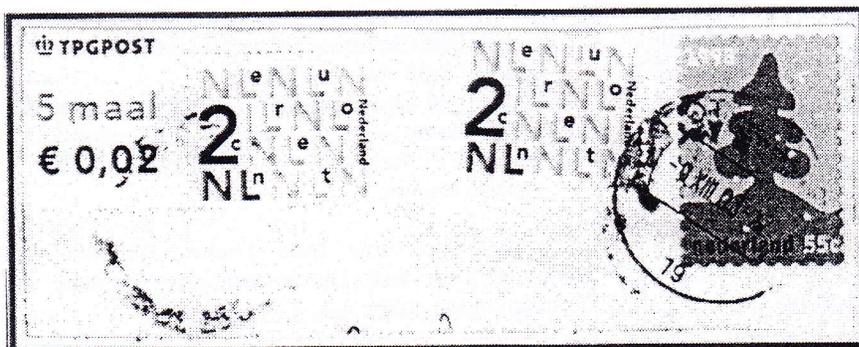
Clearly the vast majority had the current Christmas stamps on it. The Dutch PTT had promoted the use of these Discounted stamps. The latest fad, the personalized stamp, was used by three friends. One of the personalized tabs was the PTT supplied tab, another one showed the grandson of a family friend. The third one showed the garden of a conductor friend, who used it on a card of a similar design.



Illustr. 4 Two personal stamps on KNJ mail

There was a fairly high usage of older december stamps, although they needed some additional franking. The mixed guilder/euro franking makes for a nice touch. The overfranking, through the usage of two fl 0.60 stamps, points to a lack of interest in the discounts offered by TPG. The same can be said of the use of a regular € 0.39 stamp versus a sufficient € 0.29 discounted stamp.

Note: Because all mail, weighing 50 grams or less, did qualify for the use of the discounted december stamps, non greeting mail with the discounted stamp can also be found. I did find one of those letters. The very first day after the discounted stamps were issued I already received some advertising mail from a coin dealer in Amsterdam, using a 2003 december stamp.



Illustr. 5: Mixed franking of guilder and euro stamps (Please notice the (barely visible) month character XIII.)

Analysis of usage of the application of various cancels.

The 281 pieces of postal stationery were canceled as follows:

a. Braungardt machine cancels of the six sorting centers:

Amsterdam, flag of wavy lines	9
Amsterdam, flag 'Schrijven'	3
's-Gravenhage, flag of wavy lines	2
's-Gravenhage, flag 'Schrijven	17
's-Hertogenbosch, flag wavy lines	4
's-Hertogenbosch, flag 'Postcode'	12
Nieuwegein, flag wavy lines	6
Nieuwegein, flag 'Schrijven'	63
Rotterdam, flag wavy lines	14
Rotterdam, flag 'Schrijven'	14
Zwolle, flag wavy lines	<u>31</u>
Total Braungardt cancels	175

b. Klüssendorf cancel with flag:

Amersfoort, flag 'Postcode'	1
Amsterdam 2, flag 'Postcode'	1
Dordrecht, flag wavy lines	1
'sGravenhage, flag 'Postcode'	6
Nieuwegein, flag wavy lines	9
Sittard 2, flag wavy lines	1
Zwolle, flag 'Postcode''	<u>2</u>
Total Klüssendorf cancels	21

c. Machine cancel 'square'

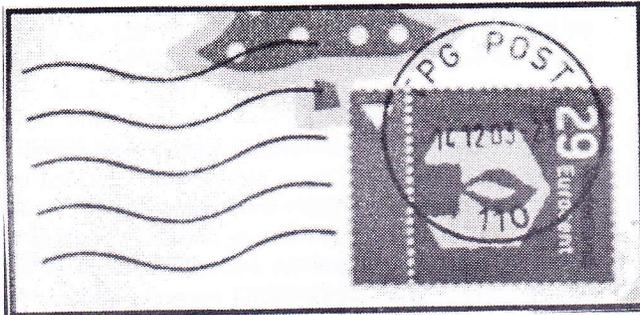
Rotterdam, flag with wavy lines	2
---------------------------------	---

d. Cancels TPG POST: (Model Klüssendorf), all with wavy lines flag.

Cancel	13	32	total
Number	13	32	
"	15	3	"
"	17	1	"
"	25	1	"
"	55	2	"
"	57	1	"
"	68	1	"
"	76	1	"
"	95	1	"
"	96	5	"
"	98	5	"
"	106	1	"
illegible	<u>14</u>	<u>1</u>	
TPG POST	68		Total

e. Handcancels:

Rotterdam	19	1
Doorn		1
Handroller cancel Nieuwegein		4
Marked with a pen		1
Not canceled		3
Missed by machine		1



Illustr. 6 and 7: TPG POST cancel nr. 110 (collection HK) and pen cancel.

Notes:

- One would expect that the canceling devices normally in use at the six sorting centers would also be used optimally during the Christmas/New Year period. This is indeed the case. Previous articles in *Filatelie* show more usage of the PTT- and TPG-POST cancels. This year however, they are used relatively less.
- The Braungardt cancels were only be found for the six sorting centers. They show the 'wavy lines' flags, 'Schrijven ..' and 'Postcode...'. respectively. Comparing the dates of the cancels, one can see that on some days both cancels were used. We show 's Hertogenbosch on December 19 and 21, Nieuwegein on December 15, and Rotterdam on December 9, 12, 19, 21 and 30
- The 'square cancel' was at any rate used in Rotterdam on December 12 and 15. This quite old cancel is still being used in Rotterdam at a regular rate, next to the usual Braungardt cancel.
- Could one still find PTT-POST cancels last year, this time the transition to TPG-POST cancels seems to be completed (TPG being the new name of the old PTT). In our study we see the number 13 relatively a lot. By studying the addresses of the senders, one must conclude that

this cancel was used at the postoffices/distribution centers near Leersum, Doorn, or Maarn.

- From the usage of the Klüssendorf cancels one can conclude that these were used in the Nieuwegein and 's Gravenhage sorting centers, in addition to the Braungardt cancels. The same can be possibly be said for the Amsterdam - although the number 2 points to a sub office-, and also that some non-sorting centers were using them: Amersfoort, Dordrecht, and Sittard 2.
- The Klüssendorf cancels used in Amersfoort, Amsterdam 2, 's Gravenhage, and Zwolle used the 'Postcode..' flag, while Dordrecht, Nieuwegein, and Sittard 2 had 'wavy lines'.
- In some cases the use of the Klüssendorf and TPG-POST cancels caused us to take a look at the dimensions (format) of the postal stationery in question. It showed that square stationery was hardly ever canceled with a Braungardt cancel, but nearly always with a Klüssendorf cancel. The envelope that slipped through a canceler without being sufficiently canceled was also square. The usage of december stamps was this year allowed for square envelopes, because nearly all canceling was done by machine. However, the Braungardt canceler was hardly used in this case.
- The cancels had an occasional error. We found: Rotterdam Handcancel: 9 XIII 03; TPG POST cancel nr. 13: 14 XI 03; same 15 XI 03; TPG POST cancel (number illegible) 17 XI 03; 's Gravenhage Braungardt cancel 10 XII 02
- It stood out that the hour indication of 22 was most prevalent. The 263 legible characters were divided as follows:

19 o'clock	32 times
20 ..	1 time
21 ..	62 times
22 ..	168 times

The hour identifier 20 came from the Braungardt cancel Amsterdam 168 times. The hour identifiers 19 and 20 came mainly from the Klüssendorf and the TPG POST cancels; character 22 from the Braungardt cancel machine.

It is known that large volumes of mail is being canceled in the evening hours. The mail boxes are emptied at 17 and 19 o'clock. One wonder if the hour identifiers have any real meaning anymore.

Analysis of the sorting codes

The mechanical handling of the mail underwent rapid changes the last decennia. Many collectors are now specializing in this aspect. In our survey we only are looking at a sampling of only six weeks. We recently read that one of the two codes used the last few years was dropped in 2003. The older pink bar codes is still being used.

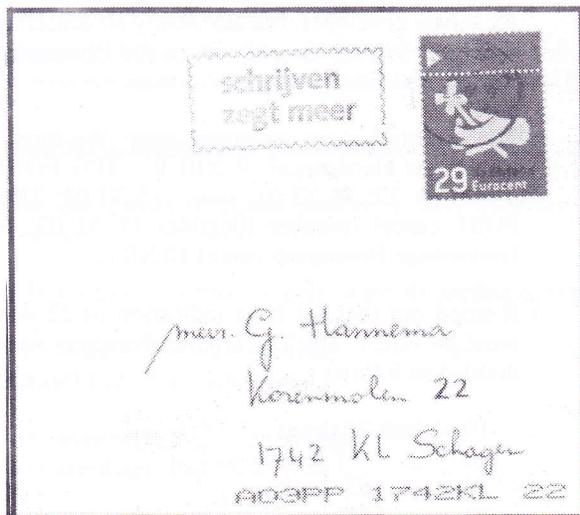
The modern sorting code consists of three parts:

a. A letter, a number, and one or two letters. The first letter represents the respective sorting center:

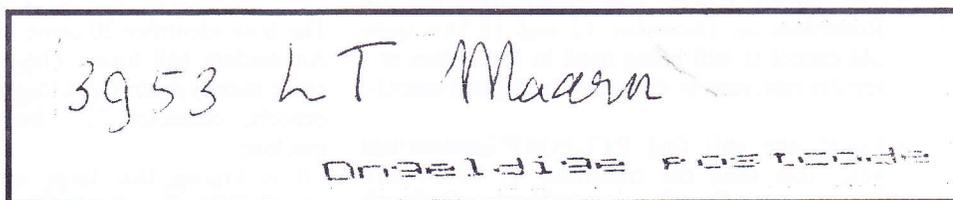
A for Amsterdam,
G for 's Gravenhage
H for 's Hertogenbosch
N for Nieuwegein
R for Rotterdam
Z for Zwolle

The number is the number of the machine used. The second set of letters (or one letter) indicate how the code was read.

b. The zip code of the address
c. The house number of the address



Illustr. 8: X-mas card sent through the Amsterdam sorting machine # 03 to zip code 1742KL at housenumber 22.



Of the 281 pieces of mail examined 97 did not have a code. In nearly every case this could be explained because it concerned local mail. There was a clear connection with the TPG POST cancels. This would indicate that not all local mail was handled mechanically. As 27 of these pieces were canceled in a sorting center it seems likely that there were two routes for local mail; one via the sorting centers, the other via the local postoffice, where for example there could be a Klüssendorf and/or TPG POST cancel applied, but where the sorting was done by hand.

Some of the sorting codes were lacking a house number. One explanation being that the house number was not picked by the 'address reader'. In only 73 cases there was a house number present in the sorting code. Maybe the system still has flaws?

In eight cases the sorting code letter did not agree with the sorting center where the piece was canceled. A postal piece canceled in Nieuwegein on December 22, had a code 'Z07TT' (Z = Zwolle), another piece canceled in Nieuwegein on December 19 read 'G07S' (a G sorting center does not exist). I also found: canceled in Amsterdam, sorted in 's Hertogenbosch H06P; cancel 's Gravenhage, code 'Z16TT'; cancel Nieuwegein December 19, code 'A03P', and cancel Nieuwegein December 22, code 'Z06S', respectively 'Z12S'. This would indicate a cooperation between the various sorting centers, optimizing the sorting capacity.

In one case the postal piece showed a completely different sorting code than the zip code of the address. No explanation that I could come up with. Also, in another case a housenumber different than what was meant was put into the sorting code. Could this be a simple error? Was it a mechanical or human error?

I also noticed a case where two postal codes were shown in the sorting code.

In two cases non existing zip codes were shown in the address. The sorting machine in Rotterdam reacted to this with a note: 'Ongeldige postcode' (Invalid zip code).

Illustr. 9 Note 'invalid zip code'; 3953 LT should have been 3951 LJ

One of the French letters was re-inserted into the sorting process. On the envelope the 'Herstelpost' cancel was printed.

A couple of cautious conclusions

An analysis of even a limited amount of greeting mail produces a treasure of information regarding stamps used, cancels used, and sorting-methods (and -codes) used. It also gives us a glimpse of the workings of the six sorting centers and the local postoffices.

We get an insight through a snap shot of recent postal history. This is in particular true as it relates to the postal codes used on the envelopes. Also, by looking at the various cancels we get an idea about the usage of older canceling devices used during peak mail sorting periods, and by checking the stamps used on the KNJ-mail, one gets an idea what the senders ideas are about franking, i.e. what kind of stamps to use.

Closing notes

This limited research is an example of modern philately. Philately that doesn't cost anything, requires some study and produces a lot of information. But, best of all, it is a form of philately that gives the researcher a lot of satisfaction. Aren't we all somewhat bitten by the collecting-bug? Don't we all want always want to know just a bit more?

It is a challenge to write down some conclusions, not only for yourself, but for your fellow collectors as well, who in turn can make use of this information.

By collecting this type of information, and studying it I was able to set up a talk ('Greeting Mail 2003') I will give at the stamp show in Woudenberg in May 2005.

Have a look at the X-mas mail you might have received from the Netherlands; who knows what you'll find out.

Sources

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F.S.J.G. Hermse, *Kerst- en nieuwjaarspost 2002: nieuwe stempels en ander nieuws*, Maandblad Filatelie april 2003, blz. 312-313.

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Here the cancelling device missed the stamp, but the mailman 'alertly' noticed it and as yet applied a pen mark to invalidate the stamp.

D.E.I. - Indonesia, 1945 -1949

by Philip Levert

Wild times in the East about fifty-five years ago. We' be talking about the first years of the Indonesian Republic, the days of them battling the Dutch. I've been able to make use of the remarks and comments of Leo Vosse of the Dai Nippon club, for which I thank him. However, what follows is my responsibility.

Catalogs:

For stamps of the Dutch East Indies the information comes from the NVPH catalog. For stamps of Repoeblik Indonesia I was able to use a borrowed copy of the 1996 edition of the Prangko Indonesian Stamp Catalogue and the 1945-49 catalog of the Dai Nippon club, edition 1981. For the 'Vienna Printing' (more about that later) I had access to a 1990 catalog, put together by H Ramkema of Nunspeet. Of course there are more up-to-date Indonesian catalogs of Dai Nippon. In 2003 Dai Nippon also published a full color catalog of the Vienna Printing, while these Vienna Printings are also, since 1997, listed in the Prangko catalog.

Some facts:

In Indonesia, the Gordel van Smaragd (the Emerald Belt), legends are treasured. For example the 1996 Prangko catalog, in its preface, states that there were more than 1 million casualties in the Indonesian's fight for freedom. Independent historian come to about 250,000 people, including about 50,000 militants as a result of their fight against the English, Japanese, Dutch and among themselves. The rest are innocent men, women and children - Chinese, Christians, and people living in villages (desas). Most of these lost their lives due to armed bandits, their own compatriots. They had nothing to do with the fight for freedom, but it made a strong argument for the Dutch to instigate their police actions.

The Indonesian archipelago covers a very large area: including the surrounding waters it is 5100 km by 1760 km (3200 by 1100 miles), much larger then Eastern and Western Europe together. Sumatra by itself is the same distance as Rotterdam to Gibraltar. The densely populated island of Java, 600 miles long, is three times the length of the Netherlands. Thinly populated Sumatra covers 12 x the Netherlands. Java and Madura in 1940 had 45 million inhabitants, Sumatra 12 million. Together that were as many natives as the rest of the islands together. I call them natives since the word Indonesian and Indonesia didn't become common words until the Japanese occupation of 1942-1945.

The official Indonesian language Bahasa Indonesia was introduced during the Japanese time, at the insistence of

the Indonesian nationalists. The base of Bahasa is Malayan, since centuries the business language of the Dutch East Indies, Singapore, Malacca, English Borneo and the southern islands of the Philippines. For only 7% of the Indonesians is Bahasa their mother tongue. For all others it is a second language, like English for the Dutch. So just about all Indonesian students now get schooled in a 'foreign' language. In 1972 the written version of Bahasa was changed to be more in line with the written language used in Malacca and Singapore. Additionally, after 1950, many town- and island names, for reasons unknown to me, were changed by the Sukarno regime. Collectors of Indonesia 1945-1949 therefore usually use old Dutch East Indies maps.

Period 1945- 1949:

The period starts in Batavia (Jakarta) with the proclamation by Sukarno of the Republik Indonesia on August 17, 1945, two days after the Japanese surrender. The news spread slowly but was enthusiastically received on the important islands of Java, Sumatra, and Madoera. Until the end of September, the mail was still controlled by the Japanese .

The Dutch territory, the NICA part:

Sukarno's Repoeblik in 1945 didn't strike much of a responsive chord outside of Java, Sumatra, and Madoera. Small groups of Dutchmen, aided by Australians and Americans, didn't have much trouble taking over power from the Japanese on all islands except Java, Sumatra and Madoera. These Dutchmen were part of the interim government, the NICA: Netherlands Indies Civil Administration. They came from bases in East Borneo, Australia and Ceylon. Their ranks were augmented by people from the prewar government, as they were released from those Japanese camps located outside the Dutch East Indies. From 1946 on the Dutch navy were in control of the sea links between the islands. The Dutch issued NICA money and NICA stamps, both of which were recognized internationally.

The Repoeblik (Indonesia) Territory:

The area on Java and Sumatra under control of Sukarno's Repoeblik Indonesia became smaller over time.

After monetary reform Republik Indonesia bank notes and stamps were issued in this area, however, they were not internationally recognized and as a result of this were useless outside the area.

The Republik area covered:

* Period August 1945 - July 1947 (date of 1st Dutch police action):

All of Java, Sumatra, Madoera, with the understanding that in the enclaves Batavia-Bandung, Semarang, Surabaya and Belawan-Medan the situation was unclear. In those areas for example the Dutch- East Indies' NICA mail and the Republik mail - the Djawatan PTT- were both functioning. During the second half of 1946 these enclaves were taken over by the Dutch after the English-Indian troops had left. Those troops had been there since the fall of 1945 to evacuate Japanese and to protect women and children who had been in the Japanese camps, against Indonesian gangs. In Bandung, Semarang and Surabaya they had fought tough battles against tens of thousands of republican youngsters (the pemoedas) . So, the Dutch took over the enclaves and by mid 1947 from there they went on the offense. At the urgent request of the U.S. and the Security Council of the U.N. these military actions stopped in July 1947, after only 14 days. Large parts of Java and Sumatra remained under republican control.

* Period July 1947 - December 1948 (date of 2nd Dutch police action):

One third of Java, 80% of Sumatra; the rest was under Dutch control.

* Period December 1948 till transfer of power end 1949. With the second Dutch police action the Dutch occupied the remaining part of the Repoeblik; Sukarno and the majority of his cabinet members were arrested. After the second police action the Repoeblik had no territory left, except for a short while remote Atjeh and the Lampongs on Sumatra. Republican money and stamps were invalidated.

Stamps in NICA territory

In the NICA area, thus on most of the Dutch East Indies islands, at the end of 1945 NICA money and the stamp series NVPH nrs. 304-316 were issued as quickly as possible.



Fig 1: NICA (Netherlands Indies Civil Administration) overprinted stamps Timor and Soemba. Anchor is a Bali anchor

There are only a few (very scarce) NICA 'noodzegels' (temporary stamps) known, they are from the islands of Timor and Sumba. These were still available prewar Dutch East Indies stamps (with or without chop (Bali anchor)), Japanese stamps and definitive Japanese occupation stamps. A small number of these were locally overprinted with NICA TIMOR or NICA SUMBA (refer to illustration 1). The only other temporary stamps mentioned in the Dai Nippon catalog are the NVPH #s 304 -316 with hand overprint 'PORT', the so-called Medan porten, used only locally in Medan, Sumatra.

The official regular and postage due NICA stamps are listed in the NVPH catalog; they are NVPH #4 304 - 350, and postage dues 49 -66. Additionally in 1947 the prewar Dutch East Indies stamps 252, 253, and 254 (from the Kreisler series) were re-issued without overprint: check the cancel dates on the stamps you have. All NICA stamps were internationally accepted for franking. It should be understood that the NICA stamps and NICA money were also issued in those parts of the republican area controlled by the Dutch troops during their police actions. The Republik stamps and their propaganda cancels disappeared quietly into the black market circuit.

Stamps in the Republican Area

There were no postal connections between the republican Java and Sumatra. Republican Java and republican Sumatra had their own stamp issuing policies. The republican stamps were only regional i.e. available on the island only and valid there only.

Postal stationery from the Repoeblik can be found, however, as is the case with the 'chop' stamps from the Japanese occupation period there are quite a few falsifications and 'made to order' products. If in doubt about an expensive item it is advisable to contact Dai Nippon club, can have the knowledge to help you.

Java/Madoera

In 1945 there appeared hand- and machine applied overprints 'Repoeblik Indonesia' on left over pre-war Dutch East Indies stamps, often accompanied by a ar or stripes across the printed "Nederlandsch Indië" text. These overprints were also applied to the definitive series of the Japanese Java occupation stamps.

Starting in 1946 on Java there were definitive Repoeblik (after 1948 "Republik") Indonesia stamps issued; refer to the

catalog.

The best known is a series of thirteen - 3 sen to 1000 sen - with warlike scenes; refer to illustration. The

workmanship is rather primitive, which is surprising since the earlier machine made overprints on Dutch East Indies stamps and occupation stamps were well done. In 1948 as well as 1949 there appeared a number of Republik stamps. Those after december 1948 were only used for business purposes since the postoffices on Java/Madoera were under Dutch control as the result of the second police action.

Vienna Printing

A strange interlude are the in Philadelphia, USA and Vienna, Austria printed 'Republik Indonesia' 'stickers'. Word had it that these were also issued in Indonesia (from December 17, 1949 on it has been said; shortly after Indonesia's Independence), but only at the postoffice Djocja (Java).. These stickers were put on the market by stamp dealer Stolow in New York. They are referred to as 'Vienna printing'. Sly Mr. Stolow in 1948 had signed a contract with Indonesian delegates to the UN, respectively the 'ambassador'. If this is the case, these people were not authorized to do this and the Djawatan PTT was completely unaware. No problem: on orders of Mr. Stolow, in the US and Austria, about 700 different 'Vienna Printing' Republik/Republik Indonesia stamps and blocks were printed, with and without perforations, with and without overprints and subsequently put on the market worldwide. They were even reported to the UPU. As far as I know they were never used, only known as 'maakwerk' (made to order) on letters Mr. Stolow sent himself and not sent through the regular mail. Unused/mint copies can still be found in various places. My opinion: pure swindle. Many Indonesia collectors might think so too, but since 1997 the Vienna printings are listed in the Prangko catalog.



Fig. 2 Examples of Vienna Printing

Sumatra

From September 1945 on there it was just the same mishmash as it was in 1942 under the Japanese occupation. At the Sumatra postoffices there were still pre-war Dutch East Indies stamps, many with a chop from the Japanese time. These and Japanese occupation stamps received an overprint: a black ball or square, hand overprinted 'Rep. Indonesia', 'Rep. Ind.',

'Indonesia PTT', 'N.R.I.', etc. A near limitless number with different types of pre-applied chops. From May 1946 onwards there also appeared rudely made definitive stamps with imprint 'N.R. Indonesia' (Negara Republik Indonesia: Negara means province). N.R. Indonesia stamps exist in a number of varieties and re-prints.. They are also known with locally or regionally applied overprints. Overprints ORI (Oceang Republik Indonesia); Oceang is money) were related to money reform: Japanese occupation notes were replaced by Republik Indonesia notes, except in Atjeh. New N.R. Indonesia stamps kept appearing until the end of 1947; strangely enough, according to Pranglo in 1949 there appeared another six overprints.

What came next

The period ends in 1949 when the Netherlands (forced to do so by the US; withdrawal of Marshall help if they wouldn't give in) in a ceremony in The Hague handed over sovereignty of the Dutch East Indies (with the exception of Dutch New Guinea) to Sukarno's representative Mr. Hatta. This all happened in spite of the fact that the Dutch, after the second police action, had all republican parts under military control, had organized the government and the infrastructure, and had Sukarno and most of his cabinet officers in jail.

Then current stamps were as of December 9, 1949 replaced by NICA -stamps (Hartz series) with overprint: bar or stripes with text 'Indonesia'. Three weeks later the numeral series 'Indonesia' 1 to 12 1/2 sen, (design Smelt) were issued. Refer to NVPH # 351-361/371, and 362-370. Next came two UPU stamps and then the temple series. (NVPH # 372-373, and 374-388)

That's how far the NVPH catalog goes.

The Dutch New Guineas issued their own stamps from 1950 through 1962. In 1963 these 'possessions' were, under U.S. and United Nations pressure, ceded to Indonesia. New Guinea from 1963-1970 retained its own currency, which meant that Indonesia had to issue 'Irian Barat' stamps. It should be known that the majority of Dutch New Guinea and Irian Barat stamps were issued for stamp collectors.

Indonesian society still today shows some remnants of the customs of the Japanese presence during 1942 -1945. Among them are the district-senior (police spy), morning exercises at school, flag ceremonies, school uniform, organised marches with martial songs, flags and banners. Of all of this, including the Islamic radicalizing, noticeable through the white head covering of women, nothing can be found on the stamps of Indonesia. Those white head covers you only used to see on the heads of some Arabic women during colonial times. What is laudable is that Indonesia has a moderate stamp issuing policy; in general it

issues fewer new stamps per year than the Netherlands.



Made to order letter Repoebliek/Republik Indonesia from Djakarta/Java (1946)



Made to order letter Repoebliek/Republik Indonesia from Medan/Sumatra (1947)

The two varieties of the Curaçao small double circle cancel type 1, and how to distinguish them

by Dick Phelps



The small double circle postmark was brought into use in 1882 at Curaçao and was intended to be used as a companion to the numeral cancels. The directive was that the stamp on a letter was to be canceled by use of the numeral cancel which was already in use at this post office, and the small double circle postmark was to be applied to the cover for documentation purposes. So the fact that it is found on stamps shows that this directive was as much ignored as followed.

The small double circle of Curaçao has been known in two different sizes. Type 1 is a 22 mm circle and type 2 is a 21 mm circle. The 21 mm cancel is very rare with only seven examples recorded. For more about type 2 see the article in the 25th anniversary issue of this journal.

In the book "A Postal History Of Curaçao" by Frank W. Julsen and Dr. A. M. Benders it is mentioned on page 111 that they find there to be at least two varieties of these type 1 small double circles. They indicate that there is a difference in the cedilla on the second Ç of Curaçao. This was also mentioned by Dr. Benders in *De Stempelrubriek*. They also state that poor strikes make this difference alone inadequate for accurate identifications.

As a result of study of this cancel I have developed a set of characteristics which can be easily used to distinguish them. The two subtypes of type 1, which I am now calling type 1a and type 1b, are shown in enlarged

pictures showing the differences between them. Also tips are given on how to most easily separate these types.

I have found in my studies that types 1a and 1b are about equal in frequency of use and both are found in all three colors of ink – black, violet and blue. Of the 47 copies that I have of type 1 there are 22 copies of type 1a, 18 copies of type 1b and 7 copies where the type cannot be determined. This would indicate that the two types were used about equally. The ink colors used were black (24 copies), violet (15 copies) and blue (8 copies).

The usage date ranges are determined from the copies that I have at hand plus the copies that I have been able to gather information about. Type 1a is found from the beginning of the use of the small double circle in 1882 until the small double circle type was retired in 1891. The usage dates for type 1b are found in a smaller date range. The first copy I know is dated March 2,

1889 and it is then found until the retirement of the small double circles in 1891.

The fact that type 1b was used for a relatively short period and yet is approximately equal in the number of copies found would seem to indicate that after it was put into use it was probably favored over type 1a. But type 1a was still used quite a bit after that because the number of copies that I have of type 1a dated after the appearance of type 1b is approximately equal to the number of copies of 1a from before the appearance of 1b. So this might just be attributed to the rising mail volume which would also be the motivation for the addition of a second handstamp.

The use ranges for the three ink colors show that black ink was used for this cancel throughout the entire period of use. The violet ink is first found at about the same time as the type 1b handstamp appeared in 1889. It was also used until these cancels were retired. The blue ink is found during two brief periods. It is first found in 1885 and was then not found again until 1891.

While the violet ink is found for both types after it first appeared there is a clear indication that the violet ink was much more used for type 1b than for 1a. Of my 18 copies of 1b there are 8 in black and 9 in violet. But of the 22 copies that I have in type 1a I only have 2 copies in violet.

Blue ink was much more used with type 1a than 1b. I have 6 copies of 1a in blue but I have only 1 copy of 1b in blue ink.

I have two stamps where the cancels match type 1a very well but for some reason they do not have the inner circle showing. At first I thought that they might be single circle cancels but they do not fit the design of the single circle cancels. It is entirely possible that the inner circle was just somehow not inked when they were struck, but they are otherwise strong strikes. These need more study.

These small double circle cancels were used as arrival postmarks as well as departure postmarks.

There is no mention of a second handstamp in the official records so there is no record of when it was obtained or the source of it.

I would appreciate hearing from you about what copies that you might have of this cancel. It would help fill out the statistics on this cancel to have any additional information that you can provide. If possible send the type, ink color and date from each readable copy. My email is dick.phelps@verizon.net



TYPE 1a

Type 1a identification points:

1. The space between the U and R is narrower than it is on type 1b.
2. The space between the A and O is narrower than it is on type 1b.
3. The first C is very slightly lower than the O.
4. The space between the second C and the second A is narrower than on type 1b. (very minor difference)



TYPE 1b

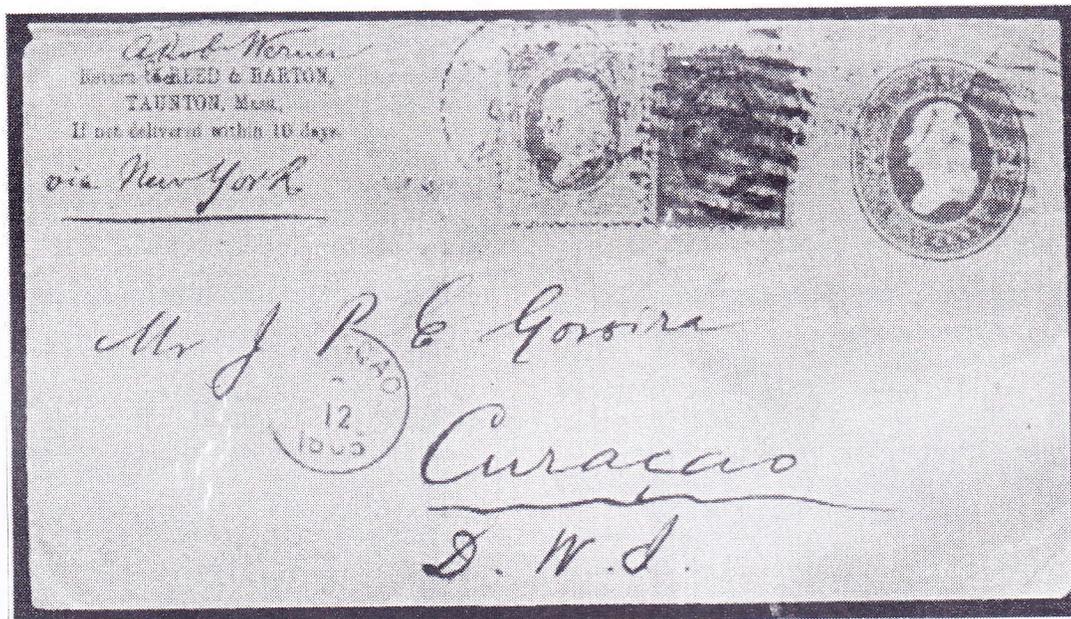
Type 1b identification points:

1. The space between the U and R is wider than 1a
2. The space between the A and O is wider than 1a
3. The first C is higher than the O.
4. The space between the second C and the second A is wider than 1a. (very minor difference)





Type 1a as a departure marking, and as a cancel. The numeral cancel should have been used but it was not. It is dated July of 1889.



Type 1a used as an arrival marking on a cover from the United States. It is struck in blue ink, December 1885.



Type 1b used as an arrival marking on a postal card from Venezuela. It is struck in violet ink, dated September 28, 1889.

New earliest known date for the UTRECHT Large Round Cancel

by Dick Phelps

According to the PO & PO "Catalogus Grootrondstempels Nederland 2002" the Large Round Cancel for UTRECHT was issued on February 5, 1895. The same catalog gives February 12, 1895 as the earliest known date.

This postcard was cancelled on February 11, 1895 – one day earlier, making it a new earliest known use.

Although the Utrecht cancel is somewhat vague, one only has to look at the clear Amsterdam arrival cancel of 11 FEB 95 to realize that indeed the postcard was canceled on February 11, 1895 in Utrecht.



Postal Consequences of the New Guinea Question

J.A. Dijkstra
(translated by Ben H. Jansen)

More than 40 years ago, on April 30, 1963, jurisdiction over the former Dutch New Guinea was officially transferred to Indonesia following a period of government by the United Nations.

Especially the older readers will have vivid memories of the New Guinea question. Possibly, long suppressed emotions will resurface about how "we" were forced to transfer our last territory in the East to Indonesia, even though we had such noble intentions for the Papua population, eventually culminating with awarding them with self-rule. A parliament of their own, the New Guinea Council (see Figure 1), a flag, the 'Morningstar' and a national anthem were already in place. Unfortunately, a regional problem evolved into a game of political poker between the super powers of that era.



Figure 1: Official elections for the New-Guinea Council were held in 1961. This first large democratic experiment was intended as a first step to self rule for the population of Dutch New Guinea. Shown is a First Day Cover. Of philatelic interest is that the date cancel of the office where the cover was placed in the mail stream—Tanahmerah—was placed next to the stamps. This was common practice in Dutch New Guinea.

The players in this macabre game:

* The Republic Indonesia, which had not been able to come to terms with the fact that New Guinea had not been part of the transfer of sovereignty as decided during the Round Table Conference in the Peace Palace in The Hague in 1949 (despite the fact that it had been part of the Dutch Indies), and that it remained part of the Netherlands as the territory (Dutch) New Guinea. Obsessed by the desire to expand, president Sukarno swore that he would not let this issue rest.

* The Netherlands, which, especially in the person of Secretary of State Joseph Luns, continued to fight for, what soon turned out to be, a lost cause, and which was even prepared to send in the troops.

* The United States, which, under pressure of the Cold War threat, dropped The Netherlands like a brick. They feared that Indonesia would join the communist bloc, and for that reason gave in to Sukarno's demands.

* The Soviet Union, which, understandably, used every opportunity to enlarge its area of influence, and which provided actual military support to Indonesia: Russian submarines were positioned off Manokwari in August 1962!

* The United Nations, of which many member nations wanted to end colonialism. The UN played a major role in the transfer of Dutch New Guinea to Indonesia.

* The Papuas, the largest victims of the quirks of politics. They considered the Indonesian presence as a new form of colonialism, and they became a minority in their own country as a consequence of the Indonesian policy of transmigration.

This article will provide a view of the postal consequences of the political and military developments during these turbulent times.

Tensions.

The Dutch-Indonesian relationship reached a low during the period of 1959-62. Censorship by the Indonesians, bickering about the name of the territory (see Figure 2), and even cessation of the postal connections between Indonesia and the Netherlands (see Figure 3), attest to this.



Figure 2: Starting in 1958, the postal authorities in Dutch New Guinea did not allow the use of the Indonesian name "Irian Barat" to refer to the territory. If it was used, it was corrected as done here using a 'Nouvelle-Guinee Neerlandaise' cancel in French, the official language of the UPU (the world postal organization).

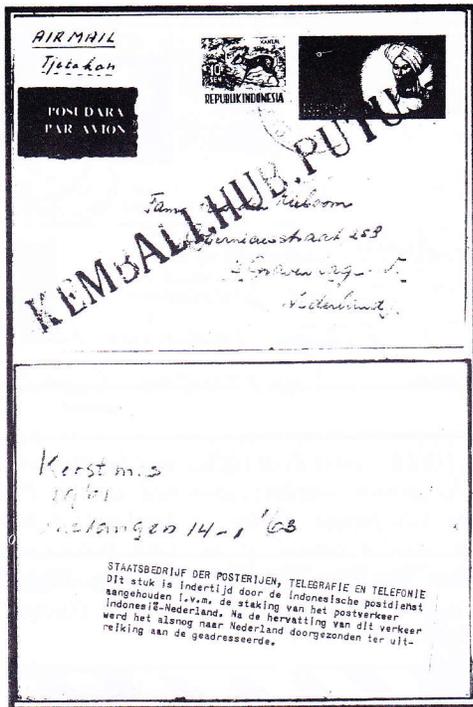


Figure 3: The postal connections between Indonesia and the Netherlands were discontinued at the end of 1961. *Kembali Hub. (=Hubungan) Putus* = return connection interrupted. The back side shows a Dutch PTT label explaining the reason of the delay. The holiday wishes were delivered, at last, in January 1963.

(the label reads: This letter was held by the Indonesian postal authorities because of the cessation of postal traffic between Indonesia and The Netherlands. Upon resumption of this service, it was forwarded to The Netherlands for delivery to the addressee.) The hand-writing reads: Christmas 1961, received January 14, 1963)

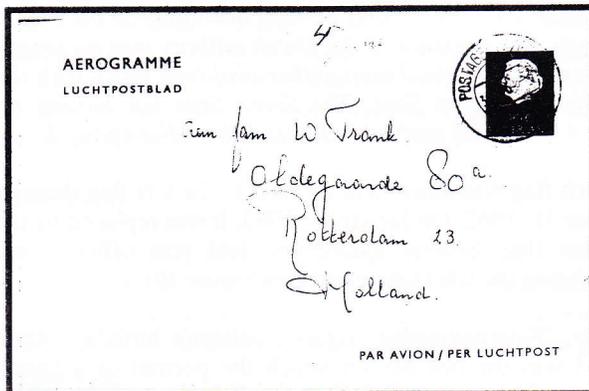


Figure 4: Postal agency on board of the ship "Waterman". The date stamp reads 30 V 62 (May 30, 1962), at which time the Waterman was sailing between Balboa (Panama) and Pearl Harbour (Hawaii). It arrived at Hollandia. Starting in 1960, the Dutch military presence in Dutch New

Guinea was expanded substantially. Reinforcements were brought in using troop transport ships such as the Waterman (see Figure 4), Groote Beer, Keerkring and Zuiderkruis.

Field-post from and to the soldiers in Dutch New Guinea was routed via the main field post office in Utrecht using the NAPO number 5500. However, other field post office numbers were used as well from September 1962 onwards. Soldiers stationed in New Guinea enjoyed port freedom for postal cards and letters not exceeding 10 grams. Starting around the end of July 1962, a total of four field post offices were opened in cities with the largest number of troops (Biak, Hollandia and Sorong), several of which continued to operate during the UNTEA period. In addition, there was a post office for the Navy in Biak.



Figure 5: Field-post of the Dutch troops. Field post offices 96 and 99 (Biak), 97 (Sorong), and 98 (Hollandia). Cancel # 98 is known from the period August 7-November 2, 1962.

In 1961, a local defense force was established to defend the territory: the Papua Volunteers Corps (Papoea Vrijwilligers Korps - PVK), which functioned admirably. Its home base was the encampment Arfai near Manokwari (see Figure 6).



Figure 6: The Papua Volunteers Corps (Papoea Vrijwilligers Korps) did not enjoy port freedom during the UNTEA period. Envelopes of the Royal Dutch Marines were used for business mail. Imprint: A casuaris, with subscript "persevero" = I will persevere (Latin).

UN-rule

Following the Indonesian infiltrations of early 1962, strong international pressure was applied to the Netherlands to transfer the territory. An accord was reached in New York on August 15, 1962, which stipulated that Dutch New Guinea would not be transferred directly to Indonesia. Instead, transfer would take place after seven months of UN-rule administered through UNTEA (United Nations Temporary Executive Authority). Furthermore, the Papua population would be given a chance to vote for independence or a permanent union with the Republic Indonesia.

This election was to take place no later than 1969. In this way, it was attempted to minimize the Dutch loss of face.

The temporary UN-rule lasted from October 1, 1962 through April 30, 1963. During this period, the 19 values of the UNTEA over print stamps were issued.

The original (not overprinted) Dutch New Guinea stamps were declared invalid, however, this was not strictly enforced in practice (see Figure 7).



Figure 7: Radio card, addressed to the Radio Broadcasting Corporation New Guinea (Radio Omroep Nieuw Guinea -RONG), requesting the broadcast of specific songs. Canceled: Biak 21.11.62. The old, not overprinted Dutch New Guinea stamps were allowed to be used against the regulations.

The UN military force charged with maintaining order was referred to as the UNSF (United Nations Security Force) and comprised of about 1600 troops, with over 1500 Pakistani (army and navy, see Figure 8) and several dozens of Americans and Canadians (air force).

During the first few months of UNTEA-control, most of the remaining Dutch civil servants departed and the Dutch troops were transported back to The Netherlands (see Figure 9).



Figure 8: The UNTEA Base Post Office was located in Biak. It was headed by postal workers attached to the Pakistani division of the UN forces. Letter to England, 8 MAR 63. Below left the service cancel of the 14th Battalion of the Punjab Regiment. Business ("Dienst") mail abroad had to be paid for. Note that the UN uses "West New Guinea (West Irian)" to refer to the territory.



Figure 9: Postal agency on board of the motor ship "Seven Seas", cancelled 23.X.62, and franked according to the Dutch inland rate. The presence of the Dutch military was no longer desired under UN rule. Troop withdrawal took place with the Waterman and Seven Seas. The Seven Seas left Sorong on October 4, 1962 and arrived in Rotterdam on November 5.

The Dutch flag was allowed to fly next to the UN flag through December 31, 1962. On January 1, 1963, it was replaced by the Indonesian flag. Several Indonesian field post offices were opened during the UNTEA period (see Figure 10).

Ironically, "Koninginnedag" (Queen Juliana's birthday, April 30) 1963 was the last day on which the portrait of a Dutch monarch could be seen officially on mail from our former East (see Figure 11). The first time was in 1864, with the appearance of the portrait of King William III on Dutch Indies NVPH 1.

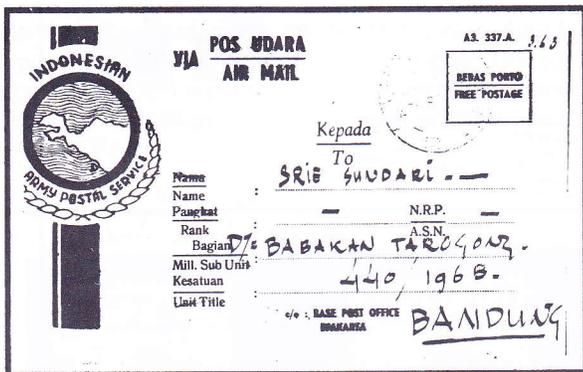


Figure 10: Cancel (very weak) reads 'Pos Militer Ir. Bar. V' 26.3.63. Military port freedom envelope from the Indonesian army, which was under the command of the UN during the UNTEA period. Ir. Bar. V = Field post office Biak.



Figure 11: Last day of UNTEA government: April 30, 1963. Emergency cancel Wasiar. Required postage was 95 cents (55 cent for letters to 5 grams, plus 40 cents registration fee). Handwritten note in top left hand corner reads: "underfranked by 15 cents, no stamps, and no registered letter label. Registered under No R 2." The envelope traveled for six weeks and reached its destination by way of Dordrecht.

Irian Barat

On May 1, 1963, Indonesia was given complete sovereignty over Irian Barat (= West Irian), under the condition that an election would take place no later than 1969 to determine the final destiny of the territory. Sukarno had reached his goal (see Figure 12).

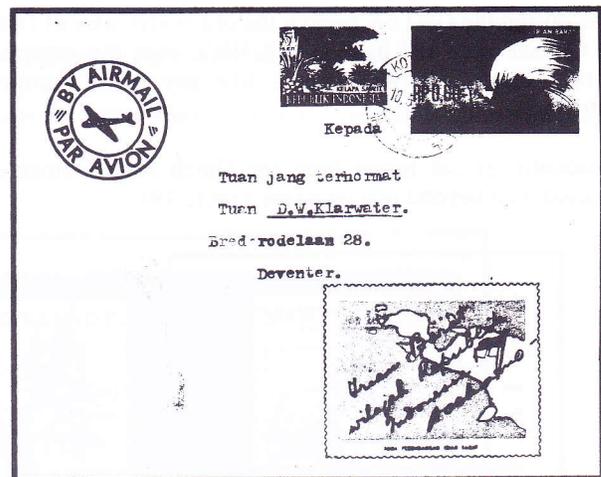


Figure 12: Propaganda envelope with the text "Irian Barat wilayah Republik Indonesia!" (West Irian is Indonesian territory!). Sukarno had reached his goal: the red and white flag flies from Saban to Merauke. The Netherlands is now treated the same way as the other European countries, hence the 65 sen rate instead of the previously applicable rate of 55 cent. Bottom left is the framed audit cancel P.I.B. (Post Irian Barat).

The exchange rate of the Irian Barat rupiah was tied to the Dutch guilder, which made it more valuable than the Indonesian rupiah. Therefore, new stamps were issued: at first, over-printed Indonesian stamps, and later Irian Barat stamps with depictions of flora, fauna, and aboriginal art. The UNTEA-stamps were tolerated till May 15, 1963 (see Figure 13).

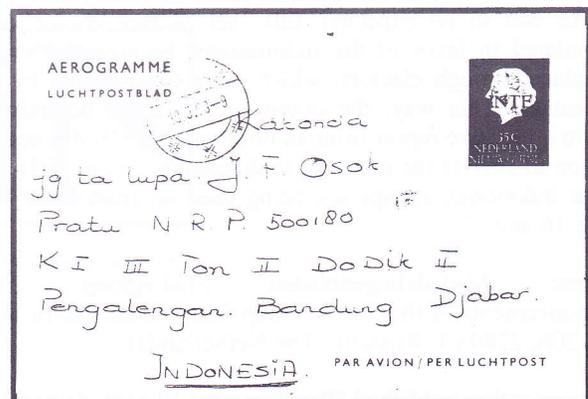


Figure 13: Air letter sheet UNTEA 35 cent. Correctly processed in the period of May 1-14, 1963. The imprinted stamp was accepted, but the date cancel was placed next to the stamp. Kotabaru is the new name for Hollandia, which was later changed to Sukarnapura. In 1965, the name was changed again to Djajapura (Jayapura in the new spelling) after Sukarno fell into disgrace.

Just as during the UNTEA period, the old postal rates of Dutch New Guinea remained in force till 1969, with the exception that the Netherlands was treated like any other European country.

Occasionally, postal forms from the Dutch New Guinea era were used well beyond that date (see Figure 14).



Figure 14: Proof of money deposit of the PTT Dutch New Guinea, used during the Irian Barat period. Merauke 17.11.63. Stamped with 10 sen for deposits up to 100 Irian Barat rupias. This rate is equivalent to the old rate of 10 cent for deposits up to 100 Dutch New Guinea guilder

The promised election finally took place in 1969 (see Figure 15). As was to be expected, this "act of free choice" was manipulated in favor of the Indonesians, because the voting took place through electors, which were hand-picked by the Indonesians. This way, the outcome was fixed beforehand. Despite a negative report from an observer, the UN did not see a reason to subject the outcome to discussion. As of 1971, the regular Indonesian stamps are being used on Irian Barat (see Figure 16 and 17).

Sources: Mededelingenbladen Studiegroep ZWP (Announcements of the Study Group South-West Pacific, P.O. Box 1206, 2280 CE Rijswijk, The Netherlands).

The same author published "Paradijsvogel 10 cent: de zegel en zijn gebruik" (The bird of paradise 10cent: the stamp and its usage) in Mijn Stokpaardje, number 7/8, August/September 2002. Among other things, this article provides more detailed information about the various types of UNTEA over prints.



Figure 15: Census 1969. The text of the propaganda cancel reads: "Frans Kaisiepo -governor of Irian Barat; the act of free choice will be the last opportunity to determine that West Irian is an independent part of Indonesia."



Figure 16: Last "own" stamps of Irian Barat: aboriginal art. Express letter Biak 30.6.71. Kilat = express, Posal = Pos Angkatan Laut. Angkatan Laut = the sea forces (the Navy).



Figure 17: Djajapura 3.7.1972. The common Indonesian stamps were put into service from 1971 onwards. The registered mail label is still from the Dutch New Guinea era!

After the official transfer to the United Nations, for all practical purposes, Dutch New Guinea ceased to exist. Due to the short preparation time it was decided to overprint nine denominations of stamps, as well as postal cards and airmail letters with the text 'UNTEA'.

The old postal rates were still in effect.

There are four different types of overprints on the stamps.



Type I

17 mm
Landsdrukkerij
Hollandia
Stock at hand

Oct-Nov 1962

Type II

17.5 mm
Joh. Enschedé
Haarlem
Reprints of
old values

Jan. 1963

Type III

14 mm
Landsdrukkerij
Hollandia
Stock at hand

March 1963

Type IV

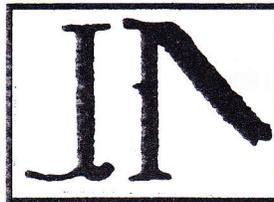
19 mm
Landsdrukkerij
Hollandia
Stock at hand

April 1963

The most obvious difference between Types I and II ('first and second printing') is the position of the letter N relative to the U (Fig. 18)



Figure 18: *Hollandia printing (I)*



Haarlem Printing (II)

Netherlands Philately Cumulative index by Subject Matter
Volumes 24-28 Sept. 1999- May 2004
(Compiled by Ed Matthews)

The first cumulative index was published in Vol. 18:1 it covers Journal Volumes 1 to 17 inclusive; the second index was published in Vol. 25:3 and covers Volumes 18 to 23.

In the interest of brevity the initials of frequent contributors, rather than their full names, are used instead.

HK Hans Kremer	JvR John van Rysdam
KA Kees Adema	EM Ed Matthews
MH Mardjohan Hardjasudarma	RW Richard Wheatley

To avoid endless repetition the data of the various volumes are indicated here:

Vol. 24:1 Sept. '99	Vol. 25:1 Sept. '00*	Vol. 26:1 Sept. '01	Vol. 27:1 Sept. '02	Vol. 28:1 Sept. '03
Vol. 24:2 Jan. '00	Vol. 25:2 Jan. '01	Vol. 26:2 Jan. '02	Vol. 27:2 Jan. '03	Vol. 28:2 Jan. '04
Vol. 24:3 May '00	Vol. 25:3 May '01	Vol. 26:3 May '02	Vol. 27:2 May '03	Vol. 28:3 May '04

* This is the 25th anniversary issue.

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The Trinidad Affair	Wim van Aalzum	Vol. 24-62
The discovery of a copy of the Curacao small double circle cancel of the 21 mm diameter variety	Dick Phelps	Vol. 25-75
WWII Internment Camp on Bonaire	G. Pohlig	Vol. 27-50

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