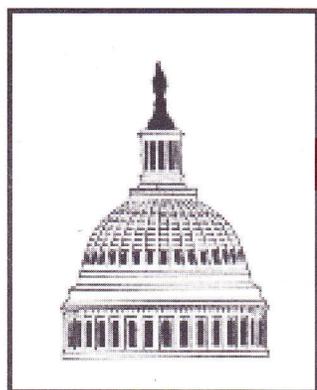
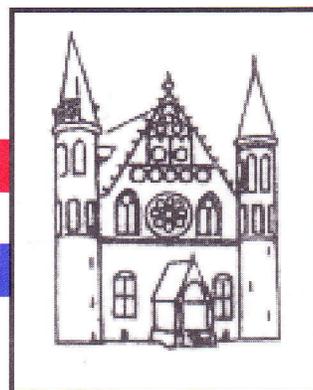


# NETHERLANDS PHILATELY



A S N P

The flag of the Netherlands, consisting of three horizontal stripes of red, white, and blue, positioned between the two side illustrations.

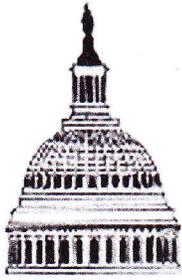
Magazine of the American Society for Netherlands Philately

Volume 32/6

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Netherlands Philately  
19942 Tradition Drive  
Olympia Fields, IL 60461-1082

Dated Journal



# NETHERLANDS PHILATELY



Magazine of the American Society for  
Netherlands Philately; Volume 32/6

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President's page

July 2008

It is with deep regret that we announce the passing of Ralph van Heerden, member #15 and Governor of the American Society for Netherlands Philately. His devotion to the ASNP is well illustrated by his letter to me, which I received the day before his passing, requesting that we replace him as member and Governor. I replied immediately but too late just the same. We are grateful that we found Jan Enthoven willing to replace Ralph for the remainder of his term. You will find an obituary of Ralph van Heerden elsewhere in this issue of the Magazine.

I would like to remind you of the APS STAMPSHOW 2008 in Hartford, CT, on August 14 - 17 at the Connecticut Convention Center. We plan to be there as a Society, the ASNP, and we will hold our bi-annual meeting on Saturday, August 16 at 4 p.m in room 13 . All are welcome to this meeting, free to comment, contribute or ask questions. A group dinner is planned after the meeting

Do visit the exhibits and see how others assemble a collection and you may conclude,"Hey, I can do this too". Exhibition collections are not the private domain of millionaires. The key to a good exhibit is not money, but knowledge. Some of that is readily available, some of it can be found on the Internet, and some of it requires patient digging in the libraries of philatelic societies and corresponding with other collectors. Then when you have unraveled the "mystery", you might just decide to sit down and write an article about it for our Magazine!

Stampshows are an ideal place to pick up something elusive for your collection, and don't overlook the \$1 box!

See you in Hartford.

And don't forget to renew and vote!

EM

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ASNP is a nonprofit organization registered in the State of Illinois. Founded in 1975 by Paul van Reyen

**Netherlands Philately** is published 6x per year by the American Society for Netherlands Philately

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Another simple cover and another puzzle  
by Ed Matthews



Cover sent in 1734 from Amsterdam to Firenze (Italy); carried by the Thurn & Taxis postal system.

Some time ago I acquired this simple looking cover at an auction. The auctioneer described it as a cover from Amsterdam to Firenze (Florence), dated 1735 (the inside and outside of the cover are clearly dated 1734!), and he stated the rate was "4 = 8 soldi".

There was another cover very similar to this one, and two others which had 3.4 written on the front and he stated the rate was 7 soldi. If 3.4 soldi = 7 soldi, why wouldn't the 4.8 written on this cover equal 12 soldi?

I suppose the auctioneer simply copied what the collector had written in the descriptions in his collection. The actual date inside the cover is June 16, 1734. A little detective work seemed to be in order.

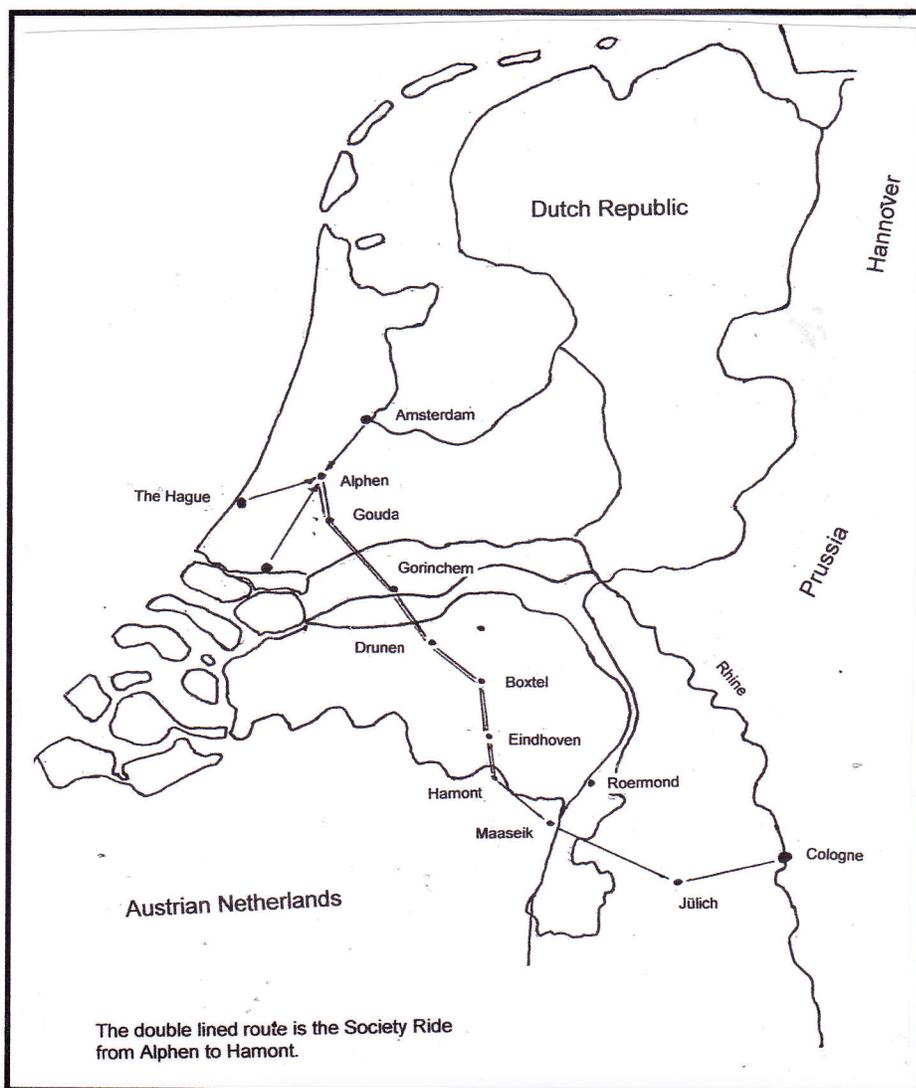
First, let us set the scene in history.

The Spanish Succession War from 1701 to 1714 made some changes in the political map of Europe. The Peace of Utrecht caused the Spanish Netherlands (today's Belgium plus a good deal of the present-day Dutch province of Limburg) to become the Austrian Netherlands. The Spanish possessions in northern Italy also fell into Austrian hands, including such places as Milan and Mantua. The War of the Austrian Succession broke out in 1740 and lasted till 1748. A short period of peace lasted from 1714 till 1740, the period of our letter.

After some initial difficulties the Thurn & Taxis

Imperial Post managed to recuperate its postal monopoly in the now Austrian Netherlands. This postal system was for its time extraordinarily efficient, it managed to transport letters from Brussels to Innsbruck in Austria over a distance of 920 km (591 miles) in 5 days in summer and 6 days in winter. The postal rider on horseback would sound his horn on arrival at an exchange station and the new rider would take over the mail-valise and be on his way. A letter from Amsterdam to Leghorn (Livorno) would take but 12 days in summer. Winter was a different matter, snow in the Brenner Pass between Austria and Italy could be very deep and slow delivery substantially.

Ordinarily mail from the towns in the United Republic (Holland) to Italy had always gone over Roermond, a town in the Spanish, and then Austrian Netherlands, but in the early years of the 1700's, van Wittenhorst, the postmaster of Roermond, had become a regular pain in the neck of the Imperial Post. At first he refused to remit their share of the postage to the offices in the Dutch Republic, and later he did the same thing to the Imperial Post for their share of the postage of the mail to Italy, South Germany, and Switzerland. The Imperial Post retaliated by taking away the most lucrative part of his business, the transit mail. From April 1, 1717, the Imperial Post received the Dutch mail at Hamont, and



courier's ride was known as the "Sociëteit's Rit", the Society's courier ride. Drunen is about 10 km west of 's Hertogenbosch. From 1731 onwards the "Prince of Orange" Inn in Alphen was the central collection point for all mail destined for Southern Germany, Switzerland, Austria, and Italy.

*The double lined route is the Society Ride from Alphen to Hamont.*

This is a rare instance of some collaboration between the Holland Post Offices and the Imperial post, the normal situation was that they were at loggerheads due to the aggressiveness of the Imperial Post trying to take over postal routes.

From Alphen the ride went via Gouda and Gorinchem to Drunen, and from Drunen via Boxtel and Eindhoven to Hamont.

At Cologne the mail crossed the Rhine to the eastern side, on to Frankfort, across Bavaria to Augsburg where the letters were sorted according to destination, Austria or

transported it to Cologne via Maaseik and Jülich to Cologne. Roermond was no longer in the picture, and Maaseik was now the Imperial Post Exchange Office.

The important towns in Holland had different post offices corresponding to the destination of the letters. The Cologne office would collect the letters for parts of Germany, Switzerland, Austria and Italy, and receive the mail from these countries. The offices for the Cologne mail in the various towns of Holland collaborated and founded the "Post Society", and in July 1716 organized a common courier ride between Alphen in Holland and Hamont, just across the border in the Austrian Netherlands. So instead of sending separate couriers, a single courier traveled the Alphen - Drunen (in Brabant) stretch once a day with the mail of all the cities. The Drunen to Hamont stretch was done 3x a week. This

Italy. The Italian mail went from there to Innsbruck, across the Brenner Pass and via Bolzano to Mantua, the furthest point in the Austrian Empire.

The postage to Mantua had to be prepaid in Amsterdam, and this is indicated on the front by the manuscript "foma" = franco Mantua. It is very difficult to determine where this "foma" marking was applied, Amsterdam, Maaseik or Cologne.

It appears that in 1734 letters to Italy were temporarily routed via Venice because of unrest in Lombardy, according to Dallmeyer.

In Mantua the letter was turned over to the Tuscan Postal Service, who marked the 4.8 (not 4=8 as the auctioneer indicated) on the front. I contacted the Zanaria firm in Milan who had an ad in the Washington 2006 catalog and they referred me to Mr. Lorenzo Carra of the

Italian Philatelic Society and who actually lives in Mantua (Mantova in Italian). He stated that the postage

rates from Mantua to Firenze during the 1700's were very complicated.

The monetary system in Tuscany was: 12 denari = 1 soldo, 20 soldi = 1 Tuscan Lira (reminds you of the old British system, 12 pence = 1 shilling, 20 shillings = 1 Pound. Pound is Lira in Italian!)

A single letter from Mantua to Firenze was 2 soldi. A letter with "sovracoperta" (cover or wrapping) was 3 soldi 4 denari, and the indication on the cover would be 3.4, which is not 7 soldi (as indicated by the auctioneer).

Our letter paid from Mantua to Firenze 4.8 or 4 soldi 8 denari (not 8 soldi), which made it a triple rate cover according to Mr. Carra. Our letter in today's condition, weighing less than half an ounce, would make it a single rate letter. I opened it and (attempted) to read the contents. It contained information of funds invested in some business arrangement in Lipsia (Leipzig) and this means that the letter could have contained business documents which were detached by the addressee and our letter was filed separately. Maybe two or three letters to the same addressee were tied together and the stated rate was for the packet. On the back of this cover there are three scribbles which are said to be "pa p q", pagati per questa (it has been paid for); this was added by the recipient.

Mr. Koos Havelaar of the Museum of Communication in the Hague (the old Postal Museum) told me no Amsterdam postal tariff rate list that would cover 1734 is available; the earliest one dates from 1752. Taking this list, a single letter weighing up to a half ounce had to be prepaid 8 stuyvers, up to one ounce 9 to 15 stuyvers, and 16 stuyvers for one weighing more than one ounce. It is a pity that the actual prepaid postage was not marked on the back of this particular cover.

You mean to say you got all of this from this simple cover? Yup, and from studying a lot of very informative literature!

Kees Adema's study of the workings of the Thurn & Taxis Post in *The Collectors Club Philatelist* is first-rate and was very helpful in understanding this aspect.

References:

1. J. Ickenroth, "Posthistorische Studies 17 - De Rijkspost in Limburg", a publication of Po & Po. (a very informative source indeed).

2. Mr. W. S. da Costa and J. Giphart, "Kleine postkroniek van Amsterdam tot het begin van de twintigste eeuw", Amphilex 1967.

3. "Postmerken en Postinrichtingen in Nederland tot 1871. Deel 1", a publication of Po & Po.

This book is the Bible for collectors of stampless letters of the Netherlands.

4. "Toscana. Organizzazione dal 1700 al 1851" by Vanni Alfani. This is the source of the data supplied by Mr. Carra.

5. Kees Adema, "Dutch Wars and Struggles" on DVD.

6. Kees Adema, "Thurn und Taxis. the origin of modern postal services. The Netherlands- Italy Route c. 1500 - 1700", Part 1 and the conclusion in *The Collectors Club Philatelist*, Volume 83, numbers 3 and 4.

7. Kees Adema, "Thurn und Taxis. The mail route from the Dutch Republic in the eighteenth century and the demise of the Reichspost", Part 1 and conclusion in *The Collectors Club Philatelist*, Volume 87, numbers 1 and 2.

8. Private correspondence with Mr. Lorenzo Carra of the Italian Philatelic Society.

9. Private correspondence with Mr. Koos Havelaar of the Museum of Communication.

**An interesting (but not too deceptive) lot of fake Curaçao bisects.**

*by Dick Phelps*

These look like Curaçao 1918 bisects, but they are completely bogus. I recently picked up six of them. They are all very good looking if you don't take too close a look. They are all frauds, most likely made to cheat collectors. They are made by simply cutting stamps in half and adding a Large Double Circle cancel. The thing that is so amazing is that the stamps they used were not even mint stamps. They used stamps that already had been canceled. What is even more amazing is that some of them are not even Curaçao stamps. Some are made with Dutch stamps.

The real bisects were made when stamp supplies were blocked by WWI. In May 1918 the supply of 1 cent stamps was all but exhausted so it was decided to use some of the generous stock of two cent stamps as bisects to serve as one cent stamps. This went into effect on June 1, 1918. What wasn't counted on was that the philatelic market started gobbling these up. Collectors were buying them up in large quantities. In a short while the supply of two cent stamps was becoming exhausted too. So, per July 6, 2 1/2 cent stamps were used for bisects too. This only lasted for a few more days as the philatelic market got out of hand and it was determined that the idea of bisects was just not working as hoped. On July 15 the bisects were terminated and the crude locally printed HAW stamps were put into use (HAW stands for Hendrik Albert Willemsen, deputy postmaster of Curaçao).

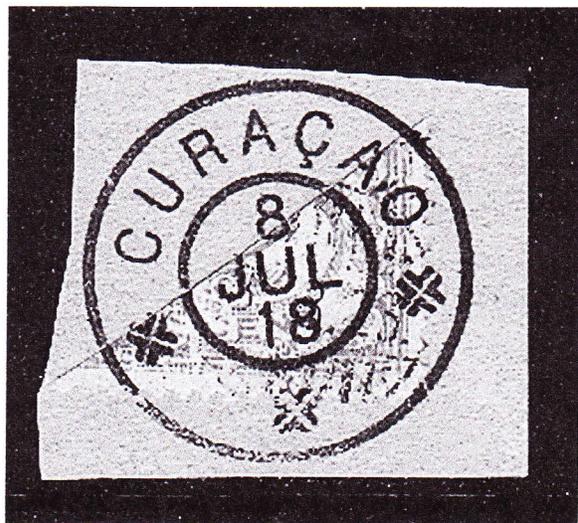
While the bisects were in use there were 32,000 2 cent bisects and 31,200 2 1/2 cent bisects sold. Today these bisects can be bought at a fairly low price because of the heavy philatelic ordering that was done. These bisects were supposed to be in use on all six islands but Curaçao was the one that got hit with the philatelic pressure. In addition to copies canceled at Curaçao there are copies existing canceled at the other islands.

However, they are much harder to find. The existence of copies canceled at Aruba has been rumored but not verified. Of course copies genuinely used are another matter and are very hard to find. This is made worse by the fact that the 1 cent rate was a printed matter rate and printed matter mail often ended up in the trash bin.

By checking the cancels that were on the stamps before they were used to make these fake bisects we can see that they were not made in 1918 as the Large Double Circle cancel says. One of the stamps has a cancel dated 8-8-23 which is five years later. Another has a cancel which seems to be dated in 1938 which is 20 years later. This gives us at least an earliest date for

the manufacture of these fakes. I think that given the consistency of these items that they were all made at about the same time by the same person. The fact that some of them are made out of Dutch stamps suggests that they possibly were made in the Netherlands rather than in Curaçao.

Because of space limitations I could not make the pictures as large as I would have liked to. The original scans are high-resolution scans in full color which makes it possible to see much more detail, especially of the old cancels that are on the stamps from before this was done. If you would like to see the higher resolution scans send me an email request and I will send them to you by email. My email address is dick.phelps@verizon.net.

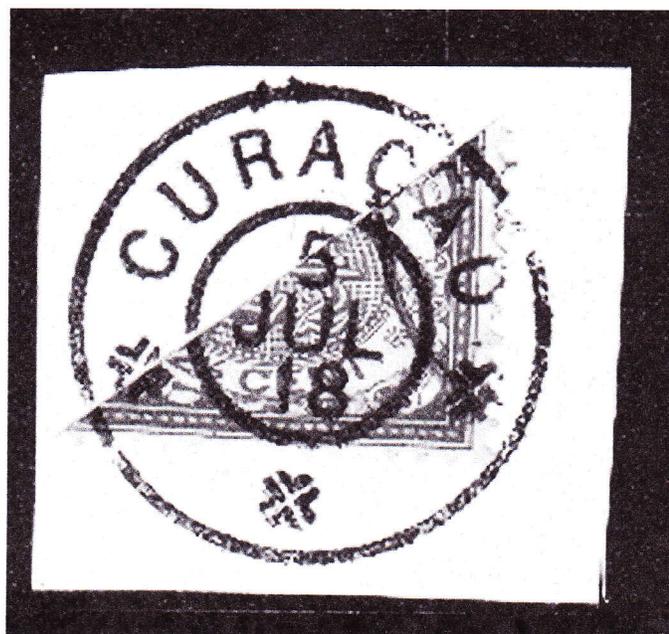


1. The first example has at least used a Curaçao 2 cent base stamp. It previously has been canceled by a cross type cancel dated 8-8-23.

2. This example is very interesting because it is not even a Curaçao stamp. It is a Dutch stamp. There are not many pieces of the original cancellation showing but there are a few. Most prominent is a circle segment at lower right and a five point star next to it. Then there is a thin and short line showing which cuts through the right leg of the U of JUL.



3. This one too has been made with a Dutch stamp. It shows several parts of a 'rader type' cancel.



4. Here at least a Curaçao stamp has been used . However, it has an underlying cancel of some unknown type. The cancel shows up as a curved line going from the second C of Curaçao down to the right cross of the Large Double Circle cancel. Also, even though a Curaçao stamp, it is not the stamp that was used for bisects. It is NVPH #31 while the 2 1/2 cent bisects were directed to be made with NVPH #48.

5. In this example a Dutch stamp is used again. It has three strikes of a 'rader type' cancel showing at the upper left, upper right, and toward the bottom. The upper right cancel includes the year, which looks like possibly (19)38.



One of the scariest things about these fakes is that although they are done in a thoughtless way (using previously used stamps and even Netherlands stamps to make them) the Curaçao Large Double Circle cancel is another matter. It looks like the Curaçao Large Double Circle type A and is near perfect. But it is not perfect. It is given away by the shape of the O which is too round. The letter R is also shaped wrong.

And I have never seen copies of the Large Double Circle so sharply and well struck as these. This was done with great care. Type A was previously presumed to have been used only in 1907, but I have found off cover copies and covers with type A that are in the 1911 - 1917 range. So we know that the real type A was used in later years and that it could have extended to 1918. But it did not make these impressions. Knowing that this Large Double Circle is a fake, it is scary to think about what else it may have been used on. The manufacturing of this fake handstamp must have been a considerable challenge.

If you find more of these in your collections I would appreciate it if you would send me an email and if possible, include a scan.

The information in this article is taken from many sources including the NVPH catalog and "The Postal History of Curaçao" by Julsen and Benders (1976).



6. This last example doesn't have much of the previous cancel visible, but you can find a somewhat weak numeral 8 near the O of Curaçao.

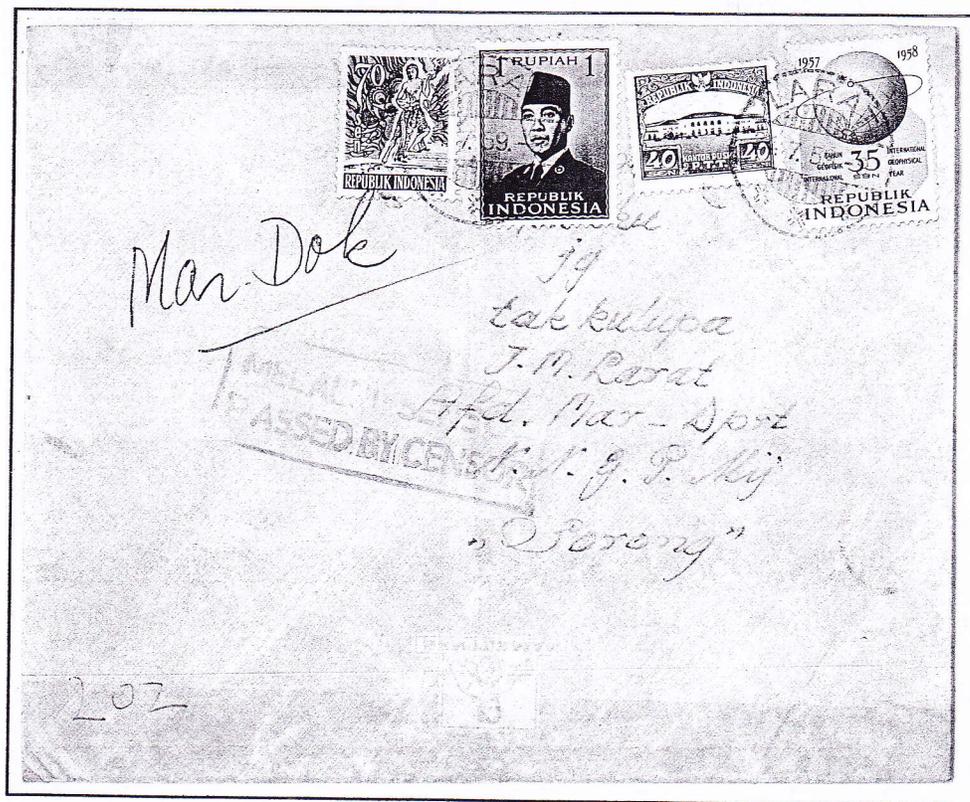


An agreement was reached in New York on August 15, 1962 to transfer Dutch New Guinea to Indonesia following a short period of direct U.N. government. At a later point in time, the Papuas would get an opportunity to express their desires for the future by means of a national poll, to be held under the supervision of the United Nations.

### 2.3.1 Censor and Postal War

The Indonesian nationalization of all Dutch companies in Indonesia in 1959, and the (re-) capture of the Kasimbar, a former K.P.M. ship by the Dutch, caused a direct postal war between the two nations. Indonesia terminated all postal connections with the Netherlands towards the end of 1961.

#### Mail from Indonesia to Dutch New Guinea



Larat to Sorong, July 24, 1959, with bi-lingual (Indonesian and English) censor cancel 'Melalui Sensor - Passed by Censor'. By way of Hollandia October 28, 1959 (cancel on back side) delivered in Sorong after three months. Handwritten notation 'Mar. Dok' = Marine Dok (navy port). Had one misread a part of the address, 'Afd. Mar-Dprt'?

A reaction by the postal authorities of Dutch New Guinea was unavoidable. Starting the end of 1958, all mail from Indonesia was refused in case the address used was 'Irian Barat' (=West Irian) to identify the territory. By the way, this name was already being used by the Indonesian nationalists immediately after the conclusion of World War 2.

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1 SEP 1958

1 SEP 1958

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Alamat kami :



Senja kirimkan dengan Pos kepada kami, diangan lupa menebutkan nomer Dattar Pokok.

Tuan-tuan menjadi pelajar „RAWAB“? Sekolah apa? Kabarkanalah kepada kami dan kirimlah Uang pangkal dan Uang kursusnja. Lakukanlah sekarang juga!

Pertandingkan Kursus Tertulis „RAWAB“ dengan lain2 perguruan. Sudah tentu nanti Tuan akan memilih menjadi pelajar „RAWAB“ kalau Tuan ingin BERHASIL, mendjuga mau naik dju, perusahaan maju, naik gadji.

Didalam sampul ini terselip rahasia kemajuan!

Perhatikanlah isi prospectus kami!

Mintalah keterangan gratis!

Tertjetak

KEPADA

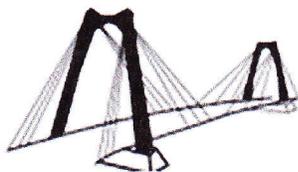
Retour afzender / Nonal Tuan/Saudari/Saudara

H. M. A. T. U. L. E. S. S. Y  
N.N.G.P.M. A.F.S. T/A - R.W.P.

NON ADMIS

Irian Barat

Nieuw Guinea



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**Of course there already is a small number of ASNP  
members who buy and sell through our auction but we  
would certainly welcome some growth in this field,  
therefor this advertisement.**

**Our next auction will be  
the end of November 2008  
Closing date for material for this auction will be  
October 1, 2008.**

**Auction catalogs are free on request  
if you mention the American Society for Netherlands Philately  
as a reference.**

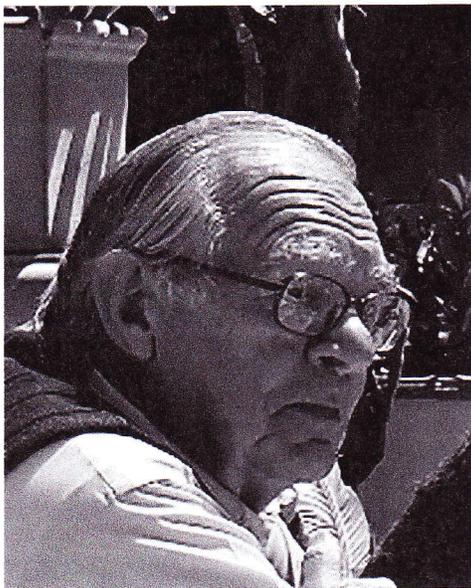
**The results of our last three auctions with photos of all  
single items can be viewed on [www.rymond.com](http://www.rymond.com).**

**An opportunity you should not miss.**

**Yours truly and philatelically,**

**Jacob de Kort**

**Ralph van Heerden (1927-2008)**



On May 13, after a short fight with pancreatic cancer, we lost Governor Ralph Van Heerden at age 80.

Ralph was born in Berkeley, California in 1927. Matriculated through schools in Berkeley and Oakland. Earned a BscE degree at the University of California at Berkeley. He became a structural bridge-design engineer at the California Division of Highways (Caltrans) for 7 1/2 years and then continued with Nolte and Associates for 33 years, 25 years of which he was their Chief Structural Engineer, and becoming an Associate in the Firm. Ralph was involved in the design of more than 250 highway and railroad bridges throughout the State of California.

Ralph was preceded in death by his first wife, Virginia in 1968 and his second wife, Betsy, who passed away unexpectedly earlier in 2007.

In retirement Ralph volunteered to the City of San Jose, where one of his most recent and rewarding projects was the cleaning up and repainting of over 300 signal- and streetlight poles in his area.

Ralph has been a lifelong philatelist, becoming a member of our original Netherlands and Colonies Philately in October 1952, followed by membership of the ASNP since its creation in 1975. Ralph's membership number was 15. In 1969 he was one of the founding members of the Netherlands Philatelists of California (NPofC). It was as a member of this organization that Ralph had his most impact, especially with his knowledge of the Dutch classic issues of the 19th century. Ralph created his own pages by hand and his calligraphy was unsurpassed,

outshining typewriter- and later, computer generated pages.

Ralph exhibited regularly in regional shows and also at the 1998 Winter APS show in Portland, OR, where he was honored with a major award for his exhibit: Netherlands & Colonies, 1852-1923, Stamp Production Abnormalities. Ralph converted this exhibit into a publication by the same name, which was handed out to all NPofC members. This publication is a classic example of the depth of study Ralph went into once he started a project.

Over the many years of his NPofC membership he was one of the main contributors at their monthly meetings, many times winning the Cancel - and/or Cover of the Month Award. The detailed background information he supplied and handed out benefited all members. In 2008 Ralph was awarded Honorary Membership in the NPofC.

The ASNP membership also recognized his qualities, electing him ASNP Governor in 2005.

Add to these accomplishments his thoughtfulness and generosity and you'll realize what a tremendous loss his passing is.

A memorial service was held June 21, attended by most Bay area ASNP members. NPofC President Fred van der Heyden and ASNP Governor George Vandenberg spoke about Ralph's life and philatelic legacy.

Ralph will be sorely missed by all who got the privilege of meeting and knowing him.

**BYLAW AMENDMENT**

The bylaw amendment would change the length of tenure of ASNP elected officials from one to two years.

**The proposed amended version:**

Article III - Officers

Section 1. Elected officers are: President, Vice-President, Corresponding Secretary, Membership Secretary, Treasurer, and a Board of Governors consisting of four members. Elective officers shall serve for two years, or until their respective successors have been elected. The Board members shall serve four years. Elections to the Board shall be staggered so that two members will be elected every two years. All elective officers and Board members may succeed themselves. One person may serve in more than one office.

Article IV - Elections

Section 1. The bi-annual balloting of officers and Governors shall take place in September by members in good standing.

## SHORT NOTES

### Editor's Note

You might have noticed that the quality of some of the illustrations in the May 2008 issue were less than optimum. I didn't notice it until I got the printed Magazines back from the printer. At first we couldn't identify the problem and the printer even went as far as offering to do a complete reprint. However, after some experimenting we did find out that most of the problems were at our end. I had quite a number of digital illustrations downloaded into the Magazine and it were these digital files that seem to have caused the problem. The original scanning density was a bit spars and although they looked pretty good on my computer screen once they were reproduced, their weakness was shown.

So back to mostly B/W (when available) copies in the future.

**September ASNP Auction** - Auctioneer Hans Moersbergen is planning on a September auction. If you have something to auction off, send it Hans at: 12739 W. Wilshire Dr. Avondale, AZ 85392-6563

### A mysterious Delft cancel.

Offered on Ebay. Sold on 11/29/2007 for \$25. Ebay description: "Delft 1906 special cancel."



When I saw this cancel on eBay I did not recognize it. Although at first sight it appears that the Delft cancel is a roundcancel, we'll see that we'll have to assume that

in reality it is a combination of a worn round (date) cancel and an old straightline cancel.

After the bidding closed I contacted the buyer and asked him about the history of this cancel. The buyer put me on the right track, by pointing out the literature where this cancel is mentioned. In chronological order this is what's written about it.

Vellinga<sup>1</sup> (1933) writes: Through Circular # 528 of February 13, 1857 it was pointed out that the use of cancels, not previously approved by the postal authorities and used at some postoffices, were not allowed. Known are cancels (Vellinga type 41 (V 41)), of Amersfoort and Delft.

Korteweg<sup>2</sup> (194?) : February 13, 1857. Ban on the use of fantasy products. Only officially supplied cancels can be used by postoffices.

Korteweg then shows Korteweg type 46 (K 46), which is reproduced here.

# DELFT

In 1955 van der Willigen's<sup>3</sup> publication there is a chapter on Falsifications. It shows two examples of the Delft cancel; one on the 5 cent 1852 issue, the other one on a 25 cent Wilhelmina fur coat issue.

Van der Willigen writes: A rather common combination is that of a normal cancellation together with a fairly large straightline cancel DELFT. This is probably the just in 1829 renewed straightline cancel (V 21) that shortly thereafter was replaced by the first date cancel (V 25). Contrary to sub postoffices (hulpkantoren) the main postoffices were not allowed to use this type of cancel. I have not seen it as the only cancel (not in combination with another cancel) on a stamp of the first issue or on a cover. Strangely quite a few stamps of the fur coat issue (1898) and some of the Jubilee issue (1913) were canceled with this postmark, which gives reason to believe that during the period 1913-1915 this cancel was put into use again, mainly to be used on packages, and other mail with an irregular surface. For this type of mail it was mandatory to cancel the stamps using some straight line cancels. We assume that during that period a postal employee saw a chance to make some money by applying this 'rare' cancel to the first issue.

Hoogerdijk<sup>4</sup> also shows the cancel, with the following text: The old straightline cancel Delft was used for packages around 1915. Value is fl 25 on the fur coat

and Jubilee issue. This cancel is most likely also used on stamps of the first and second issue.

Specialiteiten Catalogus<sup>5</sup> notes: On all three denominations of the first issue one can find the straightline cancel (K 46) DELFT (with Egyptian (with serifs) lettering). Van der Willigen (1955) is of the opinion that we are dealing with a falsification. Although Korteweg, in his publication gives it its own number (K 46), but that refers to the ban on fantasie products. K 46, for the same reason could listed under K 15, K 19, K 27, K 30A(cut), or K 41. Because DELFT is mainly found in combination with halfround cancels situated along railroads, it makes sense to think that we might be dealing with some type of railroad cancel. The value varies from 250 Euros for a combination cancels on the 5 ct and 10 ct denominations up to 500 Euros for combination cancels on the 15 ct. denomination and 5 ct and 10 ct only DELFT (not in combination with another cancel).

Well, there you have it. What can we conclude?

To me it appears that we are dealing with a real cancel, used originally around 1856/57 and later put into use again. Although this cancel was not approved by the PTT cancellation of stamps of the first issue should not be considered 'maakwerk' in my opinion.

During the 1910s the cancel was used once more on the fur coat and Jubilee issues, and after this cancel had been declared 'hands-off' in 1857 I would call this an illegal use of it.

Comments to the ASNP editor are of course welcome.

References:

- 1: O.M. Vellinga, De Poststempels van Nederland, 1676-1915, NBPV, 1990 Reprint
- 2: P.C. Korteweg, 300 Jaar Postmerken van Nederland, 1570-1870, NBFV, 1985 Reprint
- 3: A. van der Willigen, Afstempelingen Emissie 1852 van Nederland, Uitgeverij Davo, Deventer, 1955
- 4: D.C. Hoogerdijk, De Naam- of Langstempel van Nederland, Uitgeverij De Munnik, 's Gravenhage, 1972
- 5: Specialiteiten Catalogus 2006-2011, NVPV, 2006

With thanks to Martin Bos, Wageningen, the Netherlands.

### Suggestion.

Leon Stadtherr sent in the following:

"One topic missing (not completely) from the ASNP publications in the past has been exhibits. You should ask all members who exhibit to give you the name of their exhibit(s), where shown, and its awards(s). It would also be nice if a copy of the exhibit would be put in the ASNP Library. Then others could benefit from the research that has gone into the exhibit (unless of course they already have written an article for ASNP sharing this information with us)."

Excellent idea, so if you have exhibited and not shared this information yet, please let the editor know.

### The 'Bond' is now the Royal Bond

The Queen has granted the Dutch Alliance of Philatelic Stamp Organizations (Nederlandse Bond van Filatelistise Verenigingen (NBFV)), commonly known as the "Bond", the right to call itself the Royal Dutch Alliance of Philatelic Stamp Organizations. From now on the name is Koninklijke Nederlandse Bond van Filatelisten-Verenigingen, KNBF in short.

It is not that easy to obtain the Royal designation. First requirement is to be at least 100 years old, which of course a milestone many companies and organizations never will reach. But apart from the 100-year requirement there are other requirements, such as: you have to have a solid history behind you, the books have to be in order (you have to hand over your annual reports!), and you have to have a plan for the future.

Insiders of the KNBF were informed about the upcoming recognition and they decided to have personal stamps printed. The base stamp was issued earlier this year by TNT Post; "KNBF" and a Royal Crown were added to this base stamp to produce the 'personal stamp'.



Our congratulations to the KNBF with this wonderful recognition of our great hobby.

**POSTEX 2008, OCTOBER 17 - 19, 2008**

Americahal, Laan van Erica 50, Apeldoorn, The Netherlands

Over the past few years Postex has established a tradition of combining annual stamp fairs with the celebration of jubilees of study circles. This year is especially spectacular with the centenary/centennial of the NBFV (the 'Bond') and the 80th anniversary of NVPH (the Dutch Stamp Traders' Association).

Postex will also host the jubilees of two study circles which are of particular interest to ASNP members: **ZWP** (40th anniversary) and **Dai Nippon** (60th anniversary).

In 1968 ZWP was founded as a study circle for the South-West Pacific, especially Netherlands New Guinea, but has now evolved into a home for all collectors interested in the postal history of the 'tropical' Netherlands, in the East as well as in the West, and

Australasia.

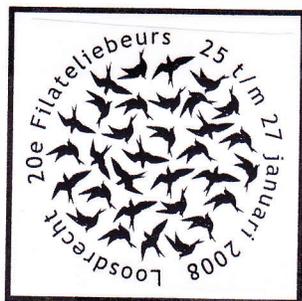
Dai Nippon, famous for its catalogues and other publications, caters to those interested in the Japanese Occupation of the Netherlands Indies and the Indonesian Revolution Period.

For Postex 2008 ZWP and Dai Nippon have organized a number of joint activities: an exhibition, a reception and a dinner party. The exhibition will comprise 200 frames for the two study circles within the complete Postex 800-frame exhibition.

Combine a holiday or family visit to the Netherlands with attending these Postex jubilees!

For more information: [j.dijkstra50@chello.nl](mailto:j.dijkstra50@chello.nl) (for ZWP), [www.dainippon.nl](http://www.dainippon.nl) (for Dai Nippon)

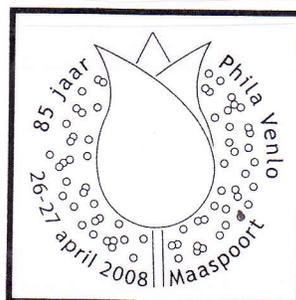
**Commemorative cancels**



25/27-I-2008  
20th Philatelic Bourse  
Loosdrecht



29-III-2008  
Philatelic Youth Day  
Utrecht

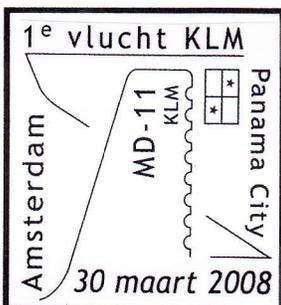


26/27-IV-2008  
Phila Venlo  
Maaspoort

**First Flight Cancels**



30-III-2008  
A'dam-Fort Worth/Dallas



30-III-2008  
A'dam Panama City



30-III-2008  
A'dam-Portland (OR)



30-III-2008  
A'dam - Linköping

## MAGAZINE REVIEWS

*Note: In general only those articles with philatelic subjects related to the Netherlands and its former Colonies are discussed here; many other articles of interest appear in these publications. Only those publications with new information are discussed.*

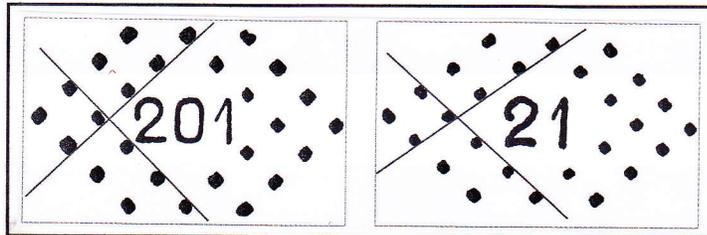
*Photo copies can be made available (at the cost of reproduction plus mailing) to anyone interested in a particular article. Contact Hans Kremer, 50 Rockport Ct., Danville, CA 94526 (hkremer@usa.net).*

### Maandblad Filatelie

Maandblad Filatelie - Brouwer Media - P.O. Box 20, 1910 AA Uitgeest, The Netherlands.  
Subscription € 18.40 / yr., € 32 for foreign countries, free to members of Dutch philatelic societies.  
stands for Christmas/New Year mail) still can be of interest, due to the variety of cancels used on it.

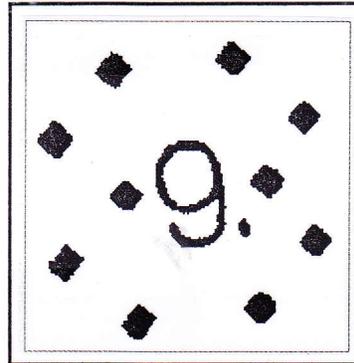
April 2008 - The announcement of Stamp Passion (organized by the Dutch stamp dealers organisation NVPH) dominates this issue. The event has been heavily advertised and according to what I heard from visitors to this show (held in 's Hertogenbosch April 11-13) it was a great success. - In the youth section Alex Nuijten talks about what is in his stamp album pages. This to stimulate other youth members to follow suit or just to get them more involved in the hobby. Nice idea. - Ronald Bouscher is advertizing a Boy Scout cover sent at the end of May 1945 from Rotterdam to Zwolle. The Boy Scouts delivered this letter to 'sHertogenbosch where it was put in the mail. Direct mail connections between Rotterdam and Zwolle were not yet available at that time, although the war had ended. This item sells for about \$1,500, showing the popularity of this thematic subject of collecting.

May 2008 - Another article that undoubtedly will be of interest to many of you is an article by Harrie Jans who writes a continuation of his article (refer to Filatelie of May 2004) about "The 300 Dutch numeral (punt) cancels)." In his follow-up he shows the difference between a square and diamond shaped set of dots and for various towns he lists the number of square and diamond numerals that were issued. Rotterdam (#91) for example had 51 square and 12 diamond shaped numerals issued.



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During his research he also discovered a new version of numeral cancel 9 (Assen), this one with small 'extra' dot on the lower right side of the 9.-



The 'cover story' shows about ten examples examples where a piece of postal stationery (mostly letters) which then is matched with a picture postcard showing one or more highlights from the town the letter originated from, this way tying history to postal stationery. The author, Han Siem, limits himself to mail sent from the Dutch East Indies to destinations overseas, which excludes the Netherlands. There will be a continuation of the article in the near future. - Mr. van der Vlist in his seemingly never ending series on falsifications this time shows an interesting falsification (or rather: mis representation of the facts). A 2 1/2 cent purple NVPH#33 is labeled as a canceled proof of this stamp. It turns out that there are legitimate postcards with embedded 2 1/2 cent stamps that used two sheets of paper glued together to make for more sturdy postcard. By soaking of the backside of this postcard and then cutting out the 2 1/2 stamp of the front (which now has thin paper) one would create the stamp offered as a canceled proof. Be aware!

June 2008 - The main feature is about the ANWB, comparable to AAA in the U.S. The ANWB celebrates its 125th anniversary this year, which is honored with a special stamp. An earlier ANWB stamp came out 25 years ago. With its four million members the ANWB is the Netherlands' largest organization. - Han Siem continues his article started in the May 2008 issue with more examples of picture postcards and the cancels that are tied to it.!

### The Netherlands Philatelist -

Magazine and Newsletter, each published three times a - year by the Netherlands Philatelic Circle (Magazine Editor: Les Jobbins, 25 Oakfield Drive, Reigate, Surrey RH2 9NR, United Kingdom). Membership (this includes the Magazine as well as the Newsletter): £ 20 per year for members beyond Europe.

Newsletter # 117- June 2008. It opens with the announcement that *Netherlands Philately* will, for the time being, be put together by an editorial team, consisting of three people. - A nice cover and write-up about a 'Dutch

Ambulance for Germany and Austrian-Hungary' of 1916.

### Nederland onder de Loep

The Rundbrief (whose official name is "Nederland onder de Loep") is our German 'sister organization's publication. The ASNP and Arge (Arbeitsgemeinschaft Niederlande e.V.) exchange their respective publications. The Rundbriefs are available from the ASNP library.

Arge Secretary: Peter Heck, Tiefengasse 33, 65375 Oestrich-Winkel, Germany.

Membership is € 20.

### Rundbrief 179 April 2008

This issue opens with the translation of an article by Bert van Marrewijk which he published in De Kartelrand of January 2008. The subject is "Our Below Sealevel Territory", which refers to the history of the territory covered by the Netherlands' latest province, Flevoland.

Illustrated with many covers Bert manages to have this history come alive. After a flood in 1916, it was decided that the Zuiderzee, an inland sea within the Netherlands, would be enclosed and reclaimed: the Zuiderzee Works start. It started in the late 1920's with the draining of the Wieringermeer. In 1932, the Afsluitdijk was completed, which closed off the sea completely. The Zuiderzee was subsequently called IJsselmeer (lake at the end of the river IJssel). The first part of the new lake that was reclaimed was the Noordoostpolder (Northeast polder). This new land included the former islands of Urk and Schokland and it was included in the province of Overijssel. After this, other parts were reclaimed: the Southeastern part in 1957 and the Southwestern part in 1968. The municipalities on the three parts voted to become a separate province, which happened in 1986. - Dr. Louis gives a short overview of Landmail markers. The Landmail refers to the overland route Alexandria-Suez (Egypt) which was used during the mid 1840's to transport mail from Western Europe to the Far East, connecting to transport by sea at both ends. - The third main article is by H.W. Hönes about the Queen Juliana En Profil issue (1953-1971). It shows that even a fairly modern stamp can be the subject of an extensive collection, as was perviously pointed out about this issue by Peter Storm van Leeuwen in van Dieten catalog # 605.

### Netherlands Philatelists of California

Membership dues are \$ 12 for corresponding USA and Canada based members; \$ 17 for regular members attending the monthly meetings, and \$ 18 for international corresponding members.

Secretary/Editor: Frank Ennik, 3168 Tice Creek Dr. # 3, Walnut Creek, CA 94595-3772 E-mail: ennik123@catt.net

Website: www.angelfire.com/ca2/npofc

April/May/June 2008 - Foremost of course is the passing of one of NPofC's founding members, Ralph van Heerden, whose life you can read more about elsewhere in this Magazine. He will be greatly missed at the monthly gatherings. - Each monthly issue contains six pages of information, which includes the minutes of the previous meeting, the wide ranging subjects covered and discussed by the individual members in attendance, the cancel and cover of the month contest winners and short write-ups on such subjects as an item copied from a 1936 Dutch paper announcing the possibility of sending small amounts of money (less than a guilder) thru the mail by adding extra postage to a postcard and the background of a Dutch cancel of 1949, commemorating 390 years IATA (International Air Transport Association), which was 'founded' in the Hague in 1919.

### PO&PO

The **Verenigingsnieuws** (Newsletter) is published quarterly by the Nederlandse Vereniging van Poststukken en Poststempelverzamelaars (PO&PO). Dues are € 22.50 / yr. (per 1-1-2006 this will go to € 25), which includes delivery of the Newsletter and the more irregular **Postzak**. Secretary: J.F.G Spijkerman, Postbus 1065, 6801 BB Arnhem; e-mail: secretariaat@po-en-po.com

De Postzak No new issue received.

### Verenigingsnieuws:

May 2008 - The main contents consist mainly of the annual reports by the various office holders and committees. Good news is that membership increased from 655 (end 2006) to 664 (end 2007). - Bert van Marrewijk continues his series about the 'typenrader' cancels, which cover a wide range of cancels from the early 1900's through the current cylinder cancels. This is a collecting subject that undoubtedly will grow over time. Time to start collecting these cancels. - An announcement about the 40th anniversary of the Southwest Pacific, and 60th anniversary of the Dai Nippon collectors groups which both will celebrate at Postex2008 in Apeldoorn (October 18 and 19, 2008).

### De Aero Philatelist

"De Aero Philatelist" is issued six times a year by "De Nederlandse Vereniging van Aero Philatelisten".

K. Jongerden, Ambonlaan 88, 1276 NJ HUIZEN, The Netherlands. Subscription is Euro 27.50 per year.

Many issues of "De Aero Philatelist" include a substantial auction section of interesting airmail covers and/or related items.

May issue received too late for review.

### **Handboek Postwaarden Nederland**

Authors: G. Holstege, J.Vellekoop, and R. van den Heuvel. The Handboek is a Dutch language publication and addresses philatelic subjects in a high quality and in-depth manner. Segments are completed and made available on an irregular but more or less quarterly basis. Publisher: Joh. Enschedé, P.O.Box 8023, 1055 AA, Amsterdam, the Netherlands. E-mail: verkoop@jea.nl, Website: www.jea.nl. Our 'personal' contact is Wendy Hut (w.hut@jea.nl)

The authors invite comments and suggestions by visiting their website: <http://www.postwaarden.nl/>

### **ZWP (Zuid West Pacific)**

The ZWP (South West Pacific) studygroup covers not only the postal history of the South West Pacific but also of the Dutch West Indies. The publications exist of a Mededelingenblad (Newsletter type) and a Mededelingenblad -Bijlage (Appendix). Dues are € 30 / yr for overseas subscribers. Secretary: J.A. Dijkstra, Dolderstraat 74, 6706 JG Wageningen, The Netherlands (j.dijkstra50@chello.nl)

Mededelingenblad To cut down on costs some reports and the auction listing are now sent by email.

### **Dai Nippon Society** -

The Dai Nippon Society specializes in the stamps of the Dutch East Indies during the period of the Japanese occupation, and also during the Republik Indonesia before obtaining sovereignty.

Subscription is € 25 per year. Secretary: Leo Vosse, Vinkenbaan 3, 1851 TB Heiloo, The Netherlands. e-mail: leo.vosse@planet.nl ; Website: www.dainippon.nl

The latest auction list was received via email.

### **Waalzegel**

Waalzegel is the 4x year publication of the NVPV-Nijmegen. *The contents of the Waalzegel can be seen as a PDF file on their Website:* <http://www.nvpvnijmegen.nl/>

### **FROM THE LIBRARIAN:**

All loan requests must be directed to librarian  
The borrowing conditions are as follows:

1. In principle the books go on loan for one month.
2. If more time is required, inform the librarian by post card.
3. Shipping-out costs are for the borrower to refund, in US currency, stamps, checks or money orders. The latter payable to ASNP, c/o Paul Swierstra.

The sales of old issues of "Netherlands Philately" and the "ASNP Newsletter" are also handled by the Librarian. A listing of the ASNP Library can be found in the July and November 2001 ASNP Newsletters, and on: [www.angelfire.com/ca2/asnp](http://www.angelfire.com/ca2/asnp)

Paul Swierstra  
199 Chestnut Str.  
San Carlos, CA 94070-2112  
Ph: 650-593-4626

Our Dutch representative, Max Lerk handed me a copy of Passies voor Postzegels. Thanks Max.

### **Passie voor Postzegels**

At the Stamp Passion show in 'sHertogenbosch in April, 2008 all attendees received a free 'catalog' with some articles (Dutch only) of interest to our readers. - Cees Janssen writes about the Dutch telegram stamps of 1877, expanded upon in 1879 and once more in 1903. These are the six-sided stamps with a round hole in it. Most likely you have come across one or more of these during your searches for Dutch stamps. They were put on telegrams as proof of payment. The hole signified that the stamp was used on a telegram. On busy days a second puncher (this time one with a square hole) was used. Most often there is also a diagonal marker across the stamp. This marker was applied by a second postal employee, checking on the first one. The used copies of these stamps could only be bought in official Government auctions. - Cees also writes about the imperforated stamps of 1923. Sheets of these stamps (the fur collar issue) were sent to various postoffices. At first it was announced that due to a printers' strike at Johan Enschedé that they wouldn't be perforated but later on it came out that the strike was already over when the sheets were shipped. Ultimate reason is thus unknown, but financial motives (seizing the opportunity) might have been behind it.- Cees then continues with an article about the imperforated Konijnenburg stamps of 1940, the ones that were found in Berlin after WWII. - Since imperforation seems to be the key word Cees also wrote a story about the Imperforated color proofs of the 'colonies'. - Peter Storm van Leeuwen enlightens the reader with his story about the DEI "BUITEN BEZIT." and "JAVA." overprints of 1907/08. They were used to track the amount of mail delivered on the island of Java (including Maduro). All other islands were considered Buiten Bezittingen (Outside Possessions)

I'll be glad to send copies (at cost) of requested individual articles. Of course the entire publication can also be checked out. You can then make your own copies.

## WEBSITES WORTH VISITING

[http://www.rpsl.org.uk/dutch\\_mail/index.html](http://www.rpsl.org.uk/dutch_mail/index.html)

This is a beautiful site not to be missed. Past-president Kees Adema made a presentation at the Royal Philatelic Society of London of Dutch Mails in Times of Turmoil 1568-1815.

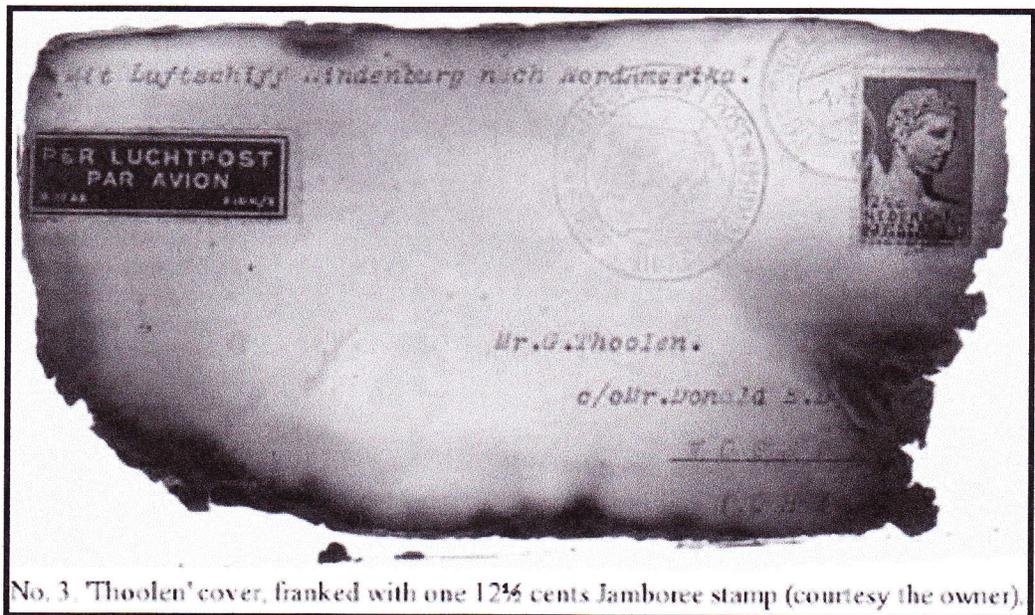
Between 1568 and 1815, The Netherlands or Holland, as it is commonly referred to, was involved in many major conflicts and Dutchmen, voluntarily or not, participated in countless campaigns and battles. The exhibit starts in 1568 when the Dutch rebels, led by William of Orange, started the eighty year fight for independence against their Spanish rulers.

The last of the items from the exhibit is the only recorded letter to The Netherlands from occupied Moscow, dated September 18, 1812. The Battle of Waterloo was still three years off but the Russian campaign marked the beginning of the end for Napoleon's territorial aspirations.

<http://www.slettebo.no/scout/hindenburg.htm> All about the Hindenburg crash covers by Thoolen.

LZ 129 Hindenburg left Frankfurt am Main, Germany on May 3 on her first North America flight for 1937. The world's largest aircraft ever was 804 feet long and filled with seven million cubic feet of highly flammable hydrogen. At Lakehurst, New Jersey, cameramen and reporters waited for her arrival and recorded one of the most famous disasters in history. On landing at Lakehurst on May 6, 1937, the airship burst into flames and was destroyed in about 34 seconds. 13 passengers, 22 crew and one ground crew died. 61 passengers and crew members survived.

At right one of the salvaged 'disaster' covers, sent to, and most likely sent by Mr. Thoolen, a relentless self promoter



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<http://www.philaguide.com/philawords/index.htm>

This Website is very useful not when you encounter a philatelic term in either Dutch, French, or German and would like to know the English translation, but also if you want to convert from English to for example Dutch. It's all there in a very easy to navigate Website

<http://akphilately.blogspot.com/search/label/Wilhelmina>

Adrian Keppel's Weblog (which means you can email him online and other people can read online too what you have to say) with interesting short articles about all stamps depicting Queen Wilhelmina. In English, so have a look, you'll enjoy it.

<http://www.po-en-po.nl>

Go to "Laatste Updates 19/06 Handleiding Postmech", followed by "Opzetten & Stempelen", which will send a pdf file to your computer. This contains a 13 page article about the history of postal sorting automatization in the Netherlands from 1956 (Mark II Facer) through 1978 (Toshiba Facer).

### Non Philatelic:

<http://www.digitaleatlasgeschiedenis.nl/> All about the 17th century with old pamphlets.

<http://www.Dutchnews.nl> The daily news from the Netherlands

<http://www.wordgumbo.com> Extensive Dutch-English and vice versa, lexicon.

(Courtesy of Frank Ennik)

## RECENT ISSUES

### Netherlands

#### **Beautiful Netherlands - Amersfoort and Heusden 22 April , 2008**

In 1661, four hundred people from Amersfoort dragged a large boulder from the Leusden moor to the Varkensmarkt in Amersfoort. This unusual feat earned the city its nickname: 'keistad' (boulder city).

Amersfoort developed around a ford in the river Eem, which was known as the Amer in the Middle Ages. Many merchants and craftsmen came to settle at this crossroads of trade routes. The sixteenth century saw the beginning of a long period of decline that lasted well into the nineteenth century. Then the tide turned when Amersfoort was linked to the railway. This stamp, designed for Beautiful Netherlands 2008 series issued by TNT Post, captures the contemporary and historic



elements of the boulder city.

Heusden The fortification of Heusden, situated on the river Maas in Noord Brabant, once had an imposing castle, the oldest sections of which dated from the twelfth century. The town is surrounded by extensive fortifications that were built during the Eighty Years' War.

For each 'Beautiful Netherlands' location, the designers produced an outline shape, usually of a famous person connected with the place in question. In the case of Amersfoort, this is the world-famous painter Piet Mondriaan (1872- 1944). Amersfoort was his birthplace. The stamp showing the historic locations in Heusden is *Netherlands Philately Vol. 32, No. 6*

graced by the profile of Gisbertus Voetius (1589-1676), a preacher, theologian and famous son of the town.



The face value of each stamp is 44 euro cents.

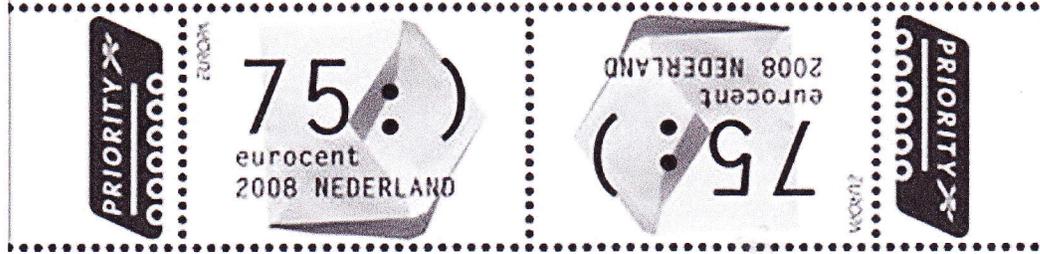
Size: 20.8 x 25.3 mm  
Perforation: 14 1/2 : 14 1/4.  
Paper: normal with phosphor tagging  
Gum: synthetic  
Stamp type: sheetlet of five identical special stamps  
Color: yellow, magenta, cyan and black  
Print process: offset  
Print run: 109,500 sheetlets Heusden and 117,000 Amersfoort  
Printer: Joh Enschedé Security Print, The Netherlands

#### **Europa Stamps 2008 20 May 2008**

Writing letters forms the keynote of the 2008 Europa Stamp. The theme for these stamps is chosen each year by PostEurop, an association comprising 48 European postal companies, including TNT Post. Each country is free to give its own interpretation to the design.

TNT Post embraced the common theme with great enthusiasm; after all, letters represent a postal company's core business of delivering mail, the distinct icon of . which is the letter. The theme also links in with the value of a letter to its recipient and sender. What is more thoughtful than sending somebody a letter?

## Europapostzegels



The face value of each stamp is 75 euro cents.

### Technical Details:

Size: 36 x 25mm  
 Perforation: 14 1/2 : 14 1/2  
 Paper: normal with phosphor tagging  
 Gum: synthetic  
 Stamp type: sheetlet often identical special stamps with Priority sticker  
 Print colors: yellow, magenta, cyan and black  
 Print process: offset  
 Print run: 185,000 sheetlets  
 Printer: Joh. Enschede Security Print

### Beautiful Netherlands - Zoetermeer 3 June 2008

During June 2008, Zoetermeer is celebrating its thousandth anniversary.



Recently, it was discovered that Zoetermeer is much older than was supposed. It is likely that, in the year

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post

1000, there was already a small settlement of pioneering farmers. Zoetermeer has a curious history. During much of its

existence, until well into the twentieth century, it remained a small village, with a population of 4,500. In the mid 1960s, Zoetermeer was designated as a growth centre, and the village underwent radical change. Within a period of 30 years, it grew into a city with a population of 100,000.

The face value of each stamp is 44 euro cents.

### Technical Details:

Size: 20.8 x 25.3mm  
 Perforation: 14 1/2 : 14 1/4  
 Paper: normal with phosphor tagging  
 Gum: synthetic  
 Stamp type: sheetlet of five identical stamps  
 Print colors: yellow, magenta, cyan and black  
 Print process: offset  
 Print run: 117,000 sheetlets  
 Printer: Joh. Enschedé

### Anniversary Stamps 2008 20 May 2008

Five organizations and five anniversaries are brought together by the 2008 Anniversary Stamps in a colorful journey of discovery. The oldest anniversary is being celebrated by the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences (KNAW), centering on the theme of the Magic of Science.



Next in line on the sheetlet is De Nederlandsche Bank (DNB), which forms part of the European System of Central Banks, as well as the Euro system.



The third reason for celebration is the 25th anniversary of the AEX index, the pride of the Dutch financial world. The AEX index acts as a barometer for Dutch companies and represents the country's twenty-five most traded shares.



Number four on the stamp sheetlet is bookshop and newsagent chain Bruna, celebrating 140 years of encouraging people to read.



The ANWB completes the stamp sheetlet. In its 125th year, the ANWB, or Royal Dutch Tourist Board, is a household name in the Netherlands, known especially for its emergency breakdown service, and sign posting.

The face value of each stamp is 44 euro cents.

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Technical Details:

Size: 36 x 25mm  
 Perforation: 14 1/2 : 14 1/2  
 Paper: normal with phosphor tagging  
 Gum: synthetic  
 Stamp type: sheetlet often special stamps in five different designs dedicated to five different organizations celebrating anniversaries. A text stamp, with no franking value, is also included for each organisation  
 Print colors: yellow, magenta, cyan and black  
 Print process: offset  
 Print run: 451,000 sheetlets  
 Printer: Joh. Enschede Security Print

#### Beautiful Netherlands 2008 - collective sheetlet 12 June 2008

Five places have been honored with their own stamp sheetlet in 2008: boulder city Amersfoort, also Europe's greenest city in 2007; the old fortified towns of Coevorden and Heusden; lakeside town Sneek; and Zoetermeer, one of the Netherlands' true growth centers.

On 12 June 2008, TNT Post issued the Beautiful Netherlands collective sheetlet. This features all five stamps from the series previously issued in 2008, this time in a new arrangement.

The face value of each stamp is 44 euro cents.

Technical Details:

Size: 20.8 x 25.3 mm  
 Perforation: 14 1/2 : 14 1/4  
 Paper: normal with phosphor tagging  
 Gum: synthetic  
 Stamp type: sheetlet of five different special stamps  
 Print colors: yellow, magenta, cyan and black  
 Print process: offset  
 Print run: 471,500 sheetlets  
 Printer: Johan Enschedé

**125 years of Vereniging Rembrandt 2008  
12 June 2008**

In 2008, the Vereniging Rembrandt (Rembrandt Association) celebrates the 125th anniversary of its founding.

At the end of the nineteenth century, an important Dutch art collection was in danger of being lost to other countries. A group of private art connoisseurs decided to do something about this. They raised money to buy the collection, which they then donated to the Rijks Prentenkabinet (Print Room) in Amsterdam. The remaining money was used to set up an association 'to retain art in the Netherlands': the Vereniging Rembrandt. The name 'Rembrandt' was chosen for its power to attract sponsors.

represents modern painting, and the jug with lid by Adam van Vianen represents applied art. On the other quality marks we see the dates relating to the jubilee and the name of the celebrating association in the Nobel font. The lettering and value are printed in the Hollandse Mediaeval font.

The face value of the stamp is EUR 6.65 (!).



Today, Vereniging Rembrandt is associated with quality acquisitions, varying from paintings, sculpture and silver to photography, textiles and china - classic as well as modern. The Vereniging Rembrandt provides financial support for purchasing top works of art for the public art collection in the Netherlands. This is often done at the request of a museum that wishes to acquire an artwork. The association can honor such a request after an expert assessment.

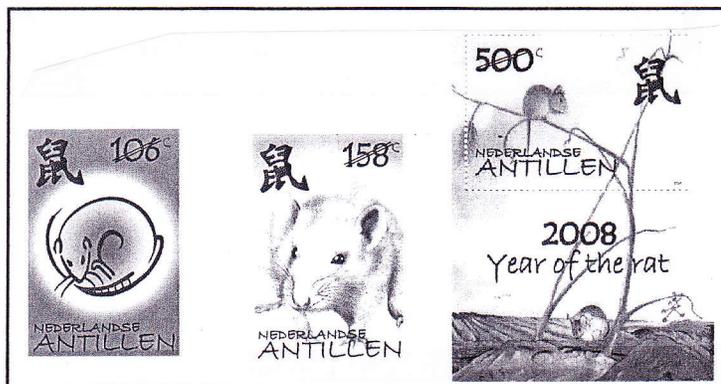
Designers Marijke Cobbenhagen and Chantal Hendriksen have covered the sheetlet with the signatures of fellow artists. The use of the signatures of renowned artists not only reflects the diversity of the works supported but also emphasizes the high quality that Vereniging Rembrandt stands for.

The 'quality marks' depicted on the sheetlet are examples of works of art that Vereniging Rembrandt has supported. The Love Letter by Vermeer represents classical painting, The Red Model III by Rene Margritte

**Technical Details:**

- Size: 35 x 35mm
- Sheetlet size: 104 x 71mm
- Perforation: 13 3/4 : 13 3/4
- Paper: normal with phosphor tagging
- Gum: synthetic
- Stamp type: sheetlet with one special stamp for Registered mail items Stamp with text: '1883 Vereniging Rembrandt 2008' Stamp sheetlet with signatures of artists. Works featured: 1. Rene Margritte, The Red Model (detail), 2. Johannes Vermeer, The Love Letter (detail), 3. Adam van Vianen, Jug with lid
- Print colors: yellow, magenta, cyan, black and bronze
- Print process: offset
- Print run: 365,000 stamp sheetlets
- Printer: Joh. Enschede Security Print

**Netherlands Antilles**



**Year of the rat**  
**02-07-2008**



**Heirs and Heiress 02-28-2008**



**Global Warming 02-28-2008**



**Olympic Games 04-01-2008**



**Stamp Passion 04-11-2008**