Dated Journal

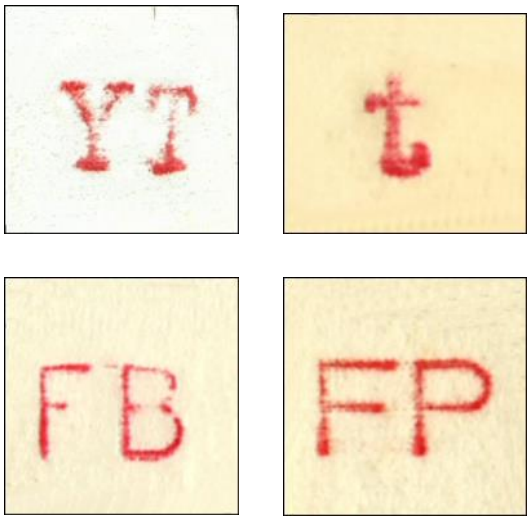
FROM: Netherlands Philately
1308 Pin Oak Drive
Dickinson, TX 77539-
USA

Sharing knowledge of Netherlands & Overseas Areas philately since 1975

Netherlands Philately

Magazine of the American Society for Netherlands Philately

Volume 45/5



TO:

Rietdijk Aº 1919

1919 - 2021

London

Over 100 years of excellence in philately and numismatics

Stamp and coin auctions

Rietdijk Veilingen situated at the Noordeinde in The Hague has been selling stamps and coins through auctions since 1919. Our auctions belong to the top of Europe regarding Philately and Numismatics.

Complete collections as well as single items are presented in luxurious auction catalogues which are shipped all over the world. Each year we organize four major auctions concerning stamps, coins and all related items.

John Kuin
assessor

Estimates

For small collections non binding estimates, free of charge, take place at our office from monday through friday between 9:00 and 17:00 and only by appointment. For larger and more valuable collections we will be happy to assist you on site.

We are constantly in search of stamps and coins!

Stamp auctions

In April and November

Coin auctions

In June and December

Noordeinde 41, 2514 GC Den Haag +31 (0)70-364 79 57 info@rietdijkveilingen.nl www.rietdijkveilingen.nl

Worldwide selling and buying Rietdijk*live* **www.rietdijklive.nl**

NETHERLANDS PHILATELY

Magazine of the American Society for Netherlands Philately; Volume 45/5

Editor's Message May, 2021

Dear Fellow Collectors,

As we are heading to a gradual normalization of our social life, thanks to the widely available anti-Covid vaccines (at least in the USA), we can start looking forward to stampshows taking place in-person, rather than virtual. The APS has announced that the Great American Stampshow will be held in Rosemount (near Chicago) August 12-15. Surely, many more will follow, hopefully also overseas; I can not wait to pack my bags and hop on an airplane to visit distant places.

In the mean time, exercise some patience, work on your collections and exhibits, and even perhaps write an article or two for *Netherlands Philately*. As you will read on page 117, we are getting noticed!

Ben

Table of Contents

Advice to Authors
Please submit your text in MS Word, and indicate where each illustration belongs. Submit illustrations as full color scans (at 300 dpi or better). Contact the Magazine Editor in case of questions.

Netherlands Philately is published 6x per year by the American Society for Netherlands Philately, a non-profit organization founded in 1975 by Paul van Reyen and registered in the State of Illinois.

ASNP is affiliate No. 60 of APS Advertizing rates per issue are:
$50 for a full page,
$30 half page and
$20 for a quarter page.

A failed rocket mail test in Katwijk (the Netherlands) in 1935.

by Hans Kremer

Recently I took another look at some covers that I had already for some time but had never studied in detail. Thus, I came across the 1935 cover (signed by G. Zucker) shown in Figure 1.

Figure 1: Zucker Rocket Mail Test, March 6, 1935.

I looked on delpher.nl to see if the newspapers of that time had written anything about this rocket mail test and luckily that was the case. A reporter from the "Provinciale Overijsselsche en Zwolsche Courant" had traveled from Zwolle to Katwijk on 6 March 1935. The next day his travelogue appeared in the newspaper. I think it's such an entertaining story that I'm passing on the translated version of it. Since it was such a prosaic story it was hard to do it complete justice in translation.

The photos of the loading of the letters and the firing of the rocket come from the *Telegraaf* newspaper of 7 March 1935.

The story titled "TESTS WITH ROCKETS. In the Katwijk dunes" follows:

"Yesterday morning the bright white sun conjured up the crested waves of the roaring North Sea along Katwijk's beach. A fresh wind and a clear blue sky chased the cobwebs from the mind of the pedestrian who was strolling along the boulevard at this unusual time of the year. But it was also not for the pleasures of the beach that we were in Katwijk. These were reasons of a more serious nature that had called us out of our Zwolle stronghold. Rocket experiments were to be held in the dunes of this usually quiet village in winter time. The stars had hardly faded when we had already been on the train and now we were at our destination. When we arrived at the site where the rocket was to be fired, we saw some gentlemen standing by a strange type of aircraft, the meaning of which we could not yet have imagined. The persons who were interested in the missile and who were busy conferencing with each other turned out to be Mr. G. Thoolen, chairman of the Dutch Rocket Association and K. Roberti, secretary of that association. Furthermore, in silent attention to a silvery white shining grenade stood the rocket designer, Mr. Gerhard Zucker. The latter explained to us in German — occasionally also using for a spicy Dutch term — that, as a guest of the Dutch Rocket Association we will be shown an experiment or demonstration. However, Mr. Zucker appeared to dislike the expression demonstration. After all, according to his explanation, in the event of a failure — and the chance of this still remains very high in missile tests — he would then demonstrate his own failure.

The missile.
The gleaming grenade that Mr. Zucker was paying attention to when we arrived turned out to be the rocket itself. Proudly, the creator of the pear-shaped object had brushed on it with black letters: Zucker II. This was namely the second missile of the latest improved type, designed by Mr. Zucker. It is about 80 cm. long and has a streamlined shape. At the back are three directional fins, which serve to stabilize the missile during flight. In the front front — as Mr. Zucker showed us his product — is a space for mail and parcels.

In the narrow flared tail end is the conically drilled orifice for the gases that resulted when the charge inside the missile is ignited. For a while longer we looked at the rocket and the strange device that we noticed first, i.e., the runway, which consists of a number of parallel sliding bars, which give the missile the desired direction.

Figure 2: Loading the mail.

Prelude.
First of all, Mr. Zucker would fire a small rocket to determine the wind direction and the wind speed. This rocket had a length of 2 to 3 decimeters, a diameter of half a decimeter and was mounted vertically against a pole. Mr. Zucker ignited the charge by means of electrical ignition. Soaring, the projectile flew up quickly, leaving a white and yellow line of smoke behind it. This was to be the prelude to the real trial. Mr. Zucker was being photographed with his device. "Mail" was loaded, the photographer took another picture. The rocket was carefully placed on its slide, trying to see if the rocket would run "free" at the start. Then the experimenter fitted the electrical lead. Those interested dived deeper behind the dune tops. Police officers were busy waving red flags. In the distance a cyclist suddenly appeared, pedaling innocently along the winding dune path. Police waved red flags fiercely. Officers rushed for cover behind dune tops in the direction of the cyclist. But Gerhard Zucker proved that Germans can also be phlegmatic. He waited calmly, two copper wires between his fingers, for the right moment. At last the innocent cyclist had passed the dangerous zone. Zucker discarded the cigarette he was smoking. Viruly would say: For free - contact! Zucker concluded: Fertig! The photographer, who had wanted to photograph the rocket during the take-off and had made his intention known, now quickly disappeared behind the steep dune top on which he had stationed himself.

The start.
A dull hiss: Then, with a flash of fire behind it, the Zucker II shot into the air, to land on a plowed potato field a few kilometers further - or so it was expected. Man plans but the missile decides. After flying a hundred meters through the air at increasing speed and with a slight gradient, the Zucker II suddenly began to continue its journey almost vertically, and then even turned in the opposite direction (towards the take-off position). At a height of about 400 meters the charge had worn off and the projectile turned its way back, or rather down.

As a result of the unexpected change of direction, however, the device turned to where the most curious onlookers were. All eyes eagerly followed the falling projectile in order to be able to jump aside at the right moment. Fortunately, it ended well. About 30 meters from where we were staying, the rocket hit the ground. Although the public and inventor were somewhat disappointed by the inexplicable change of course, the spectators gathered around the dented object, from which the "mail" was brought out almost undamaged. The photographers took some more pictures. After this, the spectators and officials dispersed. This event, the first rocket test that we were allowed to attend, was also over for us."

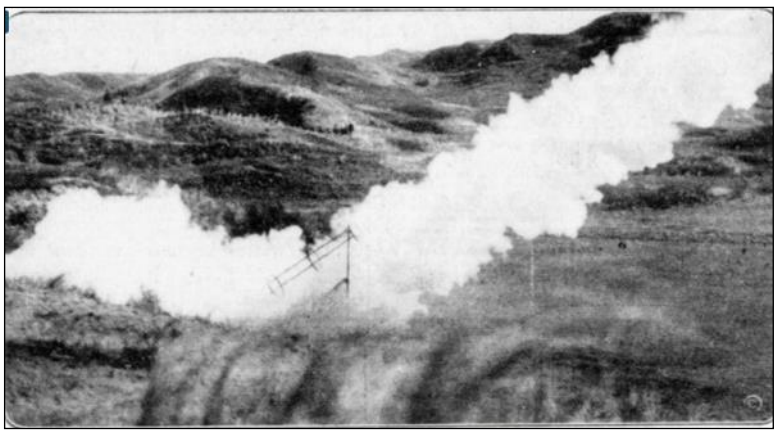


Figure 3: Launching the rocket.

So far the newspaper story.

There are two types of the blue label with the text "Zucker-Rakettenvlucht in Nederland 1935". Type 1 is the normal text (Figure 4) while type 2 has a 'lip' on the second "D" of Nederland (Figure 5).

The cover shown here has a type 2 label, just like 20 of the 600 letters stuffed into the rocket's orifice.

Figure 4: "Zucker-Rakettenvlucht in Nederland 1935" (Type 1).

Figure 5: Detail of "Zucker-Rakettenvlucht in Nederland 1935" (Type 2, with lip).

Gerhard Zucker

Gerhard Zucker made one of the first German mail missiles and started launching mail rockets in 1931. He had a hard time promoting rocket mail. His mail rockets, with their shiny metal hulls resembling the illustrations of science fiction magazines and Buck Rogers series, were powered only by homemade gunpowder charges and they exploded rather than fly: a pity for all those collectors who paid for their envelopes to be flown by a rocket! Mr. Zucker tried to interest the Nazis in his missiles (as a means of delivering bombs) and then in 1934 tried to interest the Royal Mail in Britain in mail missiles. However, his missile demonstrations were spectacular failures and he was thrown out of Britain as a "threat to the post office revenue and the security of the country." On his way back to Germany, he first stopped in Katwijk, where he did the test launch described above. When he returned to Germany, he was immediately arrested on suspicion of espionage or collaboration with Great Britain. He was prohibited from conducting any further missile experiments. That did not stop him from trying his luck in other countries. In the 1970s he was still active in marketing rocket mail letters. He died in 1985, aged 78. He was mainly considered a con man.

G.A.G Thoolen

The June 1935 issue of the *Maandblad voor Philatelie* has the following article with the title 'Rocket mail scam:'

In the September issue of 1934 of our Monthly magazine we showed three stamps, as they had surfaced in England, and which originated from a person or organization in the Netherlands (Figure 6). The postal authorities found reason to refer to this as rocket mail since it had the text 'rakettenpost' on it and also a denomination. They placed the case in the hands of the judicial authorities. This was followed by an investigation into whether prosecution was also possible on the basis of art. 440 Criminal Code, which states: "Anyone who produces, distributes or has in stock for distribution printed matter or pieces of metal in a form which makes them resemble coin or banknotes, coinage or postage, shall be punished with a fine not exceeding twenty-five guilders. The objects with which the violation took place could be forfeited."

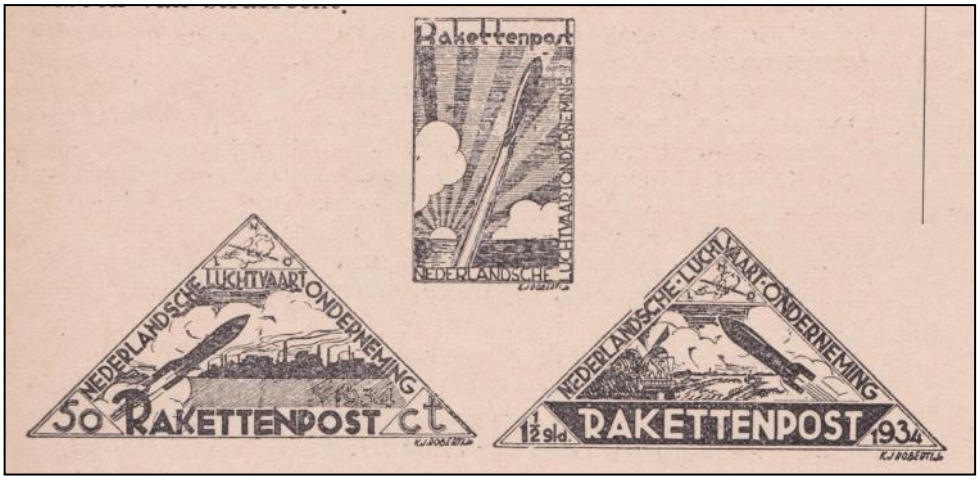


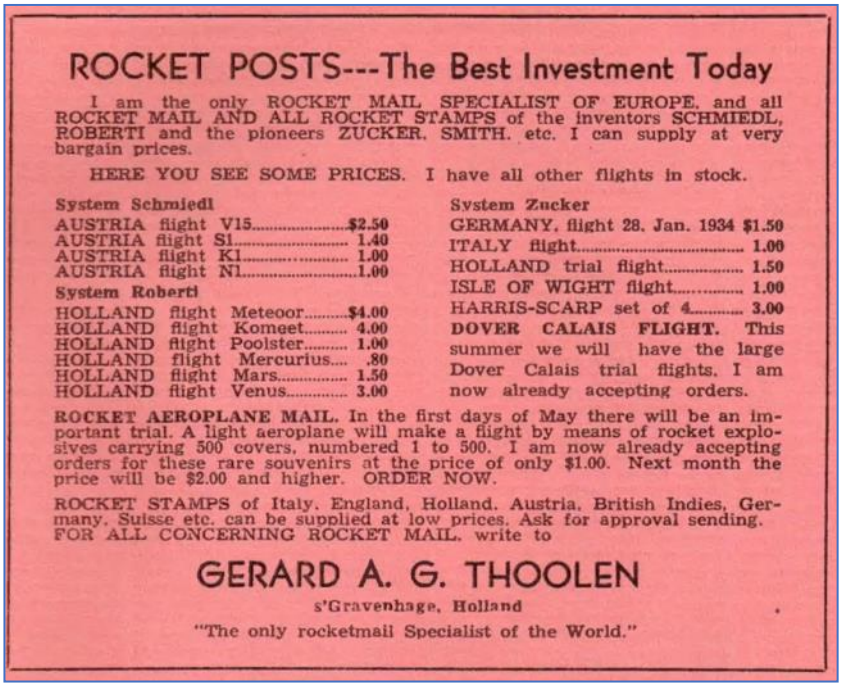
Figure 6: Maandblad voor Philatelie, September 1934.

After a rigorous investigation, the judiciary was able to find most of these scam stamps in the possession of the stamp dealer GAG Thoolen, residing at 117 Van Nijenrodestraat, The Hague.

Said dealer reached a settlement as referred to in article 74 of the penal code. We had hoped that this lesson would have been sufficient for the aforementioned trader not to get further involved with rocket mail fantasy product and in which case we would not come across his trading career again, but it was not to be. Again rocket stamps have appeared (with the word "sluit zegel" (seal)) printed on the edge, which edge, however, is wide enough to cut off the awkward word and now also "poststukken" (postal items), however, everything in such a way that these fake products no longer come under one of the articles of the Netherlands criminal code. Nevertheless, this gesture is equally reprehensible, since these 'pictures' are offered for sale or exchange under false pretenses.

Various newspaper report on October 24, 1935 how it was possible to manufacture these "trade objects" and promote them in foreign philatelic press in order to make money from it by sale or exchange:
On October 17th, the "Stichting Nederlandsche Rakettenbouw" (Dutch Foundation to Build Rockets) was established in The Hague in the presence of notary public J. J M. Braun. It was decided, pending a general meeting, to set up a study committee (in which various aeronautical persons sat) as the board of directors, while Mr. G. Thoolen was found willing to take over the chairmanship of the board of directors.
The goal of the foundation is, among other things, to study the possibility of coming into contact with the planets, partly using the missile system or so-called stratospheric balloons. Attempts will also be made to provide extensive support to those who conduct experiments in this area or who have suffered physical injury in the process."

The add in the Airpost Journal of May 1935 shows that Mr. Thoolen offered the March 1935 Zucker trial flight covers for $ 1.50 a piece (Figure 7).



ROCKET POSTS---The Best Investment Today

I am the only ROCKET MAIL SPECIALIST OF EUROPE, and all ROCKET MAIL AND ALL ROCKET STAMPS of the inventors SCHMIEDL, ROBERTI and the pioneers ZUCKER, SMITH, etc. I can supply at very bargain prices.

HERE YOU SEE SOME PRICES. I have all other flights in stock.

System Schmiedl
AUSTRIA flight V15 ..... $2.50
AUSTRIA flight S1 ..... 1.40
AUSTRIA flight K1 ..... 1.00
AUSTRIA flight N1 ..... 1.00

System Roberti
HOLLAND flight Meteoor $4.00
HOLLAND flight Komeet 4.00
HOLLAND flight Poolster 1.00
HOLLAND flight Mercurius ..... .80
HOLLAND flight Mars 1.50
HOLLAND flight Venus 3.00

System Zucker
GERMANY, flight 28. Jan. 1934 $1.50
ITALY flight 1.00
HOLLAND trial flight 1.50
ISLE OF WIGHT flight 1.00
HARRIS-SCARP set of 4 ..... 3.00

DOVER CALAIS FLIGHT. This summer we will have the large Dover Calais trial flights. I am now already accepting orders.

ROCKET AEROPLANE MAIL. In the first days of May there will be an important trial. A light aeroplane will make a flight by means of rocket explosives carrying 500 covers, numbered 1 to 500. I am now already accepting orders for these rare souvenirs at the price of only $1.00. Next month the price will be $2.00 and higher. ORDER NOW.

ROCKET STAMPS of Italy, England, Holland, Austria, British Indies, Germany, Suisse etc. can be supplied at low prices. Ask for approval sending. FOR ALL CONCERNING ROCKET MAIL, write to

GERARD A. G. THOOLEN
s'Gravenhage, Holland
"The only rocketmail Specialist of the World."

Figure 7: Airpost Journal May 1935.

Karel Roberti

The Dutch engineer Karel Roberti, MS, carried out a first test in 1934 in Katwijk-aan-Zee in the Netherlands, in the presence of the press. The missile exploded before it was an inch off the ground. Three later tests in 1935, firing a total of eight missiles, were not much more successful. The missiles detonated or flew barely a few hundred meters. Because Roberti had ties to G.A.G. Thoolen and had sold the postal items and stamps sent with the rocket to collectors for a lot of money, the suspicion arose that the engineer (like Zucker) was more interested in making quick money than in technology. The Dutch postal services even sent out a press release making it clear that they had nothing to do with the missiles.

The stamps shown in Figure 6 were designed by Mr. Roberti; he signed his name in the lower-right corner (see Figure 8).

We can safely say that the three persons mentioned in 1935 were only at the beginning of their dubious practices.

Figure 8: Designer K.J.Roberti, Jr.

References

Nederlandsch Maandblad voor Philatelie, Vol.14, # 6, June 1935.
Airpost Journals, American Airmail Society.
Rocket Mail Catalog, Ellington & Zwisler, - Volume 1, Period 1904 – 1967, American Air Mail Society, 1967.
Rocketmail Flights of the World, Dr. Max Kronstein, American Airmail Society, 1986.
Luchtpostcatalogus van Nederland en Overzeese Rijksdelen, De Vliegende Hollander, 2012

Dutch coding- and sorting systems and their effect on mail items. Part 1.

by Eddie IJspeerd

INTRODUCTION

With the founding of 'Ultra-Violet Nederland, Studiegroep voor Postmechanisatie' on February 15, 1969, the philatelic landscape in the Netherlands becomes enriched with a new type of philatelist. A small group of people begin to focus on collecting stamps with a luminescent feature. The purpose of this feature is to detect and cancel the stamp automatically. In the early years the membership of the Study group grew rapidly, especially because more and more countries start to issue these kind of stamps. In later years members are also collecting postal items worldwide that have been processed by coding and sorting systems. The philatelist concerned with the technical aspects of mail processing is born!

In this article, the Dutch coding and sorting systems and their effect on mail items are described as much as possible in chronological order. Systems that more or less independently face and cancel mail items were discussed earlier in the article series by Jos M.A.G. Stroom in Netherlands Philately [1] and are not covered here.

MACHINES LEARN TO SORT MAIL

Transorma

At the beginning of the 20th century all mail is still sorted by hand. The postal worker, standing in front of a sorting cabinet, has to deposit the mail items one by one in a certain bin (Figure 1).

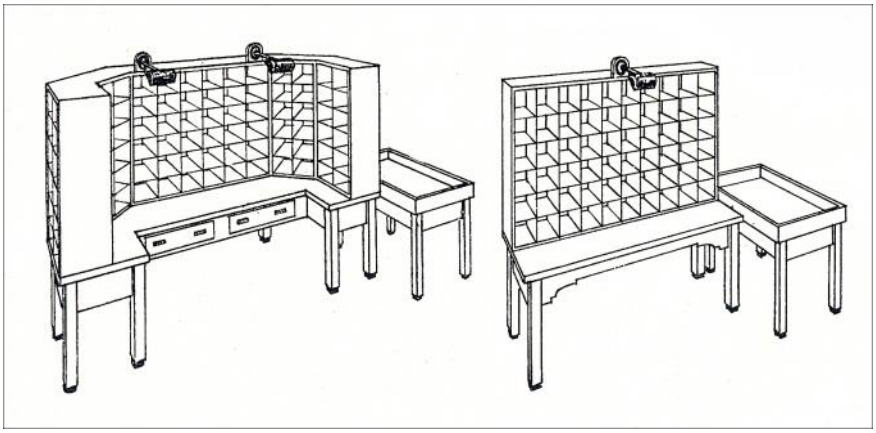


Figure 1: A pair of sorting cabinets used in manual sorting.

In those years, Jean Joseph Martin Lambert Marchand fulfilled various functions within the Dutch postal service. He was increasingly annoyed by the monotonous and physically demanding sorting work. In his book 'Moderniseering Postbedrijven' (Modernizing Postal Enterprises) he writes [2]: *".... The sorting methods used at the time were far from efficient and the sorting furniture used was far from economical. The work was exhausting, especially due to being forced to stand for a long time. Moreover, why must a mail item go through your hands two or three times before it was sorted by its destination? ....."*

To reinforce his objections, his book depicts a row of postal workers standing in front of long sorting cabinets (Figure 2).

Together with J.C. Andriessen, professor at the Technical University Delft, he founds the N.V. Technische Maatschappij Marchand-Andriessen. The firm starts with the development of a fully mechanically operating sorting machine, the Transorma. That name is a contraction of the words 'TRANsporteren-SORteren-Marchand-Andriessen' (i.e., TRANsporting-SORting-Marchand-Andriessen).

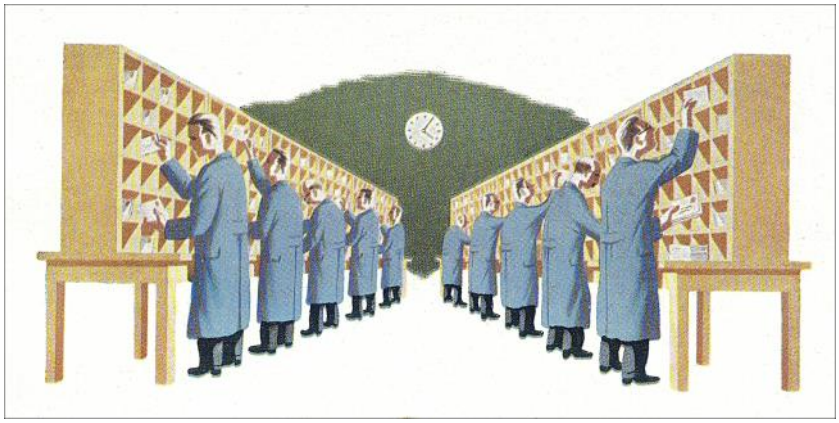


Figure 2: Horror image painted by Marchand: standing for long periods of time and manually sorting mail.

After years of experimentation the first Transorma sorting machine with horizontally placed sorting compartments was installed in the main post office Rotterdam at the end of 1930 and, according to 'Dienstorder H 105' (Service order H 105), officially put into operation on February 18, 1931 (Figure 3).

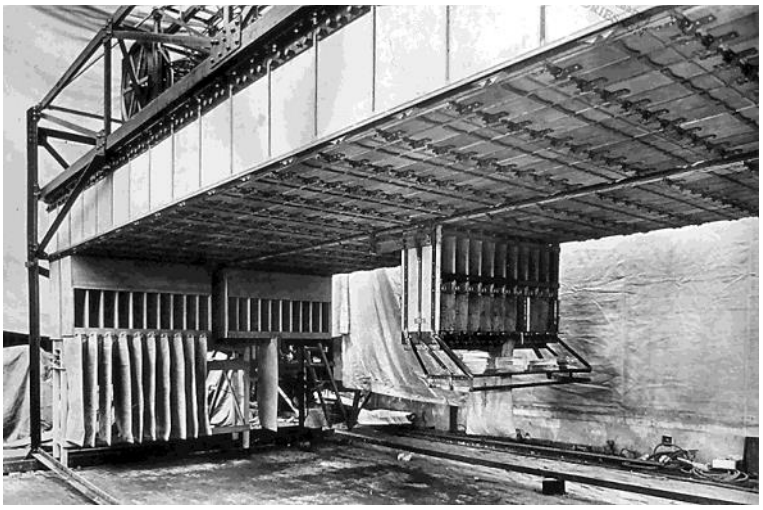


Figure 3: In this picture of the first Transorma in the main post office in Rotterdam we are looking at the bottom flaps of the sorting compartments. The mobile trolley in which the mail is collected hangs underneath.

That same year, for the first time in the Netherlands, a postal marking from a mail processing machine appeared on mail items, the 'Transorma merkteken' (Transorma identifier). As yet, the mail item with the Transorma identifier sequence **0 1 2** of February 6, 1931 is considered to be the 'Mother of all postal mechanization mail items' of the Netherlands (Figure 4).

The personalized identifiers were introduced to identify a Transorma operator and were printed on all mail items processed by this operator. Examples of identifiers in the three different fonts are shown in Figure 5. Sequences of numbers (Figure 4) and combinations of number(s) and letter(s) also exist.

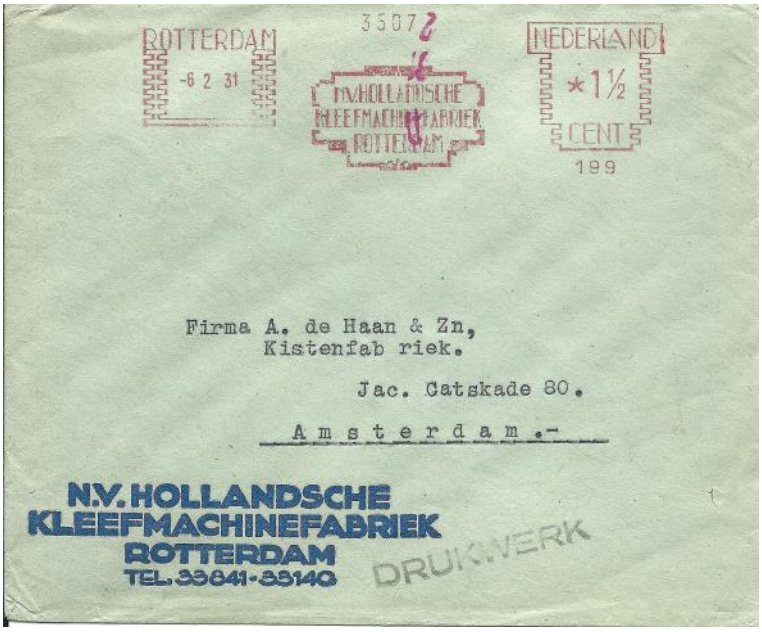


Figure 4: As yet the earliest known mail item with a Transorma identifier. Date: February 6, 1931.

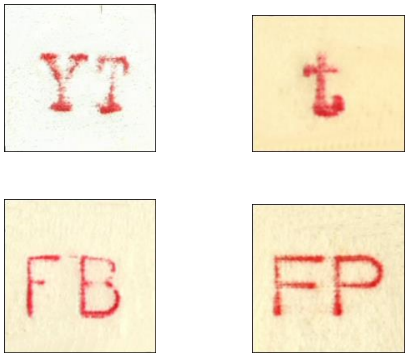


Figure 5: Transorma identifiers in upper and lower case and in three different fonts.

In subsequent years, Transorma machines came into operation in more cities. Now no longer with sorting compartments horizontally side-by-side, as was the case with the first machine in Rotterdam, but with sorting compartments positioned vertically, one below another and installed under the service locations of each of the five operators (Figure 6). Extensive information about Transorma machines and their identifiers can be found in the Transorma series published by Jos M.A.G. Stroom [3].

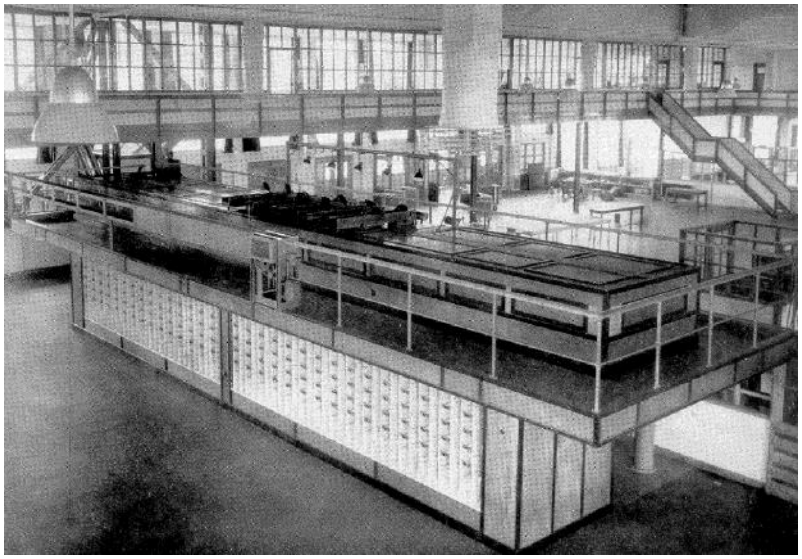


Figure 6: Transorma model 5/300 (5 operating positions, 300 sorting compartments) at Rotterdam.

On the road to further mechanization

In conjunction with the post-war economic revival, the number of mail items to be processed by the postal services increased from year to year.

In the 1950s both commercial companies and postal administrations worked on machines to mechanize the canceling and sorting process in order to cope with this increase in mail volume. Companies such as Telefunken, Standard-Elektrik Lorenz (SEL), Bell-ITT, Pitney-Bowes, Nippon Electric Company (NEC) and Toshiba participated in this development. Postal laboratories, including the Dutch Dr. Neher laboratory in Leidschendam, became active in the design of such machines.

Black-matrix place name code

At the beginning of the 1960's, it became technically possible to sort mail items by first applying a machine-readable code to them.

Such a system was developed in the Dr. Neher laboratory in Leidschendam and after a test period from 1962 to 1964, it was operational in Rotterdam until 1981.

To be able to sort the mail items, a black, optical readable code (named: black-matrix place name code) was printed on the envelope to the left of the cancellation. In this matrix code four rows of bars were arranged vertically, one row below another (Figure 7).

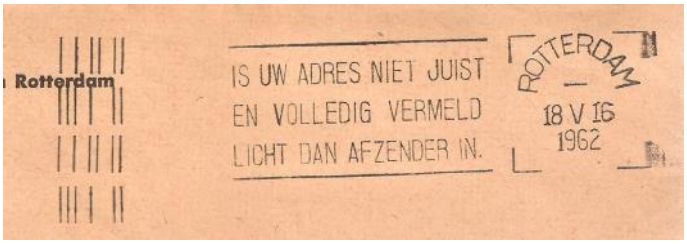


Figure 7: An optical readable black-matrix place name code is applied to the left of the machine cancel. From the test period of 1962.

The black-matrix place name code was applied by means of manually-operated coding machines. The operators typed in the place name of the destination and the code was printed. Because the sorting machines had a much larger processing capacity than one coding machine, five such machines were linked to one sorting machine. Such an arrangement is called a 'Codeerstraat' (coding street) (Figure 8).

To detect technical or human coding errors afterwards, a coding machine marking was applied just below the stamp (Figure 9). From the start, collectors called this marking 'KodeerPlaatsKenteken' (KPK) (coding device identifier). It is a literal translation of the German word 'Kodierplatzkennzeichen'. In retrospect, 'Codeermachinekenteken' (coding machine identifier) would have been a better name. Figure 10 shows three examples.

Figure 8: A 'coding street' with five coding machines, in operation in the post office in Rotterdam.

Figure 9: A coding machine marking (here 04L) called 'Kodeerplaatskenteken' (KPK), is placed just below the postage stamp.

Figures 10: 'Kodeerplaatskenteken' examples.

The sorting machine consisted of a control cabinet (Figure 11) and 64 sorting compartments, 32 at the front and 32 at the rear of the machine (Figure 12).

Figure 11: The control cabinet of the sorting machine.

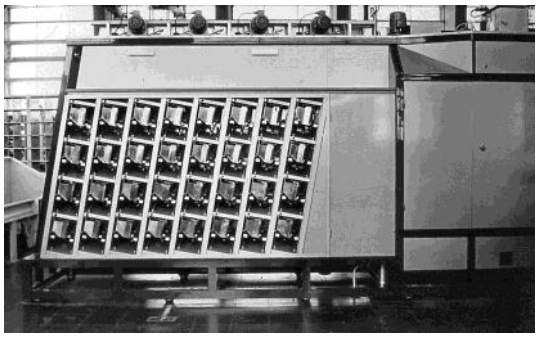


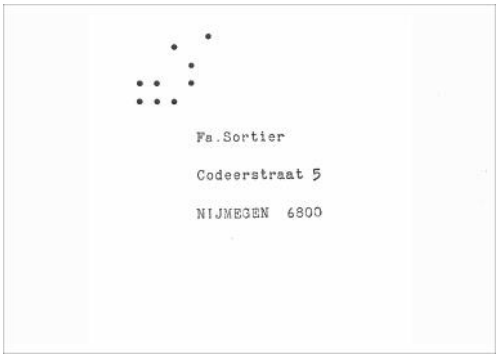
Figure 12: The rear side of the sorting machine with 32 sorting compartments.

In Wim van der Kooij's standard work about this coding and sorting system, the KPKs and the black-matrix place name codes are described in detail [4].

CODE SYSTEM FOR OPTICAL RECOGNITION

At the beginning of the seventies, experiments were conducted in the Dr. Neher laboratory with optical recognition of a black dot code. With this code a lot more towns can be coded and sorted, because the 'Postnummer' (city number) is used as the basis. This is a four-digit number that is linked to a city name (such as 6800 for Nijmegen, Figure 13a) or even to parts within a large city. Experiments with this system produced a variety of test mail items only.

To read the code in a sorting system, the mail item must be rotated 180 degrees (Figure 13b).



Figures 13a (left) and 13b (right): Test mail item where the 'Postnummer' 6800 of Nijmegen has been converted into a black dot code. After turning the envelope 180 degrees the code is read by the machine software.

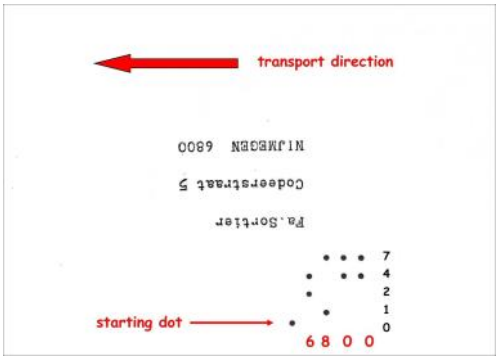


Figure 14 shows the key of the Leidschendam black dot code.

During an Open Day in 1972, on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of the Dr. Neher laboratory, the system was demonstrated and visitors could see the coding and sorting equipment in operation (Figure 15).

This system was not pursued further because at that time a system based on a national 'Postcode' was already under development.

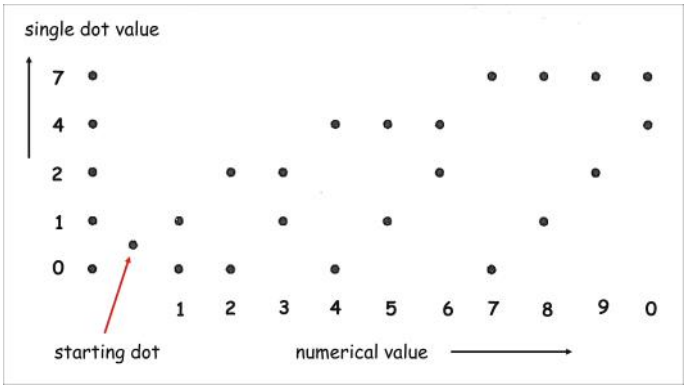


Figure 14: Key for the Leidschendam black dot code.

Figure 15a (left) and 15b (right): Black dot code recognition equipment during the demonstration at the Dr. Neher laboratory. In the background a map of the Netherlands with lights on the position of the cities to be sorted.

Postal code system

The development of the 'Postcode' system started in 1973. One searched for a code format that could be used across the country. This search finally resulted in a code consisting of four digits and two letters. For a complete historical overview of the postal code development, see the article 'Na 40 jaar POSTCODE nog eens terug naar het begin' (Back to the beginning after 40 years of postal code) by Jos M.A.G. Stroom [5].

The goal of the postal code introduction was to automate the coding and sorting process across the country. With large national campaigns the postal code was brought to the attention of the public. For many years, postal code slogans have been used in dozens of canceling machines (Figure 16). Part of the publicity campaign was the issuance of 'Postcode' stamps of 40 and 45 cents (NVPH nos. 1151 and 1152) on March 14, 1978 (Figure 17).

Figures 16: The three 'Postcode' slogans in machine flag cancels.

Figures 17: 'Postcode' stamps, issued on March 14, 1978.

The Amphilex '77 exhibition

The practical application of the postal code in sorting was demonstrated for the first time at the Amphilex '77 exhibition in Amsterdam. There, the public could get acquainted with the new coding and sorting system.

The coding process converts the postal code into a linear bar-code, called 'Sorteerindex' (SIX) (sorting index). To index (= barcoding a postal item) a 'HandIndexeerApparaat' (HIA) (manual coding device) was used (Figure 18).

How does indexing work? The HIA operator picks up a mail item from a stock pile with her left hand, reads the postal code, enters it using the keyboard and drops the letter into a slot located between the stock pile and the indicator lights (Figure 19).

Figure 18: The 'Handindexeerapparaat' (HIA) (manual coding device) that was on display at the Amphilex '77 exhibition.

Figure 19: The HIA operator picks up a mail item with the left hand, reads the postal code and enter it with a keyboard with the right hand.

The mail item then arrives in the printing area where a linear sorting index is printed on the envelope. This is done by metal pens that press against a wide ribbon, coated with a fluorescent substance, creating a printout on the mail of the configuration of the pens (impact principle). With this linear code, some positions are and some positions are not occupied by a code bar. The code is therefore called 'bar-no bar code'.

The key is shown in Figure 20 and Figure 21 shows an example of how a linear bar-no bar code can be decoded using the decoding template. The code is read from right to left. There are six equal-length blocks that all start with a bar to control the detection software. The five possible bar locations following the starting bar encode a number (first four blocks) or a letter (last two blocks). Note that all the codes for numbers are also used to indicate letters, thus the decoder needs to 'know' whether to interpret the code as a letter or numeral. This knowledge can be deduced by counting the starting bars.

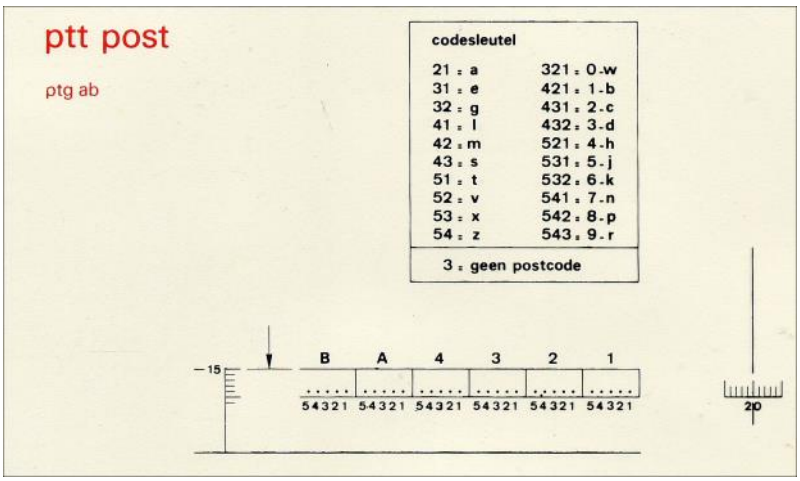


Figure 20: Decoding template for the linear bar-no bar code.

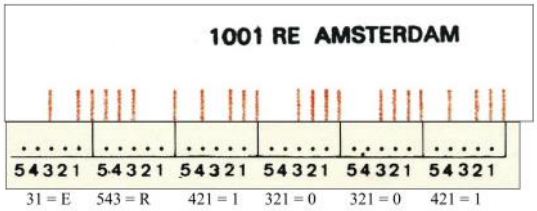


Figure 21: Example of decoding a sorting index (SIX). In this SIX, postal code 1001 RE is encrypted. The six starting bars serve to control the software,

A first version of a 'Sorteermachine' (Sorma) (sorting machine) (Figure 23) was also on display in the exihibition stand.

During the transport through the sorting machine, the mail item passes an UV lamp that lights up the code bars (= fluorescence). Software optically detects the bar pattern and the mail item is deposited in the correct 'Uitgangsstapelaar' (output stacker) of one of the sorting modules (Figure 24).

For demonstration purposes on the Amphilex '77, the PTT made use of special demo letters, provided with an address label with a city name, a corresponding postal code and the text DR. NEHER LABORATORIUM AMPHILEX 1977 (Figure 22). In the barcode of this demo mail item, the postal code 9574 CB is encrypted.

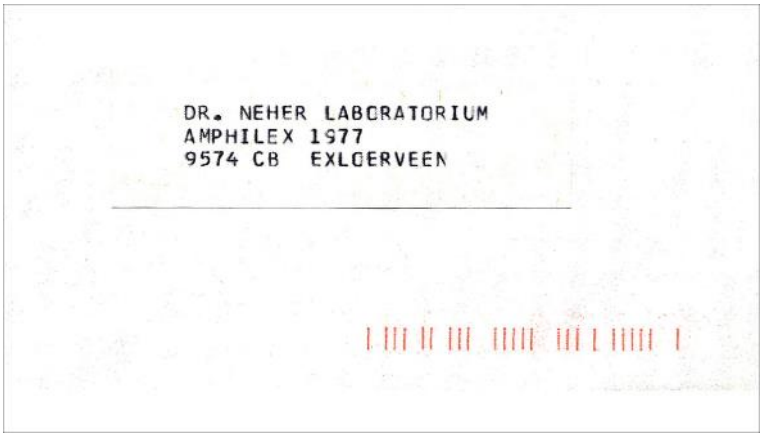
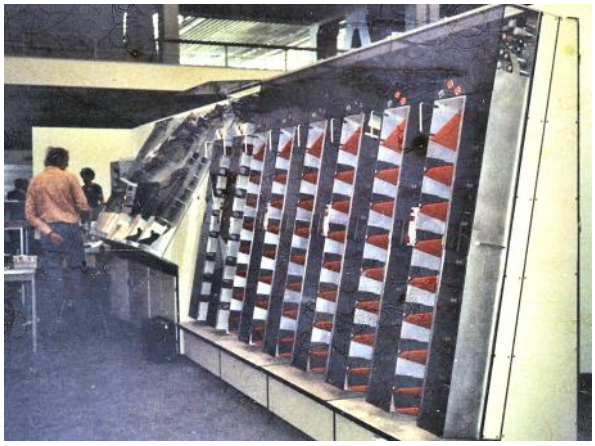
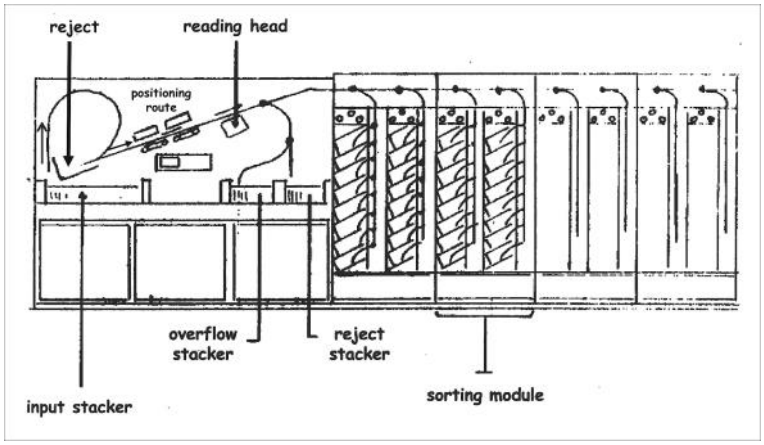


Figure 22: Example of a demo mail item used during the demonstration of a HIA at the Amphilex '77 exhibition.



Figures 23: The sorting machine on display at the Amphilex '77 exhibition.



Figures 24: Diagram of the sorting machine at the Amphilex '77 exhibition.

EXPEDITION HUB

To further streamline the mail handling process, twelve 'Expeditieknooppunten' (EKPs) (Expedition hubs) came gradually into operation starting in 1979 (Figure 25).

The EKPs were provided with identical mail processing equipment and also the logistical process was adjusted in such a way that a high degree of efficiency was reached. The Expedition Hubs were interconnected by a railroad network over which millions of mail items were transported five times a day.

The country was divided into 12 postal areas. Each EKP served as the 'spider in the web' of mail processing within such an area and had a double function: a dispatch function and a receipt function (Figure 26). Mail from its own postal area was collected, cancelled and sorted in the first sorting run and transported by train to the eleven other EKPs in the country, except for the mail destined for its own area. This mail remained in the EKP. The first sorting run divided the mail into a large number of 'Uitgangsgroepen' (output groups). An output group contains mail items sorted to the four postal code digits.

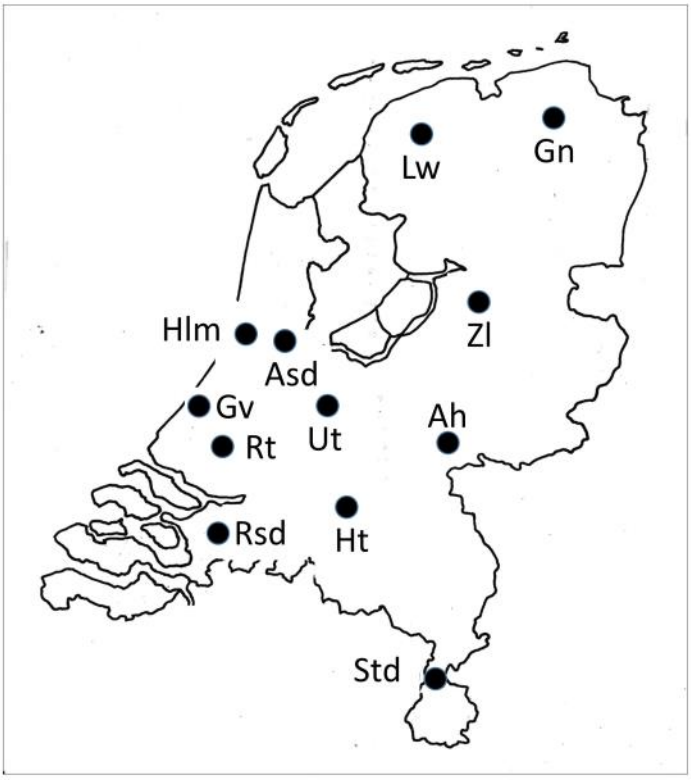


Figure 25: The twelve 'Expeditieknooppunten' (EKPs) (Expedition Hubss) in the Netherlands: Amsterdam (Asd), Haarlem (Hlm), 's-Gravenhage (Gv), Rotterdam (Rt), Utrecht (Ut), Roosendaal (Rsd), 's-Hertogenbosch (Ht), Sittard (Std), Arnhem (Ah), Zwolle (Zl), Groningen (Gn) and Leeuwarden (Lw).

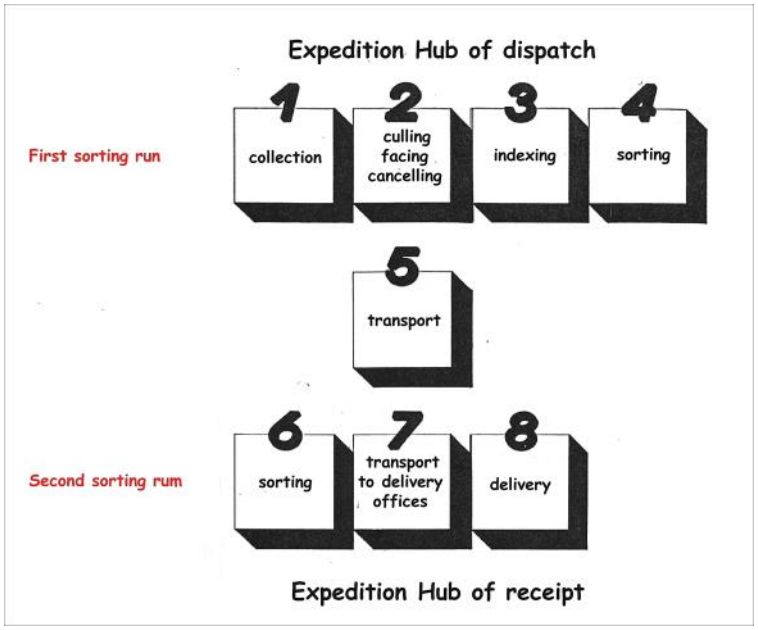


Figure 26: Flowchart of processing steps during the two sorting runs at an Expedition Hub.

Mail arriving from the eleven other EKPs, plus the mail from the first sorting run, is processed in the second sorting run. The mail is sorted by 'Instraateenheid' (IE) (delivery area indication). That comprises the mail one mail carrier, at a local post office, still has to sort manually by street and house number preceding his delivery round. A postman may have to perform several delivery rounds per day.

On the occasion of the opening of EKPs, special pictorial flag cancels were used in canceling machines in those offices (Figure 27a/b/c/d).

Figures 27a/b/c/d: Machine cancels with a special EKP flag.

Automatic mail processing systems

In May 21, 1979, the first Department of 'Automatische postverwerkende systemen' (APVS) (automatic mail processing systems) was officially inaugurated in the EKP Amsterdam. In this department, mail items were processed with machines for automatic culling, facing, cancelling, indexing and sorting.

Over time, different machine types came into use, mainly intended to automate labor-intensive manual sorting. These machines will be discussed in subsequent chapters.

APVS departments were also established in the eleven other EKPs and put into operation. The complete schedule is as follows:

May 21, 1979	EKP Amsterdam	July 5, 1983	EKP Arnhem
May 28, 1984	EKP 's-Gravenhage	July 2, 1984	EKP Sittard
October 29, 1984	EKP Utrecht	March 7, 1985	EKP Roosendaal
August 22, 1985	EKP Haarlem	October 14, 1985	EKP Groningen
August 16, 1986	EKP Zwolle	May 26, 1987	EKP 's-Hertogenbosch
May 26, 1987	EKP Leeuwarden	June 29, 1989	EKP Rotterdam

For coding the daily mail, a large number of 'Handindexeerapparaten' (HIA's) (manual coding devices) were installed in each EKP. A linear 'Sorteerindex' (SIX) (sorting index) and a 'Kodeerplaatskenteken' (KPK) (coding device identifier) was applied to the mail items passing a HIA (Figure 28). Note that the name 'Kodeerplaatskenteken' is also used for the markings applied by the Rotterdam black-matrix coding machines. To avoid confusion, the name 'HIA kenteken ' (HIA identifier) would have been less ambiguous.

An extensive article about these KPKs, written by Jos M.A.G. Stroom, can be found in the Jubilee book.[6]. A translation of this article will be published in Netherlands Philately in due course.

When no postal code or an incorrect postal code is present in the address, the HIA operator presses a key which causes a so-called reject index to be applied to the postal item. This index consists of the six starting bars and for each of the six postal code positions only a single bar at position 3 (Figure 29).

Figure 28: KPK **ASD 53** *of HIA 53 from Amsterdam, printed above the sorting index.*

Figure 29: No postal code is present in the address. Therefore the mail item cannot be indexed correctly and a reject index has been applied. With KPK **Ht05** *from 's-Hertogenbosch.*

Automatic reading- and indexing machine

The next step in automatic sorting is the development by DNL/PTG of an 'Automatische lees- en indexeermachine' (Alima) (automatic reading- and indexing machine) (Figures 30 and 31).

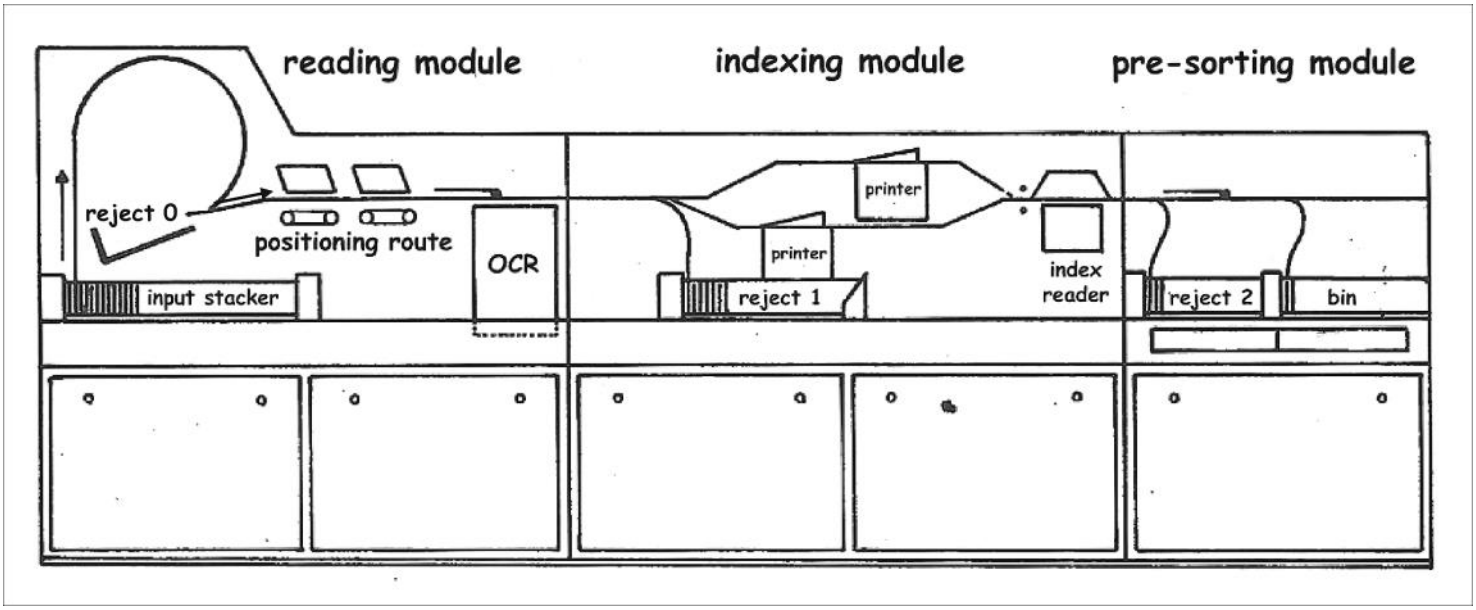


Figure 30: Diagram of the 'Automatische Lees- en IndexeerMAchine' (Alima) developed by DNL/PTG

Figure 31: The Alima developed by DNL/PTG in EKP Amsterdam.

The abbreviation DNL-PTG stands for 'Dr. Neher laboratorium / (Centrale Afdeling) Posttechniek en Gebouwen'.

From October 1980 until June 25, 1981 the Alima test model was operational in the 'Districtcentrale II' of the telephone district 's-Gravenhage on the Prinses Beatrixlaan in The Hague. In September 1981 the machine came into operation in the EKP Amsterdam.

With the Alima, postal codes in print and in typescript are read via Optical Character Recognition (OCR) technology. Mail items with a handwritten postal code still have to be processed via a HIA. After recognition of the postal code, the same linear sorting index (impact type) is applied to the envelope as done by a HIA This Alima also applies a KPK on the mail items [7].

In 1986, the DNL/PTG machine was scrapped and replaced by Alima's of the company AEG-Telefunken, type SE 771 (Figure 32).

Figure 32: 'Automatische Lees- en IndexeerMAchine' (Alima) type SE 771 from AEG-Telefunken in operation in EKP Rotterdam.

For the first time in our country, these new Alima's apply a sorting index on the mail items using inkjet technology. Each individual index bar consists of seven fluorescent inkjet dots (Figure 33).

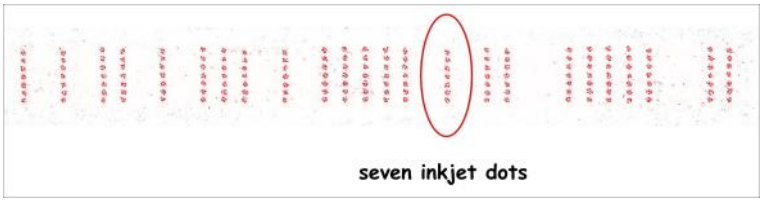
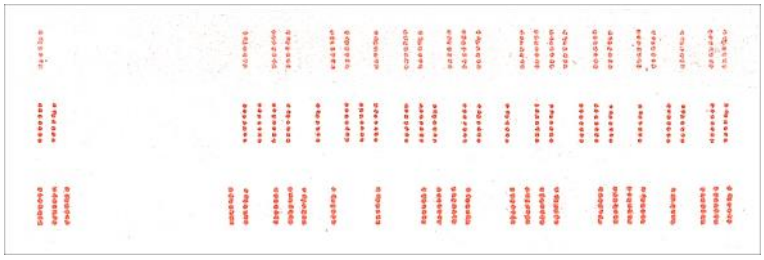


Figure 33: The sorting index of an Alima from AEG-Telefunken can be identified by the seven inkjet dots that make up each code bar.

The AEG machines apply additional code bars to the left of the sorting index. The number of bars (1, 2 or 3) represent the Alima machine number. No distinction can be made between the Alimas in the various EKPs. The number of bars only indicates by which Alima (number 1, 2 or 3) the mail item in a certain EKP has been processed (Figures 34a/b/c). Which EKP is involved, must be determined in another way (e.g., via the place name in the cancellation).



Figures 34a/b/c: An encoded Alima machine number is applied to the left of the SIX. Up to three bars are possible if three Alimas are in operation in a specific EKP.

Alima with optical character recognition

To be able to also read legible handwritten postal codes automatically, the Alimas were equipped with a 'Handschriftherkenner' (HSH) (optical character reader) developed by PTT Research.

Mail items processed via the HSH can be indentified by the extra inkjet bar (the HSH feature) between the SIX bars and the Alima machine number bars (Figure 35a/b/c).

Figures 35a/b/c: Alima sorting indexes with a HSH feature. An additional code bar is applied between the SIX and the Alima machine number bar(s).

Notes

1. Jos M.A.G. Stroom, De opzet-stempelmachines van Nederland en de bijbehorende machinestempels, Netherlands Philately nrs. 45-1, 45-2, 45-3 and 45-4.
2. J.J.L.M. Marchand, Moderniseering Postbedrijven (1945).
3. Jos M.A.G. Stroom, De kleine Transorma's, Transorma series part 2 (2017).
4. W.G. van der Kooij, De Rotterdamse plaatsnaamcode als onderdeel van de postmechanisatie in Nederland. Publication nr. 4 of the former Studiegroep voor Postmechanisatie, 1994.
5. Jos M.A.G. Stroom, Na 40 jaar POSTCODE nog eens terug naar het begin, in Notities van de Nederlandse Academie voor Filatelie, 2017.
6. Jos M.A.G. Stroom, Kodeerplaatskentekens en codeerlinten in Amsterdam 1979-1999, in Jubilee book 'In de ban van UV-licht, merktekens en codestreepjes' Po & Po Groep Postmechanisatie (2019).
7. Jos M.A.G. Stroom, Postcode in Nederland Lijst van KodeerPlaatsKentekens (KPK's) 1978-1988. Publication nr. 3 of the former Studiegroep voor Postmechanisatie (October 1988).

[This is the first part of the second chapter of 'In de ban van UV-licht, merkstreepjes en codestreepjes.' Future issues will have subsequent part(s) of this and other chapters of this book issued upon the 50-year jubilee of the Post Mechanization Group of Po & Po.)]

Carried and returned by the Red Cross.

by Ben H. Jansen

The cover shown in Figure 1 presents several riddles. It was mailed from the 'Noodziekenhuis "Klein Casino",' (a 'noodziekenhuis' is a temporary hospital), in Sluiskil (near Terneuzen) to Oss and transported by the Red Cross.

Figure 1: Back and front of a cover transported by the Red Cross.

It is unclear when it was mailed, but it must have been shortly after the liberation of the south of the Netherlands and before resumption of regular mail services. Terneuzen was liberated on September 20, 1944 and Oss on September 19.

The transport of civil mail in the liberated areas was not allowed until December 18, 1944, and then only for letters weighing no more than 20 grams and postcards. On 1 December 1944, the Staff Military Authority Section XII PTT and Censorship had permitted the transport of Red Cross messages exclusively by 'Dienstpost' (service mail) through the PTT. Red Cross messages could be transported only within the liberated areas and had to be written on international Red Cross forms, and could contain message of a strictly personal nature only and not be longer than 25 words. These messages had to be mailed in an *open* Red Cross cover, and could be mailed free of charge.

Despite the fact that the cover discussed here was a closed regular envelop, and not an open Red Cross cover, it made its way to Oss. In Oss, a clerk observed the rule violations, wrote *"Return / Form messages only / Maximum 25 words"* and placed a blue mark 'CENTRAL POST / RED CROSS Oss' plus his signature. Given that transporting anything was very difficult during that time frame, it seems like a waste of sparse resources to return the cover once it had reached its destination. In fact, additional resources had to be expended to get the cover back to its sender.

The cover made it back to Sluiskil, as attested by the handwritten note on its front, which reads *"Mag weer door! / Bezorgt U het even / of doe het op de post"* (Is allowed again / Will you just deliver it / or put it in the mail). This indicates that the cover was re-mailed after December 18. The absence of a postage stamp suggests that mailing was not done through regular mail.

The route taken by the cover cannot be deduced with certainty. There are seven Red Cross cancels: Breda (twice), Oss, Terneuzen, Tilburg, Eindhoven "Kern Veghel" (kern = core), and Zuid Beveland-West. The two Breda cancels are black and the other five are red. Given that the Terneuzen cancel is in the upper-right hand corner, it is likely the first cancel placed when the cover traveled to Oss the first time around. Given the location of the cities involved (Figure 2), and the fact that the Breda cancel is to the immediate left of the Terneuzen one, I assume that Breda was the first transfer point. From there it went to Tilburg (cancel below the Breda and Terneuzen cancels) before reaching Oss as the Red Cross placed in Oss partially overlaps the Tilburg cancel.

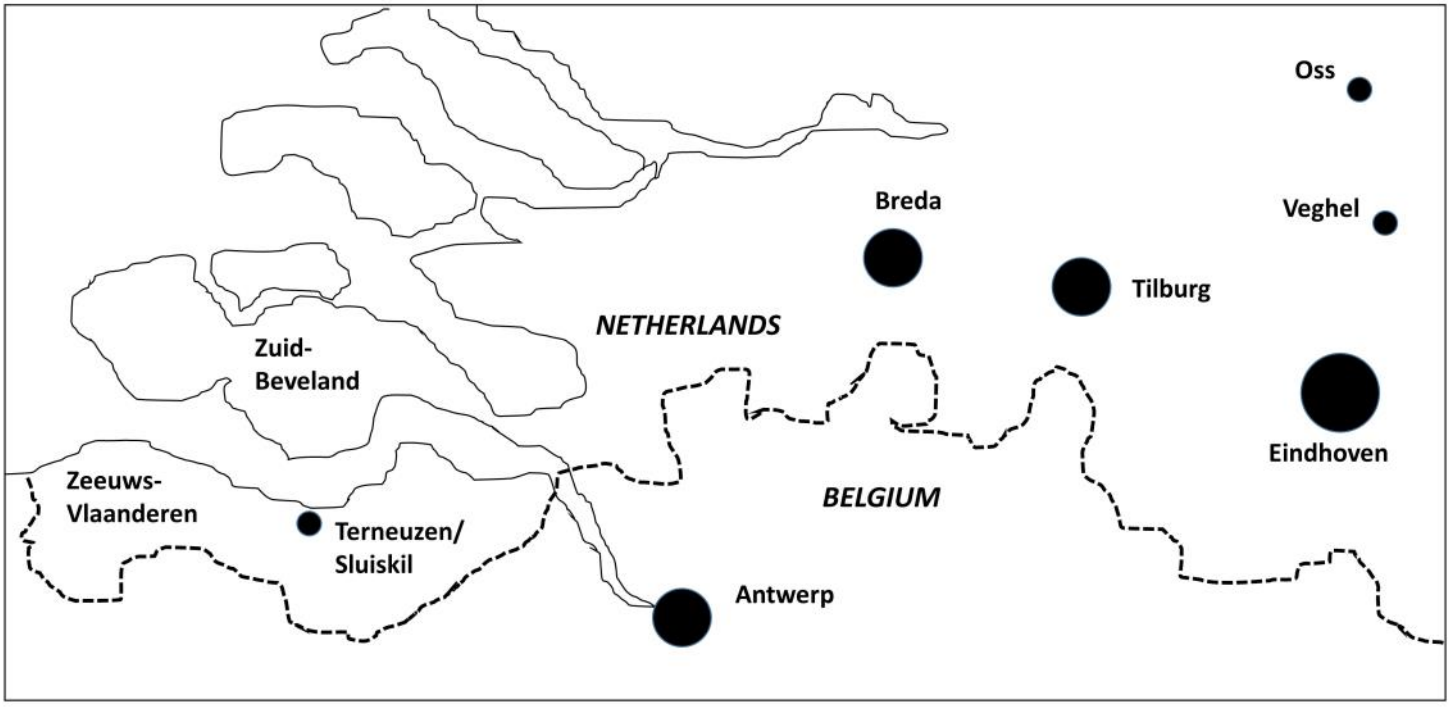


Figure 2: Area map.

It is also possible that the cover traveled from Breda to Eindhoven "Kern Veghel" first, as all mail from Zeeuws-Vlaanderen had to be censored at the post office Station Eindhoven. However, there is no indication that the cover was subjected to censorhip. Thus the cover could have made its way back to Sluiskil via Eindhoven "Kern Veghel," Breda and Zuid Beveland-West.

Yet another possibility is that during the cover's second trip to Oss, it acquired the Zuid Beveland-West, Breda and Eindhoven "Kern Veghel" cancels. In fact, the Oss cancel may have been placed then, serving as some kind of arrival cancel.

While officially the Red Cross was not allowed to transport mail within the liberated areas, in practice mail was transported by this organization. An announcement in *De Sirene* of October 24, 1944 (Figure 3) makes that clear as it points out that correspondence by means of the Red Cross can occur only within the areas liberated by the Allies. No mention is made of limitations on the kind of mail that can be transported. In fact, the international Red Cross forms and that had to be used on the order of the Military Authority were not widely available later in January 1945.


ROODE KRUIS AFD. OSS

De Centrale Roode Kruispost te Oss deelt aan belanghebbenden mede, dat correspondeeren via het Roode Kruis enkel en alleen kan geschieden met de door de Geallieerde bevrijde gebieden.

Figure 3: Announcement in De Sirene, October 24, 1944.

Let us now discuss the sender and (intended) recipient. The cover is addressed to Ds. P. de Haas. The honorific 'Ds.' refers to a 'dominee' (parson or vicar). However, instead of referring to vicar Pieter de Haas (November 15, 1876-August 23, 1964), the addressee could be Drs. Pieter de Haas (November 16, 1906-February 2, 1986), son of the vicar. 'Drs.' is the abbreviation of 'Doctorandus' which is a university degree equivalent to a master of science degree. Drs. de Haas had a degree in chemistry and became director of N.V. Organon in Brussels. He was also an Officer in the Order of Orange-Nassau.

Organon was founded in Oss in 1923, and produced insulin, estrogen and other pharmaceuticals. It is likely that Drs. de Haas lived in Oss while working for Organon, as a son was born there on October 29, 1942.

Now, it is possible that the letter was addressed to the vicar instead. As the announcement in Figure 4 shows, he had received emeritus status on January 1, 1944, and he may have been staying with his son in Oss.

The cover originated from the temporary hospital 'Klein Casino' in Sluiskil. This hospital was established after the liberation of Sluiskil to treat civilians wounded during the battle for the Scheldt. It formally resorted in the township Axel, but well outside the municipality.

The 'Klein Casino' was owned by the Compagnie Néerlandaise de l'Azote (CNA). Using the gas produced by the nearby coke factory, CNA produced synthetic nitrogen products (ammonia) for fertilizers and sulphuric acid. The concern is still in business as Yara Sluiskil B.V.

'Klein Casino' was part of a villa park, including the 'Groot Casino' and 28 villas that were built next to the CNA factory. The complex was referred to as the 'Cité' and the villas provided housing to employees, and their families, who could not be missed in case something went wrong. The casinos were not the type of places we associate with this name nowadays. Instead, the 'Groot Casino' provided housing for visiting engineers and not-married upper echelon workers, while mid-level workers stayed in the 'Klein Casino.'


Ds. P. de Haas overleden

Ds. P. de Haas, emeritus predikant van de Nederlands Hervormde Kerk, is zondag jl. op 88-jarige leeftijd te Utrecht overleden. De begrafenis zal plaatsvinden donderdagmiddag 27 augustus a.s. om 3 uur op de Derde Algemene Begraafplaats te Utrecht nadat om kwart voor twee in de Domkerk een rouwdienst is gehouden.

Pieter de Haas werd te Leiden geboren. Hij studeerde aan de rijksuniversiteit te Leiden en werd op 13 mei 1900 bevestigd als predikant van de Hervormde gemeente van Erichem in de classis Tiel. In augustus 1907 verwisselde hij deze gemeente met die van Purmerend en ten slotte stond hij tot zijn emeritaat op 1 januari 1944 nog ruim 28 jaar te Utrecht.

Figure 4: Algemeen Handelsblad, August 25, 1964.

Most of the 'Cité' was demolished in the mid 1990's and the last remnant was gone by 2000.

By the way, on March 13, 1945 Queen Wilhelmina spent the first night in the liberated south of the Netherlands in one of the villas of the 'Cité'

I have not been able to find information about the sender, C. van Kampen, but he may have been a patient in the temporary hospital, perhaps seeking spiritual guidance from vicar de Haas, or informing Drs. de Haas about the state-of-affairs at CNA. The factory had been bombed by the Germans in the morning of May 10, 1940 and several times by the Allies after the Germans had tried to restart the factory. Once the energy generator had been destroyed by allied bombs, the Germans started to dismantle the factory in February 1943. The looted components were discovered after the war in Germany, Poland and Austria and the factory was restarted Easter day 1950.

Any information that allows the solution of the riddles associated with the cover described here is most welcome, and may be sent to jansenbenh@gmail.com.

Sources

S. Drukker, Gevolgen van oorlog en bevrijding voor het Nederlandse postverkeer 1940 en 1944-45. Posthistorische Studies 26, Po&Po, 2011.
Websites:
archieven.nl
delpher.nl
en.wikipedia.org
http://k5e.nl/cite-villapark/

Not to pat ourselves on the back but ...

The philatelic society 'Op Hoop van Zegels' (= On the Hope of Stamps, a word play on 'Op Hoop van Zegen' = Hope for the Best, or literally On the Hope of a Blessing) was founded 110 years ago on March 1, 2021. Because of Covid-related restriction in the Netherlands an in-person celebration could not be held. Instead, the society decided to include a digital attachment to their society magazine 'Spaarnepost' that takes their members and other readers on a journey to discover the state-of-affairs of digital philately.

If you click on https://ohvz.nl/digitale-filatelie/#Nederland-filatelie you will find some very heart-warming text about the Netherlands philately on the web. Specifically, the author writes:

> *It may sound strange, but if you want to gain a good insight of Dutch stamps as a collection area, than the best you can do is to start with the website of the American Society for Netherlands Philately.*

Yes, that is us!
The writer continues with:

> *What is especially noteworthy that all issues of their beautiful magazine, Netherlands Philately, from 1975 onwards can be viewed on-line by anybody in the world without having to pay for it.*

Of course your present editor accepts this complement gladly, but Alex Nuyten, who initiated the change to digital publishing deserves most of the credit. So does Hans Kremer for maintaining the index as do the webmasters Alex Nuyten and Arno Kolster.

The 'Op Hoop van Zegels' writer also laments *"If we could just get the monthly Filatelie to do the same ..."*

(S)he also mentions the 'Netherlands Philatelists of California' (started in 1969), but which ceased to exist when reaching their 50th year because too few members remained. Their archival website (maintained by Hans Kremer) is praised for all its Newsletters from 2010 to 2019, the 50-year anniversary publication and the English translation of Vellinga's *Postmarks of the Netherlands 1676-1915*.

All-in-all great publicity for the ASNP.

Recent Issues

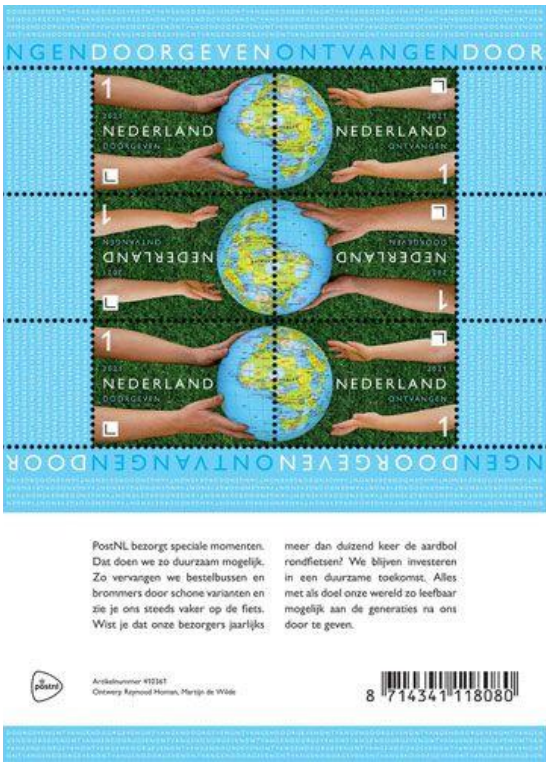
Experience Nature — De Onlanden
February 22, 2021

The sheet with 10 stamps depicts plats and animals in the nature reserve 'De Onlanden,' a swamp landscape near the town of Groningen. The sheet was designed by Frank Janse from Gouda.

Typically Dutch — Wooden Houses
February 22, 2021

The sheet with six identical stamps shows the two wooden working-class houses at the Zonnewijzerpad in the Zaanse Schans.
Edwin van Praet of Total Design from Amsterdam designed the stamps.

See also https://www.postzegelblog.nl/



Durability
March 22, 2021

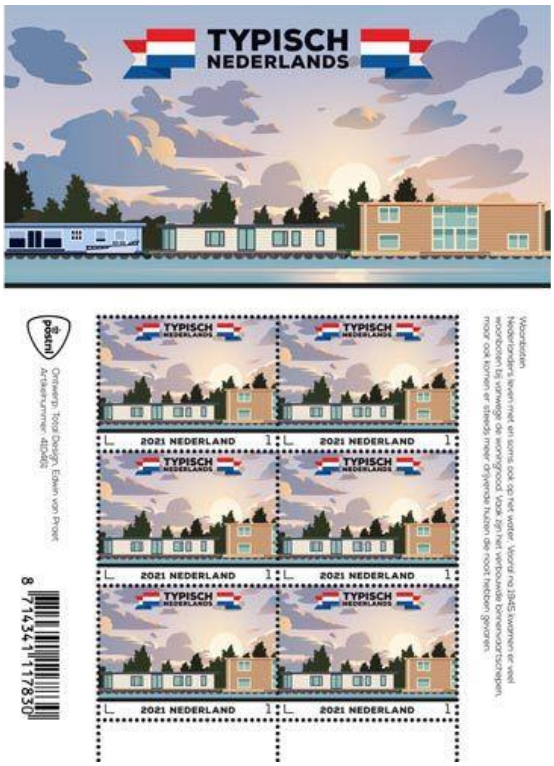
The sheet Durability contains six stamps in two designs. The stamp design is based on the concept that humankind must hand over earth from generation to generation as well as possible. One stamp shows half a world globe (actually, just one quarter), held by an adult whose arms and hands are visible only. The second stamp has the other half of the globe, but now it is a child whose hands are reaching out to the other half of the globe.

The design is by Reynoud Homan and Martijn de Wilde.

Typically Dutch — Canal Houses
March 22, 2021

The sheet with six identical stamps shows five canal houses, both small and large, from Amsterdam.

Edwin van Praet of Total Design from Amsterdam designed the stamps.



Typically Dutch — Houseboats
April 6, 2021

The sheet with six identical stamps shows two houseboats. The illustration is based on photographs of houseboats in Amsterdam and Weesp. Edwin van Praet of Total Design from Amsterdam designed the stamps.

AMERICAN SOCIETY for NETHERLANDS PHILATELY

Membership in the **American Society for Netherlands Philately** (ASNP), affiliate # 60 of the American Philately Society, will give you the following benefits: An illustrated **MAGAZINE** (containing philatelic articles as well as news items) published six times a year and access to the ASNP **LIBRARY** through borrowing privileges.

Membership runs from September 1 through August 31. To join, fill out the form below.You can receive our magazine digitally in PDF format by email and/or in hardcopy sent by snailmail. Tab one of the boxes below to make your choice.

☐ **Digital magazine** sent by email (provide your email address!), free for members worldwide.
☐ **Hardcopy magazine** sent by snailmail, dues are $ 25 per year for members living in the USA, and $ 35 for the rest of the world. You have the option of a six-months membership if you apply between March 1 and August 31 for one half of the above rates ($ 12.50, and $ 17.50). Your full membership will then start the following September 1.
☐ **Digital and hardcopy**, dues are the same as mentioned for the hardcopy version.

☐ Mr.
☐ Mrs.
☐ Miss.
☐ Ms.
☐ Dr.
☐ Rev.

Last Name: _____

First Name: _____

Email: _____

Adress: _____

_____

_____

My Major collecting interests are:

☐ Netherlands	☐ Plate faults	☐ Perfins or POKOs
☐ Netherlands Antilles	☐ Printing errors	☐ Rep. of Indonesia
☐ Netherlands Indies	☐ Color variations	☐ Rep. of Surinam
☐ Netherlands New Guinea	☐ Stationery and covers	☐ Fieldpost
☐ Surinam	☐ Revenues and railroads	☐ EO-Philately
☐ Japanese Occupation N.I.	☐ Booklets or combinations	☐ Localmail
☐ UNTEA	☐ Coils	☐ Other (please specify):
☐ FDCs	☐ Cancellations	_____
☐ Perforation varieties	☐ Selvage information	_____
☐ Proofs & Essays	☐ Franking labels	_____

Payment is due in US dollars by check, money order, or PayPal (jdlkremer@gmail.com). When using PayPal, please indicate you transfer money to a "Friend" to avoid a 5% fee charged to ASNP.

Please mail your application with payment, payable to ASNP, in U.S. dollars to:
Ben Jansen, 1308 Pin Oak Drive, Dickinson, TX 77539-3400, U.S.A.
Email Contact: bjansen@uh.edu

PARTNER IN
THE GLOBAL
PHILATELIC NETWORK

CORINPHILA

HIGHLIGHTS NETHERLANDS AND FORMER COLONIES
APRIL 2021 AUCTION

EUR 3,400
excl. buyer's fee

EUR 3,600
excl. buyer's fee

Plate IX, only 2 known!

EUR 4,200
excl. buyer's fee

EUR 900
excl. buyer's fee

EUR 4,600
excl. buyer's fee

Plate IA on cover,
extremely rare!

EUR 3,600
excl. buyer's fee

CORINPHILA VEILINGEN BV
AMSTELVEEN - NEDERLAND
INFO@CORINPHILA.NL
TEL. +31 20 6249740
WWW.CORINPHILA.NL

CORINPHILA AUKTIONEN AG
ZÜRICH - ZWITSERLAND
WWW.CORINPHILA.CH

Official Sponsor

HERTOGPOST 2021

YOUR CONSIGNMENT WILL BE IN THE BEST COMPANY!

CONSIGN NOW FOR OUR NEXT AUCTION:
16-18 SEPTEMBER 2021

You could send us your consignment by registered mail; it will be fully covered by our insurance.

CONSIGNMENT DEADLINE: 15 JUNE 2021

VAN DIETEN

STAMP AUCTIONS

Since 1886

WITH A RICH HISTORY OF AUCTIONS SINCE 1892

International auctions, always including fine and exclusive stamps and postal history with covers and cancellations of the Netherlands and Overseas Territories

Online catalogue with search function
Live online bidding from anywhere in the World

Are you interested in selling your collection or like an auction catalogue?
Please do not hesitate to contact us

Van Dieten Stamp Auctions
www.vandieten.nl

Roermond, Bakkerstraat 22, 6041 JR, The Netherlands
T: +31 (0)475 - 563 500 • F: +31(0)475 330 829
The Hague, Oranjestraat 6, 2514 JB, The Netherlands
T:+31(0)70 365 3817

Van Dieten Stamp Auctions is a part of Van Lokven Filatelie