E SPRINGBOK



Vol 40 No 1

Jan/Feb 1992

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THE SPRINGBOK

Vol.40, No.1 Whole No. 235

(c) South African Collectors' Society, 1992

ISSN: 0955-6753

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The Springbok is published six times in each year for the benefit of Members of the South African Collectors' Society. It is not available to non-members.

Contributions in the form of letters, notes, reports of SA related activities, articles, etc. are always welcome and should be sent to the Hon. Editor. All correspondence will be acknowledged.



Editorial

So we open another year, but with the absence of any volunteer for the task of despatch, there is the imminent possibility that the arrival of each issue will become a spasmodic ad hoc affair carried out with an increasing sense of frustration by the existing officers. Disappointing, since the last two issues asked for a volunteer and R.D. Allen spelt it out in *The Springbok* Vol. 37, No. 4, p.92, when he was then 83.

Not only do we have this vexing vacancy, but the untimely death of your Packet manager Philip Cattell (see obituary on p.20) raised another most urgent space. However we have a volunteer there. W.J. Branney in Cumbria rang me the weekend before and offered his services, for which we are most grateful, That leaves the despatch; the Weston-super-Mare meeting where we need a local agent for the once a year meeting, and a notice of resignation from your Librarian Ron Rapley on the grounds of his failing health requires that we seek a successor. The "ins and outs" of the posts can please be discussed with our Hon. General Secretary, Alec Page. The measure of input is up to you but we do need to maintain the standard; please bear in mind that the Library is really a book-minder's task rather than a research facility, but up to your effort entirely.

Yes, they are all commitments, but your enjoyment of the hobby so far is surely deserving of that? And what of the future if from a Society of some 200 odd no volunteer is forthcoming? Don't just feel that you are unsuited, please ASK.

DWP

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Meetings 11 Feb. 1992 7 Apr. 1992 Members' displays: CGH, Natal, SWA 11 Apr. 1992 9 June 1992 Meeting at Weston-super-Mare Members' displays: postal stationery

Meetings (other than regional and other special meetings) are held at Hawkstone Hall, Kennington Road, opposite Lambeth North Underground Station and near Waterloo Main Line, 6pm for a 6.30 start.

Why not come yourself and bring a friend? Members of the Society and visitors alike can be sure of a warm welcome!

A SLEEPER AWAKES AFTER 30 YEARS

Whilst making up a selection of covers for a customer I came across a 1952 Official Van Riebeeck Centenary cover which had "'n Aandenking van die Uniale Poskoetsrit en die Plaaslike Van Riebeeck Feesviering" printed across the top centre of the envelope and about 17mm lower down a dotted line in which the sender had written "Colesberg". The cancellation was also Colesberg, 29 Feb 52 on a pair of ½d Official stamps.

After further search I found another official cover with the same " 'n Aandenking etc." cachet, but no town name as the sender had covered the dotted line with Van Riebeeck commemorative stamps and they had been cancelled at the Van Riebeeck Post Office 31.III.52 on four of the Van Riebeeck set (no $\frac{1}{2}$ d) and a pair of $\frac{1}{2}$ d Officials.

I recalled that I had purchased a collection of South African material some time in the mid 1960's and this lot contained some covers that did not make sense. They had been left in a drawer with the hope that one day I might dig up some information on them. There were 33 covers each having a set of the three 1949 Voortrekker issue + two singles - U.P.U. ½d or 1½d values thereon as well. 28 of them were registered - 5 were not, but they were all addressed to "J.J.F. Britz, Parys, O.V.S.", who I believe was Postmaster there at the time.

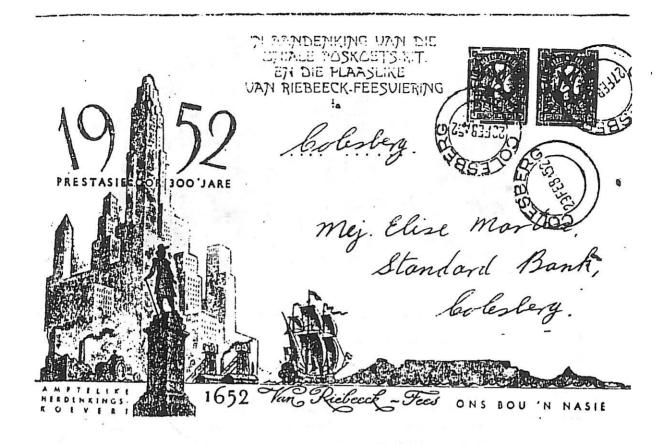
One of the covers had been registered at Colesberg postmarked 27 Feb 52 - received at Parys 29 II 52 as per postmark on the back. There were no other postal markings at all. On further inspection of this lot I found that the earliest was postmarked Ohrigstad 4-Jan-52 - not registered - but signed on the back "G.J. Grobler (Ritmeester) / J.H.B. Van Aardt (Koetsier)"

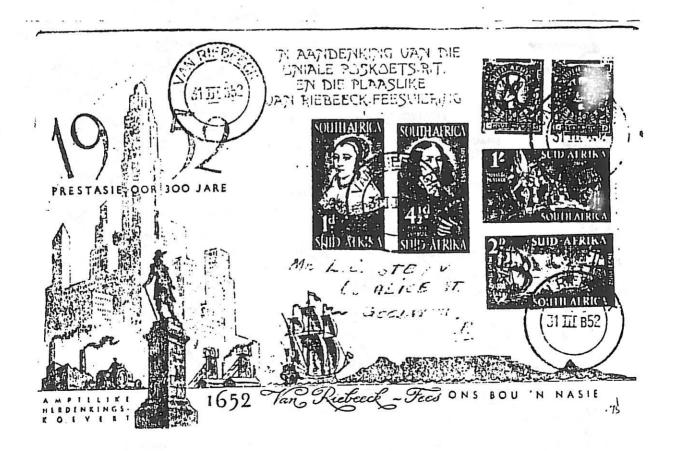
It would appear that the starting point was Ohrigstad and the late Dr D.F. Malan (who was the Prime Minister then) officiated at the celebrations held there to launch the first postal coach.

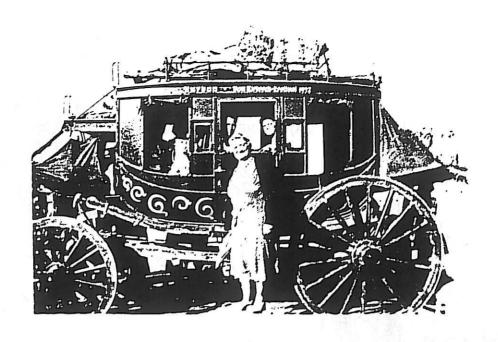
On further inspection I found other signatures for Ritmeester and Koetsier, postmarked during January and February 1952. One registered at Groblersdal dated 26 Jan 52 had a rubber stamp cachet which read "UNIALE POSKOETS/REELINGSKOMITEE" and the signature under it "A.P. Van Niekerk Ritmeester 27.1.1952":



After some further enquiries I made contact with a Mr G.J. De Swardt of Pretoria and he gave me some helpful information.









It appears that for the Van Riebeeck Festival in 1952 it was suggested to run postal coaches down to Cape Town starting from six different points:

- 1) Windhoek
- 2) Messina
- 3) Groblersdal
- 4) Nelspruit
- 5) Ohrigstad
- 6) Amsterdam

and cancel covers at the points en route for any interested parties. None of the covers were carried by any of the coaches and the personnel in charge of each coach changed from time to time (e.g. on route 6 Messrs Snyman and Reynolds signed at the Vryheid stop, whereas Reynolds and Moolman signed at Dundee which was the next stop en route).

What amazes and intrigues me is that in the 30 years since these postal coach route covers were issued, no one has ever mentioned them - and even some of the experts and/or knowledgeable philatelists had never heard of them or seen them at all!

Mr De Swardt tells me that he was working with the late Hasso Reisener to record them possibly in a supplement in his book of Postmarks or in any future reprint of that book, but Mr Reisener passed away before the details had been recorded completely.

I would welcome any correspondence regarding these covers from readers and hope that I have created an interest in a matter that has been stone dead for over 30 years!

Benje Joseph, PO Box 888, Northlands 2116, South Africa

AEROGRAMMES OF SOUTH AFRICA

Katalog der Afrika Aerogramme, published by Europaischer Aero-Philatelisten-Club e.V. Stuttgart in 1988 by Klaus Muller and Werner Wiegand, is available by post from Herr Wiegand, Burgstr 8/2, D 7253 Renningen, Germany at DM 12.50 (£5.00). This catalogue lists both Union and Republican aerogrammes, from 1944 to 1988, together with some SWA and the Homelands. It is in German.

It is a good fill up for the Republican issues and well illustrated with a price in DM. It was far in advance of the South African Government circulated lists of aerogrammes with the 14c overseas shown and dated when in fact it was omitted from the Stores listing, for which they apologise. However it had one error, an omission, and if purchased you should note the following:

Page 39, insert 424 10c green below 423 and alter following numbers accordingly Page 38, insert 418a, hellgraues Papier.

Payment can be made by Eurocheque or English sterling.

I have one copy for sale, £5.00, first come first served, no cash - you will be invoiced if unsold.

RDA

POSTMARKS OF SOUTH AFRICA

Following upon his researches aided and abetted by sundry collectors, Ralph Putzel is to publish, in February 1992, Volume 1 of *The postmarks of South Africa*, which will encompass letters A & B and follows on from his works on the Post Offices. The other letters will follow on later.

Soft cover R120 plus R6 post/packing c £21

Hardback R175 plus R6 post/packing c £30

Visa/Master and American Express are accepted. Enquiries to him at PO Box 85 TOKAI 7966 South Africa please.

DWP

Patrick Williams

SOUTH WEST AFRICA SACC 65 - ENGLISH ON ENGLISH

I refer to the note under this heading in The Springbok Vol. 30 No. 6 (Nov/Dec 1991) at p. 120.

Until the publication in 1989 of the late Natie Becker's The overprinted stamps of South West Africa to 1930, an outstanding book to which I am indebted, very little information had been published since the time these stamps were first on sale.

Perhaps some comments, apart from those directly germane to the matters raised, may be of interest. The sideways overprint was originally applied to the London printings of the $\frac{1}{2}$ d, 1d and 6d typos, the language of the overprint matching that of the stamp. Becker, in general throughout his book, says little about the basic stamps; but "... It appears that the $\frac{1}{2}$ d and 1d became available in S.W.A. on 1st January 1926". And also "... The $\frac{1}{2}$ d and 1d stamps were used to make up booklets". However, these are not listed by Becker nor in the SACC. I cannot recall seeing a booklet. "... Some full sheets of the $\frac{1}{2}$ d and 1d were also apparently found with watermarks inverted from the original printing". From the context it seems that this refers to sheets of overprinted stamps. Later, he says that "... The London printed $\frac{1}{2}$ d, 1d and 6d and the Pretoria printed $\frac{1}{2}$ d and 1d all exist with the watermark inverted". The fact that he does not mention the Pretoria 6d is curious (or careless) if, as the particular context would suggest, he is there referring to the un-overprinted stamps; if to the overprinted, then it is at odds with the information quoted earlier. Again, these watermark varieties are not listed in the SACC.

He deals with the variety mentioned thus:

The overprints have been found to be misplaced either to the right or to the left, as well as upward or downward. These misplacements have been seen in all three values on both the normal and the transposed overprints.

It appears that the SACC listing of the misplaced overprint variety (and of others) is incomplete. The writer asks how common the example of a misplaced overprint might be: the SACC indicates the factor of 7-10x normal and this seems reasonable.

He then asks if the "Calabash flaw" with this overprint has been seen by anyone else. Becker discusses neither the issues nor the varieties of the stamps themselves. I have not seen an example. Observation leads me to believe that, in the UK at least, quantities of the three low values with these overprints are not readily available, if only because they have but one "recognised" variety and collectors of SWA are generally not students of the basic stamps. (Many of the overprints and varieties are sufficiently costly without plunging into the stamp issues and flaws!)

PHILATELIC SOCIETY FOR GREATER SOUTHERN AFRICA

Their Forerunners three times yearly is improving and some of our writers have been consulted about lay-out and all manner of expertising. The Editor, William C. Brooks, now advises that they are having a "Celebration of Greater Southern Africa Philately" at their Fifth Convention at STAMPSHOW 92 in Oakland, California, from August 27th to 30th 1992.

ALL details from Dan Asmus, Director of Communications, American Philatelic Society, PO Box 8000, State College PA 16803 on the STAMPSHOW itself. For the "Celebration" arrangements please contact Louise Christian PSGSA, Director of Programs, at PO Box 369, Placentia CA 92670.

DWP

PRESS RELEASE

On 1 July 1991 the South African Postal Administration issued a series of four postcards on which the coats of arms of the four provincial capital cities [Cape Town, Pietermaritzburg, Bloemfontein and Pretoria] are depicted. These postcards herald a new system in the designing and marketing of postcards.

The most significant features of the new postcards are the following:

- o The service indicator Inland postage paid appears on the postcards instead of a stamp value.
- o The postcards will be sold at the current letter rate plus 5c a postcard.
- The postcards with the various designs are numbered from one to four. The oldest city, Cape Town (1652), is No. 1; Pietermaritzburg (1838) is No. 2; Bloemfontein (1846) No. 3, and Pretoria (1855) No. 4. The numbering will be continued with each new postcard issue.
- o The postcards are supplied to post offices in mixed sets of ten. Postcards will also be sold in desired quantities (one or more) at post office counters. A specific postcard issue will be available at post offices for aproximately three months.
- o Postcards with specific designs and numbers can be obtained in sets of four or in the desired quantities at Philatelic Services and INTERSAPA, Private Bag X505, Pretoria, 0001 [tel.: (012) 311-3470/71; 311-3464]. Postcard issues will be available for six months.
- O A permanent date stamp for the cancellation of the first day of issue of the postcards was introduced at Philatelic Services in Pretoria on 1 July 1991.

Editorial note: 1991-10-01 saw another issue, numbered 5 to 8, printed by the Government Printer at Pretoria:

- No. 5 for the Diamond Jubilee of the National Cancer Association of South Africa.
- No. 6 for the Centenary of the Mountain Club of South Africa.
- No. 7 shows the Centenary of the National Agricultural Union.
- No. 8 is for the bicentenary of the establishment of the South African Post Office.

NEW AEROGRAMMES

Also issued on 1 October 1991 a set of 4 Aerogrammes for external (Foreign) use showing Protea (No. 4), scenes of Table Bay, Golden Gate, Drakensberg and a baobab tree on No. 5; and for No. 6 there is Christmas with a decorated tree. Available as above.

1991 CAPE TOWN EXHIBITION

Tony Chilton reports that this was a first class occasion and obliges us with Members' successes: LARGE Gold and the State President's Trophy to Des Hyland for the 1925-31 Bradbury Wilkinson Pictorial Definitives

Gold to Len van de Kar for "The Union's First Stamp"

Silver, with felicitations, to Jeff Fine for the 1920 11d rate increase - the delays and repercussions

Silver to Mike Tonking for the Union Airmails series 1954-1961

Bronze to A.R. Chilton for the Union of South Africa: Pictorial Postal Stationery Cards 1941-1951

At the Congress of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa, held during that Exhibition, awards were also made for articles that appeared in the SA Philatelist in the July/August 1991 issue on Postal Stationery to Tony Chilton and Chris Board in conjunction with Jean Alexander. Warm congratulations to all. - Ed.

A PRISONER OF WAR IN ITALY

Irving Baron's article in the March/April 1990 issue of *The Springbok* brought back many memories as I was an unwilling guest of the Italian Government for a year from September 1942 having been shot down over Tobruk in a Wellington bomber.

After being flown from North Africa to Italy in an Italian transport plane, I found myself at Campo P C 175, P M 3450 at BARI. This consisted of various buildings set in olive groves and had a varied and cosmopolitan population of officers and other ranks, quite a few of whom were South Africans who were captured at Tobruk earlier.

At the end of February 1943 I was moved across the country to Campo P C 35 P M 3400 at PADULA in the mountains south of SALERNO. This one was in a former monastery, rectangular in form, built around a courtyard. On the ground floor were the kitchens, dining hall, etc. and the monks' cells, twelve in number as I recollect, each consisting of two rooms and a small walled garden; they were mostly occupied by three or four senior officers. On the first floor was a covered corridor running around the whole building and designed as an "ambulatory" for the monks; most of us had our own beds in here.

This camp was for officers with a few other ranks as batmen; the great majority were from the U.K. with some Canadians, Australians and South Africans.

After the invasion of SICILY the camp was evacuated and all the prisoners were sent north in two batches. Our new "home" was Campo P G 19 P M 3200 at BOLOGNA (it does not appear on Mr Baron's list). This may have been a newly built camp; there was no sign of any previous occupation. We were joined by the officers from another camp in the south - CHICTI, I think.

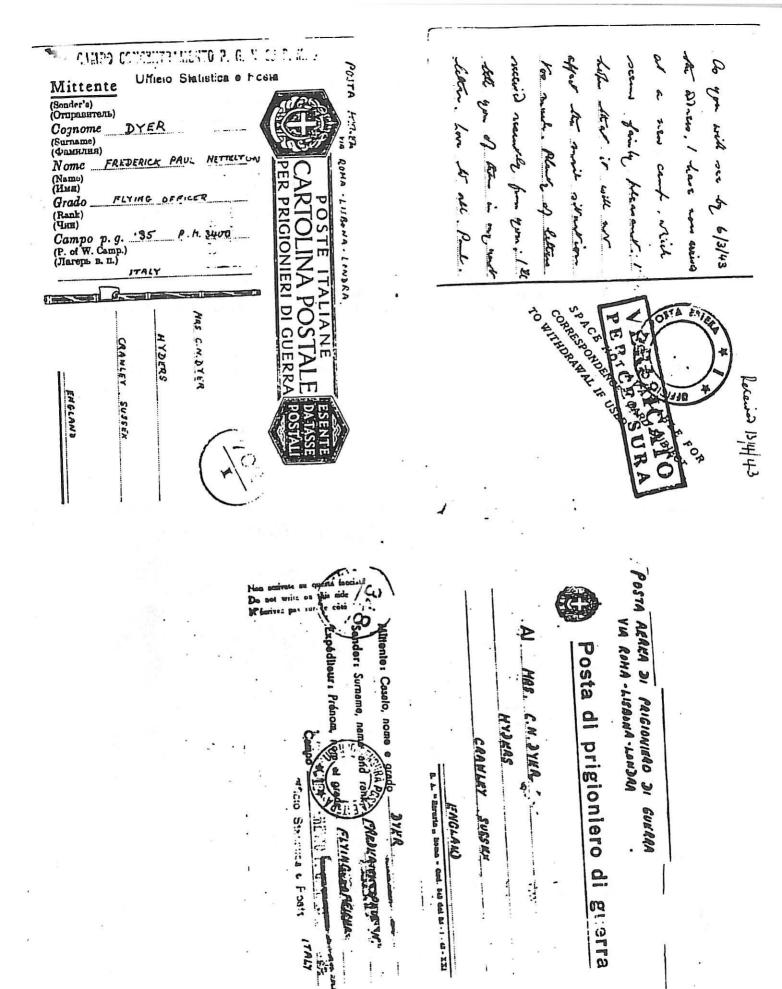
After a week or two came the announcement one night of the Italian armistice and within an hour or so the Germans sent troops to take over the camp; a day or two later we were herded into cattle trucks and sent to Germany via the Brenner Pass; but that is another story.

Prisoners were allowed to write one letter form and one postcard per week, and were allowed to write in ink, strictly forbidden in Germany. After censoring these items were sent to England by P.O.W. airmail via Rome, Lisbon and London and could take anything from five weeks to four months. Mail from home was even more erratic; when moved from one camp to another it took ages to arrive, if it was not lost altogether.

At Christmas and Easter we could send short messages of greeting through the Vatican; I never knew whether these were sent by cable or radio.

When being moved as a P.O.W. all one's worldly possessions (such as they were) were usually carried on one's back, and no letters to me from home have survived, but on the next page are reproductions of the front of a letter card and both sides of a postcard sent home from Italy.

Despite its imperfections, few of us could have done without the mail service; if one of us, after a long wait, received a batch of letters from home, perhaps accompanied by a cigarette parcel, for a short time he might be that unusual phenomenon, a happy Prisoner of War.



WORLD WAR I - INTERNMENT CAMP MAIL

From an auction item copied by Richard Stroud, the following is the contents of the stampless cover. [Priced at £35/£40].

A. Katzler Prisoner of War Camp 3 Room 5 Pietermaritzburg 12/1/15

Dear Mr Goldie

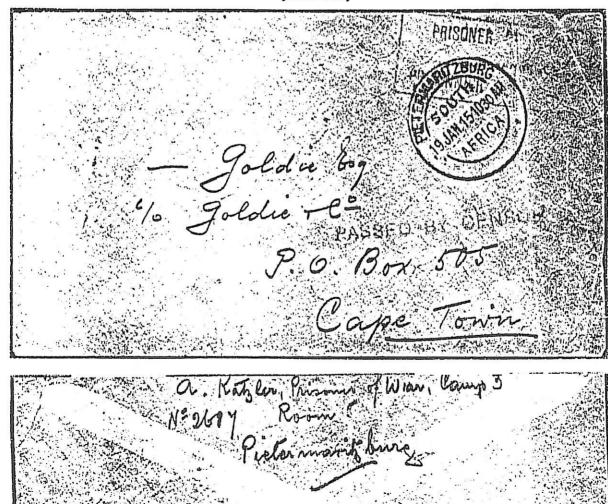
Just a few lines to inform you that I am still amongst the living, well and sound, hope you are the same. Life in Camp is dull, food is good and plenty so there is nothing to complain. Tobacco is finish, the Government does not issue any to Prisoner's of War, so I shall have to do woithout this luxury as I have no money to buy tobacco with.

I been told that if a man has employment, he may gets out on Parol providing application for his release on Parol is made from outside, I therefore shall be very glad if you would make such application from your Quarter and get my release. I am fed up with this life, further I got a wife and Child to look after in Cape Town.

Trusting you are in the best of health and thanking you in Anticipation

With Kind Regards

yours truly



THE 4th ISSUE COMMEMORATIVES

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07450.77	25.	12c.	500.000.	500.000.	10.12.1985.
11	25.	20.	70.000.	74.000.	29.11.1985.
TI .	25.	25.	70.000.	70.000.	21.11.1985.
11	25.	30.	70.000.	70.000.	21.11.1985.
25th ANN	IIV, FOUN	IDING R.S.A.	1 - 1 - 2 - 2 - 2	, 0.000.	21.11.1905.
9153.63.	30.	14c.	500.000.	500.000.	8. 4.1986.
CULTURAL	HERITAC	GE - RESTORA	TION.		,oo.
7452.79.		14c.	500.000.	491.000.	8. 7. 1986.
11	25.	20c.	70.000.	70.000.	16. 6.1986.
11	25.	25c.	70.000.	70.000.	16. 6.1986.
	25.	30c.	70.000.	70.000.	19 6.1986.
JOHANNES		OLDEN CITY.	(Foundation	stamp No. 11)	
9496/04.	1.	30ct.	120.000	118.000.	20. 8.1986.
JOHANNES		OLDEN CITY.			
7916.38.	25.	14c.	500.000.	507.500.	22. 8.1986.
11	25. 25.	20c.	70.000.	70.000.	15. 8.1986.
11	25.	25c.	70.000.	70.000.	15. 8.1986.
SCENIC B	FAIITY	30c.	70.000.	70.000.	20. 8.1986.
7914.36.	25.	14c.	500.000.	1156 200	17 10 1000
11	25.	20c.	70.000.	456.300.	17.10.1986.
11	25.	25c.	70.000.	70.000. 70.000.	6.10.1986.
n	25.	30c.	70.000.	70.000.	6.10.1986.
BEETLES.	-2.	500.	70.000.	70.000.	13.10.1986.
16772.06	. 25.	14c.	250.000.	233560000.	12. 2.1987.
11	25.	20c.	60.000.	66.000.	16. 1.1987.
11	25.	25c.	60.000.	60.000.	14. 1.1987.
11	25.	30c.	60.000.	60.000.	14. 1.1987.
ROCK PAIL	NTINGS.	-		50.000.	1.150/.
16774.08		16c.	500.000.	50500.000.	12. 5.1987.
11	25.	20c.	70.000.	70.000.	27. 4.1987.
II.	25.	25c.	70.000.	70.000.	27. 4.1987.
11	25.	30c.	70.000.	70.000.	27. 4.1987.
		26676	# 25 ACMS03627 E E		

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P.O.
             Stamps
                       Value.
                                 Sheets.
                                               Sheets
                                                             Final date of:
  Job No.
              per
                                 Ordered.
                                               Received.
                                                             Delivery.
             Sheet.
  PAARL - 300th Anniversary
              25.
  16773.07
                        16c.
                                   500.000.
                                                 475.000.
                                                            27. 07.1987.
              25.
     11
                       20c.
                                    70.000.
                                                  70.000.
                                                             7. 7.1987.
     11
              25.
                       25c.
                                    70.000.
                                                  70.000.
                                                             1. 7.1987.
     11
              25.
                       30c.
                                    70.000.
                                                  70.000.
                                                             1. 7.1987.
 THE BIBLE.
 22328.07
              25.
                       16c.
                                  500.000.
                                                  30.000.
                                                            (see below)
     11
              25.
                       30c.
                                   70.000.
                                                  70.000.
                                                            22. 9.1987.
     11
              25.
                       40c.
                                    70.000.
                                                  70.000.
                                                            22. 9.19877
     11
              25.
                       50c.
                                    70.000.
                                                  70.000.
                                                            22. 9.1987.
  This Job No. was cancelled at this stage and the following Job No.
           issued:-
 22328.07.
              25.
                                               1.489.500
                       16c.
                                1.500.000.
                                                            24.11.1987.
    11
              25.
                       30c.
                                  200.000.
                                                 200.500.
                                                            28.10.1987.
    11
              25.
                       40c.
                                  200.000.
                                                 203.000.
                                                            23.10.1987.
    11
              25.
                       50c.
                                  200.000.
                                                 203.500.
                                                             6.11.1987.
    11
              25
                       16+1.C.
                                                 674.500.
                                                            19.11.1987.
* This amended order had no quantity regarding the "Flood" overprint
 but appakantly was intended to make up the quantity from the
 preceeding order
 DIAS - 500th CENTENARY.
 25408.57.
              25.
                       16c.
                                  500.000.
                                                 492.500.
                                                            15. 1.1988.
    11
              25.
                       30c.
                                   70.000.
                                                  70.000.
                                                             9.12.1987.
    11
              25.
                       40c.
                                   70.000.
                                                  70.000.
                                                             9.12.1987.
    11
              25.
                       50c.
                                   70.000.
                                                  70.000.
                                                             9.12.1987.
 DIAS - CENTENERY
                      Flood Disaster
 25811.56.
              25.
                       16+10c.
                                  250.000.
                                                247.000.
                                                           13. 1.1988.
 FRENCH HUGUENOTS
                      300th CENTENERY.
 25928.72.
              25.
                       16c.
                                  700.000.
                                                510.200.
                                                           20. 4.1988.
    11
              25.
                       30c.
                                  100.000.
                                                 100.000.
                                                           22. 2.1988.
    11
              25.
                       40c.
                                  100.000.
                                                 100.000.
                                                           22. 2.1988.
    11
              25.
                       50c.
                                  100.000.
                                                 100.000.
                                                              22. 2.1988.
 FRENCH HUGUENOTS
                      FLOOD DISASTER OVERPRINT.
 19355.65.
              25.
                       30+10c.
                                   55.000.
                                                 60.000.
                                                             8. 4.1988.
              25.
                       40+10c.
                                   55.000.
                                                 57.000.
                                                             8. 4.1988.
    11
              25.
                       50+10c.
                                                             8. 4.1988.
                                   55.000.
                                                 58.500.
25928.72
              25.
                       16+10c.
                                     ---
                                                 181.000.
                                                           20. 4.1988.
 This last Job No. was to cover the shortfall of the 16c. in the
 original order of which only 510.200 had been printed. This plus
the 181.000 made up the quantity to 691.200.
LIGHTHOUSES.
25269/19.
              25.
                       16c.
                                  500.000.
                                                497.500.
                                                           24. 5.1988.
    11
              25.
                       30c.
                                  100.000.
                                                           29. 4.1988.
                                                100.000.
   11
              25.
                       40c.
                                                100.000.
                                  100.000.
                                                           29. 4.1988.
   11
             25.
                      50c.
                                  100.000.
                                                100.000.
                                                           29. 4.1988.
LIGHTHOUSES Min.
                   Sheet No. 16.
24273.33.
                   16/30/40/50c.130.000.
                                                130.000.
                                                            4. 7.1988.
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OFFICIAL COVER No. 1 (NOT MARKED AS SUCH)

The Springbok, Vol. 39, No. 6, has an interesting article by Jack Newman concerning the captioned cover. I have used a PHILATELL, Ultra-Violet & Daylight lamp.

2 diamonds on reverse:

The card is a dull whitish; the printed air mail etiquette is a dark blue; printing on the back is a darker blue than on the front; the "I.T.U." is printed thus, dots between each upper case letter. The main logo is placed in a different position than the other card, a difference of about 5mm.

3 diamonds on reverse:

The card shows up under the lamp as a pale blue; the etiquette, printed, is a lighter blue. "ITU" is without dots and has the "l" (lower case) of "international" missing, see 2nd paragraph, the blue printing is lighter than the above card. Postmarked PRETORIA, 17.30 above 1-VI over 1965 (not a FDC). Several letters in the large logo are smudged, not discernible on the photocopy.

COVER: Like the first card, no ordinary postmark, air mail etiquette is of normal sticky type of that era, with P.O. number in top left corner.

STAMPS: The 12½c stamp seems to have a slight phosphorescence under the lamp.

Die Internasionale Telekommunikasie-unie (ITU) wat deur die ondertekening van die eerste Internasionale Telegraafkonvensie in Parys in 1865 tot stand gebring is, vier vanjaar sy eeufees met die hou van 'n Gevolmagtigde Konferensie in Montreux.

Sedert sy totstandkoming het dié organisasie talryke konferensies gereël met die spesifieke doel om die ordelike ultbreiding van Internasionale telekommunikasiewerksaamhede te bewerkstellig. Op hierdie manier het hy veel daartoe bygedra om internasionale harmonie en verstandhouding te bevorder.

Ena tru esa saturidad la 'a groce en escangrata internazionale organisazie met sy ele hoofkwartiergebou in Genève. In die lig van vooruitgang op tegnologiese gebied, is hy bestem om in die toekoms 'n steeds belangriker rol in die wereld te speel. Suid-Afrika se verbintenisse met die ITU dateer sedert 1881 en hy sal voortgaan om sy deel by te dra tot die belangrike werk van dié organisasie.

The International Telecommunication Union (I.T.U.) which was established with the signing of the first International Telegraph Convention at Paris in 1865, celebrates its centenary this year with the holding of a Plentpotentiary Conference at Montreux.

Since its establishment, this organization has held numerous conferences for the specific purpose of ensuring the orderly development of international telecommunications activity. In this way, it has done much to foster international harmony and understanding.

The HU has developed into a large and important international organization with its own headquarters building at Geneva. In the light of advancement in the field of technology, it is destined to play a role of ever increasing importance in the world. South Africa has now been associated with the ITU since 1881 and shall continue to contribute her share towards the important work of this organization.

Die Internasionale Telekommunikasie-unie (ITU) wat deur die ondertekening van die eerste Internasionale Telegraafkonvensie in Parys in 1865 tot stand gebring is, vier vanjaar sy eeufees met die hou van 'n Gevolmagtigde Konferensie in Monsraux,

Sedert sy totstandkoming het dié organisasie talryke konferensies gereël met die spesifieke doel om die ordefike uitbreiding van Internasionale telekommunikasiewerksaamhede te bewerkstellig. Op hierdie manier het hy veel daartoe bygedra om Internasionale harmonie en verstandhouding te bevorder.

Die ITU het ontwikkel in 'n groot en belangrike Internasionale organisasie met sy ele hoofkwartiergebou in Genève. In die lig van vooruitgang op tegnologiese gebied, is hy bestem om in die toekoms 'n steeds belangriker rol in die wêreld te speel. Suld-Afrika se verbintenisse met die ITU dateer sedert 1881 en hy sal voortgaan om sy deel by te dra tot die belangrike werk van die organisasie.

The International Telecommunication Union (ITO) which was established with the signing of the first International Telegraph Convention at Paris in 1865, celebrates its centenary this year with the holding of a Pienipotentiary Conference at Montreux.

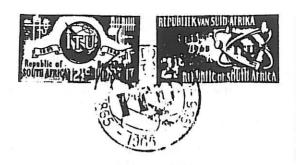
Since its establishment, this organization has held numerous conferences for the specific purpose of ensuring the orderly development of international telecommunications activity. In this way, it has done much to foster international harmony and understanding.

The ITU has developed into a large and important international organization with its own headquarters building at Geneva. In the light of advancement in the field of technology, it is destined to play a role of ever increasing importance in the world. South Africa has now been associated with the ITU since 1081 and shall continue to contribute by a since towards the important work of this organization.

missing "l"







Mr. H.D. Allen, B20, Hackford Road, LONDON, B.W. 2.

Amptelike gedenkposkaart Official Souvenir Postcard





Amptelike gedenkposksart Official Souvenir Postcard



Mr.N.D.Allon, 82c Hackford Rond, London, S.W.9. U.K.

FIRST DAY COVER — BERSTE DAG KOEVERT



CENTERARY OF THE BITERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS BISON EEUFEES VAN DIE INTERNASIONALE TELEKOMMUNIKASIEUNIE



Mr. R.D.Allen, 82c. Hackford Pd. London, S.W.9. U.K.



LONDON MEETING - 8 OCTOBER 1991

Several stalwart supporters for these London meetings were unfortunately elsewhere: Dr Fincham in Brussels on business and it was hoped he would be the main contributor for the evening; Tony Chilton in Cape Town for the 1991 Exhibition. It was fortunate that Dr Fincham told me a week earlier that he was unable to be present, so I contacted Fred Clark of Derby, who came although he was about to take a late holiday in the Lincolnshire area.

The subject for the meeting was INLAND AIR LETTERS. This was a time when I could not identify items from catalogues, as unfortunately there is no such thing except for 12 items, see the SASSC loose leaf catalogue, plus the 3c animal of the Union series overprinted with $2\frac{1}{2}c$, of which there are quite a few variants; Alec Page stepped in with these at the start of the meeting. Fred Clark produced pages of the $2\frac{1}{2}c$ in its various forms in overlays and without them, with dots and dashes in the folding guide lines, with and without imitation perforation holes, then still on the $2\frac{1}{2}c$, the Cape Castle fort, with and without phosphor, the yellowish background in shades, then on to a flight of three birds, also in various phosphors, etc., to the 8c and then the 10c. At this juncture Alec produced a German catalogue about South African aerogrammes, and this item was not listed, this is feasible for in the overseas aerogrammes there is a 10c listed... The 14c more about that much later. Also the German catalogue, the 16c, followed by the 18c and finally the 21c, the last being issued, I do not mean the final issue.

Since then I have been searching my files for information on the INTERNAL AEROGRAMMES and of the $2\frac{1}{2}c$, there are FOURTEEN Job Lots from the printers, listed in The Springbok, and nothing so far about the 14c... Of the 4c there are seven job lot numbers, and it is hoped that the information will be published, and whilst we are about it, perhaps some other of our members would undertake to search out the information from The Springbok and the South African Philatelist, which I regret to say is not so informative on all the necessary information. Perhaps then the Society could undertake to make a publication with the vital information, as job lists do not describe the make up of the items, simply the job number, the value, date of issue and its final issue, plus whether phosphor or not, but not the description of the impressed/printed stamp.

RDA

[A very enlightening and useful evening - Ed.]

LONDON MEETING - 10 DECEMBER 1991

The last meeting of each year is always NON-SOUTH AFRICAN, and it is pleasing to read that some South African Societies (in the specialist class for S.A.) have followed our example.

Business was started early as there was a likelihood of a long discussion about the "MAILING BLOKE" asking to be relieved of his responsibility. Unfortunately WE HAVE NO VOLUNTEERS at present, I type in the plural, for it seemed reasonable that the various duties could be split up. The sole job apparently may rely upon a volunteer with access to or possession of a computer. It was suggested that approach be made to the printer of the magazine to ascertain if they will do the dispatching with the address labels supplied by our present non existent computer. The balance of the issue would need to be stored somewhere, e.g. Hon. Membership Secretary re possible new members, Hon. Sec. Alec Page re enquiries also for membership, myself re advertising probabilities, the library, but that could be done by the dispatcher; the appropriate label to have a number, other than the membership number, stating how many copies, e.g. Mr Rapley - 2 copies; Alec Page - 5 copies, etc., etc.

Disposal of our philatelic frames: suggested that members are offered them for use at regional meetings; as to the embossing machine, stored in my local church, "Get rid of it". In the past I have done small jobs on it for my local Scout group, useful for small but urgent messages for distribution for this Society. Reverting back to the relief for the mailing bloke, WHO WILL TAKE IT ON?

Another subject under discussion was an EXHIBITION: Stampex hires out rooms, but all taken for 1992. Alec Page is checking up for Swindon, on a Saturday, 12 June 1992, use of a room plus frames; the only charge being entry to the exhibition @ 20p per head. Will need a steward or two and also material to show.

Now as to the meeting, after the glass of sherry and mince pies, etc.... Several members had material to show, but I opened the innings with a display of the various objects and items I use for assistance in the mounting of my collection; a UV lamp; small box used to remove hinges, etc., from mint stamps and also remove stamps from envelope paper; types of perforation gauges; an SG Colour Key; a perpetual calendar; Methuen's Book of colour, etc.; a microscope (which I have not used so far); stock book; and their uses and mis-uses re perforation.

Mr Lemon, a new member, was invited to continue the innings, and if you read on you will understand why nobody else got a chance to bat. His collection was CENSOR LABELS AND MARKINGS. What a display, and I regret that I could not make a real effort to write about it all, but will list the countries from which material was shown.

But before I start, one was addressed to Lt.-Col. Gordon Ward, yes our late Dr Gordon Ward, with his last known address. Nobody knew he was a Lt.-Col., probably in the R.A.M.C.

Here is the list: United Kingdom with naval, RAF and army markings, plus the Polish and Czech forces. Ship mail; an early GB, 15 February 1917... USA; Jamaica; India; Ceylon; New Zealand; Brazil; Guatemala; Argentina; Mexico; Paraguay; Portugal; Germany; Egypt; Iran; Algeria; Montevideo; Sweden; Italy; Belgium; Spain; USSR; Switzerland; Thailand; Indochina; Finland; Eire; The Netherlands; Romania; France; Morocco; Yugoslavia; Philippines; Belgian Congo; Gold Coast; Canada; Venezuela; that list contains many a country outside the orbit of World War II, but the letters were addressed to such countries in the conflict.

[Congratulations to Mr Lemon - Ed.]

RDA

SOURCES OF REFERENCE

The Nov./Dec. issue of The Springbok (p.121) included the British Museum, London, in a list of locations for sets of the South African Philatelist. It is worth noting that the library departments of the British Museum were transferred to the British Library when it came into being in 1972. This included the Museum's philatelic collections - that is the stamps, as well as the literature. All the British Library departments which were located in the British Museum building in Great Russell Street are still there, but the new British Library building at St. Pancras is due to open in 1993. However it is still uncertain when the philatelic collections themselves will be transferred to the new building, whether this will affect only the stamps themselves or the philatelic literature as well, or just what philatelic publications will continue to be housed at the Newspaper Repository at Colindale after 1993. So until things settle down it would be advisable, for a year or two, to ascertain at which of the three possible locations the South African Philatelist is housed, before making a visit - either by writing or by telephoning (071-323 7635).

P.M. de Paris

Re the entry for *The Springbok* in the same article on Sources of Reference, copies are sent to: The British Library (legal deposit)

P.O. Museum, Pretoria (free)

Canadian Postal Archives, 365 Laurier Avenue West, Ottawa, Ont. K1A 0N3 (free)

Library Johannesburg (free)

N.P.S. Library, 107 Charterhouse Street, London, EC (exchange) Australian National Library, Canberra, Australia (subscription)

South African Stamp Study Circle, Johannesburg (exchange)

RDA

SCOTTISH CONGRESS AT FALKIRK

Jim Grassom and members will be at this Congress on 24 March 1992 and will have a stand there. Please support them.

MEMBERSHIP NOTES

Change of Address

Mr Gardiner (614) to Chevington, Suffolk

New Members

- 934 T.M. Lemon, of Rainham, Essex
- 935 R. Carless, of Hull (Voortrekkers and associated events)
- 936 C.R. Dearlove, of Gidea Park, Romford (World War I, SWA)
- 937 Einar Schroeder, of Holmestrand 3080, Norway (Cape of Good Hope)
- 938 M. Cooling, of Nelson, Lancs (Union and Republic)

Resignations

- 820 R. Macgregor
- 881 Dr N. Tofte
- 908 A. Tong
- 921 M. Wright

Albums Closed

- 103 R.D. Watson of Eastbourne
- 207 E. Apps of New Romney
- 394 P.A.C. Cattell of Weston-super-Mare

PHILIP A.C. CATTELL

To our great regret, Philip died on Monday 6 January 1992 after an increasingly severe time following an extensive operation in mid-1991.

None of those members happily gathered at Weston on Saturday 13 April 1991, the ninth successive year of such friendly gatherings begun and hosted by this cheery man, could have imagined that he would not be there to host the tenth.

He worked with enthusiasm for philately: Weston-super-Mare Society Secretary and BPF Representative; Somerset and Dorset Federation and SWINPEX; Bechuanaland and Botswana Society. He produced that excellent book *Union Castle Ocean Post Offices* after some years of careful and much relished research, and it ought not to have surprised us that his Abell Trophy entry in 1991 was so universally voted winner on a related subject. No less do many members owe a debt for the willingness with which he handled their wants lists and advised on the most suitable way of disposing of their material to the best advantage of both seller and buyer through his sound management of your Society's Packet.

DWP

STAMP PACKET MANAGER

Due to that wonderful and much maligned invention the telephone, but the more so to that strange thing called motivation leading to participation, I was very relieved when Bill Branney rang me from Cumbria to offer to take the packet on. No less was Alec Page when he spoke to me about the gravity of Philip's illness. Bill has the seasoned experience of another Egremont resident, Jim Smart, to assist. The transfer of documents and material will be done expeditiously under secure cover of the insurance the Society has. So "normal service will resume as soon as possible", to borrow a phrase from black and white days.

Subscribers and participants please advise Bill in due course of your telephone number, as when we had to stop off the packets Alec Page spent much time and many pence on directory enquiries to head off the six under way. Confidentiality is assured within the Society wholly on a need to know basis. Finally please note our new Packet Secretary's address and telephone number:

W.J. Branney, 19 The Lilacs, Orgill, EGREMONT, Cumbria CA22 2HU (0946 823083).