



Journal of Sports Philately



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VOLUME I

ANCIENT GREEK BULL-LEAPING -- FACT OR MYTH?

- Fred Farr -

One of the most unusual sports ever devised was the sport known as Taurokathapsia, more commonly known as bull-leaping or bull-grappling. To the ancient Minoan on Crete, the art of bull-leaping was a thrilling exhibition of gymnastic prowess, wherein a hideous goring or even death awaited the athletes who misjudged their timing in jumping over the back of a charging bull. Many authorities today claim that this is not possible, and that this sport is merely a myth, yet there is abundant evidence that the art of bull-leaping actually existed some 3,500 years ago.

Perhaps the most conclusive evidence we have of this strange sport is the famous Toreador Fresco, depicted by Greece on a 5 lepta definitive issued in 1937. Discovered in 1901, this now-famous painting is a prized treasure of the Museum of Candia, Crete, and it is not to be confused with a similar work known as the Charging Bull Fresco, which is to be found in a restored open building in Knossos. Both frescos date from approximately 1,500 BC, and both paintings were discovered in the Palace of Minos at Knossos by the archeologist, A. J. Evans. These frescos are illustrated in Agnes Carr Vaughan's The House of the Double Axe, published by Doubleday and Company in 1959. An excellent illustration of the Charging Bull Fresco may be seen in Angelo Mosso's Palaces of Crete and Their Builders, published by G. P. Putnam's Sons in 1907.

The Toreador Fresco, with which we are concerned, was uncovered in the Third Palace at Knossos, and had been shattered into innumerable fragments. When the pieces had been re-assembled, they revealed a picture which shows a young man and two girls; the youth depicted in the act of somersaulting over the back of a galloping bull. Behind the bull stands a girl with outstretched arms, as if to catch the somersaulting youth. The other girl has grasped the horns of the mighty bull and is about to duplicate the boy's feat of somersaulting over the charging animal.

The bulls used in this sport were great piebald beasts with enormous wide-sweeping horns. Bones excavated at Hagia Triada in Crete indicate that the bulls employed in this activity belonged to the species, bos primigenius, now found only in Italy, Switzerland and England. There is also the possibility that the bulls were wild aurochs, a now-extinct species which was very common in Neolithic Europe. In any event, the bulls were gigantic in size, and we may be sure that only the largest and most ferocious beasts were used. For sake of comparison, it has been noted that the modern Spanish fighting bull is smaller and less ferocious than were the Minoan bulls.

These contests were held in the Royal Arena situated near the east bastion of the Palace of Minos, and consisted of a walled-in enclosure which was elliptical in form and large enough to accommodate about five hundred spectators, who came not only from the palace and town of Knossos, but also from the Greek mainland. It was an honor to be invited to witness the annual Festival of the Bulls, which had a religious overtone as well as being a sporting spectacle. Presumably there was an admission charge, because many pieces of incised bronze (used as the entrance fee) have been unearthed there.

When all was in readiness, a statue of the Mother Goddess was brought into the arena and placed in a special niche of honor. Then the Priest-King arrived, and sat on his special canopied throne near the grandstand. When all was in readiness, the athletes paraded around the arena, to be followed by the mighty bulls. We do not know if more than one bull entered at a time, nor do we know whether the young bull-grapplers entered with the bull against which they were to match their skill, or whether slaves used nets

and rope cradles to lead in the bull.

The athletes entered the arena, one team at a time. The youths and girls wore only a loincloth and shoes, with a headband around their hair, so as not to be encumbered by excess clothing. Shoes, perhaps, were necessary, because the floor of the arena was paved. The teams vied with each other in the brilliance and daring of their acrobatics, baiting the bull to charge and then, at the last moment, grasping the mighty horns and somersaulting to safety. This sport must have demanded perfect timing, as well as marvelous acrobatic skill, hence it is obvious that the fearless contestants must have suffered numerous casualties, including fatalities. To die on the horns of a charging bull must have been a hideous experience, so we are not surprised that historians wrote that the spectators were awe-stricken by this spectacle.

Geoffrey Bibby, in Four Thousand Years Ago, claims that the athletic teams were composed of both professional and amateur toreadors, and that there were many foreigners among the athletes, especially the Achaens from the Greek mainland, where the sport had also been introduced. According to Bibby, picked teams from the mainland competed at Knossos against the best native acrobats for the honor of determining the best team.

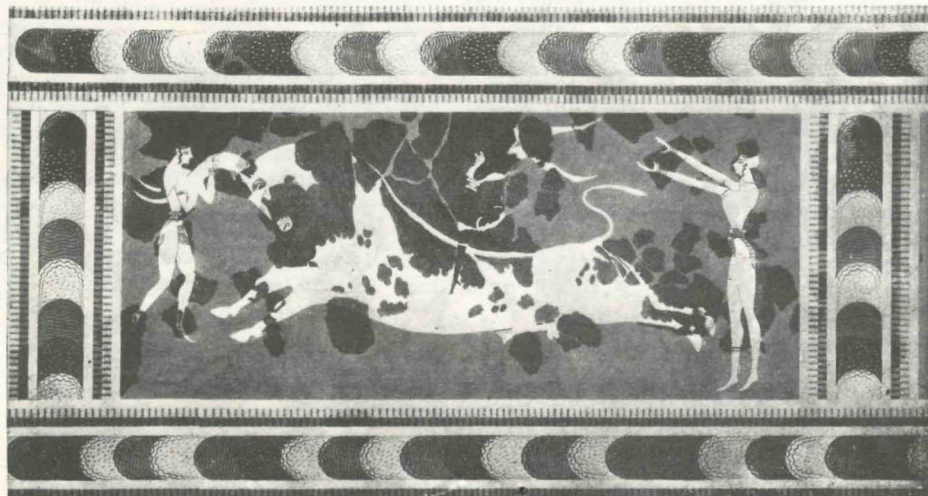
James Baikie, author of Sea Kings of Crete, suggests that the bull-grapplers were not volunteers, since even madmen knew that the sport must inevitably end in death for the gymnasts. Instead, the toreadors were either slaves or captives who were kept in the two dungeons at the palace, and were trained for their brief careers in the bull ring -- much as the early Christians in the Colloseum fought lions with a small knife, to the mirth and amusement of the Roman spectators.

The best explanation, perhaps, is that this sport combined an aura of religious observance with that of a public spectacle, and that it was allegorical of the rededication of their lives to the service of the Mother Goddess. In prehistoric Crete, men believed that the island rested upon the back of a giant bull, and that the Mother Goddess had to constantly tame the bull to keep him from overturning the island --- as happened whenever there was an earthquake, which is quite frequently in this corner of the Mediterranean. Bull-jumping, therefore, was a ritual performance in which the Mother Goddess was thought to be the protagonist, and success in the arena would enhance the power of the Goddess in keeping the island secure against the wrath of the bull below. Thus the bull had to be mastered, but without harming him.

We must remember that the bull was a sacred animal in Minoan Crete, and that the primary purpose of the Festival of the Bulls was not to determine the best team of gymnasts, but to select the premier bull, the Bull of Minos. This was the famous Minotaur, which was sacrificed on the following day. In mythology, the Minotaur had the body of a man and the head of a bull, and each year he devoured seven youths and seven maidens, who were sent to him as a sacrifice by Athens. Eventually, the Athenian warrior, Theseus, went to Knossos and killed the Minotaur. This myth is merely an allegorical explanation of the Athenian gymnastic teams who competed in the Festival of the Bulls, and of the eventual conquest of Crete by the Athenians, under the leadership of Theseus.

The question still remains whether or not the sport of bull-leaping was possible, or whether it was merely a figment of the imagination. Experienced Spanish bullfighters claim that the feat is impossible. Is it possible for an agile youth to grasp the horns of a charging bull and swing himself onto the bull's back? Would such a gymnast be gored to death before he could acquire sufficient momentum to fling his body upward in a

The Toreador Fresco



somersault? Rodeo experts claim this is impossible. Clearly, the task appears to be impossible, at least to our minds, and such a deed staggers our imaginations.

Surprisingly enough, there is abundant evidence that bull-grappling was an actual sport. There exist innumerable Minoan artifacts which all depict this sport -- frescos, painted stucco reliefs, gold cups, statuettes, carvings, etc. In addition, we must remember that bull-leaping was avidly carried out in ancient Cappadocia, and that even today a similar sport still exists in the province of Viterbo in Italy, although wild cows are substituted for the bulls. Lastly, we cannot overlook the religious fervor in which the sport was carried out, nor the sports-loving nature of the Minoans -- athletic prowess combined with religious fanaticism seems to have made this sport a reality. At least, that is my conclusion.

PHILATELIC ASPECTS

GREECE



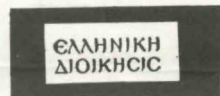
396 -- 5 lepta, red brown and dull blue. Lithographed by Aspiotis-Elka & Company, Corfu. Issued November 1, 1937. 44,400,000 printed. Exists with frame printed twice. Depicts the famous Toreador Fresco, but with minor variations in the shape of the bull's tail, the length of the bull's horns, and an omission of the beadwork at the bottom of the frame so as to permit the necessary inscriptions.



RA78 -- 396 overprinted with 20 drachma surtax for the benefit of tubercular postal employees. Issued March 11, 1946. 2,175,000 copies printed. Overprinted in carmine.



RA85 -- 396 overprinted with 50 drachma surtax for the benefit of the Social Fund for the League of Postal Employees. Issued in 1951. Overprinted in carmine.



N202 -- 396 overprinted for the Greek occupation of North Epirus (South Albania). Issued December 10, 1940. 3,900,000 printed. Exists with inverted overprint, with inverted frame, and with center printed twice. Overprinted in black.

CORFU (N1)



396 overprinted locally by typography, "CORFU." Issued June 5, 1941. Both the overprint and the cancellations have been extensively forged. For use on Corfu and Paxos, while under Italian military occupation. Overprinted in black.

IONIAN ISLANDS (N15, N15a)



Overprint Reading Up →

← Overprint Reading Down



1. Cephalonia & Ithaca



396 overprinted by typography at Argostali, Cephalonia. Issued in May of 1941. Overprint reads: "Italy -- Italian Military Occupation of the Islands of Cephalonia and Ithaca." Overprint extends over two stamps and reads either upwards or downwards. Many errors of spelling in the overprint exist, such as ITALIAIA, ISOLA, EFALONTA, EFALON-IA, etc. Such errors are rare and very expensive. Overprint in black. Exists with elongated "C" in "Cephalonia." Date of issue is believed to be May 20, 1941. Used copies in pairs are much rarer than catalogue quotations would indicate.

ITALIA
Occupazione Militare
Italiana isola
Cefalonia e Itaca

396 overprinted with handstamp. Overprinted entirely on one stamp, or extending over a pair of stamps. Third row in sheet is overprinted ISOLA instead of ISOLE. Overprint is handstamped horizontally, vertically, reading upwards or downwards, inverted, and diagonally. Overprinted in black.

2. Sami & Fiscardo

396 overprinted with a similar four-line inscription, but with a higher and thinner letter "M" in MILITARE. Each stamp has the full overprint. Exists only in used condition. Overprinted in black.

3. Ithaca

occupazione
Militare Italiana
Isole
Cefalonia e Itaca

396 overprinted on each stamp, but the overprint has a different arrangement of words. Lower case letter "o" in "occupazione" occurs only in the first printing. Issued in August, 1941. Sold only in the post offices on Ithaca, and the remainders were burned after issuance of the definitive stamps for the Italian military occupation of the Ionian Islands. This first printing is rare and expensive. Overprint in black.

Occupazione
Militare Italiana
Isole
Cefalonia e Itaca

396 overprinted on each stamp, as in the first printing noted immediately above. Capital letter "O" in "Occupazione" in the second printing. These stamps are relatively common, and are not expensive (like those of the first printing). Overprinted in black ink.

4. Zakynthos (Zante)

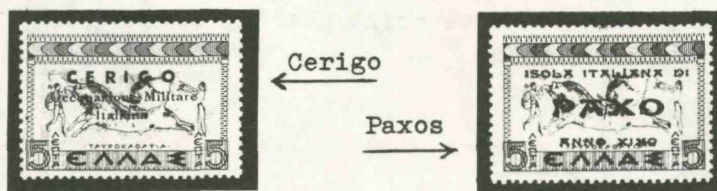
OCCUPAZIONE
MILITARE DI
ZANTE
1-5-XIX

396 handstamped in blue, violet, green, or black-violet. The text of the overprint is faulty, with poorly formed letters, and often it is illegible. Overprint sometimes falls completely on one stamp, but it often falls across a pair of stamps. The overprint is stamped horizontally, sloping downward, or inverted. Exists with double overprint, and with double overprint (one inverted).

NOTE: The above-listed stamps overprinted for use in the Ionian Islands became obsolete on September 1, 1941, at which time they were superseded by a definitive set issued for use in all of the islands. Covers, which were commercially used during the brief period when these overprinted stamps were valid, are extremely rare. Many forgeries exist of both the overprints and the cancellations.

PHANTASIES

Philatelic speculators overprinted quantities of 396 for alleged use in Cerigo, Paxos, and Santa Maura. No such overprints were ever authorized or officially used. This worthless material is often found in packets, and has a value of only a few cents per stamp. The author has never seen these phantasies in used condition, although they may exist with either forged or genuine cancellations.



SPORTS ◆ **OLYMPIC GAMES** ◆ **SCOUT STAMPS** ◆ **Covers**

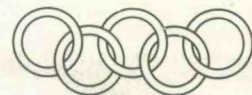
First Jets - Special Flights - Balloons - First Days - Topical and Special Events - Postmarks and Cachets

WANT LISTS SOLICITED

COVERS SENT ON APPROVAL AGAINST REFERENCES

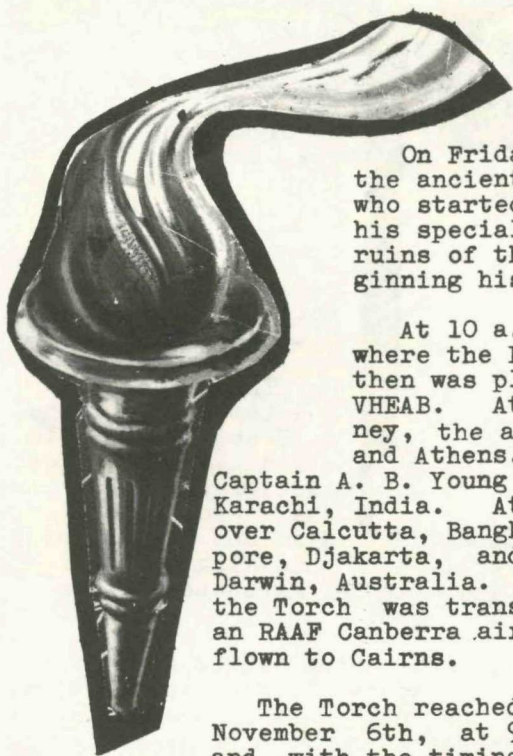
VIC WAILLY

P. O. BOX 26 ROXBURY 19, MASS.



and the Olympic Flame

- Travis Land -



On Friday, November 2, 1956, a "priestess" at the site where the ancient Games were held, handed the Sacred Fire to a runner, who started the relay on its way to Melbourne, Australia. With his special carrying-torch, the athlete moved out of the ancient ruins of the temple and the olive trees of the Peloponnesus, beginning his journey to Athens from Olympia.

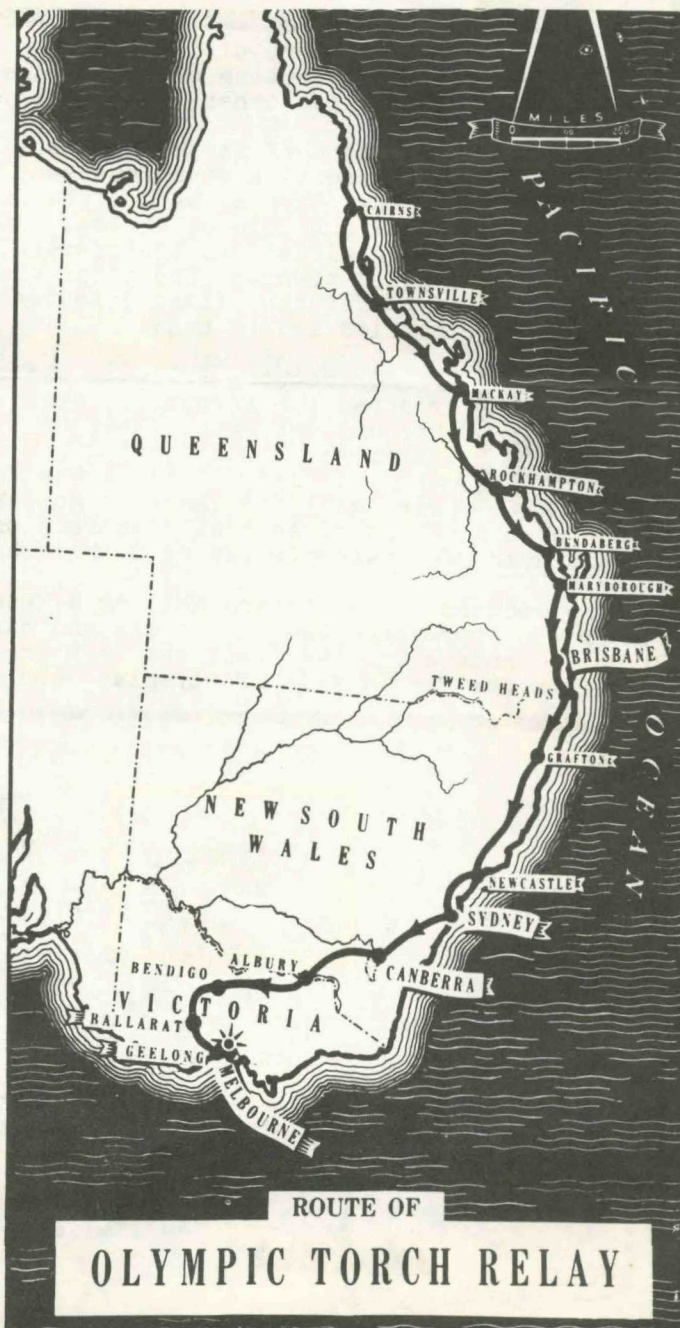
At 10 a.m., November 3rd, a short ceremony was held at Athens, where the Flame was deposited in a miner's lamp from the Saar, and then was placed on Qantas Airways, Ltd., on its Service EM532118 VHEAB. At the time the runner at Olympia was beginning his journey, the aircraft was departing from London for Frankfurt, Rome and Athens. This Sydney flight picked up the Torch at Athens with Captain A. B. Young and Captain J. G. Young flying the Torch from Athens to Karachi, India. At Karachi, Captain Gay took charge, and flew the Torch over Calcutta, Bangkok, Singapore, Djakarta, and thence to Darwin, Australia. At Darwin, the Torch was transferred to an RAAF Canberra aircraft and flown to Cairns.

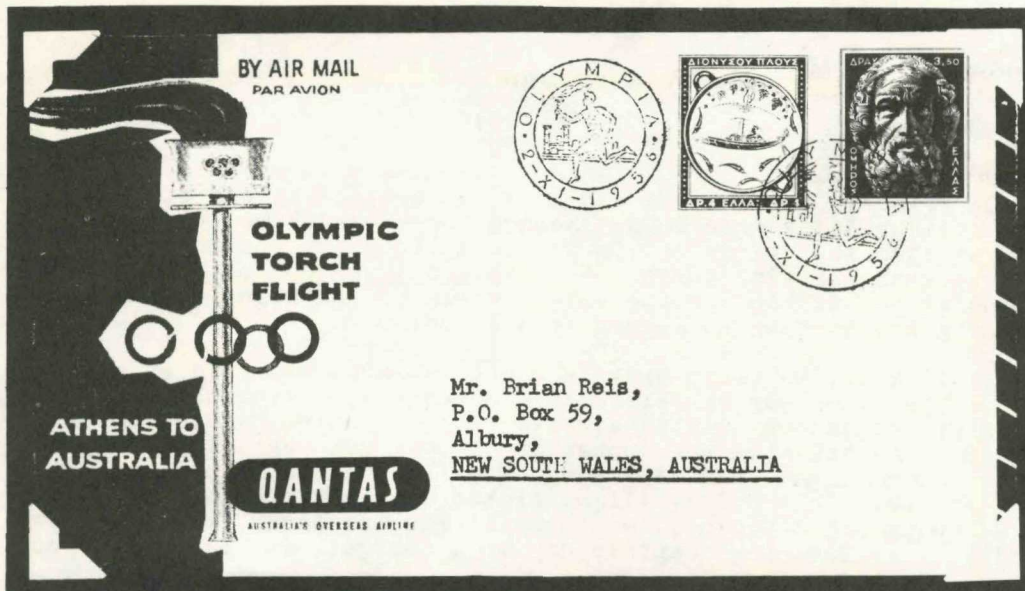
The Torch reached Darwin on November 6th, at 9:25 p.m., and with the timing schedule in excellent order. When the relay began from Cairns on November 9th, it required exactly 2,750 Australian athletes to carry the Torch to the Stadium for the Opening Ceremony at 4:32 p.m., November 22nd.

The Torch itself was made of aluminum. There were 400 of them made and used to transfer the flame along the route. The Torch was about 15 inches in length and bore the words "XVI Olympiad 1956 Olympia to Melbourne," and bearing the 5-ring symbol. The Australian runners ran the 2,750 miles along Australia's coastline, averaging approximately 7½ minutes per mile. Each runner was presented with a specially designed commemoration medal for his participation.

We have the word of the Controller's Office of Qantas Airways, that the specially cancelled flight covers designated as Torch Flight covers, and bearing Greek stamps ACTUALLY were carried on the flight moving the Torch itself! The Qantas people were very cooperative in furnishing information concerning all of its activities. In fact, Qantas itself supplied many cachets for the FDCs of the pre-Olympic, Olympic and Torch Flight items, as its contribution to Australia's success in holding the Games.

Philatelic activity was furious during the Games of the XVI Olympiad. On the following pages, we show some examples of the notice paid to the ceremony of the Torch. There were stamps, postmarks, special cachets, vignettes, maximum cards, etc., to emphasize this great symbolic ceremony dedicated to sports and international understanding. The outpouring of philatelic items almost reached deluge proportions!





The Greek Olympic Committee gave particular prominence to the story of the Flame in 1956, and its kindling ceremony at Olympia. We cannot do better than to quote the summary appearing in Bulletin du Olympique, written by Otto Mayer, Chancellor of the International Olympic Committee:

"The priestess of the temple dedicated to Zeus in Olympia, stood at the East side of the altar on the ground of the Stadium, and keeping

watch over the Sacred Fire of Olympia, while at the West side of this altar, within a short distance, the priestess of the Pallas Athena's temple at the Parthenon in Athens arrived attended by three other priestesses.

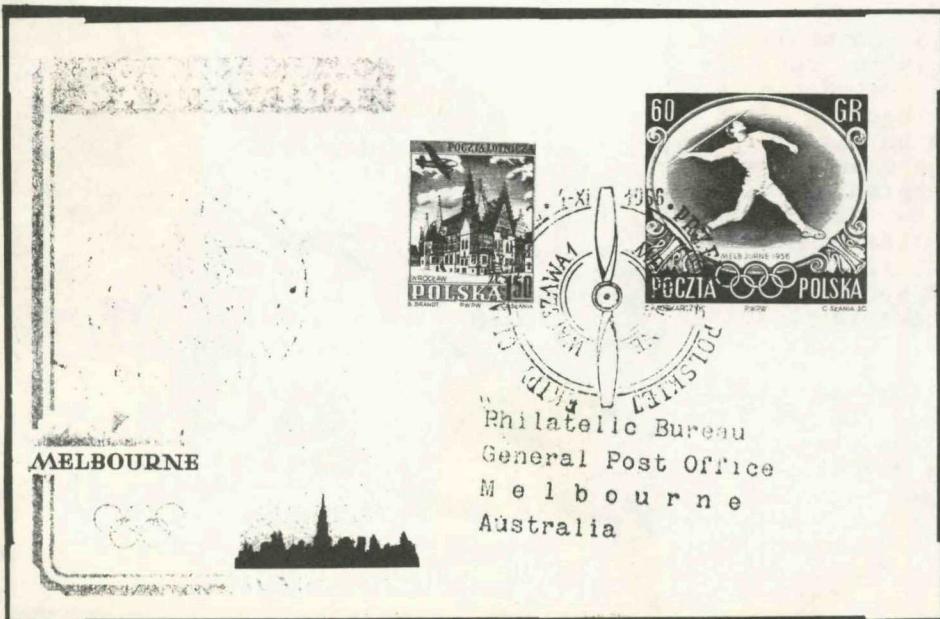
"Standing on the foot of the column, she invoked Zeus, beseeching him to grant fire. By the end of the invocation when Zeus sent lightning as the symbol of his approbation, the priestess of Zeus' temple handed the Sacred Fire to the priestess of the Pallas Athena's temple of Athens. The two priestesses then, with their escort of young girls who transported the Fire and carried baskets of flowers, walked towards the altar where arrived the first athlete who knelt in front of the first priestess who proceeded to light the torch that he carried in his hand.



"Thereupon, followed the relay race to Athens. The last Greek runner reached the Acropolis, where in front of the Propylaea, two soldiers of the ancient days, wearing the uniform of the warriors of the battle of Marathon, stood barring the way and forbidding him to pass. The athlete then uttered 'I carry the Sacred Flame of Olympia' thereupon, the sentries gave him leave to go past. Still running, he then reached the Par-

thenon when a choir of several hundreds of boys welcomed him with the singing of the Olympic Hymn of Samaras (words by C. Palamas).

"The goddess Pallas Athena holding a spray of olive leaves gave her blessing to the runner who approached the officials and handed the Flame to the President of the Greek Olympic Committee. The President then proceeded with the lighting of the Saar miner's lamp from the Sacred Fire of Olympia, and handed it over to the Consul General for Australia in Greece.



The drama of the lighting of the Sacred Fire, and of the accompanying relay race with blazing Torches can hardly be over emphasized. True, they had a pagan beginning, yet this is also true of the Olympic Games themselves.

In our modern age, it is good to indulge in the pagentry of a by-gone era, and to hark back to the best traditions of our ancestors. It is precisely such dramatic features as the lighting of the Sacred Fire and the Torch relay which makes the Olympic Games so meaningful, and prevents them from becoming sports carnivals.



Above left: The Olympic Torch depicted on commemorative stamps from Romania, East Germany, Australia, and South Korea. All were issued in 1956.

Above right: Cover carried on special Austrian Olympic flight, via the North Pole, between Vienna and Melbourne. Flown by Scandinavian Airlines System, and has special Australian pictorial cancellation on back, dated November 22nd, and used at the Olympic Village at Melbourne.

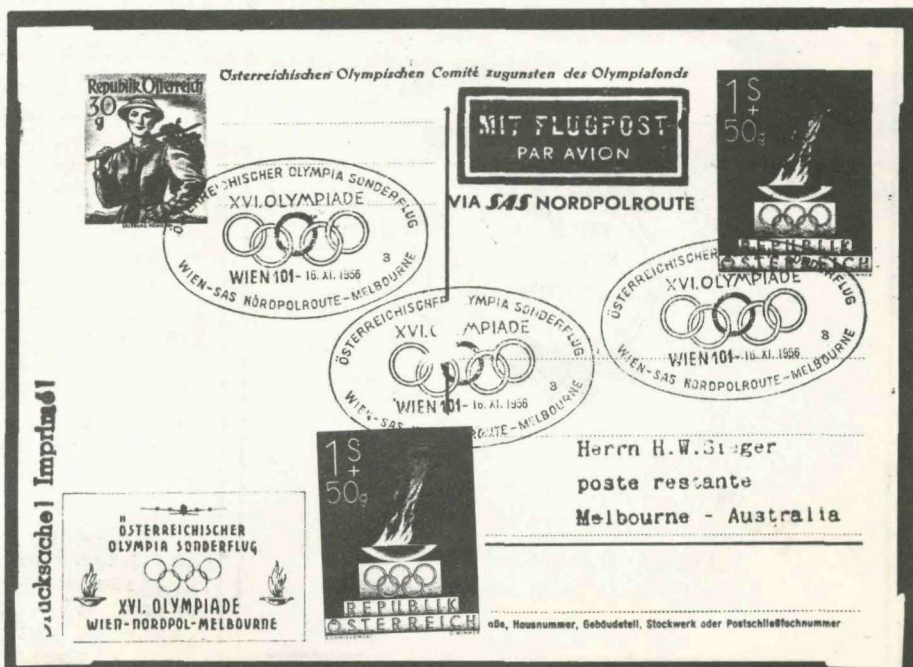


Above: Pictorial cancellations used at the XVI Olympiad in Melbourne, featuring the Olympic Torch.



Above: Liberian stamp featuring the Olympic Torch superimposed on map of Australia.

Right: Official postcard issued by Austrian Olympic Committee to raise funds. Flown by SAS to Melbourne, via the North Pole, and backstamped with pictorial Olympic Village cancellation.



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"SPORTS AND RECREATION CHECK-LIST" - A REVIEW

I like this check-list! It is handy, well-prepared, and of value to everyone who needs to know the precise subject-matter depicted on every sports stamp. This booklet saved your editor several hours of valuable time that would otherwise have to be spent thumbing through catalogues or searching through album pages.

Let it be fully understood that this is a check-list and not a catalogue. It is not annotated, hence it cannot be recommended for those who seek detailed information, especially write-up material, about each stamp. This check-list was intended to list each sports stamp according to the activity depicted, the sports paraphernalia shown, or in accordance with the circumstances surrounding the stamps' issuance.

This publication is invaluable for those who mount their collections according to each individual sport, rather than chronologically within each country. With this check list at your fingertips, you know instantly and authoritatively which stamps can be included under each sport or activity.

The numbers used in this check-list are taken from Scott's Catalogue, hence that publication is a necessary tool if the reader is to extract any value from this check-list. Foreign members, therefore, should particularly note this requirement.

I note several deletions in our President's check-list: for example, his listing of parachute-jumping facilities has omitted Russia C72, issued in 1937.

I recommend this check-list as an excellent companion-piece to Carl-Olof Enghagen's book, Sports Stamps. These two works are complimentary, and supplement each other to the eminent satisfaction of your editor.

Priced at \$3.00, this book is currently available at the introductory price of only \$2.00. Order from the American Topical Association, 3306 North 50th Street, Milwaukee 16, Wisconsin, U.S.A. The name of the publication is: Sports and Recreation Check-List, by Robert M. Bruce.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Travis Land sincerely regrets that he has been unable to forward the current installment of the FALCON (SOKOL) series, which will be continued in the November issue of this journal. At that time, the 1960 Olympic Relay Race will also appear.


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THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The directors of SPI (less Travis Land, whose new position kept him from attending) had their first face-to-face meeting at West Point over the Labor Day week-end. Much was accomplished -- certainly far more than could be done in many months of correspondence.

We regret very much the two serious errors of arrangement in Section Nine of Ira Seebacher's handbook material, which was distributed with the September issue of JSP. Corrected copies are being distributed with this issue. If, for any reasons, you do not receive your copy, write to Bill Brecht for a replacement.

A prime matter for discussion was the method of mailing JSP to our overseas members. Nobody regrets the long delay in overseas delivery more than your directors, but we have no solution to the problem. It is painfully obvious that air mail shipment is far too expensive for the organization. However, if any member wishes to pay the extra fee, we shall be glad to cooperate on this end. Air mail service will come close to one dollar per issue to many parts of the globe.

Since quick receipt of dated material, such as auction catalogues, is more important than receipt of the periodical itself, we will try to mail this type of material separately by airmail for the flat fee of an extra dollar for the year of any membership. For the twelve months beginning with the September issue, there will be four such catalogues -- and possibly more, depending upon the size of the spring auction. Please keep in mind that such special service adds an extra clerical burden to the already overloaded publisher, in that it forces him to give special attention to a few cases. However, service is our business. If you are interested, send your dollar to Larry McMillan with a brief explanation.

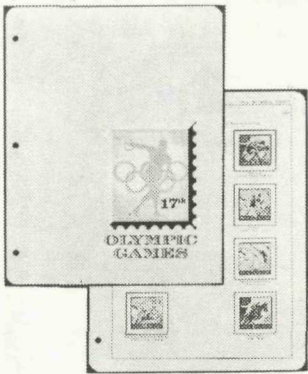
Another matter meriting the attention of our members is that of changes of address. Each month, our publisher gets back (at some additional expense) several unclaimed copies of our periodical. A few have corrected addresses indicated; most have none. If you want to receive every issue of JSP regularly, please send all changes of address to Larry McMillan as far in advance as possible.

SPI likes to use the Squaw Valley Olympic stamp on its membership solicitation mailings. It is far more symbolic of the broad field of sports than is the Naismith stamp. Unfortunately, the supply is nearly exhausted, and this stamp is no longer available at the Philatelic Agency in Washington. If anyone has a supply of this stamp which he would be willing to relinquish at face value, please contact me at the Office of Physical Education, West Point, New York, U. S. A. We can use up to several thousand of this commemorative.

/s/ Robert M. Bruce


ANNOUNCEMENT

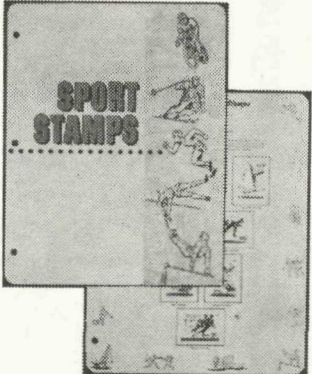
Classified advertisements will be accepted, starting with the November issue, from collector-members only. The cost is only two cents (2¢) per word, with no charge for the name and address. This is an excellent method for contacting other members for purposes of exchange, as well as a source for elusive items. Send your advertisements and remittances for same directly to the Editor, Fred Farr.



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SUSAN CHRISTINA VON SALTZA

"Chris" is a member of SPI, and so is her father, Dr. John H. von Saltza. Both collect Olympic Games strongly. Perhaps you are an ardent collector, too, but do you have a DO IT YOURSELF attachment relating your stamps to your activities?

On page 231 of the "1960 United States Olympic Book," under the main head of UNITED STATES GOLD MEDAL WINNERS, 1959 PAN AMERICAN GAMES, and under the subhead SWIMMING AND DIVING -- WOMEN, there appears the following:

SUSAN CHRISTINA VON SALTZA

100 meter Free Style
200 meter Free Style
400 meter Free Style
400 meter Medley Relay
400 meter Free Style Relay

Chris won five Gold Medals! Now, turn to page 162 of the same book -- "Chris von Saltza amazed the swimming world by breaking Lisa Konrad's world record with 4:44.5 in the Olympic Trials in Detroit. The 16-year old then proved it was no fluke by winning the 400 Gold Medal in the Olympic record time of 4:50.6, finishing four meters in front of Sweden's Jane Cederquist." All Chris was able to do in the Olympic Games of 1960 was to win THREE Gold Medals and ONE Silver! We conclude that this stamp collector is a real honest-to-goodness example of a PARTICIPATOR.



It may prove of interest to our readers to know how the following cover reached the writer, and how Chris and Dr. von Saltza became members. A local newspaper carried a photo of three young ladies with the caption: "Probably no school can match the record of Los Altos High School. Three of its students will be on the U. S. Olympics swimming team. Left to right are Chris von Saltza, Ann Warner and Lynn Burke." This was a 1959 item. Why not make an effort? Forthwith a letter was dispatched to the Dean of Women at the Los Altos High School with a request to have the girls autograph covers and return. But none of the girls responded! The Olympic Games came; Chris won 3 Golds and one Silver. Lynn Burke won 2 Golds. What happened to the autographs? Well, Deans of Women are Deans of Women, and one takes his chances!

On November 1, 1960, a letter was received from one John W. H. von Saltza, M. D., of Saratoga, California, stating: "When we arrived home from Europe recently I found the covers that you had sent to my daughter Chris and to Ann Warner and Lynn Burke, both of whom lived with us this year. You had unfortunately sent them to the wrong High School as there was an error in the caption beneath their picture which appeared last spring. As a result, the letter did not reach Los Gatos High School until after we had left for the Games." Dr. von Saltza went on to relate that he had been collecting sports material for several years and was interested in our group. Both Chris and her father have been great contributors to our hobby. We now hold no grudge against Deans of Women, but we do have a file on caption-writers!



THE PHILATELIC MARKET

TIP OF THE MONTH: Germany, West Berlin 9N110. The 1963 Michel catalogue, just issued, lists this stamp for \$3.75, which is almost double last year's price! This 70 Pfg. stamp depicts the Grunewald Hunting Lodge, and was probably overlooked by sports collectors because: (1) it is a definitive, and (2) it does not depict subject matter which immediately identifies it with sports philately. Never mind the latest stamps from Afghanistan or Togo -- get this stamp first! You'll never regret it.

Germany, West Berlin 9N81-83. Only 500,000 complete sets exist of this series which depicts the Olympic Torch and Olympic Rings. Remember that philately is taught in the public schools of Germany, where about 10% of the population actively collects stamps -- and all are actively seeking this issue. The 1963 Michel catalogue price is \$9.50 for either mint or used. Especially desirable are official first day covers prepared by the West Berlin Postal Administration, of which only 12,000 were issued. Value? About three times the price of a mint or used set!

Jugoslavia. The 8-values set issued for the European Athletic Championships are a necessity for every Europa collector as well as every sports philatelist. Now available at the new-issue price, this July tenth issue should climb in price soon, as the 200,000 sets available are rapidly dispersed among the world's collectors. And don't overlook the souvenir sheet issued on September 12th, depicting the Stadium of the Popular Army where these athletic events took place; only 100,000 were issued.

Hungary. The recent set and souvenir sheet issued for the World Soccer Championship Games in Chile has recently had a modest advance in price along Nassau Street, and not many dealers feature it in their windows anymore. I refer, of course, to the perforated set and perforated souvenir sheets -- the same items in imperf condition are strictly "sucker" items.

Italy. The triptych airmail, C49, featuring the Colosseum in Rome, gets more difficult to procure all the time. Although some 180,000 copies were printed and sold, we must remember how many copies lurk in collections of airmail stamps as well as specialized Italian collections. There were twenty airplanes which were authorized to transport mail, hence each stamp in the sheet of 20 stamps was overprinted with the abbreviated names of these twenty pilots -- undoubtedly this has caused many affluent collectors to purchase either full sheets or else the twenty overprinted singles, thus further depleting the small supply available of these highly desirable items. One thing is certain; they won't get any cheaper!

Aegean Islands. The airmail stamp, C27, is the same stamp as Italy C49, but overprinted for use in the Aegean Islands. Only 20,000 were issued, which is only a drop in the philatelic bucket. Although nine times as many of Italy C49 were issued, this stamp from the Aegean Islands has been largely neglected by philatelists, hence it is a superlative buy at today's prices -- probably the best bargain now existent in sports philately. Incidentally, these stamps were not overprinted with the abbreviated names of the twenty pilots as were Italy C49. Full sheets of twenty of C26-27 sell for \$200 in Italy, today. Genuinely used covers are extremely scarce, and highly desirable.

Sweden. All Swedish sports issues are modestly priced, but they won't be much longer! Until recently, a good many of these issues were available at face value from the Swedish Philatelic Agency in Stockholm, but now a number of specific stamps are sold out, meaning that only incomplete sets are available. This presages a rapid rise in value for the complete sets. Complete sets of the following sports stamps are no longer available: 444-48, 487-91, and 524-28. Obviously, the prices of these sets must now advance. However, a few good items are still available at face value: 490a, 491a, and 528a. All are booklet panes of twenty stamps. Once they are gone, these items must also advance.

Austria. No sports stamps are available from the Philatelic Section of the Austrian Postal Administration, although they still have denominations left of the handsome International Hunting Council set, issued in 1959, but no complete sets. It is inevitable that this set, Scott's 640-43, will rise in value soon. Also, get 647-48, showing a handball player and a runner -- still available for about a dime each, this condition won't exist forever.

NOTE: All the above-listed stamps are recommended only in mint condition, unless otherwise noted. All numbers are taken from Scott's Standard Postage Stamp Catalogue.

SERVICE

Anyone interested in forming a group to charter an airliner to Tokyo for the 1964 Olympic Games? Edward S. Kolodzie, 355 Albert Street, Oshawa, Ontario, Canada, is interested in forming such a group and will be pleased to give you the necessary details. There is no cheaper way to attend the Olympics -- unless you're an official or competing in the Games, of course! Write to Ed, now, if you are interested.

NEW ISSUES CALENDAR - 1962

- S. Jim Hughes -

MAY ADDENDA

- 16th BHUTAN. A Bhutanese archer is depicted on two values of this nation's first definitive series. 3ch red/lavendar, 70ch blue/green; archer holding bamboo bow and arrows, and wooden target. Lithographed by Harrison and Sons, Ltd., London.
- 21st HUNGARY. World Soccer Championships in Chile. Each stamp depicts a globe, soccer ball and flags in natural colors of the teams playing each other in the first round. 30f, Colombia & Uruguay; 40f, Russia & Yugoslavia; 60f, Switzerland & Chile; 1ft, West Germany & Italy; 1.70ft, Argentina & Bulgaria; 2ft, Hungary & Great Britain; 3ft, Brazil & Mexico; 4+1ft, Spain & Czechoslovakia. Souvenir sheet, 10ft; goalkeeper and map of world, with flags of participating nations. Stamps are in diamond format, printed by photogravure. 450,000 perf and 20,000 imperf sets. 125,000 perf and 15,000 imperf souvenir sheets.

JUNE ADDENDA

- 6th BULGARIA. World Soccer Championships in Chile. 13st, green/brown/black (perf), and 13st, blue/brown/black (imperf). Depicts soccer player kicking ball, and globe of world. Photogravure printed. Design by V. Tomov. 250,000 perf and 40,000 imperf.
- 14th SAN MARINO. Mountaineering series. 1L, climber roping down an overhang; 2L, view of Sassolungo; 3L, Mount Titano; 4L, three peaks of Lavaredo; 5L, Cervino; 15L, downhill skier; 30L, climber ascending; 40L, climber cutting steps with ice-axe; 85L, Dente del Gigante; 115L, the Titano and citadel. Photogravure printed in sheets of 40, wmk three feathers. Designs by P. Vicenzi.

JULY ADDENDA

- 1st UNITED STATES. Duck Hunting revenue stamp. \$3.00 black/purple-blue/brown, two drake Pintails. Engraved by Richard M. Bower (vignette) and William R. Burnell. Design by Edward A. Morris of Minneapolis. Plate number 168073 (front) and 55048 (inscription on back). Printed from 120-subject plates, in panes of 30 stamps.
- 7th BULGARIA. 15th Chess Olympiad at Varna. 1st, Bishop; 2st, Castle; 3st, Queen; 13st, Knight; 20st, Pawn. The set was also issued imperf, in slightly different shades. 150,000 perf and 50,000 imperf sets. A miniature sheet was also issued, combining the five values.
- 13th LIBYA. Third Mediterranean Boy Scout Jamboree. 20m, Boy Scout emblem and hand-clasp; 30m, four Scouts and emblem; 50m, camp scene and Scout emblem. Photogravure printed by Courvoisier. Issued perf and imperf. A souvenir sheet with all three values, imperf, was also issued.
- 19th HUNGARY. Flight Development series. 30f, Ikarus and emblem of Central Hungarian Aero Club, with inscription "Second World Aerobatics Championships." 40f, glider and Lilienthal's 1898 machine. 60f, light monoplane and 1912 aerobatic machine. 1.40ft, light plane flying upside-down and 1913 Nyesterov's plane. Photogravure. 450,000 perf and 20,000 imperf sets.
- 20th CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Second Summer Spartacist Games of Friendly Armies in Prague, in September, 1962. 30h, swimming relay race with rifle; 40h, soldier hurdling; 60h, soccer player; 1k, runners & soldier with rifle. Engraved by Czech Printing Office in Prague, combined with photogravure in sheets of 50. Designed by Josef Balaz, and engraved by J. Goldschmied according to drawings by J. Schmidt (30h), J. Mracek (40h), B. Housa (60h), and L. Jirka (1k).
- 21st CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC. African Sports Meet at Abidjan, December 24-31, 1961. 20fr, two hurdlers; 50fr, three cyclists; 100fr, pole vaulter. Photogravure printed by Delrieu. Designs by Ringard.
- 21st CHAD. African Sports Meet at Abidjan. 20fr, relay race; 50fr, high jumper; 100fr, discus throw. Photogravure by Delrieu. Designs by Ringard.
- 21st CONGO. African Sports Meet at Abidjan. 20fr, boxing; 50fr, runners; 100fr, basketball. Photogravure by Delrieu. Designs by Ringard.
- 21st GABON. African Sports Meet at Abidjan. 20fr, runners; 50fr, soccer; 100fr, broad jump. Photogravure by Delrieu. Designs by Ringard.
- 21st BRAZIL. 13th Brazilian Snipe Competitions at Rio de Janeiro. 8cr, three snipe class sailboats.
- 22nd TURKEY. 50th anniversary of Turkish Boy Scouts. 30k, Scouts around campfire; 60k, Scouts carrying flag; 105k, Boy & Girl Scout saluting. Offset lithography by Klisecilik ve Matbaacilik Printing House in Istanbul. Valid for postal purposes until December 31, 1965. Sale ceases November 22, 1962. 700,000 sets.

NEW ISSUES CALENDAR - 1962 (continued)

- 24th INDONESIA. Fourth Asian Games (4th series). 20s, weight lifter; 75s, boxing; 1.75r, wrestling; 2.50r, rifle shooter; 15r, cyclist. Photogravure by Indonesian Security Printing Works, Djakarta. Designs by Soeroso (20s, 2.50r, 15r), and S. Soemarsono (75s, 1.75r).
- 25th RYUKYU ISLANDS. 8th All-Japan Kendo Tournament at Naha, Okinawa, July 24-25. 3c Kendo fencer. Photogravure by Japanese Government Printing plant in Tokyo. Design by Shin Isakawa, retouched by Eiji Saito. 300,000 printed.
- 25th CUBA. National Sports Institute. Five different designs of each value. 1c; wrestlers, weight lifter, gymnast, judo, discus thrower. 2c; woman archer, woman roller skater, equestrian, bowling, cyclist. 3c; rowing, motorboat, swimmer, canoeist, yacht. 9c; soccer, tennis, baseball, basketball, volleyball. 10c; deep-sea fishing, woman pistol shooter, model plane flying, water polo, boxing. 13c; handball, stadia, jai alai, chess, fencing. Printed in sheets of 25, five different designs to a sheet, se-tenant in diamond format. (NOTE: Cuban stamps may not be imported into the United States under present U. S. laws).
- 27th PANAMA. 9th Central American and Caribbean Games in Kingston, Jamaica. Overprinted on 1960 Olympic series, "IX JUEGOS/C.A.Y. DEL CARIBE/KINGSTON 1962" and games emblem. 5c, black overprint, basketball. 10c on 25c, green overprint, javelin thrower. 15c on 25c, orange overprint, javelin thrower. 20c on 25c, red overprint, javelin thrower. 25c, black overprint, javelin thrower.
- ALBANIA. World Soccer Championships in Chile. 1L, soccer players, ball in net; 2.50L, soccer ball-globe and players; 6.50L, same as 1L; 15L, same as 2.50L. 20L, souvenir sheet. The stamps and souvenir sheet were issued both perf & imperf.

AUGUST ADDENDA

- 6th HAITI. 22nd anniversary of Haitian Boy Scout movement. 3c, Scout badge; 5c; Scout and camp; 10c, Lord and Lady Baden-Powell; 25c, same as 3c; 50c, same as 5c. Airmails: 20c, same as 5c; 50c, same as 3c; 1.50g, same as 10c. Printed in sheets of 50 by Harrison & Sons, Ltd, of London. An imperf souvenir sheet containing the 50c and 1.50g airmail stamps was also issued.
- 11th JAMAICA. 9th Central American and Caribbean Games in Kingston. 1d, weight lifter, boxers, soccer & cycling. 6d, diving, swimming, yachting & water polo. 8d, pole vault, javelin, discus, relays & hurdles. 2sh, games emblem & runner. The three lower values also depict the Kingston seal, and the 2sh shows the Kingston coat of arms. Photogravure by Harrison and Sons Ltd, of London. Sheets of 60, wmk CA. On sale through Dec. 31st unless stocks are exhausted earlier.
- 14th PAKISTAN. Pakistani sports series. 7p, soccerball & goal posts, net, diagram of soccer field, & Quaid-i-Azam Cup. 13p, two hockey sticks, goal posts, net, a diagram of a hockey field, the 5-ringed Olympic symbol, and Olympic gold medal. 25p, squash rackets, ball, diagram of squash court, and British Squash Rackets Championship Cup. 40p, cricket bat, wickets, ball, central layout of a cricket patch, and Ayub Challenge Cup.
- 18th CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Praga 1962. 1.40k, children playing under tree, & Praga emblem. Design by J. Liesler. Recess printed in sheets of ten.
- 25th SAN MARINO. Modern Hunting series. 1L, hunter & dog; 2L, foxhunter and hounds; 3L, duck hunter; 4L, deer hunter; 5L, hunting pheasants; 15L, bird hunting; 50L, bird hunting; 70L, duck hunting; 100L, hunting a wild boar from horseback; 150L, bird hunting with dog. Designs by C. Manciolli. Printed by photogravure in sheets of 40 stamps on three-feathers watermarked paper.

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CONTENTS UPON REQUEST

SEPTEMBER

- 3rd FRANCE. New definitive series. 1NF, Touquet Beach, casino, golfing equipment, and airplane. Designed and engraved by Pheulpin.
- 12th JUGOSLAVIA. European Athletic Championships in Belgrade, Sept. 12-16th. Souvenir sheet, 600d, depicts Stadium of the Popular Army. Offset printed by the Belgrade Bank Note Printing Office. Design by Bogdan Krsic. Quantity: 100,000.
- 17th CYPRUS. New definitives. 40m, skier on Mount Troodos. 50m, ruins of Salamis Gymnasium. Printed by Aspioti-Elkas of Athens. Quantities of 700,000 (40m) and 1,000,000 (50m). Mount Troodos is an international ski resort. The Salamis Gymnasium was built in the first century A.D., destroyed by earthquake and rebuilt by Christians. Ed. Note: Was the Salamis Gymnasium a school rather than a place where sports activities transpired?
- 18th UNITED ARAB REPUBLIC (EGYPT). First African Table Tennis Championships, Cairo. 5, 10, and 35 milliemes. No further data available at press time. Also, the World Shooting Tournament in Cairo. 5, 10, and 35 milliemes. No further data yet available.
- MALDIVE ISLANDS. New fish definitives, each stamp depicting a skin-diver in full gear. Fish shown are Pygoplites Diacanthus (Angel fish) on 2L, 3L and 5L; Zancus Canescens (Moorish Idol) on 10L and 25L; Holocentrus Diadema (Soldier fish) on 50L; Acanthurus Leucasternon (Surgeon fish) on 1R; Chaetodon Lunula (Butterfly fish) on 5R. Designs by Robert Hegeman. Printed in photo-offset by Enschede en Zonen of the Netherlands.

OCTOBER

- 10th JAPAN. Olympic Publicity issue (3rd series). 5+5y, basketball (design by Masaru Kimura). 5+5y, rowing (design by Hitoshi Otsuka). 5+5y, fencing (design by Hideo Hasebe). Quantity: 5,000,000 of each value.
- 21st JAPAN. 17th National Athletic Meet. 5y, rifle shooter (design by Mararu Kimura) 5y, softball player (design by Hideo Hasebe). Printed se-tenant in sheets of 20 stamps (10 pairs). Quantity: 9,000,000.
- 24th PAPUA & NEW GUINEA. 7th British Empire and Commonwealth Games in Perth, Australia. 5d, javelin thrower; 5d, high jump; 2sh/3d, three sprinters. The two 5d values will be printed se-tenant in the same sheet. Photogravure by Courvoisier, from designs by George Hamori of Sydney, Australia. On sale for three months, unless stocks are exhausted earlier.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Please send any corrections, additional information, news of forthcoming issues, etc, to our new issues editor: S. Jim Hughes, 811 Camino Miramonte, Tuscon Arizona. Your cooperation will be greatly appreciated.

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THINGS TO LOOK UP

In accordance with our policy of member participation, and realizing that each member has an item or items unknown to the rest of us, we are ever anxious to receive such items for illustration and comment --- and we welcome information from each member regardless how seemingly unimportant. Each small tidbit adds to the whole, and through the combined efforts of all our members we can reconstruct the history of almost any subject matter. As a starter, we illustrate below a special souvenir of 1945 sent to us by Joseph M. Lacko. Who has a similar piece? What do you know about this item? Of course, the words "Olympic Games" were used loosely, but as you know, they have been loosely used many, many times. Were any of you in attendance when these events were held? How many were printed? Were they sold, and if so, how much? Printer? Sponsor? How were the funds used?

REMEMBRANCE - PAMĚTNÍ ARŠÍK



*1st. Olympic Games American Army
in Czechoslovakia*

*I Olympiáda americké armády
v Československu*



KLATOVY - CZECHOSLOVAKIA

21 - 28.

JULY - ČERVENEC 1945.

If you have any information on the above item, please drop a line to the Editor, F. Quentin Farr, 19 Hillside Road, Elizabeth 3, New Jersey. A compilation of the memos will be made and all of us can then receive the benefit of such information. Should you have "puzzlers" of a similar nature, send them to the Editor so we can all get to work on them.

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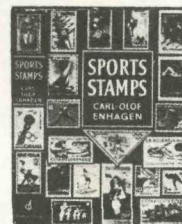
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