

JOURNAL OF SPORTS PHILATELY

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A Nagano Olympic Surprise



Official FIPO post card available at the Nagano Olympic Winter Games

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PHILATELISTS
INTERNATIONAL

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SPORTS PHILATELISTS INTERNATIONAL

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Sports Philatelists International is an independent, non-profit organization dedicated to the study and collecting of postage stamps and related collateral material dealing with sports (including Olympics) and recreation and to the promotion of international understanding and goodwill through mutual interest in philately and sports. Its activities are planned and carried on entirely by the unpaid, volunteer services of its members.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Mark Maestrone

1960 Squaw Valley Olympic Games Monograph On the Horizon

It wasn't a world renowned winter resort for the rich and famous with four-star deluxe hotels and gourmet restaurants. And yet, the small enclave of Squaw Valley, California managed to snatch the 1960 Olympic Winter Games.

While these Games made their mark on Olympic history, philatelic literature all but bypasses them. Heiko Volk, Jr.'s seminal study of the Olympic Games ends before 1960; Manfred Winternheimer's Olympic philately catalogues begin in 1964. Only Gunter Schneider's slim volume deals with these Games – but not in any great detail. For the most part, the VIIIth Olympic Winter Games remain very much in a philatelic limbo.

In an effort to right this deficiency, Sports Philatelists International, under the able editorship of Dale Lilljedahl, is preparing an extensive monograph on all facets of the Squaw Valley Olympic Games (please see related article on page 19 of this issue).

As with any research into an otherwise little studied area of philately, input from the Olympic philatelic community is critical to the success of this project. A survey is included with this issue which we hope each of you will complete. Remember: you need not be a specialist in these Games to contribute. Who knows, there may be a gem sitting in your album that you didn't even know you had! So please take a few minutes to complete the survey and return it to Dale Lilljedahl. And don't hesitate to include photocopies of any unusual items that you'd like to bring to his attention.

Every two years, SPI is mandated to conduct an election for the officers and members of the Board of Directors. This year, it appears that all officers and directors will be running unopposed. Nevertheless, we do hope that you exercise your right to vote, thereby showing support for the candidates.

And if this weren't enough to keep you busy, it's also dues time at SPI! You will be pleased to know that there is no dues increase. Please refer to our Membership Chairman's remarks on page 33 of this issue for further information on this and other subjects.

From overseas, we are informed of a philatelic exhibition, Olympiafila Budapest '98, to be held August 18-23, 1998 in conjunction with the European Athletic Championships. This is a thematic exhibition of sport and Olympic material conducted under FIP regulations. The deadline for applications is May 15, 1998. If you would like a copy of the application and regulations, please send a #10 self-addressed stamped envelope to me at the address on the inside front cover of this issue.

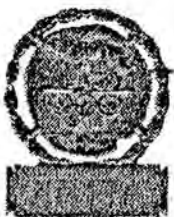
Lastly, FIPO Headquarters informs us that the FIPO General Assembly will be held on June 27, 1998 at 3:00 p.m. during the Philfoot '98 philatelic exhibition in Paris, France.

**Don't forget to mail in
your annual dues and ballot!**

The new SPI web site is located at:
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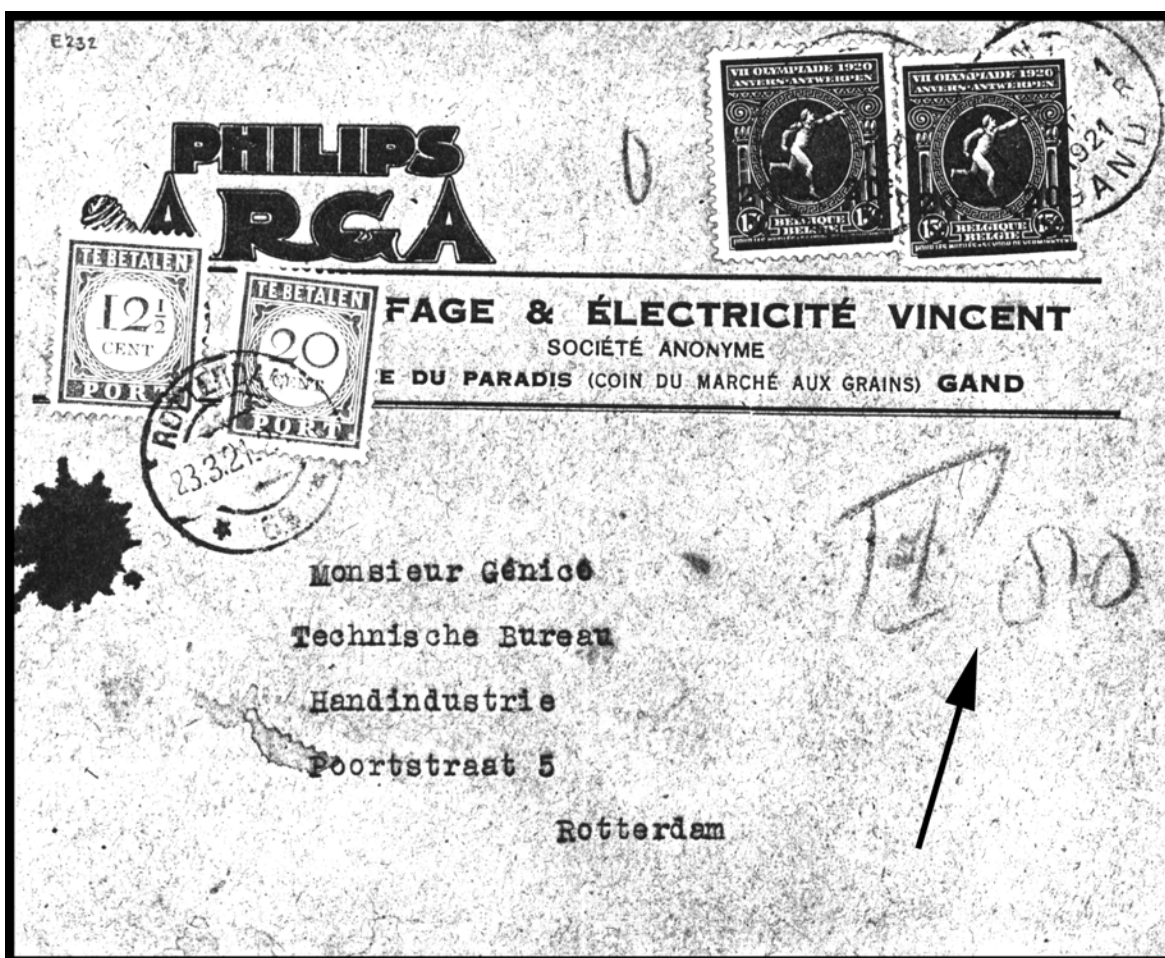


Figure 1. The overprinted 1920 Olympic stamps were not yet valid for international use when this cover was mailed to the Netherlands. The arrow indicates the "T" (postage due) of 80c. (equivalent to 32½ cents in Holland) – double the postage rate.

1921 Overprinting of the 1920 Belgian Olympic Stamps

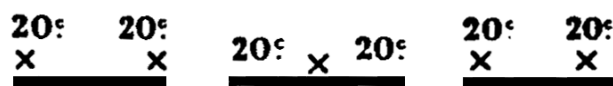
by Laurentz Jonker
edited by Mark Maestrone

The Postal Ministry of Belgium was optimistic ordering not five but ten million sets of the 1920 Antwerp Olympic stamps from the printer, American Banknote Company. In the end, only about ten percent of the stamps found buyers. Undoubtedly, the addition of a 5 centime surcharge per stamp for the war wounded (this was only two years after the conclusion of World War I) priced the stamps beyond the reach of all but the most well-off. Rather than destroy the substantial number of unsold stamps, the enterprising Belgians

overprinted the remainders. All three values were overprinted at 20 centimes, the postal rate for letters within Belgium. Issued 5 March 1921, these stamps were initially limited to inland use. The cover in Figure 1 mailed from Gent, Belgium to an addressee in Rotterdam, Netherlands, was taxed at double the postal rate (80 centimes). The cancel applied to the postage due stamps in Rotterdam is dated 23.3.1921 – before the overprinted 1920 Olympic stamps were valid for international use. On 16 April 1921, a special order abolished this restriction (Figure 2). In contrast to the stamps as originally issued, the overprinted set had an almost unlimited period of use. The set was demonetized on 1 May 1931.

The 1920 Olympic stamps were printed in panes of 100 (ten stamps horizontally by ten vertically). The printer's name appears in the selvage on all four sides of the 10c. value, and in the top and bottom margins, only, on the 5c. and 15c. values. Frequently, but not always, the order number "F-6248" is printed in the selvage. Plate numbers are also included in the margins: A1 and A2 on the 5c. and 10c. values, and A1 through A4 on the 15c. What is most interesting is that these appear as mirror images. The Belgians themselves placed an additional marking on the panes: a rectangular box with rounded corners containing text reading "DEPOT 1920."

The overprinting is composed of three elements (above right): the new value (20c.), cancellation of the old value with an "X," and obliteration of the surcharge text with a black bar. The position of the three elements varies on each value depending on the design of the stamp.



Design of the overprint on (left to right) the 5c., 10c. and 15c. values.

Because the stamps were often so badly centered, the positioning of the overprinting varies widely – almost anything is possible! Sometimes the printing is shifted to the left or right, while other times it moves up and down in relation to the stamp design. Even parts of two adjacent overprints may appear on a single stamp. The degree of shift defines the importance of the overprinted stamp. Figure 3 illustrates some of the more dramatic shifts.

Overprints on the gummed side of the stamp also exist. Inverted overprints are known on the 5c. and 15c. values. Be careful: the latter may be good forgeries (Figure 4)!

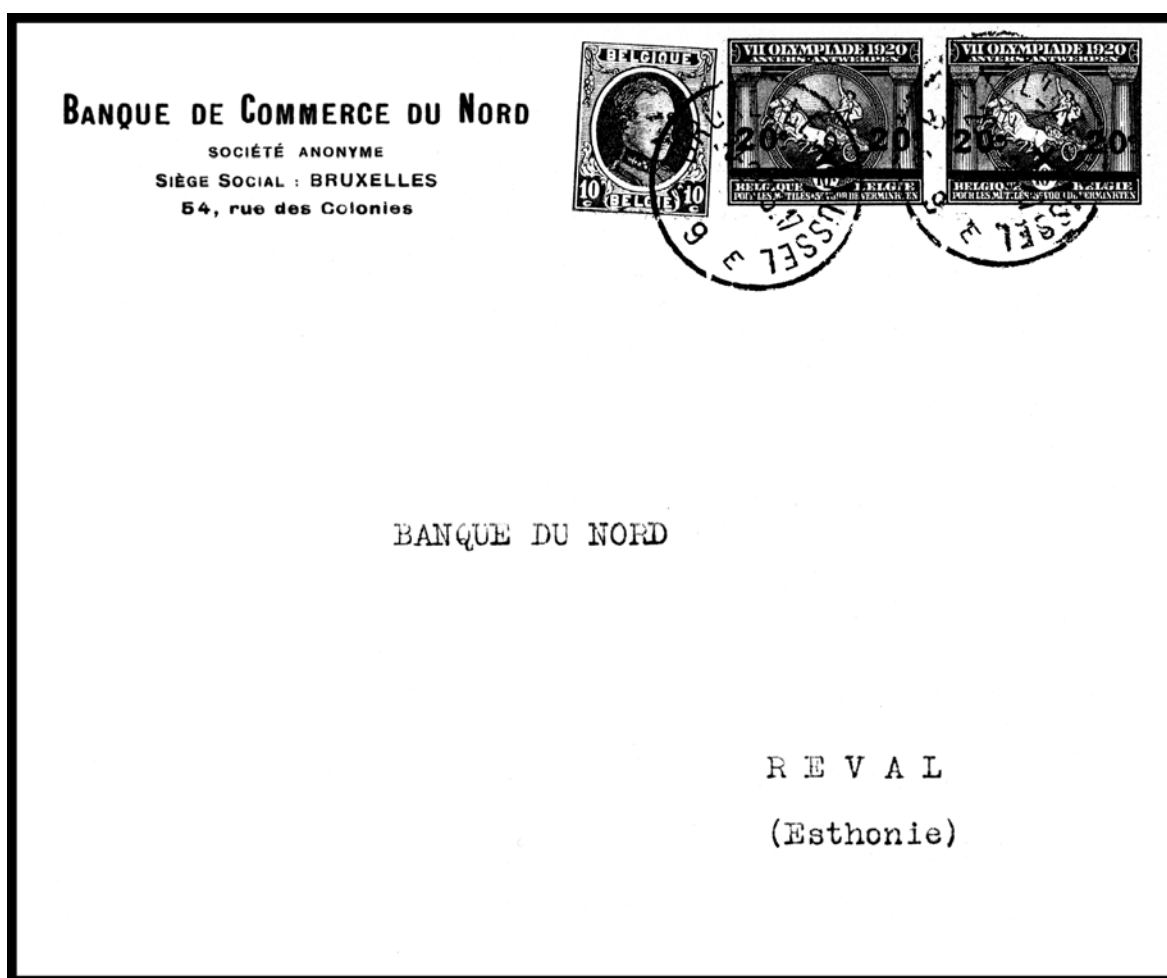


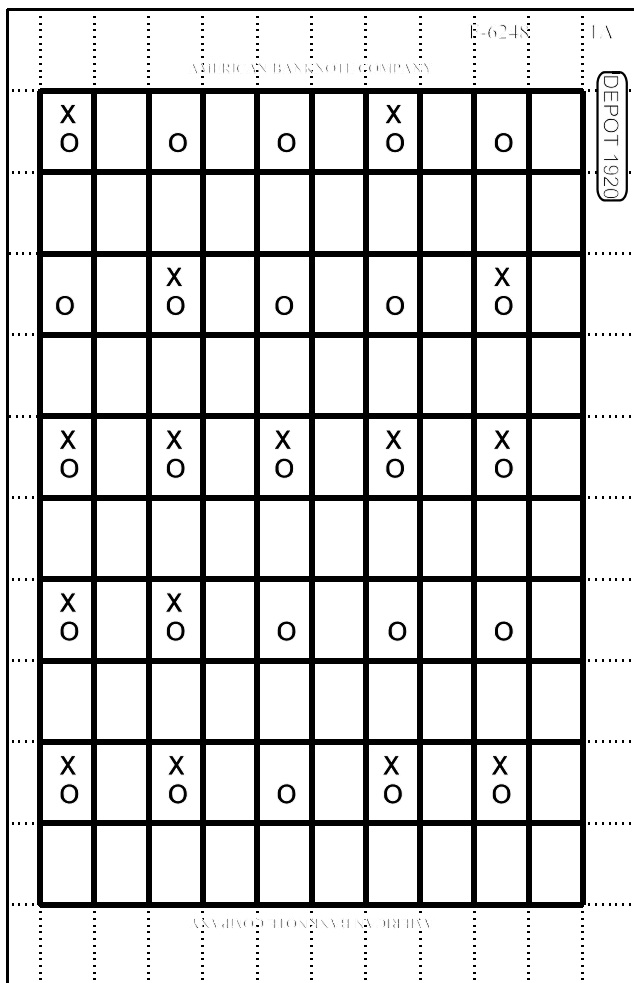
Figure 2. Commercial cover to Estonia bearing two of the overprinted 10c. Olympic stamps and postmarked 20.2.1923. By this time, the overprinted stamps were valid on foreign-bound mail.



Figure 3. Dramatic shifts of the overprint are frequent – upward, as on the 5c. block at left, or downward, as shown on the 15c. block above.



Figure 4. Inverted overprints do exist. However, these are often forged, as on the block of stamps shown here.



Pane layout indicating the location of the “dropped period” variety. “X” marks variety positions on the green 5c. panes. The positions of this variety on the brown 15c. panes are shown with an “O.” Note: drawing is not scale.

Central to the study of this overprint is the “dropped period” variety. On both the 5c. and 15c. overprints, the period beneath the “c” on the left-hand revalue is significantly lower than that on the right. This variety is illustrated below.

The “dropped period” on the left appears nearly as low as the obliterating “x.”



This variety appears at specific locations on each pane. Through study of both complete panes and many partial panes, I have been able to plate this variety. On a pane of 100 stamps, the “dropped period” variety appears fifteen times on the 5c. overprint, and 25 times on the 15c. The positions of



Figure 5. A pristine mint corner block of 12 of the 1921 overprint on the 5c. Antwerp Olympic Games stamps. The top and right selvedge bears various marginal markings: the mirror image plate number (1A), the order number (F-6248), and the boxed “DEPOT 1920” hand stamp. The “dropped period” variety is clearly evident on the middle stamp of the third row from the top.

each are indicated in the drawing at upper left. A mint corner block of the 5c. overprint is reproduced in Figure 5, above.

Over the years, I’ve been able to find a number of interesting usages of this overprinted set.

An inland “Express” cover from Brussels to Liege is shown in Figure 6. It is franked with a pair of each value of the set. Surprisingly, the amount of postage (1.20 francs) is correct! At the time this piece was posted (25 May 1921), the rate was 20c. for an inland cover, plus 1 franc (equal to 100 centimes) for express mail service.

Figure 7 illustrates an unusual use of an overprinted 15c. value from this set. This is a baggage tag that was attached to a sample case “without value.” The cancel reads “Bruxelles-Brussel, 12. V111. 1921.”

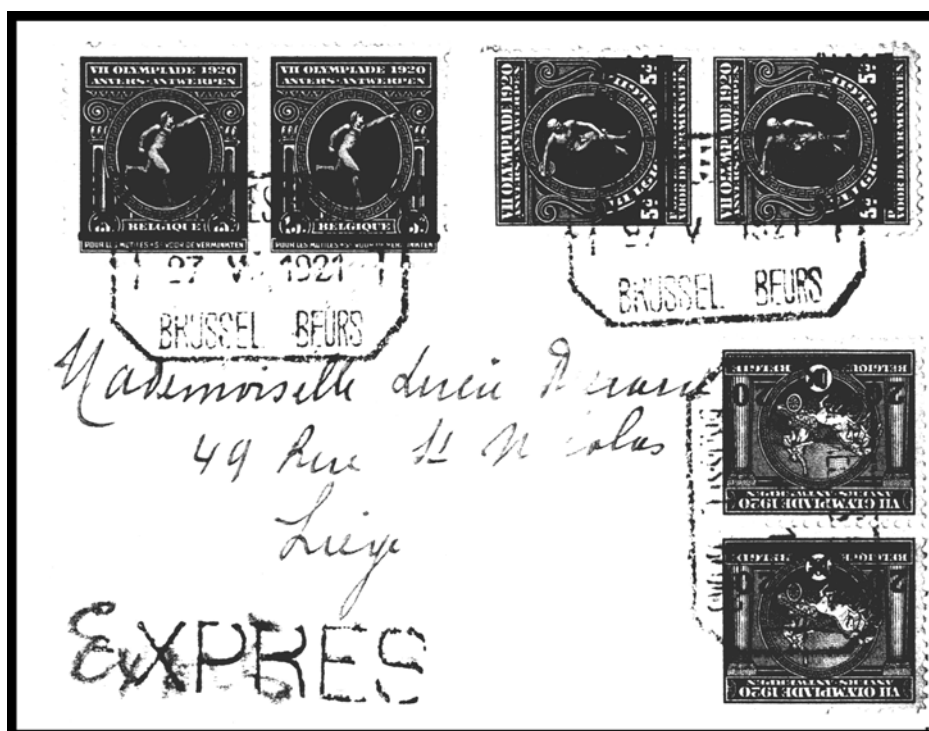


Figure 6. Pairs of each of the three overprinted stamps pay the exact rate for an inland express letter – 1.20 francs.

The item in Figure 8 is a check from an oil company in Antwerp made out to a Madame Eayart living in Brussels. The check was drawn on the company's account at the Banque de Crédit Commercial in Antwerp and is marked "SANS FRAIS" (without charge) at top. Evidently, the payee presented this check for 45 francs to her local post office which paid her the full amount. The post office charged the bank for this service which amounted to 65 centimes. This fee was paid in Antwerp as indicated by the Antwerp cancel dated 27 June 1921. Three of the overprinted 5c. stamps were used to pay part of the fee. While difficult to

see in this reproduction, the first and third stamps are the "dropped period" variety.

Finally, another example of the overprinted stamps used prematurely to a destination outside Belgium. The cover in Figure 9 was sent from Bertrix, Belgium to Treves (better known as Trier) in Germany. This envelope is correctly franked with 50 centimes in postage. The sender used a 10c. King Leopold With Helmet stamp, plus two of the 20c. revalued Olympic stamps. Unfortunately, the cancel, dated 11 March 1921, falls within the period when the overprinted stamps were still invalid for use on mail outside Belgium.

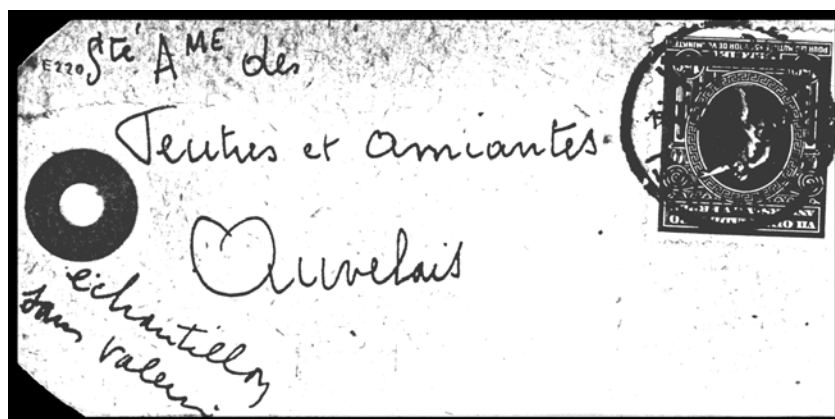


Figure 7. Baggage tag attached to a sample case and franked with a single value of the overprinted 15c Olympic stamp.

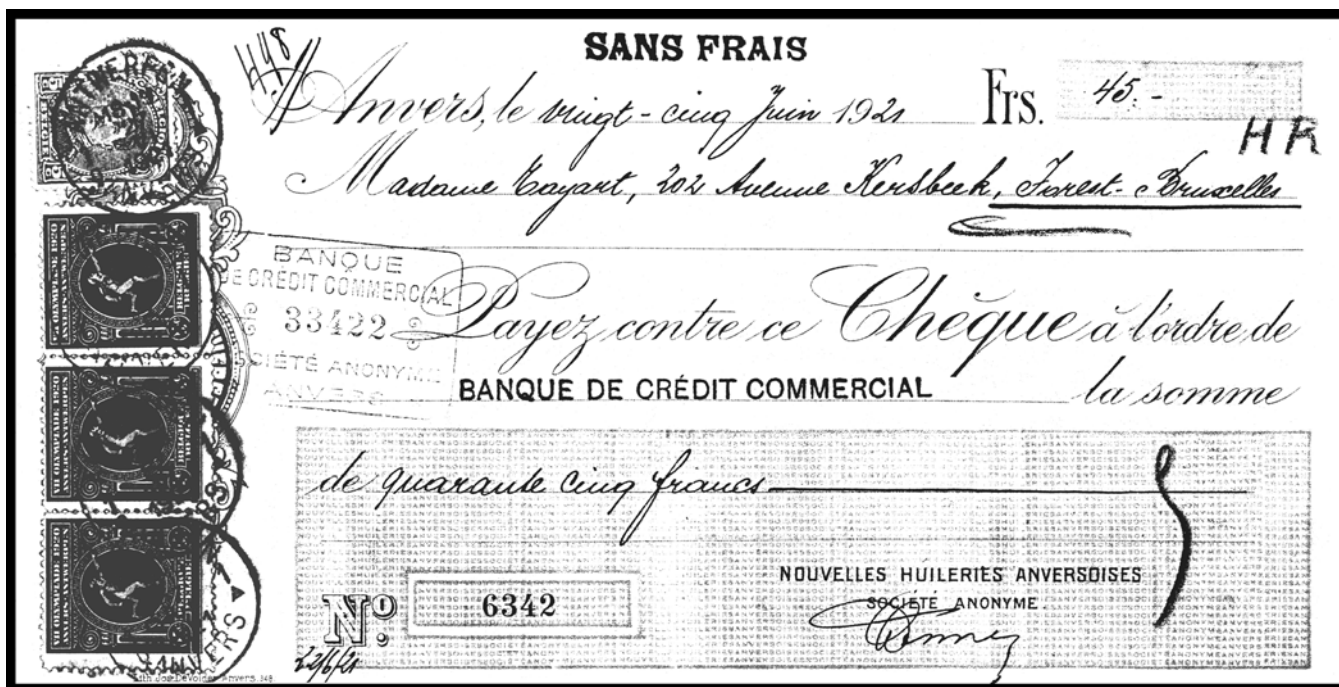


Figure 8. The charge for cashing this check (65c.) was paid by the bank. Three of the 5c. overprinted stamps (plus an additional 5c. stamp) paid this fee. The first and third stamps exhibit the “dropped period” variety.



Figure 9. The overprinted stamps on this cover to Germany were not yet valid for international postage. Thus, the addressee was charged double their value, or 80c., as shown by the “T” marking at top left (see arrow).

The handstamped “T” (for tax) and manuscript “0,80” indicate that the addressee had to pay double the value of the two overprinted stamps (2 x 40 centimes). The overprinted 5c. value on the right is

also a “dropped period” variety.

As one can see, the 1921 overprints of the 1920 Antwerp Olympic Games stamps provide a rich area for exploration by collectors.

Fukuoka '95 University Games

by Luciano Calenda

The Japanese town of Fukuoka, located in the northern part of the island of Kyushu, hosted the 18th Summer Universiade from August 23 through September 3, 1995. It was the third time for Japan (Tokyo 1967 and Kobe 1985). Both the sporting events and their philatelic commemoration repeated the remarkable success of both previous competitions.

In this article, I shall, of course, review the philatelic aspects of the event through a presentation of all the philatelic items issued by Japan (or at least all those of which I am so far aware).

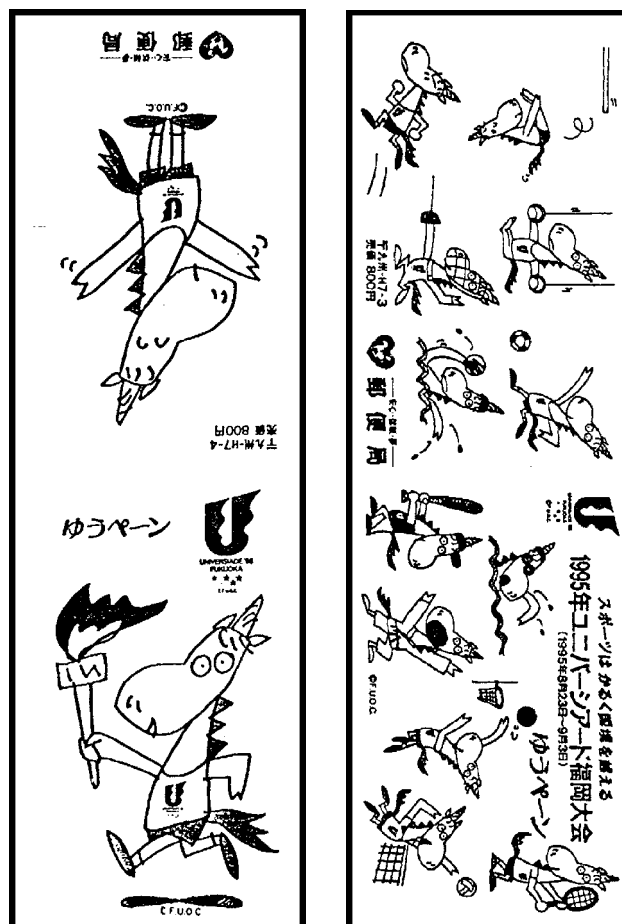
STAMPS

Japan issued a single 80 yen stamp to celebrate the University Games (Figure 1). It was issued on August 23, the opening day of the event, and was sold in two different formats:

- Pane of 20 stamps (the standard format for Japanese stamps). Marginal text at the top of the pane describes the purpose of issue.
- Booklets containing strips of ten stamps (2 x 5). There are two different booklet covers. One booklet cover depicts the mascot, Kappapoo, on both front and back (Figure 2). The second cover shows the mascot performing the twelve official sports (Figure 3).



Figure 1. 80 yen stamp issued for the 1995 University Games.



Figures 2 & 3. Booklet covers for the University Games stamps. Each booklet contained a single pane of 10 stamps.

POSTAL STATIONERY

Japan issued six different postal cards sold in folders in groups of three. The first folder contained cards with a value of 50 yen each. These depicted the mascot (Figure 4) and two of the sports venues (the Fukuoka Dome and Mori Track & Field Stadium). Cards imprinted with 70 yen stamps were contained in the second folder. These illustrated Japanese scenes (a Japanese woman dressed in a beautiful kimono, and parades).

CANCELLATIONS

In keeping with Japanese postal traditions, cancellations compose the bulk of Japan's philatelic program for the 1995 Fukuoka University Games.

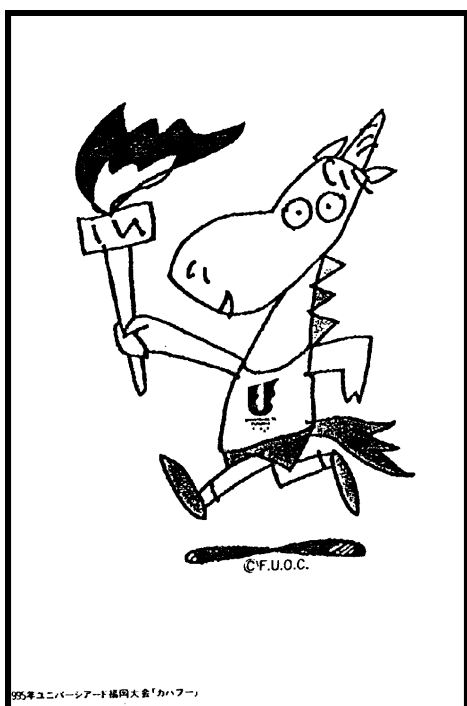


Figure 4. One of six official postal cards produced by the Japanese post office.

The accompanying table reproduces each of the face-different commemorative postmarks. These can be grouped into three categories: First Day Cancells, special cancells, and mascot cancells.

The first day cancells, which were available only on August 23, 1995, come in two types: handcancells (cancells 1-3) and machine-applied (4 and 5). The handcancel reproduces the Games logo and was available at the following post offices: Fukuoka Central Post Office, Fukuoka Hakata, and Osaka. The machine-applied first day cancells depicting the Fukuoka Dome were applied at both the Fukuoka Central Post Office and Osaka Central Post Office. It seems that this cancel was also used at the Tokyo Central Post Office, but to date I have yet to see a copy.

The design of the special cancells (6-8) duplicates the Games logo used on the first day. They are, however, smaller in diameter than the FDC's. These were available through the entire period of the games (August 23 through September 3). They were used at Fukuoka Central Post Office, Fukuoka, and Fukuoka Marinatown.

Mascot cancells, as the name implies, picture the mascot, Kappapoo, playing various sports (9-28). Like the special cancells, the mascot cancells were used every day. Some designs were available at more than one post office. Usually, the cancells are

inscribed with the unique post office name, *but not always!* Here is what I've learned so far:

- Mascot & Torch (9-11): this cancel was certainly used at three different post offices (the same as with the special cancells noted earlier). These were Fukuoka Central Post Office, Fukuoka Hakata, and Fukuoka Marinatown. However, there are reports that this cancel was also used at Fukuoka Minami, Hayara, and Fukuoka Higashi e Waziro. What I don't know is if the cancells used at these other sites was customized for these latter three post offices. It is possible that the post office name along the bottom of the cancel reads, simply, "Fukuoka." Without an additional standard circular date postmark on the cover, it may be impossible to ascertain where the commemorative cancel was applied.
- Mascot & Basketball (14-16): we know that this cancel was available at three different post offices: Fukuoka Yakuin, Hakata, and Munakata. As Figure 5 illustrates, the Hakata postmark (15) was also used at the Fukuoka post office, as indicated by the standard circular date stamp inscribed in English. The same Hakata basketball cancel was used at the Hakata Fukuoka post office. Might other examples exist?

Finally, the Fukuoka University Games Organizing Committee used a postmark in Japanese reading:

1995 Universiade
[date]

Fukuoka Games Organizing Committee

Experts consider this cancel to be quite rare (Figure 6).










I would appreciate hearing from readers with additional information on missing items or concerning some of the abovementioned doubts. Please write: Luciano Calenda, P.O. Box 17126 Grottarossa, 00189 Rome, Italy.




Figure 5. Use of the Mascot basketball cancel from Hakata at the Fukuoka post office. Might there be other examples of a cancel being used at a post office other than the one for which it was produced?

First Day, Special & Mascot Cancels

Numbers in the upper left corner are referenced to the text. Cancels are organized by type, then alphabetically by sport and post office name.

1 FDC  Fukuoka Central P.O.	2 FDC  Fukuoka Hakata	3 FDC  Osaka	4 FDC  Fukuoka Central P.O.
5 FDC  Osaka Central P.O.	6 Special  Fukuoka Central P.O.	7 Special  Fukuoka Hakata	8 Special  Fukuoka Marinatown
9 Mascot-Torch  Fukuoka Central P.O.	10 Mascot-Torch  Fukuoka Hakata	11 Mascot-Torch  Fukuoka Marinatown	12 Mascot-Athletics  Hakata Minami
13 Mascot-Baseball  Fukuoka Central P.O.	14 Mascot-Basketball  Fukuoka Yakuin	15 Mascot-Basketball  Hakata	16 Mascot-Basketball  Munakata

17	Mascot-Diving	18	Mascot-Fencing	19	Mascot-Gymnastics	20	Mascot-Judo
							
Fukuoka Hakata Tsukikuma		Jonan		Hakata		Hakata	
21	Mascot-Soccer	22	Mascot-Soccer	23	Mascot-Swimming	24	Mascot-Tennis
							
Hakata Minami		Kasuka Shirouzu		Fukuoka Hakata Tsukikuma		Hakata Minami	
25	Mascot-Volleyball	26	Mascot-Volleyball	27	Mascot-Volleyball	28	Mascot-Water Polo
							
Fukuoka Akasaka		Hakata		Jonan		Fukuoka Nishi	

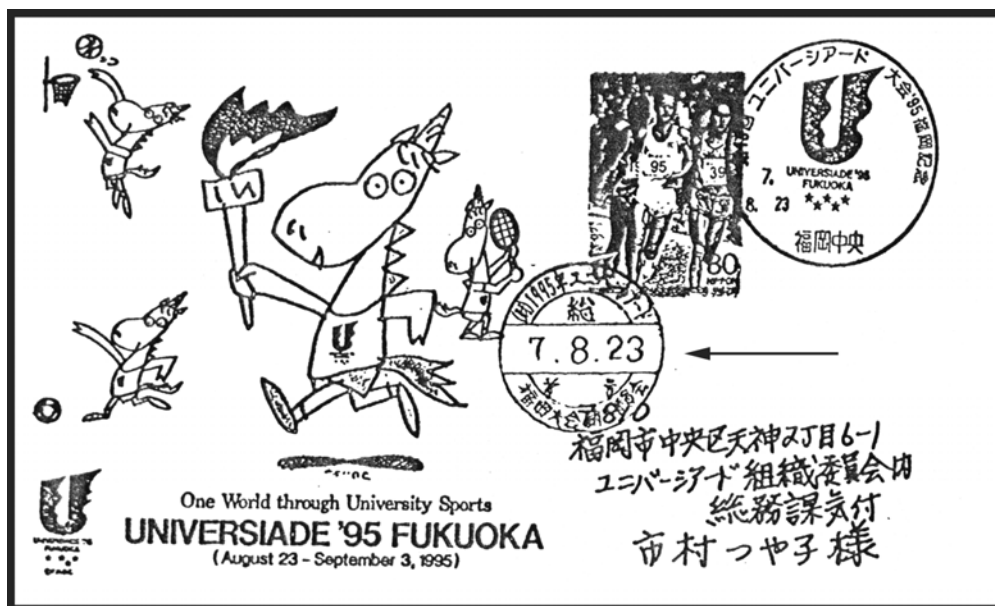


Figure 6. Rare Fukuoka University Games Organizing Committee round post-mark (see arrow).



Figure 1. My registered cover mailed to a fictitious party at the International Broadcast Center in Nagano.

A Nagano Olympic Surprise

by Mark Maestroni

It is said that there is nothing like the thrill of the chase, searching for that elusive philatelic quarry and then bagging it for your collection. Perhaps. But as any good Hollywood movie producer will tell you, it's the totally unexpected that will really make you jump from your seat!

SURPRISE #1

And so it was this past February 10, a Tuesday evening, as I sat watching Day 4 of the Olympic Winter Games from Nagano, Japan. The time was just a bit past 9:00 p.m. when the telephone rang.

"Drat," I thought to myself, "must be another pesky salesman peddling his wares." I was determined to dispatch this insensitive Olympics-hater with a curt "NO."

Picking up the receiver, I fully expected the caller to launch into his pitch. I was, instead, greeted by a soft, little voice. "Is this Mr. Maestroni?" the Japanese-accented voice asked.

I responded in the affirmative, my curiosity definitely peaked.

"I'm with the Nagano Olympic Organizing Committee and I'm calling from the International Broadcast Center (IBC)."

Well, need I say that you could have knocked me over with a feather? My attention, which had been split between the telephone and the pairs figure skating was now riveted on my caller.

"How may I help you?" I asked, fully hoping that I was going to be awarded an all expenses paid, round-trip to the Games. But I managed to keep my excitement in check.

The voice explained that they couldn't locate the addressee of the registered letter I'd sent to the IBC. Things then clicked into place!

As we Olympic philatelists are apt to do, I had mailed a few covers to fictitious people at the Games in the hope that interesting cancellations might be applied to them. In this particular case, the cover in question (Figure 1) was mailed to a "Tim Dagett" at the IBC. It was sent via registered mail on Saturday, February 7, the opening day of the Olympic Games. The airmail postage to Japan (60¢) plus the cost of registration without insurance (\$4.85) was paid for with a single 32¢ Alpine skiing stamp and post office meter strip for the remaining \$5.13.

I explained as best I could in simple non-philatelic terms that the addressee didn't exist. I was a collector. Ah, now she understood! I asked her to please have the post office stamp the cover with any special Olympic postmarks and then return it to me. She seemed to get the gist of this idea, so I was hopeful.

In ending our conversation, I added that I was actually watching the Olympics at that very moment and enjoying them thoroughly. Her typically Japanese reaction was an extremely polite "thank you."

Preoccupied with typical day-to-day activities, I forgot about the cover. It would certainly be a while before it showed up back in my mailbox. After all, I'm sure the staff at the IBC had better things to do than shepherd my wayward collectible through the mail channels.

SURPRISE #2

Just three days later, the UPS delivery man rang the doorbell, package in hand. What was this, I thought. Not looking a gift horse in the mouth, I of course accepted the Express Envelope (Figure 2).

I quickly glanced at the mailing label noting the Nagano return address. Carefully opening the side of the cardboard mailer, I peaked inside. I was crestfallen; there was my cover.

Examining both sides carefully, I was further disappointed that no additional receiving marks (except for a manuscript "IBC" notation in pencil on the front) had been applied. Not only had my registered cover been returned to me, but it didn't even travel through the normal mailstream.

Then it dawned on me: the UPS mailer was the real prize!

ANALYSIS

First, let me thank our Olympic contributor, Thomas Lippert, for his input. It was during the Games at Atlanta that we both became aware of the importance, *and postal validity*, of United Parcel Service Olympic-related mailings. Between the two of us, Thomas and I have been able to piece together the important philatelic aspects of this UPS package from Nagano.

The most important element was to discover the

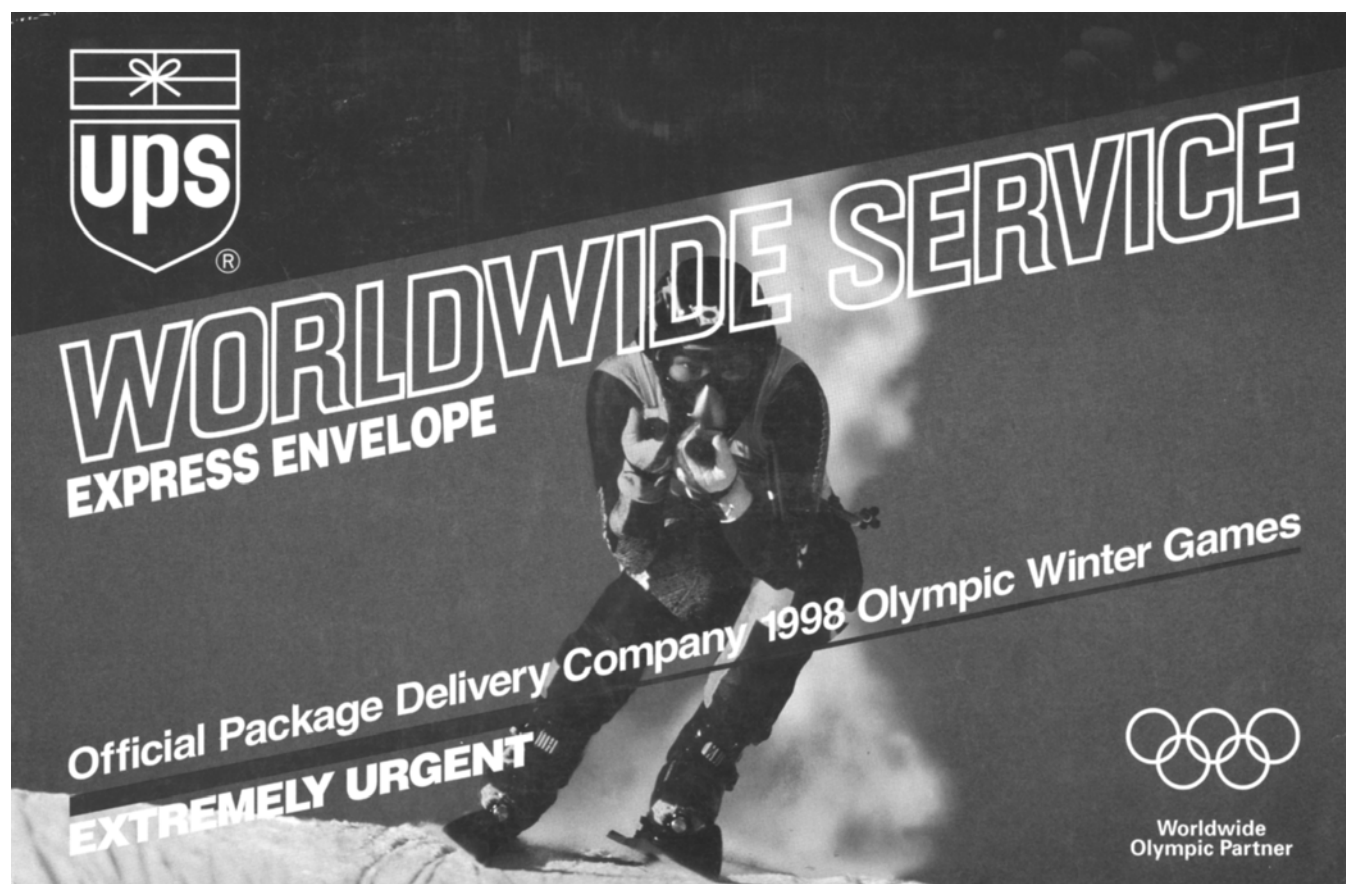


Figure 2. Front of the UPS Express Envelope containing my returned IBC cover from Nagano.

お客様控え	
CUSTOMERS COPY	
大切に保存して下さい。	
加盟店名 ヤマトUPS IOCホテル	←----- UPS Shipping Office IOC- Hotel
カード会社 VISAカード	売場 SALES COUNTER
伝票番号 SLIP NO 00001	係員 CLERK
49663-027-33325	
ご利用日 DATE 98年02月03日 13:08:45	
会員番号 ACCT NO 45	
有効期限 EXP DATE 9	処理通番 TRANS NO 107859
取引内容 TRANSACTION ウリアケ	支払区分 PMT COND イックツ
分割回数 INSTALMENTS	金額 AMOUNT ￥2800
取扱区分 COM CODE 110	金額 AMOUNT ￥0
承認番号 APP CODE 0006059	合計金額 TOTAL YEN ￥2800
品名・型式他	数量
ご案内 NOTICE ゴリヨウ アリカトウ コザイマシタ。 マナ コライテン ラ オマチシテオリマス。	

Figure 4. UPS credit card receipt for the mailing of an express packet. The originating office at the IOC Hotel in Nagano is indicated at top.

parcels for mailing, since this would have violated UPS sponsorship rights and privileges. This service limitation was made public with signs in the post offices (Figure 5).

One further point before continuing: Thomas also noted that both our mailing labels bore the same pair of numbers ("35" and "90") just above the barcode. At this point we have no idea what these numbers represent.

Out of curiosity, I decided to trace the route my mailer took. There was no mailing date on the label, but I had to guess that it was sometime after 2:00

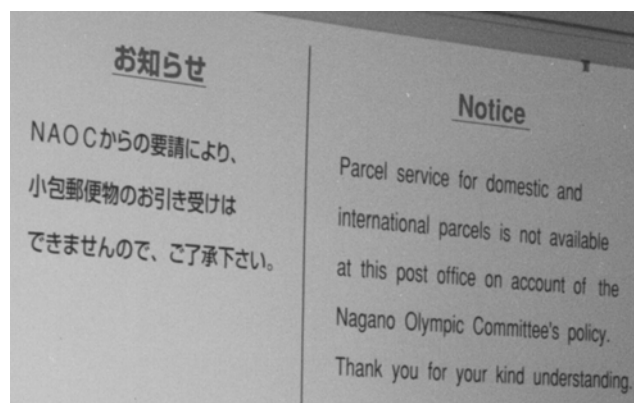


Figure 5. Sign at Japan Post's temporary Olympic post offices indicating that parcels may not be accepted for mailing. The agreement between the UPS (the official sponsor) and NAOC prevented Japan Post from accepting this class of mail at Olympic facilities.

p.m. (Japan time) on Wednesday, February 11 (the time I received my phone call from Japan). Next, I located the tracking number for my mailer which appeared just below the NAOC Account Number on the smaller tracking label (#3499 7256 016).

Armed with this information, I went to the UPS website on the Internet where I was able to download the entire routing. This information, which is presented in Table 1, functions similarly to the various postal markings on a registered cover mailed through normal postal channels. Note that the first entry is early afternoon on Thursday, February 12 at Narita international airport in Tokyo. Considering the distance between Nagano and Tokyo (including time required for processing), my guess is that my package was mailed from Nagano either late in the afternoon on the 11th, or perhaps first thing the next morning.

Table 1
UPS Route: Nagano to San Diego

Date / Time	Route
2-12 2:28 PM	Japan - Narita Airport, Origin Building
2-12 4:33 PM	Anchorage, Alaska, Released by Customs
2-13 1:08 AM	Ontario (Canada) Hub, Location Scan
2-13 2:36 AM	Ontario (Canada) Hub, Departure Scan
2-13 5:21 AM	San Diego, CA, US, Arrival
2-13 5:22 AM	San Diego, CA, US, Location Scan
2-13 9:50 AM	San Diego-Surface, CA, US, Delivered

Table 2
UPS 1998 Olympic Mailers

Service	Design	Size
2 nd Day Air Letter (USA distribution)	Women's Speed Skater (German)	12½" w x 9½" h
Next Day Air Letter (USA distribution)	Men's Ski Jumper (Norwegian)	12½" w x 9½" h
Next Day Air Letter (USA distribution)	Downhill Skier (Japanese)	12½" w x 9½" h
Worldwide Service Express Envelope (Japan distribution)	Downhill Skier (same as above)	13¼" w x 9½" h

From Tokyo, my parcel was flown to Anchorage, Alaska where it arrived some 20 hours later (an 18-hour time difference, plus 2 hours, 5 minutes). It was cleared through customs before traveling to the UPS hub in Ontario, Canada. The final leg of the trip, from Ontario to San Diego, began in the early morning hours of Friday, February 13, and took almost 6 hours (3 hours flight time, plus 3 hours time difference). Delivery at my door was made just 4½ hours later at 9:50 a.m. on Friday, February 13.

On July 17, 1997, UPS released five Olympic mailers depicting: the Portuguese four-man bobsled team, a Japanese downhill skier, a German speed skater, a Norwegian ski jumper (Figure 6), and Canadian and American hockey players. I've only seen three of the five different designs here in the U.S. (Table 2).

Thomas reports that in Japan, only the Worldwide Service Express Envelope depicting the alpine skier was available (at least at the IOC Hotel UPS office). Olympic packaging for domestic (Japanese) use was non-existent. Readers will also note that the size of the Olympic packaging in Japan differs as well, being ¾" wider than their U.S. counterparts.

CONCLUSION

As we've shown, mail transported by the official sponsor of the 1998 (and 2000) Olympic Games, United Parcel Service, is no less legitimate than that delivered by your national postal administration. Their Olympic packaging is certainly thematic in nature. The Olympic account number establishes the place of mailing – not too dissimilar to an Olympic cancel. And like registered mail, it is possible to trace the entire route of a package as the barcode is repeatedly scanned along the way.

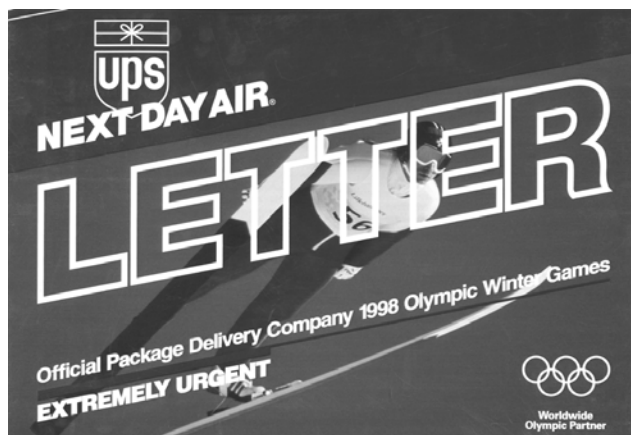
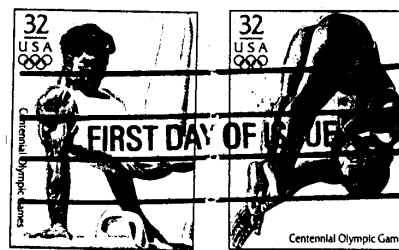


Figure 6. Another of the special packages created by the UPS for the Nagano Winter Olympic Games. This one depicts a Norwegian ski jumper. All 5 special Olympic mailers were released on July 17, 1997, just over 200 days before the Games.

And what of my little Olympic cover? Of course it will remain with the UPS packaging that brought it home, a testament to the unknowing cooperation between the UPS, Japan Post and U.S. Postal Service!

Help Stamp Out Ugly First Day Bar Cancels!



Prefer attractive, non-intrusive, space-appropriate cancels?



Send the USPS *your* opinion.

A public service advertisement paid for by Steve Glickman

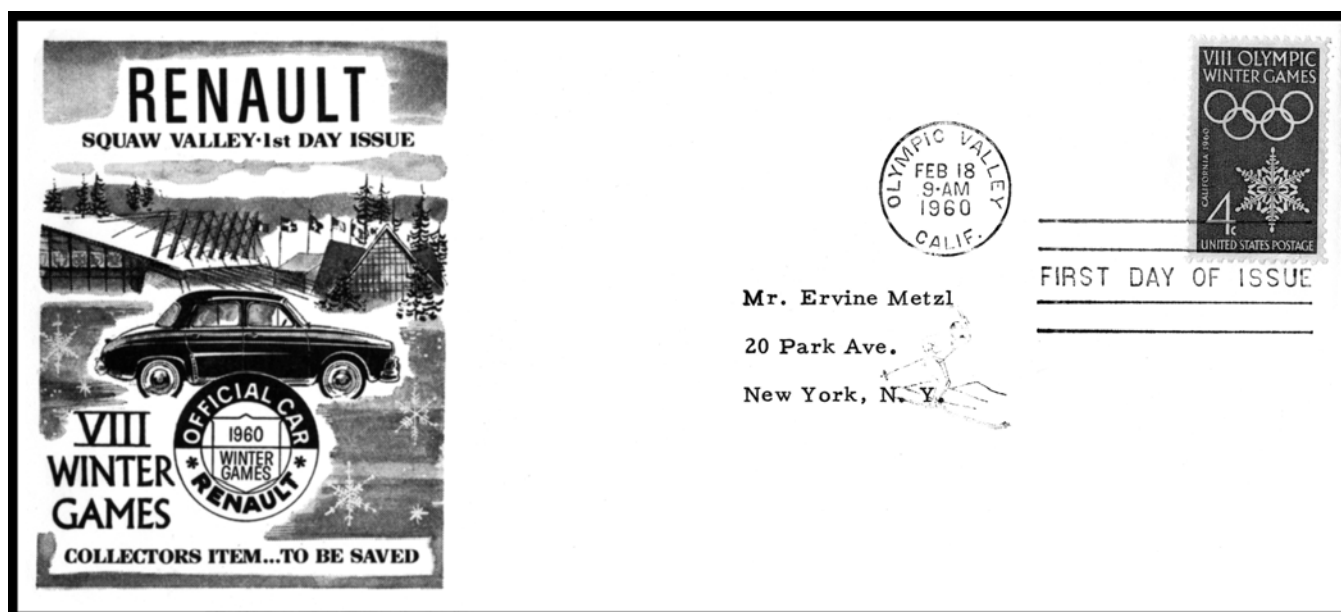


Figure 1. Television coverage of the Olympics began with the Squaw Valley Games of 1960. Renault, a sponsor of the CBS broadcast, prepared a special FDC announcing its status as the “Official Car” of the Winter Games.

Another First for Squaw Valley?

by Dale Lilljedahl

One of the joys of collecting covers is that you get to hold a small piece of history in your hands. At a recent postcard collecting show, I was fortunate to find a dealer with an Olympic selection. Imagine the smile on my face when I discovered a postcard picturing a pool-side view of the 1932 Olympic Swimming Stadium with a handwritten message talking about the Games themselves. The August 7, 1932, postmark confirmed the writer as an eyewitness to the Los Angeles Games. The \$2.00 price tag only compounded my joy. Most collectors probably have similar items in their collections.

While I enjoy collecting first day covers, in my experience they do not have the same “historical” significance as other covers. True, they commemorate the issuance of the stamp and in some manner the subject of the stamp as well. Yet that is not the same as being a part of history. While researching the 1960 Squaw Valley Olympic Winter Games, I discovered to my delight that indeed first day covers can commemorate historically significant events.

The 1960 Olympic Winter Games garnered quite a few “firsts” in its run in the spotlight. It was the first (and only) time a “town” was constructed specifically for an Olympic competition. Prior to receiving the bid, Squaw Valley had but one small lodge and a few ski slopes. The State of California, along with private developers, designed and built all the facilities expressly for the Games. For the first time at a Winter Olympics, an athletes’ village was provided complete with a wide variety of entertainment. The Squaw Valley Olympics were also the first to include competitions in the biathlon and women’s speed skating. The “first” with the greatest long-term implications had to be the advent of live television coverage.

TELEVISION SPONSORSHIP

Today we cannot imagine any Olympic games without the phenomena of live television coverage, but prior to 1960 sports fans did not get to enjoy the thrill of watching the competition first hand. Back in 1960, a young CBS executive named Tex Schram, later of Dallas Cowboys fame, led a crew of 40 as



RENAULT *of France*

RENAULT, INC.

750 THIRD AVENUE, NEW YORK 17, N. Y. • YUKON 6-6060

February 18, 1960

Mr. Ervine Metzl
20 Park Ave.
New York, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Metzl:

It was suggested that you would be interested in this memento of the VIII Olympics Winter Games. If you are not, yourself, a collector, don't fail to pass it along to someone for whom it would have even more appeal.

We of Renault are proud to be playing a part in this historic event. In our role as Official Car of the Winter Olympics we are helping, even if in but a small way, to emphasize the international nature of the Games. And by sharing in the sponsorship of the television presentation, we are helping bring to all America the drama and excitement of these unique contests.

Since this is the first time that live telecasts of these thrilling events have been possible, I should like to suggest that you make it a point to enjoy some of them. Not only as fascinating television fare, but as inspiring examples of international amity, we feel that they will be unique.

Sincerely,

Robert Valode
Vice President & General Manager
Renault, Inc.

Figure 2. Renault's participation in the Squaw Valley Games was explained in this letter enclosed in Figure 1.



Figure 3. As early as the 1960 Squaw Valley Olympics, cachet makers protested the licensing of a single entity as the "official" Olympic FDC manufacturer. The Court of Flags Motel made its dissatisfaction with this arrangement very apparent!

they filmed and edited some 15 hours of live coverage. CBS paid the Organizing Committee about \$25,000. This was a far cry from the \$375 million rights fee and 1500 personnel needed to televise the 1998 Nagano Games to the U.S. audience. Originally NBC was going to provide coverage of the Squaw Valley Olympics, but since the idea was new they had trouble getting advertisers, and dropped the idea. Tex convinced CBS to pick up the Games and managed to sign up some sponsors. The coverage proved so popular that the Olympic Games, both summer and winter, have been televised ever since.

Renault of France, one of those daring initial sponsors, decided to amplify its sponsorship by producing a first day cover for the 4¢ stamp issued by the United States Postal Service (USPS). The car manufacturer released a cacheted #10 envelope highlighting their sponsorship (Figure 1). The black cachet announced that Renault was the "Official Car" of the 1960 Winter Games, yet I did not think that sponsorship had started until much later. Fortunately the letter inside the cover explained Renault's role (Figure 2).

The letter is typed upon Renault of France stationery decorated with a red and blue letterhead, and is signed by Robert Valode, the Vice President

and General Manager of Renault, Inc. The letter was obviously meant to boost the company's image as an international company. A cartridge ink pen from the era appears to have been used for the signature, so someone took the time to sign each one.

The first paragraph explains that the cover is a memento of the Games, in case the recipient is not a collector. The following two paragraphs relate Renault's claim as an official sponsor for the television broadcasts by proudly declaring its intention to "bring to all America the drama and excitement of these unique contests." The final paragraph invites the recipient to watch the coverage as a means of promoting international amity. Of course a few more viewers would increase the returns on their investment.

As we know, the Games indeed gave the American audience a thrill as we watched the young U.S. hockey team upset the world-dominating Canadians and Russians to win the gold medal. Likewise the nation was inspired when Carol Heiss won the women's figure skating gold with her grace and beauty. These events made the coverage extremely popular in the United States, and validated the commercial value of sponsoring the Olympic Games.

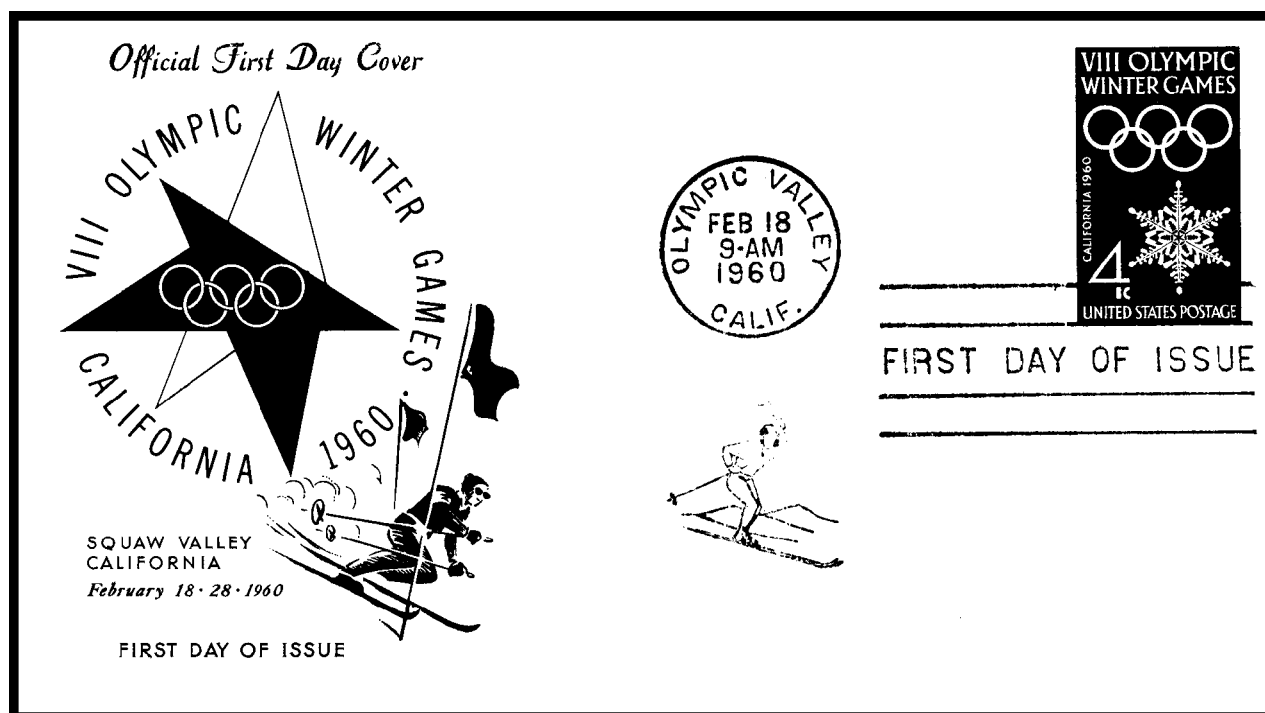


Figure 4. The officially licensed Olympic First Day Cover sold exclusively by Walter Hirsch.

PHILATELIC SPONSORSHIP

When the USPS issued the "Winter Sports" stamp this January it became apparent that the feud with the International Olympic Committee (IOC) was still simmering. Olympic philatelists were the losers in 1996 when the United Parcel Service (UPS) used its official sponsorship to pressure the IOC to limit the involvement of the USPS. This resulted in the replacement of the traditional venue cancellations with general sports postmarks available only at Olympihlex. The Atlanta Olympic Games were not the first occasion when the USPS ran afoul of the IOC licensing rules. Remember the 1980 Games when the Olympic stamps bore five stars in lieu of the Olympic rings because the USPS failed to apply for a permit.

Being a relative newcomer to Olympic collecting, I always assumed the commercial licensing problems began in 1984 when the Los Angeles Olympic Organizing Committee (LAOOC) saved the Olympic movement by demonstrating the successful use of commercial sponsorship to defray the cost of the Olympics. However, I recently discovered my error while looking over the first day covers in my collection from the 1960 Olympic Winter Games in Squaw Valley. It turns out that the 1960 Games had their own story regarding the use of the Olympic symbols.

I first noticed the controversy when I acquired a "Court of Flags Motel" FDC for the 4¢ Olympic stamp (Figure 3). The title on the cachet reads "1960 deleted Winter Games." The copy beneath the picture bitterly denounces the granting to one man, Walter Hirsch, exclusive use of the "deleted" word on FDCs. Mr. Hirsch was a North Hollywood, California, wholesale stamp dealer.

Looking through my back issues of the *Journal of Sports Philately*, I discovered a 1992 article by Sherwin Podolsky discussing this very topic. Sherwin had contacted Hirsch's wife, who confirmed that

OFFICIAL FIRST DAY COVER

for the

4c Olympic Commemorative

stamp to be issued in Squaw Valley, California on February 18, 1960 on the opening day of the

VIII OLYMPIC WINTER GAMES

The design of the engraved cover is very beautiful, showing the OFFICIAL OLYMPIC EMBLEM in blue and red colors with the five interlocked rings.

Every collector will be proud to own this cover, commemorating an event of World-wide interest.

Covers will be supplied unserved and serviced.

Place your order with your favorite dealer now!

ONLY authorized distributor for this Official Olympic First Day Cover:

WALTER HIRSH

Stamps—Wholesale

P. O. Box 1036

No. Hollywood, Calif.

Figure 5. Hirsch's advertisements stressed that he was the "ONLY authorized distributor" of official Olympic FDC's for the 4¢ Winter Olympic stamp.

her husband had paid the Olympic Organizing Committee for the right to exclusive use of Olympic symbols on first day covers (Figure 4). Mrs. Hirsch mentioned that a substantial sum had been paid for these rights, and the Court of Flags cachet demonstrates her husband must have coerced the Organizing Committee to defend his sponsorship.

Hirsch promoted his covers in several of the philatelic publications of the day. Figure 5 reproduces his advertisement which appeared in the December 5, 1959 issue of *Stamps*. These ads apparently alerted some of the first day cover producers to his exclusive privilege, because some of the large nationally known first day cover manufacturers used ambiguous wording in their cachets. Both Artcraft and Artmaster used the term "International" Games on their covers. As large business concerns worth suing, both firms obviously decided not to chance enforcement of the exclusivity license.

On the other hand, most of the FDC's produced for 1960 did include the word "Olympic" as well as the official symbols of the Games. How did they get away with it while the Court of Flags Motel did not? My guess is that since the motel cachet was local to the San Francisco area, Hirsch discovered the plan and was able to put a stop to it. On the other hand, he had no way of predetermining the plans of collectors around the nation. By the time they became known to him, it was too late.


Today it is no longer the responsibility of the licensee to protect his license. The IOC and the Organizing Committees doggedly defend the rights of their sponsors. The past several Olympics have been marked by sponsorship controversy, especially in the philatelic community. Who would have thought that a lone stamp dealer in California started the whole mess back in 1960. Another first for Squaw Valley?

As Mark Maestroni mentioned in his President's Message in this issue, Sports Philatelists International has decided to fill the philatelic literature void about the Squaw Valley Olympic Winter Games. The philatelic aspects of the 1960 Games are much broader than its disparaging coverage in the 1986 IOC book, *Post, Philately, and Olympism*. The planned SPI monograph is slated to cover the story of the Games (albeit briefly) as well as the philatelic elements.

The society wants this monograph to be a labor of the society as a whole, so we are calling for volunteers amongst the membership to step forward

and lend a hand. Volunteers are needed in the following areas:

- ❖ People with technical expertise in graphics, layout and publishing, who will help with the assembly and presentation of the materials.
- ❖ People to research and edit a section. The general contents have been outlined, and can easily be divided into sections.
- ❖ People to provide information. Please take the time to look through your collection and lend your knowledge to the effort. Use the enclosed survey to spark your thinking, as well as to relay information to us.

With your active participation, we can make this booklet worthy of the society and a tribute to the celebration of VIIIth Olympic Winter Games at Squaw Valley, California. 

SPORTS TOPICAL METER SLOGANS
BOUGHT AND SOLD

Want lists solicited

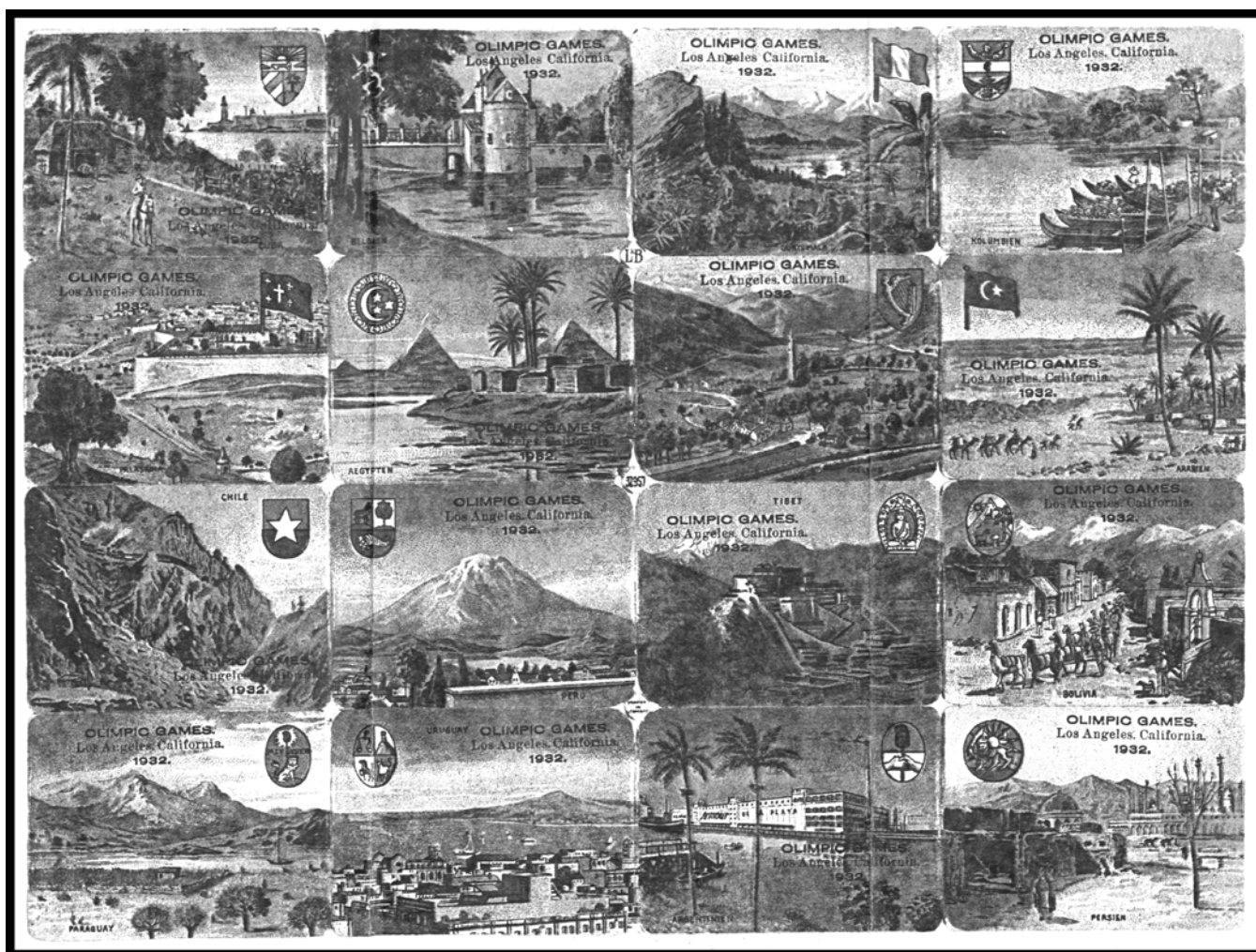


**METER
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ASSOCIATES**





P.O. Box 30 • Fishkill, NY 12524 • USA • (914) 471-4179



1932 Olympic Games Mystery Labels

by Robert DuBois

I have often wondered about the source of the 1932 Olympic labels shown above. The colorful pane of 16 different designs are catalog numbers 38a-p in my *Olympic Labels Catalog*.

Who issued these, and from what country they originate is still a mystery to me. The little bits of paper that interconnect the labels bear text reading: "L&B," the number "37957" and "Printed in Germany." The answer may lie in finding out who or what "L&B" is. All we know is that they may reside in Germany.

Another question then crops up regarding the spelling of the word "Olimpic." This suggests that the panes are either Spanish or Italian, for in Germany, "Olympic" is spelled with a "y." A curious conundrum to be sure.

The promotion of the 1932 Olympics by 16 different countries does indicate some sort of international agreement. The countries included in the 16 labels make for an interesting study. Most are South American. The remainder, however, are from no distinct region.

A look at the winners of the Olympic events at the 1932 Olympic Games in Los Angeles reveals that the countries represented on these labels were largely non-participants that year. Were they perhaps "saluting" the Olympic Games? Or maybe they were hoping to some day participate?

In any event, I feel that some background information on why these particular countries were included would be interesting to find out. Can any reader shed light on this subject? If so, please write me directly: Robert DuBois, 838 Temple Road, Pottstown, PA 19465, U.S.A.

2000 SYDNEY OLYMPICS

by Brian Hammond

When writing my initial article on the Sydney 2000 Olympic Games (*Journal of Sports Philately*, March/April, 1998), I intended for it to be a stand-alone piece encouraging collectors to begin their collection's now as well as giving a limited history of Australia and the modern Olympic Games. The illustrations and information were taken from my personal collection. Our editor, however, has invited me to take on the task of writing a regular series about the Sydney Olympics. It is my aim, therefore, to keep members informed about the Games and all relevant philatelic material. To effectively achieve this requires help from all our members. Those with useful information may pass it on to me either by regular mail or e-mail.

Those with access to the Internet may receive updated information about the 2000 Olympic Games from the official organizing committee web site (www.sydney.olympic.org). The International Olympic Committee also maintains pages of interest on the web (www.olympic.org). For those interested in color photographs showing the stage of construction of the various Olympic venues, I have found a site of useful views and information (www.ozemail.com.au/~dbates/oly_stad.htm). The Aquatic Centre was completed in 1994, and the main Olympic Stadium was one third complete as of September 1997.

BID CITIES

In my last article, I referred to the five cities that submitted bids for the 2000 Olympic Games. At that time, my collection lacked any items for Beijing, China (which finished two votes behind Sydney in the 23 September 1993, IOC vote at Monte Carlo, Monaco). That omission can now be rectified. Figure 1 shows a label in red and white with a discus thrower in pink and the Olympic rings in their correct colors. Text in English and Chinese celebrates the announcement of Beijing as a bid city for the XXVIIth Olympiad. Beijing also produced two sets of matchbox labels. One set is composed of 16 different designs illustrating famous architectural monuments around the world. The second set, two dozen in number, pictures events in both the sum-

mer and winter Games. One of each set is shown in Figure 2.

Berlin celebrated its candidacy with, among other items, a handsome post card depicting the 1936 Berlin Olympic Stadium, the bear mascot, and Berlin 2000 logo. A special postmark notes the candidature (Figure 3).



Figure 1. Label commemorating the announcement of Beijing as a candidate for the 2000 Games.



Figure 2. Matchbox covers promoting Beijing's bid for the Olympic Games of 2000.



Figure 3. Special postmark noting Berlin as a candidate for the 2000 Games.

Manchester, too, had its promotional items for the bid (Figure 4). These included: a large "Bidding For Britain" label (the flame logo is in red and blue and the bowl and lettering are in black against a white background); a smaller "British Olympic Bid" label in red and blue; and an "In Active Support" label courtesy of the local metro transport system.

Additional material for the Sydney 2000 bid included two telephone cards with the bid logo and a small sticker with a "Share the Spirit" design similar to that of the car bumper sticker shown in my previous article. The bid logo also appears on both round seals (the logo is in Olympic colors with the wording in black on white background) and a small square label of the same design.

I previously shared with readers a list of post offices using the "AUSTRALIA FOR SYDNEY 2000" postmark. Since then, I have received much additional information indicating a far wider use than I originally thought. New information suggests use of the Sydney area cancels as early as 27 July 1993. The Canberra MC cancel appears on covers going



Figure 4. Various labels in support of Manchester, England's bid for the 2000 Olympics.

back to at least 11 August 1993. The majority continued to be applied to mail through the election period in Monaco (21-23 September 1993).

New listings:

Brisbane Northgate 4013
 Brisbane Underwood 4119
 Melbourne (available with year on top or at the bottom, but without a code)
 Turrella Sydney 2215

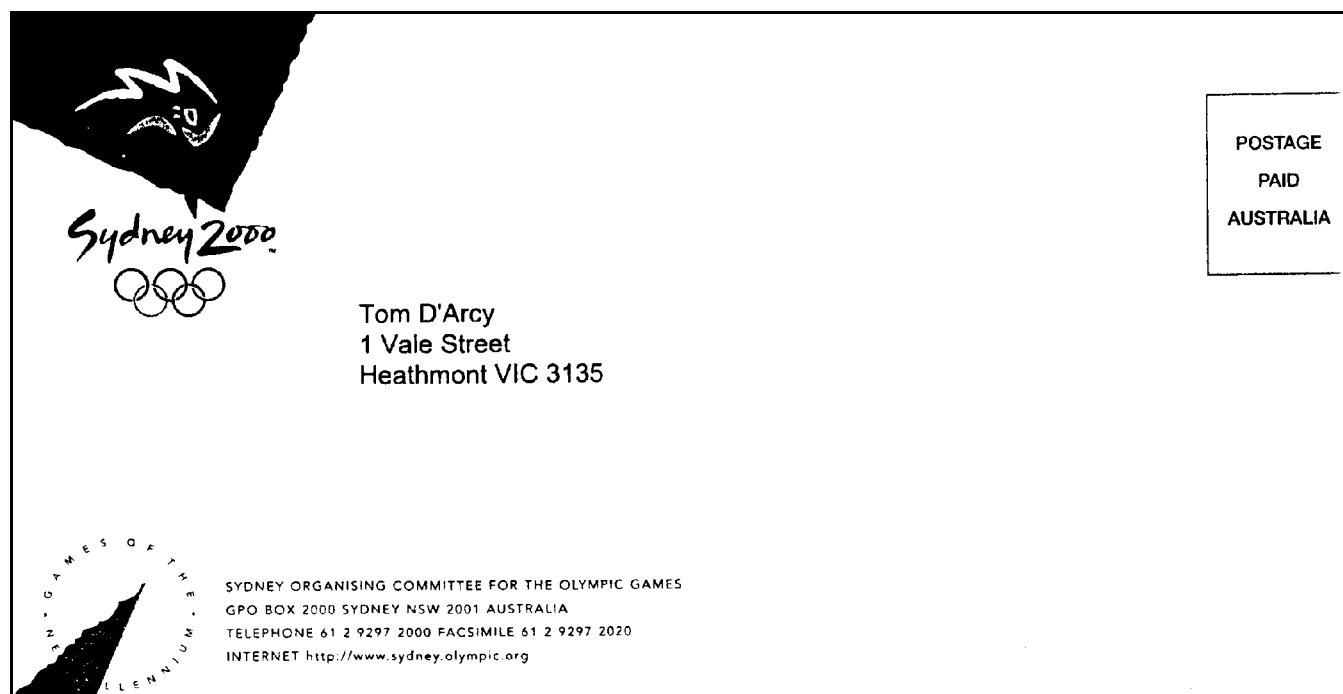


Figure 5. SOCOG's new stationery bears the redesigned logo of the 2000 Olympic Games.

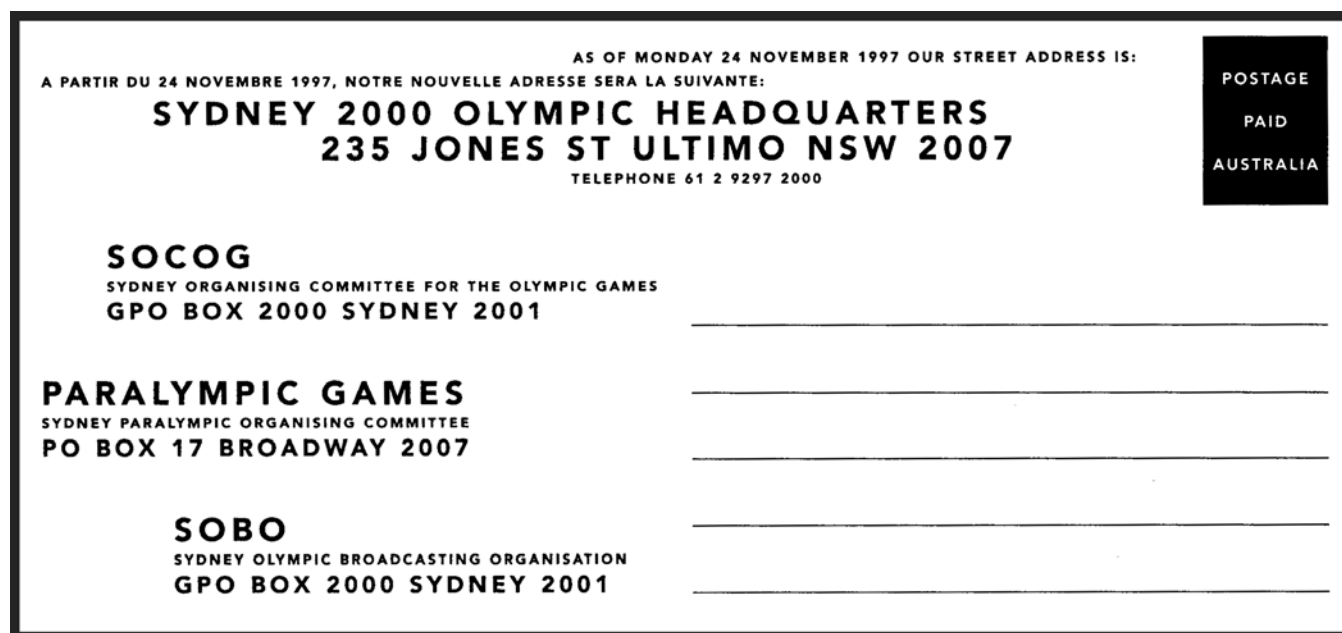


Figure 6. Postpaid change of address card mailed out by the organizing committee.

The following details update the information given in part one:

Adelaide 5000
 Canberra 2610
 Gold Coast 4217
 Hobart 7000
 Perth 6000
 Sunshine Coast 4560
 Sydney Eastern Suburbs 2004
 Sydney Leightonfield 2169
 Sydney Northern Suburbs 2058
 Sydney Seven Hills 2781
 Sydney Southern Suburbs 2215

SYDNEY ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

Now for something new. It is now standard procedure for an organizing committee to redesign its logo once it has been awarded the Games. Sydney is no different. The new logo appears on their stationery, an example of which is illustrated in Figure 5. I believe the official colors are blue, orange, and red with black lettering and the rings in the Olympic colors. The committee also mailed out a postage paid card advising of their change of address (Figure 6).

A FEW FACTS ABOUT SYDNEY 2000

SOCOG has produced a number of information

sheets. These, however, are not mailed according to any particular schedule. Rather, they encourage those interested in the Games to avail themselves of the most current information by looking at their web site.

The Olympic flame is to be lit in Greece in May 2000 and will travel for five months. The torch is scheduled to traverse Australia for some 100 days before being used to light the cauldron at Sydney Olympic Park on 15 September 2000. More than 10,000 torchbearers will take part including runners from the 1956 Melbourne Olympic Games. Details of the torch relay route and other plans are due to be released during 1998. Hopefully advance information will be available to collectors so that we have the opportunity to obtain some covers and other material issued along the route.



Figure 7. Logo of the Paralympic Games to be held in Sydney following the Olympic Games.

The Paralympic Games take place immediately following the Olympic Games, using many of the same facilities. Special stamps, covers and cancellations are frequently issued for these games. In 2000, as many as 4000 athletes from 125 countries are expected to compete in 18 sports. The Paralympic Games will be contested from 18-29 October. Figure 7 reproduces the logo of the games which is red, green and blue with black lettering. The Paralympic Games also have their own mascot.

At the 106th IOC Session in Lausanne held from 2 to 6 September 1997, the executive board recommended, and the session approved, inclusion of trampolining as a new sport. White water canoe slalom, which was to have been dropped, was instead given a reprieve. The board will review the possible inclusion of women's water polo as a new Olympic event for the 2000 Games.

CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

The first Olympic arts festival, the Festival of Dreaming, was launched in mid-September with an awakening ceremony at the Sydney Opera House. An awakening ceremony is a traditional Aboriginal smoking and cleansing ceremony to awaken the spirits and cleanse the land. One hundred fires dotted the forecourt of the Opera House for the performance. The Festival of Dreaming's diverse program of events showcases Australia.

SALUTE TO SYDNEY FROM ATLANTA

I expect most readers will have seen the special salute to Australia cancellation used on the final day of the Olympihlex '96 exhibition during the Centennial Olympic Games in Atlanta. Illustrated in Figure 8 is a cover from Atlanta to Sydney with the special airmail cancel in brown linking the two Olympic Cities.

LATE NEWS

Thanks to SPI member, Tom D'Arcy, and our editor for their help with this installment. Just as I was about to send this article to our editor, news reached me that Australia Post had issued twelve stamps in their Living Legends series which includes six Olympic champions. The details of this set are typically kept secret until the day of issue which was in January 1998. There are two FDC's, a sheetlet of 12 different stamps each with the Olympic rings, maximum cards and a book. More details next time.

Brian Hammond may be contacted at 6 Lanark Road, Ipswich, Suffolk IP4 3EH, Great Britain, or by e-mail at wolympic@aol.com.

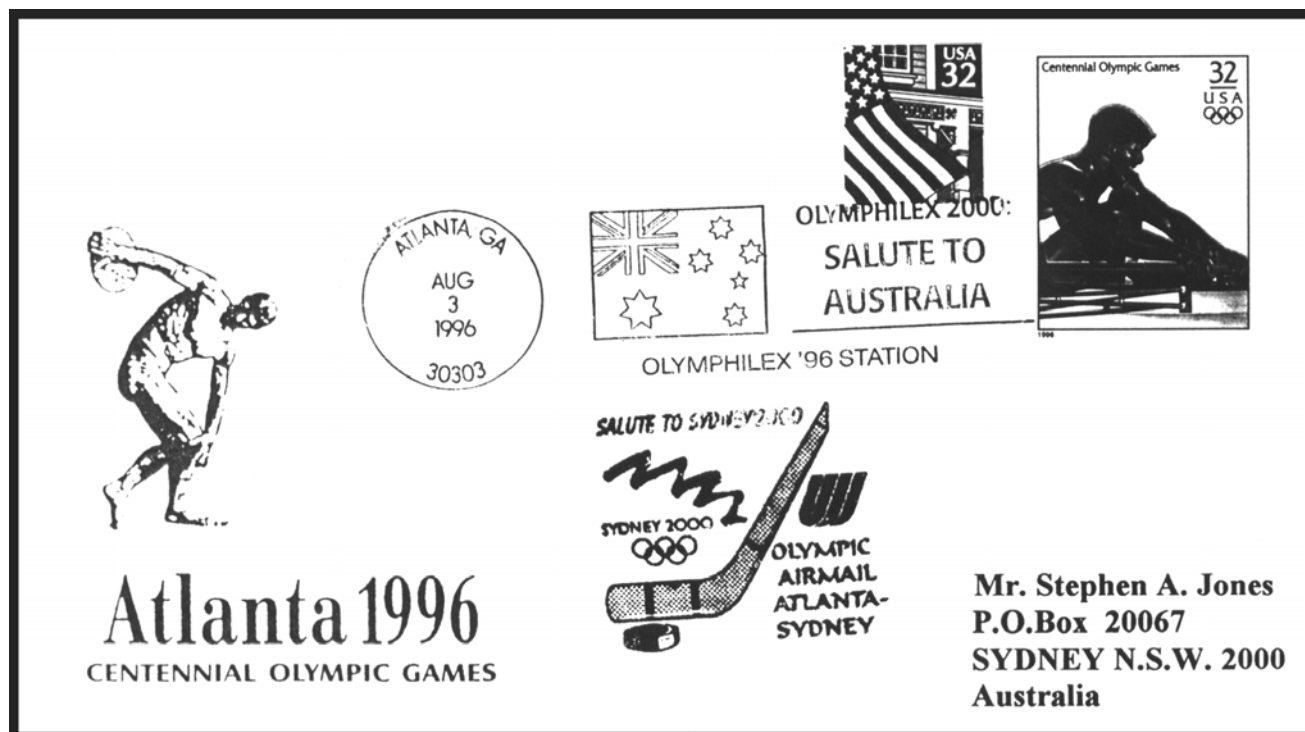


Figure 8. Special "Olympic Airmail" cancel linking the two Olympic Cities of Atlanta and Sydney.

REVIEWS OF PERIODICALS

by Mark Maestrone

Esprit: Sports et Olimpisme January 1998 (#8)

Marc Boucher, President of the French Association of Olympic and Sports Collectors (AFCOS), begins this issue of their journal on a sad note, announcing the death of AFCOS Honorary President, Nelson Paillou. Paillou, who died in a car accident on November 17, 1997, had been elected President of the French Olympic committee in 1982, and was a good "friend" of the Olympic philatelic community.

On a lighter note, Rene Geslin views the 1924 Olympic Stadium at Colombes (France) through postcards of the period. Philippe Boursaut writes of his trip to the U.S. and the 1984 Los Angeles Olympic Games. A brief overview of the recently completed Nagano Olympic Winter Games is provided by Rene Christin, in addition to his notes on the upcoming World Football Cup, France '98, to be held this summer.

Contact: Mr. Pierre Berle, Rue Georges Clemenceau, 82370 Reynies, France.

Journal of Olympic History Winter 1998 (Vol. 6, #1)

Olympic philatelists, particularly those involved with researching their collections or working on an exhibit, would do well to consult the many scholarly articles on the history and socio-cultural aspects of the Olympic Games contained in this journal.

Articles in this issue focus on: the "The Superb and Perfect Alberto Braglia," an Italian Olympic gymnast unparalleled in the early part of the 20th century; "An Olympic Fairy Tale: The 1996 Olympic Flame Relay in Greece"; "Road To Glory," a look at how the Melbourne Olympic Games of 1956 changed the city and country forever; and "Jewish Olympic Champions, Victims of the Holocaust."

The annual membership roster is also included with this issue.

Contact: Bill Mallon, 303 Sutherland Court, Durham, NC 27712, U.S.A.

Malaysian Sporting Philately June 1997 (#7)

Malaysia continues to prepare for the upcoming XVI Commonwealth Games to be held in Kuala Lumpur in September, 1998. C. Nagarajah, editor of the semi-annual publication of the Olympic and Sports Philately Group of Malaysia reports on developments, including a colorful new aerogramme issued in April, 1997. Mr. Nagarajah also invites all collectors to come and enjoy the games.

The cover story in this issue is on the 1997 ICC Trophy Championships (cricket). This is followed by a piece on the IXth World Youth Football Championship (1997) held in various cities in Malaysia. The 3rd Olympic Collector's World Fair in Lausanne is reviewed along with the 2002 FIFA World Cup to be hosted by two countries: Japan and South Korea.

In addition to information on new stamp issues, a number of reprints of articles from other English-language sports/Olympic philatelic publications are included.

Contact: PSM OSPG, GPO Box 11748, 50756 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

Olimpiafila March 1998

A new journal to our ever-growing list of sister society publications, *Olimpiafila* is published by the Hungarian Olympic and Sports Philately Society (MOSFIT). In Hungarian, this publication is very nicely produced with crisp, clear printing on slick stock. I believe this to be the first issue.

Articles include a detailed look at the Hungarian Olympic swimming sensation, Alfred Hajos, and his compatriot, track sprinter Alajos Szokoly. Both competed at the 1896 Athens Olympics. The Hungarian sports issue of 1925 is examined, as are the many Olympic stamps from Hungary issued over the years. All these articles are generously illustrated with philatelic material.

Contact: Mr. Sandor Kurdics, MOSFIT, P.O.B. 4, H-1387 Budapest, Hungary.

Olympic Magazine November 1997 (#14)

The cover story of the English-language publication of the IOC Museum in Lausanne reviews the first 1500 days of the museum. Because the future of sport and the Olympic Movement belong to each succeeding generation, a variety of programs for youth are frequently planned. This issue looks at Etienne Delessert, a Swiss artist and illustrator of children's books whose works are currently on display. The many hands-on activities for children visiting the museum are surveyed along with a look at the 17th Olympic Week where young people of all ages can experience a variety of sports from mountain-biking to taekwondo.

On a more Olympic tack, IOC members who won Olympic medals are presented, with brief biographical sketches of the more prominent ones, such as Vera Caslavskya (gymnastics) and Jean-Claude Killey (skiing).

Additional articles include: Olympic sponsor, UBS (Union Bank of Switzerland); profiles of IOC vice-president, Richard Pound of Canada and Pascal Besson (creator of the official poster for the 106th IOC Session); and the design concepts for the visual images of the Nagano Olympic Games.

Contact: Musee Olympique Lausanne, 1, Quai d'Ouchy, CH-1001 Lausanne, Switzerland.

Phila-Sport January-March 1998 (#25)

The January 1998 issue of the Italian-language journal of UIFOS is, as always, replete with a variety of articles to suit nearly everyone's taste.

Included in this issue: telephone cards produced for the 1992 Albertville Olympic Winter Games (Alvaro Trucchi); a philatelic look at Renault's Formula 1 racing cars (Renato Morandi); a concise examination of forgeries of the 1896 Olympic issues of Greek (Maurizio Tecardi); the 1998 World Short-Track Speed Skating Championships in Bormio, Italy (Alvaro Trucchi); and part 2 of Riccardo Belli's series on figure skating which focuses on the European competitions beginning in 1965.

Updates on recent society activities and listings of new stamp issues and cancels round out this issue.

Contact: UIFOS, Via dei Monti Tiburtini, 600, 00157 Rome, Italy.

Podium February 1998 (#20)

The first report on philatelic activities during the 1998 Olympic Winter Games in Nagano, Japan highlight this issue of the Argentine sports thematic group. The journal's editor, Jorge Casalia, discusses and illustrates some of the special cancels used by the Japanese postal administration for the torch run and at the Olympic Village.

Additional articles in this issue examine the three-time winning River Plate (Argentina) Football Club (Jorge Casalia); the 2nd Seven-A-Side Rugby Championships held in Mar del Plata, Argentina; and Spanish participation in the Olympic arts competition at the 1924 Paris Olympic Games (Sebastian Sabate Culla). Many sports are also featured in shorter articles: mountaineering, field hockey, cycling, and soccer. New issues of stamps and commemorative cancels from around the world are also covered.

Contact: Jorge A. Casalia, C.C. 30 Suc. 19, C.P. 1419, Buenos Aires, Argentina.

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BOOK REVIEWS

The 1936 Olympic Games: A Philatelic History by James F. Danner. 1972. 71 pages. 8.5 x 11 inches. Plastic spiral bound. Limited number of copies available from the author at 75 Fairlawn Drive, Latham, NY 12110-1618. Price \$18.00 postpaid, shipped by priority mail in USA.

Reviewed by Sherwin Podolsky

The author, an SPI member, published this book in 1972 to coincide with the Olympic Games at Munich. The book has won several awards in national philatelic literature competitions. It has been out of print and off the market for many years. The author still has a few copies left. A new cover was added to freshen them up.

The chapters are primarily thematically arranged. The introduction gives a history of what preceded the 1936 Olympics. Chapter 1 explains "The Nazi Doctrine of Sport." Chapter 2 covers the "Preparation of the Games." Chapter 3 deals with "Political Ramifications." In all there are twelve numbered chapters.

Nearly all the material illustrated is still affordable and available. Danner's book is an excellent reference for developing a thematic collection around the 1936 Olympics. An excellent complementary reference that is philatelically structured is Heiko Volk, Jr.'s, *Die Olympischen Spiele im Blickpunkt der Philatelie und ihren Randgebieten* (The Olympic Games From the Viewpoint of Philately and its Related Areas).

For example, Danner's book illustrates postmarks by type; Volk lists every town using each type of postmark. Also, the scope of Danner's book is broader and includes Nazi postmarks and stamps that add to the story but are not included in Volk's reference. To explain the political ramifications, Danner illustrates the anti-Semitic postcard and postmarks for "Der Ewige Jude." Volk, on the other hand illustrates all of the special Olympic registry labels including their sub-types. Danner omits the sub-types and illustrates only a few of the main types.

Danner's book also invites comparison to its predecessor, *XI Olympiad: A Philatelic History of the Olympic Games, Part Six* by Ernest Trory published in 1970. Olympic meters are better illustrated in Trory's book than in Volk's. Danner's book, however, has broader thematic content.

The 1936 Olympic Games: A Philatelic History has clear illustrations and text on clean bright pages. The stamps and postmarks seem to be enhanced to show fine detail and are full size or larger. Postcards and covers are reduced but still generously illustrated for clarity. Thus this book has much visual appeal. Still, all three books are complementary and recommended.



Anti-Jewish propaganda postcard demonstrating the heated political backdrop against which the 1936 Olympic Games were played out.

Catalogue of Cricket Philately (2nd edition) by Colm Murphy. Published by the author, 1996. Softbound, 56 pages, 5¾" x 8¼", black & white illustrations. Price: £6.00 or US\$10 (add US\$2 for airmail postage). Payment in £ sterling cheque or currency, or in US\$ banknotes. Orders should be sent to the author at: 11 The Mariners, Valletta Way, Esplanade, Rochester, Kent ME1 1FB, Great Britain.

Reviewed by Peter Street

Colm Murphy has produced what is, in effect, a partially illustrated, very complete catalogue or check list of material associated with cricket philately.

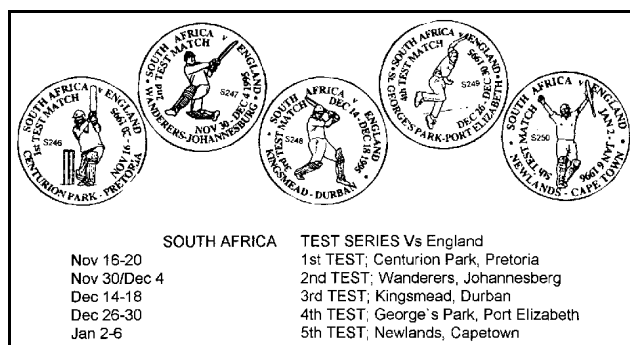
The book is divided into eight chapters as follows: cricket stamps; non-specific stamps; handstamps (sub-divided into cricket grounds, commemorative, and overseas); stamp booklets; post office/PHQ/maximum cards; pre-stamped envelopes; labels; and presentation packs/collections. Primary emphasis is given to the first three chapters.

In Chapter 1, every postage stamp and commemorative sheet issued from 1962 to 1996 is detailed. Each item specifies the date of issue, country, title of the stamp or sheet, catalogue number (Stanley Gibbons), value, and a brief description. Only a portion of the stamps are illustrated and some are poorly reproduced. Clearly, any expansion of the illustrations, although desirable, would increase the size of the book and presumably the price.

There are a few minor errors. On page 10, the Commonwealth Day stamp of Barbados shows Kensington Oval in Bridgetown rather than the Bourda Cricket Ground in Georgetown, Guyana. On the same page, Tuvalu's Leaders of the World series pictures E.H. Hendren, not Hendry. The listing for the Leaders of the World cricket stamp of Grenadines of St. Vincent (page 14) has a similar error: A.R. Boarder should be A.R. Border. In fairness to the author, the player's surname is actually misspelled on the stamp.

Chapter 2 (Non-specific Stamps) details the stamps, etc., which indirectly portray aspects of the game. Primarily, these include cricket grounds and famous people who played cricket at less than first-class level (for example, Sir Arthur Conan Doyle).

There are a few trivial errors in this chapter as well. On the St. Christopher Nevis 1973 issue (page 21) covering the Landing of Thomas Warner, the



Typical entry in Chapter 3c (Overseas Handstamps) showing cancels commemorating the South Africa vs. England test matches in 1995.

Gibbons catalogue numbers should be 258-261 rather than 258-262. Also, Rumania is normally spelled Romania, at least in all the atlases I have consulted.

Clearly Chapter 2 could be expanded. There are a number of hobby cricketers who are famous for other reasons. A partial list would include literature figures such as poets John Keats and Lord George Byron, and playwright Sir James Barrie, creator of "Peter Pan." Famous actors could also be included such as the members of the Hollywood (California) Cricket Club: David Niven, Errol Flynn, Laurence Olivier, Boris Karloff, Nigel Bruce, Cary Grant and Basil Rathbone.

Chapter 3 is of great interest as it illustrates postmarks of the 19th Century (by contrast, the first cricket stamp was not issued until 1962). As two of the references listed inside the back cover are *Special Event Postmarks of the United Kingdom* and "Post Office Archives" (proof books), I imagine this chapter is complete.

Chapters 4 through 8 are limited to one or two pages each, but show very complete coverage of their subjects.

As an exhibitor and writer of cricket philately, I can appreciate the enormous effort which must have gone into preparing this book. The only drawback for the American reader is the use of Stanley Gibbons numbers. However, as the issue dates are given, it should be easy to find the equivalent Scott numbers. I have written Mr. Murphy volunteering to do this correlation for a 3rd edition (if and when).

This book is a distinct improvement on previous checklists issued by the ATA (American Topical Association) and cricket magazines like *The Cricketer* and *Wisden*. In summary, for those interested in a cricket philately catalogue this is a worthwhile, comprehensive and inexpensive resource.

NEWS OF OUR MEMBERS

by Margaret Jones

New Members

2113 Frances A. Casey, 2027 Zinno Blvd, Pueblo, CO, 81006-1834 USA. *Figure Skating, Olympic Figure Skating*. (Lopez/ Jones)

2114 James Bentley, South Fen House, Fen End, Kenilworth, Warwicks., CV8 1NQ, England,. He is an engineer. *Winter Olympics, Winter Sports, Skiing (Alpine, Downhill, Slalom)*. (Jones)

REINSTATED:

1187 Jeff K. Armitage, 5869 Prado Court, Orchard Lake, MI 48324-2946, USA

1860 Butch Eddy, P.O. Box 440217, Aurora, CO 80044-0217, USA

2035 Mercedes Amat-Ricart, América, No 10, Ático, E-08041 Barcelona, Spain

2099 Juan Carlos Santacruz, Carrera 31 No, 128-31 Apto 403, Santafé de Bogotá, Colombia

ADDRESS CHANGES:

Dorothy Crockett, 7090 E. Mescal St, Apt 143, Scottsdale AZ 85254-6122, USA

Kai-Egil Even, 1601 Burlington, MA 01803-3842, USA

Total Membership, February 28, 1998 = 381

Member's E-Mail Addresses

Members wishing to have their e-mail addresses listed both here and in the next Membership Handbook, must e-mail their permission to the editor (markspi@internetmci.com).

Amat, Mercedes mercedes_amat@gillette.com
Amat, Mercedes mamat@redesteb.es

Bentley, James	jbentley@dial.pipex.com
De Castris, Luciano	decal@inopera.it
Evjen, Kai-Egil	kee@arcticnet.no
Evjen, Kai-Egil	kee@mediaone.net
Osborne, John	johnosborne@lway.co.uk

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The 1999-2001 Membership Handbook will go to press in December of this year. Check your sports-related interests listed in the 1997-1999 Handbook; if any interests need correcting, please send those in the renewal envelope.

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NEW STAMP ISSUES

by Dennis Dengel

Afghanistan: 28 November 1997. 1998 World Cup Soccer Championships. 400 afganis, 600, 800, 1000, 1200, 1500, 4000 afganis s/s: soccer scenes.

Andorra, French: 14 February 1998. 1998 Nagano Winter Olympics. 4.40 francs, SG slalom skier.

Angola: 5 July 1997. 1998 World Cup Soccer Championships. Pane of five se-tenant 100,000 kwanza stamps + one label: previous winning teams of 1930, 1954, 1970, 1986 and 1994. Label shows trophy. Pane of six 100,000 kz stamps: winners of 1930, 1938, 1954, 1958, 1962 and 1970. 220,000 and 250,000 kw s/s: Angolan team.

Antigua & Barbuda: 6 October 1997. 1998 World Cup Soccer Championships. 60 cents, 75, 90, \$1.20, \$1.65, \$1.75, pane of eight se-tenant \$1.00 stamps, two \$6.00 s/s: previous championship players

Austria: 23 Jan 1998. 1998 Nagano Winter Olympic Games. 14 schilling, ice skater.

Australia: 21 January 1998. Olympic Games Legends. Self-adhesive booklet of twelve 45 cent stamps. Each pair shows portrait of Australian Olympic athlete on one stamp and athlete in action on adjacent stamp: Betty Cuthbert (1956); Herb Elliot (1960); Dawn Fraser (1956); Marjorie Jackson (1952); Murray Rose (1956); Shirley Strickland (1952).

China: 12 October 1997. Eighth National Games of China. Two 50 fen, games emblem and athletes; 150f, mascot and stadium; 200f s/s, design not known.

Cyprus: 4 May 1998. 1998 World Cup Soccer Championships. 40 cents, soccer scene.

Czech Republic: 20 January 1998. 1998 Nagano Winter Olympic Games. 7 koruny, hockey puck and Olympic rings.

Dominica: January 1998. 20th century athletes. Pane of eight se-tenant \$1.00 stamps: Jesse Owens, Isaac

Berger, Boris Becker, Arthur Ashe (2 stamps each). \$6.00 soccer s/s, Franz Beckenbaur.

Estonia: 28 January. 1998. 1998 Nagano Winter Olympic Games. 3.60 kroon, cross-country skier.

Egypt: 4 September 1997. FIFA Junior World Soccer Championship. Two 20 and 75 piaster stamps, 1 pound s/s.

France: 28 February 1998. 1998 World Cup Soccer Championships. 3 franc round stamp, soccer ball and flags of participating countries.

The Gambia: 4 September. 1997. 1998 World Cup Soccer Championships. Winning teams: 1 dalasy, 1950; 1.50dal, 1954; 2dal, 1970; 3dal, 1962; 5dal, 1938 and 10dal, 1930. Four panes of eight se-tenant 4dal stamps; teams and players. Four s/s with 25dal stamp: previous players.

Georgia: 1998. 1998 Nagano Winter Olympic Games. 20, 30, 40, 50 lari, two 70 lari s/s.

Germany: 5 February 1998. Sports Events. 1 DM + 50 pf, 1998 World Cup Soccer Championships; two 1.1 DM + 50pf, 1998 Nagano Winter Olympic Games (skiers) and World Rowing Championships (rower); 3 DM + 1 DM, 1998 Paralympic Games in Nagano.

Gibraltar: 23 January 1998. 1998 World Cup Soccer Championships. Matches: 5 pence, Wales vs Brazil, 1958; 26p Northern Ireland vs France, 1958; 38p, Scotland vs Holland, 1978; 38p, England vs Germany, 1966; s/s of the 4 stamps.

Hungary: 22 January 1998. 1998 Nagano Winter Olympic Games. 100 forint, snowboarder.

Iceland: 22 January 1998. 1998 Nagano Winter Olympic Games. 35 kronur, alpine skier; 45kr, cross-country skier.

Japan: 12 September 1997. 52nd National Sports Festival. 50 yen, synchronized swimming and festival mascot, Mopi.

5 February 1998. 1998 Nagano Winter Olympic Games. Five 50 yen, various flowers and the Olympic Rings; five 80 yen, snowboarding, curling, speed skating, cross-country skiing, and alpine skiing. Paralympic Games: 50 yen, hollyhock flower Olympic rings; 80 yen, ice hockey.

Lithuania: 17 January 1998. 1998 Nagano Winter Olympic Games. 1.20 litas, pairs figure skating.

Madagascar: 5 November 1997. 1998 World Cup Soccer Championships. 300 francs, 1350fr; 3000fr, 10,000fr, 12,500 s/s.

1997. 1998 Nagano Winter Olympics. 160fr, ice hockey; 350fr, pairs figure skating; 5000fr, biathlon; 7500, free style skiing, 12,500fr s/s, speed skating.

Russia: 1 September 1997. 50th Anniversary Russian Pentathlon. 1000 ruble, symbolic pentathlete.

4 September 1997. 100th Anniversary Russian Soccer. 2000 r, soccer scene.

San Marino: 11 February 1998. 100 Anniversary of Enzo Ferrari and 50th anniversary of Ferrari Formula

1 Racing. Pane of 12 se-tenant 800 lira: Ferrari racing cars from 1947 to 1997.

Sierra Leone: 23 July 1997. 1998 World Cup Soccer Championships. National teams: 100 leones, Uruguay; 150l, Italy; 200l, Hungary; 250l, Czech; 500l, Brazil; 600l, Brazil. Pane of eight se-tenant 300l stamps: individual players. Two 1500 s/s: Pele of Brazil, Lato of Poland.

Slovenia: 22 January 1998. 1998 Nagano Winter Olympic Games. 70 tolar, female figure skater; 90t, female biathlete.

Spain: 10 February. 1998. 100th Anniversary Bilbao Athlete Club. 35 pesetas, emblem of club, flag.

Thailand: 27 March 1998. 13th Asian Games, 1st series. 2 + 1 baht, shooting; 3 + 1 baht, gymnastics; 4 + 1 baht, swimming and 7 + 1 baht, windsurfing.

Turkey: 15 October 1997. Congress of European Gymnastics Groups. 100,000 liras, gymnast on rings.

Yugoslavia: 1998. 1998 Nagano Winter Olympic Games. 2.50 dinars, skater; 6d, skier.



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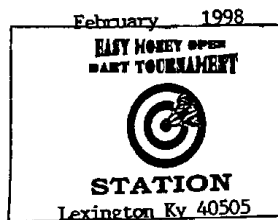
by Mark Maestrone

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Catalogue numbers are shown at left, such as 88101-911. In this example: 88=Year [1988]; 1=Month [January]; 01=First day of use; 911=First 3 ZIP code digits. The months of October, November and December are 2-digit months, and are expressed as X, Y, and Z. The place of use is listed next, followed by the dates of use. All cancels are in black. The numbering system is from the Commemorative Cancel Catalog published by General Image, Inc., PO Box 335, Maplewood, NJ 07040, and is used with their kind permission.

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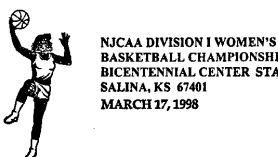
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9 8 307-803 Boulder, CO 7-8



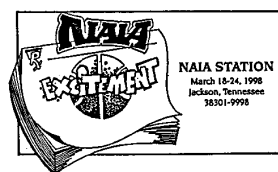
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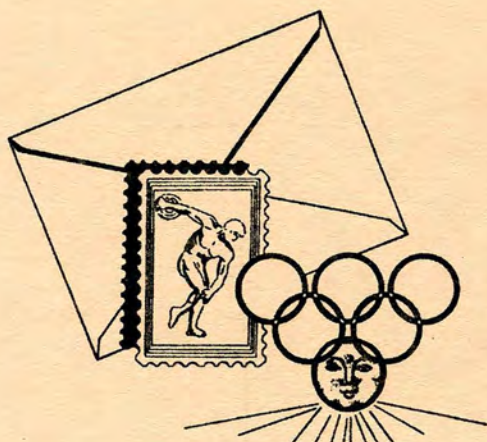
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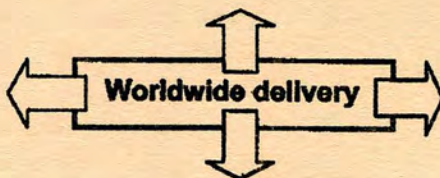
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