

BELGIAN CONGO



STUDY CIRCLE

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BULLETIN 117

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U S A

SEPTEMBER 2000

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CONTENTS

PAGES

WORLD WAR II CORRESPONDENCE	E. Hoorens	2-6
IMPROPER USE-PAQUEBOT MARKS	E. M. Lavitt	7
CENSORED MARKS-ADDENDUM	A. Jeukens	7-13
AN AMERICAN REPOSE CARD	E. M. Lavitt	14
NEWLY DISCOVERED CANCELLERS	P. Storm van Leeuwen	15-16
THE NOBLE GAME IN THE CONGO	P. Storm van Leeuwen	17-18
TWO INTERESTING DOCUMENTS	E. Hoorens	18-21
THE HUDSON COLLECTION-a notice	R. H. Keach	22
EDITOR'S NOTES		22
PRICES REALIZED JUNE 2000 AUCTION		supplemental page
POSTAL AUCTION SALE 2000-4		supplemental pages

Correspondence during WW II between a belgian officer detained in Germany and his family in Belgian Congo and in the U.S.A.

FIG.1 : Special prisoner's postcard sent on 20.10.1941 from Germany to Kindu in Belgian Congo .
We have on this card 3 different marks of censorship:

- 1) in Oflag VIII/C 3 (Oflag means Officierenzlager or Officer's camp)
- 2) In Brazzaville - French Equatorial Africa, a circular mark with "Commission C".
- 3) In Belgian Congo, a straight linear mark with " Passé Censure Elisabethville "

FIG.2 : A similar postcard from Oflag XD.12 to Kindu , with only the German Censorship in Frankfurt (small letter " e " under the eagle)

FIG.3 : The same postcard sent on 20.11.1943 from Oflag II-2 to Kindu, also with 3 different censorships :

- 1) In the Oflag II
- 2) In French Occidental Africa, a circular mark with "Commission A".
- 3) in Belgian Congo by arrival .

FIG.4 : Similar postcard sent from Oflag VIII C to Kindu, but through the Red Cross in Geneva (written in German " via Genf rotes kreuz ").
Only the censorship of the Oflag by departure .

FIG.5 : Lettercard sent on 20.3.1941 to New York .
Indication in german " Uber Rotes Kreuz Genf "
(through Red Cross Geneva)
Here also only the censorship in the Oflag !

If some members should have similar items in their collections, the president should be very happy to receive photocopies !

E. Hoorens

Kriegsgefangenenpost
Correspondance des prisonniers de guerre

20.10.47. 13-14

Oflag VIII/C
3 An
geprüft

Postkarte Carte postale

Pays: Congo BELGE
Madame Myte Roulet

Gebührenfrei Franc de port!

<p style="text-align: center;">Absender: Expéditeur:</p> <p>Vor- und Zuname: Nom et prénom <u>Lieut Prémont Jo</u></p> <p>Gefangenenummer: No. du prisonnier <u>94466/398</u></p> <p>Lager-Bezeichnung: Nom du camp <u>Oflag VIII C</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Deutschland (Allemagne)</p>	<p>Empfangsort: Lieu de destination <u>Symaf</u></p> <p>Straße: Rue <u>KINDU</u></p> <p>Land: Landestell (Départ., etc.) <u>CONGO BELGE</u></p> <p>Dépt.</p>
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Fig 1

P. O. W. Post

CONGO BELGE

Kriegsgefangenenpost
Correspondance des prisonniers de guerre

An Mrs. Roulet

Pierre Roulet

Oflag X D
12
geprüft

Gebührenfrei Franc de port!

<p>Empfangsort: Lieu de destination <u>Kindu</u></p> <p>Straße: Rue <u>Symaf</u></p> <p>Kreis: Arrondissement</p> <p>Landestell: Dépt. <u>CONGO BELGE</u></p>

Fig 2



Absender:
Expéditeur:

Vor- und Zuname: 1. Lieutenant PRÉMONT
Nom et prénom

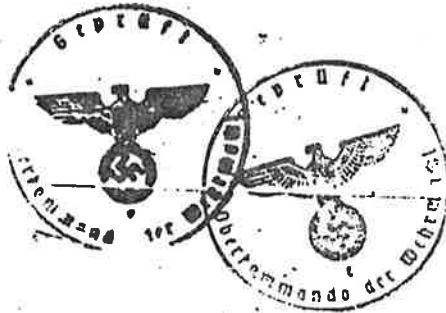
Gefangenennummer: 94704 - ACCT
No. du prisonnier

Lager-Bezeichnung: Kriegsgef.-Offizierlager II A,
Désignation du camp

Deutschland (Allemagne)



Fig 1 reverse



Absender:
Expéditeur:

Vor- und Zuname: 1. Lieutenant PRÉMONT
Nom et prénom

Gefangenennummer: 94.466/372
No. du prisonnier

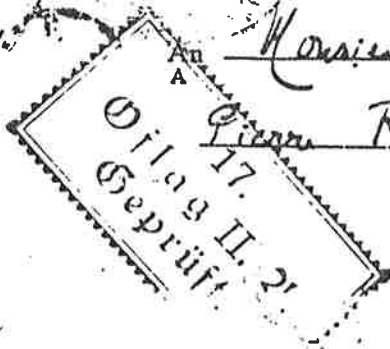
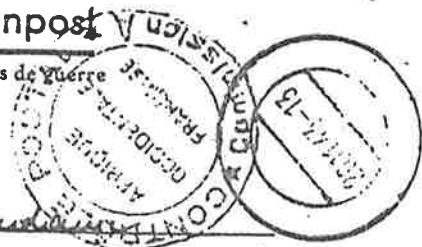
Lager-Bezeichnung: Kriegsgef.-Offizierlager VIII C
Désignation du camp

Deutschland (Allemagne)

Fig 2 reverse

Kriegsgefangenenpost

Correspondance des prisonniers de Guerre



Madame et Monsieur
Pierre Roulet-Tremont

Empfangsort: KINDU
Lieu de destination
Straße: Symaf
Rue
Kreis: CONGO BELGE
Arrondissement
Landesteil: Belgische Kongo
Dépt.

Gebührenfrei Franc de port!

Fig 3



Kriegsgefangenenpost

Correspondance des prisonniers de guerre

P. O. W. Mail



An 127 / Madame

P. Roulet-Tremont

Empfangsort: KINDU
Lieu de destination
Straße: Symaf
Rue
Kreis: 38 * 24 JUN 1942
Arrondissement
Landesteil: CONGO BELGE
Dépt.

Gebührenfrei
Franc de port!
2233
2043-331
2009-1930
2046-

Landesteil: Belgische Kongo

Fig 4

1918

Oflag VIII/C
9
gepost

Kriegsgefangenenpost
Correspondance des prisonniers de guerre



An Madame
Lucy de la Roche - Lebrun
c/o Radium Chemical Co

Empfangsort: _____
Lieu de destination: _____
Straße: 570 Lexington Avenue
Rue: _____
Kreis: NEW-YORK
Arrondissement: _____
Landesteil: U.S.A.
Dept: _____

Gebührenfrei
Frano de portil

Fig 5

117:6



WARNING-PAQUEBOT MARKS, APPARENTLY GENUINE, IMPROPERLY USED

The above marks which appear on the "Vloors" issue of 1923 are quite probably genuine. It is thought that a European dealer, now deceased, (and there is nothing to be gained by identifying him), obtained the genuine markers and placed them on this issue, and subsequent issues, for sale to unsuspecting collectors.

L. Gailly in his *Le Negro Guide* catalogue of 1945 listed these Vloors with the Paquebot "obliteration" and gave them a value. In each case Gailly said each mark-non encadre and encadre-appeared on 10 values of the issue. The marks were also placed on other later issues and were never genuinely used postally. *The Negro Guide lists the marks appearing on the 1925, Stanley, the 1931-1937, King Albert, 1935, and 1938 issues.*

Genuine postally used stamps with these marks, on these issues, have never been seen and do not exist. (if some member disputes this assertion we would be delighted to see such genuine usage).

E M Lavitt

ADDENDUM TO JEUKENS CENSORSHIP ARTICLE OF BCSC VOL 79/4 et seq.,

Our thanks to M. Hoorens for supplying us with the addendum to M. Jeukens extensive article which addendum appears on the following pages. Your Editor also calls your attention to The Peter Foden addendum which appeared in Vol. 86/18. Copies of M. Jeukens entire article in French or in English may be purchased. For information as to cost and availability please contact your Editor at P O Box 900 Rockville CT 06066 USA.

December 1991

Page 6 Handstamps

Annexes 13 and 14 illustrate two states of the "H" handstamp:

- "Ha" reads "CENSURE GONCO BELGE", the C and G of "CONGO" having been inverted; this state is found until early 1942.
- "Hb" shows "CONGO" correctly written in June 1942.

Page 7 Censors' numbers

Following numbers should be added to the list:

Albertville	nr 4	43.11.12	Black
Léopoldville	6	43.08.17	Black
		43.08.31	Black

Page 9 Establishment of Military Censorship

1. Belgian Campaign Hospital (10th Casualty Clearing Station)

Attached to the 11th Division of the East-African Forces. It was engaged on various theaters during following periods:

as 10th C.C.S.	Kenya	Jan.5 - Mar.15,1941
	Somalia	Apr.8,1941 - Aug.3,1942
	Madagascar	Sep.5,1942 - Aug.15,1943
	Ceylon	Jan.29 - May 19,1944
as 10th(BC) C.C.S.*	India	May 26 - Oct.10,1944
	Burma	Oct.10,1944 - Jan.2,1945
	India	Jan.2, - Dec.11,1945

*(BC) for "Belgian Congo", to differentiate the Belgian C.C.S. from an already existing Indian 10th C.C.S.

Mail from the Belgian C.C.S. was carried through the 11th (EA) Division postal network. Letters were examined at the Unit to which the Belgian C.C.S. was attached (annex 15) receiving the Censor mark used by that Unit.

2. South-African Air School ("75" Air School - Lyttleton)

Incoming mail addressed to candidates (occasionally censored at origin) received a pen registration mark on reception by the Air School, together with the Camp circular date stamp (annex 16) The meaning of the pen mark ("12" in this particular case) has not been clarified yet.

It happened that this mail was also examined by South-African civil Censors and re-sealed with a U.C.8 tab. To date we saw no example of candidates' outgoing mail.

Page 13 S22-Censoring of correspondance (Shield & Crown Cachet)

On annex 12 this type of cachet was reported to exist only in violet with serial number 1XXX. It has now been seen with serial numbers 5XXX/black,blue - 6XXX/black,violet - 8XXX/red.

Annex 17 illustrates a Shield & Crown cachet but also a linear printed mark (black-27mm) "Censeur-791" with paraph. This mark has not yet been identified and any comment would be most welcome.

CONGO BELGE

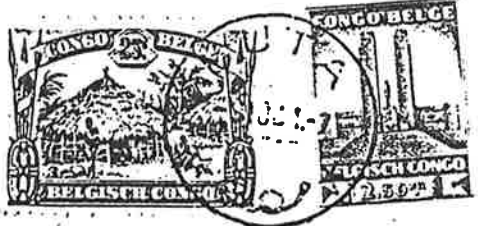
CENSURE



CONGO BEL

CENSURI

CONGO BELGE



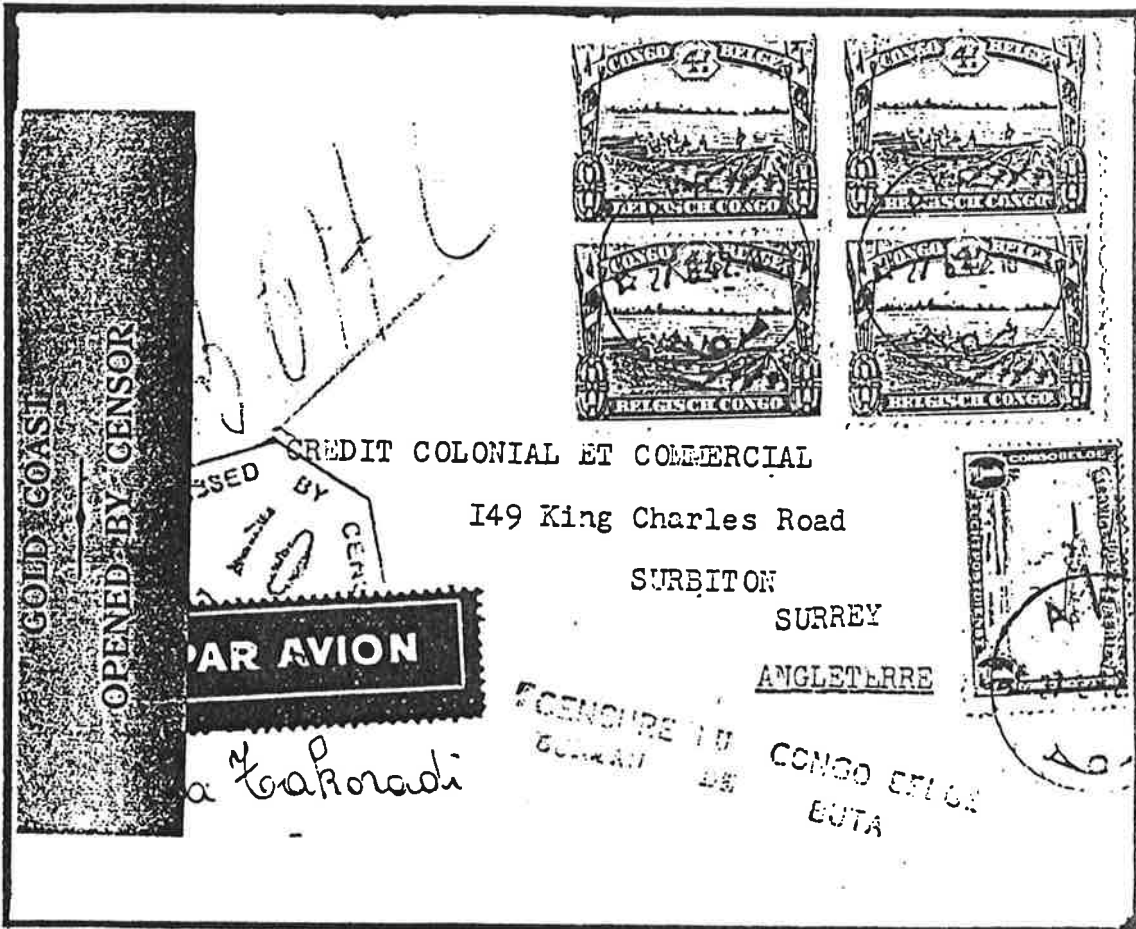
CENSURE DU BUREAU DE BUTA CONGO BELGE

UNITED STATES RUBBER EXPORT C° Ltd

Rockefeller Center

1230 Sixth Avenue

NEW - YORK



REGISTERED

VIA AIR MAIL

ON ACTIVE SERVICE



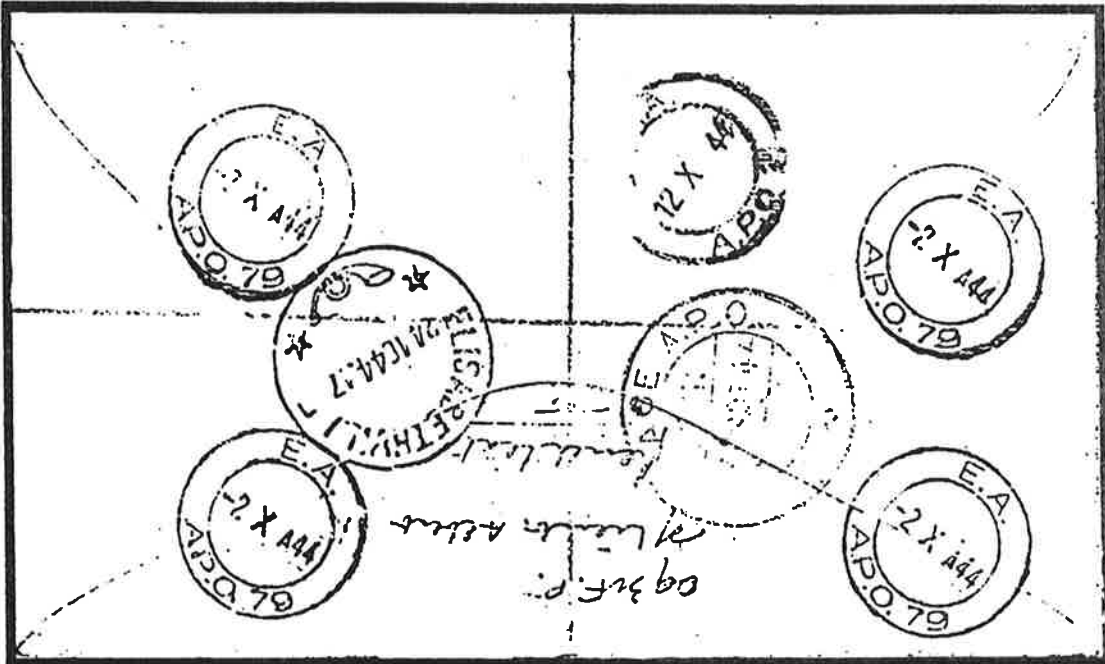
*Monieur Winaetun
E. Lora du Congo*

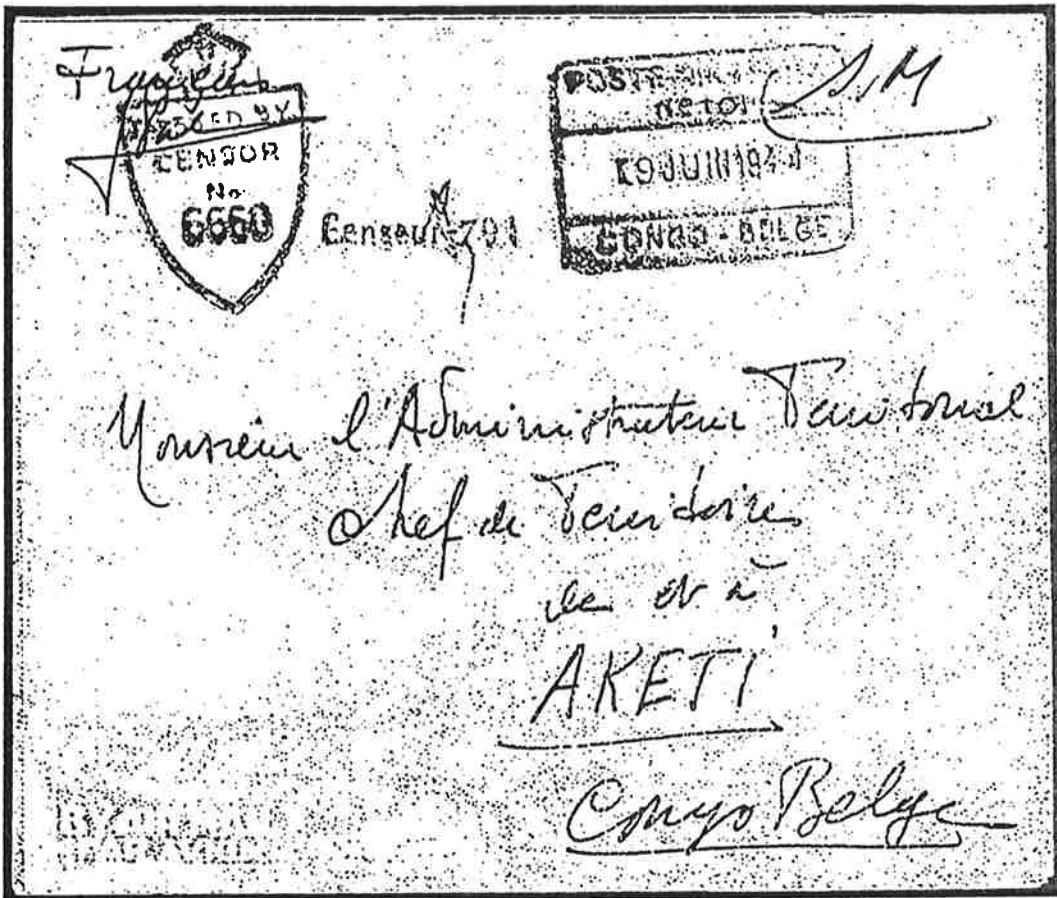


*av. de l'Étoile
Lisabetsville*



BELGIAN CONGO





Reverse

Specimen of the latest handstamp (postmark) device in
our post office at the present time



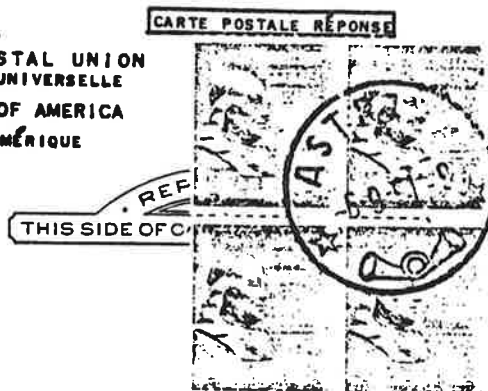
Postmaster- _____
Astrida, Belgian Congo

*Your Editor found this most interesting card at a recent stamp show and bourse in
Massachusetts USA. An example of a "carte postale réponse" which originated in the USA and
was obviously sent by a Belgian Congo Collector to obtain an Astrida postmark (which appears
to be Heim-Keach 8E1)*

Note—it went from the Congo to Chicago for two cents.

Obverse

UNIVERSAL POSTAL UNION
UNION POSTALE UNIVERSELLE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
ÉTATS-UNIS D'AMÉRIQUE



S. N. Shure
225 West Huron Street
Chicago 10, Illinois, U.S.A.

NEWLY DISCOVERED CANCELLERS AND DATES OF USAGE, ADDENDA No. IV

Since the second edition of the monumental study on *the Cancellations of the Normal Post Offices of Belgian Congo 1886 - 1960 and Ruanda Urundi 1917 - 1962 including the Telegraphic Cancellations* by A.I. Heim and R.H. Keach was published in October 1992, quite a number of new dates of usage on loose stamps and / or cover, and even a few new cancellers have been discovered.

The 1st addenda appeared in Bulletin no. 93 (September 1994), page 10

The 2nd addenda appeared in Bulletin no. 102 (December 1996), page 9

The 3th addenda appeared in Bulletin no. 109 (September 1998), pages 20-26

Below you will find the 4th addenda:

Post Office	Cancellation (type)	Newly discovered dates of usage	Dates and Notes (new notation)
Belgian Congo			
BENA-BENDI	1.1 - DMTY	*99	*98-9
BENI	10 (A)	*57	*55-9
COQUILHATVILLE	1.2 - ttMY	23	23
ELISABETHVILLE	7A12	38	*24, 35-8
KABARE	8A2	*57	*47-59
KAMINA	MD1 - tDmY	*59	*59
KAMINA-BASE MILITAIRE 2	14B(B)	*53	*53-7
KOLWEZI	11 (O)	*60	*60
LEOPOLDVILLE GG	12F (-A)	*57	*55-8
MUSHIE	7A1 - Dmyt	*37	*24-39
MWENGA	8A1	*57	*53-60
PANGI	8A1	*58	*47-60
TOA	1.1 - DMTY / T	07	07
WALUNGU	8A1 - Dmyt/t	*57	*57-9
Ruanda Urundi			
NGAGARA	10 (A)	*61	*59-61
Telegraphic			
MOPOLENGE	T1B.1 - DMy	*04	*04

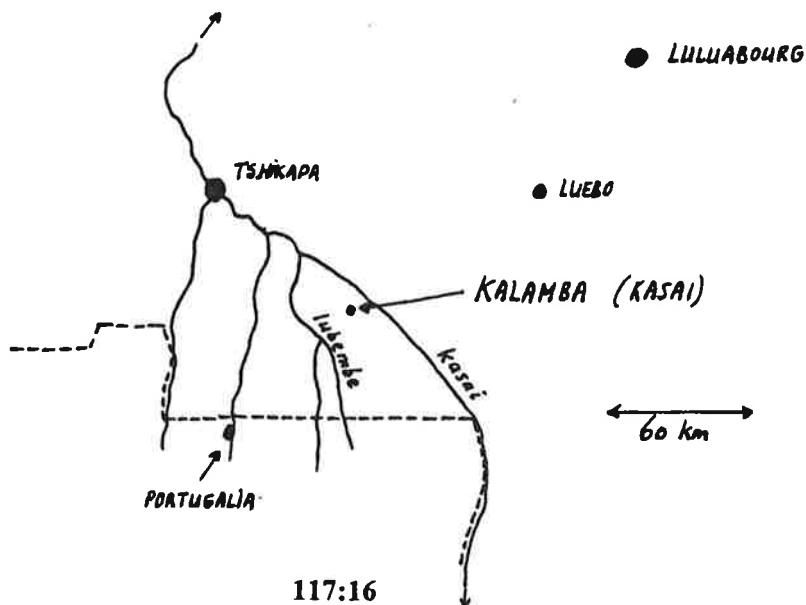
PSvL, July 2000

Some years ago a Belgian stamp dealer offered me a few thousands of packets of stamps, mostly Idols and Flowers of common values, but unsorted for cancellations. In one of the packets of the 3 Franc Flowers I found a good strike of an unknown (sub?) post office: KALAMBA (KASAI) 11-3-57.17. In the Heim - Keach list this office is not mentioned and Mr. Keach told me that he did not see KALAMBA (KASAI) mentioned in official documents. However, in the archives of the former Léopoldville post office a canceller of KALAMBA (KASAI) was discovered. You will find an offprint of the canceller on page 24 of Bulletin no. 76 (June 1990). This simply means that a canceller was made for a (sub?) post office to be opened. Was KALAMBA (KASAI) opened only for a very short period in 1957?

KALAMBA (KASAI) is situated between the Kasai river and the river Lubembe, approximately 80 kilometres south east of Tshikapa.



KALAMBA (KASAI) 11-3-57.17
(size 122%)



PLAYING THE NOBLE GAME IN THE CONGO WITH "MY NEGRO BOY"

I guess quite a few members received in December 1999 an invitation of La Philatélie Corneille Soeteman of Brussels to visit a display of the famous collection of Belgium stamps by the world champion of chess, Anatoly Karpov. This reminded me of a post card which I found a few years ago. The card is cancelled in Stanley-Falls 17-3-1897 and went via Léopoldville 16-4-1897 and Boma 27-4-1897 to London, where it arrived on 25-1-1898. Not much worth mentioning, but the message is rather amusing.

On the 6th March of 1897 a chess enthusiastic in Ponthierville, Philip Moureol, writes this post card to the editor of the "Chess Department" of the "Times" in London, saying that he taught his "faithful little nigger Muledi" to play chess and gave all the pieces and moves Swahili names.

Ponthierville, Upper Congo
6th March, 1894

Dear Sir,

Faithful to my mission of propagating the noble game so far as lies in my power, I have - by dint of great patience and perseverance - succeeded in teaching chess to my negro boy.

It may be interesting for your readers to hear this. I confess I found great difficulty at first; but at length succeeded. I have given Swahili names to all the pieces, the chess-board, the moves etc. They are all words of my own invention. Castling I call pembem. Checkmate is mutumo, which literally means slave, and so on. As soon as I tell my faithful little nigger, Muledi, to arrange the pieces for the strife, he sets about it with a will. True, I always beat him in the end; but he often succeeds in depriving me of one or two pawns which his quick eye catches without defence.

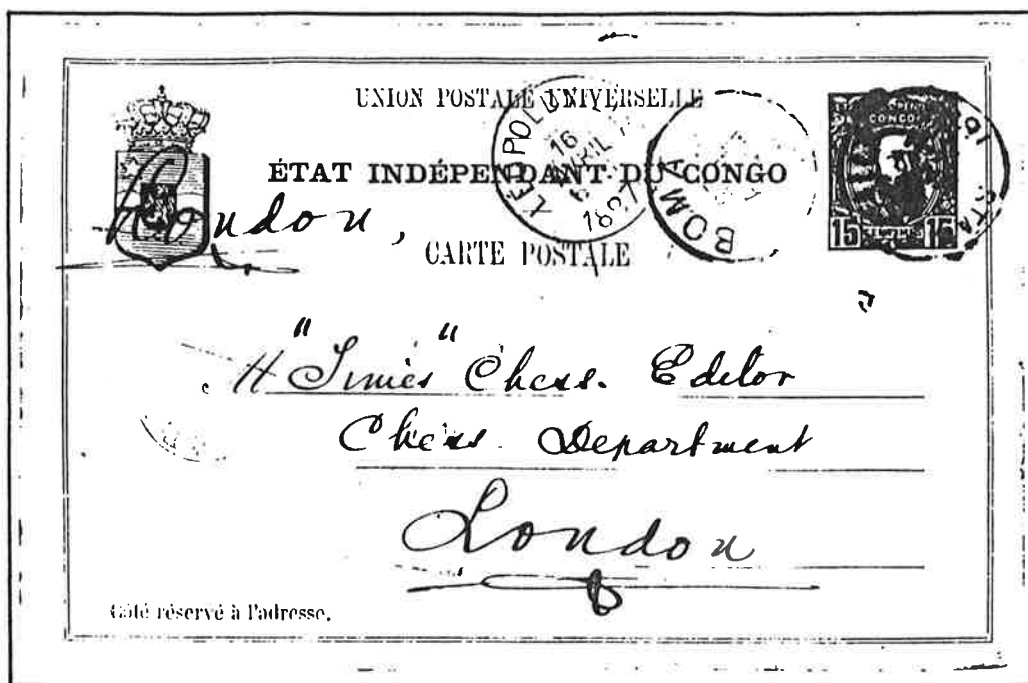
Yours faithfully
Philip Moureol

Ponthierville, Upper Congo.
6th March, 1897.

Dear Sir,

Faithful to my mission of propagating the noble game ~~so far~~ ^{as far} as lies in my power, I have - by dint of great patience and perseverance - succeeded in teaching ^{chess to} my negro boy. ~~the game~~
It may be interesting for your readers to hear this. I confess I found great difficulty at ~~work~~ ^{first}; but at length succeeded. I have given Swahili names to all the pieces, the chess-board, the moves etc. They are all words of my own invention. Castling I call pembem. Checkmate is mutumo, which literally means slave, and so on. As soon as I tell my faithful little nigger, Muledi, to arrange the pieces for the strife, he sets about it with a will. True, I always beat him in the end; but he often succeeds in depriving me of one or two pawns which his quick eye catches ^{without} ~~defence~~.

Yours faithfully
Philip Moureol



Did the game of chess become popular in the Congo since Philip Moureol was there?

PSvL

TWO INTERESTING DOCUMENTS

- 1) Our member, Mr. Vannerum, received years ago a confirmation from the postal administration of Zaire concerning the date of issue of the two postcards with the stamp "head of Mama Mobutu". These two postcards are particularly difficult to find in used condition.
- 2) During the occupation of Stanleyville by the rebels and the Revolution against the central government in Leopoldville from 5.8 until 30.11.1964, stamps were overprinted with "Republique Populaire".

These stamps are mentioned in the Official Catalogue (page 482 - 1999 issue). These stamps are unknown used on mail.

On the following pages we reprint (as best we can) a copy of the two invoices issued by the "Imprimerie Moderne" in Stanleyville for the overprinting of the stamps with the exact quantities of each stamp! The second invoice concerns the "souvenir" cards issued at the same time.

Emile Hoorens

République du Zaïre



Office National
des Postes
et Télécommunications
du Zaïre

Direction d'Etudes et Programmation Postes

A rappeler n°

En annexe :

Objet : Demande de renseignement
mises en circulation et
retrait de la "cartes Pos-
tales MAMAN MOBUTU S.S."-

(300ⁿ et 250ⁿ)

Kinshasa, le 29 NOV 1989

N° ONPTZ/ DEFP.23/1164/3-6/89.-

A Monsieur A. VANHERUM
Polderstraat 50
B-2700 St. Niklaas
Belgique.-

Monsieur,

En réponse à votre lettre sans date rel
tive à l'objet émarginé, nous avons le plaisir de vous informer ce qui suit

1. Deux cartes postales "MAMAN MOBUTU", ont été mises en circulation le 19 avril 1985.
2. Ces cartes ne sont pas encore retirées de la circulation.

En espérant que ces renseignements complèreront vos besoins, nous vous prions d'agréer, Cher Monsieur, l'assurance de notre considération distinguée.-

LE SOUS-DIRECTEUR DE PROGRAMMATION
DES POSTES

LE DIRECTEUR DES ETUDES ET PROGRAMMATION
DES POSTES

..KALOMBO KALUJILA..

..KALENGA TSAKANKINDA..



Imprimerie Moderne

S. C. P. R. L.

Stanleyville

REPUBLIQUE D' CONGO

REG. COM. STAN. 43 657

BANQUIERS

CREDIT CONGOLAIS No 5125

SOCOBANQUE No 255

BANQUE DU CONGO No 6127

TOUS TRAVAUX
D'IMPRIMERIE

FOURNITURES
DE BUREAU

PAPETERIE GENERALE
IMPORT

GROS - DETAIL

AGENCE EXCLUSIVE
DE VENTE
MACHINES A CALCULER
OLIVETTI
PRECISA
MADAS
MACHINES A ECRIRE
OLIVETTI
SIEMAG
HERMES
ALPINA

DUPLICATEURS
GESTEINER
REX - ROTARY

MOBILIERS METALLIQUES
DE BUREAU
T O S
SCLESSIN

TABLES A DESSIN
NESTLER
COMPAS
WILD

REGISTRES
LE DAUPHIN

PRODUITS
PAILLARD
GEMA
SOENNECKEN
PELIKAN
PELLETIER
STAEDTLER
ARMOR

MARQUINERIE
DE BUREAU

COFFRES - FORTS

ATELIER DE
MECANOGRAPHIE

SUCCURSALES A PAULIS - BUNIA - BENI - KINDU

N REP

V REP

Stanleyville, le

B. P. 2004

Tél. : 2332

CARTES D'EMISSIION

"REPUBLIQUE POPULAIRE"

3. 9. 1964

avec tirages serie unique à

0,70 - 1,60 - 2,40 - 7,50 - et 50 francs

5.026 cartes numérotées à 65 francs = 326.690,00

Pour reception

Le 20 octobre 1964

Propriete

V. KAMUKA

117:21

THE HUDSON COLLECTION OF CONGO AND RUANDA

For the past eighteen months, at the request of Mrs. Hudson and solely for her financial benefit, I have been selling Brian's vast collection and accumulation of duplicates through the Study Circle. Rare items and those I have considered of particular interest have been entered into our auction sales and available to all members. I have sold other stamps directly to members according to their wants lists which, to date, have been of those interested in reconstructing, with single stamps, complete sheets of the Mols issues - Brian's specialty.

There remain available to members at modest prices - 1/3 catalogue for most stamps but up to 1/2 for a few - very large numbers of stamps.

The major items available are:

- a) a number of completely reconstructed sheets of Mols and it is hoped to sell them as such.
- b) very many partly reconstructed sheets of Mols, each stamp identified by perforation, combination of printing plates and position in the sheet. These stamps are available individually to help fill members' wants lists.
- c) practically every 1923-60 stamp, unused and used, some in large quantities, available individually or, if a member wishes to study a particular stamp or issue, in bulk at 'wholesale' prices.
- d) unused Congo and Ruanda stamps overprinted for use in the newly independent states but only a few used.
- e) a good selection of unused postal stationery which, in total, would make an excellent start to a collection, or items will be sold individually.
- f) a considerable number of used 5c and 10c and a few 15c pictorial stationery cards.
- g) a large selection of post-1923 covers collected primarily for their cancellations.

Members are invited to submit their wants lists, general or specialised, or to indicate generally what they require to enhance their collections. I assure them that their wishes will have my full attention.

R. H. Keach,
25 Kingswood Road,
Tadworth,
Surrey KT20 5EE, GB

EDITOR'S NOTES

We will feature in future Bulletins a number of articles by R H Keach, the late Peter Foden and others which have appeared in other publications in the past and are still fresh in discovery and of great value. An example is the Keach article on "The Waterlow and Sons Postal Stationery of Belgian Congo and Ruanda Urundi" which appeared in the Waterlow Bulletin in April of 1988 which is as useful today as the day it was written. We will also have the promised "Railway of Benguela" article by E Hoorens, one on the transportation available in the North East of the Belgian Congo in 1927, one on the Tombeur issue by M. Frenay and hopefully new discoveries and submission by our members. Send articles and discoveries and let us have a "bang up" December issue.

EML