

BELGIAN CONGO



STUDY CIRCLE

President
Walter Deijnckens
Mariettalie 38
2930 Brasschaat
Belgium
e-mail:
walter.deijnckens@skynet.be

General Secretary
Michel Hopperets
Ave., Van Kelken 4/70
1070 Bruxelles
e-mail:
michel.hopperets@village.uunet.be

BULLETIN 132

September 2004

Bulletin Editor
Stuart S. Smith
'Lychgates', Pinfold Hill
Curbar-Calver,
Hope Valley, S32 3YL
England
e-mail:
sssCongo@aol.com

Librarian
Allan J.D. MacLaren
'Moray', 43 Millar Street,
Carnoustie. DD7 7AT
Scotland
e-mail:
allanjdmacclaren@blueyonder.co.uk

CONTENTS

Page(s)

From the Editor	- Stuart Smith	2
<i>Have you read it before?</i>		2
<i>Bulletin Illustrations</i>		2-3
<i>Member's questions</i>		3
<i>Articles for publication</i>		3
<i>Membership news</i>		3
Censure Militaire – Comdt de Bon	- Walter Deijnckens	4
Walter Nysten	- Walter Deijnckens	5-7
15 centimes – Combination IV4+C ! An update and review of combinations presently allocated as IV3+C and V+C1	- Stuart Smith	8-10
Internment Camps – 1940-1945	- Emile Hoorens	11-14
Useful Regional addresses		14
Auction 2004 (4) and results of 2004 (3)		Supplemental

B.C.S.C. website: <http://users.skynet.be/lindekens/>

From the Editor

Have you read it before?

The role of editor is full of surprises and challenges. At the time I volunteered to take on the job my predecessor Ron Strawser passed over a few articles he had not yet used and two of our Belgian members copied to me, articles that they thought must have been mislaid. On receipt, I simply divided them up in my own filing system so that I had a start for Bulletins 131 and 132.

Today (8th August), having completed the formatting of the first of two articles translated from French into English by my volunteer helper Michael Round, I began work on the second and in doing so sought to cross check a reference in the opening sentence which simply read:

“The announcement made in the October 1998 Bulletin concerning the ‘C.R.’ marking also appeared in a former Colonialist society publication. Etc”

The consequence of checking the said ‘October 1998 Bulletin’ revealed that there wasn’t one – but I didn’t stop looking and scrutinised everything published since that date. This brought success as there it was in the September 1999 Bulletin 113, and in my editorial capacity. I amended the opening sentence accordingly.

‘The story continues’

In making the translation Michael Round had raised a pertinent question asking, “*why should a French-speaking territory opt for an acronym ‘C.R.’ that translates into English but not French?*” I vaguely remembered from something I had read previously, a possible explanation and decided to seek it out. So the search continued and to my surprise I came across the very same article that I was just about to include in this Bulletin, already published in full in #115. Furthermore, the first of the two ‘translated’ articles that was by now fully prepared for publication (about 8 hours work) had also previously been published in #116.

In a way the outcome is a successful one in that I can bin and forget what I had received but after much soul searching, and as the newly formatted ‘*Internment Camps in the Belgian Congo, 1940-1945*’ now reads more easily and has some coloured illustrations, (see below) I have decided to include it in this issue in its new much condensed format.

‘And there is more’

Having been alerted to the possibility of duplication, I checked the content of the last Bulletin # 131 and owe an apology – albeit an accident of fate and assumption! I apologise for the fact that whilst in the editorial of that issue I quite vehemently stated the case for not reprinting articles already published – I did just that and in the absence of comment from the author, I assume he hasn’t noticed. So if you thought you had read it before, I acknowledge that ‘*Belgian Congo Censorship 1940-1945 by Emile Hoorens, p.18*’ was a repeat and first published in #115, March 2000.

The Bulletin - illustrations in colour.

The articles submitted for publication are frequently supported by coloured illustrations and the master copy is prepared using what comes, be it colour or black and white photocopy. It occurs to me that some members may be prepared to pay a small premium and receive their Bulletin as originally prepared, rather than in a black and white photocopied format.

At the present time it is neither financially nor practically viable to provide the ‘*Bulletin with coloured illustrations*’ to all members, but for an initial trial period of up to 12 months I am happy to experiment and personally provide such a service to members in the U.K. and mainland Europe. If you are one of our European members and wish to participate then let me know. The cost of each Bulletin for those living in the U.K. will be £3 per issue and for those in Belgium, Denmark, France, Spain, Sweden or Switzerland €5 per issue. U.K. members should send and make their cheque payable to ‘Stuart Smith’ and our Continental members should send me a €5 note. For those who are interested may I suggest you try one issue, and having seen the difference then decide whether you wish to continue. If you have an email facility I will acknowledge money received by that means; failing that it is necessary to trust me or (UK members) enclose a stamp-addressed envelope.

Please note that during the trial period this offer is in addition to your current membership dues, and does not include or change the existing arrangement for website access to and supply of the 'Auction list'. If you purchase the 'coloured illustrations issues' it/they will in future replace your normal black and white copy.

By way of a thank you, it is my intention to send a 'coloured illustrated Bulletin' free of charge to all members whose articles are published in it - *irrespective of their address*

Members Questions – Answered?

With regard to 'Members Questions, Bulletin 130' – I have received no specific response with regard to 'Guillaume Nyssens correspondence.' though our President has latched on to the somewhat similar 'Nysten' and written an enquiring article relating to this renowned forger.

U.K. member Patrick Ellis enquired about 'C de D' – Comdt de Bon, and there is some additional and interesting information on this topic.

Articles for Publication

As your 'recycled editor' I reiterate a common plea – most if not all articles are likely to be of interest to someone, so please keep them coming. A 'favourite cover' has proved very popular and I feel sure that just about everyone could add something in this field. Please give it a thought and help if you can. Almost without exception articles or lesser contributions, arrive in a typed format, but there are the odd one or two exceptions and unless the contribution is short, handwritten copy can be a real time consuming problem. If at all possible – please type or get typed by a friend, and ideally prepared on a computer so it can be sent to me as an attachment to an e-mail. It will be a great help and save me many hours in preparation.

Additionally and because over a period of time I am aiming at the Bulletin being a colour production – illustrations in colour will be a bonus. If you don't have a computer and/or colour copying facilities, I feel sure there must be a friend who could at least help with illustrations, even if nobody is prepared to do the typing!

Having said all that – do not be put off by my 'one wish' as handwritten with photocopied illustrations will still be very welcome.

News of Members

We offer congratulations to our former editor Ron Strawser who exhibited at the Indianapolis National 'Indypex' show. He received Gold Medals for both his entries - 'Belgian Congo Mols Issues 1894-1925' and 'Belgian Congo Postal Cards'. In addition the post card entry received the 'Marcus White' award and his Mols the 'Indypex 20th Century' award.

Addresses

Address change or correction. Amend to read –

- USA**
- Ken Goss: e-mail 'kgoss@comcast.net'
 - Regis Hoffman: 71 Brookside Blvd., Pittsburgh. PA 15241
e-mail 'rmh@cobweb.net'
- Belgium**
- R.Gallant: Avenue Sylvain Dupuis, 306/5. 1070 Bruxelles
 - Danny van der Hauwaert: Poelensstraat, 37. 3550 Heusden Zolder
 - Ludo Achten: e-mail 'ludoachten@hotmail.com'

Obituary

It is with regret that we record the death of our American member Xavier Verbeck.

Censure Militaire – Comdt de Bon

By – Walter Deijnckens

In response to the question asked by our UK member Patrick Ellis about the Commandant 'Comdt de Bon' (Bulletin #130), I am able to add a little gist to his short article and very interesting 1st World War card.

Usually if you write an article you put the references and bibliography at the end, but this time I will start with it.

To explain the postal history of the card illustrated below I have referred to:

'Ch. Stockmans – Congo Belge et Ruanda-Urundi, Septante-sept ans d'histoire postale en Afrique Central 1885-1962, Tome III (17.12.2001) pages 195-197.

'J.M. Frenay – Les Postes Militaire Belge dans l'Est Africain allemand pendant la guerre 1914-1918, page 3.

'A. Vindevoghel – Chronologie des Mouvements des Troupes Militaire Belges dans l'Afrique Oriental Allemand pendant la guerre 1914-1918 (juillet 1993) pages 4 and 27.

The cover was sold in a Van Looy & Van Looy auction and was described as:

'Baraka 15th January 1916, Stanleyville 5th February 1916, Vissingen 6th April 1916. Very rare round cancellation of the Dutch censor "Censure Militaries" on the face.'



The cover was sent to the Belgian Consul at Flushing by César Aerts of the 'Force Publique', based in Baraka. It was cancelled at Uvira 15th January 1916, bears the transit mark of Stanleyville on 5th February and arrived in Vissingen (Postman D23) on the 8th April.

.....

We know that 'censor marks' were officially approved by E. Henry at Boma on 1st May 1916 but there were no instructions with what style or format such censor marks should comply. On this cover it appears that Lieutenant Colonel Huyghé was already using this round mark with the words '**CENSURE MILITAIRE ☆ COMDT DE BON**' in January 1916.

The VII Battalion had been at Baraka since May the previous year and the 3rd and 4th regiments were ready to go to Goma for the conquest of Ruanda via Kigali, Biaramulo-St. Michael and Tabora.

According to J.M. Frenay this round military censor mark was produced by the 'Chef de Bataillon' Commandant Fontaine, and had been seen on a stationery card sent from a soldier of the 'VII Bataillon de l'est' dated 26 April 1918. So far I have been unable to find any information about Commandant de Bon so we are still a little in the dark.

Walter Nysten
By - Walter Deijnckens



The infamous signature

In Bulletin 130 we published details of a letter received by Philippe Lindekens enquiring if any member might have knowledge of or correspondence to Guillaume Nyssens, a Congo agent who died in Basoko in 1904. The enquirer was clearly researching his ancestors but as far as I know there has been no positive response.

From our perspective the letter was interesting because of the name similarity with that of Walter Nysten whose activities are currently under investigation by our President, Walter Deijnckens. Walter has this to say:

'As of now, I have been able to trace the Walter Nysten covers from 12th Decmber1934 up until just after the Second World War – let us say 1946. Before the war he lived here in Antwerp at Avenue des Petits Coqs, 156 and afterwards moved to rue Van Schoonbeke, 81.

L'Abbé Gudenkauf in 'Postal History of the Lado Enclave' has already referred to the dubious activities of Nysten and referred to him as "the infamous Antwerp forger". My studies are to try to establish whether all the covers he had sent to his own address have genuine cancellations or not. It would also be very interesting to discover where he sourced and got all his information from.'

'Although Walter Nysten called himself a 'philatéliste', my enquiries among all the existing stamp circles, confirms that none of the elder members can recall having heard of anybody called Nysten. As yet I have not found any publications from him or any references to him, apart from l'Abbé's comments quoted above. My next resource and challenge will be to try to get documentary information from the Antwerp Town Hall, and see if there are still members of the Nysten clan listed somewhere in their records.'



*Use of this 12 dot Retta has not been verified on mail from the Lado. This piece is regarded as a fake and attributed as the handwork of Nysten.
(Stuart Smith)*

The following Paquebot items illustrate some Walter Nysten contributions!

Holland West Afrika Lijn

The line was founded in 1920 and closed in 1969. Smaller ships included 'kerk' in their names such as the *s.s.Amstelkerk*, *s.s.Maaskerk* and *s.s.Waalkerk*. The larger vessels used 'stroom' and having previously been ships of the 'Holland Stroomboot Maatschappij Amsterdam' line – typified by the *s.s.Eemstroom*, *s.s.Reggestroom* and *s.s.Drechtstroom*.

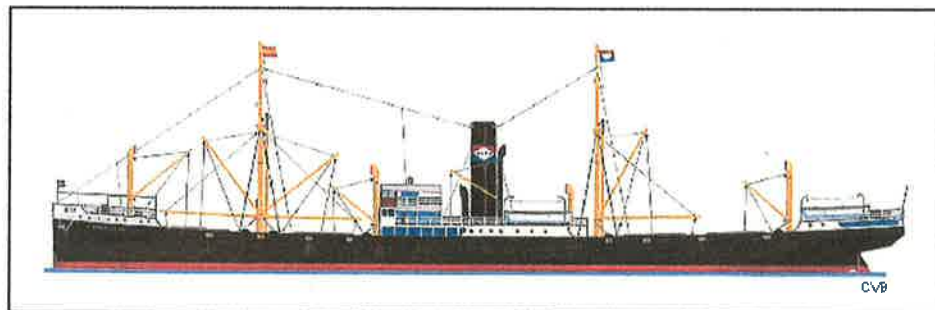
Other ships were chartered from 'N.V.Koninklijke Hollandsche Lloyd' or from 'Koninklijke Nederlandssche Stoomboot Maatschappij.'

The first illustration is a cover addressed to Walter Nysten and was posted on board the *s.s.Reggestroom* in the Le Havre harbour on 3rd August 1936 as confirmed by the 'LE HAVRE/SEINE INFERIEURE' stamp. It arrived in Antwerp 12th June 1936 where it received a tax due 'T 30 cents' because of the 'Post Restante' address.



Figure 1.

s.s.Reggestroom - 'Hollandsche Stoomboot Maatschappij'



Built by Mij. Fijenoord, Rotterdam. 2836 T; circa 105x14m; 12 knots; 12 passengers.

The *s.s.Reggestroom* had its own 'house stamp canceller' as used on the three 'Stanley stamps' (Fig.1) and served the 'Holland West Afrika Lijn' from 1925 until it was sunk off Portland Bill by a German E-Boat in July 1942.

s.s. Helder

The *s.s.Helder* used the same design of 'house stamp canceller' as the '*Reggestroom*'. Illustrated below (Fig.2) is a cover posted on board and handed over to the Bordeaux post office where it had both the 'PAQUEBOT' and 'BORDEAUX/31-1-34/GIRONDE' receiving office applied.

Figure 3 shows another cover with the *s.s.Hilder* 'house canceller' and this one is addressed to Walter Nysten. It is clearly philatelic and of particular interest because it also carries the same 'LE HAVRE/SEINE INFÉRIEURE' stamp used on same date, 3rd August 1936, as that illustrated on the *s.s.Reggestroom* (Fig.1).



Figure 2.

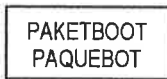


Figure 3.

PAKETBOOT/PAQUEBOT

In measuring the size of this mark the frame is 21 x 13mm
 PAKETBOOT is 16mm and PAQUEBOT 14mm.

These measurements are the same on the Nysten covers as well as on many other letters, postcards and pieces.



Illustrated below are two pieces and a Picture Card of the m/v Albertville (6).

- (i) Fig.4 from the 'Tervaete' – a ship used by 'CMB' from 1947 until 1965
- (ii) Fig.5 posted on board the 'Gouverneur Galopin' in service from 1946-1959.
- (iii) Fig.6 posted with a Spanish stamp at Teneriffe and cancelled on arrival in Antwerp 8th June 1948. The Albertville (6) served during the period from 1948 to 1973.

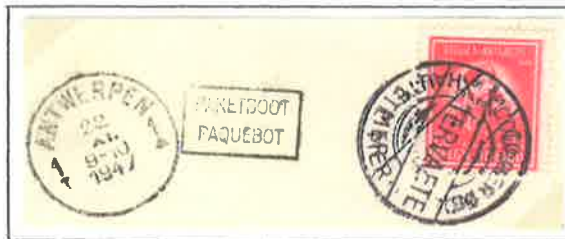


Figure 4.



Figure 5.



Figure 6.

15 Centimes
Combinations IV3 + C1 and V+C1
An update and review of the plating characteristics
 By – *Stuart Smith*



If you have had or are finding it difficult to position a 1915, 15 Centimes stamp with the two dots engraved in the upper left and right margins thus identifying it as from plate V – try again as it could be from the much scarcer IV3. It is also suggested that what we currently attributed as Plate 'V', is actually Plate IV4.

According to Du Four:

'15 Centimes Plate V – Cette planche se distingue de toutes les autres par la présence dans toutes les figurines d'un minuscule trait courbe i) dans la marge gauche à hauteur du sommet du C de CONGO BELGE, ii) dans la marge droite à hauteur de l'angle supérieur droit du rectangle guilloché.'

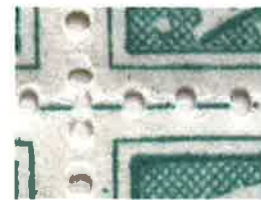
According to Keach and Hudson:

'If the stool of the G (in BELGE) is weak and broken, one then looks for tiny green circles engraved in the left and right margins of the stamp, just outside the frames and about 1mm from the top on each side. If these circles are present the frame plate is V; otherwise it is IV or a booklet stamp.'

Our 'plating' members will be aware that the combinations allocated to the 15 Centimes value have been under constant review and re-classified on several occasions since Du Four's 'Congo - Cinquante ans d'histoire Postale' was first published. You may also care to note that as a result of my recent studies a small sector of your 15 Centimes collection may need a partial rewrite as it does negate the idea that the 'two miniscule dots' engraved just outside the frames, determines that the stamp is specifically from frame plate V. I now suggest this never was and is no longer the case!

By way of a reminder it is presently understood that:

1. The three states of frame plate IV (IV1, IV2, IV3) are identified by the indistinct and weak curves in the stool of G in BELGE, (caused by a damaged transfer roll) in conjunction with the absence of the two tiny dots.
2. Frame plates IV1 and IV2 are identical except for the presence of lay marks which created IV2 - dividing 18,19/28,29 and 12,13/22,23.
3. IV3 can only be identified by doubling in positions 5,15,25,35, and 45.



Illustrating IV3+C, #5 ►

What is new?

Combination IV3+C

i) Doubling in positions 5,15,25,35 is fairly clear to see but in the case of # 45, the most obvious change is the removal of the previously very clear and prominent horizontal line running parallel and extending beyond the top right hand frame. Note also the extension of the inner frame line in IV2. *(The very prominent entries in IV2 (#45) have been removed and replaced by another rather weak one.)*



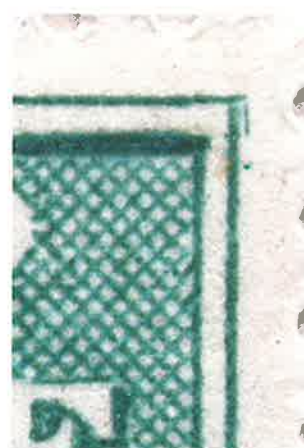
Combination IV2+C #45



Combination IV3+C #45

ii) Much more importantly, and as far as I know not previously been recorded, is the presence in positions 5,15,25,35, of *'tiny green circles engraved in the left and right margins of the stamp, just outside the frames and about 1mm from the top on each side'*.

In #45 there is only one tiny circle in the right hand position. In essence this is the very same feature that until now has been used as the 'rule of thumb' to determine that the stamp is supposedly from frame plate V.



Combination IV3+C #25

Combination V+C - is it IV4+C ?

It would appear that the small dots introduced in plate 'IV3' served a useful purpose as they were added to all positions when the new plate 'V' was created. However in creating the 'so-called' plate 'V' -

- (i) It is most surprising that plate 'V' incorporates the very weak curve in the stool of 'G'. It is unrealistic to believe that a new frame plate was produced and the "consequence of the damaged transfer roll in frame IV" was incorporated in it.
- (ii) The small circles were introduced in all positions and where duplicated are apparently identically positioned to those in 'IV3'.
- (iii) The same lay marks remained when plate V was created.

And just to complete the picture for the 'platers':

(iv) In addition to those referred to above, there is an identically positioned small circle in position 29 of both 'IV3' and 'V' and the top left outer frame lines have the very similar characteristics



Combination IV3+C #29



Combination V+CI #29

Peter Foden in Bulletin #29 (April 1977) verified that Du Four's original allocation of centre plate 'D' was in fact 'C2' and stated also:

"...the normal practice would have been to re-enter the existing plate if at all possible, rather than go to the trouble and expense of constructing yet another."

He concluded with:

"The mystery of the new frame plate (referring to frame plate 'V') still remains to be solved, but perhaps further evidence will come to light to indicate that this too is also a re-entered state of a previous plate."

27 years later and armed with evidence from a complete sheet of combination IV3+C (which Peter must not have known of) - I suggest that what we currently attribute to combination V+C is really IV4+C. Whatever your opinion, I invite you to consider and comment.

.....

With specific reference to combination IV3+C and by way of summary, the knowledge we now have confirms the following plating characteristics:

1. *(Already recorded)* There are re-entries in the fifth column to 5,15,25,35 and 45. This is apparent in the top right hand corner in the form of an extension of the horizontal outer frame line as well as the doubling of the upper vertical frame.
2. *(New information)* The presence of tiny green circles engraved in both the left and right margins about 1mm from the top on each side (formerly attributed to plate V only) exists in positions 5,15,25 and 35.
3. *(New information)* A similarly positioned tiny green circle exists outside the left hand margin in position 29 and the right hand margin in 45.
4. None of these characteristics exist in combinations IV1 and IV2.

Internment Camps in the Belgian Congo 1940-1945

By - Emile Hoorens.



It is no secret that several aspects of Belgian Congo postal history for the period 1940-45 still need clarification. The existence and the history of 'Internment Camps' is definitely one such matter, about which scarcely anything is known.

According to discovered documents, the only camps known are those of N'GULE and ELISABETHVILLE, both in Katanga. There may have been others in the north of the Congo or at Leopoldville. On this subject, the newspaper 'Le Soir' dated 18th October 1940, published a short extract from its 18th October. 1940 issue, concerning the existence of an internment camp for Italians on board a boat at Leopoldville – though at that time the newspaper was in the hands of the Germans, and called 'Le Soir volé' (Fig. 1).

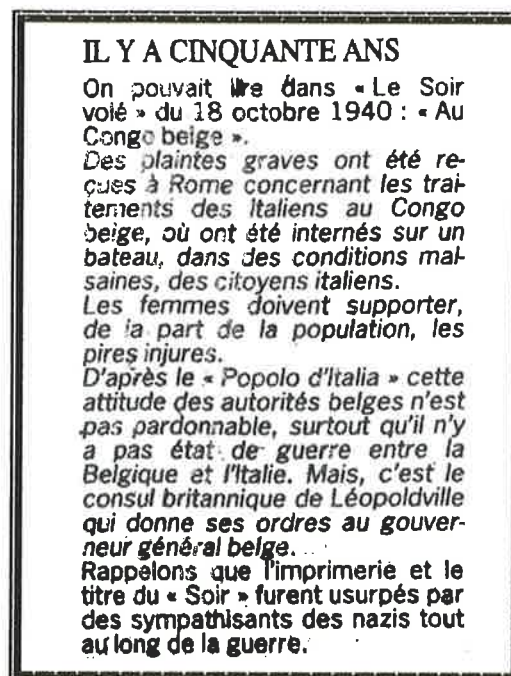


Figure 1.

Whilst remembering that Nazi sympathisers throughout the war managed both the printers and the 'Soir' newspaper, the translated content reads as follows:

'FIFTY YEARS AGO

One could read in <Le Soir volé> of 18th October 1940 - <In the Belgian Congo>. Grave complaints have been received in Rome about the treatment of Italians in the Belgian Congo, where Italian citizens have been interned on a boat, in unhealthy conditions.

Women have to deal with the worst injuries among the population.

According to the <Popolo d'Italia> the attitude of the Belgian authorities is not acceptable, especially since there is no state of war between Belgium and Italy. But it is the British Consul at Leopoldville who gives orders to the Belgian Governor-General."

With regard to the camps at Elisabethville and N'Gule, known dates range from 30th March. 1942 (Fig. 2) to 28th October 1947 (Fig. 9). From sparse information gathered from former Colonial inhabitants, Italians and Germans living in the Congo in 1940 were interned as civilians - they included doctors, missionaries and businessmen!

The following illustrations provide some information but also raise several questions.

Figure 2. This letter to Florence (Italy) came out of the Elisabethville internment camp on 30th March 1942 and was carried (by air?) via Lisbon. It was censored three times: successively in the Belgian Congo, Great Britain and on arrival in Italy. It is the only letter I own relating to the Elisabethville camp



Figure 2.

Figure 3 illustrates a letter from N'Gule Camp, posted to Switzerland on 5th May 1942. It has no censor or transit markings. The 8 francs postage does not tally with the airmail rate to Switzerland.



Figure 3.

In accordance with international agreements and the Geneva Convention, internees could use the Red Cross message service. The example illustrated in *figure 4* departed Geneva on 5th December 1943 for Ganyo Sake via Albertville and Bukama. It bears the Belgian Congo censor strike. On arrival at its destination, it was forwarded to the N'Gule camp.

Note the over-use of the term 'concentration' camp instead of 'internment' camp. In 1942 it is very doubtful that anyone in the Belgian Congo knew the realities of German concentration camps.

The internee sent his reply on 29th March 1944 (Fig.5) and an arrival cachet was applied (in Geneva?) on 22nd June 1944.

No Red Cross messages are known sent abroad from these camps.

COMITE INTERNATIONAL DE LA CROIX-ROUGE
Palais du Conseil Général
GENEVE (Suisse)

DEMANDEUR -- ANFRAGESTELLER -- ENQUIRER
Nom - Name: MERLO
Prénom - Vorname: Ugo
Rue - Strasse - Street: ~~Camp de concentration GANYO SAKI~~
Localité - Ortschaft - Locality: ~~Belém~~
Province - Provinz - County: ~~Angola~~
Pays - Land - Country: Congo Belge

Message à transmettre -- Mitteilung -- Message
(25 mots au maximum, nouvelles de caractère strictement personnel et familial) -
(nicht über 25 Worte, nur persönliche Familiennachrichten) - (not over 25 words,
family news of strictly personal character).

Caro fratello - Il tuo diritto parte
notizie di Paola e d'Valeria.
Le tue tentativi fare a Lina
ere. Sarai così? Sottoscriverò
Ti scrivo - Baci affettuosi
Date - Datum: 5 XI 1943

DESTINATARIO -- EMPFÄNGER -- ADDRESSEE
Nom - Name: MERLO
Prénom - Vorname: Ugo
Rue - Strasse - Street: ~~Camp de concentration GANYO SAKI~~
Localité - Ortschaft - Locality: ~~Belém~~
Province - Provinz - County: ~~Angola~~
Pays - Land - Country: Congo Belge

RÉPONSE AU VERSO ANTWORT UMSEITIG REPLY OVERLEAF
Please write very clearly

Figure 4

RÉPONSE ANTWORT REPLY
Message à renvoyer au demandeur -- Mitteilung an Anfragesteller
Message to be returned to the sender
(25 mots au maximum, nouvelles de caractère strictement personnel et familial) -
(nicht über 25 Worte, nur persönliche Familiennachrichten) - (not over 25 words,
family news of strictly personal character).

Ricevo tue lettere quasi regolarmente
e sono felice di poter sempre essere in
contatto con voi tutti. Ho pure ottenuto
buone notizie affetto tuo Ugo

DATE: 29 mars 1944

Formulaire-réponse envoyé de NGULE
à la Croix-Rouge au Genève, 22 JUNE 1944.

22 JUN 1944
Please write very clearly

Figure 5.

The same Italian internee wrote a memo on 13th October 1943 to a missionary at Irumu to thank him for taking care of his son. (Fig.6)

CONGO BELGE
Camp Internement
NGULE

Ugo Merlo
CAMP D'INTERNEMENT DE NGULE

Ngule. le 13-X-43
Monsieur Reverend Paul Hubert
Mission de Irumu - Rubombo

Cher Monsieur -
J'ai été très heureux pour les bonnes nouvelles que
vous me donnez de Dario et pour le petit billet écrit le
10 maiin le 21 août p. - Des que j'aurai l'argent je lui
enverrai le petit - ball qu'il desire.
Avez-vous reçu une caisse que j'ai expédié il
y a deux mois?

Figure 6

The last three letters post-date the end of the war. (Figures 7, 8 and 9.) For some unknown reason, German civilians were apparently still interned in 1947. These three letters date from 7th January, 17th March and 28th October 1947. The British Occupation authorities in Germany censored two of the three letters.

“Despite much research, no official information can be found concerning these camps. Every archive consulted remains silent on the subject! Any information, from other collectors or former Congo inhabitants can provide any information; will be most welcome, as would photocopies of any similar



Figure 7.



Figure 8.



Figure 9.

(This article is a reformatted version of that previously published in Bulletin 116 – Editor)

A few useful addresses

Belgium

Sec., Treasurer, Bulletin distributor
Emile R. Hoorens
Ave., Eugène Ysaye, 105/1
1070 Brussels.

Expert Committee Chairman

Leo Tavano
Rue Wazon 26,
4000 Liège.

Packet Secretary

Charles Henuzet
Place St.Roch 30,
5620 Saint Aubin.

U.K. & Rest of World

Bulletin distributor
Norman Clowes
20 Ogwen Drive,
Lakeside, Cardiff. CF23 6LL

Packet Secretary

W. Hal Hoyte
104 Willow Street,
Oswestry, Shropshire
Shropshire. SY11 1AL

U.S.A

Secretary & Treasurer
David A. Schaubroeck
4515 SE Peachwood Terrace
Stuart, Florida 34997

Bulletin distributor

Edwin M. Lavitt
P.O.Box 900,
Rockville, CT 0607