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BULLETIN 173

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The Study Circle website
www.belgian-congo-study-circle.be

Annual Subscriptions – 2017

The following subscription rates were approved at the March 2016 A.G.M. They have been increased, after being unchanged for a number of years.

Region	Subscription
UK	£20 (£15 for those who receive the Bulletin, etc. by e-mail)
Belgium	18€ (18€ for those who receive the Bulletin, etc. by e-mail)
Other European counties	24€ (18€ for those who receive the Bulletin, etc. by e-mail)
USA	\$29 (\$25 for those who receive the Bulletin, etc. by e-mail)
Rest of the World	30€ (18€ for those who receive the Bulletin, etc. by e-mail)

Payment due on 1st January 2017.

How to pay

Members living in the UK:

1. by electronic bank transfer to our account with the Carnoustie Branch of the 'TSB Bank Ltd.' (Sort Code 87-68-23):
Account Name: "Belgian Congo Study Account"
Account No: 78375760
IBAN GB30 TSBS 8768 2378 3757 60
BIC TSBSGB21013
- or 2. by a cheque drawn on a UK bank, payable to "Belgian Congo Study Account" and sent by post to the General Treasurer, Charles Lloyd at 18 Linefield Road, Carnoustie, Angus DD7 6DP, Scotland, U.K.

Members living in Belgium and other European countries that are members of the Euro currency zone:

1. by direct payment into the Study Circle's bank account with the "BNP Paribas Fortis":
IBAN BE51 0016 0051 5962
BIC GEBABEBB
2. by PayPal to belgiancongostudycircle@hotmail.com. When using this method, please add 4½% to your subscription (e.g. 81c if it is 18€) for the PayPal charges which the Study Circle will pay. (For more information, please see Bulletin 171.)

Members living in the USA

There is no change to the existing arrangement and payment should be made to David Schaubroeck.

All other members who do not live in countries mentioned above. (i.e. Other European counties not using the Euro and those in the 'Rest of World')

1. by direct payment into the Study Circle's bank account with the "BNP Paribas Fortis":
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BIC GEBABEBB
2. by PayPal to belgiancongostudycircle@hotmail.com. When using this method, please add 4½% to your subscription (e.g. 81c if it is 18€) for the PayPal charges which the Study Circle will pay. (For more information, please see Bulletin 171.)

It is necessary to restrict the collection of subscriptions from this group of members to one site (Belgium) and only in Euros because the procedure used previously was very difficult to administer. If any member has a problem with this new arrangement, please would he/she e-mail the General Treasurer (charles.lloyd@blueyonder.co.uk)

Membership News

New address e-mail

France

Bruce LOCKHART

bruce.lockhart@comhem.se

Meeting at London, 17th September 2016



On Saturday 17th September we had the pleasure to travel to London and meet with members of the East Africa Study Circle in a room at the Union Jack Club, Waterloo, London. It had been a decade since the last joint meeting of the study circles and a number of members of the East African Study Circle came armed with material or questions for our members to examine or answer.

Over 30 individuals were present and included Charles Lloyd, Bruce Lockhart, Dr. Marc Oblin, Théo Schilderman, Harald Krieg, Gerald Mariner and Charles Henuzet from the Belgian Congo Study Circle. Members Eric Coulton and Tony Belfield could not attend but sent material to display. (Thierry Frennet, our President, had been due to be there but unfortunately an accident a few days before prevented this. Everyone hoped his recovery would be speedy and was disappointed that they would not see items from his collection.)

The theme was "Topics of mutual philatelic interest". When welcoming us, the President of the EASC noted that this joint meeting was timely, because it is the centenary of the capture of Tabora by Belgian forces (19th September) and the occupation of Itigi by British forces (6th October). This marked the end of one phase of the war in East Africa and the start of a period of considerable philatelic interest. The reception was very warm.

We took pleasure examining high quality philatelic items on sheets that members had selected from their collections. These included the 1st and 2nd L.A.R.A., the Fabry and van der Linden raid, Tabora during the Belgian occupation period, Kigoma, post-(first)-war Lake Tanganyika paquebot mail, a fascinating German internee cover (see *Can you help?*), World War II, GEA with Belgian colonial interest and the BPCVPK cancellation. As you have read, a considerable array of material was displayed in a time that was all too brief. Nevertheless, our time at the meeting allowed us to have a very interesting exchange of questions and answers.

Obituary

Emile Hoorens 1934 – 2016

Members will be saddened to hear that Emile has passed away at the age of 82. For many years he was Secretary of the BCSC, before becoming its President in March 1999, an office he held until March 2001. In addition, he also held many senior positions in other

major philatelic clubs. To mention just one, Emile took over from Dr. Stibbe as director of sales at the *Société Belge de l'Entier Postal*, an office that he held for 17 years!



Emile was an avid collector of the postal stationery of Belgium, the Belgian Congo, Portugal and colonies, Canada and the Netherlands and its territories. He was especially renowned as an authority on the postal history of the Belgian Congo, particularly during the 40/45 war and Katanga. He wrote a book on Katangese philately which is highly sought after today. He owns a very important collection of Belgian Congo censor marks which date back to that wartime period.

Emile was a regular visitor to the Rue du Midi, where he would be seen often on Tuesday mornings, over several decades. He was invariably good-natured and ready to give advice or highly detailed information on his various specialist fields.

His hobby often took him abroad to international exhibitions and philatelic events. He was employed by General Biscuits and frequently called upon to travel to the USA on company business. (As an expert on customs relations, he was consulted regularly by his former employer after retirement.) Retirement allowed him to visit to the USA several times and to travel many times to Germany, Switzerland, France, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom in search of rare items.

While his death leaves a huge vacuum in our hearts, we retain fond memories of Emile.

Vincent Schouberechts

The Belgian Congo Study Circle Bulletin archive on CD and some notes on the history of the bulletin.

Charles Lloyd

Saturday 10th February 1951 was a momentous day for all Belgian Congo collectors. At 2:30 pm six philatelists met at 12 Avenue Mansions, Finchley Road, London NW4, (the home of Doris Green) to form "The Belgian Congo Specialists' Study Circle".

Those present were Mmes D Green and PG Creswell, Messrs. WJ Thrasher, AG Wood, J Wright and RH Keach. (Five others: Messrs CH Compton, LG Green, L Barker, J Knight and DB Prichard sent their apologies for being absent.) Having agreed to form such a Study Circle, they considered the matter of office bearers and decided to have just one, a permanent Honorary Secretary and he would be Ray Keach.

There was to be a 1 Guinea (£1.05) subscription because the initial costs were expected to be high! (Today's equivalent purchasing value is £32.45.)

All agreed that there should be a regular bulletin or newsletter and that it might contain:

- A summary of the previous meeting
- A chronicle of new issues
- Notes on new literature and reference to articles on the Belgian Congo in current

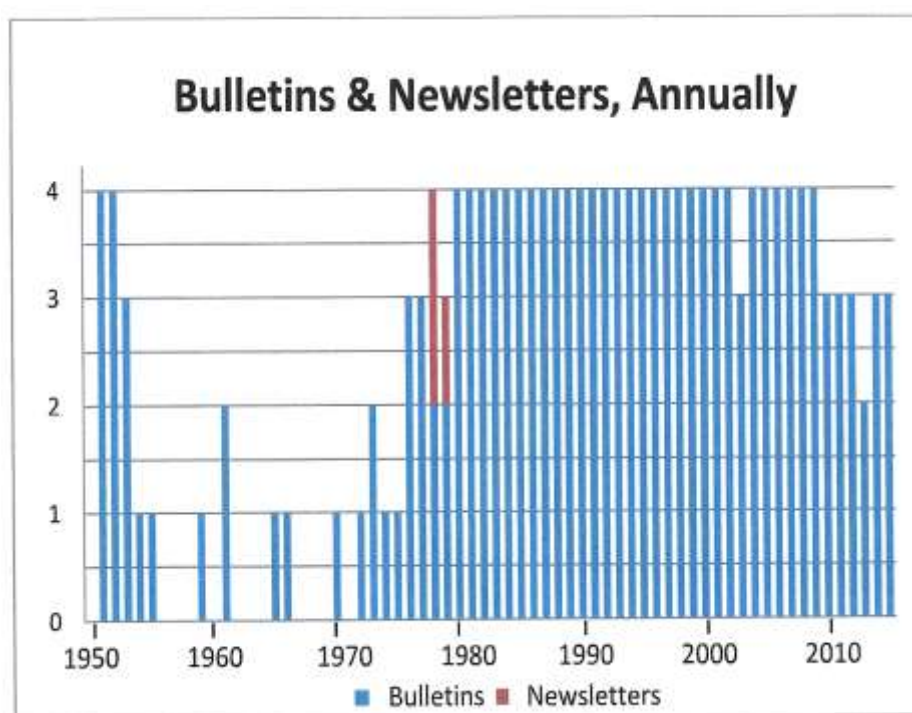
literature

- Prices realised at recent auctions
- Members want lists
- Notes on surplus material of which members would like to dispose
- Queries and answers

As Hon. Secretary, one of Ray Keach's duties would be to edit of the Bulletin. It is surprising, perhaps, that there is no reference to research articles. This may account for the appearance of many supplements to early editions of the Bulletin, supplements that present research.

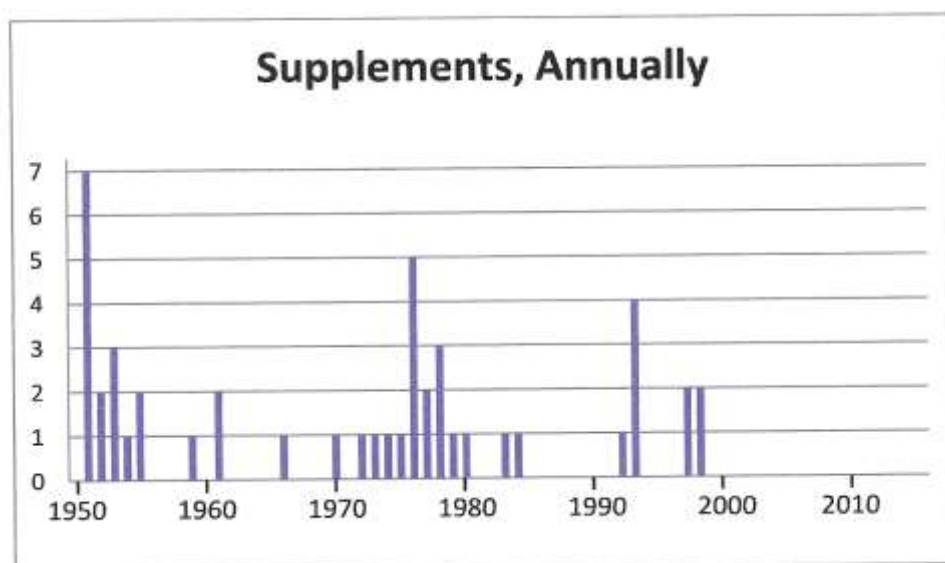
After concluding business the six founders sat down to the more enjoyable part of the meeting, "...discussing their stamps and inspecting collections brought by other members..." (Sixty five years later the preference of members at meetings remains unchanged. i.e. to study stamps rather than listen to officers talking!) It must have been a very enjoyable day because they continued until 10pm. No doubt discussions on the finer points of Belgian Congo philately continued during their tea and dinner breaks.

By the end of 2016 one hundred and seventy three editions of the Bulletin had been published together with three newsletters (in the late 1970s). As you see in the first chart, during the first 25 years the bulletin was not published regularly and to some extent its delivery depended on the time available to Ray. However, from the start, the founding members realised that the frequency, size and quality of the bulletin would depend upon members sending the editor suitable material. Four to six editions per year, as suggested at that first meeting, was an aspiration and not, as it turned out, the reality.



By the late 1970s publication had stabilised at quarterly, although to achieve this some bulletins were distinctly thin. The same constraint continued to exist – the editor had to use whatever material was available to him at the time of publication. More recently, three bulletins a year have been produced, but each with a decent number of pages.

The second chart shows the distribution of Supplements over time. Supplements were used for a variety of purposes – reproduction of articles from other publications, corrections to Heim & Keach, research etc.



Clearly, the era of the supplement was the first half of the existence of the bulletin. Supplements were variable in length, from a single page up to 49 pages. By 1990 their appearance was exceptional and confined to two major research undertakings published over several editions. These were the *tours de force* of Hudson (plating of the Mols stamps) and Goddeeris (varieties on Mols sheetlets).

In total, over the years, 5380 pages have been printed. Each bulletin was produced using the technology of the day. In the 1950s the pages would be typewritten on cyclograph duplicating sheets to produce stencils for printing. In this process the type key cuts through a special quality paper coated with a thin surface of wax. Placed on a drum, ink would be forced through the stencil holes and onto the receiving paper. Our first two editors printed the Bulletin by this means (usually referred to by the name of the originator and dominant company, *Gestetner* copying).

The quality was acceptable and arguably better than the alternative of carbon copies, but it is in no way near the sharpness that we expect today. *Gestetner* copying gave way to modern photocopying in the 1970s as the cost of consumables per sheet fell and photocopy machines became affordable. When Stuart Smith became editor in 1977 he changed production to photocopying. Although the quality greatly improved, it depended upon the photocopier available to each successive editor. The quality of some illustrations in this era leaves a lot to be desired. [Some of the archived sheets are photocopies (and not the master copies) which are not as good for scanning.]

The adoption of photocopying by Stuart presented him with a problem which today is less prevalent through the adoption of global (ISO) standardisation. (Perhaps the last remaining common object not subject to such standardisation is the humble electric plug. When we go on holiday an adaptor must be taken. Ever forgotten to do so?) Under Ray Keach & Peter Foden the bulletin was printed on British Imperial Foolscap size paper (8 inches x 13 inches). The British public (including Ray & Peter) were reluctant to change to the new metric (ISO) A4 size (210 mm x 297 mm), even though metric sizes were adopted as a British Standard in 1959 – it was a case of “old habits die hard”. By 1977 the UK was a

member of the EEC and photocopiers in Europe were set to the metric standard. Stuart had a problem providing members who requested copies of articles in Bulletins 1 to 29. Foolscap is 46 mm longer than A4, which results in a loss of the last 8 lines from the original page on the A4 photocopy. Stuart's solution was to retype the 310 earlier pages in their entirety! An unintentional benefit from this exercise was an improved quality in the archive as typed pages replaced Gestetner copies. (A similar problem was not noticed when, in 1980, the editorship passed to Ralph Jacquemin in the USA. He used American paper, US Letter size, which has the same width as A4, but is 18 mm shorter. As a consequence, no lines are lost when a US Letter size page is photocopied onto A4 paper.)

In common with all printed matter, a quantum leap in quality accompanied the introduction of personal computers with word processing programmes. On his appointment as editor in 2001, Ron Strawser asked contributors to send in Microsoft WORD files. With digital storage, colour illustrations became feasible and from June 2003 the archive contains these. Unfortunately, printed copies of the bulletin distributed to members remained in monotone because of the high cost of colour photocopying. In 2005 Stuart Smith introduced the distribution of the bulletin by e-mail attachment (in the form of a .PDF file). From that date, members were able to get bulletins in full colour by way of the digital medium. (Those who chose to receive paper copies were still sent black & white versions.)

Editor	Bulletins edited	No.	Editorial period	Average number of pages in each			
				Bulletin	Suppt.	Newsletter	Total
Ray Keach	1 - 24	24	2/51 – 8/74	11.2	3.4		14.6
Peter Foden	25 - 29	5	1/76 – 4/77	14.2	5.0		19.2
Stuart Smith (I)	30 – 34 N1 – N3	5 3	9/77 – 11/79	25	2.0	2.1	18.7*
Ralph Jacquemin	35 - 76	42	3/80 – 6/90	25.0	0.9		25.9
Edward (Ed) Lavitt	77 - 119	43	9/90 – 3/01	17.7	6.7		24.4
Ronald Strawser	120 - 130	11	6/01 – 3/04	17.9			17.9
Stuart Smith (II)	131 - 164	34	7/04 – 11/13	20.8			20.8
Charles Hénuzet	165 - 173	9	5/14 - now	23.5**			23.5**

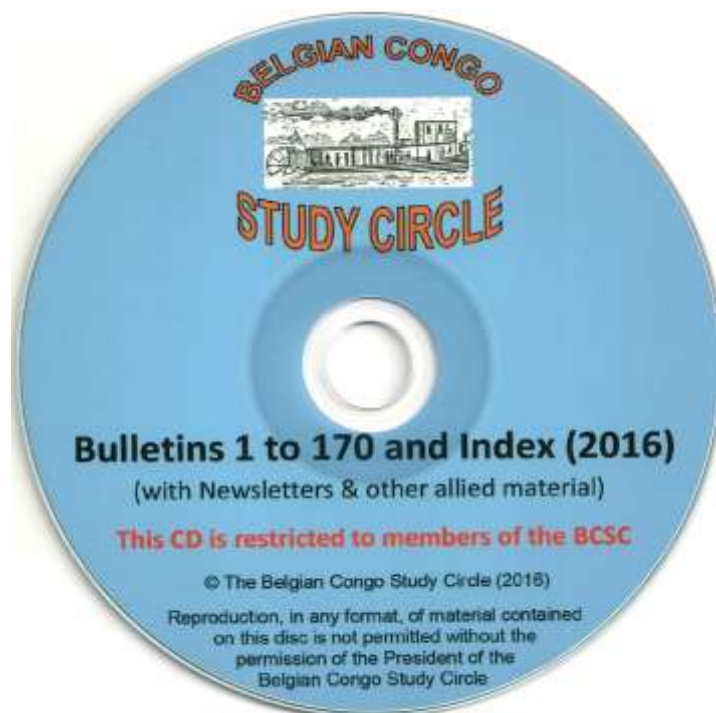
*Note 1: The total figure for Stuart Smith (I) is averaged over his 8 publications, Bulletins & newsletters with the supplements average added to this.

**Note 2: This average is for Bulletins 165 to 172

Over its 65 years the bulletin has had only 7 editors whose term of office has ranged from five to forty two editions. As has been mentioned already, the number of pages in each bulletin is variable, although under the current editor the length has returned to that of the peak years in the 1980s and 1990s.

I started scanning the archive about two years ago, a task which I had underestimated. A few archived bulletins had pages missing. Some earlier bulletins had their illustrations stuck to the type script page by aged adhesive tape which became a significant problem. In more instances than I care to think about, scanned bulletins produced .PDF files with missing pages and the scanning had to be repeated. By far the greatest problem was the quality of some illustrations in the earlier years. I had access to three copies of each bulletin and from these selected the page with the best quality image to assemble a complete composite copy to scan. Even so, I would be the first to admit that some illustrations are not as good as we would like. Updating the index took time and I take my hat off to those who had the patience and attention to detail to produce the original and earlier updates. When producing this digital version I enjoyed the luxury of unlimited space which allowed me to space out the text of the index to make it more reader-friendly (I hope). Consequently the number of pages in the index has increased from 32 to 49.

This is the CD. It has a title and other information printed on the surface which has been resin coated to give reasonable protection against scratching. The distribution will be restricted to members of the Study Circle. (It will not be sold to non-members and I would hope that copies are not sold-on by members.) The Study Circle has asserted its copyright and the reproduction of any part is not permitted without the permission of our President. (It is necessary to specify this to guard against 3rd party copying.)



A batch of 100 has been produced for sale to members. Once these are sold I intend to order a second batch and update the content at that time. Production of this CD is not intended to be a money-making exercise for the Study Circle. It is for the convenience of our members. As such, a low price has been set.

How much? Members living in the UK: £4 + £1.50 P&P
Members living in the US: \$6 + \$3 P&P
Members living in Europe and elsewhere: €5 + €2.50 P&P

How to pay? Members living in the UK:
a) Post a cheque (payable to “Belgian Congo Study Account”) for £5.50 to the General Secretary, Charles Lloyd.
b) By direct payment of £5.50 into the Study Circle’s bank account held at the Carnoustie Branch of “TSB Bank Ltd.” (Sort Code 87-68-23):
Account Name: “Belgian Congo Study Account”, Account No.78375760
IBAN: GB30 TSBS 8768 2378 3757 60, BIC: TSBSGB21013
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a) By PayPal: Pay \$9.40 to belgiancongestudycircle@hotmail.com
(note: the 40c is 4½% of the transferred amount. This will pay the charges levied by PayPal)
Members living in Europe and Elsewhere:
a) By PayPal: Pay €7.84 to belgiancongestudycircle@hotmail.com
(note: the 34c is 4½% of the transferred amount. This will pay the charges levied by PayPal)
b) By direct payment of €7.50 into the Study Circle’s bank account with the “BNP Paribas Fortis”,
IBAN: BE51 0016 0051 5962, BIC: GEBABEBB

(NB If you live in a country outside the Eurozone you are responsible for any transaction charges applied by your bank.)

Important: Whereas payments will be made in Belgium or the UK, all posting will done in the UK. Consequently, members who pay into Belgium (whether by PayPal or into BNP Paribas Fortis account) must e-mail or write to Charles Lloyd (Charles.lloyd@blueyonder.co.uk , 18 Linefield Rd., Carnoustie DD7 6DP, Scotland, UK). This also applies to UK members who pay directly into the TSB bank account. This notification will avoid a delay in sending the CD to you.

My two “Swedish” Lado objets

Rolf Öhrneman

Between 1883 and 1902, 44 Swedish officers and 14 non-commissioned officers enlisted in the *Force Publique*, the army of the Congo Free State. One of those military men was the young sergeant, Erik J. Fredelius. He was born on the 24th February 1876 at Westervik (today -Västervik), a town in south-eastern Sweden. His father was the “town physician” of Westervik, Dr.Lars Fredelius.

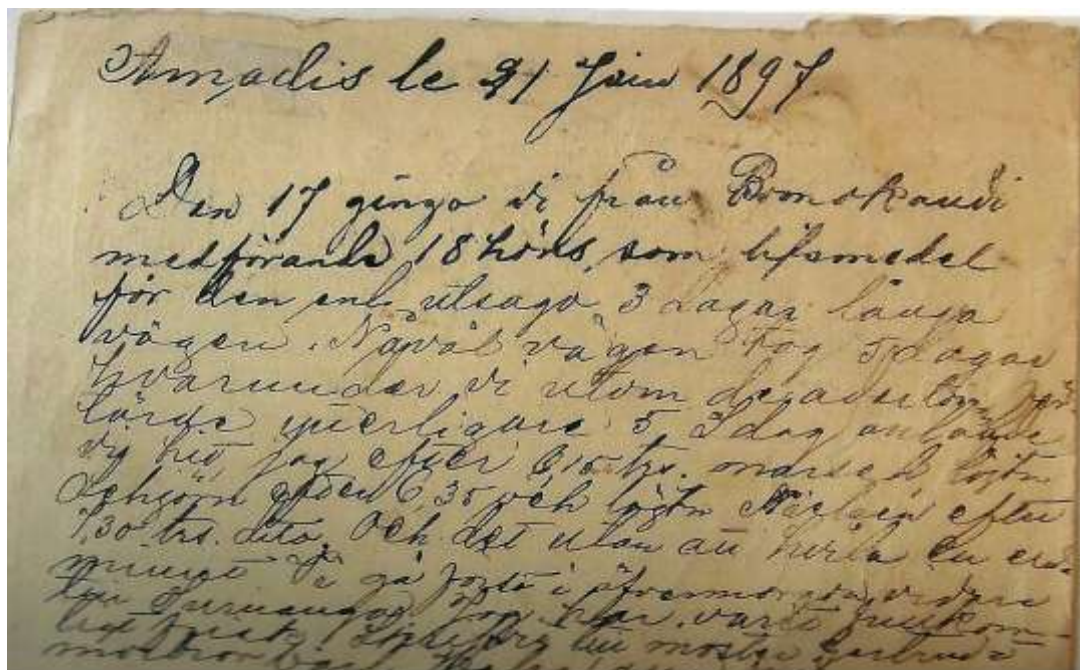
In 1896, at the early age of 20, Erik Fredelius left for the Congo. He was selected to serve in the “Expedition du Nil”. Sadly, his service was all too brief, dying from a tropical disease at Lado on the 17th April 1899, aged only 23. He was buried alongside two other comrades-in-arms. The grave to the left in the picture is that of Quartermaster Fernand Seghers, also

engaged for the Nile expedition. He had arrived at Redjaf in April 1898 only to die at Lado in October 1898. The third grave (in the centre) is that of Jenssen-Tusch, the Danish Captain-Commandant who was posted by the King to the enclave to command a force of 450 officers and men. He left Belgium in March 1898, arriving at Redjaf in September but dying at Lado just one month later.



A number of years ago I was lucky enough to buy two "Carte Postale" from a private seller in Västervik. They were both sent by Erik Fredelius to his father.

One of the postcards was written at Amadis on the 21st June 1897.

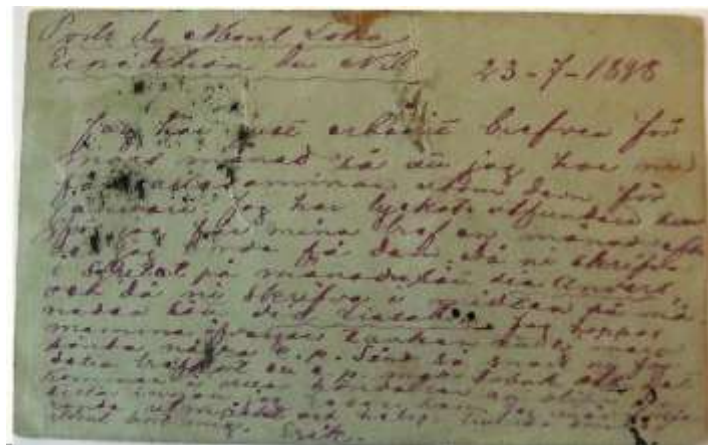


The first cancellation was applied at Bumba (a Bumba type 1.1 DMTY.) It took more or less 49 days to arrive there. The second is that of Leopoldville (? Aout 1897 - ?-S, a type 1.1 DMTY). The third was applied at Boma on the 25th August (a type 1.1 DMTY).



The Portuguese cancellation reveals that it took about a month by boat to Lisbon (25th September). From there to Westervik took another five days, the arrival date on the cancellation being the 30th September 1897.

The second Postcard was written at Loka (Poste du Mont Loka) on the 23rd July 1898.



This postcard is a Stibbe No. 17, used as a “BOMA CARTE INCOMPLETE”.

There are seven postal cancellations: The first is very likely to be Ibembo (Type 1.1 DMTY), then two for Leopoldville [the first an arrival mark, 25th October 8 – M (type 1.1 DMTY) and the second timed in the early evening, 5 -S (type 1.1 DMTY)] , followed by Matadi, Boma, Lisbon and then finally Westervik on the 30th November 1898. It took approximately 4½ months to reach its destination!



Bibliography:

1. "Skandinaver I Congo" by (the Danish) Lieutenant-Colonel H.Jenssen-Tusch
2. "Postal history of the Lado-enclave 1897-1910" by Abbé Gudenkauf.
3. "The Cancellations of the Normal Post offices of the Belgian Congo 1886 – 1960 and Ruanda Urundi 1917 – 1962, Including the Telegraphic Cancellations" by A. I. Heim and R. H. Keach

Can you help ?

Wants

Rolf would like to take this opportunity to enquire about yet another "Fredelius object". Just a few days before he purchased the above mentioned objects, there was a lot in an auction in Stockholm to which he sent a postal bid. However, his bid was not successful. A couple of weeks later he saw exactly the same object in a Belgian auction catalogue.



N° lot1455 : CONGO : LADO / EP 5cts d'un sergent décédé en 1899. Il le date /Expédition du Nil/ POSTE UMONT LOKA -> SUEDE / Wesrevik / 27.8.1898 par Sc Bleu : IBEMBO / 26.6.1898 + Boma & Léo + Ambt suédois : SANNITZ- TRELEBORG / *D* / 26.8.98. Rare

He wants to have a record of this for his research on Erik Fredelius and wonders if it was a member of BCSC who bought it? If the answer is yes, is it possible for you to send recto/verso scans of the item?

Please contact Rolf at ohrneman3442@gmail.com . Thank you very much

Wants

Eric Coulton is in the process of writing an article on the Belgian-operated convoys of German internees (and some POWs) from Tabora via the Belgian Congo to Boma and on into Europe from late 1916 into Spring 1917.

If any member knows of any articles (in any language!) already written on the subject, or if members have any relevant postal items, please would you be prepared to scan and send these to Eric? Could you please get in touch with him at ericcoulton@aol.com

Thank you very much.

(Eric is already aware of Ada Schnee's book and the monograph by Herterich.)

Mail to Belgium via neighbouring countries (1900-1910)

Michel Hopperets (first published in *Les Cahiers du Congo*)

The Independent State of Congo (Belgian Congo) was a vast territory; its area being eighty times that of Belgium.

A postal service was created on the 1st January 1886. For a long time, the only official way to send mail to Europe had been via Boma, from where it was shipped on board Belgian, French, Portuguese or Dutch vessels.

However, before being shipped from Boma mail had first to be routed to there, which, because of the extent of the colony and the scarcity of channels of communication, was not an easy task. Therefore, some settlers or agents of the state residing near the border with neighbouring countries directed mail via those countries. What encouraged them to do so was sometimes convenience (e.g. the closest post office was located in a neighbouring country), or sometimes it was the time saved in the delivery of the mail (e.g. mail that was sent through the Lado Enclave or from the Uele district to the Nile).

But, there could also be a financial motive! Indeed, during the creation of the postal service, the Independent State of Congo, although part of the U.P.U., had obtained a derogation to apply higher rates. The charge for a postcard in the international service (from the Congo) was set at 15 cents (the U.P.U. rate being 10 cents) and for a letter in the international service it was 50 cents (the U.P.U. rate being 25 cents). These higher rates stayed in force until the 1st April 1910. Neighbouring countries applied U.P.U. rates.

Mail from the Belgian Congo can be found, freely using stamps from a neighbouring country and posted at a post office in that country. This practice was more prevalent at the beginning of the 20th century (i.e. from 1900 to 1910), a period during which the numbers of Europeans present in the Congo was increasing constantly, and during which the postal rates in effect in neighbouring countries were much lower. This is the period that I have chosen to study. Subsequently, this practice appears to have declined considerably (but without disappearing completely) due to the development of communication channels inside the Congo and especially with the reduction in postal rates after the 1st April 1910 and their alignment with those of the U.P.U.

Without claiming to be exhaustive, I will present examples of mail destined for Belgium and routed through bordering countries.

If one takes, as a starting point, the mouth of the Congo River and views the land, turning clockwise (see Figure 1), the Independent State of the Congo is surrounded in turn by the following countries: the Portuguese enclave of Cabinda, French Congo, Sudan (a British possession), British East Africa, German East Africa, Rhodesia (a British possession) and Angola (a Portuguese possession). We will consider different routes in that order.



Figure.1 The Congo (French, Portuguese and Free State)

The route through the Portuguese enclave of Cabinda

The Portuguese enclave of Cabinda (or Portuguese Congo) was a Portuguese protectorate from the 1st February 1885. This coastal territory, of more or less 7,000 km², extends northwards separated from the mouth of the Congo River by strip of Independent State land about 20km wide. It had common borders with the Independent State of the Congo to its South and East and with the French Congo in the North. To the west lay the Atlantic Ocean (Figure 2).

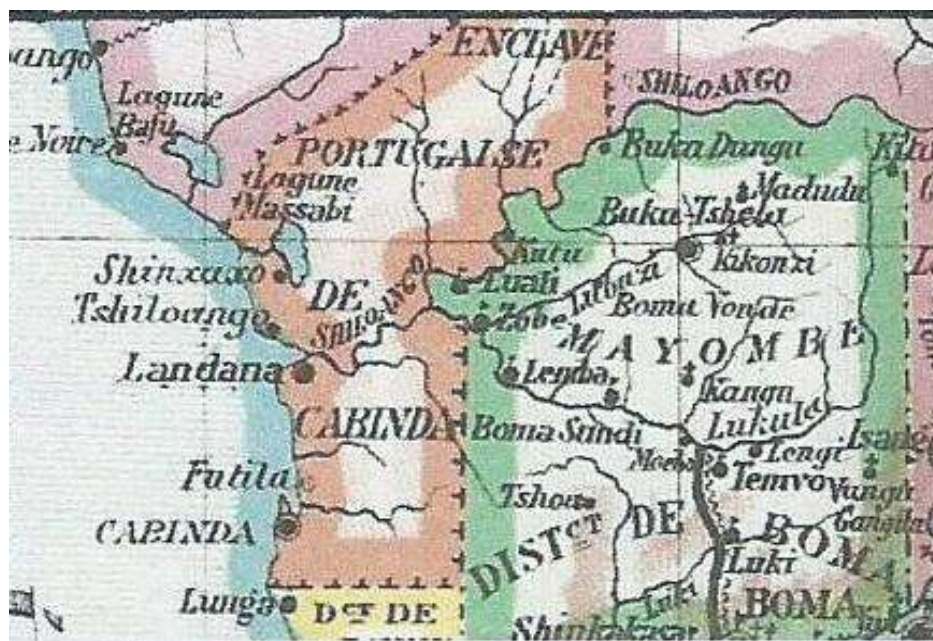


Figure 2 The Cabinda enclave in detail

The postcard shown below (Figure 3) is franked using a 25 reis stamp of the Portuguese Congo. However, it had been written on the 24th February 1904 at Luali (Figure 4), a settlement located in the Independent State of Congo, on the border with the Portuguese enclave of Cabinda (see Figure 2).



Figure 3. A post card with payment made using a Portuguese Congo stamp and carried through Cabinda

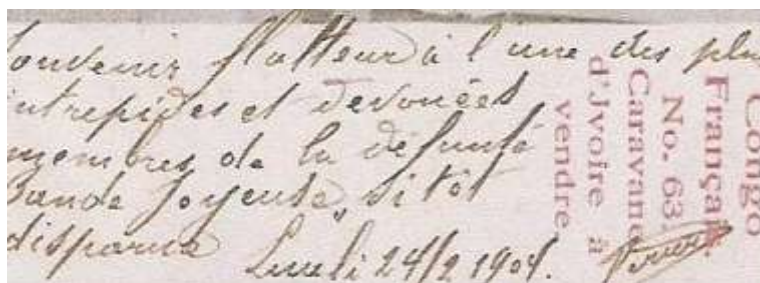


Figure 4. Detail of the face (message) side revealing the place at which it was written, Luali

The stamp was cancelled at Landana on the 29th February 1904, and the card carries a Cabinda transit mark for the 29th February 1904. Cabinda was a port at which Portuguese ships would stop regularly. From there it is likely to have been carried on board one of these steamers. In his book *"Mailboat services from Europe to the Belgian Congo (1879-1922)"*, Abbé Gudenkauf reports that a Portuguese ship that had left Lisbon on the 6th February 1904 arrived at Banana on the 25th February. It could be that this boat transported the postcard to Europe on its return trip. A Tournai arrival mark for the 30th March 1904 tells us that the postcard took a further 35 days to reach the recipient.

Routes through the French Congo

The Independent State of the Congo and the French Congo had a long common border. An important part of this border was demarcated by the Congo River, the Ubangui River, (a tributary of the Congo River) and by the Bomu River (itself a tributary of the Ubangui).

History has shown us that settlements often develop along the banks of rivers and sometimes at river confluences. This has been the case in Africa where the vegetation often makes land travel difficult. Therefore, in this region communities developed mainly along the Ubangui River, on both the Independent State and the French Congo banks. Sometimes communities were located on both sides of the border facing each other. For example, Banzyville (Independent State of the Congo) and Mobaye (French Congo) became established on the Ubangui River to facilitate trade.

The advantage of using the French Congo postal service did not escape some Belgians

settled along the border. I can illustrate this point by means of three postcards sent to Brussels by the same person on his travels along the Ubangui River.

The first postcard (Figure 5) was written at Libenge (Belgian Congo) on the 27th November 1909 and franked using stamps of the French Congo which were cancelled at Mongoumba (French Congo) on the 29th November 1909. As may be seen on Figure 6, these two communities are located on opposite sides of the Ubangui River.



Figure.5 A post card to Belgium written in 1909 at Libenge (Belgian Congo) and posted at Mongoumba (French Congo)

The postcard carries a Brussels arrival mark for the 8th January 1910, after 41 days in transit. In this case, rather than saving delivery time for the mail, it seems that the financial incentive prompted the sender to use the French Congo route. The U.P.U. rate for a postcard in international service was then 10 cents, against 15 cents from the Belgian Congo.



Figure 7 (right)

Figure 6 (left)

Note: on both maps the international border runs along the Ubangi (Ubangui) River. The detail of these maps show the location of these small settlements.



The following two postcards were routed via Mobaye, located in the French Congo on the bank of the Ubangui River, directly opposite Banzyville. (See figure 7).



The first of these was written at Banzyville (Belgian Congo) on the 24th April 1909 and is franked by means of a 10 cents French Congo stamp, postmarked Mobaye. With the lack of a Brussels arrival mark, we cannot determine the duration of the journey.



The second postcard was written at Yakoma (Belgian Congo) on 20th July 1909. Yakoma is a settlement located along the Ubangui, east from Banzyville. The postcard was sent using French Congo stamps, also cancelled at Mobaye on 23rd July 1909. It bears a Brussels arrival mark for the 4th September 1909, a 46-day journey.

End of part 1

My favourite cover

Charles Hénuzet

This is an interesting envelope because after its independence, Burundi continued to use the old tax (postage due) stamps of Ruanda-Urundi. (On this envelope there are: 1 Fr. brown, COB R.U. N° 18b and 2 Fr. ochre, COB R.U. N° 19b).



A Letter with two 4.50 Fr. Belgian stamps (COB No.1068A) sent from La Louvière and postmarked at the Brussels Office on the 26th February 1973

At this time, the postal rate to Burundi was 8 francs for a letter with an airmail surcharge (tax) of 2,50 Fr. per 5gr. At the top left, we can see "7 gr" in red biro ink, the weight of letter. The price for this letter must be 13 francs (13 frs, written in blue biro ink under first 4,50 Fr. stamp). There is a deficiency of 4 francs. Thus, the tax should be 8 francs (i.e. double the deficiency). In this instance the postman is to collect 11 francs tax, perhaps due to a difference in exchange rate.



Front:

The tax stamps were cancelled on the 13th March 1973, 3 days after the letter arrived, by the hand-stamp "BUJUMBURA MANDATS"



Reverse

*Arrival mark: BUJUMBURA - 1
10th March 1973, at 12 noon*

BID FORM (BCSC 2016-2)

to be sent to

Th.FRENNET – Rue La rue 17 – B-1420 Braine L'alleud - Belgique/Europe

Or by E-mail at : hydro-services@skynet.be

CLOSING DATE FOR BIDS – 30th December 2016

Name :





Date :

FULL ADDRESS :

Signature :

Auction's rules

Abbreviations used

Abbreviations Used		GUM	
UM	= unmounted mint – unused with original gum in Post Office state, never hinged.		
LH	= lightly hinged – unused with original gum, mounted with a peelable hinge	U.M.	L.H.
OG	= original gum – unused with original gum slightly disturbed or alternatively having a previous hinge		
Part OG	= part original gum – unused with original gum – large hinge remnants may or may not be present	O.G.	PART O.G.

CB=CONGO BELGE; COB=Catalogue Officiel Belge number; RU=Ruanda Urundi;
Designations of cancellations are in accordance with the Heim & Knoch classification.

Bidding steps :

0	to	5 Euros	per	0.05 Euro
5 Euros	to	25 Euros	per	0.25 Euro
25 Euros	to	50 Euros	per	1.00 Euros
50 Euros	to	250 Euros	per	2.00 Euros
250 Euros	to	500 Euros	per	5.00 Euros
	over	500 Euros	per	10.00 Euros

Postage on lots will be charged to buyers

See also our website : www.belgian-congo-study-circle.be

[illegible]

Number	Date	Description	#COB	Minimum Bid
		Mols stamps - 1909 issue - Brussels surcharges		
1	1909	15 c ochre, Brussels surcharge type 4 , I + A1b, position 5, one perf missing,	32B	8
2	1909	25 c blue, sheet corner with Gaston Flamme paraph, Brussels surcharge type 4 , I2 + A2, position 46, LH	33B	17
3	1909	25 c blue, Brussels surcharge type 4 , I2 + A2, position 2, LH	33B	13
4	1909	40 c green-blue, Brussels surcharge type 4 , I2 + A1b, position 13, LH	34B	12
5	1909	10 c carmine, Brussels surcharge type 4 , I4 + A5, position 20, LH	31B	12
6	1909	15 c ochre, Brussels surcharge type 4 , LH	32B	12
7	1909	10 c carmine, Brussels surcharge type 6 , no gum	31B	9
8	1909	15 c ochre, Brussels surcharge type 6 , I + A1b, position 28, LH, some short perfs	32B	10
9	1909	25 c blue, Brussels surcharge type 6, I2 + A2 pos 21, LH	33B	13
10	1909	10 c carmine, Brussels surcharge type 6, I4 + A5 pos23, LH	31B	12
11	1909	5 c green, Brussels surcharge type 6, I2+ B2 position 29,LH	30B	12
12	1909	5 c green, Brussels surcharge type 64 , I2 + B2 position 48, LH	30B	13
13	1909	5 c green, Brussels surcharge type 3, I2 + B2 position 34, LH	30B	13
14	1909	15 c ochre, Brussels surcharge type 3 , I + A1b pos 41, LH	32B	12
15	1909	50c olive, Brussels surcharge type 5 , I2 + B2 pos 44, LH	35B	13
16	1909	50c olive, Brussels surcharge type 7 , I2 + B2 pos 43,used	35B	13
17	1909	15 c ochre, Brussels surcharge type 2, I + A1a pos 44, no gum	32B	9
18	1909	15 c ochre, Brussels surcharge type 2, I + A1a pos 46, no gum, one short perf	32B	9
19	1909	40 c green blue, Brussels surcharge type 2, I2 + A1 pos 30, LH	34B	12
20	1909	50 c olive, Brussels surcharge type 2, I2 + A2 pos 31, LH	35B	12
21	1909	40 c green blue, Brussels surcharge type 2, I2 + A1b pos 16, LH	34B	12
22	1909	25 c blue, Brussels surcharge type 2, I2 + A2 pos 35, LH	33B	12
23	1909	10 c carmine, Brussels surcharge type 2, I2 + A4, position 1, LH	31B	12
24	1909	10 c carmine, Brussels surcharge type 2, I4 + A5, position 20, LH	31B	12
25	1909	5 c green, Brussels surcharge type 2, I1 + B1, position 27, LH	30B	12
26	1909	10c carmine, Brussels surcharge 1, I4+ A5 position 23, part OG	31B	9,50
27	1909	50 c olive, Brussels surcharge type 1, I2 + A2 pos 15, LH	35B	13
28	1909	15 c ochre, Brussels surcharge type 1, I + A1b pos 31-32-41-42, block of four, sheet corner, UM, corner stamp slightly folded	32B	65
29	1909	Lot of 8 stamps. Faked Brussels surcharges (named Smeets forgeries) on 10c LH, 25 c LH , 15 c (2) LH + used, 5 F blockof four, used		60
30	1909	Ruanda-Urundi, Grysolle surcharge on 25 c blue URUNDI, III.1 + B position 27, LH	19A	30

		Miscellaneous - Documents, Belgian Congo		
31	1939	Telegrams (3) dated 24-8-39, 5-2-45 and 5-12-47. Beautiful Leopoldville dated postmarks. Some explanations are included...		4
32	1947	Telegrams (2) dated 6-6-47 and 8-11-47. Beautiful Leopoldville dated postmarks + military cachets "troupes coloniales-Etat-Major"(i.e. Colonial troops - Headquarters). Some explanations are included...		3,50
33	1931	Interesting lot of 11 postal forms of different kinds, each with beautiful dated postmarks. Some explanations are added.		7,50
34		5 picture postcards. These were never sent. A very special one with young elephants...Excellent condition.		4
		Katanga - South Kasai		
35	1960	Flowers issue. Full set. UM.Perfect condition.	23/39	18
36	1960	Katanga, 3 full sets UM, perfect condition.	40/9 + 50/1 + 52/65	3
37	1961	Katanga, 66/68 full set UM, perfect condition + same set on First Day cover .	66/68	4
38	1961	Katanga, 69/74 full set UM + 75/78 LH, perfect condition .	69/74 + 75/78	1
39	1961	South Kasai 20A/24A, with surcharge "Pour les orphelins". Scarce. Very LH.	20A/24A	12
40	1961	South Kasai 14/15, full set with surcharge, UM.	14/15	1
41	1960	Katanga 1/5, full sets, UM, perfect condition	1/5	3
42	1960	Katanga, African animals, 6/17 full set, UM	6/17	13
43	1960	Katanga, 18/22 full set, UM	18/22	26
44	1909	Katanga, 69/74 full set UM in block of ten, perfect condition .	69/74	2,50
45	1909	South Kasai, 16/24, three full sets, included the overprinted scarce set Olympic Games of Rome	16/24	25
		Belgian Congo Mols issues		
46	1922	1922 issue 30c/10c carmine (retouched sky) : picture postcard with pair of stamps + one stamp UM	98a	3
47	1922	1922 issue 30c/10c carmine : full sheet of 50 stamps (cut into one block of 10 and one blok of 40 stamps), UM	98	10
48	1922	1922 issue, full set, including 30/10 c "retouched sky", LH	95/9 + 98a	1
49	1922	1922 issue, 5/50 c block of four , UM	95	1
50	1921	1921 issue, 5/40c (22 stamps, 9 UM, 12 LH, 1 no gum), included 2 horizontal pairs, 1 vertical pair and 1 block of four	85	1

51	1909	unilingual issue, 10 c carmine, block of four UM, perf 14 1/2	51	5
52	1909	unilingual issue, 50 c olive, block of four UM, perf 14	53	19
53	1909	unilingual issue, 10 c carmine, four stamps (1 UM, 1LH, 2 used)	51	1
54	1909	unilingual issue, 10 c carmine, block of 12 UM, upper right corner of sheet # 200	51	12
55	1909	unilingual issue, 10 c carmine, inferior half of sheet, perf 14, (25 stamps UM)	51	25
56	1922	1922 issue 30c/10c carmine on two picture postcards (one with pair of stamps), both types of stamps 98 and 98 a (retouched and unretouched sky	98 + 98a	5
Belgian Congo WW 2 Censored Covers				
57	1944	Incoming mail : cover from French Equatorial Africa to Congo. B. Congo censor tape Leopoldville with postmark, censor # 46 on reverse.		8
58	1943	Incoming mail : cover from London to Léopoldville, English and Congolese censors		8
59	1942	cover from Elisabethville 2-5-42 (B. Congo) to Switzerland. Linear handstruck mark "Passé Censure Elisabethville" and British censor tape "Opened by examiner 3496"		11
60	1944	Registered Cover from Elisabethville 5-7-44 (B. Congo) to England. Congolese (Elisabethville) and British censor tapes "Opened by examiner 2210". Spectacular franking.		15
61	1942	Incoming mail : Airmail cover from London to Elisabethville, via Stanleyville. English censor only.		7
62	1941	Incoming mail : Airmail aerogram from India to Elisabethville. Indian censor marks only.		10
63	1941	Airmail cover from Léopoldville to Maryland, USA. Violet boxed mark "Première liaison...."Transit mark Bathurst, Gambia, on reverse		7
64	1941	Airmail cover from Léopoldville to Maryland, USA. Violet boxed mark "Première liaison...."Three transit marks on reverse		7
65	1941	Airmail cover from Kikwit to Portugal. Violet boxed mark "Première liaison...."Congolese and American Censors tapes.		13
66	1943	Airmail cover from Léopoldville 29-4-43 to Harrow, UK.Congolese censor tape and violet triangular currency control mark (?)		10
67	1945	Incoming mail : Airmail cover from Mauritius (Port Louis, 26 May 45) to Léopoldville. British censor in Mauritius tape. No more censorship in B. Congo at the moment.		8

68	1945	Incoming mail from Lebanon (Beyrouth 30-4-45) to Léopoldville. Lebanese censor tape and marks. No more censorship in B. Congo at the moment.		10
69	1942	Cover from Elisabethville 22-5-42 (B. Congo) to Ireland. Irish bilingual boxed handstruck mark "Released by censor".		7
70	1943	Cover from South Africa to Jadotville (B. Congo). South African censor tape. On reverse : transit cachet Elisabethville.		6
71	1944	Airmail cover from Léopoldville 10-7-44 to New York USA. Censor tapes of B.Congo and the USA.		6
72	1945	Cover from Luebo 7-5-45 to Greenwood, Mississippi, USA. B. Congo Censor tape of Elisabethville. No censor mark in the USA. On reverse transit cachet of Elisabethville 15-5-45		6
73	1944	Cover from Elisabethville 5-8-1944 to Basel (Switzerland), via South Africa. Censor tapes of B. Congo and South Africa.		9,50
74	1944	Cover from Elisabethville 31-3-44. Censor tape of Belgian Congo.		6
75	1944	Cover from Jadotville 5-3-44 to Wellesley, Mass., USA. Censor tapes of B. Congo and USA.		6
		Belgian Congo Mols issues		
76	1894	1894 issue. Lot of 24 stamps : 5c blue (3), 5c brown-red (1), 10c brown red (1), 10 c blue (1), 10c carmine (4), 25c orange (1), 25 c blue (4), 50c green (3), 50 c olive (2), 1F violet (4). UM (1), LH(5), partOG (13), used (1), no gum (4). Various perforations.Value BOC : 274 euros		27
77	1909	5c green Brussels surcharge type 2, LH	30B2	11
78	1909	5c green (2) local surcharge type 2 and 5,used	30L2 + 5	1
79	1909	5 c green (6) local surcharge L5, UM (1), LH (4), no gum (1)	30L5	5
80	1909	10c carmine (2), typo overprint, part OG (1), used (1)	41	3,50
81	1909	10 c carmine Brussels surcharge 5, LH	31B5	11
82	1909	10c carmine, used (4), local surcharge 1, 2, 4, 6	31 L	1, 50
83	1909	15c ochre, surcharge Brussels 4 LH + idem unidentified surcharge (could be fake)	32B4	11
84	1909	15c ochre,6 stamps with local surcharge 1 (2 used), 3 (1 LH), 5 (2LH, 1 used). One stamp oxidized, one stamp with missing perfs.	32 L	5
85	1909	25c blue, typo overprint (3), type 1 LH (2) and 2 used	43 + 43 a	3,50
86	1909	25c blue, local surcharge (4), type 1 LH (1) and 2 (3, 2LH, 1 used)	33L + 33aL	14
87	1909	25c blue, surcharge Brussels 2, UM, two short perfs	33B2	10
88	1909	25c blue, surcharge Brussels 2, LH	33B2	11
89	1909	25c blue, local surcharge (2 used), type 1 and 2, L4 and L5	33L	2

90	1909	25c blue, local surcharge 5, LH	33L	3
91	1909	40c green-blue, LH, surcharge Brussels 2	34B2	11
92	1909	40c green-blue, LH, surcharge Brussels 4	34B4	11
93	1909	40c green-blue (2 used), local surcharge 1 and 3	34L1 +L3	3
94	1909	50c olive (3 used), local surcharge 5. Beautiful Boma cancellation 29 juin 1910	35 L5	2,50
95	1909	1F carmine, LH, local surcharge L1, perf 16	36L1	16
96	1909	1F carmine (2 used), telegraphic octogonal cancellation, local surcharges	36L	8
97	1909	3,50F vermillon, typo overprint, used	47	6
98	1909	3,50F vermillon, local surcharge 3, used	37L3	40
99	1909	10F green, local surcharge 1, used	39L1	20
100	1909	10F green, local surcharge 1, used	39L1	20
101	1909	10F green, local surcharge 3, used	39L1	18
102	1909	typo overprints : 5c green (3), 10c carmine (3), 15c ochre (3), 40c green-blue (2), 50c olive (2), 1F carmine (1), mostly LH	between 40 and 46	10
103	1909	3,50F vermillon, typo overprint, LH, excellent condition	47	9,50
104	1909	5F carmine, typo overprint, LH, excellent condition	48	15
105	1910	lot of 5 stamps : 48 used Dima cancellation 28 mars 1910, 53 LH, 54 LH, 56 LH, 59 UM, 61 LH. Bargain !		3,50
106	1915	1915 issue : 23 stamps, mostly LH, included variety 15 c green "palmier coupé"/"cut palmtree" UM excellent condition, with sheet margin	66V	18
107	1918	1918 Red Cross issue : 15 stamps, included 4 imperforate stamps (10c, 15c, 25c and 50c), LH		3
108	1921	1921 issue, 25 stamps, (21 LH, 4 used). Included varieties of perforation and surcharges. Bargain !		4,50
109	1922	1922 issues, 26 stamps (LH or UM, 2 used), included vertical strip of 5 UM sheet corner of 30c/10c carmine. Varieties of perforation and surcharges. Bargain,	95/102	3,50
110	1909	1F carmine, used Banana, local surcharge L5, perf 16	36L5	6
111	1909	50c olive, used Boma, local surcharge L7. Some rust spots.	35L7	3
112	1909	1F carmine, Brussels surcharge 5, I2 + A2, perf 15, LH	36B5	40
113	1894	1894 issue. 10F green. Perf 14 1/4, LH	29	45
114	1909	Princes issue. 10 F blue- green, LH	49PT	60
115	1921	1921 issue, 15c/50c olive, normal stamp + error (surcharge on # 45 typo overprint), both UM	87 + 87A	45

116	1922	1922 issue : full set LH + 5c/50c red-brown blocks of four (2) LH + used stamps (4)	95/99	2
117	1922	1922/2 issue, full set UM (except for 10c/5c green LH),	100/103	2,25
118	1921	50c/25c blue (9), LH (3), used (6), varieties, displaced surcharges, etc	90	3
119	1909	Princes issue, 10c carmine, l4 + A5, position 50	41PT	18
120	1915	1915 issue : full set in black, LH, rare: quantity printed 600	64/71	150
121	1921	3F red, overprint 1921, with watermark	92Cu	5,50
122	1921	3F red, overprint 1921, with watermark	92Cu	5,50
123	1921	1921 issue, 15c/50c olive, error (surcharge on # 45 typo overprint), UM tropicalgum	87A	30
124	1921	1921 issue, 15c/50c olive, error (surcharge on # 53), UM tropicalgum	87B	12
125	1921	1921 issue 5F carmine, 1921 overprint, UM, excellent condition	93	12
126	1921	1921 issue 10F green, 1921 overprint, UM, slightly off centre but excellent condition	94	7
127	1922	1922/2 issue 10c/5c green, UM, perf 15 (rare)	100	2
128	1922	1922/2 issue 10c/1f olive, LH, inverted surcharge, sheet margin	101Cu	16
129	1922	1922 issues : 1922/1 full set UM + 1922/2 full set LH	95/99 + 100/3	4
130	1915	1915 issue full set, UM + LH, excellent condition	64/71	15
131	1909	1909 issue local surcharge 6, from 5 c to 1F. LH or no gum. + 5F carmine repaired.	30/36 L6 + 38 L6	35
132	1909	Error Brussels surcharge on 5c red-brown, Brussels 2 surcharge, l1 + A1, position 6, perf 15, UM. Not mentionned in Belgium Official Catalogue.		40
133	1910	5c green, blocks of 10 (3) + block of 15,all with sheet margins, no gum	54	2
134	1910	5c green, upperhalf of sheet, no gum	54	1,50
135	1910	5c green, upperhalf of sheet, no gum	54	1,50
136	1894	1894 issue. 10F green. Perf 14 1/4, used	29	13
137	1909	1909 issue 10F green local handstamped overprint 1 "Congo Belge", perforated 12, used. With BCSC certificate	39L1	30
138	1909	1909 unilingual issue, 5c green (part OG), 15c ochre UM (very good condition) , 50 c olive LH (+ bonus COB 54, 55, 56, 57, 60 LH)	50/52/53	55
Belgian Congo Postal Stationery				
139	1912	Palmtree 10c red-brown full set of 72 viewcards. Mostly used, some mint	Stibbe 43	70
140	1922	Palmtree 15c blue-green viewcards (2), used, view 107 +122, used	Stibbe 61	2