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**The Study Circle website**  
**[www.belgian-congo-study-circle.be](http://www.belgian-congo-study-circle.be)**

## Very Important Notice for Auction Sales

Reminder of the procedure that is to be followed, which is:

- 1) Whenever possible, submit your bid(s) by e-mail<sup>1</sup> to the auctioneer (Thierry Frennet) [Thierry.frennet@fthsprl.be](mailto:Thierry.frennet@fthsprl.be)
- 2) Always use the bidding form which is on the first page of the sale  
Please make sure all your personal information is present and is correct
- 3) Sending you your winning lots. There are two possibilities:
  - a) unless requested, purchases totalling 50€ or less will be sent by normal letter.  
(If you want your purchases to be sent always by registered mail please put "X" in the box on the bidding form)
  - b) purchases totalling more than 50€ will always be sent by REGISTERED letter
- 4) Invoice:

Your invoice is sent with your purchases. Prompt payment is appreciated

- a) Members living in the Eurozone: please pay by bank transfer to account  
BE 51 0016 0051 5962

- b) Other members paying by PayPal:

Make sure you are recorded as sending to a family member / friend and paying  
[belgiancongostudycircle@hotmail.com](mailto:belgiancongostudycircle@hotmail.com)

The auctioneer should receive the full invoiced amount. To do this, enter the amount in euros in the "Recipient gets" box and you will see the amount you are paying in your own currency in the adjacent "You send" box. The amount you pay (in your currency) includes the currency conversion fee (which will be about 5%)

<sup>1</sup> Note: Bids sent by post are still welcome. However, please send these well ahead of the closing date

## New Edition of the Catalogue of Postal Stationery

To put our collection of postal stationery in order, identify items to acquire and discover values, we all use the 1986 edition of Dr Jacques Stibbe's catalogue "The Postal Stationery of the Congo and of Ruanda-Urundi".

We are happy to inform you that we have collaborated with the SBEP (Société Belge de l'Entier Postal) to publish a new 2021 edition.

It will be about 130 pages in length (double that of the 1986 edition), is more detailed and contains many more illustrations (all in colour). For the first time, there will be an English language version.

Three versions will be available; in French, in Dutch and in English.

If we have no problem with the Covid-19 regulations, the catalogue will be launched during the 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary meeting of the Belgian Congo Study Circle, held on

24/25th of April 2021 at Namur.

If you want to order a new catalogue, please contact the editor of this bulletin:

Charles Hénuzet (Email: [henuzetcharles@hotmail.com](mailto:henuzetcharles@hotmail.com))

Specify the language: English or French or Dutch.

## 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Meeting 24/25 April 2021 NAMUR

Though we expect of the Covid-19 virus situation to improve by this date through the roll-out of vaccines, we acknowledge that any decision to attend even such a modest gathering will be an individual matter. Nevertheless, we need to know by the date below who intends to come (as a matter of good organizational practice):

1) You must reserve your place of the evening dinner.

2) All reservation must be made for the 1<sup>st</sup> MARCH 2021  
(no exceptions)

3) Payment by either:

a) bank transfer to BE 51 0016 0051 5962 or

b) PayPal to: [belgiancongostudycircle@hotmail.com](mailto:belgiancongostudycircle@hotmail.com)

Information on PayPal payment is found on the previous page.

c) please complete the following tables and return them to Thierry Frennet by e-mail. (Please use the WORD file "Booking sheet" sent by e-mail accompanying paper version)

Name of BCSC member (free)	Guest Names (@49€ each)	Places to Reserve Member + Guest(s)	Payment
	..... .....	1 + .....	... x 49€ = ....€

(More information is to be found in Bulletin 186 page 3)

For a mid-day light meal on Saturday and Sunday, it will be possible to reserve this by filling in this second form.

There is the choice of either a cold fish or cold meat plate.

The price for each day is 15€. (plate and drink).

NAME	Saturday		Sunday	
	Fish	Meat	Fish	Meat
Price: ..... X 15€ = .....€				

Tick (i.e. check, the American term) the box of your choice

For HOTEL accommodation, please contact the President: Thierry Frennet

e-mail : [Thierry.frennet@fthspri.be](mailto:Thierry.frennet@fthspri.be)

Prices: 100€ / single room/night (room, residence tax and breakfast included)

115€ / double room/night (room, residence taxes and breakfasts included)

Grand hôtel de Flandre  
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Tel: +32 (0)81 23 18 68. Fax: +32 (0)81 22 80 14.

[www.hotelflandre.be](http://www.hotelflandre.be)



### **Menu for the Evening Meal at the 70th Anniversary Meeting**

Talks have been held with the caterer who explained that regulations introduced to combat the spread of Covid-19 in the hospitality sector has meant that dining arrangements and menus have to be revised. The anniversary dinner menu is now:

§ § § § § § § § §

#### **Apéritif servi à table**

Quelques bulles luxembourgeoises ( 5 pièces /personnes)

#### **Entrée froide**

Brioche farcie à la mousse de foie gras et ses éclats d'abricot

#### **Entrée chaude**

Cristal de cabillaud et crustacés sauce riesling

#### **Plat**

Gibelotte de faon aux senteurs de nos ardennes

#### **Dessert**

Gâteau d'anniversaire du BCSC

#### **Café et mignardises**

§ § § § § § § § §

#### **Compris dans le menu:**

½ vin rouge – ½ vin blanc – eau plate / gazeuse – café

§ § § § § § § § § § § § § § § § §

### **Daytime refreshments (Saturday and Sunday)**

price - 15 € each day

#### **Breakfast**

Café - chocolate bread - croissant

#### **Lunchtime**

plate – drink

## BCSC 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Commemoration Stamps

During the Anniversary meeting at Namur, we will offer you the opportunity to buy the Belgian “Duostamps” shown below. There are three designs, each in miniature sheets of 10. They have been approved by the Belgian Post Office and are valid for postal use in Belgium.

There are two possibilities for receiving your Duo stamps:

- 1) You can collect them during the meeting of 24/25 April 2021: **No Sending Charge**
- 2) You wish receive at your home: **Sending Charges Applied** (After receiving your order, we will sent you an invoice which includes the charge. Please pay then)

	<b>PRICE Per SHEET*</b>		
	When ordering for postal delivery, please specify if you want standard or registered post.		
		Registered post required <input type="checkbox"/>	
features the 1921 50 Centimes stamp	20 € X ..... = .....€	Taken to Namur	
		Sent by post	
features the 1921 1 Franc stamp	20 € X ..... = .....€	Taken to Namur	
		Sent by Post	
features the 1921 10 Francs stamp	20 € X ..... = .....€	Taken to Namur	
		Sent by Post	

\*Tick (i.e. check, the American term) the boxes of your choice

Available from April 24<sup>th</sup> 2021.

Reserve now and no later than 1<sup>st</sup> MARCH 2021

Reserve by sending your copy of the table to: [henuzetcharles@hotmail.com](mailto:henuzetcharles@hotmail.com)

Pay to the bank account of Belgian Congo Study Circle: BE51 0016 0051 5962, or by PayPal to [belgiancongestudycircle@hotmail.com](mailto:belgiancongestudycircle@hotmail.com) (Postal delivery: see underlined instruction above)



Thierry Frennet  
President BCSC





# World War One: Germans Evacuated from Tabora via the Belgian Congo 1916-17 - Part 2

Eric Coulton

(First published in the Bulletin of the East Africa Study Circle.  
Reproduced with the kind permission of its editor and the author.)

## Postal History of the Convoys

The author has recorded only five postal items known to have been mailed from the African stage of the convoys. Interestingly, four of them come from one correspondence, that of Lieutenant Gynz-Rekowski to his wife. On 15<sup>th</sup> September 1914 the East Africa Mounted Rifles on board the *Winifred* on Lake Victoria launched an attack against the German forces which had occupied the 'fort' at Karungu just inside British East Africa, and it was Gynz-Rekowski, in charge of the auxiliary cruiser *Muansa* based at Mwanza, who repulsed the attack. It is not known whether he was impressed into the imperial forces at the beginning of the war (and thus became a prisoner-of-war – see the manuscript inscription on two of his letters) or whether he was a civilian with some marine experience, which theoretically is more likely if he ended up in the internment camp at Tabora. He was sent to the internment/POW camp in Toulouse and was eventually repatriated to Germany via Switzerland.

The four letters [ranging from 18<sup>th</sup> December 1916 to 22<sup>nd</sup> February 1917 (13)] are all addressed by Gynz-Rekowski to his wife at Muansa and/or Bukoba, except for the last one, by which time he appears to have discovered she was in Nairobi (though that letter was forwarded to Tanga). The first two have a manuscript annotation *Prisonniers de Guerre* and the first three *S.M.* (= *Service Militaire* = Military Service = O.A.S.). The first three also have the transit cachet of the Assistant Provost Marshall, Lines of Communication (possibly based in Nairobi). The latter two of these are dated 21<sup>st</sup> February 1917 and it may be that by that stage all three letters were travelling together. (The date on the first cover is indistinct.)

### 1. Kigoma to Bukoba

[This image is not shown in this article, but can be seen in Herterich (14), p.79.]

Gynz-Rekowski's wife was interned by the British, possibly at Bukoba, and the letter was addressed to *Bukoba via Muansa*. A subsequent manuscript alteration to "*Try OC Detention Camp, Nairobi*" was made. The sequence of cancellations is as follows:

- **BPCVPK / 18.DEC.16 / No.4** (Belgian Field Post Office based at Kigoma)
- **UVIRA 28.DECE.1916**
- **ENTEBBE / UGANDA 15.JA.17**
- **FPO / No.305 / 11.FE.17** (Indian FPO based at Mwanza)

The letter has a two-line handstamp **Defense du Tanganika Etat Major / VU POUR LA CENSUR**, probably applied at Kigoma.

### 2. Kigoma to Muansa or Bukoba (15)

Gynz-Rekowski to his wife, addressed to *Muansa or Bukoba*. It has a similar manuscript alteration to “Try OC Detention Camp, Nairobi”. Cancellations are:



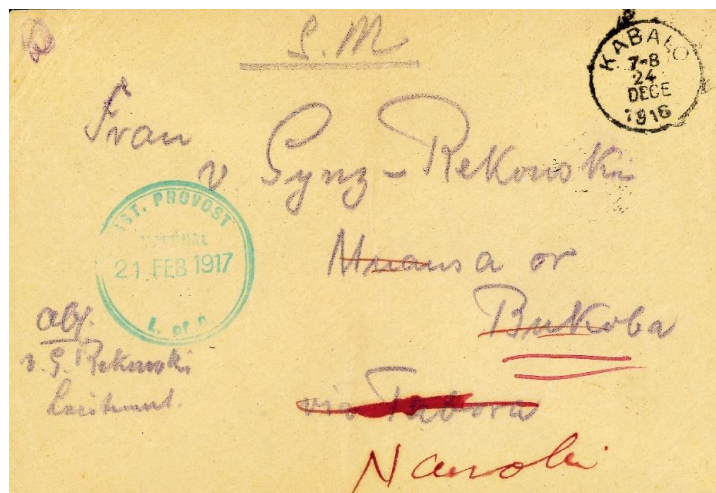
**Figure 2**  
(reduced size)

- **BPCVPK / 21.DEC.16 / No.4**  
(Belgian Field Post Office based at Kigoma)
- **UVIRA 22.DECE.1916** (This date is from the auction description)
- **FPO / No.305 /** (Date unknown)  
(Indian FPO based at Mwanza)

This letter also has the two-line handstamp **Defense du Tanganika Etat Major / VU POUR LA CENSUR**, probably applied at Kigoma.

### 3. Kabalo to Bukoba

This letter is addressed to *Muansa or Bukoba via Tabora*. There is a manuscript alteration to *Nairobi*. Cancellations are:



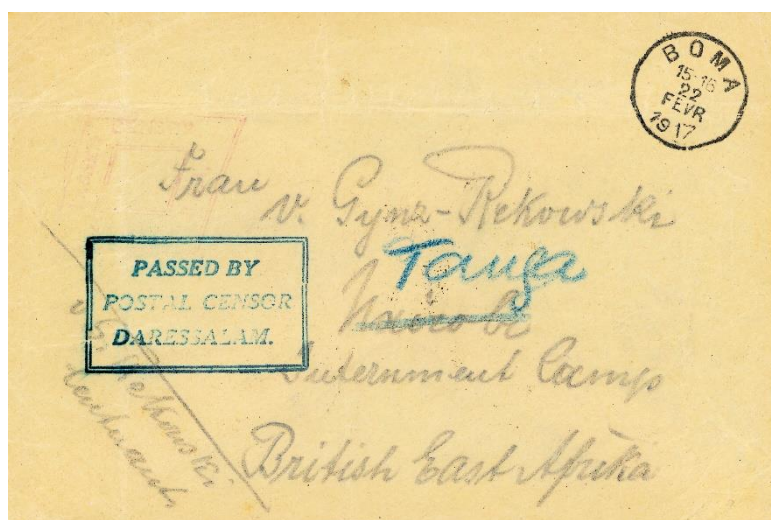
**Figure 3**  
(reduced size)

- **KABALO 24.DECE.1916**
- **ALBERTVILLE 26.DECE.1916**
- **FPO / No.315 / 9.FE.17**  
(Indian FPO based at the north of Lake Victoria)

The reverse has a manuscript censor **Vu pour la Censure / le 25-12-16 / Le chef d'escorte / (signature)**

### 4. Boma to Nairobi

The last letter from the Gynz-Rekowski correspondence written whilst on convoy. He appears to have discovered his wife is at Nairobi so addresses the letter to *Nairobi Internment Camp* although it is subsequently forwarded to Tanga. In spite of this routing it has at some stage attracted a twin-framed rectangular three-lined **PASSED BY / POSTAL CENSOR / DARESSALAM**. Cancellations are:



**Figure 4**  
(reduced size)

- **BOMA 22. FEVR. 1917**
- **KIGOMA 7.AP.17**
- **NAIROBI 22.MY.17**
- **MOMBASA MY.23.17**
- **FPO / No.24 23.MY.17**  
(Indian FPO recently, transferred to Mombasa from

Nairobi)

- **FPO / No.304 27.MY.17** (Indian FPO based at Tanga)

## 5. Kabalo to Wilhelmstal, Occupied GEA



**Figure 1**  
(Reduced size.  
Shown also in  
Part 1)

This 10c Belgian Congo postal stationery card (the foreign rate: theoretically, internees had to pay for their postage) was addressed to a lady missionary at Hohenfriedberg near Wilhelmstal, Usambara. The writer, Herr Rascher, was the farmer at the mission station and must have been sent up the Central Railway along with many other Germans when the allied forces were advancing down the Northern Railway. The message [written in French, (16)] reads: *We have arrived in good health at Kabala [sic] on the Upper Congo after 5 days' journey. Tomorrow we leave with the steam-boat. Willi greets you all. A. Rascher. 25. January 1917.* The top left-hand corner bears the manuscript inscription **Censure / Le chef d'escorte / (signature)**

As will be seen from the cancellations the inclusion of Usambara in the address appears to have led to multiple delays.

- **KABALO 25.JANV.17**  
(Crossed Lake Tanganyika)

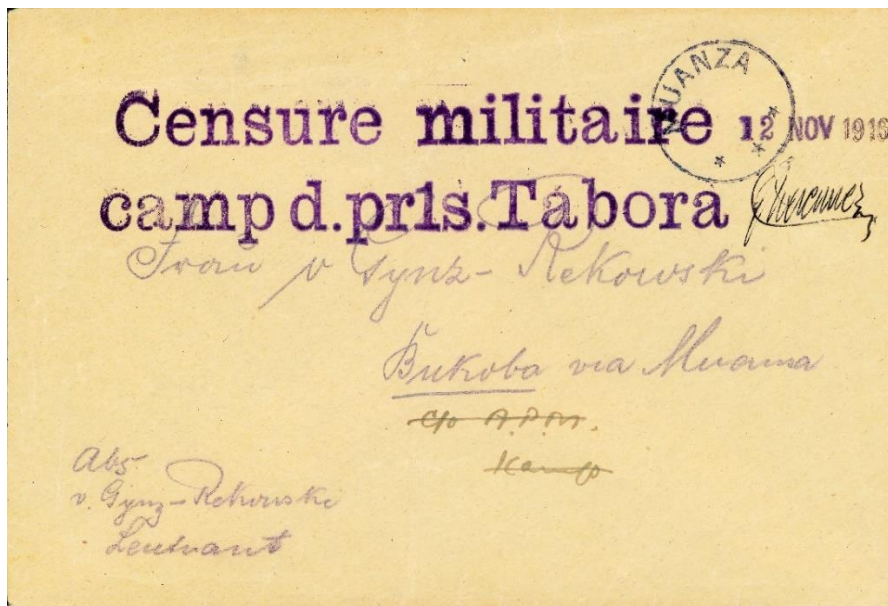


- **BPCVPK No.4**                      **2.FEB.17** (Based at Kigoma)
- **BPCVPK No.4**                      **19.FEB.17** (Based at Kigoma)  
(Crossed Lake Tanganyika)
- **BPCVPK No.5**                      **6.AP.17** (Based at Kigali)
- **RUTSHURU**                      **11.MAI.1917**
- **UVIRA**                      **7.JUIN.17**  
(Crossed Lake Tanganyika)
- **KIGOMA**                      **9.JN.17**  
(Crossed Lake Tanganyika)
- **ALBERTVILLE**                      **13.JUIN.17**  
(Crossed Lake Tanganyika)
- **MOSCHI**                      **25.JY.17**
- **WILHELMSTAL**                      **26.JY.17** (Faint cancellation on obverse)

At the northern end of Lake Tanganyika is a town in Urundi called **Usumbura**, occupied by the Belgians. It may well be that confusion between that town and **Usambara** (the region and the mountains around Wilhelmstal) led to a five-month delay in receipt of the card, as well as causing it to cross Lake Tanganyika an incredible five times!

#### Postal History with Convoy Connections

##### (a) Items from Tabora Camp (Pre-Convoy)



**Figure 5**  
(reduced size)

Hoffman (2) illustrates 2 covers emanating from internees in the Belgian internment camp at Tabora, one to Switzerland and one to Germany. They were both mailed in November 1916 and both have a two-line censor cachet **CENSURE MILITAIRE / Cdt. CAMPS de PRISONNIERS. \*TABORA\*** Another card with the same cachet is illustrated in Herterich p.78. A cover is also known from Gynz-Rekowski, mailed to his wife at *Bukoba via Muansa*. [Fig.5] This has a large two-line handstamp **Censure militaire / camp d. prls. Tabora** and an associated date stamp **12.NOV.1916**. This letter carries the rare ex-German undated single-circle **MUANZA** cancellation which had been appropriated by the allies.

### (b) Mail back to East Africa (Post-Convoy)

Only one item of mail has been recorded from a convoy internee after arrival in Europe back to East Africa. Again this is from the Gynz-Rekowski correspondence [Fig.6]. On arrival in France the internees were distributed across a number of camps at different locations. Gynz-Rekowski was placed in Toulouse, the camp being in the Carmelite Convent buildings there. Posted on 26<sup>th</sup> July 1917, it is addressed as before to *Nairobi Internment Camp* and again has been forwarded on to Tanga. There is a Mombasa transit of 14<sup>th</sup> Sept. 1917 and it was censored in both France and East Africa.

[NB. A number of letters are recorded from ex-Tabora internees from camps in France to contacts in Germany. As these have no postal connections to East Africa they have not been recorded here.]



**Figure 6**  
(reduced size)

### (c) Mail from Germans Interned in the Belgian Congo

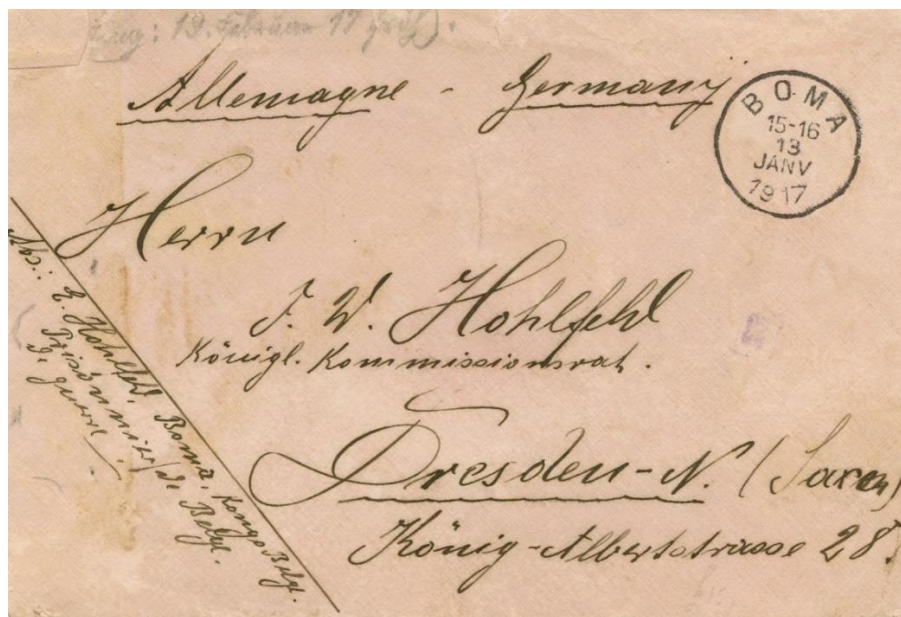
Herterich records that some German engineers who had worked in the Belgian Congo pre-war, together with a few seaman and some German farmers who lived close to Lake Tanganyika were imprisoned earlier in the war in the central prison of Elisabethville. In due course they, like the Tabora internees, were convoyed through the Congo to Boma and then to Europe. They may well have travelled on the same ships as the Tabora internees, and indeed may have joined the Tabora convoys on the Lualaba after travelling north from Elisabethville. Herterich illustrates a cover written from the prison (1<sup>st</sup> Oct. 1915) to the International Committee of the Red

Cross, Prisoner of War Agency, Geneva, Switzerland. Fig.7 (Hoffman Collection) illustrates a similar cover headed *Service des prisonniers de guerre* from Elisabethville (1.OCTO.1915) to the *Deutschen Hilfsverein* in Stockholm, Sweden. It bears the cachet of the Justice Directorate in Elisabethville. This 'Assistance Society', established originally in 1876 under the patronage of Queen Sylvia of Sweden, was a neutral 'helping hand' in times of both peace and war and was one of several intermediaries handling German POW & internee mail routed for Germany.

(17)



**Figure 7**  
(reduced size)



**Figure 8**  
(reduced size)

Fig.8 (also Hoffman Collection) initially appears to be from an ex-Tabora internee conveyed through the Congo, similar to Gynz-Rekowski. [Fig.4] The date of 13<sup>th</sup> January 1917 certainly fits that time-frame. However, doubt has been cast on that by Peter Vogenbeck who has examined all of his lists of German East Africa personnel at the time of World War One and can find no reference to any individual called Hohlfehl. Whilst that does not totally exclude the possibility, in his opinion this item is more likely to originate from one of the prisoners held at Elisabethville and conveyed to Boma to be transported to Europe along with some Tabora internees.

### Conclusion

Convoy mail from Tabora internees whilst *en-route* from Tabora to Boma is rare.



Equally rare is mail from other Germans held prisoner in Elisabethville and also ultimately transported to Europe. However, other unrecognised items must exist. The author's postcard [Fig.1] was not identified by the dealer in any way as being connected to these convoys, and other items must surely still be hidden in collections or dealers' stocks. Any further information on any aspect of this article, and particularly information on items of mail not recorded, would be most welcome by the author. (Please contact [ericcoulton@aol.com](mailto:ericcoulton@aol.com) ).

### **Acknowledgements**

I wish to express my thanks to Peter Vogenbeck, not only for permission to reproduce images from his catalogues [Figs. 2-6] but also for the significant help he has been with many aspects of this article. Without that help the information herein contained would have been much less complete. I am also greatly indebted to Harald Krieg who translated large sections of Herterich for me. Without that help this article would not have been written. And last, but by no means least, I am indebted to Regis Hoffman who first gave me details of the book which he had been so instrumental in getting translated (8) and thus set me off on this investigation. He also receives my thanks for permission to reproduce Figs.7 & 8.

### **References**

2. Quoted in *The Tabora Prisoner of War Camp in Belgian Occupied German East Africa*. (Regis Hoffman. Vorlaufer #170:29. March 2013)
13. The four Gynz-Rekowski covers illustrated as Figs.3, 4, 5 & 6 were sold together as Lot 215 in the Vogenbeck Auction No.71 (Jan.2008). The price realised was 3,600 Euros, giving some indication of the rarity of this material.
14. The illustration in Herterich does not lend itself to reproduction here.
15. This cover appeared in the Vogenbeck Auction No.15 (1994) and was tragically lost en route to the purchaser. It may never re-surface.
16. Messages and manuscript endorsements were normally in French for easy reading by the Belgians, thus (hopefully) reducing delays in the mail.
17. Letters were supposed to enclose three 25pf International Reply Coupons, apparently to cover onward postage to destination, reply postage to Stockholm and onward postage from there back to the POW /Internee. However, this explanation has been queried - see Vorlaufer #39 p.5-7. (Apr.1979)



## Security punch holes in the 1942 Waterlow & Sons Ltd. "Palms" Issue - Part 2

Charles Lloyd

To produce a more robust conclusion, a greater sample size is needed. Proofs are advertised for sale on the internet and 27 sites were found which yielded 72 usable items. (Printing shop proofs, file copy proofs and a publicity proof - as singles, pairs or blocks.) Invariably, Images are saved as JPEG files. JPEG is a programme written to save an image as a smaller size file. The programme deletes some information from the image while maintaining quality at a specified image size (i.e. at x mm by y mm). However, compression means that once original information is deleted it cannot be recovered. The image is formed from pixels with a resolution specified in "pixels per inch" (ppi) in both x and y directions. 200 ppi is photographic quality (but at only the original physical size of the stored image). Thus, an image that is 3 inches by 3 inches at this setting contains 600 x 600 pixels (360,000). This has relevance for the images captured from the internet. These internet images had been created with between 96 and 300 ppi. Down loading and enlarging the image to increase the measurement's accuracy is limited by "pixilation" of the image. At the size of the illustration on the internet, to the eye the image is clear, but when it is down loaded and enlarged the pixels forming that image become visible. For these down loaded images, the pixels were measured at between 0.04 mm and 0.9 mm. A pixel that spans the stamp paper and hole will have an intensity between the two. But where exactly is the boundary? Thus, there is uncertainty on both sides of the hole, as to where measurement starts and where it ends. The pixel size dictates the accuracy of the measurement and it is sensible to use twice the pixel size as the uncertainty in measurement. This uncertainty is displayed on Figure 8, 9 and 10 as the measurement, a circle, with a vertical bar through the circle, 2(pixel size) in length.

Figures 8, 9 and 10 show results obtained from internet images for printing shop proofs, file copy proofs and printing shop proofs of frames alone, respectively.

The overall impression for the distribution of security punch holes on printing shop proofs is that of randomness (Figure 8) between 1.8 mm and 6 mm, though one third of these do lie in the vicinity of 4.4 mm. Taking the uncertainty in the values into account, there is the possibility of a cluster around 5.6 mm. One third of the measurements are less than 4.4 mm and even after uncertainty is allowed for, they cannot be included in the 4.4 mm cluster. Such smaller holes are found in the set of results from the scanned stamps (Figure 6) but in half the abundance (i.e. 17% compared with 33%).

Centre hole diameter

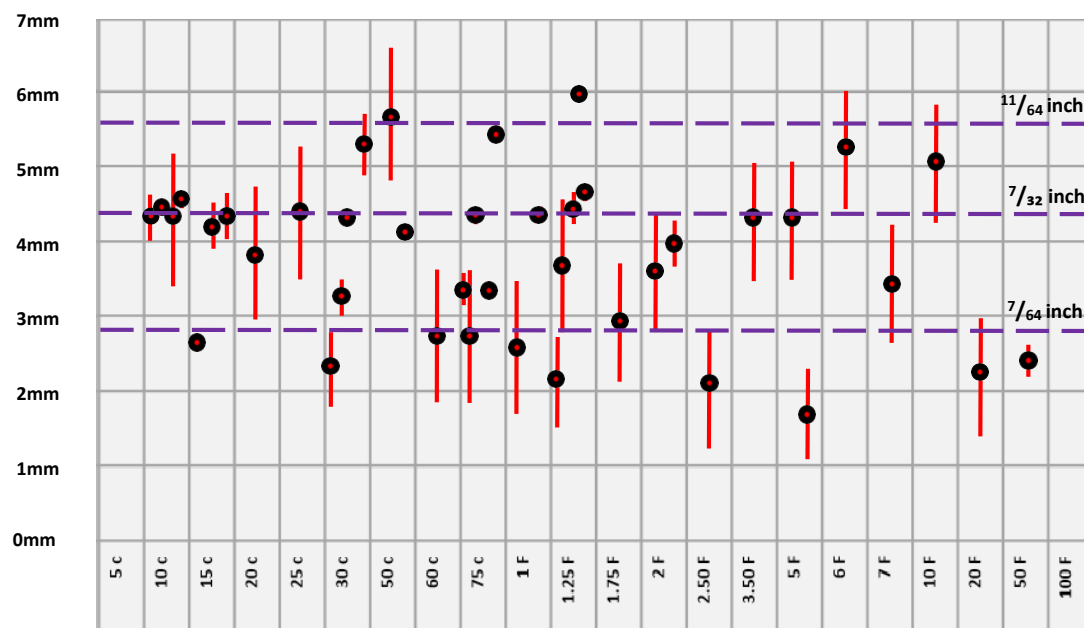


Figure 8: Security punch holes in the imperforate printing shop proofs (also referred to as printer's waste) from images obtained on the internet. The red bars through readings are two pixel lengths, reflecting the uncertainty in the result. They vary in length, depending on the ppi used for recording that image and range from less than the size of the circle to  $\pm 0.9$  mm.

Centre hole diameter

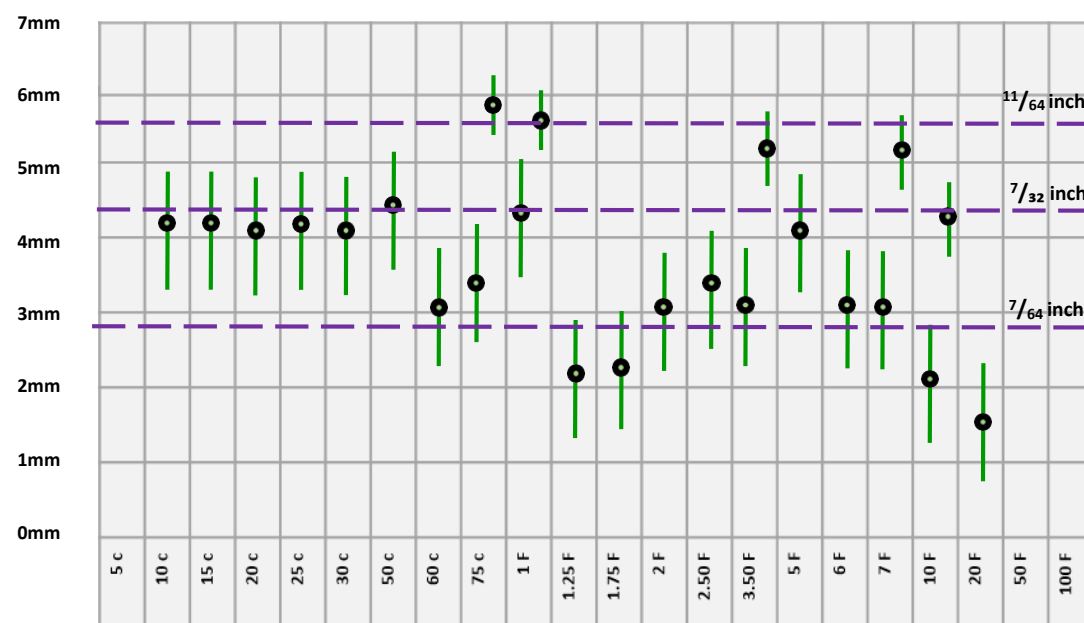


Figure 9: Security punch holes in perforate file copy proofs from images obtained on the internet. The green bars through readings are two pixel lengths, reflecting the uncertainty in the result.

A similar tri-modal distribution is seen with file copy proofs, though in this set almost

half of results occur in the smallest diameter cluster and 17% in the largest diameter cluster (Figure 9).

Printing shop proofs of frames (Figure 10) are the smallest in number available for a set of results, with just 9 examples. However, given the observation on the other tables that three clusters are a strong possibility, such a distribution can be seen here. There are 2, 6 and 1 stamps in the large, medium and small diameter hole clusters. Compared with the other results, this distribution matches most closely that of the scanned printing shop proofs (Figure 6).

Centre hole diameter

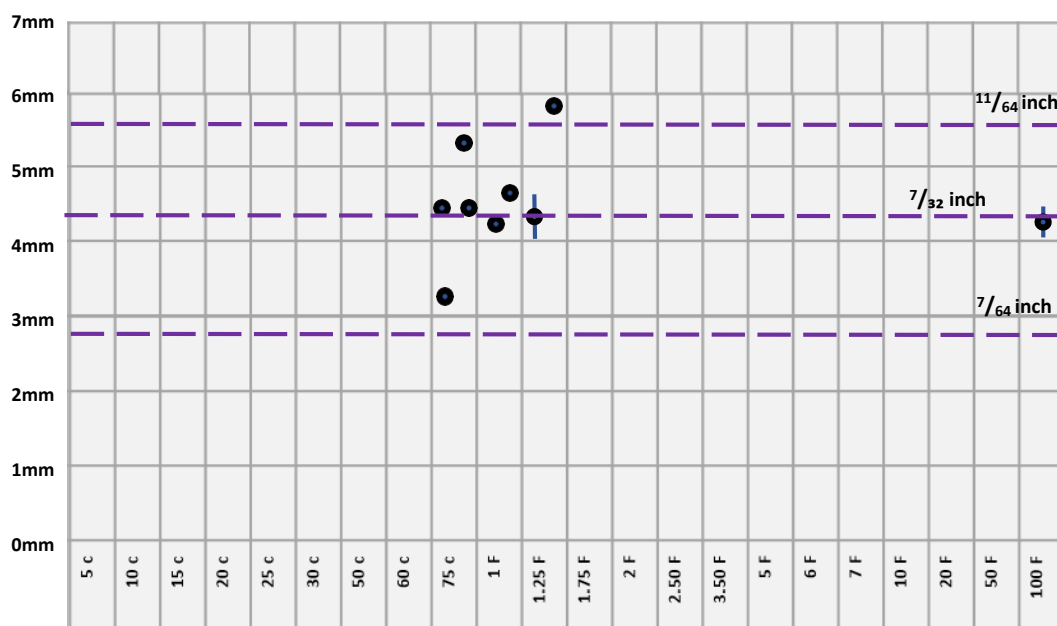


Figure 10: Security punch holes in the imperforate printing shop proofs of frames alone, from images obtained on the internet. The blue bars through reading reflect the uncertainty in the result.

Finally, there are the large security punch holes set at the corner of four adjoining stamps to demonetise all four with a single hole. These holes are distributed across the sheet such that every stamp is perforated by a single quadrant. An example is given as Figure 11.



Figure 11: A printing shop proof block of 10 that has both the centre security punch hole and the larger corner security punch hole. Note that the printer has signed-off the printing as correct and dated it. The order number and the print run are to the left. (Image from the internet.)

I found these large corner punch holes only in printing shop proofs and then only in 38% of these. 17 of the stamps with corner security punch holes were obtained as images on the internet. There were 24 items (singles, pairs and blocks) that had corner security punch holes. As might be expected, most of these items (17) were single stamps and consequently a measurement was not possible. It was possible to measure the corner security punch holes in just seven. These are the results:

Denomination	Diameter (uncertainty) mm	Diameter (uncertainty) mm
<b>30 c</b>	7.9 (0.3)	7.9 (0.6)
<b>50 c</b>	8.2 (0.3)	
<b>2 F</b>	8.1 (0.3)	
<b>5 F</b>	7.5 (0.4)	
<b>50 F</b>	7.9 (0.4)	
<b>100 F</b>	7.8 (0.2)	

Table 1: Diameter of the corner security punch hole through imperforate printing shop proofs. The number in parenthesis is two pixel lengths, the uncertainty in measurement. There were two examples of the 30c (both blocks of 5 x 2) and one for each of the others.

There is very good consistency for the size measured. 7.9 mm is within the range of all the results.

In the round, these results reveal that measurements must be taken from stamps directly scanned at high resolution (600 ppi) to give images that can be enlarged using a programme such as Adobe Photoshop for a measurement accuracy to 0.1 mm. It is to be hoped that once more data are added and if the number of forged proofs is small, the forgeries will be seen as outliers. Unfortunately, if the forger has employed a punch with the correct size, detection of a fake will be impossible. This is a sad but inevitable fact for such a simple addition to (or to be pedantic, a removal from) a Palms stamp.

The same health warning has to be issued for all sets of results shown here – the samples are too small to draw indisputable conclusions. A population distribution is observed to exist as clusters and anomalous outliers. (The large corner security punch hole is the exception with all results in a single cluster and no outliers.)



In 1980 Robson Lowe<sup>1</sup> invited Ray Keach to inspect the remnants of the Waterlow archive that was in his possession, for disposal. (Robson Lowe marketed the archive publically and by private treaty, spreading the sales over a period of time so that the market could absorb the tremendous original artwork, proofs and essays of the stamps of many countries.) In an article, *Waterlow Proof Sheets and File Copies* [BCSC Bulletin 39 (March 1981) 28-29] Keach reported on the post-Mols issues (1926 Colonial Campaign, 1942 Spitfire, 1942 Palms & 1944 Messages). Whereas there is much information on three of these issues, the Palms issue is limited to a just note!

“I am studying a vast number of file sheets and proof copies of various printings of the 1942 issues..... Eventually there will be an extensive report. .... A copy of the report will go into the Study Circle archive. .... At the present time, as opposed to the Mols, these stamps are considered of very limited interest and members may very well consider that the use of valuable space in the Bulletin would be quite unjustified for publishing the information even in an abbreviated form.”

If indeed this report was produced and put in the archives, it no longer exists. Over time, it has been lost. Relative to the Mols issues, very little has been published in back issues of the Bulletin, which supports his contention of “very limited interest” in this issue. This seems to be the case still.

Alas, Keach provided no information on demonetising security punch holes in the Palms (i.e. his 1942) issue. However, he did report his findings for the Mols issues from the Waterlow archive file sheets in Bulletin 35 (March 1980), 6 – 18 and in Bulletin 39 (March 1981), 22 – 27. Keach also showed a 40c proof sheet of the 1915 issue (a 1916 printing) in a later article, Bulletin 121 (September 2001), 18. These Mols articles give measurements for security punch holes which are relevant and are summarised here:

1894 – 1909 issues. 1 punch hole in each stamp – 3 mm

1910 issue (1911 printing). 2 punch holes in each stamp - 4½ mm

(1913 printing). 1 punch hole in each stamp – 6 mm

1915 issue (1915 & 1916 printings). 1 punch hole in each stamp – 10 mm

(1916 printing 40c). 2 punch holes in each stamp – 10 mm

(1920 printing). 2 punch holes in each stamp - 4½ mm

Red Cross. (1917 printing). 1 punch hole in each stamp – 6 mm

1915 booklet (first printing). 1 punch hole in each stamp – 5 mm

(first printing? single pane). 1 punch hole in each stamp – 9 mm

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<sup>1</sup> John Harry Robson Low (1905-1997) was, arguably, the foremost influential philatelic dealer, auctioneer and author of his generation in the UK in a career spanning 70 years. In 1980 he sold his auction house Robson Lowe Ltd. to Christie's and it continued to operate as the Robson Lowe division of Christie's in New York. He remained working for the auction house.

(third printing). 1 punch hole in each stamp - 4½ mm

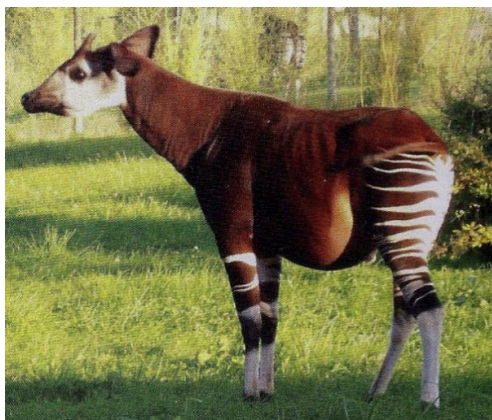
Keach has provided incontrovertible evidence that over 11 years 6 different punches with diameters of 3, 4½, 5, 6, 9 and 10 mm were used. After 1910, each issue can be found with two different punch hole diameters and there was no systematic change from one size to another with the passage of time. Keach has given diameters to ½ mm, which will reflect his measuring accuracy. For this, a reasonable uncertainty allowance would be ¼ mm.

There is no reason to think that printing shop practices changed after 1920. Security punches with different diameters would remain in use with the possibility that more than one would be available at any particular time. The results for the Palms issue (Figures 6 to 10 and Table 1) show clustering around 2.9, 4.5, 5.7 and 7.9 mm.

### **Conclusions**

- A range of security punch hole diameters was found with significant clustering of diameters at 4 sizes. The work of Keach on the Waterlow archive supports the genuineness of this variation in proof punch holes.
- Although Keach reported punch hole diameters as millimetres, he did not take into consideration that in 1942 inches were used in the UK and consequently hole diameters will not be exact millimetres.
- A single punch size was used to cut the corner security punch hole, which is found only in printing shop proofs (printer's waste).
- The security punch hole in publicity proofs is significantly smaller than others and does not necessarily have a clean cut.
- In many instances the hole has a torn appearance. The cause of this is unclear. This cannot and should not be used with any certainty to label any proof as a fake.
- Measurements made on images published on the internet suffer from pixilation when they are enlarged to measure the hole, giving rise to greater uncertainty in the measurement. Directly scanning stamps using 600 ppi is preferred to produce an enlarged image for more accurate measurement.
- There are anomalous outlying points on the figures. Being fake is not ruled out. (However, a faker is likely to produce clean cut circular holes to be convincing, which is not the case for many examples.)

### **Concluded**



## From the editor

Remember to reserve the dates of 24 & 25 April 2021 in your diaries for the 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary BCSC Exhibition

**Come and see The Exhibition of members' collections**

Attention we need articles for the next edition of the bulletin. Please consider contributing. Thank you for your cooperation!

# Can you help ?

## Was Tanzania Embassy Mail from Kinshasa Ever Examined?



**Figure 1** Letter sent from Kinshasa to Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. Postmarked 20-9-68

Figure 1 shows a cover sent from the Tanzanian Embassy based in Kinshasa (see Figure 2 for the cachet of origin on the reverse) to Dar es Salaam in 1968. As was frequently the case with embassy mail, an official 'On Tanzania Government Service' envelope was used although Democratic Republic of Congo stamps had to be applied, in this case to the value of 60 Francs. All the stamps were cancelled at Kinshasa on 20.9.68.

Figure 2

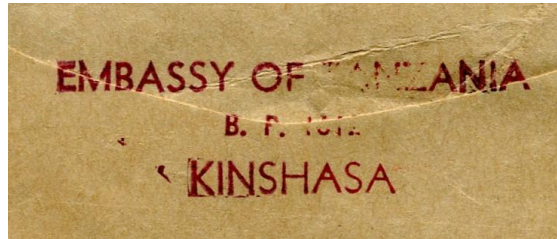


Figure 3



The left-hand edge of the cover has a piece of plain paper stuck over the edge. This has a Kinshasa cancellation the following day – 21.9.68 (See Figure 3). There has also clearly been some disturbance of the envelope flap at that end. The tape very slightly overlaps the left-hand 9F stamp, but that stamp has a 20.9.68 cancel which overlies the tape as well.

**My question is this:** Was this embassy mail being examined by the Congolese authorities? I can find no evidence from a cursory search of the internet of any Tanzania-Congo political tensions at that time. If the tape was applied after stamping but before the 20.9.68 cancellation then presumably that was done at the embassy, which is a possibility, although if they wanted to insert something else they would normally open the 'correct' end of the envelope - that which has the embassy handstamp applied. And why apply the backstamp on the tape the following day? There may of course be a totally innocent explanation.

Any information from members more knowledgeable than myself would be much appreciated.

Thank you.

**Eric Coulton.** ([ericcoulton@aol.com](mailto:ericcoulton@aol.com))



## My favourite cover

### Charles Hénuzet

I found this card very interesting for several reasons. In our collections we research the first date of usage but the last date is often more interesting.

Belgian postal card number 77, a card that had a paid reply part, posted at Cureghem 23 ? 1927



Why is it interesting to me?

1) The tariff from Belgium to the Belgian Congo was 45 centimes at that time, applying from 1<sup>st</sup> October 1926 to 30<sup>th</sup> April 1927, consequently the (unreadable) month must be **APRIL** because the card arrived at Lisala on the 8<sup>th</sup> June. The 15 centimes underpaid franking resulted in the card being taxed at doubled the deficiency, 15 c. X 2 = 30 centimes.

The mark "T" + "0,30" (taxe to be paid on arrival) was always applied on the item at the mail departure office.

2) The post card was sent during the last days of the 45c. rate.

3) The card was carried on the vessel, Anversville 2, from Anvers on the 5<sup>th</sup> May and arrived at Boma on the 27<sup>th</sup> May

4) Observations:

the card arrived at LISALA where it was taxed with tax stamps applied and cancelled, 8-9 8 JUIN 1927.

The cancellation type is type 1.1 tDMY. 1927 was the **last year** in which type 1.1 tDMY was in use.



5) The 5 centimes tax stamp is very interesting because it is not possible to find it present alone and with no other tax stamp on a cover, when postal regulations are followed. The tax applied must be always double the deficiency and when it is doubled the minimum price is 10 centimes.

All officers wish you a very Merry Christmas and  
all their best wishes for 2021



# POSTAL AUCTION SALE 2020-3

## REALISED PRICES

LOT	PRICE	LOT	PRICE	LOT	PRICE	LOT	PRICE
1		33	20,00	65		97	
2		34	1,00	66	9,25	98	
3		35		67		99	
4		36		68		100	200,00
5		37	10,00	69		101	110,00
6		38	17,25	70		102	305,00
7		39	3,75	71		103	
8		40	19,00	72		104	20,00
9	10,00	41	6,25	73	9,00	105	40,00
10	6,25	42	3,50	74		106	132,00
11	13,00	43		75		107	
12		44		76		108	
13		45		77		109	5,25
14		46	2,75	78		110	255,00
15	4,00	47		79		111	12,25
16		48		80		112	2,25
17	2,00	49		81		113	4,25
18		50		82		114	14,00
19	23,25	51	102,00	83	14,00	115	9,00
20		52	21,25	84		116	10,00
21		53	102,00	85		117	7,50
22		54		86		118	
23		55	27,00	87	12,00	119	11,25
24	5,00	56		88		120	8,25
25	4,50	57		89	13,00	121	41,00
26	3,75	58		90	3,50	122	12,00
27	11,50	59		91		123	11,25
28		60		92		124	1,25
29		61		93	14,00	125	10,25
30		62		94			
31	95,00	63		95			
32		64		96			

## Bidding form - BCSC 2020-4

To be sent

by E-mail to Thierry Frennet (auctioneer) at: [thierry.frennet@fthsprl.be](mailto:thierry.frennet@fthsprl.be) (preferred)

(by post to T. Frennet, Rue la rue 17, B-1420 Braine-l'Alleud, Belgique/Europe)

### CLOSING DATE FOR BIDS – 1<sup>st</sup> FEBRUARY 2021

Name: .....Date: .....

Full Address: .....Signature: .....

☐ If my purchases total less than 50€, please still send by registered letter (indicate with **X** in box)

### Auction Rules

#### Abbreviations used

<b>U.M.</b>	= unmounted mint – unused with original gum in Post Office state, never hinged.	
<b>L.M.</b>	= lightly hinged - unused with original gum, mounted with a peelable hinge.	
<b>O.G.</b>	= original gum - unused with gum slightly disturbed or alternatively having a previous hinge	
<b>Part O.G.</b>	= part original gum – unused with original gum. Large hinge remnants may or may not be present.	

CB – Congo Belge; COB – Catalogue Officiel Belge number; RU – Ruanda-Urundi;  
Designation of cancellations are in accordance with the Heim & Keach classification

#### Bidding steps

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

**Postage on lots will be charged to buyers**

See also our website: [www.Belgian-congo-study-circle.be](http://www.Belgian-congo-study-circle.be)

<u>Lot No.</u>	<u>Limit (Euros)</u>	<u>Lot No.</u>	<u>Limit (Euros)</u>	<u>Lot No.</u>	<u>Limit (Euros)</u>

To submit more bids, please send them entered on a 2<sup>nd</sup> (& more) copy/copies of this bidding form.



Lot	Description	COB #	Min Bid €
<b>Belgian Congo Mols issue</b>			
1	1909 issue 10 c carmine, Brussels overprint type 6, no gum, I2 + A4, position 7	31B	7
2	1894 issue 5 F carmine, telegraphic cancellation 1908, position 37	28	8
3	1894 issue 10 F green, I1-A1 position 48, used	29	8
4	1910 issue 10 c carmine, 21 blocks of 4 (84 stamps), two blocks of 4 are UM, 19 blocks no gum	55	3
5	1909 issue of postage due stamps, 5c green, 10c carmine, 25 c blue type II, 40c green blue, 50c olive, all with local overprints and various taxe(s) cachets + 15c typo overprint. Used. <i>Some rust spots on 2 stamps.</i>	TX 7, 8, 10a, 11, 12, 19	10
6	1894 issue, full set, used except for 40c blue-green (LH)	14/29	63
7	1894 issue 5c blue, 10c red-brown, 15c ochre, 5f carmine. No gum (5c, 10c, 15c), or some gum adherences (5F).	14, 17, 20, 28	11
8	1894 issue 5c red-brown, 10c blue, 25c orange, 1F violet, LH	15, 18, 21, 26A	10.00
9	1894 issue 3,50F, cancellation Boma 5 oct 1903	27	36
10	1909 issue local overprint 5c green, displaced L1 overprint, used + 10c carmine double L2 overprint, LH	30L,31L	7,50
11	1909 issue local overprint ; all L5 - 15c, 25c, 40c, 50c, used except 25c blue LH (2 short perfs)	32L, 33L, 34L, 35L	6,50
12	1909 issue typo overprint 3,50F vermillion, Boma Cancellation 2 DECE 1913	47	6,50
13	1909 issue typo overprint full set, used (except 5c green & 10c carmine : LH)	40/49	32
14	1909 issue typo overprint 15c ochre, type 2, LH, <i>one short perf</i>	42	3
15	1909 issue typo overprint 3,50 F vermillion, LH	47	13
16	1909 issue typo overprint 10F green, used, <i>two short perfs</i>	49	7
17	1909 issue typo overprint 5F carmine, used, <i>one short perf</i>	48	10
18	1909 unilingual issue, 5c green (3: 2 used + 1 no gum), 10c carmine (2: 1 used + 1 LH), 15c ochre LH, 50c olive used (2), 50c dark olive LH	50/3 + 53a	8,50
19	1910 issue 5F carmine, LH	62	9,50
20	1910 issue, lot of 22 used stamps: 5c green (4), 10c carmine (5), 15c ochre (2), 25c blue (5), 40c green-blue, 50c olive (3), 1F carmine, 3F red.	54/61	5,50
21	1910 issue, 3F red, cancellation Leopoldville 17 NOV 1910	61	4
22	1921 issue, full set, used (except for 5c/40c green-blue, LH)	85/94	6
<b>Belgian Congo and Ruanda-Urundi – Stamps and Covers</b>			
23	1923 Vloors issue 5c orange-yellow, 10c green (block of 4), 15c gray-brown (block of 4), 20c olive-green (block of 4), 25c red-brown (block of 4), all with SPECIMEN in red and small punch hole, UM	106/10	35
24	1923 Vloors issue 3F olive-brown + 1925 Vloors issue 30c olive (block of 4) and 50c red-orange (block of 4), all with SPECIMEN in red and small punch hole, UM	115, 119 123	16
25	1928 Stanley issue, 2 full sets (large and small size), mostly used, a few LH + registered cover from Elisabethville to Berlin + beautiful 5 colours cover from Boma to Locarno, Switzerland.	135/49	20
26	Lot of 3 airmail covers "100 flights Belgium-Congo via Sabena" (1938)		5,50

	+ First flight cover flight Ponthierville-Elisabethville 31-10-1936		
27	Lot of 2 airmail covers first flight Belgian Congo - USA (1941), Leopoldville to Belem (Brasil) and to Miami, Florida		3,50
28	Commemorative airmail cover from Brussels 23.2.35 (special "3 stars" cancellation) to Leopoldville and back (Leopoldville 26.2.35) to Belgium		5
29	1938 issue 5c violet complete sheet of 100 stamps, in 2 panes, with date, sheet number, etc. UM		1,25
30	1942 issue, 14 different imperforate stamps, mostly UM, with various kinds of punch holes; obviously "from the workshop" items. Rather rare items.		35
31	1930 issue, full set, LH . Very good condition	150/8	16
32	1931 issue Vloors with surcharge, full set, LH	159/61A	10
33	1931 Stanley issue, full set, used	162/7	2,50
34	Ruanda-Urundi 1942 "Spitfire" issue, full set, UM	148/9	2
35	Ruanda-Urundi 1959 African animals issue 1961 issue, full sets, UM	205/16	2
36	Belgian Congo : varied lot of more than 290 stamps, used & LH, between about years 1910 to 1958. Remainder of various collections. Some interesting cancellations, varieties, shades, etc. Bargain		4
37	Belgian Congo : varied lot of 73 Mols stamps, used & LH. Remainder of various collections. Some interesting cancellations, varieties, shades, etc. Bargain		6
38	Belgian Congo : varied lot of 57 Vloors stamps, used & LH. Remainder of various collections. Some interesting cancellations, varieties, shades, etc. Bargain		3
39	1923 issue 10F black (elephant), used	117	4,50
40	1931 issue Vloors with surcharge, 2F/1,75F, blue, used	161	7
41	1925 Vloors issue, 1,75 F blue, UM	131	4,50
42	1947 issue, 100 F red-rose & black, variety " black horizontal line under the mask", used	295V	5
43	1942 issue, full set (41 stamps) used, some unusual cancellations + 1947 & 1951 anti-slavery issues, full sets (5 stamps), used	228-267, 274-276, 300-301	5
<b>Postcards</b>			
44	Postcard, 1894 issue 10c carmine, cancellation TUMBA, ? DECE 1901, to Belgium. Arrival cachet Roulers and transit mark Leopoldville.		7
45	Postcard, 1894 issue 15c ochre, blue cancellation BOMA, 17 NOVE 1902, to Denmark. Arrival cachet Kobenhavn.		4,50
46	Two postcards, both cancellation LUSAMBO 19 FEVR 1914, to Denmark		4,50
47	Two postcards, (1) cancellation Stanleyville 11 JUIL 1912, to Switzerland + (2) cancellation Matadi 16.12.1923, to France		5
48	Two postcards with views of Matadi. They have not travelled.		2,50
49	Postcard, cancellation Elisabethville 1922, to Belgium, via Capetown		1,50
<b>Belgian Congo – Stamps and Covers</b>			
50	1922 issue, full set, used + cover from Coquilhatville to Louvain, Belgium with 25c/40c	95/99	7,50
51	1922 issue, postcard with 30c/10c carmine (2), cancellation BANDUNDU 30.11.1926 to Austria		3
52	1921 issue lot of 7 stamps with curiosities and varieties: missing dots under c, displaced surcharge, etc. + 1922 issue 25/40c carmine		5

	surcharge		
53	1931 issue full set, used (except 2,50 F) + cover with 1,25F to Brussels + registered cover cancellation Elisabethville 11.3.33 to Germany	168/183	28
54	1927 issue, Vloors 1,75/1,50F blue on cover from Boma to Chicago, USA	134	8
55	1939 issue, full set, LH	209/13	10
56	1939 issue, full set on registered cover from ABA 6.9.39 to Belgium. A few rust spots	209/13	20
57	1938 issue , full set LH & used + 4,50F on cover Leopoldville to Brussels + 1936 issue 1,25F vertical pair on cover Banningville to Sweden		6,50
<b>Selected items</b>			
58	"Faux Lenoir" miniature sheet of ten stamps (fake), 5c green, no gum		10
59	"Faux Lenoir" miniature sheet of ten stamps (fake), 25c blue, no gum		10
60	"Faux Lenoir" miniature sheet of ten stamps (fake), 50c olive, no gum		10
61	1886 issue 5c green, block of four, UM	1	65
62	1886 issue 5F lilac, cancellation BANANA, COB 490€	5	110
63	1887 issue 50c red-brown, from BOMA 17 juil 1894 to Louvain, Belgium.	9	130
64	1887 issue, 3,50/5F lilac, Colis postaux surcharge, used. COB 940€	CP 2	240
65	1887 issue, 3,50/5F grey, boxed Colis postaux surcharge, LH. COB 240€	CP5	70
66	1887 issue, 3,50/5F lilac, boxed Colis postaux surcharge, beautiful BOMA cancellation, 21 sept 1893. COB 725€	CP4	220
67	1894 issue 10F green, pen cancellation	29	6
<b>Ruanda-Urundi – Stamps and Covers</b>			
68	1953 Flowers issue, 7F +10 F on registered cover Usumbura to Zurich, Switzerland	192 + 194	5
69	Deutsch Ostafrika 7,5 heller red on cover to Germany. Cancellation Daressalam		4
70	Deutsch Ostafrika 7,5 heller red (3) on registered cover from Tabora 28.10.15 to Daressalam (internal mail)		20
71	1916 issue, 25c blue on cover from Kigali ? MAI 1919 to Locarno, Switzerland. Transit mark Bukoba on reverse + linear transit mark Milano Posta Estera.	31	25
72	1922 issue, 5c/50c red-brown, 10c/5c green, 30c/10c carmine, 50c/25c blue, all blocks of four, UM	45, 46, 48, 49	4
73	1918 Red Cross issue, 5c (10), 10c (5), 15c (5), 25c (2), 40c, 50c (3), 1F (4), 5F, LH or no gum. Perf 14 or 15.	36/43	7
74	1918 Red Cross issue, 10F cancellation Kigoma 31 DE 18	44	32
75	1944 issue, Messages miniatures sheets, full set, UM, Rare	BL1/4	170
76	1941 issue, full set LH, some tiny gum adherences on one stamp	114/7	9,50
77	1923, 1925 & 1929 Vloors issues, lot of 52 stamps with overprint, all LH		2
78	1923, 1925 & 1929 Vloors issues, lot of 46 stamps with overprint, all LH		2
79	Registered Cover from Kigoma 5 AU 20 to Basel, Switzerland. 1916 issue & 1918 issue stamps. On reverse: transit marks of Daressalam & London, arrival mark of Basel	28/30 + 36/38	28
80	1922 issue, lot of 13 stamps. Included: both colours of surcharge 25c/40c, used, LH, no gum.	45/49	2
81	1922 issue 10c/5c green, LH, perf 15 (rare)	46	1
82	1916 issue, full set, type B, perf 14, LH	28/35 (B)	21

83	1916 issue, 50c lilac-brown, type A, perf 14, cancellation Tabora	33 (A)	3
84	1956 issue, full set, UM	200/1	2,75
85	FDC of 1958 Universal exhibition of Brussels, Belgian stamp & special cachet 17.4. 1958. The designs of stamp and cover are the Belgian Congo and Ruanda-Urundi pavillion at the exhibition.		1
86	1934 issue, 1,50 F black, block of four, sheet corner, UM	107	3
<b>Republic of Congo, Katanga, Rwanda, Burundi</b>			
87	lot of 14 airmail covers + 1 postcard, between 1960 and 1972, beautiful frankings and various destinations		6
88	lot of 15 airmail covers, between 1960 and 1972, beautiful frankings and various destinations		6
89	lot of 3 airmail registered covers, between 1960 and 1966, to Switzerland, Germany and Elisabethville, Congo		3,50
90	Airmail cover, cancellation Leopoldville 18.8.62 + cover to Sweden, both mixed franking with B.Congo & Rep. of Congo stamps		3,00
91	Lot of 5 airmail official covers from various offices/departments, between July 1960 and 1966. No stamps but many cachets! Including a registered cover. Rare		7,50
92	Katanga State Official cover with red mechanical cachet Elisabethville 07.6.62, to the Netherlands. Rare		5
93	1971 issue, Apes, full set, UM, COB value = 90 euros	785/94	9
94	Burundi, African Animals, 32 stamps between number 879 and number 904, used, some rare and difficult to find items are included. High catalogue value.	between 879 & 904	25
95	Burundi, very rare WWF animals set, full set, used, COB value 800 euros. Bargain!	892/904	55
96	Rwanda Republic, in a small stockbook: 28 full sets between 1962 and 1967, mostly UM (a few used sets) (+ 6 covers, round the years '80s) + 40 other mismatched stamps of Rwanda.		8
97	Large First Day document "10th anniversary of the independance" 30.6.1970		0,50
98	Official letter from the Minister of the postal Service to all Ambassadors in Kinshasa, about the Golden Stamp issue of Democratic Rep of Congo (COB #966 ???). Curious		1