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**BULLETIN 196**

**DECEMBER 2023**

**Bulletin Editor**

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

## Notice: Annual Subscription (US term Dues) – 2024

Subscription rates remain unchanged for the year 2024, these being:

Region	Subscription
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)
UK	£20 (£15 for those who receive the Bulletin, etc. by e-mail)
USA	\$29 (\$20 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 is due on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2024. Individual notifications are not sent. Please take this notice as the invitation to renew your BCSC membership for 2024.**

### How to pay

#### **All members:**

1. by direct payment into the Study Circle's bank account with the "BNP Paribas Fortis":

IBAN BE51 0016 0051 5962

BIC GEBABEBB

If you are paying into the BNP Paribas Fortis account from outside the Eurozone, you are responsible for paying all charges. (Using PayPal will be cheaper.)

- or 2. by PayPal to [belgiancongostudycircle@hotmail.com](mailto:belgiancongostudycircle@hotmail.com).

The Study Circle PayPal account is held in Belgium but will accept payments either in Euros, or US Dollars or Pounds Sterling. You are responsible for paying PayPal charges. (These are small. Ensure you state that you are making a gift to a friend, for which charges are less.)

#### **Members living in the UK have two other options:**

- 1 by electronic bank transfer to our account with the 'TSB Bank Ltd.'

Bank 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 BCSC Secretary, Charles Lloyd at 18 Linefield Road, Carnoustie, Angus DD7 6DP, Scotland, U.K. (He will deposit it in the TSB account.)

### **NOTES:**

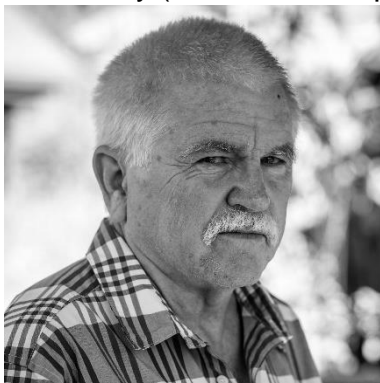
Any member who has a pre-existing arrangement to pay in a different way should continue to do this. If anyone else has a problem paying by any of the above methods, please contact the Treasurer, Ludo Achten ([ludoachten@hotmail.com](mailto:ludoachten@hotmail.com)).

A reminder will be sent in March to any member who has not paid, and if necessary a second reminder will be sent in June.

## Membership News

### Obituary

#### Mike Davis (1946 – 2022)



Belatedly (for which we apologize) we report the death of our American member Mike Davis at San Diego, California. He was a distinguished scholar – an American writer, (socialist) political activist and historian. An extensive biography can be found on Wikipedia ([en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mike\\_Davis](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mike_Davis)). In October 2022, two years after diagnosis, he died of esophageal cancer. In his last press interview he said: “If I have a regret, it's not dying in battle or at a barricade as I've always romantically imagined — you know, fighting.” In an e-mail received a week before his death, sent to his many friends, he informed them that: “Regretfully I'm running out of steam. I'm in very good spirits, still mobile around the house, and managing discomfort with a little morphine, but very tired. From here on out I just plan to hang with Ale (*his wife*) and the kids and watch incomparable Pacific sunsets from my porch. with much love – mike”. He was a man of his time, both influencing and being influenced by events. It seems his choice to study the philately of the Belgian Congo/Congo aligned with his other interests.

#### New Members

We extend a warm welcome to the following recently joined members and trust they will enjoy and benefit from their association with us:

Belgium      Jos Haeck

Belgium      Francis Dochez

UK              Julian Frost      Julian has been a collector of Belgium and the Belgian Congo for over 30 years

UK              David Kerr      David is a returning member. Originally, he had a collect stamps of the colony and built up a reasonably complete collection. This was sold to fund new interests. Returning to collecting the Congo, he is focusing on postal stationery which includes postmarks, routes, destinations, etc.

## AGM MARCH 2024

RESERVE THE DATE SATURDAY 23 MARCH  
AT WATERLOO  
HISTORIC SITE OF THE 1815 BATTLE

More informations page 20 to 23

## From the editor



During the past year,  
**have you discovered any cancellations that are not present in Heim and Heach?**

If your answer is **YES**,  
then, please contact the editor as soon as possible.

*All the members of the BCSC committee wish you a very Merry Christmas and a happy new year that health is always present and many beautiful discoveries.*

## My favourite cover - A letter for the King of the Belgians

**Tony Sanchez-Ariño**

I bought this letter some 40 years ago in a public auction. It is addressed to His Majesty (Albert 1<sup>st</sup>) King of the Belgians residing in Brussels.

Cancellation: Leopoldville 1, 3-3-35-16. Arrival: Brussels -8•3•35.21

Airmail letter, commemorating the 1<sup>st</sup> flight of SABENA Léopoldville - Bruxelles service.



**Exceptional destination: From Ruanda-Urundi to Germany in 1941.**

**Walter Deijnckens**

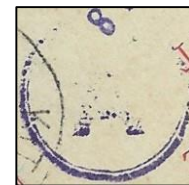
Postcard from P.M Huyskens at the mission of Kisange with a departure postmark of Kitega (24-7-41) directed via Usumbura (28-7-41), Khartoum, Cairo and Vienna to Krefeld in Germany. Postage required: 1.25 fr. for an international postcard. Underfranking valued at "T 0.04 gold fr" for a deficit of  $0.25 \times 2 = 0.50$  (Belgian Congo) fr.



Censorship of Ruanda-Urundi in Usumbura



Censorship at Khartoum in Sudan:  
A in frame and the number 138 in violet



Censorship in Egypt:



Censorship at Vienna in Austria:  
Obercommando der Wehrmacht  
Geprüft.

numbers 1209 and 8964 in black.

## The 50 Fr airmail stamp (Part II)

Filip Van der Haegen

### 1.2 Period 1940 – 1942

Due to WW II, it became impossible to dispatch mail directly to the USA. A solution was offered by using Imperial Airways from Cairo to Hong Kong and Manilla, from where the US airline Pan Am (FAM 14) took over flying onwards to San Francisco. Later on the Horseshoe route was used from Cairo to Singapore, Sydney and Auckland to reach the USA.

A special airmail rate of 27.50 Fr per 5 grams was applicable for using this service.



A letter from Nizi to New York dated 28.12.40, via Aba (02.01.41) and Juba (05.01.41) sent to Hong Kong (28.01.41) and Manilla. Arrived at New York 10.02.41.

Franking: Normal rate	2.75 Fr	(2.75 Fr/20 grams)
Airmail:	<u>137.50 Fr</u>	(5 x 57.50 Fr/5 grams)
Total:	140.25 Fr	(missing 0.05 Fr)

The AV2 mark was added at Cairo and stands for "Avion 2". This was UPU protocol for international mail in transit. The strike was applied on letters from opened bags or bundles.



A letter from Leopoldville posted 14<sup>th</sup> May 1941 to New York with routing instruction, “par la route du Pacifique”

Censored at Cairo (3<sup>rd</sup> June) before further dispatch to Sydney and Auckland.

No arrival mark.

Franking:	Normal rate:	2.75 Fr/20 grams
	Airmail rate:	<u>55.00 Fr</u> (2 x 27.50 Fr/5 grams)
	Total:	57.75 Fr

A postal instruction dated February 1941 mentions an airmail rate of 25.75 Fr/5 grams for letters sent to the USA. Until now, we have seen this rate on one cover alone. All other covers we have verified bear a rate of 27.50 Fr/5 grams.

When Pan Am introduced the direct airline service Miami - Leopoldville (FAM 22 route) on the 13th December 1941, the usage of higher value airmail stamps increased considerably. Indeed, the airmail rate was fixed at 15.00 Fr/5 grams which increased to 15.50 Fr/5 grams from the 1<sup>st</sup> January 1942, onwards.



A letter from Leopoldville to New York posted on the 11<sup>th</sup> December 1941.  
Transitted Miami on the 20th December.

Franking:    Normal rate:    5.75 Fr (2.75 Fr/20 grams + 2 x 1.50 Fr/ 20 grams)  
                  Airmail rate: 150.00 Fr (10 x 15.00 Fr/5 grams)  
                  Total:            155.75 Fr

The letter weighed between 45 and 50 gr. It has a special strike for the first flight and a second strike indicating its postponement until the 6<sup>th</sup> December.

There were two censorships (from the Belgian Congo & from Trinidad).



On the 1<sup>st</sup> January 1942, the normal rate for external mail was revised and increased to 3.50 Fr/20 grams.



A letter (weighing 40 to 45 grams) from Leopoldville to New York, dated the 30<sup>th</sup> January 1942.

Franking:	Normal rate:	7.50 Fr	(3.50 Fr/20 grams + 2 x 2.00 Fr/20 grams)
	Air mail:	<u>139.50 Fr</u>	(9 x 15.50 Fr/5 grams)
	Total:	147.00 Fr	

On the back of the envelope there is a 1Fr stamp.

Below: A registered cover from Leopoldville to New York dated the 11<sup>th</sup> July 1942.



Franking:	Normal rate:	19.50 Fr	(3.50 Fr/20 grams + 8 x 2.00 Fr/20 grams)
	Registration:	3.50 Fr	
	Air mail:	<u>542.50 Fr</u>	(35 x 15.50 Fr/5 grams)
	Total:	565.50 Fr	

This letter weighted between 191 and 195 grams. Arrival: New York 18<sup>th</sup> July 1942.

An airmail rate of 15.50 Fr/5 grams was applicable until the 31<sup>st</sup> August 1944.

A letter weighing between 11 and 15 grams required a franking of 50 Fr, which could be covered by the highest value of this issue (3.50 Fr/20 gr + 3 x 15.50 Fr/5 grams = 50 Fr)



Here is another example of a letter with a huge franking (the highest franking known with this stamp)



For printed matter the following reduced rates were applicable, these being:

normal rate: 0.50 Fr/50 grams  
 with an airmail rate: 14.00 Fr/5 grams

Dispatched: Leopoldville 31<sup>st</sup> May 1942 . Arrived: New York 5<sup>th</sup> June 1942.

Franking:	Normal rate:	5.00 Fr	(10 x 0.50 Fr/50 grams)
	Registration	3.50 Fr	
	Air mail	<u>1344.00 Fr</u>	(96 x 14.00 Fr/5 grams)
	Total	1352.50 Fr	

During the journey, the envelope was damaged and repaired by the British Censor in Trinidad (green coloured paper notice) and by the US Postal Administration as well. (small sticker at the lower left corner).

A 10 centimes stamp was added for customs clearance formalities!

### 1.3 Period 1945 - 1950

After the War, Air Afrique and SABENA reopened their civil services to Central Africa.



The SABENA DC 4 "OO-CBE", that departed from Leopoldville on the 13<sup>th</sup> May 1948 for Belgium, crashed nearby Libenge (Belgian Congo) due to bad weather conditions.

The crew members G. Greindl and H. Limet were killed, as well the five other flight personnel and 31 passengers. There was only one survivor.

The plane was discovered the next morning. Part of the mail was recovered and bears a special strike on three lines.

Franking:	Normal rate	8.50 Fr	(2.50 Fr/20 grams + 8 x 0.75 Fr/20 grams)
	Registration	3.50 Fr	
	Air mail:	<u>66.50 Fr</u>	(19 x 3.50 Fr/5 grams)
	Total	78.50 Fr	

Under the large repair strip is part of the franking, stamps with 20 and 6 Fr values. A third stamp with a value of 1 Fr is missing, due to water damage.

From the 1<sup>st</sup> January 1951 Belgian Congo airmail stamps were no longer accepted for franking.

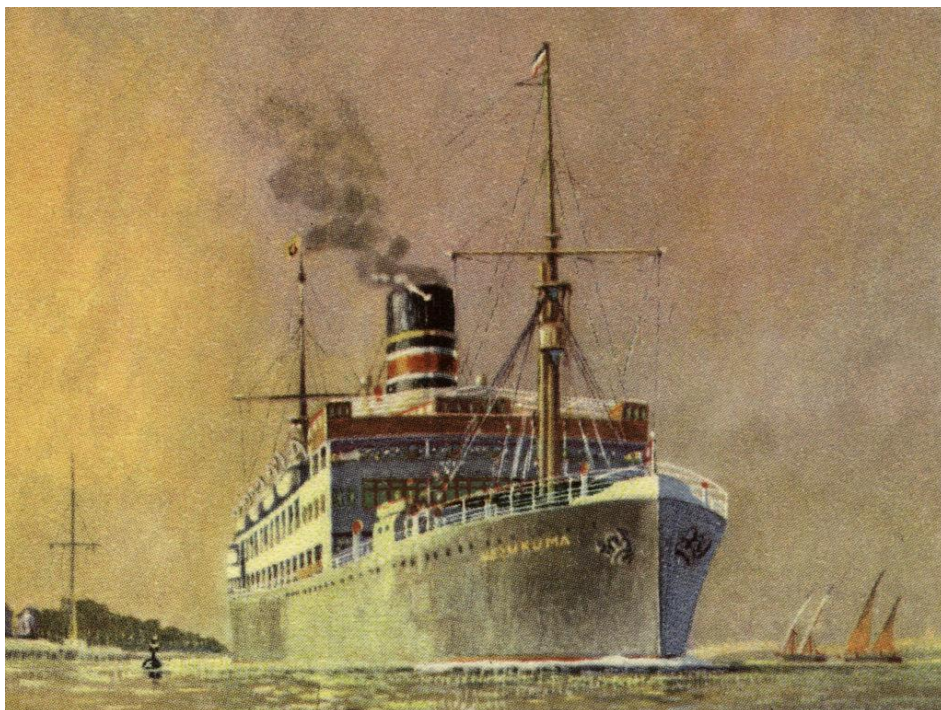
Normal stamps had to be used to cover the airmail rates.

## East Africa Tour

Bart Willekens



An airmail letter from Bruges to a passenger on board the S.S. Ussukuma in the harbour of Mombasa. Correctly franked with the Belgian 5Fr airmail stamp. (3,50Fr + 1,50Fr).

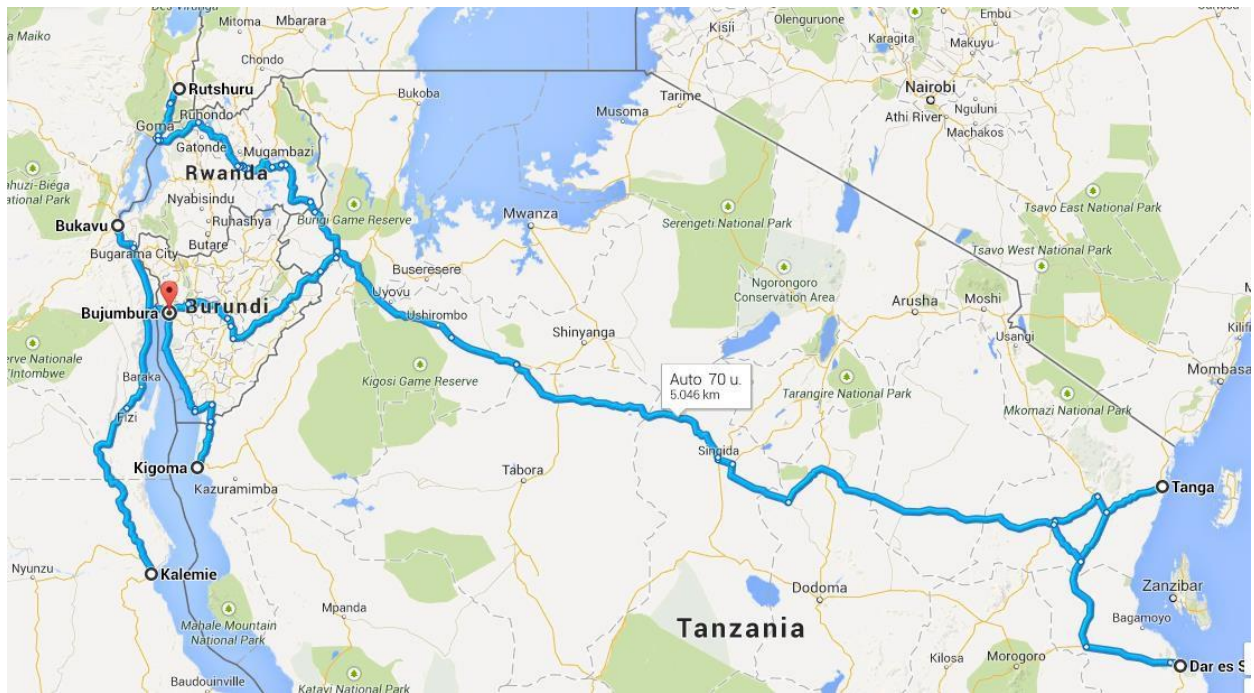


S.S. Ussukuma

If you think this was already a nice journey for the letter... the back shows an even nicer one... enjoy next page.



3 XII 1936	(08-09)	BRUGGE	
3 XII 1936	(12-13)	BRUSSEL (K)	4 h
21 12 1936	(-9)	RUTSHURU	18 d
22 DE 1936	11.15 AM	TANGA	1 d
26 DE 1936	10 AM	DAR-ES-SALAAM	4 d
5 1 1937	11	ALBERTVILLE	10 d
21 JA 1937	9.30 AM	KIGOMA	16 d
-2 -2 37	-8	USUMBURA	11 d
... -2 37	-8	COSTERMANSVILLE	?
Total ?			66 d



## Regarding “Le Mot du Soldat”

In Bulletin 192, September 2022, we published an article, “An undercover letter from East Africa sent to Belgium in 1916”, written by our member Derek Wiltshire. One of the questions asked at the end of the article was “Do other members have envelopes in which *Le Mot du Soldat* undercover mail was carried?” The following article was received recently from Eric Coulton who is a member of both the Belgian Congo and East Africa Study Circles. It appeared in the September 2018 edition (N° 120) of the Bulletin of the East Africa Study Circle. It is reproduced by kind permission of its editor (Eric) and the author (Bill Clark).

## EAST AFRICAN CONNECTIONS TO BAARLE-HERTOG - A WWI BELGIAN POSTAL INTERMEDIARY

**Bill Clark**

The directions in which the hobby of philately will take us can sometimes be fascinating, as I discovered when researching the cover illustrated (Figure 1). Though sent by a member of the “*Belgian Army in field, Belgian-Congo*”, it has originated, unusually, from British East Africa.



Figure 1 (reduced)

The item initially came to my attention because of my interest in Martial Law labels. Normally, the fact that some lazy fool had mutilated the label, rather than lifting it carefully, would have dissuaded me, but since it had been sent by a member of the Belgian forces, I decided to purchase it.

My first consideration was: why would a Belgian wireless officer be sending mail from British East Africa? A possible explanation came to light when I discovered that a few months before war began, wireless communication had been established between Laeken, near Brussels, and Boma - then the capital of the Belgian Congo. On 19 August 1914,

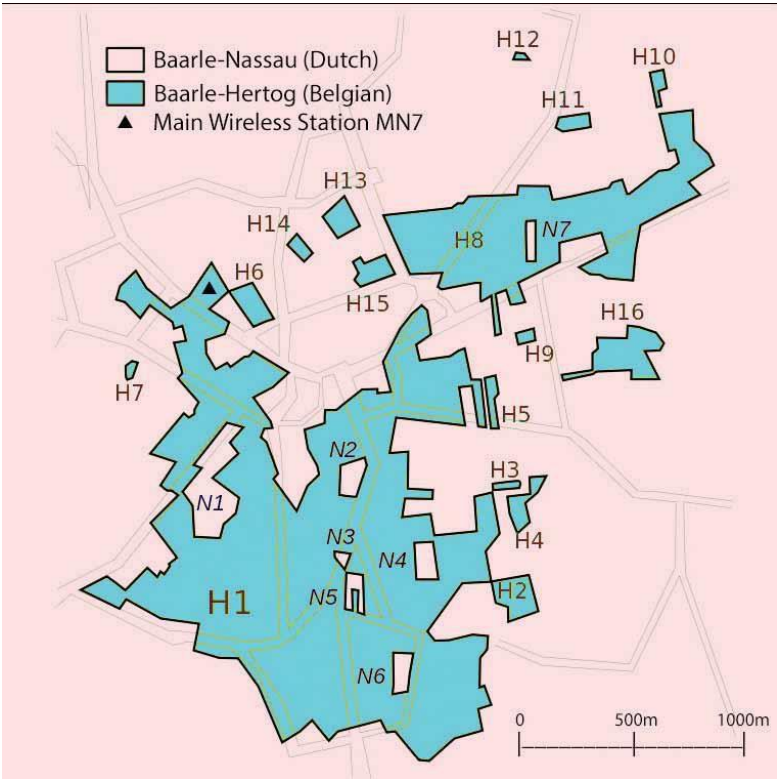
however, the station at Laeken, the most powerful in the world at that time, was utterly destroyed by the Belgians themselves, to prevent it falling into the hands of the Germans. This would have reduced the Boma station in importance, so it is easy to speculate that staff experienced in radio matters may have been detached to assist allied forces in East Africa. This leaves an open question, however, as to why the letter has not been marked for “active service” and has been routed via the civilian postal system. Other than the manuscript endorsement, there is no evidence of a military nature.

My next subject of investigation was the strangely simple address to which the letter had been sent, “*Oeuvre du Mot du Soldat*”, and research into the destination, Baarle-Hertog (also known by the French equivalent, Baarle-Duc), revealed some fascinating historical background, both postal and military, which I had never heard of previously. Ultimately, therefore, I was pleased that I had bought the cover, as it had provided a connection to something very interesting.

**Wartime Postal Network / Letter Smuggling Centre**

Inside the Netherlands, several Belgian enclaves exist, which could not be occupied by the Germans during WW1 because of Holland’s neutrality, so these had special significance. The town of Baarle, which lies in one of these, consists of an odd patchwork of interspersed pockets - some Dutch, some Belgian – the latter being entirely surrounded by Dutch territory (Figure 2).

The resulting twin-town of Baarle-Hertog (Belgian) and Baarle-Nassau (Dutch) has two churches, two town halls and two post offices – though the two police forces work out



of the same office. The Belgians take responsibility for electricity & telephones and the Dutch for gas & water. Some houses have a door in one country and windows in another! Nationality is determined by the location of the main entrance, so in some instances, residents have been known to move their front doors to take advantage of lower taxes in a particular country! Today, the boundaries between the two countries are marked by white crosses or metal studs inset in the ground. During World War I, the Germans tried to break

Figure 2



the morale of Belgian soldiers by prohibiting letters to and from the front. This also caused uncertainty in the civilian population as to the fate of their relatives, so a system was soon devised to bypass German censorship. The Belgian army HQ was well aware of the dangers of the exchange of letters between soldiers at the front, or refugees in Holland, and their families in occupied Belgium, so a suggestion was made that, to ensure that mail did not end up in German hands, some trusted intermediaries should be set up. Clandestine certified organizations were established, therefore, to smuggle such mail and Baarle-Hertog became the base for the most important of



Figure 3

these postal intermediaries. 'Oeuvre du Mot du Soldat', according to Flemish records, was - *“by far the most famous network of intermediaries and letters”*. This “Soldier’s Word” network had been set up at the request of King Albert I and was very well structured, with a rural network that allowed the transmission of hundreds of items per week to and from Belgian soldiers on the front. Much of these were multipart message slips, handled using a system designed in such a way that, even if intercepted, the routing was not revealed to the

Germans. The mail had to follow long routes via Calais, Folkestone, London, Vlissingen and The Hague to and from Baarle-Hertog, from where there was a clandestine connection to Brussels, the central distribution point in Belgium. An example of a cachet applied to an item of soldier’s mail is shown (Figure 3). “Soldats la Patrie est fière de vous / Service Gratuit” translates to: Soldiers the Homeland is proud of you / Free Service.

### **... and an Espionage Centre**

Research into Baarle-Hertog also revealed some other history that, though not postal-related, I found fascinating, so a brief summary is perhaps worthwhile. This relates to espionage activity. In March 1915, Leon de Paeuw (an adviser to the Belgian War Minister) and Paul Goldschmidt (a Lieutenant in the Belgian army) arrived in Baarle-Hertog on a secret mission - the establishment of a wireless transmitter and listening station for the Belgian army, code named ‘MN7’. This was built under the noses of the Dutch, who would certainly have refused permission, had it been requested. The necessary radio equipment had to be smuggled across neutral Dutch territory and the construction activity kept hidden until the station had become self-sufficient. Over a period of time, engineers arrived in the enclave in ones and twos and the parts for the station were smuggled in, many by civilians. An interesting aside to this is that ‘large’ ladies were often used, as it was easier for them to conceal things about their person! Larger components, such as parts for motors and transformers, were brought in concealed in vegetable carts. The station was erected on ground belonging to Mayor Henri van Gilse, who was the key figure in the establishment of MN7. To house the operating staff, an adjacent barracks was built, under the guise of a *“refugee camp for Belgians who were not welcome in the Netherlands”*, in order to dissuade German

shelling of the installation. This was entirely consistent with the fact that Baarle was already an established staging centre for Belgian refugees. In effect, this meant that the operators and their families acted as a human shield for MN7 during the more than three years that it was in service. Though the station had, in fact, been built on such a small parcel of Belgian land that an accurate artillery strike was all but impossible in any case. The broadcasting station was ready for action on 17 October 1915 and was inaugurated with champagne, like a ship!

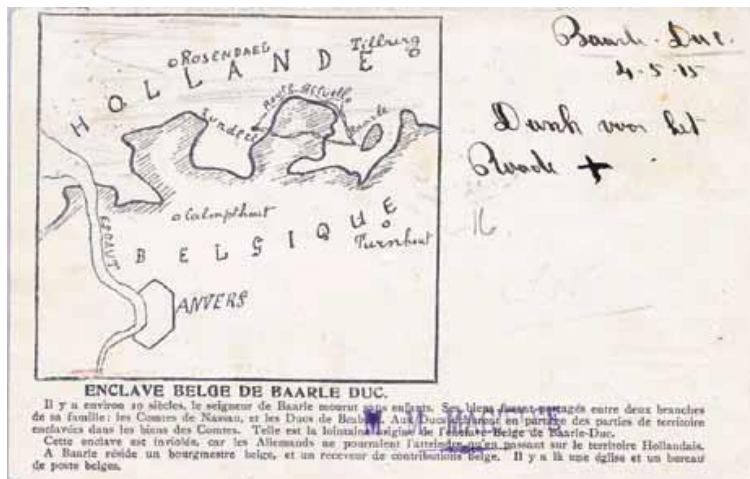


Figure 4 (reduced)

Once operations began, Germany, of course, complained about an active installation operating behind its lines, but which it could not attack because of the potential risk of a misdirected shell exploding on Dutch territory, which could potentially have brought the Netherlands into the war on the Allied side. To preserve its neutrality, the Netherlands had to ensure that no goods intended for the military radio station were brought in, so Dutch sentries were posted on the boundaries, day and night, for the rest of the war. This had been anticipated, and stockpiles of vital materials had been accumulated well in advance, before any evidence of the project had become apparent to outsiders. The

secrecy maintained throughout the preparations had been outstanding.

The station served an important wartime role. Espionage messages were sent to France and Britain; German messages were intercepted; their communication channels were disrupted and the movements of German Zeppelins and U-boats were reported.

### Via the Clandestine Mail Service

The sender of the letter, D H Vandecruys, had the rank of: “S/Officer Wireless” [possibly, S for ‘Signals’?], so it would be nice to think that he had some connection to the spying establishment, but there is no way of knowing. However, Paul Goldschmidt, a qualified civil & electrical engineer, who had been instrumental in the construction of station MN7, had been in the service of the Wireless Service of the Belgian Congo

pre-war and, in fact, had been in the Congo when war was declared. While there, he had been involved with the communications between the Belgian central government and the colonial troops facing German forces in Africa, so a connection between him and the sender is not impossible.

The letter, paid at the 15c foreign rate, has been cancelled on 20 June 1916 in NAIROBI, where it has also been censored, and a black on buff type FP1a 'OPENED BY CENSOR UNDER MARTIAL LAW' label applied. A transit mark has been applied in MOMBASA on 25 June and it has taken nearly two months for the letter to reach BAARLE-HERTOG on 17 August – presumably via the circuitous route of the "Soldier's Word" network mentioned above.

### An Additional Philatelic Venture



During the course of research into the enclave, I discovered that an additional activity of the post office in Baarle-Hertog was to generate funds for the Belgian Red Cross by producing souvenirs for philatelists. This niche market in 'Free Belgium' (i.e. Baarle-Hertog – the unoccupied part) was established by Jacques Gevers, a refugee from Antwerp, whose business appears to have been an international agency for patents & trademarks. Items were stamped and cancelled in Baarle-Hertog / Baarle-Duc, then sold to collectors, mostly in the Netherlands, at a premium. An interesting detail is that, to replace those confiscated by the Germans, Belgian stamps were printed in London. An example of one of these philatelic 'creations' is shown (Figure

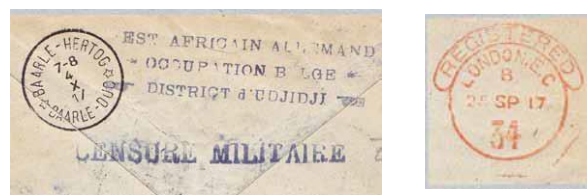


Figure 5 (reduced)

4) – a postcard with a rough map showing the location of Baarle on the reverse.

I believe, however, that the scope of this enterprise was even wider. A second item to Baarle-Duc originating from East Africa is shown – addressed to the Gevers agency and sent from KIGOMA in occupied GEA on 4 July 17, bearing a provisionally hand-stamped 'CONGO BELGE' registration label (Figure 5). On the reverse are Belgian military censor markings and a REGISTERED LONDON transit mark, applied on 25 September. An arrival mark dated 4 October shows that transit to BAARLE-HERTOG/BAARLE-DUC took exactly three months. On first sight, this appears to be a *bona fide* commercial item – however, I have seen a number of very similar covers, typed with exactly the same text and bearing an identical set of postmarks with the same dates. I suspect that Gevers had arranged for a group of these covers to be prepared and sent to him for philatelic reasons – presumably also for sale to collectors

for fund-raising purposes. This is backed up by the fact that the items I have seen do not bear a standard franking – various stamp values or combinations had been affixed to the covers. I suspect that this will be only one example of such a ‘creation’ and that there are likely to be others of a similar nature.

I wonder if any other (East Africa) Circle member has further knowledge that could add to the foregoing?

**References:**

*Listening to Ludendorff* by Paul Goldschmidt, 2013 (ISBN 978-1-908336-71-2)

Website: [www.dodendraad.org](http://www.dodendraad.org)

***Calling Notice:***

***Annual General Meeting of the Belgian Congo Study Circle***

It is with great pleasure that the committee of the Belgian Congo Study Circle invites you on Saturday 23 March 2024 to its AGM in a historic setting: the Ferme de Mont-Saint-Jean.



The AGM of the BCSC will precede our Annual Conference. If you have a relevant matter that you would like to put on the agenda, please send details (by e-mail) to the Secretary (Charles Lloyd). If you are not able to attend in person, the Secretary is able to present the matter on your behalf.

The AGM/Conference will be held on Saturday 23<sup>th</sup> March 2024 at:

**FERME MONT-SAINT-JEAN (1 km from the battlefield of 1815)**

**Chaussée de Charleroi 591, 1410 Waterloo**

Already, in 1219, the farm of Mont-Saint-Jean is mentioned in a charter of the Hospital of Saint-Jean-de-Jérusalem - hence its name - signed by Henry I of Brabant.

In 1705, during the War of the Spanish Succession, the Duke of Marlborough seized it to prepare his army and attack the French at Overijse.

In 1815, during the Battle of Waterloo, the farm of Mont-Saint-Jean was used as a hospital for the British army.

For members who come by train, we will have a car shuttle to pick up members from Braine - l'Alleud train station and take you to the Hotel "Le 1815". In addition to transport before and after the meeting on Saturday, it will operate if you come on Friday and return to the station on Sunday.

Hotel Reservation :

**WATERLOO Hotel " Le 1815 " in front of the battlefield of 1815**

Address: Route du Lion 367, 1410 Waterloo (There is parking for cars at the Hotel)

Telephone : 00.32.2.387.01.60 [info@hotel1815.com](mailto:info@hotel1815.com)

The programme will be:

09.30 to 10.30 Welcome (coffee/tea and pastries)

10.30 to 11.30 AGM Business meeting

11.30 to 12.30 Member's displays\*

12.30 to 14.00 Mid-day meal†

14.00 to 17.30 Member's displays\*

Open session (including over-run time for displays)

19.30 onwards. Informal evening meal.

The evening dinner will be at the same venue as the AGM,  
"FERME MONT-SAINT-JEAN"

If you are interested, you must reserve your place with Thierry Frennet

Please e-mail Thierry Frennet ([thierry.frennet@fthsprl.be](mailto:thierry.frennet@fthsprl.be)) if you are coming to the AGM and let him know, to ensure that the correct number of chairs are put out and the correct number of meals are ordered.

We hope to see many of you at our AGM!

**All reservation must made no later than 1<sup>st</sup> MARCH 2023  
(including the evening dinner)**

**All payment for AGM (welcome, mid-day meal) must be made to the BCSC account. The price is 35 €. The price of the evening dinner is not included. You will be informed of the price as soon as the menu is agreed. (If you have any special dietary requirements (e.g. vegetarian), please inform Thierry.**

Mid-day meal: This will be a seated 3 course meal, similar to last year and the price will be about 35 €

Evening dinner: Please would all the members who wish to join us at an informal evening dinner let Thierry Frennet know by e-mail : [thierry.frennet@fthsprl.be](mailto:thierry.frennet@fthsprl.be)

Displays: If you want to present a display, please notify Thierry Frennet as soon as possible to enable him to add this to the programme.

## **DISPLAYS**

By scanning the sheets intended for display and storing these scans on a memory stick as a Microsoft POWERPOINT (.PPT) or an Adobe ACROBAT (.PDF) file, the display can be projected for the presenter to point out important features and explanations to everyone at the same time. [The traditional practice, passing of sheets from member to member, leads to a disconnection between hearing the information and seeing the relevant sheet.] Presenters should bring both their sheets as well as their scanned files because all philatelists enjoy examining the actual stamps/covers!

During the Covid-19 pandemic when meeting in person was banned many philatelists acquired the skill to produce and give ZOOM displays. (i.e. only the POWERPOINT slides are produced). Such contributions are also welcome and should be limited to 25 minutes. Once again, please bring your presentation on a memory stick.

If you do not use a computer, please do not be put off. Traditional displaying of sheets will continue.

We have about 4½ hours for displays. At past AGMs we have been in the enviable position that more members wanted to display than there was time available! Please would members restrict their display time to a maximum of half an hour? (By doing this, I hope that everyone will be able to show their material.) If we have fewer than 8 members wanting to display, the time allowance for each will be increased.

You will be aware that as part of the report on the AGM that is published in the Bulletin, short (about ⅔ of a page in length) summaries of the presentations are included. These enable members who cannot attend to share the pleasure. For this, we require the following information from each person who gives a display:

- Your name.

- The title of your presentation.
- A summary (a maximum of about 250 words).
- A scanned image of one of the items you intend to display. It could be a particularly interesting piece or something that represents the display.
- I hope we can take a photograph of you, as you give your display.

If you are more comfortable sending your title & summary in French or Dutch, please do – we will translate for the bulletin.

## POSTAL AUCTION SALE 2023-2 REALISED PRICES

LOT	PRICE	LOT	PRICE	LOT	PRICE	LOT	PRICE
1		36	3,25	71		106	35,00
2		37	3,50	72		107	152,00
3		38		73	8,50	108	4,25
4	3,00	39	3,50	74		109	
5	3,00	40	380,00	75		110	1,00
6	3,00	41		76	4,50	111	
7	3,00	42		77		112	13,50
8	5,50	43		78		113	5,50
9		44		79		114	
10		45		80		115	610,00
11		46	54,00	81		116	4,25
12		47	54,00	82	3,25	117	28,00
13		48	12,50	83		118	2,00
14	3,75	49	12,75	84		119	
15		50	6,50	85		120	2,50
16		51	11,25	86		121	6,00
17	14,50	52	1,25	87		122	2,00
18	2,75	53		88		133	2,00
19		54		89	2,25	124	3,05
20	6,00	55	38,00	90		125	2,25
21	5,25	56	10,25	91		126	8,50
22	1,75	57		92		127	
23	1,50	58	19,00	93		128	
24	10,25	59		94		129	
25	3,50	60	3,25	95	18,50	130	
26	7,25	61	2,50	96	17,50	131	
27	2,50	62		97	5,00	132	
28	15,50	63	2,00	98	26,00	133	4,00
29	14,50	64		99	9,00	134	
30		65		100	11,00	135	
31	8,50	66		101	29,00	136	
32	8,25	67		102		137	10,25
33	3,50	68		103		138	6,25
34		69		104	28,00	139	
35	10,50	70		105	1,00	140	4,00

## Bidding form - BCSC 2023-3

To be sent to:

Th.FRENNET – Rue la rue 17 – B-1420 Braine-l’Alleud – Belgique/Europe


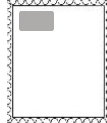
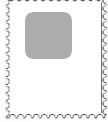
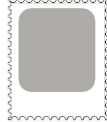
Or by E-mail at : [Thierry.frennet@fthsprl.be](mailto:Thierry.frennet@fthsprl.be)

### CLOSING DATE FOR BIDS – 5th JANUARY 2024

Name : ..... Date : .....  
 Full Address: ..... Signature : .....

### Auction Rules

#### Abbreviations used

<b>U.M.</b>	= unmounted mint – unused with original gum in Post Office state, never hinged.	<b>GUM</b>	
<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>U.M.</b>	<b>L.M.</b>
<b>Part O.G.</b>	= part original gum – unused with original gum. Large hinge remnants may or may not be present.		
		<b>O.G.</b>	<b>Part O.G.</b>

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	SALE 2023/3 Description	COB #	Min. Bid €
<b>Belgian Congo stamps</b>			
1	1894 issue, 30 used stamps: 5c blue (1), 5c red-brown (4), 5c green (6), 10c green-blue (3), 10c carmine (3), 25c blue (4, one with 1 short perf), 25c orange (1-with short perfs), 40c blue-green (1), 50c green (2), 50c olive (5), used	between 14 & 25	7.50
2	1894 issue, 15c ochre, 3 used stamps <i>including a very large one (curiosity)</i>	20	0.75
3	1894 issue 1F carmine (5), 1F lilac-carmine (2), 1F violet (1), used	26-26A	10.00
4	1894 issue 1F violet, used (MATADI 1896 cancellation)	26A	5.00
5	1894 issue, 3,50 vermillion, used ( <i>illegible double circle cancellation</i> )	27	45.00
6	1894 issue 5F carmine (3), used. <i>One thinned stamp, another with 1 short perf</i>	28	16.00
7	1894 issue 5F carmine BOMA 1897 cancellation	28	14.00
8	1894 issue 5F carmine MATADI 1908 cancellation	28	14.00
9	1894 issue, 10F green perf 14¼, BANANA cancellation 1900	29	15.00
10	1894 issue, 10F green perf 14¼, MATADI cancellation 190?	29	16.00
11	1894 issue, 10F green perf 12, BOMA cancellation 190?	29a	13.50
12	1894 issue, 10F green perf 14¼, MATADI cancellation	29	13.50
13	1894 issue 5c red-brown + 10c red-brown (perf 15), no gum	15 + 17	3.00
14	1886 issue 5c green, 10c rose, 25c blue, 50c olive, LH	1,2,3,4a	30.00
15	1886 issue 25c blue LH	3	20.00
16	1887 issue 5c blue-green, 10c rose + 10 c deep-rose (# 7a), 25c blue, 50c grey, used	6/8 + 7a + 10	2.00
17	1887 issue 50c red-brown + 50 c dark brown, both used	9 + 9a	23.00
18	1887 issue 50c red-brown, used	9	11.00
19	1887 issue 50c red-brown, used	9	11.00
20	1887 issue 50c red-brown, BANANA cancellation	9	10.50
21	1887 issue, 5F grey, used	12	39.50
22	1894 issue 5c green (2), 10c carmine (1), 15c ochre (1), 25c orange (1), 40c blue-green (1), 50c green (2), 50c olive (1), 1F violet (1), LH or OG	between 16 & 26A	9.50
23	1894 issue 1F violet (2), LH	26A	11.00
24	1930 Airmail stamps issue, 15F + 30F, used	PA5-6	0.75
25	1928 Stanley issue, full set <i>small format</i> , used	135-49	8.00
26	1939 issue, LH	209-13	10.00
27	1910 issue 5c green (7), 10c carmine (10), 15c ochre (9), 25 blue (14), 40c blue-green (3), 50c olive (2), 1F carmine (4), all used. <i>Some good cancellations, various shades &amp; perforations, etc</i>	54-60	5.00
28	1910 issue 15c ochre UM + 25c blue UM	56-57	1.50
29	1930 issue, full set LH	150-58	19.00
30	1909 unilingual issue, full set LH	50-53	15.00
31	<b>Miniature sheets UPU, full set LH (hinges in the margin : the stamps are UM) Congo + Ruanda-Urundi (12 miniature sheets) COB value : over 2500 euros. RARE</b>	BL3A/10A + BLU1A/4A	850.00

32	1923 & 1925 Vloors issues, blocks of four : 10c green UM, 20c olive-green LH/UM, 25c red-brown LH/UM, 30c pink no gum, 45c violet UM, 60c carmine UM, 20c green no gum, 50c orange-red no gum, 1F50 blue no gum	107-109/11-118-123/24-130	2.50
33	1931 "Vloors with surcharge" issue, full set LH	159/61A	11.00
34	1930 issue, full set, UM	150/8	40.00
35	1918 Red Cross issue nearly full set (10F missing). <i>The 40c is perf 15.</i>	72/9	4.50
36	1921 issue 5c/40c green-blue, 10c/5c green, 15c/50c olive, LH, blocks of four. <i>A few adhesions.</i>	85/7	0.75
37	1915 issue, chosen cancellations : 5c (8), 10c (16, including 2 blocks of four), 15c (10, including one block of four), 25c (10, including one block of four)	64-7	4.00
38	1910 issue 3F red, cancellation Boma	61	3.75
39	1947 issue, 100F red-rose & black, strip of 3, UM	295	7.00
40	1915 issue 5c green used, block of four, <b>perf 15</b>	64	0.50
41	1915 issue miniature sheet 15c green (type B), <i>in two parts</i>	66B	2.50
42	1910 issue 10c carmine LH ("tropical gum"), block of four, perf 15	55	1, 50
43	1915 1F olive, block of four, used, BOMA cancellation	70	1.00
44	1915 issue, chosen cancellations : 25c (6), 10c (16, including 2 blocks of four), 40c (2), 50c (8, including one block of four), 1F (5), 5F (9, including one block of four + one stamp perf 15). <i>A few short perfs, but good condition in general</i>	67-71	9.00
45	1915 issue 5F orange UM, perf 15	71	2.50
46	1910 issue 10 F green (2), chosen cancellations: BAMBILI & BUMBA	63	13.00
47	1918 Red Cross issue, full set, used	72-80	70.00
48	1921 issue chosen cancellations : 15c/50c (5, including one block of four), 25/15c (2), 30/10c (2), 50/25c (2), 1F (5), 3F (2), 5F (1), 10F (3)	87-94	10.00
49	1921 issue 10 F green (2) chosen cancellations : MATADI, ELISABETHVILLE	94	3.00
50	1921 issue 1F carmine block of four LH/UM	91	2.50
51	1921 issue 3F red + 10F green + 1915 issue 1F olive + Vloors issues 40c lilac & 5F grey on piece		6.00
<b>Ruanda-Urundi stamps &amp; covers</b>			
52	1918 issue, 5c green + 15c blue-green Kigali half-circle cancellation + 1916 issue, 25c blue Tabora cancellation + 1F olive, BPCVPK N°11 (but almost illegible), both type B overprint	31, 34, 36, 38	1.50
53	1916 issue, full set type B overprint + 5c green type A overprint, all Kigoma cancellation	28/35	5.00
54	1924 Vloors issue, full set LH, <i>2 short perf on 5F</i>	50/61	8.00
55	1924 Vloors issue, full set used	50/61	6.50
56	1924 Vloors issue, 5F grey, Kigoma cancellation	60	2.50
57	1918 Red Cross issue, full set imperforate, in pairs	36/44	160.00
58	1930 issue, 10F black, used	89	4.00
59	1930 issue full set UM	81/9	45.00
60	1942 issue, full set UM	126/47	11.00
61	1942 issue, 100F green & black UM	147	4.00
62	1942 "Spitfire" issue, full set UM	148/9	2.00
63	1944 issue, full set, very LH ( <i>nearly UM</i> )	150/3	4.50

64	1936 issue, full set in blocks of four UM	108/10	6.00
65	Large cover with 25 (!) stamps from the 1924/1925 Vloors issues and the 1931 issue (full set). From Usumbura 3-7-36 to Dar-es-Salaam	92/106 + others	20.00
66	Registered cover from Usumbura 16 VI 22 to Brussels. Full set of the 1916 issue, overprint type B. <i>1F missing corner perf</i>	28/35	25.00
<b>Belgian Congo stamps</b>			
67	1889 issue 3,50/5F grey, boxed colis postaux surcharge, <i>off centre &amp; slightly thinned</i> , LH	CP5	28.00
68	1889 issue 3,50/5F grey, boxed colis postaux surcharge, <i>missing perf on inferior left corner</i> , LH	CP5	16.00
69	1889 issue 3,50/5F grey, boxed colis postaux surcharge, no gum	CP5	17.50
70	1889 issue 3,50/5F grey, boxed colis postaux surcharge, Matadi cancellation type 1.3 DMTY, 16 NOVE 1895, <i>slightly thinned</i>	CP5	16.00
71	1889 issue, 3,50/5F grey, boxed colis postaux surcharge, Matadi cancellation type 1.1 DMTY, 29 JUIL 1896, <i>one short perf on inferior left corner, slightly thinned</i>	CP5	16.00
72	1887 issue 5F grey (2) LH, <i>each stamp with one missing perf at upper right or left corner + fake (?) or proof (?) imperforate stamp, on thin gummed paper. COB &gt;360 €</i>	12	16.00
73	1909 issue, local overprint L3, 1F carmine, used, <i>slightly thinned</i>	36L3	2.50
74	1909 issue, local overprint L1, 10F green, perf 12, used.	39 L1	17.00
75	1909 issue, local overprint L3, 10F green, perf 12, used, <i>two short perfs.</i>	39 L3	6.00
76	1894 issue, 24 stamps up to 1F violet. UM, LH, OG, used or no gum. Different perforations. Beautiful items...	between 14 & 26A	18.50
77	1931 Vloors with surcharge issue, full set, LH	159/61A	7.50
78	1949 UPU issue, 4F blue (2) + 1953 issue, full set + 1957 issue, full set, all UM	297 + 325/6	2.25
79	1953 Flowers issue, full set LH	302/23	5.00
80	1959 issue "African Animals" 10 c and 20 c (half sheet of 50 stamps each), 40 c giraffe ( <b>full sheet</b> of 100 stamps) + 1942 issue, 5c red, 10c olive, 20c blue, full sheet of 100 stamps <i>but in two halves</i> , all UM	350/2 + 228, 249, 251	1.50
81	1953 Flowers issue, 1,25 F in pair UM	311	0.75
82	1915 issue, full set, UM or LH	64/71	4.00
83	1910 issue 5c green (x 50): two half-sheets (superior part of the sheet, each with sheet number on upper right corner), no gum + three blocks of 10 + one block of 15, all with sheet margins, no gum	54	1.00
<b>Congo Republic &amp; South-Kasaï</b>			
84	1963 and 1965 issues, full sets, in blocks of four, used	507/13 + 545/50	2.00
85	1963 Red Cross issue, miniature sheet, imperforate, UM	LX499	5.00
86	1967 issue, 2F inverted overprint UM	646	0.75
87	1967 issue, 2F inverted overprint, block of four, UM	646	2.50
88	30.06.1962 issue Dag Hammarskjöld miniature sheet, LH	BL12	1.00
89	28.01.1963 issue luxe miniature sheet 20F brown UM	LX476	3.00
90	28.09.1967 issue miniature sheet Montreal exhibition UM	BL22	1.00

91	28.12.1966 issue John F. Kennedy miniature sheets (Error: perforated instead of imperforate) <i>Rare</i>	BL19/20	18.00
92	28.12.1966 issue John F. Kennedy miniature sheets imperforate (150F red + 150 F green)	BL 17/18 ND	10.00
93	South Kasai, full set COB 1/13, LH	; 1/13.	8.50
94	South Kasai, full sets COB 14/15 LH + 14-Cu UM + 16/17, UM	14/17 +14 Cu	4.50
<b>Belgian Congo stamps &amp; covers</b>			
95	1931 Stanley issue 3,25F/3,50F blue, black surcharge, "small", used	167	1.50
96	1889 issue 5F violet surcharge "Colis postaux 3,50 Fr" <i>Regummed. With certificate BCSC</i>	CP4	195.00
97	1889 issue 5F violet surcharge "Colis postaux 3,50 Fr" Cancellation Boma 20 AOUT 1891. <i>Repaired right upper corner. With certificate BCSC</i>	CP4	95.00
98	1894 issue 10c carmine, block of four UM (but "tropical gum"), perf 14	19	4.50
99	1910 issue 40c blue-green + 1F carmine, blocks of four, UM or LH	58+60	11.00
100	1910 issue 1F carmine, UM	60	3.00
101	1931 Stanley with surcharge issue, full set LH or UM + 1F25 pink-carmine & 2F blue in both formats + 2F slate-coloured in strip of 3, used ( <i>large format</i> )	162/7	5.00
102	1930 issue, full set, used	150/8	18.00
103	1931 issue miniature sheet of 8 stamps (from booklet) 75c carmine-red, UM (tropical gum)	175	2.00
104	1931 issue miniature sheet of 8 stamps (from booklet) 2,50F blue, UM	178A	4.00
105	Registered airmail cover from Leopoldville 23-2-42 to Durban, South-Africa. South-African Censor tape		11.00
106	Internal airmail cover from Stanleyville 12-3-38 to Leopoldville ( <i>one stamp is damaged</i> )		16.00
107	<b>Zaire</b> , 1980 issue, Belgian Kings, full set, UM	1066/70	2.25
108	<b>Burundi</b> 07/1970 issue, African Animals and Nile River, full set of 4 miniature sheets, UM, perforate and imperforate. <i>Pristine condition. COB 200 €</i>	BL39B,C,D & E	22.00
109	<b>Burundi</b> 1975 issue African Animals, # COB 672/95 + PA 368/91, full sets in sheets (8 series), used, <i>COB value 80 €</i>	672/95 + PA 368/91	8.00
110	1910 issue 15c ochre in 2 blocks of four, UM (4) and OG. Both blocks are sheet corners. Plating III +A (?)	56	1.50
111	Airmail stamps 1936 issue 3,50/3F red-brown (24), including a large block of 17, a block of four, a pair, UM	PA 17	2.00
112	1942 issue 50F blue, block of six + 100F carmine, block of four, both sheet corner, UM	247/8	35.00
113	1947 issue 20F UM, block of 8, sheet corner	293	8.00
114	<b>Ruanda-Urundi</b> 1942 "Spitfire" issue, full sets in blocks of 20, sheet corner for the 10F + 40F Blue, UM	148/9	24.00
115	1948 issue 2,50 blue and yellow-green (20, including a block of 5), <i>chosen cancellations</i>	296	1.50
116	1950 issue 3F blue and black-blue (120), used (with some beautiful cancellations)	298	2.00
117	1938 issue 1,50F <i>variety "little lake"</i> , used	199-V	2.00

118	1948 issue, 100F red-rose & black, variety "small horizontal ligne" under the mask	295-V	6.00
119	1948 issue 100F red-rose & black, pair on piece, beautiful Costermansville cancellation	295	
120	1894 issue 5c green, strip of 3, on coloured postcard ("Rue principale de Matadi"), from Leopoldville to Brussels	16	5.00
121	Incoming mail : Airmail cover from Canada (1942) to Elisabethville. Transit (Leopoldville) and arrival cachets on reverse		3.00
122	Incoming mail : Airmail cover from South Africa (1942) to Sakania. South African censor tape. Elisabethville transit cachet on reverse		8.00
123	Incoming mail : Airmail from Maseru, Basutoland, to Elisabethville (1950). "New air service inaugural flight Ladysmith to Maseru, Basutoland June 1950"		5.00
124	Internal airmail, from Elisabethville 25-5-38 to Albertville. Transit cachet of Kabalo and arrival cachet of Albertville on reverse		8.00
125	1938 issue, full set on FDC cover with special cancellation	197/202	5.00
<b>Books</b>			
126	COB catalogue (Official catalogue of stamps), volume 2: ex-Belgian Colonies, edition 2017, 288 pages, <i>good condition</i>		6.00
127	Belgian Congo Study Circle : Little book of 40 pages with many pictures, concerning the display and meeting in The Royal Philatelic Society of London, on October 26th 2017. <i>Good condition</i>		4.00