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BELGIAN CONGO



STUDY CIRCLE

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BULLETIN NO. 46

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NEWS AND VIEWS

New Members

We are pleased to announce the following new members:

R. Adams, 79 Parkhurst Fields, Churt, Surrey, GU10 2PQ, U.K.

Alan M. F. Bennett, 3705 S. George Mason Dr., Apt. 2104-S,
Falls Church, VA 22041, U.S.A.

George J. Donegan, Jr., P. O. Box 28054, Washington, D.C.
20005, U.S.A.

J. Ch. J. Verbraak, Hobbemakade 1051, 1071 XT, Amsterdam.

Mr. Donegan, in 1964, was the author and publisher of Donegan's Katanga Philatelist. In addition to Katanga, he actively collects Scandinavia with emphasis on Iceland, plus France, Ireland and Switzerland. He belongs to a number of philatelic organizations and is employed as a loan officer at the Export-Import Bank of the United States.

Change of Addresses

Joe Babicki, Box 825, Carpinteria, CA 93013, U.S.A.

Edwin M. Lavitt, P. O. Box 900, Rockville, Connecticut 06066, U.S.A. Mr. Lavitt has also joined the ranks of those retired, hopefully permitting more time for philately!

Necrology

It is with great regret we learn of the death on 28 September of Oliver Loader. He joined the Study Circle at its second meeting and for some years was an enthusiastic member. He eventually resigned to give his Belgium his full philatelic attention but his interest in our circle continued and he was always ready to lend his Congo stamps to anyone who wished to study them.

Joint Meeting with Belgian Study Circle, September 1982

There were but few members of the Study Circle, notable absentees, due to sickness, being Messrs. Foden and Vindevoghel but those present enjoyed an interesting and pleasant week-end.

Mr. Vindevoghel had intended to display recent developments in the study of the EST AFRICAIN overprints and, in collaboration with the Abbe Gudenkauf, had prepared a document on the subject. In Mr. Vindevoghel's unavoidable absence, Mr. Keach presented the paper to the best of his ability and, from his own collection, was able to demonstrate most of the settings described in the paper and several of the varieties and curiosities but inevitably the display of stamps had to be incomplete. The document, which is a development of Mr. Hudson's paper in a recent Bulletin, appears in this issue.

Mrs. Doris Green displayed her Belgian-occupied German East Africa with many covers and supplemented by photographs of covers in the De Graeve, Gudenkauf and Pennycuick collections. She included in the display covers with original German and Belgian, British and Indian Expeditionary Force military cancellations and also temporary telegraphic cancellations and prisoner-of-war mail. It was particularly interesting to see the covers with the various KIGOMA straight-line cancellations. Messrs. Laurence Green and Keach subsequently made their modest contributions on the same subject.

At a joint session of both study circles on the 1865 issue of Belgium and the 1886 issue of Congo, Mr. Green displayed the Congo section with particular reference to the plate and cliché varieties and to the forgeries.

The final session included short displays by Mr. Green of railway cancellations and by Mr. Keach of RUANDA and URUNDI overprints, the Lado Enclave and the cancellations of Usumbura.

THE EST AFRICAINE ALLEMANDE OVERPRINTS 1916-22

Editor's Note: The following article was prepared by Abbe Gudenkauf and A. Vindevoghel for a display by A. Vindevoghel at the Study Circle meeting in September. Unfortunately, A. Vindevoghel, in hospital, was unable to attend.

Mr. Hudson's article, to which reference is made, was in Bulletin No. 41 - September, 1981.

The outstanding article of Mr. Hudson led us to examine the extensive collection of Baron de Moffarts (containing that of General Du Four); with the stamps acquired lately by Mr. Vindevoghel, we had a look at 70 Mols sheets and numerous blocks.

With such an extended source of documentation, we found one or two more permanent settings of the E.A.A. overprint and suggest here a new nomenclature.

This being an addendum, we refer to the pages of the article (6 to 17):

Page 6 : 1. Historical background for this issue:

At the beginning of 1916, the first intention of the Belgian government (at Le Havre) was to occupy the two provinces RUANDA and URUNDI. The Tombeur issue reflects this goal.

After July of the same year, when the Belgians agreed to go on and to take Tabora as their new object (in collaboration with the British armies), and when they succeeded in advancing quickly to this new goal, the Belgian government extended his ambition to further territories.

Permanent solution was to be discussed after the war was over; but occupation was, in the meantime, the best argument.

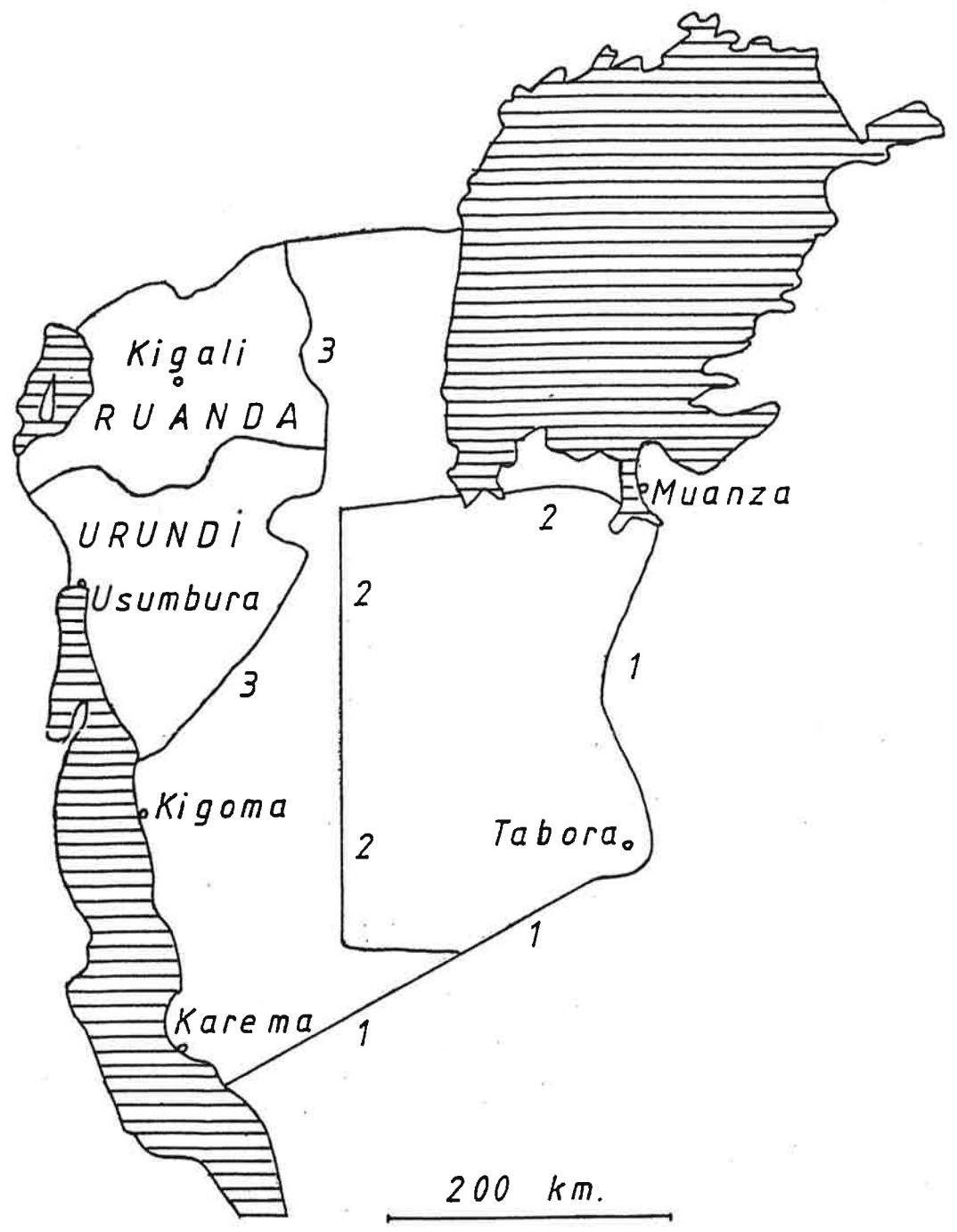
So, when the Tombeur issue was in use (September-November, 1916), it did not represent the new intention of the authorities. The new issue was publicly announced on September, 15th, four days before the Belgians took Tabora. The overprint E.A.A. was very probably applied in a hurry because it had to reach Tabora as soon as possible. End of September.

The normal duration of the mail trip between London and Tabora was more than two months and the stamps appeared on the spot on December 12th - the issue was called "Emission du 12 Decembre 1916" in the Gailly catalogue of 1925.

Have a look, please, at the map on the following page to realize the evolution of the G.E.A. territories occupied by Belgian forces.

After the war, in 1922 for instance, there were only 131 Belgian people in Ruanda-Urundi.

German East Africa - Belgian Occupation



- 1. Limit from 19 sept. 1916 till 24 febr. 1917.
- 2. " " 25 febr. 1917 " 22 mar. 1921
- 3. " " march 1922.

EST AFRICAIN ALLEMAND

OVERPRINT
SURCHARGE

OCCUPATION BELGE

SHORT
ETROÏTE

without
variety
sans
variété

S

variety
due to dots
variété due
à des points

Sa

LARGE
LARGE

blotchy
baveuse

L1

neat
nette

L2

printed with a block of 5 stereotypes.
each variety is found in the whole
column

imprimé par bloc de 5 clichés.
chaque variété se trouve dans
toute la colonne

printed with a block of 50
stereos.

imprimé par un seul bloc de
50 clichés

variety
due to
deformed
letter.

variété
due à une
déformation
de lettre.

T | G | i

variety
due to
dots.

variété
due à des
points.

(•)

without
variety.

sans
variété.

(o)

variety due to dots and
deformed letter.

variété due à des points
et des lettres déformées

L2

L2'
only known
on 5c and
10/5c
V3 + F
seule combi-
naison connue

Page 6 : (continued)

Plate S : There is only one stamp known perf. 15: the 5Fr.

Plate Sa : Sheets numbered 438 and 454 are known with OCOU in col. 4.

Plate Ll : We suggest to call it LlT, just because of the downward extension of the letter T of OCCUPATION.

Two stamps ~~are~~ are known perf. 15: the 25c and the 5Fr.

See new nomenclature on page 5.

Page 7 : Please add at the end of paragraph (1) : we now call all the blotchy impressions of the large overprint : Ll, the clear and distinct one becoming L2 because they appeared later in 1917; the late neat impressions on the 5c V+F we call L2' (first cover with L2 : 4-7-17)

At the first glance, the Ll letters look taller than the L2 ones; this may be due to more fluid ink.

Page 10 : After the first line, we suggest to add: :

38. Nick in left of first C of OCCUPATION.

Page 12 : Plates S, Ll to 4 and L7 : now called S and Ll.

From the paragraph beginning with "The varieties apparent", we propose the new following text, covering also the largest part of page 13 :

The varieties apparent on the sheets available are listed below.

- S :
- col.1 : If the right vertical of the vertical leg of T of EST is protracted downwards, it passes to the right of the first O of OCCUPATION. Not so in the other columns, where it crosses the O. This is a feature of the cliché used for this column: it is always present.
 - col.3 : small dot between I and N of AFRICAIN on 50% of these stamps.
 - col.4 : dot between C and U of OCCUPATION legible as OCOU : on a minority of the 5c stamps.
 - col.5 : dot in G of BELGE (seen on 30% of the stamps).

Ll

For the large blotchy overprints, we distinguish now these which present a more constant variety due to one letter being deformed, and those which present various ephemeral dots around the letters.

We found three settings of the first category : LlT, LlG and LlI.

LIT : col.1 : smudge in second E of BELGISCHE (often present - in 50%)
 col.2 : extended T in OCCUPATION (always)
 hole in vertical leg of T of DUITSCH (always)
 col.4 : extended full stop after BELGE (always)
 col.5 : dot in D of ALLEMAND (in 40% of the cases seen in LIT sheets)

This setting is known on : 15c III5+C1 perf. 14
 25c IIII+B perf. 14 and 15
 50/25c IIII+B (red Malines sch)p. 1
 50/25c IIII+B (carmine " ")p. 1
 50c III3+B perf. 14
 5Fr III+A3 perf. 14 and 15.

LIG : col.1 : dot in D of ALLEMAND (30% of stamps seen in LIG sheets)
 col.3 : diagonal mark in corner of 2nd L of ALLEMAND (only on 15c and 25c)
 col.4 : nick in the right upper end of G of BEZETTING (always)
 col.5 : dot between A and L of ALLEMAND (seen on 50%...)
 smudge in the second O of OOST (only on a minority of the 15c)

This setting is known on : 5c V2+E perf. 14 and 15
 15c III5+C1 perf. 14 and 15
 25c IIII+B perf. 14
 50/25c IIII+B (red Malines sch)p. 1

LI : col.3 : nick out of top right of I of BEZETTING.

This setting is known on later printings : 5c V3+E perf. 14
 15c IV1+C1 perf. 14
 40c II+A3 perf. 14

N.B. : The protracted T and the curious extended stop after BELGE, both in LIT, are surely mistakes and accompanied a whole printing process.

It is impossible to prove that other deformed letters as G in LIG and I in LI were used in that state from the beginning, but it is highly probable that such varieties originated in faulty moulding, a little quantity of air remaining in the mould. Such phenomenon is widely known in typographic overprints. For instance, remember with CONGO BELGE, the faulty C of Congo, the nick in the first E of BELGE, the nick or break in B of BELGE, etc... which are always present.

But, an accident during printing could explain the hole in the T of DUITSCH or the nick in the G of BEZETTING.

- - - - -

A second category of LI is also presenting varieties in whole columns, but these consist of dots around the letters and they are not constant varieties, but existed only on several sheets during the printing. We call them LI(.), the . remembering a dot.

EST AFRICAIN ALLEMAND

OVERPRINT SURCHARGE

OCCUPATION BELGE

d/p 14.15	value valeur	combination combinaison	1	2	3	4	5	
				S				
X X X X X X X X	5c 10c 15c 25c 50c 1f 5f	V2+E V2+D2 III 5+C1 III 1+B III 3+B II 2+A5 II 1+A3	EST Occu		(I.N)			
				Sa				
X	5c	V2+E				ocOu		
				L ₁				
X X X X X X X X	15c 25c 50/25c 50/25c 50c 5f	III 5+C1 III 1+B III 1+B red III 1+B carm III 3+B II 1+A3	(HE)	OCCUPATION		BELGE	(D)	
X X X X X X	5c 15c 25c 50/25c	V2+E III 5+C1 III 1+B III 1+B red	(D)		ALL		A.L	
					15c.25c.	ING		
X X X	5c 15c 40c	V3+E IV 1+C1 II +A3					ZETTENG	

#46

EST AFRICAIN ALLEMAND

OVERPRINT-SURCHARGE

OCCUPATION BELGE

L1(•)

d / p 14-15	value valeur	combination combinaison	1	2	3	4	5
X	5c	V2 + E	aF•R D	aN•D	B•El	bE•Z G	eS•T iN•G
X	50/25c	III + C carm		dU•i			
XX	40c	II + A3	A deep blue	A	A	A	A
X	40c	II + A3			ooS•T	aF•R	A•F
XX	40c	II + A3			lE•Ma		
X	50c	III + B brown			dU•i	lG•i	
X	1F	II2 + A5	ocGupa	lE•Ma	tT•ln	A•Fr	sch
X	1F	II2 + A5	iCA ocC	ocGupa	bE•L tT•ln	bE•L	dU•lt
X	1F	II2 + A5	bE•L	lE•Ma eZ•Et	tT•ln	L•Ema	sch
X	1F	II2 + A5	iG•Ai eM•An	bE•Ze	m•A•ND tT•ln	bE•L	dU•lt
X	1F	II2 + A5			bE•l zE•t	eM•A•ND lGe	sch
X	1F	II2 + A5	oc•cu	iC•Ai	oc•st		tT•ln
X	1F	II2 + A5	oc•cu		oo•St	bE•L	gl•Sc
X	1F	II2 + A5	gl•Sc		A•F•Ri lM•An	iG•Ai sch	

L1(.)a : only known on the 5c V2+E perf. 14

col.1 : dot between F and R of AFRICAIN; smudge in D of ALLEMAND.

col.2 : dot between N and D of ALLEMAND

col.3 : dot between B and E of BELGISCHE

col.4 : dot between E and Z and in G of BEZETTING

col.5 : oblique dash between S and T of EST (more constant)
vertical mark between I and N of AFRICAIN
dot between N and G of BEZETTING (more constant)

L1(.)b : only known on the 50/25c III+C (carmine Malines surcharge) perf. 14.

col.2 : dot in U of DUI TSCH.

L1(.)c : only known on the 40c II+A3 perf. 14 and 15.

Letters A everywhere in the five columns are full of ink and the shade of the overprint is deep blue.

L1(.)d : only known on the 40c II+A3 perf. 14

col.3 : dot between S and T of OOST

col.4 : dot between F and R of AFRICAIN

col.5 : dot between A and F of AFRICAIN.

L1(.)e : only known on the 40c II+A3 perf. 14 and 15

col.3 : dot between E and M of ALLEMAND.

L1(.)f : only known on the 50c brown III+B5 perf. 14

col.3 : dot in the U of DUI TSCH

col.4 : dot in the G of BELGISCHE.

The following settings are only known on the 1Fr II2+A5 perf. 14.

L1(.)g : col.1 : dot closing the 2nd C of OCCUPATION : OCOU

col.2 : dot between E and M of ALLEMAND

col.3 : dot between T and I of BEZETTING

col.4 : dot between A and F of AFRICAIN

col.5 : dot in H of BELGISCH, below.

L1(.)h : col.1 : dot between C and A of AFRICAIN
dot in first C of OCCUPATION

col.2 : dot closing the second C of OCCUPATION : OCOU

col.3 : small oblique dash in E of BELGE
dot between T and I of BEZETTING

col.4 : dot between E and L of BELGE

col.5 : dot between U and I of DUI TSCH.

L1(.)i : col.1 : dot in E of BELGE

col.2 : dot between E and M of ALLEMAND
dot between Z and E of BEZETTING

col.3 : dot between T and I of BEZETTING

col.4 : dot between L and E of ALLEMAND

col.5 : dot in H of BELGISCHE.

- L1(.)1 : col.1 : dot in C of AFRICAIN
 dot between M and A of ALLEMAND
 col.2 : dot between E and Z of BEZETTING
 col.3 : dot between A and N of ALLEMAND
 dot between T and I of BEZETTING
 col.4 : dots in E of BELGE
 col.5 : dot between U and I of DUTSCH.
- L1(.)k : col.3 : dot in first E of BELGISCHE
 dot in second E of BEZETTING
 col.4 : dots between M and A, between N and D of ALLEMAND
 dot against G of BELGE
 col.5 : dot in H of BELGISCHE.
- L1(.)l : col.1 : two dots in first C of OCCUPATION
 col.2 : dot between C and A of AFRICAIN
 col.3 : dot in second O of OOST
 col.5 : dot between T and I of BEZETTING (the shape here is
 a triangle).
- L1(.)m : col.1 : two dots in the first C of OCCUPATION
 col.3 : dot between O and S of OOST
 col.4 : dot between E and L of BELGISCHE
 col.5 : dot between I and S of BELGISCHE.
- L1(.)n : col.1 : dot between I and S of BELGISCHE
 col.3 : dots between A and F, between F and R of AFRICAIN
 dot between M and A of ALLEMAND
 col.4 : dot in C of AFRICAIN
 dot in C of BELGISCHE.

There are also blotchy impressions of the large overprint without variety; we call these L1(o) : o to remind us they have no variety.

Entire sheets are known of the 10c, 40c, 1Fr and 5Fr, the two first with and without Malines surcharge.

What about the other values?

The 5c V2+E must have existed in sheets without variety, because we find several stamps coming from the 4th column and without the nick in the G of BEZETTING, which we consider a permanent feature. They existed perf. 14 and 15.

The 15c III5+C1 must also have existed in sheets without variety perf. 14; here we found only one stamp from the 4th column, without the nick in the G of BEZETTING and without the extended point after BELGE. Rare.

The 25c is the same case as the 15c, but we found here many copies perf. 14 and several perf. 15. But we have not seen till now the 50/35c III+B coming from the 4th column and without variety.

The 50/25c III+C exists perf. 14 without the carmine Malines surcharge, coming from the 2nd column and without variety. So L1(o) existed here. Several copies known.

The 50c III3+B in the lilac brown shade exists, coming from the 4th column, and without variety. Three copies known. Existed as Lk(o). It existed also surely in the brown shade because the Lk(.)f is a transient variety.

Curiosities among the EAA overprints

1. Inverted overprints and surcharges : L2 on 5c V3+E (not S as the General's book asserts) perf. 14
 L2 and 30c on 10c V2+D2 perf. 14
 30c on 10c V2+D2 perf. 14
 L2 on the two bottom rows.
 5c on 50c L2, brown shade.
2. Doubled overprints and surcharges : EST partially doubled on 1Fr L2 II3+A5 and 1Fr L1 II2+A5
 30c doubled on 10c L2 perf. 14
 50c red doubled on 25c III+C perf. 12 L2
3. Imperforate between stamps horizontally : 5c V3+E perf. 14 and 25/40c perf. 14. Also 40c perf. 14.

Forgeries of the EAA overprints

1. Not dangerous : T of OCCUPATION protracted by hand, but no hole in the T of DUITSCH.
 in black and very different letters.
 letters too large and without point after BELGE.
 in black and very different letters on bilingual stamps of 1910.
2. Dangerous : OCOU painted by hand on a 5c V2+E : plating will prove it does not emanate from the 4th column.
 Too rounded G of BELGE and last vertical leg of the N of BEZETTING too short - not the genuine colour.
 BELGE instead of BELGE on stamp coming from the booklet panes.
 the Nysten product : found normally spaced on 40c found slightly doubled on 10 and 50c
 found inverted on 5c and 10c found clearly doubled on 40c
 recognisable at the sharp edges of the right parts of the letter K of AFRIKA

EST AFRICAIN ALLEMAND

OVERPRINT - SURCHARGE

OCCUPATION BELGE

p 9.10 bulletin n° 41

09.81 Mr. B.P. HUDSON

L 2

1 beLge	2	3 ocCu dU'lt	4 Est dU'lt	5 eMand eTing
6 dU'lt bEltgi	7 beLGe	8 dU'lt che eZEtti	9 (E)ma	10 beLGe
11 beLge H	12 beLge	13	14 beLge	15 tionbeLge
16 dU'lt zEtting	17 duiTs etTing	18 tinG.	19 dU'lt	20 Est eMand
21	22	23	24 DU'lt	25
26	27	28 tin(G)	29 beLGe zEtting	30
31	32 eTing	33 bEzeTing	34 beLge	35 bE.Lge eTing
36 e(M)and dU'lt	37	38 oEcu	39 (x) be(l)ge dU'lt tinG	40
41 eTing	42 eTing	43	44 bEZEt	45 afRic
46	47 ma(N)d	48 eTing	49	50

OVERPRINT - SURCHARGE

L 2'

1 belge	2 dU'lt	3 dU'lt	4 eTTing	5
6 dU'lt	7	8 dU'lt ische	9 belge	10
11 belge	12 U'lt be(ZE)t	13 bEl T	14 eTTing	15 tinG
16 dU'lt tinG	17	18 dU'lt	19	20 eTTing
21 bel,Ge eTTing	22 eSt	23	24	25
26 dU'lt	27	28 tinG	29 eTTing	30 bEzeTTing
31 dU'lt	32	33 oCcup	34 Belge eTTing	35 eTTing
36 es(T)	37	38	39 Belgi	40
41	42 manD	43	44 bEZEt	45 eTTing
46 ische	47	48 ting	49	50 oCcup

EXPERT COMMITTEE AND ELISABETHVILLE SURCHARGES

Several stamps have been received for certification and more are requested in order to make an economic batch to be processed in late January. Please send items to R. H. Keach, 25 Kingswood Road, Tadworth, Surrey KT20 5EE.

New members may not know of the service. The charge for a stamp or up to a block of 4, if given a 'good' certificate with photograph, is £1.0. If the stamp is a forgery the charge is 50p. If the Expert Committee cannot be sure, no certificate is given and there is no charge. For covers, post cards and larger blocks the charge is £2.50 because of the cost of the larger photograph. There is a reduction in price for numbers, five certificates for the price of four and 80% of the normal price for further certificates. Registered return postage is extra.

Elisabethville Surcharges

Probably the most prolific and most dangerous forgeries of the Congo, only one of the 225 items so far submitted for certificates has been a 1923 Elisabethville surcharge. The obvious reason for this is the relatively low catalogue value of the stamps.

Two of the members of the Expert Committee have studied these surcharge in some detail and can with certainty recognise some of the many forgeries. Having a considerable number of undoubtedly genuine examples for comparison, they feel able and are prepared, to give an opinion on the surcharges.

Members who wish to submit their copies for opinion, without certification, are invited to do so. The charge, to cover the various registered postages and provide a little profit for the Study Circle, will be 10p per stamp or multiple up to a block of four and 25p for larger blocks and covers.

Members are asked to pencil their initials on the back of each item submitted and mount each on a piece of paper or card not less than 100 X 80mm. The adjudicators will give their opinions on the backing paper.

For this exercise to be economical considerable numbers of the stamps will have to be processed at one time. Please send copies to R. H. Keach to arrive not later than 15 January, 1983.

The best of care will be taken of the stamps and, while in the care of the Study Circle, only registered post will be used, but the Study Circle cannot accept responsibility for any damage or loss.

Return postage to the owner, registered if required, will be charged as extra.

PLATE COMBINATIONS OF THE 1895 10c BLUE

In Bulletin No. 44, page 4, I suggested the possible existence of an additional combination of plates, I2+A2, of the 10c blue and asked for further information from one of the File Copy sheets. Mr. Hirdler has that sheet and very kindly brought it with him to the Study Circle meeting at Southampton for me to study.

The sheet is quite definitely I2+A2. The frame plate has the registration guide marks, the addition of which converted I1 to I2. No. 28 does not have the partial doubling of the sky resulting from re-entry of the centre plate converting A2 to A3.

Of the various pronounced centre plate scratches found in late printings of the stamp, and presuming that these scratches appeared between and not during successive printings, the scratch on No. 25 (the 'paraph Balasse V3) is present on I2+A2 and I2+A3; the scratch on No. 28 (Balasse V4) is present only on I2+A2; the scratch on No. 18 (Balasse V2) only on I2+A3. The re-entry on No. 46 (Balasse V1) is of course present on all printings of the blue stamp.

It would appear that the A2 centre plate was re-entered particularly to remove the strong scratch on No. 28 and it is curious that the scratch on No. 25 was not removed at the same time because this could easily have been accomplished by simple burnishing of the plate.

The File Copy sheet of I2+A2 is dated 16.3.98. The printing was of 1600 sheets and this explains the relative scarcity of the Balasse variety 18V4. The I2+A2 stamps are in the blue-green shade, about the same as I2+A3.

R. H. KEACH

A DISPLAY OF 'ELEPHANTS'

On 7 October Mrs. M. A. Owens came from America to present a paper on 'Elephants' to the Royal Philatelic Society, London. Naturally enough, Congo stamps were represented there.

There was a left marginal block of nine of the 1922 local 10c/1Fr and one of the stamps, No. 18 in the sheet I believe, had a small hole, maybe 1mm diameter, near the bottom left corner. Mrs. Owens said that the dealer from whom she bought the block had at that time about a dozen complete sheets and every sheet was perforated at this position; she imagined that it was a constant feature of the sheets. My own two sheets are not perforated with this hole and I have not noticed it on other sheets that I have seen. Does any member have any knowledge of such holes, except in the File Copy and proof sheets?

Mrs. Owens had a progress proof of the 1923 Vloors 10Fr; she said that it was engraved by Robert Savage.

R. H. KEACH

MOLS 'FILE COPY' SHEETS AVAILABLE

Editor's Note: While our Bulletin is not generally thought of as a marketing device and we do not invite advertising, an exception is being made because of past courtesies extended to the Study Circle by the firm, and because the material being offered might meet the requirements of some of our members.

Some of the 'File Copy' sheets previously offered to members of the Study Circle are unsold and a few further sheets have surfaced. For the benefit of new members who may not know of the sheets, they are from Waterlow & Sons archives. Each stamp is punched with a hole to demonetize it and nearly all the sheets are rather badly stained.

There are available at the moment:

'OFFER'	DATE OF PRINTING	DETAILS	PRICE £
1	10/11/96	(1897) 1Fr deep lilac, Plates I2+A1	300
2	16/3/98	(1898) 1Fr lilac, I2+A1	150
3	10/1/99	1895 10c blue, I2+A3, one stamp severed	10
4	7/11/11	1910 25c III+A4	10
5	10/10/13	1910 15c III3+B2, one stamp missing	5
6	10/10/13	1910 25c III3+B, four stamps missing	10
8	10/10/13	1910 1Fr III+A4, one stamp missing	20
9	20/4/15	1915 5c VI+E	20
10	20/8/15	1915 5c V2+E	20
11	20/8/15	1915 15c III5+C1	75
12	28/11/16	1915 10c V2+D2	5
13	28/11/16	1915 50c III4+B	15
14	28/11/16	1915 1Fr III+A7	120
15	22/1/20	1915 5c VI+F	50

U.K. residents have to pay extra 15% V.A.T.

Enquiries with object of purchase to: David Fortnum, Robson Lowe Limited, 39 Poole Hill, Bournemouth BH2 5PX.

AN 1886 CONGO 'AVIS DE RECEPTION' DOCUMENT

Recently I had the great pleasure to see what must be a very rare document, an official acknowledgement of receipt of a registered letter dated October-November, 1886.

For any not knowledgeable of 'acknowledgements of receipts' it was, and still is, possible, when posting a registered letter, to pay extra and receive in due course, via the post office, a receipt from the recipient that the package has arrived at its destination, the package being handed over when the signed receipt is returned to the delivering postman.

As will be seen from the illustration of the receipt the Congo document is in two parts on a single sheet of paper. The upper part was completed when the sender handed the registered package over the post office counter and the additional fee of 25c paid for the stamp attached to the form. The complete form will have travelled with the package to Belgium where, on delivery, the recipient, Mademoiselle Virginia Priem, had to sign the lower part of the form before receiving the package and the date stamp of the Bruges post office was applied. The complete form was then returned to Banana whence it originated. There is no room on the form for the name and address of the sender; presumably he had to call at the Banana post office presenting his registration receipt to collect the 'avis de reception' form when it had been returned from Belgium.

Certainly from about 1915 onwards letters for which acknowledgement of receipt was required and paid for had the cachet 'AR' in large letters marked on them. It is not known if that practice was followed in the early years of the Congo. Any information on early 'AR' covers will be welcomed.

R. H. KEACH

ÉTAT INDÉPENDANT DU CONGO.

Postes.

AVIS DE RÉCEPTION D'UN ENVOI RECOMMANDÉ.

TABLEAU N° 4 à remplir au bureau d'origine.

(4) Nature de l'envoi.

L'expéditeur demande si l'objet suivant a été reçu

(4) *lettre* expédiée de ce bureau le *16 Octobre 1886*,
 sous le n° *166* à l'adresse de M^{lle} *Virginie Pison*
 à *J. Durys* rue *Hollandaise n° 32*

L'Employé des postes,
Prison



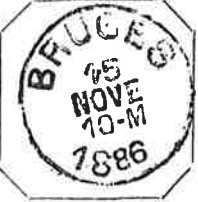
TABLEAU N° 2 à remplir et à signer par le destinataire.

Si le destinataire refuse de signer, son refus et la remise de l'envoi doivent être attestés par le chef de bureau sur l'avis ci-contre.

L'envoi ci-dessus désigné m'a été remis contre reçu

le *15 Novembre 1886*.

J. Pison


SCOTCH TAPE - IS THERE A SOLUTION?

An inquiry has been received from our member Georges Celis from Kinshasa asking help from any member who might have a solution to his problem.

Georges recently acquired some rare stamps and the previous owner had applied scotch tape. The tape was easily removed but brown spots remained on the stamps; the glue seemed to have penetrated into the paper of the stamps, giving them a very bad appearance. If you know of any corrective action, will you please write directly to Georges Celis, Rue Teniers 14, 1030 Brussels, Belgium. He will be delighted to hear from you.

KINSHASA-STANLEYVILLE (BELGIAN CONGO) AIR MAIL SERVICE

(Abstracted from 'The Aeroplane', 9 November, 1921 page 454)

"The Postmaster-General announces that the Administration of the Belgian Congo has made arrangements whereby correspondence from this country (G.B.) for the Upper Congo may be forwarded by the aeroplane service which is now working between Kinshasa and Stanleyville (and intermediate points) in close connection with the arrival and departure of the Belgian Packets from and for Europe.

"The transit from Kinshasa to Stanleyville is due to be accomplished in 3 days as against 14 days by river steamer; and correspondence for all districts along the Upper Congo River from Kwamouth as far as Lova (but not districts such as Katanga) should save up to a maximum of 11 days in time of transmission by the use of the air service.

"Letter Packets of all classes, registered and unregistered, but not parcels or insured packets, are admissible.

"Any packet intended for onward transmission by the air service should bear the "Air Mail" label in the top left-hand corner, and be plainly marked by the sender immediately beneath it "Par avion via Kinshasa". The packet should not be specially prepaid, but a fee of 3 francs per 20 grammes for air conveyance will be charged to the addressee on delivery.

"Packets posted in time for transmission to the Congo by other than a Belgian steamship will probably not benefit by the use of the air service, and should not be marked for transmission by it."

Presumably the arrangement of not prepaying the air surcharge applied to all countries as well as Great Britain - but maybe not to Belgium - and I would very much like to know if any member has such a document sent to the Congo. It is presumed that the air surcharge was collected from the addressee by adding stamps to the appropriate value - but Congo air or postage due stamps?

R. H. KEACH

POST OFFICES OF THE CONGO c1955

DORUMA. Administrative post with a customs office, trading and industrial centre, Catholic Mission of the Dominican Fathers and Sisters, schools, dispensary. Used to be the residence of the Azande Chief Doruma who conducted open war against the Congo Free State for a long time. He caused Janssens and Van Holsbeke to be murdered and was defeated by Chaltin on 28th March and 5th April, 1896.

DUNGU. Altitude 2,395'. At a crossing of the Kibali by a 920 ft. double bridge built by the sappers of the armed forces during the 40/45 war. Territorial HQ, R.T. dispensary, rest house, trading and industrial centre, pioneers cemetery, Catholic Mission, native college, small seminary, schools, dispensaries. Protestant Mission. Hotel.

Dungu is picturesquely situated on the spot where once an old fort stood. The fort was built by Major Chaltin during his campaign against the Mahdists, the remains of the zeriba are still visible. The residence of the Territorial Administrator is built of stone on

the site of the old zeriba. The medieval style of this building is somewhat surprising in this country. Fine avenues of mango trees lead to the river, which contains hippo and crocodiles; and lions in the savannah. A road from here leads to the Sudan border.

ELISABETHA. On the left bank of the Congo, seat of management of one of the five sectors of the H.C.B. ~~It is~~ one of the most modern installations of the company. Hospitals, Catholic and Protestant missions. The site of Elisabetha has been happily chosen on a west-facing perpendicular cliff at a bend of the river. Access to the station is via a valley sheltering the factories and camps. The station is an important one with oil tanks and a flotilla of steamer barges and dug-outs. On shore there is a walk along the quay illuminated at night by electric light.

ELISABETHVILLE. Capital of Katanga Province. Elisabethville owes its origin to the first installations of the Union Miniere du Haut Katanga, erected for the purpose of turning the Katanga to account. The Compagnie du Katanga, established on the 12th March 1891, which can take the credit for the exploration of the south eastern part of the Congo and for the discovery of the first indications of mineral deposits, had secured a 90 year lease over 1/3 of the Katanga, including mineral rights. In 1900 the company formed the Comite Special du Katanga (ratified by decree in 1901) for the purpose of placing the lands and mines of the State and of the Cie du Katanga under common management. The Comite Special was located at Lake Mweru. In 1906 the U.M.H.K. and the B.C.K. which had just been formed, began exploiting the region.

The first workings were those of the Lubumbashi. As early as 1907 the decision was made to move the management of the C.S.K. from Lake Mweru to Lubumbashi. During the first quarter of the year 1910, Monsieur Wangermee, a representative of the Comite Special du Katanga, ordered the building of Elisabethville on the plateau overlooking the workings of the U.M.H.K., that is to say on its present site. To commemorate the journey made to the Katanga in 1909 by HRM Prince Albert, who became King Albert 1st, the name of the Princess Elisabeth was chosen, and the town was christened Elisabethville. The natives, on the other hand, continue to use the name Lubumbashi, after the river which waters the town.

In 1909 the site of Elisabethville was still virgin soil; in 1910 it was a camp of shacks and tents erected at random while roads were being built and ground cleared. From then onwards farms began to appear in the area surrounding the town, the bush was cleared and planting began, the breeding of cross bred cattle was started, and a network of local roads was built. On 1st September 1910, after the annexation of the Congo, administration and political powers were transferred to the Belgian Government. Today Elisabethville is one of the most modern towns of Central Africa. The furnaces of the Lubumbashi, the 500 foot high smoke stack and dump are visible from many parts of the town. The copper concentrates from the Prince Leopold mine at Kipushi (17 miles away) are fed into the blast furnaces with coke and flux. These furnaces produce matte which is treated in converters. The latter produce about 110,000 tons of blister (98.5% pure) which is refined in Europe.

ETOILE DU CONGO. The oldest mine of Katanga.

PRICES REALISED IN OCTOBER 1982 AUCTION SALE (Prices in pounds)

Lot 1	NS	55	NS	109	10.25
2	NS	56	133.00	110	20.00
3	1.60	57	NS	111	20.00
4	NS	58	NS	112	20.00
5	49.00	59	6.50	113	20.00
6	16.00	60	27.00	114	27.00
7	2.40	61	16.50	115	26.00
8	NS	62	1.75	116	28.00
9	3.30	63	2.60	117	NS
10	NS	64	1.80	118	6.25
11	NS	65	3.30	119	8.75
12	NS	66	3.60	120	2.60
13	48.00	67	12.75	121	4.20
14	8.75	68	5.50	122	NS
15	13.25	69	5.50	123	8.25
16	NS	70	37.00	124	19.00
17	7.75	71	4.80	125	18.25
18	NS	72	27.00	126	NS
19	41.00	73	4.00	127	NS
20	4.80	74	17.00	128	9.50
21	53.00	75	NS	129	22.00
22	103.00	76	NS	130	NS
23	9.25	77	2.60	131	6.25
24	166.00	78	NS	132	9.25
25	6.25	79	23.00	133	22.00
26	6.50	80	NS	134	4.60
27	10.25	81	4.80	135	3.20
28	10.50	82	9.50	136	3.60
29	NS	83	15.25	137	6.75
30	23.00	84	7.00	138	4.20
31	8.50	85	NS	139	9.00
32	3.50	86	2.00	140	4.10
33	10.75	87	11.25	141	3.60
34	NS	88	3.60	142	4.10
35	72.00	89	24.00	143	NS
36	6.75	90	12.25	144	NS
37	22.00	91	3.70	145	NS
38	10.75	92	13.00	146	NS
39	12.75	93	2.80	147	NS
40	18.75	94	41.00	148	NS
41	11.75	95	5.25	149	NS
42	18.75	96	1.20	150	NS
43	107.00	97	1.00	151	NS
44	NS	98	5.25	152	10.00
45	NS	99	5.50	153	8.75
46	NS	100	6.25	154	41.00
47	NS	101	5.50	155	36.00
48	NS	102	11.25	156	53.00
49	NS	103	24.00	157	93.00
50	123.00	104	120.00	158	17.25
51	NS	105	21.25	159	22.50
52	9.50	106	4.30	160	21.00
53	102.00	107	3.30	161	16.25
54	NS	108	20.25	162	200.00

Those lots marked NOT SOLD are still available and the vendors have agreed to reduce prices for them to 80% of the quoted reserves. R. H. Keach should be contacted.

THE CANCELLATIONS OF THE NORMAL POST OFFICES OF BELGIAN CONGO 1886-1960 AND RUANDA URUNDI 1917-1962

Thanks largely to the studies of two members, there are substantial further changes to be made to the tabulation.

New Cancellations

AVAKUBI 1.2-MDtY (dates) 18-20; 1.2-MtDY 22; 1.2-DtMY (no date)
 BANZVILLIE 8A1-Dmyt/t 42.
 BOGA 2A1 (dimensions) 5X19mm
 BOENDE 7A1-Dmyt/t 31; MD1-DmtY 59.
 BOMA 1.12-DMtY 22; 8A4- (angular measurements) 98/160/192/265/300
 (date) 41-6, figure 4 of year appears as 4
 BUKAVU 1 10(-M)- 55.
 BUTA 7A1-Dmyt/t 33.
 COQUILHAVILLE 1.2-MDTY *06; 8A5- 169/197/231/310/342 37-8.
 COSTERMANSVILLE 10(F.)- 53.
 ELISABETHVILLE 1.1-tMDY 11/ 7C7- 179/237/329 48-51, f=10½mm, g=7½mm;
 10(1)-53.
 ELISABETHVILLE 1 12B(H)1- *57; 12B(Q)1- 55; 12B(R)1- 55.
 FESHI 10(-A.)- 58.
 IBEMBO 1.2-TMDY 02
 INONGO 1.1-MDtY 10-1
 JADOTVILLE 1 MCl-tDmY 57
 KABINDA 1.1-tMDY/t *13.
 KAFAKUMBA 1.1-tMDY 17.
 KAMINA 1 MD1-tDmY 59
 KINGOMA 8A1- 134/199/218/282/302 *59
 KINSHASA 1.3-tDMY 14-5.
 KUTU 8A3- 56/157/175/241/265 56-60.
 LEOPOLDVILLE 1.1-TMDY *97; 1.1-MDTY 98; 1.8-MDTY 06; 1.8-DMTY 04.
 LEOPOLDVILLE 1 7C4- 150/ ? /229/330 35, e=7½mm, loop of P of POSTES
 2mm wide; 12B(N)1- 55-7; 12B(Q)1- 55.
 LEOPOLDVILLE-KALINA MF1-YDmt 59.
 LISALA 1.1-MDtY 21; 7A1-Dmyt 29.
 LOMELA 8A1-Dmyt/y (? date); 8A4- 118/166/209/ ? /317 45.
 LUEBO 5D1-Dmyt/t 31.
 LUISA 8A1-Dmyt/t 42.
 LUKAFU 1.2-MDtY *12
 LUKULA 1.1-DtMY/t *09.
 MATADI 1 11(F)1- 58-60.
 MATADI 2 8A1- 146/186/215/282/311 57.
 NOUVELLE-ANVERS 1.2-DTMY 08.
 SAKANIA 1.1-DMtY 11.
 SANDOA 1.1-MDtY *19.
 SHAVUNDA 8A1-Dmyt/t 40.
 STANLEYVILLE 7A6 135/189/212/296/309 33-4, N 1.4mm wide, fork of the
 Y is shallow; 7A7 ? / ? /214/299/310 34-6,
 N 1.6mm wide, fork of the Y is deep.
 STANLEYVILLE 1 10(-A)- 53.
 STANLEYVILLE 6 12B(A)1- (? date)
 THYSVILLE 1.2-DtMY 22; 1.2-tDMY/y (? date)
 TSHELA 8A3 98/180/202/264/285 *60.
 TSHOFA 11(A)1- *60; 11(B)1- *58-60.
 YAHILA 8A2-90/172/191/257/278 *60.
 YANGAMBI 11(E)1- *60.
 ZOBIA 11(A)1- *60
 KISENYI 11(A)1- 59.
 KITEGA 8A1-Dmy 46-7.

Changes to Existing Descriptions

BILI 8A2 - angular dimensions 63/156/181/246/270 dates *57-9
 BOMA 8A2-, change angular measurements to 96/160/200/265/303; add figure 4 of year appears as 4
 ELISABETHVILLE 7C6, f=9½mm, not 10mm.
 KAMPENE 8A2-: change angular measurements to 143/192/224/289/322 and dates to *57-60.
 LEOPOLDVILLE 1 7C2, e=7 3/4mm, not 7½mm, loop of the P of POSTES 2½mm wide; delete asterisk before 7C2.
 LULUABOURG 1.1- should be 1.1-DMtY 195/311 14.
 STANLEYVILLE 7A5-: delete asterisk before &A5; add: N 1.4mm wide, fork of the Y is deep.

Changes to Dates

ABA 1.1-tDMY *18-21; 1.2-tDMY *14-22; 1.2-DtMY *14-18; 5E1-Dmyt *21-7.
 AKETI 10(B)- *53-60. ALBERTVILLE 7A1- *25-31,35; 7A2- *30-6; 10(-E.)- *51-2; 12B(C)1- 54-5,60; 12B(E)1- 55-6,60; 12B(F)1- *54-6. ALBERTVILLE 2 12B(B)1- 58-9. ALBERTVILLE 3 12B(A)1- *59-60; 12B(B)1- *59-60.
 ANGO 8E1- *53-6. ANKORO 8A1-Dmyt 37,44-5. ARU 8E1- *52-60. AVAKUBI 1.1-MDTY *09; 7A1-Dmyt 28-30. BAFWASENDE 8A3- *56-60. BAGIRA 11(A)1- *57-60. BAKWANGA 1 11(B)1- 59. BAMBESA 10(B)- *54-9. BAMBILI 1.1-DMtY *12-4. BANALIA 8A1 37-8,42-6. BANANA 1.3-DMTY *86-99; 1.6-DMTY *00-2; 1.7-DMTY *00-3; 8A1- 38-48; 11(B)1- *56-60. BANDUNDU 1.1-tDMY *13-25. BANNINGVILLE 12A1- *55-60; 12B(A)1- *56-60; 12B(B)1- *53-7; ME1-Dmyt 58-9. BANZYVILLE 12B(A)1- *55-60; 12B(B)1- *55-60. BASANKUSU 1.1-DMtY *04-17; 1.1-MDtY *06-10; 1.1-tMDY 17,22; 8A2- *47-53; 11(A)2- 58-9. BASOKO 1.1-DMTY *96-8; 1.2-DMTY *00-2; 1.3-DMTY *00-2; 1.3-DMtY *05-15; 1.3-MDtY *09,14; 1.3-tDMY *15-23. BAYA 1.1-tDMY 12. BEFALE 8A3- *51,55-60; 11(C)1- 57-60. BENA-BENDI 1.2-MDTY *00-1. BENDERA 8A2- 57-9. BIKORO 8A2- *50-4, 58-9. BILI 8A1 *49,54-5. BILILI 8A1- *57-60. BOENDE 1.1-DMtY *13-4; 10(C)- *53-7; 11(G)1- *59. BOKOTE 8A1-Dmyt 58-9; 8A1-Dmyt/t *50-5. BOKUNGU 8A2- 46-54. BOLOBO 1.1-tDMY 12,19; 5D1-Dmyt *22-35; 7C1- *35-49. BOMA 1.6-DMtY 04-8; 1.8-DMTY 07; 1.10-DMtY *07-12; 5E1-Dmyt *21-30; 7A1-Dmyt *26-9; 10(C)- *49,55-6; 11(D)1- *56-9; 11(E)1- *57-60; 11(F)1- 58-9. BOMA 2 11(A)1- *57-60. ~~BOMBOMA~~ 8D1-Dmyt 36-43. BONDO 10(A)- *54-9. BONGANDANGA 8A1- 50-9; 8E1- *57-60. BUDJALA 8A3- 48; 8A4- *49-53,57-9; 8A6- 55-60. BUKAMA 1.1-tMDY 16-9; 8A2- *49-55. BUKAVU 1 10(-G)- *53-6,60; 10(-I)- 54,60; 10(-L)- *55-9. BUKAVU 2 10(A)- *57-60; 10(B)- *55-60. BULUNGU 7A1- *25-34; 7C1- *35-7,54-60; 8A1- *38,42-4,54-60. BUMBA 1.2-DMtY 11-6; 1.2-tDMY *15-23; 1.2-tMDY 11; 1.2-DtMY 12,20; 5C1-Dmyt 24-5; 11(A)1- *59-60; 11(B)1- *59-60; 11(D)1- *59-60. BUNIA 8A3- *50-4,60; 10(-A)- *54-60; 10(-B)- *53-5,59-60; MD1-tDmY 58-9. BUNYAKIRI 8A1- *59-60. BUSINGA 11(B)1- *56-8. BUTA 8A4 *50-9; 10(-B.)- *51-4,59-60. BUTEMBO 8A3 *50-6; 10(-A.)- *55-60; 10(-B.)- *52-5,59-60. CATTIER 10(B)- *55-8. COQUILHAVILLE 1.1-DMTY *97-9; 7A5- 31-7; 8A2-Dmyt *38-45; 8A3-Dmyt *37-46; 10(A)- *48-53; 12B(A)1- *54-9. DIBAYA-LUBUE 8A2 53-9. DILOLO 8A1- 36-44; 8A2- *54-6; 10(A)- *47-52,57-8. DIMA 1.1-DMtY *09-13,17; 1.2-DMtY *09-14; 1.2-tDMY *14-25. DIMBELENGE 10(A)- *59-60. DJALASIGA 8A1- *53-60. DJUGU 8A2- *46-55. DUNGU 1.2-DMtY 10-1. ELISABETHA 11(A)1- *55-60. ELISABETHVILLE 1.1-DMtY *11-2; 1.2-DtMY *23-4; 1.4-tDMY *24-5; 7A1- *28-37; 7A3- *27-31; 7A4- 29-34; 7A6- *28-31; 7A7- *25,31-2; 7A11- 25-9; 7A12- *24,35-6; 7A16 *30-3; 7C1-Dmyt *35-6,40; 7C2- *38-45; 7C4- *35-40,45-8; 7C5-Dmyt *33-6; 8A3- *38-46; 8A4- *41-6; 10(C)- *47-53; 12B(B)1- *53-9; 12B(E)1- *53-60; 12B(F)1- *53-7; 12B(H)1- *53-8; 12B(L)1- *53-60. ELISABETHVILLE 1 12B(T)1- *55-8; 12B(U)1- *55-7; MCl-Dmyt *59-60. ELISABETHVILLE 2 8A2- 2 49,53; 8E1 *42-5; 12C2- *53-9. ELISABETHVILLE 3 12C2- 54-6. ELISABETHVILLE 4 12B(B)1- *59-9. ETOILE DU CONGO 1.1-DMtY *13-5;

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