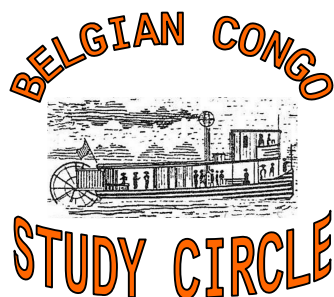


**President**  
Walter Deijnckens  
Mariettalie 38  
2930 Brasschaat  
Belgium  
e-mail:  
[walter.deijnckens@skynet.be](mailto:walter.deijnckens@skynet.be)



**General Secretary**  
Johan Delbeke  
Gemeentestraat, 206/201  
3010 Leuven  
e-mail:  
[Johan@africanphilately.com](mailto:Johan@africanphilately.com)

**BULLETIN 140**

**September - October 2006**

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

**Librarian**  
Allan J.D. MacLaren  
'Moray', 43 Millar Street,  
Carnoustie. DD7 7AT  
Scotland  
e-mail:  
[allanjdmaclaren@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:allanjdmaclaren@blueyonder.co.uk)

<b>CONTENTS</b>		<b>Page(s)</b>
<b>From the Editor and Membership News</b>		2
<b>Karema Post Offices - during the 1<sup>st</sup> World War</b>	- Stuart Smith (compilation)	3-6
<b>Mols 10 centimes Inverted Centre</b>	- Stuart Smith	6-8
<b>Censorship - WW II <i>New Discoveries</i></b>	- Emile Hoorens	9-10
<b>German Censorship – WW II</b>	- Tony Brooks	10-11
<b>Foreign Censor Marks – continued Northern &amp; Southern Rhodesia, Nyasaland and South Africa.</b>	- Walter Deijnckens	12-16
<b>Elisabethville Cancellers 'Independent Katanga' period</b>	- Gerrit Huybregts	17-20
<b>Addenda and Corrigenda 'Cancellations of Normal Post Offices etc' – Heim &amp; Keach</b>		21
<b>Auction 2006 (4) and results of 2006 (3)</b>		Supplemental

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

## From the Editor

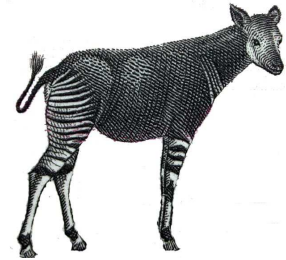
*My thanks to those who continue to send information and on whom we are all dependent for the forthcoming bulletins. I am at this moment in time almost exhausted of 'Article material' with only a few bits and pieces for the next issue. A few members have volunteered articles but these have not yet surfaced and there is certainly insufficient to produce that due in December. Will all members intending and who can contribute, please help.*

**This Bulletin** - For members with an interest in either 'Post marks' and/or 'Censorship' - this issue has something for you. These are areas which most of us tend to touch on so please remember the editor if you can add anything more.

### ***A Thought, a question and your opinion sought.***

Shortly after I became editor, the logo we used was changed from one encompassing the 'Okapi' and replaced by the engraving from the 10franc Mols of a 'River Boat Steamer'. Before doing so I did enquire the views of a few of our more active members and without exception it was considered not a bad idea to try something new.

With one vociferous exception, an opinion with which I now have some reflective sympathy – nobody took exception. The opponent deplored what had been done on the grounds that the Okapi, being unique to the Congo, should have continued as the logo identity of the Study Circle.



The Okapi illustrated here is not that used previously, which faced to the left - but has better definition and if members voted in its favour, this would be my own personal preference.

Time moves on and having given the 'River Boat Steamer' a run, I am now quite happy and receptive to any suggestion for the future. As I see it there are two sensible options:

We stay where we are

We revert to the 'Okapi', 'old or new format' and then stick with it.

If you have strong views please let me know so that a balanced decision can be made.

## ***Membership News***

### **Reminder to U.S.A. members**

**David Schaubroeck; PO Box 282, Harrisville, Michigan 487400-0282**

**\*\* Please note that as published previously and as a result of his move, David Schaubroeck is currently without an email facility. As soon as this is reintroduced all members with an email address will be notified.**

### ***Addresses***

Address change. Amend to read –

**Belgium** - **Th. Frennet; Rue La Rue, 17, 1420 Braine l'Alleud**

- **G. Huybreghts; Email: [Gerrit.Huybreghts@consilium.europa.eu](mailto:Gerrit.Huybreghts@consilium.europa.eu)**

### ***Acknowledgement***

I have received notification from Niels Peter Overgaard in Denmark about a book published by the 'Bornholm Museum', which sounds very interesting and be reviewed - as best I can (it is in Danish) - when further information is received from the publisher. It appears well documented and illustrated "describing life in the Congo from 1870 based on letters, photographs maps etc sent home to families on Bornholm". All being well I will be able to say more about it in the next Bulletin.

## Karema Post Offices during the First World War

Compiled by Stuart Smith <sup>1</sup>

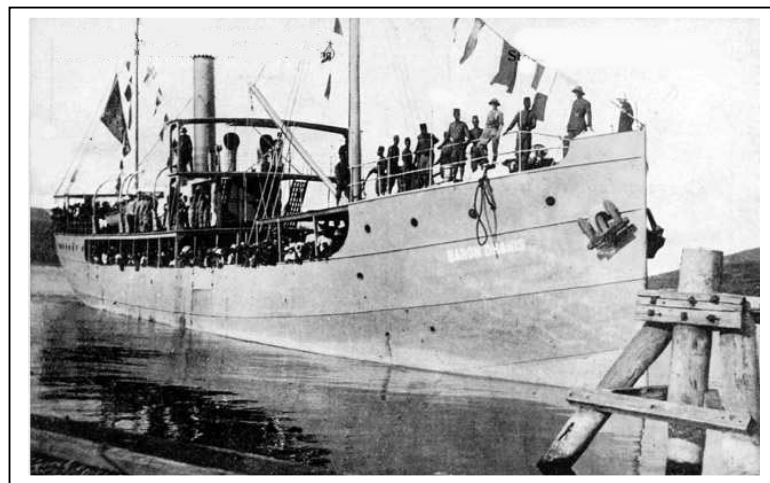
The first expedition of the A.I.A. ('Association Internationale pour l'Afrique') crossed East Africa in 1877. It left from Zanzibar under the leadership of Ernest Gambier and on arrival at Lake Tanganyika it established a station at Karema.

During the period of German colonial occupation (German East Africa) from 1888 to 1916, they never bothered to create a post office in Karema.



On the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> August 1916, the Belgian IV<sup>th</sup> Brigade invaded the eastern shore of Lake Tanganyika in the area around Karema. Four days later on 9<sup>th</sup> August, the V<sup>th</sup> Brigade under Colonel Moulart reinforced them when he landed in Karema with his troops from the ship 'Le Vengeur'. On the 21<sup>st</sup> August these troops set off for Tabora.

After the victorious Tabora campaign, the Belgians withdrew towards the Congo with one Battalion remaining behind to guard Karema. The 5th Battalion of troops was billeted there from 21 March 1917 and relieved by the 10th Battalion on 31 April 1917. These troops were involved in the so-called 'Mahenge Campaign.' On 23 October 1918, the 1st Battalion left for Karema on board the 'Baron Dhanis'



S.S. Baron Dhanis

**Figure 1.** During the occupation of Karema, Commander Heenen took it upon himself to overprint stamps with the word **Karema**. This overprint was not official, and the stamps are to be considered souvenirs. The overprint was executed with a typewriter with a violet coloured ribbon.



Figure 1.

Variations exist such as '**KAREMM**', '**KARMA**', '**KARÉMA**', etc. Singles of these stamps can be found cancelled at Albertville.

**Figure 2** is an example of another overprint, reading **'KAREMA 7 September 1916'**, in red ink. Other dates are also known but this issue is entirely bogus.

The example shown is of the 15 centimes 1915 from plate combination V+C1 and bearing the second type overprint. Stamps of this combination are only known from September 1918, proving the overprint as bogus.



**Figure 2.**

This overprint is known to exist on:

- The 8 values overprinted E.A.A. – O.B. (Est Africain Allemand – Occupation Belge).

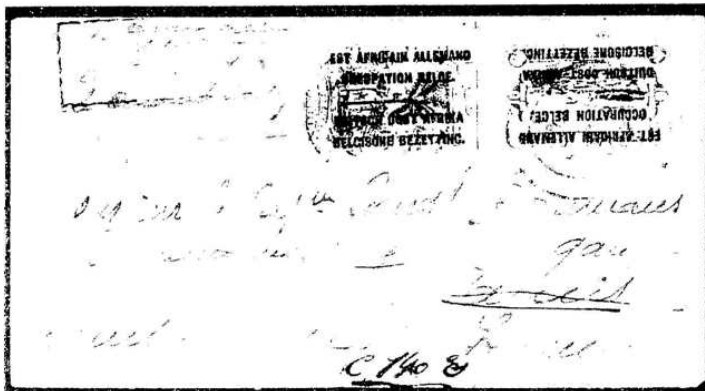
- On the 9 values of the 'AO' Red Cross issue of May 1918.

- On the 8 values overprinted E.A.A. – O.B. with the linear TAXES overprint (of the so-called Tabora type)

In 1917 there was no Post Office – neither military nor civil. Any mail originating from Karema was transported to and despatched via Kigoma.

**Figure 3** illustrates a *Photostat copy* of cover from Karema addressed to 'L' Armée Belge, Calais' with a military censor mark and Kigoma transit.

*(Apologies for the lack in clarity of this illustration. Ed)*



**Figure 3**

In establishing themselves at Karema in August 1916, the Belgians installed a military telegraph office. This was taken over by the 'Occupying Government', probably in June 1917. In December 1917, the 'Inspecteur des Postes' proposed to add a military post office to provide a service for the Europeans employees of the mica mine, and some traders. No doubt for that reason, a cancelling device – similar to that of other towns including Kigali and Kitega – was ordered from the British in Nairobi. Later the region was handed over to British authority. Most cancellations are found on single stamps dated either 6<sup>th</sup> or 31<sup>st</sup> December 1918; the latter as a *'favour cancel'* to produce philatelic documents.



**Figure 4.**

In design, this canceller is typical of the British so called 'Skeleton' type which was widely used as a temporary cachet.



**Figure 4**



**Bureau de Poste Militaire – 1918**

A Military office was in operation, probably from March to November 1918. The cachet shown in figure 4 is known on isolated stamps dated variously from 1<sup>st</sup> March to 6<sup>th</sup> November.

**Figure 5**, illustrates a card cancelled in Karema 20<sup>th</sup> April 1918 by the military cachet **B.P.C. V.P.K. No 7**. This cachet was originally allocated to Namirembe but has not been recorded as used there. The card was written at Karema 17<sup>th</sup> April 1918 and received the arrival canceller of Kigoma 3<sup>rd</sup> May.



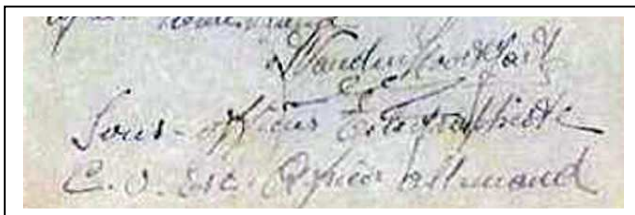
**Figure 5**



**B.P.C. – V.P.K.  
N° 7  
6<sup>th</sup> November 1918**



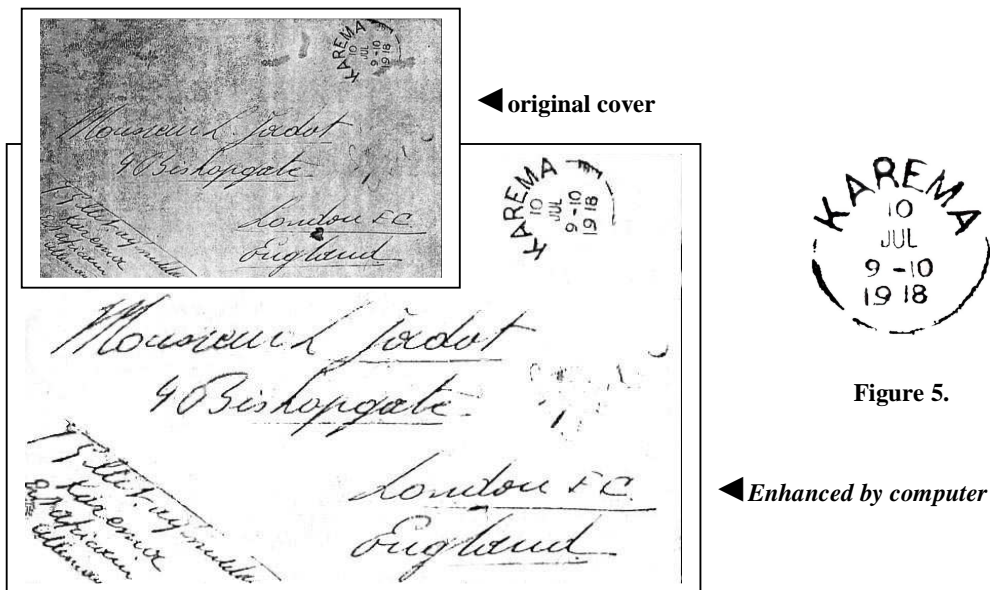
◀ 'Karema 17 April 1918'



◀ Signed by  
Sous-officier, télégraphiste  
Vanden Moortgat

**Civilian ‘Bureau de Poste’ – 1918**

**Figure 5.** A ‘Civilian’ Post Office was opened in Karema in 1918 and received a British style ‘semi-circular arc’ cachet. This incorporates the day, month, time and year.



**Figure 5.**

Finally, the Belgian post office in Karema was closed when the eastern shore of Lake Tanganyika was annexed by the British in 1918 and absorbed into the Tanganyika Territory. We believe that the Post office closure was probably 31<sup>st</sup> December 1918 and there seems little doubt that it was at this time that the several souvenirs were produced.

**This article has been created from information and illustrations provided by Walter Deijnckens, Leo Tavano and Charles Stockmans.**

X-X-X-X-X-X-X-X-X-X-X

***Mols 10 centimes booklet panes ‘Inverted Centre’***

By – Stuart Smith

Reference to and reports on the 10 centimes inverted centre, originating from the booklet pane 3<sup>rd</sup> printing (1920), has been included in the Bulletin on a number of previous occasions. I am indebted to Leo Tavano for further information received in support of this article.



**Figure 1.**

By way of a recap:

Gailly in *Negro Guide*, (1945): ‘*Nous connaissons 20 pièces*’ – ‘*We know of 20 stamps*’ (2 panes !)

Brian Hudson<sup>1</sup> (March 1993) in his series on the plating of the Mols said ‘*the 10c. 3<sup>rd</sup> booklet stamps are known with inverted centres. Only ten such stamps are known, namely the ten positions of pane β. The three other panes from the same sheet presumably also had inverted centres, but we have not found any or their existence has not been disclosed.*’

E.A.Hirdler <sup>2</sup> (June 1993) asserted that '3 other panes must have originally existed' and commented variously on examples he knew the existence of. All related to items from pane  $\beta$ .

Ralph Jacqueman <sup>3</sup> (September 1993) drew our attention to 'the Belgian dealer Soeteman' as having 'offered a pair of the stamps in an auction held 19-26 June 1993. Although well illustrated in colour it was impossible from the catalogue printing to position the pair.'



**Figure 2 'β pane'**  
(Berlingin catalogue, 1940)



**Figure 3 – 'α, γ, or δ' ?**  
(Gailly, 1945)

It is quite apparent that all identified and recorded examples are from pane  $\beta$  and that panes  $\alpha$ ,  $\gamma$ , and  $\delta$  had originally been created. But where are they now?

At this year's Study Circle meeting in Brussels, Leo Tavano passed to me photocopies of two, but clearly different, booklet panes – thus supporting the statement '**Nous connaissons 20 pièces**' *'Negro Guide, 1945'*. **Figure 2** is that of the  $\beta$  pane. However **figure 3** is of particular interest, as it is quite different and therefore, must be either the  $\alpha$ ,  $\gamma$ , or  $\delta$  pane.

**Figure 2** – Information from a variety of sources enables us to confirm that the 'split pane' is pane  $\beta$ .  
(Classified as  $\beta$  on the presumption that it is the 'centre' which has been inverted)

The following summarises the historical identification and movement of stamps making up pane  $\beta$ :

- i. The top left hand stamp (#1) is the one illustrated by Dufour. <sup>4</sup>
- ii. The top right hand pair (#2 and #4) must have been split subsequently, as the top right hand stamp (#2) was sold by 'Ivy Shreave & Mader (New York)' in 1992 <sup>2</sup>. Position #4 is that illustrated in Figure 1.
- iii. #3 complete with margin was sold at auction by Cherrystone, U.S.A. in about 1987-8.
- iv. #5 and 6 (**Figure 4**) was sold by Soeteman, June 1993.
- v. The bottom block of four, #7-10 was sold by Amphilex – Behr in 1996.



Figure 4

Figure 3 – Pane ??? (Negro Guide, Gailly catalogue, 1945)

From this reproduction of the only known illustration, it will be quite apparent that it is not possible to identify what it is other than *it is not  $\beta$  and must be either  $\alpha$ ,  $\gamma$ , or  $\delta$ .*

Figure 5 – reference to this perforation comparison between the known  $\beta$  pane and the unknown ‘Negro Guide’ pane, will convince you!

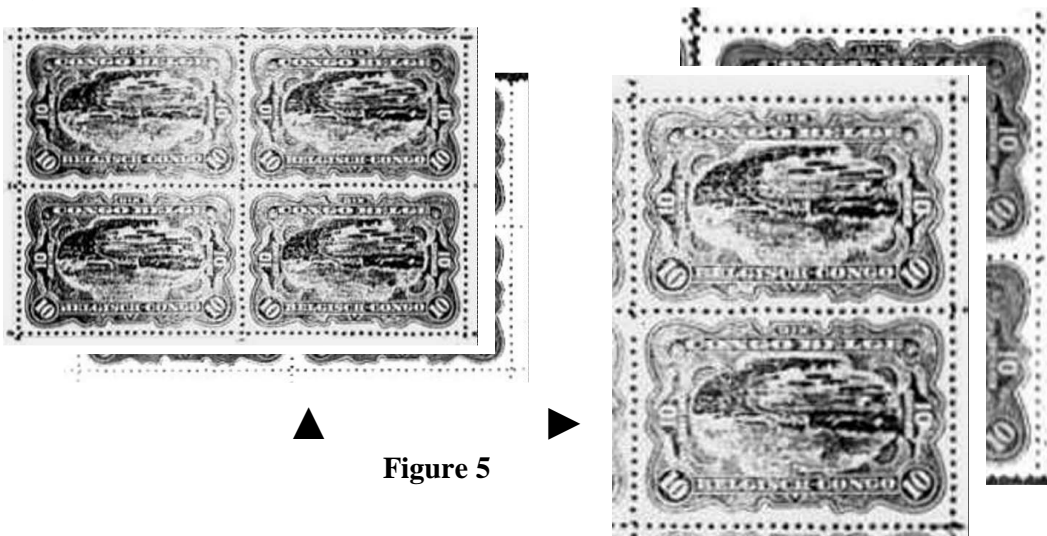


Figure 5

**Question:**

*Does anyone know the whereabouts of the unallocated pane or either of the other two?*

*As Leo Tavano has suggested to me – ‘it is possible that when this issue was demonetised 31 December 1921, the other two panes were destroyed when the remainder of the stock was withdrawn!’*

1. Hudson, B.C.S.C. #87
2. Hirdler, B.C.S.C. #88
3. Jacqueman, B.C.S.C. #89
4. Dufour,  
Congo Cinquante ans d’histoire Postale

#1 Du Four Illustrated p.226	#2 Ivy Shreave and Mader N.Y. 1992
#3 Cherrystone, U.S.A. 1987-1988	#4 Soeteman/Balasse April 1997
#5 Soeteman, June 1993 (in pair with #6)	#6 Soeteman, June 1993 (in pair with #5)
#7 Amphilex, Behr 1996, Sold as a block of 4 in conjunction with #8, 9 and 10	#8 Amphilex, Behr 1996
#9 Amphilex, Behr 1996	#10 Amphilex, Behr 1996



## World War II censorship New Discoveries

By – Emile Hoorens



Figure 1.

*It is remarkable that two previously unrecorded 'censorship tapes' are discovered after more than 60 years. But that is what we have here!*

### British 'Army Form 3077'

The first discovery is illustrated in **figures 1 and 2** on an 'Airmail letter card' sent in 1942 from Nigeria to the Belgian Congo. The circular despatch cancellation is unclear but should read 'POST MILITAIRE CONGO BELGE N°4'.

On the reverse is a Leopoldville arrival mark and as additionally illustrated in **figure 3** – 'POST MILITAIRE' 30.IX.42 – 9.00 'CONGO BELGE 1' of the Congolese inspector.



Figure 2



Figure 3

◀ N°1

This lettercard is exceptional because the censorship tape was until now, known on only one other cover.

**Q** *We now know of two examples – but who has the others?*

## Belgian Pilot serving in the South African Air force

The second cover was sent on 26 June 1943 to Jadotville by Lt. Brichard, a Belgian Pilot serving in the 12<sup>th</sup> Bomber Squadron of the South African Air force.

**Figure 4.** The censorship tape is exceptional and the only known example at the present time. It is printed on white paper with the Force's coat of arms positioned between 'FORCE PUBLIQUE' and 'CENSURE MILITAIRE'.



figure 4

**Figure 5.** The cover is cancelled by a South African military cancellation – **M.P.K. – A.P.O.** and the boxed 'R.A.F. CENSOR 905' was applied by Lt. Brichard himself.

It additionally carries the double circle/central crown violet cachet – **DEPUTY CHIEF FIELD CENSOR**. The letter arrived in Elisabethville on 19<sup>th</sup> July 1943.



X-X-X-X-X-X-X-X-X-X-X

## World War II – German Censorship of Belgian Congo Mail

By – Tony Brooks <sup>[1]</sup>

### Preface

*In Bulletin 139 we published a response from the editor of the 'Civil Censorship Study Group' in answer to Emile Hoorens enquiry about the cachet 'Acheminement impossible'. Accompanying that information was a separate but subject related article by Tony Brooks of Indianapolis, U.S.A. With his and the Civil Censorship Study Group editor's approval, the following will be of interest to all involved in 'World War II censorship'.*

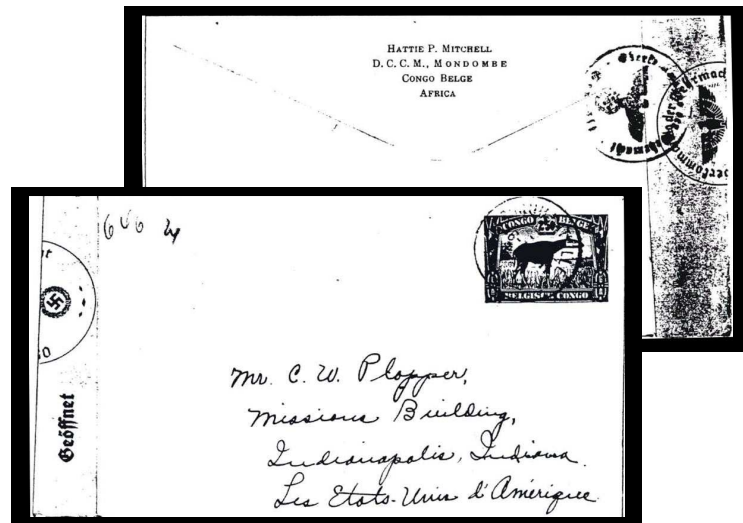
The author has seen numerous articles and at least one book in German on the subject of confiscated or impounded mail during wartime. The Germans call this mail 'Überroller' (literally 'rolled over') and

the term is usually applied to mail posted under one regime, then overtaken by events so that it was delivered under a different regime; typically as the Allied or Russian forces advanced across Germany in 1945.

Illustrated is a private surface rate cover from the Congo to U.S.A. It was postmarked at Coquilhatville on 16 April 1940 but the return address on the flap is 'D.C.C.M., Mondombe'. That town is 325 miles (525 km) ESE of Coquilhatville, on a tributary of the River Congo. There is no evidence of this item being subject to any form of examination in the Congo, which is not surprising, as censorship was not introduced until a decree of 17 May 1940 – a month after the letter was posted.

This letter was intercepted and censored by the Germans. The German examination stamp and re-sealing tape are those associated with the *Foreign Letter Examination Office* of Köln (Cologne), code 'C', which had the responsibility for the Netherlands, Belgium, Luxembourg and Northern France. The 'red' handstamp (Riemer type C-2) is reported used as from February to April 1940, and the tape (Riemer type C-51) from February to June 1940.

It appears therefore that the correspondence was sent by sea to Belgium for onward transmission to the U.S.A. A 1939 British Post Office Guide indicated that surface mail from Britain to Boma was expected to take 17-23 days, so it would seem a reasonable assumption that this item would have taken about three weeks to reach Antwerp, plus a few days to get it from Coquilhatville to Boma and the coast.



Therefore with Germany invading Belgium on 10 May 1940, it is likely that this letter was trapped in Antwerp while awaiting onward shipping to the U.S.A.

If this supposition is correct, it appears that the cover would be a Belgian 'Überroller'. One can speculate on its further travels but there are no markings to provide any clues.

- i) Can it be assumed that it was taken in bulk along with other mail to Köln for censorship or did staff go out to invaded territories to deal with mail?
- ii) Where would this letter have been loaded on to a trans-Atlantic steamer?

In May 1940 an overland route to Lisbon would not have been available as France did not capitulate until 22 June and therefore, assuming the letter was dealt with fairly promptly, it seems more likely that it was sent to Genoa for loading on a trans-Atlantic ship.

*Comments from members would be most welcome and these should be addressed to the editor for onward communication.*

**1. First published in C.C.S.G. Bulletin, October 2001.**



Foreign Censor Marks - continued

**Northern and Southern Rhodesia**

By – Walter Deijnckens

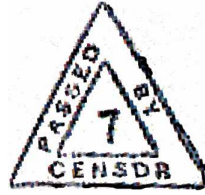


Figure 1



Figure 2

The following summarises the findings and observations of the article previously published in Bulletin 139 including updates subsequently received.

**Conclusions**

*Northern Rhodesia –*

- i) Used British style octagonal censor marks with the letter **O**. These have also been seen, further endorsed with numbers 4 & 5. Other censor numbers may exist but are not presently known.
- ii) Figure 1. Black, Blue and Red ‘two line triangle’ mark with printed censor numbers 5, 7 and 8 have been recorded but the ‘2 parallel lines’ are often not clearly defined and fuse into one. According to John Little “*triangles of this size exist with numbers 2 to 8*” (though this may not be the case on Congo originating mail - Ed.)
- iii) The censor Labels were coded with the letter **O**.

*Southern Rhodesia –*

- i) Used British style octagonal censor marks with the letter **DE**. These are recorded with numbers 19 and 29. Other censor numbers may exist but are not presently known.
- ii) Figure 2. A ‘single line triangle’ mark incorporating the country’s name and with printed censor numbers 1, 4 and 10 have been recorded.

**Nyasaland**

It is only possible to report the existence of one censor mark and one label from this country. The information has been obtained from Jean Oth’s book on this topic and each is illustrated here as figures 1 and 2.

Figure 3. Outer diameter 34mm  
Inner diameter 31mm

Figure 4. **OPENED BY CENSOR**  
measures 52mm.

No other information is available.



Figure 3.

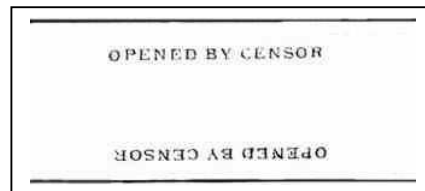
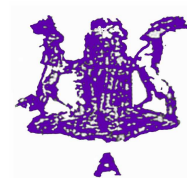


Figure 4.



## South Africa

Of all the countries studied in this series, South Africa understandably features most commonly and the summary that follows is based on the examination of 68 individual covers. As a generalisation, the vast majority of letters have been opened and then sealed using one of several *similar in style*, labels. Usually, though not always, these have been over-stamped with a '2 Gazelles' censor handstamp – typically as illustrated in Figure 5. These vary in colour, typically violet, rose and shades of vermilion through to magenta. Occasionally, manuscript censor initials or numbers have also been added.



**Figure 5.**

The letter situated at the base of the '2 Gazelles' stamp indicates where the censor opened the correspondence - 'A' indicates Cape Town 'B' Johannesburg, 'C' Durban and 'F' Pretoria.



**Figure 6.**



**Figure 7.**



**Figure 8.**

### **Figures 5 and 6.**

<i>Mail routes</i>	<i>Period</i>	<i>Transit/Censorship</i>
Lusambo → U.S.A.	<b>April 1942</b>	(opened by Congo censor - #2 stamp)
Sandoa → U.S.A.	<b>June 1942</b>	(via. Dilolo)
Elisabethville → U.S.A. (x5 items)	<b>June 1942 → Aug. 1943</b>	(via. Elisabethville)
Tshikapa → U.S.A.	<b>July 1942</b>	
Bunia → U.S.A.	<b>Sept. 1942</b>	
Leopoldville → U.K.	<b>Sept. 1942.</b>	(via. Leopoldville)
Tshikapa → U.K.	<b>Oct. 1942.</b>	(via. Costermansville and Elisabethville)
Goma → East London, S. Africa.	<b>Dec. 1942.</b>	
Elisabethville → Clocolan, S. Africa. (x3)	<b>1942 → April 1943</b>	(Censure Militaire Troupes Coloniales)
Leopoldville → Woodstock, Cape.	<b>April 1943</b>	(via. Elisabethville)
Jadotville → U.S.A. (x6)	<b>Jan. → Oct. 1943</b>	( via. Elisabethville.)
Paulis → U.S.A.	<b>March 1943.</b>	(via. Elisabethville)
Luluabourg → Cape Town.	<b>Jan. 1945</b>	

**Recorded use:** April 1942 to January 1945

**Censor initialled:** (~30%) BG, BO, FF, JO, OG, RG, and '2' stamp. Several others are unreadable.

Correspondence opened by the Congolese in Elisabethville on 5 items only.

Note: Cape Town also used codes E, M, P and R, but none of these have been seen on correspondence originating from the Belgian Congo.

### **Figure 7.**

### **Code 'B' Transit and censorship – Johannesburg**

<i>Mail routes</i>	<i>Period</i>	<i>Transit</i>
Elisabethville → Johannesburg.	<b>Not known</b>	
Paulis → Johannesburg.	<b>November 1943</b>	(via. Elisabethville)
Matadi → Lisbon.	<b>May 1944</b>	(via. Leopoldville)
Lusambo → Johannesburg.	<b>July 1943</b>	(via. Elisabethville)
Kamina → Somerset West, Cape.	<b>October 1943</b>	(via. Elisabethville)

**Recorded use:** July 1943 to May 1944  
**Censor initialled by numeral:** #47 (applied in Leopoldville)

**Figure 7.**      **Code 'C'**      **Censorship – Durban**

<b>Mail routes</b>	<b>Period</b>	<b>Transit</b>
Elisabethville → Durban.	December 1942	

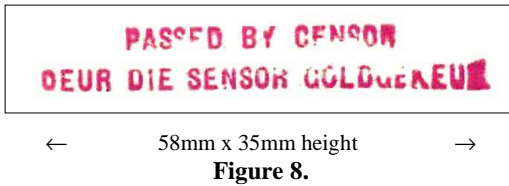
**Code 'F'**      **Censorship - Pretoria**

Only one example of the ‘2 Gazelles’ censor hand-stamp with the code letter ‘F’ has been seen as part of this study, being that on an internal letter from Elisabethville to Pretoria in February 1944. Censors in Elisabethville had also opened this letter.

.....

**Figure 8.** Only 4 items of mail bear the ‘PASSED BY CENSOR / DEUR DIE SENSOR GOEDGEKEUR’ hand-stamp of which 2 were postcards.

**Examples seen:** 4  
**Mail originating from:** Elisabethville (2),  
 Jadotville (2).  
**Addressed to:** U.S.A. (4)  
**Censored:** 2-line stamp as figure 4.  
**Usage:** November 1941 – April 1943.



**Figure 8.**

.....



**Figure 9.**

**Figure 9** illustrates a typical cover of the time and ‘label type’ to be documented here. To summarise:

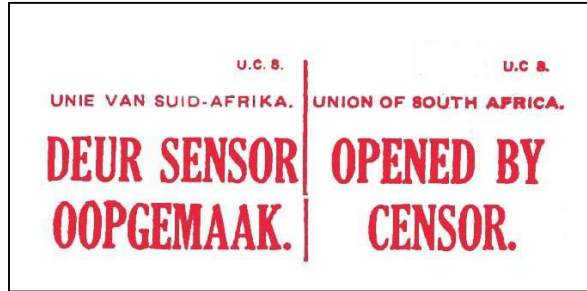
- i) It is a letter from the Belgian Congo to South Africa.
- ii) There is no indication of censorship internally in the Congo.
- iii) It was opened and resealed using a small label (*Type S3/1 – see below*) by an examiner using the ‘Code A’ canceller of ‘Cape Town’.
- iv) The censor also initialled the label with a manuscript **FF**

**Censor Labels – all officially classified as ‘U.C. 8.’**

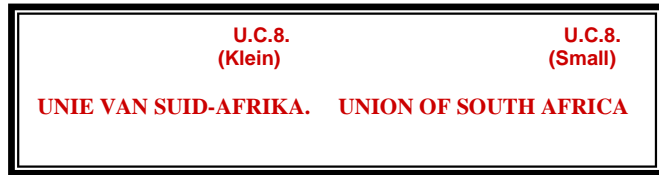
The various ‘Type style’ of label is a particular feature of South African censorship. We have seen 7 distinguishable types, to which a **Type number** is being given. These ‘Types’ are arbitrary and will only coincidentally coincide with any other published data on this topic, but they have all been classified so that any future additions can be added. All use red lettering and this varies in shade. However the majority of examples supplied by members were black and white photocopies and the reproductions in red are only approximate to the original shade. It is not therefore possible to be specific in describing the colour precisely.

**Type U2/#1. ‘No ref to label size, 2 lines of instructional text’**

‘OPENED BY CENSOR’ Letter height 7.25mm  
**Examples seen: 3**  
 Usage: 1940 → 1941 in Cape Town



**Type ‘U2/#1’**



**Type S2/#1. ‘Small, 2 lines of instructional text’**

Letter height ‘OPENED BY CENSOR’ = 7.25mm  
**Examples seen: 15**  
 Usage date: July 1940 → March 1942  
 Several examples used in Cape Town  
 No examples identifiable as Johannesburg



**Type S2/#1**

**Type S3/#1. Small, 3 lines of instructional text’**

Letter height ‘OPENED BY CENSOR’ = 7.25mm  
**Examples seen: 12**  
 Usage date: March 1942 → October 1943



**Type S3/#1**

**Type S3/#2. Small, 3 lines of instructional text'**

Letter height 'OPENED BY CENSOR' = 4.75mm

**Examples seen:** 1

Usage date: March 1945

Route: Elisabethville → Sweden



**Type S3/#2**

**Type M2/#1. 'Medium, 2 lines of instructional text'**

Letter height 'OPENED BY CENSOR' = 7.25mm

**Examples seen:** 3

Usage date: 1945

Used in Cape Town and Johannesburg



**Type M2/#1**

**Type L2/#1. Large, 2 lines of instructional text'**

Letter height 'OPENED BY CENSOR' = 7.25mm

**Examples seen:** 19

Usage date: April 1941 → Aug. 1943

Used in Cape Town mostly



**Type L2/#1**

**Type L3/#1. 'Large, 3 lines of instructional text'**

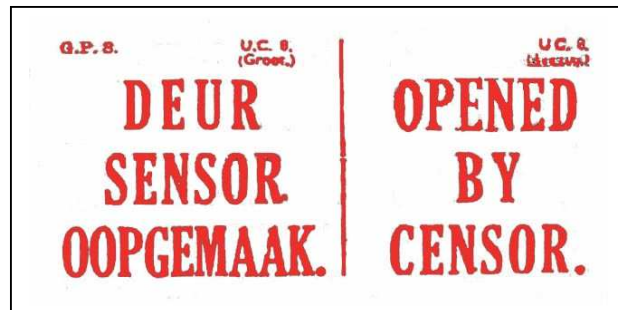
Letter height 'OPENED BY CENSOR' = 7.25mm

**Examples seen:** 3

Usage date: Oct. 1943 → April 1944

Used in Cape Town, Johannesburg and Pretoria.

Letter height 'OPENED BY CENSOR' = 7.25mm



**Type L3/#1**

In preparing the article the author acknowledges the information and assistance provided by Emile Hoorens, Hal Hoyte, Alan Morvay, G. Ken Nicholls, Jean Oth, Stuart Smith and Michael Wright.

**From the editor**

In the event that a recognised classification system of the South African labels is already in use, the editor will be happy to reclassify the above accordingly, and publish an amendment in a future Bulletin.



## Elisabethville Cancellers during the 'Independent Katanga' period

By – Gerrit Huybregts

### Preface

*Heim and Keach* <sup>[1]</sup> states that 1961 cancellations of both offices have been seen, but further information is lacking.

*Emile Hoorens and others* have previously published a good general overview of the cancels used <sup>[2]</sup>  
In this article I will elaborate and provide some more information.

'Type' descriptions and references are in accordance with those used by Heim and Keach. <sup>[1]</sup>

### *Elisabethstad/Elisabethville – Type 12B, with numbers 7 and 8.*

**Figure 1.** Cancellor Type 12B, (bilingual Elisabethville /Elisabethstad, numbered with serial letter)

I have found this with numbers 7 and 8 (illustrated) and serial letters 'A' and 'B' for each.. These numbers have not previously been documented and the most obvious hypothesis is that, just like the cancels 1 to 6 - they were allocated to and used in two new post offices.

The last published list of post offices in Belgian Congo (Ordonnance 69/418 of 24.8.1959) mentions number '6' office as being the last one opened - 2nd March 1959. However none of the official publications on postal organisation, in *Moniteur Katangais*, mentions the opening of new offices in the city - not even the new complete list of 31 July 1961.



Figure 1.

The cancels seem to have been used for a limited period. I have found the number '7' cancel with dates ranging from 13 April to 29 May 1961 and number '8' with dates ranging from 1 April to 7 July 1961. If these dates give a realistic idea of the period the offices were open, this could explain why decree 80/240 of 31<sup>st</sup> July 1961 in *Moniteur Kantagais* does not mention them, since they would already have been closed.

However, when comparing against those in my collection, the published dates of use of the 'Elisabethville /Elisabethstad 1' office canceller types 12B and 12C, - I found examples with dates up to the end of March 1961, but not later. That is not to say that all cancels from the colonial period disappeared from post office 'No.1'.

**Figure 2.** Type 12E was used after 1 April 1961 though sporadically, but most of the 'No.1' office colonial period cancels seem to disappear after the end of March 1961. Type 12B cancellers continued in use by the other post offices in Elisabethville /Elisabethstad.



Figure 2

Number '7' and '8' office cancels seem to disappear when the new 'Katanga State' cancellers were introduced. The earliest of these I have seen, is the 'Elisabethville 1 D4' dated 2 August 1961. Piecing all this together, it could mean that 'Type 12B and 12 C' cancellers for 'Elisabethville /Elisabethstad 1' were used to about the end of March 1961, when they were replaced by Elisabethville numbers 7 and 8 until early August 1961. These were then replaced by the new 'Katanga State' marks for 'Elisabethville 1.'

In this hypothesis the 'Elisabethville /Elisabethstad 7 and 8' marks do not correspond to new post offices. It is possible that they were kept at the 'Central Post Office' for future use, but of course they may have replaced cancellers from the colonial period, awaiting the arrival and full use of the new Katanga marks.

The above observations are based on my own collection, but that has of course its limitations. The following questions arise:

- Is there any evidence for the existence of post offices '7 and 8' in addition to the existence of cancels?
- Are there examples of registered letters with cancels 7 and 8? The labels on these letters could be of interest.
- Are the '7 and 8' cancels found on incoming mail?
- Can other collectors confirm or add to the dates mentioned?

#### Elisabethstad/Elisabethville – Type 12C (variant)

**Figure 3** There is also a variant of the *Type 12C* canceller. It has no post office number and bears the city names in French and Dutch, separated by stars.

It will also be noted that whilst the normal *Type 12C* canceller bears the post office number under the middle of 'Elisabethville' - in this variant, a letter has replaced the number. There is no indication of the actual post office, but it is supposed it was used in the '1' office. I have deduced this from a postal document with this 'variant cancel' incorporating the letter 'B', dated 9 December 1964. The document confirms the issuing post office as 'Elisabethville 1'.

The earliest example I found of this 'variant canceller' was dated 30 December 1960.

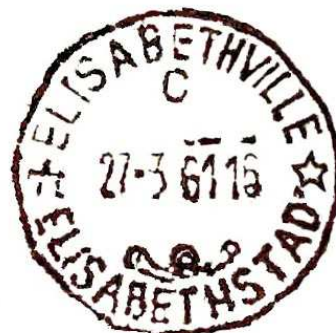


Figure 3.

### Elisabethville 1 – Type D5

During 1961 the new ‘Katanga State’ cancellers came into use. They are circular, using only the French name ‘Elisabethville 1’, on each side a little cross and at the bottom a letter ‘D’ supplemented with a numeral. Types ‘D1 to D6’ are known and ‘D5’ cancellation seems to be the least common. George Celis<sup>[3]</sup> wrote that ‘D5’ is almost exclusively known on documents where it was applied by favour. I have only seen three letters with this cancel, all on ‘tax due’ mail.

**Figure 4.** The first is a letter, sent without postage stamps, from Kolwezi to Elisabethville. It is taxed at 7 francs using two 3,5fr stamps of the ‘Katanga Art’ series. These were cancelled using the ‘Elisabethville 1 D5’ type mark. I have also found a second taxed internal letter with the D5 cancel.



**Figure 4.**

**Figure 5** illustrates part of a taxed letter arriving from France. The letter arrived May 1963 at a time when the entire ‘Congo State’ had already been restored. It too is taxed using a Belgian Congo ‘Postage due stamp’ and cancelled using the ‘D5’ canceller.



**Figure 5.**



## Type - Elisabethville 1 'A'



Figure 6

**Figure 6.** As well as the 'Elisabethville 1, D1 to D6' cancels, I have also found an 'Elisabethville 1, A' cancel where the letter 'A' is used instead of 'D'. The canceller has been used on a commercial letter 8 August 1961, which according to the time schedule described above, would be in the early period of the new 'Katanga State' cancels. George Celis mentions the use of letters 'A' and 'B' in his book, but only in relation to the period after the end of *Katanga's* independence.

Apparently the 'A' cancel was already used during the 'Katanga State' period, but only rarely. In view of Celis comments, this means that there might also have been a 'B' cancel during this period.

*I invite members to look again at their collections and see if you can contribute further to the ever evolving source of new information about these cancellers and post offices.*

*From the Editor's collection.*

### Type 12B – #1 serial 'Z'

#### Figure 7.

Whilst this topic is not one of my specific fields of study, and I have not familiarised myself with any previously published work - I did take a look at my own very modest collection of Katanga related material and can report with an example dated January 1961, of the *Elisabethville Type 12B*.- #1 serial 'Z'.



Figure 7.

1. A.I. Heim and R. H. Keach, *The cancellations of the normal post offices of Belgian Congo 1886-1960 and Ruanda-Urundi 1917-1962 including the telegraphic cancellations, third edition*
2. Emile Hoorens, *Histoire postale de l'état du Katanga 1960-1963*, 2001
3. Georges Celis, *La philatélie de transition*, 1983



**Cancellations of Normal Post Offices –  
Belgian Congo etc. Heim & Keach**

Addenda and Corrigenda

**Kabalo**

Canceller 7A2 (page 28)

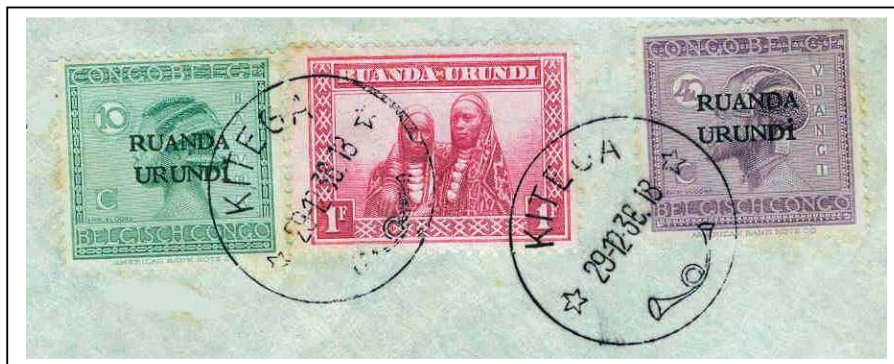
This canceller has been found in 'Blue'.



**Kitega – Ruanda Urundi**

Canceller 8A1-Dmyt (page 71)

The earliest date previously recorded for this canceller was 1937. It is now known to exist as of 29th December 1936.



X-X-X-X-X-X-X-X-X-X-X

*Subscription payments and other useful addresses*

<b>Belgium</b>	<b>U.K. &amp; Rest of World</b>	<b>U.S.A</b>
<p><i>Secretary, Treasurer and Bulletin Distributor</i> Emile R. Hoorens Ave., Eugène Ysaye, 105/1 1070 Brussels.</p>	<p><i>Secretary, Treasurer and Bulletin Distributor</i> Stuart S. Smith Lychgates, Pinfold Hill, Curbar-Calver, Hope Valley. S32 3YL</p>	<p><i>Secretary &amp; Treasurer</i> <b>** New address</b> David A. Schaubroeck PO Box 282 Harrisville Michigan 48740-0282</p>
<p><i>Expert Committee Chairman</i> Leo Tavano Rue Wazon 26, 4000 Liège.</p>	<p><i>Packet Secretary</i> W. Hal Hoyte 104 Willow Street, Oswestry, Shropshire Shropshire. SY11 1AL</p>	<p><i>Bulletin Distributor</i> Edwin M. Lavitt P.O.Box 900, Rockville, CT 0607</p>
<p><i>Packet Secretary</i> Charles Henuzet Place St.Roch 30, 5620 Saint Aubin.</p>		