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BULLETIN 157

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

As several subscriptions are still outstanding and I am still frequently asked how much is due and to whom should they be paid, I will again reproduce the prompt and advice.

Annual subscriptions - 2011

Subscriptions for 2011 remain unchanged as follows.

U.K.	£10	(£8 for those receiving the Bulletin, etc. by email)
Belgium	10€	
Other European	10€	
U.S.A.	\$20	(\$15 to those receiving the Bulletin, etc. by email)
Rest of the World	£12	(£8 to those receiving the Bulletin, etc. by email)

All 'Euro zone' membership subscriptions.

All 'Euro zone' membership subscriptions should be paid directly into the Study Circle's bank account:

Study Circle Bank account is with 'BNP Paribas Fortis'

IBAN BE51 0016 0051 5962

BIC GEBABEBB

U.S.A. membership subscriptions.

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

U.K. and Europe outside the "Euro zone" & 'Rest of World'.

'U.K'. and 'Rest of World' subscriptions can be made by electronic bank transfer in 'Pounds sterling' to:

Belgian Congo Study Account

Sort code: 11-01-26

Account: 00647356

Or by 'Paypal'

Note: 1. A 'foreign bank' transaction charge may be applied by your bank

2. Payments using 'Paypal' can and should be made personally to 'Charles Lloyd' at the email address stated below.

When using either of these methods, confirmation of your transfer is desirable. Confirm to the Treasurer - Charles Lloyd by email to:

Charles.lloyd@blueyonder.co.uk

Subscriptions paid by cheque drawn on a UK bank should be sent to:

Dr. Charles Lloyd

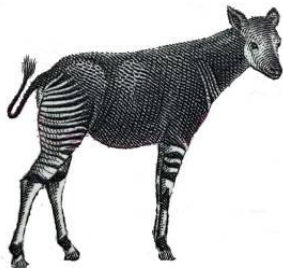
18 Linefield Road

Carnoustie. DD7 6DP

Scotland

As has been the practice, you can still send 'Pounds sterling' or 'Euro' banknotes by post to Charles Lloyd, the Treasurer.

From the Editor



Once again your editor is finding time available 'to do the job' somewhat difficult. I have no shortage of material for this issue, just a 'too many other commitments. I vow to put this right but apologise this time for a slightly late issue and limited content. It will be corrected in the next!

Serving also as 'Hon. General Secretary' is the main problem. It is interesting, keeps me in touch and by no means onerous – but does side track me on a regular basis and particularly when away from home. SO make no bones about it, ***I hereby give notice that I will/must hand over the 'Hon. Secretary' contribution of my time to some other member at***

the end of 2011. There is of course an alternative in that I remain as General Secretary and hand over the post of Bulletin Editor. However, I have enjoyed and continue to enjoy producing the bulletin and would prefer to continue in that role.

We have secretaries for the USA and Belgium and the role of the 'Hon. General Secretary' is simply to keep and update the membership change of personal details/addresses and push out any enquiries to those best able to deal with them. We need a volunteer who must have a computer and an ability to deal with the emails which come across ones desk. It is as simple and interesting as that; but I do believe this is a position which should ideally be filled by a U.K. based member.

On the occasion of our 60th anniversary and whilst no formal report on last months AGM is yet available - I would just summarise and say that the annual accounts were presented and approved and those provided by the Hon. Treasurer are published in this bulletin.

Whilst there is both a necessary and close relationship and exchange of information between Ludo Achten, the Belgian Treasurer who manages the auction finances and Charles Lloyd the *International* Hon. Treasurer, it is hoped that to explain the overall financial situation, a set of 'consolidated accounts' can also be made available.

Apart from some minor adjustments to *Officer* 'titles', all existing officers were re-elected and subscriptions for 2012 will again remain unchanged. These may have to be increased slightly for 2013.

Expertisation committee

The AGM approved that with immediate effect, the fees for 'Expertisation' are to be increased and your attention is drawn to them.

Items	Euro (€)		GBP (£)		USD (\$)	
	Previously	New	Previously	New	Previously	New
Single stamp	2.00	3.00	1.50	2.50	2.00	3.00
Block of 4 stamps	3.00	4.00	2.00	3.00	3.00	4.00
Postal Stationery	4.00	5.00	3.00	4.00	4.00	5.00
Cover	5.00	6.00	3.50	5.00	5.00	6.00

Auction administration

As a key function of the Study Circle and whilst already published in the last bulletin, I believe it useful to repeat again.

Auction administration

- * Lots and any scans of items for sale should be sent to our President:
 Thierry Frennet
 Rue la Rue, 17
 1420 Braine l' Alleud. Belgium
 E-mail: Hydro-services@skynet.be
- * The 'Auction list' will be prepared by Th. Frennet and Marc Oblin
- * Bids, as at present, should be sent to Philippe Lindekens (Details published on the list)
- * Lots will be sent to successful bidders by Charles Stockmans
- * Invoices, etc. will be sent out by Philippe Lindekens
- * Payments for lots acquired must be paid directly in to the club's bank account –
 IBAN: BE51 0016 0051 5962
 BIC: GEBABEBB

Any finance queries should be addressed to the 'Treasurer' and 'Finance Manager' – Ludo Achten.

Ludo Achten
 Luikersteenweg, 386
 3500 Hasselt. Belgium.
 E-mail: ludoachten@hotmail.com

Note - British and American members continue to pay by arrangement to their respective managers.

Belgian Congo Study Circle
Receipts and Payments Account
Year 2010

Income	Year to 28th Jan. 2010 £ sterling	Year to 28th Jan, 2011¹ £ sterling
Subscriptions received ²	343.70	434.21
Subscriptions in advance (currently for 2012 & beyond)	40.69	31.42
Transfer from BCSC account held at Brussels (2000€) ²	0.00	1661.48
Commission on BCSC auction sales ³ (Also, see Note 2)	0.00	0.00
Commission on BCSC (UK) packet sales ⁴	97.71	37.47
Books and document sales	29.56	0.00
Bank interest	<u>14.73</u>	<u>0.89</u>
Total Income	526.39	2165.47
Expenditure		
Bulletin & Auction List		
- UK & Rest of World – production & printing	126.00	195.94
- UK & Rest of World – distribution	63.55	68.62
- Production of index	19.70	0.00
Cost of sales and new book purchases	0.00	0.00
Annual Meeting:		
- AGM, including refreshments	635.73	395.24
- Officers expenses	262.71	316.55
Secretarial & Librarian – postage, stationery etc ⁵	83.46	218.29
Insurance	<u>119.75</u>	<u>119.75</u>
Total expenditure	1310.90	1311.39
Surplus (Deficit)	(784.51)	854.08
Balance on hand at the start of the period ⁶	695.11	1449.19

I certify that the "Receipts and Payments Account" is a complete account of all transactions for the year ending 28th January 2011

Charles H Lloyd
Honorary Treasurer

Notes to the accounts

1. The accounting year for 2009 ended on 28th January 2010. For consistency the accounting year for 2010 ended on the 29th January 2011.
2. Belgian and American subscriptions are banked in Belgium and the USA, respectively. These funds are used for the printing and distributing the Bulletin in these two countries and any surpluses are transferred periodically to the main (international) account. 2000€ was received from Belgium in 2010. Given the amount, this may be a composite of the unused part of subscriptions and auction profits
3. The BCSC auction account is held in Belgium. No specific auction transfer was recorded in 2010. However, auction profits are likely to be part of the 2000€ transfer
4. A packet circulates within the UK.
5. To simplify accounting, some stationery items previously attributed to production of the Bulletin are now added to the costs incurred by the Hon. Secretary.
6. Other balances held on deposit at 31st December 2010
 - in Belgium Not recorded. This will be presented at the AGM
 - in USA \$1323. (= £853) [in 2009 \$1035 (= £638)]

Kikondja - 1922

Walter Deijnckens has sent this postally interesting card cancelled at Kikondja with the TDMY type 1 mark.

According to the Heim-Keach 'Cancellations' book, it is known that there were 5 different settings and the office closed in April 1922. At that time, the canceller was transferred to and used at a new post office in Kaballa until 1924.

This particular configured format is apparently not included in the Heim-Keach listing.



Addenda - 'The Cancellations of Normal Post Offices, etc. Heim & Keach.'

Question – In anticipation that this work will once again be reprinted and updated, is any member recording and documenting the updates that regularly appear in the Bulletin?

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

The Elusive F.P.O. 11 Mark

Regis Hoffman

F. P. O. No. 11

DAR-ES-SALAAM.

The two-line 'F.P.O. No. 11 DAR-ES-SALAAM' mark is quite elusive. In 25+ years of collecting World War I East Africa, I had seen but a few copies at auction, but never was able to acquire one until recently. The front of the cover is illustrated in Error! Reference source not found. and reverse in figure 2.

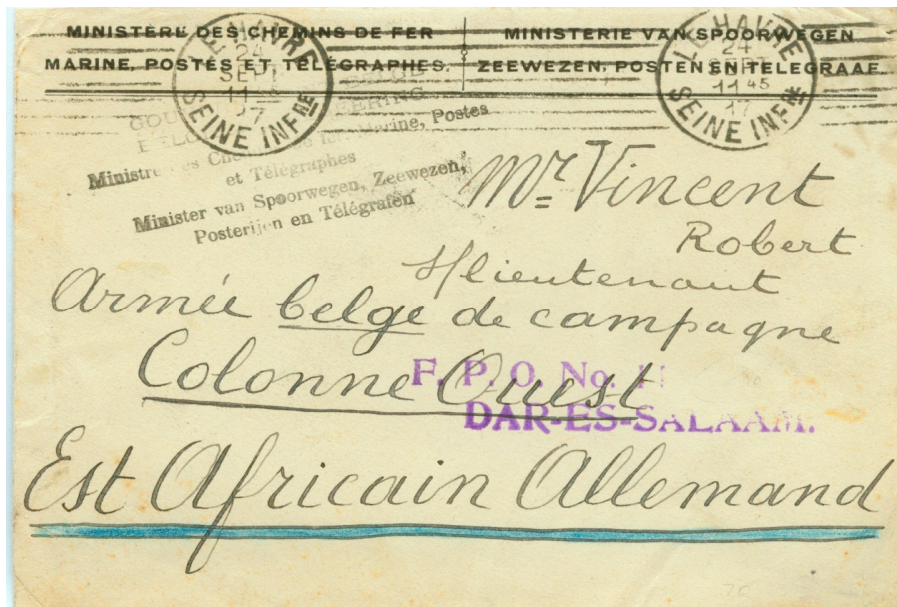


Figure 1.

The major source of information about this mark is found in two sources. Pennycuick ^[1] was the first more modern work to describe it. As a testament to its scarcity, his article mentions having seen the mark illustrated, but not actually possessing a copy. Several major sales of World War I East Africa mail, including the Pennycuick ^[2] sale, the Alan J. Brown sale of military postal history ^[3], and a sale of Belgian Congo ^[4] did not have any examples.

An in-depth discussion of this mark is found in Coulton's article ^[5]

He lists four recorded examples of the mark and in a personal communication with the author, has confirmed having not recorded any other examples - so this is the fifth. Paraphrasing from his article, the recorded examples are:

1. Cover addressed to the Postmaster at BPCVPK No. 1 endorsed 'F.M.' (Forces Militaire), and 'Via Mombasa'.
2. De Graeve ^[6] illustrates an inward cover, originating at British FPO H15 in Europe, addressed to Captain Weber, Belgian Troops, Dodoma, 'via Dar-es-Salam' and mailed 27 October 1917.
3. Frenay ^[7] illustrates an inward cover from France addressed to Cpt. Cdt. Georges DuPont.
4. Du Four ^[8] records a postcard from France to German East Africa.



Figure 2. Back of cover

The cover itself bears an intriguing array of cancels and markings.

A cachet on the upper left of the front – can a member identify it?

Mombasa, December 1917

9 December 1917. Indian F.P.O. #24, Kilindini, Kenya. - Figure 3.

30 December 1917. Belgian F.P.O. #11 (Pennycuick lists this as Gottorp) - Figure 5.

1 January 1918. Belgian F.P.O. #15 (Kilossa) - Figure 6.

25 December 1917. Kigoma military censor. - Figure 7.

This mark too is relatively scarce. I have seen fewer than ten examples.



Figure 3.

**F. P. O. No.11
DAR-ES-SALAAM.**

Figure 4.



Figure 5



Figure 6

Censure Militaire
Kigoma, le/...../.....
Le censeur,

Figure 7.

The illustrations are not sized to scale – Ed.

Coulton postulates that the straight-line F.P.O. #11 was a cachet applied at Mombasa to sort incoming mail destined for the Belgian Forces. He writes:

An initial mail sort would have to take place in Mombasa, as only a certain proportion would need to go on to Dar es Salaam, the rest traveling inland on the Uganda railway. If mail for forwarding to Dar es Salaam was being bagged in Mombasa it would seem sensible at that point to keep the Belgian and British mail separate, bag up the Belgian mail (identifiable by this cachet) and forward it to the Belgian Base via the India Base Post Office at Dar es Salaam.”

References

1. Pennycuick K. The War in East Africa (1914-18); 1968.
2. Phillips. Dr. Kenneth Pennycuick Collection of Mail from the Western Campaign of the 1914-18 War in East Africa. London: Phillips; 1988.
3. Cavendish. Alan J. Brown Collection of Military Postal History. Derby, England: Cavendish Philatelic Auctions; 1996.
4. Christie's Robson Lowe. Europe and Colonies. Zurich: Christie's Robson Lowe; 1987.
5. Coulton E. Belgian F.P.O. No. 11. Bulletin of the East Africa Study Circle. 1999:413-417.
6. de Graeve D. Historique de l'Employai des Marques de Censure, Pendant la Campagne de l'Afrique Orientale Allemande 1914-1918. Balasse Magazine. 1975.
7. Frenay J. Les Poste Militaires Belges Dans l'Est Africain Allemande Pendant la Guerre 14-18.
8. Du Four G. The East African Campaign. The Philatelist. 1954; 20(6).

'Belgian' and 'French' Congo - Postal Relationships

Philippe Lindekens

Part 2. *Postal routes continued*

- Manuscript directed

France via Matadi and Anvers

France
Via Matadi Anvers

Figure 12. The cover illustrated was posted in Libreville on 9 October 1900 and identifies France as its final destination. It is manuscript directed “Via Matadi to Anvers” and there were two possibilities

The C.M.B. paquebot ‘Stanleyville’ was scheduled to leave Matadi on 31 October 1900 and arrive in Anvers on 19 November

The French Paquebot ‘Ville de Maceio’ was due to leave Matadi on 21 October and arrive in Bordeaux on 21



Figure 12.

It arrived at Plombières-les-Bains on the 22 November and with no Anvers transit marks it is presumed it was conveyed on the French boat.

France via Matadi and Lisbon

Via Matadi Lisbon

Figure 13.

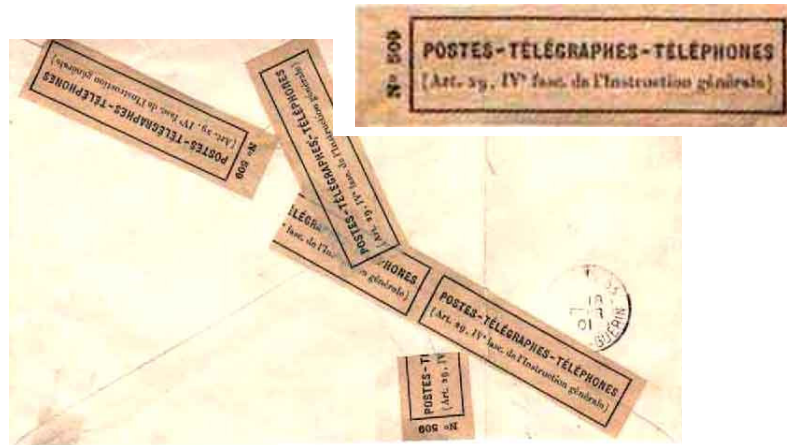
Here we have a French colonial registered cover originating from Brazzaville on 19 January 1901 and directed via Matadi and Lisbon. Once again there were two options available
Use of the CMB Paquebot ‘Albertville (2)’ due to sail from Matadi on 28 January or
Use of the next available Portuguese vessel.



Figure 13.

Interestingly a member of staff at the Brazzaville office must have initially had doubts about the validity of the 25 c. registration fee if the letter was to be directed via a ‘foreign’ country. Apparently all was in order and the pen applied ‘crossed out strike’ of the registered stamp was reinstated by the application of a second boxed ‘R’ mark.

Further more it appears that the envelope seal either failed in transit or was inappropriately opened. We will never know but do know that it was resealed in Paris on 18 February.



Germany via Bordeaux

via Bordeaux. S.S. Ville de Matadi.

Figure 14.

A postal stationery card written and posted in Matadi 2 May 1897 to Ottensen in Germany where it arrived 28 May.

It was directed “via Bordeaux” and consequently carried by a local steamship to Libreville to catch the “Ville de Maceio” paquebot which sailed the following day to Bordeaux where it arrived on 26 May.



Figure 14.

It is worth noting that the first available Belgian ship wasn't due for Europe until the following month, 2 June!

Belgium via Bordeaux

via Bordeaux

Figure 15 is an illustrated card dated 31 August 1897 from Matadi to Schaerbeek where it arrived during October.

The writer requested/directed that it should travel via Bordeaux and the card would have been carried by a small local vessel to Libreville where it arrived on 6 September to connect with the French Paquebot ‘Ville de Pernambuco’. The ship sailed the following day and the

correspondence bears the 'Loango a Bordeaux LL N°1' hexagonal cancel. It arrived at its destination on 30 September.

Along with most colonists, the writer would be familiar with sailing schedules and times, directing it by this route as the next Belgian Paquebot 'Albertville' was not due to sail until 8 September. However the choice was not quite the best option as it would have travelled quicker with fewer ports of call on the 'Albertville'!



Figure 15.

Belgium via Bordeaux

via Bordeaux

Figure 16. Here we have a Belgium originating card addressed to Matadi and unusually directed via Bordeaux. It was sent from Bassins, Antwerp on 29 June 1893 to Matadi; but it didn't arrive until 19 August! (Nearly 7 weeks)

Why it was directed via Bordeaux is anyone's guess. It was then conveyed using the 'Bordeaux a Loango' line and unloaded at Libreville on 14 August 1893 prior to onward local shipment to Matadi.



Figure 16.

Identifying the Mols plate combinations

Stuart Smith

In comparison with the four stamp values already reviewed in this series, the reader should find little difficulty in identification of the 40 centimes plate combinations. Brian Hudson's original work on this subject is acknowledged.

40 Centimes 'Canoe on River Kasai'

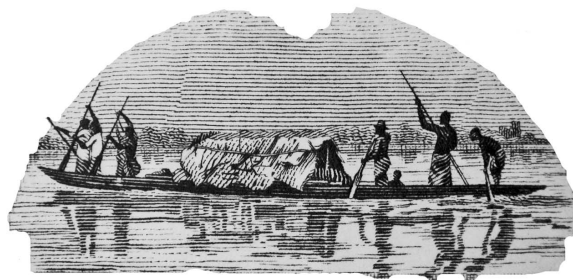


Plate combinations

COB	SG	Date of issue			
23	27	1896	Blue-green	I1+A1	Original frame and centre plate
			Pale green	I2+A1	Frame lay marks added
			Blue-green		
58	64	1910	Blue-green	II+A2	New frame plate; centre lay marks added
68	74	1915	Lake-red	II+A2	New frame plate
				II+A3	Centre re-entered
76	82	1918	Red Cross	II+A3	
85	91	1921	Recuperation surcharge	II+A2	
97	103	1922	Malines surcharge	II+A2	
102	111	1922	Boma surcharge	II+A2	
132-3	141	1925	Colonial Campaign	III+B	New frame and centre plates

Unlike all other values, these were printed in sheets of 100

Identification

1896. Blue-green I1+A1 and I2+A1 [F.C. 16.3.98, 5.3.00, 16.7.01]

Frame plate 'I2' was formed by the addition of a vertical line between 7, 8, 12 and 13 and a dot between 37, 38, 42 and 43. I2+A1 cannot be differentiated from I1+A1 in other positions of the sheet.

Whilst the distinctive '*Pale green*' shade is associated with the early printings, I1+A1 has so far only been found in '*Blue-green*'. '*Pale green*' stamps that can be differentiated between 'I1' and 'I2' are all the latter. Therefore, it appears that the first printing of 'I1' was '*Blue-green*', followed by a printing in '*Pale green*' followed by a '*Blue-green*' printing of 'I2'. This latter made up the bulk of the 1896 issue and probably accounted for all stamps subsequently overprinted with CONGO BELGE.

CONGO BELGE overprints

As stated, all CONGO BELGE typo and hand overprints were applied to stamps from combination I2+A1 and the following have all been recorded.

Bruxelles hand overprint: B2 to B6.

Princes: B2 and B5

Local: L1 to L7

1910. II+A2 [F.C. 20.4.15]

The combination with a new frame plate design is self evident. Centre plate *vertical line lay marks* between 7 and 8 and a dot between 37 and 38 were added to create 'A2'.

1915. II+A2 [F.C.20.4.15] and II+A3 [20.8.15, 28.11.16]

To form 'A3' the centre was re-entered with a retouched die. In 'A2' there is a white gap (a hole!) on the side of the canoe under the second group of natives; in 'A3' this has been filled in (repaired!).



Centre 'A2'



Centre 'A3'

Another and most useful centre plate variety is found in the reflection of the canoe's prow. If the outline of this reflection is uneven, with the fourth line down shorter than the third and fifth, according to Hudson "*the stamp comes from the first three rows, i.e. positions 1 to 15. If the outline is even, it comes from rows 7 to 10 – that is positions 16 to 50.*"



Centre 'A3' [Row 2, #10]



Centre 'A3' [Row 3, #15]



Centre 'A3' [Row 4, #20#]

Since Hudson's original paper, a further scrutiny of the sheets confirms that 'position 15' was also re-entered and whilst the reflection is not quite as neatly defined as the others, this should be added to the list which now reads 'positions 15 to 50'.

Hudson also commented that most positions of 'A3' show scattered corrosion in the water below the canoe. I would advise caution on this observation as in my opinion the corrosion began to occur with the first 1915 'A2' printings. Should the area of 'the hole' be masked by a cancellation, allocation to 'A3' because of the presence of "scattered corrosion dots" could be misguided.

1918 'Red Cross'. II+A3 [F.C. 27.12.17]

