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

Notice: Annual Subscription (US term Dues) – 2025

Subscription rates remain unchanged for the year 2025, these being:

Region	Subscription
Belgium	18€ (18€ for those who receive the Bulletin, etc. by e-mail)
UK	£20 (£15 for those who receive the Bulletin, etc. by e-mail)
Other European countries	24€ (18€ for those who receive the Bulletin, etc. by e-mail)
USA	\$29 (\$20 for those who receive the Bulletin, etc. by e-mail)
Rest of the World	30€ (18€ for those who receive the Bulletin, etc. by e-mail)

Payment is due on 1st January 2025. Individual notifications are not sent. Please take this notice as the invitation to renew your BCSC membership for 2025.

How to pay

All members:

1. by direct payment into the Study Circle's bank account with the "CBC":
IBAN BE15 7320 7837 3930
BIC CREGBEBB

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

- or 2. by PayPal to belgiancongostudycircle@hotmail.com

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

Members living in the UK have two other options:

1. by electronic bank transfer to our account with the 'T.S.Bank Ltd.'
Bank Sort Code: 87-68-23
Account Name: "Belgian Congo Study Account"
Account No: 78375760
IBAN GB30 TSBS 8768 2378
3757 60 BIC TSBSGB21013

- or 2. by a cheque drawn on a UK bank, payable to "Belgian Congo Study Account" and sent by post to the BCSC Secretary, Charles Lloyd at 18 Linefield Road, Carnoustie, Angus DD7 6DP, Scotland, U.K. (He will deposit it in the TSB account.)

NOTES:

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

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

Membership News

Notices of deaths

It is sad that we report the deaths of two of our Belgian members. We offer our sincere condolences:

Lucien Janssens

Marc Van Daele

Michel Lemaire

AGM MARCH 2025

**RESERVE THE DATE SATURDAY 22 MARCH AT
WATERLOO
HISTORIC SITE OF THE 1815 BATTLE**

Calling Notice:

Annual General Meeting of the Belgian Congo Study Circle

It is with great pleasure that the committee of the Belgian Congo Study Circle invites you on Saturday 22 March 2025 to its AGM in a historic setting: the Ferme de Mont-Saint-Jean.



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

The AGM / Conference will be held on Saturday 22nd March 2025 at:
FERME MONT-SAINT-JEAN (1 km from the battlefield of 1815)

Chaussée de Charleroi 591, 1410 Waterloo

As early as 1219 the farm of Mont-Saint-Jean was mentioned in a charter of the Hospital of Saint-Jean-de-Jérusalem - hence its name - signed by Henry I of Brabant. In 1705, during the War of the Spanish Succession, the Duke of Marlborough seized it to prepare his army for attacking the French at Overijse.

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

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

Hotel Reservation :

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

Address: Route du Lion 367, 1410 Waterloo
(There is parking for cars at the Hotel)
Telephone: 00.32.2.387.01.60 e-mail: info@hotel1815.com

The programme will be:

- 09.30 to 10.30 Welcome (coffee/tea and pastries)
- 10.30 to 11.30 AGM Business meeting
- 11.30 to 12.30 Member's displays*
- 12.30 to 14.00 Mid-day meal†
- 14.00 to 17.30 Member's displays*
Open session (including over-run time for displays)
- 19.30 onwards. Informal evening meal.

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

If you are interested, you must reserve your place with Thierry Frennet
Please e-mail Thierry Frennet (thierry.frennet@fthsprl.be) if you are coming to the AGM and let him know, to ensure that the correct number of chairs are put out and the correct number of meals are ordered.

We hope to see many of you at our AGM!

**All reservation must made no later than 5th MARCH 2025
(including the evening dinner)**

All payment for AGM (welcome, mid-day meal) must be made to the BCSC account. The price is 40 €. (The price of the evening dinner is not included in this amount.) You will be informed of the price as soon as the menu is agreed. If you have any special dietary requirements (e.g. vegetarian), please inform Thierry.

- Mid-day meal: This will be a seated 3 course meal.
- Evening dinner : Please would all the members who wish to join us at an informal evening dinner let Thierry Frennet know by e-mail:
thierry.frennet@fthsprl.be
- Displays: If you want to present a display, please notify to the editor Charles Henuzet as soon as possible to enable him to add this to the programme.

DISPLAYS

By scanning album sheets intended for display and storing these scans on a memory stick as a Microsoft POWERPOINT (.PPT) or an Adobe ACROBAT (.PDF) file, a virtual display can be projected for you to show. Presenters should bring their sheets as well as their scanned files because all philatelists enjoy examining the actual stamps/covers!

During the Covid-19 pandemic when meeting in person was banned many philatelists acquired the skill to produce and give ZOOM displays. (i.e. virtual displays produced specifically for projection at a particular meeting. Such contributions are equally welcome and should be limited to 25 minutes. Once again, please bring your presentation on a memory stick.

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

We have about 4 hours for displays. At past AGMs we have been in the enviable position that more members wanted to display than there was time available! Please would members restrict their display time to a maximum of half an hour? (By doing this, I hope that everyone will be able to show their material.) If we have fewer than 8 members wanting to display, the time allowance for each will be increased.

The great advantage of projected presentations is being able to point out important features and give explanations to everyone at the same time. [The traditional practice, passing of sheets from member to member, can lead to a disconnection between hearing the information and seeing the relevant sheet

You will be aware that as part of the report on the AGM that is published in the Bulletin, short (about $\frac{2}{3}$ of a page in length) summaries of the presentations are

included. These enable members who cannot attend sharing the pleasure of viewing a summary of your excellent material. For this, we require the following information from each person who gives a display:

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

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

From the editor



We need to have a regular supply of articles for the Bulletin. Please, even if you have only one page, that will be a help to us. The survival of the Bulletin depends on the participation of all our members through their contributions to its pages. One of the reasons why the BCSC was

formed and the Bulletin created was to share our knowledge!

Don't be hesitant, you could be informing us of a new discovery the significance of which only another member will recognize. Don't forget that for the Circle to thrive, the bulletin must survive and this depends on the co-operative efforts of all members.

Thanks for your understanding.

The 1887 issue: a singular and unique issue¹

Laurent Bierny

By issuing several series of “Sunday strip stamps” between 1893 and 1914, Belgium broke new philatelic and social ground by giving senders the choice of whether or not to have their mail delivered on Sunday, depending on whether they affixed the whole stamp to the letter or detached the strip. The Independent State of the Congo (EIC) also set itself apart with its 1887 issue, which has a feature that makes it unique among philatelic issues worldwide.

While the first issue of the EIC, in 1886, was produced as a matter of urgency by using modified dies from the Belgian issues of 1875 and 1878, the second issue, in 1887, was the first truly African issue. It featured a three-quarter portrait of Leopold II in an oval surrounded by decorative elements such as the scepter, the symbol of the sovereign king's authority, and other African-inspired elements such as the coconut tree, the palm tree and the assegai. The design was created by Henri Hendrickx and the engraving by Albert Doms.

The design of the cartouches was inspired by the cartouches of the Greek stamp, the small head of Mercury, issued in 1886 and the first stamp from a foreign country to be printed by the Mechelen workshop.



The various denominations of the issue were all printed between 1887 and 1890 according to the following chronology:

- 50 centimes brown and 5 francs violet issued on 20 October 1887... deposited 1887
- 25 centimes blue issued on 1 March 1889..... deposited 1889
- 5 centimes green issued on 15 May 1889.....deposited 1889
- 10 centimes pink issued on 1st December 1889.....deposited 1889
- 10 francs ochre issued on 1st January 1891.....deposited 1890

In addition, and this is what makes this issue unique in world philatelic production, in 1890 the stamp workshop printed five different denominations, all of which were grey in colour: two denominations, the 50 centimes and the 5 francs, were used for postal purposes, while three other denominations, the 10, 25 and 50 francs, were not issued.

¹This article first appeared in “Cahier du Congo”. It has been translated into English and printed here with permission. We thank the Editor of Cahier du Congo.



50 c DÉPÔT 1890



5 F DÉPÔT 1890

(Collection Patrick Maselis)

The existence of the 10 francs grey is controversial as will be discussed further, below.

No postal administration has ever issued several postage stamps in the same colour for the same issue. To do so would have seriously disrupted the work of postal workers. However, there is one area of philately where this practice was commonplace, not only in Belgium but in most other countries: revenue stamps. If we look at the revenue stamps issued at that time and even later in a large number of countries, we can see that they are very often the same colour, whatever their value. So what is an exception for postage stamps seems to be the rule for revenue stamps.

For example, in Belgium, the 1884 issue of tax stamps for bills of exchange included a total of 37 blue stamps of different values (for payment in Belgium) and 37 red stamps (for payment abroad). Below are some of the stamps from this issue.



Fiscal stamps

So, although no text mentions this, it seems obvious to me that all the grey stamps in the 1887 issue were issued for tax purposes. This is the only possible explanation for

this postal anomaly. However, these revenue stamps were never used for the purpose for which they were created and special circumstances gave some of them a postal existence.

The 5 franc grey stamp

Although printed in 1890, this stamp was not issued until 25 October 1892 when the stock of 5 franc violet stamps from the 1887 issue was exhausted due to the interest aroused among philatelists, but also as a result of its use on mail or parcel post slips, (on which it appears with a framed or unframed parcel post overprint). One may well ask why, when the stock of 5 francs violet was exhausted, it was not reprinted. The answer is probably financial.

The independent state of Congo was a financial drain on the king. In 1890, Leopold II had invested almost all the considerable fortune he had inherited from his father and was obliged to ask Belgium for a loan of twenty million francs to be able to continue the adventure. It was therefore no doubt out of a concern for economy and expediency that the grey 5 francs printed in 1890 were put into circulation in 1892. This cost nothing to the independent state's deficit budget. The 5 franc grey was issued in 10,000 copies, including stamps overprinted with "postal parcels". This stamp is found in large cancelled blocks.



Unfortunately, we know of just two letters franked with this stamp of convenience.



The 50 centimes grey stamp

This is the second and last stamp in the grey tax series to be issued and used by post. It was issued in a print run of 50,000 copies. 200,000 copies of the 50 centimes brown stamp (issued on 20 October 1887) were used extensively on mail: it was the value of the 1887 issue that was most often found in the mail, as it corresponded to the exact rate for sending a letter by ordinary post from the Congo to a foreign country.

By the end of 1894, the brown 50 centime stamp was practically sold out (on 1 January 1895, there were exactly 5127 of them on deposit at the Foreign Affairs Department of the EIC, according to a handwritten note offered for sale by Ferraton in its May 2016 catalogue), and the 50 centime green Mols stamp intended to replace it was not yet ready. In a decree dated 31 October 1894, Edmond Van Eetvelde decided that the 50 centime grey stamp, printed in 1890, would be used as a postage stamp from 15 November 1894. The 50 centime Mols stamp issued on 21 November 1894 was not available in the Congo until the beginning of January 1895 (1st known date: 5 January 1895).

Because of this poor timing, the 1887 issue became unique in that it offered two different values of the same colour in circulation at the same time. A small proportion of this stamp was actually used for postal purposes. Many of these stamps were cancelled out of convenience and are easily found in large cancelled block



Block of 10 cancelled in Sankuru, office opened in 1897

The 50 centimes grey was falsely cancelled in Liège in large quantities (several thousand) and sold in 1896. This explains why, despite a large print run of 50,000 stamps and an extremely short period of use, this stamp was not in the inventory when it was sold in 1914. Mail franked with a grey 50 centime is sought after but is much less rare than that franked with a grey 5 franc. There is a letter franked with both 50 centimes in both colours. (Maselis collection)



The Unissued stamps

While the 5 franc grey may have been issued out of opportunism and the 50 centimes grey out of necessity, three stamps printed in grey in 1890 remained unissued. While the existence of the grey 10 franc is debatable, the grey 25 franc and 50 franc stamps are real and were printed in quantities of 7050 and 4650 respectively. These figures are multiples of 150 and correspond to 47 sheets for the 25 francs and 31 sheets for the 50 francs. This estimate of the number of stamps printed is based on inventory figures of 1908 from the Ministry of Colonies, which was created that same year. Philatelic literature mentions these three unissued stamps for the first time in Maurice Belin's 1900-1901 catalogue. Kuck, who was a great collector of Congo stamps and was the first to write in philatelic magazines about the independent state of the Congo, does not mention them in his articles published in 1898 in the 'timbro- phile belge'. He was probably unaware of them. If these three stamps have come out of the shadows, it is no doubt because a few copies were given or sold by the administration of the Independent State of the Congo and the secret was out. It should be remembered that in the days of the Ministry of Colonies, and no doubt in the days of the EIC as well, certain people had access to the stamps and enjoyed privileges over ordinary collectors.

From 1900, these stamps were known to the general public but would not be available for several years. Two inventories drawn up in 1908 and 1914 show a difference of just 5 stamps for the two values of 25 and 50 francs. These two stamps must therefore have been highly sought after by collectors. These values of 25 and 50 francs were probably not chosen by chance: 25 francs is the highest value in the series of Belgian tax stamps payable abroad and 50 francs is the highest value in the

series payable in Belgium. More generally, we might wonder why these tax stamps were printed in 1890. Although this remains a hypothesis, this is no doubt linked to the lifting of customs duties on exports established by the international convention concerning the customs regime applicable to the Congo Basin, agreed on 2 July 1890. Another possible use for these stamps could have been as payment for an elephant hunting license. This cost 500 francs and a fee of 25 francs was charged for each additional rifle used during the hunt. Elephant hunting was banned from October 1889 (decree of 5 October 1889) unless special authorization was granted. Offenders were liable to a fine of between 25 and 500 francs.



Postal stationery registered # 7 from Lukungu to Uccle. - The recommendation handstamp was applied at MATADI on 19 September 1896. - Departure from BOMA on 20 September 1896, to arrive in BRUSSELS on 25 October and at Uccle the following day. Rate: postcard 15 c + 50 c recommandaté (registration) = 65 c.

The 1887 issue at the time of the Belgian Congo

The various securities from the 1887 issue were taken out of circulation on 1 January 1901. They remained in the administration's archives until 1914. At the end of 1908, Théodore Champion, a Swiss trader based in Paris, wrote to the Ministry of Colonies to purchase the demonetized stamps from the 1887 issue as well as some Mols stamps. He was told that because there was a plan to overprint these stamps with the words 'Belgian Congo', his request could not be granted. A project did exist (see the Deneumostier work on the 1887 issue) to give a second life to certain values of the 1887 and 1894 issues known as Mols. The 1887 stamps covered by this were 5 centimes, 10 centimes, 25 centimes, 50 centimes grey, 25 francs and 50 francs. Théodore Champion came forward again and placed an order for the overprinted stamps, some of which are illustrated below.



This order was not honored, as the project was never completed. The stamps remained in the archives until 6 January 1914, when they were sold by mutual agreement to the Brussels financier Joseph Haps, in the inner circle of the Minister for the Colonies, for the price of 30,000 francs. Three days later, he sold the whole lot to Théodore Champion for 60,000 francs.

Here are the details of the stamps in this sale:

- 131 032 green stamps 5 centimes
- 42632 pink stamps 10 centimes
- 81991 blue stamps 25 centimes
- 43 grey stamps 5 francs
- 6913 grey stamps 25 francs
- 4497 grey stamps 50 francs
- 2873 2873 Mols 5 centimes stamps
- 43632 Mols 10 centimes stamps

Normally, this sale should have been by public auction, as is customary. As soon as the fact became known, it was denounced by Emile Matthey, the Parisian publisher of the philatelic bulletin, in issue no. 66 of 5 April 1914 under the title 'un scandale en Belgique' ('a scandal in Belgium'). The affair caused a stir and was reported in a number of Belgian newspapers, including Le Patriote, Le Journal de Liège and Le Matin d'Anvers. The issue was even raised in the Chamber. So Théodore Champion was finally able to buy what he wanted, and the 25- and 50-franc stamps that only a few privileged people had been able to buy up until then found their way onto the market in large numbers. But this sale did not include any grey 10 francs or grey 50 centimes. Joseph Haps was given the right to reply in the philatelic bulletin of 5 July 1914. Regarding the 25 franc and 50 franc grey stamps, he pointed out that they were not revenue stamps but postal stamps, since in the margins of the sheets appeared the inscription 'timbres-poste à 25 Frs' and 'timbres- poste à 50 Frs'. And he specified that they were not issued for security reasons and to avoid fraud. Of course, I don't share this point of view. These stamps were printed at the same time and in the same colour: Only fiscal use must have been intended in such a singular approach.

The 10 franc grey

The existence of this stamp is seriously in doubt. It is a bit like the Nessie of Congolese philately. The Balasse magazine of December 1945 contains the testimony of the eminent philatelist André De Cock, curator of the postal museum: “In 1921, during my short stay at the Ministry of Colonies, I had the opportunity to see a certain number of these stamps which were kept in an office adjoining the Minister's Cabinet. They were fragments of sheets.

Many of the miniatures were torn or damaged, others were cancelled in blue pencil... I can certify that there were not large quantities. Other people have seen these stamps and I think I can confirm that Dr Avidon, whom you know, had them in his hands”. Dr Avidon confirmed in issue 69 (January 1954) of the Belgian philatelist that he had seen whole sheets of grey 10 F, 25 F and 50 F stamps, penciled in blue or red and largely torn. He also claimed to have seen a grey 10 franc in the hands of a collector. Gailly mentions a print run of 250 stamps for the 10 F grey in the third edition of his negro guide, only to reduce it to 50 stamps in the 4th and 5th editions (1945). He mentions three known stamps. In the 1945 negro guide, he states that “ the 10 franc grey was printed on three panels, including two mute panels. As always, one panel was given to the King's Palace, a second to the minister in office and a third panel to the Ministry's departments. Three pieces of the latter panel came onto the market”. Who has ever heard of silent panels in connection with the 1887 issue? While there may be serious doubts about the information provided by Gailly, the testimonies of André De Cock and Dr Avidon, although not always reliable in what they say, seem to me to be trustworthy in this case.

As far as I'm concerned, I'm personally convinced that the grey 10F did exist - but in what form? It is mentioned in the Belin catalogue of 1901, long before the three best-known forgers who worked on the 1887 issue began their fraudulent work: Fournier around 1905, Sperati around 1909 and Lenoir around 1920. The only examples identified to date are all forgeries. The identification criteria include the perforations, which are irregularly aligned with the authentic stamps on the frame, the engraving details such as the dotted lines on the large cord, the colour of the paper and the letters F and S in the cartouche. Some have authentic 10 franc ochre lettering, others have 5 franc lettering. Here are three stamps judged to be forgeries: two have 10 franc lettering and one has 5 franc lettering.



All three are printed on different paper and one is gummed. However, one of the main criteria for distinguishing genuine stamps from forgeries is the reflection they emit under the ultraviolet rays of a Wood lamp: a greenish reflection for grey stamps

of different denominations, and a grey-blackish reflection for forgeries of grey 10 francs. However, this reflection depends not only on the printing colour, but also on the paper used.

For example, if the 50 franc grey 'making ready' proofs are placed under a Wood's lamp on grey and yellow paper that is different from the paper used to print the stamps, the reflection of ultraviolet radiation on these papers is not greenish at all but rather blackish.



However, it is strange to note that this stamp has disappeared today, even though it should be in the most prestigious collections. What if we were simply mistaken in calling a stamp what is really just an essay or a proof? This would explain why the reflection of grey 10 franc stamps under a Wood lamp is always different from grey stamps of other denominations. In fact, before starting to print postage stamps from the definitive plate, tests and proofs are always carried out. These are always made using a different colour from the one chosen for the stamp and usually on a different paper. We know that the entire stock of 25 franc and 50 franc stamps was sold in 1914.

However, there is the famous testimony of André De Cock and Dr Avidon, who in 1921 saw fragments of grey 10, 25 and 50 franc sheets cancelled in pencil.

These were undoubtedly rejects, i.e. sheets or fragments of sheets with defects. If there were indeed 10 franc grey items among these rejects, why was there not at least one sheet or part of a sheet of this stamp found in the stock sold in 1914? There is in fact no valid reason to believe that it was produced in large quantities like the other sheets that were later destroyed. Between the time when the grey stamps were printed and the year when they were sold, i.e. 24 years, only some 150 stamps of the two highest denominations of 25 francs and 50 francs were left in the administration's premises. If the grey 10 franc was used to the same extent, this would mean that at most one sheet was printed. But why print only one sheet or part of a sheet? There are several explanations.

The first, which I do not accept, is that, as Gailly described, a single sheet was printed, with the panels separated and kept in different places. The reasons for this are beyond me. Another is to consider that this item is a proof of the plate printed in grey (the colour available in the studio) before the 10 franc stamp was printed in

yellow-ochre the same year. The grey colour would have been tested until a satisfactory sheet was obtained. This would explain the fact that only one sheet of the 10 franc figurine was printed in grey before production of the yellow-ochre stamp began, which was issued on 1 January 1891. What André de Cock and Dr Avidon saw in 1921 were sheets that had been discarded. And it cannot be said with certainty that this single sheet produced, or the discarded sheets, were perforated or even printed on the same paper used to print the stamps in the 1887 issue. And so the Wood's lamp test cannot be an absolute rejection criterion for the authenticity of the label.

The third explanation is that these grey 10 franc figures are trials made from one or other of the souvenir sheets used to make the plate used to print the 10 franc ochre-yellow.

Among the 'fake' grey 10 franc stamps are some with the characteristic lettering of the 5 franc stamp. It is not possible to state with absolute certainty that there was no 10 franc transfer block with 5 franc lettering, which would not have been incorporated into the final plate. Therefore, if the 10 franc grey stamp is a test of the souvenir sheet, the criteria of lettering and reflection under Wood's lamp can no longer be criteria determining the authenticity or otherwise of the miniature. In the same vein, for one reason or another, a test may have been perforated to give it a criterion of authenticity, and this perforation will necessarily be different from the perforation on the frame used for the stamps in the 1887 issue.

To conclude this paragraph on the 10 franc grey stamp, I personally fail to see why an unissued stamp would have been printed on authentic paper in such minute quantities? Furthermore, why would this stamp, printed in 50 or 150 copies, be impossible to find today? On the other hand, if the grey 10 franc stamp is a colour proof made before the 10 franc yellow-ochre stamp was printed, or a test of the souvenir sheet, we can no longer rely on the reflection it gives off under Wood's lamp, and what was thought to be a forgery may now be completely authentic. If we consider that the 10 franc grey was a test rather than an unissued stamp, there are many criteria that can no longer be used to decide that the stamp is fake: perforation, lettering, nature of the paper, reflection under the Wood lamp. The most convincing criterion of authenticity would be the dating of the paper. If we could establish with certainty that the paper dates from 1890, then we could declare authentic a stamp that is now rejected for various reasons.

Conclusion

The 1887 issue of the Independent State of the Congo is a unique one, comprising both postage stamps and stamps created for tax purposes. With its mythical and controversial 10 franc grey stamp, this issue also offers passionate philatelists all the attractions of a real treasure hunt that feeds their passion. I would particularly like to thank the late Léo Tavano, whose enlightened comments helped to shape some of the ideas developed in this article.

The Red Cross issue of 29 July 1944

C. Hénuzet

Introduction

We will discuss the philatelic side of stamps and for the decrees we refer you to the website of Charles Stockmans <http://congo-cahiers-du-congo.org/>

As after the First World War, 1914-1918, and after the beginning of the end of hostilities in 1944, various initiatives were again launched to help the Red Cross in the Belgian Congo and Ruanda-Urundi, including the issue of two sets of stamps overprinted with the words 'Red Cross'. It had originally been decided to print 10,000 sets, but in the end 22,432 sets were printed.

Issued by subscription: in order to be able to serve all philatelists, each purchaser could only buy a maximum of 3 complete sets comprising the 8 stamps, at a price of 714 F per set.

It was decided to overprint stamps from the 1942 Palm Trees issue, with surcharges of 50 francs and 100 francs.

The fact that the number of series per subscriber is limited to a maximum of 3 leads us to particular the interest in studying this issue.

For the **Belgian Congo** the series comprises:



COB # 271
(238)

surcharged 100 Fr.



COB # 273
(242)

surcharged 100 Fr.



COB # 270
(254)

surcharged 50 Fr.



COB # 272
(259)

surcharged 100 Fr.

For the **Ruanda-Urundi** it comprises



COB # RU 151
(136)

surcharged 100 Fr.



COB # RU 153
(140)

surcharged 100 Fr.



COB # RU 150
(132)

surcharged 50 Fr.



COB # RU 152
(137)

surcharged 100 Fr.

The series of 3 are arranged in **horizontal** or **vertical** bands



For the Belgian Congo, the stamps were printed in sheets of 100, while for Ruanda-Urundi they were printed in sheets of 50 and the overprints were therefore applied in the same way. To date, we have not been able to find any complete sheets with the Red Cross overprint. A treasure to be discovered?

Before we look at the variety of overprints, we'd like to tell you about a black ink stamp that can sometimes be found on the gum side.



C.P.C.R. N°

CERCLE PHILATELIQUE DU CONGO BELGE ET DU RUANDA URUNDI

The original Cercle Philatélique was called Cercle Philatélique de Léopoldville, founded in 1935 and also a corresponding member of the Société Philatélique Belge.

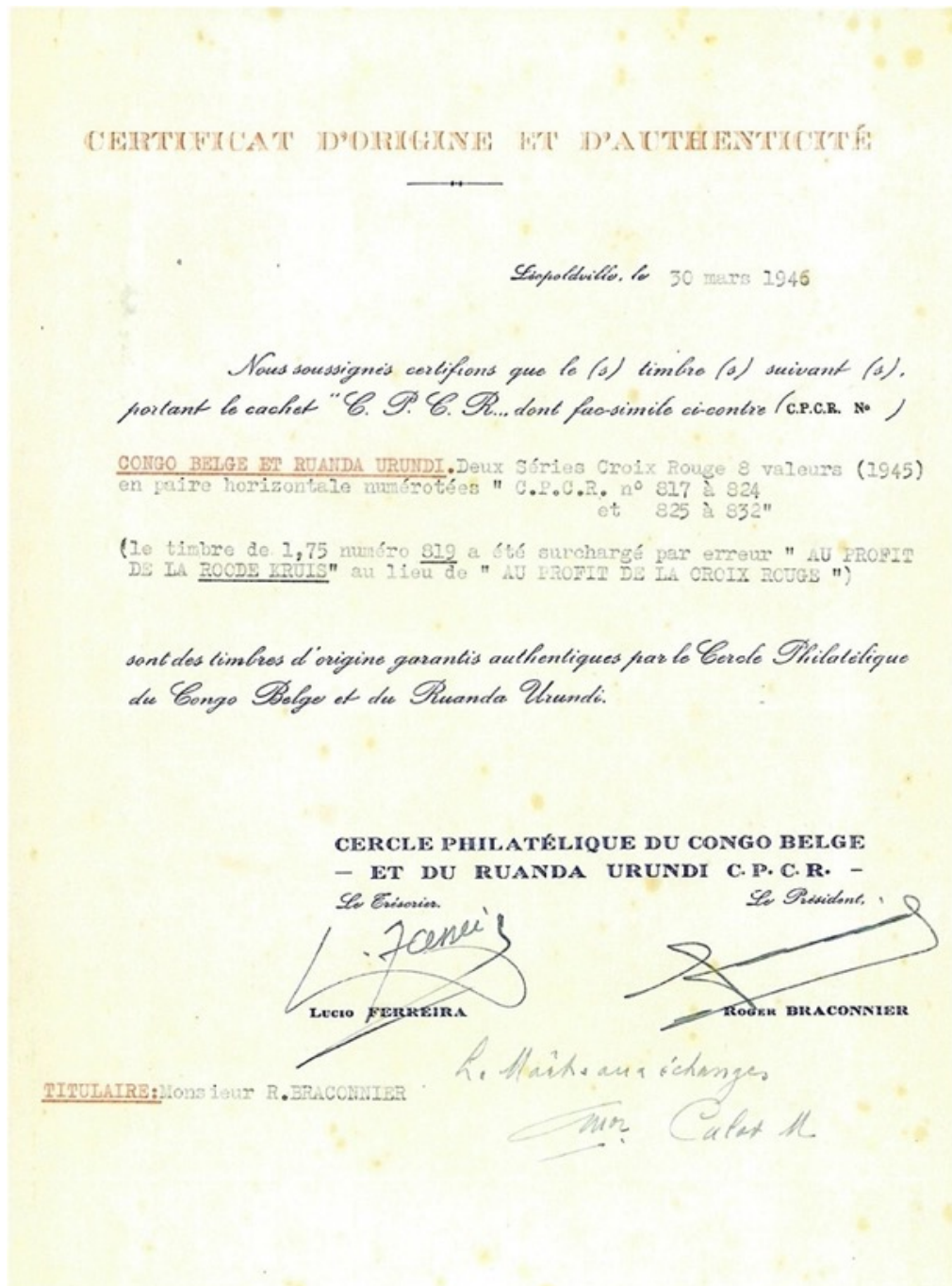
It had its own committee of experts and was made up of 7 members, who can be seen accompanied by a lady in the photo above.



Their names were; Corneille De Bruyn, Charles Latteur, Roger Braconnier, Robert Brans, Lucio Ferrera, Marcel Culot et François Belet.

The expert committee produced certificates for the 1942 Red Cross series, among others, and the certificate was valid if it was signed by at least 3 members of the committee.

Below is a certificate drawn up in Leopoldville on 30 MARCH 1946.



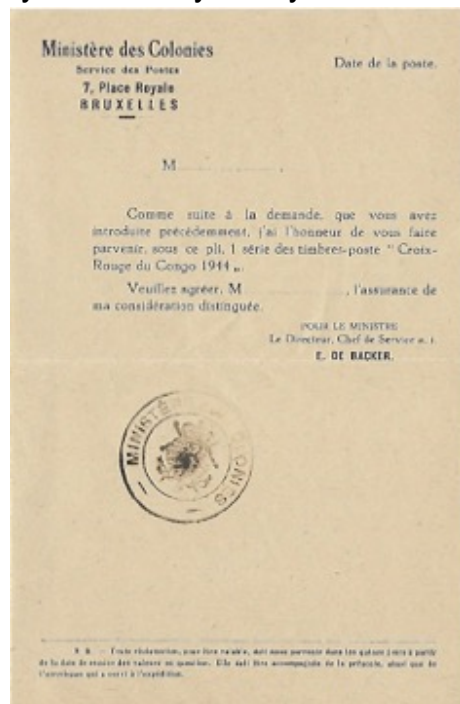
The signatures of Lucio Ferrera, Roger Braconnier and Marcel Culot can be seen above. Certificates could be bearer or registered.

Here is a series from the Belgian Congo with certificate numbers. The stamp consisted of two parts: a fixed part 'C.P.C.R. N°' and a movable part 'the number' affixed to the dialler.



The compositor for the number gave a more or less pronounced vertical shift between the digits.

The set or sets ordered were delivered via the Ministry of Colonies in Brussels. Below left, the pro forma letter sent to applicants once the stamps had been received by the Ministry. They were sent by registered post and with the postal franchise.



Cancellation of dispatch office IXELLES 7/XII/1945

This series includes, like all do, also some variety, and this is not something you see very often.

Surcharge : printed in red by the Government Printing Office in Leopoldville.

It is important not to confuse variety with curiosity. We'd like to take this opportunity to remind you of the difference between the two.

Variety : the dictionary says: The state of being varied, diversity.

In philately, this is either a 'defect - error - addition - missing - ...' on the engraving of the stamp (or any other system of reproduction of the stamp: Typo - Gravure - ...) or in this case on the overprint and is systematic throughout the print run and always in the same places.

Curiosity : is the very opposite of variety. It is indeed a 'defect - error - addition - lack - ...' but it is only temporary or momentary and never in the same places.

With that in mind, we'll start with the Congo varieties, followed by those from Ruanda-Urundi. Curiosities will follow.

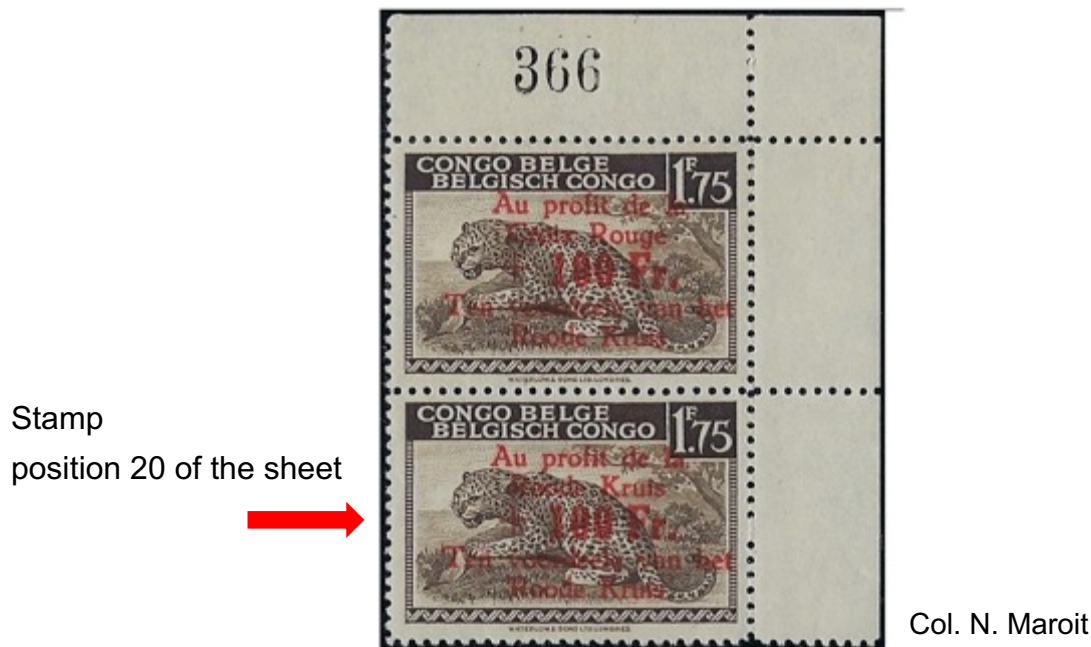
For a better understanding, it is already interesting to note that there is at least one complete set of sheets for the Congo series (COB 270/273). But this brings us to an important point. When checking the validity of a variety, it is necessary to do so on at least 2 or even 3 sheets or fragments with sheet edges that allow the exact position of the stamps to be determined. The difficulty with the Red Cross overprints was that it was not possible to obtain more than 3 sets. There was no problem with the V1 overprint, as we shall see presently, but we are still looking for information about the V2 overprint to remove any doubts about its position.

VARIETIES

Belgian Congo

For the Belgian Congo, the COB includes 2 varieties for the stamp # 272.

V1 = "Au profit de la **Roode Kruis**" instead of "Croix-Rouge" position 20.



V2 = without the word "TEN". It is indeed a variety, but we cannot confirm its position at present. It is already certain that it is located in the vertical band on the left-hand side of the sheet. Below, two images of the variety, one of which is on the edge of the left sheet.



Col. N. Maroit



Col. B. Lockhart

Ruanda – Urundi

For Ruanda-Urundi, the COB includes 2 varieties, one for 151 and one for 153. They have an overprint **error**.

To comply with the law when the overprint was produced, it had to be bilingual;

French/Dutch or Dutch/French. As 4 stamps were overprinted, 2 were Fr/Dutch # 150 /152 and 2 Dutch/Fr # 151/153 predominant Dutch predominant means that the legend is first in Dutch and then in French, and vice versa for French predominant.

151



151 Error



↑
Predominance
Dutch

↑
Predominance
French

153



153 Error



CURIOSITIES

Colour: this, defined by the decree, is red, but there are very often nuances in the colours and here the most striking is the “*vermillion*”.

It is found on most of the values in the two series.

RED



VERMILLION



The vermilion shade is “pinker” compared with red. The value at 50 F or 100 F is less pronounced than in red.

RED



VERMILLION



Missing

The red dot after the value of 100 F is missing from the middle stamp.



Col. P. Maselis

There may also be a more or less pronounced lack of impression of the overprint.
pronounced.



Moving the surcharge

Here, we have a vertical movement upward and slightly to the left



Towards the top left and moving towards the right, the overprint descends askew towards the bottom.

Movements can also be more or less pronounced in the 4 directions.



You can see the background of the figures, (see 100 Fr.)

100 Fr.



fig. 1

As we don't have enough leaves or large fragments, it's difficult to make any statements, but one element could provide food for thought and a starting point for further work.



22432 (fig. 1)

According to the Royal Decree of 10 May 1947, the number of indivisible series of Belgian Congo and Ruanda-Urundi postage stamps in the 'Congo Red Cross' issue, first set at 10,000 by articles 1, 2 and 5 of the Decree of 29 July 1944 and then increased to a maximum of 24,000 by the Decree of 14 March 1945, was definitively set at **22 432**.

22 432 is the number of sets sold at the price of 714 francs!

But what happened to the 1,568 series printed and not sold by subscription?
Why does the COB give a print run of 22,432 for the Belgian Congo and 24,000 for Ruanda-Urundi?

We know of one complete series in a full sheet of 100 stamps and several series in blocks of four and six.

The net proceeds of the postage stamp surcharge will be made available to the Belgian Congo Red Cross.



Blocks of 4 BELGIAN CONGO



Another Belgian Congo series exists in blocks of 4 but with sheet edges on 2 sides (bottom and right edge).



22432 ;

The number of series sold!!

Practically speaking, as the sheets were of 100 stamps, 225 sheets correspond to 22,500 overprinted sets, which is very close to the number sold (not 24,000 as advertised, which is a long way from the number needed).

There were two possible solutions for achieving this result:

- destroy the surplus, i.e. $22500 - 22432 = 68$ series;
- or adjust the machine so as not to completely overprint a sheet and thus respect the order. The stamps in strips of 3 suggest that this solution could have been put into practice since we find the lower part of the overprint on the upper edge of the sheet. This again leads us to question the figure of 24,000, as the order had to be respected.

- Once again, it is commonly stated that subscriptions were limited to a maximum of 3 series per subscription! The decree contradicts this

_In view of the Order of 29 July 1944.

- Art. 5 Postage stamps, ... , will automatically reduce certain subscriptions in order to satisfy the greatest possible number of subscribers. It will begin by reducing subscriptions exceeding 25 series.

- One thing is clear: the rule of 3 series per subscription was not respected. It was fashionable for collectors to own a series in a block of 4.
- Given the difficulty of finding the series in blocks of 4, it is possible that there are 17 blocks, or **68 series**.
- So we return to our previous deduction.

Blocks of 4 BELGIAN CONGO



Another Belgian Congo series exists in blocks of 4 but with sheet edges on 2 sides (bottom and right edge) + unknowns.

Blocks of 4 RUANDA - URUNDI



Coll. H. J



Coll. H. J



Variety Error on # 151/153 Predominantly french



Coll. H. J.

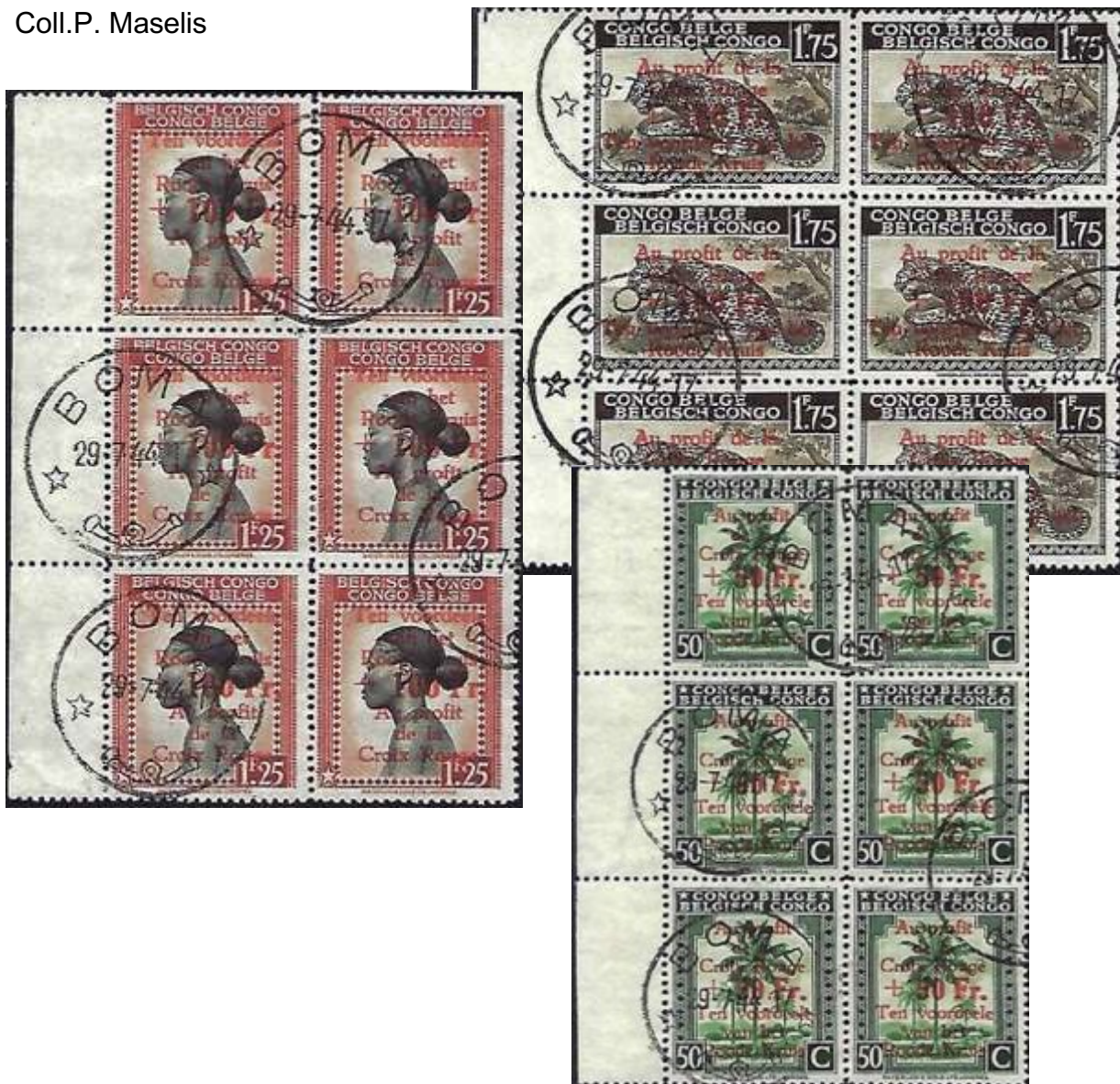


Strip of 4 These are rare and as difficult to find as the blocks of 4.



There are even blocks of 6 cancelled in BOMA on 29/7/44 - 17 for the Belgian Congo. 27 July 1944 was the opening date for subscriptions and not the first day of issue.

Coll.P. Maselis



USUMBURA 29/7/44 – 17 to Ruanda – Urundi. Ex. Col. L.Tavano



The door is open to future discoveries that could support or refute the data known to date. All that's needed is knowledge of other pieces that have remained 'lost' at the bottom of an album or kept secret by one collector or another.

POSTAL AUCTION SALE 2024-2							
REALISED PRICES							
LOT	PRICE	LOT	PRICE	LOT	PRICE	LOT	PRICE
1		41	202,00	81	17,25	121	2,55
2		42	252,00	82	0,80	122	7,25
3		43		83		123	
4		44		84		124	15,00
5		45		85		125	24,00
6		46	2,00	86		126	2,50
7	18,00	47		87		127	30,00
8		48		88		128	
9		49	2,00	89	3,75	129	
10		50		90	28,00	130	
11		51		91		131	10,00
12		52		92		132	
13		53		93	32,00	133	8,00
14		54		94	38,00	134	2,00
15		55		95	48,00	135	
16	5,25	56		96	6,25	136	30,00
17	5,00	57		97		137	5,25
18	3,00	58		98	8,00	138	
19	2,50	59	6,50	99		139	28,00
20		60	3,00	100	8,50	140	
21	112,00	61		101	4,25	141	
22		62	28,00	102	4,75	142	4,00
23	10,00	63		103		143	5,25
24		64		104		144	37,00
25		65		105		145	15,25
26	10,00	66		106	38,00	146	16,00
27		67	5,25	107		147	15,00
28		68		108		148	15,25
29		69		109	3,00	149	
30	10,00	70	2,75	110		150	16,00
31		71	4,50	111	87,00	151	16,00
32	15,25	72		112		152	
33	100,00	73	20,25	113		153	
34		74		114			
35		75	17,00	115	4,00		
36		76	14,00	116	4,75		
37	15,25	77	15,25	117	5,25		
38	42,00	78	9,00	118	22,00		
39	50,00	79		119	3,20		
40		80		120	9,25		

Bidding form - BCSC 2025-1

To be sent to

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

Or by E-mail at : Thierry.frennet@fthsprl.be

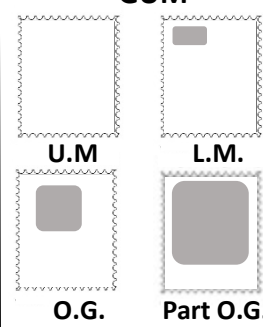
CLOSING DATE FOR BIDS – 30th March 2025

Name : Date :

Full Address: Signature :

Auction Rules

Abbreviations used

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

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

Bidding steps

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

Postage on lots will be charged to buyers

See also our website: www.Belgian-congo-study-circle.be

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

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

Lot	SALE 2025/1 Description	COB #	Min. Bid €
Ruanda Urundi stamps			
1	Ruanda-Urundi Floors issue 20c olive-green, full sheet of 100, UM, print 1A	53	5,50
2	Ruanda-Urundi Floors issue 50c blue-grey, block of 25, sheet corner, UM, print A	56	5,00
3	Ruanda-Urundi Floors issue 20c green (100), full sheet of 100, UM, print E2	62	5,00
Belgian Congp stamps			
4	1909 Princes issue, 40c blue-green, LH	44PT	85,00
5	1909 Princes issue, 5F carmine-red, used	48PT	38,00
6	1909 local overprint issue, 25c blue type 1 (perf15) + type2 (perf 14 1/2) one short perf, used	33L+ 33La	4,50
7	1909 local overprint issue, 1F carmine local overprint L1, 2 short perfs + 5F carmine L1, used	36L1 + 38L1	30,00
8	1909 local overprint issue, 10F green L1 overprint, Leopoldville telegraphic cancellation	39L1	29,00
9	1909 issue typo overprint 15c ochre (1), 25c blue (3), 40c blue-green (2), 50c olive (3), 1F carmine (3), used. <i>Good condition in general, a few short perfs. Some good cancellations.</i>	42-46	5,00
10	1909 issue typo overprint 5F carmine + 10F green, used	48 + 49	17,00
11	1887 issue 50c red-brown, beautiful BOMA cancellation 10 avril 1888	9	10,00
12	1887 issue 10c pink, 25c blue (3), 50c grey, 50 c red-brown, used	7 to 10	11,00
13	Airmail stamps 1936 issue (surcharge), 50c/1,50F green (27, included 2 horizontal pairs), 3,50F/3f brown-red (14, included 1 vertical pair), used	PA16/17	1,50
14	1925 & 1931 issues, 6 stamps with maritime (paquebots Leopoldville, Thysville, Elisabethville) cancellations, 1 stamp on piece		6,00
15	1938 issue miniature sheet, used (special cancellation 06.10.38)	BL2	20,00
16	1951 issue, 1F50 (7, included 2 pairs) + 3F (20), nearly all with chosen cancellations	300/1	2,50
17	1931 issue, 75c carmine-red, on piece with special 2 lines linear mark (T)rain Royal S.A.R. Prince Georges d'Angleterre/(S)AKANIA-ELISABETHVILLE 5-4-1934	175	1,00
18	1957 Red Cross issue, full set in horizontal or vertical pairs, UM	341/3	1,75
19	1947 issue, 100F in block of four, UM	295	10,00

20	1953 issue, full set in block of six, UM	325/6	8,00
21	1941 issue, 50c violet, 75c rose, 1,75F orange, 5F olive-green, blocks of four UM	217-218-220-223	25,00
22	1941 issue, 10F red block of four UM. <i>Very little fold (touching only one stamp, invisible from the front)</i>	224	23,00
23	1941 issue, 2,50F carmine-red, block of eight, UM, <i>some tiny adhesions</i>	221	9,00
24	1941 issue, 25c pale blue, block of ten, UM, <i>some rust spots</i>	216	0,75
25	1949 issue, 4F violet-blue, block of four sheet corner, UM + 1957 Red Cross issue full set, UM	297(4) + 341/3	1,75
26	Airmail 1930 issue 15F sepia, vertical strip of 3, UM	PA 5	5,00
27	Airmail 1934 issue 30F orange, strip of 3, UM	PA14	2,50
28	Airmail 1930 issue full set in pairs, UM	PA5/6	9,00
Belgian Congo covers			
29	1950 issue, full set on postcard, special cancellation of the 1st day of issue (12.08.1950). Rather rare	298/9	3,00
30	Censored Incoming mail : cover from Great-Britain (June 1944) to Dundo (Angola), forwarded to Tshikapa (B. Congo) and finally to Elisabethville (PO box 927). And all this for a 3p franking ! British and Congolese Censorship tapes. On reverse : 11 transit marks of Angola & B. Congo. Quite unusual		20,00
31	Cover from Elisabethville to Johannesburg (South-Africa). South-African Censorship tape.	199	5,00
32	Registered cover from Albertville 24-9-41 to Nairobi, Kenya. Belgian Congo censorship tape (Albertville Censor ?) + Kenyan Censorship violet boxed mark. Transit marks on reverse	181	14,00
33	Incoming mail : picture postcard (Sea front & Pier) from Worthing (GB) 1921 to Kambove, B. Congo. Arrival cachet of Kambove + cover from Dar es Salaam with picture of King George VI and Queen Mary, to Albertville. Arrival cachet Albertville 30-11-37 on reverse		1,75
34	1953 issue, full set on cover (CTO) special cancellation Festival Kivu 1953, 9.1.53		2,00
35	8 airmail covers 1st flight from Leopoldville to New York, USA, by Boeing 314 Clipper, with transit marks on reverse : Belem (Brazil), Miami (Florida), Port of Spain (Trinidad), Natal (Brazil), Lagos (Nigeria), Bathurst (Gambia), etc. Probably the most complete series of the seaplane stopovers or passages in its flight.		60,00
36	Internal airmail : 3 airmail covers from Stanleyville to Kindu, November 1938.		13,00
37	Internal airmail : Airmail cover from Leopoldville 13.10.1938 to Kindu, transit mark Stanleyville + arrival mark Kindu on reverse	171+180	5,00

38	1947 issue 20F on Registered Airmail cover from Leopoldville 30-8-54 to BULAWAYO, Southern Rhodesia	293	2,00
30	Cover from ABA 21-5-32 to Khartoum (Sudan) franking with 5c, 10c (3) & 20c (2) of 1928 Stanley issue + 1,25 F of 1931 issue.	135/7 + 177	9,00
	Postal stationery (Catalogue numbers are those of the 2021 catalogue edited by BCSC & Société belge de l'entier postal, available upon request to our president)		
40	1886 issue, postcard 15c blue on light blue, unused, pristine condition	2	1,25
41	1892 issue, postcard 10c carmine on yellow, used, internal usage with added 5c stamp (1894 issue 5c red-brown), Boma cancellation 16 dec 1896, to Belgium	10	12,50
42	1897 issue postcard 15c orange on buff, used, cancellation Popokabaka, dec 1907, to Belgium, Thysville & Matadi transit marks, very good condition	15	4,00
43	1897 issue postcard 15c orange on buff, used, cancellation Basankusu 12 janv 1908, to Belgium, Leopoldville transit marks, very good condition	15	4,00
44	1909 issue, postcard 15c yellow-orange on buff, unused, typo overprint, pristine condition	21	2,00
45	1922 issue illustrated postcard (picture 72 = domesticated elephant) overprint 15 (type 1) on 10c carmine on buff, unused	53	2,50
46	1922 issue illustrated postcard (picture 68) overprint 15 (type 1) on 5c yellow-green on buff, unused	52	5,00
47	1922 issue illustrated postcard (picture 26) inverted overprint 15 (type 2) on 5c yellow-green on buff, used (Boma cancellation 27 aout 1922, to Leopoldville : internal mail, correct rate)	52	8,00
48	1922 issue illustrated postcard (picture 1) overprint 30 (type 1) on 10c carmine on buff, unused	54	4,00
49	1958 issue letter-card 3F carmine on green blue, unused	1	2,50
50	1958 issue letter-card 3F carmine on green blue, used, Albertville cancellation 1958, to Elisabethville (internal mail)	1	4,00
51	Katanga 1962 issue, postcard 1,50 F green on cream, unused, pristine condition	2	1,00
52	Katanga 1960 issue, letter-card 3,50 F on 3F purple on light green on cream, unused, pristine condition	1	2,00
53	Republic of Congo 1960 issue postcard 1F50 blue/pale yellow (Congo overprint on #86 card), CTO Leopoldville 2-12-64	87	1,25
54	1889 issue postcard 1c black proof 4. E1b (#4 type II) included for comparison. (Rare proof (Catalogue 400 €))	4 (II) proof E1b	75,00
R.U. & B. Congo Stamps			
55	Ruanda-Urundi 1923 & 1925 Vloors issues, 60c carmine, 1F blue-grey + 5F	60,68,71	1,25

	grey, used		
56	Congo 1887 issue 5F grey, Boma 13 JANV 1894 cancellation	12	32,00
57	1887 issue 50F grey, no gum, (very well) repaired (COB 55€)	13B	3,00
58	1889 issue 3,50/5F grey, boxed "Colis-postaux Fr 3,50" surcharge, BOMA cancellation, one short perf at inferior left corner (COB>240 €)	CP5	28,00
59	1887 issue 5c yellow-green, 10c pink, 50c red-brown, used	6,7,9	7,50
60	1886 issue 10c pink + 50c olive, LH	2, 4	3,50
61	1887 issue 5c green LH, 5c green used (2, both with beautiful Leopoldville cancellation), 10c pink LH, 25c blue LH, 50c grey used	6/8 + 10	1,50
62	1909 issue local overprint Congo Belge L5 1F carmine (2), both with BUTA cancellation, one stamp has a few short perfs	36L	9,50
63	1910 issue 5c green, 15c ochre, 40c blue-green, in blocks of four, UM (some gum adhesions)	54-56-58	3,50
64	1910 issue 3F red in block of four, no gum	61	8,00
65	1910 issue 5c green + 15c ochre, perf 15, in blocks of four, LH & UM	54-56	1,00
66	1910 issue 10c carmine (2x4) + 25c blue (2x4), in blocks of four, used	55-57	0,50
67	1910 issue 5c green (2x4), 15c ochre (3x4), in blocks of four, UM or Lh or no gum	54-56	1,00
68	1915 issue full set (except 50c lilac-brown) in blocks of four UM	64/8, 70/1	40,00
69	1915 issue 5c green (2x4) perf 15, in blocks of four, UM	64	2,00
70	1915 issue 15c green, 25c blue, 50c lilac-brown, 1F olive, 5F orange, in blocks of four, used	66/7 + 69/71	14,00
71	1915 issue, 5F orange, perf 15, OG	71	0,75
72	1915 issue, 15c green variety "cut palmtree", in block of four, UM but adhesions	66V	45,00
73	1915 issue, 5c green (6x4), 10c carmine (4x4), 15c green (1x4), 25c blue (3x4), 40c carmine-brown (1x4), 1F olive (1x4), 5F orange (1x4), all in blocks of four, many UM or LH, a very few no gum	64/8,70/1 + 65a	29,00
73	1915 issue, 5F orange, block of four, UM	71	4,50
74	1931 issue, 2,50F in miniature sheet of 8, UM	178A	3,00
75	1931 issue 5F in miniature sheet of 8 UM	178A	3,00
76	Airmail stamps 1934 issue, full set in blocks of four, UM	PA7/15	25,00
77	Postage due stamps 1923 issue, full set used + full set LH	TX63/5	0,75
Ruanda Urundi stamps			

78	1941 issue, full set, 1,75 F & 2,75 F with surcharge, LH (nearly UM)	122/3	2,00
79	1918 Red Cross issue, 1F olive (2), perf 14, LH and OG	42	1,00
80	1930 issue, full set, LH	81/89	14,00
81	1941 issue 5c/40c green UM	114 + 95	5,00
82	1909 issue 15c orange typo overprint, unused	21T	1,25
83	1909 issue 10c, L4 overprint, unused	24L	8,50
84	1909 issue 10c two-part reply-paid card, but in two unused parts (message : L3 ; reply : L7)	25L	1,50
85	1909 issue carte postale incomplete, 5/10c, reply, used	31TT	4,00
86	1897 issue 15c brown, Banana carte incomplete, used, Banana 1899 cancellation. Some rust spots	17	6,00
87	1892 issue 15c blue on light blue, cancellation Nouvelle-Anvers Janv 7 1897, to Belgium; transit mark Leopoldville	11	10,00
88	1922 issue picture postcard 15c green-blue on cream (view #108), used, cancellation Boende	61	1,50
89	1909 issue two-part reply-paid card, 5/15c, CTO Lukafu	31TT	1,25
90	1927 issue 1F red-carmine on cream, unused. Picture # 31	67	2,50
91	1909 issue overprint error 33E (card 33LT with additional "5" overprint), unused	33E	60,00
Belgian Congo & stamps & miscellaneous			
92	Airmail stamps, all issues (between 1921 and 1936) : a few hundreds, with pairs, blocks of four, shades, cancellations, etc, used		1,75
93	Airmail stamps 1934 issue 50c black (strip of 4, sheet corner with margin inscriptions), 1,50 F dark green plate #1, 5F yellow-brown plate #3, 3,50F/3F red-brown sheet number, all UM		2,00
94	Airmail stamps, 1934 issue : a few hundreds stamps, all UM, with blocks of 6, 8, 10, pairs, etc, UM		1,75
95	Airmail cover 1st flight from Leopoldville to the USA, by Boeing 314 Clipper, "Leopoldville to Lagos", Lagos Nigeria mark on reverse.		6,50
96	1894 issue, small collection of 20 stamps, LH or OG	between 14 & 26A	23,00
97	1894 issue, small collection of 12 different stamps, used, included 10F green perf12	between 14 & 29	24,00
98	1894 issue 15c ochre UM (1), LH (2), used (12)	20	8,00
99	1894 issue 10c blue LH (1), used (3), no gum (3) + 25c orange OG (1), used (3)	18 + 21	6,00

100	1894 issue 25c orange LH (3)	21	3,50
101	1928 Stanley issue, 5c gray-green, strip of 3 (small format) + 10c violet strip of 4 (large format), UM	135/6	0,50
102	1939 issue, full set LH	209/13	9,00
103	1938 issue, 2, 40F (from miniature sheet BL2), used	206	1,00
104	1937 issue, miniature sheet with Variety "light bulb" (on stamp #4), LH (stamps are UM)	BL1-V	3,00
105	1942 issue, 50F & 100F, used	247/8	2,00
106	1894 issue 3,50F vermillion, used	27	35,00
107	1894 issue 5F carmine, LH	28	15,00
108	1938 issue 5c deviation of the center to the right (curiosity). Normal stamp joined for comparison	197	0,75
109	1931 issue, 187 used stamps (2 full sets + many more), for shades, cancellations, etc. Good quality	168/83	4,00
110	1947 issue, 22 stamps with rare & chosen cancellations : BUTEMBO, LUPUTA, KABALO, (L)UENA, GEMENA, MWEKA, etc. Good quality		11,00
111	1948 issue 53 used stamps, for cancellations, varieties, etc. Good quality	296	1,75
112	1947 issue, 280 used stamps, for cancellations, varieties, curiosities, etc. Good quality	between 277 & 293	2,75
113	1956 to 1960 issues full sets LH	339/71	3,25
114	1937, 1938 & 1941 issues : 4,50 carmine, 5c (12), 90c (4), 1,50F (7), 2,40F (4), 2, 50 (10), 4,50 (6), 5c/1,50F (2), 2,50/2,40F (2), all used. Several full sets. For cancellations, varieties, etc. Good quality	196A- 197/202, 226/7	1,75
115	Postage due stamps, 12 stamps, LH (6), used (6)		1,25
116	Katanga 11.07.1961 issue, full set, UM	69/74	0,75
117	Katanga Albertville local issue 15.12.1961, Congo overprint, 1F green, block of 45 (right inferior sheet corner), UM	3	95,00
118	Katanga Albertville local issue 15.12.1961, Congo overprint, 1F green, block of 45 (right superior sheet corner), UM	3	95,00
119	1915 issue, collection in Lindner album (13 sheets), 5c green : 13 miniature sheets of 8 stamps, 3 types, 3 printings, UM. One miniature sheet has lost its superior margin. One is perf 15, 12 are perf 14 + reconstruction of each pane (13) with used or LH stamps. Superb !	64	65,00
120	1886 issue, 5c green, 10c pink, 50c olive. Banana cancellations.	1,2,4	10,00
121	1887 issue 5c yellow-green no gum (1), used (3); 5c green used (1); 10c pink used (1), 25c blue used (4), no gum (1)	6,6a,7,8	3,00

122	1887 issue 50c red-brown + 50c dark brown, used	9, 9a	20,00
123	1887 issue 50c grey, LH (2), used (2)	10	2,75
124	1887 issue 5c yellow green, 10c pink, 50c grey, LH	6,7,10	1,50
125	1887 issue 5F grey, used	12	35,00
126	1887 issue 25F grey, UM	13A	30,00
127	1894 issue 5c red-brown + 15c ochre, LH	15, 20	4,50
128	1894 issue, 5c red-brown + 50c green (perf 16), no gum	15, 24	0,75
129	1894 issue 5c blue, 5c green, 10c blue, 10c red-brown, 25c blue, 40c blue-green, 50c olive, 1F carmine, 1F violet, used		15,00
130	1894 issue, 3,50F vermillion, used	27	50,00
131	1894 issue 5F carmine, used	28	13,50
132	1894 issue, 10F green perf 14 1/4, used	29	15,00
133	1894 issue, 10F green perf 12, used, BOMA 1908 cancellation	29a	15,00
134	1909 "unilingual" issue, full set LH	50/3	15,00
135	1909 issue local overprint L1 25c blue (type II), UM	33La	22,00
136	1909 issue typo overprint 5F carmine typo overprint type 2, plate I1 + A1, pos 20, used	48	11,00
137	1909 issue typo overprint 25c blue typo overprint type 2, pos 31, no gum	43a	3,50
138	1923 issue "Elisabethville" overprint, used	104/5	14,00
139	1915 issue full set, used except 1F olive LH. Nice cancellation on 5F	64/71	2,50
140	1921 issue full set, used	85/94	5,50
Katanga			
141	12.09.1960 issue, full set, UM, inverted overprint	KA4/5	6,00
142	01.03.1961 issue, full set, LH	KA52/65	0,50
143	11.07.1961 issue, full set LH + full set with 1st day of issue cancellation on pieces	KA69/74	1,25
144	20.07.1961 issue full set UM	KA 75/8	2,00
145	1962 issue Indian Contingent of United Nations Force, Indian stamps with overprint U.N. FORCE (INDIA) CONGO, full set UM		10,00
Katanga			
146	1953 Flowers issue, 10c, 15c, 20c, 25c, 40c, UM, each in full sheet of 100 stamps. Bargain, less than 1 €/sheet !	177/81	4,50

147	1959 African Animals issue, 10c (x2), 20c (x2), 40c, 50c, UM, each in full sheet of 100 stamps. Bargain, < 0,50 €/sheet !	205/8	2,75
148	1953 Flowers issue, 10c, 15c, 20c, 25c, 40c, 50c, all UM, in large blocks of 25 (5x5) or 50 (10x5) stamps. Bargain !	177/82	1,00
149	1916 issue 40c carmine-brown vertical pair, rare perf 15, sheet margin, UM (tropical gum)	32	90,00
150	1949 issue full set in blocks of four, sheet corner or sheet margin, UM	173/5	2,25
151	1961 issue, full set in blocks of four, UM	216A/B	2,75
152	1955 Royal visit issue full set UM	196/9	5,50
153	1925 Vloors issue 1,75/1,50 blue, block of four, UM/LH + 1925 Colonial Campaigns issue, block of four	76 + 77/8	2,00
Congo Republic			
154	03.1965 issue, full set imperforated, UM in pairs	573/79	5,00
155	04.1965 issue, full set imperforated, UM, in blocks of four	580/85	10,00
Books			
156	COB catalogue (Belgian Official catalogue), volume 2 : ex-Belgian Colonies, edition 2017, 288 pages, good condition		4,00
157	La philatélie de transition, by Georges CELIS, first edition 1981, 84 pages. Very good condition. Extensive study on the years 1960-1964 issues, including Congo Republic, Rwanda, Burundi, Katanga, South-Kasaï. In French		6,00
158	De Luchtrechten & de bepalingen betreffende de luchtpost, by F. Broeckaert, 140 pages. 3 parts : (1) UPU Conventions and Provisions applicable to AirMail, (2) AirMail postal rates via internal lines, (3) AirMail postal rates via international lines. Very good condition. Mainly in Dutch, with some French		8,00