

Postal Himal



QUARTERLY JOURNAL OF THE NEPAL AND TIBET PHILATELIC STUDY CIRCLE

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Lot 24: Wa 12 posted from the British Residency in Kathmandu to Germany, 1898. Postal Card was part of the nice items in the recent Dick van der Wateren's Nepal Postal Stationery Auction

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Dear Members

When I was writing my notes for the last issue of Postal Himal some of my family in Australia were having to live with the many wild fires they were having on the east coast. As I write this today it is our own members who are having to live with the many fires in the western states of USA. Let us hope that they all come through safely. The Corona virus is still with us and here in the UK it is on the rise again, but we are beginning to learn to live with it. With society meetings and exhibitions being cancelled for the remainder of this year we have turned to the internet to continue to meet via 'Zoom' and a virtual 'Stampex' where you can talk and purchase from the listed dealers. For the 'silver

surfers' like myself we do not find this an easy task but somehow we are coping.

On the subject of the internet, Rainer Fuch has been running our website for a number of years now, for which we are very appreciative of, as the website involves costs (hosting, domain name, registration etc) for which he pays for out of his own pocket. In a recent email from him he said that he would appreciate it if any members would care to donate a few dollars towards the running of the website. To be able to send him a donation by PayPal his address is: rainer@fuchs-online.com

Stay safe.

Colin Hepper

Editor's Ramblings:

There were several articles in the current Postal Himal that should appeal to a wide audience. These articles illustrate the diverse nature of the Nepal and Tibet Philatelic Study Circle members and their expertise. We try to keep our members abreast of the interest and expertise of information on Nepal and Tibet philately. I would like to thank all the NTPSC members who have contributed to this Postal Himal. The articles are interesting to read and give insights in to aspects of the field that are new to me.

Space limited the number of articles that could be included in this issue. They should be available in the next issue. More articles for the December issue are needed. Please send in your articles to frankvignol@comcast.net and include any special instructions if necessary.

The information in the articles published in the Postal Himal are from the authors of the articles and do not necessarily reflect the expertise or opinion of the NTPSC.

Best wishes,

Frank Vignola

The Grammar of Dzongkha Revised and Expanded: from Leo Van der Velden. This publication is available online at <https://escholarship.org/uc/item/1h4211k0>. Leo's article on "Change of name of post offices in Bhutan 1962—present" published in Postal Himal 162 and 163 in 2015 has been used (page 464) and referred to (page 435) in the updated 2019 version of the best know Dzongkha Grammar book published by the University of California. Congratulations on the recognition of your article and for publishing in the Postal Himal.

Most national shows in the United States were cancelled this year once the COVID-19 pandemic set in. However some literature exhibitions/competitions are still being held including those held in conjunction with Sescal and Chicagopex. Literature can be judged remotely. This year Sescal decided to offer a competition for articles only.

Leo Martyn received a large silver for his article "World War Two Cross Border Censored Mail between Nepal and Tibet." All of the articles as well as the awards results are posted on the Sescal web site, www.sescal.org.

One member asked about the Nepal postal rates during the 1881 to 1890 time period. Not many records are available. It is often assumed that the rates remained in effect from 1881 through 1930 if not later. However there is not much documentation for the early period. If you have any sound information on these early rates, this would be of interest to many collectors.

A Short History of Tibet Postage Stamps

by Briti Deb

Introduction

Historically, "Tibet" refers to a plateau region in central Asia known to be located at the "roof of the world" and at the foot of the snow mountains, bordering China in the East, India through West to South, Nepal, Bhutan and Myanmar in South and Turkestan in north-west. Tibet is the home for Tibetan Buddhism, a distinctive form of Mahayana and Vajrayana, introduced into Tibet in the beginning of 7th century CE from the Sanskrit Buddhist tradition of northern India. Famous for its splendid cultural heritage such as the arts in the form of colorful thangka paintings, sand-mandalas, and rare cultural relics with unique ethnic style, Tibet is also well-known to the world through the office of H.H. The Dalai Lama, the spiritual leader and the winner of the Nobel Peace Prize in 1989.

Tibet's postal history probably dates back to the **beginning of the 20th century** when wax seals were used.



Example of a Tibetan wax seal stamp

Tibet issued its own postage stamps since **1912**, and used them till **1950s** when Communist China started taking over control of Tibetan affairs through its "*Peaceful Liberation of Tibet*" (Figure 1). Rarity and value of Tibetan postal artifacts makes it one of the most prized collections among philatelists.

Though Tibetan postal artifacts are eagerly sought after, it is often difficult to identify the



Figure 1: Scott 132-135 Peaceful Liberation of Tibet (Scott is a catalogue of postage stamps, published by Scott Publishing Co, which lists all the postal purpose stamps of the world), clockwise (a) The Potala Lhasa of 400 Fen, (b) Tibetan ploughing with Yaks , 800 Fen, (c) The Potala Lhasa of 800 Fen, (d) Tibetan ploughing with Yaks 1000 Fen.

value of Tibet postage stamps due to existence of many printings, variety of shades, and colours for each value. Arnold Waterfall in the "*Postal History of Tibet*" listed various Tibet cancels and divided them into several different types, such as "*Hel. T46*", referring to Wolfgang Hellrigl's "*The Postal Markings of Tibet*". In his book Dr. Hellrigl divided the Tibet cancels into several different types such as Chinese = C, British-Indian = B, and Tibetan = T.

Sending mail to Tibet in those days was not easy. After the amount of postage was paid in cash by the sender, post office affixed a wax seal (or stamp) to the letter as a marking that the charges have been paid, and forward to its destination. The cover was sent C/O agent in Pharijong or Gyantse received by the British-Indian P.O. and delivered to the agent, who would affix a Tibetan stamp and re-mail at a Tibetan P.O. Failing to find an agent in Gyantse or Pharijong, the sender would affix the Tibetan stamp at the time of original sending and privately send it to a Tibetan P.O. The Tibetan postal network covered several countries

(Continued on page 5)

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Figure 2 a

Figure 2: (a) 1953 cover from USA to Lhasa via Gyantse Type B-3, Hel. B48 receiving mark dated 3 Oct 1953, (b) 1953 postcard from the United Nations in New York to Lhasa via Gyantse Type B-3 arrival dated 24 Jun 1953, (c) 1947 registered cover from Yatung Tibet to Sydney Australia with Indian Victory stamps tied by Yatung-Tibet / via Siliguri India (Hel. B-47) cancel dated 3 Sep 1947 with scarce Yatung Tibet registration (Hel. B-90) also bearing a Sydney Australia receiving mark dated 16 Sep 1947, (d) 1921 cover from Gyantse Tibet / Siliguri base receiving mark dated 17 Oct. 1919.

(Continued from page 4)

including USA (Figure 2-a and 2-b), Australia (Figure 2-c), India (Figure 2-d), Nepal (Figure 2-e, 2-f), and Wolfgang Hellrigl even reported a registered commercial cover from Leh (Jammu-Kashmir) to Lhasa, dated 1925.



Figure 3: Tibetan wireless telegraph stamp of ½ Sang yellow mint with wide margins.

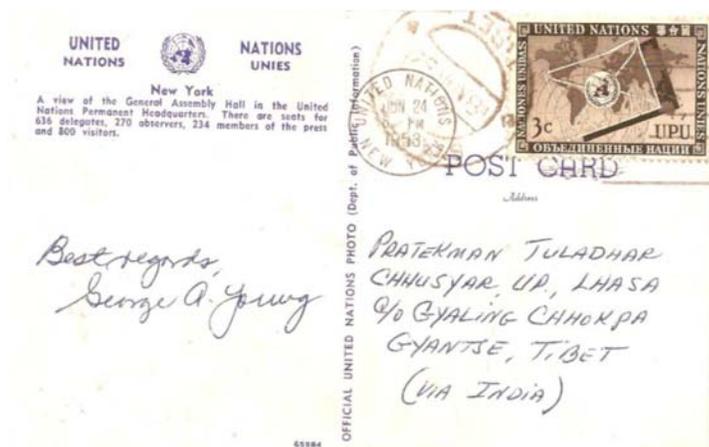


Figure 2 b



Figure 2 c

In 1923, a telegraph and telephone line from India to Lhasa was completed. Discovery of the high denomination stamp of 1 Sang (equivalent to 6 2/3 Trangka) has led to the belief that it might had been used for telegraphic purpose with fee of 1 Sang per Word (Figure 3).

Pre-1902 Postal System

Existence of early (i.e. pre-stamp period) postal system is evident from the bronze seals and covers with wax seals. The franks employed in the primitive Tibetan postal system were strikingly unconventional. Franks are markings (pre or post printed), codings, labels, in postal

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A Short History of Tibet Postage Stamps



Figure 2 d

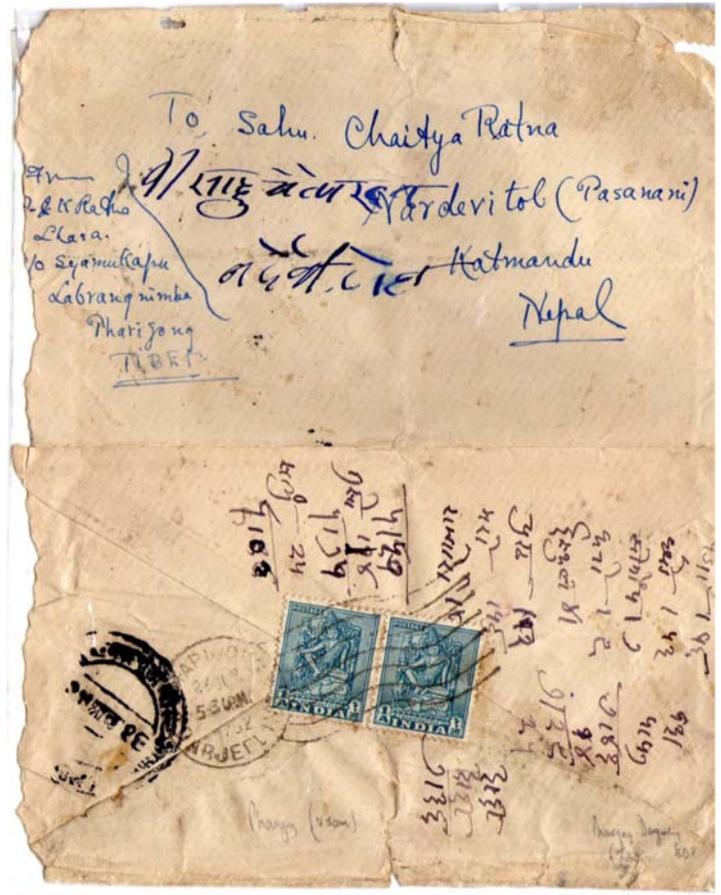


Figure 2 e

(Continued from page 5)

correspondence facilitating postal service. Tibet issued its own stamps in 1912, 1914 and 1933.

1903 - 1909 Postal System

After the arrival of Tibetan Frontier Commission led by Sir Francis Younghusband in Khamba Jong 1903 to settle disputes over the Sikkim-Tibet border, typewritten overprints on Indian adhesive postage stamps started to be used in the Field Post Offices (FPOs) at Chumbi. After entering Lhassa in 1904, postal correspondence were inscribed with the name of the Lahssa, later corrected as Lhassa. As a result of the British-India and Tibet Convention of 1904, Indian Postal Agencies were established at Gartok, Gyantse, Pharijong, Yatung, and Chumbi along the Indian trade route to Lhassa. Indian postage stamps employed were the 3 pies grey, 3 pies carmine, and 1 rupee carmine and green, with the portrait of Queen Victoria, and the ½, 1, 2, 4 and 8 Annas values of the King Edward VII series. Poor road conditions and bad weather limited

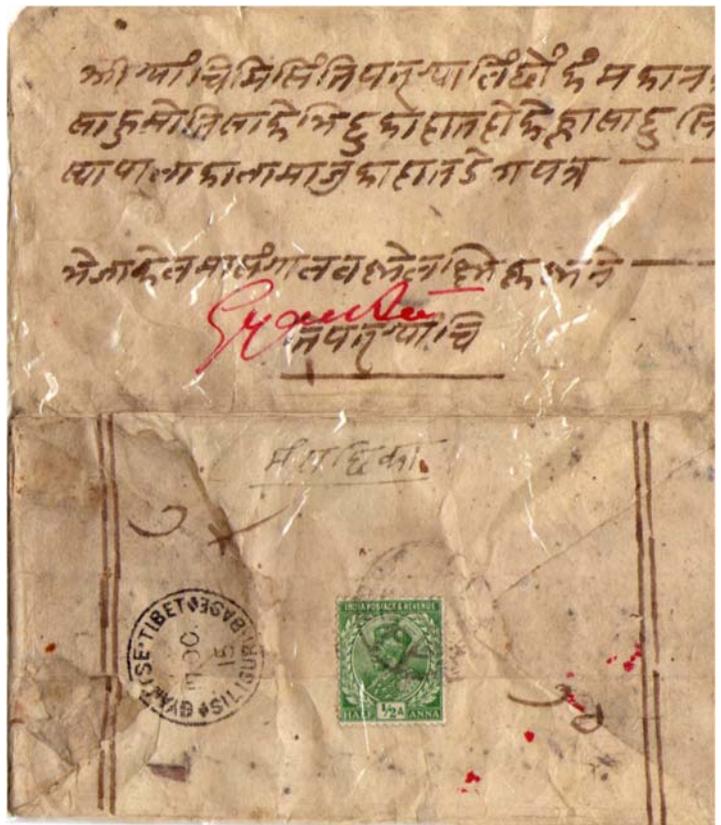


Figure 2 f

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A Short History of Tibet Postage Stamps

(Continued from page 7)

postal movements from Lhasa to base office at Chumbi, and the lack of security warranted armed escort. Such mails operated through the FPOs are prized in collections today.

1909 - 1912 Postal System

Chinese forces of the Qing Dynasty occupied Tibet from 1909 to 1911, when the Dalai Lama and His Government fled into India. Thereafter, Chinese stamps and special Chinese date stamps were used at Chabdo, Gyantse, Lhasa, Pharijong, Shigatse and Yatung. Initially, the Chinese foreign post offices used regular stamps of Imperial China (Figure 4), but in 1911 a set of eleven stamps (surcharged in Figure 4: 2 Cents green used stamp of Imperial China tied by Yatung-Tibet Type C-3 (Hel. C15) cancel three languages) was introduced for Tibet (Scott #1-11).



Figure 4: 2 Cents green used stamp of Imperial China tied by Yatung-Tibet Type C-3 (Hel. C15) cancel.

Stamps Issued During 1912 - 1914

After the fall of the Qing dynasty in 1912, The Dalai Lama returned to Tibet from India and regained authority of independent Tibet. Tibet issued its first postage stamps in 1912 (Figure 5). A snowlion which is also the national emblem of Tibet is usually seen in these stamps, along with the marking in Tibetan characters meaning "Tibet Government" and "Tibet" in English. The hand carved printing plate in a wooden block consisted of twelve stamps, making each stamp even from the same denomination slightly different from the other. Each time after receiving request from the P.O., the stamps were printed, making every print a different shade. Locally xylographed and rice paper commonly used as material, such a primitive method of production

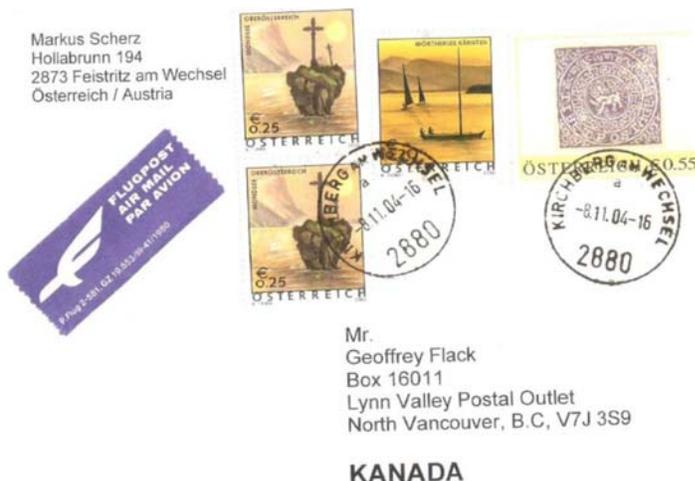


Figure 5: A 0.55 Euro Austrian stamp illustrating a Tibet 4 Trangka blue stamp on it, produced as a "custom order" by the Austrian P.O. Only 200 copies of this stamp were produced.

resulted in wide variations and shades for each stamp. Using dull ink or shiny enamel paint to print, many of the stamps were re-printed a number of times over many years. Some of the currency values used were Skar (pronounced Gar), Zho (pronounced Sho) = 10 Skar = 2/3 Trangka, Trangka (pronounced Trangka) = 1 ½ Zho = 15 Skar, and Srang (pronounced Sang) = 10 Zho = 6 2/3 Trangka.

British-India and Tibet reached an agreement on their common frontier with the Simla Treaty of 1914. Tibet issued two stamps in 1914 printed in a sheet of 6 stamps with hand carved wooden printing blocks, re-printed on demand till 1950s.



Figure 6: An 8 Trangka vermilion (left) and a 4 Trangka deep-blue (right), all of shade 5. The vermilion is of value 8 trangka, variants are Carmine and pink. The deep-blue is of 4 trangka value also found in dull gray-blue and indigo variants.

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A Short History of Tibet Postage Stamps



Figure 7: Set of stamps issued in 1933, perforated and imperforate, in sheets 12 (4 x 3), color (from left) chestnut Brown of value 1 Trangka, orange of value 1/2 Trangka, Dark-blue (Waterfall #130) of value 2/3 Trangka, carmine of value 1 Trangka, emerald-green of value 4 Trangka.

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Stamps Issued in 1933

The printing block used for stamps issued in 1933 (Figure 7) had 12 separate clichés, bound together to make one printing plate. After printing certain number of stamps, the printing plate used was separated, the clichés cleaned, again, bound together, and clichés filled with old ink to reprint. Since the separate clichés have been carved by hand, they were slightly different from each other and several different settings could be identified, numbered with Arabic numbers from 1 to 4. Stamps were perforated from this issue, but it is believed that only the very first printing were perforated officially.

Stamps Issued by China in 1952

After overthrowing the Republic of China by the Communists in 1949, and thereafter establishment of the People's Republic of China, the People's Liberation Army entered Eastern Tibet in early 1950s, and extended Chinese control over all of Tibet in the next few years. After the creation of Tibetan Autonomous Region by the People's Republic of China in 1965, Chinese post offices were opened throughout Tibet, and Tibet's own stamps became replaced by Chinese stamps, and Tibetan stamps ceased to be used anywhere after the dissolution of the Tibetan government in 1959. The annexation of Tibet by China ceased issue of new Tibetan postage stamps. A set of commemorative stamps on the Peaceful Liberation of Tibet were issued by the Chinese People's Postal Service in 1955 (Figure 1).



Figure 8: An early 1950 cover from Pharijong Tibet to Kathmandu Nepal with India 2 Anna Nataraja stamp tied by Pharijong/Darjeeling (Hel. B18) cancel.

Postal System Beyond 1952

Even after Chinese invasion of Tibet, evidence of Indian stamps being used in Tibet could be found (Figure 8).

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A Short History of Tibet Postage Stamps

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The Tibetan uprising of 1959 failed and the Dalai Lama fled Tibet for India. He then set up the Government of Tibet in Exile in Dharamshala, India, often referred to as "Little Lhasa". In an effort to preserve Tibetan culture, language, religion, history, and the Tibetan way of life, the Central Institute of Higher Tibetan Studies was set up in 1967 with support from the Government of India. A set of four unused blocks of commemorative stamps were believed to be issued in 1984 on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of the Tibetan National Uprising (Figure 9). The four values were described on a small card which was sold with the stamp set.

Conclusions

Since the "Peaceful Liberation of Tibet" by Communist China started during 1949, several public debates have brought in serious issues on the existence of ancient Tibetan art, culture, music, language, religion, festivals, and environment, suggesting the need for more research and discussion on Tibet. This article is believed to help in that direction.



Figure 9: (a) Yumbu Lhagang before and after Chinese destruction. It is a National Monument built during the reign of Tibet's first king Nyatri Tsenpo in 128 BC. (b) Gaden Monastery before and after Chinese destruction which was one of the three major centers of learning in Central Tibet, (c) Logo and monogram of Tibet – 1984, (d) The Potala Palace with the Tibetan National Flag.



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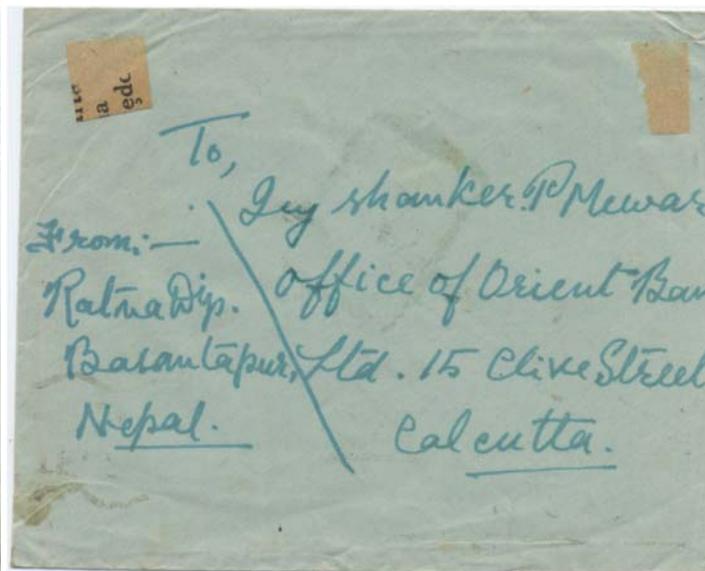
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Nepal's 1941 Green Two Pice – Commercial Usage

by Leo Martyn



Cover bearing 2 pice green error, postmarked Kathmandu July 24, 1943 to Calcutta July 29, 1943



Front of cover bearing 2 pice green error

In September of 1941, the brown 2 pice was printed green in error. Colin Hepper, in his book, *The Sri Pashupati Issues of Nepal*, gives the period of printing from 1941 through 1943 (September), and using Plate 1. Although an error, it is quite common as a stamp, but commercial usage has now only been recorded twice (philatelic inspired local covers have been produced).

I recently purchased the cover illustrated here. Mailed at the proper rate of 8 pice from Kathmandu on July 24, 1943, it was received in Calcutta on July 29.

The other known 2p commercial cover (Hepper, page 74). Mailed from Kathmandu on May 23, 1947 and received in Almar (India) on May 26, 1947.



The other known 2p commercial cover (Hepper, page 74). Mailed from Kathmandu on May 23, 1947 and received in Almar (India) on May 26, 1947.

Philip Cummings Plays the Game

by Alan Warren

This article's title prompts two questions. Who is Philip Cummings, and what is the Game? I will answer the second question first, as it is philatelically more interesting.

The Game

In the early 1950s quite a few covers, such as the ones shown here (Fig. 1), were inspired by a Nepalese trader in Tibet named Pratek Man Tuladhar (1924-1991). He was born into a family of merchants in Kathmandu who operated business locations in Nepal, Tibet, and India. In Tibet the main office, Chhusingsyar, was in Lhasa. He worked at the Tibet offices for two periods of time.

Lhasa.

Many of these covers were returned to the senders so they could have a souvenir that was sent to an exotic location. I have seen first day covers from Australia and the United States that have received similar treatment, thanks to Pratek Man.

Figures 1-2 are a January 9, 1953 airmail cover correctly rated at 25¢, the international rate to Asia, from Woodstock, Vermont where Cummings lived at the time. The reverse shows a faint Gyantse arrival marking of ?? January 1953. Pratek Man's agent in Gyantse, Gyaling Chhokpa, most likely applied and cancelled the



Fig. 1: Cover inspired by Pratek Man Tuladhar



Fig. 2: Back of cover shown in Fig. 1.

Pratek Man was also a stamp collector and established philatelic friends and penpals around the world. After he returned from Nepal to Tibet in 1952, he invited his contacts to write to him at Gyantse, whereupon he would add a third issue or official stamp and have it postmarked, presumably for forwarding to

third issue 2 trangka orange.

Figures 3-4 show another Cummings cover sent registered air mail from Chicago, Illinois on February 2, 1953. The next day it was transit

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Fig. 3: Another Cummings cover



Fig. 4: Back of cover shown in Fig. 3.

Philip Cummings Plays the Game

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marked at New York's Idlewild airport, Air Mail Field P.T.S. (Postal Transportation Service). It arrived in Gyantse February 14. Again a 2 third issue stamp was applied and tied with a native Gyantse marking.

This cover is franked with \$1.21 in postage. Perhaps it contained some stamps or currency to weigh 1 ½ ounces. The air rate was 25¢ per half ounce so it required 75¢. The registry rate was 40¢, bringing the cost to \$1.15. That was all that was required and included a maximum indemnity at the time of 50 francs or \$9.65.

The additional six cents might have been misapplied as a surcharge, allowed on domestic registered mail, in cases where the declared value was higher than the indemnity. However, international registered mail had no increasing fee scale depending on the higher indemnities. The basic 40¢ fee in 1953 included the maximum indemnity of 50 francs.

Philip Cummings



Figs. 5 and 6: Philip Cummings

Philip Harry Cummings was born November 19, 1906 in Hardwick, Vermont where he grew up. He obtained his undergraduate degree in modern languages at Rollins College in Orlando, followed by a master's in Spanish from Middlebury College in Vermont. Philip started a PhD program in romance languages at the University of North Carolina but dropped out. He became a world traveler, crossing the Atlantic sixteen times in a period of ten years. He visited over a dozen countries, mostly in Europe, but there is no indication he ever went to Tibet.

In addition to traveling he taught modern languages and became a news analyst. He

wrote to important people including the Spanish Royal family and the Duke of Alba. Among his correspondents he counted Greta Garbo, Rockwell Kent, Gertrude Stein and Archduke Otto of Austria among others. He established a close relationship with the playwright and poet Federico Garcia Lorca, visiting him both in Spain and at Cummings' home, and translated one of Lorca's poetry books into English.

In 1938 he married and moved to New Jersey where he began his career as a public speaker. Later he moved back to his native state of Vermont. Cummings was widely sought as a paid lecturer. In the 1950s he signed with a New York speakers' agency that included such other clients as David Brinkley, Vance Packard, and Eleanor Roosevelt. He was a popular speaker on world affairs. He resided for many years in Woodstock, Vermont, as shown as his return address on the two covers. Cummings eventually suffered from pneumonia and Alzheimer's disease, and died June 17, 1991 in Windsor, Vermont.

I have not been able to establish any special relationship between Cummings and Tibet, other than he must have heard through his correspondence contacts that mail could be sent there. There is no indication that he was a stamp collector, but when it came to playing Pratek Man Tuladhar's "game," Cummings anxiously participated.

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Photos of Cummings: Billingsley web site

Engineer Yu Barter Tibetan Postage Stamps for Hair Trimmers

by Edmond Weissberg

Here is just a letter - alas not the envelope, and alas and alack nor the enclosed used stamps as quoted in the manuscript postscript. [Fig.1]

But this letter comes from the Chinese Office in Lhasa, a subsidiary office of the now defunct M.T.A.C. - Mongolian and Tibetan Affairs Commission - itself an odd sub-department within the Kuo Min Tang Chinese government. (Note 1).

This letter, dated February 28th, 1949, (Note 2) sent by Mr. K. T. Yu to Mr. Cummings, is self-explanatory, and shows how it was possible to get Tibetan stamps by barter trade: "red and green stamps [and envelopes with stamps on], for hair trimmers [and extra blades]" (Note 3) Of course, Tibetan currency was still inconvertible into U.S. Dollar. (Note 4) But that U.S. money cannot be exchanged in India, remains questionable.

Finally, 4 month and 8 days after the writing of this letter, i.e. on July 08th, 1949, all of the Chinese residents in Tibet were requested to leave the country and to return home in China. (Note 5). This expulsion was nevertheless very courteous, there is indisputable photographic and eyewitnesses' accounts evidence for this.

Well, in the Tibetan government's mind, it was feared that the "Chinese Office" was a nest of "gyami balchebuds", i.e. "Chinese Bolsheviks", (Note 6). So, they childishly thought that expelling the Chinese from Tibet was the correct way to get rid of all Chinese presence. That was of course an oversimplification, as seen on our "European side". Time will win!

(Note1) Just note that the postal return address of the "Chinese office" is in Tibet (via India), and does not mention "China". The Tibetans considered this "office" as an "embassy", and wanted it to deal with them solely through their "Foreign Affairs Department". On the Chinese side, this "office", by its simple presence, claimed to assert the false and imaginary fiction that Tibet was controlled by China. Accordingly, they refused to deal directly with the Tibetan Foreign Affairs Dept. And so, they just stayed in Lhasa. And organized parties!

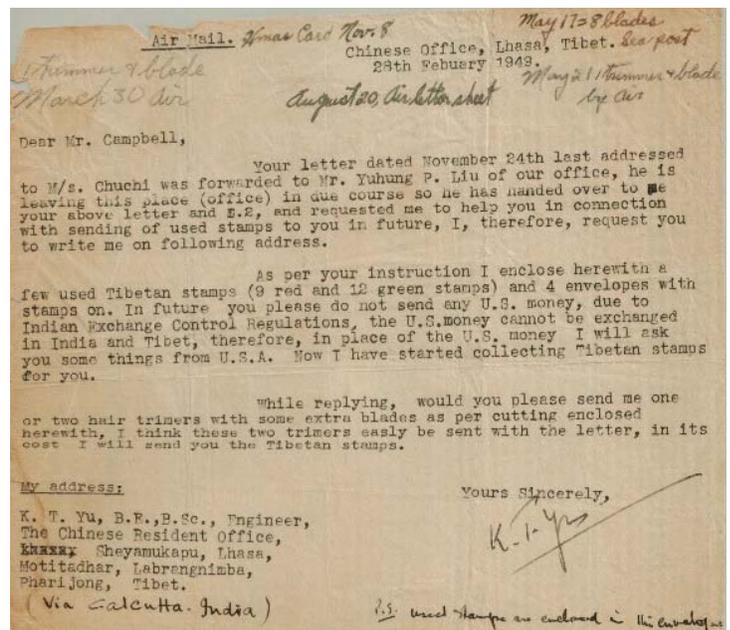


Fig. 1: Letter from K. T. Yu to Mr. Cummings in regard to exchanging stamps for hair trimmers

This childish puerile *modus vivendi*, on both parties, was obviously a not much constructive deadlock! Well, of course, in addition to parties, they also whenever possible spied here and there, collecting information and intelligence, which they reported to the Chinese government, as they had at their disposal a wireless transmitter-receiver.

(Note 2) Year 1949 was not a "leap year", so 28th of February was the last day of this month.

(Note 3) Engineer Yu was apparently not a philatelist, and seemingly not familiar with Tibetan writing. He did only know colours: "red & green stamps". It is just to be hoped that he was not affected by colour-blindness disease!

(Note 4) In fact, Tibetan currency (Srang, Tamka), was in circulation within Tibet as coins and banknotes; but was still inconvertible into any other foreign currency. That's partly why the Tibetan Trade Mission was sent under the leadership of Finance Minister Shakabpa around the world, in 1948, under Tibetan passports, to buy gold reserves (especially in the U.S.A.), to back

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Engineer Yu Barter's Tibetan Postage Stamps for Hair Trimmers

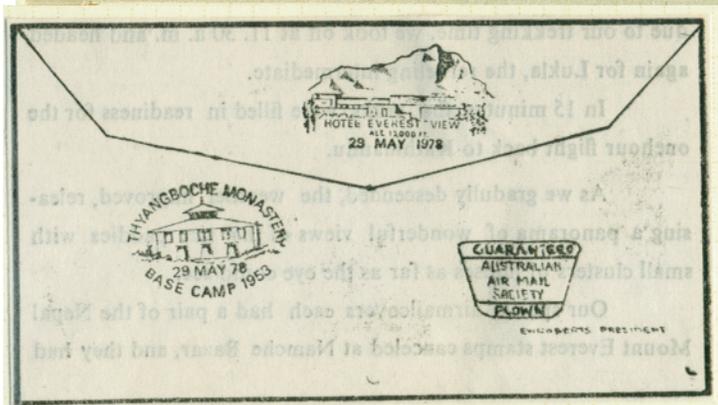
(Continued from page 13)

the Tibetan currency in view of the future convertibility of Tibetan currency. Unfortunately, P.R.C.'s inopportune intervention put an abrupt stop to the unhurried proper Tibetan way of life towards their own gradual modernization.

(Note 5) This amounts to about 400 persons, including of course the "Chinese office" members and staff, (so certainly Mr. K. T. Yu), but also some Chinese merchants etc.

established there.

(Note 6) The 1933 13th Dalai Lama prediction was clear, probably based on reports from Mongolia. However, despite a very long USSR control, Mongolia finally acceded to full independence.



Reduced image of the reverse side of the cover showing additional markings. This cover is 134 of 500 made.

Cover Commemorating the Silver Jubilee of the first ascent of Everest.

Autographed by Hillary and Norgay, the first to climb the mountain.

Postal marking, Dated May 24, 1978 is Namche Bazar and the Dated Cachets are Thyangboche Monastery and Hotel Everest view.

The cover was carried by helicopter.

A Review of Dick van der Wateren's Nepal Postal Stationery Auction

by Leo Martyn

On September 20, 2020, Corinphila Netherlands offered 110 lots from Dick's Nepal postal stationery collection. Only 8 lots were unsold and prices realized were in multiples of starting prices. A few of the highlights were (*prices are in euros and without the 23% buyer's premium*):

Wa = van der Wateren's catalog.

Lot 24: Wa 12, an 1898 , formula usage (indicium did not pay any postage) from the British Residency post office in Kathmandu (bearing Indian 2a 6p) to Germany. 6000

Lot 1: indicium alone, described as a Die Proof 1/ 2 Anna in black with a black seal cancel. 4200

Lot 9: a formula usage of Wa 9b, used from the British Residency on April 4, 1911, bearing an 1 Anna Indian stamp, received in Belgium on April 22. 1600

Lot 63; W 31, 2 Pice postal card cancelled in Kathmandu with additional 4 Annas Indian postage cancelled at the British Legation post office for air mail delivery to Germany. 2000

Lot 98: a group of Landlord stamps and documents bearing the stamps. 3000

Lot 78: used 24 paisa registered envelope without top inscription. 1700

Lots 43 (Wa 24), 47 (Wa 23), 53 (Wa 25 var.), 56 (Wa 28) – unused blue cards: 1500, 600, 1500, 1500

Lot 73: 8 paisa envelope bearing additional Tibet stamps for delivery to Lhasa via Phari. 600

Lot 4: a formula usage of Wa 5 without additional postage sent to Darjeeling (India) on February 19, 1888 and redirected to Chongtong (India), receiving a "postage due 1 Anna" handstamp. Earliest usage. 1100



Lot 24: Wa 12 posted from the British Residency in Kathmandu to Germany, 1898

Lot 42: used Wa 27 from Tatapani to Kathmandu in July of 1934. 1600

Many lots exceeded their starting prices of 100 euros with realizations of 500 plus. A very successful auction for our past vice-president.

A Survey of Nepalese Forgeries, Facsimiles, and Fantasies—Part VI

by Dr. Wolfgang Hellrigl and Leo Martyn

TWO ANNAS—Circa 1975

Possible country of origin: Nepal (Kathmandu)

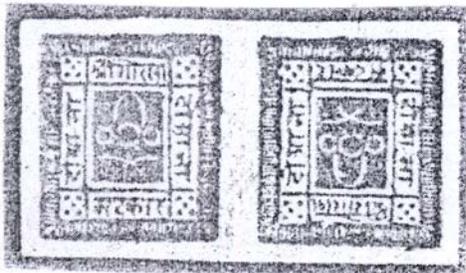
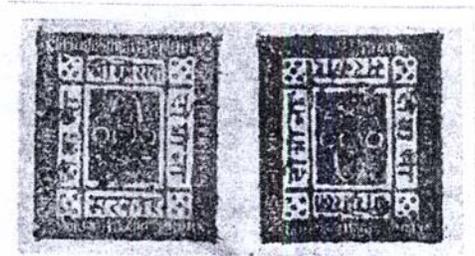
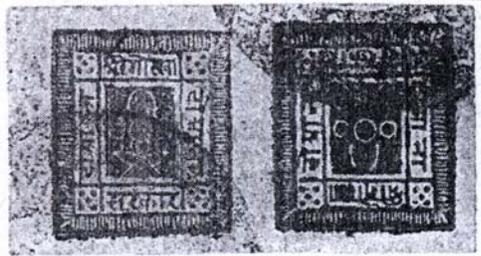
Number of clichés forged: 2A

Existence of multiples: Yes (tete-beche)

Existence of mint copies: Yes

Shades: purple-brown Type of paper used: local (“native”)

First noticed in / by: c. 1975 / S.L. Shrestha

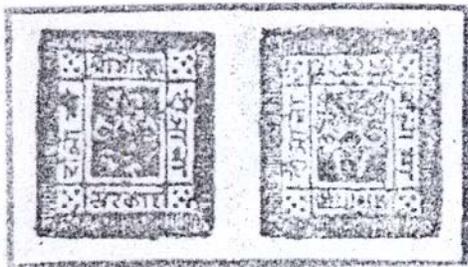


ॐ

“A” in “ANE”
First seen in 1981

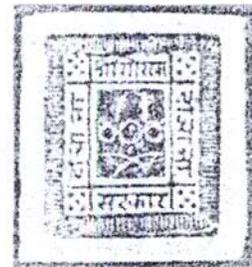


CLICHÉ B



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“A in “ANE”
First seen in 1984



“Cliché B is a modified cliché of A whereby just the “A” in “ANE” has altered!”