

UPU Specimen Stamps

by

JAMES BENDON

Addenda and Corrigenda

(last updated 26 October 2007)

The author welcomes comments and further information.

Please write to: specimens@jamesbendon.com

Note: Sources and references are shown in square brackets.

p.16

para 5 – Cape Verde Islands

It has now been established that although the individual 1986 30e on 10e ‘Vapor’ stamps designed by Friedensreich Hundertwasser were eventually distributed in normal unused condition, the four stamps in each of the three souvenir sheets were overprinted SPECIMEN prior to distribution. These were the first stamps to have been distributed with any protective markings since 1961 – a gap of 25 years – and were the last of any country to be so distributed.

p.21 – Egypt NEW

The triangular handstamp was applied to items from the King Farouk collection prior to its sale.

The specimens were UPU distributions to Egypt; one set being diverted to the King.

[John E Cruttenden]

p.21 – Spanish Zone of Morocco

The handstamp struck in violet is in a rectangular box with chamfered corners. The inscription reads:

COLECCION
OFICIAL
MARRUECCOS
ZONA ESPAÑOLA

p.32 – Harrison

Type H3 was also used on Seychelles 1938–41

p.33 – Waterlow

Types W8/W8a:

see Walton, F, "Sierra Leone King George VI Specimen Stamps", *London Philatelist*, vol.110,

pp.272–276, Oct 2001

see Davis, R & Walton, F, "Waterlow King George VI Specimen Stamps – Despatch Dates", *London Philatelist*, vol.112, p.277, Sep 2003

Aden

1937 Dhow set

to read D20

[John E Cruttenden]

Bahamas

1919

‘WAR TAX’ in one line on Staircase 3d black & brown: *delete* [This is known with watermark inverted]

'WAR TAX' in two lines on Staircase 3d black & brown: *add* [This is known with watermark inverted]

[Charles Freeland]

see *also above* articles under Waterlow

British Guiana

1898

on the three horizontal format stamps – 1c 5c 15c – the N in SPECIMEN slants to the right – this appears to be constant

[Michael B Nicholson]

Brunei NEW

1924–33 *to read* 1924–37

add 10c purple/yellow Type D19

delete 3 lines in square brackets

[Robert Buxton]

A detailed analysis of the watermark Multiple Script CA issue is shown below. All stamps are from 'wet' printings.

SG	Value	Colour	Date	Specimen	Perforation
60	1c	black	1926	D16	comb
61	2c	brown	1924	D16	line
63	3c	green	1924	D16	line
64	4c	maroon	1924	D16	comb
66	5c	orange-yellow	1924	D16	line
69	6c	intense black	1924	D16	comb
71	8c	ultramarine	1927	D16	comb
73	10c	purple/yellow	1937	D19	line
74	12c	blue	1924	D16	comb
62	2c	green	1933	D19	comb
65	4c	orange	1929	D19	comb
67	5c	grey	1931	D19	line
68	5c	chocolate	1933	D19	comb
70	6c	scarlet	1931	D19	line
72	8c	grey-black	1933	D19	comb
75	25c	slate-purple	1931	D19	comb
76	30c	purple & orange yellow	1931	D19	line
77	50c	black/emerald	1931	D19	line
78	\$1	black & red/blue	1931	D19	line

[John E Cruttenden]

Cape Verde Islands [insert]

1986 souvenir sheets each containing four 50e stamps with different background colours – see Addendum to **p.16** above

Ceylon NEW

1912–25

5r Die II on emerald *to read* D16 (red)

[Robert Buxton]

1938–47

2c *to read* D20

[John E Cruttenden]

1947

add New Constitution set of four Type B9

[John E Cruttenden]

Colombia

Types

Type [2] *to read* 1923–26

1923

add Perkins Bacon 1½c new value Type [2]

Cyprus **NEW**

see above articles under Waterlow

The statement “None of the Great Britain stamps overprinted ‘CYPRUS’ (and surcharged) was distributed ...” is incorrect.

International Bureau Circular 118/8555 dated 27 July 1881 lists the following denominations: ½ piastre, 30 paras, 1 piastre, 2 piastres, 4 piastres and 6 piastres.

The five piastre denominations are the July 1881 watermark Crown CC issue.

The 30 paras can only be the June 1881 ‘30 PARAS’ surcharge on the GB 1d overprinted ‘CYPRUS’ as the 30 paras mauve watermark Crown CA was not issued until June 1882. It has not been possible to determine which plate number(s) were distributed.

Dominican Republic

Registration Stamps

add 1940–42 8c, 30c Type [2]

Falkland Island Dependencies

1946 KGVI set

to read D21

[John E Cruttenden]

Gilbert & Ellice Islands

see above articles under Waterlow

Great Britain

1881–84

add 1½d lilac

Grenada

see above articles under Waterlow

Guatemala **NEW**

Types *add*

1950 **SPECIMEN** 21.5 x 3.5 [2] Optd

1950 **SPECIMEN** 22 x 3 [3] Optd

1953 **Specimen** 18 x 4/3 [4] RH/S

Checklist *add*

1950 Tourist Propaganda

Postage ½c, 1c, 2c, 3c, 6c Type [2]

Air 3c, 5c, 8c, 13, 35c Type [3]

1953 National Fair set of 9 Type [4]

[these also show a short diagonal black line across top right corner]

Honduras

Types *add*

1941 **MUESTRA** 10 x 2.25mm [6] Optd

Checklist *add*

1941 Obligatory Tax – Morazán 1c [6]

1941 Obligatory Tax – Red Cross 1c [6]

Jamaica

see above articles under Waterlow

1919–21

the unissued 6d is known with watermark MCA reversed
[Spink 12–13 April 2007]

Iraq


1954–57

delete 16f

1955–58 Official

delete 16f

Liberia

Type P2 illustration was omitted and is shown here:  23 x 24 mm

Rogers, Col Henry H, in *A Century of Liberian Philately*, K Bileski, Winnipeg, n.d., lists 13 types of SPECIMEN of which the following 5 were used on stamps distributed by the UPU:

Rogers Type I = JB Type [1]

Rogers Type II = JB Type [2]

Rogers Type IV = JB Type [3]

Rogers Type V = JB Type P2

Rogers Type VII = JB Type [4]

Stanley Gibbons and Scott list the 1892–1900 pictorial issues differently. This revised listing should be easier to use with either catalogue:

1892

1c, 2c, 4c, 6c, 8c, 12c, 16c, 24c, 32c, \$1, \$2, \$5 [1]

1896/97

1c lilac-rose, 2c black & olive, 5c black & lake, 10c, 15c, 20c, 25c, 30c, 50c [2]

1900

1c green, 2c black & red, 5c black & grey-blue [3]

Malaysian States – Selangor

1941

Sultan Alam Shah \$2 *to read* Type D20

[John E Cruttenden]

Mexico NEW

Types

add 1939 MUESTRA in very light sans-serif font 12.75 x 1.5 [3] Optd

Checklist

add 1939 Sarabia 20c [3] reading vertically upwards at top left

North Borneo

para 3

add Further examples of this variety were in the ‘Hornbill’ and Lars Parsbro collections [Spink 12–13 April 2007] and an example of the 4c on 25c with surcharge and SPECIMEN overprint double, one albino, was in the Koh-I-Noor collection [Harmers of London 8 July 2003].

Nyasaland

para 2

at end of line 1 *to read* 5s

Obock and Djibouti

1894

one example of the 25f with ‘S’ inverted and one example of the 50f with ‘S’ at top instead of at foot are known

Switzerland International Organisations

League of Nations

1939 3f 5f 10f show 3-line overprint:

SOCIÉTÉ
DES
NATIONS

International Labour Office

1939 3f 5f 10f show 4-line italic overprint:

*S. d. N.
Bureau
internationale
du Travail*

Transvaal

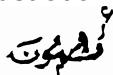
1902–03

2½d is known with watermark inverted probably on all copies

[David M Cohen, Brian Trotter]

Turkey

illustration of Type [1] is incorrect – a revised illustration is shown here:



SPECIMEN 20 x 3 mm (SPECIMEN)

pp.229 ff – Appendix B: UPU Membership Dates

When this Appendix was compiled in 1987 there were 168 member countries; on 31 March 2007 there were 191.

The increase in membership resulted almost entirely from changes in the world political situation:

- breakup of the Soviet Union: membership transferred to Russian Federation; new individual memberships for Armenia, Estonia, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Moldova, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan [Belarus (Byelorussia) and Ukraine **NEW** had been granted separate membership in 1947]
- breakup of Yugoslavia: membership initially transferred to Serbia and Montenegro, from 2006 Serbia alone retained membership and Montenegro became new independent member; new individual memberships for Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Slovenia
- separation of Czechoslovakia: individual memberships for Czech Republic and for Slovakia
- re-unification of Germany which previously had separate memberships for the German Federal Republic and the German Democratic Republic
- re-admission of South Africa following the end of apartheid
- independent membership granted to Eritrea, Namibia, [Western] Samoa
- settlement of relations with UPU creating new members: Antigua and Barbuda, St. Christopher and Nevis, Timor-Leste (former East Timor)

As at 31 March 2007 Andorra, Marshall Islands, Micronesia and Palau, all members of the UN, had not settled their relationship with the UPU

Antigua and Barbuda*	20 Jan 1994	Independent member
Armenia*	14 Sep 1992	Independent member
Bosnia and Herzegovina*	26 Jan 1993	Independent member
Croatia*	20 Jul 1992	Independent member
Czech Republic*	18 Mar 1993	Independent member
Czechoslovakia		see Czech Republic, Slovakia
Eritrea*	19 Aug 1993	Independent member
Estonia*	30 Apr 1992	Independent member
Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia*	12 Jul 1993	Independent member
Georgia*	1 Apr 1993	Independent member
Germany*		additional membership for GDR cancelled
Kazakhstan*	27 Aug 1992	Independent member
Kyrgyzstan*	26 Jan 1993	Independent member
Lagos		<i>delete</i> * indicating membership
Latvia*	17 Jun 1992	Independent member
Lithuania*	10 Jan 1992	Independent member
Moldova*	16 Nov 1992	Independent member
Montenegro*	26 Jul 2006	Independent member
Myanmar		see Burma
Namibia		see South West Africa
Russia		continued membership as Russian Federation*
St. Christopher and Nevis*	11 Jan 1988	Independent member
Samoa [Western]*	9 Aug 1989	Independent member
Serbia and Montenegro		see Yugoslavia
Singapore*		<i>add</i> * indicating membership
Slovakia*	18 Mar 1993	Independent member
Slovenia*	27 Aug 1992	Independent member
South Africa*	22 Aug 1994	membership restored
South West Africa		Independent member as Namibia*
Tajikistan*	9 Jun 1994	Independent member
Timor-Leste* (former East Timor)	28 Nov 2003	Independent member
Tongking		<i>delete</i> * indicating membership
Turkmenistan*	26 Jan 1993	Independent member
Uzbekistan*	24 Feb 1994	Independent member
Yugoslavia	18 Jun 2001	continued membership as Serbia and Montenegro*
	26 Jul 2006	continued membership as Serbia

* denotes current UPU membership
for latest information go to the UPU website www.upu.int