

POSTAL HIMAL

QUARTERLY OF THE NEPAL AND TIBET

PHILATELIC STUDY CIRCLE



The TSARONG Crest



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by Armand E. Singer

Vancouver, British Columbia: Geoffrey Flack, 1996. Large format, 8.5"X11". Softbound. \$25 U.S. + postage. Available from G. Flack, Box 65987, Station F, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, V5N 5L4, and from many dealers, U.S. and abroad.

Little by little the edifice of Himalayan philatelic knowledge is rising. An important wing has just opened its doors. Dr. Hellrigl, who has already given us three monumental volumes on Nepal (two in collaboration, the last by himself), has now turned his attention to Tibetan postmarks, producing a watershed monograph. There simply is no substitute. It is for all intents and purposes complete; it is most authoritative; it is beautifully printed and illustrated; it is, in a word, indispensable.

No serious Tibet collector can afford to be without it. More extensive than the pages in Waterfall's Postal History of Tibet, it includes earliest and latest known dates of usage for almost every cancel and features exceptionally clear illustrations. Like the two Bibbins books on the 1912 and 1933 Tibet issues (equally well printed by Flack), we will not be able to help wondering how we ever managed without it. Most useful, among its many advantages, is a full listing of all the postal marking towns in Tibet, 1903-1959, with alternative spellings and names (and a 1959 map to help locate the Chinese system), which in several cases amount to six variants or more, and a generous selective bibliography. There is even an extra map of the fifteen Tibetan post offices, 1912-1956, with the native spellings.

The relative rarity of all these cancels is evaluated by means of a point system (p. 6) - not the usual one where a point equals some predetermined amount of money at a given moment, say a U.S. dollar a point - but as follows:

100 points - extremely rare	1-4, approximate number of covers known		
90-95 pts. - very rare	5-9	"	"
80-85 pts. - rare	10-19	"	"
55-75 pts. - scarce	20-49	"	"
30-50 pts. - medium	50-100	"	"
5-25 pts. - common	over 100	"	"

Collectors are thus free to pay, and dealers to charge, what both consider appropriate. I compared the author's evaluations of scarcity with a sizable number of examples about which I happened to have some personal knowledge. They seemed completely accurate.

Reviewers (if for no other reason, to justify their keep) hunt down omissions, errors of fact, judgment, or spelling, and the like. Except for a curious repetition, I found nary a misprint. I cannot really allege any factual errors. I am perforce left with matters of judgment. Some collectors, in whose company I do not find myself, may well object to the radically new numbering system. In a nutshell, Dr. Hellrigl has abandoned Waterfall's generic B1, B2, 1933 VIII, etc., nomenclature in favor of a separate number for each cancel. For instance, British-Indian cancels, registration hand-stamps, boxed namestamps, etc., run from B1 to B141. Early Chinese imperial cancels are numbered C1-40, native Tibetan marks, T1-110, later 1950s Chinese occupation types, C100-412. Blank numbers have been left to accommodate any future finds. I will wager that, following the inevitable grumbling which accompanies change, collectors will accept this far better system. Waterfall's generic types are misleading in that they are not all exactly alike, and they are even difficult to verify when examining possible counterfeits. Hellrigl's are very carefully drawn and inclusive. Remember, with Nepal's postal stationery issues, Higgins and Gage's specialized numbers have given way to van der Wateren's; Vignola and Hellrigl's classic-issue numbers have become the new norm. These changes, however momentarily vexatious, are probably inevitable.



Contact: **Nepal Philatelic Bureau**
Sundhara, Kathmandu, Nepal.
Phone No. 241895

फिलाटेलिक कार्यक्रम

१९९६

PHILATELIC PROGRAMME
1996



NEPAL PHILATELIC BUREAU

for

Nepalese Postage Stamps, First Day Covers,
Folders, Postal Stationeries etc

क्र. सं.	प्रकाशन मिति	विषय विवरण	दर
१.	२०५३ वैशाख	विकास निर्माण -कर्णाली नदीको पुल	रु. ७।-
२.	२०५३ जेठ	लुम्बिनी टिकटमाला	रु. १२।- (प्रत्येकको)
३.	२०५३ असार	एटलान्टा प्रोलम्पिक १९९६	रु. १३।-
४.	२०५३ साउन	व्यक्तित्व टिकटमाला अ) भाषा साहित्यका क्षेत्रबाट क) भबानी भिक्षु रु. १।- ख) पद्म प्रसाद भट्टराई रु. ४।- ग) हेमराज शर्मा रु. ५।-	
	२०५३ भाद्र	घा) इतिहास र राजनीतिबाट क) कालु पांडे -१७५ पं. ख) पुष्पलाल श्रेष्ठ रु. ३।- ग) सुवर्ण शम्शेर रु. ६।-	
५.	२०५३ असोज	नेपाल दर्शन टिकटमाला क) बेगनास ताल, कास्की रु. १।- ख) नुवाकोट दरवार, नुवाकोट रु. २।- ग) भक्तपुरको परम्परागत गाईजात्रा रु. ७।- घ) अर्जुनधारा, झापा रु. ८।-	
६.	२०५३ कात्तिक	पुतली-चरा टिकटमाला रु. ५।- (प्रत्येकको) क) घ) क) ख)	
७.	२०५३ मंसिर	हिमश्रृंखला टिकटमाला रु. ६।- (प्रत्येकको)	
८.	२०५३ पौष	श्री ५ महाराजाधिराज सरकारको ५२औं शुभजन्मोत्सव रु. ५।-	

दृष्टव्यः १. आवश्यकता अनुसार यस कार्यक्रम र दरमा बढाउनु हुन सक्नेछ।
२. प्रत्येक प्रकाशनको सम्बन्धमा विशेष जानकारी नेपाल फिलाटेलिक ब्यूरो, काठमाडौंबाट समय समयमा उपलब्ध हुन सक्नेछ।

S. No.	Date of Issue	Subject or occasion	Rate
1.	April 1996	Bridge of Karnali River	Rs. 7/-
2.	May 1996	Lumbini Series	Rs. 12/- (each)
3.	June 1996	Atlanta olympic-1996	Rs. 13/-
Personalities Series			
4.	July 1996	a) Personalities from Literature I) Bhawani Bhikshu Rs. 1/- II) Paddma Prasad Bhattarai Rs. 4/- III) Hem Raj Sharma Rs. 5/-	
	August 1996	b) Personalities from History and Politics I) Kalu Pande -/75 P. II) Pushpalal Shrestha Rs. 3/- III) Suwarna Shamsheer Rs. 6/-	
5.	Sept. 1996	Visit Nepal Series a) Begnash Lake, Kaski Rs. 1/- b) Palace of Nuwakot Rs. 2/- c) Traditional Gaijatra of Bhaktapur Rs. 7/- d) Arjun Dhara, Jhapa Rs. 8/-	
6.	Oct. 1996	Butterflies + Birds Series Rs. 5/- (each) a) b) a) b)	
7.	Nov. 1996	Mountain Series	Rs. 6/- each
8.	Dec. 1996	52nd Birthday of H.M. the King	Rs. 5/-

Note:- 1. The above Programmes and rates are Subject to change as necessary.
2. The detailed information on each issue Will be available from Nepal Philatelic Bureau, Kathmandu from time to time.

The TSARONG* Crest

The Tsarong personal Crest is mentioned briefly in "THE POSTAL HISTORY of TIBET" by Arnold C. Waterfall, on page 144, as being one of the interesting side-lines of collecting Tibetan postal history. I am doing a study on this Crest and am reporting my findings. If anyone has more information to add to this study it would be most welcome. I have organized this Crest into three types with variations according to the complexity of the design.

The Tsarong Crest consists of a central Mountain being held up by two Lions which are standing on a platform with the Sun above and a flowing Banner below. The meaning of the Crest is unknown but since they are hand colored the colors give us some clues. The Crest is printed in the embossed style in black ink, the Sun above is gilded in gold except on type IIIa, the Sun is dark blue and on type IIIb it is deep red. There is one known exception, the Sun on type I, dated 1940, is red, others may exist. The Platform, with eleven short diagonal lines, is green when colored, so one can come to the conclusion that it represents the great Tibetan plateau. The Mountain which is colored gray on most examples, has two streams flowing down, one long one on the right and a short one on the left. The underside of the Mountain, when colored, is yellow with gold gilded lines giving the impression that the Mountain is yielding rivers of gold on the great Tibetan plateau. The hairs of the Lions, including the tail, are colored a light blue, the mouth a spot of red. The flowing Banner with the Tibetan characters is colored red, light to dark.



Figure 1, Type I

The type I Crest has a more complex water system, the stream on the right has two branches coming into the main stream, the short stream on the left starts vertically, on all the other types it starts from the right and slants down. The underside of the Mountain has more shading lines than the other two types, the Banner ends are slightly different as are the shape of the tails and hair styles of the Lions, (figure 1).

*Tsarong Shape was for many years the head of the Tibetan Mint and was responsible for the minting of coins and the printing of stamps. For more information see the suggested reading at the end of this article.

Type II is very similar to type I except it has been simplified some what. The right long waterway has only one short stream coming in from the right and the short stream on the left side of the Mountain starts from the right and slants down. The underside of the Mountain has been slightly simplified, (figures 2 & 3). Type IIa and type IIb are quite similar with the following exceptions:



Figure 2, Type IIa

Type IIa: Not as heavily embossed.

The Lion on the left has a round face with a "floppy" right ear.

The short stream coming into the long waterway starts from the right, see figure 2.

Incomplete line under right side of Mountain, (figure 2).



Figure 3, Type IIb

Type IIb: The head of the Lion on the left is longer and has a "large" right ear.

The short stream coming into the long waterway starts vertically.

Line complete under Mountain, (figure 3).

Type IIIa and IIIb have been simplified and stylized even more than the other two types. The Sun doesn't have the outer ring under the rays; the waterways on and under the Mountain are more symmetrical; the platform that supports the Lions has the eleven short diagonal lines going down from right to left, the opposite of the other types.



Figure 4, Type IIIa



Figure 5, Type IIIb

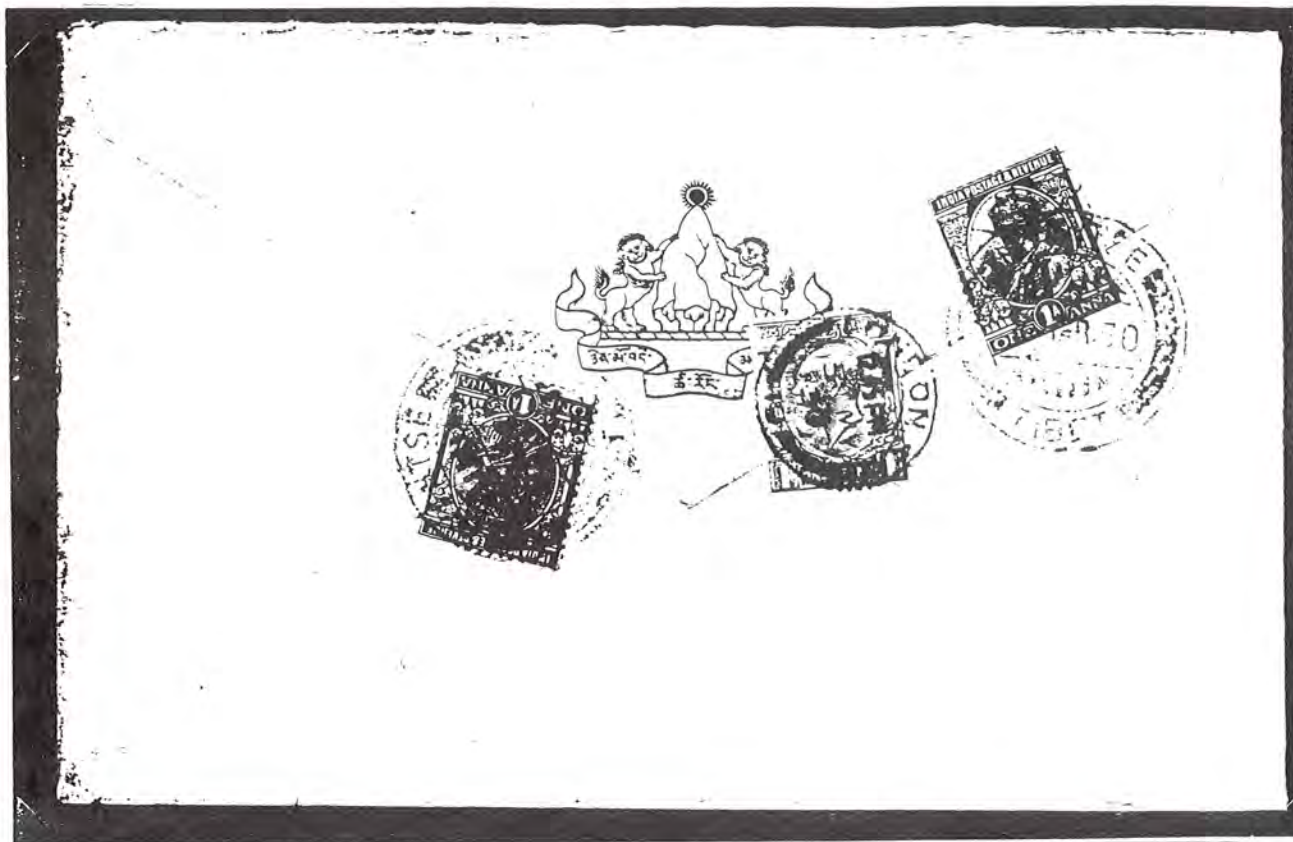
Type IIIa: Tibetan characters under platform.
Sun and Lions are dark blue, almost an indigo (figure 4).

Type IIIb: The Tsarong name is in English.
Embossed in dark red.
Found on the business card of George Tsarong, the grandson of Tsarong Shape (figure 5).

The Tsarong Crest is found on the back flap of European style envelopes of various sizes, some with linen lining, the dates are from covers seen or recorded.

Envelope size:	215x135mm.	"V" back flap	Type I, 1926
	215x135mm.	"	Type IIa, date ?
	165x103mm.	"	Type I, 1930
	165x103mm.	"	Type IIa, late 1920's
	155x105mm.	"	Type I, 1940
	130x103mm.	"	Type IIIa, 1947
	168x104mm.	straight flap	Type IIb, 1939/40.

There has been reported a cover dated 1917 with the Tsarong Crest, but at this time the type of Crest is not known.



1930 COVER: TIBET to ENGLAND; Type I Crest.

The illustrations in this study are enlarged 200% and the 1930 cover illustrated above is actual size. If you are interested in finding out more about this remarkable man I have listed several books which may be of interest. I want to thank Geoffrey Flack for supplying photo copies of several examples and Armand E. Singer for helping me sort out the different types.

Suggested reading:

Daughter of Tibet by Rinchen Tolma Taring

(Mary Taring, who as a young woman was married to Tsarong Shape)

Penthouse of the Gods by Theos Bernard

(An American who stayed with Tsarong in 1937)

Memoirs of a Political Officer's Wife in Tibet and Bhutan

by Margaret D. Williamson

A HISTORY OF MODERN TIBET, 1913-1951

by Melvyn C. Goldstein

Frealon Bibbins
San Francisco, 1995

Dick van der Wateren

Only some ten months after publishing my book, Nepal Postal Stationery, surprisingly I can report two new discoveries concerning the first postal card.

The first finding, made by Frank J. Vignola, is a card of the 18th printing. On page 40 of my book I recorded a variety of this, card (Wa18) with the stamp printed in deep brown instead of vermilion, supposing it could be unique. But Frank's card also has the stamp printed in deep brown. He states, "This is good for both of us, as it proves there were such items printed and that they were not made that color by someone using chemicals, etc."

A rare new discovery was sent to me by Dr. Frank E. Vignola. The card is a curious variety of the 12th printing (Wa12, page 34 of my book). The vowel sign over the 3rd character of the SARKAR was printed in a reversed position. Frank called this card a "Reverse Slanted Vowel" and I suggest to adopt this term and to catalogue it as Wa 12, var. a. **नेपाल सकार**

A third discovery, the most important I believe, is a card of the 5th printing, and used (only 5 known used). The earliest date of use for any Nepalese postal card recorded so far is December 3, 1890 (curiously also 5th printing, sent from Palpa). The card I obtained (illustrated below) this summer however was sent from the post district of Punjab (!) and thus stamped with the barred cancel with the L of Lahore, the Headquarters of Punjab. The card bears 3 circular datestamps, the earliest being of DHARMSALA, FEB 12, 88. The card was forwarded to Darjiling and received the datestamp, DARJEELING DELY FE 19, 88, and then redirected to Chongtong where it was stamped CHONGTONG, FE 20, 88.

This card has gone through the post nearly 3 years earlier than the previously recorded earliest date of use, and means that I have to change the "Presumed Periods of Use" (page 20): Card Wa4 should now read "1888-1891/2", card Wa 5 should now read "1888-1892/3", and "Recorded Date of Use" 1888 (Feb.), or, another option is that the sequence of the printings of both cards could be changed - 5 before 4. Hopefully new discoveries will come to light.



Another question concerns the location of Chongtong, the destination of this card. Mr. Johannes Bornmann of Schönaich, Germany, has sent me a map of Sikkim taken from Dr. K. Boeck's book, *Indische Gletscherfahrten* (1900). Northeast from Darjeeling one can find a village named Kloster Schungtong. Maybe this village is the same as Chongtong. Can any reader offer information concerning this card - especially why it was sent from Dharmsala?



Deutsche Verlags-Anstalt, Stuttgart.

Lost Lhasa: A Review

by Alan Warren

Lost Lhasa: Heinrich Harrer's Tibet, text and photos by Heinrich Harrer, 223 pages, 9¼ by 11¼ inches, hardbound, illustrated, Harry N. Abrams, New York, 1992, ISBN 0-8109-3560-0, \$39.95.

Many of us know about 20th century Tibet prior to the Communist Chinese takeover through Heinrich Harrer's vivid account of the time he and Peter Aufschnaiter spent in that country after escaping from prison in India. Harrer's *Seven Years in Tibet* is a classic that has been reprinted and translated a number of times.

Harrer now resides in Liechtenstein at the age of 80. He is an accomplished explorer and mountain climber. Fortunately he not only took many photographs while he was in Tibet during the late 1940s using borrowed cameras, but he was also able to bring with him the photographs of others who had left them behind when they fled the Chinese in the early 1950s.

This treasure trove of historic photos is the basis of this lovely book which carries an introductory message from Tenzin Gyatso, the 14th Dalai Lama. Harrer tutored the young lad during his stay in Tibet and they became life-long friends.

Heinrich Harrer has prepared a new text to accompany the photos, so that we can once again relive to some extent his Tibet of those seven years. However, the narration is not directed so much to the author's day to day activities but more to the people, customs, and buildings of Tibet during that time. Through some 200

photographs we see the young and old of Tibet, the religious, the poor, members of the Dalai Lama's family and entourage, monasteries, rituals, criminals, the marketplace, and leisure time activities. Some of the latter were introduced from the west such as table and lawn tennis.

One brief chapter of interest to postal historians describes the private carriage of mail by runners who bore the mail in cloth bundles slung over their shoulders. Running was in relays of about 4 miles each. Important government messages were known as arrow letters and consisted of the message written on cloth and wrapped around an arrow.

Harrer tells of the difficulties in sending mail to his relatives in Europe via the British Trade Mission. Since he had escaped from prison in India and fled to Tibet, his letters were considered POW mail. They had to be typewritten and were then censored by the British. Heinrich Harrer even designed a series of some forty Tibetan stamps in contemplation that the country might join the Universal Postal Union. However, the invasion by China terminated that project.

The book is highly recommended to anyone interested in an armchair visit to the Forbidden City, to see it as it was 40 or so years ago.

* * * * *

THE STORMING OF THE GYANTSE FORT

An unpublished letter from the Younghusband Expedition in Tibet-1904

by Colin Narbeth

A philatelic item of interest to Tibet collectors has come to light. While the envelope is of prime interest to philatelists, the ten page letter in it is of historical importance. It describes the battle of 6th July 1904 in which the behaviour of the only British troops present, the Royal Fusiliers, was suspect. The letter is from Major C.N.C. Wimberley, 71 Native Field Hospital, and is dated Gyantse 7.7.04 and tells his wife in graphic detail about the assault on the fort.

The cover bears an India 1 anna adhesive cancelled by a single ring "Field P.O. No.24" dated "7 JL. 04". The reverse bears a single ring "Base Office/15 JL. 04" as well as an English receiving mark dated Aug. 8 1904. The envelope bears the crest of the 32nd Sikh Pioneers and a manuscript "Gyantse 7th July 1904" on the reverse.

It is known that the Mounted Infantry Escort made a mistake on 7th July in exchanging mails at Saotang and brought back the FPO 24 bag destined for Base Office. This accounts for the delay in the cover reaching the Base Office.

Percival Landon, special correspondent of "The Times" whose book "Lhasa" was published after the battle (Feb. 1905) conceals the episode of the Royal Fusiliers delicately with the words: "In the darkness there was some confusion, and an unfortunate incident occurred which resulted in the re-organisation of the storming column into two parties instead of three..." Peter Fleming, Bayonets to Lhasa (first published 1961) a writer renowned for historical accuracy in his works, wrote "there was what Landon called an 'unfortunate incident' involving (as other sources make clear) the only British regiment present". But Fleming does not quote the sources.

Lieut. Col. L.A. Waddell, author of Lhasa and its Mysteries, who was Wimberley's senior officer, and is mentioned disparagingly in the letter, omits any mention of the incident. However he goes into great detail on other parts of the action "...several Lamas were seen, stick in hand, urging on their soldiers and beating them back to their posts...the Tibetans soon fled...the interior was found thickly strewn with the enemy's dead, including several of the militant Lamas".

The transcription of the letter follows. It was not helped by a former owner who scrawled in ball-point ink above the words he felt needed deciphering and on one or two occasions actually over the words.

Major C.N.C.Wimberley, 71 Native Field Hospital, headed "Gyantse 7.7.04" to his wife:

My darling Girlie,

I have been so busy one way or another I haven't had time to write a line, and even now I have only a few minutes at my disposal. As you will have seen in the papers long before this reaches you, the overtures for peace came to nothing, and yesterday we assaulted and took the old Jong which has for so long been menacing us, and now the Union Jack is flying from its topmost tower.

Three assaulting columns started from Pahla before daylight, only some 600 yards from the nearest houses just below the entrance to the Jong at the same time I went out and opened a dressing station just behind Pahla under cover. The storming parties got close up to the village just at the foot of the Jong, before they were fired on, and then a heavy fusilade opened on them. And in the dark in some unaccountable way a panic seems to have seized the men. The left column was composed of "the old firm" - the Gyantse Garrison - consisting of 1 Coy 8th Gurkhas and the 32nd Pioneers, and they stuck to it in the right way. But the centre and left columns, consisting of Royal Fusiliers, 23rd Pioneers and 40th Pathans either did a bolt, or at any rate were not forthcoming at the right time, and lost in the darkness.

The Royal Fusiliers got right away to the hills and the 40th came straggling back towards Pahla. So as at that time we had nothing medical to do, I and my Sergt who is a real good sort managed to rally them a bit and led them most of the way back. But it was evident that along with the columns, the two Doctors told off for them, Conolly, R.A.M.C. (1) and Dunn (2) had also disappeared. I found Dunn soon (3) and got him to go back with a few men, but as there were likely to be a lot of casualties on ahead, and no means of sending them back thro the heavy fire, I ordered up my Tibetan Dulie (Doolie) Bearers, and with Sergt. Packman and Davy I got them in some unknown way right across the open to the remains of the storming parties without a man being hit. How we escaped Lord only knows, as the bullets were kicking up the dust all round us. My Tibetan Kahars really behaved splendidly and I cant speak too highly of them. I have promised them some Bakhshesh all round. The General saw the whole thing and I think was pleased with the performance. Once across we got into a large Chinese House, where we were under perfect cover, and soon had our Hospital Flag flying from the centre of the attacking line. After that there was a long weary wait. Our men got part of the way up the regular road up the side of the Tong, but it was death to get further; so it was decided to try and make a breach in the curtain just above our Chinese House, by means of the Guns. But the General would not risk his guns too near, and it was done from a long distance, near Pahla Village, except for our old friend "Bubble" the antiquated 7 pounder, that the Gun Porters brought up most gallantly. After a long time the breach was declared practicable by Shepherd (4), and the 8th Gurkhas went up an almost unscalable rock face and eventually got in. Once they were at the top, the Tibetans chucked up the sponge, and all bolted. Grant (5) led the Gurkhas, and with him Humphreys (6) and Franklin (7) their Doctor close behind, and after them came Royal Fusiliers, but they weren't in it, right behind under cover, tho doubtless for the sake of the British Public they will be made to share the honour of the day- the Gurkhas were really magnificent, and I never want to see a finer performance. I saw the Gordons at Dargai, and can honestly say that of the two, the storming of the breach at Gyantse Jong by the Gurkhas was a far finer performance.

As they neared the top of the slippery shaley rock and the crumbling battered down curtain, the Tibetans from behind the remaining wall threw bricks and stones in hundreds over the wall down on them without exposing themselves, which caused many Gurkhas to lose their footing and come sliding down 30 or 40 feet; and

besides that unfortunately a badly aimed maxim was playing on them and wounded several of them; but they stuck to it like heroes and eventually got up. I was only 150 yards away and saw the whole thing, and I never wish to see a finer exhibition of pluck. When Grant got to the top I couldn't help shouting out for all I was worth. They had 3 killed, and 17 wounded. Poor Gurdon (8) of the 32nd, one of the best fellows that ever walked was killed early in the day by a stone from an explosion falling on his head, and I have just done the last honours for him, poor chap, in tying him up in a blanket, preparatory to his funeral at 7 p.m. this evening, for among my other duties here are those of undertaker. I have done the last offices now for 4 poor fellows, Bethune (9), Garstin (10), Craster (11), and Gurdon, tho why I should say "poor" I dont know, for they all died gamely, and were killed almost instantaneously at a moment when they were excited and no doubt keenly happy.

All this morning I have been busy collecting details of all the casualties and with so many units it takes a long time. It is really old Waddell's (12) work but as usual at 6.30 a.m. this morning I got a note from him asking me to do it for him. He himself went off on the loot. And tomorrow a force is off down the Shigatse Road for 2 or 3 days, and I have applied to go with it. I am just waiting for orders, and if I am to go I have heaps to do in arranging transport huts or(?), and drawing rations.

There were heaps of things in the Chinese House where I had my dressing station yesterday that I should have liked to carry away, but nothing valuable. I have brought in 2 China vases, common (?) ones like 2 you had that you bought I think in a Tea shop in Southsea; also a little Chinese brass tea pot, a Lhasa Pencase, and a brass cup-stand and cover. I must try and get them packed up and sent to you but I dont know when I shall have time, if I am off on this dance tomorrow, as I hope. That is why I am writing now, and I dont know when I shall be able to write again. The place we go to is "Dongtse" I think, so we shall be away 3 days probably.

Well I must be off and find out if I am to go with my Hospital tomorrow or not.

All my love, darling. Get a present for the Boy from me for his birthday, and tell him his Dad is longing to see him again.,

- (#1) Captain E.P. Conolly, R.A.M.C. Attached to the Royal Fusiliers.
- (#2) Lieut. C.L. Dunn, Medical Officer of the 40th Pathans.
- (#3) the word, crossed out by the unhelpful "decipherer" could be "took".
- (#4) Captain S.H. Sheppard, D.S.O., R.E.
- (#5) Lieut. J.D. Grant, 8th Gurkhas, was awarded the Victoria Cross for this action. In a private interview with Peter Fleming he recalled, 55 years later, "the havildar really led" (But not until 1911 were native officers and men able to receive the V.C. and Karbir Pun received a lesser award, the Indian Order of Merit).
- (#6) Lieut. D.W.H. Humphreys, 8th Gurkhas.
- (#7) Lieut. G.D. Franklin, I.M.S.
- (#8) Lieut. Gurdon, 32nd Pioneers, killed by flying masonry after exploding a charge he had set.

- (#9) Capt. H. Bethune, 32nd Pioneers, killed at Karo La on 6th May.
- (#10) Garstin, a newly arrived subaltern of the Sappers and Miners was killed outright on May 26 at Pahla after six hours fighting, much of it hand to hand.
- (#11) Captain Cr'aster was killed by a matchlock ball fired at point blank range at Tse-chen on 28th June.
- (#12) Lieut. Col. L.A. Waddell, C.I.E., P.M.O. author of "Lhasa and its Mysteries" and wrote "Looting is strictly forbidden by the General" If Wimberley is to be believed he found a way round that - and it may be that Wimberley was unable to go on the trip to Dongtse as Waddell did, and recorded his visits to castles and country houses "the caretaker of the monastery led me up to the private apartments.." (Fleming notes of him: He was not much liked by his brother-officers, one of whom described him as 'a silly forgetful old man who never takes any care of his Hospital or duties'. Waddell was something of a Tibetologist, and his principal concern was the collection of material for the British Museum.)

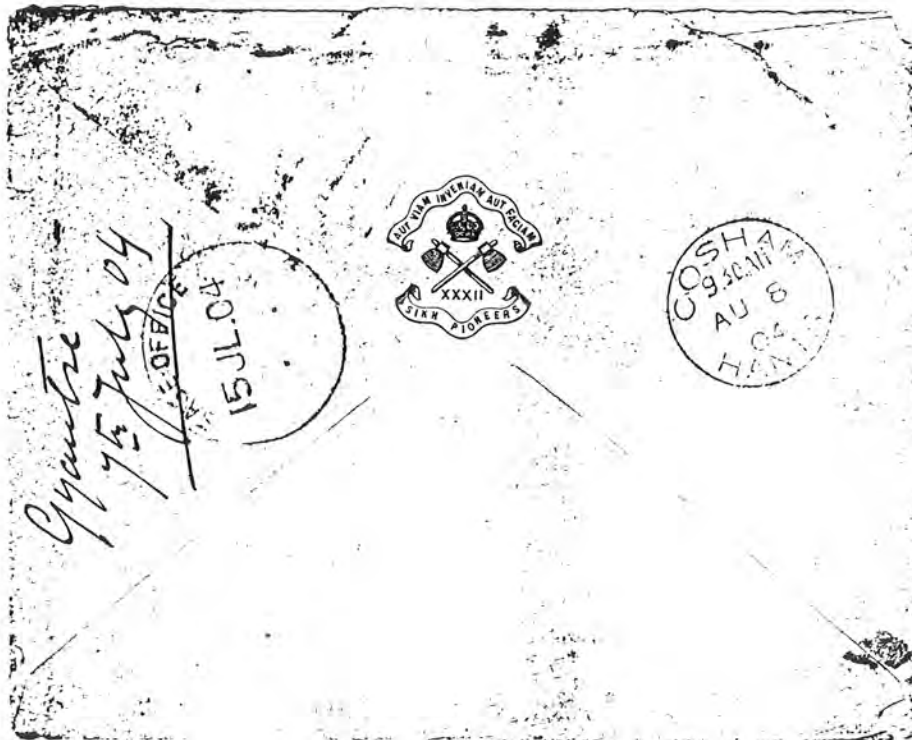
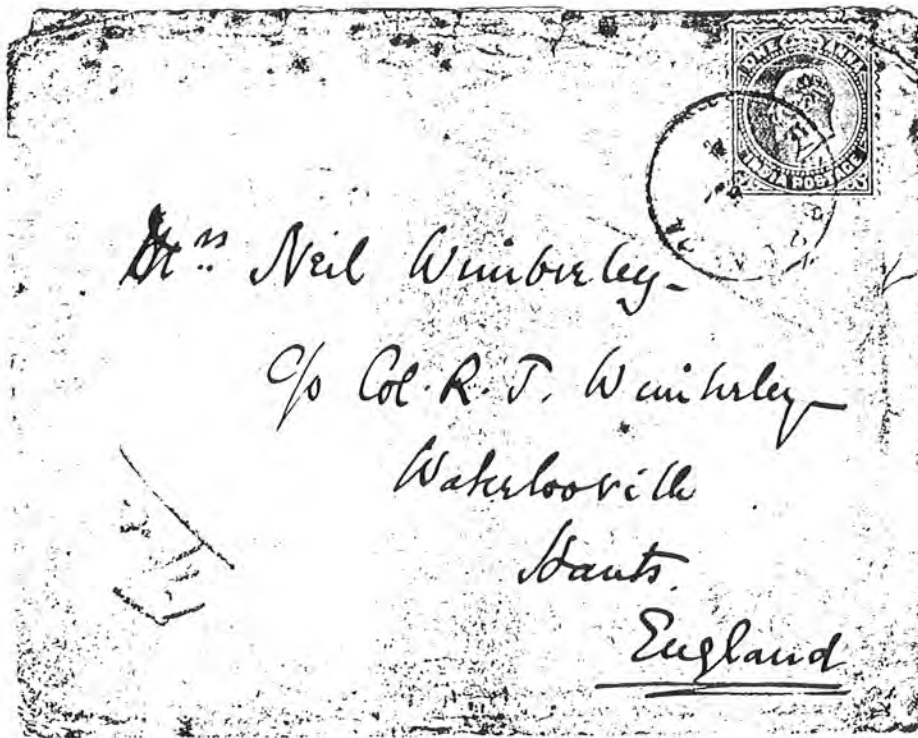
WIMBERLEY
7th MINE FIELD

Yunker.

J. F. O'H.

My darling Tilly

There been to long on way
 a another I haven't had time to
 write a line, & even now I have only
 a few minutes at my disposal.
 as you will have seen in the papers
 long before this reaches you, the over-
^{took}tures for peace came to nothing, &
 yet today we assaulted & took the
 old Tson^g ah. hope to long been
 menacing us, & now the Union Jack
 is flying from its topmost tower.
 Three ^{three} assaulting columns started
 from Pahla ^{Pahla} before ^{daylight} daylight, only
 some 600 yds from the nearest ^{nearest}



[ed. Mr. Narbeth's article (not including the footnotes) originally appeared in the December, 1993 issue of the Journal of Chinese Philately (China Philatelic Society of London).]



HIS MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENT
POSTAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT
NEPAL PHILATELIC BUREAU

Sundhara, Kathmandu, Nepal
Phone No. 977+1, 241895



AVAILABLE LIST OF PHILATELIC ITEMS
1996

Available Postage Stamps

S. N.	Subject	Denomination	Sheet	Year
1.	Souvenir Sheet :			
a)	Postage stamp Centenary	5.00	-	1981
b)	Fish Series	16.25	-	1993
2.	Mountains :			
a)	Cho-oyu	6.00	50	1983
b)	Kumbhakarua	4.60	50	1991
c)	Everest - Regular	1.00	50	1994
d)	Nampa	7.00	50	1995

We have the pleasure in notifying revised list of Nepal Postage Stamps available for sale in this Bureau. All those interested in Nepal Postage Stamps are cordially invited to contact the following address:-

Officer in Charge
NEPAL PHILATELIC BUREAU
Sundhara, Kathmandu, Nepal.

Order and method of payment

Since standing order system for deposit Account Number is already available in our Bureau, deposit account may be opened at the following minimum sum in one of the following currencies listed below:-
Rs. 200.00 NC for Nepalese Customers.
Rs. 200.00 IC for Indian Customers.
25.00 (US Dollar) or equivalent
DM or Sterling Pounds or Japanese Yen for Overseas Customers.

Any order from time to time may be placed along with the remittance sufficient to cover the cost of stamps including Postage, Packing and Postage Registration.

Payment may be made by any foreign customer through Cheque, bank draft or any method payable to the Nepal Philatelic Bureau or through Nepal Rastra Bank Account No. SA. A. Deposit:- 1549/052 Stamps will not normally be sent until the draft or cheque has been cleared.

Orders may be made for

1. New issue stamps.
2. First day covers bearing a newly issued stamps with First day cancellation.
3. Folders bearing new stamps and first day cancellation marks.
4. Singles, stripes, blocks and sheets of available stamps in mint condition.
5. Singles, stripes, blocks and sheets of available stamps cancelled with ordinary post mark or first day cancellation.
6. Postal Stationeries (Postcards, Envelops, Registration envelopes and Aerogrammes).

3. Regular Series :

a)	Crown	1.00	100	1986
b)	Pashupati	0.50	100	1987
c)	Dharahara	0.20	100	1994
d)	Nisana Chhap	0.25	100	1994
e)	Lumbini	0.30	100	1994
f)	Map of Nepal	5.00	100	1994
g)	Singhadurbar	0.10	100	1995
h)	Pashupati	0.50	100	1995

DEPOSIT ACCOUNT
STANDING ORDER FORM

Name (Block Letters)
Address
Country

I enclose the sum of to open a deposit account for automatic supply to the items listed below

Standing Order of	Please send by/on
1.	* air mail
2.	
3.	
4.	* 3 months a year
5.	* 6 months a year
6.	* once a year

Signature _____
Date _____

4.	Birthday of H. M. the King			
a)	45th Birthday	2.00	50	1989
b)	47th Birthday	8.00	50	1991
c)	49th Birthday	10.00	50	1993
d)	50th Birthday	9.00	50	1994
e)	Golden Jubilee Birthday	1.00	50	1995
f)	51st Birthday	12.00	50	1995
5.	SAARC			
a)	Year of Girl Child	4.60	50	1990
b)	10th Anniversary	10.00	50	1995
6.	National & International Organisation :			
a)	25th Anniversary of N. P. S.	4.00	50	1992
b)	75th Anniversary of ILO	15.00	50	1994
c)	14th world Food Programme	25.00	50	1994
d)	International year of the Family	9.00	50	1994
e)	50th Anniversary of ICAO	11.00	50	1994
f)	50th Anniversary of FAO	7.00	50	1995
g)	50th Anniversary of UNO	50.00	10	1995
7.	Temple or Holy Place Series :			
a)	Thakurdwara	0.75	50	1992
b)	Dantakali	11.00	50	1992
c)	Halesi Mahadev	1.50	50	1993
d)	Devghat	5.00	50	1993
e)	Bagh Bhairab	8.00	50	1993
f)	Taleju	11.00	50	1994
g)	Bhimeswor	1.00	50	1995
h)	Ugratara	5.00	50	1995
i)	Lumbini-Birth place of Gautam Buddha	20.00	50	1995

8. Bird Series :

- a) Bohemian waxwing 3.00 50 1992
 b) Rufous Tailed Finch-Lark 25.00 50 1992
 9. Olympic Games 25.00 50 1992

10. Fish series :

- a) *Anguilla bengalensis* (Raj Usam) 5.00 50 1993
 b) *Psilorbynchus pseudocinctus* (Tite) 10.00 50 1993

11. Personality Series :

- a) Falgunanda 15.00 50 1993
 b) Pasang Lhamu Sherpu 10.00 50 1994
 c) Dharamidhar Koirala 1.00 50 1994
 d) Narayan Gopal 2.00 50 1994
 e) Bahadur Shah 6.00 50 1994
 f) Balaguru Shadaranda 7.00 50 1994
 g) Chandra Man Singh Maskey) 3.00 x 4
 h) Parijat) each 32 1995
 i) Bhim Nidhi Tiwari) each
 j) Yuddha Prasad Mishra)
 k) Madan Bhandari 1.00 50 1995
 l) Prakash Raj Kapley 4.00 50 1995

12. Tourism or visit Nepal Series :

- a) Tushahity (Sundariobowk) 5.00 50 1993
 b) White Water Rafting 8.00 50 1993
 c) Tilicho Lake 9.00 50 1994
 d) Traditional Nepalese Painting 18.00 50 1995
 73. Fight Against Smoking 1.00 50 1994
 74. Postal Activity 1.50 50 1994

15. Nepalese Weapon Series :

- a) Khukuri (b) Khula (c) Dhaul 5.00 x 4
 d) Kalari each 64 1994
 16. Orchid Series : 10.00 x 4 64 1994

17. Muscivom Series :

- a) *Cordysep-Sinensis* (Yarsa Gumba) 7.00 each 50 1994
 b) *Marchella Conica* (Khoya Chyau)
 c) *Amanita Caesarea* (Salle Chyau)
 d) *Russula Nepalensis* (Adhikari Chyau)

18. Child Activity Series :

- a) Health care (b) Education each 1.00 x 4 48 1994
 c) Game (d) Stamp Collection 2.00 50 1995
 19. Disase of Cui cer 2.00 50 1995
 20. Animal Series : 10.00 x 4 16 1995

a) Gaur (b) Lynx (c) Sirijed Hyera (d) Assamese Macaque

Available Postal Stationeries :

S.N.	Subject	Denomination
1.	Post Card	0.30
2.	Envelope	1.00
3.	Aerogramme	0.75
4.	"	10.00

Available Folder/FDC

S.N.	Subject	Folder	FDC
1.	National Democracy Day 1976	3.30	2.75
2.	25th Anniversary of the Colombo Plan 1976	2.00	-
3.	Olympic Games 1976	4.25	3.55
4.	Non-Alignment Conference 1976	6.00	-
5.	Kaji Amar Singh Thapa 1977	1.10	-
6.	Nepal Scout 1977	4.25	-
7.	75th Anniversary of the first Engine Powered flight 1978	3.30	2.55
8.	Post Mark 1978	1.75	-
9.	World Environment Day 1978	2.00	1.25
10.	Golden Jubilee of HM Queen Mother Ratna 1978	3.05	2.55
11.	30th Anniversary of Human Right Day 1978	2.00	-
12.	34th. Birthday of HM the King 1978	3.05	2.55
13.	Red Maachhendranath 1979	1.50	-
14.	Forest Festival 1979	3.05	-
15.	Carrot of Red Maachhendranath 1979	2.00	-
16.	IYC 1979	1.75	1.50
17.	35th. Birthday of HM the King 1979	3.30	-
18.	Literature of Nepal 1980	4.50	-
19.	Visit Nepal Series 1980	6.85	-
20.	36th Birthday of HM the King 1980	2.00	-
21.	Silver Jubilee of Nepal Rashtra Bank 1981	2.75	-
22.	Postage Stamp Centenary 1981	9.90	-
23.	70th. Council Meeting of I.H.A. 1981	2.75	-
24.	Nepal 81 (Philatelic Exhibition)	1.40	-
25.	37th. Birthday of HM the King 1981	2.00	-
26.	Visit Nepal Series 1981	3.30	-
27.	Silver Jubilee of Royal Nepal Academy 1982	1.40	-
28.	Balkrishna Same 1982	2.00	-
29.	IX Asian Games 1982	4.40	-

30.	Kulekhani Hydro Electric Project 1982	3.00	-
31.	38th Birthday of HM the King 1982	1.05	-
32.	Silver Jubilee of NIDC 1983	1.50	-
33.	Silver Jubilee of RNAC 1983	2.00	-
34.	World Communication Year 1983	1.10	-
35.	Poet Chakra pati Chalise 1983	5.50	-
36.	39th Birthday of HM the King 1983	6.00	-
37.	Silver Jubilee of Auditor General 1984	1.25	-
38.	33rd. Olympic Game 1984	11.00	-
39.	Social Service Day 1984	1.05	-
40.	Visit Nepal Series 1984	7.10	-
41.	Family Planning Association 1984	2.00	1.50
42.	20th. Anniversary of ABU 1984	6.00	-
43.	Sagarmatha National Park 1985	11.00	-
44.	40th. Anniversary of UNO 1985	6.00	5.50
45.	14th. Eastern Regional Tuberculosis Conference of IUAT 1985	26.00	-
46.	First SAARC Summit 1985	6.00	-
47.	Visit Nepal Series 1985	2.10	-
48.	International Youth Year 1985	2.00	-
49.	Phoksu Lake 1985	3.00	-
50.	41st Birthday of HM the King 1985	1.50	-
51.	Devighat Hydro Electric Project 1985	3.00	-
52.	75th. Anniversary of Pharping Hydro Electric Station 1986	1.15	-
53.	25th. Anniversary of Asian Productivity Organization 1986	4.00	-
54.	Visit Nepal Series 1986	9.60	-
55.	42nd Birthday of HM the King 1986	2.00	-
56.	International Peace Year 1986	11.00	10.50
57.	Regular-Pashupati Nath 1987	-	1.00
58.	10th Anniversary of National Social Service Co-ordination Council 1987	2.00	1.50
59.	First Nepal Jamboree 1987	2.00	-
60.	3rd SAARC Summit 1987	1.60	-
61.	Silver Jubilee of RSS 1987	5.00	4.50
62.	Kaathmandap 1987	1.25	-
63.	Late Historian Soorya Bikram Goswami 1987	1.60	-

HIMALAYAN VIEWS

by

Leo Martin

Dear members, please excuse the delay in getting out this issue - I hope to be back on schedule sometime this year.

o o o o o

Please note that the front cover illustration of issue 83 was reduced to 70%.

o o o o o

The Nepal Philatelic Bureau recently published a 20 page pamphlet listing all of the stamps issued from 1881 up through December of 1995. Given is the date of issue - only the year is indicated for the issues up through the Pashupati sets, with the exception of the 1907 issue with a stated issue date of 16.10.1907. The 1949 pictorial issue and all later issues have the day, month and year indicated. Also listed is the $\frac{1}{2}$ "orange", even though it was released during the "Telegraphic Period" and was not intended for postage (page 2 has the heading "List of Nepal Postage Stamps") - some six philatelically inspired covers exist which did see postal service (W. O' Sullivan correspondence from a remote hill post office in Ghumdhang to his wife in India). Many thanks to the officer-in-charge, D.R. Pandey, for sending the pamphlet as well as first day covers of recent issues (these will be detailed in the next issue of Postal Himal). Copies are probably available from the Nepal Philatelic Bureau, Sundhara, Kathmandu. The title of this useful compilation is POSTAGE STAMPS OF NEPAL (1881-1995). Be sure to send some remittance (\$5 ?).

o o o o o

The Study Circle will have a meeting at Westpex (San Francisco) on Sunday, April 28. The show runs from the 26th through the 28th at the Quality Hotel-Cathedral Hill (1101 Van Ness Ave.). A fairly new restaurant named Lhasa Moon has opened in the San Francisco area (2420 Lombard) - the food is reportedly to be quite authentic. I have eaten there once and am looking forward to another visit.

o o o o o

We will be having a meeting on June 9 (1:00 p.m.) at Capex, Canada's international show taking place in Toronto from June 8-16 at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre. This show only takes place once every 10 years and will be attended by some 200 dealers in the bourse area (there might even be one or two items for sale from the Himalayan area). Dr. Armand Singer will be giving a talk titled "Nepal: The Rare Ones". Geoffrey Flack has also promised to give a talk. If you are in the area try to make the meeting and view the exhibits (some of our members will have their exhibits present). Also, in San Francisco from May 29-June 8 the U.S. will have its once-every-ten-year World Philatelic Exhibition (Pacific 97) next year. We have scheduled two meetings - June 1 at 10:30 am and June 7, also at 10:30 am. This will be a show not to be missed so start saving your pennies. If any one would like to speak at either or both meetings please contact me. The organizers would like a list of the speakers (preferably with the titles of their talks) as soon as possible.

o o o o o

Dr. Armand Singer will be speaking at the Collectors Club in New York on May 1 of this year. His presentation is titled "Nepal Specialized".

o o o o o

Please note the following correction for Postal Himal no. 81, page 38 - VAN DER WATEREN, RICHARD should read VAN DER WATEREN, DICK (his first name is not Richard). It should also be noted that at the National Philatelic Exhibition OSNAPOST '95, Osnabruck Germany (Sept., 1995) his book, Nepal Postal Stationery, was awarded a Vermeil and his exhibit, "Nepal Postal Stationery, 1887-1995", was awarded a Gold plus special prize. At Canada's Third National Philatelic Literature Exhibition (Ottawa, 1995) his book received a Silver.

o o o o o

A new philatelic journal, titled Philately Nepal ("First Nepalese Independent Philatelic Periodical"), has appeared. I quote from the editorial section ("From The Editor"): "Philately Nepal will be devoted to the cause of promoting philatelic culture in Nepal by reviewing Nepalese philatelic history and to improve directions to lead future Nepalese philatelic cultures in dynamic ways. However, facts and information regarding worldwide philately and overseas countries will also be given equal importance. Mr. Ramesh Shrestha is the editor. Listed below is subscription and advertisement rates. Also, I have reproduced from the premier issue (p.13) a schedule of new postal rates which became effective on August 17, 1995. We wish Mr. Shrestha and his staff much success in the future.

Subscription : NRs 125 per 5 issues, by surface in Nepal
 : IRs 125 per 5 issues, by airmail in India
 : US\$ 10 (or equivalent) per 5 issues, by airmail in Europe and Third Zone countries
 : US\$ 15 (or equivalent) per 5 issues, by airmail in Americas and Fourth Zone countries

Classified Advertisement Rates : NRs 10 or US\$ 0.30 per word per insertion. Minimum 20 words charge. 25% discount to all subscribers.

Display Advertisement : Write for special rates.

Subscription, Advertisement and all correspondence to:
PHILATELY NEPAL, 1/82 Ga, Kopundol, Lalitpur, Nepal.

New Postal Rates

The Postal Services Department amended the existing postage rates of domestic express mail and international mail from 17 August 1995 (2052 Bhadra 1). However, there is no change in the inland postage which also includes for India.

Domestic Express Mail Service Rates

1. For first 50 gms	10.00
2. For additional 25 gms	1.00
3. For another 25 gms	2.00
4. Each additional 10 gms or parts thereof	0.50

International Postage Mail Rate by Airmail

	Zone 1	Zone 2	Zone 3	Zone 4
1. Letter upto 20 gms	10.00	15.00	18.00	20.00
2. Each additional 10 gms	5.00	6.00	8.00	10.00
3. Aerogramme	10.00	12.00	14.00	17.00
4. Postal Card	8.00	10.00	12.00	15.00
5. Book Post every 20 gms	6.00	8.00	10.00	13.00
7. Blind Literature	-----FREE-----			

Zone 1 — SAARC member countries except India.

Zone 2 — Afghanistan, Malaysia, Thailand etc. etc.

Zone 3 — Albania, Europe, Africa, Japan, Korea etc. etc.

Zone 4 — Australia, Americas, Oceania etc. etc.

Reference : See postage rates (Effective from 17 Aug 1995) published by Department of Postal Services.

o o o o o

Did I find any nits to pick? Well, T110 (the Yatung-Dhomo cancel, Waterfall type XVII, p. 121 in his 2nd, 1981 ed.) is still listed (p.40), after being given a special classification, as "Customs Marking (?)", despite the fact that its only known use on a unique cover looks like a postal mark. Just recently it has finally turned up on a piece, clearly cancelling a pair of 1933 two-trangka reds. I also regret the author's decision to limit his exhaustive listing of the second Chinese occupation of Tibet cancels to the 1953-1959. He stops at March 10 of that latter year, "the day of the abortive Tibetan revolt against Chinese rule" (p.41). Since Tibetans are still resisting and nothing has really changed, why stop with 1959? This terminus ad quem doubtless justifies his omitting Nielamu (=Nyalam=Kuti), one of the most interesting of the town-fortress cancels (earliest dates I know, ca. 1965), different from all the other types, and famous in its own right, along with Khassa and Kerong, those towns connected with Nepal's occupation of Tibetan territory. It may well have caused the omission of other town markings too.

Finally, there is a whole section, pp. 55-64, numbers F1-200 (68 examples in all), of forged and bogus postal markings, carefully illustrated and rather exhaustive. The problem is that the only way to tell the genuine from the false in most cases is to study these illustrations. The latter are shown in the author's well-drawn representations (which do not differ markedly from his reproductions of the genuine examples) or from reproductions of the fakes, which were in some cases reproduced by the counterfeiters by photocopying pictures in Haverbeck's Tibet monograph. Naturally, these are close to the originals, if not as clear. What we need is detailed pointers (beside the general remarks on p. 55) to make for easier identification. (The reason for the lack of information could well be that Dr. Hellrigl, a recognized authority on Tibetan fakes, has been working on a study of the whole field and may have preferred to leave a more detailed treatment for his future monograph.)

These very minor objections, even if justified, are not intended to detract from the value of this superb piece of work. As always we remain deeply indebted to Dr. Hellrigl's labors.

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