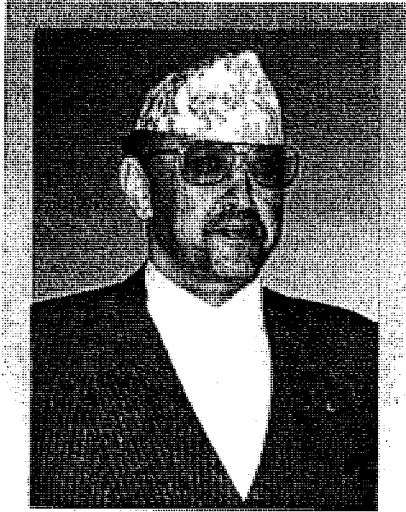


Postal Himal

QUARTERLY JOURNAL OF THE NEPAL AND TIBET PHILATELIC STUDY CIRCLE



प्रथम दिवसीय आवरण First Day Cover

Self-discipline is the pillar on which a democratic form of government rests.

- Late King Birendra

प्रकाशनको पहिलो दिन
२०५८ माघ १२
FIRST DAY OF ISSUE
29 Dec 2001
GPO Kathmandu



स्व. श्री ५ वीरेन्द्र

(२००२-२०५८)

Late King Birendra

(1945-2001)



प्रजातान्त्रिक शासन पद्धतिमा आत्म-अनुशासनको महत्वपूर्ण स्थान रहन्छ ।

- स्व. श्री ५ वीरेन्द्र



Postal Himal is a quarterly publication of the Nepal & Tibet Philatelic Study Circle. Membership subscriptions run from January through December of each year. Dues should be paid in local currency at the prevailing exchange rate to the Society representative in your area.

	<u>One Year</u>	<u>Three Years</u>	<u>Life Member</u>
Great Britain	£12	£33	£250
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<u>Publishing Schedule:</u>	<u>Issue</u>	<u>Cutoff for Articles</u>	<u>Into Mail</u>
	110 - 2nd Quarter 2002	June 1, 2002	June 15, 2002
	111 - 3rd Quarter 2002	September 1, 2002	September 15, 2002
	112 - 4th Quarter 2002	November 22, 2002	December 7, 2002
	113 - 1st Quarter 2003	March 1, 2003	March 15, 2003

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Officers Corner by Armand Singer, President

Yes, we've been working on the much-delayed missing *PH* double issue No. 103-04. I will be greatly surprised (or chagrined) if it isn't in your hands before you read these very words. We have felt frustrated, as has the former editor, but there were good reasons. Voluntary positions often beg for frustration. Blame the day's being set at an unexpandable twenty-four hours.

On a less problematic note, Bob Gould and I are about through with polishing and correcting the text of our *Graded Catalog of Himalayan Mountaineering Correspondence*. There are three basic sections: Pioneer Ascents, the Everest Story, and all the other mountains, along with a list of peak elevations. Well-illustrated in black and white. Price not as yet fixed by our publisher George Alevizos. We have received considerable input from specialist dealers and from other collectors on items we were unaware of and on matters of rarity.

Several of us (the more the merrier) will be attending WESTPEX in San Francisco, Cathedral Hill Hotel, April 26-28. We will have our own table and a time and place for a special meeting as well. If you have a presentation to offer, please let me know ASAP (armand.singer@mail.wvu.edu or 248 Grandview Ave. Morgantown, WV 26501). I already know of three exhibits from our Study Circle: new member Danny Wong is to show his gold-award-winning Chinese censored mail; gold-award-winning old member Leo Martyn is mounting his "Nepal 1775-1922" for viewing; your ancient Circle president has a new exhibit, "The Chinese Presence in Tibet". We will mention any other exhibits we hear about if in time for this issue. We expect Jeremy Brewer from England, Geoffrey Flack from Vancouver, as well as Danny Wong from Beijing. We are hoping for others. Do join us for this truly international get-together, the best we will have this year; WESTPEX, for its part, has always proven to be one of the finest shows around.

Editor's Ramblings

I have received exactly one response to the questions raised by Colin in *PH* #108 as to how this Journal should be produced. Previously I received two replies when I raised the same issue in *PH* #106. I will conclude from these responses that you are satisfied with the way in which *Postal Himal* is produced and will continue with the present format for the future. I shall also feel free to introduce color into some issues.

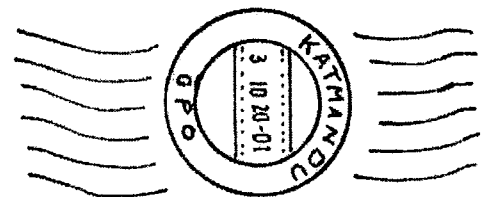
Please note that I have a new email address: editorofpostalhimal@cox.net.

Congratulations to Paul C Hager who received a vermeil for his "The Pashupati Era of Nepal" at the COLOPEX show held in Columbus, Ohio in February.

One of our members, Iiro Kakko and a small group have been doing work on Bhutan postal cancellations for the period 1962-1994 by type. If anyone has any interest in contributing to this work, please contact him at dromen@dlc.fi. The editor hopes to be able to publish the results of this study in *Postal Himal* when it is complete.

Our thanks to the Nepal Philatelic Bureau, Sundhara, Kathmandu, Nepal for the First Day Covers which appear on the front cover and on page 10.

Colin Hepper has sent a photocopy of another Kathmandu Machine Cancel along with the following note. 'Since my article published in *Postal Himal* No. 108 a further example has been sent to me by Surendra Lal Shrestha. This has the wavy lines on both sides of the circular datestamp and has the wording G.P.O. at the bottom (left) of the datestamp. The example illustrated was dated 3 October 2001 and I will list it as Type 6.'



Please be sure to read Colin's Comment on the Accounts on page 6.

Word has been received that the Rocky Mountain Stamp Show (formerly ROMPEX) will be held 17-19 May 2002 at the Holiday Inn DIA—John Q. Hammons Trade Center, Aurora, Colorado (near Denver). Further details from Herman Axelrod hermanax@worldnet.att.net.

New Tibet Collector (but experienced advanced collector of GB) is interested in 1933 Issue material: stamps, sheets and covers. Please contact Mike McKillip, PO Box 22486, Lexington, KY 40502, USA or email mrmckillip@hotmail.com

News from Kathmandu

Surendra Lal Shrestha

Surendra Lal Shrestha has sent the photocopies below

Russian exp 2000
from Tibet side
summit 28,05,2000
mt. Everest
Team Leader

(Signature) V. SKRIPKO

S.L.S. Kathmandu Phone: 247964



Mr. S. L. Shrestha, Philatelist,
G.P.O. 72 Kathmandu, Nepal.



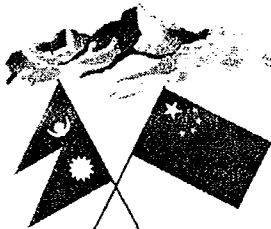
Photo: W.R. Chapman, USA

A 292. North Face of Mt. Everest & Rongbuk River



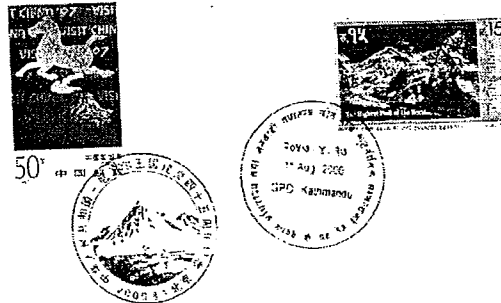
Commemorative Cover

नेपाल अधिराज्य तथा जनवादी गणतन्त्र चीन बीच
कटौतीक सम्बन्ध स्थापना भएको ४५ त्तौ वार्षिकोत्सव
२०१६ भावना १७ गते - २०१७ भावना १७ गते



45th anniversary of the establishment
of diplomatic relations between the Kingdom
of Nepal and the People's Republic of China

August 1, 1955 - August 1, 2000



The commemorative cover is issued by His Majesty's Government of Nepal on the occasion of the 45th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the Kingdom of Nepal and the People's Republic of China, August 1, 2000.

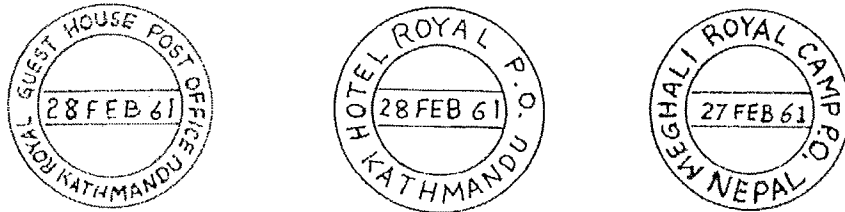
Special Post Offices

by Colin Hepper

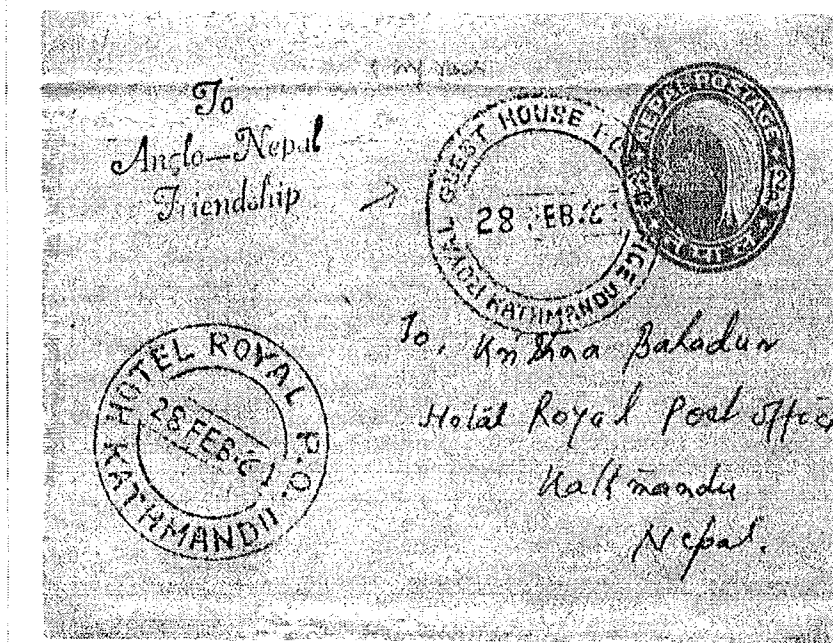
Royal Visits

Special Post Offices are sometimes opened in hotels when V.I.P.'s visit Nepal. These hotels are used either by the individuals themselves or for the party that was traveling with them.

The first of these was opened during the visit of Queen Elizabeth II in 1961. During this visit, post offices were opened at The Hotel Royal and the Royal Guest House and were used from 26th February until 1st March. A third post office was also opened from 27-29 February at the Meghali Royal Camp.



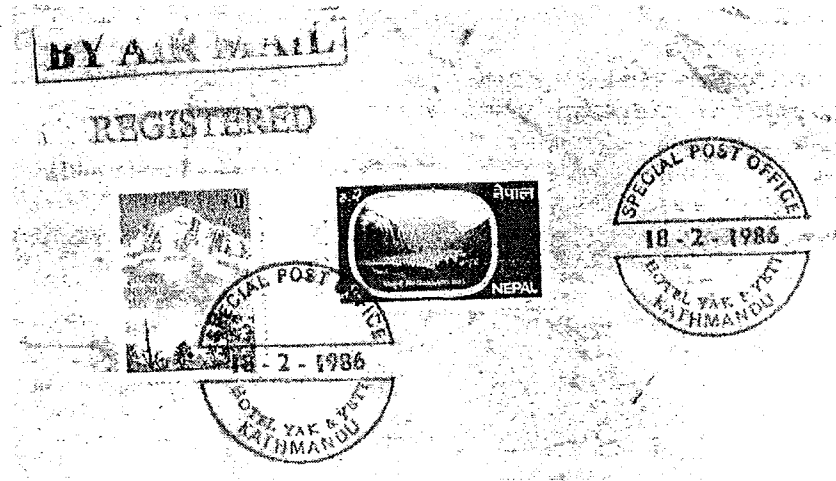
All of these three postmarks are scarce and particularly so on commercially used mail.



The illustrated cover is probably "philatelic" being sent from the Royal Guest House to the Royal Hotel, making it a rare cover having both the special postmarks.

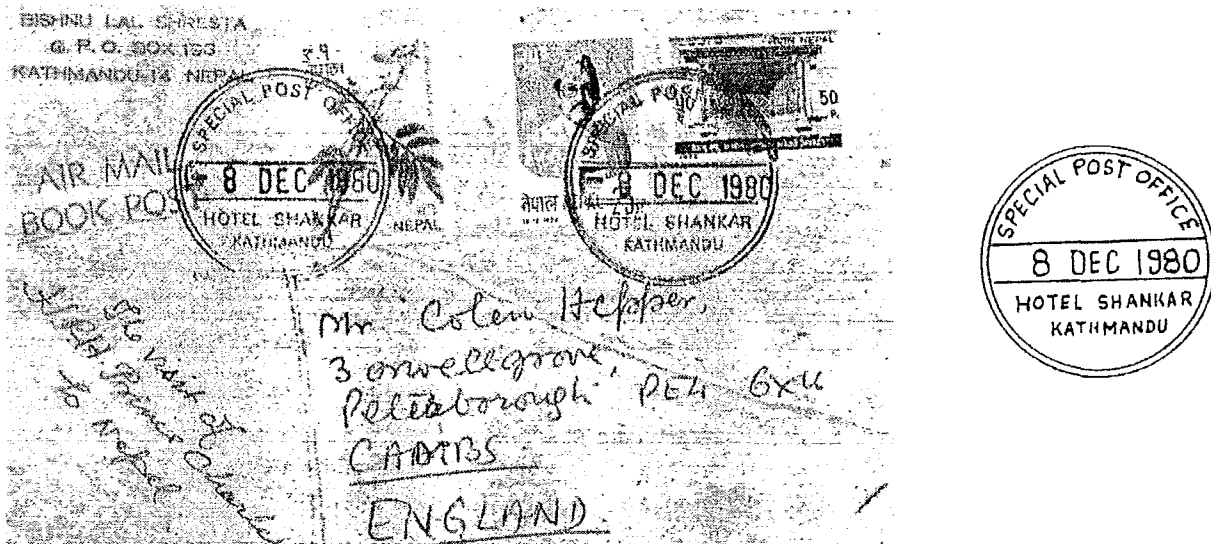


The next occasion when Queen Elizabeth II and the Duke of Edinburgh visited Nepal was in 1986 and at that time a special post office was opened at the Hotel Yak and Yeti. The office was open from 17-21 February.



Registered letter sent to England. Posted at the Yak and Yeti special post office dated 18 February 1986.

Prince Charles was the royal visitor in December 1980 and a special post office was opened for eight days at the Hotel Shankar.



Letter sent to England, posted at the Hotel Shankar, dated 8 December 1980.

State Visits

Special Post Offices are also open at hotels when Presidents and Prime Ministers from other countries visit Nepal.

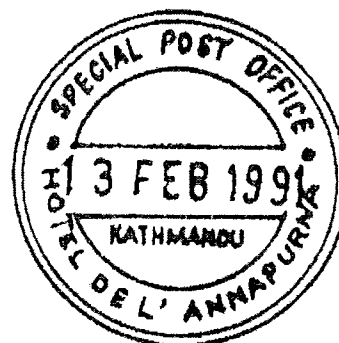
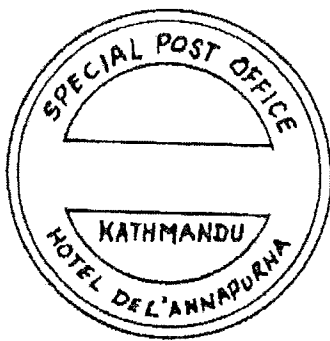
President Lt. General Hussain Muhammad Ershad and his wife Begum Ershad from Bangladesh used the Hotel Yellow Pogoda for the State Visit to Nepal in 1986 and a special post office was opened from 1-3 July.



Hotel Shankar once again had a post office for five days from 21-25 July 1986 for the visit of H. E. Giani Zail Singh, the President of India.

The next two special post office cancellations are both from the Hotel de L'Annapurna. The first was in 1987 when the office was opened for three days from 19-21 July for the visit of H. E. Dr. Helmut Kohl, Chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany.

India's Prime Minister, Chandra Shekhar was at the same hotel for his visit in 1991 from the 13-15 February. In this instance the post office opened on the 12th, the day before he arrived.



The postmarks for both these visits are very similar in design except that the lettering is larger in the one used in 1991.

THE NEPAL AND TIBET PHILATELIC STUDY CIRCLE

Statement of accounts - USA (\$)

Year - 1 January 2001 to 31 December 2001

	Income		Expenditure
Subscriptions	323.50	Administration	16.73
Postal Himal-Back Issues	325.00	Postal Himal Printing	803.88
Advert	20.00	Postal Himal Postage	1825.23
Bank Error	0.02	Miscellaneous	80.00
		Bank Charge	20.00
Sub Total	668.52	Sub Total	2745.84
<u>Auction 70</u>		<u>Auction 70</u>	
Sales	3382.45	Printing	309.62
		Postage	386.75
		Payment to Vendors	3600.31
Sub Total	3382.45	Sub Total	4296.68
Balance Fwd.	4266.66		
TOTAL	8317.63	TOTAL	7042.52
Savings Account	1625.26	TOTAL EXPENDITURE	7042.52
TOTAL INCOME	9942.89		
BALANCE	2900.37		

Statement of Accounts - Europe (£)

Year - 1 January 2001 to 31 December 2001

	Income		Expenditure
Bank Interest	39.07	Photocopying	9.61
Subscriptions	721.67	Postage	24.93
Donation	71.4	Bank Charge	5.04
Auction 70 Payments	267.19	ABPS Subs.	15.60
Balance Fwd.	2290.23		
Total	3389.56	Total	55.18
Life Members Account	3050.00		
TOTAL INCOME	6439.56	TOTAL EXPENDITURE	55.18
BALANCE	6384.38		
COMBINED TOTAL	£'s Sterling		
USA converted to £'s	2057.00		
Europe	6384.38		
TOTAL	8441.38		

The combined accounts show that last year the total expenditure in the USA was \$2745.84 which would convert to approximately £1933.22 added to which is the European expense £55.18 making an overall expenditure of £1988.40

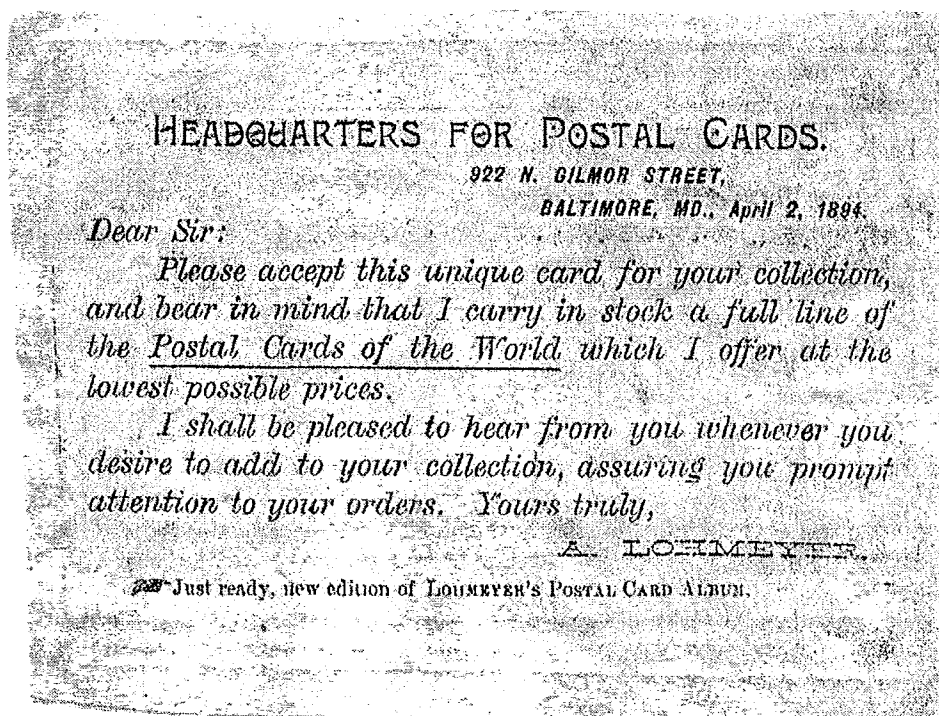
At present our membership is 110, which means that the cost to each member was £18.21 (\$25). This is £6.21 (\$8.50) more than the current subscription of £12 (\$18). The Society funds will be able to support this for this year, but as from January 2003 there seems little doubt that the subscriptions will have to be raised.

News about Cards

by Dick van der Wateren

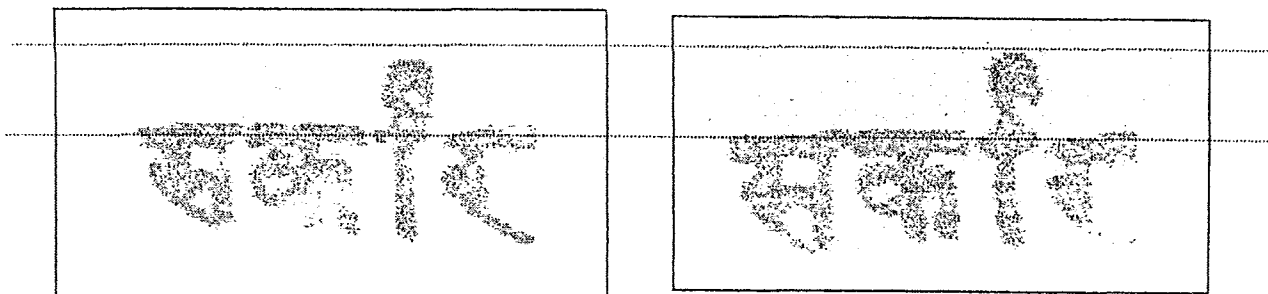
At the end of October 2001, I received a letter from Dr. Frank Vignola in which he enclosed a photocopy of the postal card Wa 7. Though the card was unused, on the back was an advertisement dated April 2, 1894. The printer of this card used to send such cards to his clients (collectors of postal cards) for whom he also published an album.

With permission of Dr. Vignola the back of the card is illustrated below.



He also sent me enlargements of the word SARKAR of two copies of card Wa 5 showing two distinct erect vowel marks. He noted: "The vowel mark on the left, that looks like a 'c', is significantly shorter than the vowel mark on the right. The vowel mark on the right has a stem that the one on the left lacks".

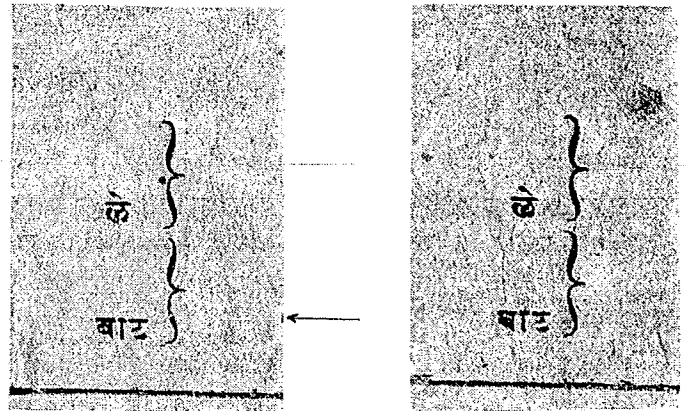
I also found in my stock both types and I would like to thank Dr. Vignola for his finding.



On page 45 of my book 'Nepal Postal Stationery', I wrote that card Wa22 is identical to card Wa 18, except that there is a double frameline for cutting the card.

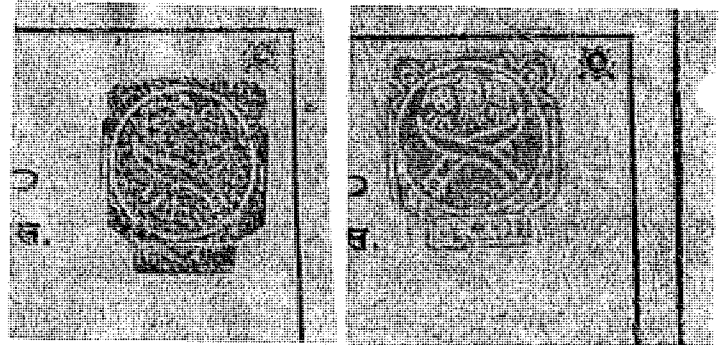
Indeed both cards are showing the same features: stamp C, horse 4, words 5, vowel erect and end of text medium.

But if card Wa 22 should have been cut very short from the sheet of paper, there is no difference between the two printings. Is this a correct statement? What can we find?



The stamp of card Wa 18 is always very blurred and blotchy whereas the stamp on card Wa 22 is always very clear with a red frame impression over the stamp.

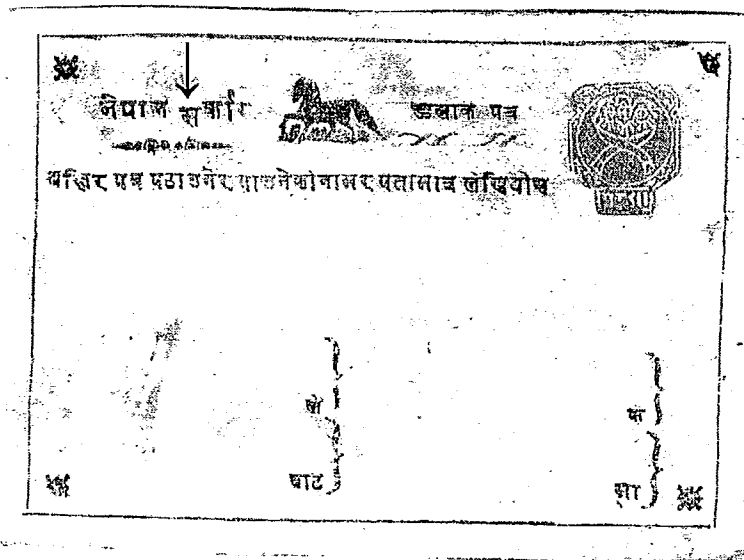
Another difference is a very small break in the lower frame line of the lower left bracket. All my cards and the photocopies of this printing that I have are showing the small break that is missing in the rare card Wa 22.



Cards of printing 5 with the printing with the vowel on SARKAR erect and the card unused are very common. For that reason this printing provides us with a number of deviations.

One of my Nepalese friends showed me a card of Wa 5 with such a deviation in the text to the left of the horse. The 'S' of SARKAR is out of alignment as happens frequently with the text to the right of the horse.

A photocopy of the card is illustrated below.

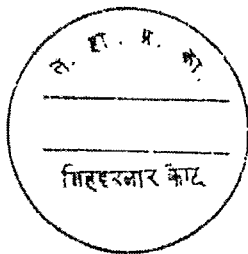


Official Mail Management Offices

by Colin Hepper

Official Mail Management Offices (O.M.M.O.) were established only for the official mailing in the Government Secretariat. The postmarks are all 32mm diameter, single or double circle, with the wording "Sha.Da.Pra.Ka" around the top half of the circle. This is an abbreviation of the full wording Sharkariya Dak Prabanda Karyalaya meaning Government Mail Management Office.

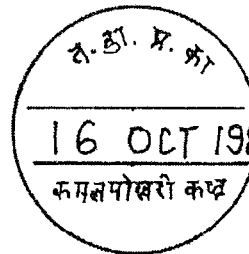
A separate datestamp is applied to the centre of the postmark. I have four of these postmarks recorded, two from the Singha Durbar Centre and one each from the Kamal Pokhari Centre and Lain Chour Centre.



Type 1
Singha Durbar Centre



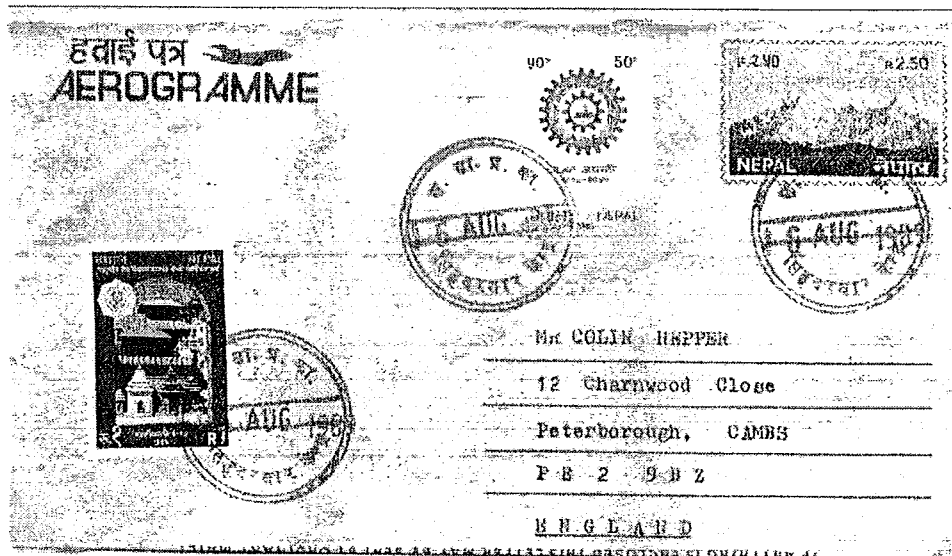
Type 2



Kamal Pokhara

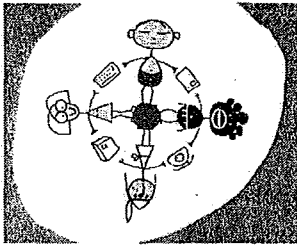


Lain Chour

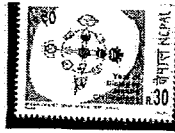


Aerogramme sent to England, posted at the Singha Durbar Mail Management Office in August 1989.

प्रथम विश्वीय आचरण / First day cover

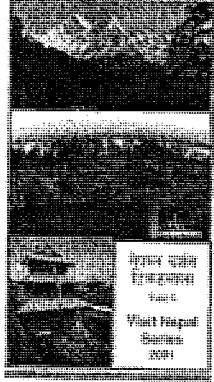


सभ्यताहरूका बीच संवाद वर्ष, २००१
Year of Dialogue among Civilizations
2001



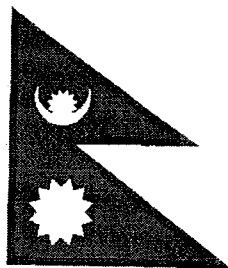
Subject : Year of Dialogue among Civilizations
Denomination : R. 30.00
Colour : Four Colour
Sheet composition : 50 stamps
Size : 40 x 30 mm
Process : Offset Lithography
Quantity : 1/2 million
Format : Horizontal
Paper : High quality stamp paper
Designer : K. K. Karmacharya
Printer : Government Printing Office Vienna, Austria

प्रथम विश्वीय आचरण / First Day Cover



Subject : Visit Nepal Series
Title : a. Amargadi
b. Hiranyavarna Mahavihar
c. Jurgal Mountains
Denomination : a. R. 0.10
b. R. 5.00
c. R. 15.00
Colour : Four Colour
Sheet composition : 50 stamps
Size : 38.5 x 29.6 mm
Process : Offset Lithography
Quantity : a. One million
b. One million
c. 1/2 million
Format : a & c Horizontal
b Vertical
Paper : High quality stamp paper
Designer : M. N. Rana
Printer : Government Printing Office Vienna, Austria

प्रथम दिवसीय आचरण / First Day Cover



राष्ट्रिय झण्डा
NATIONAL FLAG
२०५८/२००१



Subject : National Flag
Denomination : R. 0.10
Colour : Two Colour
Sheet composition : 100 stamps
Size : 23 x 27.3 mm
Process : Offset Lithography
Quantity : Two million
Format : Horizontal
Paper : High quality stamp paper
Designer : K. K. Karmacharya
Printer : Government Printing Office Vienna, Austria

The U.P.U. Aerogrammes

by Dick van der Wateren

The U.P.U. aerogrammes issued in 1959 for internal use marked a new era in the history of Nepal Postal Stationery. The previous stationery, 4 cards and 3 envelopes, were all printed on paper manufactured in Nepal whereas the issues of 1959 and beyond were printed outside Nepal on paper either manufactured or imported by India. The only exceptions during this later period are the U.P.U. issues which were printed at the Gorkha Patra Press, though on paper supplied by India.

In a small lot of postal cards obtained at auction in my country I found a used U.P.U. aerogramme. I was much delighted to see that it is addressed to Mr. M. L. Ricketts, no less, of the USA. since I may assume that the addressee is the same gentleman who has been our Patron since 1978.

Nepal collectors all know that used U.P.U. aerogrammes are extremely rare and I have searched at length through my documentation in order to discover which of these aerogrammes exist in used condition and - of much more importance - if they were really sent by airmail.

It is clear that the need to issue these aerogrammes was only if transport by air could take place. The first fair-weather airstrip was constructed in 1950, the well-known Gauchar 'airport'. From there, in the same year, a weekly Kathmandu-Patna service was started by the Indian National Airways Company using a DC-3. Mail - and as a part thereof - aerogrammes to India and beyond could be sent by air.

But what evidence do we have for aerogrammes used internally? Do they exist and if so can they be sent by air? The Nepalese air company (R.N.C.A.) started the 1st July 1958 and, in fact, inland air transport was possible. However, the first inland air service, Kathmandu-Pokhara, started only in 1964.

Given this fact it is interesting to see if there is any U.P.U. aerogramme complying with the strictest requirement of an aerogramme. Therefore I have listed all the 'used' aerogrammes known to me. I have not listed those aerogrammes with the U.P.U. cancel and datestamp, with or without extra stamp, but without any addressee.

The 1st printing (Wa 1)

1. Copy sent registered to Bhopal/India with additional 40 Paisa stamps, cancelled with the UPU commemorative postmark and arrival datestamp 20 April 1959. Probably unique. Illustrated on page 12.

The 2nd printing (Wa 2)

2. Copy addressed to Higgins & Gage, Pasadena USA, cancelled 1 June 1959, with receiving postmark. Additional franking up to Rs 1.40 being the correct rate. (my own collection)
3. An internal used copy (Fink collection). Seems to be sent from Palpa, date not readable. With additional 2 paisa Crown.

The 3rd printing (Wa 3)

4. Copy sent by Ram Govind Rajkarnikar from Lalitpur to Birganj 1 August 1959. Arrival date Srawan 21, about 7 days later. No additional franking, as normal. (my own collection)

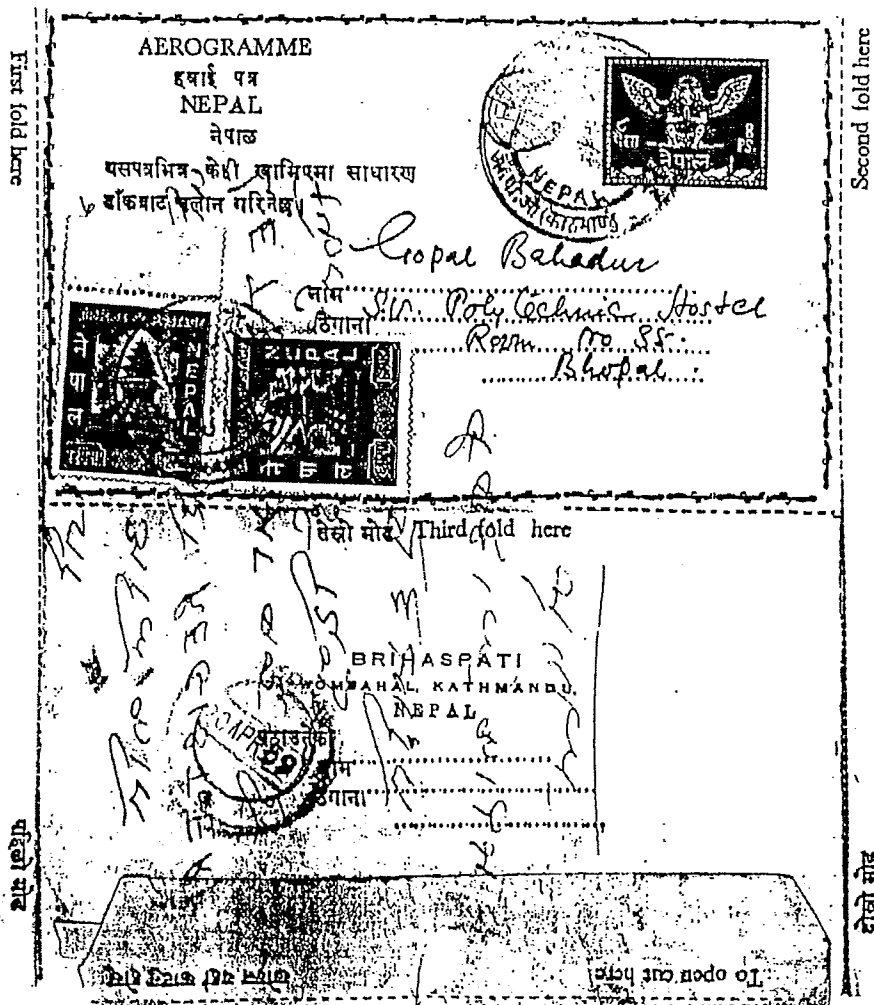
The 4th printing (Wa 4)

5. Copy sent by registered airmail to New York 29 July 1959. Receiving datestamp p.m. 4 August 1959. Additional franking up to Rs. 2.50. (my own collection)

6. Copy sent from Siraha Ex. P.O. to Kathmandu (internal mail) 5 January 1960. No additional franking. (my own collection)
7. Copy sent from Kathmandu to Mr. M. L. Ricketts, Lovington, USA, 9 August 1960 with additional franking up to Rs. 0.94. See page 13 for illustration and page 14 for contents. (my own collection)
8. Copy sent from Kathmandu to Calcutta 8 January 1961. Arrival date 21 January. (Singer collection). See: The Armand Singer Nepal 1772-1961 and beyond, page 296.
9. Copy sent from Khadbari (?) August 1964. With CTO (?) 4 paisa postage-due handstamp. (Fink collection)
10. Copy sent from Kathmandu G. P. O. Internally used 1 October 1959. (Fink collection)
11. Copy sent from Kathmandu to South India, with additional 2 paisa (illustrated on page 15) by the same sender who sent the aerogramme to Mr. Ricketts.

With only one exception, item # 9, they are all used before the 2nd issue (in connection with the new inland rate of 10 paisa) of 13 September 1960.

Which of the above aerogrammes could be sent by air? Consider the rate of 8 paisa in 1959 for inland use and the fact that additional franking was not needed until the middle of 1960.



Aerogramme of the first printing (Wa 1) sent from Kathmandu to Bhopal/India 15 April 1959.

AEROGRAMME

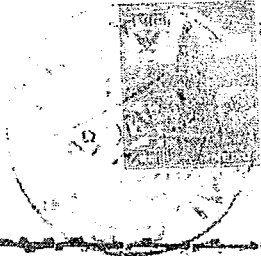
हवाई पत्र
NEPAL

नेपाल

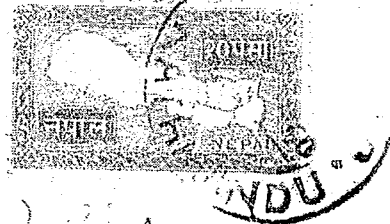
यसपत्रभित्र केही खासिणमा साधारण
डाँकचाट चलान गरिनेछ।



नाम *M. L. Ricketts*
ठेगाना *P.O. Box 24*
Livingston Mt
U. S. A.



तेस्रो मोड Third fold here



पठाउनेको नाम *Bijay Krishna Singh*
ठेगाना *Shree Lal Bahadur Thapa*
Katmandu
Nepal

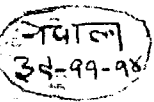
To open cut here

M. L. Ricketts
P.O. Box 24.
Livington 124
U.S.A.

5/644. Lumbatal Tole.
Kathmandu
Nepal.
Date 12th August 1960.

Dear Sir
I beg to inform you that recently I have got
a Nepal cover of 1882 with two postmarks as:-

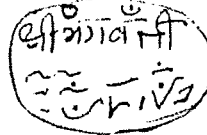
Post
marks →



Black.



Round
blue
postmark



Black
Seal
with urdu Alphabet

Sender's Address.
Kalaya Aminjogora.

To Gurusohit
Kashi Raj Satyal
Kantipure
Neta Tole.

I think this cover is guaranteed only one cover in the
world. The condition of cover is very nice made of
~~Nepal~~ over local paper.



May I send you the above cover on a approval.
Please let me know if you like to see. I will send
it per Registered letter.

I have not yet received the Sea mail packets
also 96 \$.

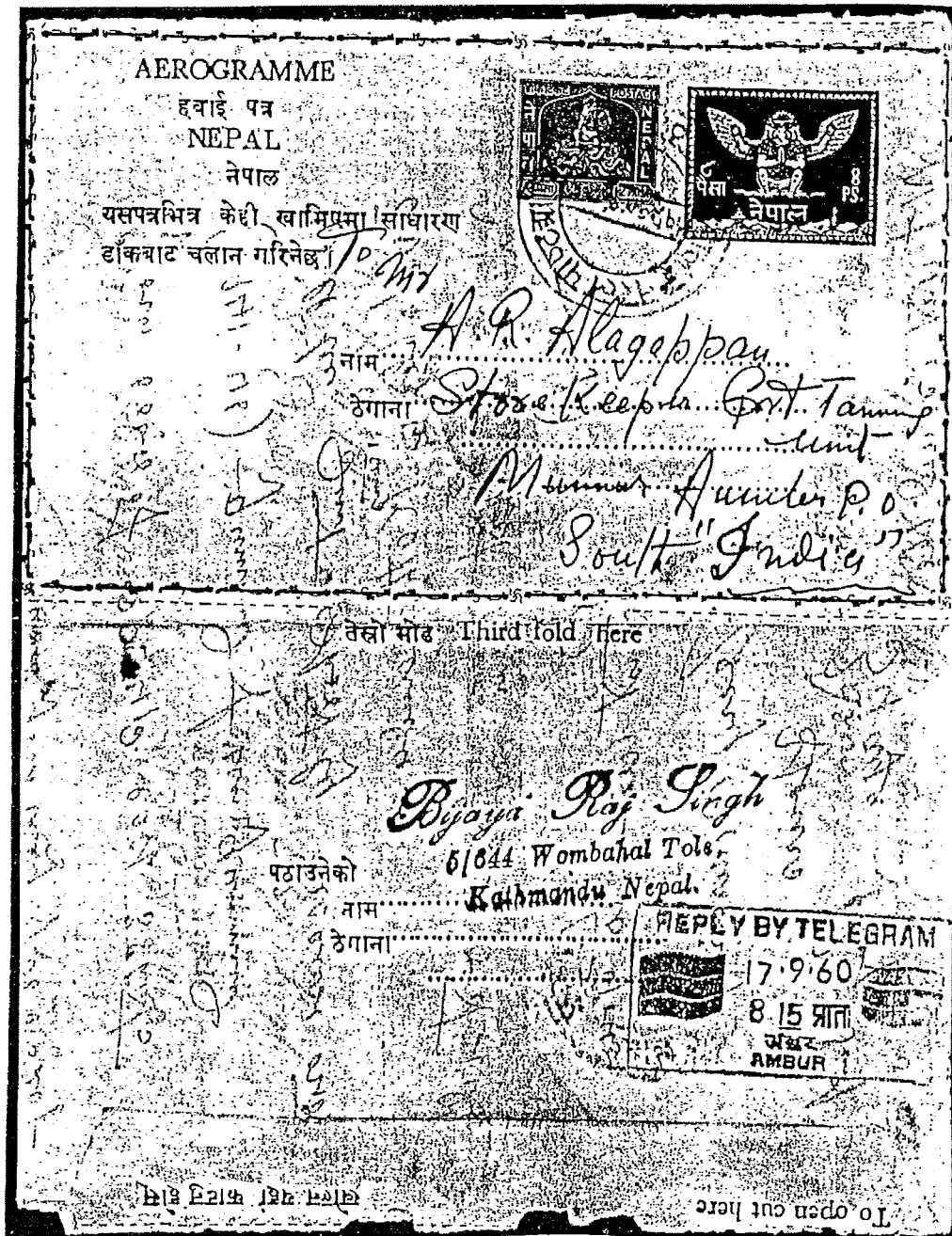
Yours sincerely
Bijaya Raj Supt.

Only the items (#3?), #4, #6 and (#9?) meet the criteria. It is questionable if there was an airstrip in Birganj (#4) and Siraha (\$6).

The aerogrammes #2, #5, #7 and #8 can be sent from Gauchar to India and then forwarded by air to their destination. In that case additional franking to the correct rate was needed. The franking of aerogramme #7 to Mr. Ricketts is doubtful as a rate of 0.94 paisa is dubious. Maybe the postal clerk was not so precise with the rates.

Reviewing the above facts we can see that these aerogrammes are extremely rare in "used" condition. For inland use we can at least put a question mark.

I should be very pleased if members having copies of these aerogrammes in their collections would send their comments and photocopies either to me or to the editor.



The following was received from Surendra Lal Shrestha along with a note from P. Gupta of India indicating that he had seen this "unrecorded Essay of the 1895 Nepal stamp" in Mr. Shrestha stamp store. The note was dated 20.02.200(0?,1?)

15 FEB. 1885 By Sewakal Upadhyaya Adhykari, Kathmandu, NEPAL.

(Photographer)



NEW -
DISCOVERY

NEPAL 1885
(15 FEB)

Example of essay submitted by m/s. De La Rue & Co. London in 1885
to His Highness Maharajah Sri 3 Bir Samsher J. B. Rana, P.M.
of NEPAL. Design adopted from 1882-88 issue EA. Blue green showing
Queen Victoria of India. Bir Samsher is a nephew of P.M. Jung Bahadur.