



EUROPA NEWS

APS - BULLETIN OF THE EUROPA STUDY UNIT - ATA

NOVEMBER - DECEMBER 2006 NUMBER 376



EUROPA STAMPS

POSTEUROPE ANNOUNCES EUROPA THEMES - PostEurop announced recently the Europa stamp themes for the next several years. As released by PostEurop, they are: 2007 - 100 years of scouting; 2008 - Letter; 2009 - Astronomy; and, 2010 - Children's books.

NATIONAL TOPICAL STAMP SHOW (NTSS) 2007 - According to a recent release by the American Topical Association (ATA), NTSS 2007 will be held June 15-17 in Irving, Texas. It will have a "Western" theme. I encourage any member who has exhibited before, or any member who would like to exhibit, to exhibit at NTSS 2007. A copy of the exhibition prospectus appears elsewhere in this issue. The exhibition will be a good chance to highlight the kind of material we "Europe" collectors acquire. Please try to exhibit at this important show. Also, remember that the Unit has placed a special prize at the disposal of the jury for NTSS 2007. This is a good opportunity to win a Europa-related prize along with the prize(s) that may be awarded by the exhibition committee. The Europa Study Unit will also be holding a meeting at the show. Plan on attending. See you there!

YEAR END MESSAGE - With this issue, the year 2006 draws to an end. I wish everyone good health, happiness and prosperity for the coming year. I hope to do more with the

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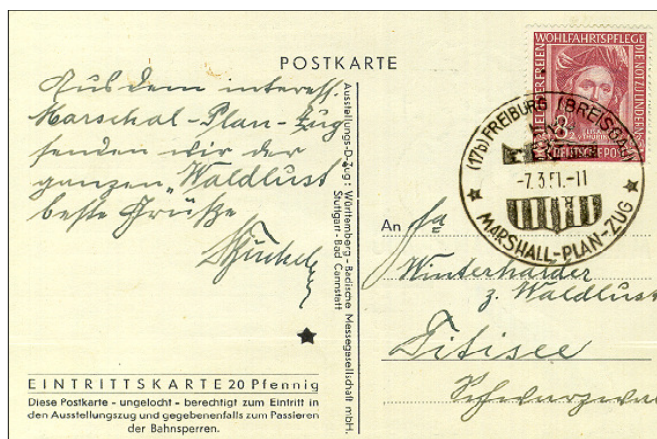
Unit's web site in 2007. Also, let's get ready for the 2007 Europa theme of Scouting. It should be a wonderful year for Europa stamps. What else would you like to see on the pages of the Europa News?

DUES RENEWAL - Inserted with this issue is the annual dues renewal form. Please take the time to fill it out and pay your dues as soon as possible. Also, vote in the annual "Best of the 2006 Europa Stamps" poll. RENEW NOW!

INDEX TO 2006 ISSUES - The paper version index to the 2006 issues of the Europa News will be available from Don Smith in the November. If you want a copy, please send him a #10 SASE. His address is on the last page of this issue. If you want the MS Excel electronic version, please e-mail Steve Luster at eunity@aol.com.

MARSHALL PLAN ARTICLE - This issue sees the start of an article about the Marshall Plan Train and its associated philately. The article draws heavily on the information in the D'Urso Specialized Catalogue of Europa Stamps. The sheer size of the article and the large number of illustrations dictates that the article will have to run over a number of issues. Enjoy!

THANKS - To everyone who contributed to the Europa News and to the Unit.



Front and back of a card used aboard the Marshall Plan Train (Zug). Illustrated here to introduce the article that begins on page 23 of this issue.

NEW ISSUES**RADIO FREE EUROPE**

POLAND -



Michael #3970. No other information is available at this time.

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF EUROPA STAMPS

SRI LANKA - Souvenir sheet of 2 stamps.



No other information available.

50 YEARS IN THE SERVICE OF PEACE

DENMARK - This image was sent by Arne Rasmussen of Denmark. It is a U.N. item but the notion of peace might be of interest to some members.



No other information is available.

TRANS EUROPEAN EXPRESS (TEE) TRAIN

GERMANY - One stamp from a set of 4 semi-postal stamps with proceeds going to maintain the railroad system.

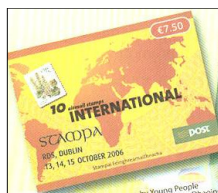
€0.55 + 0.25 - TEE train crossing a steel bridge as seen from the front right of the engine.



Date of Issue: October 5, 2006. **Designers:** Stefan Klein & Olaf Neumann from a photo by Carl Bellingrodt. **Printing:** Multicolored, offset, on white, fluorescent postal paper, DP2, by the German State Printing Works. **Size:** 55 x 32.80mm. **Other items:** None given but the usual array of philatelic products can be anticipated for this new issue.

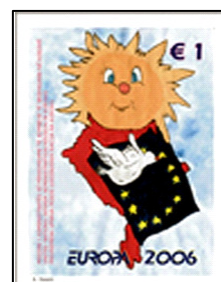
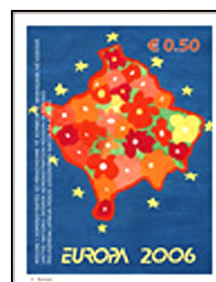
**STAMPA 2006**

IRELAND - Ireland's 2006 national stamp show was called STAMPA. It was held in Dublin October 13-15, 2006. One souvenir included the Europa stamps shown here.

**EUROPA 2006**

EUROPA 2006, KOSOVO DATA - What follows is from correspondent Max Molenaar. "Dear Steve, in your number 375, I read a passage on Kosovo stamps 2006 (page 11). I hereby inform you that the stamps mentioned, are real issues of Kosovo. Here is the administrations information on those:

EXTRAORDINARY EMISSION
New Kosovo postage stamps emission
On 09 MAY 2006 Europa 2006 Nominal value: € 0.50; € 1 **Sheet mint:** 10 postage stamps **Size:** 28.00mm x 42.00mm **Printing:** offset Perforation: 13 x 2 cm Paper: 102 gram. **Motif:** "Europa 2006" **Printing house:** CPU d.o.o. Sarajevo BiH Postage stamp **Designer:** D.Elshani; A.Hasani **Launching date:** 09 May 2006 **First day post-mark:** Prishtina; **FDC Designer:** B.Veliu..."



AUSTRIA - Black proof. As you might know, Austria issues a black proof for all new issues. These are attached to publicity information about the stamp. Shown below is the black proof of Austria's 2006 Europa stamp.



No other information available.

EUROPA BRIEFS

GERMANY SPECIMEN OVER-PRINTS - Figure 1 shows several sets of German Europa stamps all with the "muster" (specimen) overprint. They were seen on Ebay with opening bids of \$9.70 - \$13.50.



Figure 1. Germany Europa sets of 1961 to 1964 with each stamp bearing a "specimen" overprint.

DIRECT ELECTIONS TO THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT— We have correspondent Oege Weijs to thank for some additional information regarding the Cinderella stamp (label) at figure 2 in the next column. He writes that the label was produced to commemorate the first direct elections to the European Parliament which were held in 1979. Apparently, a person named Volker Heydt had proposed to the Parliament that the member countries issue a common stamp to mark the occasion of the election. The idea was not approved. At the time, Mr. Heydt was working at the Gustav Stresemann Institute in Bergisch Gladbach. He took it upon himself, at his own expense, to produce the labels.

The label was of course an unofficial issue and it did not have any postal validity. Mr. Weijs also provided the photocopy of the label used o cover. Note that valid postage was required to carry the cover in addition to the label which was canceled.

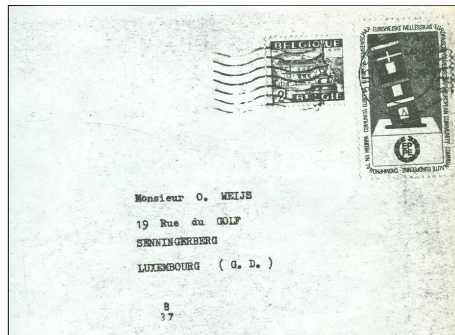


Figure 2. Upper margin block of 4 labels and an example of the label used on a Belgian cover.

EUROPA 1960, GREAT BRITAIN - At first glance, I thought that the item at figure 3 was a signed "proof" of the 6p value of Great Britain's 1960 Europa set. On closer inspection and a careful reading of the Ebay description, such is not the case. Someone had taken a mint copy of the stamp, as issued, and placed it in a black mount. The mount was then affixed to a piece of paper with rounded corners. The stamp artist then signed the paper. Not worth much!



Figure 3. Ordinary 6p stamp on paper signed by the artist. Made to look like a proof.

ECONOMIC COOPERATION ADMINISTRATION - The Economic Cooperation Administration was the U.S. government's organization that was responsible for administering help to Europe under the Marshall Plan following World War Two. The first administrator was Paul G. Hoffman. An original "thank-you" letter signed by him is at figure 4. It was described on Ebay as ... "Paul G. Hoffman (1891-1974) was an American business leader, political advisor; president of Studebaker auto company from 1935-1948; his appointment as administrator of the Economic Cooperation Administration was crucial in the Marshall Plan. The European Recovery Program after WWII. This is a typed letter signed from Hoffman to Robert Gros, Public Relations Vice President of Pacific Gas and Electric; friendly content, dated October 18, 1948 Dear Mr. Gros; I am here in Washington for just a few hours between trips to Europe but did want to get off this brief note to you to tell you how much I appreciate the good work you are doing for ECA. Sincerely yours, Paul Hoffman. 1 page approx. (8 x 10 1/2), comes on Economic Cooperation Administration letterhead some light soiling, otherwise, very good condition, \$17.50" The letter did not sell.

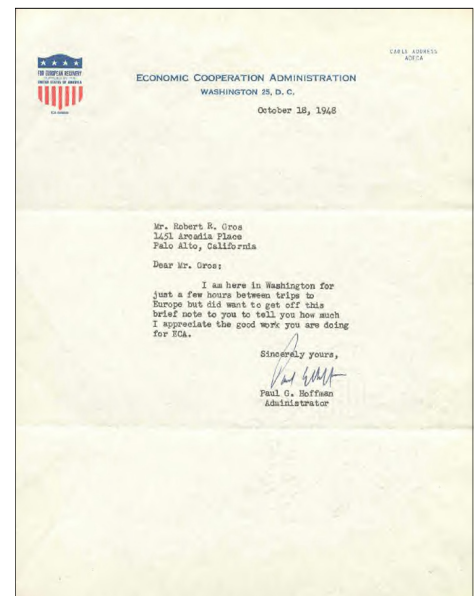


Figure 4. Letter signed by Paul G. Hoffman of the Economic Recovery Administration.

continued from page 3...

EUROPA 1956, USED YEAR SET -

Figure 5 is a complete year set of the 13 Europa stamps issued in 1956. It is in used condition. The year set was offered, mounted on an album page, as shown, with an opening bid of \$10.28. This shows a great disparity as a M-NH set can sell in excess of \$500.



Figure 5. 1956 Europa year set in used condition sold on Ebay for only a few dollars compared to a M-NH set.

EUROPA 1957, FRENCH PROOF -

The item at figure 6 is a proof of one of the values of France's 1957 Europa stamps. Note that the proof was struck prior to the engraving of the value. It is signed by French master engraver Decaris. It sold for \$102.50.

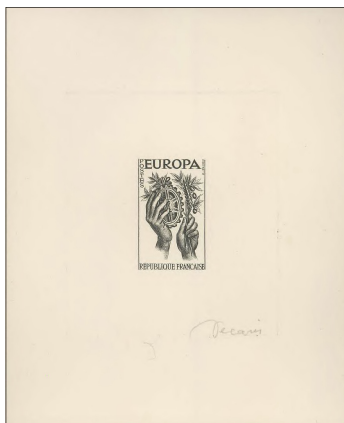


Figure 6. Signed artist's proof of French 1957 Europa stamp.

EUROPA BRIEFS (continued)

EUROPEAN UNION BOOKSHOP -

Mr. Oege Weijs sent along the post card at figure 7, advertising the European Union's Book Shop. It can be accessed at bookshop.eu.int. Have a look.



Figure 7. Post card advertising on-line access to the European Union Book Shop.

SMILERS, EUROPA STAMPS -

The sheet at figure 8 appears to show all of Great Britain's Europa stamps in a border around Europa stamp designs with interspersed labels showing a stylized British flag. I have no idea what the item is. It was seen on Ebay several times, with an opening bid of about \$28.36. So, what is a "smiler?"



Figure 8. Stamp "smiler" sheet for the 50th anniversary of Europa stamps.

NATO, US #1008 PRECANCELS -

The lot of 15 precancels of U.S. #1008 the 3¢ 1952 NATO stamp at figure 9 was offered on Ebay with an opening bid of \$1.00.



Figure 9. Lot of 15 precancels on U.S. 1952 NATO stamps.

MISSION MÉTÉO PERMANENTE à l'ÎLE EUROPA -

The cover at figure 10 bears a double circle cachet indicating that it was sent by the MISSION MÉTÉO PERMANENTE à l'ÎLE EUROPA. I determined from the cover that it was sent by a person assigned to that organization, stationed on the Island of Europa, near Madagascar. There, the French apparently maintained a meteorological site. According to the Ebay seller, this cover is a Europa "precursor" which it is not in my opinion. But it is still an interesting item.



Figure 10. Cover from the French Meteorological team on Europa Island.

continued on page 5...

continued from page 4...

SPECIMEN OVERPRINTS, HUNGARY EUROPA STAMPS - The stamps at figure 11 were called "specimen overprints" by their Ebay seller. The term is used loosely to describe a stamp that has been overprinted (defaced) by the issuing country before distribution. In the case of Hungary, a circle is overprinted on new issues before they are sent to the media for possible use in articles, thus giving the stamp additional publicity.



Figure 11. Blocks of 4 of Hungarian Europa stamps with circle "specimen" overprints.

EUROPA 2000, GERMANY IMPERFORATE - The German 2000 Europa stamp comes in several forms including as indicia on a postal stationery envelope. However, the item at figure 12 is different. It is a true imperforate stamp from the top part of a sheet. The Ebay seller provided a certificate of authenticity with the stamp which eventually sold for \$205.27.



Figure 12. Imperforate German 2000 Europa stamp.

EUROPA 1959, BELGIUM COVER - The Belgian Philatelic Bureau fills stamp orders in official envelopes, often registered, and franked with current stamps. Such is the case with the cover at figure 13 in the next column. It is franked with three complete sets of Belgium's 1959 Europa stamps. An additional 9¢ postage made up the correct rate of 1.35 for a registered air mail letter to the United States.

EUROPA BRIEFS (continued)



Figure 13. Registered official cover sent from the Belgian stamp fulfillment service.

PACKET STAMPS - A person can purchase "stamps" in Germany that will be used to mail packages of higher weight. Three examples of the stamps are shown at figure 14. The vertical booklet contains stamps to be used on packages up to 5 kilos. The horizontal booklet contains stamps that are used for packets up to 10 and 20 kilos. Packages thus franked, will be carried by DHL the international package carrier.



Figure 14. Examples of German packet stamps for items weighing up to 5, 10 & 20 kilos.

WERTMARKEN (SPECIAL STAMP) - Figure 15 is a special label from Germany. It depicts a map of Europe. It has value but I do not know how much. It is to be used on packages that are to be sent via air mail anywhere in Europe. It also contains a customs form, and places for the sender and recipient addresses.



Figure 15. German special label for sending air mail packages within Europe.

EUROPA 1959, ITALY TO NORWAY COVER - Figure 16 is a cover franked with 2 Italian 60L 1959 Europa stamps. They pay the air mail rate from Italy to Norway. An interesting cover showing Europa stamps doing the duty for which they were made.



Figure 16. 1959 Italian Europa stamps franking an air mail cover to Norway.

ERP POSTER DESIGN POSTAL CARD - The Austrian postal card at figure 17 on the next page is based on the winning design by Reyn Dirksen in an ERP-sponsored poster art contest. Reminders of the cards were sold to several airlines

continued on page 6...

continued from page 5...

who used them for various promotional events. This card was used by Pan American airways to promote a polar flight from Europe to the United States.



Figure 17. ERP poster design on an Austrian postal card, used for a Pan American first flight.

EISENHOWER, CACHET ON U.S. 3¢ NATO FDC - Figure 18 is a cachet in red, white and blue, depicting the likeness of General (later President) Dwight D. Eisenhower, the first Supreme Allied Commander in Europe (SACEUR). The creator of the cachet is unknown and it is not listed in the Mellone catalogue. The cachet is on a first day cover of the United States' 3¢ NATO stamp issued on April 4, 1952, NATO's 3rd anniversary. The cover, from McCusker sale number 227, eventually sold for \$140 against a pre-auction estimate of \$20.



Figure 18. Eisenhower cachet on FDC of U.S. Scott #1008, 3rd anniversary of NATO stamp.

EUROPA BRIEFS (continued)

EUROPA 1956, NICE COVER - Many of you have previously read in the Europa News, that I like to see Europa stamps franking covers and thus doing what they were printed for, "moving the mail." Figure 19 is such an example. This is a single weight letter, within France, being carried for the then current rate of 15f.

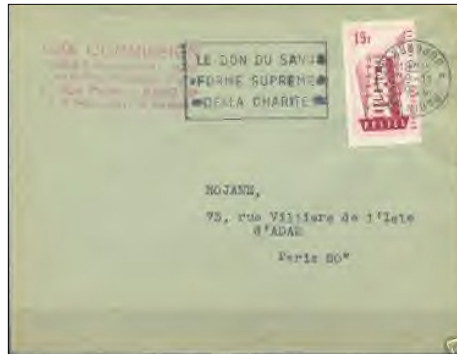


Figure 19. Correct rate and use of French 1956 Europa stamp on cover.

EUROPA 1971, STRIKE MAIL - The cover at figure 20 bears a 2½p Jersey stamp. It could not be carried due to the British mail strike of 1971. For a payment of 20p, signified by the label (in green) at the lower left of the cover, it was carried by a private, licensed, postal service as evidenced by the etiquette at the lower right (in purple). Figure 21 is a catalogue (Yvert?) listing of the label.



Figure 20. Cover carried from Jersey to Guernsey during the mail strike of 1971.



Figure 21. Listing of the label from an unknown stamp catalogue.

EUROPA 1960, LIECHTENSTEIN - Even though Liechtenstein was not a CEPT member at the time, the country issued a "Europa" stamp in 1960. The issue was very popular and the price of a single stamp and a full sheet of 20 rose dramatically. The stamp became one of the "keys" to collecting Europa stamps. I have not seen the stamp on a maximum card before. Here is one at figure 22. It was offered on Ebay with an opening bid of \$1.27. It sold for \$39.38.

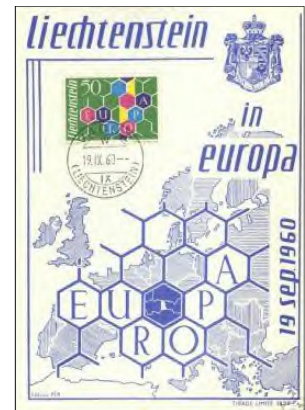


Figure 22. Liechtenstein 1960 Europa stamp on maximum card.

BELGIUM POSTAL STATIONERY - Belgium Post has issued two pre-paid envelopes with Europa-related indicia. One envelope is plain while the other is window-fronted. They sell for €0.70 each and each can carry a first class letter in Belgium. See figure 23.

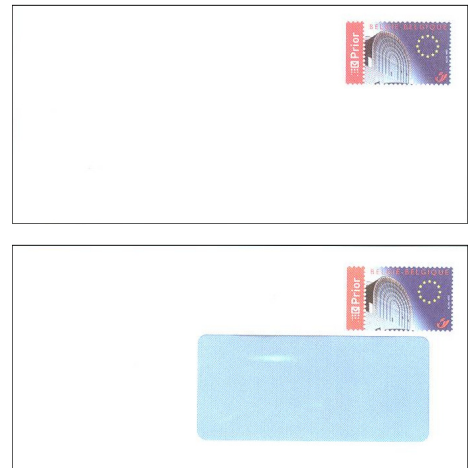


Figure 23. Two items of Europa-related postal stationery from Belgium.

continued from page 6...

GARIBALDI ASSOCIATION LABELS -



Figure 24. Sheet and sheet of poster stamps issued by the Garibaldi Association, sold to raise funds.

EUROPA 1981, GUERNSEY TABS - Some Guernsey stamps are issued with tabs containing informative information? Such was the case with the 1981 Europa set at figure 25.



Figure 25. 1981 Guernsey Europa set with tabs from the bottom margin of the sheet.

EUROPA BRIEFS (continued)

EUROPEAN SPACE AGENCY - The cover at figure 26 bears both a special cancel and a cachet commemorating the launch of the European Space agency's "Ariane" rocket on December 24, 1979.



Figure 26. Special cover and cancel depicting the European Space Agency's Ariane rocket.

CHURCHILL - A canceled set of 10 carriage labels from the Calf of Man is shown at figure 27. The labels in the upper row were printed in red and the labels in the bottom row were printed in blue. Winston Churchill is depicted.



The set was overprinted "Europa 1967 as seen in the labels below



Figure 27. Set of 10 Calf of Man canceled carriage labels depicting Churchill, overprinted "Europa 1967."

EUROPA 1974, FRENCH COLLECTIVE SHEET - The item at figure 28 in the next column is a collective sheet from France. These sheets have been issued for many years. What makes them interesting is that they contain an imprint of the stamps in a color other than the issued color. The issued stamps with a first day cancel can be seen to the left. This is yet another way to enjoy collecting Europa stamps.



Figure 28. 1974 Europa collective sheet from France.

EUROPA 1959, PROOFS - Figure 29 is a set of sunk, deluxe sheets in the issued colors. According to the Ebay seller, they have minor imperfections. The deluxe sheets did not sell.



Figure 29. Set of French deluxe sheets offered on Ebay.

continued on page 8...

continued from page 7...

EUROPA 1988, FRANCE IMPERF - The set of 1988 imperforate French Europa stamps at figure 30, was offered on Ebay for a “buy-it-now” price of \$35.75.



Figure 30. 1988 French imperforate Europa stamps offered on Ebay.

NATO POSTAL STATIONERY - The following is from Treasurer Dana Roper - “I noticed one other item that may provoke comment. On page 17 of the last issue you show an item of Romanian postal stationery for a NATO conference. It was actually issued in 2006, not 1966 as your caption states. I bought a mint copy from the Romanian post office booth at Washington 2006.” Figure 31 is the piece of postal stationery with the correct caption.



Figure 31. Romanian postal stationery commemorating the 2006 NATO Foreign Ministers meeting.

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF EUROPA STAMPS - This also from Dana Roper. “You may get a few comments concerning my list of Europa 50th anniversary issues. The inclusion of (the) United States was simply a placeholder for the ESU souvenir sheet. Certainly a desirable item (and surely destined for greatness) but not a product of the USPS.” Dana refers to the Unit souvenir sheet produced for “EUROPEX” at Washington 2006. The souvenir sheets are still available for \$3 each plus a SASE, from Don Smith whose address appears elsewhere in this issue.

EUROPA 2005, WHERE ARE THEY FROM? - This item appeared on page 12 of the last issue of the Europa News. “The two stamps were listed as coming from Moldova. They are not! So where

EUROPA BRIEFS (continued)

are they from?” It elicited a reply from Dana Roper.



Figure 32. The “mystery” stamps in question.

Directly above is the illustration and caption as they appeared in the last issue. “Re. your question on page 12 (“Where are they from?”) they are supposed to be from Transnistria (look carefully at the selvage on the bottom of the block in the last issue. You’ll see the ДИЊ which identifies it).” Dana also wrote that “...It looks like we’re starting to see the ubiquitous labels from the breakaway Russian republics showing up as Europas. Abkhazia is another prodigious label producer. NGORNO-KARABAKH (on page 5) is a new one on me, but is in the same category. I warned about these in my earlier article on Cinderellas – they are all produced by a Lithuanian printer who apparently can’t churn them out fast enough. A dealer at Washington 2006 had boxes of them – showing everything from Concorde to kittens - that he was selling at 3 for \$10. Caveat Emptor. In the next column is a *partial* list of these tiny Russian republics. Two of them (Fr. Joseph Earth and Novosibirsk) are islands under ice in the Arctic Ocean:

(Just to re-iterate the Unit policy...we never tell any of our members what or what not to collect. Each of us is free to collect as we see fit, so if these items are your cup of tea, we are glad to present them here in the pages of the Europa News for your information.

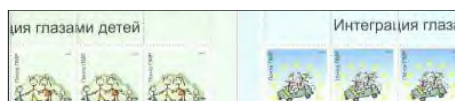


Figure 32. Block of new issues from Transnistria showing the point Dana Roper wrote about.

RUSSIAN AREA LABEL PRODUCING ENTITIES

Abkhazia	Kuril Islands
Adigey (Adygea)	Kalmikia
Adjaria	(Kalmykia)
Altai (Altaj)	Kamchatka
Amurskaya	Karakalpakaia
Badakhshan	Karelia (Karjala)
Balkaria	Komi
(Kabardino-Balkaria)	Koriakia
Bashkiria	Kuril Islands
Batumi	Marij El
Buriatia	Mordovia
Caratchaevo-	Naxcivan
Cherkesia	New Earth
Chechenia	North Osetia
Chuvashia	Novosibirsk (New Siberia)
Crimea (Crymea)	Sakhalin
Dagestan	Spitsbergen
Evenkia	Tadjikistan
Fr. Joseph Earth	Tatarstan
Gagauzia	Transnistria
Hakasia	Tuva (Touva)
Ingushetia	Udmurtia
Jewish Republic	Yakutia
Koriakia	

Many thanks to Dana for providing this list.

COUNCIL OF EUROPE IMPERFORATE

- The official Council of Europe



Figure 33. Official Council of Europe stamp in imperforate condition.

stamp in imperforate, M-NH condition, as shown at figure 33, was offered on Ebay with a “Buy-it-Now” price of \$60.

EUROPA 1959, ITALIAN VARIETY - Although it cannot be seen in the illustration, according to its Ebay seller, the stamp at fig-

Figure 33a.

continued on page 9...

continued from page 8...

COUNCIL OF EUROPE, 105 PROOF - Figure 34 is a sunk, artist's die proof in black, of France official stamp number Scott 105, issued for the Council of Europe, signed by Decaris the engraver. The item was seen on Ebay with a "buy-it-now" price of only \$59.50. Considering that only about 28 of this type of proof in this color was produced, and given the popularity of the "Europa" stamps, I believe that this price is very, very good for such a scarce item.



Figure 34. Council of Europe proof seen on Ebay with a very low "but-it-now" price.

HOBBYPHILATELIE AUCTION HOUSE - As a Europa collector, you might decide one day to move past collecting only the common design and theme annual stamps in the condition in which they were issued. One source of "exotic" material are auction houses and the best of these for Europa material are ones in Europe. Featured in this "Europa Brief" is the Hobbyphilatelie Auction House in Freiburg, Germany. [Http://www.stamp-auction.de](http://www.stamp-auction.de). Figure 35 below and in the next column is a sampling of Europa exotica from that house's 71st auction.



EUROPA BRIEFS (continued)



Figure 35. Sampling of auction lots of Europa material for the advanced collector.

1995, IMPERFORATE - Figure 36 is a set of imperforate Europa stamps from France.



Figure 36. Set of French 1995 Europa stamps in imperforate condition.

EUROPA 1964, MONACO IMPERF - The stamps at figure 37 are the complete set of two, of Monaco's 1964 Europa stamps. They are in imperforate condition. Seen on Ebay, the seller asked for an opening bid of \$25.65. The set sold for that price.



Figure 37. Europa 1964 Monaco set in imperforate condition.

EUROPA 1966, ITALY VARIETY - According to an Ebay seller, the block of four 1966 Italian Europa stamps at figure 38, shows a variety in the left selvedge. Note both the wavy lines in the bottom selvedge, but also the wavy and vertical lines close to the left edge of the sheet. If a variety at all, it is a minor one and is produced by a slight mis-registration of the paper during the printing process. Does anyone have more information on this "variety?"



Figure 38. Europa 1966, 40L value showing additional printed lines in the left selvedge.

continued on page 10...

continued from page 9...

“THIONVILLE THE EUROPEAN” - An article accompanying a French new issue was titled “Thionville l’euro-péenne.”



Figure 39. New issue stamp from France showing the famous bridge at Thionville.

Currently the economies of Luxembourg, the Rhineland Palatinate and the Saar in Germany are on the rise. Thionville benefits from its proximity to the border and the opportunity to be in an area of vast cultural and linguistic assets. Thionville has turned the page of the difficult post-industrial years, when the factories were at low capacity in the 1970s. The city benefits from the proximity and the prosperity of Luxembourg. In 2007, Thionville will take part in the festival l'elan of "Luxembourg 2007, European Capital of the Culture."

EUROPA CIVIC ORGANIZATIONS, LIONS 1968 - The cover at figure 40 is a souvenir from the 1968 European Lions Forum. The forum was held in Athens, Greece September 25-29, 1968. Civic organizations and the work they do, help contribute to the European ideal. **EUROPEAN SPORTS CHAM-**



Figure 40. Cover commemorating the 1968 European Lions Forum in Greece.

PIOSHIPS, 1950 - The 3 items at figure 41 in the next column comprised a single Ebay lot. The sheet and two smaller “stamps were issued by Belgium to commemorate the European sports Champi-

EUROPA BRIEFS (continued)

onships which were held in Brussels on August 23-27, 1950. The upper stamp on the right is inscribed in black while the inscription on the bottom stamp is in red. The opening bid for the lot was just over \$28.

STEAMER EUROPA - The letter at



Figure 41. Ebay lot of 1950 European Sports Championship stamps.

figure 42 was sent from England to Wilmington, Delaware. At the lower left corner is a manuscript notation ‘by Mail Steamer/Europa.’ Barely relevant to European unity but a nice philatelic item. **MARSHALL PLAN TRAIN** - Below



Figure 42. 1850 folded letter sent from England to the United States.

and in the next column at figure 43 are three sets of German semi-postal stamps affixed to cards, all canceled on November 21, 1950 in the town of Hamm, Westphalia. Hamm was the 36th stop on the first voyage of the Marshall Plan Train through Germany following WWII. The special cancel was applied on the 15th and last car in the train. Of additional interest is the value of the stamps used on the cards. The Ebay seller was asking for opening bids of only €1 for each of the three cards.

MARSHALL PLAN STAMP, PRINT-



Figure 43. Special cancels from the Marshall Plan Train when it was in Hamm, Germany in 1950.

ING SHIFT - The stamp at figure 44 is Scott number 3141. It was issued to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Marshall Plan. Note that the words “European Recovery Program” are shifted downward a complete line so that the second word “Program” is over the inscription “The Marshall Plan.”



Figure 44. Marshall Plan stamp with mis-registered printing.

continued on page 11...

continued from page 10...

EUROPA 1960, GREECE VARIETY

- The stamp at figure 45 is Greece's 1960 Europa issue. Note that there is a line under the first "A" in the word "Hellas." It should be noted that while interesting, other varieties exist. They are an inverted watermark, a white dot to the right of the letter "R" of Europa; and, a double impression. This stamp was seen on Ebay with a starting bid of \$10.



Figure 45. 1960 Greek Europa stamp variety showing a line under first "A."

EUROPA 1960, IRISH FIRST DAY COVER

- The cover at figure 46 is an unofficial first day cover of Ireland's 1960 Europa set. The set alone has gone way up in value making this cover of some interest. It is franked with both values of the set making the cover overfranked. The Ebay seller was asking for an opening bid of about \$37.89.



Figure 46. Unofficial first day cover of Ireland's 1960 Europa set.

LIONS MEETING, 1978

- The numbered card at figure 47 in the next column is a souvenir from the 1978 Lions meeting that took place in Gubbio, Italy on April 23rd of that year. The theme of the meeting as indicated on the card was, "The Lions and European Unity." The revers of the card, also at figure 47 shows a stamp with the meeting's souvenir cancel and a picture. I cannot identify the picture, but with the

surrounding information, it could be a likeness of the Goddess Europa. Can anyone identify the picture? Who is it?



Figure 47. The back and front of a maxi card commemorating the 1978 European Lions meeting in Gubbio. Face above is not identified.

EUROPA 1957, GERMAN REGISTERED COVER

- As you know, I always look for Europa stamps on commercial covers. I like to see the stamps actually doing what they were produced for...moving the mail. The registered cover at figure 48 is such an example. It is franked with both values of Germany's 1957 Europa stamps (3 x 10 & 1 x 40 = 70pf). I can't tell if there is a back stamp on the cover, but it is a nice example of the use of Europa stamps.



Figure 48. Registered cover bearing franking of Germany's 1957 Europa stamps.

EUROPA 1956, ITALY ON COVER

- Forgive me, but figure 49 in the next column is another example of a good use of a Europa stamp. This time, it is a single use of the high value of Italy's 1956 Europa set. It is on a registered cover, with a printed "registered with return receipt." I do not know the

meaning of the boxed (A.H.) etiquette. The cover was sent from the Napoli 3 (Naples) post office to a Naples address.



Figure 49. Registered cover franked with a single value of Italy's 1956 Europa set.

EUROPA 1961, ITALY ON COVER

- Forgive me again, but figure 50 is yet another example of a good use of a Europa stamp. This time, a registered cover is franked with 3 copies of the L.30 value of Italy's 1961 Europa set. The cover is similar to the one at figure 49 but has a slightly different pre-printed configuration. I always added covers to my collection as I wanted to continue collecting Europa stamps, and needed to be able to hunt for more items after I got all of the stamps. Good covers was one way of doing it.



Figure 50. Registered cover franked with 3 examples of the low value of Italy's 1961 Europa set.

NATO LETTER

- While a bit hard to see in its reduced size, the item at figure 51 is a label that was apparently affixed to either a NATO newsletter or other type of paper (e.g., printed matter). It carries 3.5d in meter postage from England and likely was mailed in the early 1960s. Any additional information will be appreciated.

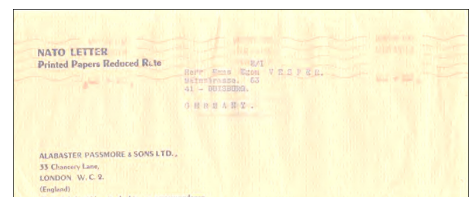


Figure 51. Franked mailing label for the "NATO LETTER."

continued on page 12...


EUROPA BRIEFS (continued)

Guernsey where it is addressed, it had to be franked with a Great Britain stamp of 3p in order to get off Herm Island, travel through the G.B. post and to be delivered to an address on Guernsey. However, this is an interesting item as virtually all mail from Herm is philatelically inspired while this piece is obviously personal.



Figure 54. Post card from Herm Island to Guernsey franked with carriage label and G.B. stamp.

EUROPA 2005, MADEIRA BOOK-LET - The item at figure 55 is a booklet of Europa stamps issued by Portuguese Madeira in 2005. The Ebay seller indicated that only 10,000 booklets were produced and each one contains a “color proof.” He also wrote that the booklets are sold out at the Madeira post office. An opening bid of \$24 was asked for.



O clima insuável, em que nasce
melhor da América uma
vinífera Madeira,
a diversidade da natureza
de flora, a antiguidade
do seu povoamento,
o seu amadurecimento
e a fama do seu vinho fizeram
Nesta vinícola
o "Eden da Atlântica".

*The enviable climate, in which
the finest months of the year
nurture the finest of the
European vine, the diversity
of the landscape, the
antiquity of the settlement
and the fame of its wine have made
of this vineyard the "Eden
of the Atlantic."*

Figure 55. Booklet cover for Madeira 2005 Europa stamps.

SHAUBEK ALBUM - Figure 56 is the cover of a Shaubek Europa album. A two volume set of the album was offered on Ebay with an opening bid of \$1.27.

Figure 56. Cover of a Shaubek Europa stamp album.

Figure 57. Europa 2006 numbered Slovenia sheet of trial colors.

Figure 58. “Free Russia and Free Europe” souvenir sheet with Europa 1960 stamp design.

EUROPAFRIQUE 1977 - The item at figure 59 is an imperforate pair of Mali's 1977 Europafrigue issue. It was seen on Ebay with an opening bid of \$15.33.



Figure 59. 1977 Mali Eurpafrique issue, imperforate pair.

continued from page 12...

ESSEN 1978, HUNGARY SHEET - The numbered sheet at figure 60 incorporates a Hungarian "Europa" stamp, a map of Europe and an inscription. I believe it was privately produced for the stamp show that took place in Essen, Germany November 1-5, 1978.



Figure 60. Numbered, private souvenir sheet produced for the Essen '78 stamp show.

EUROPA 1997, HUNGARY SPECIMENS - Note that the stamps at figure 61 bear a circular "cancel." That circle mark is used by the Hungarian post to "cancel" stamps sent to various organizations as specimens. The specimens are to be used for publicity purposes. The circle identifies the stamp as a "specimen" and it is not a postal marking used to move mail.



Figure 61. Vertical pairs of Hungary's 1997 Europa stamps with "specimen" cancels.

THURN & TAXIS, GUYANA SHEET - The souvenir sheet at figure 62 in the next column was issued by Guyana. It covers the 1992 Olympics held in Barcelona; the 150th anniversary of Great Britain's "penny black stamp; the 500th anniversary of the Thurn & Taxis postal service; It bears a "\$500" overprint and, another commemorating the World Columbian Stamp Expo held in Chicago, May 22-31, 1992. While not my cup of tea, the souvenir sheet will be of interest to people who collect Thurn & Taxis as the first European postal system.

EUROPA BRIEFS (continued)

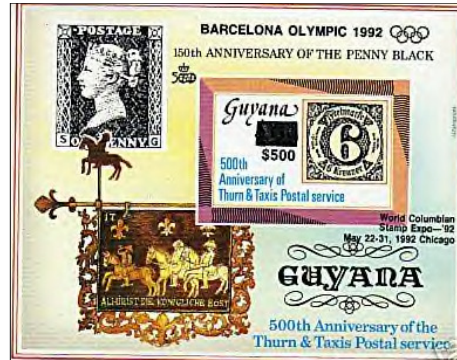


Figure 62. Guyana souvenir sheet commemorating the Thurn & Taxis European postal system.

EUROPA 1992, SWEDEN FOLDER - Among the items issued by Sweden for her 1992 Europa stamps was a folder containing a complete set of stamps, a steel plate proof and a four-color proof. Multiple copies of the folder were offered on Ebay with an opening bid of \$9.99. See figure 63.



Figure 63. Cover of folder issued by Sweden as a part of her 1992 Europa stamp emission.

EUROPA 1996, VATICAN CITY IMPERFORATE - Figure 64 is the 1996 Europa stamp issued in 1996 by the Vatican City. It depicts Edith Stein. Note that this stamp exists in imperforate condition. A copy was offered on Ebay with an opening bid of about \$1.25. It sold for \$25.86.



Figure 64. Imperforate 1996 Vatican City Europa stamp.

NATO, SPECIAL DELIVERY COVER - The cover at figure 64a was sent from one address in New York City to another by special delivery. At the time the letter was mailed, the correct postage rate was 3¢ for the letter and 15¢ for the special delivery. Note that the cover bears two stamps, one of them the 1952 NATO stamp, making up the correct rate.



Figure 64a. Correctly rated special delivery cover with NATO stamp used for franking.

EUROPA 1993, ALBANIA SHEET - In 1993, Albania released a sheet of one stamp depicting art. The word "Europa" in the PostEurop logo style appeared on the sheet. The one shown here at figure 65 was seen on Ebay with an opening bid of \$1.



Figure 65. Europa 1993 sheet from Albania.

EUROPA 1984, FRENCH POSTAL CARD - In addition to its set of 2 stamps, France issued the postal card at figure 66 on the next page in 1984 as a part of its annual Europa emission. The indicia on the postal card is the 2.20 franc high value from the Europa set. It is in the same color as the stamp. This postal card is listed in the Domfil Catalogue of Europa stamps. While not particularly valuable, the postal card makes a nice addition to the stamps.

continued on page 14...

continued from page 13...



Figure 66. 1984 French postal card with Europa stamp design.

EUROPA 1958, COMPOUND PROOF - The item at figure 67 is an imperforate, compound, sunk proof, in the issued colors, of France's 1958 Europa stamps. It was offered on Ebay with an opening bid of €1. According to the Ebay seller, the proof is listed in a catalogue at €400. The proof sold for \$39.73. I think this is a good price.



Figure 67. Compound proof of France's 1958 Europa stamps.

GREEK ISLANDS, EUROPA LABELS - The labels seen here at figure 68 in the next column, have been shown in the Europa News before. They are usually seen on "First day covers." They do not have any postal validity. However, they were offered for sale in an auction and the catalogue write up gave some additional information which is reported here. The lot was listed as being "London printed, in 1960. Seen are the labels in both perforated and imperforate condition. They are in blocks of 6. Three islands make a "set." They are Arcoudi, Oxia and Dragonera. Each set consists of 2 labels, 4 and 8 drachmas. The colors of each label are different as shown in the following table, but the colors are the same regardless of whether or not they are perforated or imperforate.

EUROPA BRIEFS (continued)

ISLAND	VALUE	COLOR
Arcoudi	ΔP 4	Green
Arcoudi	ΔP 8	Brown
Oxia	ΔP 4	Orange
Oxia	ΔP 8	Deep Blue
Dragonera	ΔP 4	Red
Dragonera	ΔP 8	Light Blue



Figure 68. Perforated and imperforate blocks of 6 labels prepared for the Greek Civil War???

EUROPA '78 STAMP SHOW - This show was an international exhibition held in Naples, Italy from April 29 to May 7, 1978. As a special souvenir of the show, Vatican City post prepared a special folder, seen at figure 69, containing a set of stamps which happens to depict St. Benedict and Monte Casino. The 2 stamps to the right are canceled EUROPA 78.



Figure 69. Cover, interior and Europa cancel of a special folder made available by the Vatican City Post at the Europa 78 international stamp show.

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT, FIRST DIRECT ELECTIONS - The item at figure 70 appears to be a private sheet using the German 1956 Europa stamp designs. I cannot tell if the images are copies or if they were printed from the original dies. However, they are in the same colors as the issued stamps. In any event, someone put the sheet together to commemorate the first direct elections to the European Parliament in 1979.



Figure 70. Private sheet commemorating the first direct elections to the European Parliament.

continued from page 14...

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT, FIRST DIRECT ELECTIONS - The item at figure 71 is the same as the item in figure 70. However it is printed in black and white.



Figure 71. Private sheet commemorating the first direct elections to the European Parliament. "Black Print."

PHILATELIC EXHIBITION, EXPHISALM '58 - In 1958 the Salm Philatelic Club of Vielsalm, Belgium, held an exhibition under the "patronage" of the Council of Europe. The exhibition used a special cancel featuring the European "E" flag. The official cachet for the flag depicted one value of Belgium's 1957 Europa stamp set. An official cover is at figure 72.



Figure 72. Official cover from the 1958 Vielsalm stamp show with Council of Europe connection.

WINE FESTIVAL - The 1963 Zell "Black Cat" Wine Festival also recognized international friendship between European cities. The European "E" flag is shown on the special cancel used during the festival and the wording under the cachet explains the additional theme of the festival. See figure 73 in the next column. I am constantly amazed at the connection to the theme of European unity that are found. With a bit of digging. Unless one sees the "fine print" or the small European flag, it is possible that a cover like this could be easily passed over.

EUROPA BRIEFS (concluded)



Figure 73. Official cover of the 1963 Zell wine festival with added theme of European friendship.

DAVO EUROPA STAMP ALBUM - Figure 74 is the cover of a DAVO Europa stamp album from 1956 to 1981.



Figure 74. 1981 DAVO Europa stamp album cover.

COUNCIL OF EUROPE ART EXHIBITION, BARCELONA - The Council of Europe sponsored many art exhibitions in Europe. A report on them, written by Don Smith, appeared in the September-October 2006 issue of the Europa News. Figure 75 is a cover with a special cancel for the Roman Art Exhibition that toured Barcelona, Spain.



Figure 75. Council of Europe art exhibition, Barcelona, Spain special cancel from 1961.

EUROPA 2006, BOSNIA, SERBIAN REPUBLIC - The item at figure 76 is, in the words of its Ebay seller "...a complete imperforate proof set in se-tenant, tete-beche gutter pair in a shade darker than that of the issued stamps.

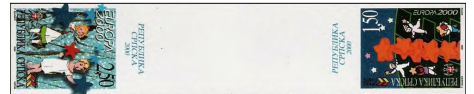


Figure 76. Europa 2006 item from Bosnia, Serbian Republic. Likely only a few of these exist.

EUROPA 1998, YUGOSLAVIA, SERBIA, CROATIA IMPERFORATE - Figure 77 shows the Europa set in imperforate condition, each stamp attached to a label.



Figure 77. Imperforate pair of Europa stamps with attached labels.

EUROPA ????, JUGOSLAVIA ERROR - Due to a change in postal rates, the 2.50 stamp was overprinted "9.00" in silver. See the top stamp at figure 78. Some of the un-overprinted stamps have appeared on the philatelic market. The bottom stamp shows the original value of 2.50 rather than the 9.00.



Figure 78. Stamp with and without the overprint.

NEW POSTMARKS**FORWARD CALENDAR**

COUNTRY	DATE OF ISSUE	DESCRIPTION
Italy	May 8, 2006	Europa
Kosovo	May 9, 2006	Europa
Macedonia	May 9, 2006	Europa
Macedonia	May 10, 2006	10th anniversary of Macedonian Europa stamps
Serbia & Montenegro	March 6, 2006	Danube commission 150th anniversary
Serbia & Montenegro	May 4, 2006	Europa
Ukraine	May 4, 2006	Summit meeting of GUAM, a regional organization of Georgia, Ukraine, Azerbaijan and Moldova, an organization for Democracy and Economic Development.
Belgium	30APR06	Europa - 2 stamps for the 100th anniversary of the scouts
Belgium	30APR06	50th anniversary of the European Union.
France	2007	A block of 4 stamps honoring Prague as a "European Capital."
France	2007	1 stamp on the Europa theme of "100 years of Scouting"
Jersey	6MAR07	2 stamps for Europa on the common theme of the centenary of scouting.

MEMBER AD

USED EUROPA STAMPS - member Steve Luster is looking for a source of used Europa stamps from 1977 through 2006. If you know of anyone who sells used Europa stamps, please contact Steve whose address appears elsewhere in this issue.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

NTSS 2007 EXHIBIT PROSPECTUS**EXHIBIT PROSPECTUS**

National Topical Stamp Show 2007
American Topical Association
Sheraton Grand Hotel
Highway 114 at Esders Road
Irving, Texas, U.S.A.



June 15-17, 2007

Rules and Regulations Governing Exhibits

The American Topical Association (ATA) defines a Topical/Thematic collection as one that consists of stamps and/or other material chosen for their design, rather than for the countries that issue them or the class of postal service they provide. A thematic or thematic display exhibit is a topical exhibit arranged to tell a story.

1. This exhibition is open to all collectors regardless of society affiliation provided the entry meets the definition of topical/thematic exhibits. Exhibits must be the bona fide property of the exhibitor, and the preparation of the exhibit must represent the owner's efforts. The Exhibition Committee reserves the right to limit or reject any exhibit at its discretion without giving any reason. In such cases, a refund of the entry fee will be made. Each exhibitor will be notified of its acceptance or rejection in not less than 30 days after the receipt of the complete application with required attachments and full payment.

2. All entries must be submitted on this official entry form (photocopies are acceptable). The entry form must include the exhibitor's name (a *nom de plume* may be used), the exhibit title, and a brief description of the exhibit for the official program. Each entry must be accompanied by the appropriate frame fee (see options on Official Entry Form) and a copy of the title page, plan page, and a synopsis (optional). Applications will be considered on a first-come, first-served basis, and must be received no later than April 16, 2007, or until such time as all frames have been fully subscribed. Failure to exhibit after an exhibit has been accepted forfeits the entry fee.

3. Thematic Multi-frame Class and Thematic Display Class exhibits are limited to a minimum of two frames and a maximum of ten frames. Thematic One-Frame exhibits and Thematic Youth exhibits of one to five frames are also welcome. Use one entry form for each exhibit.

4. Thematic Display Class exhibits to be considered must meet the following criteria: If the non-philatelic material is removed, the philatelic material that remains must be thematically arranged with appropriate text like exhibits in the Thematic Multi-frame class.

5. Frames will hold 16 individual 8.5" x 11" (or European A4) pages. Each page must be enclosed in a sheet protector and must be identified on the reverse side of the page with the owner's name and a clear indication of mounting sequence. Exhibits should not show on their face any identifying marks of ownership aside from names on the covers.

6. There will be a panel of five judges, three of whom shall be APS-ATA accredited

and accreditation sheet will be used for all Thematic Multi-frame exhibits. One-Frame Thematic exhibits will be judged using the Ameri-Stamp Expo evaluation sheet. Thematic Display exhibits will be judged using the APS Thematic Display score sheet, and Youth exhibits will be judged using the APS Thematic Youth Evaluation sheet. All decisions of the judges shall be final.

7. There will be a Grand Award (eligible for the American Philatelic Society Champion of Champions Competition) and a Reserve Grand for the best and second best exhibits in the Thematic Multi-frame Class and the Thematic Display Class. Gold, vermeil, silver, silver-bronze, and bronze level awards will be available for the Thematic Multi-frame Class, Thematic Display Class, and One-Frame Class exhibits. Platinum awards will also be available for One-Frame Class exhibits. Gold, silver, and bronze level awards will be available for Thematic Youth Class exhibits. Other awards of national philatelic organizations and ATA affiliates may be granted by the judges according to the rules of the sponsoring organization. All exhibitors will receive an adjudication sheet following the exhibition representing the composite views of the judges. Exhibits having won the ATA Grand Award, an international Grand Prix, or three international Large Golds are ineligible to compete for the ATA Grand Award.

8. For the first time there will be a class for Thematic Novice Exhibits that is available for anyone who has never exhibited thematically at any recognized philatelic exhibition. This "Novice" exhibit, named in honor of Mary Ann Owens, can be entered in the Multi-frame Class, Display Class, or the One-Frame Class. All Novice exhibits will be judged by a separate panel of three local judges appointed by ATA using a special Evaluation Sheet and Guidelines. These Novice exhibits will not receive any of the previously described awards, but each novice exhibitor will receive a certificate of participation and the best Novice exhibit will receive a special Novice award.

9. Exhibits will be mounted and dismounted under the supervision of the Exhibition Committee. Exhibitors or their agents desiring to mount and/or dismount their exhibits must so indicate on the entry form. Exhibits will be mounted from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., Thursday, June 14, 2007. Dismounting will begin at 4:00 p.m., Sunday, June 17, 2007, and no early dismounting will be permitted from any reason.

10. Each exhibitor should arrange for insurance for the period of time that the exhibit is in transit, in storage prior to and following the exhibition, and while on display. Every precaution will be taken to safeguard all exhibits, including the provision of 24-hour security personnel. However, the officers, representatives, and employees of the American Topical Association and the Sheraton Grand Hotel in Irving, Texas, will not assume any liability or responsibility for loss or damage of any material due to any cause or reason.

11. Shipping instructions as well as frame assignment will be provided to exhibitors no later than May 18, 2007. Exhibitors who want ATA to return their exhibits must include the full anticipated cost for shipment/insurance/registration with their application.

12. Any questions that may arise that are not covered in these Rules and Regulations shall be decided by the ATA Board of Directors at their sole and absolute discretion.

For further information on the National Topical Stamp Show 2007, contact ATA, P.O. Box 57, Arlington, TX 76004-0057, U.S.A. Telephone: 1-817-274-1181. FAX: 1-817-274-1184. E-Mail: <americantopical@msn.com>. Check the ATA Website:

OFFICIAL ENTRY FORM

National Topical Stamp Show 2007
American Topical Association
June 15-17, 2007

Mail this form with supporting documents (photocopy of title page plus plan page or a one page synopsis) and check or information for making payment of fees to:

Dick Phelps, P.O. Box 867373, Plano, Texas 75086-7373

Please accept the following exhibit. I understand that my signature on this Official Entry Form constitutes my acceptance of the stated Rules and Regulations, and approval of any credit card purchase authorization on the reverse of this form.

Please Print

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State / Province _____

ZIP / Postal Code _____ Country _____

Telephone Number _____ E-Mail _____

Exhibit Title _____

Description of Exhibit for Official Program (Use separate sheet if required)

I, the undersigned, understand that I will be responsible for insuring my exhibit while in transit, in storage, and on display. I will not hold the officers, representatives, or employees of the American Topical Association or the Sheraton Grand Hotel liable for the loss or damage of any material in my exhibit.

Signature of Exhibitor _____

Date Submitted _____

For Youth Exhibitors

Youth's Birthdate _____ Parent/Guardian Signature _____

All information requested on the reverse side must be provided

Please list my name (or *nom de plume*) in the program as:

What previous awards has this exhibit won, where, and when:

This exhibit has never been exhibited thematically and is being entered as a Thematic Novice Exhibit ☐ Yes ☐ No

Exhibit should be considered: ☐ Competitive ☐ Non-competitive

My exhibit will be delivered by:

☐ Priority Mail ☐ UPS, FedEx or DHL

☐ I or ☐ my agent (name) _____ will ☐ Deliver my exhibit ☐ Mount my exhibit ☐ Dismount my exhibit ☐ Pick up my exhibit

Number of frames	Exhibit Class	Total
_____ x \$10.00 each frame (2-10 frames Thematic Multi-Frame)		\$ _____
_____ x \$10.00 each frame (2-10 frames Thematic Display)		\$ _____
One x \$25.00 (Thematic or Display One-Frame)		\$ _____
_____ x \$4.00 each frame (1-5 frames Thematic Youth)		\$ _____
_____ x \$5.00 each frame (2-10 frames Novice Multi-Frame)		\$ _____
_____ x \$5.00 each frame (2-10 frames Novice Thematic Display)		\$ _____
One x \$5.00 (Novice Thematic or Novice Display One-frame)		\$ _____
Expected cost for return of Exhibit		\$ _____
Total Remittance		\$ _____

☐ Payment enclosed by check payable to "American Topical Association"

☐ Payment will be made by PayPal at <americantopical@msn.com>

☐ Payment to be made by credit card: ☐ VISA ☐ MasterCard

Credit Card # _____ Expiration Date _____

Signature _____

If you do not wish to furnish credit card number with this application, you may send it by FAX or telephone ATA. Please advise what the payment is for when sending credit card number to ATA or when making payment by PayPal. The mailing address for shipping exhibit(s) will be provided later by the Exhibits

NEW ISSUES FROM THE OCTOBER & NOVEMBER 2006 SCOTT STAMP MONTHLY

<u>COUNTRY</u>	<u>SCOTT #</u>	<u>DATE OF ISSUE</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
Albania	2761-3	1-Oct-05	50 th Anniv. Europa Stamps (2763 = souvenir sheet)
Albania	2764-6	5-Oct-05	Europa 2005 (2766 = souvenir sheet)
Albania	2771-2	25-Oct-05	Mediterranean Games (2771 = strip of 3; 2772 = s/s)
Antigua	2836	10-Oct-05	Albert Einstein
Armenia	713-4	4-Oct-05	Europa 2005
Austria	2057	1-Jul-06	Europa 2006
Azerbaijan	822-3	1-Mar-06	Europa 2006
Belarus	578-9	4-May-06	Europa 2006
Belize	1199-1202	22-Mar-06	50 th Anniversary Europa stamps
Bosnia-Herz.	529a-e	30-Nov-05	50 th Anniv. Europa stamps (529e = souvenir sheet)
Bosnia-Herz. (Croat)	151 a-e	15-Jan-06	50 th Anniv. Europa stamps (151e = souvenir sheet)
Bosnia-Herz. (Croat)	153a-c	5-Apr-06	Europa 2006 (153c = souvenir sheet)
Bosnia- Herz. (Serb)	261 a-e	16-May-05	European Basketball Championships
Bosnia- Herz. (Serb)	268-9	25-Nov-05	European Nature Protection
Bulgaria	4383-4	25-Apr-06	Europa 2006
Bulgaria	4387	27-Apr-06	NATO Foreign Ministers Meeting
Croatia	617	4-Apr-06	European Track & Field Championships
Croatia	620a-b	9-May-06	Europa 2006 (se-tenant)
Cuba	4540-3a	30-Nov-05	50 th Anniv. Europa stamps (4543a = souvenir sheet)
Cyprus	1048	23-Feb-06	50 th Anniversary Europa stamps
Cyprus	1053-4	4-May-06	Europa 2006
Czech Republic	3308-9	3-May-06	Europa 2006
Denmark	1349-50a	29-Mar-06	Nordic Mythology (1350a = souvenir sheet)
Greenland	472-3a	29-Mar-06	Nordic Mythology (473a = souvenir sheet)
Ireland	1662	9-May-06	20 th Anniversary adoption of European Union flag
Ireland	1663-4	9-May-06	Europa 2006
Luxembourg	1189-90	16-May-06	Europa 2006
Spain	3413	9-May-06	Thurn & Taxis Postal System
Vatican City	1320-1	16-Mar-06	Europa 2006

EUROPA-RELATED BULGARIAN POSTAL STATIONERY

FEATURE ARTICLE - "THAT FAR EMOTION"

By

Michele Picardi(with permission of C.I.F.T. in whose publication *Notizario Tematico* the article first appeared - with grateful appreciation)

On September 15, 1956, Italy issued two stamps with a common design on the theme of "Europa." That issue was the first of a series of more than one hundred Italian values that over the next 50 years have repeated the name Europa with various designs since those of the 1956 stamps. In addition to Italy, five other countries also issued stamps in 1956. Those countries were Belgium, France, Germany, Luxembourg and the Netherlands. Each country issued a set of two stamps except Luxembourg which issued a set of three stamps. The nice thing about the first "Europa" issue is that all of the countries issued stamps with a common design. From that point forward, the word "Europa" (on stamps) had been born. It has lasted to this day. In July 1955 a conference was convened in Messina to consider the major issues involved in European Unity. One item looked at was postal cooperation and unification. A recommendation of the Conference was that there should be an issue of stamps from participating countries on a single subject, with a common design, on the theme of "European Unity." After working through various bureaucracies a stamp design contest was launched in early 1956. The purpose of the contest was to create the basic design the first "Europa" stamps. The contest attracted artists from many countries. At a meeting held in Paris on March 20, 1956, a design submitted by the artist Daniel Gonzague of France was chosen as the contest winner. The design featured the "E" flag of the European Federalist Movement and a scaffold with the word "EUROPA,"



5 participating countries issued stamps in 2-value sets and in quantities commensurate with then contemporaneous needs. Luxembourg chose to issue a set of 3 common design stamps in a limited

quantity. The following table shows the production quantities.

COUNTRY	LOW VALUE	HIGH VALUE
Belgium	21,403,000	5,528,000
France	43,000,000	13,300,000
Germany	68,000,000	42,000,000
Italy	42,500,000	12,600,000
Netherlands	22,000,000	6,200,000
Luxembourg	425,000 *	425,000 *

Luxembourg issued 425,000 complete sets of three values.

The number and variety of items that might have been made during the production of the first Europa stamps is not known. However, it is certain that some special proofs were made from the French dies. Some of those are illustrated here. Of particular interest is one strike of the 15 franc value made in both the positive and negative images. It is signed at the bottom by Jules Piel, the master engraver responsible for executing Gonzague's design for the French State Printing Works. Gonzague had written about the "...emotion with which the first Europa stamps were received as they were a first tangible sign of the great desire for peace living inside me..."

Mr. Picardi wrote that he was amazed that when he attended the 1st European Community Postal Mechanization Conference at the Palace in EUR, he had been surprised that an envelope containing all 13 values of the 1956 Europa stamps was on sale for 480 Lire. (I cannot make the conversion in today's currency, but it was quite inexpensive, ed.).

There are many reasons why collectors of Europa stamps should be grateful to the first 13 stamps on the occasion of their 50th anniversary.



Above are illustrations scanned from the original article. These items of the French Europa stamps are quite rare and seldom seen. From the top, they are a deluxe sheet of the 30 franc value (showing the security punches applied at the print works); an imperforate compound deluxe sheet bearing both values of the French 1956 Europa set; a perforated compound deluxe sheet bearing both values of the French 1956 Europa set. These three items are all in the issued color.

Finally, there is the positive and negative images of the 15 franc value as described in the article. This is the first time that I have ever heard about or seen this item.

The Unit would like to thank Mr. Picardi for his devoted interest in the Europa theme.

PRICES REALIZED - AUCTION #107

Lot	\$	Lot	\$	Lot	\$	Lot	\$	Lot	\$
2	7.75	47	1.05	99	18.00	160	1.75	206	1.60
3	30.00	48	1.80	100	21.25	161	.20	208	1.10
4	31.00	49	2.60	102	1.90	162	1.10	209	2.10
7	4.25	51	3.20	104	1.75	163	1.10	210	2.75
8	7.00	52	1.75	105	2.00	164	.25	212	3.10
9	3.25	53	2.10	111	8.50	166	3.25	216	1.75
10	2.75	54	1.75	114	1.00	167	5.50	218	3.60
11	3.50	55	1.75	116	1.60	168	11.00	220	13.00
12	3.00	56	2.50	117	2.00	169	4.00	221	.20
13	7.55	57	1.20	120	2.00	170	3.10	224	.75
14	4.00	58	48.00	122	2.20	171	3.75	226	2.00
15	3.75	59	21.00	123	2.60	172	1.75	227	18.50
16	5.00	60	3.25	127	4.25	173	2.00	229	1.85
17	4.75	61	5.25	129	1.75	175	2.00	230	.90
18	2.50	65	.65	131	1.10	176	1.30	232	1.85
19	2.75	67	.75	134	25.00	177	2.00	233	19.00
20	2.00	68	.70	135	3.25	178	2.00	236	1.00
21	3.00	70	3.75	136	4.00	181	2.35	237	.60
22	1.50	71	1.50	137	2.80	182	2.35	239	2.50
23	2.50	73	1.35	138	3.25	183	2.25	240	1.75
24	1.25	74	1.40	139	2.50	185	4.35	241	1.95
25	2.05	75	1.40	140	2.75	186	1.00	243	2.75
26	1.40	78	1.50	141	2.60	188	.55	244	1.50
30	.50	79	1.25	142	1.85	189	2.00	245	4.00
35	2.25	82	1.25	143	2.75	191	3.75	246	.85
36	2.75	83	3.15	144	1.75	193	2.00	247	1.50
37	2.75	84	1.25	145	3.00	194	4.45	260	7.50
38	14.00	85	.75	146	1.60	195	.90	261	5.25
41	10.25	86	2.00	147	3.50	197	1.10	262	4.85
42	10.25	87	1.25	148	2.10	198	21.00	263	4.00
43	12.25	88	1.25	151	3.85	199	6.50	266	2.75
45	2.75	90	.75	158	1.65	200	3.75	267	2.75
46	1.35	96	3.10	159	1.50	203	2.10	268	4.25

Number of consignors: 13
Number of bidders: 18
Number of lots sold: 165 (61%)

Most bid lots: 5 bids each: 8, 13, 37, 135, 139
6 bids: 17

THE PHILATELIC LEGACY OF THE MARSHALL PLAN AS RECORDED BY THE D'URSO SPECIALIZED CATALOGUE OF STAMPS AND POSTMARKS REFERRING TO EUROPEAN INTEGRATION ¹

by

Stephen Luster

Europe was in a shambles following World War Two (WWII). Allies and foes alike had suffered. People in many countries were in great need and cities and their infrastructures had to be rebuilt. While countries tried to help themselves immediately following the end of hostilities, it became apparent that additional external support would be needed if they were to recover in a reasonable time.

This article takes a *philatelic* look at post-WWII European recovery under the United States Economic Cooperation Act (ECA) which was popularly known as the European Recovery Program (ERP) or the Marshall Plan. It does so by examining events leading up to the enactment of the ECA in 1948; and by exploring the philatelic legacy of the Marshall Plan from 1948 to 1967, as recorded in the D'Urso Specialized Catalogue.

While researching and writing this article, I realized that if treated thematically, I could write and illustrate a book on the subject of post-WWII European reconstruction. However, in order to keep it at article length, I decided, save for a short introduction and some amplifying illustrations, to limit it for the most part, to the philately recorded in the ERP section of the D'Urso Catalogue. ¹ In that way, the article became self-limiting and of manageable length.

Because the article is limited, many rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts of groups such as the American Friends Committee, The American Joint Distribution Committee, CIALOG, operated by the Mennonite Central Committee, the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration (UNRRA), the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the Cooperative for American Remittances to Europe (CARE) program, all of which have associated philately, are not covered. Perhaps one day, I will examine each of them in greater detail, but for now let's

take a look at reconstruction in post-WWII Europe.

BACKGROUND - In 1947, following earlier less formal efforts, and the realization that Europe could not rebuild alone, the United States government under then President Harry S Truman (figure 1) decided to provide assistance to as many European countries as would accept it. In helping to rebuild allies and enemies alike, the United States and the west showed how much they had learned from the harsh terms and aftermath of the Versailles Treaty which ended World War One. In addition, the United States wanted to show the world, and Europe in particular, that aligning with the west was preferable to aligning with the communist dominated east. The "architect" of the west's assistance to post-WWII Europe was the then United States Secretary of State, and former Chief of Staff of the United States Army during the Second World War, General George C. Marshall (figure 2).

MARSHALL - "George Catlett Marshall was born on December 31, 1880, in Uniontown, Pennsylvania. He graduated from the Virginia Military Institute in 1901 and was commissioned a Second Lieutenant in the United States Army. He rose through the ranks, and was promoted to Army Chief of Staff with the rank of General (four stars) on September 1, 1939. He was made a General of the Army (five stars) on December 16, 1944. He held positions of great responsibility following the Second World War. As Secretary of State from 1947 to 1949, he developed an economic program, the Marshall Plan, that turned the

tide of Communism in war-torn Western Europe. He died on October 16, 1959, and is buried in Arlington National Cemetery."²

EUROPEAN RECONSTRUCTION IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING WWII

- As stated earlier, Europe was in a shambles following the war. Limited as they were, some countries had begun reconstruction following the end of hostilities. For example, Italy floated bonds and used the proceeds to make low-cost reconstruction loans. Inscriptions on 1946 post cards such as those seen at figure 3, exhorted Italians to underwrite those loans.

Italy was also the site of a Reconstruc-



Fig. 1 - Truman.



Fig. 2 - Marshall.



Fig. 3 - Italian reconstruction post cards.

tion Sample Fair, held in Treviso, October 11—13, 1946. A cancel designated in the D'Urso Catalogue as number G0, assigned a rarity factor of 10, was used all three days of the fair (see figure 4). Italy also hosted a Reconstruction Fair, in Lucca, November 20—22, 1947. A cancel designated in the D'Urso Catalogue as number G0a, with an assigned rarity factor of 8, was used all three days of that fair (see figure 5).

Those fairs provided attendees with information about the availability of reconstruction loans, goods, services and reconstruction materials and advertised the advantages of quick reconstruction.

At about the same time as the Italian



Fig. 4 - D'Urso G0.



Fig. 5 - D'Urso G0a.

THE PHILATELIC LEGACY OF THE MARSHALL PLAN (continued)

fairs, Germany among many other countries was undertaking a massive cleanup effort. A post card, specially prepared for the Leipzig Industrial Fair of 1947, shows the German cleanup in progress (see figure 6). However, despite those efforts, it became obvious that individual countries could not rebuild either alone or in a timely manner. Additional, external help would be needed.



Fig. 6 - Reconstruction post card.

EVENTS LEADING UP TO THE ENACTMENT OF THE ECA—

George C. Marshall had outlined a program of economic assistance to a war-torn Europe in a speech he gave at Harvard University on June 5, 1947. In his speech, Marshall said that "...The breakdown of the business structure of Europe during the war was complete. Recovery has been seriously retarded by the fact that two years after the close of hostilities a peace settlement with Germany and Austria has not been agreed upon. But even given a more prompt solution of these difficult problems, the rehabilitation of the economic structure of Europe quite evidently will require a much longer time and greater effort than has been foreseen..."

The truth of the matter is that Europe's requirements for the next three or four years of foreign food and other essential products - principally from America - are so much greater than her present ability to pay that she must have substantial additional help or face economic, social, and political deterioration of a very grave character. It is logical that the United States should do whatever it is able to do to assist in the return of normal economic health in the world, without which there can be no political stability and no assured peace...

It is already evident that, before the United States Government can proceed much further in its efforts to alleviate the situation and help start the European world on its way to recovery, there must be some agreement among the countries

of Europe as to the requirements of the situation and the part those countries themselves will take in order to give proper effect to whatever action might be undertaken by this Government. It would be neither fitting nor efficacious for this Government to undertake to draw up unilaterally a program designed to place Europe on its feet economically. This is the business of the Europeans... The initiative, I think, must come from Europe. The role of this country should consist of friendly aid in the drafting of a European program and of later support of such a program so far as it may be practical for us to do so. The program should be a joint one, agreed to by a number, if not all, European nations."⁴

Marshall's plan met with general support, but ran into some opposition in the U.S. Congress. It would be about a year after his speech, and only after adverse political events in eastern Europe, that the U.S. Congress was inclined to act by passing the ECA in 1948

THE COMMITTEE FOR EUROPEAN ECONOMIC COOPERATION

- However, the intervening time was not wasted. In anticipation of the enactment of the ECA, and because the European countries had been told that the United States would only respond to specific, *joint* requests for assistance, representatives from 16 European countries gathered in Paris on July 12, 1947.⁵ There they formed the Committee for European Economic Cooperation and began to draw up specific requests for assistance and to form planning groups, hold conferences and create commissions to look at the specific aspects of needed assistance.

The early work of two of the Committee's commissions is philatelically recorded. First, the Labor Planning Commission held a preparatory conference on labor participation in Rome, Italy from 26—31 January 1948. Three cancels resulted from that conference. Two circular date stamps, assigned D'Urso Catalogue numbers G1a and G1b, as seen in figures 7 and 8, and a two-line slogan, number G1c, as seen in figure 9 are known. The differences in the cancels at figures 7 and 8 can be seen in the

size of the letter "M" in the word "MANO," the size of the words "per la" and the way the horizontal line at the top of the bottom semicircle points to the right leg of the letter "R" in the G1a cancel but the left leg of the letter "A" in the G1b cancel in the word "OPERA"

The circular date stamps are both assigned D'Urso rarity factors of 10R while the slogan cancel is assigned a rarity factor of 7.

Second, the Preparatory Commission for



Fig. 7, 8 & 9 - D'Urso G1a, G1b & G1c.

a European Payment System was set up because there was a serious problem in Europe with the awkward method of settling trade balances between countries. This Preparatory Commission developed the framework of a European customs system that facilitated the settlement of trade balances between member countries.

Two cancels were used to commemorate the Preparatory Commission meeting which was held in Rome, Italy from February 25 to March 3, 1948. The circular date stamp is numbered in the D'Urso Catalogue as C24 while a slogan cancel is assigned number C25. They carry rarity factors of 10R and 8 respectively. A card bearing the conference cancel is also shown. See figures 10—12. The initials "U.D.E." in the cancels stand for "Union Douanier Européen," later to become the European Monetary Union, an organization analogous to a bank clearing system.

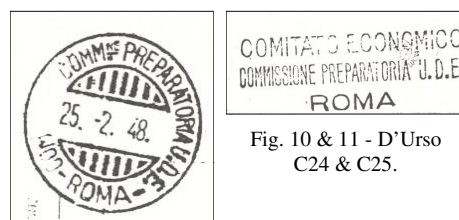


Fig. 10 & 11 - D'Urso C24 & C25.

THE PHILATELIC LEGACY OF THE MARSHALL PLAN (continued)



Fig. 12 - D'Urso C24 & C25. on card.

It is unclear as to why the D'Urso Catalogue listed the "U.D.E." cancels in the section on European Political Congresses and Meetings (section C) when the results of the meeting are considered by some people as an early accomplishment of the Marshall Plan as the work was undertaken by a preparatory commission under the Committee for European Economic Cooperation. As such, the cancels could have been listed in the ERP section (G) of the Catalogue.

Eventually, the Committee for European Economic Cooperation established its permanent headquarters in the Palace Muette at rue André-Pascal 2, Paris, France (see figure 13).



Fig. 13 - Muette Palace.

In 1949 the committee changed its name to the Organization for European Economic Cooperation (OEEC), the institution designated to administer the European side of the Marshall Plan. Also in 1949, the OEEC began using postal meters at its rue Pascal address. From that time until 1961, nine numbered meters were used with a total of 16 varieties. See Table 1 in the next column for the details.

In 1961, the OEEC changed its name to the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD/OCDE). The name change was precipitated by a change in the organization's mission following the end of the Marshall Plan. The new organization focused its attention on other economic and development matters in Europe. During the period 1961 to 1970, the OECD/OCDE used 15

TABLE 1— POSTAL METERS USED BY THE OEEC FROM 1949 TO 1961

METER #	VARIETIES	D'URSO 7MA #
G3508	2	1, 2
G1942	2	3, 4
GW0083	1	5
G0770	2	6, 7
G3520	2	8, 9
CW4064	2	10, 16
G0169	2	11, 12
G4011	2	13, 14
GW065	1	15

TABLE 2— POSTAL METERS USED BY THE OCDE FROM 1961 TO 1970

METER #	VARIETIES	D'URSO 7MA #
G4011	7	19, 20, 28, 34, 35, 41, 43
G4447	1	21
G3427	1	22
G3321	5	23, 27, 36, 39, 44
GW092	1	24
G081	1	25
GW095	1	26
GW099	1	29
GW2225	1	30
T3542	3	31, 32, 37
G0169	5	17, 18, 33, 40, 42
GW130	1	38
T3562	1	45
No Number	3	46, 47, 48
TW6703	1	49
T1825	1	50

numbered and 3 unnumbered meters with a total of 34 varieties. Table 2 provides the details. The D'Urso Catalogue assigned the identification designator of "7MA" to the meter marks of the OEEC and OCDE. Figure 14 is an example of OEEC meter number 7MA3, used in 1952 to frank a new publication announcement (D'Urso rarity factor of 7), while figure 15 is an official cover mailed from the rue Pascal address of the OEEC to Geneva, Switzerland. It bears a 1959 strike, in red, of meter number 7MA13 with a D'Urso rarity factor of 5.

THE FOREIGN ASSISTANCE ACT OF 1948 - Meanwhile, on November 17, 1947 then United States President Harry S Truman (figure 3) had appeared before a joint session of Congress where he outlined the "Marshall Plan." Although generally accepted, his proposal encountered some opposition from conservative congressmen. As a result, there followed a lengthy debate. The Communists used that time to their advantage. In February 1948 they orchestrated a coup in Czechoslovakia. That coup was a "wake-up call" for the U.S. Congress and on April 3, 1948 it passed the Foreign Assistance Act establishing the Economic Cooperation Administration to administer the European Recovery Program, known as the Marshall Plan.

Both Western and Eastern European countries were asked to participate in the European Recovery Program but the eastern European countries declined under intense pressure from Russia. Eventually, 18 Western European countries became a part of the Marshall Plan.⁶ "Marshall's leadership, diplomacy, integrity and vision led the world into an unprecedented era of peace. He was the architect of both the victory and the peace. His personal efforts to extend a helping hand to rebuild a devastated Europe, led to the \$16.2 billion Economic Recovery Program. His plan changed the course of history. It was the first time in history that the victors rebuilt the vanquished. The Marshall Plan became the foundation for the current unification of the European Union..."²

to be continued...

BULLETIN OF THE EUROPA STUDY UNIT

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EUROPA NEWS

Bulletin of the Europa Study Unit

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Johnstown, PA 15907

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THE EUROPA STUDY UNIT IS AN ASSOCIATION OF PHILATELISTS DEVOTED TO THE STUDY OF PHILATELIC MATERIALS COVERING THE IDEA OF A UNITED EUROPE... EUROPE UNITED IN A POLITICAL, ECONOMIC, AND SOCIAL SENSE.

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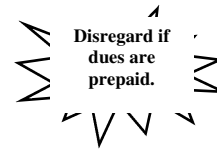
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COUNTRY HAD
THE BEST
EUROPA STAMPS
IN 2006?**



AALAND	GERMANY	MONACO
ALBANIA	GIBRALRAR	NETHERLANDS
ANDORRA (FR)	GREAT BRITAIN	NORWAY
ANDORRA (SP)	GREECE	POLAND
AUSTRIA	GUERNSEY	PORTUGAL
AZORES	HUNGARY	SAN MARINO
BELGIUM	ICELAND	SPAIN
BULGARIA	IRELAND	SLOVAKIA
CROATIA	ISLE OF MAN	SLOVENIA
CYPRUS	ITALY	SWEDEN
CZECH REP.	JERSEY	SWITZERLAND
DENMARK	LIECHTENSTEIN	TURKEY
FAROE ISL.	LUXEMBOURG	TURKISH CYPRUS
FINLAND	MADEIRA	VATICAN CITY
FRANCE	MALTA	YUGOSLAVIA
OTHER _____	OTHER _____	Other _____
OTHER _____	OTHER _____	Other _____
OTHER _____	OTHER _____	Other _____
OTHER _____	OTHER _____	Other _____

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