

THAI PHILATELY



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Scout's Fund Card
New Earliest Reported Usage

Earliest Reported Usage of the "Scout's Fund" Type II Overprinted Postal Cards

by Frederick P. Lawrence

The Thailand 1920-1921 "Scout's Fund" overprints are, to borrow a phrase from Sir Winston Churchill, "a riddle wrapped in a mystery inside an enigma." Although they are a middle period issue of Thailand, little is known about these overprints, especially when compared to other middle period issues both before and after them. It is known that the overprints were issued during the reign of King Vajiravudh (Rama VI) as semi-postals to benefit the "Tiger Cubs" of the "Wild Tiger Corps." The "Tiger Cubs" was the predecessor of the Boy Scouts of Thailand.

There were three overprint types: Type I, made from a rubber handstamp(s), depicting an adult tiger's face above the old Thai words, "Help Raise Scout's Funds," on a straight line; Type II, made from a copper handstamp(s), depicting a tiger cub's face with the old Thai words, "Help Raise Scout's Funds," above on a downward-curved arc and the English words, "Scout's Fund," below on an upward-curved arc; and Type III, made by lithography by K. Oyama and Co., Bangkok, depicting a smaller adult tiger's face with the old Thai words, "Help Raise Scout's Funds," above on a straight line and the English words, "Scout's Fund," below on a straight line.

A total of 19 stamps were overprinted: six with Type I (one from the 1905 Wat Jang issue, one from the 1912 King Rama VI "Vienna printing" issue, two from the 1917 King Rama VI "London printing" issue, and the two 1919 provisional surcharges), six with Type II (one from the 1905 Wat Jang issue, one from the 1912 King Rama VI "Vienna printing" issue, two from the 1917 King Rama VI "London printing" issue, one of the two 1919 provisional surcharges, and one from the 1920-1926 King Rama VI "Garuda" issue), and seven with Type III with overprint in dark blue or red (all from the 1920-1926 King Rama VI "Garuda" issue).

The only source of the quantities overprinted for the Type Is and IIs is Walter Pears' handwritten album page annotations, presumably based on information supplied to him by his correspondent in Bangkok, J. R. Lyons. All other references repeat the Pears quantities. Despite the fact that the Type IIIs were lithographed in Bangkok by a security printer who did other stamp overprinting/surcharging work, most notably the 1919 "Red Cross" overprints, there are no records as to the numbers of Type IIIs produced. Who produced the Type Is and IIs, where, and when, and where and when all the overprints were issued and were on sale, are all unanswered questions. Contemporary post office records concerning the overprints seem to be nonexistent. A few brief references to the appearance of the overprints in contemporary Bangkok newspapers are the only original sources available today. The remainder of the picture of the overprints must be extrapolated from the surviving on-cover and on-piece usages of these fascinating stamps.

Along with the 19 stamps, nine postal cards were overprinted: three with Type I (2 satang brown ink on dark buff and 3 satang green ink on dark buff from the 1919 series, and the 5 satang surcharge of 1914 on the 4 atts rose ink on cream from the 1899 series), three with Type II (the same cards as the

Type Is), and three with Type III (2 satang brown and ivory inks on grayish-buff card with dark blue overprint, 3 satang green and buff inks on grayish-buff card with red overprint, and 5 satang red and rose inks on pale rose card with dark blue overprint, all from the 1920 series).

Less is known about the overprinted postal cards than the overprinted stamps, mainly because far fewer used cards have survived than on-cover or on-piece examples of the overprinted stamps. Among the missing information about the overprinted cards are the first day of issue dates and locations. Writing in the "Scouting Postal Stationery" appendix of *Scouts on Stamps of the World*, 7th Ed., which is published by the Scouts on Stamps Society International (SOSSI), John B. Adams gives earliest reported usage dates for the "Scout's Fund" overprinted postal cards.¹ For the Type IIs, he lists February

26, 1920 (B.E. 2462) from Nagor Pathom, which is also the earliest reported usage date/location for 5 of the split-issue Type II overprinted stamps.² The card on which this listing is based is illustrated at left: 2 satang + 3 satang "Scout's Fund" Type II overprinted postal card (on a 2 satang brown ink on dark buff card from the 1919 series) with the spectacular double overprint error, upfranked with a 2 satang King Rama VI definitive, philatelically used to a stamp dealer in Bangkok. Until earlier this year, it was the earliest reported usage date for any Type II overprinted card.




Dear Sir,
 will you kindly
 to send me the prices
 direct and the catalogue
 for exchange of the
 Siamese stamps.
 What kind that you
 wanted the high prices
 yours faithfully
 Asoo I Boon Sri
 Kim nguan Ltd
 Rajaburi Siam

In its January 16, 1993 auction, Cavendish (Derby, U.K.) sold a previously unreported card illustrated on the cover of this issue. It is a 5 satang + 5 satang "Scout's Fund" Type II overprinted postal card (on a 5 satang surcharge of 1914 on 4 atts rose ink on cream from the 1899 series) used February 22, 1920 from Rajaburi (Rat Buri) to London with a February 23, Bangkok 1 transit cancel. This usage is 4 days earlier than the Figure 1 card. This recently discovered card is addressed to the well-known London stamp dealership, H. Ross Shields & Co., and bears a message (illustrated at left) from an employee of the equally well-known Bangkok stamp dealership, Kim Nguan Ltd., concerning the trade of contemporary Thailand stamps. Although the message concerns philatelic trade matters, the card is clearly a commercial usage, the only commercial usage of a Type II overprinted card of which this writer is aware. The card is now not only the earliest reported usage of a Type II overprinted card, but also the only reported usage from Rajaburi of any "Scout's Fund" overprinted card and

the first reported usage of a Type II overprinted card from other than Nagor Pathom and Bangkok. Rajaburi lies approximately 32 miles south of Ban Pong, on the rail line that runs west from Bangkok to Ban Pong and then south from Ban Pong into the Malay peninsula. Ban Pong was the site of a Wild Tiger Corps camp, and the earliest reported usages of the Type I overprinted stamps and cards are from Ban Pong in early February, 1920.^{1, 2} At least one early usage Type I cover from Ban Pong has a Rajaburi transit cancel (along with a Bangkok receiver);⁴ however, no Type II overprinted stamps or covers are reported used from Ban Pong.¹

The discovery of this card raises more questions about the Type II overprinted cards than it answers. All previously reported usages of Type II overprinted cards are from either Nagor Pathom, the site of the Royal Summer Palace that the King had given over to the Wild Tiger Corps for use as the Corps headquarters and which is thought by some researchers to have been where the Type I and II overprints were produced, or Bangkok, and it has been thought that the Type II overprinted cards were only on sale in those two cities.^{1, 3} Does the existence of this recently discovered card mean that the Type II overprinted cards were also on sale in Rajaburi, or merely that at least one card was purchased elsewhere and carried to Rajaburi, where it was then posted? Since the usage is from one stamp dealership to another, the sender was surely aware of the philatelic value of the card's usage. Were other Type II overprinted cards similarly used by Kim Nguan Ltd., and if so, have any other examples survived? Were Type I and/or Type III overprinted cards similarly used, and if so, have any examples survived?

Readers having further information on the usages of the "Scout's Fund" overprinted postal cards are requested to contact the writer at 5016 South Kenneth Place, Tempe, AZ 85282-7265, USA. Photocopies of used cards would be appreciated for further research, and expenses will be reimbursed. The writer thanks John B. Adams for technical specifications on the "Scout's Fund" overprints and Dr. Peter K. Iber for assistance in the preparation of the illustrations for this article and information on Kim Nguan Ltd. 

References:

1. Adams, J. B. "Scouting Postal Stationery" Appendix, *Scouts on Stamps of the World*, 7th Ed., Scouts on Stamps Society International (SOSSI), 1986, pp. P2-P3.
2. Lawrence, F. P. "More on the Siam Overprints: Earliest known Usages of the Type II Split Issue," *SOSSI Journal*, Vol. 28, No. 5 (May 1979), pp. 4-6.
3. Swanson, Dr. C. Personal interviews, 1980-1991.
4. Torres, D. "Topical Themes - Thailand's Scout's Fund Overprints," *The American Philatelist*, Vol. 76, No. 9 (June 1963), pp. 679-580.

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Postal Card used in the Four Malayan Provinces 1943-1945

EARLIEST REPORTED USAGES OF THE "SCOUT'S FUND" TYPE III OVERPRINTS

by Frederick P. Lawrence, Ph.D.

The Siam 1920-1921 "Scout's Fund" overprints were issued during the reign of King Vajiravudh (Rama VI) as semi-postals to benefit the "Tiger Cubs" of the "Wild Tiger Corps." The "Tiger Cubs" was the predecessor of the Boy Scouts of Siam. The Type III overprints, made by lithography by K. Oyama and Co., Bangkok, depict a small adult tiger's face with the old Thai words, "Help Raise Scout's Funds," above on a straight line and the English words, "Scout's Fund", below on a straight line. Seven stamps from the 1920-1926 King Rama VI "Garuda" issue were overprinted in dark blue or red. Despite the fact that the Type IIIs were lithographed in Bangkok by a security printer who did other stamp overprinting/surcharging work, most notably the 1919 "Red Cross" overprints, there are no records as to the numbers of Type IIIs produced. The exact first day of issue of the Type III overprints is also not known: most catalogs give either December, 1920 or December 21, 1920, while the remainder give January, 1921.

At present, the earliest reported usage dates for any "Scout's Fund" Type III overprints are January 6 and 8, 1921 (B.E. 2463). Six of the seven values (the 15 satang + 5 satang value is missing) are tied to pieces by strikes of an "Enjoy Winter Fair At Chittalada Garden" handstamp, two stamps on each of three pieces. Two of the pieces are dated January 6, 1920, while the third is dated two days later. Little is known about the 1921 Winter Fair at the Chittalada Garden, which is now a part of the King's Palace, and further research is needed: in particular, whether King Vajiravudh sponsored the fair as part of his fund-raising activities for the "Tiger Cubs", what the involvement was, if any, of the "Tiger Cubs" at the fair, and how the "Scout's Fund" Type III overprints came to be handstamped there. The three pieces were discovered by a novice Thailand collector in the stock of a midwestern stamp dealer in the mid-1980s [2]; no additional examples have as yet been reported. (Illustration of the piece is courtesy the late Dr. Carlos Swanson.)



The earliest reported on-cover usage of "Scout's Fund" Type III overprints has just recently come to the attention of the Thailand-collecting community. Three Type III overprints (2 satang + 3 satang, 3 satang + 2 satang, and 10 satang + 5 satang), together with a 15 satang "Garuda" definitive, paid the registered foreign surface mail single weight letter rate (15 satang + 15 satang) from Bangkok to Hong Kong on January 11, 1921. The stamps are tied by two strikes of a "Bangkok 1" double circle datestamp, and the cover has a "Bangkok, 2" foreign mail dispatch double circle backstamp of the same date and a "D.P.O. Hong Kong Registered" receiver of January 24, 1921. The cover was sent from Luang Maha Vichai of the Bangkok Police Department to Messrs. Graca & Co., Hong Kong stamp dealers. The January 11, 1921 usage date is 17 days earlier than the previously reported earliest date for on-cover usage of Type III overprints [1].



The recent history of this cover is a fascinating story, tied to the 1st Balham and Tooting Scout Group (originally the 8th South West London Troop) - "The King of Siam's Own" - of the UK. Sidney "Pa" Riches was Assistant Scoutmaster 1909-1910, Scoutmaster 1910-1928, and Group Scoutmaster 1928-1955. His father, Mr. Riches Sr., who died in 1905, was Clerk to the Siamese Consulate in London, and later became Consul and then Consul General for Siam. His work put him in contact with many Siamese nationals, including students, and the young Siamese princes who went to the UK for their education at British public schools and universities were well known to him. In 1911 King Chulalongkorn died after a very long reign and was succeeded by Crown Prince Vajiravudh, who was at the time in Europe. After his return to Siam, one of Vajiravudh's early acts was the establishment of a Siam Scouting movement parallel to the original movement begun in the UK by Lord R. S. S. Baden-Powell. When he read about the Siam Scouting movement in the London papers, "Pa" Riches thought that it would be a good idea to solicit the new King's interest in his Troop. He wrote to Vajiravudh, mentioning his father's lengthy service at the Consulate. Some months later he received a large registered letter and a parcel from the Royal Palace, both covered with emblems and seals. The envelope contained a letter signed by Vajiravudh announcing His Majesty's pleasure at becoming patron of the Troop and authorizing the Troop to be called by the title, "The King of Siam's Own", and the parcel contained a personally signed photograph of the King in his uniform as Chief Scout. Permission was obtained from Scout Headquarters to adopt a suitable badge of distinction, and a design depicting a white elephant on a scarlet background was sent to Siam for approval. Not only did Vajiravudh approve, but he was so taken with the design that he commissioned his Court Artist to draw the sacred White Elephant with the "K. S. O." marking; this was framed and hung in the Troop clubroom until its theft in 1933. Badges were made from this design, and they are today still worn on the left uniform sleeves of Scouts in the Troop.

The Troop, which became a Group in 1928, has maintained strong links with Thailand. In 1930 Prince Damrong inspected the Group, and the Group provided an honor guard at the Thai Embassy to the UK during a State Visit by the King and Queen of Thailand in 1968. Beginning in 1960, many Thai Scouts and Scouters visited the Group under the auspices of the British Scout Council, and the connection of the "K. S. O." to King Vajiravudh aroused much interest and was publicized in Thailand by the State Ministry of Education. In 1980, the government of Thailand invited five members of the Group for a three week visit in conjunction with the Centenary of the birth of King Vajiravudh. Kenneth S Warner, who succeeded "Pa" Riches as Group Scoutmaster/Leader in 1955, led the delegation. A Scouts on Stamps collector, he engaged his hosts in conversations about both Thai Scout issues and special event cancels and support of the Stamp Collecting merit badge. As a memento of his visit and in appreciation of his then-25 years' service as Group Scoutmaster/Leader of the "K. S. O.", he was given the "Scout's Fund" Type III cover by the Thai government. [3]

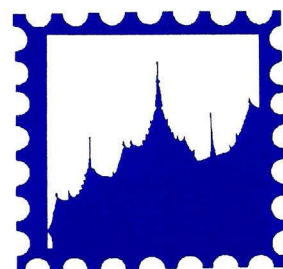
This writer met Ken Warner at the annual meeting of the Scout and Guide Stamp Club at the Baden-Powell House in London during opening weekend of the world philatelic exhibition London 1990. The "Scout's Fund" Type III cover was on display in a two-frame exhibit, one of the few times it has been shown publicly, and Ken graciously told me its story. That was our first and only meeting, as Ken passed away in late 1992. His philatelic holdings were dispersed in 1993 by his heirs, but too late for the cover to be exhibited at Bangkok 1993. It is expected to make its international debut at Singapore 1995.

The writer thanks Jay Sirirattumrong for translation of the Winter Fair handstamp and Dr. Peter K. Iber for assistance in the preparation of the illustrations for this article. The contributions of Dr. Carlos Swanson and Ken Warner are acknowledged posthumously.

REFERENCES

1. Lawrence, F. P. "More on the Siam Overprints: Earliest Known Usages of the Type III Split Issue," *SOSSI Journal*, Vol. 29, No. 1 (January 1980), pp. 7-9.
2. Swanson, Dr. C. Personal interviews, 1980-1991.
3. Warner, K. S. *Trumpetings The Story of the KSO 1908-1990*, published by the author, Morden, Surrey, UK, 1990.

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New international airletter sheet issued for the celebration of the King's 50th year as reigning monarch.

UPDATE ON EARLIEST REPORTED USAGES OF THE "SCOUT'S FUND" TYPE III OVERPRINTS

by Frederick P. Lawrence, Ph.D.

The Siam 1920-1921 "Scout's Fund" overprints were issued during the reign of King Vajiravudh (Rama VI) as semi-postals to benefit the "Tiger Cubs" of the "Wild Tiger Corps." The "Tiger Cubs" was the predecessor of the Boy Scouts of Siam. The Type III overprints, made by lithography by K. Oyama and Co., Bangkok, depict a small adult tiger's face with the Thai words บำรุงเสือป่า (Support the Wild Tiger Scout Organization) above on a straight line and the English words "Scout's Fund" below on a straight line. Seven stamps from the 1920-1926 King Rama VI "Garuda" issue were overprinted in dark blue or red. Despite the fact that the Type IIIs were lithographed in Bangkok by a security printer who did other stamp overprinting/surcharging work, most notably the 1919 "Red Cross" overprints, there are no records as to the numbers of Type IIIs produced. The exact first day of issue of the Type III overprints is also not known: most catalogs give either December, 1920 or December 17, 1920, while the remainder give January, 1921.

In the Winter 1994 issue of *Thai Philately* (Vol. 11, No. 4), I discussed the then-earliest reported usage of the "Scout's Fund" Type III overprints. The earliest dates are January 6 and 8, 1921 (B.E. 2463). Six of the seven values (the 15 satang + 5 satang value is missing) are tied to pieces by strikes of an "Enjoy Winter Fair At Chittralada Gardens" handstamp, two stamps on each of three pieces. Two of the pieces are dated January 6, 1921, while the third is dated two days later. The then-earliest reported on-cover usage was three Type III overprints (2 satang + 3 satang, 3 satang + 2 satang, and 10 satang + 5 satang), together with a 15 satang "Garuda" definitive, which paid the registered foreign surface mail single weight letter rate (15 satang + 15 satang) from Bangkok to Hong Kong on January 11, 1921.

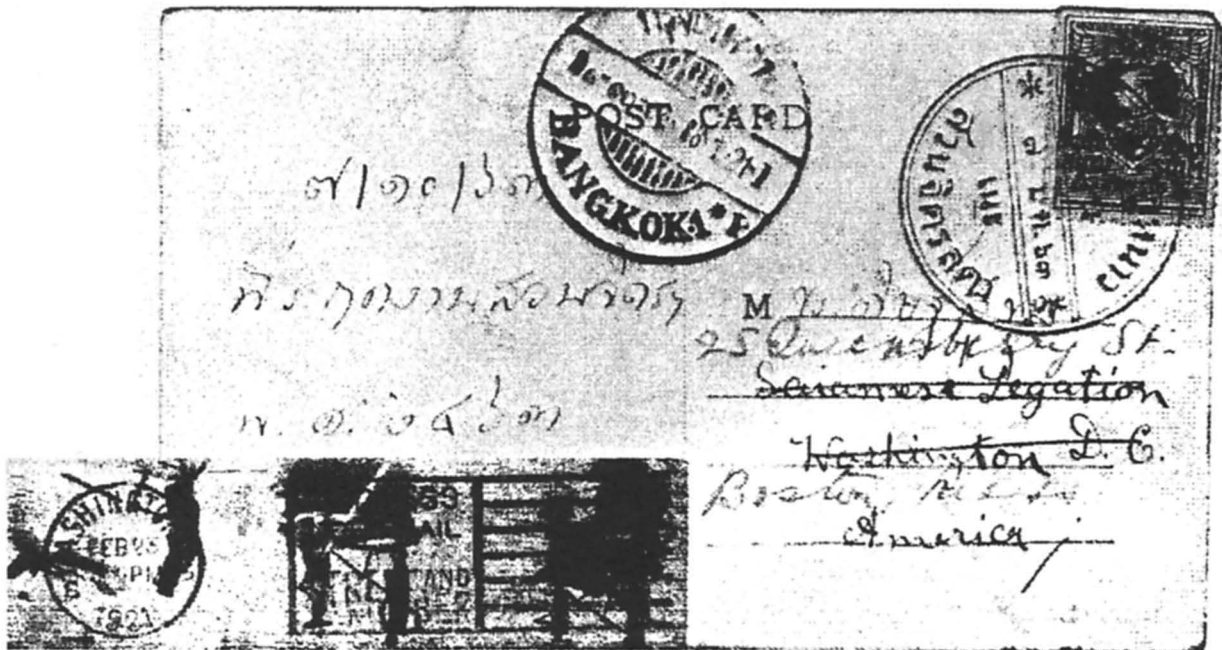
Since then, an entire from the Winter Fair at the Chittralada Gardens, not previously reported to the Thailand-collecting community, has come to light, franked with a "Scout's Fund" Type III overprint. Now, the earliest on-cover usage of a Type III overprint is the 5 satang + 5 satang on a picture post card of the Royal Yacht "Mahachakkri", posted January 7, 1921 and canceled with the "Enjoy Winter Fair ..." handstamp, to the Siamese Legation in Washington, DC¹. The 5 satang franking paid the foreign postal card rate. The card has a "Bangkok 1" double circle transit (January 8) and a Washington, DC machine cancel receiver (February 23). Previously unknown to Western collectors, the card was sold in the David Feldman public auction of the Dr. Pichai Buranasombat collection of Siam/Thailand in conjunction with the FIP-sponsored Singapore World Stamp Exhibition 1995 for Singapore-\$ 10,000 + 15% commission [about US-\$ 8,300]. Dr. Pichai, a Director of the Philatelic Association of Thailand, concentrated on the issues of what is generally called the "Middle Period" - Rama VI, Rama VII and later. In the Feldman sale, there were 19 lots of elusive "Scout's Fund" overprints - essays, stamps and covers - including this entire from the Winter Fair at the Chittralada Gardens.² At present, this entire is both the earliest reported on-cover usage of any "Scout's Fund" Type III overprints and the only reported cover from the Winter Fair at the Chittralada Gardens known to this writer.

Little is known about the 1921 Winter Fair at the Chittralada Gardens, and further research is needed: in particular, whether King Vajiravudh sponsored the fair as part of his fund-raising activities for the "Tiger Cubs" of the "Wild Tiger Corps", what the involvement was, if any, of the "Tiger Cubs" at the fair, and how the "Scout's Fund" Type III overprints came to be used there. Readers with additional information are requested to contact the writer at 5016 South Kenneth Place, Tempe, AZ. 85282-7265 USA.

¹ Lawrence, F. P. "The 1920-1921 Siam 'Scout's Fund' Overprints, Part 5a: The Type III Overprinted Stamps - Early Usages of the Low Values" *SOSSI Journal*, Vol. 45, No. 2 (March/April 1996), pp. 17-20.

² Catalog of David Feldman Singapore Auction, Rare Stamps & Postal History, September 7, 1995 (pp. 67, 114 & 119)

See illustrations on next page



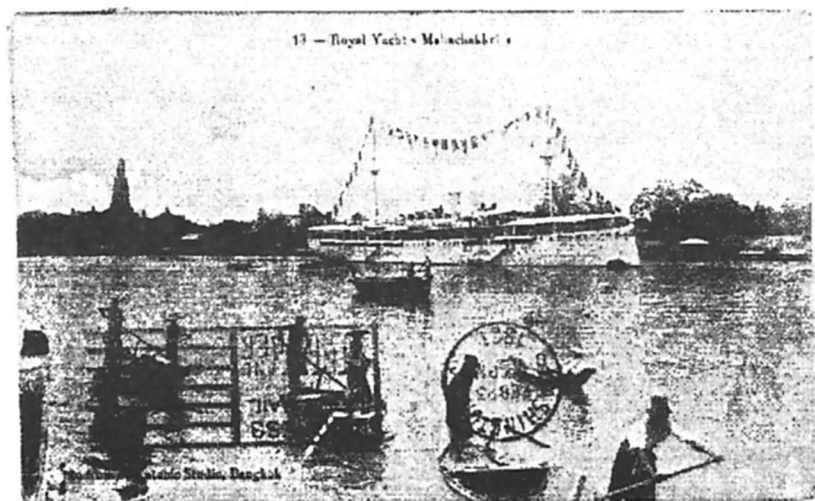
Back of Card - showing arrival backstamp

Front of Card - Note both handstamps

Society for Thai Philately

Founded 1977

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THAI PHILATELY

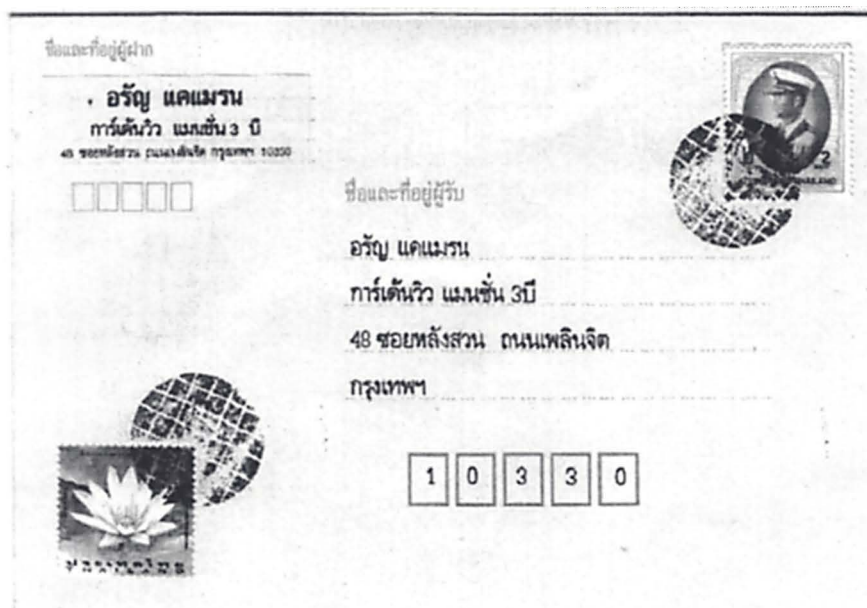


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Bamboo Cancel is this Modern Day?

(see page 19 for the answer)

Varieties of the Siam “Scout’s Fund” Type III Overprints

by **Frederick P. Lawrence, Ph.D.**

The “Scout’s Fund” overprints were Siam’s second semi-postal issues. The Type III overprints were produced by K. Oyama and Co., Bangkok, in late 1920. Some catalogs and handbooks state that the overprints were produced from metal type. However, the handwritten notes of the well-known Siam collector, Walter Pears, of Essex, England, based on information provided to him by his correspondent in Bangkok, J.R. Lyons, identify the production process as lithography. There are no reports of the Type III overprints in the contemporary Bangkok newspapers, so the Pears’ notes, although a secondary source, provide the most definitive information available today. K. Oyama and Co. also produced Siam’s first semi-postals, the Red Cross overprints, by lithography in 1918.

The Type III overprint design was first set up in printer’s type. The design was reversed so that the wording read right-to-left. In lithographic terms, this set-up was the “original stone”. The set-up was then repeatedly inked with lithographic (greasy) ink and impressed on specially prepared transfer paper. Each inked impression on transfer paper was then transferred to a grained-surface metal plate (of either zinc or aluminum) by a lithographer through the action of a scraper passing over the paper. One hundred such transfers were effected, either individually, or in intermediate multiples. This transfer process is referred to as “lithographic multiplication”. The overprint designs were then protected by an acid resist, and the plate was etched with an appropriate acid solution. In lithographic terms, the etched metal plate with the completely transferred overprint designs was the “printing stone”.

The finished plate was used to print the Type III overprints. The plate was first moistened with water, which adhered to the surface in the etched areas, but which was repelled by the lithographic ink of the overprint designs. The wet plate was then inked with lithographic ink, which was attracted to the ink of the overprint designs, but which was repelled by the water on the surface in the etched areas. When a sheet of stamps was placed on the inked plate and pressure was applied by a printing press (either flat bed or rotary), the fresh ink on

the overprint designs was transferred to the stamps.

When stamps or overprints are produced with lithography, varieties can occur in two different ways: either from flaws in the designs on the printing plate, or from the printing process. Printing varieties of the Type III overprints have not (to our knowledge) previously been reported in the philatelic literature. We report here four recently discovered varieties, two of which arose from each of the two possible causes.

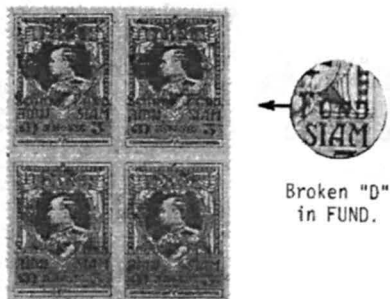


Figure 1

Figure 1 shows a broken “D” in FUND’ variety in the upper right stamp in a block of four of the 3s+2s Type III overprints, and Figure 2 shows a ‘missing stop (.) after FUND’ variety, also on a 3s+2s Type III overprint. Both of these varieties are lack-of-color flaws called “creased transfers” (or “folded transfers”, “squeezed transfers”, “torn transfers”, or “transfer folds”) in lithographic terms, which designate stamps bearing incomplete or



Figure 2

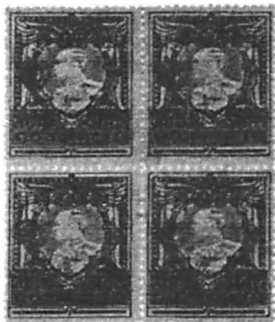
distorted designs, because, when the lithographer was transferring the design from the transfer paper to the metal plate, the transfer paper stretched or buckled or wrinkled and became folded or torn, with the result that part of the design within the fold failed to transfer, or the tear resulted in a gap or overlap, and the design was incompletely or misshapenly represented on the metal plate. These varieties are constant, and so should appear at least once on every sheet of Type III overprints. The plate locations of these constant varieties are not yet known.

Figure 3 shows a 'double "D." in FUND.' variety in plate position 98 in a bottom margin imprint strip of six of the 3s+2s Type III overprints, and Figure 4 shows a 'double "S" in SCOUT'S' variety in the lower left stamp in a block of four of the 10s+5s Type III overprints. Both of these double-print varieties are printing varieties also known as "slurred prints" (or "slurs" or "kiss prints"), which designate stamps exhibiting Linear duplication in all or part of the design caused by the paper wrinkling& flapping or moving during the actual printing. Slurred prints sometimes exhibit ink smudging, in which case recognition is easy and certain; however, when doubling is present, the diagnosis between slurred print and "double impression" variety may be more difficult. These varieties are non-constant, transient varieties, which could be found on any Type III overprint value, in any plate position.



Double "D." in FUND.

These varieties would make handsome additions to any Siam/Thailand collection or exhibit which features the "Scout's Fund" overprints. So, keep your eyes peeled for examples of these and other overprint varieties when looking over dealer stocks and auction lots of the Type III overprints. CFor additional information on lithography and printing varieties, see (for example) L.N. Williams' "Fundamentals of Philately", published by the American Philatelic Society, revised edition, 1990.]



Double "S" in SCOUT'S.

Figure 4

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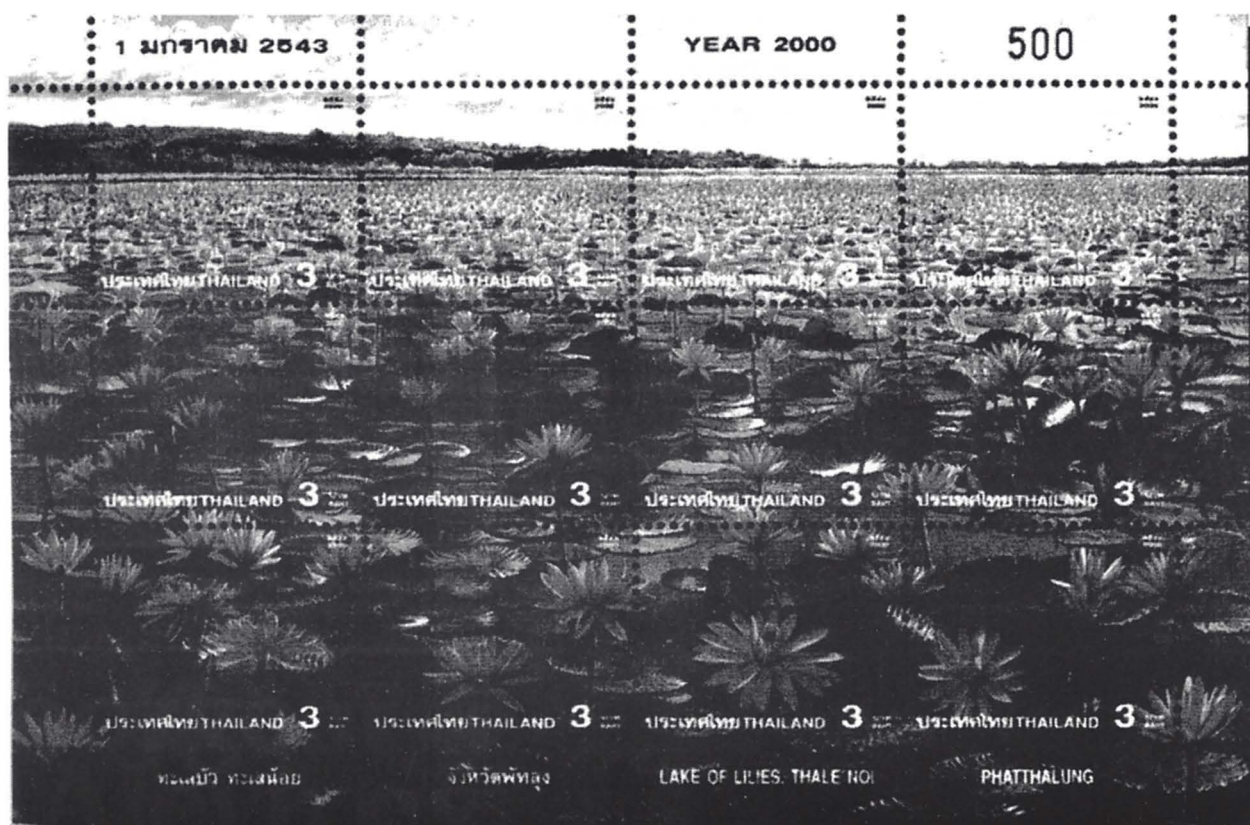


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(Photo courtesy of the Philatelic Magazine, Bangkok, Year 30 #6)

New Year's Issue 2543: Full photo sheetlet of 12 (4x3) shows Lilies in the "Small Sea" (Thale Noi) in Phatthalung Province. This area is a bird sanctuary; the largest in Thailand.

IN THE AUCTIONS: FORGED/MISDESCRIBED "SCOUT'S FUND" OVERPRINTS

By Frederick P. Lawrence, Ph.D., FRPSL

A lot in ArGe Pfadfinder [German society of Scouts on stamps collectors] Club-Auktion No. 61 (December 4, 1998) was described as a post card usage to Switzerland of the 5s+5s Siam "Scout's Fund" Type II overprint and pictured in the auction catalog. The buyer purchased the card on extension and submitted it to the American Philatelic Expertizing Service (APEX) for review. The APEX opinion states that the overprint is a forgery or facsimile, the cancel is a fake Smith Type VIc "Bangkok, 5" Swiss-type with non-matching Buddhist Era and Christian Era dates, and the card was fraudulently contrived to deceive collectors. The savvy buyer returned the forged card to the auction for a full refund of the purchase price. The consigner reportedly owns additional covers to the same address, acquired from the same source.



(Left)
Forged/facsimile Siam "Scout's Fund" Type II overprint of lot no. 2231 from ArGe Pfadfinder Club-Auktion No. 61.



(Right)
Genuine 5s+5s Siam "Scout's Fund" Type II overprint.

(Left)

Fake Smith Type VIc “Bangkok, 5” Swiss-type cancel of lot no. 2231 from ArGe Pfadfinder Club-Auktion No. 61. Buddhist Era date 1/4/[24]66 is equivalent to Christian Era date 1/7/[19]23. Non-matching Christian Era date (in jumbled order) of cancel is 1/2/[19]24.

(Right)

Genuine Smith Type VIc “Bangkok, 5” Swiss-type cancel.



A lot in Healey and Wise [Tunbridge Wells, Kent, UK] Postal Auction No. 23 (February 8, 1999) was described as a Siam 1920 “Scout’s Fund” Type II overprint 3s+2s block of four fine used. In a reduced-size photocopy on the insert in the auction catalog, the block appears to be CTOed with the COURT.OFFICE handstamp, not postally used. In March, 1925 in northern Siam (it has not yet been determined exactly where), low value “Scout’s Fund” Type II overprints were used to validate payment of court fees. Later, blocks of four of the 2s+3s and 3s+2s stamps were CTOed for collectors. Type II overprints on legal documents or document pieces are much scarcer than the CTOed blocks, which sometimes still have original gum. The proprietors were informed of this observation prior to the closing date of the auction. They so advised the successful bidder, and since the block was their property, they gave it to the successful bidder without charge.



(Left)

COURT.OFFICE CTOed block of four of 2s+3s Siam “Scout’s Fund” Type II overprints from Healey and Wise Postal Auction No. 23.

(Right)

March 9, 1925 COURT.OFFICE handstamp tying pair of 2s+3s Siam “Scout’s Fund” Type II overprints to document piece. In a revenue usage, the stamps paid a court fee.



THAI PHILATELY



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Spring 2000



The Tin Issue of 1969 exhibits an error once per sheet at position 27.

Siam's Royal Wild Tiger Lotteries: Immediate Predecessors to the "Scout's Fund" Overprints

by Frederick P. Lawrence, Ph.D., FRPSL

The Siam "Scout's Fund" overprints were issued in 1920 to raise money for support of the Wild Tiger Corps and the associated Tiger Cubs (Boy Scouts) and Girl Guides (Girl Scouts), in addition to the contributions made by King Vajiravudh (Rama VI) from his Privy Purse. Although these overprints are today well known and highly regarded among the "classics" issues of Scouts on stamps, they were not the first effort to raise public funds for the Tiger Cubs and the Girl Guides. Siam's Royal Wild Tiger Lotteries preceded the overprints in the late 1910's. Scouts on stamps collectors may be interested in the lotteries, not only because the lotteries set the stage for the stamp and postal card overprints, but also because the lottery tickets very likely influenced the designs of the overprints.

The Royal Lotteries grew out of prize give-aways at exhibitions and fairs in the 1910's, particularly at the Winter Fairs held every January in Bangkok. Numbered entry tickets were sold; then, ticket numbers were drawn at random, and prizes were awarded to the persons holding the winning tickets. The entry fees to the events at least partially covered the costs of the prizes, and the prize give-aways attracted large numbers of the public, who then spent additional money on activities and concessions. The success of these prize give-aways led to the establishment of nation-wide lotteries to raise funds for charitable organizations, which were sponsored by the King. Among the early Royal Lotteries were those for the benefit of the Siam Red Cross in the mid-1910's. Strong public support of the Royal Red Cross Lotteries prompted the issuance of the Red Cross overprints in 1918; these were Siam's first semi-postal stamps.

Following the Red Cross model, Royal Lotteries were conducted for the benefit of the Wild Tiger Corps, Tiger Cubs, and Girl Guides in the late 1910's. For each lottery, one million tickets were sold for one baht each. Of the proceeds, 600,000 baht were awarded in prizes and 400,000 baht were contributed to the Wild Tiger Corps, Tiger Cubs, and Girl Guides. These lotteries were known as the "One Million Baht Royal Wild Tiger Lotteries."



Figure 1. Royal Wild Tiger Lottery ticket (circa 1919).

A Royal Wild Tiger Lottery ticket is illustrated in the figure. Although the ticket is not dated, the lottery is believed to have been held in 1919.

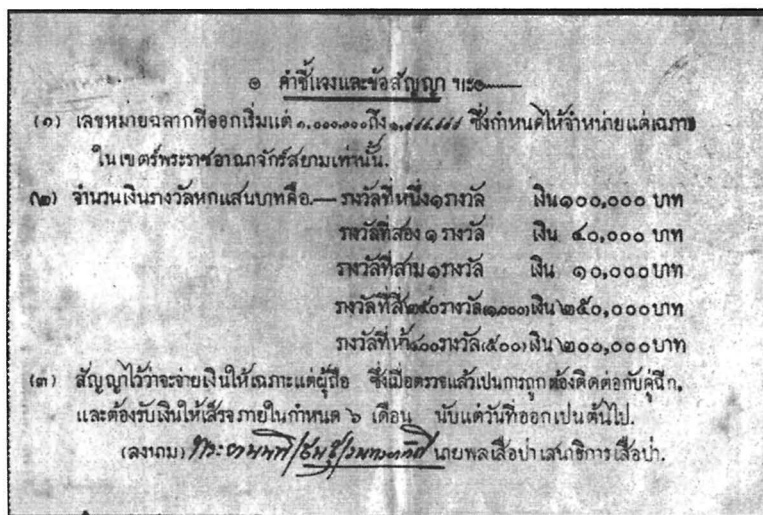
The front of the ticket reads:

One Million Baht Royal Wild Tiger Lottery
 With special permission from His Royal Majesty the King
 For support of the Wild Tiger Corps
 One Baht (in red, on the tiger's body)
 Book number 5747, Ticket number 1574623

Give to the award of cash prizes 600,000 baht. Total of 653 prizes.

Give to the support of the Wild Tiger Corps 400,000 baht. List of prizes on reverse.

Printed at NumChiang Publishing Company (small type in lower right)



The back of the ticket reads:

Lottery Rules

- (1) Tickets numbered 1,000,000 to 1,999,999 are to be sold within Siam.
- (2) The prizes to be awarded are —

1 st prize (1 prize)	100,000 baht
2 nd prize (1 prize)	40,000 baht
3 rd prize (1 prize)	10,000 baht
4 th prize (250 prizes)	1,000 baht
5 th prize (400 prizes)	500 baht
- (3) Prizes will be paid to the holders of the winning tickets, whose numbers will be drawn at random. Prizes must be collected within 6 months of the drawing.
 (signed) [name] General and Secretary of the Royal Wild Tiger Corps

The tickets were bound together in books and had stubs on both ends. When a ticket was sold, one stub remained in the ticket book, and the other stub was detached and entered into the drawing. The left stub and the ticket were tied together by a violet ink circular hand stamp of the seal of the Wild Tigers; the slogan of the Wild Tigers – “To death, do not break one’s faith” – is on the outside of the circle. The signature of the buyer tied the right stub and the ticket together. The hand stamp and the signature served as security devices; they were matched to the stubs when a winning ticket was presented to claim a prize.

Strong public support of the Royal Wild Tiger Lotteries led to the issuance of the “Scout’s Fund” overprints in 1920, as a further means to raise funds for the Wild Tiger Corps, Tiger Cubs, and Girl Guides. These were Siam’s second semi-postal stamps. The lottery tickets very likely influenced the designs of the overprints; stylized tiger’s heads, strikingly similar to the tiger’s head on the tickets,

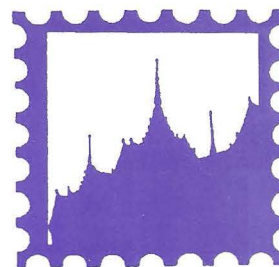
appear in all three overprint types.

Because of the harsh conditions of the tropics, which are especially corrosive to paper products, few Royal Wild Tiger Lottery tickets have survived, and only a very few are still in good condition. A ticket such as the one illustrated currently sells for about 63,000 baht (about US\$1,700) in the Bangkok collectibles market. However, as the immediate predecessor of the "Scout's Fund" overprints, a Royal Wild Tiger Lottery ticket would make a stunning first page for either a mounted collection or an exhibit of the overprinted stamps and postal cards.

Acknowledgements

I wish to express my appreciation to H.R. Blakeney, his son Chao, and Tatt Vanasilpa (Bangkok stamp dealer) for information about the Royal Wild Tiger Lotteries, the illustrated ticket, and its translation.

THAI PHILATELY

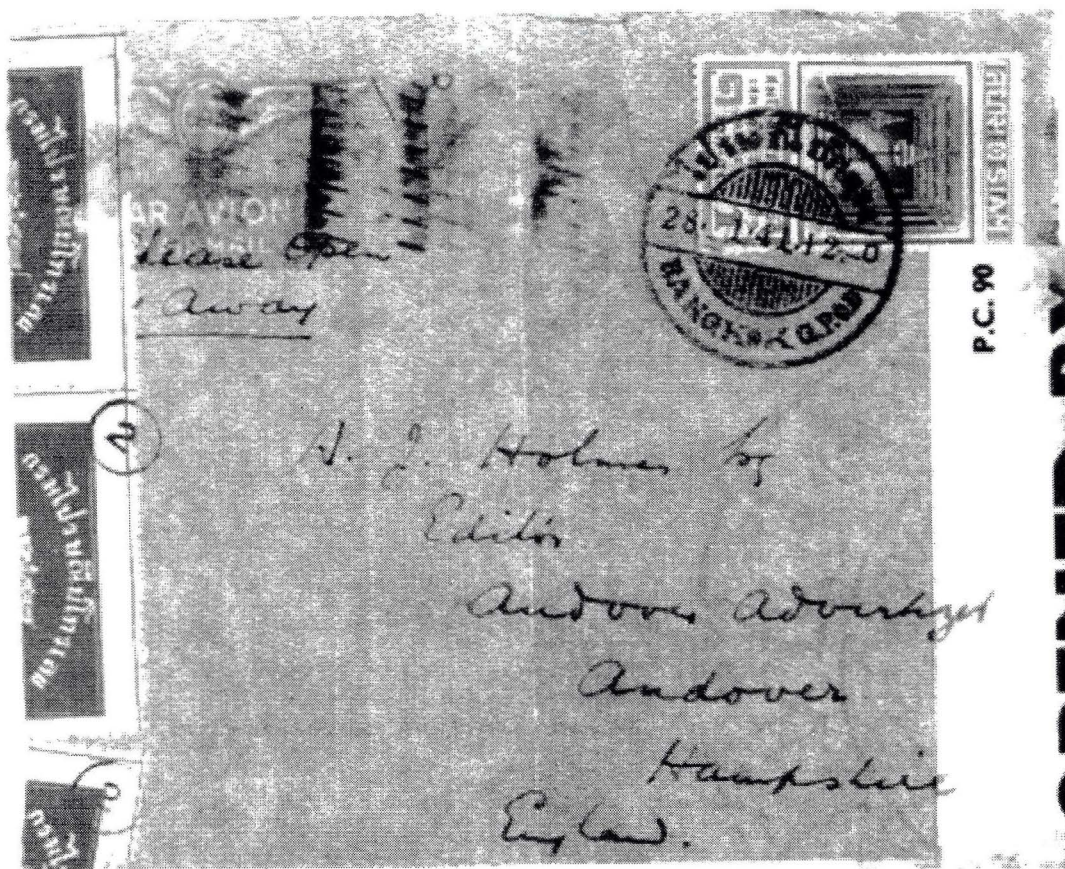


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(Whole Number 63)

Summer/Fall 2000



A wartime cover mailed from Bangkok on 28 January 1941 to England. Censor two opened it in Bangkok, where it was re-sealed using OX5 official seals. It was again opened and examined in England

The 1931 National Boy Scout Jamboree

by H.R. Blakeney, Frederick Lawrence & Chaowalit Intharasombut

Introduction

We were recently ask to examine the handstamp shown on the block of Air Mail stamps and see if we could explain it. The block is owned by Jan Cosyns, a collector of Scout material from Gent, Belgium. We thought it was an interesting handstamp and would like to record our observations here.



The block of Air Mail stamps showing the handstamp.



Enlarged illustration of the handstamp

The HANDSTAMP on the block of Air Mail stamps reads “การประชุมลูกเสือแห่งชาติ - พ.ศ. ๒๔๗๓” (Kan Chum Num Luk Sua Hang Chat - B.E. 2473) This would translate to “NATIONAL BOY SCOUT MEETING” or “NATIONAL BOY SCOUT JAMBOREE - B.E. 2473 (1930).” The central design has a “crown” at the top, and the only part of the bottom design that we can “see” is three arrows. We have no idea what the other part of the design represents.



BOY SCOUT JAMBOREE
1 JANUARY

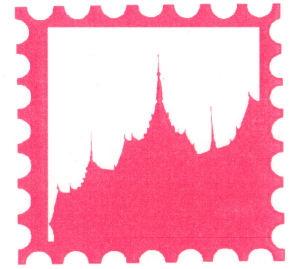
The first canceling machine in Thailand was introduced at the G.P.O. in early 1928. The first Machine Slogan Cancel used in Thailand is shown above and advertises a Scout Jamboree that started on 1 Jan 1931. The reported dates of use of the slogan (based on a very small sample) are from 1 to 24 Dec 1930. We are sure these dates will expand as more examples are recorded.

The B.E. year shown in the circular handstamp on the Air Mail stamps reads B.E. 2473 which corresponds to C.E. 1 April 1930 to 31 March 1931, so the handstamp could correctly identify a “Meeting” or “Jamboree” being held in Jan 1931.

We have never seen this handstamp before, but suspect that it was used during the Scout Jamboree held in Jan 1931. It is probably not a postal cancel, but more of a “special event handstamp” used to mark letters mailed at the Jamboree (based on how things have been done at later Scout Jamborees). In this case, it was struck on a block of Air Mail stamps instead of an envelope.

Anyhow, is an interesting, and previously un-reported, handstamp. Now, if everyone will search through their collections and see how many have survived the past 70 years. If you find an example of this handstamp on cover or stamps, please advise one of us.

THAI PHILATELY



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Winter 2002/2003



20th World Scout Jamboree
28th December 2002 to 7th January 2003
Haad Yao, Chonburi

Thai Philately -- Journal of the Society for Thai Philately

His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej, Honorary Member

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<p>Membership in the Society includes a subscription to this journal. Those joining receive all back issues of Thai Philately for the current year. Membership is \$22.00 for the year. Contact the Executive Secretary for an application form.</p>	<p>Thai Philately (ISSN 0198-7992) is published two times yearly by The Society for Thai Philately http://www.thaiphilately.org</p> <p>Editor and Publisher: Peter K. Iber, FRPSL 9379 West Escuda Drive, Peoria, AZ 85382-0979 USA Tel (623) 825-9954 Internet: peteki@cox.net</p> <p>© Copyright - The Society for Thai Philately 2003</p>
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N. Lamchiek Konchanath, Messrs. The East India Co., Bangkok

By Frederick P. Lawrence, Ph.D., FRPSL

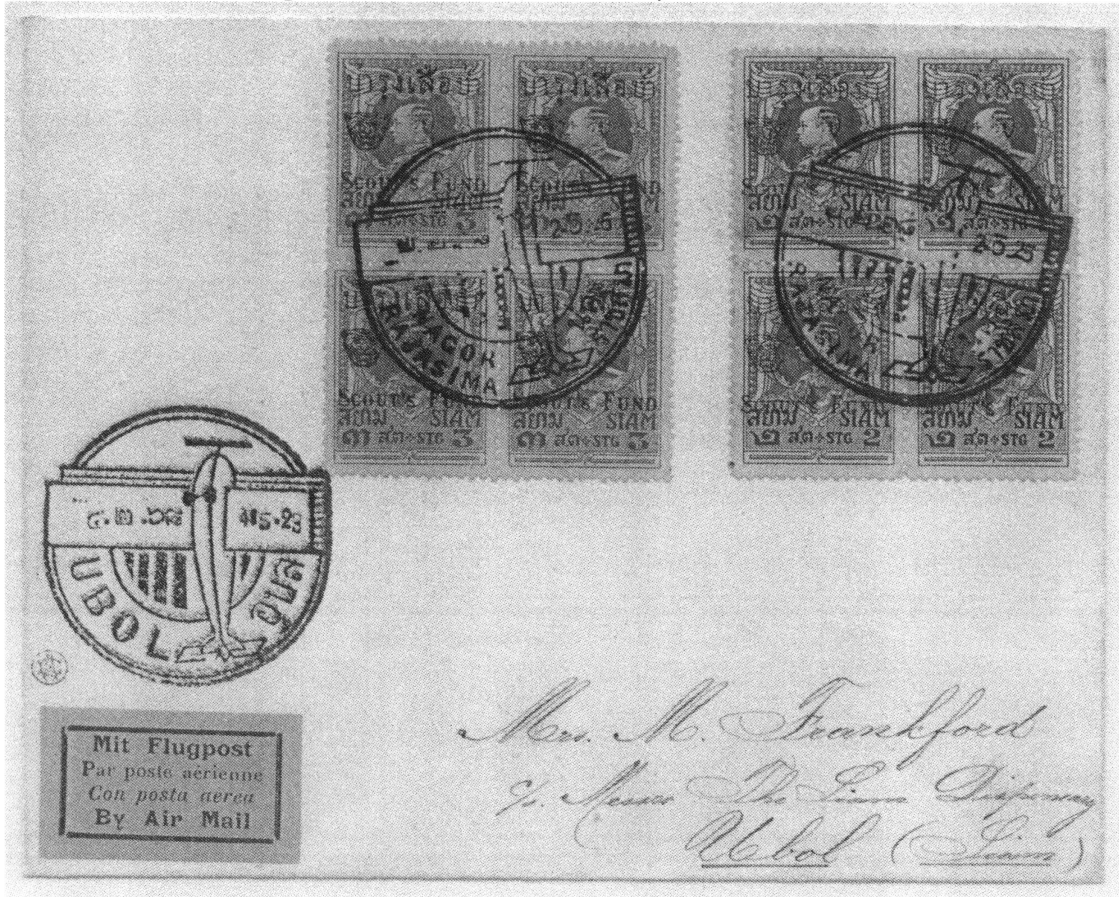
In the Winter 2001/2002 issue of *Thai Philately* Len Colgan wrote about an interesting Royal Siamese Parcel Post Form of Customs Declaration (pp. 50-51). The document is illustrated in landscape orientation, and to read the handwritten entries on the form, one has to turn the page upside down. Yet when I opened the issue to this article and glanced at the illustration for the first time, I immediately recognized the distinctive handwriting on the form even though it was upside down. The information on the form is that "One box" was sent to "Dr. Mochud (?) Frankford c/o The Siam Dispensary Ubol" with contents "One empty soda bottle with sample of Williams (?) Chalk" from "N. Lamch. Konchanath c/o Messrs. The East India Co. Bangkok." Whether the handwriting is that of N. L. Konchanath or a third party I do not know.

Furthermore, I can tell you nothing about either the addressee, Dr. Frankford, or the sender, N. L. Konchanath. Indeed, one of the purposes for my writing this short report is to encourage those who may have further information about these individuals to share it. I can, however, show three covers associated with, and possibly originating from, N. L. Konchanath. As a collector of the early issues of Scouting on Stamps, I actively seek out on-cover usages of the 1920 "Scout's Fund" overprints. All three of these covers are completely franked with Scouts overprints.



The first is addressed to "Nai Lamchiek Konchanath c/o Messrs. The Siam Dispensary Ubol (Siam)." The franking is a complete set of six of the "Scout's Fund" Type II overprints, on an air mail flown cover from Nagor Rajasima to Ubol, cancelled May 2, 1925, with arrival on May 4. [In

the Ubol airplane pictorial cancel, the Buddhist Era year (2468) is incorrectly translated into the Christian era as 1923, instead of 1925, or the year slug was miss-set.] {It is quite common for the year to be miss-set on the airplane cancels from Ubon ed.}

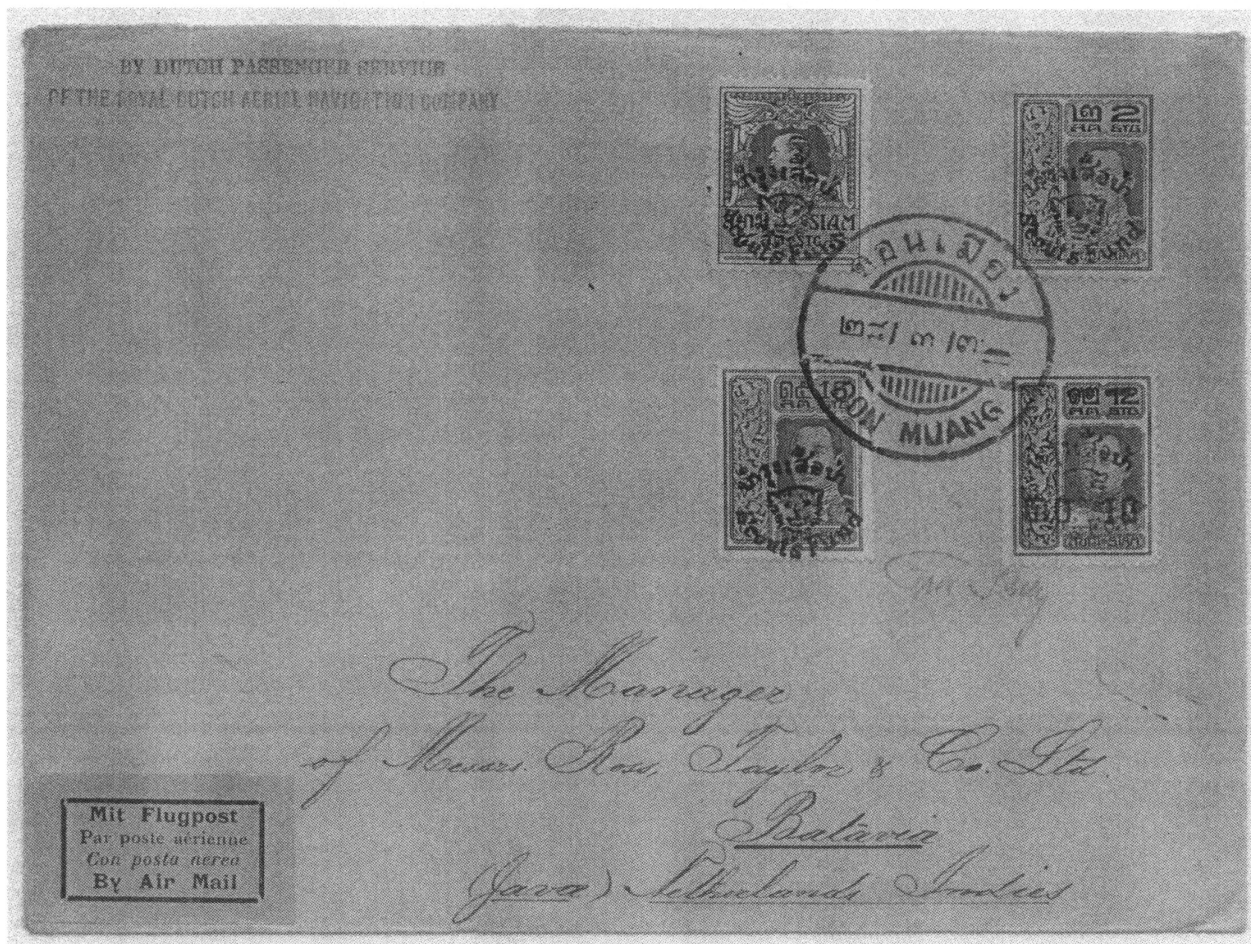


The second cover is similarly addressed to “Mrs. M. Frankford c/o Messrs. The Siam Dispensary Ubol (Siam).” The franking this time is blocks of four of the 2s+3s and 3s+2s “Scout’s Fund” Type III overprints, also on an airmail flown cover from Nagor Rajasima to Ubol, with the same dates. [The 20s franking exactly paid the inland airmail single weight letter rate.]

(continued on page 32)



Souvenir sheet issued by Australia for the joint issue between Thailand and Australia.



The third cover is addressed to “The Manager of Messrs. Ross, Taylor & Co. Ltd. Batavia, (Java) Netherlands Indies [now Jakarta, Indonesia].” The franking is now four “Scout’s Fund” Type II overprints (total postage = 32s), on an air mail flown cover from Don Muang Aerodrome, Bangkok, cancelled June 28, 1927, and backstamped Weltevreden RCM/Air Field, July 1. This was an unofficial mail carried on the second Dutch trial flight between Amsterdam and Batavia (according to Fawdry).

All three of these covers appear to have been philatelically inspired. Whether N. L. Konchanath was a collector, dealer, or agent remains to be determined. Readers are invited to report other covers from/to, and further information about, N. L. Nonchanath to the editor

Fermented Alcoholic Beverage and Local Products

(Continued from page 34)



Fermented tax stamp in brownish orange similar to those shown in the article.

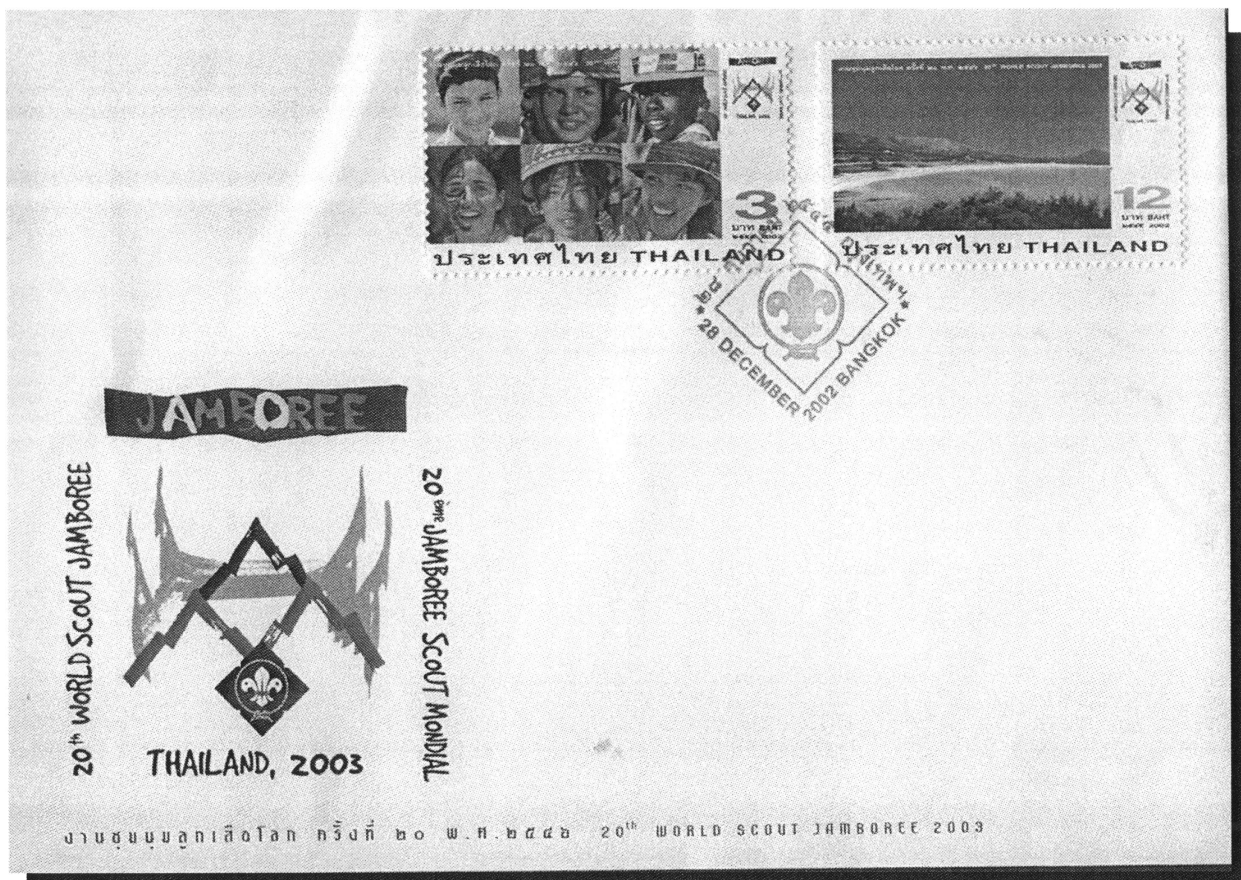
20th World Scout Jamboree, Sattahip Thailand 28 December 02 – 7 January 03

In commemoration of the 20th World Scout Jamboree and the country's honor as host, the Philatelic department of the Communications Authority of Thailand, has specially produced one million World Scout stamps to be sold at the price of 3 baht. The stamps will be available for purchase from 28th December 2002, at post offices throughout the country, including the post offices at the Jamboree site.

The stamp takes inspiration from the new corporate identity of the World Organization of the Scout Movement (WOSM) and shows images of scouts from the six Regions of WOSM.



The 3 baht depicts the 6 regions of scouting in the world movement. The 12 baht depicts Haad Yao beachfront where the jamboree was held.



First Day of Issue cover produced by CAT but not procured at the World Jamboree.

Personalized Stamps Prepared at the Jamboree



No. 312167

20th World Scout Jamboree 2003
Commemorative Stamp



งานชุมนุมลูกเสือโลก ครั้งที่ 20
ที่หาดยาว อำเภอสัตหีบ จังหวัดชลบุรี
ระหว่างวันที่ 28 ธันวาคม 2545
ถึง วันที่ 7 มกราคม 2546

20th WORLD SCOUT JAMBOREE
AT HADYAO, SATTAHIP, CHONBURI
THAILAND
28 DEC 2002 - 7 JAN 2003



Preparing the personalized stamps in the supermarket

Scouts and leaders who were attending the 20th World Scout Jamboree at Haad Yao, Chonburi, Thailand. They were prepared at the four supermarkets within the Villages of the Jamboree site. If purchased in the supermarket, the cost was 200 Baht for one sheet. If the picture was taken elsewhere at the Jamboree and then prepared at the supermarket, the cost was 300 Baht for the sheet. The sheets were quite popular with the scouts who purchased them and then used the pairs on cards home.



Personalize Stamp Historic 20th World Scout Jamboree Thailand 2003

60 บาท



จัดทำและจำหน่ายโดย บริษัท แคมป์ มีเดีย เน็ทเวิร์ค จำกัด
981 ถ.พระราม 9 แขวงสวนหลวง เขตสวนหลวง กรุงเทพฯ 10250
โทร. (662) 718 4405-9 แฟกซ์ (662) 718 4410

Daily Cachets are Popular at Jamboree



Post cards prepared in accordance with CAT instructions and forwarded before December 25th 2002 received the daily postmark and cachet. They were then mailed to the owner. First day of Jamboree is shown above. Card is addressed to Society member Chaowalit Intharasombat



Opening Day



Friendship



Internet connecting with friends



Thai Cultural Activities



Face The Waves



Patrol Challenges



Nature and the Environment



Service Projects



Community Action Projects



Hiking



Closing and Goodbye



Back side of the cover sent to Tokyo for forwarding to Switzerland



(continued from page 48)

Temporary Post Offices are Provided at the Jamboree

Six temporary post offices were established at the 20th World Scout Jamboree, Sattahip, Chonburi Province. One post office was established in each of the four villages (A,B,C & D), one post office in the International Service Team (IST) area and one in the Secretariat area. By sending covers from all of these post offices, it was determined that all the cancellations were identical regardless of the post office where the item was mailed. All mailing services were supplied, but the same cancelling device was used at each of the stations. Standard self stick, generic bar coded registration labels were used and cannot be distinguished from any other post office in Thailand. (See the sample cover on the previous page).



office where the item was mailed. All mailing services were supplied, but the same cancelling device was used at each of the stations. Standard self stick, generic bar coded registration labels were used and cannot be distinguished from any other post office in Thailand. (See the sample cover on the previous page).

Single small post box stood outside each post office with one collection a day at 1800 hours. This collection occurred even on holiday and weekend

Interior of the post office in the Secretariat area (this was said to be #6, but no method of identification can be found.



Circular cancelling device used at each of post office the cancel shown is for the first day of operation.




(continued on page 47)

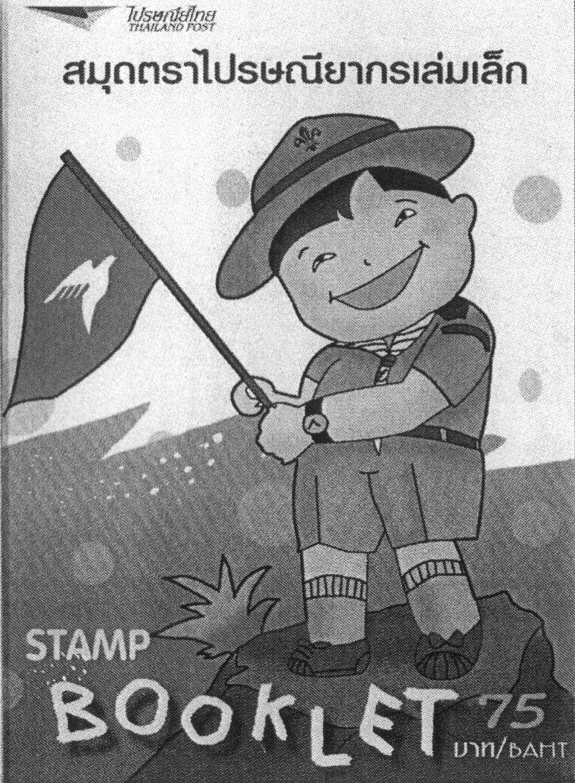
Special Booklet is Issued for Jamboree - Only Available at the Jamboree Post Offices.

POSTAGE RATE (FROM THAILAND) AIR MAIL LETTER					
ZONE	10g	20g	30g	40g	50g
ASIAN	14.00	19.00	24.00	29.00	34.00 baht
PACIFIC	17.00	24.00	31.00	38.00	45.00 baht
EUROPEAN					
AFRICAN					
AMERICAN	19.00	28.00	37.00	46.00	55.00 baht

AIRMAIL POSTCARD 15.00 บาท/BAHT

ชนิดราคา 3 บาท และ 12 บาท อย่างละ 5 ดวง
(5 PIECES OF EACH 3 BAHT AND 12 BAHT DENOMINATION)





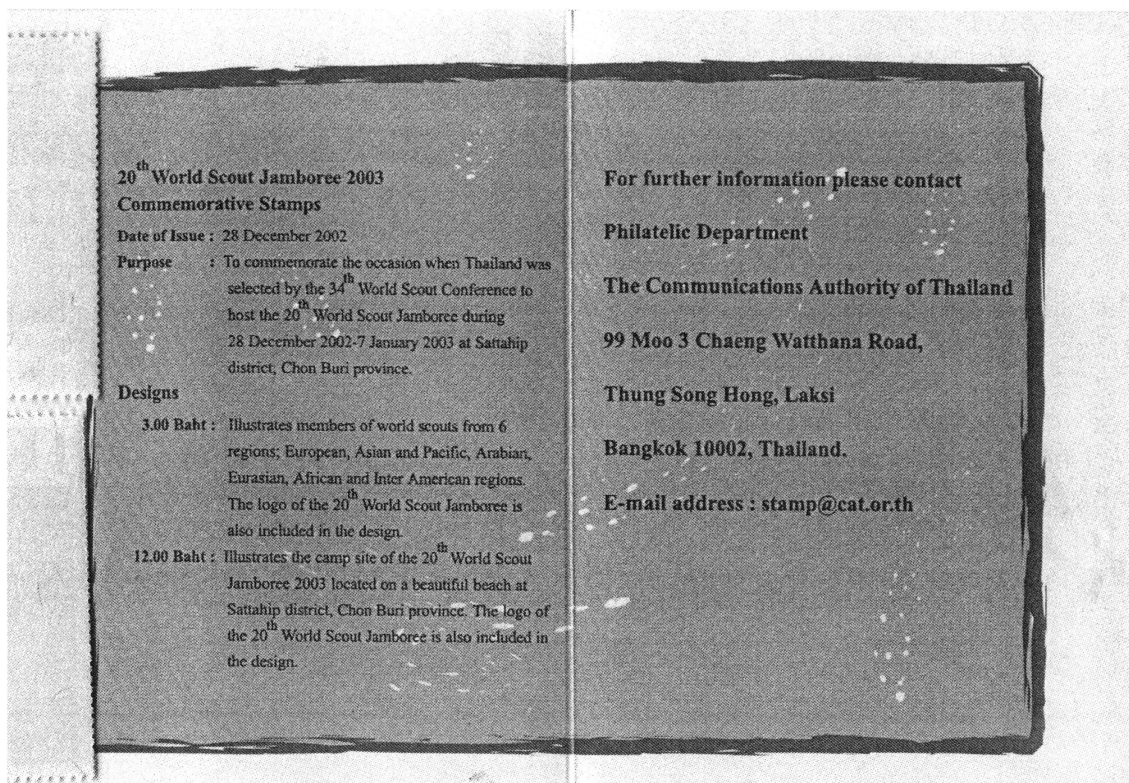
THAILAND POST

สมุดตราไปรษณียากรเล่มเล็ก

STAMP BOOKLET 75 บาท/BAHT

Booklets were created by pasting strips of five each of the 3 Baht and 12 Baht stamp into a colorful booklet using the selvage of the sheets. Stamps were not always squarely inside of the booklet. See the next page for the inside cover.

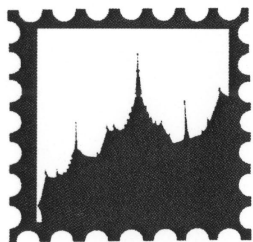




Inside of the stamp booklet cover was written in English which has rarely been seen inside a Thai stamp booklet

New Issues Announced for Year 2003

Year of the Goat	1-1-2003	Bantam Chicken	10-6-2003
National Children's Day 2003	11-1-2003	Asathapuja Day	13-7-2003
Rose Stamp	1-2-2003	National Communications Day 2003	4-8-2003
Painting of National Artists	24-2-2003	150 th Birthday Anniversary of Rama V	20-9-2003
Bangkok 2003 (2 nd Series)	3-3-2003	Bangkok 2003 3 rd Series	4-10-2003
Red Cross 2003	28-3-2003	Canada - Thailand Joint Issue	4-10-2003
Thai Heritage Conservation	2-4-2003	International Letter Writing Week	2-10-2003
H.R.H.Princess Sirindhorn's 4 th Cycle	2-4-2003	APEC 2003	20-10-2003
H.R.H. Princess Galyan's 80 th Birthday	6-5-2003	New Year 2004	15-11-2003
Centenary of the Inspector General	6-5-2003	The Great Kings of Thailand	5-12-2003
King Prajadhipok Day	30-5-2003		



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Founded 1978

Affiliate Number 78 of the American Philatelic Society

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Bangkok 2003 International Stamp Exhibition

The Society is planning a joint meeting with the Thailand Philatelic Society of Great Britain during the exhibition. Those who are planning to attend the exhibition should contact the secretary, at his Thai address, as soon as your travel plans are firm. This information is necessary to judge the size of the room we will require to have the meeting. There should be quite a few Thai philatelic exhibits at this show and attendance will be educational.

Welcome Back

The Society would like to welcome back Wallace Craig, #236 of Fullerton California. He is planning to start collecting Thai again and has purchased all the back issues to keep in touch. I am sure everyone wishes him the best in his Thai collecting interests.

Dues Notices

Included with the journal, you will find the dues notice for the year 2003. Please make sure that you send your dues to the Editor in Peoria Arizona and not to the Society address in Oklahoma. This will delay our receipt and depositing of your check. We have held the dues for 2003 to \$22.00/yr for regular members and \$28.00/yr for sustaining members an additional \$4.00 is requested from overseas members to defray the additional postage costs.

By changing our format to two rather large journals per year we have been able to hold the budget to the current dues being received. However, if there are further increases in postage or material costs, we will be forced to raise the dues again.

Note from the Editor

It was my pleasure to attend the 20th World Scout Jamboree as a member of the Boy Scouts of American National Contingent Staff as an interpreter. It gave me the opportunity to obtain all the information about the postal services provided. Visitors, other than approved scouts, were not permitted.

THAI PHILATELY



Journal of the Society for Thai Philately

Volume 22

Number 2
(Whole Number 76)

Summer 2007



40th Anniversary of ASEAN - 8 August 2007

Then, as luck would have it - and we all know how important luck is in locating key pieces for our collections and exhibits - a German dealer had at his stand copies of the catalog for the Ulrich Felzmann auction in Düsseldorf, which was to be held during the end of the week of Washington 2006. Knowing of my interest in Siam's Scout overprints, he alerted me to a lone lot in the auction - a 1921 "On Post & Telegraph Service" cover franked exclusively with Third Issue (Type III) Scout overprints. Through his agency relationship with the auction house, the dealer forwarded my bid by cell phone call. A few days later, he and his wife were all smiles when I again stopped by his stand, and learned that I was successful in purchasing this cover, and at a lower hammer price than the bid I had submitted.

The cover is an oversize envelope (13.5 cm by 18 cm) posted by registered mail from Bangkok Post Office No. 1 on September 8, 1921, from the Post and Telegraph Department, to a stamp dealer and commission agent in Singapore. Although "On Post & Telegraph Service," since the cover was sent outside the country, the postage had to be paid by stamps: seven 2s+3s "Scout's Fund" Type III overprints (a single, a pair, and a block of four) and a block of four of 15s+5s "Scout's Fund" Type III overprints. The 74s franking paid the registered foreign surface mail triple weight letter rate (25s + 2x12s + 25s), after the foreign rate decrease of August 1921 [1]. The cover is backstamped Bangkok Post Office No. 2, located at the Customs House, through which all foreign surface mail passed on its way to outbound ships at the docks, also on September 8, and upon arrival in Singapore; however, that date is illegible.



The cover is annotated “No.S.S.1192/21” in the upper left of the front. The precise meaning remains to be confirmed, but I’m thinking that S.S. stands for something like Stamp Section - meaning, philatelic sales agency - the number 1192 is the control number of this mailing - maybe the 1192nd dispatch from the philatelic sales agency in that year - and the number 21 indicates the year [19]21. If this interpretation is correct, then there were about 130 dispatches per month from the philatelic sales agency, through the year to date. There are handwritten initials over this annotation, and also on the back. Originally, there was a wax seal over the envelope flap, but this was previously removed, probably to prevent the envelope paper from buckling.

The “Scout’s Fund” Type III overprints were authorized for sale on December 15, 1920 [2], although most catalogs give December 17, 1920 as the first day of sale at the Bangkok GPO and Post Office No. 5. However, none of the seven values is known used until early January 1921 at the temporary postal facility at the Winter Fair at the Chitralada Garden [3]. The last official day of sale of all the “Scout’s Fund” overprints was June 14, 1926, and the remaining stamps were recalled by the Post and Telegraph Department [4]. So, this cover was posted in the first year of sale of the Third Issue of the Scout overprints. It may well have contained mint stamps of the Third Issue of the Scout overprints, and/or the First and Second Issues.

While entires franked with Third Issue Scout overprints are not as scarce as those franked with First or Second Issue Scout overprints, this is the first “On Post & Telegraph Service” cover I have seen franked with any Scout overprints. Additionally, although the 15s+5s Type III value appears as only a block of four, this is the largest multiple of this value on cover of which I am aware. All in all, a very nice cover, which I was pleased to add to my exhibit.

Endnotes:

1. Nirandara, Yaovane, FRPSL. “Thailand: Postal Rates in the Middle Period 1912-1946” *The London Philatelist*, Volume 107, Number 1260 (November 1998), pp. 107:319-107:324.
2. Choovoravech, Pipat, M.D. “King Vajiravudh and the Wild Tiger Corp” *Catalogue of BANGKOK 2000 World Youth Stamp Exhibition & 13th Asian International Stamp Exhibition, March 25 - April 3, 2000*, pp. 63-64.
3. Lawrence, Frederick P., Ph.D., FRPSL. “Earliest Reported Usages of the ‘Scout’s Fund’ Type III Overprints” *Thai Philately*,

THAI PHILATELY



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Volume 28

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(Whole number 94)

Summer 2013



Souvenir Sheet for the 120th Anniversary of the Paknam Incident

1920 SIAM “SCOUT’S FUND” OVERPRINTS

in the Eur-Seree Collecting Co., Ltd. Auction, August 3, 2013

by Frederick P. Lawrence, Ph.D., FRPSL



The author (green shirt) & Bill Slaninko (Yellow shirt) at the auction. Other STP members shown are Richard Blakeney (2nd row tan shirt) and Greg Cykman (gray shirt).

In conjunction with the Thailand 2013 World Stamp Exhibition in Bangkok, Eur-Seree Collecting Co., Ltd. auctioned the collection of Siam’s King Rama VI and 1920 “Scout’s Fund” overprints formed by the late Pakdi Yongvanich, a past president of the Philatelic Association of Thailand, on August 3, 2013. The collection won a gold medal at the Bangkok 1983 International Stamp Exhibition, and was documented in a monograph of color plates of the exhibit pages; there were 21 exhibit pages of “Scout’s Fund” stamps, covers, and postal cards. Subsequently, the owner added additional material, but did not exhibit again before his death.

Over 200 collectors, agents, and observers, including a local television crew, jammed the Rattanakosin Ballroom of the Narai Hotel Bangkok on Saturday, August 3, 2013, along with a bank of Eur-Seree Collecting Co., Ltd. employees to handle mail bids and phone bidders, for the auction of the magnificent Pakdi Yongvanich collection in 204 lots, including 55 lots of 1920 “Scout’s Fund” overprints. We can only highlight 18 of the Scouts lots here. The complete auction catalog and prices realized may be viewed on the company’s web site at <http://www.eurseree.com>. Results are reported as the hammer price in Thai baht (THB), to which was added a 10% buyer’s commission and 7% VAT on the commission, and then the total price including add-ons in US dollars (US\$) and euros (€). Lots are reported in the order they appeared in the auction. Certificates are from the Philatelic Association of Thailand (PAT).



Figure 1

A lower right corner margin block of four of the 2s+3s Type I overprints with an additional Type I overprint in the selvage (Figure 1) realized 165,000 THB (about US\$5,850; €4,398.50). The accompanying PAT certificate states, “The extra overprint on the right margin is not contemporary.”

Three postal cards with Type I overprints, contemporaneously used in February 1920, were sold: 2s+3s [damaged card] (Figure 2a) for 25,000 THB (about US\$886.40; €666.50), 3s+2s (Figure 2b) for 195,000 THB (about US\$6,913.60; €5,198.20), and 5s+5s (Figure 2c) for 260,000 THB (about US\$9,218.15; €6,930.95).



Figure 2a



Figure 2b



Figure 2c



Figure 3



Figure 4a

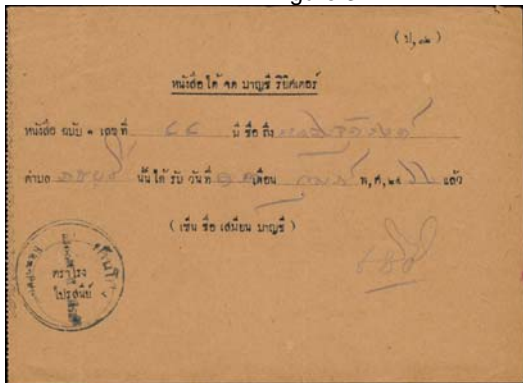


Figure 4b

A full Type I set on a February 26, 1920 cover from Nagor Pathom to Bangkok (Figure 3) brought 360,000 THB (about US\$12,763.60; €9,596.70), and a full set on a registered February 13, 1920 cover from Ban Pong to Bangkok (Figure 4a) brought 390,000 THB (about US\$13,827.25; €10,396.40). Coincidentally and serendipitously, the registration receipt for the Ban Pong cover (Figure 4b) was offered later in the auction; it was not a part of the Padki Yongvanich collection, and had been consigned by another seller. It was bought by the buyer of the Ban Pong cover for 46,000 THB (about US\$1,630.90; €1,226.25) and reunited with the cover.



Figure 5

A 10s(on12s)+5s Type I overprint on a cover posted from Ban Pong on February 2, 1920, but held until after the overprints were authorized for postal use, and with a February 13, 1920 Bangkok arrival backstamp (Figure 5) realized 280,000 THB (about US\$9,927.25; €7,464.10).



Figure 6a

Essays or trials of an unadopted handstamped overprint in black ink on mint never hinged 2s and 3s definitives (1917 London printing) (Figures 6a & 6b) sold for 72,000 THB (about US\$2,552.75; €1,919.35) each. [The lithographed Type III overprints were adapted from this unadopted handstamped overprint.]



Figure 6b



Figure 7

A tete-beche pair of 3s+2s Type II overprints with an “X” manually inscribed over the inverted overprint to indicate that the stamp was to be rejected (Figure 7) was bought by an absentee bidder for the starting price of 100,000 THB (about US\$3,545.45; €2,665.75). At the time of the sale the auctioneer advised, that while the pair has a clear PAT certificate, some specialists have raised concerns about the accuracy of the description of the pair on the certificate. [We closely examined the pair during pre-auction viewing and are among those who hold opinions that both the overprints and the control mark on the pair are not genuine.] There were no bids from the floor of the auction for the pair.

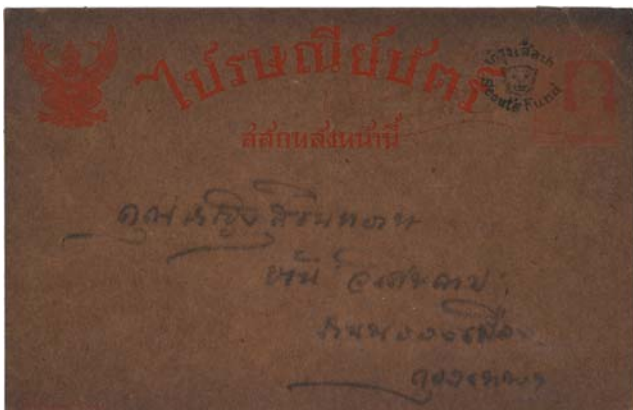


Figure 8a

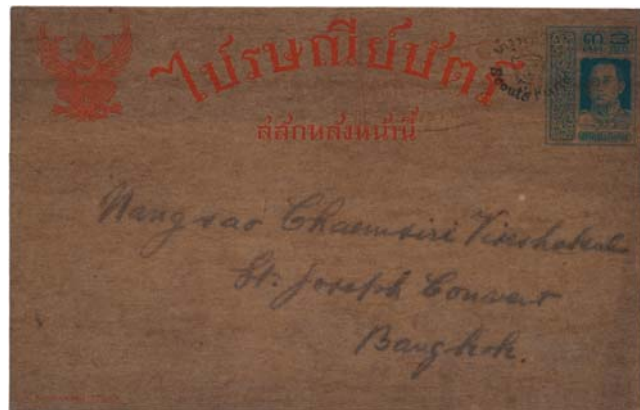


Figure 8b

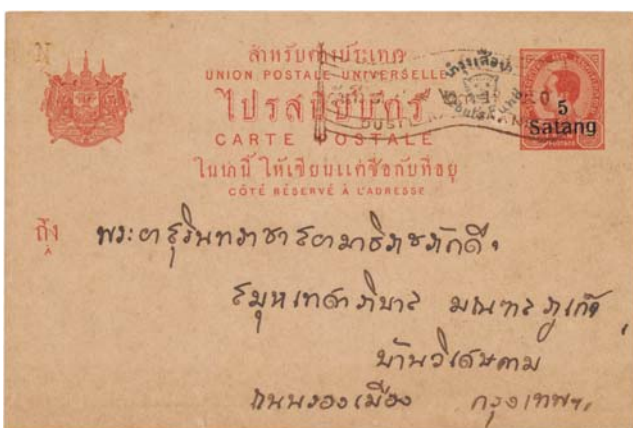


Figure 8c

Three postal cards with Type II overprints, contemporaneously used in 1920, were sold: 2s+3s [damaged card] (Figure 8a) for 25,000 THB (about US\$886.40; €666.50), 3s+2s (Figure 8b) for 260,000 THB (about US\$9,218.15; €6,930.95), and 5s+5s (Figure 8c) for 270,000 THB (about US\$9,572.70; €7,197.50).



Figure 9



Figure 10

The first five values of the split-issue Type II overprints [1] on a February 26, 1920 cover from Nagor Pathom to Bangkok (Figure 9) brought 260,000 THB (about US\$9,218.15; €6,930.95), and the first five values on a registered February 20, 1920 cover front from Ban Pong to Bangkok (Figure 10) brought 96,000 THB (about US\$3,403.65; €2,559.10). Despite its postal history value, bidders appeared to be put off by the fact that the Ban Pong cover was only a front, not an entire.



Figure 11



Figure 12

Bidders clearly appreciated the rarity of Type III overprints with the 1920 Winter Fair cancel used as a control, and bid up a lot with two blocks of four – 2s+3s, and 15s+5s with right margin selvage – with January 8, 1921 cancels as controls (Figure 11) to 185,000 THB (about US\$6,559.10; €4,931.65). In contrast, five of the seven Type III overprints tied to pieces by January 10, 1921 Winter Fair cancels (Figure 12) – probably by favor, two days after the fair ended – brought only 80,000 THB (about US\$2,836.35; €2,132.60).

Comment: The first five values of the split-issue Type II overprints on a registered February 20, 1920 cover front from Ban Pong to Bangkok push back the earliest reported usage of these overprints, from Nagor Pathom on February 26, 1920 as previously reported in the reference in the Endnote, and establish that these overprints went on sale at the Ban Pong Scout Camp on or before February 20, 1920.

Endnote

Lawrence, F. “More on the Siam Overprints: Earliest Known Usages of the Type II Split-Issue” *SOSSI Journal*, Vol. 28, No. 5 (May 1979), pp. 4-6.

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Private use of a Royal mourning cover

Update:

“Scout’s Fund”-franked Air Mail Covers from M. Savat Konchanath

by Frederick P. Lawrence, Ph.D., FRPSL

We first discussed air mail covers associated with N. Lamchiek Konchanath, Messrs. The East India Co., Bangkok, and franked with 1920 “Scout’s Fund” overprints in the Winter 2002/2003 issue of the journal¹. Nils Ramm-Ericson identified the source of these covers as the Bangkok stamp dealer M. Savat Konchanath in his handbook, AIRMAILS OF SIAM². In the Summer 2003 issue of the journal Wirat Limpiboon showed additional air mail covers from the same source, one of which was partially franked with a forged 1920 “Scout’s Fund” Type II overprint³.



Illus. 1 - Face



Illus. 2 - Reverse

In his Asia auction in Bietigheim-Bissingen, Germany on October 14, 2013, Christoph Gärtner offered another “Scout’s Fund”-franked air mail cover from M. Savat Konchanath: an October 18, 1930 first flight cover for the Bangkok – Amsterdam stage of KLM westbound air mail services, franked with a complete set of seven of the 1920 “Scout’s Fund” Type III overprints and a 1930 provisional issue 10s on 12s Garuda surcharge, tied by a special black airplane cancellation with wavy lines, addressed to the well-known stamp dealer Francis J. Fields in Sutton Coldfield, England who specialized in air mails and postal stationery, with a multicolor “K.L.M. ROYAL DUTCH AIR LINES HOLLAND” label tied to the back by a registration cross in blue pencil, and backstamped Bangkok G.P.O. (October 18, 1930), Birmingham [England] (October 26, 1930) [transit], and Sutton Coldfield (October 27, 1930) [arrival] (Illus. 1 & 2). The privately printed green “By Air Mail” label and the four-line “FIRST ARRANGEMENT ...” private handstamp confirm that the cover was prepared by M. Savat Konchanath⁴. The cover is overfranked 5s for the 1.15 baht registered air mail rate for this flight [1 baht air mail letter (up to 20 grams) + 15s registration].⁵ Ramm-Ericson records that 78 items were carried on the Bangkok – Amsterdam stage of the inaugural flight.⁶



Illus. 3

The cover was offered on an exhibit page with an extensive description written in Thai (Illus. 3), which states that the cover was in the collection of Anatchai Rattakul. However, the cover does not appear in either of his books: *A Study of Thai Mail 1836 – 1943*, published in 1984 and illustrating his exhibit which won the Grand Prix National at the world philatelic exhibition Bangkok 83, and *The Collection of Championship Class / A Study of Thailand 1688 – The End of King Chulalongkorn Era*, published in 1986 and illustrating his exhibit which won a gold medal and a special prize in the Championship Class at the world philatelic exhibition Ameripex 86. The exhibit page also states that the then-latest market price was estimated in 1996 at 290,000 baht (US\$11,435 in 1996 dollars,⁷ about US\$15,814 in 2013 dollars.⁸ The cover sold for €12,500 + 20% buyer’s premium + €2 lot fee (about US\$20,230), which was

about 1.5 times the highest realization for a “Scout’s Fund” cover in the Eur-Seree auction of the Pakdi Yongvanich collection of King Rama VI and “Scout’s Fund” overprints, held during the world philatelic exhibition Thailand 2013, for a February 1920 registered cover from Ban Pong franked with a complete set of six of the “Scout’s Fund” Type I overprints – one of three registered covers from Ban Pong franked with “Scout’s Fund” Type I overprints, and the only cover with its registration receipt.⁹

Acknowledgement

Our thanks to Vitoon Eurtivong of Eur-Seree Collecting Co., Ltd., Bangkok, for graciously translating the exhibit page on which this cover was offered.

Endnotes

1. Lawrence, F. P. “N. Lamchiek Konchanath, Messrs. The East India Co., Bangkok” *Thai Philately*, Vol. 19, No. 2 (Winter 2002/2003), pp. 30-32.
 2. Ramm-Ericson, N. (2003). *AIRMAILS OF SIAM, A handbook by Nils Ramm-Ericson*, Part 5. Air mail rates, stamps and labels, 1920 – 1945 (2nd ed.), p. 388.
 3. Limpai boon, W. Letter to the Editor (Received 9 February 2003) *Thai Philately*, Vol. 20, No. 1 (Summer 2003), pp. 9-11.
 4. *Ibid.*, 2.
 5. Ramm-Ericson, N. (2003). *AIRMAILS OF SIAM, A handbook by Nils Ramm-Erickson*, Part 3. Airmail services with international carriers, 1928 – 1939 (2nd ed.), p. 160.
 6. *Ibid.*, 5.
 7. <http://www.forecast-chart.com/usd-thailand-baht.html>
 8. http://stats.areppim.com/calc/calc_usdlrxdeflator.php
 9. Lawrence, F. P. “1920 SIAM “SCOUT’S FUND” OVERPRINTS in the Eur-Seree Collecting Co., Ltd. Auction, August 3, 2013” *Thai Philately*, Vol. 28, No. 2 (Summer 2013), pp. 72-75.
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French newspaper wrapper mailed to Bangkok
Addressee had passed away so the wrapper was marked "Died" and Returned.
See article on page 92

Why is this Thai stamp not recognized by any catalog?

By Helmut Blaschczyk



Illus. 1

On 23 June 1939 Siam changed its name to Thailand. This was done as part of the nationalist/fascist/anti-Chinese politics that were popular in the country at that time. Thai stamps reflected this change. The name was briefly changed back to Siam after WWII, until the name was again changed to Thailand in 1949. These political changes were also reflected in Siamese/Thai postal stationery. The Rama VIII 2 and 3 satang postal cards (TPH PC-0068 & 0069) issued on 15 May 1939 with the country name “Siam,” were replaced on 1 March 1940 with cards inscribed “Thai” (Blakeney PC-0071 & 0072). Additional cards (including cards denominated 10 satang) with the country name “Thai” were issued in 1940, 1941 and 1943.

On 1 January 1943 the domestic postal card rate was increased from 2 to 3 satang. It is obvious from the listings in Blakeney’s “Thai Postal Stationery Catalog” that there was an acute shortage of 3 satang postal cards. This shortage was dealt with by: 1) surcharging older postal cards (TPH PC-0086 & 0095), 2) using postal cards as formula cards to which various unaltered current 3 satang stamps with the country name “Thai” were added (TPH PC-0096 & 0099C) and 3) using postal cards as formula cards to which a 3 satang stamp (Scott 189; Sakserm Siriwong 201, & Hobby 208) with the English and Thai country name “Siam” obliterated (TPH PC-0100 & 0102) (Illus. 1).

The overprint on this brown 3 satang stamp does not appear to have been printed, but was probably applied by a hand. I do not know if the overprint was applied before or after the stamps were affixed to the postal card. While the overprint appears quite plain, if not crude, it was intentionally applied for a specific purpose: to indicate that the country was no longer called Siam. As such, as an intentionally altered stamp, it clearly deserves a catalog listing.

Searching through various catalogs (2015 Scott Classic, 1980 Stanley Gibbons British Commonwealth (SG), 1965/66 Michel Übersee, 1973 Minkus World Wide, 1971, Yvert et Tellier Outre-Mer (Y&T), 1951 Robson Lowe Empire in Asia, 1949 Empire in Africa (RL) and 1928 Ascher Grosser Ganzsachen Katalog) I have found two other examples of stamps that were surcharged and/or overprinted and only sold affixed to formula postcards. There is no consistency in how the various catalogs list these issues.

Hong Kong (Scott 35A-35C, SG P1-3, Michel I-III, Minkus 27-29, Y&T TPCP 1-3, RL 36-38, Ascher 1-3). These 1879 surcharged stamps were issued because of changes in the post card rate. All of the above catalogs list these stamps, and Scott, Michel, Minkus, RL and Ascher state that they were only sold attached to formula cards. Scott, Minkus and RL provide catalog values for both loose stamps and stamps on postcards. Interestingly, the Scott 19th Century International “Big Brown” Album, which supposedly provided spaces for all major number stamps listed by Scott (except perforation varieties), did not provide spaces for these stamps.

Orange Free State (Not listed in Scott or Minkus, mentioned in SG, Michel Po 1-8, Y&T TPCP 1-8, RL 29-44, Ascher 2-4, 6-15). These 1890s stamps, some of which were also surcharged, were affixed to formula postcards and the stamps on the cards were subsequently overprinted, (handstamped per Michel) with a coat of arms. Thus these stamps were only sold affixed to the postcards. Presumably catalog values are for stamps affixed to the postcard, though this is not made explicit.

The stamp shown above was purchased on ebay, and was properly described by the seller in Thailand. While the soaking of this (or the above Hong Kong or Orange Free State) stamp should not be encouraged, there is no reason not to give this Thai stamp a major number listing in the catalogs.

The image below of the PC-0101 card show this stamp as issued by the Thai postal authority (Illus. 2).



Illus. 2 - PC-0101 - Mint



Illus. 3 - A PC-0100 postcard mailed from **CHIENGMAI** (Chiang Mai) on 7-10-86 (7 Oct 1943). There is a censor handstamp indicating "Already Checked" and a signature in blue. The card is addressed to Changwat Thonburi.

EDITORS NOTE: Khun Somchai Saeng-Ngern of Hobby Stamps has agreed to note in future catalogs that this stamp was used on postcards in it's modified condition, so collectors will know it's purpose. Thanks Somchai!