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### **DEADLINES FOR THIS PUBLICATION**

January issue: Deadline November 15, mailing December 30
April issue: Deadline February 15, mailing March 30
July issue: Deadline May 15, mailing June 30
October issue: Deadline August 15, mailing September 30

### The "Registered" Ovals of Trinidad

By David Horry, FRPSL

n the last day of May 1949 a steel, oval postmark was released at the postal agency of East Dry River (*Figure 1*). Originally it bore the word "REGISTERED" at the top. This had been carefully excised (routedout) in order that it might be used for ordinary mail (*Figure 2*). East Dry River is a far from a salubrious suburb of Port of Spain, which to some extent has been, like neighboring Rose Hill, a no-go area.

As per J. G. Rodger,<sup>1</sup> in late 1948 the Fiji postmaster was informed by The Crown Agents that orders for new postmarks from G.P.O. London could not be fulfilled for two years, due to a steel shortage in the United Kingdom. Orders had to be in place by late 1947. In fact, normal service wasn't resumed until March of 1952!



Figure 2
East Dry River RO before and after excision.



Figure 3 A purple Jamaican "Registered" Oval from Ashley on E.F. Aguilar cover, May 17, 1952.



Figure 1
East Dry River Postal Agency.

So where did this oval die come from? The answer lies in the study of similar instruments from Jamaica. Ian Potter in his tome *The Postal Markings of Jamaica*<sup>2</sup> notes: "In 1949 the Jamaican GPO ordered new cancellers for some thirty offices. Attached to the order was a Kingston RO with a note carelessly asking, *'That a certain number of dies be manufactured in a similar design for a list of establishments as listed.'* The Crown Agents were unable to follow these instructions as steel was in extremely short supply. The originals included the word REGISTERED, although the post office wanted general purpose date

stamps. The GPO Kingston uniformly defaced the word REGISTERED with a soft amalgam, which gradually wore away, leaving the word REGISTERED - clear to view."

From further study of events in Jamaica it would now seem that the "Registered" Oval postmarks were not released by G.P.O. London but were the preserve of The Crown Agents. Therefore, the 28 excised ROs released in Jamaica on April 4, 1950 were for the use of British Intelligence surveillance, at remote offices under their control (*Figure 3*).

The same conclusion may therefore be construed for Trinidad, where in a couple of years 11 ROs were released to similarly remote postal agencies. They were East Dry River, Les Efforts and Mucurapo (St. James) in 1949, Blanchissuse, Caratal, Charlieville and Point Cumana in 1950 and Clark Rochard, Cocoyea, Diamond, Maracas Road (*Figure 4*). Back in those days things were often done in dozens and I suspect that Timital PA also had an RO that was lightly used or probably never released or per-



Figure 5
Computer reconstruction of the Timital
RO: might this exist?

haps even damaged during excision (*Figure* 5). Incidentally, there are reports of several Skeleton postmarks that have never come to light in both Trinidad and Tobago.In Jamaica most of the evidence comes from a plethora of covers addressed to the same people and establishments, but in Trinidad, RO covers are few and far between, suggesting that security was not as intense as in Jamaica.

However, there are a few covers existing from Trinidad to Knutsford Park, 111 Harbour Street, Kingston -- the domain of the Aguilar family. Everard Aguilar was a well known philatelist and dealer who had more premises at 91 Harbour Street. Other constant recipients were H. T. Litteljohn, H. Douglas Tucker and various addresses in Bell Street (*Figure 6*). I believe all were part of local surveillance using the Jamaican Philatelic Society as cover.

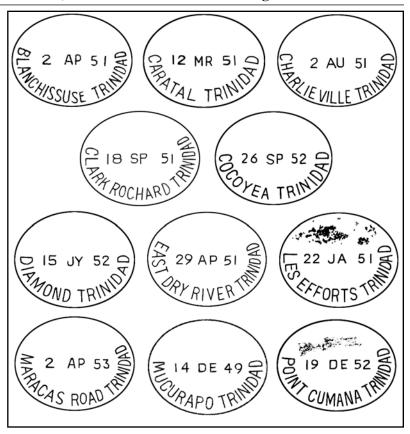


Figure 4
The 11 ROs of Trinidad, 1949-1952.

Everything was meticulously organized by George Crawford Odom whose covers emanate from all over the Caribbean. He used several *noms de guerre* such as L. Barrington Smith, Gordon Rhodes, Frank Godden Junior and Captain Smye. Odom was the inspiration for John Le Carre's book and subsequent film *The Tailor of Panama* (*Figure 7*). In Trinidad covers are noted to the Hollywood Radio & Television Institute offering to teach



Figure 6 Lucea (Jamaica) RO on cover to Knutsford Park, 111 Harbour Street, Kingston, dated April 7, 1951. (Courtesy of Paul Wright)

Figure 7
George Crawford
Odom, circa 1953
(From the
Leicester
Mercury).

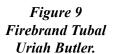


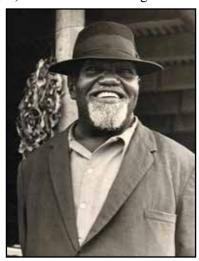
Radio/Televison electronics, proudly announcing -- "Approved for Veterans" (*Figure 8*).

The Hollywood Radio & Television Institute seemed on the surface to be a rather glamorous operation. In fact it was rather more sinister and was set up by its President C. H. Mansfield. All advertising was in English or Spanish and the business was predominantly directed at the Caribbean as well as South and Central America although they turn up in India and Malaya. Under the guise of a "correspondence school," the Institute appears to have most interest in recruiting World War II veterans. Also note that no salesmen will call. They were recruiting people who could build and operate their own radios and relay information back to President Mansfield that might be of interest to the intelligence services from remote and

un-policed areas. At the bottom of the ad is a tick-box which states: "If a veteran of World War II, check here" (*Figure 8a*). These coupon ads are recorded throughout the late 1940s and into the 1950s. However, by 1961 President Mansfield and his ads had disappeared.

What was the object of this surveillance? Tubal Uriah Butler was a Grenadian-born Spiritual Baptist preacher and labor leader in Trinidad and Tobago (*Figure 9*). He was best known for leading a series of labor riots between June 19 and July 6, 1937 and for forming a series





of personal political parties: namely the British Empire Citizens; the Workers' Home Rule Party; the Butler Home Rule Party and finally the Butler Party. They focused on the improvement of the working classes. Butler was jailed in Trinidad from 1937-1946 for labor agitation. After the death of labor leader Captain Arthur Cipriani in 1944, Butler came to the fore.

From December 1946 to July 1948 his further agitation

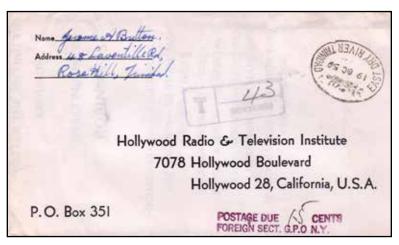


Figure 8

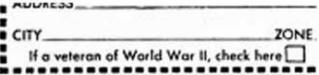
East Dry River RO on cover to the Hollywood Radio &

Television Institute.

(Courtesy of Ray Stanton)



Figure 8a
Hollywood Radio
& Television
Institute small
ad and tick-box
detail.



led to a state of emergency being declared by Governor John Shaw in three of Trinidad's counties in the oil producing areas around San Fernando: Caroni, St. Patrick and Victoria. This unrest had quickly spread to the sugarcane workers. In September 1948 Butler left Trinidad for New York, leaving his second in command, Bob Edwards, in charge. But Colonial Secretary Creech-Jones and local law enforcement could not find enough evidence to incarcerate the so-called Communist leaders, even with strict surveillance operations in place. Mail was opened and the Skeleton postmarks were used to identify "miscreants" across the colony from new "postal agencies." The G.P.O. in Port of Spain did not issue these instruments and allowed the Intelligence Services to conduct their

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operations much as they had been doing in Jamaica since the Frome Riots in 1938.

Information is light as the 1947 de-classified file on Uriah Butler conveniently went missing while being dispatched from the Colonial Office to the National Archives. Governor Sir John Valentine Wistar Shaw was named by Daurius Figuiera, Butler's biographer, as a Colonial racist, hell-bent on destroying Butler and his kind, in order to preserve the colonial order (*Figure 10*).

Figuiera continues: "It is then no mystery that successive Conservative Governments of Britain set the tone and *modus operandi* for Independence and brought to heel Colonial dinosaurs such as John V.W. Shaw. The conclusion is inescapable that the Labour Government of 1945-1951 surrendered to the agenda of J.V.W. Shaw and in doing so set in train developments which impact the social order of Trinidad and Tobago to this day in a destructive manner."

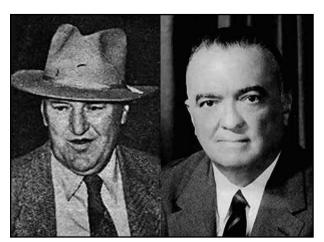


Figure 11
J. Edgar Hoover (right) and his buddy,
George C. Odom.

On January 13, 1949 British TUC representative Fred W. Dalley was sent to Trinidad to pursue his pro-responsible trade unionism anti-Butler agenda and wrote to Kennedy at the Colonial Office: "There is still apprehension here about the sugar crop and it is perhaps fortunate that 'Buzz' (Butler) is away. So far fires, not much doubt they are deliberate, on the Caroni (1,400) and Madelaine (1,300) Estates etc. have destroyed nearly 3,000 tons of cane. The resistance continues in the cane fields and Butler's agitation would have worsened the resistance, 'luckily he is away in Britain." He further described Butler as having "a mental abnormality."

The only meeting that Butler would have in his entire stay in Britain from 1948-1949 was with Beckett at the Colonial Office. Beckett notes: "He wanted complete self-government for Trinidad and was in favour of federa-



Figure 10
"Colonial
Dinosaur"
Sir John V. W.
Shaw.

tion with other colonies having equal status when self-government was achieved." De-classified files marked "TOP SECRET" in 1949 show that Butler was under surveillance by MI5 as was his political movement in Trinidad, throughout 1949. The 1950 election gave Butler's Party the largest block of seats in the Legislative Council. However, the new Governor, Sir Hubert Rance, chose to exclude Butler and instead Albert Gomes became the first Chief Minister. In August 1951 the "Butler Bloc" was forcibly excluded from the Executive Council Chamber. By 1955 MI5 was still maintaining surveillance on Uriah Butler.



Figure 12 Cover to "George Odom Ltd." August 26, 1967, from U.S. Naval Base 13607 BR, Guantanamo Bay. (ex-Jefferies)

In America from 1949 to 1956 "McCarthyism" was rife and Communists were under every bed! The Munroe and Truman doctrines simmered. Communism was seen as very much at large in America's own back yard, in Central America and the Caribbean islands. After World War II, FBI agents were covertly operating in Jamaica, assisted by George Odom who was, according to Peter Stringer (a long standing Odom employee), a personal friend of J. Edgar Hoover (*Figure 11*).

In the 1956 general election, the Butler Party won just two seats. Butler, the fiery radical, was deemed too unstable and threatening to the nation's economic well-being by Eric Williams and the People's National Movement. Today Uriah Butler is looked upon as the founding father of the Oilfields Workers' Trade Union (OWTU) and the Trinidad labor movement and is honored with a statue in Fyzabad. He was further awarded the Trinity Cross, the nation's highest honor, in 1970.

America's worst nightmare finally came true when in January 1959 Fidel Castro and company booted President Batista out of Cuba. After The Bay of Pigs fiasco, Russian missiles arrived in Cuba in 1961 and World War III was only just averted. "George Odom" cov-

ers are noted from Guantanamo Bay in the late 1960s even though he had died in December 1959 (*Figure 12*).

The Trinidad ROs are found in remote postal areas at points north, east, south and west: they cluster around oil and sugarfield areas of San Fernando and where political agitation against poverty was at its height in the capital, Port of Spain (*Figure 13*). Point Cumana is close to the old U.S. Naval Base at Chaguaramas. Farther west to the north of Port of Spain was Mucurapo



Figure 15 Signage at Fort Read, Waller Air Force Base, 1944.



Figure 13
Map of Trinidad showing RO offices and American World War II bases at
Chaguaramas, Mucurapo and Waller Field.

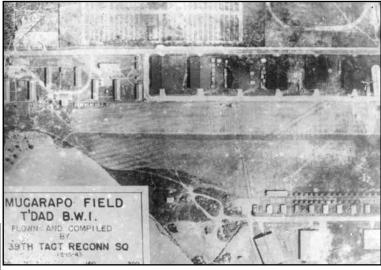


Figure 14
War-time aerial photograph of Mucarapo (Mucurapo)
Airfield, Trinidad.

(Mucarapo), the U.S. airfield of the 39<sup>th</sup> Tactical Reconnaissance Squadron (*Figure 14*). This might explain the change of office name to St. James in July 1953, so that memories of the Americans could be removed. According to the Trindad & Tobago *Newsday*, "there were a few rotten apples."

The remote Caratal PO is just a few miles southwest of

the old U.S. Air Force Base at Waller field which covered an area of 24 square miles and housed 12,000 American troops (*Figure 15*). A further 15,000 locals worked at the camp on a daily basis. Note the cover from Caratal in Figure 16: D.E.R. Balley uses an American postage stamp which is strangely not charged postage due, even after the American base was closed earlier that year with the "Operation Green" airlift. American troops up at Chaguaramas finally departed in 1967.

Ted Proud located Caratal Post Office at Carata Hill, southwest of Manzanilla to the east of Trinidad. This is incorrect: there were some Americans in this

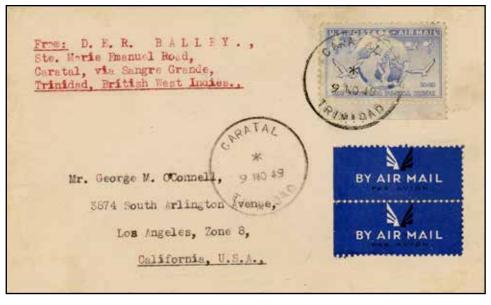


Figure 16
Caratal RO cover to New Jersey using U.S. stamp, from D.E.R. Balley, Ste.
Marie Emanuel Road, Caratal, via Sangre Grande to Los Angeles, California,
November 9, 1949.
(Courtesy Ed Barrow)

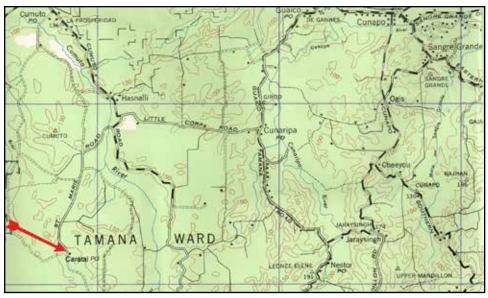


Figure 17 Map showing Caratal PO in Tamana Ward.

vicinity which is why the confusion might have occurred. Caratal, as per this cover, is situated on the Ste. Marie Road, a few miles to the southwest of Sangre Grande

FOR ELECTRO PLATING WIRELESS
MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

BOY DELL'S

ESTABLISHED
OVER 70 YEARS

FOR ELECTRO PLATING
WIRELESS
MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

Figure 18
Boydell's small ad from Kelly's Newcastle Directory,
1949.

(Sandy Grandy) [Figure 17].

Extensive research on the Jamaican ROs has shown that they were manufactured by Anton Thomas Elliott of Gosforth up on Tyneside in conjunction with Boydell's (*Figure 18*). I believe the Trinidad ROs were also made in Gosforth by Elliott, although I have seen no T&T covers addressed to him. He was an electroplating engineer and associate of George Odom. His father, also Anton, had close association with electroplaters Boydell's of Percy

Street, who made toys, cycles, train sets, musical instruments and a host of other accessories since 1875. All of Anton Elliott's philatelic mail, bearing his handiwork, features the handwriting of George Odom (*Figure 19*).

De Laurence & Co. dealt in voodoo items which could only be sent for export, as they were illegal in the U.S. I contend that de Laurence covers from all over the Caribbean and West Africa were often, but not exclusively, used to pass surveillance information to the American Intelligence Services in Chicago.

A quarter remnant of an air letter sent to "Suite No.1 Second floor 179 North Michigan Ave., Chicago Ill., U.S.A."

which is home to the de Laurence Company, purveyors of Obeah, mystic and voodoo *objêts*, is shown below. Was this a cover for a CIA or FBI surveillance operation? The contents of this air letter appear to be a low-level report, rather than a commercial order (*Figure 20*). The section visible reads:

Life is a downfall now ma
You know the value <del>One.</del>
books.
Yes concerning my friend
my father he is a Police O
got to see him he is out someth



Figure 19
Sandy Bay RO (Jamaica) cover from George Odom to
A. T. Elliott, Gosforth, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, 1953.

urgent I rush to see him th few hours ago, sometimes way, He drinks out all h ends, and always have bid Del just aid your f and you would be scup repaying back that Lov Confidence comes and prove me. T but send the article for address is in Tobago but address above. We 154



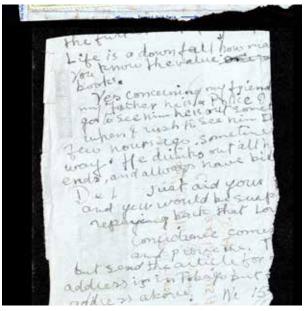


Figure 20

Quarter remnant of air letter to de Laurence Company, 179 North Michigan Ave., Chicago Ill., USA dated June 25, 1953.

Most of the Trinidad ROs are extremely scarce and particularly their early usage (1949-1954) on cover is rare (Figure 21). Is this because unlike in Jamaica the local philatelic society was not used as a cover? I have not as yet seen early RO covers for East Dry River or Les Efforts, and no RO covers appear to exist for Charlieville, Diamond (Village), Mucurapo or Point Cumana. Further, I have not seen photographs of the old Les Efforts or Mucurapo offices. Might they be tucked away somewhere?

Is it possible that all Registered Ovals across the Colonia Realm were instigated by British Intelligence from St. Lucia to Mauritius, from Freetown to Georgetown around the time of World War I?

The "Registered" Ovals were well made and were used for many years after independence, long after they had ceased to be the property of the British Security Services after independence (*Figure 22*). Any further information would be gratefully received. Please contact me at horry@talk21.com if you have further examples.

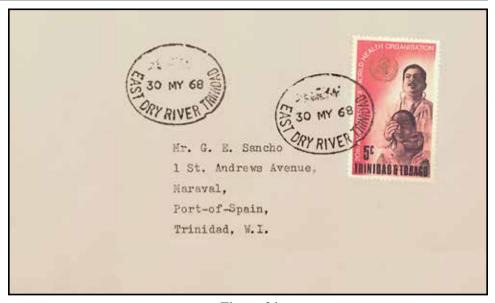


Figure 21
East Dry River RO cover to Mr. G. E. Sancho, Maraval, Port-of-Spain,
May 30, 1968.
(Courtesy Anthony Wilkinson)



Figure 22
Blanchissuse RO cover to The De Laurence Company,
Chicago, December 5, 1949.
(Courtesy Anthony Wilkinson)

### **FOOTNOTES**

- <sup>1</sup> J. G. Rodger, *The Postal History of Fiji*. (British Philatelic Trust, 1991), p. 207.
- <sup>2</sup> Ian Potter, *The Postal Markings of Jamaica*. (Privately published, 1996), n.p.

### A visit to the Antigua post office

By Steven Zirinsky

ntigua is part of the island country of Antigua and Barbuda, one of the many beautiful Caribbean island nations. On a recent visit, several photographs were taken of the main post office in St. John's, the capital city. With a population of 22,193 at last count, St. John's is the commercial center of the nation and the chief port on the island.

The Postmaster is Algernon Gomes, who is fairly young and has been on the job for two years. The General Post Office (GPO) had limited stamps for sale -- just definitives, and they no longer operate a philatelic bureau (unlike Nevis). They said that they had other stuff in the vault but they weren't too impressed with it (I didn't look).



An Antigua GPO employee holding an envelope addressed to Canada.

They still have aerogrammes but only one lady comes in once a year to buy about 40 of them. There are about 100,000 people on Antigua. They don't move around much. I would say there is some 20,000 articles of mail a month. Compare that with Barbuda, which has maybe 500 a year.

One of the photos shows the clerk-side of counters B and C. So when you get a postmark with "GPO B" you now know which counter it was cancelled at. Or almost. As it turns out Clerk Station B was using "GPO C" ... it may be that the cancellers go with the employee rather than the counter.

The other photos show the main mail room where the



Antigua Postmaster Algernon Gomes.

mail comes in and goes out. I focused on the outbound mail, now realizing how the missent combinations would work. There is one clerk holding up an envelope being mailed to Canada.

First thing each morning all international mail is presented to the customs officer who checks it as needed.



A view of the mail sorting area at the GPO in St. John's, Antigua.

### Nature Isle of the Caribbean: Post Office Wrappers of Dominica

By Dr. John K. Courtis, FRPSL

ominica is the youngest island in the Lesser Antilles, still being formed by geothermal-volcanic activity, as evidenced by the world's second-largest hot spring, Boiling Lake. The island has lush mountainous rainforests, and is the home of many rare plants, animals, and bird species. The island lies south-southeast of Guadeloupe and northwest of Martinique. Its area is 290 square miles. Christopher Columbus noticed the island on Sunday, November 3, 1493 and named it after the day of the week (*Dominica* in Latin, literally "day of the Lord"). The capital, Roseau, is located on the leeward side of the island.

Great Britain established a small colony in 1805. In 1838, Dominica became the first British Caribbean colony to have an elected legislature controlled by an ethnic African majority; most of these legislators had been smallholders or merchants before the abolition of slavery. Their economic and social views were different from the interests of the small, wealthy English planter class. Reacting to a perceived threat to their power, the planters lobbied for more direct British rule.

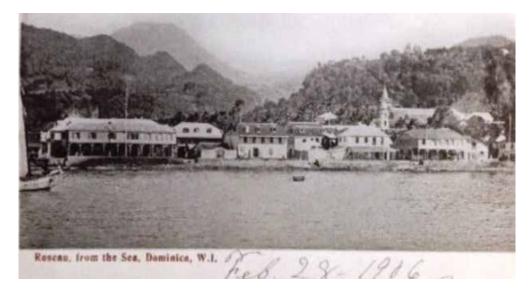
In 1865, after much agitation and tension, the colonial office replaced the elective assembly with one that had one-half of members who were elected and one-half who were appointed. In 1871, Dominica became part of the Leeward Islands Federation. Crown Colony government was re-established in 1896. All political rights were curtailed for people of color and blacks who were the overwhelming majority of the population which in 1900 was about 32,000, of which less than 2,000 were white settlers.



In 1903, as a consequence of the relaxing of the Stamp Act, Dominica was permitted to issue its own stamps cojointly with Queen Victoria keyplate issues for the entire Lesser Antilles. Dominica responded to this change in the Stamp Act by issuing its own stamps together with postal stationery. One school of thought might argue in hindsight that with a small white population of settlers, the need for post office postal stationery wrappers is more likely linked to revenue raising from sale to collectors than from genuine commercial usage. For example, while the European population was only about 2,000, the 1903 issue of the ½d green had 70,920 wrappers supplied by De La Rue in six shipments. There is an imbalance here that needs to be explained.

#### **Post Office Issues**

There were two issues of post office postal stationery wrappers of Dominica; the first in October 1903 was the ½d green and 1d carmine depicting a view of the capital, Roseau, taken from the Caribbean Sea. The postcard image more easily identifies the buildings of Roseau at that time than the image on the indicium which was the same as that appearing on the postage stamps of Dominica.





While the quantity supplied of the ½d green was 35 times the size of the European population living in Dominica at the time, the quantity supplied of the 1d carmine was by contrast quite modest at 3,080. However, these two denominations had to fulfill customer needs for a lengthy period of more than 20 years. Specimen overprinted wrappers were also produced for both the 1903 and 1927 issues.

A little over 23 years later in January 1927, a second issue of a single ½d green wrapper was printed. The indicium was changed to a double oval bearing a sailing ship in the left hand medallion and a head portrait of King George V in the right. There were 1,920 copies supplied by De La Rue along with 418 "Specimen" overprinted wrappers. The dimensions of the wrapper were unchanged at 125x300mm.

#### Supply on eBay

This is an eBay-based study. During the last 12+ years wrappers of Dominica were probably sold on other Internet sites as well as by dealers through bourses and elsewhere. The author's daily hand-collecting of used post office postal stationery wrappers listed on eBay reveals that of the 43,000 images of worldwide wrappers in the database there were 14 copies of E1 and five of E2. No used wrappers of E3 have been recorded. With such a small number it is possible to provide a census of these wrappers bearing in mind the caveat that reading detail from Internet images can result in information loss. The poor quality of postmark strikes has not been helpful.

	Addressee Details	Postmark Details
E1	R. F. Garrawy Esq., Portsmouth	unreadable
	R. F. Garrawy Esq., Portsmouth	? year 04
	R. F. Garrawy Esq., Portsmouth	unreadable
	H. R. Fog Esq., Cane Bay St. Croix	unreadable
	Dr. E. F. Sickenberger, Carlstadt, New Jersey, USA	MR 1 11
	The Clarion, British Honduras	unreadable
	The Times Weekly Edition, London	OC 29 05
	The Times Weekly Edition, London	DE 12 06
	R. M Yos Dobbeleers, Niel (Boom), Antwerp, Belgium	unreadable
	The Royal Colonial Institute, London, England	unreadable
	The Mirror, Trinidad	unreadable
	Messrs. Murray & Lanman, New Gould St., PA [USA]	unreadable
	Rev L. Meister, St. John's Antigua	AP 17 14
	Rev. L. Meister, Cath Presbytery, Montserrat	? year 08
<b>E2</b>	Herr Friest Giegler, Dieburg, Germany-Hesse (arrival mark)	19-3-09
	Mr. Schilling c/o Central Agency, Barbados	MY 23 08
	Herr Otto Putze, Apotheker, Jägerudorf, Austria (arrival mark)	FE 22 10
	Rev L. Meister, St. John's Antigua	? 17 10
	Rev L. Meister, Montserrat	? 24 11
E3	No used copies recorded	

Wrapper destinations can be placed into three categories: (i) Dominica domestic (3); (ii) Caribbean: St. Croix, Trinidad, Barbados, Antigua (2), Montserrat (2); and (iii) Elsewhere: British Honduras, Belgium, Austria, Germany, USA (2) and London, England (3). Of these 19 wrappers we suspect that the four Rev. Meister addressed wrappers were philatelically-inspired.

The local newspaper *The Dominica Chronicle*, a bi-weekly publication, commenced in 1909. There are no extant private wrappers from Dominica (at least in the author's database). The *Chronicle* may have used post office wrappers, but there is no evidence of this. We know that newspaper proprietors regularly exchanged copies with those in other countries (probably motivated by the carrying of advertising for clients) and therefore something prior to the *Chronicle* may have been sent to *The Times* (England) and *The Mirror* (Trinidad). However, this argumentation is mere speculation; those with more factual knowledge are invited to clarify the position.

In other respects, the wrappers of Dominica are unremarkable. There are no upratings, no identified ships, no postage due, no censor markings, no customs markings and no registered usage, and only 25 percent of those in the database bear clearly readable postmarks. An example of each of E1 and E2 is shown as illustrative of these wrappers (see next page).



Examples of Dominica E1 (above) and E2 wrappers.



### Demand on eBay

With only nine sales transactions recorded including "Specimen" overprint wrappers, sales generalizations are unreliable. There were four sales of E1 with a disparate range from US\$0.99 to \$49.99. The average number of bidders involved in each transaction was two. There were two recorded sales of E2 with a modest increase in bidder interest from two to three. Given the much lower quantity supplied of these wrappers, an increased collector interest is to be expected. There were no sales recorded of E3. With regard to "Specimen" overprint sales, E1 had one sale with four bidders and E2 had two sales with an average of 2.5 bidder interest. The realized amounts for the "Specimen" overprint wrappers was only one-quarter the realizations of the post office issues.

Continued next page
Sales of Dominica Used PO Wrappers on eBay covering 10+ Years to June 2016

	Sales Details (Ranked Low to High in US\$) And Number of Bidders per Sale	No. of Sales	Mean Sale Price	Mean Number of Bidders
1	0.99 (1), 6.50 (4), 8.30 (2), 49.99 (1)	4	16.45	2.00
2	14.83 (3), 18.16 (3)	2	16.50	3.00
3	No sales recorded	-	-	-
	Specimen Sales			
1	4.20 (4)	1	4.20	4.00
2	4.20 (4), 4.63 (1)	2	4.42	2.50
	Overall	9	12.42	2.55

### **OPERATION "URGENT FURY"**

EDITOR'S NOTE: Many years ago, my friend Gale Raymond authored the following article, which appeared in the April 1984 issue of the British Caribbean Philatelic Journal. It is reprinted here for two reasons: we rarely receive anything about Grenada, and there is NOTHING else to fill these pages! If you dislike seeing reprinted articles, then please contribute something!

### By Dr. Gale Raymond

n October 19, 1983, the Marxist government of Prime Minister Maurice Bishop of Grenada was violently overthrown in a military coup. The dissident faction was the hardcore Communist Cuban-trained Peoples Revolutionary Army (PRA), who felt that Bishop's brand of Communism was "too soft." The PRA's first show of force was to machine-gun a crowd of people, leaving the street strewn with dead and wounded. The Caribbean islands already alarmed by the spectre of a massive airfield being built by Cuban socalled "construction workers," immediately established a task force and requested United States participation.

Convinced by intelligence reports -- and subsequently confirmed by captured Cuban documents -- that the nearly 1,000 Americans living or studying on Grenada were to be seized as hostages by the Cubans, U.S. Marines were diverted, en route as replacements in Beirut, to Grenada, where they landed on October 25. Rather than by Cuban "construction workers," the Leathernecks were confronted by 1,100 combat-trained Cuban soldiers with heavy anti-aircraft fire, plus the PIA militia. American paratroopers, Rangers, Caribbean forces, and aircraft joined the Marines and U.S. Navy to rescue the American students and citizens. By mid-November, only scattered resistance remained from Cuban and PRA elements hidden in the mountains and offshore islands.

The Cuban warehouses were found to contain sufficient Soviet and Cuban arms and ammunition to support an army of 6,000, hardly necessary to promote the Cuban gift of an airfield to encourage tourism! Experts agree that Grenada was to have been a major facility and supply base for terrorist activities in the Caribbean islands and Central America. At the time of this writing (1984), the Marines have gone on to Lebanon, having been replaced by U.S. Army 82nd Airborne Division combat and support troops.

Finding myself involved in my 11th war, I attempted to keep tabs on the island's postal history developments, in addition to carrying out my usual duties. At the onset, Grenadians huddled in their homes in terror of the PRA "mongooses." All services, including postal facilities, were closed down. When the task force came in, from land, sea, and air, its members distributed leaflets asking the civilians to stay indoors to avoid harm. As tensions eased, the curfews were lifted, and the GPO reopened Continued on page 18

### The Post Office Wrappers of Dominica — Concluded from previous page

#### Conclusion

Of the database of 43,000 images of worldwide used post office postal stationery wrappers hand-collected daily since September 2003, only 19 copies of E1 and E2 have been recorded. On this measure the wrappers of Dominica are elusive. However, while used copies may be a challenge to find, mint copies are not uncommon. A census listing of these used wrappers shows that three wrappers were addressed to domestic locations while seven wrappers were addressed elsewhere in the Caribbean, and nine wrappers were addressed to five countries farther afield. None of the wrappers were uprated or showed auxiliary markings or unusual usages. Unclear postmarking dominated on the sample wrappers.

Sales were recorded for only six wrappers. There were few bidders involved in these sales. With only three wrappers issued there can be no collector base as such

for the wrappers of Dominica, although there may be a collector base for the postal stationery of the Leeward islands overall. Specimen overprint wrappers were sold, too: one copy of E1 and two copies of E2. Any collector of Dominica would need patience if relying on eBay as the acquisition source, with frequency of appearance of about one per year for E1 and about one per 2½ years for E2. Used copies of E3 are yet to appear on eBay and this wrapper must be considered to be elusive (or scarce, rare or non-existent) given only 1,920 copies were supplied.

#### Acknowledgment

My sincere thanks are extended to my good friend and philatelist Allan Gory for his patience and diligence in reading through and commenting on an earlier draft.

Dr. Courtis, FRPSL, can be reached by electronic mail at: acapjajc@friends.cityu.edu.hk

about November 1. Such mail as had accumulated was bagged, and as a courtesy, first class mail was flown out on the main U.S. air supply base at the Grantley Adams Airport on Barbados. There the mail re-entered the international postal stream.

Initially, the small mails from the invasion troops, Navy and Marine, went back on-board ship and out via U.S. Navy shipboard post offices as "free mail." Few of these "stampless" covers seem to have survived.

When the 82nd Airborne troops arrived on Grenada, their first mails, written mostly on bits and scraps of paper, were flown back to Fort Bragg, North Carolina. There a group of Division wives sorted out letters to themselves, then placed the rest into proper envelopes, ad-

dressed them, and ran the batch through the Army meter postage machine in the Fort Bragg Post Office. Most of this mail was written on cheap tablet paper, can labels, napkins, C-ration cardboard cartons, and even toilet paper, attesting to the suddenness of troop movements.

In the pressure of battle, some female soldiers, support troops but combat trained, found themselves under fire. Someone shipped them home (along with the mail) by troop carrier plane as "Situation Too Hazardous." But some commanding general sent them straight back a day or so later, with a complete vote of confidence in their ability and training (albeit instructing them to stay out of combat zones!).

On Grenada, U.S. APO 34028 was established on November 3 in a partially finished Cuban terminal building at the Point Salines airstrip. Crammed in amid other makeshift facilities, the APO consisted basically of two wooden tables and a field chair. No postage stamps were on sale. All mail was collected free of postage, but 20 cent stamps of the gray "wildlife" booklet panes were being added, provided by a Corps office at Fort Bragg. On November 28, the U.S. Congress approved free postage provisions for U.S. forces in Grenada and Lebanon.

Cancellations were invariably illegible, but covers show that a stock "ARMY POSTAL SERVICE" four killer-bar rubber hand cancel was initially used, with no APO designation. An APO 34028 Branch Post Office at



Front cover low resolution image from the April 1984 issue of the British Caribbean Philatelic Journal (in black and white) showing Gale Raymond, right, with U.S. Army soldier Linda Ray at the Cuban warehouse in Point Salines, Grenada.

the Adams Airport on Barbados, also established on November 3, continued to use a duplicate (cancel).

However, by November 15, the Grenada APO had begun using a new hand cancel reading "ARMY POSTAL SERVICE / APO MIA 34028" with the date in three lines. (MIA is the abbreviation for "Miami, Florida.") Again, typical strikes are illegible. This single cancel was the only one available of any kind from APO 34028; not even a standard double-ring general purpose datestamp, or a parcel marking handstamp, were on hand.

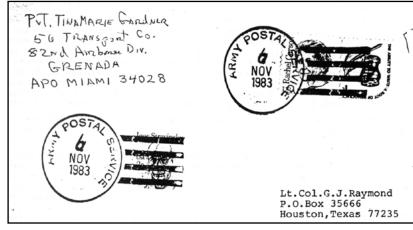
Due to a lack of time and cargo space, and the pressure of combat situations, philatelic mail was normally either short-stopped at the Branch APO on Barbados, where it received the blank stock APO hand cancel, or passed on to the post office at Fort Bragg.

The temporary U.S. mission, at Ross Point Inn, had its own stock of postage stamps for non-classified mail going via APO, but most mail went out by pouch. All in all, postal facilities were at best temporary, as almost all troops departed by December 23, 1983. A small U.S. detachment was stationed at Carriacou, in the Grenadines, where it found another Cuban warehouse full of Soviet arms, ammunition and explosives. This detachment relays mail on to the Point Salines main base for processing, as do troops at Petit Martinique, etc.

"Headquarters, Combined Peacekeeping Force" took over the Cuban headquarters, which had been strafed, bombed, and partially burned out, in the old Holiday Inn, now the Grenada Beach Hotel. A "mailbox" sits in a covered patio between the buildings, and is cleared regularly by a member of the "305 Postal Unit, Postal Operations," which passes it on to the Point Salines base.

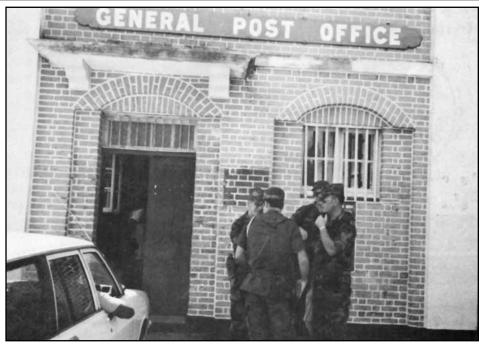
While moving out material from the Cuban warehouses, quarters, and offices, I kept a keen eye peeled for Cuban covers. But no such luck; their one-day advance tip off had given them time to burn such personal items. The GPO in St. George's said that the Cubans often bought stamps philatelically, but no one, either at the GPO or at the sub-post office

closest to Cuban headquarters, had seen a letter posted by a Cuban. As in Angola, Ethiopia, Benin and Nicaragua, such mail outside the Cuban pouches also apparently was forbidden here. Certainly no mail from Cuba passed through the Grenada civil postal system to the "construction workers."



Philatelic cover to Gale Raymond using a generic "ARMY POST-AL SERVICE" four-bar killer rubber handstamp with no APO designation. Notice the handwritten "6" in the date.

Upon looking into current postal arrangements of the Caribbean detachments of the Combined Peacekeeping Force, I found that the Dominicans of the Royal Dominica Police Force were simply using the Grenada civil postal system, with no concession rate. Most of their mail was to Fort Rupert, St. George's. The St. Vincent Police were receiving their mail "c/o Police Headquarters, Kingstown, St. Vincent," from where it was relayed. All of the Islands Forces are due to expand strongly, at which time it is anticipated that more specific Forces



American troops in front of the Grenada GPO, November 1983.

postal service facilities will evolve. Other nations involved are Jamaica, Barbados, St. Lucia, St. Kitts-Nevis and Antigua-Barbuda.

Not wishing to overlook the Grenada GPO, I dropped by for a visit with Postmaster General Leo Roberts, Mrs. Marjorie Murray, Molly Hinds, and others. The GPO

reopened with "business as usual" about November 1, and a first mail went out by the U.S. Navy on November 4. No new datestamps had been ordered, nor stamps overprinted, the latter being entirely the province of the Inter-Governmental Philatelic Agency in New York, which can be counted on to commemorate events in depth.

Noting crestfallen faces as a package of stamps was being opened, I was able to glimpse an early view of their new Christmas souvenir sheet, featuring Donald Duck! While these do seem to bring in considerable revenue to the packet and juvenile trade, and from tourists, the locals generally pass them by with contempt. For

those ordering used examples of the Grenada/Grenadines stamps, the philatelic clerk keeps at hand a "PE-TIT MARTINIQUE" datestamp, reportedly identical to that on the island itself.

During the hostilities, sub-post offices at Calliste and Calivigny (each about the size of a phone booth!) disappeared into thin air. The datestamps were later dug out of the rubble and are now back in service, apparently none the worse for wear!

### Postcards for sale!

#### **JAMAICA**

I have approximately 1,500 Jamaica Picture Postcards including 180+ Gardner, 100+ Duperly, 10 EVH and 45 Johnson. Many cards used with the stamps still on them. Many different postmarks. Period of usage ranges from early 1900s to 2000+. Some duplication, mostly fine.

\$1,000 + Post/Packing.

#### **BERMUDA**

I have approximately 160+ Bermuda Picture Postcards with many different publishers. Period of usage is mainly 1930s to 1970s. There are 30+ postally used cards. Some duplication. Mostly fine. \$100.00 + Post/Packing.

#### **TOM GIRALDI**

1305 Scottsdale Way, Modesto, CA 95355-3255 Telephone: (209) 571-1345 Email: teg43@aol.com

## Deadlines Deadlines

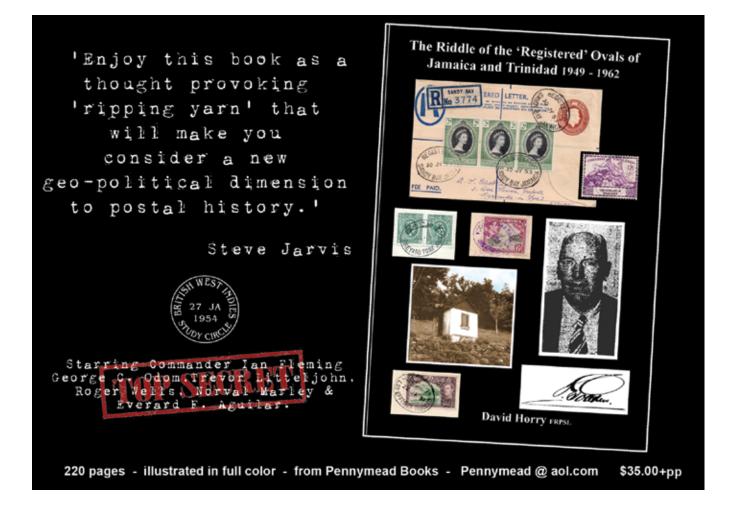
**Deadlines** 

We've all got them, and this journal is no different!

Deadlines for receiving material for publication (and that means in the editor's hands, not mailed) and the anticipated mailing date for each of the quarterly issues of this publication are found at the bottom of page 3.

Please take note of these dates!

Please keep in mind, too, that by deadline date, most of the issue is finished (if there is enough material), so please send early!



# An Appreciation of Ted Proud 1930-2017

By David Horry, FRPSL

dward Wilfrid Baxby Proud was a law unto himself. When it came to postmarks no one had collected as assiduously as Ted. He collected across the Colonial Realm and beyond - a markophilist extraordinaire.

He was born in Willesden April 18, 1930. His days as Army Captain Proud had taken him to Malaya, Palestine and many other parts of the world. He didn't just collect, he hoarded. In the early 1980s, he set out to publish the postmarks of each colony, starting with the *History of the East African Army Postal Service* which was the work of Stuart Rossiter. It was quickly followed by works on Aden and the Straits Settlements and the Malayan Peninsula.

Ted Proud founded the Proud-Bailey Company Ltd. (there was no Bailey!) in 1961 through which he published handbooks covering the postal history of all the British colonies. He was a past president of the International Federation of Stamp Dealers Associations and was the founder of *Postal History International* magazine in 1972. He was on the council of the Philatelic Traders Society. Proud-Bailey became a major postal history dealer. In March 1987, Proud sold the firm to Stanley Gibbons and as a result, he became Joint Deputy Chairman.

I believe his publication venture was inspired by Robson Lowe who had done much to promote postal history in his own series, which was never quite finished. Proud took it to another level illustrating every known postmark of each colony. Each book was generously illustrated with maps, photographs and engravings. In 2003 he also wrote *Triple Odyssey* (Idea Generation), the story of S.M.S. *Emden*.

Proud won a gold medal for his display of Aden at Espana 2004 and exhibited India used in Malaya in the Court of Honour at Singapore. In 2005, he won the Webb Cup from the Hong Kong Study Circle for his work *The Postal History of Hong Kong 1841-1997*. In 2008, he was invited to sign the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists. All of his books required collaboration of the major collectors in order to get as close as possible to completion. *The Postal History of Palestine* appeared in 1985 with at least one a year following. In some cases later books attributed to Proud were written by a leading collector. *The Postal History of Fiji* was the work of J. G. Rodger and Trinidad & Tobago was written by Joe Chin Aleong.

At this point I was invited into Ted's coterie; I had been over to St. Anne's, Trinidad to stay with Joe in search of the rare "skeleton" postmarks of Tobago and Trinidad. We found them in sackfuls of postmarks on piece and included many great rarities! Ted was all ears! On return to "Blighty," I motored down to Heathfield,



*Ted Proud* 1930-2017

Sussex to meet The Master. Ted's set-up was most impressive. He had built a separate bungalow in the vast grounds of his lovely property, which housed his massive collection of postmarks and covers. He had a full-time secretary, the lovely Sue Mertens and two or three lady art students who spent all of their time drawing postmarks. In later years their work declined somewhat and for Jamaica I did many of the drawings myself.

Ted was always most welcoming and the burgeoning seafood luncheon at his local inn and French wines were indeed a much anticipated treat. Long afternoons were spent comparing and analyzing recent finds and Ted was always willing to trade here and there. He even got me to look at Nigerian "skeletons." His triumph was the 940 page *The Postal History of Burma* (2002). His disaster was Sudan -- as far as I know it was never published!

He was meticulous in sending out proofs and allowing time for additions and alterations. But Ted wasn't everyone's cup of tea and British Guiana sadly lacks the fabulous collection of the late Derek Nathan.

I collaborated on Barbados, British Guiana, Ceylon, Grenada, Leeward Islands (Dominica), Jamaica, Trinidad & Tobago and latterly his second edition of Hong Kong.

All one received from Ted was the briefest mention of one's name; I was just "D. Horry." The recent President of The Royal Philatelic Society London, Frank Walton, has always been amused by his entry in the Sierra Leone book, 1994: "... and F.L. Walton who contributed a considerable amount of information from his own collection and proof read the manuscript." Frank had already written a major work on Sierra Leone three years earlier! There were scarcely any contributory forewords to his books -- inclusive he wasn't! On the plus side, I -- and I assume others -- were sent a free copy.

When I took on my Caribbean *Encyclopedias* Ted demanded I not copy his style. I obliged by setting out the postmarks in their sibling types; *i.e.*, all the TRDs in one section. I must be grateful to Ted for this as it led me to eventually realize that certain postmarks such as the Jamaican and Trinidad "Registered" Ovals had geo-political influences – this could not have been realized from his style of layout. The same was true for "skeletons" in all the colonies.

I was encouraged by Ray Stanton to tackle an encyclopaedia of KGVI postmarks of Ceylon even though Ted had just finished his book *The Postal History of Ceylon* in 2006. The problem was that Ted only went as far as independence for each colony – Ceylon became independent on February 28, 1948, leaving hundreds of

new offices that used KGVI stamps from 1949 to 1955. We published *The Encyclopaedia of Ceylon Postmarks King George VI* in 2010 through Rodney Frost and The Ceylon Study Circle of Great Britain.

By 2007 Ted had published some 80 postmark books, including one on Chile, representing over 50,000 postmarks. He surprisingly never tackled Australia, Canada, New Zealand or South Africa: perhaps more surprisingly, the British Army in the former Italian Colonies, something I intend to do if I can reach old age! Each book contained chapters on history, postal history, rates and airmails and then the postmarks in alphabetical/date order. Sometimes with the larger colonies, a reverse index (the brilliant invention of Frank Walton) used explicitly to identify the right-hand sides of postmarks, which otherwise were difficult to identify. Frank granted me use of it for my Ceylon tome; it was missing from Ted's.

Ted and I met up at Stampex a couple of years back and he much enjoyed my "conspiratorial theories" concerning The Crown Agents activities. He let me into a few old stories which are proving to be most interesting. Ted knew everyone in the business and everyone knew him.

Proud's Jamaica book was done in an enormous hurry, almost as if Ted was aware of his own mortality. Corners were cut and his attention to detail was not what it used to be. I could never get him to state what color a postmark was to be found in, which I thought was particularly important in the case of Jamaica. Sadly, I believe the grand old man died from the result of asbestosis on February 6, 2017.

Ted, thank you for your enormous contribution to our Caribbean postal history and more.

### The little society with the long name



#### St. Helena, Ascension and Tristan da Cunha Philatelic Society

Are you interested in the stamps or postal history of Tristan da Cunha, Ascension or St. Helena? If so, you are very welcome to join our society. Membership benefits include a quarterly illustrated journal, annual auctions, special interest discussion groups, etc.

A sample journal is available on our website, **www.shatps.org**, or a printed copy may be requested from Secretary Klaus Hahn, P.O. Box 14, D-71145 Bondorf/Germany, Email: secretary@shatps.org

annual membership dues: North America \$27, international \$32, paperless \$15

# Forthcoming postal auction of ANTIGUA stamps and pre-stamp postal history!

De Montfort Stamp Company would like to announce that they have been chosen to offer the "Northcott" single vendor sale of Antigua stamps and pre-stamp postal history, including a little bit of Leeward Islands.

There is no buyer's premium charged on the selling prices.

The items listed are mainly Queen Victoria with many rarely seen items, along with excellent ranges of King Edward VII to King George VI plus some QEII.

The postal auction will close on 10 November 2017 with catalogues being available in early October 2017.

The catalogue with colour illustrations will be available for downloading and viewing on my website:

www.demontfortstamps.co.uk

Paper copies of colour catalogue available on request from:

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**Northcott Sale** 

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**Thurnby** 

Leicester

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**England** 

Telephone: ++44 116 2419796

Email: info@demontfortstamps.co.uk

# We desperately need articles!

The situation is again critical as we do not have enough material to fill the next issue of this journal! This issue was delayed in preparation because I did not have enough material.

### PLEASE start providing articles!

Several of our long-time writers are no longer sending in material, and we cannot continue a journal without input. It's not just us -- a British journal just announced there would be no further issues until articles are submitted! Please don't let this happen to us!

### PITCAIRN ISLANDS STUDY GROUP



The PISG is devoted to all things
pertaining to Pitcairn Island, including its
history, islanders, the HMAV Bounty
mutiny (the mutineer descendants still live
on Pitcairn), stamps and postal history.
Our award winning journal, the Pitcairn
Log, is published quarterly.
For information and a membership form,
contact Dr. Vernon N. Kisling Jr.
P.O. Box 1511,
High Springs, FL 32655

Email: vkisling@ufl.edu. Website: www.pisg.net

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MEMBER PTS, APS, NZSDA, APTA

Stamps - Revenues - Postal History - Commercial Mail

#### Local Mail

Recent commercial mail, with local usages, including meters, governmental stampless, inter-island, and instructional markings from many of the Caribbean countries.



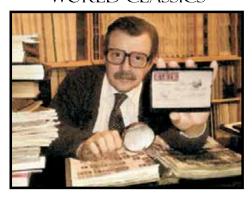
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P.O. BOX 10035 SYRACUSE, NEW YORK 13290-3301 U.S.A. TEL. (315) 422-2331 \* FAX (315) 422-2956 SISMONDO@DREAMSCAPE.COM The Royal Philatelic Society London (RPSL) will celebrate its 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2019. For this occasion an international exhibition will be held in Stockholm. H.M. King Carl XVI Gustaf of Sweden has graciously agreed to be the Patron.





## STOCKHOLMIA2019

29 MAY-2 JUNE

THE INTERNATIONAL CELEBRATION OF THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY LONDON

The exhibition will comprise philatelic dealers and auction houses from all over the world.

The exhibition will have an extensive philatelic and social program.

Only Fellows and Members of the RPSL will be allowed to exhibit.

The competitive classes will be judged by an international jury appointed by the Council of The RPSL.





will be organised at "Waterfront Congress Centre", Nils Ericsons Plan 4. It is Sweden's newest and most versatile venue for large-scale meetings and events.





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### **BAHAMAS**

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**Edited by Peter Fernbamk FRPSL** 

Collectors of Bahamas have long awaited a successor to Harold G. D. Gisburn's slim handbook of 1950. This volume examines each series of stamps in detail, from their inception and development through to their issue and eventual demise. Whilst much of this work has been written by the editor, a number of specialists in their respective fields have contributed specific chapters. In certain cases this is the culmination of research extending back over 30 years. It is extensively illustrated in colour throughout, with many of the illustrations from the charming Chalon head series emanating from the Bradbury Collection held by the Royal Philatelic Society London; without doubt, it is the foremost Bahamas collection of these issues.

A4 size, hardbacked with dust jacket, (xii) + 344 pages. ISBN: ISBN: 978-0-900631-85-6

PRICE: £40.00 (approx \$52.00). BWISC Members' Discount: £4.00 (approx. \$5.00).

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### **BRITISH WEST INDIES STUDY CIRCLE PUBLICATIONS**



### **NEVIS**



'NEVIS – THE STAMPS AND POSTAL HISTORY (1661–1890)' by Federico Borromeo, FRPSL and Charles Freeland, FRPSL. This is the first definitive handbook on Nevis to be published since the slim booklet by Fred Melville in 1910. Despite its small size, this island has attracted collectors from the earliest days. The book traces the pre-stamp history and examines the early Nissen & Parker issues in great detail and goes on to describe the evolution of the De La Rue printings. It also includes chapters on postal stationery, revenue issues and forgeries. This book is a must for all BWI collectors.

A4 size, hardbacked with dust jacket, (viii) + 208 pages. ISBN: 978-1-907481-19-2 Price: £35.00 (approx. \$52.00). BWISC Members' Price: £32.00 (approx. \$48.00).



These books and others published by the BWISC can be ordered from:— David Druett, Pennymead Books, 1 Brewerton St., Knaresborough, N. YORKS. HG5 8AZ. Tel:—01423 865962 or E-mail: Pennymead@aol.com. Orders will be dispatched with invoice and prompt payment is requested. Payment may be made by cheque or credit card. Orders from outside UK for heavy books will be dispatched per airmail M Bag. This service requires a street address and is not available to PO Boxes. All books published by the British West Indies Study Circle are displayed on www. bwisc.org and on www. pennymead.com.



Vol. 57, No. 4



# THE WINDWARD ISLANDS, CAYMAN ISLANDS, JAMAICA AND THE FALKLAND ISLANDS - THE DAVID PITTS COLLECTION 19 SEPTEMBER 2017 | LONDON



### BERMUDA PART II - THE DAVID PITTS COLLECTION 24 OCTOBER 2017 | LONDON



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### Membership Director's Report

### **New Members**

All new applicants listed in the last issue of the Journal have been accepted as members of the British Caribbean Philatelic Study Group. Congratulations and welcome to the Group.

### **New Applicants**

**Roger Nailer**, 32 Couzens Close, Chipping Sodbury, S. Glos. BS37 6BT UNITED KINGDOM. Collects Barbados, St. Vincent, Turks & Caicos. Email: rogernailer@gmail.com.

**Major Anthony J. Fulmes**, 225 Remic Ave., Ottawa, ON K1Z 5WG, CANADA. Collects British Honduras, Belize, Turks & Caicos. Email: ajfulmes@gmail.com.

### **Address Changes**

Darrell Ertzberger, P.O. Box 4087, Arlington, VA 22204-0087 USA

Terry Harrison, 13 Ladywood Road, Spaulding, Lincolnshire PE11 2 DA, UNITED KINGDOM

### Resigned

None this quarter

#### **Deceased**

None this quarter

Donations (And thanks!)

None this quarter

If any member has information, such as a change of address, to be included in the Membership Director's Report, please contact me, either by mail (see inside front cover of the Journal) or by email at bcpsg@comcast.net.

If I do not have your correct mailing address, you will not get your copy of the Journal.

Also, if you have friends who might be interested in joining, let me know and I will send them a complimentary issue of the Journal.

### **BRITISH WEST INDIES STUDY CIRCLE PUBLICATIONS**

### ENCYCLOPAEDIA OF JAMAICAN PHILATELY, VOLUME 9 MILITARY MAILS

by Paul Farrimond and Raymond Murphy

This book is based on the original written by the late Derek Sutcliffe; it has been thoroughly revised and largely re-written. It continues the aim of presenting the Jamaica Encyclopaedia in a new softbacked format with many illustrations now in full colour. WINNER OF GOLD MEDAL AND GRAND AWARD FOR LITERATURE AT CHICAGOPEX 2015!



A4 sized, perfect bound, (viii) + 458 pages. ISBN: 978-1-907481-24-6

Price: £29.00 (\$45.00). BWISC Members' Discount: £3.00 (\$4.50).

This book can be ordered from:- David Druett, Pennymead Books, 1 Brewerton St., Knaresborough, N. YORKS. HG5 8AZ. Tel:- 01423 865962 or E-mail: Pennymead@aol.com. Orders will be dispatched with invoice and prompt payment is requested. Members resident in North America can purchase this book from Ed Barrow at e.barrow1@gmail.com.

### President's Message

By John Seidl

he Chicago Philatelic Society is hosting the 131st Chicagopex show November 17-19, 2017 at the Westin Chicago Northwest, 400 Park Blvd., Itasca, IL 60143. The BCPSG annual meeting and auction will be Saturday at 1p.m. in the Carlyle Room with the auction taking place as soon as the general meeting concludes.

You have until September 15 to submit auction items – we've received quite a few and it is shaping up to be another nice auction. Just mail your auction items to me at the address in the front of the journal. By the way – if you would like to take on the job of Auction Manager for 2018 and beyond, PLEASE volunteer. You can learn more about Chicagopex at www.chicagopex.org. The bourse features more than 80 dealers who all know the BCPSG is meeting there so they will be sure to bring material of interest to our group.



If you have topics to be considered for the meeting, please let me know. We face the same challenges of most philatelic groups – a declining membership list and a lack of volunteers to work in support of stopping that trend. Your suggestions and support will be welcome.

The BCPSG and BWISC have transferred their book sales to the American Philatelic Society. You can still order your books through each group but those orders will be fulfilled by the APS. APS members will also be able to purchase our publications directly. Thank you to Ed Barrow for his many years of filling this role previously for North America.

There are two things I'd like to ask every member to consider: who can you refer to join our group? Do you know someone in the BWISC who is not in the BCPSG? Do you know someone in your local club who also collects one of our focus countries? Are you participating in a stamp show where you could distribute information on the BCPSG? My second request is that you consider contributing an article to the *Journal*. The primary benefit of our club for most members is the *British Caribbean Philatelic Journal* and our publication deserves your support. Dr. Everett Parker, our long time editor, will work with you to finalize an article. Research is a critical part of our hobby and sharing your knowledge is a legacy we can all appreciate.

A few final ways you can support the BCPSG is to support our journal advertisers. When you shop with them be sure to mention you saw their advertisement in our journal. The money they pay to advertise with us is our primary source of income after membership dues. We also greatly appreciate financial contributions from our members. You can even donate auction items in support of the group. See you in Chicago!

### Writer's Guidelines

Prospective authors are encouraged to submit articles for the *Journal*. We need a constant supply of material to fill these pages. The following are a few hopefully helpful hints to guide you in preparing a submission. These rules are not etched in the proverbial concrete, and you are encouraged to contact the editor (address and email on page 3) if you have a question.

- Electronic submissions are preferred, but not required. In sending a manuscript, whether typed and sent by regular mail, or by email, please follow these standard typesetting conventions: one space after periods or other punctuations, and indent paragraphs. No space need be left between paragraphs. Tables and charts should be prepared separately and not embedded in the text.
- If a file is sent by email, do so either as an attachment or "regular" email. You may also send material on CDs, disks, or Zip disk.
- Generally, scans used for web pages do not have sufficient resolution for use in print. Scan images at 300 dpi and at 100 percent (roughly the size of an average illustration in the *Journal*).
- If a scan is to be used as a color image, send it CYMK, not indexed color.
- Save the scan only as a jpeg or tiff image.
- Most important: send each scan as an attachment to your email and not embedded in the word processing document.

If you follow these simple rules, it will make your editor a happy camper!

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#### **BRITISH WEST INDIES STUDY CIRCLE PUBLICATIONS**



### **ANTIGUA**



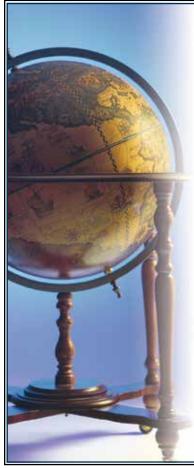
'ANTIGUA – THE STAMPS AND POSTAL HISTORY' by Charles Freeland, FRPSL and John Jordan. Coming so early in the alphabet Antigua has always been one of the most popular of the small Caribbean islands. It has an interesting mix of early stamps printed by Perkins Bacon and De La Rue including a number of rarities. On the postal history front Antigua is especially well endowed, with the Codrington and Tudway estate correspondences. There is also a rich variety of early postal markings, including some unique marks. The original inspiration for this book was the Antigua Monograph published in successive issues of the British Caribbean Philatelic Journal over a 15 year period between 1973 and 1988. This book collates all this information, updates it and presents it in a most readable form.

A4 size, hardbacked with dust jacket, (x) + 299 pages. ISBN: 978-1-907481-25-3

Price: £37.00 (approx. \$52.00). BWISC Members' Price: £33.00 (approx. \$46.00).



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### CAYMAN ISLANDS POSTCARDS

(and QSL CARDS)

'CAYMAN ISLANDS POSTCARDS' by Thomas E. Giraldi. This long awaited book is here at last. Tom has over many years collected information on all aspects of Cayman Islands philately and has written this catalogue which is and will remain a steadfast guide to the cards of these islands. Lavishly illustrated in colour it will be a book which collectors of BWI picture postcards will refer to as a standard work for many years.

A4 size, softbacked, perfect bound, (iv) + 210 pages. ISBN: 978-1-907481-10-9 Price: £16.00 (approx. \$24.00). BWISC Members' Price: £14.00 (approx. \$21.00).



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