

NETHERLANDS PHILATELISTS of CALIFORNIA (now in its 46th year)

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December 2015

November meeting. Attending at the home of Hans Kremer were Dennis Buss, Franklin Ennik, Hans Kremer, HansPaul Hager, Stuart Leven, Paul Swierstra and Fred Van der Heyden.

YEARBOOK anyone???? NPofC's eighth (and latest) Yearbook was published in 2009. Several of our members have expressed interest in producing our next one and titles of proposed articles have been aired to start things off. NPofC members have gathered a wealth of knowledge about their special focus regarding Netherlands and former territories philately. Are there any philatelic topics that you've been thinking about or working on that need airing, summarized or clarified?? What say you, members.....Let's hear from you and get your knowledge in print so it doesn't get lost. Please submit your text in Word .doc or PDF format and illustration scans in not more than 400 dpi.

TITLES OF ARTICLES RECEIVED

Franklin Ennik......Attempts by the Germans to Issue Occupation Stamps for the Netherlands in 1940 and the Theft of Enschede Stamp Stocks --- A summary.

Hans Kremer......The basics of Dutch Military Mail (Veldpost) during 1914–1918 and a mysterious IIA marker.

We have established a "go to press" date of Fall 2016 for the **NPofC Commemorative 47**¹/₂ **YearBook** edition. As Editor, I urge members to submit their articles as soon as possible so that we can get this done.

AROUND THE TABLE

Paul Swierstra passed around copies of reference books from his library: *The Plate Reconstruction of the Flying Crow Airmail of 1938. Plate 1,* by Alex Nuijten; *Spoor en Post in Nederland.* Uitgave Nederlands Spoorwegmuseum. Utrecht, 1979.; *Special Catalogus van Grootrond Stempels van Nederland,* by D.C. Hoogerdijk, Jr. and *A Brief Postal History of Amsterdam Complex. In:* Journal of the Society of Philatelic Americans May 31 – June 2, 1968. Paul also showed us a postcard cancelled October 2, 1920 sent to Arnhem that had a hidden message written under the stamp. These hidden messages were usually amorous and intended to escape scrutiny by the young girl's parents.

The **December 19, 2015 meeting** will be held at the home of Fred Van der Heyden starting at 1:00pm. Fred's telephone number is 510-282-7255.

The location of the January 16, 2016 meeting is yet to be determined.

The translated message on the card, with thanks to Hans Kremer, says in effect:

About eight o'clock. I hope you'll get this card, because on Saturday it doesn't always work out right. Do you like this nice card? Sunday is just around the corner, so you can look with even more pleasure at this card with people at rest. It's about a quarter to, so I'll finish quickly. All the best with your work today. Bye, G......

The hidden message, translated, says in effect:

How great that we understand each other so well, little girl. I can be so one with you.

Dennis Buss made a study of the thematic, Stamps on Stamps, and summarized his results with numerous illustrations. Dennis noted there were three major types: (a) copies of stamps with an exact reproduction of the subject stamp, (b) copies of stamps with modifications or incomplete images, and (u) blurry, vague or symbolic images of stamps.







Fred Van der Heyden passed around a 1955 airmail sticker booklet (*etiketten*); several small 1855 photographs; a Keystone view-photo card showing pineapple culture in Florida; a postcard with a street scene of Cuyk, Netherlands; a 1951 postcard of the Murphy Windmill in Golden Gate Park; several Italian calendar "art" postcards featuring constellations; an article from *Life Magazine*, ca June 14, 1948, with the title, "The Protestant Revolution," by Phyllis Calvert and a selection of 1921-1924 German hyper-inflation currency.

HansPaul Hager passed around a copy of the Netherlands fiscal stamp Journal, 't Cleyn Segel with an article on "large and small" fiscal stamps from Dutch East Indies and Indonesia. HansPaul also showed us a selection of Dutch and German fiscal stamps that were attached to

travel documents and passports during the post-WW II period 1947-1951. Anyone wanting to

travel during this period **within or across** borders of the Netherlands and the Allied occupation zones of Germany had to obtain SHAEF (military) permission documents and have these fiscal stamps attached. The stamps were overprinted *den haag* or *DM* depending on their use in the Netherlands or in Germany.



HansPaul also included a selection of tobacco fiscal stamps for different grades of tobacco and some Dutch certificates from veterinarians with fiscal stamps attached for meat products intended for export.

Franklin Ennik passed around a small 5 cent postcard cancelled Gouda 31 August 1943 which is a notice of the return of 6 bundles of empty bags via rail to Boekelo (station) and sent to the n.v. Koninklijke Nederlandse Zoutindustrie (Royal Dutch Salt Industry) in Hengelo (Ov.). Shortages of paper stocks during WW II forced businesses to resort to these small 70 x 100mm reply cards. The German occupiers required printing firms to add their assigned K number to all printed products. Note the small K1408 tracking number on the lower left corner of the card.



Hans Kremer passed around a 1948 Diploma from the Military Onderofficers Vereniging ons



aller Belang (Petty Officer Association) from Indonesia with fiscal stamps attached which validate the certificate and a cover of the 1932 Pander--Zilvermeeuw flight to the Dutch East Indies. Hans also passed around a seldom seen **English language** brochure describing

the 1952 Summer Stamps issue (5 stamps) designed by Dirk van

Gelder; the surcharge benefitted cultural and social work in the Netherlands. Hans also included a copy of the *Handboek Plaat-* & *Etsingnummers*, 2002 (Handbook of Plate and Etching Numbers) issued by the Studiegroep velrandbijzonderheden Plaat en etsingnummers (Study Group for Printer's Plate and Etching



marks) found on the borders of stamp print sheets; and a reference copy of the book *Die Zensur von Zivilpost in Deutschland im 2. Weltkrieg*, 2008, by Horst Zandsmann.

The Curaçao Krijgsgevangenen Overprints of 1943.

By Franklin Ennik

Despite the statement and desire to remain neutral, the Netherlands was invaded by German military forces on May 10, 1940. At the same time German forces also invaded Belgium, Luxembourg and France. The Dutch military capitulated after five days resistance while the Royal family and high level government staff escaped to England for the duration of the War.

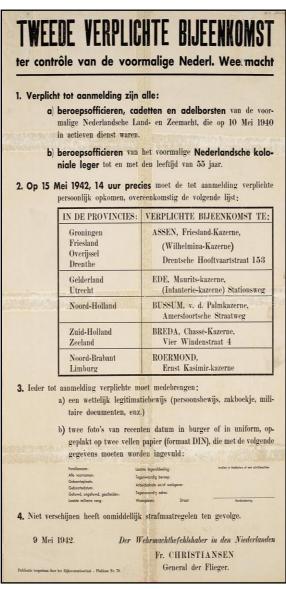
Captured Dutch prisoners of war were transported to Germany. Interned soldiers of the so-called Germanic countries, i.e. Netherlands, Denmark, Norway and the Flemish Belgians were released (demobilized) during the early weeks of the occupation. Hitler reasoned and hoped to win the hearts and minds of the peoples the Nazis thought of as being racially related. Only 20,000 of the 300,000 mobilized Dutch soldiers were taken to Germany in May 1940. All were released during the first weeks of June 1940 and

were told to go home provided they promised not to participate in further activity against the Third Reich.

The German Wehrmacht made use of forced labor battalions and POW inmates from the countries they overran to construct, maintain and work in the many war material factories and military facilities of their war machine. They realized early that they could also utilize former Dutch military forces for this purpose and sent out Announcements in the spring ordering the former of 1942 professional military forces to report for internment like the one shown here.

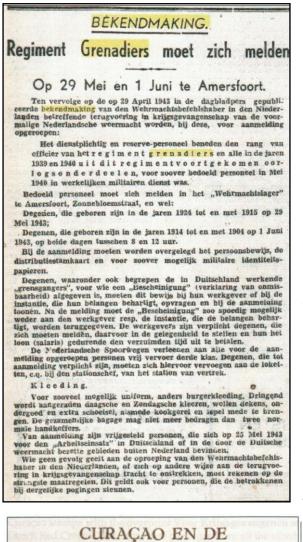
These Announcements were expanded in April 1943 to *all members of the conscripted military* must report to the military barracks. In response, nationwide strikes broke out but it was made clear that those who did not comply would suffer military courts martial and be sent to the forced labor camps.

Internees were advised to bring identification cards and military records, their uniforms and civilian clothes, woolen blankets, extra shoes and cookware/eating utensils. Those already employed in critical jobs in the Netherlands could be exempt but must provide documentation. Shown here is just



one example of the many broadsides that appeared in the Dutch press. Each of these

broadsides in 1943 targeted specific Dutch military units that must report on specific days.



CURAÇÃO EN DE KRIJGSGEVANGENEN.

Zijne Excellentie de Gouverneur heeft aan Hare Koninklijke Hoogheid Prinses Juliana een chèque overhandigd, zijnde de opbrengst van de toeslag op de speciale postzegels voor Krijgsgevangenen met verzoek dat bedrag wel te doen besteden aan het zenden van pakketten aan Nederlandse krijgsgevangenen. Hare Koninklijke Hoogheid was zeer ontroerd door dit blijk van Curaçaos medeleven en verzocht den Gouverneur wel Haar biezondere dank te willen overbrengen. Most of these internees were sent to one of the largest POW camps, Stalag IV-B, located near the town of Mühlburg, north of the Elbe River in the state of Brandenburg.

At first it was thought (and there were rumors) that the Germans were worried that the idle Dutch military would hook up with the Allies in the event of an invasion from across the English Channel. But this was not the case.....the German war machine needed a young, able bodied labor force, according to the German High Command. This Announcement is from the *Dagblad voor Noord-Holland*, May 26, 1943.

In response, the Dutch government, in exile in London, authorized and revalued a four stamp set of high denomination 1942 Curacao airmail stamps with the overprint **Voor Krijgsgevangenen** and a hefty surcharge to benefit the Dutch Red Cross. The overprint means *For* (the Dutch) *prisoners of war*.



Princess Juliana made an official good-will tour of the Dutch West Indies in March 1944. The following notice about her visit to the Islands appeared in the Curaçao newspaper, *Amigoe di Curaçao* on March 7, 1944. Translated, the notice says in effect:

His Excellency the Governor has handed over a check to Her Royal Highness Princess Juliana being the proceeds of the surcharge from the special stamps for Prisoners of War with the request that the amount be spent on sending packages to Dutch prisoners of war. Her Royal Highness was very moved by this expression of Curaçao's compassion and requested the Governor convey her special thanks to Curaçao.

There was a print-run of 20,000 sets of these stamps and they all sold out. The extraordinary demand for this issue mostly originated in the United States......so much so that the stamps were sold by subscription, with each subscriber receiving only 23% of their order. Appeals and requests to increase the print-run to accommodate the demand went unanswered by the Curaçao Postal Authority. Consequently these stamps were not available to the public at Antillean Post Offices. Issued December 1, 1943, this set of stamps was valid for postal use until December 31, 1945.

Note that on every sheet there is a stamp with the overprint error: krligs (an l instead of lower case i) (see NVPH LP41fa--LP44fa).





Note also that on the sheet 40 + 50 *cent op l.40 gld. violet en olijfgrijs* there is another print error **LP41fb** where the capital V and K are of a different font with serifs.

There are several additional print errors found in these overprints having to do with damaged type used to make the overprints, namely the 'r' and 'g'.

References and Sources:

NVPH Speciale Catalogus 2010. Bladz.554.

Frank W. Julsen and A.M. Benders. A Postal History of Curaçao. Van Dieten. 1976.

Website: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stalag_IV--B.

Website: www.anton.gewoonthuis.nl/

Numerous internet links with the words: Krijgsgevangenen 1942 -- 1945

See Also: The language of the International Treaty: *Regulations concerning the Laws and Customs of War on Land*. The Hague, 18 October 1907. This was the document that governed the treatment of WW I and WW II prisoners of war and which European imperial powers and the United States had signed.