

Purpose of Exhibit:

To demonstrate, regardless of politics, countries of the world can unite in a common cause.

This will be done by showing stamps and some covers of 203 countries coming together in celebration of 75th anniversary of The Universal Postal Union the fall of 1949.



Treatment: 1949 - 1950 saw 203 nations issue stamps for UPU's 75th Anniversary. Not all were UPU members. Shown are issues of all countries, background on each issue, and sampling of covers bearing UPU issues are shown. Countries are arranged by issue date. Multiple issues on same day are shown alphabetically. Countries with more than one issue date shown under first date. Countries have a map showing it's location. Details of each stamp and date of UPU membership are shown. Only a country joining UPU prior to 1950 has their admission date listed.



Background:

Countries had to negotiate postal treaties with each nation, prior to 1874, for delivery of international mail. Often senders had to calculate postage for each leg of a journey, and find mail forwarders in a third country if no direct delivery existed. Postmaster General Montgomery Blair of United States requested an International Postal Congress in 1863. This led Heinrich von Stephan, Royal Prussian and later German Minister for Posts, to found Universal Postal Union. UPU was created in 1874 as "General Postal Union", under Treaty of Bern signed on October 9, 1874 by members of 22 countries. In 1878 name was changed to "Universal Postal Union" (UPU).



UPU ESTABLISHED:

- ⇒ A uniform flat rate to mail a letter anywhere in the world should be established.
- ⇒ Equal treatment be given to foreign and domestic mail.
- ⇒ Each country retained all money it has collected for international postage.
- ⇒ No need to affix stamps of each country through which a letter or package passed. Stamps of members accepted during entire international route.

At end of 19th century, UPU issued rules concerning stamp design, intended to ensure maximum efficiency handling international mail. 1. Stamp values given in numerals, 2. Members use same colors on stamps issued for post cards (green), normal letters (red) and international mail (blue), a system that remained in use for several decades.

UPU became a specialized agency of the United Nations in 1948.

UNIVERSAL POSTAL UNION



First day cover created by Dorothy Knapp for 25 cent U.S. UPU issue.

GERMANY

Berlin Allied Sectors

Joined UPU as German Empire July 1, 1875

First Day: April 11, 1949

Paper: Watermarked DEUTSCHE POST multiple

Process: Lithography

Perforation: 14

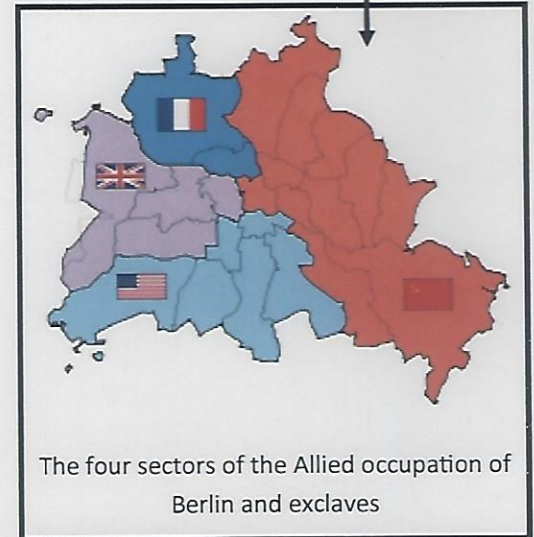
Printer: State Printing Office Berlin

Number issued: 12pf 3,000,000, 16pf 2,000,000,

24pf 5,000,000, 50pf, 60pf, 1m, and 2m 1,000,000 each

Design: Monument of Heinrich von Stephan, postmaster general of the old German Empire who founded the UPU. Superimposed against a the northern hemisphere of a globe. Globe not present on 1 and 2 deutschmarks.

Note: After World War II Germany and Berlin were divided into sectors by allied powers. Several UPU commemoratives came out of Germany from various areas. Allied sector in Berlin (shown right) issued the 1st UPU commemorative set on April 11, 1949.



The four sectors of the Allied occupation of Berlin and exclaves



ITALY Joined UPU July 1, 1875

First Day: May 2, 1949

Designer: Edmondo Pizzi

Paper: Watermarked winged wheel

Process: Photogravure

Perforation: 14

Printer: 1st Pol. Stato. Off. Carte. Valori

Design: Two half globes showing eastern and western hemisphere with plane, train and ship shown as methods of carrying mail.



TRIESTE

ITALIAN OCCUPATION

First Day: May 2, 1949

Designer: Edmondo Pizzi

Paper: Watermarked winged wheel

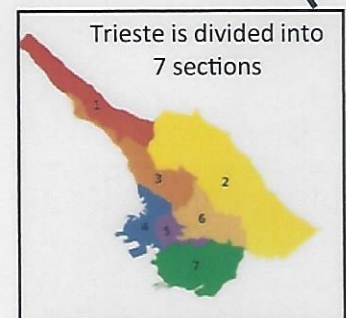
Process: Photogravure

Perforation: 14

Printer: 1st Pol. Stato. Off. Carte Valori

Numbers sold: 200,000

Design: Italian design of two half globes showing eastern and western hemisphere with plane, train and ship shown as methods of carrying mail. Overprinted "A.M.G. F.T.T." (Allied Military Government Free Territory Trieste)



SWITZERLAND

Joined UPU July 1, 1875

First Day: May 16, 1949

Designer: Hans Thoni

Paper: Un-watermarked

Process: Photogravure

Perforation: 11 1/2

Printer: Couvoisier

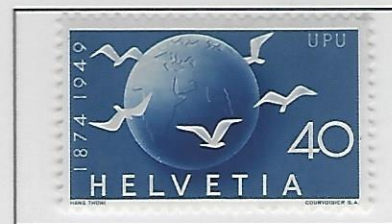
Numbers sold: 10c - 17,959,415; 25c - 1,562,365; 40c - 2,521,665

Design: 10c The main motif of the UPU monument in Berne, Switzerland.

25c The globe bearing an outline form of a letter w/ ribbon.

40c The globe with five white doves for postal unity.

Note: Only valid until December 31, 1949.



International letter of May 30, 1949 showing 40 centime stamp for rate to USA

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Joined UPU July 1, 1875 (As Austria-Hungary)

May 18, 1920 as Independent Member

First Day: May 20, 1949

Designer: K. Lhotak

Engraver: 3kcs J. Mracek, 5kcs J. Schmidt, 13kcs L. Jirka

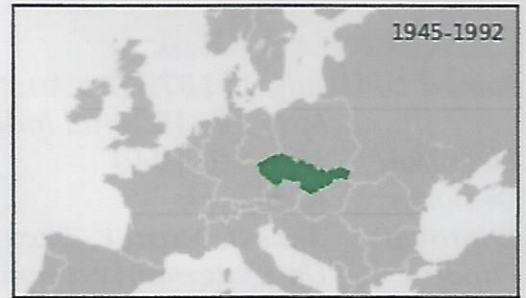
Paper: Un-watermarked-light buff paper

Process: Engraved

Perforation: 12 1/2

Printer: Government State Printing Works

Design: 3kcs - Old type horse drawn mail coach, 5kcs - Horse mounted mail carrier delivering mail, 13kcs - Old full rigged galleon, with a new plane over a city.



Validity for postage expired December 31, 1949



First day cover showing all three UPU issues.

Liechtenstein

Joined UPU Jul. 1, 1875 (as part of Austria)

Feb. 1, 1921 (as part of Switzerland)

First Day: May 23, 1949

Designer: Pierre Chatillon of Berne

Paper: Unwatermarked

Process: Photogravure

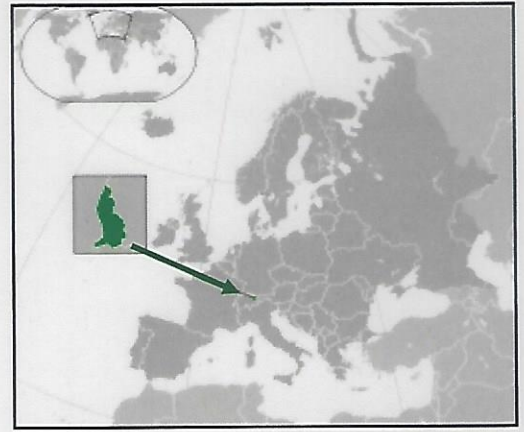
Perforation: 11 1/2

Printer: Courvoisier

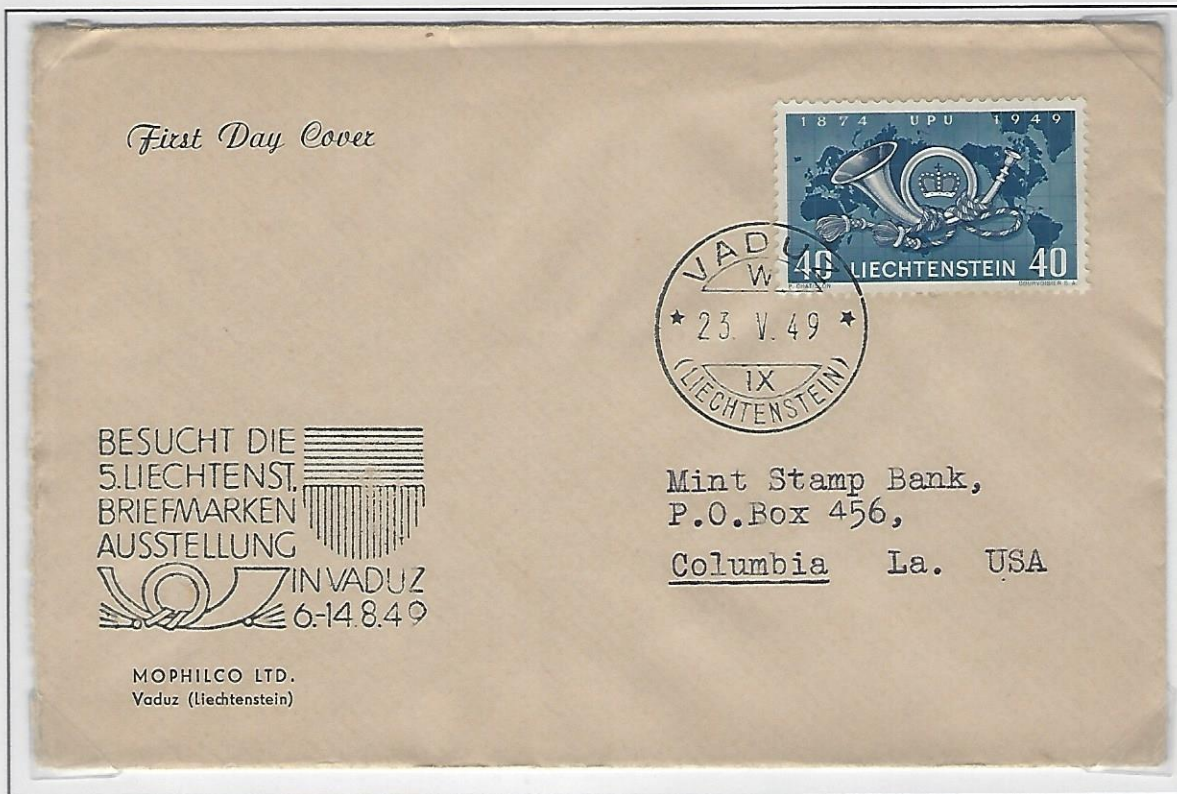
Format: Sheets of 25 with 4 plates used

Numbers issued: 157,313 (Invalid after May 31, 1950.)

Design: Post horn circled around the Prince's royal crown against a Mercator's chart of the world



After May 31, 1950 45,525 were overprinted 1fr and re-issued November 7, 1950.
This stamp is a regular issue and not considered part of a Universal Postal Union issue.



First day cancellation to Columbia, Louisiana. No back markings indicated not handled in mail.

SYRIA

Joined UPU May 15, 1946

First Day: June 20, 1949

Printer: I. C. Beyrouth

Process: Lithographed

Perforation: 11 1/2

Paper: Un-watermarked

Values: Ordinary mail 12.50p (Slate purple), 25p (Blue)

Airmail 12.50p (Claret), 50p (Grey Black)

Numbers sold: 30,000 sets

Note: Also issued 500 Deluxe

Design: Ordinary mail 12.50p an air view of triangular fortress at Ain el Arous

25p Central Avenue of Palmyra

Airmail 12.50p Globe being encircled by a dove carrying letter with mountains as lower border.

50p View of Damascus with plane to left and portrait of President Husni-el-Zaim. (**Zaim was assassinated on August 14, 1949 and all stamps with his likeness were withdrawn from sale**)



ROMANIA

Joined UPU July 1, 1875

First Day: June 30, 1949

Designer: 20 lei D. Stiubei; 30 lei I. Dumitrana

Paper: Watermarked R. P. R. multiple

Process: Photogravure

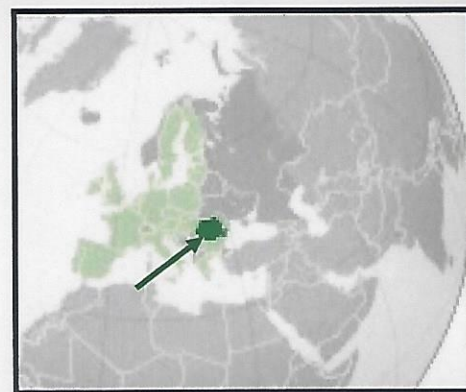
Perforation: 13 1/2 (20); 14 (30)

Printer: Fabrica de Timbre, Bucarest

Printed: 50,000 each

Format: Sheets of 100

Design: 20lei Tiny plane on globe with post horn 30lei Globe, chariot drawn by winged horse and rider holding post horn, back modern train, flags and telegraph line.



ROMANIA Continued

While a 1st day cached envelope was used, for this registered letter from Cluj, Romania to Kenosha, Wisconsin, it is postmarked May, 3, 1950 almost a year after it's 1st day.

Below a scan of the reverse shows additional postage used for registered rate and New York and Kenosha registered receiving marks.



FRENCH COLONIES

Joined UPU January 1, 1876 through France and Article 23 of UPU Constitution

First Day: July 4, 1949 in Paris (first day in each colony listed below)

Designer: Raoul Serres

Engraver: Raoul Serres

Paper: Unwatermarked

Process: Engraved

Perforation: 13

Values: Various; in the currency of each country

Printer: Ateliers of the Boulevard Brune

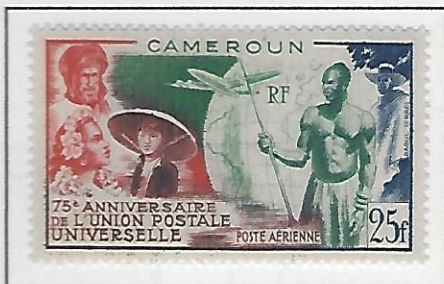
Design: An Arab for Mediterranean and Red Seas areas, a native South Sea native girl for Oceania, a native girl for Indo China and French Indian Colonies, African native with spear for African units, and a native man for the Atlantic Ocean Colonies. A plane in front of a globe. All the colonies used the same design with only a change of the country name in the center top of the stamp

Quantity Issued: 150,000 for each colony

Cameroons:

First Day: September 3, 1949

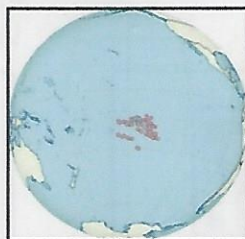
Value: 25fr



French Oceania:

First Day: October 11, 1949

Value: 10fr



French Equatorial Africa:

First Day: October 8, 1949

Value: 25fr

Note: It is reported that the supply of these stamps was stolen while in transit to the colony. The stamps reached trade by virtue of their sale in Paris. This stamp could be placed in the category of prepared but not issued.



French West Africa:

First Day: September 1, 1949

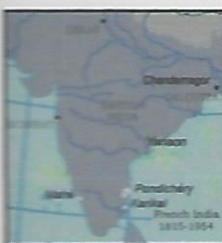
Value: 25fr



French India:

First Day: October 1, 1949

Value: 6fa



Indo China:

First Day: October 7, 1949

Value: 25fr



French Colonies Continued

Madagascar:

First Day: November 17, 1949

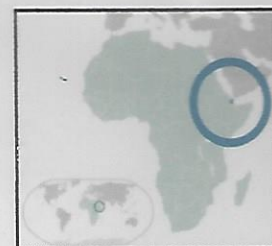
Value: 25fr



Somali Coast:

First Day: September 21, 1949

Value: 30fr



St. Pierre & Miquelon:

First Day: October 1, 1949

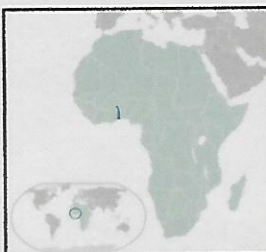
Value: 25fr



Togo:

First Day: October 1, 1949

Value: 25fr



Postmarked
Nov. 10, 1949,
registered
letter from
Togo to
United States
bearing an
U.P.U.
issue released
October 1st,
1949.

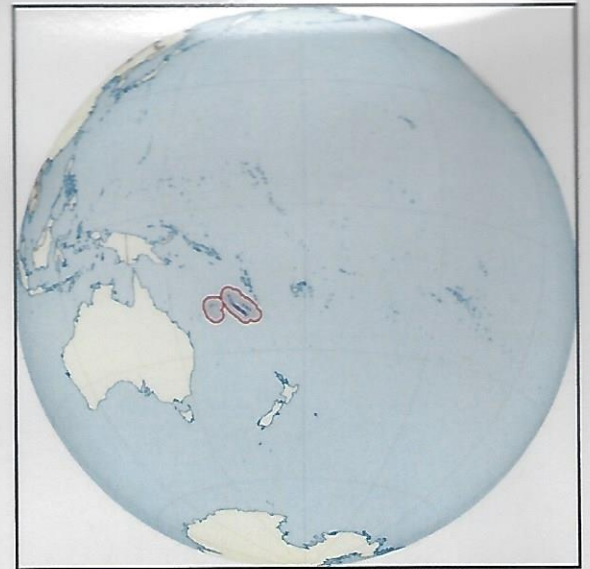


FRENCH COLONIES continued

New Caledonia:

First Day: November 21, 1949

Value: 10fr



This New Caledonian cover is serviced only as a first day and carries a block of four but is unaddressed.

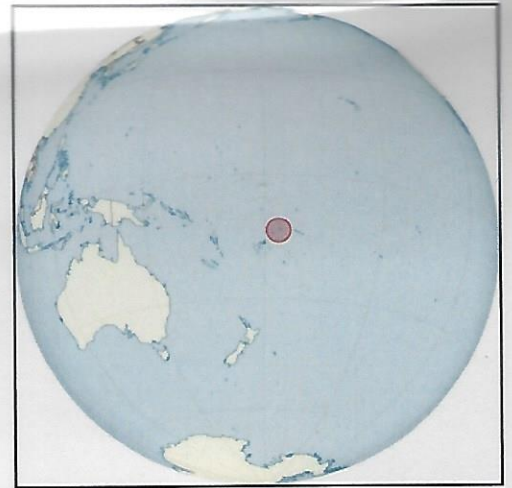
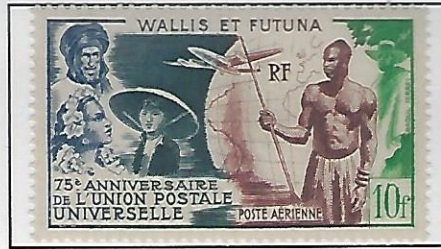


FRENCH COLONIES continued

Wallis & Futuna Islands:

First Day: April 1, 1950

Value: 10fr



Although a 1st day, cover actually was handled through international mails. Back-stamped, as seen in the scan above, in Noumea, New Caledonia May 6, 1950, San Francisco May 10, 1950, and Brooklyn May 11, 1950.

CHINA

Joined UPU March 1, 1914

First Day: August 1, 1949

Designer: Unknown

Engraver: Unknown

Paper: Un-watermarked and un-gummed

Process: Engraved

Perforation: Imperforate

Format: Sheets of 100

Printer: Dah Tung Book Co. of Shanghai

Number Printed: 180,000

Design: Pair of doves holding envelope in beak flying over globe enclosed with laurel wreath.

Note: Originally planned as a three stamp set before the first stamp was completed (still needing gum and perforation) the communist army entered Shanghai and the plates were lost. 190,000 copies were salvaged and taken to Canton where the stamps were over printed \$1.00 and two black characters meaning one dollar Chinese. 10,000 copies were damaged in the overprinting process leaving only 180,000 for sale in the post offices of Nationalist China.

A communist over print exists with characters meaning "peoples government" and are not considered part of an UPU collection



JORDAN

Joined UPU May 16, 1947

First Day: August 1, 1949

Paper: Watermarked multiple crown and script CA

Process: Engraved

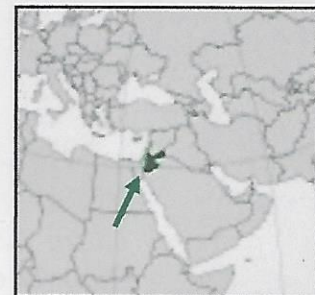
Perforation: 13 by 12 1/2

Printer: Thomas de la Rue & Co.

Format: Sheets of 50

Design: Globe centered, train and mountains left, ship and plane right
On first four values. 50mls portrait of Amir Abdullah Ibn Hussein.

Not valid for postage after October 31, 1949



Lebanon

Joined UPU May 15, 1946

First Day: August 16, 1949

Designer: P. Koroleff

Paper: Grey Un-watermarked

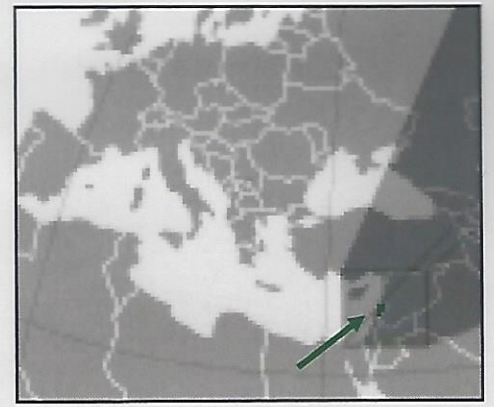
Process: Lithographed

Perforation: 11 1/2 and imperforate

Printer: I.C. Beyrouth

Numbers issued: 30,000 sets of each

Design: 5p, 7.50p, and 12.50p Camel Postman with his mail bag. 25p and 50p Helicopter over Cedars of Lebanon



Cover displays all five Lebanese issues with 1st day cancellation.



First Day Souvenir Sheet: December 18, 1950

Inscription at top of sheet in Arabic

Libanese Republic

75th Anniversary

For Foundation of the Universal Postal Union

Inscription at bottom of sheet in French

Republique Libanaise

75th Anniversaire de l' U.P.U.

Lower left 150p - lower right same in Arabic

الجمهورية اللبنانية
الذكرى الخامسة والسبعون
لتأسيس الاتحاد البريدي العالمي



RÉPUBLIQUE LIBANAISE

75° Anniversaire de l'U. P. U.

PRIX 150 P.

بمئة ١٥٠ قرشاً

PALESTINE - JORDAN OCCUPATION

Joined UPU Jul. 1, 1875 (As part of Turkey)

Oct 5, 1923 to May 15, 1948 (Under British Mandate)

Dec. 24, 1949 Member as Independent Isreal

First Day: September 1, 1949

Paper: Watermarked Multiple Crown & Script CA

Process: Engraved

Perforation: 13 by 12 1/2

Printer: Thomas de la Rue & Co. Ltd., London

Number Sold: 75,000 of each value

Format: Sheets of 50

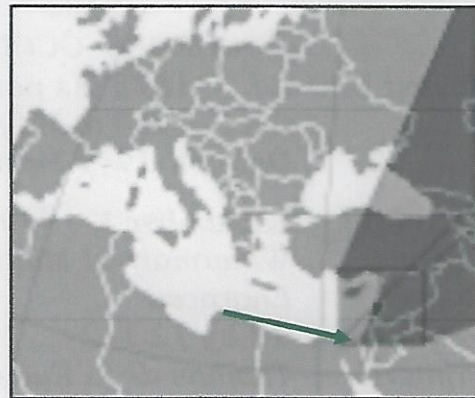
Notes: Jordan series of five overprinted PALESTINE in

English and Arabic.

Design: Same as Jordan - Globe centered, train and mountains left, ship and plane right

On first four values. 50mils portrait of Amir Abdullah Ibn Hussein. Overprinted "Palestine" in English and Arabic

Not valid for postage after October 31, 1949



All five designs received second day cancelation of September 2, 1949



TUNIS

Joined UPU July 1, 1888

First Day: September 1, 1949

Designer: Besson

Engraver: Dufresne

Paper: Un-watermarked Process: Engraved

Perforation: 13 and known imperforate

Numbers sold: 100,000 sets

Design: Constellation plane over a globe, Tunisian minaret tower, and mounted old time mounted courier receiving a letter from a small boy.



YUGOSLAVIA

Joined UPU July 1, 1875 (Austria - Hungary)

Dec. 24, 1921 (As Kingdom of Serbs, Croats, & Slovenes.

Left UPU 1941-1943 during Axis occupation

First Day: September 8, 1949

Paper: Un-watermarked

Process: Lithographed

Perforation: 12 1/2

Printer: Government Printing Office

Quantity Issued: 3d 100,000; 5d and 12d 150,000 each

Design: 3d and 12d Globe with train, plane, ship and airmail envelope. 5d Old stage coach drawn by four horses, fast moving train and plane overhead.

