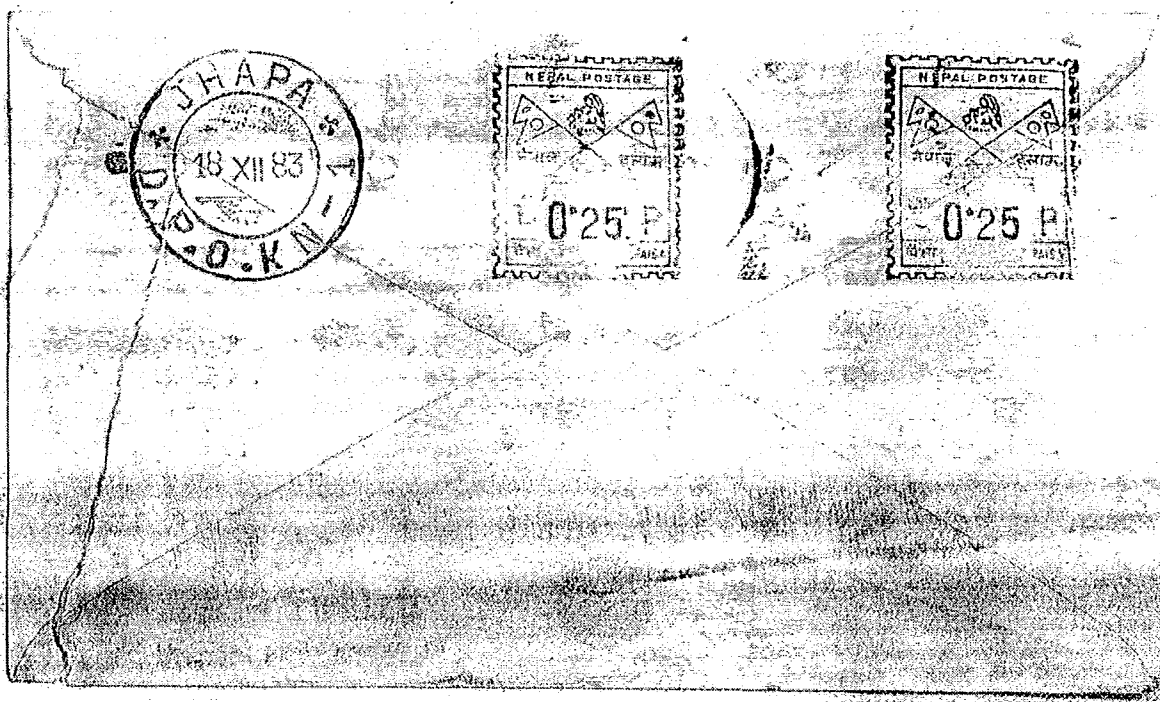


Postal Himal

QUARTERLY JOURNAL OF THE NEPAL AND TIBET PHILATELIC STUDY CIRCLE

NTPSC Homepage (courtesy of Rainer Fuchs) <http://fuchs-online.com/ntpsc>





Postal Himal is a quarterly publication of the Nepal & Tibet Philatelic Study Circle. Membership subscriptions run from January through December of each year. Dues should be paid in local currency at the prevailing exchange rate to the Society representative in your area.

	<u>One Year</u>	<u>Three Years</u>	<u>Life Member</u>
Great Britain	£12	£33	£250
USA	\$18	\$50	\$375
Europe	€19	€52	€390

American Philatelic Society Affiliate #122 British Philatelic Federation Affiliate #435

Secretary: Mr. Colin T. Hepper
 C72 Calle Miguel Angel
 El Sueno - Fase I
 El Chaparral
 03180 Torrevieja
 Alicante
 Spain
 Phone & Fax 34 96 6784701
 email: hepper@terra.es

Editor: Mr. Richard M. Hanchett
 6 Rainbow Court
 Warwick, RI 02889-1118
 USA
 Phone (401) 738 0466
 email: editorofpostalhimal@cox.net

The Board of Directors:

President:	Prof. Armand Singer, singer@wvu.edu	Past President:	Dr. Wolfgang C. Hellrigl
Vice President:	Mr. Dick van der Wateren	Secretary:	Mr. Colin T. Hepper
Treasurer:	Mr. Colin T. Hepper	Auctioneer:	Mr. Alfonso G. Zulueta Jr.
Members at large:	Mr. Christopher Kinch, Mr. Alan Warren	Editor:	Mr. Richard M. Hanchett

Representatives:

Europe: Mr. Colin T. Hepper - see address above
 India: Mr. Sohan Lal Dhawan & Sons, P. O. Box 95, Patiala 147001, India
 Nepal: Mr. Surendra Lal Shrestha, G. P. O. Box 72, Kathmandu, Nepal
 USA: Mr. Roger Skinner, 1020 Covington Road, Los Altos, CA 94024, USA

Life Members: Mario C. Barbieri, Jeremy Brewer, Geoffrey Flack, P. Gupta, Richard M. Hanchett, Wolfgang C. Hellrigl, William Janson, Kenneth Javonovich, G. Lenser, Leo Martyn, R. Murray, Peter Planken, Barbara Praytor, S. L. Shrestha, Roger Skinner, Dick van der Wateren, Alfonso G. Zulueta Jr.

New Members:

Change of Address: Mr. P. Gutpa, 10 Britannia Court, 32B New Road, Alipore, Kolkata 700 027 India
 Mr. George Alevizos, P O Box 1408, Topanga, CA 90290-1408 USA
 Mr. Mac L. Ricketts, 212 West Main Street, Independence, VA 24348-9404 USA

Dropped for Non-Payment of Dues: Mr. Raj Grover, Canada, Dr. R. E. Humphries, Canada, Dr. William Schipper, Canada, Mr. Edward Wojs, Canada, Mr. Bishnu Lal Shresta, Nepal, Mr. Narayan Das Shrestha, Nepal, Mr. Ramesh Shrestha, Nepal, Mr. Subray B. Shrestha, Nepal, Mr. P. Sthapit, Nepal, Mr. Sidhartha Tuladhar, Nepal, Mr. D. R. Pandey, Nepal, Mr. Shyam P. Pradham, Nepal

Lost Members: (Anyone knowing the address, please send it in)

Publishing Schedule:

<u>Issue</u>	<u>Cutoff for Articles</u>	<u>Into Mail</u>
112 - 4th Quarter 2002	November 22, 2002	December 7, 2002
113 - 1st Quarter 2003	February 28, 2003	March 16, 2003
114 - 2nd Quarter 2003	May 31, 2003	June 15, 2003
115 - 3rd Quarter 2003	August 30, 2003	September 14, 2003

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Officer's Corner		1	Nepal Postage Meters	Roger Skinner	8
Editor's Ramblings	Richard M. Hanchett	1	Nepal Meters Today	S. L. Shrestha	14
A Rana Prime Minister Seal	Wolfgang Bertsch	2	New Issues	GPO	15
Royal Visit to Nepal 1961	Colin Hepper	4	News from Nepal		16
Foreign Surface Postage	Colin Hepper	5			
War Resistor	Alan Warren	6			
Maoist Rebels	Colin Hepper	7			

Officer's Corner

Your President speaks! What's new? Well, soon we should have VP Dick van der Wateren's much needed volume on Nepal Revenues, a field he knows so well and the rest of us know regrettably little about. You already probably have been informed about Robert Gould and my **Catalog of Himalayan Mountaineering Correspondence** (\$25.00, available from publisher George Alevizos and

other dealers). I hope to have my own **The Chinese Presence in Tibet** available (also from George) in the next month.

Danny Wong is working on a proposed philatelic tour of China and Tibet, with a goal of a meeting with government and private parties and a visit to Tibet philatelic archives in Lhasa.

More to come, A. E. S.

Editor's Ramblings

First an apology for issue 110 being sent out a week late. For some reason the Post Office returned the package with all of the addressed mailing envelopes to Roger Skinner and he then had to resend them to me.

I have received two more articles from Mr. Wolfgang Bertsch. Readers may remember that Mr. Bertsch is neither a member of our society nor a collector of Nepal or Tibet stamps, but that he is interested in Tibetan Seals. His first article appeared in PH107, page 3. In addition to two Seal articles he has also sent an article on the oldest Post Office in Tibet. The first of his two latest articles (on a Seal of a Nepal Prime Minister) appears in this issue. His other Seal article and the article on Tibet's oldest Post Office will appear in issue 112.

Also appearing in this issue is an article on the Postage Meters of Nepal. The article will

conclude in issue 112 with a Census of Denominations and Types of Postage meters.

It has been awhile since the Circle has published a membership list, and I would like to get one out next year. We would like to have you collecting interests, mailing address, telephone number and your email address. This could help if you are planning to take a trip and would like to get together with some other members of the Circle. I know that some people do not like to have private information about them published for fear that it will fall into the wrong hands. If you do not want your information published please let either myself or one of the officers know. In that case only your name will appear in the membership list with no other identifying information about you.

I would like to get this out during the second quarter of next year, so please be sure to send us the information or to tell us that you do not want information about you published.

Congratulations: At the PhilaKorea show held in Seoul in August, Saroj Man Mulmi won a small vermeil for 'Nepal Revenue'. Another small vermeil was received by Shyam A. Ghiraiya for 'Postal Stationery of Nepal'. In the literature section of the same show, Deepak Raj Pandey won a bronze for 'Nepalese Postage Stamps'. Thanks to Alan Warren for this information.

As you will have seen from the inside front cover we have dropped a large number of former members for non-payment of dues. This is second issue in a row where we have done this. I know that there are some countries which have currency controls in place which make it difficult to send payments out of the country. I would like to suggest to if you are currently buying items from any of the persons named (or if you are solicited to do so in the future), you might suggest to them that you withhold a year's worth of dues to NTPSC from the payment so that they can once again become a member. If they agree, please send the payment to Roger Skinner if you live in Canada or the USA or to Colin Hepper if you live elsewhere. This is just a suggestion, but it might work.

A Rana Period Prime Minister Seal from Nepal

by Wolfgang Bertsch

Various seals of Rana Prime Ministers from Nepal were published in an excellent booklet by Wolfgang Hellrigl.¹ Some years ago I acquired a Rana Prime Minister seal which is not recorded by Hellrigl and which gives a good idea on how actual seals of this type look like.

The seal which I illustrate in Figures 1 to 3 has a height of 9.5 cm. The engraved plate measures 10.7 x 8.4 cm.

The seal has a wooden handle to which the part with the engraved text and design is attached. This flat part is made of silver and its upper portion is engraved with a lion which is standing on his hind legs and is carrying a sword in his raised foreleg. The lower portion is engraved with a legend in three different languages: Nepali (Devanagari script), Persian (Nastaliq script) and English. The English legend reads as follows:

PRIME MINISTER AND COMMANDER IN
CHIEF GENERAL BAMBHADUR
KUNWAR RANAJEE A.D. 1856.

Bam Bahadur Rana became Prime Minister August 1, 1856 and held this office until his death on May 25, 1857. His tenancy was actually only in name, as the real power remained with his brother Jang Bahadur Kunwar Ranajee, who gained dictatorial power after the infamous Kot

Massacre in September 1846 and ruled Nepal as Prime Minister from 1846 - 1856 and again from 1857 until his death in 1877.

In February 1851, after Jang Bahadur had returned to Nepal from his journey to England and France, Bam Bahadur together with his younger brother Badri Narsingh and his nephew Jaya Bahadur Kunwar was involved in a plot to assassinate Jang Bahadur and King Surendra. Bam Bahadur avoided punishment by revealing the plot to Jang Bahadur on the eve of February 17, 1851, the date which had been fixed by the conspirators for the execution of the crime. His accomplices were sent to British India as political prisoners and spent several years in Allahabad Fort where Jaya Bahadur Kunwar died.

Bam Bahadur lived to be only 39 years old and died of tuberculosis, being among the few Rana Prime Ministers who died a natural death.²

Owing to his short term in office, documents which have the imprint of Bam Bahadur's seal must be quite scarce; that is why W. Hellrigl did not record it.

The author would appreciate hearing from anybody who owns a document with the seal imprint illustrated as Figure 4.

1: Hellrigl, Wolfgang C.: *The Seals of the Kings and Maharajas of Nepal*. George Alevizos. Santa Monica, 1978.

Several Royal and Prime Minister Seals of Nepal, but not the one of Bam Bahadur Rana, are also recorded (many with illustrations) in the following publication: Tirmizi, S. A. I. (editor): *Catalogue of Seals*. Vol. 1 [Foreign]. National Archives of India, New Delhi, 1982, pp. 150-171.

2: Rana, Pramode Shamshere: *A Chronicle of Rana Rule*. Published by R. Rana. Kathmandu, 2000, pp. 28-29 and 36-37.

Rana, Pudma Jung Bahadur: *Life of Maharaja Sir Jung Bahadur*. Ratna Pustak Bhandar, Kathmandu, 1980, pp. 155-157 and 192-193.

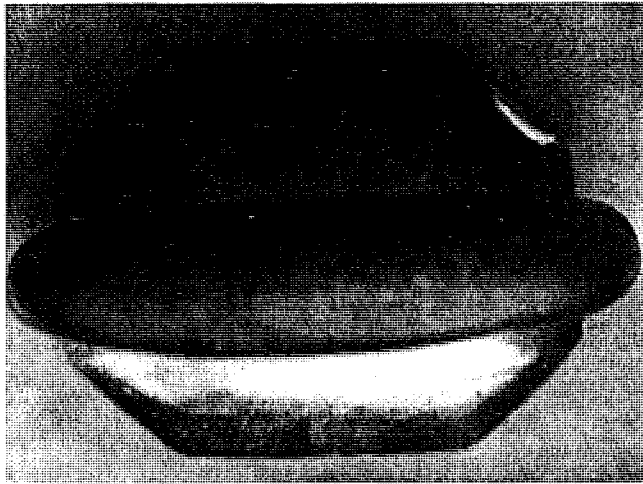


Figure 1 Seal seen from above

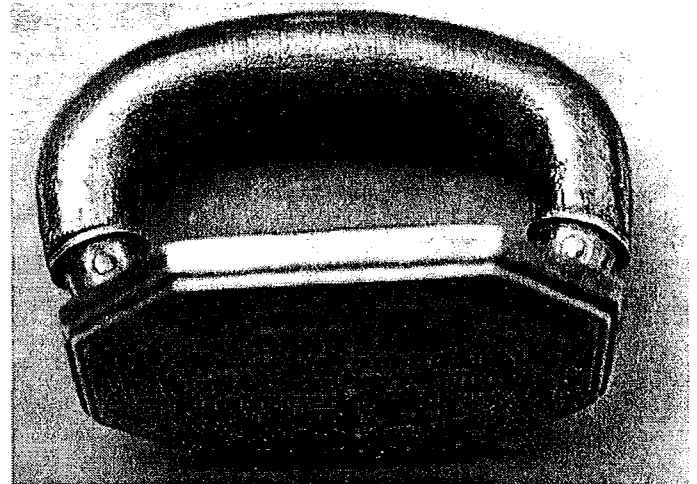


Figure 2 Seal seen from the side



Figure 3 The engraved part of the seal

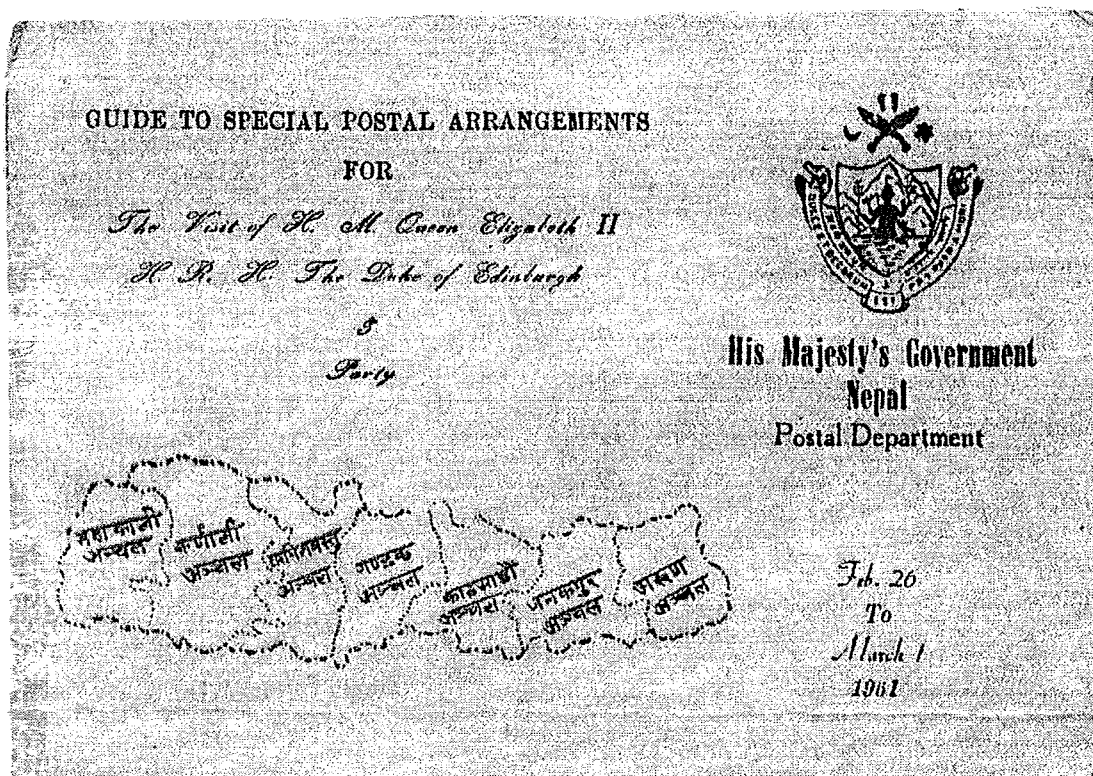


Figure 4 An imprint of the seal

Postal Arrangements for the Royal Visit to Nepal in 1961

by Colin Hepper

My article on the special post offices for Royal Visits to Nepal (PH 109), included details of the visit of Queen Elizabeth II in 1961. Since then I have been able to obtain an official guide for the visit, published by the Postal Department.



The cover of the 10-page booklet has a splendid map showing the seven postal zones of Nepal. Some of the details inside are as follows:

Stamps Issued: Two stamps (5p and 40p) depicting Mt. Machhapuchhre and Mt. Mansalu with the insert of the King of Nepal.

Special Post Offices: Special Camp Post Offices have been opened at the following places:

1. Sita Iniwas (Royal Guest House Post Office)
2. Royal Hotel (Royal Hotel Post Office)
3. Maghauri (Camp) (Meghauri Royal Camp Post Office)

Their working hours are 07.00 to 21.00. During this period all classes of articles will be accepted.

Special Postmark: A special postmark with the words 'To Anglo Nepal Friendship' will be impressed on all articles mailed from the Camp Post Offices and other Post Offices during the stay of the Royal Visitors. The first postmark will be impressed by the Honourable Communication Minister, Sri Tulsi Giri on 26 February 1961.

Also listed are the postal rates for Foreign Surface mail.

Foreign Surface Postage

8

	Printed papers, Letters Newspapers, Busi- ness papers etc.	Postcards Aerogrammes
India,	12 Paisa	8 paisa for
Pakistan	up to 1	first tola,
Burma,	tola and	12 paisa in
Ceylon	8 Paisa	excess of 1
& Afgh- anistan.	for every addition- al 1 tola or frac- tion thereof.	tola and up- to 5 tolas & 8 paisa for every additional 2½ tolas or fraction thereof.
Other	46 paisa	18 paisa up to
countries	up to 1 oz.	1 oz. & 10 pai
	28 paisa	sa for every
	for every	additional 2
	additional	Oz. or frac-
	1 oz. or	tion thereof.
	fraction	For business
	thereof.	papers 10 paisa
		up to 2 Oz. and
		2 paisa for
		every additional
		2 oz. or fraction
		thereof.

*Air-lift is Given To First Class Mails
Without Surcharge For India*

One item that is not listed is the 12p Postal Stationary envelope that was issued on 26 February 1961. This was the letter rate to India.



18th General Assembly of the
Nepal Philatelic Society 21
April 2001.

Front row (right to left):

Mrs. Pratima Ramjeet
Stamp Museum

Mr. Deepak Pamdya
Philatelic Bureau

Mr. S. L. Shrestha
FILATELICA

(photo received from Colin Hepper,
editor)

War Resistor Becomes Savior of Tibet's Literature

There are stacks of Tibetan books in every room but the kitchen of E. Gene Smith's house here in Cambridge, Massachusetts. Many are centuries old, and from the looks of things they are practically nudging Mr. Smith out of the door.

The books are just a fraction of the 12,000 volumes of Buddhist and Buddhist-influenced literature that Mr. Smith began to collect in 1965, when he first went to India and found work in the Library of Congress office in New Delhi. Most of the books were brought by refugees, who had carried them over the Himalayas in their flight from the invading Chinese.

Scholars say Mr. Smith's collection of Tibetan literature may be the biggest in the West or even the world. Universities covet his books, he said, but he has no plans to sell his library.

Instead, he and a few employees of the Tibetan Buddhist Resource Center, the nonprofit organization he founded and directs from his home, are trying to have every one of the hundreds of millions of pages scanned onto a computer and made retrievable at no cost on a Web site (www.tbrc.org). The task should take at least five years, Mr. Smith said.

The collection includes "everything under the sun", said Tashi Tsering, a scholar from Dharmasala, India, the home of the Dalai Lama. "Buddhist philosophy. Some of the earliest examples of biography and autobiography in the world. Mathematics. Alchemy. Travelogues - Tibetans were great travelers and fond of writing about their experiences. A lot of great visionary writing".

There are also volumes of intensely romantic and ancient exotica.

"The funeral rites of Kublai Khan", Mr. Smith said, pulling one out. "This is one of the earliest Tibetan wood blocks, printed sometime between 1294 and 1304. And over there, a complete set of the biographies of all the Dalai Lamas, from the 14th century to the 20th.

Mr. Tsering said Mr. Smith, 65, has put "all

his energy, all his money into this. That's why he doesn't own a house at his age".

Mr. Smith agreed, saying: "I have no kids. I don't have to send them to college. So really, all my money went into books".

Mr. Smith was introduced to the language and literature of Tibet as a student at the University of Washington. "I was looking for things that would keep me out of Vietnam", he said. "I wanted, more than anything, to stay out of the war".

Young men studying obscure languages could receive draft deferments, so Mr. Smith took Mongolian and Turkish, and - when a Tibetan lama, or scholar, came to teach - Tibetan.

From the lama, whose name was Deshung, Mr. Smith learned about the philosophy and world view of Tibetan Buddhism.

"He was the most logical person I have ever encountered", Mr. Smith said. "From him, I learned that truth is true only within its system".

Eventually, Mr. Smith, who was reared a Mormon, converted to Buddhism.

Deshung, he said, "was passionate about books. It was his passion, and it became mine". After five years of graduate study, the lama suggested that Mr. Smith go to India.

"We had no Tibetan books", Mr. Smith said. "Deshung said: 'Go and find them. Find the important books and get them published'. It was his idea, really".

Experts said the books Mr. Smith found and had published through the Library of Congress eventually became the foundation of Tibetan studies in the United States.

"He was the first Tibet expert. He literally made Tibetan studies possible", said Donald Lopez, the chairman of the Asian languages and cultures department of the University of Michigan.

The Tibetan refugees carried books that had never been available in the West - "a vast and self-contained world of literature", said Eliot Sperling, a Tibetan professor at Indiana University. "Tibetans have a great reverence for the written word. It was a very literate

civilization for 1,000 years and produced a massive amount of literature”.

In his work for the Library of Congress, Mr. Smith acquired copies of ancient Tibetan books and distributed them to American universities and libraries.

But acquiring a full range of Tibetan books required detective work and a sweeping knowledge of the literature. There were no printing presses in Tibet. Books were hand-written or printed from wood blocks and kept in libraries in monasteries - the centers of learning - and in private homes. But there were no catalogs or comprehensive book lists.

Each of the four major sects of Tibetan Buddhism also has its own significant literature.

After the Chinese invasion, Mr. Tsering said, books were “scattered everywhere”.

“You’d have to know which are rare and important in all four major schools”, he said. “Otherwise, you’d wind up collecting all the regular, well-known books”.

Editor’s Note: The above article appeared in the *New York Times* METRO section on Saturday, June 15, 2002. The article was written by Barbara Stewart and was sent to us by Alan Warren.

Nepal’s prime minister said at the weekend the army might take up to a decade to crush a bloody Maoist rebellion unless the country received more foreign help with weapons, money and training.

Prime Minister Sher Bahadur Deuba said the army was winning the war against the rebels, which has claimed more than 3,500 lives in six years, and he would decide within days if he would ask parliament to extend a state of emergency giving the army and police extra powers.

The revolt, which has weakened the impoverished nation’s economy, has grown increasingly bloody since the rebels walked away from talks and broke a truce in November, prompting the state of emergency

Mr. Smith consulted with many refugee lamas, including the Dalai Lama, on the most valuable texts and sent researchers to the farthest reaches of India and Nepal to hunt for them. In the process, his knowledge of the literature became “phenomenal, encyclopedic”, said Derek Kolleeny, a Tibetan translator from Westchester County and a board member of the Tibetan Buddhist Resource Center.

Eventually, Mr. Smith became the field director of the library’s New Delhi office - and much later of its Indonesian and Cairo offices. His house in New Delhi became a mandatory stop for students attracted to Tibetan studies.

Mr. Smith, now retired, plans to move in a few months to New York City, where the Rubin Cultural Trust has promised to provide him offices. There will be room, he said, for piles of books now in storage and for new ones - long missing and assumed to be destroyed - that have been found by the hundreds in recent years.

and the deployment of the army.

“Five to 10 years”, Deuba said when asked how long it would take to end the rebellion that has drained government coffers, crippled the vital tourism industry and scared off foreign investors.

Military analysts say the rebels, fighting to replace the Himalayan kingdom’s constitutional monarch with a one party communist state, have gained ground in recent months and control about a quarter of Nepal’s roughly 150,000 square kilometers.

Deuba ruled out any return to the negotiating table until the guerrillas laid down their weapons.

“We have to crush the Maoist terrorists”, he said.

Editor’s Note: The above article was published in *The Euro Weekly News* (a locally printed English paper in Spain) edition dated 25th April - 1st May 2002 and was sent to us by Colin Hepper.

Nepal Postage Meters

by Roger Skinner

While the use of postage meters in Nepal has been mentioned in bits and pieces here and there, there has seldom been sufficient quantities of covers to give a comprehensive report. Perhaps that time has come. So far, six different types of meters have been seen in use in Nepal. The accompanying illustrations (see pages 12-13) show these as Types A to F. Each is distinctive enough to be easily identified.

Type A Meters

Starting on 10 April 1967 with Type A, there is a first day of use cover with the identifier of G. P. O. KN-2 in the bottom half. These FDC's are the only usage known for the KN-2 number and, for some reason, meters are not seen again until August, a 4 month gap, then several start to appear as follows (see page 10).

There must be more examples of these first Type A meters, and it is hoped that there will be more reported to expand the numbers and time span they have been in use.

One additional facet for the collector is the multiple vs single imprint use. The first day of issue with the KN-2 meter used a 15 paisa imprint for the proper letter rate in 1967. Perhaps the mechanics of getting the machines into the hands of the users, adapting rules and regulations for them, then developing payment techniques caused the delay in seeing the meter being commercially used. Whatever the reasons were, the postal rates had changed to 30 paisa for the standard letter rate so that now two multiple imprints were needed and seem to be standard and the single imprint is limited to those very few value slugs ordered with different denominations.

How many denominations exist? In the Type A Neopost Limited Value (LV) meter impressions reviewed for all the different meter

numbers, only twelve in total have been seen, 2, 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 50, 65, 75 and 80 paisa and the 1.00 and 1.25 Rupee. The maximum number of denominations for one machine seen is five so far. While the "normal" usage is two 15 pice imprints, three, four or even six are common. In one example there were ten 1.00 imprints Rupee and one 75 paisa, requiring the use of both the front and the back of the cover. Collecting all the varieties of multiple uses is just one more opportunity for the collector to expand in unusual directions.

Another facet of meter use is the addition of a slogan to the meter imprint. Only six examples have been recorded for Type A. First is the KN-26 Nepal Commercial Enterprises in 1969. The next A is the Soaltee KN-10 meter with a hotel slogan extending from 1969 to 1983. The KN-14 Annapurna Hotel shows a slogan in 1971, while the KN-15 Nepal Bank (Home Office) appeared in 1972, but is gone with the next examples dated ten years later in 1982, then back in 1984. The last two are both for the Royal Nepal Airlines Corporation (R.N.A.C.) which has two meter numbers, KN-48 and KN-49, with the same slogan.

Type B Meters

In 1978 the Kathmandu RAPA-KBO, KN-47 dial has been seen for the larger Type B meter. It has the same design as the Type A, but a 6 mm larger dial and 2-3 mm larger denomination block. Later in 1981 many more occur using the Kathmandu G.P.O KN67 meter. Its main period of use seems to be from March 1981 to March 1984, with one example seen as late as December 1987. Two examples appeared in 1996 using the KN-112 number in the dial. No slogans have been seen used with the Type B meter. The machine used was a "Stampmaster" manufactured by the Republic Engineering Company in India.

The fixed denomination still prevail, with 5, 15, 25, 30, 35, 45, 60, 65, 75 and 80 paisa used along with 1.00, 2.00, 4.00, 5.00 and 10.00 Rupees. Few single denominations used alone are seen, with doubles the norm and multiple combinations adding interest and variety for the collector. One unusual meter has the date inverted in 1983! During this time of change, it is likely that the ability to request a new denomination and have it delivered still exceeded the time that an increase in postal rates took place using the new number.

The KN-1 number appears with Type B. One of the interesting aspects of Nepal postal meter usages is the elusive KN-1 meter number. It was not seen with the first batch of meters such as the KN-2 First Day of Use. All of a sudden it appeared in 1982, 15 years later, in large numbers and (with another surprise) coupled with many different names! The reason became apparent from the postal service announcement that District Post Offices would use postal meters for payment of postage. What the announcement did not say was that they would all be the KN-1 meter number, with the name at the top of the identifier ring being that of the District Post Office.

From 1982 to 1984 all of the District Post Office KN-1 meters seen have been the Type B style. One variation is the use of either Dist. Post. O. or D.P.O. in the bottom rung of the identifier double circle. Which ever one is used, it is not changed for the entire period of usage for that post office.

Denominations seen are 5, 15, 25, 35, 45 and 80 paisa and 1.00, 2.00 and 4.00 Rupees. Common combinations are the 5p and 35p to make up the basic 40 paisa basic letter rate, and those coupled with the 4.00 Rupee for registered letters.

Although this type of usage should be common, it has not been easy to locate covers with different District Post Office names. Seven offices have been located from the 82

potential offices of use. Perhaps it is because only those post offices have the combination of volume of mail and electricity needed for a machine.

Type C Meters

This elusive type has few examples extant, but the design is radically different from the previous types. The denomination now takes center stage in the middle of the design. All denomination numbers are the same large size, at least in the Rupee 1.80 which is the only one seen so far for this type. Perhaps this 1990 example was more of a trial run in the G.P.O. and was not used further. Only the KN-66 number for Kathmandu is recorded so far. The machine is the Roneo Neopost "Frankmaster 305" which is an onmi-denominatiional machine capable of printing all values from Rupees 00.01 to 99.99.

Type D Meters

Starting in 1982 another new design appears with the number KN-55. As with Type C the denomination figures are all the same size but the wording is rearranged. Five meter numbers are seen in commercial use this time: KN-55, KN-57, KN-68, KN-70 and KN-76. The time span is only two years ending in 1984 for the examples recorded so far. The values appear to be the fixed style, but there is now a combination of paisa values with Rupees. Denominations 0.40, 0.50, 0.70, 1.00, 1.10, 1.15, 1.40 and 1.70 have been seen. One additional number, KN-57, has courtesy cancels dated in 1992-3 which prove its existence, but its actual period of use is not known.

A slogan is again used by the Nepal Bank with its KN-76 number. The slogan is in both Nepali and English combined.

In 1985, a surprise pops up in the form of the District Post Office meter for Dhankuta. A Type D stamp appears with the KN-1 number

with DIST P O in the dial as earlier Type B's did. So far, only the 0.50 and 0.90 denominations have been seen used with this meter. One example however does have a postage stamp added to boost the rate paid.

Another surprise came up in the April 1998 issue of the German Postage Meter Society Bulletin with a Type D with no number at all. The meter illustrated there shows the name Narayanhity in the top half of the circle with Kathmandu in the bottom half. No further meter examples like this have been reported.

Type E Meters

Only one meter number, KN-70, has been found for this type. It has a slight variance from the Type D design. The dial is 3 mm larger and the denominations are now 4.5 mm tall for the Rupee value and 3.5 mm for the pice part of the value. These are seen in the 1983-4 period, and only the denominations of 40 and 50 paise values have been recorded. Multiple usages are now dropping to 25% of the samples seen.

Type F Meters

Type F is a dramatic change in design from previous types. It first occurs in 1985, with the latest ones a good 7 years later, in 1992. To date four meter numbers have been recorder for

this type, KN-81, KN-91, KN-95 and KN-96. A changeable denomination must now be in use sine single usages are now most common. The highest value recorded is 50.60 Rupees for overseas mail.

The new meter KN-91 also has a slogan announcing that its user, the Nepal Indosuez Bank is "a member of the Banque Indosuez (Paris)". An additional variation is that for KN-91, KN-95 and KN-97, the leftmost figure (the 10's position) shows three small wavy lines instead of a zero. Also in the newer 1992 KN-94, KN-95 and KN-96 meters, the Rupee figures are 5.0 mm in height while the paise figures are slightly smaller at 4 mm. The other meter numbers recorder use a 4.0 mm number height for all digits.

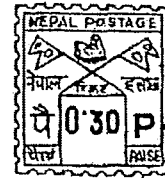
More data is desperately needed before a good understanding of the entire range of meter usage can be written. Readers are encouraged to write to let us know what can be added to our census of covers.

An expression of thanks needs to be made to other collectors who have helped with the compilation of information for this article. Encouragement from Gabriel Pustel, technical inputs from Richard Stambaugh, covers from C. Tulsian. S. L. Shrestha and Ajit Shah have been of vital support in helping the author put it all together. Thanks guys!

Editor's Note: Members who have information that they wish to share should contact the author.

Type	User	Meter Number	Dates of Usage	Denomination Used
A	Annapurna Hotel	14	1967-1973	0.15, 1.00, 1.25
A	Shah & Rai	23	1968	0.20, 1.00
A	N. C. E.	26	1968-1970	0.80, 1.00
A	Soaltee	10	1969-1983	0.10, .0.50, 0.80, 1.00
A	Yeti Travel	12	1969-1976	0.10, 0.15, 0.65, 1.25
A	Embassy of India	22	1971	0.02, 0.25
A	K. S. Kosh	13	1972-1983	0.15, 0.25, 0.75, 1.00
A	Nepal Bank (Head Office)	15	1972-1983	0.15, 0.25, 0.65, 1.00
A	R. B. Bank	7	1972-1982	0.05, 0.15, 0.25, 0.75, 1.00

Type	User	Meter Number	Dates of Usage	Denomination Used
A	Third Eye Tours	32	1972-1982	0.20, 1.00
A	U. S. I. S.	19	1975	0.10, 0.15
A	N. I. D. C.	8	1978	0.15, 1.00
A	N. N. A. C.	49	1978	0.20
A	United States Embassy	19 (new user for 19)	1978	1.00
A	T. P. C.	33	1979	0.05, 0.25
A	R. N. A. C.	48	1980	0.15
B	Kathmandu Raba-KBO	47	1978	0.30
B	Kathmandu G. P. O.	67	1981-1987	0.05, 0.15, 0.25, 0.45, 0.60, 0.75, 1.00, 2.00, 4.00, 5.00
B	SAARC (not clear)	112	1996	10.00
B	Banke D. P. O.	1	1982	0.60, 0.80, 1.00, 2.00
B	Dhanusa Dist. Post. O.	1	1982-1983	0.05, 0.15, 0.25, 0.35, 0.65
B	Parsa Dist. Post. O.	1	1982-1984	0.05, 0.15, 0.25, 0.45, 0.80, 1.00, 4.00
B	Jhapa D. P. O.	1	1983	0.25, 0.45
B	Saptari D. P. O.	1	1983	0.40
B	Rupamdehi Dist. Post. O.	1	1983-1984	0.25, 0.60, 4.00
B	Lalitpur D. P. O.	1	1984	0.25
C	Kathmandu D. P. O.	66	1990	1.80
D	R. B. Bank (Head Office)	55	1982-1984	0.40, 0.50, 1.00, 1.10, 1.15
D	T. U.	57	1992-1993	00.00
D	N. B. Ltd (Head Office)	76	1983-1984	00.50, 01.30, 01.40, 01.70
D	D. O. T.	68	1982	1.00
D	Dhankuta Dist. P. O.	1	1985	0.50, .90
E	Kathmandu FCGO	70	1983-1984	0.50
F	Kathmandu Nabil	81	1985	0.50
F	Kathmandu Nib Ltd	91	1989	x0.60
F	Kathmandu NGB	95	1992	x1.00, 50.60
F	Kathmandu D. P. O.	96	1992-1993	04.90, 07.00, 13.00, 30.00
F	Kathmandu F. P. O.	97	1996	x0.00
F	Kathmandu H. S. O.	107	1993	not known
F	Kathmandu C. C. (?)	123	1993	8.00
				x = three wavy lines



Type A - Neopost Limited Value (LV-6)

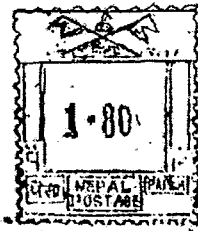
Type A has a Neopost standard double-circle identifier ring. The frank has crossed Nepali flags in the upper part with the value figures in a block at the bottom. The Rupee numbers are 4.0 mm tall and the Paise numbers are 3.5 mm tall.

25 mm diameter 23.5 x 25.0 mm width/height

Type B - Republic Engineering "Stampmaster" (LV-16)

Type B appeared in 1978. Type B has a larger 31.5 mm double-circle identifier and the frank is also larger by a few millimeters.

31.5 mm diameter 25.5 x 28.5 mm width/height



Type C - Roneo Neopost "Frankmaster 305" (Omni-value)

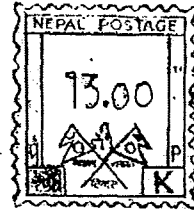
Type C has a smaller town mark circle and the frank has the denomination prominently in the center. The words "Nepal / Postage" are in small print in the bottom center with the Nepali flags and crown at the very top.

24.5 mm diameter 27.0 x 30.5 mm width/height

Type D - Make undetermined, probable Kilburn (India)

Type D has about the same size town mark circle. The value figures are also in the center, but the words "Nepal" and "Postage" are at each side in a vertical format. The crown is at the top of the design by itself. The crossed Nepali flags are at the bottom. The letter "K" appears in the bottom right box.

25.5 mm diameter 27.5 x 29.0 mm width/height



Type E - Kilburn?/Universal (Pitney Bowes)
"Simplex" (LV-25)

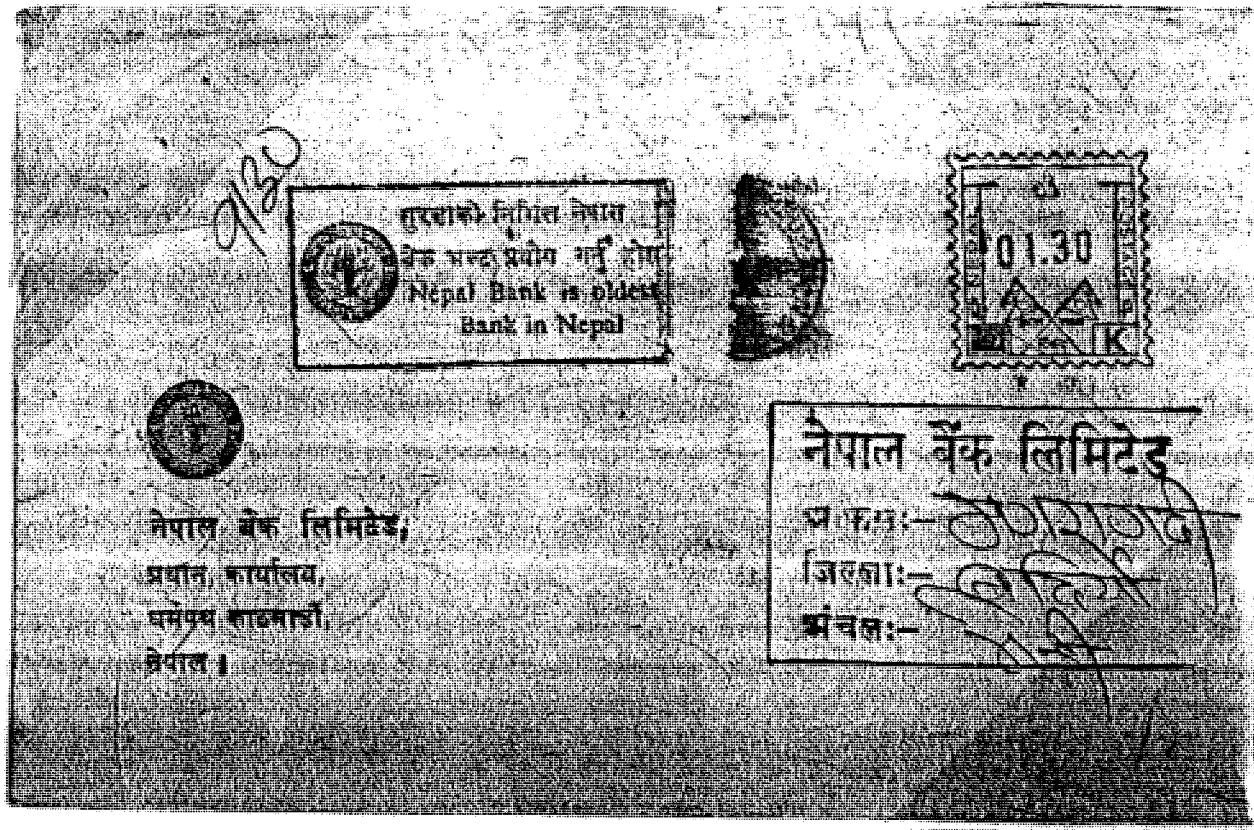
Type E has a 28.0 mm town mark circle. The frank is similar to Type D, but the value figure numbers are now very narrow with a large one for the Rupee values and smaller ones for the paisa values. The presence of the "K" in the lower right implies that this Universal Simplex machine was marketed through Kilburn.

28.0 mm diameter 27.5 x 29.0 mm width/height

Type F - Kilburn?

Type F has a small town mark circle of 24.5 mm. The words "NEPAL" and "POSTAGE" are at the top of the frank, and the crown is between the crossed flags at the bottom. The letter "K" still appears in the lower right corner.

24.5 mm diameter 27.5 x 30.5 mm width/height



Example of a Postage Meter with a Slogan

Users of Nepal Postage Meters in Kathmandu Today (Kilburn Franking Machines (Indian))

by Surendra Lal Shrestha
source: Sulkanka Yentra Shakha
GPO Building
Sundhara, Kathmandu

Meter KN Number	User	Meter KN Number	User
-	P.S.S. Royal Palace	101	NE. KHA. PA. Tatha DHA. NI. BIBHAG
7	Rastriya Banijya Bank	102	M. P. S. Kosh
12	Yeti Travels	103	Mudran Biohag (Printing Dept.)
38	Chamber of Commerce	105	N. S. C. (Rastriya Kheikud Parishad)
47	Nepal Rastra Bank, Thapa-thali	106	Krisi Prasar A. Aayog
52	Nepal Strawboard Co.	107	Hotel Soaltee Oberoi
57	Tri. B. B. (University)	110	A. D. B. (Agriculture Development Bank)
58	Gorkha Travels	111	F. C. G. O.
60	Gorkha Patra Sansthan	112	SAARC Secretariat
61	Hotel Sangri-La	113	PA. NI. JA. BU. SA.
64	Nepal Magnesite	114	UNICEF
65	Kathmandu Travels and Tours	115	RA. JA. AA. Secretariat
72	German Embassy	117	Label Communication
73	Hotel Annapurna	118	N. R. B. (Head Office)
76	N. B. Ltd (Head Office)	119	G. I. (Goethe Institute)
77	K. S. Kosh	120	ICIMOD
78	R. B. S. (Head Office)	121	Sita World Travels
81	NABIL (Nepal Arab Bank)	122	NABIL (Nepal Arab Bank)
82	Nikasi Sewa Kendra	123	Gorkha Patra Samsthan
84	I. T. C. T.	125	Embassy of India
85	ICIMOD	126	Himalayan Bank Ltd.
87	Hotel Everest	127	Hotel Sangri-La
88	M. S. P. (Management Service)	128	Gorkha Patra Samsthan
91	N. I. B. Ltd.	129	Nepal Bangladesh Bank Ltd.
93	Lok Sewa Aayog (P. S. C.)	130	Hotel Woodland (P.) Ltd.
95	N. G. B. (Nepal Grindlays Bank)	131	N. I. D. C.
96	Foreign Post Kathmandu	132	Kantipur Publications P. Ltd.
97	G. P. O. Kathmandu		

Editor's Note: Coming next issue the Census of Denominations and Types of Meters

प्रथम दिवसीय आवरण First Day Cover

विश्वकप
फुटबल
२००२



The stamp commemorates the first World Cup Football Final of this century and contains the logo of the Seventeenth World Cup Football game, the golden trophy of the World Cup and a player.

Subject: World Cup Football
Colour: Four Color
Size: 40 x 26.5 mm
Quantity: 0.5 Million
Paper: High Quality Stamp Paper
Printer: Austrian Government Printing Office,
Vienna, Austria

Denomination: Rs. 15
Sheet Composition: 50 Stamps in each sheet
Process: Offset Lithography
Format: Horizontal
Designer: K. K. Karmacharya

प्रथम दिवसीय आवरण First Day Cover



स्वर्गवासी श्री ५ महाराजाधिराज बीरेन्द्र बीर विक्रम शाह
स्वर्गवासी श्री ५ वडामहारानी ऐश्वर्य राज्यलक्ष्मी देवी शाह
Their late Majesties King Birendra Bir Bikram Shah &
Queen Aishwarya Rajya Laxmi Devi Shah
२०५९ २००२



Their late Majesties King Birendra Bir Bikram Shah & Queen Aishwarya Rajya Laxmi Devi Shah

Subject: Their Late Majesties
Colour: Four Colour
Size: 30 X 40 mm
Quantity: 0.5 Million
Paper: High Quality Stamp Paper
Printer: Austrian Government Printing Office,
Vienna, Austria

Denomination: Rs. 10
Sheet Composition: 50 Stamps in each sheet
Process: Offset Lithography
Format: Vertical
Designer: M. N. Rana

प्रथम दिवसीय आवरण First Day Cover



श्री ५ महाराजाधिराज गान्धर्व वीर विक्रम शाहदेवको गद्दीभारोक्षण २०५८
H.M. King Gyanendra Bir Bikram Shah Dev's Accession to the Throne
२०५९ २००२

कुनै पनि शासन व्यवस्थाको रोडपङ्क जनता हुन् । जनता नै परिवर्तनको सवाङ्क पनि हुन् भन्ने कुरा हामीले बिर्सनु हुँदैन ।

- श्री ५ गान्धर्व



We should not forget that the people themselves are the bedrock of any polity and the only catalysts of change.

- H.M. King Gyanendra

H. M. King
Gyanendra Bir
Bikram Shah
Dev's Accession
to the Throne

Subject:	Accession of King Gyanendra	Denomination:	Rs. 5
Colour:	Four Colour	Sheet Composition:	50 Stamps in each sheet
Size:	35 x 35 mm	Process:	Offset Lithography
Quantity:	1 Million	Format:	Square
Paper:	High Quality Stamp Paper	Designer:	M. N. Rana
Printer:	Austrian Government Printing Office, Vienna, Austria		

Thanks to the Nepal Philatelic Bureau for the above First Day Covers and technical Information.

News from Nepal

Editor's Note: The following article is an excerpt from CNN.com on May 4. See also the article from Colin Hepper on page 7.

Nepal's government has said that as many as 240 Maoist rebels were killed in a raid on two training camps in the western part of Nepal. The army attack was in the districts of Doti and Rolpa.

The government has intensified its attacks after the rebels called for a nationwide strike last week that did not get much public support.

The top rebel leader Pushpa Kamal Dahal called for renewed peace talks with the government to find "a positive political way out" of the problem. The government has rejected the peace overture saying that "there will be no peace negotiations until the Maoists lay down their arms and surrender".