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HOLLYWOOD STAMP CLUB

HOLLYWOOD PHILATELIST

HSC DIGITAL EDITION 14 August 12, 2020

SETARO, HSC Editor

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SETARO, HSC Editor

RUSSIA's TRANS SIBERIAN RAILWAY on STAMPS

The Trans-Siberian Railway is a network of railways connecting Moscow with the Russian Far East. With a length of 9,289 kilometres (5,772 miles), from Moscow to Vladivostok, it is the 3rd longest railway line in the world.

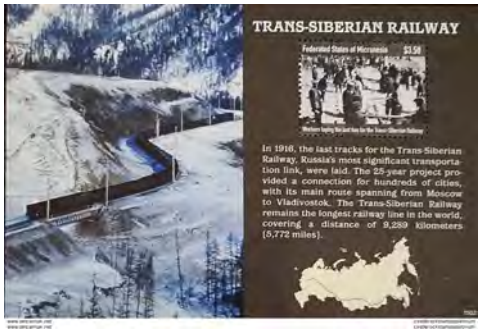
The railway was built between 1891 and 1916 under the supervision of Russian government ministers personally appointed by Tsar Alexander III and his son, the Tsarevich Nicholas (later Tsar Nicholas II). Even before it had been completed, it attracted travelers who wrote of their adventures. The Trans-Siberian Railway has connected Moscow with Vladivostok since 1916. Expansion of the railway is still taking place today, with connecting rails going into Mongolia, China and North Korea.

Before WW I and between WWI and II mail or packages sent from Europe to the Far Esat (China and Japan) would go "VIA SIBERIA" using this train. Germany would send many letter to Japan Via Siberia. This was very convenient because commercial aircraft could not cover these long distance.

The Trans-Siberian line remains the most important transport link within Russia; around 30% of Russian exports travel on the line. While it attracts many foreign tourists, it gets most of its use from domestic passengers.

Today the Trans-Siberian Railway carries about 200,000 containers per year to Europe. Russian Railways intends to at least double the volume of container traffic on the Trans-Siberian and is developing a fleet of specialised cars and increasing terminal capacity at the ports by a factor of 3 to 4. By 2010, the volume of traffic between Russia and China could reach 60 million tons (54 million tones), most of which will go by the Trans-Siberian.

With perfect coordination of the participating countries' railway authorities, a trainload of containers can be taken from Beijing to Hamburg, via the Trans-Mongolian and Trans-Siberian lines in as little as 15 days, but typical cargo transit times are usually significantly longer and typical cargo transit time from Japan to major destinations in European Russia was reported as around 25 days**. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Trans-Siberian_Railway#Today**



Movies Studios on stamps

United Artists Corporation (UA), currently doing business as United Artists Digital Studios, is an American television digital production company. Founded in 1919 by D. W. Griffith, Charlie Chaplin, Mary Pickford, and Douglas Fairbanks, the studio

was premised on allowing actors to control their own interests, rather than being dependent upon commercial studios. UA was repeatedly bought, sold, and restructured over the ensuing century. Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer acquired the studio in 1981 for a reported $350 million ($1 billion today).

On September 22, 2014, MGM acquired a controlling interest in entertainment companies One Three Media and Lightworkers Media, then merged them to revive United Artists' TV production unit as United Artists Media Group (UAMG). However, on December 14 of the following year, MGM wholly acquired UAMG and folded it into MGM Television.

United Artists was revived yet again in 2018 as United Artists Digital Studios. Mirror, the joint distribution venture between MGM and Annapurna Pictures was renamed as United Artists Releasing in early February 2019 just in time for UA's 100th anniversary. In 1999, UA was repositioned as a specialty studio. MGM had just acquired The Samuel Goldwyn Company, which had been a leading distributor of arthouse films. After that name was retired, MGM folded UA into Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Pictures. G2 Films, the renamed Goldwyn Company and MGM's specialty London operations, was renamed United Artists International. The distributorship, branding, and copyrights for two of UA's main franchises (Pink Panther, and Rocky) were moved to MGM, although select MGM releases (notably the James Bond franchise co-held with Danjaq, LLC and the Amityville Horror remake) carry a United Artists copyright. The first arthouse film to bear the UA name was Things You Can Tell Just by Looking at Her. United Artists hired Bingham Ray to run the company on September 1, 2001. Under his supervision, the company produced and distributed many art films, including Bowling for Columbine, 2002's Nicholas Nickleby, and the winner of that year's Academy Award for Best Foreign Language Film, No Man's Land; and 2004's Undertow, and Hotel Rwanda, a co-production of UA and Lions Gate Entertainment, and made deals with companies like American Zoetrope and Revolution Films. Ray stepped down from the company in 2004. In 2005, a partnership of Comcast, Sony and several merchant banks bought United Artists and its parent, MGM, for $4.8 billion. Though only a minority investor, Sony closed MGM's distribution system and folded most of its staff into its own studio. The movies UA had completed and planned for release Capote, Art School Confidential, The Woods, and Romance and Cigarettes were reassigned to Sony Pictures Classics. ©

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_Artists#Public_company

US SURFACE MAIL IS BACK?

In 2007, the US Postal Service discontinued its outbound international surface mail ("sea mail") service, mainly because of increased costs. Returned undeliverable surface parcels had become an expensive problem for the USPS, since it was often required to take such parcels back.

However, it seems that because of the Global COVID-19, the US Postal Service has gone 'Back-to-the Future" here. This came from the USPS Web Page.

"April 29, 2020 COVID-19 CONTINUITY OF OPERATIONS UPDATE INTERNATIONAL SERVICE IMPACT ALTERNATE TRANSPORT: **SECOND AIR TO SEA DIVERSION** in Effect On April 27, 2020, a second sea transport departed with volume from the Chicago, JFK, and Miami International Service Centers and is estimated to arrive at the Rotterdam (Netherlands) port on May 15, 2020. Sea route arrival dates are not exact and may vary depending on weather related events and queuing at port of arrival. The vessel is carrying 6,382 receptacles in six (6) containers weighing 33,593 kilograms. It is serving mail destined to: ☐ Austria ☐ Denmark ☐ Hungary ☐ Poland ☐ Sweden ☐ Czech Republic ☐ Finland ☐ Netherlands ☐ Spain ☐ Switzerland (Geneva and Zurich) When calculating estimated delivery times, additional days required for unloading, customs clearance and road transit should be considered. The table below outlines a typical sea transit delivery cycle that begins upon arrival to the destined port: 14 days.

The first 0f such shipments happened on April 20th.

These service disruptions affect Priority Mail Express International® (PMEI), Priority Mail International® (PMI), First-Class Mail International® (FCMI), First-Class Package International Service® (FCPIS®), International Priority Airmail® (IPA®), International Surface Air Lift® (ISAL®), and M-Bag® items. **Alternate transit options will remain in effect until sufficient air transportation capacity becomes available.** The Postal Service™ is closely monitoring the situation and will continue to update customers until the situation returns to normal. "

Alternatives to international surface mail include: International Surface Air Lift (ISAL). The service includes neither tracking nor insurance; but it may be possible to purchase shipping insurance from a third-party company.

Senders can access the International Surface Air Lift and ePacket services through postal wholesalers.

Some examples of such wholesalers include:

Asendia USA (accessible through the Shippo website to users who have an Asendia account), Globegistics (now owned by Asendia), and **APC Postal Logistics**.

It seems that the USPS is tanking advantage of this infrastructure that was created privately after it decided to cancel Surfaced Mail in 2007.

Asendia Management SAS is an international mail joint venture of French La Poste and Swiss Post. The company acts under the brand "Asendia by La Poste & Swiss Post". The society's activity covers all international mail solutions, including the dispatch and delivery of mail, catalogues, press and small goods.

Founded in 2001, **APC Postal Logistics** is a leading consolidator and distributor of international parcels and mail, providing a full range of shipping and mailing solutions to volume mailers and e-commerce clients.

For more info see this Web Page:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Surface_mail

https://www.asendia.com/

https://www.apc-pli.com/

END OF WW II OCCUPATION STAMPS

German forces in **Italy** surrender: On 29 April, Oberstleutnant Schweinitz and Sturmbannführer Wenner, plenipotentiaries for Generaloberst Heinrich von Vietinghoff and SS Obergruppenführer Karl Wolff, signed a surrender document at Caserta after prolonged unauthorized secret negotiations with the Western Allies, which were viewed with great suspicion by the Soviet Union as trying to reach a separate peace.

At 02:41 on the morning of 7 May, at SHAEF headquarters in Reims, France, the Chief-of-Staff of the **German** Armed Forces High Command, General Alfred Jodl, signed an unconditional surrender document for all German forces to the Allies. General Franz Böhme announced the unconditional surrender of German troops in Norway on 7 May. It included the phrase "All forces under German control to cease active operations at 2301 hours Central European Time on May 8, 1945."

Japan. The surrender of Imperial Japan was announced by Japanese Emperor Hirohito on August 15 and formally signed on September 2, 1945, bringing the hostilities of World War II to a close. By the end of July 1945, the Imperial Japanese Navy (IJN) was incapable of conducting major operations and an Allied invasion of Japan was imminent.

We will show the various stamp sets issued by the Allies in each country: Austria, France, Germany, Italy, and Japan, as well as the particulars of each situation.

In most of the countries stamps were issued by the AMG (Allied Military Government}.

AMG ISSUES FOR AUSTRIA

In 1945 17 stamps were issued Unwmk. Litho. Perl. 11, from 1 g. to 5 s. Scott 4N1 to 4N17. In 1946 16 of these stamps were overprinted "PORTO" for postage due uses. [Scott J189 -203]

AMG ISSUES FOR FRANCE

In 1944, Oct. 9 10 stamps were issued from 5 c. to 10 Fr. (Scott 475 to 476H) Litho Perf 11. On 1945, Feb. 12 these stamps were issued again but with face values in black. (Scott 523A to J).

AMG FOR ITALY

For Napoli in 1943 Dec 13, 3 Italian stamps were overprinted "GOVERNO MILITARE ALLEATO". Scott 1N10 –13)

For Sicily in 1943 9 stamps from 15 c. to 10 lire were issued (Scott 1N1 to 1N9)

AMG FOR GERMANY

AMG ISSUES 1945-46 three printings: Brunswick, Washington, and London. From 1 pF to 1 mark (Scott 3N1—20). There are some Imperf. Sets.

ISSUE FOR JAPAN

The Allied occupation of Japan at the end of World War II was led by General Douglas MacArthur, the Supreme Commander of the Allied Powers, with support from the British Commonwealth. The country continued to use its own stamps. The British Commonwealth Occupation Force (BCOF) was the British Commonwealth taskforce consisting of Australian, British, Indian and New Zealand military forces in occupied Japan, from 21 February 1946 until the end of occupation in 1952. At its peak, the BCOF comprised about 40,000 personnel, equal to about 25% of the number of US military personnel in Japan.

For the American troops, to send letters or PCards, they could used US stamps and the APO/FPO of the units to which they part of

>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>Cont. page 5

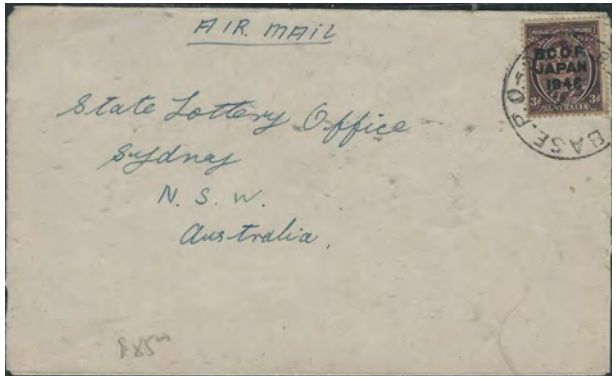
END OF WW II OCCUPATION STAMPS

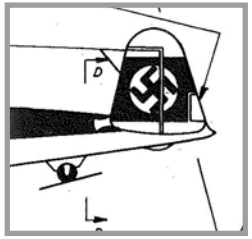
Cont from P. 4.

The troops from the BCOF used stamps from Australia with the overprint "BCOF JAPAN 1946"

Perf. 14 'hx14, 15x14, 11 'h, 13'hx13 thay are listed under Military Stamps 1946-47, 1/2 p. to 5 Sh. (Scott M1 to M7 (7).

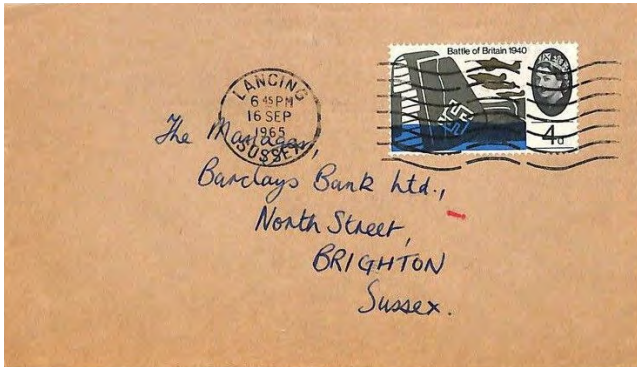
Mint and used AMG stamps from all these countries are easy to find and, generally, easy to find and at reasonable costs. However these stamp on covers or postcards are not easy to find, particularly those with high face values, and command high prices. Particularly those with Australian stamps and 'BCOF JAPAN 1946' overprint.





GREAT BRITAIN SWASTIKA STAMP

In 1965 Great Britain issued a set of 8 stamps



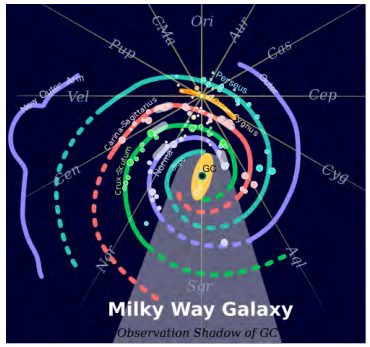
Milky Way Galaxy on Stamps

The Milky Way is the galaxy that contains our Solar System, with the name describing the galaxy's appearance from Earth: a hazy band of light seen in the night sky formed from stars that cannot be individually distinguished by the naked eye. The term Milky Way is a translation of the Latin via lactea, from the Greek γαλαξίας κύκλος (galaxías kýklos, "milky circle"). From Earth, the Milky Way appears as a band because its disk-shaped structure is viewed from within. Galileo Galilei first resolved the band of light into individual stars with his telescope in 1610. Until the early 1920s, most astronomers thought that the Milky Way contained all the stars in the Universe. Following the 1920 Great Debate between the astronomers Harlow Shapley and Heber Curtis, observations by Edwin Hubble showed that the Milky Way is just one of many galaxies.

The Milky Way is a barred spiral galaxy with an estimated visible diameter between 170,000 and 200,000 light-years. It is estimated to contain 100–400 billion stars and at least that number of planets. The dark matter halo around the Milky Way may span as much as 2 million light years. The Solar System is located at a radius of about 27,000 light-years from the Galactic Center, on the inner edge of the Orion Arm, one of the spiral-shaped concentrations of gas and dust. The stars in the innermost 10,000 light-years form a bulge and one or more bars that radiate from the bulge. The galactic center is an intense radio source known as Sagittarius A*, a supermassive black hole of 4.100 (± 0.034) million solar masses.

Stars and gases at a wide range of distances from the Galactic Center orbit at approximately 220 kilometers per second. The constant rotation speed contradicts the laws of Keplerian dynamics and suggests that much (about 90%) of the mass of the Milky Way is invisible to telescopes, neither emitting nor absorbing electromagnetic radiation. This conjectural mass has been termed "dark matter". The rotational period is about 240 million years at the radius of the Sun. The Milky Way as a whole is moving at a velocity of approximately 600 km per second with respect to extragalactic frames of reference. The oldest stars in the Milky Way are nearly as old as the Universe itself and thus probably formed shortly after the Dark Ages of the Big Bang.

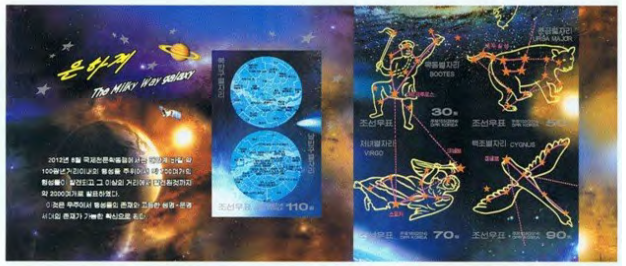
The Milky Way has several satellite galaxies and is part of the Local Group of galaxies, which form part of the Virgo Supercluster, which is itself a component of the Laniakea Supercluster.



Spiral Arms

Outside the gravitational influence of the Galactic bar, the structure of the interstellar medium and stars in the disk of the Milky Way is organized into four spiral arms. Spiral arms typically contain a higher density of interstellar gas and dust than the Galactic average as well as a greater concentration of star formation, as traced by H II regions and molecular clouds.

The Milky Way's spiral structure is uncertain, and there is currently no consensus on the nature of the Milky Way's spiral arms. Perfect logarithmic spiral patterns only crudely describe features near the Sun, because galaxies commonly have arms that branch, merge, twist unexpectedly, and feature a degree of irregularity. The possible scenario of the Sun within a spur / Local arm emphasizes that point and indicates that such features are probably not unique, and exist elsewhere in the Milky Way. Estimates of the pitch angle of the arms range from about 7° to 25°. There are thought to be four spiral arms that all start near the Milky Way's center. ©



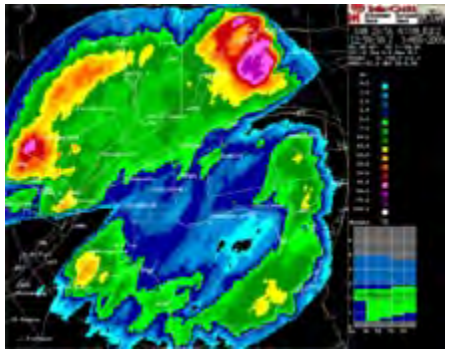
RAIN on STAMPS

Rain is liquid water in the form of droplets that have condensed from atmospheric water vapor and then become heavy enough to fall under gravity. Rain is a major component of the water cycle and is responsible for depositing most of the fresh water on the Earth. It provides suitable conditions for many types of ecosystems, as well as water for hydroelectric power plants and crop irrigation.

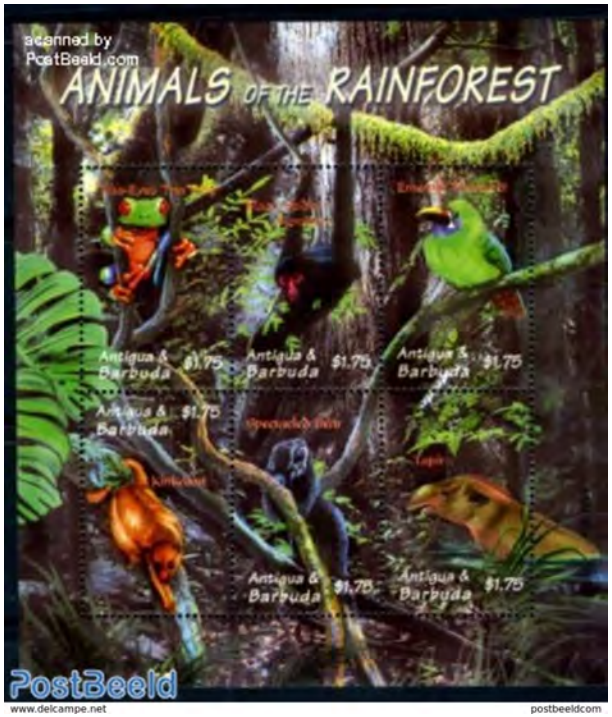
Some people enjoy the rain, others just get wet.

The major cause of rain production is moisture moving along three-dimensional zones of temperature and moisture contrasts known as weather fronts. If enough moisture and upward motion is present, precipitation falls from convective clouds (those with strong upward vertical motion) such as cumulonimbus (thunder clouds) which can organize into narrow rain bands. In mountainous areas, heavy precipitation is possible where upslope flow is maximized within windward sides of the terrain at elevation which forces moist air to condense and fall out as rainfall along the sides of mountains. On the leeward side of mountains, desert climates can exist due to the dry air caused by downslope flow which causes heating and drying of the air mass. The movement of the monsoon trough, or intertropical convergence zone, brings rainy seasons to savannah climes.

The urban heat island effect leads to increased rainfall, both in amounts and intensity, downwind of cities. Global warming is also causing changes in the precipitation pattern globally, including wetter conditions across eastern North America and drier conditions in the tropics. Antarctica is the driest continent. The globally averaged annual precipitation over land is 715 mm (28.1 in), but over the whole Earth it is much higher at 990 mm (39 in). Climate classification systems such as the Köppen classification system use average annual rainfall to help differentiate between differing climate regimes.



Twenty-four-hour rainfall accumulation on the Val d'Irène radar in Eastern Canada. Zones without data in the east and southwest are caused by beam blocking from mountains. (Source: Environment Canada).



Lockheed C-130 Hercules Aircraft

The Lockheed C-130 Hercules is an American four-engine turboprop military transport aircraft designed and built originally by Lockheed (now Lockheed Martin). Capable of using unprepared runways for takeoffs and landings, the C-130 was originally designed as a troop, medevac, and cargo transport aircraft.

The versatile airframe has found uses in a variety of other roles, including as a gunship (AC-130), for airborne assault, search and rescue, scientific research support, weather reconnaissance, aerial refueling, maritime patrol, and aerial firefighting. It is now the main tactical airlifter for many military forces worldwide. More than 40 variants of the Hercules, including civilian versions marketed as the Lockheed L-100, operate in more than 60 nations.

The first batch of C-130A production aircraft were delivered beginning in 1956 to the 463d Troop Carrier Wing at Ardmore AFB, Oklahoma and the 314th Troop Carrier Wing at Sewart AFB, Tennessee. Six additional squadrons were assigned to the 322d Air Division in Europe and the 315th Air Division in the Far East. Additional aircraft were modified for electronics intelligence work and assigned to Rhein-Main Air Base, Germany while modified RC-130As were assigned to the Military Air Transport Service (MATS) photo-mapping division. The C-130A entered service with the U.S. Air Force in December 1956.

In 1958, a U.S. reconnaissance C-130A-II of the 7406th Support Squadron was shot down over Armenia by four Soviet MiG-17s along the Turkish-Armenian border during a routine mission.

Australia became the first non-American force to operate the C-130A Hercules with 12 examples being delivered from late 1958. The Royal Canadian Air Force became another early user with the delivery of four B-models (Canadian designation C-130 Mk I) in October / November 1960.

The Lockheed LC-130 is a ski-equipped United States Air Force variant of the C-130 Hercules used in the Arctic and Antarctic. Ten are currently in service with the 109th Airlift Wing of the New York Air National Guard.

The primary mission of the LC-130 is supporting the scientific community in Antarctica by transporting cargo and personnel from the McMurdo Station to field stations and camps, including the Amundsen–Scott South Pole Station.

The aircraft are equipped with retractable skis that allow the aircraft to land on snow and ice as well as on conventional runways. The aircraft have provisions for using rocket-assisted-takeoff (RATO) rockets, four on each side of the aircraft, that are installed and used when the LC-130 operates from rough, unprepared snow surfaces, sticky snow or when shorter takeoff runs are needed. Originally the expended rocket bottles were jettisonable, but due to several accidents which occurred when a bottle detached from the aircraft during takeoff, the mounting provisions were changed so that the bottles could not be released in the air.

LC-130 Skibird on Antarctica - Ski & JATO Rocket Equipped Cargo Aircraft.

See 4 minutes YouTube Video:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F7eABcN9CHI

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