

C. Z. S. G. PHILATELIC NOTES

Published by the
CANAL ZONE STUDY GROUP

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OUR DEBUT With this modest beginning, the Canal Zone Study Group inaugurates a publication which, it is anticipated, will serve to keep the membership abreast of current activities, and provide a medium for the distribution of information and the fruits of research concerning the stamps and postal history of the Canal Zone.

For the present, the format will be that of a news-letter type mimeographed publication thereby keeping expenses to a minimum. Pages will be numbered consecutively to facilitate indexing later on, and will be of the standard 8 1/2" x 11" size with the left margin sufficiently wide to permit punching and filing in a three-ring binder. An effort will be made to arrange the subject matter on each page so as to facilitate filing by subjects for those who maintain scrap books of articles on Canal Zone Philately.

The title selected for this publication was deemed appropriate to the note book or scrap book nature of the presentation. However, if the membership will make known its preference in this respect, we shall be glad to select a title which meets with popular approval.

An apology is due the Group for the late appearance of this first issue. It should have appeared in January. However, the sudden departure of Major James T. DeVoss on temporary duty away from Washington, combined with work on the revision of the Canal Zone section of the Specialized U. S. Catalog and illness in the family, made it necessary to delay publication until now.

ORIGIN OF THE The concept of an informal group of collectors interested
C. Z. S. G. in study and research work on Canal Zone stamps and the
 private circulation of an informal publication just for
Canal Zone collectors, originated with George W. Brett in a letter to your
Editor back in February 1951. Jim DeVoss soon lent his energy and drive
to the idea and gradually the C. Z. S. G. has taken form. Other Canal Zone
collectors were approached, directly and through the philatelic press and
their opinions and suggestions regarding the proposed organization were
obtained. The response was quite gratifying and in October, 1952, the Group
came into being with the announcement that applications for membership would
be accepted. As a result the C.Z.S.G. now commences its first year of
existence with almost 100 members.

MEMBERSHIP LIST In this issue there is included an alphabetical list of the membership. A breakdown showing collecting interest will appear in a future number of C. Z. S. G. Philatelic Notes. Membership numbers were assigned in the order of receipt of applications. Membership cards are enclosed with this issue of the Notes.

DUES In the original solicitation for membership dated October 10, 1952, each applicant was requested to remit \$2.00 with his or her application, this amount to be applied against dues as ultimately established. During the American Philatelic Congress in Washington late that month, a meeting of some of the early members of the Group agreed that a sliding scale dues be established so that all Canal Zone collectors could participate to the extent each deemed appropriate to his own circumstances.

Accordingly, C. Z. S. G. annual dues for REGULAR MEMBERSHIP have been fixed at \$2.00. Two additional categories of membership have been established for those who wish to contribute a larger sum: SUSTAINING MEMBERSHIP at \$5.00 and CONTRIBUTING MEMBERSHIP for those desiring to provide \$10.00 or more to promote the objectives of the C. Z. S. G. All three types of membership receive the same benefits and privileges.

A second invitation to membership dated November 28, 1952, was sent to Canal Zone collectors who had not as yet sent in applications. This contained the first announcement of the newly established dues and as a result thereof, the following have become Contributing and Sustaining Members:

CONTRIBUTING MEMBERS

James B. Blum
Edward S. Conger
Major James T. DeVoss
Ferdinand Grebien

SUSTAINING MEMBERS

Dr. Chas. Coleman Berwick
Roger H. Bryant
Raymond R. Freshwater
William Huebbe
L. E. Kraft
Col. Harrie S. Mueller
George T. Turner

It is hoped that many others will desire to become Contributing or Sustaining Members so that sufficient funds will be available to carry out the ambitious program that is planned. These extra funds will be used primarily to defray the additional costs of reprints (similar to the enclosed) of articles, papers and pamphlets of permanent reference value to the membership.

Those early applicants who were not aware of the provisions for Sustaining and Contributing Memberships and who may wish to subscribe to either of these classes, may do so by remitting the difference between their original \$2.00 remittance and the class of membership they desire. Such remittance should be sent to the Editor whose address during the first three weeks of March will be 47 West DiLido Drive, Miami Beach 39, Florida.

REPRINT FROM
1952 AMERICAN
PHILATELIC BOOK

Among the papers presented at the 18th American Philatelic Congress were two prepared under the auspices of the C. Z. S. G. The first, entitled "Canal Zone Third Series Counterfeits" by Major James T. DeVoss was the combined results of Jim's interest in photography and original research work on some little known forgeries of the overprints on the third series. The second article, "A Canal Zone Rarity" by your Editor, deals with the intriguing story of the famous 5¢ stamp with the wrong head. A reprint containing both of these papers is distributed to the membership of the C. Z. S. G. with this issue of C. Z. S. G. Philatelic Notes.

C. Z. S. G. SEAL The matter of an emblem or seal for the Group which would embody or suggest a design used on Canal Zone stamps, was a problem until your Editor remembered that the seal of the Canal Zone had been adapted to the current postage due series. With that in mind it was a simple matter to substitute the name of the C. Z. S. G., insert the year of origin and alter the arrangement of the stars to make a seal which symbolizes the Group's area of interest.

CATALOG REVISION The time consuming work of preparing a revision of the Canal Zone Section of Scott's Specialized U. S. Catalog has just about been completed, will soon be submitted to Gordon R. Harmer, Editor of the Catalog. This revision represents the combined work and opinions of a score or more members of the C. Z. S. G. who signified an interest in helping out with this project. It is believed that the revision embodies the wishes of a great majority of collectors of Canal Zone stamps and will be a definite improvement in the listing of these issues, if accepted. Prices have been recommended for many hitherto unpriced varieties and errors. It is not known, at this writing, just how much of the proposed revision will be accepted by Mr. Harmer.

LIST OF CANAL ZONE POST OFFICES There appears to be a great interest in Canal Zone covers, postal markings, and philatelic history, judging from the number of requests received by the Editor for a list of all Canal Zone Post Offices. Such a list appears in this issue and has been compiled from official sources.

There is some disagreement as to whether Culebra, Matachin, Gorgona and Bohio were opened on June 24 or June 25, 1904. Indeed, there is some difference of opinion as to whether any Canal Zone post offices were opened on June 24, 1904, usually accepted as the date the Canal Zone Postal Service was established. Perhaps a bit of research on this point will develop sufficient information to settle the argument.

There are many other topics we would like to cover, but because of lack of time and space, will defer these until the next issue of these Notes.

E. S. C.

CANAL ZONE POSTOFFICES

(Opening and closing dates taken from official C. Z. postal records.)

	<u>Established</u>	<u>Closed</u>	<u>Reestablished</u>	<u>Closed</u>
1. Ancon	6-24-1904			
2. Cristobal	6-24-1904			
3. Gatun	6-24-1904			
4. Empire	6-24-1904	3-31-1921		
5. La Boca	6-24-1904			
name chg to Balboa	5- 5-1909			
6. Culebra	6-25-1904	9-30-1917		
7. Matachin	6-25-1904	8-23-1913		
8. Gorgona	6-25-1904	8-16-1913		
9. Bohio #	6-25-1904	12-31-1911		
10. San Pablo	7- 7-1904	11-29-1911		
11. Ancon Sta. A (Panama City)	(?) * →	4-30-1908		
12. Pedro Miguel*****	8- 2 -1905 12			
13. Bas Obispo	12-28-1905	2- 5-1914		
14. Corozal 6-1-05	1-1-1906**	5-15-1943	2-15-1946	7-31-1952
15. Paraiso 4-5-05	1-1-1906**	4-15-1921	11- 8-1939***	6- 8-1943
16. Tabernilla 4-6-05	1-1-1906**	12-11-1911		
17. Las Cascadas	1-20-1906	2-28-1919		
18. Miraflores	10- 1-1908	9-16-1913		
19. Toro Point	1- 9-1911	1- 1-1912		
20. Cristobal Sta. A (Porto Bello)	8- 1-1911	4-30-1914		
21. Gamboa	3-20-1914			
22. Frijoles	4-16-1914	9-30-1914		
23. Balboa Heights	7-15-1914			
24. Monte Lirio	12-15-1915	4-30-1921		
25. Fort Randolph	4- 1-1916	4-30-1921	7- 1-1938	6-21-1943
26. Fort Sherman	5- 1-1916	5-31-1917	(5- 4-1936 (2-26-1946	6-23-1943 1-31-1950
27. Fort Grant name chg to Fort Amador	7- 1-1916 10-20-1917	4-30-1921	2-11-1946	
28. Coco Solo	3- 1-1919	11- 1-1942	1-16-1946	
29. Fort Clayton	7- 1-1922	4-15-1943	2-20-1946	
30. France Field ##	7- 1-1923	4-15-1943	2-18-1946	10-21-1949
31. Fort Davis	7- 1-1929	6-18-1943	2-18-1946	
32. Madden Dam	1- 2-1932	6-25-1937		
33. Albrook Field*****	12- 1-1939	4-19-1943	2-28-1946 ##	
34. Upham	12- 1-1939	9-15-1942	1-22-1946	11-16-1946
35. Diablo Heights	6- 1-1940			
36. Howard Field ##	6- 1-1941****	6-14-1943	2-16-1946	
37. Cocoli	7- 1-1941			
38. Margarita	8-15-1941			
39. Chagres	4- 6-1942*****	6-30-1944		
40. Fort Gulick	5-21-1942	2- 8-1943	2-25-1946	
41. Curundu	9- 1-1943			
42. Rodman	2- 1-1946			
43. Quarry Heights	2-23-1946	9-30-1949		

- * - Ancon Station A was in operation about two years in the city of Panama in the old French Canal Headquarters Building used by the Isthmian Canal Commission from 1904 until 1908. No records available to show the date the office opened but it closed April 30, 1908 and all records transferred to the Ancon Postoffice.
- ** - No record available to show the dates when these offices were actually established but they were included in a list dated January 20, 1906, as being in operation at that time. Postoffice records indicate the acceptance of the January 1, 1906 date.
- *** - Philatelic covers, with opening day cachet, indicate the Paraiso office was reestablished November 10, 1939.
- **** - The date of June 2, 1941 is indicated as opening day on philatelic covers postmarked from Howard Field.
- ***** - Philatelic covers, with opening day cachet and signed by the acting Postmaster of Chagres, indicate that that office was first opened, at least as a cancelling station, on July 1, 1942.
- ***** - A sub-Postoffice at Camp Chiva was served through the Pedro Miguel office during the period August 1, 1942 to May 31, 1944.
- ***** - A sub-Postoffice at Rio Hato was served through the Albrook Field office during the period November 12, 1940 to April 19, 1943.
- # - No record available showing date this office was closed, but the Postoffice Building was removed prior to September 8, 1911, and the work performed by the Panama Railroad Station Agent. It is relieved the postoffice was abolished about December 31, 1911.
- ## - Effective October 1, 1948, France Field, Albrook Field, and Howard Field became France Air Force Base, Albrook Air Force Base and Howard Air Force Base.

A.P.O. Army	N.Y.	A.P.O. Air Force	N.Y.
Ft. Amador	09834	Albrook A.F.B.	09825
Ft. Clayton	09827	@ Howard A.F.B.	09817
Ft. Davis	09829		
Ft. Gulick	09837		
Ft. Kobbe	09832	F.P.O. Navy	N.Y.
C.H.	09826		
		# Bal.	09580
		# Ft. G.	09580
		Cris.	09584
		Rod.	09585
		# Ft. Am.	09580
# 15th Navy Dist.		Galeta Is.	09584

List* of Army Post Offices Established July 1, 1942
in the Canal Zone During World War II

<u>APO No.</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Terminated</u>
825	Albrook Field	Feb. 27, 1946
826	Fort Amador	Feb. 11, 1946
827**	Fort Clayton	Feb. 20, 1946
828***	Post of Corozal	Feb. 15, 1946
829	Fort Davis	Feb. 18, 1946
830	Fort DeLesseps	Feb. 11, 1946
831	France Field	Feb. 17, 1946
832	Fort Kobbe	Feb. 16, 1946
833	Pedro Miguel/Paraiso	Feb. 7, 1946*****
834	Quarry Heights	Feb. 23, 1946
835	Fort Randolph	Feb. 25, 1946
836	Fort Sherman	Feb. 26, 1946
837	Fort Gulick	Feb. 25, 1946
838	Rio Hato (R. de Panama)	(?) *****
841	David (R. de Panama)	Mar. 1, 1946 #
897	San Jose Island, C. Z.	(?) #

NOTE: All Canal Zone APO's were addressed through the Postmaster at New Orleans, Louisiana. The termination dates given are the dates on which finance service was terminated, i.e., money order and stamp sales discontinued. The APO's may have operated as mailing addresses afterwards.

* - Taken from official Department of the Army records.

** - Units at Camp Chorrera received their mail through the APO at Fort Clayton.

*** - Units at Camp Pacora received their mail through the APO at Corozal.

**** - Although APO 833 was officially terminated on this date, it was suspended during April 1944 and apparently did not actually operate thereafter.

***** - Department of the Army lists no closing date for the APO at Rio Hato, but it is probable that it was terminated about the same date as the Albrook Field APO, Feb. 27, 1946.

- APO 841 at David, and APO 897 at San Jose Island, were established October 31, 1942 and in April, 1946, respectively.