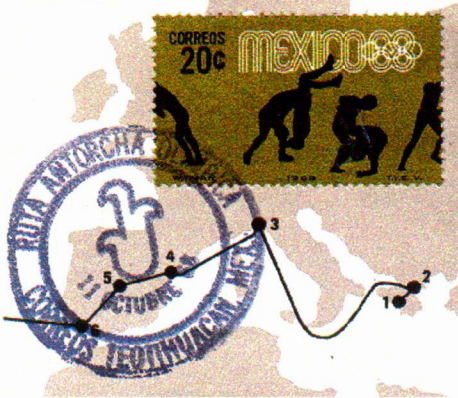




TORCH BEARER



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Mexico 1968 - The Torch Relay



- 1896
- 1900
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- 1908
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- 1932
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- 1940**
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- 2004
- 2008**
- 2012



SOCIETY of OLYMPIC
COLLECTORS

SOCIETY of OLYMPIC COLLECTORS

The representative of F.I.P.O. in Great Britain



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BACK ISSUES: At present, **most** issues of TORCH BEARER are still available to Volume 1, Issue 1, (March 1984), although some are now exhausted.

As stocks of each issue run out, they will not be reprinted. It is Society policy to ensure that new members will be able to purchase back issues for a four year period, but we do not guarantee stocks for longer than this. Back issues cost £2.00 each, or £8.00 for a year's issues, including postage by surface mail. If ordering single copies, please indicate which volume you require. Cheques should be made payable to the SOCIETY of OLYMPIC COLLECTORS and sent with your order to David Buxton at the above address. If you wish to receive back issues by airmail, please add 75 pence per issue (£3.00 per volume).

LIBRARY: Photocopies of articles are available through the Librarian at 10 pence per sheet. Please enclose payment with the order. Books may be borrowed, but postage must be paid IN BOTH DIRECTIONS. The Librarian's address is listed above.

COPY DATES: TORCH BEARER is published four times a year; in February, May, August and November. Articles or adverts for inclusion in a particular issue should be sent at least two months in advance.

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MEMBERSHIP OF THE SOCIETY OF OLYMPIC COLLECTORS

Membership starts on election, of which applicants will be notified, and will last for one calendar year. All back issues of the magazine for the current year will be sent to members joining during the year.

Junior members are those aged under 18 years in the year of joining, subscription rates are half of the adult rate until the 18th birthday.

All applications should be made to the Secretary.

Subscription rates for 2007 are:

U.K. £12.00; Europe, £14.00 (€ 20, \$US 30).

Outside Europe, £19.00 (€ 30, \$US 35, \$AU 45)

Acceptable forms of payment: Sterling, \$US, \$Australian or € currency notes; Sterling cheques; **PayPal - in £ sterling**.

FRONT PAGE

OBITUARY – BETTY MILLER

On Saturday, 9th September 2006 I received a telephone call from John Miller to tell me the sad news that Betty had passed away that afternoon. She had been seriously ill for a number of years and had spent several weeks in hospital under observation.

Their interest in the Olympic Games prompted John and Betty to join S.O.C. and in 1989 Betty took on the job of Secretary of the Society, a position she held for a period of 10 years; they were both tireless workers and rarely missed a committee meeting. They produced every issue of Torch Bearer with the exception of volume 1 up to 1995 on their printer at home, collated it, stapled it, guillotined it and finally packaged and distributed it to members.

They both attended the first Collector's Fair in Lausanne in 1994 and helped to man the Society's stand at Midpex in it's early days. Betty, was a member of Morecambe & District Philatelic Society and ran their packet for a number of years before finally taking over the packet for the North Western Federation

As members of the British Thematic Association they dealt with the printing and distribution of Themescene and other thematic related magazines for many years. In 2006 they were made Honorary Life Members of the BTA and had also received the ABPS Award of Merit at an earlier date.

I attended Betty's funeral in Morecambe on behalf of the Society and we can only offer our sincere condolences to John and his family and thank Betty for a life spent in service to our hobby.

John Crowther

It seems rather late now to be wishing you all a 'Happy New Year', but this my first opportunity. Our thanks to all of you who renewed subscriptions on time, and are receiving this issue.

Publication of this issue was held back intentionally to include information from Lausanne regarding the World Collectors Fair to be staged in Beijing, June 22-29, 2007, which would be outdated if published in May. This represents an opportunity to visit Beijing in advance of the Games, meet with fellow collectors, and enjoy two days of excursions. Please note that the fares and rates quoted later in this issue are conditional on a table being booked - any interested members can contact me by email so that we can try and 'pair' members to share a table. An SOC presence, is intended and some of our overseas members will certainly be there.

The questionnaires returned with renewals have identified a number of areas where articles need to be focused, and potential new authors - these will be addressed or contacted through the year.

**** CORRECTIONS ****

Two very important corrections need to be made to articles in the November issue.

My thanks to Alan Sabey for the first of these.

Volume 23, Issue 4, Page 147: Olympia and its Cancellations.

A number of corrections had been made to this article, mainly titles to illustrations or replacement of illustrations, however a serious error was retained on page 149 regarding the journey of the torch between Athens and London in 1948:

" Once lit, the flame was carried by armoured car to Athens and thence by air to London. "

The Official Report for 1948 (available on the internet), records the true itinerary:

Route of the Relay

The most direct route from Greece to England was to have been used. This meant a sea passage from Greece to Italy, thence through Switzerland and France, and a sea passage to England. However, two additional countries, Luxembourg and Belgium, asked if the Flame could pass through their territory, and this was agreed. The exact route to be followed was fixed with the Olympic Committees of the countries concerned and the final route decided upon was as follows :

Greece. - Owing to the unsettled state of the country the Flame went direct from Olympia to the coast at Katakolon, thence by Greek warship to the island of Corfu. Adriatic.—The Admiralty willingly gave their co-operation in providing warships to make the sea passages. From Corfu, H.M.S. Whitesand Bay, a frigate of the Mediterranean Fleet, carried the Flame to Bari in Italy. Though this passage was planned to take only 22 hours, H.M.S. Whitesand Bay, had to be ready to carry the Flame for a period of up to 48 hours in case there was a last minute change of route in Greece. It was therefore decided that she should burn a gas Flame, and a special burner for this was made by Spencers (London), Ltd. It was fed with butane gas, the same fuel as was used for the Flame at Wembley and Torquay. The burner, piping and gas cylinders were sent to the Mediterranean by the Admiralty, being shipped in H.M.S. Liverpool in April, 1948, when she also took the torches for Greece.

Italy. - Bari, Foggia, Pescara, Ancona, Rimini, Bologna, Parma, Piacenza, Milan, Domodossola, the Simplon Pass.

Switzerland. - Brig, Martigny, Montreux, Lausanne, Geneva, Perly.

France. - St. Julien en Genevois, Belgarde, Nantua, Lons-le-Saulnier, Poligny, Besancon, Vesoul, Epinal, Nancy, Metz, Thionville, Evrange.

Luxembourg. - Frisange, Esch, Luxembourg City, Ettelbruck, Wiltz.

Belgium. - Bras, Bastogne, Marche, Namur, Brussels, Renaix, Tournai, Hertain.

France. - Lille, Armentieres, St. Omer, Calais.

English Channel. - H.M.S. Bicester, a destroyer of the Nore Command, was detailed to carry the Flame from Calais to Dover.

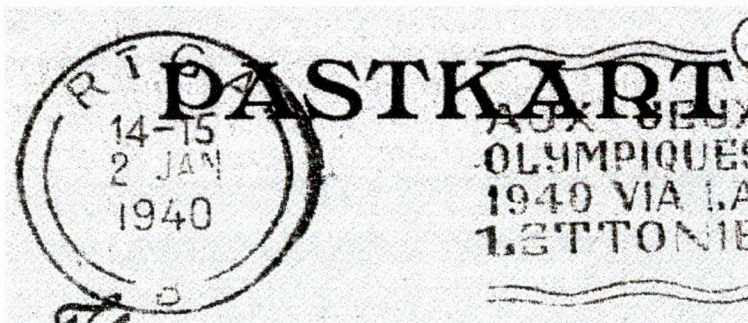
England. -The route from Dover to Wembley passed through the following towns :- Dover, Canterbury, Charing, Maidstone, Westerham, Redhill, Reigate, Dorking, Guildford, Bagshot, Ascot, Windsor, Slough, and Uxbridge.

(Source document: Official Report 1948, page 209)

My thanks to Glenn Estus for the second error. Glenn wrote regarding
XII Olympiad 1940 - Helsinki Volume 23, Issue 4 Page 155 :

" On page 165: I believe that the Riga cancel shown at the top is actually dater "B" rather than "C". I have never heard of a "C" dater before. According to one correspondent "B" is known on only 5 covers, and is therefore extremely rare. "

Glenn is quite correct. In manipulating the image for printing, I had lost some of the definition of the dater letter leading to the incorrect identification - worse still, I had missed the hand written note on another photocopy provided that it was "the scarce 'B' cancel"!



Remember the Society auction and exchange packet when disposing of your duplicate material.

**- The Managers would be pleased to receive your lots.
Take the opportunity to reach fellow Olympic collectors**

ABUSIVE STAMP ISSUES

As reported briefly in the last issue of Torch Bearer, the following letter was published in the Journal of Sports Philately - the journal of Sports Philatelists International, our colleagues in the United States of America:

Italian Turin Olympic stamps not FIPO-approved

Have read with interest and satisfaction the last number of the Journal [Summer 2006]. Thomas' article was excellent and does in fact reflect the postal history at Turin.

HOWEVER, FIPO MUST BRING TO THE ATTENTION OF THE COLLECTORS THAT THE ITALIAN STAMPS ISSUED IN 2005 AND 2006 WERE NOT APPROVED BY THE IOC. CERTAINLY, THEY ARE LEGAL FROM THE POSTAL POINT OF VIEW, BUT CONSIDERED ABUSIVE BY IOC/PHILATELY. A claim is under consideration and we sincerely hope that a settlement will be found; if not, the stamps will be declared to the UPU as abusive.

The medallists' stamps have become very popular after FIPO in partnership with Australia Post, launched them in 2000. In 2006, besides Austria, Czech Republic, Estonia, Germany, Belarus, and Australia launched medalists' stamps, approved and authorised by IOC/Philately.

Please bring the above letter to the attention of your readers.

Cordially yours,

Manfred Bergman.

Lausanne, Switzerland.

Both the content of the letter and its timing provoke some thoughts and raise a number of questions.

One assumes that the intention of declaring a stamp issue abusive, is to discourage collectors from purchasing and including such issues in their collection or exhibits, and I am sure that there are some collectors who will consider the status of such issues in compiling their collections or assembling exhibits, however there are further considerations:

- An apparent conflict between the postal legitimacy and 'abusive' nature of stamp issues;
- The time-line that appears to exist in first notifying a potential 'abusive' issue. In this instance the 2005 issue had been available for eighteen months, the 2006 issue for six months. Both issues had been extensively reported in the publications of FIPO member societies without soliciting a response.
- For collectors who wish to avoid issues considered abusive, this delayed and very restrictive method of notification is meaningless - how many collectors wait eighteen months to acquire new issues, particularly of a host nation postal authority? For those who collect genuinely postally used items, any meaningful notification would need to be made prior to issue.
- As a result, the postal legitimacy is certain to become the primary consideration for serious collectors of modern issues by the host nation postal authorities.
- To have any meaning, the method of notifying abusive issues must be made to a wider forum, and at a more appropriate time.

"A claim is under consideration and we sincerely hope that a settlement will be found; if not, the stamps will be declared to the UPU as abusive."

This statement raises further questions and concerns:

- It confirms that the 'abusive' status has still not been determined;
- It suggests that 'a settlement' will be found. What are the criteria that enable an issue to move into or out of the abusive category? It cannot be either the design or the face values of the stamps, as for both of the issues identified, they already exist. The only conclusion that can be reached is that either a financial consideration is being sought or copies of the issues as 'payment in kind'.
- If this is the determining factor in removing the abusive categorisation of these issues, it appears to be a straightforward 'protected rights' argument, and as such should not impede our hobby - it is a matter for resolution between the parties directly involved, the holder of the rights and the party infringing those rights.
- Collectors cannot be expected to await the outcome of such adjudications or negotiations after such issues have been made and achieved postal legitimacy.

Such disputes or retrospective designation of an issue as abusive are unhelpful to our hobby.

The designs used for the Torino 2006 issues by the Italian Postal Authority have received a degree of critical acclaim, and their adherence to face values with legitimate postal use is to be applauded.

The designation of any status that attaches infamy to an issue normal has two results:

- It confirms a 'must have' status on the issue;
- It causes discord within the collecting community.

Whilst the negotiations in this instance have taken too long to limit the sales or availability of the issues concerned, and withdrawal or recall of the issues is impractical, one only has to think back to the withdrawal of the Sampanis issue by ELTA in 2004 to evidence the interest created by confirming an unusual status on an issue.

Among collectors, who will actually be influenced by an issue (from a host nation) being identified as 'abusive'?

In the circumstances surrounding these issues, I suspect that very few if any, collectors will be influenced - the late notification invalidates any potential impact.

As for the restricted availability, over face value issues by Austria Post, one can only assume that a suitable agreement was reached in advance to avoid these issues being designated as abusive.

There appears to be a degree of irony here somewhere.

To have any influence we all need a clear definition of the potential reasons that an issue may be designated as abusive, and timely notification, certainly before issue, the status of an issue cannot be allowed to remain in doubt pending a settlement being found.

Black or white please, no shades of grey.

13th WORLD OLYMPIC COLLECTORS' FAIR - BEIJING 2007



OLYMPIC MUSEUM
LAUSANNE

To Olympic Collectors

Ref. No. 71073 JAS/smn

Lausanne, 16 March 2007

Invitation to attend the 13th World Olympic Collectors' Fair – Beijing 2007

Dear Friends, Dear Collectors,

The 13th World Olympic Collectors' Fair will be held from 23 to 28 June 2007 in Beijing, under the auspices of the International Olympic Committee, the Beijing 2008 Olympic Games Organising Committee, the Chinese Olympic Committee and China Post. The Fair will be organised by the China Sports Philately Association.

On behalf of the Fair Organising Committee, I am honoured and pleased to invite you to this great event, an ideal exchange platform for all those passionate about Olympism.

For this, we are sending you the registrations form, which you will need to return to us by 15 May 2007 at the latest. **Only those who have reserved a table will be able to take advantage of our preferential rates.** As the number of places is limited, registrations will be dealt with in the order they are received.

Looking forward to welcoming you to Beijing, I remain,

Yours faithfully,

Juan Antonio SAMARANCH
Chairman of the Olympic Philately,
Numismatic and Memorabilia Commission

13th World Olympic Collectors' Fair - Beijing 2007
Desheng International Culture Exchange Centre, Beijing, China
23 - 28 June 2007

Programme

Friday, 22 June 2007	Arrival in Beijing Customs formalities, transfer to hotel Registration, information, set-up
Saturday, 23 June 2007	1 st day of the Fair
Sunday, 24 June 2007	2 nd day of the Fair Official ceremony at 11 a.m. Gala evening
Monday, 25 June 2007	3 rd day of the Fair
Tuesday, 26 June 2007	4 th day of the Fair
Wednesday, 27 June 2007	5 th day of the Fair Trading at stands, or optional excursion (at additional cost) to the Great Wall and Ming Tombs
Thursday, 28 June 2007	6 th day of the Fair Trading at stands, or optional excursion (at additional cost) to the Forbidden City and the Summer Palace
Friday, 29 June 2007	Transfer to the airport, departure from Beijing.

Accommodation

The Organising Committee can obtain special rates, and will be happy to make reservations **for people reserving a table only** from 22 to 29 June 2007. A minimum stay from 22 to 26 June is required. Detailed information about hotels is listed. For any other date outside the period of the Fair, you are kindly requested to contact the hotel of your choice direct in order to arrange bookings.

Customs

As the 13th Fair is included in the Cultural Olympiad of the Games of the XXIX Olympiad, Beijing 2008, China Customs will provide the same simple customs formalities as for the other Olympic-related events. Additional information will be sent together with your confirmation of attendance at the Fair.

As stand holders will be sellers or traders, we strongly urge you to contact a forwarding agent in your region who will make all the necessary arrangements for temporary export from your country and transit to Beijing.

- Precious metals

The import of precious metals (gold, silver, platinum and alloys of these) is subject to the China Customs regulations. It is therefore necessary to provide them with a comprehensive list of the items to be imported, specifying their value, composition and where applicable, the hallmark, in order to avoid delays or even an outright refusal to allow their importation into China.

Currency exchange

There will be a temporary money exchange booth at the Desheng International Culture Exchange Centre during the event.

Security

As in the past, valuable articles can be stored overnight in an appropriate manner. However, the Organising Committee declines all responsibility in the case of theft.

Food and beverages

As at previous Fairs, participants will be able to buy food and drinks (tea, coffee, soft drinks, snacks, etc.) from the food and drink booth located in the Fair venue.

Activities

- Free entry to the exhibition areas of the Fair for all accredited participants
- Personalised pins, postcards and envelopes
- An official ceremony will take place on 24 June at 11 a.m. in the presence of IOC Honorary President Juan Antonio Samaranch, and officials of the Beijing Olympic Games Organising Committee and the Chinese Olympic Committee.
- Excursions at additional cost to the Great Wall, Ming Tombs, the Forbidden City and the summer palace will be organised on 27 and 28 June 2007.

Diplomas

One diploma will be issued for each participant.

Philately Exhibition

At the request of FIPO, the National Sports and Philately Exhibition with competitive classes of more than 300 frames (selection for Olympihlex 2008) will be held by the China Sports Philately Association during the same period.

Special rates have been negotiated to facilitate the travel and stay of all those taking part in the 13th Olympic Collectors' World Fair in Beijing. Basic tables and lockable showcase tables with lighting will be provided on the first and second floors of the Desheng International Culture Exchange Centre. **Hire of the tables includes a sales authorisation for no more than two participants per table.** As the Chinese regulations are strict about this, **no sales will be permitted elsewhere.**

Opening hours

From 9.00 a.m. to 5.30 p.m. non-stop on all six days

Transport

Special airfares in Economy class have been negotiated with Air China **for people reserving a table only** (on a first-come, first-served basis). Long haul flights are operated by Air China (following schedule subject to changes). Connecting flights with Lufthansa or Swiss International Airlines are available from other European cities.

Flight	Date	From	Departure	To	Arrival
CA 966	21 June	Frankfurt	14:50	Beijing	06:20 + 1
CA 932	21 June	Frankfurt	20:15	Beijing	11:35 + 1
CA 938	21 June	London LHR	20:25	Beijing	13:35 + 1
CA 912	21 June	Stockholm	18:10	Beijing	08:20 + 1
CA 940	21 June	Rome FCO	20:10	Beijing	12:05 + 1
CA 934	21 June	Paris CDG	19:10	Beijing	10:55 + 1
CA 910	21 June	Moscow SVO	20:15	Beijing	07:35 + 1
CA 984	21 June	Los Angeles	01:40	Beijing	05:20 + 1
CA 982	21 June	New York JFK	16:30	Beijing	18:00 + 1

Flight	Date	From	Departure	To	Arrival
CA 965	29 June	Beijing	02:00	Frankfurt	05:20
CA 931	29 June	Beijing	14:15	Frankfurt	18:20
CA 937	29 June	Beijing	13:50	London LHR	17:50
CA 911	29 June	Beijing	13:40	Stockholm	16:50
CA 939	29 June	Beijing	13:40	Rome FCO	18:20
CA 933	29 June	Beijing	12:35	Paris CDG	17:20
CA 909	29 June	Beijing	14:25	Moscow SVO	18:35
CA 983	29 June	Beijing	20:30	Los Angeles	17:45
CA 981	29 June	Beijing	13:00	New York JFK	14:30

For flights with other airlines or on alternative dates, please make your own arrangements.

Accommodation

North Star Apartment Hotel (four-star)

Situated in Tower C of the Chinese Science Exhibition Centre, opened in 2002. The 23 storey building, with the inimitable outline and classic design, in a convenient location and surrounded by an elegant environment, covers a total area of 36,000 m². The hotel, with an eastward view of Zhongzhou Road, is on the west of the Jingchang Expressway. There are short routes to the Central Business District, Zhongguancun Science Park, Central Finance District and the Capital Airport from the hotel, being adjacent to the Desheng Science Park.

In the Zijinge Chinese restaurant on the 14th floor, you will be served with authentic Cantonese and Sichuan cuisines, while in the revolving sightseeing restaurant on the top level, Chinese and Western buffet breakfasts, business meals and High cuisine are available. Benefiting from an excellent view of the Olympic Park and Olympic Village will be another pleasure as you enjoy your dinner. 1.5km from the Fair.

Standard room (2 beds). The special rate for the 13th World Olympic Collector's Fair is per room per day, including two breakfasts.



Oriental Bay International Hotel (five-star)

Situated at No. 9, Dixing Ju, Ande Road, Dongcheng District, the northeast corner of the intersection of the North 2nd Ring Road and Zhongzhou Road, Beijing, just a 100m-walk from the Gulou Street Subway Station and just 2 minutes' drive from the entrance of the airport expressway. The hotel is adjacent to many age-old scenic spots such as the Lama Temple, the Bell Tower and the Drum Tower, the Schichahai and the Temple of Earth. Covering a total area of about 70,000 m², the hotel is of top quality and was opened in 2006. 1.5km from the Fair.

Standard room (2 beds). The special rate for the 13th World Olympic Collector's Fair is per room per day, including two breakfasts.



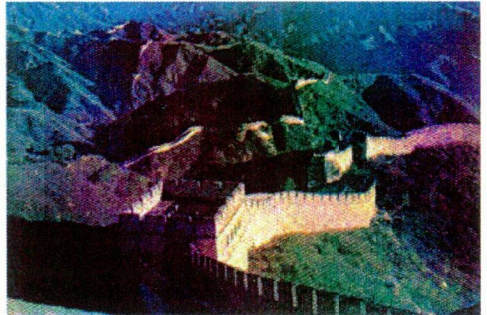
Two Day's Tour in Beijing (27-28 June 2007).

27 June, Badaling Great Wall, Ming Tombs

09:00 Meet in the hotel lobby. Travel to the Badaling Great Wall

10:30-12:00 Badaling Great Wall Tour

The Great Wall is one of the wonders of the world created by human beings! People often say : "Men who have not climbed the Great Wall are not true men." The Badaling Great Wall is the eminent representation of the Great Wall.



12:30-14:00 Lunch at the Dayi Restaurant

14:30-16:00 Tour of the Ming Tombs

The Ming Tombs are located at the southern foot of the Tianshou Mountains in the northern suburban areas of Beijing. There are 13 Ming emperors buried there. The Changling Tomb is renowned for its magnificent buildings and Dingling for its wonderful excavations.



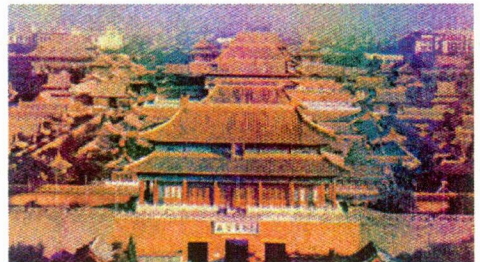
16:00-17:30 Travel back to the hotel

28 June, Forbidden City and Summer Palace

09:00 Meet in the hotel lobby.

10:00-11:40 Tour of the Forbidden City

The Forbidden City (Imperial Palace), located in the centre of Beijing, was the former Imperial Palace for the Ming and Qing dynasties. It is the largest and most well-preserved complex of palaces in China, as well as the largest group of palaces in the world.

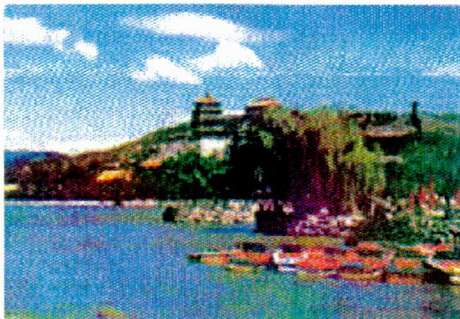


11:40 Depart for lunch at the TingLiGuan Restaurant

13:00-14:30 Lunch at the TingLiGuan Restaurant

14:30-17:00 Tour of the Summer Palace

The Summer Palace is an outstanding example of a Chinese imperial garden, and a potent symbol of one of the world's major civilisations. In December 1998, the UNESCO World Heritage Committee included Beijing's Summer Palace in the World Heritage List.



17:00-18:30 Travel back to the hotel

Two day tour includes:

- Two lunches; Transport from hotel to the four locations; English-speaking guide; Entrance tickets to the four sites; Personal injury insurance during the tour.

Registration

For a copy of the registration form, which must be returned to Lausanne before May 15, please contact the editor. All bookings must be pre-paid by credit card.

Bookings must include a trading stand / table to access the preferential rates listed.

Trading stand (maximum 2 persons per table) US\$ 230.00

Air China flights, to and from Beijing,

(per person, taxes included): From Europe US\$ 600.00

From U.S.A US\$ 850.00

Hotel accommodation (only double rooms)

(rate per room per day including breakfasts)

Oriental Bay International Hotel 5* US\$ 89.00

North Star Apartment Hotel 4* US\$ 66.00

Two day Beijing excursion (per person) US\$ 89.00

BEIJING 2008 MASCOTS - further items



The Chinese Postal Authorities continue to introduce new philatelic products for the collector.

Following the launch of the mascots and the associated stamp issue, a 'new' form of collectable has been introduced - Greetings cards with stamp enclosed.

For each stamp design, a folded greeting card and illustrated envelope for mailing was prepared. The cards are blank except for a Welcome to Beijing text, for the sender to add their own message or greeting, however, a mint copy of the stamp is enclosed within a hingeless mount.

同一个世界 同一个梦想
One World One Dream

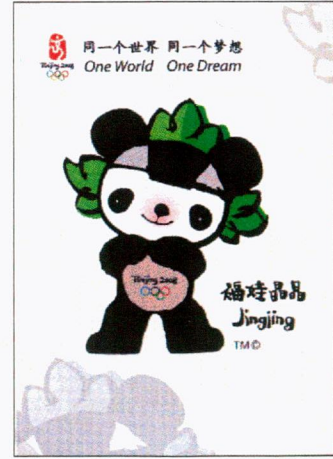
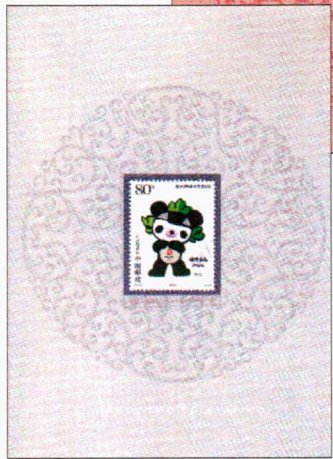


Top: inside of card, with stamp. NINI

Lower left: Cachet to envelope.

Lower right: Front of greetings card.





A series of five postcards with attached 'information tab', which is separated by rouletting to allow removal before mailing.

The tabs contain text explaining the background to the design of each mascot, in Chinese on the face, English on the back.

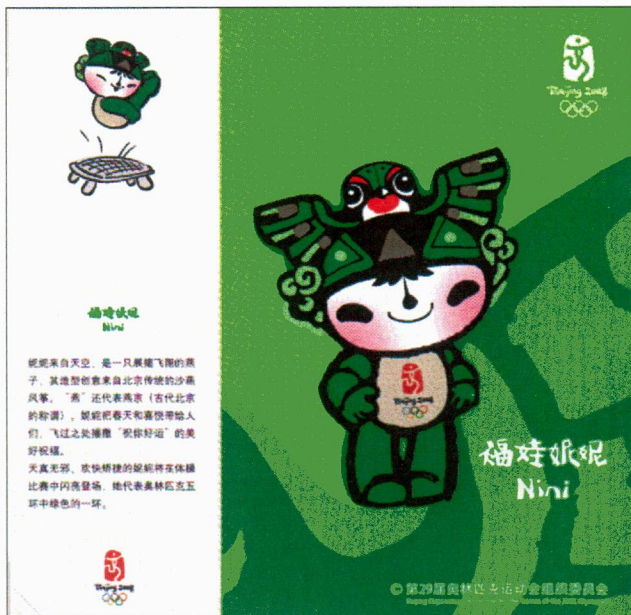
In China's traditional culture and art, the fish and water designs are symbols of prosperity and harvest. And so Beibei carries the blessing of prosperity. A fish is also a symbol of surplus in Chinese culture, another measure of a good year and a good life.

The ornamental lines of the water-wave designs are taken from well-known Chinese paintings of the past. Among the Five Friendlies, Beibei is known to be gentle and pure. Strong in water sports, she reflects the blue Olympic ring.



In the intimate circle of Friendlies, Huanhuan is the big brother. He is a child of fire, symbolizing the Olympic Flame and the passion of sport - and passion is the blessing he bestows. Huanhuan stands in the centre of Friendlies as the core embodiment of the Olympic spirit. And while he inspires all with the passion to run faster, jump higher, and be stronger, he is also open and inviting. Wherever the light of Huanhuan shines, the inviting warmth of Beijing 2008 - and the wishful blessings of the Chinese people - can be felt. The fiery designs of his head ornament are drawn from the famed Dunhuang murals - with just a touch of China's traditional lucky designs. Huanhuan is outgoing and enthusiastic. He excels at all ball games and represents the red Olympic ring.

Jingjing makes children smile - and that's why he brings the blessing of happiness wherever he goes. You can see his joy in the charming naivety of his dancing pose and the lovely wave of his black and white fur. As a national treasure and a protected species, pandas are adored by people everywhere. The lotus designs in Jingjing's headdress, which are inspired by the porcelain paintings of the Song Dynasty (960-1234), symbolize the lush forest and the harmonious relationship between man and nature. Jingjing was chosen to represent our desire to protect nature's gifts - and to preserve the beauty of nature for all generations. Jingjing is charmingly naive and optimistic. He is an athlete noted for strength who represents the black Olympic ring.



Every spring and summer, the children of Beijing have flown beautiful kites on the currents of wind that blow through the capital. Among the kite designs, the golden-winged swallow is traditionally one of the most popular. Nini's figure is drawn from this grand tradition of flying designs. Her golden wings symbolize the infinite sky and spread good-luck as a blessing wherever she flies. Swallow is also pronounced "yan" in Chinese, and Yanjing is what Beijing was called as an ancient capital city. Among the Friendlies, Nini is as innocent and joyful as a swallow. She is strong in gymnastics and represents the green Olympic ring.

Like all antelopes, Yingying is fast and agile and can swiftly cover great stretches of land as he races across the earth. A symbol of the vastness of China's landscape, the antelope carries the blessing of health, the strength of body that comes from harmony with nature. Yingying's flying pose captures the essence of a species unique to the Qinghai-Tibet Plateau, one of the first animals put under protection in China. The selection of the Tibetan Antelope reflects Beijing's commitment to a Green Olympics. His head ornament incorporates several decorative styles from the Qinghai-Tibet and Sinkiang cultures and the ethnic design traditions of Western China. Strong in track and field events, Yingying is a quick-witted and agile boy who represents the yellow Olympic ring.



A booklet of six postcards, the mascots and Beijing 2008 emblem. The cards have an attached information tab on the lefthand short edge, for removal before mailing.

The text again gives details of the designs, but in an abbreviated form to that of the previous series.

The cards generally appear used as maxi-cards for the stamp issue.



Booklet cover



The six postcards included in the booklet all used as maximum cards.

1956 Melbourne Publicity Slogans: Sydney

Bob Wilcock & Tom D'Arcy

Sydney is great fun for the collector when it comes to identifying the Olympic dies. There were 18 cancelling machines in Sydney, and 18 Olympic dies were allocated. Sydney generates the largest volume of mail for any Australian city, and Olympic slogans from Sydney are perhaps the commonest, but, as happened everywhere, the Olympic dies migrated from machine to machine during the different periods of use, and sometimes on the same day, and 100 or more combinations are known, as the table below indicates.

Thanks to Noel Almeida, Glenn Estus, Uwe Krüger and other collectors, hundreds of examples have been examined, and 18 dies have been identified.

Some dies are quite distinct (e.g. SY-9), others fall into groups and within each group differences can be very fine. Variations in individual impressions, slogans partly obscured by stamps, these factors make identification a challenge at times. This section and appendix will give invaluable help, but luck and patience will be needed in good measure to identify slogans in your own collection!

Date Dies

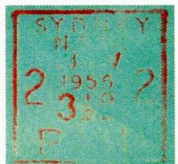
The listing that follows is primarily taken from *The Postal History of Sydney* by A.E. Orchard & R. Tobin, and their numbering is used. The periods of use shown are overall periods, not the periods when the Olympic die was in use; those periods, so far as known, are shown below.



SP-0
A PAID die without designation as to machine. Possibly a reserve dater, and may have been used in any available machine. Known used in 1955 & 1956. (Red ink used)



S1c
Used from 1 April 1954 to 12 February 1960. Machine primarily for airmail.



SP-1
(General pre-paid mail, not confined to airmail)

SP-2a
Thicker letters & numerals; gap between D & N; P has smaller loop



SP-2b
Finer letters & numerals; gap between Y & D; P has larger loop

S3c
Used from 15 January 1954 to 18 April 1960, usually on mail that had missed regular cancel, and generally without a time.
Large square-topped 3's, 7 mm high. A distinct space

S3d
Random use December 1955; reported used with Olympic die 1 Oct. 1956

Large square – topped 3's, 5.5 mm high; SYDNEY



SP-3

One example only has come to light, dated 3 JULY 1956



Sydney 4 & 5

Not known with Olympic die



S6d

Used from 21 December 1953 to 9 November 1955, primarily on airmail.

The left '6' is narrower than the right '6'; SYDNEY is close to the frame

S6e

Used from 9 December 1955 to 10 September 1957

Taller lettering in 'N.S.W. AUST.'. Slightly taller lettering in 'SYDNEY' which is further from the frame.



S7h

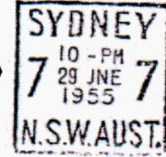
Used from 21 December 1953 to 1 March 1955

Tall narrow lettering in 'SYDNEY' and 'N.S.W. AUST'. Machine used for interstate & surface mail in the Olympic period

S7i

Used from 1 March 1955 to 30 November 1955

Smaller lettering. Square 'D' in 'SYDNEY'



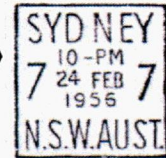
S7i (inverted)

time/ day/year with year inverted
Olympic die in use on the day.

S7j

Used from 11 December 1955 to November 1956

Large gap between 'D' and 'N' in 'SYDNEY'
Later impressions have a kink in the top frame line above NE



S8i

Used occasionally between 1954 and 1959; reported with Olympic die in April '56.

Smallish lettering.

The left '8' slopes to the left.

Machine used for pillar box mail & airmail

S8m

Used occasionally in 1954-56

Narrow, tall lettering; tall numerals





S8n
Used occasionally during 1954 to 1956

Smallish lettering. Square 'D' in 'SYDNEY'



S8o
Used from 3 April 1954 to 10 August 1955

Rounded lettering in 'N.S.W. AUST.'. The left '8' is narrower than the right '8'



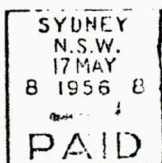
S8p
Used from 2 September 1955 to 10 March 1956

'SYDNEY' is left of centre. The right '8' slopes to the left



S8q
Used from 9 April 1956 to 17 October 1956

Similar to S8p but smaller '8's' and taller 'SYDNEY' and 'N.S.W. AUST.'. The right '8' slopes to the right



SP-8
Small 8, very distinctive.

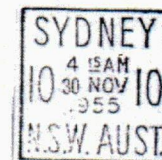


S9l
Used from 8 January 1954 to about 30 November 1955
Small lettering and '9's
Machine used for pillar box mail & airmail



S9m
Used from about 15 December 1955 to 5 December 1956

Large lettering and rounded 'D' in 'SYDNEY'



S10j
Used from 2 November 1954 to 16 November 1955
Large lettering, tall narrow '10's
Machine allocated to City Mail



S10k
Used from 1 October 1955 to 14 November 1957

No serifs on '10' 's

S12d
Used from 13 February 1954 to 10 September 1956
Small lettering and '12's,
Top loop of 'S' of 'SYDNEY' smaller than bottom,
Centre bar of 'E' below middle
Machine allocated to country mail





S12e

Used from 21 November 1956 to 30 May 1960
Letters and numbers are slightly bigger than S12d, the loops of 'S' are even, the bar of 'E' is central.

Seen as arrival marker, & on international mail



S14d

Used from 21 March 1951 to 2 December 1955

Small lettering and numbers

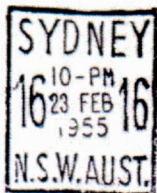
Machine allocated to suburban mail.



S14e

Used from 16 December 1955 to 12 September 1958

Tall squarish lettering in 'SYDNEY'



S16c

Used from 12 January 1954 to 19 December 1956

Large lettering and numbers

Machine used for general mail



S17a

Used from 1 October 1949 to 7 January 1958

Machine used for overseas mail



S18b

Small letters & numerals.

1 DEC 1954 is very late use



S18c

Used from 9 September 1955 to 20 March 1958

Rectangular '8's in the numbers. The '1's are sans serif

S18x

Not listed by Orchard & Tobin

Only one example has been seen dated 6 April 1955. It is similar to S18c except that 'SYDNEY' and 'N.S.W. AUST.'

Use smaller letters, the '8's are rounded and '1's are with serifs. The distorted top of the frame would indicate that it

had considerable wear or that it had been damaged

severely and had a very short usage



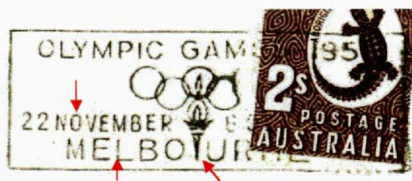
The table that follows shows the dates reported as used with each Olympic die. . A word of caution is necessary. Firstly, it has not been possible to double-check each attribution. There may be inadvertent error occasionally where the same die is shown used on different machines at the same time.

However, frequently dies were changed during a period of use of the slogan and there are definite examples of dies being changed during the course of the day, even in the middle of a run: a technical problem may have led to the die being changed and the run continuing without the time being changed.

	SP0	S1	SP1	SP2	S3	SP3	S6d	S6e	S7h	S7i	S7j	S8l	S8m	S8n	S8o	S8p
SY-1					X					X	X		X	X	X	
SY-2					X			X	X	X	X					
SY-3		X	X			X	X			X						
SY-4			X	V			X			X		X				
SY-5	V		X				X			X	X					X
SY-6		X	X		X		X				X	X				
SY-7		X						X	X		X				X	X
SY-8	V		X	V					X	X		X		X	X	X
SY-9								X						X		X
SY-10				V			X				X				X	
SY-11		X		V	X					X	X					
SY-12					X		X									X
SY-13			X	V							X					
SY-14	P				X			X			X	X	X		X	
SY-15										X	X					X
SY-16	V							X			X			X		X
SY-17	V	X							X						X	
SY-18		X									X					

Sydney Slogans – Comparative Grouping

Groups A & B: 'M' of MELBOURNE is beneath 'O' of NOVEMBER and 'R' of NOVEMBER ends above 'O' of MELBOURNE



SY-1
Torch nearer U than O



SY-3
8 high; Stubby high-topped Torch

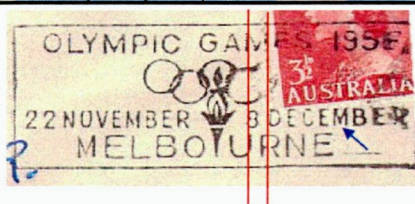
The tables represent the best that has been able to be done on the information available and hopefully will give the collector a good start in sorting out a collection.

A full, day-by-day, die-by-die, table has been prepared, but it does not fit well to the printed page. It is available as an Excel spreadsheet by e-mail request to: bob@towlard.freeserve.co.uk

SP8	S9l	S9m	S10j	S10k	S12d	S12e	S14d	S14e	S16	S17	S18b	S18c	S18X
		X		X					X			X	
		X		X	X				X			X	
	X	X	X	X	X			X					
		X		X					X				X
X		X					X	X				X	
	X			X					X				
			X		X	X					X		
	X	X							X	X			
		X								X		X	
	X		X		X				X				
X				X					X				
		X	X	X				X	X				
	X			X		X			X				
		X		X				X					
					X			X					
			X				X					X	



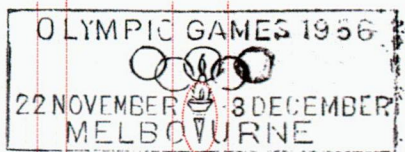
SY-5
Short stalked M in December



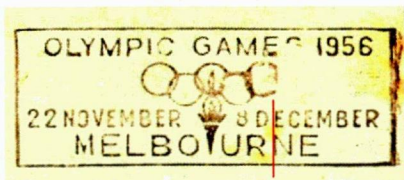
SY-7
Torch wrong for SY-1
8 D wrong for SY-3, & SY-5 (8 low)



SY-8
M in OlyMpic, 22 & 8 D differ from SY-5, M in DeceMber from SY-7



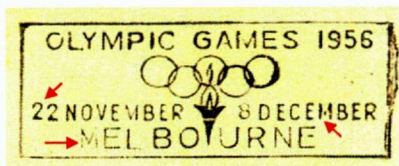
SY-9 (Group B)



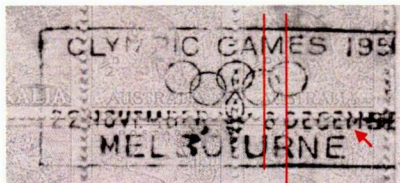
SY-10
8 high but short –stalked M in December
(contrast SY-3)



SY-12
MP short, 22 tall & apart,
M of November high

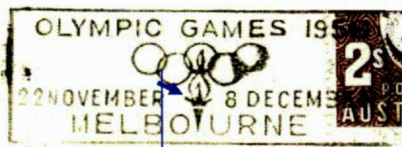


SY-15
Offset 22; is key,
8 high, short stalks on 2 Ms



SY-18
Low 8 as SY-7 but short-stalked M in December
& 8 D slightly more to right

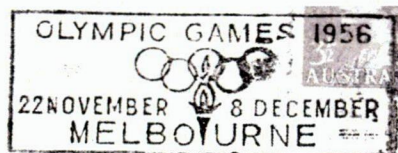
Group C: 'M' of MELBOURNE is beneath 'OV' of NOVEMBER and
'R' of NOVEMBER ends above 'B' of MELBOURNE



SY-2
Torch low with wings level with middle of R &
8
22N evenly spaced



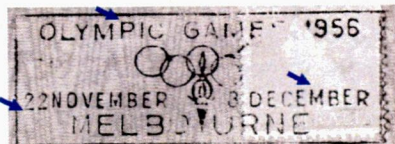
SY-6
22_N; 8 high
Stubby Torch level with top of R & 8
Small D



SY-11
Torch high with wings level with top part of R
& 8
22N evenly spaced
8 over U and set low



SY-13
Tall 22.
Torch straight top, no wings.
8 starts above end of U



SY-14

R ends just after B; Torch fuller
8 starts after U and is close to D
M short stalks in NOVEM, DECEM and MEL

SY-17

P high; 22 set low R ends just after B
8 starts above U
CEMBE

Group D: 'M' of MELBOURNE is beneath 'OV' of NOVEMBER and
'R' of NOVEMBER ends above 'O' of MELBOURNE



SY-4

Foot of 2nd 2 tends to tilt down;
Winged Torch
EM high in DecEMBER

SY-16

Torch high; OV high
Gap between E & M in NovE_M

Dates the Olympic dies were in use

The slogans were used slightly more extensively in Sydney than suggested in the Philatelic Bulletin. Further examples may well show that actual periods shown below were extended by a day or two before or after the dates shown.

Official dates of use	Actual dates of use seen	Official dates of use	Actual dates of use seen
1954: 1-4 December	1954: 1-4 December	1956	3 - 9 January
1955: 2-8 January <i>or</i> <u>9-16 January</u>	1955: 9-16 January	21-27 February	20-25 February
20-26 February	20-28 February	4-10 April	4-11 April
3-9 April	3-9 April	16-22 May	16-21 May
15-21 May	15-21 May		18-25 June
	18 June (Paid)	26 June - 3 July	29 June - 4 July
26 June - 2 July	26 June - 4 July	8-14 August	8-15 August
21-27 August	15-19 August		24 Aug.-3 Sep.
24-30 September	26 Sept.-2 Oct.	25 September -	25 September -
	23 Nov.-3 Dec.	1st October	2nd October
20-26 November		21-27 November	21-28 November

The following two pages illustrate reference copies of all 18 Sydney dies, to assist in identification of individual copies.

SY-1				
SY-2				
SY-3				
SY-4				
SY-5				
SY-6				
SY-7				
SY-8				
SY-9				

(unique die with hollow Torch)

SY-10				
SY-11				
SY-12				
SY-13				
SY-14				
SY-15				
SY-16				
SY-17				
SY-18				

MEXICO 1968 - THE TORCH RELAY



Based on the Official Report 1968, Vol 2, pages 243-248

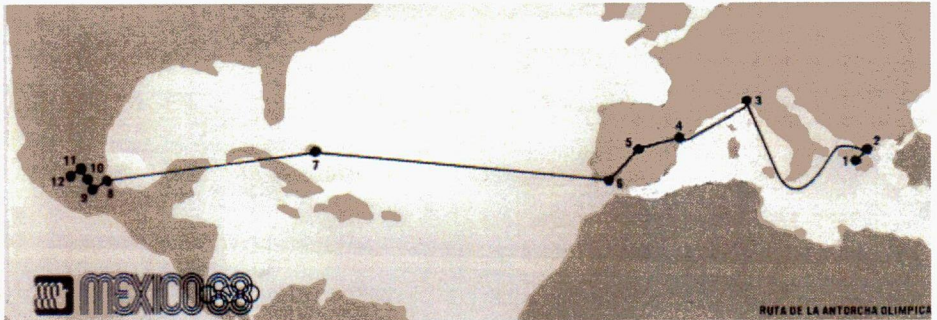
The Olympic Flame was lit at Olympia, Greece, on the sunny morning of August 23, 1968. A small amount of resin was placed in a vessel containing a concave metal mirror by Greek actress Maria Mosxoliou. Reflected rays of intense sunlight heated the vessel, and at 10:30 a.m. the resin ignited - the Olympic Flame came into existence once more.

The Route of the Torch was planned by the Organising Committee to symbolise the union of the classic cultures of the Mediterranean with those of America. The route for the Torch was designed to follow the course of Columbus's first voyage to the New World. It therefore recalled the places and events associated with this voyage of discovery.

The three principal intermediate points along the Route of the Torch were Genoa, Italy, birthplace of Christopher Columbus; Palos, Spain, the port from which he embarked on his first voyage of discovery; and the island of San Salvador, the first land he touched in the New World.

Route of the Torch Relay

1	Olympia	2	Athens	3	Genova
4	Barcelona	5	Madrid	6	Puerto de Palos
7	San Salvador	8	Veracruz	9	Puebla
10	Tlaxcala	11	Teotihuacan	12	Mexico City



With the collaboration of the national Olympic committees of Greece, Italy and Spain, the Organizing Committee received the cooperation of their respective governments. For the first time athletes from each country through which the Flame passed relayed the Olympic Torch within their national boundaries - previously, the host nation provided runners for the entire route. The runners from the various countries were dressed in identical uniforms designed by the Organising Committee of the Games. These were completely white, with the exception of the shirt, which was designed to utilise colours representing the national flags of the respective countries, and bore a dove design to symbolise peace, and the MEXICO 68 logo.



1 Olympia

Following the initial leg of the relay - that from Olympia to Pyrgos - the runners passed through the towns of Amalias, Patras, Aigion, Xylokastron, Kiaton, Corinth, Megara and Eleusis to Athens, where a special ceremony had been arranged in the Panatheneum Stadium on August 24. On August 25, the Flame continued to the port of Piraeus and began the journey to Italy aboard the Greek naval destroyer H.H. Navarino.



2 Athens



Postcard: OLYMPIA - The Olympic Flame. The apotheosis

Note that the torch is of a different design to that shown on the previous page. Two different designs of torch were used for the 1968 relay.



Postcard: OLYMPIA - The depart of the first courser



*Postcard: OLYMPIA - Lighting ceremony of the Olympic Flame
(The scene actually shows the flame being lit adjacent to the de Coubertin memorial).*

On August 27 the Flame arrived in Genoa, where the Greek Olympic Committee delivered it to their Italian counterparts. A ceremony was held in honour of Christopher Columbus in front of the house in which he was born. Twenty-two runners then relayed the Flame to the central bridge of Porta della Soprano.



3 Genova

On August 28 the Flame was taken to the Ponte dei Mille naval base and taken aboard the Palinuro, a training vessel of the Italian Navy for the journey to Spain.

Nave "PALINURO,"
TRASPORTO FIACCOLA OLIMPICA
GENOVA - BARCELONA
28.8.1968 - 31.9.1968



Winternheimer Italy, B5

The Flame arrived in Barcelona the port at which Columbus was received on his return from discovering America, on August 30. The captain of the Palinuro passed the Flame to the vice-president of the Spanish Olympic Committee, who carried it ashore and transferred it to the torch of the first Spanish runner. He sped to the Plaza Cataluña, where the Flame was temporarily housed in an urn.



4 Barcelona

In Barcelona and later in Medinaceli minor explosions occurred during exchanges of the flame between torches, resulting in slight burns to the runners. The torches were fuelled by a solid compressed mixture of nitrates, sulphur, alkaline metal carbonates, resins and silicones. This material - which had to remain alight for considerable periods of time and sometimes under extreme weather conditions - burnt with a brilliant, red-yellow flame and was non-toxic and harmless to handle, but it proved unexpectedly volatile. The cause was attributed to the sudden contact between a lit and unlit torch. Precautions were introduced which prevented any recurrence of these incidents.



Postcard: The Olympic flame burns in Plaza Cataluña, whilst resting in Barcelona.

The Flame travelled on from Barcelona, crossing the provinces of Cataluña, Huesca and Aragon, and was briefly housed in the Temple of the Virgin of Pilar in Zaragoza. After passing through the province of Soria, the Flame arrived in Medinaceli. On reaching Madrid, the Torch was taken to Columbus Plaza, for a ceremonial reception, it then passed through Seville and Trujillo. Runners relayed the Flame to the port of Palos, arriving on September 11. It was carried on the last leg of its journey through Spain by Cristóbal Colón Carbajal, a direct descendant of Columbus.



5 Madrid

At Palos the Flame was taken aboard the corvette *Princesa*, provided by the Spanish government for the Atlantic crossing to San Salvador, an island of the Bahamas. The *Princesa* sailed from Palos on September 12. Between Barcelona and Palos, the Olympic Flame had been carried across 1,286 kilometres of Spanish territory by an equal number of runners in eighty-eight hours and twenty minutes.



6 Puerto de Palos

The Flame was received in Las Palmas, capital of the Canary Islands, on September 14, and at San Sebastián on nearby Gomera.

Fifteen days later, the Princesa arrived off San Salvador, at the exact site of Columbus's first landing in the New World. The Organizing Committee and the Bahamas Olympic Association arranged a special program commemorating this symbolic linking of the two events: the first landing in America and the first appearance of the Olympic Flame in the New World.



7 San Salvador

In the center of a plaza made up of five circular levels designed to represent the Olympic Rings, a monument was erected to receive the Flame. Six poles bore the Olympic Flag and those of Greece, Italy, Spain, the United Kingdom and Mexico - the five countries symbolically joined by the Route of the Olympic Flame. On a spiral platform in the center of the plaza was a replica of the Tlatelolco brazier, a vessel dedicated to Quetzalcóatl, a god of ancient Mexico. For five hours the Olympic Flame blazed; then, in the evening, it left San Salvador for Veracruz aboard the Mexican destroyer Durango.

On the afternoon of October 6, the Durango arrived in Veracruz. The Flame was carried ashore by seventeen swimmers, who carried it in relays for approximately 850 metres, the last swimmer placing his Torch in the hands of a member of the Organizing Committee, who in turn passed it on to the first Mexican runner to begin the short journey to the Municipal Stadium. After a program of folk dances and music, the Flame was carried to the principal plaza, where Greek actress Maria Mosxoliu transferred it to a large urn.



8 Veracruz

On October 7, runners relayed the Flame to Jalapa, a journey of seven hours and forty minutes. Here a Mexican athlete took the oath of the relay runners and, after a brief celebration, the Flame was carried to the Municipal Palace, where it remained for the night. From Jalapa to Orizaba the Torch-bearers made their longest single-day's journey - 227 kilometres. En route, the Flame stopped briefly in Córdoba. Upon arriving in Orizaba, it was taken to the football field of the Orizaba Sports Association, where the Flame was deposited in a ritual urn for the night. As at the other stopping places along its Route, the Flame was watched over by a guard of honour selected from local residents.



9 Puebla

On the morning of October 10, the Torch-bearers set out toward Tlaxcala, passing through the villages of San Martín Texmelucan, Apizaco and Huamantla. In Huamantla, a magnificent carpet of flowers and white sand - more than three kilometres in length - was created by 2,500 local artisans for the reception of the Flame. After a brief ceremony, it continued on to Tlaxcala, where it was placed in a vessel in Tlahuicole Stadium.



10 Tlaxcala

En route to Teotihuacan, the Flame was carried through Llano Grande, Los Reyes, Texcoco, Chiconcoac, Tizayuca, Tequisitlán, Tepexpan, Acolman and Acatlango. In Teotihuacan, thirtyeight kilometres from Mexico City, at 7:00 p.m. on October 11 the Flame was installed on the first esplanade of the Pyramid of the Moon, and the spectacular ceremony of the New Fire unfolded.



11 Teotihuacan

The following day the Flame began the final leg of its journey—from Teotihuacan to Mexico City. At 10:00 a.m. it reached the Monument to the Mexican People, where a great crowd of spectators gave it an enthusiastic welcome. Here, in a brief ceremony, two other Torches were lit from the Flame: one to be carried by airplane to Acapulco, site of the Olympic yachting competitions, and another to the National Museum of Anthropology, principal site of the Cultural Olympiad. The arrival of the Flame at the main entrance to the Olympic Stadium on the morning of October 12 was precisely controlled by officials in radio-equipped cars. Outside the stadium it was received by a military cadet, who passed it to Enriqueta Basilio, the first woman in the history of the Games to carry the Olympic Flame to its final destination. Holding the Torch high, she sped through the entrance and circled the track of the stadium, as over a hundred thousand spectators and athletes cheered. After a running climb of the long, stairway leading to the rim of the stadium, the young athlete paused on the platform supporting the Olympic Cauldron, and lifted the Torch to the four cardinal points. Then she moved the Torch toward the Cauldron's jets, and the Olympic Flame surged forth to burn for the duration of the Games of the XIX Olympiad.

A total of 2,778 athletes participated in the relay of the Olympic Torch during the fifty-day programme. Many more served as escorts. The safety lamps in which the original flame was maintained after lighting the original during the ceremonies at Olympia had to be used to relight the torch on thirty different occasions. On October 15, at 10:30 p.m., the last of these security lamps was extinguished. The Olympic Flame was in turn extinguished for four years at 7:21 p.m. on Sunday evening, October 27, 1968, as the Games of the XIX Olympiad came to close.



12 Mexico City



Postcard: The Olympic flame arrives in Mexico.

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THE WOMEN'S OLYMPICS

The following article can be found on the internet at:

<http://www2.fhw.gr/olympics/modern/en/history/h201.html>

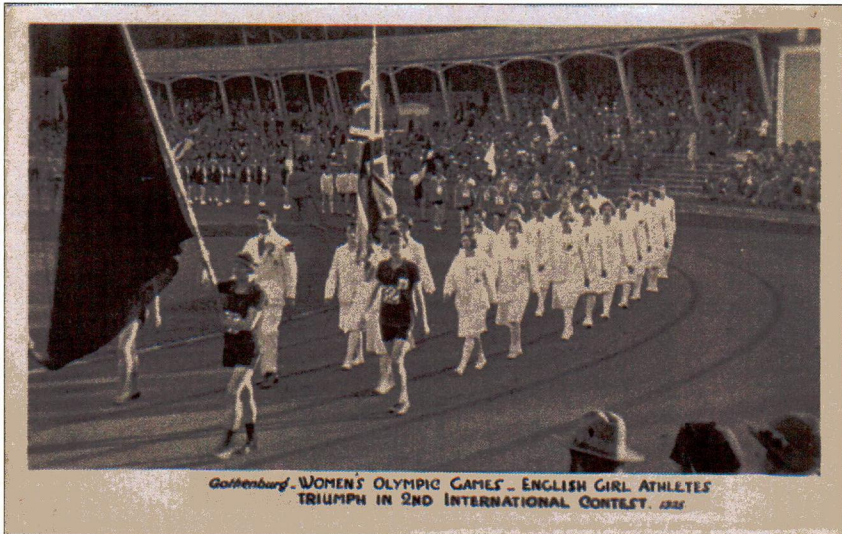
Publication was inspired by the two postcards illustrated and searching for information about this important stage in developing equality in the Olympic movement.

Postcard:
MONTE-CARLO
LES JEUX FEMINIINE
MARS-AVRIL
1923



In 1936, after almost two decades of rivalry and negotiations, the International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF) and the International Olympic Committee managed to incorporate and hence control women's athletics, which from the early 1920s had been constituted through its own organizational structures and competitive institutions. The International Federation of Women's Sport (Federation Sportive Feminine Internationale - FSFI) was founded in October 1921 as a reaction to the refusal of the IOC to include in the programme of the Games women's contests in athletics and in other sports. The prime mover of the foundation of the FSFI was the French Alice Milliat. Prior to this, in May, a women's version of the Olympic Games had been organized in Monaco. Approximately 300 female athletes from five countries participated in these games, which included athletics events and basketball games. In the following year (1922) the FSFI organized in Paris the so-called Women Olympic Games. It was an international athletics meeting including 11 events in which participated approximately 2,000 female athletes from six countries, the USA and five European countries, and attended by 20,000 spectators. Four years later, in 1926, the second Women Olympic Games were held in Gothenburg, Sweden, with the support of the royal family. It was an organization characterized by splendid ceremonies and events and by impressive performances by the athletes.

The success of these games resulted in increasing pressures applied on the IOC, in order for it to include a full programme of women's athletics events. Indeed, these pressures led to negotiations between the IOC and the IAAF on the one hand and the FSFI on the other hand. The negotiations led to an agreement. The IOC assumed the responsibility to include 10 women's track and field events in the Olympics, whereas the FSFI committed itself not to use the words "Olympic Games" in the international sports meetings that it organized. However, the agreement was abided by only to a limited extent. In the Olympic Games of Amsterdam (1928) it was indeed the first time that women's track and field events were included, but they were half of the agreed number, namely five instead of ten. This resulted in the first "boycott" of the Games, seeing that many female track and field athletes refused to participate in them, especially the athletes from Great Britain, who had dominated most of the contests in Gothenburg. Nevertheless, the FSFI abided by its commitment. Therefore, the athletics games that were held in 1930 in Prague were given the name International Women's Games, an institution that was repeated in 1934 in London. These games were the last to be organized by the FSFI. The augmentation of the fascist and authoritarian governments in Europe created conditions that prohibited the promotion of women's claims, not only in sport, but also in all the fields of social life. Under these circumstances, the FSFI was incorporated into the IAAF in 1936.



Postcard: Gothenburg - WOMEN'S OLYMPIC GAMES - ENGLISH GIRL ATHLETES TRIUMPH IN 2ND INTERNATIONAL CONTEST

The decline of the women's movement from the end of World War II until the 1960s, when a second surge of claims by women was reported, is reflected in the minimal increase of women's sports in the programme of the Olympic Games between 1948 and 1968. However, since the 1970s, and especially in the 1980s and the 1990s the change has been spectacular, seeing that today women participate in almost all the sports that are included in the Olympic programme. Most specifically, in the Games of 2000, of the total of 28 sports included in the programme, women participated in 25 sports, whereas men participated in 27.

This development is consequent to the unforeseen increase of both the number of female athletes who participate in the Games and of the number of countries they come from. However, this tendency is not reported inside the IOC, namely in the number of female members. It is characteristic that the participation of women in the IOC was not accepted before 1973 and the first woman member of the IOC was elected in 1981. Today, less than 10 women are in the IOC, a very small number compared with the almost 200 men.

The improvement of the position of women in both the private and public life, therefore in sport as well, from the beginning until the end of the 20th century, was the result of the social and political modernization that developed (and still develops) around the societies of Europe and North America, bringing about an improvement in women's living conditions and the mitigation of unfavourable discriminations. However, this development is not linear, nor does it appear in the same way and at the same time in all the latitudes and longitudes of the earth. The increase of the influence of the political Islam in several countries led to the official or tacit exclusion of women from the Olympic Games and the other international sports meetings. Iran, the only country that prohibits officially the presence and participation of men and women in the same sports games, organized in Tehran in 1992, namely the year of the Barcelona Olympics, a "Muslim" version of women's Olympics. Exactly seventy years after the organization of the "Olympic Games" by the FSFI in Paris (1922), the games held in Tehran concerned once again the position of women. In this case, however, the "request" was not the abrogation of the exclusion of women from the Olympic Games, but on the contrary, its endorsement.

BEIJING 2008 - QINGDAO SAILING CITY

QINGDAO SAILING CITY

Postal stationery envelopes issued to promote Qingdao, sailing venue for the XXIX Olympic Games.



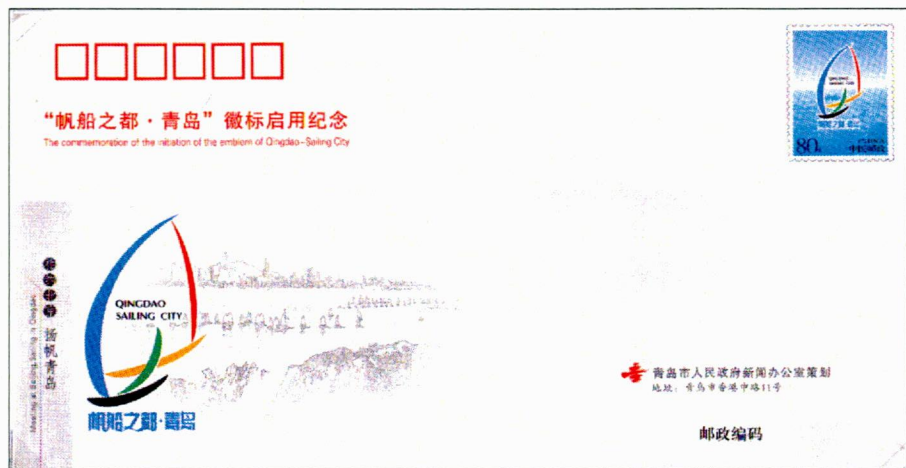
Handstamp to commemorate the publication of the postal envelopes "Qingdao Sailing City".

Good strikes of this cancel appear elusive the illustration has been enhanced.



A series of twelve postal stationery envelopes were issued, the printed 'stamp' indicia uses the same design on all twelve envelopes.

Each envelope bears an illustrated cachet to the left, and has a descriptive text on the reverse. The envelopes measure 228 x 120mm.



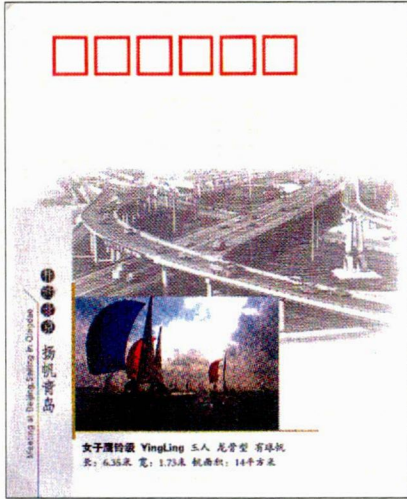
Above: A full envelope showing the layout, with illustrated cachet at left, printed indicia at top right (same design for all envelopes).

Right: Detail of the printed postal indicia.

Below: The text panel from the reverse of the envelope illustrated above, which details the reason for the issue of the postal stationery envelopes, and the inauguration of the Qingdao emblem.



Qingdao is a key economic center and open coastal city in China, known for its cultural heritage and eye-catching scenery. China's policies of reform and opening-up have revitalized the city of Qingdao. The core competitive ability of the city has been raised continuously, the port economy is growing rapidly, marine research and industrial advantages have further intensified and tourism is now flourishing. A great deal of well-known brands as Haier, Hisense and Aucma have developed in the city and gradually established Qingdao's economic and cultural position in China. In 2008, we will meet at Beijing and sail in Qingdao, which provides a historical opportunity for the development of Qingdao in the new century. In commemoration of the initiation of the emblem of Qingdao - Sailing City, we make special issue of this postage memorial envelope.



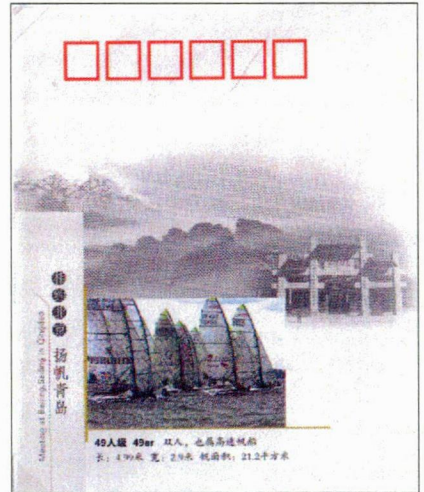
Left: cachet of 'YingLing' postal stationery
Below: text from reverse

Qingdao enjoys convenient transportation, postal and telecommunication links. Sea, land and air transportation facilities are excellent. There are well developed road and rail networks in place, well-developed port, and newly expanded international airport. Postal and telecom services are convenient.

Qingdao is on the way to becoming an international hub of communications.

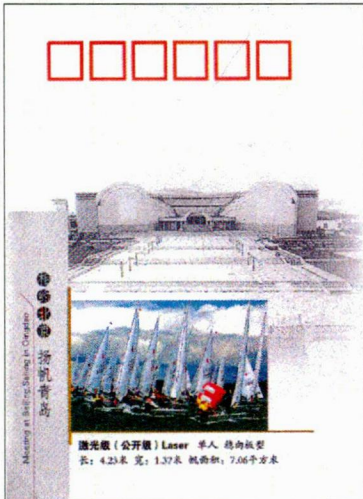
Right: cachet of '49er' postal stationery
Below: text from reverse

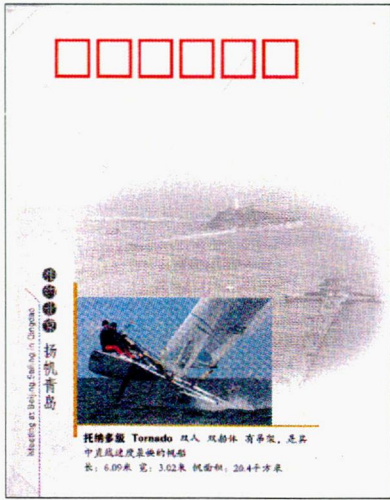
On December 18, 1998, Qingdao was named an "Excellent Tourism City of China" by the National Tourism Administration. The city's tourism system is composed of 12 scenic areas including: seaside amusement and sightseeing; east coast; Mount Laoshan; offshore islands; Heshan Hill; Tianheng Island; Mashan Hill; Mount Daze; Xuejia Island; Zhushan Mountains; Langyatai; and Linshan Island.



Left: cachet of 'Laser' postal stationery
Below: text from reverse

Qingdao has stepped up its educational reform. It plans to achieve urban and rural education modernization in the whole city within 5 - 10 years. These involve the construction of a life-long educational system with innovative rules, quality - oriented educational modes and knowledge industry oriented institutions, and a learning - oriented atmosphere by 2015 basically meeting the educational level of medium - developed countries in the world.



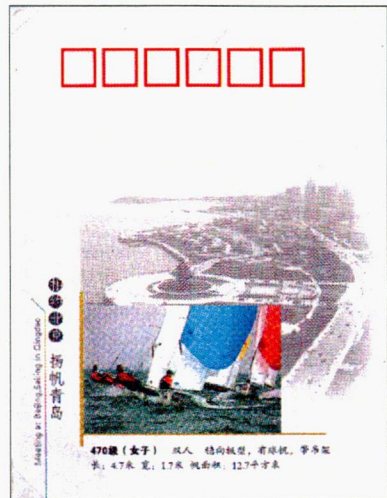


Left: cachet of 'Tornado' postal stationery

Qingdao attaches importance to of cultural facilities construction and events. The City has emphasized the five sectors of marine culture, community culture, business culture, architectural culture and tourism culture through the construction of a number of landmark buildings. The City has also published many fine literary works, supported a team of well-known literary figures and educators, hosted a number of festivals and cultural events, and chosen an excellent staff of cultural professionals. The city has achieved substantial progress in the cultural fields.

Right: cachet of '470' postal stationery

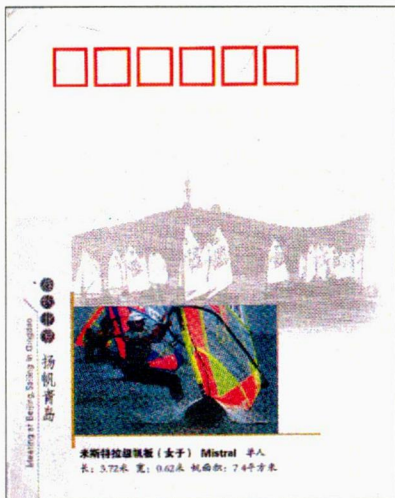
Qingdao has quickened its steps toward a modern international metropolis through the strengthening of urban management and infrastructure construction, improving urban services, and promoting new development. The city has undertaken sustainable short and long term development strategies with consideration to both individual and citywide needs in order to promote balanced development of the city's economy, society, population, resources and environment.



Left: cachet of '470' postal stationery
Below: text from reverse



Qingdao is known for its numerous national and international industrial brands. The rapid growth of traditional and new industrial brands has been termed the "Qingdao Phenomenon." Industrial companies include Haier, Hisense, Aucma and Tsingtao Beer. Growing garment manufacturers include Red Collar, Baron and Enor. Electronic and telecom brands include Sejung Piano, Lucent and LG. In addition, there are many petrochemical, automobile, container and locomotive industrial brands located in the city. Currently, the city has six well-known trademarks, 25 Chinese known brands and a number of service brands.

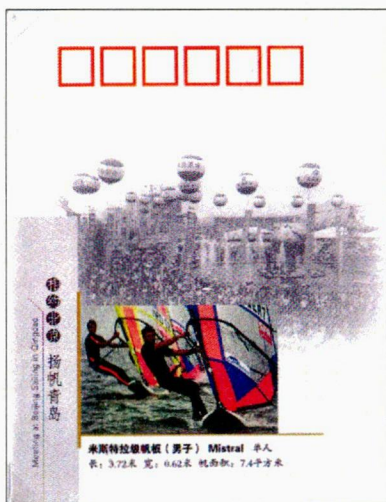


Left: cachet of 'Mistral' postal stationery
Below: text from reverse

On July 13, 2001, Beijing became the host city for the 2008 Summer Olympics. Qingdao, as the host city for the Olympic sailing regatta, will build a deluxe cruiser terminal, a national sea sport marina and a first-rate yachting club in order to develop Qingdao into China's "sailing town."

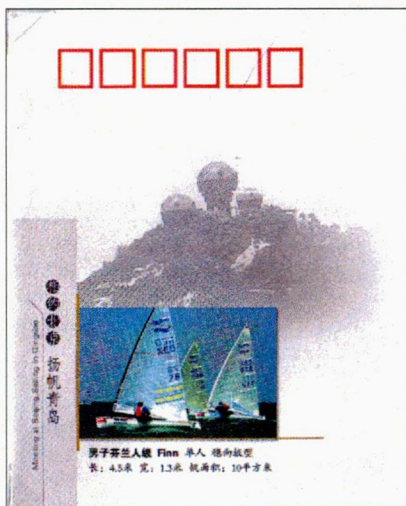
Right: cachet of 'Mistral' postal stationery
Below: text from reverse

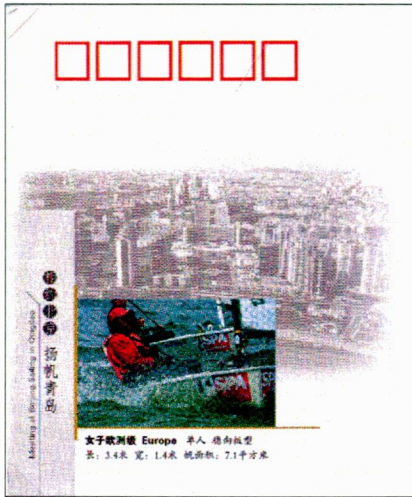
In the past decade, Qingdao successfully hosted a number of large-scale festivals and exhibitions such as the Qingdao International Beer Festival, China International Navigation Expo, the 3rd APEC SME Technology Conference and Fair, Qingdao Ocean Festival, International Fashion Week, and Haiyun'an Candied Haw Sticks Fair. Many of these events have become nationally known tourism items.



Left: cachet of 'Finn' postal stationery
Below: text from reverse

Qingdao is a city known for its developed marine science and technology. More than half of the country's marine researchers work in Qingdao's marine research institutions which accounts for over 60% of the total number of the country. As the national center for marine research and education, Qingdao undertakes 50% of the country's "863 Marine Research Program", and 85.7% of the country's "973 Marine Research Program." Its marine output value accounts for about 12% of the city's total GDP.



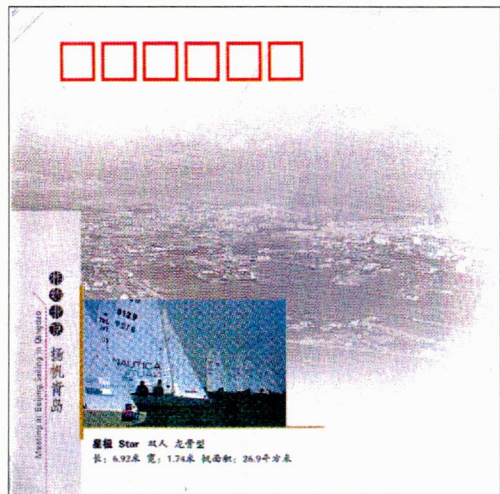


Left: cachet of 'Europe' postal stationery
Below: text from reverse

Founded in 1891, the city of Qingdao enjoys excellent natural and geographic features. It is situated at the intersection of China's northern and eastern economic zones and adjoins the northeastern economic zone across the sea. It is an important hub of communications linking the City with the Eurasian Continental Bridge. Qingdao is a State - designated economic center and an open coastal city. It is also one of the 15 vice-provincial-level cities enjoying independent state plans. The 2008 Olympic sailing regatta will be held in Qingdao, thus the city's international profile will be further improved.

Right: cachet of 'Star' postal stationery
Below: text from reverse

Port development is the fundamental strategy of Qingdao. The goal is to develop the port into the most prominent international shipping center in northern China. Qingdao Port is the only comprehensive modern port in China that can handle container, oil, mineral ore and coal at the same time. So far it has established business relations with over 450 ports in more than 140 countries and regions around the world. With the successful westward relocation of the port, a number of world shipping giants including Maersk, P&O, Global Container have been attracted to Qingdao. This will promote the development of Qingdao's related industries. Qingdao Port will be an international transit port.



Trying to maintain a record of Beijing 2008 material is still very difficult and is heavily reliant on items being offered on internet auction sites.

The sheer geographical area involved, combined with the high degree of autonomy that regional postal authorities appear to be allowed means that it is difficult to establish an individual source of information.

I would be very grateful for the assistance of members in providing copies or scans of any material that has not been listed in Torch Bearer.

ADDITIONS TO THE SOCIETY LIBRARY

UK members should send requests to the librarian together with payment both ways to borrow publications held in the Society library. The designatin 'S' or 'L' after weights indicate small or large letter for an individual copy for mailing cost in accordance with PiP.

Photocopies of articles can be provided (at cost) on request and agreement by the librarian.

Olympic Review

No. 57	October, November, December, 2005	300g L
No. 58	April, May, June, 2005	300g L

Journal of Sports Philately

Vol. 43 No 2	Winter, 2005 (amendment to list)	300g L
Vol. 43 No 3	Spring, 2005 (amendment to list)	300g L
Vol. 43 No 4	Summer, 2005	300g L
Vol. 44 No 1	Fall, 2005	300g L
Vol. 44 No 2	Winter, 2006	300g L
Vol. 44 No 3	Spring, 2006	300g L
Vol. 44 No 4	Summer, 2006	300g L

Registered Mail of the 1928 Amsterdam Olympic Games

By Laurentz Jonker (Published by SPI).	40g. S
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Phila-Sport (Magazine of UIFOS The Italian Sports and Olympic Group)

No 55	July-September, 2005	200g L
No 56	October-December, 2005	200g L
No 57	January-March, 2006	200g L

Sports et Olympisme (Journal of the French Sport and Olympic Group)

No 36	June, 2005	150g L
No 38	December, 2005	150g L

Podium (Journal of the Argentine Sports and Olympic Group) *in Spanish.*

No 56	January 2005	60g. S
No 57	April 2005	60g. S
No 58	June 2005	60g. S
No 59	September 2005	60g. S
No 60	November 2005	60g. S
No 61	February 2006	60g. S
No 62	April 2006	60g. S

OLimpiafila (Magazine of the Hungarian Olympic and Sports Group, *In Hungarian with some English.*)

No 2.	December 2005	150g L
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Themescene

No 81	December, 2005	60g S
No 82	March, 2006	60g S
No 83	June, 2006	60g S

I.M.O.S. Journal *In German.*

No 125	February 2005. In 2 parts.	80g S
No 126	May 2005.	40g S
No 127	August 2005. In 2 parts.	80g S
No 128	December 2005. In 2 parts.	90g S
No 129	March 2006.	40g S
No 130	June 2006. In 2 parts.	80g S

BERLIN-REICHSSPORTFELD. I.M.O.S. Handbook

By Gerd Bethke, Leverkusen	40g S
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MODERN OLYMPIC GAMES MUSEUM

The history of the Olympic Games reflected in the exhibits of the museum at Ancient Olympia. By Vassiliki Tzachrista. 400g. L

Baron Pierre de Coubertin. U.I.C.O.S Handbook.

By Alvaro Trucchi.	60g S
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100 Anni di Basketball. U.I.C.O.S Handbook.

By Luciano Calenda.	280g L
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I Vincitori di Medaglie. U.I.C.O.S Handbook.

Volume V, Sydney 2000. 280g L
By Alvaro Trucchi. 60g S

Olympsport (Journal of the Czech Olympic and Sport Group) *all in Czech.*

No 123	3/2004	50g S
No 125	1/2005	50g S
No 128	4/2005	50g S

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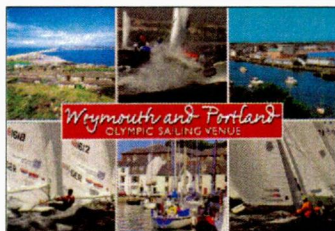
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London 2012 postcards (see V23 page 110)

WEYMOUTH BAY AND PORTLAND HARBOUR
Host of the 2012 Olympic Sailing Regatta

The Society has managed to obtain a supply of this series of 10 postcards direct from the publisher, and they are offered as below:



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Registered Mail of the
1928 Amsterdam
Olympic Games



by Laurentz Jonker

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Olympic Games**

by Laurentz Jonker
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