

Aspects of Modern Scout Postal History

by Hallvard Slettebø

presentation given at the SOSSI meeting
Washington, 28 May 2006



20th World Scout Jamboree personalised stamp with the exhibitor depicted on the tab.

Hallvard Slettebø

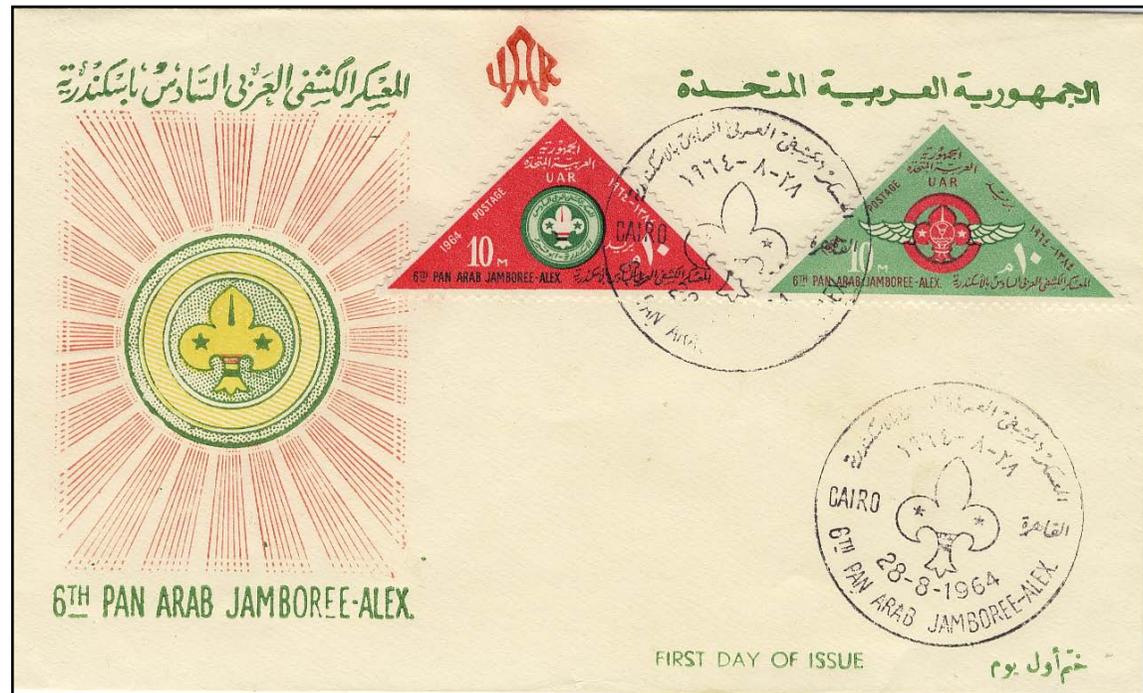
- ✓ **Born 1958 in Stavanger, Norway**
- ✓ **Stamp collector approx 1970, Boy Scout 1971,**
- ✓ **SOSI member since 1979, director 2000 - date**
- ✓ **First stamp exhibit 1990 (“Scandinavian Scout postmarks”)**
- ✓ **“World Scouting” exhibited first time 1992, first FIP gold medal 2001**
 - » **The ideas, principles and activities of Scouting, and its development from a modest start in England, into today’s world wide movement**
 - » **Collect and exhibit all types of related appropriate philatelic material**
 - » **Stamps, sketches, proofs, errors, varieties, perfins, telegrams, postmarks, supplementary markings, free postage, meter slogans, postal stationery, etc.**
 - » **Old and modern items (1787 – 2004)**
 - » **Items from nearly 100 countries**



Aspects of Modern Scout Postal History



- ✓ **Aim: To demonstrate that Scout philately can be a lot more than collecting stamps and special event covers.**



What is “Modern” in Scout philately?

- ✓ **Modern** after 1957, the Golden Jubilee of Scouting
- ✓ **Inter-mediate** 1940 – 1957
- ✓ **Old** 1920 – 1940
- ✓ **Classic**
 - Mafeking 1900**
 - Czechoslovakia 1918**
 - Siam 1920**



What is Postal History?

- ✓ Postal history is not the same as stamp collecting. Postal history is about the usage of postage stamps.
- ✓ Postal history is the study of the development of postal systems, the study of rates charged, routes followed and special handling of mail. The term has also come to refer to collections of covers and other material illustrating episodes in postal history.

In short: Routes, Rates and Postmarks.

- ✓ Most of the items shown here are low-cost.
- ✓ Some are easy to obtain. Some are surprisingly difficult to find, even if they don't cost much when you find them.



Philatelic mail vs. Commercial mail

- ✓ **Philatelic cover. Unaddressed, never sent in the mails.**



- ✓ **Commercially used postcard, written by Scout in camp, and sent to Spain.**



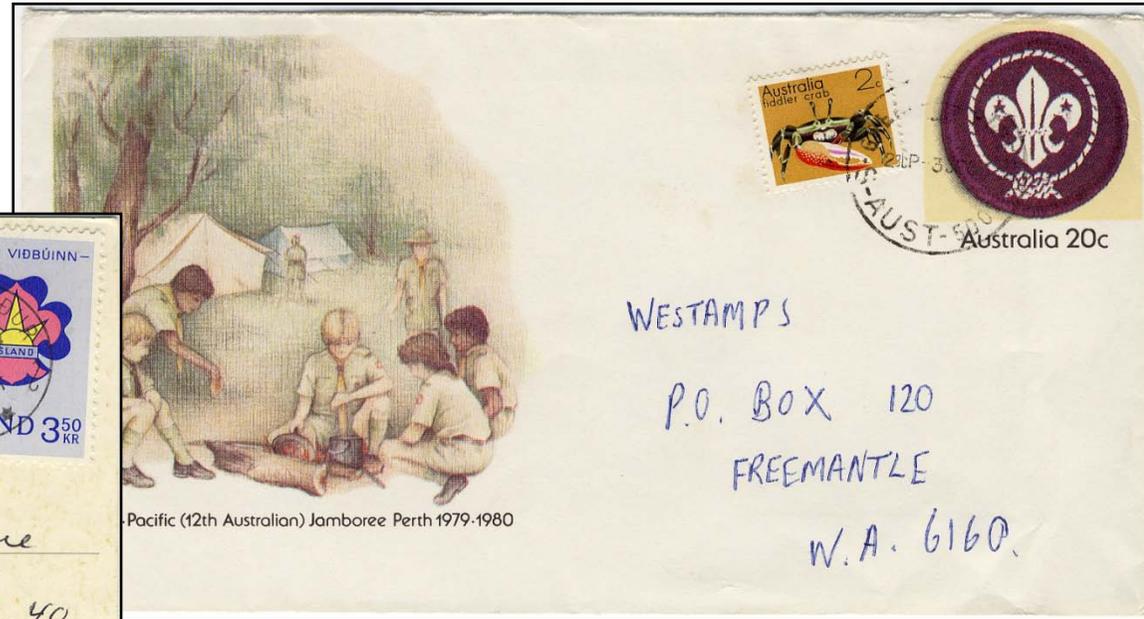
Examples of postal history subjects

- ✓ 1. Pre-adhesive postal services
- ✓ 2. The development of local, regional, national or international postal services
- ✓ 3. Postal rates
- ✓ 4. Routes for transportation of mails
- ✓ 5. Postal markings (Marcophily)
- ✓ 6. Military mail, field post, siege mail, POW, civil and military internee camp mail
- ✓ 7. Maritime mail and/or inland waterway mail
- ✓ 8. Railway mail
- ✓ 9. All kinds of Travelling Post Offices
- ✓ 10. Disaster mail
- ✓ 11. Disinfected mail
- ✓ 12. Censorship mail
- ✓ 13. Postage due mail
- ✓ 14. Automation of the mails
- ✓ 15. Forwarding agents markings
- ✓ 16. Official mail, Free Frank mail

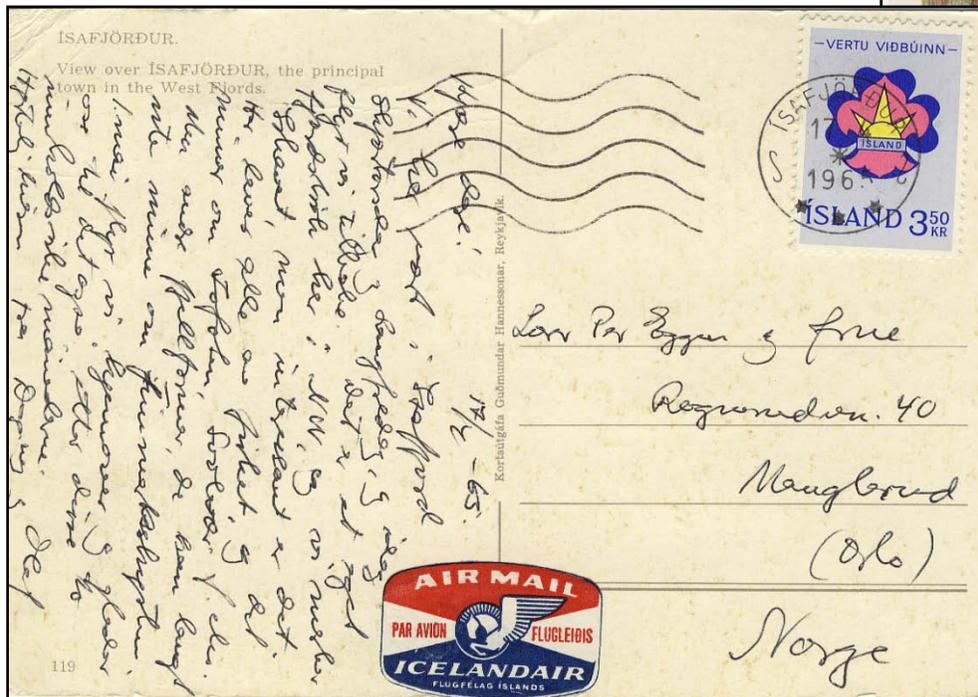


Commercial use of Scout stamps and Scout postal stationery

- ✓ Australia 1979 postal envelope, commercial usage, with additional postage after rate increase.



Pacific (12th Australian) Jamboree Perth 1979-1980



- ✓ Iceland 1963, Scout stamp on commercially used postcard.



Commercial use of Scout stamps

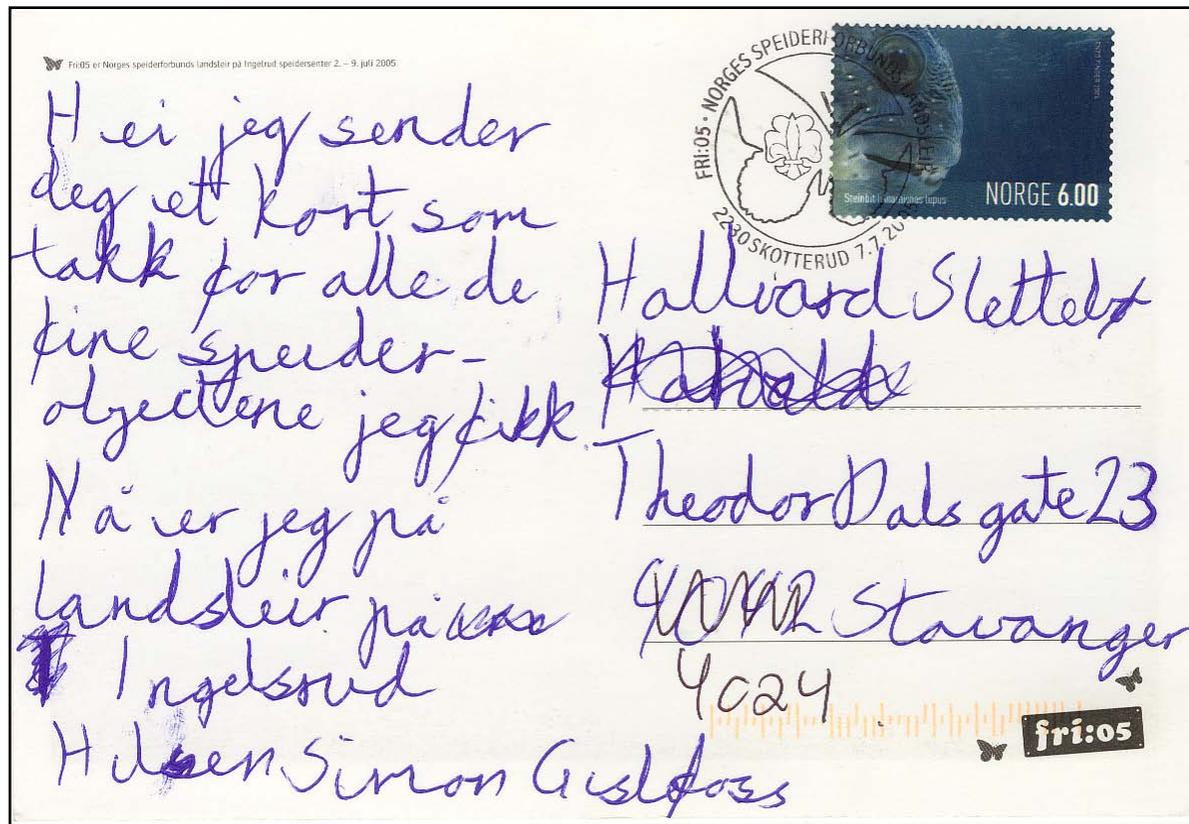
- ✓ April 1982: The Falklands War between Great Britain and Argentina. In addition to warships, the British requisitioned three large ocean liners - the *RMS Queen Elizabeth II*, *SS Canberra* and *SS Uganda*.



Boy Scout stamp on aerogram mailed on board the *RMS Queen Elizabeth II* during its return voyage from the Falklands.

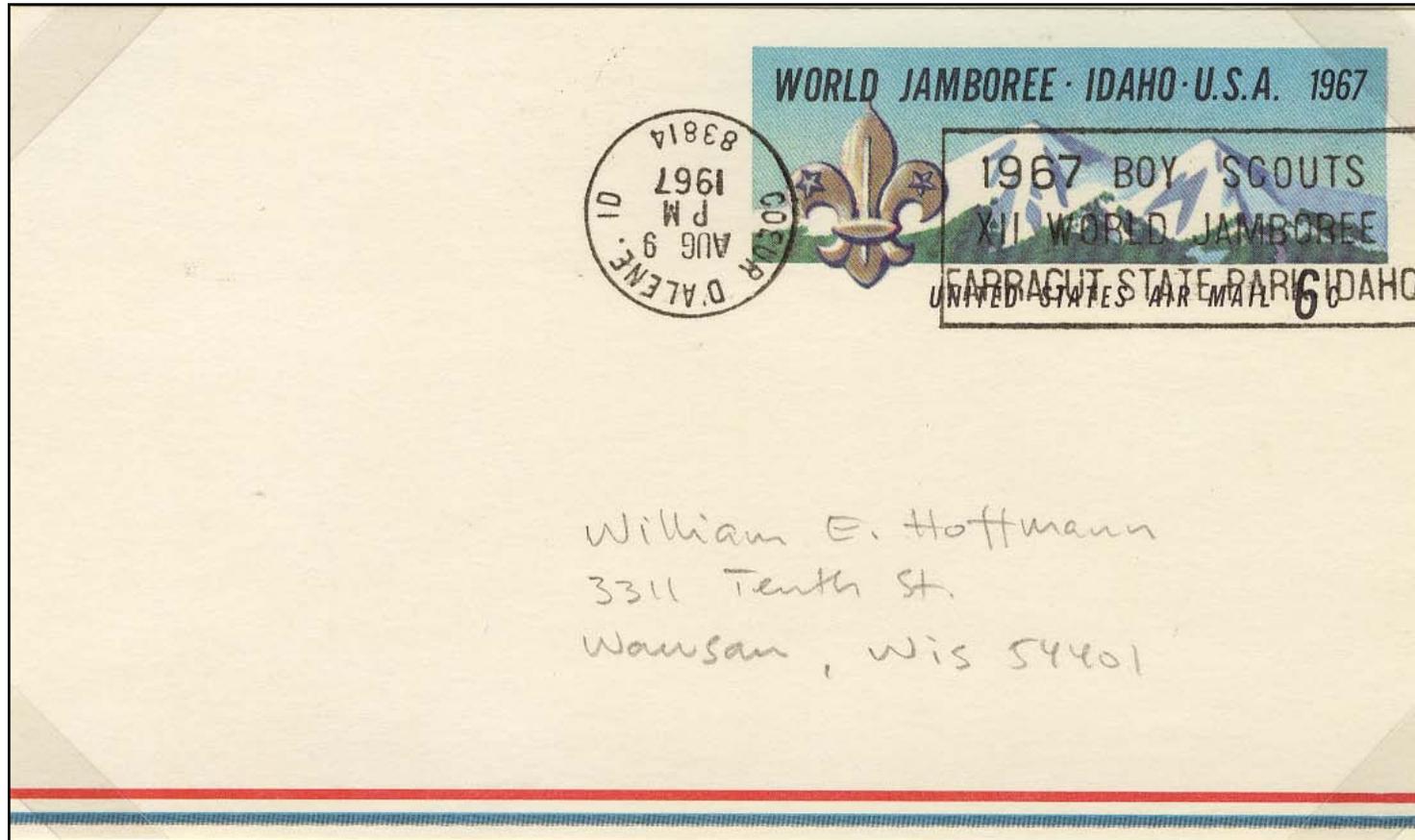
Scout postmarks

- ✓ Postcard from the 2005 National Scout Jamboree in Norway.



Machine cancellations

- ✓ 1967 World Scout Jamboree, inverted left part of machine cancel.



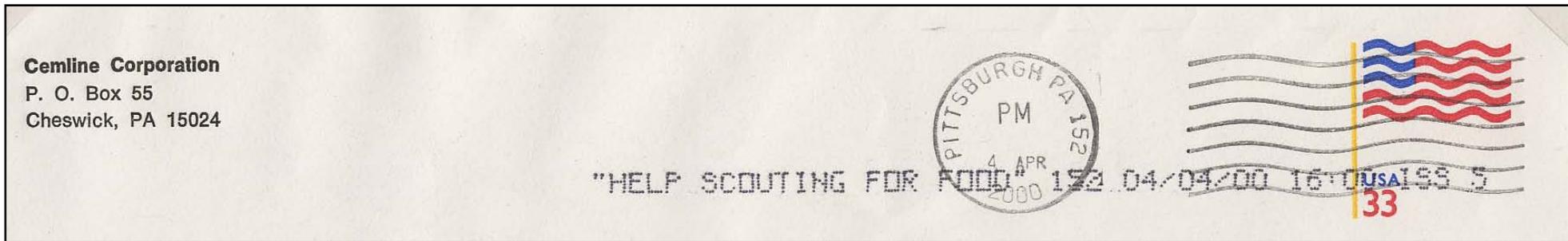
Machine cancellations

- ✓ **U.K. 1957: Publicity slogans were used on mail canceling machines at about 30 of the larger G.P.O. sorting offices between 1st and 31st July.**
- ✓ **For use on printed matter with reduced rate, the town and date slugs were replaced by a triangular die with a number representing the post office. '449' is Leicester.**



Spray-on cancel

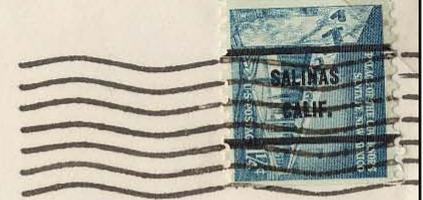
- ✓ Each year Scouting for Food mobilizes community businesses and organizations and focuses the resources of more than 300,000 people to collect food for 120,000 hungry people throughout southwestern Pennsylvania.
- ✓ Spray-on cancel “HELP SCOUTING FOR FOOD”, used in Pittsburgh, PA in 2000.



Precanceled mail

- ✓ **Precanceled (and post-canceled) SALINAS, CALIF., used by Boy Scouts of America, Monterey Bay Area Council, 1985.**

BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA
MONTEREY BAY AREA COUNCIL, INC.
55 SAN JOAQUIN STREET
P. O. BOX 2161 • SALINAS, CALIF. 93904



Mr. Ambrose Cowden
230 Walnut Street
Santa Cruz, California



Precanceled Scout stamps



*EIGHT MILE
ALA.*



*FAIRFAX
AL*



*SHAWMUT,
AL*



*ALTOONA
AL*



*LINCOLN,
ALA.*



*EIGHT MILE
ALA.*

Postal services - parcels

- ✓ Parcel dispatch note from Switzerland, sent to Nordjamb 75

Schweiz Suisse Svizzera		Platz für die Aufgabennum. Emplacement réservé au n° Posto riservato per il n°		512 3053 Münchenbuchsee		Begleitadresse Bulletin d'expédition Bolle		Frankatur Affranchissement		10 20	
Absender / Expéditeur / Mittente		Fam. W. Gasser Lindenweg 17 3053 Münchenbuchsee		Empfänger / Destinaire / Destinatario		Reto Gasser ✓ Trupp 01/63 Schw. Infanterie Unterlager 06 Skane Nordjamb 75 N- 2600 Lillehammer, Norwegen		5 FR HELVETIA 5 FR HELVETIA		HELVETIA HELVETIA 10 10	
Wertangabe in Worten / en lettres / in lettere		Valeur déclarée		Valore dichiarato Ziffern / chiffres / cifre		Goldfranken / Francs- or / Franchi oro		4017 Basel 17 NORDJAMB-75 2600 LILLEHAMMER 5-8-1975		Stempel der Aufgabestelle / Timbre du bureau d'origine / Bollo dell'ufficio d'origine	
Nachnahmebetrag in Worten / en lettres / in lettere		Montant du remboursement		Importo del rimborso Ziffern / chiffres / cifre		Zollgebühren / Dro. Tributi doganali		ANK.NR. 0107		MÜNCHENBUCHEE 30-7-75-11 36	
Postcheckkontonummer und Postcheckamt / Numéro du compte courant postal et bureau de chèques / Numero del conto corrente postale e ufficio dei conti correnti		Inhaber der Postcheckrechnung Titulaire du compte courant postal Titolare del conto corrente postale		Anzahl Nombre de Numero di		Art der Verpackung Nature de l'emballage Natura dell'imballaggio		Gewicht (brutto) Poids (brut) Peso (lordo)		kg g	
Pakete / Colis / Pacchi		1		1) Paket		Tollfritt Lillehammer tollstasjon		4,600			
Zeugnisse u. Rechn. Certificats et factures Certificati e fatture											
Zolldeklarationen Déclarations en douane Dichiarazioni doganali				1) Kiste, Paket, Schachtel usw. Caisse, paquet, carton, etc. Cassa, pacco, scatola, ecc.							



Postal services – Cash-on-delivery

- ✓ Dispatch note for parcel sent cash-on-delivery from the Scout shop Friluftsmagasinet in Stockholm, Sweden, 1972.

95 521
Stockholm Ban

Utskrift för endast göras med skrivmaskin, bläck eller kulpenna
Frånkeringen görs här bredvid. Fråga om paketen önnars på försändelsen

Plats för frankering och datumstämpel

Friluftsmagasinet
- Scout Varor har äkta grejer

SVENSK SCOUTFORBUNDETS
UTRUSTNINGSSERVICE

6417

öre 765 öre
SVERIGE

inrikes postförskott
Redovisning över postgiron
Anvisningar på blankettens baksida

Försändelsemottagare
KFUM-Örebro Kristina Etholm

Ankomstnr

Postutdelningsadress (gata, nr, uppg, tr, box, fack etc)
V. Bangatan 7

Assbelopp kr resp »Rek»

Till
Ortsadress
703 54 ÖREBRO

Hämtas på
postanstalten

Legsätt (för ass eller rek)

Försändelsens innehåll (behöver inte anges)
Program-sats

Försändelsen kvitteras (med bläck eller kulpenna)
Mottagarens namnteckning
Budets namnteckning (endast beträffande ass eller rek)
Budets adress

Datum
26/1 1972

Utlämningsdag
Förs ankdag

Vikt i kg (för paket)

2

Sign

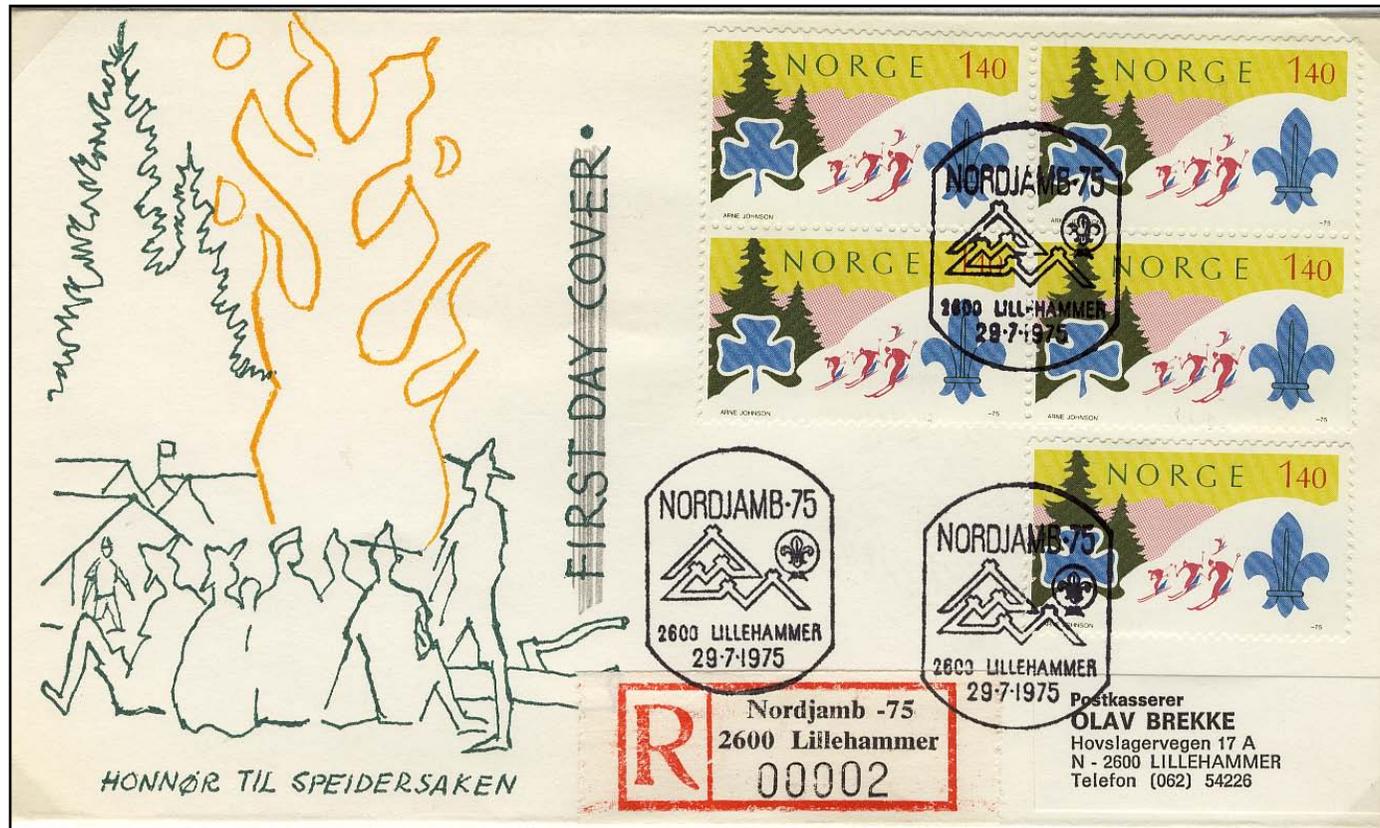
Postal services – registered mail

- ✓ Registered mail, 1963 World Scout Jamboree.
Manuscript registration annotation (R number 1, Marathon).



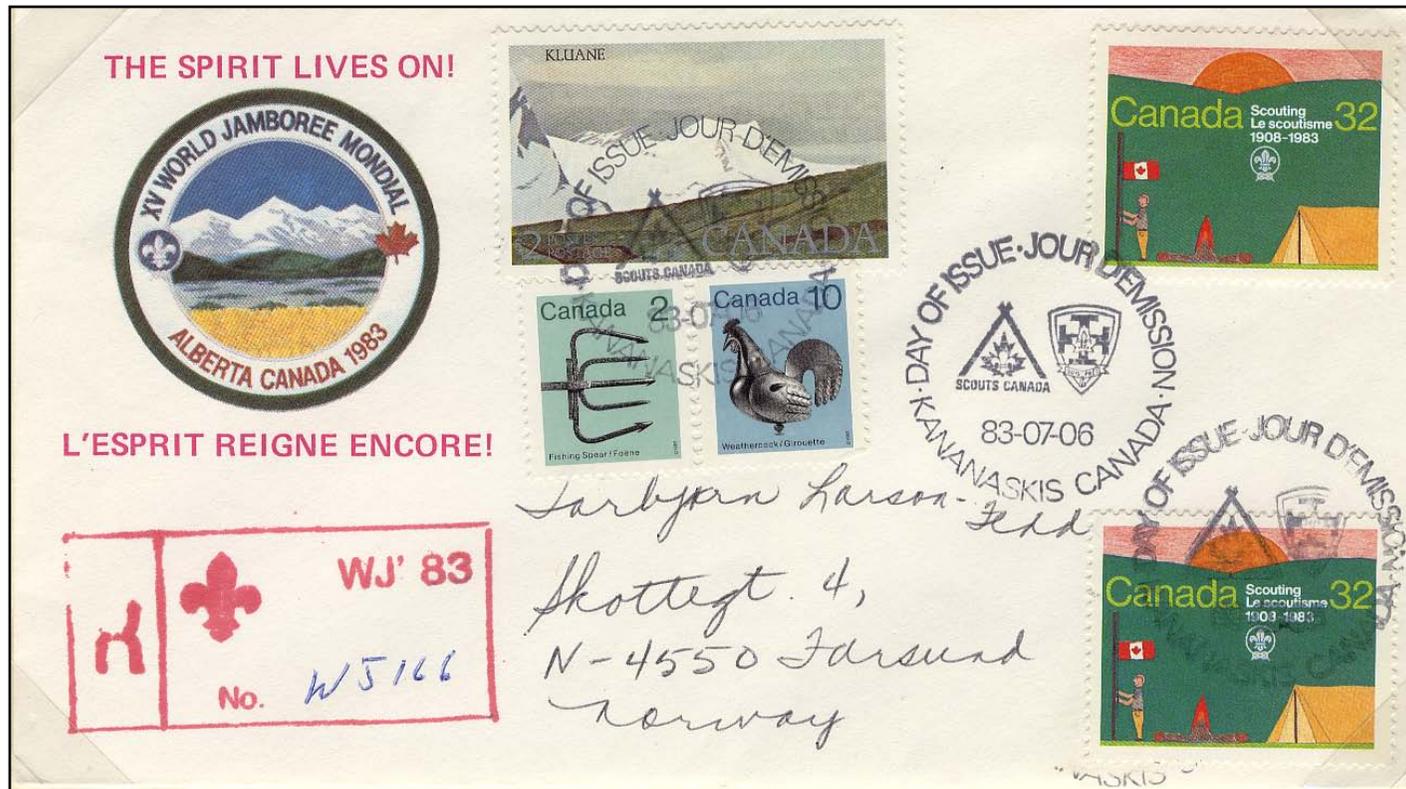
Postal services – registered mail

- ✓ Registered mail, 1975 World Scout Jamboree.
Specially printed registration label.



Postal services – registered mail

- ✓ Registered mail, 1983 World Scout Jamboree.
Note the special registration handstamp.



Postal services – registered mail

- ✓ Registered mail, 1987/1988 World Scout Jamboree.
Blank registration label with manuscript “Cataract Scout Park”.



Postal services – insured mail

Special postmarks on unusual items

- ✓ Certificate for posting a value insured letter, Swedish camp 1963.
- ✓ Guess how many Scouts needed insured mail to send money home from camp?

 Kvitto på inlämnat assbrev eller rek

Adressat <i>Björn Hermansson</i>		Inlämningsnummer <i>125</i>	
Adresspostanstalt <i>Göteborg C</i>		Postavgift, öre <i>105</i>	
Assbelopp ¹ Kr _____ öre _____		Särskilda ant. (x, flyg, mb m.m.) ²	
Postförskottsbelopp Kr _____ öre _____		Stämpel för inlämningsdag	

Förvara detta inlämningskvitto, till dess visshet vunnits, att försändelsen kommit adressaten tillhanda.
Vid reklamation skall inlämningskvittot företes.
Ersättning för ett inrikes rek, som förkommit eller skadats, kan i intet fall utgå med högre belopp än 50 kronor. I fråga om ersättning för försändelse till utlandet gälla särskilda föreskrifter. Upplysningar om sätt och tid för framställning om ersättning meddelas av postanstalterna.

¹ Om assbelopp ej angivits, är försändelsen rekommenderad.
² X = expressutdelning, flyg = flygbef. mot tilläggsavgift, mb = mot-tagningsbevis.

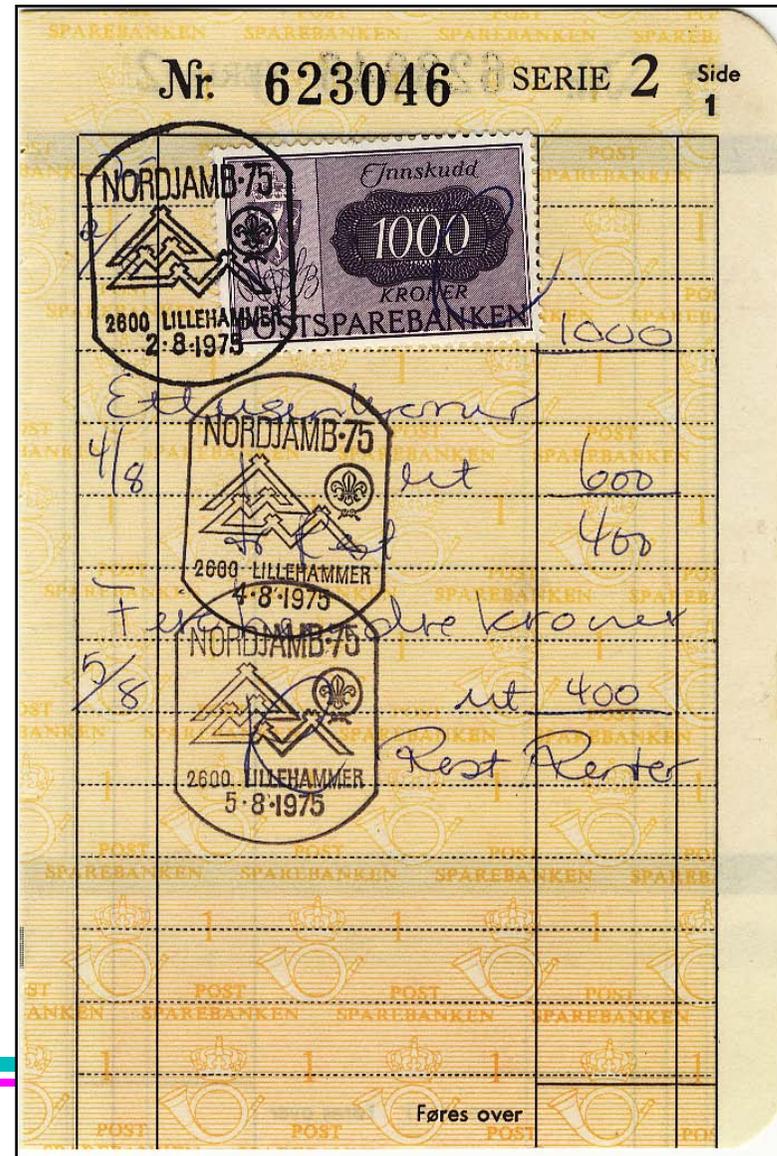
BI 301 A (Febr 58) Pv. tr. Sth.





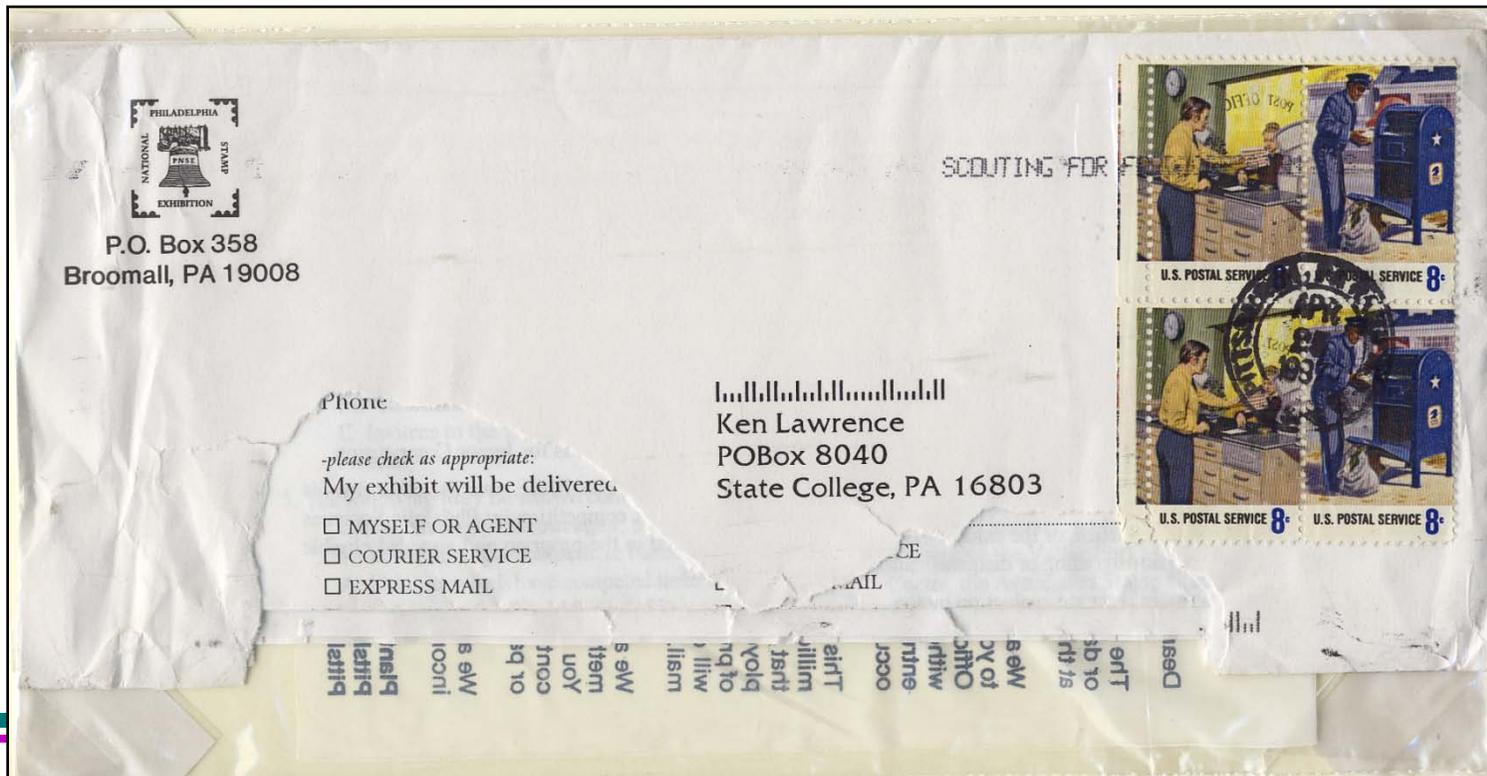
Postal services – Postal Savings Bank

- ✓ 1975 World Scout Jamboree, page from Norwegian Postal Savings Bank book.
- ✓ NOK 1000 (\$150) deposit stamp and postmark, also two postmarks for cash withdrawal.



Damaged in the mechanical mail handling

- ✓ “Scouting for food” spray-on postmark on cover from Pittsburgh, PA, Apr. 25, 1997 to State College, PA.
- ✓ Damaged in the mechanical mail handling, and placed in official apology bag from United States Postal Service, Pittsburgh, PA.



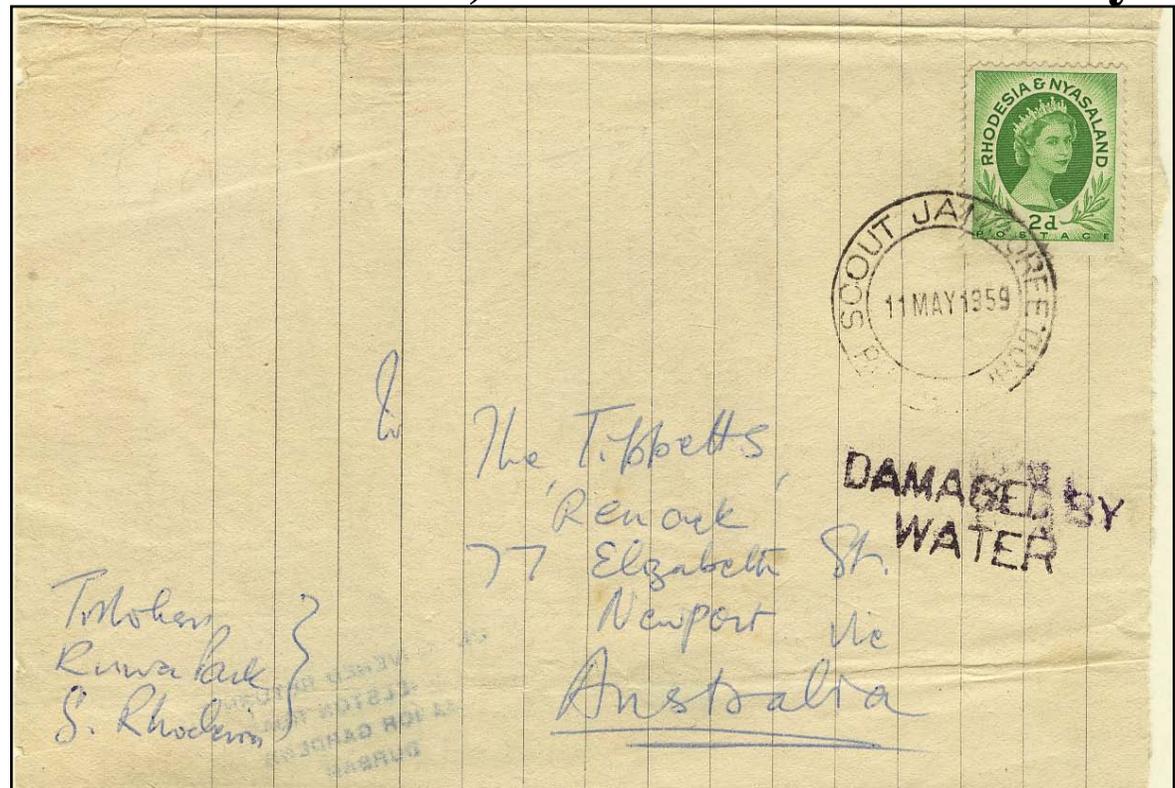
Damaged by fire

- ✓ Printed matter sent from the Philippines to the Netherlands, 1969. Stamp issued May 16, 1969 for the 4th National Boy Scout Jamboree. Cachet “DAMAGED BY FIRE” from unknown incident.



Damaged by water

- ✓ Wrapper, sent from the Ruwa Park Scout Jamboree to Australia, cancelled “SCOUT JAMBOREE / RUWA, S. RHOD. 11 MAY 1959”, on the last day of the Jamboree, which started on 4 May.
- ✓ Two-line postal cachet “DAMAGED BY / WATER” from unidentified incident.



Mail-carrying Scouts

- ✓ Boy Scouts were entrusted with carrying mail during the East Pakistan / Bangladesh civil war in 1971.



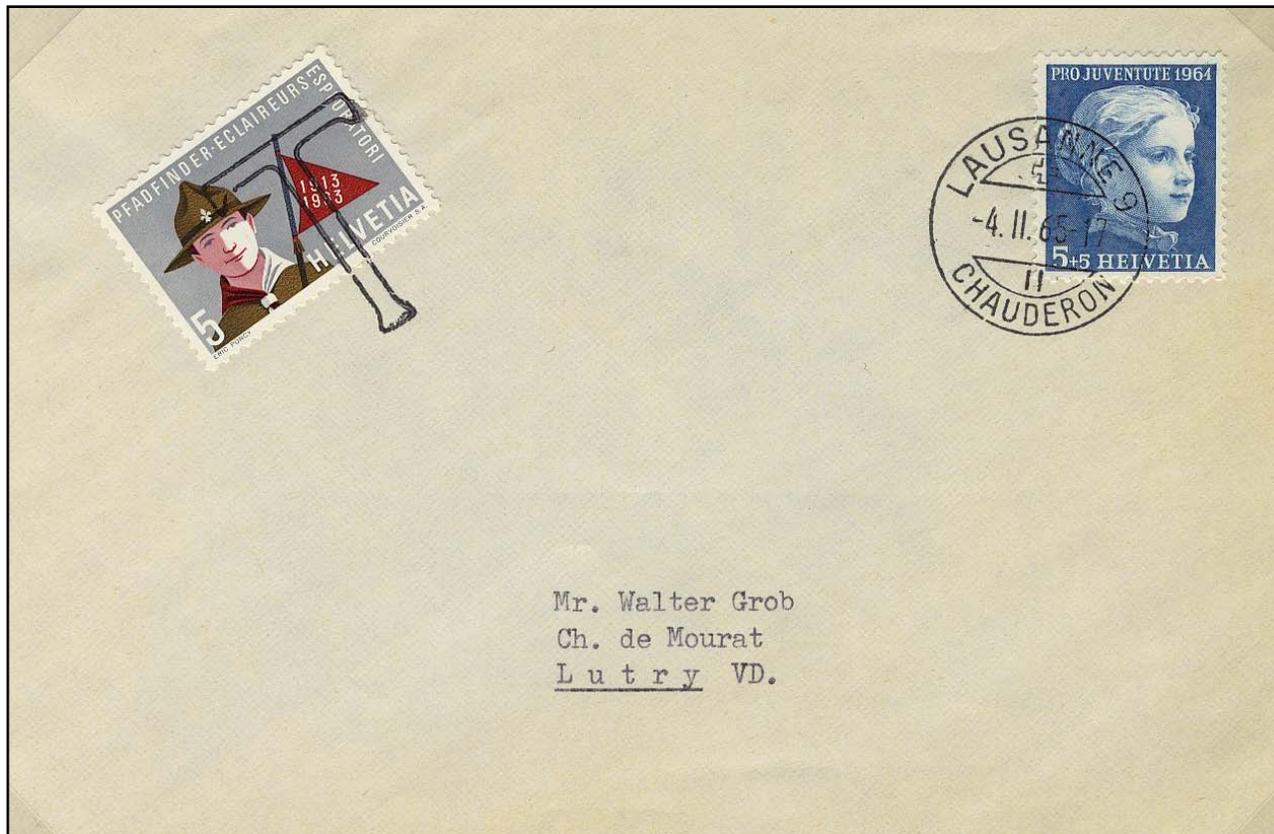
Postage due mail

- ✓ Insufficient postage on cover sent to Norway from Scout conference, Denmark, 1997.



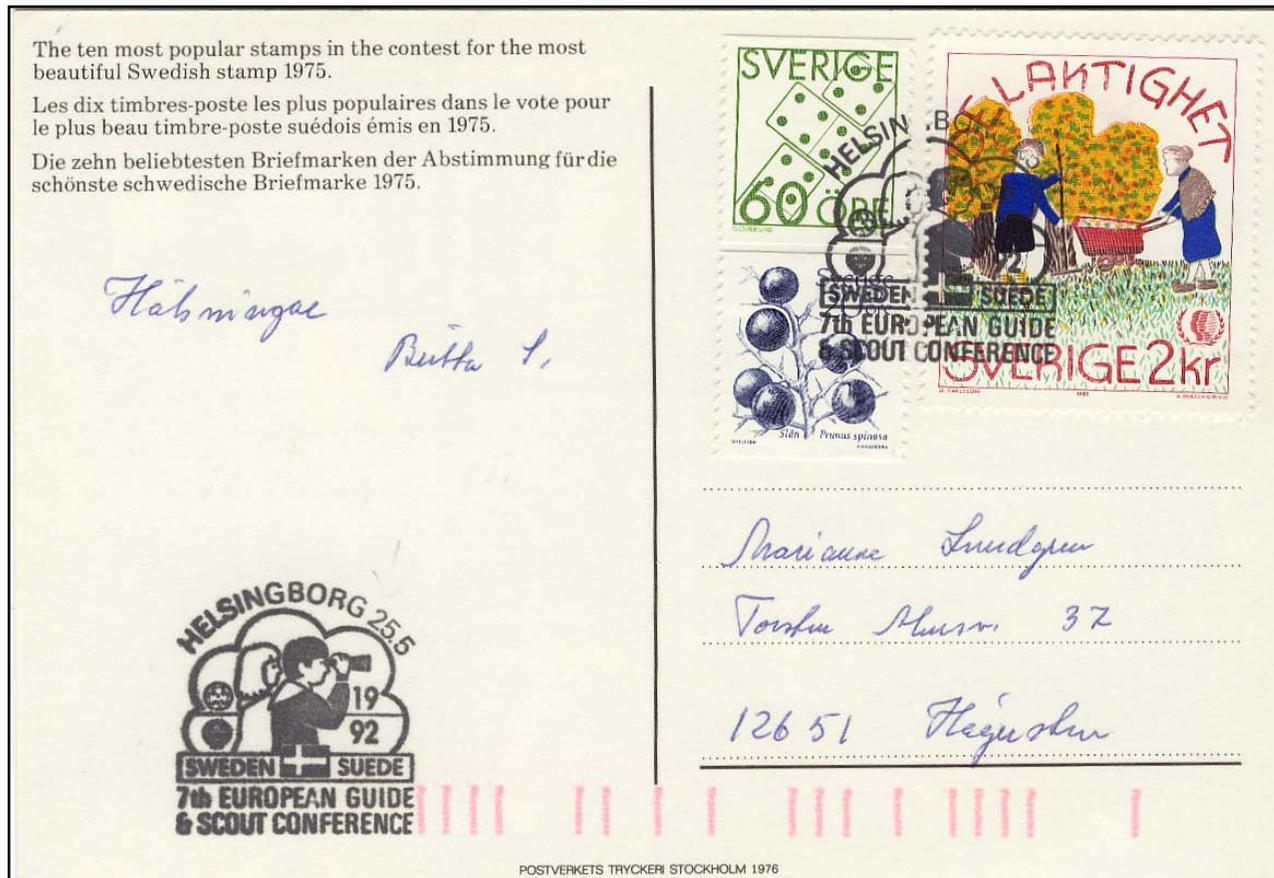
Postage due mail

- ✓ Boy Scout stamp used as payment for the due amount, Switzerland, 1963.



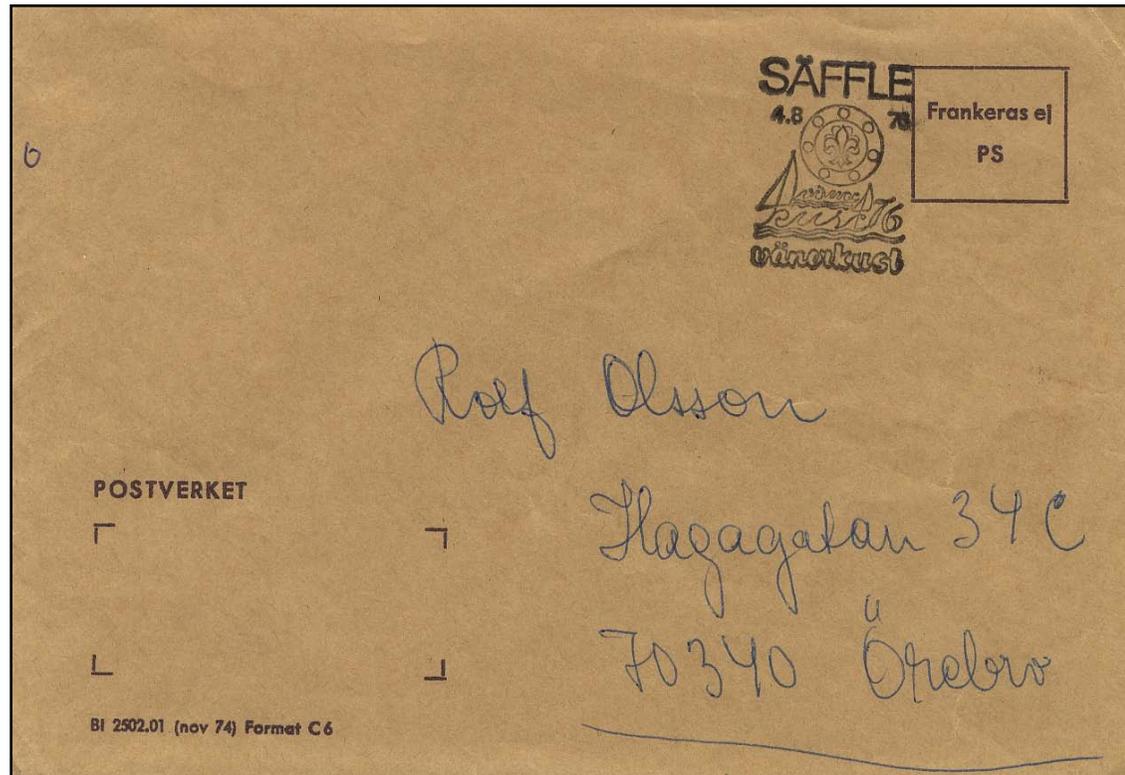
Automation of the mails

- ✓ Bar codes for automatic sorting of the mails, Sweden 1992.



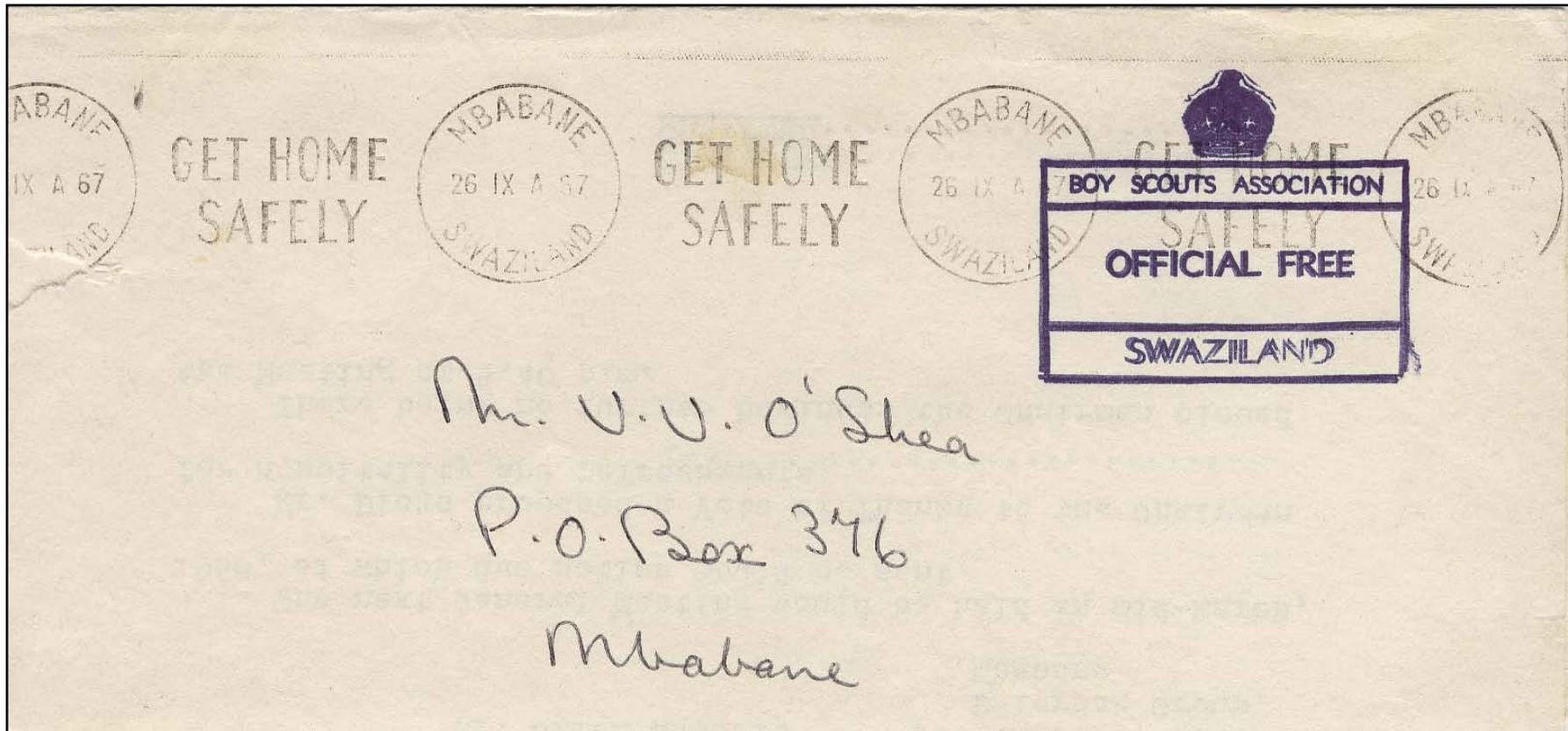
Official mail

- ✓ Official envelope from Sweden Post, with imprint “No postage required”, the envelope is printed in November 1974, and it was used in 1976 from a Scout camp post office.



Free Frank mail

- ✓ **The Scouts of Swaziland received the free postage privilege whilst still a colony. This continued after independence in 1968.**



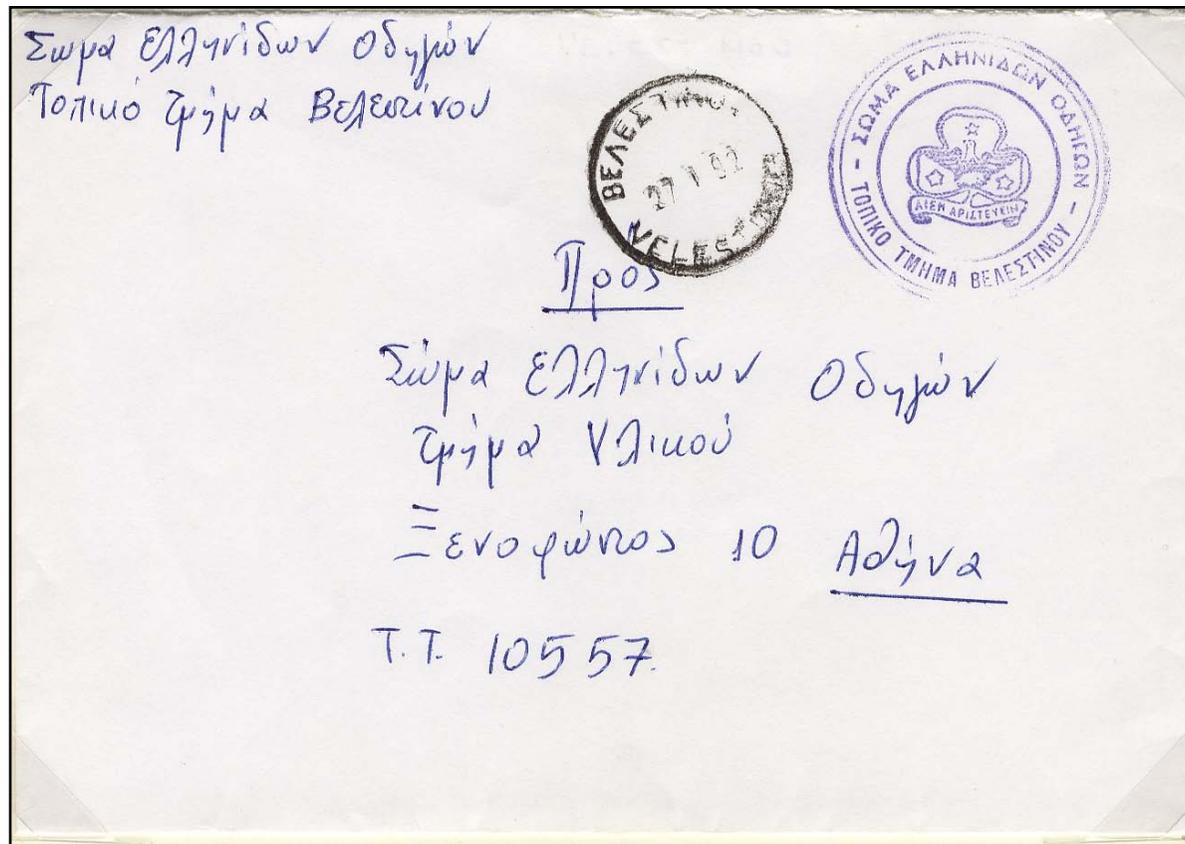
Free Frank mail

- ✓ **Free postage privilege is a form of Governmental recognition of Scouting, and a form of financial support.**
- ✓ **Can be found from many countries:**
- ✓ **Cuba**
- ✓ **Venezuela**
- ✓ **Greece**
- ✓ **Romania**
- ✓ **Jamaica**
- ✓ **Peru**
- ✓ **El Salvador**
- ✓ **Costa Rica**
- ✓ **Switzerland**
- ✓ **Guatemala**
- ✓ **Honduras**
- ✓ **Swaziland**
- ✓ **Panama**
- ✓ **... and probably more**

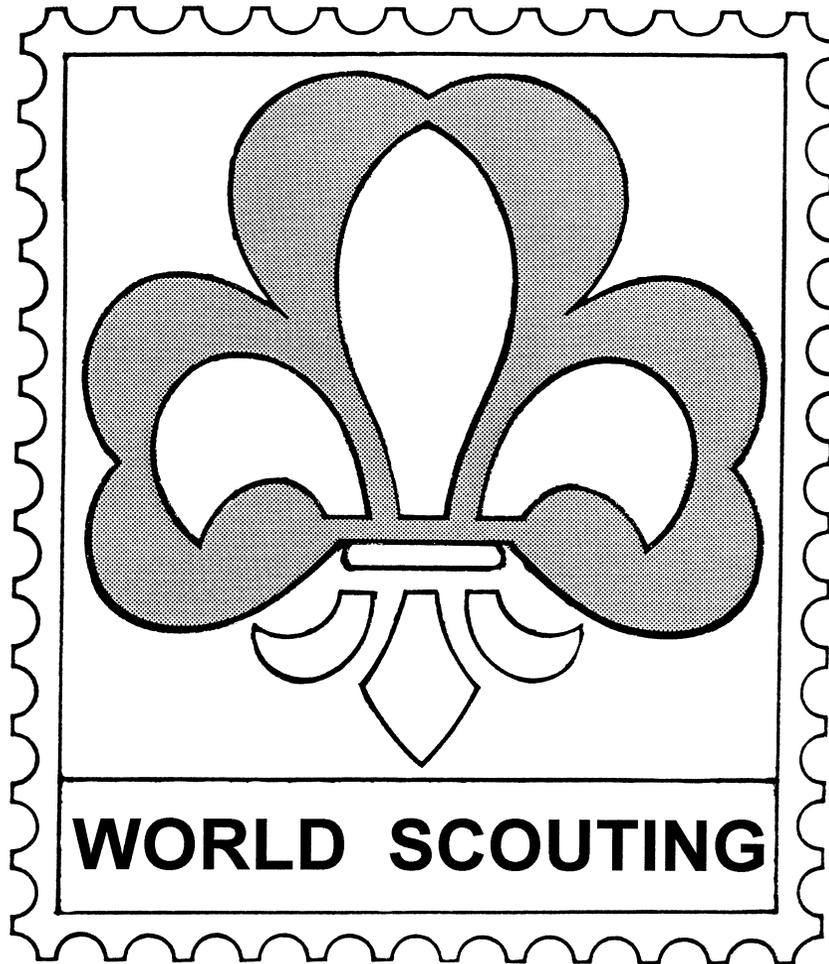


Free Frank mail

- ✓ The Scouts of Greece were granted a free postage privilege in the early years of Scouting, and it continues to this date.



That's all, folks.



- ✓ **Thank you for your attention.**
- ✓ **Would you like to see my stamp collection?**
- ✓ **8 frames “World Scouting”, in the Thematic class.**