

NATIONS UNIES

Office Européen

(The Provisional Overprints)

Perspective

At the close of World War II, the League of Nations was no longer a viable organization. A plan by the first General Assembly of the United Nations in London, approved by Switzerland and the League, granted the fledgling United Nations organization all existing League property for its offices and Geneva became the new permanent seat of the United Nations European Office on 2 January, 1947.

Initial postal service was provided by Swiss authorities at a substation within the Palais des Nations using regular Swiss postal issues until 1 February, 1950. An agreement with Switzerland provided for 20 regular values to receive overprints for the exclusive use of the United Nations European Office in Geneva. These provisional overprinted issues paid postage on all official mail originating from all departments of the European Office until 1 October, 1956, when specially designed stamps were issued by Switzerland and the overprinted values were removed from service.

Focus

The exhibit concentrates on the provisional overprinted Swiss postal issues of the European Office in Geneva. Examples of overprinted values, printing dates and plate numbers, overprint varieties, various rates, foreign usages, unusual markings, and late posting are included in this display.

Items of Special Interest:

Corrected plate number 2 on 35 rp. value
12/19/51 printing of 2Franc (only verified)
Plate number 4 of 10Franc (only recorded)
Information Section (circular origin) cover
Social Welfare Section cover to France
Director General cover to USA
Sheet with overprint variety positions
Examples of overprint varieties on cover
Reconstruction of box cancel used 20 days
Examples of late posting via express office



European Office service cover with Swiss postage used prior to provisional overprints



Corrected plate number '2' on 35 rappen value



12/19/51 printing of 2 Franc value (only verified)

Plate number 4 of 10 Franc value (only recorded)

EUROPEAN OFFICE
OF THE UNITED NATIONS

OFFICE EUROPÉEN
DES NATIONS UNIES



Librairie MAUDUIT - Abonnements
Rue Lévrier 5-7,
Genève



EUROPEAN OFFICE
OF THE UNITED NATIONS

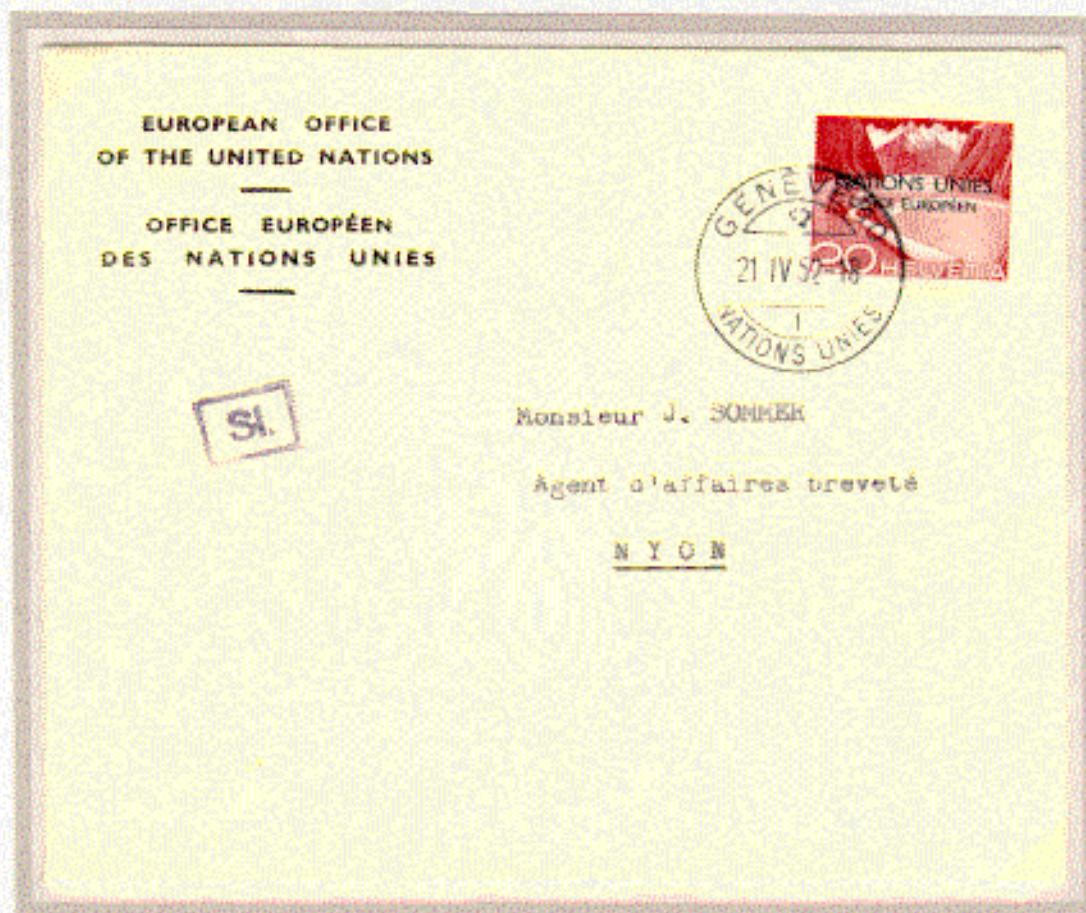
OFFICE EUROPÉEN
DES NATIONS UNIES

IMPRIMÉS



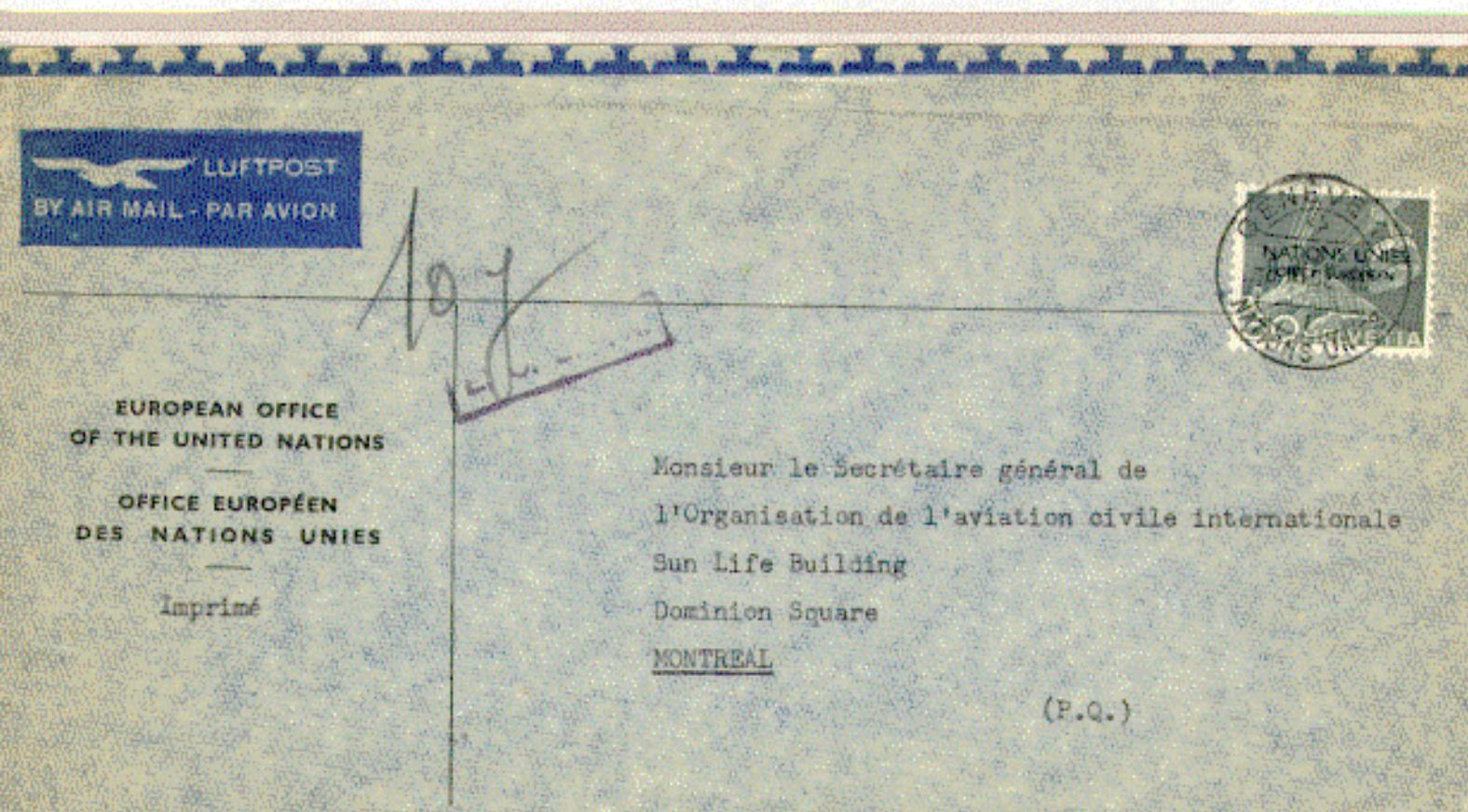
Monsieur Moroy,
Bureau de Presse,
Comité International de la Croix-Rouge,
7, Av. de la Paix,
Genève.





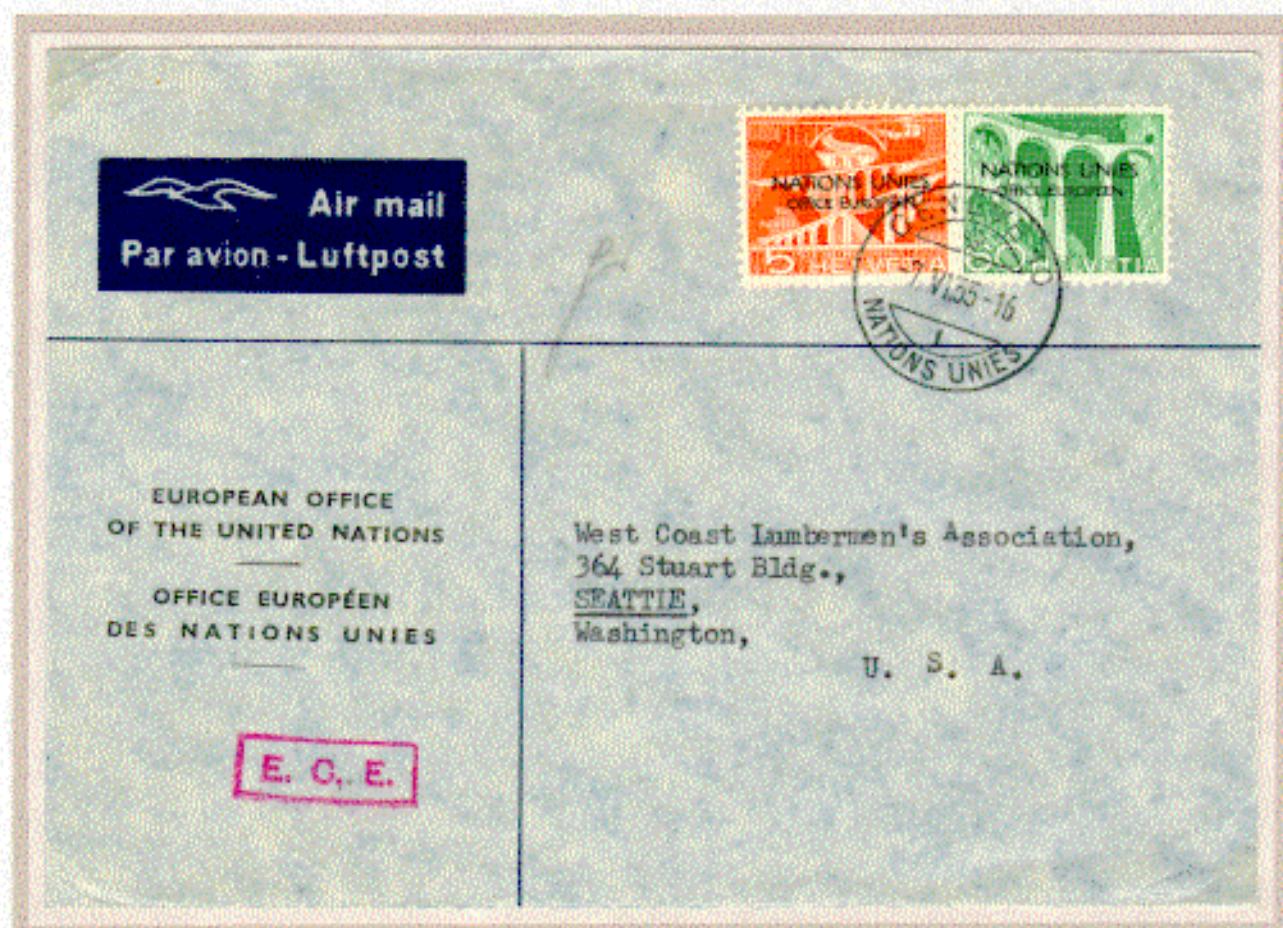
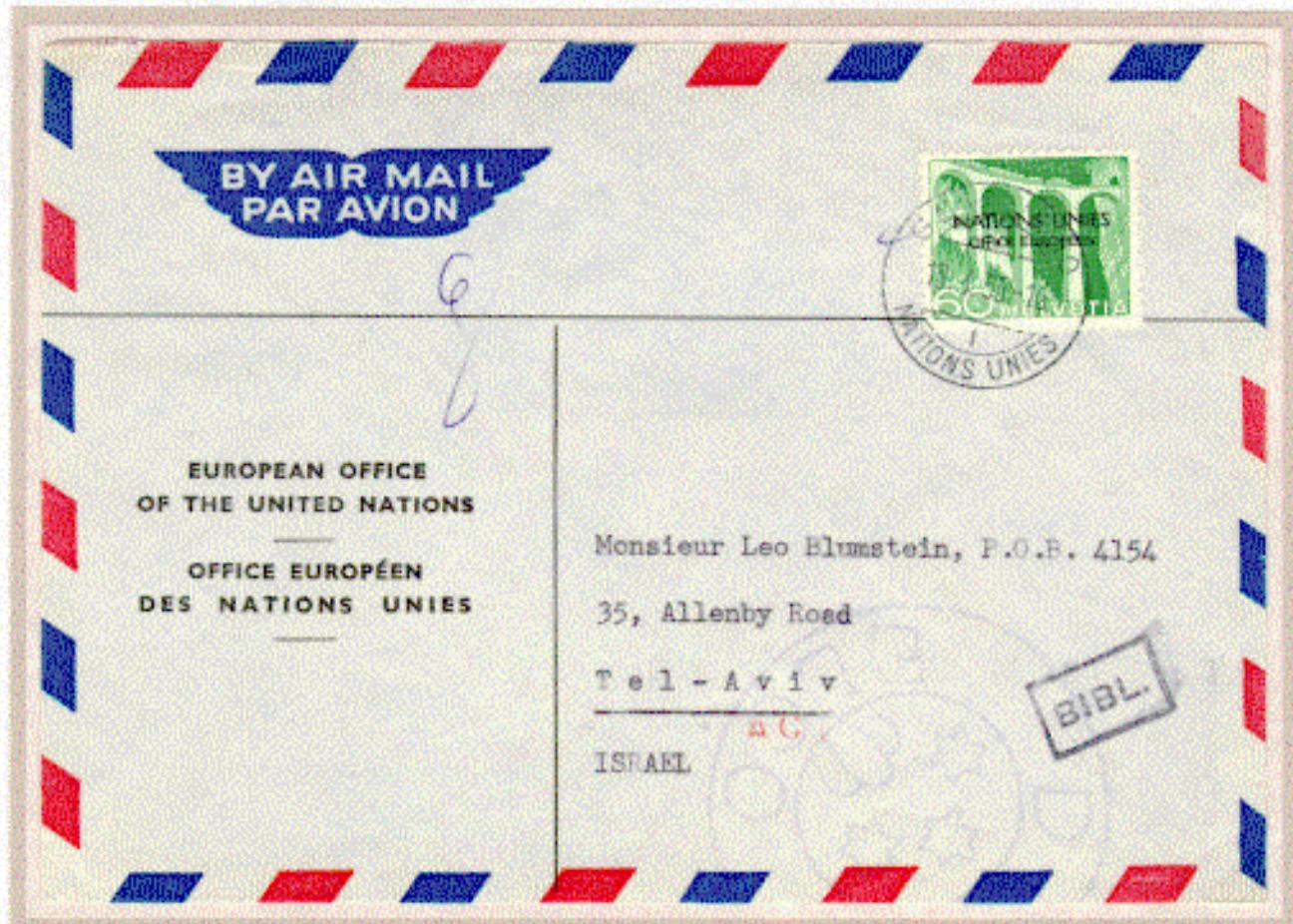
Local single weight rate (Finance Section) October 26, 1951

First class single weight rate (Internal Service) April 21, 1952



European single weight rate (Social Welfare Section) March 2, 1950

North American airmail 10 gram printed matter rate (European Economic Commission Translation Section) March 8, 1952



Near East 20 gram airmail rate (Library) January 18, 1955

North American 20 gram airmail rate (European Economic Commission) June 7, 1955



North American 50 gram airmail rate (Supply & Travel Section) July 10, 1954

North American 60 gram airmail rate (Director General) July 10, 1952

2.50

2.25

2.—

1.75

1.50

1.25

1.—

—.75

—.50

—.25



2

BY AIR MAIL
PAR AVION

EUROPEAN OFFICE
OF THE UNITED NATIONS

OFFICE EUROPEEN
DES NATIONS UNIES

ONU

Mr. W.R. Bird,
Secretary,
Lions International,
McCormick Building,
332, South Michigan Avenue,
Chicago 4,
Illinois,
U.S.A.



EUROPEAN OFFICE
OF THE UNITED NATIONS

OFFICE EUROPÉEN
DES NATIONS UNIES

FIN.

INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION,

International Aviation Building
1080 University Street,

MONTREAL, P.Q.,
Canada





Reconstruction of auxiliary hand cancel used 10/6 to 10/26/53; October 8, 1953

Registered (20rp) local single weight (10rp) rate April 1, 1950; Posted from main post office 'Geneva 1 Dépôt'

EUROPEAN OFFICE
OF THE UNITED NATIONS

OFFICE EUROPÉEN
DES NATIONS UNIES



ETS JAUN & PRODHOM S.A.

2 place de la Synagogue

GENEVE.

EUROPEAN OFFICE
OF THE UNITED NATIONS

OFFICE EUROPÉEN
DES NATIONS UNIES



JOHAN GRUNDT TANUM FORLAG,
Kr. Augustsgt 7A
OSLO
Norvège