

The PhilateliKid

The newsletter for Stamp Collecting Clubs for Kids (SCCFK)

Collect Stamps (The Most Educational Hobby)

www.stampcollectingclubsforkids.org

June 1, 2026

In the May 2022 issue of *The PhilateliKid*, we began brief descriptions of various "Back of the Book" ("BOB") listings in the Scott Catalogues. In subsequent issues we looked at stamps which begin with the letter "B," "BK," "C," "CB," "CBO," "CE," "CFLEU," "CL," "CLC," "CLCF," "CLEU," "CM," "CO," "CP," "CVP," "D," "E," "EP," "F," "FA," "J," "JQ," "K," "L," "LO," "LOX," "M," "MR," "NSC," "O," "OXF," "P," "PC," "PM," "PN," "PR," "PS," "Q," "QE," "QI," "R" (Part 1), "R" (Part 2), "RA," "RC," "RD," "RE," "REA," "REF," "RF," "RG," "RH," "RJ," "RK," "RL," "RN-D," "RO," "RS," "RV," "RX," "RY," "RZ," "-S," "SPCVP," "TD," "U," "UC," "UX," "UXC," "UY," "UZ," "WS," "WX," "#X," and State, followed by a number, and also Canal Zone, Confederate States of America, Danish West Indies, Guam, and United Nations. This month we will be looking at Ryukyu Islands. All stamps illustrated are from the author's personal collection, unless otherwise noted.

Stamps from Ryukyu Islands.

Ryukyu Islands (pronounced Ree you cue) are an archipelago extending from Japan's island Kyushu to Taiwan. They separate the Pacific Ocean from the East China Sea. They are comprised of approximately 63 islands, the largest of which is Okinawa. After World War II ended in 1945, the United States stationed military troops on the Ryukyu Islands until May 15, 1972. During that period of time, the Ryukyu Islands issued its own stamps. Some of the stamps did not give the name in English, only Japanese. When in English, they are written as "Ryukyus" and the word "Islands" is not written.

For Ryukyu the Scott Catalogue lists 228 different definitive and commemorative stamps, 30 air mail stamps, and 1 Special Delivery stamp along with 2 Letter Sheets, 4 Air Mail Letter Sheets, 44 Postal Cards, 17 Paid Reply Postal Cards, 31 Revenue stamps, 8 Unemployment Insurance revention Seals (commonly referred to as "Christmas Seals.") In addition, Scott stamps, and Trial Color Proof stamps. Scott lists 43 "Official Stamps Election



Postal Cards," which use a prefix of "UZE." The United States does not have "UZE" prefix.

Note tiny "Ryukyus" in English

Stamps illustrated above are courtesy of Henry Gitner Philatelists, Inc., Middletown, NY

One island (Kume) issued one stamp that is listed in Scott. Four Districts also issued stamps that are separately listed in Scott (Amami, Miyako, Okinawa, and Yaeyama.)

DEAD COUNTRIES

Beginning in October 2024, we illustrated stamps from "Dead Countries." We looked at Alaouites, Allied Military Government of the United States and Great Britain – Free Territory of Trieste, Basutoland, Bavaria, Belgian Congo, British Central Africa, British Honduras, Cochinchina, Confederate States of America, Croatia, Cyrenaica, Czechoslovakia, Dahomey, Danish West Indies, Dutch Indies, Eastern Rumelia, French Congo, French Equatorial Africa, Hawaii, Latakia, Middle Congo, Newfoundland, New South Wales, Northern Rhodesia, Nyasaland, the Peoples Republic of the Zaire, Queensland, Rhodesia, Rhodesia and Nyasaland, South Australia, Southern Rhodesia, Tasmania, Victoria, Western Australia, and Zimbabwe Rhodesia. This month we will look at Papua & New Guinea.



issued stamps under several designations, or the Administration of Australia, it was named you will notice that **Papua New Guinea** today is New Guinea" which is now part of **Indonesia**.

Dutch East Indies ("Dutch East Indies") During World War II sea battles, known as The New Guinea campaign.

1952 to 1972) Papua & New Guinea used pence, and dollar. In 1972 Papua & New Guinea gained part of the British Commonwealth.

pence) and Scott No. 136 (1 pound.) abbreviated "d," and pound is abbreviated pound in cursive has two horizontal portion of the "£" as you can see in

is New Guinea named New Guinea, when the country of San Francisco, located approximately 10,629 miles away, by air, in West Africa. The origin comes from a Spanish explorer in 1545 who saw the natives of New Guinea, and believed they looked similar to the natives of Guinea!

Some students have asked why is "d" the abbreviation for "pence," and why is "£" the abbreviation for "pound" when there is no "d" in pence and there is no "L" in pound. The answer goes back to the Latin language. The "d" is the abbreviation for "denarii" and the "£" is the abbreviation for "librae.") The "s" for shilling makes sense, but in reality, it is an abbreviation

of Latin for "solidi."

In Latin, 12 **denarii** equaled 1 **solidi**, and 20 **solidi** equaled 1 **librae**. A form of this method of currency was used in Europe of over 1,000 years. In the United Kingdom, prior to decimalization on February 15, 1971 --- 12 **pence** ("d") equaled 1 **shilling** ("s") and 20 **shillings** equaled 1 **pound** ("£").

Stamp Collecting Clubs for Kids is a 501(c)(3) organization. Donations are greatly appreciated and if \$10 or more you will be sent a written receipt. You also can donate via PayPal on our website: www.stampcollectingclubsforkids.org or www.yummystampcollecting.org which redirects you to the same website.

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