

In 1960 South Africa celebrated the 50th Anniversary of the Union of South Africa.

The 1960 whites only referendum had supported Verwoerd's plea for a Republic and the National Party was able to gain a majority in parliament. Verwoerd went to London in March 1961 to give notice to the Conference of Commonwealth Prime Ministers that South Africa was changing from a monarchy to a republic and to argue his case to remain within the British Commonwealth. This request for a constitutional change would normally have been granted, but because of South Africa's Apartheid policy, it was vehemently opposed. Verwoerd then withdrew his application for membership of the Commonwealth.

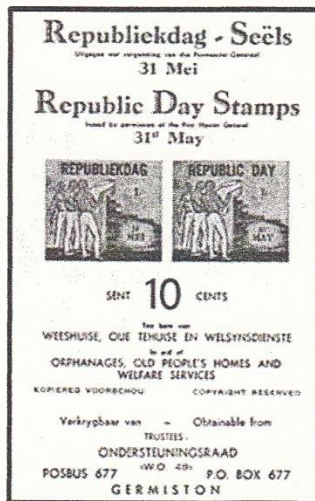


*1960 50th Anniversary of Union of South Africa - three values of the commemorative issue
In 1961 shortly before becoming a Republic, Union of South Africa the three values of the commemoratives of 1960 were re-issued with new currency*

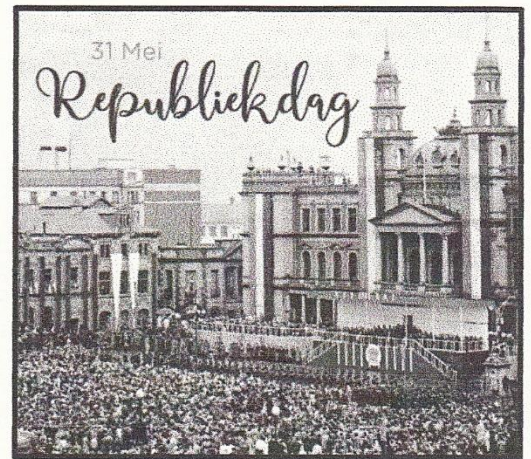
On 31st May 1961 the Republic of South Africa was established.



1c 1961 'Republic Day' label sold in booklets of 10 in aid of orphanages, old people's homes & welfare services (Issued by permission of the Postmaster General)



Label booklet cover (copy reduced)



Republic Day 31 May 1961



1966
South Africa celebrated
5th Anniversary of the establishment
of a Republic

1966 5th Anniversary of Republic commemorative issue alternately inscribed in English and Afrikaans

