

POSTAGE STAMPS ISSUED IN OBSERVANCE OF THE WORLD REFUGEE YEAR



On December 05th, 1958 the General Assembly of the United Nations in its 782nd meeting adopted the resolution officially known as 1285 (XIII), through which the World Refugee Year was created and its date set for the period of 12 (TWELVE) months beginning June 01st, 1959.

The aim of the World Refugee Year, as defined in the resolution, are:-

- a. To focus interest on the refugee problem and governments, voluntary agencies and the general public for its solution.
- b. To encourage additional opportunities for permanent refugee solutions, through voluntary repatriation, resettlement or integration, on a purely humanitarian basis and in accordance with the freely expressed wishes of the refugees themselves.

To achieve these aims, the General Assembly urged "States Members of the United Nations and members of the specialised agencies to cooperate in promoting a World Refugee Year" and requested "the Secretary-General to take such steps as he may think fit to assist in the promotion of a world Refugee Year".

The response to this appeal was gratifying. Governments, religious groups and their leaders took active part in the promotion of the World Refugee Year as well as in actually aiding the program itself. National committees for the World Refugee Year came into being. In Geneva an International Committee for World Refugee Year was formed, consisting of the greatest number of voluntary agencies ever to unite in a single cause.

Part of the World Refugee Year program is the "Stamp Plan," which was developed jointly by the office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees and the UN Relief and Works agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East. More than 70 nations are participating in the plan; most of them have agreed to issue their respective stamps on the same day, April 7th, 1960, thus in the words of Dr. Auguste R. Lindt, UN High Commissioner for Refugees-creating a "Philatelic milestone."

**** NOTE : This article is based on material released by the United Nations Office of Public Information****

The United Nation Postal Administration, on December 10th, 1959, issued a set of stamps to commemorate World Refugee Year and to symbolize "the help which it is hoped the year will bring to refugees." The World Refugee Year emblem shown on these stamps, created by Mr. Olav S Mathiesen (Denmark) of the UN Graphic Presentation Unit, depicts hands held protectively over the figure of a refugee-thus expressing the idea of "shelter."

The design suggested by the UN High Commissioner for Refugee to possibly be incorporated into countries' issues for World Refugee Year symbolizes the final step in the solution of the refugee problem-resettlement: this design, an uprooted tree seeking to take roots in a new soil, was created by Ole Hanmann, also a Danish graphic artist in the UN Secretariat.

An original drawing by Jean Cocteau, "Refugee Year Mother and Child" is shown on the cachet for First Day Covers for the refugee stamps from 21 European and 07 Pan-American countries. The First Day Cover cachet for the sets from 14 Afro-Asian countries have their own sachets, and there is also a special United Nations Souvenir cover for April 7th, 1960.

But the stamp issues are not only devoted to the promotional idea. Some governments will place part of the proceeds from the sale of the stamps to the disposal of refugee programs, while others have made quantities of their respective mint stamps available to the United Nations. Thus the "Stamp Plan" is a 2 fold 1 :

- a. It draws worldwide popular attention to the plight of people who have become refugees since the end of World War II and still are, in spite of the great efforts and achievements of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees which has solved the problem for many and alleviated the lot of more;
- b. It helps raise funds towards closing the gap between moneys available and the total required for the re-settlement of those still "uprooted" in Europe, Asia and Africa-a worthwhile cause and a challenge for everyone.

Afghanistan (Member State)



Surcharge - overprinted on the "HELP THE REFUGEES SHEET". Issued on December 31st, 1960.



Surcharge in Carmine.

"HELP THE REFUGEES" In observance of the World Refugee Year. Issued on April 07th, 1960.



"Uprooted tree taking roots in a new soil".



The set imperforate.

Argentina (Charter Member)



To commemorate the "UNITED NATIONS WORLD REFUGEE YEAR". Issued on April 07th, 1960
Souvenir Sheet (Without Watermarked paper).



The "uprooted tree".

To commemorate the "UNITED NATIONS WORLD REFUGEE YEAR" Re-issued in Fall 1960
Souvenir Sheet (With Watermarked paper).



Austria (Member State)

For the "WORLD REFUGEE YEAR". Issued on April 07th, 1960.



Family in flight across a mountain - the mother carrying the baby, the father bearing whatever they could save their belongings.

Belgium (Charter Member)

In Observance of the "UNITED NATIONS WORLD REFUGEE YEAR". Issued on April 07th, 1960.

Surcharge for the Belgian Committee for the World Refugee Year.



There are refugees of all ages - and all ponder the question : "WHERE CAN WE GO?"

Bolivia (Charter Member)



For the "WORLD REFUGEE YEAR". Issued on April 07th, 1960.



ORDINARY MAIL.



"Refugees".



AIR MAIL.



The "uprooted tree".

Brazil (Charter Member)

To commemorate the "UNITED NATIONS WORLD REFUGEE YEAR". Issued on April 07th, 1960.



United Nations World Refugee Year emblem - "Hands held protectively over the figure of a refugee".

Cameroons (U.N. Membership application pending)

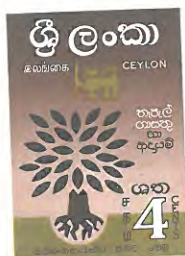
In observance of the "UNITED NATIONS WORLD REFUGEE YEAR". Issued on June 01st, 1960.



"The uprooted tree emblem".

Ceylon (Member State)

To commemorate the "UNITED NATIONS WORLD REFUGEE YEAR". Issued on April 07th, 1960.



Inscription in Sinhalese, Tamil & English.
The Ceylonese Lion guards the "replanted tree."

Chile (Charter Member)

To commemorate the "UNITED NATIONS WORLD REFUGEE YEAR". Issued in 1960.

April 07th, 1960.

April 19th, 1960.



Vision of a new life for this refugee family - and map and flag Chile.

China (Charter Member)

To commemorate the "UNITED NATIONS WORLD REFUGEE YEAR". Issued on April 07th, 1960.



The "uprooted tree".

Colombia (Charter Member)

For the "WORLD REFUGEE YEAR". Issued on May 24th, 1960.



Refugee family in flight.

Costa Rica (Charter Member)

To commemorate the "UNITED NATIONS WORLD REFUGEE YEAR". Issued on April 07th, 1960.



The "uprooted tree".

Denmark (Charter Member)

To commemorate the "UNITED NATIONS WORLD REFUGEE YEAR". Issued on April 07th, 1960.



Overprint on King Frederic IX stamp: The "uprooted and replanted", the Danish language equivalent for "World Refugee Year" - and change of value.

Ecuador (Charter Member)

"WORLD REFUGEE YEAR". Issued on April 07th, 1960.



The uprooted tree is taking roots in a new soil.

El Salvador (Charter Member)

For the "WORLD REFUGEE YEAR". Issued on April 07th, 1960.



Air mail stamp overprinted for the World Refugee Year.

Ethiopia (Charter Member)

To commemorate the "UNITED NATIONS WORLD REFUGEE YEAR". Issued on April 07th, 1960.



Overprint in Amharic and English.

Federation of Malaya (Member State)

In observance of the "UNITED NATIONS WORLD REFUGEE YEAR". Issued on April 07th, 1960.



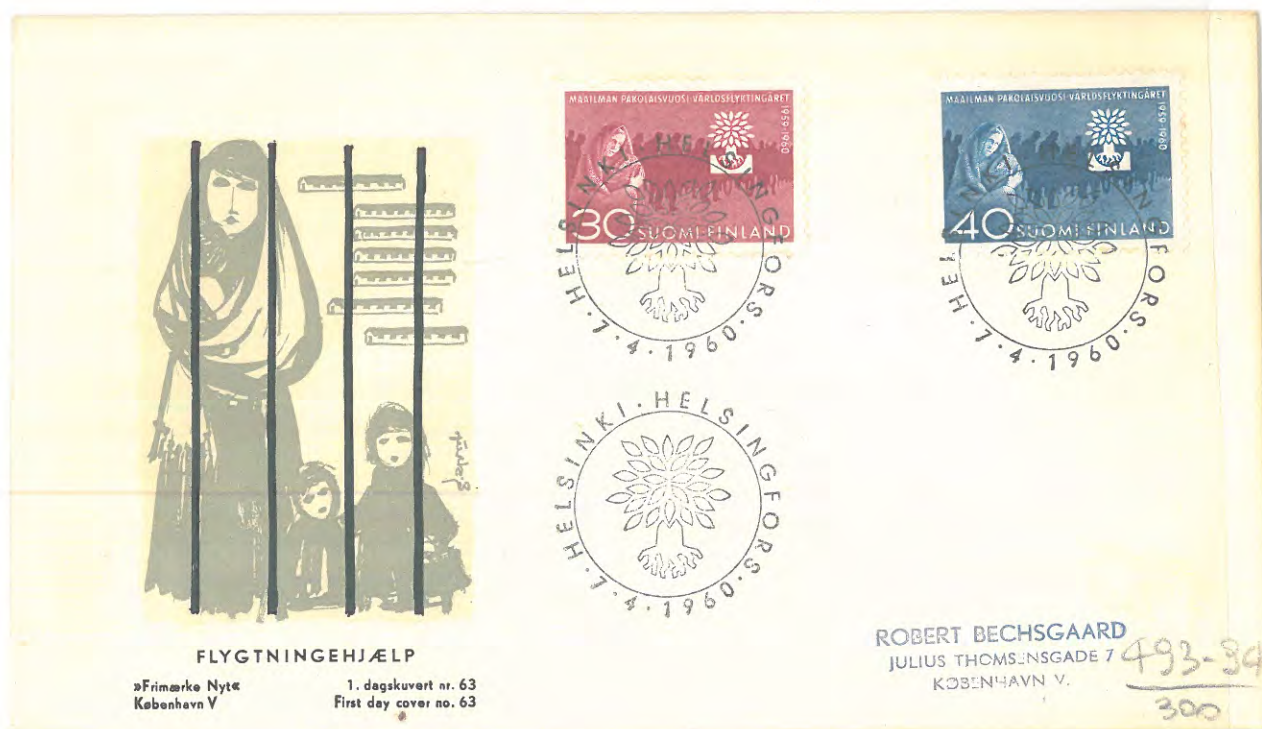
Symbolizing the resettlement of the refugees through the efforts of the United Nations.

Finland (Member State)

In observance of the "UNITED NATIONS WORLD REFUGEE YEAR". Issued on April 07th, 1960.

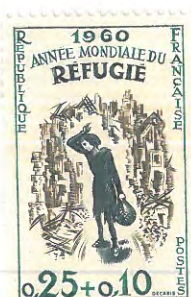


The immediate aim of this refugee mother and of the group of refugees, which is seen in the background, is to find new homes, so that they may be able to build a new life for themselves and to bring up their children safely and without fear.



France (Charter Member)

For the "WORLD REFUGEE YEAR". Issued on April 07th, 1960.



A refugee girl leaving a ruined city.

German Federal Republic (Not a U.N. Member)

To commemorate the "UNITED NATIONS WORLD REFUGEE YEAR". Issued on April 07th, 1960.

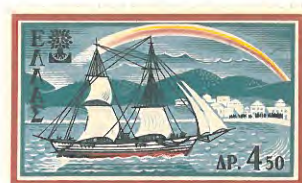


An uprooted tree and a globe.

Greece (Charter Member)

"VOYAGE UNTO A HAVEN"

In observance of the "UNITED NATIONS WORLD REFUGEE YEAR". Issued on April 07th, 1960.



The beam from a lighthouse
symbolizes helpful guidance through
stormy voyage.

The rainbow reflects the sunlight -
the storm is over - the ship is safe in
port.

Guatemala (Charter Member)

To commemorate the "UNITED NATIONS WORLD REFUGEE YEAR". Issued on April 23rd, 1960.



Overprints on the 1958 Red Cross issue.



Guinea (Member State)

In observance of the "UNITED NATIONS WORLD REFUGEE YEAR". Issued on April 07th, 1960.



The "uprooted tree" is surrounded by clasped hands of different races.

Haiti (Charter Member)

For the "WORLD REFUGEE YEAR". Issued on July 23rd, 1959.

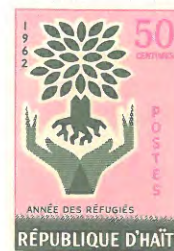


Overprint on the series issued to commemorate the sesquicentennial of the birth of "ABRAHAM LINCOLN".

Haiti (Charter Member)

In observance of the "UNITED NATIONS WORLD REFUGEE YEAR". Issued on April 07th, 1960.

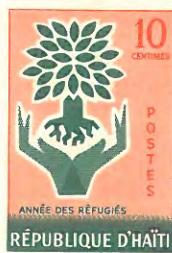
"For Ordinary Mail".



"For Air Mail".



RÉPUBLIQUE D'HAÏTI



ANNÉE DES RÉFUGIÉS

"Souvenir Sheet".

Haiti (Charter Member)

For the "UNITED NATIONS WORLD REFUGEE YEAR". Issued on July 23rd, 1959.



SOUVENIRSHEET

(Overprint on the series issued to commemorate the sesquicentennial of the birth of Abraham Lincoln).

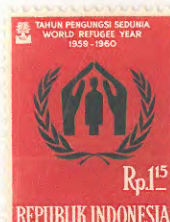
Iceland (Member State)

In observance of the "UNITED NATIONS WORLD REFUGEE YEAR". Issued on April 07th, 1960.



"The Outlaw" Statue by the Icelandic sculptor Einar Jonsson.

Indonesia (Member State)



Refugees - and World Refugee Year emblem.



FDC posted to Sudan.

Iran (Charter Member - Persia)

To commemorate the "UNITED NATIONS WORLD REFUGEE YEAR". Issued on April 07th, 1960.



The "uprooted tree" symbol,
framed by arch of Persian design.



The "uprooted tree" symbol
framed by two Persian columns.

Ireland (Member State)

In observance of the "UNITED NATIONS WORLD REFUGEE YEAR". Issued on April 07th, 1960.



"The Flight to Egypt"

Israel (Member State)

"RESETTLEMENT", In observance of the World Refugee Year. Issued April 07th, 1960.

Operation "Magic Carpet"

"..... I bore you on eagles' wings"
Exodus 19,4



At Home in Israel

"..... they shall sit every man under his vine
and under his fig-tree; and none shall make
them afraid" Micah 4,4

Italy (Member State)

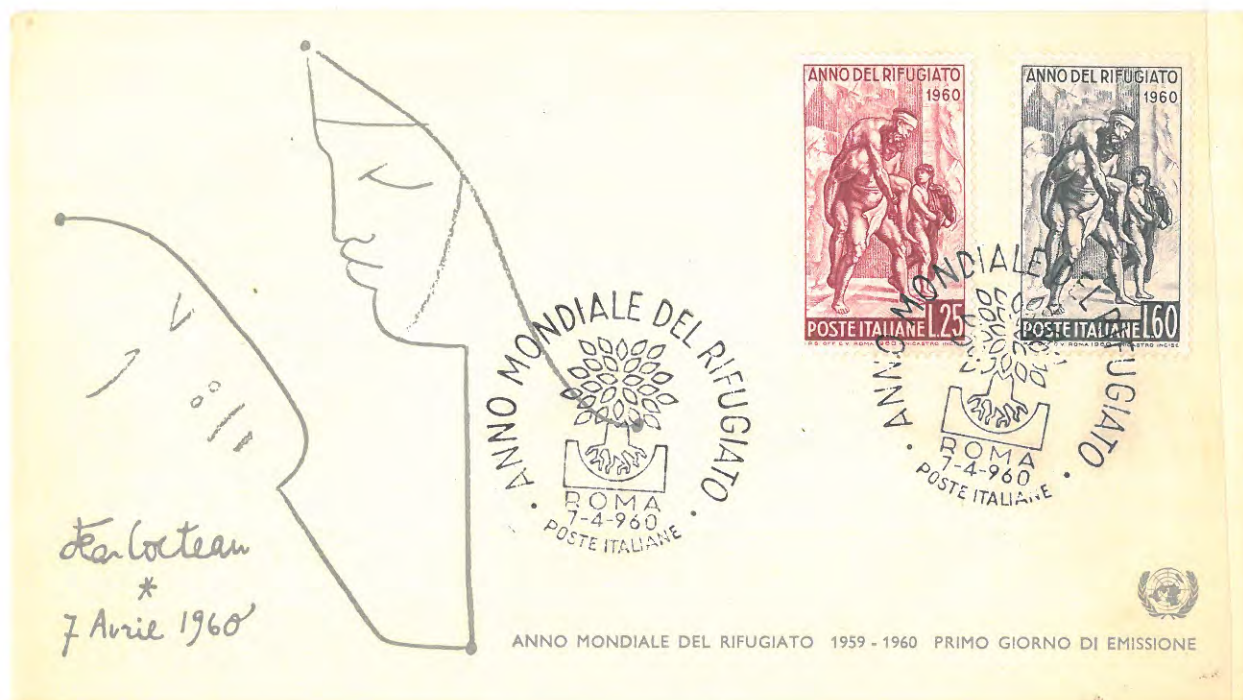
In observance of the "UNITED NATIONS WORLD REFUGEE YEAR". Issued on April 07th, 1960.



Detail from "Incendio del Borgo" by Raphael Sanzio (1483-1520) : Aeneas carrying his father Anchises on his shoulders and leading his son Ascanius by the hand - during their escape from Troy.

Italy (Member State)

In observance of the "UNITED NATIONS WORLD REFUGEE YEAR". Issued on April 07th, 1960.



Italy 1960 World Refugee Year FDC

Jordan (Member State)

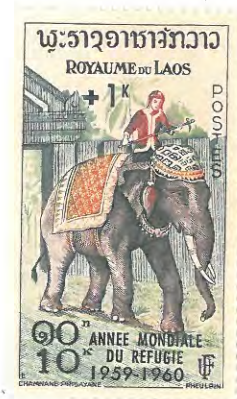
In observance of the "UNITED NATIONS WORLD REFUGEE YEAR". Issued on April 07th, 1960.



United Nations World Refugee Year emblem - "Hands held protectively over the figure of a refugee".

Laos (Member State)

In observance of the "UNITED NATIONS WORLD REFUGEE YEAR". Issued on April 07th, 1960.



Overprint and surcharge for the World Refugee Year.

Lebanon (Charter Member)

In observance of the "UNITED NATIONS WORLD REFUGEE YEAR". Issued on April 07th, 1960.



"Uprooted tree taking roots in a new soil".

Lebanon (Charter Member)

Surcharge - overprint on the "UNITED NATIONS WORLD REFUGEE YEAR ISSUE". Issued on November, 1960.



The reprinted WRY set surcharged

To commemorate the "UNITED NATIONS WORLD REFUGEE YEAR". Issued on September 05th, 1960.

RÉPUBLIQUE LIBANAISE
MINISTÈRE DES P.T.T.

الجمهورية اللبنانية
وزارة البريد والهاتف

ذكري سنة اللاجئين العالمية



ANNIVERSAIRE
DE L'ANNÉE MONDIALE DU RÉFUGIÉ

Prix 75 P. + 75 P.

الجن ٧٥ ق. + ٧٥ ق.

Souvenir Sheet

Liberia (Charter Member)

To commemorate the "UNITED NATIONS WORLD REFUGEE YEAR". Issued on April 07th, 1960.



United Nations World Refugee Year emblem

1959-1960
WORLD REFUGEE YEAR



REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA

Souvenir Sheet

Libya (Member State)

To commemorate the "UNITED NATIONS WORLD REFUGEE YEAR". Issued on April 07th, 1960.



The United Nations World Refugee emblem, the Coat of arms of Libya and "the uprooted tree which is taking roots in a new soil."

Liechtenstein (Not a U.N. Member)

To commemorate the "UNITED NATIONS WORLD REFUGEE YEAR". Issued on April 07th, 1960.

The surcharge on the Brussels Exposition stamps is for the United Nations Refugee Fund



Overprint "World Refugee Year" in German

Luxembourg (Charter Member State)

“REFUGEES OF ANCIENT AND MODERN TIMES”

In observance of the UNITED NATIONS WORLD REFUGEE YEAR. Issued on April 07th, 1960.

Mid-twentieth Century Refugee asking for shelter.



Biblical scene
(The Flight to EGYPT)

Monaco (Not a U.N. Member)

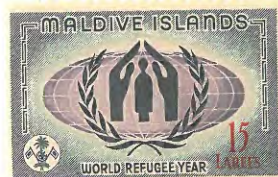
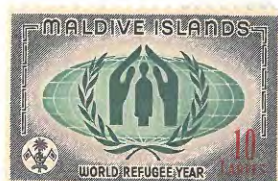
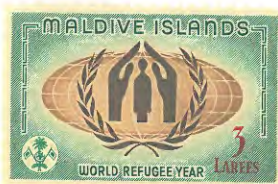
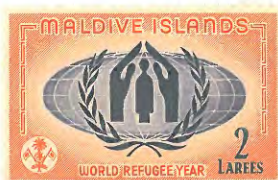
For the WORLD REFUGEE YEAR. Issued on April 07th, 1960.



The “uprooted tree” emblem, rising from the sea over Monaco.

Maldives Islands (Not a U.N. Member)

To commemorate the UNITED NATIONS WORLD REFUGEE YEAR. Issued on October 15th, 1960.



United Nations World Refugee Year Emblem -
"Hands held protectively over the figure of a refugee"

Morocco (Member State)

To commemorate the "UNITED NATIONS WORLD REFUGEE YEAR". Issued on April 07th, 1960.



Refugees and the "uprooted tree" symbol

Netherlands (Charter Member State)

To commemorate the "UNITED NATIONS WORLD REFUGEE YEAR". Issued on April 07th, 1960.

The surcharge on the Brussels Exposition stamps is for the United Nations Refugee Fund



Overprint "World Refugee Year" in German

Netherlands New Guinea (Overseas Territory of the Netherlands)

“HELP THE REFUGEES”. In observance of the World Refugee Year. Issued April 07th, 1960.



Plight of a refugee woman

Nicaragua (Charter Member)

To commemorate the “UNITED NATIONS WORLD REFUGEE YEAR”. Issued January 30th, 1961.



“Towards Resettlement”

Crosses and Globe



AÑO MUNDIAL DEL REFUGIADO

Souvenir Sheet

Pakistan (Member State)

"HELP THE REFUGEES". In observance of the World Refugee Year. Issued April 07th, 1960.



"Uprooted tree taking roots in a new soil"



Overprinted by 12 Paisa

Panama (Charter Member)

To commemorate the "UNITED NATIONS WORLD REFUGEE YEAR". Issued on February 06th, 1960.



Overprint in Spanish on Panamanian fiftieth anniversary airmail stamps:
United Nations World Refugee Year 1959 - 1960.

Panama (Charter Member)

To commemorate the "UNITED NATIONS WORLD REFUGEE YEAR". Issued June 02nd, 1961.



The Souvenir Sheet issued to commemorate the Fifteenth Anniversary of the United Nations, overprinted with the "Uprooted Tree Emblem".

Paraguay (Charter Member)

For the "UNITED NATIONS WORLD REFUGEE YEAR". Issued April 07th, 1960.



For Ordinary Mail



For Air Mail

Paraguay (Charter Member)



For the "UNITED NATIONS WORLD REFUGEE YEAR". Issued April 07th, 1960.



The "uprooted tree" emblem.

Peru (Charter Member)

For the "WORLD REFUGEE YEAR". Issued in 1960.



Air Mail stamps - issued April 07th, 1960.



Allegory:
A new life means a new start

CORREOS DEL PERU



+ S/. 9.90

PRO AÑO MUNDIAL DE LOS REFUGIADOS
1959-1960

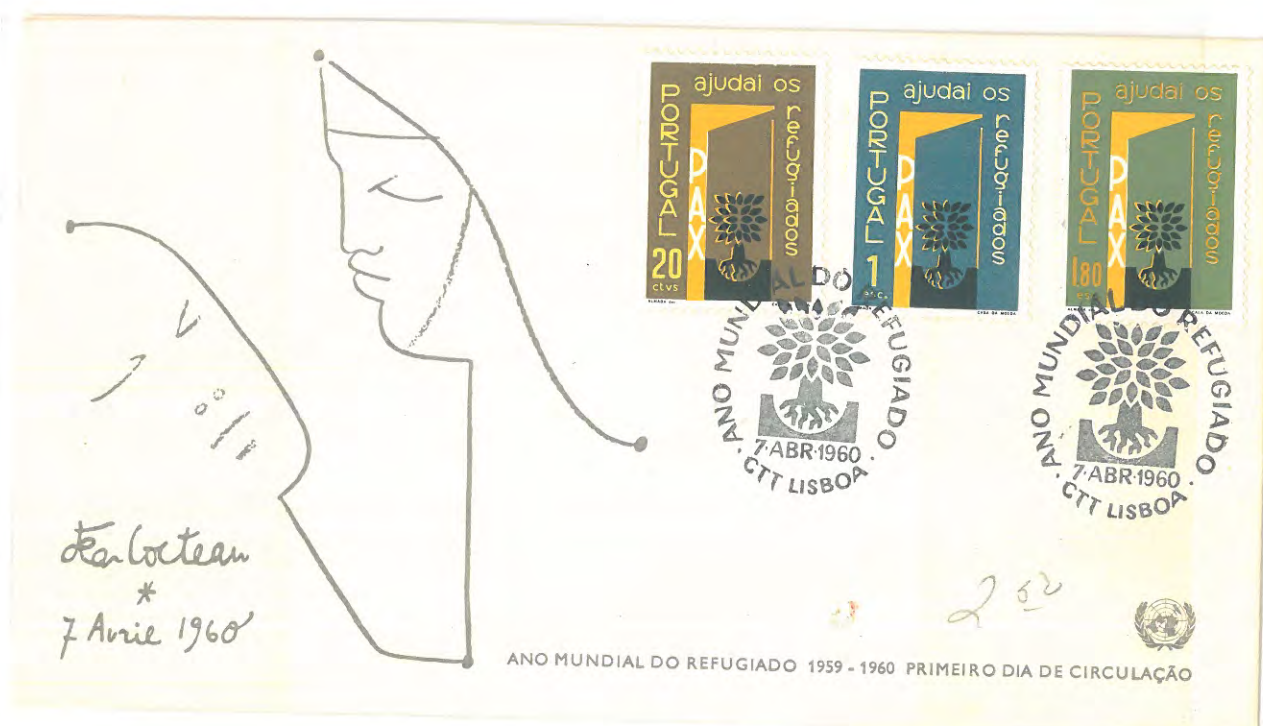
Souvenir sheet - issued May 30th, 1960.

Portugal (Member State)

"HELP THE REFUGEES". In observance of the World Refugee Year. Issued April 07th, 1960.



From a painting by Almada Negreiros:
"An open door through which the light of peace is shining".



First day of circulation issued April 07th, 1960.

In observance of the "UNITED NATIONS WORLD REFUGEE YEAR". Issued April 07th, 1960.



WORLD REFUGEE YEAR SOUVENIR SHEETS (Perf & Imperf) - Issued April 07th, 1960.
Surcharge for the benefit of the refugees.

In observance of the "UNITED NATIONS WORLD REFUGEE YEAR". Issued April 07th, 1960.



Overprint on Miniature Sheets - Imperf



Overprint on Miniature Sheets - Perf

REPÚBLICA DOMINICANA



EMISIÓN CONMEMORATIVA DEL AÑO MUNDIAL DE LOS REFUGIADOS

WORLD REFUGEE YEAR SOUVENIR SHEETS (Imperf) - Issued April 07th, 1960.



WORLD REFUGEE YEAR SOUVENIR SHEETS (Perf) - Issued April 07th, 1960.

In observance of the "UNITED NATIONS WORLD REFUGEE YEAR". Issued April 07th, 1960.

ORDINARY MAIL - Aerial view of Sosua, first refugee colony in America



AIR MAIL - Children of Sosua





Surcharge for the benefit of the refugees.



Saudi Arabia (Charter Member)

To commemorate the "UNITED NATIONS WORLD REFUGEE YEAR". Issued October 30th, 1960.



Thermo - nuclear Explosion and Refugee Camp.

Somaliland

(A Trust Territory - Art. 73ff of the United Nations Charter)

To commemorate the "UNITED NATIONS WORLD REFUGEE YEAR". Issued April 07th, 1960.



The eastern - most tip of Africa, the "African Horn", visible on this partial map of the globe, is on the soil of Somaliland.



An African version of the "Uprooted tree"

Stork-and the "up-rooted tree" emblem

Spain (Member State)

To commemorate the "UNITED NATIONS WORLD REFUGEE YEAR". Issued January 23rd, 1961.



"The Flight to Egypt"

Painting by the Spanish Artist Francisco Bayeu (1734-1795).

Sudan (Member State)

In observance of the "UNITED NATIONS WORLD REFUGEE YEAR". Issued April 07th, 1960.



Looking at the child clinging to his knees, a bundle on his back,
this refugee's hope lays in the United Nations' effort.

Surinam (Part of the Kingdom of the Netherlands)

"HELP THE REFUGEES" In observance of the "WORLD REFUGEE YEAR". Issued April 07th, 1960.



The "uprooted tree" emblem.



Sweden (Member State)

To commemorate the "UNITED NATIONS WORLD REFUGEE YEAR". Issued April 07th, 1960.



The World Refugee Year



From the booklet pane



Refugees

Switzerland (Not a U.N. Member)

To commemorate the "UNITED NATIONS WORLD REFUGEE YEAR". Issued January 23rd, 1961.

For regular mail - valid until December 31st, 1960



Uprooted tree

Service stamps for the official mail from the United Nations
European Office at Geneva - valid until December 31st, 1960



Overprint "World Refugee Year" in French

Thailand (Member State)

To commemorate the "UNITED NATIONS WORLD REFUGEE YEAR". Issued April 07th, 1960.



Siamese temple and World Refugee Year Emblem

The United Nations Postal Administration

To commemorate the "UNITED NATIONS WORLD REFUGEE YEAR". Issued December 10th, 1959.



"Hands held protectively over the figure of refugee"
symbolizing the help which it is hoped the World Refugee Year will bring.

Togo

(U.N. Trusteeship Territory - French Administration)

“HELP THE REFUGEES” In observance of the “WORLD REFUGEE YEAR”. Issued April 07th, 1960.



The surcharge is for the benefit of the refugees.



“An uprooted tree taking roots in a new soil”

Tunisia (Member State)

To commemorate the “UNITED NATIONS WORLD REFUGEE YEAR”. Issued April 07th, 1960.

The “uprooted tree” symbol



Dove sheltering her fledgling



Turkey (Charter Member)

To commemorate the "UNITED NATIONS WORLD REFUGEE YEAR". Issued April 07th, 1960.



Symbolizing the worldwide scope of resettlement

Uruguay (Charter Member)

In observance of the "UNITED NATIONS WORLD REFUGEE YEAR". Issued June 06th, 1960.



Dawn of Hope

The "uprooted tree" symbol



United Arab Republic (Charter Member)

(Unified countries Egypt and Syria)

In observance of the "UNITED NATIONS WORLD REFUGEE YEAR". Issued April 07th, 1960.

Issue for Egypt



Issue for Syria



Issue for Palestine



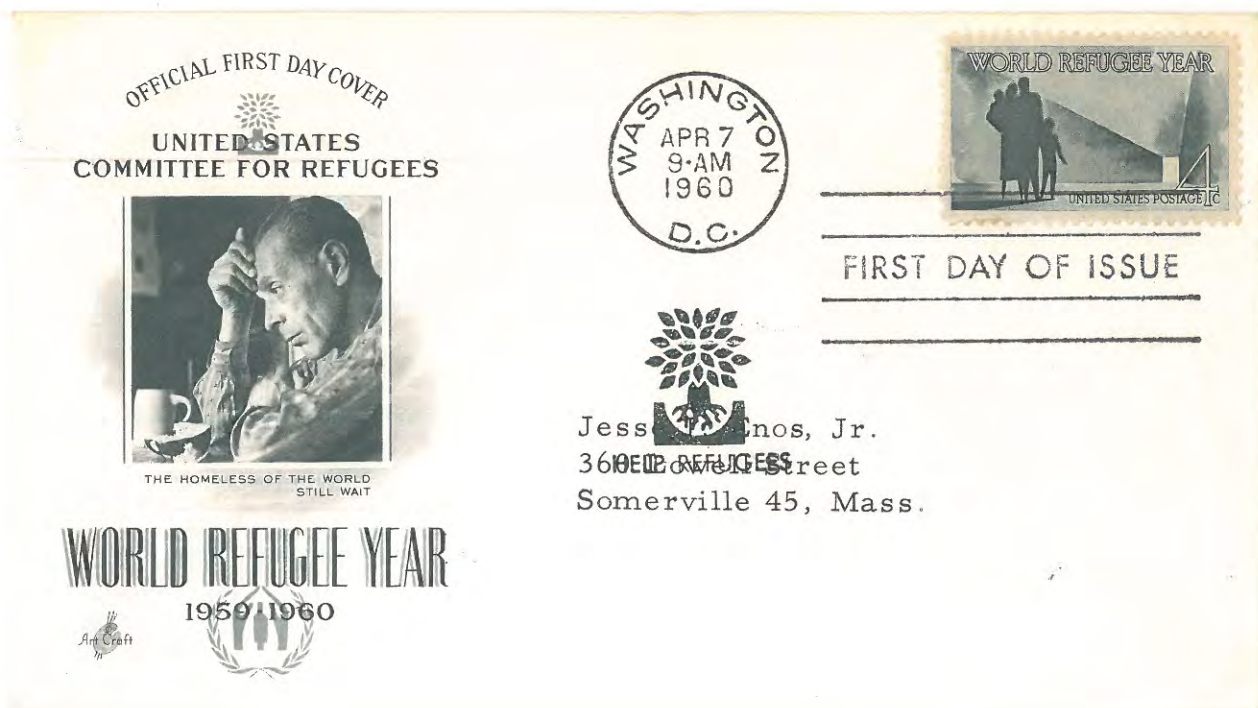
This design, used by the United Arab Republic and by Yemen, is the only of all World Refugee Year designs to inject a political note into this human project : and Arab refugee mother points out her child a map showing Palestine before the United Nations partition decision.

United States (Charter Member)

To commemorate the "UNITED NATIONS WORLD REFUGEE YEAR". Issued April 07th, 1960.



Family group facing down a long, dark hallway towards a bright exit - thereby symbolizing escape from the darkness of oppression into the brightness of a new life.



Postal used First Day Cover issued to commemorate the "UNITED NATIONS WORLD REFUGEE YEAR". Issued April 07th, 1960 at Washington D.C.

United States (Charter Member)

To commemorate the "UNITED NATIONS WORLD REFUGEE YEAR". Issued December 10th, 1960.



First Day Cover issued to commemorate the "UNITED NATIONS WORLD REFUGEE YEAR".
Issued December 10th, 1960 at New York.

Vatican City (Not a U.N. Member)

In observance of the "UNITED NATIONS WORLD REFUGEE YEAR". Issued April 07th, 1960.

"WORKS OF ART OF THE ITALIAN RENAISSANCE"



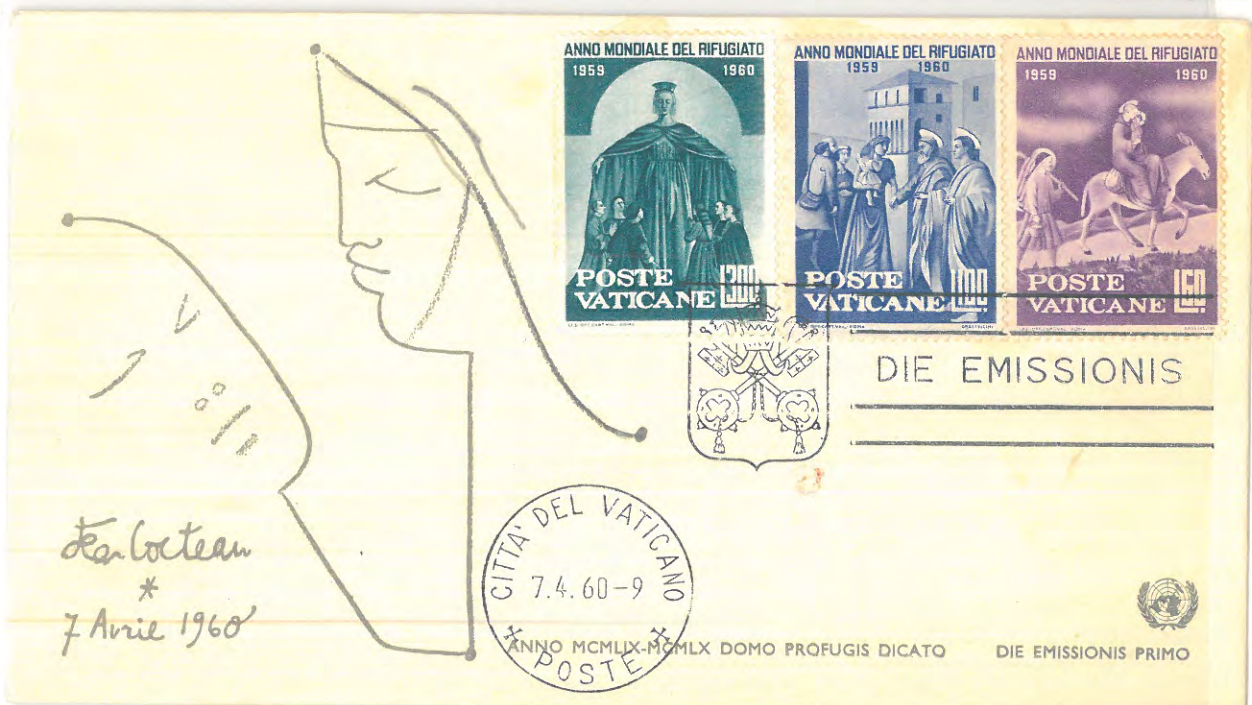
"THE FLIGHT INTO EGYPT"
by Fra Angelico

Vatican City (Not a U.N. Member)



"MADONNA PROTECTRIX"
by Piero della Francesca

"ST. PETER GIVING ALMS"
by Masaccio



Viet Nam (Not a U.N. Member)



To commemorate the "UNITED NATIONS WORLD REFUGEE YEAR". Issued April 07th, 1960.



Refugees and the "uprooted tree" Symbol

Yemen (Member State)

In observance of the "UNITED NATIONS WORLD REFUGEE YEAR". Issued April 07th, 1960.



This design, used by the United Arab Republic and by Yemen, is the only of all World Refugee Year designs to inject a political note into this human project : and Arab refugee mother points out her child a map showing Palestine before the United Nations partition decision.

