

BIAFRA STAMPS

Display to WASC Conference, 27 September 2025, by Tony Plumbe

1. Introduction: On declaring 'Independence' the Biafran Authorities withdrew all the Nigerian stamps that were on issue to Post Offices and Postal Agencies, although Nigerian stamps continued to be used sparingly and were not invalidated. The supply of Nigerian commemoratives and the basic 4d local letter first-step rate stamp in any case had been constrained in the Eastern Region. Later Nigerian stamp stock captured in Benin was added to the withdrawn stock. Postage Paid cachets were rushed out as an expedient replacement for the stamps. Likewise, use of postal cancellers with 'Nigeria' in their wording was avoided. It took just over eight months for Biafran stamps to be issued.

2. Independence Issue: Biafra's first specially printed adhesives were 2d, 4d and 1/- duties printed by the Mint in Portugal and issued on 5th February 1968. These related to the basic first weight step duties for printed paper, letter, and, as a make-up rate, registered post respectively. They remained available and in use through to the demise of Biafra, and are today still available mint in wallpaper quantities. Colours vary and shift resulting in varieties with indeterminate sheet positions; a white dot at the location of Calabar exists. The colours of the flag on the 4d are very mobile! The single 2d used alone is scarce and survives mostly used in pairs to form the 4d letter rate. Likewise, the used 1/- duty is rare and mostly found used in combination with other duties. Ranges of genuinely postmarked examples of use of the 2d & 4d stamps are shown. The 1/- stamp lacks varieties.

3. 'Sovereign Biafra' Overprints: This section opens with a rare Harrisons Presentation Proof card and other elusive Harrisons and Biafran Government Printer's proofs and trials. Strangely these were issued on 1st April 1968, nearly eight weeks *after* the Independence issue. A combination of stocks of the Nigerian 'Animals' definitives, withdrawn from post offices and agencies within Biafra and acquired when Biafran troops captured Benin in Mid-West Nigeria in August 1967, were used for overprinting with the Biafran Coat of Arms and 'Sovereign Biafra' in red and black. Printing was by the Government Printer partly in Enugu and after the loss of Enugu also in Aba. All duties from 1/2d to £1 were overprinted but in very varying numbers: the 2d (4,200), 4d (4,200) and 1/- (3,000) duties are the scarcest. Varieties abound as parts of the overprint are missing (ie colours missing) or doubled on the 1 1/2d, 1/3d, 2/6d, 5/- and £1 duties, the overprint shifts within most sheets, and offsets and their variants exist on the 1d, 6d & 9d duties: examples are displayed including sheets of the 5/- duty with red and black doubled. The 1/2d is shown with a corner bent in front of the overprint and with a larger 'SOVEREIGN'. An extra line added to the overprint bar on the 10/- duty is shown. Just how extensively these overprints were available throughout Biafra is questionable. Usage alone is uncommon, and in combination with the Biafra Independence issue a little more common.

4. First Anniversary of Independence Issue: This macabre 'realities of war' set was designed by S Okeke, a Biafran artist, and printed again by the Mint in Lisbon. It comprised 4d, 1/-, 2/6d, 5/- and 10/- duties with an eye on revenue generation as the higher values had little relationship to postal rates but also reflected inflation. Strangely, no printed paper rate denomination was included. Varieties of the adhesives are shown including an unrecorded and believed unique perforation shift on a block of the 1/- duty, as well as on that duty the loss of background and the broken cross outline varieties. The 5/- appears to have been most susceptible to varieties in the form of missing colours and perforation shifts. The 4d duty was widely used within Biafra but not the other duties. Most high value usage is philatelic.

5. Second Anniversary of Independence Issue (30th May 1969): This 'Child in Chains' issue comprised 2d, 4d, 1/- & 2/6d duties with a strange Italian artistic comma interpretation of the shilling symbol. As shown, this issue is notorious for printer's progressive and colour proofs, and for imperforate examples often in blocks of varying configuration. The missing green variety on the 4d duty is shown. This was the first issue to have an associated miniature sheet for which progressive and imperforate proofs exist. The actual miniature sheets are numbered and occur imperforate to perforated in the ratio of 1:10. Internal mail franked with this issue is uncommon but philatelic covers associated with Mayer exist and the 2/6d duty was often used towards the end of Biafra on external airmail sent via Libreville.

6. Pope's Visit to Africa Issue: Given the numerous people of a Catholic Christian persuasion in Biafra, this August 1969 issue was seen as of significant importance and may have had propaganda undertones. Imperforate progressive and colour proofs and 'Specimens' in blocks of four are displayed (Biafra's only Specimens). Colour

variations in both hue (the 3/- duty) and in shade (most duties) exist. Again, proofs of, and imperforate and perforate numbered versions of a 10/- miniature sheet exist in both red and dull plum hues. Examples used are elusive and nearly all philatelic, often created with the help of Father Mayer or Archbishop Patterson. As shown, one should be aware of CTO examples but the cancellations were often applied within Biafra. The need to generate revenue and especially foreign exchange had now come to the fore.

7. 'Help Biafran Children' Charity Issue: From this issue on we enter the realms of issues that did not see any genuine use, were often overprints and abound with double or inverted overprints aimed primarily at the philatelic market. A stock of First Anniversary of Independence stamps was overprinted 'HELP BIAFRAN CHILDREN' and had the denominations of 4d, 1/-, 2/6d, 5/- and 10/-. The issue date is believed to be 30th May 1968 so around the same time as the First Anniversary of Independence issue. Examples are shown with the overprint inverted, doubled and raised on several denominations. The 10/- has a striking green missing from the Biafran flag variety. CTO examples are the only proxies for used examples shown.

8. Biafra France Friendship Issue: This occurred also in 1968 at an unknown date but possibly before the 'Help Biafran Children' Charity issue. France was a major supplier of arms and while not being one of the five countries that recognised Biafra did provide covert help. Surplus Nigerian 1/2d and 1d Animals definitive stamps were overprinted. As shown, overprints occur double, inverted, double with one inverted, and with the '5/-' value missing. The bars in the overprint also vary. Problematic used blocks are included.

9. Butterflies and Plants Issue: Issued on 2nd September 1968 but only outside Biafra, this is the most attractive Biafran issue design-wise. Artwork is known to exist but not shown here. Denominations were 4d, 1/6d, 2/6d & 5/- and unsurprisingly perfect CTO examples exist but no recorded varieties.

10. Olympic Games Overprint: The Butterflies and Plants issue must have been over-ordered as it was overprinted 'MEXICO OLYMPICS / 1968' on all four denominations. Whether this occurred in late 1968 or a bit later is open to conjecture. The overprint occurs inverted on the 1/6d duty, all duties have a weak side to the '8' of '1968', and the overprint is weak on the 5/- duty but these varieties are not shown.

Lastly, come three issues that have never been catalogued, never issued in Biafra, and never seen local postal use.

11. Christmas 1969 Peace on Earth Overprint: The 4d, 6d, 9d & 3/- duties of the August 1969 Pope's Visit to Africa issue were overprinted 'CHRISTMAS 1969 / PEACE ON / EARTH / AND GOODWILL / TO ALL MEN' and issued on 17th December 1969, just over three weeks before Biafra was to collapse. The miniature sheet was also overprinted 'CHRISTMAS 1969' and revalued to £1.

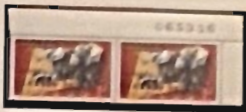
12. Save Biafra – 9th of January 1970 Overprint: All duties of the Second Anniversary of Independence issue and the miniature sheet in both perforated and imperforated versions were overprinted in red with 'SAVE / BIAFRA / 9th JAN / 1970' plus a red cross and a revaluation of the stamp (the '9th JAN / 1970' was reversed on the 4d). The 2d was revalued 8d, 4d became 1/4d, 1/- became 4/-, 2/6d became 10/-, and the 10/- miniature sheet became £1. Fittingly on each a black frame was overprinted round the image as Biafra was to surrender three days after this stamp issue. Versions and shades of the miniature sheet are shown.

13. Human Rights and UN Emblem Overprint: 6d and 9d duties of the Pope's Visit to Africa stamps overprinted 'HUMAN RIGHTS' and with the UN Emblem emerged after the collapse of Biafra. Both duties occur with inverted overprints and the 6d with the overprint inverted and doubled. Make what you will of this issue!

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Provisional Sovereign Biafra Overprints
1 April 1968

10d, 10c & 11c in Blocks



Numbers printed: 10d 43,000 10c 10,000 11c 10,000
Overprinted by Government Printer at Enugu and Aba on Nigerian Animal Issue of 1965 (SG172-174).
Block on 10d, 10c & 11c. Photogravure. Harrison 10. Chalk surfaced. Gum Arabic. Designer: M. Fawcett. P12 x 12 1/2 (10d), P14 x 12 1/2 (10c, P12), (11c).
No printer's imprint. No watermark.

Baiba page

Provisional Sovereign Biafra Overprints
1 April 1968

Corner Blocks of the 9d with Sheet Numbers



Numbers printed: 9d 30,000
Overprinted in black by Government Printer at Enugu and Aba on Nigerian Animal Issue of 1965 (SG175).
Photogravure. Harrison. Chalk surfaced. Gum Arabic. Designer: M. Fawcett. P14 x 12 1/2 (9d).
No printer's imprint. No watermark.

Baiba page

Provisional Sovereign Biafra Overprints
1 April 1968

Varieties and Shifting Positions of the Overprint on the 10d



Large 10d overprint and lower part of area



Corner from bottom overprint placed on overprint part of an stamp and partly on reverse. Only bottom example

Varying positions of the overprint

Numbers printed: 10d 43,000
Overprinted in black by Government Printer at Enugu and Aba on Nigerian Animal Issue of 1965 (SG172).
Photogravure. Harrison. Chalk surfaced. Gum Arabic. Designer: M. Fawcett. P12 x 12 1/2 (10d). No printer's imprint. No watermark.

Baiba page

Provisional Sovereign Biafra Overprints
1 April 1968

10d, 6d & 6d in Blocks



Numbers printed: 10d 4,200 6d 4,200 6d 14,200
Overprinted by Government Printer at Enugu and Aba on Nigerian Animal Issue of 1965 (SG175-176).
Block on 10d, 6d & 6d. Photogravure. Harrison 20. Chalk surfaced. Gum Arabic. Designer: M. Fawcett. P12 x 12 1/2 (10d), P14 x 13 1/2 (6d), P12 1/2 (6d). No printer's imprint. No watermark.

Baiba page

Provisional Sovereign Biafra Overprints
1 April 1968

5c & 1c in Blocks



Numbers printed: 5c 22,250 (both colours), 1c 8,000
Overprinted by Government Printer at Enugu and Aba on Nigerian Animal Issue of 1965 (SG183, 183a & 185).
Block and red on 5c & 1c. Photogravure. Harrison 20 & 1c. Gum Arabic. Designer: M. Fawcett. P12 1/2 (5c & 1c). No printer's imprint. No watermark.

Baiba page

Provisional Sovereign Biafra Overprints
1 April 1968

Shifting Positions of the Overprint on the 10d



Numbers printed: 10d 10,800

Overprinted in black by Government Printer at Enugu and Aba on Nigerian Animal Issue of 1965 (SG172).
Photogravure. Harrison. Chalk surfaced. Gum Arabic. Designer: M. Fawcett. P12 x 12 1/2 (10d). No printer's imprint. No watermark.

Baiba page

Provisional Sovereign Biafra Overprints
1 April 1968

9d & 26d in Blocks



Perforated through left margin



Imperforated through left margin



Numbers printed: 9d 30,000 26d 20,000
Overprinted by Government Printer at Enugu and Aba on Nigerian Animal Issue of 1965 (SG175 & 182).
Block on 9d. Block and red on 26d. Photogravure. Harrison 9d. Chalk surfaced. Gum Arabic. Designer: M. Fawcett. P14 x 12 1/2 (9d), P12 1/2 (26d). No printer's imprint. No watermark.

Baiba page

Provisional Sovereign Biafra Overprints
1 April 1968

Used (Mostly CTO)



The base stock of stamps was obtained (along with Nigerian currency) when the Biafrans captured Benin in August 1967 and from stock withdrawn from post offices and agencies in the former Eastern Region soon after the Biafran Declaration of Independence. It is surprising to note that 8 months to effect the issue. The 3d Christmas duty was in short supply in the Eastern Region in mid 1967 and so none were overprinted.

Numbers printed: 10d 43,000 10c 10,000 11c 10,000 9d 30,000 26d 20,000 30d 30,000 1c 8,000 5c 22,250 (both colours) 10d 7,000 1c 8,000
Overprinted by Government Printer at Enugu and Aba on Nigerian Animal Issue of 1965 (SG172-182 excluding SG176 but including SG183a). Block on 10d, 11c, 26d, 4d, 6d, 9d & 10c. Block and red on 1c, 10d, 26d & 1c.
Photogravure. Harrison 10, 20 & 9d. Chalk surfaced. Gum Arabic. Designer: M. Fawcett. P12 x 12 1/2 (10d, 11c, 26d, 4d, 6d, 9d, 10c, P12), (1c). No printer's imprint. No watermark.

Baiba page

Provisional Sovereign Biafra Overprints
1 April 1968

Varieties and Shifting Positions of the Overprint on the 10d



Area inverted & SOVEREIGN BIAFRA missing. Unrecorded by Postage

Overprint in red. Unrecorded by Postage

Numbers printed: 10d 10,000
Overprinted in black by Government Printer at Enugu and Aba on Nigerian Animal Issue of 1965 (SG174).
Photogravure. Harrison. Gum Arabic. Designer: M. Fawcett. P12 1/2 (10d). No printer's imprint. No watermark.

Baiba page

Provisional Sovereign Biafra Overprints
1 April 1968

Shifting Positions of the Overprint on the 2d



Numbers printed: 20 x 4,200

Overprinted in black by Government Printer at Enugu and Aba on Nigerian Annual Issue of 1965 SG175
Photographer: Hartman. Chalk surfaced. Gum Arabic. Designer: M. Fawad P14 x 13 1/2 (26)
No printer's imprint. No watermark.

Provisional Sovereign Biafra Overprints
1 April 1968

Corner Blocks of the 6d with Sheet Numbers



Numbers printed: 50 x 30,000

Overprinted in black by Government Printer at Enugu and Aba on Nigerian Annual Issue of 1965 SG179
Photographer: Hartman. Chalk surfaced. Gum Arabic. Designer: M. Fawad P14 x 13 1/2 (26)
No printer's imprint. No watermark.

Provisional Sovereign Biafra Overprints
1 April 1968

Shifting Positions of the Overprint on the 1d



Numbers printed: 10 x 3,000

Overprinted in black and red by Government Printer at Enugu and Aba on Nigerian Annual Issue of 1965 SG180
Photographer: Deane. Gum Arabic. Designer: M. Fawad P12 1/2 (15)
No printer's imprint. No watermark.

Provisional Sovereign Biafra Overprints
1 April 1968

Block of 12 and Shifting Positions of the Overprint on the 4d



Numbers printed: 40 x 4,200

Overprinted in black by Government Printer at Enugu and Aba on Nigerian Annual Issue of 1965 SG177
Photographer: Deane. Gum Arabic. Designer: M. Fawad P12 1/2 (15)
No printer's imprint. No watermark.

Provisional Sovereign Biafra Overprints
1 April 1968

Corner Blocks of the 6d with Sheet Numbers



Numbers printed: 50 x 30,000

Overprinted in black by Government Printer at Enugu and Aba on Nigerian Annual Issue of 1965 SG179
Photographer: Hartman. Chalk surfaced. Gum Arabic. Designer: M. Fawad P14 x 13 1/2 (26)
No printer's imprint. No watermark.

Provisional Sovereign Biafra Overprints
1 April 1968

Varieties and Shifting Positions of the Overprint on the 13d



Shifting positions of overprint

Numbers printed: 100 x 6,200
Overprinted in black and red by Government Printer at Enugu and Aba on Nigerian Annual Issue of 1965 SG181
Photographer: Deane. Gum Arabic. Designer: M. Fawad P12 1/2 (15)
No printer's imprint. No watermark.

Provisional Sovereign Biafra Overprints
1 April 1968

Shifting Positions of the Overprint on the 6d



Numbers printed: 50 x 14,200

Overprinted in black by Government Printer at Enugu and Aba on Nigerian Annual Issue of 1965 SG178
Photographer: Deane. Gum Arabic. Designer: M. Fawad P12 1/2 (15)
No printer's imprint. No watermark.

Provisional Sovereign Biafra Overprints
1 April 1968

Shifting Positions of the Overprint on the 6d



Numbers printed: 50 x 30,000

Overprinted in black by Government Printer at Enugu and Aba on Nigerian Annual Issue of 1965 SG179
Photographer: Hartman. Chalk surfaced. Gum Arabic. Designer: M. Fawad P14 x 13 1/2 (26)
No printer's imprint. No watermark.

Provisional Sovereign Biafra Overprints
1 April 1968

Variety and Shifting Positions of the Overprint on the 26d



Shifting positions of overprint

Numbers printed: 200 x 20,500
Overprinted in black and red by Government Printer at Enugu and Aba on Nigerian Annual Issue of 1965 SG182
Photographer: Deane. Gum Arabic. Designer: M. Fawad P12 1/2 (15)
No printer's imprint. No watermark.

Provisional Sovereign Biafra Overprints
1 April 1968

Varieties and Shifting Positions of the Overprint on the S1

Number printed: S1: 50,000 (both issue identical)

Overprinted in black and red by Government Printer at Enugu and Abuja on Nigerian Annual Issue of 1965 (S1) & 1966 (Provisional Series, Green Arched). Designer: M. Fazel (P12), (S1). No printer's imprint. No watermark.

Provisional Sovereign Biafra Overprints
1 April 1968

Varieties and Shifting Positions of the Overprint on the S1

Number printed: S1: 50,000

Overprinted in black and red by Government Printer at Enugu and Abuja on Nigerian Annual Issue of 1965 (S1) & 1966 (Provisional Series, Green Arched). Designer: M. Fazel (P12), (S1). No printer's imprint. No watermark.

First Anniversary of Independence
30 May 1968

Mint Block of 16 of the S1-Duty

Number printed: S1: 100,000

Overprinted in black and red by Government Printer at Enugu and Abuja on Nigerian Annual Issue of 1965 (S1) & 1966 (Provisional Series, Green Arched). Designer: M. Fazel (P12), (S1). No printer's imprint. No watermark.

Nigerian Definitives Overprinted with Arms and Sovereign Biafra
Doubling of Red Overprint and Progressive Shift of Black Overprint on the S1 Value

Number printed: S1: 50,000

Overprinted in black and red by Government Printer at Enugu and Abuja on Nigerian Annual Issue of 1965 (S1) & 1966 (Provisional Series, Green Arched). Designer: M. Fazel (P12), (S1). No printer's imprint. No watermark.

Provisional Sovereign Biafra Overprints
1 April 1968

Offset Varieties on 1d, 5d, & 5d

Number printed: S1: 50,000

Overprinted in black and red by Government Printer at Enugu and Abuja on Nigerian Annual Issue of 1965 (S1) & 1966 (Provisional Series, Green Arched). Designer: M. Fazel (P12), (S1). No printer's imprint. No watermark.

First Anniversary of Independence
30 May 1968

Mint Block of 20 of the S1-Duty

Number printed: S1: 100,000

Overprinted in black and red by Government Printer at Enugu and Abuja on Nigerian Annual Issue of 1965 (S1) & 1966 (Provisional Series, Green Arched). Designer: M. Fazel (P12), (S1). No printer's imprint. No watermark.

Nigerian Definitives Overprinted with Arms and Sovereign Biafra
Doubling, Faint and Partial Letters of the Black Overprint on the S1 Value

Number printed: S1: 50,000

Overprinted in black and red by Government Printer at Enugu and Abuja on Nigerian Annual Issue of 1965 (S1) & 1966 (Provisional Series, Green Arched). Designer: M. Fazel (P12), (S1). No printer's imprint. No watermark.

First Anniversary of Independence
30 May 1968

Mint

Number printed: S1: 100,000

Overprinted in black and red by Government Printer at Enugu and Abuja on Nigerian Annual Issue of 1965 (S1) & 1966 (Provisional Series, Green Arched). Designer: M. Fazel (P12), (S1). No printer's imprint. No watermark.

First Anniversary of Independence
30 May 1968

Varieties on Mint & Used 4d and S1

Number printed: S1: 100,000

Overprinted in black and red by Government Printer at Enugu and Abuja on Nigerian Annual Issue of 1965 (S1) & 1966 (Provisional Series, Green Arched). Designer: M. Fazel (P12), (S1). No printer's imprint. No watermark.

Coins Bearing the Visit to Africa by Pope Paul Issue



29 December 1985. In each issue addressed to a (SPECIAL) retail vendor engaged in a commemorative campaign based on St. Vincent and the Grenadines... (text continues)

'Help Biafran Children' Charity Issue
30 May 1984

First Anniversary of Independence Issue Overprinted in Black 'HELP BIAFRAN CHILDREN'
Originally Achieved Catalogue Status but Since 1991 Not Been Listed
Never Issued to Biafran Post Offices nor Performed Local Postal Duty



44 + 25 Flag and overprint 50 + 50 Headless Biafran
25c + 50 Name and subject 50 + 250 Biafran Arms and banner 100 + 250 Overprint only
Lithography: Portuguese Mill, Lisbon. Designer: S. Chera
P12, No Watermark. Sheets of 50 (5 x 10)

Biafra France Friendship
1984

Nigeria 7yd and 16 Animals Issue Overprinted in Black 'SOVEREIGN BIAFRA BIAFRA - FRANCE FRIENDSHIP'
Classed Hants and Laurel Wreath + Surcharge
Originally Achieved Catalogue Status but Since 1991 Been Not Listed
Never Issued to Biafran Post Offices nor Performed Local Postal Duty



Surcharge 50c, 5 x 4 fine illustration of NIGERIA
Surcharge 50c, 5 x 4 fine illustration of NIGERIA
Some pairs black, very rare
Four countries recognized Biafra as an associate nation but France provided only itself help
partly in name of the supply of arms

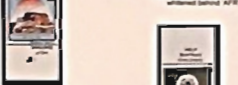
Pope Paul Visit to Africa: Imperforate Miniature Sheet Used



29 December 1985. Imperforate 10 stamp cut from the miniature sheet and used for an issue cancellation... (text continues)

'Help Biafran Children' Charity Issue
30 May 1984

First Anniversary of Independence Issue Overprinted in Black 'HELP BIAFRAN CHILDREN'
Originally Achieved Catalogue Status but Since 1991 Not Been Listed
Never Issued to Biafran Post Offices nor Performed Local Postal Duty



44 + 25 Flag and overprint 50 + 50 Headless Biafran
25c + 50 Name and subject 50 + 250 Biafran Arms and banner 100 + 250 Overprint only
Lithography: Portuguese Mill, Lisbon. Designer: S. Chera
P12, No Watermark. Sheets of 50 (5 x 10)

Biafra France Friendship
1984

Nigeria 7yd and 16 Animals Issue Overprinted in Black 'SOVEREIGN BIAFRA BIAFRA - FRANCE FRIENDSHIP'
Classed Hants and Laurel Wreath + Surcharge
Originally Achieved Catalogue Status but Since 1991 Been Not Listed
Never Issued to Biafran Post Offices nor Performed Local Postal Duty



44 + 25 Flag and overprint 50 + 50 Headless Biafran
25c + 50 Name and subject 50 + 250 Biafran Arms and banner 100 + 250 Overprint only
Lithography: Portuguese Mill, Lisbon. Designer: S. Chera
P12, No Watermark. Sheets of 50 (5 x 10)

Pope Paul Visit to Africa: Simulated Perforated Miniature Sheet Used



29 December 1985. Simulated perforated 10 stamp cut from the miniature sheet and used for an issue cancellation... (text continues)

'Help Biafran Children' Charity Issue
30 May 1984

First Anniversary of Independence Issue Overprinted in Black 'HELP BIAFRAN CHILDREN'
Originally Achieved Catalogue Status but Since 1991 Not Been Listed
Never Issued to Biafran Post Offices nor Performed Local Postal Duty



44 + 25 Flag and overprint 50 + 50 Headless Biafran
25c + 50 Name and subject 50 + 250 Biafran Arms and banner 100 + 250 Overprint only
Lithography: Portuguese Mill, Lisbon. Designer: S. Chera
P12, No Watermark. Sheets of 50 (5 x 10)

Biafra France Friendship
1984

Nigeria 7yd and 16 Animals Issue Overprinted in Black 'SOVEREIGN BIAFRA BIAFRA - FRANCE FRIENDSHIP'
Classed Hants and Laurel Wreath + Surcharge
Originally Achieved Catalogue Status but Since 1991 Been Not Listed
Never Issued to Biafran Post Offices nor Performed Local Postal Duty



Surcharge 50c with examples of 1 bar 4 bar, 5 bar and 6 bar
fine illustration of NIGERIA, open back 4 bar

10 x 21. Elephants
Photography: 10 Harrison. Designer: M. Faver
P14 x 17 1/2 (1/2) 1/2. Chalk surfaced paper 110. No Watermark



Biafra France Friendship

1968

Nigeria Not used for Air Mail Issue Overprinted in Black
UNACHIEVED CATALOGUE STATUS - FRANCE FRIENDSHIP
Overprinted in Black and Local Postage - Surcharge
Originally Achieved Catalogue Status but Since 1991 Been Not Listed
Never Issued to Biafran Post Offices nor Performed Local Postal Duty
Only Offered for Sale Outside Biafra



Illustration No. 2.7.78



Illustration No. 2.7.78

Olympic Games 1968 Overprints

Issue Only Unavailable

Overprints on the 1968 Butterflies and Plants Issue
Originally Achieved Catalogue Status but Since 1991 Been Not Listed
Never Issued to Biafran Post Offices nor Performed Local Postal Duty
Only Offered for Sale Outside Biafra

A Philatelic Souvenir Cover



Cancelled by a 28 March 1968 double circle Umahia postmark with 'NIGERIA' around 'Lagos Type 24' which is associated with private covers. The address appears to be fictitious as Nigeria was not a post office at private agencies within Biafra nor is there an actual indication as to whereabouts on Biafran soil. 'Raising Units' is excluded from the address. The same size of Umahia postmark is known on this same issue overprinted with 'MEXICO OLIMPICO 1968'. The sender's address on the reverse is 'A. O. Okeke, High Court, Umuahia'. It is possible that these stamps were sent by an individual in the Biafran agency to Umahia for cancelling.

All 1968 200 & 50 - Variety of Butterflies and Plants
Lithography: PMA No. Watermark: Sheets of 50 (2 x 10)

Christmas 1969 Peace on Earth and Goodwill to All Men

17 December 1969

Pope's Visit to Africa Issue Overprinted in Black
UNACHIEVED CATALOGUE STATUS - NEVER ISSUED TO BIAFRAN POST OFFICES
AND NOT PERFORMED ANY LOCAL POSTAL DUTY



All Page Four of Issue of Africa and Pope's Visit - All Page Four of Issue of Africa and Pope's Visit of the United Kingdom - All Page Four of Issue of Africa and Pope's Visit of the United Kingdom - All Page Four of Issue of Africa and Pope's Visit of the United Kingdom - All Page Four of Issue of Africa and Pope's Visit of the United Kingdom

Butterflies and Plants

2 September 1968

Originally Achieved Catalogue Status but Since 1991 Been Not Listed
Never Issued to Biafran Post Offices nor Performed Local Postal Duty
Only Offered for Sale Outside Biafra



1968

1968

All 1968 200 & 50 - Variety of Butterflies and Plants
Lithography: PMA No. Watermark: Sheets of 50 (2 x 10)

Sovereign Biafra and Butterfly & Plants Issues

1/4d Registration Rate

Registered Cover Purportedly from Umuahia to Ulli



24 November 1968. A registered cover supposedly sent from Umuahia to the Biafran Air Force at Ulli. There is a mark to indicate this is a registered cover. The three single ring Umuahia cancellations is known only on private mail used to create Cancelled To Order covers that have never carried out any postal duty. The Butterfly and Plants stamp issue occurred on 2 September 1968 but is a non-postal issue in that it was never issued to Biafran post offices. There are none of the usual transit or arrival back cancellations. The registration stamp with its crossed 'M' symbol also looks manufactured. While the stamp was of U.S. the Biafran Air Force had stamps at Ulli. The rate is correct for an insured letter up to 100g. The Sovereign Biafra overprinted 1/4d rate is quite scarce used primarily on cover. This all points to a combined cover.

Christmas 1969 Peace on Earth and Goodwill to All Men

17 December 1969

Pope's Visit to Africa Miniature Sheet Overprinted in Black
UNACHIEVED CATALOGUE STATUS - NEVER ISSUED TO BIAFRAN POST OFFICES
AND NOT PERFORMED ANY LOCAL POSTAL DUTY



Number 11002 on reverse

All Page Four of Issuing a message of peace
Lithography in Biafra - Design: Unavailable - No Watermark

Butterflies and Plants

2 September 1968

Originally Achieved Catalogue Status but Since 1991 Has Been Not Listed
Never Issued to Biafran Post Offices nor Performed Local Postal Duty
Only Offered for Sale Outside Biafra

A Philatelic Souvenir Cover



Cancelled by a 28 March 1968 double circle Umahia postmark with 'NIGERIA' around 'Lagos Type 24' which is associated with private covers. The address appears to be fictitious as Nigeria was not a post office at private agencies within Biafra nor is there an actual indication as to whereabouts on Biafran soil. 'Samuel Camp' is excluded from the address. The same size of Umahia postmark is known on this same issue overprinted with 'MEXICO OLIMPICO 1968'. The sender's address on the reverse is 'A. O. Okeke, High Court, Umuahia'. It is possible that these stamps were sent by an individual in the Biafran agency to Umahia for cancelling.

All 1968 200 & 50 - Variety of Butterflies and Plants
Lithography: PMA No. Watermark: Sheets of 50 (2 x 10)

Olympic Games 1968 Overprints

Issue Only Unavailable

Overprints on the 1968 Butterflies and Plants Issue
Originally Achieved Catalogue Status but Since 1991 Been Not Listed
Never Issued to Biafran Post Offices nor Performed Local Postal Duty
Only Offered for Sale Outside Biafra



Most overprint position varies on same duty



1968

All 1968 200 & 50 - Variety of Butterflies and Plants
Lithography: PMA No. Watermark: Sheets of 50 (2 x 10)

Save Biafra

9 January 1979

Second Anniversary of Independence Issue Overprinted in Red
UNACHIEVED CATALOGUE STATUS - NEVER ISSUED TO BIAFRAN POST OFFICES
AND NOT PERFORMED ANY LOCAL POSTAL DUTY



20 x 30 40 x 50 50 x 60 4 x 200 x 100
Each showing a 1979 in circles with a globe showing Europe and north Africa in white and a rising sun
Lithography in Biafra - Design: Unavailable
PMA & 10 - No Watermark - Sheets of 50 (2 x 10)

South Pacific

Special Anniversary of Independence Issue Commemorated in Red
KAYI SAKE SAKE 27 Jan 1975
New Zealand Catalogue Dates: Never Issued in British Post Office
and Not Permitted Any Local Postal Duty



Green Right and Left

January 1976

Public Office of Green Right and Left
KAYI SAKE SAKE 27 Jan 1975
New Zealand Catalogue Dates: Never Issued in British Post Office
and Not Permitted Any Local Postal Duty



South Pacific

Special Anniversary of Independence Issue Commemorated in Red
KAYI SAKE SAKE 27 Jan 1975
New Zealand Catalogue Dates: Never Issued in British Post Office
and Not Permitted Any Local Postal Duty



Dark Charity Labels

17 January 1976



South Pacific

Special Anniversary of Independence Issue Commemorated in Red
KAYI SAKE SAKE 27 Jan 1975
New Zealand Catalogue Dates: Never Issued in British Post Office
and Not Permitted Any Local Postal Duty

