

CHAPTER THIRTY-NINE
SPECIAL ISSUES 1997.

Note: All illustrations in this chapter are reduced by 10% (50% for sheetlets and stationery) unless otherwise stated.

4 January 1997.

Highland Birds.



First announced in November 1996 and designed by Peter Chuah P. K., this issue comprised four counter sheets.

Counter sheets:

The four 30mm x 41mm designs showed pairs (male and female) of birds of the highlands which form a spine down the centre of West Malaysia (except the 50c, which was a native of Borneo):

20s.: Pygmy Blue Flycatcher (Burung Sambar Biru Kecil, *Muscicapella hodgsoni*);

30s.: Silver-eared Mesia (Burung Rimba Telinga Perak, *Leiothrix argenteauris*);

50s.: Grey-sided Flowerpecker (Burung Sepah Puteri Hitam, *Dicaeum celebicum*);

RM1: Scarlet Sunbird (Burung Kelicap Merah, *Aethopyga mystacalis*).

They were printed in sheets of 50 by Enschedé using four-colour stochastic off-set lithography (colours used were not recorded). Printing plates reported were 1A (20c, RM1), 1B (all values), 1C (20c, RM1).¹ Sheet markings included 1A (x4) to left and right of top and bottom rows, and birds head (x4) above and below left and right columns. The design included a band of solid colour at the left of each stamp. A 1mm band of this colour appeared in the right margin adjacent to the perforations. The phosphor-coated paper gave a greenish-white fluorescence and yellow-green after-glow under ultra-violet light, and had no watermark. The comb perforations measured 13.4 x 13.8. The right margin was perforated through. The other margins were not recorded.

First day facilities:

The presentation pack was sold at RM3. The envelope of the presentation pack featured a pair of White-browed Shrike-Babbler (Burung Cekup Belalang, *Pteruthius flaviscapis*).

The first day cover, sold at 20c mint, featured Black-eared Shrike-Babbler (Burung Cekup Kunyit, *Pteruthius melanotis*).

The special first day postmark included a bird in flight.

“Collector’s Choice” Pack - Birds:

For “Collectors Choice” pack, see Issue 96.6.

No.	S.G.	I.S.C.		Mint	Used
97.1.1	631	606	20s.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
97.1.2	632	607	30s.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
97.1.3	633	608	50s.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
97.1.4	634	609	RM1.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
97.1.5	-	MFDC-207	First day cover (1-4).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
97.1.6	-	MPP-207	Presentation pack (1-4).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

12 February 1997.

Miniature Sheet - Hong Kong '97.

See Issue 96.17.

1 March 1997.

Booklet - STAR Light Rail Transit System.



(booklet illustration reduced 33%)

The first phase of the Kuala Lumpur Sistem Transit Aliran Ringan (STAR) light rail transit system (12km long, from Jalan Sultan Ismail in Kuala Lumpur to Ampang in Selangor) was authorised in 1993 and partly energised for testing and then staff training in June 1995. It was due to open from Ampang to Plaza Rakyat at the end of February 1996 and to Jalan Sultan Ismail at the end of June 1996. However, the start was delayed, with the first test running on 15 July 1996 and public service began with free rides from 7 December and full service from 16 December 1996. Phase 1 cost £390 million. Most of the system operates on an elevated track. The 6-axle, two-section articulated cars were built in Australia in 1995-1996 by Evans Deakin Industries at its Walkers of Maryborough Ltd. Plant, Brisbane for AEG and fitted out with electrical equipment by AEG at Starpoint, the line's depot outside KL.

Designed by The Sharper Image Sdn. Bhd., this issue comprised a booklet containing se-tenant pairs of stamps.

Booklet:

An RM3 booklet to mark the system was announced in September 1996 for an issue date in 1996 "to be announced". In November it was postponed to January 1997, when it was again delayed to 1 March when it finally appeared. The booklet pane consisted of ten 30mm x 25mm 30s. stamps in two designs, attached by its left selvedge:

- A: A train led by car 1101 leaving an elevated station.
- B: Side view of a car with a second train on a flyover beyond it.

	A	B	A	B	A
	B	A	B	A	B

The booklet cover showed a train led by the same car leaving a station from a different viewpoint. It measured 99mm x 50mm (folded) or 173mm x 50mm (unfolded).

They were printed by Southern Colour Print using standard four-colour off-set lithography. Details of the printing plates were not recorded as the sheet markings were removed in making-up the booklets. The phosphor-coated paper, which had no watermark gave a white fluorescent reaction and a yellow-green after-glow under ultra-violet light. The pane was perforated on all sides, although perforations may sometimes have been trimmed off when the booklets were guillotined. The comb perforations measured 14.1 x 14.5.

First day facilities:

There was no official first day cover service, but, in cooperation with Pos Malaysia, PSM commissioned a first day cover from The Sharper Image showing a Star train at speed. Pos Malaysia provided a postmark showing a Star train. Booklets are known with the cancellation on the cover only.

No.	S.G.	I.S.C.	Mint	Used
97.2.1	636	- 30s.(A).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
97.2.2	637	- 30s.(B).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
97.2.3	-	- Se-tenant pair (1-2).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
97.2.4	SB6 ²	SB89 Booklet (five 3).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

24 March 1997

International Cricket Council Trophy.



The International Cricket Council Trophy was established in 1979 to promote international cricket outside the traditional Test Match playing countries (Australia, England, India, New Zealand, Pakistan, South Africa and West Indies) and two previous winners, Sri Lanka (1979) and Zimbabwe (1982/1986/1990) subsequently rose to Test status. The 1994 winner was Kenya. Announced in January 1997 as an "added starter" to the year's programme, this issue records the 1997 competition, hosted by Malaysia at Kuala Lumpur from 24 March to 12 April. Of the 22 countries that

took part (Argentina, Bangladesh, Bermuda, Canada, Denmark, East & Central Africa, Fiji, Gibraltar, Hong Kong, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Kenya, Malaysia, Namibia, Netherlands, Papua New Guinea, Scotland, Singapore, United Arab Emirates, USA and West Africa), the top four Commonwealth countries qualified for the Commonwealth Games in 1998.

Designed by Peter Chuah P. K., this issue comprised three counter sheets.

Counter sheets:

The three 28mm x 38mm stamps showed players with Earth showing South East Asia and, at the top of the stamp, a stopped-action strip showing a typical sequence of movements performed by the player concerned:

30s.: Bowler;

50s.: Batsman;

RM1: Wicket keeper.

They were printed in sheets of 100 by Security Printers (Malaysia) using standard four-colour off-set lithography. Sheet markings included plate numbers 1A(x4) above and below the left and right columns and SPM emblems (x4) to left and right of the top and bottom columns. The phosphor-coated paper gave a blue-white fluorescent reaction and a yellow-green after-glow under ultra-violet light. The paper had watermark Multiple SPM upright. The comb perforations measured 14.3 (All.³) or 13.6 x 13.8 (50s., RM1).

First day facilities:

The presentation pack was sold at RM3. The envelope of the presentation pack featured Earth, a cricket ball and a bowler's action.

The first day cover, sold at 20s mint, featured Earth, cricket stumps and a batsman's action.

The special first day postmark included a batsman in action.

No.	S.G.	I.S.C.		Mint	Used
97.3.1	638	610	30s. P.14.3.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
97.3.2	639a	611	50s. P.13.6 x 13.8.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
97.3.2a	639	-	- P.14.3.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
97.3.3	640	612	RM1. P.13.6 x 13.8.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
97.3.3a	640a	-	- P.14.3.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
97.3.4	-	MFDC-209	First day cover (1-3).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
97.3.5	-	MPP-209	Presentation pack (1-3).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

2 April 1997

50 Years of Aviation in Malaysia.



Announced in November 1996, this issue marks the golden jubilee of the founding of Malayan Airways in 1947. Designed by The Sharper Image Sdn. Bhd., this issue comprised three counter sheets.

Counter sheets:

The three 38mm x 28mm designs showed:

30s.: A Boeing 747-4H6 over a map of the world;

50s.: A similar aircraft (viewed unusually from the rear) over Kuala Lumpur;

RM1: The tail fins of aircraft of Malayan Airways, Malaysia-Singapore Airlines and Malaysian Airline System (old and new liveries).

They were printed in sheets of 100 (10 x 10) by Security Printers (Malaysia) using standard four-colour off-set lithography. Sheet markings were not recorded. The phosphor-coated paper gave a blue-white fluorescent reaction and a yellow-green after-glow under ultra-violet light. It normally had watermark Multiple SPM sideways reading down, but two values exist with watermark sideways reading up. There were two perforation varieties, both comb, which measured 14.3 (all) or 13.8 x 13.6 (50s., RM1). The top margin was perforated through on the 50s. P.13.8 and the RM1 P.14.3. Other margins were not recorded.

First day facilities:

The presentation pack was sold at RM3. The envelope of the presentation pack featured the 50 years emblem over a collage of old and new images.

The first day cover, sold at 20s. mint, featured the 50 years emblem and two views of a Boeing 747-4H6.

The special first day postmark included the "50" emblem.

No.	S.G.	I.S.C.		Mint	Used
97.4.1	641a	613	30s. Wmk. SD. P.14.3.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
97.4.1a	641aw	-	- Wmk. SU. P.14.3.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
97.4.1b	641	-	- Wmk. SD. P.13.8 x 13.6. ⁴	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
97.4.2	642b	614	50s. Wmk. SD. P.13.8 x 13.6.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
97.4.2a	642	-	- Wmk. SD. P.14.3.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
97.4.2a	642aw	-	- Wmk. SU. P.14.3. ⁵	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
97.4.3	643b	615	RM1. Wmk. SD. P.13.8 x 13.6.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
97.4.3a	643	-	-- P.14.3.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
97.4.3b	643aw	-	- Wmk. SU. P.14.3.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
97.4.4	-	MFDC-210	First day cover (1-3).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
97.4.4a	-	-	- (1-2, 3a).	-	<input type="checkbox"/>
97.4.5	-	MPP-210	Presentation pack (1-2, 3a).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

29 April 1997

Aerogramme - National Parks (V) - Forest Research Institute of Malaysia.



The Forest Research Institute of Malaysia (FRIM) was founded in 1926 as a research unit separated from the Forestry Department. It is sited at Kepong in Selangor.

Announced in January 1997, this format B ⁶ aerogramme in the National Parks series marked the 500 days mark before the opening of the Commonwealth Games and the emblem appeared on the middle panel above an aerial view of Kuala Lumpur.

Designed by The Sharper Image, the front (top) panel showed the FRIM museum. The 28mm x 38mm 50s. “stamp” showed a Kapur tree (*Dryobianop aromatica*). It was printed by Mercury-Walch using standard four-colour off-set lithography. The aerogramme was printed on unwatermarked fluorescent white paper (without after-glow) with an off-white overall coating on the printed side.

First day facilities:

The special first day postmark included two leaves. The aerogramme was intended to be on sale whilst stocks lasted.

No.	S.G.	I.S.C.		Mint	Used
97.5.1	-	AL21	Aerogramme.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
97.5.1a	-	-	- First day postmark.	-	<input type="checkbox"/>

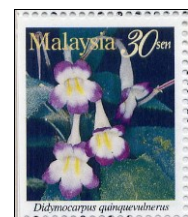
7 May 1997.

Booklet - Highland Flowers.



(booklet illustration reduced 33%)

A	E
B	D
C	A
D	B
E	C



Announced in January 1997, this booklet designed by The Sharper Image Sdn. Bhd. contains a vertical pane of ten 25mm x 30mm 30s. stamps (two of each design) showing:

30s.(A): *Schima wallichii*;

30s.(B): *Aeschynanthus speciosa*;

30s.(C): *Didymocarpus quinquevulnerus* (more correctly described as “*quinquevulnera*”);

30s.(D): *Phyllagathis tuberculata*;

30s.(E): *Aeschynanthus longicalyx*.

They were printed by Southern Colour Print using standard four-colour off-set lithography. Sheet markings were lost in booklet manufacture. The phosphor-coated paper, without watermark, gave a blue-white fluorescent reaction and a yellow-green after-glow under ultra-violet light. The comb perforations measured 14.5 x 14.1. The pane was imperforate on all its outer edges. The cover showed flowers and measured 99mm x 55mm (folded) or 173mm x 50mm (unfolded).

First day facilities:

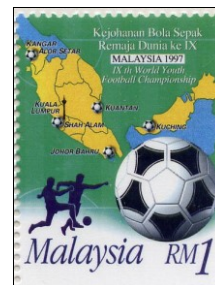
There was no official first day cover service, but PSM commissioned from Peter Chua P.K. a first day cover showing *Torenia sp.*

Pos Malaysia provided a postmark showing a flower and a leaf.

No.	S.G.	I.S.C.		Mint	Used
97.6.1	644	-	30s.(A). Imperf at left.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
97.6.1a	-	-	- Imperf at right.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
97.6.2	646	-	30s.(B). Imperf at left.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
97.6.2a	-	-	- Imperf at right.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
97.6.3	648	-	30s.(C). Imperf at left.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
97.6.3a	-	-	- Imperf at right and bottom.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
97.6.4	647	-	30s.(D). Imperf at left.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
97.6.4a	-	-	- Imperf at right.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
97.6.5	645	-	30s.(E). Imperf at left and bottom.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
97.6.5a	-	-	- Imperf at right.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
97.6.6	SB7 ⁷	SB90	Booklet (1/1a-5/5a).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

16 June 1997.

9th World Youth Football Tournament.



Players under twenty years of age from twenty-four nations played fifty-two matches for the FIFA/Coca-Cola Cup at this event, which was held at Shah Alam, Kuching, Alor Star, Kuantan, Kangar and Johore Bahru from 16 June to 5 July 1997. This championship was held every two years, the first being in Tunisia in 1977, and was ranked second only to the World Cup in the Federation Internationale de Football Associations (FIFA) calendar. The teams were from Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, China, Costa Rica, England, France, Ghana, Hungary, Ireland, Ivory Coast, Japan, Malaysia, Mexico, Morocco, Paraguay, South Africa, South Korea, Spain, United Arab Emirates, USA and Uruguay. Announced in November 1996 for issue in August 1997, by December 1996 this issue had been rescheduled to its final issue date.

Designed by The Sharper Image Sdn. Bhd., this issue comprised three counter sheets.

Counter sheets:

The three 31mm x 40mm (30s., 50s.) or 30mm x 41mm (RM1) designs showed:

30s.: The championship mascot, Tuah, a tiger cub in football kit;

50s.: Players tackling;

RM1: A football, players tackling and a map of Malaysia.

The 30s. and 50s. were printed in sheets of 50 by Harrison using off-set lithography (printing colours and sheet markings were not recorded). The phosphor-coated paper gave a blue-white fluorescent reaction and a yellow-green after-glow under ultra-violet light. It had no watermark. The comb perforations measured 13.4 x 13.2.

The RM1 was printed in sheets of 50 by Security Printers (Malaysia) using standard four-colour off-set lithography. Sheet markings were the usual SPM markings (x4) in the left and right margins opposite the top and bottom rows and 1A (x4) above and below the left and right columns. The phosphor-coated paper gave a blue-white fluorescent reaction

and a yellow-green after-glow under ultra-violet light. It had watermark Multiple SPM sideways reading down.⁸ The comb perforations measured 12.7 x 12.6.

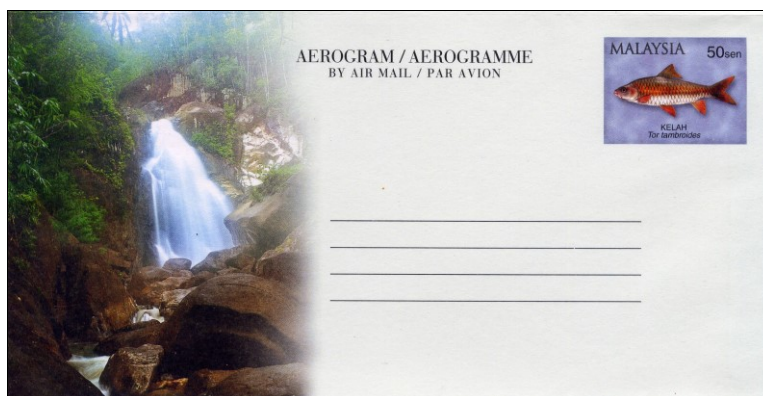
First day facilities

The presentation pack was sold at RM3. The envelope of the presentation pack featured a goalkeeper saving a goal. The first day cover, sold at 20s. mint, featured the championship mascot and the Malaysian flag. The special first day postmark included a football.

No.	S.G.	I.S.C.		Mint	Used
97.7.1	649	616	30s.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
97.7.2	650	617	50s.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
97.7.3	651	618	RM1.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
97.7.4	-	MFDC-211	First day cover (1-3).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
97.7.5	-	MPP-211	Presentation pack (1-3).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

28 June 1997.

Aerogramme - National Parks (VI) - Tasik Kenyir.



Not announced to collectors until July 1997, this aerogramme in the national parks series showed the Tasik (Lake) Kenyir National Park in Trengganu. The park covers 369 square kilometres. Lake Kenyir is artificial, the product of the largest dam in South East Asia, built between 1978 and 1985 (see issue 87.5), with some 340 islands (the largest the size of Penang) and fed by some 30 rivers.

Designed by The Sharper Image Sdn. Bhd., the front (top) panel showed a waterfall (one of 25 in the park) and the 38mm x 28mm 50s. "stamp", which showed a Thai Mahseer Carp (Kelah, *Tor tambroides*). The centre (back) panel showed two views of the lake, showing drowned trees. Like the remainder of this series, it was in format B⁶, 235mm wide x 315mm high (over tabs) unfolded, 205mm x 101mm folded.

They were printed by Mercury-Walch using standard four-colour off-set lithography. The white fluorescent paper had an overall light blue printed coating on the printed side. The "stamp" had no perforation and had no phosphor overprint. The paper had no watermark.

First day facilities:

The special first day postmark included rocks, water and trees.

No.	S.G.	I.S.C.		Mint	Used
97.8.1	-	AL22	Aerogramme.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
97.8.1a	-	-	- First day postmark.	-	<input type="checkbox"/>

31 July 1997.

Centenary of the Conference of Rulers.



The Conference of Rulers was described in Chapter 2, the actual centenary being on 13 July. This issue was originally announced in January 1997 for 14 July, then postponed to 31 July. It was not put on sale until 2pm to allow a formal launch at the Istana Negara by the King.

Designed by Raja Zahabuddin bin Raja Yaacob, this issue comprised three counter sheets.

Counter sheets:

The three 40mm x 30mm stamps showed:

30s.: The sepia official photograph of the 1897 Conference;

50s.: The coats of arms of the thirteen states and an embossed (pewter?) plate;

RM1: The official seal bearing the crests of the nine Royal states and an embossing press.

They were printed in sheets of 100 (10 x 10) by Southern Colour Print using off-set lithography. Sheet markings were not recorded. The phosphor-coated paper gave a white fluorescent reaction and a yellow-green after-glow under ultra-violet light and had no watermark. The comb perforations measured 14.1. The top margin was perforated through; the other margins were not recorded.

First day facilities:

The presentation pack was sold at RM3. The envelope of the presentation pack featured the plate and crests of the states.

The first day cover, sold at 20s. mint, featured the plate and press.

The special first day postmark included the centre of the seal shown on the RM1 stamp.

No.	S.G.	I.S.C.		Mint	Used
97.9.1	652	619	30s.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
97.9.2	653	620	50s.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
97.9.3	654	621	RM1.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
97.9.4	-	MFDC-212	First day cover (1-3).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
97.9.5	-	MPP-212	Presentation pack (1-3).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

8 August 1997.**30th Anniversary of ASEAN.**

This issue, to mark the thirtieth anniversary of ASEAN, was originally announced in November 1996 without an issue date. By December it was scheduled for July/August 1997. In January 1997, the date was 24 July, but it actually appeared on 8 August!

Designed by Raja Zahabuddin bin Raja Yaacob, this issue comprised three counter sheets.

Counter sheets:

The three 38mm x 28mm stamps all incorporated the latest, ten-member version of the ASEAN emblem and showed:

30s.: The 30th anniversary emblem (the new emblem over ten lines in the shape of a cross);

50s.: The numeral 30 incorporating the ASEAN emblem;

RM1: A V or tick emblem representing a united ASEAN.

They were printed in sheets of 100 (10 x 10) by Security Printers (Malaysia) using standard four-colour off-set lithography. Sheet markings were arranged as if the stamp was portrait format and therefore included 1A(x4) to left and right of the top and bottom columns and SPM emblems (x4) above and below the left and right columns. The phosphor-coated paper gave a blue-white fluorescent reaction and a yellow-green after-glow under ultra-violet light. It had watermark Multiple SPM upright. The comb perforations measured 13.8 x 13.6.

First day facilities:

The presentation pack was sold at RM3. The envelope of the presentation pack featured the ASEAN emblem.

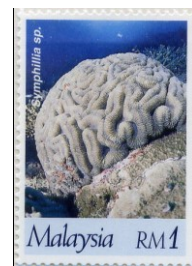
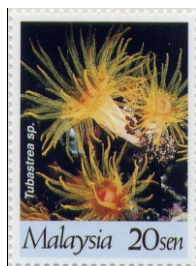
The first day cover, sold at 20s. mint, featured a map of south east Asia.

The special first day postmark included the ASEAN emblem.

No.	S.G.	I.S.C.		Mint	Used
97.10.1	655	622	30s.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
97.10.2	656	623	50s.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
97.10.3	657	624	RM1.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
97.10.4	-	MFDC-213	First day cover (1-3).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
97.10.5	-	MPP-213	Presentation pack (1-3).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

23 August 1997.

International Year of the Reef.



Announced November 1996 as Coral Year 1997 for issue in June 1997, by December 1996 it had been retitled "International Year of the Reef" for issue in June/July 1997 to mark this United Nations event. By January 1997, it was changed to August.

Designed by The Sharper Image Sdn. Bhd., this issue comprised four counter sheets and a miniature sheet.

Counter sheets:

The four 28mm x 38mm stamps showed reef life:

20s.: Crater Cup Coral (*Tubastrea sp.*);

30s.: Red Malaysian Sea Fan (*Melithaea sp.*);

50s.: Oriental Trumpet Fish (*Aulostomus chinensis*);

RM1: Brain Coral (*Symphillia sp.*).

They were printed in two-pane, gutter-pane counter sheets of 50 (5 x 5 + 5 x 5) by Southern Colour Print using standard four-colour off-set lithography, with four counter sheets (1A, 1B, 1C, 1D) in the plate. The sheet margins were blue, resembling waves. The pane numbers (1A x 4, each with a colour dot) appeared opposite the top and bottom rows at left and right. The gutter margins contained five different designs, one on each row. The printer's imprint appeared in the bottom sheet margin. The phosphor-coated paper gave a blue-white fluorescent reaction and a yellow-green after-glow under ultra-violet light and had no watermark. The comb perforations as originally released measured 14.7 x 14.4. All values later appeared 13.9 x 13.4.

Miniature sheet:

The background of the 70mm x 100mm RM2 miniature sheet showed an underwater reef scene. It contained a 38mm x 28mm stamp showing the Common Green turtle (Penyu Agar, *Chelonia mydas*). The overall printed design of this miniature sheet was slightly larger than the finished sheet, to allow the sheets be guillotined to size without the risk of white edges in the event of production variation of positioning, as shown by variation in the position relative to the edges of various featured, notably the red coral "flower" at the bottom left of the sheet. Small variations also occur in the position of the perforations forming the stamp relative to the printing. The perforations were applied in two operations, left-hand, top and right-hand sides in one operation and the bottom closed by a separate operation. The perforations measured 14.7 x 14.4. Paper was as for the counter sheets.

First day facilities:

The presentation pack was sold at RM3. The envelope of the presentation pack featured a stylised seaside scene.

The first day cover, sold at 20s. mint, featured a coral reef.

The special first day postmark included fish and coral.



No.	S.G.	I.S.C.		Mint	Used
97.11.1	658	625	20s. P.14.7 x 14.4.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
97.11.1a	658a	-	- P.13.9 x 13.4.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
97.11.2	659	626	30s. P.14.7 x 14.4.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
97.11.2a	659a	-	- P.13.9 x 13.4.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
97.11.3	660	627	50s. P.14.7 x 14.4.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
97.11.3a	660a	-	- P.13.9 x 13.4.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
97.11.4	661	628	RM1. P.14.7 x 14.4.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
97.11.4a	661a	-	- P.13.9 x 13.4.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
97.11.5	MS662	MC-214M	RM2 miniature sheet.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
97.11.6	-	MFDC-214	First day cover (1-4).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

No.	S.G.	I.S.C.	Mint	Used
97.11.7	-	MFDC-214M - (5).	-	<input type="checkbox"/>
97.11.8	-	MPP-214 Presentation pack (1-4).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

25 August 1997.

Booklet - 20th PPSEAWA International Triennial Conference.



(booklet cover illustration reduced 33%)

Announced in January 1997, this issue marked the 20th International Triennial Conference of the Pan-Pacific and Southeast Asia Women’s Association, held in Kuala Lumpur from 23 August to 2 September 1997. This organisation was founded in 1928 in Hawaii and was said to be the earliest established women’s organisation in the world. It subsequently became accredited to the United Nations through the UN’s Economic & Social Committee (ECOSOC) and participated in UNICEF, UNESCO and ESCAP. It’s 1998 Conference was on the theme of “Strengthening Alliances For A Better World In The 21st Century”.

Designed by Eka IPR Agensi Sdn. Bhd., the RM3 booklet contains a pane of ten (2x5) 30s. stamps arranged sideways with a perforated selvedge on three sides and attached to the card cover at the top by an imperforate margin showing four colour stars. There were two 25mm x 31mm stamp designs which alternate vertically and horizontally in the pane:

30s.(A): Women speaking at a meeting, working in a laboratory and winning sporting medals.

30s.(B): A family and home.

They were printed by Enschedé using standard four-colour off-set lithography. The phosphor-coated paper gave a blue-white fluorescent reaction and a yellow-green after-glow under ultra-violet light. The paper had no watermark. The comb perforations measured 12.9 x 13.4.

First day facilities:

There was no official first day cover service, but PSM, in co-operation with Pos Malaysia, commissioned from Eka IPR Agensi a first day cover showing a family and a building.

Pos Malaysia provided a postmark showing a female head.

No.	S.G.	I.S.C.	Mint	Used
97.12.1	663	- 30s.(A).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
97.12.2	664	- 30s.(B).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
97.12.3	-	- Se-tenant pair (1-2).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
97.12.4	SB8 ⁹	SB91 Booklet (five 3).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

9 September 1997.

50 Years of Organised Philately in Malaysia.



A miniature sheet to mark the Golden Jubilee of the Philatelic Society of Malaysia (originally the Selangor Philatelic Society) was announced in January 1997 for issue on 6 September, later changed to 11am on 9 September following the

official opening of the MALPEX'97 stamp exhibition (on the third day of the exhibition!). MALPEX was held at the National Museum, Kuala Lumpur from 6 to 14 September 1997.

The 120mm x 71mm sheet, designed by Peter Chuah P. K. contained four diamond-shaped stamps, 28mm sides, 48mm wide x 28mm high, showing:

20s.: The 1867 12c. on 4a. Straits Settlements stamp and B109 spider's web postmark;

30s.: The 1997 birds set (issue 97.1);

50s.: The 1996 Stamp Week miniature sheet (issue 96.16) and a magnifying glass;

RM1: A cover bearing the 1863 Crown Colony issue.

The background of the sheet showed a wide variety of Malaysian postage and revenue stamps and labels: Kuala Lumpur 34 (Philatelic Bureau) Registration label, 1986 20c. postage due (issue 86P), Frama label (issue 87.3), King Edward VII Straits Settlements \$500, 10c. small revenue stamp (issue 90R.2), 1996 30c. *Terinos terpander* butterfly booklet stamp (issue 96.10), 1995 20c. Fungi (issue 95.2), 1996 RM1 Measat (issue 96.1), 1994 RM1 Orchid (issue 94.5), 1996 30c. CAPA (issue 96.13), 1986 40c. Rambutan (issue 86D.1).

They were printed by Enschedé using photogravure. Printing colours were not recorded. The phosphor-coated paper, without watermark, gave a blue-white fluorescent reaction and a yellow-green after-glow under ultra-violet light.

The special perforator gave perforations which measured 12.3.

First day facilities:

The presentation pack was sold at RM3. The envelope of the presentation pack featured old and new postmarks on stamps and a globe.

The first day cover, sold at 20s. mint, featured three stamps on a globe.

The special first day postmark included part of a stamp outline. One standard first day cover, dated 9 September in Kota Kinabalu bureau, has been seen with a 10c. revenue stamp tied to the cover by the special postmark.

Remaindered sheets were cancelled with an anonymous single ring cancellation and backstamped "NOT FOR SALE / BIRO FILATELI With Best Compliment / from / Philatelic Bureau / Pos Malaysia".

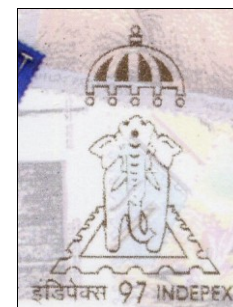
A special cover was also issued by Pos Malaysia, at MALPEX97 only, showing stamps under a magnifying glass. These covers were serviced with a different 30s. stamp and postmark each day:

Date	Day Title	Picture	Stamp
6Sep1997	Hari Pameran	Stamp	30c. Pitcher plant of 1996. (P.13.8).
7Sep1997	Hari Peminat Setem	Stamp and hibiscus	30s. Reef Year of 1997.
8Sep1997	Hari Tema	Bird and flower	30s. Highland bird of 1997.
9Sep1997	Hari Pos Malaysia	Pos Malaysia emblem.	30s. KL Tower of 1996.
10Sep1997	Hari Remaja	Smiling girl and boy	30s. Drug Abuse of 1996 (both exist).
11Sep1997	Hari Sukom	Wira mascot	30s. Commonwealth Games of 1996. (both assumed to exist)
12Sep1997	Hari FIAP	FIAP emblem	30s. ASEAN of 1997.
13Sep1997	Hari Jubilemas PSM	PSM 50 th emblem	30s. Bird of Prey of 1996. (P.14.3).
14Sep1997	Hari Muzium Negara	Carving	30s. Science Centre of 1996.

PSM also commissioned from Peter Chuah P. K. a commemorative cover marking its Golden Jubilee showing the Selangor Stamp Club and PSM 50th emblems. It was released on 13 September.

No.	S.G.	I.S.C.		Mint	Used
97.13.1	-	-	20s.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
97.13.2	-	-	30s.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
97.13.3	-	-	50s.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
97.13.4	-	-	RM1.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
97.13.5	MS665	MC-215M	Miniature Sheet (1-4).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
97.13.5a	-	-	- Remaindered sheet.	-	<input type="checkbox"/>
97.13.6	-	MFDC-215M	First day cover (5).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
97.13.7	-	-	Souvenir cover.	<input type="checkbox"/>	-
			(7) used 6Sep97 <input type="checkbox"/> 7Sep97 <input type="checkbox"/> 8Sep97 <input type="checkbox"/> 9Sep97 <input type="checkbox"/>		all
			10Sep97 <input type="checkbox"/> 11Sep97 <input type="checkbox"/> 12Sep97 <input type="checkbox"/> 13Sep97 <input type="checkbox"/>		
			14Sep97 <input type="checkbox"/>		
97.13.8	-	MPP-215M	Presentation pack (5).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

50 Years of Organised Philately in Malaysia - Indepex'97 (15 December 1997):



(enlarged detail)

An additional gold printing applied the Indepex '97 emblem to the bottom right-hand corner of some miniature sheets for issue on 15 December 1997 at the Indepex '97 World Philatelic Exhibition which was held in New Delhi from 15 to 22 December 1997. The MALPEX'97 emblem was retained. In all other respects, the sheet was as for the original issue above.

First day facilities:

Details of any special cover and postmarks were not recorded. The only first day cover seen had the miniature sheet on a standard first day cover, from the September issue, cancelled with a "15-22 December" Indepex cachet.

No.	S.G.	I.S.C.		Mint	Used
97.14.1	MS673	MC-219M	Miniature Sheet (Indepex '97).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
97.14.2	-	MFDC-219M	First day cover (1).	-	<input type="checkbox"/>

4 October 1997.

Aerogramme - National Parks (VII) - Langkawi.



Not announced to collectors until October 1997, this aerogramme in the national parks series showed scenes from the island of Langkawi.

Unlike previous issues in this series, this aerogramme was designed by Peter Chua P. K. and printed by Security Printers (Malaysia) by off-set lithography. Like the remainder of this series, however, it was format B⁶, 235mm wide x 315mm high over tabs unfolded, 200mm x 102mm folded.

The front (top) panel showed the Galeria Perdana, the repository for any gifts given to the Prime Minister during overseas visits or by visitors from overseas. The 26mm x 36mm 50s "stamp" showed a statue of an eagle (possibly a Brahminy Kite) which formed the head of the Eagle Monument which formed the gateway to Dataran Lang (Eagle Square). The centre (back) panel showed off-shore islands (described as "Nature's Paradise") and the Eagle Monument.

The white fluorescent paper had an overall pale blue printed coating on the printed side. The "stamp" had no phosphor patch but had a simulated perforation 13.1 shaded to give the impression of a stamp having been stuck to the aerogramme. The paper had no watermark.

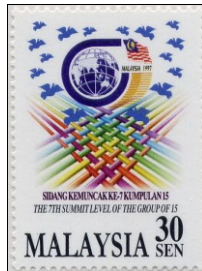
First day facilities:

The special first day postmark included the eagle.

No.	S.G.	I.S.C.		Mint	Used
97.15.1	-	AL23	Aerogramme.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
97.15.1a	-	-	- First day postmark.	-	<input type="checkbox"/>

3 November 1997.

Summit Level Group.



This issue was announced June 1997 as an added-starter to the programme, marking the seventh Summit Level (Heads of State/Government) Meeting of the Group of 15 Developing Countries (G15), held in Kuala Lumpur from 3 to 5 November 1997. Summit Meetings were held in Kuala Lumpur 1990 (also marked by an issue), Caracas 1991, Dakar 1992, New Delhi 1994, Buenos Aires 1995, Harare 1996, Kuala Lumpur 1997 (this issue), Cairo 1998, Montego Bay (Jamaica) 1999, Cairo 2000, Jakarta 2001, Caracas 2004 and Havana 2006. Although still called the G15, by 2009 there were 18 member countries: Algeria, Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Egypt, India, Indonesia, Iran*, Jamaica, Kenya, Malaysia, Mexico, Nigeria, Peru, Senegal, Sri Lanka*, Venezuela, Zimbabwe (* Post-1997 members not shown on the RM1 stamp. Kenya had joined just in time to be included on the stamp).

Designed by Peter Khang Howe Ket, this issue comprised two counter sheets.

Counter sheets:

The two 28mm x 38mm designs showed:

30s.: Doves and a woven mesh of "mengkuang leaves". Strips of these leaves (*Pandan*, *Pandanus sp.*) are widely used in handicrafts and as a flavouring in cooking;

RM1: The flags of the (then) sixteen member countries in alphabetical order reading down from top left .

They were printed in sheets of 50 by Security Printers (Malaysia) using standard four-colour off-set lithography.

They were packed in parcels of 500 sheets (plus one pack of 120 for the Crown Agents). Sheet markings included SPM emblems (x4) to left and right of bottom and top rows and 1A (x4) above and below the left and right columns. The non-fluorescent paper had no watermark (although it was announced as watermark Multiple SPM). The comb perforations normally measured 12.2 (30s.), 13.6 x 13.8 (RM1). The 30s. also exists perforated 13.6 x 13.8 and the RM1 has been reported 12.2.⁴ The top, right and bottom margins were perforated through on both perforators. Other margins were not recorded.

First day facilities:

The presentation pack was sold at RM3. The envelope of the presentation pack featured 16 colour bands in a V formation.

The first day cover, sold at 20s. mint, featured the flags of the members.

The special first day postmark included the G-15 emblem.

No.	S.G.	I.S.C.		Mint	Used
97.16.1	666	629	30s. P.12.2.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
97.16.1a	666a	-	- P.13.6 x 13.8.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
97.16.2	667	630	RM1. P.13.6 x 13.8.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
97.16.2a	667a	-	- P.12.2.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
97.16.3	-	MFDC-216	First day cover (1-2).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
97.16.4	-	MPP-216	Presentation pack (1-2).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

15 November 1997.

XVI Commonwealth Games (IV) - 300 Days to Go.



This issue was originally announced in November 1996 for release in September 1997. In January 1997, this was changed to 15 November to fall on the “D-300” day.

Designed by CD Advertising Sdn. Bhd., the issue comprises two counter sheets.

Counter sheets:

The stamps in each sheet form vertical triplets, each consisting of two 40mm x 30mm stamps and an intermediate label (40mm x 20mm). The stamps showed:

- 30s.(A): Hockey;
- 30s.(B): Netball;
- 50s.(A): Cricket;
- 50s.(B): Rugby football.

The labels of both sheets showed mascot Wira playing ten-pin bowling, squash, swimming and lawn bowls.

They were printed in sheets of 10 triplets (5 x 2 triplets) by Southern Colour Print using standard four-colour off-set lithography. Both values exist from panes 1A, 1B and 1C. The pane numbers (x4) appeared above and below the left and right columns and octagonal coloured rings (x4) appeared to right and left of the top and bottom rows. The phosphor-coated paper gave a greenish-white fluorescent reaction and a yellow-green after-glow under ultra-violet light and had no watermark. The comb perforations measured 12.1. The top, bottom and right margins were perforated through. The left margin was not recorded.

First day facilities:

The presentation pack was sold at RM3. The envelope of the presentation pack featured balls and pitches for the four sports.

The first day cover, sold at 20s., also featured the four sports.

The special first day postmark was diamond-shaped.

A maximum card had been seen showing Wira waving a flag and undertaking fifteen sports. It was not known if this was an official or private issue, but probably the latter.

“Collector’s Choice” Pack - Commonwealth Games:

Circa 2000, a “Collector’s’ Choice” pack of Commonwealth Games stamps was sold by Pos Malaysia for RM10 under the slogan “Your last chance to purchase these mint stamps”. The pack contained the 1994 and 1995 reprints, plus the 1996 and 1997 issues.

No.	S.G.	I.S.C.		Mint	Used
97.17.1	668	631	30s.(A).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
97.17.2	669	632	30s.(B).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
97.17.3	10	-	Se-tenant triplet (1-2 plus label).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
97.17.4	670	633	50s.(A).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
97.17.5	671	634	50s.(B).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
97.17.6	10	-	Se-tenant triplet (4-5 plus label).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
97.17.7	-	MFDC-217	First day cover (3, 6).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
97.17.8	-	MPP-217	Presentation pack (3, 6).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
97.17.9	-	-	Collector’s Choice pack.	<input type="checkbox"/>	-

1 December 1997.

Stamp Week (II) - Protected Wildlife.



Announced in November 1996 and designed by Teh Yew Kiang, this issue comprised a single miniature sheet.

Miniature sheet:

The 165mm x 75mm miniature sheet contained five stamps showed protected species of Malaysia against a forest background. The five designs show:

20s.: False Gharial (Buaya jejulung, *Tomistoma schlegelii*) (38mm x 26mm);

30s.: Western Tarsier (Kera Hantu, *Tarsius bancanus*) (26mm x 38mm);

50s.: Sambar (Rusa, *Cervus unicolor*) (26mm x 38mm);

RM2 (A): Crested Wood Partridge (Burung siul, *Rollulus roulroul*) (38mm x 26mm);

RM2 (B): Golden Arawana or Asian Bonytongue (Kelisa Emas, *Scleropages formosus*) (38mm x 26mm).

They were printed by Southern Colour Print using standard four-colour off-set lithography. The phosphor-coated paper gave a greenish-white fluorescent reaction and a yellow-green after-glow under ultra-violet light and had no watermark.

The specially-designed perforator gave measurements of 14.5 (20s.) 14.7 x 14.5 (30s.). 14.7 x 14.5/14.7 (50s.). 14.5 x 14.7 (20s., RM2). All sheet markings were removed during guillotining.

First day facilities:

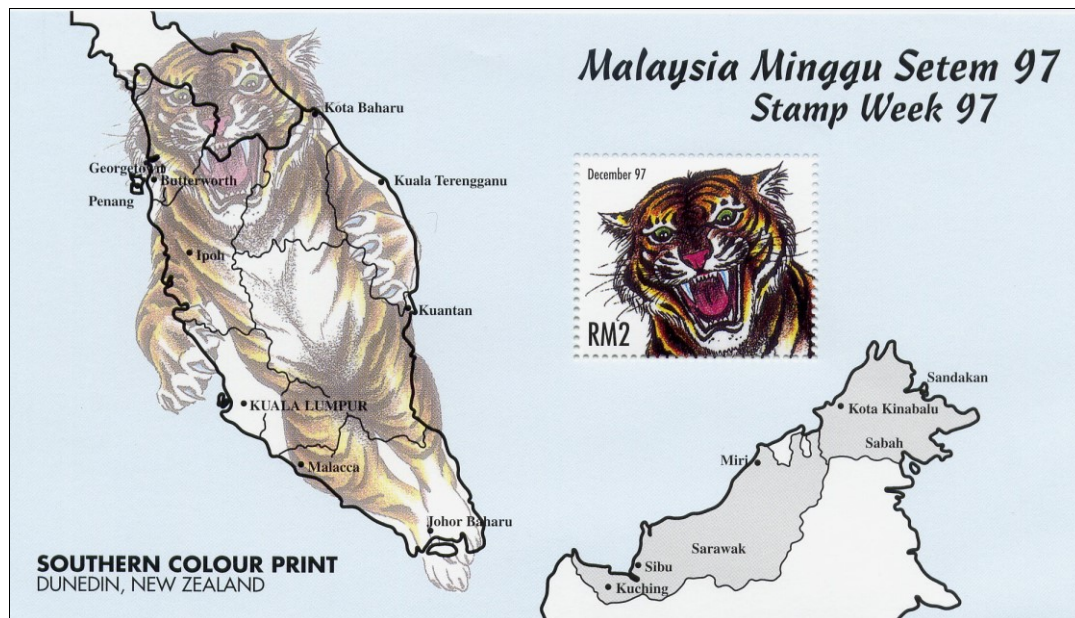
The first day cover, sold at 30s., featured more forest with a squirrel, bird and big cat.

The special first day postmark included a deer.

No.	S.G.	I.S.C.		Mint	Used
97.18.1	-	-	20s.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
97.18.2	-	-	30s.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
97.18.3	-	-	30s.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
97.18.4	-	-	RM2 (A).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
97.18.5	-	-	RM2 (B).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
97.18.6	MS672	MC-218M	Miniature Sheet (1-5).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
97.18.7	-	MFDC-218M	First day cover (6).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Non-postal souvenir sheet:

In addition to the official miniature sheet, a second miniature sheet (160mm x 90mm) was produced by Southern Colour Print as a non-postal souvenir. The 35mm x 30mm RM2 "stamp" showed the head of a tiger. The background showed a map of Malaysia with the image of a leaping tiger very cleverly superimposed on the Malay peninsula. Southern Colour Print brought a harrow perforating machine over from New Zealand and perforated these sheets 14.4 at the exhibition. The sheets were sold at RM2.

**First day facilities:**

Copies of the souvenir sheet have been seen attached to Stamp Week covers in place of the official sheet and tied by the exhibition cachet only. CTO copies also exist.

NOTES

- ¹ All three panes probably existed for all four values.
- ² S.G. listed the booklet pane without covers as 636a.
- ³ The 50s. was normally P.13.6 x 13.8 from the Kuala Lumpur Bureau. However, the 50s. in stock received by Crown Agents and UK dealers was normally 14.3 mint, 13.6 x 13.8 used. The RM1 P.14.3 was found in the 1997 Annual Album.
- ⁴ Reported by Mr. Lim Ken Beng.
- ⁵ Listed by S.G. but not seen by the author.
- ⁶ For aerogramme formats, see Section 10 of Chapter 3 in Volume 1.
- ⁷ S.G. listed the booklet pane, removed from its cover, as 644a.
- ⁸ A used example exists with no apparent watermark, but this may reflect poor paper quality.
- ⁹ S.G. listed the booklet pane, removed from its cover, as 663a.
- ¹⁰ S.G. listed vertical pairs, i.e. from rows 2 and 3 of the sheet, as 668a and 670a.