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Author(s): Franklin R. Bruns, Jnr.

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Comments of the 1c. 1857. Type V Plates Nos. 5-6-7-8-9 & 10. <i>By Harry L. Jefferys</i>	139
Liberia Honors Roosevelt. <i>By Franklin R. Bruns, Jr.</i>	143
Estate of Franklin Delano Roosevelt, Stamp Collection	146
Gimbels Plans Roosevelt Album	148
Italia Filatelica	148
The "Uganda" "Missionaries." What Was Uganda? <i>By E. F. Hurl</i>	149
Keller Heads A. S. D. A.	152
Nicolas Sanabria	152
Lee "Diligencias" Block Sold	152
Danish West Indies Postal Rates. <i>By Michael Miller</i>	153
Conventions Planned	167
1947 International Stamp Exhibition	168
Collectors Club List of Medals	170
The Postmark Stamps and the Postal Cancellations of the Sar- dinian States. <i>By Alberto Bolaffi. Translated by Dr. Dante S. Bolaffi. (Concluded)</i>	171
Minutes of the Board of Governors	183
The Pedigree of Rare Stamps. <i>By the late Charles J. Phillips</i>	187
Harry F. Dunkhorst	191
Miss Harper to Visit America	191

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Table Of Contents

*items marked with * cannot be viewed as an individual PDF document*

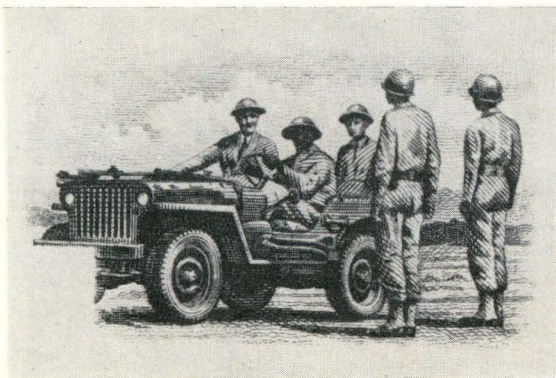
[Click here to view the entire Volume: 24 No: 4 Philatelist: 024-04](#)

	<u>Starting Page</u>
Front Cover (1 page)	Front Cover
Display Advertisement (1 page) Advertiser: Scott Stamp & Coin Co., Inc.	Inside Front Cover
Display Advertisement (1 page) Advertiser: Paul Bluss	Insert
Display Advertisement (1 page) Advertiser: Irwin Heiman	Insert
Comments on the 1c 1857 TYPE V PLATES Nos. 5-6-7-8-9 & 10 (4 pages) <i>Harry L. Jefferys</i>	139
Liberia Honors Roosevelt (3 pages) <i>Franklin R. Bruns, Jnr.</i>	143
Estate of Franklin Delano Roosevelt. Stamp Collection (3 pages)	146
Italia Filatelica (1 page)	148
Gimbels Plans Roosevelt Album (1 page)	148
The "Uganda" "Missionaries" - What Was Uganda? (4 pages) <i>E. F. Hurt</i>	149
Keller Heads A.S.D.A. (1 page)	152
Nicolas Sanabria (1 page)	152
Lee "Diligencias" Block Sold (1 page)	152
Danish West Indies Postal Rates (15 pages) <i>Michael Miller</i>	153
Conventions Planned (1 page)	167
1947 International Stamp Exhibition (2 pages)	168
Masthead (1 page)	170
Collectors Club List of Medals (2 pages)	170
The Postmark Stamps and the Postal Cancellations of the Sardinian States (12 pages) <i>Alberto Bolaffi</i>	171
Minutes of Board of Governors (4 pages)	183
The Pedigree of Rare Stamps (4 pages) <i>Charles J. Phillips</i>	187
Harry F. Dunkhorst (1 page)	191
Miss Harper to Visit America (1 page)	191
Statement of the Ownership, Management, Circulation, Etc., Required by the Act of Congress of August 24, 1912 (1 page)	191
Display Advertisement (1 page) Advertiser: Vahan Mozian Inc.	I
Display Advertisement (1 page) Advertiser: Scott Publishing Co.	II
Display Advertisement (1 page) Advertiser: H.E. Harris & Co. Inc.	III
Display Advertisement (1 page) Advertiser: Economist Stamp Co., Inc.	IV
Display Advertisement (1 page) Advertiser: General Stamp Co.	V
Display Advertisement (1 page) Advertiser: J.C. Morgenthau & Co., Inc.	V
Display Advertisement (1 page) Advertiser: J. N. Sissons Inc.	V
Display Advertisement (1 page) Advertiser: Harmer, Rooke & Co., Inc.	VI
Display Advertisement (1 page) Advertiser: Daniel F. Kelleher Co., Inc.	VII
Display Advertisement (1 page) Advertiser: Billig & Rich, Inc.	VII
Display Advertisement (1 page) Advertiser: Laurence & Stryker	VII
Display Advertisement (1 page) Advertiser: Clarence W. Brazer	VIII
Display Advertisement (1 page) Advertiser: Paul Bluss	VIII
Display Advertisement (1 page) Advertiser: D.S. Bolaffi	VIII
Display Advertisement (1 page) Advertiser: Y.Q., Rotherfield	VIII
Display Advertisement (1 page) Advertiser: Stack's	IX
Display Advertisement (1 page) Advertiser: E. Luder & Co.	IX
Display Advertisement (1 page) Advertiser: F.R. Ferryman Stamps Inc.	IX
Display Advertisement (1 page) Advertiser: Mogull's Exchange	IX
Display Advertisement (1 page) Advertiser: Robson Lowe Ltd.	Inside Back Cover

Liberia Honors Roosevelt

By FRANKLIN R. BRUNS, JR.

Returning home from the historic Casablanca Conference in January, 1943, President Franklin D. Roosevelt stopped off at Liberia. In his brief stay there the late Commander-in-Chief reviewed American negro troops stationed there, paid his respects to President Edwin Barclay, and inspected the large Firestone rubber plantation.



**Proof of the Center Vignette,
twice actual size.**

and black. The air mail stamp was a 70 cents, brown and black. Printing was in sheets of twenty-five, with the inscription "1882—Franklin Delano Roosevelt—1945" in black across the bottom.

To mark this visit, and also to memorialize the deceased President, Liberia prepared a set of three stamps—two postage and one air mail—which was placed on sale at Monrovia on November 26, 1945.

The stamps are of a single design, picturing the late President in an Army jeep with former President Edwin Barclay, reviewing the troops. The values of the postage stamps were 3 cents, purple and black, and 5 cents, blue

1882 - FRANKLIN DELANO ROOSEVELT - 1945

Proof Imprint of the Sheet Inscription.

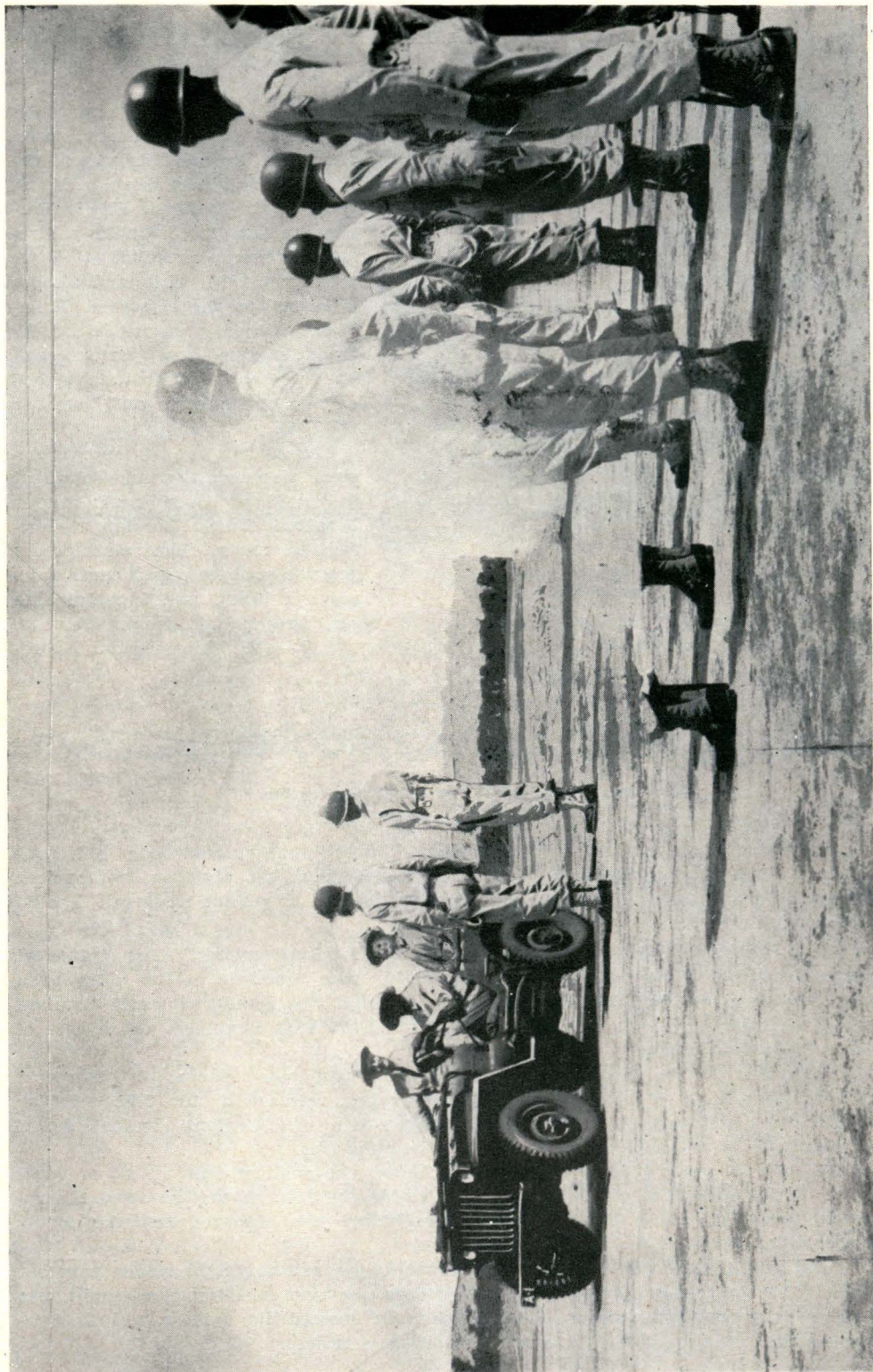
President Roosevelt and Prime Minister Churchill, after concluding their conferences at Casablanca, motored to Marrakech and spent the night in that ancient Arab and Berber town. The next day they parted and President Roosevelt flew to Liberia with one intervening stop.

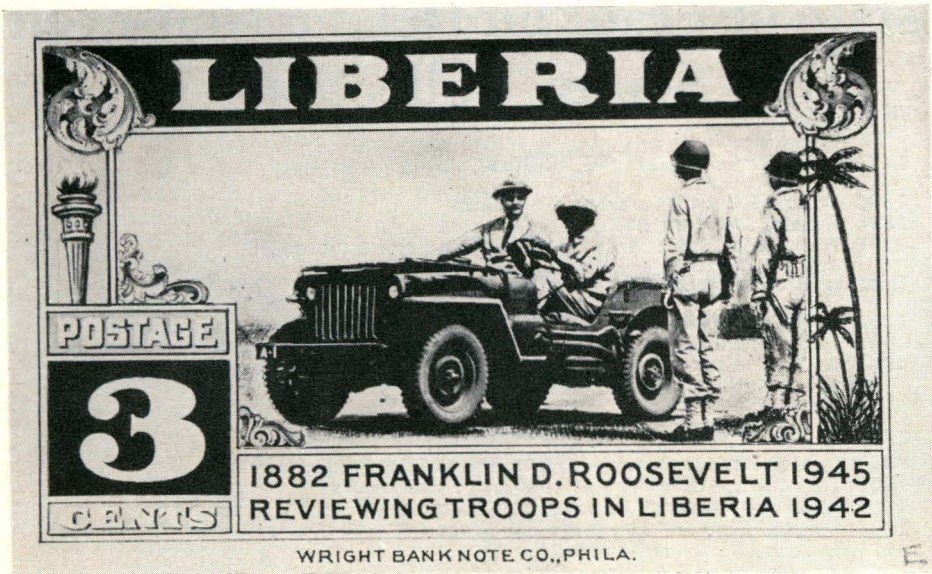
The President and his party, travelling in two four-motored Army transport planes, landed at Roberts Field, about fifty miles from Monrovia. After a luncheon with President Barclay the American and Liberian Commanders-in-chief bounced out to the parade grounds in a jeep and reviewed the 41st Engineers and a part of the defense detachment.

According to the Hon. James T. Phillips, Postmaster General of Liberia, a United States Army Air Force photo of this review, released by the Office of War Information, was used for the center design—with modifications—by the E. A. Wright Bank Note Company, which printed the adhesives.

As will be noticed from the full-page plate, the soldiers whose feet are still shown in the retouched photo were moved beside the jeep so that some of the reviewed forces might be incorporated. The skyline was obscured and the center figure, added.

The first designs did not have this center figure, and the right soldier was cut partially by the frame. The jeep and the riders was also considered too small; the palm trees to the right were out of proportion and seemed like spiders, and the two-line inscription at the bottom was not considered satisfactory.





Original Sketch, Accepted With Modifications.

The engraver then increased the proportions of the jeep and Roosevelt, added the center figure and moved the whole of the vignette to the left, partially blocking off the one wheel, but bringing the right soldier into the center of things.

As will be noted by a comparison, the scroll work in the upper corners was changed; the palm trees were reduced; the torch was made longer at the left, as was the value tablet; the "postage" and "Cents" were made in reverse against a dark solid background, and the bottom inscription was cut into two parts.



Artists' Design, Accepted.