An invitation to join the
Malaria Philatelists International
World Health Organization
“The world united against malaria.”
U.N. Initiatives - start with IGY 1957?

- 1959 World Refugee Year
- 1965 International Cooperation Year
- 1975 International Women’s Year
- 1979 International Year of the Child
- 1981 International Year for Disabled Persons
- 1983 World Communications Year
- 2015 International Year of Light
The World Health Organization was established in 1948 in Geneva and has worked against small pox, and communicable diseases like HIV/AIDS, malaria, and tuberculosis.
Malaria: An infectious disease caused by protozoan parasites from the Plasmodium family that can be transmitted by the bite of the Anopheles mosquito or by a contaminated needle or transfusion. Falciparum malaria is the most deadly type.

Art Craft first day cover cachet

The “big six” of malaria.

- Ilya Metchnikov
- Alphonse Leveran
- Patrick Manson
- Sir Ronald Ross
- Battista Grassi
- John Alexander Sinton

Scott U.N. #103 - one of two Art Craft cachets. March 30, 1962
Ilya Metchnikov - (1845 - 1916) born near Karkoff, Russia. He received the Nobel Prize for physiology (medicine) along with Paul Erlich in 1908.

- After study at Karkoff, Gottigen, St. Petersburg, Munich, and Naples, he held several posts in Russia. In 1888 he was given an appointment at the Pasteur Institute where he spent the rest of his life.

- He studied phagocytes, mobile cells that might take up and digest bacteria that get in the body, one of the foundations of immunology.

- His work established the theory of cellular immunity. He also studied embryology of invertebrates like insects.
Alphonse Leveran - 1845 - 1922 born in Paris, the son and grandson of doctors. He was awarded the Nobel Prize in 1907 for his work on protozoa in causing diseases.

- He became a doctor and served in the Franco Prussian War afterwards being named Chair of Military Diseases and Epidemics at Val-de-Grace.
- He studied the blood of malarial patients in Algeria and Italy and proved blood parasites were the cause of malaria.
- In 1897 he joined the Pasteur Institute and carried out original research on endoglobular Haematozoa and on Sporozoa and Trypanosomes.
Patrick Manson - 1844 - 1922 born near Aberdeen, Scotland. He is recognized as “the father of tropical medicine.”

- After graduating from the University of Aberdeen, he joined his older brother as a medical missionary in Taiwan and Amoy, China, learning Mandarin.
- He studied filarial, the worm that causes elephantiasis, by searching the blood taken from his patients.
- He had mosquitos feed on the blood of his patients and found that the digestive juices of the mosquito (Culex fatigans) seemed to have stimulated it to fresh activity.
- He helped found the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine.
Sir Ronald Ross - 1857 - 1932 born in Uttarakhand, India. He was a British physician who won the Nobel Prize for Physiology in 1902, the first recipient born outside Europe.

- His discovery of the malarial parasite in the gastrointestinal track of a mosquito led to the realization that Malaria was transmitted by mosquitoes, and laid the foundation for combating the disease.
- His Nobel Prize was controversial in that he gave no credit to Battista Grassi who had completed a study of the complete life cycle of the anopheles and that only the female carried the illness.
- Worked 20 years in India and then in England and established the Ross Institute and Hospital for Tropical Diseases.
Giovanni Battista Grassi - 1854 - 1925 born in Rovellasca, Italy. He was the first to describe and establish the life cycle of the human malarial parasite *Plasmodium falciparum*.

- He studied at the Universities of Pavia and Heidelberg. As a professor at the University of Catania, he wrote a student text on entomology and studied bird malaria.
- He proved the life cycle of the human roundworm by ingesting eggs into his own system.
- He was to share the Nobel Prize with Ronald Ross until Robert Koch used his influence to prevent Grassi’s recognition even though Grassi’s work was more complete.
- His study of phyloxera of grapes led to the systematic control of agricultural pests.
John Alexander Sinton - 1884 -1956 was born in British Columbia, Canada, and died in Northern Ireland. Besides his work as a malarialogist, he received the Victoria Cross for gallantry in Mesopotamia in WW I.

- He studied in Belfast and gained degrees from the Universities of Cambridge and Liverpool.
- He rose from captain to brigadier in the Indian Medical Service and was noted for conspicuous bravery.
- Possibly under the influence of Ronald Ross and his work at the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine, he studied malarialogy and in 1921 he was put in charge of quinine and malaria study at the Central Malaria Bureau.
- He was recalled to the IMS in WW II and travelled widely in the Asian theater of war. Several mosquitos and a sand fly were named after him.
Fighting Yellow Fever - a parallel mosquito borne illness was conquered through the works of Finlay, Reed, Maass and Gorgas

- Carlos Juan Finlay (1833 - 1915) was a Spanish-Cuban epidemiologist who determined that yellow fever was carried by the anopheles mosquito.

- Army doctor Walter Reed (1851 - 1902) was credited with “beating yellow fever” but he gave credit and published the works of Carlos Finlay.

- Clara Maass (1876 - 1901) was an army nurse who allowed herself to be bitten a second time to see if she had obtained immunity from a previous case.

- William Gorgas (1854 - 1920) was the Surgeon General of the U.S. army that cleaned the Panama Canal of mosquitoes to combat yellow fever and malaria.
The World United Against Malaria

- During 1962-1963, 101 countries and territories produced 262 stamps and 16 special cancellations to honor the fight against malaria. Some created souvenir sheets, imperforates, first day covers and other philatelic materials.

- Sixty one countries donated quantities of their stamps to WHO to be sold through philatelic dealers which resulted in $200,000 in the Malaria Eradication Fund (MESA).

- Mexico produced the first anti malaria stamp in 1939. It was reissued 1944 and 1947.

- Between 1939 and 1961, 12 countries issued 35 stamps with a theme indirectly or directly related to malaria. These are considered fore-runners.

- President Kennedy released a message March 30, 1962, at the United States issue, the only stamp without a mosquito on it.
JFK Cachet
United Nations - Scott # 102-3 The U.S. domestic and air mail rate.
United States - Scott #1194 - no mosquito pictured.
Haiti - Scott # C190b
Laos - Scott # 868
Mongolia - Scott # 296-303
Vatican City - Scott # 326-29 cachet is an illustration of an early attempt by Pope Pius VI to drain the swamps S.E. of Rome. 

_Faust_ II, Act V: "A marsh extends along the mountain-chain, That poisons what so far I’ve been achieving; Were I that noisome pool to drain, 'Twould be the highest, last achieving. Thus space to many millions I will give. Where, though not safe, yet free and active they may live."
French Colonies 14 colonies used the same design but with color changes. Two different cachets were produced.
Herm Island - smallest Channel Island and a part of the Baliwick of Guernsey. From 1949-1969, they issued their own local post stamps for mail that was to be carried by boat to the nearest official post office.
Portugal produced eight separate pictures of anopheline vectors, or mosquitos that deliver malaria, although the Cape Verde is doubtful. Goa had become a part of India in 1961. San Tome is a four legged mosquito.
Six of the 10 Paraguay stamps show *Anapholes darlingi*, three of which show enlargements of the eggs.
Contact and sample exhibits

  Malaria worldwide; Miasma electronic only; free membership.
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Sample Exhibits
Sample exhibits