



UNIVERSAL  
POSTAL UNION

Berne, 22 May 2000

International Bureau Circular

**165**

Mali – Illegal postage stamp issues

Dear Sir/Madam

The postal administration of **MALI** asks me to inform you of the following:

"Our administration was informed, on 14 March and 18 April 2000, of the existence of nine different series of postage stamps bearing the inscription "REPUBLIQUE DU MALI" and various designs.

"We would like to point out that all these stamps are illegal and that their circulation does harm to the Malian and international postal services and to collectors.

"Consequently, we would ask all postal administrations not to accept correspondence prepaid by means of these false stamps.

"Legal action has already been initiated to trace the forgers and bring them to justice."

Yours faithfully,

M S RAMAN  
Assistant Director General



*Annex 1*

Pirated postage stamps purportedly issued by the Republic of Mali

Trains	9 values	100, 150, 200, 250, 300, 350, 400, 450, 500 F
Chess	9 values	100, 150, 200, 250, 300, 350, 400, 450, 500 F
Prehistoric animals	9 values	100, 150, 200, 250, 300, 350, 400, 450, 500 F
Magellan	9 values	100, 150, 200, 250, 300, 350, 400, 450, 500 F
Mushrooms	9 values	100, 150, 200, 250, 300, 350, 400, 450, 500 F
Computers	9 values	100, 150, 200, 250, 300, 350, 400, 450, 500 F
Dogs	9 values	100, 150, 200, 250, 300, 350, 400, 450, 500 F
C Columbus	9 values	100, 150, 200, 250, 300, 350, 400, 450, 500 F
Minerals	9 values	100, 150, 200, 250, 300, 350, 400, 450, 500 F

According to our information, these "pirate issues" were produced in Eastern Europe on behalf of a certain company in Great Britain.