



UNIVERSAL
POSTAL UNION

Berne, 5 June 2000

International Bureau Circular

194

Niger – Illegal postage stamp issues

Dear Sir/Madam

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

"I enclose a list of stamps issued without the authorization of Niger Post by the company *France Philatélie 2000*, run by an individual named J C Marino Montero.

"I wish to inform you that my administration brought an action about the fraudulent activities of this individual before the Regional Court of Niamey which, at a hearing on 19 October 1999, imposed a six-month suspended prison sentence and a fine on Mr Montero.

"Another action is being brought before the Paris courts, to be heard on 4 July 2000 in the 31st *Chambre correctionnelle*."

Yours faithfully,

E M GHARBI
Assistant Director-General

Annex 1

List of postage stamp issues purporting to be from the Republic of Niger and offered on the philatelic market by "France Philatélie Ltd" or "France Philatélie 2000" – Mr Juan Carlo Montero.

These issues are neither authorized nor approved by the postal administration of the Republic of Niger, and as such are not valid for postage.

I. GREAT PAINTERS WITH "PHILEXFRANCE" LOGO

1 Eugène Delacroix miniature sheet with 9 stamps at	425 F
1 Eugène Delacroix block with 1 stamp at	2000 F
1 Toulouse Lautrec miniature sheet with 9 stamps at	250 F
1 Paul Gauguin miniature sheet with 9 stamps at	300 F
1 Renoir miniature sheet with 9 stamps at	375 F
1 Van Gogh miniature sheet with 9 stamps at	500 F
1 Van Gogh block with 2 stamps at	2000 F
1 Matisse miniature sheet with 9 stamps at	400 F
1 French Actors and Actresses miniature sheet with 9 stamps at	675 F

II. PAPAL VISIT TO AFRICA

1 miniature sheet with 9 stamps at	500 F
1 block with 2 stamps at	1500 F

III. EVENTS OF THE 20th CENTURY

1 miniature sheet (1900-1909) with 9 stamps at	225 F
1 miniature sheet (1910-1919) with 9 stamps at	225 F
1 miniature sheet (1920-1929) with 9 stamps at	225 F

IV. PRINCESS DIANA WITH NEW OVERPRINTS: FAMOUS PEOPLE – RED CROSS – AIDS, ETC

1 miniature sheet with 9 stamps at	180 F
1 miniature sheet with 9 stamps at	180 F
1 block with 1 stamp at	2000 F
1 block with 1 stamp at	1500 F + 250 F (surcharge)
1 block with 1 stamp at	4000 F
1 block with 1 stamp at	4000 F

2

V. CHESS

1 block with 1 stamp at 725 F

VI. FRANK SINATRA

1 block with 1 stamp at 2000 F

VII. MARRIAGE OF PRINCE EDWARD TO SOPHIE RHYS-JONES

1 block with 1 stamp at 2000 F

VIII. SPACE HISTORY

1 Halley's Comet block with 1 stamp at 2000 F

1 John Glenn block with 1 stamp at 3000 F

IX. J.F. KENNEDY

1 miniature sheet with 9 stamps at 500 F

X. STAR WARS

1 miniature sheet with 9 stamps at 375 F

1 block with 1 stamp at 2000 F

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Annex 2

"I have learned that during November 1999, issues of postage stamps purporting to be from the Republic of Niger were circulated on the international philatelic market by the companies **France Philatélie Ltd** and **France Philatélie 2000**, run by Mr Marino Montero.

I would advise readers that these issues were not approved by the postal administration of Niger and their sale could involve distributors' civil and criminal liability."

These issues are as follows:

Events of the 20th century (1930 to 1939)	9 values at 375 F
Events of the 20th century (1940 to 1949)	9 values at 375 F
Events of the 20th century (1950 to 1959)	9 values at 375 F
Various cats	9 values: 10–20–30–40–50–100–200–300–500 F
Prehistoric animals	9 values: 10–20–30–40–50–100–200–300–500 F
Pandas	9 values: 10–20–30–40–50–100–200–300–500 F
Butterflies	6 values–10–30–50–100–300–500 F
Kennedy Space Center	9 values: 10–20–30–40–50–100–200–300–500 F
Boats with NATO logo	4 values at 425 F
Boats with UPU logo	4 values at 875 F
Marilyn Monroe	9 values at 275 F
Marilyn Monroe on a bicycle	1 value at 2000 F
Cartoons	6 values: 10–30–50–100–300–500 F
Various dogs with scout movement logo	9 values at 100 F

For information:

New pirated postage stamps purporting to be from the Republic of Niger:

PINOCCHIO	9 values at 200 F
AMERICAN ACTORS	9 values at 400 F
EAGLES	9 values: 100–150–250–350–400–450–200–300–500 F
BUTTERFLIES	9 values: 100–150–250–350–400–450–200–300–500 F
MUSHROOMS	9 values: 100–150–250–350–400–450–200–300–500 F
TORTOISES	8 values overprinted CHINA 99 World Philatelic Exhibition
EVENTS OF THE 20th CENTURY (1960–1969)	9 values at 500 F
EVENTS OF THE 20th CENTURY (1970–1979)	9 values at 500 F
EVENTS OF THE 20th CENTURY (1980–1989)	9 values at 500 F

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