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APH Paper 51

Ton Dietz

Somaliland Republic

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Introduction

Postage stamps and related objects are miniature communication tools, and they tell a story about cultural and political identities and about artistic forms of identity expressions. They are part of the world's material heritage, and part of history. Ever more of this postal heritage becomes available online, published by stamp collectors' organizations, auction houses, commercial stamp shops, online catalogues, and individual collectors. Virtually collecting postage stamps and postal history has recently become a possibility. These working papers about Africa are examples of what can be done. But they are work-in-progress! Everyone who would like to contribute, by sending corrections, additions, and new area studies can do so by sending an email message to the APH editors: Ton Dietz (dietzaj@asc.leidenuniv.nl) and Jan Jansen. You are welcome!

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Illustrations cover page:

ASC Leiden postage stamp Nederland (2011): ©African Studies Centre Leiden

Cape of Good Hope postage stamp 1853:

http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/7/7c/Cape_Triangular_Postage_Stamp.jpg/400px-Cape_Triangular_Postage_Stamp.jpg

Egypt postage stamp 1914:

https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/4/4b/Post_Stamp_Egypt.jpg

About the APH paper series

The intention of the APH series is to make information about the philatelic and postal history of Africa available for fellow philatelists, and for others who are interested in the political, economic, and cultural history of Africa. Most APH papers so far present an inventory of postage (and revenue) stamps of former colonies, and the aim is to be as complete as possible for stamps as such, and with special attention for covers and other elements of postal history, which can give historical information about postal communication, and about visual information through postal media. In addition it is the intention to be as complete as possible about postmarks, which show the history of postal coverage of colonial (and post-colonial) territories. For Independent states it is not the intention to be 'complete', but to give a selection of stamps. Most information comes from websites. The APH papers are 'work in progress', and additional information plus corrections are welcome and can be added in future editions.

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- British Somaliland until 1960 see: APH 46
- Independent Somalia from 1960 onwards: see: APH 50

1 Introduction



https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/6/6c/Flag_of_Somaliland_until_1996.svg/1920px-Flag_of_Somaliland_until_1996.svg.png

<https://4.bp.blogspot.com/->

[Df_niX_avVg/WYVllmantml/AAAAAAAAAFhM/hrqOruB7d_INn3C5Wlh84zvnp5gqvNWQClcBGAs/s200/Flag_of_Somaliland.svg.png](https://4.bp.blogspot.com/-Df_niX_avVg/WYVllmantml/AAAAAAAAAFhM/hrqOruB7d_INn3C5Wlh84zvnp5gqvNWQClcBGAs/s200/Flag_of_Somaliland.svg.png)



https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/8/8b/Somaliland_map.png: “Map of modern Somaliland - borders claimed by the Somaliland government. Note that eastern parts of the claimed area are not under control of the Somaliland government”.

The stamps of Somaliland after the break-away in 1996 have not been recognised as official stamps by the UPU, and the break-away country has never been recognised by the United Nations and the African Union. However, there has been and still is some form of self-government.

According to the website of the Ministry of Information and Communication Technology (current name) of the Republic of Somaliland (visited in December 2021) there is not a functioning postal department, and there has never been one since 1993, when the Somali State collapsed. This is what they write: “SOMALILAND POSTAL SERVICE

Somaliland, Ministry of Communication and Technology is responsible for defining developmental policies to accelerate the growth of telecommunication and technology services. Currently, our country doesn't have a formal address and postal or mail delivery system. For that reason, there is no mechanism available for the delivery of goods and locating the property. However, here is the good news. In partnership with Geosol a technology and GIS service Provider Company;

We are introducing a postal addressing system for the first time in Somaliland history. The new addressing system will make it easy for residents should know which district they live in, their street name, door number, and zip code to receive and send national and international parcels and other delivery packages. Furthermore, the service will create new job opportunities for citizens for new services such as deliveries, post services, and E-Commerce.

So, we are delighted to announce this new innovative, and exciting service is now available in our capital city- Hargeisa. Therefore, we would like to urge land and property owners to register their land and properties from Hargeisa Local Authority to get unique house/building addresses and obtain highly secure ownership documents (Mulkiyad)" (<https://mict.govsomaliland.org/article/postal-services>).

Despite the fact that the government of the Republic of Somaliland never officially issued any postage stamps, many stamps can be found suggesting that the Republic DID issue stamps. However these are all 'illegal stamps', issued by foreign stamp producers, mainly in Great Britain and in Eastern Europe. The following chapters will provide some more information.

Presidents of Somaliland



Abdirahman Ahmed Ali Tuur (1931–2003). 1st President: 28 May 1991 - 16 May 1993.



Muhammad Haji Ibrahim Egal (1928–2002). 2d President: 16 May 1993 - 3 May 2002.



Dahir Riyale Kahin (born 1952): 3d president 3 May 2002 - 27 July 2010



Ahmed Mohamed Mohamoud (born 1936): 4th President: 27 July 2010 - 13 December 2017



Muse Bihi Abdi (born 1948). 5th President: From 13 December 2017 onwards.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_presidents_of_Somaliland

2 Postage stamps of Somaliland in 1996



https://lh3.googleusercontent.com/proxy/Sy9kVdNVMutIEPYHknyxdxvllSwlipc2wg0A1Ro1LJKNzrcUokCDNBx98WkcF_d6uuUBm-XgtqL4B222ekIR3yhAB1EI-B71MPcOacKbxjpMUqiz2yppa34lzTE1VTpWa7VOoNRb8tA0CLOL9ranUf2F4wvdNMxbBLpLv7njdGO_6fwPbNbfmXeHfvWDRfb0Lj7xZdfFo2LLxTngLJIBsirOHg68w06iQ



http://1.bp.blogspot.com/_pRV_drPRft0/TDin92WneSI/AAAAAAAAAFM/I7wbfti5kzl/s1600/s_c000354a301.jpg

“Somaliland. In 1996 the territories which had formerly made up British Somaliland attempted to secede from Somalia, which had been formed by the combination of British Somaliland and Italian Somaliland. The contemporary 1p British "Machin" stamp appeared overprinted, allegedly for use in the breakaway republic from April 1996; the choice of the British stamp was reported at the time to be a tribute to their former contented days as a British protectorate.

REPUBLIC

OF

SOMALILAND

500 SHILLIN

"Shillin" is spelt as shown, presumably to reflect the local pronunciation.

In a second version of the overprint a star obliterates the original "1p" figure.

It would appear highly unlikely that there would be local stocks (reportedly 4300 stamps) of 1p Machins available for overprinting, no matter how keen the residents of former British Somaliland were to secede. The issue is best deemed bogus".

http://www.gbos.org.uk/index.php/Country_List/43

"In 1996 the area which had formerly made up British Somaliland attempted to secede from Somalia. A 1p British Machin stamp was produced overprinted "REPUBLIC OF SOMALILAND", allegedly for use in the breakaway republic from April 1996. The choice of the British stamp was reported at the time to be a tribute to their former contented days as a British protectorate".

<http://www.stampdomain.com/country/somaliland/>



<https://www.ebay.com/itm/GB-SOMALILAND-Machin-1p-Provisional-With-Without-Star-Unmounted-Mint-FP583/274252108391?hash=item3fdab31267:g:DeYAAOSwd4tUI6gU>

<https://www.stampboards.com/images/miscr/4oM0qfL.jpg>



https://4.bp.blogspot.com/pRV_drPRft0/TDiocVLYjAI/AAAAAAAAAFU/xVqTC1apC-c/s1600/sc0002d09a.jpg



https://mancrymf.files.wordpress.com/2018/08/fullsizeoutput_273b.jpeg?w=340&h=398: “In 1997, the government of Somaliland — formerly part of Somalia, and before that the British Somaliland Protectorate — decided to issue definitive stamps that were overprints of the well-known Machin profiles of Queen Elizabeth that had been appearing on British stamps since the 1960s. Why this autonomous state picked British stamps to overprint is a mystery to me — though I sense a strong attachment to England on the part of some of its former proteges. Apparently postal authorities thought twice about it, though, for the stamps were not issued immediately. Only after Somaliland found itself short of stamps did the overprints find their way to post offices in February, 1998. There was an immediate backlash. Postal customers in Somaliland must have objected to this symbolic compromise of sovereignty. There must have been surprise in both countries to see the queen’s portrait defaced by the big, black, lettering — there has never been an official overprint of Machin definitives, before or since. The stamps were withdrawn within days and destroyed, but not before some reached collectors. I also have seen examples cancelled on cover. ...”.

In a response to a website ‘Machinmania’ a certain ‘White Knight’ wrote: “This Somaliland Machin stamp seems now to be recognised as wholly bogus and no such item was ever sold in a post office in Somaliland - indeed various sources quote the Somaliland government as stating that Somaliland has never had a postal service in any form since it declared its independence of Somalia - a state of

affairs which continues to this day. Presumably, as it had no postal service, it required no stamps and so the story of Harrison not having sufficient quantities of appropriate paper must be a complete fabrication. A large number of bogus "stamps" were subsequently produced with the name of Somaliland printed on them and some "used" on covers which were cancelled with the same postmark that was applied to bogus covers to which the Machin overprints had been applied. These Machin stamps therefore seem to have no philatelic significance apart from demonstrating the clever inventiveness of the producer of the items and the concoctor of the story surrounding them".



<https://i.ebayimg.com/images/g/G7QAAOSwRs1d5Tk/s-l1600.jpg>

3 A note on illegal stamps

Somaliland Republic is among the many countries (many in Africa, but not only there!) for which fake stamps (or illegal stamps, bogus stamps, phantom stamps, or abusive stamps; see https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Illegal_stamps) have been issued. However, on the website of the UPU's Working Group for Illegal Issues (and the Worldwide Philatelic Observatory, based in Tunis, with Mrs. Maria Zofia Libera as its long-time Manager), Somalia nor Somaliland have been included in the list of countries for which illegal stamps have been issued; see: <https://www.pwmo.org/articles/illegal.htm> . In 2001 they wrote: " On 16th January 2001 the members of the Working Group for Illegal Issues met at the UPU Headquarters in Bern, Switzerland. Since 1996 approx. 46 postal administrations announced problems with illegal/illicit stamps to the UPU. At the meeting of the Management Committee of the World Association for the Development of Philately in Tunis President Mohr proposed to introduce a special numbering for all stamp issued and to list them on the UPU Web site. The Philatelic Webmasters Organization actively collaborates with the Universal Postal Union in order to stop the issuing of illegal stamps. We publish here a list of countries that sent denunciations to the UPU. The list is not complete, but gives a good idea of countries which issues are under attack. Beware!"

Later, in 2005, the UPU issued a circular warning against illegal postage stamps for Somalia (but not Somaliland): <https://www.pwmo.org/illegals/16-call-on-stamp-collectors.htm>.

An American owner of Golowe's Collector Stamps in Washington State (J. Lowe) has become one of the most prominent crusaders against these practices. On his website he writes: "ILLEGAL STAMPS; Information and Reference of illegal stamps according to U.P.U. Circulars:

What Illegal Stamps are

According to the UPU, "an illegal stamp is one that carries the name of a legitimate country or territory, but was not produced or printed by the postal administration of that country, and is not valid for postage anywhere in the world."

To me a very straight forward answer. There are many others that wish to include speculative and overproduced stamp issues. If they were authorized by the country in question they are not illegals.

A little history

The majority of illegal stamps on the market today are modern topical issues. The major production of them started in the mid 90's. They fall in line with British local issues that were being massively produced at the time. These were locals that were and are made for islands that do not have any legitimate usage for them under the guidelines of what genuine locals (like Lundy Island) are. Yet they are still produced because mainly unknowing collectors (usually topical) buy them. There is a very thin line between them and illegal stamps. Small

territories and countries with no postal services have been targeted in the same way and by the same people I might add.

It soon became felt by these now professional fake stamp makers that they could simply start producing stamps using country names of countries with valid postal services and that is just what has and is happening to this day. These producers hide in the shadows of the philatelic world and use a network to move these illegal stamps. Some in the network are prominent high volume stamp dealers and they are located all over the world.

They have now flooded the market with this junk to where thousands of lots on eBay, Delcampe, ebid, Amazon and so forth are these illegal stamp issues. Even though the U.P.U. has posted many circulars denouncing them. These circulars describe many of the issues but policy has been until now, not to post images of the illegals. In my view this policy has failed and the evidence is the massive marketing of them on the internet. The repetitive nature of illegal stamps is really quite boring. With the shoddy quality and nature of them I personally cannot understand why topical collectors buy them so readily.

Certain stamp agencies which have already been proven to be the producers or directly connect with them to this day are overproducing huge sets of stamps for some countries which never even use them. Sadly those countries have managed to be conned into contracts with them and now suffer with their postal reputations being tarnished to the point that most savvy collectors and dealers will not even touch their new issues with a ten foot pole!

Those countries should rethink those contracts because the agencies simply made them to legitimize what would be considered illegal stamps. The style of them is exactly the same as the illegal stamps from the past and present. Same topics, same style and same excessive production. It is obvious and in your face as to who were and are the producers of illegal stamps and yet all these years they have never been fully exposed. All agencies, the UPU and the stamp societies have failed in this so we now have millions of illegal stamps and over produced stamps circulating in the market. These agencies and dealers have become quite powerful now from the ripped off money they have obtained making them more elusive than ever. I do not understand why nobody has used the technology that we have today to root out and expose who has and is doing this. The paper, the gum, the inks used, the printers used can all be found through scientific investigation just like it is used to solve a murder case or robbery. Some of the illegal stamps have the color guides and markings left right on the selvage which is a unique guide as to who the printer is. yet nobody has investigated them and traced them to the source. The legitimate stamp agencies, UPU and stamp societies should have and still could, pool funds together to fund a worldwide investigation using high tech to find the people responsible for this and destroy their ability to do this by imprisonment, major fines, and public exposure as many illegal stamps have infringed on copyrights and all are crimes against the postal administrations they have victimized.

The rouge stamp agencies and stamps they make that I mention about above are called Abusive Stamps. It is a completely different problem than counterfeit illegal stamps although they run in the same paths. The owners of these rouge companies know who the illegal stamp producers are and have relations with them and their distributors. One big happy family is what you could call it.

To learn more about abusive stamps and what to avoid buying, here is a link to the PWMO page that lists the countries that are affected by these abusive agencies and what sections of years to avoid buying altogether. Sadly for some countries the range is for many years now “

http://golowesstamps.com/reference/Illegal%20Stamps/illegal_stamps.htm .

On part of his website one can find lots of illegal stamps from the Somali Republic:

http://golowesstamps.com/reference/Illegal%20Stamps/Somaliland%20Illegal%20Stamps/somaliland_illegal_stamps.htm, for the years 1997-2002, 2011, 2014-2015 and 2017.

The website continues: “Online research shows that the first counterfeit illegal stamps in the name of Somaliland (Republique of Somaliland) were produced in 1997. Although Somalia is a member of the Universal Postal Union, up to this time (March 2020) they have never formally posted a UPU circular denouncing any of them. We are working toward having this done soon.

The following images are of counterfeit illegal stamps produced in the name of Somaliland. Please remember that the producers of these illegal stamps are not only greedy, they are crude and sometimes disgusting which is the nature of these people.

I have found the Colnect online catalog Cinderella category to be a little helpful but they really have a long way to go. Placing counterfeit illegal stamps in their Cinderella category is their first mistake. Illegal stamps are not Cinderella stamps.

[<https://colnect.com/en/stamps/years/country/520-Cinderellas/series/255314-Somaliland> : 1996:2; 1997: 10; 1998: 16; 1999: 24; 2001: 4; 2017: 73 series issued].

No catalogs list stamps for Somaliland in any form dating after 1960. Do not listen to these dealers trying to convince you they are something other than illegal stamps.

You will find the styles and designs of the following illegal stamps the same as other illegal stamps produced in the name of other countries.

Here we go!

All of the following illegal stamps can be found as imperforates. Many are found as color proofs and many fake First Day Covers have been produced as well.

Many times now (2020) the souvenir sheet sets are separated and are sold individually. Many times the stamps have been removed from the souvenir sheets. All of these "tactics" are used to avoid detection by UPU circular descriptions and/or experts like myself.

Sellers that call these "private", "locals", "Cinderella's", "unauthorized" are deceiving you. They are counterfeit illegal stamps produced by a stamp dealer that is bent on ripping you off! Some sellers state "we offer them because they are on the market". Well how about you use a different dealer because that seller is "on the market"? If the stamp societies, auction sites and all other venues kicked these sellers off of their sites then they would have to comply or lose their ability to sell anything.

The following images are free for the use of all to use to alert the public to them. If anyone wants to make a public list of users on eBay, Delcampe and elsewhere who are selling these issues....fine by me since the UPU, PWMO and others appear to have given up or have not been updated in years.

If you have purchased any of these stamps from a dealer or if that dealer offers them, you should avoid that dealer! You will only be supporting illegal stamp makers who are only ripping you off".

It is a dilemma for the African Postal Heritage Papers what to do with these illegal stamps, as some crusaders are convinced that publishing images of these 'stamps' in itself can be seen as supporting the producers of these fake stamps. On the other hand, the internet is full of these stamps, so the struggle to 'boycot' these images has not been effective at all. In this APH paper we will include a selection of these stamps for the years in which they have been issued.

4 A selection of postage stamps and postal/fiscal history of Somaliland after 1996

We have selected one or two series of (illegal) stamps for the years, in which these stamps have been issued, but in some years there have been many more, and in other years none. In addition we sometimes include other illustrations about the postal and fiscal history of this territory.

4.1 1997: letter sent to Somaliland Republic: "Service Suspended"



http://3.bp.blogspot.com/_pRV_drPRft0/TDimQzDFaZI/AAAAAAAAAEk/7fH47RHSyKY/s1600/sc00030b90.jpg: “

4.2 1997: A note on the illegal stamps of Somaliland Republic issued in 1997

http://golowesstamps.com/reference/Illegal%20Stamps/Somaliland%20Illegal%20Stamps/somaliland_illegal_stamps.htm: “1997: The first sets produced in the name of Somaliland were created by the British counterfeit producer I reference on many pages for many countries. This producer was heavily into producing counterfeits in the name of many countries starting in the early 1990's.

This page is the first of a number I will present documenting the history of the production.

The first thing all collectors and the general public need to understand is that genuine issued Somaliland stamps ended in 1960 when they gained their independence from being a British Protectorate and became part of Somalia. All stamps used for postage in the republic are Somalia stamps from July 1, 1960 forward. The republic has no authority to issue their own stamps.

In 1997 a set of counterfeit stamps on the topic of animals appeared on the market in the name of the Republic of Somaliland. There was indeed conflict in 1996 between some communities within the Somaliland Republic and Somalia itself as there is to this day but the authority to issue their own stamps never came into play. Numerous sources have noted the stamps to be bogus and the evidence shows that the British producer who is already proven to be the creator of the illegal stamp concept and who was already producing many counterfeits in the name of many countries and republics had the 1997 animals illegally produced as well.

No place else except the Avion Stamps website offers the counterfeits in fake color proof sets. As stated and proven many times the database used is the original Stampdile database which was created by Clive Feigenbaum decades ago. Only he had access to obtaining printing varieties like the color proof sets. To this day they are exclusive to the Avion website. Nobody else sells them. For them to admit the stamps are counterfeit would mean thousands of collectors around the world would know they were ripped off.

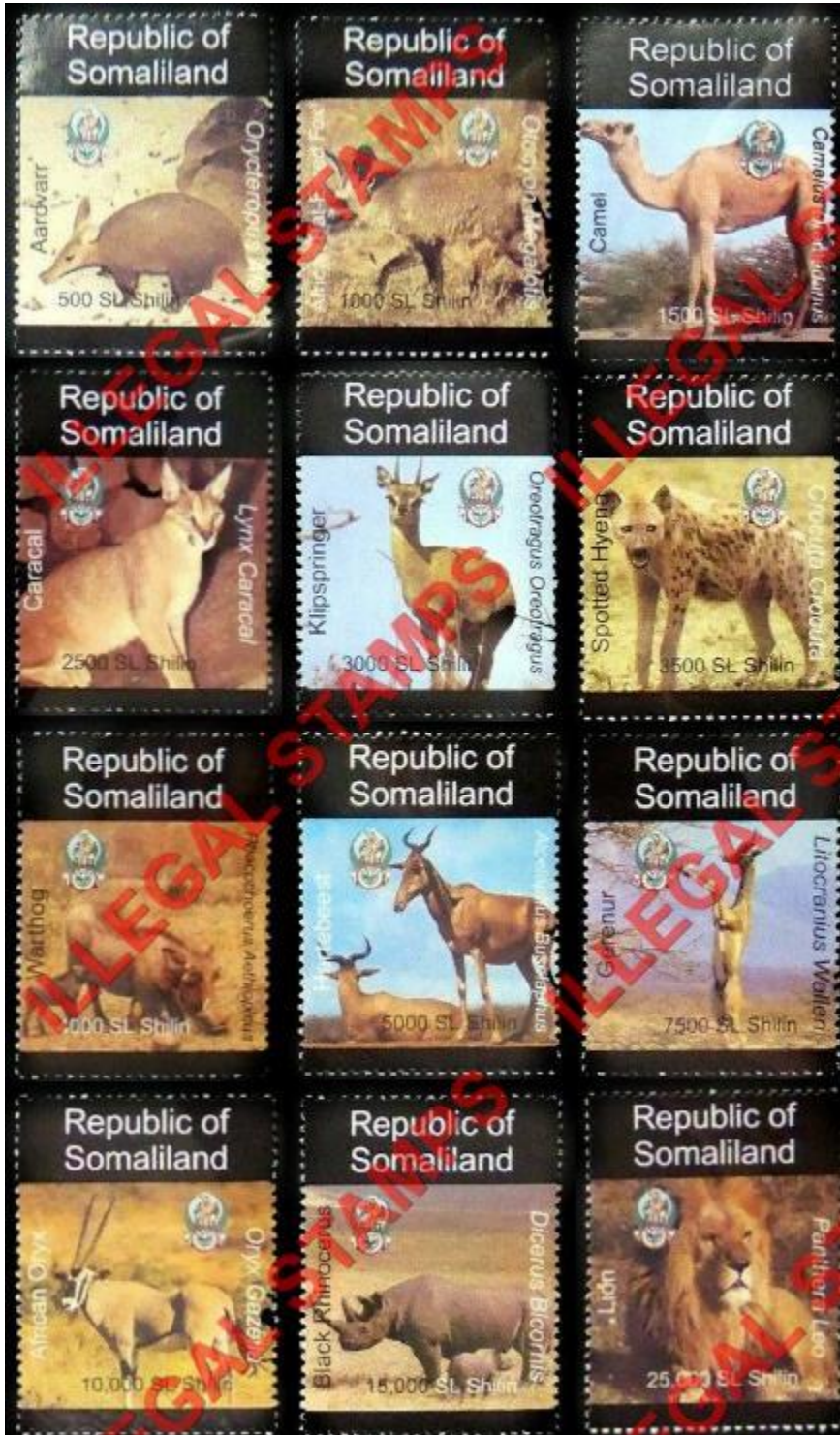
No catalog lists any of the British producers counterfeit stamps and none will ever do so. They are illegal stamps that were never authorized by Somalia to be made. Try to find a commercial usage of them. All catalogs end Somaliland stamps in 1960.

Here are links to more insight on why the 1997-8 Animals and 1998 British Machin overprinted stamps are counterfeit.

I found this one very interesting because the author actually talked to the counterfeit producer: <http://commonwealthstampsopinion.blogspot.com/2010/07/somaliland-to-somalia-to-somaliland.html> ”.

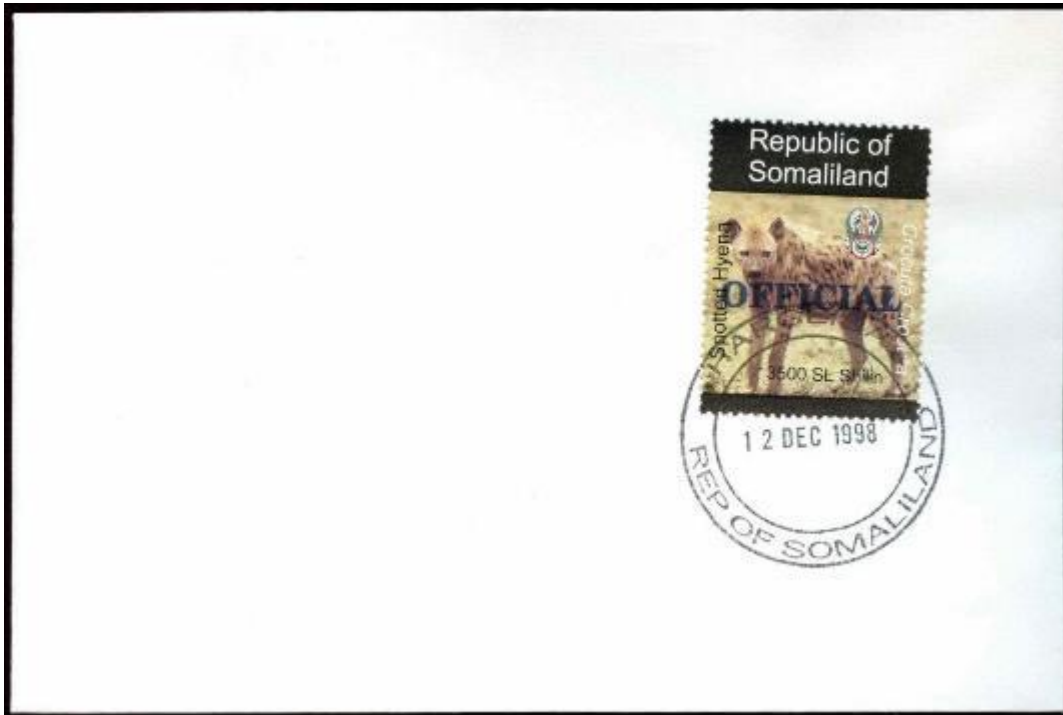
“Here is the Great Britain Overprint Societies determination on the 1998 British Machin overprints: http://www.gbos.org.uk/index.php/Country_List/43 ”. [see chapter 2 of this APH].

4.3 Republic of Somaliland, 1997: animals

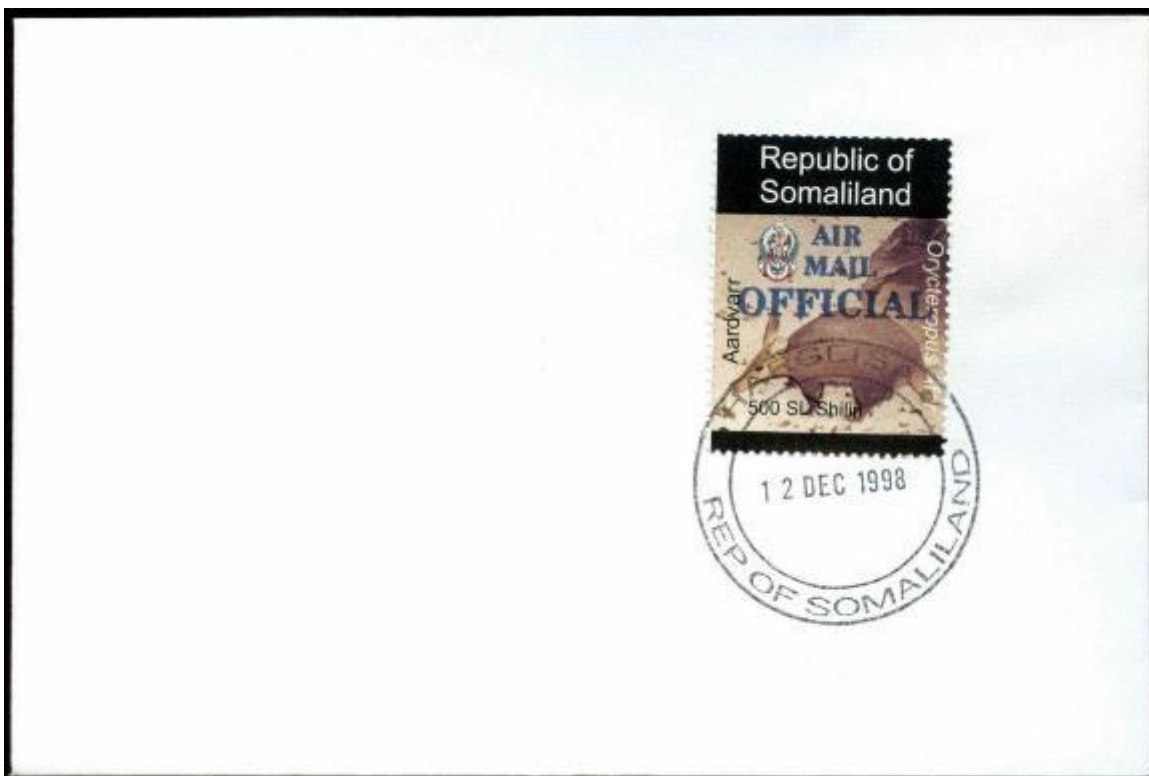


http://golowestamps.com/reference/Illegal%20Stamps/Somaliland%20Illegal%20Stamps/somaliland_1997_illegal_stamps_animals_of_africa.jpg

4.4 Republic of Somaliland, 1998: Official, and Airmail Official



<https://www.ebay.com/itm/Somaliland-1998-Hyena-Official-Blue-Overprint-Cover-C33756/381572902988?hash=item58d784704c:g:t6UAAOSwUuFW1B-8> Postmark Hargeisa. Rep of Somaliland, 12 DEC 1998

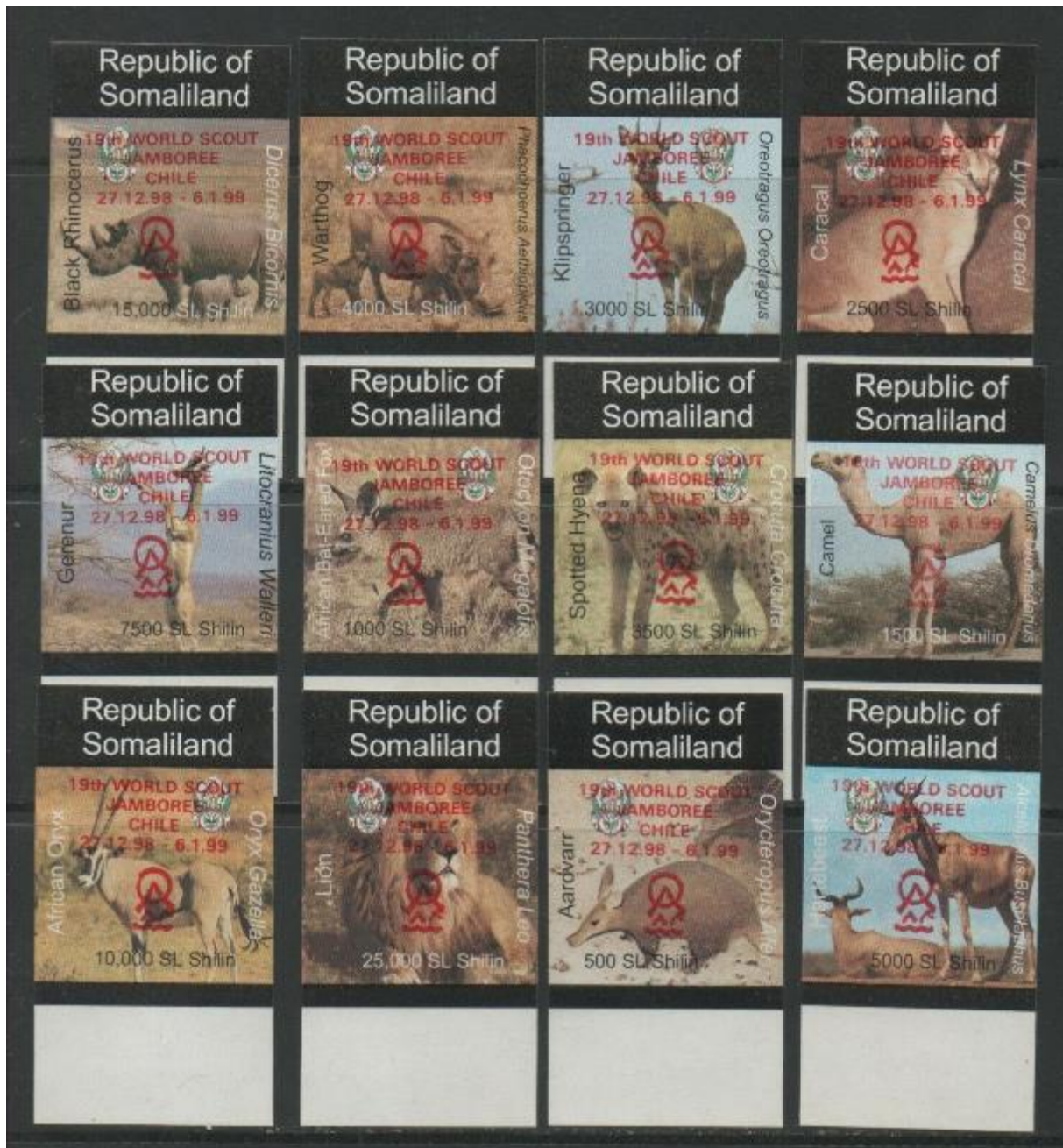


<https://www.ebay.com/itm/Somaliland-1998-Aarkvark-Airmail-Official-Blue-Overprint-Cover-C33811/381572904689?hash=item58d78476f1:g:~9sAAOSwezVW1CaB> Postmark Hargeisa. Rep of Somaliland, 12 DEC 1998

For many more, issued in 1997-1998: see:

http://golowestamps.com/reference/Illegal%20Stamps/Somaliland%20Illegal%20Stamps/somaliland_illegal_stamps.htm

4.5 Republic of Somaliland, 1999: 19th world scout jamboree Chile



<https://www.ebay.co.uk/itm/Thematic-Stamps-Animals-SOMALILAND-1999-DEF-O-P-SCOUTS-red-IMPERF-mint/283810449563?hash=item42146bc89b:g:w~0AAOSwz2VeZ6HX>

For many more: see:

http://golowestamps.com/reference/Illegal%20Stamps/Somaliland%20Illegal%20Stamps/somaliland_illegal_stamps_1999.htm

4.6 Republic of Somaliland, 2000: overprint on animal series



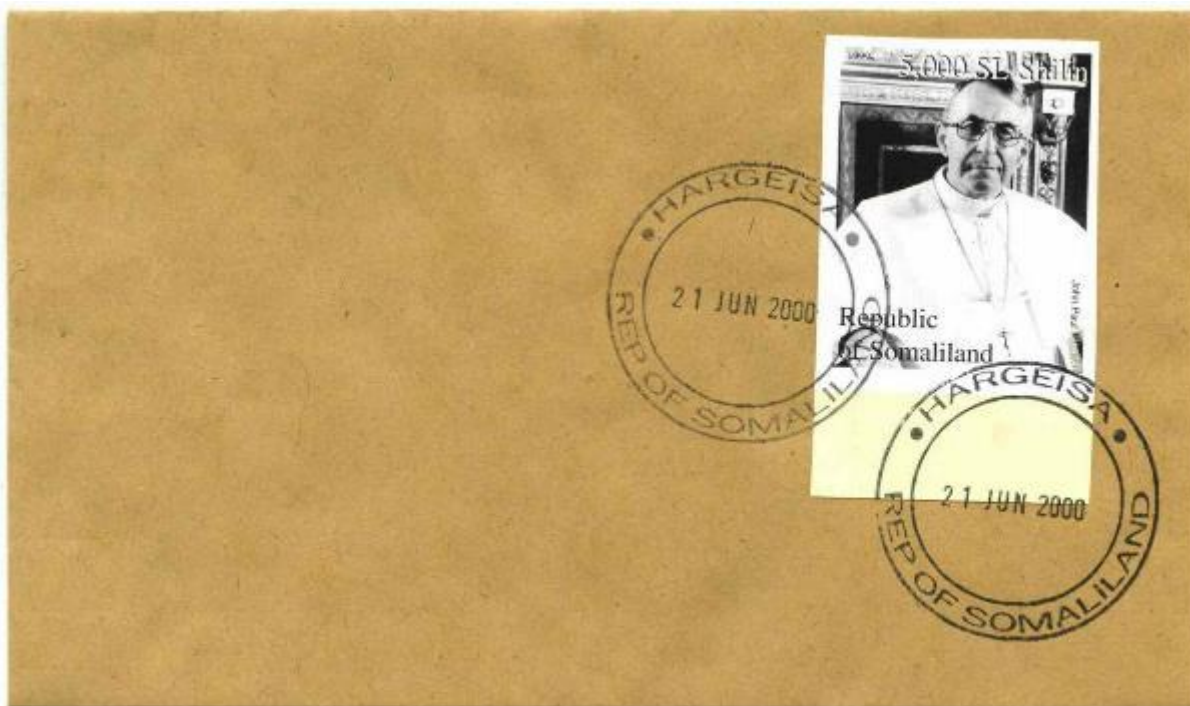
<https://www.ebay.com/itm/Somaliland-2000-Aardvark-Imperf-Pair-Hand-Overprint-Cover-C33854/381572906685?hash=item58d7847ebd:g:1VsAAOSwPc9W1Cvb> Postmark Hargeisa Rep. of Somaliland 12 OCT 2000.

4.7 Idem, 2000 Airmail



<https://www.ebay.com/itm/Somaliland-2000-Warthog-Air-Mail-Green-Overprint-Cover-C33834/191829658861?hash=item2ca9f04ced:g:djoAAOSwe7BW1Cme> Postmark Hargeisa Rep of Somaliland
12 MAR 2000

4.8 Republic of Somaliland, 2000 Popes (Remarkable for an Islamic country....)



<https://www.ebay.com/itm/Somaliland-2000-Pope-John-Paul-Imperf-Stamp-Cover-C35333/381725244546?hash=item58e098fc82:g:0jcAAOSwSv1XkGXM> Postmark Hargeisa Rep. of Somaliland,
21 JUN 2000.

For many more: see:

http://golowesstamps.com/reference/Illegal%20Stamps/Somaliland%20Illegal%20Stamps/somaliland_illegal_stamps_2000.htm

4.9 Somaliland Republic, 2001 Millennium: Famous Couples.



http://golowesstamps.com/reference/Illegal%20Stamps/Somaliland%20Illegal%20Stamps/somaliland_2001_illegal_stamps_millennium_famous_couples_ss.jpg

For many more: see:

http://golowesstamps.com/reference/Illegal%20Stamps/Somaliland%20Illegal%20Stamps/somaliland_illegal_stamps_2001.htm

4.10 Republic of Somaliland, 2002: Ducks



<https://www.ebay.ca/itm/Somaliland-Ducks-etc.>

For many more: see:

http://golowesstamps.com/reference/Illegal%20Stamps/Somaliland%20Illegal%20Stamps/somaliland_illegal_stamps_2002.htm

4.11 Somaliland Republic, Ca 2008: Mother Theresa and Winston Churchill



Pinterest

4.12 Somaliland/Jamhuuriyaddh Soomaaliland, 2011 Hitler and Luftwaffe stamps.....



http://golowesstamps.com/reference/Illegal%20Stamps/Somaliland%20Illegal%20Stamps/somaliland_2009_illegal_stamps_adolf_hitler_ss.jpg

https://encrypted-tbn0.gstatic.com/images?q=tbn:ANd9GcRrwjE0cu22Cf_5PZVIlkGZNYMrQB6cltnJ4g&usqp=CAU : “Continuing in the search for counterfeits there are none on the market dating 2010. Then all of a sudden, a massive number of counterfeits dating 2011. Almost all of the following counterfeit illegal stamps are listed on the Avion Stamp website showing us all were created by or for the British producer. It is...obvious. I repeat again, the first thing all collectors and the general public need to understand is that genuine issued Somaliland stamps ended in 1960 when they gained their independence from being a British Protectorate and became part of Somalia. All stamps used for postage in the republic are Somalia stamps from July 1, 1960 forward. The Republic of Somaliland has never had authority to issue their own stamps. Here is what I found. On eBay at present in the search for Somaliland 2011 only one clown dealer is selling some counterfeit Butterflies stamps. [1cheshire]. On Delcampe only two clown dealers are selling counterfeit Somaliland stamps in the search dating 2011. [mapka philaviami] .On hipstamps just about all the Somaliland British produced counterfeits dating 2011 obviously being sold by the distributor..... [rogerpo99] . These dealers should be avoided wherever they are selling and should be banned from selling stamps at all because they are counterfeit stamp dealers bent on ripping you off!



http://golowesstamps.com/reference/Illegal%20Stamps/Somaliland%20Illegal%20Stamps/somaliland_2011_illegal_stamps_air_aces_of_germany_ss.jpg: “2011 Air Aces of Germany Illegal Stamp Souvenir Sheet of 10”.

4.13 Republic of Somaliland, 2011: Birds of Prey

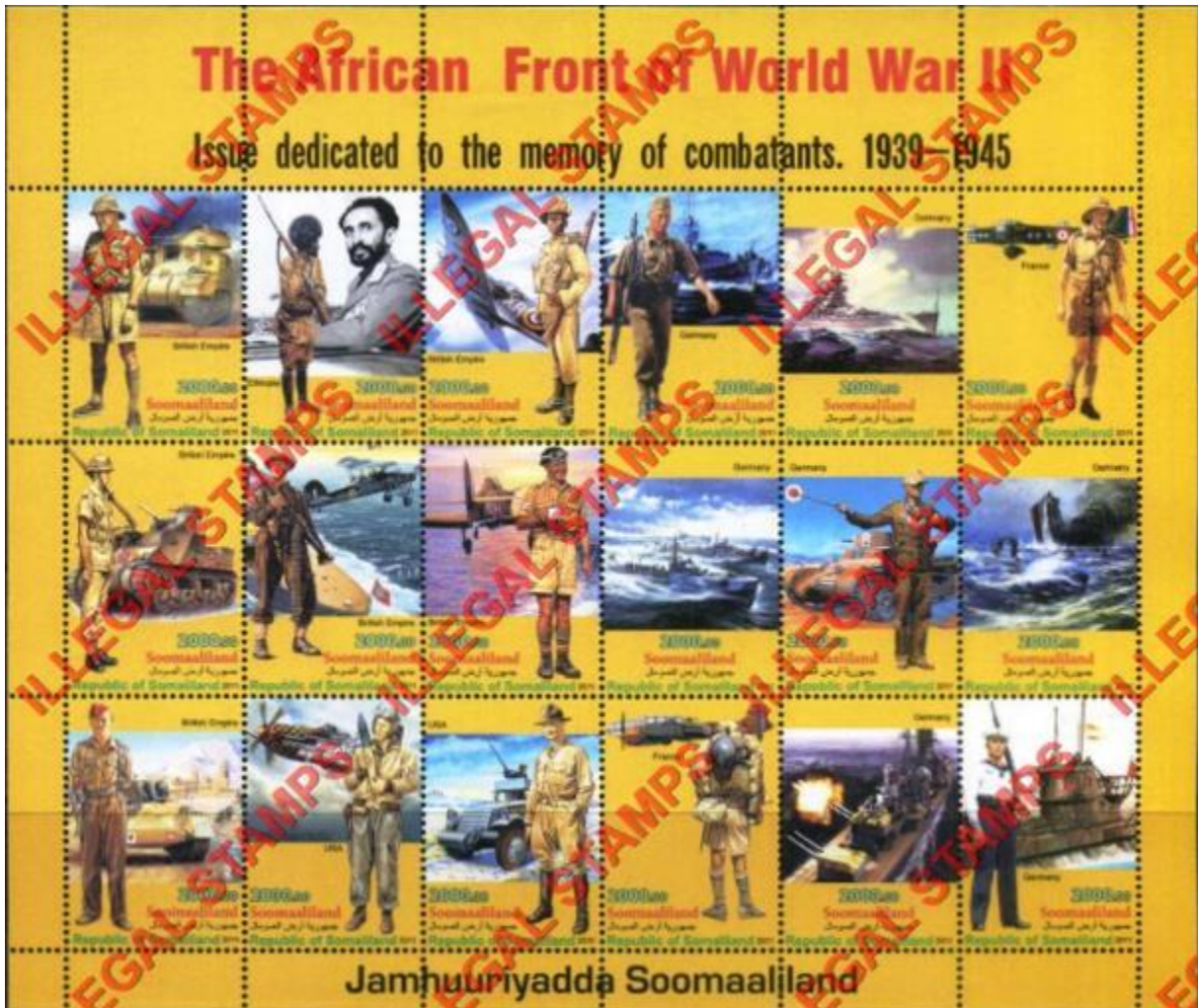


http://golowestamps.com/reference/Illegal%20Stamps/Somaliland%20Illegal%20Stamps/somaliland_2011_illegal_stamps_birds_of_pre_y_ss.jpg: “2011 Birds of Prey Illegal Stamp Souvenir Sheets of 4”.

And many more (see:

http://golowestamps.com/reference/Illegal%20Stamps/Somaliland%20Illegal%20Stamps/somaliland_illegal_stamps_2011.htm), a.o.:

4.14 Republic of Somaliland 2011: The African Front of World War II



http://golwesstamps.com/reference/Illegal%20Stamps/Somaliland%20Illegal%20Stamps/somaliland_2011_illegal_stamps_the_african_front_of_ww2_ss.jpg

For many more stamps issued in 2011, see:

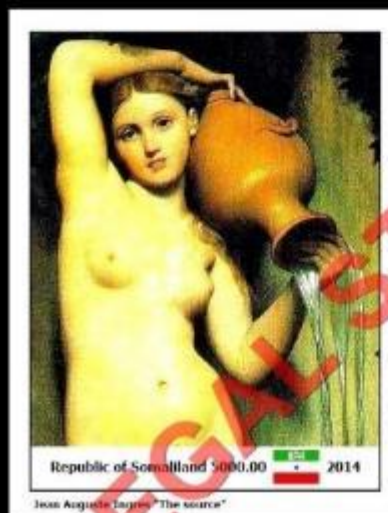
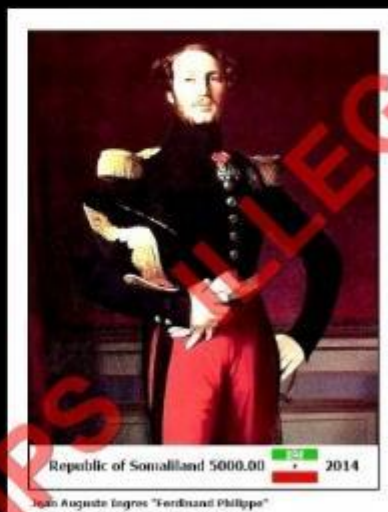
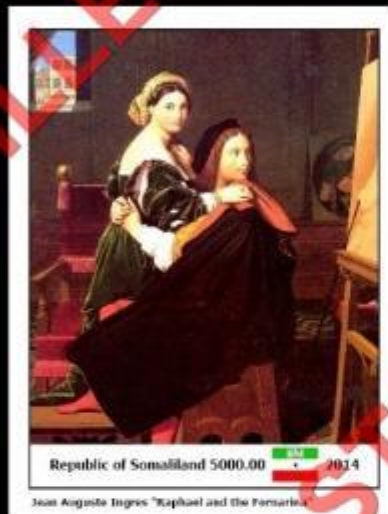
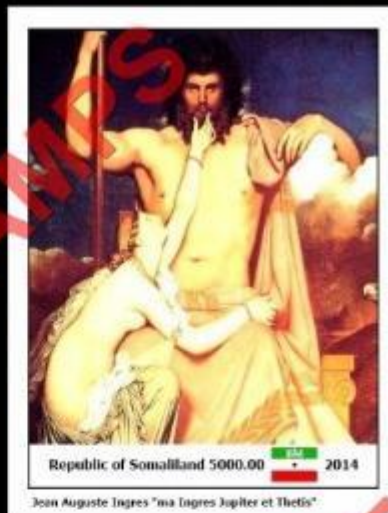
http://golwesstamps.com/reference/Illegal%20Stamps/Somaliland%20Illegal%20Stamps/somaliland_illegal_stamps_2011.htm

4.15 Letter sent to Somaliland 'via Ethiopia': "service suspended"



<https://www.stampboards.com/images/miscr/ePSjotp.jpg>: "zakur » 18 Jul 2014 .Today I received back a letter I've sent to somaliland last year: I've tried to send it via Ethiopia, as i've read somewhere that letters could reach Hargeisa that way. But someone (where??) circled Etiopía and other one wrote "Somalia" instead. All I've got is that cancel "Service suspended"".

4.16 Republic of Somaliland, 2014: Paintings with Nudes (also interesting for an Islamic country)

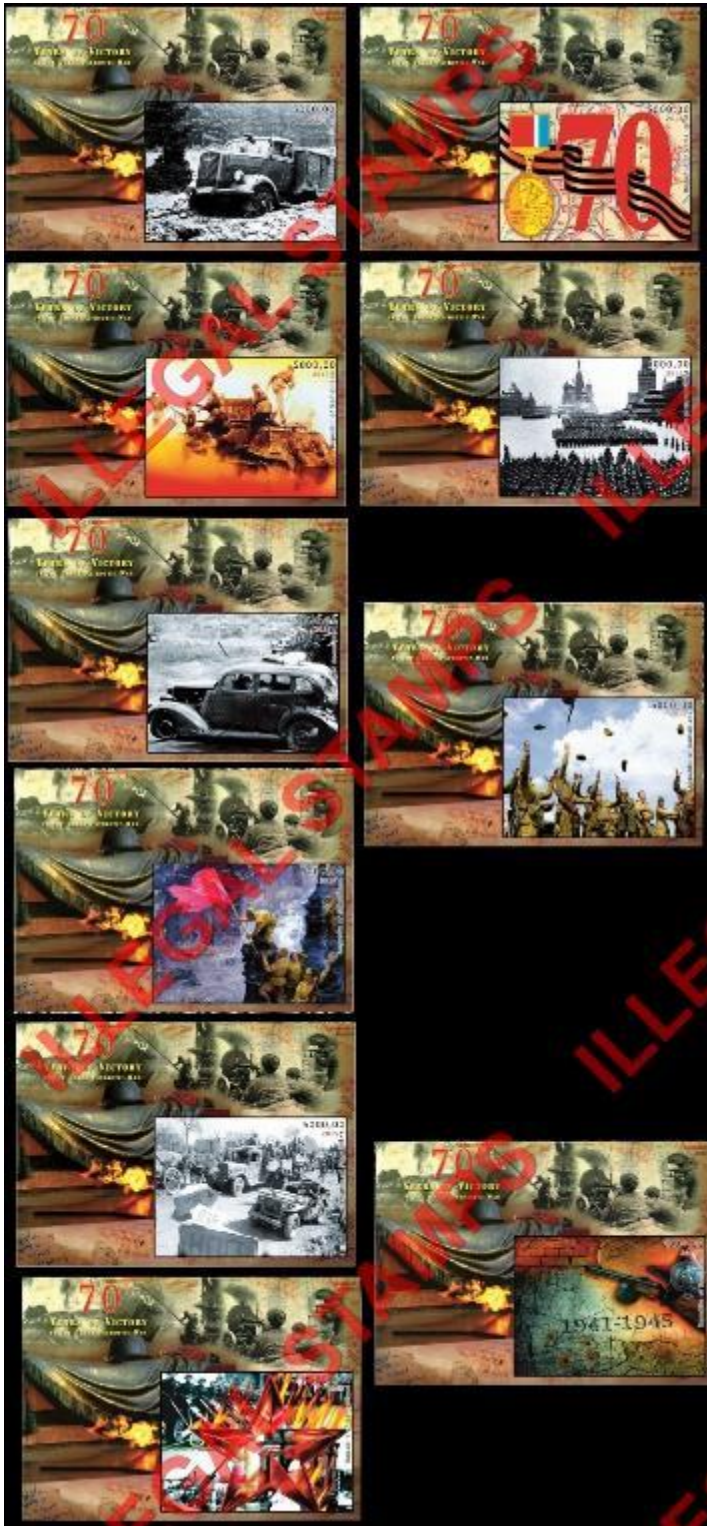


http://golowesstamps.com/reference/Illegal%20Stamps/Somaliland%20Illegal%20Stamps/somaliland_2014_illegal_stamps_paintings_jean_auguste_ingres_ss1.jpg

For many more: see:

http://golowesstamps.com/reference/Illegal%20Stamps/Somaliland%20Illegal%20Stamps/somaliland_illegal_stamps_2014.htm

4.76 Republic of Somaliland, 2015: WWII 70 years ago.



http://golowesstamps.com/reference/Illegal%20Stamps/Somaliland%20Illegal%20Stamps/somaliland_2015_illegal_stamps_ww2_years_of_victory_ss1.jpg

For many more, see:

http://golowesstamps.com/reference/Illegal%20Stamps/Somaliland%20Illegal%20Stamps/somaliland_illegal_stamps_2015.htm

4.18 2017: Labels used for paying taxes in Somaliland, and old British Somaliland stamps on letters sent to India

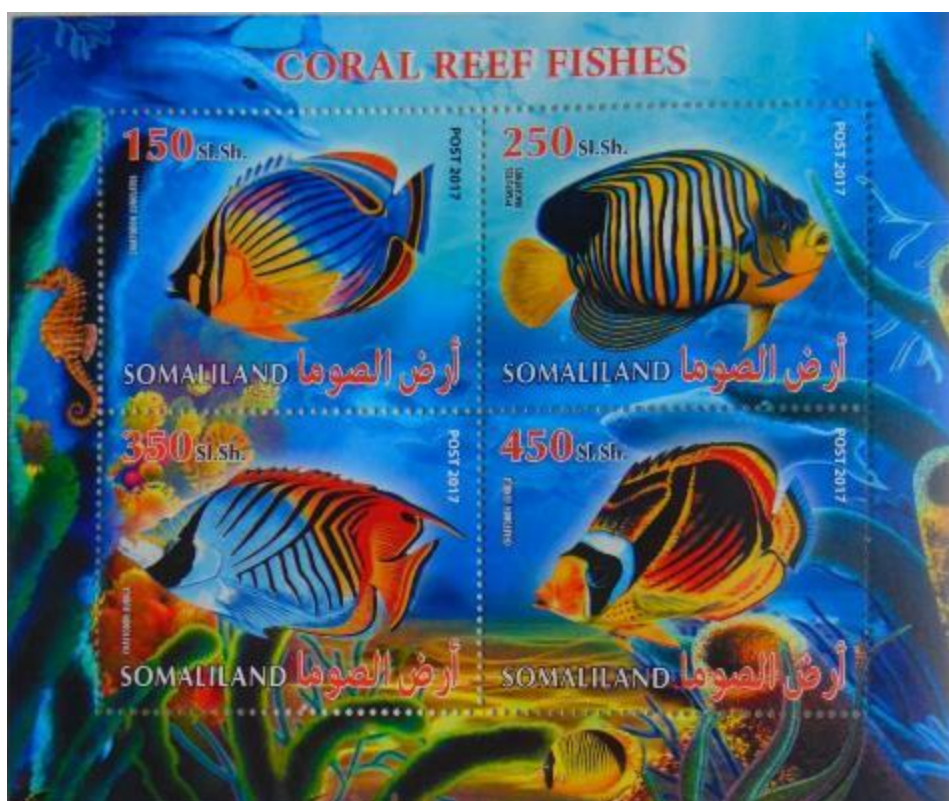




https://1.bp.blogspot.com/-cNuAt-mY2CY/Wfy_sLrKnFI/AAAAAAAAAFwE/5xB-dunyw4I9nsx_NRjOpQ4GPgPDIvuWgCLcBGAs/s1600/SO%2B03.jpg: "Now, There is no postal services or postage stamps existing in Somaliland. A stamp like labels are being used for paying taxes and fees at office, that is a self-adhesive type labels without perforations....My friend Caydaruus arranged these covers by getting cancellation from Posts and telecommunications department in Hargeisa, the capital city of Somaliland. I prepared envelopes with Old "Somaliland Protectorate" stamps issued in

British Colonial time, and also Somalia stamps which are bought from Mogadishu by my friend David in 2016. My friend planned to send a cover from Kenya with Somaliland 'stamps', hope will reach in my hands. I sent and received the covers via DHL only, It serves via Kenya and Ethiopia. This cover sent via DHL on October 19,2017 and I received on October 24,2017. Old Somaliland Protectorate stamps or Somalia stamps are not valid in Somaliland, so they haven't put cancellation on them. Recently Somalia made agreement with Djibouti regarding international mail exchange, hope in future Somaliland also can start postal system with the cooperation of Somalia and Djibouti".
Postmarks Berriga Hargeisa.

4.19 Somaliland, 2017 Coral Reef Fishes



<https://www.ebay.ca/itm/Fish-Coral-Reef-fishes-Marine-fauna-m-s-Somaliland-2017-MNH-VG2201/222862595656?hash=item33e3a55648:g:YucAAOSwDFBaIxA>.

John Lowe adds here: "In 2012 the British producer completely stopped producing more counterfeit illegal stamps in the name of Somaliland. We will probably never know why. Between 2012 through 2016, I could find no evidence of counterfeits in the name of Somaliland on the market. When I hit 2017 a group of counterfeits surfaced mainly being sold by europolstamps and a couple other Eastern Europe based counterfeit dealers. None of them are listed by the British counterfeit dealer Avion Stamps".

http://golowesstamps.com/reference/Illegal%20Stamps/Somaliland%20Illegal%20Stamps/somaliland_illegal_stamps_2017.htm

For many more, issued in 2017, see:

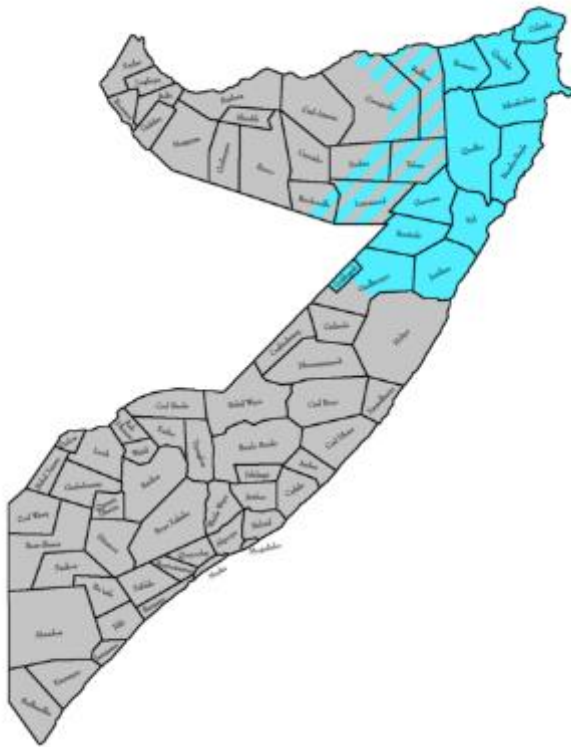
http://golowesstamps.com/reference/Illegal%20Stamps/Somaliland%20Illegal%20Stamps/somaliland_illegal_stamps_2017.htm

Also: " The Eastern European producer abruptly ended production of counterfeit illegal stamps in the name of Somaliland in 2018. For reasons that are unknown I could not find any evidence of counterfeit illegal stamps in the name of Somaliland dating from 2018 to present time 2020".

5 Puntlaand/Puntland State of Somalia

5.1 Introduction

After the disintegration of the Somali Republic in 1991, clan leaders of the Northeastern portion of the area decided to opt for an autonomous status in 1998, and since then they elected their own presidents and other leaders. Unlike Somaliland they do not want to separate from the Somali State, and they do not seek international recognition. Puntland also claims some areas of Somaliland. See: <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Puntland> , and the map showing the Puntland areas and the claimed areas to the west.



https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/0/0b/Administrative_Puntland_map.png/832px-Administrative_Puntland_map.png

https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/5/52/Coat_of_Arms_of_Puntland.png

In 2000 some international companies producing illegal stamps also issued a few series for Puntland/Puntlaand. We include a selection here. On various websites one can find more examples.

Presidents of Puntland:



Abdullahi Yusuf Ahmed (1934 – 2012). First President of Puntland: 1 August 1998- 14 October 2004 (he helped establish the Transitional Federal Government, which he led as President of Somalia from 2004 until 2008). Between 1 July 2001 and 14 November 2001 Yusuf Haji Nur was acting President, followed by Jama Ali Jama until 8 May 2002 as Interim President https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Abdullahi_Yusuf_Ahmed and https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_presidents_of_Puntland



Mohamed Abdi Hashi (? - 12 July 2020) interim President of Puntland from October 2004 to 8 January 2005. <https://goobioog.com/english/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/moh.jpg> and https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mohamed_Abdi_Hashi



Mohamud Muse Hersi (1937–2017) 2d President: 8 January 2005 – 8 January 2009



Abdirahman Farole (1945–) : 3d President: 8 January 2009 – 8 January 2014



Abdiweli Gaas (1963–): 4th president: 8 January 2014 – 8 January 2019



Said Denin (1967–): 5th president: 8 January 2019 – present.

<https://image.shutterstock.com/image-photo/somalia-circa-2010-postage-stamp-600w-266269466.jpg>

<https://image.shutterstock.com/z/stock-photo-somalia-circa-postage-stamp-printed-in-somali-republic-shows-retro-car-jaguar-e-tipe-266269481.jpg>

<https://i2.wp.com/mgb1967.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/01/Somalia-MGB-Stamp.jpg?resize=495%2C296>

<http://riley-cars.co.uk/images/RileyBrooklandsstamp.jpg>



<https://mgb1967.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/01/Puntland-State-of-Somalia-2010-Classic-Sports-Cars-from-United-Kingdom.jpg>



https://lh3.googleusercontent.com/proxy/0b2q-VhabUk2bb-2rKz99oxso6memR2Em2b56Jeni8bN1kQb6_4yuAlZpQfW5BIBYw1GI4vq5jpofEKsyDWobw5j5VCuVsk8Hev1T8K5sTh



https://www.avionstamps.com/shop/images/products/99407_1.jpg



https://www.avionstamps.com/shop/images/products/102571_1.jpg



https://www.avionstamps.com/shop/images/products/102574_1.jpg

5.3 Postage stamps 2011 (illegal)

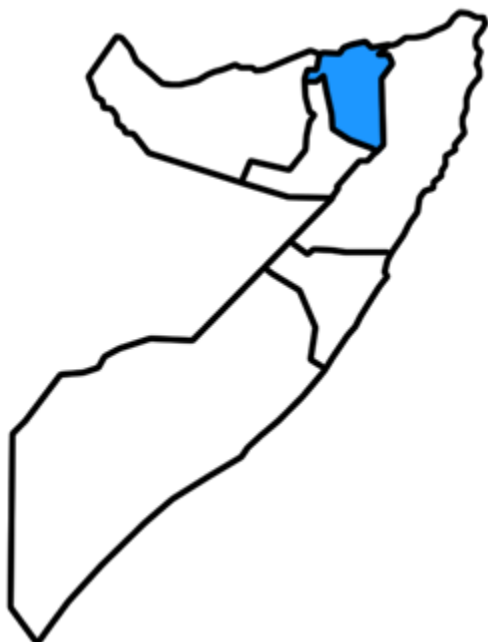


https://www.avionstamps.com/shop/images/products/99331_1.jpg

6 Maakhir State of Somalia

6.1 Introduction

“Maakhir was established in June 2007 after a dispute with Puntland authorities over a range of issues, including mining and oil resources. The biggest cities in the Maakhir state are Las Qoray, Badhan, Hadaaftimo Hingalol and Erigavo. Maakhir state was established by the Warsengeli sub clan of Darood and is not recognized by the government of Puntland. Jibril Ali Salad is the president of Maakhir state and maintains a parliament and a cabinet of ministers.(Cai Zhenyuan, 16 July 2013) Maakhir State of Somalia (Maamul Goboleedka Maakhir in Somali) is a self-proclaimed autonomous state within Somalia in an area disputed by Somaliland and Puntland. It was declared in 01 July 2007 but remains unrecognized by the Transitional Federal Government of Somalia”. <https://www.crwflags.com/fotw/flags/so-maak.html#maak>



https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/5/57/Location_maakhir.png

A British dealer/producer of fake stamps (Avion stamps; see <https://www.avionstamps.com/shop/search/Somaliland/>) produced stamps of the so-called Maakhir State in 2010-2011, after it had a short-lived period of pseudo-Independence in 2007-2008. Here we include a few examples.

6.2 2010: Cosmonauts, Illegal stamps



<https://storage.googleapis.com/hipstamp/p/0e9433348b2e741a442dcd57beda609c.jpg>

6.3 2011: Butterflies, Illegal stamps



<https://storage.googleapis.com/hipstamp/p/eca1a02a2478af576c5555a1f3a834e4-800.jpg>

7 A Note on Sources

Next to websites like Wikipedia and Wikimedia, as well as EBay, and pinterest, we used the following additional websites in this APH paper:

<http://1.bp.blogspot.com>

<http://3.bp.blogspot.com>

<https://4.bp.blogspot.com/>

<https://colnect.com/en/stamps/years/country/520-Cinderellas/series/255314-Somaliland>

<http://commonwealthstampsopinion.blogspot.com/2010/07/somaliland-to-somalia-to-somaliland.html>

http://www.gbos.org.uk/index.php/Country_List/43

<http://golowesstamps.com>

<https://mancrymf.files.wordpress.com>

<https://www.pwmo.org/articles/illegal.htm> and <https://www.pwmo.org/Illegals/16-call-on-stamp-collectors.htm>.

<https://www.stampboards.com>

<http://www.stampdomain.com/country/somaliland/>

<https://mict.govsomaliland.org/article/postal-services>

<https://static3.bigstockphoto.com>

<https://image.shutterstock.com>

<https://mgb1967.com>

<https://www.avionstamps.com>

<http://riley-cars.co.uk>