



Universiteit
Leiden
The Netherlands

Italian colonies, general issues

Prange, V.; Dietz, A.J.

Citation

Prange, V., & Dietz, A. J. (2022). Italian colonies, general issues. *African Postal Heritage (Aph) Papers*. Retrieved from <https://hdl.handle.net/1887/3562819>

Version: Publisher's Version

License: [Leiden University Non-exclusive license](#)

Downloaded from: <https://hdl.handle.net/1887/3562819>

Note: To cite this publication please use the final published version (if applicable).



African Studies Centre Leiden

African Postal Heritage

APH Paper Nr 56

Vincent Prange & Ton Dietz

Italian Colonies, General Issues

Version July 2022

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!

Disclaimer: illustrations and some texts are copied from internet sources that are publicly available. All sources have been mentioned. If there are claims about the copy rights of these sources, please send an email to asc@asc.leidenuniv.nl, and, if requested, those illustrations will be removed from the next version of the working paper concerned.

African Studies Centre Leiden
P.O. Box 9555
2300 RB Leiden
The Netherlands

Telephone	+31-71-5273372
E-mail	asc@asc.leidenuniv.nl
Website	http://www.ascleiden.nl
Facebook	www.facebook.nl/ascleiden
Twitter	www.twitter.com/ascleiden
Countryportal	http://countryportal.ascleiden.nl

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. 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.

Table of Contents

1	Introduction	4
2	Emissioni Generali, 1932-1934	5
3	Postmarks used on General Issues for the Italian Colonies	44
4	A Note on Sources	45

Organization of this APH paper: we follow a chronological order, and for each series of postage stamps we start with the collection of Vincent Prange, followed by additional illustrations that could be found online and in some publications. At the end we specifically deal with the postmarks illustrated in this APH paper.

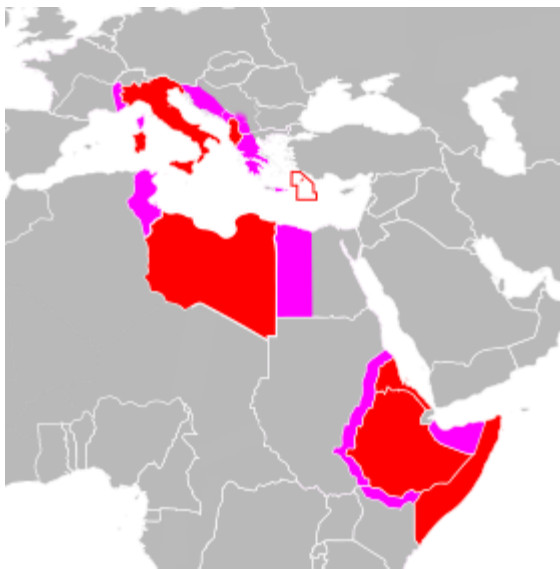
S = Sassone Catalogo Specializzato dei Francobolli d'Italia e dei Paesi Italiani, Emissioni Generali, pp 929-934.

Y = Yvert et Tellier Catalogue Classiques du Monde, 2015

M = Michel Katalog Nord- und Ostafrika, 2005

1 Introduction

Italy started to have African colonies in 1883, when it acquired Eritrea. An attempt to conquer Ethiopia (Abyssinia) in 1895-1896 failed. The colonization of Eritrea was followed by Benadir/Somalia in 1903, and Libya in 1912. After Benito Mussolini became Italy's Prime Minister, and fascism the state ideology, in 1922, the acquisition of more African territories became an obsession, and in 1935-1936 a war with Ethiopia, hitherto an independent Empire, successfully added this large area to the Italian possessions. A few years before, in 1932, Italy decided to issue stamps for its colonies as a whole, the so-called Emissioni Generali, but that only lasted until late 1934. These stamps could be used in Eritrea, Somalia, and Libya (including Cyrenaica and Tripolitania).



Italian Empire in 1940:

https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/e/e7/Impero_italiano.svg/280px-Impero_italiano.svg.png



<https://www.maisoncielovenezia.com/images/la-nuova-italia-d-39;oltremare-l-39;opera-del-fascismo-nelle-colonie-italiane-prefazione-di-benito-mussolini-mondadori-1934-volume-i-ii-3026.jpg>

2 Emissioni Generali 1932-1934

2.1 1932: Garibaldi

S 1-10: 10c, 20c, 25c, 30c, 50c, 75c, 1.25L, 1.75L+25c, 2.55L+50c, 5L+1L, and Posta Aerea
A1-A5: 50c, 80c, 1L+25c, 2L+50c, 5L+1L, and Espressi Aerei: A6-A7: 2.25L+1L,
4.50L+1.50L.



<https://filateliadesimoni.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/garibaldi-eg-scaled.jpeg>

A Collection Vincent Prange



Collection Vincent Prange, Italian Colonies, p. 1.



Collection Vincent Prange, Italian Colonies, p. 2 lower part



Collection Vincent Prange, Italian Colonies, p. 2 upper part. Registered airmail letter to Finland via Germany, with postmark Bengasi 27 8 1932.



Collection Vincent Prange, Italian Colonies, p. 13, Postmark Bengasi, 34 (?) 10 1932 on an airmail letter to Italy.

B Additional Illustrations



<https://filateliadesimoni.com/wp-content/uploads/imported/9/1932-COLONIE-EMISSIONI-GENERALI-Posta-Aerea-n-15-la-serie-completa-su-busta-322458671319.JPG>: Registered airmail letter to Zandvoort, the Netherlands, with postmark Bengasi, 14.8.1932.



<https://cdn.philasearch.com/A09401/S24/2428.jpg>: "POSTA AEREA 1932 - 50 cent., 1 lira, 3 lire, 5 lire Dante (A8/A11), perfetti, su aerogramma raccomandato da Tripoli 9/8/1932 a Firenze. Cert. Raybaudi". Postmark Tripoli d'Africa, 9.3.1932. (23d Ferrario Auction).



https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/3/3a/Giuseppe_Garibaldi_%281866%29.jpg

2.2 1932: Dante Alighieri

S11-22: 10c, 15c, 20c, 25c, 30c, 50c, 75c, 1.25L, 1.75L, 2.75L, 5L+2L, 10L+2.50L, and Posta
Aerea A8-A14: 50c, 1L, 3L, 5L, 7.70L+2L, 10L+2.50L, 100L



<https://filateliadesimoni.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/dante.jpeg>



<https://www.partenophil.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/EGenerali14.jpg>

A Collection Vincent Prange



Collection Vincent Prange, Italian Colonies, p. 4



Collection Vincent Prange, Italian Colonies, p. 3 upper part. Postmark Bengasi, 7 11 1932 on an airmail letter to Italy. Besides three 15c stamps of the Dante series, there is a tuberculosis label.



Collection Vincent Prange, Italian Colonies, p. 3 lower part. Postmark macalle, Eritrea 11.7.1932,
and also 7 9 1932 on a registered airmail letter to Milano, Italy.

B Additional Illustrations



https://auctions.stanleygibbons.com/catalogue_images/Postbid%20265/xlarge/340.jpg With
postmarks (a.o., Tripoli d'Africa).



<https://stampauctionnetwork.com/X/1120/2698.jpg> Registered letters to the USA from Tripoli (20 7 1932) and from Bengasi (14 8 1932).



<https://cdn.philasearch.com/A09476/S3/37-2175.jpg>: "Em. Generali Dante 50 c. (16) isolato su biglietto da visita da Tripoli 26.10.32 a Roma". Postmark Tripoli on a letter to Rome. (filSam).



<https://cdn.philasearch.com/A09476/S3/66-3178.jpg>: "Dante 20 c. isolato (13) su cart. con due parole di testo su cart. da Bengasi 8.10.32 a Firenze". Postmark Bengasi (filSam).



https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/6/6f/Portrait_de_Dante.jpg

2.3 1933: 50 Years Eritrea as an Italian Possession



https://www.accademiadiposta.it/immagini_dizionario/assab.jpg ; see APH 51, section 2.2

S23-31: 10c, 20c, 25c, 50c, 75c, 1.25L, 2.75L, 5L+2L, 10L+2.50L, and Posta Aerea A15-A21: 50c, 1L, 3L, 5L, 7.70L+2L, 10L+2.50L, 50L.



<https://filateliadesimoni.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/50-eritreo-scaled.jpeg>

A Collection Vincent Prange



Collection Vincent Prange, Italian Colonies, p. 5 upper part



Collection Vincent Prange, Italian Colonies, p. 6 upper part. Postmark Tripoli d'Africa, 23.10 1933 on a registered airmail letter to Italy.

B Additional Illustrations



<https://i.ebayimg.com/thumbs/images/g/PtIAAOSwdZVc5VCo/s-l200.jpg> Postmark Mogadiscio, 3.6.1933.



https://www.cibafil.com/65194-large_default/colonie-emissioni-general-1933-occupazione-eritrea-posta-aerea-7v-us.jpg. Postmarks Tripoli d’Africa, and Bengasi



<https://cdn.philasearch.com/A09087/E21124/2112400017.jpg>: "1933, lettera raccomandata da Tripoli il 28.4 per Firenze affrancata con Cinquantenario Eritreo ordinaria sul verso 50 c. e 1,25 l. e aerea da 50 c. a 10 l., cert. Sorani, Sass. 26,28,A15-A20". Postmark Tripoli d'Africa 23 4 1933 on a registered letter to Firenze Italy. (Viennafil Auctions).

2.4 1933: 10 years Marcia su Roma

S32-41: 5c, 25c, 50c, 75c, 1.25L, 1.75L, 2.75L, 5L, 10L, 25L, and Posta Aerea: A22-A29: 50c, 75c, 1L, 3L, 10L, 12L, 20L, 50L (with varieties)



<https://filateliadesimoni.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/marcia-su-roma-scaled.jpeg>

A Collection Vincent Prange



Collection Vincent Prange, Italian Colonies, p. 7, also with an airmail letter to Torino, Italy, with postmark Tripoli, 19 5 1934.

B Additional Illustrations



<https://cdn.philasearch.com/A09087/E21107/2110700105.jpg>: “1933, 50 L. Decennale non dentellato in basso, angolo, firmato AD, Sass A29b”. (Viennafil Auctions)



1.25L: <https://www.picclickimg.com/d/l400/pict/164742851531/Colonie-1933-Decennale-Della-Marcia-Su-Roma.jpg>. Postmark Tripoli

2.75L: https://www.iocollezionista.com/media/catalog/product/cache/1/image/9df78eab33525d08d6e5fb8d27136e95/p/6/p67_1.jpg. With Postmark



<https://i.ebayimg.com/images/g/H6QAAOSwPCVX7-Pj/s-l500.jpg> Postmark Bengasi on a registered airmail letter to Italy.



<https://i.ebayimg.com/images/g/DqsAAOSwLF1X7-Po/s-l1600.jpg>. Postmark Tripoli, 30.1.1933 on a registered letter to Italy.



<https://live.ferrarioaste.com/pics/imgMed/2/701.jpg> Postmarks Tripoli.



<https://cdn.philasearch.com/A09428/S2109/358.jpg>: "Colonie - Emissioni generali - Decennale (32/36 + 37/40) - 9 valori su busta da Tripoli a Spigno del 15.1.34", postmark Tripoli (A.G. Srl Auction Gallery, Public Auction)



<https://bibliotecafascista.files.wordpress.com/2019/10/marcia-su-roma-.jpg?w=471&h=365>

2.5 1934: Honoring the Duca degli Abruzzi

Posta Aerea A30: 25L.



<https://i.ebayimg.com/images/g/kygAAOSwoydeEgRP/s-l300.jpg>

A Collection Vincent Prange

See 2.4.

B Additional Illustrations



https://delcampe-static.net/img_large/auction/001/259/273/354_001.jpg?v=1 Postmark
Mogadiscio, 11 11 1934.



https://encrypted-tbn0.gstatic.com/images?q=tbn:ANd9GcSW4I5J_tJMy-NHNxYA7414ADNe1Sgnk-V3oBtPHDzhbF8I67h0NH-cVgGqv9QrlaNdpYA&usqp=CAU The Duke of Abruzzi: the Duca d'Abruzzi was the grandson of Victor Emanuel II of Italy, and the son of King Amadeus of Spain (from the House of Savoy). In the early part of his life (1873-1933) he was an explorer, later a Navy commander of the Italian Navy (during the First World War) and in 1920 he started an experimental agricultural and settlement project in Somalia, the Villaggio duca degli Abruzzi. In 1926 this area had 3000 Somali inhabitants and 200 Italians.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Prince_Luigi_Amedeo,_Duke_of_the_Abruzzi

1934: 15th Fiera di Milano

S42-45: 20c, 30c, 50c, 1.25L

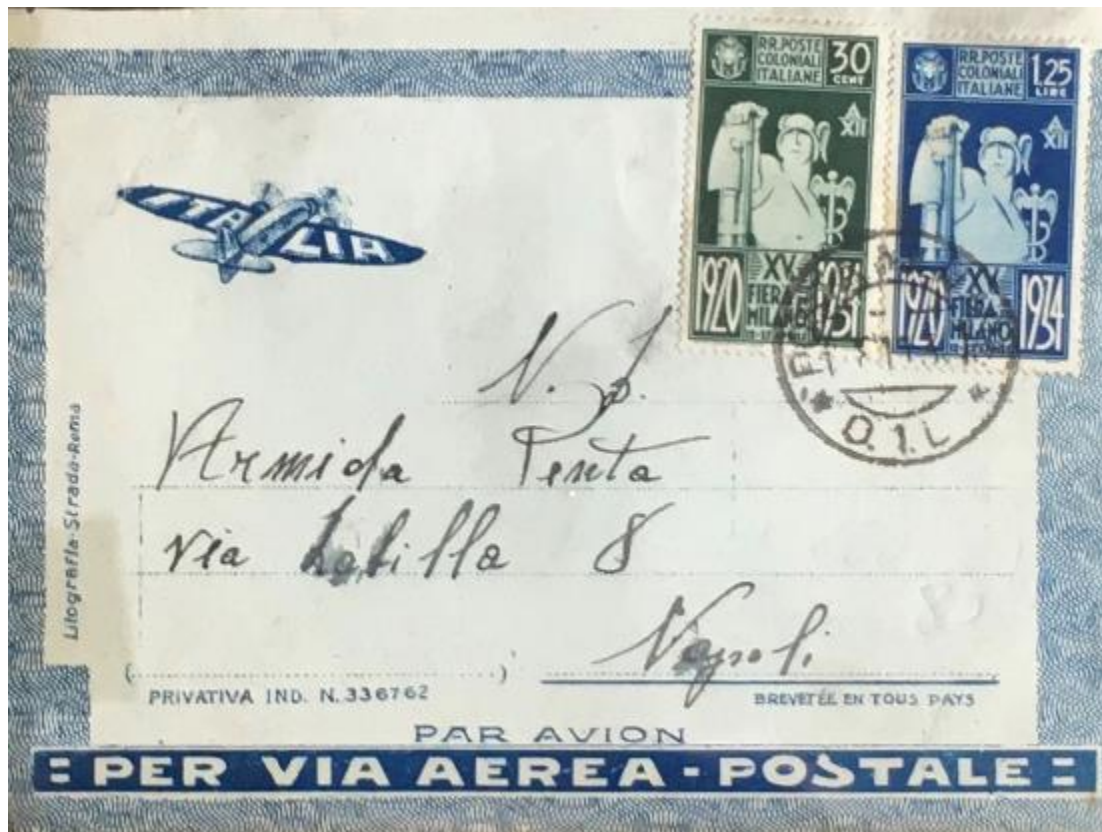


https://www.picclickimg.com/d/I400/pict/324497152669/_Colonie-Italiane-1934-XV-Fiera-di-Milano-MNH.jpg

A Collection Vincent Prange



Collection Vincent Prange, Italian Colonies, p. 5 lower part



Collection Vincent Prange, Italian Colonies, p. 6 lower part. Postmark Posta Militare 0.1.L on an airmail letter to Napoli in Italy.

B Additional Illustrations



<https://filateliaduetorri.it/it/asta-0012/lotto-0045-eritrea.asp>



<https://cdn.philasearch.com/A09476/S3/55-1297.jpg>: "Em. Generali 20 c. Fiera di Milano (42) su cart. dalla Fiera di Milano 21.4.34 (data anticipata) tassata con coppia segnatasse 10 c. (21) apposta "a cavallo" di fascetta e cartolina" (filSam).



<https://c8.alamy.com/comp/B1X2AG/12-27-aprile-1934-xii-xv-fiera-di-milano-mailand-messe-B1X2AG.jpg>

2.6 1934: Campionali Mondiali di Calcio ? World Championship Football

S46-50: 10c, 50c, 1.25L, 5L, 10L, and Posta Aerea A31-A37: 50c, 75c, 5L, 10L, 15L, 25L, 50L.



<https://filateliadesimoni.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/calcio-2-scaled.jpeg>

A Collection Vincent Prange



Collection Vincent Prange, Italian Colonies, p. 8 upper part.



Collection Vincent Prange, Italian Colonies, p. 8 lower part. Registered airmail letter to the USA, postmark Tripoli Idroscalo, 26 5 1934.



Collection Vincent Prange, Italian Colonies, p. 9 upper part. Registered express letter to Roma, Italy, postmark Tripoli Corrisp.ze e Pacchi, 19 6 1934.



Collection Vincent Prange, Italian Colonies, p. 9 lower part. Airmail letter to Rome, postmark Tripoli Idroscalo, 23 6 1934, and a postmark from Swissair Balkanflug 26 VI 1934.



Collection Vincent Prange, Italian Colonies, p. 10 upper part. Registered airmail letter to Rome, postmark Tripoli Idroscalo, 6 7 1934.



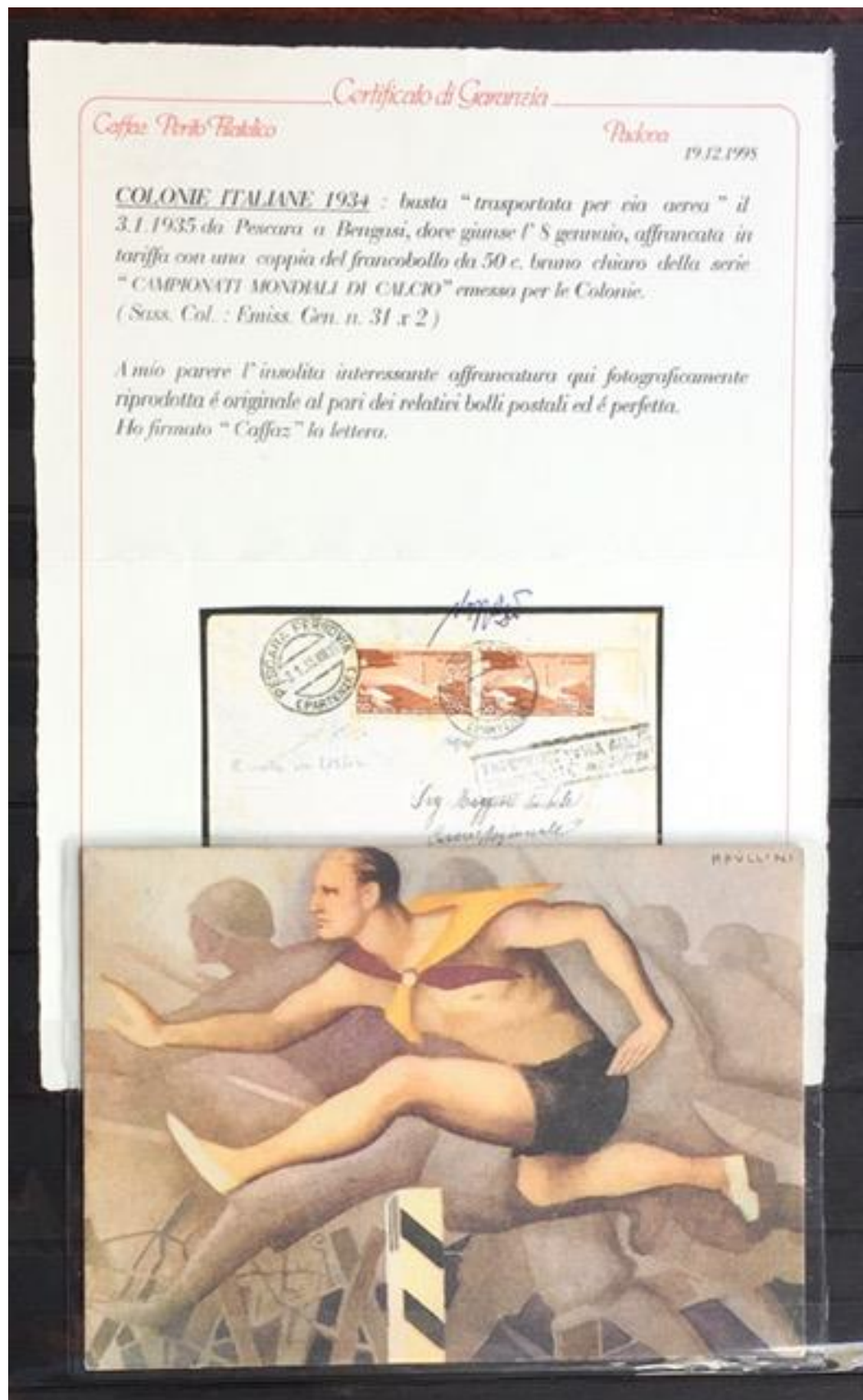
Collection Vincent Prange, Italian Colonies, p. 10 lower part. Registered airmail letter to Rome, postmark Tripoli Idroscalo, 19.6.1934.



Collection Vincent Prange, Italian Colonies, p. 11 upper part. Registered airmail letter to Distretto Militare di Pola, postmark Bengasi 8 11 1934.



Collection Vincent Prange, Italian Colonies, p. 11 lower part. Airmail letter to Bengasi, postmark Pescara Ferrovie (in Italy), 3.1.1935 (XIII), but with stamps from Poste Coloniale Italiane (2 x 50c).



Collection Vincent Prange, Italian Colonies, p. 12. (Same letter with letter of guarantee, and a postcard suggesting the link between sports and military activity.

B Additional Illustrations



<https://i.ebayimg.com/images/g/Tw8AAOSwH9Jf1Rmk/s-l300.jpg>. Postmark Bengasi



<https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/en/3/37/WorldCup1934poster.jpg>. The championship (2d Coppa del Mondo in Italian) took place in Italy, and Italy was the winner, in a final against Czechoslovakia. Italy would win again in 1938, in France.

<https://s01.sgp1.digitaloceanspaces.com/large/881784-jvdqhzjimpf-1528402128.jpg>

3 Postmarks used on General Issues for the Italian Colonies

The following postmarks have been found on the general issues for the Italian Colonies (Emissioni Generali):

Bengasi (Libya)	2.1, 2.2, 2.3, 2.4, 2.6
Macalle (Eritrea)	2.2
Mogadiscio (Somalia)	2.3, 2.5
Tripoli d’Africa (Libya)	2.1, 2.2, 2.3
Tripoli (Libya)	2.2, 2.3, 2.4, 2.6
Tripoli Idroscalo (Libya)	2.6

4 A Note on Sources

Besides the collection of Vincent Prange, this APH paper contains illustrations and explanations from the following websites:

General websites

Ebay and Delcampe

Wikipedia, wikimedia

<https://s01.sgp1.digitaloceanspaces.com>

www.maisoncielovenezia.com/

<https://www.picclickimg.com>

Philatelic websites

<https://www.accademiadiposta.it/>

<https://live.ferrarioaste.com>

<https://filateliadesimoni.com>

<https://filateliaduetorri.it>

<https://www.iocollezionista.com>

<https://www.partenophil.com>

<https://stampauctionnetwork.com>

<https://auctions.stanleygibbons.com>

and

<https://cdn.philasearch.com>

- 23d Ferrario Auction
- filSam
- A.G. Srl Auction Gallery, Public Auction
- Viennafil auctions