

NATIONAL HEROES (1st Series)

Issued 4th August, 2005

(Extracted from Philatelic Bureau Bulletin No 4 of 2005)²

The narrative with the bulletin is, in some instances, very long, below is a short biography of the individuals depicted in this issue.

\$6,900: Josiah Magama Tongogara. ("Ndugu Tongo")

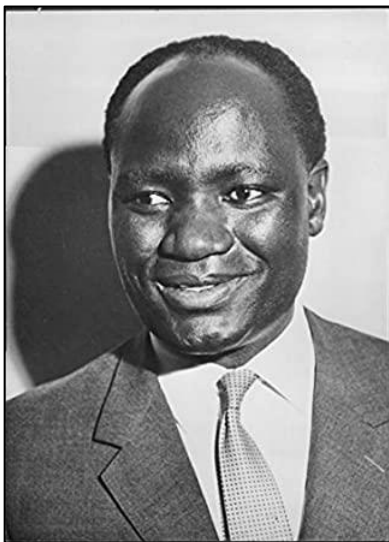


This Hero was born in 1940, at Shungwi of humble parents. He died fighting for the liberation of our country on 26 December, 1979, in a road crash in Mozambique, on his way to implement the cease-fire agreement. He joined the National Movement in 1961 as a youth, and was a founder member of ZANU in 1963. In 1967 he became Chairman of the Military committee, and in 1968 he became Chief of Defence in ZANLA High Command, thus successfully prospering the armed struggle.



\$13,800: Herbert Wiltshire Hamandishe Chitepo

Herbert Chitepo was born in Nyanga at Bonda Mission on 5th June 1923 and died in Lusaka, Zambia on the 18th of March 1975 as a result of a car-bomb. He obtained his basic law degree at Fort Hare University (East London), and his admission as a barrister at the Inns of Court (Gray's Inn) in London, England. He became Zimbabwe's first black barrister, stoutly defending the rights of African people. He was appointed director of Public Prosecutions in the newly independent Tanzania, before becoming involved with the liberation movement of Zimbabwe. He eventually became external Chairman of ZANU extraterritorially while many of its leaders were imprisoned inside Rhodesia. His premature death was a great loss to the freedom fighters.



\$30,000: Bernard Chidzero

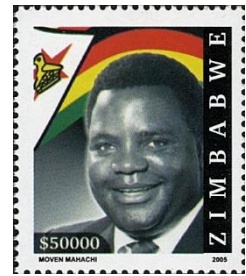
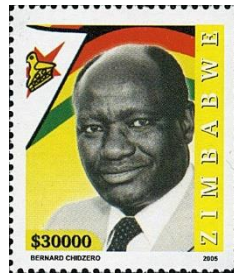
Born on 1st of July 1927 at Arlington Estate and now the site of the Harare Airport. He died in Harare, Avenues Clinic Hospital, on the 8th of August 2002. Despite difficulties he graduated with BA and MA cum laude at Ottawa, and a PhD in Political Science at McGill University, Montreal, in Canada, in 1958. In 1960 he became an international civil servant, leading the UN Technical Assistance Fund in Kenya, coordinating aid activities of various UN bodies such as FAO, UNICEF, UNESCO and UNDP. He was reassigned to UNCTAD in Geneva, Switzerland, subsequently becoming Deputy Director General. At Independence he became Minister of Economic Planning, then Minister of Finance, and eventually becoming Senior Minister in 1987.



\$50,000: Moven Enock Mahachi

Born on 13 June, 1948, at Dewedzo, near Rusape. In colonial times, he worked for Cold Comfort Farm. At Independence, he was elected ZANU-PF MP for Manicaland, and appointed Deputy Minister of Lands, Resettlement and Rural Development becoming substantive Minister in 1982, and adding Agriculture (previously held by the opposition) in 1985. He was appointed Minister of Home Affairs in 1987, and Minister of Defence in 1990, a post he continued to hold until his death in a road crash at Nyanga on 26 May, 2001.

The Stamps



Catalogue listings

SG	ZSC ¹	Value	Description
1167	591	\$6,900	Josiah Tongogara
	a.		Line in cap (Cyl 1B R1/1)
	b.		Scar on face (Cyl 1B R2/4)
1168	592	\$13,800	Herbert Chitepo
1169	593	\$30,000	Bernard Chidzero
1170	594	\$50,000	Moven Mahachi

Technical details

Stamp size: Sheet stamps: 30 x 35 mm

Sheet Size: 50 stamps (5 rows of 10 stamps), two panes per printed sheet

Artist: Gideon "Saint" Mahaka


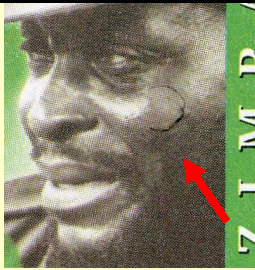
Paper:	ZSC paper type J: paper described by Zimpost as “Chancellor Litho PVA Gummed Postage Stamp Paper”. This paper is produced by Tullis Russell Coaters of Glenrothes, Fife, Scotland. Under UV there is no fluorescence either front or back, the stamp appears to be very dark												
Print colours:	Cyan, magenta, yellow & black												
Perforations:	SG 14 x 14½, ZSC 14 x 14¼ Left margin: Perforated through Other margins: Imperforate												
Printer:	NatPrint, Harare, Zimbabwe												
Printer’s Imprint:	Bottom Margin, below Row 5 Columns 5 & 6. Imprint printed in black												
Cylinder numbers:	Bottom margin below R5/1. Colours from left – cyan, magenta, yellow, black												
Colour register:	Type TL 4– round boxed – left margin opposite R5/1. Colours reading down – cyan, magenta, yellow, black												
Sheet Value:	Bottom margin, below R5/10, printed in black												
Sheet Number:	Type SN 7 with printed ‘ZIMPOST’ prefix, right margin opposite R5/10, reading down												
Print numbers:	<table> <tr> <td>\$ 6,900</td> <td>290,000</td> <td>\$13,800</td> <td>45,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>\$30,000.</td> <td>45,000</td> <td>\$50,000</td> <td>50,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Miniature sheet</td> <td>5,000</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	\$ 6,900	290,000	\$13,800	45,000	\$30,000.	45,000	\$50,000	50,000	Miniature sheet	5,000		
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Issue date:	4 th August, 2005												

Postal Rates

Postage rates were increased on 1st August, 2005, four days before the release of this issue. The planning of new issues and changes to postal rates is not well co-ordinated within Zimpost. Only the \$50,000 stamp in this issue matched the basic air mail rate for letters to Africa


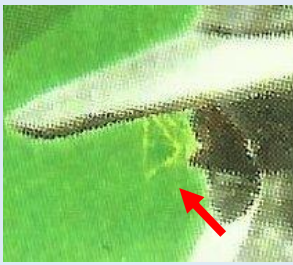


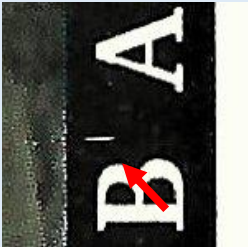
The Bulletin for this issue advised the following basic air mail postal rates: \$6,900 local; \$30,000 Africa; \$40,000 Europe; and \$50,000 Rest of the World, that is the rates prior to the 1st August change. The air mail postal rates from 1st August 2005 were \$10,000 local; \$50,000 Africa; \$60,000 Europe; and \$80,000 Rest of the World.

Listed varieties

 <p>\$6,900: Line in cap Cylinder 1B R1/1 ZSC 591a</p>	 <p>\$6,900: Scar on Tongogara's face Cylinder 1B R2/4 ZSC 591b</p>
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Unlisted Varieties

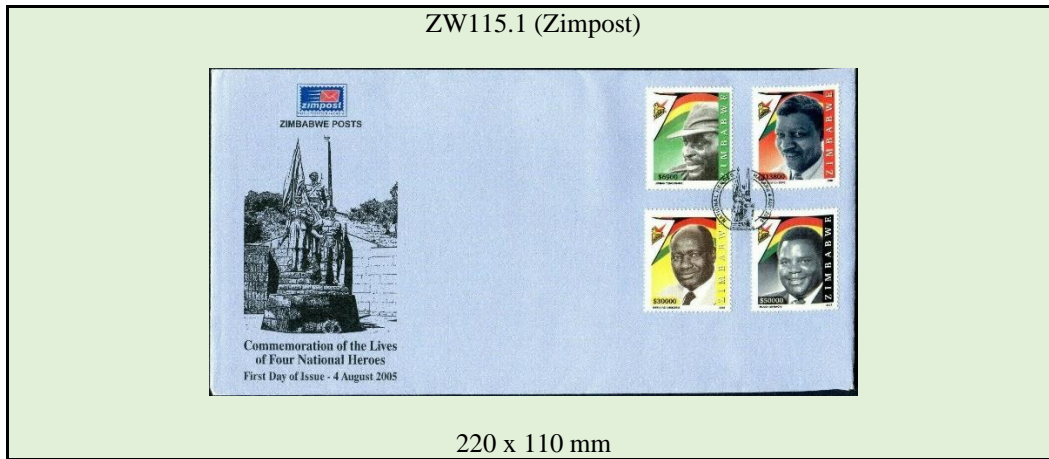
There are numerous small dots and specks in the printing of these stamps, particularly in the backgrounds.

 <p>\$6,900: Scars on face. Cyl 1A R1/7 (Courtesy Narendhra Morar)</p>	 <p>\$6,900: Yellow lies under cap. Cyl 1A R3/2 (Courtesy Narendhra Morar)</p>	 <p>\$6,900: Lack of cyan printing between 'B W' of Zimbabwe. Cyl 1A R1/6 (Courtesy Narendhra Morar)</p>
 <p>\$13,800: Black mark right of 'W' of Zimbabwe. Cyl 1B R4/1 (Courtesy Narendhra Morar)</p>	 <p>\$50,000: White mark above 1st 'B' of Zimbabwe (Courtesy Narendhra Morar)</p>	

First Day Cover

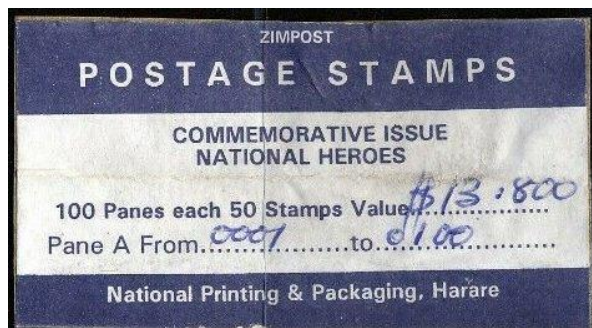
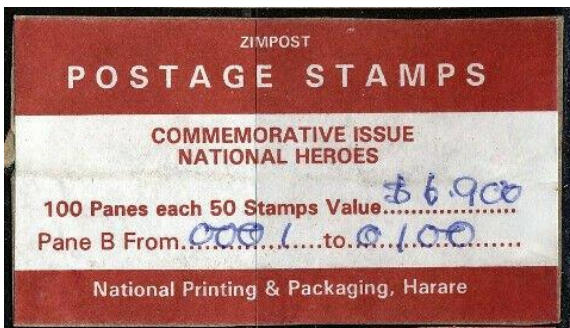
The cover numbering comes from the catalogue produced by Geoff Brakspear.

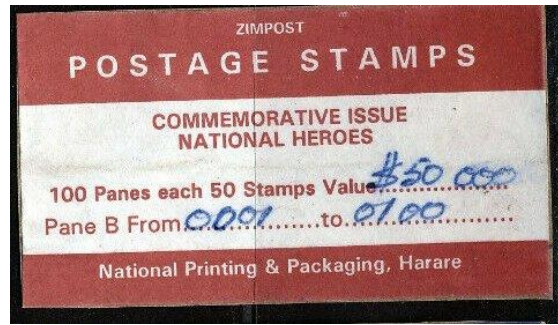
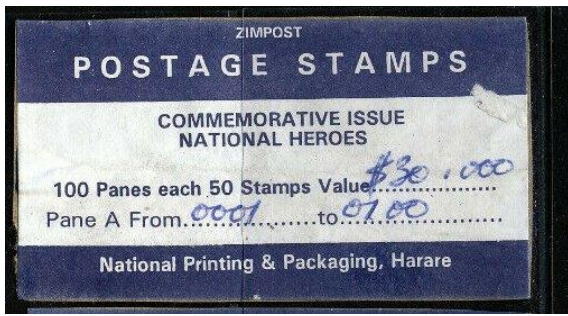
A pictorial first day of issue canceller was produced for this issued and was used by the Philatelic Bureau. Other first day cover cancellers continued to be used at main post offices.



Related material.

Delivery Labels from packaging containing sheets of 100 stamps. All four values represented below, with the Cylinder 1A sheets having blue labels and 1B brown labels. All labels are for sheet numbers 0001 to 0100.





Bibliography:

1. "The Zimbabwean Concise Postage Stamp Catalogue", published by Harare Stamp Company, edited by Ken Allanson, Mike Amos and Geoff Brakspear. The catalogue continues to be updated and expanded by Geoff Brakspear
2. Zimbabwe Post, Philatelic Bureau Bulletin No 4 of 2005