

# NATIONAL HEROES (10<sup>th</sup> Series)

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(Extracted from *Philatelic Bureau Bulletin No 2 of 2016*)<sup>2</sup>



## 40c: Victoria Fikile Chitepo

Born on 28<sup>th</sup> March 1927 in Dundee Natal. Died on 8<sup>th</sup> April 2016 in Harare. Buried on 10<sup>th</sup> April 2016 at the Heroes Acre.

Victoria was born to Alice and Enock Mahamba-Sithole. She was the third child in a family of six and her father was a minister in the Presbyterian Church while her mother was a teacher.

Her father was one of those early Nationalists that joined the ANC in South Africa. Victoria attended Adams College and at 19 years she was appointed Deputy Head Girl. It is at this college that she met Herbert, her future husband. She became a teacher at Inanda Seminary near Durban until 1952. She later enrolled for a post-graduate degree in Social Work at Birmingham University and had three months of specialized study in Social Psychology at University College London.

As at that time Africans were not allowed to be employed full time in South Africa. On her return to her country of birth she became the first Secretary General of the YWCA in 1954. With her experience in social work, she created self-help associations for women one of which was Zenzele Club which sought to improve African women's livelihoods.

Victoria and Herbert got married on 29th October, 1955 and relocated to Southern Rhodesia. She was present when the Zimbabwe African Peoples Union (ZAPU) was formed in 1961. She was able to hide political activists like James Chikerema at their house in Highfield. Because her husband was a lawyer, she always had access to transport and a telephone. She was arrested several times as the then government tried to suppress all Nationalist movements.

Victoria moved with her husband to Tanzania where he was the Government Prosecutor General and helped him establish the nationalist movements, in the meantime teaching at several schools including Ilboru, Assumpta, Arusha and the International School in Moshi. After her husband's assassination by a car bomb in 1975 she continued to support the struggle, still based in Tanzania until 1980.

At independence she was appointed deputy Minister of Education and Culture where she worked with her minister, Dzingai Mutumbuka to introduce the national non-racial schooling for children and personally ensured that all those under the age of 12 years could enrol.

In 1982 she was appointed by the then Prime Minister, Robert Mugabe to the position of Minister of Natural Resources and Tourism, a post she held until 1990. In 1990 she became Minister of Information, Posts and Telecommunications. In 1992 she was became Minister of Local Government. She was the MP for Mutasa Buhera West between 1980 and 1995. She was appointed a member of the Commonwealth Observer group and involved in 1992 Kenyan National Elections. She also became a member of the Commonwealth Mission to South Africa replacing Simbi Mubako. She was appointed a United Nations Eminent Person becoming special advisor to the United Nations Secretary General, Boutros Boutros Ghali during the preparations for the fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing. In 1995 she became part of the Women Voters Association of Zimbabwe, elected chair person. She was among other things involved in the setting up of the CAMPFIRE programme and Mukuvisi Woodlands. Victoria was a member of all ZANU PF structures including the Politburo.

In 2006 she received the Silver Jubilee Merit Award and was also awarded an Honorary Doctor of Philosophy in Tourism and Hospitality by MSU in 2010.

At her funeral, H.E. Cde Gabriel Mugabe said she had quite a difficult burden, Pakafa Murume, she was shattered but still felt she did not only have children to look after she had, also, the party, her husband had worked for and what her husband had left undone she fulfilled it. The President described her as a graceful peacemaker and full of love and humility.

### **75c: Enos Chamunorwa Chikowore**

Born on January 1936 Chikowore Village, Chivhu, Chief Mutekedza Tribal Trust Land. Died on 12<sup>th</sup> April 2005 in Harare. Buried on 16<sup>th</sup> April 2005 at the Heroes Acre.

Enos Chikowore attended primary school at Chitauo Primary School and his secondary education was at Kwenda Mission. He trained as a teacher at Waddilove where he taught for a while. He then studied book-keeping and accountancy by correspondence and joined the Central African Airways Accounts department.

His involvement in politics dates back from 1958 when he joined the youth wing for Southern Rhodesia African National Congress (SRANC). He was a member of subsequent Nationalist groups and became known as General Chedu which put the stamp on nationalist politics and was based in Highfield.

He was part of a shadowy underground movement which obtained dynamite from mines like Shabani (now Zvishavane) and Mashava. Enos Chikowore and his group foreshadowed the armed phase of our struggle eventually forcing the Rhodesians to the negotiating table.

In 1966 he went to Zambia and was involved in the formation of the Dare reChimurenga. During one such errand he was involved in a road accident which caused a spinal injury that nagged him later on in life. In 1967 he went to the UK for further studies obtaining a qualification in Public Administration from the University of York and Law at the University of Leeds. While in the UK, Chikowore was a ZANU student representative together with Mangwende, Karimanzira and Ambassador Muchada preparing for the Lancaster House talks from October to December 1979.

At independence in 1980 Chikowore became the Parliamentary Deputy Chief Whip. In 1981 he became Deputy Minister of Local Government and Housing, a ministry led by Edison Zvobgo. In 1982 he became substantive Minister of Local Government and Town Planning. In 1997 he was appointed Minister of Transport and Energy and resigned from that post after unearthing deep corruption in that ministry. His decision to voluntarily resign from this position earned him respect with many people commending him for putting the interest of the country above his own.

At the time of his death, Chikowore was ZANU PF politburo Secretary for Lands and Resettlement holding a firm belief in the implementation of the one-man-one-farm policy.

At the 2004 ZANU PF fourth Peoples National Congress, Chikowore distanced himself from some top officials for not taking heed of the call by the presidency to surrender extra farms for a more just resettlement programme envisioned by the party. He said: "The issue of multiple farm ownership does not only reveal indiscipline and dishonesty in the mind of the perpetrator; it also reveals dangerous disloyalty and lack of faith in the principles which have guided our party. There are termites within our ranks, they are not people."

### **85c: Josiah Mushore Chinamano**

Born on 27<sup>th</sup> May 1925 in Epworth. Died on 1<sup>st</sup> October 1984 in Harare. Buried on 6<sup>th</sup> October 1984 at the Heroes Acre.



He started his revolutionary activities at Waddilove Mission School Marondera when he was manager of schools in Chihota Tribal Trust Land. He identified with all successive nationalist organisations in the 1960's. His academic qualifications were a BA in History and African Administration and a diploma in Education. He founded Highfield Community School in 1962.

In 1964 he was arrested with other political leaders including his wife Ruth. He was in and out of detention for the next 10 years. After his final detention he went to Zambia and became Vice President of ZAPU.

At independence he was appointed as Minister of Transport and dismissed as a result of the fall out at that time between ZAPU and ZANU PF.

In his long teaching and political career Cde Chinamano was dedicated to the future of Zimbabwe and respected by his colleagues for his sterling role in the freedom struggle.

### **\$1: Enos Mzombi Nkala**

Born on 23<sup>rd</sup> August 1932 in Filabusi, Godlwayo Tribal Trust Lands in Matabeleland, South Province. Died on 21<sup>st</sup> August 2013 in Harare. Buried on 25<sup>th</sup> August 2013 at the Heroes Acre.

He was born in a family of eleven children, four of which were boys. He did his primary education at Mzinyati Mission near Essexvale (Esigodini) where he attended classes up to standard six. He then sat and passed the National Junior Certificate examination. He had a passion for book-keeping.



In 1950 Enos Nkala went to work for the Rhodesia cement company Colleen Bawn, halfway between Bulawayo and Beitbridge. He moved to Harare in 1953 as a newspaper vendor. He was quickly promoted to the post of clerk. He later became an insurance broker for Old Mutual and later joined the Bantu Times where he worked under Cde Nathan Shamuyarira. He joined SRANC in September 1957.

In 1970 he led the Seven Thousand March in Salisbury (Harare) which demanded better living conditions for black Africans and the removal of the state of emergency. In 1960 the NDP was formed and he was elected Deputy Secretary General and was soon arrested for delivering a fiery speech. His trial was to be heard at Inkomo Military Garrison where Cde Nkala hurled insults at the white judge, causing the trial to be aborted.

In 1961 he became an assistant to Joshua Nkomo who was the then leader of the NDP, which was banned in December 1961. The Zimbabwe African Peoples Union (ZAPU) was formed on 17th December 1961 and he became the Treasurer. ZAPU was in turn banned in September 1962 but nationalists continued to work underground. A new party the Zimbabwe African National Union (ZANU) was formed on 8th August 1963 and Enos Nkala was one of the founding members at his house number 4449 Highfield, Salisbury (Harare). Nkala assumed the role of Treasurer in the new party. Rev. Ndabaningi Sithole was President. Leopold Takawira was his Deputy with Robert Mugabe as Secretary General.

The first Congress was held in Gwelo (Gweru) from 21st-23rd May 1964. Soon after the congress many of the members of the Central Committee were arrested, a few remaining escaping to Zambia. Nkala was detained at Sikombela Detention Camp, later in Salisbury and Connemara and then detained at Hwahwa, Sikombela and Gonakudzingwa along with several other leaders- Rev. Ndabaningi Sithole, Leopold Takawira, Edgar Tekere, Morris Nyagumbo and Joshua Nkomo.

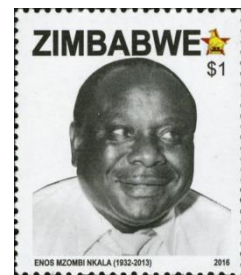
During his stay in detention, he studied through correspondence and said "I preferred reading rather than talking". He then passed ordinary and advanced level exams and studied through the Royal Society of Arts gaining an advanced diploma in Public Administration, Constitutional Law and Administrative Law. ZANLA was also born at that time. He enrolled for the Law degree (LLB) at UCL while studying for the Bachelor of Commerce degree in Witwatersrand University both of which he failed to complete because of the harsh conditions he was subjected to.

The Rhodesia Prisoners Tribunal encouraged the prisoners to renounce the revolution in order to gain their freedom, and be deported from the country. Enos Nkata was one of the six prisoners who refused to renounce the Revolution and thus were sent back to detention. He regarded the South African brokered talks between the Smith Regime and the nationalists held on the Victoria Falls Bridge as a ploy by Smith to derail that revolution. Following his release from prison for Lancaster House talks, he embarked on a strong campaign for ZANU to be elected. The last British Governor, Lord Soames, who oversaw transition to full independence banished him from campaigning.

Following 1980 elections which were won by ZANU PF he became a member of the Senate and was appointed Minister of Finance until 1983. He handed over to Dr Bernard Chidzero after being appointed Minister of National Supplies until 1985, later he became Minister of Home Affairs and later moving to Defence.

Cde Nkala resigned from government in 1989. The President, Cde Robert Gabriel Mugabe described him at his funeral as "A great fighter for our liberation. A very staunch fighter, unyielding, and dependable".

## The Stamps



## Catalogue Listings

SG	ZSC <sup>1</sup>	Value	Description
1419	817	40c	Victoria Chitepo
1420	818	75c	Enos Chikowore
1421	819	85c	Josiah Chinamano
1422	820	\$1	Enos Nkala

## Technical details

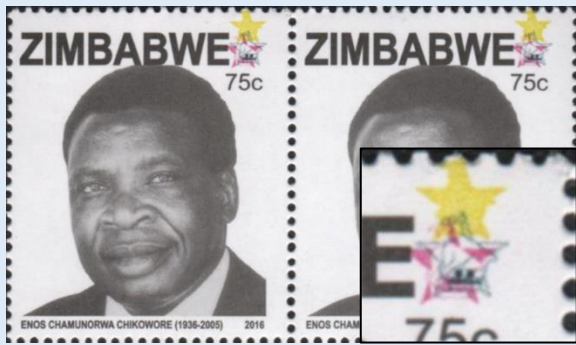

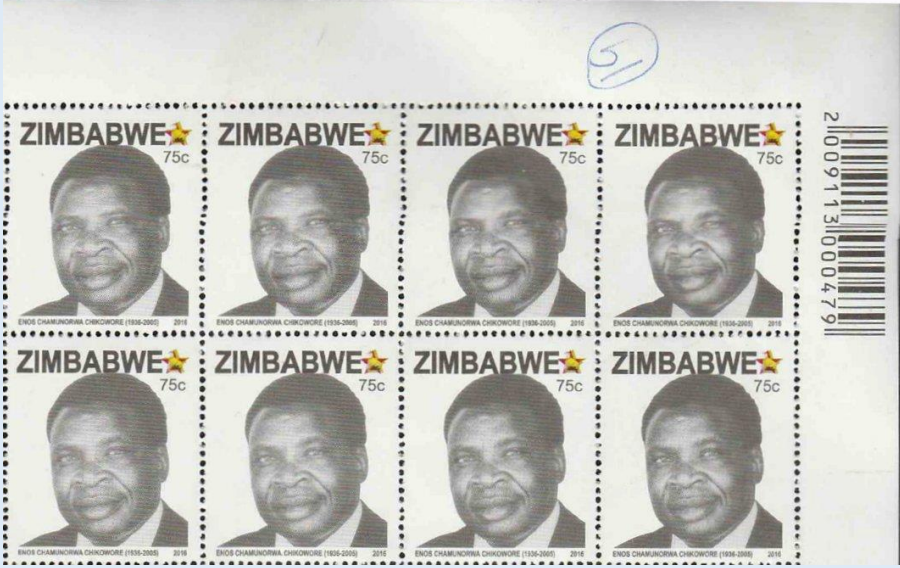
<b>Stamp size:</b>	Sheet stamps:	30 x 35 mm
<b>Sheet Size:</b>	50 stamps (5 rows of 10 stamps), two panes per printed sheet	
<b>Artist:</b>	Lucia Marisamhuka	
<b>Paper:</b>	ZSC paper type J: paper described by Zimpost as “Chancellor Litho PVA Gummed Postage Stamp Paper”. This paper is produced by Tullis Russell Coaters of Glenrothes, Fife, Scotland. Under UV there is no fluorescence either front or back, the stamp appears to be very dark	
<b>Print colours:</b>	Cyan, magenta, yellow & black	
<b>Perforations:</b>	SG 14 x 14½; ZSC 14 x 14¼ Left margin: Perforated through Other margins: Imperforate	
<b>Printer:</b>	NatPrint, Harare, Zimbabwe	
<b>Origination:</b>	Terrie Lue Graphics/Lithotec	
<b>Printer’s Imprint:</b>	Bottom margin, below Row 5 Columns 5 & 6. Imprint printed in black	
<b>Cylinder numbers:</b>	Bottom margin below R5/1. Colours from left – cyan, magenta, yellow, black	
<b>Colour register:</b>	Type TL 4– round boxed – left margin opposite R5/1. Colours reading down – cyan, magenta, yellow, black	
<b>Sheet Value:</b>	Bottom Margin, below R5/10, printed in black	
<b>Sheet Number:</b>	Type SN 7 with printed ‘ZIMPOST’ prefix, right margin opposite R5/10 reading down	
<b>Bar codes:</b>	Opposite R1/10, printed in black, numbers: 40c            2 009113 000462 75c            2 009113 000479 85c            2 009113 000486 \$1             2 009113 000493	
<b>Print numbers:</b>	40c            25,000            75c            7,500 85c            7,500             \$1             7,500	
<b>Issue date:</b>	28 <sup>th</sup> July 2016	

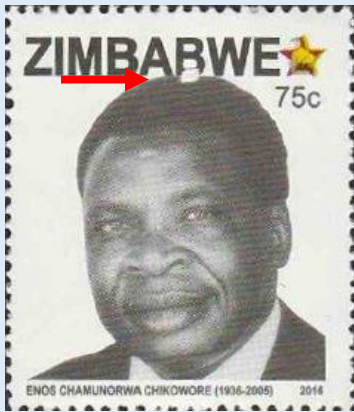
## Listed varieties

No listed varieties have been reported.

## Unlisted Varieties

There are numerous small dots and specks in the printing of these stamps, particularly in the backgrounds which are more noticeable with the solid colours.

 <p><b>75c:</b> Shift of plate, magenta, cyan and yellow <i>(Courtesy of Jefferson Ritson)</i></p>	 <p><b>75c:</b> Magenta spot to left side of head Cyl 1A R2/3 <i>(Courtesy of Jefferson Ritson)</i></p>
 <p><b>75c:</b> The vertical perforation to the top row of stamps appear to bend, possibly caused by a light fold of sheet. <i>(Courtesy Milton Mutengezanwa)</i></p>	



**75c:** Missing black ink to top and head and bottom of 2<sup>nd</sup> 'B' of Zimbabwe. Not constant.  
*(Courtesy Milton Mutengezanwa)*



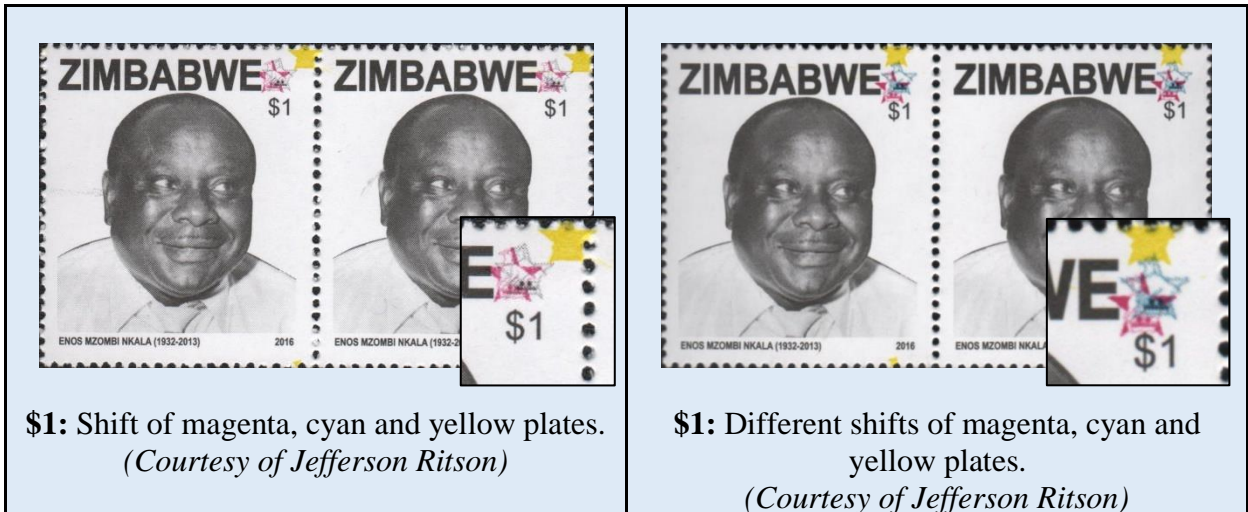
**85c:** Shift of yellow plate upwards.  
*(Courtesy of Jefferson Ritson)*



**85c:** Missing yellow from colour indicators and Zimbabwe Bird. Strip possibly from trial of proof sheet, with black and yellow sheet markings still attached.  
*(Courtesy Milton Mutengezanwa)*

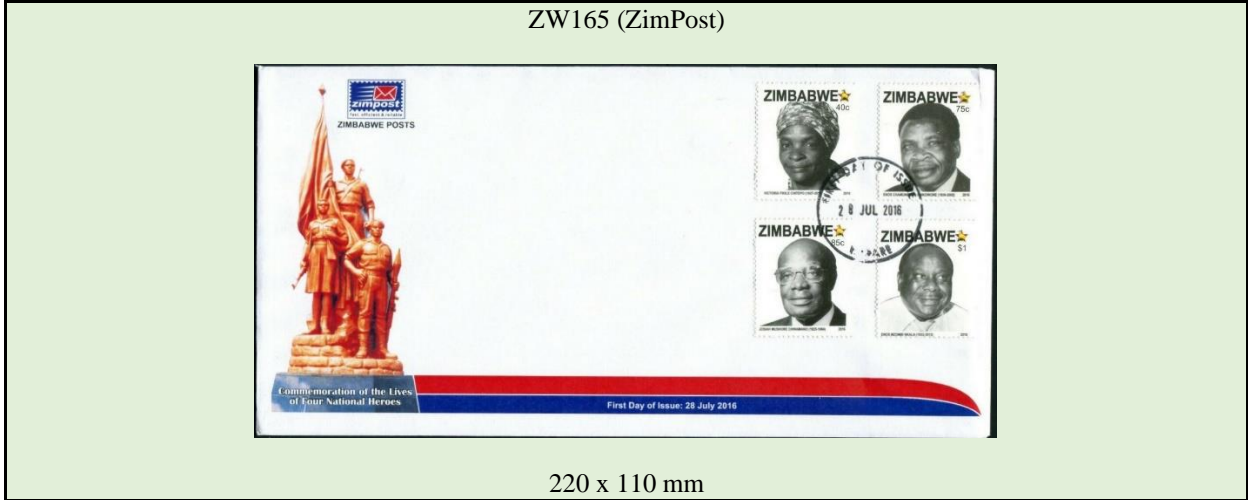


**85c:** Missing cyan ink to the cylinder block on the left, with normal. This appears to be a batch flaw and is found in both Cyl 1A and Cyl 1B sheets.  
*(Courtesy of Malte Luebker)*



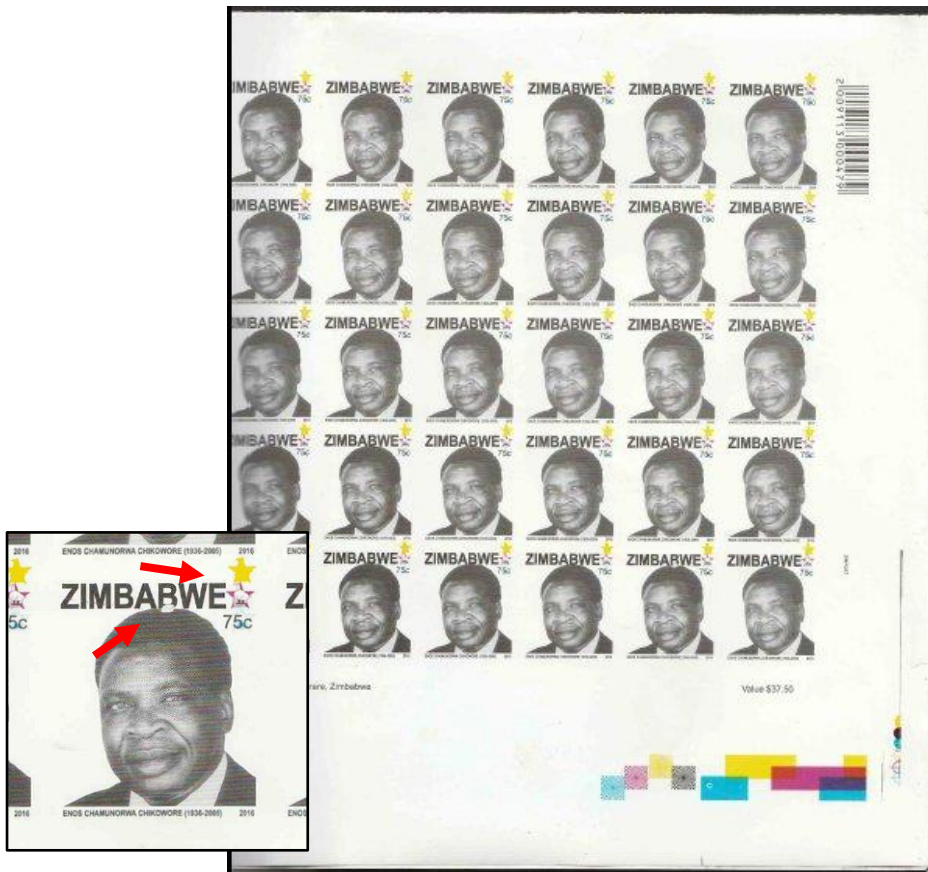
**First Day Cover**

ZimPost produced a First Day Cover, which were postmarked by the Philatelic Bureau with a postmark reading “First Day of Issue/Harare”.





## Related Material



**75c:** Part imperforate printer's sheet, with colour registers outside normal guillotined sheet. Includes shift of yellow plate upwards and the unprinted area affected the head and part of the 2<sup>nd</sup> 'B' of Zimbabwe – Cyl 1B R5/9 (see inset).  
(Courtesy Milton Mutengezanwa)

### 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, and is now published on the Rhodesian Study Circle website.
2. Zimbabwe Post, Philatelic Bureau Bulletin No 2 of 2016