



Philatelic Society of Trinidad & Tobago

(Founded May 1942)

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NEW ISSUE NEWS

Trinidad & Tobago
AEROGRAMME



TO

COUNTRY



Trinidad and Tobago
Postal Corporation

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Fig.1: \$2 AEROGRAMME WITH WATER LILY INDICIA

Two new aerogrammes were placed on sale by TTPost. The FDOI is unknown. The stores department at the National Mail Centre received the aerogrammes on or about the 25th March 2011. Sometime after that date the aerogrammes began to be distributed to the outlets. As of November 2011, many TTPost outlets did not receive any of these new aerogrammes - they had stocks of the old aerogrammes which they continued to sell. The initial order of twenty thousand of each aerogramme was printed by DS Printers and Brokers Limited of Cunupia.

Trinidad & Tobago

AEROGRAMME



TO

COUNTRY

**BY AIR MAIL
PAR AVION**



Trinidad and Tobago
Postal Corporation

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Fig.2: \$2 AEROGRAMME WITH PARIA WATERFALL INDICIA

The aerogramme of fig.1 has illustrations on the left side of a butterfly on a leaf and yellow Poui flowers on the ground while the indicia portrayed the flower of a water lily. The aerogramme of fig.2 has on the left side an illustration of Englishman's Bay, Tobago, while the indicia portrayed the Paria Waterfall. Both aerogrammes have UPC codes printed on them, the former #9501100423474 and the latter #9501100423481.

The next stamp issue to be released will honour the first female Prime Minister of T&T, the Hon. Kamla Persad-Bissessar. This milestone for women's achievements in T&T will consist of six stamps and a souvenir sheet. The date of issue has not been fixed as yet. Arrangements for the ceremony will be organized by the Office of the Prime Minister.

GENERAL NEWS

The historic building which housed the factory of Angostura Bitters from 1880 to 1973 was destroyed by fire on the 27th January 2011. The building, which spanned Nelson and George Streets in Port of Spain, was portrayed on the five cent stamp (SG #468/Sc #256) of the 1976 150th Anniversary of Angostura Bitters issue. The Angostura factory was moved to Laventille in 1973.

QSL CARDS (Part I)

Amateur Radio Operators, better known as Ham Radio Operators, have produced an interesting specialist collecting area - QSL cards. In times of disaster, such as an island being struck by a hurricane, normal air/land/sea communications can be severed and there may not be any telephone or Internet service for days, these Ham Radio Operators are often the only link to the outside world.

In normal times, the greatest pleasure of Ham Radio Operators is simply to chat with each other. One Ham Operator sends out his / her broadcast signal and another Ham Operator receives it. As a courtesy, the receiver would send a postcard (QSL card) detailing the contact - the call sign, name, address, date, time, signal strength and other technical information. These QSL cards often decorate the walls of these Ham operators.

The Ham radio operators have their own jargon for the technical terms used to describe their radio equipment and expressions used in verbal communications. Their jargon consists of symbols, acronyms and abbreviations most used only by them. For example, the number '73' used when signing off a communication means ' Best Wishes '.

In earlier times, QSL cards were mailed individually via the post office. However, in the interest of reducing the cost of postage, each country's Bureau would gather the outgoing cards and forward them in bulk to the respective Bureau in each country which in turn, distributes the cards to the individual Ham operators.

The letters QSL comprise the Morse code symbol meaning: I acknowledge receipt. QSL cards began in the early days of commercial radio broadcast stations when listeners from a long distance away would listen for the signal. The listener would write the station describing what they heard and would ask for verification. The radio station would send out a verification card (QSL card). A QSL card from Radio Trinidad is shown in fig.1 verifying a reception in Pennsylvania, USA. It is postmarked Port of Spain 16th September 1949.

Stanley E. Knowles (VP4TI) of Port of Spain mailed a QSL card. (fig.2) to New York. The crew (VP4WD) who were shooting the film 'The Swiss Family Robinson' from August 1959 to January 1960 in Tobago sent the QSL card in fig.3.

These QSL cards are sold by stamp dealers who sell postal history covers, such as, Edward Barrow (www.westindia-co.com).

Broadcasting House,
Port-of-Spain
Trinidad B.W.I.

ADDRESS

16th Sept. 1949


John Mr. Slarry

We thank you for your reception report on RADIO TRINIDAD which has been verified against the station log.

This QSL card is issued as proof of reception of this station. *Some US card was not sent earlier.*

Yours for good listening,

[Signature]
GENERAL MANAGER
Trinidad Broadcasting Co., Ltd.



Mr. George C. Slarry
P.O. Box 487
Lattrobe, Pa.,
U.S.A.

QSL FROM "RADIO TRINIDAD", BRITISH WEST INDIES

CHANNELS:
31.16 Metres
(9,625 kc/s)

231.65 Metres
(1,295 kc/s)

SAN FERNANDO

Transmission Hours:—

Sundays
6.00 a.m. to 2.00 p.m.
4.00 p.m. to 11.00 p.m.

Week-days
(Monday through Saturday)
6.00 a.m. to 9.00 a.m.
~~12.00 (Noon)~~
10.30 AM to 2.00 p.m.
4.00 p.m. to 11.00 p.m.

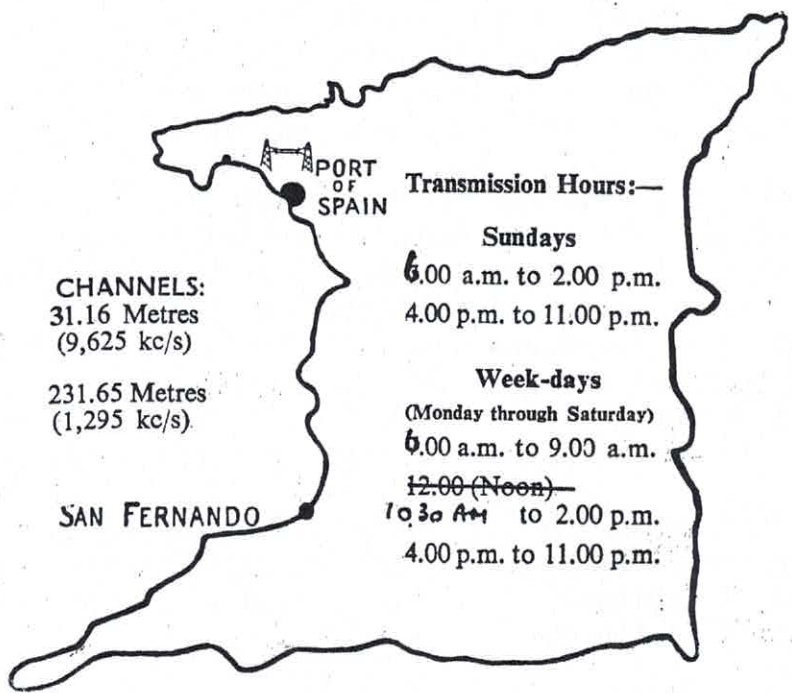
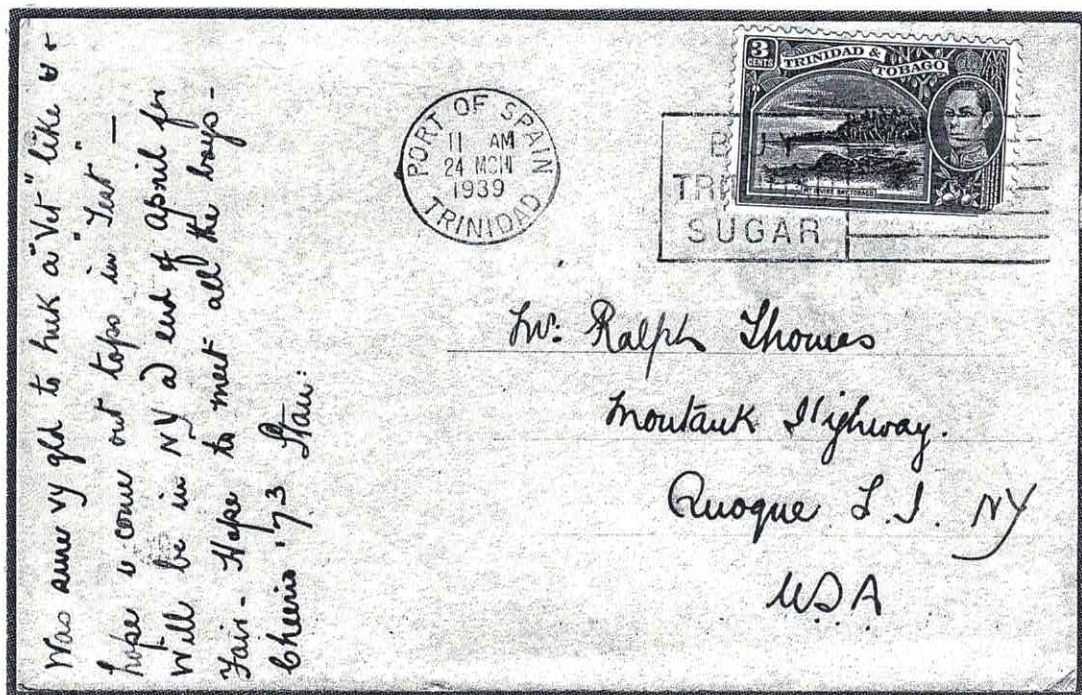


Fig.1: Front (top) and reverse (bottom) of a QSL card from Radio Trinidad date-stamped Port of Spain 16th September 1949 confirming a reception in Pennsylvania, USA.



PORT-OF-SPAIN, TRINIDAD, B. W. I.
 2D DERE ST.

VP4TI

Radio W2UK confirming QSO of 7-3- 1939 5:45 AM EST.
 RST 5-7-9 Band 14 MC Cond. OK
 Xmtr:- 59Xtal Osc: R. K. 20 50 watts input
 14324 KC
 Recvr:- HAMMARLUND COMET PRO:

PSE QSL TNX Vy 73 Stanley E. Knowles "We Call Everybody"




Fig.2: Front (top) and reverse (bottom) of a QSL card from VP4TI (Stanley E. Knowles) with a machine cancellation of Port of Spain 24th March 1939 confirming a contact on the 7th March 1939.

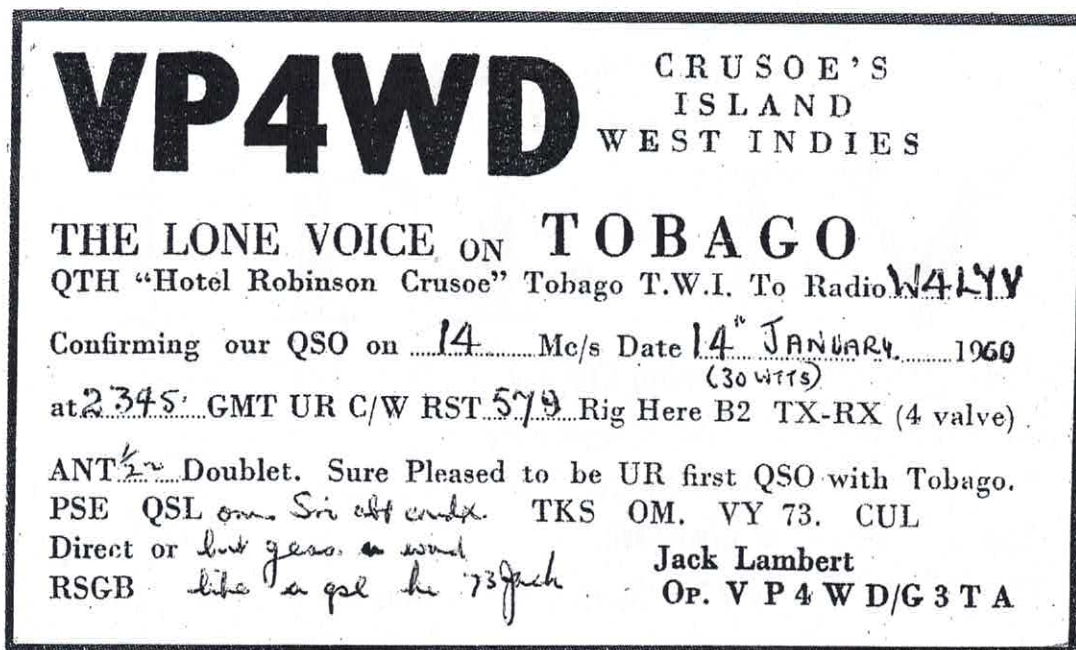
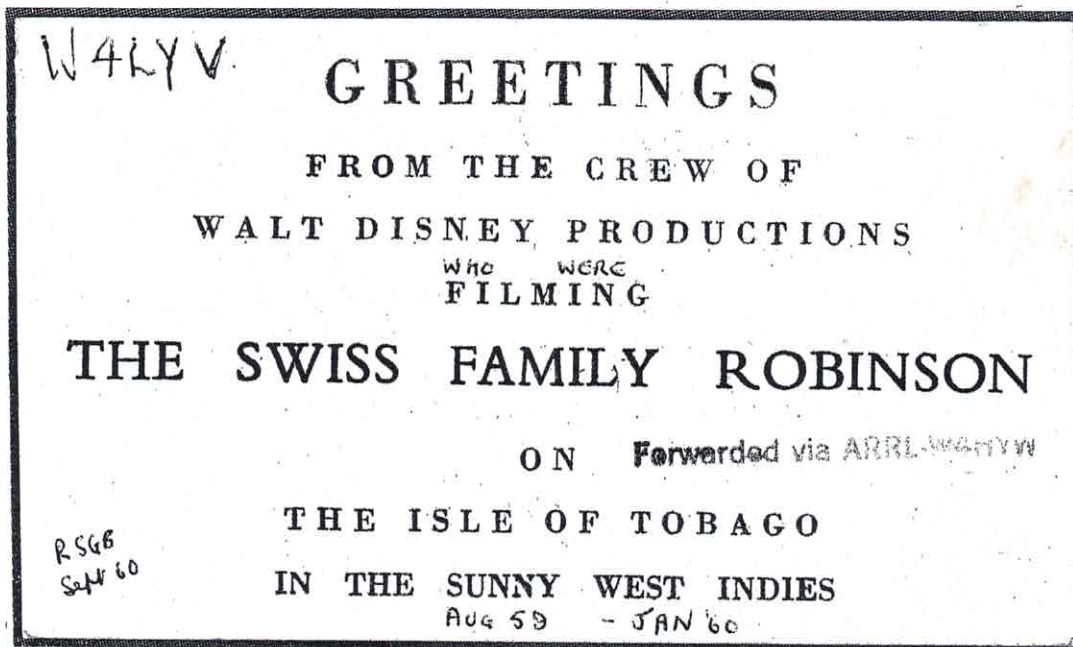


Fig.3: Front (top) and reverse (bottom) of a QSL card from VP4WD (Jack Lambert) confirming a reception with W4LYV on the 14th January 1960. The QSL card was forwarded via the American Radio Relay League which has the address of W4LYV.