

The Garuda Indonesia Contingent

**"THE POSTAL SERVICES IN THE
LAND OF CONFLICTS"**

Sanksi Pelanggaran Pasal 113
Undang-undang No. 28 Tahun 2014 Tentang Hak Cipta

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Eko Prasetyo



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"Bangsa Indonesia menghendaki perdamaian Doenia dan ingin tetap merdeka"
(*"The Indonesian nation want the World peace and want to remain independent"*)

"THE POSTAL SERVICES IN THE HAND OF CONFLICTS" -- 1

continue to take place in various parts of the world. In an effort to maintain peace, the UN established operations to monitor disarmament, demobilization and disarmament, security and safety protection and police surveillance involving member states.

The first UN peacekeeping mission and operation was conducted in 1948 where the UN Security Council sent the UN military observer force to the Middle East called "The United Nations Truce Supervision Organization" ("UNTSO"). The mission's task was to monitor the Ceasefire Agreement between Israel and Arab neighbors. After the UNTSO, the UN reconstituted "The United Nations Military Observer Group in India and Pakistan" ("UNMOGIP") in 1949 and "The First UN Emergency Force" ("UNEF I") in 1956.

In paragraph 4, the opening of the 1945 Constitution ("UUD 45") stated that the Indonesian Nation was determined to participate in implementing the world order based on independence, lasting peace and social justice. The based on the 4th paragraph, the Indonesian Nation has always played an active role since becoming a member of the United Nations, on September 28, 1950 in world peacekeeping efforts represented by the Indonesian National Army ("TNI") to sending the peacekeepers force known as the Garuda Indonesia Contingent or abbreviated as the Konga.

This book will reveal a glimpse into the historical background of conflicts in various parts of the world and the roles of the Konga peacekeepers and the philatelic aspects that accompany of them. Not all details of the history of the conflict are presented in this book because it was adjusted where the Konga troops were on duty and the availability of the Konga postal materials.

Meanwhile, from the philatelic aspect, it will be discussed and displayed philatelic materials in the form of postal service trace back both to and from conflict areas. The UN Postal Service was an important part of every peace operation. However, because of the facilities and conditions in the field of operation, it was not uncommon for philatelic materials to be difficult to obtain. Along with the rapid development of communication and information technology in the era of the 2000s, the UN operations communication began to use the digital technology massively which was considered faster and more efficient. But on the other hand, these communication technology advances cause postal network communication or correspondence by the letter to be increasingly left out and that was also one of the reasons for how difficult it is today to obtain philatelic materials. Whereas as it was understood that the postal material itself was part of an important document of conflict events. The postal materials was able to speak, tell stories and at the same time be a witness to history, far beyond the photograph documents and history books. The conflict has always been and will occur all the time in different parts of the world and while philatelic material has faded. That means, with all its shortcomings, this was a rare opportunity to do the philatelic trace back from the work of the son of the Nation in the world peace scene.

In the period above the 90s, in the presentation and description in this book often found the narrative of the word "I or me". Because that period I started to actively correspond with the Konga members in various conflict areas. So that this book was also part of the autobiography, even this book was compiled not only aspect or technical of philately, however revealed about history, travel, human ideals, collegial relationship and fauna-flora that allows not only philatelists who can enjoy this book.

The history of conflict occurs everywhere and continues to be. For the benefit of it was considered necessary to revise or publish a new edition if new postal materials and documents are obtained in

the future. I am very grateful and proud to be a small part of the history of the Indonesian Peacekeeping force.

Manado, 20 November 2022

Author

**This book dedicated to the Mighty Lord,
my Country and my lovely family
(Deinne, Amanda and Gennaro)**

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