

**A whole exhibit
in one booklet**

This quarter's featured new issue is the booklet pictured on the right, issued by United Nations on Nov. 19, 1997. You can still buy the booklet at the USPS Stamp Fulfillment Service in the current USA Philatelic order booklet.

As to the above claim that you could make an exhibit from this booklet alone . . . well, actually you could . . . or at least have a grand time putting one together.

The version on the right (Scott 718) is for UN Offices in New York, and the Geneva and Vienna Offices are also available in the same USPS catalog (Scott 316 and 232).

All three of the booklets contain only the low values for each office, and are printed in blocks of four. The 32¢ and 60¢ will have to be obtained from other new issue sources, and the same for the 45c and 70c Geneva and 3s and 6s Vienna issues.

The booklet tells the story of the discovery of the Qin Shi Huang mausoleum and the opening of the site over the years. Even after 2000 years many of the thousands of warriors, horses, and artifacts have bright coloring.

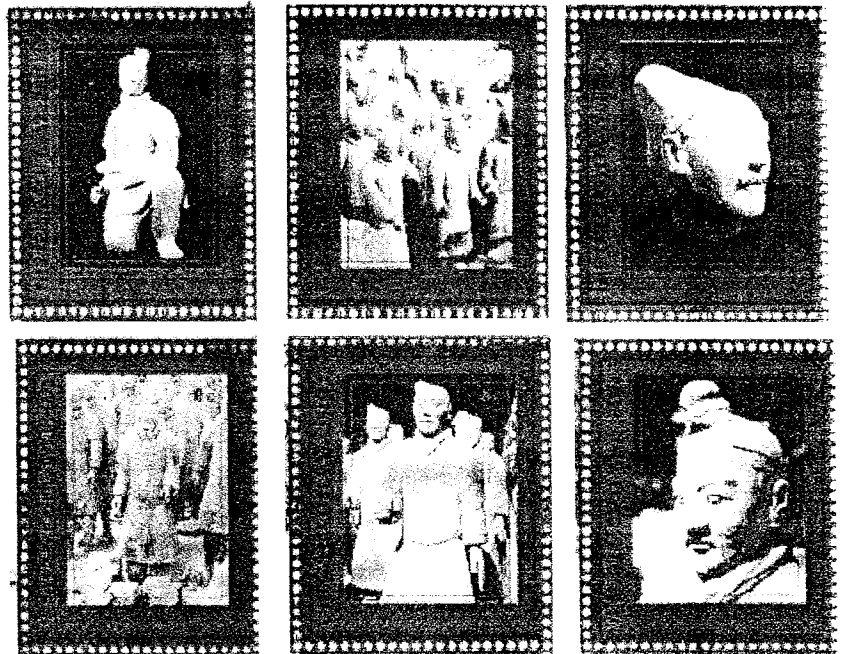
It's a booklet that should be in the accumulation of every stamp collector who also has a love and yearning for archaeology.

Now, on to the regular listings.

The compilation of new issues has been the most challenging part of this new job as editor. I decided I could not go back to the point of the last new issues listed around the early 1990s. So I decided to start with the beginning of this year and I'll make a pledge to carry on from this time forward.

That was the easy decision. The hard part was to determine whether a set should really be archaeology or some subfield of anthropology, or just ancient history. (I've been known to get obsessive on things and even make them harder for myself than necessary, and doubtless I have here too.)

So I have devised another scheme based on degree of closeness to archaeology. If a stamp is solid archae-



ology I gave it an (A). If it was solid history it received a (B). Prehistoric animals and the whole world of dinosaurs gets a (C), and peripheral items on stamps gets a (D). It's a little convoluted because at the basic level anything above can be a part of archaeology, even though the story I was sorely tempted at times to include in honoring a 1000th anniversary of an event about that those things, although seemingly peripheral to reality historical and probably should be included.

I save all my publications (don't know how I've clipped Linn's, Stamp Collector, and others) for my sources and incorporated them into the report. I probably have about even to date since the beginning of the year.