

# Scout Rocket Mail - Belgium 1960

## Rocket Mail

A. J. de Bruijn was a dental technician from Amsterdam who used most of his spare time and a lot of his money on rocket experiments. He sold rocket mail to defray some of the high costs of his hobby. The first mail was flown in 1936, from IJsselmonde (near Rotterdam). In the thirty years de Bruijn experimented (aside from the war years) he and his co-workers, members of the Nederlandse Ruimtevaart Studio (Dutch Space Flight Studio), launched 81 mail rockets in the Netherlands, 9 in Italy, 8 in Belgium, 5 in Luxembourg and 5 in Germany. The rockets could travel 20 km or more. De Bruijn made an important contribution to the development of rocket mail.

## Scout Rocket Mail in Belgium, 1960

The term **Scout Rocket Mail** is used to describe rocket mail associated with Scouting. Nederlandse Ruimtevaart Studio launched two mail rockets on 27 April 1960 in commemoration of the Golden Jubilee of US Scouting. Special rocket cachets identify mail from the rockets 'Daniel Beard' and 'Baden Powell II', respectively. Flown covers carry a bi-coloured locally printed rocket mail stamp. The stamps were issued imperforate and perforated in sheets of four. Special astrograms were also produced; the rocket equivalent of aerograms or air letters.

### Rocket Baden Powell II

Named after Lord Baden-Powell of Gilwell (1857-1941), founder of the Scout Movement.

### Rocket Daniel Beard

Named after Daniel Carter "Uncle Dan" Beard (1850-1941), an American illustrator, author, youth leader, and social reformer who founded the Sons of Daniel Boone in 1905. Beard merged his organization into the Boy Scouts of America when it was founded in 1910. He later became editor of Boys' Life magazine, the BSA official magazine.

*Main source: Ellington-Zwisler Rocket Mail Catalog, 1960*

<b>Astrograms .....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Rocket Stamps.....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Rocket Baden-Powell II.....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Rocket Daniel Beard .....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>16</b>



Astrograms of two different types were prepared for the rocket flights.

**Only 40 astrograms were flown on the "Baden Powell II".**

*Astrogram type 1, colour proof, brown colour only.*

*Signed (in pencil) by the rocketeer Dr. J.A. de Bruijn.*



Astrogram type 1.



*Astrogram type 1 has "ASTROGRAM / ASTROPOSTBLAD" top left and stamp imprint top right.  
Flown on rocket "Baden Powell II" 27 April 1960.*



*Astrogram type 1 flown on rocket "Baden Powell II" 27 April 1960.  
Missing red colour. Perforated Scout rocket stamp.*



## Astrogram type 2.



*Astrogram type 2 has "ASTROGRAM / ASTROPOSTBLAD" top left and stamp imprint top right.  
Flown on rocket "Baden Powell II" 27 April 1960.*



*Astrogram type 2 flown on rocket "Baden Powell II" 27 April 1960.  
Missing brown colour. Perforated Scout rocket stamp.*



## Astrogram type 2.



Canal Zone Boy Scout FDC postmarked "BALBOA FEB 8 1960" on astrogram flown on rocket "Baden Powell II" 27 April 1960. Signed by the rocketeer Dr. A. J. de Bruijn.



Astromagram flown on rocket "Baden Powell II" 27 April 1960.  
Missing red colour.



A brown and red bi-coloured rocket mail stamp was produced locally.

The sheets of Scout rocket stamps were printed se-tenant with similar sheets for a flight commemorating the VIII Winter Olymoics. The Olympic rocket flight took place on the same day as the Scout rockets.





A brown and red bi-coloured rocket mail stamp was produced locally.  
The stamps were issued imperforate and perforated in sheets of four.



*Imperforate souvenir sheet.*



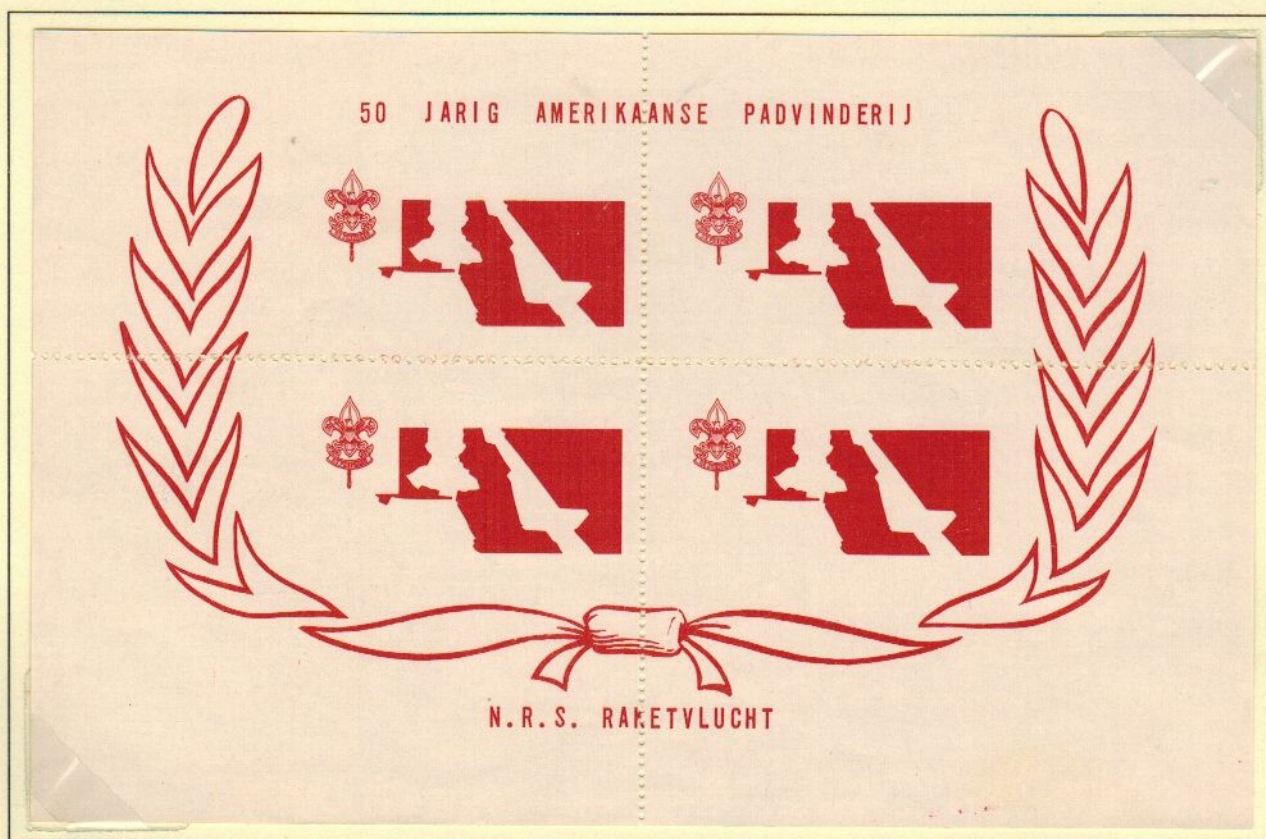
*Perforated souvenir sheet.*



The stamps were printed in two colours, brown and red.

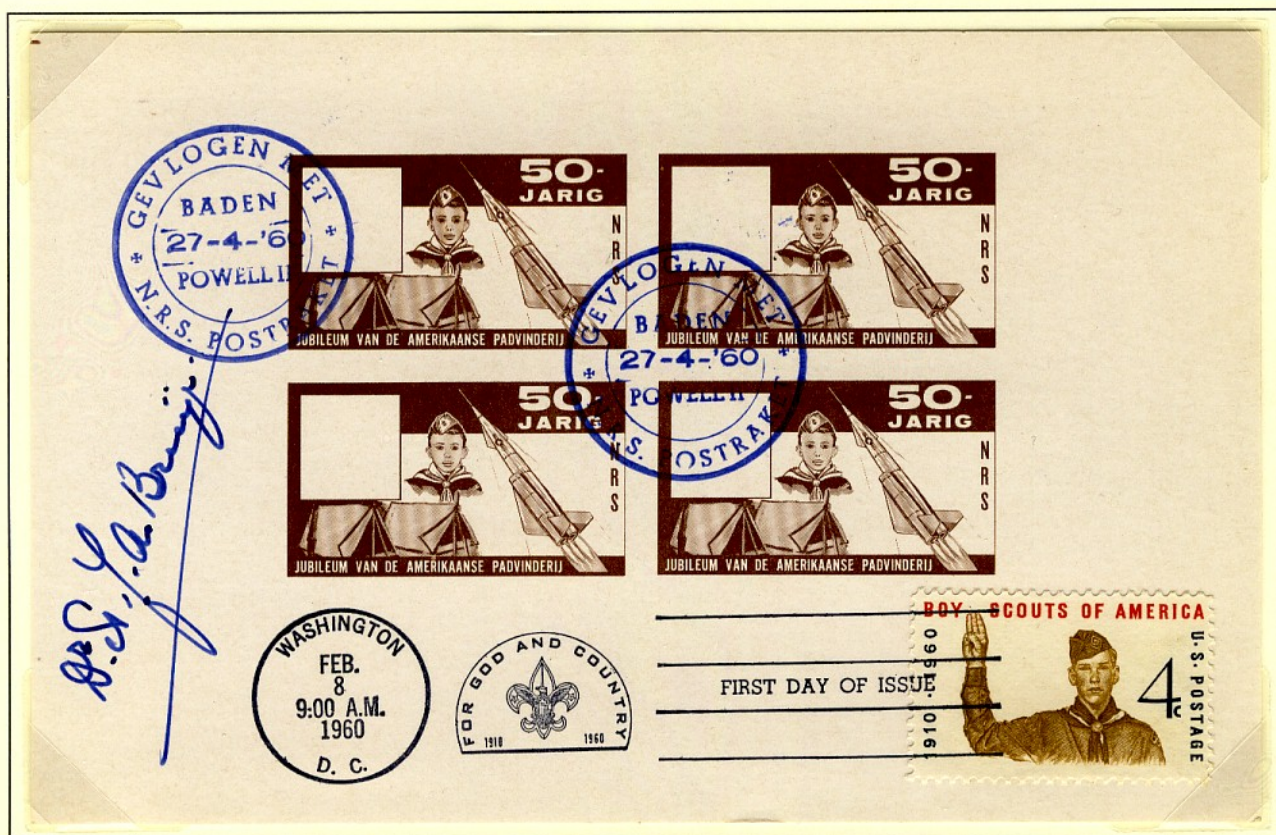


*Perforated sheet of four – red colour missing.*



*Perforated sheet of four – brown colour missing.*





Presentation card on thick paper, sheet of four of the Scout rocket stamp. **Red colour missing.**  
Signed by the rocketeer Dr. de Bruijn. Flown on the 'Baden Powell II' rocket.



Presentation card on thick paper, sheet of four of the Scout rocket stamp.  
Signed by the rocketeer Dr. de Bruijn.



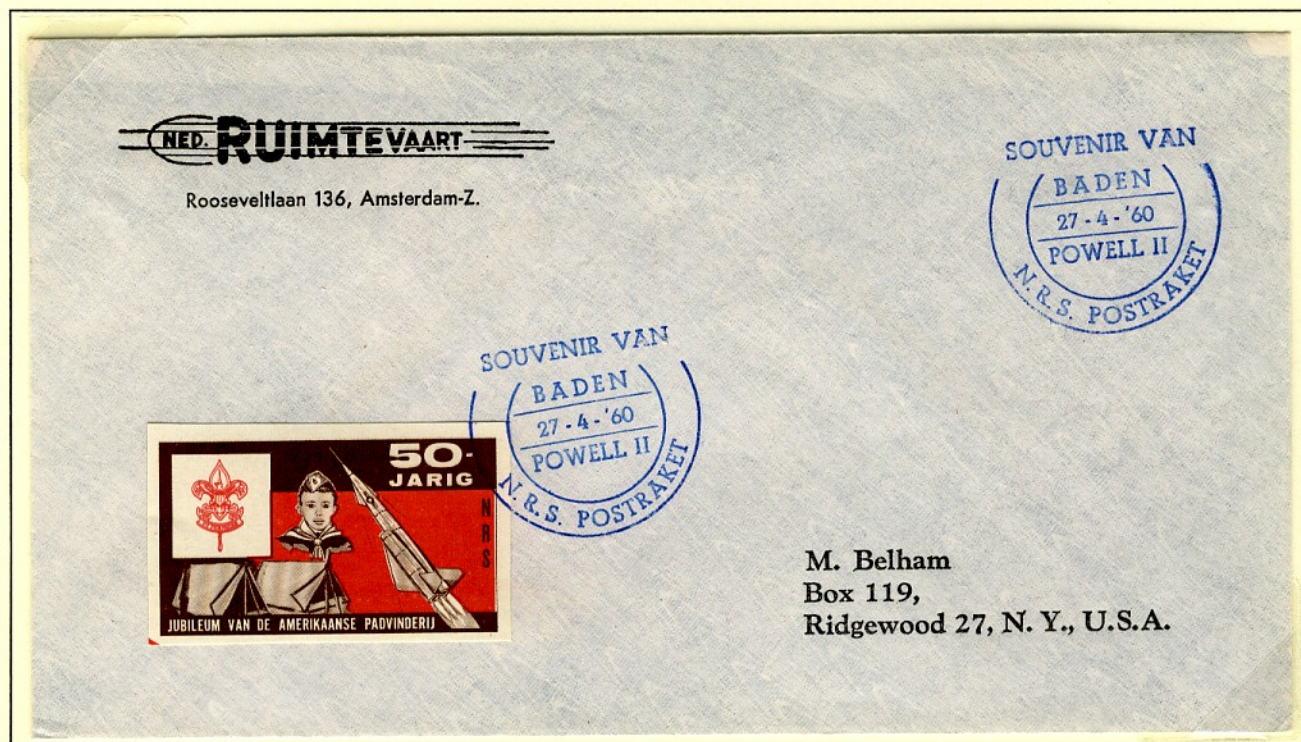


Perforated souvenir sheet.  
Flown on rocket 'Baden Powell II' 27 April 1960.

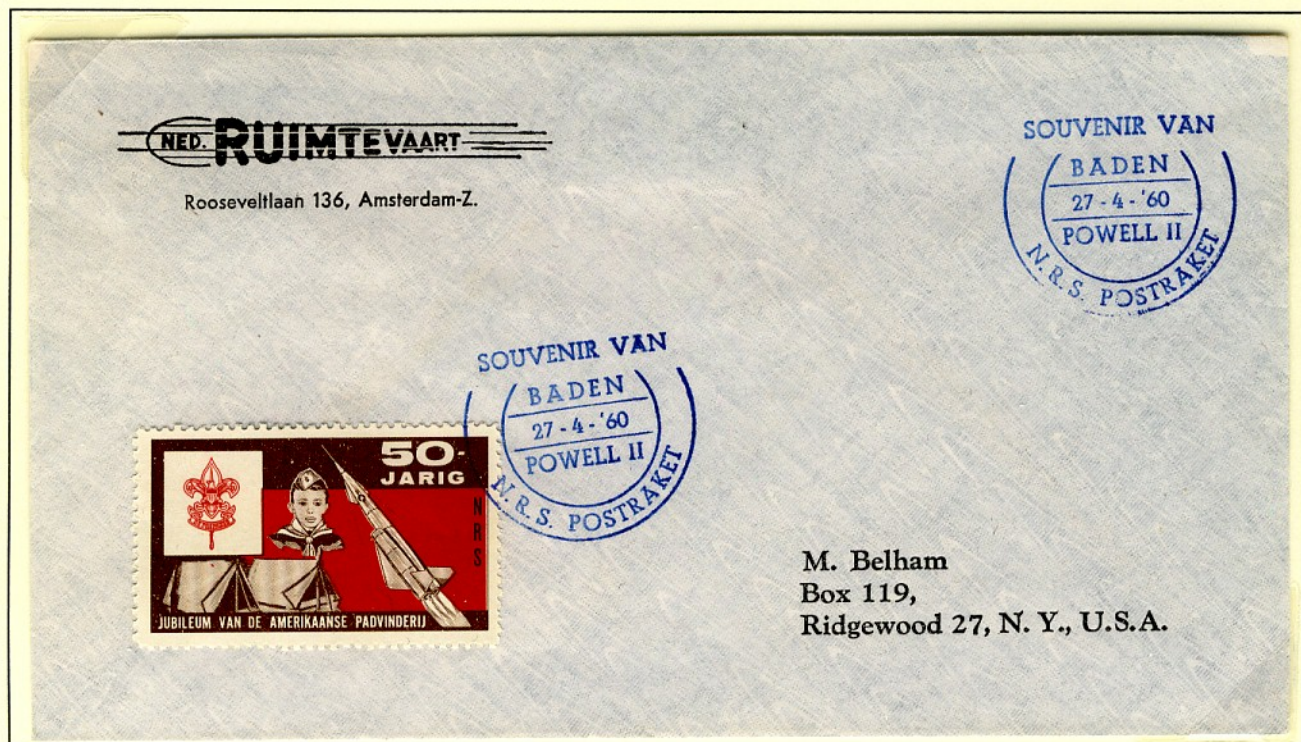


Presentation card on thick paper.  
Flown on rocket 'Baden Powell II' 27 April 1960.





*Cover flown on rocket 'Baden Powell II' 27 April 1960.  
Imperforated Scout rocket stamp.*



*Cover flown on rocket 'Baden Powell II' 27 April 1960.  
Perforated Scout rocket stamp.*





Printed matter to the Netherlands, 1 F postage, flown on rocket 'Baden Powell II' 27 April 1960.

Imperforate Scout rocket stamp. 1 F postage "EUPEN 28-4-1960".

Signed by the racketeer Dr. A. J. de Bruijn.



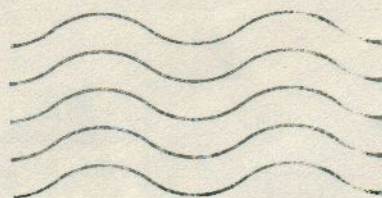
Printed matter to the Netherlands, 1 F postage, flown on rocket 'Baden Powell II' 27 April 1960.

Perforated Scout rocket stamp. 1 F postage "EUPEN 28-4-60".

Signed by the racketeer Dr. A. J. de Bruijn.



NEDERLAND  
TEBITALEN  
010  
CENT  
PORT  
FR 792



T

NED. RUIMTEVAART  
ROOSEVELTLAAN 136  
AMSTERDAM ZUID

Printed matter to the Netherlands, lacking the 1 F postage, flown on rocket 'Baden Powell II' 27 April 1960.  
Perforated Scout rocket stamp. Postmark "EUPEN 28-4 1960" and cachet "T" for Taxe (postage due).  
10c postage due paid by the addressee in Amsterdam 4 May 1960.



NED. RUIMTEVAART  
ROOSEVELTLAAN 136  
AMSTERDAM ZUID

Printed matter to the Netherlands, lacking the 1 F postage, flown on rocket 'Baden Powell II' 27 April 1960.  
Perforated Scout rocket stamp. Postmark "EUPEN 28-4 1960".  
No postage due markings.





*Air mail letter to U.S.A. (3.50 F postage), flown on rocket 'Baden Powell II' 27 April 1960.*

*Backstamped "BROOKLYN N.Y. APR 30 1960"*

*Imperforated Scout rocket stamp. Signed by the racketeer Dr. A. J. de Bruijn.*



*Air mail letter to U.S.A. (3.50 F postage), flown on rocket 'Baden Powell II' 27 April 1960.*

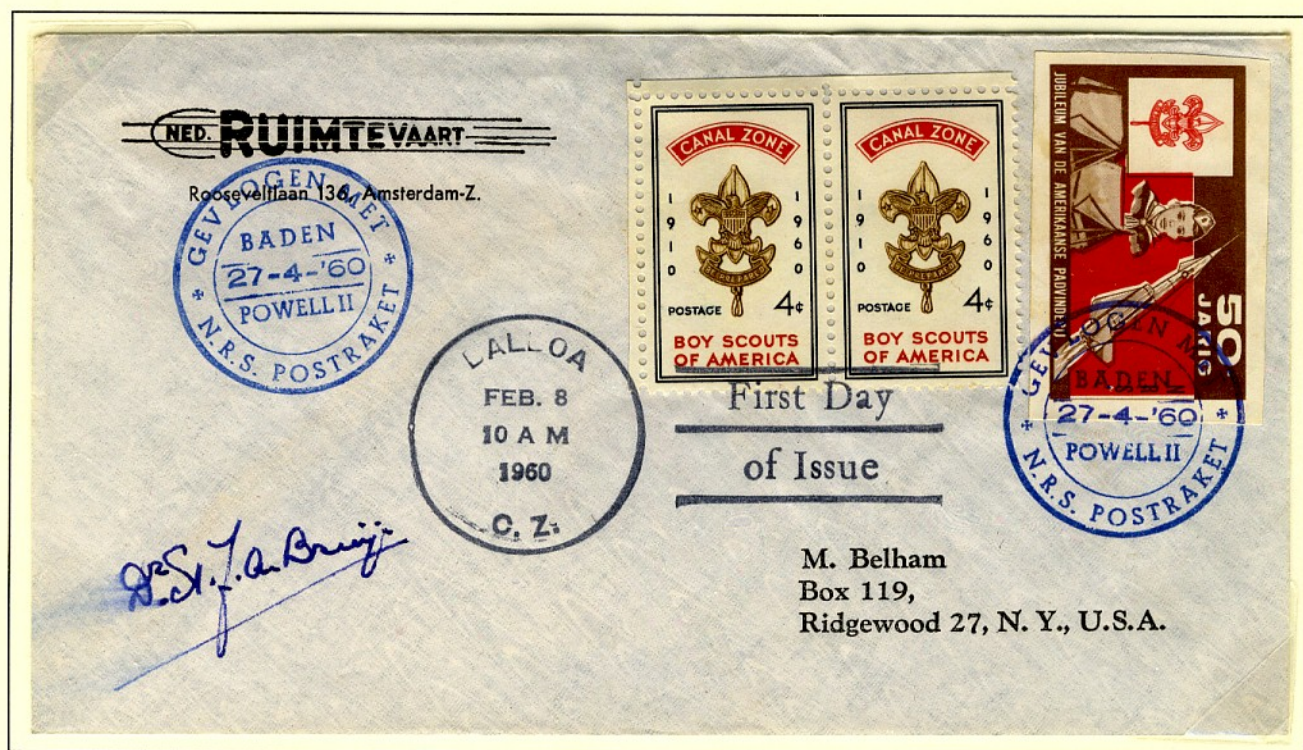
*Backstamped "BROOKLYN N.Y. APR 30 1960"*

*Perforated Scout rocket stamp. Signed by the racketeer Dr. A. J. de Bruijn.*





Air mail letter to U.S.A. Imperforate Scout rocket stamp. Flown on rocket 'Baden Powell II' 27 April 1960.  
Signed by the racketeer Dr. A. J. de Bruijn. 3.50 F postage "EUPEN 27-4-60".  
Arrival postmark on front "BROOKLYN N.Y. APR 30 1960".



Canal Zone Boy Scout FDC postmarked "BALBOA FEB 8 1960" on cover flown on rocket "Baden Powell II" 27 April 1960.  
Imperforate Scout rocket stamp. Signed by the racketeer Dr. A. J. de Bruijn.  
50 of the covers flown on the rocket "Baden Powell II" were Boy Scout FDCs from the Canal Zone dated 8 February 1960



Rocket "Daniel Beard" was named after Daniel Carter "Uncle Dan" Beard (1850-1941), an American illustrator, author, youth leader, and social reformer who founded the Sons of Daniel Boone in 1905. Beard merged his organization into the Boy Scouts of America when it was founded in 1910. He later became editor of Boys' Life magazine, the BSA official magazine.



U.S. Boy Scout FDC dated 8 February 1960, on presentation card on thick paper.  
190 Boy Scout FDCs from the U.S.A. were flown on rocket "Daniel Beard" 27 April 1960.  
The flown items were signed by the rocketeer Dr. J. A. de Bruijn.



Printed matter to the Netherlands. Flown on rocket "Daniel Beard" 27 April 1960 and signed by the rocketeer Dr. J. A. de Bruijn. Imperforate Scout rocket stamp. IF postage "EUPEN 28-4-60".





U.S. Boy Scout FDC dated 8 February 1960, on astrogram flown on rocket "Daniel Beard" 27 April 1960. 190 Boy Scout FDCs from the U.S.A. were flown on rocket "Daniel Beard". The flown covers were signed by the rocketeer Dr. J. A. de Bruijn.

"Short" FDC postmark with circular datestamp above "For God and Country".



U.S. Boy Scout FDC dated 8 February 1960, on astrogram flown on rocket "Daniel Beard" 27 April 1960. 190 Boy Scout FDCs from the U.S.A. were flown on rocket "Daniel Beard". The flown covers were signed by the rocketeer Dr. J. A. de Bruijn.

"Long" FDC postmark with circular datestamp to the side of "For God and Country".





U.S. Boy Scout FDC dated 8 February 1960, on cover flown on rocket "Daniel Beard" 27 April 1960. Imperforate Scout rocket stamp. 190 Boy Scout FDCs from the U.S.A. were flown on rocket "Daniel Beard". The flown covers were signed by the rocketeer Dr. J. A. de Bruijn.



U.S. Boy Scout FDC dated 8 February 1960, on cover flown on rocket "Daniel Beard" 27 April 1960. Partially imperforate Scout rocket stamp. 190 Boy Scout FDCs from the U.S.A. were flown on rocket "Daniel Beard". The flown covers were signed by the rocketeer Dr. J. A. de Bruijn.