

A Philatelic Look @ the 1972 World Chess Championship

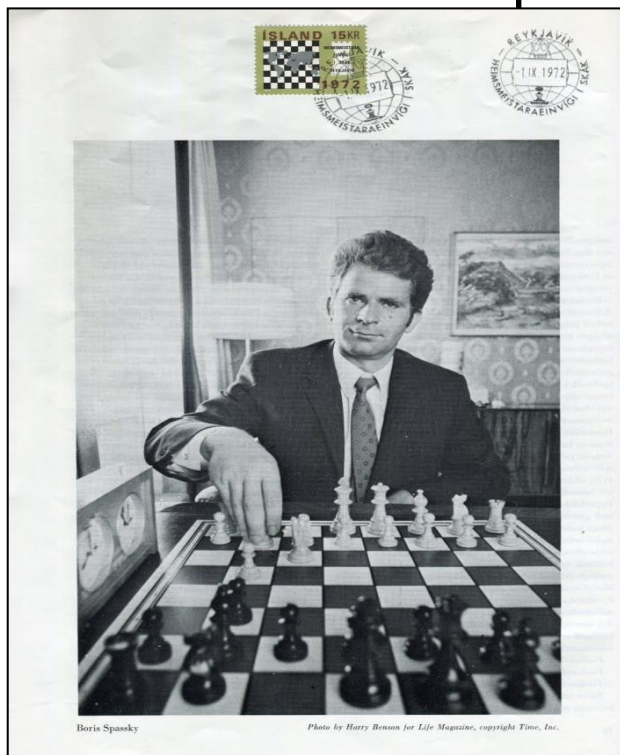
BOBBY FISCHER vs BORIS SPASSKY

Reykjavik, Iceland

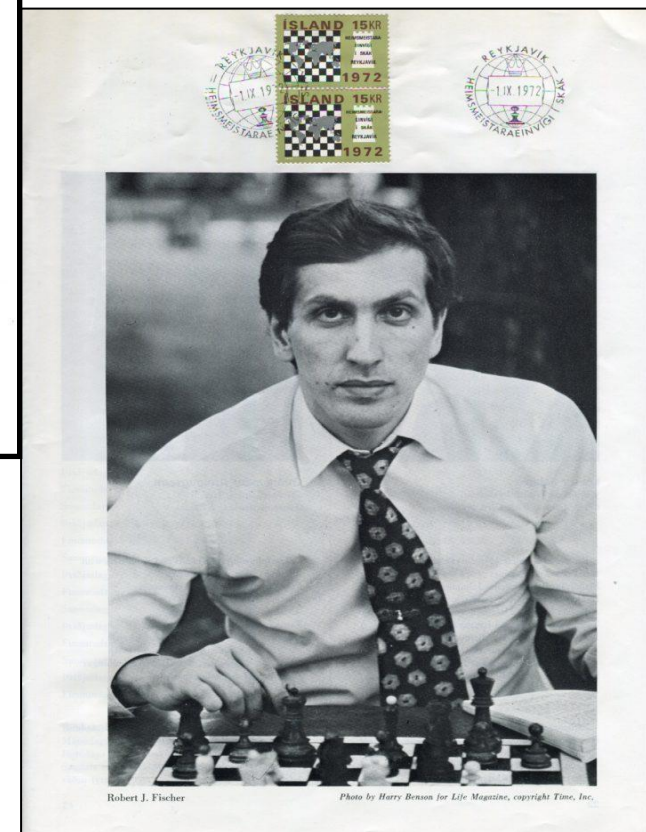


Russia vs U.S.A.
SPASSKY vs FISCHER



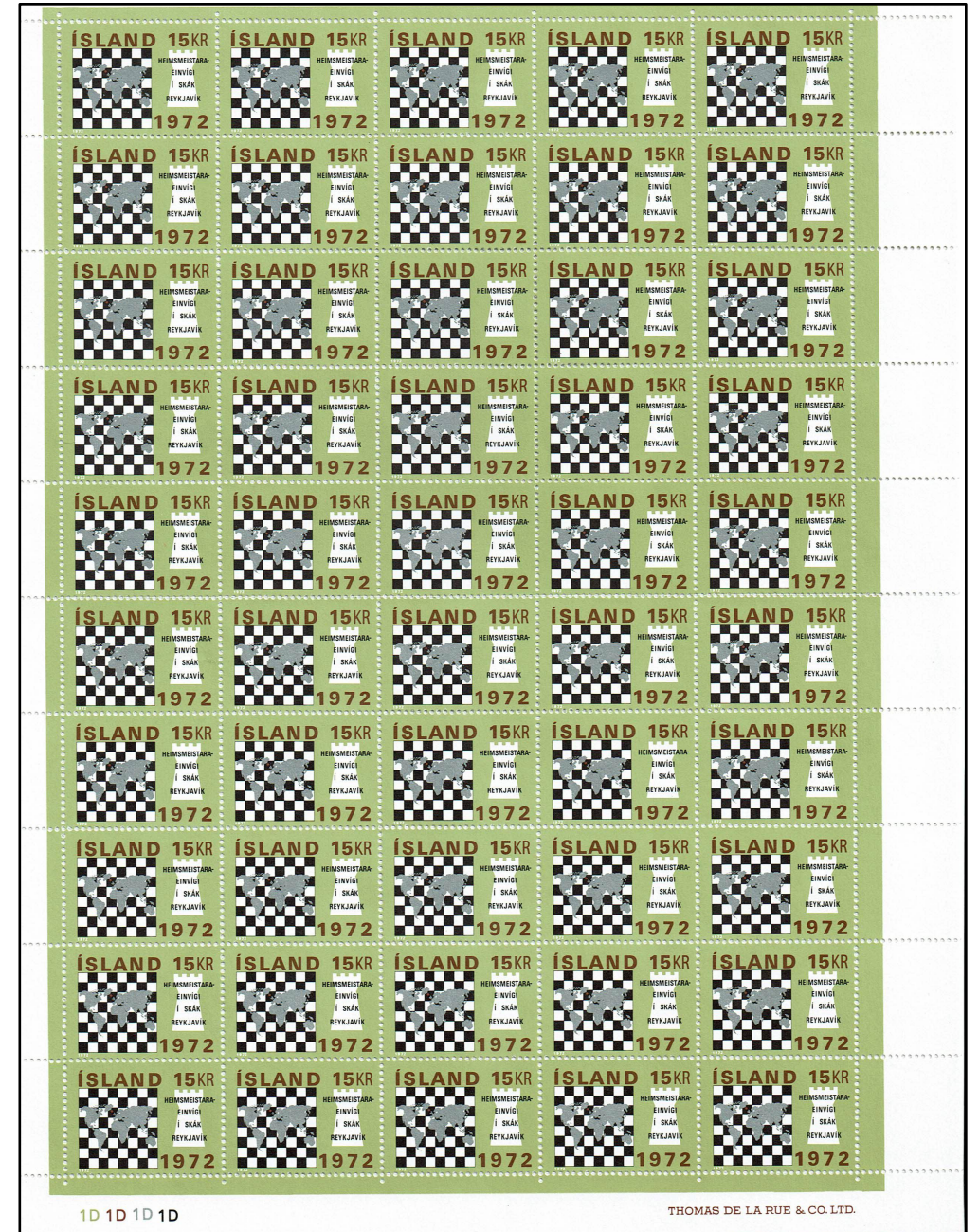


Maxi card - Contestants

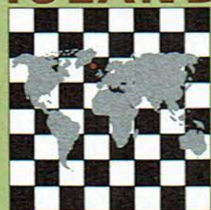


15kr Chess stamp

- 2 million stamps printed
- Thomas de la Rue Co. England
- First day issue July 2, 1972
- 12 different plate numbers
- 1st chess stamp issued by Iceland
- Depicts a chess piece & a map of the world laid out on a chess board



ÍSLAND 15KR



HEIMSMEISTARA-
EINVÍGI
Í SKÁK
REYKJAVÍK

1972

ÍSLAND 15KR



HEIMSMEISTARA-
EINVÍGI
Í SKÁK
REYKJAVÍK

1972

ÍSLAND 15KR



HEIMSMEISTARA-
EINVÍGI
Í SKÁK
REYKJAVÍK

1972

ÍSLAND 15KR



HEIMSMEISTARA-
EINVÍGI
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REYKJAVÍK

1972

ÍSLAND 15KR



HEIMSMEISTARA-
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1972

ÍSLAND 15KR



HEIMSMEISTARA-
EINVÍGI
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REYKJAVÍK

1972

ÍSLAND 15KR



HEIMSMEISTARA-
EINVÍGI
Í SKÁK
REYKJAVÍK

1972

ÍSLAND 15KR



HEIMSMEISTARA-
EINVÍGI
Í SKÁK
REYKJAVÍK

1972

ÍSLAND 15KR



HEIMSMEISTARA-
EINVÍGI
Í SKÁK
REYKJAVÍK

1972

ÍSLAND 15KR



HEIMSMEISTARA-
EINVÍGI
Í SKÁK
REYKJAVÍK

1972

1D 1D 1D 1D

THOMAS DE LA RUE & CO. LTD.

Laugardalsholl Post Office & special event cancel

No. 6/5 1972

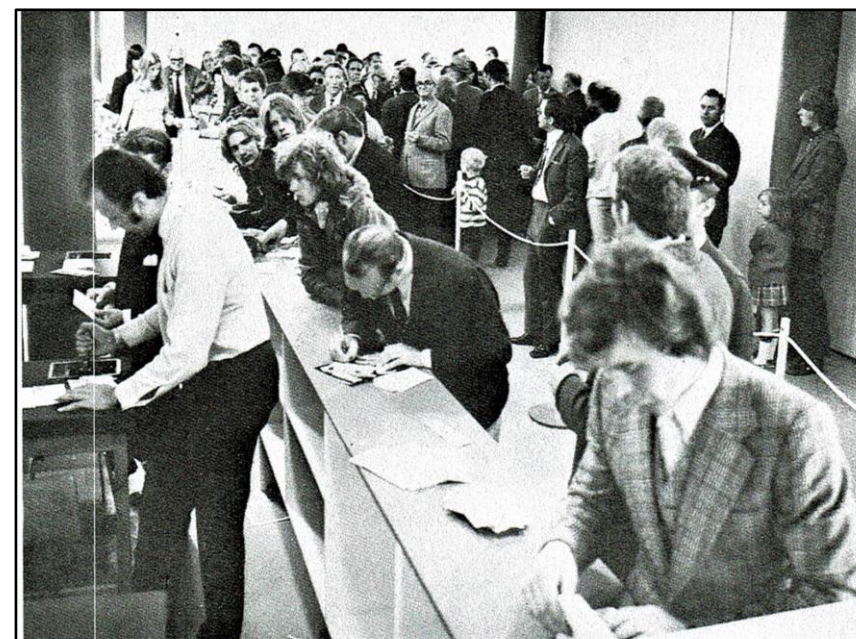
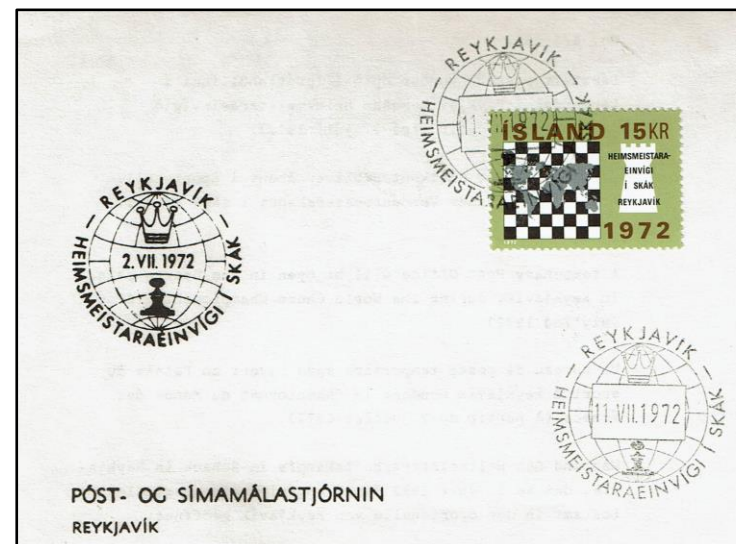
Sérstakt pósthús verður opið í Íþróttahöllinni í Laugardal í Reykjavík meðan heimsmeistaraeinvígið í skák stendur yfir (frá 2. júlí 1972).

Et midlertidigt postkontor bliver åbent i Sportshallen i Reykjavík, under Verdensmesterskabet i skak (fra 2. juli 1972).

A temporary Post Office will be open in the Sports palace in Reykjavík, during the World Chess Championship (from July 2nd 1972).

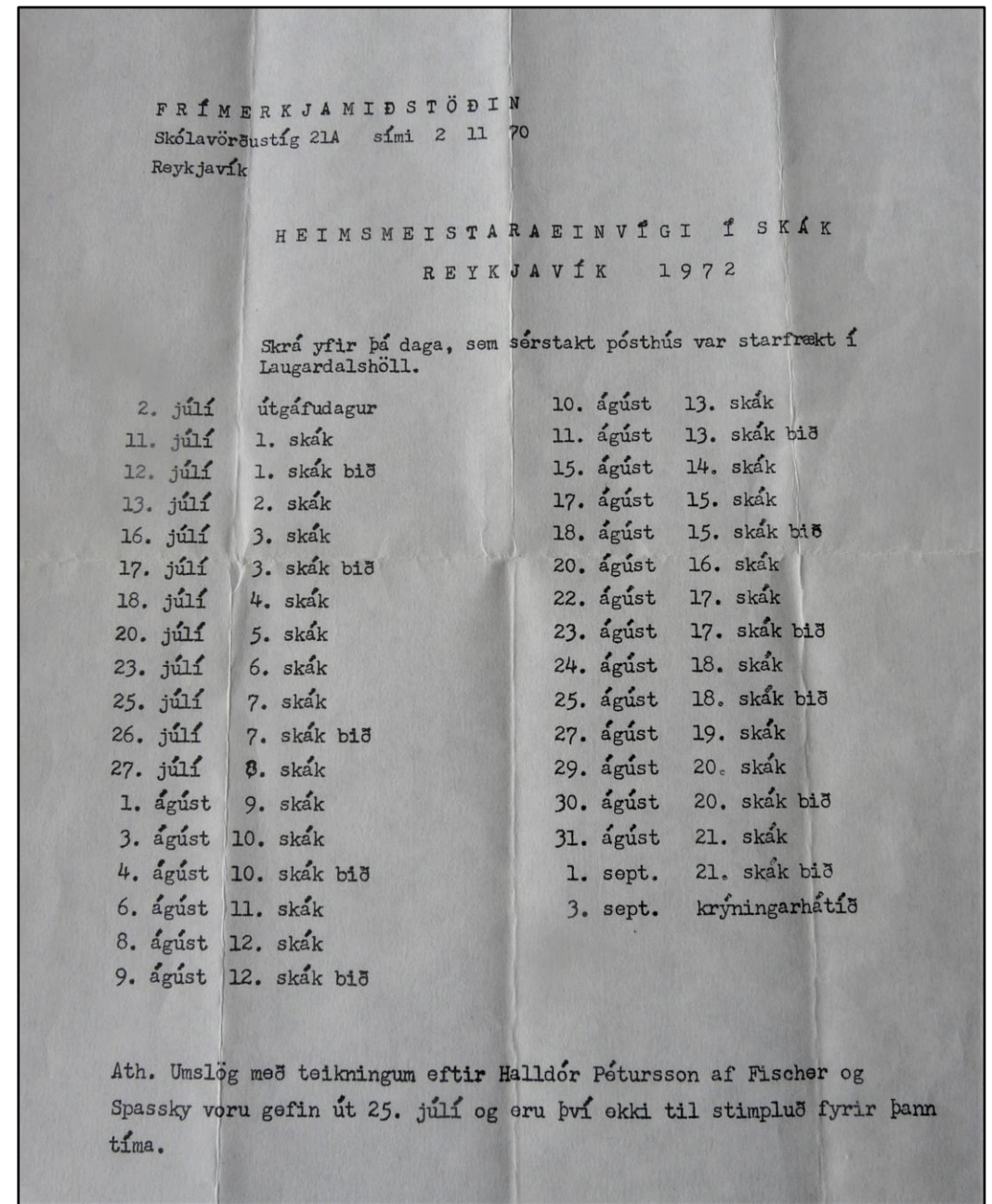
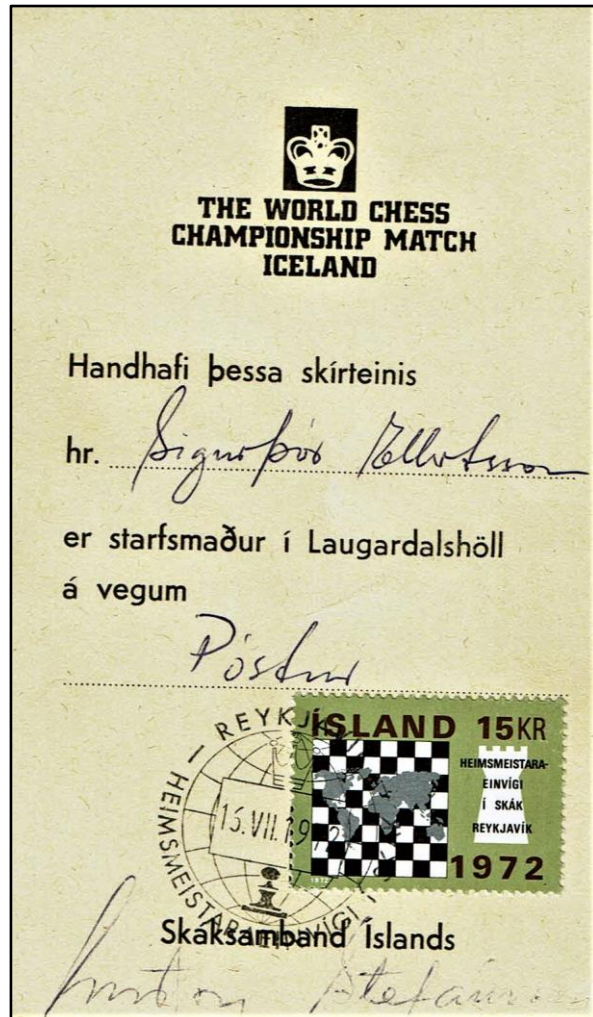
Un bureau de poste temporaire sera ouvert au Palais du sport à Reykjavik pendant le Championnat du Monde des échecs (à partir du 2 juillet 1972).

Während des Weltmeisterschaftskampfs in Schack in Reykjavík, der am 2. Juli 1972 fängt an, wird ein spezielles Postamt in der Sportshalle von Reykjavík geöffnet.



Frá pósthúsinu í Laugardalshölli, sem starfrækt var í sambandi við Heimsmeistaraeinvígið í skák.

Admission Pass for Postal employee & Cancel dates



Icelandic Chess Federation Organizing Committee Postcard

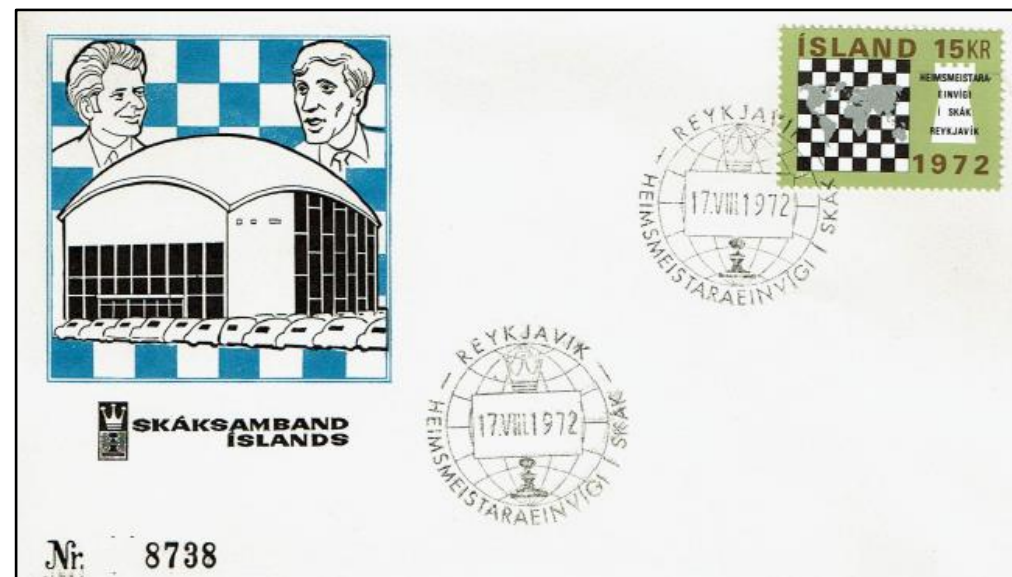
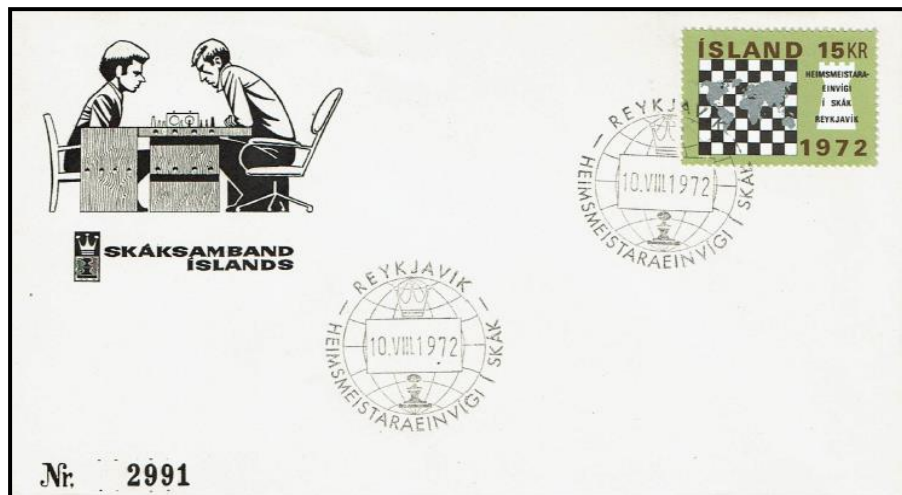


Battle for Location cachet



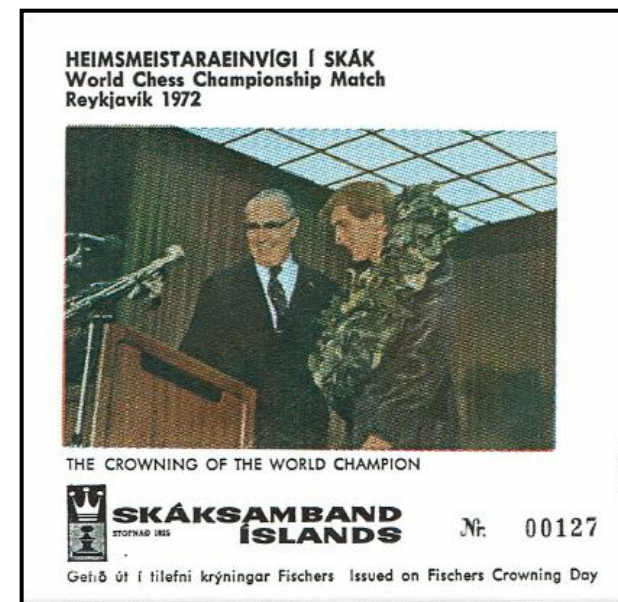
Cachets

Icelandic Chess Federation

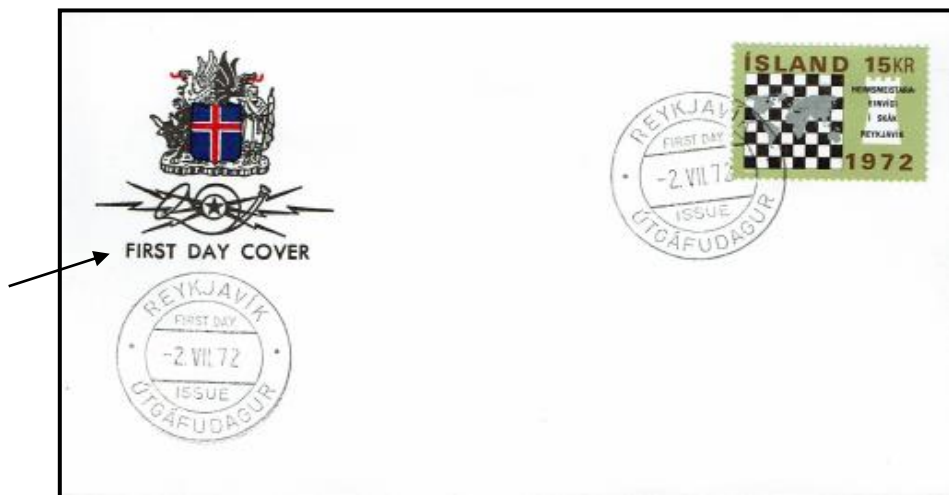


Cachets

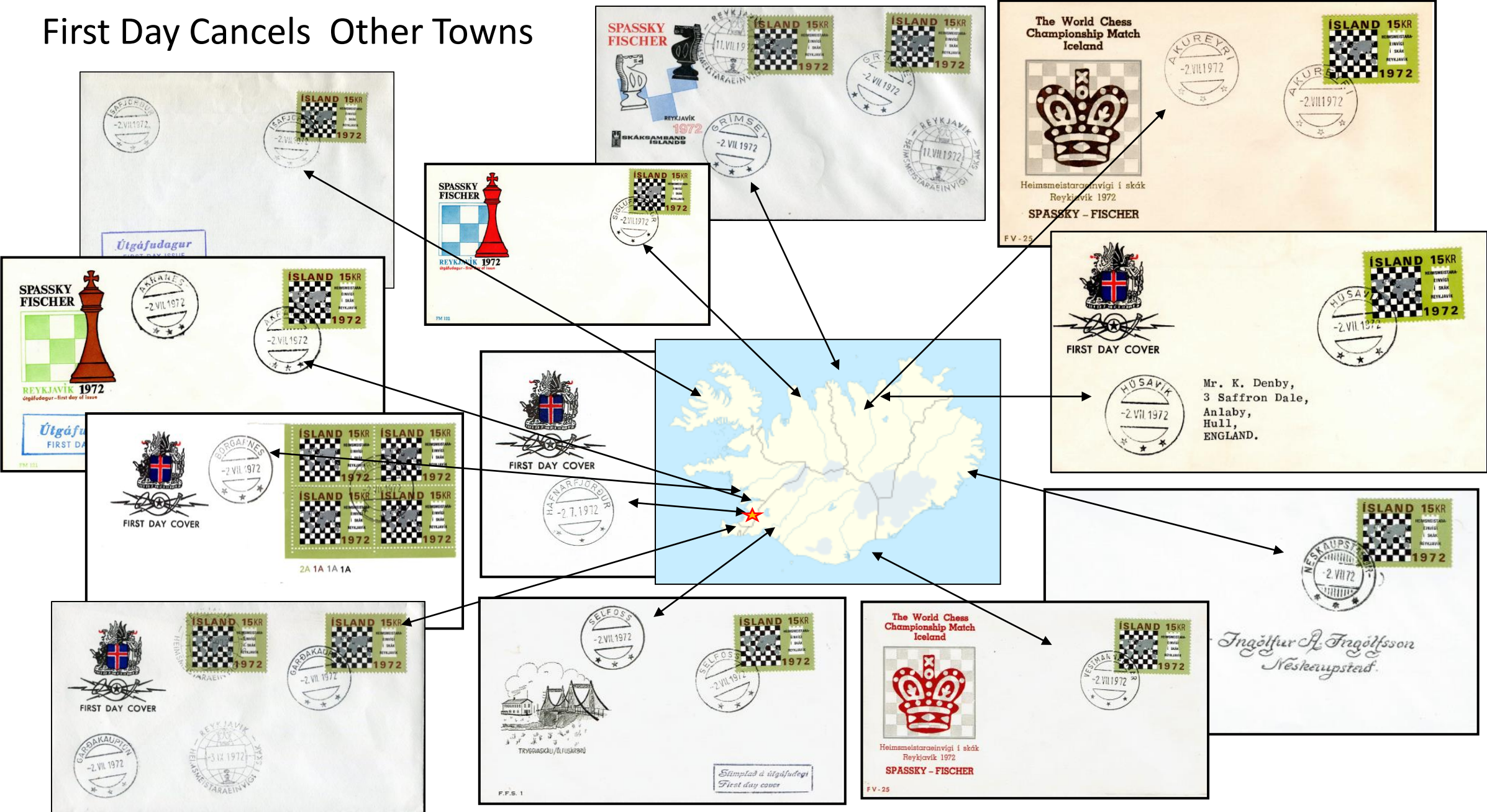
Icelandic Chess Federation



- Icelandic Post Office cachet

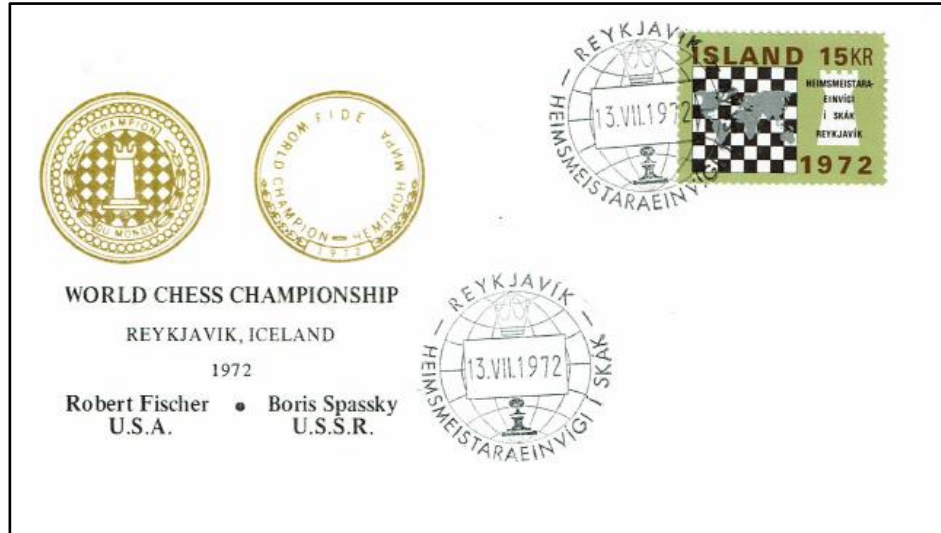


First Day Cancels Other Towns

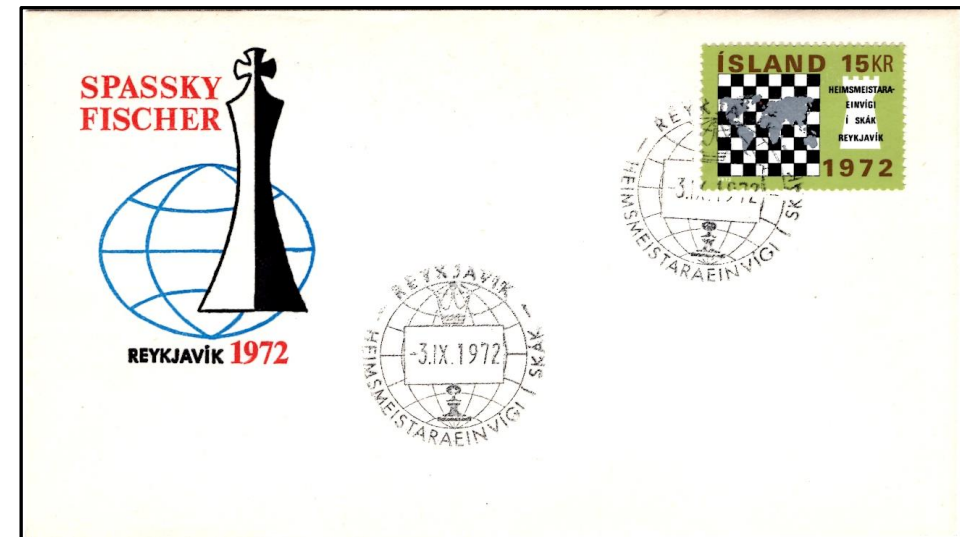


Other Cachet Makers

FIDE - Victor Lopez



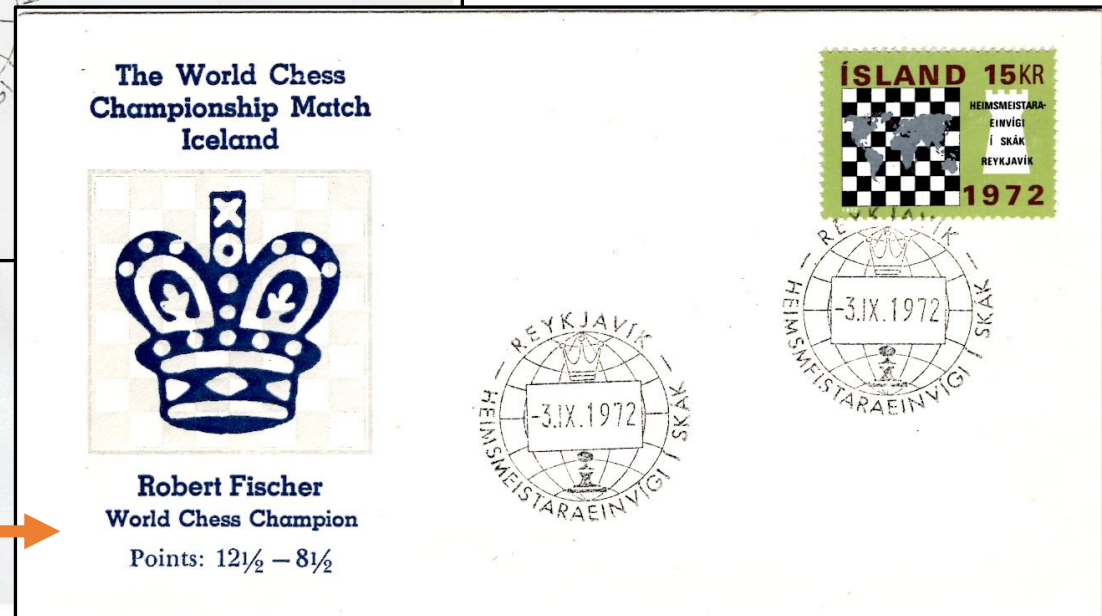
Unknown



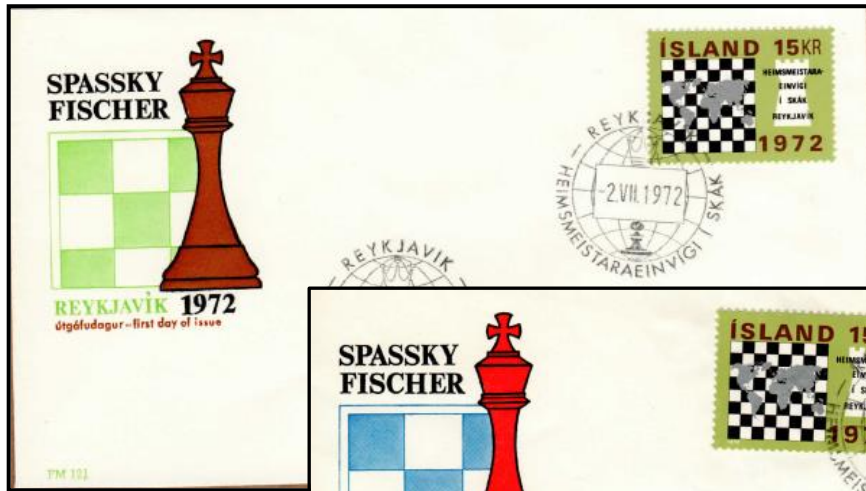
F.V. (Frimerkjshusid) (Stamp House)

David Johannesson (1952)

Bolli Davidsson (2012)



Other Cachet Makers



F.M.
(Frimerkjamdstoin)
(Stamp Center)

Magni Magnusson (1978)

Finnar Kobeinsson (1964)

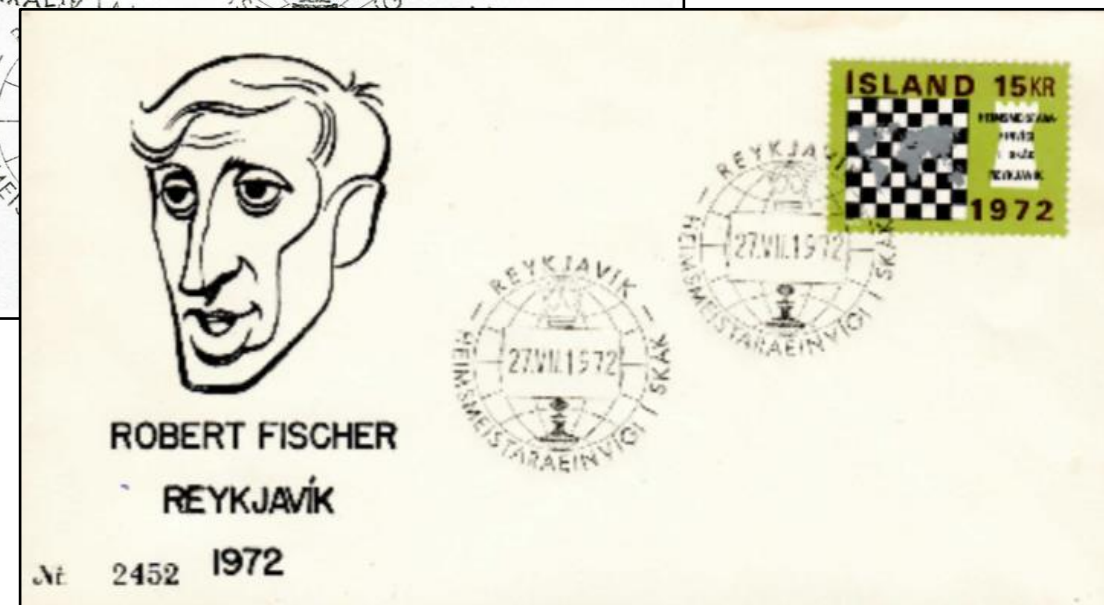
Haraldur Saemunsson (1968)



F.F.

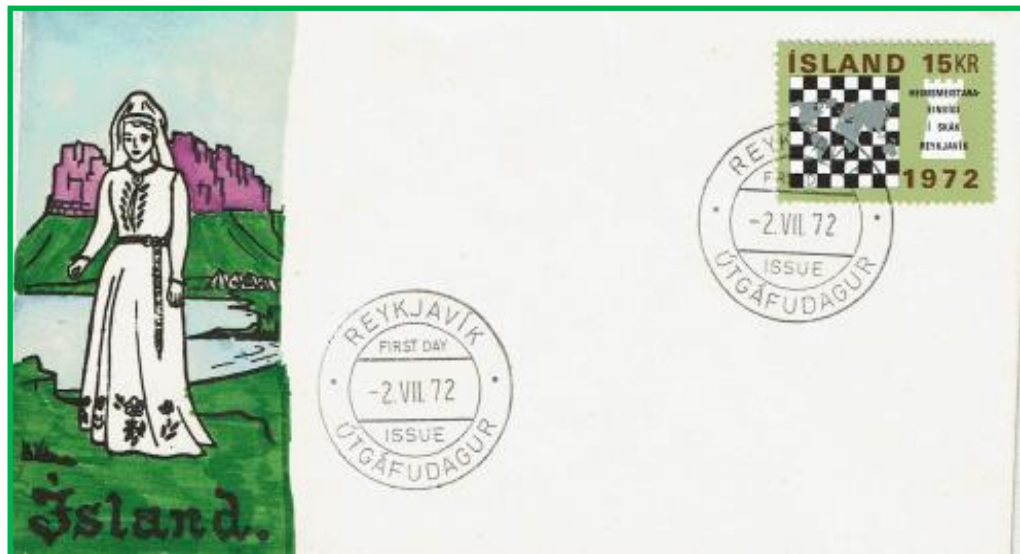
(Iceland Stamp Company)

Halldor Petursson cachets



Other Cachet Makers

Sigurdur Agustsson



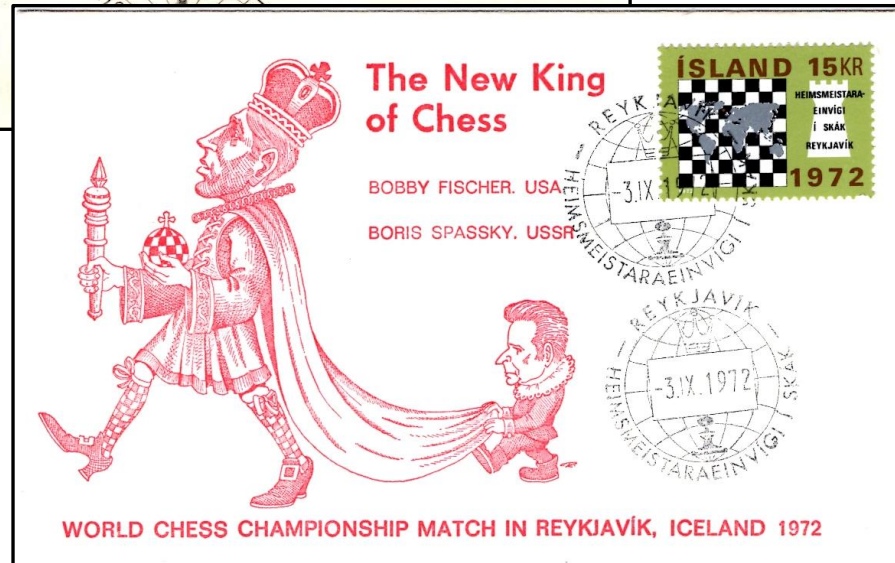
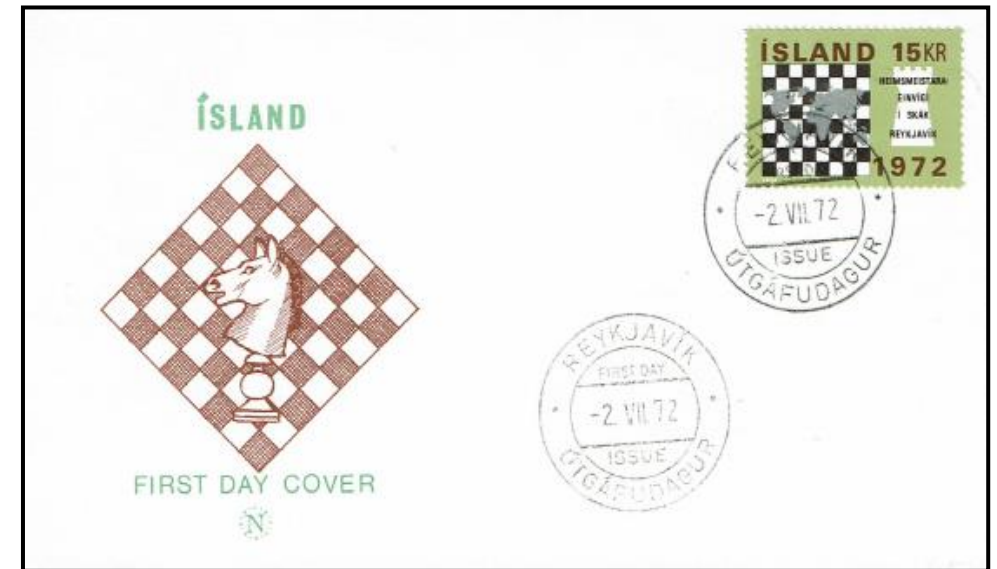
Porsteinn Sigvoldason



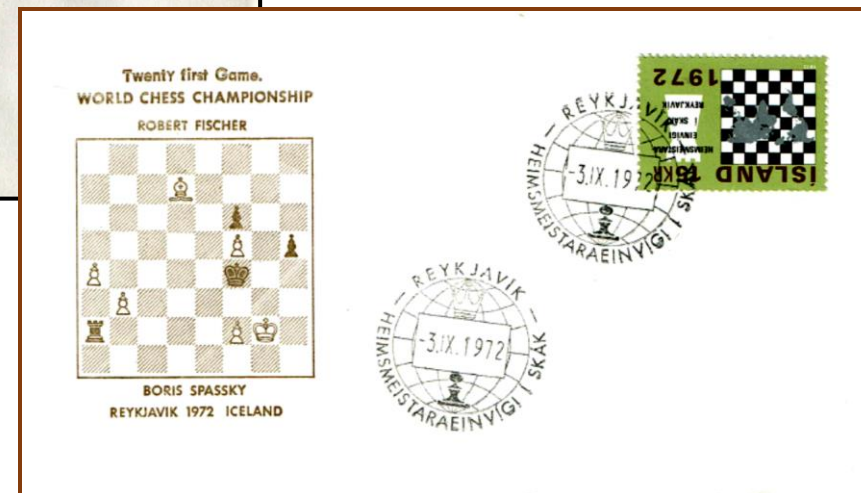
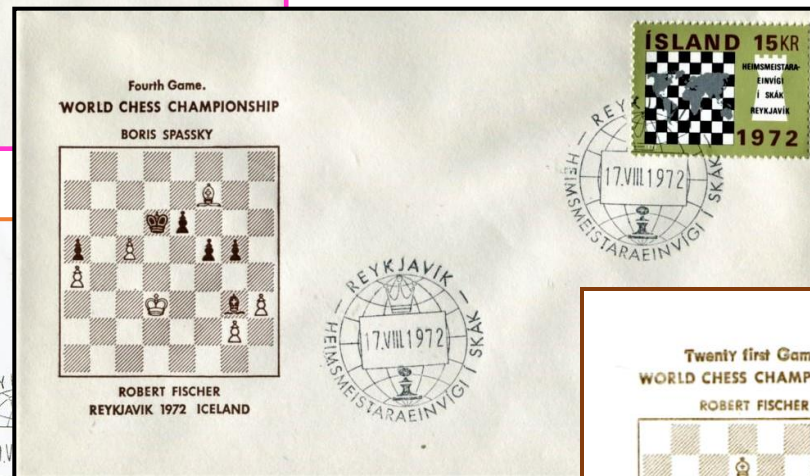
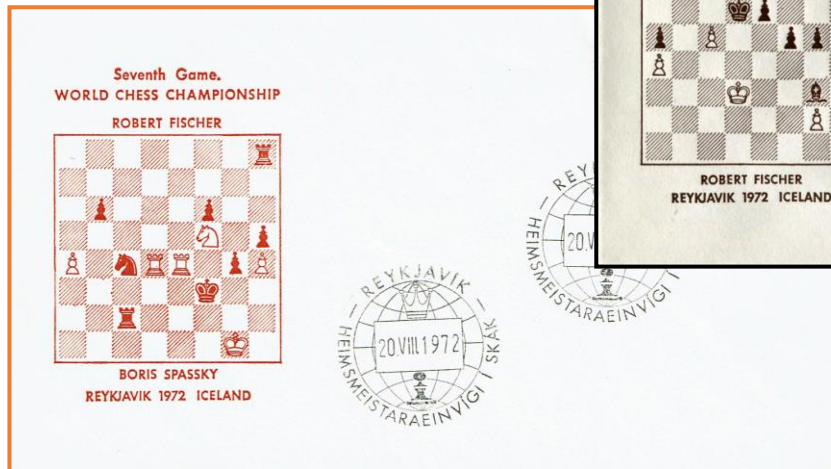
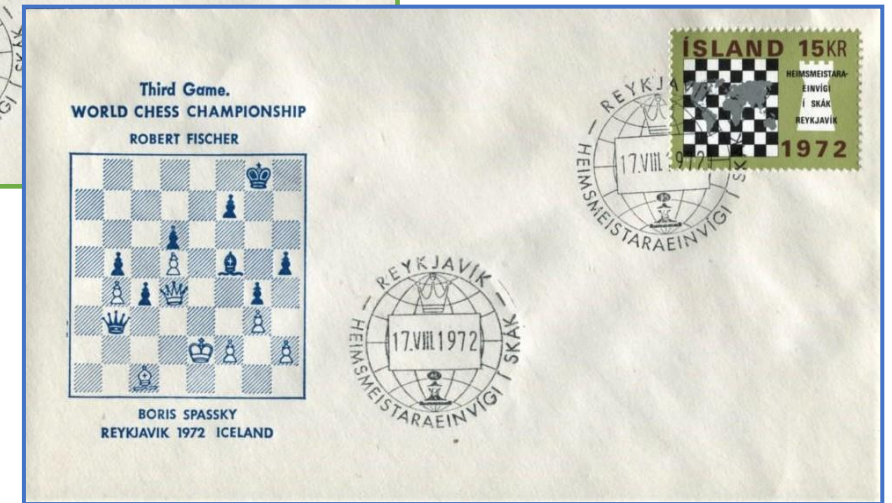
Other Cachet Makers

Ragnar Lar

“N” Scandinavian Stamp Company - Fritz Neve



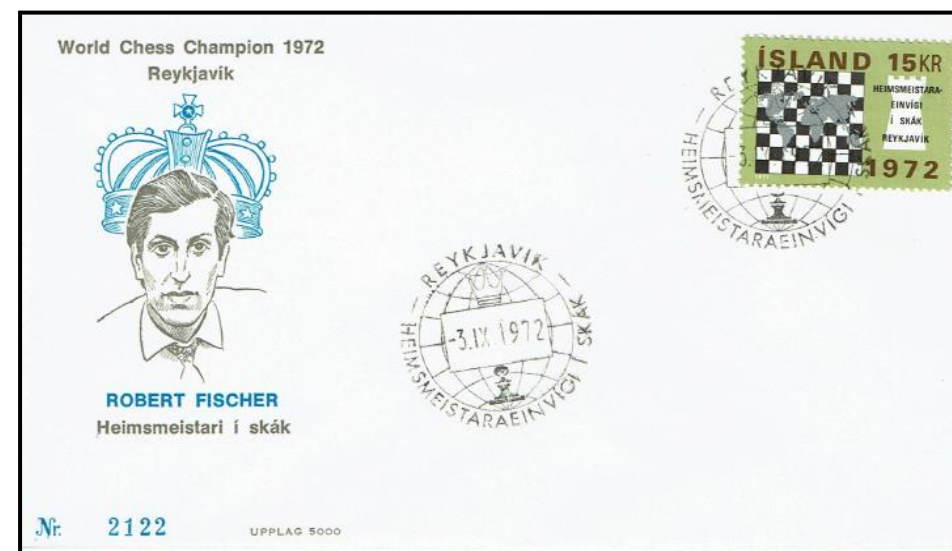
G.J.S. “Final Pieces Position” cachets



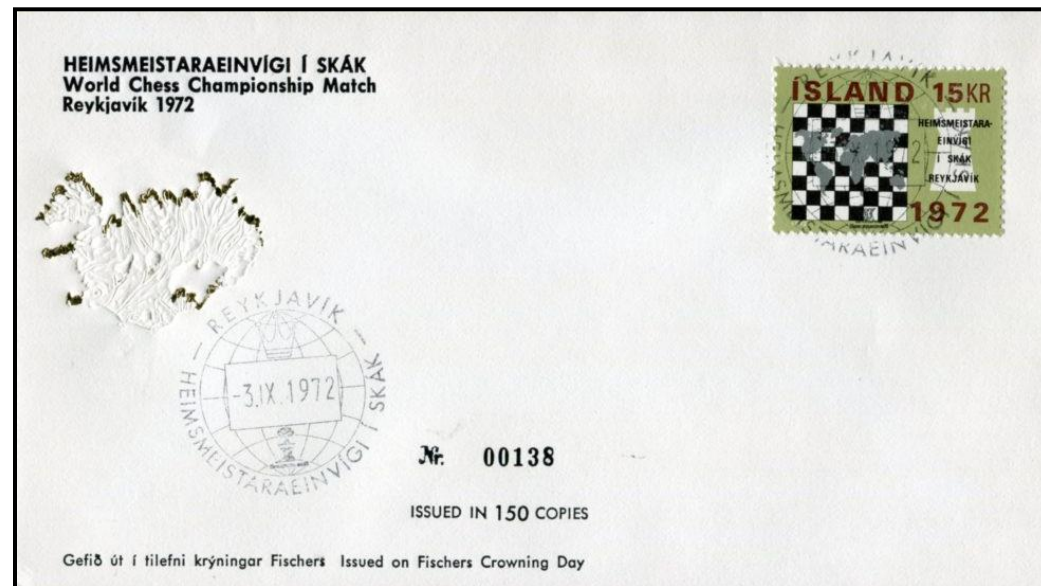
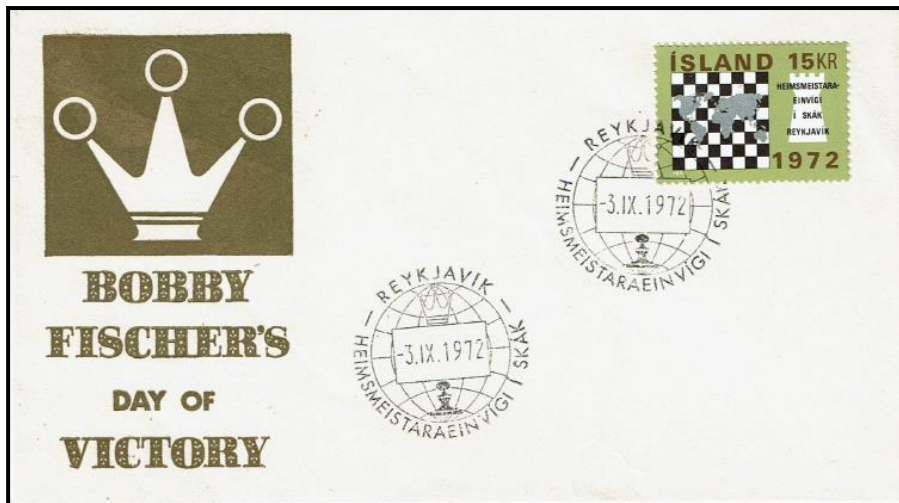
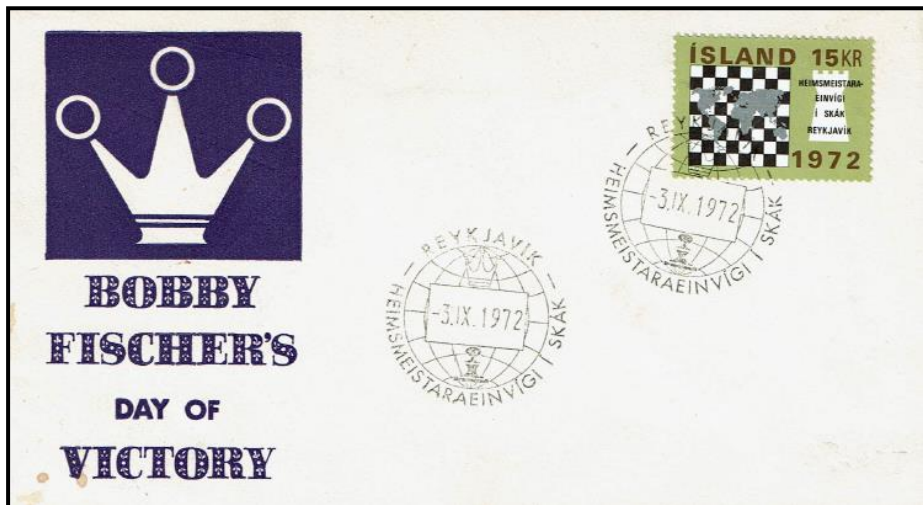
Other Cachet Makers



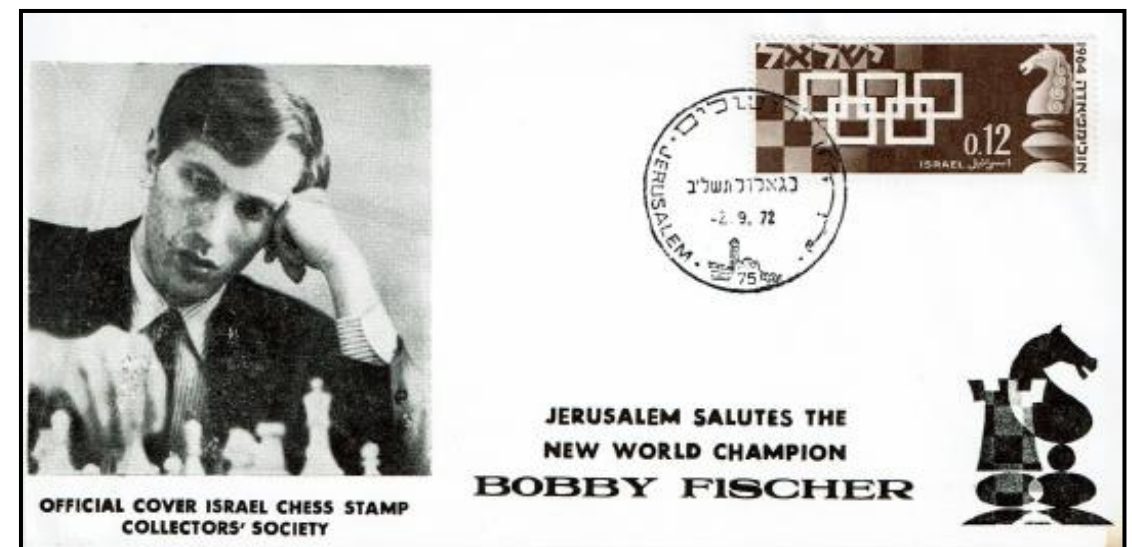
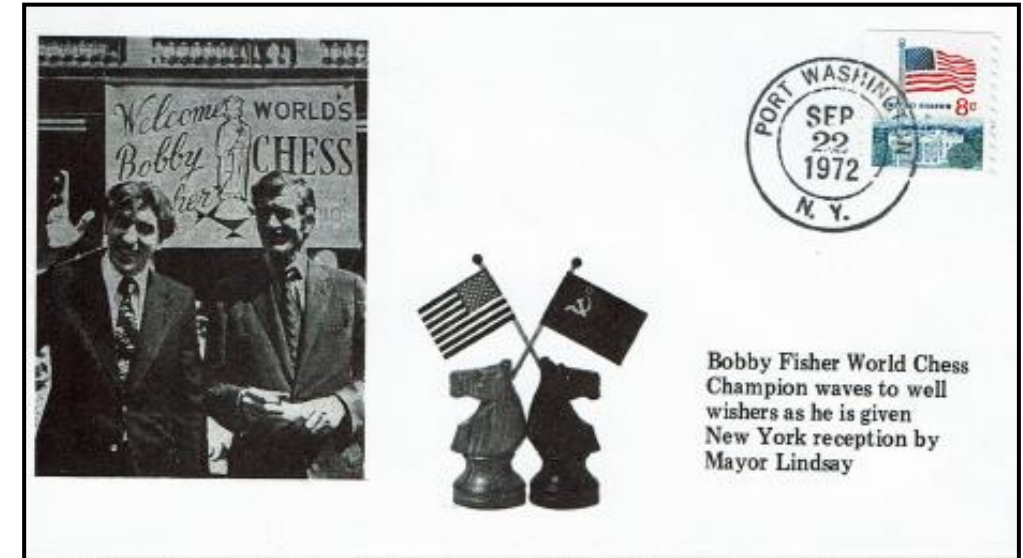
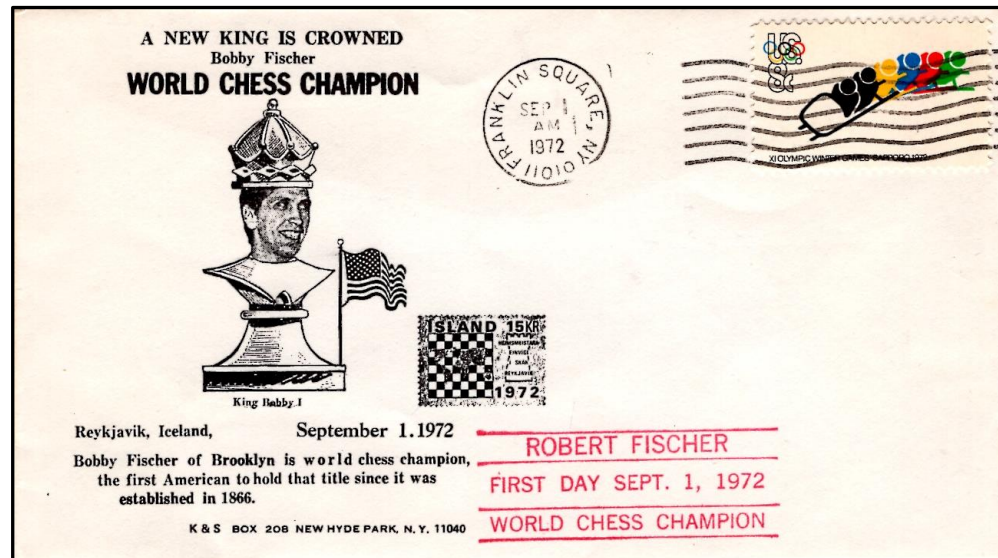
Other Cachet Makers - unknown



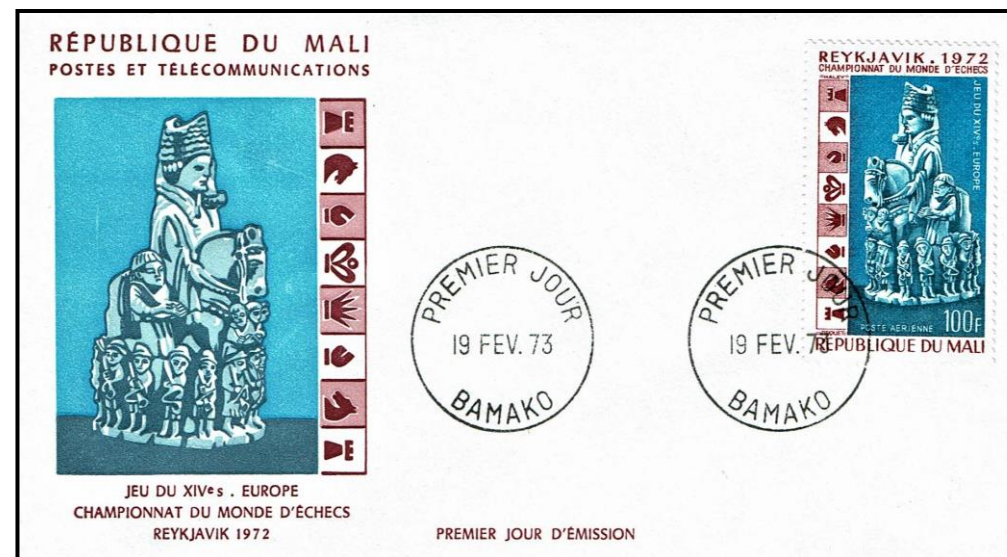
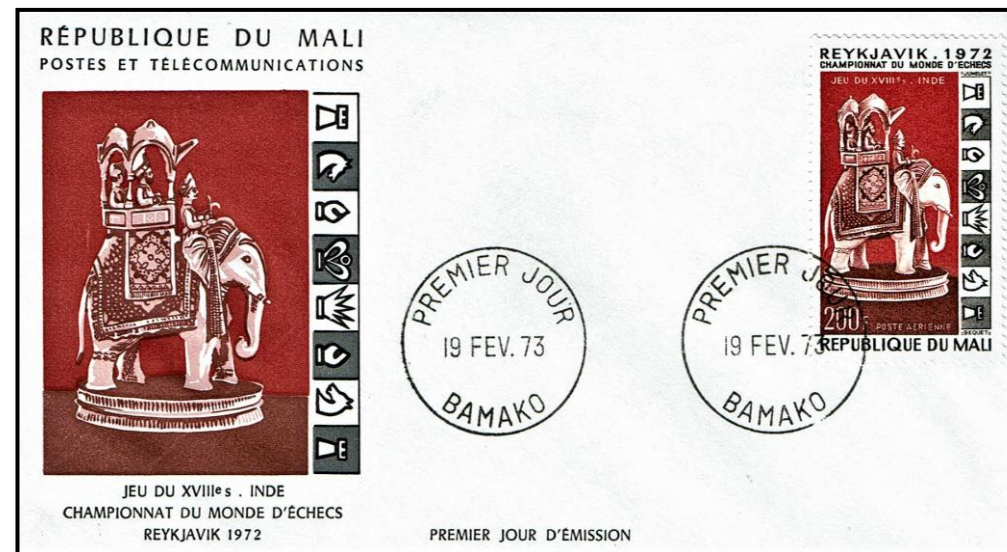
Unknown Cachet Makers



Non-Icelandic Cachets



Non-Icelandic Cachets



Registered Covers from Laugardalsholl Post Office

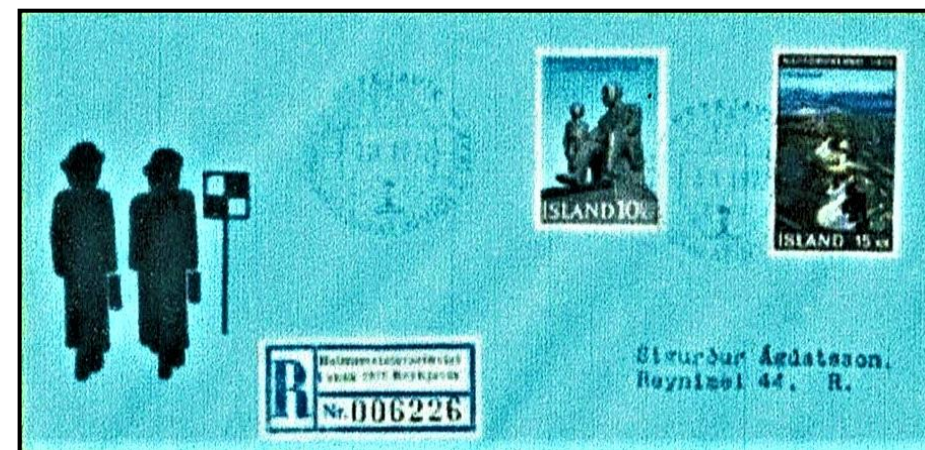
Based on known registered covers from the Laugardalsholl Post Office at least 6,226 registered covers were processed on the 34 different dates during the match (July 2—Sept. 3 1972)

Registered numbers known by date:

First day	July 2	88 - 750			
Game 1	July 11/12	751 - 937			
Game 2	July 13	1004	(Game 2 not played because Fischer did not show up.)		
Game 3	July 16 (17)	1086 - 1178	July 17	1232 - 1317	
Game 4	July 18	1316			
Game 5	July 20	1460			
Game 6	July 23	1522	Game 15	August 17/18	2849 - 2981
Game 7	July 25/26	1654 - 1739	Game 16	August 20	3025 - 3059
Game 8	July 27	1789	Game 17	August 22/23	3217 - 3339
Game 9	August 1	1920	Game 18	August 24/25	3477 - 3598
Game 10	August 3/4	2042 - 2130	Game 19	August 27	3618 - 3713
Game 11	August 6	2249	Game 20	August 29/30	3850 - 3955
Game 12	August 8/9	2360 - 2482	Game 21	August 31	4119 - 4156
Game 13	August 10/11	2495 - 2825		September 1	
4261 - 4285	Game 14	August 15	2720 - 2825	Banquet	September 3 4301 - 6226

A few registered items are known using the 15kr chess stamp from other post office locations in Iceland during the match.

July 2, 1972 - (First Day of issue approximately 750 registered items processed at Laugardalsholl)



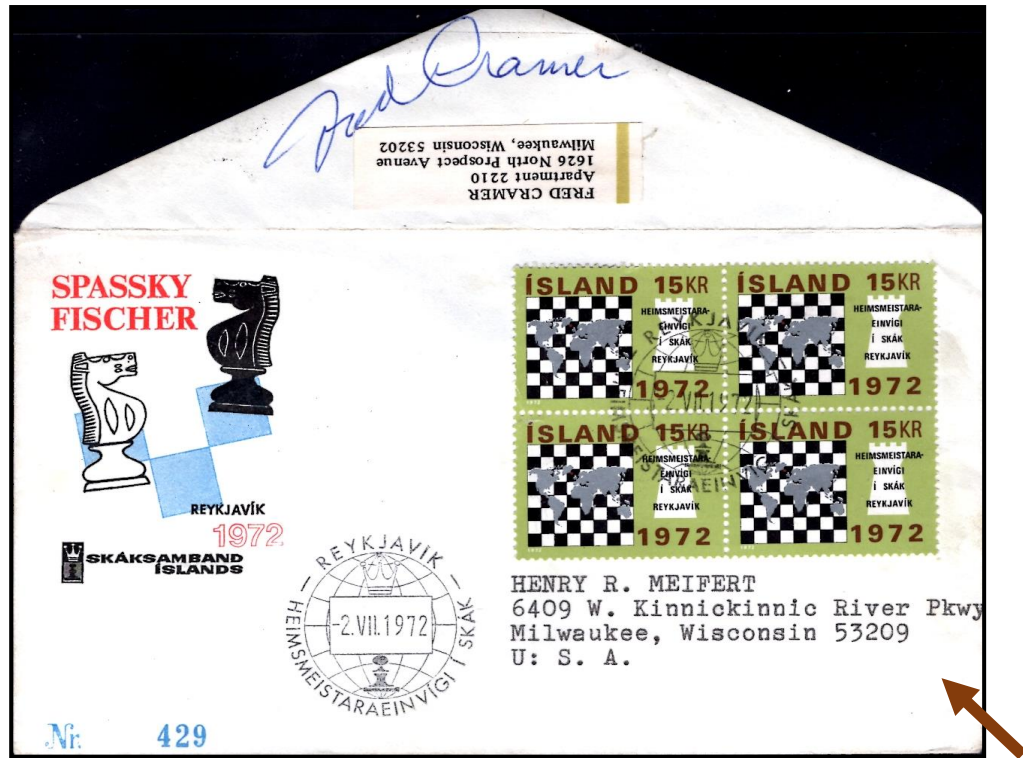
Registered covers from Laugardalsholl Post Office



Registered (cont.)



Unregistered Mail from Laugardalsholl Post Office



Fred Cramer (1912 – 1998)

President of the U.S. Chess Federation (1960 – 1963)

VP of FIDE (1970's)

Bobby Fischer's Manager 1972 World Chess Championship

Henry Meifert

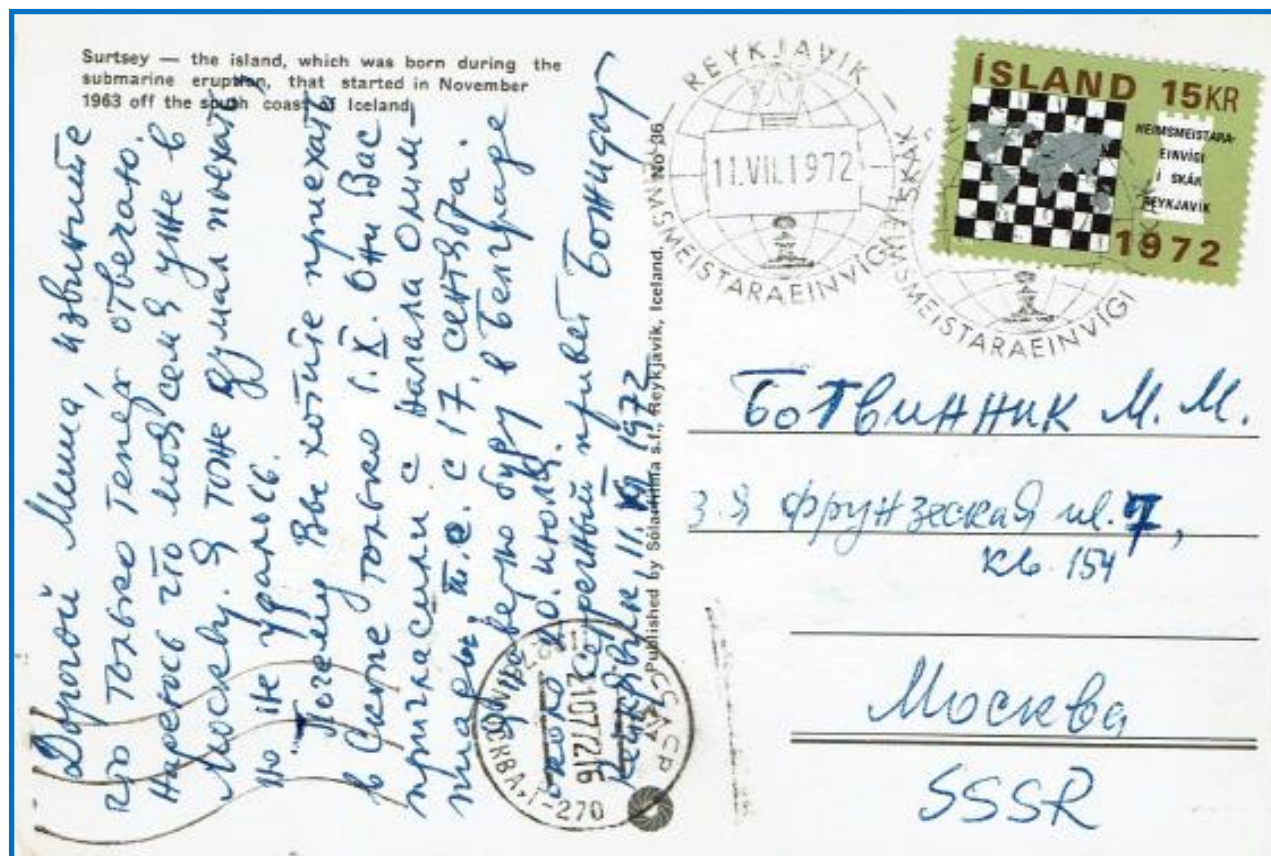
Member of the Southwest Chess Club, Hals Grove, Wisconsin

U.S. Army Infantry WWII - Purple Heart Recipient 2 clusters

Southwest Chess Club Library named in his honor



Unregistered Mail from Laugardalsholl Post Office



Bozhidar Kazic (1921—1996)

Yugoslavian chess player; International Arbitrator; Author & Journalist; Chairman of the Rules Committee (1978–1982); Honored member of FIDE since 1975; General Secretary Yugoslavian Chess Union (1951-1964 & 1971-1976); Chief Arbitrator in over 40 major chess tournaments & matches including: The Century Match USSR vs the Rest of the World 1970; Candidates Match Bobby Fischer vs Mark Taimanov 1971; Chess Olympiad 1984; USSR vs Yugoslavia Match 1956; Interzonal in Portoroz 1958.



Mikhail Botvinnik (1911-1995)

Winner of six Soviet Chess Championships; three time World Chess Champion (1948-1957; 1958-1960; 1961-1963); played on six gold medal winning Soviet Olympiad teams (1954-1964); widely considered one of the greatest chess players of all time; played a major role in the organization of chess & the design of the World Chess Championship system; leading member of the Soviet Union coaching system. His Chess School produced future champions: Karpov, Kasparov, & Kramnik.

WCC Postcard



Walter Goldwater

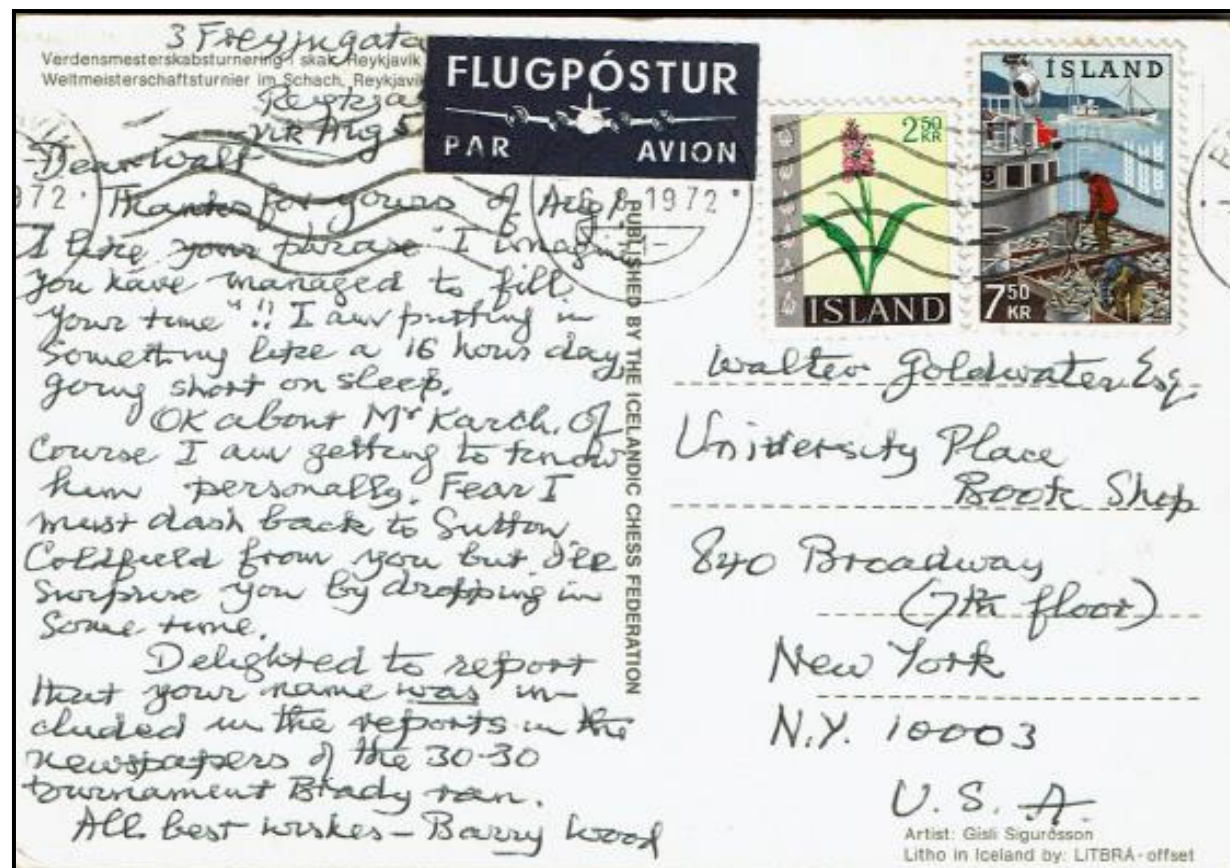
Tournament Chess Player

President of the Marshall Chess Club N.Y.
(where Bobby Fisher played chess)

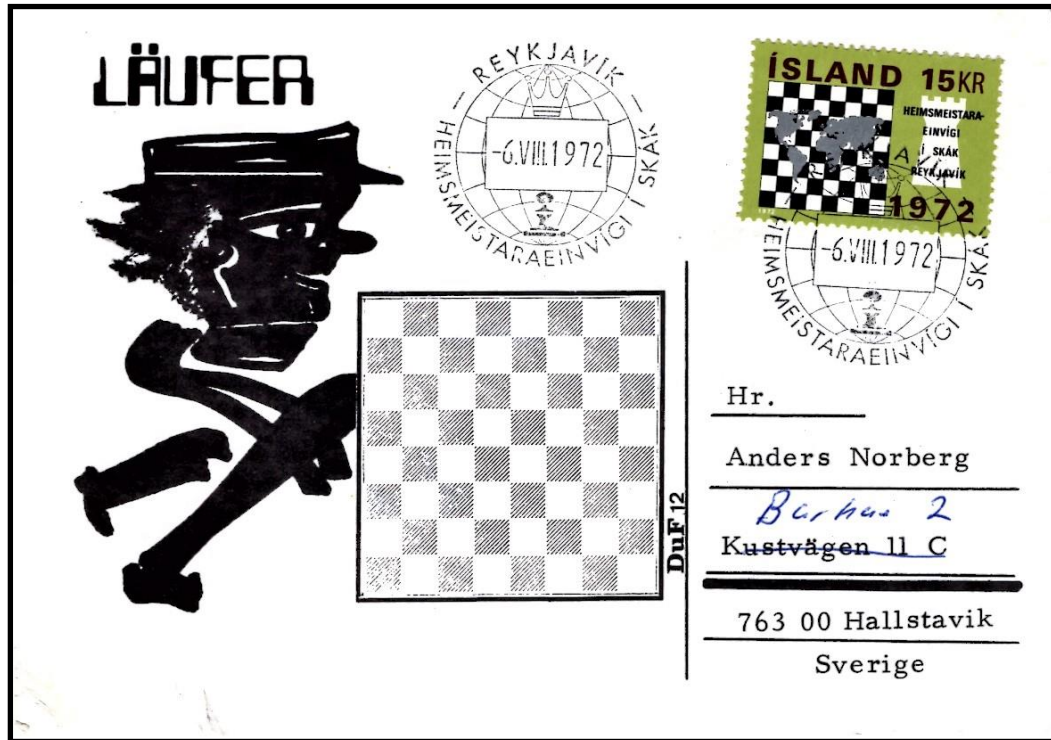
Antiquarian (founding member of the
Antiquarian Booksellers Association of
America)

Owner of the University Place Book Shop N.Y.

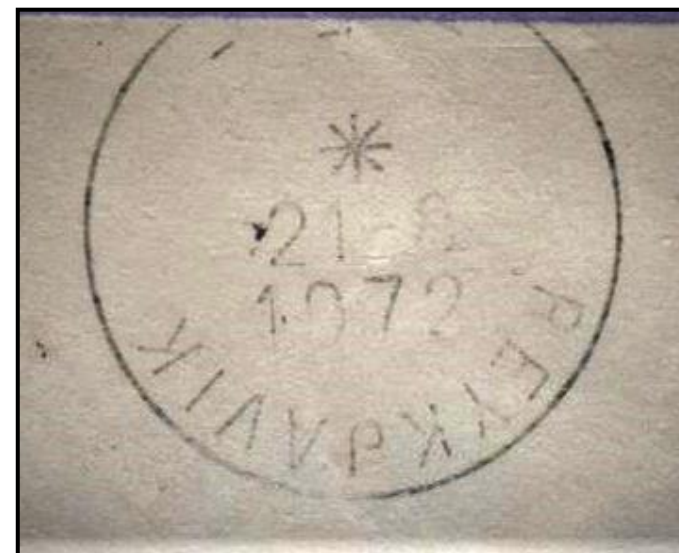
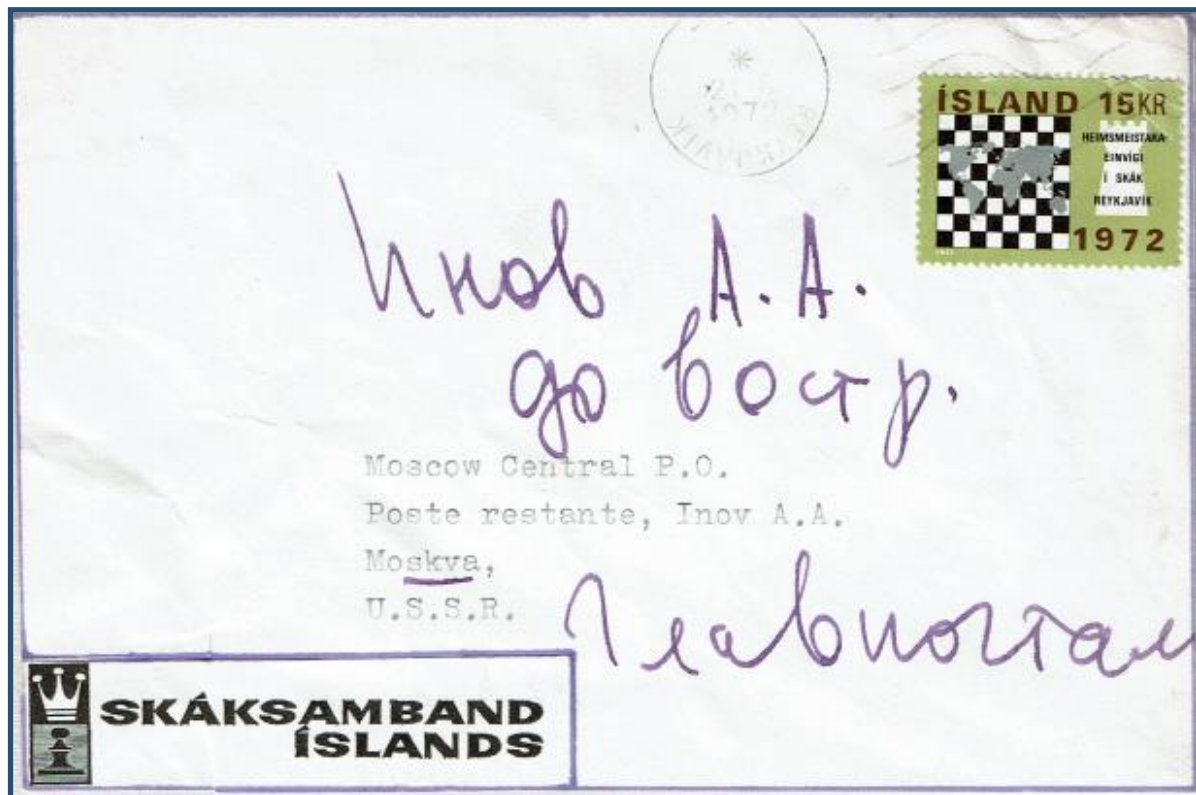
Cofounder & Publisher of *Dissent Magazine*
published by the University of Pennsylvania
Press



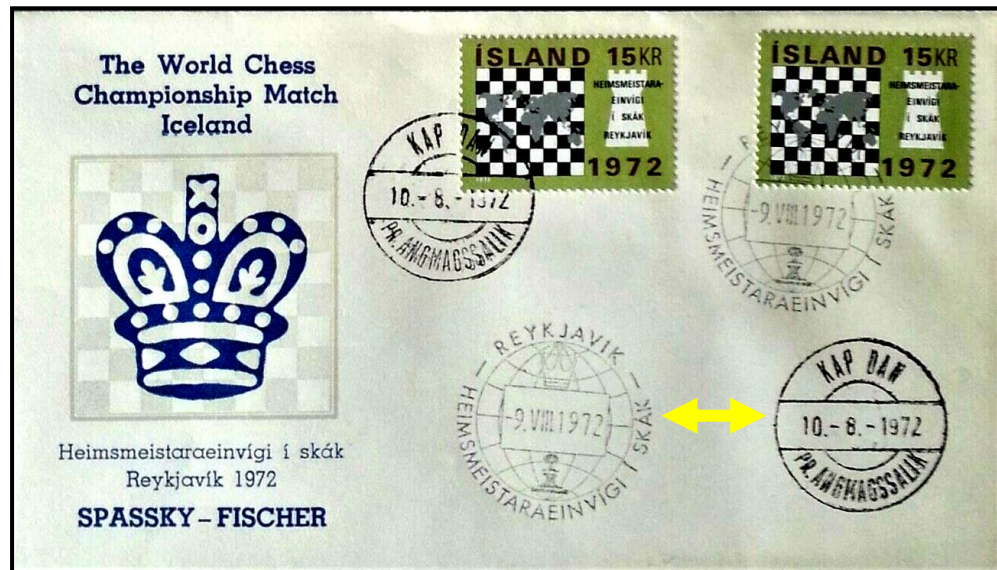
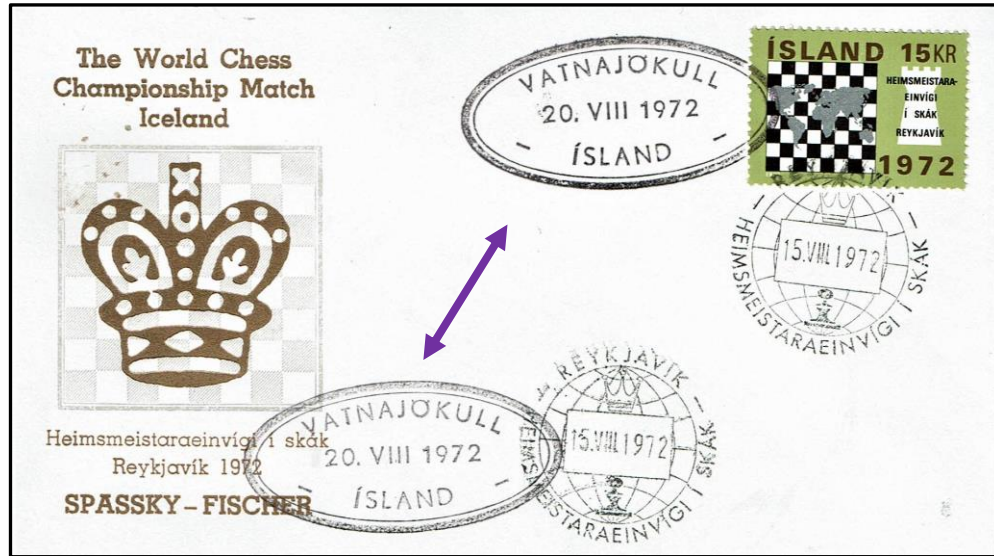
Unregistered Mail



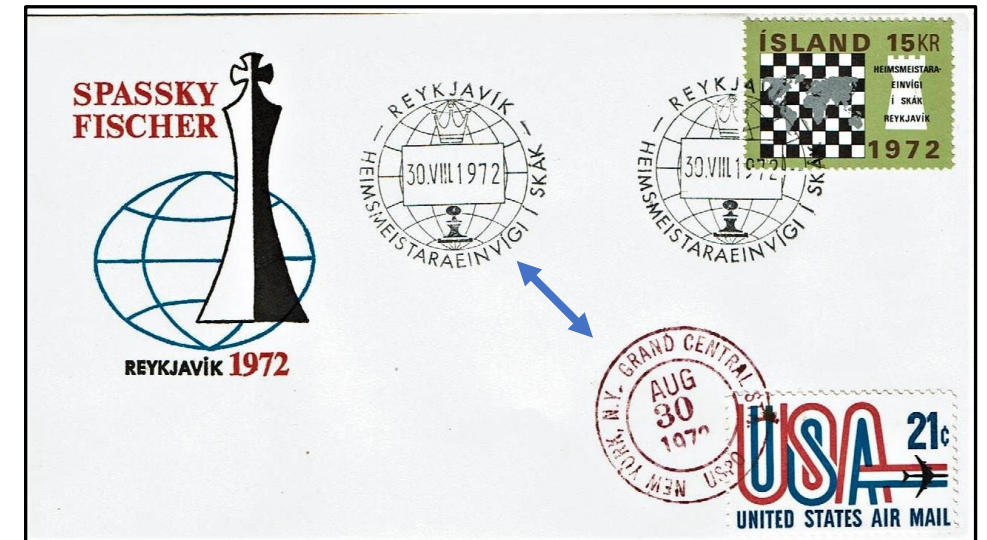
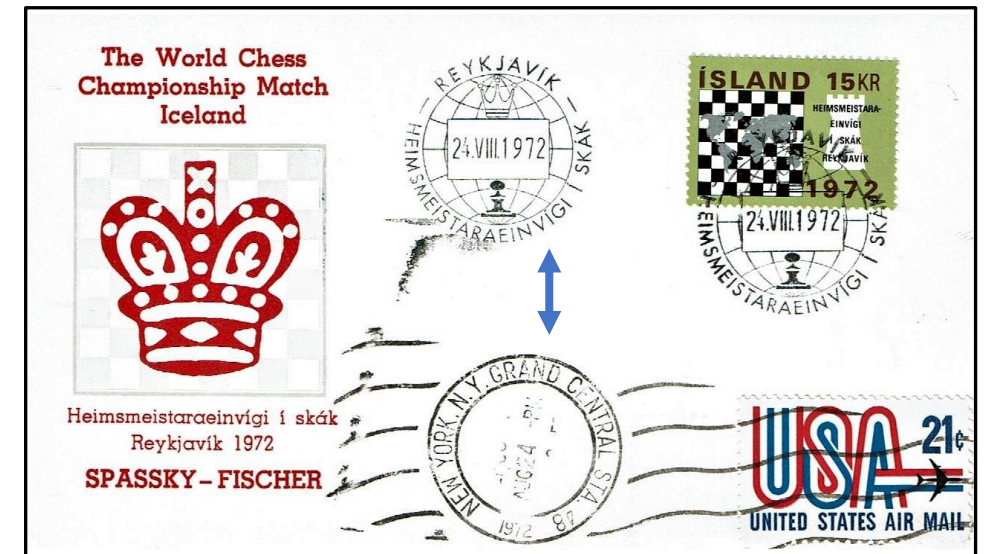
WCC cover to Russia



Unusual Philatelic souvenirs!



Same day - Reykjavik & New York



**THE WORLD CHESS
CHAMPIONSHIP MATCH
ICELAND**

Heimsmeistaraeinvigi í skák. Reykjavík 1972.

SPASSKY | **FISCHER**
U.S.S.R. | U.S.A.

1-24

Nº 392

THE WORLD CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP MATCH ICELAND

Heimsmeistaraeingvi í skák, Reykjavík 1972.

SPASSKY | **FISCHER**

USSR. | U.S.A.

24

ISLAND 156R
HEIMSMESTARA-
EINGVI
Í SKAK
REYKJAVIK
1972

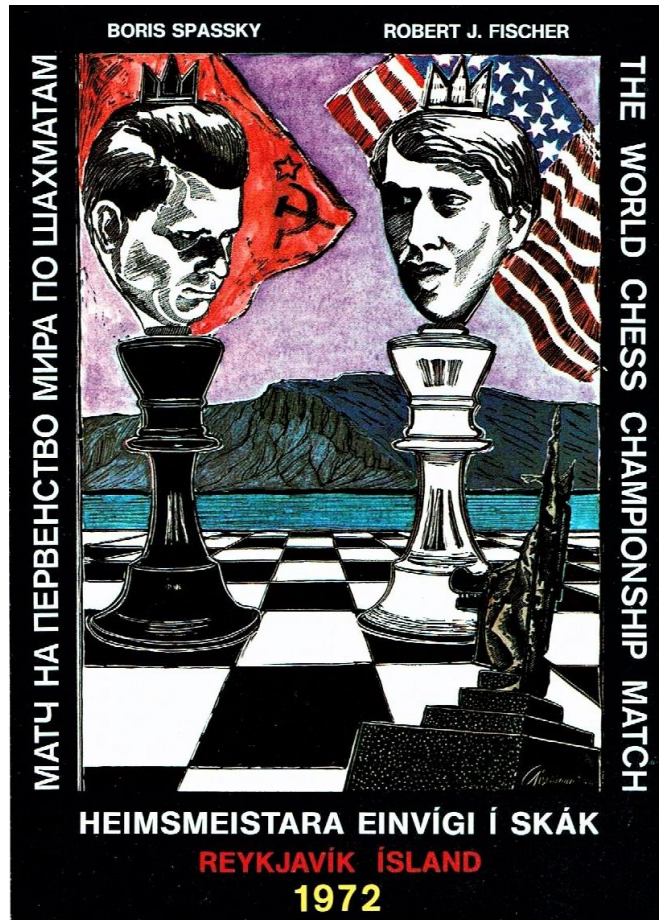
**VERDLUNA-
A-
HENDING**

Nº 2469

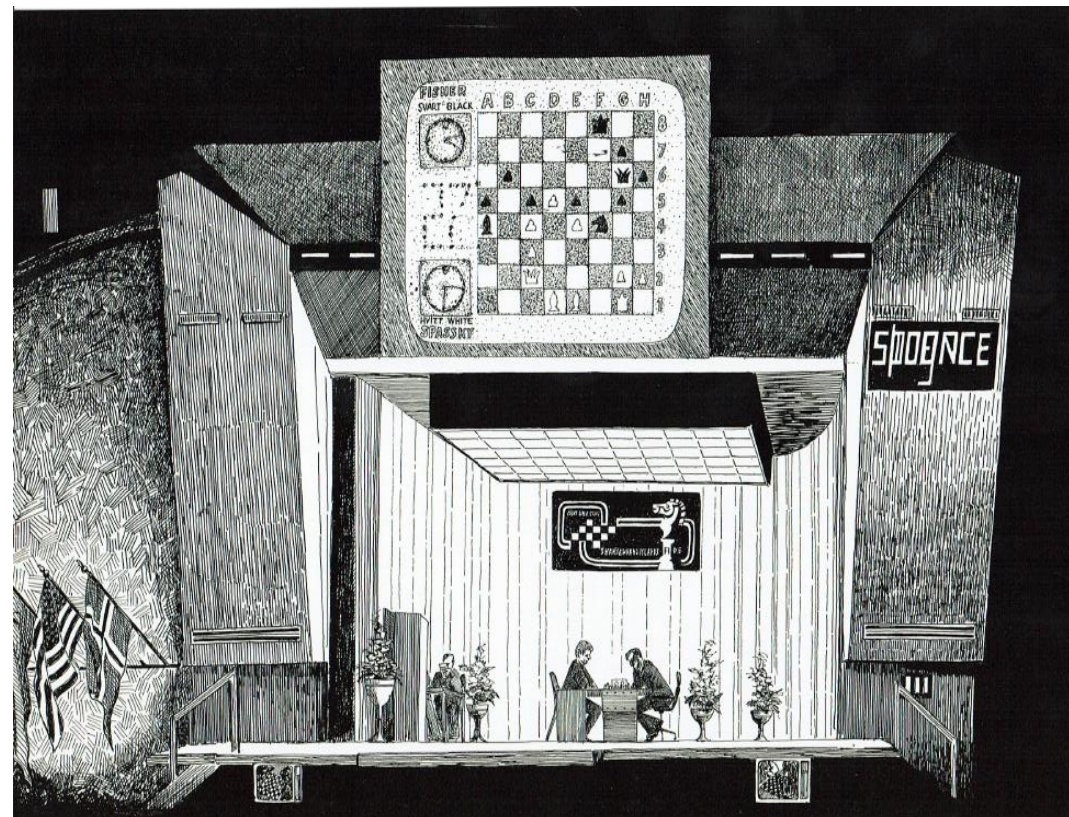
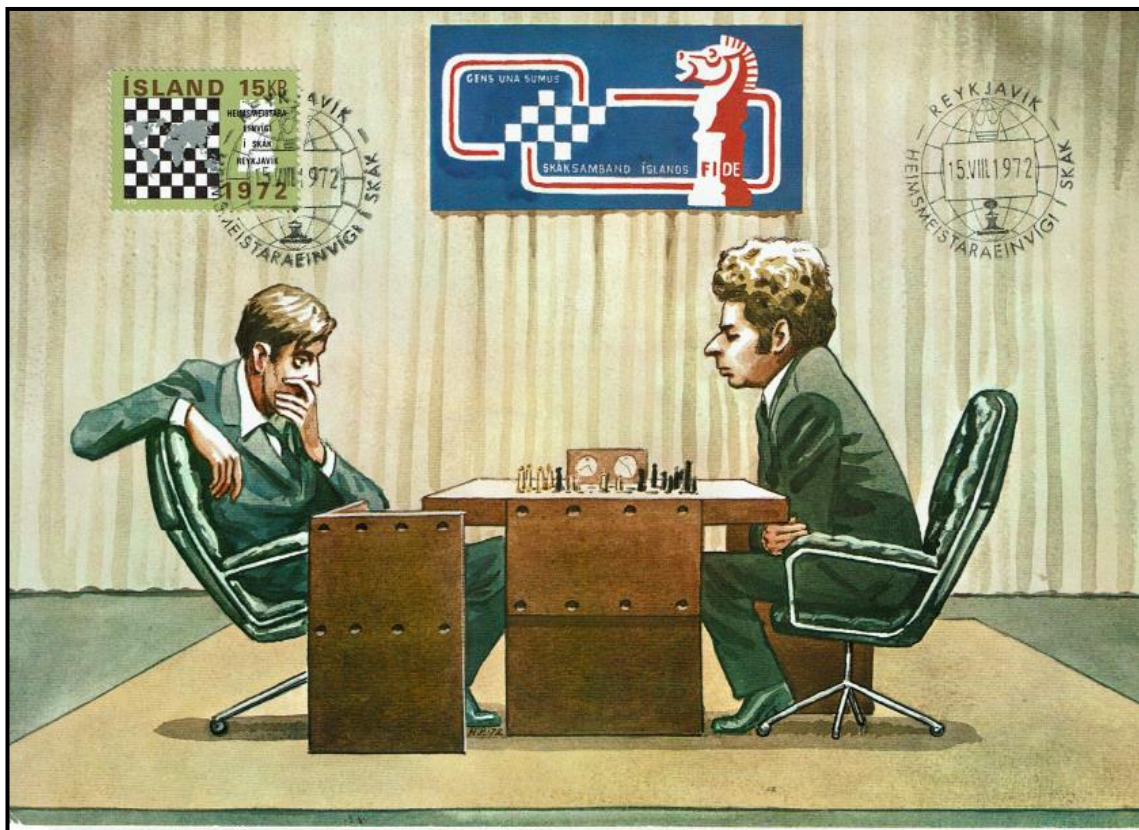
Admission Tickets & Money Order Receipt

[illegible]

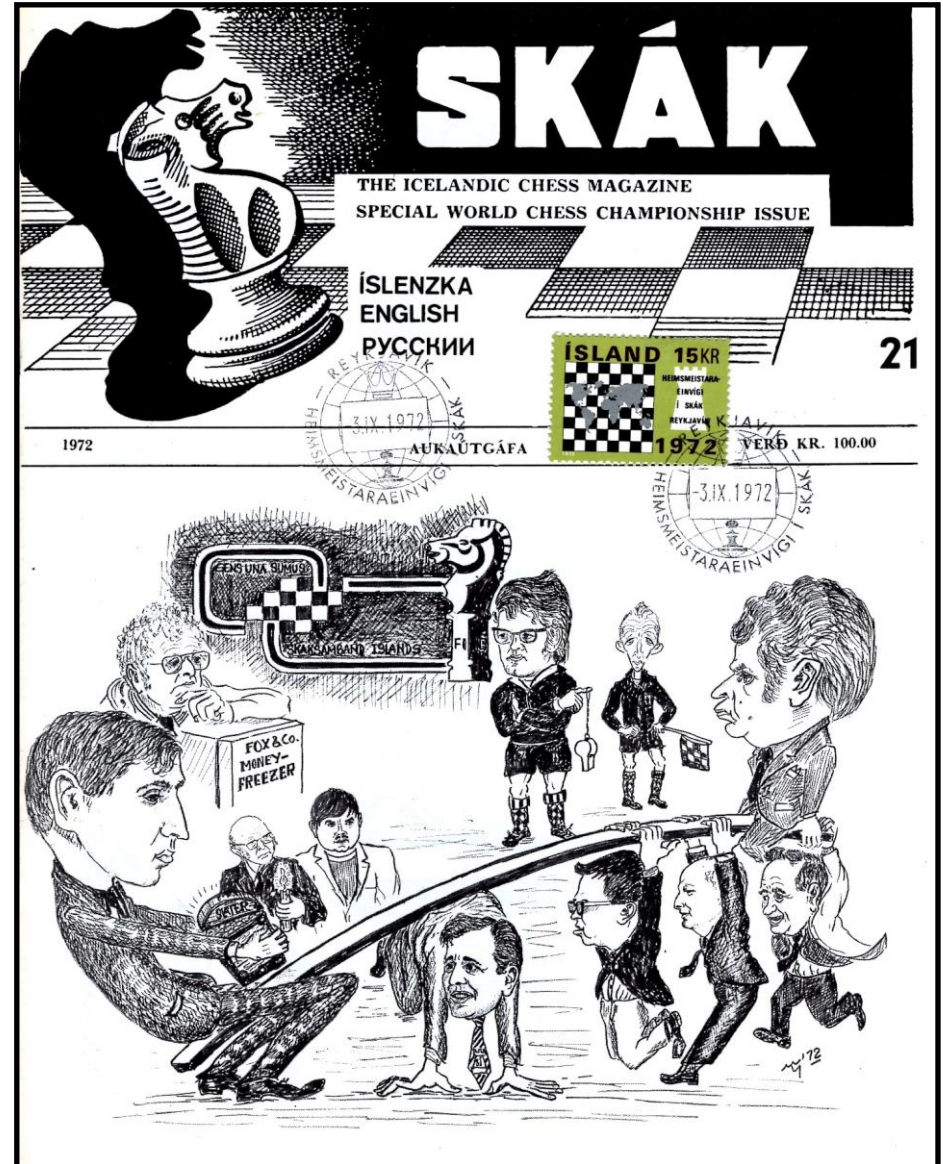
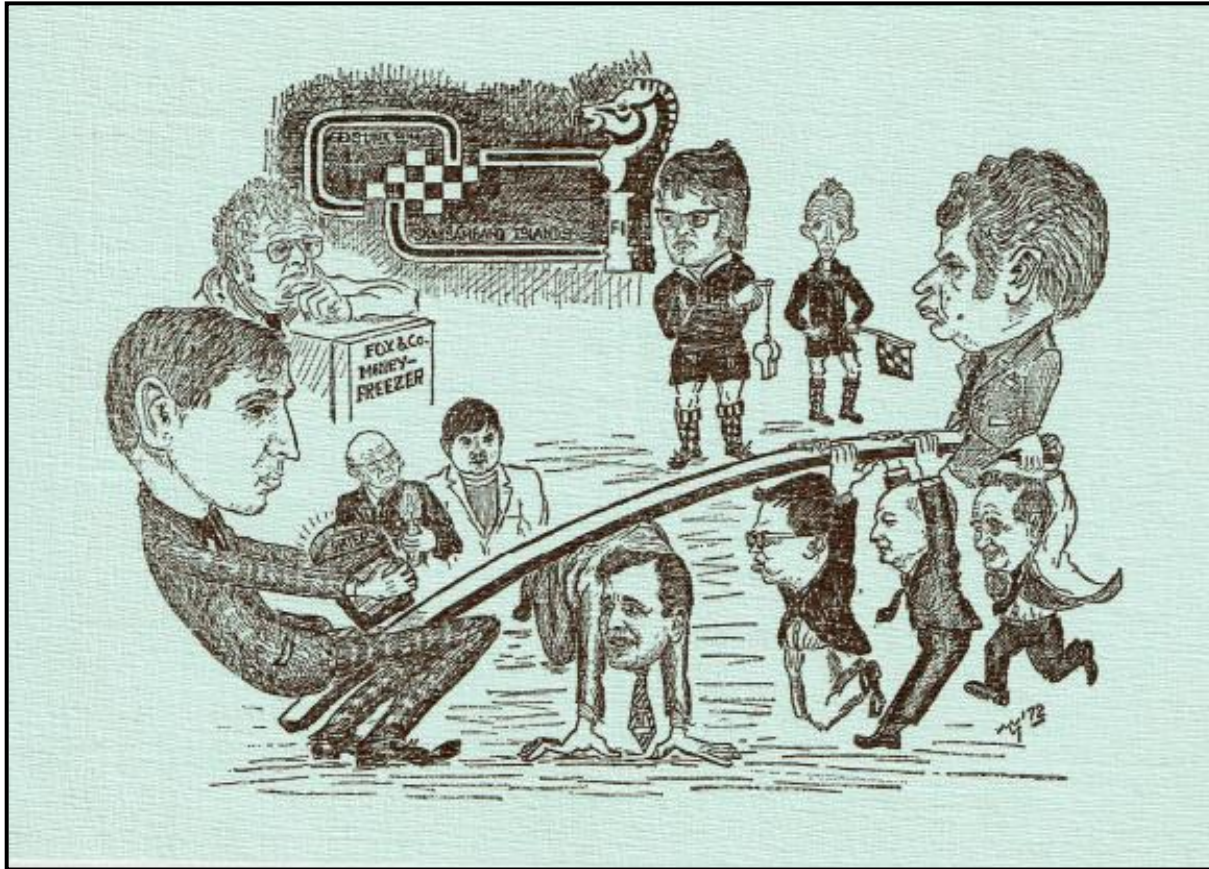
Postcards - Iceland Chess Federation



Postcards - Icelandic Chess Federation



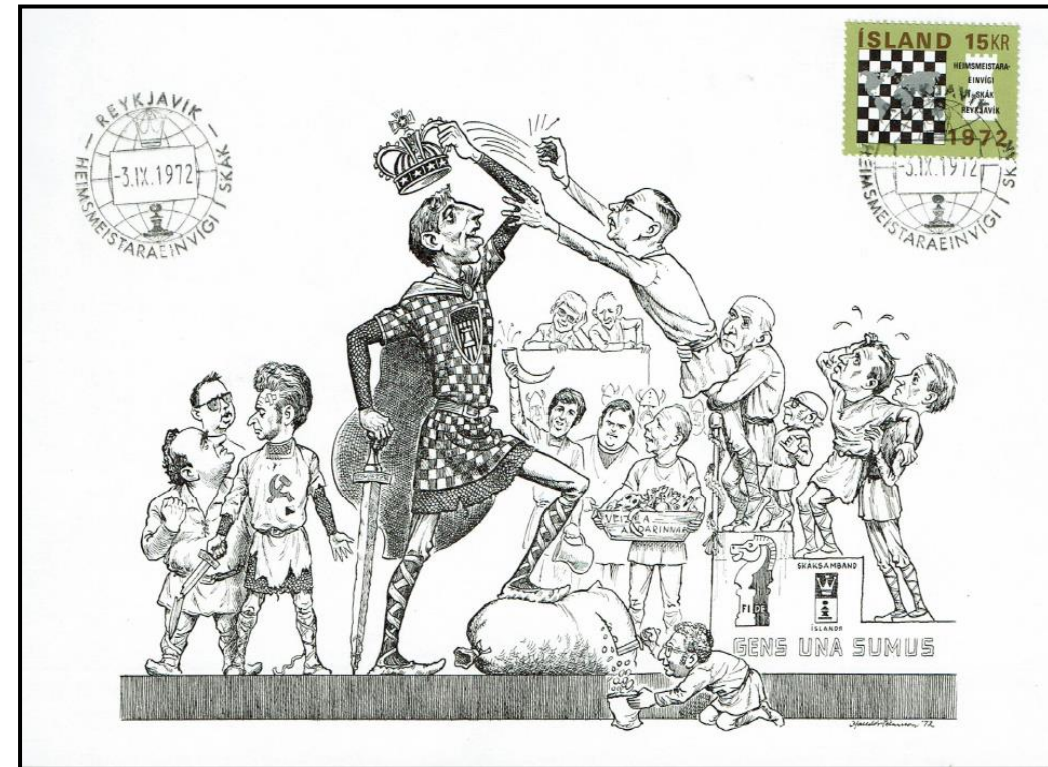
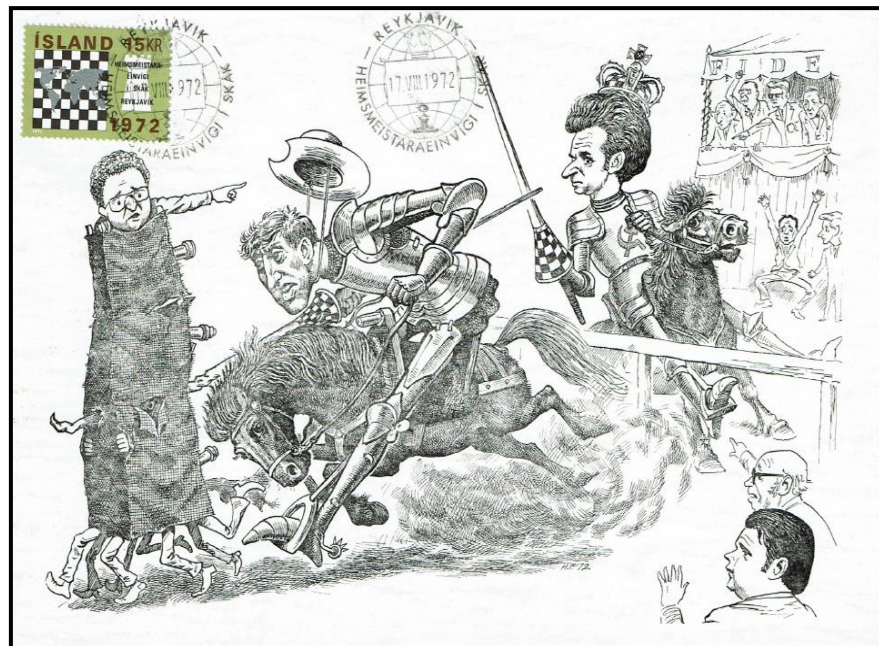
Postcard & SKAK Magazine





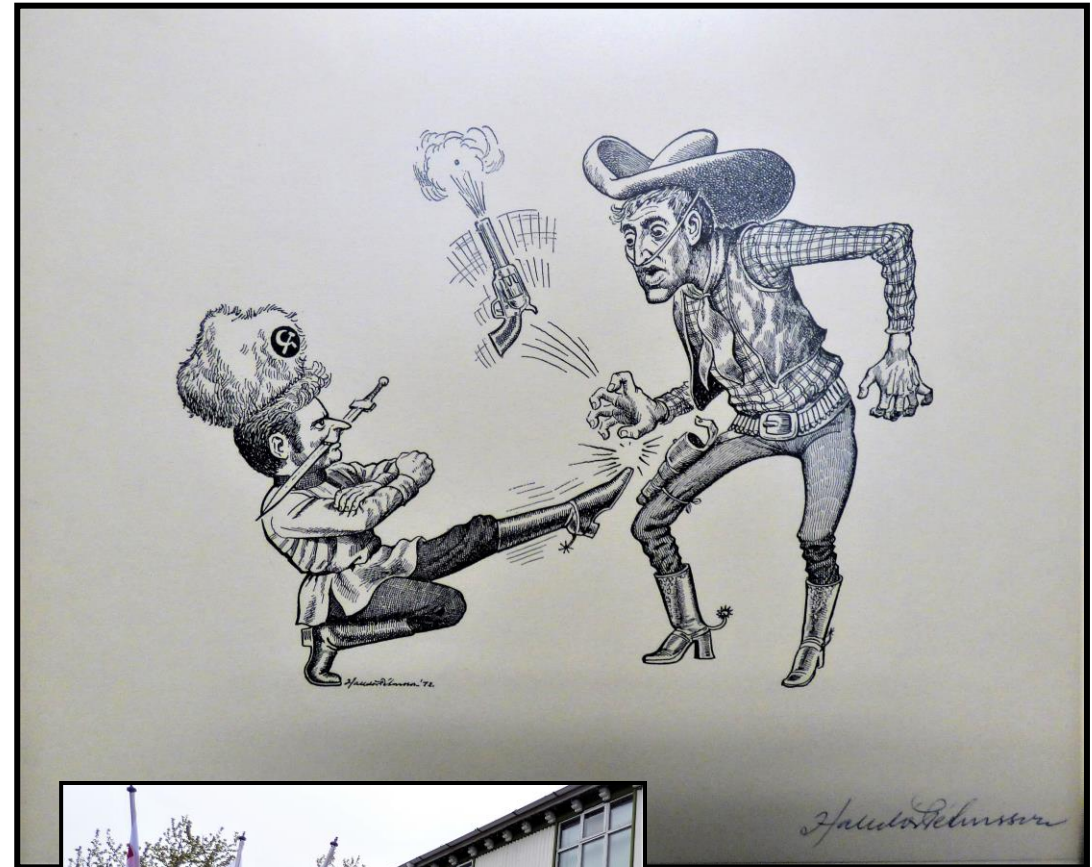
Halldor Petursson Postcards

(set of 18* cards)

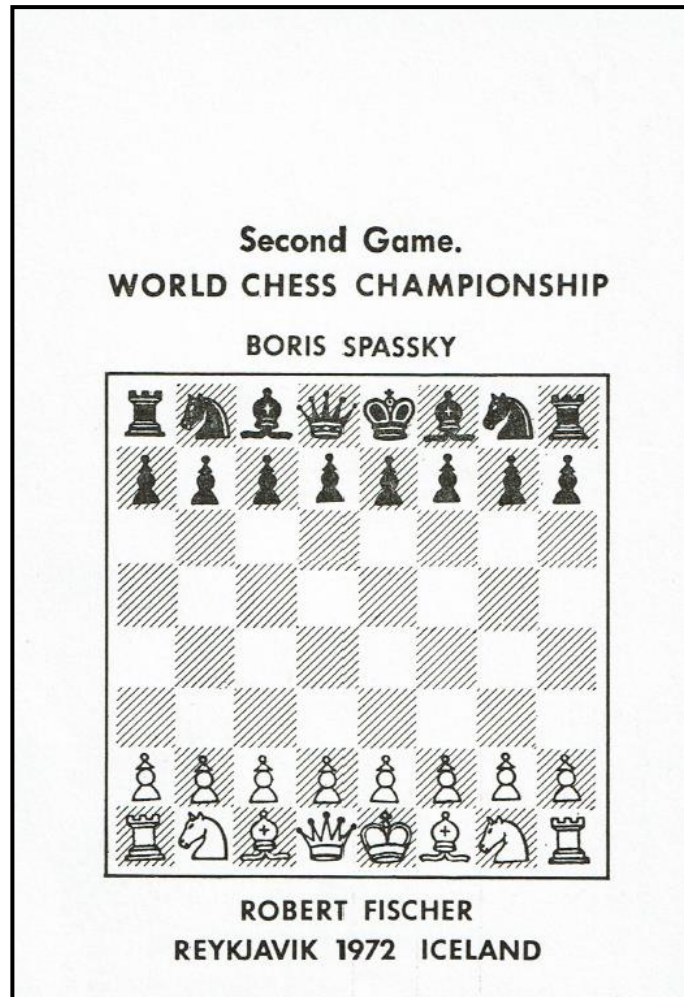


Halldor Petursson Postcards

Set of 18* + 1 = 19



Large Postcards "Final Pieces Position" & Score Sheet



THE WORLD CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP MATCH
ICELAND

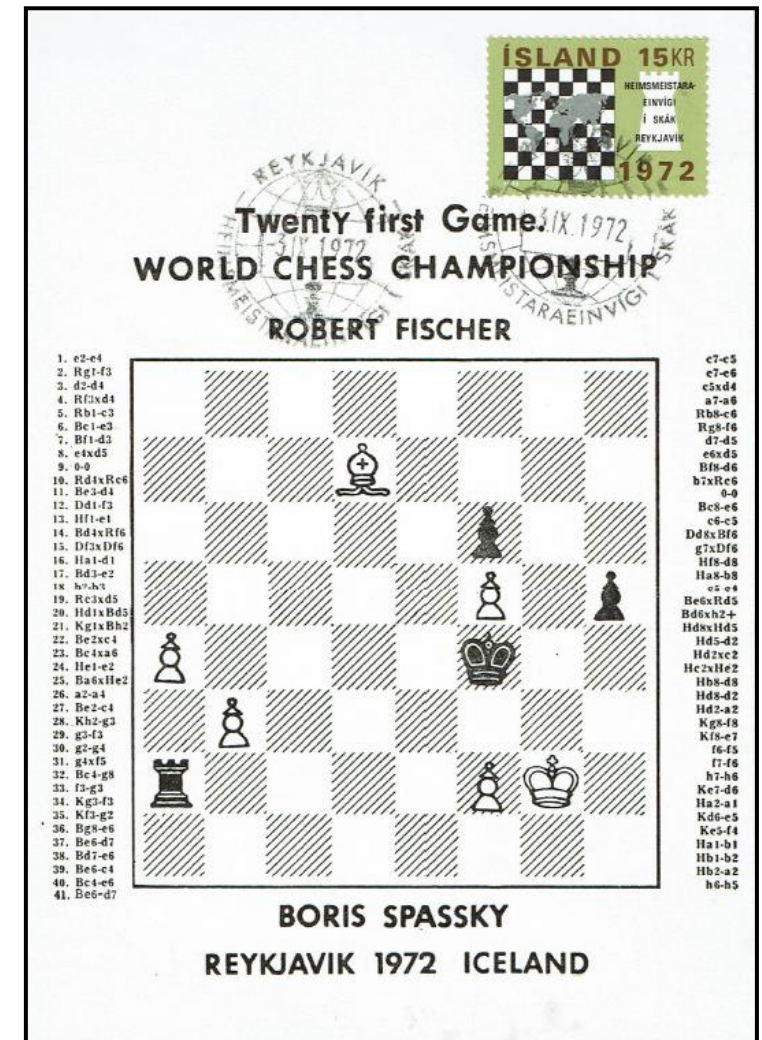
DATE 31. ágúst 1972 ROUND 21. Sumferð.

WHITE Boris Spassky

BLACK Robert Fischer

WHITE	BLACK	WHITE	BLACK
1 e2 - e4	c7 - c5	21 Kc1 x Bh2	Hd8 x Hd5
2 Rg1 - f3	e7 - e6	22 Be2 x c4	Hd5 - d2
3 d2 - d4	c5 x d4	23 Be4 x a6	Hd2 x c2
4 Rf3 x d4	a7 - e6	24 He1 - e2	Hc2 x He2
5 Rb1 - c3	Rb8 - e6	25 Ba6 x He2	Hb8 - d8
6 Be1 - e3	Rg8 - f6	26 a2 - a4	Ha8 - d2
7 Bf1 - d8	d7 - d5	27 Be2 - c4	Hd2 - a2
8 e4 x d5	e6 x d5	28 Kh2 - g3	Kf8 - f8
9 o - o	Bf8 - d6	29 g3 - f3	Kf8 - e7
10 Rd4 x Rc6	b7 x Rc6	30 g2 - g4	f6 - f5
11 Be3 - d4	o - o	31 f4 x f5	f7 - f6
12 Dd1 - f3	Bc8 - e6	32 Dc4 - g8	h7 - h6
13 Hf1 - e1	c6 - c5	33 f3 - g3	Ke7 - d6
14 Bd4 x Rf6	Dd8 x Bf6	34 Ke3 - f3	Ha2 - a1
15 Df3 - Df6	g7 x Df6	35 f3 - g2	Kd6 - e5
16 Ha1 - d1	Hf8 - d8	36 Bg8 - e6	Ke5 - f4
17 Bd3 - e2	Ha8 - b8	37 Be6 - d7	Hd1 - b1
18 b2 - b3	e5 - e4	38 Bd7 - e6	Hb1 - b2
19 Rc3 x d5	Bc6 x Rd5	39 Be6 - c4	Hb2 - a2
20 Hd1 x Bd5	Bd6 x h2	40 Dc4 - e6	h6 - h5

SKÁKSAMBAND ÍSLANDS
STÍGNAÐ 1972



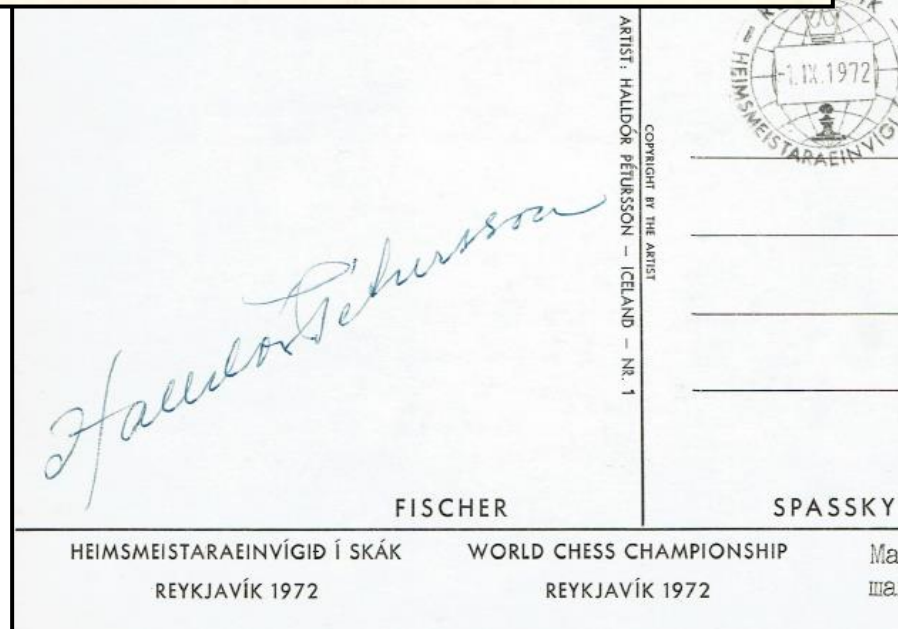


Autographs

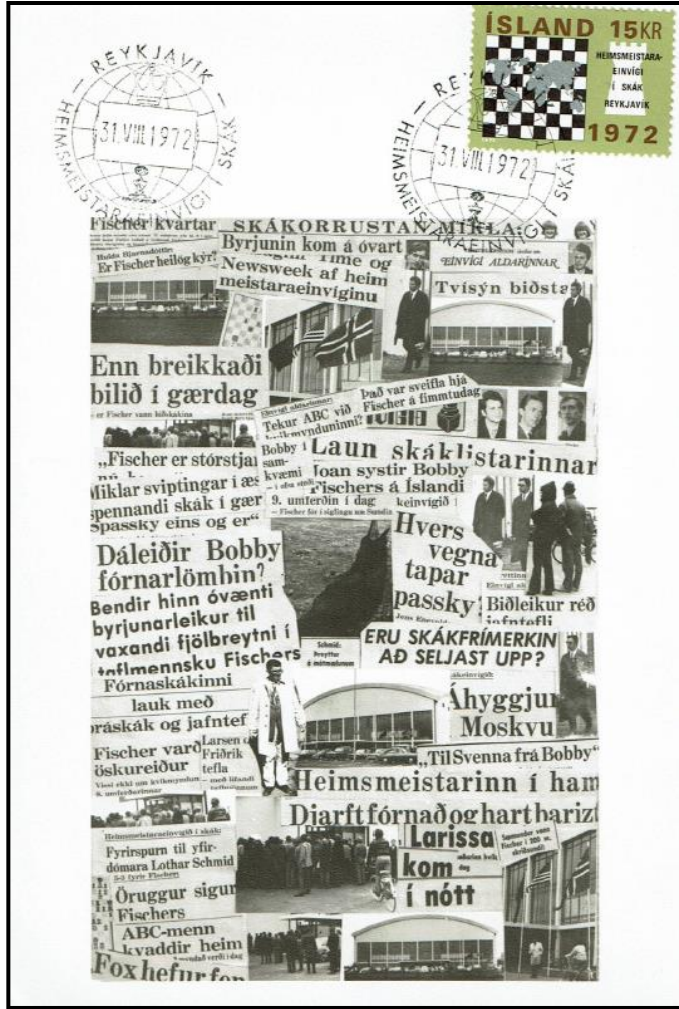
Boris Spassky

Bobby Fischer

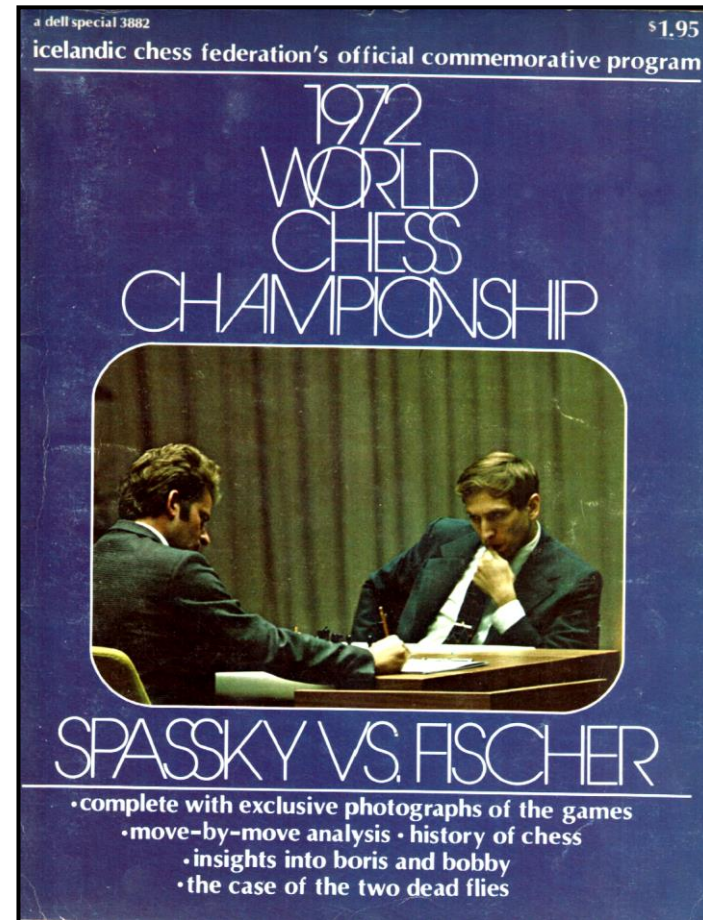
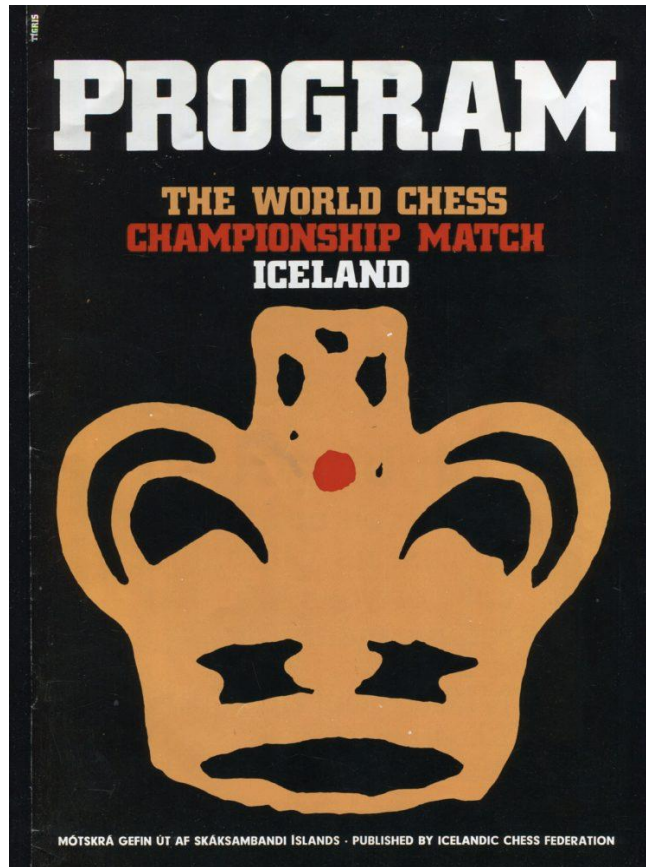
Halldor Petursson



Private & Tourists Postcards



Official Programs & SKAK Magazine



WCC Souvenirs



SPASSKY
RA.FISCHER
FIDE
WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP 1972 IN ICELAND


EINVÍGI ALDARINNAR

Enn er tími til að eignast skák-bókahníf teiknaðan og framleiddan hjá Jens Guðjónssyni gullsmið.

Sölustaðir:


Skáksamband Íslands,
Laugardalshöllinni,
Íslenzkur heimilisiðnaður, Rammagerðin,
Stofan, Jens Guðjónsson, Laugavegi 60 og Suðurverri.

End of Bobby's Reign as World Chess Champion

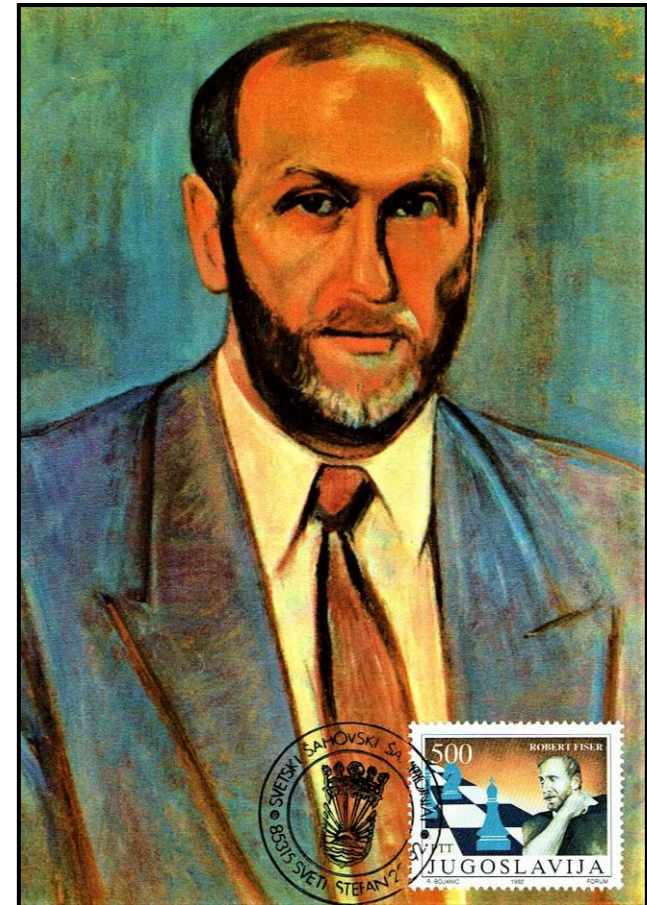
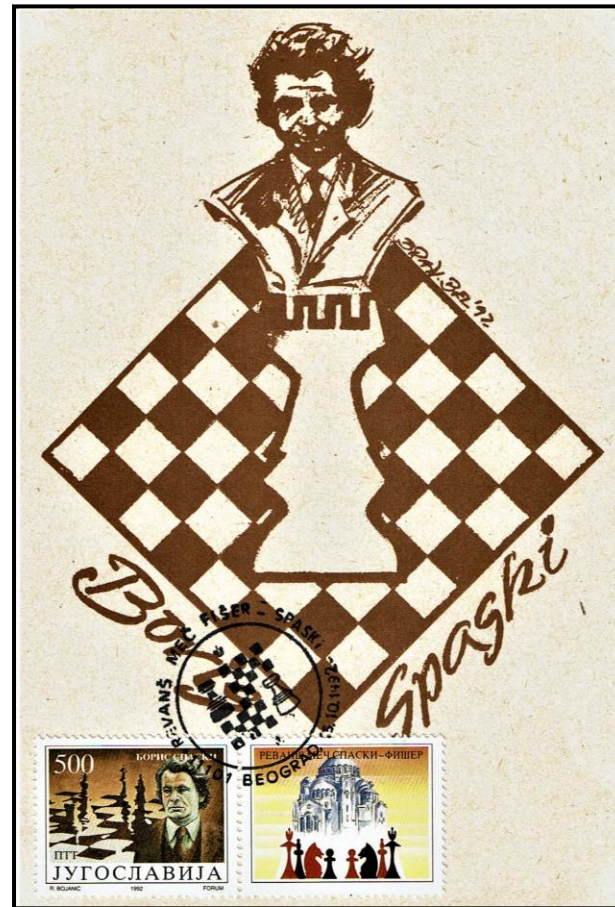
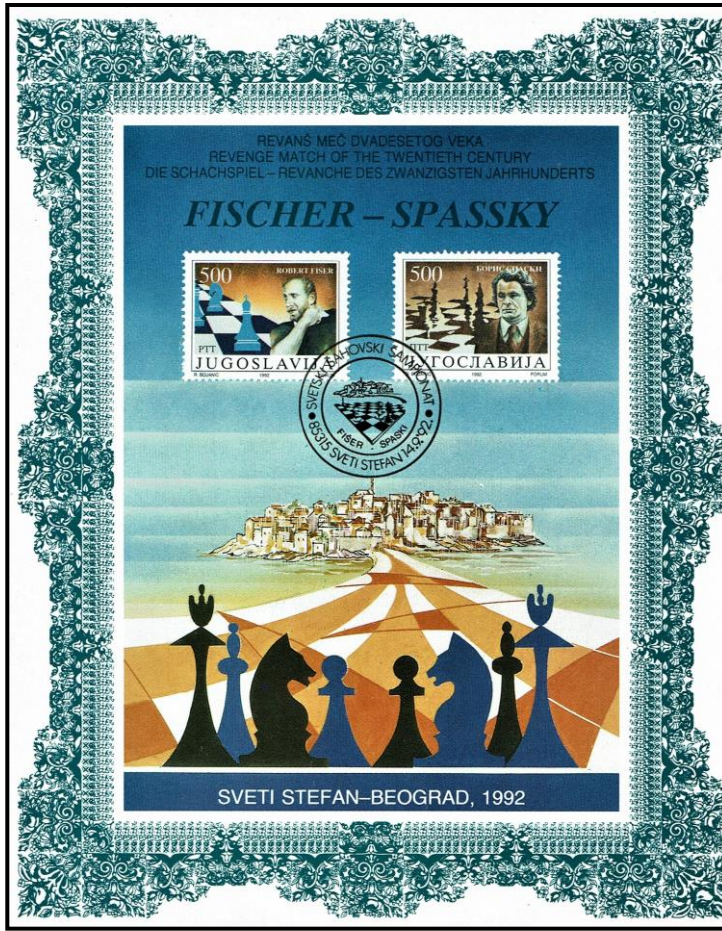


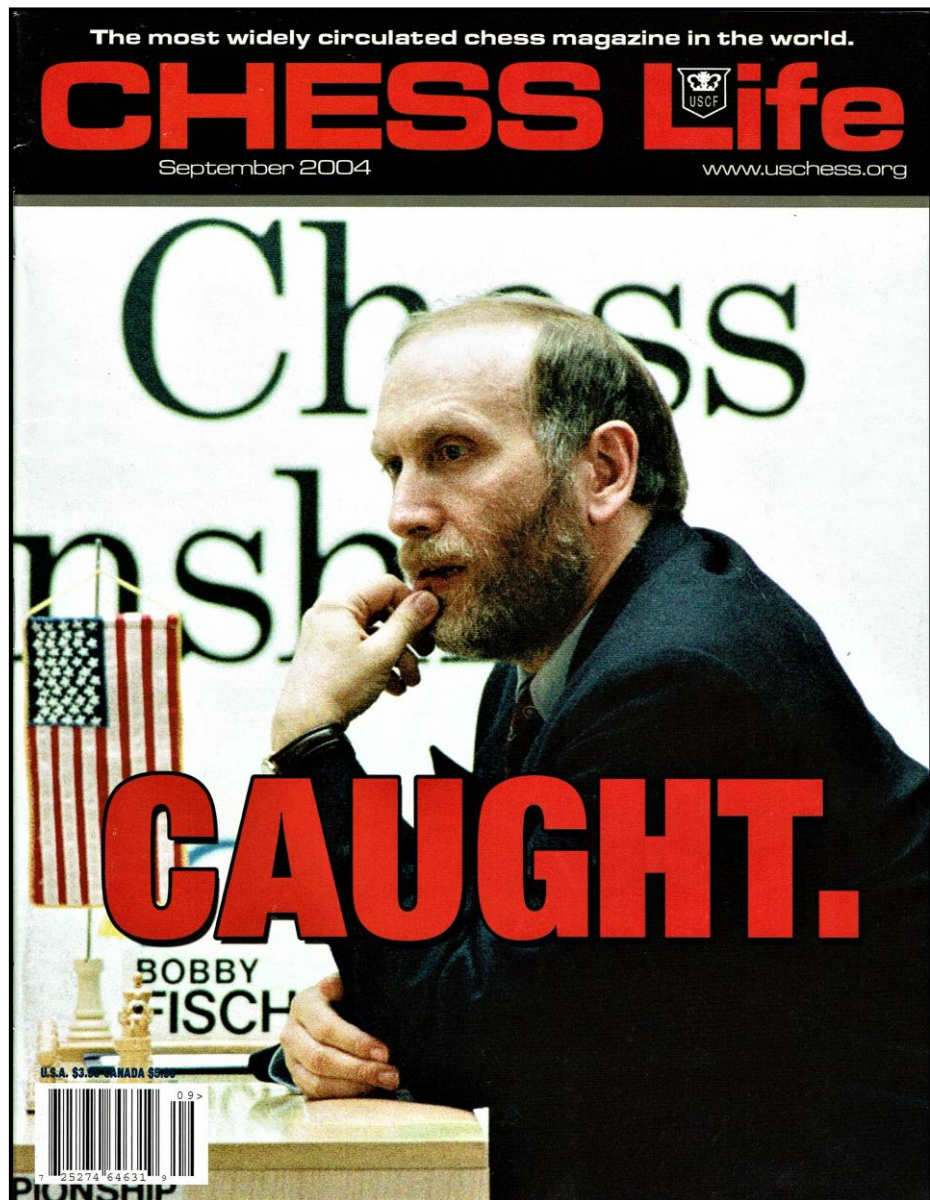
Fischer Loses Chess Title To Russian, by Default

Three years ago Bobby Fischer fussed and fumed his way to a world chess championship over Boris Spassky of the Soviet Union. Faced this year with the necessity, under international rules, of defending his title, Mr. Fischer proved fussy again. He made several "nonnegotiable" demands for rule changes while negotiating for the match with Anatoly Karpov, the current Russian challenger. All but one of the changes were accepted by the International Chess Federation; they rejected Fischer's proposal that in the event of a 9 to 9 tie the match would be declared a draw and Fischer would retain his title. Unsatisfied Fischer allowed the deadline for his acceptance of a challenge match to pass. Karpov has now been declared champion, without even an opening gambit.

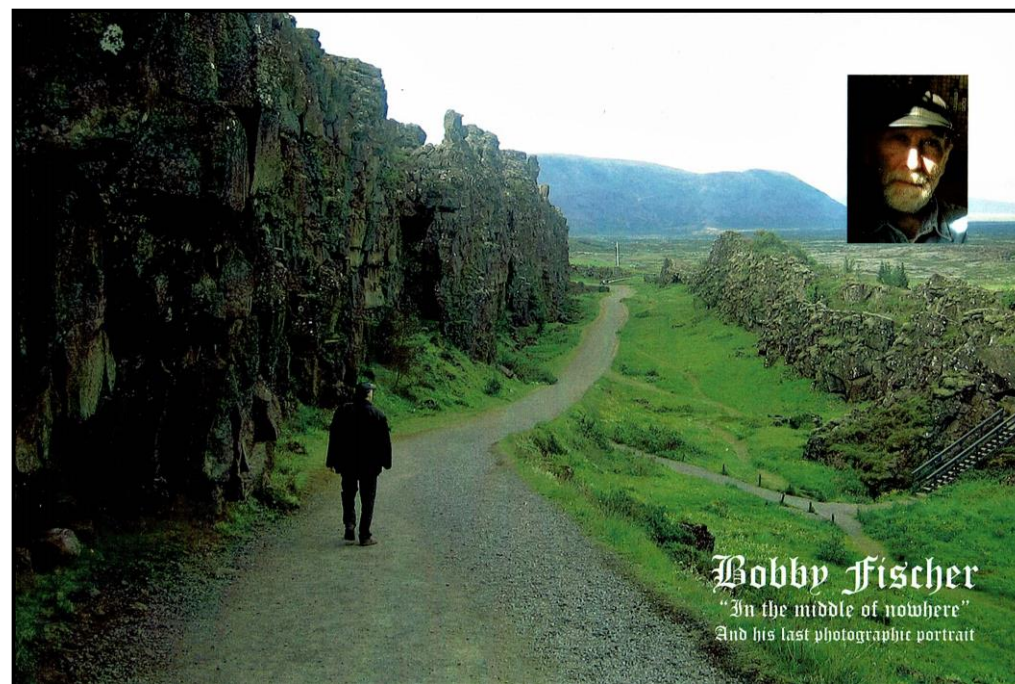


20th Anniversary Re-Match 1992





Final Chapter





40th Anniversary - 2012

Redyville, 11 June 2012

A special postcard & stamp issued on the occasion of the 40th Anniversary of the Match in a very limited edition.

With very best wishes

SS/ma 28

Heimsmeistaravinnvið í skák milli Bobby Fischer og Boris Spassky fór fram í Laugardalshöllinni sumarið 1972. Þar mættust fulltrúar tveggja stórvelda Bandaríkjanna og Sovétríkjanna, sem höfðu haldið heimsmeistararíðlinum óslitið síðan 1948. Það fór fram í skugga kalda stríðsins og var hið sögulegasta í alla stöð. Athrúðirinn er sagður hafa komið Íslandi á heimskort.

The World Chess Championship Match 1972 between challenger Bobby Fischer of the United States and defending champion Boris Spassky of the Soviet Union took place in the Laugardalshöll arena in Reykjavik in the cold-war era. It was then already called the **Match of the Century** but now 40 years later recognized as the **Match of All Time**. Fischer became the first American to be the official World Champion since Steinitz in 1888. Fischer's win also ended 24 years of Soviet domination of the World Championship since 1948

Images build on archive material from 1972.

Publisher: Gallery Skak - www.galleryskak.net - With the courtesy of the Icelandic Chess Federation



ISLAND 50¢

EINVÍGI ALDARINNAR

7CENTURY

ma 2012

As of the contest form
hope you live there!

ch 1972 between challenger Bobby Fischer and reigning champion Boris Spassky of the USSR at the Reykjavik arena in Reykjavik in the **Match of the Century** but now **of All Time**. Fischer became the first champion since Steinitz in 1888. Fischer's domination of the World Chess Championship

19th World Chess Champion - ranks
best players in history - born in
USSR - winner of the Soviet Championship,
1959 to become World Champion, then
Fischer in Reykjavik 1972.

ES FISCHER – The 11th World Chess
dered the best player ever - in a class of
Born in Chicago 9th March 1943 - died
in the chess crown from Spassky in
is now 40 years later recognized as the
me an Icelandic citizen in 2005 after
en his passport was revoked by the US

javi: 2005 recollecting their historic encounter.
n's photos of the champions.

Publisher: Gallery Slak - www.galleryslak.net - With the courtesy of the Icelandic Oceans Federation

ISLAND BAIT 50g
TINNED ADDRESS 50g

A Sad Day in Iceland & the world of Chess

January 17, 2008 – World Chess Champion Bobby Fischer dies in Reykjavik, Iceland

By GUDJON HELGASON • Associated Press

REYKJAVIK, ICELAND — Bobby Fischer, the reclusive chess genius who became a Cold War hero by dethroning the Soviet world champion in 1972 and later renounced his U.S. citizenship, has died. He was 64.

Fischer died of kidney failure Thursday in a Reykjavik hospital after a long illness, his spokesman, Gardar Sverrisson, said Friday.

Born in Chicago and raised in the New York City borough of Brooklyn, Fischer faced criminal charges in the United States for playing a 1992 rematch against Boris Spassky in Yugoslavia in defiance of international sanctions. In 2005, he moved to Iceland, a chess-mad nation and site of his greatest triumph.

As a champion, he used his eccentricities to unsettle opponents, but Fischer's reputation as a genius of chess was soon eclipsed, in the eyes of many, by his idiosyncrasies.

"Chess is war on a board," he once said. "The object is to crush the other man's mind."

As a player, he was known for his boldness and unpredictability. He did not wait for his opponent to make mistakes but attacked relentlessly and rarely repeated gambits.

Fischer lost his world title in 1975 after refusing to defend it against Anatoly Karpov. He dropped out of competitive chess and largely out of view, emerging occasionally to make erratic and often anti-Semitic comments, although his mother was Jewish.

Garry Kasparov, the former world chess champion from Russia, said Fischer's ascent in the chess world in the 1960s and his promotion of chess worldwide was "a revolutionary breakthrough" for the game.

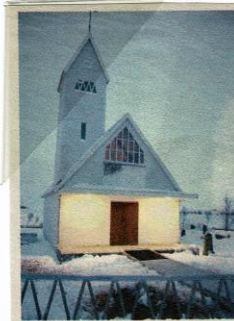


JOHN LENT • Associated Press file

Bobby Fischer in New York on April 28, 1962. Tall, charismatic and with striking looks, he was a chess star who early on gained a reputation for volatile behavior.

↑ Article from Minneapolis Star Tribune (January 19, 2008)

Article from Iceland paper regarding Bobby Fischer's death →



LAUGARÐÆLAKIRKJA Aðeins fimm manns voru viðstaddir útförina í gærmorgun. MND/GKS

Bobby Fischer jarðsúnginn: Útförin fór fram í kyrrþey

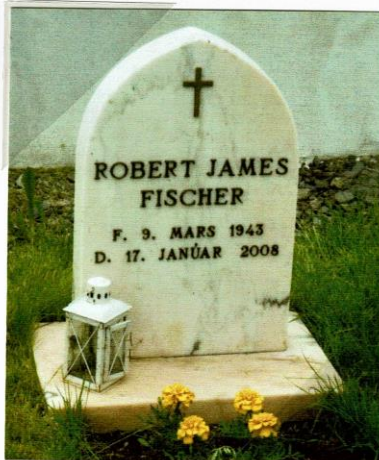
ANDLÁT Útför skákmeistarans Bobbys Fischer fór fram í kyrrþey í gærmorgun. Athöfnin, sem var mjög fámenn, fór fram í Laugardælakirkjugarði í Flóahreppi. Leyndin yfir athöfninni var svo mikil að sóknarprestur í Laugardælakirkju vissi ekki af henni. Það var séra Jakob Róland, prestur kaþólsku kirkjunnar á Íslandi, sem jarðsöng Fischer.

Aðeins voru fimm manns viðstaddir útförina. Þeirra á meðal voru Miyoko Watai, unnusta Fischers, og Gardar Sverrisson vinur hans.

Áður hafði stuðningshópur Fischers reifað þá hugmynd að hann yrði jarðsettur í þjóðargrafreitnum á Þingvöllum. - þeb

Bobby Fischer's Gravesite at Laugadaelir, Selfoss, Iceland
Photo by: Michael Schumacher

U.S. World Chess Champion
Robert J. (Bobby) Fischer
Rest in Peace!



Rest in Peace Bobby

