

TWO SHIPS NAMED "MIRCEA"

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There are two sail training ships called MIRCEA on stamps, both Roumanian. The first was built as a brig in 1882 at the Blackwall dockyard in London. Only 118ft long with a draft of 8' 10" she saw service with the Roumanian Navy in WW 1 and was said to be very fast, capable of 17 knots under sail. She was refitted in 1923/4 and replaced by a new sail training vessel in 1938.



December 2009 issue

The brig MIRCEA features on Roumania issue of 1931. SG1205, 1936 issue SG1344 and the issue of 1960 SG2770.



1931 issue SG1205

MIRCEA II, is a barque of some 310' loa built by Blohm & Voss in Hamburg and carries a crew of 83 and 140 cadets.

She is a virtual sister ship to USCG EAGLE, SAGRES and TOVARISCH and has participated in a number of Tall Ships events throughout the world.

Stamps showing her include UGANDA SG531 issued in 1986, and BHUTAN SG681 the same



1986. SG681 as MIRCEA



1974. SG4045 as Barque



1986. SG681 as LIBERTAD

year; both countries having little connection with sail training? In the Bhutan issue the caption on the stamp is transposed with SG678 which is LIBERTAD. We now have the new stamp (top) from Romania which is a nice addition – see page Log Book. March 2009. No.7 page 72

The Cargo Ship FAGERSAND

A new stamp issue of French Antarctic issued on 1st February 2010 shows a ship named ILE ST PAUL.

She was built by Vuijk, Capelle a/d IJssel, Norway, in 1906 for Norwegian owners Monsen, Tonsberg. Yard No. 287. Launched as FAGERSAND, and placed on the Companies Cuba, Venezuela to New York service.

With a tonnage of some 1021 gross tons. Her length was 211(bp) feet. With a beam of 32 feet. Her single screw was powered by a Triple expansion steam engine.



FAGERSAND was sold to E B Aaby in 1920 and renamed DAGEID. In 1928 she was sold to M Mazzella and renamed MICHEL MAZZELLA. Union Marocaines purchased her in 1930 and they renamed her CAID MIMA. In 1931 she became ILE SAINT PAUL under owner La Langouste.

In the latter part of 1935 ILE SAINT PAUL was scuttled at St. Denis, Reunion.

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