

# The Presidential Issue of 1938

*A Look at Rates & Usages*

*Illustrating “what” the stamps were issued to do...  
and what they were not.*

*You’ll see some very unusual usages.*

*You’ll see the scarce, the uncommon,  
the illogical and mind-boggling. Some humorous.*

*Some historical others serious.*

*Most, more than a little interesting.*

*Cover-nuts - - sit back and enjoy!*

*Non-cover nuts, see why we love covers.*

## The Prexies

A POSTAL HISTORY

# The Prexies

The issue at a glance ...



...24 basic definitive designs *plus*...

# The Prexies

The issue includes:

*nine (9) horizontal coils:*



*four (4) vertical coils:*



**Look closely!**  
“Electric Eye Perf  
Positioning Dots”  
for the newly designed  
Electric Eye Perforator.  
These appear on **ALL**  
Prexie Issues.

Plus, a few  
other items of  
interest.

The  
Prexi

Layout  
Dots

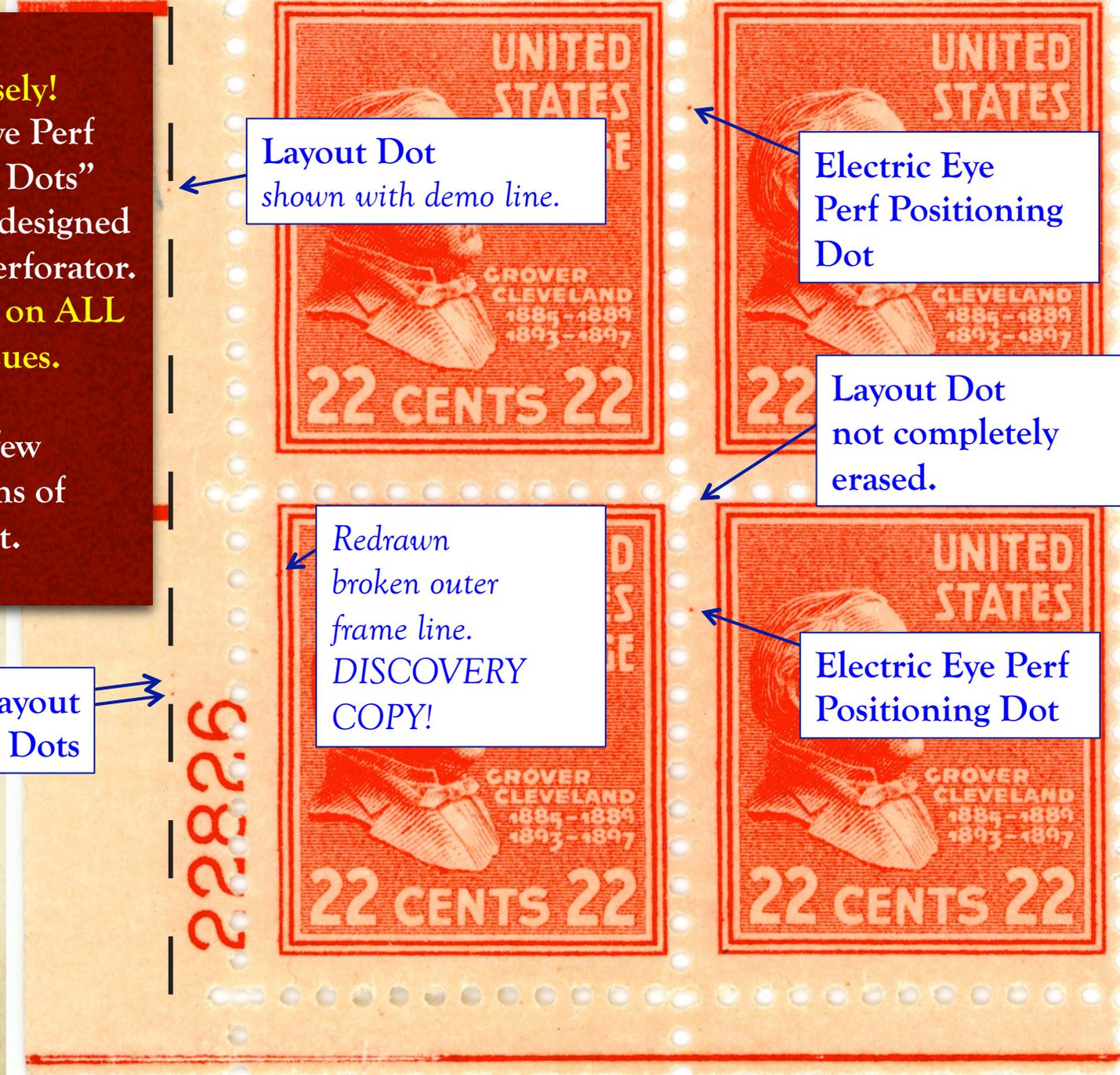
Layout Dot  
*shown with demo line.*

Electric Eye  
Perf Positioning  
Dot

Layout Dot  
not completely  
erased.

*Redrawn  
broken out  
frame line.*  
**DISCOVERY  
COPY!**

Electric Eye Perf  
Positioning Dot



# Postal tag mail-in Film Canister Bags... before and after

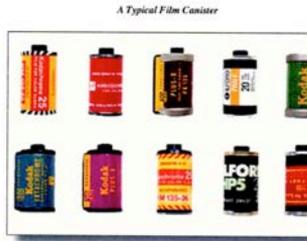
The  
Prexies



**"1½¢ Rate"**  
1½¢ (2 oz.) Miscellaneous Matter Use  
April 15, 1925, through December 31, 1948.

Third Class Miscellaneous Matter was permitted to use regular, non-pre-cancelled stamps, and was required to be labeled: "Third Class Mail - This parcel may be opened for postal inspection if necessary. Third class mail could not contain writing other than a signature, a few non-message words."

1½¢ Martha Washington (Sc# 805)  
Solo Usage



(Ca. 1942 - 1948\*)  
Pre-addressed to  
CAMDEN, N.J.

This consumer-to-business self-mailer draw-string pouch is from a photo processing service and shows a correct Third Class mailing with stamp pre-applied. The self-mailer was designed to hold to the customer's film "negative roll" for positive development and a check, money order or cash.

(\*Period of usage is determined by the release date of stamp (1942-1948). The identifying phrase "THIRD CLASS MAIL", which should be shown by regulation, is located under the stamp.



TO Side

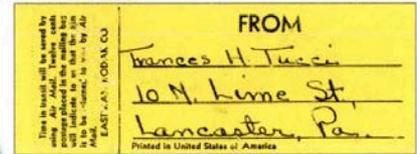
Place magazine containing exposed film in aluminum box; in bag and TIE SECURELY. PRINT your name and address plainly. We have no other means of identifying our film.

EASTMAN KODAK CO.

FROM Side

Time in transit will be saved by using Air Mail. Twelve cents postage placed in the mailing bag will indicate to us that the film is to be returned to you by Air Mail.

EASTMAN KODAK CO.



LANCASTER, PA.  
(LANCASTER, PA. PARCEL ROLLER CANCEL)  
(January 1, 1949, through October 31, 1953)

to  
ROCHESTER, N.Y.

This consumer-to-business self-mailer tag (lacking draw-string pouch) is from a photo processing service and shows a correct Third Class mailing with stamp pre-applied. The self-mailer was designed to hold to the customer's film "negative roll" for positive development and a check, money order or cash.

"The period of usage is determined by the rate on the tag (1949-1953) and re-affirmed by the statement on the tag indicating, "Time in transit will be saved by using AIR MAIL. Twelve cents postage placed in the mailing bag will indicate to us that the film is to be returned to you by Air Mail." The Twelve cent Air Mail Rate ran concurrently with the Two Cent Third Class - Miscellaneous Matter Rate."

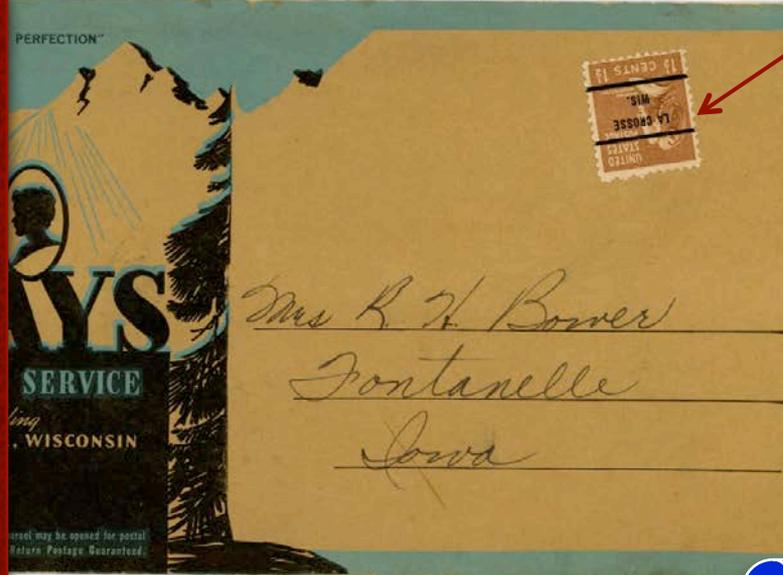
After processing....

1/2¢ Rate"

and Miscellaneous Matter Use Rate  
through December 31, 1948.

1 1/2¢ Martha Washington (Sc# 805-71)  
(Bureau Precancel Type 71)  
Solo Usage

This business-to-consumer cover demonstrates a correct Third Class mailing, within a Third Class Mail designated carrier, with precancel stamp bulk mail permit usage.



LA CROSSE, WIS.  
(Ca. 4/1942 - 4/1945\*)

To  
FONTANELLE, IA.



**CANCELLED BECAUSE OF  
PAPER RATIONING UN-  
TIL FURTHER NOTICE**

This business-to-consumer Third Class Merchandise Mailer, originally enclosing photo negatives, is from a photo processing service. The undated cover shown here provides empirical evidence on its flap that photographic paper was also rationed or unavailable, probably due to its silver content or for V-Mail use. It reads, "CANCELLED BECAUSE OF PAPER RATIONING UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE." Photographic paper used for V-MAIL from June 15, 1942, until April 1, 1945, also may have been a cause of the shortage.

This cover provides an additional story. Rays Photo Service was in fact Helen Mae Hoeft, who used the shop name as a pseudonym to avoid sex-discrimination in the photo field. She feared customers would not buy photographic services from a woman when she started up in 1924. The name of the business has changed since her time, but as of 1978 was still in operation in La Crosse.

Type 71 Bureau  
Precancels  
required a  
minimum order  
on coil rolls of  
250,000 to  
500,000,  
dependent on  
face value and  
post office size.

During WWII  
your developed film  
may come back  
lacking positives,  
with this notice:  
**"CANCELLED  
BECAUSE  
OF PAPER  
RATIONING  
UNTIL FURTHER  
NOTICE"!**

The  
Prexies

Super X-8MM  
film reels  
processed by  
First Class Mail

15¢ Rate from  
U.S.S. Repose  
Tsingtao, China 1948  
(Military Postal Rate)  
or  
Bridgeport, Conn. 1949  
(Domestic Postal Rate  
3¢ x 5oz. ~ 1932-1958)

The  
Prexies



3 film boxes  
taped together  
= 15¢



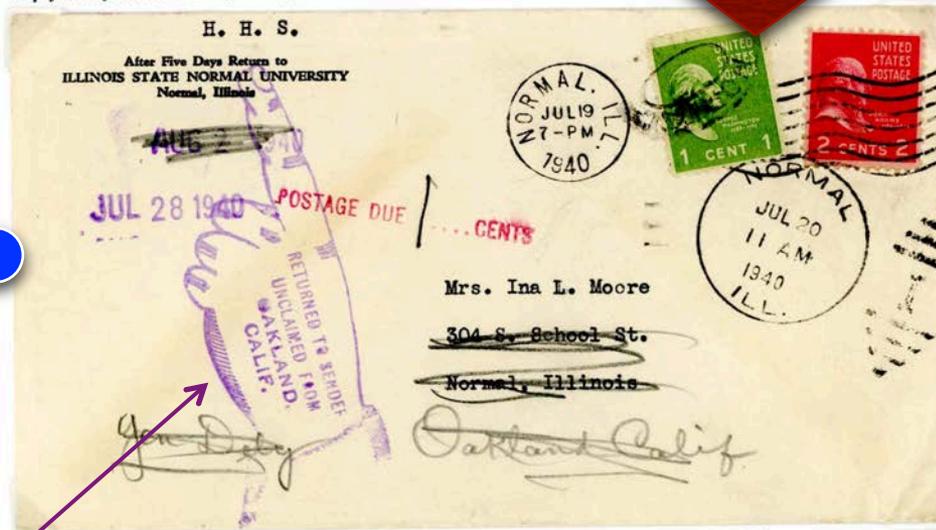
"2¢ Rate UPATED to 3¢ Rate"

2¢ Intercity Drop Letter Rate Upated to 3¢ First Class  
July 1, 1933 until March 26, 1944

2¢ John Adams (Sc# 806),  
plus  
1¢ George Washington (Sc# 804)  
Used in Lieu of Postage Due  
Combination Usage

This cover demonstrates uprating from "Drop Rate" to "First Class" when it was forwarded, by address correction, to "General Delivery, Oakland, Calif." The cover was "Unclaimed and Returned to Sender".

~~~~~  
This cover also demonstrates a unique usage of a Presidential Issue as payment of one-cent "Postage Due" fee.



The cover was backstamped upon receipt "OAKLAND, CALIF. JUL 23 1940 GEN. DEL." The cover was unclaimed as of July 28 and was stamped, "RETURNED TO SENDER UNCLAIMED FROM OAKLAND, CALIF." and machine cancelled July 29, 1940. (and then)----->

A cover with a little bit of everything!

An Undeliverable 2¢ Intercity Drop Letter.  
Up-rated by 1¢ to  
1<sup>st</sup> Class Mail – and Forwarded –  
Undeliverable and Returned to Sender!

The  
Prexies

Postage Due  
usages  
(*& applications*)  
as well as  
"The Finger"  
are as  
collectible as  
the Prexies!

NORMAL, ILL.  
JUL 19 7 PM 1940  
INTERCITY --> Forwarded JUL 20 1940  
to  
OAKLAND, CA. --> Returned JUL 29 1940

The cover bears a International Postal Supply machine cancellation at Normal, Ill., and was stamped (in red) "POSTAGE DUE...CENTS."

~~~~~  
(and then...  
Upon return to Normal, Ill., a 1¢ Presidential Issue (Sc#804) was placed on the cover to pay the "postage due" in lieu of a Postage Due Stamp, which was cancelled by a 21mm x 28mm double oval parcel cancellation.

**RARE!**  
Registered  
2¢ Local Letter

Forwarded  
**WITHOUT**  
the additional  
1¢ Postage  
Due Fee!

The  
Prexies

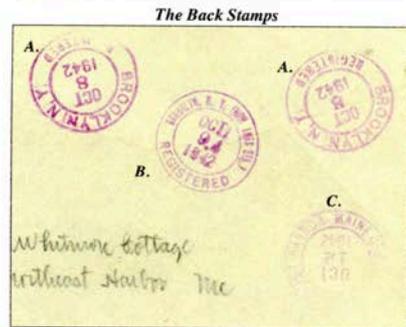
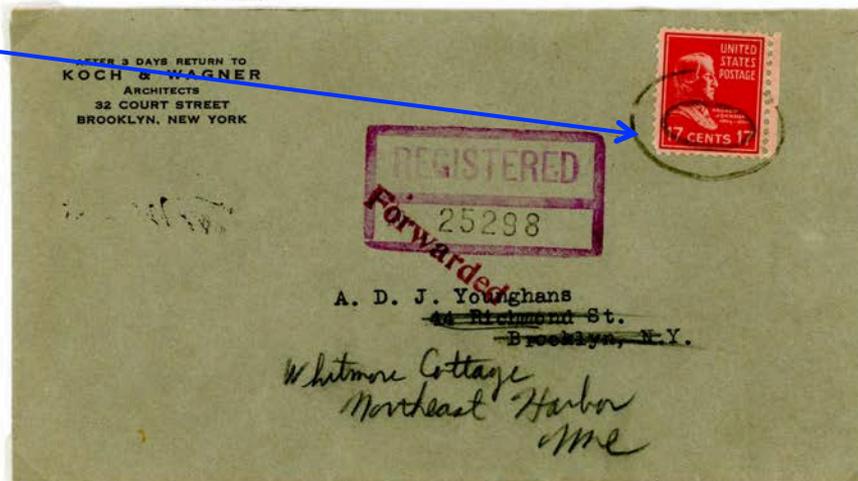
"17c Rate"

2¢ (1 oz.) First Class, Local Letter Rate, plus  
July 1, 1933, through March 26, 1944  
15¢ Registry Fee (≤\$5.00 Indemnity)  
July 1, 1932, through March 26, 1944

17c Andrew Johnson (Sc# 822)  
Solo Usage

The rate for a local letter at a carrier post office was two cents  
from July 1, 1933 until March 26, 1944, and the minimum fee for  
registry was fifteen cents over the same period.

This registered cover was sent within Brooklyn, then "Forwarded"  
to Maine



BROOKLYN, N. Y.  
OCT 8 1942  
to  
BROOKLYN, N. Y.  
"FORWARDED TO"  
NORTHEAST HARBOR, ME.

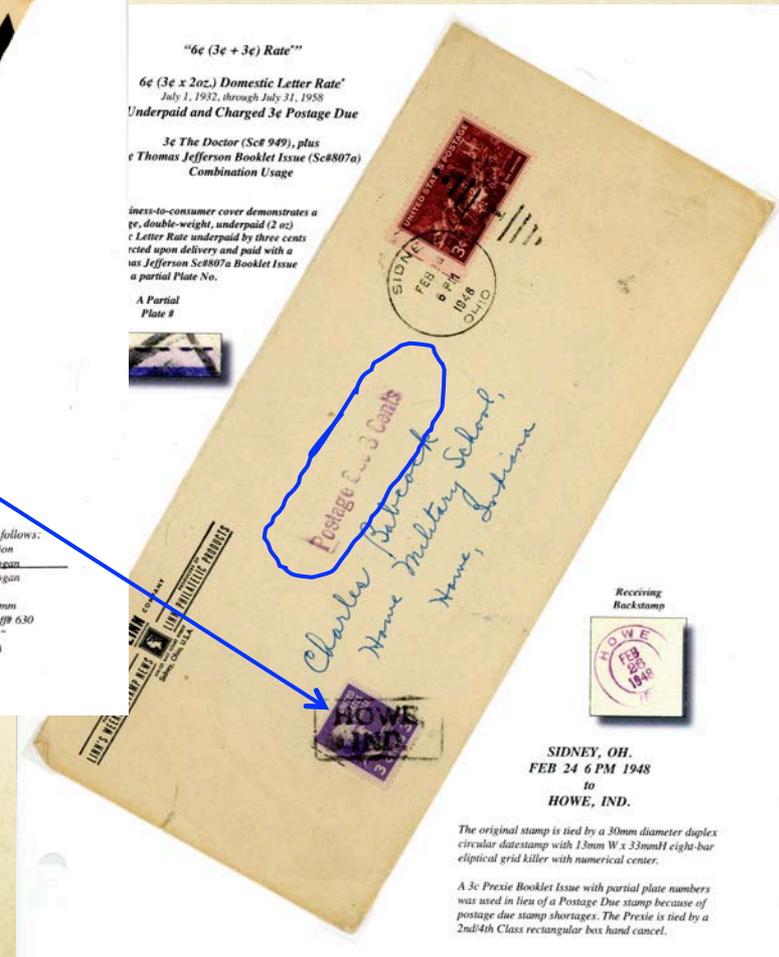
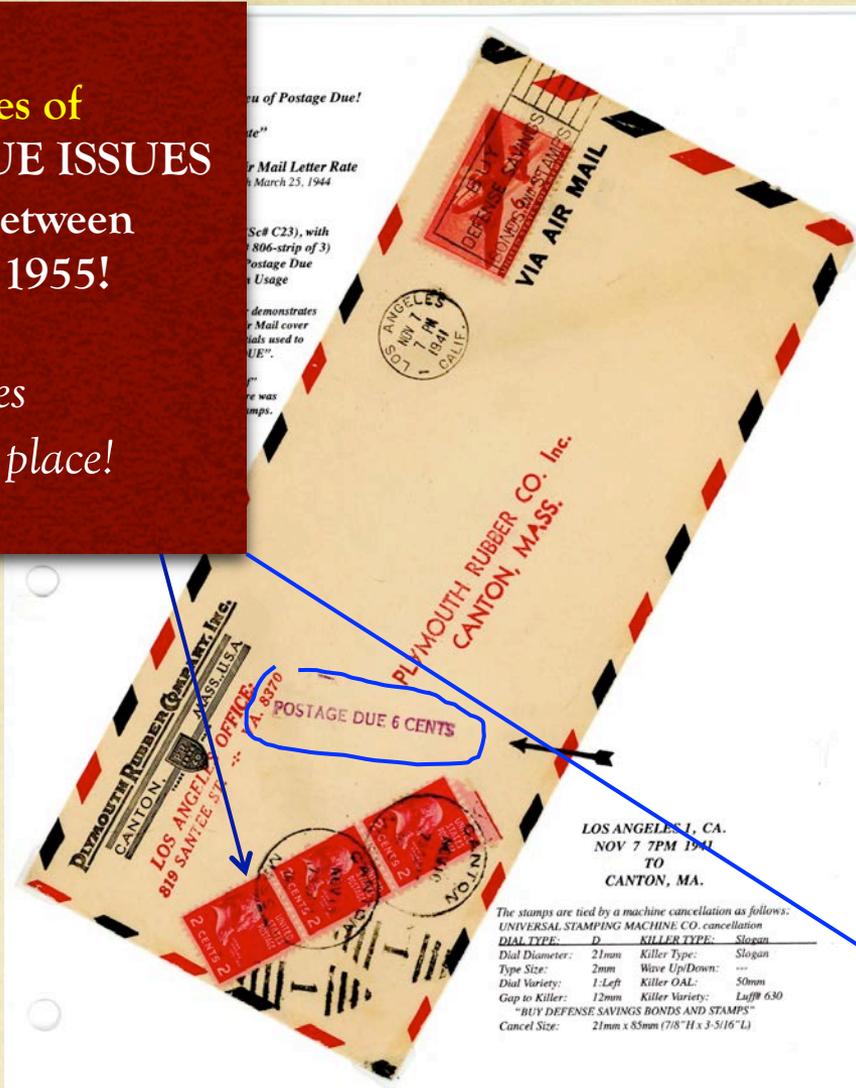
The stamps are cancelled by a 30mm x 20mm Double-Oval, Blind Killer. The cover is back stamped with (2) red-purple 30mm Round-Dater c.d.s. "BROOKLYN, N.Y. REGISTERED OCT 8, 1942" mailing station cancel; one (1) 30mm Round-Dater c.d.s., "BROOKLYN, N.Y. (NEW LOTS STA.) REGISTERED OCT 9, 1942" delivery-then Forwarding Station cancel; THEN, one (1) 30mm Round-Dater c.d.s., "NORTHEAST HARBOR, MAINE REGISTERED OCT 12, 1942" receiving and final delivery post office cancel.

Some  
collectors  
prefer to  
collect  
only solo  
usages.

# Shortages of POSTAGE DUE ISSUES occurred between 1941 and 1955!

Prexies  
took their place!

The  
Prexies



Mail deposited  
at the dock, specifying a  
Plane (i.e.: CLIPPER).

IF you missed the  
plane that day -  
your mail was socked a  
LATE FEE! (Postage Due.)  
(Mail had to arrive 90 minutes  
before a departure, as  
Clippers did not fly daily!)

Mail was not allow to sit  
at the dock unprocessed  
between flights.

Pacific Clipper



6¢ Rate

6¢ (1 oz.) Military Post Office Air Mail Rate,\* plus

December 25, 1941, through September 30, 1946

6¢ Late Fee\*\* ~ Postage Due Charge

\*1932 to 1958 to/from Honolulu, T. H.

6¢ John Quincy Adams (Sc #811), plus

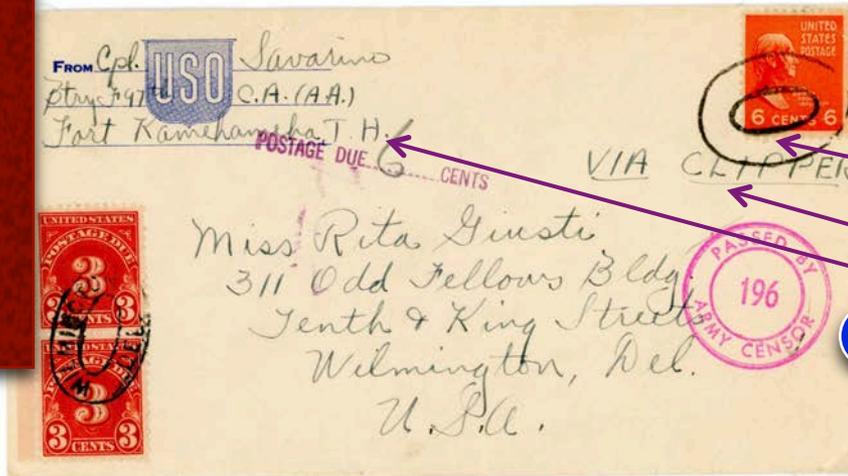
3¢ Postage Due (Sc# J82 pair)

Combination Usage

A cover demonstrating a solo usage paying the one-ounce (1 oz.) Military Post Office (M.P.O.) Air Mail Letter Rate with additional doubled "Late Fee" postage due charge.

\*\*A letter deposited at a dispatching post office after the mails were closed was charged a late fee to be put on a particular ship or airplane to or from a U.S. possession such as Hawaii from 1932 until 1958, making the total postage double. During this same period a letter mailed aboard ship within the U.S. was subject to doubling of the three-cent first-class rate. Clue to Late Mail Charge is "Double-Oval Blind Killer." First Class and Air Mail requires City/State/Date handstamp.

Because the mail was deposited at a dispatching post office as the mails were closed (missed the boat/plane) the mail could not be cancelled with a dating handstamp. So it was accepted, cancelled without a dater and charged postage due. The mail would be held days for the designated boat or plane (i.e.: Clipper) to arrive; then placed on board for mailing at that time. Airmail service to/from Hawaii after the bombing of Pearl Harbor was occasionally interrupted.



HONOLULU, HAWAII TERRITORY

Dec 12, 1941 thru Aug. 8, 1945\*\*\*

(\*\*\*Date of use determined by Censor Marking)

TO

WILMINGTON, DEL.

The stamp is tied by a 21mm H x 30mm W double-oval blind killer while the postage dues are tied by an 18mm H x 27mm W double-oval town hand stamp.

The cover also bears a 27mm re-violet double circle "PASSED BY ARMY CENSOR 196" marking applied at Fort Kamehameha U.S. Army Military Base used to defend Pearl Harbor.

LATE FEE Charge!  
determined by:

(Tip-Off: 1<sup>st</sup> class mail  
MUST have a date of  
mailing.)

1. Blind Double-Oval cancel
2. Routing
3. Mailed from

Others need an Accounting Degree to compute & convert U. S. Cents to French Gold Centimes to British Pence!

The Prexies



**International Postage Due Markings:**

- Applied at New York**
- A.
- Applied at London**
- B.

LOS ANGELES 23, CALIF.  
OCT 29 7<sup>30</sup> PM 1947  
TO  
LONDON, ENGLAND

This cover, addressed to the WAR OFFICE, London, England, bears two distinct International Postage Due Markings.

A. The first auxiliary marking is a New York red-violet "opera glass" hand-stamp "T" (N.Y.) "T" for "Timbre-Taxe" (postage due) and "CENTIMES 20" (equal to 4 cents); under U.P.U. regulations, international postage due was charged at "double" the missing postage!

B. The second auxiliary marking is a black 23mm W x 35mm H handstamp "2-1/2 FR" or "2-1/2 British pence"; the marking was applied at London, England.

"8c Rate"  
8c (1 oz. or 20 gr.) International Surface Letter Rate  
November 1, 1953, through June 30, 1961

2c John Adams (Sc# 806 x 3)  
Multiple Usage

This cover demonstrates under-payment of a single-weight, one-ounce International Surface Letter by 2c to England. The cover is inscribed with auxiliary U.S. and British "Postage Due" markings.



**International Postage Due Markings:**  
Applied at New York

- A.

Applied at London

- B.

NEW YORK 51, N. Y.  
DEC 13 5 PM 1953  
TO  
NOTTINGHAM, ENGLAND

This cover single-weight, international surface rate cover bears two distinct International Postage Due Markings. The auxiliary "opera glass" handstamp (A.) "T" (N.Y.) "T" for "Timbre-Taxe" (postage due) and "CENTIMES 12D" (2 cents) was applied at New York, while the second (B.) handstamp "12D" or "2 British pence" was applied at London, England. The stamps are tied with the following cancel:  
INTERNATIONAL POSTAL SUPPLY CO. cancellation

DIAL TYPE: D(S1) KILLER TYPE: SLOGAN  
Dial Diameter: 20mm Killer Type: Slogan Box  
Type Size: 3mm Wave Up/Down: ---  
Dial Variety: 51-R Killer OAL: 50mm  
Gap to Killer: 10mm Killer Variety: Luff# 4245

So lets  
have fun  
with  
math!

The  
Prexies

**"25¢ Rate"**

25¢ (1/2 oz.) ASA Air Mail Rate, Africa  
November 1, 1946, through June 1, 1967  
UNDERPAID BY 20¢

**POSTAGE DUE**

U.S. 20¢ = T120 FR. CENTIMES = 1/SH or 12d AFRIKAN PENCE

5¢ James Monroe (SC# 810)

Solo Usage

plus

South Africa 6d Redrawn Postage Due (SG# D29a)

*This cover demonstrates a combination usage for a single-weight, half-ounce (½ oz.) Air Mail letter to South Africa, with U.S. and South African Postage Due markings from a Military Base in Berlin, Germany.*

*The cover was short-paid at a military facility. When it was routed into the regular U.S. postal mail stream at New York, it was sent to Idlewild Airfield where it received a red-violet 34mm circular date stamp backstamp on "January 2, 1949 Clerk 3" as well as a 33mm red-violet NEW YORK, N.Y. AIR FIELD T-120" POSTAGE DUE MARKING. Upon arrival in South Africa, the cover received a black 24mm "T11-" handstamp indicating translation of "T=120 Centimes" to South Africa Pound of "T=11-" or "12 pence" COLLECTED at "ORANGE GROVE, JOHANNESBURG 12 J. A 49".*



NEW YORK, N.Y.  
(IDEWILD)  
AIR MAIL FIELD 3  
JAN 2 1949

U.S. ARM  
(BERLIN  
1948 D

JOHANNESBURG

The stamp is cancelled by a Military  
UNIVERSAL STAMPING MACHINE  
DIAL TYPE: MILITARY KEY  
Dial Diameter: 20mm K1  
Type Size: 2mm W1  
Dial Variety: MPO K1  
Gap to Killer: 8mm K1  
Slogan: ---  
CANCELLATION SIZE: 20mm.

Correct Rate Air Mail = 25¢  
So...  
U. S. Postage Due = 20¢ = 120 Fr. Centimes  
120 French Centimes = 1/- or one Shilling  
1 Shilling = 12pence  
Any one confused yet?

The  
Prexies



15¢ Rate  
15¢ (112 oz.) European Air Mail Rate  
November 1, 1946, through April 30, 1967.

6¢ John Quincy Adams (Se# 811)  
Solo Usage

This cover demonstrates the nine cents underpayment of the single-weight, half-ounce International Airmail Letter Rate, to France. Six cents is was the Domestic Air Mail Rate for this period.

The correct French Postage Due assessment should be 18 cents (nine cents underpayment times 2). The 52 Franc French Postage Due on this cover is very deceiving; it is a charge not related to this cover! The 52 Franc, or US \$22.50, is actually a P.O. BOX RENTAL FEE -- a service charge fee -- attached to the use of the Addressee's P.O. Box B.P. 168 08! A similar cover with a 52 Fr. Postage Due Fee is found elsewhere in this collection.

Postage Due was not due!

The Postage Due represents the French Addressee paying their their yearly Post Office Box or Mail Window Box Pick-Up Fee!  
The covers were a receipt.

underpayment times 2). The 52 Franc French Postage Due on this cover is very deceiving; it is a charge not related to this cover! The 52 Franc, or US \$22.50, is actually a P.O. BOX RENTAL FEE -- a service charge fee -- attached to the use of the Addressee's P.O. Box. The French P.O. used the top piece in the company's daily mail as a mode to collect the appropriate "Service Fee." A similar cover with a 52 Fr. Postage Due Fee is found elsewhere in this collection.



NEW YORK 7, N. Y.  
CHURCH STREET STATION  
JUN 22 4<sup>30</sup> PM 1954  
TO  
PARIS, FRANCE

A commercial cover with the following machine cancel:  
INTERNATIONAL POSTAL SUPPLY CO. cancellation  
DIAL TYPE: D(U) KILLER TYPE: STATION  
Dial Diameter: 20mm Killer Type: --- Station  
Type Size: 3mm Wave Up/Down: ---  
Dial Variety: 7-R Killer OAL: 50mm  
Gap to Killer: 10mm Killer Variety: ---  
Station name: CHURCH STREET STATION  
Cancel Size: 20mm x 81mm (7/8" H x 3-3/16" L)

Looks are  
deceiving!

BROOKLYN, N. Y. 7  
APR 8 12-PM 1955  
TO  
PARIS, FRANCE  
A commercial cover with the following machine cancel:  
INTERNATIONAL POSTAL SUPPLY CO. cancellation  
DIAL TYPE: D(U) KILLER TYPE: 200  
Dial Diameter: 22mm Killer Type: 7 Wavy Bars  
Type Size: 3mm Wave Up/Down: Up  
Dial Variety: 7-R Killer OAL: 56mm  
Gap to Killer: 7mm Killer Variety: ---  
Cancel Size: 22mm x 85mm (7/8" H x 3-3/16" L)

What's legal postage is also fun...

*"69¢ Rate"*  
**69¢ (23 oz.) First-Class, Letter Domestic Rate**  
July 7, 1932, through July 31, 1958.

*15¢ James Buchanan (Sc# 820),  
25¢ War Savings Issue (Sc# WS8 x 2), plus  
2¢ John Adams (Sc# 806 Pair)  
Combination Usage*

*This cover front demonstrates a combination, with ILLEGAL War Savings Stamp usage paying the twenty-three ounce (23 oz.) First Class Domestic Letter Rate.*



Sometimes ILLEGAL stamps are accepted...

The Prexies

War Savings Stamps were invalid for postage.



...and sometimes they are rejected!

And, with the  
Post Office,  
sometimes  
2 + 2 = 3

or, in this case...  
**THIRD CLASS  
MAIL!**

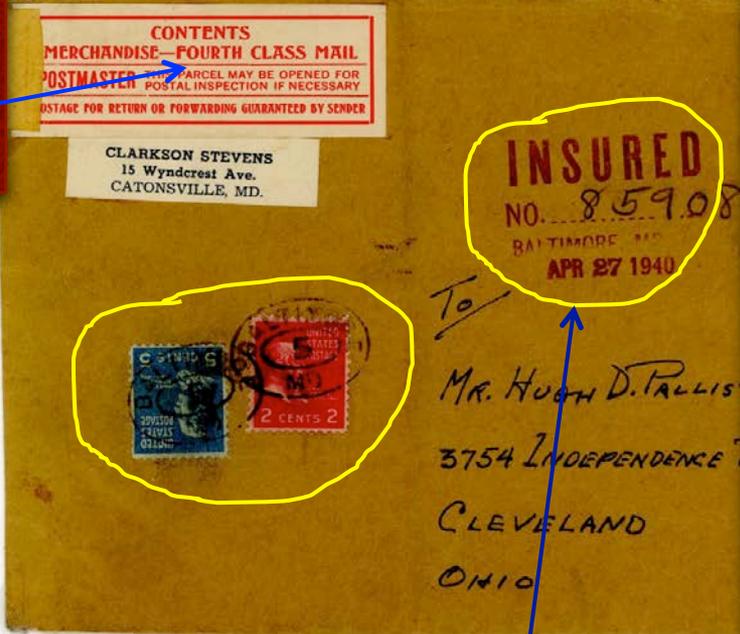
The  
Prexies

**"7¢ Rate"**  
 1/2¢ (1 1/2¢-per 2oz.) 3rd-Class, Single Pc. Rate', plus  
 "April 15, 1925, thru December 31, 1948  
 5¢ Insurance Service" (≤\$5.00 Indemnity) = 6 1/2¢  
 "April 15, 1925, thru March 25, 1944  
 (OVERPAID BY 1/2¢)  
 5¢ James Monroe (Sc# 810), plus  
 2¢ John Adams (Sc# 806)  
 Combination Usage  
 cover demonstrates a combination usage paying the THIRD  
 s, not Fourth Class, Minimum Insured Rate.

**CONTENTS  
 MERCHANDISE—FOURTH CLASS MAIL  
 POSTMASTER THIS PARCEL MAY BE OPENED FOR  
 POSTAL INSPECTION IF NECESSARY  
 POSTAGE FOR RETURN OR FORWARDING GUARANTEED BY SENDER**

**WHEN THE RATES DON'T ADD UP!**  
 It wasn't at all unusual for a sender to use a fourth class  
 label on merchandise mail and pay third class rates if  
 the package didn't weigh enough to be fourth class. In  
 all, for merchandise, the only difference in 1940 was  
 third class couldn't be used over 16 ounces.

Here, a total of 7¢ is on the mail. Fourth Class Mail  
 have cost 14¢ for a Zone 3, with Minimum Insurance



**5¢  
Tip-off!**

**4<sup>th</sup> Class & Parcel Post**

Zone 3: 1<sup>st</sup> lb. 9¢  
 Firm Mailing, Insured  
 Minimum Fee 5¢  
**Total Postage Due 14¢**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Class Single, Single-Piece**

Single Pc, ≤ 2oz. 1 1/2¢  
 Firm Mailing, Insured  
 Minimum Fee 5¢  
**Total Postage Due 6 1/2¢**  
 (Overpaid by 1/2¢, for convenience.)

Difference 7 1/2¢

**How did it qualify for 3<sup>rd</sup> Class?  
 The package was under 1lb.!**

**NEWSPAPERS**  
(printers)  
had a special  
**Second Class**  
**Newspaper & Agent**  
**Rates**

"2¢ Rate"

2¢ (≤ 2 oz.) *Second-Class,*  
(Special Rate Available to Newspapers at  
April 1, 1952, through Jan

~~~~~  
2¢ John Adams (Sc  
Solo Usage

**The Sun**  
280 BROADWAY, NEW YORK, N. Y.



Mr. J. Dawson-  
c/o J. Hodson  
Rockridge,  
Greenwich, Conn.

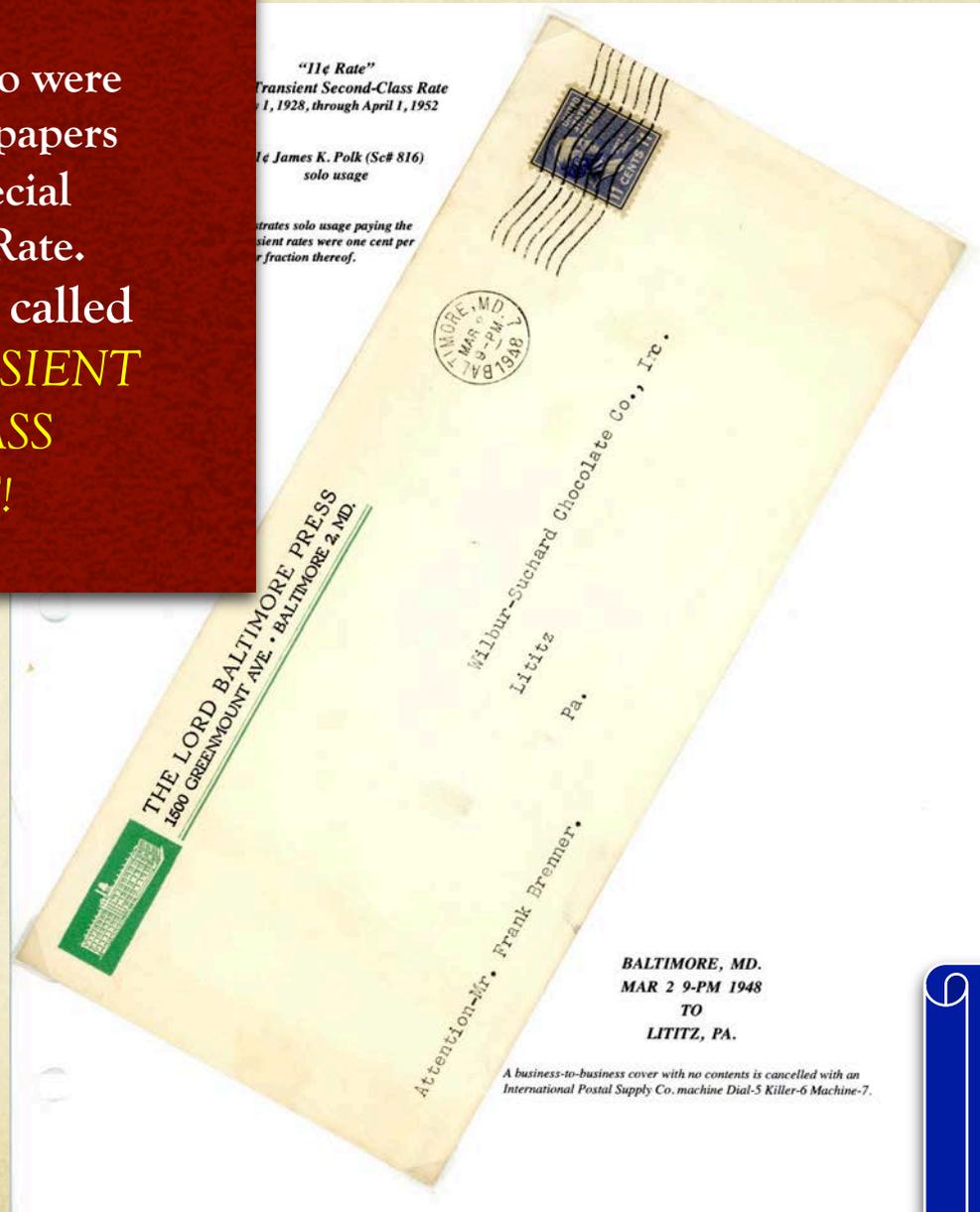
NEW YORK, N. Y.  
CHURCH STREET STATION ANNEX  
(CA. 1952-1963)  
TO  
GREENWICH, CT.

A 30mm W x 26mm H double oval "CHURCH ST. ANNEX. N.Y.,  
N.Y., with Maltese Cross center cancellation ties the stamp.

The  
Prexies

Printers who were  
NOT Newspapers  
had a Special  
2<sup>nd</sup> Class Rate.  
These were called  
**THE TRANSIENT  
2<sup>nd</sup> CLASS  
RATE!**

The  
Prexies



...both  
could mail  
4<sup>th</sup> CLASS  
Pound Rate

Printed Matter  
could be mailed by  
2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> class...  
in your choice of  
Domestic or  
International Rates...

The  
Prexies

"15¢ Rate"

15¢ (1½¢ per 2 oz.) Printed Matter, U.P.U. Surface Rate

April 1, 1932, through October 31, 1953

15¢ James Buchanan (Sc# 820)

Solo Usage

Upper demonstrates a solo usage paying the twenty-ounce, International Printed Matter Rate to Europe with a "Presente a la Douane N°. 18" (Presented at Customs N°. 18) circular hand stamp. The stamp is a 28mm double oval "BALTIMORE, MD. 36" cancel.



FROM  
THE WALTERS ART GALLERY  
BALTIMORE 1, MARYLAND

Mons. Julien Tonâriau  
110 Avenue Baellique  
Bonsecours, BELGIUM



POSTMASTER: CONTENTS—BOOKS. THIS PARCEL MAY BE OPENED  
FOR POSTAL INSPECTION IF NECESSARY. RETURN POSTAGE GUARANTEED.

A Scale, Permit,  
Rate Chart, and  
Adding Machine  
gets the  
best rate.

Certain Prexies are more sought after than others on cover.

These values included:

11¢, 12¢, 13¢, 14¢, 17¢, 19¢, 21¢, 22¢, 24¢, \$2, & \$5.

WHY?

These values were only available at larger post offices!

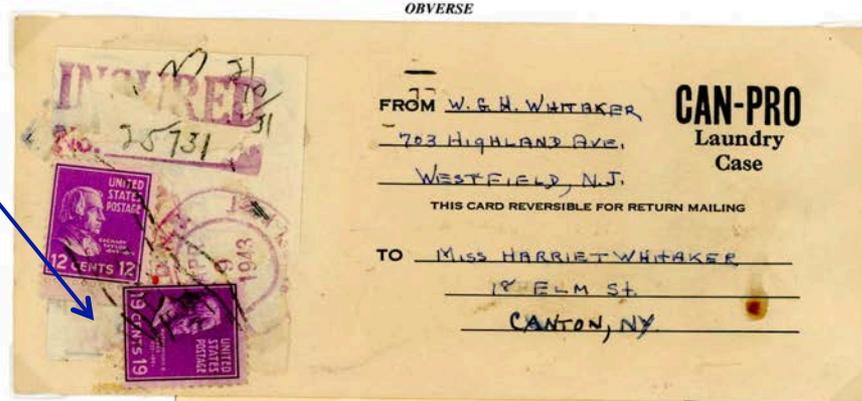
**OBVERSE**  
"31¢ Parcel Post Rate\*" *\*July 1, 1934, through March 31, 1944*  
(21¢ Fourth Class (12 lb.) ~ Zone 2 Rate  
(10¢ first lb.; 1¢ each additional lb. = 11¢+11¢)  
10¢ Insured Fee = 31¢)

12¢ Zachary Taylor (Sc# 817), plus  
19¢ Rutherford B. Hayes (Sc# 824)  
Combination Usage

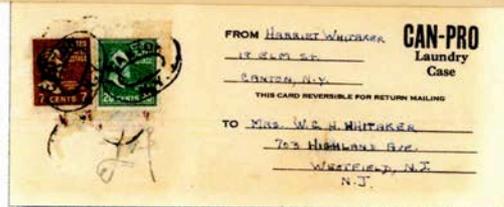
This REVERSIBLE and REUSEABLE MAIL TAG demonstrates a multiple use for a twelve pound Fourth Class Insured Mailing.

WESTFIELD, N. J.  
APR 9, 1943  
to  
CANTON, N. Y.

The stamps are cancelled with an 30mm red-violet circular date stamp handstamp at "WESTFIELD, N.J. PARCEL POST APR 9 1943." The rate is overstamped by the "INSURED" auxiliary stamp showing the notation of the postage and insurance fee for the mailing: 21+10=31.



REVERSE



REVERSE

**REVERSE**  
"27¢ Parcel Post Rate\*" *\*July 1, 1934, through March 31, 1944*  
(17¢ Fourth Class (8 lb.)~ Zone 2 Rate or  
(10¢ first lb; 1¢ each additional lb. = 1+7 lb)  
10¢ Insured Fee = 27¢)

BACK  
7¢ Andrew Jackson (Sc# 812), plus  
20¢ James A. Garfield (Sc# 825)  
Combination Usage

This REVERSIBLE and REUSEABLE MAIL demonstrates a multiple use for an Eight Pound, Fourth Class, Zone 2, Insured return mailing.

CANTON, N. Y.  
to  
WESTFIELD, N. J.

The stamps are cancelled with a 19mm x 29mm black silent double-oval handstamp at "CANTON, N.Y." A sticker showing the INSURED No. and PARCEL POST date stamp has been removed, while the postage remains.

"18¢ Rate"  
(Free 1 oz. Domestic Letter Rate,  
15¢ Registry Fee,\*\*plus  
3¢ Return Receipt Fee = 18¢)\*\*  
\*\*October 1, 1946, through December 31, 1948

18¢ Ulysses S. Grant (Sc# 823)  
Solo Usage

This Government-to-Business cover  
demonstrates a solo usage for a single  
weight (1 oz.) Registered Letter with  
Return Receipt Request.

PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE TO AVOID  
PAYMENT OF POSTAGE. \$500



REGISTERED - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED  
Superior Sand and Gravel Company  
c/o Colorado Employers Council, Inc.  
804 Boettler Building  
Denver, Colorado

9-2225

WAR LABOR BOARD  
800 Paramount Building  
Denver, Colorado  
OFFICIAL BUSINESS



DENVER, CO.  
AUG 4 1943  
INTERCITY USA

The stamp is tied by a 22mm x  
dumb killer; while the cover has  
30mm double-circle "DENVER, C  
1943 REGISTERED" cancellation.



"5¢ Rate"  
5¢ International Surface Letter Rate  
October 1, 1907, through November 1, 1953  
Solo Usage

5¢ James Monroe (Sc# 810)  
Solo Usage  
This cover demonstrates a solo usage covering the  
first one-ounce (1 oz.) on International Surface Mail  
to Germany.



LIBRARY OF CONGRESS  
WASHINGTON  
DIVISION OF DOCUMENTS  
OFFICIAL BUSINESS

WASHINGTON, D.C.  
JUN 22 7-PM 1940  
to  
GERMANY

Tape and machine stamp markings indicating the  
cover was opened, cancelled and re-canceled by the  
"German Armed Forces High Command".



Stamps added to  
"Penalty Mail"  
pay for  
"Service Fees"  
(Air Mail, Special  
Delivery, Registered/  
Certified Mail, Return  
Receipt, etc.)...  
except usage within  
Washington, D.C.,  
where it covered  
everything  
(except airmail.)  
~ ~ ~ ~

Stamps must cover  
"PENALTY"  
statement on  
International mailings.

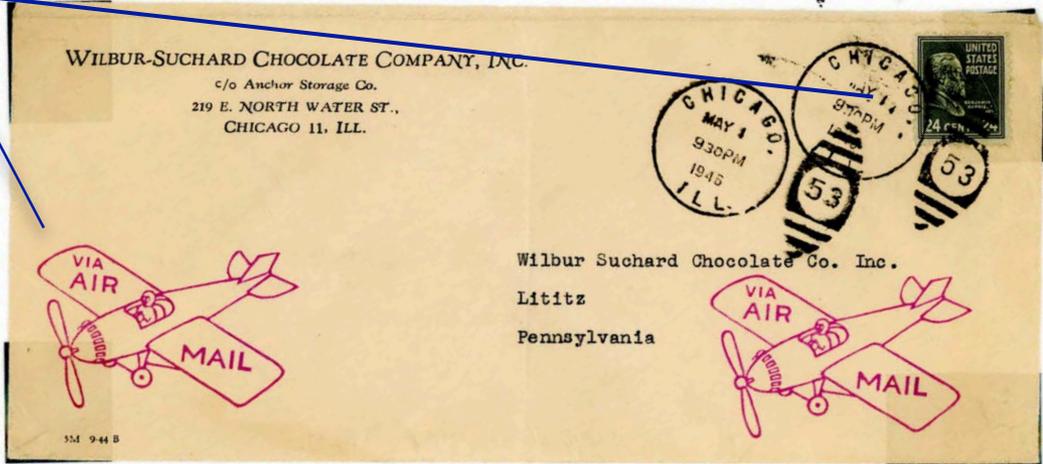
The  
Prex

"Penalty  
Mail"  
is collected  
for the  
Corner  
Cards  
and usages.

Sometimes the graphics are as collectible as the rate and solo usage...

The Prexies

24¢ Rate  
24¢ Domestic Air Mail Letter Rate  
March 20, 1944, through September 30, 1946  
24¢ Benjamin Harrison (See 828) Solo Usage  
This cover demonstrates a sub Postage usage for a (6¢ per ounce) 17¢ Domestic Air Mail Letter Rate.

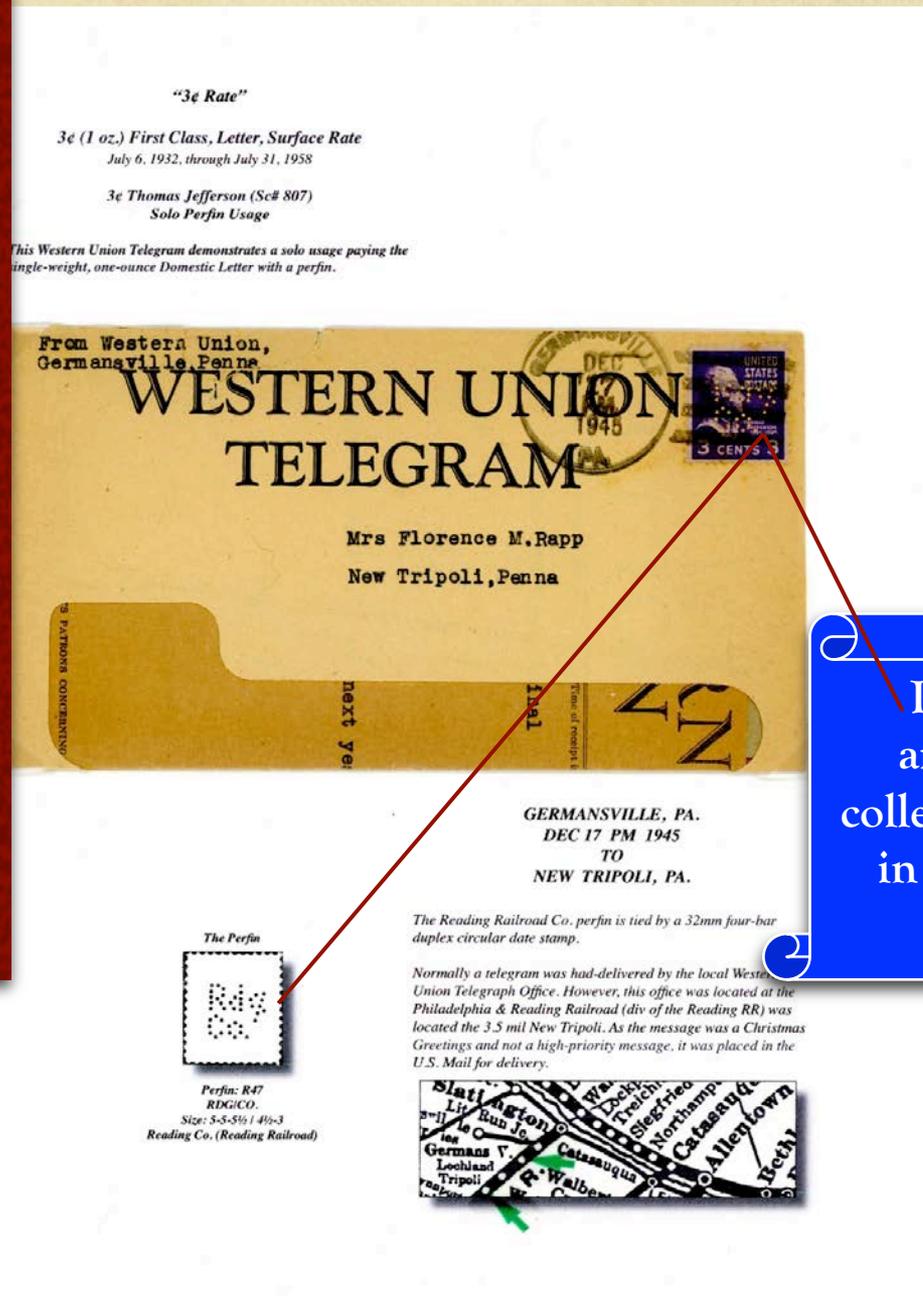


CHICAGO, ILL.  
MAY 1, 9:30PM 1946  
LITITZ, PA.  
The cancellation on this cover is a 10mm duplex circular date stamp with elliptical numerical 53mm H x J Stamp & bar filler. Cancellation device belonged to Postal Clerk No. 53; no two clerks were permitted to use the same numerical device.  
The cover was not back stamped on receipt.

Does anyone else find humor in this cover?

Western Union used the U.S. Mail (competitors then) to deliver a Telegram 3.5 miles from this telegraph office!

Or, the person paid for Telegraph Delivery Service... they could have put it in mail themselves and saved a lot of \$\$\$.



Perfins are a big collecting area in Prexies.

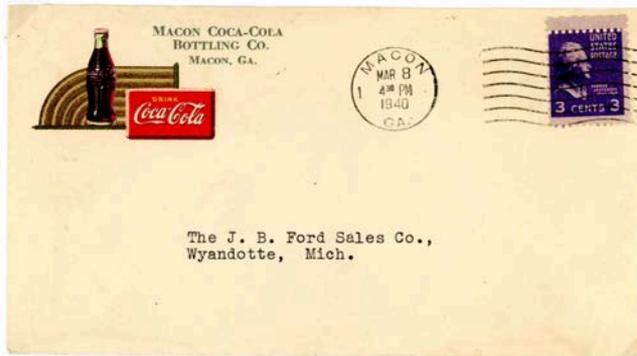
# Modern advertising covers are a very popular collecting area.

## "3c Rate"

3c (1 oz.) Domestic Letter Rate  
July 1, 1932, through July 31, 1958

3c Thomas Jefferson (Sc# 807)  
Solo Usage

This Coca-Cola Advertising cover demonstrates a solo usage on a single ounce 1 oz. domestic letter rate.



The J. B. Ford Sales Co.,  
Wyandotte, Mich.



The Corporate Logo

MACON 1, GA.  
MAR 8 4<sup>PM</sup> 1940  
to  
WYANDOTTE, MICH..

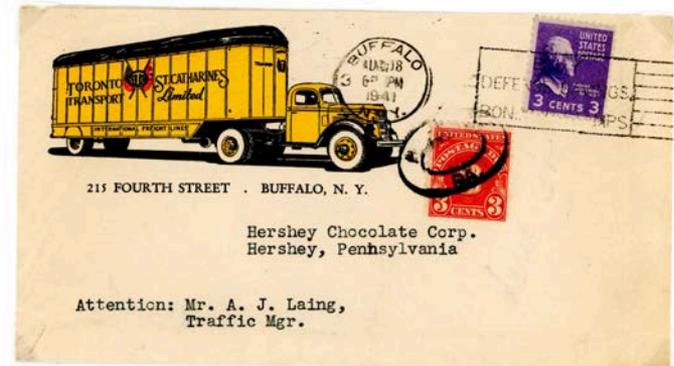
A business-to-business cover, has a the following machine cancel:  
UNIVERSAL STAMPING MACHINE CO. cancellation  
DIAL TYPE: DTU1 KILLER TYPE: 200  
Dial Diameter: 22mm Killer Type: 7 Wavy Bars  
Type Size: 2mm Wave Up/Down: Up  
Dial Variety: 1-L Killer OAL: 45mm  
Gap to Killer: 12mm Killer Variety: ---  
Slogan: ---  
CANCEL SIZE: 22mm x 82mm (7/8" H x 3" L)

## "6c Rate"

6c (2 oz.) Domestic Letter Rate  
July 1, 1932, through July 31, 1958

3c Thomas Jefferson (Sc# 807) with  
3c Postage Due Rotary Press - Wet Print (Sc#182)  
Combination Usage

This business-to-business advertising cover demonstrates double-weight (2 oz) Domestic Letter Rate, underpaid by three cents.



215 FOURTH STREET . BUFFALO, N. Y.

Hershey Chocolate Corp.  
Hershey, Pennsylvania

Attention: Mr. A. J. Laing,  
Traffic Mgr.

BUFFALO, N. Y.  
AUG 18 6<sup>PM</sup> 1941  
TO  
HERSHEY, PA.

The machine cancellation tying the stamp to this cover is a:  
UNIVERSAL STAMPING MACHINE CO. cancellation  
DIAL TYPE: 2 KILLER TYPE: 8  
Dial Diameter: 22mm Killer Type: --- Slogan&Bars  
Type Size: 2mm Wave Up/Down: ---  
Dial Variety: 3-L Killer OAL: 54mm  
Gap to Killer: 14mm Killer Variety: Luff #630  
"BUY DEFENSE SAVINGS BONDS AND STAMPS"  
CANCEL SIZE: 22mm x 90mm (3/4" H x 3-1/2" L)

While the postage due was applied at Hershey, Pa and cancelled by a 30mm x 20mm double oval cancel.

The  
Prexies

**Hazardous items including: shingles, bricks, children, and more were eventually banned from mailing by the USPOD due to hazards to employees.**

The  
Prexies

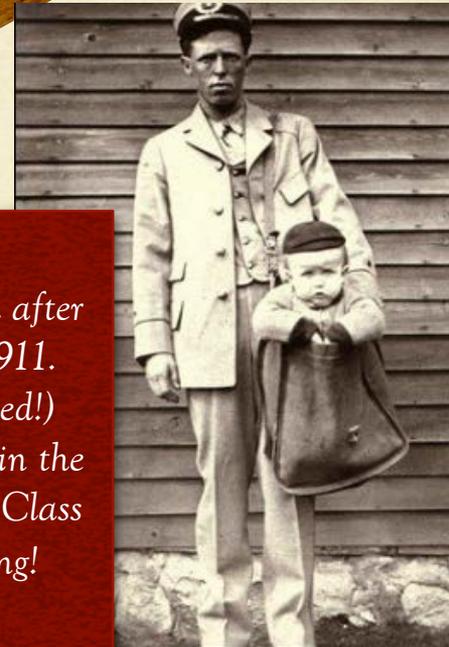
Dear Representative:  
This shingle was made by an  
American Union Laborer. Do not  
force him on the W. P. A. by giv-  
ing our markets to Chinese and  
Hindu labor of Canada.

Name *Clyde Carter*  
Address *107 So. Jefferson*  
City *Abbeville, W. Va.*

Representative Martin F. Smith  
WASHINGTON, D. C.



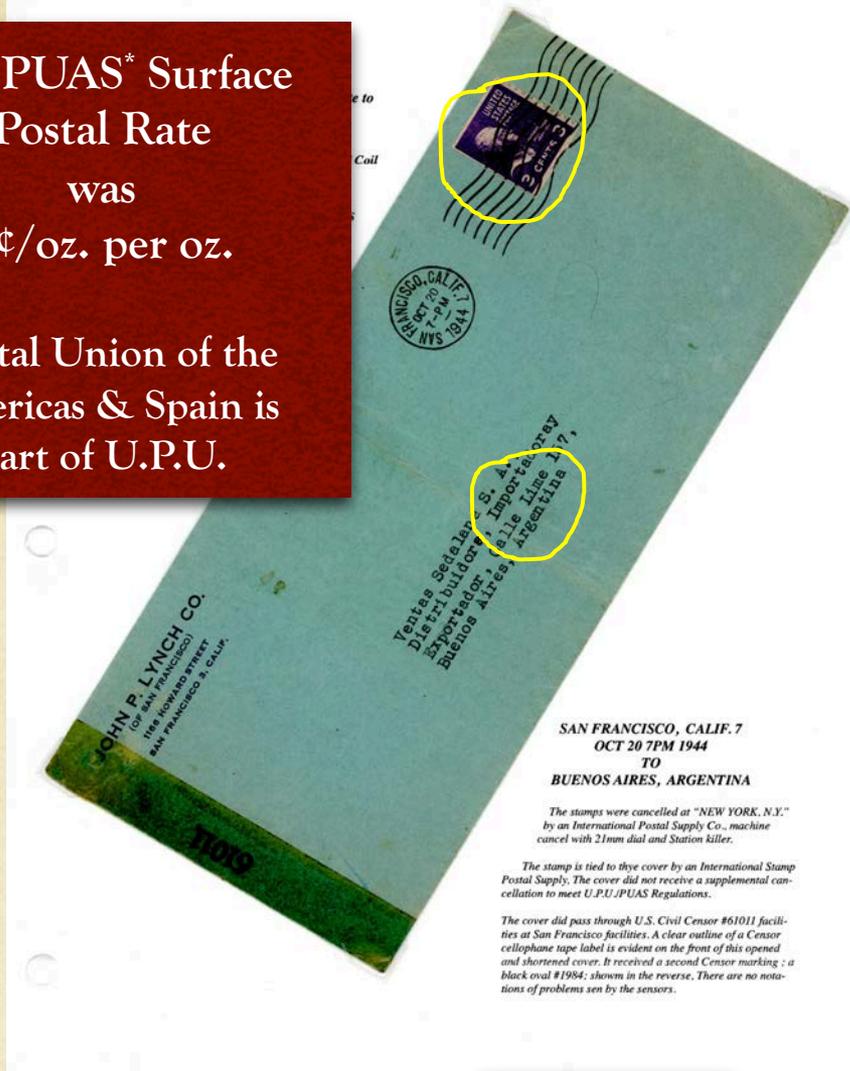
Children being mailed were banned after two were mailed on R.P.O.'s in 1911. (They were "bag tagged"...not boxed!) A bank was mailed, brick-by-brick, in the 1930's. The brick maker found 4<sup>th</sup> Class postage was cheaper than trucking!



The PUAS\* Surface  
Postal Rate  
was  
3¢/oz. per oz.

\*Postal Union of the  
Americas & Spain is  
part of U.P.U.

The  
Prexies



SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF. 7  
OCT 20 7PM 1944  
TO  
BUENOS AIRES, ARGENTINA

The stamp was cancelled at "NEW YORK, N.Y." by an International Postal Supply Co. machine cancel with 21mm dial and Station killer.

The stamp is tied to this cover by an International Postal Supply. The cover did not receive a supplemental cancellation to meet U.P.U./PUAS Regulations.

The cover did pass through U.S. Civil Censor #61011 facilities at San Francisco facilities. A clear outline of a Censor cellophane tape label is evident on the front of this opened and shortened cover. It received a second Censor marking; a black oval #1984; shown in the reverse. There are no notations of problems seen by the sensors.

Rate  
confusion

...the Surface for Europe\*  
& the rest of the world was  
5¢/oz. first oz.; 3¢/oz. add'l  
  
(\*hmmm...I thought Spain was  
in Europe?)



"5¢ Rate"  
5¢ International Surface  
October 1, 1907, through November 1, 1953

5¢ James Monroe (Sc# 810)  
Solo Usage

This cover demonstrates a solo usage covering the first one-ounce (1 oz.) on International Surface Mail to Peru.

The cover was open, examined and re-sealed by U.S. Military Censor Station #6676, New York, N.Y. prior to forwarding to the designate. The Censor Station operated from Dec-1943 until Jun-1945.

0676

Censor Station Number

NEW YORK, N.Y.  
OCT 13 7-PM 1944  
to  
CHICLAYO, PERU

NEW YORK, N.Y.  
OCT 13 7-PM 1944  
to  
CHICLAYO, PERU

The stamp is cancelled by an International Postal Supply Co. "Hey-Dolphin Electric Flier" Model L-32. The Dial had a 22mm diameter with the Station Designator Killer (MADISON SQUARE STATION) was 20mm H by 50mm L; the entire strike had a 82mm OAL.

The cover bears a receiving backstamp indicating the cover arrived at "CHICLAYO, PERU on 15 NOV. 1944."

Receiving Cancel



Unusual Rates  
are sought after:  
3<sup>rd</sup> Class  
Book, Catalog &  
Material for Planting  
Rate.

The  
Prexies

"20¢ Rate"\*

1¢ (per oz.) Third-Class, Book, Catalog & Material for Planting Rate\*

\*April 15, 1925, through January 1, 1949

15¢ Special Delivery Fee (Other than 1st Class, ≤2lbs.)\*\*

\*\*July 1, 1928, through November 1, 1944

5¢ James Monroe (Sc# 810), plus  
15¢ Motorcycle Messenger (Sc# E16)  
Combination Usage

This portion of a wrapper demonstrates Third Class Rate usage with Special Delivery Fee for Other Than First Class Rate. Though mailed by Third Class, the package travelled the 635 miles between the two Post Offices within the same day of mailing!

SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.  
MAY 11 1939  
to  
PORTLAND, OR.



Auxiliary  
Markings  
are collected.

**High-Weight Rates  
are sought after!**

**3¢ x 12 oz. (or ¾ lbs.)  
First Class Surface Rate  
WRAPPER!**

The  
Prexies

**"36¢ Rate"**

**36¢ (3¢ x 12 oz.) First-Class Surface Rate**  
July 6, 1932, thru July 31, 1958

**16¢ Abraham Lincoln (Sc# 821 x 2), plus  
4¢ Pitney-Bowes Post Office Meter Label  
Combination Usage**

*The cover, slit at both ends forming a sleeve or outer label, demonstrates a high-weight, twelve ounce (12 oz) First-Class Surface Rate mailing. The envelope was slit in this fashion to slide over newspapers, magazines, or a closed mailing tube.*



**INDIANAPOLIS 4, IND.  
AUG 5 1947  
TO  
BUCYRUS, OHIO**

*A roller cancellation device indicating the item was mailed at "INDIANAPOLIS, IND. (Z4)" ties the pair of stamps. The "(Z4)" in the roller, after "INDIANAPOLIS" was an indication of Zone 4; today this is the post office 46204. The sleeve bears an additional Post Office Pitney-Bowes postage meter label applied at the time of mailing in "INDIANAPOLIS, IND" to cover the additional required postage.*

## Hi-Value

usages  
\$1, \$2 and \$5  
are very  
sought after!

The  
Prexies



Miss Gita Burkhard  
& Ob. Heuberg  
Basle  
Switzerland

### "\$ 4.80 Rate"

**\$4.80 (30¢-per-1/2 oz. x 8 oz. ) International Airmail, Letter Rate\***

*\*April 28, 1939, through October 31, 1946*

**50¢ William Howard Taft (Sc# 831), and  
\$2.00 Warren G. Harding (Sc# 833 x 2), plus  
30¢ Winged Globe Airmail (Sc# C24)  
Combination Usage**

*This cover demonstrates a combination usage for a heavy-weight, eight-ounce Air-mail letter to Switzerland.*

**MILWAUKEE, WIS.  
OCT 21 4PM 1941  
TO  
BASLE, SWITZERLAND**

*The stamps were cancelled with a 30mm diameter six-bar 13mm W liptical duplex killer with numerical center number 5, indicating they cancelled by a window clerk at the Milwaukee post office.*



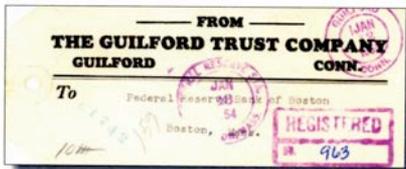
Sometimes, I'd rather have what was being mailed... opposed to the stamps!

The  
Prexies

"\$4.17 Rate"

(.03¢ x 4.625 lbs.) Postage,  
0.55 Registry Fee, plus  
for Overvalue Registered Mail Fee  
(\$10,000.00) = \$4.17  
January 1, 1952, through July 31, 1958  
---  
Wilson (Sc# 832: horiz. strip of 4),  
plus  
Andrew Johnson (Sc# 822)  
Combination Usage

This mailing tag demonstrates a combination usage for high-weight, registered mail, with a declared value.



Tag Front Showing Registry Number No. 963; 10M Declared Value; \$2.00 Partial payment of postage and fees; a 30mm double-circle CDS from the Mailing and Receiving Post Offices.



Tag Reverse showing payment of Postage and Fees, with Mailing Post Office 28mm Target Killer cancellations shown on the reverse, including the "FEDERAL RESERVE STA., BOSTON, MASS JUN 30, 1954" RECEIVING CANCELLATION.

GUILFORD, CONN.  
JAN 12, 1954  
TO  
FEDERAL RESERVE STA., BOSTON, MA.  
JAN 13, 1954

The stamps on the mailing tag are cancelled and tied by red-violet 30mm x 21mm diameter double-oval silent killer applied at the "Guilford, Conn." post office. Computation of postage, rates & fees is confirmed by column of numbers shown on the right-side of the tag.

\$10,000.00  
in cash!!!

"13.02 Rate"

(\$9.00 (.03¢ x 18.75 lbs.) Postage, plus  
\$4.02 Registry with Surcharge Indemnity Fee (\$ 41,000.00) = \$13.02  
\*January 1, 1952, through July 31, 1958

---  
\$ 1.00 Woodrow Wilson (Sc# 832 x 12),  
50¢ William Howard Taft (Sc# 831 x 2)  
1¢ George Washington (Sc# 804 x 2)  
Combination Usage

This mailing tag demonstrates a combination usage for high-weight, registered mail, with a declared value of \$41,000.



Tag Front Showing Registry Number #21,378, Declared Value \$4M, Mailing & Receiving Post Office Station Cancellation.

\$41,000.00  
in cash!!!



Tag Reverse Showing Payment of Postage and Fees, with Mailing Post Office Cancellations.

BURLINGTON, VT.  
NOV 17 1954  
TO  
BOSTON, MA.

The stamps are cancelled by a 31mm red-violet "BURLINGTON, VT. NOV 17, 1954" double circle mailing post office station cancel, while the front of the tag has a 33mm red-violet "FEDERAL RESERVE STA. NOV 18 1954 BOSTON MASS." double circle circular date stamp receiving post office station cancellation.

"8c Rate"

8c (1 oz.) Airmail Service Within USA & Possessions -  
and Surface Service to All Countries.  
\*November 23, 1934 until September 30, 1946.

6c Eagle Holding Shield (Sc# C23), plus  
2c John Adams (Sc# 806)  
Combination Usage

The rate paid the airmail service within the U.S. and possessions,  
and surface service rate to all countries, as indicated by the auxil-  
iary handstamp. "BY AIR IN U.S.A. TO EXCHANGE OFFICE."



Receiving Cancel  
MONACO  
8h  
8-7  
1939



LOS ANGELES, CALIF. (Hollywood Sta.)  
JUN 28 1 PM 1939  
to  
CONDAMINE, MONACO

The stamps are tied by a machine cancel as follows:  
UNIVERSAL STAMPING MACHINE CO.  
DIAL TYPE: D KILLER TYPE: SLOGAN  
Dial Diameter: 22mm Killer Type: Slogan  
Type Size: 2mm Wave Up/Down: ---  
Dial Variety: --- Killer Length: 50mm  
Gap to Killer: 10mm Killer Variety: ---  
Slogan: HOLLYWOOD  
CANCEL SIZE: 22mm x 88mm (7/8"H x 3-7/16" L)

# Did you know there was a period when there were SPLIT AIR MAIL/SURFACE MAIL RATES ?

Airmail to a U.S. Port - Surface Mail beyond!  
OR  
U.S. Surface Mail to a U.S. Port - then  
Air Mail from a European Port to Destination!  
(Did you understand that? Neither did Mailers or P.O. Clerks.)

U.S. port, and then the Air Mail Rate in Europe, other than Spain,  
after landing in a port in Europe, as indicated by the typed: "BY  
AIR MAIL (PAR AVION) FROM EUROPE."



PHILADELPHIA, PA. 30  
JUL 14 6-PM 1938  
TO  
BAD BUCKOW, MAERK, SCHWEIZ, GERMANY

The stamps are tied by a electric machine cancel as follows:  
INTERNATIONAL POSTAL SUPPLY CO.  
DIAL TYPE: D (30-R) KILLER: AIRMAIL SLOGAN  
Dial Diameter: 22mm Killer Type: ILLUSTRATED  
Type Size: 3mm Wave Up/Down: ---  
Dial Variety: 30-R Killer Length: 55mm  
Gap to Killer: 9mm Killer Variety: Luft# 140  
Slogan: AIRMAIL (BI-PLANE) SAVES TIME  
CANCEL SIZE: 22mm x 86mm (7/8"H x 3-3/8" L)

The cover travelled by land, from Philadelphia to Hoboken,  
N.J., where it was placed on the S.S. STATENDAM. The  
STATENDAM (1929-1938) operated trans-Atlantic service be-  
tween Rotterdam and New York also calling at Southampton, Le  
Havre, France and occasionally Plymouth (UK) and Boulogne,  
France. Upon arrival in France, the cover was sent to closest  
airport and was sent to the Addressee in Germany, via Berlin.

The  
Prexies

## SUPPLEMENTARY MAIL SERVICE

The rarest rate and usage of the Prexies!

First Prexie Issue : 4/25/1938  
Cessation of Service: appx. 9/7/39

Only a handful of covers known from this period.

**Why?**

Time of change to Airmail!

The Prexies

### "10¢ Rate"

5¢ (1oz.) + 5¢ (Fee) Foreign Supplementary Mail Rates (or Secondary Rate)  
\* July 7, 1853 thru September 5, 1939.

2¢ G. Washington - 1922 Issue (Sc# 634x2), plus  
3¢ Thomas Jefferson (Sc# 807x2)  
Combination Usage

This cover demonstrates a combination usage for a single-weight, one-ounce (1 oz.) cover to England via the S.S. LE FRANCE.

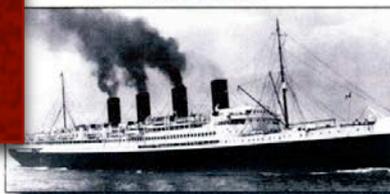
### SUPPLEMENTARY MAIL SERVICE

Two kinds of supplementary mail were available Domestic & Foreign: For Foreign mail. For New York, the postmaster general established in 1853 a fee of double the regular rate. This paid to get the mail aboardship after the regular mail closing and before sailing time. The service continued until 1939.

The concept of supplementary mail was adapted from Great Britain (the "late fee"), where mail deposited "late" was charged a fee for being included in a late dispatch when deposited after the regular mail closing time. Use of late fees in Great Britain was widespread and late fees were charged on both domestic and foreign mail.



S.S. LeFrance



SS France was a French ocean liner which sailed for the Compagnie Générale Transatlantique, colloquially known as CGT or the "French Line". She was later christened Versailles of the Atlantic, a reference to her décor which reflected the famous palace outside Paris. Ordered in 1908, she was introduced into the Transatlantic route in April 1912, just a week after the sinking of RMS Titanic, and was the only French liner among the famous "four stackers".

NEW YORK, N. Y. G.P.O.  
NOV 19 930 AM 1938  
TO  
READING, ENGLAND

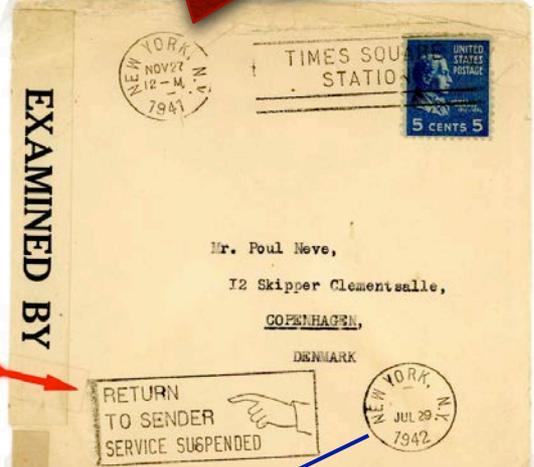
The stamps were cancelled by a black 27mm duplex circular datestamp with 13mmW x 33H x 1mm T ten-bar elliptical grid killer, with the "G.P.O." Station designator. The cover included an additional red-violet 3mm H x 47mm L "SUPPLEMENTARY MAIL" auxiliary hand stamp marking in the upper center portion of the cover.



4 Days  
PRIOR TO  
Declaration  
of War!

This cover demonstrates a solo usage attempting to pay the single-weight one-ounce Surface Letter Rate, to Occupied DENMARK, NEW YORK.

PB 18344 (Dec 12, 1941) Suspended until further notice all mail to Germany and Italy, and all places under their control. This included all Europe except Gibraltar, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, USSR, and unoccupied France.



EXAMINED BY

The  
Prexies

Censored in Bermuda-  
Returned-to-sender  
6 to 7 months later!

Gap to Killer: 10mm Killer Variety: Station  
Station Name: TIMES SQUARE STATION  
Cancel Size: 22mm x 84mm (7/8" H x 3-1/4" L)

RETURNING POST OFFICE SERVICE  
RETURN TO SENDER SERVICE SUSPENDED

After the cover was censored and re-sealed, the cover was returned to the mailer at New York, N.Y. Morgan Annex almost nine (9) months later for return.

INTERNATIONAL POSTAL SUPPLY CO. cancellation  
DIAL TYPE: D KILLER TYPE: ---  
Dial Diameter: 21mm Killer Variety: ---  
Type Size: 3mm Killer Variety: ---  
Gap to Killer: 12mm Killer OAL: ---  
Cancel Size: 21mm x 84mm (7/8" H x 3-1/4" L)  
Slogan: RETURN TO SENDER SERVICE  
Cities Used: New York, N.Y. - ONLY!  
EKU: 1942-06-26 LKU: 1942-07-29! Show

"5c Rate"

5c International Surface Letter Rate  
October 1, 1907, through November 1, 1953

SERVICE SUSPENDED  
RETURN TO SENDER

5c James Monroe Issue (Sc# 810)

Solo Usage

This cover demonstrates a solo usage attempting to pay the single-weight one-ounce Surface Letter Rate, to Occupied France, OPENED, CENSORED AND RE-SEALED BY CENSOR 7264, NEW YORK.

PB 18344 (Dec 12, 1941) Suspended until further notice all mail to Germany and Italy, and all places under their control. This included all Europe except Gibraltar, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, USSR, and unoccupied France.

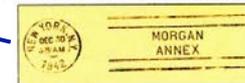
Censored  
Mail  
Markings  
are very  
collectible.



MAILING POST OFFICE POST MARK

BROOKLYN, N. Y. 10  
APR 4 2-PM 1942  
TO  
AIX-en-PROVENCE, FRANCE

RETURNING POST OFFICE POST MARK



The stamp is cancelled by the following machine cancel:  
INTERNATIONAL POSTAL SUPPLY CO. cancellation  
DIAL TYPE: D (10) KILLER TYPE: IELFIELD 2  
Dial Diameter: 21mm Killer Type: 7 Wavy bars  
Type Size: 3mm Wave Up/Down: Up  
Dial Variety: 10-R Killer OAL: 57mm  
Gap to Killer: 10mm Killer Variety: Ielfield  
Slogan: ---  
Cancel Size: 21mm x 87mm (7/8" H x 3-1/2" L)

After the cover was censored and re-sealed, the cover was re-entered at New York, N.Y. Morgan Annex 8 months later for return.

INTERNATIONAL POSTAL SUPPLY CO. cancellation  
DIAL TYPE: D KILLER TYPE: STATION  
Dial Diameter: 22mm Killer Type: Station w/4 bars  
Type Size: 3mm Wave Up/Down: ---  
Dial Variety: --- Killer OAL: 53mm  
Gap to Killer: 10mm Killer Variety: Station  
Station: MORGAN ANNEX  
Cancel Size: 22mm x 87mm (7/8" H x 3-1/2" L)

Cover addressed to a town in the German Coastal Military Zone (Atlantic Wall) where outside entry was prohibited!

The Prexies

RARE Vichy h/s translation:  
 "MAIL UNDELIVERABLE  
 RETURN  
 ZONE OCCUPIED"

RETURN TO SENDER  
 SERVICE SUSPENDED  
 Round trip: 1 year 14 days

"5¢ Rate"

5¢ (1 oz.) International U.P.U. Surface Letter Rate

October 1, 1907, through November 1, 1953

5¢ James Monroe (Sch 810),  
 Solo Usage

This cover demonstrates a solo usage paying the single-weight one-ounce Surface Letter Rate, to France.

When the cover arrived in France it was stamped by the VICHY French Post Office "ZONE PEUT ÊTRE ACHÉMINÉ ZONE OCCUPÉE" translating, "MAY BE RE-ROUTED AREA/ZONE OCCUPIED". The cover was returned to the U.S. and stamped in red-violet, "RETURN TO SENDER SERVICE SUSPENDED" on September 24, 1941 and was back-stamped accordingly.

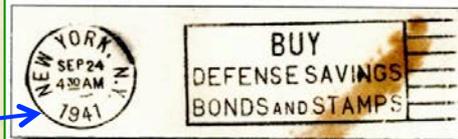


Translates: "MAY BE REROUTED AREA / ZONE OCCUPIED"



NEW YORK, STA. L., N. Y.  
 AUG 10 6 PM 1940  
 TO  
 SAINT JEAN de LUZ, FRANCE

Backstamped on Return 379 days (1 yr. 14 days) later!



U.S. Auxiliary Marking

RETURN TO SENDER  
 SERVICE SUSPENDED

Saint Jean de Luz was located in the German Coastal Military Zone (The Atlantic Wall) where Entry was Prohibited!

The stamp was cancelled by the following machine cancel:

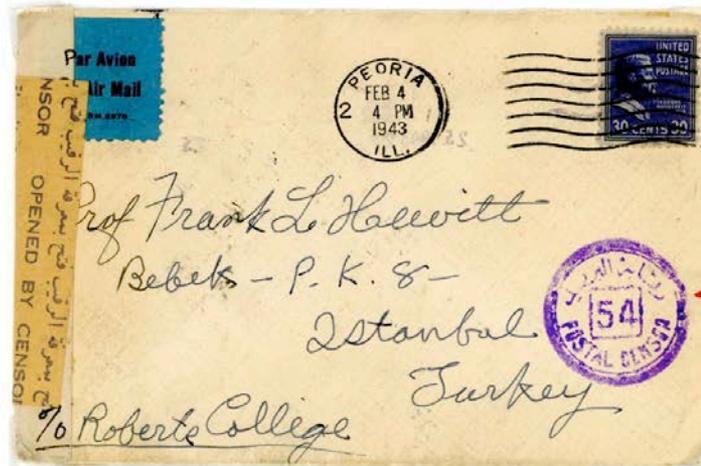
INTERNATIONAL POSTAL SUPPLY CO. cancellation  
 DIAL TYPE: D KILLER TYPE: STATION L  
 Dial Diameter: 21mm Killer Type: Station+6 Bars  
 Type Size: 3mm Wave Up/Down: Straight  
 Dial Variety: --- Killer OAL: 50mm  
 Gap to Killer: 10mm Killer Variety: STATION L  
 Cancel Size: 21mm x 81mm (7/8" H x 3-1/8" L)

The  
Prexies

**"30¢ Rate"**  
(30¢ ½ oz. Airmail Letter to Europe)  
April 28, 1939 through October 31, 1946

**30¢ Theodore Roosevelt (Sc# 830) Solo Usage**

This cover demonstrates a solo usage covering a  
(½ oz.) Airmail Letter Rate to Europe.



Tracking mail disruption during WWII is an interesting part of postal history. Normally, this cover would have traveled thru Europe to Turkey, not Africa.

Back Panel



A. Krag machine cancel: "ISTANBUL, TURKEY 2 MAY 1943."  
B. 30mm U.P.U. roman-type transit Comb cancel: GALATA, ISTANBUL 2 MAY 1943."  
C. U.P.U. "roman-style" 30mm cancel: BEBEK, ISTANBUL 3 MAY 1943."

D. Opened and re-sealed U.S. Censor Tape.

E. Opened and re-sealed Egypt Censor Tape.

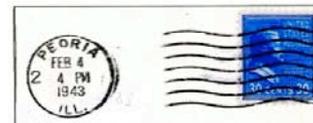
F. 23mm black double-circle Egypt Censor Mark.

Interestingly, there is no Egypt postal transit cancel on this cover!

PEORIA, ILL.  
FEB 4 4PM 1943  
to  
ISTANBUL, TURKEY

**DIAL TYPE:** 3      **KILLER TYPE:** 2 Machine 2  
**Dial Diameter:** 22mm      **Killer Type:** 7 Wavy Lines  
**Type Size:** 2mm      **Wave Up/Down:** Down  
**Dial Variety:** ---      **Killer OAL:** 45mm  
**Gap to Killer:** 13mm      **Killer Variety:** ---

**CANCELLATION SIZE:** 22mm x 80mm (7/8"H x 3-1/8" L)



## BLACKBALLED MAIL !

DID YOU KNOW ?

Diplomatic Mail, Red Cross, and Semi-Official Mail received special censoring & markings?

“Black Dots” & “Purple Dashes” were “Question” and “Answer” marks relating to whether mail was “privileged” or not!

PURPLE BAR ONLY = is this privileged mail ? Do we censor?

BLACK BALL = DO NOT OPEN!  
Do not censor. BLACKBALLED!

PURPLE BAR+BLACK BALL=  
Open & Censor. Mail not privileged.

PURPLE BAR & DOT  
(a dime, for perspective)

“40¢ Rate”

40¢ (112 oz.) Single Weight, F.A.M.,  
Miami to Brazil, and Air in Brazil\*  
\*June 15, 1931, until March 31, 1945

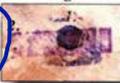
~~~  
30¢ Transport Issue (Sc# C30), plus  
10¢ John Tyler (Sc# 815)  
Combination Usage  
~~~

This cover demonstrates a combination usage for a single-weight, half-ounce F.A.M. Air Mail Letter Rate to Brazil.

The cover was opened, censored and re-sealed at the New York City Censor Station by Censor #8004 not before being pre-screened by a Diplomatic Censor, and backstamped with two markings.

Diplomatic Ranking Censor Marking

LATEST Known Usage



Type M.1

The cover bears two Censor markings: (1.) the cover was opened, examined and resealed by Censor# 8004 located at the New York City Censor Station, plus (enhanced for viewing) a (2.) 6mm black ball over-struck with a (3.) red-violet 25mm L x 5mm H rectangular with a 1mm reverse-out band 3mm from each end is the earliest known usage. Type M.1 was used from: Feb. 1944 to Apr 1944.

The unusual “Black Ball & Red-Violet Bar” marking is found on covers from/to foreign governmental agencies and personnel, semi-official commercial agencies and diplomatic personnel. The size of the “black ball” determined whether the mail was opened. If the “Black Ball” was 12mm, the mail would be uncensored.



The Backstamps



Diplomatic Censor Marking compared to a dime!



BOTAFOGO, BRAZIL

U.S. NAVY  
(Miami, FL)  
MAR 30 2<sup>00</sup>PM 1944  
TO

BOTAFOGO (RIO DE JANEIRO), BRAZIL

The stamps are tied by a 30mm duplex circular date stamp with a 13mm W x 33mm H twelve-bar elliptical geometric killer.

The cover is backstamped with a black 30mm double-circle receiving cancel on “10 APR 4x BOTAF(OGO), BRAZIL.”

Domestic,  
Foreign &  
Military  
Censor  
Markings  
are their  
own  
collecting  
area.

Tracking a cover's travel is part of the fun and the challenge of postal history!

The  
Prexies

"35¢ Rate"

15¢ (1/2 oz.) European Air Mail Rate,\* plus  
 \*November 1, 1946, through April 30, 1967  
 20¢ Registry Fee\*\* (\$9.65 Indemnity or 50 Francs) = 35¢  
 \*\*February 1, 1945, through December 31, 1948

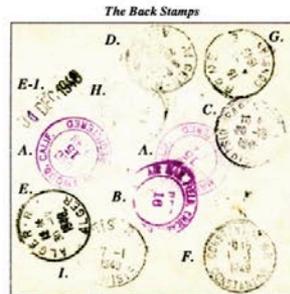
20¢ James A. Garfield (Sc# 825), plus  
 1¢ FDR Hyde Park Mansion (Sc# 930)  
 14¢ Franklin Pierce (Sc# 819)  
 Combination Usage

This cover demonstrates a combination usage for a single-weight, half-ounce Registered Letter Rate to Europe with Maximum Indemnity of 50 francs or \$9.65; the cover being forwarded to two countries for final delivery.



MAYWOOD, CALIF.  
 DEC 15 1948

To  
**PARIS, FRANCE**  
 ← **FORWARDED TO ALGERIA, THEN TO TUNISIA!**



The stamps are tied to the cover by a 21mm x 30mm double-oval silent killer, while the reverse bears the following backstamps:  
 (A.) Two mailing post office "MAYWOOD, CA. REGISTERED DEC 15 1948";  
 (B.) One "CHICAGO, ILL., AIR MAIL FIELD, DEC 16 1948" transit cancel;  
 (C.) One 26mm black "PARIS FRANCE 20-12 1948" receiving c.d.s. cancel;  
 (D.) One 27mm black "ALGER R.P., ALGER 925 29-12 1948" receiving c.d.s.;  
 (E.) One 27mm black "ALGER R.P., ALGER 12\* 30-12 1948" mailing c.d.s.;  
 (E-1) Straight-line dater "30 DEC 1948" applied at ALGER, ALGER; probably to signify date of "failed delivery"; (Note: R.P. = REGISTERED POSTE);  
 (F.) One 27mm black "CONSTANTINE R.P. (ALGER) 1-1 1949" receiving c.d.s.;  
 (G.) One 27mm black "BONE, CONSTANTINE R.P. 4-1 1949" mailing c.d.s.;  
 (H.) One faint 26mm "TUNIS R.P., 12\* 6-1 1949 TUNISIE" transit c.d.s., and;  
 (I.) One 27mm black "TUNIS R.P., 7-1 1949 TUNISIE" final destination and receiving post office cancel.

I love researching the postal markings, routes and how long and far a cover travels!

Sometimes a cover never reaches the addressee and is returned to the sender...

The  
Prexies

**"35¢ Rate"**

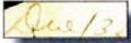
15¢ (11/2 oz.) European Air Mail Rate,\* plus  
\*November 1, 1946, through April 30, 1957  
 20¢ EXPRES Special Delivery Fee\*\* = 35¢  
\*\*September 1, 1926, through June 30, 1957  
 (Overpaid by two cents!)

6¢ Small DC-4 Transport (Sc# C39),  
 3¢ Thomas Jefferson (Sc# 804 x 4),  
 2¢ "Little" White House (Sc# 931 x 2), plus  
 15¢ Motorcycle Special Delivery (Sc# E16)  
 Combination Usage

*This cover, originally "RETURNED FOR 13¢ POSTAGE" (marked under 6c Airmail #C39) and re-mailed, demonstrates a single-weight, half-ounce Special Delivery Air Mail Letter and returned-to-sender for being "UNKNOWN" when delivery was attempted in Switzerland; the letter was overpaid by two cents when additional postage when re-mailed.*



Auxiliary Mark: "Returned for Postage"



Postal Mark Under Stamp: "DUE 13¢"



**SWITZERLAND POST OFFICE TRILINGUAL LABEL**  
 GERMAN: Unbekannt = Unknown  
 FRENCH: Inconnu = Unknown  
 ITALIAN: Sconosciuto = Unknown Person

AKRON, OHIO  
 (RESTONE PARK STA.)  
 DEC 24 5<sup>30</sup>PM 1951  
 RE-MAILED DEC 28 9<sup>45</sup>AM 1951  
 TO  
 WILLIS, SWITZERLAND

*The stamps are tied to the cover by a 30mm numerical duplex circular datestamps, with eight-bar 13mmW x 33mmH elliptical killers. The cover front bears a bisected double circle receiving cancel at "WILLIS, SWITZERLAND 11.1.52" over the trilingual label at the bottom, center-front.*

*(Note: The 6c Airmail #C39 was soaked and folded back to reveal the "DUE 13¢" pencil notation.)*

Label indicates  
 "UNKNOWN"  
 in  
 3 languages.

Sometimes a package  
 "PASSES FREE U.S.  
 CUSTOMS."

The  
 Prexies

"60¢ Rate"

60¢ (3¢ x20 oz.) First Class Mail Domestic and Military Mail Letter or Package Rate  
 \*July 1, 1932 to July 31, 1958

30¢ Theodore Roosevelt (Sc# 830 pair),  
 Multiple Usage

Partial package wrapper demonstrating a multiple usage for a 20oz. First Class International Military A.P.O. Parcel, with: red-violet "FIRST CLASS" handstamp; signed "International Parcel Post Customs Declarations Form 2922"; WWII Soldiers' written declaration that "Package Contains No Government Property", and: three-line red-violet "PASSED FREE U.S. CUSTOMS ST. LOUIS, MO." handstamp.



U.S. ARMY POSTAL SERVICE ~ A.P.O. 757  
 H.Q. U.S. FORCES, EUROPEAN FORCES OF OPERATION  
 VERSAILLES, FRANCE  
 OCT 5 1944  
 TO  
 BATESVILLE, ARK.

The headquarters for U.S. FORCES EUROPEAN THEATER OF OPERATION (USFET) A.P.O. 757 was located at Versailles, France from 20 September 1944 until 28 May 1945 when it relocated to Frankfurt, Germany. On 30 June 1945, A.P.O. 757 became: 757-1 (HQ EUCOM BLDG), 757-4 (Hoechst, Ger), 757-5 (Hanau, Ger), and 757-6 (97th General Hospital, Ger); 757A also exists (Jolouville, Fr. 1944 & Frankfurt, Ger 1950).

Covers between Islands, like Guam and Hawaii, are a challenge to locate...

The Prexies

**"40¢ Rate"**  
**20¢ (1/2 oz. x 2) Airmail Letter Rate (Outside Continental U.S.)  
 Between Guam and Hawaii**  
*\*April 21, 1937, through September 30, 1946*  
*(Cover Overpaid by One Cent!)*  
 ---  
**15¢ James Buchanan (Sc# 820), plus  
 20¢ James A. Garfield (Sc#825) uprates  
 6¢ Airmail Envelope - Type B1 - Die 5480 (Sc# UC4)**  
*(Thorp 5013: Size 8, Knife 59, Wmk 1939 Whi, Border 4)*  
**Combination Usage**  
 ---

*This cover demonstrates a combination usage for a double-weight, (1 oz.)  
 Outside Continental U.S. Letter, over paid by one-cent, with Presidential issues  
 applied to uprate U.S. Postal Stationery.*



AGANGA, GUAM  
 Mariana Islands  
 OCT 30 P.M. 1945  
 TO  
 HONOLULU, HAWAII

*The stamps are tied to a  
 date stamp with a  
 L, spaced 4mm apart  
 canceled the postal  
 Tracing its antecede  
 Heinrich Hackfeld  
 waii, is a departme  
 the Hawaiian Island  
 land U.S. Liberty*

...especially covers from small islands like Pago Pago.

**"60¢ Rate"**

**40¢ (1 oz.) Double Air Mail Rate  
 (To & From American Samoa), plus  
 20¢ Registry Fee (\$25 Value) = 60¢**  
*\*April 21, 1937, until January 15, 1945.*

**20¢ Transport Issue (Sc# C29), plus  
 30¢ Theodore Roosevelt (Sc# 830 x 2)**  
**Combination Usage**

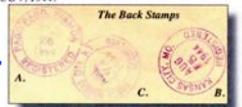
*This cover demonstrates Air Mail between the  
 American Samoa and the mainland paying the  
 double weight, one-ounce air mail rate to and  
 from the Mainland.*

*The cover was opened an examined by  
 U.S. Naval Censor located at U.S. Naval  
 Station Tutuila in Pago Pago Harbor  
 on the island of Tutuila.*



PAGO PAGO, SAMOA  
 JUL 24 1944  
 to  
 KANSAS CITY, MO.

*The stamps are tied by the killer-side of a duplex  
 circular date stamp with elliptical grid killer and  
 back-stamped with four (4) red-violet double-circle  
 cancellations, which include: two (2) mailing post office  
 (A.) "PAGO PAGO, SAMOA REGISTERED JUL 24 1944"  
 cancellations; one (B.) "KANSAS CITY, MO. REGISTERED  
 AUG 7 1944" Transit P.O. cancel and; one (1) receiving  
 cancel (C.) "NORTH KANSAS CITY, MO. REGISTERED  
 AUG 7, 1944."*



...some handwritten



...most common are the ovals



**"\$1.00 Rate"**  
\$1.00 (10c. x 40c.) 2 cc. F.A.M. Airmail, Letter, Brazil  
December 1, 1937, through March 31, 1943  
15c International Registration Fee (SR # Indemnity),  
December 1, 1937, thru January 31, 1943  
plus  
5c (A.R.) Intern'l Return Receipt Requested Fee\*\*  
\*\*April 1, 1939, thru October 31, 1953  
30c Theodore Roosevelt (5cF 830 x 41,  
Multiple Usage  
This cover demonstrates a safe multiple usage for a four-ounce International Registered F.A.M. Airmail Letter with Return Receipt Requested to Brazil.  
NEW YORK, N. Y.  
(WALL STREET)  
SEP 8  
RIO DE JANEIRO

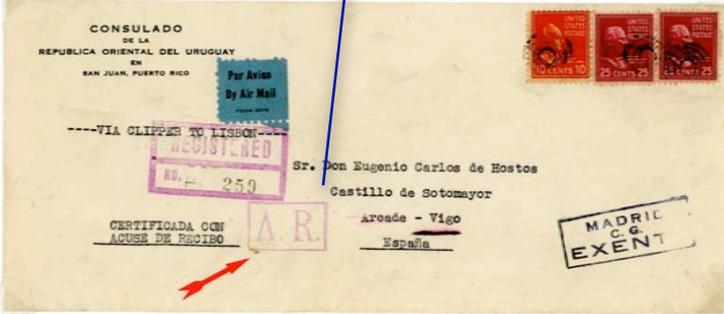
**"\$1.00 Rate"**  
\$1.00 (10c. x 40c.) 2 cc. F.A.M. Airmail, Letter, Mailed in Argentina!  
December 1, 1937, through March 31, 1943  
International Registration Fee (SR # Indemnity)  
December 1, 1937, thru January 31, 1943  
plus 5c (A.R.) International Return Receipt Fee\*\*  
\*\*April 1, 1939, thru October 31, 1953  
30c Transport Airmail Issue (5cF C30), Sky China Clipper Airmail (5cF C22), plus \$1.00 Window Wicket (5cF 832) Combination Usage  
This cover demonstrates a usage for a four-ounce International Registered F.A.M. Airmail Letter with Return Receipt Requested.  
NEW YORK, N. Y.  
G. P. O. (John A. Farley P. O.)  
SEP 29 1942  
BUENOS AIRES, ARGENTINA  
The Postage  
A. 10c  
B. 10c  
C. 10c  
D. 10c  
E. 10c  
The stamps were cancelled with a 20mm x 20mm double-oval double killer, while the cover is back stamped with (A) two (2) red purple 20mm x 20mm double-oval "NEW YORK, N.Y. P.O. REGISTERED SEP 29 1942"; (B) one (1) black 20mm double-oval "NEW YORK, N.Y. REG. F. 832 9-29-1942"; (C) one (1) black 20mm triangle to postage receipt cancel; "NEW YORK, U.S.A. REG. F. 830 9-30-1942"; and (D) black International square RTCC, and (E) one (1) receiving cancel of "CERTIFICADO AMBOS AGENTES BAL. DGMAY (1) 8407 Argentina receiving cancellation.

**"A.R."**  
**"AVIS RECEPTION"**  
or  
**"Acknowledgement Upon Receipt"**  
Auxiliary Markings are interesting...

The Prexies

...some P.O. clerks felt English was sufficient.

...some boxed...



X

There was  
International Special Delivery.  
It was called  
EXPRESS SERVICE.

The "red" or "red white"  
label was the  
international U.P.U.  
symbol for  
EXPRESS MAIL.

The  
Prexi

**"60¢ Rate"**

**40¢ (½ oz.) F.A.M. Air to Europe & Air Mail Rate Within Europe,  
from London to Switzerland**

**\*\*April 28, 1939, through November 1, 1946**

**20¢ Special Delivery (Express) Service" = 60¢**

**\*September 1, 1926, through October 31, 1953.**

**10¢ Motorcycle-Rotary Press Special Delivery (SC# E15)**

**20¢ James A. Garfield (SC#825 X 2)**

**10¢ John Tyler (SC #815 X 2)**

**Combination Usage**

*This cover demonstrates usage of a single-weight, half-ounce Airmail Letter  
to Switzerland with Special Delivery Service on Delivery.*



*Auxiliary Fee Paid Hand Stamp*



**CLEVELAND D. P. O., OHIO  
JUL 22 7PM 1941  
TO  
LAUSANNE, SWITZERLAND**

*Back Stamp Receiving Cancel*



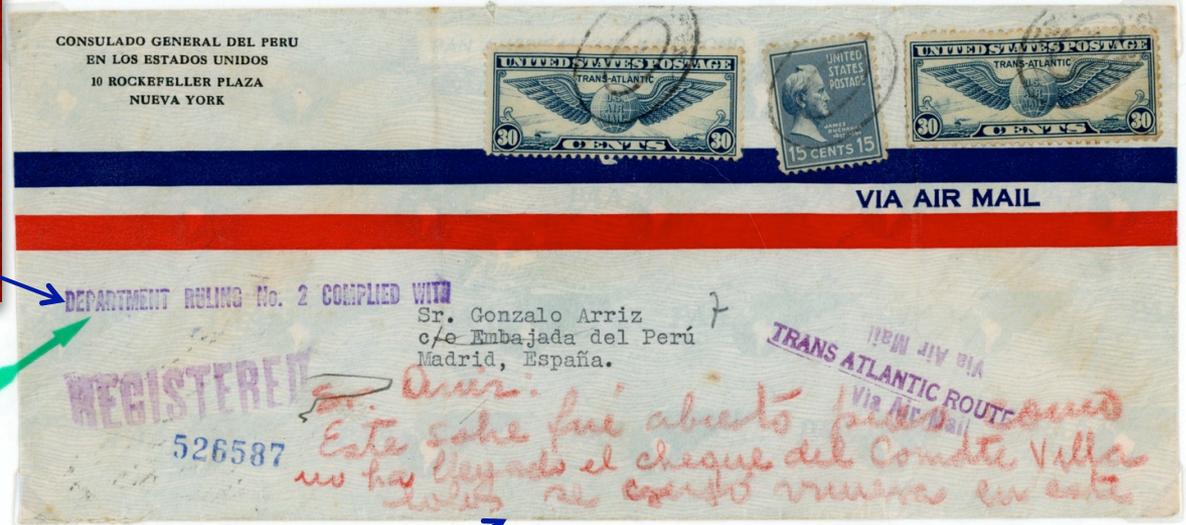
*The stamps are cancelled by a black 30mm black duplex circular datestamp with a 13mmW x 33mmH six-bar elliptical grid numerical killer, while the back bears black octagonal 26mm "TELEGRAPHE LUSANNE-2.VII.41.21-22" in Lausanne, Switzerland.*

*The cover bears an auxiliary handstamp indicating "SPECIAL DELIVERY, FEE PAID 20 CENTS."*

U.S. TREASURY DEPT.  
had special  
Tax & Financial  
Postal Regulations  
in place  
during WWII...

The  
Prexies

This notation in  
Spanish explains:  
“...papers were  
included, but...  
“...the check was not  
in the mail!”



“75¢ Rate”

60¢ (30¢-per-112oz.) F.A.M. International Air Mail,  
Letter Rate,\* Spain  
\*April 28, 1939 until November 1, 1946  
15¢ International Registration Fee\* (\$9.<sup>65</sup> Indemnity)  
\*December 1, 1925, thru January 31, 1945

30¢ Winged Globe Stamp of 1939 (Sc# C24),  
plus 15¢ James Buchanan (Sc# 820)  
Combination Usage

This cover demonstrates a combination usage for a double-weight, one-ounce International Registered Airmail letter to the Spain. The cover is stamped “DEPARTMENT RULING NO. 2 COMPLIED WITH”; a U.S. TREASURY DEPARTMENT ruling concerning transferring funds.

The cover, docketed in red, indicates that the “papers were included and the CHEQUE was missing from the envelope!”

The Backstamps



The stamps are tied by a 20mm x 28mm double-oval blind killer, while the cover bears: (A.) two (2) red-violet 30mm double-circle mailing office back stamps, “NEW YORK (ROCKEFELLER CENTER STA.) N.Y. REGISTERED SEP 13 1940”; (B.) one (1) black 30mm double-oval, “NEW YORK, N.Y. REG'Y DIV. 9-13-1940”; (C.) one (1) black 30mm double-oval, “NEW YORK, U.S.A. FOREIGN 9-13-1940”; (D.) one (1) black 30mm X 33mm diamond shaped “CORREO AEREO 18.SEP. 40. I.T. CERTIFICADO MADRID” airport receiving transit cancel, and; (E.) a 25mm x 32mm black “19.SFT. 40 MADRID” delivery post office cancel.

The  
Prexies

"\$2.25 Rate"

\$2.25 (45¢ x ½ oz.) 2½ oz. **European Airmail Rate**  
January 15, 1945, through September 30, 1946

\$1 Woodrow Wilson (Sc# 832 x 2),  
20¢ Transport Issue (Sc# C29), plus  
5¢ James Monroe (Sc# 810)  
Combination Usage

This business-to-business cover demonstrates a  
combination usage for a five-time (2½ oz.)  
International Air Mail Letter Rate to Europe.

The cover was opened, censored and  
resealed by the "Territory of Hawaii  
Military Authority Censor 258."

THIMA CENSOR 258



Some  
Air Mail Rates  
are  
straightforward...

HILO, TERR. of HAWAII  
APR 9 11 AM 1945  
TO  
ABERDEEN, SCOTLAND

The stamps are tied by a combination of an International  
Postal Supply Company machine cancellation and 30mm du-  
plex circular date stamp with a 13mm W x 33mm H eight-bar  
grid killer, with numerical in the center of the grid.

...and some rates  
more obscure:  
**International  
2<sup>nd</sup> Class – Air Mail.**

FROM  
H. R. HARMER, Inc.  
International Stamp Auctioneers  
6 WEST 48th STREET  
NEW YORK 36, N. Y.

RETURN POSTAGE GUARANTEED

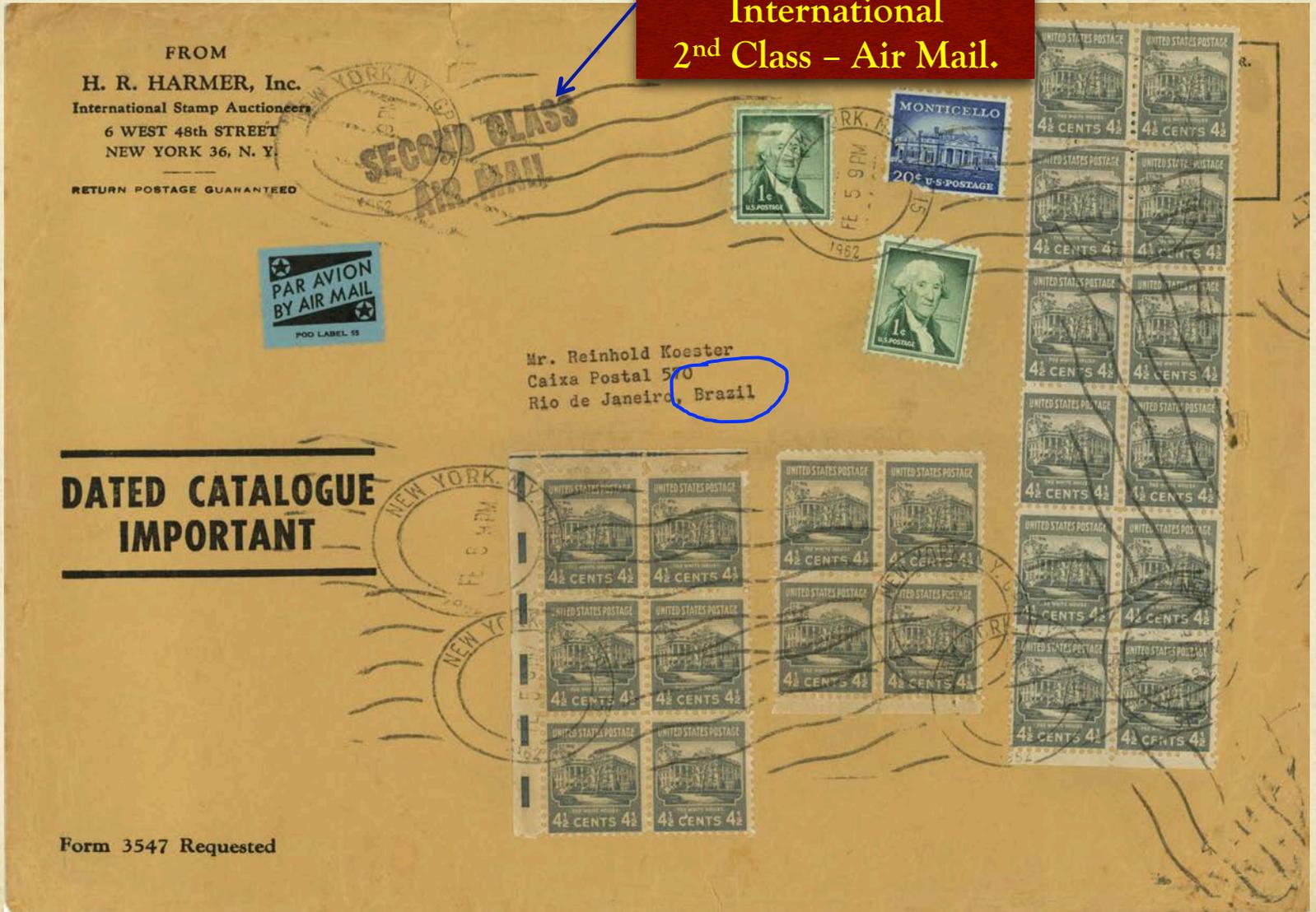


Mr. Reinhold Koester  
Caixa Postal 500  
Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

**DATED CATALOGUE  
IMPORTANT**

Form 3547 Requested

The  
Prexies



5lb. 15oz.  
reel of wire  
shipped by  
**International  
Air  
Parcel Post**

The  
Prexies

"\$6.57 Rate"

\$6.57 (First 1/2 oz. @ 15¢, plus 83 oz. @ 7.7¢ ea. add'l = 5.25lb)

International Air Parcel Post to Belgium

\*October 1, 1946, through August 1, 1958

5¢ James Monroe (Sc# 810)

25¢ William McKinley (Sc# 829 x 2)

2¢ John Adams (Sc# 806), plus

\$1 Woodrow Wilson (Sc# 832 x 6), plus

Combination Usage

This parcel tag demonstrates a combination usage for a 5lb. 15oz. International Air Mail Parcel Post package, with International Parcel Post Customs Declaration Tag (Form 2922).



NEW YORK, N. Y.  
CHURCH STREET STA.  
DEC 3 730PM 1953  
TO  
BRUSSELS, BELGIUM.

The stamps are cancelled by a 30mm duplex circular date stamp with eight-bar 13mmW x 33mmH elliptical grid killer.

**War Covers  
a.k.a. Military  
Mail**  
a #1 area  
Postal History  
collectible!

The  
Prexies

This cover  
did not travel  
through civilian  
mails. If it did,  
it would have  
been opened  
and censored!

Navy Number 116  
Box C  
Fleet Post Office  
New York, N.Y., USA

Cover passed  
*Unopened & Uncensored*  
at the height of the war  
by U.S. Navy Censor!

**"30¢ Rate"**  
**30¢ (1/2oz.) M.P.O. International Airmail, Letter Rate\***  
*\*April 28, 1939 until October 31, 1946*

**15¢ James Buchanan (Sc# 820 x 2)**  
**Multiple Usage**

*This cover demonstrates a multiple usage for a single-weight, half-ounce Military Airmail Letter Rate to England and was "PASSED" WITHOUT OPENING to an address in London used for Intelligence gathering during WWI. BOX C, FPO, NY was assigned to OSLO, NORWAY! Norway was 100% occupied by the Germans from 1940 thru 1945.*

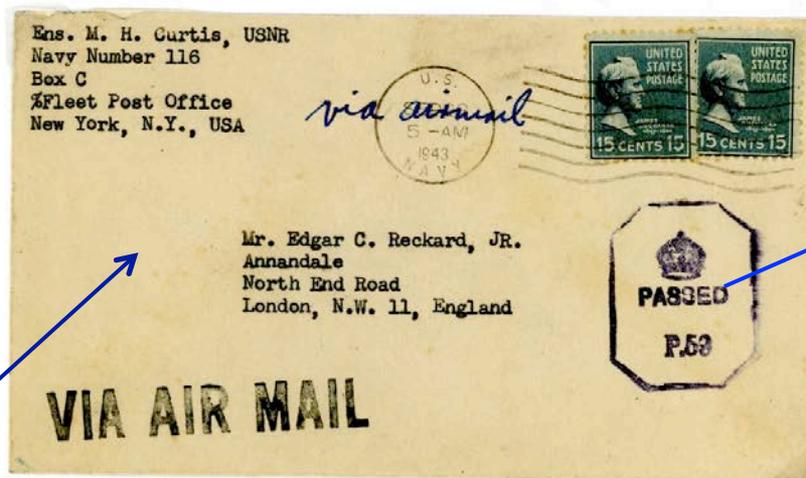
*The addressee was an American, most likely belonging to the OSS. (In later life, Reckard, Jr. was the Chaplain at Claremont College in California.) What else would account for this cover to go UNOPENED, by both British and Navy Censors, at the height of Waorid War II?!? Nothing else! I may have passed one, but not both.*

*Throughout the war, U.S. Navy Commando raids were carried out; some with the intention of deceiving German commanders as part of Operation Fortitude North, others with the explicit aim of disrupting German military and scientific capabilities, such as sabotaging the German nuclear projects!*



Passed by Postal Censor P. 59  
*Unopened & Uncensored*  
at the height of the war  
by the British!

This cover  
has more  
questions  
than  
answers!



U.S. NAVY  
(BOX C, NEW YORK: OSLO, NORWAY)  
SEP 28 5-AM 1943  
TO  
LONDON, N.W.11 ENGLAND

The stamps are tied by the following U.S. NAVY P.O. machine cancel:

IELFIELD STAMPING MACHINE CO. cancellation  
DIAL TYPE: D (MPO) KILLER TYPE: 2  
Dial Diameter: 22mm Killer Type: 7 Wavy Bars  
Type Size: 2mm Wave Up/Down: Down  
Dial Variety: Military Killer OAL: 52mm  
Gap to Killer: 5mm Killer Variety: -----  
Cancel Size: 22mm x 80mm (7/8" H x 3-1/8" L)

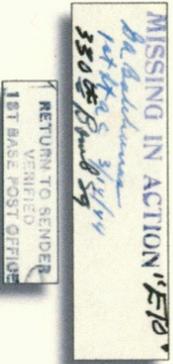
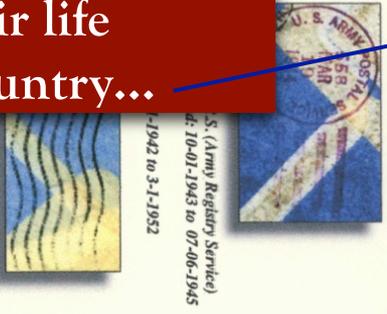
**"PASSED" ...**  
(does not mean  
censored)  
**Unopened—  
Uncensored**  
at the  
height of  
the war!

**WHY? HOW!**

Some covers are very special...

they give us pause to think and reflect on those who gave their life for our country...

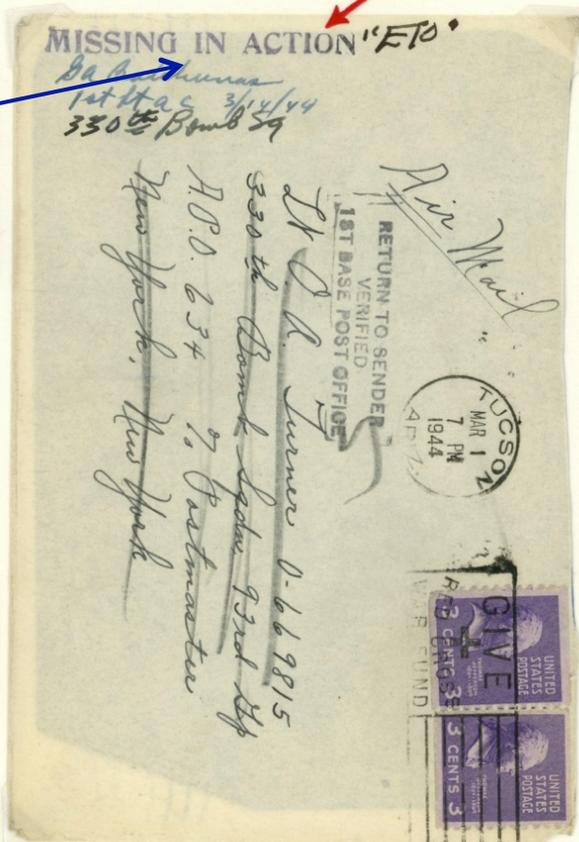
The Prexies



U.S. (Army Registry Service)  
d: 10-01-1943 to 07-06-1945  
-1942 to 3-1-1952

The stamps were cancelled by an Universal Stamping Machine Company cancel. The cover was addressed to an Airman who was found "MISSING IN ACTION--ETO" (ETO=EUROPEAN THEATRE OF OPERATION" and "VERIFIED BY THE 1ST BASE POST OFFICE" after being shotdown during action during a heavy bombing mission over Germany in early 1944.

A. P. O. 634 NEW YORK  
MAR 1 7 PM 1944  
TUSCON, ARIZ.  
TO



This cover demonstrates a multiple usage paying the double-weight (2 oz.) Domestic Letter Rate usage to Military Personnel who was listed as "MISSING IN ACTION - ETO (European Theatre of Operation) from the 330th Heavy Bomb Squadron.

3¢ Thomas Jefferson - Horizontal Coil (Ser# 842 x 2)  
Pair Usage

6¢ (3¢ x 2 oz.) First-Class Letter, Surface Rate\*  
\* July 6, 1932, through July 31, 1938

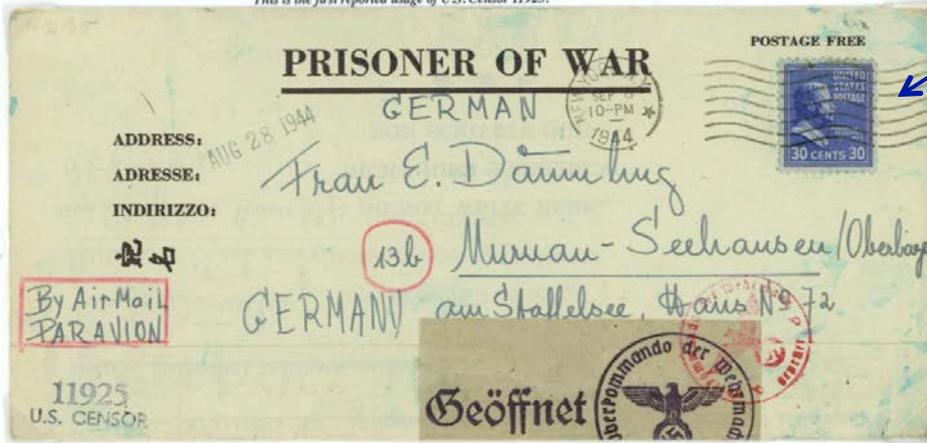
6¢ Rate"

Others make us wonder if the mailer realized just how lucky they were to be here?

"30¢ Rate"  
 1/4 (1/2 oz.) European Air Mail Rate  
 April 28, 1939 through October 31, 1946  
 30¢ Theodore Roosevelt (Sc# 830)  
 Solo Usage  
 This cover demonstrates a solo usage for a half-ounce mail PRISONER OF WAR Letter Sheet, printed by the Department of War (W.D., P.M.G. Form No. 4; June 11, 1943) and addressed to Germany.

This cover passed U.S. Censor 11925 stationed at New York, N.Y. Censor Station.

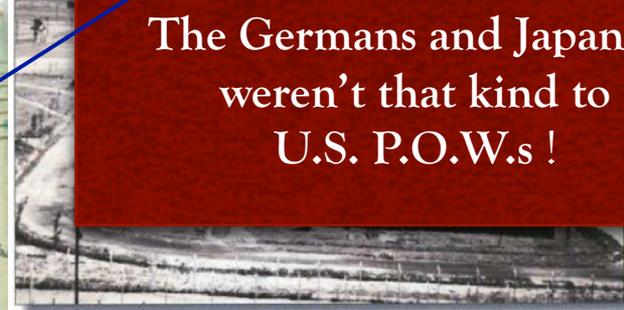
This is the first reported usage of U.S. Censor 11925.



The  
 Prex

This P.O.W. worked on a American farm, earning money, allowing him to pay for luxuries like personal items, air mail stamps and more!

The Germans and Japanese weren't that kind to U.S. P.O.W.s!



Picture of Camp Concordia taken from the water tower in the fall of 1945.

September 15, 1942-November 5, 1945

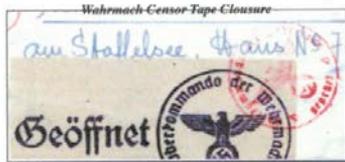
Camp Concordia was built as a model POW camp, but because approximately 50 of the first prisoners at the compound were Nazi officers, the atmosphere quickly turned oppressive and threatening. After a number of violent episodes, the Army transferred 44 Nazi leaders away from Concordia. As measures of restoring order to the camp, the library removed Nazi reading material and instituted college coursework for prisoners under the jurisdiction of the University of Kansas.

In addition, prisoners were made available as farmer labor. Though some local citizens were against prisoners being awarded freedom beyond the confines of the camp, farmers were thankful to have additional help, especially with so many young men away in service to their country. With the passage of time, warm bonds formed between farm families and prisoners. The "education" both "sides" forged in the course of these working relationships was perhaps more enduring than any college curriculum could offer.

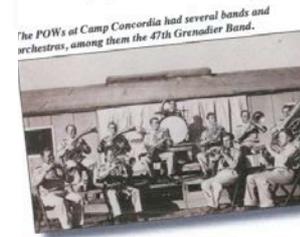
When the war ended, prisoners were returned home, but later, some returned to live and others to visit. Now, most of the farm land used to build Camp Concordia, is once again used for agriculture. A few standing remnants of the past, like Building T-9, serve as a reminder of our nation's response to wartime challenges and how that response was felt in the small rural community of Concordia, Kansas. The camp saw only 2 escapes and 8 POW deaths during its operation.

(CONCORDIA P.O.W. CAMP- CONCORDIA, KS.)  
 NEW YORK, N. Y.  
 SEP 6, 10 PM 1944  
 TO  
 MURNAU-STAFFELSEE, GERMANY

After the lettersheet was censored and re-sealed, the cover was mailed through New York, N.Y. and was cancelled by an International Postal Supply cancellation machine. The stamp is cancelled by a 30mm W duplex cancel with an eight-bar 13mm x 33mm numeric elliptical killer with "STAR" where the station is normally located. There are no other transit or receiving cancellations on the cover; with the exception of the brown Wehrmacht S/S censorship tape with "b" closure and red-Wehrmacht handstamp with "b" are Berlin.



Wahrmach SS Station B. (Berlin)



The POWs at Camp Concordia had several bands and orchestras, among them the 47th Grenadier Band.



Army truck with a POW work detail and their guards passing through Concordia.

1939  
Camp Kitchener  
Kent, England

Not the type Camp you  
think it is!

The  
Prexies

"5¢ Rate"

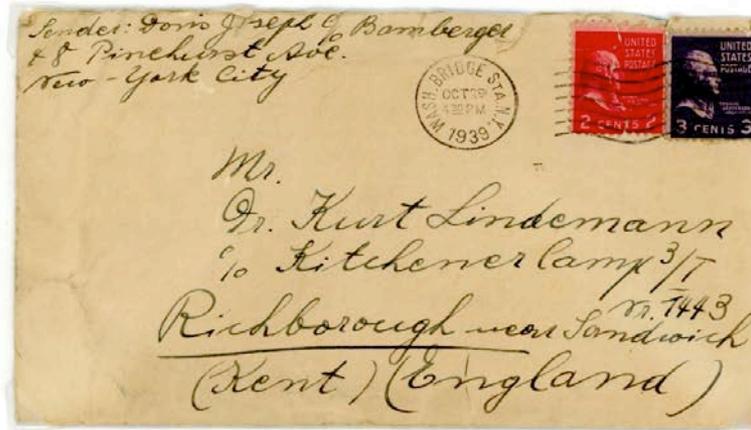
5¢ International Surface Letter Rate, England  
October 1, 1907, through November 1, 1953

5¢ James Monroe (Sc# 810)  
Solo Usage

This cover demonstrates a solo usage covering the first one-ounce  
(1oz.) on International Surface Mail to England.



Camp Kitchener - Richborough



“...in 1939, Jewish Groups managed to “PURCHASE” the release of  
4,500 Jewish males (ages 18 to 40) from Germany’s Auschwitz Death Camp...

...England permitted these men to be released to Kitchener Internment Camp  
in Kent, England until they found residence in other countries ...  
inmates were not permitted to leave the camp...”

‘Four Thousand Lives: The Kitchener Camp Rescue’

## PRIDE OF THE CORP!

In early 1945, United States Marines at Quantico embarrassed the U.S. Government.

On a daily basis, U.S. Marines would beat and strip displaced Netherlands troops and officers of the Royal Netherland Marine Corps of U.S. Marine uniforms. The Quantico Commander moved the RNMC to another Military base...the Negro Marine Corp Base...Camp Davis, N.C.!

The  
Prexie

5¢ Rate"

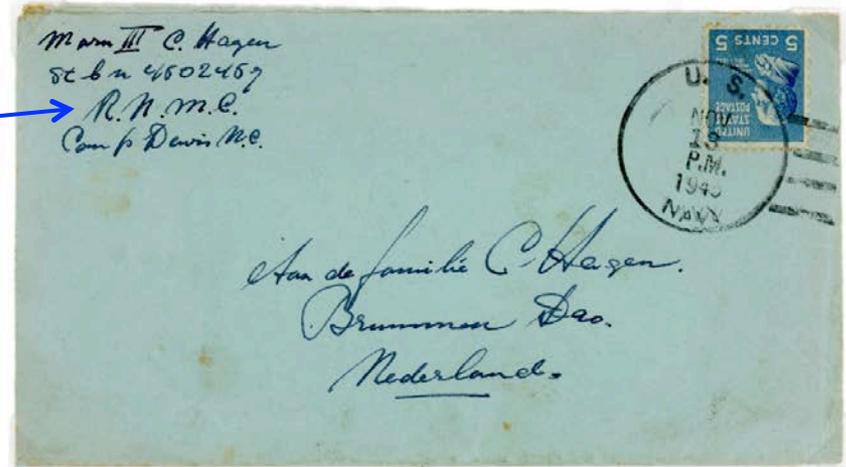
5¢ International Surface Letter Rate

October 1, 1907, through November 1, 1953

5¢ James Monroe (Sc# 810)

Solo Usage

This cover demonstrates a solo usage covering the first one-ounce (1 oz.) on International Surface Mail to the Netherlands.



### THE ROYAL NETHERLANDS MARINE CORPS.

In December of 1944 Royal Dutch Marines arrived at Camp Lejeune for training. Their homeland was destroyed under Nazi occupation and they had no place to drill. The Royal Dutch Marines were the first complete military organization trained on American soil. They wore U.S. issued uniforms with Dutch buttons and insignia.

The Dutch marines settled in Hadnot Point, an all-white camp. The American marines at Hadnot Point for whatever reason picked on and fought with the Dutch marines. Finally, the commanding officer had to move them (the Dutch) to Montford Point camp, a segregated camp for Blacks. The Dutch marines were fully accepted as brothers by the Blacks. Friendships grew as they were invited into their homes and they went on picnics and outings with the Black marines and their families. They finished their training about a year later and went on to the East Indies.

U. S. NAVY  
NOV 13 P.M. 1945  
to

### DAS BRUMMEN, NETHERLANDS

The stamp is cancelled by a standard military four-bar 33mm duplex circular datestamp issued to Camp Davis Military Air Base, part of Camp Lejeune, United States Marines Corp.

Royal Dutch Marines 1944



"5¢ Military Post Office (M.P.O.) Rate\*\*"

5¢ (1 oz.) Air Mail Letter Rate, including M.P.O.\*\*

(\*Only within Continental United States)

\*\*October 1, 1946, through December 31, 1948.

Note: Overseas M.P.O.s (i.e.: APO 757 in Neurenberg, Germany acted as it were mainland U.S. P.O. facility using prevailing US stamps to mail in/to and from using existing U.S. mail rates to and from, or within a foreign country. The practice continues today under the auspices and workings of the Universal Postal Union, a division of the United Nations. This mail being sent to England from France would therefore never see the U.S.

5¢ James Monroe (Sc# 810)

Solo Usage



**The Mission**

The plan of the censorship organization for the Occupation of Germany. The total mission of the U.S. Occupation Forces in the Intelligence Arena. (Quoting here:)

"The ... task ... is to prevent dissemination of information that would be detrimental to the interests of the occupying authorities and to obtain information of any kind which would be of use or interest to the United Nations. In particular information relating to the following subjects will be obtained:

- a. The disarmament of Germany;
- b. Activities of underground military, para-military and political organizations;
- c. Activities of former Nazi leaders, personalities and organizations;
- d. Activities counter to the military, political and economic terms of Surrender;
- e. Activities counter to currency control regulations;
- f. Location of property stolen from other countries by Germany;
- g. Location of assets held in other countries by German nationals or their nominees;
- h. Black Market and hoarding activities;
- i. Evidence leading to the identification, apprehension and conviction of war criminals;
- j. Information as to the war plans of Japan;
- k. Activities of German organizations among Germans abroad and German propaganda activities abroad;
- l. Espionage and, counter-espionage."

U.S. ARMY POSTAL SERVICE (M.P.O.)

1947 FEB 10 757 A.P.O.

TO

LONDON W.14 ENGLAND

The cover addressed from a member of the U.S. Forces European Theater (HQ USFET) Civilian Censor Division, Group B -- G-2 MILITARY INTELLIGENCE. The MISSION of Group B-7742 was Espionage and, Counter-espionage!

In the early postwar days the Counter Intelligence Corps (C.I.C.) was heavily involved with the "clenzification" process to clear people for possible employment as well as identify and apprehend war criminals. As the cold war heated up they became more involved with their classical function of identifying and apprehending spies.

And some covers now give away  
Military Intelligence!

This "G-2" Group was part of the  
"clenzification" of Germany  
after WWII.

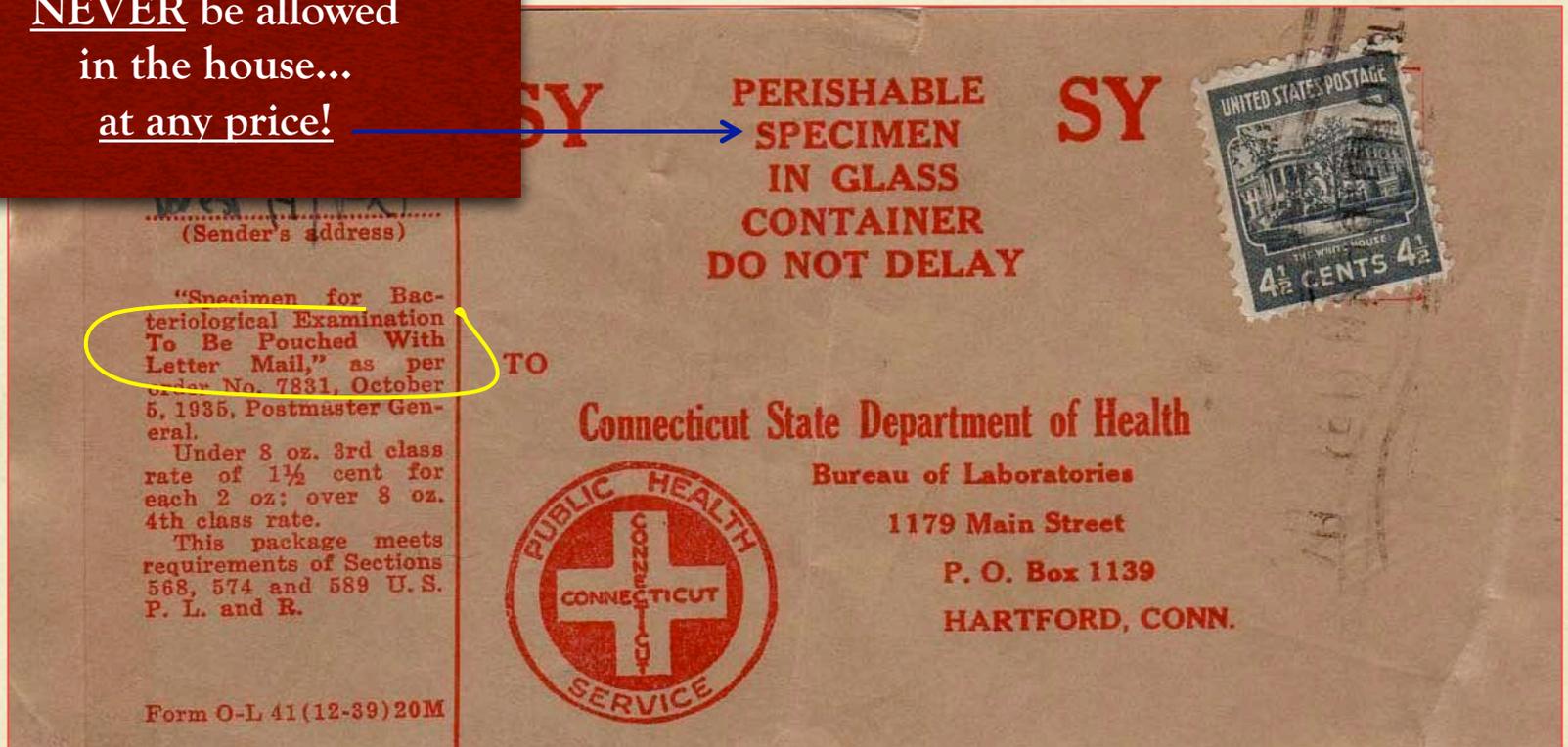
GROUP B was one of two  
Intelligence Groups responsible for  
hunting down German war criminals  
and bringing them to the  
Nuremberg war crime trials.

The  
Prexies

And then there are the certain items that will NEVER be allowed in the house... at any price!

3<sup>rd</sup> Class Wrapper for Specimen Containers!  
Pouched with FIRST CLASS LETTER MAIL!

The  
Prexies



Currently available on EBAY for \$325.<sup>00</sup> if anyone is interested...

This cover represents the start of a 57+ year friendship... and my love of Prexies and postal history.

The Prexies

**"76¢ Rate"**

6¢ (2 oz.) Domestic Air Mail Letter Rate\*,  
 \*January 1, 1949, thru July 31, 1958

6¢ Registry Fee (≤\$10 Indemnity),\*\* = 76¢  
 \*\*August 15, 1961, thru March 25, 1966

16¢ Abraham Lincoln (Sc# 821), and  
 22¢ Grover Cleveland (Sc# 827 pair), plus  
 Office Pitney-Bowes Tape Meter No. 122507, uprate a  
 16¢ Skymaster Air Mail Postal Stationary (Sc# UC30a)  
**Combination Usage**

Consumer cover demonstrates a combination usage of a double-registered Domestic Air Mail Letter, with \$0 to \$10.00 indemnity.



MIAMI, FLA.  
 (BUENA VISTA STA.)  
 NOV 18 1963  
 TO  
 LEBANON, PA.

The stamps were cancelled with a 23mm x 33mm double-oval blind killer, while the cover bears three (3) red-purple 30mm double-circle back stamps: two (2) "MIAMI, BUENA VISTA STA. NOV. 18 1963" mailing post office cancels, and one (1) "LEBANON, PA. NOV 19 1963" receiving post office cancels.



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**U.S. Domestic  
Postal Rates, 1872-1999**

Revised Second Edition

Henry W. Beecher  
and Anthony S. Wawrukiewicz

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 **CAMA**  
PUBLISHING  
COMPANY

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**U.S. International  
Postal Rates, 1872-1996**

Anthony S. Wawrukiewicz  
and Henry W. Beecher

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 **CAMA**  
PUBLISHING  
COMPANY

*You must have  
these two  
publications in  
your philatelic  
library...*

# PUAS = Postal Union of the Americas and Spain

The  
Prexies

Members include: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, El Salvador, **Spain: including the following Spanish Islands off the coast of Africa: Balearic Islands, Canary Islands Alhucemas Island, Ceuta Island, Chaferinas Island & Zafarani Island; Spanish Colony of Mellila in Morocco; Penon de Velez de la Gomera fortress in Africa; Tangier Island, Morocco, and Andorra via Spain; United States, Uruguay and Venezuela.**

(Footnote: Portugal was added in the 1990's)

*Good  
Night!*

