

EFO COLLECTOR



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MISCUT AEROGRAMME SHOWS REGISTRATION MARKS AND GUMMING

by Tim Lindemuth, EFOCC No. 467
500 Denison Ave., Manhattan, Kansas 66502

An aerogramme form shifted before or during the guillotining operation will be miscut and can show various registration marks on the front and the untrimmed, gummed flaps on the back.

The example shown (Figure 1) is the 1974 18-cent airletter, Scott UC48. It came to me as a gift from a friend who found it 12 years ago in Kansas where the form was tucked within a post office wrapped stack of aerogrammes.

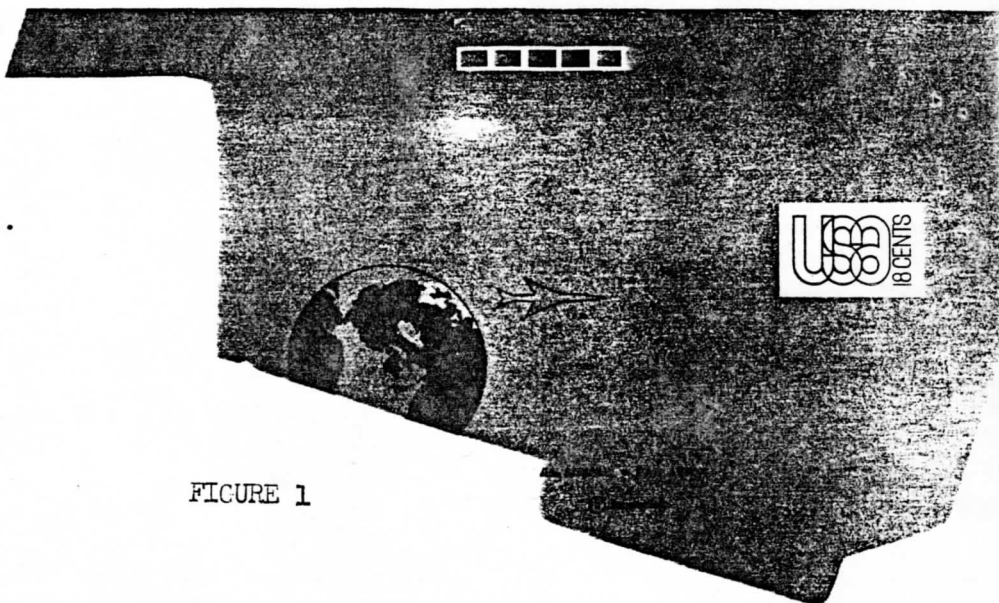


FIGURE 1

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VAPEX '86 WELCOMES EFOCCERS

Virginia Beach at VAPEX time is a delight - uncrowded but most of the facilities and shops still open. VAPEX '86, November. 21-23, will be pleased to have you visit for the Eastern Regional Meeting of our EFO Collector's Club.



There will be EFO exhibits, a Dutch treat breakfast at 8:30 A.M. on Saturday, November 22 and John Hotchner's presentation titled "Where Do EFO's Come From" on Sunday.

I and other EFOCC officers/activity chairpersons will be attending VAPEX. We hope to meet many of our members!

The show will be at the Pavilion, Virginia Beach's new Convention Center at 1000 19th Street in Virginia Beach. The official hotel will be the nearby Pavilion Tower. In addition to 350 frames of competitive exhibits, VAPEX will host over 30 dealers from all over the US, a 900 lot auction on Friday night, and the annual convention of the Eire Philatelic Society.

The Eastern Shore area of Virginia includes such historic sites as Williamsburg and Jamestown, and up-to-date attractions such as Busch Gardens and the Norfolk Naval Base. Make VAPEX weekend a treat for the whole family! Further information from:

John M. Hotchner
P.O. Box 1125
Falls Church, Va. 22041-0125

TO ALL EXHIBITORS OR POTENTIAL EXHIBITORS OF EFO MATERIAL

I'd like to get in touch with all EFOCC members who exhibit or are thinking about exhibiting EFOs at any level from local to international. If we get together, we can help one another, help educate judges, encourage others to try EFO exhibiting, and focus ourselves on exhibiting at EFOCC National and Regional Shows. Write to me at P.O. Box 1125, Falls Church, Va. 22041-0125 and tell me about your exhibiting experience and plans. What do you think our group can accomplish?

- John M. Hotchner

Golddiggers Questions of the Month

Q: Dear Sirs: I have a letter dated 1880 with hand drawn stamps and a cancellation. As yet I cannot find a list showing the value of this type of item. Hope you can be of assistance in identifying this and telling me how much and how plentiful they are.

A: (I wish I could have written) How about a trade for two hand-drawn C3as, a fake 314 imperf and next year's 1st round draft choice! -JMH

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MODERN MAJOR ERRORS AND THE COST OF COMPLETENESS

by
Howard Gates

Several years ago, Garry Trudeau's cartoon strip "Doonesbury" depicted a very rich young rock star who had casually turned to the collection of stamps to occupy his ample leisure time. A cartoon panel (as I recall it) showed him sitting in his hot tub, telephoning his stamp dealer, saying something like, "Hello, J.P.?....I've decided to collect Hawaii. Scout around and find them all for me, ok?"

Nice to have that kind of money. Adding up the catalog prices of the stamps of Hawaii as listed in the Scott Specialized Catalog for 1985, I arrive at \$350,328. That figure includes used (that is, the "Cheap") copies of the four "missionaries," which by themselves come to \$295,000.

It would be useful to know, if you're starting a specialized collection, just what it's going to cost to complete it - or how far you're going to be able to get. Not many of us are rich rock stars or collectors with the limitless resources of a Colonel Edward H. R. Green.

US error-stamp collectors may be in for a shock when they learn the cost of completing a collection of modern missing-color stamps or sheet stamp imperforates. I analyzed the auction "prices realized" data that I've been gathering for the past ten or so years and found that accumulating a full complement of these major errors could require outlays that would strain the budget of any but the most affluent collector. Here's what I estimate, in today's dollars:

Total for 131 missing-color items:	\$125,309.
Average per item:	\$957.

Of course, this figure includes two varieties, shown in Figure 1, that may well be unique: One is the 5¢ Davy Crockett three-piece stamp, one stamp with black omitted, one with both green and black omitted, and one with a partial impression of green and black; the estimated price of the piece is \$13,750. The second is a se-tenant block of four of the 10¢ Postal Service stamps, with the red denomination "10¢" missing from all four stamps. Its estimated price is \$10,000. If these two items are eliminated, one could complete his collection (as of today) for a mere \$101,559, at an average cost per item of only \$787.

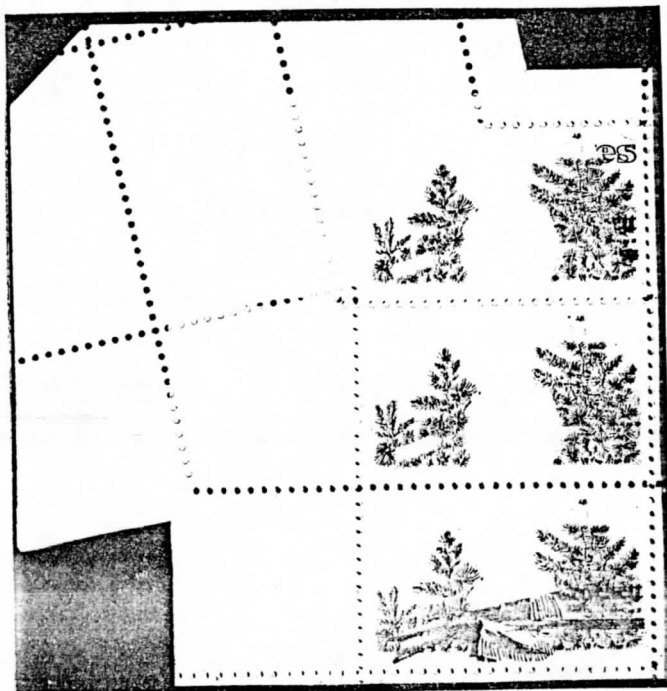


Figure 1: Two costly, possibly unique, color-omitted stamp varieties.

For the sheet imperforates, I estimate the following current prices:

Total for 141 items: \$96,059.

Average per item: \$681.

One quite expensive piece is included: An imperforate se-tenant block of the eight 10c UPU stamps of 1974, priced at about \$4000. Eliminating it would reduce the total cost to \$92,059, and the average to \$657.

I was surprised to arrive at such high average prices, and undertook to verify my results by examining the November and December, 1985, Schiff auction results. The average were: Missing-color, \$860, with a 90% confidence interval of \$738 to \$982; sheet imperforates, \$634, with a 90% confidence interval of \$504 to \$763. These confidence intervals nicely encompass the price averages that I initially found for the complete complements.

The examination of the auction results yielded statistical information that may be useful to anyone venturing into the error-collecting specialty. Figure 2 shows the distribution of missing-color prices in the two auctions. What to me is striking is that fully 38% of the offerings clustered at selling prices between \$401 and \$801. Half the items sold for less than the median price of \$725; the other half went for \$725 to \$3200.

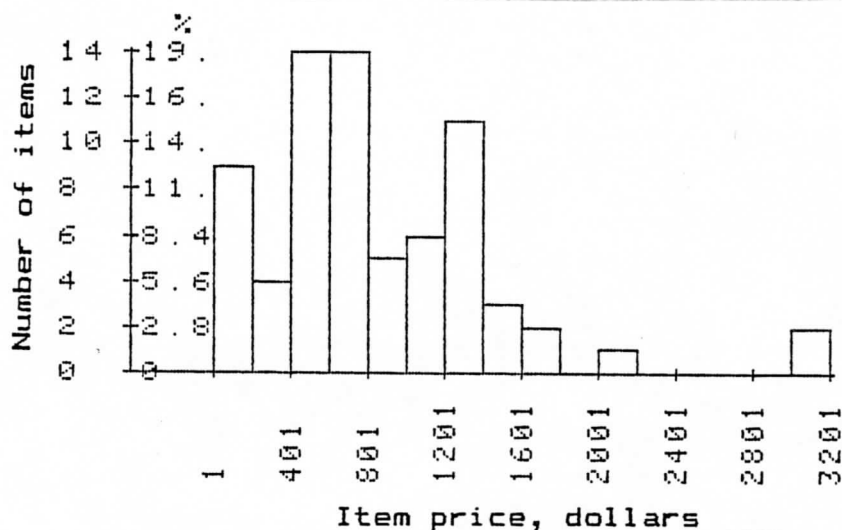


Figure 2: Price distribution of missing-color items.

The corresponding distribution of sheet-imperforate prices is much different, as can be seen in Figure 3: Here, there is no significant central price cluster. Rather, the number of items decreases rather consistently

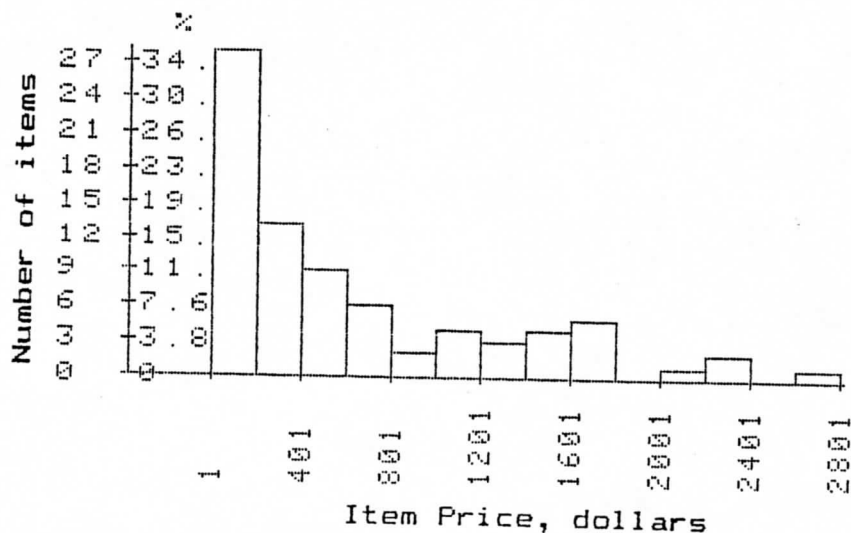


Figure 3: Price distribution of sheet-imperforate items.

as the price increases. Half sold for less than the median price of \$270, while the remainder ranged from \$270 to as much as \$2800.

If there's a point to this story, I guess that it's this: If you're willing to limit yourself to collecting just half of one of these two kinds of major errors, sheet imperfs will give you more stamps for less money. But if you plan to go all the way, a full complement of either missing-color errors or sheet-imperf varieties will end up costing you close to \$100,000 - plus 10% buyer's commission. But don't wait - telephone from your hot tub.

Reprinted courtesy of Stamp Collector.

Editor's note: Howard Gates is a consulting engineer and economic analyst. He has recently published a catalog of missing-inscription US stamps. For a more detailed look, see the last issue of EFOC.

Attention: Those interested in the Circuit System

The following letter has been received from our Circuit Director. Let's get to work and inundate Howard with material!

"Dear John:

"It is with much dismay and great disappointment that I write this letter recommending that the EFOC Sales Circuit be disbanded and discontinued. Let me first thank the many sellers who, have in the past, turned over their EFO's to me for a year at a time to permit club members to examine and purchase their EFOs. More immediately, I must thank Earl McAfee, John Casey, Ken Lawrence and Ed Silver for keeping the circuit alive with their material for the past year. The Sales Circuit has reached exhaustion I am afraid.

"We now have over 50 members who have requested to receive sales circuit books. We have 2 circuits (each has 6 books). And we have 4 active sellers. I find it hard to believe that there is a such a shortage of EFOs that sellers cannot meet buyers demands. Economics would translate this shortage into increased prices. Such a shortage would mean that my EFO collection must be worth millions!!!! Back to reality....

"But you get my point. My job as director has been reduced to sending out a constant flow of apology letters to buyers who have requested circuits and not received them. We have run letters and stories in the EFOCC requesting material/sellers to no avail.

"Accordingly, I have but two choices. Receive a large amount of material in a short time and create many more quality circuits or discontinue the circuit system for lack of material. This is especially necessary in the near future since the above mentioned sellers deserve settlement and a return of their unsold EFOs after a year. My last and final request for circuit material is thus made. Blank Sales Books are still available at 20¢ each plus postage.

Thank you"

Howard Pohl
P.O. Box 695059
Miami, FL. 33269-2059

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FOR SALE: Error special: 14¢ Sinclair Lewis, Scott 1256, imperf between pair, strip of four stamps: \$10.00. Sheet: \$80.00. Marvin Robinson, 154 Robards Ct, Harrodsburg, KY 40330.

WANTED: EFOs, covers, tags, wrappers or information on US Scott #Q, JQ, E, QE, QI and OX. For sale or trade. Daniel Pagter, PO Box 6394, Albany, CA 94706-0394.

WANTED: A mint copy of Scott #530a, printed on both sides. Contact Dr. E.N. Gregg, 2901 Bronzan Rd., Manteca, CA. 95336.

WANTED: French private perfs of the 2d issue on cover, and any other unusual perforations or roulette usage. What have you to trade or sell? John Kotchner, P.O. Box 1125, Falls Church, VA. 22041-0125.

MISCUT AEROGRAMME SHOWS REGISTRATION MARKS AND GUMMING
(Continued From Page 1)

The colors are red, white and blue on blue paper. The bottom two-thirds of the letter are missing; but look what we have in exchange.

A white horizontal registration bar (at the top center) is comprised of five rectangles. From the left, block 1 and 2 are blank, 3 is blue, 4 is red and 5, under ultraviolet light, is tagged. The purpose of the bar is to help the printers and examiners quickly check that the various inks and tagging were applied and in correct registration.

Notice the cross (or "plus" sign) in the upper right corner. There are four registry marks of red, white and blue inks and phosphor tagging printed on top of each other. Each line is approximately 6.5mm long.

When the paper shifted, a portion of the globe, the Bicentennial logo and lettering were cut off. Figure 2 shows the freak airletter in relation to the normally cut aerogramme.

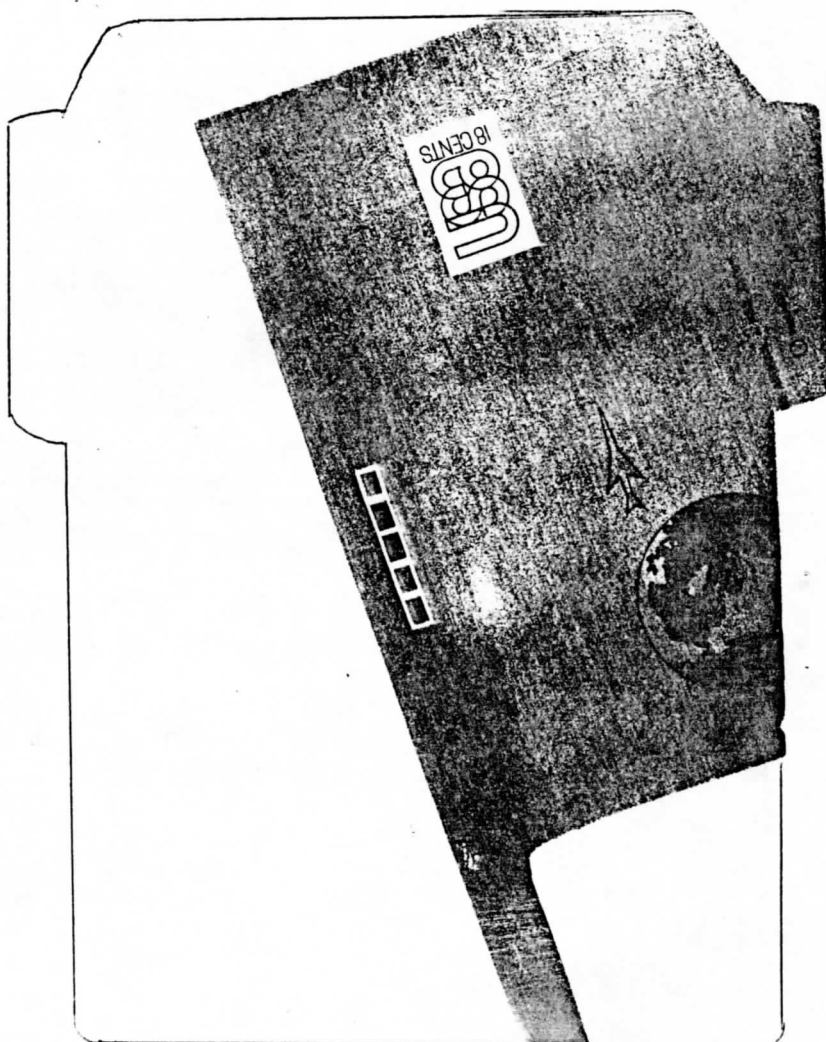


FIGURE 2

The reverse side shows gummed areas for the sealing flaps (Figure 3). The top gummed area is complete, while the two side areas are partially cut off. The top area, shaped like a trapezoid, has horizontal measurements of 182mm and 152.5mm and a vertical height of 23mm.

Two rectangular gum marks, each measuring approximately 8.5mm by 3.5mm, are located a third of a millimeter above the top gummed area.

The last illustration (Figure 4) shows the gum in relation to the trimmed flaps. The solid lines trace where this freak airletter received the gum, and dotted lines trace the flaps.

Markings like those shown here and plate numbers are trimmed off and discarded, only to leave what they might look like to the imagination of collectors. Freaks are not only interesting to examine, they teach us something about how stamps and postal stationery are printed.

As a novice EFO collector, I have no idea if this sort of miscut postal stationery is common or rare, nor do I know what it is worth. My collection of other EFO stationery consists of a few albino stamped envelopes and partially inked ones. I'd welcome hearing from other EFO collectors with their opinions of this aerogramme.

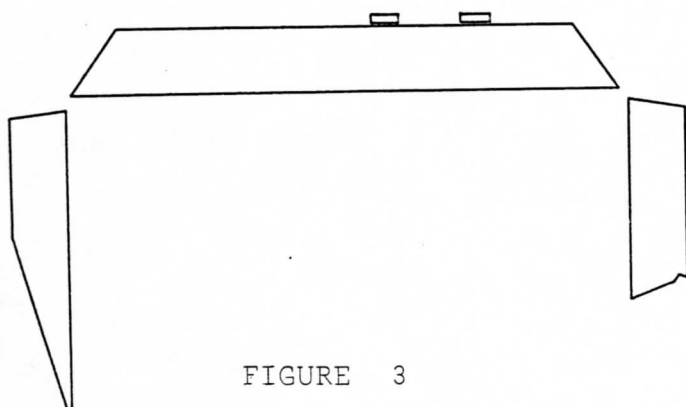


FIGURE 3

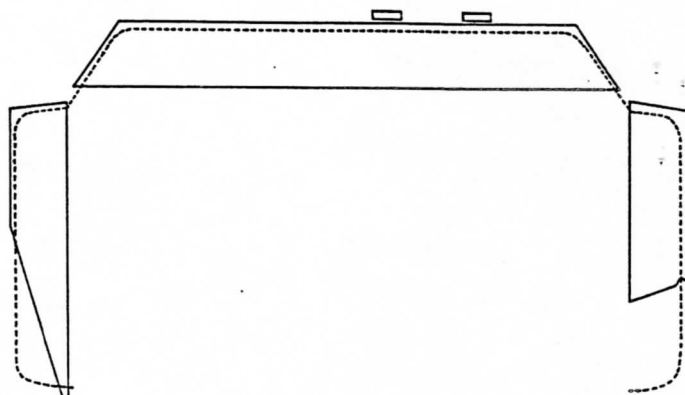


FIGURE 4

LOOKING FOR E.F.O.'s?

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A BOOKLET ERROR PANE CAVEAT - THE GOBELS PRODUCTS by Earl K. McAfee (#4)

This article is prompted by the observing of dealer handling of the color missing, Stamp Collecting Booklets at AMERIPEX.

Question: You want half a letterhead size sheet of paper for a note. How do you tear it evenly? Answer: First you fold it back and forth a few times to weaken the paper fiber.

During one of the B.E.P.'s talks at AMERIPEX a woman complained about how "fragile" current booklet panes are. Their answer was that, in order to counter complaints about booklet stamps being hard to separate, the Bureau goes to considerable trouble to achieve this effect. First, as normal, perforation holes are punched between stamps. Then, to further weaken the paper, they score the horizontal perforation lines. Also, the center separation of the pane is weakened when the booklet is folded in half for counter sale. For the collector, this is the start of the problem!

Consider now how you buy a Gobels assembled booklet from a dealer's stock - including the high priced EFO items. The dealer may have the item on display, fully opened. But, the "purchase stock" is behind his counter, folded like it is obtained at the Post Office. The dealer has already opened and closed these books at least once for inspection. He opens it again for you to inspect, and usually closes it when selling to you. EACH TIME the booklet is opened and closed the paper strength along the center separations is further weakened.

Because of this handling, we certainly are going to see half panes of the Stamp Collecting booklet being offered to the "budget minded". Those of us who bought full panes are going to have to take extra care of them and all other Gobels products!

AD MANAGER NEEDED

David Oatman has submitted his resignation as the EFOC Ad Manager due to press of business in producing his new monthly enterprise "In Touch...With Canadian and BNA Philately".

I would appreciate hearing from any EFOCC member who could take on the job of Ad Manager for the club. It need not be a major drain on time once you have "a system", and it is important to the financial health of EFOCC.

- John M. Hotchner, President

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Lou,

"Never have I read a more enjoyable newsletter. Yes, this is the best yet....What does it cost for a life membership?"

John P. Campbell

Editor's Note: Life membership is available for \$300.

A U.S. EFO POSTAL STATIONERY GLOSSARY

by

F. C. Pogue

Continued From August, 1986 Issue

GHOST TAGGING: Light impression in addition to the normal inked impression caused by ink contamination of the tagging roller (see EFOC VIII-I, Lot 193). Also called TAGGING GHOST or GHOST IMPRESSION.

HICKY or HICKEY SPOT: A small unprinted spot caused by small particles in the printing area that later fall off leaving the spot. A variation is the DOUGHNUT, caused by small lumps that prevent ink contact around the immediate area.

INVERTED DIE CUT: See DIE CUTTING REVERSED.

INVERTED SURCHARGE: See SURCHARGE VARIETY.

JITTER DOUBLE IMPRESSION: See OFFSET DOUBLE.

KISS IMPRESSION: A light second impression made when the printed material makes another contact with the plate or die as it is removed from the press. GHOST TAGGING looks similar.

KNIFE: The shape of the envelope blanks or the cutter used to cut them.

LAI D PAPER: Paper showing alternating light and darker parallel bands when held to a light. They are caused by the manufacturing process. To conserve paper, envelopes are normally cut so that the lines are diagonal to the sides of a folded envelope, but are parallel to the sides of the wrappers. A few envelopes of the first NESBITT issues have been found with horizontally laid paper. Most variations are the result of precutting paper slippage.

MACHINE OFFSET: See OFFSET.

MISCUT: Any item incorrectly cut, including CRAZY CUTS or FOLDOVERS. Most miscut postal cards were created from sheets sold uncut to make advertising printing easier. Exceptions include miscut commemorative cards.

MISFOLD: Material incorrectly folded, including REVERSE FOLD. Other types include envelope blanks folded to the wrong size of envelope, and blanks that went through the folding machine at an angle.

MISPLACED IMPRESSION, MISPRINT, MISSTRIKE or SHIFTED IMPRESSION: Used to describe postal stationery printed in an abnormal location. Misprints on envelopes are generally caused by misaligned blanks going through the press, but a few are caused by miscuts. They probably may be found on any part of an envelope, though I've never seen one left of face center, or on left side flap. Some specialists use the term MISPLACED IMPRESSION to indicate that the stamp is on the back of the envelope and SHIFTED IMPRESSION for misprints on the face. (see EFOC V-4, p15, and Figure 6, below). Figure 6 position is 140mm out of position!

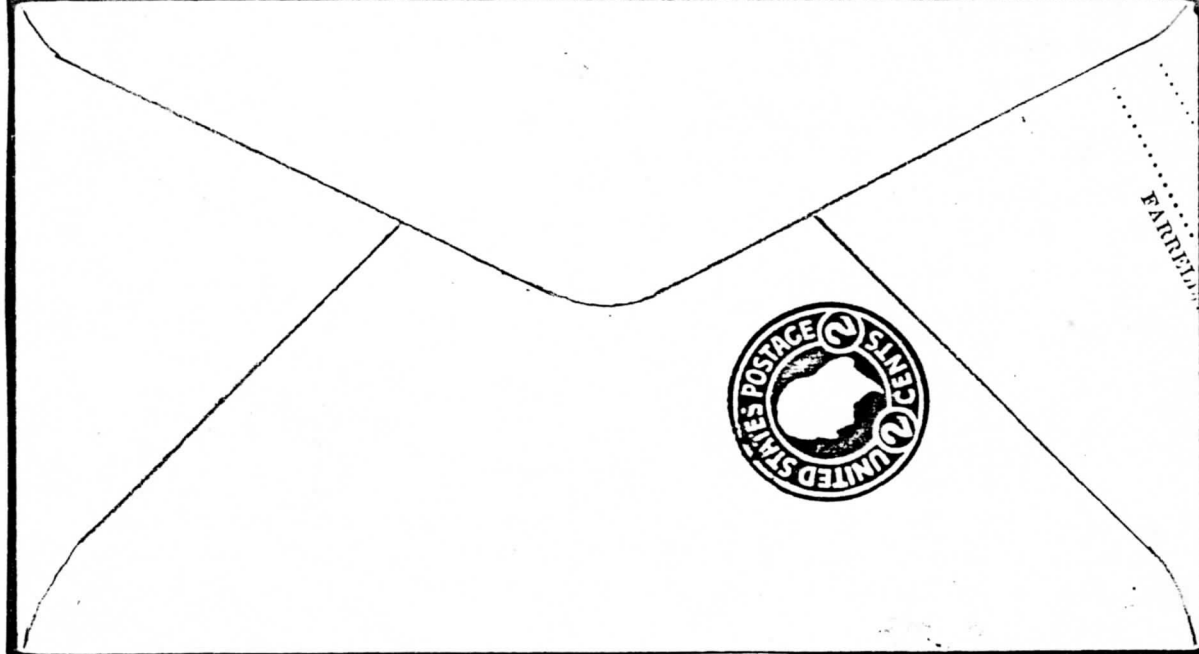


Figure 6

MISPRINT: See MISPLACED IMPRESSION.

MISREGISTERED COLOR: See COLOR SHIFT.

MISSING COLOR: A lack of color due to an inking malfunction such as a dry ink well or improper pressure. This is most often found on web-fed press material. It looks much like an ALBINO, but the cause is different. However, it is not unusual to see one described as the other.

MISSTRIKE: See MISPLACED IMPRESSION.

MULTIPLE SURCHARGE: See DOUBLE SURCHARGE.

NESBITT SEAL: The printer of the first issue of stamped envelope placed his logo on the top flap. Within a week he was ordered to "stop immediately." An interesting oddity (see Figure 7). This is also among the very few U.S.

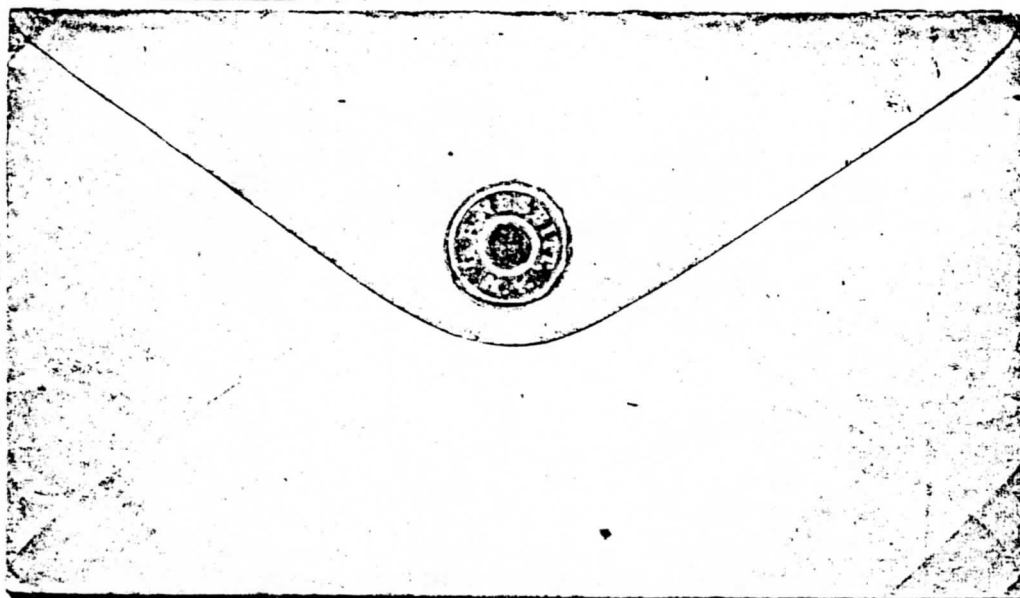


Figure 7



Figure 8

ODDITY: Any unusual item not considered an error or freak. The term includes, but is not limited to AD COLLAR, COMBINATION STAMPED ENVELOPE, and NESBITT SEAL, all described elsewhere herein; canceled postal cards (see EFOC VIII-3, Lot 271); postal stationery stamps cut out and illegally used on other mail; "to favor" surcharges (see Figure 9); most "MISCUT" postal cards; postmark errors such as inverted date or misspelling; and a postal meter imprinted over a surcharged stamp (see Figure 10).



Figure 9

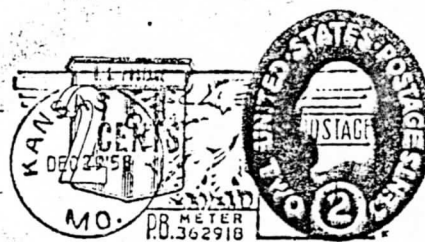


Figure 10

OFFSET: More correctly called SETOFF by printers. An unintended offset or mirror image impression. A MACHINE OFFSET is caused when a press is activated without paper, so it prints on the platen. The next sheet to go through the press then picks up the image in reverse. A SHEET OFFSET is caused by wet ink transferring the image to paper stacked on top. A SHEET OFFSET example is shown at Figure 11, and a much scarcer variation, caused by the paper touching ink smeared embossing, is shown at Figure 12.



Figure 11



Figure 12

OFFSET DOUBLE: Formerly JITTER DOUBLE IMPRESSION. A second, generally faint impression, caused when an offset printing cylinder and the blanket become slightly misregistered between one impression and the next.

OVERINKING: Such material is usually also smeared, often to an unrecognizable blob, and may also have a smeared SETOFF on the reverse side of the paper. Also, see SMEAR.

OXIDATION: Also called RUST. The darkening of certain inks, especially orange, which may turn brown or, in some cases, black. Also, see CHANGELING.

PAPER CREASE: A wrinkle in the paper, of most interest when it appears in the printed stamp. The oval and round issues of 1907-32 were prone to creasing during printing. In fact, Scott illustration #U92 shows an example. Also called a DIE CRACK by the uninformed.

PAPERFOLD: See FOLDOVER.

PAPER TEAR: Paper tears have caused jams and other malfunctions resulting in freak material. One unusual envelope was printed over an opened tear. The rip then closed, and shows a very unusual stamp.

PASTEUP: A tape-spliced area on paper stock used in web-fed presses to join two rolls together, or to repair a tear. Printing should show on the tape to be of much value. May be found on postal cards printed after 1910 or on envelopes after 1965.

PERFORATION VARIETY: None has been reported, but one or more may exist on a copy of Sc U293 letter sheet.

PLATE CRACK: A printed line caused by a crack in the printing plate. Two copies of the 4¢ Airmail postal card of 1949 have been reported with a spectacular crack.

PLATE FLAW: Most frequently seen on postal cards because the plates are so easily damaged. Damaged plate varieties include a Missing Grommet on UX6; Missing Keystone on UX9; "P" on stilts, dot over "T" on UY11r; Broken Corner on UX38; and Ski-Tip Pre-cancel Line on UX68 and others.

PLATE VARIETY: One of interest is the "N GOD" postal card UX46a.

PRINTED BOTH SIDES: An envelope with a misplaced stamp printed on one side, then turned over, printed and folded normally is shown in EFOC VIII-1, p13.

PRECUTTING PAPERFOLD: A foldover affecting the shape of the item. The most usual cause of CRAZY CUT material.

PREPRINTING PAPERFOLD: Stamps or other printing over a paperfold. An extreme example is shown in EFOC, VII-4, p9.

PRINTED BOTH SIDES: An envelope with a misplaced stamp printed on one side, then turned over, printed, and folded normally is shown in EFOC VIII-1, p13.

PRINTER'S WASTE: Badly produced material or material used to check the press before a run. This material is usually destroyed, but sometimes illegally enters the EFO market. EFO material that is badly soiled, crumpled, torn or shows charred edges should be suspect.

REVERSE FOLD: A type of misfold caused by a printed envelope blank being sent through a folding machine upside down. The envelope is folded with the stamp inside at the upper left of the envelope. A scarcer variety with a SETOFF marking the stamp position is shown at Figure 11.

RUST: See OXIDATION.

SCOOP or SPUR DIE: A die variety of the 1887-94 1¢ Franklin envelope showing a sharp projection extending below Franklin's bust.

SETOFF: See OFFSET.

SHEET OFFSET: See OFFSET.

SHIFTED IMPRESSION: See MISPLACED IMPRESSION.

SMEAR: Usually caused by overinking or spilled ink, but may be the result of gum or other foreign matter in the ink, spilled solvent (see EFOC VIII-I, Lot 187), inking system malfunction, or other causes. Also see EFOC VII-4, p8. Probably best described as a blob.

SPATTER or SPLATTER: Ink droplets that have been slung onto the paper by a rotating object or by other means.

STITCH WATERMARK: A watermark showing a row of short parallel lines, located at the end of the band on which the paper pulp was formed.

SURCHARGE EFO VARIETY: A surcharge that is not normal for the issue. Included are inverted impressions; surcharge on the reverse, or other misplaced positions (see EFOC VIII-I, Lot 186); a wrong issue surcharged; "to favor" surcharge (see Figure 9); no surcharge on Sc U586, which normally has one. Also see DOUBLE IMPRESSION.

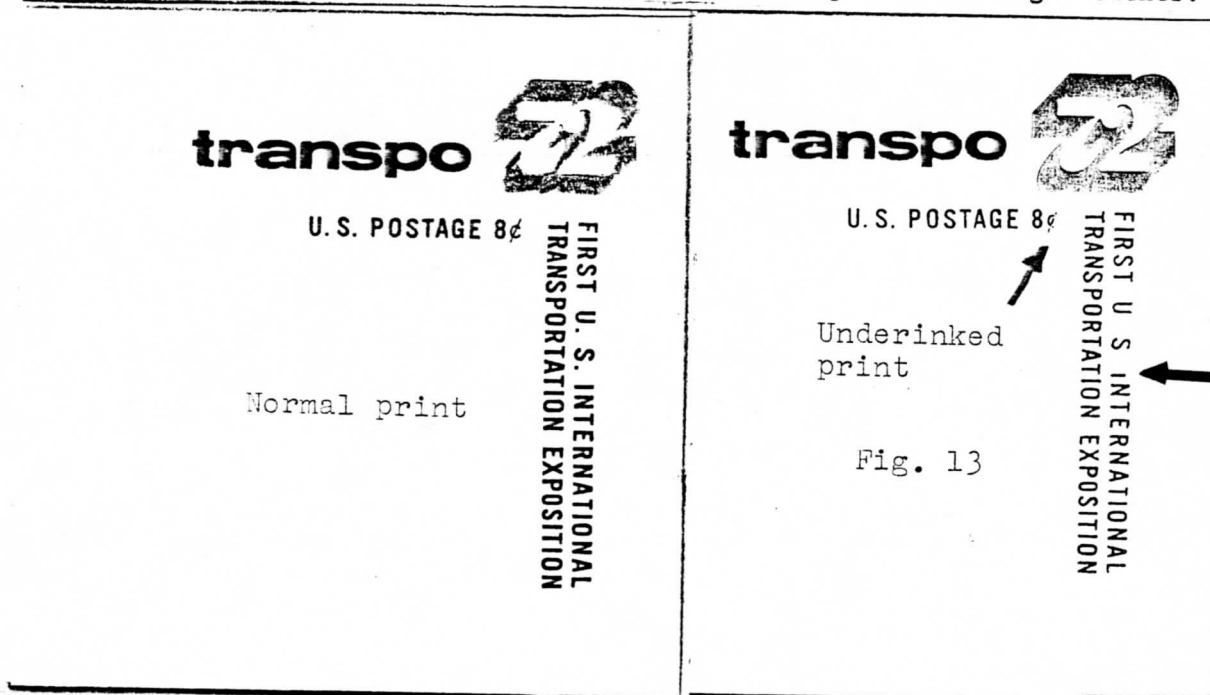
TAGGING ERROR or FREAK: Tagging that is abnormal for the issue. Tags may be missing on normally tagged issues or vice-versa; they may be misplaced or be the wrong tag.

TAGGING GHOST: See GHOST TAGGING.

TEAR: See PAPER TEAR.

TO ORDER: Manufactured or non-accidental EFO material.

UNDERINKED: A light or partial impression caused by a low ink supply, wrong pressure, or other inking malfunctions. Figure 13 shows an unusual example where the printing appears as condensed along with missing elements.



WATERMARK: A deliberate thinning of paper during its manufacture to produce a semi-translucent pattern. Different watermarks on an issue are considered varieties. Watermarks that are reversed, inverted, or inverted and reversed are usually scarce.

WEB SPLICE: A splice joining paper tears or ends of paper rolls used in web-fed printing. Even postal card stock may be affected. See envelope examples in EFOC VIII-2, p18, and VIII-4, p9.

From the Prez to You -

As I write this for the October issue (on Sept. 6) the August EFO Collector has not yet arrived. I know it has gotten to Steve Brand, our mailer. So it won't be long.

Still, I've not yet received the first questionnaire. So I'm still flying blind. When you read this, and if you have not yet given me the benefit of your opinions by filling out and sending me your questionnaire, may I ask for your help on this one more time.

My bouquet for this month goes to Joe Licata. You've seen his handiwork as Auction Director twice now. I'm impressed and hope you are.

Having just taken my first born son to the University of Virginia (my alma mater, I add proudly) to begin his first year, I'm reminded of the fact that formal schooling may end, but learning never ends. The fact that you are a stamp collector marks you as a person of curiosity and more than ordinary intellect. For you the mysteries of EFOs are fun and challenging. This endeavor may be a very small slice of life, but from such things, happiness flows.

'Til next time. 

A Sweet-Smelling EFO
by
Pat Herst

While the 1935 Farley imperforates were current, some of the members of the Bronx County Stamp Club invested \$10 per member, to send one of the group to the Philatelic Agency to buy as many of the sheets of Farleys as the remaining money would buy. He took the train down in the morning, then returned that night. The next evening the "syndicate" met at the home of a member, Don Kapner, who resided in the Bronx.

The idea was to cut up the sheets in order to extract the more valuable position blocks, the center lines, the arrows, and the plate number blocks that, even while current, were selling at a considerable premium. The "scrap," the ordinary stamps that remained after the cutting, was then sold at a discount to postage brokers. When the positions were sold, it would leave a profit, to be divided equally among the syndicate. The money would

then be reinvested in Farleys, and the same operation conducted again. It wasn't a living, but it was a pleasant way to earn money, especially in such congenial company. The Kapner "cutting-up parties" were well attended for more than one reason.

One day we came to the 9-cent Park imperforate, a stamp printed in what the catalogue calls red-orange. The large, uncut sheet of two-hundred stamps was spread out on the floor, and one of the syndicate started cutting. At that moment the Kapner dog, a frisky fox-terrier, ran into the room. He had been outside on an errand of nature and had returned to watch the cutting up of the Farley sheets. He took a comfortable position exactly in the center of the sheet, where the vertical and horizontal lines cross to form the center line, the most valuable position of the sheet.

Happily, the dog was not heavy enough to damage the stamps, but when he walked over to watch another group work on another denomination of the series, he left behind certain traces of his reason for having ventured outside a few moments before. Kapner burst into profanity. "Look at what that blankety-blank dog did to that center line!"

The group looked with consternation. It was a serious loss, for not only was the 9-cent center line worth a few dollars, worse yet, without it one could not sell the complete set, which was then bringing 12 to 15 dollars. And then the door opened and in walked another Bronx County Club member, Judge Gordon.

Judge Gordon was an attorney and a political standby who had filled a deceased magistrate's unexpired term for a period of days. The time was sufficient for him to earn the title "Judge," which he relished. He was hardly one of the most popular members of the club. His chiseling tactics and his misrepresentation when he sold earned him the dislike of most of the other members.

His eyes lit on the 9-cent Park sheet, still on the floor. "What a wonderful example of a plate smear!" he exclaimed. "How much do you want for it?"

The syndicate members looked at one another. Only Kapner had the presence of mind to speak. "We won't sell you the sheet, but you can have the center line for \$10.00."

Judge Gordon reached for his wallet, took out \$10.00, and said, "OK, but only if you let me cut it."

The judge cut the sheet as everyone knew he would, taking care to get as many of the adjoining stamps as he could, as long as they showed the "smear." Happy with his find, he left.

The syndicate could hardly wait for the next meeting of the club to tell the tale of how the judge was finally hoisted up on his own petard. They were denied the pleasure. The judge was there, too, showing a Paul Bluss check for \$18.00. He pointed to the listing in the Bluss catalogue for the sale of two days before. It read: "No. 764 nine-cent Park Farley. Center line block mint, with the finest example of a plate smear we have ever seen."

"That was a real good buy I made," Judge Gordon said to Don Kapner. "It brought \$20.00."

We'd like to thank Pat Herst for giving us permission to reprint this unusual story. We often wonder where this EFO is today and whose collection it "graces."

EDITOR'S NOTES

Last issue, we began publication of a series entitled, "A U.S. EFO Postal Stationery Glossary." During some of the preliminary correspondence between author Frank Pogue and me, we had discussed and agreed that there were bound

to be some errata, omissions or other glitches that even the sharpest eyes miss. And although last issue only recently got to you, I'm truly surprised that I've not received mail from those of you who pounce upon these error when they appear. Now, do not take offense because I sincerely appreciate having these lapses pointed out. I tend to look at it as a game, and I want to win.

In any event, both Frank and I would truly appreciate any feedback you may have to offer whether it be good, bad or indifferent. As I previously mentioned, Frank eventually hopes to publish a handbook, and the EFOC is the ideal organ to iron out any wrinkles. The target of the proposed handbook would be EFO collectors, both novice and advanced. And who could possibly be better able to point out the rough spots than our members? Let's hear from you.

Earlier I spoke of glitches and sure enough, at least one snuck in. Member John Campbell pointed out to me that in the article, "EFO Hunt," there was a "T" where an "I" should have been in the word "specimen." Great place for a glitch, right? Any other article probably would not have mattered.

With the publication of this issue of the EFO Collector, I have nearly exhausted my supply of articles in reserve. I've been quite fortunate to have the luxury of a reserve, since this obviously makes putting out an issue so much simpler. I realize I'm always asking for articles, and now I'm asking again. Please take a few minutes of your time and send me anything, whether "copy ready" or on the back of a cocktail napkin.

Does your local newspaper have a stamp or hobby column? If so, our Publicity Director, Steve Brand, can send them a prepared article describing the EFOCC, its goals, and so on. Do your part for the EFOCC. And remember that it really doesn't matter what the circulation of the publication is. Free publicity is always appreciated, and even if each article published netted "only" one new member, great! Come on, EFOers: Steve is aching for work.

And finally, no comments have been received, other than the one from John Campbell in the "Letter To The Editor" column, on the masthead experiment. Does this mean I haven't offended too many of you? Or would you rather see another masthead? Or do you really not pay attention to it, and only care what articles appear? Please let me know.

SNAIL DAMAGE

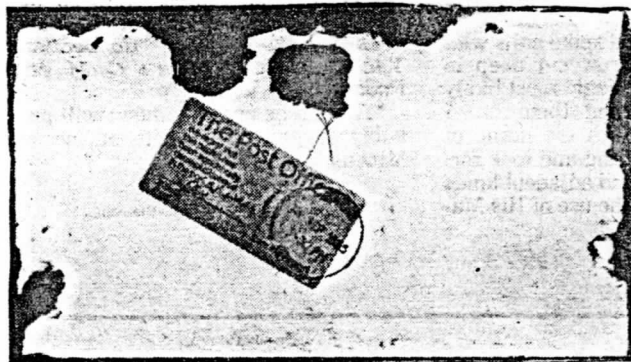
by

James W. Harkleroad

If you are a collector of damaged covers, your collection is not complete until you have a cover that was attacked by the vicious Mail Eating Snail of Great Britain! This scurrilous member of the "Wild Kingdom Organization" has long been a thorn in the side of the British Government.

The snails' depredations are conducted in postboxes, with entry usually made by climbing up plants and then into the postbox aperture. Once inside the postbox, the snails' major interests appear to be the gum used to affix the stamp(s). However, as the accompanying illustration reveals, if the dastardly villains are not quickly found, they can produce extensive damage.

Do you have information or other examples of mail damaged by other members of the "Wild Kingdom Organization?" Whether it is the stealthy gum-eating fungus, the sneaky mouse, or? Write it up and send it - with an illustration - to the editor.



DOLLAR INVERT UPDATE

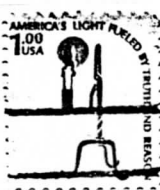
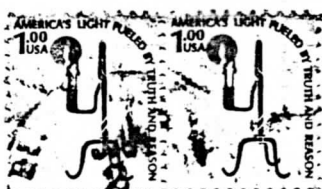
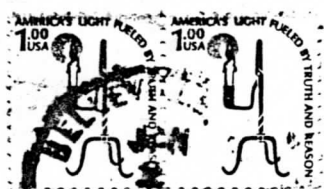
Recent correspondence from John P. Campbell brings some fresh insight into just how difficult it is going to be to locate any of this variety used.

After reading the article a number of times, John wondered if he might be able to locate any of the dollar inverts used, since he has the "luxury" of going through about 75,000 envelopes per week!

Although John had previously given a fair number of them to the Ben Franklin Stamp Clubs last winter, and some to several other stamp collectors, he still had over 800 on hand to sort through. Although he wasn't fortunate enough to locate any of these inverts used, he was able to locate some mis-registrations; ten, to be precise. He was generous enough to enclose all ten, so I'm photocopying them onto this sheet for all to see.

John goes on to comment that after going through all his and not finding one, he can't help but feel that the other three sheets suspected to be in existence are lurking in the bottom of some postal clerk's drawer in West Possum Belly, Arkansas, or some such place that time forgot.

Considering the volume of envelopes John goes through weekly, I can't help but agree with him. How about it EFOCC members: Hit the post offices in your areas and see what you can shake out of the trees, especially from the more out-of-the-way places. - Editor



Catalog of Rare Missing-Inscription United States Stamps

"These unusual, popular and expensive stamps are well illustrated..." --*The Stamp Wholesaler*.

"Well worth the small cost...I hope it will find a place in your library." --John Hotchner in *EFO Collector*.

"Your publication is lovely." --Noted error-stamp auctioneer.

"I like it and applaud your endeavor..." --Respected British philatelic journalist.

\$4.95 pp. Howard Gates, Box 955LOW, Locust Grove, VA 22508.

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The EFO Collector is published six times annually during alternate months. The deadline for any issue is the 15th day of the month preceding the month of issue, e.g., the deadline for the December issue is November 15. Send material directly to the editor. Subscription/membership applications should be sent to the Secretary, along with annual dues of \$10.00 for Regular Membership. Donor - \$20 annually; Sustaining Member - \$50.00 annually; Patron - \$100 annually; Life Member - \$300 (May be paid in installments if arrangements are made with the Secretary).

Advertising for the EFO Collector will be accepted at the following rates: Full page - \$22.50; half-page - \$12.00; quarter-page - \$6.50; classified trade or buy/sell ads at 5¢ per word with a minimum charge of \$1.00. Contract display ad rates are approximately 15% less. EFOCC members are entitled to the contract rate for all single insertion display ads, and to three free EFO POST, 35-word (excluding address) classified ads annually.

DIRECT ALL INQUIRIES AND CLASSIFIED ADS TO THE ADVERTISING DIRECTOR. EFO POST ads (ONLY!) go directly to the Editor.

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HONG KONG SURCHARGE ERROR by James W. Harkleroad

The De La Rue printing company, made a rather interesting mistake when they produced Scott Hong Kong no's. 52, 54 and 56. While De La Rue obliterated the original English denominations, they failed to change the Chinese denomination on the upper left side of the stamps.

This error was spotted later, and Scott Hong Kong no's. 61, 61a, 62 and 63 were produced. The original Chinese denominations were overprinted locally, with a vertical hand stamp "chop". See #56 and 63, illustrated.

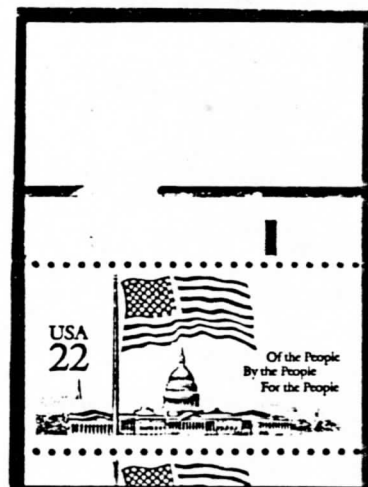


Does any reader know of other "dual value" surcharge errors? Be sure to send your information to the editor.

Modern Varieties To Look For - by John M. Hotchner

Member Jerry Whiteford has reported some interesting variations on the current 22¢ \$1.10 Vending Machine Booklets. In a group purchased between July 20 and 27 at the Main Post Office in Asheville, NC, he found booklets with:

1. Vertically elongated perfs on the left hand vertical row.
2. Distinct color differences on the booklet cover:
 - a. Red and dusty blue
 - b. Dark hot pink and blue grey
3. Examples of the slits intended to help separate the perf 10 stamps that are below the perforations.
4. Panes that differ in length by 2mm.
5. The illustrated "missing" plate number and part of the cross register line, probably due to insufficient inking of the plate; confirmed by missing ink in the lower right corner of the flag's blue field and the ball at the top of the flag pole.



TWO HEADS BETTER THAN ONE! by James W. Harkleroad

A report in the April 8, 1985 Linn's Stamp News, describes an EFO that the printing company, at first sight, said could not occur. Recently sold in England, the stamp in question is the 12 penny Sports stamp of 1980 (Scott #924), and sold for approximately U.S. \$6,540.

The stamp is a multiple EFO, with the gold queen's head missing entirely, and the leading runners head printing on the front, and back. The printing was done by the House of Questa, Ltd., and when the company first saw the stamp, they thought it could not be real.



However, a search through the company archives provided the answers to explain how the mistake occurred. The stamp was printed in six colors, and required two passes through the press to print all six. Between the first pass through, and the second, the paper became folded, thusly allowing the reddish purple and gold to be partly printed on the gum side of the paper, and partly on the front. With this particular stamp, the fold was in a position to cover the leading runner's face, and the area where the queen's head would have appeared.

From this known example, there should be other stamps with the reddish purple and/or gold missing from the stamp or printed on the back. It is also possible that there are stamps with the reddish purple and/or gold offset on the back. Check those stamps you have!

EFOCC AUCTION #27

UNITED STATES
LOT# SCOTT#
PERFORATION

MIN. BID

1	331	Mint NG vert. pr. w/ 6 1/2mm misperf. Est.\$8.50	5
2	499	MNH FVF vert.pair with blind perfs 7mm down on bottom stamp. Appears imperfed between. Mint NG block/9 --Offset Type IV-- with 5mm misperf right. Few perf seps.	30
3	530	MNH VF corner block/4 with foldover.	25
4	689	Mint NG vert. pr. w/ 7+mm misperf down. Est.\$8.50	20
5	806	MNH FVF hor. pair with only one perf between.	5
6	899	MNH margin block/4 with 2mm misperf left.	2.50
7	1280	MNH pair of short stamps with 4mm missing at bottom.---3 cent value gone.	3
8	1281	MNH single with 5mm misperf right.	20
9	1393	MNH top margin vert. pair with 7+mm and slight diagonal misperf.	3
10	1485	MNH single with 5mm misperf down.	17.50
11	1510	MNH block/4 with 5mm misperf down.	3
12	1510	MNH upper margin single with perfs 5mm high. Cuts off bottom line of lettering.	10
13	1563	MNH block/4 with 2 1/2mm misperf left.	12.50
14	1584	MNH with 3mm misperf down.	8
15	1603	MNH FVF pre cancel gap pr imperf between. Cat.\$25	3
16	1615ce	MNH vert. pair with gutter perfs through 2nd stamp. Est.\$47.50	12
17	1735	BEAUTIFUL plate strip/8 with perfs shifted diagonally 21mm to left at farthest point.	40
18	1749-52	MNH horz. strip/5. Appears imperforate. Barest trace of vert. perfs on right pr.	50
19	1831	MNH horz. pair with slight trace of blind perfs.	40
20	1843	MNH FVF major error. Imperfate between.	20
21	1856	MNH coil strip/4 with 50% misperf.	3
22	1895	SAME in coil strip/8. NP	6
23	1895	MNH PNC-5 with plate #7 and 3mm perf shift.	7.50
24	1908	SAME-----with plate #8 and 3mm perf shift. NP	7.50
25	1908	MNH single with 3 1/2mm misperf down.	3
26	1946	MNH margin block/4 with 2/7mm diag. misperf.	17.50
27	2048-51a	MNH margin pair with 5mm perf shift down.	10
28	2052	MNH bottom margin strip of 2 1/2 stamps with 17mm horz. misperf up and gutter perfs thru bottom stamp.	35
29	2073	MNH coil pair with 5mm misperf left.	3
30	2112	MNH XF nice major imperforate error pair.	35
31	2132b	MNH bottom margin block/4 with imperf bottom margin.	30
32	C101-4		

B. INKING

33	Al63 Type Printers waste imperf---Horz. crease.	10
34	811 Mint NG overinked pair with 1 1/2mm misperf up. Est.\$7.50	4.50
35	1753 MNH VF vert. strip/3 with "French Alliance" on middle stamp in black.	15
36	2115 MNH VF coil strip/3 w/ blue capitol bldg.	1.50
37	C63 MNH complete albino. Est.\$150	100.00
38	J83 MNH F plate block/10 with large ink smear on 3 stamps.	10

C. COLOR SHIFTS

39	651 MNH single with black vignette shifted to right and onto frame of stamp.	3
40	1455 MNH corner block/4 with red and yellow colors shifted 1mm to right.	10
41	1725 SPECTACULAR! MNH 7mm intaglio color shift. Appears misperfed.	15
42	1800 MNH FVF green color shift 2+mm left.	3
43	2014 MNH F black intaglio color shift 1mm high.	3
44	2014 SAME----IN Zip block/4.	8
45	2045 MNH red color shifted down. "Medal Of Honor" shifted off of stamp.	20
46	C86 MNH margin single with black intaglio shifted down----lettering below stamp.	25
47	C95-96 MNH vert. pair with black intaglio shifted 6mm down. Est.\$40	25

D. TRIMMINGS

48	662 Mint NG XF gutter snipe. Est.\$10	6
49	799 MNH VF gutter snipe block/4.	2
50	1055 MNH Ave. plate # strip/5 with 25% bottom pl.# 25152.	5
51	1058 MNH Ave. plate # strip/5 with 40% bottom pl.# 26086.	5
52	1058 MNH F plate # strip/5 with 35% bottom pl.# 26109.	5
53	1906 MNH PNC-5 with plate #3 on top of stamp.	5
54	1906 MNH PNC-5 with plate #4 on top of stamp.	5
55	1908 MNH miscut 8mm.	20
56	1940 MNH VF gutter snipe pair with 6mm of stamp from sheet above.	7.5

E. PLATE AND TRANSFER VARIETIES

57	300	Post card with stamp having broken relief below "1790". Listed in JOHL.	7.50
58	C81	MNH vert. strip/3 with full tagging ghost diagonal on bottom stamp and a half. NICE!	20
59	C89	MNH single with VF complete offset. Est.\$30	18

BOOKLET PANES

A. PERFORATIONS

60	1737a	MNH complete booklet with two (2) misperfed panes 3 1/2mm to right. Red EE markings. Est.\$60	35
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B. TRIMMINGS

61	804b	MNH booklet pane with 70% Pl.# 22402LL	5
62	807a	MNH booklet pane with 70% Pl.# 22886UL	8
63	807a	MNH matched set with 45% UL and 50% LL Pl.# 23413.	14
64	1036a	MNH booklet pane with 55% Pl.#26468LL.	4
65	1395a	MNH folded and miscut partial booklet pane with piece of stamp from pane below.	20
66	1595c	MNH foldover showing extra margin and more than half of the stamp below position #5. NICE!	40
67	C39a	MNH booklet pane with 55% Pl.# 24263LL	10

MISCELLANEOUS

68	--	MNH XF coil strip/4---NYC Sanitary postage vend. machine test coil.	2
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FOREIGN

69	54	BARBUDA--MNH XF corner pair with margin perfs shifted 6mm right. Est.\$17.50	11.00
70	189	FRANCE--MNH F single with complete offset. Est.\$25	15
71	608	GREAT BRITAIN--MNH VF margin single with missing lemon color.	50
72	22	LEBANON--Mint F w/ HR misaligned overprint. Est.\$6	4
73	739	TURKEY--MLH VF single with VF complete offset. Est.\$8.50	5

DONATED LOTS

D1	mix	Used--5 minor Banknote misperfs with various faults.	5
D2	1287	MNH single with 1 1/2mm misperf right.	4
D3	1486	MNH single with 4mm misperf down.	5
D4	C39	MNH single with 4mm misperf right.	5
D5	U429	6 3/4 entire Albino with very tiny tear on back flap and upper right corner.	5
D6	UX27	Post card with left half of stamp image having heavy print. Nice split image.	5+
D7	C259	URUGUAY--MNH corner block/6--"Bird's Crest" variety in position #2.	5+

EFOCC AUCTION #27 CLOSES---- November 28 , 1986. GOOD LUCK!

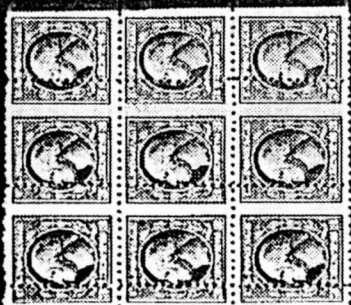
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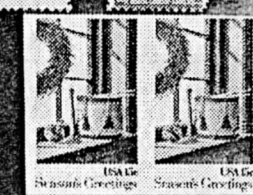
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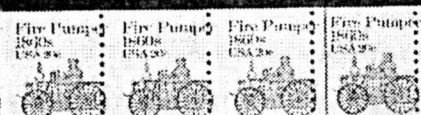
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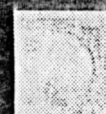
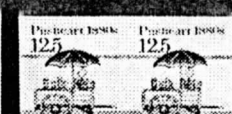
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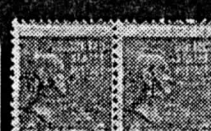
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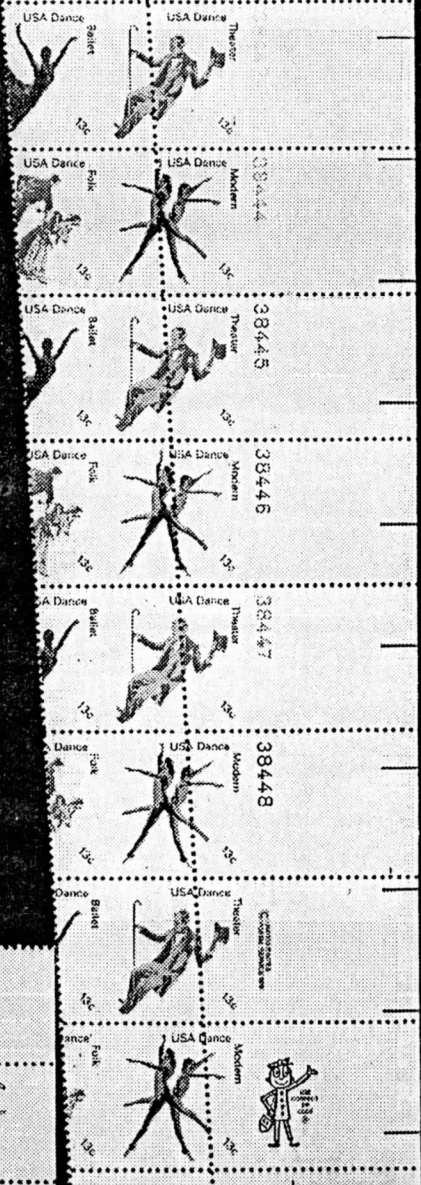
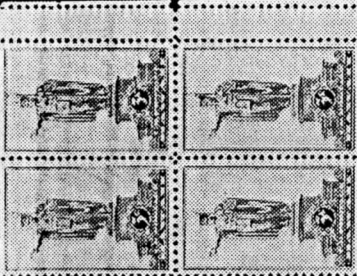
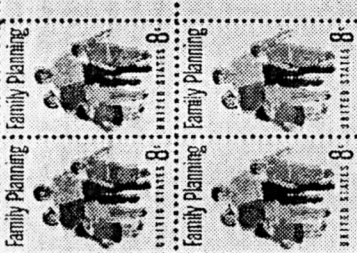
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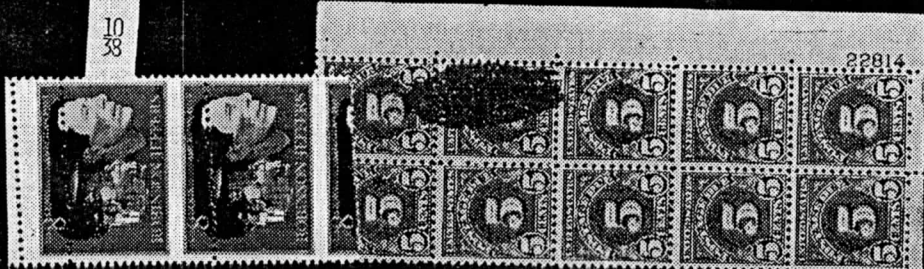


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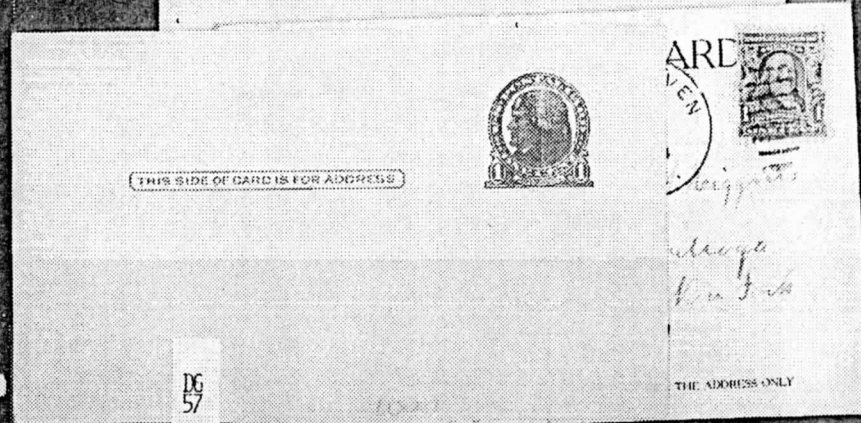


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D7



D6
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EFOCC#

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COUNTRY _____ ZIP _____

Send by insured mail?

All postage costs will be billed to bidder.

EFOCCA, please execute the following bids for me in this mail auction:

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[illegible]

OFFICE USE
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NO BUYER'S
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YOUR
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CAREFULLY!

NO BUYER'S PREMIUM WILL BE ADDED TO YOUR WINNING BIDS!

*Please limit my purchases to \$ _____. (Limit less than twenty-five dollars respectfully declined.)
*Those with bidding limits will have their bids executed in the order that they list their lots - numerical order not required - until the limit is reached.

SEND COMPLETE BID SHEETS TO: EFOCC AUCTIONS

209 East 11th St.
Conshohocken, PA 19428

Consignor Name	Description of EFO	Country	Cat. #	Lot #
EFOCC #		Catalog Used (If other than Scott)		
Condition (circle)	<p><u>INSTRUCTIONS:</u> Fill in all boxes with <u>underlined</u> <u>headings.</u> Leave the others blank. Then mount your lot here. For covers, multiples, or other lots, use the reverse side of the form or another sheet of paper or cardboard (better). Be sure to include this form if the lot is mounted separately (attach it to the lot, if possible).</p> <p><u>Send your lots by registered or insured mail for your protection.</u></p> <p>Extra forms are available for 4¢ each and a SASE. 10 for 1 oz., 20 for 2 oz.</p>			Sale #
NH OG				Buyer #
LH RG				Hammer
H NG				Cat. Value
HR NG as issued				Retail Est. and Source
HH Used	Minimum Bid			
Centering (if applicable)	<p><u>Faults (Beyond EFO properties)</u> Describe:</p>			
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VF				
F				
Average				
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100.00 - 495.00	5.00	
500.00 +	10.00	

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All lots will be sold to the highest bidder at one increment over the second highest, unless the MB is not reached. EFOCC Auctions reserves the right to remove any lot. A Set of Auction Rules is available for a SASE.

ACCEPTABLE ABBREVIATIONS AND WHAT THEY MEAN

CENTERING

AVE - Perforations cut design
F - Fine, perfs clear of design
VF - Very fine, well centered with opposite sides nearly equal
XF - Extremely Fine, perfect centering on all sides

GUM

NH - Never Hinged
LH - Light Hinge Mark
H - Hinged, some gum loss
HR - Hinge remnants, some pieces adhere to stamp
HH - Heavy Hinge, much gum disturbance and/or heavy hinge remnant
OG - Original Gum
RG - Regummed
NG - No Gum
NG as issued - no gum on stamps, issued without gum
NP - No Photo
@ - at
Bklt - Booklet
blk - black
BLK - Block
btw - between

cat. - catalog value

chg - change

DBL - double

dn - down

EST - Estimate of value

horz - horizontal

imp - imperforate

lf - left

litho - lithographic

print - printing

M - Mint, uncanceled

MB - Minimum Bid, lowest price at which lot will be sold

mm - millimeter

norm cpy - normal copy

Pl # - Plate Number

pr - pair

print - printers

rt - right

SE - Natural Straight

Edge

SS - Souvenir Sheet

Shf - Shift

Used - Cancelled

Vert - Vertical

w/ - with

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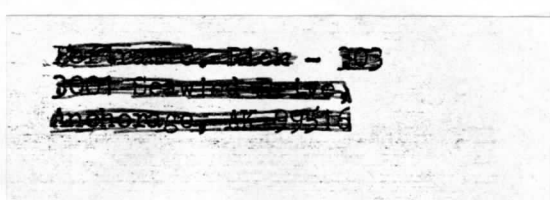
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