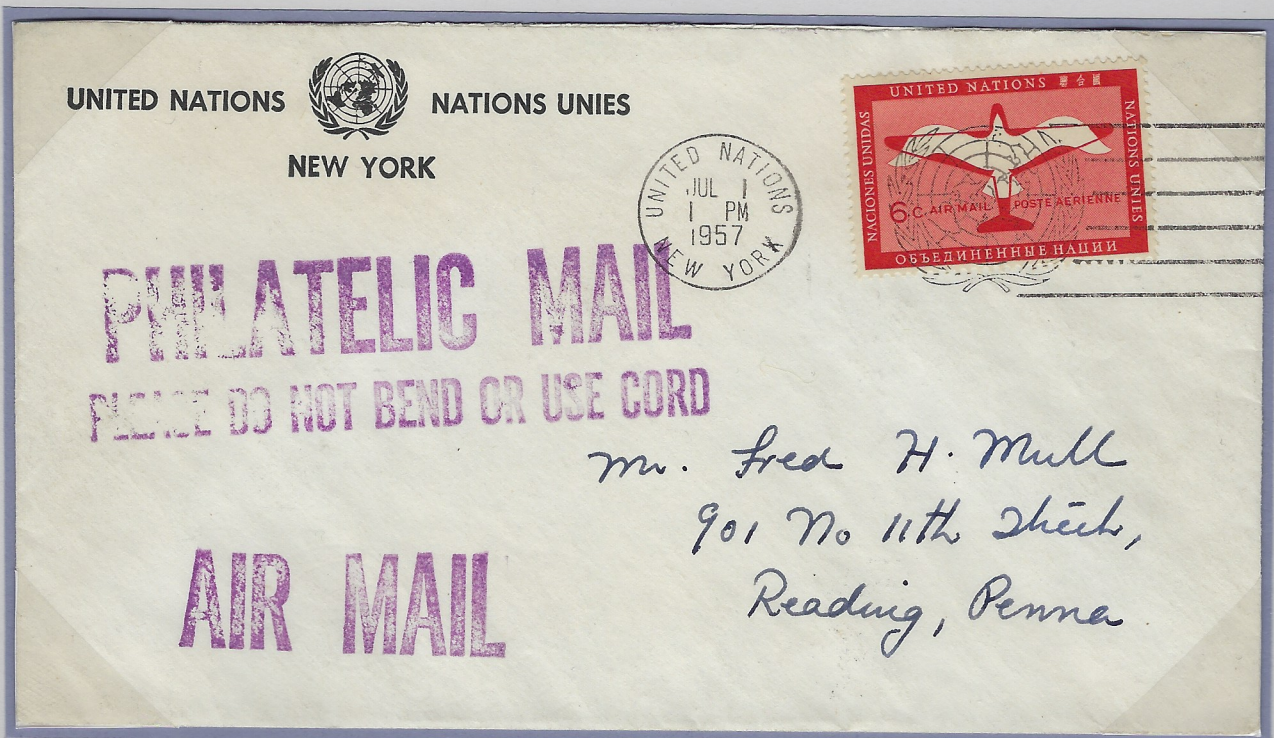




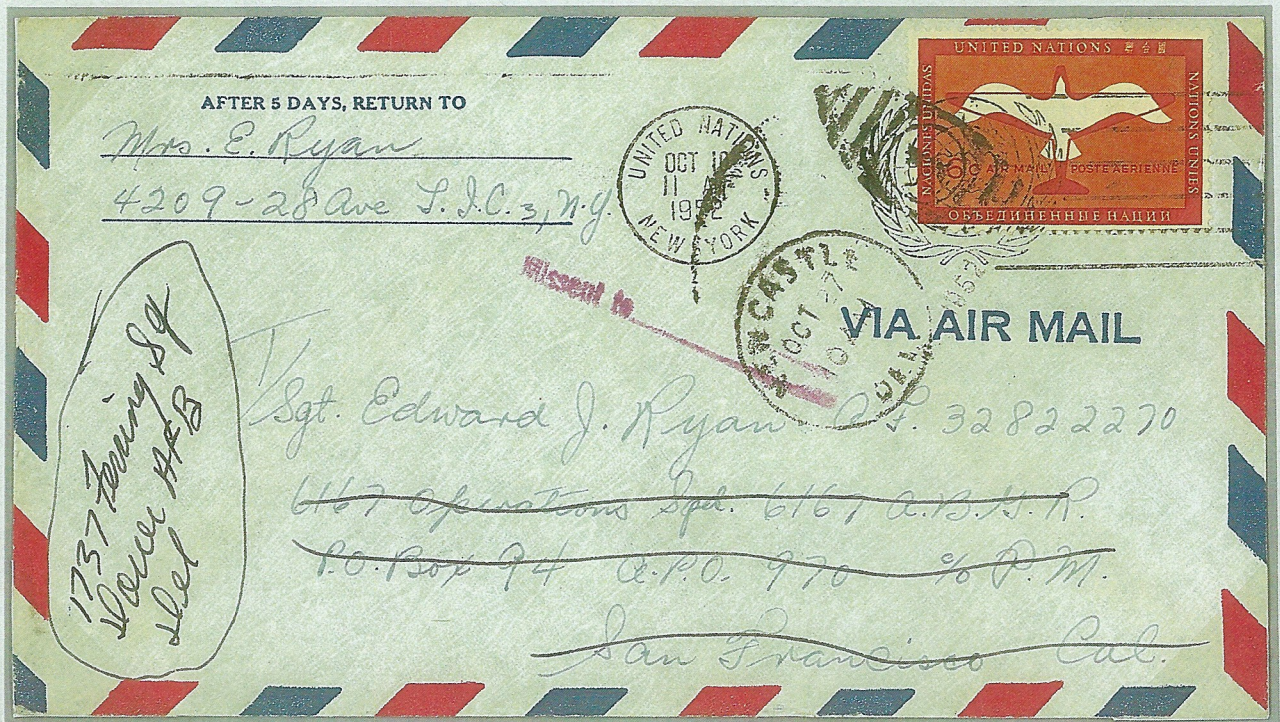
Second printing: Issued July, 1958; 500,000 issued. The paper is of two types: slight fluorescence (Group II) (*left*) and medium (Group IV) (*right*). All margins are perforated. There are no control numbers.

Postal usages

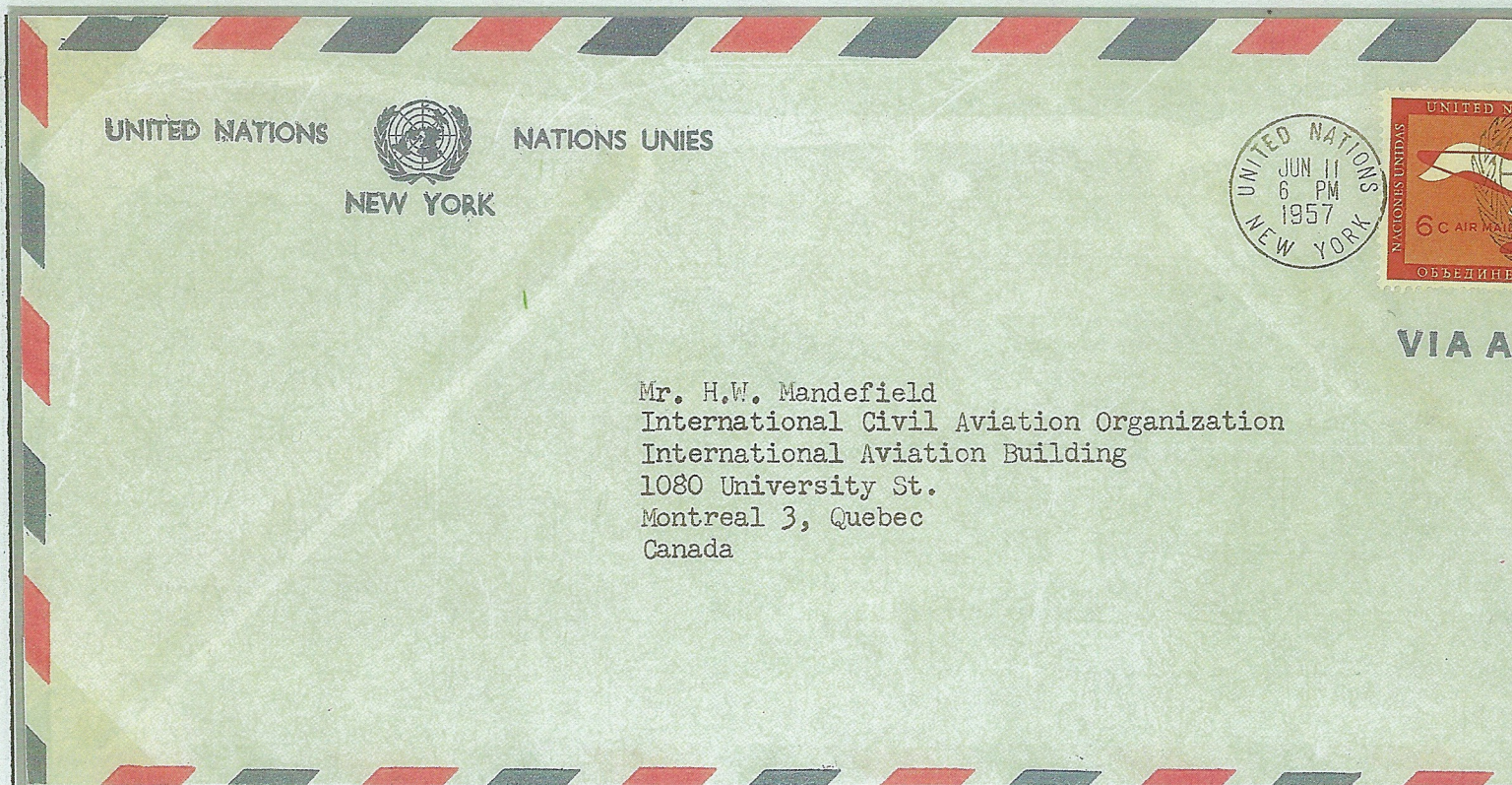


The 6¢ domestic air mail rate was in effect when this stamp was issued until July 31, 1958.

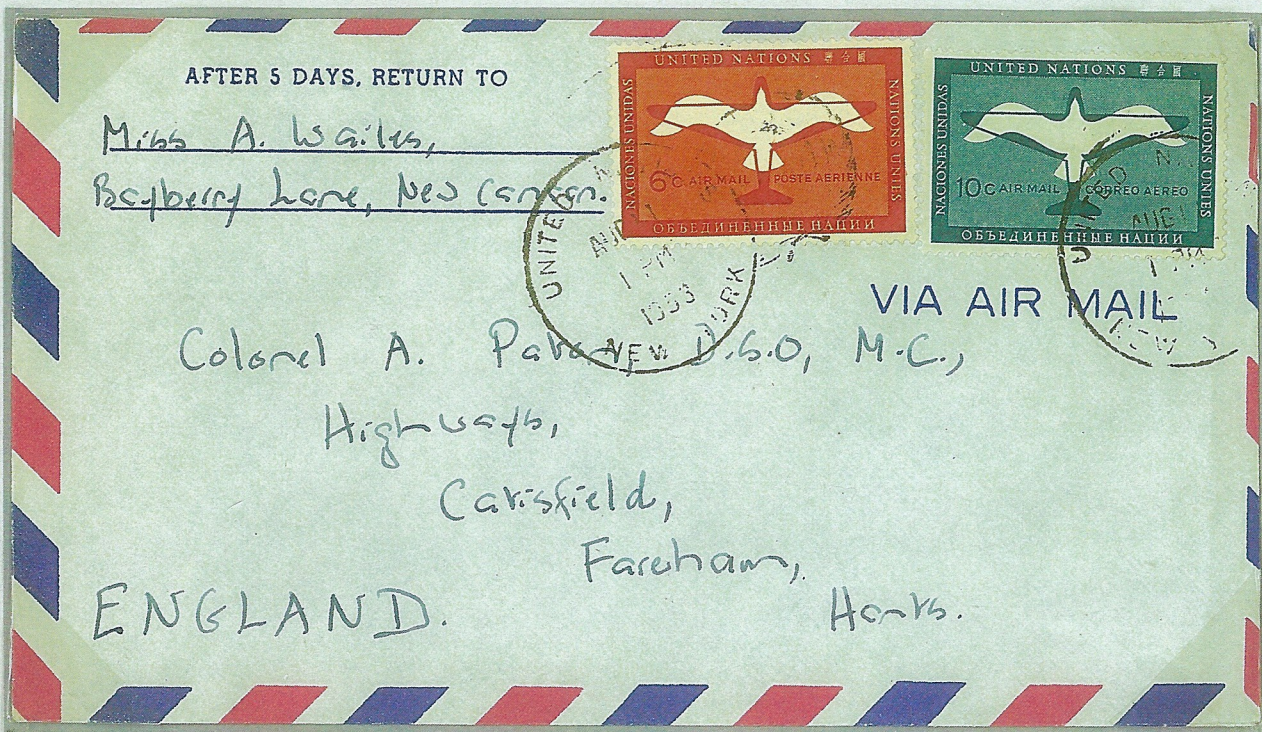
Air mail stamps – De La Rue



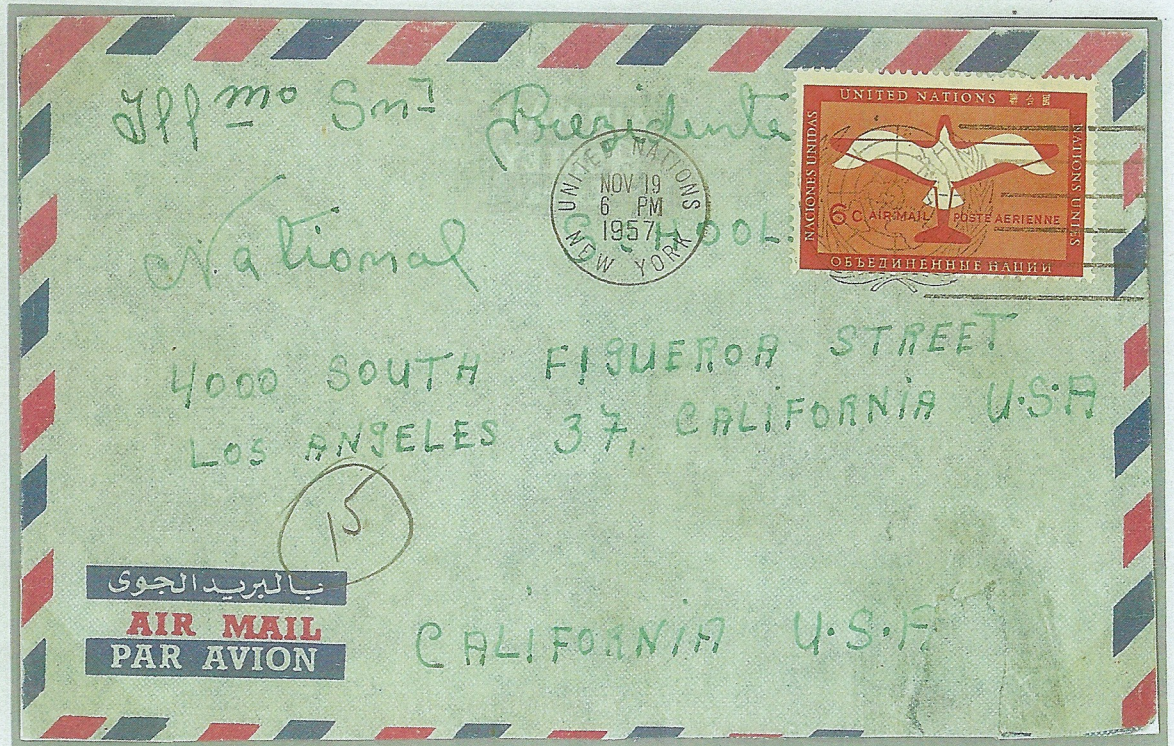
This letter was sent on October 10, 1952 by airmail to the addressee in San Francisco, post-marked on the back by the Army–Air Force Postal Service, APO 270, on October 22 and then redirected, having been missent to Dover AFB, where it was postmarked in Newcastle, Delaware on October 27.



From the date of issue of the 6¢ stamp until July 31, 1958, the air mail letter rate to Canada was 6¢ — the same as the domestic airmail rate.



Postage of 16¢ overpaid by 1¢ the international air mail letter rate to Europe of 15¢ per 1/2 ounce, in effect when the stamps were issued until June 30, 1967.



This letter, written by a member of the Brazilian Battalion at the UNEF Base in Naples, Italy, (as indicated on the back of the envelope), was sent to United Nations, New York by diplomatic pouch, and finally sent to the addressee in Los Angeles.

Overview of printings



First printing



Second printing



Third printing



Fourth printing



Fifth printing



Sixth printing

Production details

Ole Hamann, Denmark, was the designer; B.S. Cresser was the engraver. The stamp was recess printed (line engraving) in blue-green . The perforation was 14 horizontally by 14 vertically.

Printings



First printing: Issued December 14, 1951; 1,000,000 printed. The paper used is non-fluorescent (Group I). The top margin is perforated, the bottom margin is imperforate, and side margins are imperforate with one perforation extending into the selvedge. Control numbers (001–100) were printed in the lower right margins of panes using two different typefaces — (left to right) type 1 (16,000 panes) and type 2 (4,000 panes).



Extra perforations appear along the bottom edge of the left block, caused when the sheet was incorrectly aligned with the perforating machine.

Second printing: Issued June, 1955; 150,000 issued. The paper used is of slight fluorescence (Group II). There is no circle in the perforation guide mark compared to the sixth printing. All margins are perforated. There are no control numbers.

The block at the far right illustrates an offset of part of the marginal inscription on the gum side, probably caused by a shifted slip sheet failing to absorb the wet ink from the previous sheet.



Third printing: Issued May, 1956; 200,000 printed. The ink color is blue-green. The paper is of medium fluorescence (Group IV). All margins are perforated. There are no control numbers.

Fourth printing: Issued March, 1957; 300,000 issued. The ink colour is a blue-green, but bluer and darker than the third printing. The paper is of medium fluorescence (Group IV). All margins are perforated. There are no control numbers.

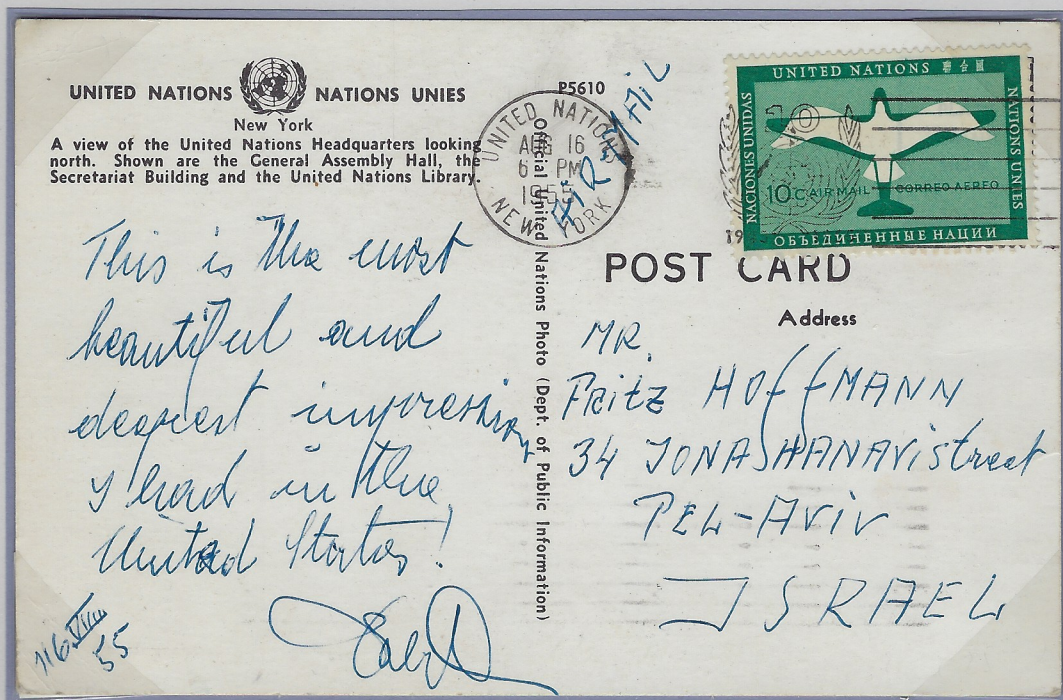


Fifth printing: Issued February, 1958; 600,000 issued. The ink color is less blue and more green than either of the third or fourth printings. The paper is of medium fluorescence (Group IV). All margins are perforated. There are no control numbers.

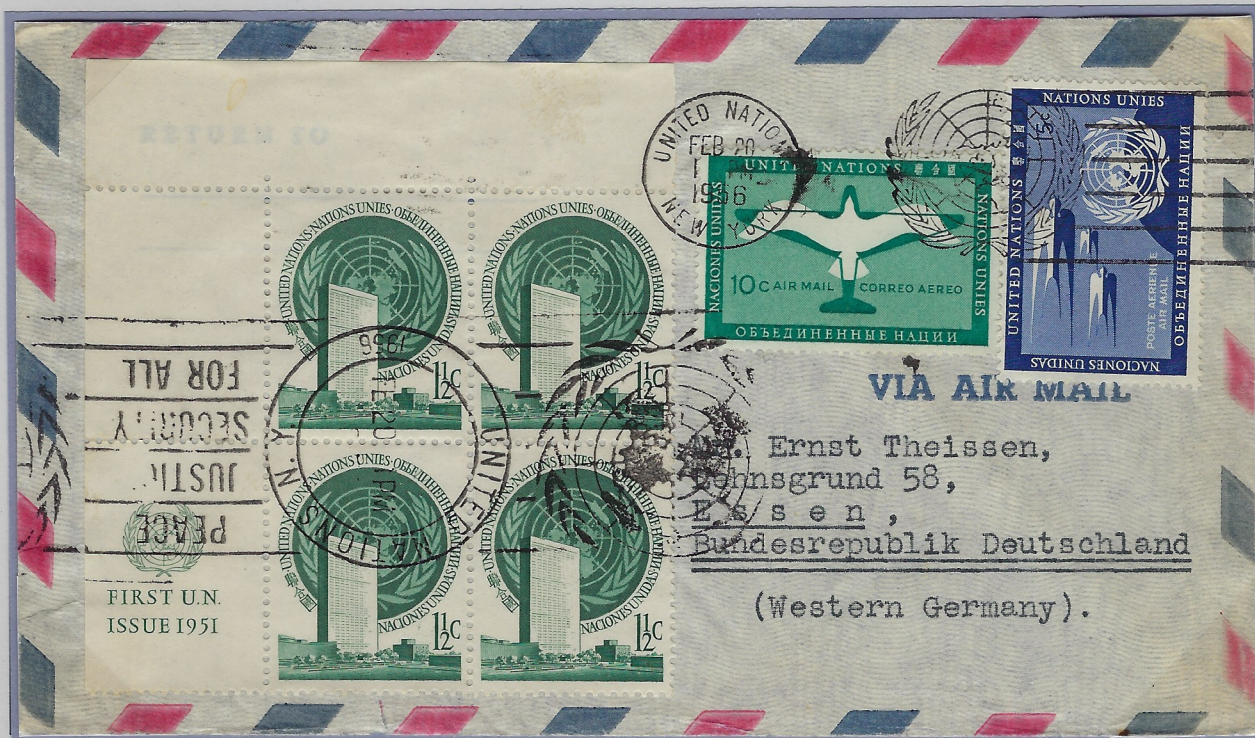
Sixth printing: Issued November, 1960; 500,000 issued. The paper is of slight fluorescence (Group II). There is an open circle in the perforation guide mark compared to the second printing. All margins are perforated. There are no control numbers.



Postal usages



The international air mail post card rate of 10¢ was introduced on January 1, 1954 and continued until June 30, 1961.



Postage of 31¢, overpaid by 1¢, covered twice the international air mail letter rate of 15¢ per 1/2 ounce, in effect when the 10¢ air mail stamp was issued until April 30, 1966.

Overview of printings



First printing



Second printing



Third printing



Fourth printing



Fifth printing



Sixth printing

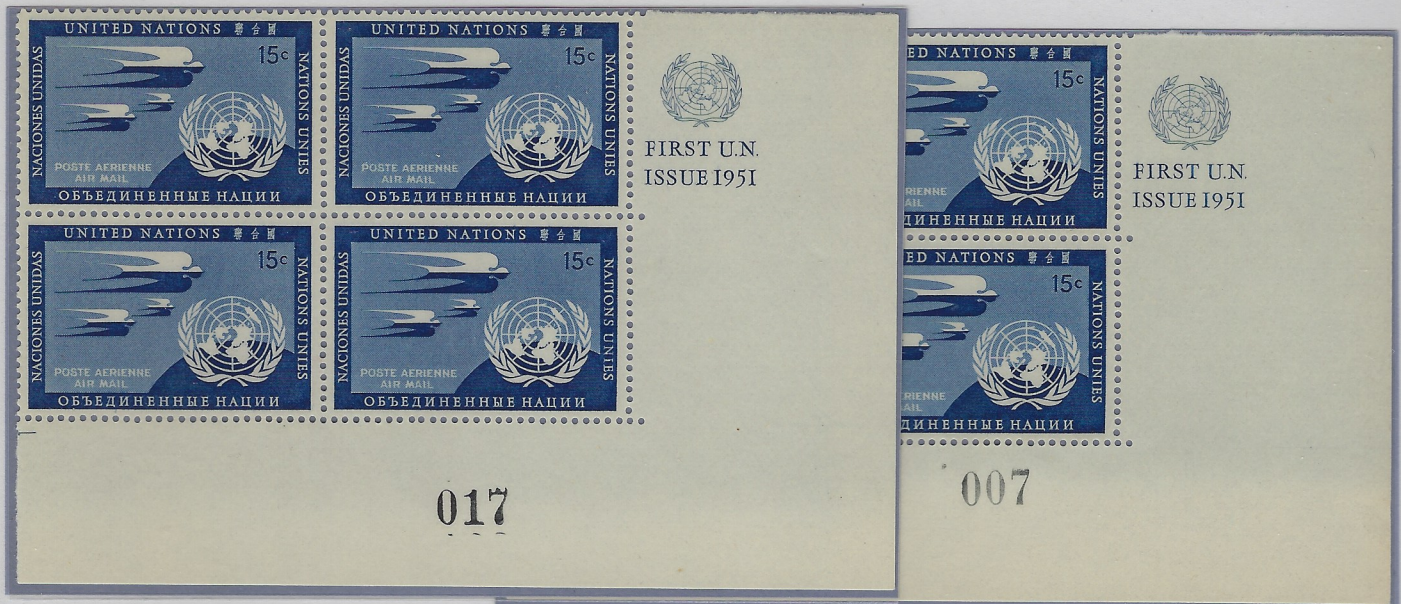


Seventh printing

Production details

Olav S. Mathiesen, Denmark was the designer; A.B. Crossett was the engraver. The stamp was recess printed (line engraving) in azure blue. The perforation was 14 horizontally by 14 vertically.

Printings



First printing: Issued December 14, 1951; 1,000,000 issued. The paper used is non-fluorescent (Group I). The top margin is perforated, the bottom margin is imperforate, and side margins are imperforate with one perforation extending into the selvedge. Control numbers (001–100) were printed in the lower right margins of panes using two different typefaces – (left to right) type 1 (6,000 panes) and type 2 (14, 000 panes).



Second printing: Issued December, 1954; 200,000 issued. The paper used is of slight fluorescence (Group II). All margins are perforated. Control numbers (001–100) were printed in the upper right margins of panes using typeface #5 — modern, thin letters with no serifs — (4000 panes).

Third printing: Issued March, 1956; 150,000 issued. The ink color is a dull blue with a purplish tinge. The paper is of medium fluorescence (Group IV). All margins are perforated. There are no control numbers.



Fourth printing: Issued February, 1957; 200,000 issued. The ink color is dull and dark blue. The paper is of medium fluorescence (Group IV). All margins are perforated. There are no control numbers.

Fifth printing: Issued June, 1957; 600,000 issued. The ink color is a duller and darker blue than the fourth printing. The paper is of medium fluorescence (Group IV). All margins are perforated. There are no control numbers.



Prussian blue color error

The error was caused when the printer failed to mix vermilion red ink with the basic Prussian blue ink to produce the required azure blue color. When a stamp reprint is ordered, the ink is mixed and the color compared to the stamps of the previous printing; if variations are seen, adjustments are made. It is thought that some sheets printed without the vermilion red ink before or during the color check may have inadvertently been placed with those correctly printed and were missed by inspectors. These errors were first discovered in early 1958; it is believed that fewer than 100 sheets of the error exist.



Normal stamp — fifth printing



Prussian blue color error — used pair (Note Mar. 1, 1958 postmark)



Prussian blue color error — mint



Sixth printing: Issued February, 1960; 500,000 issued. The ink color is a deeper and darker blue (less red) compared to the second printing. The paper used is of slight fluorescence (Group II). All margins are perforated. There are no control numbers.

Seventh printing: Issued September 5, 1962; 600,000 issued. The ink color is a dull, dark blue — duller than the fourth printing, and duller and lighter than the fifth printing. The paper is of medium fluorescence (Group IV). All margins are perforated. There are no control numbers.



Plate flaws



In the fifth through seventh printings, a faint plate scratch runs downwards from the Russian “O” in stamp #26 into stamp #31 below. This example is from the sixth printing.

In the sixth and seventh printings, a very faint plate scratch runs downwards from the Russian “HE” in stamp #10 into stamp #15 below. This example is from the seventh printing.

Postal usages



The international air mail letter rate to Europe was 15¢ per 1/2 ounce, in effect when the 15¢ airmail stamp was issued until June 30, 1967.



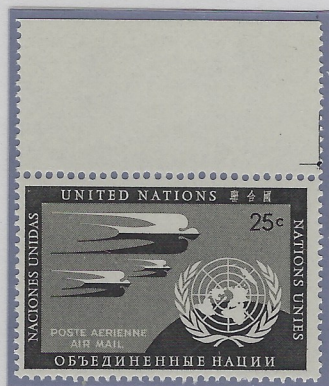
Overview of printings



First printing



Second printing



Third printing

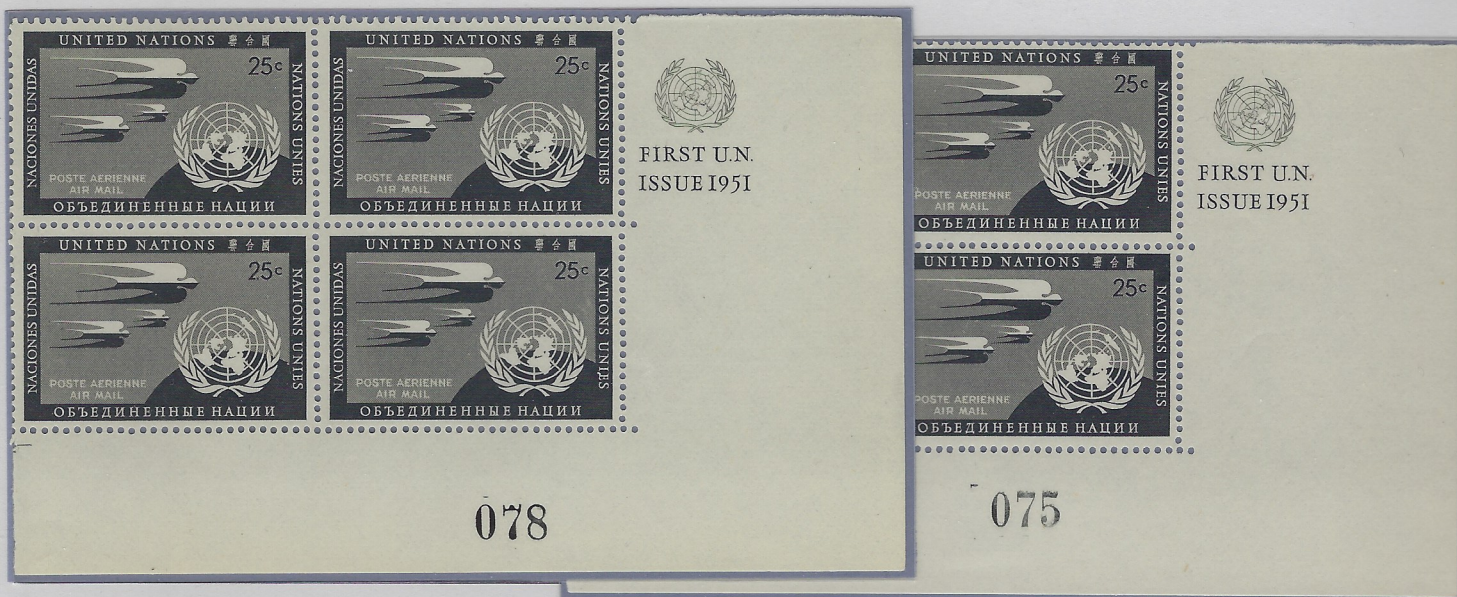


Fourth printing

Production details

Olav S. Mathiesen, Denmark was the designer; A.B. Crossett was the engraver. The stamp was recess printed (line engraving) in grey. The perforation was 14 horizontally by 14 vertically.

Printings



First printing: Issued December 14, 1951; 1,000,000 issued. The paper used is non-fluorescent (Group I). The top margin is perforated, the bottom margin is imperforate, and side margins are imperforate with one perforation extending into the selvedge. Control numbers (001–100) were printed in the lower right margins of panes using two different typefaces – (left to right) type 1 (12,000 panes) and type 2 (8,000 panes).

Second printing: Issued November, 1956; 150,000 issued. The paper is of medium fluorescence (Group IV). There is no circle in the perforation guide mark. All margins are perforated. There are no control numbers.



Third printing: Issued June, 1957; 600,000 issued. The paper is of low fluorescence (Group II). There is no circle in the perforation guide mark. All margins are perforated. There are no control numbers.

Fourth printing: Issued July, 1961; 500,000 issued. The paper is of two types: low fluorescence (Group II) (left) and medium (Group IV) (right). There is an open circle in the perforation guide mark. All margins are perforated. There are no control numbers.



Air mail stamps – De La Rue

Plate variety

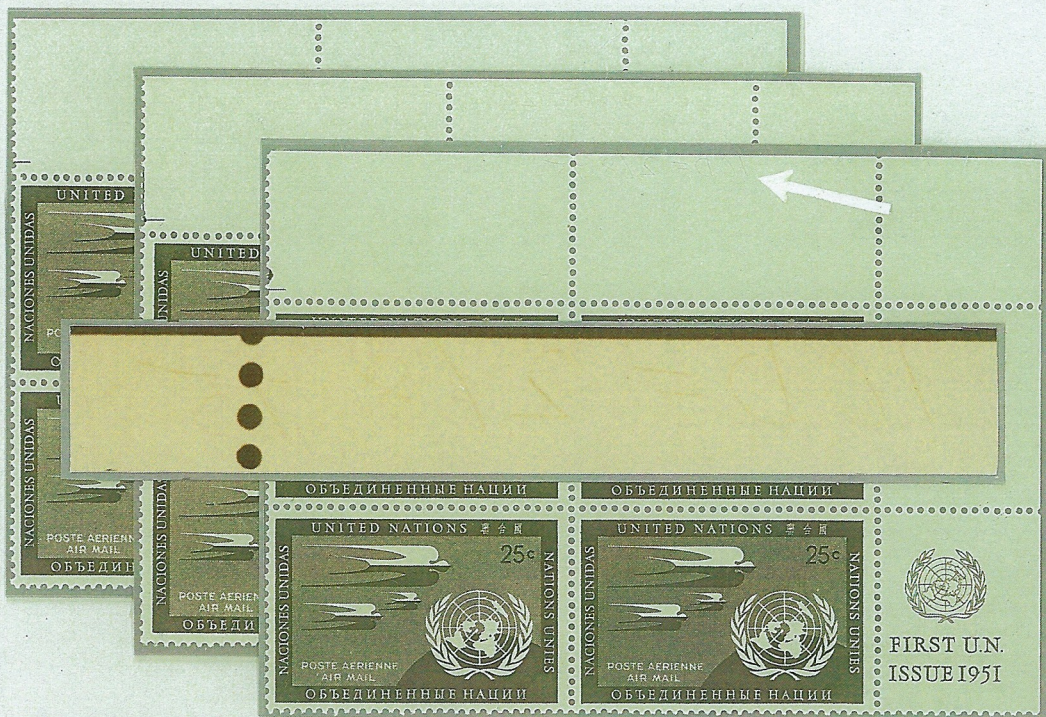


Plate calculations are found on some sheets of the second, third, and fourth printings (top to bottom) over stamps #4 and #5 near the edge, consisting of the mirror image of "10D = 286 75". The calculations are sometimes partly or completely trimmed off.

Postal usages



The international air mail letter rate to Asia was 25¢ per 1/2 ounce, in effect when the stamp was issued until June 30, 1971.

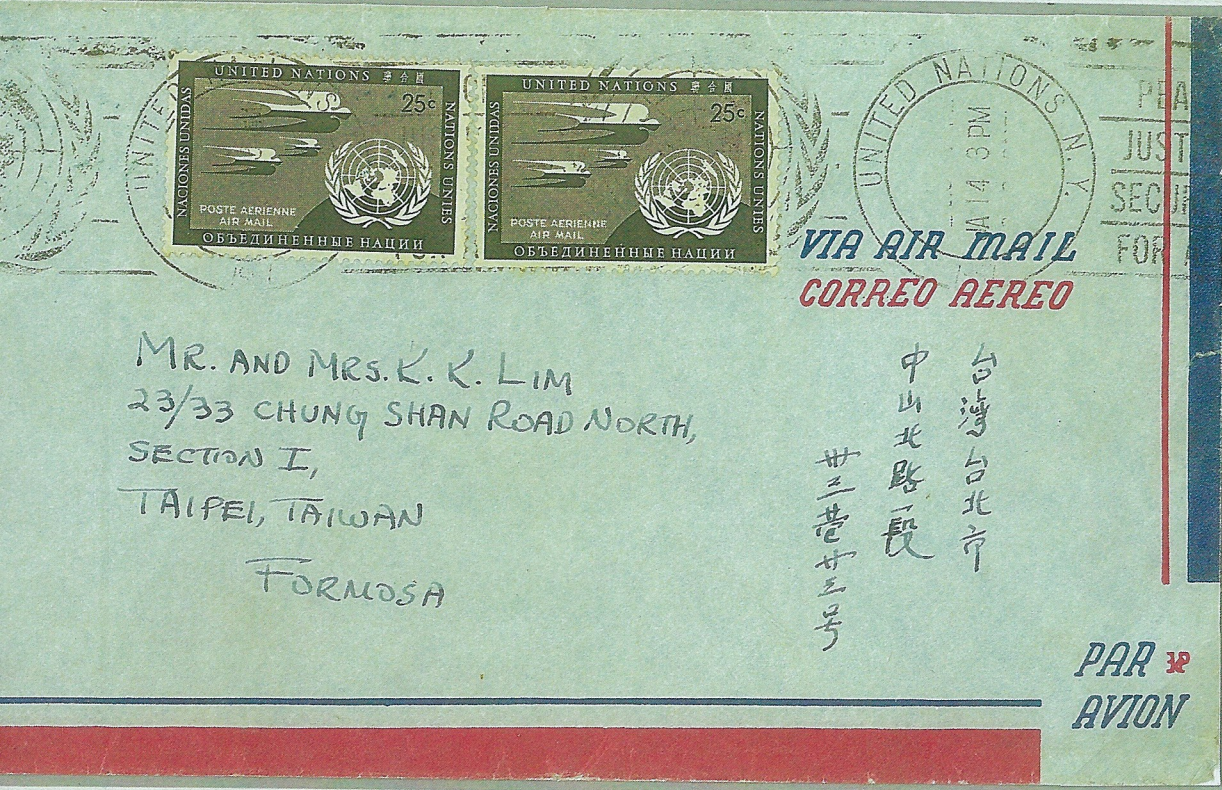


Postage of 50¢ cover
June 30, 1971.

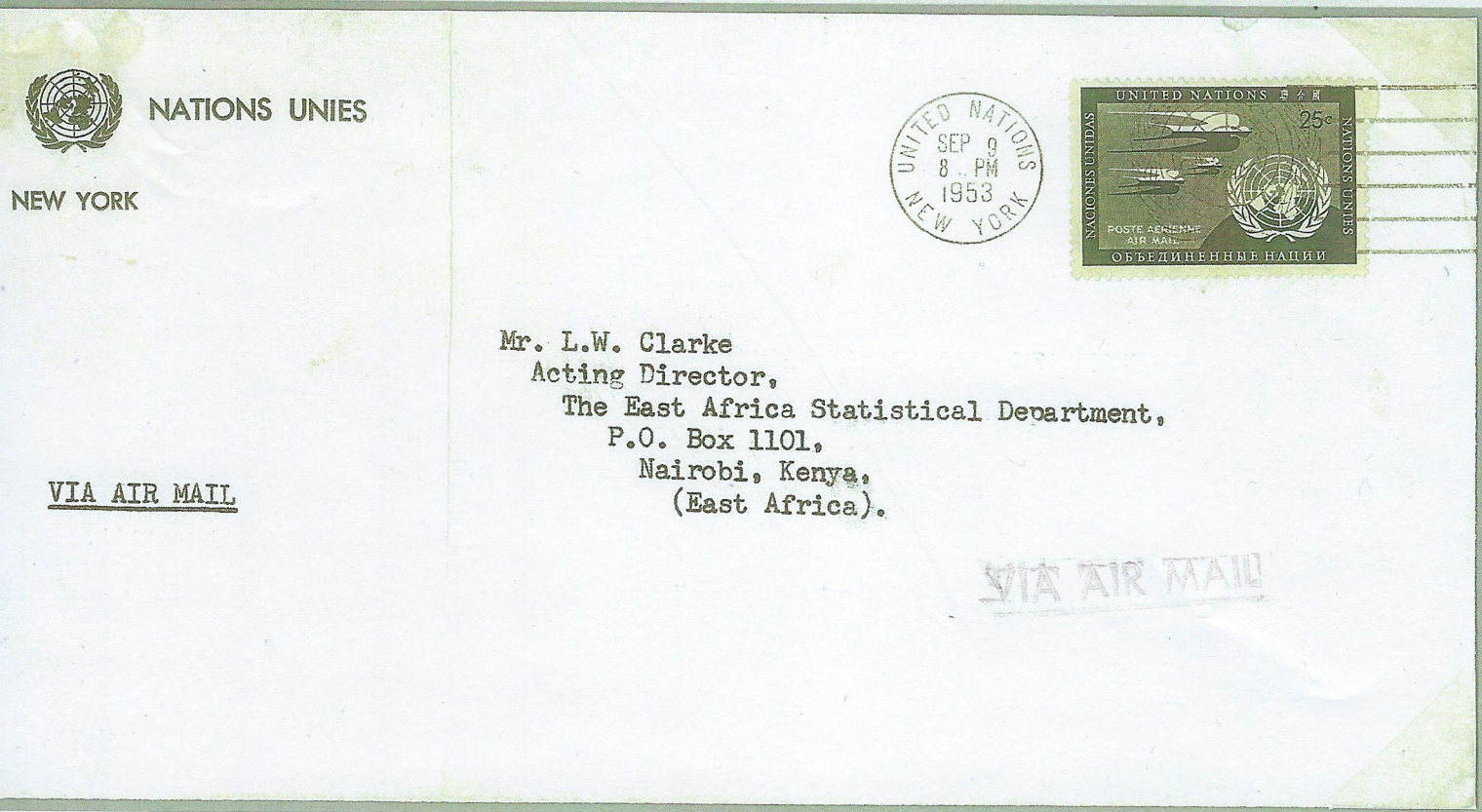


The international air mail l

25¢ stamp



red twice the international air mail letter rate to Asia of 25¢ per 1/2 ounce, in effect when the stamp was issued until



ter rate to Africa (non-Mediterranean) was 25¢ per 1/2 ounce, in effect when the stamp was issued until June 30, 1971.