

A journal that reports about and studies the myriad markings  
added to a letter that explain how it reached its final destination  
Publication of The Auxiliary Markings Club  
www.postal-markings.org

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## How Incoming Unpaid Registered Foreign Mail was Handled by Tony Wawrukiewicz and Len Piszkiwicz

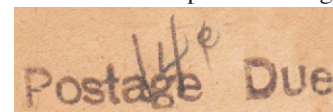
I (LP) recently acquired the Jan. 1914 Mexico to Chicago cover shown here. It was apparently deemed to be unpaid, thus the 14¢ postage due marking. Both of us wondered what the Post Office Department rules were for unpaid, incoming registers.

The 1913 *PL&R*, Sec. 1061 stated: "Short-paid registered letters or parcels, those which bear no postage stamps at all, received in the mails from Postal Union countries, shall be treated by the the postmaster at the exchange office as if fully prepaid, but a full report of each case is to be made by bulletin of verification to the administration of the country from which the short-paid matter is received. No charge for such articles shall be exacted by the delivering postmaster" (no change from Sec. 1166 of 1893 *PL&R*). In the 1887 *PL&R*, the rules and regulations of the 1924 *PL&R* were in place (see what follows).

That is, in the 1924 *PL&R*, Sec. 1017 we find: "Except as otherwise stated in current Guides, short paid registered Postal Union letters or parcels or those which bear no postage stamps at all, received in the mails from foreign countries, are liable to a charge equal to double postage, or double the amount of the deficiency in postage, to be paid by the addressee on delivery of the article."

The 1914 cover of this article's handling is consistent with the 1924 *PL&R*, but I (ASW) have searched carefully through the

intervening *Postal Bulletins* and *Postal Guides* and have not been able to find when this change documented in 1924, occurred, even though it apparently occurred as early as 1914. In our experience, this lack of documentation of important changes is common.



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## The Nixie (Nixes) Section/Division Revisited by Tony Wawrukiewicz

In Volume X, No.1 of January 2013 of the Auxiliary Markings Club newsletter, I discussed some aspects of the Nixie Section of the Post Office Department, mainly how the Chicago, Illinois Nixie Section operated. Even as I wrote that article, questions arose in my mind. For instance, if one searches the various *Postal Laws and Regulations*, confusion arises.

In the 1879 *PL&R*, Section 408, we find: “ ‘Nixes’ is a term used in the railway mail service to denote matter of domestic origin, chiefly of the first and second class, which is unmailable because addressed to places which are not post offices, or to states, etc., in which there is no such post office as that indicated in the address. Matter of foreign origin is not to be stopped in transit because of such imperfection in its address.”

In the 1893 and 1902 *PL&Rs*, we find a slightly new definition of nixes: “...nixes ... applied to designate mail matter not addressed to a post-office or **addressed to a post-office without the name of the State being given**, or otherwise so incorrectly, illegibly, or insufficiently addressed that it can not be transmitted.”

The only change in the 1913 *PL&R* and subsequently through the 1948 *PL&R* was to call Nixes, Nixies. From Len Piszkiwicz’s

book *Chicago Postal Markings and Postal History*, it is clear that the Nixie Division handled Nixies.

So, what is confusing? Importantly, and confusingly, there is no pre-1989 mention in the definitions that the Nixies and Nixies Division handled short paid mail. Yet it’s clear, from uses found for Chicago in Len Piszkiwicz’s book, and the examples I will show today, that the Nixie division handled such mail.

I have searched the term Nixies in the *Postal Bulletins* and see nothing that even remotely suggests that that division handled short paid mail until finally, in *PB 21731* (6/29/1989), Nixies are mentioned associated with Undeliverable as Addressed Mail, a list that includes mail returned for postage.

Len and I have talked about the fact that the Nixie division handled short paid mail even though no reference concerning this is found before 1989. We have decided that this is just another example where the actions of the Post Office Department are not always confirmed by official government documents.

Anyway, here are two post-1977 examples of the Nixie Division handling possible short paid mail. The 1977 example in Figure 1 at first appeared to be unpaid. However, a clerk in the Nixie Division noted ‘POSTAGE VERIFIED / NIXIE CLERK.’

Similarly, in Figure 2 is another letter apparently without postage. In this case the gap in the cancel left by the postage dropping off the letter is obvious, and thus the Nixie Division comment: ‘POSTAGE OK / NIXIE UNIT / DENVER, CO. 8020-.’

In both cases the handstamp and letter are not actual size.

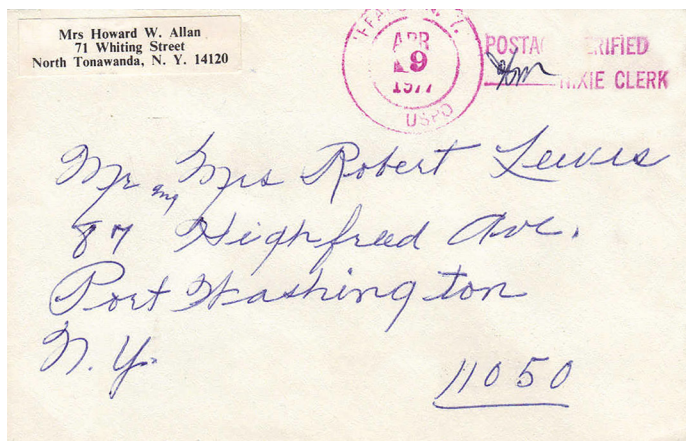


Figure 1

POSTAGE OK  
NIXIE UNIT  
DENVER, CO. 8020-

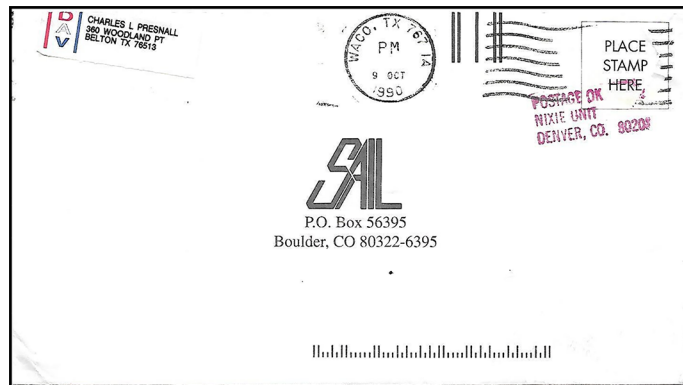
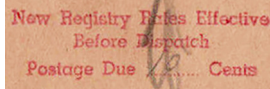


Figure 2

## ‘New Registry Rates Effective’ by Tony Wawrukiewicz

This cover represents some interesting challenges plus a marking I have never seen before. As a registered letter, it's dated cancels are on the reverse, a reverse that is unavailable to me. It is franked with 31¢ postage and also carries this handstamp: ‘New Registry Rates Effective / before Dispatch / Postage Due 10 Cents.’



This handstamp plus the date of issue of the commemorative

stamp on the cover (June 4, 1948) likely dates this cover in early 1949 as the registry fee increased from 20¢ to 25¢ on Jan. 1, 1949.

That is, the 31¢ paid 6¢ postage for up to two ounces, at the 3¢ for up to one ounce rate (the cover is wrinkled and thus probably was heavy). The 25¢ registry fee was included. I assume that the 10¢ due, which should have been 5¢, was due because the fees charged for the service from the Philatelic Agency increased by that amount because the registry fee also increased between the time the order was sent in and it was filled. Neither the cover or the marking are shown actual size.

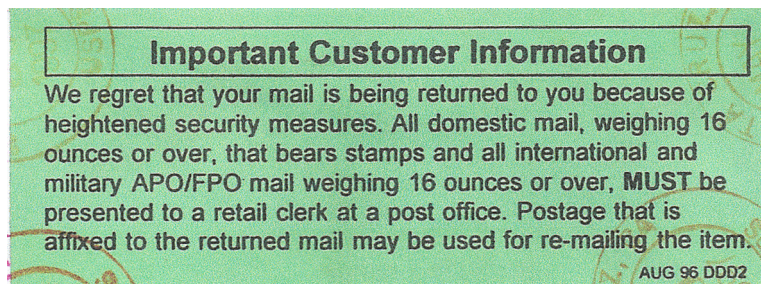


## Another Unabomber Form by Merle Farrington

Since the Unabomber scare, the Post Office Department has set a standard size of a package that it will allow in the mails untended. That is, if a 1997 package that weighed more than 16 ounces and was franked with ordinary postage stamps, was dropped in a mail box rather than being brought to a Post office retail window, it was nonmailable.

Therefore, it was returned to the writer with the enclosed

label indicating that it ‘MUST be presented to a retail clerk at a post office.’ This would have allowed the USPS to know who had mailed the package. That is, if it had been franked with a meter that defined who the sender was, the presenting of the package at a retail window would not have been necessary. Another format of this label was illustrated in Kent Koberstein’s *Auxiliary Markings* article, “Unabomber Induced Markings,” in issue IX/2/3.



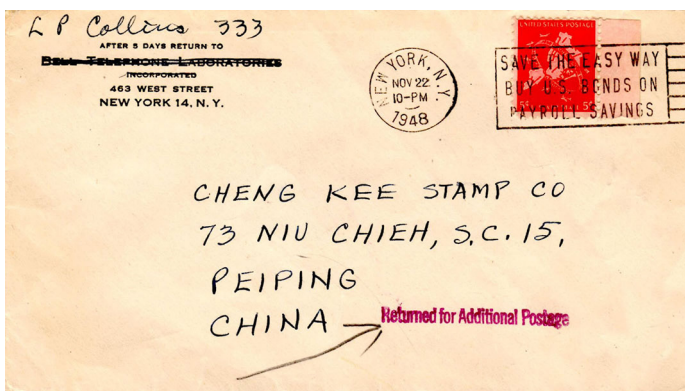
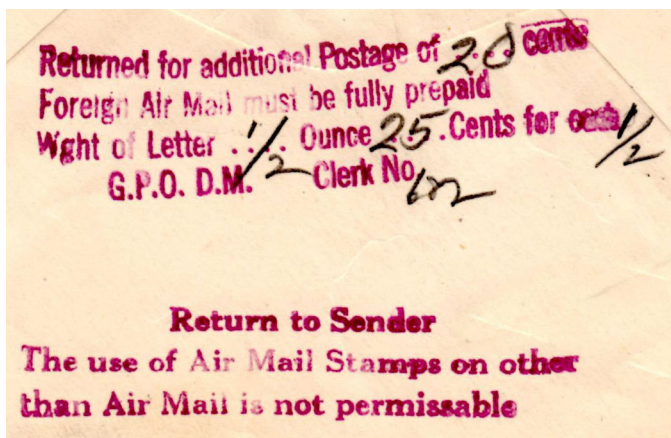
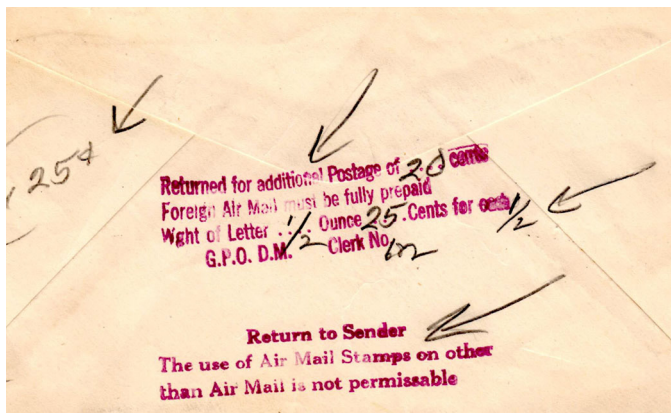
## A Rarely Seen Penalized Invalid Use of an Airmail Stamp by Jerry Johnson

Tony Wawrukiewicz, in the "Invalid Postage in the Mails" chapter of his new book *Insights Into U.S. Postal History, 1855 - 2016*, notes that airmail postage was invalid for use in the U.S. mails from 1924 to 1975. He was aware of only one example of such an invalid use where the use was caught and penalized.

This article shows a second example. At first the Nov. 22, 1948 U.S. to China letter illustrated was allowed into the mails as a surface letter at the 5¢ per up-to-one ounce UPU rate.

However, then (on reverse), at first the airmail stamp was noted, and the exchange office requested that 20¢ more postage be paid for airmail postage. Then, it was realized that this was an invalid use of airmail postage, and the letter was correctly RTW.

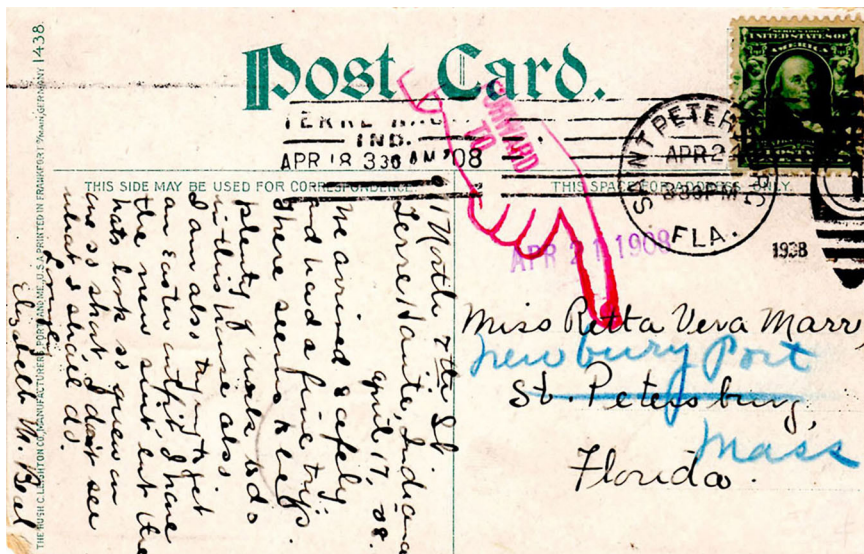
This last effort on the part of a postal service worker is, I believe, the correct one, as the airmail stamp was invalid for use on what was a surface international letter. The handstamps on the cover's reverse are shown actual size.



## A Delightful Forwarded Marking by Jerry Johnson

I recently happened to notice the illustrated private mailing card with its remarkable marking. It was on a April 18, 1908 Terre Haute card mailed to an address in St. Petersburg, Florida. It was then forwarded to Newburyport, Mass. on April 24 with the pointing hand that is illustrated full size on the right. My first reaction was that this was a marking new to us, but then I looked in the FORWARDED Handstamps listing at the back of *The Forwarding of Mail by the U.S. Post Office Department, 1792-2001* of Anthony S. Wawrukiewicz where it was illustrated on Page 222. I am showing it here because it has not been shown in our newsletter previously (the book was published in 2001, before our club was formed).

For those who may not be aware of this book, it was published by James Lee, and is still available from him.



## Return to Sender Markings by Michael Ludemen

This article illustrates two different early return to writer markings. In Figure 1 is an 1888 Omaha, Neb. local letter that was undeliverable and RTW because the addressee was 'NOT FOUND.' The large RTW pointing hand is specific to Omaha. (*Editor's Note: In my experience this is an early large RTW pointing hand. I have seen an 1885 one from New York City. If any reader of this newsletter has an earlier example than 1885, please let us know.*)



Figure 1



The design of the second RTW handstamp is quite unusual and beautiful. It is on a May 13, 1893 letter mailed from Omaha to Irvington, Neb. The reason for the return was not given on this letter. This was not correct as it was required to be indicated as of the 1893 PL&R, dated March 3, 1893.

The handstamps are both shown actual size.

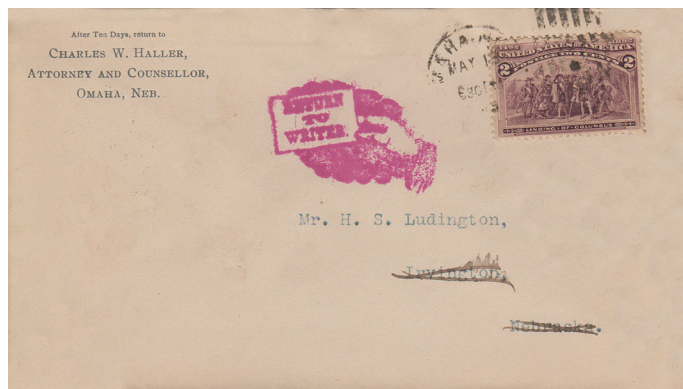


Figure 2

## Foreign 'Sealed Against Inspection' Printed Matter Mail by Tony Wawrukiewicz

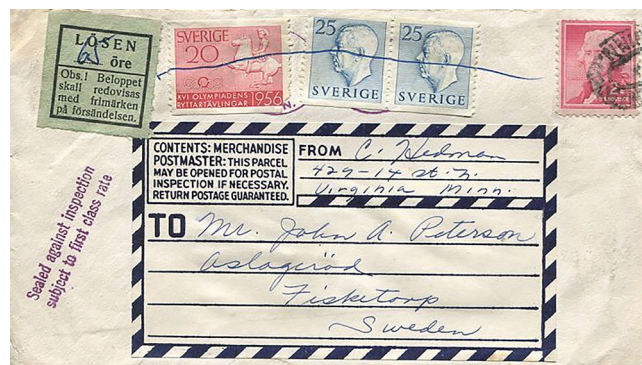
Illustrated is a circa-1954-July 1958 printed matter cover from the U.S. to Sweden. The date is estimated from the 2¢ for up-to-two ounce printed matter postage paid on the cover, with the 2¢ 1954 Liberty stamp. The handstamp (hs) placed on the cover, 'Sealed against inspection / subject to first class rate,' is common enough on domestic U.S. mail, but I've never seen it on foreign mail. As the hs is in English, it was probably placed at an United States exchange office.

The surface Swedish first-class postage of the time for an up-to-one ounce item was 40 ore (as listed on page 313 of the international Beecher-Wawrukiewicz rate book), while the U.S. letter rate was 5¢ for up-to-one ounce.

The due Swedish label has 65 ore written as due, but 70 ore in stamps was placed on the cover. Due using U.S. 2¢ payment and the 5¢ for up-to-one ounce international letter rate should have been twice the difference between 5¢ and 2¢ or 6¢. If 5¢ was comparable to 40 ore, then due should have been 48 ore, not 65 ore.

Neither the handstamp or the cover are shown actual size.

Sealed against inspection  
subject to first class rate



## Airmail Forwarding Revisited by Tony Wawrukiewicz

Although there has been a prior article concerned with airmail forwarding in this newsletter, I am showing some new examples because in writing the corresponding chapter in my new book, *Insights into U.S. Postal History, 1855 - 2016*, I have gained new insights into the airmail forwarding process.

The rules that govern airmail forwarding are complex and are explained in detail in the aforementioned chapter. Essentially, the rules that are gathered from U.S. official documents appear to hold true for airmail forwarding that occurred for foreign mail.

First, though, the airmail forwarding in Figure 1 took place in the United States. This cover originated in 1949 and was mailed from Saudi Arabia via surface mail ('VIA BOATMAIL') to Mississippi. It was then correctly forwarded via airmail to California at the 6¢ for up-to-one ounce rate.

In Figure 2 is a 1977 letter mailed via surface mail from Germany to Sweden, at the 70 pfennig per up-to-20 grams rate. It was then correctly forwarded via airmail to the U.S. at the 100 ore per up-to-5 grams airmail rate (this forwarding was correctly done at the airmail rate between Sweden and the U.S.).



Figure 1



Figure 2

In my opinion, examples of airmail forwarding remain quite uncommon. I find few examples in my constant searching for them. Examples using definitive stamps from the 1938 Presidential, the 1954 Liberty, and the subsequent Great American series are particularly difficult to locate and are to be treasured.

## Penalized Uses of Invalid Postage by Tony Wawrukiewicz

It is my experience that uses of invalid postage are frequently missed and therefore not penalized. The two examples shown in this column were noted and subsequently penalized.

The 1890 letter in Figure 1 was "franked" with a revenue stamp. Such stamps were officially labelled as invalid for postage in the 1882 *PL&R* that was published in the January 1882 *Postal Guide*. Therefore, this franking was with an invalid form of postage, and the two cents postage was due as indicated by the two cents in postage due stamps that were placed on the letter. The placement of the postage due stamps may or may not have indicated that the two cents due was collected.

Another type of invalid postage was labelled "stamps other than postage-stamps." This was an all-purpose one that was used to include a number of different types of stamps that are invalid for postage and was first mentioned in the 1879 *PL&R*, Section 378.

Figure 2 illustrates such a misuse of a "Fight Communism" label. The attempt to use it to pay postage was noted by a postal worker who marked the letter with the handstamp 'POSTAGE DUE 5 CENTS.'

Again, I make the important notice of the fact that in both cases the use of invalid postage was caught and penalized, a fact that is actually quite uncommon, and so such examples are to be appreciated by collectors.

The covers are both shown reduced in size.



Figure 1

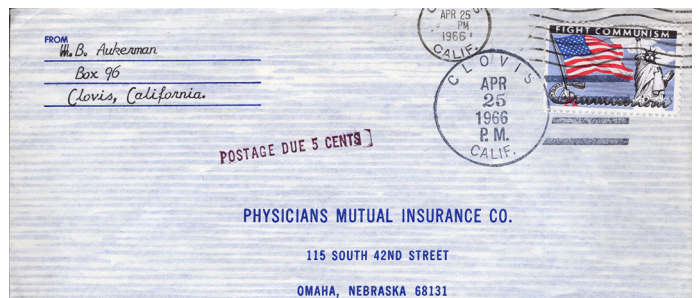


Figure 2

## Inkjet Information Markings on Undeliverable Mail by Tony Wawrukiewicz, Doug Quine, and Jerry Johnson

Doug Quine, Jerry Johnson and I have noticed a type of inkjet auxiliary marking on which we would like some feedback from club members.

I (ASW) mentioned their use in a July *Linn's Stamp News* article. In that article I noted the following types of abbreviated markings: UTF (Unable To Forward), FWD (Forwarded), NSN (No Such Number), and ANK (Attempted-Not Known). These markings appear to relate to various markings found on mail that was Undeliverable as Addressed.

As best we can discern from examples we have seen, they began use as early as the year 2007, but we suspect that it was even earlier. If one looks at the Exhibit 159.14--Endorsements for Mail Undeliverable-As-Addressed, say in the *Domestic Mail Manual*, Issue 13, dated Dec. 29, 1983, one notes 21 different categories of UAA mail. Therefore one would eventually expect to find many more examples of these markings. This is confirmed by the 'IA' undeliverable marking shown on the card in Figure 1. This 2010 card was 'RETURN TO SENDER' 'INSUFFICIENT ADDRESS,' 'UNABLE TO FORWARD.' That is, the inkjet 'IA' marking corresponds to the markings on the label.

Before going any further, a brief comment about how the forwarding and return of mail is presently handled by an automated system that expedites these processes. The system presently in operation is called PARS (Postal Automation Redirection System). It is a complex one that has been explained by Michael Ludeman in our newsletter of April 2006. For the moment, it is enough to know that, if used, it would have produced a label similar to those in Figures 1 and 2.

When we have searched for these inkjet markings on mail, we have noted that they tend to be found when the PARS labels are either not placed on the undeliverable item or not at the bottom of the item where they cover the address (see Figure 1).

We are asking readers to contact us if they have inkjet markings that extend the types that are know, and/or if they are able to document use before 2007. The image of the marking 'IA' is shown actual size.



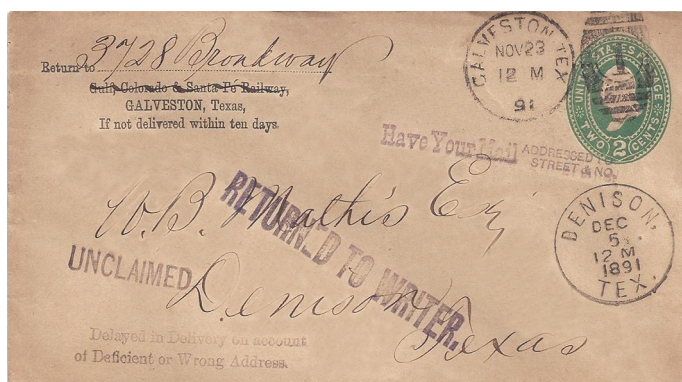
IA  
Figure 1



Figure 2

## Unmailable as Address Inadequate (No Street or House Number Given) by Tony Wawrukiewicz

This 1891 letter is not that unusual in that it is unmailable because of an inadequate address as it has no street name and house number given. On the other hand I am surprised that apparently no effort was made to use a directory in order to correct this deficiency, as around this time and even later I have seen many examples where such directories have been used to correct such deficiencies. The handstamps are unusually attractive. They and the cover are not shown actual size.

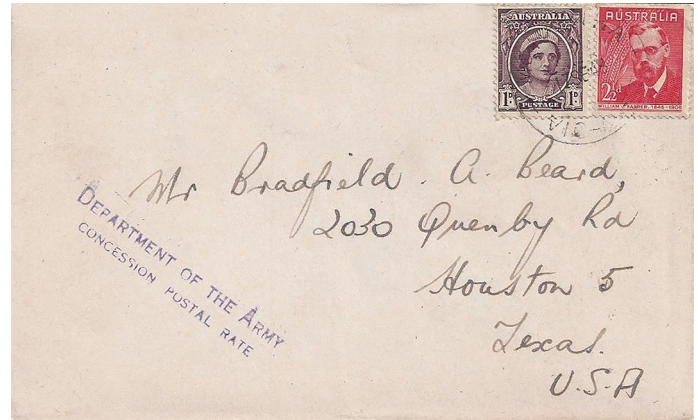
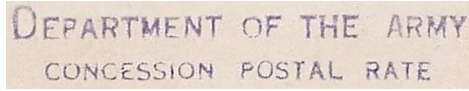


## Is this Really an Australian Concession Postal Rate Cover?

by Tony Wawrukiewicz

This 1948 post-WWII Australian military cover to the U.S. franked with 3/1/2 pence postage is one that I am unable to interpret correctly. From the handstamp on the cover, I assume that this is a military concession rate cover, but the surface overseas rate of the time was 3 1/2 pence, so the 3 1/2 pence paid is not a concession rate! Therefore, the handstamp on the cover makes no sense to me. Maybe some reader of this newsletter can help.

Neither the handstamp or the letter are shown actual size.



## Return for Better Address by Fleet Post Office

by Tony Wawrukiewicz

This Dec. 1945 post WWII cover was undeliverable. It was returned to writer 'FOR BETTER ADDRESS' by 'FLEET POST OFFICE / SAN FRANCISCO' on Jan. 11, 1946.



## 'Do Not Reuse in This Envelope or Wrapper' Revisited

by Roland Austin

Last issue had a trio of articles regarding the re-mailing of returned letters in the same envelope. Here is one of my examples, which broke all the rules!

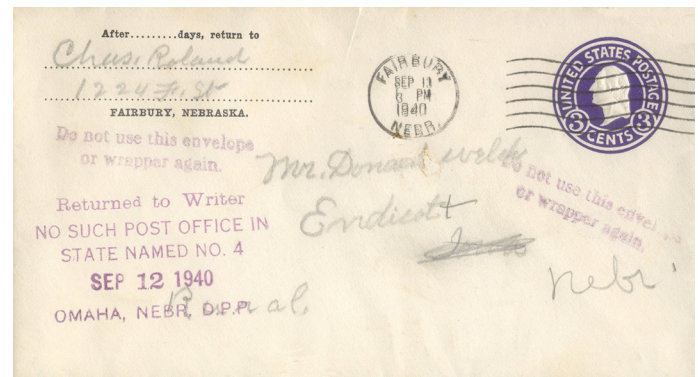
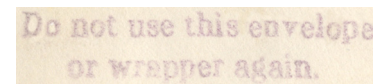
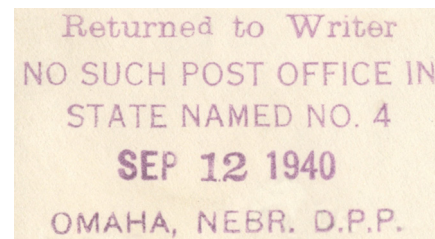
The postal stationery shown was mailed at the 3c for up-to-one ounce letter rate from Fairbury, Nebraska, on Sept. 11, 1940. It was misaddressed to Endicott, "Iowa." There is no such town named "Endicott" in Iowa, and the address error was recognized by the transit office in Omaha, where the 'Returned to Writer / NO SUCH OFFICE IN / STATE NAMED NO. 4 / SEP 12 1940 / OMAHA, NEBR. D.P.P.' handstamp (hs) was applied the next day and the letter returned. Also applied, twice (!), was the hs 'Do not use this envelope / or wrapper again.' Thus, this letter was now undeliverable, bringing into play two rules for this type of mail.

Rule 1: As admonished by a pair of hs, this envelope could not be used to re-mail the letter (it could only be re-mailed in a new envelope).

Rule 2: If the letter was re-mailed (in a new envelope), it had to apply (repay) the proper amount of postage.

Remarkably, it appears that this letter broke both rules and was successfully delivered! The writer apparently corrected the address on this envelope with the state name, 'Nebr.,' and re-mailed it the next day (as evident by the doubled postmark with a Sep. 13, 1940 date) and, as well, did not add the required letter rate postage for the re-mailing.

A note about the postmark: There are two postmarks applied, both by the same machine cancel, in almost the same position, giving it a slightly blurred look. If you look closely, the first postmark (Sep 11, 1 PM) is slightly higher than the second postmark (Sep 13, 3 PM).





## Cancellations on Various Uses of Postage Due Stamps, Part 1 by Tony Wawrukiewicz

What does a postage due stamp mean when used on a cover? My research indicates that it means either that (a) a certain short paid amount is due or paid, or (b) that a certain fee is to be or has been paid. Also, if one looks at their uses, you see that there are a remarkable number of ways in which they are used. And, as you collect their uses, you find that there are many types of cancellations used on them. This article will demonstrate all the varied cancellation types used that I have so far found. In most cases I cannot find any official document that **justifies the use of** these varied cancellation types.

This article is organized by two concepts: (a) the three types of cancellations I have found obliterating the postage due stamps, circular dated, non-dated obliterations, and non-dated precancels, and (b) a listing of uses of each cancellation type chronologically. The uses are quite varied, and, I believe, add interest to this article, but, they are not what drives it.

Throughout the article, the items are reduced in size, but the postage due stamp images and handstamps shown are actual size.

In Figure 1 a 1978 example of Form 3549, used to show payment of multiple items, is shown. I have uses of this form from as early as 1939, and it was used until at least 1999. The example shown in Figure 1 carries \$1.16 in postage due stamps, and pays for four business reply returns at the rate of two for 33¢ and two address correction fees at 25.4¢ each. Apparently, the 25.4¢ was rounded off. The cancellation on these and other similar forms used to collect postage due on multiple items is a circular date



Figure 1

stamp, in this case, from Spring Glen, N.Y. I have an example of this form used to indicate the return of multiple hotel keys.

The forwarding or return of third-class items required the promise of and the payment of the single-piece third-class rate. The 1897 third-class item in Figure 2 was 'Uncalled for' and returned to the writer. The 1¢ single-piece third-class rate for this return was due, as indicated by the 1¢ due stamp. This stamp was cancelled by a pen cancel that was not a precancel.

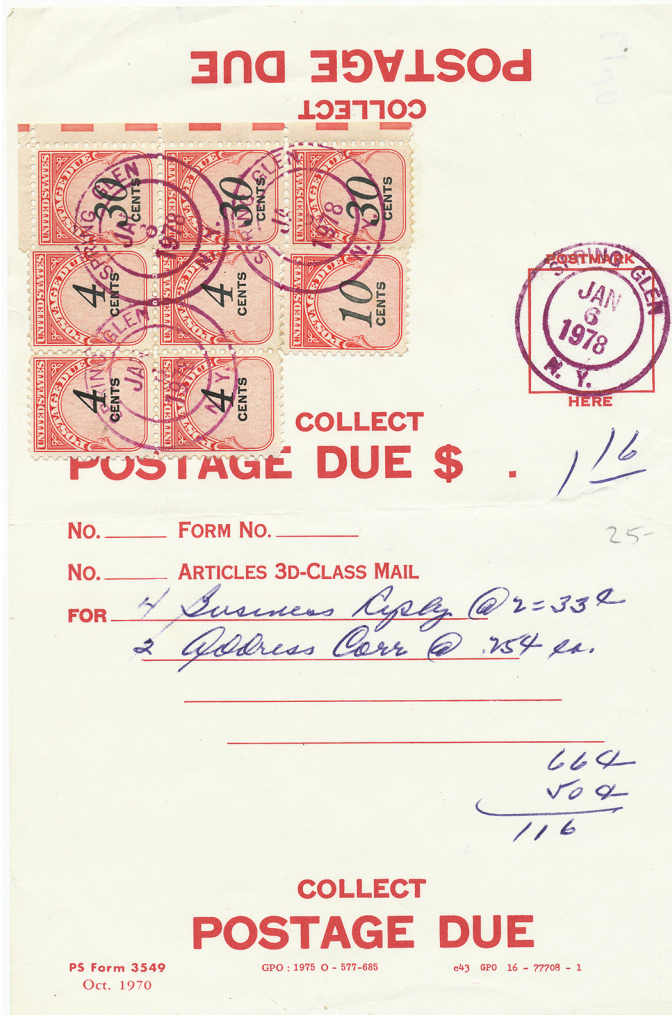


Figure 1

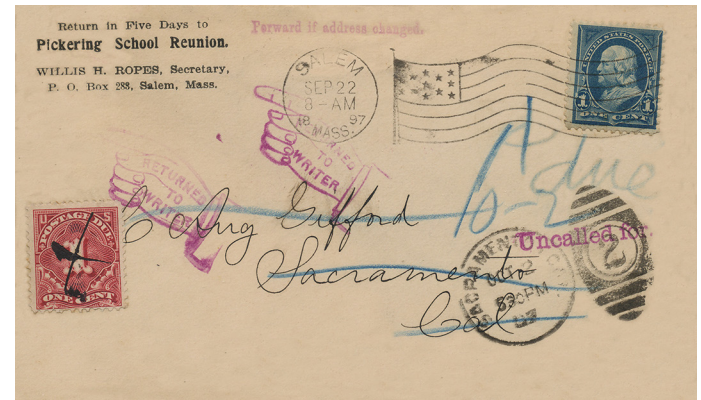
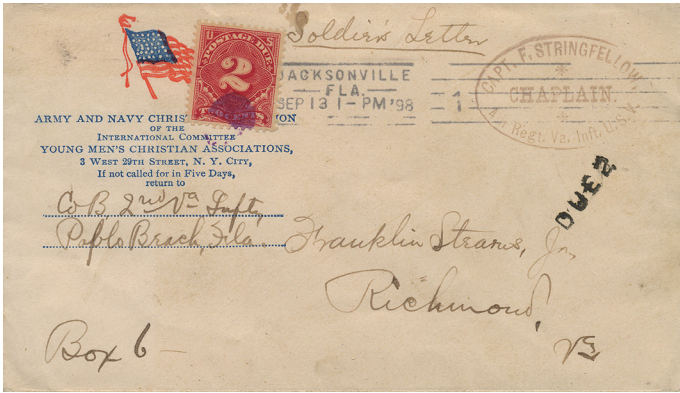


Figure 2

In 1898, a documented Soldier's Letter was sent without postage, but postage due from the addressee at the domestic 2¢ rate. In Figure 3 is a Sept. 1898 Soldier's letter to Richmond, Virginia, 'DUE 2' from the addressee. The 2¢ postage due stamp indicating this was cancelled with a non-dated obliteration.



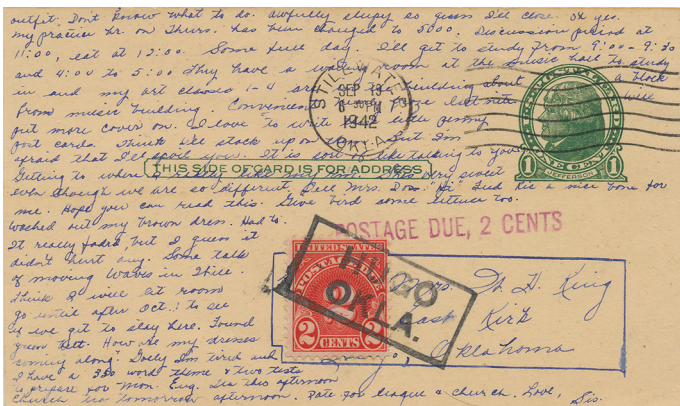
DUED 2



Figure 3

Admonitions about the inappropriateness of writing or printing anything but the address on the address side of postal cards were seen as early as the January, 1874 *United States Mail and Post Office Assistant*, but these admonitions mentioned nothing about returning them to the sender. Note that these early notices did suggest that if this occurred, that they could only be mailed at the letter rates from the mailing office. Subsequent *PL&Rs* (1879 and following) all mentioned that postal cards, and later private mailing cards, with excess information in the address area (other than address-related) could only be mailed at letter rates.

The 1942 post card in Figure 4 was paid with 1¢ postage. As writing crossed over to address side, the card required mailing with letter postage (3¢). This card should have been returned for postage or held for postage but wasn't, instead 'POSTAGE DUE 2 CENTS.' Extra 2¢ postage required not added so card correctly not remailed? The 2¢ postage due indicated that 2¢ were due to make up the letter rate because of the writing excess. Again, a non-dated obliteration cancels the due stamp.



POSTAGE DUE, 2 CENTS

Figure 4

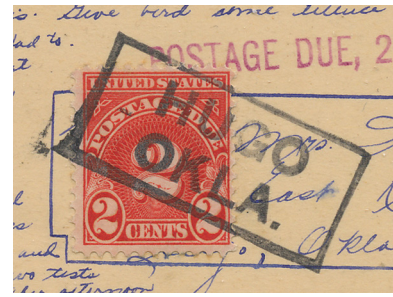


Figure 4

The undated letter in Figure 5 originated in India during WWII (because it was censored). The UPU rate of the time was 5¢ for up-to-one ounce, so since there was no postage, due was twice that amount or 10¢. The 'T 50 C' corresponded to the 10¢ due. The 10¢ postage due stamp corresponding to the amount due was cancelled with a non-dated cancel that at least had the city of delivery, Los Angeles.

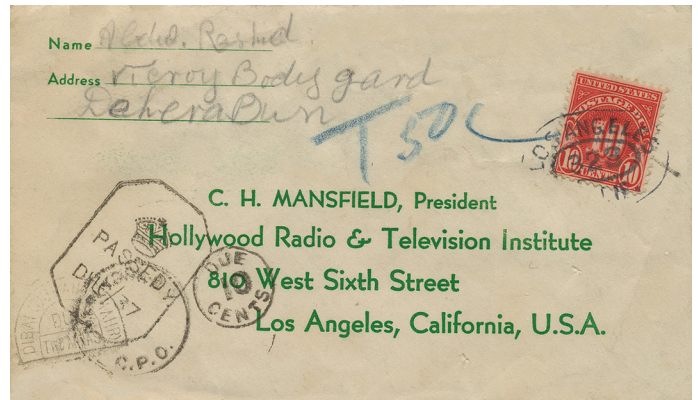


Figure 5

In Figure 6 is a 1953 example of Form 3578 used to indicate that the publication *Pacific Coast Canned Pear* was undeliverable to Mr. Carpenter in Foxboro, Mass. There was no key listed (the publisher needed it to facilitate his handling of the form). Unusually in my experience, the forwarding address was given. In this case, the postage due that was collected was indicated by

the 2¢ postage due stamp cancelled with a non-dated obliteration cancellation without a city name.

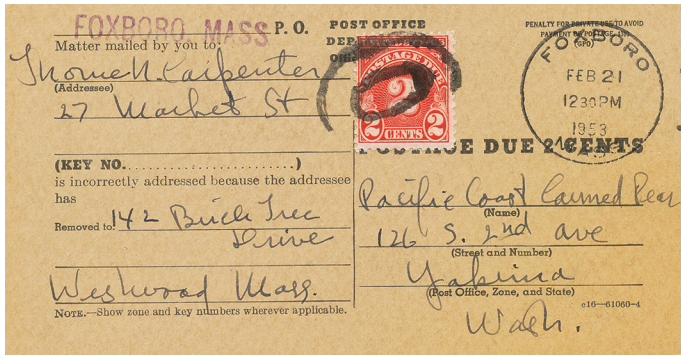


Figure 6

In Figure 7 is a Nov. 8, 1956 Business Reply Paid envelope that was used to collect the return surface domestic postage of 3¢ and the 1¢ BRM fee, 4¢ total due, as indicated by the 4¢ postage-due meter. The BRM envelope was forwarded with the handstamp forwarding address (to Box 6002A in Zone 80), and the postage-due stamp was VOIDED (usually indicating that those postage due stamps were not used to collect postage due). It is unclear to me what happened next because the envelope was apparently forwarded locally (that is, possibly to the same postmaster who would eventually claim credit for the PD stamp). Therefore, possibly the VOIDING was not required in this case. So, the postmaster may have realized this after the forwarding took place, which was why a new 4¢ PD stamp was not placed on the envelope.

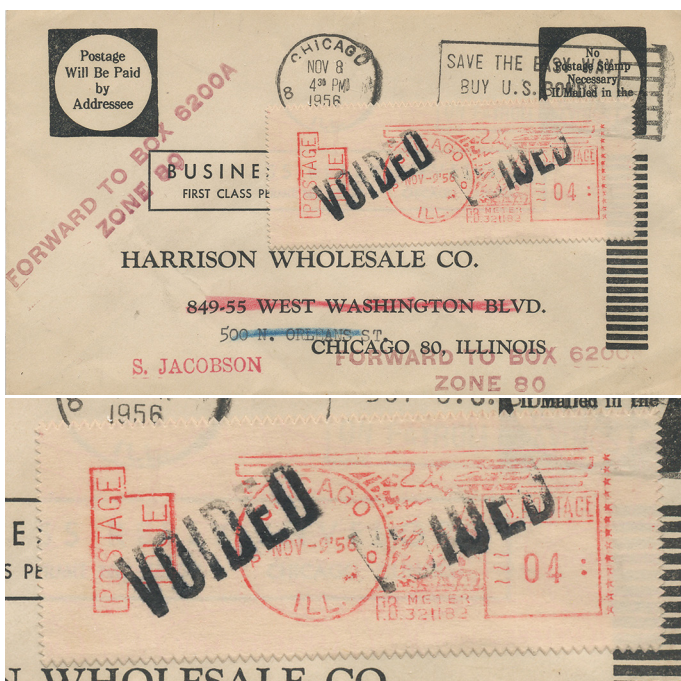


Figure 7

FORWARD TO BOX 6200A  
ZONE 80

Figure 7

The unpaid 1958 letter in Figure 8 led a storied existence. First the pair of postage due stamps in the lower left was placed to indicate attempted collection of the 4¢ due. Note that double rates were no longer collected on unpaid letters. However the addressee had moved so the postage due could not be collected at the first address, and so the postage due stamps were 'VOIDED.' Then the forwarding was made difficult by the incorrect address. This was corrected, but caused a delay in delivery. The second pair of postage due stamps in the upper right indicated that the 4¢ due was finally collected. Note the two different non-dated obliteration cancellations without a city name on the postage dues.



Delayed because of incomplete address  
Advise correspondents and publishers to  
address your mail to street and number,  
or to rural route and box.

Figure 8

Between 1962 and 1968 returned or forwarded third-class matter was charged twice the single-piece third-class rate, in this case (Figure 9) twice the 4¢ for up-to-two ounces rate, or 8¢ for the return. Note the third-/fourth-class non-dated obliteration cancellation without a city name on the postage due stamp.

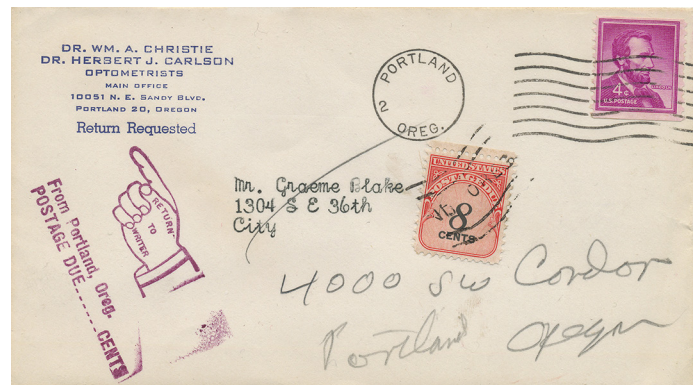


Figure 9



Figure 9

In 1963, after three months for a change in a local address or at any time for other than change in a local address, for undeliverable copies of second-class mail, the carrier or clerk serving the old address shall put the new address on Form 3579 which shall then be affixed to the copies, envelopes, or wrappers, near but not over the old address. The portion of the page, envelope, or wrapper which bears both the old address and Form 3579 shall then be cut or torn from the copies, envelopes, or wrappers, placed in an envelope and mailed directly to the publisher, news agent, or other sender. The address on the envelope shall always include the name of the publication. Any number of notices may be returned in one envelope. Each envelope shall be rated at postage due at the rate of 10¢ for each notice contained in the envelope.

This penalty envelope in Figure 10 contained 9 copies of Form 3579 returned to *The Oregon Stater*, as described above, as indicated by the 90¢ in postage due stamps on the envelope. The obliterating cancel is the obliterator made available to carriers beginning in 1963.

This is the last example of this type of cancelling obliterator shown in this article. In Part 2 precancel obliterations will be shown.

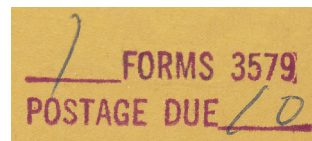
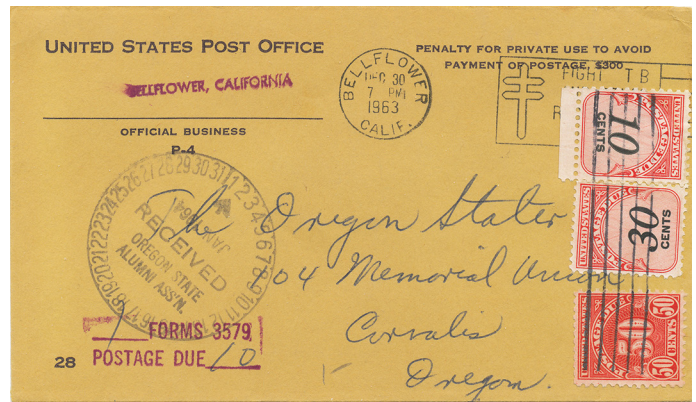


Figure 10

## President's Message by Ralph H. Nafziger

It is time to think about exhibiting at our annual meeting to be held during the Sarasota National Stamp Exhibition at the Sarasota Municipal Auditorium, February 3-5, 2017. The prospectus and entry form are available on [www.sarasotastampclub.com](http://www.sarasotastampclub.com). I encourage you to exhibit at this show. Auxiliary markings exhibits will be eligible for the Richard B. Graham and President's Awards. Our annual meeting will include a Friday board meeting, an informal dinner Friday evening, a general membership meeting, and a "show and tell" session on Saturday. We will have a table at the show. I also invite you to present a seminar on a subject of your choice at the show. Please contact me if you are interested.

About 15 attended our "show and tell" session at the APS StampShow in Portland, OR. A variety of covers were shared with the group. These included a Danish cover marked 'Business papers' (printed matter), 'Damaged in postmark machine,' and resealed with transparent tape marked 'Sealed by Postal Service.' Covers with large pointing hands, dead letter office markings,

'returned for better address' (no address was evident), 'returned to sender/service suspended' to Kuwait, short paid or no postage, and St. Louis foreign exchange markings also were among those shown at the session. Thanks go to Steve Davis, Gary Hendren, Jerry Johnson, Dennis Ladd, Ralph Nafziger, and Alan Warren for sharing their covers.

Congratulations go to Louis Fiset for winning the Auxiliary Markings Club Award of Merit for his exhibit "Censored, Rerouted, Suspended, Resumed: U.S. International Mail in World War II," which won a gold medal at the APS StampShow in Portland, OR.

Congratulations also go to Tony Wawrukiewicz, for winning the Auxiliary Markings Club Award of Merit for his exhibit "Operation and Innovation in the Dead Letter Office from 1859-1985" which won a gold medal at the SEAPEX stamp show in Seattle, WA.

## Editorial by Tony Wawrukiewicz

My new book, *Insights into U.S. Postal History, 1855 - 2016*, has now been available for two months from the American Philatelic Society. In one appendix of this book, I mention that the Postal Guides were available up to 1935. All volumes of the guides

are now scanned, so that, except for a few issues from 1875 to 1880, they are all available, including the supplements, through 1953. This of course means that the supplements from WWII are also available.