

★ UNITED STATES ★
★ AIRMAILS ★

SERIES OF 1926-27



U. S. Map and Two Mail Planes

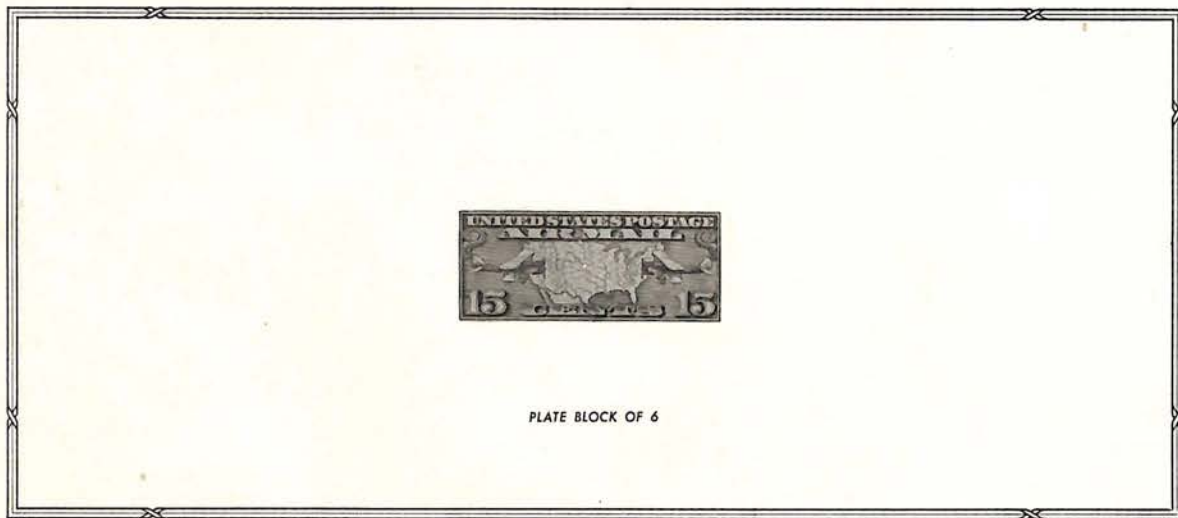


PLATE BLOCK OF 6

U. S. Map and Two Mail Planes

By 1925, air-mail, under government sponsorship, became well established, and as an aid to civilian aviation Congress decided to place this service on a contract basis with private flying interests and established a new rate of 10c per ounce up to 1,000 miles, 15c up to 1,500 miles and 20c beyond 1,500 miles. Three stamps in the denominations called for above were issued during 1926-27 with the central design a relief map of the United States.



★ UNITED STATES

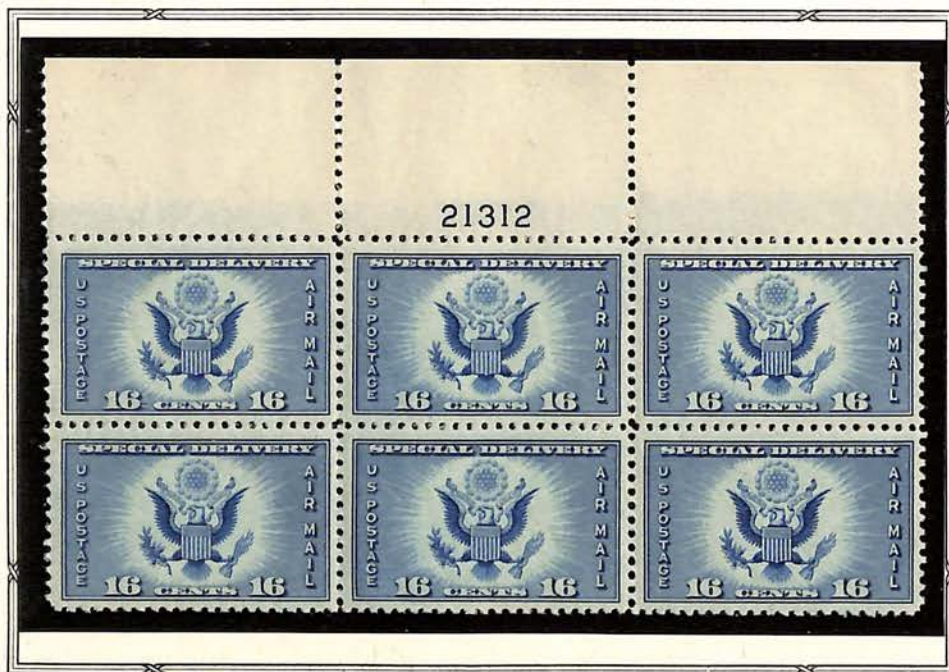
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WINGED GLOBE

1932



Winged Globe

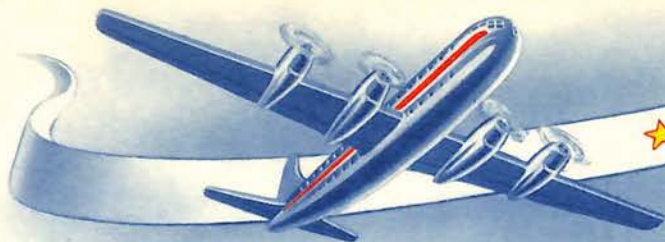


Great Seal of the United States

AIR MAIL SPECIAL DELIVERY

1934

In issuing this stamp, the post office department provided for the payment of the postage and the special-delivery fee in one stamp. It represents the first combination stamp of this character ever issued by the department. Placed on first day sale at the American Air Mail Society Convention, Chicago, Ill. August 30, 1934, the layout for this stamp was prepared by President Franklin D. Roosevelt.



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AIR MAIL SPECIAL DELIVERY

1936

A change to two color printing of the air mail special delivery stamp released in 1934 was made in order that the stamp would be more distinctive and easily recognized, thereby contributing to the prompt handling of such mail matter.

Great Seal of the United States

TRANS PACIFIC

1935

This stamp was issued to mark the inauguration of transpacific air mail service from the United States mainland to Manila in 1935. The design features a representation of the sun rising from the shores of America, with a sea-plane in flight over the ocean.



"China Clipper" Over Pacific Ocean



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American Eagle

AMERICAN EAGLE

1938

As a part of the celebration of National Air Mail Week and for greater efficiency in recognizing airmail matter from ordinary mail, this stamp was placed on sale May 14, 1938. St. Petersburg, Fla., where the first air passenger flight was made, and Dayton, Ohio, home of the Wright Brothers, were the official first day cities.

TRANS ATLANTIC

1939



Winged Globe

12

Similar in design to the "winged globe" designs of the early 30's, this 30c stamp was issued to mark the establishment of trans-Atlantic air-mail service from the United States to Europe. It was placed on sale at New York City May 16, 1939, eve of the inauguration of air service to Europe.



SERIES OF 1941-44

1941



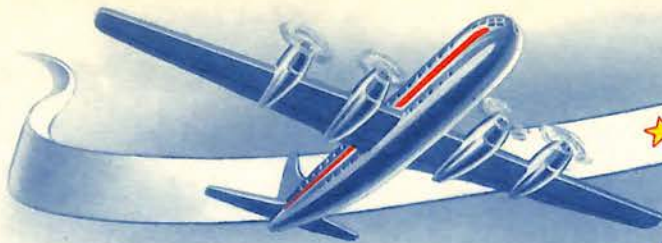
Released June 25, 1941
at Washington, D.C.

1944



Released March 21, 1944
at Washington, D.C.

In order to provide a uniform series of air mail stamps of various denominations, this set of stamps was placed on first day sale at various philatelic conventions from June to October 1941. The 8c value was added March 21, 1944 to cover increased war-time rates. While the domestic rate was jumped to 8c per ounce, the soldier rate, domestic and overseas, remained at 6c per ounce.



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SERIES OF
1941-44

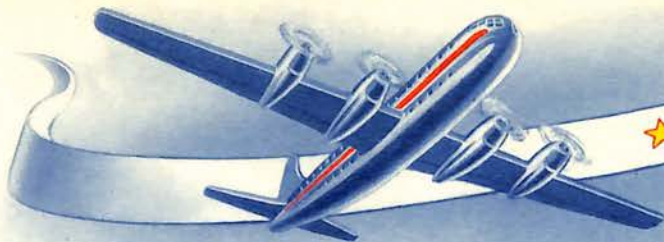
1941



Released August 15, 1941
at Atlantic City, N. J.



Released August 19, 1941
at Baltimore, Maryland



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SERIES OF
1941-44

1941

Released August 27, 1941
at Philadelphia, Pa.



Released September 25, 1941
at Kansas City, Mo.



SERIES OF 1941-44

1941



Released October 29, 1941
at St. Louis, Mo.



ISSUE OF 1946

A reduction in domestic air mail rates to five cents per ounce resulted in the issuance of this stamp on September 25, 1946.

Transport Plane



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ISSUE OF 1947



DC-4 Skymaster

To step up production of air mail stamps to meet increased demands for air service, the small size air stamp was issued March 26, 1947.



Pan-American Building, Washington, D. C.



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ISSUE OF 1947

The skyline of New York and the Statue of Liberty adorn this stamp intended for use on air mail going to Europe.



Statue of Liberty and Skyline of New York



San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge

This 25c blue air mail pictures the San Francisco Bridge and was the rate to Asia, Africa and Australia.



GOLDEN JUBILEE

1948



Map of Five New York Boroughs

This stamp commemorates the enactment of a new charter incorporating the five boroughs of Manhattan, Brooklyn, Queens, Bronx and Richmond into greater New York City.

6¢ AIR MAIL

1949



DC-4 Skymaster

This stamp replaces the 5c air mail issue of 1947 and conforms with the new air mail postage rate of 6c per ounce.

ALEXANDRIA BICENTENNIAL

1949



Originally called Belhaven, Alexandria became incorporated in 1749 under its present name. From 1790 to 1846 it was part of the District of Columbia. It is an important port on the Potomac River for Cotton and Tobacco.

Gadsby's Tavern, John Carlyle's Home and Alexandria Seal



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UNIVERSAL POSTAL UNION

1949



Post Office Department Building — Washington



Globe with Message Carrying Doves

Along with many other nations of the world, stamps of 10c, 15c and 25c denominations were issued by the United States. The Universal Postal Union is a confederation of most of the civilized nations of the world for the purpose of facilitating the exchange of mail between countries under treaty. The headquarters are at Berne, Switzerland.



UNIVERSAL POSTAL UNION

1949

*Plane and Globe**The Wright Plane with Wilbur & Orville*

WRIGHT BROTHERS

1949

Issued to commemorate the first free controlled and sustained powered flight by man performed by the Wright Brothers at Kitty Hawk, N. C. on December 17, 1903.



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HAWAII

1952

The need for a high denomination air mail stamp for use with the new air parcel post service resulted in the issuance of this 80c air mail stamp which was first placed on sale in Honolulu, Hawaii on March 26, 1952.



Diamond Head, Honolulu, Hawaii



Progress in Planes

POWERED FLIGHT

1953

Fifty years of aviation progress was celebrated by the aviation industry in 1953. This also marked the fiftieth anniversary of the first successful flight by the Wright brothers at Kitty Hawk, N. C. in 1903. The stamp was issued May 29, 1953 at Dayton, Ohio.



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Eagle in Flight

4¢ AIR MAIL

1954

January 1, 1949 saw the first application of a new 4c air mail postal card rate. To provide a special stamp that can be used on souvenir postal cards or other unstamped air postal cards, this 4c air mail stamp made an appearance September 3, 1954.

U. S. AIR FORCE

1957

This stamp, released on August 1, 1957, commemorates the 50th anniversary of the United States Air Force as part of the National Defense System. The design features a B-52 Stratofortress in a banking position with three F-104 Starfighters in the background.



B-52 Stratofortress and F-104 Starfighters



ISSUES OF 1958



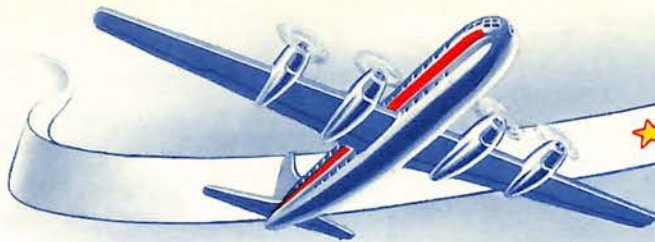
Eagle in Flight

Placed on sale July 31, 1958, this 5c air mail stamp was issued to cover the new air mail postage rate of 5c per ounce on air mail postcards.



Silhouette of Jet Airliner

The 7c air mail stamp shown above was issued to cover new air mail postage rates which became effective August 1, 1958. It features a silhouette view of the wing spread and fuselage of a composite jet airliner of the most advanced type.



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Map of Alaska

ALASKA STATEHOOD

1959

The territory of Alaska became the forty-ninth State on January 3, 1959. This stamp marks the admission to Statehood and features the "Big Dipper" and North Star as portrayed on the Alaskan flag, superimposed on a map of Alaska. The stamp is engraved in blue, matching the color of the Alaskan flag.

HAWAII STATEHOOD

1959

Hawaii was admitted to the Union as a State on August 21, 1959. This stamp was released to commemorate statehood and was placed on first day sale August 21st. The design was chosen in an Island-wide competition, the winner being Joseph Feher.



Warrior, Map & Star



BALLOON JUPITER

1959



Balloon

This stamp commemorates the carrying of mail by the Balloon Jupiter and was released August 17, 1959, at Lafayette, Indiana. John Wise was to have made his flight on the 16th, but postponed it until the following day because of a faulty gas valve. He carried 123 letters and 23 circulars. Only one of these letters is known to exist.

PAN AMERICAN GAMES

1959



Runner with Flaming Torch

This 10c air mail stamp was released at Chicago, Ill., on August 27, 1959, to mark the opening there of the Pan American Games. The design illustrates a runner holding high a flaming torch.



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15¢ AIR MAIL

1959

The 15c international air mail stamp, intended primarily for use on mail matter to Europe and the Middle East, features a drawing of the Statue of Liberty, with the slogan "LIBERTY FOR ALL." It was placed on first day sale November 20, 1959, during the eleventh annual National Postage Stamp Show in New York.



Statue of Liberty



Jet Airliner

7¢ FIRE RED AIR MAIL

1960

This seven cent airmail stamp in sheet form was placed on sale at Arlington, Va. on August 12, 1960, in conjunction with the annual convention of the American Air Mail Society. It was printed in a distinct shade of red as a means of facilitating the handling of air mail letters.



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Liberty Bell

10¢ LIBERTY

1960

The Liberty Bell is the symbol of America to the people to the South in the Latin American countries. For this reason, the Liberty Bell was used in this new 10c air mail design which covers the air postage rate to Central and South America.

25¢ LIBERTY

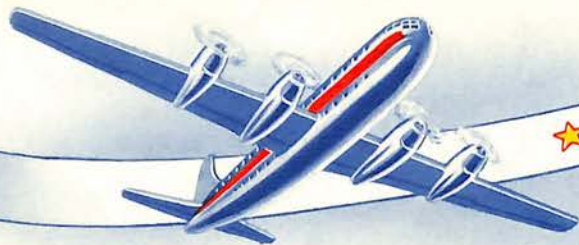
1960

This 25c stamp features a three-quarter portrait of Abraham Lincoln with a quotation from his famous Gettysburg Address: "Of the People, By the People, For the People." The design was chosen by a survey to determine what the majority of people of the World considered as the symbol of America.



Abraham Lincoln

W. H. R.



★ UNITED

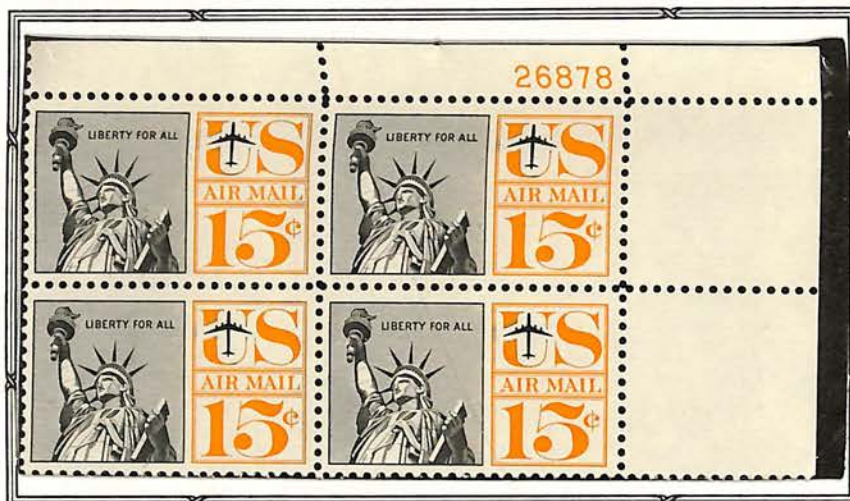
STATES

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15¢ REVISED AIR MAIL

1961

Slight corrections were made in the design of the 15c stamp released in 1959 to coincide with the 10c and 25c denominations of the set. The orange border around the Statue of Liberty has been removed in this revised issue.



Statue of Liberty



Liberty Bell

13-CENT AIR MAIL

1961

Issued to cover new international air mail rates, this 13c stamp paid postage on ½ oz. air mail letters to Bermuda, Central America other than Mexico, the Caribbean Area and Saint Pierre and Miquelon.



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Jet Airliner over Capitol, Washington, D. C.

1962

Increases in air mail postage rates resulted in the issue of this 8c air mail stamp picturing a jet airliner flying over the United States Capitol in Washington, D. C.

MONTGOMERY BLAIR

1963

Montgomery Blair, Postmaster General under Abraham Lincoln, helped set up the first universal postal conference, held in Paris in 1863. From this meeting emerged the Universal Postal Union, a reciprocal agreement under which the nations of the world carry one another's mail.



Blair, World, and Letters



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AMELIA EARHART

1963

1963



Bald Eagle

Along with air letter mail rate increases, the air postal card rate was raised from 5c to 6c. This stamp, picturing a bald eagle, was placed on first day sale July 12, 1963.



Amelia Earhart

This stamp had its first day sale July 24, 1963, in Atchison, Kansas, Amelia Earhart's birthplace. In 1932 Miss Earhart became the first woman to fly the Atlantic solo. Five years later she was lost in the Pacific during an attempted around-the-world flight through uncharted skies.



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Robert H. Goddard

DR. ROBERT H. GODDARD

1964

Dr. Robert H. Goddard, whose experiments date back to 1914 at Clark University, Worcester, Mass., is regarded as the father of modern rocketry. In 1926 he launched the first non-munitions rocket. By 1932, Doctor Goddard's rockets were zooming to altitudes of 2,000 feet at speeds of 500 miles per hour.

AIR MAIL ANNIVERSARY

1968

Regularly scheduled air mail service began May 15, 1918, with a Washington-New York City run; this stamp commemorates the 50th anniversary of that event. Of 1,208 trips flown in air mail's first year, only 90 were not completed due to engine trouble or bad weather.



Curtiss Jenny



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ALASKA PURCHASE

1967



Indian Totem Pole

Alaska was sold by Russia to the U. S. in 1867 for \$7.2 million. Many thought the territory was overpriced by the Russians and called it "Seward's Folly," referring to Secretary of State William H. Seward, who negotiated the sale.

COLUMBIA JAY

1967



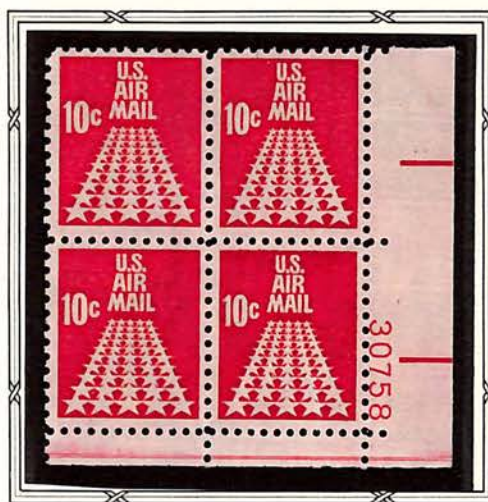
Columbia Jay

A reproduction of John James Audubon's aquatint of the "Columbia Jay," which was brought out in 1963 as a 5-cent stamp, was used as the design of this 20-cent air mail stamp. The aquatint is owned by the National Gallery of Art.



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DEFINITIVE 1968



50-Star Runway

The 10c Air Mail definitive was released on January 5, 1968 to cover increased postage rates. The design features an airport runway composed of fifty stars for the fifty States.

AIRLIFT 1968



Early American Wooden Eagle

The One Dollar AIRLIFT postage stamp was issued April 4th at Seattle, Washington. It covers low cost rates for parcels to and from servicemen based overseas and in Alaska, Hawaii and Puerto Rico.



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20¢ AIR MAIL

1968



USA and Plane Silhouette

A red, white and blue "USA" dominates this horizontal stamp. It was issued on November 22, in New York City, to coincide with the opening of the National Postage Stamp Show at the new Madison Square Garden.



LANDING ON THE MOON

1969



Man's First Landing on the Moon

Apollo 11 made the first mail run to the moon. An engraved master stamp die accompanied America's astronauts on the journey through space and their historic lunar landing. On return, after a decontamination period, the die was delivered to the Bureau of Printing and Engraving to proceed with the work of producing the Moon Landing Stamps . . . largest stamp the United States ever issued. It was placed on sale September 9th.



Delta Winged Plane

1971



Silhouette of Plane



1971

The 17c air mail stamp was released on July 13th at Lakehurst Naval Air Station, Lakehurst, New Jersey. Lakehurst was chosen because it was celebrating the 50th anniversary of its founding. The stamp was designed by Robert J. Jones of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing.



Head of Liberty



USA and Plane

1971

Except for the denomination, the stamp repeats the design of the 20 cent version it replaces, although the colors are reversed. It was placed on first day sale May 21 in conjunction with NAPEX (National Philatelic Exhibition).

OLYMPICS - 1972



Skiing

Winter Games at Sapporo, Japan. See CM686-688.



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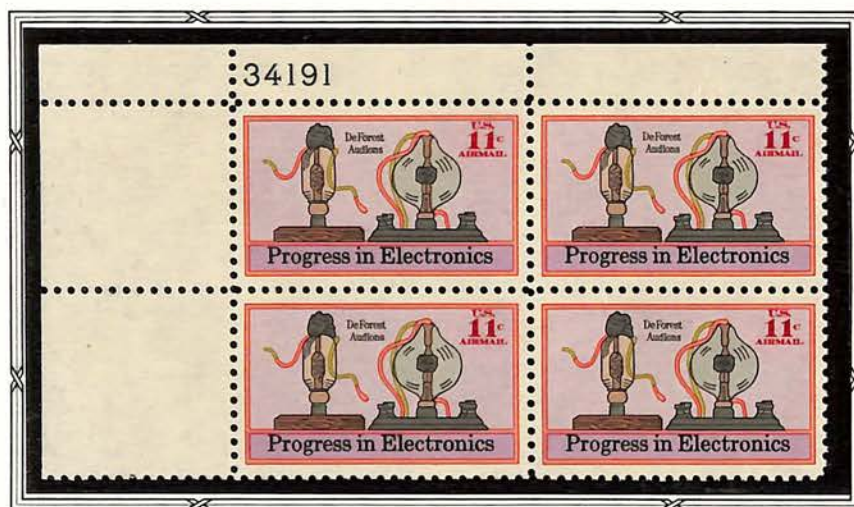
OLYMPIC GAMES

1972

This airmail is one of a set of four commemorative issues honoring the 1972 Olympic Games. Pierre de Coubertin, a French baron, is the father of the modern Olympic Games, which resumed in 1896 after they had been banned by a Roman emperor in 394 A.D. The first modern games were staged in Athens with nine nations participating.



Skiing



DeForest Audion and Audion Tube

ELECTRONICS

1973

Lee DeForest's refinements to Marconi — the Audion and Audion tube — are shown on this 11c. value. With these devices, in 1912, DeForest transmitted the human voice from Arlington, Virginia, to Paris. DeForest also developed the talking motion picture, facsimile transmission, and television.



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CITY OF REFUGE

1972



Kī Wooden Statue

The City of Refuge, a 180-acre park established in 1961, is an ancient sanctuary for taboo breakers or victims of war located on a lava ledge in the southwest part of the island of Hawaii; within it is the tomb of King Kamehameha the Great, who united the islands into one kingdom about 1800.

DEFINITIVE

1973



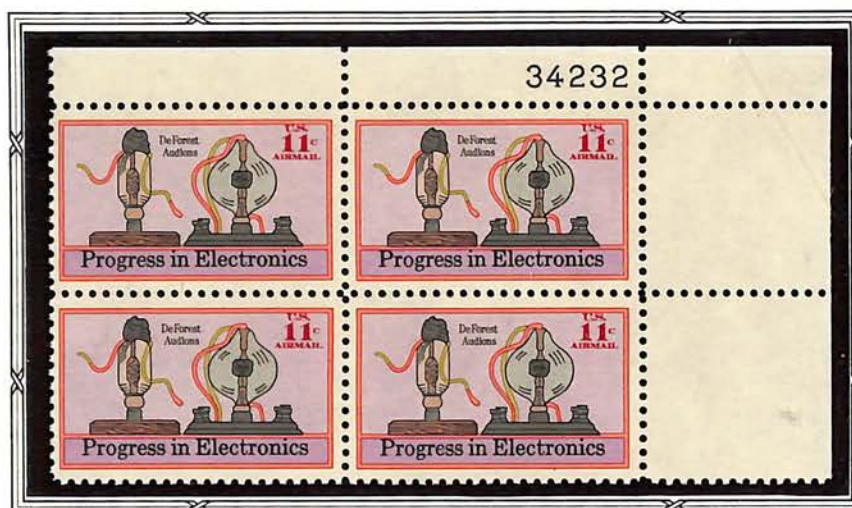
Envelope in Flight

In conjunction with the increase in the domestic air mail rate to 13c., this adhesive was released on November 16. The first day ceremonies for the issue were conducted in complement to the annual postage stamp show of the American Stamp Dealer's Association. The design was by Nelson Gruppo of New York City, and was released in coil and booklet form on December 27 in Chicago.



ELECTRONICS

1973



DeForest Audion and Audion Tube

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★ UNITED

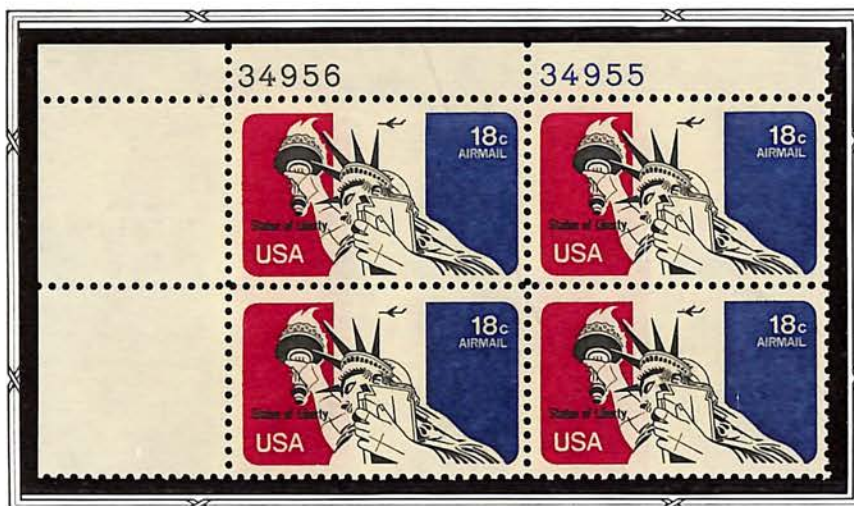
STATES

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STATUE OF LIBERTY

1974

Though intended primarily for use on commercially produced aerogrammes, this stamp also could be used for mailing postcards at international rates. It was issued on January 11, 1974 at Hempstead, New York, during the show of the Long Island Stamp Dealers Association.



Statue of Liberty



Mt. Rushmore Memorial

MOUNT RUSHMORE

1974

The Mt. Rushmore National Memorial, located in the Black Hills 25 miles southwest of Rapid City, South Dakota, is composed of 60-foot high heads of George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Abraham Lincoln, and Theodore Roosevelt carved into the face of the granite cliffs.



Plane and Globes

INTERNATIONAL AIRMAILS

1976



Plane, Globes and Flag

The 25c and 31c air mails were issued on January 2, 1976 to cover revised international air mail postage rates. Both are symbolic designs featuring planes and globes.



WRIGHT BROTHERS

1978

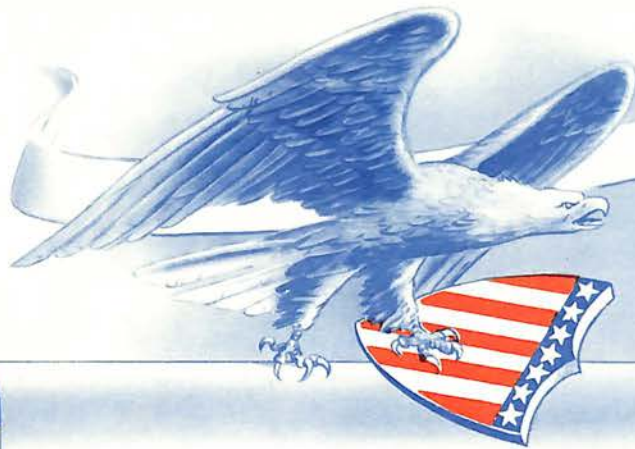


Wright Brothers and Plane



Wright Brothers, Plane, & Shed

These stamps mark the 75th anniversary year of Orville and Wilbur Wright's historic first powered flight. The brothers left Dayton, Ohio with their airplane on September 23, 1903, headed for Kitty Hawk, North Carolina. The stamps were designed by Ken Dallison, who is noted for portraying man's achievements with machinery in drawings featuring both people and their machines.



★ UNITED STATES
COMMEMORATIVES



MADE IN U.S.A.

5 200

Wright



OLYMPIC GAMES

1979

This airmail stamp commemorating the 1980 Olympic Games was issued November 1, 1979, in Colorado Springs, Colorado. The first day site was chosen because it is the headquarters city for the U.S. Olympic Committee and the site of one of two permanent Olympic training facilities in the United States.

Olympic High Jumper



1979 - OCTAVE CHANUTE - 1979



Octave Chanute



Octave Chanute

Octave Chanute, American engineer and aviation pioneer, is honored on these stamps, the second installment in the Pioneer Aviation Series, which were issued March 29, 1979. Chanute's work in aviation and gliding had a significant effect on the designs and work of the Wrights.

1979 - WILEY POST - 1979



Wiley Post



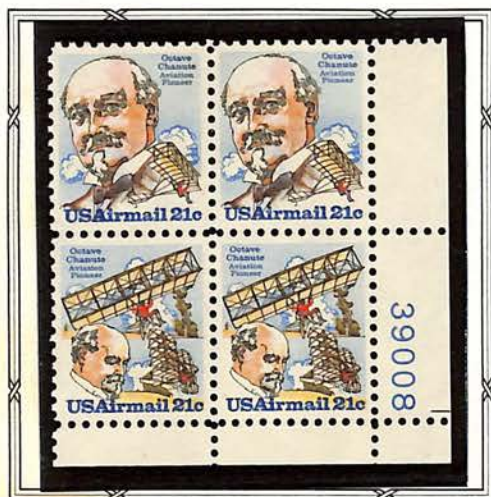
Wiley Post

Wiley Post was an aviation pioneer who became famous for record-making flights, scientific research, and design of a pressure suit and helmet for high-altitude flights. On these stamps, Post is pictured with the "Winnie Mae," the Lockheed Vega plane with which he was closely identified.



UNITED STATES COMMEMORATIVES

1979 - OCTAVE CHANUTE - 1979



Octave Chanute



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PHILIP MAZZEI

1980



Philip Mazzei

Philip Mazzei, an Italian who left Europe in 1773 to begin a new life in Virginia, was a merchant, surgeon, horticulturist, writer, diplomat, and political philosopher. He collaborated with Virginia leaders on political ideas and plans, and promoted American independence through writings published in America and in Europe. This stamp was issued October 13, 1980 (Columbus Day).



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BLANCHE STUART SCOTT

1980

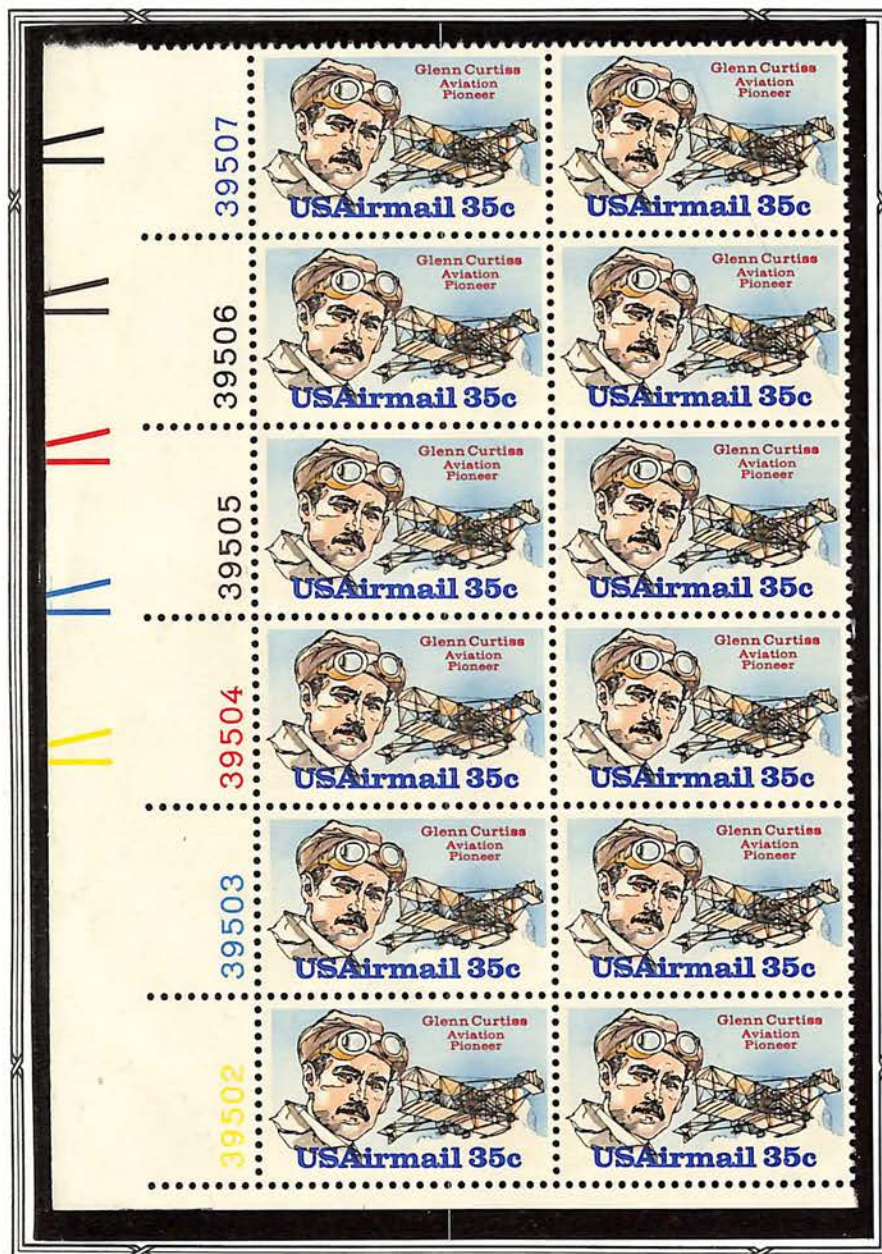
Blanche Stuart Scott was one of the first women to pilot an airplane. This airmail stamp, for use on international airmail postcards, was issued December 30, 1980, at Hammondsport, New York, where she made an early flight. Paul Calle designed the stamp, which was issued in panes of fifty with six plate numbers.

Blanche Stuart Scott





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GLENN
CURTISS

1980

This stamp in the Pioneer Aviation Series honors Glenn Curtiss, an early aircraft designer and manufacturer; it was released December 30, 1980, at Hammondsport, New York, where Curtiss was born. Ken Dallison designed the stamp, which was issued in panes of fifty with six different plate numbers.

Glenn Curtiss