The Argentina 1935-51 Definitives



Notes

2009

Postmarks, Covers, Postcards, Postal Entires and PERFINs

5

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Introduction

These stamps were issued in denominations from ½ centavo to 20 pesos. There is a remarkable factor of 4,000 between the largest and the smallest denomination. This series was in use from October 1, 1935 to as late as 1961, by which time only one value was in postal use. This series was also issued as Departmental Officials and 'Servicio Oficial' officials. This series has an expansive postal history, especially during World War II, when Argentina supplied both sides of the conflict.

Besides the beautiful two-color designs for the high values, this series is attractive to definitive collectors because of the daunting challenge it poses to classify the large number of papers on which it was issued-perhaps as many as 20! In these notes I serialize the work I have done to understand the Argentina 1935-51 definitives. Beginning collectors to this series encounter several stumbling blocks when deciding which stamps to acquire from this series. The first stumbling block, which applies mostly to the Scott catalogue, is that the stamps have been grouped using a scheme that is based on the major watermark types; ignoring the difference for the same watermark of the various papers. The second stumbling block, which applies mostly to the Argentinean specialized catalogues, is that the various issues have been grouped in a loosely chronological scheme that separates Argentinean papers from imported papers. I use my own scheme to describe the papers.

My reference scheme

I use my own reference scheme to describe this series. This reference scheme enables me to have a more complete listing of the issues. I consider it a temporary scheme until I am able to arrive at a fairly complete listing.

The scheme combines:

- 1. The denomination in a computer-friendly format: For example, instead of 1/2c I use 05c, and instead of 2 1/2 c, I use 2p5c.
- 2. Mention of the person on the stamp (optional) or name acronym: I need this naming convention for the 3 centavos stamp, which was issued with the San Martin (SM) and Mariano Moreno (M) designs. The 20c Martin Guemes was issued with (JMG) or without (MG) the middle name shown.
- 3. Reference to the paper if I know of more than one: There are 30c1E1, 30c1E2, etc. If the stamp was only issued on one paper, there is no need for this naming convention, as is the case for the 3cSMGr, which was only issued on the 1E1 paper.
- 4. An additional reference for a specific plate: This naming convention is required for the 10c Rivadavia red, with types I and II, and the 10c Rivadavia Brown, with types A and B.
- 5. An additional reference for a specific color: This naming convention is required for the 15c Small Format Cattle, issued in dark blue and only on the 1E1 paper, as 15cSC-D, and also issued in light blue and on a later paper, as 15cSC-L.

I mention several examples that show how my naming convention works:

- 1. The 8c value was issued in one design, on one paper, on one plate, and on one color. Reference: 8c.
- 2. The 10c Rivadavia was issued in red and a range of browns, on many papers, and on at least four plates. Example references: 10cR-I, 10cBRCL1-A.

For the 18 papers I use the following scheme:

- 1. The early papers with the first watermark are the 1Ex papers, with x as of this edition being 1 to 4.
- 2. The clay papers were printed in two groups, CL1A and CL1B in 1943; and CL2A and CL2B in the 1950s.
- 3. The un-watermarked papers are of two types: grid from 1945 (NGR), and opaque from approximately 1948 (NOP).
- 4. The paper with the second watermark is found in three types: clear (2C), diffuse (2D), and with narrow rays (2N).
- 5. The late papers with the first watermark are the 1Lx papers, with x as of this edition being 1 to 5.

How this series came about

Thanks to a reference provided by one of the 'Foreros,' or members of the Argentinean Philately Forum, I learned about the existence of the book published by the Argentinean Post Office, Volume I, in 1939, by Antonio Deluca, and titled "Stamps and other postal and telegraph issues." This book contains key information about This series, about which Deluca mentions the following:

The decision to replace the San Martin issue by a new series came from 1931, but was abandoned due to the Argentinean Post Office 's economic hardship. Its director, Mr. Carlos Risso Dominguez, sent a memorandum to the Ministry of the Interior, dated November 28, 1932, in which he outlines basic facts about this series that I did not know before I obtained this book. The basic facts contained in this memorandum are:

- 1. There were several postal forgery incidents that cost the Argentinean Post Office a large loss of revenue. "In 1921 a postal forgery of the 5c stamp was found, and it incurred a loss of aproximately 1 million pesos of national currency in a few months. There seems to be an additional forgery of higher quality and affecting the 2c and 5c values. It is then without doubt that the prolonged use of the same stamp type conspires against its legitimacy and affects adversely our collection of revenue."
- 2. Four categories were proposed for the new issue:
- "a) Publish the likenesses of those signing the Declaration of Independence..."
- "b) Publish the likenesses of those signing the 1853 Constitution..."
- "c) Publish a selection of the likenesses of important military and civilian figures...and in addition add simbolic figures representing the Republic as shown on our currency, and mainly the Argentinean shield in its authentic model."
- "d) Finally...use the stamps for an increased awareness of our products and therefore put in effect a news-wrothy promotion in its favor, just as other countries do..."

There then take place several bureaucratic steps tipically required for a new stamp series: authorization by the Ministry of the Interior, design contest, and authorization by the President of the Republic. The second memorandum containing facts about this series was sent by the commission making recommendations on this new issue to the Argentinean Post Office on July 4 1933:

- 1. "The commission proposes the portraits for the following important figures to be featured in as many issues: San Martin, Rivadavia, Moreno, Belgrano, Sarmiento, Mitre, Urquiza, Rodriguez, Guemes, Velez Sarsfield. Within the context of promoting, the commission indicates, of course, the map of the Argentinean Republic, and the following industries: Cattle, Agriculture, Oil, Wine-making, and Sugar Cane."
- 2. This memorandum recommends the use of papel without watermark, somewhat thicker than the one being used at the time for typographed printing, and with white gum. It is interesting that the characteristics in this recommendation correspond to only one of the 18 papers for This series: the NOP, or opaque paper not in the catalogs from aproximately 1948.
- 3. The recommended dimensions are: 19 by 24 mm, and 21 by 28 mm.

- 4. The designs and initial printing quantities recommended are:
- 1/2c Urquiza (50 million); 1c Guemes (30 million); 3c Rodriguez (120 million); 5c Agricultura (60 million); 6c Sarmiento (40 million); 10c Belgrano (300 million); 15c Mapa (20 million); 20c Mitre (10 million); 30c Sugar (12 million); 35c Cattle (6 million); 40c Wine-making (10 million); 50c Velez Sarsfield (6 million); 1p Oil Industry (2.5 million); 5p Rivadavia (50000), 10p Moreno (20000), 20p San Martin (10000).
- 5. Only one design is recommended for the oficial issues, with each denomination having its own color: "The current system, is unappealing and very costly, because it forces specialized printings of the overprints. In addition, the wide range of papers and printings of the stamps and of the very same overprints, cause that collectors seek them, causing a disfunctional inventory, given that they cannot be acquired at post offices..." This memorandum includes other details about the official issues, including proposed values and printing quantities.

The Casa de Moneda (the Argentinean Treasury, in charge of printing stamps) makes the following design and respective denomination recommendations to the Argentinean Post Office on May 23, 1934:

Mitre 1/2c y 1c; Sarmiento 2c; Moreno 10c; Belgrano 5c y 20c; Southern National Park 12c; Sugar 10c; Argentinean Republic, wheat 15c; America and the Argentinean Republic, fruits of the country 5c; Oil 2c; Agriculture 10c; Republic and the farmer 5c; Christ of the Andes 2c; Republic and Shield 12c; Wheat Stalks 5c y 10c; Allegorical figure and wheat 10c; Iguazu Falls 50c. The most interesting fact in this memorandum is mention of Iguazu Falls. This memorandum mentions many designs that were not adopted.

Deluce mentions documents that relate to collaboration between the Argentinean Treasury and the Argentinean Post Office, it which the adopted characteristics are outlined: the use of a small format for the values up to 20c, and of the large format for values 25c and up. On July 16 of 1934 the Patriot values as we know them from 1/2c to 20c were finalized. Durante the period spanning October 25, 1934 and February 13, 1935 the Resources values as we know them from 25c to 20 pesos were finalized.

On September 14, 1935, the Argentinean Post Office took the following actions:

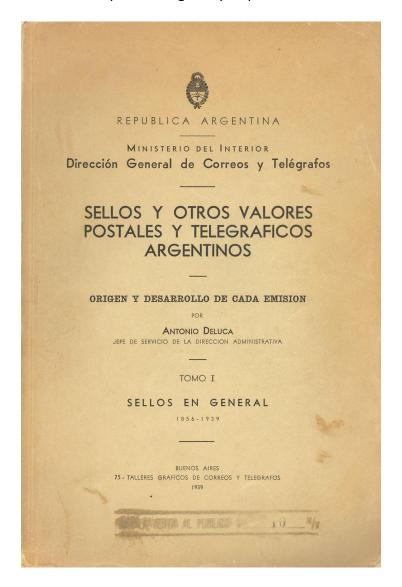
- 1. Decides to issue on October 1, 1935 the 1/2c, 1c, 2c, 3c, 4c, 5c, 6c, 10c, 12c, y 20c (fullname version: JMG) values.
- 2. Demonetizes from January 1, 1936 onwards the previous (San Martin) issue.
- 3. Allows the exchange of San Martin stamps for the new stamps during the first 90 days of 1936.

On November 22, 1935, the Argentinean Post Office decides to issue the 15c, 25c, 30c, 40c, 50c, 1p with map boundaries, 2p, 5p, 10p, and 20p values January 1, 1936.

According to Deluca, public notice of the new issue "was made by special announcements, and the printing of 5000 stamps for each value." I speculate that these stamps are the ones we come across with specimen ("MUESTRA") overprint.

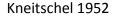
Catalogs and other References

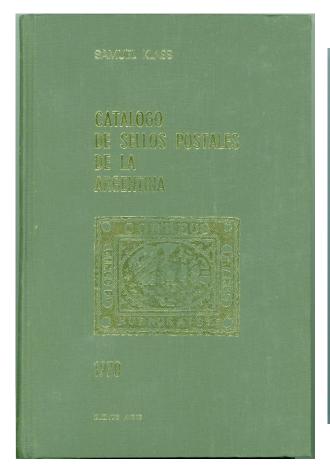
The only primary reference I have for Arg3551 is the book published by the Argentinean postal authorities in 1939, and authored by Antonio Deluca. It is the first volume of two and the second volume I have been told does not cover postage stamps. This book contains various design details, printing quantities for the 1 peso with map boundaries, and transcripts of interesting official documents for Arg3551. The classic specialized catalog of Argentina, written by Victor Kneitschel, is an important secondary source. There are several editions, all printed in small runs. I have the 1951 copy, which is sufficient for my needs, although I would like to have the two volume edition published a few years later. This catalog has a reasonable listing of the regular issues, and a thorough listing of the official issues-the latter is the most complete listing at my disposal.

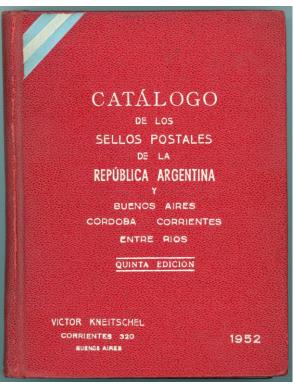


The specialized catalog written by Samuel Klass is my most important secondary source for the regular issues. It contains the most complete reference to all sorts of varieties and a few earliest use mentions. Klass has a summarized listing of the Arg3551 officials. The catalog that is most often quoted on the Web Forum is referred to as Petrovich, although it is currently published by Mello Teggia. The Mello Teggia numbers get quoted as Pt, for Petrovich. The Mello Teggia catalog is dated 1998 and has a 2000 supplement. This catalog is a direct descendant of Kneitschel. I also have access to scans of the Uniphila catalog for the Arg3551 regular issues. The Uniphila catalog describes the papers as well as Klass does.

Klass 1971







25c range of use

Here is a first attempt at establishing range of use as well as relative rarity of each printing. With the exception of one of the 1E4s (highlighted in red), all of the dates are within range-i.e. there aren't any early uses one or two years before the known earliest use from looking at many specimens over the years.

	1E1	1E2	1E3a	1E4	1E3c	NGR	1E3b	NOP	2C-H	2C-V	11
1936	1	1									1
1937		3) I
1938	*	7		1							
1939			7								9
1940	- 0		3	6						V	0
1941					13						
1942			2	2	17						
1943				7.4.24	18						
1944	Ĭ				10						
1945					4	4	2				
1946		-			1	2	6			4	
1947		-									
1948						2		1			
1949	0							1	1	2	,
1950									1		Ĭ.
1951	i i								4		
1952										1	2
Total	1	11	12	9	63	8	8	2	6	3	2
125	0.80%	8.80%	9.60%	7.20%	50.40%	6.40%	6.40%	1.60%	4.80%	2.40%	1.609

The 25c1E1 is very rare, 50 percent of this sample are 1E3c's-the symmetrical box grid, and most of the other papers are also rare. The results from this small sample are consistent with my previous experience.

Second day of issue 1935 cover

I have just received this cover, dated October 2, 1935. It is a philatelic cover.



Here is the back of the cover...



...and here is a detail of the postmark.



These stamps were issued October 1, 1935.

Brigada and Ambulante explained

Based on information from aficionado, a member of the Filatelia Argentina forum, the Brigada postmarks are the first type for the roaming (Ambulante) service for mail from Buenos Aires to the interior of the country. I previouly did not know what the Brigada postmarks were for, or that they are an early type of Ambulante postmark.

Here is a Brigada 18 example.



Here is an Ambulante No. 92.



A few 40c early postmarks

This first specimen is 1E1.







This stamp has a plate flaw likely from when the plate was assembled.





Buenos Aires non-standard postmarks part 1

Except for A.P., I do not know the meaning of the letters appended to Buenos Aires in these postmarks.

A.P. (Agencia Postal)







(E) V 1o and 2o





V.3 :: E.O.







3-V :: D-G. y E.



V.5 :: R



Saturday, July 4, 2009

Buenos Aires non-standard postmarks part 2

I do not know the meaning of the letters appended to Buenos Aires in these postmarks. The V.A. that is added to E.R.V. to come up with E.R.V.V.A. 2 could mean VIA AEREA.

E.R.V. 10 and 20 :: E









VIA AEREA :: E



E.R.V.V.A.2 :: E





An early cover bearing the 10c Rivadavia Brown

Tenorio mentions that the first, and rare printing in offset of this stamp was issued March 16, 1939; and that the first typographed printing was issued November 4, 1939. The following cover is from June 1939 and bears two typographed stamps. I have previously shown other typographed specimens postmarked before the issue date mentioned by Tenorio.



This cover has a dated company stamp on the back.



Here are details of the stamps, showing the treaits of typographed stamps: extra ink outside the design, and outside the upper right corner.







Thursday, July 2, 2009

Buenos Aires special use postmarks

Here are several Buenos Aires specimens for specific types of mailings.

BUENOS AIRES E I



BUENOS AIRES E R V (I can't make out the last letter)



BUENOS AIRES E R V V A 2



BUENOS AIRES E V 2



BUENOS AIRES E F I-12



The 1943 CL1B 1 peso and 2 pesos on cover

These stamps can be spotted easily on cover because of the high contrast of the bright/highly reflective white paper they were printed on.

Here are two selections from covers in the Continental Grain Correspondence,

Continental Grain Correspondence 1 Peso covers page





and a superb find: the extremely rare 2 pesos clay from 1943. Never mind that it is on a 5 pesos cover-that alone would make this cover rare, but the 2pCL1B is the find here, and not the 5 pesos, which is most likely a 5p1E4.

The very rare 2 pesos on cover (quite a find!!!)





Late usage of the 2 pesos and 5 pesos

These are the two latest uses I have.

2 pesos canceled December (16?) of 1956.







and 5 pesos canceled February 28 of 1957.





A postal entire with Census information

This postal entire found limited use. It has information about Argentina from 1934.



The stamp is Type II.



Here are details of the back of this entire, a fold-out.



REPUBLICA ARGENTINA

(Informaciones correspondientes al año 1934)

GOBIERNO NACIONAL

PODER EJECUTIVO

(Período 1932 - 38)

Presidente de la Nación

r residente de la Nacion

Gral. Ing. Agustín P. Justo

Vice - presidente: Dr. Julio A. Roca

PODER LEGISLATIVO

Cámara de Senadores 30 miembros (2 por cada provincia y 2 por la Cap. Federal). Cámara de Diputados 158 miembros (1 Diput. por cada 49.000 habitantes).

PODER JUDICIAL FEDERAL

1 Corte Suprema

6 Cámaras

23 Juzgados

PRESUPUESTO DE LA NACION

(en miles de \$ m/n.)

Rentas...... 796.406,4 | Gastos..... 795.800,4

COMERCIO EXTERIOR

(en miles de \$ m/n.)

Exportación Productos de:	Miles de toneladas	Valor en mi- les de \$ m/n.
Ganadería	1.085 13.589 357 221	464.248 893.687 42.436 38.063
Totales	15.252	1.438.434

POBLACION Y SUPERFICIE

	Habitantes (miles)	Km.2
Capital Federal	2.246,7	185
Buenos Aires	3,282,9	306.830
Santa Fé	1.439,2	134.827
Entre Ríos	670,0	78.330
Corrientes	473,7	88.901
Córdoba	1.169,1	168.152
San Luís	179,8	76.923
Santiago del Estero	433,2	138.439
Tucumán	493,9	22.836
Mendoza	468,2	148.783
San Juan	193,6	89.179
La Rioja	104,1	86.492
Catamarca	138,0	78.162
Salta	192,1	126.577
Jujuy	103,9	43.267
Territorios Nacionales e Islas		
Australes	612,6	1.209.230

Población Extranjera

(miles)

Italianos	929,	9 Ingleses 27,7	7
Españoles	829,	7 Alemanes 27,0)
Amer. del Sud .	204,	8 Belgas 4,9)
		5 Amer. del Norte 3,5	
Austríacos		1 Otras naciones 212,9	

Aptitud de las tierras

Para cereales 80 millones de hectáreas ,, agricultura y ganadería 109 ,, ,, ,, ,, ,, Montes y bosques 50 ,, ,, ,, ,,

Capacidad para 250 millones de habitantes

Temperatura

Media En verano: Norte 26°, Centro 23°, Sud 16°.

" invierno: " 15° " 10° " 3°.

Lluvia " verano: " 530 mm. " 300 mm., 100 mm.

Media " invierno: " 200 " " 250 " " 150 "

40

CORREOS Y TELEGRAFOS

Ministro del Interior: Dr. Leopoldo Melo Director General de Correos y Telégrafos:

Dr. Carlos Risso Domínguez

Movimiento postal y telegráfico

Miles	
Piezas post. 642.544,1 Desp. telegráf. 7.270,1 Líneas tel. Kms. 47,3 Desarrollo 127,0 Producidos 42.844,2 Gastos 57.092,4	Ofic. de C. y Telég. 3.812 Cías. de Radio 4 Est. Radiodifusoras 37 Cías. Telefónicas 45 Abonados (miles) . 273 Líneas Aeropost 5
FERROC	ARRILES Millones \$ o/s.
En explotac. kms. 39.830	Capital 2.000,0
FF. CC. del Estado 9.010	Producidos 215,2
Locomotoras 4.090	Gastos 161,8
Vag. pasajeros 3.573 carga 82.957	
" carga 82.957	Utilidades 53,4
Vapores y Veleros	Puertos Principales
Entrados 61.623	Bs, Aires calado 32 pies
Con toneladas . 38.077,039	Rosario " 27,5 "
Ríos navegab. kms. 3.215	B. Blanca ,, 25 ,,
Costas marítimas " 4.000	M. del Plata ,, 35 ,, La Plata ,, 29 ,,
Canales balizados 3.584	Diques de
Faros marítimos 142	carena " 6 "
Costas ilumin, kms. 4.268	Invertido en:
Cias. Naveg. Argent. 6	Puertos \$ m/n. 495.079.589
	Marina mercante argenti- na: toneladas599.457
,, ,, DAU 10	ma. conciadas055.401
Caminos de calzada firme .	7.231 kms.
Red Nacional de caminos pr	oyectados 42.000 "
	motores 287.021

BANCOS

(en miles de \$ m/n.)

Capital	657.728	Préstamos	****	3.424.500
Depósitos	3.426.600	Utilidades		15.487

Nacionales: 2

Bco. Nación Argentina. Sucursales 238; Cap. \$ 235.921; Préstamos \$ 1.669.100; Depósitos \$ 1.565.200.

Bco. Hipotecario Nacional. Sucs. 30; Prést. \$ 1.482.032; Reservas \$ 217.684.

Argentinos 15

Cap. \$338.471; Prést. \$1.713.100; Depósit. \$41.300.400; Utilidades \$12.535.

Extranjeros 9

Capital \$ 83.336; Prést. \$ 617.400; Depósitos \$ 707.600; Utilidades \$ 2.952.

GANADERIA AGRICULTURA Existencia de: Miles Producción de: Miles Ovinos 44.413 Cereales ... 17.481,0 ton. Bovinos 32.212 Azúcar 318,9 " Equinos 9.858 Algodón . . . 113.3 " Cabrios 5.647 Elev. de granos exist. 144 Porcinos 3.769 Prod. petróleo 2.176,6 m³ Mular y asnal 1.039 Destilerías Diques de embalse o derivados 11 1.251.000 Canales y acequias kms. Valor de las obras\$ m/n. 160.000.000 Terrenos bajo regadio hectáreas 950.000 Valor de los mismos \$ m/n. 500.000.000

EDUCACION

HD00.	TO TO TO
Enseñanza Primaria	Enseñanza Secundaria
Escuelas Primarias:	Escuelas normales 113
Nacionales 5.892	". de Artes y Ofic. 35
Provinciales 5.538	" Industriales 9
Particulares 1.130	" de Comercio 66
Total 12.560	" Profesionales 33
	" de Bellas Artes . 5
Alumnos inscriptos:	Coleg. Secundarios 195
Enseñ. Nac 790.507	Escuelas especiales:
" Prov 784.393	Esc. Navales 3
" Part 127.636	" Aviación 16
Total 1,702,536	" Minas 1
1044	,, Militares 13
ENSEÑANZA U	NIVERSITARIA
Escuelas de Derecho 4	Escuelas Filos, y Letras 2
" " Ingeniería. 5	" Cienc. Económ. 2
Madiaina A	", Quim. y Farm. 3 ", Agron. y Veter. 2
" " medicina . 4	Agion. y veter. 2
OTRAS INSTITUCIO	ONES CULTURALES
Museos, Artes, etc 40 Obser. Astronómicos 4	Observ. Meteorológ. 120 Bibliotecas 1.681
INSTITUTO GEOG	RAFICO MILITAR
Superficie triangulada	350.000 kms.2
" topografiada	288.000 "
PERIO	DISMO
Diarios	
Capital Federal 70	
Prov. y Territorios 306	1.585
376	- CONTRACTOR CONTRACTO
Total de pub	alono.

A small selection of used postcards









0 5/2/40 We are very glad to send to both of you this card from the TIM HEXTKOOP mountains of CORDOBA Balsemijns in which we are in our "honeymoon", with our HILLEGERSBERG. best remembers and (HOLLAND) . regards. Please, accept the biggest embraces from your friends (AS ALWAYS OUR ADDRESS AT YAPEYU 423 - Buenos AIRE, Rose & bucat. We wish very happy Xmas. and a good NEW YEAR 1940 UNQUILLO, the 24th Dec. 939.









<u>5c Postal Entires Plain Type</u>

This ample shows usages to several businesses in Buenos Aires.























5c Postal Entires Post Horn Type

This ample shows usages to several businesses in Buenos Aires.

















<u>5c Postal Entires Post Horn in Shield Type</u>

This ample shows usages to several businesses in Buenos Aires.









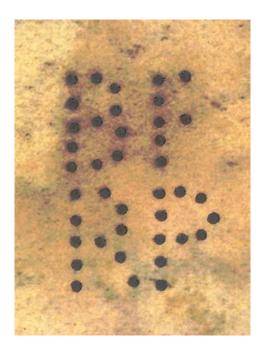
A 50c1E Perfin

This 50c stamp has a two row perfin. The first row reads 'BF' and the second row reads 'RP.'





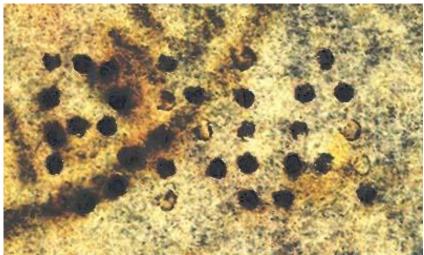
Perfin detail.



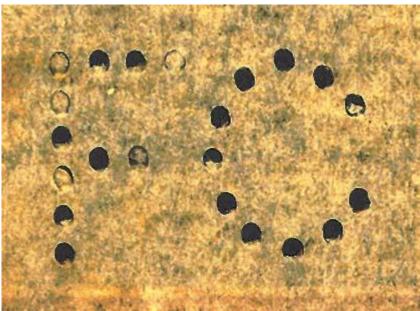
Several 2 pesos PERFINs

2P2C

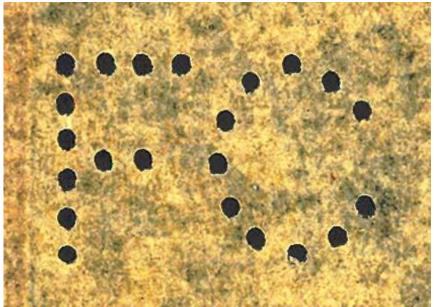




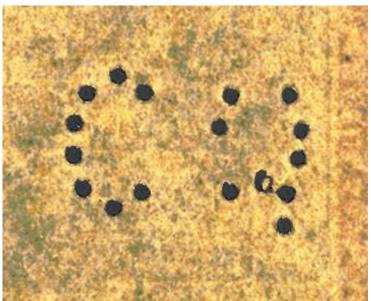




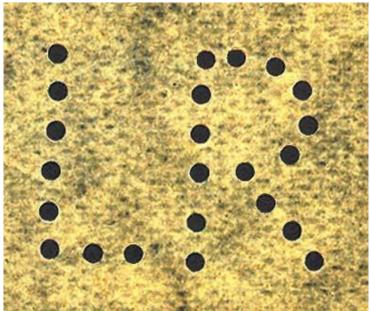




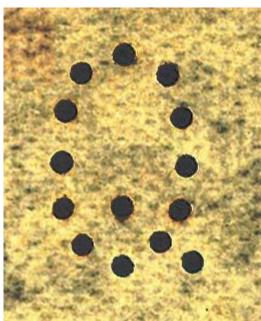






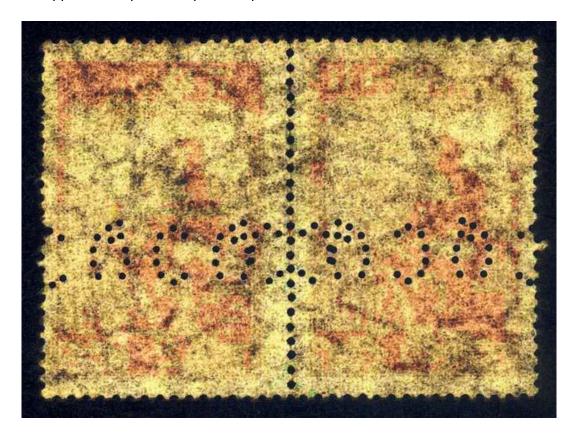






Peculiar PERFINs

CQ applied multiple times per stamp.



CQ applied in mirror image on a block of four.



NBI doubled.



Friday, June 26, 2009

BE PERFIN

These two specimens are dated.

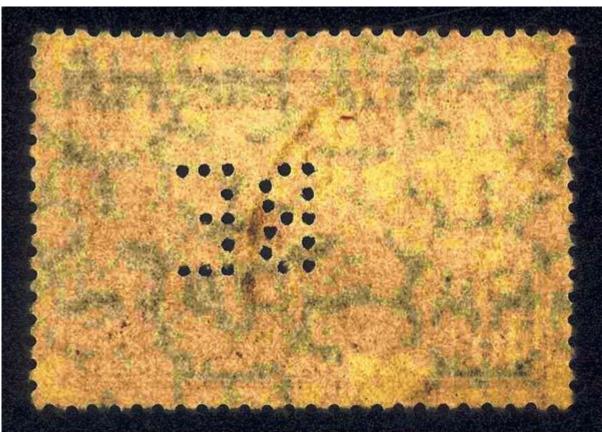
1pCL1B from 1944.





40c1L2 from 1955.





High value PERFINs

Here are ACO 5 pesos specimens,



...and several 10 pesos with PERFIN A.M



Perfins Selection in Alphabetical Order







