

# AIR POST

## FIRST AIR POST

Perforated 11, Unwatermarked

On May 6, 1918, Congress passed a bill authorizing the first official Air Post service. The rate was set at 24c, and the first route authorized was between Washington D.C. and New York with a stop in Philadelphia. The airplane proved to be a useful fighting tool during the First World War, and Secretary of War Newton Baker was looking to expand the peacetime applications for flight. The Army furnished planes and pilots for the first service.



6c Orange  
Scott C1



16c Green  
Scott C2



24c Car. Rose & Blue  
Scott C3



8c Dark Green  
Scott C4



16c Dark Blue  
Scott C5



24c Carmine  
Scott C6

# AIR POST

Perforated 11, Unwatermarked



10c Dark Blue  
Scott C7



15c Olive Brown  
Scott C8



20c Yellow Green  
Scott C9



10c Dark Blue  
Scott C10



5c Carmine & Blue  
Scott C11

Perforated 11  
Flat Plate Press



5c Violet  
Scott C12

Perforated 10½ x 11  
Rotary Press



5c Violet  
Scott C16

## AIR POST

Perforated 11, Unwatermarked



50c Green  
Scott C18

Perforated 10½ x 11  
Rotary Press



8c Olive Bister  
Scott C17

Perforated 10½ x 11  
Rotary Press



6c Dull Orange  
Scott C19

Perforated 11  
Flat Plate Press



30c Dull Blue  
Scott C24

Perforated 11



25c Blue  
Scott C20



20c Green  
Scott C21



50c Carmine  
Scott C22



6c Dark Blue & Carmine  
Scott C23

AIR POST  
AIR POST SPECIAL DELIVERY

Perforated 11



16c Dark Blue  
Scott CE1



16c Red & Blue  
Scott CE2

Lighthouse  
Lighthouse

# POSTAGE

## SPECIAL DELIVERY

Special Delivery service was instituted by an Act of Congress on March 3, 1885, and was expanded to all post offices as of October 1, 1886. A Special Delivery stamp, when affixed to any stamped letter or article of mailable matter, secured delivery during daytime and evening hours at most post offices, so that the item did not have to wait until the next day for delivery.

1885  
Unwatermarked, Perf 12



10c Blue  
Straight Lettering  
Scott E1

1888  
Unwatermarked, Perf 12



10c Blue  
Curved Lettering  
Scott E2

1893  
Unwatermarked, Perf 12



10c Orange  
Curved Lettering  
Scott E3  
*Issued concurrently  
with Columbian Issue*

1894  
Double Line Watermark  
Perf 12



10c Blue  
Line Under "TEN CENTS"  
Scott E4  
*Issued concurrently  
with Scott 246-263*

1895  
Single Line Watermark  
Perf 12



10c Blue  
Line Under "TEN CENTS"  
Scott E5  
*Issued concurrently  
with Scott 264-278*

1902  
Single Line Watermark  
Perf 12



10c Ultramarine  
Bicycle Messenger Design  
Scott E6  
*Issued concurrently  
with Scott 300-313*

POSTAGE  
SPECIAL DELIVERY

1908  
Double Line Watermark  
Perf 12



10c Green  
Scott E7

1911  
Single Line Watermark  
Perf 12



10c Ultramarine  
Scott E8

1914  
Single Line Watermark  
Perf 10



10c Ultramarine  
Scott E9

1916  
Unwatermarked  
Perf 10



10c Pale Ultramarine  
Scott E10

1911  
Unwatermarked  
Perf 11



10c Ultramarine  
Scott E11

1922  
Single Line Watermark  
Perf 10



10c Gray Violet  
Scott E12

POSTAGE  
SPECIAL DELIVERY

1925  
Unwatermarked, Perf 11



15c Deep Orange  
Scott E13



20c Black  
Scott E14

1927-31  
Unwatermarked, Perf 11 x 10½



10c Gray Violet  
Scott E15



15c Orange  
Scott E16

1944-1951  
Unwatermarked, Perf 11 x 10½



13c Blue  
Scott E17



17c Orange Yellow  
Scott E18



20c Black  
Scott E19

POSTAGE  
SPECIAL DELIVERY

1954  
Unwmk., Perf 11 x 10½



20c Deep Blue  
Scott E20

1957  
Unwmk., Perf 11 x 10½



30c Lake  
Scott E21

1969  
Unwmk., Perf 11



45c Carmine  
& Violet Blue  
Scott E22

1957  
Unwmk., Perf 11



60c Violet Blue  
& Carmine  
Scott E23

POSTAGE  
SPECIAL DELIVERY

SHADES

1902  
Double Line Watermark  
Perf 12



10c Blue  
Scott E6a

1911  
Single Line Watermark  
Perf 12



10c Violet Blue  
Scott E8b

1914  
Single Line Watermark  
Perf 10



10c Blue  
Scott E9a

1916  
Unwatermarked  
Perf 10



10c Blue  
Scott E10a

1917  
Unwatermarked  
Perf 11



10c Gray Violet  
Scott E11b

1917  
Unwatermarked  
Perf 11



10c Blue  
Scott E11c

1922  
Unwatermarked  
Perf 11



10c Deep Ultramarine  
Scott E12a

1927-31  
Unwatermarked  
Perf 11 x 10½



10c Red Lilac  
Scott E15a

1927-31  
Unwatermarked  
Perf 11 x 10½



10c Gray Lilac  
Scott E15b

## OFFICES IN CHINA

1919

Perforated 11, Unwatermarked

In 1919 the United States introduced sixteen denominations of surcharged stamps for use in the Post Offices in China. The surcharged value was exactly twice the face value of the stamp, reflecting the value of the local Chinese currency which traded at 2-to-1 to the U.S. dollar. Prior to the surcharges, payment had to be made in U.S. dollars for postage stamps, which was an inconvenience to users.

For approximately one year, beginning in October 1921, the overprinted U.S. stamps were withdrawn from sale, because the local currency fell in relation to the U.S. dollar, creating the opportunity for currency arbitrage.

After the close of World War I, provisions were made for the closing of all foreign post offices in China except as specifically provided for in the treaty. Accordingly, the U.S. Postal Office in Shanghai was closed for business after December 31, 1922.



2c on 1c Green  
Scott K1



4c on 2c Rose, Ty. I  
Scott K2



6c on 3c Violet  
Scott K3



8c on 4c Brown  
Scott K4



10c on 5c Blue  
Scott K5



12c on 6c Red Orange  
Scott K6



14c on 7c Black  
Scott K7



16c on 8c Olive Bister  
Scott K8



18c on 9c Sal. Red  
Scott K9



20c on 10c Or. Yellow  
Scott K10



24c on 12c Br. Carm.  
Scott K11



30c on 15c Gray  
Scott K12



40c on 20c Deep Ultra.  
Scott K13



60c on 30c Or. Red  
Scott K14



\$1 on 50c Lt. Violet  
Scott K15



\$2 on \$1 Violet Brown  
Scott K16

# OFFICES IN CHINA

July 3, 1922

Perforated 11, Unwatermarked

Locally Surcharged



2c on 1c Green  
Scott K17



4c on 2c Carmine, Ty. VII  
Scott K18

# PARCEL POST

1913

Perforated 12, Double-Line Watermark

The Act of Congress approved August 24, 1912, created postage rates on 4th class mail weighing 4 ounces or less at 1 cent per ounce or fraction.

Fourth class mail was expanded by adding former 2nd and 3rd class categories and was renamed "parcel post" effective Jan. 1, 1913.

On mail over 4 ounces, the rate was by the pound. These rates were to be prepaid by distinctive postage stamps. The Post Office Department prepared special stamps, usable only on parcel post packages starting Jan. 1, 1913. Other stamps were not usable on parcel post starting on that date.



1c Carmine Rose  
Scott Q1



2c Carmine Rose  
Scott Q2



3c Carmine Rose  
Scott Q3



4c Carmine Rose  
Scott Q4



5c Carmine Rose  
Scott Q5



10c Carmine Rose  
Scott Q6



15c Carmine Rose  
Scott Q7



20c Carmine Rose  
Scott Q8



25c Carmine Rose  
Scott Q9



50c Carmine Rose  
Scott Q10



75c Carmine Rose  
Scott Q11



\$1.00 Carmine Rose  
Scott Q12

## PARCEL POST POSTAGE DUE

1913

Perforated 12, Double-Line Watermark



1c Dark Green  
Scott JQ1



2c Dark Green  
Scott JQ2



5c Dark Green  
Scott JQ3



10c Dark Green  
Scott JQ4



25c Dark Green  
Scott JQ5

## SPECIAL HANDLING

1925-1926

Perforated 11, Unwatermarked



10c Yellow Green  
Scott QE1



15c Yellow Green  
Scott QE2



20c Yellow Green  
Scott QE3



25c Yellow Green  
Scott QE4