

Synopsis - Uses of the 20¢ U.S. Transport Airmail Stamp

The 20¢ Transport airmail stamp was issued August 27, 1941. Its primary purpose was to pay the 20¢ per ½ ounce overseas (Pacific Ocean) airmail rate to or from Hawaii via FAM 14. This exhibit's emphasis is on uses to and from Hawaii and the U.S. mainland and uses within the Western Hemisphere. Excluded are International uses to the rest of the world and Domestic uses. The time period is Sept. 1941 through 1945.

Many of the uses are related to the 20¢ Hawaii rate which also involved U.S. Territories and Possessions in the Pacific Ocean and other Pacific Ocean islands because mail transferred in Honolulu from both airplanes and ships. After the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941, the air routes beyond Hawaii were closed except for military transport aircraft.

Besides the Hawaii 20¢ rate, the only other published 20¢ per ½ oz rates are a 20¢ per 1/2 oz. rate to the **British Honduras** and also a 20¢ per 1/2 oz. **between Guam and Hawaii**. Examples of both rates are shown.

Many other rates were unpublished. Examples shown include.

Christmas Island - unpublished 20¢ per ½ oz. rate provided airmail from Hawaii to Continental U.S. but by surface from Christmas Island to Hawaii; an example from APO 915 Christmas Island is shown.

Midway Island - unpublished rate was 30¢ per ½ oz which was based on 20¢ between Hawaii and the U.S. and 10¢ per ½ oz. between Midway & Hawaii; a less common example from Midway to Hawaii with the 10¢ rate is shown.

American Samoa—unpublished rate was related to the published 40¢ per ½ oz airmail rate to Fiji ; airmail from American Samoa was military only by Naval Air Transport Service; it also transferred at Hawaii. An all* airmail use at the 40¢ rate is shown. (* lower rate part surface combination uses from American Samoa via Hawaii also exist.)

Higher rates to South America existed, which were reduced on April 1, 1945 and again on Nov. 1, 1946. Examples are shown of both higher and lower rates which later permitted a few solo uses.

Military uses are uncommon because after December 26, 1941 the 6¢ Special Military rate became effective for military personnel overseas

Significant Items:

Three U.S. battleships that were sunk or heavily damaged at Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941

USS Arizona; USS Oklahoma; USS Maryland

Five Internment & Relocation camps uses including Tule Lake Segregation Center and Lordsburg, New Mexico

Midway to Hawaii 10¢ per ½ oz. rate use

SS Gripsholm internee repatriation use to Rio de Janeiro

Unpublished 50¢ per ½ oz. use to Western Samoa via New Zealand

Japanese American NCO in highly decorated 442nd Nisei Regiment use from Italy to Hawaii

Brazilian Air Force use

USES OF THE 20 CENT TRANSPORT U.S. AIRMAIL STAMP

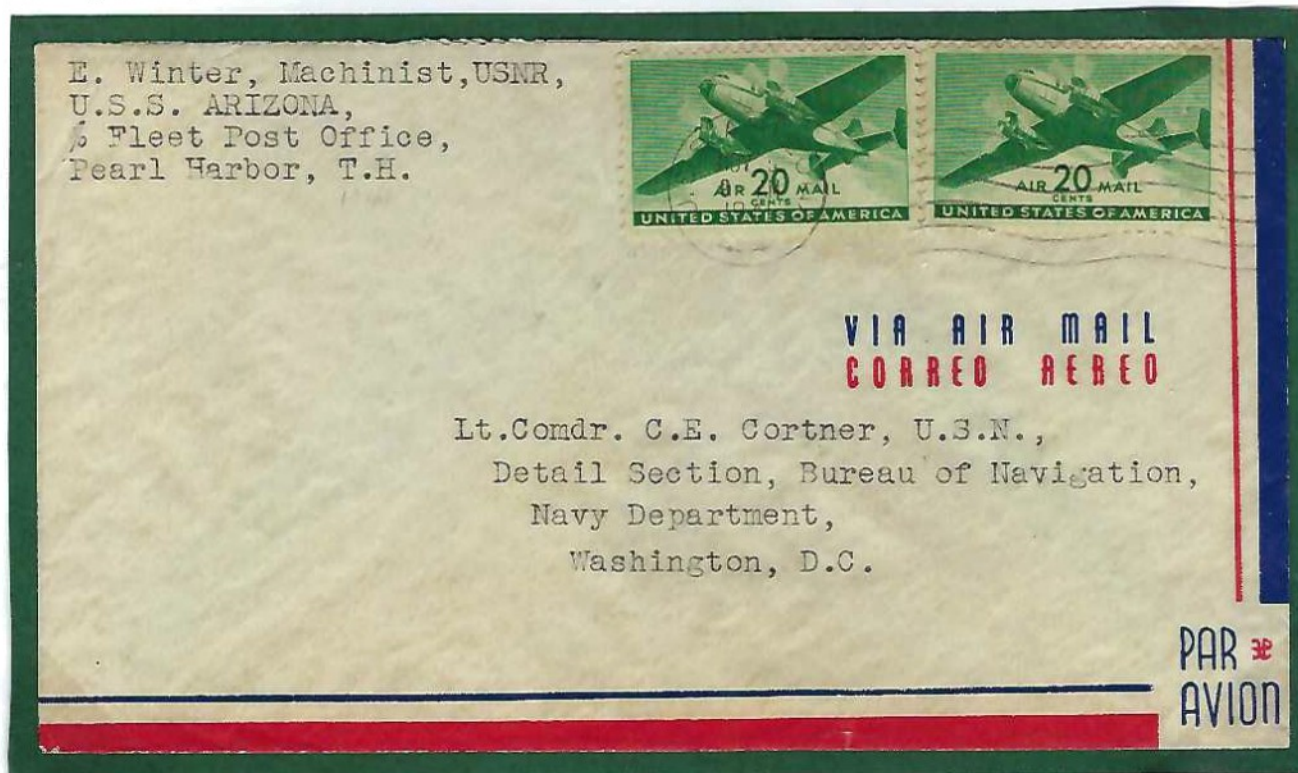
This is a postal history of the 20¢ value, the third highest value of the 1941 U.S. Airmail series known as the Transports. The 20¢ Transport airmail stamp was issued Aug. 27, 1941. Its primary purpose was to pay the 20¢ per 1/2 oz. rate between Hawaii and U.S. Besides the Hawaii rate, only two other rates were published; to British Honduras; Guam to Hawaii; four extra unpublished rates are shown

Purpose and Scope: To show Hawaii related and Western Hemisphere uses of the 20¢

Transport from Sept. 1941 to 1945 when rates were reduced. (excluded are domestic and other international uses)

Airmail Routes: The air route between the U.S. and Hawaii was a portion of FAM 14**, a Trans Pacific route to the Asian mainland. The route between the U.S. and South and Central America was mainly by FAM 6 via Miami

**** FAM 14 service remained open between Hawaii and the continental U.S. after Dec. 7, 1941, but the route beyond Hawaii was then closed except for military transport aircraft, mainly NATS and ATC (Naval Air Transport Service and Army Air Transport Command), using both Clippers and DC3's. Some wartime trans Pacific routing used portions of closed FAM 19 which extended as far southwest as New Zealand**



From U.S.S. Arizona at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii Nov. 5, 1941 (double rate = over 1/2 oz.) to continental U.S. (1,177 sailors and marines perished on Dec. 7, 1941 including sender)

Organization

U.S. Navy ships prior to Dec. 7, 1942
Hawaii related including Internment camp uses
Territories and Possessions including Inter Island
Western Hemisphere
Military
1945 Rate reductions

Significant Items are bordered in green, including:

3 U.S. battleships, sunk or heavily damaged at Pearl Harbor Dec. 7, 1941
Midway Island to Hawaii; American Samoa to Papua New Guinea
Gripsholm repatriation use to Brazil;