

**THE 1954–1962
DEFINITIVE ISSUE
OF HONG KONG**

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H.M. QUEEN ELIZABETH II

FIRST DAY OF ISSUE
5th JANUARY 1954
HONG KONG

Government of Hong Kong



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

With the compliments of THE PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICE

December 2nd, 1953.

NEW QUEEN ELIZABETH STAMPS WILL BE ON SALE
IN COLONY AS FROM JANUARY 5 NEXT

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The Postmaster-General, Mr. L.C. Saville, stated today that for the convenience of those who wish to obtain a full set on the first day of issue and to avoid excessive delay at the counters, arrangements would be made to place on sale at all offices a limited number of complete sets in cellophane wrappers. The price of a complete set will be \$19.95 but no member of the public will be supplied with more than two of these sets.



THE ORIENTAL CORPORATION (H. K.) LTD.
478 CASTLE PEAK ROAD, KOWLOON

Government of Hong Kong



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Contents

Foreword	1
Introduction	1
Design	1
Format	2
Plates	5
Plate numbers	6
Consignment letters and serial sheet numbers	6
Printing and paper	21
Watermark	21
Perforation	23
Perforation variations	24
Perforation errors	25
Other production errors	33
Forgery and another contrived concoction	38
Coils	39
Imperforate proofs	43
Other proofs	43
Fiscal overprint	44
First values	45
Additional values	46
Dates of issue, quantities and shade changes	47
Colour	55
Colour matching methodology	56
Plate flaws	57
Postal rates	58
Post offices and cancels	59
Machine cancels	63
Temporary post offices	66
Bulk mail handstamps	68
Parcel post cancels	69
Internal and other uses	73
Perforated initials (Perfins)	74
Catalogue number concordance	75
Crashes involving mail bearing 1954-62 adhesives	75
Conclusion	79
Correspondence	79
Acknowledgements	79
Bibliography	80
Footnotes	81

FOREWORD

Due to the response to their previous studies (1, 2), the authors were invited to write about the Queen Elizabeth definitives of Hong Kong. It was decided to limit the study to the adhesives printed by the typographic (or letterpress) process, namely, to the period 1954 to 1962. As with the previous studies, much of the material is available from other sources, but again, there are items of information that the authors believe have not previously been published. All information is presented in the same format as previously.

INTRODUCTION

As mentioned in the introductions to the earlier studies (1, 2), the authors make no claim to completeness or total accuracy but attempt to be as comprehensive as possible in presenting current knowledge of this issue. Fortunately, the subject is relatively recent, so there are fewer problems than with earlier material. Less information has been lost with the passage of time, and colour changes are smaller and there is more material available for study than is the case with earlier issues. However, there are still loose ends that may not be verifiable. The authors hope that readers may be stimulated by this volume, and perhaps even find they hold answers to some of the questions left unanswered by this study.

THE DEFINITIVE ADHESIVES OF QUEEN ELIZABETH II, 1954-62

DESIGN

The design of this issue is identical with that of the previous reign, with the substitution of the central vignette. Replacing the portrait of the late King, the new Queen's head faces to the left (Figure 1). This follows the British numismatic tradition of reversing the direction of the portrait with each succeeding reign. The Queen's portrait is based on a photograph numbered O 15924 A (3) taken by Dorothy Wilding Limited, London.



Figure 1. King George VI and Queen Elizabeth II

The reversion to the original Joubert Queen Victoria design (Figure 2) in 1938 for King George VI was very nicely highlighted by John Easton (4), as follows:



Figure 2. Queen Victoria

“The decision to revert to Joubert’s grand design of 1861, including his neat lettering, was a mark of genius, and in the welter of highly decorative colonial issues that now confront us the Hong Kong stamps stand out like the memory of a quiet anchorage on the evening after a turbulent regatta. It is pleasant to see that the crown has not been dropped; it is used as an upper corner piece, and in this respect only does the design differ from its original. This is obviously the solution of the difficulty which has confronted all designers of ‘Formal’ stamps since the beginning of the century, and has caused the King’s head to occupy so rarely the rectangle in which it is displayed so much to its advantage.”

FORMAT

Each sheet consisted of 100 adhesives arranged in a single pane comprising ten rows of ten adhesives (Figures 3 and 4). The sheet overall measured about 230mm (9.06”) horizontally and 275mm (10.83”) vertically. Side margins could be as narrow as 11mm (0.43”) or as wide as 17mm (0.67”), as measured from the centre of the lines of perforation. The upper and lower margins varied from 14mm (0.55”) to 17.5mm (0.69”) in width with apparently one exception. One author owned a top right requisition block (A21362) of the 20c with an upper margin of 21.5mm (0.85”) wide, and a bottom right plate block with a lower margin of 9mm (0.35”) wide, which could have been from the same or a similar sheet (Figure 5, right).

Each adhesive measured 20.4mm (0.80”) wide by 24.2mm (0.95”) deep, as measured from the centres of the perforation lines. The printed area of the adhesive measured 18.6mm (0.73”) wide by 22.2mm (0.87”) deep.

For the mono-coloured low values each pane of 100 adhesives was surrounded by a set of coextensive marginal rules or ‘Jubilee’ lines (Figure 3). The purpose of these lines was to take the wear of the passage of the ink rollers over the edge of the printing plate. The bi-coloured high values had two sets of such lines, the inner set being those of the key plate (portrait and frame; Figure 4), and the outer set belonging to the duty plate (value and inscription; Figure 4). All the plates had perforation registration marks (perforation pinning points) in the middle of the top and bottom margins (Figures 3 and 4).



Figure 3. Mono-coloured low value sheet

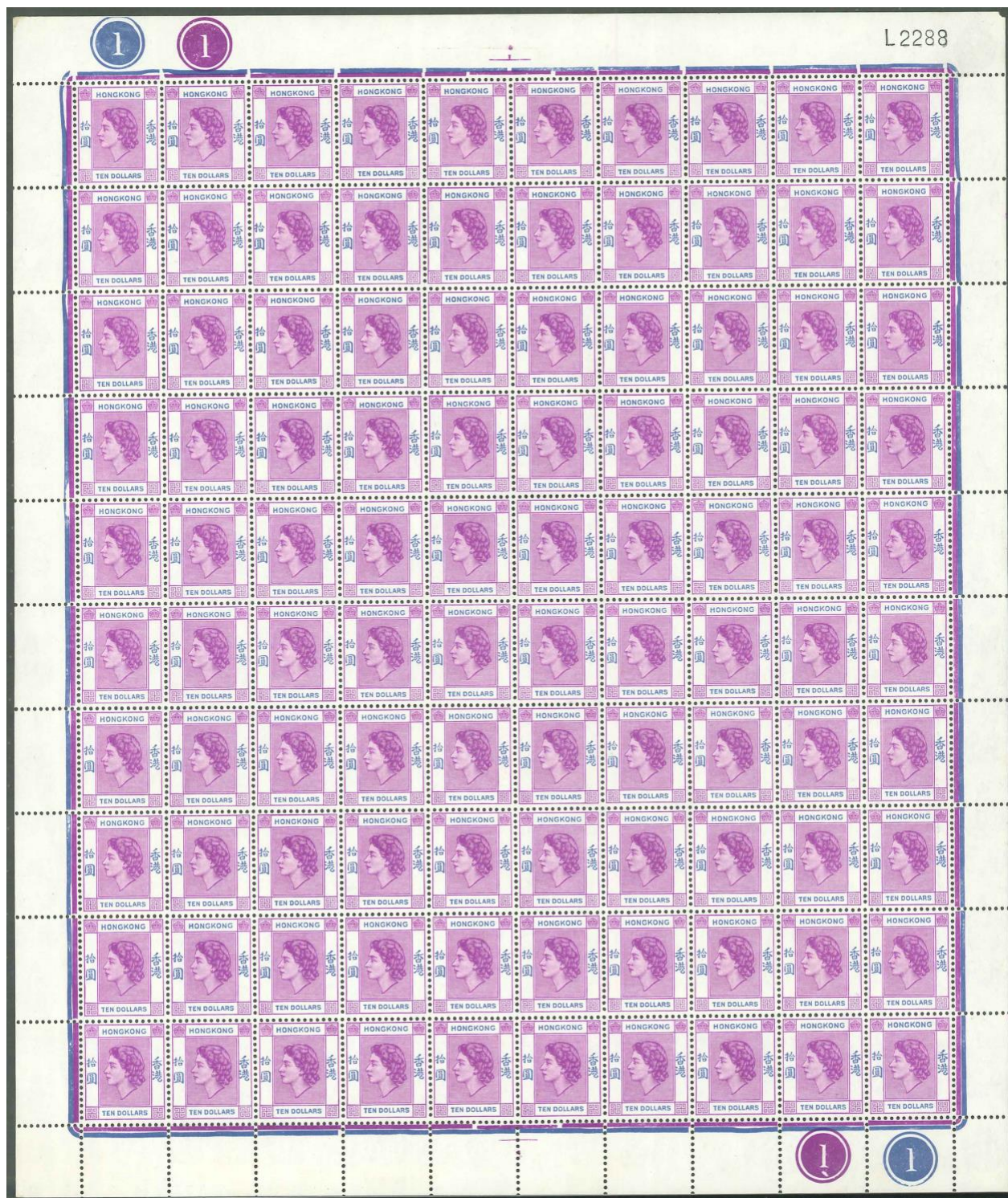


Figure 4. Bi-coloured high value sheet



Figure 5. Normal (left) and abnormal (right) top and bottom margin widths

PLATES

The authors believe that this issue was printed on a flatbed press and therefore the plates were also flat. Although there is no direct evidence, consistency in positional flaws strongly suggests that each plate was in a single unit, including the surrounding protective Jubilee lines. The metal plate was most likely mounted on a wooden backing block to raise the printing surface to ‘type height’: 23.3mm (0.92”) (5). The plate unit was then locked into a metal frame or ‘chase’ by means of wooden or lead strips called ‘furniture’, secured by geared metal wedges or ‘quoins’, and then tightened with a geared key. The whole composite was then placed onto the bed of the printing machine, which was probably a Wharfedale cylinder press (6).

PLATE NUMBERS

The plate numbers each appear as a white numeral in a solid-coloured circle surrounded by a coloured line (Figure 6). They appear twice on each sheet of the mono-coloured low values: Above the second adhesive of the top row (position 1/2), and below the ninth one in the bottom row (10/9). On the bi-coloured high values, the numbers at these positions are for the key plate, there being additional numbers for the duty plates above the first adhesive in the top row (1/1), and the tenth one in the bottom row (10/10).

All values appeared on plate “1”. In some cases, the plates wore out or were damaged and so were replaced; the 10c value ran to plate “8”, and high value key plate “1” was replaced by plate “2”. These changes are summarized in Table I.

Table I. Replacement plates

<i>Value(s)</i>	<i>Plate(s)</i>	<i>Introduced¹</i>	<i>Issue date</i>	<i>Comments</i>
10c	2	C	7/54	Part run using Plate 1
"	3 4 5	H	4/57	Three plates used for this printing only
"	6	L	2/58	
"	7	P	3/59	
"	8	T	1/61	Part run using Plate 7
\$ values	2 ²	T	12/60	Duty plates remained as 1
¹ Consignment letters			² Key plate 2	

CONSIGNMENT LETTERS AND SERIAL SHEET NUMBERS

For all consignments sent to the colony, the sheets of each value were numbered consecutively for accounting purposes, each consignment being designated by a ‘consignment’ (or ‘requisition’) letter. In most cases the letter identifies a new printing (requisition), but sometimes sheets from a previous printing (or printings) were included with a new printing for a particular consignment. For example, the second printing of the \$10 comprised 2,520 sheets, of which 246 were sent to the Crown Agents Bureau. The Bureau replaced these 246 sheets with the same number of sheets of the first printing they still had in stock. Then 2,520 sheets were despatched by De La Rue to the colony with consignment letter “C”. Thus, 246 sheets of the first printing, the bulk of which had been sent in the first consignment (letter “A”), went on sale in the colony together with the bulk of the second printing (2,274 sheets) with letter “C” in the margin. Examples of such stock carried across can often be identified from the shade(s), perforation type, margin width, Jubilee line damage and/or marginal markings (Figures 11, 12 and 13). Table VIII shows the stock carried across, i.e., that exchanged for a new printing.



Figure 6. Plate number plug positions on low (top) and high values (bottom)

The consignment letter and sheet serial number were always printed in black, and normally in the top margin at the right above positions 1/9 and/or 1/10 (Figure 7). However, sometimes they were printed in other positions (Table II and Figure 8), but in all such cases, except for 10c/A (Table II), the bulk of the consignments had the letter and number in the normal position. For 10c/A, the consignment letter and sheet serial number were always in the left margin next to position 1/1.



Figure 7. Normal serial sheet number position, above 1/10 (right) or 1/9 and 1/10 (left)

Table II. Consignment letter/serial number position variations

Margin	Position(s)	Value(s)/Consignment letters
Left	1/1	5c/A ¹ 5c/P 5c/T 10c/A ² 10c/C 10c/P 20c/A 20c/X \$5/Q ³
	6/1	\$2/Q
	6/1-7/1	5c/X 10c/Q 15c/X 25c/T
	?	5c/K 25c/H 25c/L 25c/P
Right	4/10	25c/L
	5/10	5c/K
	10/10	15c/E 50c/Q \$5/X
	?	15c/A 30c/X
Top	1/4	5c/C 40c/L
	1/4-1/5	5c/X 10c/P 30c/X
	1/5	\$5/M ⁴
	1/7-1/8	10c/P ⁵
Bottom	1/8-1/9	10c/P ⁵
	10/1	10c/C 15c/Q 40c/L \$1/L
	10/6	\$1/E

¹ Only in cases where the same letter/number is found in the normal position

² This appears to be the only position for 10c/A, because none are known above positions 1/9 and/or 1/10

³ All examples seen appear to represent stock (previous printing[s]) exchanged

⁴ Both examples (M11470-1) seen are in a distinct apple-green shade, indicating a probable second printing run

⁵ Only in cases of sheets that were renumbered, the original number being positioned normally



Top 1/4-1/5



Top 1/4



Top 1/4-1/5



Top 1/8-1/9 (renumbered)



Top 1/5



Top 1/5

Figure 8. Consignment letter/serial number position variations



Left 1/1



Left 1/1



Left ?/1



Left 6/1-7/1



Right 4/10



Right 5/10

Figure 8. Consignment letter/serial number position variations (continued)



Right 10/10



Right 10/10



Left 1/1



Bottom 10/1



Bottom 10/1



Bottom 10/6

Figure 8. Consignment letter/serial number position variations (continued)

The serial sheet numbers appeared in three fonts, and consignment letters A, C, G, H and P appeared in different fonts. Table III lists all the consignment letter/serial sheet number type combinations known to the authors.

Table III. Requisition letter/serial sheet number font combinations														
	5c	10c	15c	20c	25c	30c	40c	50c	65c	\$1	\$1.30	\$2	\$5	\$10
A06088	•	•	•	•	•			•		•				
A12979	•		•	•	•	•	•	•		•		•		
A0218													•	•
C29474	•	•												
C45318	•	•												
C54286	•					•		•						
C00025						•		•		•		•		•
C01884										•		•		
C0693													•	•
E08327	•	•	•			•	•	•		•		•	•	•
G002881	•													
G082913	•													
H16335		•			•	•		•		•		•		
H04381								•						
H07718												•		
								•				•		
K112869	•													
L08623		•			•	•	•	•		•		•	•	•
M02641													•	
P08600	•	•			•	•		•		•		•		•
P145623	•	•			•			•		•				
P2387	•	•										•		•
Q06067	•	•	•	•		•	•	•		•		•	•	•
S14603									•		•			
T00144	•	•	•	•	•		•	•		•		•	•	•
U18520						•						•		
W04295			•	•			•							•
X10644	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•	•	•	•
Y66245							•							

The number of digits in the serial sheet number was almost always the same as that of the number of sheets requested and despatched. For example, if the number of sheets to be despatched was 2,500, the first sheet was numbered 0001; and for 110,000 sheets, the first sheet was numbered 000001. Exceptions to this rule are listed in Table IV.

Table IV. Serial sheet number variations

<i>Value</i>	<i>Consignment¹</i>	<i>Requested</i>	<i>Despatched</i>	<i>Example(s)</i>
5c	E	100,000	97,133	58875
"	T	129,000	129,000	0570 026328
15c	T	5,000	5,000	349 3052
30c	Q	10,000	9,992	2773
\$2	C	10,000	9,964	0277 01956
\$5	L	4,800	5,040	00130 1575

¹ Consignment letters

In the cases of 5c/E and 30c/Q, the numbers of digits in the sheet serial numbers match those of the numbers of sheets requested rather than the numbers despatched to the colony. The four- and three-digit numbers for 5c/T and 15c/T could represent the 1,000 and 500 sheets that were collected from the Crown Agents Bureau's stocks on requisitions 3370/2 and 3370/4, respectively (Table VIII). Considering the example seen by the authors is from the first printing, the four-digit number for \$2/C almost certainly represents sheets returned to De La Rue by the Bureau in exchange for sheets of the new printing. Also, the "C" is in a different font from that in the case of the five-digit examples. However, the authors have no explanation for the five-digit number for \$5/L, particularly as there was apparently no exchange with the Bureau in that case (see Table VIII).

Some sheets of 10c/P, 10c/X, 15c/Q, 25c/T and 40c/A had the original numbers crossed out in ink and new numbers printed alongside. For 10c/P (Figure 9), the new numbers are either 1,000 (e.g., P077521 changed to P078521), 999 (e.g., P077524 to P078523), or 99 (e.g., P223221 to P223320) greater than the erroneous ones. The P077524 to P078523 change (999 difference) is odd because sheets P077521-22 and 29-34 were renumbered P078521-22 and 29-34, respectively, the difference being 1,000 in each case.

An example of 10c/X with the number changed from X227066 to X238066 (11,000 difference) has appeared in auction (7). In the case of 15c/Q, two examples renumbered from Q18491-92 to Q18562-63 (71 difference) are known (Figure 9). For 25c/T, the new numbers are either 6,500 (e.g., T04952 to T11452 (7), T05325-26 to T11825-26 and T05626 to T12126) or 6,499 (e.g., T05153 to T11652) greater (Figure 9). Many sheets were wrongly numbered because an example with the number changed from T03510 to T10010 (6,500 difference) is extant. Also, a top right block of 40c/A with the original number changed from A22156 to A22356 (200 difference) is known (Figure 9). Finally, one example of 50c/T, T182634, has been seen with the initial digit "1" altered in ink to a "0" (Figure 9).



Figure 9. Serial sheet number changes

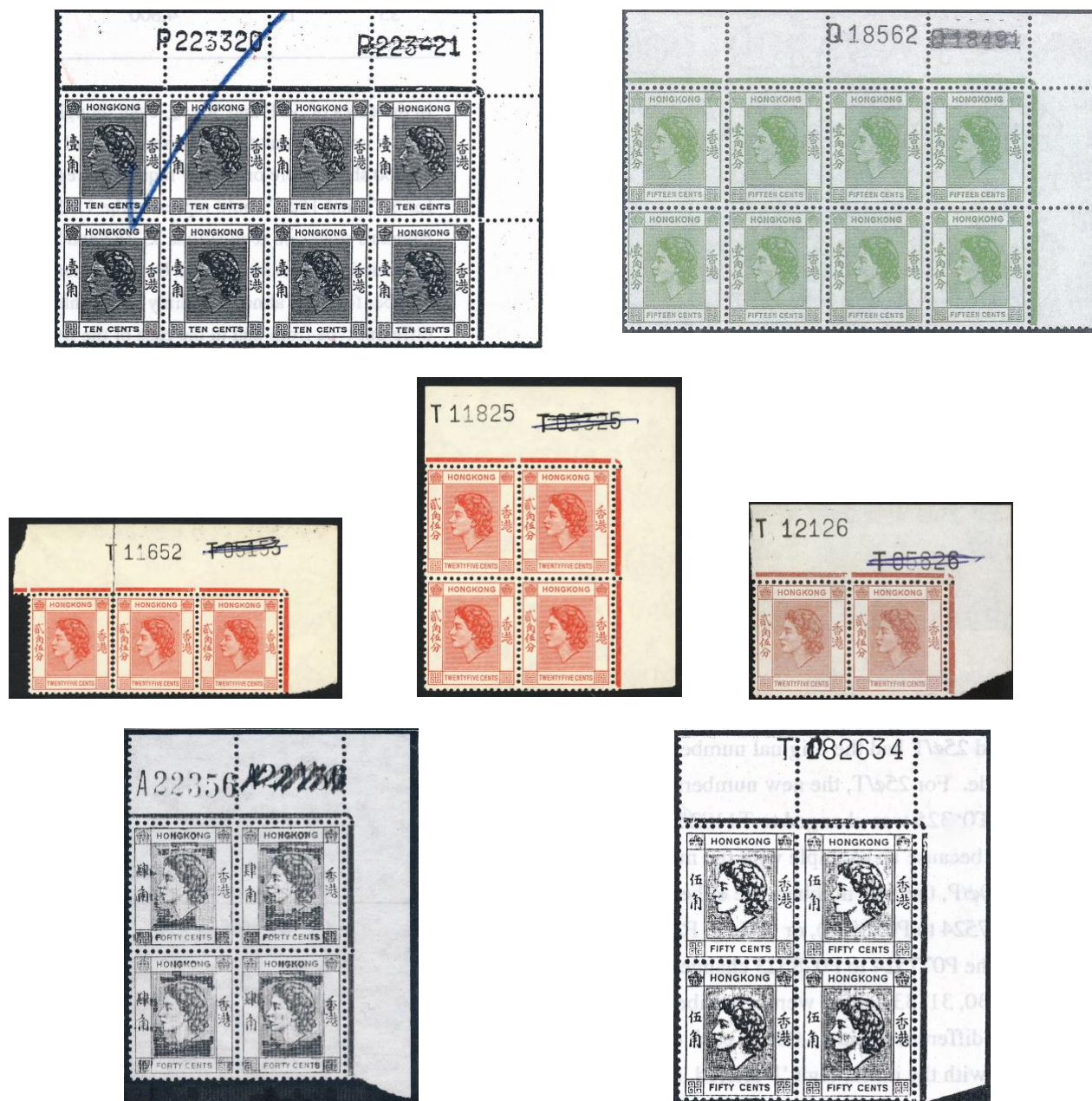


Figure 9. Serial sheet number changes (continued)

The authors have seen two cases of the same letter/number appearing in different positions, both of which involve 5c/A. One author had two top left blocks with the numbers A00008 and A00013 in the left margin next to position 1/1, and two top right blocks with the same numbers, respectively, in the usual position above 1/10 (Figure 10). The blocks appear to be from the same sheets, respectively. The A00013 blocks are mint, but the A00008 pair are used (dated 4 OC 62, over eight years after their release!). It is tempting to speculate that all the sheets of 10c/A were numbered first in the wrong position (see Table II). Then the first few sheets of 5c/A were numbered in the same position before the mistake was noticed and the decision was made to renumber these sheets in the correct position before numbering the remaining sheets.



Figure 10. Sheets numbered twice

In addition to consignment letters and shades, certain printings can be identified by other means. All values on requisition 9452/1 (with consignment letter E) have a wide right margin perforated through, which allows a tenth pin to become visible at the right. Usually on sheets with the right margin perforated through, only nine pins are evident. Also, the tenth pin is displaced downwards (Figure 11).

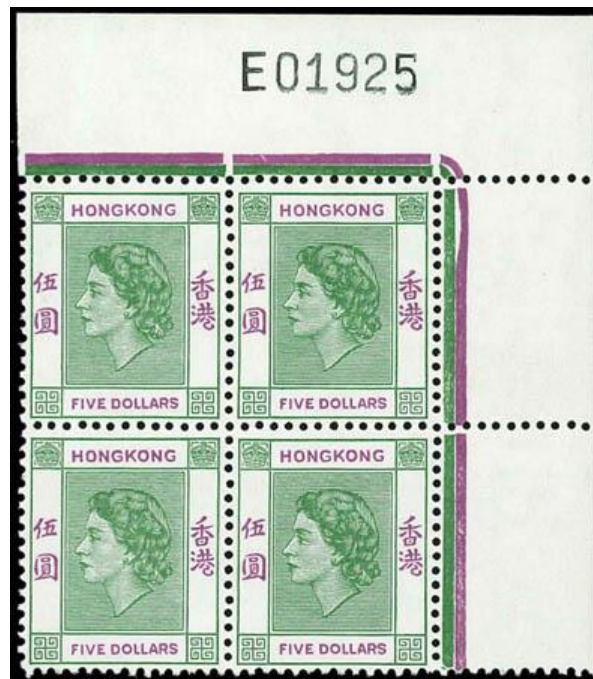


Figure 11. Consignment E, wide right margin with 10 pins

Top right blocks of the high values with consignment letters A, C, H and L can be distinguished by means of marks in the key plate colours in the right margin (Figure 12). The reason for these marks is not known but they may have been used by the printer for some purpose.

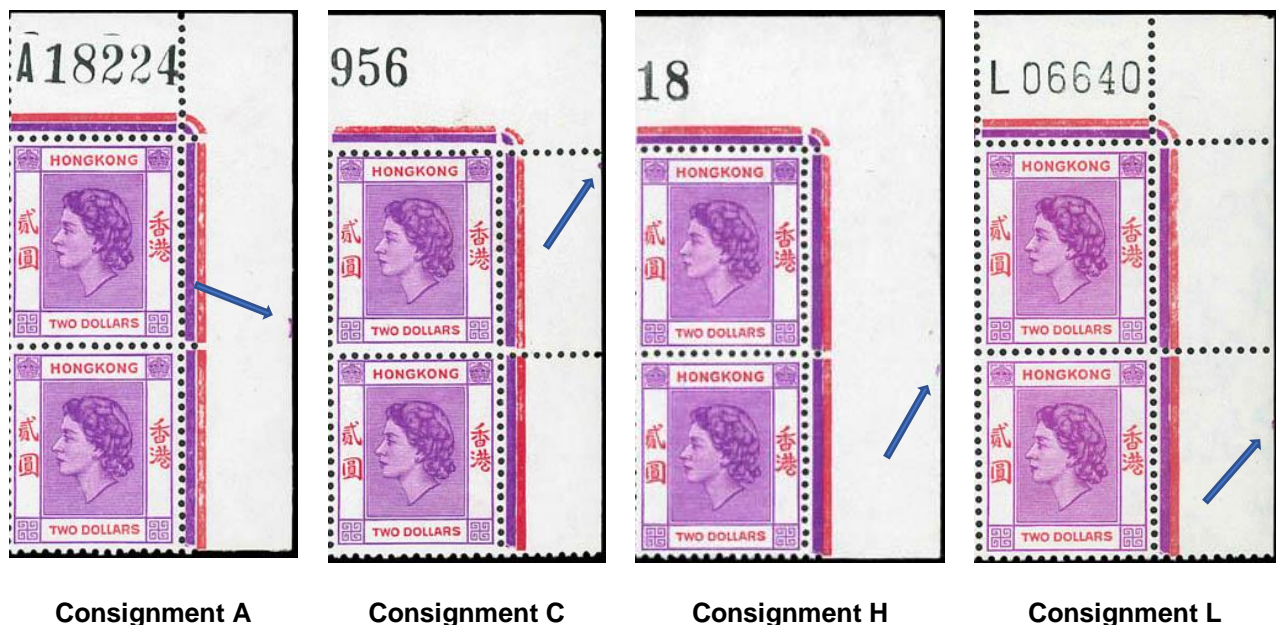


Figure 12. Printer's marginal marks

Figure 13 shows examples of the first, second, third and sixth printings of the \$10 value that were returned from the Crown Agents Bureau and released with later consignments (see page 6). The blocks numbered A0218 and C0241 are both from the first printing, the bulk of which was issued

as consignment A. This is shown by the key and duty plate shades, the perforation type (bottom feed with one extension hole in the right margin; Table V), and the mark in the right margin (Figure 12). The blocks numbered C1310 and E5168 are both from the second printing (bulk issued as consignment C), as judged from the key and duty plate shades, the mark in the right margin (Figure 12), and the fact that block E5168 does not have the duty plate ‘Jubilee’ (marginal rule) line damage to the right of positions 1/10 and 2/10 that block E2123 (third printing) does. The three blocks numbered E2123, L2055 and P2387 are all from the third printing (bulk issued as consignment E), as shown by the key and duty plate shades and the wide right margin perforated through with the rightmost pin displaced downwards (Figure 11). The example numbered L2055 is odd because there is no mention of any exchange of stock with the Crown Agents Bureau in the Crown Agents records (Table VIII). The block numbered L2503 is an example of the fourth printing (bulk issued as consignment L); note the mark in the right margin (Figure 12). The example numbered P0032 is from the fifth printing (bulk issued as consignment P). There is a mark in the right margin at the same position as in the fourth printing, but the fifth printing can be distinguished from the latter by the further damage to the duty plate ‘Jubilee’ line above position 1/10. The blocks numbered Q0252 and T0986 are from the sixth printing (bulk issued as consignment Q), this is shown by the key and duty plate shades, and the perforation type (bottom feed with perforation through the right margin; Table V). The blocks numbered T0591, W2529 and X00242 are from the seventh (bulk issued as consignment T), eighth (bulk issued as consignment W), and ninth printings (bulk issued as consignment X), respectively. The seventh and eighth printings both had imperforate top and right margins but can be told apart from their key and duty plate shades. The ninth printing had an imperforate top margin but the right margin was perforated through, and the key and duty plate shades are distinctly deep.



First printing. Bulk despatched with consignment letter A

Figure 13. Examples of stock exchanged between De La Rue and Crown Agents



Second printing. Bulk despatched with consignment letter C



Third printing. Bulk despatched with consignment letter E

Figure 13. Examples of stock exchanged between De La Rue and Crown Agents (contd)



**Fourth printing.
Bulk despatched with
consignment letter L**



**Fifth printing.
Bulk despatched with
consignment letter P**



Sixth printing. Bulk despatched with consignment letter Q



Figure 13. Examples of stock exchanged between De La Rue and Crown Agents (contd)



Figure 13. Examples of stock exchanged between De La Rue and Crown Agents (contd)

PRINTING AND PAPER

This issue was exclusively printed by De La Rue using the typographic (letterpress) process. All printings appeared on paper with the *Multiple Script CA* watermark. The lowest values, the 5c, 10c and 15c, were printed on unsurfaced wove paper, while the remaining values were printed on surface-filled ‘chalky’ paper.

Surface-filled paper is one that has been treated with a coating of calcium oxide and then ‘calendered’ by means of a highly polished metal roller. This produces a smooth, non-porous surface. Ink is less absorbed by such a surface and appears brighter on it. The paper can also be distinguished by touching a piece of untarnished silver wire to the surface. ‘Chalky’ paper will show a pencil-like mark, which can be removed with a soft eraser. **WARNING!** Only touch an edge such as a perforation tip: erasing will also remove the printed design. The coated paper was used as a device against fraudulent cleaning and re-use of the adhesives.

WATERMARK

As previously mentioned, this issue appeared on *Multiple Script CA* paper, with the watermark upright (Figure 14). The one exception known is on the 10c value, where the watermark can be found inverted (Figure 15). This is on Plate 7 and is believed to be from consignment P of 11 March 1959. The Stanley Gibbons Part 1 (8) and Yang (9) numbers for this variety are 179aw and 170c, respectively.



Figure 14.
Multiple Crown CA watermark

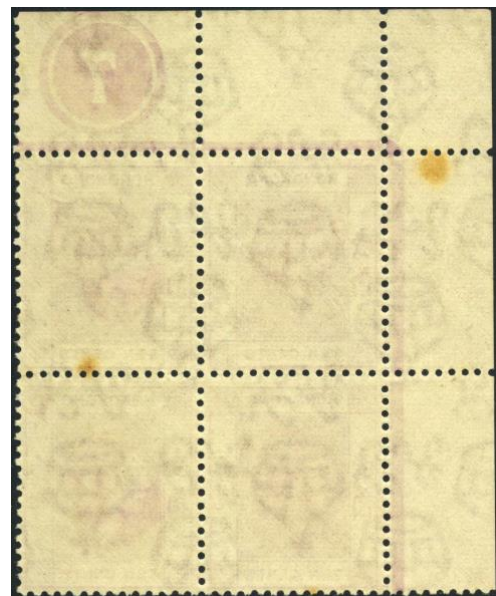


Figure 15. 10c, inverted watermark

PERFORATION

Perforation was carried out using a single comb perforator, gauged 13.7 x 14.2 (the first measurement being the horizontal one). The sheets were fed through the perforating machine in one of two ways. They were either fed in top first, resulting in the top margin being imperforate and the bottom one being perforated through; or bottom first, giving a perforated through top margin and an imperforate bottom one. These types are described as ‘top feed’ and ‘bottom feed’, respectively. The side margins either have one extension hole or are perforated through, except in a few cases (Table V, and Figures 16 and 17).

Table V. Perforation types														
Cons.	5c	10c	15c	20c	25c	30c	40c	50c	65c	\$1	\$1.30	\$2	\$5	\$10
A	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1		1		1	1	1
C	2	1 2 3				1 ^e 4		1 ^e 2		1 ^e 4		1 ^e 4	4	1 ^e 4
E	3	3 4	3			4	4	4		4		4	4	4
G	2 4													
H		1 2 3 4 ^a			1 ^e 3	3		2		2		2		
K	4 ^{bcd}													
L		4 ^c			3 4	4	4	4 ^b		3		2 ^e 3	3	4
M													3	
P	3 4	3			3 4	4		3		3		3		3 4 ^e
Q	4	3	3	1 ^e 3		3 4	3	3		3		3	3 4	3
S									4		4 ^d			
T	4	4 ^{cf}	1 3	2 3	2		2	1 2 4		2 4		4	2 4	2 3 ^e
U						2						2		
W			2 4 ^c	3 4			4							2
X	4	2 4	2	2	2	2	2	2		2 ^e 4	4	2 4	2	4
Y							4							

Type	Side margins	Top margin	Bottom margin	Figure
1	one extension hole	through perforated	imperforate	16
2	one extension hole	imperforate	through perforated	16
3	through perforated	through perforated	imperforate	16
4	through perforated	imperforate	through perforated	16

	Variations	Figure
a	ninth pin from right missing in left margin	17
b	fifth pin from left missing in right margin	17
c	only nine and eight pins in left and right margins, respectively	17
d	top margin perforated through in case of double perforation error	17
e	almost certainly stock carried across from earlier printings	17
f	also normal, i.e., both margins through perforated	—



Type 1

Type 2

Type 3

Type 4

Figure 16. Perforation types

PERFORATION VARIATIONS

In addition to the normal configuration, there are three variations of perforation type 4 (Table V). On sheets of 10c/H with this perforation type, the ninth pin from the right in the left margin is missing (type 4a; Figure 17). Some sheets of 5c/K and all those of 50c/L have the fifth pin from

the left missing in the right margin (type 4b; Figure 17). Finally, in the case of some sheets of 5c/K and 10c/T, and all those of 10c/L and 15c/W, there are only nine and eight pins in the left and right margins, respectively (type 4c; Figure 17).



4a. Ninth pin from the right missing in the left margin



4b. Fifth pin from the left missing in the right margin



4c. Only nine and eight pins in the left and right margins, respectively

Figure 17. Perforation variations

PERFORATION ERRORS

The best-known major perforation error is on the 5c value from consignment T of 7 February 1961. Two sheets are recorded to have been issued with the top nine rows imperforate, only the bottom row having received a blow of the single perforating comb and thus being perforated on

three sides (Figure 18). However, two top right blocks of four numbered T035549 and T035554 have appeared in auctions (Figure 19), which means that there could have been at least four other similar sheets, numbered T035550 to T035553. The sheets were bottom-fed into the perforator, and then either received one blow of the comb and were removed from the perforator, or, because the machine failed to advance the sheets, received repeated blows of the comb at the same position, although there are no signs of the latter having occurred. In a letter to Colonel F. W. Webb (10), Dr. Peter Shek stated “The lower edge of the bottom row is completely perforated whilst the bottom row is perforated vertically between each stamp to within 3-4 perforations of the top horizontal edge. There is a scar across Nos. 10 of Rows 6 & 7, as though the perforating comb had jammed and marked the stamps mentioned.” The two confirmed sheets were discovered in a large quantity purchased for use on bulk mail at a special counter reserved for such sales (11). The Webb (12), Part 1 (8), and Yang (9) numbers for this variety are 3, 178a, and 169c-g, respectively.

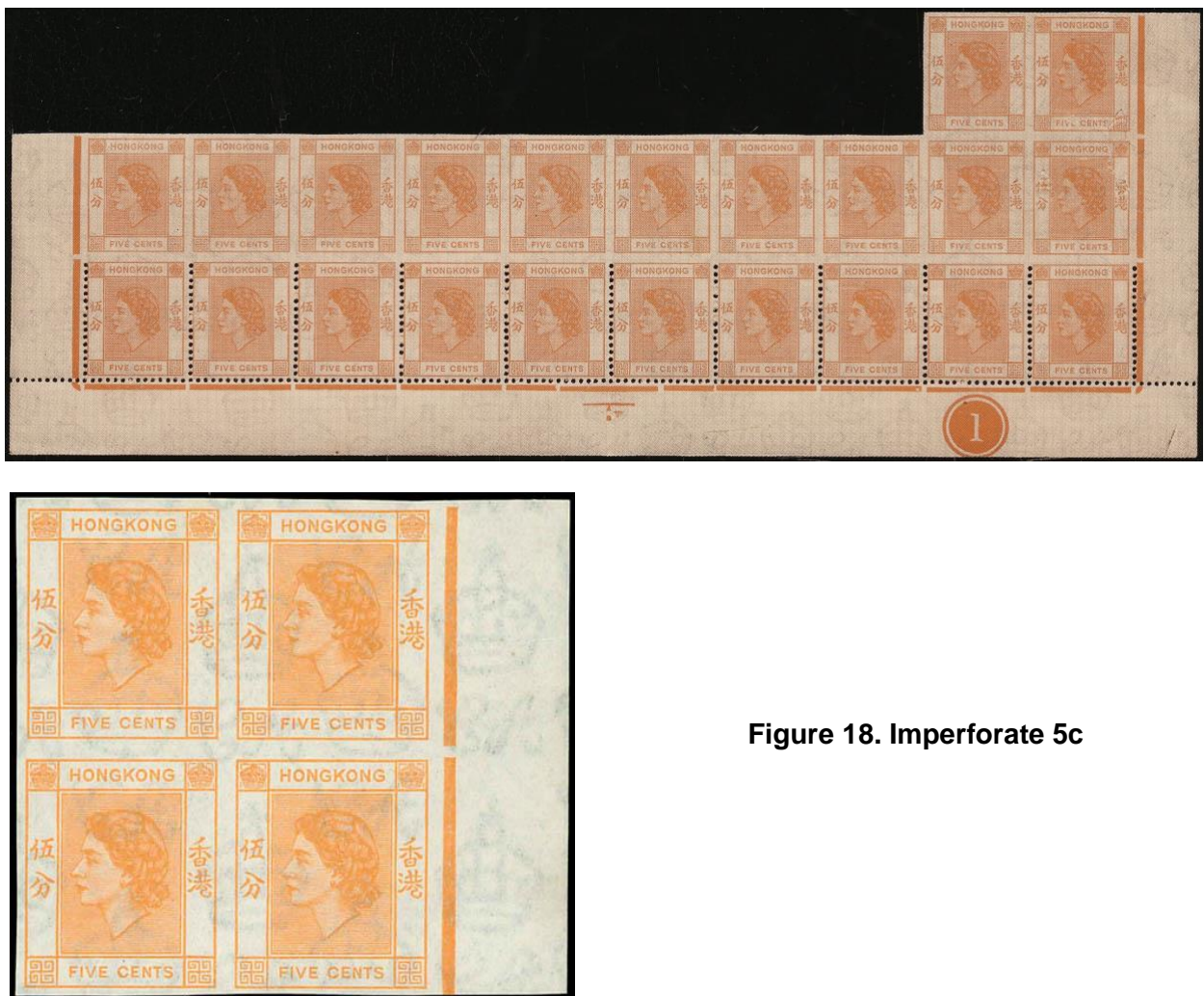


Figure 18. Imperforate 5c



Figure 19. Imperforate 5c consignment letter blocks

Another major error is the 10c value with the bottom margin imperforate (Yang 170b) listed in Yang's Postage Stamp & Postal History Catalogue of Hong Kong (9). Also, in early 1957 there was an unconfirmed report from Hong Kong that horizontally imperforate adhesives from a coil printing of the 10c value had been seen in the colony (13). However, the authors have never seen an example of either 10c error.

The authors know of four occasions when sheets appear to have been completely perforated twice: one block each of the 50c and \$1 (plates 2/1) values with one set of perforation holes displaced upwards and to the right, and two blocks of the 50c value perforated both normally and at an angle (Figure 20). However, all appear to be contrived. In the cases of the first 50c block and the \$1 one, the perforation pin signatures of the consecutive blows of the comb do not match. For example, the upper pin hole indicated for the \$1 block is displaced to the left, whereas the corresponding pin hole indicated below is in line with the adjacent holes. If it had really been put through the perforator twice the signatures would be identical because the same single comb would have been used. The two 50c blocks also perforated at an angle are suspect because for one block there are only 11 vertical pin holes, instead of the usual 17, for the lower blow of the comb, and for the other block the perforation pin signatures of the consecutive blows of the comb do not match.

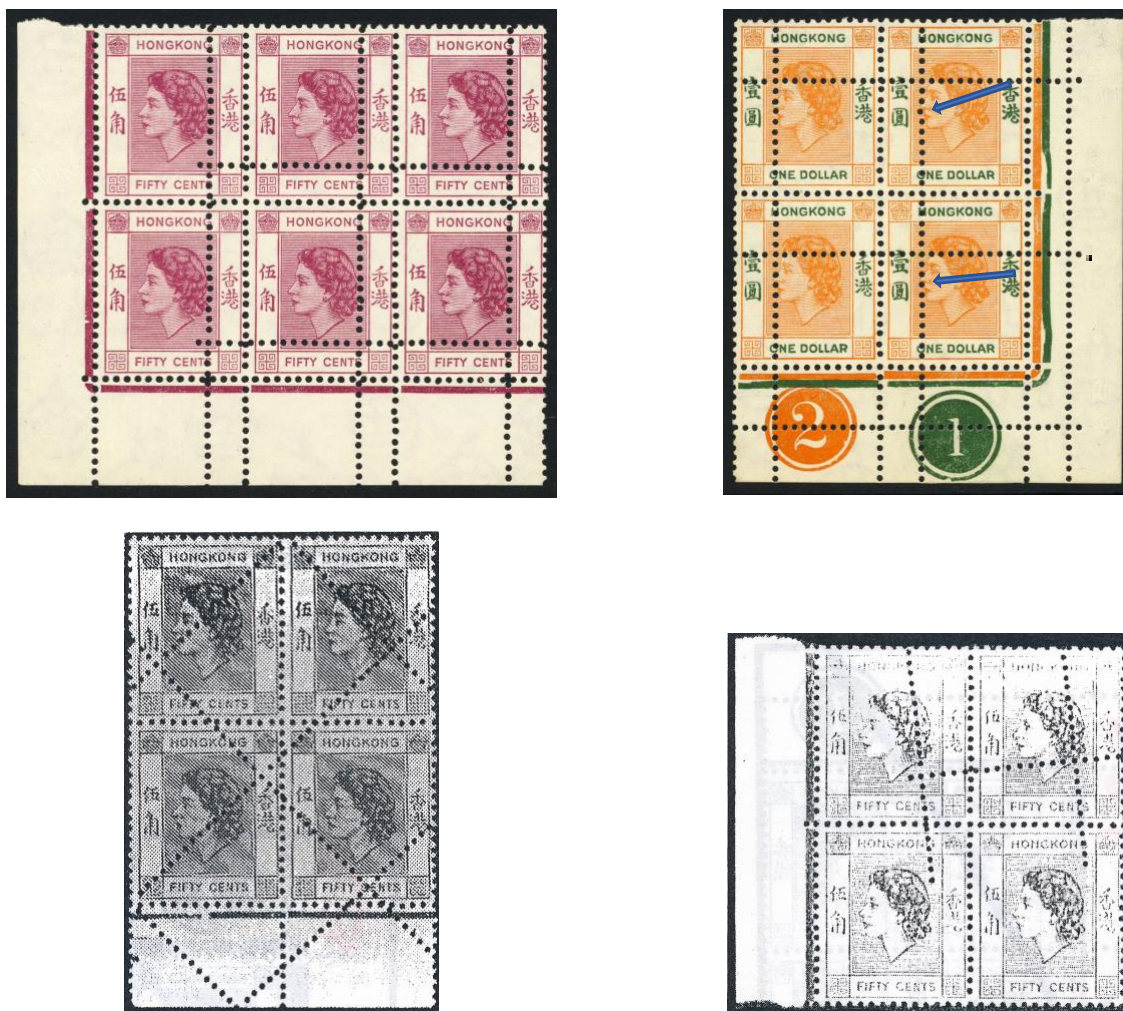


Figure 20. Sheets fraudulently perforated for a second time

At least one sheet of the 5c value, numbered P179222, was perforated twice in the top margin due to an extra blow of the perforation comb, and one sheet of the \$1.30 value, numbered S34107, shows double perforation due to a premature blow of the comb. This printing of the \$1.30 was fed into the perforator from the top and thus the top margin should be imperforate (Figure 21).



Figure 21. Sheets perforated twice at the top

Another type of perforation variety was due to the corner of a sheet (or sheets) being folded over before perforation, examples seen by the authors comprise 5c/K043111 (top right), 5c/X163689, X163692, X163753 and X163754 (top left), 10c/C278537 (bottom left), 10c (left marginal vertical pair, unfortunately cropped; appears to be from the bottom left of plate 7), 10c (bottom right), 50c/P46135 (bottom right), 50c (top left, with double fold), \$1 (bottom right; consignment A, plates 1/1; two examples seen), and \$1.30/X13174 and X13281 (top right)(Figure 22). For the first two 5c/X examples, the top left three adhesives are affected. Considering that the third adhesive is much more affected on the X163689 block than on the X163692 one, they could have been perforated together; in which case, at least, the sheets numbered X163690 and X163691 could have been perforated with them. Only two adhesives are affected on the X163753 and X163754 blocks. Because there are two more perforation holes at the top of the second adhesive of the X163753 block compared to in the case of the X163754 one, they could have been perforated together with the former sheet on top. The lower adhesive of the vertical 10c pair is nearly completely imperforate at the left and also, due to the fold the bottom of the adhesive, was cut off on perforation. In the case of the \$1 blocks, a corner was folded such that the bottom right adhesive is partially imperforate. In all the other cases mentioned above none of the adhesives were affected. Interasia Auctions Limited's 18-20 July 2015 sale, lot 3246, included a top left block of the \$2 with a spectacular example of misperforation (Figure 22).



Figure 22. Other perforation errors

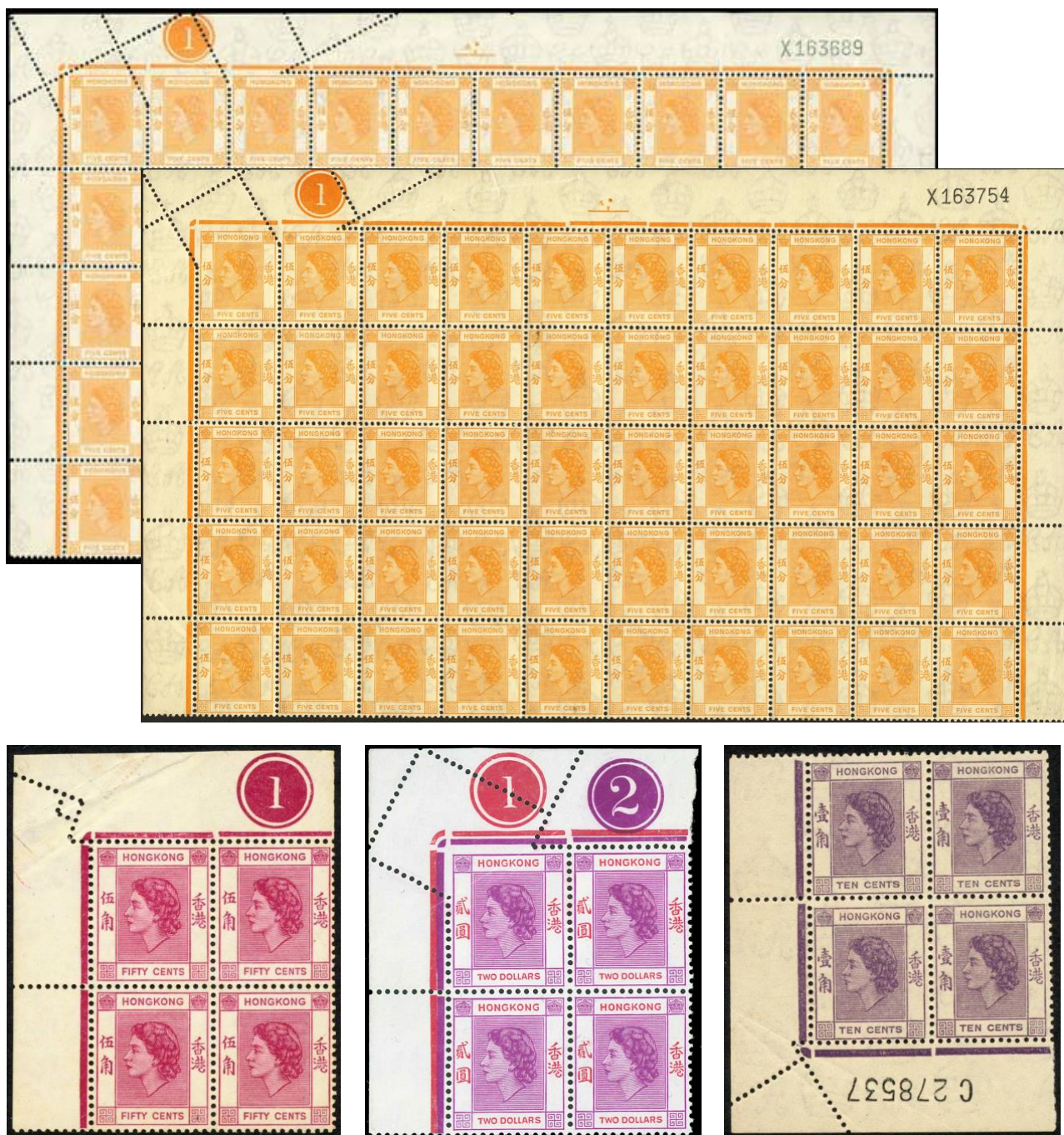


Figure 22. Other perforation errors (continued)

The authors have seen top left blocks from five sheets of the 5c value that were obviously perforated together due to their top left corners being folded over together (Figure 23).

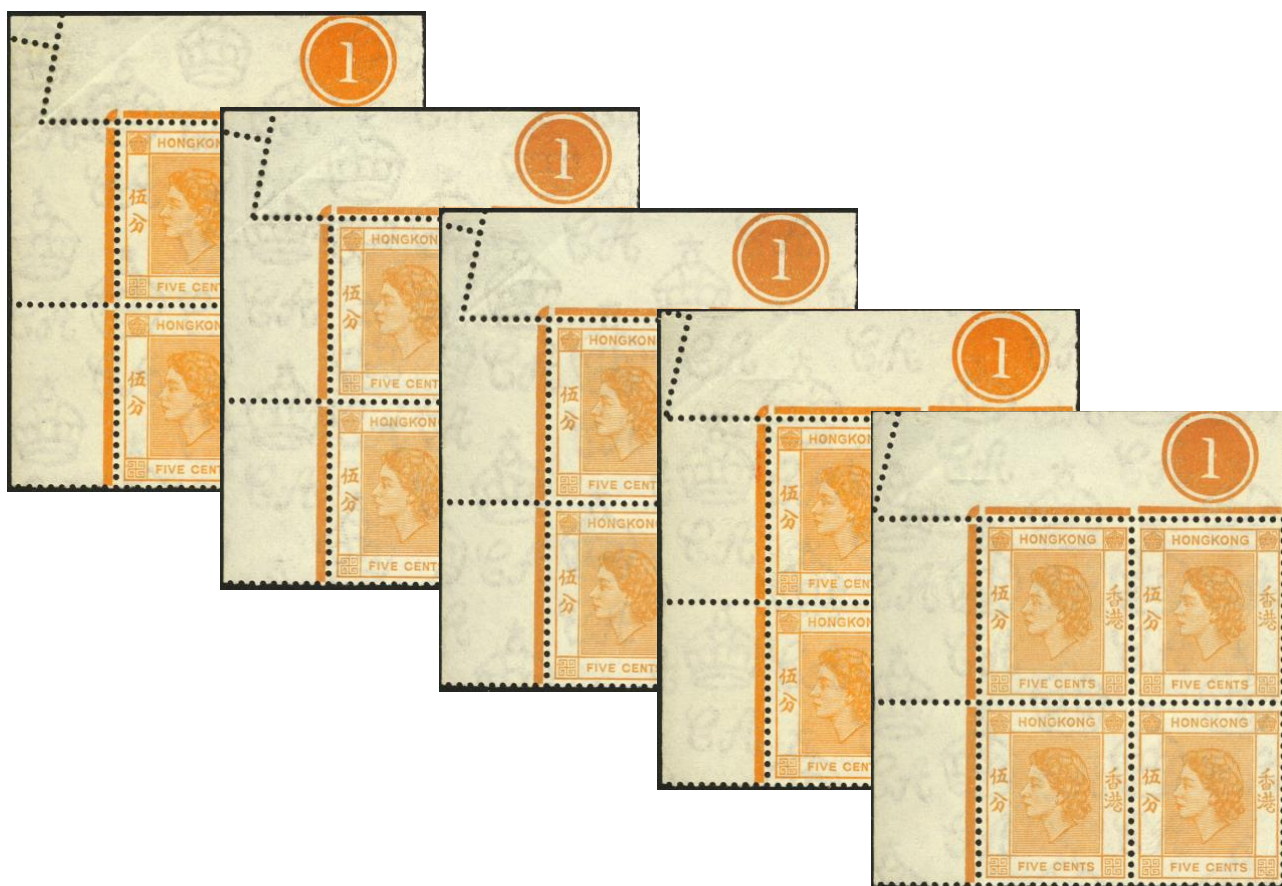


Figure 23. Five sheets perforated together

OTHER PRODUCTION ERRORS

In addition to perforation errors there were many other things that could, and did, go wrong during the printing of these adhesives.

In the case of the bi-coloured high values, care had to be taken to obtain accurate registration of the two plates. Sheets showing poor plate registration would normally have been removed and destroyed, but some obviously evaded detection (Figure 24). In addition to the sheets from which the examples illustrated came from, there were ones of the \$1 with the duty plate inscription twisted to the right (sheet numbered X040413) and shifted downward (sheet numbered X048095), respectively, in relation to the key plate impression.

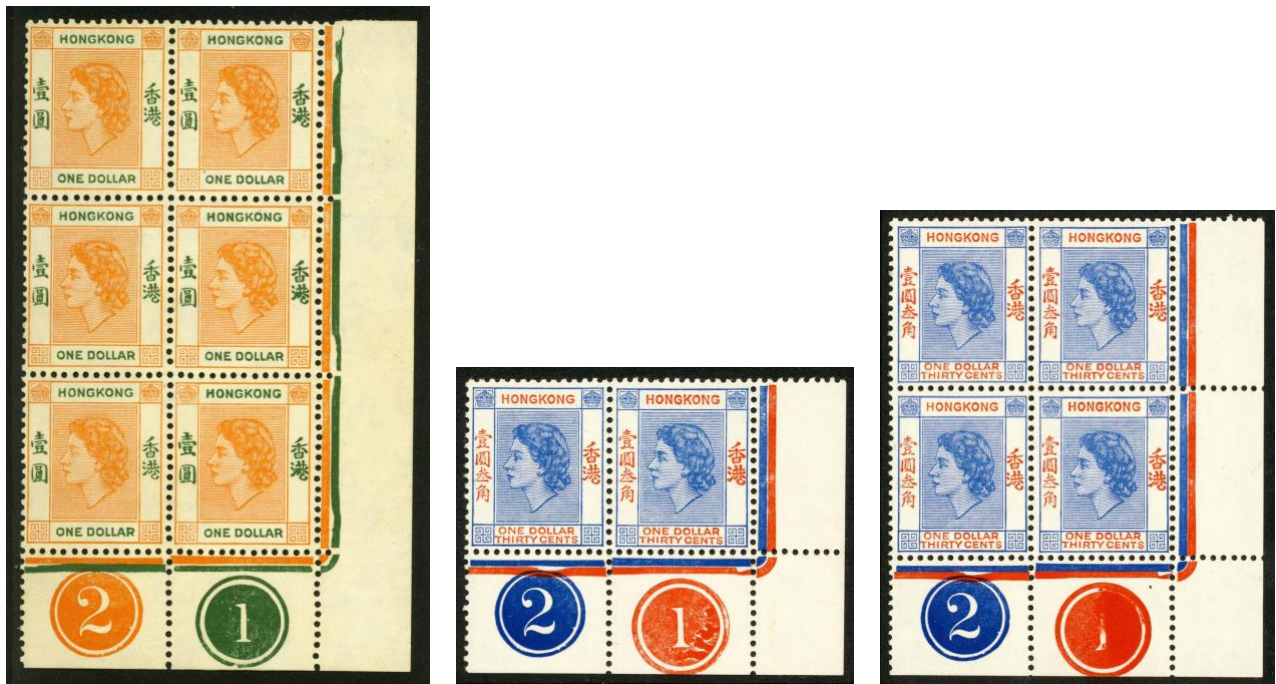


Figure 24. Bad high value plate registration

Figure 25 shows examples of ‘wet’ and ‘dry’ prints. To understand this phenomenon, some discussion of ink technology is necessary. Ink is composed of three essential ingredients: pigment, which is suspended in a vehicle (either organic solvent- or water-based), and a binder, which is a ‘glue’ that holds the pigment to the paper. Once the ink is deposited on the paper, the vehicle dries or evaporates, leaving the pigment ‘glued’ to the paper. In the days of letterpress printing, inks were mixed in batches by hand immediately before use. Formulas comprised varying proportions of pigment, vehicle and binder, as different pigments required different amounts of vehicle, depending on particle size and density. Heavier pigments tended to settle out of the mix. If the ink mixer was not exact in weighing out his ingredients, printing problems could arise.

In the case of a 'wet print', the ink mix contained a higher than usual proportion of vehicle, and the rollers become overcharged. Typically, ink squeezed out around the edges of the lines of the plate, thickening the lines of the printed design and often forming a distinctive pigment edge or 'tide-mark' around the edges of lines in the impression. Occasionally a spreading stain was left beyond this line by excess oil from the binder being carried by capillary action across the paper. The only examples of 'wet prints' on the 1954-62 issue seen by the authors have involved the duty plates for the \$1 and \$1.30, adhesives in the righthand column of a sheet and the lower right duty plate plug being affected in the cases of the \$1 and \$1.30, respectively.

Conversely, for a 'dry print' either the ink mix contained too little vehicle, and therefore its pigment-carrying capacity was reduced, or the ink rollers were 'starved' of ink due, for instance, to the ink supply in the reservoir running low. The result was a pale washed-out image. Examples of the 40c, 50c, \$1 (key and duty plates, respectively), and \$10 (duty plate) with 'dry prints' have been seen by the authors, and a sheet of the 10c from plate 8 (requisition T or X) with the fourth column affected is known.



Wet prints

Figure 25. Wet and dry prints



Dry prints



Dry prints

Figure 25. Wet and dry prints (continued)

Figure 26 shows other production errors. Firstly, offsets, technically called set-offs, were an inking problem often associated with a ‘wet print’. They occurred when a sheet was placed on top of another on which the ink was still wet and was thus transferred to the back of the sheet above. Other printing flaws were caused by foreign matter on the plate or paper, which resulted in either a white or coloured patch corresponding in shape to the foreign matter, and by the paper being wrinkled, which resulted in the design being interrupted by a blank area. The authors have also seen a vertical strip of the 50c that appears to show evidence of a ‘doctor blade’.



Foreign matter on plate



Offset on 10c



'Doctor blade' flaw?



Pre-printing paper crease

Figure 26. Miscellaneous production errors

A spectacular lot appeared in an auction in 1987 (14) comprising an irregular upper left block of nine of the 10c value (plate 8) with over half the design of the corner adhesive (1/1) and the corner of the adhesive to the right (1/2) missing due to a pre-printing paper fold, and a corner pair showing the missing portions as an offset on the gum. This pair is obviously from the next sheet to be printed, the ink of the missing portions of the previous sheet remaining on the impression cylinder of the printing machine to be picked up on the back of the next sheet (Figure 27).



Figure 27. Spectacular production error

One author owned two pairs of the \$1 from the same sheet positions (7/3 and 7/4) with the south-west corner of the right crown and parts of the right and top inner frame lines missing on the left-hand adhesive, position 7/3 (Figure 28). Another oddity is that the perforation holes are clean cut on one pair but not on the other. Also, in an auction in 1997 (15), there was a lower left corner block of twelve of the 50c stated to have the left frame line (presumably the left outer one) on four adhesives omitted. The authors have no explanation for either error.



Figure 28. Matching pairs with missing key plate design

There has been a report of a double layer of paper variety on the 5¢ value (10). One sheet was found in Hong Kong with rows 8 and 9 printed on two layers of paper where two rolls of paper had been joined together. Such sheets were normally picked out and destroyed. An instance of a horizontal strip of four on joined paper having been used on a cover under the unfortunate impression that this variety would be better used is mentioned in *Volume 1: The Adhesives* (15). Whether this strip was from the reported sheet or not is unknown.

Interasia Auctions Limited's 18-20 July 2015 sale, lot 3246, included a bottom marginal horizontal strip of three of the 5c value that was printed on a paper join. However, in this case the join is evident as a horizontal line one-third up the bottom adhesive, indicating either rows 9 and 10 or row 10 and the bottom margin were affected (Figure 29).



Figure 29. Paper join on 5c value

FORGERY AND ANOTHER CONTRIVED CONCOCTION



Genuine (Left) and forged (right) 50c adhesives

Fanciful overprint

Figure 30. 50c forgery and overprint concoction

One of the authors owns a very crudely forged 50c adhesive (Figure 30); the design and perforation are extremely crude. Why it was deemed worthwhile to forge such a low denomination is anyone's guess. A 5c adhesive crudely overprinted "5 cents." is extant. It is hard to see the point of overprinting a 5c adhesive thus.

COILS

On 9 June 1955, the first stamp vending machine in Hong Kong began operation in the main counter hall of the General Post Office in Victoria (Figure 31). The machine was made in the United Kingdom at the cost of £500. It was brought into use on an experimental basis to determine its suitability for use in the humid climate of Hong Kong. It had a Silica Gelatine Dehydrator Unit close to the stamp rolls to absorb moisture. It was obviously sufficiently successful because a second machine was installed later (16).



Figure 31.
First stamp vending machine

Reels (or coils or rolls) of 1,000 10c adhesives were made up by De La Rue, and later by Harrisons, who joined together vertical strips of 10 adhesives from current sheets using a section

(6.5mm or 0.26" wide) of the top margin (Figure 32). One example of a tête-bêche join, involving a section of the top margin, used to be owned by one of the authors (Figure 32). The reels were wound with the design side of the adhesives facing the centre core, the gummed side being on the outside. The reels were wound in this way so that when the adhesives were dispensed from the bottom of a reel the design side was on top and thus was what the purchaser first saw. The adhesives were also wound such that they were dispensed bottom first. Each reel had a 'leader' of thin buff paper at the beginning, on the outside, and a section of the same paper at the end (tail), on the inside (Figure 33). Each leader carried a printed sticker bearing the details (Figure 33). There has been one reference to reels of 2,000 adhesives (17), but the authors have not seen further mention or evidence of such reels.

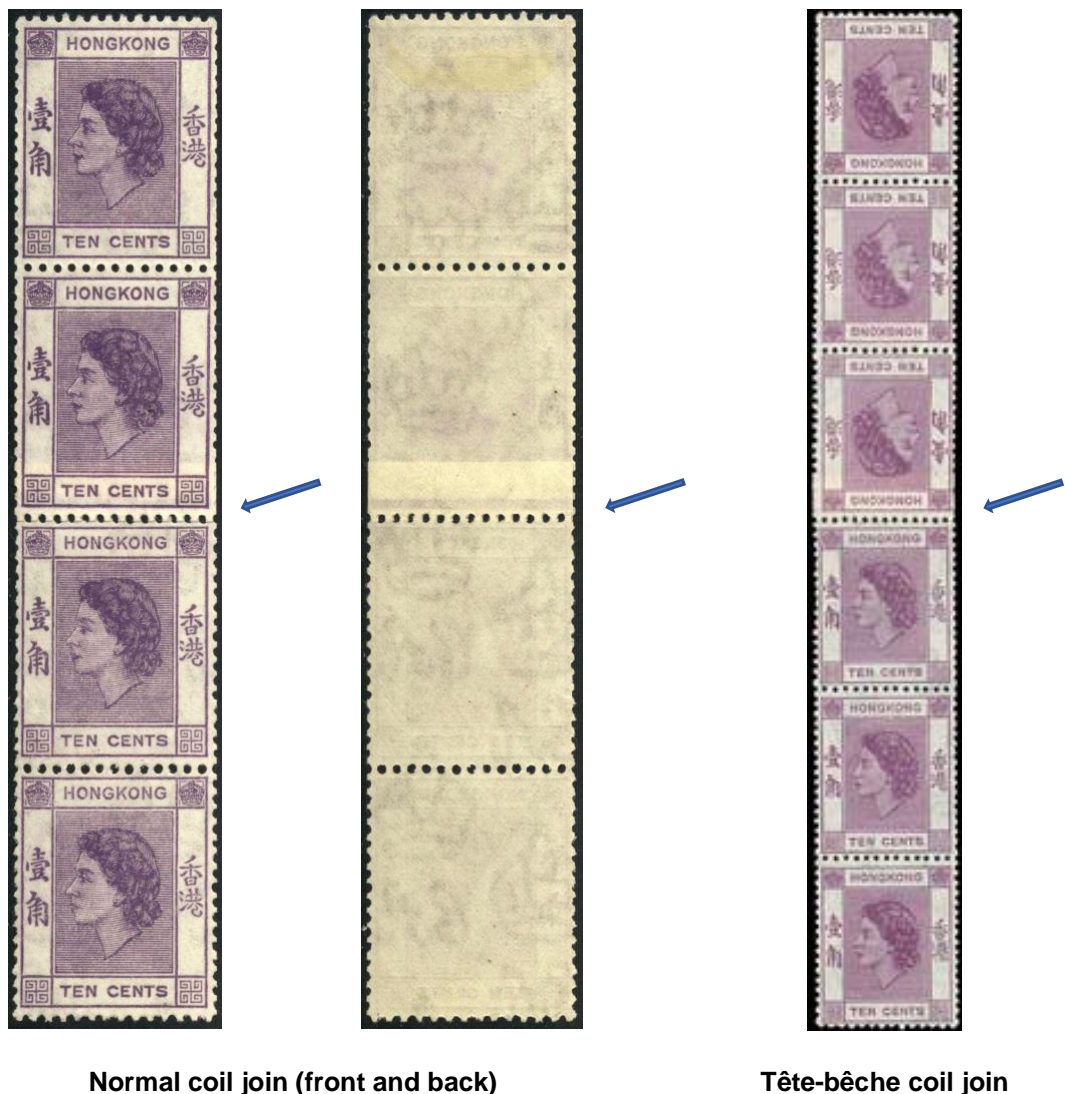


Figure 32. Coil join strips

According to the Crown Agents Philatelic and Security Archive, reels were made up on four occasions (Tables VI and VIII). The first reels were made up by De La Rue using part of the second printing, the bulk of which was sent to the colony under consignment letter C. On the

other three occasions, sheets from the third (consignment E), sixth (consignment P), and ninth (consignment X) printings were sent by De La Rue to Harrison, who then made up the reels required.

Table VI. Reel requisitions

<i>Req. #</i>	<i>No. of reels</i>	<i>Reels made up by</i>	<i>Date despatched</i>	<i>Sheets from</i>
7306/2	500 §	De La Rue	5/1/55	Requisition 7597/1 (C)
9451/1	3050	Harrison	?	Requisition 9452/1 (E)
9187/1	3050	"	?	Requisition 7477/1 (P)
9691/1	500	"	?	"
"	500	"	?	"
4744/1	3000	"	?	Requisition 4599/1 (X)

§ Adhesives, 5,000 sheets, under requisition 7597/1



Coil leader – Requisition 9187/1 (stamps from requisition 7477/1 [P])



Coil leader – Requisition 4744/1 (stamps from requisition 4599/1 [X])



Coil end (tail)

Figure 33. Coil leaders and end (tail)

The leaders for requisitions 9187/1 and 4744/1 shown in Figure 33 are 27.3 and 31.9 centimetres in length, respectively, and the end is 7.3 centimetres long.

Figure 34 shows a page from NH's 5-frame 1954-62 exhibit. According to Tables VI and VIII, the strip labelled "G.P.O. 7/6/55" must be from the first batch of coils despatched to Hong Kong, requisition No. 7306/2 (sheets from consignment C printing), that labelled "G.P.O. 1/60" from the third batch, requisition number 9187/1, 9691/1 or unknown (sheets from consignment P printing),

and those labelled “G.P.O. 15/10/62” from the final batch, requisition No. 4744/1 (sheets from consignment X printing). The latter is confirmed by that the top plate 8 plug is visible on the margins used to join the strips in one case; plate 8 was introduced for the requisition T printing.

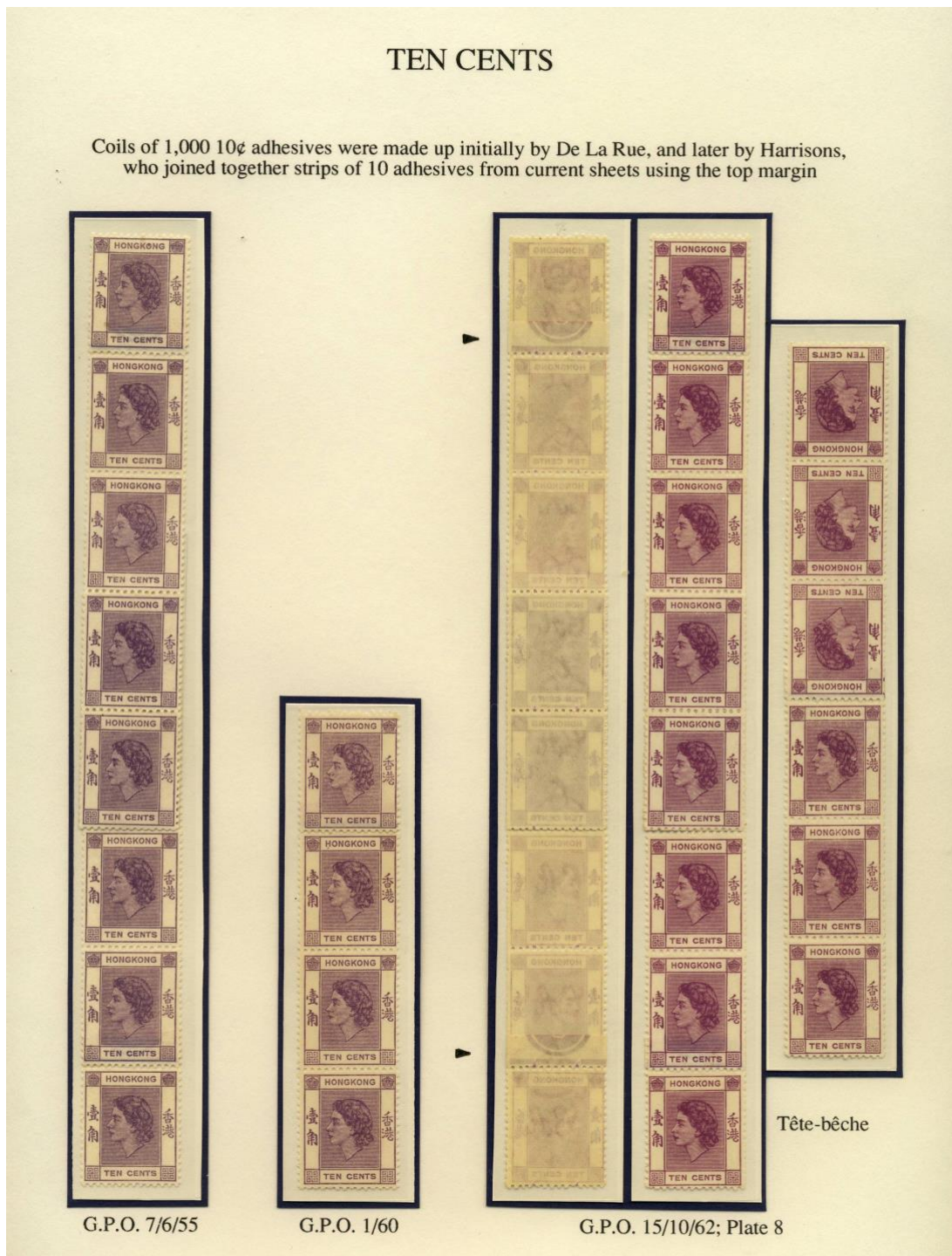


Figure 34. Page from NH’s 1954-62 exhibit showing coil strips

IMPERFORATE PROOFS

One of the authors used to own a set of imperforate proofs of the initial twelve values on watermarked paper (Figure 35). This set is reported to have been a presentation set that was soaked off the original backing (18). The soaking led to some colour diffusion on the values for which fugitive inks, purple (50c and \$5) and violet (\$2 and \$10), were used. The Royal Collection is thought to include a similar set on the original backing.



Figure 35. Imperforate proofs of first twelve values

OTHER PROOFS

Judging from the different impressions and paper stock seen by the authors, more than one imperforate imprimatur (press proof) sheet of the 40c value was removed illicitly from De La Rue (Figure 36). These proofs, also referred to as printer's waste, were printed on unwatermarked wove paper, tinted pale yellow.



Figure 36. Printer's waste: 40c value

FISCAL OVERPRINT

In October 1956, due to a shortage of the 15c fiscal adhesive, the 15c postal adhesive was overprinted “STAMP DUTY” in two lines, using a seriffed type face (Figure 37). The type measures 1.5mm (.06”) high. These adhesives were only valid for use during the period 24-30 October 1956. At least some, if not all, of the stock overprinted was probably from the first printing, because one of the authors once owned a block bearing consignment letter/serial sheet number A11501 (Figure 37), and a complete sheet numbered A02500 has been reported (19). However, a note accompanying the latter sheet stated that only 2,500 sheets were issued, and that sheets numbered A00001 to A02500 were sold. Because stock with serial sheet numbers was overprinted, the overprinting must have been done in Hong Kong.



**Figure 37. Fiscal overprint:
“STAMP DUTY” on 15c value**

FIRST VALUES

The new definitives were first issued on 5 January 1954. The releases were simultaneous in Hong Kong and London, and consisted of twelve values. These were the 5c, 10c, 15c, 20c, 25c, 30c, 40c, 50c, \$1, \$2, \$5 and \$10. The consignment letter was A.



Figure 38. First 12 values, issued 5 January 1954

ADDITIONAL VALUES

Two new values appeared during the nine years of the use of these adhesives. The 65c and \$1.30 were introduced on 20 June 1960, as consignment S. These intermediate values covered the second and first class rates to Zone 2 countries, respectively (see Table X).

Considering that these rates were in force when the issue was introduced in 1954, and that the decision to introduce a new design had probably already been made when these values were introduced in 1960, one cannot but suspect an element of philatelic revenue generation. The bi-coloured \$1.30 value is somewhat of an anomaly from the design point of view: two lines of type had to be crammed into the existing format of a small horizontal panel for the value in English. Even the wording in English on the 65c value seems uncomfortably compressed (Figure 39).



SIXTYFIVE CENTS



ONE DOLLAR THIRTY CENTS

Figure 39. Two additional values, issued 20 June 1960

DATES OF ISSUE, QUANTITIES AND COLOUR CHANGES

Table VII is intended to supersede that published as Appendix XVIII in *Volume 1: The Adhesives* (20). The numbers of sheets given in Table VII were taken from the Crown Agents requisition books (Table VIII).

Table VII - Requisition numbers, dates of issue, quantities and colour changes								
Value	Req. letter	Requisition	London release	Hong Kong release	Sheets printed	Webb description	Pantone® number	Comment(s)
5¢	A	5100/1	5/1/54	5/1/54	80,541	Orange	150U	
	C	7597/1	28/9/54	20/7/54	59,963		1495U; transparent paper	
	E	9452/1	6/12/55	1/10/55	97,133		1495U but paler	
	G	2182/1	16/1/57	16/1/57	120,908		1495U but paler & brighter	
	K	5403/1	13/11/57	13/11/57	127,083	Pale orange	1495U but brighter	
	P	7477/1	11/3/59	17/1/59	199,083		1485U but deeper	
	Q	197/1	11/1/60	11/1/60	81,016		1485U but brighter	
	T	3370/1	9/1/61	7/2/61	129,000		1485U but paler & brighter	
X	4599/1	18/7/61	26/9/61	162,362		1495U		
10¢	A	5100/1	5/1/54	5/1/54	201,000	Lilac	521U but greyer	Plate 1
	C	7597/1	28/9/54	20/7/54	269,000		520U; yellower paper	Plates 1 & 2
	E	9452/1	6/12/55	12/55	471,605		520U but greyer	Plate 2
	H	2705/1	10/4/57	4/57	267,205	Pale lilac	520U but redder & brighter	Plates 3, 4 & 5
	L	5465/1	28/2/58	28/2/58	192,764		2593U but less intense	Plate 6
	P	7477/1	11/3/59	11/3/59	247,884		2603U	Plates 6 & 7
	Q	197/1	11/1/60	11/1/60	276,759		As P; brighter paper	Plate 7
	T	3370/1	No release	25/1/61	400,000		259U	Plates 7 & 8
	X	4599/1	18/7/61	24/8/61	265,668	Reddish lilac	513U	Plate 8; §
15¢	A	5100/1	5/1/54	5/1/54	42,030	Green	557U but yellower	
	E	9452/1	6/12/55	24/11/55	19,255	Yellow-green	As A but paler & brighter	
	Q	197/1	11/1/60	31/10/59	19,587		As A but bluer	
	T	3370/1	7/3/61	24/2/61	5,000		As C but more intense	
	W	4219/1	25/5/61	12/5/61	7,350		577U but bluer	
	X	4599/1	No release	8/7/61	30,642	Apple-green	362U but paler	
20¢	A	5100/1	5/1/54	5/1/54	51,190	Brown	167U	
	Q	197/1	11/1/60	11/1/60	10,023		471U	
	T	3370/1	9/1/61	31/10/60	5,500	Light brown	As Q but redder	
	W	4219/1	25/5/61	5/5/61	14,111		145U but more intense	
	X	4599/1	12/9/61	8/7/61	20,430		472U but more intense	
25¢	A	5100/1	5/1/54	5/1/54	31,818	Scarlet	032U	
	H	2705/1	10/4/57	12/56	18,447		185U but paler	
	L	5465/1	28/2/58	28/2/58	10,071	Rose-red	184U	
	P	7477/1	11/3/59	11/3/59	20,996		1787U	
	T	3370/1	No release	26/12/60	15,000		1925U	¶
	X	4599/1	12/9/61	6/9/61	16,262		As P but deeper	

§ In Webb there is an entry (✓) for the 10¢ (Y?) with a London release date of 7/11/61 and the comment "10¢ not released in Hong Kong".

¶ In Webb there is an entry (✓) for the 25¢ (W?; Pantone ® number 185U) with a London release date of 25/5/61 and the comment "25¢ not released in Hong Kong".

Suffix 'U' after the Pantone ® numbers indicates the uncoated version was used for colour matching.

Table VII - Requisition numbers, dates of issue, quantities and colour changes								
Value	Req. letter	Requisition	London release	Hong Kong release	Sheets printed	Webb description	Pantone® number(s)	Comment(s)
30¢	A	5100/1	5/1/54	5/1/54	22,665	Grey	443U	
	C	7597/1	28/9/54	20/7/54	15,675		5507U	
	E	9452/1	6/12/55	24/11/55	20,320		442U but greyer	
	H	2705/1	10/4/57	12/56	18,798		5517U; yellower paper	
	L	5465/1	28/2/58	28/2/58	20,024	Pale grey	As H but whiter paper	
	P	7477/1	11/3/59	11/3/59	21,170		5517U but paler	
	Q	197/1	11/1/60	11/1/60	9,992		5527U but deeper	
	U	3544/1	7/3/61	25/1/61	20,000		5655U but deeper	
	X	4599/1	18/7/61	17/10/61	41,363		5655U	
40¢	A	5100/1	5/1/54	5/1/54	52,647	Bright blue	285U but more intense	
	E	9452/1	6/12/55	24/11/55	20,700		3005U	§
	L	5465/1	28/2/58	28/2/58	10,309		3005U but bluer	
	Q	197/1	11/1/60	3/10/59	10,135	Dull blue	3005U but greyer	
	T	3370/1	9/1/61	1/11/60	13,000		2925U but slightly redder	
	W	4219/1	23/5/61	28/4/61	14,838		300U but less intense	
	X	4599/1	12/9/61	26/8/61	23,983		292U	
	Y	5079/1	7/11/61	26/8/61	71,170		300U	
	50¢	A	5100/1	5/1/54	5/1/54	50,299	Reddish purple	228C
C		7597/1	28/9/54	20/7/54	34,450		234C	
E		9452/1	6/12/55	12/55	68,025		235C	
H		2705/1	10/4/57	16/3/57	69,600	Light reddish purple	228C	
L		5465/1	28/2/58	28/2/58	64,679		228C but paler	
P		7477/1	11/3/59	9/3/59	72,011		234C but paler	
Q		197/1	11/1/60	10/10/59	80,804		235C but paler	
T		3370/1	9/1/61	26/12/60	110,000		241C	
X		4599/1	12/9/61	6/9/61	101,006	Reddish claret	241C but paler	
65¢	S	2074/1	20/6/60	20/6/60	21,548	Deep grey	429U	
\$1	A	5100/1	5/1/54	5/1/54	48,333	Orange & green	1575C but paler/357C	
	C	7597/1	28/9/54	20/7/54	17,145		1575C/364C	
	E	9452/1	6/12/55	24/11/54	51,615		163C/357C	
	H	2705/1	10/4/57	4/57	30,591	Yellow-orange & green	1495C/364C	
	L	5465/1	28/2/58	28/2/58	38,307	Orange & green	1575C but paler/575C	
	P	7477/1	11/3/59	11/3/59	40,000		1565C but more intense/357C but more intense	
	Q	197/1	11/1/60	1/12/59	39,220		1505C but paler/ 363C	
	T	3370/1	9/1/61	26/12/60	100,000		163C/364C	Keyplate 2 introduced
	X	4599/1	12/9/61	17/11/61	138,437		1565C/356C but darker	

§ In Webb there is an entry 40¢/H (Pantone ® number 2925U but greyer) with London and Hong Kong release dates of 10/4/57 and 4/57, respectively.

Suffixes 'U' and 'C' after the Pantone ® numbers indicate the uncoated and coated versions were used for colour matching, respectively.

Table VII - Requisition numbers, dates of issue, quantities and colour changes								
Value	Req. letter	Requisition	London release	Hong Kong release	Sheets printed	Webb description	Pantone® number(s)	Comment(s)
\$1.30	S	2074/1	20/6/60	20/6/60	41,650	Blue & red	2925U but duller/185U	
	X	4599/1	23/1/62	23/1/62	14,425	Bright blue & red	2925U but deeper/192U	Keyplate 2 introduced
\$2	A	5100/1	5/1/54	5/1/54	21,570	Reddish violet & scarlet	2597C/032C	
	C	7597/1	28/9/54	20/7/54	9,964		2587C/199C	
	E	9452/1	6/12/55	24/11/55	20,592		2587C/1788C	
	H	2705/1	10/4/57	4/57	20,755		2593C/1925C	
	L	5465/1	28/2/58	28/2/58	10,091		Halfway between 258C & 259C/185C	
	P	7477/1	11/3/59	11/3/59	20,000		513C but bluer/1788C	
	Q	197/1	11/1/60	3/10/59	10,360		258C but more intense/172C	
	T	3370/1	12/7/60	1/9/60	30,000	Deep reddish violet & scarlet	513C but brighter/warm red	
	U	3544/1	No release	28/3/61	30,000	Reddish violet & scarlet	2582C/1925C	Keyplate 2 introduced
	X	4599/1	18/7/61	30/6/61	131,252	Violet & scarlet	513C but bluer/1788C	
\$5	A	5100/1	5/1/54	5/1/54	7,725	Green & purple	363C but less intense/260C	
	C	7597/1	28/9/54	20/7/54	2,625		363C but bluer/512C	
	E	9452/1	6/12/55	12/55	10,476		363C/512C	
	L	5465/1	28/2/58	28/2/58	5,040		364C but less intense/2593C	
	M	7261/1	27/8/58	27/8/58	11,362		364C but deeper than L/2612C	
	Q	197/1	11/1/60	1/12/59	5,308		363C/259C	
	T	3370/1	7/3/61	7/3/61	5,000	Yellow-green & purple	Near 360C but bluer/2612C	Keyplate 2 introduced
	X	4599/1	12/9/61	27/9/61	10,004		As T but deeper/2603C	
\$10	A	5100/1	5/1/54	5/1/54	3,750	Violet & bright blue	2587C/2945C	
	C	7597/1	28/9/54	20/7/54	2,520		2607C/301C	
	E	9452/1	6/12/55	12/55	5,250		2583C but more intense/3015C	
	L	5465/1	28/2/58	28/2/58	2,520	Reddish violet & bright blue	258C but brighter/301C	
	P	7477/1	11/3/59	11/3/59	2,500		258C but deeper/3025C	
	Q	197/1	11/1/60	1/12/59	3,054		2593C/2945C	
	T	3370/1	7/3/61	7/3/61	1,000		252C but deeper & duller/299C	Keyplate 2 introduced
	W	4219/1	No release	13/9/61	5,000		254C/2945C	
	X	4599/1	19/12/61	17/11/61	14,910		258C/300C	

Suffixes 'U' and 'C' after the Pantone ® numbers indicate the uncoated and coated versions were used for colour matching, respectively.

The entries for the 1954-62 issue in the Crown Agents requisition books are presented in Table VIII.

REQN.	COLONY.	DESCRIPTION.	DUTY.	NO. OF		STAMPS PER SHEET.	DATE DUE.	DESPATCHED.		REMARKS.
				SHEETS.	STAMPS.			DATE.	QUANTITY.	
5100/1	Hong Kong	Postage Stamps (Queen Elizabeth II)	5 cts	83,600	8,360,000	100		14.9.53/27.11.53	80,541	Bureau 360,000
			10 cts	202,400	20,240,000	"		14.9.53/27.11.53	201,000	240,000
			15 cts	42,400	4,240,000	"		14.9.53/27.11.53	42,030	240,000
			20 cts	52,400	5,240,000	"		14.9.53/27.11.53	51,190	240,000
			25 cts	32,400	3,240,000	"		5.10.53/27.11.53	31,818	240,000
			30 cts	21,800	2,180,000	"		14.9.53/27.11.53	22,665	180,000
			40 cts	51,800	5,180,000	"		5.10.53/27.11.53	52,647	180,000
			50 cts	51,200	5,120,000	"		14.9.53/27.11.53	50,299	120,000
			\$1	51,200	5,120,000	"		14.9.53/27.11.53	48,333	120,000
			\$2	20,900	2,090,000	"		13.10.53/27.11.53	21,570	90,000
			\$5	7,400	740,000	"		29.10.53	7,725	90,000
			\$10	3,600	360,000	"		29.10.53	3,750	60,000
										Exchange 316,000
										With the exception of the Bureau supplies
7597/1	Hong Kong	Postage Stamps	5 cts	65,000	6,500,000	100		24.9.54/6.12.54	59,963	316,000
								5.1.55	5,000	Sheets of stamps to be numbered 1 up
			10 cts	284,000	28,400,000	"		25.5.54/1.2.55	269,000	each duty with the prefix letter C,
			30 cts	16,500	1,650,000	"		28.7.54/11.11.54	15,675	interleaved with rail paper & parcelled in
			50 cts	34,500	3,450,000	"		14.9.54/11.11.54	34,450	500's between double millboards at top &
			\$1	17,000	1,700,000	"		17.8.54/11.11.54	17,145	bottom.
				10,000	1,000,000	"				10,000 sh. 10 cts stamps to
			\$2	9,500	950,000	"		17.8.54/11.11.54	9,964	be despatched by air as soon
			\$5	2,500	250,000	"		2.9.54/24.9.54	2,625	as ready.
				2,400	240,000	"				28,700
			\$10	2,250	225,000	"		2.9.54/11.11.54	2,520	24,600
										26,400
										To be collected from Bureau & despatched to Colony.
			10 cts	1,000	100,000	"		25.5.54	1,000	
			30 cts	1,000	100,000	"		"	1,000	
			50 cts	500	50,000	"		"	500	
			\$1	500	50,000	"		"	500	
			\$2	500	50,000	"		"	500	
			\$5	500	50,000	"		"	500	
			\$10	250	25,000	"		"	250	
7306/2	Hong Kong	Stamp Reels	10 cts	500				5.1.55	500 reels	1,000 stamps per reel. (stamps supplied from 7597/1)

REQN.	COLONY.	DESCRIPTION.	DUTY.	NO. OF		STAMPS PER SHEET.	DATE DUE.	DESPATCHED.		REMARKS.	
				SHEETS.	STAMPS.			DATE.	QUANTITY.		
9452/1	Hong Kong	Postage Stamps	5 cts	100,000	10,000,000	100		10.8.55/13.9.55	97,133	Exchange	
			10 cts	500,000	50,000,000	"		5.7.55/25.9.56	471,605*	102,005	Sheets of stamps to be numbered 1 up
			15 cts	20,000	2,000,000	"		10.8.55/8.11.55	19,255	94,025	each duty with the prefix letter E ,
			30 cts	20,000	2,000,000	"		13.9.55/8.11.55	20,320	98,166	interleaved rail paper & parcelled in 500's
			40 cts	20,000	2,000,000	"		13.9.55/8.11.55	20,700	49,166	between double millboards at top &
								13.9.55/8.11.55	20,700	49,796	bottom.
			50 cts	70,000	7,000,000	"		2.5.56	68,025		* of this quantity 30,500 sheets to
								14.10.55/27.2.56	67,750	39,586	Harrisons for reels on Reqn 9451/1.
								2.5.56	51,615		
			\$1	50,000	5,000,000	"		13.9.55/8.11.55	51,480	43,350	
			\$2	20,000	2,000,000	"		2.9.55/8.11.55	20,592	24,707	
								2.5.56	476		
			\$5	10,000	1,000,000	"		8.11.55/6.12.55	10,226	23,671	
			\$10	5,000	500,000	"		15.11.55/6.12.55	5,250	23,106	
To be taken from the Bureau & despatched to Colony.											
			5 cts	2,000	200,000	100		2.6.55	2,000		
			15 cts	1,000	100,000	"		"	1,000		
			40 cts	1,000	100,000	"		"	1,000		
2182/1	Hong Kong	Postage Stamps	5 ct	129,000	12,900,000	100	5 Mill Sept56 ?Nov56	14.8.56/16.4.57	120,908	Bureau 150,000 Bureau 97,063 Ex. 241,743	With exception of Bureau supply, sheets of stamps to be interleaved rail paper numbered 1 up with prefix letter G , parcelled in 500's between double millboards at top & bottom.
2705/1	Hong Kong	Postage	10 cts	280,000	28,000,000	100		15.2.57/2.10.57	267,205	Exchange	
			25 cts	20,000	2,000,000	"		9.8.56/19.3.57	18,447	85,000	Sheets of stamps numbered 1 up each duty
			30 cts	20,000	2,000,000	"		9.10.56/31.1.57	18,798	57,000	with prefix H , interleaved rail paper &
			50 cts	70,000	7,000,000	"		18.12.56/2.10.57	69,600	46,900	parcelled 500's between double
			\$1	30,000	3,000,000	"		18.1.57/1.5.57	30,591	37,700	millboards top & bottom.
			\$2	20,000	2,000,000	"		18.1.57/1.5.57	20,755	41,600	25 cents 1,500 sheets from Bureau
										23,700	stocks. Immediate despatch by Parcel
Post. Not to be replaced.											
INS P.POST 1,500 9.8.56											
5403/1	Hong Kong	Postage Stamps	5 cts	127,500	12,750,000	100		5.9.57/4.3.58	127,083	B.Exchange 241,743	Sheets of stamps to be numbered 1 up with prefix letter K . Interleaved rail paper. Parcelled in 500's between double millboards top & bottom. 50,000 SHEETS REQUIRED BY END OF SEPTEMBER. BALANCE BY END OF NOVEMBER 1957.

REQN.	COLONY.	DESCRIPTION.	DUTY.	NO. OF		STAMPS PER SHEET.	DATE DUE.	DESPATCHED.		REMARKS.	
				SHEETS.	STAMPS.			DATE.	QUANTITY.		
5465/1	Hong Kong	Postage Stamps	10 cts	200,000	20,000,000	100		4.2.58/3.4.58	192,764	Sheets of stamps to be numbered 1 up each duty with prefix letter L, interleaved with rail paper, parcelled in 500's between double millboards at top & bottom. 50 cts urgently required.	
			25 cts	10,000	1,000,000	"		2.12.57/4.3.58	10,071		
			30 cts	20,000	2,000,000	"		12.12.57/17.2.58	20,024		
			40 cts	10,000	1,000,000	"		12.12.57/2.1.58	10,309		
			50 cts	70,000	7,000,000	"		27.9.57/18.4.58	64,679		
			\$1	40,000	4,000,000	"		15.1.58/17.2.58	38,307		
			\$2	10,000	1,000,000	"		2.12.57/2.1.58	10,091		
			\$5	4,800	480,000	"		15.1.58/4.3.58	5,040		
			\$10	2,400	240,000	"		2.1.58/4.3.58	2,520		
7261/1	Hong Kong	Postage Stamps	\$5	10,000	1,000,000	100		20.6.58/10.7.58	11,362	<u>B.Exchange</u> 24,286 Sheets of stamps to be numbered 1 up with prefix letter M, interleaved with rail paper. Parcelled in 500's between double millboards top & bottom. NO INSPECTION, URGENTLY REQUIRED	
7477/1	Hong Kong	Postage Stamps	5 cts	200,000	20,000,000	100		23.7.58	199,083	<u>B.Exchange</u> 236,043 NO INSPECTION	
			10 cts	*300,000	*30,000,000	"		1.8.58	247,884	78,543	Sheets of stamps to be interleaved with rail paper CANCELLED BY MIN. D/D. 4.7.58 numbered 1 up each duty with prefix letter P. Parcelled in 500's between double millboards. 5 cts URGENTLY REQUIRED * for use of Harrisons, High Wycombe for reels under Reqn 9187/1 § 1 " 9691/1
			25 cts	20,000	2,000,000	"		3.10.58	20,996	41,494	
			30 cts	20,000	2,000,000	"		5.9.58	21,170	40,554	
			50 cts	70,000	7,000,000	"		3.10.58	72,011	33,349	
			\$1	40,000	4,000,000	"		29.10.58	40,000	38,480	
			\$2	20,000	2,000,000	"		14.10.58	20,000	15,691	
			\$10	2,400	240,000	"		29.10.58	2,500	15,871	
			10 cts	30,500	3,050,000	(MIN. D/D 12.1.59)					
			10 cts	\$5,000	\$500,000						
			10 cts	\$5,000	\$500,000						
197/1	Hong Kong	Postage Stamps	5 cts	80,000	8,000,000	100		19.10.59	81,016	<u>B.Exchange</u> 229,300 <u>NO INSPECTION.</u> Sheets of stamps to be numbered 1 up each duty with prefix letter Q. Parcelled in 500's between double millboards.	
			10 cts	280,000	28,000,000	"		28.8.59/46.9.59	80,804	77,773	
			15 cts	20,000	2,000,000	"		10.11.59/26.4.60	276,759	88,734	
			20 cts	10,000	1,000,000	"		6.7.59/4.8.59	19,587	198,674	
			30 cts	10,000	1,000,000	"		22.6.59/4.8.59	10,023	39,234	
			40 cts	10,000	1,000,000	"		6.7.59/4.8.59	9,992	43,544	
			50 cts	80,000	8,000,000	"		6.7.59/28.8.59	10,135	32,553	
			\$1	40,000	4,000,000	"		22.6.59/28.8.59	80,804	37,637	
			\$2	10,000	1,000,000	"		4.8.59/28.8.59	39,220	14,361	
			\$5	5,000	500,000	"		4.8.59/28.8.59	10,360	23,903	
			\$10	3,000	300,000	"		28.8.59/18.1.60	5,308	14,971	

REQN.	COLONY.	DESCRIPTION.	DUTY.	NO. OF		STAMPS PER SHEET.	DATE DUE.	DESPATCHED.		REMARKS.
				SHEETS.	STAMPS.			DATE.	QUANTITY.	
2074/1	Hong Kong	Postage Stamps	65 cts \$1.30	20,900 40,900	2,090,000 4,090,000	100 "		2.5.60/9.6.60 2.5.60/9.6.60	21,548 41,650	Bureau 90,000 90,000 New duties. <u>NO INSPECTION</u> Sheets of stamps to be numbered 1 up each duty with prefix letter S, and parcelled in 500's between double millboards at top & bottom. G.P.O. 408+6 P.P. 100 C.A.1. C.B1. C.O.3. B.M.1. II.1. Contractor & H.M.
3370/2	Hong Kong	TO BE COLLECTED FROM BUREAU STOCKS FOR DESPATCH TO HONG KONG								
		Postage Stamps	5 cts 20 cts	1,000 1,500	100,000 150,000	100 "		2.5.60 2.5.60	1,000 1,500	Sheets of stamps to be numbered 1 up each duty with prefix letter T, & parcelled in 500's between double millboards top & bottom.
3370/1	Hong Kong	Postage Stamps	5 cts 10 cts 15 cts 20 cts 25 cts 40 cts 50 cts \$1 \$2 \$5 \$10	129,000 400,000 5,000 5,500 15,000 13,000 70,000 50,000 30,000 5,000 1,000	12,900,000 40,000,000 500,000 550,000 1,500,000 1,300,000 7,000,000 11,000,000 3,000,000 500,000 100,000	100 " " " " " " " " " " "		16.7.60/15.2.61 16.8.60/8.6.61 18.1.61/18.1.61 14.11.60/6.12.60 14.11.60/2.5.61 25.10.60/28.11.60 7.11.60/8.6.61 10.6.60 AF/16.6.60 9.6.60/15.9.60 15.2.61/15.2.61 15.2.61/15.2.61	129,000 400,000 5,000 5,500 15,000 13,000 110,000 110,000 100,000 30,000 5,000 1,000	B.Exchange 127,000 77,000 88,000 48,000 38,000 43,000 30,000 37,000 14,000 23,000 14,000 <u>NO INSPECTION</u> Sheets of stamps to be numbered 1 up each duty with prefix letter T, parcelled in 500's between double millboards at top & bottom. BUREAU \$1 37,000 \$2 13,800 TO BE REPLACED FOR STAMPS ON REQN 3370/3 * Amendment of contract dtd 26.5.60
3370/3	Hong Kong	TO BE COLLECTED FROM BUREAU STOCKS FOR DESPATCH BY SURFACE ROUTE								
		Postage & Revenue Stamps	\$1 \$2	370 138 440	37,000 13,800 44,000	100 " "		20.5.60 20.5.60	370 138	Sheets of stamps to be numbered 1 up each duty with prefix letter T, & parcelled between double millboards top & bottom. 138 sheets only available from G.10 (BUREAU)
3533/1	Hong Kong	Postage Stamps	30 cts \$2	20,000 30,000	2,000,000 3,000,000	100 "		28.11.60/2.5.61 30.1.61/2.5.61	20,000 30,000	B.Exchange 38,000 Nil <u>NO INSPECTION</u> Sheets of stamps to be numbered 1 up each duty with prefix letter U & V, parcelled in 500's between double millboards top & bottom.

REQN.	COLONY.	DESCRIPTION.	DUTY.	NO. OF		STAMPS PER SHEET.	DATE DUE.	DESPATCHED.		REMARKS.
				SHEETS.	STAMPS.			DATE.	QUANTITY.	
4219/1	Hong Kong	Postage Stamps	15 cts 20 cts 40 cts \$10	7,000 14,000 14,000 4,800	700,000 1,400,000 1,400,000 480,000	100 " " "		3.3.61/12.5.61 3.3.61/12.5.61 3.3.61/12.5.61 15.2.61	7,350 14,111 14,838 5,000	B.Exchange 88,000 47,000 42,000 14,000 <u>NO INSPECTION</u> Sheets of stamps to be numbered 1 up each duty with prefix letter W, and parcelled in 500's between double millboards at top & bottom.
3370/4	Hong Kong	TO BE COLLECTED FROM BUREAU STOCKS FOR DESPATCH BY AIR PARCEL POST								
		Postage Stamps	15 cts	500	50,000	100		7.2.61	500	To be numbered 1 up with prefix letter T, parcelled between double millboards top & bottom.
4599/1	Hong Kong	Postage Stamps	5 cts 10 cts 15 cts 20 cts 25 cts 30 cts 40 cts 50 cts \$1 \$1.30 \$2 \$5 \$10	165,500 300,000 30,000 20,000 16,000 40,000 23,000 100,000 140,000 14,000 130,000 10,000 14,000	16,550,000 30,000,000 3,000,000 2,000,000 1,600,000 4,000,000 2,300,000 10,000,000 14,000,000 1,400,000 13,000,000 1,000,000 1,400,000	100 " " " " " " " " " " " " "		8.6.61/14.11.61 17.5.61/14.11.61 12.5.61/14.8.61 22.6.61/14.8.61 19.7.61/14.8.61 12.5.61/14.8.61 9.7.61/14.8.61 19.7.61/14.8.61 22.6.61/12.9.61 2.11.61/20.12.61 2.5.61/4.10.61 9.7.61/14.8.61 4.10.61/20.12.61	Bureau 500 162,362 265,668 +30,000 30,642 20,430 16,262 41,363 23,983 101,006 138,437 14,425 131,252 10,004 14,910	B.Exchange 126,000 77,000 for reels to Harrisons 38,000 47,000 38,000 38,000 42,000 38,000 30,000 37,000 42,000 67,000 300 13,000 23,000 14,000 <u>NO INSPECTION</u> With the exception of Bureau supplies, sheets of stamps to be numbered 1 up each duty with prefix letter X, & parcelled in 500's between double millboards at top & bottom.
5079/1	Hong Kong	Postage Stamps	40 cts	70,000	7,000,000	100		14.8.61/2.11.61	71,170	B.Exchange 42,000 <u>NO INSPECTION</u> Sheets of stamps to be numbered 1 up with prefix letter Y. Parcelled in 500's between double millboards at top & bottom.

The headings to the columns in the Crown Agents requisition books are mainly self-explanatory (Table VIII). The numbers of both sheets and stamps ordered are entered, in the fifth and sixth columns, respectively. However, for the quantities despatched to the colony only the numbers of sheets are entered, in the tenth column, and the numbers given under the headings "Bureau" and "Exchange (or B. Exchange or Bureau Ex.)" in the eleventh column are numbers of stamps. As an example, for requisition 5100/1 (consignment letter A), 83,600 sheets, i.e., 8,360,000 stamps, of

the 5c value were ordered (requisitioned). In fact, 84,141 were printed, of which 80,541 went to the colony and 3,600 (360,000 stamps) went to the Crown Agents Philatelic Bureau. The sheets were numbered 1 up with the consignment letter A and packed as described in the "REMARKS." column. Because it was a new issue, specimens were necessary, the stamps presumably coming from the Bureau's stocks. The authors do not know why there is only one despatch date in the "DESPATCHED." column for the \$5 and \$10, but two for the remaining ten values (Figure 40).

5100/1	Hong Kong	Postage Stamps (Queen Elizabeth) II	5c	83,600	8,360,000	100	14.9.53/27.11.53	80541	Bureau	360,000	With the exception of the Bureau supplies
			10c	202,400	20,240,000	---	14.9.53/27.11.53	201,000		200,000	Sheets of stamps to be numbered 1 up
			15c	42,400	4,240,000	---	14.9.53/27.11.53	42,030		200,000	each duly with the prefix "A"
			20c	52,400	5,240,000	---	14.9.53/27.11.53	51190		200,000	interleaved with rail paper &
			25c	32,400	3,240,000	---	5.10.53/27.11.53	31818		200,000	cancelled in sock between double
			30c	21,800	2,180,000	---	14.9.53/27.11.53	22665		180,000	millboards.
			40c	51,800	5,180,000	---	5.10.53/27.11.53	52647		180,000	G.P.O. SPECIMENS
			50c	51,200	5,120,000	---	14.9.53/27.11.53	50299		120,000	NEW ISSUE.
			\$1	51,200	5,120,000	---	14.9.53/27.11.53	48,333		120,000	
			\$2	20,900	2,090,000	---	13.10.53/27.11.53	21570		90,000	
			\$5	~7,400	740,000	---	29.10.53	7725		90,000	
			\$10	3,600	360,000	---	29.10.53	3750		60,000	

Figure 40. Requisition 5100/1 (consignment A)

For requisition 7597/1 (consignment letter C) we first see the exchange of stock between De La Rue and the Crown Agents Bureau. For example, 65,000 sheets of the 5c value were ordered and 59,963 were printed, of which 3,160 were sent to the Bureau and replaced by the same number of sheets of the first printing (see page 6). So, 59,963 sheets comprising 56,803 of the new (second) printing and 3,160 of the first printing were sent to the colony. The numbers of sheets of the \$2 and \$10 were obviously increased from the 9,500 and 2,250 ordered to 10,000 and 2,400 despatched, respectively. The number of \$10 stamps to be exchanged was entered first as 26,400, instead of 24,600. The figure 5,000 inserted between the entries for the 5c and 10c values, 59,963 and 269,000, respectively, most probably means 5,000 additional sheets of the 10c; 59,963 plus this 5,000 is 64,963, close to the 65,000 requisitioned. If so, these sheets were those used for the 500 reels of the 10c value on requisition 7306/2, considering the date, 5.1.55 (Table VI). Stocks of certain values were obviously running low in the colony, hence the quantities collected from the Bureau and despatched by De La Rue to the colony on 25 May 1954. Presumably the quantities despatched thus were deducted from those to be returned by the Bureau for sheets of the new printing. For example, 264 sheets of the new printing of the \$10 went to the Bureau and 14 sheets of the first printing were returned to De La Rue, 250 sheets having already been returned for despatch to the colony on 25 May 1954. The need for the 10c, used for the local letter rate, was particularly urgent, and so 10,000 sheets of the new printing were despatched by air to the colony as soon as they were ready.

As mentioned above, the next requisition, 7306/2, was for 500 reels of the 10c value. As one reel of 1,000 adhesives comprised ten sheets, 5,000 sheets were needed for 500 reels. The number, 500, in the fifth column is that of reels not sheets.

As for requisition 7597/1, some values on requisition 9452/1 (consignment letter E) were more urgently needed, the 5c, 15c and 40c, and thus certain quantities were collected from the Bureau and despatched to the colony on 2 June 1955; the quantities despatched presumably being deducted from those to be returned by the Bureau for sheets of the new printing. The second despatch dates and quantities despatched for the 50c, \$1 and \$5 were either wrongly entered and then corrected or changed. Of the 10c, 30,500 sheets of the new printing were sent to Harrisons to be made up into reels (requisition 9451/1); De La Rue having made the first reels on requisition 7306/2. The numbers in the “Exchange” column are baffling. For example, 102,005 of the 5c means 1,020 sheets plus 5 stamps.

For requisition 2182/1 (consignment letter G), which involved only the 5c, 1,500 sheets of the new printing were sent to the Bureau, and an additional 970 sheets and 63 stamps were exchanged for the same number, which could have come from one, two or all of the first three printings. The meaning of the entry “5 Mill Sept56 ?Nov56” in the “DATE DUE.” column is not known.

In the case of requisition 2705/1 (consignment letter H), in addition to the 570 sheets of the 25c exchanged between De La Rue and the Bureau, 1,500 sheets were taken from the Bureau stocks and despatched immediately by insured parcel post to the colony on 9 August 1956 (the first despatch date for the 25c), which were not replaced.

Requisition 5403/1 (consignment letter K) was another one comprising only the 5c; 50,000 sheets being required by the end of September 1957 and the balance by the end of November the same year.

The printings for requisition 5465/1 (consignment letter L) were the only ones for which no exchange with the Bureau is recorded. However, the \$10 block numbered L2055 (Figure 13) from the requisition 9452/1 printing (bulk issued as consignment E) mentioned on page 18, and the fact that examples of all nine values identified as being from consignment L have been seen in three reference collections stated to have been formed from Crown Agents stock seem to indicate there was some exchange. The 50c was urgently required.

Requisition 7261/1 (consignment letter M) only involved the \$5, which was so urgently required that inspection was waived.

From 7477/1 (consignment letter P) onwards no inspection was required and interleaving with rail paper was discontinued (Figure 41). The 5c was urgently required. There are four entries for the 10c, three for sheets to be sent to Harrisons of High Wycombe for making into reels; 300,000 sheets (*) under requisition 9187/1, and 10,000 (5,000 (§) and 5,000 (¶)) sheets under requisition 9691/1. The remaining entry for the 10c was corrected from 30,000 to 30,500 sheets. Considering that the first 10c entry was for 300,000 sheets, and that there are figures in the “QUANTITY.” and “B EXCHANGE” columns, it seems likely these sheets were not for Harrisons, but that the asterisk should have been placed in the second 10c entry of 30,500. The

[illegible]

The entries for requisition 197/1 (consignment letter Q) are straightforward, except for changes for the 5c to the second despatch dates and the number of sheets despatched.

All sheets from requisitions 3370/2 (entered in records before 3370/1), 3370/1, 3370/3 and 3370/4 (entered in records after 3544/1 and 4219/1) sent to the colony had consignment letter T. In the cases of requisitions 3370/2, 3370/3 and 3370/4, stock was collected from the Crown Agents Bureau and then despatched to the colony. The 140 sheets of the \$2 under requisition 3370/3 was amended to 138 sheets because the Bureau only had that number available.

Requisition 3544/1 (consignment letter U) comprised two values, the 30c and \$2. In the remarks column it confusingly states sheets were to be given prefix letters U and V, but only U has been seen.

Requisition 4599/1 (consignment letter X) comprised all values except the 65c. Of the 10c, 30,000 sheets were sent to Harrison for reels. The “B. EXCHANGE” entries for the 30c, 40c, 50c, \$1 and \$1.30 were amended. “BUREAU 500” and “BUREAU 50,000” at the top presumably represent the exchange of an additional 500 sheets of the 5c (Figure 42).

4599/1	Hong Kong	Postage stamps	5cts	165500	16550000	100	9-6-61	Bureau 570	BUREAU B EXCHANGE	NO. INSPECTION
			10cts	300.000	30.000000	"	11-11-61	162362	30000	126000
			15cts	30.000	3.000000	"	12-5-61	265668+	30000	74000
			20cts	20000	2.000000	"	12-18-61	30000	30000	38000
			25cts	16000	1.600000	"	13-8-61	30642	38000	47000
			30cts	40000	4.000000	"	14-6-61	20430	38000	38000
			40cts	23000	2.300000	"	14-8-61	16262	38000	38000
			50cts	100000	10.000000	"	14-9-61	11363	38000	42000
			\$1	140000	14.000000	"	14-10-61	23983	38000	30000
			\$1.30	14000	14.000000	"	14-11-61	101006	38000	34000
			\$2	130000	13.000000	"	14-12-61	138434	38000	61000
			\$5	10.000	10.000000	"	15-1-61	1425	38000	13000
			\$10	14000	14.000000	"	15-2-61	13252	38000	23000
							15-3-61	10004	38000	14000
							15-4-61	14910	38000	
							20-12-61			

Figure 42. Requisition 4599/1 (consignment X)

The last requisition, 5079/1 (consignment letter Y), was for one value, the 40c.

COLOUR

In the previous publications the authors advocated the use of the Pantone® system of colour nomenclature. While this system is reasonably comprehensive (1,000 colours) and available universally at modest cost, it has been found inadequate to describe some of the subtle variations in colour of the issue under study. Therefore, the authors have assigned the closest colour match possible and added modifying descriptions to assist. Other more sophisticated colour tools are available, but for most collectors the cost would be prohibitive, with the additional problem of the lack of availability to those outside the colour industry.

The Pantone® colour system is a standard colour reference system used by the printing industry. The swatch book shows 1,000 colours, printed on both coated and uncoated papers. The degree of consistency of colour is very high, and the samples are similar in 'grain' to the printed adhesives. Each colour has its own unique three- or four-digit reference number by which shades of colour can be designated. The cost of a Pantone® by Letraset® Colour Product Selector is reasonable (21), and it will last for some years without significant change of colour. It is recommended that the set be stored in a dark place with low humidity.

There are several cautions to be observed with the subject of colour identification. Colours of ink on adhesives may change with age, exposure to light and humidity, atmospheric pollutants, or, in the case of used adhesives, soaking. Some of the high values of this issue are particularly vulnerable to the latter. The red-violet inks suffuse (spread) if immersed in water or subjected to high humidity. As these adhesives are relatively recent, the changes due to age are minimal, unless they have been stored in unfavourable conditions.

Another factor affecting the apparent colour of the ink is the paper upon which it is printed. The surface-coated paper gives a brightness to the colour. This is due to the increased reflectance of light off the paper and through the ink layer, as compared to the rougher unsurfaced paper, which reflects more light randomly.

COLOUR MATCHING METHODOLOGY

At first glance, when comparing an adhesive with a colour reference chip, the latter will appear more intense or dark. This is because the design of the adhesive is not solid ink, but a series of ink lines showing white (or coloured) paper between. The optical effect is that of colour dilution, so that it appears less intense. This is immediately apparent on inspection of the solid area of a Jubilee line or plate number plug, which shows the true intensity of the ink.

The method employed by the authors is as follows: All comparisons are made under conditions of indirect daylight. Artificial light varies from source to source, but daylight is standard, anywhere (at least for some hours per day!). The adhesive is placed on a black, white, or neutral background. It is not viewed through a stamp mount. The colour chip that appears to be a close match is held to the adhesive as shown in Figure 43. The nearly solid area on the back of the head is a good place to compare. Viewing this through an achromatic (colour-corrected) x8 to x10 magnifier will quickly reveal how close the match is.

Ask the following questions: Is the colour sample too light? Too dark? Move the strip of samples up or down until the intensity seems right. Then, is the adhesive colour brighter or duller? Select nearby strips that exhibit the characteristic sought. Place each in turn next to the adhesive until a match is found.

The Pantone® system is not perfect, but we feel that it is a vast improvement in colour communication over any other used in philately today.

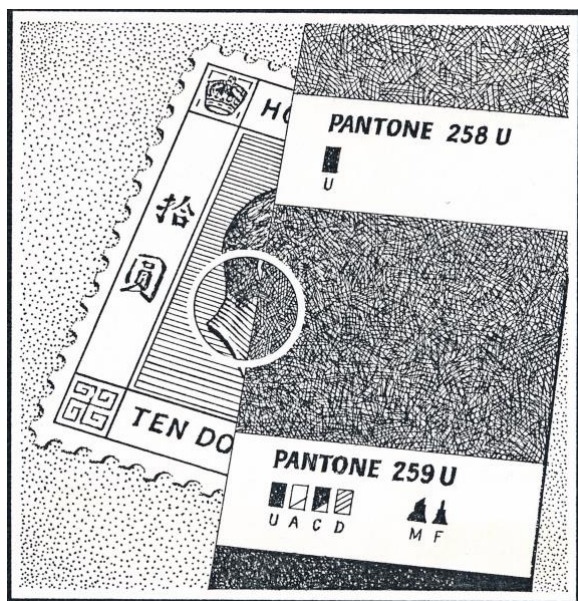


Figure 43. Colour matching.
Illustration from *A Study of the Definitive Adhesives of King George VI* (1)

PLATE FLAWS

These definitives abound with plate flaws. The flaws listed include those mentioned in Webb and then in Volume 1 (12), which were selected from among the 220 identified and listed by the late Dr. Peter Shek (22). Unfortunately, Dr. Shek's list has been mislaid and thus was not available to the authors, so the vast majority of the flaws cited are ones either rediscovered or newly found by the authors. All the flaws listed have been seen and confirmed by the authors, except for seven listed in Webb (5, 37, 41, 47, 48, 73 and 76) (12). The search for further flaws continues. The flaws have been given numbers with the prefix HAQ (Halewood/Antscherl/Queen), with spaces for additional finds. New findings have been included on the basis of the following criteria, unless stated otherwise:

- a) Position known: At least two examples seen.
- b) Position unknown: At least three examples seen unless otherwise indicated.

Under each illustration are given the HAQ number, the Webb (12) and/or Yang (9) numbers, if any, the position (e.g., 6/7 means row 6, stamp 7), with an asterisk if there is another flaw(s) on the same adhesive, an indication of the flaw's constancy, and a short description of the flaw. The constancy of the flaws is indicated as follows:

- +A, flaw present on consignment A
- L, flaw absent from consignment L
- +(T), flaw occluded on consignment T
- +X[1], flaw present on \$1/consignment X
- X[1.30], flaw absent from \$1.30/consignment X
- Constant, flaw never found to be absent
- Not constant, flaw found to be absent sometimes
- Early, flaw present initially or occurring early on, but absent (repaired?) later
- Late/Very late, flaw occurring late/very late on
- Sometimes/Often occluded, flaw occluded with ink sometimes/often
- Short-lived, flaw only present on one or two printings
- Very short-lived, flaw apparently only present on one printing
- Repaired later, obvious attempt at repair later
- Blank*, not enough examples to reach a conclusion

Due to the unevenness of the unsurfaced paper of the 5c, 10c and 15c values, ink was sometimes not transferred from the plate to the paper. Consequently, areas where ink is missing can appear to be due to plate flaws. When positioning a high value example, remember to look at the high value keyplate pages as well as the duty plate ones for the value in question. As is obvious from the number of flaws, De La Rue's quality control was nowhere near as good as for previous reigns.

[The flaw illustrations will appear later as Appendix I.]

POSTAL RATES

Apart from an increase in the registration fee, the postal rates and principal charges remained unchanged throughout the period of use of this issue (Tables IX and X). From 1 June 1955, the registration fee was 40c, having been 30c previously.

Table IX. Surface rates and principal charges

Service	Hong Kong, Macau, China, Taiwan	British Commonwealth, British POs in Morocco and Persian Gulf, Eire	All other countries
Letters	10c each 1oz	20c first 1oz, 15c each additional 1oz	40c first 1oz, 25c each additional 1oz
Postcards	5c	15c	25c
Reply paid postcards	10c	30c	50c
Small packets	75c first 10oz, 15c each additional 2oz	75c first 10oz, 15c each additional 2oz	75c first 10oz, 15c each additional 2oz
Printed papers	5c each 2oz	15c first 2oz, 10c each additional 2oz	15c first 2oz, 10c each additional 2oz
Commercial papers	5c each 2oz	45c first 8oz, 10c each additional 2oz	45c first 8oz, 10c each additional 2oz
Samples	15c first 2oz, 10c each additional 2oz	15c first 2oz, 10c each additional 2oz	15c first 2oz, 10c each additional 2oz
Registration fee	30c §	30c §	30c §
Insurance fee	50c each \$300 of insured value (up to \$1,600)	50c each \$300 of insured value (up to \$1,600)	50c each \$300 of insured value (up to \$1,600)
Advice of receipt	Registered, 40c Unregistered, 5c	Registered, 40c Unregistered, 5c	Registered, 40c Unregistered, 5c
§ 40c from 1/6/55			

Table X. Airmail rates

Zone	Countries	First class, per ½oz	Second class, per ½oz
1	Afghanistan, Brunei, Burma, Formosa, French Indo-China, India, Japan, Korea, Labuan, Malaya, North Borneo, Pakistan, Philippines, Portuguese Timor, Sarawak, Thailand	50c	25c
2	Rest of Asia, Europe, Africa, Australia, New Zealand, Pacific Islands (except Hawaii)	\$1.30	65c
3	Canada, U.S.A. (including Hawaii), Caribbean, Central America	\$2.00	\$1.00
4	South America, Falkland Islands	\$2.50	\$1.25

POST OFFICES AND CANCELS

When the 1954-62 definitive issue first appeared on 5 January 1954 there were only 13 post offices open in the colony (Figure 44).



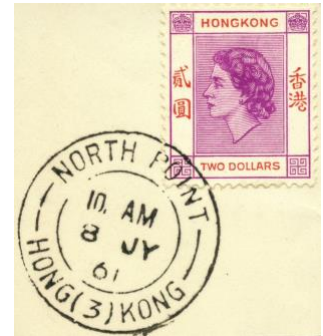
Figure 44. The thirteen POs on 5 January 1954

In addition to the two main post offices, i.e., the General Post Office, on Hong Kong Island, and Kowloon Post Office, there were 26 branch and two mobile post offices open throughout or for part of the period this issue was in use. Table XI lists all post offices open during the latter period and the periods they were open. For details of the cancels used, *Hong Kong Postal Datestamps* published by the Hong Kong Post Office and the China Philatelic Association is strongly recommended. Figure 45 shows examples of the cancels that can be found on the 1954-62 issue.

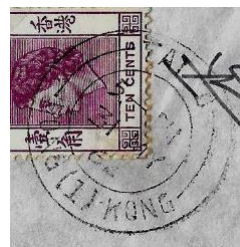
Table XI. Post offices open from 5 January 1954 to 3 October 1962

<i>Area</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Period open</i>
Hong Kong Island	G. P. O.	Throughout
	Aberdeen	From 18/2/59
	Man Yee Arcade	From 19/9/60
	North Point	From 25/11/57
	Sai Ying Pun	Throughout
	Secretariat	From 26/10/59
	Shauiwan/Shau Kei Wan	From 14/10/57 (renamed mid-59)
	Sheungwan	Throughout
	Stanley	Throughout
	Wanchai/Wan Chai	Throughout (two words from 1961)
Outlying Islands	Cheung Chau	Throughout
	Peng Chau	From 28/12/61
	Tai O	From 14/5/62
Kowloon	A.M.C. (Air Mail Centre)	From 29/5/60
	Kai Tak	Up to 1955, then from 21/9/59
	Kowloon	Throughout
	Kowloon City	From 1/12/59
	Ma Tau Wei/Ma Tau Wai	From 14/10/57 (renamed 12/59)
	Mongkok	From 1/12/59
	Sham Shui Po	Throughout
	So Uk	From 23/11/60
	Yau Ma Tei/Yau Ma Tei	Throughout (renamed 17/11/60)
New Territories	Mobile (1) Post Office	From 14/3/60
	Mobile (2) Post Office	From 23/7/62
	Sai Kung	From 30/10/61
	Sha Tau Kok	From 16/4/62
	Shatin/Shau Tin	From 18/10/55
	Shek Wu Hui	From 24/10/59
	Tai Po	Throughout
	Tsun Wan/Tsuen Wan	Throughout (renamed 19/2/57)
	Un Long/Yuen Long	Throughout (renamed 9/2/57)

Hong Kong Island



Outlying Islands



Kowloon





New Territories





Figure 45. Post offices open from 5 January 1954 to 3 October 1962

Kai Tak and the Air Mail Centre (AMC) used dumb chops comprising bars to cancel stamps that had missed cancellation on collection. There appears to have been three types used during the period the 1954-62 issue was in use, all of which were applied in violet ink. Proud ascribes one type to Kai Tak, and the other two to the AMC. The Kai Tak one is perfectly circular and comprises six bars (Proud PP1; Figure 46, left). Of the AMC types, one is rounded rectangular in shape (Proud K1) and the other more oval (K2; Figure 46, right).



Figure 46. Dumb chops used at Kai Tak and the Air Mail Centre

MACHINE CANCELS

The ordinary machine cancels used during the period the 1954-62 definitive issue was in use are listed in Table XII. In addition to ordinary machine cancels, the General Post Office and Kowloon Post Office sometimes used machine slogan cancels for promotional or educational purposes (Table XIII). For further details of both types, *Hong Kong Slogan Cancels* published by the Hong Kong Post Office and the China Philatelic Association is strongly recommended.

Table XII. Machine cancels

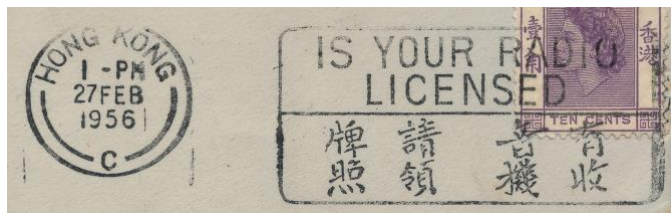


Table XIII. Machine slogan cancels

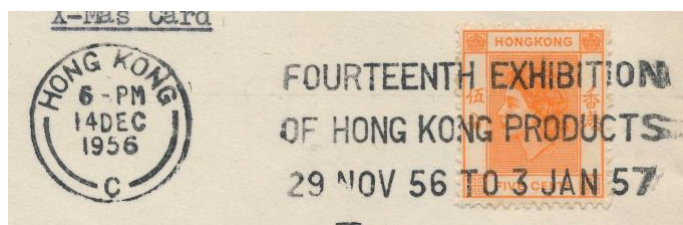
	<p>G.P.O. 23.10.53 – 9.1.54 Kowloon 23.10.53 – 10.1.54 • Held in Tsim Sha Tsui</p>
	<p>G.P.O. 5.8.54 – 7.1.55 Kowloon 5.8.54 – 10.1.55 • Held on newly reclaimed land in Central</p>
	<p>G.P.O. 25.8.55 – 31.12.55 Kowloon 12.9.55 – 1.1.56 • Held in Central again</p>



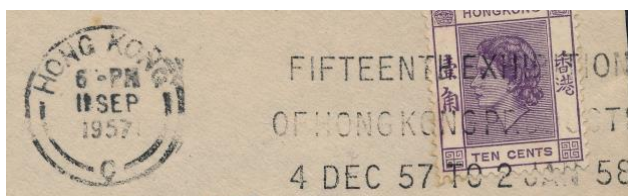
G.P.O. 14.12.55 – 21.1.56
Kowloon 14.12.55 – 20.1.56
• In 1955, the number of private cars alone exceeded 20,000, and there were numerous accidents



G.P.O. 20.2.56 – 14.3.56
• Sheungwan reported by Webb, but no examples known
• People had to pay \$20 for a radio licence



G.P.O. 24.9.56 – 24.12.56
Kowloon 24.9.56 – 2.1.57
• Held in Central again



G.P.O. 11.9.57 – 2.1.58
Kowloon 11.9.57 – 25.12.57
• Sheungwan reported by Webb, but no examples known
• Held in Tsim Sha Tsui



G.P.O. 13.10.58 – 3.1.59
Kowloon 13.10.58 – 28.12.58
• Held in Tsim Sha Tsui again



G.P.O.
Kowloon
• Two types used, differing in the size and spacing of the Chinese characters



G.P.O.
Kowloon
• Four types used, differing in the size and spacing of the Chinese characters



G.P.O. 22.10.59 – 2.1.60
Kowloon 23.10.59 – 4.1.60
• Held in Tsim Sha Tsui again



G.P.O. 2.11.60 – 30.12.60
Kowloon 3.11.60 – 4.1.61
• Held in old naval dockyard in Central



G.P.O. 21.1.61 – 4.2.61
Kowloon 23.1.61 – 4.2.61
• The Agricultural Show usually took place in Yuen Long



G.P.O. 10.4.61 – 1.5.61
Kowloon 10.4.61 – 1.5.61
• Event sponsored by the Duke of Edinburgh in 1961. An employment assistance scheme was introduced soon after



G.P.O. 2.11.61 – 6.1.62
Kowloon 2.12.61 – 6.1.62
• Held in old naval dockyard again. Due to fire, exhibition suspended from 7.12.61 to 19.12.61 (see below)



G.P.O. 11.1.62 – 20.1.62
Kowloon 9.1.62 – 20.1.62
• The 19TH exhibition was reopened on 20.12.61. Thus, "5TH" and "8TH" were removed (see above). The new closing date was 21.1.62

TEMPORARY POST OFFICES

During the life of the 1954-62 definitive issue four skeleton type cancels were used on special occasions. The post office set up a temporary kiosk in the main hall of the '11th Exhibition of Hong Kong Products' from 14 December 1953 to 12 January 1954. This was the first of a series of similar temporary offices at the annual exhibitions. For the 11th to 17th exhibitions, a skeleton-type cancel with "EXHIBITION P O" at the top was used (Figures 47 and 48). At the first meeting of the 'Sub-Committee on Trade of the United Nations Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East', the

post office operated a temporary office at the Grantham Training College in Kowloon. A skeleton-type cancel with “ECAFE P O” (Figures 47 and 49) at the top was in use from 6 to 12 January 1955. To commemorate Hong Kong’s first ‘Boy Scout Jamboree’ in December 1961, a skeleton-type cancel with “JAMBORETTE P O” at the top was used (Figure 47). **Need information on UNIVERSITY P O, when, why, etc. (Figure 47)**

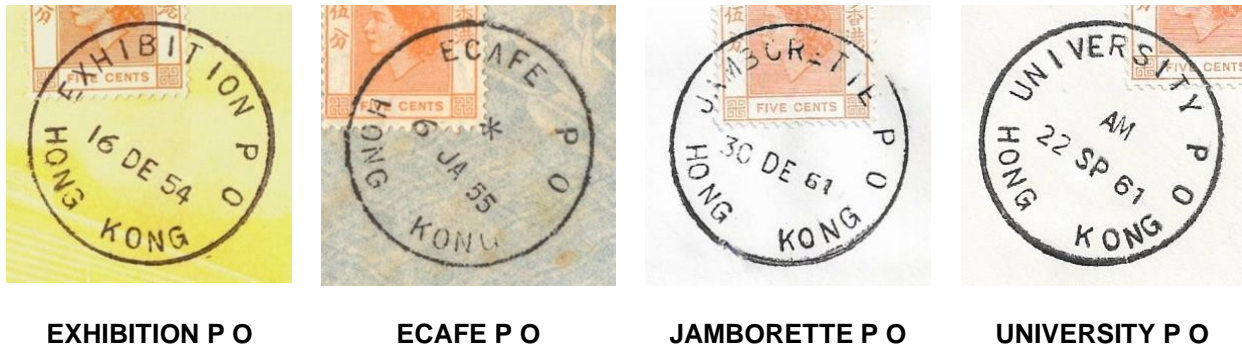


Figure 47. Temporary post office cancels



Figure 48. Exhibition of Hong Kong Products Post Office



Figure 49. ECAFE Post Office



Figure 50

A temporary post office was established at the Grantham Training College on 5, 6, 9 and 11 September 1957 for the 'Eighth West Pacific Regional Council of the World Health Organisation of the United Nations'. A 27mm double-lined circular datestamp with "KOWLOON" at the top, "HONG (4) KONG" at the bottom, and long thin side lines was used (Figure 50). The special cancellation received very little publicity and thus very few covers were handled.

BULK MAIL HANDSTAMPS



General Post Office



Kowloon Post Office

Figure 51. Bulk mail handstamps

Handstamps comprising a triangle enclosing “H.K.1” or “H.K.2” were used to cancel adhesives on bulk mail (Figure 51). “H.K.1” was used at the General Post Office in Victoria and “H.K.2” at Kowloon Post Office.

PARCEL POST CANCELS



Figure 52. Large rectangular parcel post cancel used at G.P.O.; index “1”



Figure 53. G.P.O. cds type; index “1”

There were two types of parcel post cancels. A large rectangular type (Figure 52) and a cds type (Figure 53). The large format was used for fourteen post offices during the life of the 1954-62 issue, the cds format only being used at the General Post Office (G.P.O.). Table XIX lists the fourteen post offices that used the large format. Table XIX also shows the type numbers and dates used according to Proud (23). For the 1954-62 issue, the cds type can be found with index numbers “1” to “6” (Proud PP17-22).

Figures 54 to 59 show portions of rectangular parcel post cancels on adhesives off paper.

Table XIX. Rectangular parcel post cancels

Proud	Post office	Index	Dates used
PP39	HONG KONG	1	6.5.54-7.9.54
PP40	HONG KONG	2	22.6.53-5.1.54
PP41	HONG KONG	3	28.4.54-2.11.54
PP42	HONG KONG	4	1.11.54-28.5.55
PP43	HONG KONG	1	2.3.55-25.7.64
PP2	KOWLOON	1	22.11.54
PP1	KOWLOON CITY	1	1.12.59-17.10.64
PP1	KWUN TONG	1	3.12.62-24.1.66
PP1	MA TAU WEI	1	12.8.59
PP1	MAN YEE ARCADE	1	7.3.62-24.1.66
PP1	MONGKOK	1	1.12.59
PP1	SECRETARIAT	1	26.10.59-9.5.64
PP1	SHATIN	1	1.5.59
PP2	SHAMSHUIPO	1	15.8.59
PP1	SHAUKIWAN	1	6.8.59
PP2	SHEK WU HUI	1	4.7.59
PP1	SHEUNGWAN	1	13.8.59
PP2	WAN CHAI	1	1.5.59



KOWLOON CITY



MA TAU WEI



G.P.O.

Figure 54. Identifiable portions of rectangular cancels



Figure 55. One of the branch POs, not the G.P.O., due to "HONG KONG" being in small letters



Figure 56. G.P.O., index
number "2"; dated
15 MAY 54



Figure 57. KOWLOON





Index number

Shading



PO name

Date

Figure 58. Miscellaneous portions of rectangular cancels



Figure 59. G.P.O., index unknown; dated 4 MCH 54

INTERNAL AND OTHER USES

Postage adhesives were also used for internal accounting and other purposes, such as for indicating payment for advice of receipt (A.R.) of registered items (Figure 60).



Figure 60. Postal adhesives used for other purposes

PERFORATED INITIALS (PERFINS)



U T Co = Union Trading Company

B E A = Bank of East Asia

Figure 61. Perfins

Only one company is known to have perfinned postage adhesives, i.e., Union Trading Company (“U T Co”; Figure 61, left). Values known to have been treated thus are the 5c, 15c, 20c, 30c, 40c, 50c and \$1. Two 1955 Bill of Exchange (“B OF E”) values (75c and \$3) are known perfinned “B E A” (Bank of East Asia; Figure 61, right), so this bank could have treated postage adhesives in the same way.

CATALOGUE NUMBER CONCORDANCE

Table XIV lists the numbers ascribed to the initial colours and subsequent shades of the fourteen values in the catalogues of Stanley Gibbons (U.K.; 8), Yang (Hong Kong; 9), and Scott (U.S.A.; 24).

Table XIV. Catalogue number concordance			
Value	Stanley Gibbons (8)	Yang (9)	Scott (23)
5c	178 orange	169 orange	185 orange
10c	179 lilac	169a pale orange	186 violet
15c	179b reddish violet	170 lilac	187 green
20c	180 green	170a reddish lilac	188 brown
25c	180a pale green	171 green	189 rose-red
30c	181 brown	171a pale green	190 grey
40c	182 scarlet	172 brown	191 blue
50c	182a rose-red	172a light brown	192 red-violet
65c	183 grey	173 scarlet	193 light grey
\$1	183a pale grey	173a rose-red	194 orange & green
\$1.30	184 bright blue	174 grey	195 blue & vermillion
\$2	184a dull blue	174a pale grey	196 violet & red
\$5	185 reddish purple	175 light blue	197 green & violet
\$10	186 grey	175a dull blue	198 violet & ultramarine
	187 orange & green	176 deep reddish purple	
	188 blue & red	176a reddish purple	
	188a bright blue & red	177 grey	
	189 reddish violet & scarlet	178 orange & green	
	189b light reddish violet & scarlet	178a red-orange & green	
	190 green & purple	179 blue & red	
	190a yellowish green & purple	179a bright blue & red	
	191 reddish violet & bright blue	180 reddish violet & scarlet	
	191a light reddish violet & bright blue	180a light reddish violet & scarlet	
		181 green & purple	
		181a yellowish green & purple	
		182 reddish violet & bright blue	
		182a light reddish violet & bright blue	

CRASHES INVOLVING MAIL BEARING 1954-62 ADHESIVES

There were three aircraft crashes that involved mail bearing the 1954-62 adhesives (25).

On 14 January 1954, en route from Manila to London, a Philippine Airlines DC6 “Master Cloud” (PI-C-294) crashed while attempting a forced landing in a field on its approach to Ciampino airport, Rome, due to its two right engines being on fire (Nierinck 540114). There were 18 fatalities. Part of the mail was recovered, that from Hong Kong being dated 12 January 1954 (Figures 62 and 63). Salvaged mail received one or more of six cachets or two typewritten notes (26).

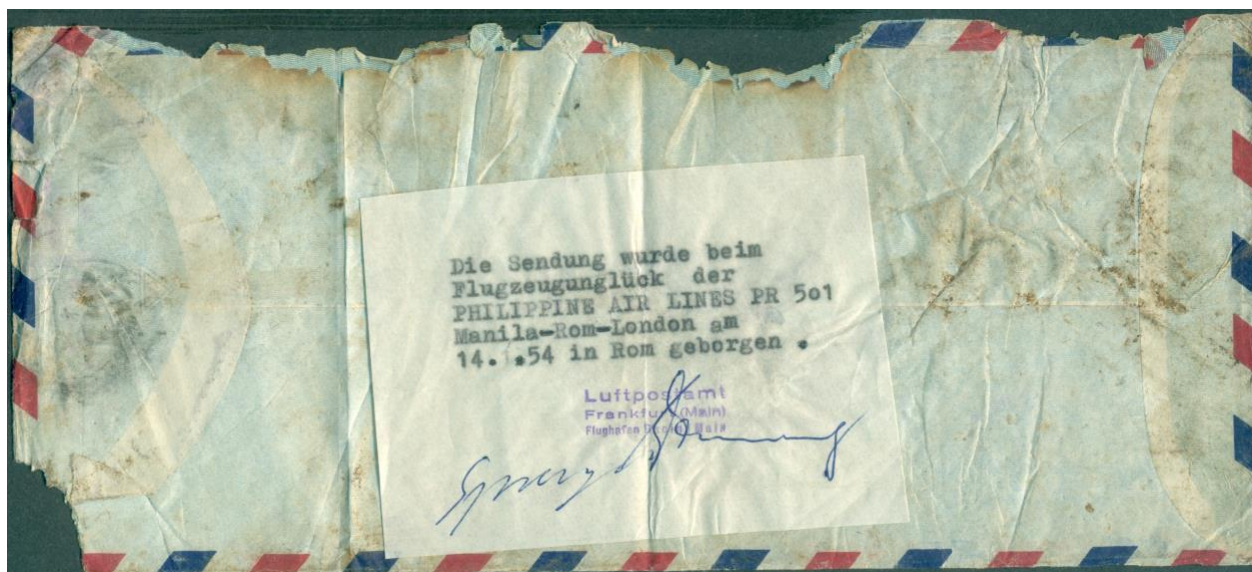


Figure 62. Salvaged cover to Germany rated at \$1.30 for ½oz airmail with two-line cachet in Italian (Nierinck 540114a) on front and five-line typewritten note from Frankfurt (Main) Post Office with two signatures (540114d) on back

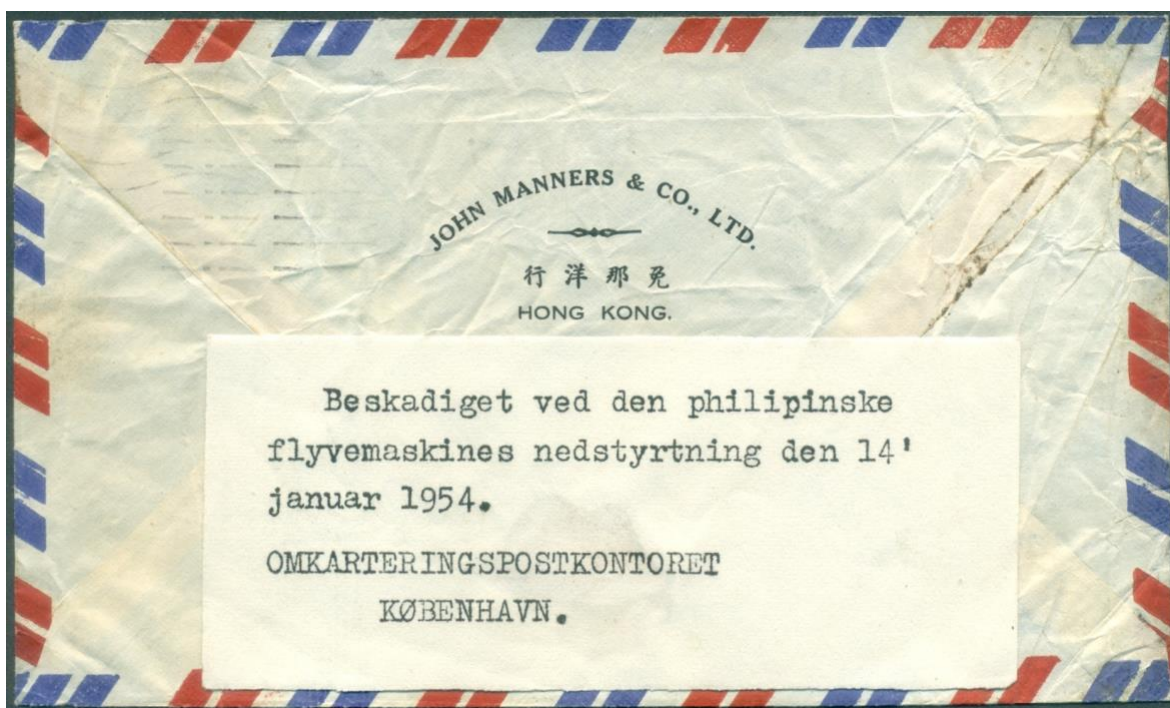


Figure 63. Salvaged cover to Denmark rated at \$1.30 for ½oz airmail with two-line cachet in Italian (Nierinck 540114a) on front and five-line typewritten note from the Danish Post Office (540114g) on back

Then on 2 February 1955, an Indian Airlines DC-3 (VT-CVB) left Nagpur at 3.48 am on a flight to Delhi. During a left turn on the climb out, the aircraft struck the ground, caught fire and was totally destroyed (Nierinck 550202). All occupants were killed. A small part of the mail was recovered, the salvaged mail receiving a three-line cachet in violet ink. Only one cover from Hong Kong is known

(Figure 64). Unfortunately, in addition to some of the 50c adhesive visible, part of the “KOWLOON” cancellation including the date was burnt.

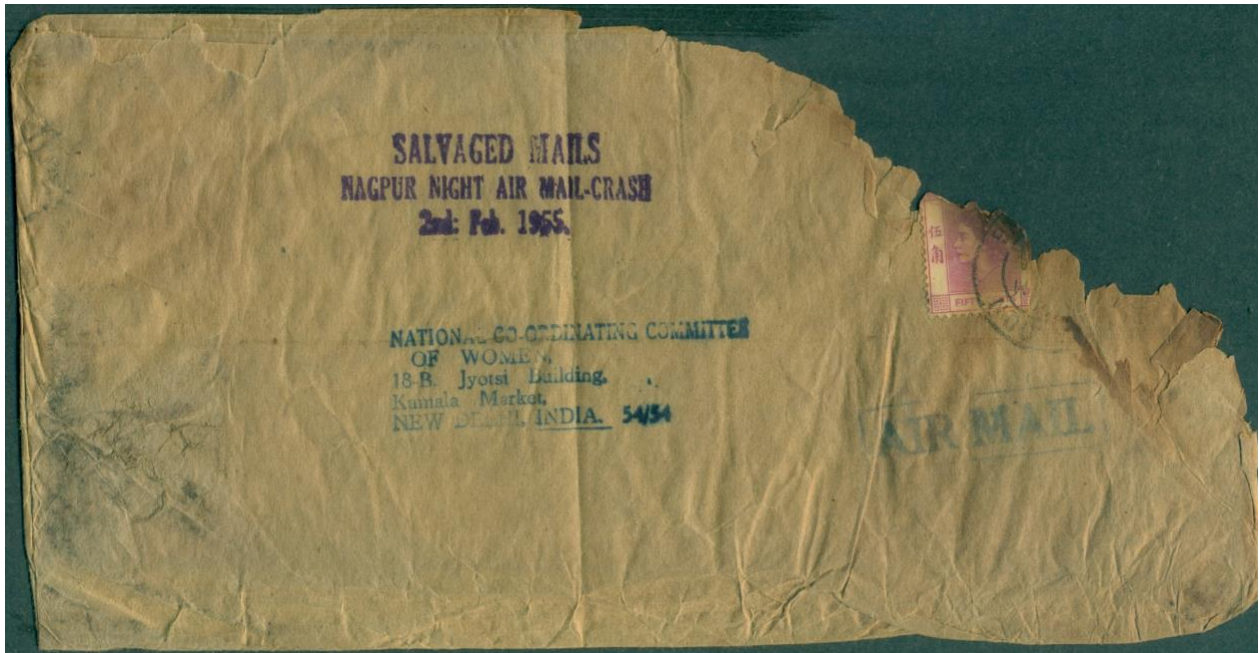


Figure 64. Salvaged cover to New Delhi rated at 50c for ½oz or \$1 for 1oz airmail with three-line cachet in violet ink applied in Nagpur or Delhi

Finally, on 16 December 1960, en route from Seattle to New York, a TWA plane crashed on Staten Island, New York, after colliding with a United Airlines (UAL) Douglas DC-8 bound for Dayton and Columbus. The TWA plane crashed immediately, while the UAL one remained airborne for several minutes before crashing into the streets of Brooklyn, New York (recorded by Webb (27) and in *Crash Covers* by the American Airmail Society (28), but not by Nierinck (26). There were 128 fatalities in the two aircraft. Mail was recovered, most of it being damaged on impact or by fire. Mail from Hong Kong was dated either 14 or 15 December 1960 and, like other salvaged mail, received a two-line cachet reading “DAMAGED IN HANDLING/IN THE POSTAL SERVICE” or “RECEIVED IN DAMAGED CONDITION” in violet ink (Figure 65).

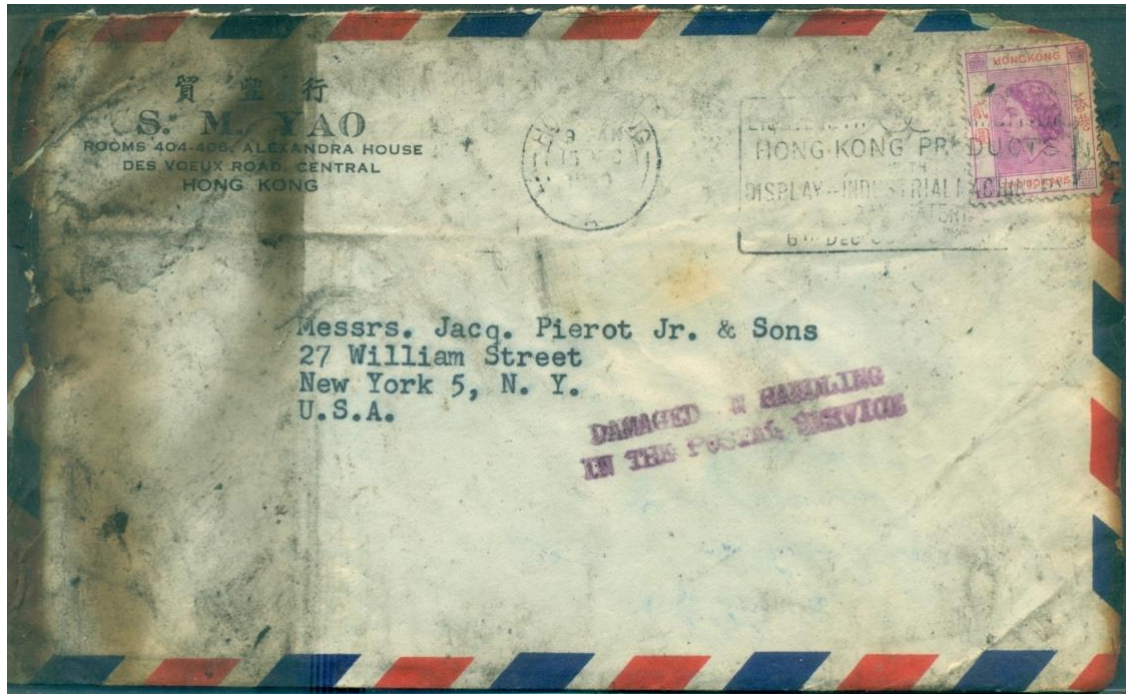


Figure 65. Salvaged cover to the U.S.A. rated at \$2 for ½oz airmail with two-line cachet in violet ink applied in New York

CONCLUSION

The authors hope that this monograph will prove interesting, useful and challenging to students of this issue, and stimulating to others not specialising in it. As mentioned in the introduction, there will inevitably be some errors and omissions, for which the authors apologise. Any feedback concerning mistakes, inaccuracies or omissions, as well as additional information, would be welcomed. Research continues, and it is hoped to publish additional findings in the *Hong Kong Study Circle Journal*.

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