

1930-1935
 by O. K. Davis
M. R. DAVIS
 1000 1st St.
 1000 1st St.

WORLDWIDE STAMPS
 THEY ARE HINGED.
 Necessary, but not
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 Write for best lot
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 No Delays!
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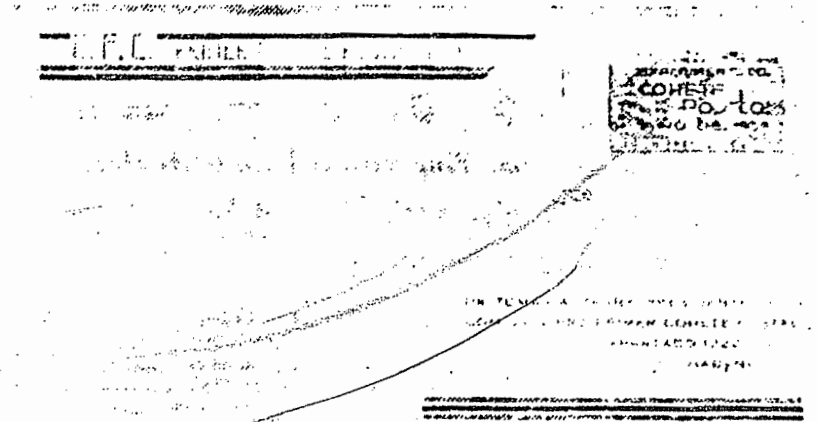
IN PRICE LIST
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 of packets and sets 10c
IN BAND
 1000 1st St.,
 e, N. Y. 11801

mas Special
ED NATIONS
MINT NEVER HINGED
 1000 1st St.,
 e, N. Y. 11801



An October 1, 1939 first day cover of the world's first rocket stamp as described by the author. It was addressed to him at the time, and duplicates were sold generally at a whopping 60c each following the flight. Today's figure is almost that many dollars.

Background And Development Of The Cuban Postal Rocket Experiment Of October 1939

Dr. Tomas A. Terry

The day is not far distant when after depositing our letter in a special mailbox and hearing a little while later an infernal noise, we will know that our message has arrived at its destination in Europe. This would be perfectly possible this very moment, since the remotely controlled projectiles can cross the Atlantic in less 30 minutes. It would only be necessary to add a packet of letters to it in order to obtain this result in the postal system.

These demonstrations might at present astonish many people, but this was exactly what The Philatelic Club of Cuba foretold and commemorated in advance 27 years ago.

We do not pretend of course, to have invented the process which goes back to the limits of prehistory, which as a principle we owe to Newton in his third law for motion of bodies.

Neither was it practiced originally by us as a system of postal transportation which was carried out for the first time in Austria in 1931 based on the correspondence of scientists Franz Von Moefft and Hermann Oberth concerning the possibilities of transporting letters at speeds above the 600 miles indicated as the limit of speed of propeller-driven airplanes.

Not taking into account some suggestions and even attempts to transport messages by rocket carried out during the last century, we can fix as an example and point of departure for present demonstrations the work carried on

1931 sending 102 letters. This was followed by other trials with greater or less success.

Finding it impossible to obtain official support for this enterprise he proposed to continue in his costly experiments by making use of new models of seven-pound rockets in which he sent in each case some 150 to 200 covers franked with a series of stamps and very showy private labels which were sold for this purpose, and by means of which he underwrote a portion of the cost of said trials.

In later years these mailings were carried out almost exclusively for financial gain by unscrupulous promoters in Germany, England, India, France, Holland, Belgium, and in some cases the United States, which commercialism soon did away with the great popularity and enthusiasm which had

Here there arose the plan to do that mailing officially which desire became possible with the cooperation of understanding officials.

As a first step, it was agreed by Presidential Decree No. 2330 dated September 1, 1939 to surcharge 200,000 stamps of the domestic airmail 10c (Scott No. C13) with a color change to emerald green.

At the same time the construction of the rocket proceeded in charge of a well-known pyrotechnician who to the best of his knowledge and understanding did all he could within the limits of the resources at his disposal.

When the rocket was finished, three preliminary trials were carried out on the first, third, and eighth of October (two of which were completely successful). They contained respectively 60, 21, and 15 covers franked with stamps and private labels which today constitute great rarities.

The official launching took place on the morning of Sunday, October 15 at the shooting range of the Sports Casino with the symbolic transportation of 2581 covers franked with the referred to special stamp. That first trial did not result in success.

Already it was called "experiment" in the very surcharge of the new stamp which was added with foresight and with the same pessimism as in the case of the first official airmail stamp (Esperimento Posta Aerea) issued in Italy for the Rome-Turin airline.

For the moment and for those who neither know nor understand (Continued on page 49)

HOW MUCH STAMP COLLECTOR IT DEPENDS ON

For the highest profit from collection, choose the buyer choose your stamps. Don't thinking that a private more than a dealer. That's what collectors think only.

9 75 Russia 2021 2 25
C120 65 Saar 238 70
a catalog of packets and sets for

MARTIN BAND

29-F Haverford Rd.,
Hicksville, N. Y. 11801

Christmas Special UNITED NATIONS

FINE, MINT NEVER HINGED



Sgls. MI Bkls MI Bkls Used FDC
of 4 of 6

	\$14.00	\$18.00	\$28.00	\$10.00	\$38.00
1	.55	2.00	4.10	.45	1.00
2	1.00	5.50	7.70	.80	1.40
3	1.90	8.90	12.70	1.20	2.00
4	2.10	9.90	15.10	1.30	2.05
5	1.25	5.85	8.95	.90	1.25
6	2.00	10.00	14.40	1.00	1.60
7	1.50	7.00	10.00	.90	1.30
8	1.95	9.50	13.00	1.00	1.70
9	5.40	27.00	38.00	2.35	2.70
10	10.70	53.00	76.00	3.75	4.80
11	5.50	28.30	40.00	2.65	2.95
12	.75	8.80	12.60	1.10	1.45
13	2.10	9.00	13.00	1.10	1.65
14	70.00			32.00	35.00
15	.95	5.00	7.00	.70	1.00
16	.95	5.00	7.00	.70	1.00
17	.95	5.00	7.00	.70	1.00
18	.35	2.00	2.80	.30	.50
19	.15	.75	1.05	.12	.40
20	.15	.75	1.05	.12	.40
21	.15	.75	1.05	.12	.40
22	.35	2.00	2.80	.25	.40
23	.15	.75	1.05	.12	.40
24	.15	.75	1.05	.12	.40
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193	.15	.75	1.05	.12	.40
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197	.15	.75	1.05	.12	.40
198	.15	.75	1.05	.12	.40
199	.15	.75	1.05	.12	.40
200	.15	.75	1.05	.12	.40

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MARIO ASSANTE

9 Legion Memorial Dr.

Que. R. I. 02919

Neither was it practiced originally by us as a system of postal transportation which was carried out for the first time in Austria in 1931 based on the correspondence of scientists Franz Von Moelfft and Hermann Oberth concerning the possibilities of transporting letters at speeds above the 600 miles indicated as the limit of speed of propeller - driven airplanes.

Not taking into account some suggestions and even attempts to transport messages by rocket carried out during the last century, we can fix as an example and point of departure for present demonstrations the work carried on since 1928 by Dr. Frederick Schmiedel of Graz, Austria.

He actually went so far as to plan and even propose a regular mail route in the Austrian Alps for rapid postal communication of two towns separated by a mountain range nearly 10,000 feet high which although just over a mile apart by air required eight hours on the road for land communication. For this purpose he carried out his first trial on February 2,

no proposal to continue in his costly experiment, by making use of new models of seven - pound rockets in which he sent in each case some 150 to 200 covers franked with a series of stamps and very showy private labels which were sold for this purpose, and by means of which he underwrote a portion of the cost of said trials.

In later years these mailings were carried out almost exclusively for financial gain by unscrupulous promoters in Germany, England, India, France, Holland, Belgium, and in some cases the United States, which commercialism soon did away with the great popularity and enthusiasm which had existed among philatelists for that new aerophilatelic material.

Such was the situation when Fred Kessler edited the first special catalog (1935) and in our Philatelic Club it was a question of carrying out that dispatch in a different form or manner and free of any idea of profit, since we believed that the possibilities of private mailings and the patience of the ever - fleeced collectors reached their limit.



The special souvenir sheet companion of the 1939 Cuban Rocket Mail stamp (shown here slightly smaller than full size) was printed in red (rocket exhaust), bright blue (rocket, trees and landscape) and black (lettering). The 1939 quotation was 20c mint, 25c used.

STAR
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Our offers match our desires.
In all high. Spot cash to an
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as 60,000 varieties. Many of our
customers have had dozens of
at one time or another. Those
who have not tried them by all
treat yourself to something SP-
FREE ENVELOPE OF ODDS &
included with each order at no
charge.

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328

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OF THE PACIFIC...
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MARKET

RIY SEI



Kenneth M. Gierhart
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Baltimore, Ohio 43105

SEPTEMBER LISTS

More new towns than normal,
plus a few to raise the eyebrows
over. As usual, the new ones are
starred, and the others must be
considered as having new devices.
The total once again belies the
statement that precancels are on
the way out.

Columbia, SC; Champaign, IL;
Burkburnett, TX; Staunton, VA;
*New Bedford, IL; Yutan, NB;
Silver Spring, MD; Okemos, MI;
South Laguna, CA; Willard, OH;
*Chino Valley, AZ; Nevada City,
CA; New Martinsville, WV; *Mt.
Baldy, CA

Also, Monmouth Beach, N.J.;
Oskaloosa, IA; *Loose Creek,
MO; *Sellersburg, PA; Danville,
IN; Moore, OK; Middleboro, MA;
Cutler, IN; Altadena, CA; East
Otis, MA; *East Hartland, CT;
Williston Park, N.Y.

I mentioned the poor spaced Silver
Spring, Maryland device some
weeks ago as they probably are
replacing it, and the chances will
be that it will be another type for
Silver Spring. It's odd that last
month Urbana, IL got a new de-
vice, and this one its sister, or
twin, city, Champaign, is getting
one. Urbana already had a vinyl
type so that was its second, but
this is the first for Champaign
which used its U-17n fairly fre-
quently in its past.

East Otis Mass. was not in the
original Town and Type Catalog.
My entry shows that it originally
got a U-130 type. This second de-
vice will of course be a U-140 or
141.

Medford, Ore. received a 100-
subject electro plate and this ought
to perk things up for Medford. It
either used a U-120 wide or a Bu-
reau. These were mostly seen on
the Prexies so this new plate
should be type number three. Type
one is an old U - 82 and pretty
scarce, type two the U-120 wide
pretty often seen in mixes as well
as the Bureau.

CUBAN (Continued from page 18)

the significance of a symbolic act,
that trial mailing which we might
call futuristic was considered
a failure as was even that of the
rockets, but years later there
rained upon London many rock-
ets of great size coming from the
coasts of Belgium and Holland —
some with propaganda material
and even correspondence from
English prisoners in Germany.

These gigantic vehicles were the
model when peace came for the
rapid succession of great rockets
like Viking, Atlas, Mercury, Her-
mes, and Jupiter, whose great ca-
pacity made people think of the
possibility of establishing space
communications — and thus made
a reality one of the greatest and
oldest dreams of humanity.

A little while later, there was
established a race or competition
for control of routes of space and
the utilization of the above men-
tioned apparatus for the purposes
of attack and defense.

Naturally, and as was to be pre-
sented, this great extra - terrestrial
competition was not long in being
reflected in the numerous issues
starting with the IGY of 1957 - 1958,
and today it constitutes an exten-
sive and popular topical collection
called "space" which has at its
disposal several hundred very ar-
tistic examples, and more than
six specialized catalogs.

This area of philately has been
considered by many, and with good
reason, an additional continuation
of the first postal rockets, because
in principle it is a matter of the
same means of transportation. This
great demand had its origin in our
stamp of the Postal Rocket Ex-
periment, the first official issue
for this purpose, which was origi-
nally sold just 27 years ago for
a mere 10c. Today it is difficult
to obtain one for less than \$40-50,
and it is still increasing in value
and demand.

As we say in our club magazine
"Actividades Filatelic", after
27 years that which was our mis-
understood "Postal Rocket" has
finally had its just revenge.
(Editor's note: This article is a
translation by John Marsh of the
France & Colonies Philatelic Soci-
ety, with slight updating, of the
article which appeared in the Jan-
uary - February 1964 edition of La
Revista del Club Filatelico de Ca-



Write for fr
Dealers

SCHAUBEK DIS

2604 W. MICHIGAN S

Division of Circle Stamp &

STAMPS AR

When Austria issued a reprodu-
tion received it at a NLW
our retail price at the same
When Germany issued a comm-
our clients received it at a N
wholesale prices were 25c.
And when San Marino recently
obtained Full Standing Order C
even though dealers were alien-

ARE WE CRAZY FOR SEL

Because in the long run, our
material. A satisfied customer
form of business.

We are now acc

This service is strictly a NLW
are based on face value. Our
and 100% comprehensive. All
Simply send us a "t of five-
on a Standing Order New Issu
the rest.

RONALD FRANK

SPAIN

ALL STAMPS

287/06 LH	190.00	B103 A
318/30 LH	166.00	B108 E
373/85 LH	175.00	B108 M
501/13 LH	320.00	B108 C
606/14 NH	220.00	B109/2
806/14 LH	195.00	B109/2
617 signed, used	50.00	1920 A
776/79 LH	125.00	signed,
877a/88a NH	3.50	C97 a
Arms complete NH	28.00	C97 a
B6a error NH	100.00	C88/89
B32/46 LH	175.00	C136 N

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 customers have had dozens of
 it one time or another. Those of
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 IN; Moore, OK; Middleboro, MA;
 Cutler, IN; Altadena, CA; East
 Otis, MA; *East Hartland, CT;
 Williston Park, N.Y.

I mentioned the poor spaced Sil-
 ver Spring, Maryland device some
 weeks ago so see they probably are
 replacing it, and the chances will
 be that it will be another type for
 Silver Spring. It's odd that last
 month Urbana, IL. got a new de-
 vice, and this one its sister, or
 twin, City, Champaign, is getting
 one. Urbana already had a vinyl
 type that was its second, but
 this — the first for Champaign
 which used its U-17n fairly fre-
 quently in times past.

East Otis, Mass. was not in the
 original Town and Type Catalog.
 My entry shows that it originally
 got a U-130 type. This second de-
 vice — of course be a U-140 or
 141.

Medford, Ore. received a 100-
 subject electro plate and this ought
 to perk things up for Medford. It
 either used a U-120 wide or a Bu-
 reau These were mostly seen on
 the Prexies so this new plate
 should be type number three. Type
 one is an old U - 82 and pretty
 scarce, type two the U-120 wide
 pretty often seen in mixes as well
 as the Bureau.

SMEARED
 H. G. Blackburn of Flint, Mich.
 showed me a 2 1/2c Bureau coil
 from Cleveland, Ohio. The design
 itself was off center to the bot-
 tom making an extra large margin
 at the top. The horizontal center-
 ing was fair enough. Anyway, it
 appeared that while the ink was
 still wet, someone took a blunt in-
 strument and rubbed up through
 the ink of the stamp itself. The
 precancellation did not seem to be
 disturbed.

This smear was to the very left
 of the design, and was at least 1/8
 inch wide, maybe a little wider,
 and clear up through the top mar-
 ginal area.

In my opinion, and from my ob-
 servation of precancel collectors,
 I find that they are not very much
 interested in this type of thing. I
 do not think it would even be con-
 sidered to be listed in the Bu-
 reau Precancel Catalog. On the
 other hand I know that there are
 quite a lot of U. S. collectors who
 are looking for this kind of materi-
 al and quite likely would be inter-

for control of routes of space and
 the utilization of the above men-
 tioned apparatus for the purposes
 of attack and defense.

Naturally, and as was to be pre-
 sumed, this great extra - terrestrial
 competition was not long in being
 reflected in the numerous issues
 starting with the IGY of 1957 - 1958,
 and today it constitutes an exten-
 sive and popular topical collection
 called "space" which has at its
 disposal several hundred very ar-
 tistic examples, and more than
 six specialized catalogs.

This area of philately has been
 considered by many, and with good
 reason, an additional continuation
 of the first postal rockets, because
 in principle it is a matter of the
 same means of transportation. This
 great demand had its origin in our
 stamp of the Postal Rocket Ex-
 periment, the first official issue
 for this purpose, which was origi-
 nally sold just 27 years ago for
 a mere 10c. Today it is difficult
 to obtain one for less than \$40-50,
 and it is still increasing in value
 and demand.

As we say in our club magazine
 "Actividades Filatelic", after
 27 years that which was our mis-
 understood "Postal Rocket" has
 finally had its just revenge.

(Editor's note: This article is a
 translation by John Marsh of the
 France & Colonies Philatelic Soci-
 ety, with slight updating, of the
 article which appeared in the Jan-
 uary - February 1964 edition of La
 Revista del Club Filatelico de Ca-
 racas.)

UNITED STATES
 (Continued from page 48)

nauts have been in these 13 space-
 crafts; this is not counting the
 two MERCURY sub - orbital
 flights, which did go into space,
 but not in orbit.

Charles Conrad has been in two
 GEMINI flights, Gordon Cooper in
 one MERCURY and one GEMINI
 mission. Schirra was also in one
 MERCURY and one GEMINI. So
 far, not a single Soviet cosmonaut
 has duplicated any manned flights.

If my figures are correct, this
 totals to 1805 man-hours for the
 Americans, in contrast to 507
 man - hours for the Russians —
 quite a contrast in any manner
 you tabulate the figures!

Unless the Russians come up
 with a great BIG spectacular in
 the very near future, chances are
 the American astronauts will keep
 well ahead in man - hours. Fur-
 thermore, exactly twice the num-
 ber of American astronauts have
 been in space as the Russians.

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