PLSG
POSTAL LABEL STUDY GROUP
AFFILIATE #207

The Postal Label Bulletin

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More about duty labels

Bas Kee

First of all as addition to the previous article in # 114, Art sent a cover with another Dutch duty label and a mysterious stamp the meaning of which is still unclear at the moment:

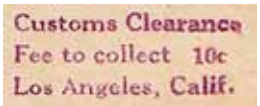
This label says: no duty and no fee for clearance and for contribution to statistics of imports

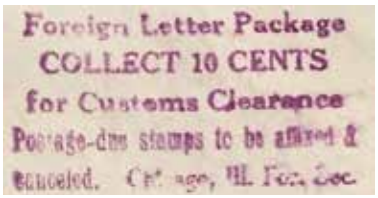
In the article in # 114 on Dutch duty labels I asked members to report on indications of customs clearing on covers. In the meantime I searched for those indications myself, particularly for what in the Dutch postal service is called “inklaringsrecht”, that is the fee to be paid to the postal service for determining whether an excise or import duty has to be paid. Searching along the internet, mainly the sites of eBay and Delcampe, I came across some labels and I will show them now.

USA

I found only one label:

In all other cases I have seen there were markings like:





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In these three cases (from 1942, 1965, and 1976) the recipient has to pay a customs charge (the first amount) and a fee for customs handling (the second amount). I am not sure whether this fee also has to be paid when there is no other charge, but I have only seen indications (label as well as markings) saying that no customs duties were charged. For instance:

both from the 80s

In the case of a DDR label (from 1958) however, only the fee for customs handling is charged:

to be continued on page 5

World Stamp Show-NY 2016
May 28-June 4, Jacob Javits Convention Center, New York City

www.ny2016.org

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Membership News

President's Message

Happy New Year to everyone! The big news is that Günter Mair is moving along nicely on his revision of his airmail etiquette catalogue and hope to have it done this year. I'm sure we all have been finding some lovely goodies. Please send cans of them to Bas so we can share them in the bulletin.

The PLSG has contracted with the 2016 New York International show to share a booth with the Ephemera Society of America and the Poster Stamp Collectors Club. That will entitle us to a meeting room and give us a booth to meet at. Like the last show in Washington we will have a frame to explain what it is we collect. I still have the one I created which we can use again. As the time approaches I'll be giving you more information. I hope to meet some of you at the show.

Art Groten

Please note my e-mail address:
agroten@icloud.com

An international gathering of PLSG members:
Bas Kee, Milt Keiles, and Jan ter Welle met for the first time on a cold January-Monday in Amsterdam.

Regarding members

- *We received the message that member James Kenny (158) sadly passed away.*
- *Re-established as member:*
Shane Merrick, PO Box 221, Hornsby NSW 2077, Australia;
e-mail: Shane.Merrick@spcc.nsw.edu.au
collects registration labels from the whole world and wants to correspond.
- *New Member:*
René Hillesum, PO Box 7, AA 3330 Zwijndrecht, Netherlands
e-mail: rene.hillesum@gmail.com
collecting interests: all labels in connection with my postmarkt collection of Finland and imperial Saint Petersburg. Wants to correspond.

announcement for online subscribers:
If your e-mail address is known by Jack Rehner, the membership chairman, you will receive a message saying that the next issue of our Bulletin is published on the website. If you don't have an e-mail address or your address is not known by Jack Rehner you will have to check regularly when the newest issue is published on the website. Fixed publications dates are not possible, but new issues appear roughly around the end of January, April, July and September.

Announcement from webmaster Peter Morgen, dated december 2014

In the last PLB Ray Woodward offered new British barcode labels. I contacted him and called his attention to the handbook *Barcodes in the Post Office of Great Britain*, which I published in 2009.
It turned out that we both had spares to trade. I received a lot of labels and scans which I put on a special website:
http://great-britain.morgana-edition.com
which i created as Blog to put addenda on. I asked Ray to report an appraisal of the handbook and the updates.
I will install two links on the PLSG website under the button Collecting Areas and Registration-barcode-labels to find new websites for barcode labels of Great Britain and Brazil.

For those who are not afraid of Facebook:
recently a AIR MAIL LABEL COLLECTORS GROUP has appeared.
As far as I can see members of this group are not members of PLSG (yet).
Join them.

Members' ads

Air Mail Etiquettes for Sale

Art Groten, agroten43@icloud.com

These collections comprise post-1941 material. Each group includes numerous singles (mint and used), booklets, multiples, a few sheets and many covers, all organized by Mair numbers. Some of the common types, of which there are many, have not been worked up.

These collections are a marvelous for someone just starting out or for the serious collector looking for varieties. Many of the covers have postal history interest in their own right. There is mild to considerable duplication of some labels; most are singletons. There is strength in 3* to 5* items. Clearly, these characteristics will vary from lot to lot.

Because of the volume of material, detailed lists cannot be supplied nor can requests for single items be accepted.

Personal checks in U.S.$ drawn on a US bank are referred. Payment by Paypal is OK provided their 3% charge is added to the price.

The collections (all include at least 1000 items, some considerably more):

U.S.: massive holding of many thousands, by far the largest group. $1750

G.B.: a large group with many full sheets with different marginal imprints, an ideal lot for expansion. $1000

Australasia: mostly Australia and New Zealand and a nice group the scarcer small islands. $750

Europe: another very large lot including all of Europe with strength in multiples and covers. $1250

Rest of the World: similar to the European lot, again with strength in multiples and covers. $1000

Total: $5750 or $4750 the lot. Terms available.

The image gives some idea of the magnitude of the entire holding.

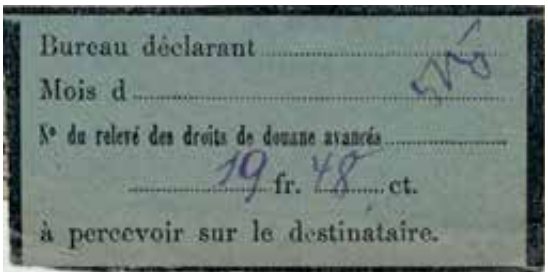
Auction #116 Realizations

1	8.00	69	11.75	106	2.00	136	2.00	155	5.25	182	3.25	207	1.00
2	3.00	70	6.00	110	10.50	137	4.25	156	6.25	183	5.25	216	6.00
3	8.00	72	4.00	112	3.00	138	4.50	158	5.00	184	4.00	219	5.00
4	5.25	73	6.25	114	2.00	139	3.00	159	10.50	185	5.25	232	6.00
5	6.25	74	4.00	115	3.00	140	2.00	160	2.00	186	2.00	234	6.00
27	3.50	75	4.50	116	4.00	142	3.00	162	2.25	187	2.00	235	6.00
43	4.25	76	4.00	117	2.00	144	4.50	163	3.75	189	2.00	236	6.00
44	5.00	77	5.25	118	7.00	145	5.25	165	2.00	192	4.00	238	6.00
46	8.50	81	13.00	119	4.00	146	2.00	166	2.00	193	1.50	239	2.00
47	2.00	85	4.00	120	6.25	147	4.00	168	2.00	194	1.50	240	5.00
54	2.00	86	2.25	121	6.25	148	8.00	169	5.00	195	3.50	242	2.00
58	9.25	88	5.00	123	4.00	149	8.00	171	5.25	196	2.00	243	8.00
60	6.25	98	2.00	124	9.50	150	8.25	176	4.25	200	7.50	245	4.00
62	6.25	99	4.25	126	5.50	151	8.25	177	9.00	201	1.50	246	1.50
63	4.00	100	10.00	128	3.00	152	8.25	179	10.50	202	4.25	248	6.00
65	4.00	101	6.00	132	8.25	153	5.25	180	3.25	205	2.00		
66	2.00	102	3.25	133	4.00	154	5.25	181	2.75	206	2.00		

Lot 190 withdrawn because of typo-error: was not C-86 but C-96

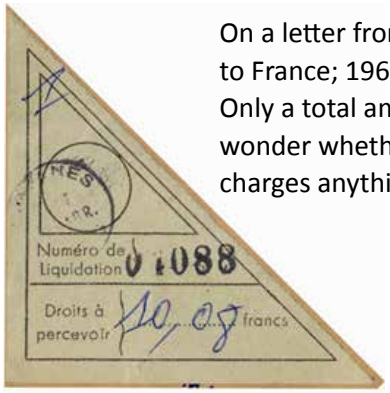
France

I have found only one label (from 1925). It says something like 'overview of the customs charges to be paid by the recipient'. It isn't clear whether a fee for customs handling is included.



In # 109 a cover from Darus Greathouse was shown:

A letter from Morocco to France. On the rear the usual customs label from the country of origin. On the front a label from the France customs, that only says that this letter should be examined. Across this label a marking is placed which says: "Customs Centre, admitted without examination, Nice".
In fact, this marking is more important than the label.
By the way, the label is an unlisted variant of MA-C-01 in Peter Morgan's Handbook of International Customs Declarations.

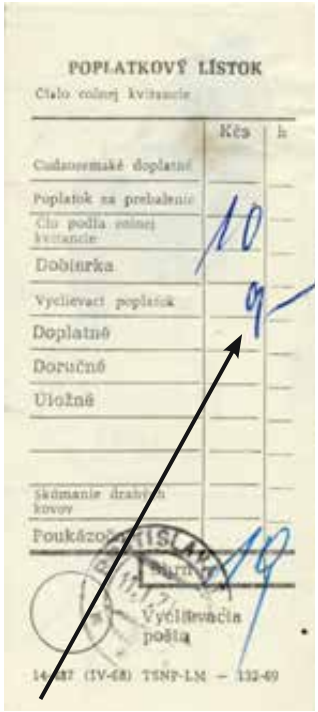


On a letter from a stamp dealer in Denmark to France; 1969.
Only a total amount of charge is stated. I wonder whether in France the postal service charges anything like customs handling.

A similar label (from 1949).
There should be more labels like these ones.

For some countries, viz. Czechoslovakia, Great Britain, and Switzerland, I have found what aren't exactly labels, more a kind of bills, on which the fee for handling is mentioned. (Regarding Czechoslovakia it is possible to understand what is said thanks to Google Translate.)

Czechoslovakia, 1972

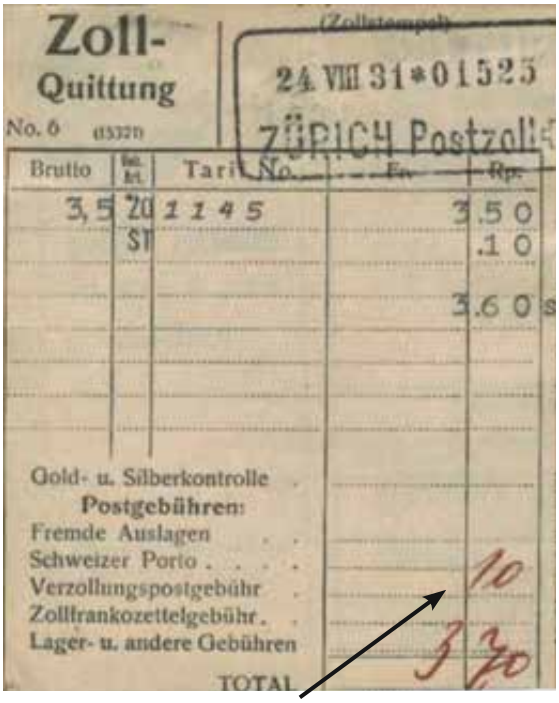


fee for customs handling

Switzerland 1913

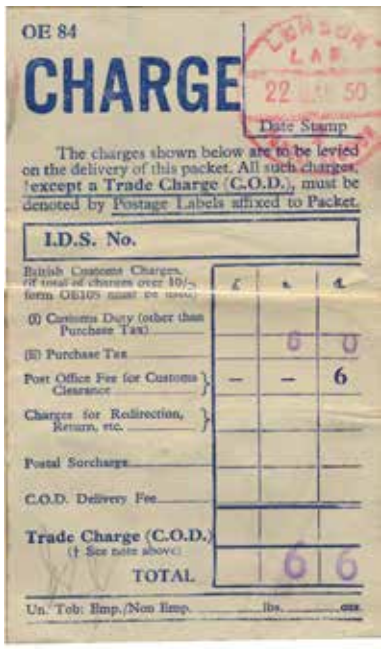
fee "Zollbehandlungs-Gebühr"

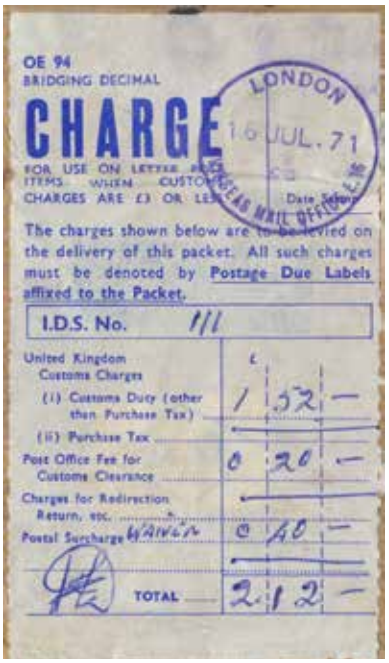
1931

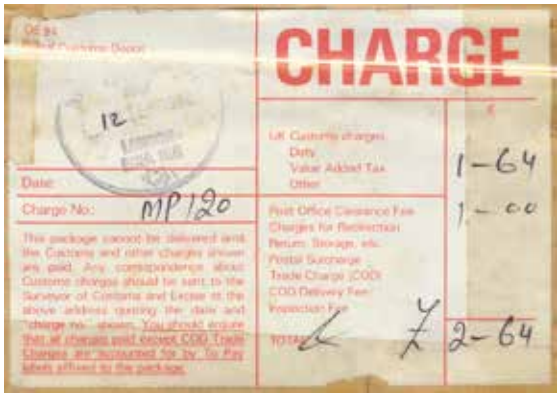


fee "Verzollungspostgebühr"

Great Britain, 1950 1971 1978

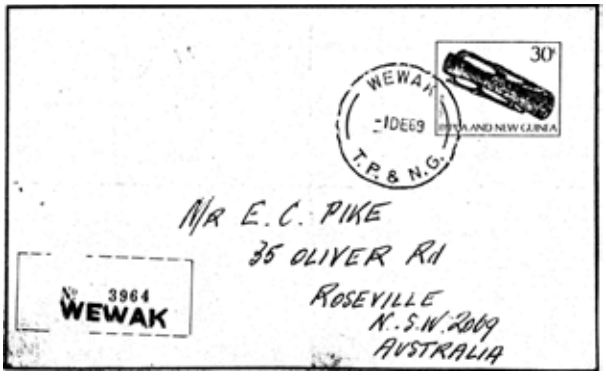






On each label is to be seen
'Post Office Fee for Customs Clearance"

I would like to ask members of PLSG to search their collection(s) of covers whether there are some with customs duty labels, markings or forms. If so, please send me a scan or photocopy. Much appreciated!



A query from Kevin Burt

I illustrate a label on cover found in Henk Teunis' book on Registration labels of Papua New Guinea 1945 to 1973, from WEWAK. The font and point size of "No." and the numerals are the same as found on many PNG Registration labels, but of course the label lacks the rest of features normally associated with registration labels.

Do any of your members know the usage of such a label - it is the only one I have seen having reviewed many, many covers.

Some of the members will be aware that I am preparing a book on Registration Labels of Australia and its Territories. Hopefully it will see the light of day sometime in 2015.

---

another question
What is the meaning of this red label on an aerogram from Malawi to the US in 1971?

Air mail labels

The Air Etiquettes of Australia Art Groten

The air etiquettes of most major aviation pioneering countries were first produced by the government and later by airlines and private vendors. That is decidedly not the case with Australia. The first etiquette was produced privately in 1920 for the famous Ross Smith flight from GB to Australia. There followed an array of airline etiquettes before the first governmental label was released in 1930. This article will touch on some of the labels produced before WWII, but not all. It will trace their appearance in chronological order and will give some of the story of why they were produced.

Australia, because of its vast size and scattered population, came to accept the airplane as an important means of carrying the mail very early on. Numerous special flights tested new routes and, once proven, added them to a growing network. Again, because of a relatively small population [and a relatively small number of collectors], many of the early etiquettes are quite rare, especially in booklet form as issued or on cover.

Perhaps the best reference for this subject is Tom Frommer's Australian Air Mail Labels and Vignettes 1920-1960 published by Charles Leski in 2003.

The earliest and the rarest of all Australian etiquettes is that prepared for use on incoming mail carried by Ross Smith on the England to Australia Air Race that left England on November 11, 1919 and was canceled on February 26, 1920. (Figure 1)

In that same year, during July, *The Herald and Weekly Times* carried out a number of experimental flights to determine the feasibility of carrying their newspapers to Traralgon in the interior by plane. The large vignette was canceled by the private device of the company while the postage stamps were, of course, canceled by the post office. (Figure 2))

Three more special vignettes were used on three more experimental flights between August 1920 and April 1922. The August 10 flight again cited *The Herald* as its sponsor. (Figure 3) The September 1920 flight was used for delivery of *The Herald's* magazine *Pals* and so states on the vignette. (Figure 4) The April 1922 flight again referred to *The Herald*. All these are scarce off cover and rare on cover. (Figure 5)

QANTAS (Queensland and Northern Territory Aerial Services Ltd.) is the second oldest airline in the world, formed on November 16, 1920, only 6 months after the founding of KLM. It issued a great number of different etiquettes over the years. Some are very rare and used on special first flight covers. The first one issued for the general public appeared in January 1923 (Figure 6) followed by a series that changed colors and added text

Fig. 1

Fig. 2

Fig. 3

Fig. 4

Fig. 5

Fig. 6

above and below the central boxed "By Air Mail," the last one appearing in 1931. Several were for inaugural flights. The details are given in the captions. (Figures 7-10).

The A.A.S. (Australian Aerial Services Ltd.) released a lovely vignette, their sole offering, in September 1925 called, appropriately, the Angel. (Figure 11).

W.A.A. (Western Australian Airways Ltd.) issued only two vignettes: May 1929 for their first flight between Adelaide and Perth (Figure 12) and another a month later for general use. (Figure 13).

A.N.A. (Australian National Airways Pty. Ltd.) was next with an etiquette very similar to W.A.A.'s first one but with different wording at the left. (Figure 14) This was their only one prior to WWII.

The last airline to issue air etiquettes prior to WWII was Queensland Air Navigation Co. in 1931. They issued two: one had 25 squares; the other 12. They are scarce on or off cover. (Figure 15).

The Australian government finally released air etiquettes in May 1930. (Figure 16) The design remained unchanged until 1947 with some variants of lettering. During the war, various bicolor etiquettes of the same design were used perhaps because of ink shortages.

There were other private etiquettes produced in the pre-war years. In 1929, a large vignette advised that time is money and the air service is quicker. (Figure 17) In 1929, a label for use on the Karachi to London airmail was issued. (Figure 18) There was an explosion in the number of government and private vignettes issued after WWII and that is a story for another day.

Previously published in The American Stamp Dealer & Collector, April 2014. Published here by permission of the author.

Fig. 7

This first appeard in 1925. The same etiquette is also known sith red lettering on green, white lettering on red, grey or green.

Fig. 8

This etiquette was made for the inaugural flight of the extension of teh QANTAS route to Normanton on July 1, 1927.

Fig. 9 a & b

Most QANTAS labels were issued in booklets with vertical panes of 6 or 8. This configuration appeared in 1930 and is the first time the separations were by roulette rather than perforation. The cover gives route and rate information.

Fig. 10a&b: Again, a special etiquette was made for the inaugural flight between Brisbane and Townsville as noted on the promotional leaflet that gives details of the new service.

Fig. 10

The "Angel" was available in booklets of 3 panes of 9 with appropriate information on the covers. It is by far the most beautiful of the Australian etiquettes. It first appeared in September 23, 1925.

Australian AMLs continued:

Fig. 12

Fig. 13

Fig. 14

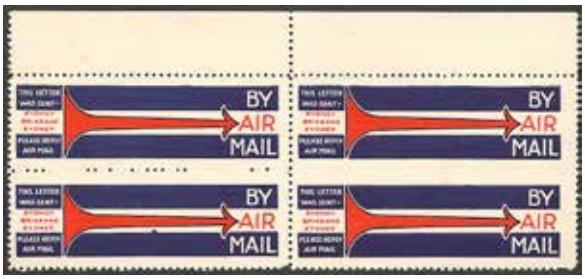


Fig. 16

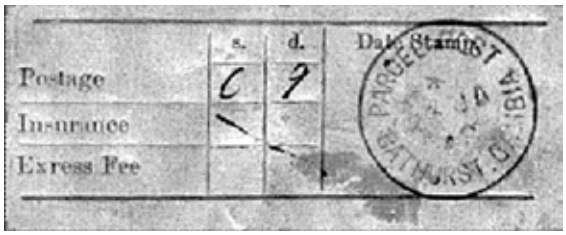
Fig. 17

Fig. 15

Fig. 18

Courtesy of Gary Loew

Does anyone know this label
or know more about it?
Please let us know too.



Recorded Delivery labels

Short study of Limited amount of Recorded Delivery Labels **Darus Greathouse**

Part 1: Labels before Red day glow and Bar-Code Labels

In Linn's Stamp News , Nov. 25, 2013, page 6, John Hotchner has an article on US recorded delivery covers to overseas. He says that the early period of recorded delivery, the total postage of $1.50 was the rate from Feb. 3, 1991 to Jan. 1, 1995. The $1.00 was for the recorded delivery and $0.50 for the air mail rate. These covers were seldom seen.

In the cropped cover below, the date cancel is not readable, but it was sent to England. I was lucky enough to obtain this cover, and the samples of the following British recorded delivery labels on cover which follow the US cropped cover. This is by no means, I am sure, the only types of these labels seen out there. How about sending scans of other recorded delivery labels to me, if you have any for the updated registration catalog.

US cover

The label is 25 x 72 mm.
It is rouletted with 11 mm steps.

United Kingdom

The following label covers were obtained at the same time as the US cover. I grouped them by themore common characteristics.

Type 1: Orange paper (exceptions to be noted), labels about 26x61 mm. Frame composed of squares (see insert), about 21x57 mm. Separation most show 2 mm steps of roulette at bottom and the other sides, impf. The left half of label has two sets of 6 thin lines, above and below the prefix, and serial numbers (to date 6 digits). Recorded Delivery in the right half of the label. Prefixes are capital letters and not serifed. Most labels seem to have L markings at the corners (for centering of separation?). Size of sample: 16 covers. 3 cancels not readable. Used from 1967 thru 1974.

Insert 1: showing frame, guide lines, 6 lines

Typ 1: orange paper

Type 1A: yellow paper, 1, used 1977

Type 2: Frame made of trapezoids (slanted 45 degree short lines) slanted to the left top and bottom. The left and right sides of frame consists of these lines up, left to the right. The groups of lines above and below the (fancy prefix, and 6 digit serial numbers) number 5 lines, not six. Three covers seen, andused 1964 and 1965. Prefixes seen are fancy Q and T. Rouletted at bottom with 1-1.5 mm steps.Insert 2 shows frame corners and fancy prefixes.

insert 2

Type 2

Type 3A: (7 covers , 1961-1965) At the top, the stem is at the left of the clover and at the bottom is at the right. At the left, the stem is below the clover, and at the right, the stem is at the top. The clover is the slightly smaller size. Insert 3A shows orientation of frame clovers. Prefixes are capital without serifs. Serial numbers (without serifs) align in a straight line. Deep orange and one label seen to be lighter in shade.

insert 3A

Type 3A

Type 3B: This frame with smaller clovers differ in that in the left end the stems are above the clover The prefix is thinner print, serified, and is very close to the serial numbers. The one type of this label seen on 1963 cover looks roulette top and bottom. And is deep orange paper. Insert 3B shows the 2 end of frame, and the prefix.

insert 3B

Type 3B

Type 3C: Similar to 3B, but slightly larger clovers in frame, shade of orange lighter. One label on cover, cancelled 1971.

insert 3C

Type 3C

Type 3D: The color of paper is salmon, the one cover seen is back-stamped 1982. There is no gap after prefix (not serified capital) and serial numbers, and not aligned in straight line. Top and bottom is 11 perforated . Mailed from Jersey to Jersey. The clovers in the frame are larger and with less details.

insert 3D

Type 3D

Type 4: Similar characteristics : Shades of Yellow, frame is composed of lines. Print is all black. Labelson cover in review like this is 5 covers used between 1981 to 1983. Lines (7) above and below serialnumbers do not seem as fine as earlier lines. Prefixes with serifs.

Type 4A: deep yellow, frame is 21 x 59 mm. imperforated all but bottom which is 2-2.5 mm step roulette. Three covers seen dated 1981 - 1983

Type 4B: Like type 4A, but light yellow. One label on cover seen from 1983

Type 4A

Type 4B

Type 4C: dull yellow, 2 pairs of 7 lines blurred, Prefix (serified) close to smaller serial numbers, and within the 7 lines. Perforated 10 , top and bottom, impf left and right edges. Cancelled 1983.

Type 4D: Like Type 4B, but bright yellow paper and serial numbers 6 mm high and red printing. One label on cover seen dated 1982.

Type 4C

Type 4D

Part 2: Day glow bright red. Frame has square corners

This part looks at the Recorded Delivery labels that are day glow red. (The scanned color may not be accurate.) The sample size used for this study is 5 covers (one has no readable date). This is not a large sample, but each is different. Characteristics used for this study only:

Without lower case letter: part generally seen on the cover with serial #
Measurements (mm)
A: frame (A), height x width
B: thickness of A lines (+/-.5 mm)
C: prefix/serial # height
D: height of R and D
E: date if known
F: additional information

2.1.x: Recorded Delivery with serifs
2.1.1: Serial # composted dots
2.2.x: Recorded Delivery without serifs
2.2.1: thru 2.2.5 currently recorded here
2.3.x: Rounded corners, most likely self adhesive
2.3.1: one so far

The first label with RD serifs is 2.1.1, if second part seen, it is then 1a, and the next part is 1b (part 2 of label type). Etc. The next type with serifs is 2.1.2, etc.

2.1.x: Serifed Recorded Delivery
2.1.1: Serial numbers composed of dots
A: 14x61.5
B: 0.5 mm
C: 10/12 mm
D: 3.5/3.5 mm
E: unknown
F: numbers 7 mm

2.2.x: Non-serifed Recorded Delivery
2.2.1: Serial numbers of dashes
A: 14x60
B: 25 mm
C: 5 mm
D: 3.5/3.5 mm
E: 1989
F: numbers 5 mm

2.2.2: larger R and D
A; 17x66
B: 0.6 mm
C: 4.5 mm
D: 4.25x4.25
E: 1984
F: R/D 1 mm thick

Please feel free to send scans of any other recorded delivery labels that you want to share with us.
It may be that these labels have multiple sections as do the bar-coded labels, but only the parts is seen are shown.

2.2.3a: Serial numbers of a and b match

A: 16x22 mm
B: 0.9 mm
C: 4.5 mm
D: 3x3 mm
E: see part b

2.2.3b:

A: label 45x69 mm
B:0.9 mm
C: 4.5 mm
D: ref.no.:
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2.2.4: see size of frame

A: 21x53 mm
B: 0.5 mm
C: 5 mm
D: 3x3 mm
E: 1992

2.2.5: see size of frame

A: 22x67 mm
B: 1.0 mm
C: 3.5 mm
D: 3.5/3.5 mm
E.: unknown

2.3.x: rounded corners, self adhesive

A: 20.5x56 mm
B: 0.6 mm
C: 5 mm
D: 3.5/3.5 mm
E: 1990
F: label rounded corners

2.3.1

Part 3: Later Recorded Delivery labels

I have so little data on these. They look like they are multi-par. Here is what I have.

3.1: seen used 1993-6, I am sure the usage is greater

3.2a: used in 1990, on the front of the cover

3.2b used on the back of the 3.2a cover of 1990

3.3: Inland Recorded, signature on delivery (only seen off cover, AND ONLY THIS PART

What exactly is Recorded Delivery?

The definition of Recorded Delivery is not the same in different countries. Here the descriptions are given for the USA and the UK.

USA

Recorded delivery is the international service equivalent of domestic certified mail. It provides the mailer with a numbered mailing receipt and affords the opportunity to obtain confirmation of delivery through the purchase of a separate return receipt for an additional fee. The originating Post Office facility does *not* maintain a mailing record for recorded delivery service items. However the destination post office is required to retain a record of delivery for each recorded delivery service item that is tendered to an addressee.

Next to recorded delivery are the possibilities of registered mail and certified mail. What the differences are, is not easy to understand from the USPS website.

UK

Recorded delivery is just standard first or second class that gets a signature on arrival. This has no guaranteed delivery time and its only standard compensation if it gets lost. Its not the most secure postal method.

Registered is now known as special delivery. It is a guaranteed next day delivery service, that will get there before the next day. Its the most secure service that travels separate from the ordinary mail, it gets scanned every time it changes hands and can be tracked the whole way. It has standard insurance of £500 but this can be increased.

Special delivery starts at £4.55 and recorded is just normal post price with an additional 75p for the signature.

In the previous issue of PLB redesigned labels were presented. It seems that with these labels also the services of the Royal Mail have been redefined. On the website I can't find the relationships between the old and the new descriptions.

Registration labels

Kevin Burt sent us an addendum at his article on Australian Commemmorative Registration Labels in PLB #114.

1) Labels not recorded. Illustrations of this label is now provided:

C6a (or b?). Labels issued for the three AIF Golf Days at Doncaster Golf Club, Victoria. PO opened one day only.

1. 1st Field PO, 30/9/1937
2. 2nd Field PO, 29/9/1938
3. 3rd Field PO, 28/9/1939

2) Labels recorded previously but not illustrated:

C6a. Issued for British Empire Games, Sydney, 5-12/2/1938

C6a. Issued for Scout Jamboree, Bradfield, NSW, 26/12/1938 - 11/1/1939

C6b. Issued for Centenary Cricket Test, Melbourne, 12/3/-17/3/1977

3) Label not previously recorded or illustrated:

9th Australian Scout Jamboree, Leppington, NSW, 29/12/1970 - 9/1/1971
??printed PO name??

Courtesy of mr Farrington:
"I do not remember seeing this holiday air label in the Bulleting before."