Collecting Cut Squares

Normally in the precise and carefully preserved world of stamp collecting collectors don’t often show much interest in an altered philatelic item. But the item that is the subject of this article is different in that regard, namely “cut squares.” A “cut square” is an imprinted stamp cut from an item of postal stationery such as a stamped envelope, postal card, letter sheet, letter card, aerogramme or wrapper in a square or rectangular shape. Normally a practice that most modern stamp collectors would never indulge in, in the early days of the hobby in the late 19th century, cut squares were a recognized avenue for collectors of postal stationery.

Although not as popular as it once was, cut square collecting can still be a very rewarding and affordable avenue for collectors.

SOUTHEAST REGION STAMP SHOWS

August 3-5 Americover 2018 American First Day Cover Society, An APS World Series of Philately Show, Hilton Atlanta Northeast, 5993 Peachtree Industrial Blvd., Norcross, Georgia 30092-3416, Contact Chris Lazaroff, showinfo@afdcs.org, http://wwwafdcs.org/show

September 29-30, 2018 MEMPHEX 2018 Memphis Stamp Collector’s Society, Agricenter International; Wing "C" Banquet Room, 7777 Walnut Grove Road, Memphis, Tennessee 38120, Contact: Andrew J. Burkman, andburk@usit.net, 901-382-1772 http://www.memphisstampcollectorsociety.org


“Philately starts where the catalogue ends.”
ANONYMOUS
Be Published!

Articles are always welcomed for the Chattanooga Stamp Chronicle. Your submission for this publication are solicited. Submit the text of a philatelic subject article and it will be welcomed. If you are unsure, submit a draft and it will be proofread and then printed under your name. Send your input to me at: gbricker@catt.com, or mail to 2549 Boynton Dr, Ringgold, GA 30736

American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors
http://aape.org/exhibits.asp

The American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors exists to share and discuss ideas and techniques for improving standards of exhibit preparation, judging, and the management of exhibitions. We serve the entire range of people who work or have an interest in one or more of these fields; whether novice, experienced, or just beginning to think about getting involved. Through pursuit of our purposes, it is our goal to encourage your increasing participation and enjoyment of philatelic exhibiting, and to ensure the health of this part of our hobby.

The AAPE website allows stamp collectors to publish their philatelic exhibits online. This will showcase quality exhibits and allow viewers to view exhibits that they might not be able to see otherwise. Viewers will now be able to see these exhibits and be able to examine and learn from them and hopefully get energized and exhibit themselves.

If interested in exhibiting your collection, much can be learned from the AAPE. Visit the AAPE web site at: http://aape.org/exhibits.asp

American First Day Cover Society

The American First Day Cover Society (AFDCS) is a volunteer non-profit and non-commercial organization serving the needs of First Day Cover collectors, cachetmakers, and dealers. Founded in 1955, the society has a membership of approximately 1,500 active first day cover collectors, including hundreds of collectors who design and manufacture their own cacheted FDCs.

The AFDCS holds a national annual convention, Americover, maintains a historical archive, and publishes a journal, First Days, full of news and education every two months (six issues a year). There are many benefits to membership, including our Member Mentor Program, Tax Deductions, Fund Raising Auction and discounts on our many informative Handbooks. This is all available to you for the very modest membership dues of $30 per year ($40 per year for non-US residents; $24 per year for anyone worldwide for an online only membership), $20 for age 17 and under ($8 additional for non-U.S. addresses). Come join us.

AFDCS Convention This Weekend!

Americover 2018 is in Peachtree Corners, Georgia (Atlanta area) this weekend (August 3-5), as the American First Day Cover Society holds its annual show and convention. The location is the Hilton Atlanta Northeast, 5993 Peachtree Industrial Boulevard, Peachtree, GA 30092. Admission and parking are free. Bourse hours are 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Friday and Saturday, and 10 a.m. -4 p.m. on Sunday, with a cachetmakers bourse Saturday evening 3:30-7 p.m.
Canada - Little Known Facts of WWII
Part 2
Because Churchill Asked For It
By John Burnett

A few years ago I was reading an article about Pan American Airways, as I remember it was on a Pan Am flight and in the magazine you always found in the seat back in front of you.

It was early 1941 and Juan Trippe (the founder of Pan American Airways) had been invited to England to receive Britain's prestigious general aviation award for service in the air transportation industry.

Trippe flew on the Pan Am Trans-Atlantic route from New York's LaGuardia Float Plane wharfs to Lisbon Portugal (a neutral country) with a refueling stop in the Azores.

Upon arrival in Portugal he transferred to an Empire Airways flight to England. This flight had to fly back west out into the Atlantic beyond the range of the German interceptors that were stationed in Southern France which was under the control of the Vichy. The flight then turned north and flew into British controlled air space and on into England.

Trippe received his award at a dinner presided over by Prime Minister Winston Churchill who later asked him to visit with him the following day at 10 Downing Street. Churchill sat down with Trippe and asked basically one question, which I paraphrase here "What would it take to set up an air route across the Southern Atlantic into Africa?" Trippe's response was "a refueling stop on the west coast of Africa, probably in Nigeria (a British Colony) or Liberia, but most importantly exclusivity to the route once it is set up". Trippe had to explain just how expensive it would be and that the payback would take time. He further commented on the fact that only the Government of USA could grant that wish from the American side of the Atlantic and the British Government from the European side. Churchill is said to have thanked him and bid him fond adieu!

Trippe then made the return to the USA via the reverse of his earlier and exhausting trip to Europe.

Upon arrival at LaGuardia he was met by the United States Secret Service and whisked over to a plane that flew him to Washington where President Franklin Roosevelt told him "Winston tells me you would require exclusivity to an African route if you go to the expense of creating it!" Roosevelt told him "the United States grants that wish and so do the people of Great Britain, please develop that route quickly"

Trippe already had a route into South America, we refer to it as FAM-6¹, which had started as a Miami to San Juan flight in January 1929, it had been expanded to Paramaribo, Dutch Guiana late in 1929 with eight stops in the Caribbean and two in South America and then in 1930 it was extended to Santos in Brazil, it would eventually go all the way to Buenos Aires, Argentina. It was this third extension that passed through Natal, Brazil that Trippe would use as the stepping off point for Africa, thus was created FAM 22² the first flight departing Natal on December 6, 1941 and initially flying to Bathurst, Gambia as Trippe's chosen refueling station at Fishermans Lake, Monrovia, Liberia was not yet ready, and terminating at Leopoldville, Belgian Congo.

This flight took place only three months after Roosevelt's request that Trippe set the route up, and Fishermans Lake became an active refueling stop on February 7, 1942.

Figure 1 shows an example of a cover using FAM-22 in November 1942 bearing 75¢ postage and addressed to Kilindini, East Africa (Kenya). Starting in Saskatchewan, Saskatchewan on November 16, 1942 There is no receiving strike on the back but there is a transit strike at Leopoldville of December 12, 1942, even by air it took nearly a month to make the journey. The route of travel probably was to Toronto, onto New York and Miami, where it joined the old FAM -6 route to Puerto Rico, The Virgin Islands, Antigua, Guadeloupe, Martinique, St. Lucia, Trinidad, British Guiana, Dutch Guiana, French Guiana, and finally to Natal, Brazil from there to Gambia, Liberia, Belgian Congo where it would transfer to Empire Airways for transmission to Kenya.

Figure 2 shows a map of the approximate route of the cover.

And now for the rest of the story. At the time of Trippe's discussion with Churchill there was fighting in North Africa between the British and the Italians but a full scale invasion was planned for 1942 and Churchill knew that quick supply lines would be critical to its success as would timely delivery of military correspondence and mail, so in preparation of that invasion he was asking Pan Am to establish those supply lines without telling Juan Trippe his ulterior motive. In fact it became doubly important when on December 7, 1941 the United States would join the allies and their invasion of North Africa would be their first test under fire.

In the overall scheme of things the British invasion of North Africa and the defeat of the Italians and later the Germans would give Churchill his stepping off location for the invasion of Southern Europe, Operation Husky, the invasion of Sicily would occur on July 9, 1943 and to quote Winston Churchill, this would be not the beginning of the end but the end of the beginning of WWII.

Reference:
2 Ibid page 1921