



# ***MORE GOOFY MISTAKES***

A CONTINUATION OF "DOUBLE TAKE - A WHIMSICAL LOOK AT  
COLOR OMISSIONS ON U.S. STAMPS" FROM APRIL 18, 2024

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*21<sup>ST</sup> MAY 2026*

# Introduction – Why Colored Omitted Stamps?

*From April 2024 Presentation, modified*

In April 2024, I did a presentation to the CFSC on color omissions on modern U.S. stamps. This started as an off-shoot of my typical collecting passions; investment-grade classic U.S. stamps and colored cancels on classic U.S. stamps.

As these two categories comprise only two of my five Scott National stamp albums, I felt the modern section of my U.S. collection needed some “pizazz” to pique my interest in getting those albums out and opening them up occasionally.

So, around 2023, while perusing auction catalogues and online dealer stock, I saw many color omitted stamps from the 1960’s and up that were very cool! Plus, I needed a “fun factor” in my collection.

***Color omitted stamps became a 3<sup>rd</sup> dimension of collecting for me***

# Color Omissions on U.S. Stamps – Rules, Gotta Have Rules!!

*From April 2024 Presentation*

*Per Scott Catalogue of Errors on U.S. Postage Stamps, 17<sup>th</sup> Edition:*

*“In order for a stamp to be a color-omitted error, 100% of the affected color(s) must be absent from the design. The presence of even one dot of color disqualifies the stamp as an error. The stamp must be able to pass scrutiny under 30-power magnification.”*

## Data Resources:

- 1) 2026 Scott Specialized Catalogue of United States Stamps & Covers, 104<sup>th</sup> Edition, released October 2025, Amos Media, Sidney, OH
- 2) Scott Catalogue of Errors on U.S. Postage Stamps, 17<sup>th</sup> Edition, Amos Media, Sidney, OH
- 3) Scott Catalogue of Errors on U.S. Postage Stamps, 16<sup>th</sup> Edition, Stephen R. Datz, Amos Media, Sidney, OH

# Colored Omissions – How Did That Happen?

## *If I Only Knew*

*From April 2024 Presentation*

There is little information on how color omissions occur on stamps. Per Scott, color-omission results from one or more colors unintentionally omitted from a multi-color stamp. Most color-omitted errors result from the complete lack of a color(s) during process-color printing. In process-color printing, the printed image is broken down into multiple basic colors, typically **Black**, **Yellow**, **Blue** (or Cyan) and **Red** (or Magenta). Each color is printed by a separate plate/cylinder/sleeve. During the printing process, the individual dots mingle/merge to form a full-color image.

Stamps with color-omission errors are usually lithographed, engraved (or both) or photogravure. All three processes involve lines or dots to form the image.

It can be assumed that the total absence of a particular color or colors is the result of zero ink present during the printing process.

There are a very few color-omitted errors that resulted from a paper fold-over or extraneous paper adherence that essentially blocked a color from being printed. These are most noted on earlier BEP Engraved issues and are very rare. We will see an example of this in the presentation.

# Color Omissions on US Stamps – Some Stats

*From April 2024 Presentation*

- Errors Span over 85 years!
  - Earliest documented issue – Scott# 702a, 2-cent Red Cross, May 21, 1931
  - Next documented *regular* issue (28+ years later) – Scott# 1137a,b,c, 8-cent Ernst Reuter Champion of Liberty – December 29, 1959
  - Latest documented issue – Scott# 5172a, 5-cent USA & Star, Feb. 10, 2017
- Total number of US stamp listings with color omissions = 573
  - Most are regular/commemorative issues = 412 (72%)
  - 161 (28%) are from the Back of the Book (aka BOB) – let's ask BOB:
    - Airmail = 12
    - Postage Due = 6
    - Stamped Envelopes = 71
    - Aerogrammes = 16
    - Postal Cards = 45
    - Air Postal Cards = 6
    - Federal Duck Hunting = 5

***How Many Do You Have??***

# The Earliest Documented Color Omitted Error

U.S. Scott# 702a – Red Cross, May 21, 1931 – Red (Engraved BEP) Omitted  
*(Not in Mike's Collection, Darn It!)*



Normal Stamp – 35 cents

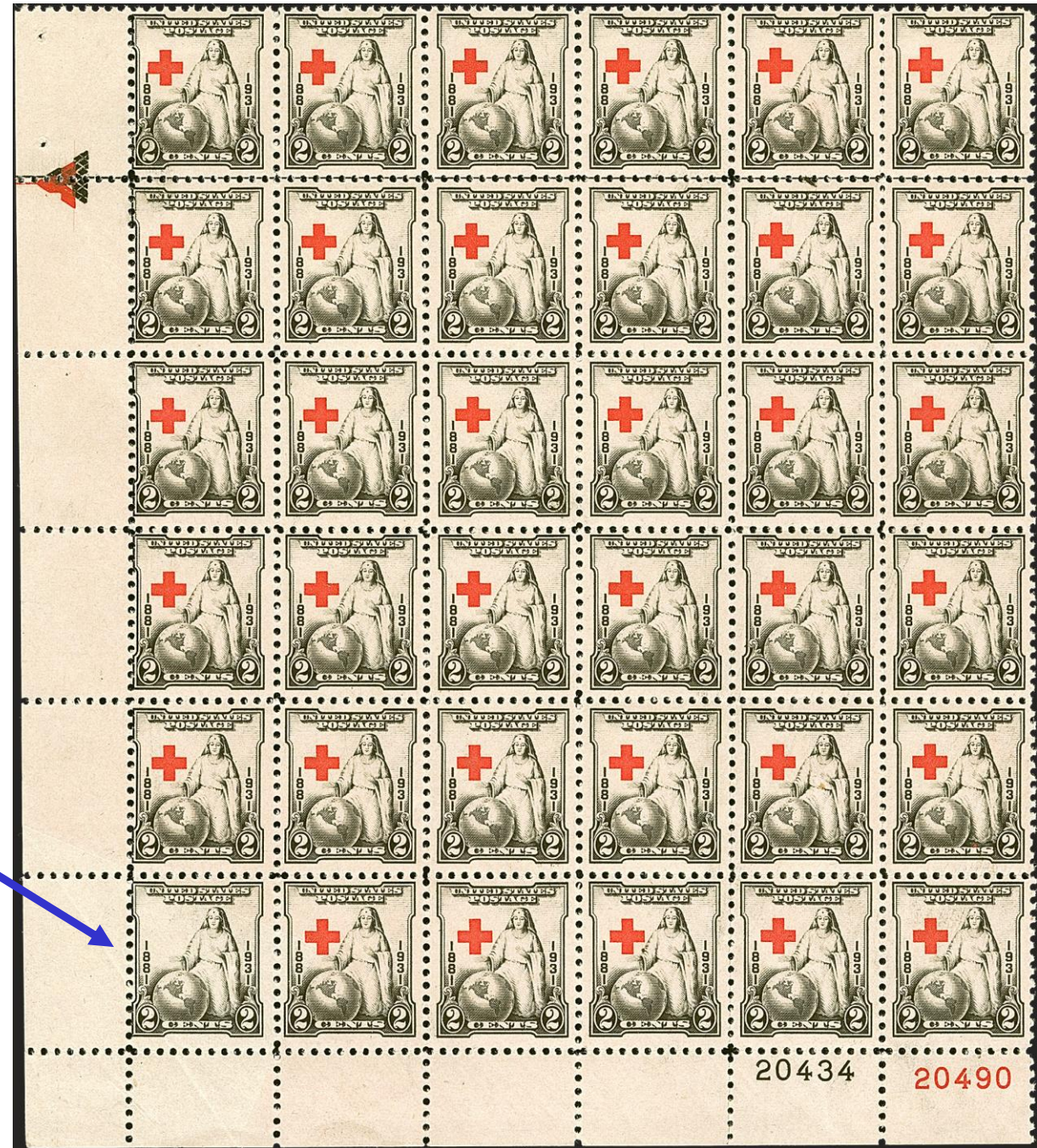


Error Stamp – \$45,000  
(1994 auction price!)

Unique, 1 known – resulted from a paper fold preventing entire application of the red cross

This unique rarity surfaced recently on November 12, 2024, in a Robert A. Siegel auction, Sale# 1334, Lot# 105. It came from the late Dr. George Haikel, a quiet collector from Minnesota who focused his hobby on stamps with impeccable beauty and quality.

***Hammered for a “modest” \$37,500  
(excluding 18% commission)***



U.S. Scott# 1252a – American Music, Oct. 15, 1964 – Blue (Engraved) Omitted  
*Singing the Blues*



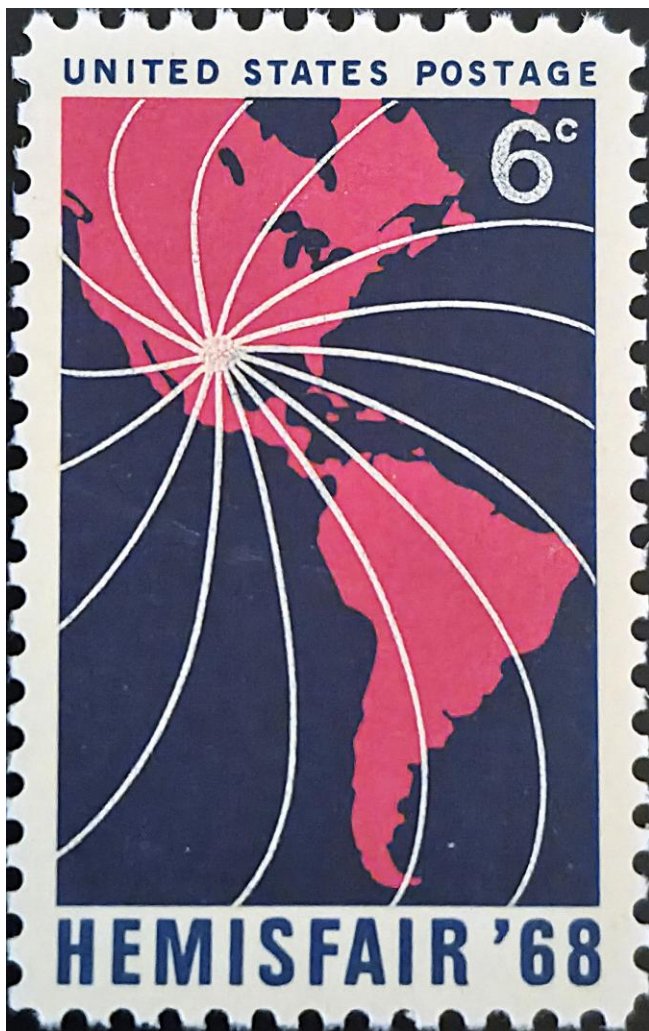
Normal Stamp – 30 cents



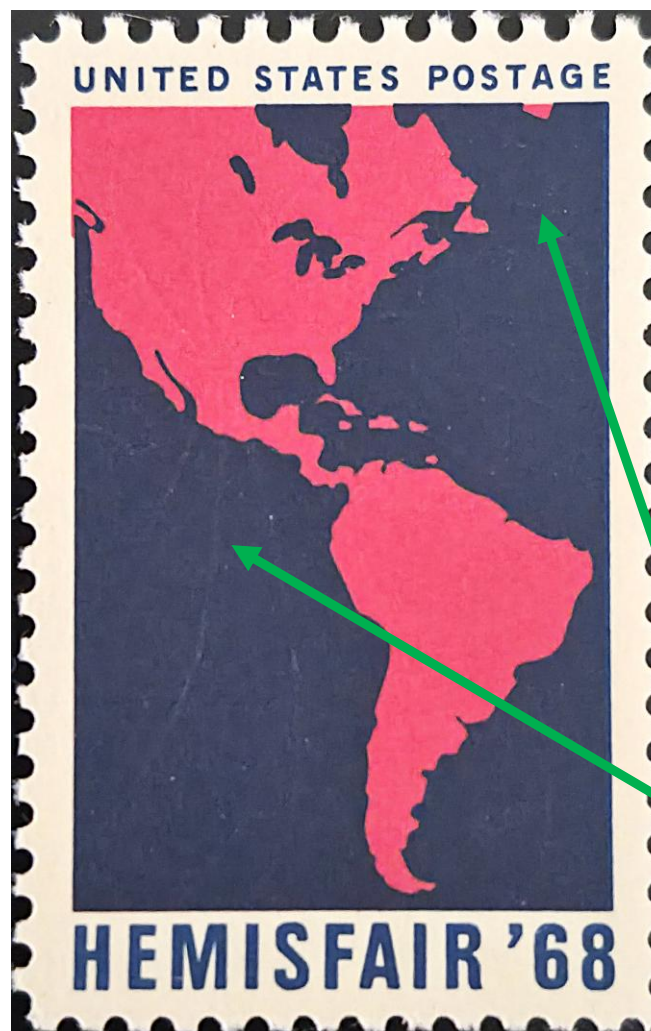
Error Stamp – \$375  
Qty. = 20 – 40 reported

One of the earliest color-omitted U.S. stamps, preceded only by Scott# 702a, 1137a, b, c and 1150a

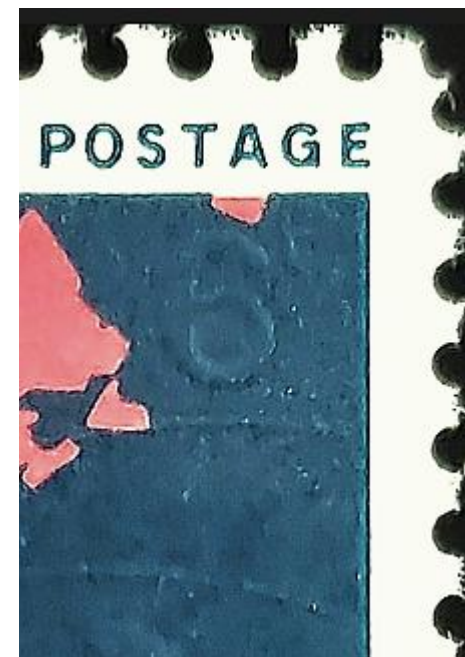
U.S. Scott# 1340a – Hemisphere '68, March 30, 1968 – White (Engraved) Omitted  
*How can I color inside the lines when there are none?*



Normal Stamp – 30 cents



Error Stamp – \$400  
Qty. = 100



Notice the ghostly embossing in the paper for the lines and 6<sup>c</sup> where the white should be

U.S. Scott# 1355a – Walt Disney, Sep. 11, 1968 – Ocher (Photogravure) Omitted

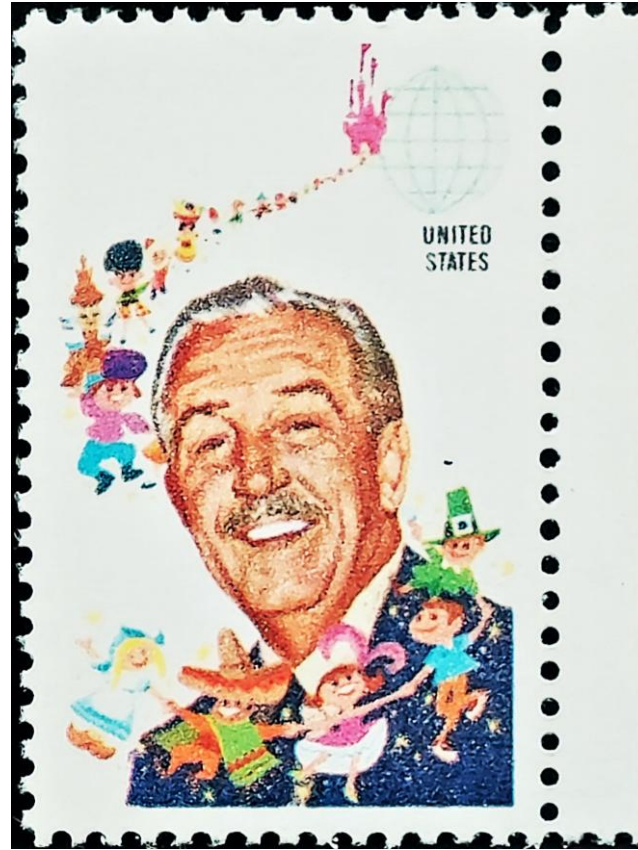
U.S. Scott# 1355d – Black (Photogravure) Omitted

U.S. Scott# 1355f – Blue (Photogravure) Omitted

*Look, White Hair – I am now a Bonafide stamp collector 😊*



Normal Stamp – 40 cents



Ocher Omitted Error Stamp – \$250  
Qty. = 400 to 500



Black Omitted Error Stamp – \$1,000  
Qty. = 35 reported



Blue Omitted Error Stamp – \$750  
Qty. = 35 reported

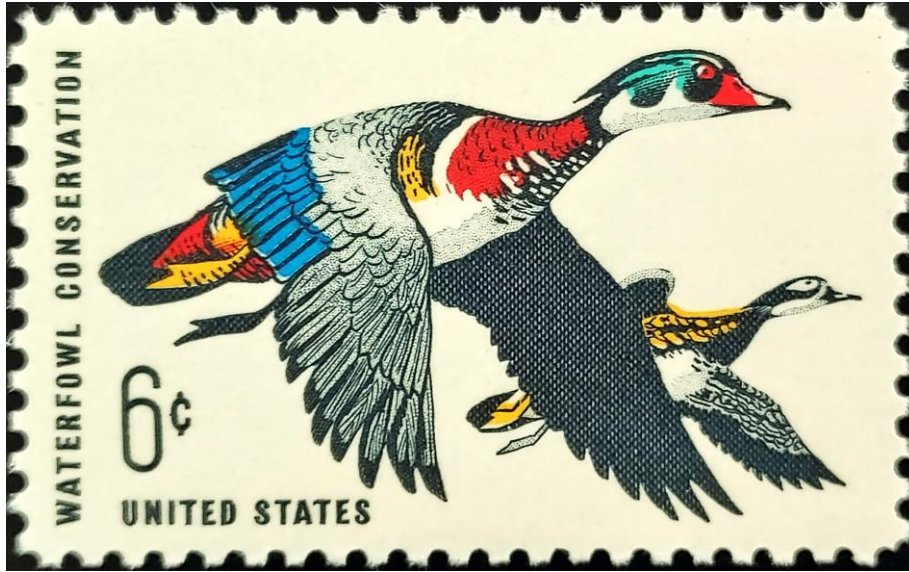
U.S. Scott# 1355a – Walt Disney, Sep. 11, 1968,  
Ocher (Photogravure) Omitted  
Top Left Corner Plate Block of 4

Listed in Scott Catalogue of Errors On U.S. Postage  
Stamps with no Value for a Plate Block of 4 -  
Individual Ocher Missing Error Stamp = \$250  
with a total Quantity estimated between 400 to 500

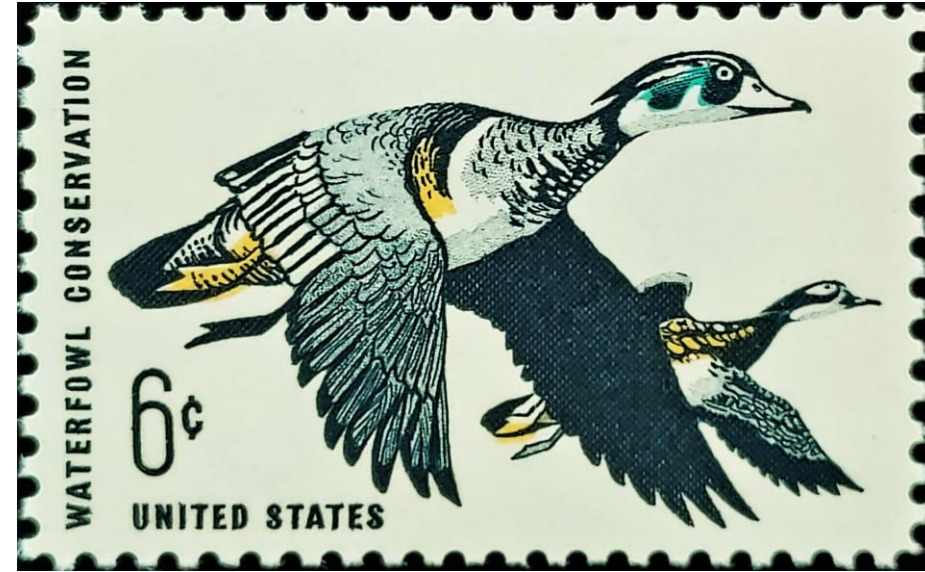


U.S. Scott# 1362b - Waterfowl Conservation, Oct. 24, 1968 – Red & Blue (Lithographed) Omitted  
*Will Somebody Pass The Duck Sauce Please? I Need Some Color Back!*

From April 2024 Presentation



Normal Stamp – 30 cents



“The Ugly Duckling”  
Error Stamp – \$350  
Qty. = 150

Other variations for this issue include:

- Scott# 1362c – Red (Lithographed) omitted = \$1,750 (unique, 1 used copy recorded)

# Mike Just Has To Laugh!!

From April 2024 Presentation

For the Waterfowl stamp we just looked at, and for many other listings in the U.S. Scott Specialized Catalogue, there is a note as follows:

**“*Dangerous* fakes exist of Nos. 1362b and 1362c.  
Authentication by experts is required”**

*Britannica Dictionary definition of DANGER: the possibility that you will be hurt or killed.*

## **Danger Will Robinson!**

Use caution, these stamps can hurt you, perhaps even kill you!

***Isn't there a better word like Caution or Beware??***



Lost In Space TV Show



*The PF/PSE (aka Robot) is protecting Mike (aka Will Robinson) from the dangerous duck stamp (aka death ray)! 😊*

U.S. Scott# 1381a – Professional Baseball, Sep. 24, 1969 – Black (Engraved) Omitted  
*Swing and a Miss*

*From April 2024 Presentation, modified*



Normal Stamp – 45 cents

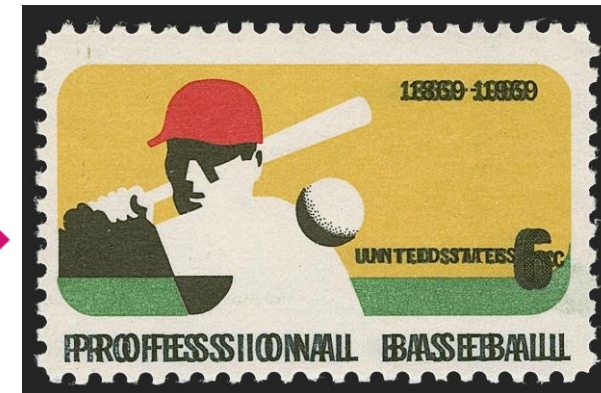


Error Stamp – \$850  
 Qty. = 300+



- While not a Color-Omitted Error, this is a cool example of a significant downward shift of the Black Engraving
- There is also one reported unique stamp with a complete double impression of the Black Engraving, Ref. Scott# 1381c valued at \$5,750 (recently sold in a Siegel auction on 9/28/2023 for \$3,250)

(Not in Mike's Collection)



U.S. Scott# 1415b, 1416b, 1417b & 1418d – Christmas Toys, Nov. 5, 1970 – Black (Photogravure) Omitted *Ghostly!*

*From April 2024 Presentation*



Normal Stamp – 30 cents



Error Stamp – \$1,750 each  
Qty. = 2 Blocks plus 5 – 6 each  
single reported (Rare)

***My Stamps Are Individual Singles***

U.S. Scott# 1415b & 1416b - Christmas Toys, Nov. 5, 1970 – Black (Photogravure) Omitted  
*Double Take – Let's Look At These More Closely*

*From April 2024 Presentation*



Am I A Birthday Gift or  
A Christmas Toy?



What Country Am I From?

U.S. Scott# 1417b & 1418d - Christmas Toys, Nov. 5, 1970 – Black (Photogravure) Omitted  
*Double Take – Let's Look At These More Closely*

*From April 2024 Presentation*



Look Ma, No Hands  
I Mean No Legs!



Space-Age Doll Carriage  
Floating Along The  
Conveyor Belt of Life

U.S. Scott# 1420a – Landing of Pilgrims, November 21, 1970 – Orange & Yellow  
(Lithographed) Omitted

*“Don’t Let The Sun Go Down On Me” – Elton John 1974*



Normal Stamp – 30 cents



Error Stamp – \$550  
Qty. = 200

U.S. Scott# 1470b – Tom Sawyer, Oct. 13, 1972 – Red & Black (Engraved) Omitted  
*Need More Paint, Tom*

*From April 2024 Presentation, modified*



Normal Stamp – 30 cents



Error Stamp – \$450  
Qty. = 150



Other variations for this issue include:

- Scott# 1470c – Yellow & Tan (Lithographed) omitted = \$1,300 (Qty. = 50 including unique Plate block)
- Scott# 1470e, new listing – Red (Engraved “8c”) missing (CM or Color Misregistration) = \$750

U.S. Scott# 1471b – Christmas Angels, Nov. 9, 1972 –Black (Photogravure) Omitted  
*Looks like the Grinch stole Christmas again!*



Normal Stamp – 30 cents



Normal Stamp

Transitional Stamp  
 Note what appears to be  
 a demarcation line

Error Stamp

Error Stamp – \$1,900 \*  
 Qty. = 10 reported

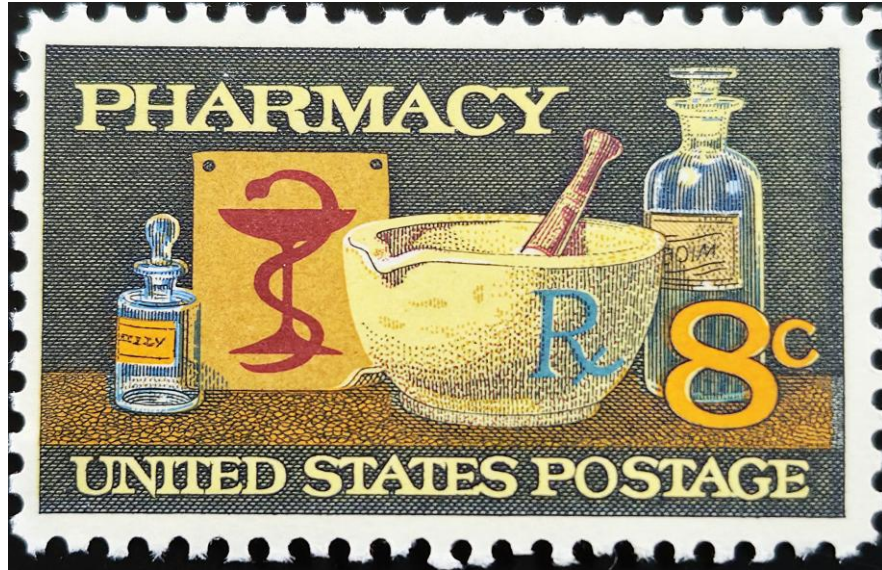
\* Per Datz: Transition multiples exist and sell for a \$500 premium.

Other variations for this issue include:

- Scott# 1471a – Pink (Photogravure) omitted = \$100 (Qty. = several hundred)



U.S. Scott# 1473a – Pharmacy, November 10, 1972 – Blue & Orange (Lithographed) Omitted  
*This stuff will mess with your mind, man*



Normal Stamp – 30 cents



Error Stamp – \$600  
Qty. = 150 reported

Other variations for this issue include:

- Scott# 1473b – Blue (Lithographed) omitted = \$1,250 (Qty. = Rare)
- Scott# 1473c – Orange (Lithographed) omitted = \$500 (Qty. = Rare)

U.S. Scott# 1488a – Copernicus, April 23, 1973 – Orange (Lithographed) Omitted

U.S. Scott# 1488b – Black (Engraved) omitted

*Look, I can make light disappear, then reappear – oops, where did I go?*



Normal Stamp – 30 cents



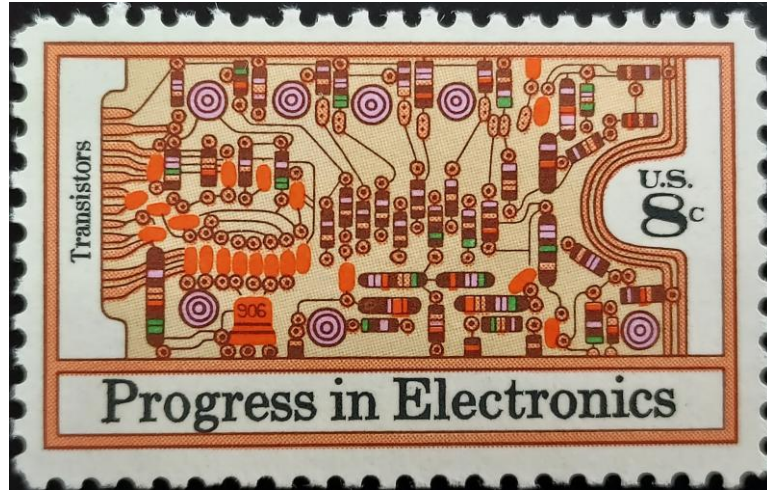
Orange Missing Error Stamp – \$400  
Qty. = 100



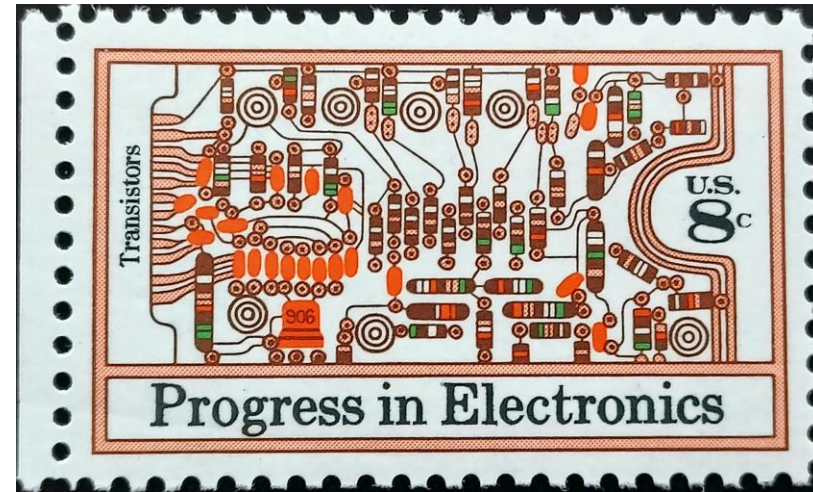
Black Missing Error Stamp – \$450  
Qty. = 100

U.S. Scott# 1501b – Progress in Electronics, July 10, 1973 – Tan & Lilac (Lithographed) Omitted  
*So Much For Progress*

*From April 2024 Presentation*



Normal Stamp – 30 cents



Error Stamp – \$400  
Qty. = 50

Other variations for this issue include:

- Scott# 1501a – Black (Engraved) omitted = \$300 (Qty. = 300 - 400)

U.S. Scott# 1506a – Rural America, Wheat Fields and Train, Aug. 16, 1974 – Black & Blue (Engraved) Omitted

From April 2024 Presentation

*“Little House Train on The Prairie” – except they forgot the little train ☺*



Normal Stamp – 30 cents



Error Stamp – \$350

Qty. = 100

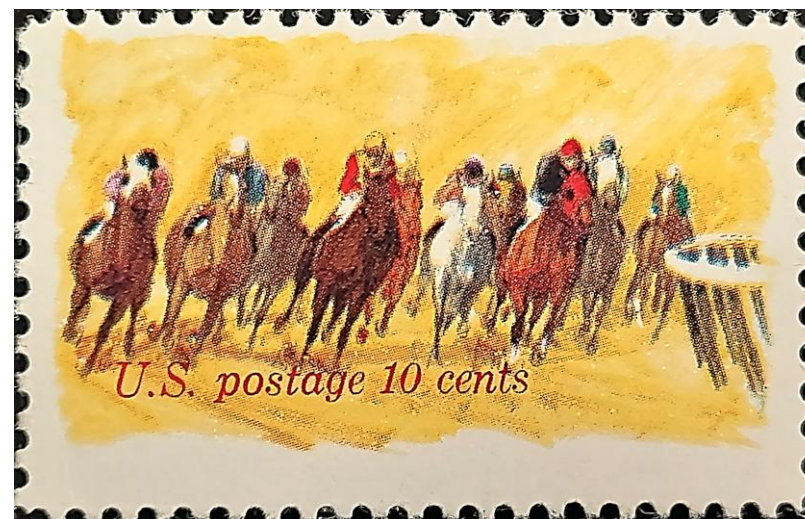
Note: Both of the other stamps from the Rural America series, Scott# 1504a & 1504d (Angus and Longhorn Cattle) as well as Scott# 1505a (Chautauqua Tent and Buggies) contain color-omitted errors

U.S. Scott# 1528a – Horse Racing, May 4, 1974 – Ultramarine (Photogravure) Omitted  
*It's off to the Races, I Guess*

From April 2024 Presentation



Normal Stamp – 30 cents



Error Stamp – \$325  
Qty. = 75 - 100

Other variations for this issue include:

- Scott# 1528b – Red (Photogravure) omitted = \$1,750 (Qty. = 1 – 4 reported – must have no traces of Red under 30x magnification)

U.S. Scott# 1542b – Kentucky Settlement, June 15, 1974 – Black & Green (Engraved),  
Black, Green & Blue (Lithographed) Missing (EP or Extraneous Paper)

*The grass isn't always greener on the other side...*



Normal Stamp – 30 cents



Error Stamp – \$1,100

Qty. = 29 reported

Other variations for this issue include:

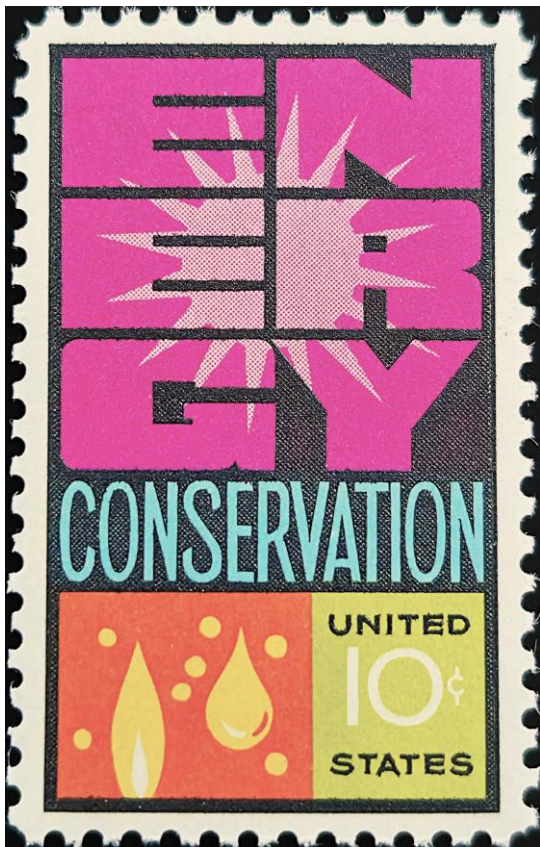
- Scott# 1542a – Black (Lithographed) omitted = \$400 (Qty. = 100 – 150, including 2 plate blocks)
- Scott# 1542c – Green (Engraved) missing (EP) = \$3,000 (Qty. = very rare)
- Scott# 1542d – Green (Engraving) & Black (Lithographed) missing (EP) = Unpriced (Qty. = very rare)
- Scott# 1542f – Blue (Lithographed) omitted = \$1,000 (Qty. = 1 unique)

U.S. Scott# 1547a – Energy Conservation, Sep. 23, 1974 – Blue & Orange (Lithographed) Omitted

U.S. Scott# 1547b – Orange & Green (Lithographed) Omitted

U.S. Scott# 1547c – Green (Lithographed) Omitted

*Conserving Energy – and INK!*



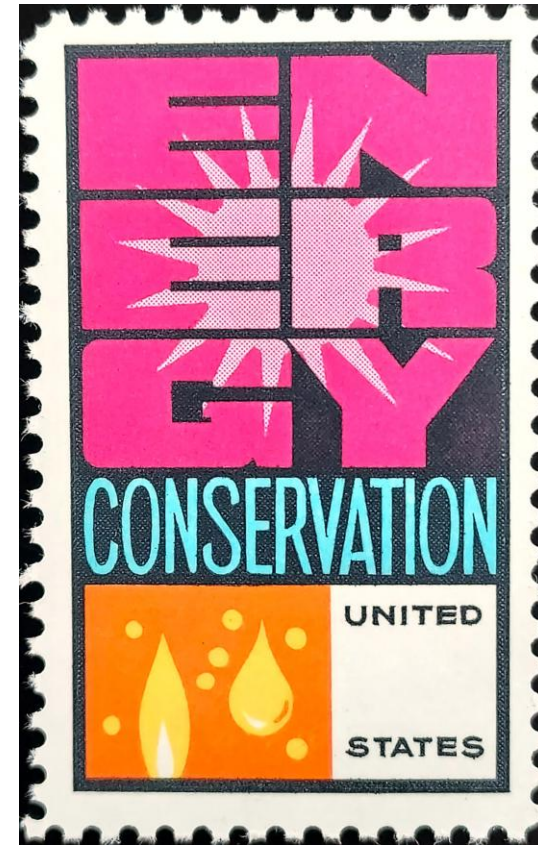
Normal Stamp – 30 cents



Blue & Orange Omitted Error  
Stamp – \$400  
Qty. = Approximately 100



Orange & Green Omitted Error  
Stamp – \$275  
Qty. = 150 – 200 reported



Green Omitted Error  
Stamp – \$250  
Qty. = Approximately 100

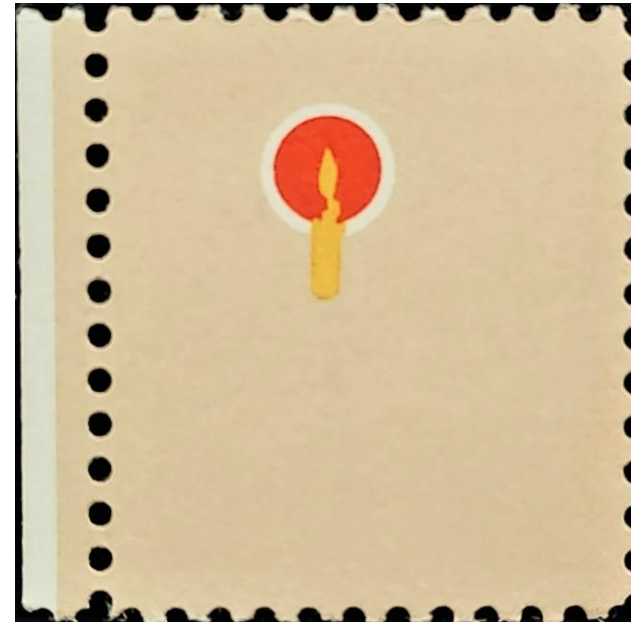
U.S. Scott# 1610a – Candle Holder, July 2, 1979 – Brown (Engraved) Omitted

*Don't Burn Your Hand! Will somebody get me a candle holder please?*

From April 2024 Presentation



Normal Stamp – \$2



Error Stamp – \$175

Qty. = 1000+

Other variations for this issue include:

- Scott# 1610b – Tan, Orange & Yellow (Lithographed) omitted = \$175 (Qty. = 300 – 400)



← While not a Color-Omitted Error, this is the famous CIA invert from this issue (interesting story behind this one!). Single discovery sheet of 100, 5 of which were used before its discovery and presumed lost to philately.

- Scott# 1610c – Candle Flame inverted = \$20,000 (Qty. = 95)

***(Not in Mike's Collection, But I Wish!!)***

U.S. Scott# 1826b – General Bernardo Galvez, July 23, 1980 – Light Yellow, Red, Blue & Brown (Lithographed) Omitted

*From April 2024 Presentation, modified*

*What's That Doo-Hickey? It's the shading in the flag, what did you think it was?*



Normal Stamp – 30 cents



Error Stamp – \$500  
Qty. = 50

Other variations for this issue include:

- Scott# 1826a – Red, Brown & Blue (Engraved) omitted = \$550 (Qty. = 50)

U.S. Scott# 1926a – Edna St. Vincent Millay, July 10, 1981 – (Engraved) Omitted  
*I could be Lucille Ball's sister – probably not*



Normal Stamp – 35 cents



Error Stamp – \$200  
Qty. = 500+

U.S. Scott# 1938b – Yorktown – Virginia Capes Se-tenant pair, October 16, 1981 –  
Black (Engraved) Omitted  
*Does Anyone Have Google Maps Please??*

*From April 2024 Presentation*



Normal Stamp (se-tenant pair) – 90 cents



Error Stamp (se-tenant pair) – \$275  
Qty. = 80 pairs + 10 of each single

U.S. Scott# 1938 var – While Not An Omitted Color, a Cool Variation Nonetheless!!

*“Over The River And Through The Woods...”*

*Wait, the river is on land!! Someone Call Grandma and Tell Her We’ll Be Late*

*From April 2024 Presentation*



Other variations for this issue include:

- Scott# 1938d – Black (Lithographed) omitted = No value in Scott or Datz (Qty. = 2 pairs, both of which occur in a unique plate block of 4)

U.S. Scott# 2031a – Science & Industry, Jan. 19, 1983 – Black (Engraved) Omitted  
*No, You're Not On Dope – but an employee at the BEP Was!*

*From April 2024 Presentation, modified*



Normal Stamp – 40 cents



Error Stamp – \$400 \*  
Qty. = 40

\* Per Scott: Transition multiples exist and sell for a premium.  
*The only known sheet of 50 contains 40 of the error and 10 transition stamps along the entire bottom row*

***This transition multiple from the bottom right corner of the only sheet with Mr. Zip is unique!***

U.S. Scott# 2204b – Republic of Texas, 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, March 2, 1986 – Dark Red (Photogravure) Omitted

*They must have used Visine, because "It Gets The Red Out" ☺*



Normal Stamp – 50 cents



Error Stamp – \$1,250

Qty. = 20 reported

Other variations for this issue include:

- Scott# 2204c – Dark Blue (Photogravure) omitted = \$5,000 (Qty. = 2, both of which appear as the right stamps in two different transition strips)

U.S. Scott# 2251b – Girl Scouts, 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, March 12, 1987 – Red & Black (Engraved) Omitted  
*You can't get your merit badge if you don't complete the activity*



Normal Stamp – 45 cents



Error Stamp – \$600

Qty. = 50

*The error is very subtle. The omission of color occurs in only a few merit badges*

Other variations for this issue include:

- Scott# 2251a – Black, Yellow, Magenta, Cyan & Green (Lithographed) omitted = \$750 (Qty. = 46, including unique Plate block of 4)

U.S. Scott# 2281i – Honeybee, September 2, 1988 – Black (Engraved) Omitted  
*To Bee or Not To Bee*



Normal Stamp – 45 cents



Error Stamp – \$45  
 Qty. = Several Hundred unused  
 and 20 – 50 used on Cover

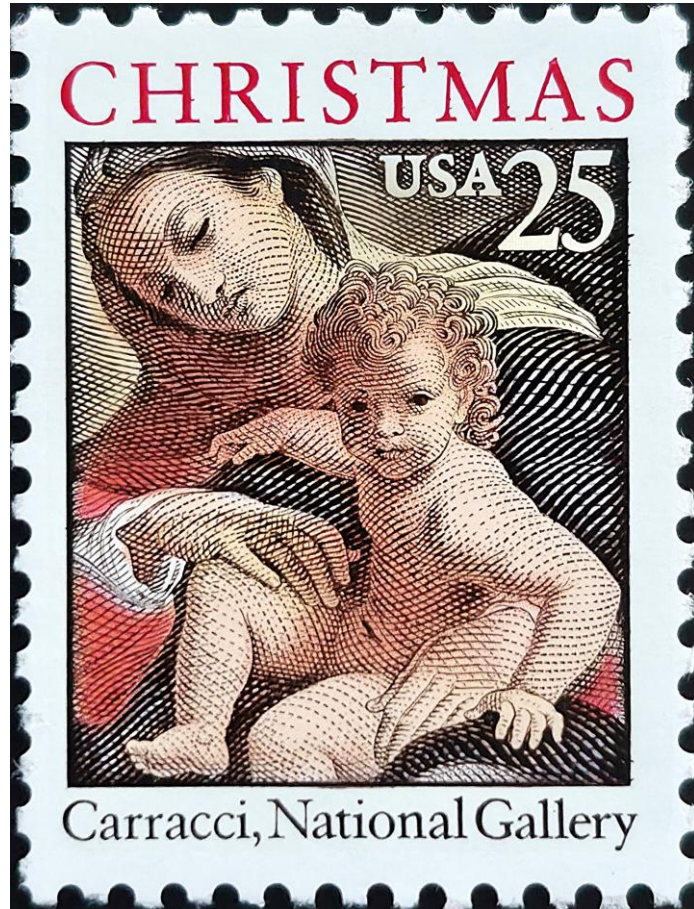
Note: This error was originally Scott# 2281b listed under small block tagging. However, Scott corrected their catalogue to 2281i when it was learned this more common error occurred only on large block tagging stamps. Current Scott catalogue removed the listing for 2281b.

		Litho. & Engr.	
2281	A1649d 25c multi, small block tagging Sept. 2, 1988	.50	.25
	Pair	1.00	.50
	P# strip of 5, #1	3.50	
	P# single, #1	—	.50
a.	As No. 2281, imperf. pair	45.00	
c.	Black (litho. - "25 USA") omitted	500.00	
d.	Pair, imperf. between	250.00	
e.	Yellow (litho.) omitted	700.00	
f.	Large block tagging	.45	.25
	Pair	.90	
	P# strip of 5, #1	3.50	
	P# strip of 5, #2	3.25	
	P# single, #1	—	.60
	P# single, #2	—	.50
g.	As "f," imperf. pair	45.00	
h.	As "f," tagging omitted	85.00	
i.	As "f," black (engr. - details on bee) omitted	45.00	—
	Nos. 2279-2281 (3)	1.50	.75

Other variations for this issue include:

- Scott# 2281c – Black (Lithographed) omitted = \$500 (Qty. = 100+ reported) – occurs on small block tagging only
- Scott# 2281e - Yellow (Lithographed) omitted = \$700 (Qty. = 50 - 60 reported) – occurs on small block tagging only

U.S. Scott# 2427b – Christmas Madonna and Child, October 19, 1989 – Red (Lithographed) Omitted  
*I bring you Gold, Frankincense and Myrrh, but no Red Rubies*



Normal Stamp – 50 cents



Error Stamp – \$300

Qty. = 50

U.S. Scott# 2441b – Love, January 18, 1990 – Bright Pink (Photogravure) Omitted

*Him: "My heart aches for you"*

*Her: "You don't have a heart"*



Normal Stamp – 50 cents



Error Stamp – \$80

Qty. = 200 (20 Panes of 10 from Booklets only)

U.S. Scott# 2479b – Fawn, Mar. 11, 1991 – Red (Photogravure) Omitted  
*Oh Deer! I'm Not Anything Like Rudolph, Nothing Is **Red** About Me*

*From April 2024 Presentation, modified*



Normal Stamp – 35 cents



Error Stamp – \$250  
Qty. = 100 reported

The non-omitted colors are misregistered, as always  
*Note the shadowing effect*

*I can see my shadow, but I'm not a Groundhog*



U.S. Scott# 2833c – Garden Flowers, April 28, 1994 – Black (Engraved) Omitted  
*I have nothing smart alecky to say*



Normal Pane of 5 – \$3



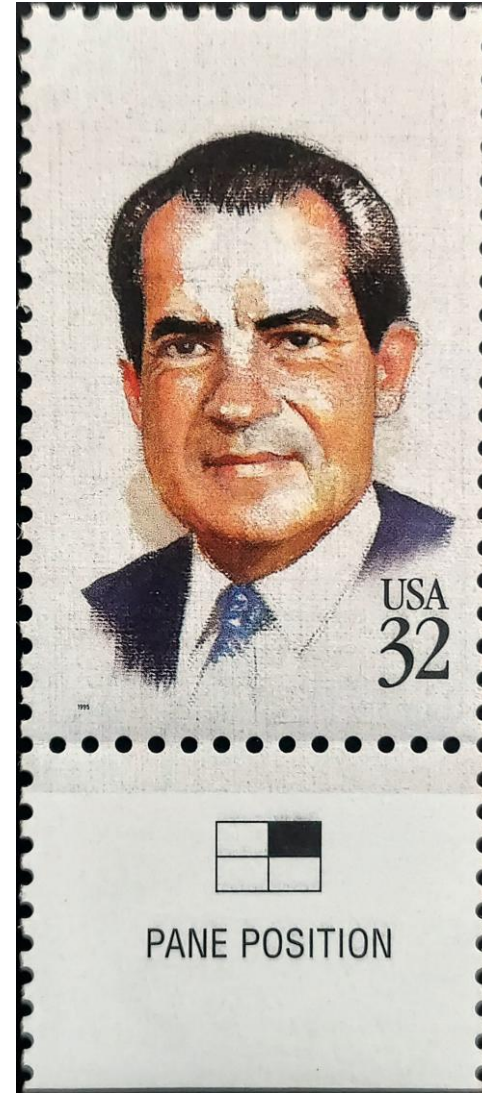
Error Pane – \$90

Qty. = 250 – 300 Panes

U.S. Scott# 2955a – Richard Nixon, April 26, 1995 – Red (Engraved) Omitted (CM or color misregistration)  
*I'm not covering anything up, my real name is Pinocchio*

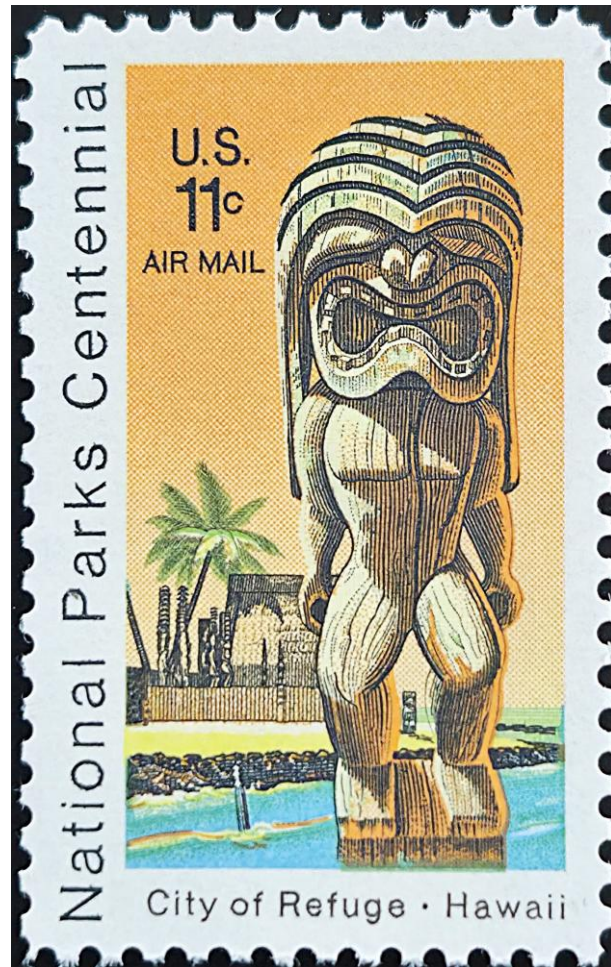


Normal Stamp – 65 cents

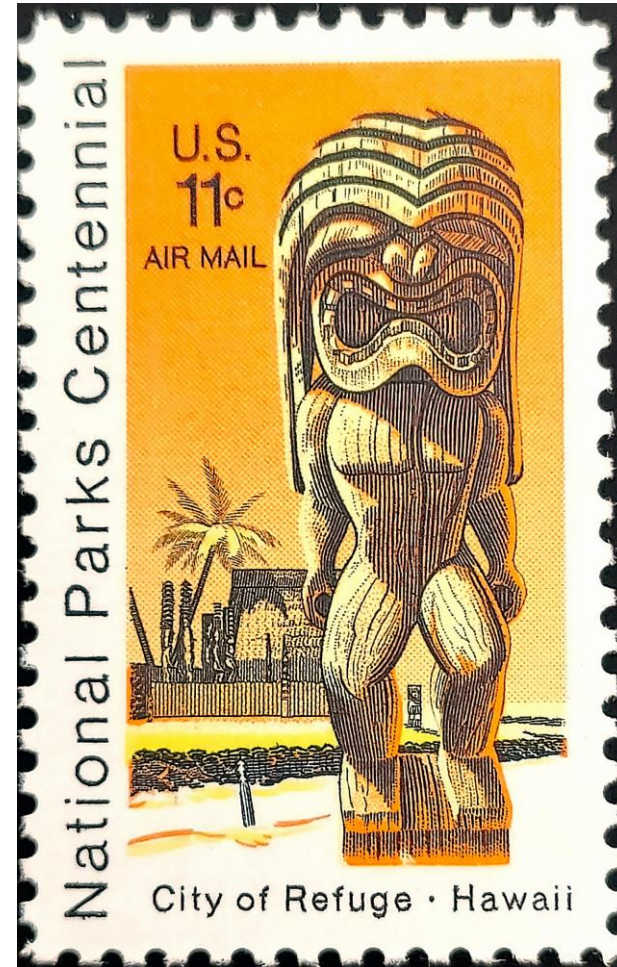


Error Stamp – \$600  
Qty. = 70 reported

U.S. Scott# C84a – National Parks Centennial, May 3, 1972 – Blue & Green (Lithographed) Omitted  
*Let's go swimming, in the sand - note how Florida palm trees look after the hard freeze*



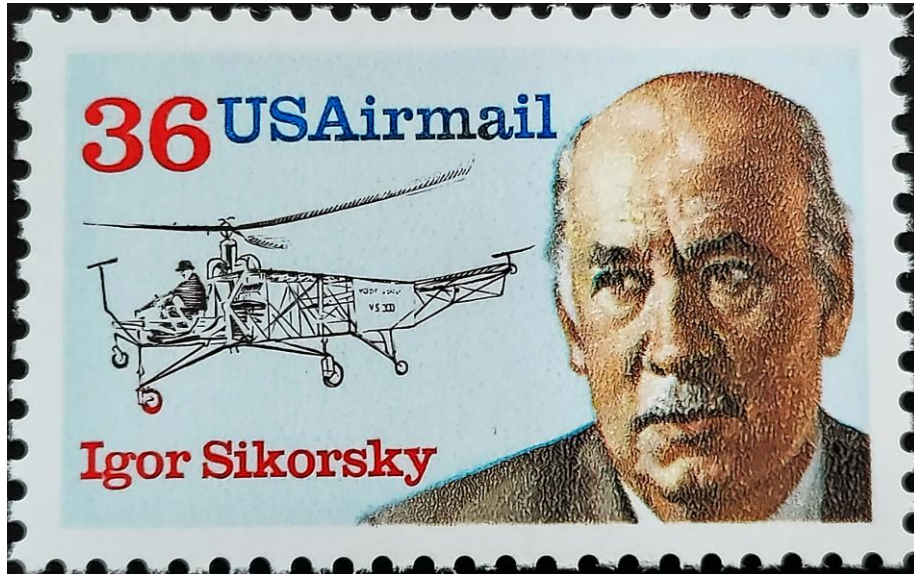
Normal Stamp – 30 cents



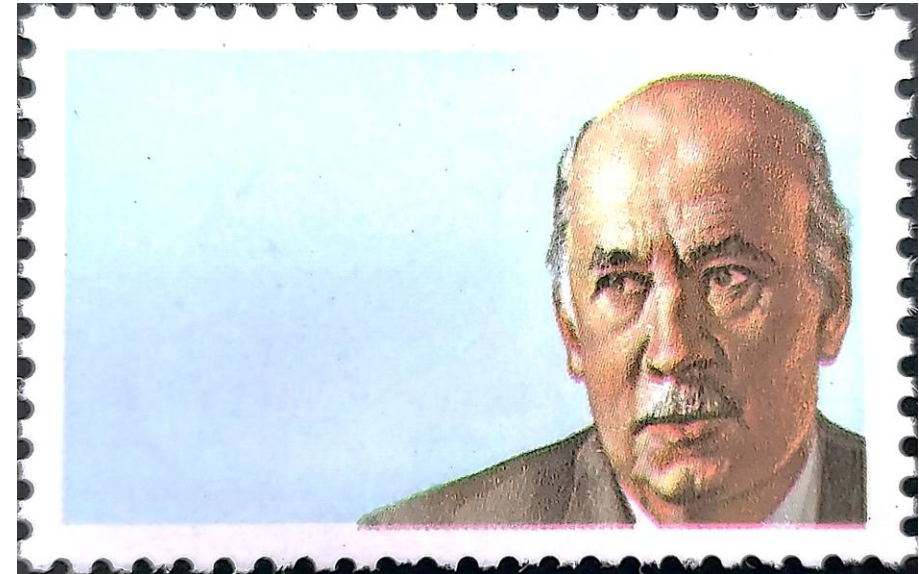
Error Stamp – \$300 unused, \$900 used  
Qty. = 92 reported

U.S. Scott C119a – Igor Sikorsky, June 23, 1988 – Red, Dark Blue & Black (Engraved) Omitted  
*Who Stole My Helicopter?*

*From April 2024 Presentation*



Normal Stamp – 70 cents



Error Stamp – \$750  
Qty. = 50 including one plate block of 4

Note: There are some examples reported with just the red “36” and “Igor Sikorsky” engraved inscriptions omitted in varying degrees; however, red specks are visible under magnification on all examples reported to date. Therefore, it is not considered to be a true 100% color-omitted variety. Values range from \$125 to \$150 depending on the degree of red omitted.

*As you can see, I have a long way to go  
collecting in this area, but I am having a  
philatelic blast in the hunt*

*I Hope You Enjoyed The Show*

Closing Remarks / Comments / Questions