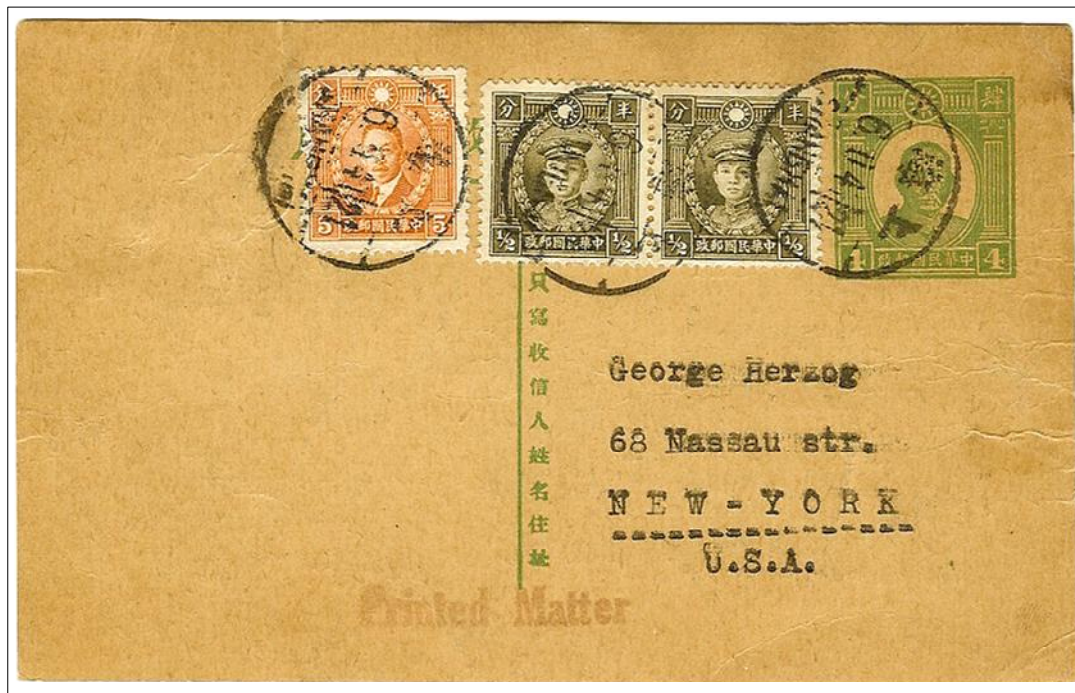


5¢ Hong Kong Print – Liao Chung-k'ai

This value was part of a group of new issues produced in mid-1941 (perhaps August) to meet current postal rate changes. The purpose of the stamp is puzzling because there was only one established 5c rate: the 100 g sample rate between cities. The value works easily as a “rate maker” and when fulfilling the 8¢ letter rate.



Nov. 6, 1941, Shanghai, to USA (uprated international postcard rate 60¢ - printed matter rate 20¢, underpaid)



Group 3



Group 5



Watermarked
Normal



Watermarked
Invert

5¢ Hong Kong Print – Liao Chung-k'ai



Perforation Variety
12½ x 12½



Perforation Variety
12½ x 13



Perforation Variety
13 x 12½



Perforation Variety
13 x 13



Imperf.
Group 5



Double Perf. in Margin, Group 3
Inspector's mark 'C' on back selvage

8¢ Hong Kong Print - Chu Chin-hsin

Produced to meet increasing domestic letter rate increases effective September 20, 1940. The value was printed in large quantities from 40 different plates due to heavy usage. Workmanship is good and there are only a few noticeable retouches.



Dec. 26, 1940, Foochow, Fukien Province to USA (international surface letter rate 50¢, first 20 g)



Group 2



Watermarked
Normal



Group 3



Perforation Variety
12 x 12



Perforation Variety
12½ x 12½



Perforation Variety
12½ x 13



Perforation Variety
13 x 13

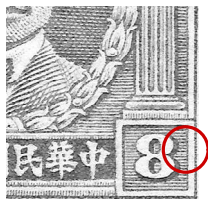


Perforation Variety
13½ x 13



Perforation Variety
13 x 13½

8¢ Hong Kong Print – Chu Chin-hsin



Transfer Variety
Vertical Line Retouch on LR Box
Position 6/25 (center cliché)



Brown Orange

Colors are very close to that of the 5¢ value and can be found in a wide range of shades: 1) orange (yellow-orange tone), 2) deep orange (less yellowish cast), and 3) brown orange (more brownish). The brown orange seems to be a definite ink color although some of the darkness could be due to aging or chemical changes of the inking solutions (oxidation). The orange ink used by the Commercial Press was somewhat unstable.



Yellow Orange



Slogan Cancel



Tsinggangpa
Third Class Office



Tientsin
Victoria Road Station
South Office

10¢ Hong Kong Print – Sung Chiao-jen



June 6, 1940, Domestic Express to Changsha (Hengyang), Hunan, received June 7, forwarded to Kweiyang June 24, arrived June 25, returned to Changsha, June 25

One of the first Hong Kong Martyrs to emerge, it may have seen service as early as June 1940, with the watermarked version appearing in May of the following year. This value paid the combined letter rate and service fee for ordinary express letters. It was one of the building blocks which led to parcel post franking. Production is thought to be high, but the rate change of September 20, 1940 raised letter rates to 8¢ and express fees to 15¢.



Group 1



Watermarked Normal



May 9, 1940, Chefoo, International to USA underpaid, franked with USA postage due for receiver

13¢ Hong Kong Print – Chu Chin-hsin

Produced to meet the registration rate for local, domestic, Japanese, and Korean mail effective September 20, 1940. The stamp is notorious for plate varieties. Almost all express and registered covers from this time period carry smaller value franking. When a cover is found with a “solo” 13¢ value, it is usually from a commercial enterprise. Few of these values were used.



Group 2



Watermarked
Normal

Feb. 8, 1941, Changpa, East Szechwan Province, Domestic to
Chungking, received Feb. 12

13¢ Hong Kong Print – Chu Chin-hsin



Perforation Variety
12 x 12



Perforation Variety
12½ x 12½



Perforation Variety
12½ x 13



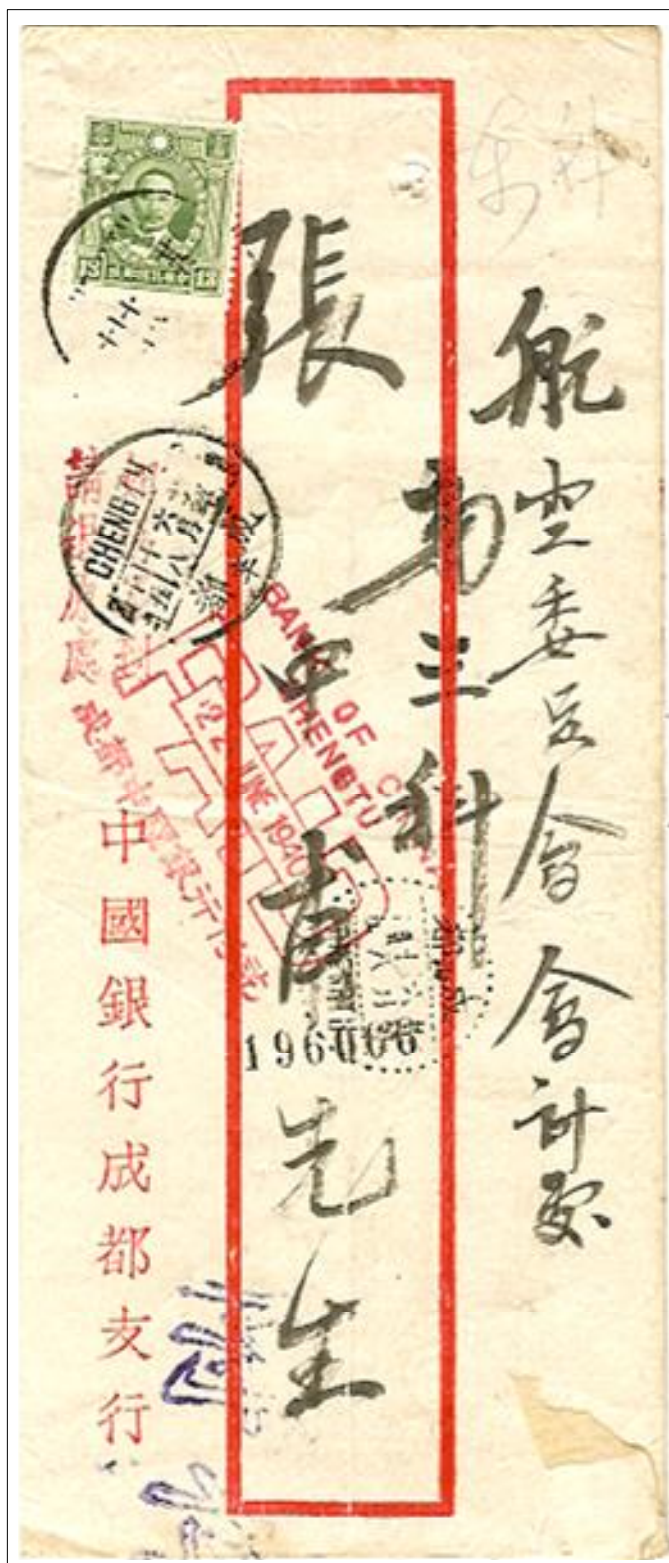
Perforation Variety
13 x 13



Perforation Variety
13 x 13½

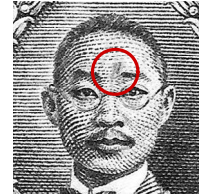
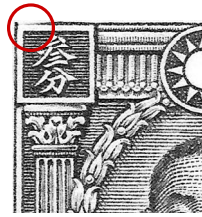


Perforation Variety
13½ x 13



June 18, 1940, Bank of China, Chengtu, recorded payment validated with punch cancel, received "Paid" June 22, 1940

13¢ Hong Kong Print – Chu Chin-hsin



Transfer Variety
Missing Top Frame in TL Box
Position 7/25 (center cliché)

Constant Plate Variety
Gash Above Eyebrow
Position 9/200 (center cliché)



Plate Variety
Vertical Line Through 'Yu' Character
Position Unknown



Plate Variety
Ink Smear on Forehead
Position Unknown

13¢ Hong Kong Print – Chu Chin-hsin

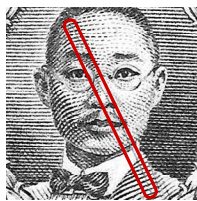


Plate Variety
Diagonal Crack Across Vignette – Type I
Position 18/200 (center cliché)

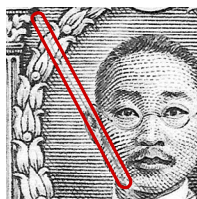


Plate Variety
Diagonal Crack Across Vignette – Type II
Position 159/200 (center cliché)

15¢ Hong Kong Print – Liao Chung-k'ai



Mar. 1943, Canton Province, Nanking, registered airmail with Calcutta censor tape, to US, received Mar. 12

This exceptionally difficult to find cover traveled from the Republic of China to the United States using the services of three air carriers: China National Aviation Corporation (CNAC), British Overseas Airways Corporation (BOAC), and Pan American Airlines (PAA). The CNAC began the journey from Nanking's post office and flew to Calcutta (India) where it was opened for censor inspection. It then transferred to the BOAC's Horse-Shoe Route and West African Service via Leopoldville (Kinshasa), continued to Bathurst (Gambia) and Lagos (Nigeria), where it was forwarded to PAA.

PanAm Foreign Air Mail Route 22 (FAM 22) West African Clipper Flying Boat Service flew from Lagos to Miami via Natal and Belem (Brazil), Post-of-Spain (Trinidad) and San Juan (Puerto Rico). The final leg of the journey was Miami to New York, all for a mere \$21.40.

15¢ Hong Kong Print - Liao Chung-k'ai

International postcard single rate to Europe and USA,
ordinary express letters to Macau and Hong Kong, and
additional ounce fee for domestic letters.



Group 3



Watermarked
Normal



Watermarked
Invert-Reverse



Group 5



Imperf. with Printer's Imprint
Group 5



Perforation Variety
12 x 12



Perforation Variety
12½ x 12½



Perforation Variety
12½ x 13



Perforation Variety
13 x 13



Plate Variety
Diagonal Gash on Cheek
Position Unknown



Plate Variety
Retouched Background in
Vignette at CR
Position Unknown

15¢ Hong Kong Print – Liao Chung-k'ai



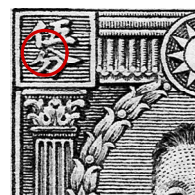
Compared with other Hong Kong prints, the master die workmanship is inferior. Shading lines are badly spaced, under-drawn or over-cut. Spots, broken characters, and broken lines abound. This block of 36 clichés demonstrates 6 different major transfer varieties that appear in two locations on every pane of 200.



Spot in 'Chung'
Position 2/25



Spots in Left Column
Position 6/25



Spot in 'Fun'
Position 7/25



Broken 'Yu' and Weak
UR Corner
Position 17/25



Incomplete Vertical Line
TR Corner of UL Box
Position 20/25



Spot under '5' in LR Box
Position 23/25

17¢ Hong Kong Print - Sung Chiao-jen

Paid domestic registered letter rates with express fees (5% letter rate plus 12¢ for the express-registry service). The rate became obsolete by Dec. 1940 when registered express fees increased to 28¢.



Apr. 3, 1941, Shanghai, Local Registered, incorrect address, returned 'Location Unknown' undelivered



Group 2



Watermarked
Normal



Watermarked
Reverse

17¢ Hong Kong Print – Sung Chiao-jen



Perforation Variety
12½ x 12½



Perforation Variety
13 x 13



Constant Plate Variety
Watermarked
Diagonal Scratch across Vignette
Position 161/200
(second stamp, left column)

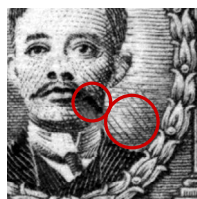


Plate Variety
Watermarked Normal
Scar on Cheek and Retouched
Background in Vignette at LR
Position Unknown

17¢ Hong Kong Print – Sung Chiao-jen



Constant Plate Variety
White Dots in UR Corner of LL Box
Position 78/200 (center cliché)



Constant Plate Variety
Broken Top Frame in UL Box
Position 103/200 (center cliché)



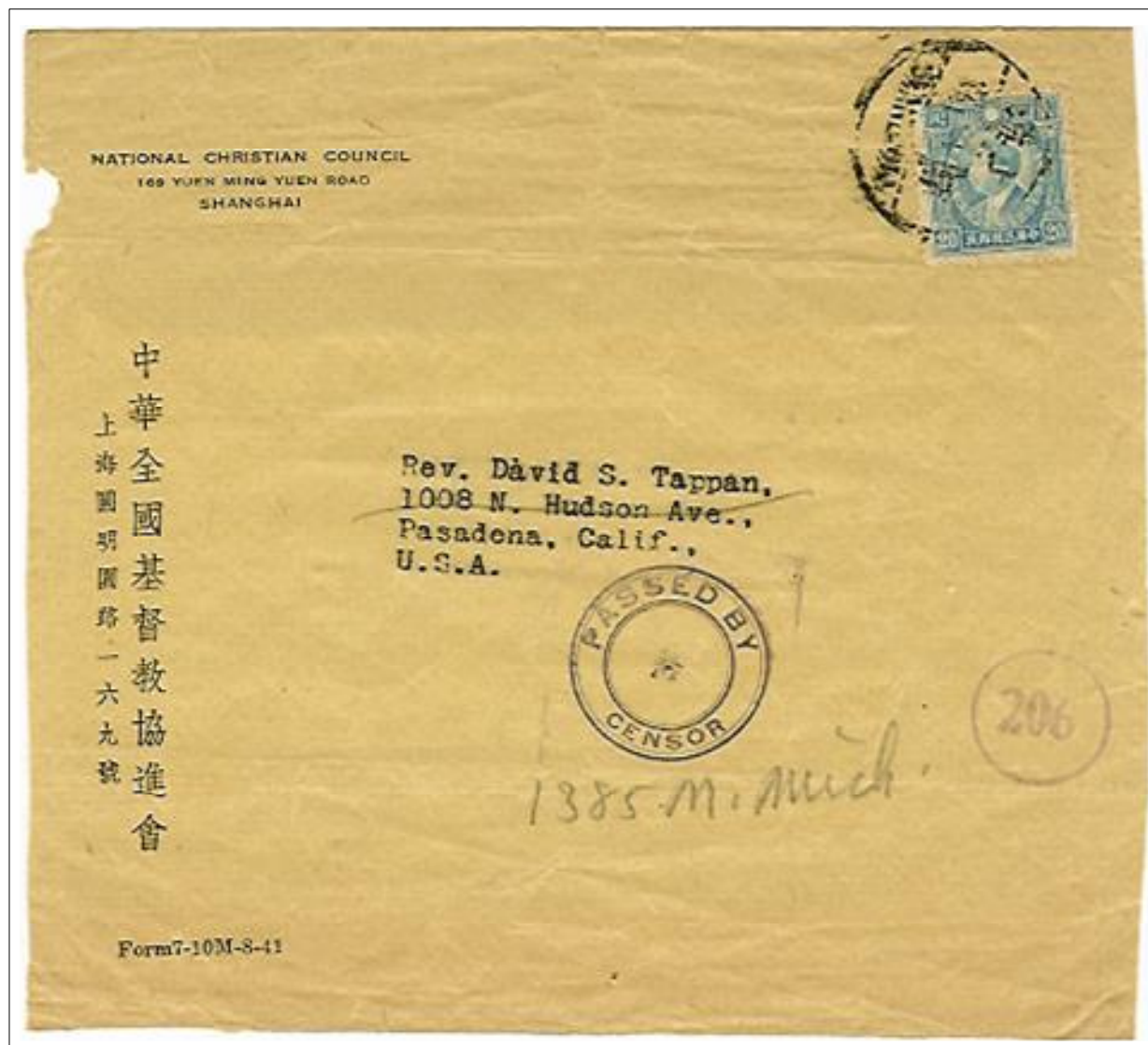
Constant Plate Variety
Tab at Right of '7' in LR Box
Position 108/200 (center cliché)



Constant Plate Variety
Color in UR Corner of LL Value Box
Position Unknown

20¢ Hong Kong Print – Huang Hsing

The only stamp in the Hong Kong series to repeat the design of the Peking production, but in a different color. It was used to meet the need for paying registered express service beginning September 20, 1940. This was also a useful value for satisfying foreign letter and parcel post fees and can frequently be found with foreign mail and parcel post cancellations. Many transfer varieties exist.



1941, Shanghai via Hong Kong to USA, (international printed matter rate 20¢, first 20 g) wrapper with Hong Kong censor handstamp



Group 3



Watermarked
Normal



Watermarked
Reverse



Group 5