



Issue of November 21, 1969

The new Giori press printed the "spearmint gum" design for the previously established 45¢ rate.



Ink smear



Misperforation

Plate numbers used:

- 31484
- 31485
- 31487
- 31492
- 31495
- 31504
- 31506
- 31507
- 31510



Paper foldover

Experimental Booklets

Seattle, Washington

The Seattle Post Office operated four Self-Service Postal Units in the 1972-73 period. Three offices, the Main Post Office, the Wedgewood Station and the Aurora Village Shopping Center were all equipped with National Vendors Machines (a division of UMC Industries, St. Louis, Mo.) which dispensed 21 different items. The postmaster had the company make up private booklets using various front and back designs with each containing the 60c special delivery stamp an air mail label and a special delivery label. Included from at least May 1, 1972 were five major and 6 sub-varieties of booklets (one was a glassine envelope with a card stiffener). Various covers were used for the booklets, apparently at random. The difference which distinguishes the booklets from one another is the cardboard cover and the interleaving. Each of the booklets was stamped SPECIAL DELIVERY in purple ink.

Jack D. Blanchard, the researcher and expert on the issue, knew of no philatelic significance to any of the front or back booklet covers. No one has a count of how many exist, but surely they are most uncommon and without precedent in machines around the country. Examples of two of the booklets, exploded here, show an unofficial attempt at providing postal patrons with another post office product. To the best of the exhibitor's knowledge, no other cities made these books; it was an experiment which started and ended in Seattle.



Masking tape with handstamp

Colored card cover with handstamp



Special Delivery handstamp only



Interior page

Issue of May 10, 1971

The arrow design was reused and thereafter, no further special service stamps were issued.



Misperforation

Plate numbers used:

- 32962
- 32977
- 32985
- 32986
- 33002
- 33004
- 33006
- 33008



Ink smear



Gutter Snipe

Domestic Service



Mahopac to Lynbrook, N.Y., October 4, 1972