

Nationalist China's Last Commemoratives

These commemoratives of late 1949 saw little use in the ever diminishing Nationalist-controlled areas as Communist forces systematically subjugated the country. By September the Communists controlled all but a small portion of southeast China and some provinces in the far west.

Peking Scenery Issue. In late 1948 the decision had been made to produce a set of eight, only two were ever prepared: the Fu Hiang Ko Buddhist pagoda and a Bronze Bull statue, from the Summer Palace in Peking. Due to inflation-driven rate increases they were engraved without a face value by the Dah Tung Book Company of Shanghai, using the intaglio process. Escaping the advancing Communists the stamps were sent to Canton for overprinting by the Nanking Printing Company. Shanghai fell on May 27. The Chinese characters in the overprint mean "Postage _ Cents." They were issued July 14, without gum and rouletted. The 15¢ value paid the international surface rate for up to 20g and the 40¢ paid the international airmail surcharge for up to 10g. Many were used on parcels.

75th Anniversary of the Universal Postal Union. In January 1949 the Dah Tung Book Company was asked to intaglio engrave a set of three values. The only one prepared was intended for a \$3 Gold Yuan (GY) domestic surface rate, but by Feb. 21 the rate had increased to \$15. Again due to inflation and the advancing Communists, the decision was made to likewise print it without face value and send the stock to Canton for overprinting. To combat inflation, the Nationalists replaced the GY currency with Silver Yuan (SY) currency and new rates were published April 27. Overprinted with typeset characters meaning "One Dollar," in SY, it was finally issued on Aug. 1, without gum and imperforate. Due to its high face value most were used on parcels.

Exhibit Plan

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Important items are shown with thicker outline borders.

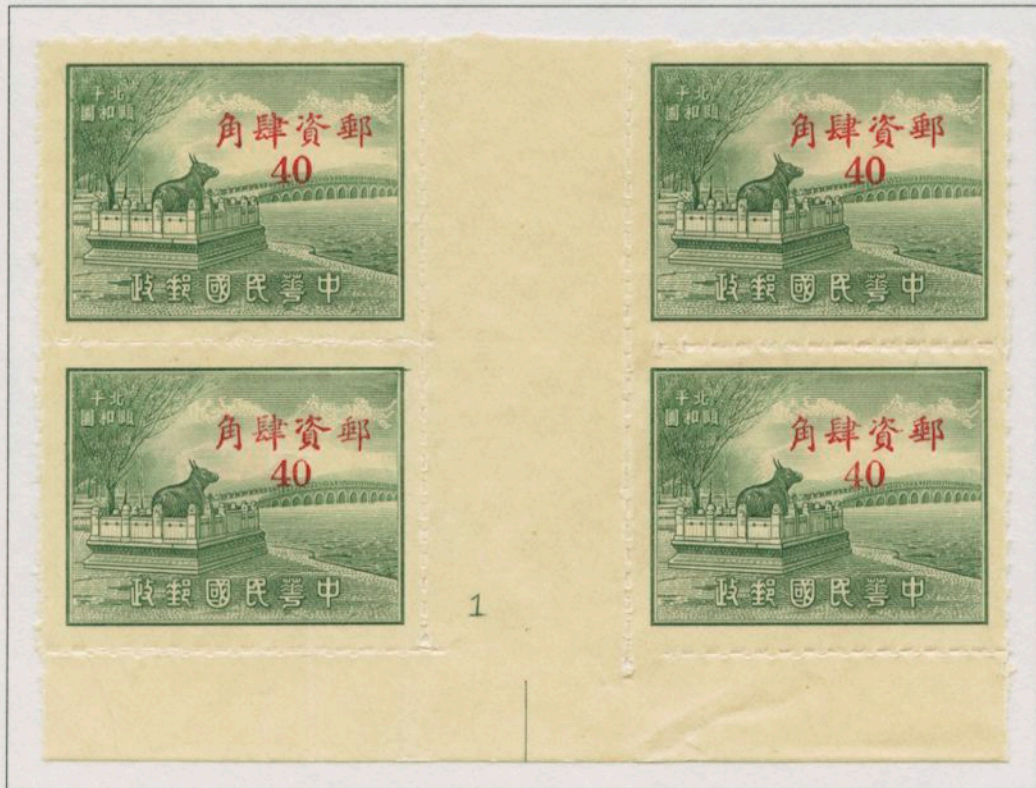


Imperforate and Without Overprint



Peking Scenery Issue

Plate Numbers



Gutter Between Panes A and B of Plate 1.



Basic stamp plate numbers for the 15¢ are 1 to 4.



Basic stamp plate numbers for the 40¢ are 1 to 4.

Peking Scenery Issue
 Printing and Post Office Sheet Layout



Printed in sheets of 300, six (3x2) *tête-bêche* panes of 50 (10x5). Post office sheets are 100, two vertical *tête-bêche* panes of 50 (10x5). Shown is *tête-bêche* vertical panes, with dot in "5" from Pos. 45/50 of Pane B (here 9/18).



Printed in sheets of 300, six (2x3) horizontal panes of 50 (5x10). Post office sheets are two horizontal panes of 50 (5x10). Shown is a portion of the gutter between two panes. The left pane is Pane A, the right Pane B.

Peking Scenery Issue



Broken Bottom Serif of "1" Pos. 39/50 of Pane A (here Pos. 3/4)



Broken Vertical Line in "5" Pos. 39/50 of Pane B (here Pos. 3/4)



Tête-bêche Gutter Block, Plate 2



Tête-bêche Gutter Block, Plate 3



Dot in "5" Pos. 45/50 Pane B



Broken Top Serif of "1" Pos. 21/50 of Pane A (here Pos. 1/4)



Surcharge Shifted Upward

Peking Scenery Issue
Varieties



Transposed 2nd and 3rd Characters, Pos. 19/50 Pane A. Here Pos. 3/6 with pre-printing paper fold. Clerks were told to cut it from sheets and very few survived.



Green Shade
Imprint Block with Guide Line and Audit Number



Damaged "0"
in "40"



Imperforate
Vertical
Pair



Damaged "Yi"
(4th character)



Plate Scratch (UR)
Imperforate with
Imprint



Surcharge Shifted
Upward

Peking Scenery Issue



July 20, 1949, Canton to Berlin, Germany, via Siberia, overpaid by 5¢ the over 20g surface rate
 Refutes the August 20 issue date in philatelic books and catalogues and supports the
 July 14 issue date set forth in Chinese Directorate General of Posts publications.



Double Overprint on Imperforate Pair
 (From Only Known Sheet)



Imperforate Horizontal Pair



Quadruple
 Overprint



Transposed 2nd and 3rd Characters
 Pos. 19/50 in Pane A of sheet of 300.
 Clerks were told to cut it from sheets
 and very few survived.

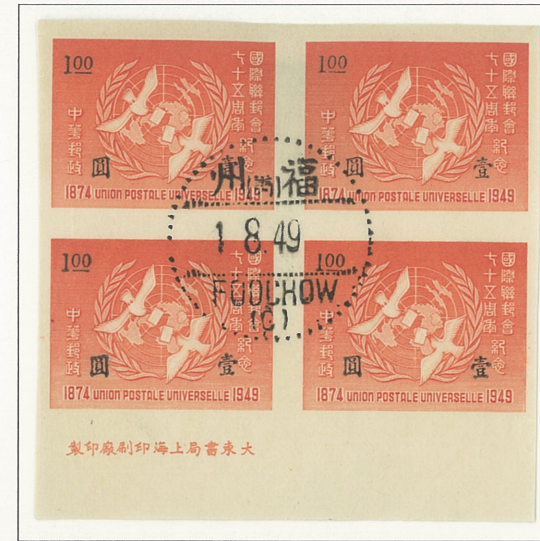
75th Anniversary of the UPU Issue



Basic stamp plate number are 1, 2, 5, 6 and 7



Aug. 29, Swatow, Kwangtung Province
Break in top 1st "0" Pos. 2/4



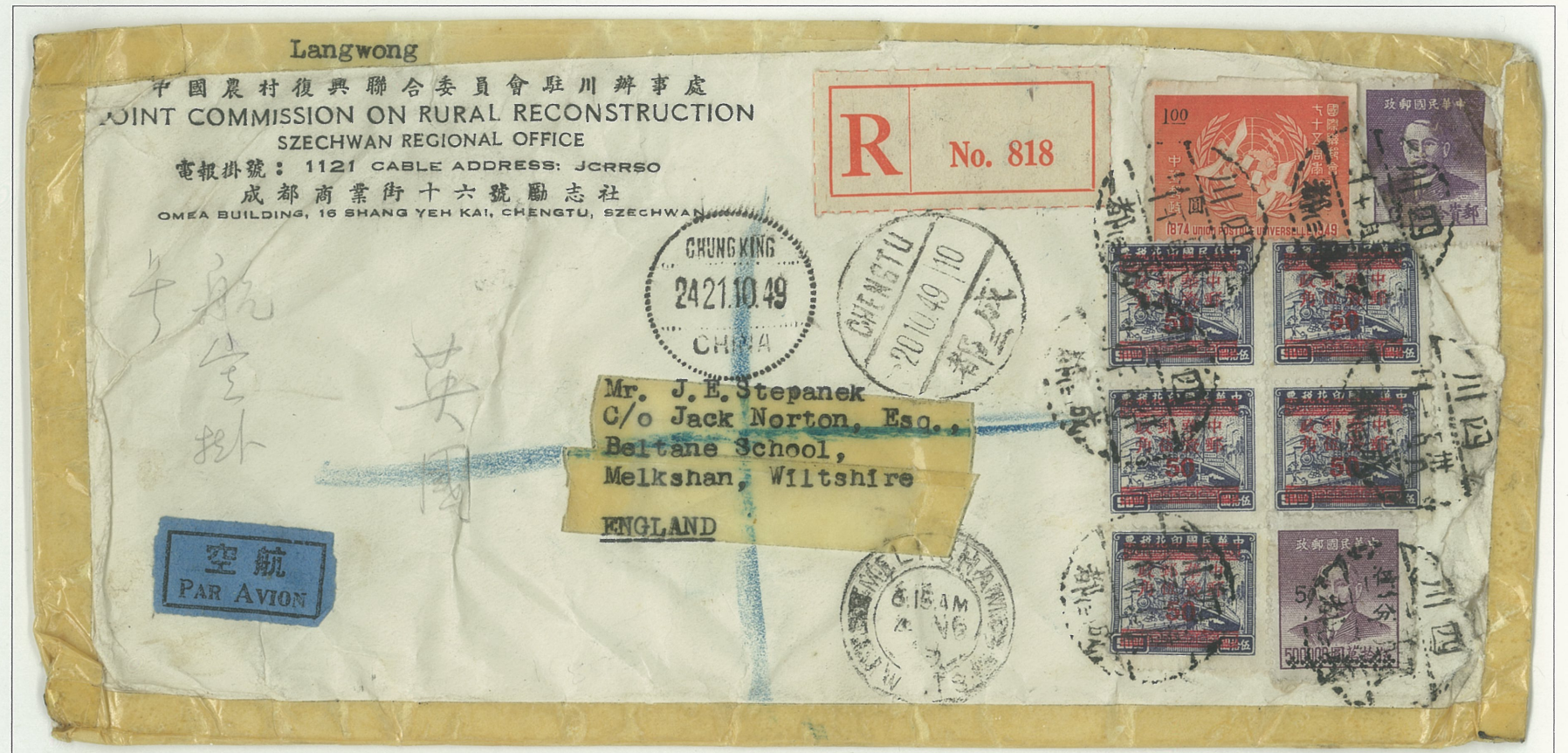
Aug. 1, Foochow (Minhow), Fukien



Aug. 9, Swatow, Kwangtung Province
Break in top 2nd "0" Pos. 1/4



Aug. 1, Canton, Kwangtung Province, surface to the Philippines, overpaid by 85¢.



Oct. 20, 1949, Chengtu, West Szechwan Province, \$3.65 registered airmail to England, via Chungking Oct. 21.



Auditors Chop
at lower left.



Sept. 20, Canton Favor Cancel
San Serif Top of "1" Pos. 1/2



Aug. 6, Swatow
Break In Top of 1st "0"

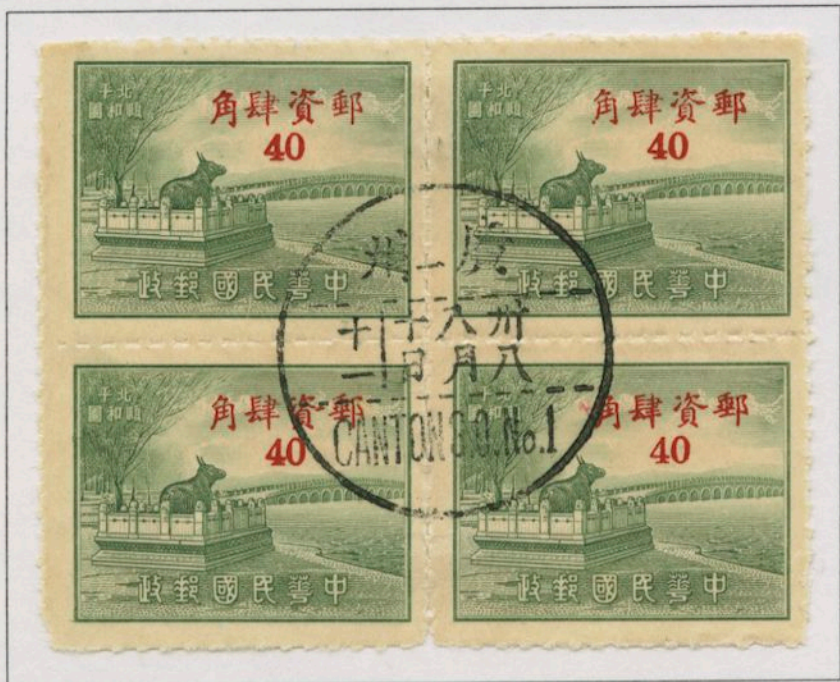


Aug. 13, Kweilin
Kwangsi Province



Aug. 30, Swatow
San Serif Top of "1"

Kwangtung Province (August and early September)



Aug. 10, Canton, Presentation Cancel



Aug. 29, Swatow, Low "4" Pos. 2/4



Sept. 3, Kiangmen, Kwangtung, airmail to USA, 40¢ additional postage on reverse.



Sept. 3, Souchung



Aug. 29, Swatow



Aug. 31, Swatow

Kwangtung Province (September and early October)



Sept. 24, Sanho, Kwangtung Province, airmail to USA.

Hainan Island



Oct. 5, Hinkonghu



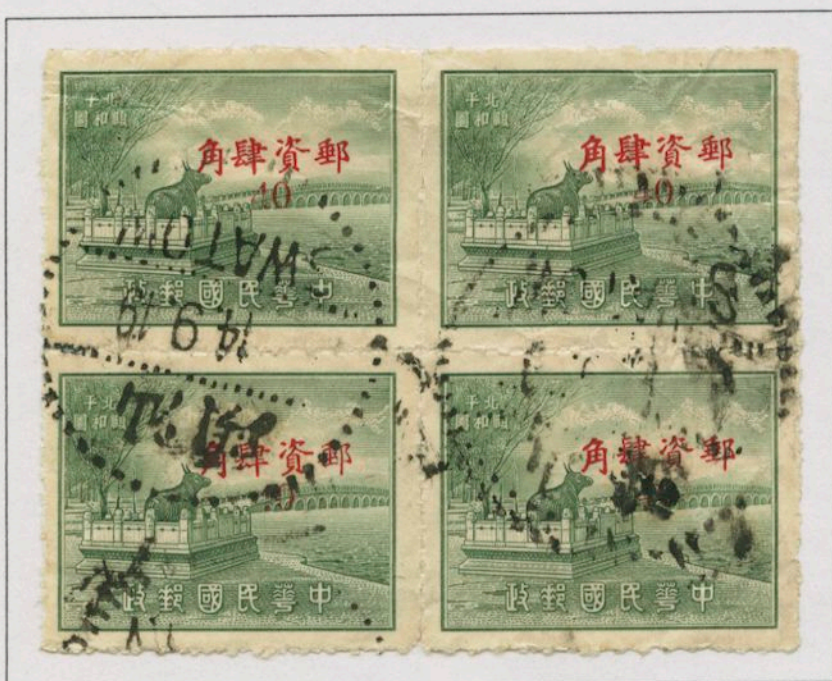
Sept. 8, Toishan



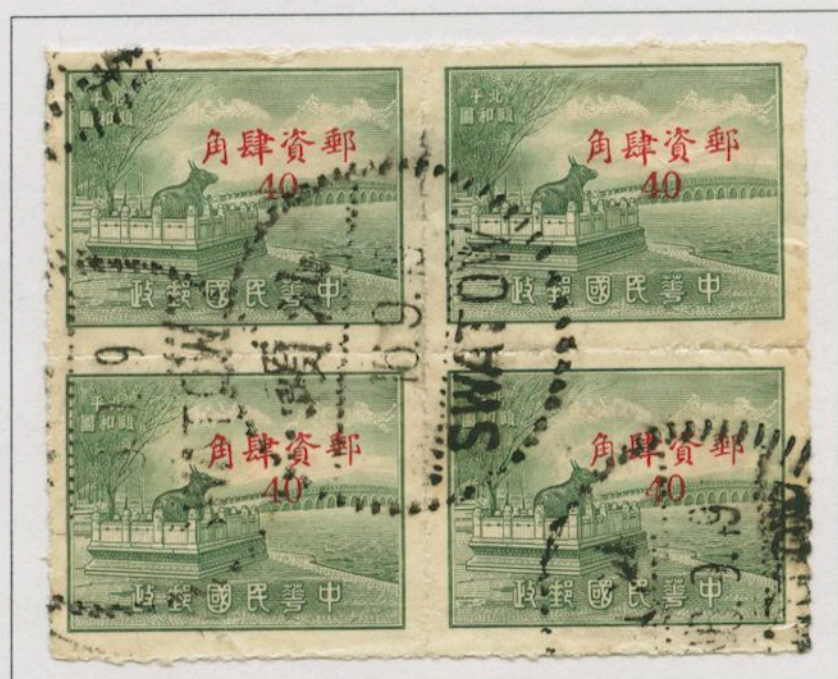
Sept. 9, Hoihow
Fell Apr. 1950



Sept. 12, Suntong



Sept. 14, Swatow



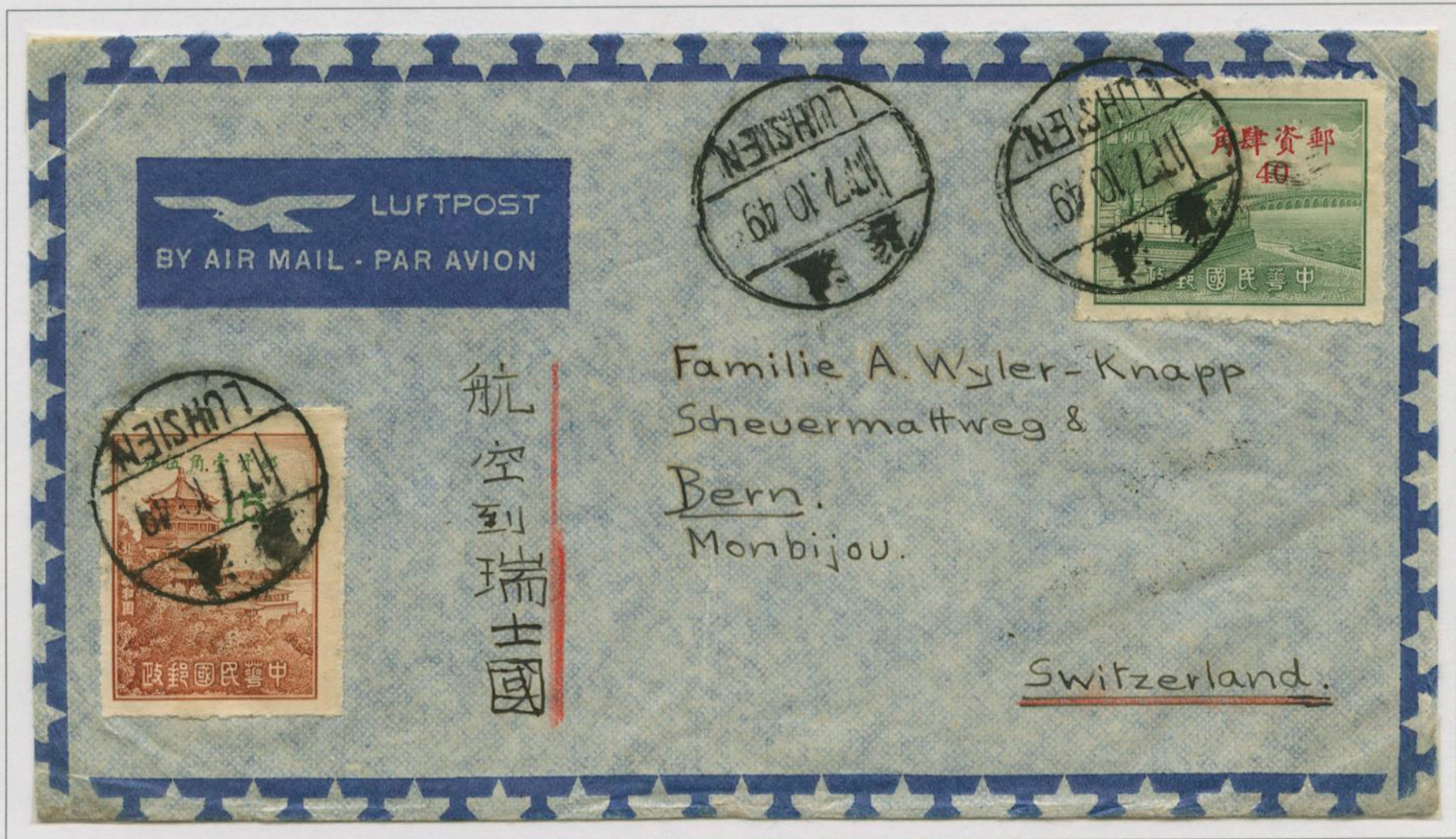
Sept. 16, Swatow

East and West Szechwan Province (September and October)

The Communists did not advance west into Szechwan until after the conquest of all eastern provinces.



Oct. 26, 1949, Chengtu, West Szechwan Province, airmail to USA, via Hong Kong Oct. 27, miss-sent to Brooklyn Nov. 26.



Oct. 7, 1949, Luhsien, East Szechwan Province, airmail to Switzerland, via Chungking Oct. 9.



Oct. 12 Chungking, Szechwan



Sept. 21, Chengtu



Oct. 12, Chengtu,

City of Canton (September and early October)

Canton fell to the Communists on October 15.



Sept. 30, Canton, airmail to USA.



Oct. 4, Takianghu
North of Canton



Oct. 14, Canton OS 7
Day Before It Fell



Sept. 9, Canton

City of Swatow (September)

Swatow fell to the Communists on October 17.



September 25, Swatow, surface to USA



Sept. 8, Swatow, San Serif Top of "1" Pos. 1/4 and 2/4, and break in 1st "0" Pos. 3/4



Sept. 13, Swatow, San Serif Top of "1" Pos. 1/4 and 3/4



Sept. 26, Swatow



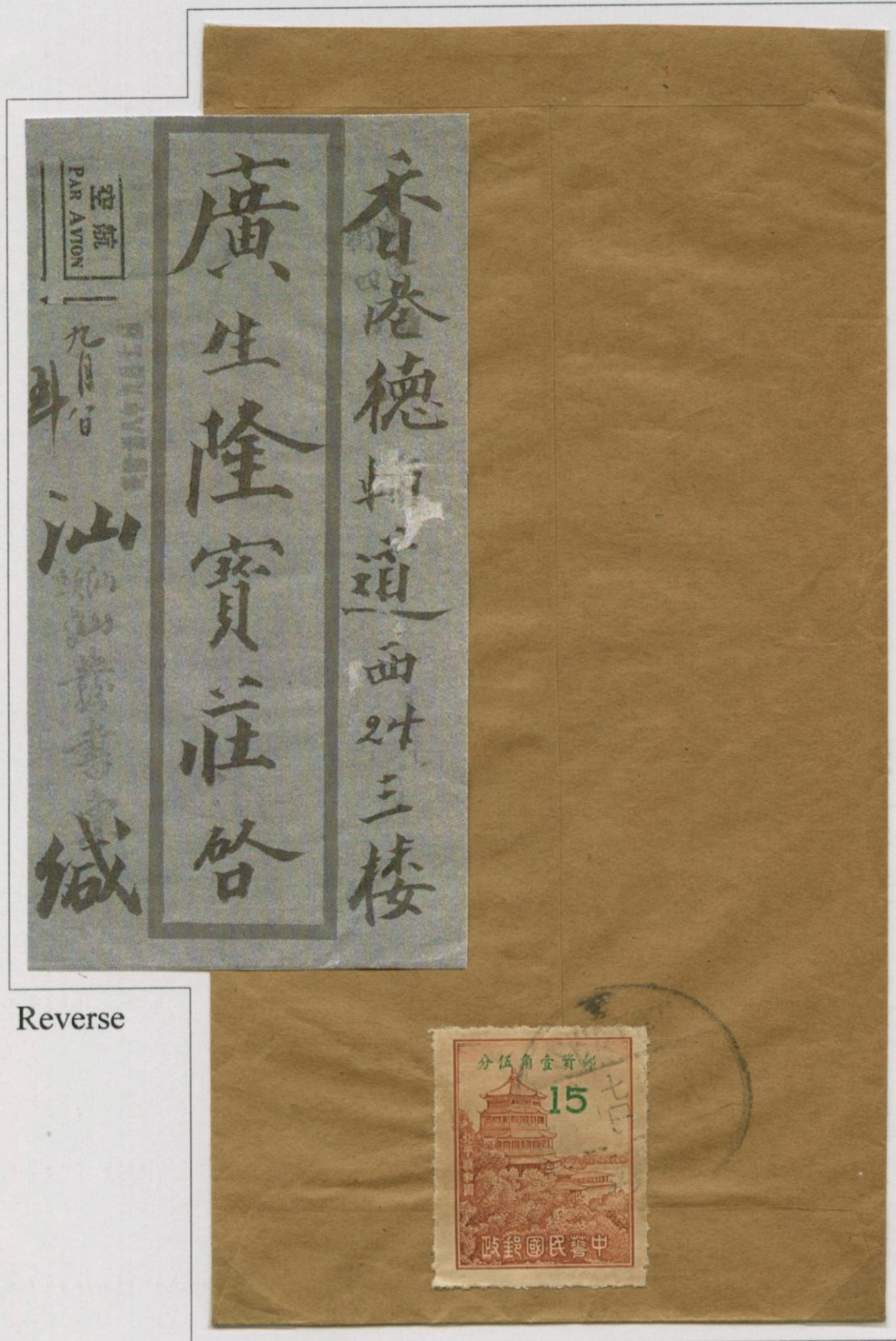
Sept. 29, Swatow



Sept. 13, Swatow

City of Swatow (September and early October)

Swatow fell to the Communists on October 17.



Reverse

Sept. 7, Swatow, Kwangtung, surface to Hong Kong.
Airmail indicia was probably ignored.



Oct. 8, Swatow



Oct. 8, Swatow



Sept. 12, Swatow



Sept. 23, Swatow



Sept. 21, Swatow



Oct. 3, Swatow

Uses in Swatow City after the Communist takeover

After capturing a city the Communist generally tried to quickly discontinue the use of Nationalist stamps to demonstrate their control of the local government. Their victory complete by October 1949, they were not as concerned about impressions.

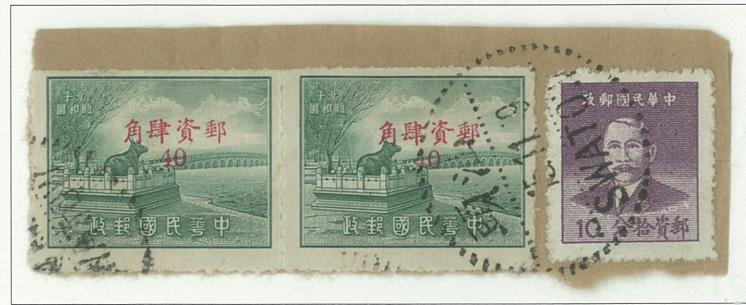
Swatow City fell on October 17, 1949



Oct. 18, Swatow

Nov. 16, Swatow

Oct. 19, Swatow



Nov. 15, Swatow



Oct. 19, Swatow

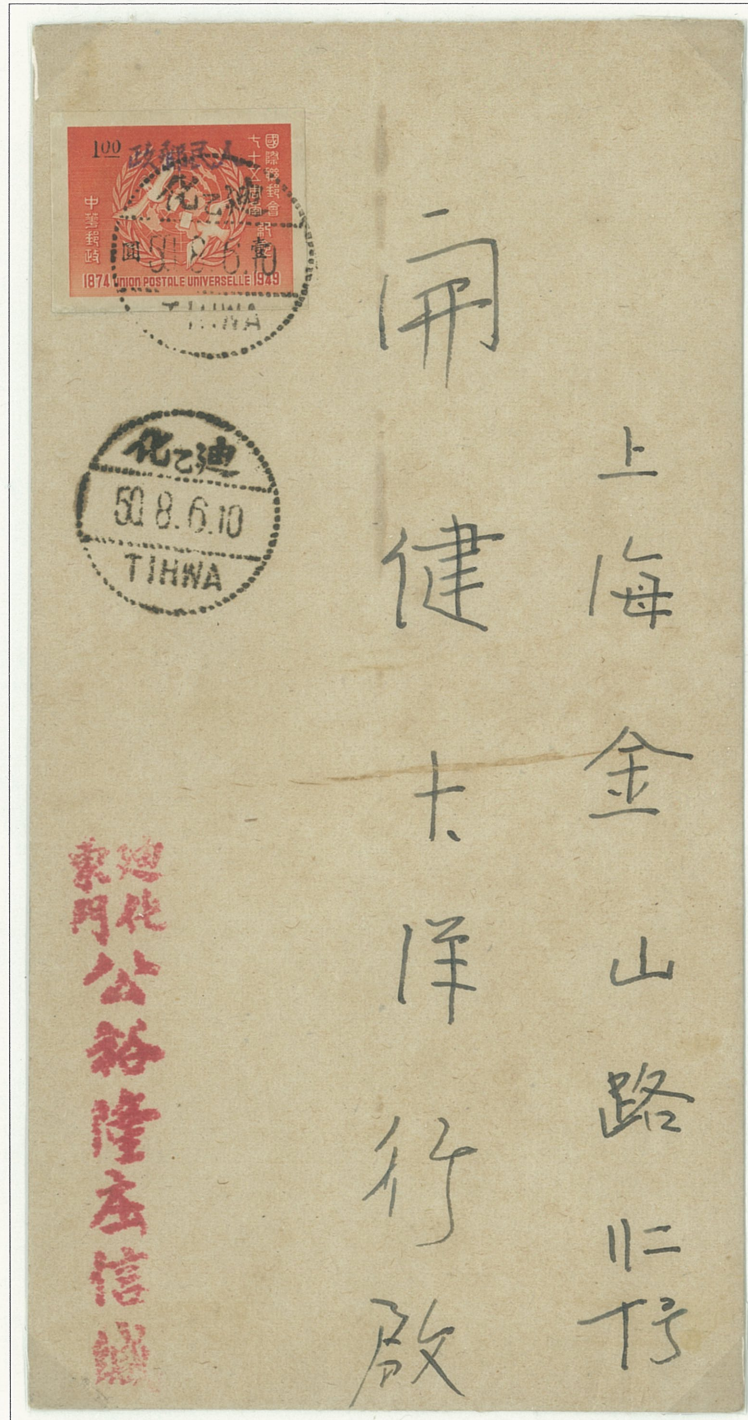


Nov. 9, Kutsing City (south of Canton)



Nov. 24, Swatow

Prepared by the Communists in September 1949 for use in Sinkiang Province



Aug. 6, 1950, Tihwa (Urumtsi), Sinkiang Province, to Shanghai.

Hand Overprinted "People's Postal Administration" with a Wooden Chop
Three Types of Overprints

←13.5mm→
政郵民人

Type A



Type A



Type A

←14.5mm→
政郵民人

Type B

Second character with long vertical stroke



Type B



Type B

←14.5mm→
政郵民人

Type C

Second character with short vertical stroke



Type C



Type C

Only Two Types on the UPU Issue



Type B



Type C