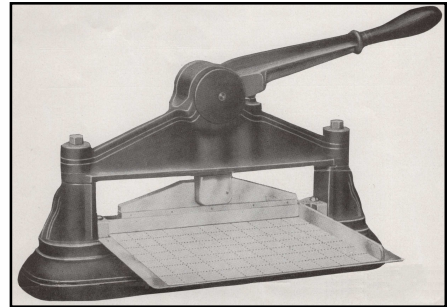


4-HOLE OHMS PERFIN MAIL: FOREIGN DESTINATIONS 1939 – 1952

By federal decree, OHMS perfin use became mandatory as of July 1, 1939. While the aim of the introduction was stated to be better management of postal expenses, the real reason (like all users of Perfins before) was to reduce stamp theft by employees. As a by-product of this introduction, a new branch of Canadian philately – Officials – emerged. While the vast majority of 4-hole OHMS stamps were prepared and used for domestic use, a small percentage of mail was destined for the United States, Great Britain and other overseas nations. This exhibit focuses on calendarizing the use of the Federal Government's 4-hole OHMS perfin mail to Foreign Destinations. Stamps were procured and perforated centrally by the Post Office Department in Ottawa and distributed to all Federal Departments in all 9 provinces and 2 territories across the country. (Newfoundland was added in 1949.) The items shown chronicle the earliest (August 10, 1939) and latest (June 10, 1952) known foreign uses.

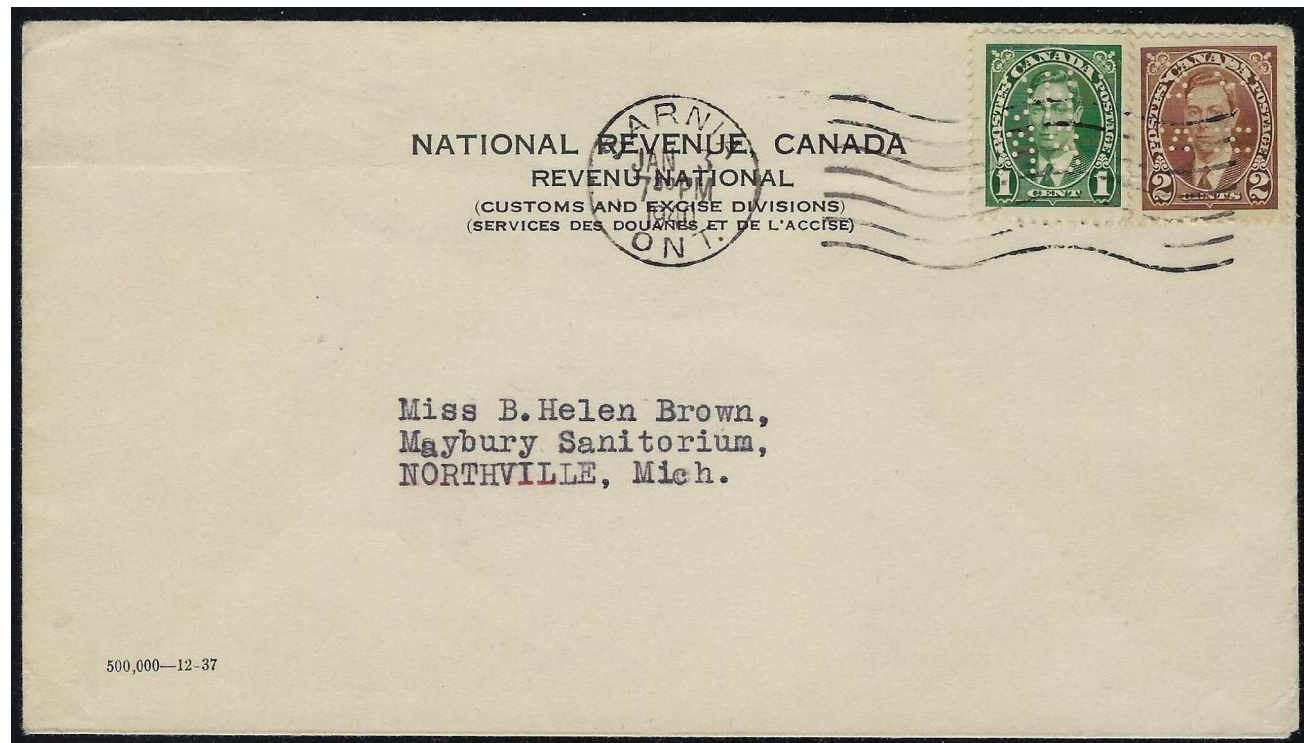
GETTING STARTED WITH TREASURY BOARD APPROVAL

To protect revenues, a Treasury Board directive of March 28, 1939, resolved to order a B.F. Cummins Model #53 single-lever 10-Die perforator for the purpose of perforating stamps for use on all government mail. It was to be managed and operated by the Post Office Department for use beginning on July 1, 1939. The 10-Die machine used a pattern with the letters "OH" above "MS" in 2 lines – OH/MS which is an abbreviation for "On His Majesty's Service". The vertical legs of the H and M have four holes in them, hence the name "4-Hole OHMS". The 6th Edition online BNAPS Perfin catalogue records this pattern as O9. The earliest known foreign destination cover was sent by the Deputy Postmaster General on a Montreal First Flight cover to Southampton, England, August 10, 1939. This machine was replaced in mid-1946 with a very similar machine. So similar was the machine that it took until the 1980's for perfin collectors to positively identify the subtle differences in the OH/MS pattern it produced. This second machine is known as BNAPS perfin pattern O10 and detailed elsewhere in this exhibit.



Cummins Model #53

THE ONLY KNOWN MIXED 5-HOLE & 4 HOLE OHMS COVER TO USA – JANUARY 3, 1940



This National Revenue cover dated January 3, 1940 is **the only known** 5-hole & 4-hole OHMS hybrid perfin cover to the USA. Pays the 3¢ first ounce surface rate for a 90-minute drive from Sarnia, ONT. to Northville, MICH. The 3¢ postage rate is paid using 1¢ 5-hole OHMS (O8-231-1) and a 2¢ 4-hole OHMS (O9-232-4).

EXHIBIT PLAN: (Scarce Items are in **RED ITALICS**)

Frame 1: Introduction and USA Rates	
ONLY KNOWN 5-HOLE & 4-HOLE OHMS TO USA	14¢ SPECIAL DELIVERY TO USA
1c POST BAND w/INVERTED OHMS	14¢ REGISTERED SURFACE TO USA
3c SURFACE – JUNE 15, 1940	17¢ AIRMAIL SPECIAL DELIVERY
NEW 4¢ SURFACE AS OF APRIL 1, 1943	20¢ QUINTUPLE-WEIGHT REGISTERED SURFACE
6¢ INCOMING POSTAGE DUE FROM THE USA	20¢ REGISTERED ONLY TO USA – MIXED O9 OHMS + "G"
7¢ AIRMAIL TO NEW YORK – MIXED w/OHMS OVPT	24¢ DOUBLE-WEIGHT REGISTERED AIRMAIL
10¢ PEACE TOWER CARILLONNEUR SPECIAL DELIVERY	31¢ REGISTERED AIRMAIL SPECIAL DELIVERY
13¢ REGISTRATION - EARLIEST SINGLE USE	\$1.00 REGISTERED DROP LETTER
Frame 2: GB and British Empire Rates	
1¢ PRINTED MATTER TO UNITED KINGDOM	30¢ FIRST FLIGHT COVER TO SOUTHAMPTON
3¢ BRITISH EMPIRE SURFACE TO IRELAND	30¢ AIRMAIL TO INDIA – MAY 7, 1940
3¢ BRITISH EMPIRE POST CARD TO ENGLAND	30¢ PER OUNCE AIRMAIL TO UNITED KINGDOM
NEW 4¢ BRITISH EMPIRE AS OF APRIL 1, 1943	30¢ AIRMAIL TO UNITED KINGDOM
4¢ BRITISH EMPIRE TO AUSTRALIA	30¢ AIRMAIL (Overpaid) TO UNITED KINGDOM
4¢ BRITISH EMPIRE TO IRELAND	MIXED OHMS PATTERNS: 30¢ AIRMAIL TO ENGLAND
4¢ BRITISH EMPIRE TO ENGLAND	50¢ VICTORIA PARLIAMENT to LORD MACMILLAN
10¢ AIRMAIL TO TRINIDAD, BRITISH WEST INDIES	50¢ U.S. CLIPPER AIRMAIL TO AUSTRALIA
14¢ REGISTERED SURFACE TO ENGLAND	60¢ QUADRUPLE AIRMAIL TO ENGLAND
15¢ EARLIEST OHMS O10 AIRMAIL TO UK	75¢ AIRMAIL TO AUSTRALIA
15¢ AIRMAIL TO ENGLAND	MIXED OHMS PATTERNS: 75¢ AIRMAIL TO NEW ZEALAND
15¢ AIRMAIL TO EUROPE (ENGLAND)	UNIQUE \$18.00 FOR 60-OUNCES AIRMAIL TO ENGLAND
Frame 3: Europe Rates	
BELGIUM: 30¢ AIRMAIL (SHORT PAID)	SWITZERLAND: 5¢ NON-BRITISH UPU SURFACE
FRANCE: 5¢ NON-BRITISH EMPIRE UPU SURFACE	SWITZERLAND: 15¢ REGISTERED SURFACE
FRANCE: 25¢ AIRMAIL TO NON-BRITISH UPU	SWITZERLAND: 15¢ AIRMAIL with 7¢ OHMS OVPT
FRANCE: 30¢ EARLY AIRMAIL PERFIN COVER	SWITZERLAND: 15¢ AIRMAIL (LAST FOREIGN OHMS)
GERMANY: 15¢ REGISTERED SURFACE	SWITZERLAND: MAIL TO THE INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS (POW CORRESPONDENCE)
HOLLAND: 3¢ POSTCARD (EARLIEST O10 PERFIN)	
HOLLAND: 15¢ AIRMAIL	SWITZERLAND: 30¢ AIRMAIL TO IRC (w/OAT)
HUNGARY: 1¢ UPU PRINTED PAPERS	SWITZERLAND: 41¢ (13-Ounce) SURFACE TO IRC
ROMANIA: 5¢ NON-BRITISH UPU SURFACE	SWITZERLAND: \$1.20 (2-Ounce) AIRMAIL TO IRC
SWEDEN: 5¢ NON-BRITISH UPU	SWITZERLAND: \$1.80 (3-Ounce) AIRMAIL TO IRC
SWEDEN: UNRECORDED 10¢ (w/OAT)	SWITZERLAND: \$2.10 (3½-Ounce) AIRMAIL TO IRC
SWEDEN: 30¢ AIRMAIL TO STOCKHOLM	
Frame 4: Rest of the World Rates	
ARGENTINA: 30¢ TRIPLE AIRMAIL TO SOUTH AMERICA	CHILE: 1¢ PRINTED PAPERS UPU
BELGIAN CONGO: UNIQUE 75¢ AIRMAIL	COLOMBIA: 4¢ PREFERRED SURFACE
BRAZIL: 3¢ NON-BRITISH EMPIRE UPU POST CARD	COLOMBIA: 35¢ ONE-OUNCE REGISTERED AIRMAIL
BRAZIL: 3¢ SURFACE (AND RETURNED FOR FREE)	DUTCH WEST INDIES: 10¢ PER QUARTER-OUNCE AIRMAIL
BRAZIL: 3¢ PREFERRED SURFACE TO SOUTH AMERICA	ECUADOR: 3¢ PREFERRED POST CARD
BRAZIL: 35¢ SOUTH AMERICA (GROUP D) AIRMAIL	UNIQUE BATTLEFRONT OPERATIONS NORTH AFRICA
CANAL ZONE: UNIQUE 3¢ PREFERRED SURFACE	EPILOGUE