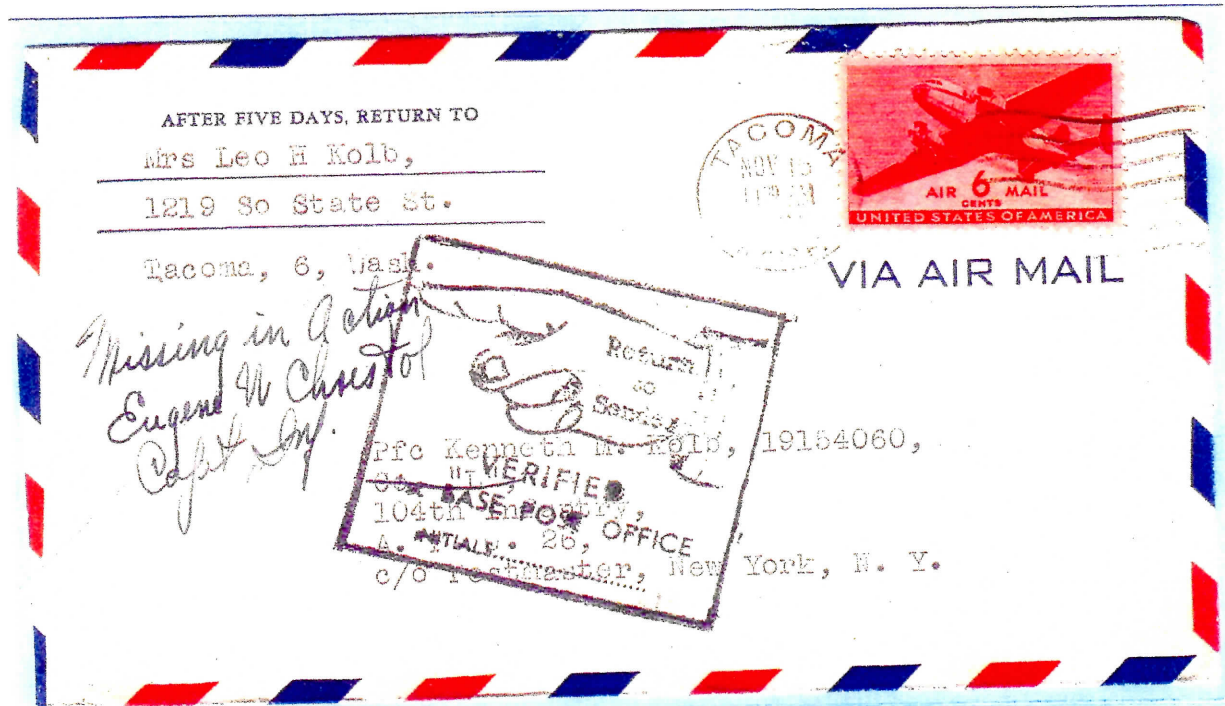


THE 6c U.S. TRANSPORT AIRMAIL ISSUE OF 1941 USAGES & RATES



Example of Wartime Military Usage - "Returned, Missing in Action"

The 6c airmail stamp was part of the Transport Airmail Issue in use from 1941 until the series ended in 1946 and 1947 due to rate changes. Most usage of the 6c occurred during the Second World War years. Military mail and censored mail played a large role in the history of this denomination.

The 6c denomination was issued on June 25, 1941 in Washington, DC and available country-wide the next day. A 6c booklet stamp of the same design was released March 18, 1943. At this time United States airmail stamps were valid only for the payment of airmail rates.

President Roosevelt signed a law on December 13, 1941 allowing for a "concessionary" rate of 6c per ½ oz for mail to and from service personnel serving overseas. The rate came into force December 25, 1941. This was later extended to civilian contractors and Allied forces serving alongside American forces. Mail had to be handled by either an Army Post Office (APO) or a Fleet Post Office (FPO) to be eligible for this rate.

International airmail rates during this period were complex. The 6c stamp was used to pay or make up many of these foreign rates. Rate confusion was solved when "Uniform" international airmail rates were introduced on November 1, 1946.

This exhibit illustrates usages and rates paid with the 6c denomination of the Transport series. The exhibit is organized as follows:

- Domestic
- U.S. Possessions
- Military
- Foreign

● - Indicates a Significant Item