

Pacific Steam Navigation Company Perforated Initial Stamps – Survey Announced

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According to copies of correspondence between the Pacific Steam Navigation (PSN) Company and the Canal Zone (CZ) Postal Service provided by Hugh Cassibry (CZP 97:29), the PSN began perforating CZ stamps to better control their postal expenditures no earlier than very late August, or early September, 1939.

Lawson Entwistle conducted a survey of PSN perforated initial (perfin) stamps in 1984, the results

of which were published in CSP 73:27. Forty-one individuals participated in that survey.

In 1994, I conducted a survey of CZ airmail perfins. Twenty-five of the thirty-two individuals participating in that survey reported having PSN perfin airmail stamps.

A comparison of the two survey results is shown below.

Series	Scott No.	Face Value	Number Reported			Δ	Comments
			1984	1994			
2nd (1st Definitive) "Gaillard Cut"	C7	5¢	25	36	11	Includes 2 covers (one with single C9), 1 double strike Includes 1 newly reported unused copy Includes 1 cover with single C7 Includes 1 pair, 1 double strike	
	C8	6¢	7	20	13		
	C9	10¢	24	33	9		
	C10	15¢	23	25	2		
	C11	20¢	13	23	10		
	C12	30¢	11	11	0		
	C13	40¢	1	2	1		
	C14	\$1	3	4	1		
Series Subtotal			107	154	47		
3rd (Commemorative) "1939 25th Canal Zone Anniversary"	C15	5¢	0	1	1	Still more to be reported ! Previously reported unused example missing	
	C16	10¢	4	2	-2		
	C17	15¢	10	12	2		
	C18	25¢	0	0	0		
	C19	30¢	0	1	1		
C20	\$1	1	1	0			
Series Subtotal			15	17	2		
4th (2nd Definitive) "Globe & Wing"	C22	6¢	15	16	1	Includes 1 cover, 1 strip of 3 or more; previously reported unused example missing.	
	C23	10¢	1	1	0		
	C24	21¢	3	3	0		
Series Subtotal			19	20	1		
Grand Total			141	191	50		

I believe it is now time to repeat the PSN survey and, this time, as was done in 1984, include all CZ stamps and any U. S. stamps that also received perfin PSN. As I did in the official perfin P airmail survey published in CZP 120:34-35, I would like to include the orientation of the perfin.

By email attachment (pammons@tamu.edu) or USPS mail (P.O. Box 1311, College Station, TX 77841), I would like to provide a form on which those willing to participate in this new survey can easily report. Scans or photocopies of covers and multiples would be appreciated.

Editor's notes: The above article is reprinted with permission from a recent issue of the Canal Zone Study Group Journal and introduces an ongoing survey of the Pacific Steamboat Navigation Co.'s "PSN" perfins in both Canal Zone and US stamps (CZ pattern A5; US pattern P225.5). On the next page is reproduced a slightly modified printed form to be used for submitting data. An electronic version of this form is available from p-ammons@neo.tamu.edu or from me (mistrettapaul@bellsouth.net).

The inventory is designed to reflect the number of single, postally used, copies off cover or piece UNLESS the orientation field contains an * and additional information is provided. An "*" along with a number anywhere in the survey sheet indicates that the number given includes other than single, postally used copies off cover / piece (that is items blocks of ? [note number in block], covers, etc.) Mr. Ammons has promised to share the results of this survey once they are compiled.

