

# 1995 ATOMIC BOMB PROTEST LABELS

## HIROSHIMA, NAGASAKI, AND POLITICAL CORRECTNESS

This exhibit presents privately produced “protest labels” published in reaction to the withdrawal and replacement of a proposed 1995 World War II 50th anniversary stamp.

On August 6, 1945, the United States dropped the world’s first atomic bomb on the Japanese city of Hiroshima. Three days later, a second atomic bomb was dropped on Nagasaki. The death toll and annihilation wreaked by these two bombing missions convinced the Japanese emperor and government to surrender, thus ending World War II.

From 1991 to 1995, the United States Postal Service (USPS) annually issued sheetlets of 10 stamps, each commemorating the 50th anniversary of a significant event from WWII. The 1995 sheetlet initially included a stamp recognizing the impact of the atomic bombs on bringing the war to an end. After official protests by the Japanese government and intervention by President Clinton, the stamp was removed from the set and replaced it with a different design showing President Truman announcing Japan’s surrender. The six labels in this exhibit were privately produced in 1995 objecting to this act of “political correctness”.

### Exhibit Organization

Labels are presented in the order in which they were reported in *Linn’s Stamp News* in 1995.

Use on cover is shown for all labels.

Most uses of these labels are on philatelic event or cacheted covers. Except for Bolduc, at least one regular postal use is shown for each label (7 covers); all are tied by the postmark. Four philatelic covers with particularly interesting cachets are shown. The Bolduc cover is a Melissa Fox handpainted EKU (earliest known use) of the Okinawa 1995 sheetlet stamp; the label is tied by the “8/30” notation.

### Scarcity

Based on 25 years of collecting/exhibiting this material, I would assign the following ratings to these labels:

Common: Newhouse/Kaplan  
 Uncommon: Herr, Warda  
 Somewhat scarce: Cowdery  
 Scarce: Giebert  
 Rare: Bolduc

The eBay search I use to find these labels returned 35 lots with the following quantities for each label on 8/15/2020:

30 — Newhouse (18 from one seller w/3 IDs)  
 3 — Herr  
 2 — Warda  
 0 — Cowdery, Giebert, Bolduc



Original Design



Replacement Design

Images above from *Scott Stamp Monthly*, August, 1995, p. 3A.

Original 1995 “Victory at Last” design, from 1994 USPS poster showing designs for stamps to be issued in 1995.



Disclaimer on poster: All stamp designs are preliminary at the time of printing and may be subject to change.

Linn's Stamp News: January 9, 1995.

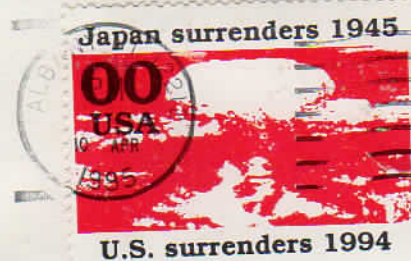
They were issued in three formats:

- 1) Perforated sheet of 20 (4x5)
- 2) Perforated sheetlet of 8 (4x2; 2 varieties)
- 3) Imperf sheetlet of 4 (2x2) with text

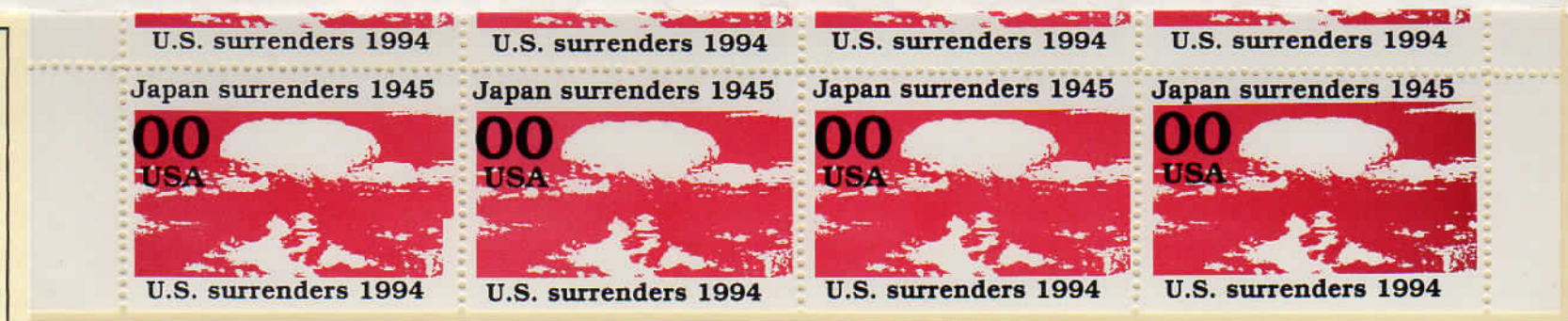
(All sheetlets shown on next page)



BRUCE OR MARIE MENIA  
751 ELM AVE.  
SELKIRK, N.Y. 12158



EFOCC Auction  
P.O. Box 8134  
State College, PA 16803



Japan surrenders 1945



U.S. surrenders 1994

Japan surrenders 1945



U.S. surrenders 1994

Japan surrenders 1945



U.S. surrenders 1994

Japan surrenders 1945



U.S. surrenders 1994

Japan surrenders 1945



U.S. surrenders 1994

Japan surrenders 1945



U.S. surrenders 1994

Japan surrenders 1945



U.S. surrenders 1994

Japan surrenders 1945



U.S. surrenders 1994

Sheetlet  
Varieties

### Japan Surrenders, 1945

In 1937-1945 the Japanese waged a war of conquest against countries in the Pacific region. In 1945 military experts felt they would fight even more fiercely to defend their homeland and that an invasion would take months, costing tens of thousands of American lives. President Truman made the decision to use the newly-developed atomic bomb. The Japanese surrendered in a matter of days, ending the war.

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Japan surrenders 1945



U.S. surrenders 1994

Japan surrenders 1945



U.S. surrenders 1994

Japan surrenders 1945



U.S. surrenders 1994

Japan surrenders 1945



U.S. surrenders 1994

### United States Surrenders, 1994

In 1991-1994 the United States issued a series of postage stamps commemorating the important events of World War II. Although Americans did not object to the commemoration of the Japanese attack of Pearl Harbor, the Japanese objected to a stamp planned for 1995 depicting the atomic bomb blast over Hiroshima. President Clinton surrendered to the Japanese and ordered the Post Office not to issue the stamp.

Japan surrenders 1945



U.S. surrenders 1994

Japan surrenders 1945



U.S. surrenders 1994

Japan surrenders 1945



U.S. surrenders 1994

Japan surrenders 1945



U.S. surrenders 1994

Japan surrenders 1945



U.S. surrenders 1994

Japan surrenders 1945



U.S. surrenders 1994

Japan surrenders 1945



U.S. surrenders 1994

Japan surrenders 1945



U.S. surrenders 1994

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Linn's Stamp News: March 13, 1995.

They were printed in three formats:

- 1) First printing: Perforated sheet of 36 (6x6, line perf: irregular perf intersections)
- 2) Second printing: Perforated sheet of 36 (6x6, comb perf: aligned perf intersections)
- 3) Third printing: Self-adhesive sheet of 36 (6x6) (shown on next page)



Line Perforated Detail  
Irregular perf intersections



Comb Perforated Detail  
Aligned perf intersections

Bottom row of first printing  
(line perf) autographed by  
Newhouse and Kaplan



**History Denied**

Since 1993, the U.S. Postal Service has been designing and issuing stamps to commemorate significant events, places and people in American history. After protest from Japanese government

officials and intervention by President Clinton, the Postal Service reluctantly rescinded a planned stamp commemorating the swift conclusion of WW II through the use of atomic bombs.

This is the only commemorative stamp ever rescinded by the U.S. Postal Service. Ironically, the announcement was made public by the White House on December 7, 1994, exactly 53 years to the

day after Japan's attack on Pearl Harbor. This commemorative poster stamp was created in place of the cancelled stamp to honor the sacrifices made by a generation of Americans.

Corner block of  
second printing  
(comb perf)

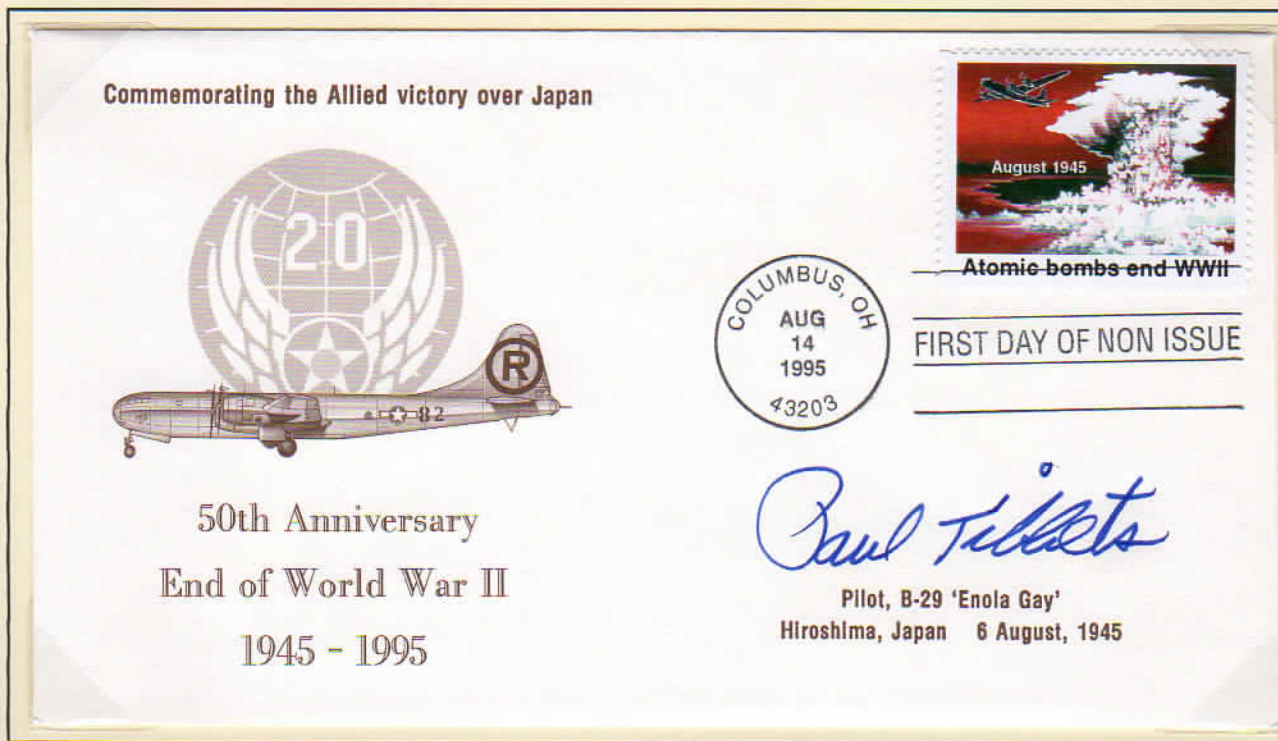
Note differences in lower  
right corner information  
between first (above) and  
second (right) printings.

Mid Coast Marketing  
1820 E. Broad St. #106  
Columbus, Ohio 43203  
© Newhouse/Kaplan 1995  
614.253.1946

Newhouse had initially prepared a similar protest label prior to publishing these Kaplan designed labels. Newhouse used these forerunners on his personal correspondence. They were not sold to the public; image not available.



United States of America  
1820 E. Broad St.  
Columbus, Ohio  
43203  
Newhouse/Kaplan  
1995



“First Day of Non Issue” cover

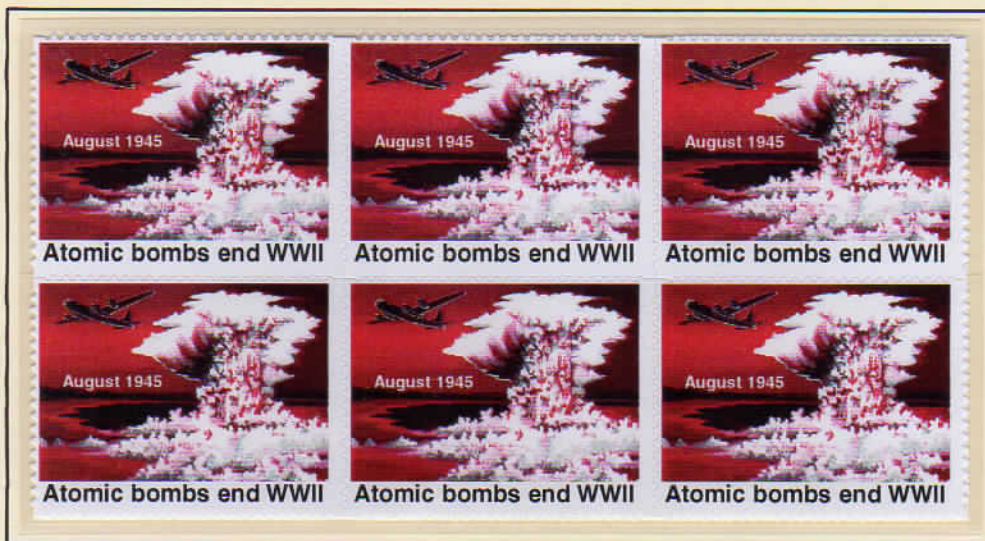
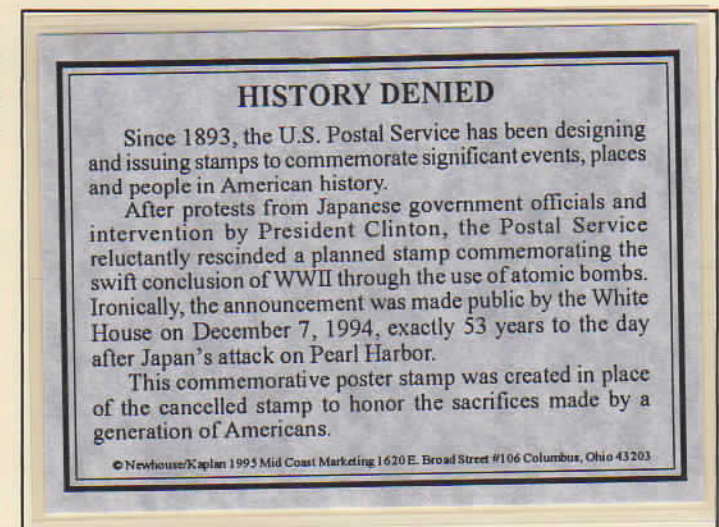
Cover is signed by Paul Tibbets, the pilot of the Enola Gay, the B-29 bomber that dropped the atomic bomb on Hiroshima.

Self-adhesive label

Reverse of publisher prepared card with a labels block of 4 (line perf). This “History Denied” text appears regularly in Newhouse/Kaplan material.

A card with this same text is on reverse of Tibbets signed cover (above).

Also see bottom selvage on first printing sheet on previous page.



Block of self-adhesives,  
die cut 13.5

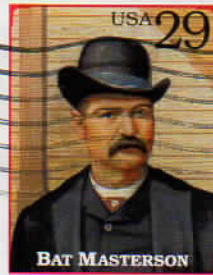
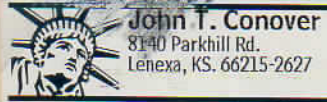


Newhouse reports the existence of bootleg copies of his labels.

This is a recent self-adhesive bootleg copy, differing from the 1995 version having 9.5 die-cuts and being 2mm narrower with a different text font.

LOUISVILLE STAMP SOCIETY, INC.

Lloyd R. Lotz Sr  
506 Hillside Lane  
Louisville, KY 40207



06 0751

JAMES E. SMITH

P.O. Box 369

Gobles, Michigan 49055

Perforated, first printing (line perf, above)

Perforated, second printing (comb perf, left)

Self-adhesive (below)



95 Lee Boulevard  
PO Box 1890  
Richland WA 99352



MUSEUM STATION  
RICHLAND WA 99352  
1<sup>ST</sup> ANNIVERSARY



29  
AUGUST  
1998

EXTRA The Villager EXTRA

VOLUME 1 Historic Japan War Historical Washington Tuesday, August 18, 1998 NUMBER 24

PEACE!

OUR BOMB CLINCHED IT!

# UNISSUED STAMP

A STAMP TO BE ISSUED TO COMMEMORATE THE DROPPING OF ATOMIC BOMBS ON JAPAN FIFTY YEARS AGO HAS BEEN DROPPED FROM THE NEW STAMP PROGRAM UNDER THE PRESSURE FROM PRESIDENT CLINTON AS WELL AS SOME JAPANESE ORGANIZATIONS.

ORIGINAL DESIGN  
JAPANESE COMPLAIN →

REVISED VERSION →  
NOW, AMERICANS OBJECT

TO BE ISSUED WITH TRUMAN OVERPRINT



*Atomic bombs hasten war's end. August 1945*

*Atomic bombs hasten extermination of all Japs*

*Atomic bombs hasten WORLD's end*



**PERMPEX SALUTES  
THE A BOMB  
2 DECEMBER 1995**



↑ **THIRD ALTERNATIVE  
RUSH LIMBAUGH DISAGREES**

**H.N.LOCAL POST**

No. 882 A #10

Hideaki Nakano  
630 Herrick Ave.,  
Detroit, MI 48202

*"Atomic bombs didn't end WWII. People did."*

HANDCOLORED HNL P  
LIMITED EDITION OF 60 COVERS

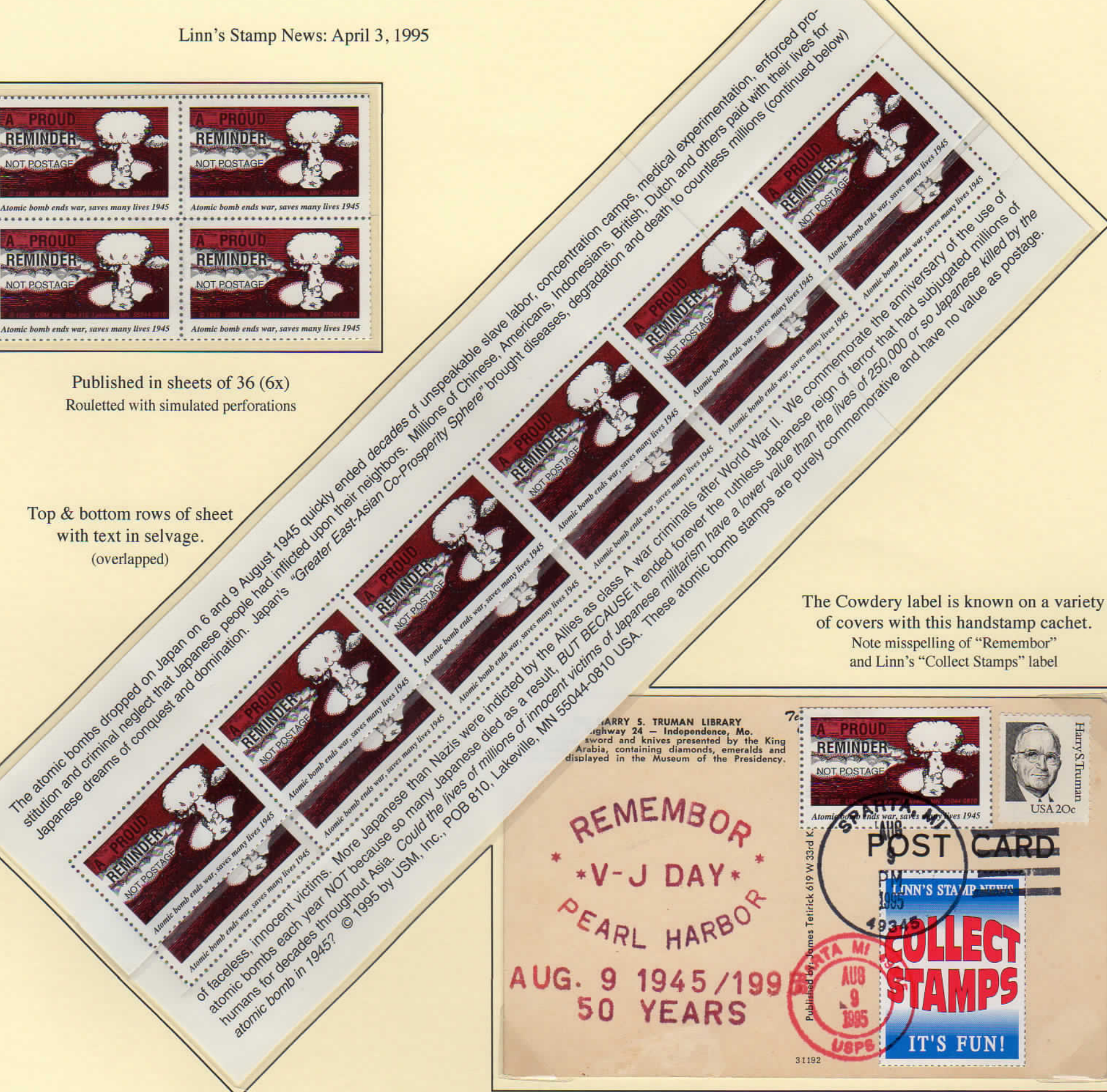
Hideki Nakano Cover

Nagano is well-known for his irreverent covers  
Note his HN perfin on the Truman replacement stamp



Published in sheets of 36 (6x)  
Rouletted with simulated perforations

Top & bottom rows of sheet  
with text in selvage.  
(overlapped)



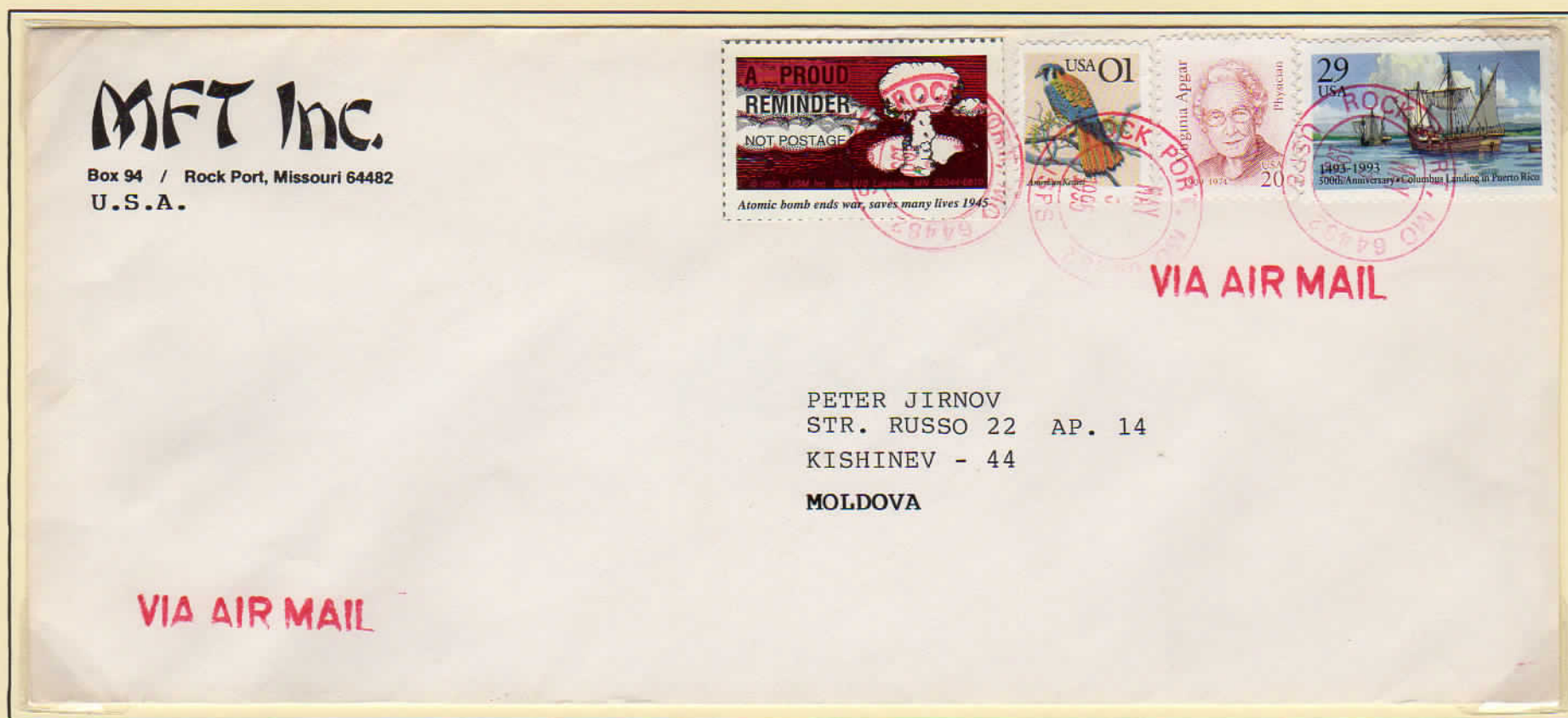
The Cowdery label is known on a variety of covers with this handstamp cachet. Note misspelling of "Remember" and Linn's "Collect Stamps" label







Walcopec Show Cover  
Lake Geneva, Wisconsin  
September 10, 1995



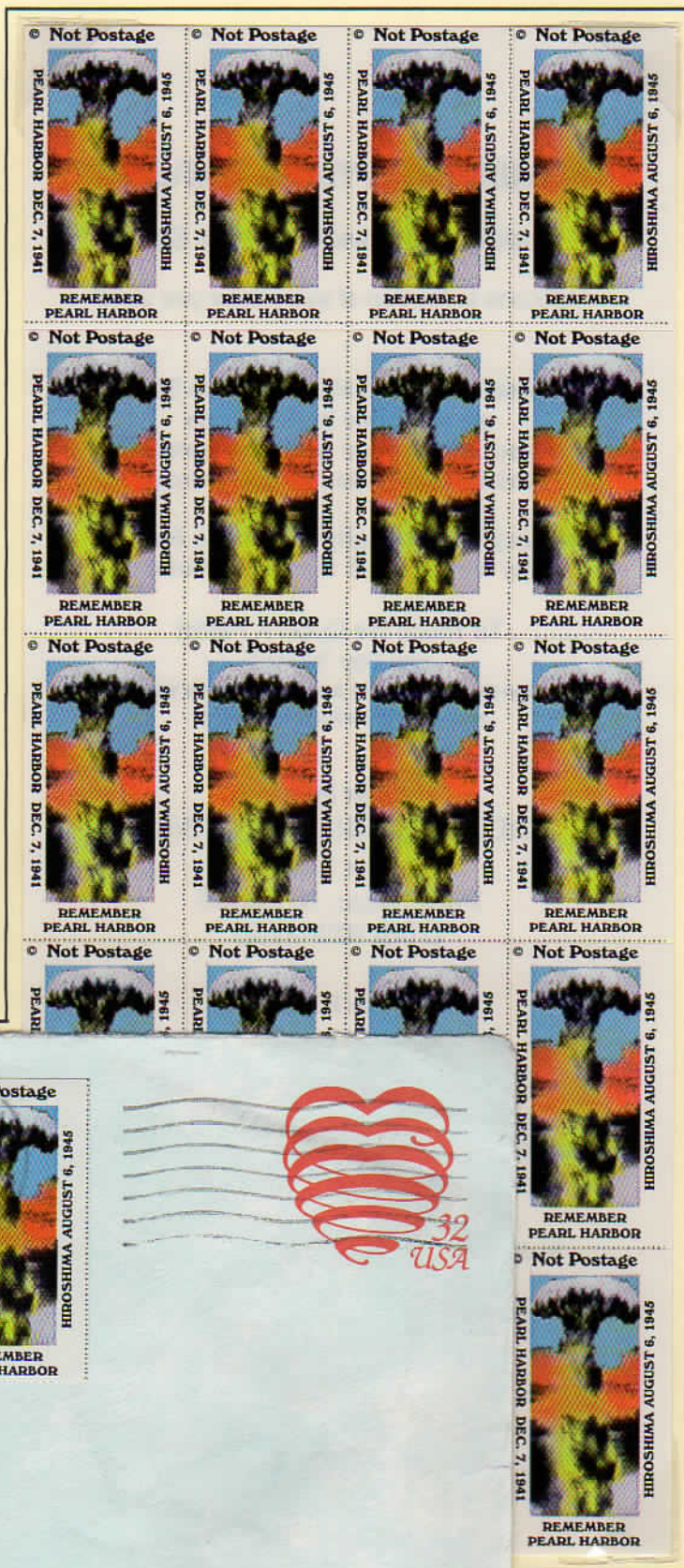
Postal use to Moldova  
Correct 50¢ airmail postage

Linn's Stamp News: May 15, 1995

Published in sheets of 20 (4x5)  
Rouletted, simulated perforations



If there hadn't been a  
**Pearl Harbor**  
There wouldn't have been a  
**Hiroshima**



A Fracchia  
24845 Metric Dr  
Moreno Valley, CA 92557



ELA AUCTIONS, INC.,  
341 SOQUEL AVE.  
SANTA CRUZ, CA 95062

95062+2303



**Rev. Hector L. Bolduc**  
Gilford, New Hampshire

Linn's Stamp News:  
October 30, 1995

Published in sheets of 24 (6x4)  
Self-adhesive

On President Truman/Melissa Fox hand-painted 50th anniversary of V-J Day cover.

**Earliest known use (EKU) of Okinawa issue from 1945 Victory at Last sheetlet**

Official release September 2, 1995.  
This is 19 days early.



R.P. Gilbert  
Memphis, Tennessee



This label was not covered  
in Linn's. Based on the  
cover postmark (October  
30, 1995), it was clearly  
published in 1995.

Published in sheets  
of 25 (5x5)  
Rouletted



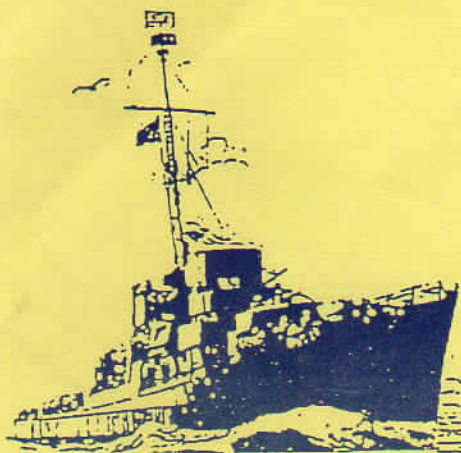
To Reorder: Danbury Imaging 17 Main St. Danbury, CT 06810

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522 E. KENILWORTH AVE.  
VILLA PARK, IL 60181-2761



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PEWAUKEE WI 53072



**U.S.S. MUIR**

**D.E. 270**

