

November 2004

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Wrapper, flown on first day of U.S. regular airmail service



This outstanding wrapper piece was flown on the initial attempt to fly regular United States airmail from Washington to New York, May 15, 1918. There were apparently two additional Curtiss “Jenny” 24-cent stamps on this wrapper, making the total eleven, paying the 11 ounce airmail rate. The rate included special delivery service to the addressee.

The mail plane crashed in Waldorf, Maryland. The mail was brought back to Washington and subsequently was flown north by Lt. James Edgerton on the 16th.

This is the only known parcel wrapper flown on the first flight. It is a very important first flight and crash item.