

ORDER OF THE POSTMASTER GENERAL

AVAILABILITY STATEMENTS

Under regulations of the War Manpower Commission it is necessary for an individual to secure a statement of availability from his last place of employment before he can be employed elsewhere.

Where an individual has been separated from the postal service or is resigning without the right of reemployment, postmasters and other field officials should complete the availability statements.

This order does not change in any way the order published in *THE POSTAL BULLETIN* of May 4, 1942, which requires all requests for transfers to be handled through the Post Office Department and the Civil Service Commission at Washington, D. C.

INSTRUCTIONS OF SECOND ASSISTANT POSTMASTER GENERAL

AIR MAIL SERVICE

AM-49

Effective September 27, 1943, Air Mail Service will be inaugurated at Ripley, W. Va., on route AM-49 between Spencer and Charleston, W. Va.

No official cachet for first flight covers will be authorized. However, souvenir covers received by the postmaster at Ripley will be dispatched to first flights, if practicable.

INSTRUCTIONS OF THIRD ASSISTANT POSTMASTER GENERAL

COMMEMORATIVE STAMPS—OVERRUN COUNTRIES GREECE

Postmasters and employees of the Postal Service are advised that a 5-cent postage stamp honoring Greece, the eighth stamp in the Overrun Countries Series, will be first placed on sale October 12, 1943, at Washington, D. C. Announcements concerning the remaining stamps in the series will appear later.

The central design of the Greece stamp is a reproduction of the flag of that country in natural colors—blue and white—with the name "Greece" printed underneath in blue. The stamp will be of the special-delivery size, 0.84 by 1.44 inches in dimensions, arranged horizontally and issued 50 stamps to a sheet.

Stamp collectors desiring first-day cancelations of the stamp for Greece on October 12, 1943, may send a limited number of addressed envelopes, not in excess of 10, to the Postmaster, Washington 13, D. C., with cash or money-order remittance to cover cost of the stamps required for affixing. **Postage stamps and personal checks will not be accepted in payment for stamps, and requests for uncanceled stamps must not be included with orders for first-day covers.** Envelopes used for covers should be of ordinary letter size, and each envelope properly addressed. An enclosure of medium weight should be inserted in each cover and the flap sealed or turned in. Each envelope should be pencil-marked in the upper right corner to show the number of stamps to be affixed and the name of the country. Covers for other stamps of the Overrun Countries Series should not be included with the order for Greece first-day covers.

Stamps of this series desired for postage purposes should be purchased at the local post office. Stamps of selected quality for collection may be obtained on mail order sent to the Philatelic Agency, Post Office Department, Washington 25, D. C. Stamps are sold through this agency at face value, plus return mailing charges. To insure prompt shipment, mail orders to the Philatelic Agency for the Greece stamp should not include other stamp issues. **The Philatelic Agency does not service first-day covers.**

Postmasters at direct and central-accounting offices may submit separate requisitions on Form 3201-A, to reach the Department not later than October 4, 1943, for a limited supply of the 5-cent Greece stamp, endorsed "Greece," shipment of which will be made as soon as the printed stock is available. Postmasters at district-accounting offices may obtain small quantities of this stamp by requisition on the central-accounting post office. **Postmasters are cautioned not to place this stamp on sale before October 13, 1943.**

Requisitions shall not be submitted for any of the remaining stamps in the Overrun Countries Series until further notification is received.

STOLEN MONEY-ORDER FORMS

Since July 1, 1943, blank domestic money-order forms printed for use at the offices named below have been reported stolen. Numbers inclusive:

East Saint Louis, Sta. 7, Ill., 106316 to 106400, September 9, 1943.

Eleazer, N. C., 2931 to 3000, August 25, 1943.

Elk Basin, Wyo., 26606 to 26800, September 3, 1943.

HAMMOND, STA. 1, IND., 127686 to 127800, September 14, 1943.

Newark, Sta. 20, N. J., 177921 to 178000, July 29, 1943.

Rosedale, Ind., 185705 to 185800, September 9, 1943.

Summit, S. C., 7253 to 7256, August 10, 1943.

Tracys Landing, Md., 19201 to 20000, September 9, 1943.

On receipt of this notice the postmaster will carefully examine his records to ascertain whether any of these forms have already been paid at his office, and if the coupon of any such order is found, he should promptly report that fact to the post-office inspector in charge of his division. If any person should present one of the orders for payment, he should be detained for questioning, if possible, and the post-office inspector and local officers summoned. If the offender flees, the postal employee should record the description of the fugitive and of any accomplice, together with the number of state license and make of car, if one is used. The information secured should be telegraphed or telephoned (Government rate collect) to the inspector in charge if an inspector is not available.

A postmaster should also telegraph or telephone the inspector in charge in case of theft of forms from his office, being careful to give the correct serial numbers. Under no circumstances should orders be issued on such forms in event of their recovery.

INSTRUCTIONS OF FOURTH ASSISTANT POSTMASTER GENERAL

NECESSITY FOR CONSERVING THE USE OF TWINE

The need for the conservation of supplies, equipment, and materials required in the operation of the Postal Service so as to relieve material and production demands being made upon industry by the war agencies was brought to the attention of the personnel of the field service of the Department in *THE POSTAL BULLETIN* of January 14, 1942, and May 12, 1943.

The increased volume of mail being handled at the present time has resulted in unusually heavy requests for twine being received from postmasters. In addition, there has been a material increase in the amount of twine being supplied to the postal units attached to our armed forces. This has caused the available stocks of twine to be reduced to the point where it is giving the Department grave concern, and the strictest economy must be exercised to prevent the stocks from becoming depleted. As a matter of fact, the issue of twine at the present time is in excess of the receipt, and it can be readily understood that this condition cannot exist indefinitely.

It is believed a good portion of the increased usage of twine can be attributed to the fact that the many new employees in the field service, who are engaged in dispatching mail, have not received instructions in the proper method in tying out mail; also, the experienced employees have become careless and are using more twine than is necessary.

The standard method for tying out mail is as follows:

Full boxes, two wraps lengthwise, two crosswise.

Boxes half full, one wrap lengthwise, two crosswise.

Boxes less than half full, one wrap lengthwise, one crosswise.

Postmasters and other officials in the field service of the Post Office Department, who have supervision over personnel engaged in tying out mail, are directed to issue the necessary instructions regarding tying out mail and to see to it that repeated checks are made of packages of mail dispatched so that these instructions are complied with.

INSTRUCTIONS OF THE SOLICITOR

FRAUD ORDER NOTICE

(Dr. Marco A. Saldana and Sra. Emilia Flores)

On September 7, 1943, a fraud order was issued against Dr. Marco A. Saldana and Sra. Emilia Flores, at Gomez Palacio, Durango; Torreon, Coahuila; and Ciudad Juarez, Chihuahua, Mexico.

All mail addressed to these parties should be returned to senders stamped "Fraudulent: Mail to this address returned by order of Postmaster General," and no money orders in favor of said parties should be issued or certified.