

## Chapter 41

### Plate Numbers 31000-31999

Plate number 31000 was assigned to an offset plate for the 6c Botanical Congress stamp in April, 1969, and plate 31999 was assigned to an offset plate for the 6c South Carolina stamp in June, 1970. The historic Man on the Moon resulted in a commemorative stamp in perhaps the biggest news event of the 15 months of the 31000 section. Most of the plates in this section were assigned to the 6c flag stamps and to commemoratives. The 9 color Huck press consumed 501 of the plate numbers. The 1970 Christmas stamps were printed by a private contractor using the photogravure method. These stamps used plate numbers in the BEP's postage stamp plate number series.

The Prominent Americans series seemed to be a minor event in this section with only 134 plates assigned. Never before had the current regular issue of stamps used such a small percentage of the plate numbers. The 6c Eisenhower stamp replaced the 6c Roosevelt and this was probably due to politics. The 400 subject booklets remained almost unobtainable as only 2 of the 18 plates were found. The coils were really tough with 19 of 39 plates unreported. The sheet plates are no problem to locate except for 6c Roosevelt plate 31462 which printed only 2352 impressions and is known only precancelled. Only 105 Prominent Americans plates went to press with 22 unreported.

The flag definitives were quite active in this section. The 6c flag sheet stamp run on the Giori press ended with 25 plates to press and some of these are troublesome to locate. The 9 color Huck press began printing the 6c flag sheet stamp which was then issued in August, 1970. Many matched set plate block collectors had apparently given up on the 9 color Huck press after the 1968 and 1969 Christmas issues and the number of plate number copies saved on the 6c flag seems to have dropped dramatically. 41 plates were used on this stamp and none is rare but completion is not easy. The 6c flag coil used the most plates in this section with 208 going to press. Only two have been found, probably from the same find that found the 6c flag coil plates mentioned in the 30000 section chapter.

The big news in the commemoratives involved Christmas stamps. The 1969 Christmas stamp was printed by the 9 color Huck press. This time, only two of the three printing units were put to use and the sheet margins showed streams of red and green plate numbers. This issue did not begin to approach the complexity of the 1968 issue. The experiments on the new press were over and far fewer plates were required to print this stamp. George Godin studied the plate usage on this stamp and was able to come up with a list of all possible strip combinations. I am not aware of any collector completing all possible plate strips of this stamp. 65 red plates and 119 green plates were used on this stamp and completion is possible since there are no rare plates. But some plates are scarce, and many collectors seemed to ignore this stamp, so completion

is not easy. This stamp was experimentally precancelled for use in four cities and plates showing the precancel add interest to a plate number display of this stamp.

A few collectors, including myself, were hoping for a third 9 color Huck Christmas stamp in 1970 but it was not to be. The post office farmed this issue out to a private contractor and the stamps were printed by photogravure using plate numbers in the BEP's series. An extra item of interest here is that the 6c Nativity stamp and the 6c Toys stamps were intentionally precancelled for use in 68 cities. The precancel lines were printed from one of the plates so these stamps have different plate number combinations from the un-precancelled stamps.

The remainder of the commemoratives were intaglio and offset-intaglio printed and the plate numbers can be easily found. 436 plates were assigned to the commemoratives with 390 to press and 313 available to collectors. All 313 plates are reported.

77 plates were assigned for air mail stamps with 46 to press and 32 available to collectors. The two 10c air mail coil plates are unreported. The 1959 Lincoln air mail stamp ended its run with four plates. The last two, 31615 and 31648, are scarce and hard to find. The 10c Moon Landing commemorative generated a lot of interest and 15 plates were required to print this stamp and all are common.

The special delivery rate increased to 45c and all nine plates used for this stamp appear in this section. Plate 31492 is a bit scarcer than the others but none of these nine plates is really difficult.

The 30000 section set a new low in that only 624 of the 1000 plates assigned were available to collectors. This low record was smashed by the 31000 section. 824 plates went to press, but only 514 are available to collectors. But since relatively few of the plates used were booklet and 432 subject coil plates, a high percentage of the available plates can be found. An aggressive collector can shoot for a 90% completion rate since only 19 plates were unreported.

Is it possible for the number of available plates in a section to fall even further? This burning question will be answered as we look at the 32000 section in the next chapter.

## Chapter 41-31000

		31000 Series Totals					
Series	Subject	Plate Type	Assigned	To Press	Available	Unreported	I Have
	(totals)		1000	824	514	19	
7th Bureau Series (Prominent Americans)							
1965	1c Jefferson	400R	11	11	11	0	
1965	1c Jefferson book	400R	6	6	2	0	
1965	6c Roosevelt	400R	14	7	7	0	
1965	6c Roosevelt book	360R	4	1	1	1	
1965	6c Roosevelt book	400R	8	4	0		
1965	6c Roosevelt coil	432R	43	31	31	11	
1965	8c Einstein	400R	6	5	5	0	
1965	12c Ford	400R	4	4	4	0	
1965	25c Douglass	400R	2	2	2	0	
1965	30c Dewey	400R	2	2	2	0	
1965	40c Paine	400R	2	2	2	0	
1965	50c Stone	400R	2	2	2	0	
1965	\$1 O'Neill	400R	2	2	2	0	
1970	6c Eisenhower	400R	8	8	8	0	
1970	6c Eisenhower book	360R	4	2	2	0	
1970	6c Eisenhower book	400R	8	8	3	0	
1970	6c Eisenhower coil	432R	8	8	8	5	
Flags Series							
1968	6c Flag	400R	36	25	25	0	
1968	6c Flag	80R	49	41	41	0	
1968	6c Flag Coil	72R	258	208	2	0	
Commemoratives							
1969	6c Botannical Congress	200R	1	1	1	0	
1969	6c Botannical Congress c	200L	11	10	0		
1969	6c California	200R	11	10	10	0	
1969	6c California offset	200L	2	1	0		
1969	6c Christmas red	40R	67	65	65	0	
1969	6c Christmas green	40R	127	119	119	0	
1969	6c Dartmouth	200R	4	4	4	0	
1969	6c Powell	200R	10	8	8	0	
1969	6c Powell offset	200L	6	5	0		
1969	6c Alabama	200R	10	8	8	0	
1969	6c Alabama offset	200L	6	6	0		
1969	6c Football	200R	9	8	8	0	
1969	6c Football offset	200L	6	1	0		
1969	6c Baseball	200R	11	9	9	0	
1969	6c Baseball offset	200L	8	8	0		
1969	6c Eisenhower	128R	10	8	8	0	
1969	6c Crippled Children	200R	11	8	8	0	
1969	6c Crippled Children offse	200L	8	8	0		
1969	6c Harnett	128R	15	14	14	0	
1969	6c Harnett offset	128L	12	8	0		
1970	6c Natural History	128R	19	16	16	0	
1970	6c Natural History offset	128L	22	20	0		

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1970	6c Masters	200R	9	7	7	0	
1970	6c Masters offset	200L	2	1	0		
1970	6c Christmas Toys	200C	8	8	8	0	
1970	6c Maine	200R	9	8	8	0	
1970	6c Maine offset	200L	8	8	0		
1970	6c Nativity	200C	8	8	8	0	
1970	6c Wildlife	200R	4	4	4	0	
1970	6c South Carolina	200R	1	0	0		
1970	6c South Carolina offset	200L	1	1	0		
Special Purpose Issues							
1959	25c Air Mail	200R	5	4	4	0	
1961	15c Air Mail	200R	5	5	5	0	
1967	10c Air Mail	400R	4	3	3	0	
1967	10c Air Mail Coil	432R	2	2	2	2	
1968	20c Air Mail	200R	3	3	3	0	
1968	20c Air Mail offset	200L	2	0	0		
1969	10c Moon Landing	128R	32	15	15	0	
1969	10c Moon Landing offset	128L	24	14	0		
1969	45c Special Delivery	200R	10	9	9	0	



31000-31003  
6c Botanical Congress  
offset plates  
unavailable



31005  
6c Christmas  
master plate  
not used



31010  
6c California  
master plate  
not used

31011  
6c Christmas  
master plate  
not used



31014-31015  
6c Roosevelt book  
unreported



31017-31018  
6c Roosevelt book  
not used

31019-31023  
6c Botanical Congress  
offset plates  
unavailable









31046  
6c Christmas  
red plate  
not finished







31065  
6c Powell  
master plate  
not used







31081-31082  
6c California  
offset plates  
unavailable







31102  
6c Botanical Congress  
offset plates  
unavailable

31103-31104  
6c Powell  
offset plates  
unavailable



31116  
6c Christmas  
green plate  
not finished







31131  
6c Powell  
master plate  
not used











31158  
6c Botanical Congress  
offset plates  
unavailable

31159  
6c Alabama  
master plate  
not used











31197-31201  
6c Christmas  
green plates  
not finished



31203-31204  
6c Powell  
offset plates  
unavailable







31218-31223  
6c Flag side coil  
unavailable



31230-31235  
6c Flag side coil  
unavailable



31242  
6c Roosevelt book  
not used

31243  
6c Roosevelt  
side coil  
unreported

31244  
6c Roosevelt book  
unreported



31246-31247  
6c Powell  
offset plates  
unavailable



31248-31253  
6c Flag side coil  
unavailable

31254  
6c Alabama  
master plate  
not used

31255  
6c Flag  
not finished

31256 MAIL EARLY



31257 MAIL EARLY



31258 MAIL EARLY



31259 MAIL EARLY



31260 MAIL EARLY



31261 MAIL EARLY



31262



31263-31265  
6c Alabama  
offset plates  
unavailable

31266



31267



31268



31269 MAIL EARLY



31270 MAIL EARLY

31271 MAIL EARLY



31272 MAIL EARLY



31273 MAIL EARLY

31274 MAIL EARLY

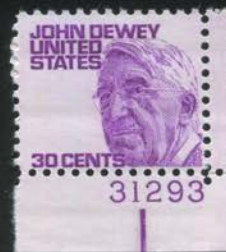






31278-31283  
6c Flag side coil  
unavailable

31284-31287  
10c Moon Airmail  
offset plates  
unavailable







31305-31310  
6c Flag side coil  
unavailable

31311  
10c Moon Airmail  
not used



31314  
10c Moon Airmail  
not used



31316  
10c Moon Airmail  
not used



31318  
10c Moon Airmail  
not used

31319-31321  
6c Alabama  
offset plates  
unavailable

31322-31336  
10c Moon Airmail  
offset, unused plates  
unavailable







31342-31349  
6c Roosevelt  
side coil



31348-31343  
6c Roosevelt  
side coil



31344-31347  
10c Moon Airmail  
offset plates  
unavailable

31348  
6c Roosevelt  
side coil  
see plate 31343

31349  
6c Roosevelt  
side coil  
see plate 31342

31350-31358  
10c Moon Airmail  
offset plates  
unavailable

31359  
6c Football  
master plate  
not used

31360-31361  
10c Moon Airmail  
not finished







31366  
10c Moon Airmail  
master plate  
not used



31369-31370  
6c Football  
offset plates  
unavailable



31372-31373  
6c Football  
offset plates  
unavailable



31377  
6c Baseball  
master plate  
not used







31385  
6c Eisenhower  
not used





31392



31393-31397  
6c Football  
offset plates  
unavailable

FOOTBALL

1869 - 1969



31398

31399



31400



31401



31402

31403



31404



31405



31406





31411  
10c Moon Airmail  
not used

31412  
6c Football  
offset plates  
unavailable



31415  
10c Moon Airmail  
not used

31416  
6c Eisenhower  
master plate  
not used

31417-31420  
6c Baseball  
offset plates  
unavailable

31421-31422  
6c Roosevelt  
side coil



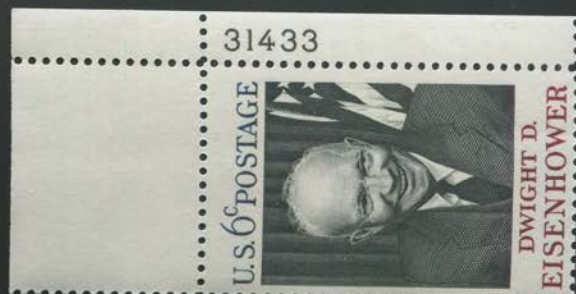




31425  
6c Crippled Children  
master plate  
not used



31427-31428  
6c Roosevelt  
side coil  
unreported







31437  
6c Baseball  
not used

31438-31439  
6c Roosevelt  
side coil  
unreported

31440-31443  
6c Crippled Children  
offset plates  
unavailable

31444  
6c Crippled Children  
master plate  
not used



31450-31451  
6c Roosevelt  
side coil  
unreported



31453-31454  
6c Roosevelt  
not used





31457-31460  
6c Crippled Children  
offset plates  
unavailable



31463  
6c Roosevelt  
not used



31465  
6c Harnett  
master plate  
not used



31471  
6c Roosevelt  
side coil  
unreported

31472  
6c Roosevelt  
side coil  
not finished



31474  
45c Special Delivery  
master plate  
not used

31475  
6c Crippled Children  
offset plates  
unavailable



31477  
6c Roosevelt  
side coil  
unreported

31478  
6c Roosevelt  
side coil  
not finished



31480-31483  
6c Harnett  
offset plates  
unavailable







31490-31491  
6c Roosevelt  
not used



31497-31501  
6c Harnett  
offset plates  
unavailable











31514-31519  
6c Flag side coil  
unavailable

31520-31521  
6c Harnett  
offset plates  
unavailable

31522-31527  
6c Flag side coil  
unavailable

31528  
6c Harnett  
offset plates  
unavailable

31529-31534  
6c Flag side coil  
unavailable



31537-31542  
6c Flag side coil  
unavailable

31543-31544  
6c Roosevelt  
side coil  
unreported

31545-31550  
6c Flag side coil  
unavailable



31552-31557  
6c Flag side coil  
unavailable







31560-31565  
6c Flag side coil  
unavailable



31567-31572  
6c Flag side coil  
unavailable

31573-31574  
6c Roosevelt  
side coil  
unreported

31575-31580  
6c Flag side coil  
unavailable



31582-31587  
6c Flag side coil  
unavailable



31591-31602  
6c Flag side coil  
unavailable



31605-31610  
6c Flag side coil  
unavailable

31611-31612  
6c Roosevelt  
side coil  
not used





31616-31621  
6c Flag side coil  
unavailable

31622  
25c Lincoln Airmail  
not finished

31623-31634  
6c Flag side coil  
unavailable

31635-31636  
6c Roosevelt  
side coil  
not used



31638  
6c Natural History  
master plate  
not used



31641  
6c Flag  
not finished

31642-31643  
6c Roosevelt  
side coil  
not used



31646-31647  
6c Roosevelt  
side coil  
not finished



31648



31649  
6c Flag  
not finished

31650-31655  
6c Flag side coil  
unavailable

31656  
6c Masters  
master plate  
not used

31657



31658-31659  
6c Roosevelt  
side coil  
not finished

31660



31661



31662



31663-31668  
6c Natural History  
offset plates  
unavailable

31669-31674  
6c Flag side coil  
unavailable

31675  
6c Flag  
not used

31676  
6c Masters  
offset plates  
unavailable

31677



31678



AMERICAN BALD EAGLE

31678



AFRICAN ELEPHANT HERD





HAIDA CEREMONIAL CANOE

31678



THE AGE OF REPTILES

31678

31679-31684  
6c Flag side coil  
unavailable

31685



31686



AMERICAN BALD EAGLE

31686



AFRICAN ELEPHANT HERD



HAIDA CEREMONIAL CANOE

31686



THE AGE OF REPTILES

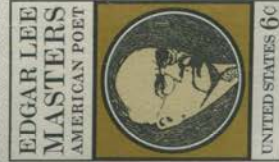
31686

31687



31688-31693  
6c Flag side coil  
unavailable

31694





31695-31700  
6c Flag side coil  
unavailable



31704-31709  
6c Flag side coil  
unavailable

31710  
6c Masters  
probably not used







HAIDA CEREMONIAL CANOE

31711



THE AGE OF REPTILES

31711

31712



31713-31718  
6c Natural History  
offset plates  
unavailable

31719



31720



AMERICAN BALD EAGLE

31720



AFRICAN ELEPHANT HERD



HAIDA CEREMONIAL CANOE

31720



THE AGE OF REPTILES

31720

31721  
6c Masters  
offset plates  
unavailable

31722-31727  
6c Flag side coil  
unavailable



31728



U.S. 6c

AMERICAN BALD EAGLE

31728



U.S. 6c

AFRICAN ELEPHANT HERD

U.S. 6c



HAIDA CEREMONIAL CANOE

31728



U.S. 6c

THE AGE OF REPTILES

31728

31729



U.S. 6c

AMERICAN BALD EAGLE

31729



U.S. 6c

AFRICAN ELEPHANT HERD

U.S. 6c



HAIDA CEREMONIAL CANOE

31729



U.S. 6c

THE AGE OF REPTILES

31729

31736



U.S. 6c

AMERICAN BALD EAGLE

31736



U.S. 6c

AFRICAN ELEPHANT HERD

31730-31735  
6c Natural History  
offset plates  
unavailable





HAIDA CEREMONIAL CANOE

31736



THE AGE OF REPTILES

31736

31737-31742  
6c Flag side coil  
unavailable

31743-31746  
1c Jefferson book  
unreported

31747-31752  
6c Flag side coil  
unavailable

31753-31754  
6c Flag  
not finished, used



31756-31761  
6c Flag side coil  
unavailable



31763  
6c Flag  
not used

31764-31769  
6c Flag side coil  
unavailable

31770  
6c Natural History  
offset plates  
unavailable

31771  
6c Flag  
master plate  
not used

31772  
6c Flag  
not used

31773  
6c Natural History  
offset plates  
unavailable

31774  
1c Jefferson book  
unreported

31775  
1c Jefferson book  
rare, not in collection

31776-31793  
6c Flag side coil  
unavailable

31794  
6c Roosevelt book  
not finished

31795  
6c Roosevelt book  
unreported

31796-31801  
6c Flag side coil  
unavailable

31802-31807  
6c Flag  
not finished



31808-31813  
6c Flag side coil  
unavailable

31814-31815  
6c Roosevelt  
not finished



31822-31827  
6c Flag side coil  
unavailable



31835  
6c Flag  
not used



31836-31841  
6c Flag side coil  
unavailable



31849  
6c Flag  
not used

31850-31855  
6c Flag side coil  
unavailable







HAIDA CEREMONIAL CANOE

31862



THE AGE OF REPTILES

31862

31863  
6c Natural History  
offset plates  
unavailable



31864

31865  
6c fl.  
NF



31866



31867



31868



31869

31870



AMERICAN BALD EAGLE

31870



AFRICAN ELEPHANT HERD



HAIDA CEREMONIAL CANOE

31870



THE AGE OF REPTILES

31870



31871

31872  
6c Roosevelt book  
unreported

31873  
6c Roosevelt book  
not finished



31874



31875



31876





31881  
6c Flag  
not used







HAIDA CEREMONIAL CANOE

31889



THE AGE OF REPTILES

31889

31890-31891  
6c Roosevelt book  
not finished

31892



31893



31894



31895



31896

31897  
8c Einstein  
not finished

31898-31899  
20c Airmail  
offset plates  
unavailable











31908-31909  
10c Airmail  
side coil  
unreported

31910  
6c Maine  
master plate  
not used



31917-31918  
6c Eisenhower book  
unreported



31921-31924  
6c Maine  
offset plates  
unavailable

31925-31926  
6c Eisenhower book  
unreported







HAIDA CEREMONIAL CANOE

31929



THE AGE OF REPTILES

31929

31930



AMERICAN BALD EAGLE

31930



AFRICAN ELEPHANT HERD



HAIDA CEREMONIAL CANOE

31930



THE AGE OF REPTILES

31930

31931  
6c Natural History  
offset plates  
unavailable

31932  
6c Eisenhower book  
rare, not in collection

31933  
6c Eisenhower book  
rare, not in collection



31934



31935

31936-31937  
6c Eisenhower  
side coil  
unreported

31938  
6c Natural History  
not used

31939



Christmas 6c







31952  
6c Natural History  
not used

31953-31954  
6c Eisenhower  
side coil  
unreported



31961-31962  
6c Eisenhower book  
unreported



31964-31965  
6c Eisenhower book  
not used

31966  
6c Eisenhower  
side coil  
unreported

31967  
6c Eisenhower  
side coil  
see plate 32036







31970-31975  
6c Flag side coil  
unavailable

31976  
6c South Carolina  
master plate  
not used



31979-31982  
6c Maine  
offset plates  
unavailable



31984-31989  
6c Flag side coil  
unavailable



31991  
10c Airmail  
not used



31993-31998  
6c Flag side coil  
unavailable

31999  
6c South Carolina  
offset plates  
unavailable