

Meters "On the ICE"

Postage Meters used at Antarctic Bases



Figure 1. First NZ Scott Base Roneo Neopost Meter



Figure 2. First US South Pole Pitney-Bowes Meter Most Readable Known Impression. Used on a Parcel.

The Exhibit

The exhibit presents postage meter stamps from meters that were used "On The Ice" at research bases on Antarctica. Also included are meter prints from the APO post office in Christchurch which uniquely serves travellers to US and New Zealand bases on Antarctica. To date 10 postage meters are known to have been used at the US and New Zealand bases. No other country's Antarctic base has used a postage meter. The bases of interest include New Zealand Scott Base on Ross Island, the US McMurdo Station also on Ross Island, and Amundsen-Scott South Pole Station at the geographic south pole.

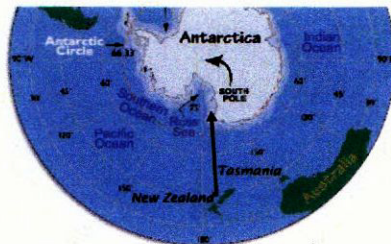
In the early days the bases were so small that if the station had a postage meter it was seldom used. For the last 20 years however, McMurdo and Amundsen-Scott have become small cities. The major use for the meters has been for parcels that workers must use to transport their own possessions to and from the bases due to the strict luggage weight limits for air travel between the bases and Christchurch. There was some philatelic use of the postage meters, and for the early units the only examples available are philatelic.

An effort has been made to find truly commercial letters and parcel fronts. As a result, 12 commercial items have become available for the exhibit due to the generosity of former Antarctic workers, usually from boxes in their attics.

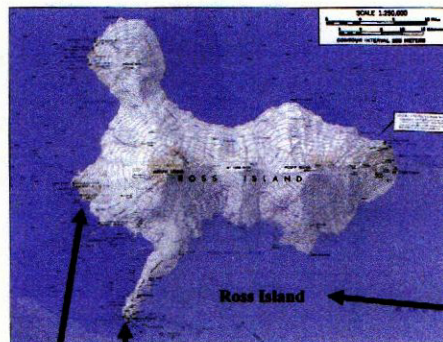
A number of philatelic items and few postcards are included if they provide important historical evidence of the stations' purposes and development. It doesn't hurt that some of them are quite colorful.

Exhibit Outline

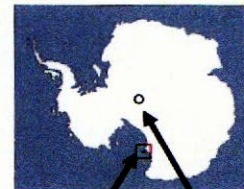
	Unit Dates of Use
1. New Zealand Scott Base Roneo Neopost Frankmaster 305 Frama Model M/E3	1977-Sept 1987 Sept 1987-1992
2. Amundsen-Scott South Pole Station Pitney-Bowes 5300 serial 3345117 Pitney-Bowes 5300 serial 3345249 Pitney-Bowes 6900 serial 5407172 Pitney-Bowes DM 100 Pitney-Bowes Personal Post Pitney-Bowes DM 100	1987 thru 1991 1991 thru 1999 2000 thru 2005 2005/2006 season 2006 thru 2009 2009 to present.
3. McMurdo Station Pitney-Bowes 5300 serial 3345117 MOS/Unisys PVI	1995 thru 2000 2000 to present.
4. Christchurch Air Force Post Office (APO) Pitney-Bowes 5300 MOS/Unisys PVI	19?? thru 2000 2000 to present



Auckland, New Zealand is the transit point for all travellers and freight to the three research bases: NZ Scott, US McMurdo and US Amundsen-Scott.



NZ Scott Base
US McMurdo Base



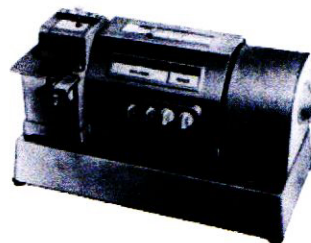
Location of Ross Island, site for NZ Scott Base and US McMurdo Base.
US Amundsen-Scott South Pole Station

New Zealand Scott Base

New Zealand Scott Base
Roneo Neopost Meter 108
Before 1987



Scott Base 25th Anniversary
Date: 20 January 1982 Scott Base
Franked with Roneo Neopost Frankmaster 305
and canceled with special anniversary cachet.
Meter serial number 108.



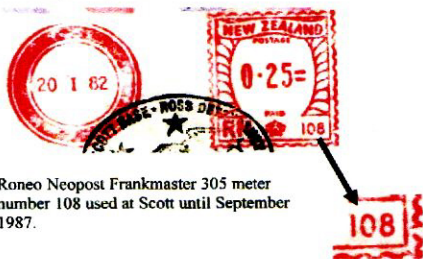
Roneo Neopost Model Frankmaster 305.

Roneo Neopost Serial 305 at Scott Base before 1987

New Zealand Scott Base was built in 1957 on Ross Island near the existing US McMurdo "Operation Deep Freeze" base. Ross Island is the volcanic island occupied by the active volcano Mt. Erebus. A post office was maintained as part of the base. A Roneo Neopost Frankmaster 305 serial number 108 was used at the base. This model dates back to 1954 but it is not clear when this unit was actually installed. It may have always been part of the post office but apparently seldom used. The only published examples are collector covers prepared for the Scott Base 25th anniversary.

The New Zealand Post Office closed the Scott Base Post Office for financial reasons in September 1987 and removed this postage meter.

Postcard showing New Zealand
Scott Base with active volcano
Mount Erebus in the distance



Roneo Neopost Frankmaster 305 meter
number 108 used at Scott until September
1987.



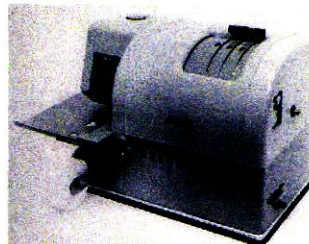
Canterbury
Museum

ANTARCTIC EXPEDITION
SOUTH VICTORIA LAND. 1988/1989
K221

TAINUI
Box 16-385
Hornby
NEW ZEALAND

New Zealand Scott Base Frama Meter Number F340 1987 thru 1992

Frama Meter Model M/E3 at Scott 1987-1991



Addressed collectors cover

Date: 8 December 1988 Scott Base

14 December 1988 Christchurch

Franked at Scott Base using the Frama postage meter.
Canceled at Christchurch as it enters mailstream. Canterbury Museum, a natural history museum, conducts projects in Antarctica.

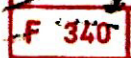
New Zealand Scott Base

When the Scott Base Post Office closed in 1987 the station Canteen Council bought a newer Frama postage meter which was placed in the canteen. In 1992 the NZ post office insisted on inspecting the meter monthly rather than at the end of the season. A logistical impracticality. The Canteen Council returned the postage meter in 1992.

Mail from Scott base was entered into the NZ mail stream like any mail bag from a corporate mailer and canceled at Christchurch.



Frama Model M/E3 meter
number "F 340" used at
Scott from September 1987
through 1992.



Addressed collectors cover

NZ Meteorology Expedition 1988-1989

Date: 27 December 1988 Scott Base

4 January 1989 Christchurch

Franked at Scott Base using the Frama postage meter. Butter Point was a supply depot named because it held butter on a 1901 Discovery expedition.

N.Z. MET SERVICE ANTARCTIC



BUTTER POINT CAMP



EXPIRATION
1988
68 8861

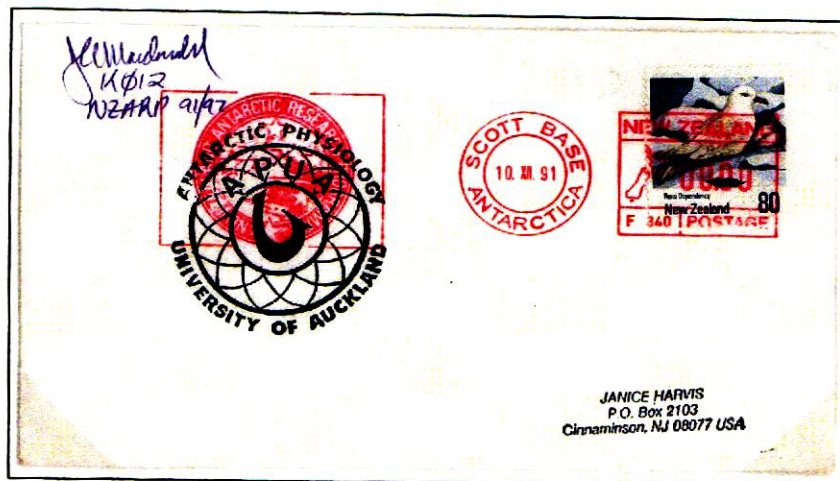
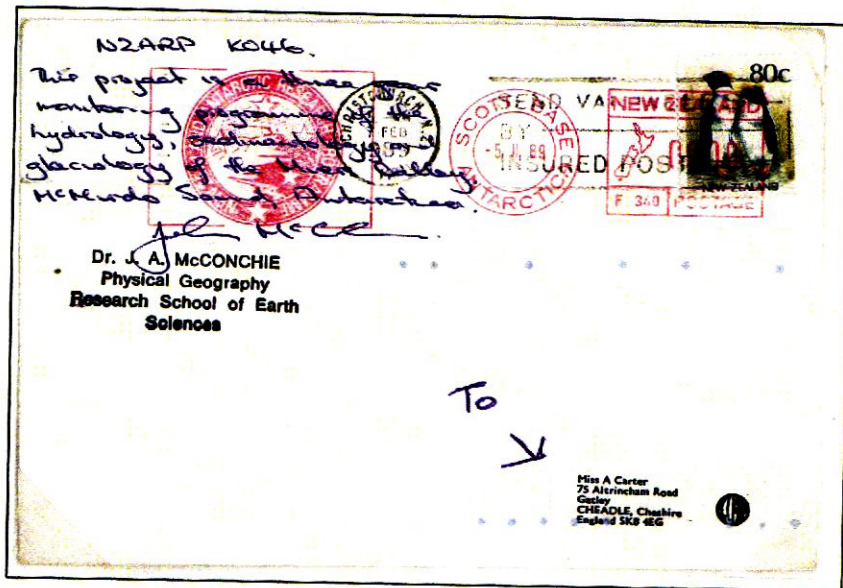


P.O. Box 1516,
Christchurch N.Z.

Meter Used as Cancellor
 Scott Base often seems to have used the
 Frama meter as a canceller for stamped mail.

New Zealand Scott Base
Frama Meter Number F340
1987 thru 1992

Addressed cover to USA
 Date: 10 December 1991 Scott Base
 Not canceled at Christchurch



Addressed cover to UK.
 May Have Carried a Letter.
 Date: 5 February 1989 Scott Base
 7 February 1989 Christchurch

Amundsen-Scott South Pole Station

FPO AP 96691 1985 to 1991

FPO AP 96598 1991 to 1998

APO AP 96598 1998 to Present

US Amundsen Scott South Pole Base

Pitney-Bowes Model 5300

Meter Number 3345117

1987 thru 1991

Amundsen-Scott South Pole Station

The station has been continuously occupied and operated by the US Navy since 1956 in 'under ice' buildings on top of 9300 ft ice layer. Larger building with Dome started in 1975 but eventually damaged by moving ice.

Navy Zipcode FPO AP 96692 before 1998.

Air Force Zipcode APO AP 96598 after 1998.

New base built 1999 to 2007 under authority of United States Antarctic Program.



Pitney-Bowes Model 5300 Serial 3345117.

One of the very few examples with readable serial number. This Pitney-Bowes Model 5300 unit installed about 1987 and used until 1991.

Moved to McMurdo about 1995.

Pitney-Bowes Meter Tape used on Parcel

Date: 18 November 1989 South Pole

Rate: \$4.05 Domestic Parcel 4 lbs Zone 7.

Unaddressed Operation Deep Freeze Cachet

Date: 22 January 1991

Rate: 25 cents first oz + 20 cents incremental

45 cents for two oz

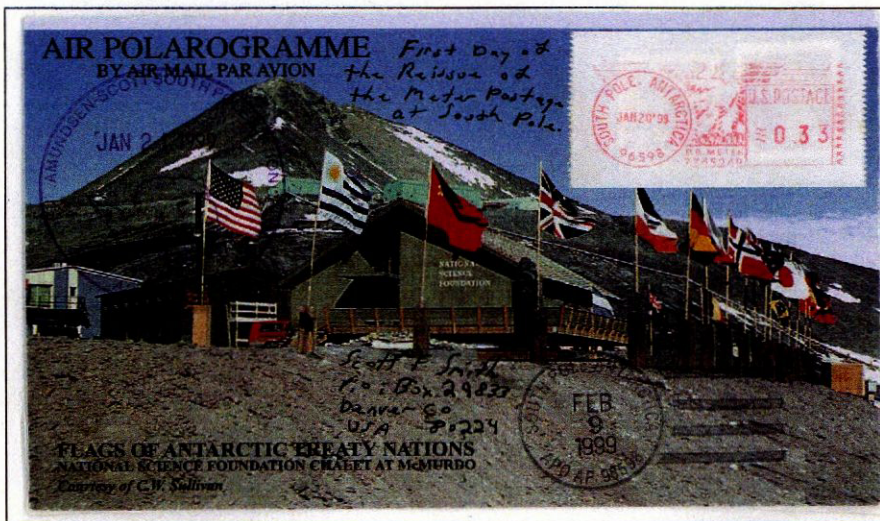
Paid \$0.20 Meter plus \$0.25 Postal Envelope



US Amundsen Scott South Pole Base
Pitney-Bowes Model 5300
Meter Number 3345249
ca1991-1999

Pitney-Bowes Model 5300 Serial 3345249

This new meter was received at South Pole ca1991 after meter number 3345177 was moved to McMurdo. This meter was saw little use such that the account was canceled some time in 1998. The meter account was reinstated in January 1999. This unit replaced during the next season in September 1999. Zipcode APO AP 96598.



Air Polarogramme—NSF Chalet at McMurdo

Date: 20 January 1999 South Pole
 21 January 1999 South Pole
 21 January 1999 South Pole Backstamp
 9 February 1999 South Pole
 16 February 1999 McMurdo Backstamp
 Rate: \$0.33 Domestic First Class Letter
 Manuscript "First Day of the Reissue of the Meter Postage at South Pole."



Pitney-Bowes Model 5300 Postage Meter.

Pitney-Bowes Model 6900 Serial 5407172

This postage meter was used from January 2000 thru January 2004. This photo of South Pole Post Office in 2000 shows the PB Model 6900 on the counter.

www.south-pole.com.



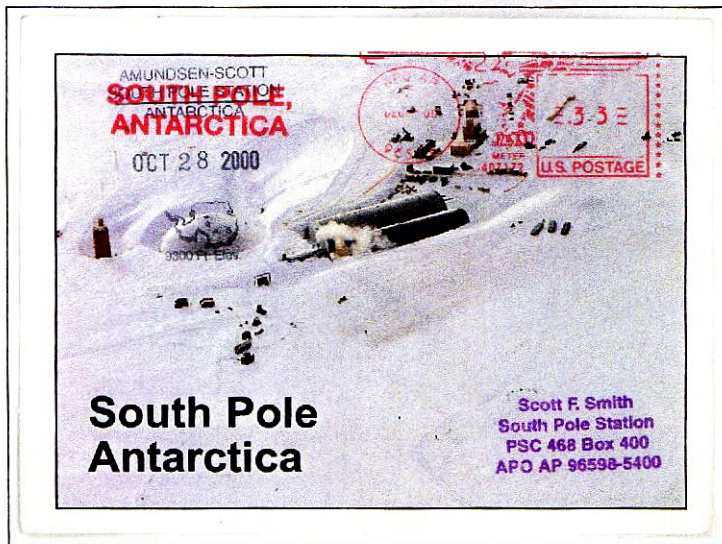
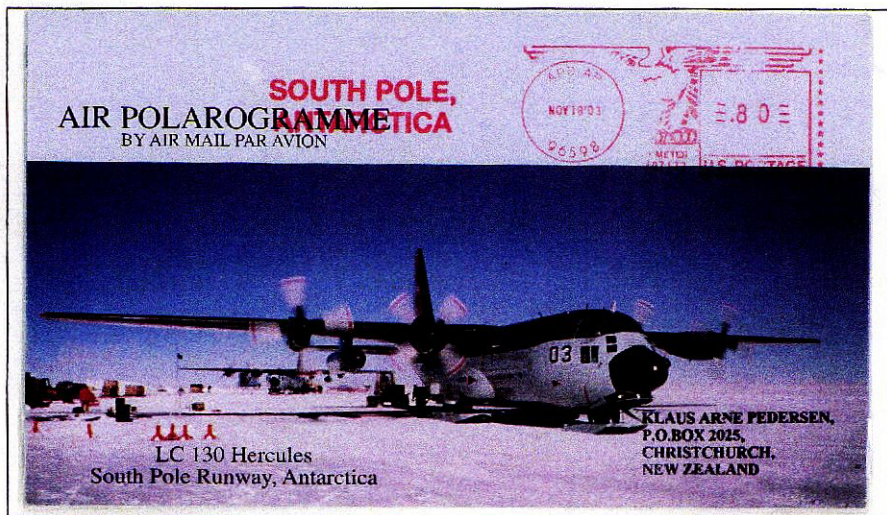
Air Polarogramme

LC 130 Hercules the Antarctic Workhorse

Date: 18 November 2003

12 December 2003 Christchurch backstamp

Rate: \$0.80 International Letter rate to New Zealand



**'B METER
5407172**

Old South Pole Station

Base built in 1975 with dome, was constantly being buried in snow. Buildings damaged by moving ice. New base started in 1999.

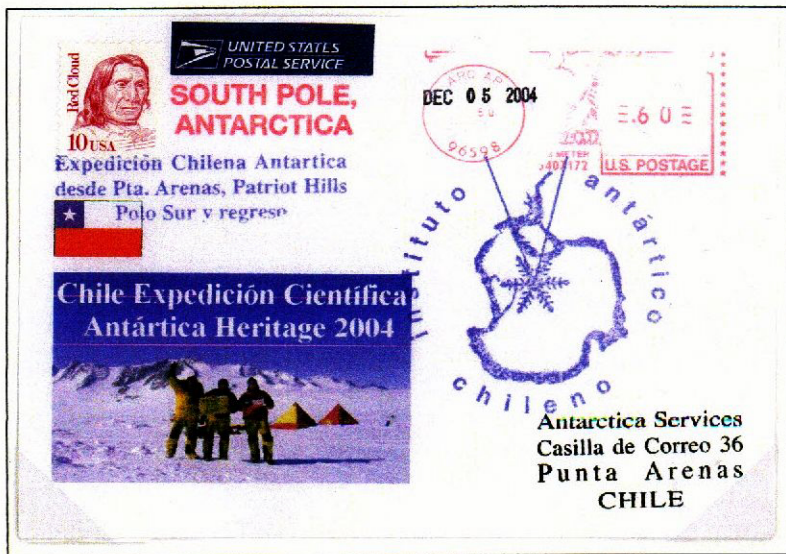
The dome removed in 2010 and will be reconstructed in the US as part of an Antarctic museum.

Postcard showing old South Pole Dome Station

Date: 28 October 2000 South Pole

Rate: \$0.33 Domestic First Class (used on postcard)

Correct Zipcode "APO AP"



US Amundsen Scott South Pole Base
Pitney-Bowes Model 6900
Meter Number 5407172
2000 through 2005

Chilean Expedition traverse from Chilean Base
 Punta Arenas to the South Pole.
 Date: 5 December 2004 South Pole
 Rate: \$0.70 International Airmail Letter (IMM 29)
 The Chilean exploration team traveled from their
 Punta Arenas base to the South Pole and then re-
 turned during the 2004/2005 season.

Chilean cachets on reverse of postcard.



Postcard-First Polar Helicopter Landing
 Date: 17 December 2003
 Rate: \$0.23 Domestic Postcard
 Postcard commemorates rescue landing.
 Aircraft subsequently crashed requiring fur-
 ther evacuations.

New and Old Stations Postcard (Reverse)
 The old South Pole Station (Dome) built it 1975
 was damaged by moving ice. Replaced by new
 base started in 1999. Postcard shows new station
 (yellow building) half finished as of 2003.

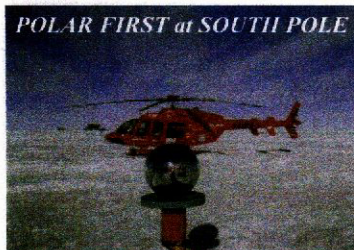


Helicopter on return trip crashed 193 km north of Patriot Hills
 Injuries to both explorers required medivac to Punta Arenas.

**SOUTH POLE,
 ANTARCTICA**

FLYING TO EXTREMES
POLAR FIRST

POLAR FIRST at SOUTH POLE



100th Anniversary of flight special helicopter flight
 to South Pole by Colin Bodill & Jennifer Murray



Scott F Smith,
 South Pole Station
 PSC 468, BOX 400
 APO AP 96598-5400
 USA

Package Front

Date: 20 January 2004

Rate: \$9.84 for 8 lb Zone 5

SAM (Space Available Mail) Parcels airlifted
for Service FPO and APO addresses.

US Amundsen Scott South Pole Base

Pitney-Bowes Model 6900

Meter Number 5407172

2000 through 2005

**SOUTH POLE,
ANTARCTICA**



SAM

To: [Redacted]

Centennial Co 80122
USA



80122
SF02070340414



1C34425316305

United States Postal Service
Customs - CN 22 (Old C 1)
May be opened officially (Peut être ouvert officiellement)
See Instructions on Reverse

Detailed Description of Contents		Value (US \$)
Books		150
Small Merchandise		20
Weight (lb) 14.10.60 Total 17.60		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Merchandise (Commercial)		<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial Sample

I certify that this item does not contain any dangerous articles prohibited by postal regulations.
Signature: [Signature]

PS Form 2976, June 1997 CN 22 (Old C 1)

US Amundsen Scott South Pole Base
Pitney-Bowes DM100
Meter Number 0002165558
2005/2006 Season

Pitney-Bowes DM100 at South Pole

The electronic PB Model 6900 had to be replaced as part of the Meter Migration Mandate. The fully digital model DM100 was installed in September 2005. However, this model requires full telephone support for frequent security checks. South Pole only had telephone support for a few hours a day. The unit was removed in February 2006.



0002165558

Pitney-Bowes DM100 Postage Meter

Date: 1 January 2006 South Pole

Rate: \$0.80 International First Class Letter

Semi Official USPS Cover.



"DEEP FREEZE"
U.S. AIR FORCE POST OFFICE
APO AP 96598
SOUTH POLE, ANTARCTICA

John Howell
2 Browns Road
Kingston, Tas, 7050
AUSTRALIA



Pitney-Bowes Model DM100 Postage Meter

US Amundsen Scott
South Pole Base
Pitney-Bowes
DM100

B. [redacted]
Centennial CO 80112



Pitney Bowes DM 100
Priority Parcel Front
Date: 21 January 2006
Rate: \$5.15
Under 2 lb Zone 5



To: [redacted]
c/o [redacted]
[redacted]
Centennial CO 80122

United States Postal Service
Customs Declaration
May be opened officially. See Instructions on Reverse
Do not duplicate without USPS approval.

Quantity and detailed description of contents (1):
2 photos

Weight (2) lb. oz.	Value (3) (US \$)
1 2 30	

For commercial (sales only)
If known, HS tariff number (4) and country of origin of goods (5)

Total Weight (6) (US \$)	Total Value (7) (US \$)
1 2 30	

I, the undersigned, whose name and address are given on the item, certify that the particulars given in this declaration are correct and that this item does not contain any dangerous article or articles prohibited by legislation or by postal or customs regulations.

Date and sender's signature (8)
20 Jan 2006 [signature]

PS Form 2976, January 2004

US Amundsen Scott South Pole Base
Pitney-Bowes Personal Post
 Meter Number 8739174
 2006 through 2009

Parcel Front From the South Pole Station
 Date: 3 November 2008
 Rate: \$17.67 Domestic Parcel 12lb Zone 8
 SAM. Military "Space Available Mail" by air overseas.
 Parcel of belongings sent home. Recovered from box in the attic.

Pitney-Bowes Personal Post
 This model is not so demanding on resources but became obsolete January 2009 as part of the US "Meter Migration Mandate".



Pitney-Bowes Personal Post



UNITED STATES POSTAGE
 129 17.670 PB8739174
 7210 NOV 03 08
 2950 MAILED FROM APO AP 96598

From:
 Bill Spindler, RPSC
 South Pole Station
 PSC 468 Box 400
 APO AP 96598

SAM

U.S. MAIL
 PS. LABEL 136
 FEB. 1971

To:
 [Redacted]
 Ann Arbor MI 48103

DESTINATION
SFO
 SAN FRANCISCO
 CALIFORNIA (USA)

WEIGHT **5.4**

VIA →

United States Postal Service
 Customs Declaration
 May be opened officially. See instructions on Reverse.
 Do not duplicate without USPS approval.

Out: ☐ Gilt ☐ Commercial sample ☐ Documents

Quantity and detailed description of contents (1)	Weight (2) lb. oz.	Value (3) (US \$)
7-SHIRT		2.0
AUDIO CASSETTE TAP		2.0
HEADPHONES		2.0
FIRST AID KIT		2.5
2000 LBS 20000000		
Total Weight (6)	11 7	Total Value (7) (US \$)

For commercial items only. If known, HS tariff number (4) and country of origin of goods (5).

I, the undersigned, whose name and address are given on this form, certify that the particulars given in this declaration are correct and that this item does not contain any dangerous article or articles prohibited by legislation or by postal or customs regulations.

Date and sender's signature (8)
 3 Nov 08 [Signature]

PS Form 2976, January 2004



**PRIORITY
MAIL**

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE

UNITED STATES POSTAGE
119 15.90⁰ PB8739174
7210 * JAN 26 08
2577 MAILED FROM APO, AP 96598

POSTAGE REQUIRED
DOMESTIC USE ONLY

www.usps.com

FROM:

B...

Centennial CO 80112

US Amundsen Scott South Pole Base
Pitney-Bowes Personal Post
Meter Number 8739174
2006 through 2009

Parcel Front From the South Pole Station
Date: 26 January 2008
Rate: \$15.90 Priority Domestic Parcel 9lb Zone 5

Dedication of New Station.
Date: 21 December 2006 South Pole
The new above the ice station was complete in 2007.
The Personal Post meter was used at South Pole from
November 2006 through 2009.

TO:

To:

Centennial CO 801



LC33097406US

**United States Postal Service
Customs Declaration**

CN 22

May be opened officially
Do not duplicate without USPS approval.

See instructions on Reverse
Do not duplicate without USPS approval.

Quantity and detailed description of contents (1)

Handwritten: *Handwritten medal Souvenirs clothes pants*

For commercial items only
If known, HS tariff number (4) and country of origin of goods (5)

Total Weight (6)
8/3 58

Total Value (7) (US \$)
50

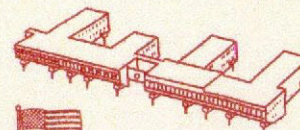
I, the undersigned, whose name and address are given on the item, certify that the particulars given in this declaration are correct and that this item does not contain any dangerous article or articles prohibited by legislation or by postal or customs regulations.

Date and sender's signature (8)
[Signature]

PS Form 2976, January 2004



UNITED STATES POSTAGE
180 00.84⁰ PB8739174
7270 * DEC 21 06
0717 MAILED FROM APO, AP 96598



New "Elevated" American
Amundsen-Scott South Pole Station

Pitney-Bowes Meter

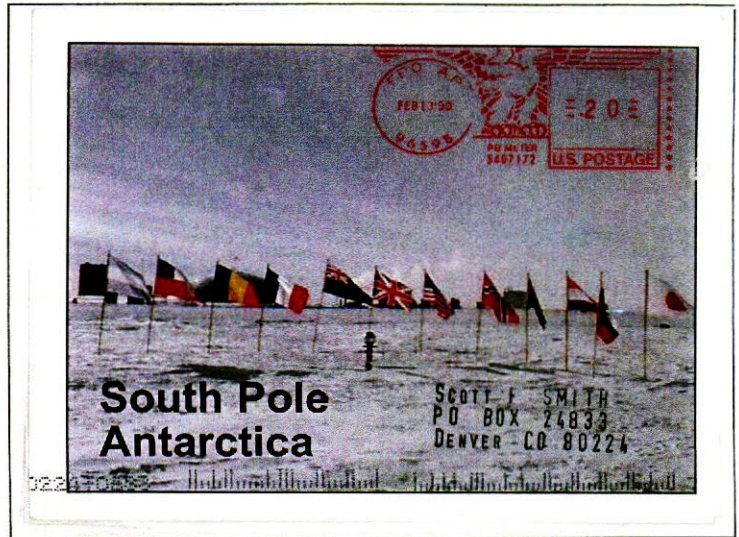
FPO Errors

2000 and 2006

FPO Zipcode Errors

Both US Antarctic stations had been maintained by the US Navy until 1998 and the Zipcodes were properly "FPO AP". In 1998 the US Air Force took over this responsibility and the Zipcodes became "APO AP". However in 2000 and again in 2006 the new postage meters were delivered with "FPO AP" Zipcode addresses. The errors were corrected for the next season. Meter stamps with these errors can be hard to find.

FPO Error



Postcard—FPO AP 96598 In Error

Date: 13 February 2000 FPO AP 96598

Rate: \$0.20 Domestic Postcard

Meter delivered in January 2000 with old Navy FPO designation in the townmark and used for the January and February 2000. This was replaced with proper Air Force APO designation for the next season.

FPO Error FPO, AP

"FPO AP" Zipcode Error

Date: 2 November 2006

Rate: \$0.84 International First Class Letter

Once again this new meter arrived with the "FPO" Error. It was used like this 2006/2007 season and fixed for the next season.



Indianatlantic FL 32903-3056

US Amundsen Scott South Pole Base
Pitney-Bowes DM100
Meter Number 0004454917
2010 to Present

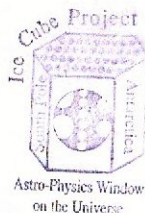
Pitney-Bowes DM100 Returns

The older Personal Post meter was officially obsolete as of January 2009. It was used through the end of the 2008/2009 season and replaced with a new Pitney-Bowes DM 100. It is not known what arrangement may have been made to allow this communications needy device to work at South Pole.



0004454917

Peter Rejek
South Pole Station
PSC 468 Box 400
APO AP 96598



David Crotty
PO Box 16115
Ludlow, KY 41016-0115

410160115 0001



Philatelic Cover

Date: 18 December 2010

Rate: \$0.44 Domestic Letter

Pitney-Bowes Model 5300 moves to US McMurdo Base

The McMurdo post office was operated by the US Navy from 1957 with a complex zip code history. From 1991 to 1998 used FPO 96599. After 1998 the Air Force took over using the zip code APO AP 96599.

The Pitney-Bowes Model 5300 serial 3345117 that had been used at South Pole Station from 1987 was moved to McMurdo and is known to have been used there from 24 August 1995 to 17 October 2000.

This meter was replaced with modern PVI postal meters as mechanical meters became obsolete in 2000.

Reportedly another PB Model 5300 meter was present at McMurdo from 1987 to 1995 but impressions from that unit have never been published.

McMurdo Station

APO AP 96599

Pitney Bowes Model 5300

Meter Number 3345117

1995 thru 2000



A. Rowell
c/o OPP
McMurdo, Antarctica

HAPPY HOLIDAYS 15:10 12/13/95



Prof. ERNEST E. ANGINO
Dept. Geology
UNIV. KANSAS
LAWRENCE, KS. 66045

Earliest Known Season With Postage Meter

Date: 7 December 1995

Postage: \$0.32 Domestic First Class Rate

Postage Meter impression from the first season that meter number 3345117 is known to be used at McMurdo.

Second Season

Date: 20 October 1996

Postage: \$0.32 Domestic First Class Rate

Postage Meter impression from meter number 3345117 during its second season at McMurdo.

Dr. G. Droschhoff
Dept. Geology, Univ. Kansas
Lawrence, KS. 66045



Prof. E. Angino
Water Resources Center
Searles Hall 1039
Univ. Kansas
Lawrence, KS. 66045
USA



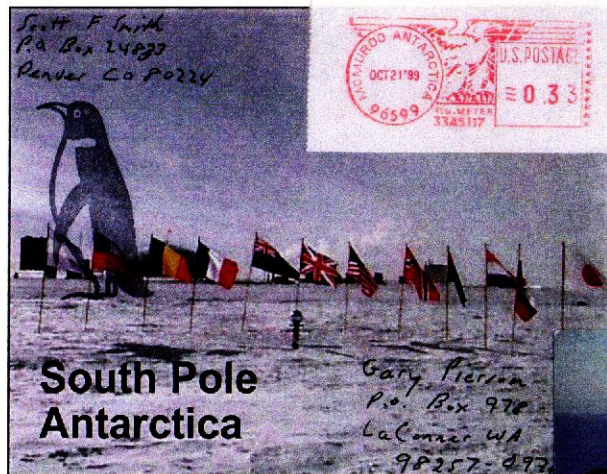
McMurdo Station
Pitney Bowes Model 5300
Meter Number 3345117
1995 thru 2000

Postcard, World Flags at South Pole

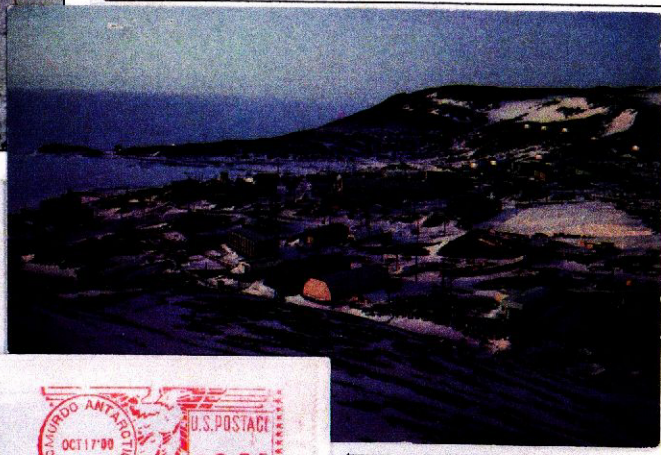
Date: 21 October 1999 McMurdo

Rate: \$0.33 Domestic First Class Letter Rate

Posted at McMurdo using the Model 5300 postage meter.



Postcard of McMurdo Station as seen from Observation Hill. Known as Mac Town, it houses about 1100 scientists and support personnel during the Austral Summer. About 200 during winter.



Elaborate McMurdo Cover

Dates: 17 October 2000 McMurdo

18 October 2000 McMurdo

Rate: \$0.33 Domestic First Class Letter
 Elaborate cover prepared in October 2000 using McMurdo meter 3345117. Reverse (shown below) contains note that delivery was delayed one year due to illness of a clerk.

USAP (US Antarctic Program) operates the bases as shown in circular sticker. Cachet also depicts a USAF KC-10 Tanker refueling a C-141 cargo aircraft, an essential support operation for many round trip supply flights.

THIS LETTER DELAYED FOR 1 YEAR BECAUSE OF A PHYSICAL AILMENT AFFECTED UPON THE PHILATELIC CLERK.



McMurdo Station Post Office dated 2000. PVI screen shows at left. Photo by Scott Smith.

McMurdo Station
MOS/Unisys PVI
 2000 thru Present

What is a PVI?

Since the late 1990's the US Post Offices have used postage meters made by MOS/Unisys known as PVI's. These units include keyboard, touch screen, scale and printer. Generally known as a Postage Validation Indicia (PVI) Printer. Virtually all US Post Offices changed to the PVI system in 2000.



PVI Imprint McMURDO Post Office.

An Opened Letter.

Date: 28 December 2006

Rate: \$0.39 Domestic First Class Letter

R.D. HALE

McMURDO STATION
PSC 469 BOX 700
APO AP 96599



0000

66045

U.S. POSTAGE
 PAID
 APO, AP
 96599
 DEC 28, 06
 AMOUNT

\$0.39

00020845-01

PROF. ERNEST E. ANGINO
 DEPT. OF GEOLOGY
 JAYHAWK BLVD., 1475
 UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS
 LAWRENCE, KS 66045



PVI Priority Package
Date: 22 February 2006

Rate: \$8.10 underpaid (\$8.85 Priority 4lb to Zone 5)

Personal Items sent home by post after returning from
duty at South Pole Station.

APO at Christchurch Airport
MOS/Unisys PVI
Used After 2000



**PRIORITY
MAIL**

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE®

www.usps.com



U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
APO, AP
96531
FEB 22, '06
AMOUNT

\$8.10

00043652-03

0000

80112

ON DESTINATION



420 801120000 99 1400



LC96064613765

United States Postal Service

Customs Declaration

CN 22

May be opened officially

See Instructions on Reverse

Do not duplicate without USPS approval.

Call

☐ Gift

☐ Commercial sample

Cut

☐ Documents

☒ Other

Quantity and detailed description of
contents (1)

Weight (2)
lb. oz.

Value (3)
(US \$)

Classics
Headphones
Hof
Christchurch

3 2

10
50
50
25

For commercial items only:
If known, HS tariff number (4) and country
of origin of goods (5)

3 2

Total Weight (6)
Total Value
(7) (US \$)
135

I, the undersigned, whose name and address are given on the item,
certify that the particulars given in this declaration are correct and that
this item does not contain any dangerous article or articles prohibited by
legislation or by postal or customs regulations.

Date and sender's signature (8)

22 Feb 2006 [Signature]

PS Form 2976, January 2004

Print Postage Online - Go to: www.usps.com/onlinepostage

FROM:

Centennial CO 80122

TO:

Centennial CO 80122

PLACE LABEL HERE

McMurdo Station
MOS/Unisys PVI
2000 thru Present

Package Piece with PVI imprint.
McMurdo Post Office Zip Code 96599
Date: 27 August 2009

Rate: \$29.88 24 lb 11 oz Parcel Post.

SAM Space Available Mail air cargo.

Note that package senders from Antarctica usual-
ly use their home address in the US for the return
address and not the base address.

U.S. MAIL

PS LABEL 136, February 1971
PSN 7980-05-000-4406

DESTINATION

SFO
SAN FRANCISCO
CALIFORNIA (USA)

WEIGHT

11.3

VIA

SYD UA9587
SFO UA870



LCN430007406

United States Postal Service

Customs Declaration

May be opened officially

See Instructions on Reverse

Do not duplicate without USPS approval

CN 22

Do not duplicate without USPS approval

Quantity and detailed description of contents (1)

Weight (2)	Value (3)
lb. oz.	(US \$)
40	40

For commercial items only
If known, HS item number (4) and country of origin of goods (5)

Total Weight (6) Total Value (7) (US \$)

I, the undersigned, whose name and address are given on the face, certify that the particulars given in this declaration are correct and that this item does not contain any dangerous, poisonous or articles prohibited by regulation or by postal or customs regulations.

Date and sender's signature (8)

8/27/09 Clair Van Houten

PS Form 2976, January 2004



U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
APO, FPO
96599
AUG 27, 09
AMOUNT

\$29.88

00020845-02



420 410140000 99 3100

SAM

USAF Post Office at Christchurch

APO AP 96531

APO at Christchurch Airport
Pitney-Bowes Model 5300
Used Until 2000

Scott F Smith
P.O. Box 24893
Denver CO 80224
USA



S. McLACHLAN
54 Shades Arcade
Cashel Street
Christchurch
New Zealand

US Air Force Post Office at Christchurch
The Christchurch airport is the jump off point for US and NZ Antarctic bases as well as bases of other countries. The US Air Force maintains a post office at the Christchurch airport for use by personnel travelling to and from Antarctica. Handles about 400,000 pounds of mail a year supporting the US Operation Deep Freeze.

Used Pitney-Bowes model 5300 meters until 2000 when Post Office PVI units were installed. Several meter numbers of each meter type are known.

Pitney-Bowes model 5300 postage meter.

Date: 9 November 1999 USAF APO 96531

Rate: \$0.66 to NZ. Should be \$0.60 International

An APO operates as if it is US Territory. A letter to a New Zealand address considered international.

Air Polarogramme showing LC-130 Hercules at McMurdo Station

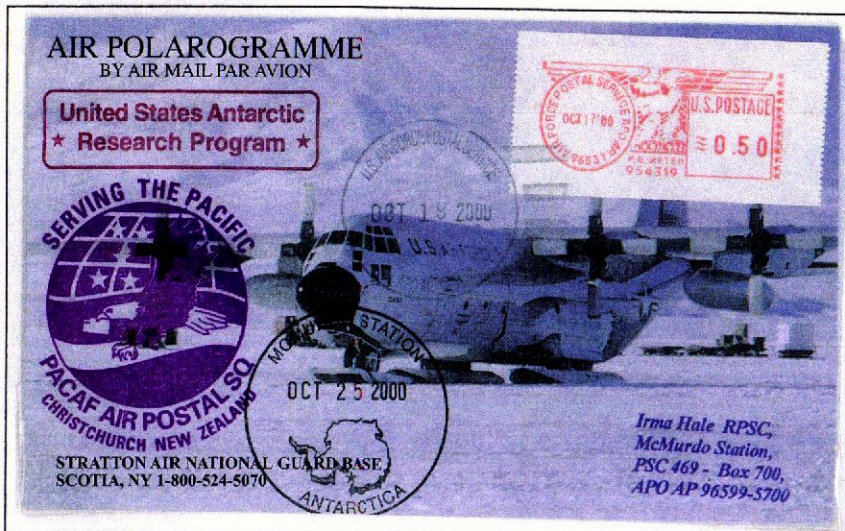
Date: 17 October 2000 USAF APO 96531

19 October 2000 USAF APO 96531

25 October 2000 McMurdo

Rate: \$0.33 Domestic or \$0.60 International
Paid \$0.50

Air Polarogrammes are printed by a number of companies with Antarctic themes and are often sold at tourist counters.



**First Stop on the way to Antarctica.
Last Stop on the Way Home.**

The Christchurch APO post office PVI handles the personal items that cannot be carried onboard as luggage.

APO at Christchurch Airport

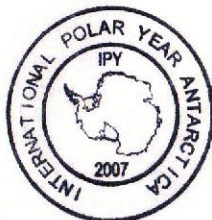
MOS/Unisys PVI

Used After 2000

**Scott F. Smith
South Pole Station
PSC 468 Box 400
APO AP 96598-5400**



U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
APO AP
96531
SEP 29, 08
AMOUNT
\$0.42
00028226-02



Scott Smith

Denver, CO 80211 USA

PVI With optional Zipcode barcode

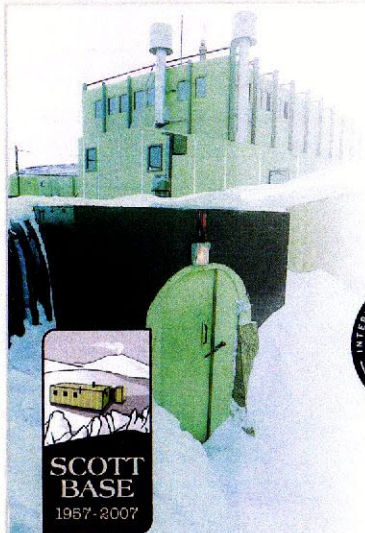
Date: 29 September 2008

Rate: \$0.41 Domestic Letter

PVI Without optional Zipcode barcode

Date: 29 September 2008

Rate: \$0.41 Domestic Letter



NEW ZEALAND POST FIRST DAY COVER 2007



U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
APO AP
96531
OCT 28, 07
AMOUNT
\$0.41
00043652-01

*Scott F. Smith
South Pole Station
PSC 468 Box 400
APO AP 96598*