

AIRMAIL ISSUES - After regular postage, airmail issues are the most frequently depicted 'Mothers.'

NEWFOUNDLAND - 1919

The Newfoundland 3c "Hawker," (C1), a classic airmail rarity, was prepared by postmaster J.A. Robinson for the attempted flight to Ireland by Lt. Harry Hawker and Maj. K. Mackenzie Grieve on May 18, 1919... eight years before Lindbergh's successful flight. After 14 1/2 hours aloft, the Sopwith biplane was forced down into the ocean and the two men were rescued by a Danish steamship. Their mail bag, however, remained in the water until salvaged *five weeks* later. Of the 200 overprints produced, 18 were damaged/destroyed, 95 were used to frank covers carried on the ill-fated flight, 11 were given as presentation copies and the remaining 76 were sold in aid of the Marine Disaster Fund. **Shown below: one of the few surviving mint copies plus one of the 95 recovered covers. Certificates**



• 'Offspring'
Nicaragua - 1976



• 'Mother'
NEWFOUNDLAND - 1919



• 'Offspring'
Paraguay - 1979



FORGERY



AIRMAIL ISSUES

FRANCE - 1928

In 1928, the French experimented with catapulting a plane from the deck of the ocean liner "Isle de France" prior to arriving in the port of New York. Successful, it was to be repeated on the return journey to Le Havre. A special 10 franc fee had been levied for 'catapult mail.' Stamp supplies ran low. Therefore, in New York, existing stocks of 90c. and 1.50fr. were surcharged to provide the 10 franc rate. A total of 1,135 of the 90c. and 250 of the 1.50fr. stamps were used during the trip. The second catapult was also successful but the remaining stamps (3,000 of each had been printed) were burned by the French Post Office. The "Isle de France" stamps have the distinction of being the first stamps issued and sold in the U.S. by a foreign government. **Certificates**



• 'Offspring'
Paraguay - 1979



• 'Mother'
FRANCE - 1928

