

TAIWAN EARLY HORIZONTAL FORMULA ENVELOPES

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The early post office envelopes were also issued in the horizontal format. The earliest date that I have found used was January 23, 1954. However, it is very possible that the issue could have been in late 1953. The purpose of the horizontal format was to supply the public with envelopes that could readily be used for printing, fig. 1 is one such envelope printed for the for the 10th Anniversary of the China Philatelic Society (it is still active today). These types of envelopes were used extensively for first day covers, especially the additional prints which many times do not have a cachet. This was the favorite envelope for philatelic covers during this period.



You will note the perforated box that appears in the upper right corner of the envelope. These vary also in size and design. However, they are usually covered by the stamps, so this characteristic is not considered in separating the envelopes.



Fig. 2



Fig. 3

There are two types of the character “Yu” found in the circle on the back, Type A is fig. 2 and Type B is fig. 3, the difference being that type A has the two boxes in the lower right of the character and type B has the single box.



Fig. 4



Fig. 5

There are also two types of the Chinese inscription; Type 1 is fig. 4 with the right portion of the characters read “dual style standard envelope, and Type 2 fig. 5, reads “western style envelope”. Only the Type 1 is found on the earliest envelopes, later it was changed to Type 2 in 1960 for all subsequent envelopes.

The Chinese characters are measured left to right, including the circled “Yu”.

TYPE 1 CHINESE INSCRIPTION

Envelope Number	Chinese Characters	Circle	Yu Type A	Yu Type B	Size Imprinted
FE-1	49mm	15.5mm	9mm		None
FE-2	49mm	15.5mm	9mm		114x162mm
FE-3	46mm	9mm	5.5mm		114x162mm
FE-4	40mm	9mm		5.5mm	114x162mm
FE-5	43.5mm	9mm	9mm		114x162mm

- FE-1 Earliest date found January 21, 1954, light blue ink.
 Paper: smooth cream color, .0061 inch thickness. Please note the first envelope does NOT have the 114x162mm envelope size imprinted on the back flap.
- FE-2 Earliest date found July 18, 1955, dark green ink. (only envelope so far found with other than shades of blue).
 Paper: smooth cream color, .0042 inch thickness.
 a. Thin smooth better quality paper, white .0038 inch thickness.
- FE-3 Earliest date found March 1957, dark blue ink.
 Paper: smooth white paper, .0038 inch thickness
- FE-4 Earliest date found May 1959, medium blue ink
 Paper: rough white paper color, .0052 inch thickness. Please note the broken “Yu” in the circle, this may be on all envelopes from this printing or perhaps a variety. Fig. 6
- FE-5 Earliest date found April 1960 medium blue ink
 Paper: rough white paper, .0057 inch thickness

TYPE 2 CHINESE INSCRIPTION

Envelope Number	Chinese Characters	Circle	Yu Type A	Yu Type B	Size Imprinted
FE-6	43mm	9mm	5mm		114x162mm
FE-7	43mm	9mm		5.5mm	114x162mm
FE-8	45.5mm	9.5mm		5.5mm	114x162mm
					53.5 2,000,000

FE-6 Earliest date found January 25, 1961 medium blue ink
 Paper: smooth, cream color .0039 to .0045 inch thickness.

FE-7 Earliest date found November 8, 1961, very light blue ink
 Paper: smooth, cream color .0045 inch thickness

FE-8 Earliest date found May 1966., medium blue ink.
 Paper: smooth, cream color .0040-0045 inch thickness. This is the only envelope that has the date 53.5 (1964.5) and quantity imprinted. No doubt this envelope was used much earlier than the examples found.

- a. with postal zone blocks added. The use of postal zone blocks was effective March 20, 1970. Fig. 6 is a cover used April 10, 1973 from a small postal agency. This was no doubt from residual stock that was overprinted for use after March 20, 1970 and being a small agency still had the envelopes on hand for sale.



艾克
善德

啟



號區道郵人件收寄請

台南市大同路526巷27號

南投縣水里鄉水峰村

18號



號區道郵人件寄

Fig. 6