

WEIRD AND WONDERFUL!

This is bizarre! At first glance in a dim light, sheet of 20 of the 1924 "Icarus" 5000k air-mail; But even a cursory examination shows it flying too near the Sun in several aspects:

Design, hence the stamps, slightly but significantly too large.

Colour: Frame more or less OK, but center nowhere near the correct mauve.

Registration of frame and center wanders from stamp to stamp, abysmal on some.

Thickness of figure 5 too even.

Paper: Ungummed, about the right thickness (or thin-ness), but "watermark" of 1913 Multiple Crosses printed on in pale brown – greasy ink? so it shows when held up to light. Wrong anyway: pattern incorrect, does not extend over top and bottom margins, sideways on issued stamps; And the 5000K has the 1923 Crosses on Square!

Perforation 12¾-13 (line, varies slightly) compared with genuine 14 (comb).

Sixteen out of the 20 stamps "postmarked", leaving 4 "unused", un-Hungarian mark "Budapest 3 – VII – 26": 4 months after currency revaluation, though "Icarus" valid until March 31st 1927.

Conclusion, there doesn't seem to be anything right! So what on earth could be the point of anyone wanting to produce such a blatantly-wrong crude reproduction (calling it a "forgery" is too flattering), what is to be gained by it, would it deceive anyone for a moment?

Possibly from a get-rich-quick merchant, directed at a gullible market that likes to "invest" its money in "rare" stamps but whose knowledge of philately is NIL?



A genuine one
for comparison

