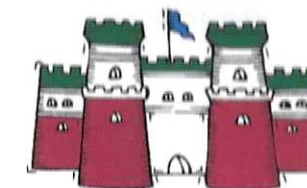


Castelli d'Italia natural colors

The visual collection



The "Castelli d'Italia" definitive series consist of 37 stamps and is therefore the largest ordinary Italian definitive one. This number of values was determined by the long period of use and so by the issue of further values, adapting to the new postal rates. The issuance period begins in 1980 and ends in 1997. In addition, 14 values have been produced, on coil, for vending machines. More over, additional four stamps (200-250-300 and 450 Lire value) were officially re-printed lately, in the nineties, (1994) using the rotogravure system. During the entire production period, many reprints of almost all values were made, using the same printing method but not identical colors, so for this definitive series the colors differences are remarkable.

This collection shows for the first time ever, the natural colors that belongs to "Castelli d'Italia" stamps set. Not only tones and shades are listed and coded but also some important colors features. All the stamps came from a careful selection giving me the ability to describe their peculiarity in the best possible way. Envelopes were chosen for the rarity of stamps used on them, all items anyway were selected to represent the true colors and their use. Not only based on Italian philatelic specialized catalogues but also and above all from my research, analyzing more than 3 millions of Castelli stamps here you will see both well known varieties and unavoidably, unreleased and unknown new features.

As an Italian stamps collector I started to make specialization studies on Italian Republic stamps about 20 years ago, "Castelli d'Italia" series took all my passion and my time in the last 7 years. Involved in many philatelic Italian clubs as AFIS, CIFO, UFS and USFI, I've been writing many articles and a book which is the completion of all my Castelli's research. To be able in color coding I've been studying all the color scales, from Pantone to Munsell method, the RGB system, the CYMK system including the Stanley Gibbons color scale. Last but not least I also practiced alteration on stamps using different kind of acids, developing the knowledge to recognise an adulterated color from a genuine one.

Collection's plan

Cap.I	All the natural colors of Castelli definitive series	p.	2-64
Cap.II	The Castelli's colors analogies	p.	65-66
Cap.III	The Castelli's colors infiltrations	p.	67-76
Cap.IV	Castelli printed on "colored paper"	p.	77-80
Cap.V	Colors on the back side	p.	81-82
Cap.VI	Luminescent colors	p.	83-84
Cap.VII	Fluorescent colors on back side	p.	85-86
Cap.VIII	Castelli on coil peculiarity	p.	87-88
Cap.IX	Evanescent colors	p.	89-94
Cap. X	Missed colors excess colors	p.	95-112
Cap. XI	Fake and manipulated colors	p.	113-114
Cap. XII	Misplaced colors	p.	115-120

Colors as a centuries-old philatelic history problem

During the long resarch on Castelli's colors, I could not avoid thinking about the IV Sardinia series, the most collected one, precisely because of the color varieties that are being discovered from time to time. Although almost two centuries have passed since its birth and distribution, the IV Sardinia series still fascinates many collectors.

I hope the same will happen to the Castelli series to which many shades belong in despite that printing methods and colors production are so different nowadays. The phenomenon has again expressed itself in a striking way.



Example of many shades belonging to 10 Cent. IV Sardinia series and shades of 150 Lire Castelli's series



Viewing the collection - guide

See under white cold light

If some pieces look the same, compare sky, backgroud and castle colors, you will se the difference

Catalogue numbers used are "Sassone Specializzazioni" ones

Rarity and not common (NC) pieces are reported in red

Chapter I - The Castelli's natural colors and their coding

5 Lire. Castel Sant'Angelo, Roma. Rotogravure printing - Goebel 2 colors, brownish red - azure

Colors description order: Background, sky, castle



10 Lire. Castello Sforzesco, Milano. Rotogravure printing - Goebel 2 colors, ochre - brown

Colors description order: Background, text, sky and castle*



16 pieces of 5 Lire **A1** color - 1986 letter in rate 530 Lire,
Over franked of 20 Lire.



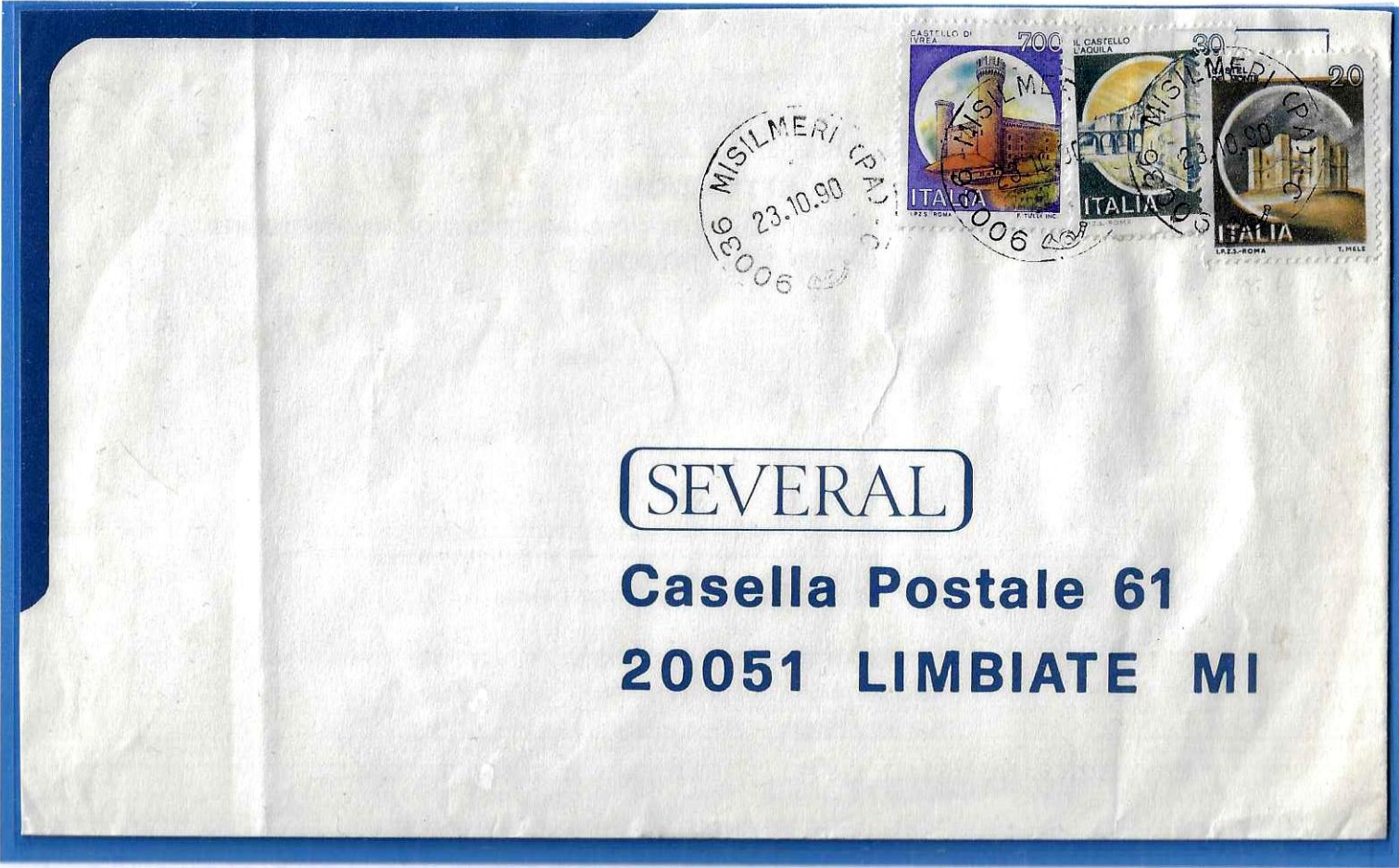
8 pieces of 10 Lire in four different colors, 1) **B1** - 2) **B8** - 3) **B7** 4) **B3**, unique one
1992 taxed letter the Siracusana ones where no more in use.

20 Lire. Castel del Monte Andria, Bari. Rotogravure printing - Goebel 2 colors, intense blue - sepia

Colors description order: Background, hill/castle, sky*



15 copies of 20 Lire in two different colors 1) C8 2) C4
1986 letter in rate 550 Lire.



1 copy of 20 Lire in its C1 color
1990 letter in rate 750 Lire.

30 Lire. Castello De L'Aquila. Rotogravure printing - Goebel 2 colors, blue - yellow

Colors description order: Background, sky



40 Lire. Castello di Ursino, Catania. Rotogravure printing - Goebel 2 colors, emerald green - brown

Colors description order: Background, castle



AVVISO DI RICEVIMENTO DELLA
CONTESTAZIONE-VIOLAZIONE N°

RACC. N. _____

SPEDITA IL _____

DALL'UFFICIO DI _____

INDIRIZZATA A: 103819/02-N.OP 00764531-COMP 0186
GIANNATTASIO PAOLO
VIA U.MASONI 54
80133-NAPOLI NA

Da restituire: INAIL - Sede di

8 0 1 3 3 NAPOLI NA

CAP LOCALITÀ SIGLA PROV.

New 30 Lire in its color **D2** considered a variety (Sassone 1121Ah)
The same copy on acknowledgment of receipt, in express rate 300 Lire.



Two mint block of four in their **E2** and **E4** colors.

50 Lire. Rocca di Calascio, l'Aquila. Rotogravure printing - Goebel 4 colors process

Colors description order: Background, castle, sky*



F14
Pure light blue
Lemon yellow
*Very clear yellow



The copy of 50 Lire present on this envelope is considered a variety where red has totally missed the passage of printing, in this case we have a very strong red evanescence. It is confirmed as such because the red color appears at the bottom of the castle bases as indicated by the arrow.

1999 letter in rate
1123An Rarity



A mint two-colored block of four:
on the left specimens in **F10** color,
on the right specimens in **F8** color.
NC



1982 postcard in rate 250 Lire, two 50 Lire pieces in their **F2** and **F12** colors.



1993 letter in rate 750 Lire, two 50 Lire pieces in their **F2** and **F3** colors.

60 Lire. Torre Normanna San Mauro Forte, Matera. Rotogravure printing - Goebel 2 colors, lilac - yellowish green

Colors description order: Upper background, lower background, castle*

This specimen, like the 1400 Lire Castelli one, has a strong color difference between the upper and the lower background.
For this reason the background was coded in two shades, the up one and the low one precisely.



70 Lire. Castello Aragonese, Reggio Calabria. Rotogravure printing - Goebel 4 colors process

Colors description order: Background, sky, castle*



1980 postcard in rate 120 Lire
Pair of 60 Lire in G2 color.



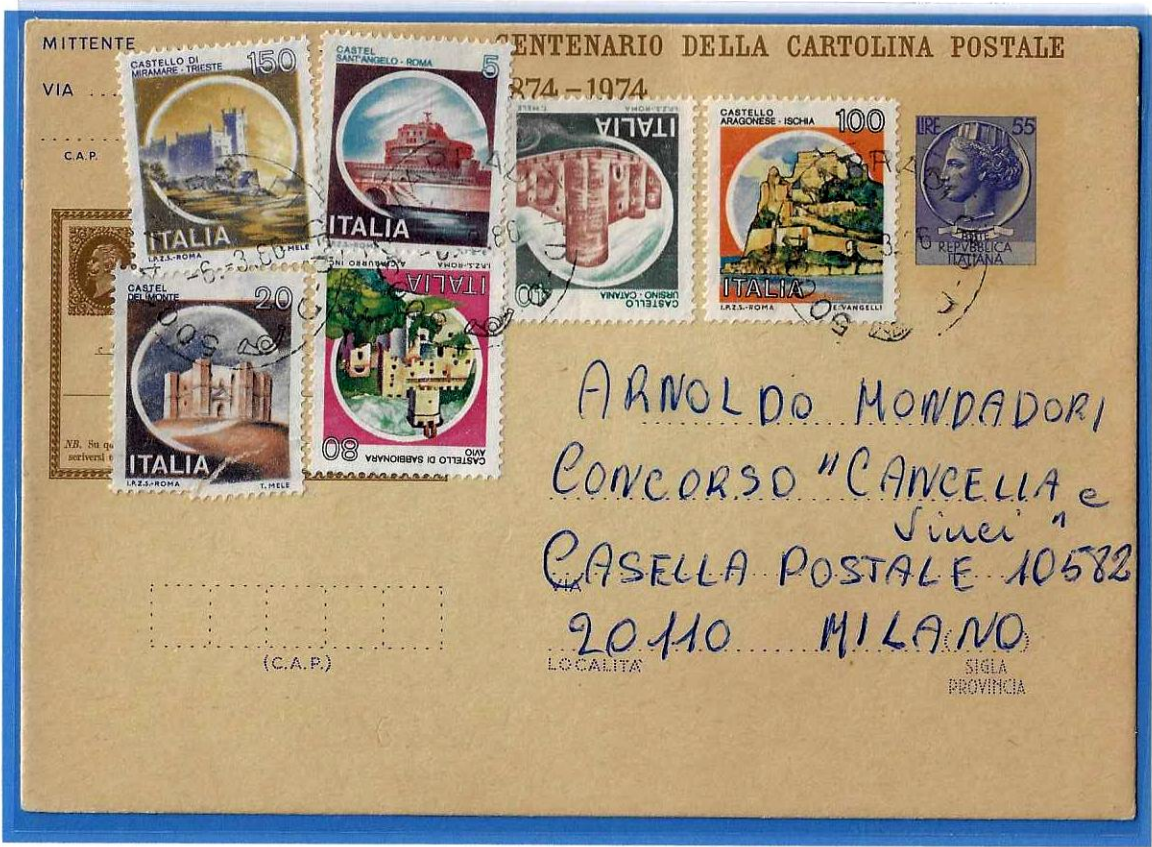
1994 registered letter in rate 3950 Lire, five 70 Lire copies in strip with partial evanescent print.

Comparing this strip with all the colors found on this piece you can notice a mixture of them all, the first two are like **H1** except the green, the third one and the fifth one are bicolored and the fourth one is a color in its own right so here coded as **H6**

1125 Ab Rarity

80 Lire. Castello di Sabbionara Avio, Trento. Rotogravure printing - Goebel 4 colors process

Colors description order: Background, castle, bush*



1986 post card in rate 450 Lire, the 80 Lire it's I1 tone
Uncommon cover franked in 6 colors (Castelli values only).



1983 post card in rate 300 Lire, the 80 Lire in it's I2 tone
Twin values with 80 Lire Siracusana.



As you can see the fourth piece starting from left has the color of the bush of a predominant shade of green, which differs from the rest of the specimens; this is repeated throughout the vertical row of the entire sheet, this is how the tone here encoded as the I3 is born
Another peculiarity of this block is the clearer sky on the specimens in the second row to the right.

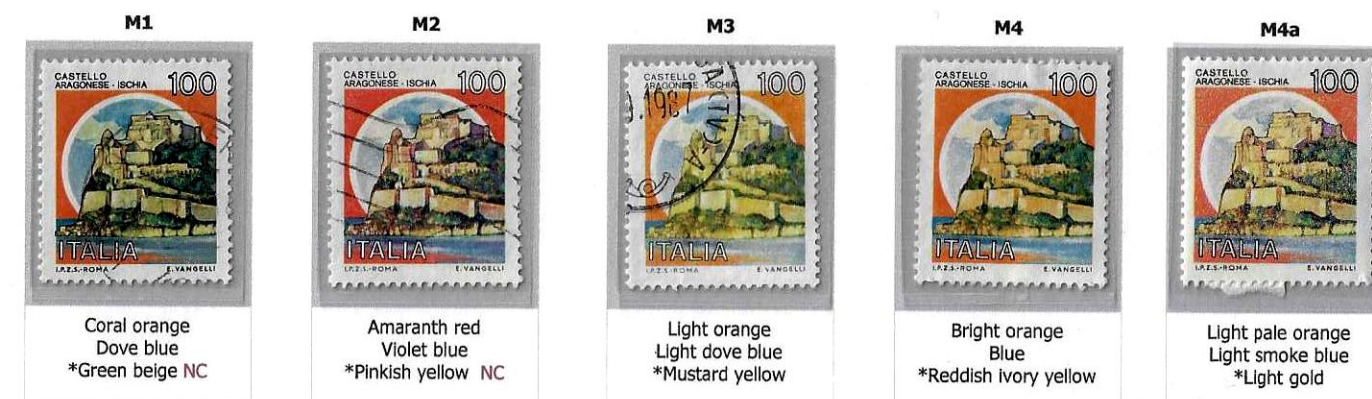
90 Lire. Castello di Isola Capo Rizzuto, Crotone. Rotogravure printing - Goebel 4 colors process

Colors description order: Background, sky, castle*



100 Lire. Castello Aragonese Ischia, Napoli. Rotogravure printing - Goebel 4 colors process

Colors description order: Background, sky, castle*



1981 registered letter in rate 800 Lire, the 90 Lire in it's L2 tone.



M11

Vermilion orange
Light lilac red
*Pinkish sand

1988 express letter in rate 3700 Lire, three copies of 100 Lire in their not common tone **M11**
These specimens are the only ones known, the common variety in violet is the M7 one.
Moreover cover franked in 5 colors, Castelli value only.

1128Ae Rarity



1984 letter in rate 400 Lire.

Pair on the left in shade **M1** with 14X13 $\frac{1}{4}$ perforation, the pair on the right in shade **M4** with 13 $\frac{1}{4}$ X13 $\frac{1}{4}$ perforation and sea of different colors on the couple.

Rarity



1983 postal card in rate 300 Lire. The specimen in it's not common tone **M10**.

120 Lire. Castello Estense, Ferrara. Rotogravure printing - Goebel 2 colors intense blue - red orange

Colors description order: Background, sky



spett.le
DASH ULTRA C/O CEMIT
C.P. 140 BC
10100 TORINO

1992 letter in rate 750 Lire, the 120 Lire in it's N2 tone
Four color franked all Castelli values.



Mint blocks of 120 Lire with block perforation, first edition,
which already have two noticeable differences in color, listed here as N2 and N3.

150 Lire. Castello Miramare di Trieste. Rotogravure printing - Goebel 4 colors process

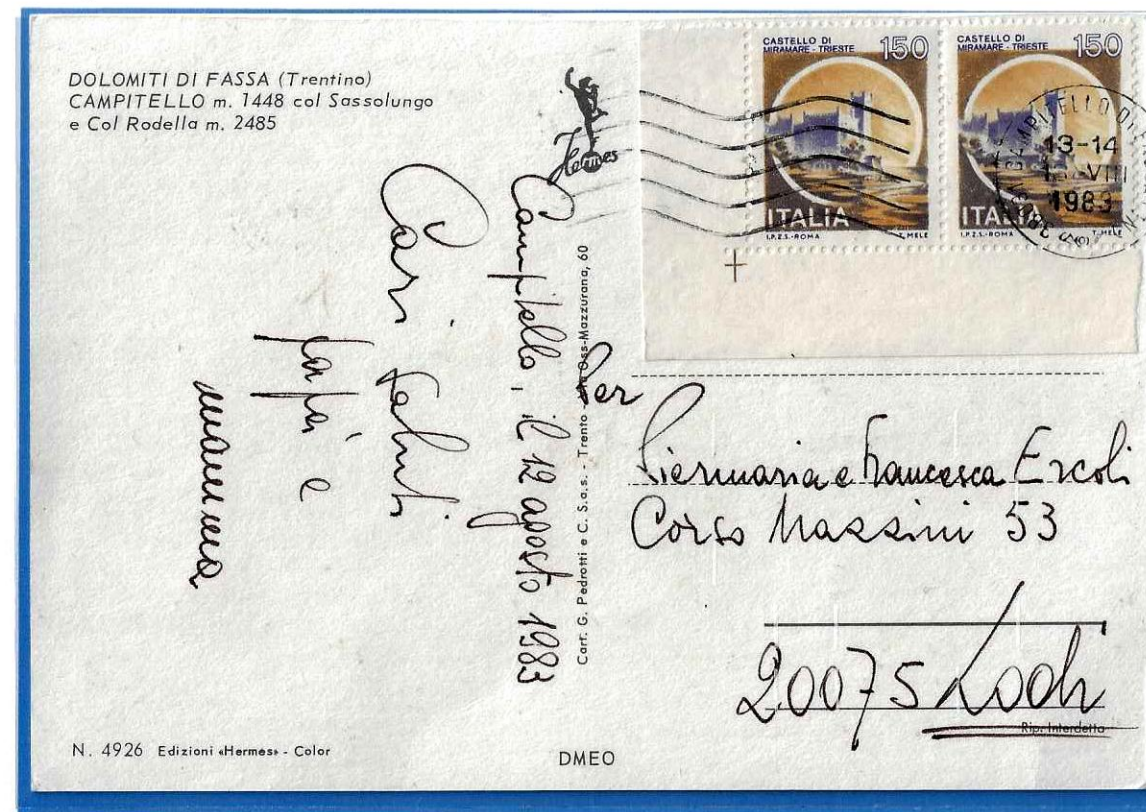
Colors description order: Background, text and castle, sea and sky*



Three mint blocks of 6 specimens in three different tones, respectively **03**, **06** and **08**.
To notice the colors of triangles on the edge of the sheet, not always the colors used for the prints where the same, this is the reason why the various shades of color were generated.



Piece with 150 Lire in its **012** shade.



1983 picture postcard in rate 300 Lire.
Pair of 150 Lire in shade **02**. Rare with block perforation.



1988 post card over franked of 50 Lire.
Two pieces in different colors, **03** and **01**.



1987 letter 600 Lire in rate.
Block of four in **01** shade.



1986 letter in rate 550 Lire.
150 Lire in shade **02**. Uncommon cover franked in 7 colors, all Castelli values.

170 Lire. Castello di Ostia, Roma. Chalcographic and offset printing 2 colors, yellow - black

Colors description order: Background, sky



180 Lire. Castel Gavone, Savona. Chalcographic and offset printing 2 colors, ultramarine - red

Colors description order: Background, sky



1980 letter 180 Lire in rate.
cA1 shade, first periodo used on its own.



1982 picture postcard, 200 Lire in rate.
180 Lire in its cB2 shade.

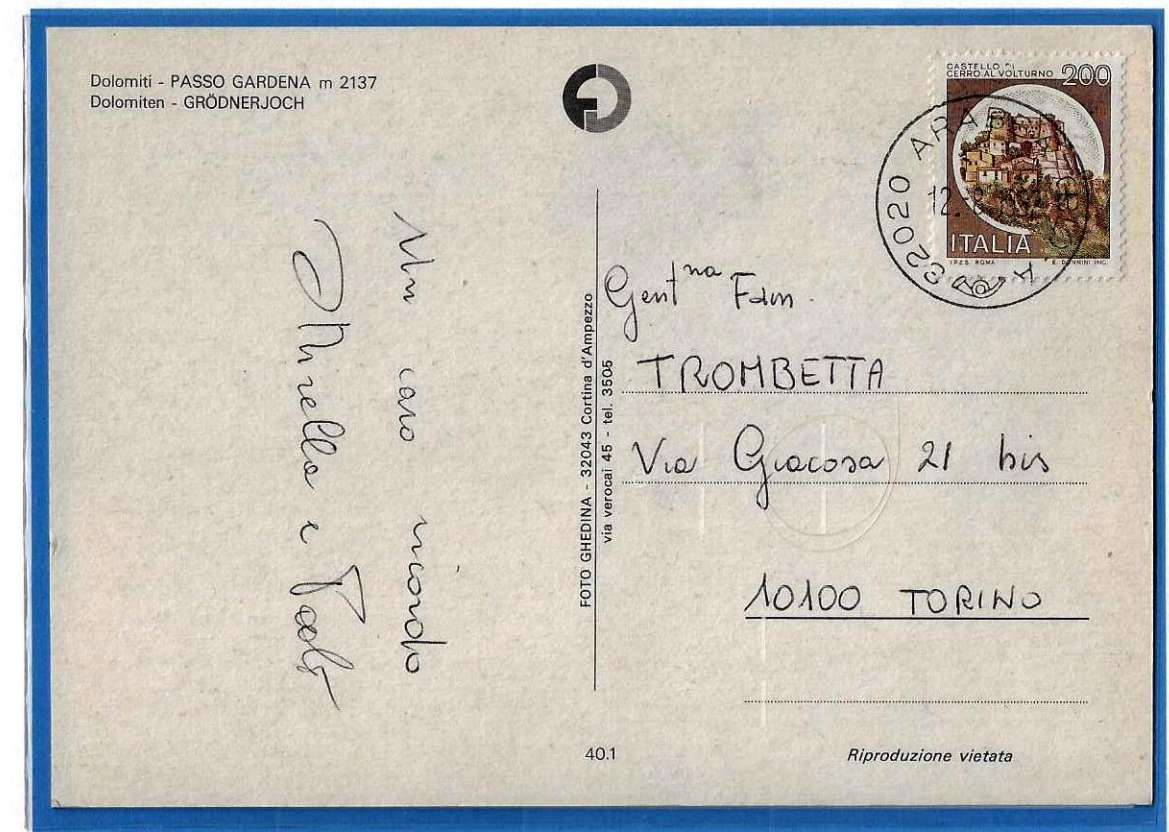
200 Lire. Castello di Cerro al Volturmo, Isernia. Chalcographic and offset printing 4 colors, brown - three colors offset

Colors description order: Background, sky, castle*



Mint block of four

Blue print missing in the background but slightly visible on the buildings and lower right.
cc5 shade. **Rare color.**



1982 picture postcard, 200 Lire in rate.

Very rare specimen with the total absence of blue printing, cc6 shade

250 Lire. Rocca di Mondavio, Pesaro Urbino. Chalcographic and offset printing 4 colors, green - three colors offset

Colors description order: Background, sky, castle*



300 Lire. Castello Normanno Svevo di Bari. Chalcographic and offset printing 4 colors, red - three colors offset

Colors description order: Background, sky, castle*



1992 letter 750 Lire in rate.
Same stamp two different colors, pair in **cd1** and single in **cd5** shades.



1982 registered letter, 900 Lire in rate. 300 Lire and 600 Lire Castelli are rare in this combination.

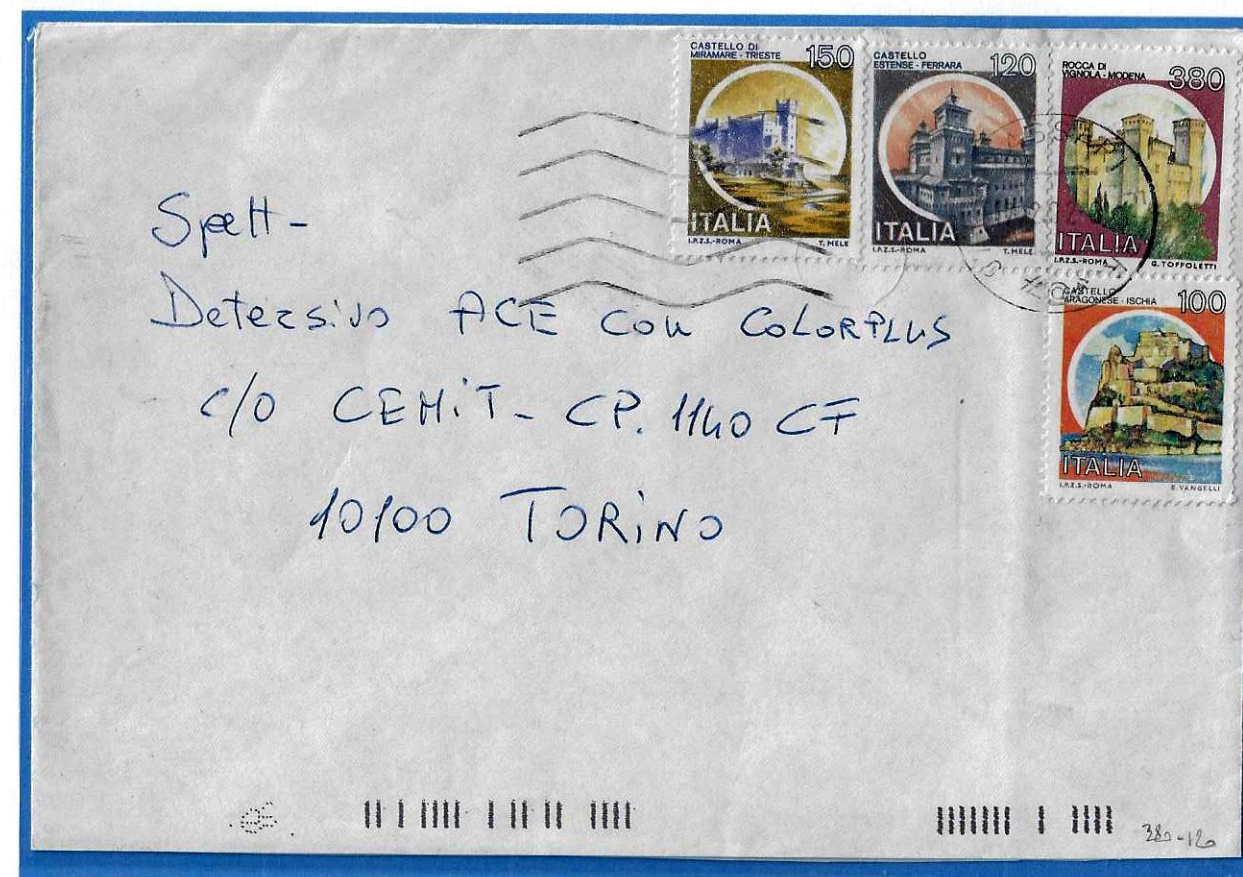
350 Lire. Castello di Mussomeli, Caltanissetta. Chalcographic printing 3 colors, blue - sepia - green

Colors description order: Background, castle, bush



380 Lire. Rocca di Vignola, Modena. Rotogravure printing - Goebel 4 colors process

Colors description order: Background, bush, castle*



1992 letter, 750 Lire in rate. 380 Lire in its **P3** shade.
Uncommon cover franked in four colors, all Castelli values.

400 Lire. Castello dell'imperatore, Prato. Chalcographic printing 3 colors, green - blue - brown

Colors description order: Background, castle, soil



cG10
Yellow green
Grayish cobalt
Reddish brown

Piece with 400 Lire in two different colors, the first two pieces on the left are **cG3** shade, the third on the right is **cG10** shade.



Mint block of 400 Lire with the "darker specimen" carry-over variety, position 87 detected in a small part of the print run. These two colors of the 400 Lire correspond to the color **cG7** for the laterals and **cG8** for the specimen in the center.

1137Ag



2000 registered letter 5500 Lire in rate.
Mint block of 400 Lire with the "darker specimen" carry-over variety position 87, **cG8** shade.
1137Ag Rarity



Pair in **cG7** shade.



Mint block of 400 Lire in **cG8** shade.

450 Lire. Castello di Bosa, Oristano. Chalcographic and offset printing 4 colors, blue - three colors offset

Colors description order: Background, bush, castle*



ch10a
Light charcoal Green yellow
ch10b
Light charcoal Green yellow *Yellowish Ivory

1985 special delivery letter, 2450 Lire in rate.
Rare pair of 450 Lire with printing of red, green and yellow colors gradually evanescent.

As we can see on the upper specimen, both the blue and green colors appear clearly visible, while the red is already almost absent.

The specimen below, presents only the print of gray color and very light traces of blue, this phenomenon gave rise to the castle called "slate castle".
1138Af - Very rare piece.

The same process is attributable to the 50 Lire presented on frame 6.

500 Lire. Castello di Rovereto, Trento. Chalcographic printing 3 colors, brown - blue - green

Colors description order: Background, castle, bush



Piece with block of 3 specimens that presents the peculiarity of a progressive color change. It belongs to one of the very first runs and generates the specimens listed here as c14 and c111.



1987 registered letter 2800 Lire in rate.
Values of 500 Lire in different shades, the first c12 the next three c15.

550 Lire. Castello di Rocca di Sinibalda, Rieti. Rotogravure printing - Goebel 4 colors process

Colors description order: Background, mountain, sky*



1993 registered letter, 3950 Lire in rate simple fee charged to the recipient, uncommon. Block of 7 pieces of 550 Lire in Q8 shade.

600 Lire. Castello Scaligero di Sirmione, Brescia. Chalcographic and offset printing 2 colors, black - emerald green

Colors description order: Background, castle



1990 registered letter 3500 Lire in rate.
Interesting 600 Lire block with very pale azure, **cl5** shade. **Rare.**



Piece with 600 Lire in its **cl1** shade.



1987 letter 4400 Lire in rate, incorrectly referred as insured letter, uncommon. 600 Lire in **cl3** shade.

650 Lire. Castello di Montecchio Castiglion Fiorentino, Arezzo. Rotogravure printing - Goebel 4 colors process

Colors description order: Background, bush, sky*



Piece of a traveling envelope with destination Santo Domingo.
Two specimens of different colors in shades **R7** and **R11**.
"Recycled" ones previously canceled.

700 Lire. Castello di Ivrea. Chalcographic and offset printing 4 colors, purple - three colors offset

Colors description order: Background, bush, castle*



1988 special delivery letter 3050 Lire in rate.
Block of four 700 Lire in their **cM4** shade.



1992 letter, 1850 Lire in rate.
700 Lire couple in their **cM5** shade.

750 Lire. Rocca di Urbisaglia, Macerata. Chalcographic printing 3 colors, blue - brown - green

Colors description order: Background, bush, castle

cN1



Light cobalt
Brick brown
Camouflage green

cN2



Cobalt blue
Brown NC
Dark camouflage green

cN3



Blue
Chocolate
Emerald green

cN4



Petrol blue
Brick brown
Emerald green

cN5



Night blue
Brown
Bright green

cN6



Blue
Rust red
Bright green NC

cN7



Pastel blue
Chocolate
Bright green

cN8



Bright blue
Brown
Veronese green

cN9



Cobalt
Brown
Veronese green

cN10



Light milky cobalt
Chocolate
Light jade green NC

cN11



Light cobalt
Brick brown
Light jade green

cN12



Cobalt
Chocolate
Light jade green



1995 special delivery letter, 5100 Lire in rate.
Three piece of 750 Lire in their cN4 and one in cN3 shades.

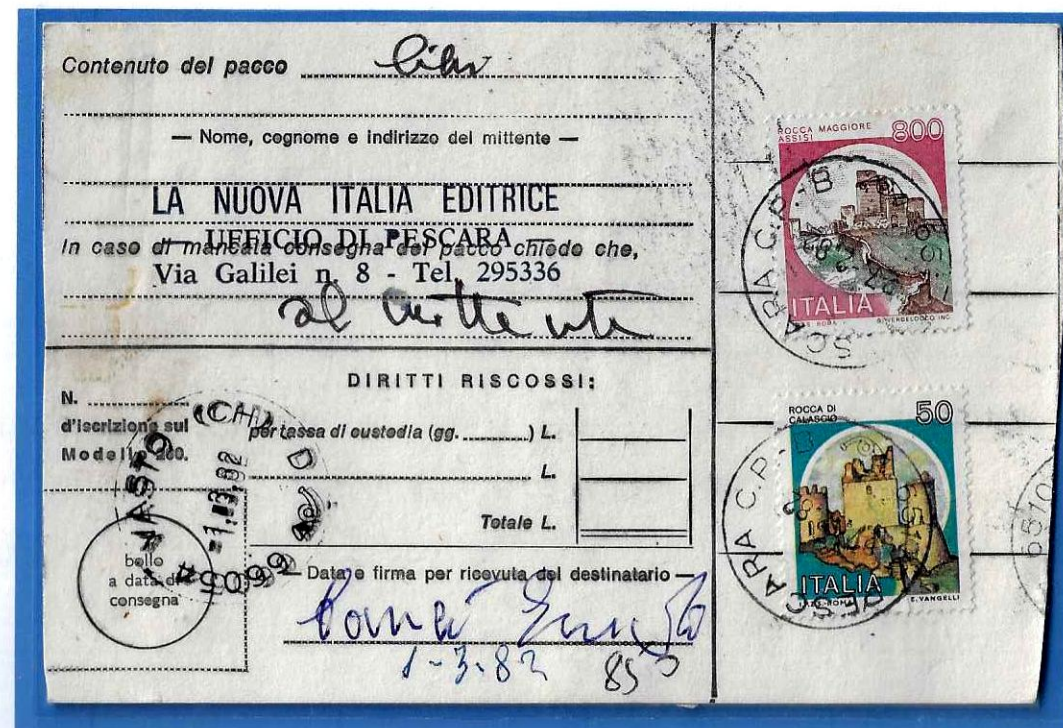
800 Lire. Rocca Maggiore Assisi, Perugia. Chalcographic printing 3 colors, red - brown - green

Colors description order: Background, castle, soil

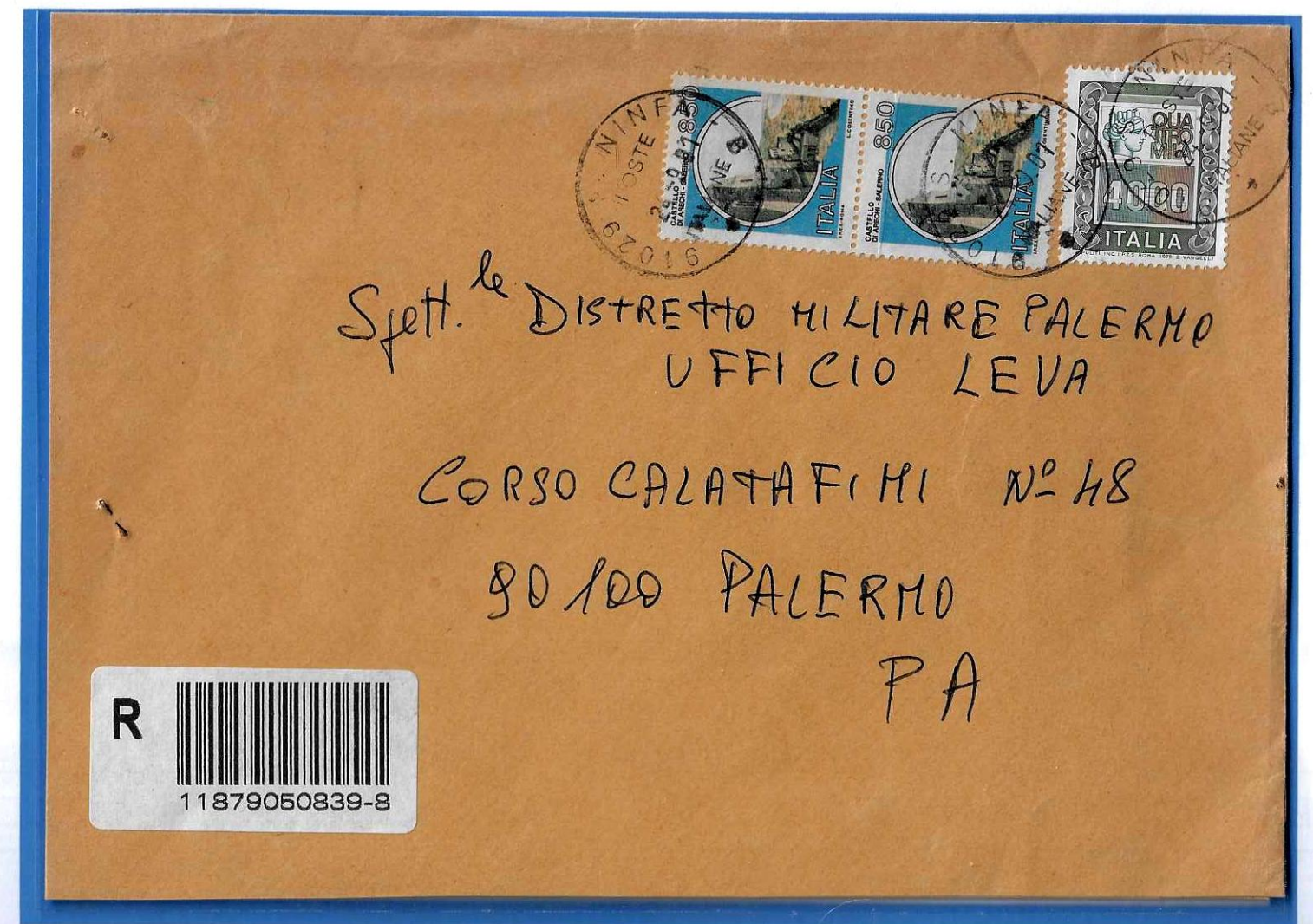


850 Lire. Castello di Arechi, Salerno. Rotogravure printing - Goebel 4 colors process

Colors description order: Background, castle*



1982 parcel bulletin, 800 Lire in rate.
800 Lire in its c03 shade.



1991 registered letter, 5700 Lire in rate.
Couple of 850 Lire in their S1 shade.

900 Lire. Castello di Saint-Pierre, Aosta. Chalcographic printing 4 colors, black - brown - green - yellow

Colors description order: Background, castle, soil



1000 Lire. Castello di Montagnana, Padova. Chalcographic printing 4 colors, ultramarine blue - black - green - orange

Colors description order: Background, soil



1988 parcel bulletin, 1800 Lire in rate .
Couple of 900 Lire in different shades, cP2 and cP4.



Piece with 1000 Lire in its uncommon shade cQ4.

1400 Lire. Castello Caldoresco Vasto, Chieti. Chalcographic printing 3 colors, ultramarine blue - mauve violet - terra di Siena

Colors description order: Upper background, castle, lower backgoud



1981 registered letter 3300 Lire in rate.
Block of three 1000 Lire in their uncommon **cQ3** shade.



1987 registered letter, 3400 Lire in rate.
1400 Lire couple in their **cR2** shade.



1994 registered letter, 3950 Lire in rate.
1000 Lire couple in their **cQ8** shade.

200 Lire. Castello di Cerro al Volturno, Isernia. Rotogravure re-printing 4 colors, yellow - magenta - cyan - brown

Colors description order: Background, sky, castle*



300 Lire. Castello normanno Svevo Bari. Rotogravure re-printing 4 colors, yellow - magenta - cyan - wine red

Colors description order: Background, sky, castle*



250 Lire. Rocca di Mondavio, PesaroUrbino. Rotogravure re-printing 4 colors, yellow - magenta - cyan - green

Colors description order: Background, sky, castle*



450 Lire. Castello di Bosa, Oristano. Rotogravure re-printing 4 colors, yellow - magenta - cyan - blue

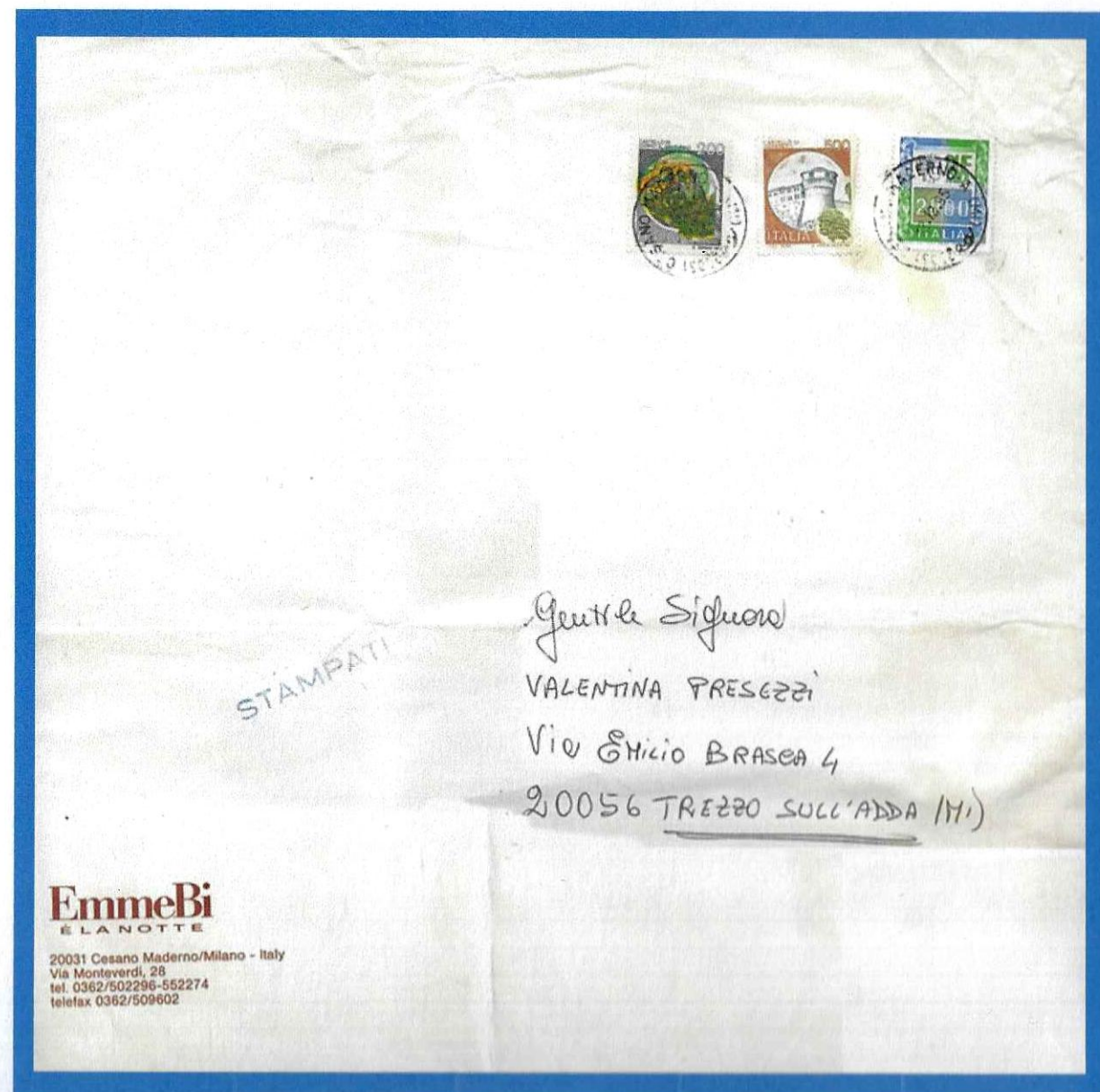
Colors description order: Background, sky, castle*



seB2



Rotogravure re-printing 200 Lire wrongly printed using 450 Lire colors.
Only part of one sheet found in a post office. 1133A Aa Very rare.



1995 printed matter big envelope, franked with the 200 Lire rotogravure with wrong colors.
Part of the sheet found in a post office was already been used by employee to send correspondence.
On the left the entire envelope picture. **Rarity**

Chapter II - The Castelli's colors analogies

During their long life, accidentally some Castelli pieces have become uniform in color.
Here specimens found whit strong color analogies.



20 Lire and 150 Lire made similar
by their background color



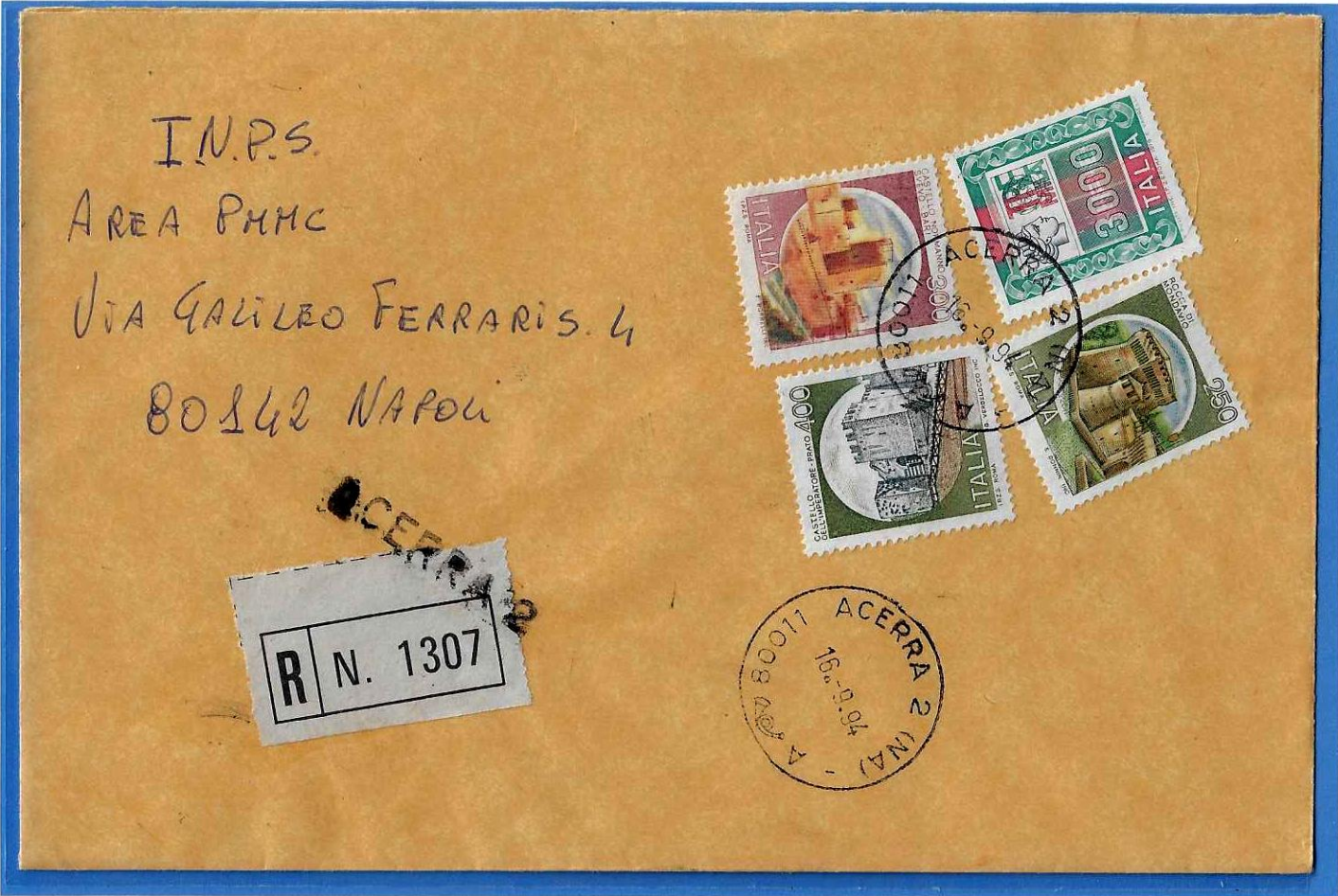
20 Lire and 150 Lire as they should be



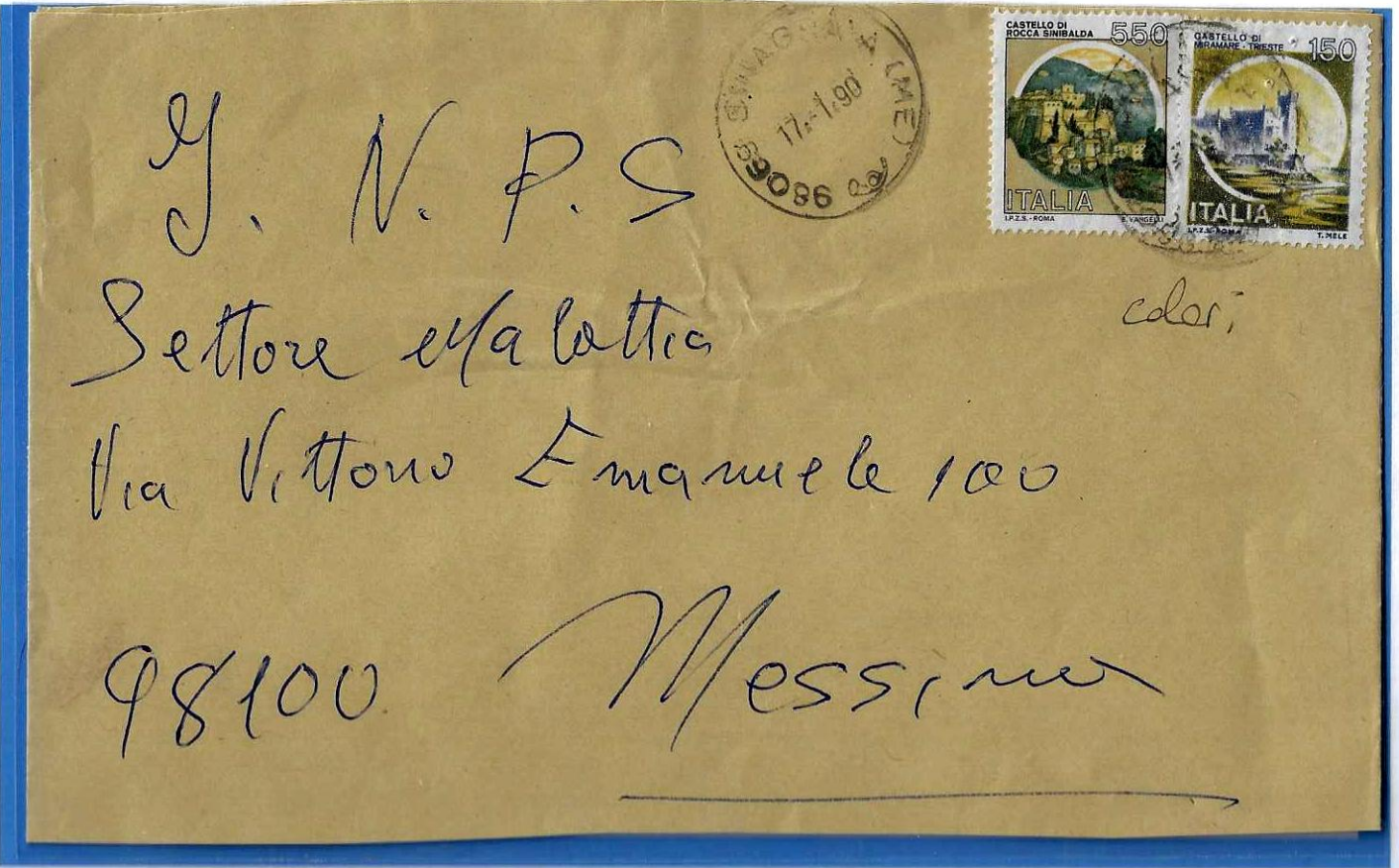
100 Lire and 650 Lire made similar
by their background color



100 Lire and 650 Lire as they should be



1994 registered letter, 3950 Lire in rate.
250 Lire and 400 Lire printed with the same green color.



1990 letter, 700 Lire in rate.
550 Lire and 150 Lire with the analog background color even if in lighter and deeper tone.

Chapter III - The Castelli's color infiltrations

Color infiltrations in chalcographic printed Castelli.

A phenomenon that can occur during the printing of chalcographic stamps is the color infiltration. This "accident" creates valuable occasional varieties that make the study of this series even more interesting. Here are some unexpected finds.

350 Lire



Green, heavy infiltration
Very rare



Brown infiltration
up right
NC



Green infiltration
up left
NC



Blue infiltration
on the top of the castle



Brown infiltration
up left and green spots
on the hill NC



Green infiltration
in a shape
of a christmas tree NC



Blue infiltration
on the lower part
of the hill

400 Lire



Brown Infiltration
on the wall of the castle
NC



Brown infiltration
on all the left side



Brown drops Infiltration
down left



Brown infiltration
down left



Blue Infiltration on
the left side
NC



Blue infiltration on the
left and on all the fence



Green infiltration on the
brick wall and blue on
the fence



Green infiltration
on the brick wall

★ PENTATLON ★

Applica qui il tagliando di controllo
di BIO PRESTO FORZA BUONA

6813530
TAGLIANDO DI CONTROLLO
FUSTINO
PER CONVALIDARE I BUONI SCONTO



CANALE 5

PENTATLON

Casella postale 5
20090 SEGRATE (MI)

Nome O TELLO
Cognome ZATTINI
Via LARGO SANT'ROMANO
Tel. 24-20607
Località ROMA
CAP 00185
Prov. ROMA

corso
LE D'ORO
GATTI
Promotional
postale 1516
MILANO
USIO

450 Lire



Red infiltration
on the green



Yellow infiltration
on the sky
NC

A phenomenon not easy to explain.

Few pieces of 400 Lire (4 known at the moment), where found with orange color on behalf of green.

My supposition is that during the process of printing, a tank containing orange was topped up with green.

This accident gave birth to this very particular specimen.
Very rare.

500 Lire



Brown infiltration
on both tower roofs



Brown infiltration
on the tree



Blue infiltration
down left



Green infiltration
on the bottom side



Blue infiltration
on the upper and left side



1993 printed matter letter, 500 Lire in rate.

Specimen presentig half of its background in
green instead of brown.
1139 Ah Very rare.

Mint block with all the three colors used to
print the stamp (brown, green and blue)
present a halo.
This happened during the printing process
because the paper dragging rollers where dirty.
The doctor blade was not able to clean it.

Not common.



Mint block of three with massive infiltration of green on the first stamp to the left.
1139 Ah Very rare



Mint block of six with "tears" of blue, not common.



1990 registered letter, 4300 Lire in rate.

The three 500 Lire pieces with blue and green
shades in the part that should have been white.
Not common.

SEVERAL

Casella Postale 61

20051 LIMBIATE MI

750 Lire



Brown Infiltration
on the left side
and on the bush NC



Green Infiltration
on the lower part
of the castle NC



Green Infiltration on the right wall of the castle
Present on the three pieces on the right side



Green Infiltration
on the castle towers
NC



Blue Infiltration
on the higher
castle tower



Blue Infiltration
on the top of
castle towers



Brown infiltration
on the sky
NC



Brown infiltration
on the upper side
Very rare



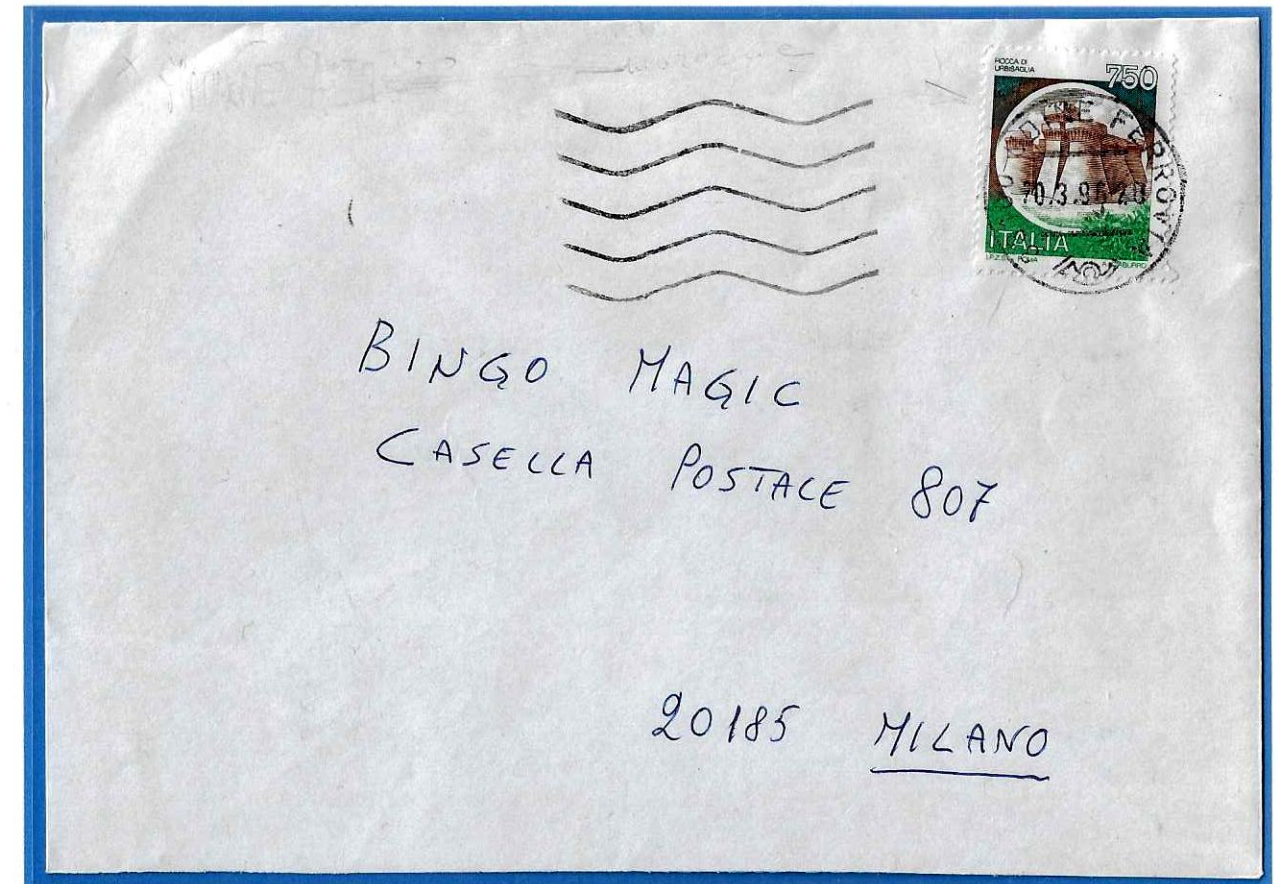
Blue Infiltration
on the lower side
Very rare



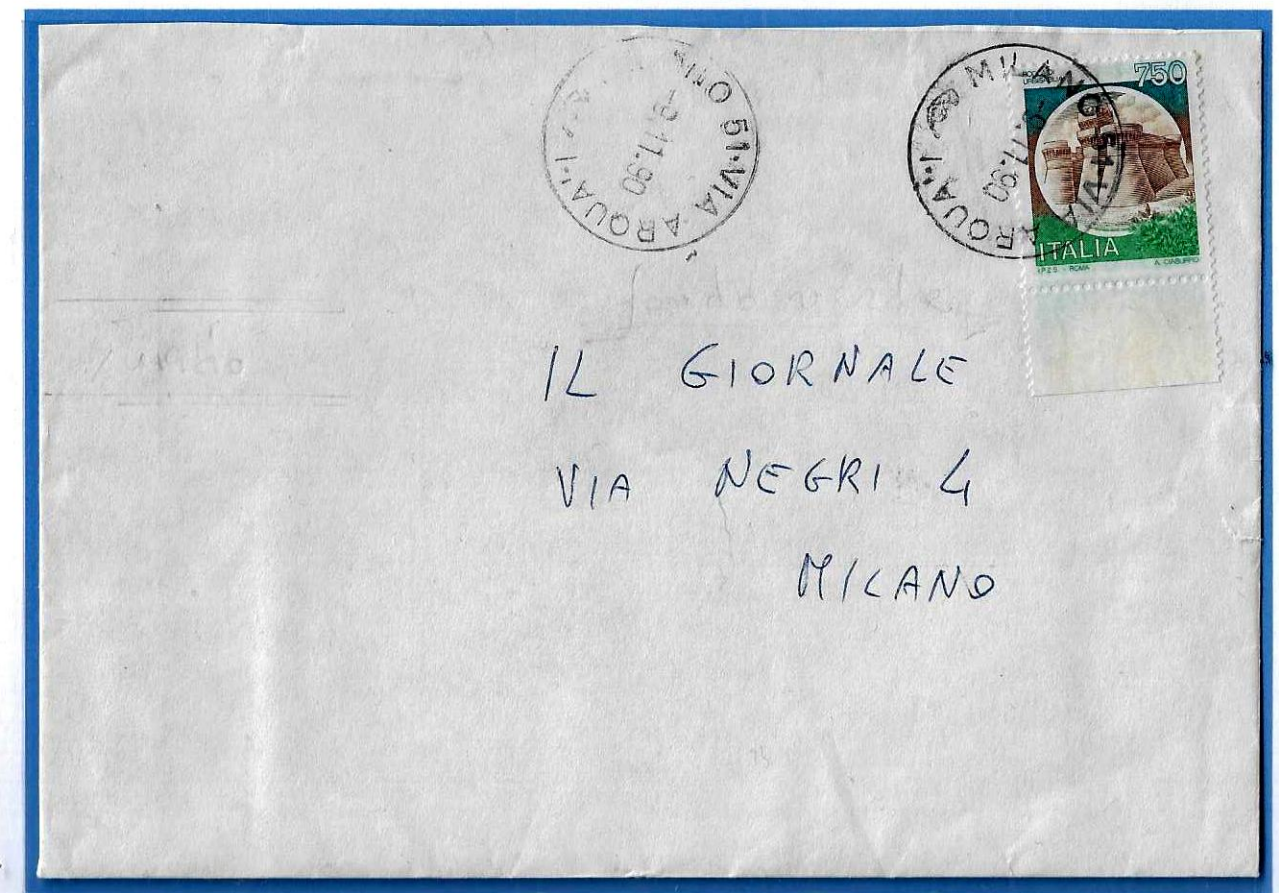
Blue Infiltration
down left
Very rare



Blue Infiltration
on the whole lower side
Very rare



1996 letter, 750 Lire in rate.
Specimen with large brown infiltration on the upper side.
Not Common



1990 letter, 750 Lire in rate.
Specimen spotted with the three same color used to print it (see 500 Lire block).

800 Lire



Brown infiltration
on the green
+ red top on towers NC



Brown infiltration on the left piece
from top to bottom
Rare



Brown infiltration
upper right
NC



Brown infiltration
on the whole green
NC



Green infiltration
down left



Green infiltration on the hill
NC



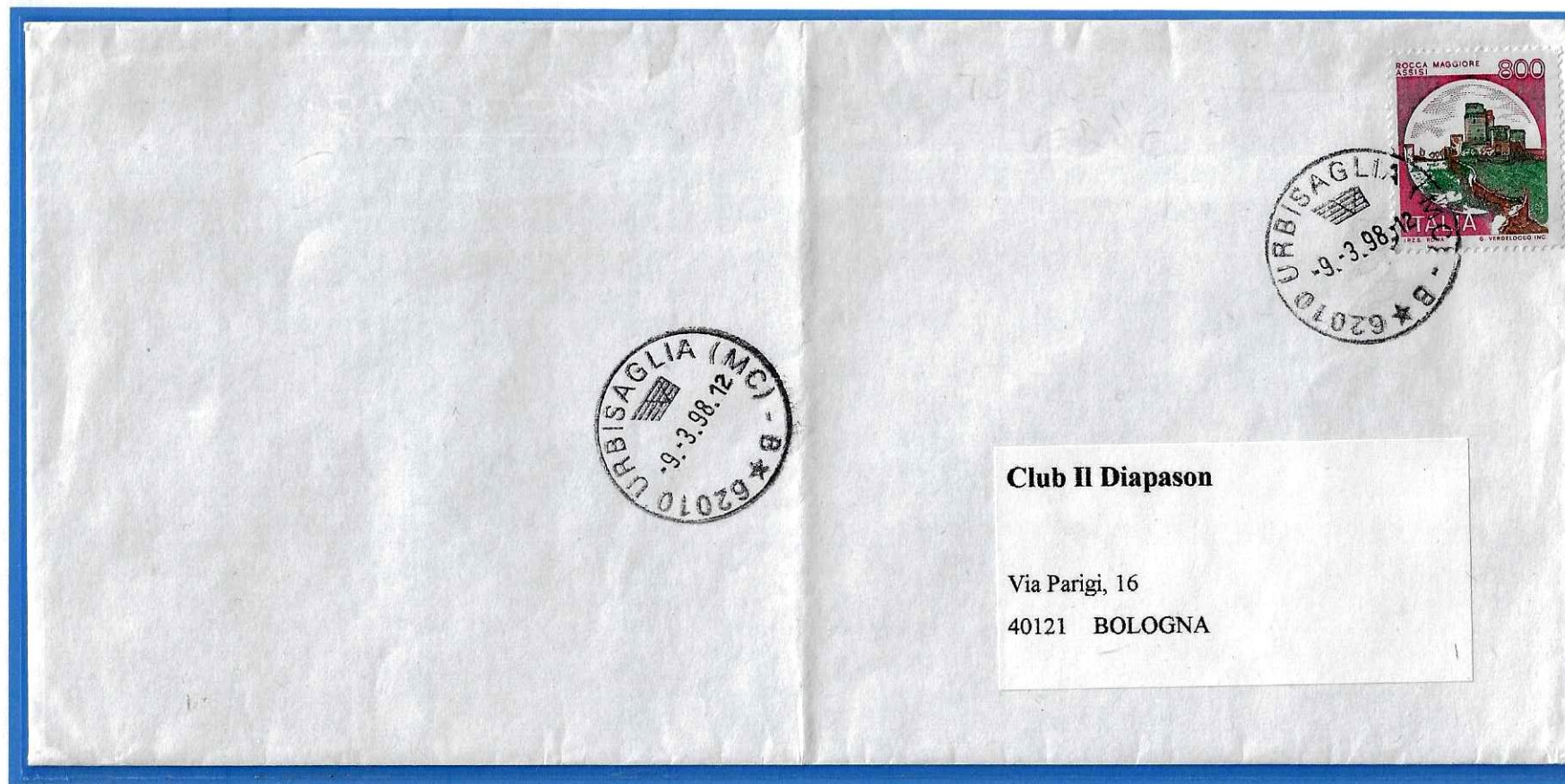
Green infiltration
on the upper side
"purple rain"



Green infiltration
on little towers
at right



Red infiltration
on the top of towers



1998 letter, 800 Lire in rate.
Specimen with heavy green infiltration on the castle.
Very rare.

900 Lire



Green infiltration on the wall in front of the castle
wich appears on all the six pieces
NC



Mint block of 5, sheet first row, the specimen on the right with brown infiltration on the hill
NC



Brown infiltration
up right and on the tree
Very rare



Brown infiltration
down left



Brown infiltration
up right

1000 Lire



Blue infiltration
down, under ITALIA



Heavy blue infiltration
on the upper side
NC



Black infiltration on the
green at right
NC



Green infiltration
on the right castle wall



Black infiltration
down left



Black infiltration on the
whole green



Orange infiltration
on the green
"flowery meadow"



Orange infiltration
on the wall at right
NC



Orange infiltration
on the tunnel at left
NC



Orange infiltration
at the top of the tower
NC

1400 Lire



Mauve infiltration
at the base of
the castle



Blue infiltration
on the top of the castle
at right



Block of four with the second specimen presenting a massive blue infiltration
on a big part of the castle.
Very rare



1984 registered letter, 1950 Lire in rate.
Specimen with mauve infiltration at the base of the castle.

Chapter IV - Castelli printed on "colored paper"

Colored paper for stamp printing does not exist in Italy. When the paper is colored is because the paper feed roller or the print roller are dirty of color. That's why a veil of this color is left on part of it or on its entire surface.
The veil of color has to be exactly as one of the colors used during the printing, otherwise it's not a natural variety. Here are the values with this characteristic.



30 on yellow



100 on orange



170 on yellow



200 on brown



200 on green



300 on red



350 on blue



380 on magenta



400 on green



450 on blue



450 on red



500 on brown



600 on turquoise



650 on yellow



700 on purple



100 Lire on orange



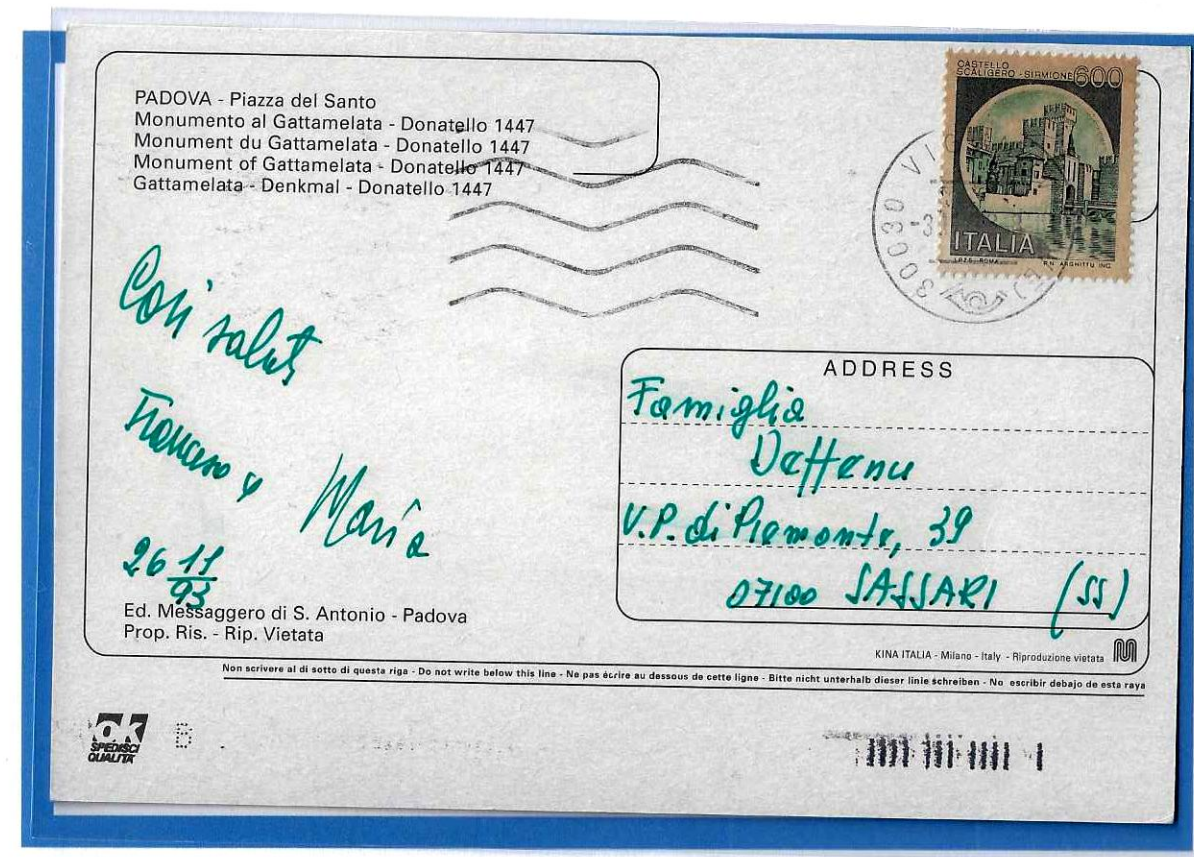
750 on blue



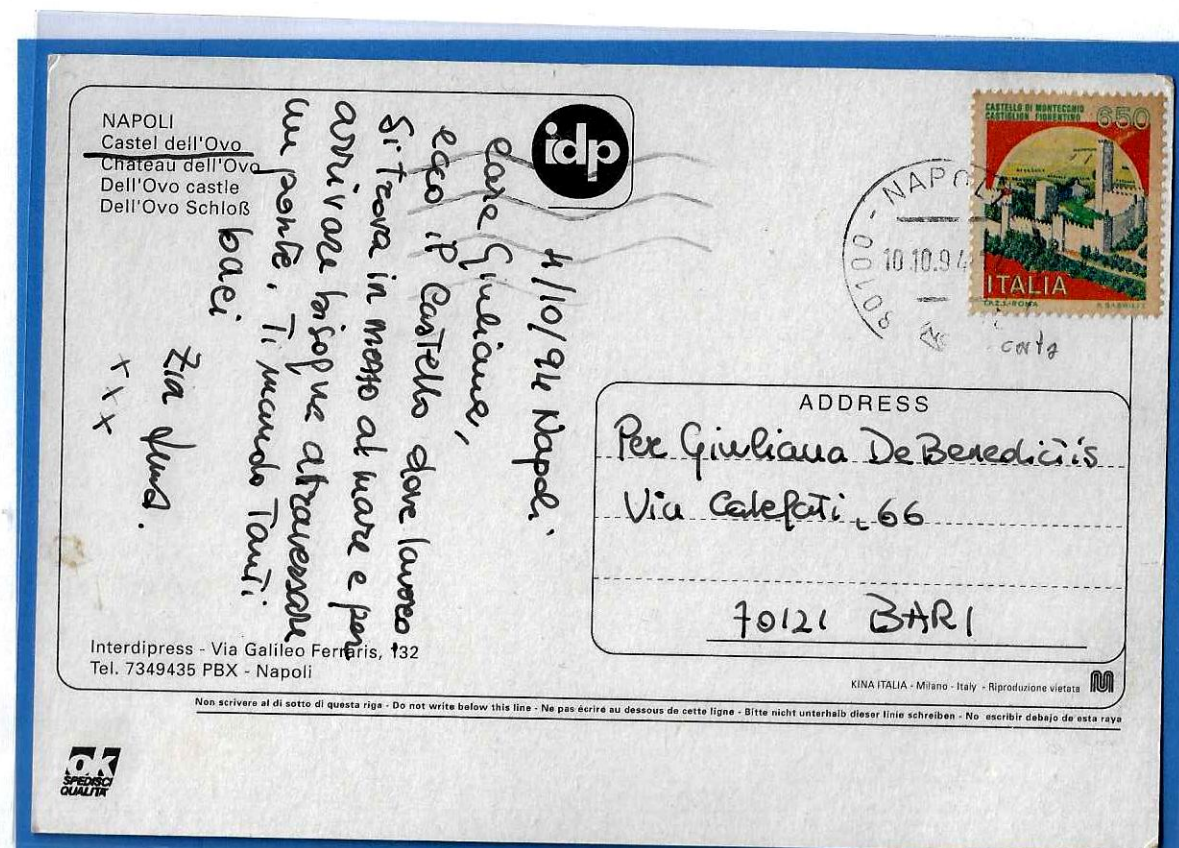
900 on yellow



200 Lire on brown, so evident that can be exchange for a joined paper specimen NC



600 Lire on dirty paper



650 Lire on dirty paper



750 Lire on brown

Chapter V - Colors on the back

From Giovanni Riggi di Numana and Giovanni Martina studies, this phenomenon is not described as a set-off but as "color passed on the back". Their supposition is vinyl or aniline ink was used, which being more liquid is absorbed by the paper. In truth it is not known with certainty how this could happen. I have discovered other values with the same characteristic shown here, including the 350 Lire which was produced with chalcographic printing. The 10 and 50 Lire are presenting a transfer of color from the piece glued to them due to fresh and still wet ink.



Specimens with printing color passed on their back side.

50, 80, 100, 380 and 650 Lire



Specimens with transfer color due to the contact of the sheets with fresh ink



The only line-engraved specimen found with color on the back is the 350 Lire.



Chapter VI - Luminescent colors

I found some values of 100 Lire which present a particular color of red in the light of Wood. Riggi di Numana's studies on luminescence have been useful to me but have not solved my question, also for castles the luminescent inks? Or, are we facing to phosphorescent inks? One thing is sure, this was unknown before my discovery and the values of castles that show this characteristic are very few, this phenomenon is also present on the values of 150, 550 and 800 Lire. To understand better what I'm talking about, I show you a couple of values from the past, such as the famous 10 Lire Siracusana and the less known 50 Centesimi "Parmeggiani".



Siracusana 10 Lire not fluorescent and 10 Lire with luminescent ink, the same example for the 50 Cent. Parmeggiani



100 Lire, normal reaction under the Wood light, and I type red luminescence



100 Lire, II and III type of red luminescence



100 Lire, IV type of red luminescence



150 Lire, normal reaction under the Wood light, and yellow luminescence color



500 Lire, normal reaction under the Wood light, and apricot luminescence color



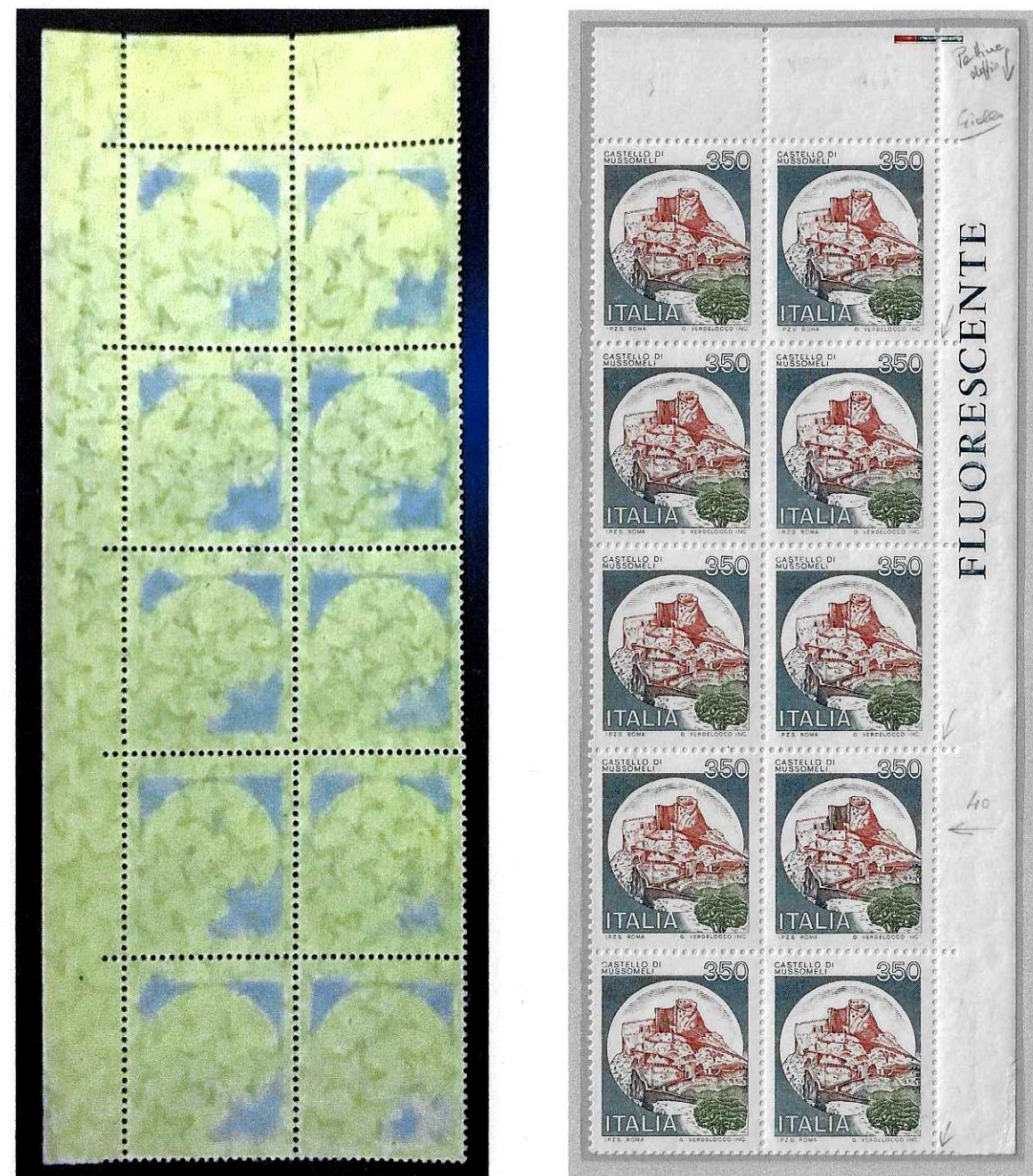
800 Lire, normal reaction under the Wood light, and red I type luminescence color



800 Lire, II and III type luminescence colors

Chapter VII - Fluorescent colors on back side

Another interesting and unique recent discovery is about fluorescent colors on the back, only on Castelli's series. As far as we know it's the first kind variety existing all over the world. The values of 900 and 1000 Lire proved to be very common, the 350 and 750 less common, difficult to find the 400 the 500 the 600 the 700 and the 800 Lire.



400 Lire present a heavy blue fluorescence visible also observing the front of the stamp under the wood light.

500 Lire black fluorescence is noticeable only on the back of the stamp.

Also for the 600, 700, 750 and 800 Lire specimens, black luminescence color is noticeable on the back only.



For 900 and 1000 Lire the black heavy fluorescence is noticeable both on the front and back side of stamps.



The 350 Lire has the black fluorescence of the upper triangles in its background, Black fluorescence cannot be identified by looking at it from the front.



Chapter VIII – Castelli on coil peculiarity

Although this emission does not offer much in terms of colors, surprisingly shows different values with ink fluorescence on the back. Here are shown all the values so far discovered, both for colors and fluorescence.



Different color shades on 120 Lire, the third copy is the only cataloged shade 1151Aa



200 Lire with low inscription not complete 1153Ab



Different color shades on 100 Lire NC



100 Lire in its normal shade

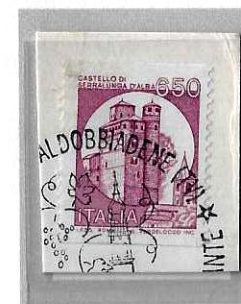


750 Lire in different shade

1990 registered letter in rate 30 Lire with missed low inscription 1150Aa



500 Lire in different shades



650 Lire in different shades



Black fluorescence on 50, 100, 500 and 750 Lire, on 500 and 50 Lire is visible also on the front of the stamp.



Chapter IX— *The evanescent colors*

During their long life Castelli have always given many kind of varieties, some found analyzing tons of material others found in post offices.
Evanescent or incomplete prints are part of it and since we talk about colors then we cannot miss a review of these varieties.



5 Lire
evanescent print
1118Ab



30 Lire
evanescence
right low 1121Ac



50 Lire
red and yellow
Evancescents 1123Ai



50 Lire
castle undefined
1123Ah



50 Lire
missed black color on the castle



50 Lire
missed turquoise down left



60 Lire
evanescent printing



70 Lire
evanescent castle
1125Ab



70 Lire
evanescent background



70 Lire
evanescent background
on the left side



80 Lire
evanescent bushes
1126Aa



100 Lire
evanescent orange



100 Lire
general evanescence
1128Ah



50 Lire
vertical mint strip
with undefined castle



120 Lire
evenescence on the left



350 Lire
Evanescnt pirnting
NC



400 Lire
op of the castle evanescent
1137Ad



400 Lire
Evanescnt pirnting
1137Ac



500 Lire
progressive evanescence on the castle, carry-over variety



500 Lire
evanescent background
1139Ac



550 Lire
vertical mint streep
with evanescence
1140Ai



150 Lire
evanescent toprinting
1130Ah



600 Lire
missed green
1141Ad



600 Lire
evanescent turquoise



600 Lire
evanescent gray on the
left



500 Lire
evanescent green
1139Ad



500 Lire
evanescent blu
on the tower top

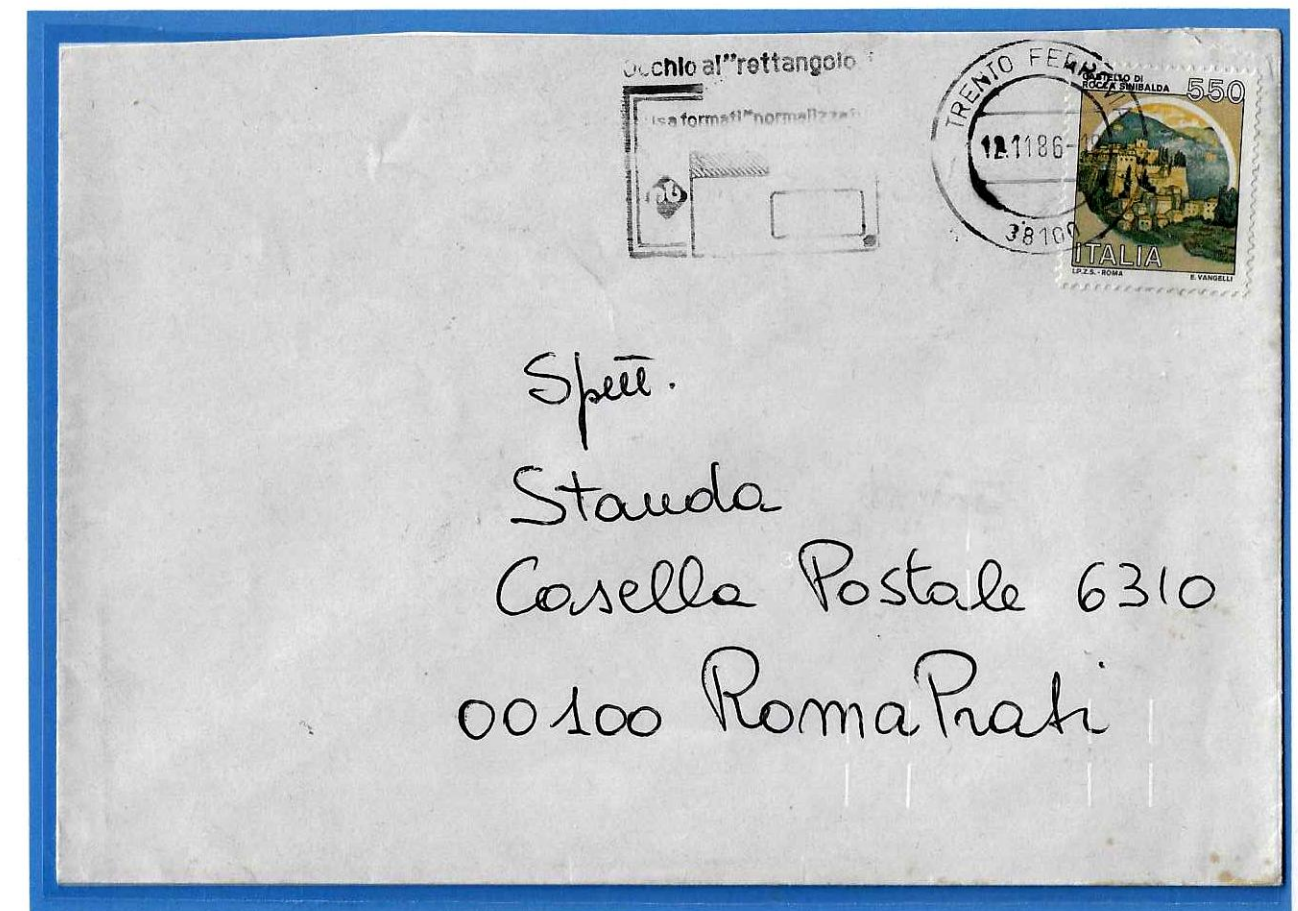


600 Lire
Black evanescent down right

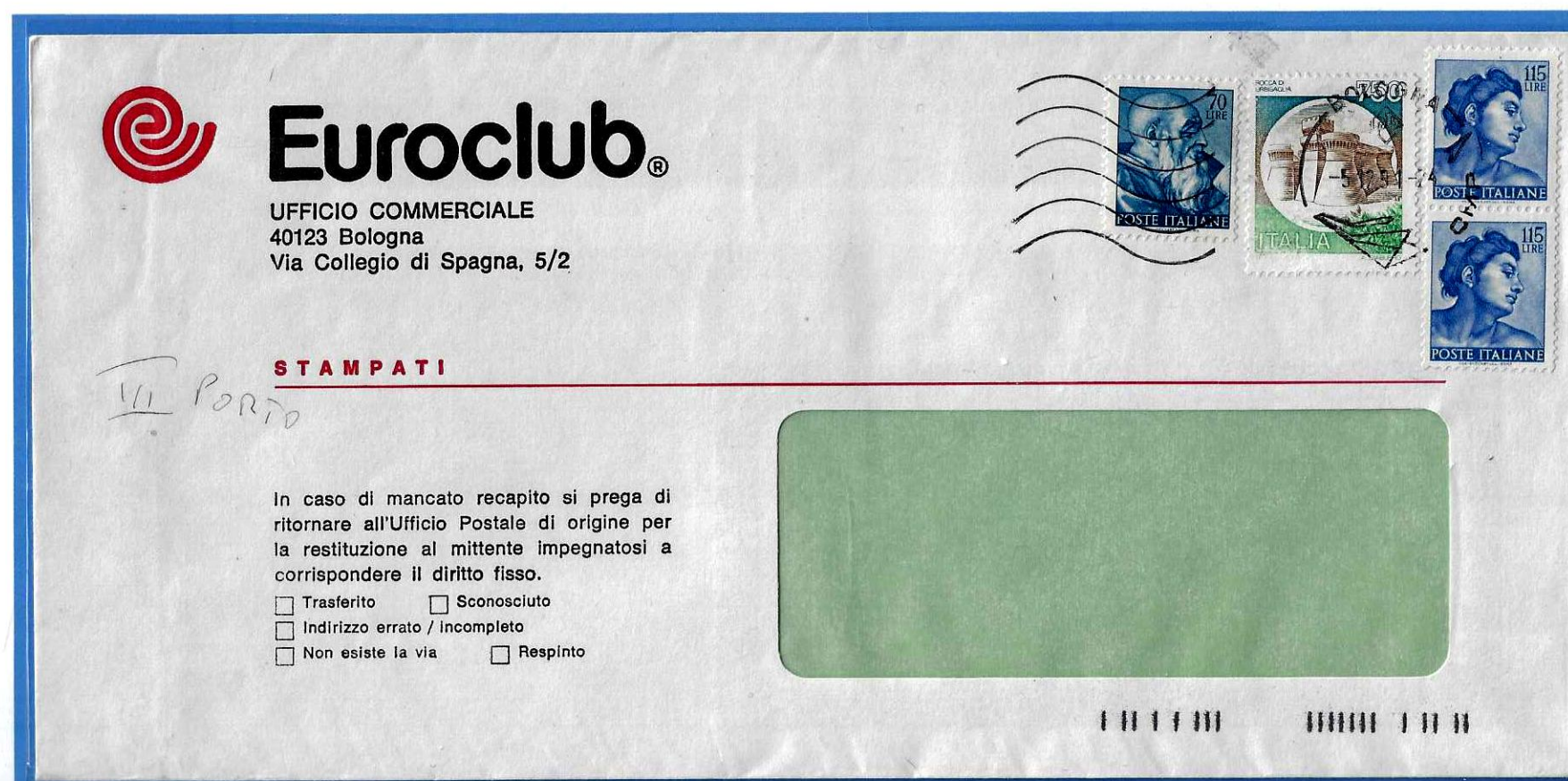




1985 registered letter 1950 Lire in rate, the 500 Lire with evanescent castle. NC



1986 Letteri 550 in rate, the 550 with green evanescence on top creating a bicolor piece. Rare



1991 letter 1050 Lire in rate, 750 Lire with evanescent green.



1989 parcel post-card, all 1000 Lire pieces with evanescence on the castle.

Chapter X – Missed colors, excess colors

The lack of one or more colors has generated many peculiarities on which there were and still are doubts. Then there are some specimens shown here that have in addition to the lack of color/s also a strong displaced perforation, I exposed them to allow you to see the example without the color and not for their perforation.



20 Lire
specular tower in the sky
NC



30 Lire
cobalt color
1121Ai



30 Lire
Blue on the whole castle
NC



40 Lire
missed yellow color
NC



50 Lire
missed red color
1123An



50 Lire
missed yellow color
1123Ae



50 Lire
double blue print



50 Lire
missed yellow color
1123Ae



50 Lire
big spot of blue



70 Lire
missed red
NC



70 Lire
missed red on the right
bicolor stamp NC



100 Lire
excessive red
1128Am



100 Lire
black and blue only
1128Ai



150 Lire
missed ochre right piece at right



150 Lire
missed magenta
NC



200 Lire
missed blue
1133Ad



200 Lire
big red spot



250 Lire
missed red
NC



250 Lire
excess of red



300 Lire
missed red
up in the center



300 Lire
missed yellow



170 Lire
black spots on many copies NC



350 Lire
missed green down right on all copies NC



350 Lire
missed blue
gray only



350 Lire
missed red on top
of the bush



350 Lire
missed blue on the right
side in the centre



350 Lire
Missed red on the top of
the castle, at left



400 Lire
missed blue
on the left NC



400 Lire
missed blueup left



400 Lire
missed color between
the fence and the castle



400 Lire
missed blue on the top of the castle
NC



400 Lire
brown on all the down right angle
NC



450 Lire
color bands demonetized
1138Ag



450 Lire
missed gray left low



450 Lire
missed yellow and green
Rare



450 Lire
missed red
1138Ag



450 Lire
only slate printed
1138Af



450 Lire
missed colors
on L of ITALIA NC



450 Lire
only slate
1138Af



450 Lire
offset colors only
NC



500 Lire
missed brown on 500
1139Ag



500 Lire
missed brown on top
of the tower



500 Lire
missed colors
in a vertical line



500 Lire
missed brown up right



500 Lire
blue center + missed
brown on left side



500 Lire
missed brown top left
NC



550 Lire
missed red on the left part of the
stamp



550 Lire
missed red



550 Lire
missed red



550 Lire
missed red



550 Lire
missed red



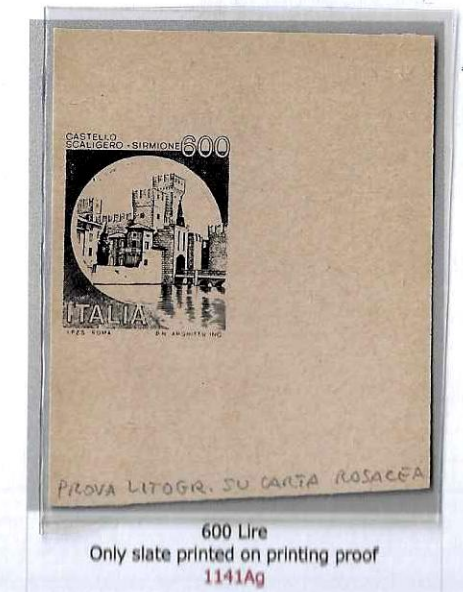
550 Lire
missed red



550 Lire
missed red



500 Lire
missed low inscription on all pieces
NC



600 Lire
Only slate printed on printing proof
1141Ag



600 Lire
sheet margin with a curious printing, the name of red (ROSSO)
color when for this piece red was never used. Rarity



600 Lire
missed turquoise
1141Ad



600 Lire
missed slate
1141Ai



600 Lire
colors on the top
center



600 Lire
big turquoise
spot



600 Lire
missed turquoise
on the clouds



600 Lire
missed slate
top center



650 Lire
tiny spot of green in the
sky, carry over variety
called "parachute"



650 Lire
big green spot



700 Lire
purple print only
1142Ae



700 Lire
heavy red



700 Lire
missed red
NC



700 Lire
missed purple
vertical line



700 Lire
missed purple
top left



700 Lire
missed purple
on L of ITALIA



750 Lire
missed blue
1142A Ab



750 Lire
missed blue
and blue green NC



750 Lire
missed green NC
at the feet of the castle



650 Lire
missed yellow
1141A Ab



750 Lire
big green line



750 Lire
drag spots



750 Lire
dark green instead
of blue
Rarity



750 Lire
blue covering the green
Rarity



750 Lire
turquoise instead of blue
on top



750 Lire
missed brown
on low castle part



750 Lire
missed brown and
green on low



750 Lire
missed brown and
too much green



750 Lire
missed brown on top
of background



750 Lire
missed brown
top right



750 Lire
missed brown
middle right



750 Lire
blue green
NC



800 Lire
white space between the wall and the green
on both pieces on the right. Rarity800



800 Lire
only brown printed
and demonetized 1143Ad



800 Lire
red missed on top
and middle right



800 Lire
right side with
missed green and brown

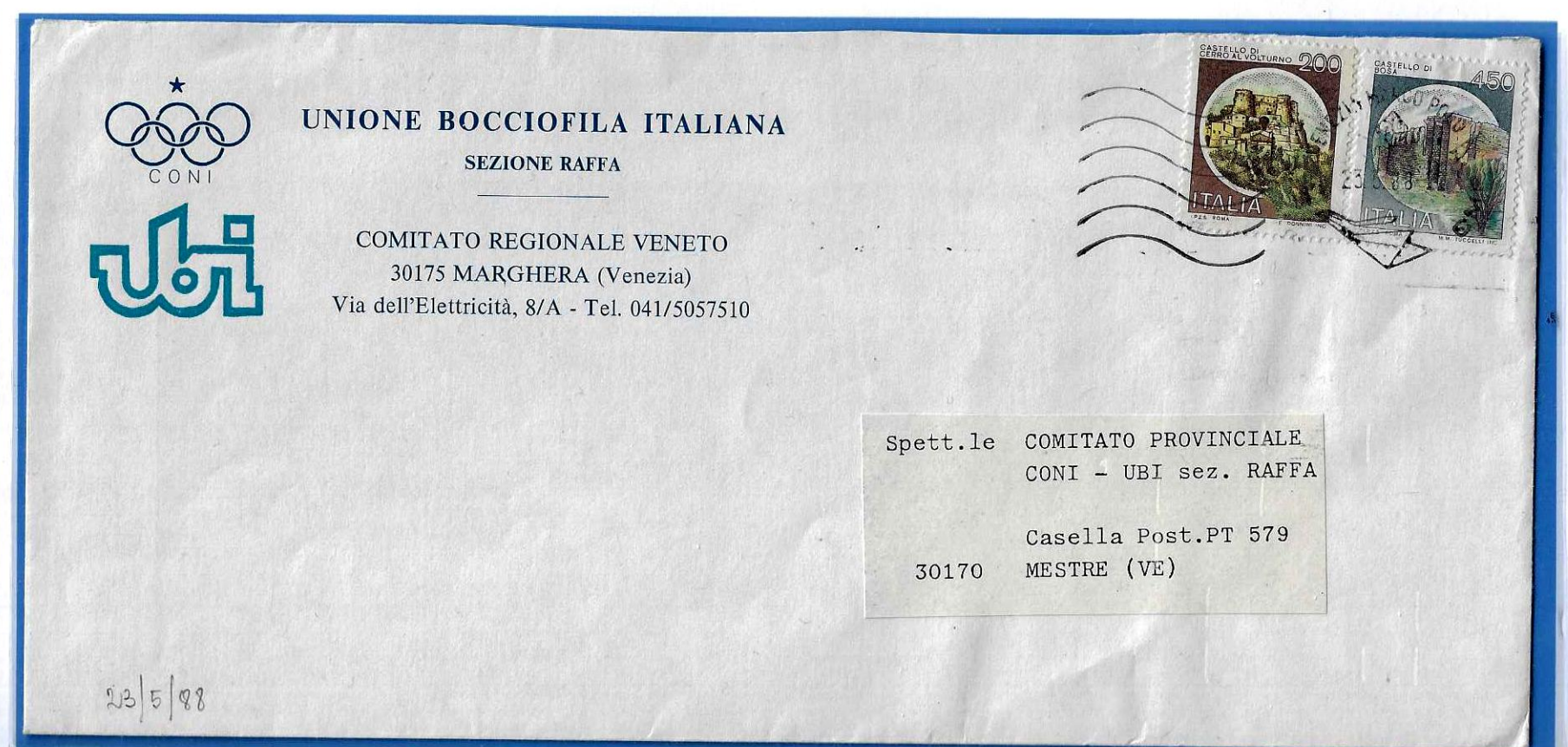
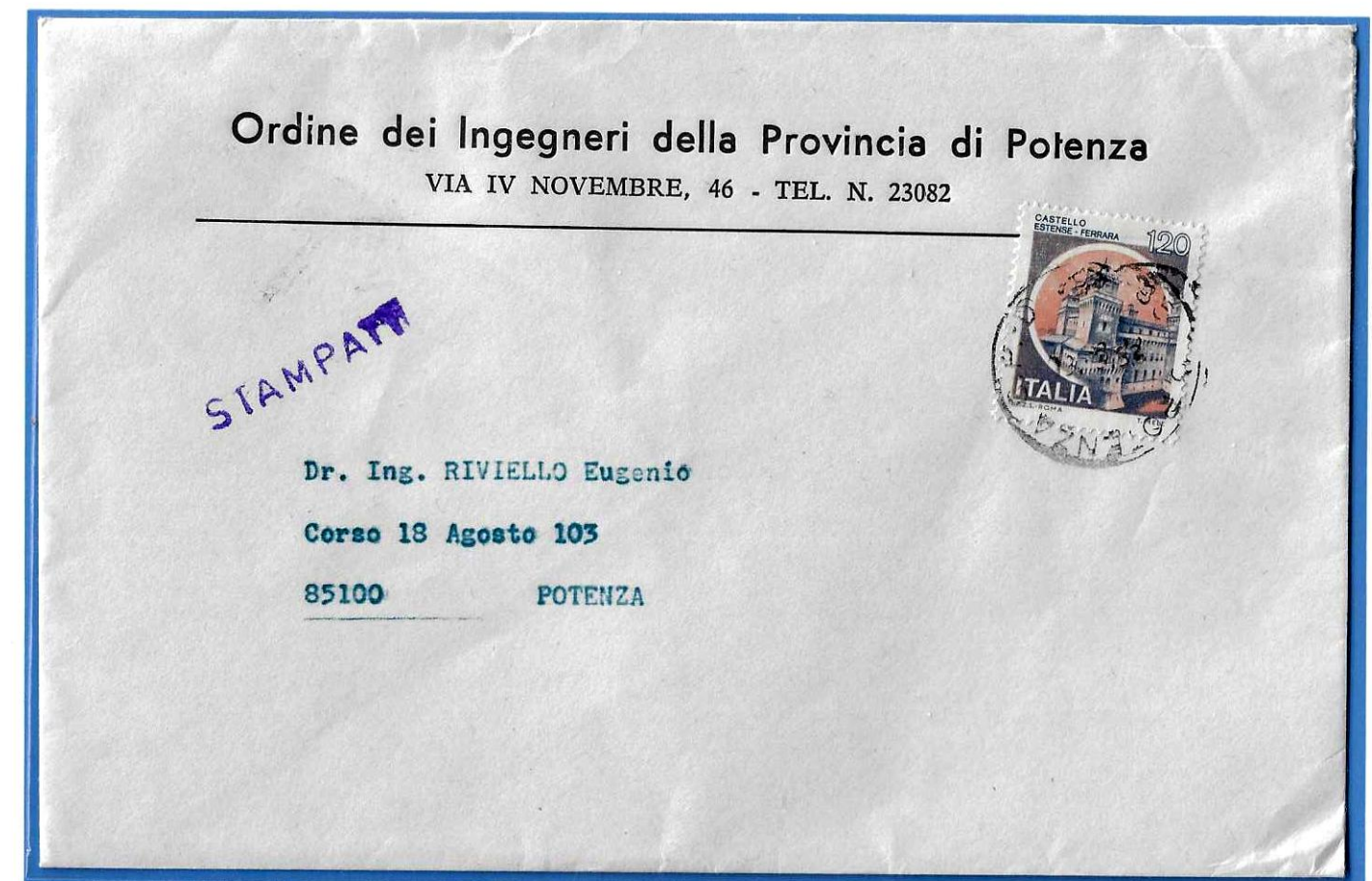


800 Lire
white line on the piece down left
NC



Second issue rotogravure re-printing



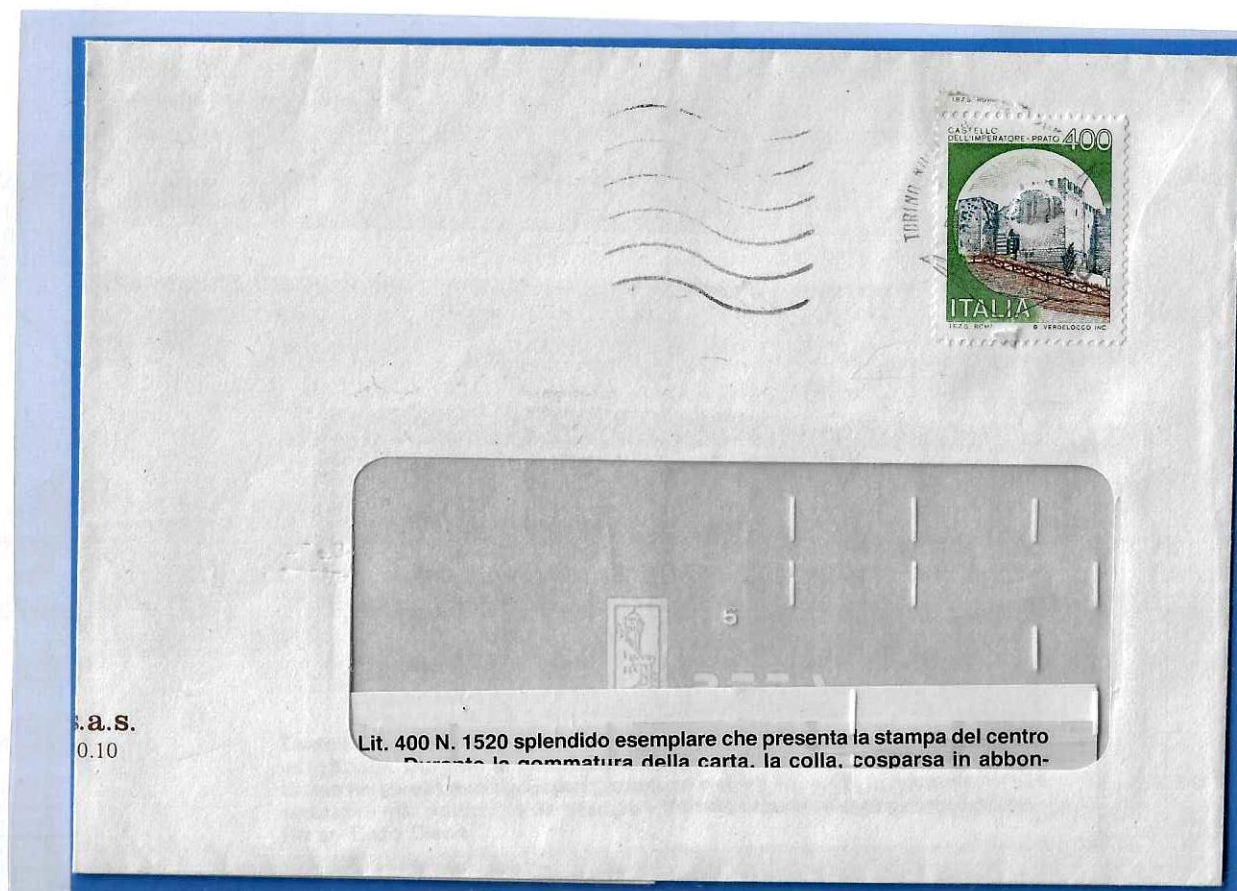




1982 letter 300 Lire in rate, missed red on the top left part NC



Postal card with 350 Lire presenting a missing part of green on the low right side NC



Letter with unique piece of 400 Lire presenting uncomplete castle printing, due to a little "ball" of glue. Never seen something like that before. **Very rare piece**



1996 letter 750 Lire in rate. 450 Lire only slate printed. 1138Af



1988 letter, 600 Lire in rate, Missed brown on 500 Lire piece, the word ITALIA is incomplete. NC



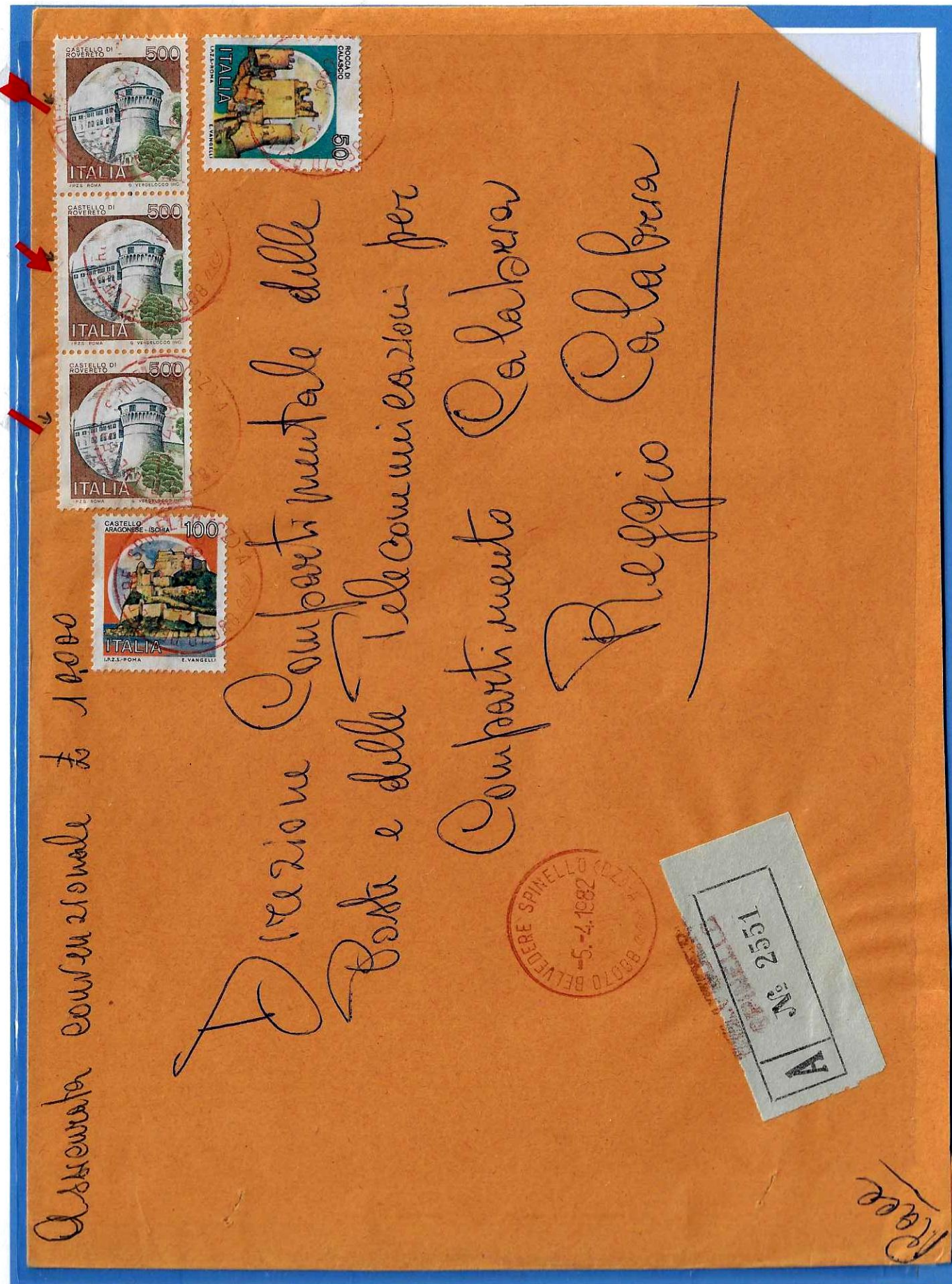
1988 parcel post-card, 500 Lire with missed green. **NC**



1986 registered letter 2550 in rate, all the 500 Lire pieces with the top of the castle invisible, **very rare.**



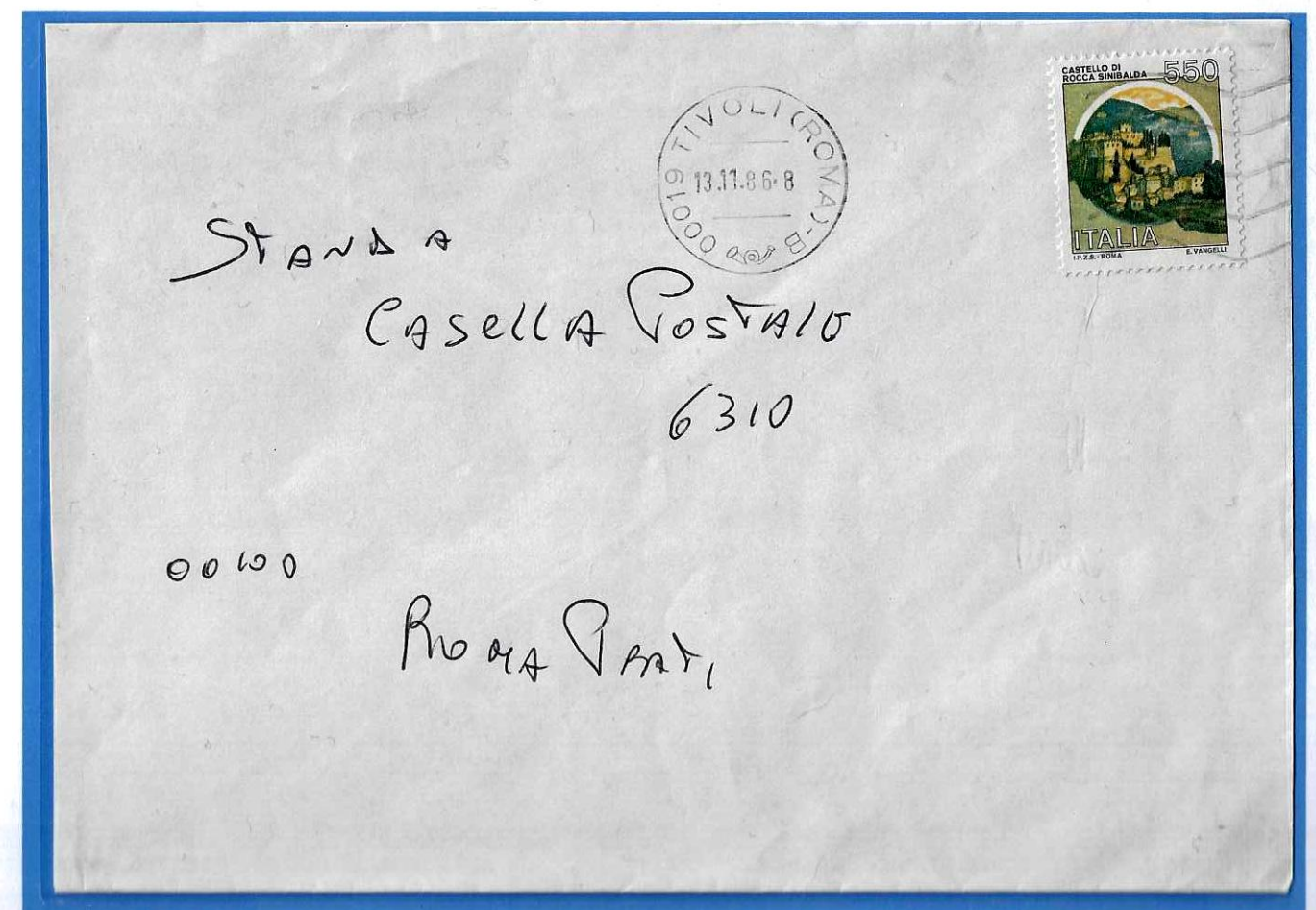
1996 registered letter, 4150 Lire in rate couple of 500 Lire with missed brown right up. NC



1982 insured letter 1650 Lire in rate, 500 Lire back with missed brown on the left side. NC



1984 printed matter letter 500 Lire in rate, specimen with all colours missed in a vertical line. NC



1986 letter 550 Lire on its own, in rate. Specimen without the red color, on the right. NC



1997 letter 1850 in rate, the 1000 Lire without the number 1 becomes zero worth, **very rare**.



1982 express letter 1150 Lire in rate. Specimen without the blue color upper right. **NC**



1987 registered letter 2800 on its own, in rate. Specimen without the blue color on ITALIA word. **Very rare**

Chapter XI – Fake and manipulated colors

As always been in philately since his early days, counterfeiters and dodgers always tried to defraud collectors with intervention, copies or modifications to the nature of the stamp. Some specimens defined in the past as "print start" results, are shown here as they do not respond correctly to the light of wood and infrared, revealing when present, evident spots of "pouring" especially the glue on the back, highlighting the tampering with various acids.



Fake working proofs, under the Wood light it's possible to see acid effects.



Fake double printed pieces, you can notice the printing of the perforation shadow. Scanners take it all!



Evanescences created with various acids types



Colors removal with various acids types



Paper artificially colored, even unintentionally



2000 registered letter, 5000 Lire in rate, the 850 Lire misses the red color, it was artificially removed.

Chapter XIII – Misplaced colors

When printing is carried out in several steps, colors may shift. The characteristic is defined as "out of register colors".



Castelli' specimens found with the maximum shifted color known.

Colors may have shifted in various directions, notice on 10 Lire pieces the number 10 is big and tiny, nice effect created by shifted color.





NC

1130Ab



1130Ab



1133Ab



1134Aa



NC



1135Aa



1138Ac



1141Aa



1141Ab

Notice on 650 Lire pieces the number 650 is big and tiny,
nice effect created by shifted color.



1141A Ac

NC



1141A Ac



1142Ab



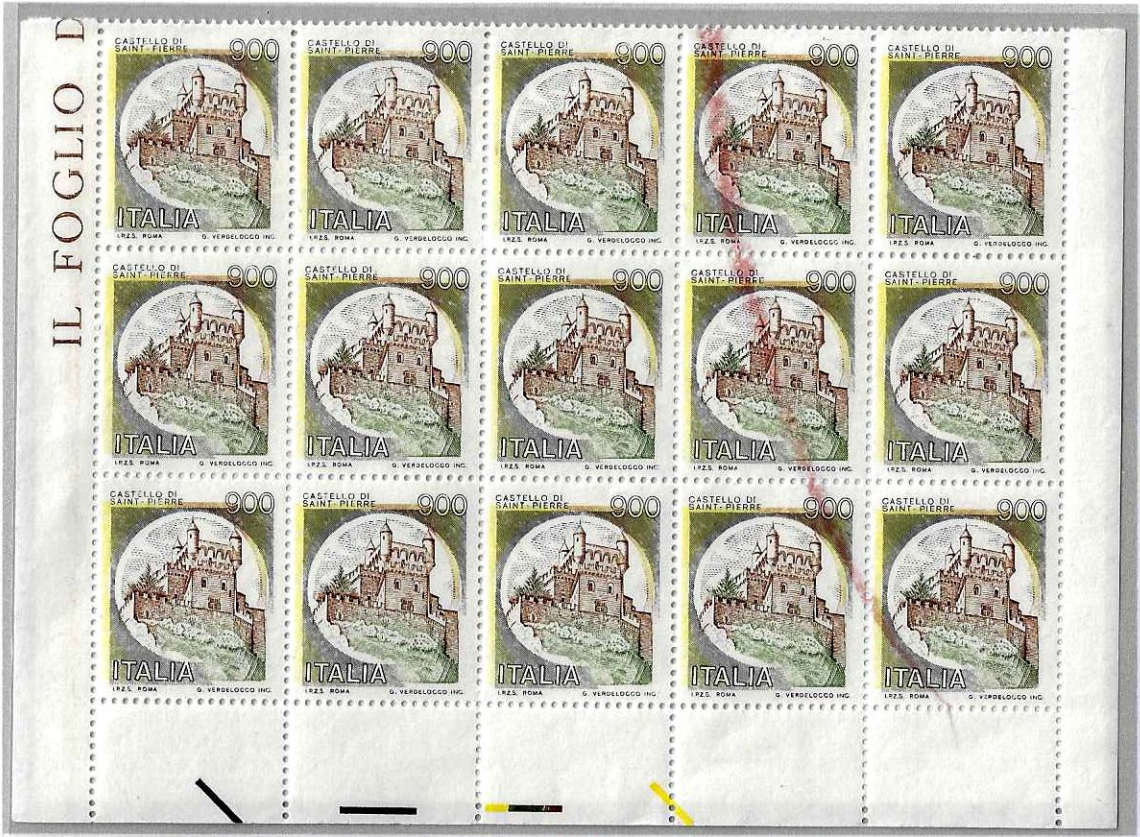
1143A Aa



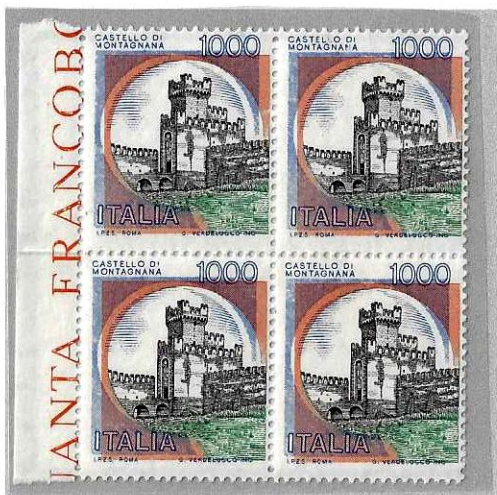
1143A Aa

1996 letter 750 Lire
in rate.
Misplaced red
on 450 Lire.
Missed green and
yellow also NC





1144Ab



1144Ac

1145Ad - 1145Ae - 1145Af

1000 Lire is the only one with so many kind of shiftment, too many to be true

