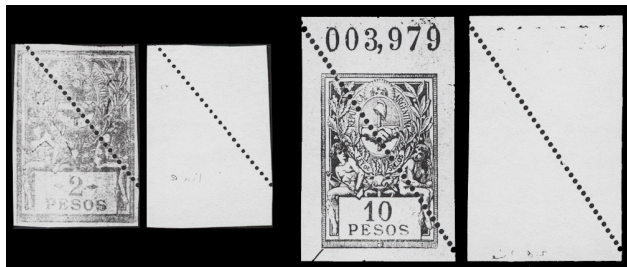

Argentina - Revenue Stamped Paper Perfin?

Jack Brandt (LM#14)

For some years I have had in my collection a couple of Revenue Stamped Paper cut squares from Argentina with a straight line of perforations in a diagonal direction. I didn't really call these perfins, but being a 'hole' fanatic, I kept them.



Recently I was reading through a booklet called "The Presentation of Revenue Stamps: Taxes and Duties in South America" by Clive Akerman. This was originally a talk given at The Royal Philatelic Society of London, in 2001, and was published in 2002.

Anyway, what I found was an illustration of a cut square similar to mine. I quickly checked the text, and found that the diagonal line of perforations was used to prevent fraud.

Revenue stamped paper was rarely cancelled on the stamp since it was obviously used when there was writing on the paper. Apparently some people were cutting the stamps from used stamped paper, and, after perforating them around the edges, reusing them as regular revenue stamps. (The patterns were the same.)

So, the line of perforations is an officially issued revenue perfin. It was used to prevent fraud, which is slightly different from what we normally think of as perfin use; but still clearly to prevent an illegal act.

These cut squares now have a higher position in my collection, and I am now looking for an entire
