A NEW OFFICIAL PERFIN ?

by Betty Lucas

I recently obtained a strip of five ½d KG VI (Sg 485) perfinned S/FP, which presumably is another setting of S287 (p). This was obtained as an addition to my study collection of provisional dies as I was particularly interested to examine a horizontal strip to establish the fixed letter positioning on horizontally adjacent stamps.

When I received the strip it was still attached to a piece of gummed label. As I was about to remove the strip from the paper I noticed some printing under the stamps so gave up the idea of separating stamps from paper to avoid destroying a possible identity. Careful examination of the paper showed the wording of the printing to be "ON HIS MAJESTY'S SERVICE".

This raises the question of whether I have stumbled upon a new official perfin, or is it perhaps an example of the re-use of a wartime economy label?

If any members have examples of this provisional (dare I hope on cover or piece!!), or indeed any other relevant information or ideas regarding its origins, I would be pleased to hear from then.

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