UAP RESEARCH FOUNDATION

HEADQUARTERS
2601 N. Walton Boulevard
Bentonville, Arkansas 72712
uapresearchfoundation.org

October 28, 2026

Stamp Development
Attn: Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee
475 L'Enfant Plaza SW, Room 3300
Washington, DC 20260-3501

Re: Proposal for a commemorative stamp honoring Thomas Townsend Brown (1905–1985), American physicist and inventor

Dear Members of the Committee:

On behalf of the UAP Research Foundation, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, I respectfully submit one stamp topic for your consideration: a commemorative stamp honoring Thomas Townsend Brown, an Ohio-born physicist and inventor whose experiments in electrohydrodynamics and high-voltage propulsion earned him U.S. patents, work at the Naval Research Laboratory, and a place in the history of American electrical research. This letter follows the Postal Service's published submission guidelines: it proposes a single topic, explains how the subject meets your criteria, and sets out the relevant history and dates.

How Mr. Brown meets the Postal Service's criteria

The Postal Service honors "extraordinary and enduring contributions to American society, history, culture, or environment," and focuses primarily on American subjects. Mr. Brown meets these standards as follows.

1. **An American subject.** Thomas Townsend Brown was born in Zanesville, Ohio, and spent his career in the United States, including service with the U.S. Navy and the Naval Research Laboratory in Washington, D.C.

2. **Documented, enduring contributions.** Between 1934 and 1965 he was granted a series of U.S. patents on electrostatic and electrokinetic devices, among them U.S. Patent 1,974,483 ("Electrostatic motor," 1934) and U.S. Patent 3,018,394 ("Electrokinetic transducer," 1962). The phenomenon he spent his life investigating, thrust produced by high voltage across asymmetric electrodes, is now studied as electroaerodynamic or "ionic wind" propulsion. In November 2018 a Massachusetts Institute of Technology team published in Nature the first sustained flight of an airplane with no moving parts in its propulsion system, using the same family of effects.

3. **A deceased subject.** Mr. Brown died on October 27, 1985, more than forty years ago, well beyond the three-year waiting period.

4. **A positive, national story.** His life is an example of independent American invention: an experimenter who left college after a single year, obtained patents, worked for the Navy, and pursued unconventional ideas about electricity and motion.

Historical information and key dates

Date	Event
March 18, 1905	Born in Zanesville, Ohio

1921	As a high school student, observes an apparent change in the weight of a Coolidge X-ray tube and begins investigating electrical effects on weight
1923–1924	Graduates from Doane Academy, Granville, Ohio; attends the California Institute of Technology and Denison University for one year each
1928	Receives British Patent GB 300,311 for a method and apparatus for producing force or motion
1930–1931	Enlists in the Navy and is assigned to the Naval Research Laboratory (March 16, 1931)
1932–1933	Takes part in the Navy-Princeton gravity expedition aboard the submarine USS S-48, and the Johnson-Smithsonian Deep Sea Expedition aboard the yacht Caroline
September 25, 1934	Granted U.S. Patent 1,974,483, "Electrostatic motor"
1938–1942	Re-enlists (1937) and is promoted to lieutenant (1938); conducts mine-sweeping research for the Bureau of Ships; is discharged in October 1942
1944 onward	Serves as a radar consultant to Lockheed-Vega
1950s	Demonstrates his apparatus in Hawaii, Cleveland, England, and France; co-founds the National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena (1956)
1960–1965	Granted U.S. Patents 2,949,550; 3,018,394; 3,022,430; 3,187,206; and 3,196,296
October 27, 1985	Dies after a period of semi-retirement in California

In the interest of accuracy, we note that Mr. Brown's more ambitious claims, including that his devices controlled gravity, have not been supported by scientific testing, which attributes the thrust he measured to ionized air movement. We do not ask the Committee to endorse any such claim. We ask it to recognize a documented American inventor whose patented work relates to a field of research that is active today.

Proposed timing

We understand that proposals must reach the Committee at least three years before the intended issue year, and that anniversaries are considered. We therefore suggest two dates for the Committee's consideration: 2030, the 125th anniversary of Mr. Brown's birth, and 2035, the 50th anniversary of his death. We are glad to defer to the Committee on timing.

Thank you for your time and for the Committee's service in telling the American story through the postage stamp. I understand that submitters receive no credit or compensation if a subject is selected, and we ask for none. The Foundation would be pleased to provide additional documentation, patent copies, or archival references on request.

Respectfully submitted,

Joshua Q. Mostyn
Executive Director
479-553-9529, *director@uaprf.org*

9589 0710 5270 4400 7688 40

U.S. Postal Service™
CERTIFIED MAIL® RECEIPT
Domestic Mail Only

For delivery information, visit our website at *www.usps.com*®.

Washington, DC 20260

OFFICIAL USE

Certified Mail Fee $5.55	0712
$	$0.00
Extra Services & Fees *(check box, add fee as appropriate)*	
☐ Return Receipt (hardcopy)	$ $0.00
☐ Return Receipt (electronic)	$ $0.00
☐ Certified Mail Restricted Delivery	$ $0.00
☐ Adult Signature Required	$ $0.00
☐ Adult Signature Restricted Delivery	$
Postage $0.82	
$	
Total Postage and Fees $6.37	
$	

OCT 28 2026

Postmark Here

10/28/2026

Sent To STAMP DEVELOPMENT

Street and Apt. No., or PO Box No.

City, State, ZIP+4®

Certified Mail service provides the following benefits:

- A receipt (this portion of the Certified Mail label).
- A unique identifier for your mailpiece.
- Electronic verification of delivery or attempted delivery.
- A record of delivery (including the recipient's signature) that is retained by the Postal Service™ for a specified period.

Important Reminders:

- You may purchase Certified Mail service with First-Class Mail®, First-Class Package Service®, or Priority Mail® service.
- Certified Mail service is *not* available for international mail.
- Insurance coverage is *not* available for purchase with Certified Mail service. However, the purchase of Certified Mail service does not change the insurance coverage automatically included with certain Priority Mail items.
- For an additional fee, and with a proper endorsement on the mailpiece, you may request the following services:
  - Return receipt service, which provides a record of delivery (including the recipient's signature). You can request a hardcopy return receipt or an electronic version. For a hardcopy return receipt, complete PS Form 3811, *Domestic Return Receipt;* attach PS Form 3811 to your mailpiece; for an electronic return receipt, see a retail associate for assistance. To receive a duplicate return receipt for no additional fee, present this USPS®-postmarked Certified Mail receipt to the retail associate.
  - Restricted delivery service, which provides delivery to the addressee specified by name, or to the addressee's authorized agent.
  - Adult signature service, which requires the signee to be at least 21 years of age (not available at retail).
  - Adult signature restricted delivery service, which requires the signee to be at least 21 years of age and provides delivery to the addressee specified by name, or to the addressee's authorized agent (not available at retail).
- To ensure that your Certified Mail receipt is accepted as legal proof of mailing, it should bear a USPS postmark. If you would like a postmark on this Certified Mail receipt, please present your Certified Mail item at a Post Office™ for postmarking. If you don't need a postmark on this Certified Mail receipt, detach the barcoded portion of this label, affix it to the mailpiece, apply appropriate postage, and deposit the mailpiece.

IMPORTANT: Save this receipt for your records.

PS Form **3800,** January 2023 *(Reverse)* PSN 7530-02-000-9047