

The launch took place shortly after 16 from the forecourt of the Sport Palace. It was a nominal launch, attended by a large audience, who rushed to the Fair despite the rainy weather. Everything happened within a few seconds, so that the crowd could barely realize what it was happening.

IL SECOLO XIX



the rocket fell back into the sea - as expected - about two miles from the coast and was recovered out by divers. It was a great success. The news occupied the front page of many newspapers coming out with headlines such as: "The postal Grillo has jumped well."

In the flight of 3 November Grillo II carried three pounds of mail: in the pack there were 1,600 special envelopes, progressively numbered from 1 to 1600 and franked with an Italian postage stamp that had been canceled by the post office "Genoa Piazz.le JF Kennedy 11/03/65 - detached Facilities." The rubber stamp "in corso particolare" ("in a private course") was added. The cover's cachet features Grillo crossing the Roman arch, while two armed Roman soldiers with spear and shield observe the scene.

On each cover was affixed a colored non-postal stamp with the inscription "steam outflow rocket "Grillo I" on which a corrective stamp had been overlaid with the words "Grillo II - Genova". Three different versions of the non-postal stamp were used with different color: red, blue and violet. Once affixed to the envelope, they were "canceled" with the the rubber stamp "Genova 30 October to 7 November 1965". On November 6, the test flight was repeated with a new postal payload. Alltogether 3064 envelopes, numbered from 1 to 3064, were flown.



The three non-postal stamps used during the two launches from Genoa (collection Bussolino) have different colours. On each of them the corrective rubber stamp was added, bearing "Grillo II – Genova"



On the left: cover flown in the second launch from Genoa (November 6, 1966). On the right: the same cover was then used for the test flight of Grillo III from Mantava towards Venice, as told in the red label on which is stamped the date of the flight: February 23, 1969.