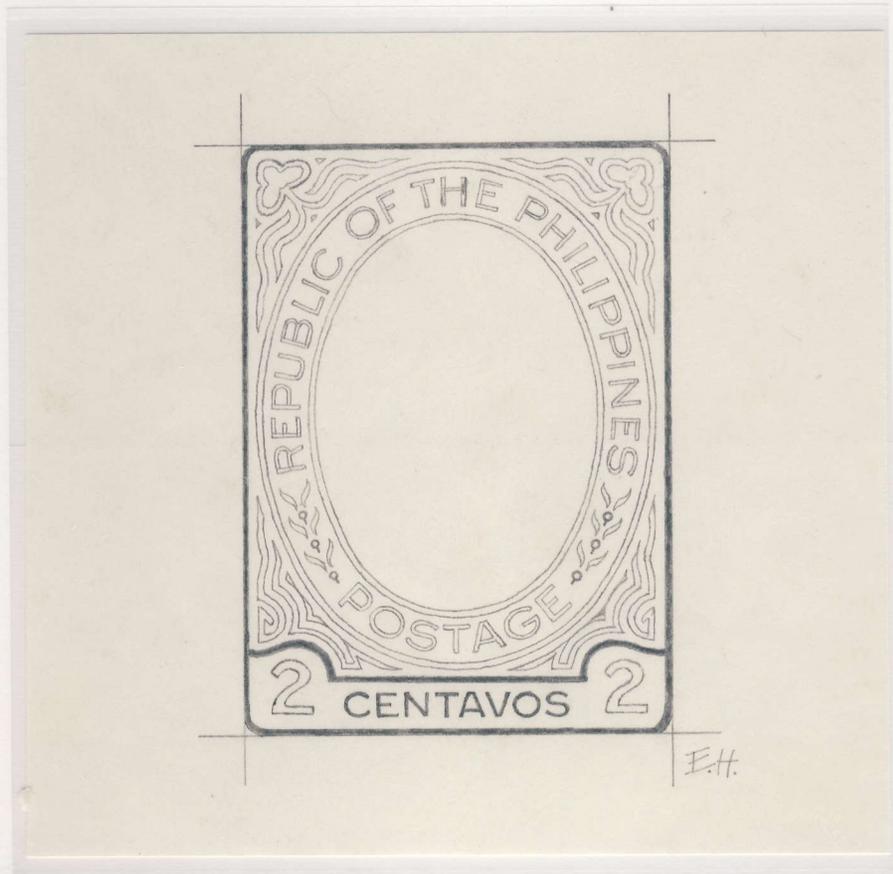


# PHILIPPINES

## 1948 EMBOSSED POSTAL ENVELOPE - FROM MODEL TO FINAL DIE



**Original Pencil Drawing of Postal Envelope Indicium Frame Design on White Wove Paper  
By Earl Hansen, American Bank Note Co. Designer**

### *Only Example Recorded*

After centuries of foreign rule, the Philippine Islands gained their independence and the Republic of the Philippines officially became a separate nation on July 4, 1946. Along with independence came the obligations associated with self-rule, including the preparation of stamps and stationery necessary to move the mails for the Philippine citizens living on 7,107 separate islands. The first postage stamps of the new Republic were issued on that first day of independence. Two and a half years later, the first and what turned out to be the only postal envelope design, was issued December 30, 1948. While the value of the envelope was altered by surcharging or re-valuing, the original design of the indicium was unchanged through seven incarnations issued over 22 years.

This exhibit showcases key items necessary to the creation of the 2c carmine Dr. Jose Rizal embossed postal envelope design, from the original photographs of Jose Rizal and the original pencil and ink drawings of the indicium frame, to the final completed design expressed by the large die proofs. The task of designing the indicium was contracted to the American Bank Note Company, while the actual preparation of the embossing die and the final printed envelopes was performed by the International Envelope Co. in Ohio.

Except for some of the preliminary Proofs, where *Two to Four Examples are Recorded*, each piece of archival material shown in this exhibit is the *Only Example Recorded*. (Because this exhibit is concerned only with the efforts taken in reaching the final design of the indicium, no printed envelopes are shown.)

ORIGINAL AMERICAN BANK NOTE COMPANY ORDER SHEET

STEEL EMBOSSED STAMP ENVELOPE

Date January 29, 1948

Schedule No. 23038

Model Wanted RUSH

Model to GWTC

Title in full Republic of the Philippines

General Description and Style See sample herewith

Denomination: Words Centavos  
 Numerals 2  
 Quantity \_\_\_\_\_  
 Color Red - similar to sample

Size: Work \_\_\_\_\_  
 Trimmed \_\_\_\_\_

Number On \_\_\_\_\_

FACE

Text Republic of the Philippines - Postage - 2 Centavos 2

Vignette All to be in white faced lettering similar to sample, using vignette of "Dr. José Rizal" as engraved on order F12649. Size of envelope approximately 6 5/16" x 3 1/2" overall or No. 6 3/4 envelope size 6 1/2" x 3 5/8" overall

Border \_\_\_\_\_

Stub: Size \_\_\_\_\_  
 Style \_\_\_\_\_

Drawee: Titles \_\_\_\_\_  
 Style \_\_\_\_\_

Signatures \_\_\_\_\_

Titles \_\_\_\_\_

Numbers \_\_\_\_\_

Style: Cycloid Pattern \_\_\_\_\_  
 Pantograph \_\_\_\_\_  
 Underlying \_\_\_\_\_

Border \_\_\_\_\_

Color \_\_\_\_\_



Use the new design of the 2-centavo Rizal Green stamp for the embossed central figure, but to remain white including the other inscriptions. Color of background shall be the same as this sample.

"United States of America - Philippine Islands" shall read "Republic of the Philippines" only.

2.000.000

**Original Order Sheet** (folded at top/bottom) for the Dr. Jose Rizal Postal Envelope from the Archives of the American Bank Note Company, showing Schedule number 23038 at top/right. The Order Sheet provided all pertinent data for the production of the envelopes to be issued, including size, color and both the content and locations of all inscriptions. In the end, the design for Rizal's portrait was changed, from that being used for a 2c green Rizal stamp which was to be printed, "order F12649", to a design based on a newly provided portrait of Rizal provided by J. A. Barrett, Financial Attache, at the Philippine Embassy in Washington, D.C.

The attached envelope, an example of the 2 centavos postal stationery printed for the Commonwealth of the Philippines on June 19, 1935, was to be used, as directed in the typed notes on the sample, as a template for the design, size, and color of the Republic envelope.

FINAL DESIGN ESSAY OF INDICIUM FRAME



Large Format Essay of Final Design of Indicium Frame

Large format Essay of the final design of the Indicium Frame in black ink, with corrections throughout in Chinese white ink on thin board. Essay size: 161 x 193 mm. Reduction scale to final indicium size at right. Essay mounted on thick cardboard, 161 x 218 mm. Schedule number, 23028, in pencil at bottom. Signed "E.H.", for American Bank Note Company designer Earl Hansen. Sample of intaglio printed indicium in final size and proposed color, cut to shape, pasted to board at bottom/left.

## UNADOPTED DESIGN ESSAY

As indicated on the ABNCo. order sheet (Exhibit p. 2), the vignette of Dr. Jose Rizal to be used for the postal stationery was to be based on the design used "on order F12649." That order number was for the creation of the 2c bright green Dr. Jose Rizal postage stamp which was issued June 19, 1948 (81,352,800 printed) and was created contemporaneously with the request for the postal stationery. However, Gilbert Combs, Assistant Manager of the Foreign Department of ABNCo., described the portrait essay created as "poorly rendered, and unacceptable."



### Unadopted Design Essay

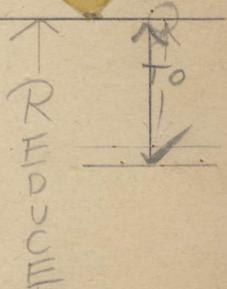
Embossed Design Essay printed on smooth card stock, cut to shape and mounted on thin board, under clear plastic cover and brown frame. Indicum Essay size: 23.5 x 32 mm. Mounted Essay size: 198 x 127 mm. Manuscript, "OK, except for portrait / GWTC. 2/18/48", the initials for Gilbert Combs, Assistant Manager of the Foreign Department of ABNCo. **On Back:** Schedule number 23038 in pencil; Black handstamp "Please Return / Within 30 Days To / Feb 13 1948 / American Bank Note Co."; violet date clock from the Engraving Order Department, "Approved / 1948 / Feb / 18" Onion skin flyleaf taped to back with logo of the American Bank Note Co., 70 Broad Street, New York, with pencil notation on flyleaf "N.G. See other model."

*Only Example Recorded*

ORIGINAL PHOTOGRAPH OF DR. JOSE RIZAL FOR EMBOSSED CENTRAL FIGURE

*Original*

RELATIVE PIX



*new tray*

*REP. OF THE PHILIPPINES #23038  
3 PRINTS - BLACK - REDUCED*

Original Photograph of Dr. Jose Rizal used for Central Vignette Portrait

Photograph size: 121 x 146 mm, taped to heavy cardboard: 213 x 235 mm. Manuscript, "Original", in pencil at top. Reduction scale at right. Schedule number 23038 at bottom with directions to prepare three reduced size black prints. On Back: Received by A.P.N.C.

REDUCED-SIZE BLACK PRINT OF DR. JOSE RIZAL FOR CENTRAL VIGNETTE PORTRAIT

*File papers in part of Philippine file,  
not enclosed.*

Republic of the Philippine

Order No. *F12729*

*waiting for Mr. Rizal  
to get order number  
again 7/15/48*



*# 90473*

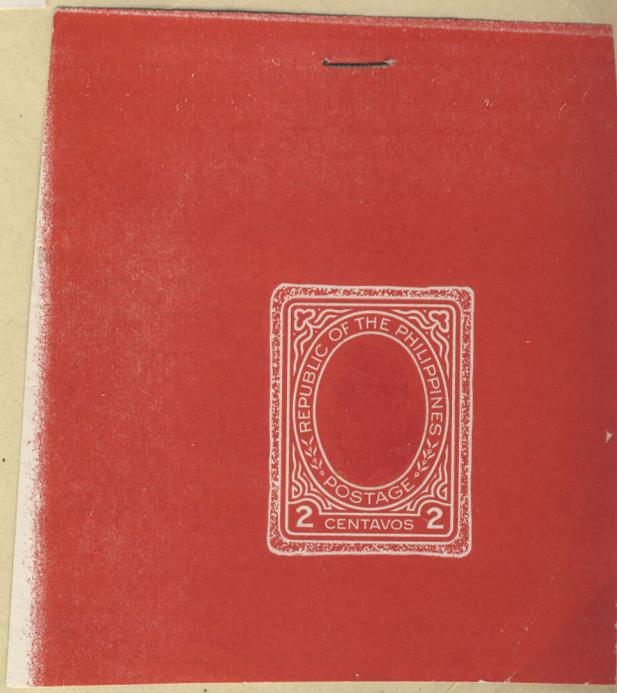
Started:

Engraved By: John Hay

Finished: *5-13-48*

Out for approval: *5-13-48*

Approved: *5-18-48*



Reduced-Size Black Print of Dr. Jose Rizal and Sample Frame

Black Print size: approx. 63 x 63 mm., with portrait of Rizal reduced to 15 x 20 mm, to fit inside central oval of frame. Pasted to Engraving Department working paper for engraver, John Hay. Order number F12729 at top/right. Received by Hay on April 23, 1948. The engraving was completed by Hay on May 13, 1948, and was approved on May 18, 1948. Intaglio printed indicium frame, in saturated red color attached to working paper, used by the engraver for sizing the embossed central portrait design.

*Only Example Recorded*

**BLACK TRIAL COLOR PROOF OF FRAME WITH PLASTER MODEL OF RIZAL PORTRAIT**

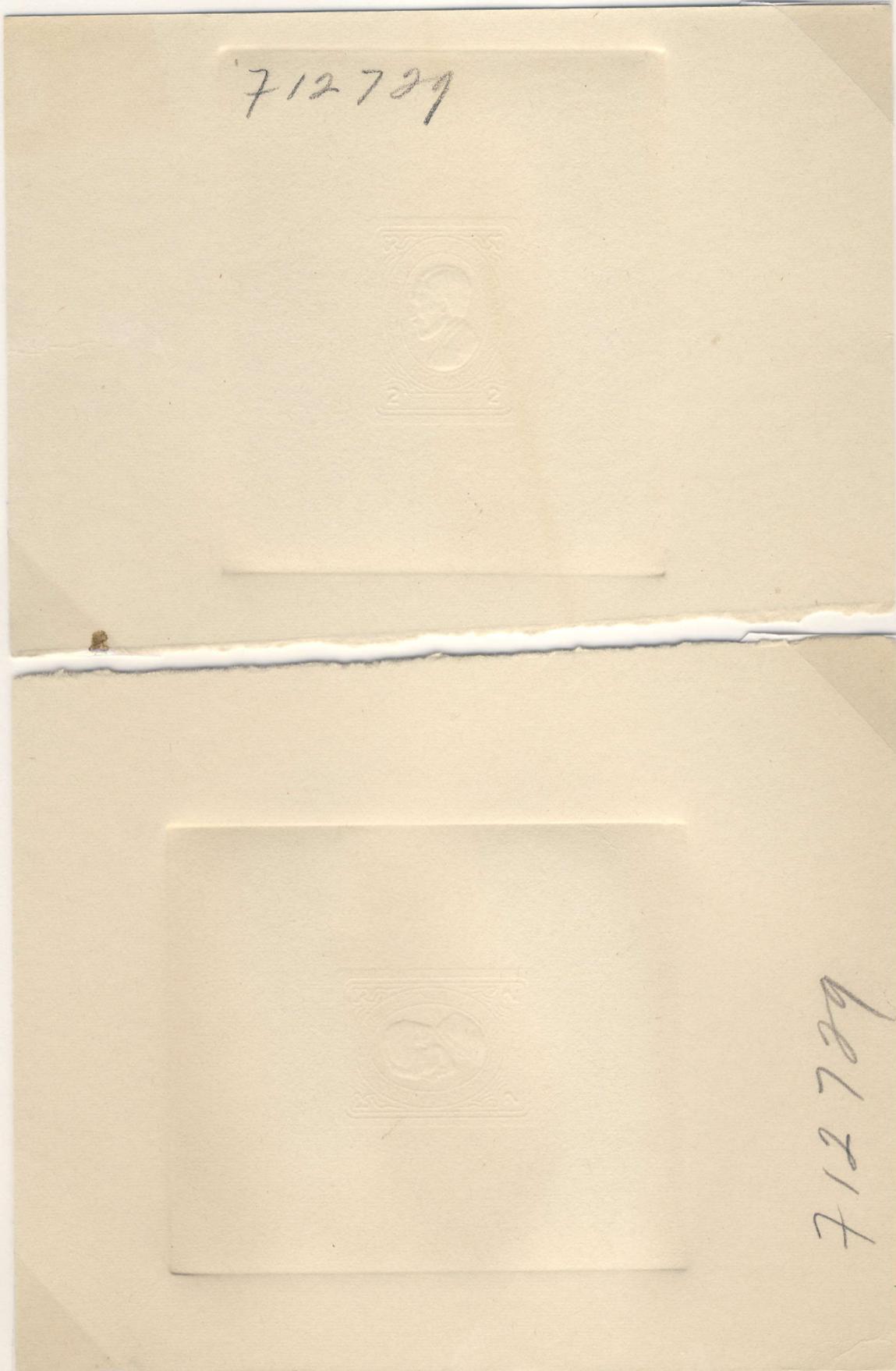


**Black Trial Color Proof of Frame with Plaster Model of Dr. Jose Rizal Portrait**

Black Trial Color Intaglio Proof of indicium frame design printed on photographic paper with the central vignette portrait of Dr. Jose Rizal created out of built up plaster and hand-carved into an "embossed" likeness of Rizal by engraver John Hay. Essay size: 160 x 89 mm., or 6 5/16" x 3 1/2", the proposed size of the postal envelope, pasted to thick cardboard: 224 x 129 mm. Manuscript black ink "Approved / J.A. Barrett / Financial Attache / Philippine Embassy / Wash. DC. / March 30, 1948"  
**On Back:** Schedule number 23038 in pen; Black handstamp "Please Return / Within 30 Days To / Mar 29 1948 / American Bank Note Co."; blue date clock from the Engraving Order Department, "Approved / 1948 / Apr / 23"; Black handstamp "A.L.S. / Mar 29 1948"

*Only Example Recorded*

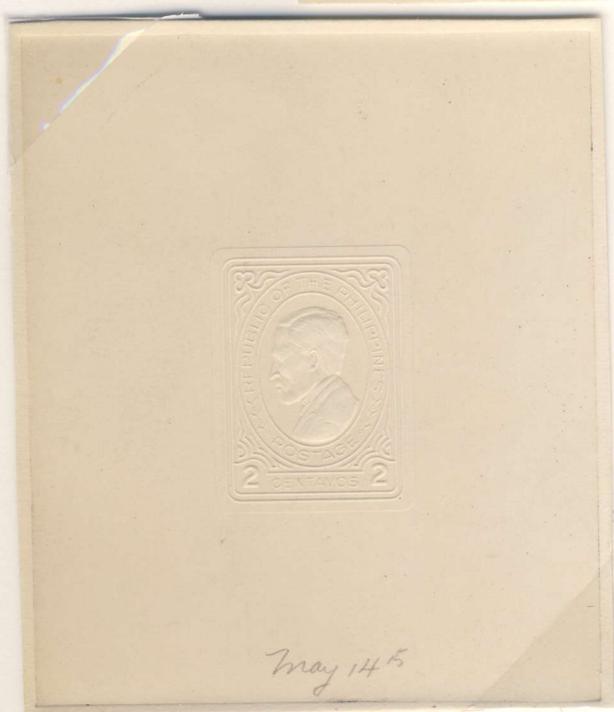
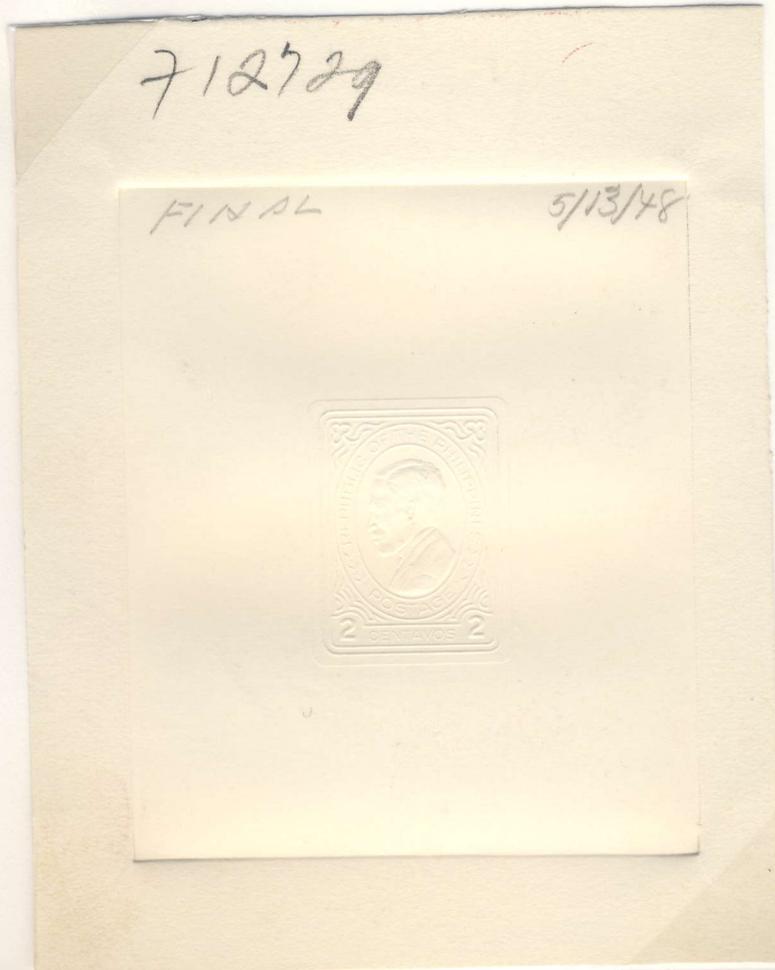
ALBINO DIE PROOFS - COUCHE PRINTING ON ROUGH CARD



**Albino Die Proofs for Embossing Calibration**

Albino die proof, die sunk on thin wove rough card stock. "Pair" on single card, printed "couche", with one proof printed sideways or "reclined" relative to the other, which was torn in half. May 12, 1948, low relief test printing for calibration of

**ALBINO DIE PROOFS WITH FULL EMBOSSED ON SMOOTH CARD**



**Albino Die Proofs with Full Embossing**

Albino die proofs, die sunk on thin smooth cardstock, with full high relief embossing. Order number F12729, in pencil on each, either front or back. Top proof dated May 13, 1948, with manuscript "Final" in pencil on front. Bottom proofs (left proof on grey card, right proof on white card) both dated May 14, 1948.

**TRIAL COLOR PROOFS**



**Trial Color Proof in Black**

Black trial color proof, die sunk on smooth heavy bond wove paper, inked within the die sinkage (uncleared outer surround) to clearly show the borders of the indicium design. Order number F12729, in pencil. Printed May 14, 1948.

*Four Examples Recorded*

**Trial Color Proof in Light Red**

Light Red trial color proof, die sunk on rough heavy bond wove paper, inked within the die sinkage (uncleared outer surround) to clearly show the borders of the indicium design. Order number F12729, in pencil. Printed May 14, 1948.

*Two Examples Recorded*

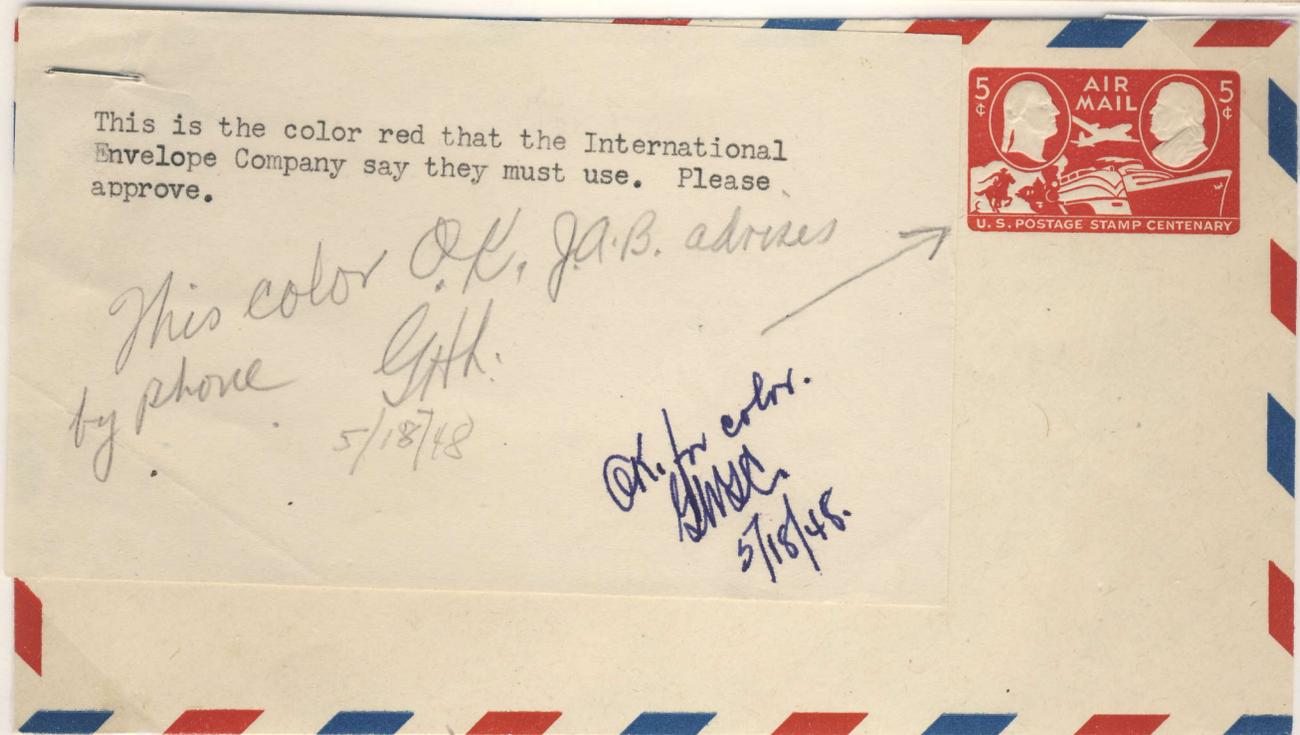
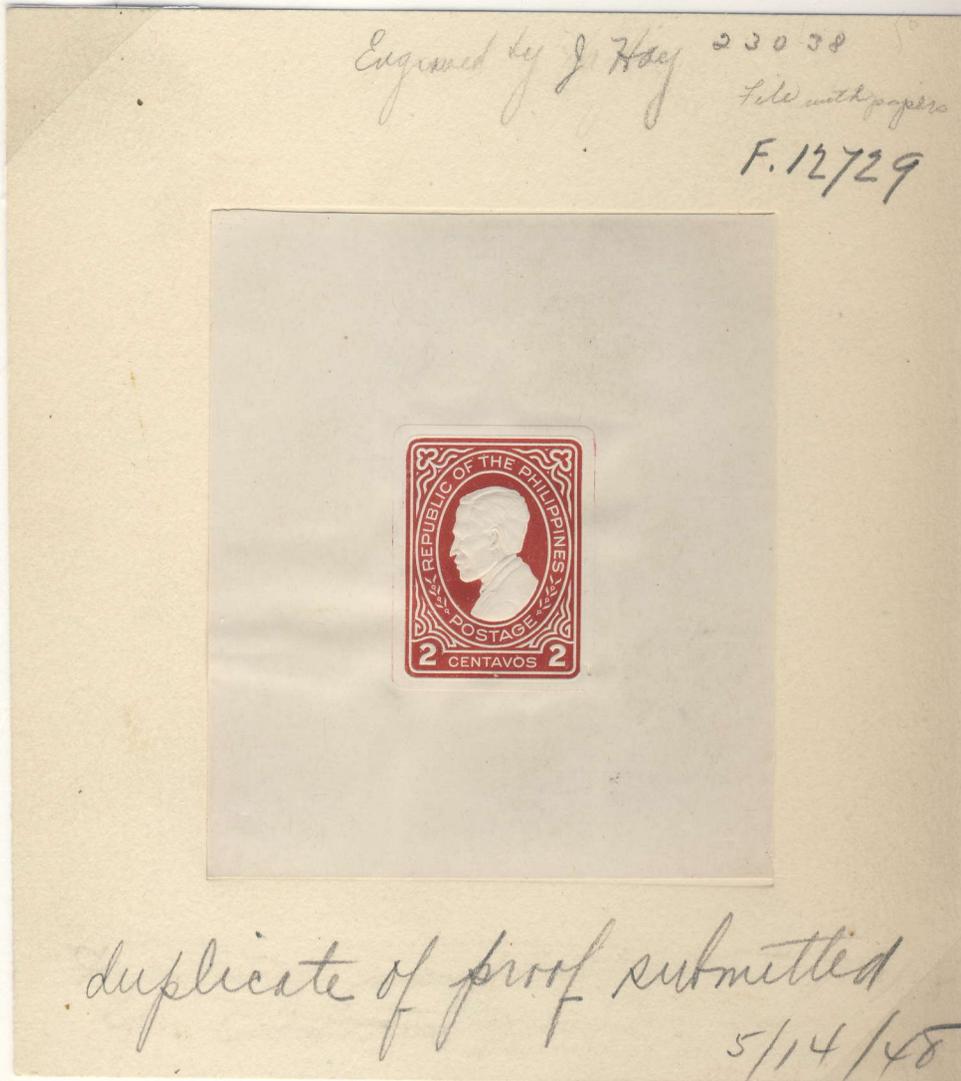


**LARGE DIE TRIAL COLOR PROOF  
IN RED - AND COLOR SAMPLE**

**Large Die Trial Color Proof in Red**

Red Trial Color Die Proof pasted to die sinkage. Prepared by International Envelope Company and provided in duplicate to the ABNCo on May 14, 1948. One example retained by G. W. T Combs, Assistant Manager of the Foreign Department, and the other forwarded to Arnold Reece, Manger of the Engraving Division of the Bronx Plant of ABNCo on July 29, 1948. Schedule number 23038 and Order number F12729, in pencil top/right.

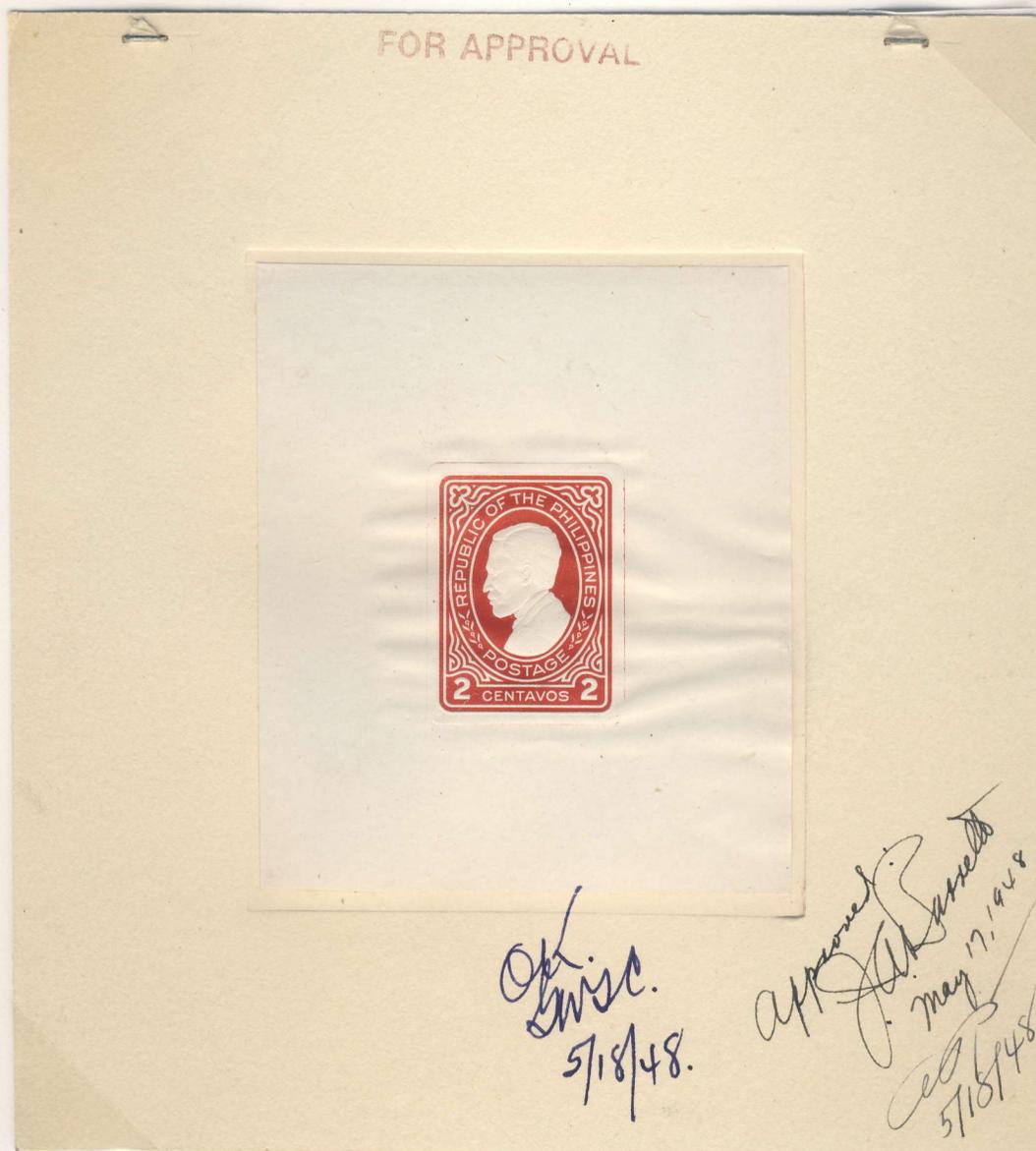
*Two Examples Recorded*



**Sample for Indicium Color**

U.S. 5 cent carmine stamped envelope printed for the postage stamp centenary issue, May 21, 1947 by the International Envelope Company. Provided to the ABNCo as a sample of the color to be used in printing the Philippine envelope, with request for approval. Approved by phone, by J.A. Barrett, Financial Attache of the Philippine Embassy in Washington, D.C. "OK For color / GWTC /

**LARGE DIE PROOF OF FINAL DESIGN SUBMITTED "FOR APPROVAL"**



**Large Die Proof of Final Design Submitted for Approval**

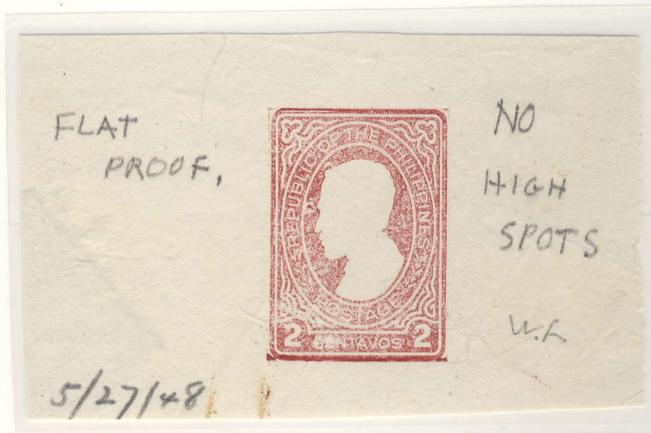
Large Die Proof on India pasted to die sinkage. Magenta "FOR APPROVAL" handstamp at top. Signatures of approval by (1) J. A. Barrett, Financial Attache, Philippine Embassy, Washington, D.C., May 17, 1948, (2) G. W. T Combs, Assistant Manager of the Foreign Department ABNCo., and (3) Arnold Reece, Manager of the Engraving Division of the Bronx Plant of ABNCo both on May 18, 1948. **On Back:** Schedule number 23038 in pencil; blue date clock from the Engraving Order Department, "Approved / 1948 / May / 18" and red date clock from the General Engraving Department, "Approved / 1948 / May / 18". Pencil notation of proof color as "182 offset red"

*Only Example Recorded*

## DIE PROOFS PRINTED WITH BENT DIE

### Flat Proof Printed from Bent Die

Die Proof on manila wove paper. Days after the die was approved, the die was damaged in an accident, resulting in the indicium die being bent. Proofs were printed to assess the damage to the die. Printing this flat proof showed the bend resulted in the die being elongated by 1.5 mm, thus rendering it unusable. Pencil notation on proof "Flat Proof", "No high spots" with date "5/27/48."



### Only Example Recorded



### Die Proof of Final Design Printed with Bent Die

Die Proof on manila wove paper pasted to board. Printed with full embossing to determine if bent die was salvageable. Pencil notation on proof "Die not touched / W.F." and on backing board, "5/27/48 From bent die."

**LARGE DIE TRIAL COLOR PROOF IN BLACK**



**Large Die Proof Trial Color Proof in Black**

Large Die Trial Color Proof printed on white laid paper, die sunk on card, with die number 90473, printed October 25, 1948.

After a new die was prepared by the International Envelope Corporation to replace the bent die, the new die was provided to the ABNCo. Gilbert Combs, manager of the Foreign Department, sent the die to Arnold Reece at the Engraving Division of ABNCo at the Bronx plant on October 21, 1948, with the following message: "We are sending you herewith the 2 Centavos embossing die and model of envelope which has been returned to us by the International Envelope Corporation, having completed the above order."

*Only Example Recorded*

**LARGE DIE PROOF SIGNED BY ENGRAVER**



**Large Die Proof Signed by Engraver, John Hay**

Large Die Proof printed on white laid paper, die sunk on card, with die number 90473, printed October 25, 1948. "Mirror signed" in black ink by engraver, John Hay.

*Only Example Recorded*

## LARGE DIE PROOF ON FULL-SIZE CARD



### Large Die Proof on Full-Size Card

Large Die Proof printed on India, die sunk on full-size card, 226 x 153 mm.,  
with die number 90473, printed October 27, 1948.

### *Only Example Recorded*

**Postscript:** While the original order to print the 2c carmine Rizal envelopes was dated January 29, 1948 with a "rush" due date, the first postal stationery of the Republic was not issued until December 30, 1948, with 1,477,000 of the original envelope printed. The envelope was re-issued July 4, 1951 with a 5c black surcharge and a printed cachet celebrating the 5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Independence (500,000 printed). It was re-issued again on February 1, 1953 with a 6c black surcharge and with a cachet celebrating the 1953 International Fair (989,420 printed). It was re-issued on July 4, 1956, with a 5c black surcharge and overprinted in the upper left and right corners of the indicium "1946" - "1956" with an overprint under the indicium reading "10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary / of the Republic" (962,400 printed). The envelope was re-issued October 26, 1970, with "RE-VALUED / 10s" in black to the left of the indicium. That surcharge was added to the original envelope (23,000 printed), to the 6c black surcharged envelope (10,580 printed) and to the 5c black surcharged 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary envelope