

July 4, 1965 VISIT OF PRINCESS BEATRIX FROM THE NETHERLANDS

PRINCESS BEATRIX OFFICIAL VISIT STAMPS (November 21-24, 1962)

As a remembrance of the state visit to the Philippines made by the Crown Princess of The Netherlands, Beatrix of Orage on November 21 to 24, 1962, the Bureau of Posts puts out a special issue of Princess Beatrix stamps at denominations of 2-centavos, 6-centavos and 10 -centavos.

With the spectacular Queen of Philippine Orchids, the Waling-Waling, on the foreground and the leaves of the stately bamboo on the background, the royal bust portraits of Princess Beatrix and the First Lady, Evangelina Macapagal, are horizontally portrayed, in four delightful colors, on postage stamps measuring 22.5 x 37.9 mm on the border lines.

Chief philatelic artist Nemesio Dimanlig, Jr., designed the stamps to give the Waling-Waling and the bamboo leaves equal prominence with the national flower of the Philippines, the sweet-scented pure-white sampaguita, which is shown around the neck of Princess Beatrix in a thick garland with a pendant of the same flowers, on the stamp.

The attractive Dutch Princess Beatrix came to the Philippines on November 21, 1962 for a three-day official visit. She got a peak at Filipino entertainment, a first-hand account of local social work, a taste of rural fare, drove a jeepney, ate mango, lanzones, listened to a lecture on "cadang-cadang" and turned camera bug by the highway on her trip to Los Baños.

The visit was marked with the absence of royal inhibitions as she enjoyed a barrio fiesta given by the Chairman of the Committee on State Visits, Alejandro R. Roces. This included an "arnis", a "pintakasi", a Jota Sevillana and a ride in a "tilbury."

A luncheon in her honor was tendered by President and Mrs. Macapagal in Malacañang, while Vice-President and Mrs. Emmanuel Pelaez feted her with cocktails at the Manila Polo Club.

The heir apparent to the throne of The Netherlands, Princess Beatrix left the Philippines on November 24, 1962 carrying with her a grassroot-impression of the Filipino people and their culture.

A quantity of 5,000,000 of each of the three denominations, or a total of 15,000,000, has been printed by heliogravure process by Thomas de la Rue & Co. Ltd. of London. There are 50 stamps in a sheet.

The Tagalog words below the portraits which read:

"Paggunita Sa Opisyal Na Pagdalaw Ng Kanyang Dakilang Kamahalan Princess Beatrix Ng Olandia" means in English:

"In commemoration of the official visit of Her Royal Highness, Princess Beatrix of The Netherlands."

