

## PHILIPPINE PHILATELIC CLUB

SEPTEMBER 7, 1944

### SOUVENIR POSTAL CARD – CONSTITUTION DAY

Postal Card issued to commemorate Constitution Day and cancelled with Manila (September 7, 1944) special circular date stamp. Addressed to the Philippine Philatelic Club (handstamp address), with corresponding handstamp corner card. Reverse Side of Card Blank.

The Special cancel was produced to commemorate the First Anniversary of the Constitution of the Republic (Constitution Day). A total of 12 cancellers were used, each with its own Control Number (1-12) appearing below the centre date line.

The 1935 Constitution came into effect on November 15, 1935 with the inauguration of the Commonwealth of the Philippines whilst the country was under American rule. The Constitution had provisions ensuring that it would remain the constitution of the Republic of the Philippines once independence was granted on July 4, 1946. During World War II the Japanese-sponsored government nullified the 1935 Constitution and appointed a Preparatory Committee on Philippine Independence to replace it. The 1943 Constitution was the constitution of the Japanese-sponsored Second Republic of the Philippines (1943-1945) which was approved by the Preparatory Committee on September 4, 1943 and ratified by the KALIBAPI Convention on September 7, 1943, with Jose P Laurel as President. It was recognized as legitimate and binding only in Japanese-controlled areas of the Philippines but was ignored by the United States government and the Philippine Commonwealth government in-exile.

