

PHILIPPINE PHILATELIC CLUB

OCTOBER 20-22, 1945

VICTORY PHILATELIC EXHIBITION

Privately overprinted seals were created by the Philippine Philatelic Club in conjunction with the Victory Philatelic Exhibition (V-PEX) of October 20-22, 1945, to commemorate the first anniversary of the 1994 D-Day landing of the American troops on Leyte, the first step in the eventual liberation of the Philippines. The seals were created by the expedient overprinting of the 2c green Rizal stamp of 1941 (Scott #461), with the seven-line legend: 'PPC V-PEX / Oct.20, 21, 22 / 1945 / To / Commemorate / First Anniv. / Leyte D-Day'. The stamps had already been demonetized by the Japanese Military Forces on January 2, 1942 and only fresh supplies of the Commonwealth stamps with the 'Victory' overprint were valid for postal purposes.

During the Japanese Occupation, the post office stocks of the Commonwealth stamps were made available for sale to philatelists, and many full panes of the stamps were purchased by collectors. This is reflected in the PPC Flashes No. 10 of September 7, 1944. When the PPC made plans for V-PEX it was quite logical and practical to use the materials available and at hand in those difficult post-war days when Manila was still emerging from the terrible destruction of the city during the battle for liberation. Even so, the task of overprinting was not a simple matter.

Pablo M Esperidion was appointed to prepare the seals for the Philippine Philatelic Club. At the time, he was only able to find one small shop back in business, and it had a press only large enough to overprint one-quarter of a sheet of 100 stamps at a time. This posed difficulty in running the full sheet through the press in four separate operations to get the complete overprint finalised. The centre block in each sheet (positions 45, 46, 55 and 56) show the inevitable mis-alignment of the overprint caused by the necessity for the four separate printing operations.

A total of 10,000 stamps were overprinted in red, of which 1,000 were damaged during the printing process. A total of 5,000 of the black overprint were printed, of which five sheets were destroyed. Of the black overprint, 200 were of the 2c Rizal green with OB (Scott #037). The seals were sold at the Exhibition Hall at 10c each, and sale was limited to 20 stamps of the red and 10 stamps of the black. In summary, the following quantities were overprinted:

Red Overprint on 2c Rizal Green (Scott #461)	9,000
Red Overprint on 2c Rizal (O.B.) Green (Scott #037)	Unknown
Black Overprint on 2c Rizal Green (Scott #461)	4,300
Black Overprint on 2c Rizal (O.B.) Green (Scott #037)	200

RED OVERPRINT



BLACK OVERPRINT

