



Envelope sent from Manila October 15, 1887 to Chemnitz, German Empire. The stamps were cancelled in Manila by a blue "CORREOS / MANILA" cancel. The cover was received on November 27 in Chemnitz as documented on the back by a receiving cancel.

A $2\frac{1}{8}$ Centavos de Peso, issued 1886 after a second retouch, was revaluated by a red overprint to 1 Centavo de Peso and used on this cover. As the overprint states, this stamp was primarily intended for use on covers to member countries of the Universal Postal Union. Furthermore, it was franked with a 2 and 5 Centavos de Peso stamp of the third series of King Alfonso XII.

Properly franked for up to 15 grams, paying the UPU rate at 8 Centavos de Peso.

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The comparably crude overprints also attracted criminals. In 1885 a student engraver proposed to an old woman who sold stamps in the walled city of Manila that they could make money by placing forged stamps of that period. Especially telegraphic stamps with high overprinted nominal values have been counterfeited by them. In 1886 their activities were discovered, and they were sentenced to prison for forgery.

They forged the 1 Peso telegraph stamp with red overprint "HABILITADO / TELEGRAMAS / SUBMARINOS / 1 PESO". A forgery of this stamp was particularly attractive. The nominal value of the overprinted stamp was 40 times the face value of the original stamp at $2\frac{1}{8}$ Centavos de Peso.

The stamps at 1 Peso on the telegraph receipt on the following page are credited to these forgers. The imprint deviates from the genuine and official overprint, especially recognizable by the comparatively smaller letters of the overprint.

Thus, on the following receipt, the postal administration was defrauded of almost 2 Pesos and thus a large portion of the postal fee - a lot of money at that time.