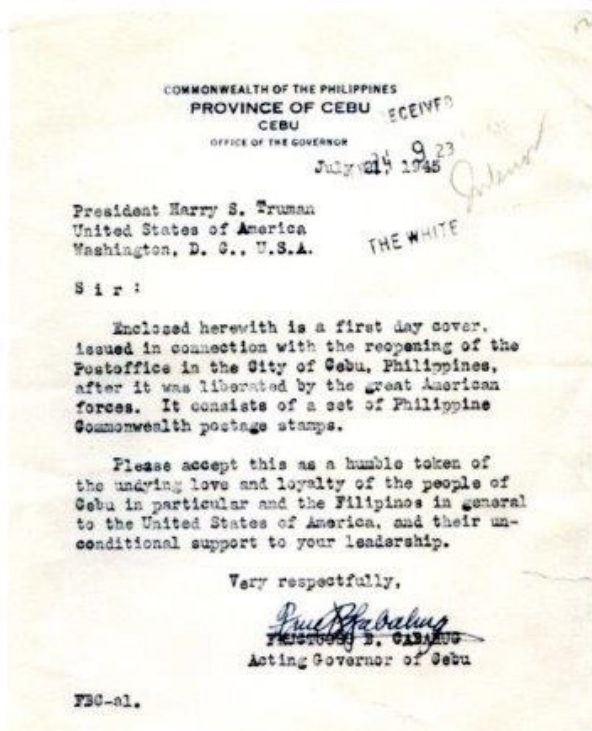


A "RUNNING MESSENGER" LETTER TO PRESIDENT TRUMAN WITH THE MAY 1, 1945 "VICTORY" OVERPRINT



THE LAST MESSENGER: 1947 SPECIAL PRINTING

Following the end of World War II, on July 4, 1946, the Philippines achieved independence from the United States. However, demand remained for additional copies of the May 1, 1945 Victory overprint issue. In a first for the U.S. Bureau of Engraving and Printing, a special printing of United States issued stamps was produced at the request of, and delivered to, a foreign government - via the newly established Washington D.C. Embassy of the new Philippine Republic.

MAY 1, 1945 "VICTORY" OVERPRINT

Printed by the U.S. Bureau of Engraving and Printing
May 1, 1945 (578,600 issued.)



The overprint has two varieties, close "IC" and normal spaced "IC", both displayed here.

1947.	11500	<i>Relieved to Philippine Philatelic Agency Philippine Embassy, Washington, D.C.</i>
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Excerpt from the records of the U.S. Bureau of Engraving and Printing.



Both the ink color and gum on the 1947 Special Printing differ slightly from the May 1, 1945 issue. In addition, the "close" IC variety does not occur on this issue (11,500 issued January 1947).