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***Congratulations to our new
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Editor's Note: Effective at the meeting held in Sarasota I took over as editor of Copacarta. Tom Myers had been our editor for many years and he decided that it was time to devote his energies to other endeavors. Copaphil owes an extremely large THANK YOU for all work he has done in making this an outstanding journal.

In this issue we have one article written in Spanish. I would appreciate it if you would send me an email (copacarta@gmail.com) expressing your opinion whether Copaphil should continue to publish an article, in Spanish, in each journal. I know there are some individuals who would like to contribute information, but who prefer for it to be published in Spanish.

Cervantes in Panamanian Philately By Marcela Diaz Cabal

By way of introduction these pages, which are written on the occasion of the IV centennial of the death of the illustrious Miguel de Cervantes Saavedra. They represent the homage by a Panamanian, lately fond of philately, to Don Miguel showing her admiration for *Don Quixote* and the man man who gave eternal life to his creation.

The First Cervantes commemorative stamps in World Philately

In 1905, Spain issued commemorative stamps for the first time and choose for this a theme very dear to all Spanish: their outstanding literary work, the most widespread book in the world after the Bible: *El ingenioso hidalgo don Quijote de la Mancha*. This commemorative series on *Don Quixote* consists of 10 stamps of various colors illustrating different passages of the novel. The following year, in 1906, Spain issued another set, rather controversial, on the occasion of the third centenary of the death of Cervantes. It was a series of stamps showing the portrait of Cervantes in the Spanish Parliament, the Cervantes monument, the National Library and the Congress of Deputies in different colors for the Congress and the Senate. These stamps (perforated, without perforation and inverted) were used postally, although circulation was very limited and restricted.

Don Quixote in Panama

In the colonial era, the law required that all goods exported to South America were first sent to Portobelo, on the Atlantic coast of the Isthmus of Panama. They were then sent by mule over the hard and dangerous path that crossed the Isthmus to the pacific coast capital city (Panama City) and then sent on to their final destinations. When in 1605 first part of *Don Quixote* was published it not only became an immediately a publishing

success. However, despite the impediments of the Inquisition to prevent romance and other secular books from reaching America because they were dangerous to the morals and good lifestyle of the Indians (actually the banned were the harmful to the faith and dogma of the Church), 61 boxes of the books were shipped from Seville on behalf of Juan Sarriá, bookseller of Alcalá de Henares, to his son Juan de Sarriá "el mozo" in Peru, to be sold in Lima, Cuzco and other parts. In that same ship, *Our Lady of the Rosary*, in addition to the 79 Sarria copies of *Don Quixote*, another 5 copies were shipped by the merchant Pedro González Refolio, who had filed boarding permits with the Inquisition. Thus, a total of 84 copies of *Don Quixote* travelled to Tierra Firme in 1605. Later many other specimens would be sent to the new Spain.

The interesting thing is that in Panama some of the boxes had to be sold to defray the shipping costs, but all traces of these books, which never reached their destinations, has been lost. This seemingly insignificant information, is of great importance as it demonstrates the interest that should awaken in some Panamanians to figure out which families on the Isthmus either read or at least owned copies of *Don Quixote* in 1605. This small detail, found during an investigation into the fate of *Don Quixote* in America for an article that had nothing to do with the Philately, years later would again arouse my curiosity and would induce me to seek information about the fate of Cervantes and *Don Quixote* in Panama, from the philatelic perspective.

The First Cervantes Stamp of 1921

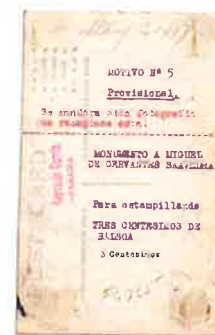
While Spain issued the first stamp commemorating Cervantes in 1906, it would be 15 years before any other country, besides Spain, was interested in honoring Cervantes and his masterpiece. In 1921 Panama, in its 1921 issue to commemorate its 100th anniversary of independence from

Spain, chose as an image for one of the stamps the monument to Cervantes, the work of the Asturian sculptor Julio González-Pola y García (1865-1929). The monument was erected in 1916 in the Plaza Cervantes (now Plaza Porras) where it remained until 1947 when it was transferred to the grounds of the University of Panama. Since then, the monument to Cervantes presides over the most emblematic site of the university: La Colina.

The first Cervantes Stamp of Panama

It would be 15 years before any other country, in addition to Spain, is interested in philatelically honoring Cervantes and his work. The funny thing is that this honor does was not done by any European country such as England or France, enthusiastic admirers of Don Quixote in 1605, or to Mexico or Peru, headquarters of the large colonial vicerealties where almost the entirety of the "first edition" from Juan de la Cuesta printing press ended up. The honor belongs to the tiny American country, Panama. In its commemorative issue of independence from Spain, in 1921, it choose as one of the images the monument to Cervantes by Asturian sculptor Julio González-Pola y García (1865-1929). The monument was erected in 1916 in the plaza Cervantes (today Plaza Porras) where it stayed until 1947 when he was transferred to the grounds of the University of Panama. Since then, the Cervantes monument presides over the most emblematic site of the University: the Hill. Panama thus became the second country to introduce Cervantes material in the world thematic philately.

This postcard (Figures 1 & 2) shows the original design photograph of the Cervantes monument. On the reverse, instructions from Panama to the American Bank Note Company mentioning a better photograph would be sent. The photograph of the monument was sent and used to replace the image of this postcard.



(Figures 1 & 2)



(Figure 3)

The card (Fig. 3) presents two models, with the hand-drawn and painted frames of the 3 and 5 centesimos. The vignettes are photographic reductions, stuck in the center of the frames. The models were sent by the American Bank Note Company from New York to Panama for approval. You can see the approval of the director of Post and Telegraph with his signature as well as the stamp of the Ministry of Finance and Treasury with the signature of the Chief of Materials for the Republic of Panama. There are several initials, dates and notes with instructions from the staff of the American Bank Note Company.

The American Bank Note Company had the practice of making index cards (Figure 4) where they stuck an impression of the die used to create the printing plates in the middle of them. These cards also contain a series of information such as the name of the

engraver of the vignette and the frame, dates, types of printing plates, etc.



(Figure 4)

This (Fig. 5) is a proof of the final stage printed on Indian paper and embossed on cardboard.



(Figure 5)

Figure 6 shows the upper right part of the file sheet of the perforated stamp rubber stamped SPECIMEN with marginal notes. Date: June 21, 1921



On September 12, 1990, Christie's auctioned a large part of the test files of the American Bank Note Company. In the section of Panama there were several lots with test stamps in sheets of 100 or 200 copies on cardboard, green, of various emissions and values. These green tests were re-printed by the American Bank Note Co. in 1933 before destroying the original plates. Lot #544 contained the test sheets of the Centennial of Independence series of 1921. According to the lot description the 3 centesimos stamp (monument to Cervantes) in green was reprinted in a sheet of 200 copies to which this block of 4 (Figure 7) belonged.



(Fig. 7)

The American Bank Co. made impressions of its black dies to preserve the images in its archives. Here are 4 images (figs. 8, 9, 10 and 11) of these proofs of the 3 centesimos stamp.

(Figures 8 & 9)





(Figures 10-11)



(Fig. 12)

The final sheet (Fig. 12) was printed in sheets of 50 (5 x 10 stamps) in purple.

(Editor's note: Covers bearing this stamp are difficult to find as they primarily paid the UPU foreign letter rate for the second 20 grams. They can also be found paying the 3 centesimos needed if the 2 centesimos postal envelope was used to foreign destinations.)

The emission of 1947

On June 9, 1947, the President of the Republic, Enrique A. Jiménez, and the Minister of Government and Justice, Francisco A. Filós, signed decree No. 105 authorizing the issuance of Panamanian postage stamps to commemorate "the IV

Centenary of the birth of the Father of the Castilian Language, Don Miguel de Cervantes Saavedra".

The issue originally consisted of one million five hundred thousand (1,500,000) stamps for the ordinary interior and exterior service of the Republic. Of these, five hundred thousand (500,000) would be the value of 1 centesimo, in green with a black background. As an image, there should be a drawing of Don Quixote mounted on Rocinante with his shield in his left hand and his spear on the right, accompanied by his squire Sancho Panza mounted on his donkey. In the decree, in addition to the explanations mentioned above, another series of specifications regarding details such as the name of the country, location, price of the stamp, etc. were included.

Five hundred thousand stamps (500,000) of 2 centesimos would be in red and black. The image was to be the half-length portrait (bust) of Don Miguel and the decree repeated the same specifications as in the one centesimo.

Another five hundred thousand stamps (500,000) would be 5 centesimos in blue and black. The photograph of the monument to Cervantes erected in the city of Panama in the Plaza Cervantes that had already been used in the 1921 stamp was to be used. Below that image would appear an inscription that said: "Monument to Cervantes". The frame would contain, as did the others, the legend "Fourth Centenary of the Birthday of Don Miguel de Cervantes Saavedra" and the same previous characteristics would appear.

The decree established some guidelines that were not met or that underwent changes: the 1 cent stamp was not issued, but one of 10 cents in purple and black was issued with the design originally proposed for the one centesimo with the characters and the windmills of background. Instead of all stamps being only for ordinary mail, two

stamps were issued for airmail and only one for the ordinary mail. Finally, the decree establishes the date of sale of the stamps on September 29, 1947, but they were actually sold on November 15, 1948, more than a year after the celebration of the birth of Cervantes. All stamps bear a common legend: "1547-1947 / FOURTH CENTENARY OF THE BIRTH OF DON MIGUEL DE CERVANTES SAAVEDRA"

The printing was carried out by Waterlow & Sons Limited of London. The measurements for the stamp of 2 centesimos are 41 x 30½ mm and for the 5 and 10 centesimos are 31 x 40 ½ mm. All three stamps are perforated 12½.



(Figure 13)

Photograph of the oil portrait attributed to Juan de Jáuregui (Fig. 13), used as a vignette in the 2 centesimos stamp. The image on the stamp is reversed and Cervantes looks to the left instead of the right.

Photograph (Fig. 14) of the monument to Cervantes when it was still in the Plaza de Cervantes, today Plaza Porras. It was used for the stamp vignette of five centesimos.

(Figures 14 & 15)



Drawing (Fig. 15) that was used for the 10 centesimos stamp's vignette.



(Figure 16)

Showing proof (Fig. 16) provided by the Security Bank Note Co. during the competition to obtain the contract to print the series. See the differences in the framework and in the value.

For creating the printing plates used for the production of the series, impressions of the dies or stamps of the frames and vignettes are used. These pieces (Figs. 17 – 22) from dies 1 to 6 are unique. They are impressions on wove type paper, un-gummed, of the dies that were used for vignettes or for the frames of the three values.

(Figures 17 -20)





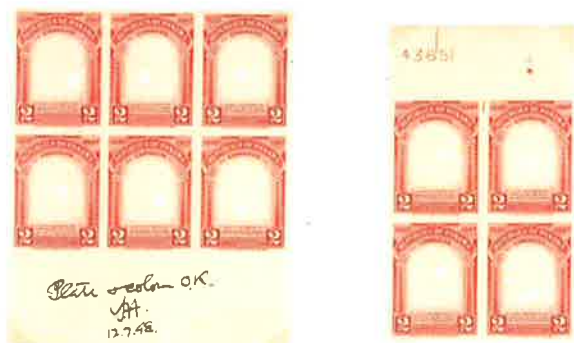
(Figures 21-22)

Color plate tests (Fig. 23 and 24) were made for the 2 and 10 centesimos stamps, but not for the 5 centesimos.

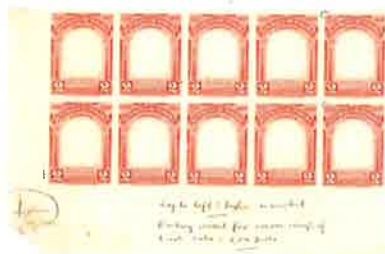


(Figures 23 & 24)

This file sheet (Fig. 25 - 27) shows the printing of the frame only. No printing of the vignette was made alone. The person in charge of the print wrote in the approval of the plate & color and indicated certain adjustments that must be made.



(Figures 25-27)



Pieces of the file sheet (Figs. 28 - 30) before being introduced to the perforating machine of the 2 centesimos stamp. These are the most important pieces of this sheet because they contain handwritten notes by the individual in charge of print quality.



(Figures 28 - 30)

Figures 31 & 32 show the stamps after being perforated.

(Figure 31)



(Figure 32)



Images of the file sheets of the frames and complete seals of five and ten centesimos before going to the perforating machine (Figures 33-36). No impressions were made of the single vignettes in these two values.



(Figures 33-36)

The Quixote in the Centenary of José Gabriel Duque

On January 17, 1949, the President of the Republic, Domingo Díaz A., through Decree No. 24 entitled "Honor a Memory", authorized the Minister of Government and Justice José D. Crespo to overprint one hundred thousand (100,000) stamps of the 10 centesimos Cervantes airmail stamp of 1947 with the following words in red ink: "CENTENARY OF / JOSÉ GABRIEL DUQUE" / January 18, 1949", so that it did not alter the value of the stamps. It is also specified that these stamps would be offered for sale in the post offices of the Republic from January 18, 1949, until their completion, without canceling any of the other current postage stamps. The overprint paid homage "to the illustrious philanthropist Don José Gabriel Duque [...] for his important services rendered to the Panamanian nation".

Jose Gabriel Duque (1849 – 1918) was born in Cuba, but moved to Panama and became a prominent businessman and journalist. In

1883, he founded the Panama lottery as a private institution, which upon his death became state operated. He was also the owner and director of the newspaper "La Estrella de Panamá" from 1893 until his son took over in 1914.

The press must have tested the plate for this overload, but no copies of the tests have been seen and it is very possible that they were destroyed.

In these images you can see the variants of the type seal. The stamp on the right (Fig. 37) presents the overprint in three equidistant rows. The stamp type (Fig. 38, on the left) has the date very separated from the rest and is barely noticeable. The third stamp (Fig. 39) shows the inverted overprint!



(Figures 37 – 39)

The last Panamanian "Quixote"

In 2004, the University of Panama began its project to celebrate 400 years of Don Quixote with a series of activities to be carried out over a year: the so-called "Cervantino Year 2004-2005." Among the various proposed acts, the Commission in charge of the celebrations requested COTEL (Post and Telegraph of Panama), through its Department of Philately, to issue a commemorative stamp related to such important event. The philatelic office accepted and handled the paperwork, but

the stamp, which should have been released in 2005, does not see the light until 2007.

In Decree 320 dated June 14, 2005, the President of the Republic, Martín Torrijos Espino, empowered the Executive Branch, through the Ministry of Government and Justice, "to authorize the preparation, printing and issuance of postal species necessary for payment of the postal service that is provided to the public ... ". As part of 7 different issues, Article 1 authorizes the contracting and printing of one hundred and fifty thousand postage stamps (150,000) with a face value of 45 centesimos and 400 envelopes of the first day of issue with a value of 50 centesimos for the 400 of the First Edition of Don Quixote. The decree is nor establish specifications (measurements, perforations, position of the legend, etc.) for these stamps or details of the envelopes (drawing, postmark) as in the previous postal issues.

Two years later, in the shade of a leafy Panama tree, on the Hill of the University, and next to the monument to Cervantes, a simple, but significant ceremony is done and several First Day envelopes are sealed to give to the authorities university with this stamp, (Figure 40) based on a drawing by Salvador Dalí. Panama finally joins the other countries that celebrated this important anniversary and ends the history of the stamps that the nation dedicates to the Cervantes theme. It is hoped that in the not too distant future, Don Quixote will travel the world again on the back of another Panamanian stamp.

(Figure 40)



The materials used to illustrate this article are courtesy of David Zemer and Federico Brid. Thank you.

COVER OF THE MONTH

It is a sample of a two-way judicial rate as ordered by decree 28 of 13 February 1905. The strip of 4 (perhaps largest known) + single of the 3rd Panama overprint 20 centesimos pays for the travel from Colon to Panama and back to Colon + the 50c fee charged for this service (See manuscript in pencil on left *Ida y regreso mas 50 ¢*). On the reverse, above the stamps in black ink is *Debe pagar 80 ¢*. The 80c was corrected in pencil to read 1.00. It is assumed the additional 20 centesimos was charged for excess weight.



Panama Postal History 1887 – 1953

Wanted: please send a thorough description and scans if possible.

Brad Wilde
Bgwndal@gmail.com

LAS ESTAMPILLAS DE LOS PAPAS DE 1956: EL GRAN NEGOCIADO por Federico Brid

La idea de crear una enorme serie de estampillas y comercializarlas dentro del mundo filatélico surgió de dos comerciantes de Denver, Estados Unidos de América: J. E. Ross y H. L. Pearl. A principio de 1952 estos dos comerciantes pensaron que una serie de estampillas de correo conmemorativas de cada uno de los papas que ocuparon la silla de San Pedro sería de lo más productiva para el negocio filatélico. En la larga historia de la Iglesia Católica había habido 259 papas que se prestaban para distribuirlos en series encadenadas por el nombre: había 16 papas llamados Benedicto, 16 Gregorio, 14 Clemente, 13 Inocencio, 13 Juan, 13 Leo, 12 Pío, 9 Bonifacio, 9 Esteban, etcétera.

Robert E. Tyrell se asoció con Ross y Pearl y organizaron una compañía en Tegucigalpa, Honduras, llamada "Stampco S. A." que emitiría 2,000 acciones comunes y 3,000 acciones preferidas con un capital de US \$300,000. El Sr. Tyrell controlaría Stampco con el 51% de las acciones y facilitaría el proceso de producir las estampillas como vicepresidente de Jeffries Bank Note Company de California, la compañía que diseñaría, grabaría e imprimiría las series de los papas.

En vista de que más del 40% de los católicos del mundo residían en América Latina, el consorcio decidió buscar un país latinoamericano que adoptara el proyecto. Cuba y otro país sudamericano mostraron interés, pero fueron descartados por imponer condiciones que los inversionistas no encontraban favorables. El consorcio decidió entonces acercarse a Panamá y para ello buscó a la prestigiosa y bien conectada firma de abogados Arias, Fábrega y Fábrega para que los representara y les sirviera de intermediarios en las negociaciones con el gobierno panameño.

El 24 de diciembre de 1953 Arias, Fábrega y Fábrega en representación de Stampco, llegaron a un acuerdo con el ministro de Gobierno y Justicia, Catalino Arrocha Graell, que convirtió a Panamá en la sede de las series de estampillas de los papas. Una vez concretado el acuerdo, se estableció un contrato que estipulaba que Stampco correría con los gastos de publicidad, diseño y producción de las estampillas mientras que Panamá, a cambio del 55% del producto de la venta, emitiría los decretos correspondientes para legalizar las emisiones y supervisaría la venta y distribución de las estampillas.

Del producto de la venta, Stampco recibiría el 30%; el 10% sería para el Vaticano y el 5% restante se usaría como dividendo de las acciones comunes. El secretario de la Santa Sede, monseñor Giovanni Montini, estuvo de acuerdo con autorizar el uso de las imágenes de los papas y el uso de la firma de su Santidad Pío XII siempre y cuando no se mencionara en el contrato el vínculo con el Vaticano. Sin embargo, el Vaticano sí aceptaba una donación directa del gobierno de Panamá por la cantidad que representara ese 10%.

Stampco estableció un presupuesto para esa primera serie: \$140,000 para diseño, grabado e impresión de los sellos; \$104,000 para publicidad y divulgación; \$5,000 para relaciones públicas; \$7,500 para establecer una agencia filatélica dedicada a la venta de las series de los papas; \$24,500 para gastos administrativos y \$5,500 para la compra de sobres tipo *glassine*.

Como el papa Pío XII era entonces el papa regente decidieron comenzar la serie con las imágenes de los doce papas con el nombre de Pío. Esta primera serie de los papas Pío tendría un tiraje de 195 millones de estampillas desglosados así: 15 millones de cada uno de los once primeros valores y 30 millones de la estampilla de dos Balboas con la imagen del papa Pío XII. El tiraje tendría un valor facial de \$105,000,000. El

consorcio, con solo una inversión de \$300,000 para la serie de los 12 papas Pío, tenía dispuesto recibir \$36,750,000.

La siguiente serie programada era la de los ocho papas llamados Pablo. El proyecto requería sacar a la venta una nueva serie cada cuatro meses hasta que se terminaran de conmemorar los 259 papas. Se estimaba que llevar estas series a su conclusión tomaría 10 años. No se sabe los valores que se tenían programados para las siguientes series. Tampoco se sabe cuántos ejemplares de cada uno de estos valores se iban a imprimir. Lo que sí se puede calcular es que si se seguía el patrón de la serie de los doce papas Pío, los 247 papas restantes significarían más de 3 mil millones de estampillas con un valor facial de cientos de millones de dólares.

El 14 de octubre de 1954, en una conferencia de prensa dirigida al mundo filatélico se anunció por primera vez la intención de crear estas series de estampillas de la República de Panamá con imágenes de los 259 papas de la Iglesia Católica. Ese mismo 14 de octubre de 1954, el decreto número 226 fue firmado por el presidente José Remón Cantera y el ministro Catalino Arrocha Graell, autorizando la impresión de los 195 millones de estampillas con las imágenes de los doce papas Pío.

El anuncio, acompañado de la legalización que le dio el decreto número 226, estalló en el mundo como una feroz tormenta. Un sinnúmero de periódicos y revistas filatélicas de Europa y de los Estados Unidos publicaron reportes y editoriales señalando que detrás de esta serie había un sindicato de inversionistas americanos y hasta la mismísima Iglesia Católica planeando obtener millones de dólares de ganancia a costa de los coleccionistas de estampillas y aficionados a temas religiosos. Panamá no tenía revistas filatélicas, pero sí periodistas y estos empezaron a publicar detalles del vínculo que existía entre miembros del

gobierno y el sindicato para su beneficio personal.

El repudio fue tal que se dilató la salida de la serie y finalmente obligaron a las autoridades de Panamá a decretar en junio de 1956 que las series de los papas se limitarían a la de los doce papas Pío y sólo tendrían validez por un periodo de seis meses. Después de seis meses los sobrantes y las planchas de impresión serían destruidas.

La serie de los papas Pío tuvo su primer día de emisión el 2 de julio de 1956 y en los seis meses de validez se vendieron las siguientes cantidades:

VALOR	CANTIDADES
2 centésimos	32,216
3 centésimos	28,044
4 centésimos	18,374
5 centésimos	14,169
6 centésimos	20,051
10 centésimos	16,979
20 centésimos	14,169
25 centésimos	12,405
50 centésimos	9,384
75 centésimos	9,004
1 balboa	8,955
2 balboas	8,854

Prestigiosos catálogos filatélicos como Scott, Yvert, Stanley Gibbons, rehusaron darle cabida en sus páginas a dicha emisión. De los 195 millones de estampillas programadas solo llegaron a circular 192,604 y de los 105 millones de dólares que se esperaban recaudar solo se vendieron un total de \$49,592.

Para los inversionistas fue un mal negocio y para la reputación de la filatelia panameña un desastre que lastimosamente todavía repercute. No parece justo que más de 60 años después catálogos como Scott no incluya la serie como cualquiera otra. Después de todo la serie fue legalmente emitida, circuló en los correos nacionales y tuvo vigencia por seis meses al final de los cuales, Panamá cumplió con la promesa de destruir los remanentes y las planchas impresoras. Tampoco se continuaron produciendo las siguientes series de papas. El castigo ha sido fuerte y no hay razón para continuarlo.

Montaje de la serie en pruebas de punzón



Grabadores de las viñetas

2 centésimos: Bower
3 centésimos: Kitz
4 centésimos: Archer
5 centésimos: Archer
6 centésimos: Bower
10 centésimos: Penlon
20 centésimos: Dinlaman
25 centésimos: Penlon
50 centésimos: Archer
75 centésimos: Fichter
1 Balboa: Dinlaman
2 Balboas: Archer

La serie de Papas en impresiones de punzón pegadas a cartulina.
Al pie de cada una el nombre del artista que hizo el trabajo de grabado

(Figure 2)

Please write for Copacarta: We are especially in need of articles pertaining to Colombia. Por favor escribir para Copacarta. Necesitamos articulos de la philatelica de Colomba. Puede publicar en Espanol. Gracias

PANAMA POSTCARDS: M. ESPINOSA B. by Brad Wilde



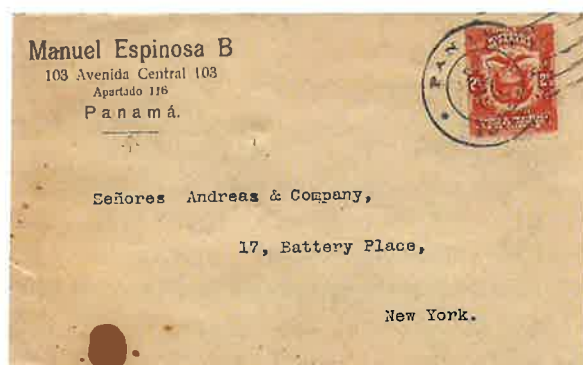
(Fig. 1: 20 centesimos "Founders" stamps issued February 20, 1948. Airmail letter rate (< 5 grams) to Europe. Panama City – Switzerland - April 22, 1951)

Manuel Espinosa Batista (Fig. 1) was born in Cartagena, Colombia, on September 12, 1857, and was educated there before moving to Panama in 1873 where he began working in a pharmacy. In 1882 he opened his own pharmacy at 30 Central Avenue, and he became an important figure in the commercial life of Panama. Eventually his store, Espinosa's Drug Store, shown below, moved to a new location facing La Merced Church at 103 Central Avenue (Fig. 3), Panama City, where it became the largest drug store on the isthmus.



With Jose Gabriel Duque (see Don Quixote article above) he was one of the founders of the Panama Lottery. In the early 1900's Espinoza was very influential in the secessionist movement in Panama and was a member of the Junta Provisional de Gobierno de Panama. As the "President" of Panama from November 9, 1903, until December 7, 1903, he was partially responsible for the Hay-Bunau Varilla treaty. He is considered to be one of the founders of the Republic. He died on November 27, 1919. After his death, the Central Pharmacy was operated by Elisa R. de Espinosa.

His bust, along with other "Founders" can be found in Plaza de Independencia / Plaza de Catedral.



(Figure 3)

TYPE A (Antique Brown Letters – Identified)

About the turn of the century, it is believed that a salesman representing a German publishing house visited Panama and was successful in selling the services of this firm to several Panamanian retail outlets. There is one type of postcard which is known to have been sold by several local vendors, including de Sola, Kohpcke, and Preciado, as well as Espinosa.

The address side (Fig. 3) is in the undivided back format and is printed in black, in Spanish. This series is unnumbered.

The titling data is in Spanish on the picture side (Fig. 4) in a brown color and the view itself is finely printed in black and white.

Catedral de Panama

Dragas en el Canal

La Boca, Entrade del Canal, Panama.

La torre de Panama Viejo.

Muelle de la Boca – Panama

Panama – Calle de Caldas.

Panama – Iglesia de Merced.

Panama – Iglesia de S. Francisco.

Paseo de las Bovedas – Panama

Ruinas de Santo Domingo. Panama.

TYPE B (Olive Gray Captions - Identified)

This type is characterized by the titling data in Spanish on the picture side (Fig. 5) in a olive gray color while the view itself is finely printed in color. The address side is the same as TYPE A. This series is not numbered.

El Chorro La Chrrrena (sic).

Entrada del Cerro – Panama.

Parque Catedral – Panama. (Note: message segment is at the right)

Parque Catedral – Panama.
(Note: message segment is at the bottom)

Parque San Francisco - Panama



(Figure 3)



(Figure 4)



(Figure 5)

MARKET REPORT: PANAMA

In the past six months there has been a number of interesting items that have been listed on eBay. Prices are strong for the rarer or more unusual items, but weak for the more common material – both stamps and postal history. It seems that eBay has changed its

format to not allow photographs from listings to be copied.

A very nice sunken die proof of the Jovian Portrait of Christopher Columbus (Scott # 285) sold for \$305. A mint, LH, OG copy of C19 sold with a buy it now for \$200. A second copy sold for \$189.99. The 1964 cathedrals souvenir sheet with bister overprint sold for 137.17. A British 2 shilling with a C35 cancel sold for \$80.99 with a buy it now. A 1921 Landgate booklet pane of 6 proof sold for \$51. There were a lot of these in the ABN Co archive sale. Scott #156 (50 centesimos) with the Bocas del Toro overprint sold for less than \$65 (offer accepted). A 1947 UPU Paris delegates presentation stamp booklet sold for \$47. The stamps inside included the 1924 Arms of Panama and 1942 Folkloric series.

In the way of covers a nice SCADTA cover originating in Panama with two copies of the 15 centavos with "P" machine overprint and 5 cents Arms of Panama Series sold for \$199.99. A registered cover from Panama City with the 1892 10 centavos orange and Colombian registry label (ex Meroni) sold for \$135. Panama City cover with #104, dated December 21, 1903, sold for \$114.99. A large (264 covers) postal history collection of 20th century Panama sold for \$103.50. A pair of #17 to the United States sold for \$99. A rare example of the Dargue Flight with the 2 cents Arms of Panama stamp, but quite faded, sold for \$99 – at auction better copies have sold in the \$300 range. A set of 6 postal stationery cards with views from 1939 sold for \$95 with a buy it now. A #11 with a cut down French Canal Company corner card sold for \$75. The cover was a bit ratty. A #19 from Bocas del Toro to the United States for \$60. An 1893 cover addressed to the U.S. Ship Alliance in Panama sold for \$59.99. These ship address covers are usually priced in the \$100 range. A 1917 cover from Jamaica with the 2 and 5 centesimos postage due issue sold for \$49.99. This might have been because the

seller was in India as this cover should have sold for more. One of the rarer first flight covers into Panama, from Guatemala (65 pieces flown), sold for \$49 with a buy it now.

TYPOGRAPHICAL REPRINTS: ALERT

It has been reported that "typographical reprints" have been offered for sale on eBay. The photograph is shown below.



BRASILIA 2017 EXHIBITOR HONOREES

A number of our members exhibited at Brasilia 2017 in October. The following awards were presented:

Championship Class:

Alvaro Castro-Harrigan - Panama: First Issue of the Republic

Alfredo Frohlich - United States of Colombia 1868-1881

James Johnson - Colombia Pre-Philatelic Postal Services and Routes

Traditional Philately: Santiago Cruz - SCADTA's First Issues A Traditional Approach to Airmail Stamps

Awards:

James Johnson - Colombia Classic Issues 1859-1868 - Large Gold

Ricardo Botero-Escobar - Colombia Classic Colombia - The First Six Issues (1859 - 1863) - Large Gold

James Johnson - SCADTA 4th Issue - Gold

Manuel Arango Echeverri - Cruz Roja Colombiana - Vermeil

Alfredo Frohlich - Replating Colombia's 1861 1 Peso Stamp (single frame) - Gold

There were two other exhibits pertaining to Colombia:

Bruce Olsson, Colombia Seventh Issue of Colombia 1865-1866 - Large Vermeil

Gilberto Gallo Martinez, Colombia Colombia Antioquia 1868 - 1904 - Large Vermeil

Sarasota National Stamp Exhibition 2018

The Colombia-Panama Philatelic Study Group held its meeting at the Sarasota National Stamp Exhibition held February 1 - 3, 2018, and its members did quite well with their exhibits.

The Grand Award was won by Ricardo Botero-Escobar for *SCADTA - The First Years (1920-1923)*. He also won the Copaphil Exhibitor Award and the American Airmail Society Award.



"President Federico Brid presenting Ricardo Botero-Escobar the Copaphil Exhibitor Award."

The Single Frame Grand Award, as well as the APS Research award was presented to Alfredo Frohlich for *Replating Colombia's 1861 One Peso Stamp*. He also won a Large Gold medal for *The Simon Bolivar Centenary Issue of December 17, 1930*.

APS pre-1900 Medal of Excellence was won by Alfredo Frohlich for *The Last Classic Colombia Issue: 1866-1869* and Santiago Cruz won the 1900-1940 Medal of Excellence for *The 1917 Perkins Issue*.

Dario Diaz won a Large Gold medal for *Begin and End of an Airmail System* as well as the Collectors Club of Chicago Award.

Thomas Myers received a Gold medal for *Riches of Colombian Airmails*.

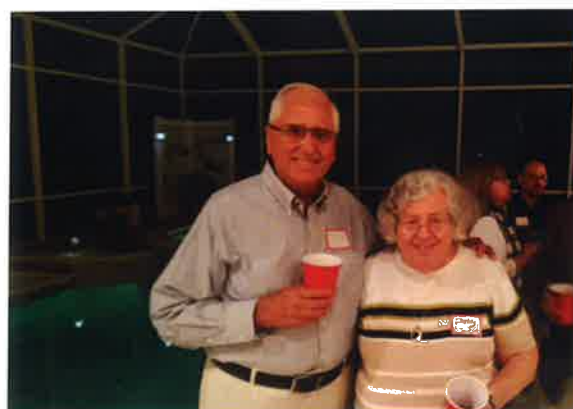
The show was well attended and at the meeting it Federico Brid was elected President of the group. Brad Wilde presented a slide show on SCADTA mail to, from, and through the Isthmus of Panama. On Friday night the group's members were invited to a lovely hosted dinner where there was a lot of "stamp talk".



"The attendees"



"Manning the table"



"At the dinner party"

COPACARTA

Volume 35 No. 3 June 2018

SACO, The Servicio Aereo Colombiano

By Debby Freidman.....page 2

Los V Juegos Bolivarianos de 1965: la serie de estampillas sobrecargadas y el gran negociado con las estampillas del Negro Arias Pequeña reseña de los Juegos Bolivarianos

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Panama Postcards: Sander & Fischer

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Camp Stringtown: Internment Camp letter from Panama

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Market Report

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Notes from the Past.....page 17

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Editor's Note: Thank you for all the responses re articles in Spanish. The general consensus is that they are okay. It was suggested a brief synopsis be included at the end of the article to allow readers to decide if they want to go online and translate the article. I tried an online, free, translation service and while not perfect, the gist of the article was there. One of the words I found that was interesting was the Spanish word for perforations translated as "teeth".

Copaphil was fortunate in that its last two editors were extremely knowledgeable in both Colombian and Panamanian philately.

I strongly believe that there should be a balance between articles pertaining to Panama and to Colombia. However, without others writing articles on Colombia that will not happen. I am happy to edit articles, make suggestions on wording, etc. so please don't be shy about writing. It doesn't have to be about classic Colombia. I would love to receive information on contemporary Colombian philately. Who are the designers of recent first day covers, are there new interesting rates, how many stamps from the recent issues were sold. What is information that you wish you had on the older issues that could be written about on the newer issues for the collectors of 50 years from now.

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SACO, The Servicio Aereo Colombiano by Debby Friedman

SACO is an interesting part of Colombian air mail history that is seldom written about. Philatelic evidence of its existence is scarce and facts about its air mail service are very limited. SACO was founded in 1933 by Ernesto Samper Mendoza in Bogota. The creation of SACO has its roots in the Leticia conflict, Colombia's brief 1932 war with Peru. Apparently the government was unhappy with SCADTA as they were reluctant to train needed army pilots. As a result, the government encouraged the development of other aviation companies. Capital from Antioquia business people financially backed the organization of SACO.

SACO was officially created June 15, 1933. SACO signed a contract with the newspaper *El Tiempo*, to transport the newspaper to Medellin regularly. SACO took advantage of the security provided by the contract with *El Tiempo* to offer a regular passenger service between Bogotá and Medellín. A survey flight of the Bogota-Medellin route was made June 22 (or June 20 according to another source). On June 27, the newspaper printed a special edition with news from Medellin and Antioquia which was flown to Medellin, thus inaugurating service. Soon on daily flights SACO carried passengers, packages and mail.

SACO executives devised a private mail service, in which correspondence was received in the offices in Bogotá and Medellín. Manuel Arango indicates that mail began to be transported in limited quantities in September 1933. Customers paid a cash surcharge and mail was flown to the destination city where it was then deposited in the local mail for distribution. SACO never issued stamps. National stamps were sold at

twice face value to pay for the service. A small rubber handstamp was applied. (Figure 1).



(Fig. 1 – showing rubber airplane handstamp: Manuel Arango collection)

A straight line 2 line handstamp with the city of origin name was later used. (Fig 2). Bogota, Medellin and Bucaramanga are recorded.



(Fig. 2 – Straight line with Bogota city name: Manuel Arango Collection)

A problem immediately developed which affected revenue. SCADTA complained that SACO infringed on its monopoly to carry mail. The December 5, 1933 resolution of the Ministry of Posts and Telegraphs prohibited SACO from carrying mail. (Figure 3)

Covers that can be identified as flown by SACO are rare. Shown here is one dated December 5, 1933. (Figure 4)

In spite of the prohibition, discussions were soon initiated for other SACO routes, at least one of which carried mail. SACO signed an agreement with the Ministry of Communications to start a national air mail service between Bogota and Bucaramanga, where it also had an office. The National Air Mail service between Bogota and

EL SERVICIO AEREO COLOMBIANO "SACO"

hace saber al público que, mediante Resolución número 1673 de 1933 (5 de diciembre), el Ministerio de Correos y Telégrafos le ha prohibido transportar correspondencia por la vía aérea, por considerar que este derecho es exclusivo de la sociedad alemana "SCADTA". En consecuencia, el Servicio Aéreo Colombiano ("SACO") se ve precisado a aumentar los precios que había venido cobrando para el transporte de pasajeros y encomiendas entre Bogotá y Medellín, así:

PASAJEROS DE \$ 40 A \$ 50

ENCOMIENDAS _____ 1 el kilo

Avisamos a nuestra numerosa clientela que hemos instalado nuestras oficinas en la CARRERA 8.a, NUMERO 12-73, frente al Correo, donde la seguiremos atendiendo gustosamente. Teléfonos 74 y 1-5 0

(Fig. 3 – 1933 Resolution: Illustration in Private Mail Carriers of Colombia)



(Fig. 4 – December 5, 1933, SACO cover: Manuel Arango collection)

Bucaramanga officially was inaugurated December 10, 1934. First flight covers are found from the inaugural service between Bogota and Bucaramanga. (Figure 5) and the return flight on December 17, 1934. (Figure 6). Covers from subsequent flights are not known; mail probably was not carried after those first flights.



(Figs. 5 & 6 – December 10 & 17 First Flight covers to Bucaramanga to/from Bogota: Illustration in *Private Mail Carriers of Colombia* and *Manuel Arango Collection*)

In the November 1996 COPACARTA, the late Alex Rendon wrote about National Air Services in 1934:

"On November 27th, 1934 Ernesto Samper Mendoza, the technical director and chief pilot of SACO, left the SACO airport in Bogota at 12:35 P.M. and landed in Bucaramanga at 2:40 P.M. In an interview published on November 28th, Samper Mendoza explained that the Minister of Communications was very interested in establishing an air link with Bucaramanga and that this service "will start in early

December with a letter rate of 15c including the national postage."

Rendon further explained: "since Cosada/SCADTA suspended service to Bucaramanga in mid 1930, letters entrusted to SCADTA travelled by land to Puerto Wilches where mail was picked up by SCADTA planes. Therefore a letter for Bogota given to the SCADTA agent in Bucaramanga was in transit for 4 days. The alternative was to mail a letter at the National Post Office. A letter addressed to Bogota by this method was in transit for at least 8 days, first by rail to Puerto Wilches, then by steamer to Girardot and finally by rail to Bogota. In November-December 1934, due to heavy rains, sections of track on the railroad line to Puerto Wilches were inoperable, causing a mail bottleneck in Bucaramanga. On November 30, Samper Mendoza flew daily newspapers to Bogota, departing Bucaramanga at 2:25 P.M. and landing in Bogota at 4:25 P.M. At the request of the Minister of Communications, he also brought some of the mail which had been delayed in Bucaramanga."

A small brochure (Figure 7) which included a schedule was published showing service on 5 "itineraries": (Figure 8).

There is a handwritten notation that this schedule is for Jan-June 1935. The brochure indicated SACO had agencies in Medellin, Cartago, Cali, Bucaramanga, Armenia, Pereira and Manizales. The schedule shows:

- Bogota - Medellin and return daily
- Medellin - Bucaramanga and return 2 days later, once a week
- Bogota - Bucaramanga and return 2 days later, once a week; the schedule indicated the flight started in Bucaramanga and appears to be a continuation of the Medellin-Bucaramanga flight with the same plane.

- Medellin - Cartago and return - 4 times a week. Two of the outbound and two of the return flights were continuations of flights to/from Cartago or Cali
- Cartago - Cali and return - twice a week starting in Cali and twice a week starting in Cartago.
- To compete with SCADTA Mendoza purchased two Ford Trimotors. After the crash in 1935, described below, it acquired two Curtiss T-32 Condor aircraft. At the time of its consolidation with SCADTA it had three Lockheed Electra 10E planes. Shown is an undated photo of a SACO Lockheed plane (Figure 9).
- In the *Private Mail Carriers of Colombia* is a reproduction of a November 15, 1934 El Tiempo newspaper ad (Figure 10) announcing the reorganization of the company and listing major investors. However, by early 1935 SACO ran out of funds. SACO's capital was increased and the company even tried to convince the Antioquia government to subscribe to company shares.



(Fig. 7 SACO Brochure: Ex Friedman Collection)

(Fig. 8 SACO Flight Schedule: Ex Friedman Collection)

ITINERARIOS				
Linea Bogotá - Medellín				
DIARIA	Salida de Bogotá	7.45 a.m.	Llega a Medellín	9.15 a.m.
	Salida de Medellín	2.30 p.m.	Llega a Bogotá	4.15 p.m.
Linea Medellín - Bucaramanga				
MARTES	Salida de Medellín	11.30 a.m.	Llega a Bucaramanga	1.30 p.m.
MIÉRCOLES	Salida de Bucaramanga	10.45 a.m.	Llega a Medellín	12.45 p.m.
Linea Bogotá - Bucaramanga				
MARTES	Salida de Bucaramanga	2.15 p.m.	Llega a Bogotá	4.15 p.m.
MIÉRCOLES	Salida de Bogotá	8. - a.m.	Llega a Bucaramanga	10. - a.m.
Linea Medellín - Cartago				
LUNES	Salida de Medellín	10. - a.m.	Llega a Cartago	11. - a.m.
JUEVES	" " "	10. - a.m.	" " "	11. - a.m.
VIERNES	" " "	10. - a.m.	" " "	11. - a.m.
DOMINGO	" " "	10. - a.m.	" " "	11. - a.m.
Linea Bogotá - Cartago				
MARTES	Salida de Cartago	9.15 a.m.	Llega a Bogotá	10.15 a.m.
JUEVES	" " "	1. - p.m.	" " "	2. - p.m.
SABADO	" " "	9.15 a.m.	" " "	10.15 a.m.
DOMINGO	" " "	1. - p.m.	" " "	2. - p.m.
Linea Cartago - Cali				
LUNES	Salida de Cartago	11.15 a.m.	Llega a Cali	12.15 p.m.
VIERNES	Salida de Cartago	11.15 a.m.	Llega a Cali	12.15 p.m.
MARTES	Salida de Cali	8. - a.m.	Llega a Cartago	9. - a.m.
SABADO	Salida de Cali	8. - a.m.	Llega a Cartago	9. - a.m.

(Fig. 9 – Saco Lockheed plane: Manuel Arango collection)



By the time discussions were underway to nationalize SCADTA the government had a financial stake in SACO; in 1937, the Colombian government had invested 200,000 pesos in SACO. The ultimate agreement that was worked out included the merger of SACO into SCADTA. The new company became *Aerovías Nacionales de Colombia*, better known as Avianca. Today, the most recognizable reminder of SACO's existence is their colorful baggage labels, one of which is shown here (ex Friedman collection).

LA EMPRESA — FUNDADA EL 20 DE SEPTIEMBRE DE 1928

"SACO"

SERVICIO AEREO COLOMBIANO

CAPITAL COLOMBIANO — ADMINISTRACION COLOMBIANA
DIRECCION COLOMBIANA

Empresas Victoriosas Sobre sus Competidoras

Por su Seguridad
Por su Eficiencia
Por su Cultura

SU LEMA:

"Reconquistar el aire de Colombia para los colombianos"

Reorganizada hoy con mayor capital, cuyos primeros suscriptores, han sido:

- LA COMPANIA COLOMBIANA DE TABACO
- LA COMPANIA COLOMBIANA DE SEGUROS
- LA COMPANIA COLOMBIANA DE TEJIDOS "COLTEJER"
- LA COMPANIA DE HILADOS Y TEJIDOS DE EL HATO "FABRICATO"

y otros bien reputados ciudadanos y empresas NACIONALES.

La SACO tiene conocimiento de que, desde la trinchera de un PRIVILEGIO MONSTRUOSO, se le acusa de facilitar la GUERRA de TARIFFAS.

No obstante ese privilegio, ACEPTA LA GUERRA.

"NUEVAS TARIFFAS"

Bogotá - Medellín	\$ 30.-
Bogotá - Cali	\$ 60.-

EL DIRECTOR: C. Amador Vélez
EL DIRECTOR TECNICO: Ernesto Sampedro M.

BOGOTÁ, SEPTIEMBRE 15 DE 1928

(Figure 10. Newspaper advertisement announcing restructuring of the company: Illustration in *Private Carriers of Colombia*)



There are three known types of baggage labels and one label design inscribed Aeroexpreso.

Probably the most widely known event in SACO's short history is the 1935 crash. On June 24, 1935, a SACO Ford Trimotor collided during takeoff with a SCADTA Ford Trimotor at the Medellin airport. Fifteen people were killed, including the pilot Mendoza and the world-famous Argentinian tango singer Carlos Gardel (A Carlos Gardel stamp was issued by the US in 2011.) Three men survived the plane crash: Gardel's guitarist; his personal secretary and English interpreter; and the head of traffic for the company, Grant Flynn.

Thank you to Manuel Arango and Ranier Fuchs for their assistance obtaining illustration for this article. If anyone has additional information that will add details to this airmail story of SACO please contact me at rbreurer@nyc.rr.com so I can compile the responses for a follow-up article.

The Airlines of Latin America Since 1919, R.E.G. Davies, Smithsonian Institution Press, 1983, 698 pp.

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The Private Mail Carriers of Colombia, Dieter Bortfeldt with Carlos Valenzuela and Alfredo Frohlich, published by COLOMPHIL, the Colombian Philatelic Research Society, Bogota, May 2006, 301 pp

Colombia, National Air Services in 1934, Alex Rendon, COPACARTA, Volume IV, Number 2, November 1986 pp. 35-38

www.aviacol.net/aerolineas-desaparecidas/servicio-aereo-colombiano-saco.html

<https://es.wikipedia.org/wiki/SACO>

Los V Juegos Bolivarianos de 1965: la serie de estampillas sobrecargadas y el gran negociado con las estampillas del Negro Arias por Federico Brid

Logo of the

Juegos

Bolivarianos



Pequeña reseña de los Juegos Bolivarianos

Durante los Juegos Olímpicos de Berlín en 1936, Alberto Nariño Cheyne, descendiente del prócer Antonio Nariño y Director Nacional de Educación Física de Colombia, tuvo la idea de organizar unos juegos regionales entre los países libertados por Simón Bolívar, Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Panamá, Perú y Venezuela. El mismo Nariño Cheyne gestionó el reconocimiento del Comité Olímpico Internacional para los Juegos Bolivarianos.

El 16 de agosto de 1938, en un acto celebrado en el Palacio de Gobierno de Colombia, se funda oficialmente la Organización Deportiva Bolivariana. Jorge Rodríguez Hurtado de Bolivia, Alberto Nariño Cheyne de Colombia, Galo Plaza Lasso de Ecuador, Luis Saavedra de Panamá, Alfredo Hohagen Díez Canseco de Perú, y Julio Bustamante de Venezuela fueron los delegados fundadores.

Los primeros Juegos Deportivos Bolivarianos se celebraron en 1938 en Bogotá, como parte de los festejos del cuarto centenario de su fundación. En 1941,

los Comités Olímpicos disponen que los Juegos deben realizarse cada cuatro años.

La serie de estampillas de Panamá sobrecargadas para los Juegos Bolivarianos

Los V Juegos Bolivarianos de 1965 se desarrollaron en las ciudades de Guayaquil y Quito, Ecuador, entre el 20 de noviembre y el 5 de diciembre de 1965. Panamá era uno de los seis países invitados a participar.

Al no tener el Comité Olímpico panameño los fondos necesarios para participar en este evento, el Comité acudió al Gobierno Nacional para que le otorgara un subsidio financiero.

Como no había presupuesto para dicho subsidio, el Gobierno Nacional dio una autorización a la sección de Correos y Telecomunicaciones para que lanzara una emisión especial de estampillas a fin de que el producto de su venta fuera destinado a la participación de Panamá en dichos juegos.

El primero de octubre de 1965 la Gaceta Oficial publicó el decreto número 367 del 15 de septiembre de 1965 por el cual se autoriza al Director General de Correos y Telecomunicaciones a emitir la serie. Establecía el decreto:

- *Sobrecargar sellos postales de un centésimo (B/. 0.01) con las imágenes de exploradores y muchachas guías de la serie de Rehabilitación de Menores*
- *Los sellos tendrán el siguiente sobrecargo, V Juegos Bolivarianos, la palabra aereo en tres de las series y se emitirán las siguientes cantidades y valores:*

1. 40,000 sellos cuyo nuevo valor será de ocho centésimos (B/. 0.08)

2. 40,000 sellos cuyo nuevo valor será de trece centésimos (B/. 0.13)
 3. 40,000 sellos cuyo nuevo valor será de treinta centésimos (B/. 0.30)
 4. 40,000 sellos cuyo nuevo valor será de cuarenta centésimos (B/. 0.40)
- *El costo de las planchas de zinc y el costo del trabajo de imprenta será reembolsado por el Comité Olímpico de Panamá.*
 - *La Dirección General de Correos y Telecomunicaciones queda autorizada para descontar 474 series de sellos de cada una de las especies sobrecargadas para cumplir con los compromisos de la U.P.U. y la U.P.A.E.*
 - *Una serie de las estampillas sobrecargadas será retenida para la colección del Despacho.*
 - *La Dirección General de Correos y Telecomunicaciones le entregará al Comité Olímpico de Panamá hasta treinta mil Balboas (B/. 30,000.00) en especies postales sobrecargadas para la venta a personas interesadas.*
 - *Los sellos a que se refiere este Decreto tienen valor postal y pueden venderse con el 5% de descuento que otorga la Ley a ciertas entidades e individuos.*
 - *El Comité Olímpico de Panamá podrá entregar a la Dirección General de Correos y Telecomunicaciones estampillas sobrecargadas por un total de B/. 1,600.00 para cubrir el valor facial de las 160,000 estampillas de un centésimo que autorizó este Decreto.*



(Fig. 11 - Los 20 valores de la serie sobrecargada de los V Juegos Bolivarianos)

El gran negociado de estampillas pre-canceladas de las series del Negro Arias y los Juegos Bolivarianos de 1965

El 28 de octubre de 1965 el gobierno emite el decreto número 398. Este nuevo Decreto ordena una impresión de sellos postales sin valor postal, *para atender los gastos de la Delegación a los V Juegos Deportivos Bolivarianos*. Pero si ya teníamos un decreto que autorizaba el sobrecargo de 160,000 estampillas para subsidiar al equipo de atletas que representaría a Panamá en los Juegos Bolivarianos, ¿para qué otro decreto con similar propósito? Veamos lo que ordena este Decreto número 398.

- *Autoriza al Director General de Correos y Telecomunicaciones que ordene la impresión en el exterior de 750,000 sellos adicionales de cada uno de los valores de las siguientes series:*

- Serie de pájaros con seis valores y dos hojitas filatélicas*
- Serie de peces con seis valores y dos hojitas filatélicas*
- Serie de las bodas de oro de la Camara Junior con seis valores y dos hojitas filatélicas*
- Serie del progreso en la conquista del espacio con seis valores y dos hojitas filatélicas*
- Serie de temas vinculados a las Naciones Unidas de interés internacional con seis valores y seis hojitas filatélicas*
- Serie de dibujos de flora y fauna nacional con seis valores y dos hojitas filatélicas*
- Serie de la historia de adelantos astronomicos mundiales con seis valores y dos hojitas filatélicas*
- Serie de actuaciones destacadas de líderes en beneficio del mundo con seis valores y cuatro hojitas filatélicas*
- Serie para conmemorar lanzamientos de autronautas y satellites con seis valores y dos hojitas filatélicas*
- Serie de temas relacionados al Concilio Ecuménico o temas de religión con seis valores y dos hojitas filatélicas*
- Serie de reproducciones de medallas, monedas y escudos de interés en numismática con seis valores y dos hojitas filatélicas*
- Serie de temas vinculados con advenimientos deportivos nacionales e internacionales con seis valores y dos hojitas filatélicas*
- Serie para conmemorar las exposiciones internacionales con seis valores y seis hojitas filatélicas*
- Serie de temas de astronautica internacional con seis valores y dos hojitas filatélicas*
- Serie para conmemorar las personalidades que se destacaron en la vida internacional a beneficio de la humanidad con seis valores y cuatro hojitas filatélicas*

- *Estos sellos adicionales llevarán impresos un matasello para que anule su valor postal*
- *La firma impresora despachará la totalidad de estos sellos adicionales [para que sean vendidos] fuera del territorio nacional*
- *La Delegación Deportiva recibirá una suma no menor de veinte mil balboas (B/. 20,000.00) en efectivo para su participación en los Juegos Bolivarianos.*

El 28 de octubre de 1965 el Presidente de la República, Marcos Robles firmó el Decreto número 399 por el cual se ordena la destrucción TOTAL de la emisión sobrecargada de los Juegos Bolivarianos. Esta es la misma fecha del decreto número 398 que autorizó la impresión adicional de docenas de millones de estampillas y hojitas filatélicas pre-canceladas de 15 de las series de estampillas temáticas llamadas del Negro Arias



(Ejemplares de las llamadas estampillas del Negro Arias con cancelaciones impresas para anular su valor postal como lo dicta el decreto número 398)

El Considerando del Decreto 399 menciona que durante el proceso de sobrecargo resultaron 20 pliegos dañados de la serie de exploradores y un pliego sobrante de la serie de muchachas guías y que por este *motivo no convenía a los intereses del Correo Nacional utilizar los sellos sobrecargados para el uso*

de porte o franqueo. Esta es la pobre excusa que se usó para dar paso a un gran negociado con las especies postales de Panamá.

Siempre han habido desperdicios de imprenta durante el proceso de sobresello. Veinte pliegos dañados y un pliego sobrante no es razón para mandar a incinerar los 160,000 sellos sobrecargados de la serie de los Juegos Bolivarianos.

Sin embargo las quince series que alude el decreto 398 contenían un total de no menos de 90 sellos y 42 hojitas filatélicas. Decimos no menos pues el decreto número 398 también hace alusión a estampillas imperforadas y los cálculos que hacemos no incluye estos valores imperforados que se hicieron. 750,000 estampillas perforadas y precanceladas de cada uno de los valores de dichas series representa una impresión de 67,500,000 sellos y a esto se le agregan un total de 31,500,000 hojitas filatélicas perforadas e imperforadas.

Los sellos perforados y hojitas filatélicas de estas 15 series tienen un valor facial de B/. 23.11. Multiplicando estos B/. 23.11 por las 750,000 especies que se mandaron a imprimir de cada uno de los valores representa un total de diez y siete millones trescientos treinta y dos mil quinientos Balboas (B/. 17,332,500.00). De estos diez y siete y pico millones de Balboas la delegación de los Juegos Bolivarianos recibieron veinte mil Balboas (B/. 20,000.00) y los Correos Nacionales...¡CERO!

Este fue el gran negociado de los V Juegos Bolivarianos de 1965.

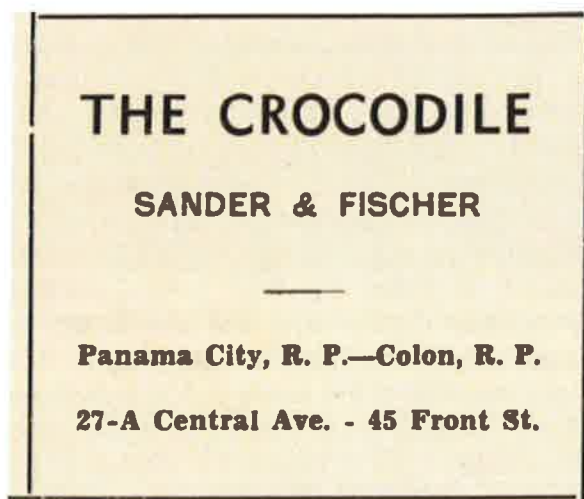
No se sabe cuantos ejemplares de la serie sobrecargada han sobrevivido. Lo que si se sabe es que son raros y llegar a obtener una serie completa es difícil.

PANAMA POSTCARDS: *Sander & Fischer* by Brad Wilde

This series dates to the 1930s. The firm, Sander & Fischer (figure 1), was officially established on September 1, 1939, but had been in existence as "The Crocodile" aka "El Cocodrilo" from at least 1938 and was located at 27A Avenida Central in Panama City and 45 Front Street in Colon (figure 2).



(Fig. 1: Envelope showing firm's address in Colon: Wilde collection)



(Fig. 2: Advertisement in "The Caribbean", the Cristobal High School Yearbook 1938)

In 1940 they are mentioned as importing silver and other metallic objects. Nothing is

known of "Fischer" although there had been an "Ignacio Fischer" who produced cards in Colon during the early construction era. While the first name of "Sander" is not known his wife and business partner was Hedy Sander who came to Panama 9, 1934. After the death of her husband she married John Shaw and ran the gift store "Shaws" on Avenida 4th de Julio". Their son Dan Sander and his friend Jurgen Kupfer were forcefully sent to the United States during the Second World War and were interned for the duration of the war (see article in this issue on Internship Camp in Oklahoma). They were repatriated to Germany after the war, but quickly returned to Panama where the two of them opened up a well-known coin shop in part of "Shaws".



(Fig. 3: picture side: Wilde collection)

The picture side (figure 3) is in the white border format, but the paper stock was coated with a slightly yellowish, glossy surface which gives it the appearance of a toned black & white photo. The captions are in white in tan, almost script-like style.

The address side comes in two distinct varieties. Publisher data on both types is located on a centerline divider. Within the stamp box there is a six digit number. On some cards there is no additional information, while on others the caption "Foto Flatau - Panama" is located against the left edge in capital letters, indicating the source of the original photographs. The Sander & Fischer cards are the only contemporary,

privately produced series that give proper credit to Flatau for his work. Printing is in a dark gray-black ink.



(Fig. 4: address side with Foto Flatau acknowledgement: Wilde collection)

List of card titles:

- 437575 Old Spanish Arch Bridge at Old Panama
- 437576 Cathedral, Old Panama
- 437577 View from Ft. Amador Road towards Panama
- 437578 St. Lukes Church, Ancon, Canal Zone
- 437579 St. Lukes Cathedral, Ancon, Canal Zone
- 437580 Tivoli Hotel, Ancon, Canal Zone
- 437581 Miraflores locks, Canal Zone
- 437582
- 437583 Birds eye view of Panama from Gorgas Hospital, Canal Zone
- 437584 Prado with Administration Building, Balboa.
- 437585. U.S. Battleship at Miraflores Locks, Canal Zone
- 437586
- 437587 Front View, Hotel Washington, Colon, Rep. of Panama
- 437588 Ruins of Santo Domingo Church, showing the famous flat arch, Panama City
- 437589 A Typical San Blas Island, Rep. of Panama
- 437590 Indian Village at Tigre Island, Rep. of Panama

- 437591 Group of Indians on Tigre Island, Rep. of Panama
- 437592 Different Indian Types on Azucar Island, Rep. of Panama
- 437593 Albino woman and Child on Tigre Island, Rep. of Panama
- 437594 Two Future Indian Chiefs, Rep. of Panama
- 437595 An Indian Baby at Play, Rep. of Panama
- 437596 Washdays on a San Blas Island, Rep. of Panama
- 437597. Old Indian Woman sewing for the tribe, Rep. of Panama.
- 437598 Crushing Sugar Cane in San Blas Style, Rep. of Panama
- 437599 On the Dock at Tigre Island, Rep. of Panama.
- 437600. Sunset at Nargana Island, Rep. of Panama.

Camp Stringtown: Internment Camp Letter from Panama by Brad Wilde

During the Second World War the United States Government requested that countries in Central and South America round up designated German and Japanese male nationals and turn them over to American authorities, even if they were citizens of the countries they resided in. Many countries cooperated; including Panama. Many of the aliens departed by ship from Cristobal. Argentina, Brazil, Chile, and Mexico did not acquiesce to the United States' request. The vast majority of the nearly 4,500 individuals from Central and South America were eventually sent to internment camps in the United States and, after the war, repatriated to either Germany or Japan, even if they had never resided there. It is estimated that only around 500 were Nazi Party members. Ironically 81 Jewish Germans who had sought refuge in Latin America were also interned.

About a year ago I quickly bid on two covers that were on eBay, one with a 15 centesimos

Taboga Island airmail stamp and one with the Costa Rica – Panama Friendship airmail stamp paying the airmail letter rate to the United States. (Figures 1 & 2). Both had “CENSORED / WAR DEPARTMENT / STRINGTOWN INTERNMENT CAMP” handstamped on them and were addressed to “Hans Joachim Illies / A.A.N. – (R.P) – G – 742 – C. A. / E.A. Company #2 / Stringtown Internment Camp / Stringtown / Oklahoma U.S.A.”. They were mailed from Colon, one on August 22, 1942, and the other on September 16, 1942.



(Figure 2 & 3 Mail to Stringtown Internment Camp: Wilde Collection)

Mr. Illies (born May 29, 1910) eventually became the Manager of the Continental Shipping Company and Honorary German Consul in Colon. He married Inga Grebien, member of a prominent Panamanian family.

I then found a third example (Figure 4) at NAPEX this month. This one did not have the handstamp but did have the censor label. It was mailed from Panama City on October 8, 1944, and addressed to ? C Westermeier Camp # / N-RP-3-325-CT.



(Figure 4 Letter to Westermeier)

The Stringtown Internment Camp, (fig. 3), was opened on March 30, 1942. Prior to that it operated as a sub prison, opened in 1933, to handle overcrowding at the Oklahoma State Penitentiary. It had a capacity for 500 internees who were divided into 3 companies with an officer, NCO, and company clerk assigned to each company. Internees were responsible for preparing their own food, keeping the living quarters clean, and engaging in meaningful hobbies. The camp was inspected periodically by representatives of the Swiss Legation and their written report stated the camp had “badly overcrowded sleeping quarters,



(Figure 3 Stringtown Internment camp 1942 – courtesy German American Internee Collection)

inadequate washing and toilet facilities, poor sanitation in a temporary infirmary, no dental care, and bedbugs". The internees were all removed by June of 1943 when Stringtown became a German prisoner of war camp.



(Figure 4. Boarding ship in Panama for internment camp in the United States – courtesy German American Internee Coalition)

Interestingly Stringtown was where, in 1932, the first lawman was shot by Clyde Barrows of "Bonnie and Clyde".

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stringtown,_Oklahoma

German American Internee Coalition

Tulsa World – February 10, 2007

MARKET REPORT: PANAMA

In the past three months there has been some nice items that have been listed on eBay. As is normal, prices were high for the better items, but the more common material often attracted no bids. I have also noticed an increasing propensity for items to be listed "for sale" rather than "for auction", often at prices that seem to be a wish price rather than one based on reality.

The most expensive items was a SCADTA cover where the sender used a Panama 2 centesimos arms postal envelope with a 30 centavos SCADTA handstamp overprint "C.R.". Mailed from Panama City to Bogota on October 3, 1929. Ex Frederic R. Mayer Collection. It sold for \$2,449.99



As usual TONNO put up some lovely items including a Colon registered stationery telegram dated March 2, 1887, to Caracas, Venezuela. It sold for \$349.



Two early stampless covers from c. 1850 went for \$225 each. One was to Rio Negro and the other to Barranquilla.





A July 19, 1904, cover with the 20 centavos 3rd Colon overprint sold for \$185 with four different bidders.



I was outbid for a very early January 5, 1922, cover mailed from Panama to Baranquilla that sold for \$177.50.



A March 11, 1930, first flight to Costa Rica from David sold for \$149.99 with a buy it now. One from Panama City sold for \$36.

A 1942 airmail cover to Switzerland sold for \$45. A great buy was a 10 centesimos Hamilton registered to Jamaica in 1909 with a New York Registry label that sold for \$39.78.

A nice specialized collection of the 1923 double surcharge sold for \$127. The 10 centesimos (C2) "CORREO AEREO" overprint in red variety sold for \$67.99 while the normal overprint inverted went for \$47 and the double for \$35. The inverted C1a sold for \$40. A 17b (pair imperf) went over catalogue at \$66. An F-19 pair, with one "10" inverted sold for \$61.50. An I1 with one overprint inverted went for \$57.13 while a double overprint sold for \$45. The 10 centesimos special delivery orange with "muestra" sold for \$56. C4a, double surcharge, went for \$55 while the rarer C16a went for \$52.99. A double overprint of the 1950 San Martin 5 centesimos stamp sold for \$50.57. An inverted overprint on the 1 centavos Bocas del Toro overprint sold for \$46 while a 10 centavos with overprint inverted diagonally went for \$35.51. An E2b "EXPRESO" double sold for \$46. The double overprint "HABILITADA" on 15 cents (263a) sold for about \$45 (best offer). It was interesting to note that most of the above items had in excess of 6 different bidders.

British Stamps used in Panama: a four pence (SGZ#86) sold for \$172.50; pair of six pence (SGZ #90) sold for \$87. A three pence (pink) sold for \$33.77. A one shilling & four pence sold for \$35 the pair.

First Flights: March 11, 1930, Airmail to Costa Rica \$150 (this one was from David); November 24, 1931, Colon to USA, \$49; May 22, 1929, Panama City to Nicaragua signed by pilots, \$25; 1929 Colon - Havana, Cuba, \$12.50; December 2, 1930, Colon - Kingston, Jamaica; July 8, 1929, Colon - Curacao \$6.50; and February 10, 1929 first flight to United States \$4-10 each.

MARKET REPORT: COLOMBIA

As with Panama, the Colombia eBay market remained strong for better items, which attracted multiple bidders. More common items languished.

One of the more expensive items to sell on eBay was this 1925 cover with Scott #387 overprinted "Correos Provisional". Mailed from Cali to Bogota it sold for \$499.



In 1925 SCADTA flew a survey flight up through Central America. A flight cover addressed to Nicaragua sold for \$257.



A nice example of the 1 peso from the first issue of Antioquia sold for \$499.99 against a Scott catalogue price of \$675, while a Colombia Scott #18 (\$400) 1 peso sold with different town markings: Barbacoas manuscript cancel sold for \$253, Santa

Marta Franca for \$305, and Tocaima for \$250.



The Colombia Perkins 10 C registration stamp's proofs sold well - in green for \$171, in brown \$155, in purple \$104, in orange red \$104, and the final die proof for \$126. A Scadta Foreign information circular of the Panama, Colombia, and Ecuador timetables sold for \$154.50. A sheet of Scott #62 in mint condition sold for \$148, while Scott #34 (\$400), 1 peso red violet sold for approximately \$150. Proofs of Scott #457 through 463 in blocks sold for \$133. The 1917 special delivery Scott E1 (\$150) in VF used condition sold for \$113 with a buy it now. Scott #12 (\$175) used with a Bogota cancellation sold for \$112.50 with 18 bids. A mint Tumaco 10 c provisional from 1902 sold for \$119. Scott #1 (\$120) used sold for \$120, #2 (\$87.50) with Marinilla MS cancel for \$101, and #3 (\$120) with Villavieja cancel for \$101. Scott #4 (\$80) used sold three times for \$100 - one with Ricaurte MS cancel, one with Piedras Franca, and one with Medellin MS cancel. Scott #12 (\$175)

used for \$113, #14 (\$150) used for \$100, #16 (\$175) used for \$100, and #19 (\$125) used \$110.00 Scott #580 - 6 imperforated pairs from the Waterlow archives sold for \$100.

A SCADTA registration receipt from Bogota used in Bogota on July 27, 1926, sold for \$300.



Another nice SCADTA item was this cover with consular machine overprint "I" for Italy which sold for \$208.



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COPACARTA**

NOTES FROM THE PAST

The following is published courtesy of the American Air Mail Society (AAMS). From "The Airpost Journal Vol 1 #3. January 1930."

"Colombia

Survey Flights from Bogota to Armenia and Buga were made, starting on December 21, 1929, by Sociedad Colombia-Alemana de Transportes Aereos, "SCADTA. The plane left the SCADTA field at Fontibon, near Bogota, at 1 p.m. and flew direct to Armentia. A short stop was made to drop mail from Bogota, the flight was then continued to Buga. The plane then returned direct to Bogota.

All mail from Bogota addressed to Armenia and Buga as given a special cachet. About three hundred covers were carried. Mail from Buga to Bogota consisted of about two hundred covers.

As this was a survey flight, over the proposed extension to later connect with Buenaventura, notice was not made that mail would be carried which accounts for the few covers.

Due to SCADTA's conservative policy in regard to the use of a special cachet, which certainly is laudable after the abuse of them that has been made in other countries, mail going over this route at a future date will not be cacheted. If survey flights bear a cachet the opening flight of a new route does not have one.

Reported by R. B. Preston."

Editor's note:

Here are examples of Buga to Bogota and Bogota to Buga covers written about in the AAMS article.



Buga to Bogota (ex Friedman collection)



Bogota to Buga (ex Friedman collection)

Buga is located in the Cauca Department and is located 46 miles from Cali. It is one of the oldest cities in Colombia and was founded in 1555 by Giraldo Gil de Estupinan. It is famous for its Basilica del Senor de los Milagros, which houses an image of Christ.

AWARDS:

WESTPEX 2018

Santiago Cruz - Grand Award and special prizes: SCADTA First Issues: A Traditional Approach to Airmail Stamps

Alfredo Frohlich - Large Gold: The Last Classic Colombia Issue 1866 - 1869

World Stamp Championship Israel 2018

Alfredo Frohlich - runner up, Championship Class Grand Prix: United States of Colombia 1868-1881 -

Championship Class:

Alvaro Castro Harrigan - Large Gold: Panama the First Issue Large gold

Open Class:

Santiago Cruz - Large Gold: SCADTA First Issues: A Traditional Approach to Airmail Stamps

James Johnson - Large Gold: Colombia Classic Issues 1859-

Jorge Enrique Arbalaez - Large Gold: Prephilatelic Letters with Contents from Colombia 1531-1859

Clarifications from last issue:

BRASILIA 2017

Championship Class:

Alvaro Castro-Harrigan - Panama: First Issue of the Republic

Alfredo Frohlich - Grand Prix d'Honneur Candidate: United States of Colombia 1868-1881

Open competition:

Santiago Cruz - Large Gold and felicitations: SCADTA's First Issues A Traditional Approach to Airmail Stamps

James Johnson - Gold and felicitations: SCADTA 4th Issue

Editor's Note: Please report any awards received to me.
bgwndal@gmail.com

Panama: The Airmail Corner – 1925 Almirante Flight by Brad Wilde

Beginning with this issue I hope to provide a chronological history of the “first flights” that either originated in or were sent to Panama.

On May 24, 1925, an official Army Air Corps flight was sent from France Field to Almirante, Panama. Local stamp dealer Nathan Levy, father of our late member David Leeds, arranged for 20 covers to be mailed from Colon (as well as an additional 20 from the Canal Zone).

The covers have Levy’s return address in the upper right-hand corner and are addressed to Captain Wm. Gerchow, Almirante, Rep. de Panama (Fig. 1). Gerchow (born 1850) was originally from Germany and immigrated to New Orleans, Louisiana. The family moved to Bocas del Toro at the beginning of the 20th century where he worked for the United Fruit Company.

The stamps used for postage were the: 1909 ABN Company 1, 2 ½ centesimos; the 1915 ABN Company ½, 2 ½, 3 centesimos; and the 1924 Arms of Panama ½, 1, 2 centesimos.

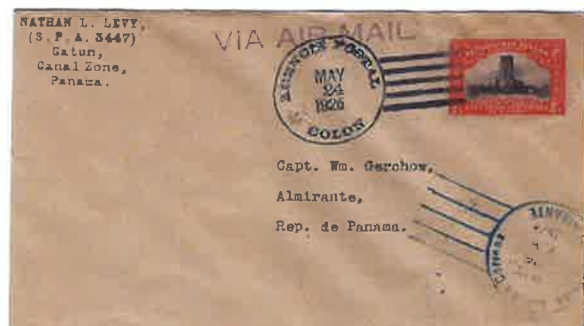


Figure 1: example of cover (Brad Wilde collection)

The covers are cancelled on May 24, 1925, at Colon (TWN-COL-061) and at Almirante (TWN-ALM-003) on the same day.

An additional 20 covers were mailed on the flight back to Coco Solo, Canal Zone, from Almirante on May 29, 1929. All were franked with the 1924 2 centesimos issue of 1924. However, Canal Zone Postal Service officials confiscated all but three of the covers because Mr. Levy had handstamped them “VIA AIR MAIL” and the usage of the words “AIR MAIL” had not been previously authorized to Mr. Levy. All three of the surviving covers are addressed to prominent philatelist R. S. Carter who worked in the Communications office at the Administration Building in Balboa Heights. (Figure 2).

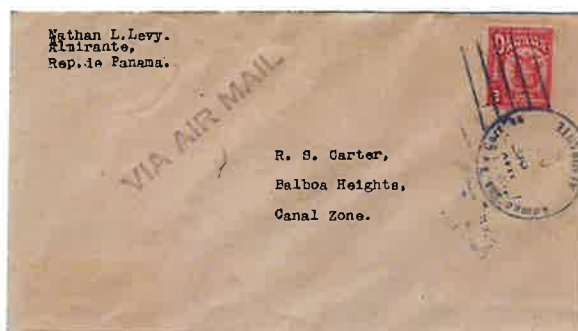


Figure 2: Return cover from Almirante - May 29, 1929. (Brad Wilde collection)

The covers are postmarked Almirante and also bear a Coco Solo, Canal Zone, receiving mark (Figure 3).



Figure 3: Coco Solo handstamp

Blue book of Panama, William Scoullar, 1917

Conversations with David Leeds

PUBLICATIONS FOR SALE

RECUPERANDO NUESTRA PRE-FILATELIA A LA LUZ DE LOS ARCHIVOS HISTORICOS, Manuel Arango Echeverri

COPAPHIL is pleased to make available this landmark, new publication by our long-time member in Colombia, Manuel Arango Echeverri. He has devoted years to research the Pre-Philately of Colombia. The result of this extensive research is this work. The author has made available for sale through COPAPHIL, his work on a thumb drive.

Volume I includes pre philatelic marks and postal documents, showing a great diversity of postal marks between 17770 – 1859, many of them unknown until now to philatelists. This information was found in the various archives of Colombia and especially in the General Archive of the nation in Bogota (802 pps).

Volume II includes the reports of "Jose Antonio Pando and Riva"; from his arrival to Cartagena on November 16, 1769, coming from Mexico aboard the sloop "el Postillon". Pando sent regularly and systematically to the viceroy of the new Kingdom of Granada a great diversity of reports on the progress of ports of its work commissioned by the Count Grimaldi. This volume presents 89 documents of letters and reports of its work to different authorities from 1769 until 1789 (584 pps)

Volume III is a supplement that includes many pre-philatelic marks, finds not known before and others in which older dates are highlighted or colors have differences (603 pps)

Member price postpaid including PayPal fees, on thumb drive \$45 worldwide.

Colombia: The Michelsen Affair and the "reprints" of the \$5 and \$10 of the 1868 Issue of the United States of Colombia, Dario Diez (55 pps monograph), 2016.

For more than one hundred and twenty years the so-called Michelsen "reprints" have been the subject of many discussions in the world philatelic circles. Since Gustavo Michelsen began selling them in 1890-1891, the legality of these issues has not been clearly and objectively established. Michelsen tried to make his creation look, to the philatelic world, as "authorized reprints". It is difficult to differentiate them from the genuine. This book demonstrates that Michelsen's so called "reprints" are fakes and presents reliable parameters to identify the different prints of the genuine \$5 and \$10 Pesos stamps from the counterfeits.

Member price postpaid, including PayPal fees: \$15 to the U.S. \$25 to the rest of the world.

Panama Postal Markings through 1980, Jim Cross (320 pps), 2329 markings.

Member price postpaid, including PayPal fees: \$30 to the U.S. \$55 to the rest of the world.

The Stamps of Panama 1878 – 2010: Vital Statistics, Federico Brid (160 pps). Vital information pertaining to authorization decrees, numbers printed, and postal rates.

Member price postpaid, including PayPal fees: \$25 to the U.S. \$45 to the rest of the world.

To order any of these publication, email to Allan Harris at copaphilusa@aol.com. Paypal payments should also be sent to copaphilusa@aol.com.

COPACARTA

Volume 35 No. 4 September 2018

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IMPORTANTE - IMPORTANT

De ahora en adelante se establecen dos nuevos tipos de membresía además de la membresía regular. Una donación de US \$25 se convierte en miembro apoyador y una donación de US \$50 o más en miembro contribuyente. Un donante a puesto un reto valido hasta fin de año: donaciones de US \$25 o más serán duplicadas hasta llegar a un tope de US \$1,000.

Effective with this year's membership it is possible to be a sustaining member if you donate an additional \$25 or a contributing member for an additional \$50 or more. A donor will match (up to \$1000) any additional donations received by the end of the year.

Panama's American Bank Note Company Portrait Stamps

The 1¢ Balboa Stamp by David Zemer

PREFACE

Researching Panama stamps issued during the first 30-40 years of the republic is challenging due to the lack of postal archives in Panama relating to the design, manufacture, and sales of each stamp.

Earlier published reports were often based on contemporary newspaper articles, postal decrees or laws, and articles or notes written by other researchers more than 50 years ago.

A breakthrough in the documented history for students of this country took place on September 12, 1990, when Christie's auctioned the American Bank Note Company (ABNCo) philatelic archives. Ross Towle found a number of ABNCo Print Order Books at the Museum of American Finance in New York City. Acting on his tip, I was able to examine and photograph the pages for Panama in 2009.

The latest discovery was made just three years ago in 2015 when I acquired a large part of the correspondence between the ABNCo and Panama.

This article is the beginning of a series of articles that will cover the ½¢ map stamp and the ABNCo portrait stamps first printed in 1908. Some of these stamps were issued by Panama starting in 1909, then reprinted over the next 10-12 years. Two printings of 1¢ stamps that had CANAL ZONE overprints added at the Mt. Hope, Canal Zone printing plant are noted in this research; these overprinted stamps are relevant because they decreased the number of stamps available for sale to the public by Panama.

Important dates will appear in bold type to help future students of these stamps find the original documents.

The 1¢ Balboa Portrait Stamp – Scott Number 197

From the time Panama was part of Colombia through 1905 the ABNCo was the only company outside of Colombia that printed stamps for Panama. Then in 1906 and 1907 the Hamilton Bank Note Company, HBNCo, printed nine different postage stamps, Scott numbers 185-193, and two postal cards, H&G 9,10. Surprisingly, no references of the loss of such an important contract to the HBNCo have been discovered in the ABNCo archives.

The first reference to postage stamps after the HBNCo issues in the correspondence is 1907 when the ABNCo won the next Panama contracts for the ½ ¢ map, 1¢ Balboa, 2¢ Cordoba, 2½ ¢ Arms, 5¢ Arosemena, and 10¢ Obaldia postage stamps.

The Panama 1¢ Balboa stamp paid the domestic, including to the USA, rate for post cards and unsealed envelopes. With the large number of foreign workers involved in the construction of the canal and ships full of tourists coming to Panama and mailing picture post cards back home, one would have expected that the Panama 1¢ stamps should have sold rapidly but this did not happen.

The Panama post office had an important competitor right across the street: the Canal Zone postal system. Most of the workers building the canal and later employed on the completed canal were not Panamanian. Like many expats, they sent a lot of mail back to their home countries.

They were living and working in the Canal Zone, and therefore most used the Canal

Zone postal system and Canal Zone stamps. In addition, tourists coming to see the canal and ships traveling through the canal normally spent much if not all their time in the Canal Zone and used its postal system instead of the Panama system.

The lack of demand for the 1¢ Balboa stamp meant that Panama carried a large surplus of these stamps in their inventory. The table at the end of the article summarizes what we know concerning the number of these stamps printed.

An unknown and perhaps very large number of these stamps were overprinted as tax or telegraph stamps so the amount available to the public to buy was probably significantly lower than the number of stamps printed.

Chronology

July 18, 1907 – Panama sends “samples of stamps that they want the ABNCo to print. “Enclosed examples,” aside from the 1¢ ABNCo, Sc. 179 stamp mentioned in the order, were the HBNCo stamps of the same denomination. Except for the 1905 Sc. 179 map stamp, the other stamps were not attached to the correspondence.

The order consists of

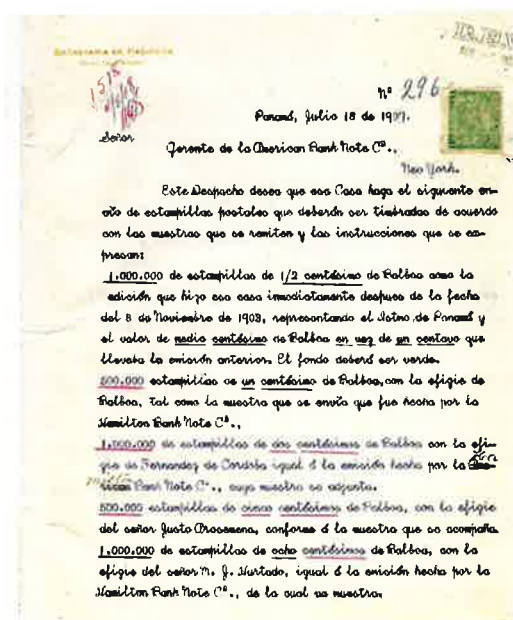
(1) 1,000,000 ½-Centesimo stamps like the Isthmus of Panama 1¢ stamps ABNCo printed in 1904 and issued in 1905, Sc. No. 179, which is green. A copy of Sc. No. 179 is attached to the letter.

(2) 500,000 1-Centesimo stamps like the HBNCo example enclosed in the letter.

(3) 1,000,000 2-Centesimo stamps with the portrait of Fernandez de Cordoba similar to the example of the enclosed stamp made by HBNCo.

(4) 500,000 5-Centesimo stamps with the portrait of Justo Arosemena like the example of the enclosed stamp made by HBNCo.

(5) 1,000,000 8-Centesimo stamps with the portrait of M.J. Hurtado similar to the example of the enclosed stamp made by HBNCo. (**Figure 1**)



(Figure 1 – July 18, 1907. Letter directing ABNCo to create designs like HBNCo stamps excepting the 1/2¢ stamp which would be similar to Sc.179 previously printed by ABNCo.)

The ABNCo receives a letter from Sr. Hazera, *Secretaria de Hacienda*, Panama Ministry of Treasury, to Mr. F.C. Kovesdy written July 20, 1907, stating that the Treasury has passed several orders for postage stamps and stationery. Hazera hopes that ABNCo will get the order.

August 2, 1907 – ABNCo sends a coded telegram to Panama giving an estimated price of \$3,000 for this stamp order with shipping expenses extra. ABNCo also needed photographs of the portraits to engrave.

August 2, 1907 – an internal ABNCo estimate breaks down the costs of all five stamps. The 1c Balboa stamp would cost \$200 to engrave the face (center) and tint (frame) and \$300 to print 500,000 copies.

August 6, 1907 – ABNCo confirms the order in a letter to Panama and states that they will retain possession of the plates unless they are cancelled. Keeping the plates in New York was the ABNCo's policy to guarantee that additional stamps would not later be printed by their customers or other third parties.

August 19, 1907 – Panama accepts the conditions of ABNCo and wrote that their Consul in NYC would retrieve the original photographs from HBNC Co used when HBNC Co made the 1906 stamps for Panama and turn them over to ABNCo. Ten days later Panama asks for a price reduction or else they will have to reduce the order by one-half.

September 6, 1907 – ABNCo replies that the prices are not too high for the quality of work.

September 19, 1907 – ABNCo asks R.A. Amador, Panama's consul in New York, to get the photographs from HBNC Co.

February 20, 1908 – ABNCo writes Panama and confirms that the photographs arrived and that they will go ahead with the order and provide models for the approval of the government of Panama. The photograph for the 1¢ stamp is presumably identical to that previously sent to HBNC Co and has a copy of the HBNC Co 1¢ Balboa stamp, Sc. No. 186, pasted to it. The ABNCo assigns it Foreign Order number **F1518** and notes that the die (vignette) number is **C313**. (Figure 2)



(Figure 2 - Photo of Balboa for Vignette showing size reduction. 500,000 stamps requested.)

March 9, 1908 – The models are sent to Panama for approval.

March 28, 1908 – Panama confirms that the models (Fig. 3) have been received, approved, and are being sent back to ABNCo.



(Figure 3 - Hand drawn Essay in Green and Black. Lettering in white China ink. Sent to Panama and approved.)

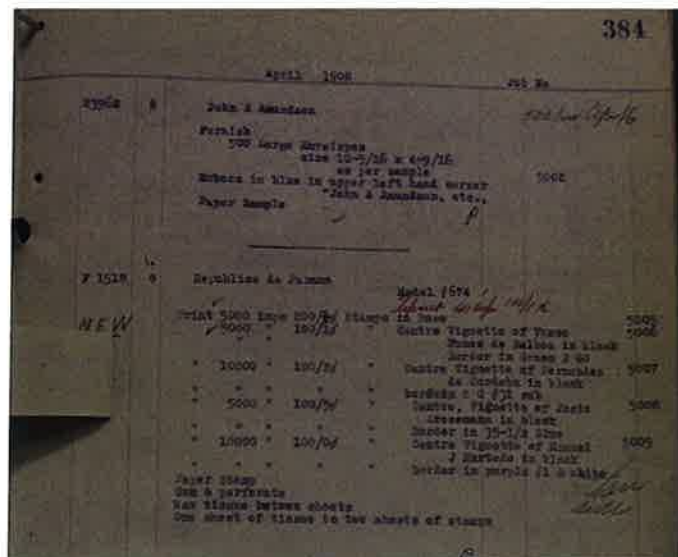
1908 First Order – F1518

April 8, 1908 – ABNCo receives the approved models and proceeds with the order, **F1518**. April 8 is the date the order for 5000 impressions (sheets) entered the order book; along with the order number, the date is used by ABNCo to identify this printing. (Figure 4). All the 1¢ Panama stamps were printed 100 per sheet except for the 1916 “machine-cut” booklet stamps. On July 1 ABNCo entered a note in the print order book that they had reprinted 40 sheets of the 1¢ Balboa stamp but no reason was given.

April 23, 1908 – Die Proof finished by the engraving department and sent to Foreign Department for approval. (Figures 5, 6).

Die Proof Numbers

The vignette die was designated **Special – C – 313** in 1908 and the frame die **C-817**. Around 1924 the ABNCo renumbered its die numbers. The vignette die was renumbered **V-42615** and the frame **26324**. (Figs. 7, 8



(Figure 4 - April 8, 1908. ABN Co. Print Order for 500,000 1 centavo Balboa stamps. The small paper note folded back at the left has an order dated July 1 for 40 sheets to be reprinted. Photo courtesy The Museum of American Finance)



(Figure 5 - April 27, 1908 – Die Proof Approved by ABNCo Supervisor.)



(Figure 6 - April 1908 –Reverse of Die Proof showing date stamps.)



(Figure 8 – Large die proof showing green frame die proof number C- 817 changed to 26324. Ca. 1924. Ex-Leeds.)

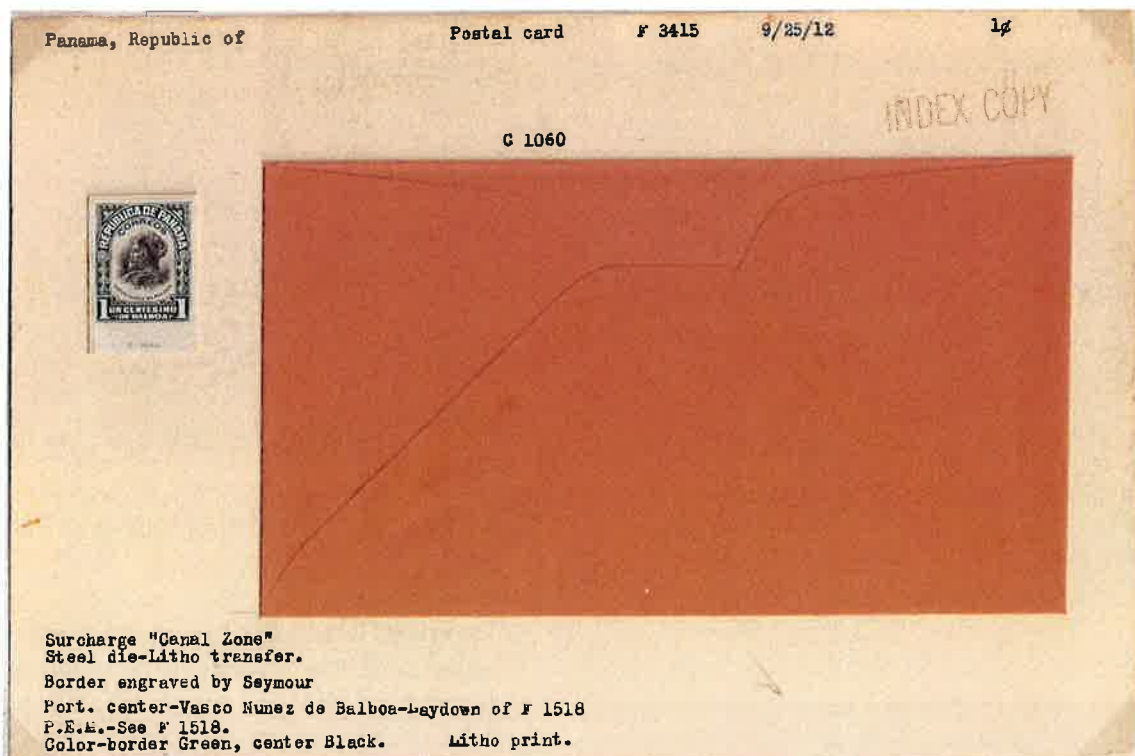


(Figure 7 – Large die proof showing vignette serial number changed from Special C-313 to V 42615. Ca. 1924. Ex-Leeds.)

Vignette Die of Balboa Reused for 1¢ Canal Zone Postal Card

The Higgins & Gage postal stationery catalogue lists a 1¢ postal card with a Balboa vignette as Panama stationery #11. This 1¢ postal card was made only for the Canal Zone and the photo in the H&G catalogue is the Canal Zone postal card and should be delisted from this Panama catalogue. Because the vignette used the same die as the 1¢ stamp it is mentioned in this report.

August 27, 1912 – Panama ordered 100,000 1¢ postal cards, Sc. UX4, for the Canal Zone. In their reply to Panama on September 16, the ABNCo accepted the order and promised to keep the costs down by using the same vignette of Balboa that they had used for the 1¢ postage stamp.



(Figure 9 - Index card for F3415, Canal Zone postal card, Sc. UX4. The same vignette die used for the 1908 1¢ Balboa stamp, F1518. Frame die C - 1060. Ex-Gibbs.)

The frame was redesigned and designated C 1060 then renumbered 26310 in 1924. As shown on the Index Card the Foreign Order number is F3415.

Specimen Stamps

In the 1990 ABNCo sale by Christie's, Lot 513, with a hammer price of \$3,190, had the bulk of the Panama specimen stamps.

The persons who described these stamps made the same mistakes that many philatelists have made. They confused the 1906 HBNC issues with the ABNCo issues and used the Scott numbers 187(2¢), 189(5¢), 190(8¢) and 191(10¢) of the HBNC stamps in the description instead of the correct ABNCo Scott numbers 198(2¢), 200(5¢), 213(8¢) and 201(10¢). The

1¢ Balboa stamp Scott number, 197, is correct.

This lot was bought by two well-known Latin American stamp dealers, Giana Wayman and the late Brian Moorhouse, who divided up the sheets and did some swapping with the legendary stamp dealer, Kasimir Bileski.

The "key" pieces, the top two rows, including the upper selvage, were torn off the sheets and then, in most cases, blocks of 4-8 stamps on the left were separated from those on the right and sold to different customers. I was fortunate in being able to purchase those on the right which had most of the engraving in the selvage as well as the hand-stamped order dates and hand-stamped "RETURN TO ISSUE ROOM. To Be Held for Reference" instructions. Later I bought many of the left-hand blocks but in most cases, these came from a different sheet than the blocks on the right.

In this article Specimen stamps have the letter "S" following the Scott number.



(Figure 10 – Top two rows of F-1518 Specimen stamps. APR 8 1908 is the date the order entered the ABNCo books.)

1908 - First Order F-1519

The printing date is not given in the correspondence but a sheet of specimen stamps was in the 1990 Christie's Sale. The Foreign Order date APR 8, 1908 is hand-stamped in purple. (Figure 10). Note that ABNCo had not yet begun to engrave Foreign Order numbers on the selvage. "1 Centesimo No." printed over stamps in columns one and two comes from the frame plate and is in green. Over stamps five and

six are two inverted T's, one in green for lining up the green frame and one in black for the vignette. Printed over stamps seven, eight, and nine is "FOR 1 CENTESIMO REPUBLIC DE PANAMA" in black.

July 8, 1908 – ABNCo notifies the Panama consul in New York that the stamps are ready to ship and waits for instructions. A week later, the Panama Consul asks that the stamps be sent as soon as possible. ABNCo adds the order number, F1518, in red ink on the letter.

August 12, 1908 – Panama Rail Road Co., NYC, receives five boxes of stamps to ship to Panama on the *SS Esperanza* and

ABNCo sends the bill of lading to Panama's NYC Consul.

Two days later ABNCo writes Panama: They have sent the stamps and other supplies some time ago and received payment from the office of Sullivan & Cromwell of \$3,787.69, gold.

1910 - Second Order F-2659 – Ungummed Stamps and Advertising Booklet

September 1, 1910 – ABNCo receives *Pedido* (Order) No. 9 for 5000 advertising booklets. All the stamps in this order, ABNCo F2659, were manufactured and shipped to Panama without gum. (Figures 11, 12a, 12b, 13). This order was covered in detail in previous articles and was the only time regular issued stamps did not have any glue. (REF 1-6).

December 29, 1910 – The booklets were shipped to Panama on the *SS Advance*.

Each booklet contained three panes of six 1¢ stamps for a total of 90,000 one-cent booklet stamps. In addition, there were 210,000 1¢ ungummed stamps left over which were assumed to have been distributed at Panama post offices for normal usage.

(Figure 11 – top of specimen sheet F2629, stamps without gum)



(Figure 12a - Specimen Ad Book cover F2659 Two Specimen booklets recorded.)



(Figure 12b - Ad Book cover-5 booklets recorded)



(Figure 13 –Single Pane from Ad Booklet. Note hand-cut perforations at top and bottom, torn perforations at right, and holes from two staples in selvage. No glue on the stamps.)

1911 - Third Order F2932 - Only Specimen Stamps Were Printed

May 26, 1911 - ABNCo receives an order for Canal Zone 1¢ stamps, F2932. However, specimen stamps exist for both Panama and Canal Zone but no stamps are on the order for Panama. Only Canal Zone stamps were printed and shipped to Panama. The same plates from previous orders were used. This is the only time that Panama specimen stamps were found without a print order. (Figure 14)

Panama had an abundance of 1¢ Balboa stamps from the HBNCo and saw no need to issue the 800,000 stamps that they had received in 1908 and 1910. The first recorded use of the ABNCo 1¢ Balboa is from Colon, February 19, 1912. (Figure 15)

(Figure 14 - Un-issued Panama 1 centesimo stamp. Stamps have glue. F2932 orders only printed for the Canal Zone.)



(Figure 15 - February 19, 1912, first recorded use of the ABN Co 1¢ Balboa. Ex-Brid)

1913 - Fourth Order F3843 - New Vignette plate, 100,000 Later Shipped to Canal Zone

July 16, 1913 - In *Pedido* 22 Panama orders 1,000,000 ½ ¢, 1,000,000 1¢, and 500,000 2¢ stamps. Six days later, July 22, 1913, before the ABNCo has received the letter of July 16 Panama writes ... *please ship the*



stamps shown as quickly as possible as our supply is very low. Stark & Co. will pay...

August 4, 1913 – 1,000,000 stamps ordered. Stark & Co. is now the official purchasing agent for Panama.

August 12, 1913 – ABNCo writes to Stark & Co. that new plates for the 1¢ stamp must be made because the old ones "... are very much worn." A new plate for the vignette is made and F-3843 appears in black in the selvage above stamp #10. The mirror image of the number "2," indicating that this is the second vignette plate produced for this stamp, is on the selvage at the top right. Since there is no reversed "2" in green on the selvage it confirms that the ABNCo did not make a new plate for the frame for this printing. Two sheets of Panama Specimen stamps with red hand-stamped F3843 and black engraved F-3843 were in the ABNCo archives. (**Figure 16**).

September 24, 1913 – ABNCo writes Stark that they have 1,000,000 1¢ stamps on hand and notifies Panama that the 1¢ and 2¢ stamps will be shipped on Sept. 27 on SS *Carrillo*. On the shipping order of September 25 ABNCo notifies Stark that the stamps

(Figure 16 : Top of Specimen Sheet for order F3843. Entered ABNCo books AUG 4, 1913. F3843 and "2" reversed (missing here) in selvage indicates a new (second) vignette plate. Two specimen sheets of this order were in the ABNCo archives.)

would be shipped September 27, 1913, on the SS *Carrillo*.

November 7, 1913 – There is an internal ABNCo memo that they have cancelled (scored or destroyed) the plate for the 1¢ vignette – order F3843. This is a further indication that ABNCo did not create a new frame plate and continued to use the original one.

1915 - Fourth Order Over-printed by Canal Zone: Sc. 46 First Printing

At the end of 1915 the Canal Zone postal service was again running out of 1¢ stamps and asked Panama to deliver more. On December 7, 1915, Panama made a delivery of 100,000 1¢ Panama stamps which would be overprinted at the Mount Hope printing plant and are Canal Zone Sc. 46, 1st printing. This reduced the number of stamps from this order on hand for Panama to sell to 900,000 (**Figure 17**)

1916 - Fifth Order F4853 - Booklet Stamps

January 21, 1916 – Panama sends the ABNCo *Pedido No. 89*, for CZ and Panama booklets. The Panama order includes 10,000 booklets of 1¢ stamp, 4 panes of 6 stamps each, ABNCo order F4853. The 5¢ Arosemena booklets were order F4854. The total number of stamps: 10,000 x 24 = 240,000 1¢ booklet stamps. Only one complete 1¢ booklet is recorded. (**Figures 18, 19, 20, 21**)

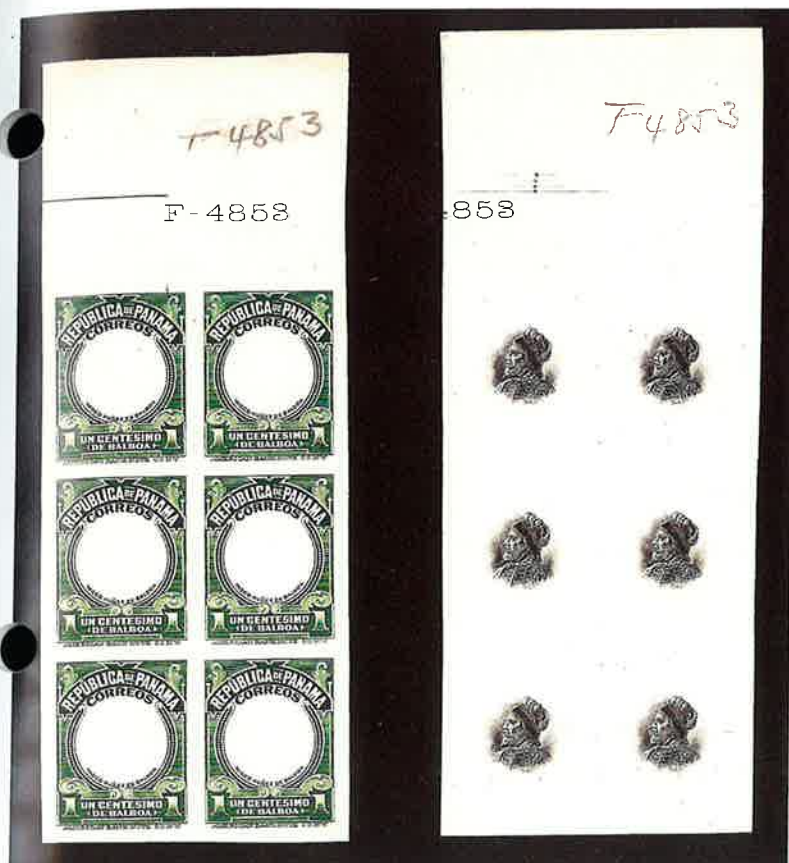




(Figure 17 - Block of 12 from Harmer-Schau January 2011 sale. There is a L-E shift in positions 8, 18. Note the mirror image of "2" on the top right corner to identify that the second vignette plate was used.)

(Figure 18 – Booklet Specimen, 197bS. F-4853 hand-stamped in red at the top.)





(Figure 19 – 1¢ Cancellation proofs showing engraved order number F-4853.)



(Figure 21 – 1¢ production booklet pane.)



(Figure 20 – Cover of 1¢ specimen booklet panes. Order number F4853 in red. Two such specimen booklets recorded. Only one complete book as issued is recorded.)

1918 – Sixth Order F5634 – Printed on Off-white Paper

May 20, 1918 – Panama orders 1,000,000 1¢ stamps, F5634.

June 8, 1918 – This order used the same plates as the 1913 order, F3843. The black engraved F-3843 and black reversed "2" are on the selvage of the Panama specimen stamps. (Figure 22) This order is distinguished from all previous Sc. 197 orders because of the off-white paper used and the yellowish tint to the green frame.



(Figure 22 – Order F-5634 1918 printing on off-white paper. Two specimen sheets recorded. Hole punch diameter 2.5 mm.)

1921 Sixth Order Later Over-printed by Canal Zone: Sc. 46 Second Printing

In 1921 the Canal Zone was running low on 1¢ Balboa stamps and ordered more from Panama. Panama had a surplus of these stamps in its inventory and shipped 200,000 from order **F5634** to the Canal Zone. They were over-printed at the Mount Hope printing plant March 8, 1921.

All the Canal Zone Sc. 46 Second Printing stamps recorded are on off-white paper with a yellowish green frame verifying that only the Panama sixth order stamps were used for this Canal Zone issue.

The One-cent Balboa ABNCo Invert

The one-cent Balboa ABNCo invert, Scott 197a, is one of the most difficult stamps to acquire. They were not listed by the major stamp catalogues until the late 1930s. No prices were given as none had ever been sold at public auction until the June 1998 Helme estate sale by Shreves Philatelic Galleries. Helme had the only known unused stamp and it was sold for \$7,000 + 10% and

next appeared in the Peter Balmer Collection of Inverted Stamps.

The ex-Helme invert unused copy and nine invert used copies are known. Of the ten recorded copies of this invert seven have the perforations at the top of the stamps cutting into the frame of the stamp. Only one is “well centered,” (Figure 23)



(Figure 23 – Two 1¢ Balboa inverts. The copy on right has perforations cutting into the top of the frame which is typical for seven out of eight such inverts recorded.)

A future article will focus on these inverts and scans of all ten will be shown.

1¢ Balboa Stamps Used for Tax or Revenue Purposes

In times of need, postage stamps paid the stamp taxes on legal documents. (Figure 24) (REF. 7)



(Figure 24 – December 10, 1914. A 20c fiscal stamp paid the tax for a credit between \$50 and \$100. The two one-cent American Bank Note Co. stamps, Sc. 197, paid the receipt tax.)

Ley 24 de 1915 Overprints

Ley 24 de 1915, Law 24 of 1915, authorized the printing and use of revenue stamps. There was a delay in ordering and receiving these revenue stamps from the ABNCo so postage stamps were overprinted to be used as tax stamps. (Figures 25 & 26)



(Figures 25 & 26 Ley 24 de 1915 on two 1 centesimo stamps.)

A few of these provisional revenue stamps were used to pay postage. Sometimes the sender could sneak the letter or postcard past the postal clerk but other times it was discovered and postage due was required to be paid by the addressee. (Figure 27) (REF 8)



(Figure 27 – Cover to Gov. Goethals. Both stamps had already been used for revenue purposes and have a purple handstamp "LEY 24 DE 1915". Panama postal clerk stamped "T" for postage due.)

Telegrafos Overprints

No official decrees have been found that permitted the 1¢ Balboa stamps to be overprinted *Telegrafos*. They are not difficult to find as place-fillers in older stamp collections or on eBay.

Judging from those stamps examined with readable cancellations the red overprints were first used in 1925 and the black overprints in 1926. (Figure 28) see below. (REF. 9)



(Figure 26 – 1¢ Balboa Stamps overprinted *Telegrafos* in red and black.)

1933 - Seventh Order - Cancellation Impressions

October 11, 1933 – the ABNCo cancelled (destroyed) the plates used to print Panama stamps, including those overprinted for the Canal Zone, from 1905 through 1921. The cancellation process was witnessed by the Consul General of Panama in New York City, López Fábrega, and assigned ABNCo order number F-9756.

The original of the certificate of cancellation was given to Mr. Fábrega to forward to Mr. Sosa, Comptroller General of Panama. A copy was made for Mr. Fábrega's files in New York, the ABNCo agent in Panama, and for the ABNCo files. A signed certificate is in the ABNCo correspondence and these cancellations will be the topic of a future article. There are no known cancellation impressions with "Canal Zone" overprints or of the Canal Zone overprints by themselves.

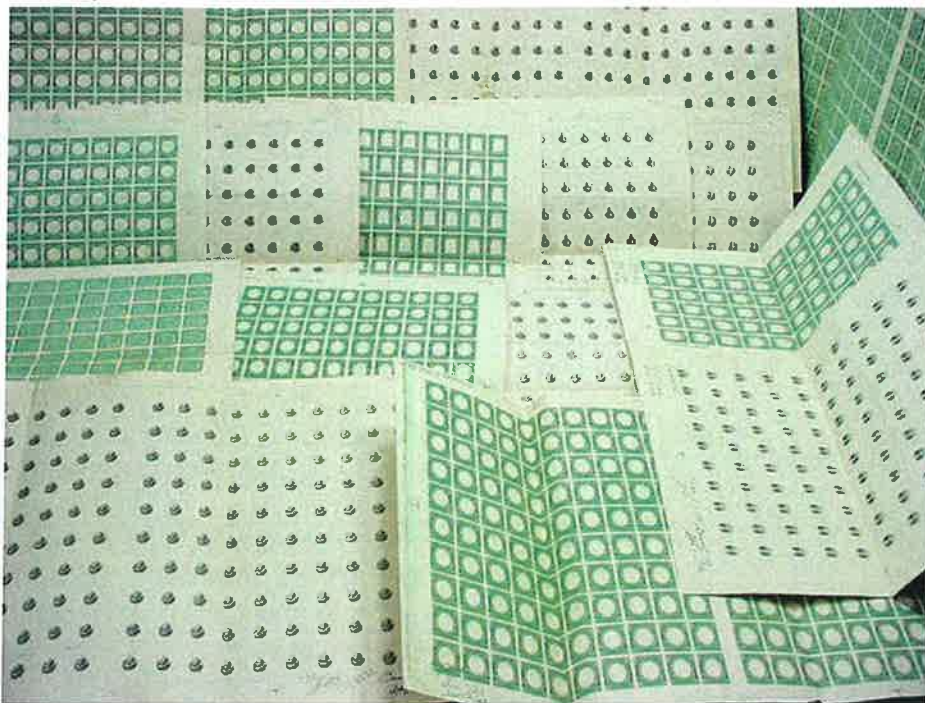
The letter concerning these imprints was inaccurate because the list of destroyed plates includes the 1904 2½¢ *Retardo*, 5¢ Acknowledgement of Receipt, and 10¢ Registration stamps. The ABNCo later noted that the plates of the map stamps for the Department of Panama, made before Panama became independent, were not destroyed because they had been ordered by the Republic of Colombia, not Panama. In another letter ABNCo confirmed that although the Panama plates had been destroyed the dies were not.

Full plate cancellation impressions of the stamps were printed on thin card. In the case of those stamps with two different colors, there were two plates, one for the border and one for the vignette. The border imprints were green whereas the vignette imprints were black. These are the same colors as the 1¢ Balboa stamps and can lead to a misunderstanding if a border or frame has been cut out of a cancellation impression.

The cancellation impressions for the Portrait stamps were sold as Lot 515 during the 1990 ABNCo archive sale and realized a hammer price of \$2,750, much higher than expected, and Kasimir Bileski is assumed to have bought this lot. In the case of the Panama cancellation impressions, there was little interest, if any, among Panama collectors then or today, and most of the impression sheets appear to have remained intact. Their main value would be to the specialist who wants to examine the selvage for faint notes scratched for or by the printers.

Lot 515 was thought to have been in the Bileski estate when he died in January 2005. These impressions next appeared on eBay in 2016, offered for \$180,000, and after a year removed from the listing, presumably unsold. (Figure 29)

Lot 522 had the cancellation impressions of the booklet panes. described as imperforate frame and vignette plate proof sheets of 144



(Figure 29 – Scan showing some of the Panama Portrait 1933 Cancellation Impressions for sale on eBay, “Buy it Now,” \$180,000, May 2016.)

stamps arranged in three panes vertically, in green and black, on thin card. These sheets were cut and resold by the dealers who purchased them. So far as is known no copies of the intact sheets were made.

To distinguish 1933 “Cancellation Proofs” from plate proofs made when a new order for a 1¢ Balboa stamp was printed the former will be designated 197 CP.

There were no proof impressions of the Panama 1¢ Balboa stamps, those only used by Panama without the CANAL ZONE overprints, in the 1990 Christie’s ABNCo sale. However, the sale did include full sheet proof impressions of the 1¢ Balboa stamp. Based on the description of Lots 519, 520, and 521 we know that these impressions were made from plates which were only used for Canal Zone stamps and will be included in a future article on Canal Zone 1¢ Balboa stamps.

Number of 1¢ Balboa Stamps Available for Postage

Because of the uncertainty about the number of stamps used to pay taxes or for telegraph services we cannot be sure of the amount used for postage. We are no closer to understanding why the two types of booklet stamps are so extremely scarce on or off cover today than we were 10 years ago when the first articles about the two different types were published.

Table 1 provides a summary of the history of the ABNCo 1¢ Balboa stamp printed for Panama and numbers of stamps printed.

A future article will cover the ABNCo 1¢ invert, Sc. 197a, and explain why so few have been discovered and why most of the “great” collections do not have one.

**TABLE 1 –Summary of Panama ABNCo
1c Balboa Stamps and Cancellation
Proofs Printed**

Printing	Order Date	ABNCo Order #	Scott #	# of 1c stamps printed	# of 1c Specimen stamps	Notes
1	April 8, 1908	F1518	197	500,000		No engraved F#.
	July 1, 1908	F1518	197	4,000		40 additional sheets printed. Perhaps to replace unacceptable sheets in the first printing?
		F1518	197S		100-200	4 mm Hole Punch, "S & P" in SPECIMEN 2mm high, "Specimen" 14 mm long above Balboa's head.
2	September 27, 1910	F2659	197			All stamps in order F2659 un-gummed – No engraved F#
		F2659	197S		100-200	3 mm Hole Punch, "S & P" 2mm high, Specimen 14 mm long printed below Balboa or on his chest.
		F2659	197b	90,000		5000 Ad Booklets x 3 panes x 6 stamps
		F2659	197bS		36	In the two Specimen Ad Booklets Recorded
		F2659	197	210,000		Left-over stamps after booklets made. Believed to have been sold to the public at post offices.
3	May 26, 1911	F2932	197S		100-200	No engraved F#. 2 mm Hole Punch, "S & P" 2mm high, Specimen 14 mm long below Balboa or on chest.
		F2932	197	0		One or two sheets overprinted SPECIMEN – without the Canal Zone overprint are documented but the ABNCo correspondence shows no order for Panama stamps, only for the Canal Zone.

4	August 4, 1913	F3843	197	1,000,000		ABNCo made a new vignette plate. Black engraved F-3843. Mirror Image "2" in black at top right of corner selvage.
		F3843	197S		100-200	Red Handstamp F3843 + black engraved F-3843. 2 mm Die Hole Punch, "S & P" 4 mm high, Specimen 20 mm long Diagonal over Balboa's head
	August 7, 1915			-100,000		100,000 stamps sent to Canal Zone, Type III overprint at Mt. Hope Print plant. CZ Sc. 46A
5	January 24, 1916	F4853	197b	240,000		10,000 Booklets x 4 panes x 6 stamps/pane.
		F4853	197bS		144	2 mm clean Hole Punch, "S & P" 2 mm high, Specimen 14 mm long under portrait in frame. Three sheets x 8 panes x 6 stamps/pane.
		F4853	197bS		24	Two Specimen booklets recorded.
6	June 8, 1918	F5634	197	1,000,000		Off-White paper, yellowish tint in green frame. Black engraved F-3843 + mirror image "2"
		F5634	197S		100-200	Red Handstamp F5634 + Black engraved Portrait F-3843 + mirror image "2". 2.5 mm clean Die Hole Punch, "S & P" 2 mm high, Specimen 14 mm long over Balboa's head.
	March 8, 1921			-200,000		200,000 stamps sent to Canal Zone, Type III overprint at Mt. Hope Print plant. CZ Sc. 46B
7	October 1933	F9756	197CP		100 Frame 100 Portrait	Cancellation Impressions -100 Imperforate plate proofs on thin card. Frame, F1518 (green), Portrait F3843 (black). The portrait plate for F1518 was previously cancelled Nov. 7, 1913 and therefore not canceled in 1933.
		F9756	197bCP		144 Frame 144 Portrait	Cancellation Impressions - 1916 Booklets: F4853. 144 Imperforate plate proofs on thin card. Frame (green), Portrait (black).
SUM				2,744,000		

Acknowledgements

Federico Brid and Ruthann Bates provided invaluable suggestions and helped turn this manuscript into a more readable article.

Endnotes

1 - The Panama Advertising Booklet of 1911, COPACARTA, VOL XXV, Nr. 2, Dec 2007, pp. 7-15

2 - The Panama Advertising Booklet of 1911, Collectors Club Philatelist, Vol. 87, No. 1, January-February 2008 pp 35-47

3 - Panama 1911 and 1916 Booklets Revisited: Amounts Printed and Update to Census. Collectors Club Philatelist, Vol. 89, No. 1, January-February 2010, pp 45-47

4 - Panama 1911 and 1916 Booklets Revisited: Amounts Printed, Update to Census, and Discovery of Two Important Covers. COPACARTA, Vol. No. 27, No. 3, March 2010, pp 1, 4-8, 17.

5 - The 1911 Panama Advertising Booklet. Correspondence from the Files of the ABNCo Foreign Department. Nov-Dec 2015, Vol. 94 No. 6. The Collectors Club Philatelist. pp 369-378.

6 - The 1911 Panama Advertising Booklet: Correspondence from the files of the ABNCo Foreign Department. COPACARTA Volume 33, No. 2(print error, No. 3), December 2015. pp 10-17, 20

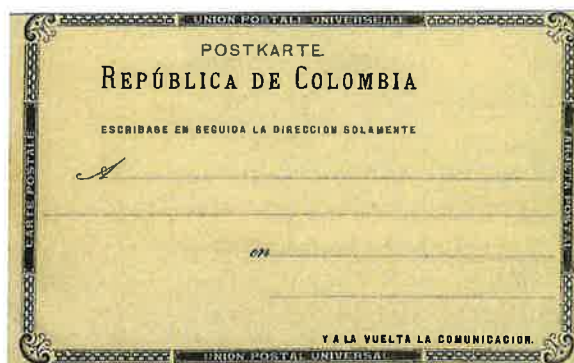
7 - Postage Stamps Used to Pay Panama Stamp Taxes. COPACARTA Volume 33, No. 3, March 2017. pp. 4-8.

8 - Panama Postage Stamps Overprinted LEY 24 DE 1915 to Meet a Shortage of Revenue Stamps. COPACARTA Volume 34, No. 4, June 2017. Pp. 5-9.

9 – Panama Telegraph Stamps. Joe Ross and Federico Brid. Published by Joe Ross, 8036 Rio Linda Blvd., Elverta, CA 95626. 2000

Arenz Postcard Printed on Republic de Colombia Postal Card: editor note

In response to the article about Arenz postcards a Copaphil member emailed me scans of a postcard that was printed on the Republica de Colombia two centavos postal card (Figs 1 & 2). I looked in my collection and discovered that I also had a similar example. I know that the early Pehlke postcards (H&G 14a) of Colombia have a postal card back. Does anyone have any information on what the rules were? Are there other postcards manufacturers who did this as well?



(Figures 1 & 2: Arenz postcard on Republica de Colombia postal card)

Cucuta Rebels Post to Venezuela by Robert Muller

Recently I was lucky enough to purchase an extremely interesting cover on eBay. Only a handful of this issue on cover are recorded. All are cancelled by the private "Correo del Comercio - Cucuta" cancel. This private post company provided the connection via railway to the Venezuelan border and then by steamer up the Zulia River to Maracaibo in Venezuela. Normally, covers via this route traveled via the sea route.

The 5 centavos stamp on this cover (**Figure 1**) bears the green overprint of the second issue. It is a little faint, but is visible. At first I was irritated because I expected a 10c stamp for foreign mail on the cover. But Carlos Valenzuela Acosta, in his book *Historia Postal de las Tarifas de los Correos en Colombia 2002* about postal tariffs of Colombia (page 70), writes of a special 10 centavos tariff for Ipiales, Colombia, to Ecuador and from Cucuta, Colombia, to Venezuela in 1902 (when all the tariffs were doubled due to currency inflation). So probably the tariff was 5c).

(Figure 1: Envelope to Venezuela bearing five centavos with green overprint of the second issue. June 1, 1900)



On the back (**Figure 2**) there is a violet censorship marking the handwritten signature "Secretario de Gobierno San Jose de Cucuta Junio 1. 1900 pase asi cerrada Jose M. Garcia". The backside is completely authentic to me and I could not find any hint for a missing stamp. This is the first time I have seen a 5c cover to Venezuela.



(Figure 2: Reverse side of Correo del Comercio – Cucuta cover)

The same seller had another five centavos rating to Venezuela (Figure 4), but it did not have a date mark. It is franked with two 2 centavos and a bisect of the same).



(Figure 3: 5 centavos rate cover to Venezuela)

Remembering John Sinfield by David Zemer

I first came in contact with John Sinfield (**Figure 1**) in 2008 after I saw his Panama postal stationery exhibit at Westpex where it received Gold and the **UPSS Marcus White Medal for Best Postal Stationery**. John had, without doubt, the best collection of Panama stationery ever assembled and he was always willing to look for any item in his collection when I had a stationery question. After asking about an envelope or postal card I would receive an email with everything that he knew about it and, when possible, a scan.

His exhibit has a prestigious pedigree and many items were previously owned by Juan Kiener and James Helme. As far as I know neither of its previous owners had ever exhibited or written about Panama's stationery and it was pretty much off the Panama philatelic radar until WESTPEX. Discovering that someone was focusing on Panama stationery was a wonderful surprise and I was even more amazed to discover that the owner lived in Australia.

John constantly improved his exhibit and eight years later at **NY2016** his eight-frame exhibit, **Panama Republic Postal Stationery to 1940**, received a Large Gold and earned 96 points, the highest point total awarded to a stationery exhibit at this most prestigious show.

Over the years, we had gone back and forth by email about writing a Panama stationery handbook to replace the chapter on Panama in the *Higgins & Gage World Postal Stationery Catalog* but we never quite got started. We were very impressed with the 2014 release of the 3rd edition of the **Canal Zone Postal Stationery** handbook edited by Irwin Gibbs which encouraged us to think more seriously about publishing a much

needed handbook for Panama and we had planned discuss it when we met at NY2016.

I last heard from John December 2015 when he wrote that his health was not great and that he might not be able to come to NY2016 due to medical concerns. I did not see him at NY2016 and it was a shock to hear this May that John had passed away. His knowledge and generosity is very much missed by his friends in the world of Panama philately.



(**Figure 1 – John Sinfield and Debby Friedman, past president Colombia Panama Philatelic Study Group, enjoying the view of San Francisco Bay at Westpex 2008. Photo courtesy Wayne Menuz.**)

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Panama Postcards: Colección Endara by Brad Wilde

Carlos Endara Andrade (1865 – 1954) was an Ecuadorian born photographer who worked primarily in Panama. He was born in Ibarra, Ecuador, and moved to Panama, with his father, in 1886. He worked on the French Canal construction until he partnered with Epifanio Garay in a studio, “Garay-Endara” in 1888. Between 1899 and 1904 he studied at Bellas Artes in Paris, specializing in photographic techniques. In 1910, he founded a five-floor studio with his brother Victoriano. It became one of the best-known studios in Panama City. In 2009 the building was restored and serves as a Museum for Endara’s works.

The cards have a soft pastel quality, full-view with a white caption bar. The publisher data and sequence number appear on the front in gray (Figure 1). Spanish captions are in red italics and English captions, when present, are in black. The reverse side (Figure 2) is undivided with two long and two short address lines and the words in Spanish and UPU French, printed in black or dark gray. Only five numbered cards are in the series.



(Figure 1: view side of card)



(Figure 2: address side of card)

No. 1 Washerwomen in free air. Panamá (Airededores) Lavenderas al aire libre.

No. 2 Ruins of old Panamá. Panamá (Airededores) Ruinas de Panamá la vieja.

No. 3 Market of country fruit dealers. Panamá. Mercado de frutos de los campesinos.

No. 4 Cathedral. Panamá Catedral

No. 5 Parque é Iglesia de Sta Ana.

An additional card (figure 3 – see below), a triple view without publisher ID, utilizes three Endara photos. It is unnumbered and the reverse (figure 4) has four address lines with only a statement of Tarjeta Postal in gray-black.





(Figure 4: address side of card)

The Pan-American Goodwill Flight of 1926-1927 by Brad Wilde

On December 21, 1926, a squadron of five Loening amphibian airplanes left Kelly Field, San Antonio, Texas, on a 22,000 mile, 133 day, goodwill flight to many of the members of the Pan-American Union. The purpose of the flight was to take a message of friendship to the governments and people of Central and America. As well, it was to promote U.S. commercial aviation and forge new aerial navigation routes throughout the Americas.

The flight was commanded by Major Herbert A. Dargue (1886 – 1941) and consisted of five airplanes. The New York with Major Dargue and Lt. (later General) Ennis Whitehead (1895-1965); the San Antonio with Captain (later General) Arthur McDaniel (1895 – 1943) and Lt. (later Lt. Colonel) Charles Robinson (1894 - ?); the San Francisco with Captain (later General) Ira Eaker (1896 – 1987) and Lt. (later General) Muir Fairchild; the Detroit with Captian Clinton Woolsey (1894 – 1927) ad Lt. John Benton (1896 – 1927); and the St. Louis with Lt. (later Colonel) Bernard Thompson (1892 - ?) and Lt. (later General) Leonard Weddington (1895 – 1961). (Figure 1)



(Figure 1). The pilots at Duncan Field, December 17, 1926.

The Air Corps' leadership selected the 10 Pan American flyers from a pool of over 1000 volunteers. Each man had to be a skilled pilot and an excellent mechanic because there were very few airfields or repair facilities along the route. The Pan American aircrews chose as their motto, "No Work, No Ride".

The aircraft used on the flight was the Loening OA-1A observation amphibian (Fig. 2). This was a two seat aircraft, designed by Grover Loening in 1923. It has retractable landing gear in a boat-shaped hull. It was built with a wood interior structure with an aluminum covered fuselage and fabric covered wings. The cruising speed of 90 miles per hour and range of 750 miles was provided by an inverted 425 horsepower Liberty engine. 45 had been ordered between 1924 and 1926, primarily for service in the Hawaiian Islands and the Philippines.

In order to prepare for the flight six Spanish or Portuguese speaking Air Corps officers traveled ahead and positioned 50,000 gallons of aviation fuel and 5,000 gallons of oil along the route. They were also responsible for coordinating the public events in each country. The flyers usually



(Figure 2 – Loening OA-1A observation amphibian aircraft)

stayed a few days in each country to attend local ceremonies held in their honor.

On January 23, 1927, during a takeoff in the bay outside of France Field, heavy ocean waves struck the San Antonio and staved in the pontoon plates. The aircraft promptly sank. McDaniel and Robinson were rescued by shore launches. After the San Antonio was towed ashore it was determined to be a total loss. While the other flyers went on to Colombia McDaniel and Robinson had to wait for a replacement airplane.

On February 24, 1927, the group, minus McDaniel and Robinson who were grounded in Tumaco, Colombia, because of an engine malfunction, arrived in Bahia Blanco, Argentina. The first crossing of the Andes mountains by airplane.

Unfortunately, after a ceremony in Buenos Aires, Argentina, the squadron left for an overnight stay at a flying field in nearby Palomar. As the aircraft were preparing to land Lt. Benton went out on the wing to lower the landing gear (which had been damaged and couldn't be lowered by the pilot) by hand. He was not wearing a parachute. As the formation descended to 1,500 feet the Detroit drifted into the New York and the aircraft locked together and spun out of control. Major Dargue and Lt. Whitehead

parachuted to safety. Captain Woolsey stayed with Lt. Benson and both perished when the Detroit hit the ground.

The Pan American flyers decided to continue with the flight and Dargue and Thompson took command of the St. Louis while Weddington and Whitehead returned to France Field to await a replacement airplane. MacDaniel and Robinson's replacement engine arrived and they rejoined the group on March 5, 1927, at Montevideo, Uruguay. Weddington and Whitehead were able to meet them at Puerto Cabello, Venezuela on March 30th.

The group finally arrived back to the United States, at Bolling Field, Washington, D.C. on May 2, 1927, at the opening of the Pan American Air Commission Conference. Each member of the squadron was awarded citations for the Distinguished Flying Cross, which Congress had only created on July 2, 1926 (Colonel Charles Lindbergh was presented with the first actual medal). **(Figure 3)**

They also received the Mackay Trophy for the most meritorious military flight of 1926.

From a philatelic perspective the flight yielded covers **(Figure 4)** bearing stamps and cancellation of each country visited. Special cancellations were used at Guatemala City, Rio de Janeiro, and Havana. All covers are signed by Major Dargue and the other seven surviving crew members. The covers bear a five-lined boxed cachet, and are postmarked at San Antonio between December 13, and 19. They were postmarked in Panama City and the Canal Zone on January 19, 1927, and in Bogota, Colombia, on January 25th. It is believed that approximately 15 covers were carried. Because they were handled by different crew members covers do not necessarily bear the same stamps. For example, covers are known with Panama Stamps, Canal Zone stamps, and stamps



(Figure 3 – President Calvin Coolidge awarding the Distinguished Flying Cross citations)

from both localities. The covers normally sell at auction for between \$650 and \$800.

As well a limited number of covers (**Figure 5**) were mailed from David, Panama, to Major Thomas O. Humphries at Ft. DeLesseps in the Canal Zone, on January 18, 1927. Those seen are franked with either a single or a block of six of the two centesimos Arms of Panama stamp of 1924.

A few covers (**Figure 6**) were mailed from San Jose, Costa Rica, to Canal Zone Director of Posts Crede Calhoun. They are signed by Crede Calhoun, and Roy Davis, the U.S. Minister to Costa Rica.

Finally, a single cover (**Figure 7**) is recorded mailed to Major Dargue from San Antonio, Texas, on December 19, 1926. The cover traveled to Panama and was re-mailed from Cristobal on January 18, 1927.



(Figure 4: Cover carried on flight with stamps from all countries and signed by crew – Wilde Collection)



(Figure 5: Flight cover from David, Panama, to Ft. DeLesseps, Canal Zone – Wilde Collection)



(Figure 6: Flight cover from Costa Rica to the Canal Zone – Wilde Collection)



(Figure 7 – Round trip Dargue Cover (front and back) – Wilde Collection)

References:

1. Wikipedia articles on the pilots, the flight, and the aircraft.
2. Forgotten Eagle: a biography of Brigadier General Arthur B. McDaniel 1997 by Shawn M. Bohannon
3. The Top Shelf blog at special collection at the University of Texas, San Antonio
<https://utsalibrariestopshelf.wordpress.com>

NEW PUBLICATION by EUGENE LANGLAIS by Debby Friedman

LA COLOMBIE DE LA CONFÉDÉRATION GRENADINE À LA CRÉATION DES ÉTATS-UNIS DE COLOMBIE HISTOIRE ET POSTE 1858 - 1864

Eugene Langlais has authored yet another scholarly work on Colombia. This new book covers the period of 1858-1864, the Grenadine Confederation period and the United States of New Grenada. The book is a 2018 publication of the Académie de Philatélie. It is in French, 47 pages, soft cover with 37 covers illustrated in full color. Fluent French is not required to understand the essential information.

Tariffs that applied to domestic mail and mail from and to exterior destinations are detailed and illustrated by numerous covers that show the various services including registration, special rate of extraordinary mail, sobreporte for mail destined for service by British agencies and tariffs in use with neighboring countries (Ecuador and Venezuela). A detailed explanation, including the rate is

given for each cover. Figure 1 is an example of information provided for an individual cover. There is also a detailed map of the postal routes. The stamp issues are given with detailed printing quantities and their main varieties.

There is a detailed list of references cited including not only published material, but also archival sources.

If you are not familiar with Eugene's work, he has previously published two works on maritime mail: *Poste Maritime Francaise, Premier Service Postal de Pacifique Sud, Consulat de France à Panama (1843-1848) 2006* and *Poste Maritime Francaise, Consulat de France à Panama (1848-1881), 2e Service Postal du Pacifique Sud (1872-1874) 2008*.

The book is in French, and is 23 Euros per copy, post paid to all destinations. To order the book, provide name, address, zip code, country and email (if available) by mail to:

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(add 2 Euros for charges).

Distance parcourue sur le territoire grenadin entre 450 et $\leq$ 1350 km



1860 - Guatemala (ville), 14/02, pour Bogota. Timbre à date « GUATEMALA - 1860 - FEB 23 » et marque « Franco ». Taxe « 2 » (reales) au dos du pli pour l'acheminement intérieur. Le pli est pris en charge par l'acheminement Hurtado i Hermanos pour le trajet maritime sur le Pacifique jusqu'à Panama, puis déposé au bureau de Colon après la traversée de l'isthme. Application du timbre « ADMINISTRACION DE CORREOS DE COLON - DABE » (port dû). La taxe à 20 centavos, indiquée au crayon bleu (couleur caractéristique utilisée par le bureau de Colon) correspond au tarif grenadin entre ce port et Bogota pour une lettre simple ($\leq$ 10 g). Trajet maritime assuré par la RMSPC jusqu'à Carthagène. Puis trajet fluvial sur le « rio Magdalena » jusqu'à Honda et terrestre jusqu'à Bogota.

Le destinataire était un jésuite de la compagnie de Jésus qui fut expulsée en 1861 par le général Mosquera. Ce dernier avait, par ailleurs, saisi les biens de l'Eglise catholique afin de redresser le pays après les dégâts causés par la guerre civile de 1860.

