

TWO NEW REPRINTS DISCOVERED OF THE THE SPANISH PHILIPPINES 1897 SURCHARGED ISSUE

by Don Peterson

It is always a surprise to discover new stamps, especially when they are over 100 years old. The Scott Catalogue describes six reprints of the 1897 surcharged issues in a footnote following that section. A more detailed description of these reprints was presented in an article in the *Philippine Philatelic News*, Vol. XI, No.2, Second Quarter 1989. Refer to that article for more details. Then, several years ago, I discovered an unlisted reprint in a small collection; and recently, I obtained another unlisted reprint from Bob Yacano. I have found no other record or reference about these new reprints. After careful inspection, I believe the new reprints are genuine in all respects. Both occur mint.

The first new reprint is a 5c dark violet surcharge on a 2 4/8c olive gray (#150) stamp. This is the only known record of any reprint on the 2 4/8c olive gray issue. The second new reprint is a 5c very dark violet (almost black) surcharge on a 25c



5 c dark violet on
2 4/8c olive gray



5c very dark violet
on 25c brown

The table below is an up-dated description of all of the reprints of the 1897 surcharged issues, including the two newly discovered stamps.

Description	Scott # Of Host Stamp	Relative Scarcity	Remarks
1. 5c dark violet on 5c blue-green	156	Scarce	
2. 15c black on 15c red-brown	169	Scarce	
3. 15c violet-black on 15c rose	170	Scarce	Distinguished from Scott #'s 188 & 191 by having the upper 2/3s of surcharge vio- let and lower 1/3 black.
4. 20c violet on 20c gray-brown	174	Very Scarce	
5. 20c. Violet-black on 20c dark violet	175	Rare	No copies have been seen by this author.
6. 20c dark violet or violet-black on 25c brown	177	Scarce	
7. 5c dark violet on 2 4/8c olive gray (new)	150	Rare	Only one known ex- ample.
8. 5c very dark violet on 25c brown (new)	177	rare	Only one known ex- ample. The surcharge color is almost black.