

VASCO da GAMA Republica Overprints 1913 - Angola & Congo

ISSUE

The original Vasco da Gama issue of 1898 was used to initiate the new Portuguese currency. The New currency was 100 centavos to 1 Escudo. 1 centave = 10 reis. The surcharges were therefore one tenth of the original reis currency. The surcharge and republic overprint was applied at the Lisbon mint. Both the Angolan and Congo surcharge was applied to the African, Macao and Timor sets. This was obviously an attempt to bleed the stamp collectors of the time. Numerous editorials appeared in Stamp magazines denouncing the issue

ERRORS

Numerous overprint errors exist but were probably printers waste stolen from the mint. They consist of the standard displaced, doubled and inverted overprints.



PERFORATION.

Numerous perforation combinations exist. eg. 5r and 10r of Africa exist in 9 different combinations. 50r of Africa in 2 combinations. Perf 15 is the most common.

PHILATELIC STATUS

When the total number of overprints are added together for all the colonies, there are 256 different varieties. This was obviously done for the philatelic trade. A normal comment of the time read - "Collectors and dealers, too, should make resolute stand against this flood and refuse to have anything to do with such Portuguese swindles. It would be better for philately and for the trade to stop this robbery. It can be done, just one good boycott and it will be over."

RE-ENTRIES

The MACAU REPUBLICA' overprint of ANGOLA and CONGO in the 2avos value is known in five different Re-Entry varieties.

1. 2 avos duplicated downward with line through "DETER...."
2. 2 avos duplicated upward.
3. Line through "DETER"
4. Duplication above "AV", left frame line and ornamental pillar, and line above "D" of DETERMINEI.
5. Strong duplication below "AVOS" with a line through "DETERM....." and a line under.

In a full sheet, the 5 re-Entries can be observed in positions 15, 14, 90, 27, 30. Other more minor defects can be seen in another 6 different positions.

Republica and surcharge o/p for Angola and Congo on Africa, Macao and Timor

0.25/2.5

0.5/5

1/10

2.5/25

5/50

7.5/75

10/100

15/150



Angola surcharge on the Vasco da Gama Timor set