

CHINESE CURRENCY OVERPRINT: THE 1917 ISSUE

14 cents - on registered money letter



12 May 1917 (25 May) Prisoners of War registered money letter for 500r from Tientsin to Russia

10k postage for letter up to 15gms + 10k registration fee + 40k fee (8k per 100r) = 60k

14¢ on 14k dark blue/rose-carmine 0.7 mm varnish lines

15¢ on 15k deep lilac, 2¢ green 1 mm varnish lines both with 0.7 mm varnish lines

Tientsin c.d.s. type 6, Tientsin IJPO, Changchun IJPO transit and Talitskiy arrival



CHINESE CURRENCY OVERPRINT: THE 1917 ISSUE

Perf. 14 x 14½, wove paper with varnish lines, no watermark, embossed centre

15c overprinted on the 15k 1909 - 1917 Imperial Russian issue



Pale brown-lilac/blue
(1909)
0.7 mm varnish lines



Dark lilac/blue
(1912)
0.7 mm varnish lines



Brick-red/blue
(1912)
0.7 mm varnish lines



Brick-red/blue
Forgery Ceresa type F1



Dark brown-lilac/blue
Forgery Ceresa type F4

15c typographed forgery

15k Brown-lilac/light blue
1 mm varnish lines

A single metal plate of 100 stamps was used for overprinting. Ink shinier.

It is alleged that the original printing plates were stolen after the collapse of the Imperial Regime and later re-used in the 1920s for overprinting on most values of the 1917 dollar/cents issues.



CHINESE CURRENCY OVERPRINT: THE 1917 ISSUE

Perf. 14 x 14½, unwatermarked wove paper with varnish lines on face

20c overprinted on the 20k 1912 Imperial Russian issue



Dark blue/red
Greyish-blue background
0.7 mm varnish lines



Blue/red
Greyish-blue background
0.7 mm varnish lines



Dark blue/red
Bluish background
Chalangtung station c.d.s.



Blue/red
Bluish background
Frame misplaced



Blue/red, bluish background
1 mm indistinct varnish lines
Overprint misplaced



20c typographed forgery

20k Blue/red
Greyish-blue background
0.7 mm varnish lines



Forgery on different printing
Overprint misplaced

CHINESE CURRENCY OVERPRINT: THE 1917 ISSUE

20 cents – on parcel



13 March 1917 P.O.W. book parcel piece from Tientsin Red Cross to Kolyvan, Tomsk Guberniya, north of Novonikolaevsk. Censored at Tientsin Russian Post Office. Note that the unframed ДОСМОТРЕНО ЦЕНЗУРОЕ handstamp is a previously unrecorded type*. Use of 20¢/20k Blue/red with 1 mm varnish lines, bluish background

* Another parcel piece (No. 8) mailed on the same day to the same person was in R. Casey collection (Feldman 12 Dec. 2012, #10017)

CHINESE CURRENCY OVERPRINT: THE 1917 ISSUE

Perf. 14 x 14½, wove paper with varnish lines, no watermark, embossed centre

25c overprinted on the 25k 1909 - 1917 Imperial Russian issue



25k Green/light grey-violet (1912)
0.7 mm varnish lines



25c typographed forgery

25k Green/violet (1912)
0.7 mm varnish lines



25k Dark green/light grey-violet (1912)
1 mm varnish lines



Gedzeu station
c.d.s.



Double overprint
Tête-bêche



CHINESE CURRENCY OVERPRINT: THE 1917 ISSUE

25 cents – on registered money letter



22 May 1918 (4 June) "Returned" registered money letter for 23r from Peking to Petrograd

10k postage for letter up to 15gms + 10k registration fee + 8k fee for up to 100r = 28k

25¢ on 25k green with 0.7 mm varnish lines

3¢ on 3k rose-red with 1 mm varnish lines

Peking c.d.s. type 7b in Julian date, Tientsin IJPO and Changchun IJPO transit, returned via Peking IJPO

Peking Russian post office arrival "1.6.18" in Julian date equivalent to 14 June



CHINESE CURRENCY OVERPRINT: THE 1917 ISSUE

Perf. 14 x 14½, wove paper with varnish lines, no watermark, embossed centre

35c overprinted on the 35k 1909 - 1917 Imperial Russian issue



Dark lilac/green (1909) 0.7 mm varnish lines



Red-brown/green (1917)
1 mm varnish lines



Pale lilac/green (1912)
0.7 mm varnish lines



Pale lilac/green (1912)
Inverted overprint



Dark lilac/green
Overprint forgery



Dark lilac/green
Overprint forgery



Dark lilac/dark-green
Overprint forgery

CHINESE CURRENCY OVERPRINT: THE 1917 ISSUE

Perf. 14 x 14½, wove paper with varnish lines, no watermark, embossed centre

50c overprinted on the 50k 1909 - 1917 Imperial Russian issue



Pale violet/dark green (1909)
0.7 mm varnish lines



Chestnut/green (1912)
1 mm varnish lines
Double overprint



Violet/green, 0.7 mm varnish lines (1912)



Imyangpo
Station c.d.s.



Tientsin c.d.s.
type 6 1917



Copper-red/green
Forgery



Violet/green
Forgery



Lilac-violet/green, 0.7 mm varnish lines (1912)
Miss-cut perforation

CHINESE CURRENCY OVERPRINT: THE 1917 ISSUE

50 cents – on parcel



27 March 1918 (10 April) Red Cross parcel for two books from Tientsin to Charbarosk

2¢/2k x2 + 50¢/50k + 10¢/10k = 64¢

50¢ on 50k violet with 0.7 mm varnish lines

The original 2k stamp datestamped Tientsin c.d.s. type 7 "21.3.18" was no longer valid for Postage; the sender stuck a pair of 2¢/2k green on top re-cancelled Tientsin c.d.s. type 6

CHINESE CURRENCY OVERPRINT: THE 1917 ISSUE

Perf. 14 x 14½, wove paper with varnish lines, no watermark, embossed centre

70c overprinted on the 70k 1909 - 1917 Imperial Russian issue



Brown/orange, 1 mm varnish lines (1912)



Lilac-brown/orange (1909)
1 mm varnish lines



Lilac-brown/orange (1909)
Inverted overprint



Lilac-brown/red-orange, 1 mm varnish lines (1912)



Lilac-brown/orange (1909)
Overprint forgery



Brown/orange (1912)
Overprint forgery



Chocolate-brown/orange (1912)
Overprint forgery

CHINESE CURRENCY OVERPRINT: THE 1917 ISSUE

1 dollar on 1 rouble

Perf. 13½, wove paper with varnish lines, no watermark, embossed

Two overprint plates of 50 clichés were used for overprinting the 1 rouble value - 38° and 48°



38° overprint 1 mm varnish lines



48° overprint on Plate 2 thick 1 mm varnish lines



48° overprint
Centre misplaced



48° overprint
Overprint broken 'O' variety



48° overprint
Missing 'R'



48° ovpt. lithographic Forgery
Ceresa type F2 Fake Tientsin c.d.s.



48° ovpt. thin lines typo. Forgery
Ceresa type F3



48° ovpt. thin lines typo. Forgery
Ceresa type F4

CHINESE CURRENCY OVERPRINT: THE 1917 ISSUE

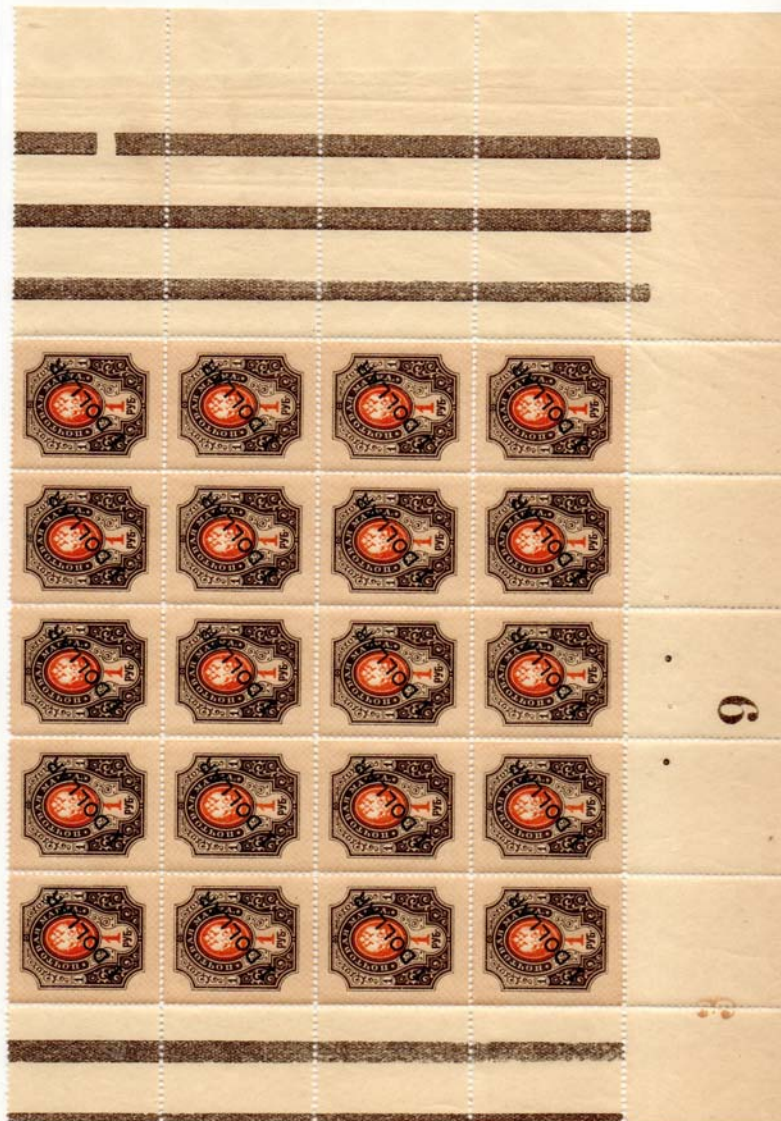
1 dollar on 1 rouble - The 38° overprint

Perf. 13½, wove paper with 1 mm varnish lines, no watermark, embossed

38° overprint plate
of 50 clichés used
for overprinting.

The complete
printer's sheet
consists of two
horizontal panes
of 50 each.

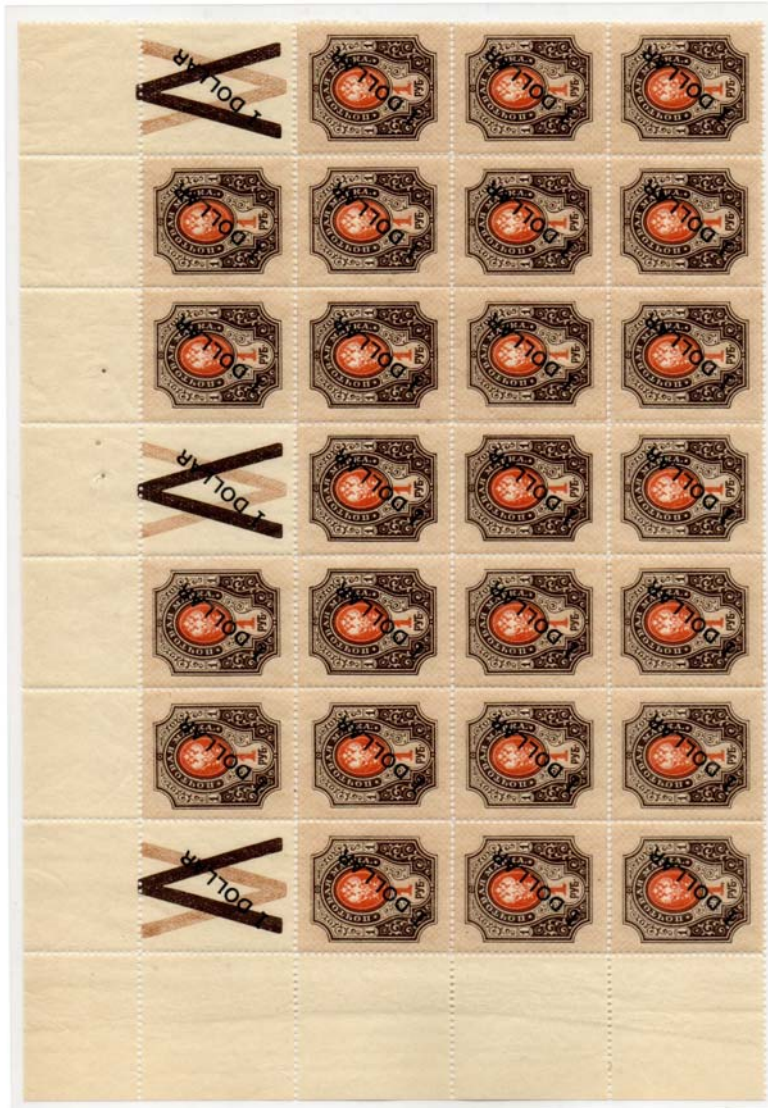
Showing here is the
lower half of the
right-hand pane
with wide margin
on the right bearing
Plate no. 3 and 9.



CHINESE CURRENCY OVERPRINT: THE 1917 ISSUE

1 dollar on 1 rouble - The 48° overprint

Perf. 13½, wove paper with 0.7 mm varnish lines, no watermark, embossed



48° overprint plate
of 56 clichés used for
overprinting.

Complete printer's
sheet consists of one
pane of 50 stamps plus
3 labels printed with
colour chevrons at top
and at bottom of the
sheet and six rows of
seven stamps.

Note that each such
label also bears the
overprint.

Showing here the upper
half of the sheet minus
the right blank margin.



CHINESE CURRENCY OVERPRINT: THE 1917 ISSUE

1 dollar on 1 rouble Forgery on 1917 Dark-brown

Perf. 13½, wove paper with 0.7 mm varnish lines, no watermark, embossed

In 1917, the clichés for printing the 1r were re-grouped with 50 stamps per sheet plus six labels on top and bottom margin printed with tête-bêche “V” of in the main and background colours.

The genuine 1 Dollar on 1rouble overprint is on all 56 clichés, thus appearing also on the six labels (see previous page); the typographic overprint lacks the sharpness of the genuine font.



CHINESE CURRENCY OVERPRINT: THE 1917 ISSUE

3 dollars 50 cents on 3r 50k and 5 dollars on 5r

Perf. 13½, vertical laid paper, embossed

Only one plate of 25 subjects was used for overprinting the 3r 50k and 5 roubles values



Pale grey centre 48° ovpt.



Pale grey centre 48° ovpt.



Olive-grey centre 48° ovpt.



Light blue centre 38° ovpt.



Greenish blue centre 38° ovpt.



CHINESE CURRENCY OVERPRINT: THE 1917 ISSUE

High values – usage



1917 locally addressed insured letter sent from Harbin Wharf showing use of 20c/20k, 25c/25k, 35c/35k, 50c/50k, 70c/70k, \$1/1r 38° overprint, all on wove paper with varnish lines and \$5/5r on vertical laid paper total postage paid \$8. "Kharbin Pristan" 13.8.17 receiver on reverse.

The 1917 Chinese currency issue was released in China proper and intended for use in this region only, although use of such stamps in Manchuria was allowed by the local authority.

Few covers recorded with \$5/5r value

ex. Raymond Casey