

THE GLORY ISSUE OF GREECE (1945)

INTRODUCTION

The Glory Issue of Greece (1945) was printed and circulated on March 1, 1945 to honour the liberation of Greece from the Axis Forces at the end of World War II. It comprises of a set of eight stamps (values of 1, 3, 5, 10, 20, 50, 100 and 200 drachmas) of which the last three values were issued on August 10, 1945.

All values depict the same representation, namely the allegoric figure of Glory painted by the renowned Greek artist Nicholas Gysis (1842-1901). This figure was first depicted on a stamp of the Historical Issue of Greece (1937) with a value of 25 drachmas. Printed by lithography on white glossy paper with the Crown watermark, bears a 12½ X 13½ perforation. It has a clear symbolic meaning: The original painting represents Glory lightly walking on the ruins of the newly independent Greece (1830) after four centuries of Ottoman occupation. This stamp places her allegorically on the ruins of liberated Greece after almost four years of Axis occupation.

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The 25 drachmas value of the Historical Issue of Greece (1937)

Registered cover from Athens, Greece to Seattle U.S.A. via Brindisi and Torino of Italy, tied with ΑΘΗΝΑΙ - ΣΥΣΤΗΜΕΝΑ» (Feb. 22, 1940), Brindisi (Feb. 29), Torino (Mar. 2), Chicago (Mar. 16), Seattle-Terminal Annex, Ballard Sta. (Mar. 19) and currency control cachets

25%



2. THE ISSUE

2.1. The Definitive Issue



The complete set of the Glory Issue

2.2. The Specimen Issue



The complete set of the Glory Issue with
«ΑΚΥΡΟΝ» (Cancelled) overprint

2. THE ISSUE



A 2 drachmas postal stationery of the Historical Issue (1937) with a 3 and a 10 drachmas of the Glory Issue (1945) mailed from Athens, Greece (May 26, 1945) to Cairo, Egypt

With a number of Greek censor cancellations



Two 10 and a 100 drachmas of the Glory Issue (1945) on cover mailed from Roustika, Crete via Rethymnon (Oct. 6, 1945) to Waukegan IL, U.S.A.

3. THE ERRORS

3.1. The Printing Errors



Double print.



Printing on the gum.



Corner and marginal blocks with mirror printing on the gum.

3. THE ERRORS

3.1. The Printing Errors

Corner blocks and marginal stamp with partial printing.



3. THE ERRORS

3.2. The Perforation Errors

Perforation errors on 1, 10, 20, 50 and 100 drachmas



Corner block with perforation error due to paper folding.



Pair with heavily misplaced perforation.



Misplaced perforations.



Perforation error due to paper folding.



Double horizontal perforation.
One misplaced.



Corner block with perforation error due to paper folding.

Next page:

3 drachmas full sheet of 50 stamps with misplaced perforation.



3. THE ERRORS

3.2. The Perforation Errors

Perforation errors on 5 drachmas



Corner block of ten with perforation error due to paper folding.



Corner pair with perforation error due to paper folding.



Misplaced perforations.

Double horizontal perforations.
One misplaced.

Vertical perforation misplaced.



4. THE VARIETIES

A number of varieties occurred during the printing process of this issue.
They are known either perforate or imperforate, mint or used.



Imperforate corner, marginal and ordinary blocks and pairs.
With colour varieties on 1 and 5 drachmas blocks and pairs.

4. THE VARIETIES

There are paper and colour varieties. Printing paper folding as well as colour shade varieties are known of this issue.



Imperforate ordinary (5 and 10 drachmas)
and marginal (20 drachmas) pairs.
Double printing.



20 drachmas imperforate marginal pair.
Printed on the gum.

Imperforate block (50 drachmas) and
marginal pair (100 drachmas).
Paper folding.



100 drachmas imperforate
corner block of eight with
pre-printing paper folding

4. THE VARIETIES



Imperforate corner block and marginal pairs.
With additional inverted printing on the gum (pairs)
and both double printing and inverted printing on
the gum (block).



Imperforate block (essay).
With pale printing on thick paper.



Imperforate corner block and pair.
With both double printing and
inverted printing on the gum.
Colour varieties.

4. THE VARIETIES

4.1. The Paper Varieties

Paper varieties on 5, 50, 100 and 200 drachmas



Corner, marginal and ordinary blocks, pairs and individual stamps with different printing paper folding varieties and consequent printing varieties.

4. THE VARIETIES

4.2. The Colour Varieties

Colour varieties on 1 drachma



Corner and ordinary blocks and single stamps
with different colour shades.

4. THE VARIETIES

4.2. The Colour Varieties

Colour varieties on 3 and 5 drachmas



Corner and marginal blocks and single stamps
with different colour shades.

4. THE VARIETIES

4.2. The Colour Varieties

Colour varieties on 50 drachmas



Corner and marginal block, pair and stripes, as well as single stamps with different colour shades.

4. THE VARIETIES

4.2. The Colour Varieties

Colour varieties on 100
and 200 drachmas



Corner and ordinary blocks, pairs and single stamps
with different colour shades.