

## Synopsis:

# Burma 1966 Locally Overprinted Official Stamps

This exhibit, including the background and plan are described on the title page. There is no need to repeat it here.

Importance – It is easy to claim this is the finest exhibit on the subject since it may be the first one ever attempted. At least that is the opinion of Richard Warren, the editor of *The Burma Fantail*, the quarterly journal of the Burma Philatelic Study Circle (UK) which I am a member of.

Treatment – It is a bit unusual in that the background story takes up much of the title page, second page, and the top of the third page. This was needed to place the 1966 Local Official Overprints into context. The epilogue then takes two 1 1/3 size pages. You could think of it as a meaty sandwich between two thick slices of bread.

Knowledge, study, research – In addition to reading everything ever written on the subject, it has taken quite a bit of work and patience to examine stamps and find the varieties shown. Nothing is published about the rates. I worked with a young philatelist from Myanmar (the new name for Burma) who is a student in Singapore and whose English is particularly good. Together we deduced the rates. He also translated the covers.

Rarity and Difficulty of Acquisition – The stamps in this story are listed by Scott as O90 to O93. Stanley Gibbons numbers then as O192 to O195. In either one you will see low catalog values. Burma collectors have long questioned these low values since the stamps are so hard to find. I have never found a single item in this exhibit at a WSP show. There are a few eBay or Delcampe items shown. The majority came in lots from Harmer's of London 20 years ago, Harmer's of New York, and Eastern Auctions in Canada.

SG O192 is not currently listed with the overprint inverted. The exhibit shows two multiples of this stamp with inverted overprinted and I have obtained RPSL certificates for both. These certificates will be the basis for a future listing. SG O195 is listed but unpriced with a double overprint. The exhibit shows one that as an RPSL certificate obtained by me. SG O195 is also listed but unpriced with an inverted overprint. The exhibit shows a single and two on cover, all of which have RPSL certificates obtained by me.

History – This exhibit has never been shown competitively. In February 2020 it was shown at Linpex, a show with no judging. In May 2020 it was slated to be shown as part of presentation I was to give at the Burma Philatelic Study Circle meeting at London 2020

### Bibliography:

Alan Meech, "Scott and Gibbons Catalogue Listings of the 1964-66 Locally-Overprinted 'Official' Stamps," *The Burma Peacock*, Vol. 13, No. 1 (Spring 1992, pp. 9-10) *The author was also editor of the journal and pursuing these stamps. He questioned the low catalogue values and mentioned that he had only seen them for sale once.*

T. A. Mickey, "Errors and Varieties of the 1966 Official Stamps Overprinted Locally in Burmese," *Burma Peacock*, Vol. 9, No. 2 (Summer 1988, pp. 27-34)