

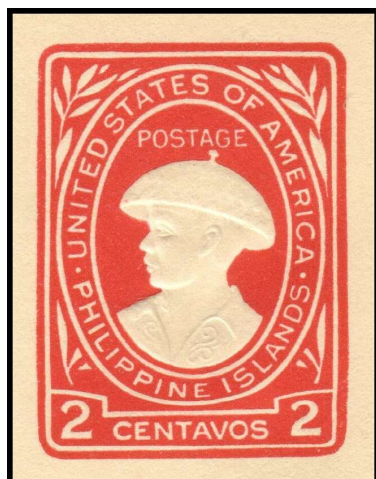
POSTAL STATIONERY OF THE PHILIPPINES
UNITED STATES ADMINISTRATION

Scott U41 - Scott U42
2C AND 4C JUAN DE LA CRUZ ENVELOPES

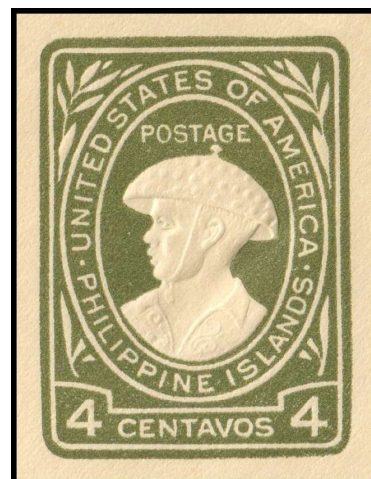
First issued in 1935, the envelopes were especially designed for use in the Philippines by the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, Washington D.C., USA. They were manufactured by the regular United States contractor, the International Envelope Corporation, Dayton, Ohio, USA. Two values were produced as follows: 2-centavos in Carmine and 4-centavos in Olive-Green, both printed on White envelopes.

Unlike the postage stamps and postal cards, which had the word “COMMONWEALTH” included in the design or overprinted, the word “COMMONWEALTH” does not appear on the embossed indicia on these envelopes.

The design depicts “Juan de la Cruz” produced from a reproduction of a bust made by Guillermo Tolentino, a famous sculptor of the Philippines. “Juan de la Cruz” is symbolically used in the Philippines to represent the Filipino, somewhat equivalent of Uncle Sam of America. Juan de la Cruz was coined by Robert McCulloch-Dick, the editor and publisher of The Philippine Free Press in the 1900s. He noticed the frequency with which the names appeared on police blotters and court dockets. He often wrote small verses about Juan de la Cruz in The Philippines’ Free Press who was often depicted narrating the petty crimes committed by them. Later on, McCulloch-Dick widened his idea of Juan until he made Juan de la Cruz as a typical Filipino. Juan de la Cruz is associated with the image of a native-looking man wearing a salakot (dome-shaped hat), camisa de chino (thin cotton collarless cuffless shirt), native trousers and slippers. Jorge Pineda, a resident cartoonist of The Philippines’ Free Press, first drew the image of Juan in 1912. Through the years the idea was followed by other newspapermen and Juan de la Cruz appeared into various pages of books, newspapers and other printed materials.



2c Carmine



4c Olive-Green