

**EMBLEM OF MALTA ISSUE .....X  
MALTESE UNIFORMS THIRD ISSUE.Y**

**By J Farrugia**

<b>Issue</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>Y</b>
Date of Issue	25.3.89	24.6.89
Values	Lm1	3c, 4c, 10c, 25c
Stamp size	47mm x 29mm	29mm x 47mm
Designer	Frank Portelli	Luciano Micallef
Printers	Printex Limited	same
Process	Lithography	same
Perforation	13.9 x 13.7	13.6 x 13.9
Watermark	Maltese Crosses Upright	Maltese Crosses Sideways
Paper	Chalk Surfaced	same
Gum	P.V.A.	same

**Colours:**

Issue X was produced in multicolour lithography using five different colours, and issue Y using the same four colours for all values.

Colour checks in the form of coloured discs 3mm in diameter, are seen in the right hand margin, next to the last stamp of the bottom row, in each Pane, of all values, in issue X and Y. The colours from top to bottom, correspond to the colours used for Pane numbers from right to left, on all Panes, of the single value in issue X, and from left to right, on all Panes, of all values, in issue Y.

Cumulative totals of progressive columns of stamps, are seen in top and bottom margins, printed in black, on all Panes, of all values, in issues X and Y.

Issue X – The Printed Sheet of this value consisted of three Panes, A, B and C. Each Pane has forty stamps, made up of five rows of eight stamps. The stamp has a horizontal format.

Issue Y – The Printed Sheet of each value consisted of three Panes, A, B and C. Each Pane has forty stamps, made up of eight rows of five stamps. All values are of the vertical format.

**Plate/Pane numbers:**

These are seen under the first stamp of the bottom row, in all Panes, of all values, in issues X and Y.

Issue X	Lm1: 1A x 5, 1B x 5, 1C x 5
Issue Y	3c: 1A x 4, 1B x 4, 1C x 4
	4c: 1A x 4, 1B x 4, 1C x 4
	10c: 1A x 4, 1B x 4, 1C x 4
	25c: 1A x 4, 1B x 4, 1C x 4

**Perforation of Margins:**

Issue X – The left hand margins of Panes A, B and C of this value are imperforate, whilst all other margins of these same Panes are all fully perforated. Registration marks in the form of a circle in an ellipse, crossed by two lines at right angles, or parts of them, were seen at the top of the left and right hand margins of Pane A and at the bottom of the left and right hand margins of Pane C.

Issue Y – The top margins of Panes A, B and C of all values, are imperforate. The other three margins of these same Panes, are all fully perforated. The same Type of registration marks as in issue X, were seen in the bottom of the left hand margin of Panes A, of all values, and in the top and bottom of the right hand margin, of Panes C of all values.

From a study of details given, the Printed Sheet of all values, before cutting into Panes, would look as shown in fig (a) for issue X and in fig. (b) for issue Y. Looking at the Printed Sheets as shown, stamps would be seen the right way up, hence why watermark in individual stamps is upright in issue X and sideways in issue Y. Perforator ran from left to right in issue X and from top to bottom in issue Y.

### Imprint Block:

The Imprint "PRINTEX LIMITED MALTA" is seen under the last stamp of the bottom row, in all Panes of all values, in issues X and Y. Letters are 1mm high and printed in black. An Imprint Block of four will also include the colour checks in issue X and Y.

Special hand postmarks were used on the first day of issues X and Y. By 12.45pm on the first day of issue, sales amounted to Lm42,563 (issue X) and Lm21, 324 (issue Y). Stamps of these two issues were to remain for sale up to Thursday, 27th December, 1990 (issue X) and up to Monday, 21st May, 1990 (issue Y), unless stocks were previously exhausted.

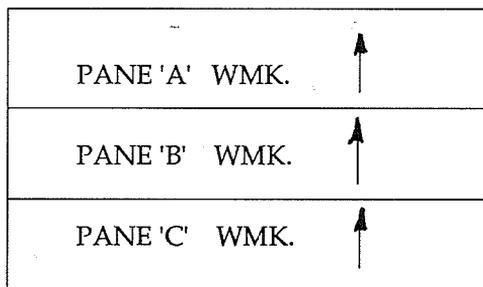


Fig. A

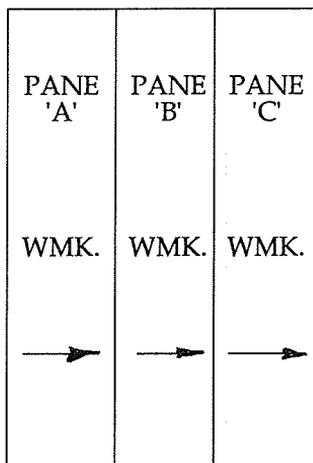


Fig. B