

Detailed Information about:

by J. Farrugia

40th. Anniversary Of The United Nations Issue	X
Maltese Personalities Issue.....	Y
Christmas 1985 Issue.....	Z

Issue	X	Y	Z
Date of Issue	26-7-85	3-10-85	10-10-85
Values	4c, 11c, 31c	8c, 12c	2c + 1c, 8c + 2c, 20c + 3c
Stamp Size	43mm × 21.5mm	29mm × 47mm	29mm × 47mm
Designer	Donald Friggieri	Raymond Pitre	Ganni Bonnici
Printers	Printex Ltd.	same	same
Process	Lithography	same	same
Perforation	13.3 × 13.8	13.6 × 14	13.6 × 13.8
Watermark	Maltese Crosses Sideways	same	same
Paper	Chalk Surfaced	same	same
Gum	P.V.A.	same	same

Colours:

Issue X - 4c Blue, Yellow, Grey, Black.
11c Violet, Yellow, Grey, Black.
31c Green, Yellow, Grey, Black.

Issue Y - The colours of all these stamps were produced by the four colour process.

Issue Z - The same as for issue Y.

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

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

Printed Sheets:

Issue X - Each value consisted of Panes A, B and C. Each Pane has forty stamps, made up of four rows of ten stamps. All values are of the horizontal format.

Issue Y - Each value consisted of Panes A, B and C. Each Pane has forty stamps, made up of eight rows of five stamps. All values are of vertical format.

Issue Z - Exactly the same as for issue Y.

Plate/Pane numbers:

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

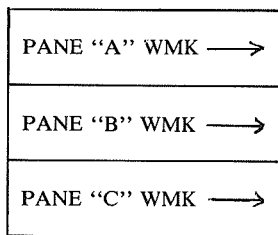
$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{Issue X -} & \quad 4c = 1A \times 4, 1B \times 4, 1C \times 4. \\
 & \quad 11c = 1A \times 4, 1B \times 4, 1C \times 4. \\
 & \quad 31c = 1A \times 4, 1B \times 4, 1C \times 4. \\
 \text{Issue Y -} & \quad 8c = 1A \times 4, 1B \times 4, 1C \times 4. \\
 & \quad 12c = 1A \times 4, 1B \times 4, 1C \times 4. \\
 \text{Issue Z -} & \quad 2c + 1c = 1A \times 4, 1B \times 4, 1C \times 4. \\
 & \quad 8c + 2c = 1A \times 4, 1B \times 4, 1C \times 4. \\
 & \quad 20c + 3c = 1A \times 4, 1B \times 4, 1C \times 4.
 \end{aligned}$$

Perforation of Margins:

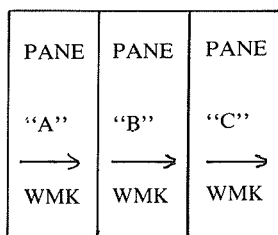
Issue X - The top margin of Pane A, in all values, is imperforate, whilst the top margin of Panes B and C, in all values is fully perforated. The left hand, bottom and right hand margins, of Panes A, B and C, of all values, are also fully perforated.

Issue Y - The top margins, of Panes A, B and C of all values are imperforate, whilst the left hand, right hand and bottom margins of these same Panes are all fully perforated. Markings or cutting lines were seen in the left hand margin of Panes A, of all values, next to the first stamps, of the top and bottom rows. Also in the right hand margin of Panes C, of all values, next to the last stamps of the top and bottom rows.

Issue Z - Exactly the same as for issue Y.



(a)



(b)

From a study of all details given, the Printed Sheet of each value, before cutting into Panes, would look as follows:

Issue X - All values as in figure (a).

Issue Y - All values as in figure (b).

Issue Z - All values as in figure (b).

Looking at the Printed Sheets as shown, stamps of all values, of the three issues, would be seen the right way up. Hence watermark is sideways in all values of issues X, Y and Z. Perforator ran from top to bottom in figures (a) and (b).

Imprint Blocks:

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

By 12.45pm on the first day of issue, sales amounted to Lm26,533 for issue X, Lm12,882 for issue Y and Lm22,366 for issue Z.

Stamps were to remain on sale up to 6-1-86 for issue X, 11-4-86 for issue Y, and 14-2-86 for issue Z.

Special hand-postmarks incorporating motifs, symbolizing international co-operation (issue X), a line drawing of a pen and a scroll (issue Y) and symbolizing a star (issue Z), were used on the first day of issue.