

**170th Anniversary of the Malta Police Force Issue ----- X**

**XXIII Olympiad 1984 Issue ----- Y**

**10th Anniversary of the Republic Issue ----- Z**

| Issue         | X                          | Y                           | Z             |
|---------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------|
| Date of Issue | 14-6-84                    | 26-7-84                     | 12-12-84      |
| Values        | 3c, 8c, 11c, 25c           | 7c, 12c, 23c                | 3c, 8c, 30c   |
| Stamp Size    | 21.5 mm × 43 mm            | 29 mm × 47 mm               | 29 mm × 47 mm |
| Designer      | Tony Bugeja                | Luciano Micallef            | same          |
| Printers      | Printex Ltd.               | same                        | same          |
| Process       | Lithography                | same                        | same          |
| Perforation   | 13.7 × 13.4                | 13.7 × 13.9                 | 13.6 × 13.8   |
| Watermark     | Maltese Crosses<br>Upright | Maltese Crosses<br>Sideways | same          |
| Paper         | Chalk Surfaced             | same                        | same          |
| Gum           | P.V.A                      | same                        | same          |

**Colours:-**

Issue X - printed in multicolour using five different colours for values 3c, 8c, and 11c, but six colours for the 25c value.

Issue Y - printed by using the four colour process.

Issue Z - printed in multicolour using four different colours for the 3c value, eight for the 8c value and five for the 30c value.

Colour checks in the form of coloured discs 3 mm in diameter, are seen in the right hand margin, next to the last stamp of the bottom row, in each Pane, of each value, of issues X, Y and Z.

Colours from top to bottom correspond to the colours used for Pane numbers from right to left, on all Panes, of all values in issue X, but from left to right in issues 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:-**

Each value of issues X, Y and Z consisted of three Panes, A, B and C. Each Pane has forty stamps made up of ten rows of four stamps in issue X and eight rows of five stamps in issues Y and Z. All values of the three issues are of the vertical format.

It is of interest to put on record that Pane B, of the 11c value, of issue X, was not released for sale.

**Registration Marks:-**

Issue X - were seen at top and bottom of right hand margin, of Panes C, of all values.

Issue Y - were seen at top left hand margin in Panes A, and top right hand margin in Panes C, of all values. A short vertical line was also seen in the middle of the top margin in Panes B, of the 12c and 23c values.

**Plate/Pane Numbers:-**

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

Issue X -            3c = 1A × 5, 1B × 5, 1C × 5.  
                           8c = 1A × 5, 1B × 5, 1C × 5.  
                           11c = 1A × 5,            1C × 5.  
                           25c = 1A × 6, 1B × 6, 1C × 6.

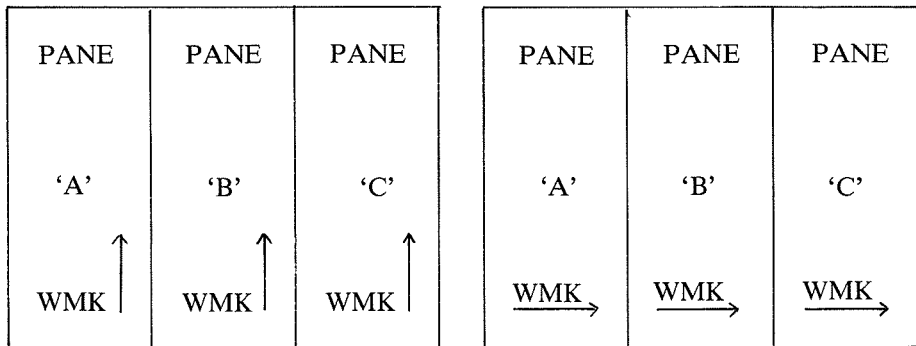
Issue Y -            7c = 1A × 4, 1B × 4, 1C × 4.  
                           12c = 1A × 4, 1B × 4, 1C × 4.  
                           23c = 1A × 4, 1B × 4, 1C × 4.

Issue Z -            3c = 1A × 4, 1B × 4, 1C × 4.  
                           8c = 1A × 8, 1B × 8, 1C × 8.  
                           30c = 1A × 5, 1B × 5, 1C × 5.

**Perforation of Margins:-**

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

Issues The top margins of Panes A, B and C of all values are imperforate.  
 Y and Z The left hand, right hand and bottom margins of these same Panes are all perforated.



From a study of details given, the Printed Sheet of each value, before cutting into Panes, would look as shown above left for issue X and above right for issues Y and Z. Looking at the Printed Sheets as shown, stamps of all values, of the three issues, would be seen the right way up, hence why watermark in individual stamps of issue X is upright and in issues Y and Z is sideways. In issue X perforator ran from right to left and in issues Y and Z, from top to bottom.

### Imprint Blocks:-

Printex Limited Malta' is seen under the last two stamps of the bottom row, in all Panes, of all values, in issue X, but under the last stamp only in issues Y and Z. Letters are 1 mm high and printed in black. An Imprint Block of four will include the colour checks, in all values of the three issues. A special handstamp was used for cancellation on the first day of each issue.

By 12.45 p.m. on the first day of issue sales amounted to LM33,090 for issue X, LM33,219 for issue Y and LM30,364 for issue Z.

Stamps remained on sale up to 26-11-84 for issue X, 5-12-84 for issue Y and 11-4-85 for issue Z.

Maximum Card No. 5, was also released with issue Y. It reproduces the Gymnast shown on the 12c stamp. The size of the Maximum Card is 105 mm × 146 mm.