1898

Although Admiral Dewey destroyed the small Spanish fleet in Manila Bay on May 1, 1898, the American Naval force at his command was too small to do more than occupy the naval base at Cavite. Manila was not occupied by the American forces until August 13, 1898. General Emilio Aguinaldo reached Cavite on May 24, 1898, but he did not complete the organisation of the Revolutionary Government until September 1898. However, between May 1st and September 1898, local Filipino revolutionary forces seized control of the municipal and provincial governments in many parts of the Islands. As a result of these disturbed conditions, San Fernando, La Union, was cut off from communication with Manila before the end of May 1898. Hence it was not possible to obtain from Manila postage stamps to replenish the dwindling supply in the post office at San Fernando.

On June 1, 1898, local officials signed a decree providing for the overprinting of the Spanish period stamps still available, following Spanish custom. The decree further provided for any available supplies of paper to be overprinted for use when the small supply of available stamps was exhausted.

Two surcharge types are known, as follows:

Type A – The surcharge consists of '98' in the upper left corner, 'Correos' diagonally at centre and the value horizontally at bottom. The overall height is 20mm to 21mm. 'Correos' is 15mm long. Considerable variation exists in the relative positions of each.

Type B – The surcharge consists of three horizontal lines with 'Correos' on top, '98' at centre and the value at bottom. The overall height is between 17mm and 20mm. 'Correos' is 15mm long.







TYPE E

KING ALFONSO XIII ISSUES SURCHARGED

TYPE A SURCHARGE IN VIOLET



KING ALFONSO XIII ISSUES SURCHARGED

TYPE B SURCHARGE IN VIOLET



TYPE B SURCHARGE IN RED









TYPE B SURCHARGE IN BLACK



ROUGH GREYISH TO YELLOWISH PAPER WITH SEWING MACHINE PERFORATIONS

TYPE A SURCHARGE IN VIOLET













TYPE A SURCHARGE IN RED











1898

ROUGH GREYISH TO YELLOWISH PAPER WITH SEWING MACHINE PERFORATIONS

TYPE B SURCHARGE IN RED



TYPE A SURCHARGE IN BLACK





TYPE B SURCHARGE IN BLACK



