

## 1944 "VICTORY" OVERPRINTS

As the end of World War II approached in the Pacific, the U.S. Bureau of Engraving and Printing overprinted the 1939 "Commonwealth" issue with "Victory" in black. These stamps would not arrive in the Philippines until January 1945. However, in November and December 1944, as areas became liberated, small quantities of stamps that had been saved in the Philippines from the pre-war period were locally handstamped "Victory" in violet. Two varieties of the "Running Messenger" were overprinted, both the 1919 regular issue on December 4, 1944 and the 1939 Commonwealth issue on November 8, 1944.

NOV. 1944 ISSUE (approx 600 issued)



DEC. 1944 ISSUE  
(approx 138 issued)



Type 2 overprint (Broken "T" in  
Victory) approx 590 copies issued

Type 1 overprint ("T" of Victory intact)  
*2 of the approx 10 recorded copies*

NOV. 1944 ISSUE ON COVER



The November 1944 "Victory" overprint Running Messenger issue used on cover, in combination with other handstamped "Victory" overprints. Virtually all handstamped "Victory" overprint covers are philatelic. This "Victory" Running Messenger on cover is very scarce.