

# Overprint Types on AMG VG Issues

by Richard Pederson

In previous editions of the *A.M.G. Courier* I have discussed the different watermarks and overprint errors and varieties appearing on the stamps the Allied Military Government (AMG) produced for use in Venezia Giulia (VG). In this article, I will cover the distinct overprint types that appear on the basic (i.e., excludes revenues, fiscals, and postal stationery) AMG VG stamps. When combined with the information I provided in the earlier articles, if you exclude gum types which are only relevant for mint/unused stamps, you will have all the information required to identify the basic AMG VG stamps.

Although, as discussed in the earlier articles, there are many overprint errors (e.g., inverted overprints, double overprints) and varieties (e.g., closed and broken letters, horizontally and vertically shifted overprints), if you exclude revenues, fiscals and postal stationery, there are only four basic types of overprint and they all appear on specific formats of AMG issues. The Bush-Cass catalog identifies the four types as Type I thru Type IV, which are pictured in Figure 1. If you find an overprint type applied to an issue on which it was not used, it was fraudulently applied.

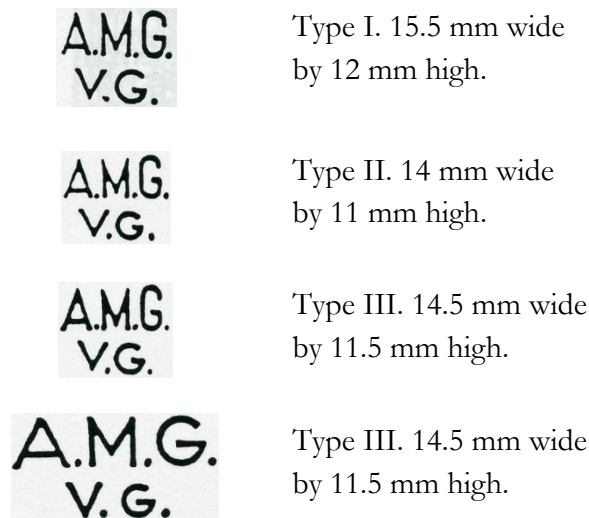


Figure 1. “A.M.G. V.G.” overprint types.

The first (Type I) and most frequently used overprint is the one applied to small sized, vertically formatted, regular issue stamps. Examples of the overprint, which measures 15.5 millimeters (mm) in width by 12 mm in height, are shown in Figure 2.



**Figure 2.** Examples of stamps with Type I overprint.

The Type II overprint measures 14 mm in width and 11 mm in height. It only appears on the single regular issue stamp that was produced in a horizontal format, the 5 Lire Red Wolf stamp (Figure 3).



**Figure 3.** 5 Lire Red Wolf stamp with Type II overprint.

Type III overprints, which measure 14.5 mm in width and 11.5 mm in height, appear on the two large vertically formatted regular issue stamps picturing Italia and a sprouting oak tree stump. Pictures of the 25 and 50 lire stamps having the Type III overprint are shown in Figure 4.



**Figure 4.** Examples of stamps with Type III overprint.

Type IV overprints, which measure 27 mm in width by 13.5 mm in height, appear on all large horizontal format stamps, including the air mail and special delivery issues. Examples of stamps having the Type IV overprint are shown in Figure 5.

In addition to the four basic types of overprint described above, the *Bush-Cass Catalog of AMG Revenue Stamps* describes a variety of distinct overprint types found on the fiscal and revenue stamps created by the AMG for VG and there are also four types of overprint found on AMG VG postal stationery. I will explore those different overprints in a later edition of the *A.M.G. Courier*.



Figure 5. Examples of stamps with Type IV overprint.

If you have comments or corrections, I can be reached via E-mail at [rich@pedersonstamps.com](mailto:rich@pedersonstamps.com) or mail at P.O. Box 662, Clemson, SC 29633.

#### References:

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2. *Bush-Cass Catalog of AMG Revenue Stamps of the Allied Military Government in Europe 1945-1954*; compiled and edited by Harry Cass & Joseph Bush; published by Joseph Bush, Chula Vista, California; pages E, R5-R8; 1956.
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