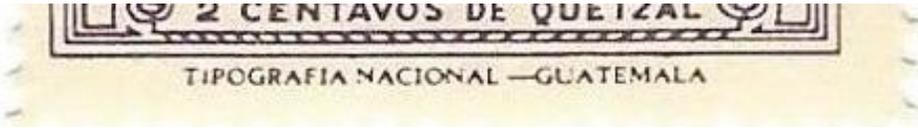


# GUATEMALA FORGERIES AND FAKES 1930 SCOTT 252-4

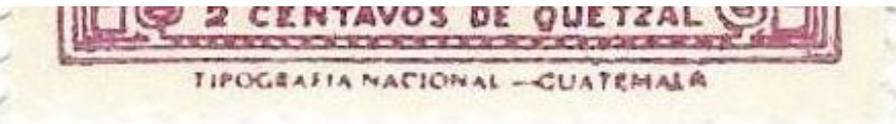
By David Reitsema ISGC No. 803

The 1930 Ferrocarril de Los Altos issue was the first issue of stamps printed by Tipografia Nacional. They were printed in very small quantities of from 25,000 to 50,000.

Fakes of this issue appeared at some later date. The fakes were first reported by Roger Frigstad in 1964, who believed that they were fairly scarce.<sup>1</sup> No fakes have been reported used on cover.



Imprint on genuine 2c



Imprint on fake 2c

The fakes are most easily distinguished from originals by comparing the imprint at the bottom of each stamp. The genuine have even and clearly printed lettering, the fakes have very coarse lettering. Other differences include the lines framing the vignettes which are fine in the genuine and coarse in the fakes, and the colors of the stamps defined by Frigstad

referring to the Stanley Gibbons color guide which was also used throughout *Guatemala 2* ("G2").<sup>2</sup> G2 states that the inks of the genuine are fugitive which makes reliance on the color unreliable.

## Genuine



Brown Violet and Black



Dark Red and Black



Salmon and Blue

## Fakes



Carmine Red and Grayish



Red Orange and Grayish



Yellow Orange and Deep Blue

### Footnotes

1. Frigstad, Roger K., "The First Tipografia Nacional Postage Stamps", *El Quetzal*, Vol. 15, No. 146, pp. 18-20, International Society of Guatemala Collectors, 1964.
2. Goodman, Roland A., *Guatemala 2*, p. 430, Robson Lowe, Ltd., London, 1974.

*The International Society of Guatemala Collectors was formed in 1948 and is Affiliate No. 38 of the American Philatelic Society. The Society is committed to assisting everyone interested in collecting Guatemala. Its award winning journal El Quetzal is published quarterly. Membership levels include a US\$10 online membership which includes access to most society publications including its two award winning handbooks, and the electronic version of the journal. If you collect Guatemala you will find much more information available on the society website:*

[www.GuatemalaStamps.com](http://www.GuatemalaStamps.com)

