Autonomous Republic of EPIRUS 1914

1914, Feb 10 Double-headed Eagle, Skull and Crossbones Design imperf, unwatermarked, without gum, blue control mark

These stamps are most likely forgeries



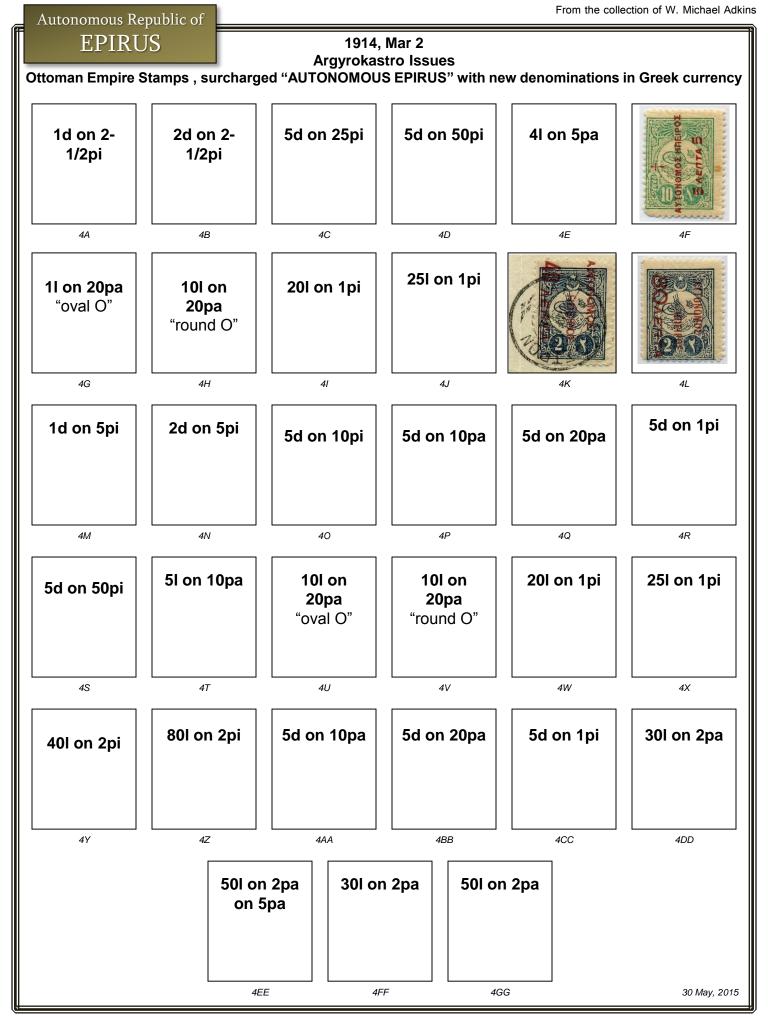




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As the fledgling nation began, a series of four local stamps were issued in Chimarra on Feb 1914, featuring a double-headed eagle along with a skull and crossbones. The inscription on the stamps translates as: "Greek Autonomous Epirus - Freedom or Death - Defend our Country". Hand stamped, they were issued with a blue oval control mark. Inside the control mark are the Greek letters "SP", which stand for Spiromilios, the commander at Chimarra. Only a small number of these stamps were issued and are rare and expensive. The "Chimarra Issues" have been extensively reprinted and counterfeited, so all copies should be considered fake unless properly expertised.



Autonomous Republic of EPIRUS

March 1914 Provisional Government Issues Infantry and Rifle Design serrate roulette 13-1/2, litho



5 mint / cancelled



6 mint / cancelled

The provisional government's first definitive stamps came out in February, March and April 1914. The set of eight stamps depicted an infantryman aiming a rifle while others look on. The 10 lepta and 25 lepta values were inscribed only with $H\Pi EIPO\Sigma$ (these were released in February), while the others read AYTONOMOS H Π EIPO Σ (these were released in March with the exception of the 5 drachma, which came out in April). The set was printed by the firm Gerasimos Aspiotis Bros. of Corfu, which was also responsible for printing many Greek stamps. Instead of regular perforation a serrate roulette was used. Serrate roulettes superficially resemble perforation, but are distinguished by angled cuts rather than round holes.



7 mint / cancelled



8 mint / cancelled



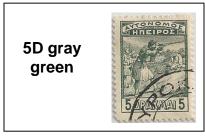
9 mint / cancelled



10 mint / cancelled



11 mint / cancelled



12 mint / cancelled

Autonomous Republic of EPIRUS

1914, Aug 28 Provisional Government Issues Flag of Epirus Design

serrate roulette 13-1/2, litho



15 mint / cancelled



16 mint / cancelled



17 mint / cancelled



19 mint / cancelled



18 mint / cancelled



20 mint / cancelled



1914, Sep 25 Koritsa Issue

This Epirus Flag design was modified to include "KORUTSA" at Koritsa, for the 25I and 50I values







18 Nov, 2012



Autonomous Republic of EPIRUS

Propaganda Issues

Five additional designs are known to have been produced in 1914, but the evidence of their postal usage is uncertain; they were likely issued for publicity and propaganda purposes.

