

West Szechuan 20c Surcharge on 13c Peking Martyr, block of 30 with varieties



Top marginal block of 30 (6x5) of the 1943 West Szechuan 20c surcharge on the 13c Peking print Martyr. Chan 756. Ma 829.

In fact, this is a top right corner block, missing the right hand margin. (This can be inferred from the information in the Ma catalogue about where the varieties are located in the sheet - see below). We can see almost all of the CHINESE BUREAU OF ENGRAVING AND PRINTING imprint with plate number 4.

Showing minor overprint varieties:

- * small '2' at position 25 in the block (row 5 column 1)
= position 95 in the sheet of 200 (20x10), Ma 829a
- * small '0' at position at position 10 in the block (row 2 column 4)
= position 38 in sheet of 200 (20x10), Ma 829b

Small '2' variety

Small '0' variety

Normal



According to Ma, these varieties occur at other locations in the sheet:

5 occurrences of small '2', at positions:

95 (row 5 column 15)
125 (row 7 column 5)
135 (row 7 column 15)
168 (row 8 column 8)
177 (row 8 column 17)

4 occurrences of small '0', at positions:

28 (row 2 column 8)
38 (row 2 column 18)
108 (row 6 column 8)
118 (row 6 column 18)

The regularity of the small '0' distribution is presumably co-incidental. I also presume that the plate was typeset to print a whole sheet in one impression. A shortage of suitable slugs of Roman '2' and '0' was presumably fixed by using a few of smaller size.

These varieties occur, in the same positions, in all the 1943 West Szechuan 20c surcharges.

The dimensions of the Peking Martyr in this block is 19.7 x 22.2mm, i.e. the high variety.