

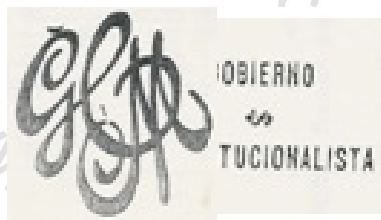
MEXICAN REVOLUTION - OVERPRINTS ... its context

What is the historical context of each of the overprints used in the Mexican Revolution?

These overprints are presented in chronological order.

(This series of articles does not include overprints known as local or rubber) (1)

Monograma Carranza / Dólar (a)



(g)

Fig. 1

Print date (b): March, 1915

Place of issue: Ciudad de México.

SERIES OVERPRINTED WITH "MONOGRAMA CARRANZA / DOLAR"



Fig. 2

Independencia

1p

1910

This image is just one example from each participating series

Overprinted denominations (the colored ones), of each participating series											
See the meaning of each color at the bottom of this table											
Serie	Denomination										
Águilas 1899	1c	2c	3c	5c	10c	15c	20c	50c	1p	5p	
Águilas 1903	1c	2c	4c	5c	10c	50c					
Complementario 1908	1c	2c	4c	5c	10c						
Independencia 1910	1c	2c	3c	4c	5c	10c	15c	20c	50c	1p	5p
Ejércitos 1913	1c	5c									
Transitorios 1914	1c	2c	4c	5c	5c/p	10c	20c	50c	1p		
Denver 1914	1c	2c	3c	5c	10c	15c	50c	1p			

	Without color, it was NOT over-printed
	Identified postal use (c)
	Special philatelic issue (d)
	False or undocumented (e)

TIMELINE OF ITS ISSUE

Maderismo				Against the Usurper				Factional Struggle				Legal Consolidation			
Nov/20/1910 - Feb/22/1913				Feb/23/1913 – Jul/15/1914				Jul/16/1914 - Oct /12/1915				Oct/13/1915- May/20/1920			

HISTORICAL CONTEXT

TIME FOR DEFINITIONS.-

Second half of the year 1915.

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July:

On **July 2**, General Porfirio Díaz died in Paris, France, where he resided.

August:

It was on **August 2nd** that the constitutionalists definitively took over Mexico City.

On the **10th**, a meeting took place in El Paso, Texas, between U.S. General Hugh L. Scott, Chief of Staff of the United States Army, and Villa.; after the meeting, General Scott reported to the press that Villa had promised not to harass the mine owners and to return the stores of Americans and foreigners, both in Villa's and Conventionist territories, provided there was no crime that required legal action.

On the **11th**, representatives of the governments of Brazil, Chile, and Argentina, convened by the U.S. Secretary of State, sent a diplomatic note to the leaders and governors of the three revolutionary factions (Carrancistas, Villistas, and Zapatistas) proposing a meeting to attempt to pacify the country and appoint a provisional government; they gave them 10 days to respond. Carranza and the governors aligned with him refused, citing interference in Mexican sovereignty.

September:

On the **7th**, the Carrancistas recaptured the border city of Piedras Negras, in Coahuila; Villa left Torreón and established his headquarters in the city of Chihuahua.

The shortage of food and basic products, mainly in Mexico City and its surroundings, was addressed by bringing supplies closer to the population, prohibiting exports of grains, meat and food in general, controlling prices and punishing hoarders.

In **September**, the Zapatistas cut off communications between the nation's capital and the port of Veracruz, and seized the Necaxa power plant, causing shortages of electricity, water, food, and an increase in the cost of living.

In mid-**September**, General Felipe Ángeles traveled to the United States on an imprecise and ultimately fruitless mission to confer with US President Woodrow Wilson; at that time, the Mexican interlocutors with the US government were already the Carrancistas. He would not return to Mexico until the end of 1918.

October:

Representatives of Venustiano Carranza receive a confidential telegram dated **October 9th** informing them that during the Pan-American Conference the US government and the other nations involved on the continent agreed to recognize the government headed by Carranza as a “de facto” government; 10 days later, on the **19th**, the decision is formalized and the US also decreed an arms embargo on the country, except for those directed to the “de facto” government of Venustiano Carranza.

On the **10th**, the Convention troops, cornered by the Carrancistas, agreed to dissolve into their two main factions: Villistas and Zapatistas.

On the **11th**, Carranza left the port of Veracruz to head to Tampico and undertake a long journey through the north and center of the country, but with the entire administration of his government already operating from Mexico City.

On the **26th**, the Liberation Army of the South, from the state of Morelos, issued a Manifesto to the Nation as a preamble to the Zapatista Agrarian Law and offered guarantees for all social classes, except landowners, and denounced the Carrancistas as traitors to their movement.

General Villa conducted an unsuccessful military campaign in Sonora. The port of Guaymas was in Carrancista hands since mid-**October**.

November:

On **November 5th**, from Naco, Sonora, Francisco Villa issued a proclamation to the Mexican people and to the American government and people, in which he expressed his deep animosity towards Carranza; although he declared his gratitude to President Wilson and his admiration for the American people, he stated that he was "relieved of the obligation to provide guarantees to foreigners, particularly Americans." He did not rule out an armed conflict with the Americans, but affirmed that he would not provoke it.

At the end of **November**, the Carrancistas took Nogales, Agua Prieta, and Cananea, in Sonora.

December:

On the **7th**, the ambassador of Mexico to the US government is appointed, and on the **17th**, the US government does the same.

On the **20th**, Francisco Villa disbanded the División del Norte, bid farewell to his men, and released them to return home. With those who remained with him, he dedicated himself to harassing the Carranza government.

On the **20th**, the Villista stronghold of Ciudad Juárez surrendered to the Carrancistas, and the capital Chihuahua was taken by the Constitutionalist troops on the **22nd**.

By the end of **1915**, the constitutionalist government had been recognized by: the USA, Argentina, Brazil, Honduras, Chile, Costa Rica, Cuba, El Salvador, England, Austria, Germany, and Japan.

CUMULATIVE CHART OF ALL OVERPRINTS (f)

Overprint (h)			Overprinted Postal Series (I) = valid postally, (II) = Philatelic, (III) False						
Nickname (a,h)	Date (b)	Image (g)	Águilas 1899	Águilas 1903	Comple- mentarios 1908	Indepen- dencia 1910	Ejércitos 1913	Transi- torios 1914	Denver 1914
Victoria de Torreón	3-Abr-1914							(I)	
GCM grande	27-May-1914				(I)	(I)			(III)
Dollar Sign \$	1-Sep-1914		(I)		(I)	(I)			
Estado Sonora	3-Nov-1914		(I)	(I)	(I)	(I)	(I)	(I)	(I)
Monograma Villa	28-Dic-1914 11-Mzo-1915 16-Jul-1915		(I), (II)	(I), (II)	(II)	(I), (II)		(II)	(II)
Villa / \$	11-Mar-1915					(I), (II), (III)			
Monograma Carranza	Dic-1914 Sep-1915		(I), (II)	(II)	(II)	(I), (II)			(II)
Carranza / \$	Mar-1915					(II), (III)			
Corbata									
Corbata / \$									
Corbata / Carranza									
Corbata / Villa									
Barril									
Barril / \$									
Barril / Villa									
Barril / Carranza									
\$2.50									

Philatelic notes:

- (a) Name or nickname with which philatelists refer to them. Colloquially, it is also called "GCM Carranza Monogram / Dolar" due to the philatelic literature of American origin that talks about this overprint, and which has been widely disseminated.
- (b) **In March 1915**, when the convention delegates retook Mexico City, they remarked the stocks previously overmarked with "Dollar". (Gobierno \$ Constitucionalista".
- (c) Circulated postal items are known
- (d) They were printed within the official workshops, under orders from higher authorities, but were not made available for sale to the general public at post offices; they were intended for direct sale to philatelists. The examples known to have been used are believed to have been caused by the philatelists themselves..
- (e) The pieces exist, but there are no genuinely considered postal uses.
- (f) It will be added with each publication of this series of articles.
- (g) The image size does not correspond to the actual size of the overprint
- (h) In the case of "Barril" and "2.50", technically the correct term is "Surcharge" rather than "Overprint", because these overprint modify the face value of the stamp.
- (i) "Local" or "Rubber" overprints are those printed in some towns and cities that were conquered by a particular faction, and were only used locally. The device was usually made of rubber, hence the name "Rubber"

Historical notes:**Bibliography:**

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