

Cuba Postal Stationery 1902 - 1958

The Cuban Republic Era

SYNOPSIS

SNSE 2025

PURPOSE/SCOPE - An exhibit of the postal stationery issued by the Cuban Republic from 1902 to 1958. Its purpose is to show how Cuba adjusted the postal system it had inherited from the US Administration, to the needs of a small country with very limited resources.

Cuba opted to maintain most services (except Special Request Envelopes and the Money Order Service, which continued to be administered by the US Post Office), while economizing on the variety of products made available.

Exhibit follows a Traditional (not Postal Stationery) presentation in chronological order. It is the most important collection of this material presently shown, since it contains many one-of-a-kind items.

CHALLENGE FACTOR - Exhibitor has strived to show items in the best condition available, however one must remember that Cuba's hot humid climate, and the low quality gum used in some issues, wreak havoc on paper appearance.

Rare items are **framed in blue** and highlighted by Cuba's Coat of Arms. Most of these are one-of-a-kind items, that make the exhibit impossible to duplicate.



The Exhibitor has conducted research on Cuba's postal rates. Most notably, the three temporary domestic rate increases implemented during: WWI, the Great Depression, and WWII. The following icon denotes research:



WHAT IS PRESENTED - Every item issued during the Republic Era is shown mint, as well as in a variety of uses. All known pre-production material and Errors are also shown.

Not shown: Items issued during the US Administration. Even though most US overprinted stationery and the watermarked Columbus envelopes continued to circulate during the early years of the Republic, they are excluded from this exhibit since they were not issues of the Republic.

ORGANIZATION - Items in the exhibit are presented in a chronological order, by date of issue. Please refer to the Exhibit Plan, shown in the Title Sheet. This format best allows the viewer to follow the development of the various services (i.e. the expansion of rail service, the introduction of airmail, etc.).

A blue banner across the top of the page signals the start of a new section of the exhibit. Rate information, where needed, is shown in a red framed box, next to the item.

HIGHLIGHTS -

- All of the pre-production material.
- The Columbus envelopes on buff paper.
- The Columbus registered use with New Orleans Registry Exchange Label.
- 1 c. Columbus wrapper used to Africa.
- 2 c. Liberty with double perforations.
- 1 c. Paid Reply Card used both ways.
- 1 c. Patriots illustrated wrapper.
- 8 c. Airmail envelopes with printing omitted.
- 10 c. Aerogram with blue color omitted.

INFORMATIONAL SOURCES -

1. *The Postal Stationery of the Cuban Republic* by Robert Littrell, UPSS, Jan. 2014. Featuring many of the items in this exhibit.
2. www.cubafil.org/mempages-eng.html Scroll down to **Part 2: Postal Stationery Section** for various presentations of Cuba postal stationery.
3. www.philat.com/biblio Select "C" and scroll down to <CABRxxxx> for over 60 articles on Cuba postal stationery authored by this exhibitor.