

Varieties of the PANAMAs in Form 3 of the Fourth Panama Issue on the C.Z. Third Series

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Plating Table 4 in *Canal Zone Stamps (CZS)* includes a listing of PANAMA varieties in Form 3. That listing is incomplete, a little erroneous, and has a questionable division and sequence. This article deals with these imperfections, furnishes a plating of a very few broken or characteristic letters of the PANAMAs, and includes a Form 3 table based on recorded data in my collection as of 8/30/2012.

The most important incompleteness is the absence of the unlisted CZSG No. 13.C Variety. This stamp has neither PAMANA reading down at right on Pos. 95 and 100, nor left PANAMA touches bar on Pos. 91 and 96, but does have PANAMAs 1½ mm below bar on Pos. 91–100. Because of what it does not have, 13.C Variety cannot be from the Form 3 settings listed in *CZS* as 3-B, 3-C, or 3-D; it is from either what is listed as Setting 3-A or an unlisted setting. 13.C Variety is currently known only from a block of 56, Pos. 31–33, 41–43, and 51–100, and a single of Pos. 28; therefore it is unknown if it exists with PANAWA at right on Pos. 24 and 29, left PANAMA 16 mm long on Pos. 25 and 30, and PA spaced in right PANAMA on Pos. 15 and 20 (it does not have either N with double diagonal stroke in left PANAMA on Pos. 23 and 28 or PA spaced in right PAMAMA on Pos. 65 and 70). If it has at least the first two of these varieties it is probably from a variation of the setting listed as 3-A; otherwise, its setting is unlisted. For the record 13.C Variety has an orange red Panama overprint like 13.C and either Stage II or Stage III of the C.Z. overprint. Another important incompleteness is the N broken in right PANAMA on Pos. 74 and 79, a pronounced characteristic with the N missing both the top half of the right vertical stroke and the upper right serifs; this variety exists (or at least is recorded) only on CZSG Nos. 11.B, 12.B, 13.C, and 13.D, which are listed in *CZS* in Form 3 Settings 3-A, 3-B, 3-C, and 3-D, respectively.

The listings in *CZS* that are a little erroneous are mostly ones that are misleading because they are either unspecific or presumably were merely assumed. Based on 100% recorded occurrence on copies in my collection, I believe I can correct all these matters and present an accurate listing of what exists (or is recorded) and does not exist (or is not recorded) on each major CZSG No. that is involved. These are, together with their *CZS* Form 3 setting, 11.A (3-A), 11.B (3-A), 12.B (3-A), 12.D (3-A), 12.C (3-B), 13.C (3-C), 13.C Variety (unlisted), and 13.D (3-D). To begin with, Pos. 15 and 20 with PA spaced (1.2 mm instead of 1.0 mm) in right PANAMA (*CZS* Forms 3-A and 3-B) exists only on CZSG No. 11.B (8 copies out of 8 copies, or 8/8); it does not exist on 11.A (0/5), 12.B (0/1), 12.D (0/4), and 12.C (0/2); I do not know if it exists or not on 13.C Variety (0/0) but my guess is that it does not. Pos. 65 and 70 with PA spaced (1.3 mm instead of 1.0 mm) in right PANAMA (*CZS* Form 3-A) exists only on CZSG No. 11.A (11/11); it does not exist on 11.B (0/9), 12.B (0/9), 12.D (0/5), 12.C (0/5), and 13.C Variety (0/2). Pos. 23 and 28, N with double diagonal stroke in left PANAMA (*CZS* Form 3-A) exists only on CZSG

No. 11.B (8/8); it does not exist on 11.A (0/3), 12.B (0/3), 12.D (0/4), and 13.C Variety (0/1); I do not know if it exists or not on 12.C (0/0) but my guess is that it does not. Regarding Pos. 74 and 79 N broken in right PANAMA, which is described in the previous paragraph (and is unlisted in *CZS* Form 3), it exists only on CZSG Nos. 11.B (6/6), 12.B (4/4), 13.C (1/1), and 13.D (7/7); it does not exist on 11.A (0/8), 12.D (0/4), 12.C (0/2), and 13.C Variety (0/2). In addition to the Pos. 74 and 79 N broken in right PANAMA, I have discovered two other broken letters (unlisted in *CZS*) that seem to have significance. The first is Pos. 91 and 96 P missing bottom left serif (P-II) in left PANAMA; it exists only on CZSG Nos. 11.B (4/4) and 12.B (3/5); it does not exist on 11.A (0/4), 12.D (0/4), 13.C (0/3), 13.C Variety (0/2), and 13.D (0/10); I do not know if it exists or not on 12.C (0/0) but my guess is that it does not. The second is Pos. 95 and 100 P missing bottom left serif (P-II) in left PANAMA; it exists only on CZSG Nos. 11.B (6/6), 12.B (2/2), 13.C (12/12), and 13.D (8/8); it does not exist on 11.A (0/3), 12.D (0/4), 12.C (0/9), and 13.C Variety (0/2).

Eight stamps were printed with Form 3: CZSG Nos. 11.A, 11.B, 12.B, 12.D, 12.C, 13.C, 13.C Variety, and 13.D (I list 12.D before 12.C here and where appropriate in the previous paragraph because 12.D was printed by Panama before 12.C). These eight stamps are linked together into Form 3 because they have the same row-by-row pattern of spacing between the PANAMAs and the bars, as listed in the footnote to Form 3 in Plating Table 3 in *CZS*, and because they all have the error PANAWA at right on Pos. 24 and 29, and the variety left PANAMA 16 mm long on Pos. 25 and 30. (Actually it is currently unknown if 13.C Variety has the same spacings, error, and variety on Rows 1–3 as the rest of this group has, but it probably does because it is similar to all the rest of the group's linked aspects on Rows 4–10.) The bar gaps and bar joints (see my separate work on those, which updates that part of the footnote to Form 3 in Plating Table 3 in *CZS*) indicate that these eight stamps had at least two, and maybe three, bar settings: one on CZSG Nos. 11.A, 11.B, 12.B, 12.C, 13.C, and 13.D; another on 13.C Variety; and either a third on 12.D or this stamp belongs in one of the other two bar settings. Now, adding to the above data in this paragraph all the data given in the two previous paragraphs, the question is: exactly how many settings are there in Form 3, and what is their correct chronological sequence? This matter is so complicated that these questions may seem difficult to answer. First, one must define what constitutes a Panama setting. If a setting is based on any difference in the PANAMAs, which seems to have been the criteria in the past, then I am convinced that Plating Table 4 in *CZS* has both the number and sequence of settings in Form 3 wrong. Clearly CZSG Nos. 11.A and 11.B belong in different settings, as do 12.B and 12.D, and no two of these four stamps belong together in the same setting; 12.C, 13.C, 13.C Variety, and 13.D all belong in separate settings; and of all of these eight stamps, only 12.D and 13.C Variety may be in the same setting, but more data on both stamps is required to determine if they are in the same or different settings. Thus it seems that there are at least seven and possibly eight settings

in Form 3, not just four as in CZS. The chronological sequence may be CZSG Nos. 13.C Variety, 12.D, 11.A, 12.C, 13.C, 13.D, 12.B, and 11.B. The 13.C, 13.D, 12.B, and 11.B seem clearly linked in an unbroken sequence by the pronounced variety N broken in right PANAMA on Pos. 74 and 79, and by the P missing the bottom left serif (P-II) in left PANAMA on Pos. 95 and 100. 13.C and 13.D should be in sequence because they both have left PANAMA touches bar on Pos. 91 and 96. Also in sequence should be 12.C and 13.C because they both have PAMANA at right on Pos. 95 and 100. 12.B and 11.B then must come after 13.D, with 11.B presumably last because of its varieties on Pos. 15 and 20, and 23 and 28, both of which do not exist on 13.C, 13.D, and 12.B. 11.A presumably belongs immediately before 12.C because of the former's variety on Pos. 65 and 70, with 13.C Variety and 12.D at the beginning because of their lack of that variety. Although research is needed to decide if 13.C Variety and 12.D are in the same or different settings, I currently list them in separate settings with 13.C Variety before 12.D because 13.C Variety is recorded without a broken letter (0/2) that exists on 12.D (3/3) and 11.A (3/3): A1-I in left PANAMA on Pos. 91 and 96 (the break is in the left diagonal stroke where it should join the crossbar). This indicated sequence for Form 3 is listed in the accompanying Table 1.

The above conclusion of the number and sequence of settings in Form 3 depends upon my recorded data being accurate, constant, and complete (as far as possible to date) for C.Z. stamps. Is there any Panama printing evidence that proves differently, such as documents, or settings or stamps in Form 3 that were not overprinted by the C.Z., that makes my conclusion impossible? If varieties occurred randomly without connections or links, or if they were introduced, changed, and later reintroduced during or between printings, then the Form 3 printing sequence would seem to be a jumble, and a puzzle that may seem to be unsolvable.

For the record, the Form 3 variety left PANAMA 16 mm long on Pos. 25 and 30 is actually a bit longer and varies in length between 16.1–16.5 mm, with most 16.2 mm. I record the following lengths per CZSG No. from my collection: 16.1 mm (10/12) or 16.2 mm (2/12) on 11.B; 16.2 mm on 11.A (9/9), 12.B (7/7), 12.C (4/4), and 13.D (9/9); 16.2 mm (1/7) or 16.3 mm (6/7) on 13.C; and 16.5 mm on 12.D (7/7). This variety left PANAMA 16 mm long usually has the additional variety MA Spaced, a wide spacing between the M and last A, and its spacing varies. I record the following spacings per CZSG No. from my collection: 0.3 mm on 11.A (9/9) and 11.B (12/12); 0.3 mm (6/7) and 0.4 mm (1/7) on 12.B (7/7); 0.6 mm on 13.D (9/9); 0.7 mm (1/4) and 0.8 mm (3/4) on 12.C (4/4); 0.8 mm on 13.C (7/7); and 0.8 mm (5/7) and 0.9 mm (1/7) on 12.D (6/7), with one copy of 12.D without MA spaced (1/7).

Form 3 has a presumably constant unlisted minor variety that I have discovered: AM Raised 0.1 mm in left PANAMA on Pos. 44 and 49. Here is my record of this variety in my collection per CZSG No.: 11.A (6/6), 11.B (6/6), 12.B (2/2), 12.D (2/2), 12.C (2/2),

13.C (1/1), and 13.D (7/7). I do not know if it exists or not on 13.C Variety (0/0) but my guess is that it does.

The stamps from Form 3 have various characteristics of some of the letters in some of the PANAMAs. These characteristics, especially when combined with the characteristics of the letters in the C.Z. overprint that are listed in CZSG Plating Table 6 for Stages II and III, can be very useful for plating stamps from Form 3. I record a number of characteristic letters that are either constant or frequent on one or more of the Form 3 stamps. However, I record many more such letters for CZSG Nos. 11.A, 11.B, 12.D, and 13.D than for 12.B, 12.C, 13.C, and 13.C Variety because for the latter four stamps I have far less material to work with and lack many positions. Therefore I am unable to furnish a comprehensive plating table of the Form 3 PANAMAs. However, I have discovered four characteristic letters with enough coverage in my collection to merit listing here because it seems that they are probably constant or nearly so in Form 3, despite three of them still lacking a complete record. CZSG No. 12.D often seems to differ from the rest; this may be due to its characteristically thick letters which may prevent some defects from showing.

Pos. 11 and 16 in left PANAMA, A1-II, the outside serif is a detached dot and the foot is missing its left edge: 11.A (5/5), 11.B (5/5), 12.B (1/1, filled in), 12.D (3/6), 12.C (0/0), 13.C (2/2), 13.C Variety (0/0), and 13.D (7/7).

Pos. 51 and 56 in right PANAMA, A1-ul, the left diagonal stroke has a break above and near the crossbar: 11.A (3/6), 11.B (6/6), 12.B (2/2), 12.D (0/5), 12.C (0/0), 13.C (2/2), 13.C Variety (0/1), and 13.D (7/7).

Pos. 54 and 59 in left PANAMA, M-ur, the serif ends in a detached dot (although on 11.B some are recorded ending in an attached ball): 11.A (4/4), 11.B (4/4, with 2 a detached dot and 2 an attached ball), 12.B (2/2, likely filled in), 12.D (0/2), 12.C (1/1), 13.C (2/2), 13.C Variety (1/1), and 13.D (5/7).

Pos. 71 and 76 in right PANAMA, A1-lr, the outside serif either is missing or is a stub: 11.A (2/2, missing), 11.B (4/4, 2 missing & 2 stub), 12.B (2/2, missing), 12.D (2/2, stub), 12.C (0/0), 13.C (0/0), 13.C Variety (2/2, missing), and 13.D (5/5, missing).

I record two other unlisted broken letters that are interesting because they may have changed simultaneously with the occurrence or correction of errors in Form 3. The first concerns the left PANAMA on Pos. 91 and 96, which usually has either A1-l or A2-l, in both cases being the left diagonal stroke with a break where it should meet the crossbar. I believe both are the same A, and that its location was changed from A1 to A2 simultaneously with the occurrence of its word becoming left PANAMA touches bar, and was left unchanged when left PANAMA touches bar was corrected. My record of this (or these) broken letters follows. A1-l: 11.A (3/3), 11.B (0/4), 12.B (2/5, but may be freaks), 12.D (3/3), 12.C (0/0), 13.C (0/3), 13.C Variety (0/2), and 13.D (0/10). A2-l: 11.A (0/3), 11.B (4/4), 12.B (4/5), 12.D (0/3), 12.C (0/0), 13.C (2/3), 13.C Variety (2/2, but probably freaks), and 13.D (10/10). The 12.B with A1-l may be freaks, especially because one copy has

both A1-l and A2-l which is unrecorded on all of the other Form 3 stamps. The 13.C Variety A2-l are imperfect breaks and may be inking freaks. The second interesting broken letter concerns the right PANAMA on Pos. 95 and 100, on which some Form 3 stamps have A2-ul-r, being the left diagonal stroke with a break a small way above the crossbar, and the right diagonal stroke with a large indentation and sometimes also a break where it meets the crossbar, or just a nick there; the ul is virtually constant but the r sometimes does not appear. I believe the A2-ul-r was changed or replaced with an unbroken A2 when the error PAMANA at right, which has this A2-ul-r, was corrected. Here is my record of this A2-ul-r: 11.A (3/3), 11.B (0/5), 12.B (0/2), 12.D (4/4), 12.C (9/9), 13.C (5/11, but those without it may be inking freaks or vice versa), 13.C Variety (1/2), and 13.D (0/7). My record and discussion of these broken A's on Pos. 91 and 96, and 95 and 100, and of the P-ll's in the left PANAMAs on these same positions as discussed earlier, generally agrees nicely with my suggested number and sequence of settings in Form 3: 13.C Variety, 12.D, 11.A, 12.C, 13.C, 13.D, 12.B, and 11.B, as listed in Table 1 below.

Table 1

**Recorded Varieties with Apparent Settings and Sequence
of the Fourth Panama Issue in Form 3 on C. Z. Stamps**

Setting	Scott No. & CZ Stage; CZSG No.	Position	Variety
3A	13-II or III 13.C Variety	24, 29 25, 30 95, 100 91-94, 96-99	PANAWA at right (assumed) Left PANAMA 16 mm long (assumed) A2-ul-r in right PANAMA; Both PANAMAs 1½ mm below bar PANAMAs 1½ mm below bar

3-B	12-II 12.D	24, 29 25, 30 91, 96 95, 100 92-94, 97-99	PANAWA at right Left PANAMA 16 mm long A1-l in left PANAMA; Both PANAMAs 1½ mm below bar A2-ul-r in right PANAMA; Both PANAMAs 1½ mm below bar PANAMAs 1½ mm below bar
3-C	11-III 11.A	24, 29 25, 30 65, 70 91, 96 95, 100 92-94, 97-99	PANAWA at right Left PANAMA 16 mm long PA spaced in right PANAMA A1-l in left PANAMA; Both PANAMAs 1½ mm below bar A2-ul-r in right PANAMA; Both PANAMAs 1½ mm below bar PANAMAs 1½ mm below bar
3-D	12-II 12.C	24, 29 25, 30 91, 96 95, 100 92-94, 97-99	PANAWA at right Left PANAMA 16 mm long A1-l or A2-l in left PANAMA; (assumed, unknown which); Both PANAMAs 1½ mm below bar PAMANA reading down at right, with A2-ul-r; PANAMA and PAMANA 1½ mm below bar PANAMAs 1½ mm below bar
3-E	13-III 13.C	24, 29 25, 30 74, 79 91, 96 95, 100 92-94, 97-99	PANAWA at right Left PANAMA 16 mm long N broken in right PANAMA Left PANAMA touches bar, with A2-l; Right PANAMA 1½ mm below bar PAMANA reading down at right, with A2-ul-r; P-lI in left PANAMA; PANAMA and PAMANA 1½ mm below bar PANAMAs 1½ mm below bar

3-F	13-III 13.D	24, 29 25, 30 74, 79 91, 96 95, 100 92-94, 97-99	PANAWA at right Left PANAMA 16 mm long N broken in right PANAMA Left PANAMA touches bar, with A2-l; Right PANAMA 1½ mm below bar P-II in left PANAMA; Both PANAMAs 1½ mm below bar PANAMAs 1½ mm below bar
3-G	12-II & III 12.B	24, 29 25, 30 74, 79 91, 96 95, 100 92-94, 97-99	PANAWA at right Left PANAMA 16 mm long N broken in right PANAMA P-II and A2-l in Left PANAMA; Both PANAMA s 1½ mm below bar P-II in left PANAMA; Both PANAMAs 1½ mm below bar PANAMAs 1½ mm below bar
3-H	11-III 11.B	15, 20 23, 28 24, 29 25, 30 74, 79 91, 96 95, 100 92-94, 97-99	PA spaced in right PANAMA N with double diagonal stroke in left PANAMA PANAWA at right Left PANAMA 16 mm long N broken in right PANAMA P-II and A2-l in Left PANAMA Both PANAMA s 1½ mm below bar P-II in left PANAMA; Both PANAMAs 1½ mm below bar PANAMAs 1½ mm below bar