

## Spacings Between the Narrow Bars and PANAMAs of the C.Z. Third Series

by Geoffrey Brewster

The spacing is virtually 3 mm on all rows except Row 4 on which it is virtually 3½ mm . Therefore, except for a copy from Row 4 the spacing data in general is not a plating aid. Nevertheless, because the spacings are often not exactly as described, the table below lists exact measurements recorded (from the author's collection as of 3/20/2012). For the "3 mm" rows, recorded spacings of 3.3–3.6 mm are usually due to serifs that are either short or missing.

The spacings on these stamps, CZSG Nos. 12.A (12.Aa and 12.Ab), 13.A, 13.B, 14.A (14.Aa and 14.Ab), and 14.B (14.Ba and 14.Bb), enables one to differentiate the error Panama Overprint Inverted from the variety Bar at Bottom and vice versa, because the spacings between the PANAMAs in one row to the Bar on the adjacent row to the **bottom** is 4 mm for Rows 1-9—actually 3.7–4.0 mm, with most 3.8 mm—and 4½ mm for Rows 9–10. Of course, between Pos. 15 and 25, and Pos. 20 and 30, of CZSG Nos. 12.A, 13.A, and 14.A, it is only 2¼ mm—actually 2.3 mm—for the right PANAMA (because Pos. 15 and 20 have the variety Right PANAMA 5 mm—actually 4.7–4.8 mm—Below Bar). Hence most Bar at Bottom varieties have about 4 mm (3.7–4.0 mm, with most 3.8 mm) or 4½ mm spacing, which cannot exist on the error Panama Overprint Inverted, with 2¼ mm for the right PANAMA on Pos. 15 and 20 of CZSG Nos. 12.A, 13.A, and 14.A, and with the variety No Bar on Row 10. The Panama Overprint Inverted errors would have a normal spacing of about 3 mm , except the 4¾ mm (aka 5 mm) spacing variety of CZSG Nos. 12.A, 13.A, and 14.A would be for the left PANAMA on Pos. 81 and 86, and the 3½ mm spacing would be on Row 7. However, since the error Panama Overprint Inverted is unrecorded on these C.Z. narrow-bar stamps, this information would be of use in helping to verify such a copy if discovered, and is of use helping to verify the variety Bar at Bottom, which is recorded on CZSG No. 14.A (on both 14.Aa and 14.Ab).

In the following table, "virtually" means that only one or two of the ten in the form measured differently, and "most" lists what 60%–70%—or at least the great majority compared to any one other measurement—have.

**Table**  
**The Recorded Spacings Between the Narrow Bars and PANAMAs**

Row 1 (Pos. 1–10), 3mm:

- 12.A, 3.0–3.2 with most 3.1 or 3.2; some of Pos. 5, 10 R. PAN. 3.4 due to P serifs short, 0.2 mm long instead of 0.4 mm long
- 13.A, 3.0–3.2 with virtually all 3.0 or 3.1
- 14.A, 3.0–3.2 with virtually all 3.0 or 3.1
- 13.B, 3.1–3.2
- 14.B, 2.9–3.5 with most 3.0 or 3.1; Pos. 3, 8 L. PAN. 3.5 due to A3 serif missing

Row 2 (Pos. 11–20), 3 mm:

- 12.A, 3.0–3.1 with most 3.1, except Pos. 15, 20 R. PAN. 4.7 or 4.8 (aka 5 mm)
- 13.A, 3.1–3.3 with most 3.2, except Pos. 15, 20 R. PAN. 4.8 (aka 5 mm)
- 14.A, 3.0–3.5 with all but one 3.0 or 3.1, the one being some of Pos. 13, 18 R. PAN. 3.5 due to P serifs missing, except Pos. 15, 20 R. PAN. 4.8 (aka 5 mm)
- 13.B, 3.1–3.3 with most 3.2
- 14.B, 3.1–3.4 with most 3.1 or 3.2

Row 3 (Pos. 21–30), 3 mm:

- 12.A, 3.0–3.1 with most 3.0
- 13.A, 3.0–3.1 with most 3.1
- 14.A, 3.0–3.1, occurring equally
- 13.B, 3.0–3.2 with virtually all 3.0 or 3.1
- 14.B, 2.9–3.3 with most 3.0, 3.1, or 3.2

Row 4 (Pos. 31–40), 3½ mm:

- 12.A, 3.4–3.5, occurring almost equally
- 13.A, 3.2–3.5 with virtually all 3.5
- 14.A, 3.3–3.5 with most 3.4
- 13.B, 3.3–3.7 with most 3.4, 3.5, or 3.6
- 14.B, 3.4–3.9 with most 3.5 or 3.6; recorded measurements of 3.6, 3.7, 3.8, and 3.9 on Pos. 32, 34, 35, 37, 39, & 40 are due to serifs that are either missing or short in the L. or R. PAN.

Row 5 (Pos. 41–50), 3 mm:

- 12.A, 2.9–3.2 with most 3.0
- 13.A, 3.0–3.2 with 3.0, 3.1, and 3.2 occurring about equally
- 14.A, 2.9–3.1 with most 3.0
- 13.B, 3.0–3.2 with most 3.1
- 14.B, 3.0–3.4 with most 3.1 or 3.2

Row 6 (Pos. 51–60), 3 mm:

- 12.A, 3.0–3.2 with most 3.1
- 13.A, 3.0–3.3 with most 3.1 or 3.2
- 14.A, 3.0–3.2 with virtually all 3.1 or 3.2
- 13.B, 3.0–3.4 most with 3.1 or 3.2
- 14.B, 3.1–3.4 with virtually all 3.1 or 3.2

Row 7 (Pos. 61–70), 3 mm:

- 12.A, 3.0–3.2 with most 3.1
- 13.A, 3.0–3.4 with most 3.2
- 14.A, 3.0–3.3 with most 3.0 or 3.1
- 13.B, 2.9–3.4 most with 3.0, 3.1, or 3.2
- 14.B, 3.0–3.4 with virtually all 3.0, 3.1, 3.2, or 3.3

Row 8 (Pos. 71–80), 3 mm:

- 12.A, 3.0–3.1 with most 3.0, except some of Pos. 72. 77 L. PAN 3.5 or 3.6 due to A3 serif missing
- 13.A, 3.0–3.2 with most 3.0, except some of Pos. 72. 77 L. PAN 3.4 due to A3 serif missing
- 14.A, 3.0–3.1 with most 3.0, except some of Pos. 72. 77 L. PAN 3.4 due to A3 serif missing
- 13.B, 3.0–3.3 most with 3.0, or 3.1
- 14.B, 3.0–3.3 with virtually all 3.0, 3.1, or 3.2

Row 9 (Pos. 81–90), 3 mm:

- 12.A, 3.0–3.1 with most 3.1
- 13.A, 3.0–3.4 with most 3.1 or 3.2; Pos. 83. 88 L. PAN 3.4 due to A3 serif missing
- 14.A, 3.0–3.4 with virtually all 3.0 or 3.1; Pos. 83. 88 L. PAN 3.4 due to A3 serif missing
- 13.B, 3.0–3.4 with most 3.0, or 3.1; some of Pos. 81. 86 R. PAN 3.4 due to P serifs missing
- 14.B, 3.1–3.5 with most 3.1, or 3.2; some of Pos. 81. 86 and 83, 88 L. PAN 3.4-3.5 due to A3 serif missing

Row 10 (Pos. 91–100), 3 mm:

- 12.A, 2.9–3.1 with most 3.0
- 13.A, 2.8–3.1 with most 3.0 or 3.1
- 14.A, 2.8–3.0 with most 2.9
- 13.B, 2.9–3.2 most with 2.9 or 3.0
- 14.B, 2.9–3.4 with virtually all 3.0 or 3.1; some of Pos. 91. 96 L. PAN 3.4 due to A3 serif missing