

VIVA LA REVOLUTION**Chihuahua 5 Centavos**

By Joe Flores, C-2

Over the years I have used the term “extremely rare” many times. After many years of searching and none of these rare coins have been offered in public auction, or by private sale so this term becomes reality.

This is one of these coins, a small series of mule 5 centavos. This coin is G.B. 61, using the obverse of two different coins. One side is from a very rare coin as shown in Photo #1, G.B. #59 (*Mexican Revolutionary Coinage*, 1913 – 1917 by Hugh S. Guthrie and Merrill Bothamley) also known as the green book. This coin has the obverse of G.B. 59 with the obverse of the common 5 centavos, one of the 52 die varieties in the study by my good friend Verne R. Walrafen.

I have done some research and have located 4 of these coins from different catalogs. The host die is G.B. #59, and is the same on all four coins. The cap side is also an obverse side, and that explains the nonexistence of a date.

The coin that I own (photo #2) is from V.R.W. die “A”, Howland Wood is a “G”. Neil Utberg is die “T”, and Richard Long sale #64, 1991, lot 204 die is “E”.

This brings up some questions that I have. Were these struck for the collector, or did someone do this for entertainment? It is obvious the eagle side was struck at a later state of its life. I would like to hear from anyone that might have answers to my questions.

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Photo # 1
G.B. #59



Photo # 2
G.B. #61

VIVA LA REVOLUCIÓN

By

Joe Flores C2

CHIHUAHUA PESO DEL NORTE

Un Peso from the State of Chihuahua is better known as Peso Del Norte, and is a common coin. It can be found in all grades, but very difficult to find in BU, with both engravers, Sevilla on the obverse and Salazar on the reverse. The eagle on this coin is one of my favorites because there is so much detail on the feathers of the eagle's wings. They are struck on silver and copper planchets. The copper coins are extremely rare. Photo #1 is of a silver specimen, also known as; HS-55, U-CHI 12; G-CHIH 30 and GB 72, and GB 72 for copper specimens.

I ACQUIRED A UNIFACE Peso del Norte struck on a BRASS (Laton) planchet. This trial strike coin is the first I had even seen. Other than the Sevilla-Sevilla struck both obverse and reverse sides and in almost all metals, but that is another story for another Journal. Photo #2 is of the brass trial or pattern struck coin.

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PHOTO #1



PHOTO #2

Photo #2

Edge -----Plain

Metal -----BRASS (Laton)

Diameter---38mm

Thickness--2mm

Weight -----16.10 Grms.

VIVA LA REVOLUCIÓN**GUERRERO CAMPO MORADO 50 CT.**

Joe Flores, C-2

At times it seems that I am about to run out of coins or new finds that I can write about. I go to my collection to see what I may have overlooked, that would be of interest to the members, and noteworthy enough to report here. The coin that I found to be a good example, it is a Campo Morado 50 Centavos coin from the state of Guerrero.

I have owned this coin for sometime, and I hope that you will take note of the pedigree and rarity of this coin. This coin was purchased from the Richard Long Auction #72, lot #61, in 1994. This was the collection of my great friend Cecil (Woody) Woodworth, (deceased), my co-author of the book "*LA VENTANA*", by Woodworth and Flores, 1987. This coin had previously been in the collections of Sr. Laquette and then Sr. Manuel Ferraez, collectors of past years.

It is a true brockage coin with obverse die of G.B. #159, Guthie and Bothamley die 111 obverse side with regular strike. Reverse is same eagle but incuse as in photo. A truly rare coin that I believe to be unique.

For those who do not understand how this occurred, this coin was struck on a new blank (planchet) while the coin struck previously was still in the collar. Hence one side is incuse. .

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OBVERSE



REVERSE
(incuse)

VIVA LA REVOLUTION**By Joe Flores, C-2****GUERRERO SILVER PESO, G.B. 207**

When I started to write this article I realized that I didn't have a new find in Mexican Revolutionary coins to report on. I went to my stock box which contains very few coins and did find a coin of interest. In years past it was easy to find unrecorded coins so my task was very easy.

The rare coin I found was Guerrero silver peso, better known as the one with the 1915 date, G.B. #207. There is several variety and die combinations in this Guerrero peso series.

The *G.B. 207 has been listed for many years in most numismatic reference books and Howland Wood, Carlos Gaytan, and Leslie & Stevens all consider this as a rare coin. I am not certain at this time how many exist of this coin. I know of only four, but would think there must be more but I doubt there are no more than six known. These are seldom offered in auctions.

By all means the *G.B. #207 is not the key for rarity as I must mention one rarer coin in this series, known as *G.B. #198 with only 2 specimens known and extremely rare.

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**OBVERSE****REVERSE**

* Mexican Revolutionary Coinage 1913 -1917, Hugh S. Guthrie & Merrill Bothamley

VIVA LA REVOLUCION

By Joe Flores, C-2

By now almost every one involved in Mexican Revolution coinage knows about my good friend Verne R. Walrafen's outstanding revolution coin collection that was sold at auction, in November 2004 by Richard Long.

Verne's collection had a very large amount of extremely rare coins, Some unique and many G.B. plate coins (Gurthrie & Bothamely), 1976, or sometimes known as the green book.

I was fortunate to obtain a few of his coins. One silver peso coin in particular. I have been looking for this coin for many years with no luck. I use to pester Verne for this coin for over thirty plus years with no results. The only photo seen is in the G.B. book, which was furnished by Terry Stoddard. It happens to be the same coin as in the below photos. This is one of two known specimens. It is the finest known coin of the two. The second coin is in a collection in Mexico City and belongs to a good friend that just passed away.

In the book of Leslie and Stevens, (*Coinage of Zapata*), 1968 the rarity indicates only an R2, when in fact this is one of the rarest coins of their entire book. I was told that Erma Stevens was very conservative in her rarity gage.

This coin is a Guerrero silver peso, known by Leslie and Stevens as Gro-9b, or as G.B. 198. coin was in Erma Steven's collection, and sold to Verne in 1971.

I must thank Verne for allowing such a rarity to reach its way into my collection. **Munchas Gracias Verne.**

In the next issue I will be reporting on some other rare coins from this same fabulous collection.

Any pro or cons are always welcome.



OBV.



REV.

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"VIVA LA REVOLUTION"

by Joe Flores, C-2

GUADALAJARA PESO

"Viva La Revolucion" was the cheer used by the Villistas or better known as **Ejercito Del Norte** (Army of the North). These same words are used on the reverse side of some silver and copper crown size coins. Three are from the state of Chihuahua. One is struck on a silver planchet known as G.B.# 72 (1) a very common coin. Its counterpart the copper version G.B # 73 (1) is very scarce. The third coin is only mentioned by G.B.(1) . Howland Wood (2) has description and photo of this rare specimen as HW 56 and Garza (3). as G-chih 31 a unique copper coin.

Ejercito Del Norte copper peso from Guadalajara is indeed a very rare coin. Only three coins are known to exist. Is it possible that these coins could be patterns or trial strikes? One is the photo in the G.B. book (1) as #244.and, coin number two in very poor condition. I have no idea where this coin is located. Coin number three is the photo in this report. Of all three coins this is the best known. No known silver specimen is known of this Guadalajara, Jalisco peso. (today).

It seems ironic how things work out. Just a few months before, I was going to my wonder book asking myself if I would ever own this Peso Del Norte from the city of Guadalajara. Since I knew of the extreme rarity of this coin. Then one day the phone rang. The call was from a good friend who asked if I would be interested in purchasing this coin. With out even giving it any thought, I said yes. We set up a meeting place and the deal was done.

I have always said, if the opportunity comes up, you must step up to bat. These rare coins only come up once in a lifetime. This is the first and only time this coin has been offered to me.

Thanks for having good friends.

Photo one is Peso Del Norte from state of Chihuahua. Photo two is Peso Del Norte from the Guadalajara, Jalisco.

(1) *MEXICAN REVOLUTIONARY COINAGE 1913-1917* by HUGH GUTHRIE and MERRILL BOTHAMLEY---1976.

(2) *NUMISMATIC NOTES and MONOGRAMS COINAGE OF THE MEXICAN REVOLUTIONIST*, by HOWLAND WOOD – 1976.

(3) *MEXICAN REVOLUT/ON* by J. SANCHES GARZA- 1932 .

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Photo # One
G.B. # 72 & 73



Photo # Two
G.B. # 244

VIVA LA REVOLUTION

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As I mentioned in the last Journal, Vol. 9 No. 4, about Verne Walrafen's rare coin collection auction of Mexican Revolution coins by Richard A. Long in his sale #95, November 2004.

Coins from the state of Morelos-Atlihuayan, as in the 10 centavos copper, no date G.B. (1) 272, 273 and 274. The first two coins 272 and 273 are very common. 274 is indeed a rare coin. All these coins were struck with the same obverse die. All the coins that I have seen have a very crude and pitted obverse.

After doing some research on what caused the pitting of these coins, I came up with the following scenario. After the rolling of the sheets they were washed with acid to remove all foreign matter, and did not use or not enough of neutralized for the removal of the acid. They proceeded to stamp out the blanks that generate the coins and time took care of the acid left on these coins that caused the pitting.

I must note that the coin in this report is the G.B. (1) plate coin. I was very lucky to have purchased this unique coin, known as G.B. (1) 274.

(1) *Mexican Revolutionary Coinage*, Hugh S. Guthrie & Merrill Bothanley

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OBV.



REV.

VIVA LA REVOLUCION

By

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After 10 plus years I have solved a part of one of my many questions on a project that I have had on the back burner. This is about a very rare 5 centavos coin and medal combination. In 1992 I had the opportunity to purchase an extremely rare 5 centavos E.del Mor. Coin, better known as *G.B.270. This **26mm** coin came from the Amon Carter collection as in photo # 1. This coin is so rare that it seldom is offered.

In 1994 I was offered an unusual medal. I seldom buy any medals, but this brass **22mm** medal was struck with the obverse (eagle side) of a Mexican Revolution eagle. At the time that's all I knew. I had no idea what state the eagle represented. The reverse had a faint image of a lady of justice as in photo # 2. After some research I was happy to find that the eagle of this medal is of a very rare coin. *G.B. 270.

In the year 2000 I was offered another medal, same as the one I bought in 1992. This one was all struck up in B.U. condition on a smaller **22.4mm** copper planchet.

With this well struck medal I could continue on my research. I had seen this Freedom Lady of Justice before. After some looking over a few books on medals I located one in Frank Grove's *Medals of Mexico*, Vol. II, as in Photo # 3.

The Lady of Justice was struck on **50mm** brass planchet in 1896. Listed in Grove as # E 128 or E 141 as in photo # 4.

My questions are, why after 19 years did they use only a part of the design to make the dies for this medal. Also why did they use the obverse die of such a rare coin. I would like to see some documentation on who had them made.

I have studied the eagle on all these coins and medals and they all appear with the same tool marks except on the obverse of the medal, which appears to have a few new tool marks.

I would be extremely grateful if someone could answer any of my questions.

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Obverse



Reverse

Photo #1



Reverse



Obverse

Photo #2



Obverse



Reverse

Photo # 3



Obverse



Reverse

Photo #4

CORRECTION TO THE JUNE 2006 VIVA LA REVOLUCIÓN COLUMN

On page 3 of the June 2006 Journal Vol. XI, No. II the “Reverse” and “Obverse” captions on photo #2 got reversed in error. Of course the eagle side is the obverse.

VIVA LA REVOLUCIÓN

Joe Flores, C-2

The buzz in Mexico from almost all of the dealers is that Mexican revolutionary coins are getting very hard to acquire. Has anyone noticed the increase in prices on Revolution coinage in the United States and even more so in Mexico? I am always shocked what monies they get for such low grade coins. Are they selling for what they are really worth?

Sometime ago, just before a convention in Mexico, I received an e-mail from a friend in northern Mexico to inform me that a very rare coin is being offered in Mexico. This coin is seldom offered for sale. The coin is G.B. #287. There is not a photo of these coins in the G.B. book. Apparently Mr. Bothamley did not own either the silver or copper of these coins. The e-mail on this coin described the coin as to condition, but not where it was located.

When I arrived in Mexico City, I visited a few coin shops and in one of the shops the owner told me that he was going to show me a rare coin and told me the coin was not for sale but just to admire. The minute I saw the coin I knew I had located the e-mail coin. I proceeded to tell him this coin should go to a serious old man's coin collection (meaning me). He just smiled and said nothing.

A few days later at the coin convention, the dealer approached me and said, "I think you are right, this rare coin should go to a serious Mexican Revolution coin collection" and the deal was done. I did ask the dealer where the coin came from and he said that it just walked in the front door from no one he knew.

The photos haven't been made yet, so I will show you photos of the copper counterparts. The last ones offered were in Richard Long's #84 dale, lots #56 and #57 for the copper.

G. B. Mexican Revolutionary Coinage, by Hugh S. Guthrie and Merrill Bothamly.

** V.R.W. Verne R. Walrafen Research on the Chihuahua 5 centavos.

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OBVERSE G.B. 288



REVERSE G.B. 288



OBVERSE G.B. 288.1



REVERSE G.B. 288.1

VIVA La REVOLUCION

By
Joe Flores C2

The demand to pay the revolutionary troops for their services in the Mexican revolution was a must. Although metal got to be very scarce, the demand for coinage was a big issue. I believe they turned to striking coins over Republic and Federal coins, or any other metal at hand. I have observed this over the years and have been very fortunate in obtaining a few of these coins.

I own a Republic 1904 Mo copper Un Centavo KM#394.1 * coin with a Toluca 20 centavos counter stamp as in G.B.266**. See obverse photo # 1 and reverse photo #2. I purchased this coin in 1994 in a Richard Long auction. The cost of this coin far exceeded what I expected to pay. I was bidding against the Un Centavo and Revolution collectors as well as the error collectors. As of today this coin still remains a unique coin.

Also I own a Aguascalientes 5 centavos struck over a republic silver 25 centavos 1881 Zs. This coin did not make any sense. Maybe this is a Guadalajara special custom minted coin?

Over the years I have suspected that some of the Oaxaca silver 50 centavos were struck over a modern silver 20 centavos 1904-1914 KM #435*. They are both the same size. In my studies over the years I have noticed on many of the Oaxaca silver 50 centavos there is a raised area in the field and I have located one coin and that confirms my research on this series of coins. I detect some parts that appears to be the libertad cap and some sun rays of the 20 centavos coin.

I also am the owner of this rare Guerrero un peso G.B. 207** in photos Obv. # 3 and Rev. # 4. The host coin is a federal silver 1908 50 centavos K.M.# 445 *, also a very low mintage coin. If you look closely at the photo Rev. #4 you can see the serrated flag of the 5 in 50 centavos about 10 o'clock and you can see the date of 1908. This coin was purchased from Richard Long's #3-96, Antonio Karan collection. Many people were chasing this coin at the auction.

* KM ---*STANDARD CATALOG OF WORLD COINS*, Krause Publications

**G.B. *MEXICAN REVOLUTIONARY COINAGE 1913-1917* by Guthrie and Bothamlev



OBV. # 1



REV. # 2

1904 UN CENTAVO
K.M. #394.1

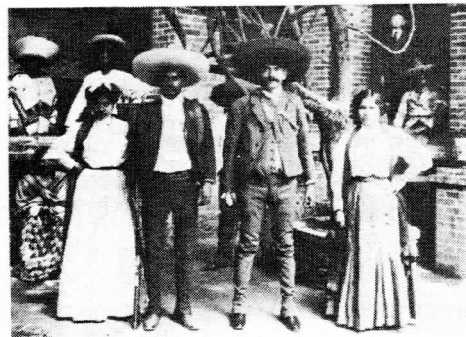


OBV. # 3



REV. #4

GUERRERO UN PESO
G.B. 207



Generals Emiliano & Eufemio Zapata with their wife's, 1910

VIVA LA REVOLUCION

By Joe Flores C-2

COUNTERFEIT 50 CENTAVOS TAXCO G.B. 228

I will address this column to work that my good friend Verne R, Walrafen did a few years ago. This is on the very well known counterfeit 50 centavos Taxco G.B. #228. Thank you Verne for your research.

For the purposes of comparison I am illustrating here several points on a genuine Taxco silver 50¢.

The obverse (eagle) die was used to produce Taxco 5¢, 10¢ and the silver 50¢.

The reverse (sun) die was used to produce Taxco copper 50¢ and silver 50¢.

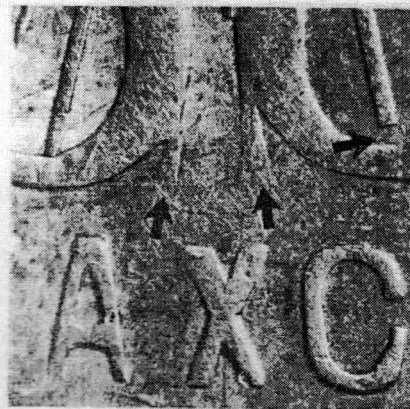


Silver
9.095g
27.89mm
Plain edge



H.WOOD: 92
UTBERG: GUE-51
GAYTAN: GRO-80
GUTHRIE: 228
L/S: GRO-43

65



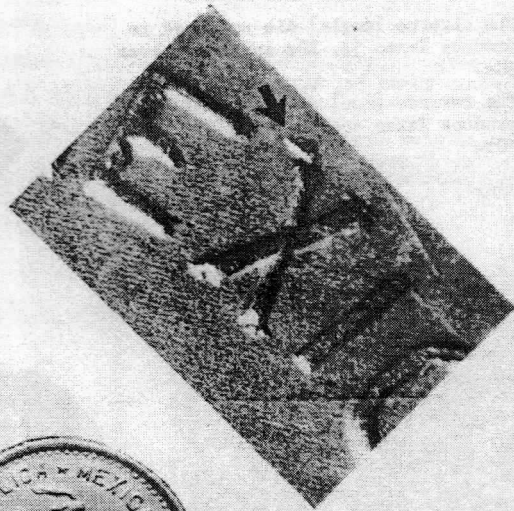
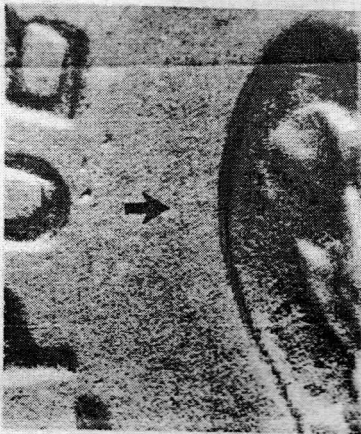
112

GENUINE

The black arrows indicate the points that should be compared when looking at a spurious piece.

Here is one of the most dangerous struck counterfeits that it has ever been my displeasure to view.

Compare the points indicated by the arrows to the genuine specimen that I illustrated on the last page.



Silver
9.405g
28.09mm
Plain edge

H.WOOD: 92
UTBERG: GUE-51
GAYTAN: GRO-80
GUTHRIE: 228
L/S: GRO-43

66

3

SPURIOUS



One would expect that this reverse die was also used with a new obverse die to produce an ample supply of Taxco copper 50¢'s.

VIVA LA REVOLUTION

By
JOE FLORES, C-2

OAXACA 3 CENTAVOS, RETANGULAR

These rectangular 3 centavos copper plain edge coins are from the Mexican Revolution of 1910 -1917. This era generated many rare coins of very low mintage. Needless to say many were struck on all types of metal and shapes. This coin is one of very low mintage and extremely rare. It is well known that very few collections possess this coin. Better known in the book *La Ventana* by Woodworth and Flores 1988, page 4 as Oaxaca # 2 or in the book, *Mexican Revolution Coinage* by Hugh S.Guthrie and Merrill Bothamley, 1976, page 70 as G.B. # 291. Both books are out of print.

This particular coin has been the model used by the Sociedad Numismatica de Mexico to strike some medals in 1987 honoring the Mexican Revolution of 1910-1917. Also it was used in the main photo on their poster for the same event. Of the two medals the silver ones are scarce as only 100 pieces struck are very scarce, the laton issues are easy to obtain.

Getting back to the coin it is very easy to recognize. Coin Oax.2 and Oax.3 share the same obverse die. The word ★ PROVISI ★ appears on the rare coin and the word ★ PROVISIO ★ appears on the most common of the two. In both cases "Provisi" appears on the top line of both coins. This is the plate coin in *La Ventana*, OAX 2 and the G.B. book plate coin G.B. 291, as well is the plate coin for **VIVA LA REVOLUCION** by Bailey and Flores 2004, page 96.

If what I read is true these rectangular copper coins were not accepted by the forces. Coins having four corners were very hard to carry as they would cut thru the cloth then thru the flesh. The past owners of this coin are very impressive, ex Utberg, Bothamley, and from a very well known collection of Mexico City, Mexico.

I also would like to mention that I have many coins with ★ PROVISI ★ stuck on all type of metals as silver, lead, brass, copper, gold plated. All are well struck counterfeits so beware. I also must mention that there is more than one type of counterfeit dies. Many people have asked me why would anyone counterfeit coins, especially minor coins? Counterfeiting has been around since the Aztec Indians.

***LA VENTANA**

**** MEXICAN REVOLUTIONARY COINAGE**

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Obverse for OAX. #2 & #3

(Actual size 14mm X 23mm)



★ PROVISI ★

Reverse – OAX. #2 or G.B.-291



Reverse - #3 or G.B.-290



Laton Sociedad Numismatica de Mexico Un Centavo medal



Silver Sociedad Numismatica de Mexico Tres Centavos medal

!VIVA LA REVOLUUCIÓN!**By Joe Flores, C-2****1915 OAXACA UN PESO**

I purchased this coin ten years ago in the Richard Long Auction number 84, March 1997. This was lot no. 100. This extremely rare coin is a 1915 Oaxaca copper mule coin with a plain edge.

This mule coin has the obverse of a five Centavos, OAX#22* (G.B. 302) **, with the reverse of un Peso as in OAX#88*, (G.B. 344) **. This coin planchet has flaws on both the, obverse and reverse, and struck on a 28mm Peso copper planchet as in photo 1.

I have a photo of the obverse of a OAX #22* (G.B. 302)** , on the five Centavos planchet, as in photo #2.

This mule coin has the same reverse as OAX #88* (G.B. #344), as in photo #3.

* La Ventana by Woodworth & Flores, 1987.

** G. B. Mexican Revolutionary Coinage, 1913 – 1917,
by Hugh S. Guithrie and Merrill Bothamley.

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OBV.



REV.

PHOTO #1

Unlisted specimen



OBV.

Photo # 2
Oax.22



REV.

Photo #3
Oax.88

VIVA LA REVOLUTION

By Joe Flores, C-2

1915 Oaxaca Un Peso

In the last Journal I wrote about a unique mule coin, a 1915 Oaxaca copper plain edge peso. This is another one with the same caliber of rarity as the last one, but a totally different coin and set of dies. This coin is a **Oax 87*** and is a rare coin on its' own. It is an R-4 for rarity not listed in the G. B. book **.

The obverse is the same bust as the **Oax 35***, a 10 centavo bust, but struck on a silver peso 27-28mm planchet, as in photo #2.

The reverse of the coin is the Un peso side, as in photo #2.

The copper specimen is one of two 1915 copper plain edge coins that came from the Richard Long coin sale #84, March 1997, lot #100 and 101. This is lot #101 of that sale that came from a very well known collection. See photo #1.

I have not seen or heard of any other offerings of this off metal rare coin. This is possibly a unique coin.

* *La Ventana* by Woodworth and Flores, 1988

** (G.B.) *Mexican Revolutionary Coinage, 1913 – 1717*, by Hugh S. Guthrie and Merrill Bothemley, 1976

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NEW E-Mail pepef44@sbcglobal.net

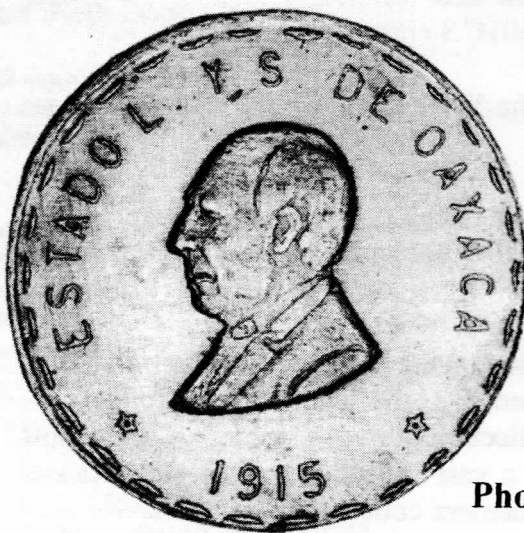


OBV.



REV.

Photo #1
Unlisted Copper
Oax. 87.5



OBV.



REV.

Photo #2

Oax. 87

VIVA LA REVOLUCION

By Joe Flores, C-2

I seldom comment on any auction sale, but I must mention the Millennia Collection Sale by Ira and Larry Goldberg in May of 2008. My interest was on the Mexican Revolution coins and their prices realized. I think most of these coins have reached their true value. Seeing these rarities and unique pieces selling brought this coin to mind.

This is about a OAXACA 2 peso silver corded edge, R-2 for rarity, unlisted in the G.B. book and listed as Oax. 109 in VENTANA, by Woodworth and Flores, 1988. (out of print). Photo #1.

This copper version of this 109, which I have labeled as 109a is struck on a off metal planchet and is very rare. The die is the same as the silver version as in photo #1.

Photo #2 is the copper coin, and both are of the same diameter. If you will notice the copper version has been marred. I have seen this marring on other off metal coins. Trial strike or pattern?

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**Photo #1**



Photo #2

VIVA LA REVOLUCION

By Joe Flores C-2

20 PESO OAXACA

This great Revolution rarity was sold to me several years ago at a Guadalajara numismatic convention. This coin is the first one I have ever seen, and I did not know at that time that the coin even existed. As in most Oaxaca gold coins, the five, ten and twenty pesos have a reeded edge. I only know of one other corded edge coin and it is very rare.

This coin is the same as the known one except it never was gold plated. At first came the thought of someone had removed the gold plating. After studying the coin I am happy to say that did not happen. This coin could well be a trial strike.

My good friend, the late Mr. (Woody) Woodworth and I knew of the one known corded edge and it is listed this in our book "La Ventana" as Oax. 128.

This new find (photo 2) can be identified by a defect on the obverse in front of Juarez's fore head which passes through to the reverse side below the "P" in pesos.

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**PHOTO #1, GOLD PLATED**



PHOTO #2, NEW FIND

VIV A LA REVOLUCION

By Joe Flores C2

1915 Zacatecas Un Peso Concepcion Del Oro

This is the only silver un peso struck in the state of Zacatecas during the Mexican Revolution of 1910-1917.

Very little is known about this rare coin. I have asked many of my friends, who are serious collectors about this rarity and no one seems to know much about these coins. Many of the old collectors have passed on and their knowledge passed on with them.

Concepcion del Oro is located in the north-east end of the state of Zacatecas and it was a mining town and now it is a municipal city.

This coin has been known for years. Carlos Gaytan* has a pencil sketch of this coin in his book. He did mention the only one known was at El Banco De Mexico but he did make a foot note saying that another one of these peso had changed hands in the United States. That would be the coin on photo # 1.

There are 2 types of these Concepcion Del Oro pesos and both are struck on silver planchets. They each share the same obverse with a full lettering as in photo # 1.

Type two has the same obverse as type 1, but the reverse is a totally different die as in photo #2.

These coins are still the subject of my research. There are still many questions to be answered. If there is anyone that has any information on these coins please contact me.

***La Revolucion Mexicana Y Sus Monedas by Carlos Gaytan 1969**

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Stockton ,Ca 95204



Obverse

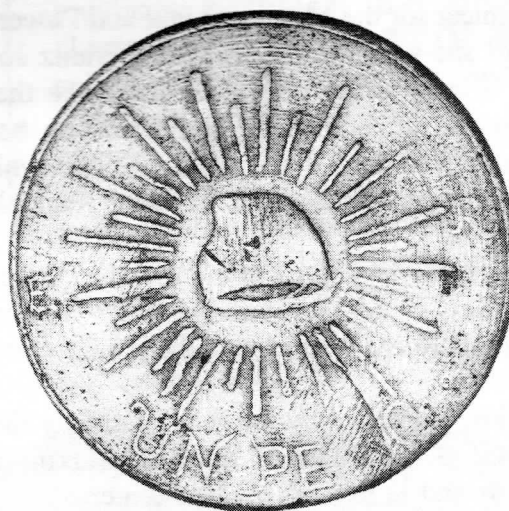


Reverse

PHOTO #1



Obverse



Reverse

PHOTO #2