

CHURCHILL FORGERY

In an auction of the Zimbabwe Stamp Company on the 17th July 1989 Lot 55 in the Rhodesia Section is described as.....

“1966 5/- Churchill ovpt. Forgery in a commercially used block of four. This forgery is of a previously unknown type, the lettering being more angular, and approx, 2mm-longer than the genuine, the ovpt, colour more orange. Commercially used blocks are extremely rare, and this block being forged, is in all likelihood unique, 2 missing perfs at bottom, otherwise spectacular and a major showpiece of this issue.

4

Est \$2 000.

I recently had a chance to view this lot and found the .postmark of interest. It is a machine cancel with wavy line and of the town mark the following can be seen ... ELLAS

AY

M

The town must be Marandellas the AY May, the M is PM. Just above the M in the Perf appears to be the bottom of a 6 it could be an 8 but then I would expect the top of the 8 to be seen. Anyway the cancel appears to be Marandellas May 1966, which raises an intriguing question. This forgery is stated to be of an unknown type but it is postmarked Marandellas in May (for certain) in possibly 1966. The Binda Forgeries were done in Marandellas between 1st April 1966 and 31st August 1966 (EC Smith page 346) and while this is not a Binda Forgery, the wording is approximately 2mm longer. What is the connection, if any, with Marandellas?

With Compliment of Manicaland Philatelic Society.