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ITALY, MILITARY POST, BORDEAUX SUBMARINE BASE (BASE ATLANTICA), 1943.

I have examined the set of six air mail postage stamps prepared under the authority of the High Command of the Italian Submarine Forces in November of 1943, but not authorized for issue, "Imperial Series" 25 centesimi dark green, 50 centesimi dark brown, 75 centesimi yellow-brown, 1 Lira violet, 5 Lire green and 10 Lire carmine, each overprinted in black in four lines "Italia / Repubblicana / Fascista / Base Atlantica" Sassone unlisted; Catalogo Enciclopedico Italiano unlisted; unused, a colour reproduction of which is below, in true size, and am of the opinion that:

The set of six stamps submitted consists of essays for an eventual air mail set to be issued for use by the military personnel of the submarine base at Bordeaux. The issue of the air mail stamps, however, was not authorized. As such it is **genuine in all respects**. The six stamps, with original gum and hinge remnants, are free from hidden faults or repairs at the time of examination. **A very rare set of essays.** (*)

Sergio Sismondo.



(*) Sassone Catalogue, 2016 edition, on page 539 illustrates one example of the 50 centesimi "Pegasus" air mail with this overprint stating: "Sono noti due esemplari del 50 cent. di Posta Aerea della serie Imperiale (n.11) con la stessa soprastampa e di cui non venne decisa l'emissione. Valgono Euro 17,500.00 ciascuno."

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