

*SUMMARY***ONE UNPUBLISHED MINTAGE OF 1 KUNA FROM 1941**

The author addresses the part of the monetary system of the Independent State of Croatia (NDH; 1941-1945) related to small coins.

The extremely demanding job of producing coins, especially when a state does not at first have its own mint, and in combination with the ongoing war and changes in the need for coins over time, resulted in the release into circulation, as late as 1 August 1944, of only one coin denomination - 2 kunas marked with the year 1941.

Although only one coin denomination was in circulation, a series of trial coins (4 kuna coins and 2 banica coins) were made in several versions and in different metals/alloys and with different technical characteristics. These test pieces were designed by Professor Ivo Kerdić.

The discovery of a coin of the nominal value of 1 kuna, issued in 1941, in zinc, can be classified as a trial mintage because of the several elements in which it differs from the coin of the same nominal value that was to have been put into circulation in accordance with the Legal Provision of 24 May 1944, and the Order of the Minister of the State Treasury from 26 May 1944, on placing into circulation small coinage of the Independent State of Croatia.

The coin is lighter than the declared weight of the compared denomination, and it was made according to the Latin coinage standard. Most trial mintages of all the denominations of NDH coins were minted in accordance with Latin minting standards

The weight of the coin with a nominal value of 1 kuna, year 1941, is 1.85 grams, whereas the declared weight of the same denomination of circulating coins, in accordance with the Order of the Minister of the State Treasury on placing into circulation small coins of the Independent State of Croatia, is 2.00 grams.

The coin was made according to the rules of Latin coinage. Since the legal act regulating the release of the 1 kuna coin into circulation in 1941 did not specify its minting method, a comparison with the minting method used for the only denomination that was actually put in circulation (2 kuna in 1941), which was made according to German minting standards, allows us to deem that this was a trial run. This is supported by the identical appearance of the obverse and reverse of these two denominations, so there was no need for the 1 kuna coin in 1941 to be minted in a different way.

Most of the trial minting of all the NDH coin denominations were minted in accordance with Latin minting standards.