

UNITED STATES MILITARY STATIONS: THE POSTAL MARKINGS OF MALOLOS AND SAN FERNANDO (PAMPANGA AND LA UNION)

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When hostilities finally broke out on February 4, 1899 between the American forces and the Philippine revolutionaries, the Americans were not unprepared¹. Tensions had been building between the two forces, starting from the surrender of Manila on August 14, 1898, when the Filipino allies were not allowed by the Americans to enter the captured city. Many incidents thereafter just intensified the friction and the hostile atmosphere was not helped any by the virtual non-acknowledgment of Gen. Aguinaldo by Gen. Merritt and the change in attitude by Rear Admiral Dewey².

In meetings with American officials in Singapore and Hong Kong prior to returning from exile abroad, Aguinaldo was led to believe that the American intentions toward the Philippines were not unlike its attitude to Cuba, i.e. that the Philippines would not become a colony. The American officials may have sincerely believed this position as the United States never had a colony up to that point, and intervention in the Philippines was farthest from the minds of President McKinley and the Congress. It was only Vice President Theodore Roosevelt and his group of like-minded men (which included Sen. Henry Cabot Lodge of Massachusetts and Adm. Alfred Mahan)³ who looked strategically beyond Cuba as the anti-Spanish sentiment of the American public was inflamed following the sinking of the *Maine* while at Havana harbor⁴.

As soon as he returned to the Philippines from Hong Kong via U.S. transport *McCulloch* on May 19, Aguinaldo quickly resumed the revolution which was interrupted two years earlier⁵. The revolutionary army quickly cleared Cavite province, and by June 30, had gained control of nearly every province in Luzon. Aguinaldo's forces reduced Spanish control to the confines of the walled city of Manila and its surrounding defensive line of blockhouses. Some nine thousand Spanish prisoners of war were held by Aguinaldo's army.

It should be recalled that while Commodore Dewey (promoted to rear admiral soon after the Battle of Manila Bay) controlled Manila Bay, he did not have sufficient forces to land and assume control of any

territory. His was purely a blockade position, and although he controlled the naval station in Cavite, he could have been imperiled if the Spanish naval force on its way to Manila had not turned back ⁶. Principally because of Aguinaldo's successes and their fear of capture by the Filipinos, the Spanish authorities were forced to negotiate surrender to the Americans, but only following a staged "battle" to salvage Spanish pride and honor.

An armistice was actually signed by the United States and Spain before the August 13 "battle" for Manila. This called for negotiations to determine the fate of the Philippine islands, Cuba, and other territories, which ended with the Treaty of Paris of December 10, 1898. The Filipinos, in the meantime, consolidated their control over the islands (except for Manila, parts of Mindanao Island, and the Sulu archipelago) ⁷. The Aguinaldo government also sent a representative to Washington and then to Paris to argue for Philippine independence, but to no avail ⁸.

Tensions heightened even more when Gen. Elwell Otis sent a force to Iloilo in December 1898 with the intention of relieving the Spanish garrison and taking the town over from the Spanish ⁹. Shortly thereafter, President McKinley's proclamation was released to the public in early January 1899, making clear America's intentions for the country. This provoked a response from the Aguinaldo government, which forewarned of an impending crisis ¹⁰. By this time the American army forces had built up to over 1,000 officers and 21,000 men. This put the Americans on a footing sufficiently adequate to deal with the looming military conflict.

The initial fighting between the two forces consisted of a series of engagements along the lines held by the Americans before February 4, with the Filipinos suffering setbacks and Americans pushing their positions outward ¹¹. In the two weeks of sporadic fighting, the Americans gained control of the water works and extended its line to the natural defenses around Manila and outlying areas. Counterattacks were repulsed by the Americans and sporadic fighting occurred in the outlying areas for the next few weeks. A provisional brigade under newly arrived Brig. Gen. Lloyd Wheaton saw significant action in the east of Manila, along the Pasig river.

The arrival of the Sixth Expedition from San Francisco (between February 23 and March 5) augmented the American forces by 69 officers and 2,505 men. Two more transports from New York (via Suez Canal) arrived on March 10 and March 22, adding 92 more officers, including Maj. General Henry W. Lawton ¹², and 3,377 men.

Over 1,300 officers and 27,000 men had now been sent over, with many more under way. The American forces by this time were organized into two divisions as follows: Division I under Maj. Gen. Lawton (replacing Gen. Thomas Anderson), consisting of the Washington, North Dakota and California Volunteers under Gen. Charles King; the 14th Regiment, the Idaho Volunteers and a battalion of Iowa troops under Gen. Samuel Owenshine; the 3rd and 22nd Regiments Inf. and the Oregon Regiment under Gen. Wheaton. Division II was commanded by Gen. Arthur MacArthur and consisted of two batteries of the 3rd Artillery, the Kansas and Montana Volunteers under Gen. Harrison G. Otis; the Colorado, Nebraska, and South Dakota Regiments and six companies of the Pennsylvania Regiment under Gen. Irving Hale; and the Minnesota and Wyoming Volunteers, and the Utah Artillery, under Gen. R. H. Hall.

With Manila and outlying areas now firmly under American control, and the major towns of Iloilo, Cebu and Bacolod occupied by American forces, Gen. Elwell Otis' next target was Malolos, a town in Bulacan province some twenty five miles from Manila along the Dagupan-Manila Railway. Malolos had been the capital of the Aguinaldo government for several months, and it was Otis' belief that the capture of the capital would result in the fall of the Aguinaldo government and cessation of resistance to American authority. As MacArthur's division held positions north of the Pasig River, he was given the assignment to march to Malolos. For this movement, the division was reorganized, principally with the transfer of Wheaton's brigade from the first division as rear support to the brigades in front (Gen. Hall and Gen. H. G. Otis). Gen. Hale's brigade was left behind to guard the waterworks and Manila. The total of the three brigades engaged in the march to Malolos was 8,682 ¹³.

The march to Malolos initially involved heavy fighting for the control of Caloocan, a suburb north of Manila, but after its capture American troops were not involved in pitched fighting against Aguinaldo's men. There were a series of skirmishes along the way. The forces reached the outskirts of Malolos by the day's end on March 30, and captured the town on March 31 following a firefight, only to find that Aguinaldo had evacuated the town ¹⁴. Malolos became Military Station No. 6, the last of the numbered military postal stations ¹⁵. MacArthur's division remained there for a few weeks awaiting developments. The American top command did not realize it then, but the capture of Malolos, except for resulting in an enlarged territory under American control, did not change the military situation much

from the time the second division marched from Caloocan on March 25¹⁶. Malolos quickly lost military significance; it is unlikely that a large number of American troops stayed there long enough to have generated a significant volume of mail. The postmarks of Malolos are:



DS1. Double-ring rubber datestamp 33 mm outer diameter, with 3-ring circular killer, Styled after Military Station No. 1/San Francisco cancel used in Manila. Not more than six or seven are recorded. Struck in violet. Earliest April 1899 Latest July 13, 1899



DS2. Single-ring steel datestamp 29? mm, with height bar barrel killer. "Standard" type of civil government postmarks. Struck in black. Earliest: Latest: used well beyond July 4, 1902

While the capture of Malolos turned out not to be the smashing victory that the Americans hoped, the operation resulted in the control of an important segment of the Dagupan-Manila Railway, which was an important communication link of the revolutionary forces. Wheaton's brigade was assigned the task of protecting this captured line of communications. When Gen. H.G. Otis resigned to return to the United States, the first brigade command was given to Wheaton as well. Fighting in the towns connected by the railroad occurred in the next few weeks, mainly in response to attacks by the Filipinos, with the American forces making good use of their artillery and the machine guns on their armored train.

Toward the end of April, Gen. Elwell Otis ordered MacArthur to press on to the north, where the revolutionary forces withdrew, and established San Fernando, Pampanga as their capital. Accordingly, the forces moved north, generally along the railroad tracks, but had to fight their way through certain towns and ford several rivers. Heavy fighting occurred at Quinua, during which Col. John M. Stotsenburg¹⁷ was killed, and at Calumpit, which was heavily defended by the Filipinos, but taken by the Americans by the end of April. On May 3, the forces pushed to San Fernando, ten miles Northwest by railroad.

There was fighting at Santo Tomas along the way, but on May 5, San Fernando was occupied, the revolutionaries having fled the previous night¹⁸. In the move to Malolos and later to San Fernando, two officers played major roles, which foreshadowed their prominent involvement in the later course of the war: Maj. J. Franklin Bell, and Col. Frederick Funston, who was injured in the battle at Santo Tomas, and promoted to general soon after¹⁹.

Baker²⁰ dates the opening of the postal station at San Fernando, Pampanga as July 2, 1899, but did not give the source for the information. The authors cannot confirm this date, but point out the almost two months of difference from May 5, if indeed July 2 is the correct opening date. The earliest San Fernando postmark recorded is July 14, 1899.

There is another San Fernando (a South China seacoast town in La Union province north of Dagupan) which had a military postal station, mentioned by Goodale, but not listed by Baker. This identical town name has caused considerable confusion among earlier students of this period²¹. This was caused mainly by the fact that the early postmarks only specified the city or town, with the inclusion of the province being added only later, when permanent steel postmark devices were issued (but even then, with many exceptions). It is likely, however, that San Fernando (La Union) had a military Station only after 1899. The authors have, therefore, taken the position that postmarks known to be in use before January 1, 1900 are from the first San Fernando postal station. Others have been attributed to Pampanga from their use in correspondence from soldiers known to be stationed there, i.e. with earlier covers postmarked before 1900.

The postmarks of San Fernando (Pampanga) are:



DS1. Single-ring rubber postmark, 30 mm in diameter, with 4-bar (horizontal) killer, with "PHIL ISL'DS." at the bottom of the dial. Struck in violet.

Earliest: July 14, 1899

Latest: August 8, 1899



DS2. Single-ring rubber postmark, 30 mm in diameter, with 4-bar (vertical) killer, with "PHIL ISL'DS." at the bottom of the dial. Struck in violet. Except for the position of the killers, DS2 is practically identical to DS1. The killer has been seen in

other varying positions (bars not horizontal). The key to distinguishing this postmark from DS1 is to project the "I" in "ISL'DS" which in this postmark goes to the left of "SAN" (it bisects the "S" in "SAN" in DS1). Seen used as a receiving mark on July 29, 1899.

Earliest: July 18, 1899

Latest: August 1, 1899



DS3. Single-ring rubber postmark, like DS2, but with "PHIL. ISLANDS" at bottom of the dial. Using "PHIL. ISLANDS" as the base, the date slug is tilted to the 11 o'clock position. Struck in violet

Earliest: August 15, 1899

Latest: September 21, 1899



DS4. Single-ring rubber postmark, 29 mm in diameter, with 6-line thin, unevenly spaced horizontal killer. Up to 18 mm long, with PHIL. ISL'DS." at the bottom of the dial. Compared to DS1 to 3, the date slug is placed high inside the postmark. Struck in black.

Earliest: October 31, 1899

Latest: December 16, 1899



DS5. Single-ring rubber datestamp, 32 mm in diameter, with 4-bar irregular vertical killer. "PHIL. ISLANDS" at the bottom of the dial. Struck in black.

Earliest: November 21, 1899

Latest: May 10, 1900



DS6. Single-ring rubber datestamp, 32 mm in diameter, with 4-bar irregular vertical killer. Capital letters are 4 mm tall, significantly taller than the other datestamps. "PHIL. ISL'DS." at bottom of dial. Struck in black.

Earliest: December 9, 1899

Latest: March 13, 1900



DS7. single-ring datestamp, 29 mm in diameter. with 3 ring bullseye killer. Obviously a transitional device pending receipt of the standard steel device. Quite interesting use of the bullseye killer with the provincial identification of the town and full spelling of the islands. Struck in black.

Earliest: March 17, 1900

Latest: April 6, 1900



DS8. Single-ring steel datestamp 29 mm. Nine-bar barrel killer. "Standard" type of civil government postmark. Struck in black.

Earliest: August 7, 1900

Latest: Used well beyond July 4, 1902



RC1. Single-ring rubber postmark, 30mm in diameter without killers, with "Rec'd." at the bottom of the dial. Struck in black. Three examples seen (excluding Goodale's) show use as a dispatch postmark instead of arrival postmark: assumed to be from Pampanga.

Earliest: January 18, 1900

Latest: July 13, 1900

REGISTERED

FEB 27 1900

**Military Station,
SAN FERNANDO, PHIL. ISL'DS.**

RG1. Four-line registration datestamp, 52 mm long on the bottom line. In the three examples seen by the authors, two were struck in violet and were also used to cancel the stamps. The latest example was struck in red and used solely as a registration marking was with DS8 cancelling the stamp.

Earliest: September 14, 1899

Latest: November 13, 1900

POSTAGE DUE TWO CENTS.

PD1. Rubber "POSTAGE DUE TWO CENTS." 61 mm long and 3 1/2 tall seriffed capital letters. Struck in violet. Earliest: July 18, 1899 Latest: September 8, 1899

DUE CTS.

PD2. Rubber "DUE CTS." 34 mm long, 5 mm. (vertical) high non-serifed capitals in italics. Struck in violet. Earliest: July 30, 1899 Latest: May 18, 1900

POSTAGE DUE.....CENTS

PD3. Rubber "POSTAGE DUE CENTS" 59 mm long, 3 mm tall. Struck In black (?) Earliest: August 1, 1899 Latest: August 26, 1899

POSTAGE DUE. 2 CTS.

PD4. Rubber "POSTAGE DUE, 2 CTS." 56 mm wide, 6 mm tall. "Standard" postage due marking seen used in many other offices. Earliest: December 9, 1899

POSTAGE DUE TWO CENTS.

PD5. Rubber "POSTAGE DUE TWO CENTS." similar in all respects to PD1, but longer (66 mm). In many examples seen, considerable damage is visible in "A." The letterings are not quite level. Unlikely to be PD1 stretched or enlarged by long usage. Struck in black. Earliest: December 16, 1899 Latest: March 6, 1900

DUE.....CENTS

PD6. Rubber "DUE—CENTS" 32-mm long, 4 mm (vertical) high slightly seriffed capitals in italics. Struck in black (?). Earliest May 10, 1900 (seen used with RC1 dispatch).

San Fernando (La Union) was likely captured by American forces only in early 1900. Harper's Encyclopedia of United States History, Harper & Brothers, New York, 1906, lists this entry among the important events of the war: "January 12, 1900 - a troop of the 3rd Cavalry defeated the insurgents near San Fernando de La Union ..." This event fits in with other known developments of the war in this region. Dagupan was earlier captured by a military expedition aboard transports under Gen. Wheaton on November 7, 1899. Vigan up north was taken by a naval force on November 24. The main preoccupation of the American forces during the last two months of 1899 was the capture of Gen. Aguinaldo, who kept eluding them even as his seat of government kept falling. A flying cavalry brigade under Gen. Samuel Young was in hot pursuit of Aguinaldo, who left Bayamban, Pangasinan on November 13 travelling north, up the hilly corridor into La Union and Ilocos Sur, reaching Candon on November 21 and then turning eastward into the Cordillera Mountains ²². In the absence of other information as to when San Fernando, La Union was taken, the authors are using January 12, 1900 as the most likely date that San Fernando (La Union) came under American control. Presumably, the military postal station was opened there soon after.

Identified postmarks of San Fernando (La Union) are:



DS1. Steel datestamp Single-ring steel datestamp 29 mm. Nine bar barrel killer. "Standard" type of civil government postmark. struck in black. Earliest: May ? 1900

Latest: Used well beyond July 4, 1902

PD1. Steel single-line stamp in sans-serif block letters of the type issued under civil government. Struck in black.

Earliest: December 17, 1901

POSTAGE DUE.....CTS.

Collectors and other readers of this area are encouraged to look into their collections with a view or; adding types not included in this article, and/or extending the earliest or latest dates ²³. Information should be sent to the authors, P.O. Box 12, San Mateo, CA 94401. Postage and photocopy (preferably color) costs to be reimbursed, and credits to be attributed. (Copyright reserved by the authors).

POSTMARK LIST CONCORDANCE

Nuñez/Kugel	Goodale (13)	Baker (18)
Malolos		
DS1	—	D-4
DS2	—	—
San Fernando. Pampanga		
DS1	—	—
DS2	—	C-3a
DS3	—	—
DS4	—	—
DS5	—	—
DS6	—	—
DS7	—	—
DS8	—	—
RC1	RC1	—
RG1	—	SR-4
PD1	—	—
PD2	—	—
PD3	—	—
PD4	—	—
PD5	—	—
PD6	—	—
Sen Fernando (La Union)		
DS1	—	—
PD1	—	—

ENDNOTES:

1. The immediate spark which started the conflict was the shooting of a Filipino soldier by Private Wllllam Grayson of the Nebraska Volunteers, who was on night patrol along a disputed area between the two forces. Who provoked the start of the war is one of those incidents which continue to be debated. Stanley Karnow, in *In Our Image, America's Empire in the Philippines*, Random House, New York, 1988 writes that some American officers blamed Gen, Elwell Otis for provoking the war. David Haward Bain In *Sitting in Darkness*, Houghton Mifflin Co, Boston, 1984, writes that "on February 2, Otis fired all the Filipino workers from their jobs behind the Amencan lines. He ordered his troops to maintain a 'full alert' and warned Admiral Dewey that the time was nearly upon them. Then Otis sent a message to Aguinaldo. It called for vigilance in keeping the peace." Bain writes that perhaps Otis' message lulled Aguinaldo into a sense of false security as he and his officers went to Malolos on February 4, leaving their posts to subordinates. Before these events, Dewey

shifted the anchorages of his ships on January 16 so that they flanked the Filipino positions, and on January 21, Otis placed a unit of the Nebraska volunteers on high land overlooking the Filipino trenches, which was followed by an artillery battery aimed directly into the Filipino positions. It was on this place that Private Grayson was on patrol duty on the night of February 4.

2. Maj. Gen. Wesley Merritt, after whom the Camp Merritt training camp at the Presidio in San Francisco was named, arrived in Manila on July 25, 1898 and stayed only for some three weeks, mostly staying on board a ship at anchor in Manila Bay. He avoided Aguinaldo, and returned home in late August, turning command to Maj. Gen. Elwell S. Otis. Dewey was the original sponsor of Aguinaldo's return from Hong Kong. Following the fall of Manila, and with the thinking in Washington shifting to occupation of the islands, Dewey became "peevisish" and his attitude to Aguinaldo and the Filipinos changed. However, he was opposed to war with them, in contrast to Otis' militant attitude.
3. Mahan is best remembered for writing *The Influence of Sea Power upon History, 1660-1783*, which has been considered one of the most influential books ever written. Although retired in 1896 (as a captain), he returned to serve on the Naval Board during the Spanish-American War.
4. An excellent account of the sinking of the Maine could be found in "A Ship to Remember, 'Remember the Maine'" became a rallying cry which whipped American sentiment against the Spanish.
5. Aguinaldo was in Hong Kong under exile (since the end of December 1897) under the terms of the Pact of Biak na Bato, which ended the revolution of 1896 against the Spanish authorities. He was in contact with American officials there and in Singapore before the outbreak of the Spanish-American War. He came back with 2,000 rifles, which he bought for fifty thousand pesos through the American consul in Hong Kong, Rounseville Wildman, from the funds given by the Spanish authorities under the pact. Dewey gave him additional arms to fight the Spanish.
6. After the Battle of Manila Bay, a Spanish squadron in the Mediterranean under the command of Admiral Camara was despatched eastward, passed through the Suez Canal, and had coaled at the Red Sea before it turned back. It was for fear that this fleet would proceed to Manila that the U.S. Navy sent two monitors, the *Monadnock* and the *Monterey* to the Philippines. The *Monterey* arrived on August (via the Suez Canal), and saw action supporting the army in its initial battles against the Filipinos. The Red Sea before it turned back. It was for fear that this fleet would proceed to Manila that the U.S. Navy sent two monitors, the *Monadnock* and the *Monterey* to the Philippines. The *Monterey* arrived on August (via the Suez Canal), and saw action supporting the army in its initial battles against the Filipinos.
7. The Sulu archipelago, and a good part of Mindanao, was under the influence of the Sultan of Sulu, titular head of the "Moro" inhabitants in these areas. The Moros (the Spanish word for Islamic Malays or "Moors") did not fully submit to Spanish control. The Sultan of Sulu had historical claims over the Sulu Islands, parts of Mindanao and the northern part of Borneo, which was leased to the North Borneo Company. Spanish forces remained in the southern

garrisons until repatriated under the Treaty of Paris (or relieved by American forces. as in Jolo in November 1899).

8. Felipe Agoncillo, Aguinaldo's chief diplomat, met with McKinley, who listened but rejected the cause of the Filipinos. Representations to the Peace Commission in Paris, also by Agoncillo, were ignored by both the Spanish and American commissioners.
9. Nuñez, Nestor C., and Kugel, Alfred F., *United States Military Stations. The Postal Markings of Iloilo*, second article in this series.
10. Aguinaldo's public proclamation of January 6, 1900, while couched in civil language, spoke of the Aguinaldo government "breaking off of friendly relations with the army of the United States . . ." and its determination to "begin hostilities if the American forces intend to get, by force, the occupation of the Visayas," a reference to the special brigade sent to Iloilo in December 1899. Text of proclamation and the McKinley proclamation are reproduced in Faust, Karl Irving, *Campaigning in the Philippines*, The Hicks-Judd Publishing Company, San Francisco, 1899.
11. Bain, op. cit. gives a concise summary of the events on February 4 and 6 (pages 184 and 185) and puts the toll of dead at three thousand Filipinos and 65 Americans. He also records that Otis spurned Aguinaldo's offer to cease hostilities and create a neutral zone between the two armies.
12. Lawton had a distinguished career fighting American Indians and was an effective commander in the war against the Filipinos. He was killed in an engagement near San Mateo on December 19, 1899; In 1906 his portrait was used for the 10 centavo stamp (Sc. 245). For a long time, the public square in front of the Manila Post Office building was known as Plaza Lawton until renamed *Liwasang Bonifacio* sometime in the 1960s.
13. Information on number of troops and arrivals are essentially from Faust.
14. The quick capture of Malolos had been blamed by some Filipino officers to the absence of Gen. Antonio Luna military commander for Central Luzon from a critical defense position in Bagbag, which he left to discipline a subordinate officer. This left a breach in the defenses, allowing the Americans to pour through. This incident and other lapses of Luna may have led to his assassination at Cabanatuan on June 5, 1899. With Luna's death, Aguinaldo resumed the combined roles of president and military commander. Ambeth R. Ocampo, in *Luna's Moustache*, Anvil Publishing Co., Manila, 1997. Comments on Luna's absence from Bagbag, and on incidents illustrating Luna's temperamental nature.
15. Curiously, Malolos was not listed by George S. Goodale, whose "U.S. Military Postal Stations in the Philippines (1898-1904)," *Cyclopedia of United States Postmarks*, edited by Delf Norona, Quarterman Publications, Lawrence, MA, 1975. was, for a long time, the standard standard reference for military station postmarks in the Philippines.
16. It appears that only Otis thought that the fall of Malolos meant the end of the Aguinaldo government. As cited by Karnow, he sent forecasts of forthcoming victory to Washington, stating that the "insurgent government was in perilous

condition, its army defeated, discouraged and scattered." Other American officers thought otherwise.

17. Stotsenburg was honored when the military base in Angeles was named Camp (later Fort) Stotsenburg, which later became Clark Air Base. Curiously, some authors have used the "Stotsenberg" spelling; the authors are using Stotsenburg based on the U.S. Army usage.
18. The Aguinaldo government's capital was on the move after the fall of Malolos (Bulacan). In time, the capitals after San Fernando (Pampanga) were San Isidro, Cabanatuan (both in Nueva Ecija), Tarlac (Tarlac) and Bayambang (Pangasinan). It was at Bayambang that Aguinaldo and his staff, realizing that without effective central communications organized resistance was futile, decided to split the armies into small irregular guerilla forces.
19. Gen. Bell gained infamy with his scorched earth campaign in Batangas province in 1902. Funston is well known as the captor of Aguinaldo in March 1901.
20. Baker, Philip E., *Postal Markings of United States Military Stations, 1898-1902*, 1963.
21. In the Hoge photocopy archives, there are, for example, specialist writeups which identified a DS1 postmark of August 4, 1899 as being from San Fernando (La Union), and another described a DS5 cancellation of February 8, 1900 as "definitely from La Union" and states the period of use of the postmark as from August 27, 1899 to March 10, 1900.
22. Aguinaldo eluded capture partly due to a successful delaying engagement between American forces and some of Aguinaldo's guards at Tirad Pass on December 2. This event is known in Philippine history books as the Battle of Tirad Pass, which resulted in the death of Gen. Gregorio del Pilar. An account of this encounter could be found in Bain, *Sitting in Darkness*. This youthful officer so captured the Filipinos' admiration that he has been enshrined as a romantic hero. He holds the distinction of being the first military hero to be honored by the Philippines with a stamp issue on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of his death (1949; 2 and 4 centavos, Sc. #535 + 536).
23. The authors would like to acknowledge the help from other Philippine specialists, especially the opportunity to view actual covers or photocopies of collections of Capt. Weston Burnett, Wolfgang Haberland, Fritz-Walter Lange, the late Lynn Warm-Griffith, Robert F. Yacano and Robert C. Hoge, who supplied many of the earliest/latest recorded dates. Robert Hoge believes there is a possibility that some of the postage due markings may have been applied in Manila, San Francisco, or on arrival in the different American city or town destinations. He questions why there are six postage due devices used in San Fernando, Pampanga over six months. The authors believe that this is not unusual considering the improvised nature of the devices and the wartime conditions during their use. The devices have not been associated with San Francisco, and particular postage due postmark types have been seen struck on covers addressed to different cities in the United States. This leaves the originating military postal station as the only logical place where the postmarks were struck.