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Behind the Scenes of the Amphilex Sheetlets, turn to page 4

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PHILIPPINE PHILATELIC NEWS

Vol. 3 Nos. 2-4 April – Dec. 1977

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

- 4 - **The Amphilex Souvenir Sheetlets, by Pedro P. Marcelo**
- 6 - **Philippine Scenes on Japanese Military Postal Cards, Part II**
By Linda Stanfield
- 17 - **Pre-Occupation Censor Mark of Tacloban, Leyte, by Eugene A. Garrett**
- 19 - **The March 4, 1942 Issues, by Mario O. Que**
- 27 - **APS Member Won Major Awards in Aeropex '77, by Linda Stanfield**
- 29 - **Quantity of Issue of Other Pre-War Stamps**
- 31 - **Feb. 3, 1945, Last Day Cancellation Under the Japanese Occ.**
By Enrique P. San Jose
- 32 - **1977 Postal Slogans**
- 34 - **Philippine New Issues**
- 35 - **Period Variety on 1973 Boy Scout Issue, by Warren Zahler**
- 36 - **Addenda: Censor Marks of the Japanese Occupation of the Phils. 1942-43**
By Eugene A. Garrett
- 39 - **Varieties on the 1947 Roxas Oath Taking, by Ray L. Coughlin**
- 40 - **First Helicopter Mail Flight in the Philippines, by Mario O. Que**
- 42 - **What Can We Do As Members of the IPPS to Increase the Popularity of Philippine Philately**
By Ray L. Coughlin
- 43 - **New Members**
By Fe. A. Carandang
- 44 - **San Fernando, La Union, Censor Mark, Jap. Occ. of the Philippines**
By Eugene A. Garrett
- 47 - **A Most Unusual Refugee Camp**
By Larry Kierstine

THE AMPHILEX SOUVENIR SHEETLETS

(Official Report Submitted by Mr. Pedro P. Marcelo, Chief of the Stamp and Philatelic Section, Bureau of Posts, to Postmaster General Felizardo R. Tanabe, with regards to the Amphilex Stamp Exhibition participated in by the Philippines.)

OFFICIAL TRAVEL AUTHORITY:

NAMES	:	PEDRO P. MARCELO LOURDES F. CUBELO
POSITIONS	:	POSTAL FISCAL SERVICE CHIEF. METERED POSTAGE EXAMINER.
OFFICE	:	STAMP AND PHILATELIC SECTION BUREAU OF POSTS, MANILA
TRAVEL AUTHORITY	:	May 19, 1977
DATE OF -		
DEPARTURE	:	May 23, 1977
ARRIVAL	:	June 9, 1977
DESTINATION	:	Amsterdam, Holland

NATURE/PURPOSE OF TRAVEL:

We acted as representatives of the Philippine Postal Administration (Bureau of Posts) in its participation in Amsterdam Philatelic Exhibition (AMPHILEX '77), an international stamp exhibition and helped in the issuance and sale of a new stamp to mark the occasion. This was a joint venture of Philstar Handels-Anstalt Schaan Avv. R. Mench, Via P. Luchini 2, Ch 6900, Lugano, Switzerland, represented by Prince Marcantonio Colonna and Julian Clive and the Bureau of Posts. Philstar shouldered all expenses in putting up the stand in the exhibition site, cost of printing of the new stamp and the travelling expenses of two representatives of the Bureau of Posts during the duration of the exhibition and their return to the Philippines.

The Bureau of Posts, on the other hand, approved the design of the stamp and sent two representatives to attend to our booth in Amsterdam, Holland.

Upon arrival on May 25th in Amsterdam, we immediately proceeded to the exhibition site at RAI building in Amsterdam. RAI exhibition center is a very big one story building. Our stand is No. 79 with a floor area of 16 square meters located almost in the center of the exhibition site. We put up the exhibition materials that we brought with us from the Philippines. We finished putting up the exhibits at about 6:00 PM. After dinner on the same day, May 25th, we began preparing the first day covers of the new stamps to be sold in the opening of the exhibition, May 26th. We prepared about 800 covers up to 3:00 AM of May 26th.

After breakfast of May 26th, we proceeded to the exhibition site for the grand opening of AMPHILEX '77. There were approximately 2,500 invited guests and about 8,000 philatelists from all over the world. Speeches were made by Mr. Piet Wyn, Secretary General of Amphilex '77, Mr. Simon Rietveld, Chairman of Netherlands Dealers Association, Mr. Jan de Boer, Chairman of Netherlands Federation of Philatelic Societies, Mr. Leon Puty, President of Federation Internationale de Philatelie and the special guest was His Royal Highness Prince Bernard of Netherlands who paid half a crown too, an old fashioned messenger as a symbol that Holland left 125 years ago the pre-postal era. After the opening ceremonies which took place at Plein 1852, the Prince walked around the exhibition, thus signifying the formal opening of the exhibition. Excerpt was taken from Amphilex daily Bulletin, dated May 27, 1977).

We have received complaints as well as suggestions from several philatelic editors, dealers and philatelists regarding the promotion and publication of Philippine stamps in their respective countries.

We also represented the Bureau of Posts in several invitations tendered by the Consul of the United States and the Amsterdam Postal Administration and other philatelic organizations who participated in Amphilex '77.



From the opening on May 26 to the closing on June 5, we were very busy selling covers and mint stamps to philatelists and visitors in our booth. What made us very busy was the stamping of our cancellers on special and ordinary pamphlets and leaflets presented by philatelists, visitors, and even children. It is safe to say that we have stamped about 30,000 leaflets from children and philatelists. At 4:00 PM of June 5, we immediately removed our exhibition materials when the closing of the exhibition was announced.

The participation of the Bureau of Posts in Amphilex '77 was indeed beneficial to the Bureau and the Philippines in general. We were very much impressed on the interest of Hollanders on philately. People from all walks of life, crippled on wheelchairs, children with their parents, dignitaries, all visited this exhibition. Mr. Hans-Jurgen Wichnewski, Secretary General of Federal German Republic, Mr. John Sankey, British Charge d'Affairs and other high government officials of Amsterdam visited the exhibition and showed very keen interest on Philippine stamps. We were greatly impressed with the daily transactions that took place within the 193 booths so in our opinion, if only Philippine stamps will be well known to foreign collectors and dealers, it will be one source of earning dollars for the Philippines.

The participation of the Philippine Postal Administration in an international philatelic exhibition like the Amphilex '77 which was visited by more than 100,000 visitors, surely introduced the Philippines in general to the people of Europe and countries all over the world thus helping the Department of Tourism sell the Philippines thru international stamp exhibitions.

Aside from the above benefits, the Bureau of Posts received \$18,000.00 from Philstar as its share from the sales of the new Amphilex '77 stamps in Amsterdam. The Bureau also received 36,000 stamps perforated (12,000 sheetlets) and 9,000 imperforated stamps (3,000 sheetlets) which when sold will amount to P337,500.00. Therefore, with an expense of only P3,600.00 which was given to the two (2) representative of the Bureau of Posts, the government will have an income of more or less P450,000.00.

The Bureau of Posts, should therefore, make it a point to participate in international philatelic exhibitions like Amphilex '77 to earn more dollars for the government and help the Department of Tourism sell the Philippines. To generate more income from philatelic sales, the Bureau of Posts should issue thematic stamps of high values but in minimum quantity. Commemorative stamps as much as possible, should be printed abroad as our government printing offices are still below standard in printing attractive stamps. Our stamp program should be strictly followed. Request for commemorative stamps should be accepted only when filed one year before the occasion and the propriety of issuance should be taken into account. There should be an effective ways of disseminating philately such as printed stamp brochures and stamp news.

June 30, 1977

PEDRO P. MARCELO (sgd)

LOURDES F. CUBELO (sgd)

NOTED:

FELIZARDO R. TANABE (sgd)
Acting Postmaster General

PHILIPPINE SCENES ON JAPANESE MILITARY POSTAL CARDS. . . PART II

When we wrote about the Japanese Military Postal Cards with Philippine Scenes in our Vol. 3 No. 1 issue of PPN, we did it merely as more of an inquiry rather than a serious article. It seems that we were successful in that the said article created quite a fuss - with members telephoning each other, exchanging correspondence, etc. . . , and quite a few collectors, including non-members, have written us of their views.

We are therefore privileged to publish in the following pages these comments. First of course, let's hear from Eugene A. Garrett, Mr. Philippines Japanese Occupation Specialist himself:

By Member Gene Garrett:

"As you undoubtedly know, the four key kanji characters are 'GUNJI YUBIN', which actually transliterate 'Military-affairs Mail' or simply 'Military Mail' or 'Fieldpost'. The word 'Free' does not actually belong in the transliteration, although the cards did not require a postage stamp to be affixed, and of course were therefore 'Free'. The combined hiragana and kanji at the top are 'Yubin Hagaki', which can be transliterated either 'postal card' or 'post card'; since there is no value indicia, I prefer 'post card', according to the United Postal Stationery Society definition: if there is no value imprint, then it is simply a 'post card'. I have an example of the card illustrated in JMPC #3 which depicts a "calesa". Strangely, the katakana syllabics at the bottom left of that card read 'KAROMATA', and not 'calesa'. (Our apologies. . . Calesa is a horse drawn buggy that can occupy more than two people - usually up to eight people, and usually used by housewives in going to local markets. While the Karomata is usually for two people - plus the driver - and more for leisurely trips such as for lovers. Calesas are still very much around today, especially in Chinatown, while Karomatas are seldom seen anymore. . . ed.). More by Gene Garrett - "The katakana on JMPC #4 reads 'Nipa House'. On page 3, Figure 1, the kanji in the #3 censor's box are 'Ken-etsu zumi', same as in all the censor marks, and I think that 'Censored by' is slightly more accurate than 'For censor's use' - either one is OK, however. It is very interesting I think that JMPC #11 also appears as a simple illustration in the 'Official Journal of the Japanese Military Administration'. I guess the Japanese liked it, and thought it (was good propaganda, showing cooperation between the Filipinos and the Japanese soldiers!

From BUD ASHMORE of 6150 Crittenden Ave., Indianapolis, Indiana 46220, we have received quite a collection of these cards - and the most extensive so far that we have seen. Illustrated in the next pages are cards from Bud's collection, except for JMPC-35.

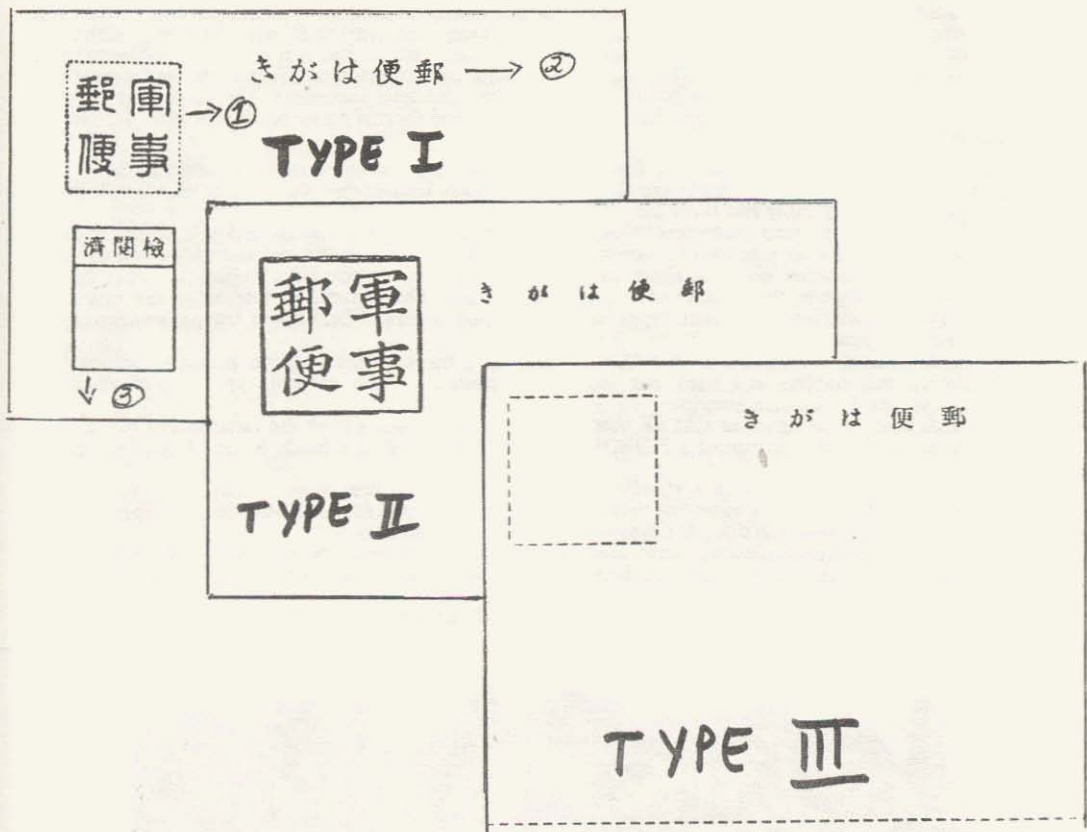
By Member Bud Ashmore:

"I believe the items in my collection were assembled during the Japanese Occupation in Manila by Mrs. Walter E. Schmelkes, a member of both the Asociacion Filatelica de Filipinas and the Philippine Philatelic Club. I would expect - but do not know for sure - that the collection is fairly complete. Your article concerned only pictorial cards, i.e. Philippine Scenes on the Japanese Military Cards. Of this type, I have three distinct types - your Type I and Type II. There is also a set of very beautiful pictures in vivid color which appear to be lineoleum block prints which I will call Type III." (It now appears that the Type I and Type II are Postal Cards, and the Type III is a post card, as per Gene Garrett's observation . . . and it also appears that a particular scene does not necessarily appear on one type only - but some on two types, and sometimes on all three types. . . ed.). "There were several other military cards which were printed in the Philippines for the Japanese soldiers and sailors, which do not have the pictorial scenes. As with the others, these also were used by philatelists for FDC's."

Through Gene Garrett, we have received an article written by FELIX BERTALANFFY. Felix is a Professor of Anatomy in the Medical College at the University of Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada. He is an internationally known specialist in Japanese philately and a prolific writer in that and other fields.

By Felix Bertalanffy:

The following comments are in reference to the article by Ms. Linda Stanfield in the Vol. 3, No. 1, 1977 issue of PHILIPPINE PHILATELIC NEWS. My friend Mr. Eugene A. Garrett mailed me a copy of that issue. Inasmuch as the charming authoress solicits comments on these cards she presented, I am taking the liberty of proposing the following opinion. As my name is probably unknown in Philippine philatelic circles, I might explain that I am a "Japan specialist" with a particular interest in Japanese military mail of all wars in which Dai Nippon was once engaged. In the March-April 1974 issue of THE POSTAL BELL (JAPS), I published an extensive account on the "Japanese Fieldpost of the China Campaign and the Pacific War", which remains still the sole survey in a Western language of the vast array of Japanese fieldpost stationery employed during that period.



I may take the liberty at the outset of correcting, and adding to the explanations of the Japanese inscriptions, deficiently reproduced in Fig. 1 of the article, on fieldpost. The four large characters in the upper left (1) stand for Gunji Yubin, precisely translated "Military Mail"; there are no characters denoting "Free". They would have been superfluous because since the Russo-Japanese War (1904-05) all gunji yubin posted by soldiery in the field were conveyed postage free. (2) Yubin hagaki, "postal card" is correct. (3) the three characters above the square mean ken-etsu zumi, "passed by censor"; into the square beneath, the censor placed his personal name seal, and not the sender.

The characters "gunji yubin", military mail, on any postal cards or letters did not render them in any way official. Anybody could place those characters on practically anything, and there was no law preventing him from doing so. In fact, the vast array of military postal stationery, as it was employed in innumerable varieties by millions of Japanese soldiers during the Pacific War, they were all privately produced. There was not a single such "official" fieldpost stationery released by the Japanese Communication Ministry.

Therefore, nobody was breaking a law even in Manila when he overprinted, or handstamped, with "gunji yubin", for instance a bundle of Philippine picture viewcards. But the practice did naturally not render them in any way "official".

The cards here presented appear to be of that type. It may well be that somebody perhaps in Manila, imprinted with Japanese inscriptions ordinary viewcards, produced somewhere locally in the Philippines, in an effort to render them "more interesting for use as FDCs of Philippine occupation stamps. And this conviction must stand until such a card is encountered which was factually conveyed as military mail to the mainland Japan. It would have to bear the censor's chop, an indication of a Japanese military unit stationed in the Philippines, the name of the soldier who dispatched the card, and an address in Japan. But frankly, I am pretty certain that such a card does not exist!

It appears rather that these cards are merely further examples of what Mr. E.P. San Jose, on p. 19 of the same issue, appropriately expressed as efforts of some stamp collectors then, who "vied with each other in preparing something different" on Philippine occupation collectibles. For it is evident that despite those hard times during the Japanese Occupation, there were numerous collectors in Manila who had a great deal of money and time on their hands to produce innumerable philatelic curiosities. The gunji yubin imprint appears to be just one variation, that practice itself was banal, and there is no evidence that these are factually "Japanese Military Postal Cards".

From a copy of an article sent in by Bud Ashmore which was published in the Japanese Philately Vol. XIII No. 8, entitled "Gunji Yubin" by Harry K. Weymer, we have learned that there are at least five different kinds of Japanese military cards and these are:

1. Cards bearing the four characters "Gunji Yubin" in the position where the stamp is normally found on the postal card. Some were intended for conventional use of the addressee's name and address on one side, and the message on the other side, but there are many with pictures on one side, leaving the other side for both address and message in the manner of souvenir postal cards. The pictures are interesting and varied and can be separated roughly into four main types: scenes of Japan, scenes of field life of troops, scenes of occupied territories, and girls.

2. Cards bearing the picture of a HELMET used as a frank in the position normally occupied by stamps. Cards use this emblem as a frank but none of the cards are of the picture type - all of them use the entire reverse side for message purposes.

3. Cards bearing the figure of a STAR used as a frank. These come in all the variations of No. 1.

4. Cards bearing the picture of a PIGEON on a HELMET used as a frank. None of them are of the picture type.

5. Cards using the figure of an ANCHOR as a frank. These, of course, were used by the Navy.

"The use of the free frank in any of these five kinds was reserved for mail from outside Japan; servicemen on the main islands used the normal adhesive stamps or postal stationery."

"This material is most interesting when used. Mint items are common and after the Japanese surrender, existing supplies were used up by economical civilians by putting current adhesives over the military frank."

ANY FURTHER COMMENT ON THIS SUBJECT FROM THE MEMBERSHIP? ? ?



Mrs. Melody G. Tanabe, the beautiful wife of our Postmaster General Felizardo R. Tanabe, was made an IPPS Honorary Member during Paxpex '77 at the Harrison Plaza Commercial Center. Mrs. Tanabe has given unselfishly her time and cooperation in the preparation and promotion of all IPPS exhibits.



JMPC-12



JMPC-13



JMPC-14



JMPC-15



JMPC-16



JMPC-17



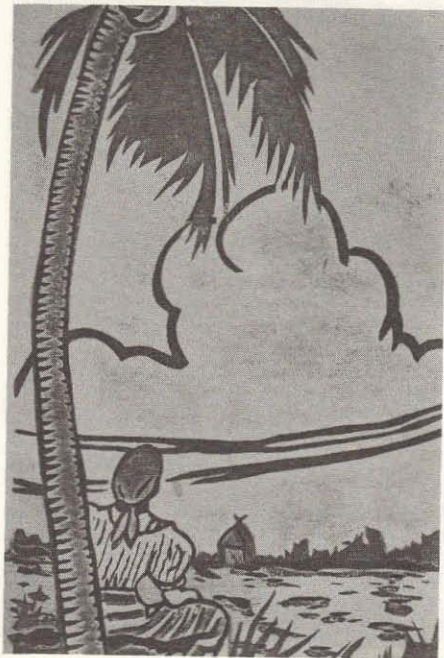
JMPC-18



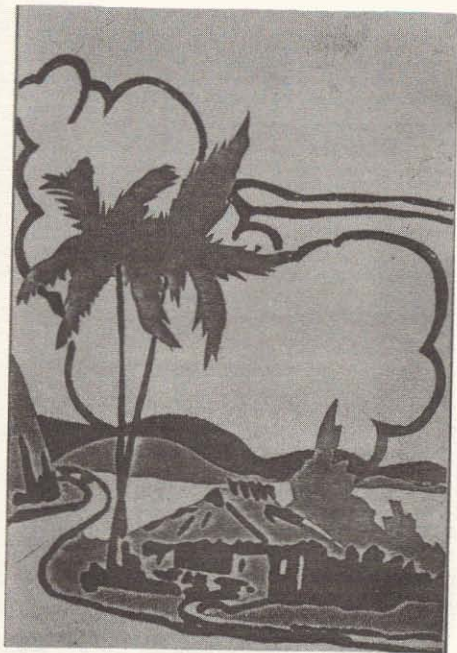
JMPC-19



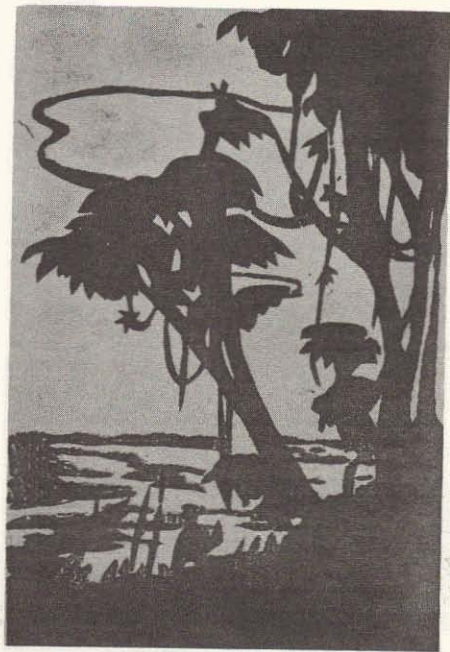
JMPC-20



JMPC-21



JMPC-22



JMPC-23



JMPC-24



JMPC-25



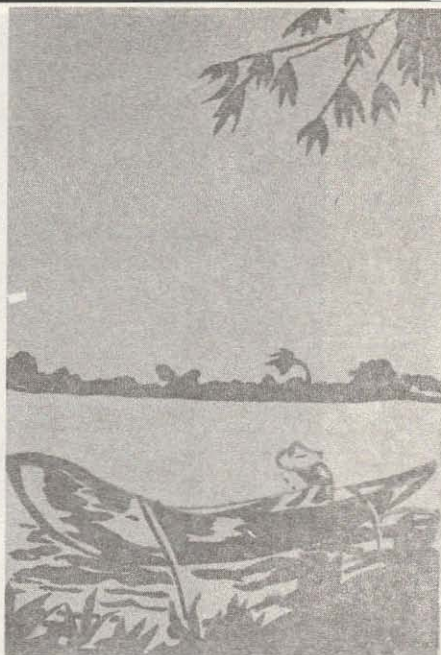
JMPC-26



JMPC-27



JMPC-28



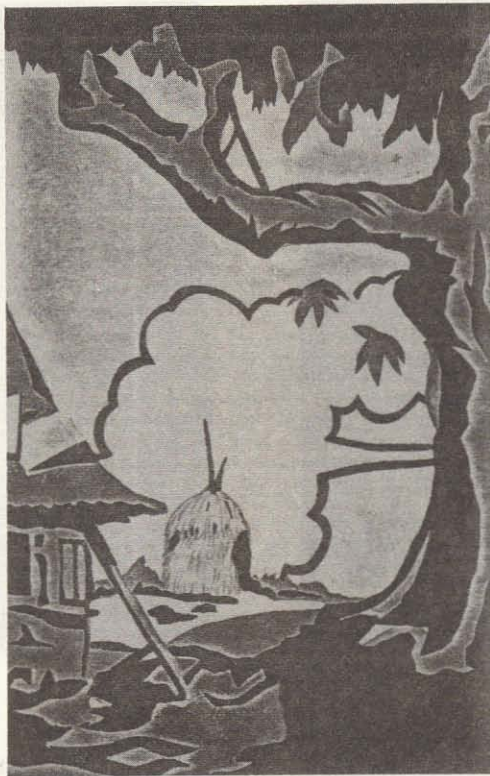
JMPC-29



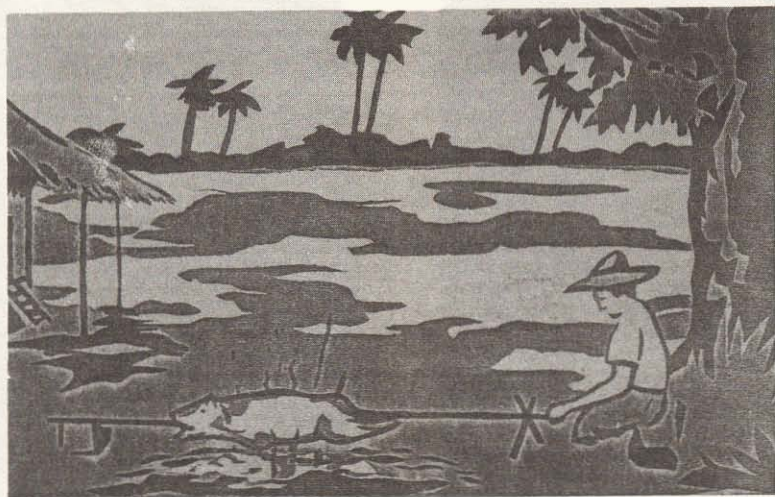
JMPC-30



JMPC-31



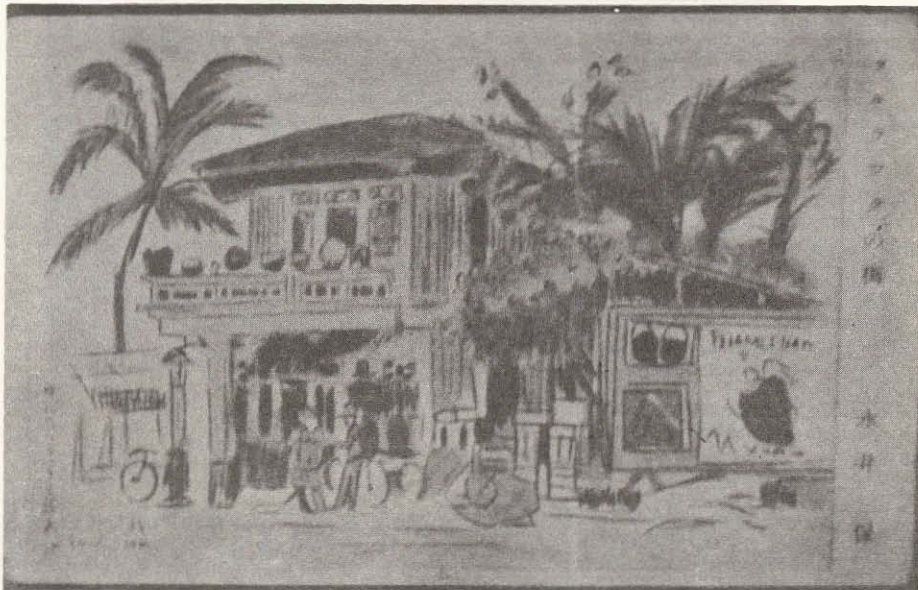
JMPC-32



JMPC 33

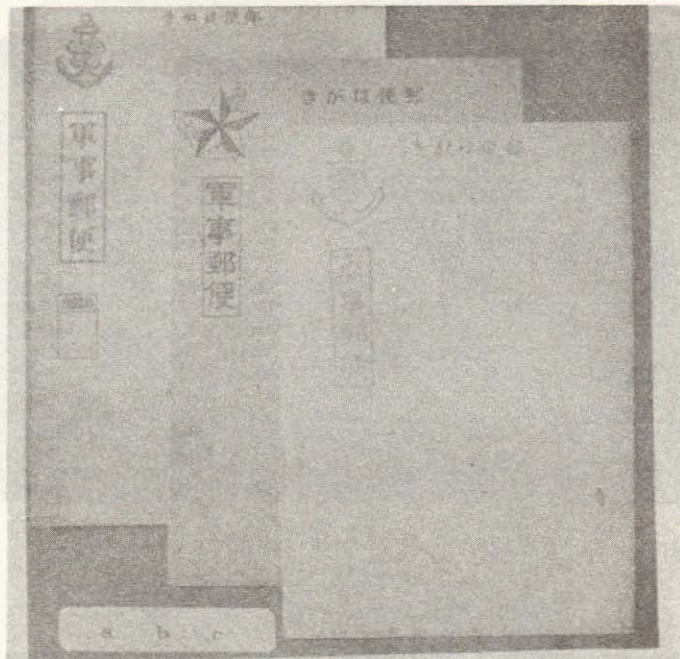


JMPC-34



JMPC-35

This particular military card is different from the rest as this is in full color. Member F. Yano, during one of his visits in Manila read the Kanji, which means "Tarlac Town, painted by Tamotsu Nagai". The inscriptions in the picture reads "Tarlac Photo Studio". The back is the same as Type I except that this was added, in Kanji, "Issued by Watari Propaganda Squad".



a & b printed but c is hand-stamped

These three unused Military cards found in the Japanese-Navy areas in the War time Philippines.

I think a / c use for Navy soldiers, but b offered for both Army and Navy.



The Japanese Imperial Navy
Back side of (a) card.

Hana wa Sakuragi
Hito wa Bushi in Japanese
means;

Soldiers always must
(Samurai)

die manfully as like
cherry blossoms are gone.

FROM MEMBER F. YANO of Japan - we received the above illustrations of other types of Japanese Military Cards - not necessarily with Philippine scenes - but were used in the Philippines.

PRE-OCCUPATION CENSOR MARK OF TACLOBAN, LEYTE •

By Eugene A. Garrett

To the casual observer, the Japanese Occupation of the Philippines commenced on January 2, 1942, when troops of the Imperial Japanese Army occupied the Capital City of Manila. Indeed, the Central Government of the Philippines was then firmly in Japanese hands and unquestionably the Japanese controlled the fate of the entire archipelago after that date. However, it required up to several months for the Japanese to occupy and secure the majority of the islands other than the main island of Luzon and the Davao area of Mindanao. It was not until after the surrender of the FilAmerican troops on Bataan and Corregidor that the Japanese found it expedient to divert the necessary forces to proceed with the invasion and occupation of many of the outer islands.

To establish the exact date of the occupation of Leyte, I consulted with Mr. C. M. Nielsen of Salt Lake City, a learned amateur historian of the Philippines. By happy coincidence, Mr. Nielsen was at the time preparing a study of the occupation of Leyte for the LEYTE-SAMAR STUDIES, a publication of the Divine Word University in Tacloban, Leyte and was therefore able to provide an instant reply:

"Leyte was not invaded by the Japanese. Col. Cornel, commanding the 9th Military District comprising Leyte and Samar, surrendered upon orders of Maj. Gen. W. F. Sharp, then in command of all unsundered forces in the Philippines. The Japanese occupation force of from 400 to 500 men landed at Pinamapoon, Leyte, on May 24th, 1942, and proceeded to Tacloban where the surrender took place on the 25th or 26th - authorities differ. The landing was not opposed, and the occupation of Leyte was accomplished relatively peacefully."

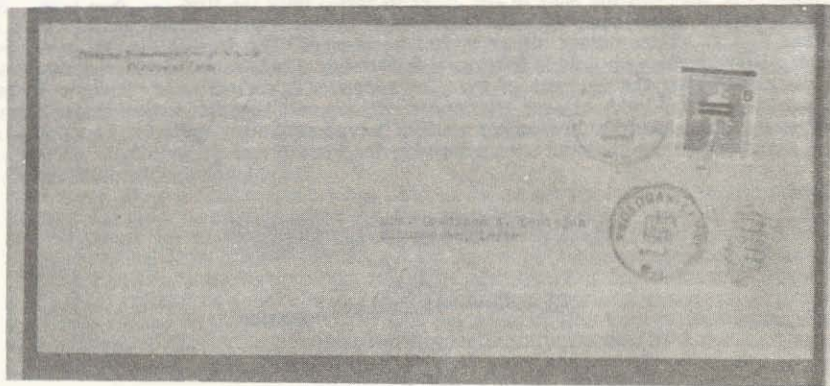


FIG. 1

It is therefore apparent that Leyte was in a sort of limbo from the outbreak of hostilities on December 8, 1941, until the surrender of May 25 or 26, 1942. Although completely cut off from Manila, the local branches of both the central and provincial governments continued to function as best they could under the circumstances. In order to preserve the highest possible degree of order throughout the Islands, President Quezon had authorized the emergency payment of six months advance salary to all civil servants, the great majority of whom continued to carry out their duties and functions until the inevitable occupation by the Japanese. In many areas, the postal service continued to function on a local basis, long after such service had been suspended in Manila.

The foregoing preamble brings us now to the specific subject of this discourse, which started when Mr. R. Hunter Ashmore, Jr., kindly let me borrow the cover illustrated in Figure 1 for the purpose of studying a superb example of the very rare Tacloban, Leyte, censor label, Type 11B2, which is affixed to the reverse side (not shown). For the specialist collector, it becomes second nature to peek inside any such commercial

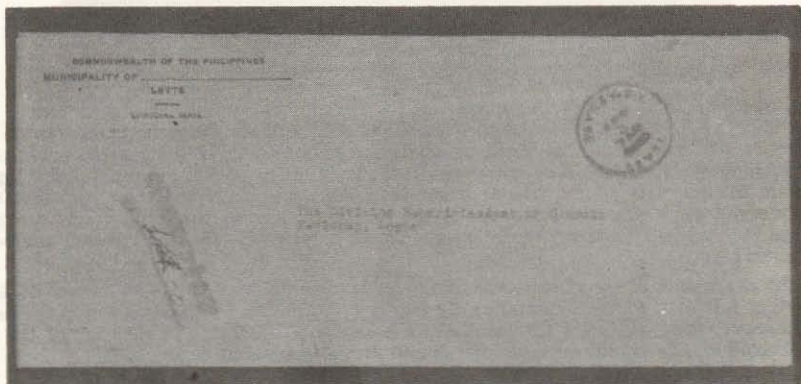


Fig. 2

or official cover of the Japanese Occupation of the Philippines. Rarely, that peek is rewarded with the discovery of a "turned cover"; i.e., a cover used twice for the enclosure and mailing of a letter. Especially in the provincial towns outside Manila, a severe shortage of office supplies, including envelopes, made it prudent and necessary to practice conservation whenever possible. One method was to turn a once-used envelope inside-out, very carefully, so as to expose the unused inside for re-use.

After that one quick look inside the illustrated cover, a telephone call to Mr. Ashmore elicited his most generous permission to slit open the ends of the cover to reveal fully the first-used face (Figure 2). In spite of its general nondescript appearance, with the "outlawed" Commonwealth stamp peeled off, it was immediately apparent that an extraordinary discovery had been made. The Baybay, Leyte, postmark is dated April 3, 7 AM. Although the year date is missing, it is certainly 1942, since postal censorship did not exist in the Philippines until after the outbreak of war. The addressee is the self-same "Division Superintendent of Schools/Tacloban, Leyte", who became the sender of the cover upon its second usage. The truly exciting discovery is the black handstamped censor mark of a type previously unknown to me and, so far as I can determine, previously unreported and unmentioned in the literature of the period.



Fig. 3

In the actual size illustration (Figure 3), it can be seen that the mark is, regrettably, only partially legible. In the first line, the inscription "CENSORED" is quite clear, but the inscription which follows is badly smudged: it seems to read "R? 7", with the intervening number (s) or letter (s) totally illegible. The second line probably reads "BY _____", with the blank line provided for the black pen-and-ink signature, monogram or initials of the individual censor; in this example, the inscription is clear but indecipherable. The rubber stamp is apparently of local manufacture, undoubtedly hand-made to meet the emergency need for such a device. It remains to be determined whether the censorship was accomplished by a civilian or military censor, since the local Commonwealth Government officials were subject to the martial law which General MacArthur had declared after the first aerial attacks by the Japanese on December 8, 1941.

The discovery of the censor mark under discussion would seem to open a hitherto little-known and previously unexplored period of Philippines postal history. It seems reasonable to assume that other similar censored covers of the period have survived, perhaps unrecognized by their present owners as to their great rarity and historical interest. It is hoped that other examples, from Leyte as well as from the many other provinces which remained unoccupied for some time after the fall of Manila, will be reported for recording in the permanent literature of the postal history of the Philippines.

THE MARCH 4, 1942 ISSUES

By Mario Que

Japanese Occupation stamps and covers of the Philippines are considered by students of Philippine philately as one of the most interesting fields to study. It is perhaps due to the short life-span of the Occupation, and yet the numerous number of areas to research and study. No other field of Philippine Philately can offer such a challenge from the stamps issued to covers prepared - first days and otherwise, to postmarks, censor marks, postal stationeries, etc... This article will concentrate on March 4, 1942 - the re-opening of the Postal System during the Japanese Occupation - the issues, etc. . . surrounding this date.

March 4, 1942 is indeed an important date for Philippine philatelists. It was a time when most people were still unaware of the happenings that surrounded them, a time when fright and anxiety prevailed among the masses. It was perhaps due to the abrupt change of the ruling power that people were uncertain of their rights - what they could and they could not do. Thus, when Executive Order No. 4 dated Feb. 21, 1942 laying down the basic guidance for the re-opening of the postal system within the City of Greater Manila area was issued, it paved the way to the re-opening of the post office on March 4, 1942. And, one of the basic changes that was made was the renaming of the "Bureau of Posts" to "Bureau of Communications".

To meet the postal requirements, a set of stamps was issued - the 2c Rizal, for ordinary mail, the 16c Magellan's Landing for registered mail; and a 2c Rizal postal card. All of these were part of the seized Commonwealth issues, re-issued with overprints. Because of the tension still prevailing at that time, it can be said that only a small number of people took time out to either prepare philatelic covers or mail letters.

THE 2c RIZAL (SCOTT # NI):

Scott # 461, the 2c Rizal apple green, 1941 series, was overprinted with bars deleting the words "United States of America" and "Commonwealth of the" in black. The stamp, measuring 19 x 22 1/2 mm., with perforation 11 and 10 1/2, unwatermarked, was issued in sheets of 100, with no straight edge. Total quantity issued was 3 million. This particular stamp was originally printed by the United States Bureau of Engraving and Printing in whole sheets of 400 containing four panes of 100 stamps each. These whole sheets were cut into four panes for easier packing purposes, before shipping to the Philippines. So, when the overprinting was done by the Japanese authorities, there exists four different plate positions, one plate number per whole sheets, but found in four different positions, namely: (1) upper right hand corner on pane 1; (2) upper left hand corner on pane 2; (3) lower right hand corner on pane 3, and (4) lower left hand corner on pane 4. I have so far obtained the following plate numbers for my collection: 145416 and 145417.

There are two color shade varieties that are known: apple green and bright yellow apple green. Scott catalogue lists a major error wherein a pair with one stamp with the deleting bars and the other stamp without the deleting bars. I personally have not seen one. When I examined several sheets of this particular issue in my collection, and others too, I discovered that the bar deleting the words "United States of America" is narrower on the first three stamps of each row, located at the left hand side of each pane, as compared to the other succeeding deleting bars.

Electric Eyes - or, the marginal markings used as electronic guides in perforating the sheets - are found in this particular issue. As mentioned before, the stamps were issued in sheets of 400, and was cut into four panes of 100 stamps. In between panes 1 and 2 and in between panes 3 and 4, a series of heavy gutter dashes, dividing the vertical sheet gutter between the left and right panes, were printed. There are twenty of these gutter dashes, two for each corresponding stamp. A corresponding line (Gutter Bar) was also printed on the lower left sheet margins of panes 1 and 3. Horizontal lines (frame bars) were also printed on the left sheet margins of panes 1 and 3; there are 9 frame bars per pane, one for each corresponding stamp, starting on the second row, stamp # 11. For clearer understanding, refer to illustration 2.

THE 16c MAGELLAN'S LANDING (SCOTT #N3):

Scott # 439, the 16c Magellan's Landing, dark blue, 1938 series, was overprinted with bars deleting the words "United States of America" and "Commonwealth" in black. The stamp, measuring 22 x 35 mm, with perforation 11, unwatermarked" was issued in sheets of 50, with 14 straight edges (13 with single straight edge, and one with two straight edges). Total quantity issued was 160,000. The stamp was originally printed by the United States Bureau of Engraving and Printing in whole sheets of 200 containing four panes of 50 stamps each. There exists two different plate positions, one plate per pane (see illustration 3), namely: (1) the upper plate number, found on the 3rd stamp of the first and second panes; and (2) the lower plate number which is found on the 48th stamp of the 3rd and 4th panes. In my collection, I have the following plate numbers: 131568, 129937, 131521, and 131567.

A number of varieties exists in the position of the deleting bar on the word "Commonwealth". Bars were either shifted downward or upward, causing the word "Commonwealth" to be readable.

THE 2c RIZAL POSTAL CARD (SCOTT # NUXI):

Scott # UX19, 2c Rizal, Rose, 1938 issue, was overprinted with: a bar deleting the words "United States of America" on the stamp imprint, two parallel bars on the seal of the Commonwealth; and, in between these two overprints, a bar deleting the word "Commonwealth". The card measures 140 x 82 mm., and issued in two types of stock cards - the buff and the canary. This postal card is known to have been affixed with the 2c Rizal apple green, or with the 16c Magellan's Landing, or both, and cancelled March 4, 1942.

JAI-ALAI CORPORATION
OF THE PHILIPPINES
MANILA



*Trans
to Alegre
from Amoyland
Manila*

Handwritten initials and numbers: H, 274



↑
Illustration 1, No. 3

Illustration 1, No. 2
↓

大日本憲兵隊検閲済
OPEN BY THE CENSORS
PASSED INSPECTION

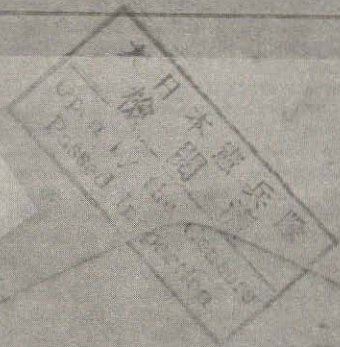
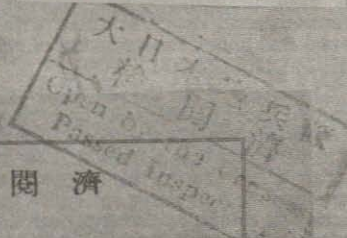


Illustration 1, No. 1
↗

Illustration 1

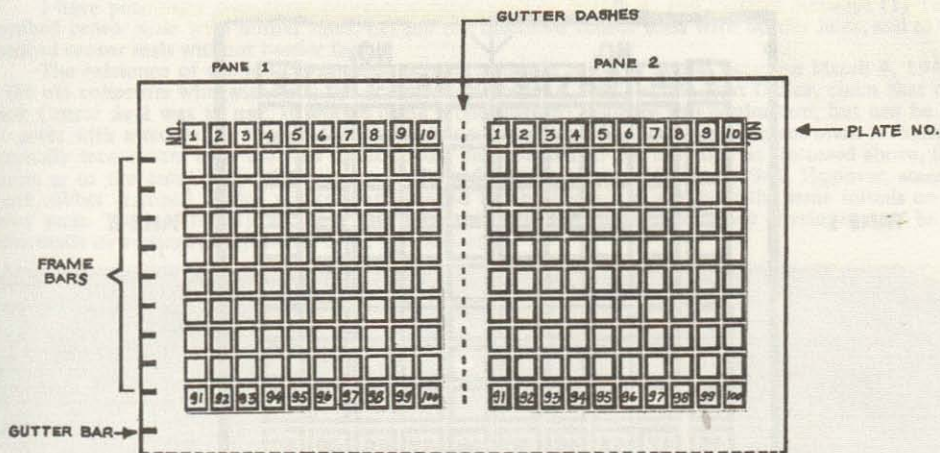


Illustration 2

A number of color varieties exists ranging from light to dark shades of rose. Some exists with short dividing line. Another variety occurs in the overprinting of the bar on the word "Commonwealth", causing a shift either downwards or upwards, resulting for the word "Commonwealth" to be readable.

It has been reported also, that mint copies with "inverted" deleting bars on the seal of the Commonwealth exist, I personally have not seen one and I question the occurrence of such an error.

Granting that the plate used for overprinting was inverted, the positions of all the deleting bars will be on a reverse position. So, the plate was NOT inverted.

More so, we cannot say that the cards were inversed; if so, the positions of all the deleting bars will be found on the lower left portion of the postal card. So, the card was NOT inverted.

I therefore conclude that the only possibility of such an error is the existence of two plates, one normal, and one with the inverted deleting bars on the seal of the Commonwealth. However, this is doubtful, considering the fact that none of the collectors in the Philippines, who are knowledgeable on the Japanese Occupation issues have seen or reported such an error.

It is perhaps quite a challenge to search for a genuine postally used card with such an error or even cancelled on the first day, March 4, 1942, as only mint copies have reportedly been found.

FIRST DAY CANCELLATIONS:

With regards to first day cancellations, no ONE official canceller was authorized, therefore, there are several that are known, and these are:

- 1) MACHINE SLOGAN CANCELLATION - The slogan reads "POST/YOUR MAIL/EARLY", all in capital letters and in three lines within a rectangular box which measures 19 x 29 mm., and with seven straight lines on its right side. The dial that bears the date, time and place has a diameter of 20 mm. (Illustration 4, # 1).
- 2) WAVE LINE CANCELLATION - composed of three heavy wavy lines, measuring approximately 40 mm. (illustration 5). This canceller was applied only on covers with the 16c Magellan's Landing Stamp and is applied together with the Registry Rubber Stamp, Type 2 (illustration 6).
- 3) REGISTRY RUBBER STAMP MARK CANCELLATION - (illustration 1 # 3) - in rectangular box shape, measuring approximately 42 mm. with two frames, and with the legend "Registered/Manila/Philippines/Mar 4, 1942/No. . . .". There are two types known to exist: Type I, with

PLATE NO. 

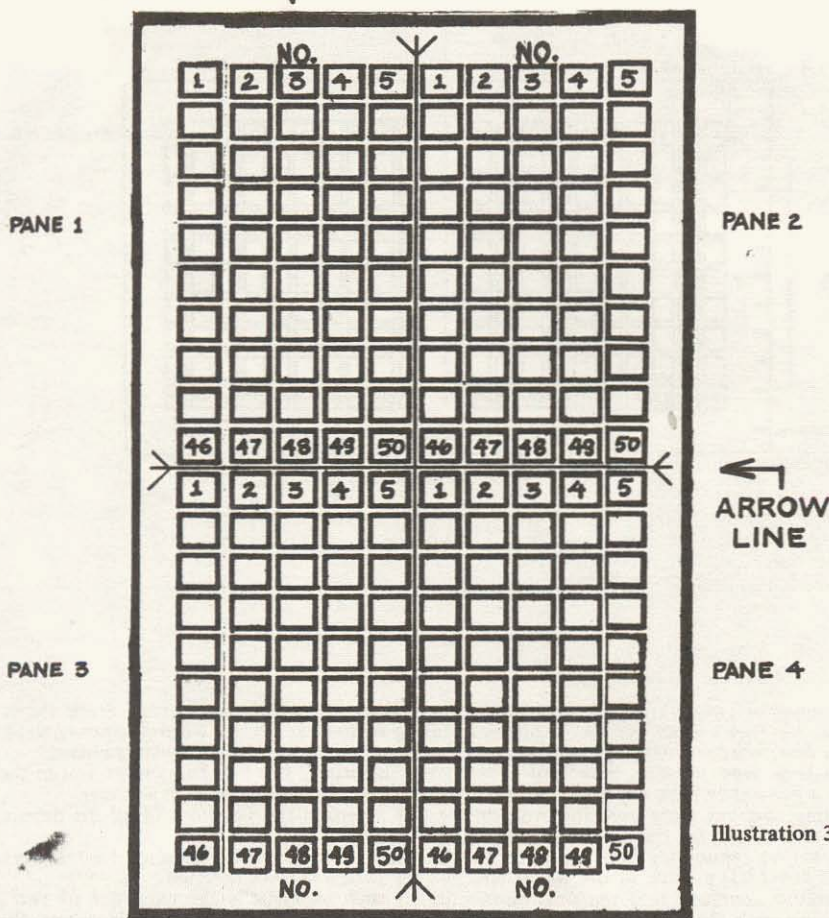


Illustration 3

even lines and clear letters; and Type 2, with uneven lines, causing the cancellation to appear to have been applied with a worn-out canceller (illustration 6).

- 4) CIRCULAR STEEL CANCELLATION (Illustration 7) - the dial of this canceller has a diameter of approximately 30 mm. The dial is inscribed on top with the word "Manila No. 2" and below, the word "Philippines". In between the two, inscribed in four lines, are the following: "Mar/4/1942/ (time)". Only canceller with Station No. 2 is known to have been used. Cancellations were made on different times of the day, therefore, quite a variety exists.

The 2c Rizal Postal Card is known to have been cancelled with either one of these known first day cancellations.

CENSOR MARK (RUBBER HAND STAMPED):

Only one type of censor mark was known to have been used during this day, (illustration 1, No. 1), Rubber handstamped, it is a rectangular form with an inner frame measuring 50 x 25 mm. It bears the Japanese Kanji on the upper portion, in two lines, which, when translated, means "Great Japan Military Police" (1st line), and "Censored" (2nd line). On the lower portion is the legend "Open By The Censors/Passed Inspection", in two lines also. In between in Kanji and the Roman letters is a horizontal line separating the two.

CENSOR SEALS:

I have personally seen three types of censor seals on March 4, 1942 covers, namely: (1) The Black Inscribed censor seals with border lines; (2) the red inscribed censor seals with border lines; and (3) the red inscribed censor seals without border lines.

The existence of the red censor seals is open to doubt as to its actual usage on March 4, 1942. Most of the old collectors who witnessed the activities on March 4, 1942 at the Post Office, claim that only the Black Censor Seal was in use. It will be quite a challenge to disprove this contention, but can be done so if a cover with a red censor seal tied to the envelope by the rubber handstamp censor mark is found. I have personally seen covers with the Red Censor Seals but not tied to the envelope as discussed above, throwing doubts as to the authenticity of the usage of the red censor seals on March 4, 1942. However, some covers whose rubber stamped censor marks were initialed by the Inspector, also bear the same initials on the red censor seals. The practicality of using the red censor seal can be justified, since envelopes may be opened horizontally or vertically, depending upon the Inspector.

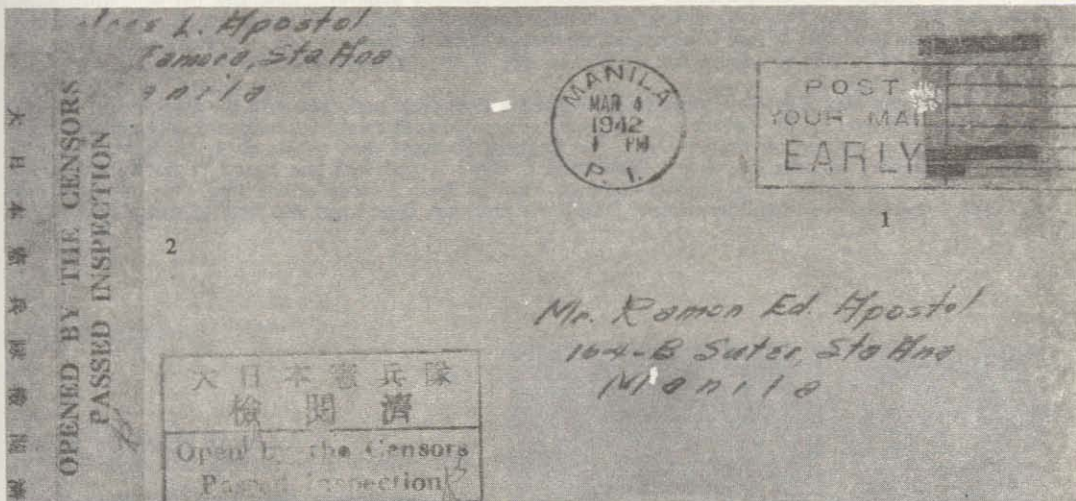


Illustration 4

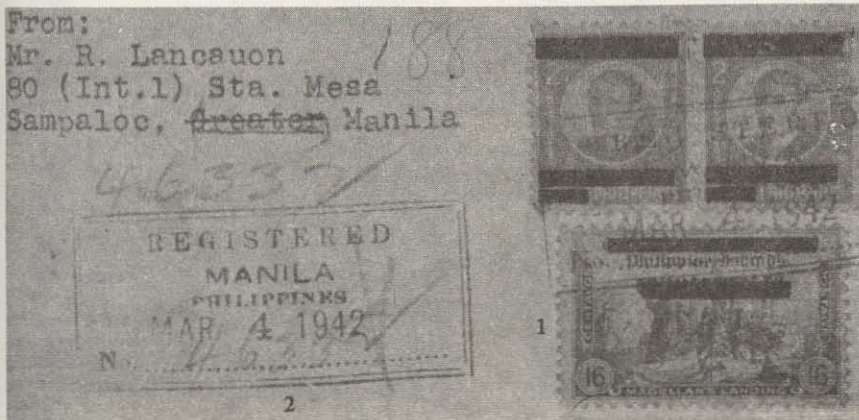


Illustration 6



Illustration 7

- 1) **BLACK CENSOR SEAL** (Illustration 1, No. 2) - made from ordinary white paper measuring 147 x 49 mm. On it is a rectangular box measuring 123 x 29 mm. Inside this is the Japanese Kanji "Dai Nippon Kempeitai Kenetsu Zumi", which, when translated means "Censored by Great Japan Military Police". Below this, in big Roman capital letters, and in two lines, are the following inscriptions: "Open by the Censors/Passed Inspection." The printing on this seal was made with black ink, hence the term "Black Censor seal". Because of its size, this censor seal was affixed across the bottom of envelope, where the openings were usually done.
- 2) **RED CENSOR SEAL** (Illustration 4, No. 2) - made from ordinary white paper measuring 79 x 25 mm. Inscribed with the Japanese Kanji which reads the same as that inscribed on the Black Censor Seal. Below this is the grammatically corrected phrase "Opened by the Censors/Passed Inspection" in two lines. The printing on this seal was made with red ink, hence the term "RED CENSOR SEAL". Because of its size, this particular censor seal was affixed on the left hand side of the envelopes, where the openings were usually made. As mentioned before, there are two types of this particular red censor seal; (a) that without frame, and (b) that with frame. The frame on (b) - in rectangular box-shape, measures 70.5 x 17 mm. March 4, 1942 covers with these two types of Red Censor Seals are known to exist.

REGISTRY RECEIPTS:

Registered First Day Covers of March 4, 1942 is preferably collected with the accompanying Registry Receipt (Illustration 8) - whose registry number, applied with a rubber handstamp, coincides with the Registry Number written on the envelope. The Registry Receipts used on March 4, 1942, were stamped with the Registry cancellation, as per illustration 6, Type 2, and with the legend "Juan Ruiz, Postmaster". I have encountered only Registry Receipts with the Type 2 cancellations used, even on covers with the Type 1 cancellations therefore, cannot state for a fact that Type 1 was also used to stamp Registry Receipts.



Illustration 5

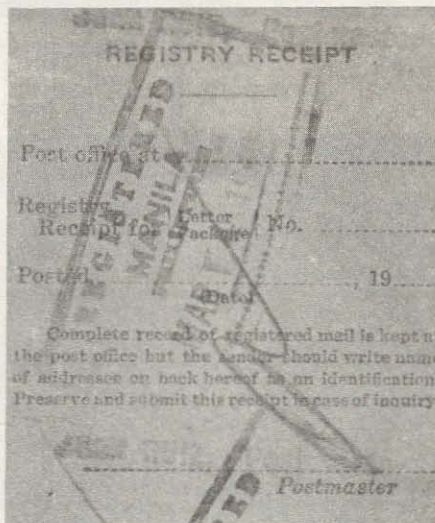


Illustration 8

JAPANESE MILITARY POSTAL CARDS

Military Postal Cards were issued by the Japanese Imperial Forces for use by their military personnel in all occupied areas. These cards need not be franked with stamps as they are postage-free, and is not available for public use. These cards are not official issues of March 4, 1942, however, some collectors who were able to obtain some of these cards, franked them with the 2c Rizal apple green and/or with the 16c Magellan's Landing, and cancelled them on March 4, 1942. I have only seen this done on military cards with Philippine scenes, types JMPC 9 and 10, as illustrated on page 13 of the PPN Vol. 3 No. 1 issue. This just proves how ingenious the Philippine collectors were at that time. The addition of such cards further enhances ones collection.

WARNINGS:

Because of the scarcity of First Day Covers of March 4, 1942, there has been a lot of forgeries, therefore certain precautions should be taken when buying. It is safer to have a cover with the 16c Magellan's Landing affixed on the upper right hand corner first, preceeded by the 2c Rizal apple green, because some collectors claim that FDCs of the 2c only have been seen, with the 16c added later, and made to appear as having been cancelled on the same date.

Overprinting of this issue can easily be forged, therefore, one should be careful in purchasing the so-called "errors" and "varieties".

When buying covers with censor seals, it is advisable to make sure that the seals are tied to the envelope by the rubber handstamp censor mark.

TRANSLATION:

ORDER NO. 4

February 21, 1942

To MR. JORGE B. VARGAS,
Chairman of the Executive Commission of the Philippines

ORDER CONCERNING THE REOPENING OF POSTAL ADMINISTRATION IN THE PHILIPPINES.

Postal administration (mails, postal money order and postal savings bank) should be governed, for the time being, in accordance with the following rules:

1. The management of the postal administration shall be so directed as to comply with those requirements necessary for the military operation of the Imperial Japanese Forces, for the restoration of peace and order, for the stabilization of civilian livelihood and for establishing ways and means for the full exploitation of important natural resources.
2. The former system of postal administration is to be continued in principle, with a certain degree of modification to meet with the actual situation.
3. The Imperial Japanese Forces may, if necessary, appoint superintendents and attach them to appropriate offices.
4. A system of censorship should be established in certain post offices under the guidance of the Japanese Military Police, and all postal matters in principle be subjected to censorship.
5. Postal charges as well as rates of interest on postal savings shall be, for the time being, same as hitherto.
6. Before reopening the services of postal money order and the savings bank, necessary preparations such as setting a limit in the amount of money to be withdrawn, shall be made in order to smoothly carry out the work.
7. As to the details which are necessary for handling the postal administration, you shall be notified separately.

COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF OF THE IMPERIAL
JAPANESE FORCES IN THE PHILIPPINES.

**INSTRUCTION CONCERNING THE REOPENING OF
POSTAL ADMINISTRATION IN THE PHILIPPINES**

**COMMISSIONER OF DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND COMMUNICATION,
THE EXECUTIVE COMMISSION OF THE PHILIPPINES**

In connection with the order given by the Commander-in-Chief of the Imperial Japanese Forces to the Chairman of the Executive Commission regarding the subject above-mentioned, you are hereby instructed to handle the postal administration for the time being in compliance with the following rules:

1. Postal matters to be handled shall be limited to those kinds mentioned hereunder. It is, however, to be noted such restriction shall be gradually removed.
 - (a) Letters.
 - (b) Postcards.
 - (c) Newspapers, the publication of which is authorized by the Imperial Japanese Forces.
 - (d) Printed matters for publicity purposes, sent by the Imperial Japanese Forces, by the government offices of the Philippines, and by those who have obtained necessary permissions from the Imperial Japanese Forces.
 - (e) Postal Money Order; excluding any telegraphic money order.
2. Regulations on postal matters.
 - (a) Writing of names and addresses of senders to be obligatory. Addresses and names of both senders and addressees shall be written clearly on letters as well as post cards.
 - (b) Restriction of languages.
For efficient censorship, the languages to be used shall be limited for the time being to Japanese, Tagalog, English, and Spanish only.
 - (c) Restriction on the use of codes, argots, etc.. . No secret methods of communication such as using codewords, argots, etc., shall be allowed for postal matters.
 - (d) Postal matters not complying with the foregoing rules should be confiscated.
 - (e) In order to avoid any difficulty in the handling of the postal money order and banking services, necessary restrictions shall be provided for as to the amount of money to be paid for the orders issued prior to the date of the reopening of postal administration, and also as to the amount of money to be withdrawn from the deposits made before the said date.
3. Postage stamps. Former Philippine stamps with certain additional printings, shall be used for postal matters.
4. Reopening of post offices in Greater Manila. Post offices located in Greater Manila shall first be reopened for public service and gradually the sphere for postal service shall be extended to provinces.
5. Liquidation of postal matters undelivered.
 - (a) Registered mails and official mails shall, after being censored, be forwarded to addresses or sent back to senders, as far as possible. Other mails shall be kept in the post office for the time being.
 - (b) Parcels shall, after their contents have been inspected, be treated in the same manner as above.
 - (c) Mails to foreign countries, which do not come under the preceding two items, should undergo censorship and if necessary, they shall be destroyed in the presence of a representative of the Imperial Japanese Forces.
 - (d) Other postal matters undelivered should be destroyed at respective post offices in the presence of a representative of the Imperial Japanese Forces.

DIRECTOR GENERAL OF THE MILITARY ADMINISTRATION

REFERENCES: Scott U.S. Specialized Catalog.
Stamps are History, Unpublished Manuscript of Enrique P. San Jose.
Censor Marks of the Japanese Occupation of the Philippines, 1942-1943 by Eugene A. Garrett, American Philatelists August-September 1977.
Stamps of the Philippine Islands Under the Japanese Occupation by Yang Siu-Chong.

APS MEMBER WON MAJOR AWARDS IN AEROPEX '77

By Linda Stanfield

APS Member Mario Que won the top major awards at the recently concluded Aeropec '77. Sponsored by the International Phil. Philatelic Society, the exhibition which limited its entries to airmail and aerophilatelic materials was opened on October 24, 1977 at the Thomas Jefferson Cultural Center in Metro Manila, with some 250 frames of rare collections. Que, who competed on both the Philippines and Pan Am aerophilatelic categories won for the two exhibits most of the top awards.

His entry under Pan Am category - entitled "Pan Am's Philippine Connection" consisted of ten frames depicting the history of Pan Am's flight to and from the Philippines as philatelically recorded in flown covers, starting from the First TransPacific Flight in 1935 from San Francisco to Manila, to the 1975 Anniversary of the said flight in which a set of stamps was issued by the Philippine Bureau of Posts, as well as covers were authorized to be flown for the occasion. The said collection won for Que the Best of Show Award - the American Airmail Society Gold Medal plus the 4 ft. 4" Juan T. Trippe Trophy donated by Pan American Airways. The trophy was named after the founder of Pan Am and Chairman of the Board for over forty years. It also won for Que the APS Bronze Medal for the Best Exhibit of a member of the American Philatelic Society, and the Gold APS Chapter Medal for the Best Exhibit of an IPPS member.

The Philippine entry of Que - entitled "Philippine Airmail Stamps 1926 to 1977 - A Complete Collection" - is indeed complete from the rare and elusive Madrid-Manila stamps of 1926 to the recently issued Espamer '77. This entry won the Col. Andres Soriano, Sr. Award for the Best Philippine Airmail Exhibit. The 4 ft. 4 in. trophy was donated by San Miguel Corporation in honor of its founder Col. Andres Soriano, Sr. who pioneered the Philippine Commercial Aviation. The same exhibit won for the Que the Silver APS Chapter Medal - as First Runner Up for an entry of an IPPS member.

Other winners of the exhibition were: Silvio Gammachio - the Stanfield Airmail Award for the Best Foreign Entry for his "Peru Airmail the First Ten Years". William E. Trower - the William T. Seawell Trophy for his "Flight Path Pacific"; Trower also received the APS Chapter Medal - Bronze - for the Second Runner Up for an entry of an IPPS Member. And, Donald McPherson, the W. Randall Johnson, Jr. Trophy, for his "Transpacific Flight".

APS Member and Accredited Judge William J. Oliver who flew all the way from the USA served as Chairman of the Jury on Awards with distin-

guished Philippine Philatelists Senator Jose J. Roy and Don Fabian Carmona as members.

The exhibition, co-sponsored by the Thomas Jefferson Cultural Center and the Pan American Airways was in commemoration of the 50th Anniversary of the first Regularly Scheduled International Airmail Flight undertaken by Pan Am. A stamp in P2.30 denomination was issued by the Philippine postal authorities for the occasion.

United States Information Service Director, Dr. Horace G. Dawson, Jr., the Special Guest Speaker on the opening night, spoke on the importance of philately and the growth of American aviation and airmail service. His wife, Lula Cole Dawson, cut the ribbon officially opening the exhibition.

Present during the opening were officers and members of the IPPS headed by its President, Eliezer Jimenez, and Chairman, Frank R. Stanfield; officers and members of the newly organized Philippine Philatelic Auction Club headed by Carlos Inductivo, its President, and Severino N. Luna, its Founder; Senior Philippine philatelists who are seldom seen anymore except on important philatelic affairs such as Don Pablo Esperidion - the Dean of Philippine Philately, Enrique San Jose, Tim Certeza, Jr., Antonio Adrias, Gervasio Que, and Oscar Benito; USA Embassy officials and participating airline executives of Cathay Pacific, Sabena Airlines, Air France, Philippine Air Lines, and Pan Am; Post Office officials headed by Acting Postmaster General Pedro Gambalan, the Chief of the Stamp and Philatelic Section Pedro Marcelo, and District Inspector Octavio Bernaldes.

For the occasion, a special postal station was set up at TJCC during the exhibition with a special "Aeropec '77" canceller. The UNPA also provided a special show cachet applied on covers presented during the exhibition. An official show cover was issued and because the opening day coincided with UN Day, a special cover was also issued for the occasion. Aside from the two mentioned covers, four others were also issued, as follows: (1) Col. Andres Soriano Sr. cover, cancelled Oct. 24; (2) Lindbergh Cover, cancelled Oct. 26; (3) Concorde Cover, cancelled Oct. 27; and, (4) Pan Am Cover, cancelled Oct. 28.

A special Souvenir Card was also released in honor of Charles A. Lindbergh's 50th Anniversary Solo TransAtlantic Flight, and Pan Am's 50th Anniversary of its first regularly scheduled international airmail flight.

A special 8-page Souvenir Program was released which contained articles on Col. Andres Soriano Sr., the new Pan Am stamps, and a brief philatelic profile of William J. Oliver.



MARIO QUE (r) receives the Juan T. Trippe Trophy from Pan Am Philippine Director W. RANDALL JOHNSON JR. for the Best Pan Am Aerophilatelic Exhibit at the recently concluded Aeropex '77.

QUANTITY OF ISSUE OF OTHER PRE-WAR STAMPS

(We were able to obtain a copy of the "1941 Price List of Stamps of the Philippines Issued Under the American Dominion" published by one of our active Philippine dealers, YU S. CHONG, Proprietor of Manila Stamp Co. This book listed the quantity of stamps issued and we extracted those that Scott catalogue has no quantity listing and are publishing them here for our members information. Any discrepancy on this list, we will appreciate your advising us.)

SCOTT NOS;	DESCRIPTIONS:	QUANTITY
1925-1931 Imperforates:		
340	2c green	50,000
340a	2c Yellow green	120,000
341	4c carmine	25,000
341a	4c carmine rose	50,000
342	6c deep violet	5,000
342a	6c violet	10,000
343	8c yellow brown	5,000
343a	8c brown	10,000
344	10c deep blue	2,000
344a	10c blue	4,000
345	12c red orange	2,000
345a	12c deep orange	4,000
346	16c olive bistre (Dewey)	2,000
346a	16c olive green	4,000
347	20 c yellow	2,000
347a	20c orange yellow	4,000
348	26c blue green	2,000
348a	26c green	4,000
349	30c gray	2,000
349a	30c light gray	4,000
350	1p violet	2,000
350a	1p light violet	4,000
351	2p violet brown	500
351a	2p brown violet	1,000
352	4p deep blue	200
352a	4p blue	400
353	10p deep green	100
353a	10p green	200
 MAY 3, 1932 PICTORIAL ISSUES:		
354	2c Yellow green - Mayon Volcano	5,422,000
355	4c rose carmine - Post Office	1,592,800
356	12c orange - Pier 7, Manila Bay	473,000
357	18c red orange - Pagsanjan Falls	66,675
358	20c yellow - Rice Planting	431,000
359	24c deep violet - Rice Terraces	415,600
360	32c olive brown - Baguio Zigzag Road	500,600
 1932 OVERPRINTS.		
368	1p on 4p blue	114,000
368a	1p on 4p dark blue	20,000
369	2p on 4p dark blue	60,000
369a	2p on 4p blue	20,000
 FAR EASTERN GAMES:		
380	2c yellow brown	971,414
380a	2c yellow brown "Malformed 'T' on 'Eastern'"	28,571
381	6c ultramarine	800,000
382	16c violet brown	500,000

TEMPLES OF HUMAN PROGRESS:

397	2c carmine rose	1,500,000
398	6c deep violet	500,000
399	16c blue	300,000
400	36c yellow green	250,000
401	50c brown	200,000

JOSE RIZAL — 75th ANNIVERSARY

402	2c yellow brown	490,000
402	2c light yellow brown	10,000
403	6c slate blue	295,000
403	6c light slate green	5,000
404	36c red brown	197,500
404	36c light red brown	2,500

MANUEL L. QUEZON

408	2c orange brown	5,000,000
409	6c yellow green	1,000,000
410	12c ultramarine	500,000

OVERPRINTED "COMMONWEALTH":

411	2c rose, Rizal	84,072,000
412	4c yellow green, Woman and Carabao	80,000
413	6c dark brown, Filipina	2,233,600
414	8c violet, Pearl Fishing	607,500
415	10c rose carmine, Fort Santiago	1,668,000
416	12c black, Salt Spring	2,098,600
417	16c dark blue, Magellan's Landing	809,100
418	20c light olive green, Juan dela Cruz	80,000
419	26c indigo, Rice Terraces	80,000
420	30c orange red, Blood Compact	816,500
421	1p red orange & blk., Barasoain Church	614,250
422	2p bis. brn. and blk., Battle of Manila Bay	30,000
423	4p blue and black, Montalban Gorge	30,000
424	5p green and black, George Washington	40,000

EUCCHARISTIC CONGRESS:

425	2c yellow green	4,000,000
426	6c light brown	2,500,000
427	12c sapphire	2,500,000
428	20c deep orange	1,500,000
429	36c deep violet	1,000,000
430	50c carmine	1,000,000

FOREIGN TRADE WEEK:

449	2c on 4c yellow green	500,000
450	6c on 26c blue green	165,100
450a	6c on 26c green	1,600
451	50c on 20p henna brown	60,000

TRIUMPHAL ARCH:

452	2c yellow green	1,500,000
453	6c carmine	1,200,000
454	12c bright blue	900,000

MALACAÑANG PALACE:

455	2c green	1,500,000
456	6c orange	1,200,000
457	12c carmine	900,000

QUEZON OATH TAKING:

458	2c dark orange	1,500,000
459	6c dark green	1,200,000
460	12c purple	900,000

1933 AIRMAILS:

C46	2c green	500,000
C47	4c rose carmine	800,000
C48	12c orange	500,000
C49	20c yellow	500,000
C50	24c deep violet	500,000
C51	32c olive brown	500,000

ARNACAL FLIGHT:

C56a	16c on 26c green	3,000
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SPECIAL DELIVERY:

E6	20c dull violet	3,000
E6a	20c violet blue	2,000

FEBRUARY 3, 1945 -

LAST DAY CANCELLATION UNDER THE JAPANESE OCCUPATION •

*By Enrique P. San Jose
San Francisco Village
Taytay, Rizal*

This day was Saturday. It was a fairly sunny day but the situation in Manila was very tense. Compulsory labor was going on in the principal sections of the city and people were afraid to cross the big bridges where the Japanese were either laying mines or guarding them zealously. Civilians were walking briskly in the streets not because they felt happy but because they were extremely careful, intensely alert. Only a few vehicles could be seen plying to and fro, and these few were mostly being used by the Japs. Somehow, everybody could feel an impending danger. Exactly when and how it will strike, nobody was sure.

In spite of this situation, the Manila Post Office across the two main bridges of the city was thriving with activity. For three weeks past, the long list of reservations for the "Laurel Issues" could not be filled adequately, so that many who went to the Post Office on this day were either getting their previous reservations, buying some more of the adhesives still available, getting their cancelled stamps and covers, or getting refunds for unfilled quotas. This group who went to the Post Office on February 3, 1945 must have acted on a strong "philatelic hunch" when, aside from their original intention in going there, they began posting more and more postal cards and covers and waited until they brought them home safely. Small quantities of these covers were cancelled at different hours

during the memorable 3rd day of February. By 4 o'clock, the last cancellation of the day was made, and today, Manila philatelists consider this 4:00 p.m. cancellation as the truly last hour cancellation on the last day of the official Japanese Occupation of Manila (Actually, the Japs had to be driven out of the city, especially in the southern areas. It took weeks before they were either driven or wiped out. Sometimes, they were blasted out of the buildings where they entrenched themselves. Sometimes, they were ferreted out of their hiding places)

By 6:00 on this same day, shots could be heard all around the city. But no one seemed to be firing; at least, no one could be seen firing. Occasionally, a few Japanese soldiers riding around in trucks fired shots in the air to scare the people and to drive them home. As the evening went deeper, more and more shots were heard. Actually, there was exchange of fire and the people realized then that not only the local "guerillas" were fighting against the Japs but also the spearhead of the American Liberation Forces.

This night of February 3, 1945 will always be remembered by the Filipinos in Manila and the Americans interened in Sto. Tomas Concentration Camp, for it was then that their long-hoped-for deliverance from the Japanese gave proof to reality.

cont. on page 33

1977 POSTAL SLOGANS

- 39) AULD LANG SYNE DISTRICT 380/CONFERENCE '77/ROTARY INTERNATIONAL/FEBRUARY 24-26 - used at the Philippine International Convention Center (PICC) Post Office from Feb. 24-28, 1977 to mark the Rotary District Conference '77 hosted by District 380.
- 40) IMMUNIZATION/A ROAD TO BETTER HEALTH/APRIL 7 - WORLD HEALTH DAY - used at the Manila Central Post Office from April 6-15, 1977 to help intensify the immunization drive for a better health and in celebration of World Health Day.
- 41) GOLDEN JUBILEE 1966/INSTITUTE OF PUBLIC HEALTH/U.P. - used at the Manila Central Post Office and the Makati Commercial Center Post Office from April 18-28, 1977.
- 42) BUDGETING FOR PROGRESS/NATIONAL BUDGET WEEK/APRIL 25-30, 1977 - used from April 29-30, 1977 at the Manila Central Post Office and Makati Commercial Center Post Office; and from April 25-30 at the following post offices: Quezon City, Ermita Pasay City, Makati, Malacanang, Araneta, Greenhills, and Central Bank.
- 43) 25 YEARS IN PROMOTION OF/SCIENCE CONSCIOUSNESS/FOR NATION BUILDING - used from June 1-30 1977, in connection with the silver jubilee celebration of the Science Foundation of the Philippines, at the following post offices: Angeles City, Bacolod City, Baguio City, Cagayan de Oro City, Cebu City, Cotabato City, Dagupan City, Davao City, Iloilo City, Legaspi City, Tacloban City, Zamboanga City.
- 44) IPAGPATULOY ANG KAUNLARAN/MAG-IMPOK SA BANGKO (translated: Continue the progress, put your savings in the bank) - used from June 25 to July 4, 1977 in connection with the observance of the 4th Anniversary of the National Savings for Progress Campaign by the Central Bank of the Philippines, at the following post offices: Manila Central, Ermita, Sta. Cruz, Sta. Mesa, Manila Hilton, Quezon City, Camp Crame, Pasay City, Araneta Center, Greenhills, Nayong Pilipino, Pasig, Mandaluyong, San Juan-Rizal, Marikina, Grace Park, Caloocan City, Parañaque, Airmail Exchange Office, Valenzuela-Bulacan, Makati Commercial Center.
- 45) 6th ANNIVERSARY/MEDICARE HELPS YOU PAY/FOR YOUR MEDICAL NEEDS/AUGUST 1-15, 1977 - used at the Makati Commercial Center Post Office, Cebu City Post Office and Davao City Post Office, from August 1-15, 1977, coinciding with the 6th anniversary of the Philippine Medical Care Commissions created under Republic Act 6111 known as the Philippine Medical Care Act of 1969.

- 46) 75th ANNIVERSARY/BUREAU OF POSTS/1902-1977 - used from September 1-15, 1977 at 135 post offices all over the country, namely.

Bangued, Abra
 Baguio City
 Batac, Ilocos Norte
 Laoag City
 Vigan, Ilocos Sur
 San Fernando, La Union
 Bontoc, Mt. Province
 Dagupan City
 Lingayen, Pangasinan
 San Carlos City, Pangasinan
 Basco, Batanez
 Tuguegarao, Cagayan
 Lagawe, Cagayan
 Ilagan, Isabela
 Kabugao, Kalinga, Apayao
 Bayombong, Nueva Vizcaya
 Aglipay, Quirino
 Balnnga, Bataan
 Angeles City
 San Fernando, Pampanga
 Tarlac, Tarlac
 Iba, Zambales
 Olongapo City
 Cabanatuan City
 Palayan City
 San Jose City
 Malolos, Bulacan
 Cavite City
 Tagaytay City
 Iriga City
 Naga City
 Locusin, Albay
 Legaspi, City
 Tabaco, Albay
 Virac, Catanduanes
 Masbate, Masbate
 Sorsogon, Sorsogon
 Kalibo, Aklan
 San Jose, Antique
 Roxas City
 Iloilo City
 Bacolod City
 Bago City
 Cadiz City
 La Carlota City
 San Carlos City, Neg. Occ.
 Silay City
 Tagbilaran City
 Cebu Capitol, Cebu
 Cebu City
 Danao City
 Lapu-Lapu City
 Mandaue City
 Toledo City
 Bais City
 Canlaon City
 Dumaguete City
 Siquijor, Siquijor
 Trece Martires City

Ermita Post Office
 Manila Hilton Post Office
 Sta. Cruz Post Office
 Central Post Office
 Malacanang Post Office
 Puerto Princesa, Palawan
 Araneta Center Post Office
 Camp Crame Post Office
 Quezon City Post Office
 Nayong Pilipino Post Office
 Caloocan City Post Office
 Domestic Airport
 Greenhills Shopping Center
 Makati, Rizal
 Makati Commercial Center P. O.
 Airmail Distribution Center
 Malabon, Metro Manila
 MIA Exchange Office
 Pasay City
 Pasig, Metro Manila
 San Juan, Metro Manila
 Romblon, Romblon
 Dipaculao, Aurora Sub-Province
 Binan, Laguna
 Calamba, Laguna
 San Pablo City
 Sta. Cruz, Laguna
 Boac, Marinduque
 Lucena City
 Quezon Capitol, Quezon
 Balayn, Batangas
 Batangas City
 Lipa City
 Mamburao, Occ. Mindoro
 Biliran, Biliran Sub-Province
 Boronga, Eastern Samar
 Ormoc City
 Tacloban City
 Catarman, Northern Samar
 Calbayog City
 Catbalogan, Western Samar
 Maasin, Southern Leyte
 Basilan City
 Jolo, Sulu
 Sitangkai, Tawi-Tawi
 Dapitan City
 Pagadian City
 Zamboanga City
 Butuan City
 Cabadbaran, Agusan del Norte
 Bunawan, Agusan del Sur
 Malaybalay, Bukidnon
 Catarman, Camiguin
 Cagayan de Oro City
 Gingoog City
 Del Carmen, Surigao del Norte
 Bislig, Surigao del Sur
 Iligan City
 Malabang, Lanao del Sur
 Oroquieta City
 Ozamiz City
 Tangub, Davao del Norte
 Davao City
 Tarragona, Davao Oriental

Sultan Kudarat, Maguindanao
 Cotabato City
 Kidapawan, North Cotabato
 San Jose, Occ. Mindoro
 Calapan, Oriental Mindoro
 Daet, Camarines Norte
 General Santos City
 Koronadal, South Cotabato
 Tacurong, Sultan Kudarat
 Sta. Mesa Post Office

- 47) 70 YEARS OF CONTINUOUS/CHILD WELFARE/OCTOBER 7-17, 1977 - used at Manila Central Post Office from October 7-17, 1977, coinciding with the 70th Anniversary of La Proteccion dela Infancia, Inc., a child welfare charitable organization.
- 48) JOIN THE 1977 NATIONAL JAMBOREE/ISABELA-CEBU DAVAO/DEC. 27, 1977 - Jan. 5, 1978/JAMBOREE FOR DEVELOPMENT - used at Manila Central Post Office from October 18-27, 1977, to help intensify the campaign for participation to the 1977 National Jamboree.
- 49) 50 YEARS OF INVOLVEMENT/IN/PHILIPPINE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT/PHILIPPINE REFINING COMPANY, INCORPORATED - used from Nov. 1-15, 1977 at twenty-one post offices, namely: Manila Central, Ermita, Sta. Cruz, Sta. Mesa, Manila Hilton, Quezon City, Pasay City, Araneta Center, Greenhills, Nayong Pilipino, Pasig, Mandaluyong, San Juan-Rizal, Marikina, Caloocan City, Airmail Exchange Office, Cebu City, Davao City, Bacolod City, Iloilo City, Makati Commercial Center.
- 50) METRO MANILA/BILLY GRAHAM CRUSADE '77, 23-27 NOVEMBER/RIZAL PARK, MANILA - used at Makati Commercial Center Post Office and at Manila Central Post Office from Nov. 23-27, 1977 in conjunction with the five-day Evangelistic Crusade by Dr. Billy Graham in Manila.

Feb. 3, 1945 . . . con't from page 31

A few months later, several Manila philatelists received some covers posted in "Washington, D.C.", bearing the 3c Corregidor U.S. postage stamp and cancelled "Feb. 4, 1945", which proves that in philately there are kindred soul in every corner of the world. Like what Emerson once remarked about the Battle of Lexington and Concord, the "beleaguered philatelists" will yet do their best despite the "shot heard round the world".

PHILIPPINE NEW ISSUES

ASIAN OCEANIC POSTAL UNION (AOPU) - issued April 1, 1977 in 50s and P1.50 denominations with 3 million copies each. The stamp measures 31 x 40 mm. in sheets of 50. Printed by Apo/Neda Manila in 4 colors by offset litho. Issued to mark the 15th anniversary of the AOPU. FDCs were serviced at Manila Post Office. **VARIETY:** a color variety of lighter shade exists; a sheet of missing black color on the 50s value - causing the "50s" to be missing - has been reportedly been found.

ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK (ADB) - issued April 21, 1977 in 90s and P2.30 denominations with 3 million copies each. The stamp measures 30 x 45 mm. in sheets of 50. Printed by Apo/Neda Manila in 4 colors by offset-litho. Issued to mark the 10th anniversary of ADB, which was established on Dec. 19, 1966. ADB is an international development institution owned by its member government. Established mainly for the purpose of lending funds and providing technical assistance to developing member countries in the region of Asia and the Far East including the So. Pacific and promoting investment and generally fostering economic growth in the region. FDCs were serviced at Manila Post Office.

NATIONAL COMMISSION ON COUNTRYSIDE CREDIT AND COLLECTION (NCCCC) - issued May 14, 1977 in 30s denomination with 1 million copies. The stamp measures 31 x 42 mm. in sheets of 50. Printed by Apo/Neda, Manila by offset-litho in 4 colors. Issued in observance of "Credit Consciousness Year" covering the period of Oct. 12, 1976 to Oct. 11, 1977, as declared by Pres. F. E. Marcos under Pres. Proclamation # 1590. The NCCCC is composed of the Central Bank Governor as Chairman, the Sec. of the Department of Agrarian Reform as Vice Chairman and the Secretaries of the Dept. of Agriculture, Dept. of Industry, Dept. of Education and Culture, Dept. of Local Government, and Community Development of Public Information as members. FDCs were serviced at Manila Post Office and PICC Post Office. **VARIETY:** First sheets to come out were in orange background color; a few days after, sheets with red background color were seen being issued. Lighter shades of both orange and red colors have been found, making a total of four color varieties.

AMPHILEX '77 SHEETLETS - issued May 26, 1977 in P7.50 denomination in sheetlets of 3 (total face value of P22.50 per sheet) with 20,000 sheets perforate and 7,000 sheets imperforate. The stamp measures 39.5 x 25.75 mm. each and

the sheetlet 72 x 89.5 mm. Printed by House of Questa, London, England by offset-litho in full colors. Designed by G. Vasarheyli of Darling-ton; Perforation - pinhole of 14 per 2 cm. Unwatermarked PVA Gummed Security Coated paper s/o 102 gm. 2 was used. Issued for the Amphilex '77 Stamp Show held in Amsterdam, Holland from May 26 to June 5, 1977 in which the Philippines participated in. First issued in Amsterdam with a Manila cancellation for the FDCs. Released in Manila June 14, 1977 using the same FDC canceller used in Amsterdam with May 26, 1977 date. It was reported that only 12,000 perforate sheets and 3,000 imperforate sheets were available in Manila. There was no limit in buying as long as it is in the ratio of 4 perf sheetlets for every one imperforate sheetlet. Dealers were allocated 100 perf and 30 imperf.

OFFICE OF THE SOLICITOR GENERAL (OSG) - issued June 30, 1977 in P1.65 denomination (Registered domestic airmail) with 6 million copies. The stamp measures 27 x 37 mm. in sheets of 50. Printed by Apo/Neda Manila by offset-litho. Issued to Mark the Diamond Jubilee Year of the Office of the Solicitor General - the law firm of the Republic of the Philippines, which was established in 1901. FDCs were serviced at Manila Post Office.

WORLD LAW CONFERENCE - issued July 29, 1977 in P2.20 denomination with 5 million copies. The stamp measures 27 x 37 mm. in sheets of 50. Printed by Apo/Neda Manila in 4 colors by offset-litho. Issued in conjunction with the Eight Conference of the World Peace through Law Center and its affiliates on Aug. 21, 26, 1977, in Manila, participated in by over 140 nations with some 5000 delegates. FDCs were serviced at Manila Post Office.

ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH EAST ASIAN NATIONS (ASEAN) - issued on Aug. 8, 1977 in P1.50 denomination with 5 million copies. The stamp measures 27 x 37 mm. in sheets of 50, Printed by Apo/Neda, Manila in five colors by offset-litho. Issued in commemoration of the 10th anniversary of the establishment of the ASEAN - with Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore and Thailand as members. FDCs were serviced at Manila Post Office.

RAFAEL PALMA (BROWN) - issued August 15, 1977 in 30s denomination with 11,500,000 copies. This quantity is the unprinted balance of the 50 million 15s Rafael Palma, Green color, which has to be re-valued to meet the new postal rates. FDCs were serviced at Manila Post Office. **VARIETY:** Different shades of brown, from light to dark are known to exist.

OLUHO CABLE SYSTEM - issued on August 26, 1977 in P1.30 denomination with one million copies, the stamp measures 24 x 48 mm. in sheets of 50. Printed by Apo/Neda, Manila in 4 colors by offset-litho. To meet the diverse requirements for telephony, telegraphy, telex and other telecommunication services, such as leased networks, data circuits, etc., in the Western Pacific and Southeast Asia, the Cable and Wireless Ltd., the Eastern Telecommunication Phils. Inc., and Kokusar Denshin Denwa Co., Ltd. had jointly decided to construct a large capacity submarine co-axial cable system between Okinawa (Japan), Luzon (Phils.) and Hongkong. The system is known as the OLUHO Cable System. FDCs were serviced at Manila Post Office.

PRES. FERDINAND E. MARCOS - issued Sept. 11, 1977 in 30s and P2.30 denominations with 1 million copies each. The stamp measures 31 x 42 mm. in sheets of 50. Printed by Apo/Neda, Manila by offset-litho in five colors. Issued in observance of the 60th Birth Anniversary of His Excellency, Pres. Ferdinand E. Marcos. FDCs were serviced at Manila Post Office and Batac, Ilocos Norte Post Office.

NEW SOCIETY - issued Sept. 21, 1977 in 30s and P2.30 denominations with one million copies each. The stamp measures 31 x 42 mm. in sheets of 50. Printed by Apo/Neda, Manila in 5 colors by offset-litho. Issued in observance of the 5th Anniversary of the New Society. The New Society came about when Pres. Marcos, on Sept. 21, 1977, proclaimed Martial Law as per PD # 1081. FDCs were serviced at Manila Post Office. **VARIETY:** A sheet with missing value on the P2.30 issue was reportedly been found.

GREGORIO AGLIPAY - issued October 1, 1977 in 30s and 90s denominations with one million copies each. The stamp measures 27 x 42 mm. in sheets of 50. Printed by Apo-Neda, Manila by offset-litho in 4 colors. Issued to commemorate the Diamond Jubilee of the founding of the Aglipayan Church, also known as the Philippine Independent Church. It was founded by Bishop Gregorio Aglipay, a former Catholic priest who revolted against the Vatican. He was also a Mason, belonging to the Philippine Bodies, Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rites. FDCs were serviced at Manila Post Office.

ESPAMER '77 SHEETLETS - issued October 7, 1977 in P7.50 denomination in sheetlets of three (total face value of P22.50 per sheet) with 20,000 sheets perforate and 7,000 sheets imperforate. The stamp measures 39.5 x 25.75 mm. each and the sheetlet 72 x 89.5 mm. Printed by House of Questa, London, England by offset-litho in full colors. Issued for the Espamer '77 Stamp show which was held in Barcelona, Spain from October 7-13, 1977, in which the Philippines participated in.

PAN AM - issued October 28, 1977 in P2.30 denomination with one million copies. The stamp measures 27 x 42 mm. in sheets of 50. Printed by

Apo/Neda Manila by offset-litho in 4 colors. Issued to commemorate the 5th anniversary of Pan American Airways, and its first regularly scheduled international flight from Key West, Florida to Havana, Cuba. FDCs were serviced at Manila Post Office.

1977 PHILATELIC WEEK - issued Nov. 22, 1977 in 90s denomination with 500,000 copies. Scott # 1280, P1.00 Apo Philatelic So. stamp, overprinted in red with "1977 Philatelic Week" and was revalued to 90s. FDCs were serviced at Manila Post Office.

1977 CHRISTMAS - issued Dec. 1, 1977 in 30s and 45s denominations with 2 million copies each. The stamp measures 27 x 37 mm. in sheets of 50. Printed by Apo/Neda, Manila, by offset-litho in 5 colors. Depicts the most typical and popular emblem of a Filipino Christmas which is the "parol" or lantern. FDCs were serviced at Manila Post Office.

BOY SCOUTS - issued Dec. 27, 1977 in Manila and in Isabela; Dec. 28, 1977 in Cebu; and, Dec. 29, 1977 in Davao; with one million copies only. The stamp measures 27 x 37 mm. in sheets of 50. Printed by Apo/Neda Manila by offset-litho in 4 colors. Issued to mark the 1977 National Jamboree from Dec. 27, 1977 to Jan. 8, 1978, held simultaneously at Tamauini, Isabela; Capitol Hills, Cebu City, and Mariano Marcos, Davao. FDCs were serviced at Manila Post Office and at the 3 campsites postal stations.

A "PERIOD" VARIETY ON THE 1973 BOY SCOUT ISSUE

*By Warren L. Zahler
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I would like to report a variety on the 15s denomination of the Boy Scout Jubilee, Scott No. 1221 and 1221a. The variety can be best described as a "period" or white dot following the word SCOUTING in the bottom legend of the stamp. I first noticed the "period" on stamps received from the Philatelic Division, Bureau of Posts, and subsequently obtained full sheets of the issue to determine whether the variety was constant or only occurred on the few stamps in my first order. Both sheets (perforate and Imperforate) contained the "period" variety in five positions, positions 2, 12, 22, and 42, numbering across starting in the upper left. Since these stamps were printed in sheets of 50, consisting of ten vertical columns of five stamps, the "period" variety occurs on the stamps in only one column, the second from the left. The distinctiveness of the "period" varies in the examples I have seen, but is clearly visible without magnification in all cases. The presence of a distinct "period" on the 15s scouting stamp located specific positions in the sheet, I believe, constitutes a constant variety which deserves recognition.

ADDENDA: CENSOR MARKS OF THE JAPANESE OCCUPATION OF THE PHILIPPINES, 1942-1943 .

By Eugene A. Garrett

Under the sponsorship of the I.P.P.S., the first published study of the civilian mail censor marks of the Japanese Occupation of the Philippines has appeared in two installments in the August and September, 1977, issues of THE AMERICAN PHILATELIST. Subsequent to the completion of the original manuscript in November, 1976, certain new information has come to light, thanks to the splendid cooperation of several members of the I.P.P.S. Three very rare Type IB censor marks were not illustrated in THE AMERICAN PHILATELIST article for the reason that they were known only from the data compiled by Pablo M. Esperidion for his unpublished study, "Philippine Censor Marks, World War II", and had not been seen by this author. Now, however, photocopies of covers bearing strikes of those rare marks from the collection of Rudy Tan have been sent to the author, with the kind assistance of Linda Stanfield, Editor of this journal. A previously unknown censor mark has been reported by Fumiaki Wada, and information has been received from R. Hunter Ashmore, Jr., and from Mr. Tan which also revises the "Dates of use and "Earliest reported use" for several of the marks.

The newly-discovered information is recorded below, as addenda to the original study. A very few errors in the published study are also recorded below. The numbering system for the new mark and for the illustrations follow the numbering system employed in THE AMERICAN PHILATELIST article.

RUBBER STAMPS

Type IA - Bilingual, Japanese and English

1. Manila, Type 1

Dates of use: March 4, 1942, to September 25, 1942.

- 1a. Manila, Type 1a

Dates of use: July 13, 1942, to September 15, 1942.

The period of use of this "error" mark, with reversed order of kanji characters in the second row, was much longer than originally realized. It seems quite remarkable that the "error" was used for two months, apparently undetected by the Japanese "advisers" in the Bureau.

2. Manila, Type 2

Dates of use: September 26, 1942, to June 30, 1943.

It now seems apparent that the use of the Manila, Type 1, mark was discontinued on Friday, September 25, replaced by the more grammatical Type 2 mark on the following day, Saturday, September 26, 1942.

3. Legaspi, Albay

Earliest reported use: December 8, 1942

8. Tacloban, Leyte

Earliest reported use: April 8, 1943

(Correction: the katakana inscription is "Takuroban", not "Takoroban".)

It is now recognized that standard practice in Tacloban was to impress this mark partly over the flap and partly over the rest of an envelope after it had been sealed by the censor.

9. Baguio, Mountain

Earliest reported use: December 8, 1942

Type IB - Japanese language, vertical rectangular shape, provincial town name in katakana syllabics.

2. Iloilo-Iloilo

Earliest reported use: December 3, 1942

9. Legaspi, Albay



Figure 23.

Size: 25 x 39 mm.

Color: Purple

Earliest reported use: December 8, 1942

Translation: First line, "Regasupi", or "Legaspi"; second line, "Kempeibuntai", or "Military Police Section"; third line, date, "Nen-Gatsu-Hi", or "Year-Month-Day", not entered in this example; fourth line, "Kenetsu zumi", or "Censored"; bottom space for personal seal of censor, not entered in this example.

In view of the scarcity of covers with impressions of this mark, it is presumed to have been used only for a short time, perhaps for a month or less, when it was replaced in January, 1943, by the Japanese-English Type IA3 Legaspi censor mark.

10. Bacolod, Negros Occidental



Figure 24.

Size: 25 x 39 mm.

Color: Purple, with red personal seal

Earliest reported use: January 25, 1943

Translation: First line, "Bakorodo", or "Bacolod"; second line, "Kempeibuntai", or "Military Police Section"; third line, date, "Nen-Gatsu-Hi", or "Year-Month-Day", not entered in this example; fourth line, "Kenetsu zumi", or "Censored"; bottom space for personal seal of censor, illegible in this example.

11. Dagupan, Pangasinan

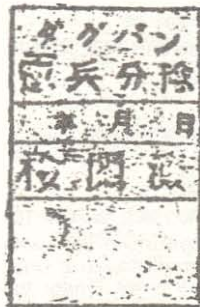


Figure 25.

Size: 25 x 39 mm.

Color: Purple, with red personal seal

Earliest reported use: December 8, 1942

Translation: First line, "Dagupan"; second line, "Kempeibuntai", or "Military Police Section"; third line, date, "Nen-Gatsu-Hi", or "Year-Month-Day", not entered in this example; fourth line, "Kenetsu zumi", or "Censored"; bottom space for personal seal of censor, partial and illegible in this example.

The scarcity of this mark suggests that censorship was accomplished for a short time at the Dagupan Post Office. Only one cover is known to the author with this mark; all others carry from Dagupan impressions of the censor marks either of Lingayen, the provincial capital of Pangasinan, or of San Fernando, Pampanga. It is known that the governor of the province was in residence at Dagupan for a time and conducted official business from there; exact dates are unknown at this time.

12. Tacloban, Leyte

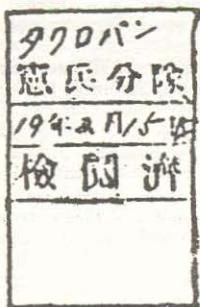


Figure 25A.

Size: 25 x 39 mm.

Color: Purple

Earliest reported use: (February 15, 1944)

Translation: First line, "Takuroban", or "Tacloban"; second line, "Kempeibuntai", or "Military Police Section"; third line, date, "19 Nen-2 Gatsu-15 Ka", or "19 Year-2 Month-15 Day", or "February 15, 1944"; fourth line, "Kenetsu zumi", or "Censored"; bottom space for personal seal of censor, not entered in this example.

The inclusion of this newly-discovered censor mark in this study is presumptive. Only one strike is known, on a "Gunji Yubin", or Japanese "Military Fieldpost" post card mailed from Tokyo to a Japanese soldier stationed in Tacloban. The date appearing within the mark is, of course, more than eight months after the use of censor marks had been discontinued on domestic civilian mail throughout the Philippines. The single known example was placed on the face of the card and then crossed out with a large "X", as though struck in error. It is included here for the reason that examples may in the future be found on civilian mail covers from Leyte, posted prior to June 30, 1943.

Type IC. Japanese "Kenetsu zumi" Fieldpost Markings

1. Tarlac, Tarlac

The illustration of this mark in THE AMERICAN PHILATELIST is upside down.

Type II. Gummed Labels

A. Bottom Seal

Manila

1. Manila

Unlike all other illustrations in THE AMERICAN PHILATELIST article, the gummed censor label in Figure 39 is not illustrated in actual size.

B. End Seal

1. Manila

Dates of use: March 4, 1942, to June 10, 1943.

This label has been confirmed on a cover with the very late date of June 10, 1943, just three weeks before the discontinuance of censor marks. Although still regarded as very rare, it apparently was used for a much longer time than was originally realized, probably until June 30, 1943, for letters posted with the envelope flap sealed.

1a. Same as Type IIB1 gummed label, except without border.

Earliest reported use: September 28, 1942.

This label was mentioned in THE AMERICAN PHILATELIST article, but was not assigned a separate classification number. Subsequently, however, the existence of the label was confirmed by Mr. Tan and it is assigned Type No. IIB1a.

2. Tacloban, Leyte

Earliest reported use: December 28, 1942

(Correction: the katakana inscription is "Takuroban", not "Tkoroban".)

Four covers bearing this very rare gummed censor label have been reported by Mr. Ashmore.

It is noted that this label was affixed to covers in two different manners: on covers which had been sealed prior to posting, the label was used to reseal the end of the envelope after it had been opened by the censor; when the cover had been posted unsealed in accordance with existing postal regulations, the label was sealed over the back flap.



Figure 45a.

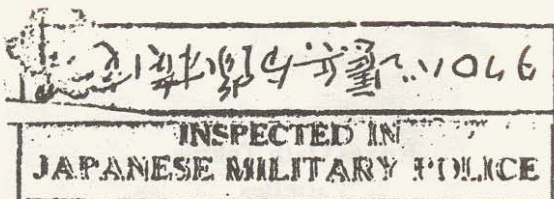


Figure 45b.

Figure 45a illustrates the label used to seal the back flap of a cover. The label in Figure 45b has been unfolded to demonstrate its use as an end seal. On the latter, it will be noted that the entire Japanese inscription apparently was entered after the label had been affixed to the opened end of the cover, inasmuch as the inscription appears to be upside-down when unfolded. The Japanese inscriptions are identical on both labels, but demonstrate quite different handwriting styles.

It is likely that readers of this journal can supply additional information, presently unknown to the author. As stated in THE AMERICAN PHILATELIST article, it is quite possible that other censor marks exist and that earlier dates of the known censor marks can be found. It is urged that such information be reported to this journal so that it may be recorded for the enrichment of our knowledge of the subject, for the benefit of all collectors of Philippine postal history.

— End —

VARIETIES ON THE 1947 ROXAS OATH TAKING ISSUE

By Ray L. Coughlin

About three years ago, while examining a Republic Era Collection I had purchased the day before, I noticed that the "S" in "Centavos" of the 16¢ value was malformed on a mint block contained in the collection. Curious as to whether or not I had found an error, I started checking every copy of the stamp (Scott # 514 - Roxas Oath Taking) that I had in stock. At that time, I maintained a considerable stock of the Republic Era Stamps, which I have since disposed of.

There were no copies to be found with a similar error in the stock, so I made a mental note of it, which I naturally forgot. About three months later while going through another dealers stock at a bourse, I noticed a used single with the same error. I purchased it, and became convinced that this indeed was an error on the issue. I then began to intensively search for more copies of this error.

A week later, I discovered a mint single which had yet another error, on the same stamp (Scott P514). This one is more minor, but yet quite dis-

tinct. The top left arm of the "V" in "Centavos" has a horizontal bar to the left about one half a mm. long. Later, I was able to find a used single, and a mint block with this error. It took until BALPEX '77 to find conclusive proof of the errors' existence. I was able to find a First Day Cover from Davao City with the error.

There is of course a previously reported error on the 2¢ value of this issue, the broken "R" which has only the lower right leg of the "R" the rest being completely missing.

To date, I have not been able to plate any of the errors mentioned in this article, as I do not have access to any sheets of this issue. If one of our readers has sheets of the issue, they could plate the three errors, and write a short follow up for the journal about the positions. If they wish, they could convey the information to our editor or myself, and we will give due credit when reporting said information.

I have no copies of any articles previous to this listing the two errors on the 16¢ value, so may have had the fun of discovering something that will be fun to look for to enhance our collections. Once we can plate them, we can get them listed in future specialized Philippine catalogs.

Roxas Oath Taking Varieties



BROKEN "R"



MALFORMED "V"



MALFORMED "S"

FIRST HELICOPTER MAIL FLIGHT IN THE PHILIPPINES

By Mario Que

One of the highlights of the recently concluded Aeropex '77 in Manila, was a mail flight made by a U.S. Navy helicopter of the Cubi Point Naval Air Station.

The flight was in commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the first regularly scheduled air mail flight made on October 28, 1927 from Miami, Florida to Havana, Cuba, by an American carrier, Pan American Airways. The event was made possible through the efforts of the International Philippine Philatelic Society and with the cooperation of the U.S. Naval Air Station Cubi Point, Bataan, Philippines and the Thomas Jefferson Cultural Center - United States Information Service. Arrangements were made through John Fredenburg, Director of TJCC and Lt. W. A. Romig of the Public Affairs Office, Cubi Point.

Philippine flight specialist William J. Oliver, who came to Manila for the Aeropex '77, acted as the IPPS representative, and together with IPPS Secretary Linda Stanfield, on October 27, 1977, travelled from Manila to Bataan, and under the supervision of Chief Postal Clerk M. S. Miranda, prepared some three hundred four (304) covers. These covers, addressed to the American Embassy, TJCC, Aeropex '77, APO 96528, were franked with 13¢ U.S. stamps and were postmarked "US Navy FPO 96654, Oct. 28, 1977 PM". These covers were flown by an H-47 Helicopter with serial number 151926 and piloted by LCDR L.B. Kauffman, and LT. M. Cramer, with crew members ADI Balderson and AD2 Dell. Covers were in turn received and backstamped "Air Force Postal Service, APO San Francisco, Ca. 96528, 28 Oct. 1977" at the American Embassy, Manila.

The IPPS in turn prepared a rubber handstamp cachet which was applied to all the covers. The cachet has the following legend "In salute to Pan Am's 50th 1927-1977/First Recorded Helicopter Mail Flight/From Cubi Point Naval Air Station to American Embassy; Manila/Aeropex '77". A sketch of the helicopter and a coconut tree completes the cachet. Some covers were treated with this cachet with black ink and others with blue ink.

It is to be noted that this is the first recorded helicopter mail flight made in the Philippines.

This was strictly a U.S. postal mail operation, therefore, at no time did the mail enter the Philippine postal system, and for this reason, U.S. stamps and postal markings were used.



First Recorded Helicopter Mail Flight in the Philippines – one of the highlights of Aeropec '77.



H47 Helicopter with serial #151926 that carried some 304 covers from Cubi Point Naval Air Station to American Embassy Grounds in Manila.

WHAT CAN WE AS MEMBERS OF THE IPSS DO TO INCREASE THE POPULARITY OF PHILIPPINE PHILATELY?

By: *Ray L. Coughlin*
5383 Harvest Moon Lane
Columbia, Md. 21044

The formation of the IPSS has brought forth a new breath of life to Philippine Collecting on an International scale. From its birth in Manila in 1974, it has now encompassed many new members from the U.S., the UK, and Canada among other nations. With time and work by its current membership, the IPSS should include members from many more nations in the coming years, making it truly a lively and viable International Philatelic Society.

All this is in the future, we hope. But what have we done as individuals to promote Philippine Philately? If we don't do our share, then maybe we as an organization will stagnate and slow fall apart.

And what, we ask ourselves is our share? How can we contribute to the furtherance of our hobby? Let us examine a few Philatelic Facts. In the Philippines, collecting Philippines is the most popular of countries to collect, but in the rest of the Philatelic World, Philippines is not the most popular country to be collected. In fact, my friends, it is sad but true that Philippine collecting is not very high up on the top 100 countries to collect chart. But WHY? After all, we know what an extensive and fascinating area of Philately that the Philippines offers to its collectors. **THE BASIC FACT IS, THAT WE KNOW THIS, BUT THE REST OF THE WORLD DOES NOT.**

WHY NOT? If one considers the complexity and scope of collecting the Philippines, he becomes more and more aware of just how little has been published about Philippine Philately. Ask yourself this question. When I first started collecting Philippines, where did I get the information that I began to need? A friend? a publication? A stamp club? If I were fortunate enough to be living in the Philippines, and could contact the oldtime collectors, then perhaps I could learn a lot. But if I lived elsewhere information was hard to come by. In fact, the beginning collector of Philippines may well be discouraged before he really gets started, just from lack of information.

So it would seem that to increase the popularity of a country among the collectors of the world, information needs to be available. It is also an obvious fact that few of us, if any, could sit down and write a thorough and comprehensive catalog covering all the aspects of Philippine Collecting.

So what can we as individuals do to make the general collecting Public more aware of Philippine Collecting? Here are a few ideas on this subject.

As individuals, we can contribute articles, or questions to the IPSS for inclusion into the PPN. The questions, lead to interesting short article in reply, and increase the amount of printed knowledge available. We can interest our friends in collecting Philippines.

Another thing that we can do is spend a little time and effort, and prepare an exhibit of our stamps, to be entered in Local Stamp Shows, and even in the larger national and international shows as we become qualified to do so.

A thing we can consider is the formation of local chapters, under charter to the IPSS, which can work as a group on doing original Philatelic Research, or preparing exhibits or merely educating each other.

It is apparent to this author both as a collector and a Professional Dealer that at least in this country the judges at the different shows have a striking lack of knowledge of Philippine Philately. This is a condition that has but one real remedy. They must be exposed to Philippine Material. If a Judge goes to two or three shows around the country, and there is at least one Philippine exhibit at each of them, if he is doing his job, he will learn something about Philippine Philately. If for instance a Local Area Chapter of the IPSS was to be formed in the California area, and the members decided that they would put four or five Philippine Exhibits in one of the larger shows in the area, then the judges, would be forced to do some homework. The public attending the show would also be exposed to Philippine Collecting, and if the exhibits informed as well as showed, then it would become apparent to many that the Philippines does indeed hold a great deal of interest to the collector.

Another thing that local chapters could do would be to request courtesy booths at major stamps held in their area. In the US this is a common practice, and most of the larger stamp societies do just that. This enables them to recruit new members, and to interest many new people in their collecting areas. The local members would have to do a couple of days work, but they would be really contributing to popularizing Philippine philately. It would also be a good idea for the member in that area to try for maximum participation of the membership from other areas in sending their exhibits. The Philatelic Press helps determine collecting popularity, and the exposure such actions would give us can only help increase public interest.

A basic fact is, that any fact known to only one or two people does little or no good to the rest of the people involved. Philippine philately should not have its "SECRETS". If you have knowledge in some area of our hobby, and you don't share that knowledge with the rest of us, then the facts you know won't help our hobby, and none of us lives forever. It is a real shame that so much Philatelic knowledge of all types is lost forever because one person learns them and carries them to his grave with him. Let the world know what you know. It can only help to increase Philippine Philately's popularity.

With this rambling, what have I tried to present? The basic fact that Philippines is to most of the world of stamps collectors an unknown country. In order for it to become known, we must all share our knowledge, and we must make it readily available to the rest of the world. The most popular countries in the world from a collecting viewpoint, have very active societies, and have published a lot of literature. This in turn makes the new collectors who are seeking knowledge turn more readily in their direction. There are thousands of new collectors every year, and many of these people would really love to collect Philippines, only they don't know it. IT IS UP TO US TO SHOW THEM THE WAY,

NEW MEMBERS — as compiled by Fe A. Carandang

- 129 - FUMIAKI WADA - c/o Hota, 30-15 Simoigussa 2-chome, Suginami-ku, Tokyo 167 Japan; July 2, 1954; Phils: Jap Occ, Postal History; Others: Japan, US, Manchukuo; Member: Japan PS.
- 130 - ROBERT H. SHELLHAMER - 2364 Crestview Rd. Pittsburgh, Penn. 15216; Dec. 16, 1909; Phils: Revenues, Obs, Telegraph, all phases; Others: US Possessions Revenues, British and Colonial of Queen Elizabeth II period, philatelic literature, QE II Booklets, airletters, coils, postal stationery, etc. . . Member: APS, Fellow-Royal Philatelic So., PS of Pittsburgh, Philatelic Literature Assoc., Cinderella SC, APC, Scandinavia PS, UPSS, Canadian Revenue Group, CZSG, Essay-Proof So., Spanish Civil War SG, S.F. de Puerto Rico, CC of NY, Bureau of Issues Asso., ARA, WCC, AFF, SPA, State Revenue So., Scandinavia CC, Br. No. Am. PS, Nat. PS, Spanish PS.
- 131 - MICHAEL D. BECK - 11 Mountainview Terrace, Maplewood, N.J. -7040; Phils: US Possession, 1898-1946; Others: Guam, PR, Cuba, Hawaii, US Postage Dues, CZ; Member: APS, UPSS, CZSG, HPS, PF of NY.
- 132 - JAMES C. MAHER - c/o US Treasury RDO, US Embassy, Roxas Blvd., Manila; Oct. 8, 1947; Phils: All; Others: US, GB, Br. Commonwealth; Member: APS.
- 133 - ARTHUR WM. SPRAGUE, JR. - 216 South Park Rd., La Grange, Illinois, 60525; Sept. 21, 1931; Phils: Spanish, American and Jap. Mint; Others: US Possessions, esp. CZ. Member: APS, CZSG.
- 134 - FLETCHER L. RAIFORD, MD. - 722 5th Avenue West, Hendersonville, NC; July 16, 1915; Phils: General; Others: Australia, PNG, Canada; Member: APS, Hendersonville SC.
- 135 - ENGR. VITO D. BALANGUE - P. O. Box 952 Makati, Rizal, Phils; June 15, 1944; Phils: Republic; Others: Chess, Asean, Telecommunications on stamps; Member: APO PS.
- 136 - MARJO F. MERCADO - 32251 Valiant Way, Union City, California 94587; March 4, 1960; Phils: all areas, 1854 to present; Others: Gen. Foreign, and US FDCs, Coins.
- 137 - JULIAN E. CABARRUS - 5 Good St., Granville N.S.W. 2142 Australia; May 22, 1949. Phils: all areas, Spanish to present; Others: Spain.
- 138 - PEDRO D. SARMIENTO - 404 Rosier Rd. Oxon Hill, Maryland 20022; July 22, 1933; Phils: US Occ., Jap. Occ, Republic, Army P. O.; Others FDC, FFC, Space Covers, US Ships cancels with Phil. names, MacArthur; Member: NASA/Goddard Space Flight Center Stamp Club, Int'l. Assoc. of Space Philatelists, ATA Space Unit, Universal Ship cancellation So., European Space Phil. Assoc., AFDCS, US Space Edu. Assoc.
- 139 - ERNEST F. BARKER - 1550 Rue McGregor, Apt. 1504, Montreal, Que., H3G IC2, Canada; Aug. 23, 1925; Phils: mint singles and B/F; FDCs, Postal Stationeries; Others: Western Europe, US, Canada, Iran, Turkey, Indonesia, US, Australia, French-Portuguese Colonies; Member: APS, ATA, Germany Phil. So., France and Colonies Phil. So., Royal Canadian Phil. So., Australasian Coll. So., Netherland Phil. So., UNP, Swiss Cancellations So.
- 140 - JOHN L. BYER - 7896 Koftinow Court, Manteca, California 95336; Oct. 8, 1936; Phils: Spanish to present; Others: US, Israel; Member: APS.
- 141 - GILBERT N. PLASS - P.O. Box 9973 College Station, Texas 77840; March 22, 1920; Phils: US Administration; Others: US Possession; Member: APS, SPA, BIA; Editor: Canal Zone Philatelists.
- 142 - CHALMER D. HILL - 8032 Darby Ave., Reseda, Calif. 91335; March 29, 1914; Phils: Spanish, to present, Postal Stationeries, town cancellations; Member: UPSS, Greater Valley Phil. So.; Permanent member of Exhibition Committee of Federated Clubs of So. California.

- 143 - OSCAR D. BENITO - 45 Dr. Pilapil St., Pasig, Metro Manila, Phils; May 11, 1920; Phils: RP from 1954, Magsaysayana Philately; Others: Clippings of Special interest.
- 144 - SILVIO GAMACCHIO - P.O. Box 359 Cebu City 6401, Phils., Oct. 8, 1920; Phils: after 1945; Others: UN, Italy, Peru, Rhodesia, airmail, prephilatelic documents, Thematic stamps; Members: CC of NY, Royal Philatelic So., ATA, APO PS.
- 145 - JOSEPH M. NAPP - 5 Knollwood Drive, West Orange, New Jersey 07052; October 20, 1943; Phils: US Occ, 1899-1946; Others Canal Zone.
- 146 - CARL G. WELK - P.O. Box 556 Rhinelander, Wisconsin 54501; July 2, 1911; Phils: Spanish to present; Others: US Postal History, US Possessions; Member: APS, Wisconsin Postal History So.
- 147 - FRANK J. DOYLE - 390 Bradys Ridge Road, Beaver, Pa. 15009; May 27, 1924; Phils: all periods; Others: GB, Greece, Ethiopia, Pakistan, India, Singapore, PNG, Peru, Brazil, WW covers, Cinderella stamps, Sorgeries; Member: APS.
- 148 - CESAR I. GULMATICO, JR. - 343 Wayan St., Mandaluyong, Rizal 3119, Phils; Oct. 10, 1959; Phils: Mint and used, all issues; Others: US, Israel, Fishes on Stamps, Fighter Planes on stamps, Filipiana on foreign stamps, Coins, shells, paper money; Member: U.P. Marine Biological So.
- 149 - BEN FRANKEL - 10 West 33rd St., NY, NY 10001; March 19, 1914; Phils: all issues; Others: US, CZ, Hawaii, A.M.G; Member: APS.
- 150 - PETER T. BRASTAD - 2595 Quimby Rd., San Jose, Ca. 95122; August 3, 1910; Phils: US Administration, RP, Japocc - mint, plate blocks, FDCs; Others: Canada, Norway; Member: APS.
- 151 - WILLIAM S. COBB - Rt. 3 Box 4 Clendenin, West Va. 25045; July 21, 1941; Phils: all aspects; Others: WW; Member: APS.
- 152 - WALTER E. VERINK - 385 N. 13th Apt. 3, Las Vegas, Nevada 89101; Sept. 21, 1920; Phils: Spanish, US RP, Member: APS.
- 153 - ADELBERT H. ROSENKRANZ - 548 So. Main St. Lombard, Illinois 60148; Feb. 10, 1920; Phils: all periods; Others: Australia, NZ, Germany, Switzerland, Canada, USA; Member: Transocean PS.
- 154 - CLARK H. STEVENS - 1617 Golfview Dr. Belleair, Florida 33516; July 31, 1900; Phils: all phases of postal stationeries; Others: Postal Stationery WW and USA; Member: APS, UPSS, SPA, APC.

SAN FERNANDO, LA UNION, CENSOR MARK, JAPANESE OCCUPATION OF THE PHILIPPINES

By Eugene A. Garrett

In the study sponsored by the I. P. P. S. "Censor Marks of the Japanese Occupation of the Philippines, 1942-1943" which appeared in the August and September, 1977, issues of THE AMERICAN PHILATELIST, the rare mark from San Fernando, La Union, was described and listed as No. IIC8, and an approximate reproduction of the mark was illustrated in Figure 33. That illustration was prepared from a very poor strike found on a postal card dated December 7, 1942, postmarked Balaoan, La Union, and from a description in the unpublished study by Don Pablo Esperidion. Now, however, our friend and fellow-member of the I. P. P. S., Mr. Fumihiko Yano of Sakai City, Japan, has reported a superb strike of that censor mark on a postal card postmarked December 18, 1942, at San Fernando, La Union (Figure 1).

Mr. Yano prepared the reproduction shown in Figure 1 in the elegant calligraphy of which he is obviously a master. The mark is struck in red, with the same red used for the strike of the censor's personal seal, the same "MIYAHIMA" whose seal appears on the Balaoan card mentioned above. Our thanks to Mr. Yano for sharing this information with us.



FIGURE 1



Philippine Philatelic Auction Club Officers and Board Members met with Postmaster General Felizardo R. Tanabe at a luncheon held at the Army and Navy Club, Manila, wherein the General has approved the formation of a Philippine Stamp Advisory Board. Shown above is a frame of Philippine MacArthur stamps presented by the PPAC to Gen. Tanabe for the Philippine Postal Museum and Library soon to be inaugurated.



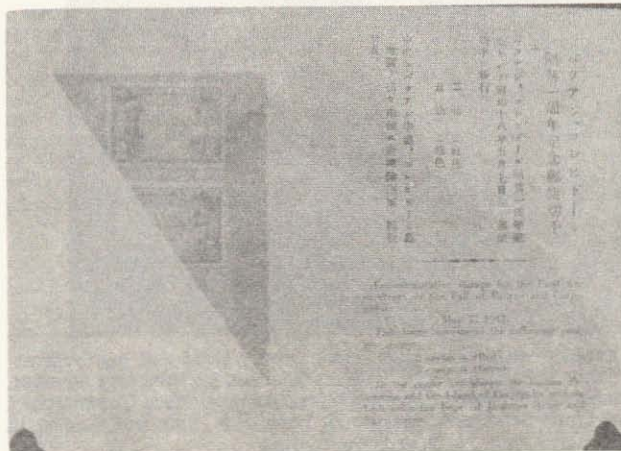
"... For his invaluable knowledge, unselfish dedication and active participation and involvement in the promotion of Philippine Philately -" thus, SEVERINO N. LUNA was made an Honorary Member of the IPPS last March 1977 during the opening ceremonies of Pappex '77 at Harrison Plaza Commercial Center. Photo shows (l-r) Enrique P. San Jose, Linda Stanfield, Severino N. Luna, F.R. Stanfield, Eliezer Jimenez, and Don Pablo Esperidion.

From Member FUMIHIKO YANO
 of - 1178-2 Uenoshiba, Mukogaokacho
 Sakai City 593 Japan

Undescribed Variety of K.P. 2 centavos stamps in the Jap-Philippines.



Very interesting Folder of the 1st Anniversary of the Fall of Bataan & Corregidor printed by the PHILIPPINE EXECUTIVE COMMISSION.
 In our Japanese side, we have not any official records about this Folder. I hope to know about this compliments in War-time Philippines.



A MOST UNUSUAL REFUGEE CAMP

By Larry Kierstine
1420 Solana Dr.
Belmont, Calif. 94002

For a student of postal history, the mere knowledge of a story is not sufficient, he must have philatelic proof.

For years, I was told that philatelic proof of this camp could not exist. Why? Because this camp could never have existed. The supposed peoples in this camp would never have been able to assimilate into a Catholic, Philippine, society (partly true).

This article with accompanying photos will forever dispute this line of thinking.

I would like to share with fellow collectors what little information I have regarding this camp. Maybe the following will help to further expand this one small aspect of United Nations related postal history.

A few years ago, quite by accident, I came across this simple cover. It was my first, hence it is of special importance to me. It opened up a whole area of philately that has been overlooked, and it prompted me to begin a research project on these covers that continues to this day.

The first thing that caught my eyes was the odd hand cancel and the unusual address. Second, I thought it strange that a registered cover with a Brooklyn, New York return address should be posted from the small town of St. Nicolass on the tiny island of Aruba. The face of the cover was cancelled in St. Nicolass on October 15, 1949. On the reverse side of the cover, the back-stamping begins to unfold a rather interesting journey. Two days later, on October 17, it was received at Oranjestad, the main city of Aruba. On October 19, it reached Miami, Florida. On October 20, it was in San Francisco, California. On October 24, it was in Manila, and, on October 28, it reached a post office at Guian, on the island of Samar, in the Philippines.

So, is this the end? No, this is just the BEGINNING. Something is extremely odd. Guian, in 1949, was nothing more than a native jungle village. A letter from there, in my possession, authenticates this. And to think they had a post office? Stranger yet, once this cover was received there, not only did it get a Guian back-stamp, but someone applied a circular hand-cancel to the face which reads IRO-UNEC. Why?

I was positive that it had something to do with the United Nations.¹ In a reply from an expert on the United Nations, I found that I was right. The letters "IRO" represent the United Nations International Refugee Organization and the letters "UNEC" represent the United Nations Evacuation Center. But from whom? This simple Guian cancel begins to unfold a most interesting story.

When the Ukrainians (White Russians) fled from the Russian revolution, a great many landed in Northern China. Then again in the late forties, they had to flee the Chinese Communists. Only this time they were homeless and were referred to as "The Shanghai Refugees". Hence, they came under the jurisdiction of the IRO, whose function in the post World War II era was to relocate the masses of displaced persons. "And of all the groups of peoples that the IRO was called upon to handle, this group of refugees were by far the hardest to relocate. They consisted mainly of White Collar workers, government officials, police officials, and others, about ten percent were intellectuals. Psychologically, they had remained refugees. Conditions in China had effectively prevented their assimilation into a normal life. The older ones among them still retained the hope of a victorious return into Russia, and the idea was common that, as they were the earliest refugees from the Bolsheviks, the world owed them something".²

Due to politics, no country would accept them as a group. Finally, in April, 1949, the Philippine government agreed to "tent" them, "But for only eighteen months", on the tiny, God-forsaken jungle island of Tubabao. Tubabao was connected by a bridge to the southern tip of the main island, Samar, which is located on the western side of the Philippines at approximately the twelfth latitude, about fifteen miles from Guian.

In the heart of the typhoon belt, in a tent? Needless to say, the living conditions in this camp were absolutely miserable. The refugees were told by the IRO that they would be there for four months. They were there nearly four years!

Another stipulation by the Philippine government was that not one refugee could remain in the Philippines, nor were they allowed to work outside the camp.

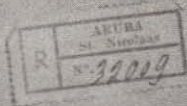
R. SARKISSIAN
720 Fulton St.
Brooklyn 17, N.Y.
U.S.A.



VIA AIR MAIL

(5053)
MRS. G. SARKISSIAN
% I.R.O. EVACUEES CAMP
Tubabao Is. Guianan
SAMAR IS.
• PHILIPPINE IS.

AIR MAIL OVER
DOMESTIC SERVICE ONLY



A post office was set up at Guiuan and all mail to and from this Ukranian refugee camp received the IRO hand cancel.

I have looked at other camp mail that came out of Europe and to the best of my knowledge (of course I hope to be proven wrong) this cover represents the only post World War II Refugee Camp that ever used the very unusual:

“IRO-UNEC”.

After the above was completed I came across a most interesting letter from this camp which fits in perfectly. I think it is a gem and will let it speak for itself. It was posted from Tubabao, 20th March 1950. I would like to present it verbatim:

Dear Mrs. —

“Your letter of Feb. 26 is on hand, for which many thanks. I am very glad that you were able to use some stamps of the lot that I've sent you. Am using an airletter sheet, maybe it might be an addition to your collection. I am also collecting air letter sheets both used and and mint, as well as AIR FDC's and colorful air labels and stickers. If you are keeping used air letter sheets then I might be able to get you a few.

In a few days I'll send you another lot of stamps, but as I said only by surface mail.

I regret very much but it is absolutely impossible for me to do anything for your friend in England in reference of the Jap Occupation stamps of the Philippines. Our camp is situated on a tiny isle of Tubabao which is not even figuring on the map, off the most southern tip of the Samar Island. There is a small town of Guiuan about 15 miles from the camp across the bridge on the Samar Island, but there everything is strictly native, not even a bookstore. All the stuff is brought to town by sea-going lighters.

Maybe when I'll be on my way out of there someday and make a stop in Manila as all our outgoing persons do. Only then I might be able to do something. But when, it is as yet very hard to predict. Nevertheless I'll keep your information and will make use of it if a chance will come up.

I never thought that I'll get stuck here so long, and this is the reason that I ran out of all my financial reserves. For the food that we are given in camp is inadequate and one has to buy extras on the market, where prices are high. I thought and so did everyone else, that I would be here only four months but instead I am here on my second year.

We were subjected to down-pour rains for over a week without stopping and so everyone got soaked and down and under. The tents that we live in are leaking on all sides, not speaking already of the tops. All my belongings are soaked through and it will take quite some time to get them dry and put in order again. If it is only possible for you, then I would be very much obliged to you if you could send me the following items by parcel post: I pair rubber boots for my son age 8 1/2 years, size 7 1/2 - 8, 1 pair wooden clogs Army type for myself size 9 - 9 1/2, some band-aides, some strong medicine against tropical exzema, some aspirin tablets and some pipe tobacco (if possible rough-cut and mild). I'll be very glad to reimburse you once I'll get settled down in cash or stamps.

It is quite an experience to live in situation like this one and I don't doubt that I'll remember it all my life.

It is the first time in my life that I find myself in the tropical climate, and now I begin to understand that people of the tropical climate are somewhat slow in everything and I don't blame them a bit, for the tropical heat tires you out and depresses your morale to a certain extent and these unceasing rains and typhoons are a real misery.

Wishing you all the best of health and happiness for the coming Easter holidays, and my apology for not sending a greeting card.

Thanking you very much for your attention.

Sincerely”

From: INTERNATIONAL REFUGEE ORGANIZATION
UNITED NATIONS EVACUATION CENTER
GUITAN, SAMAR, PHILIPPINES
- CAMP POST OFFICE -



VIA AIR MAIL

OFFICIAL POSTAL
COMMUNICATION

Jesus Alvarez, Esq.,
Chief,
Domestic Mails Division,
Department of Public Works and Communications,
Bureau of Posts,
Republic of the Philippines,
MANILA, PHILIPPINES.

It should be noted that shortly after this letter was written a most devastating typhoon hit Tubabao, destroying the bridge to Samar, mentioned above, leaving the camp permanently isolated.

"The mere reporting of a new item is not sufficient, but students should always be given the opportunity of seeing a cover or postmark. An infinite amount of pains has been taken, in some cases the work of years, in gathering date and preparing articles. It is a courtesy easily extended to the careful philatelic student (who is often a patient drudge with a capacity for paying infinite attention to details) and reward him in this way. Work of this sort is, after all, a labor of love and without the unselfish expenditure of time and expense, progress is impossible. Nothing is so discouraging to the true philatelist in his constant endeavor to reach the nth degree of perfection than to have a fellow-collector either deliberately withhold or ask an unreasonable price for some unlisted item, solely as a result of reading the particular article on which so much work has been spent".³

Thus it is with the deepest of thanks that I mention Dr. Bertram Schaffner. For it was he that helped me the most. After years of letters being met with silence, I do not know, and it never existed, I was on the brink of "just giving up".

At that time photostats of covers to and from this camp in his collection arrived, gratis.

Without that added spark from him to try harder, I doubt very much if I would be writing this.

1 Wolff Hanke, Publisher of the Lindner Catalog.

2 Holborn, Professor Louise, "The IRO" Oxford University Press, copyright 1956, p 425.

3 Delf Narona, 1938 Cyclopedia of United States Postmarks and Postal History, p. 6.

Editor's Note:

The above article was submitted to us for publication sometime ago - we dilly-dally on this for a while, not knowing the credence of the story. However, in one of the usual "buys" I had of used envelopes, a cover similar to the above turned up. It is in the usual run of the mill covers and no special price was charged to me, I therefore asked myself, if this material is available from just ordinary mail - could the story be true. I am therefore tossing this back to the membership - for their comments and perhaps this will lead to an unknown "Philatelic Find" of the Philippines.

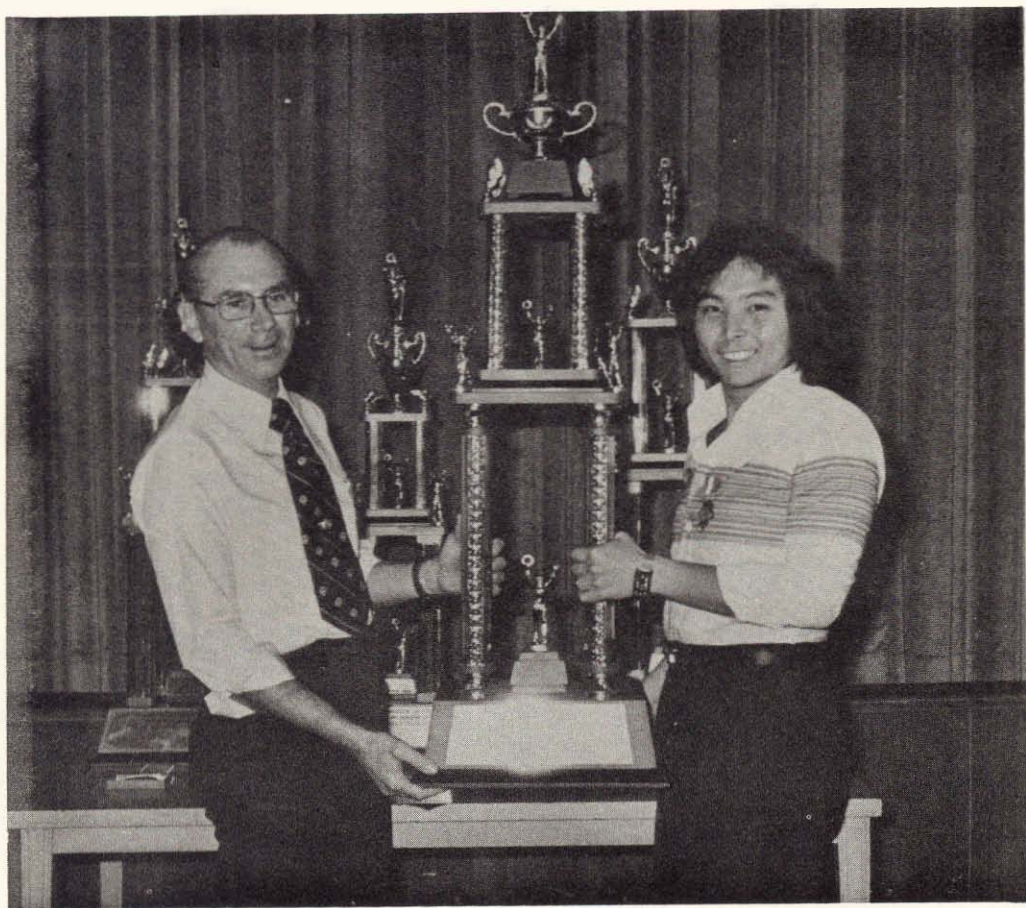
PAXPEX '77



Mrs. Amparo Aspiras, the charming wife of Department of Tourism Secretary Jose D. Aspiras, was the Special Guest of Honor at the opening of Paxpex '77 at Thomas Jefferson Cultural Center. She is shown cutting the ribbon, assisted by (l-r) Asst. Postmaster General Pedro Gambalan, Mrs. Melody G. Tanabe, and John Fredenburg, TJCC Director.



Department of Tourism Asst. Secretary Gregorio Araneta II (second on the right) was the special guest of honor at the recently concluded Paxpex '77 at the Harrison Plaza Comm. Center. He is shown above with IPSS Members (l-r) Pablo Esperidion, Enrique P. San Jose, Linda Stanfield, Carlos Inductivo, and Eliezer Jimenez.



William J. Oliver presents the Don Andres Soriano Sr. Trophy to Mario Que for the Best Philippine Aero-philatelic Exhibit at the recently concluded Aeropex '77.