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PPJ First Quarter, 1991

**POSTAL MARKINGS
OF THE
SPANISH AMERICAN AND PHILIPPINE WARS**
by Robert Hoge

NEW VARIETIES OF POSTAL MARKING DISCOVERED

The relatively common postmark of Military Station No. 1, identified by Baker as C-6 and by Goodale as A-6, was stated by Goodale to have been in use from March 8, 1899 to May 10, 1900. Figure 1 shows such an A-6 cancel used to tie Scott #286 to a soldier's letter to Illinois, with the handstamp endorsement of James Mailley, Chaplain 1st NEB. VOL. INF.

In doing preliminary research for the Spanish American-Philippine War postmark study, my current and previous studies of this postmark yielded some interesting new varieties. The normal A-6 postmark (Fig. 1) consists of a 26mm circular steel canceller and a 6 bar oval grid killer, with a large numeral 1 in the center. The legend MIL STA NO. 1 PHIL ISL' DS surrounds the month and date slugs with the time slug below. The year date slug appears approximately midway between the two markings on the bottom of the device. The numerals "99" appear for use in 1899, while "1900" was employed for use the following year.

The most consistent new variety of the A-6 postmark appears to pre-

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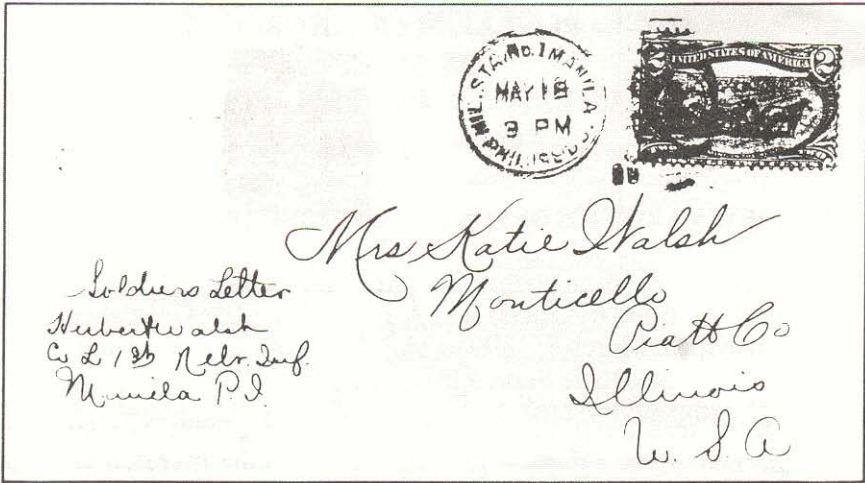


Figure 1

date the period of use noted by Goodale's study. Figure 2 shows a cover franked by Scott #267 to Tacoma, Washington, with a patriotic eagle cornercard of the 2nd Oregon Regiment and a handstamped soldier's mail endorsement by W.S. Gilbert, Chaplain 2nd Oregon. The cover is postmarked March 8, 1899 with a new variety of the A-6 postmark with the time over the month and date. Other examples of this new variety of postmark all predate Goodale's 3/8/99 date, with use as early as February 9, 1899.

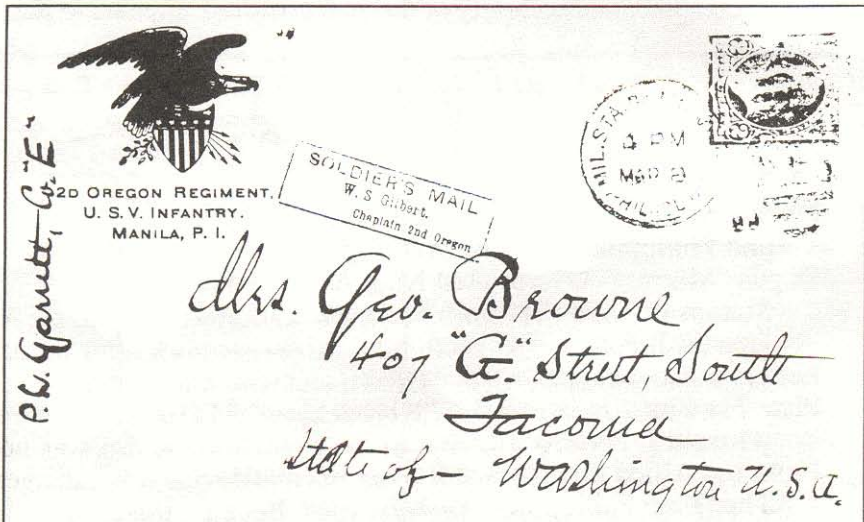


Figure 2



Figure 3

The cut square illustrated in Figure 3 depicts the A-6 canceller tying Scott #281 to a letter to Spain, paying the five cent overseas rate, postmarked 1899. Of interest in this cancel is the inverted year date of "66", caused by the postal clerk inverting the "99" year date slug. I have noted other examples of this variety as early as March 12, 1899 and as late as December, 1899.

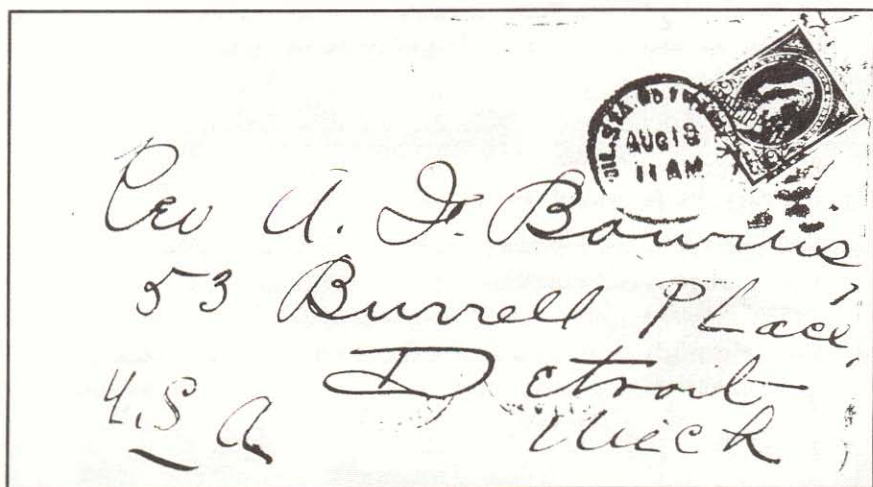


Figure 4

The last cover illustrated (Figure 4) extends the period of use of the A-6 canceller until August 18, 1990, fully three months later than that indicated in the Goodale article. This cancel which ties Scott 214 to a cover is unique in that it appears to be lacking the PHIL ISL'S of the original canceller. Since this part of the cancelling device was not made of removable type, I wonder if the original device was damaged and the PHIL ISL's portion of it removed? Because this is the only example of this variety I have seen, I would like the readers to research

their own collections to help prove or disprove the assumptions of this article.

STUDY

There currently exist two studies on the postal markings of the Spanish American and Philippine Wars. The most definitive work was written by Col. George Goodale and published in the Cyclopedia of U.S. Postmarks by Delf Norona. The other publication was by Phillip Baker: Postal Markings of United States Military Stations, 1898-1902, Cuba, Puerto Rico, Philippines, Guam, China, and Samoa.

Both of these studies were ground-breaking in their day, and still today are the best references of this exciting period of postal history; yet in comparing both studies, the student can find obvious discrepancies in the basic listing of postal markings.

It is my intent to combine the best of both works with new research and discoveries which have surfaced during the past forty years, to create a new definitive study.

Briefly stated, the initial goals of the study include:

1. Illustrate examples of all postal markings used during the period of military occupation, including small towns occupied or liberated by U.S. troops.
2. Identify the period of use of each marking.
3. Establish a relative scarcity index for each marking.
4. Follow the movement of troops by noting return address locations (those towns without postal facilities yet).
5. Possible study of hand-stamp officer endorsement varieties, and patriotic envelope varieties.

Of course, this study can only be successful with the participation of the society's collector and dealer members. I would encourage all of our members to research their collections for the items of significance related to this intended study. Please send Xerox copies of: previously unlisted or noteworthy postal markings, cornercard locations, endorsement handstamps, and patriotic envelopes including YMCA varieties, to me or the editor.

I have volunteered to be the project leader; however, other help would be gratefully appreciated. In particular we need research volunteers, and co-editors. Bob Yacano, our society editor, has already graciously volunteered to assist me as a co-editor. ■

BOGUS "MUESTRA" OVERPRINTED KING ALFONSO XIII STAMPS OF 1898

by Sofronio S. Agustin, Jr. and Donald J. Peterson

In a comprehensive survey of the literature, auction catalogs and personal collections, Peterson (1988) discussed and cataloged reported and extant copies of specimens of the postal and newspaper issues of the Philippines during the Spanish period. He described and characterized five types of "Muestra" and "Ministerio de Ultramar Muestras", i.e. "Specimen", overprints corresponding to specific "host" stamps or issues (see reference). In the case of the King Alfonso XIII series of 1898, only the Peterson Type 5 "Muestra" overprint is known to occur on all the values issued.

Although there have been occasional references in the literature of possible specimen forgeries on "host" stamps of other issues, nothing has been mentioned about the existence of bogus "Muestra" overprints on the King Alfonso XIII stamps of 1898. This article constitutes the first report of this type of specimen forgery. It is primarily intended to inform Philippine collectors and alert Spanish Philippine specialists about this counterfeit. This is quite timely, since classic and esoteric materials have recently become increasingly popular.

The bogus overprinted stamps known to date include: 1m, 2m, 3m, 8c, 20c and 60c denominations - Scott Nos. 192, 193, 194, 203, 206 and 208, respectively. These were obtained from two lots at a recent auction held in Manila. Interestingly, one of these lots also contained one copy of the Puerto Rican 5-milesima stamp (Scott No. 139) with the same bogus overprint as found on the Philippine counterparts. Perhaps the unknowing and careless counterfeiter failed to check this stamp, thinking it was Philippine Scott No. 196, and overprinted it like the rest.

As a rule of thumb, the genuineness of a stamp and, in this case, its overprint, can be ascertained by comparing the questionable copies with those known to be genuine, or by submission to and confirmation by an expert or experts. Both approaches were used in this situation.

By casual examination, the bogus "Muestra" overprints are fresher than the "host" stamps. This is an indication that the overprinting was

a more recent event than the production of the stamps themselves. By contrast, both overprints and "host" stamps looked equally fresh on the genuine specimens. There were no detectable differences between the bogus and genuine specimens in terms of the color of their overprints. The appearance of the gum, however, differed considerably. The bogus specimens showed wavy and yellowish to brownish gum, while the genuine ones consistently have homogeneous white gum. Although these observations may be subjective (condition of host stamps may vary according to age and care), these features may prove to be helpful in identifying the bogus from the real ones.

The length of the overprint was measured, using a 6X or 10X magnifier with millimeter calibrations or a combination of a millimeter scale and a magnifier. While the genuine overprint measures approximately 13mm across, the bogus one is a bit longer, 14mm from "M" to "A" at their outermost base tips. The most crucial part of the scrutiny, however, is the examination of variations in the forms and outlines of the letters comprising the bogus overprint when compared to the genuine, especially the letters "R", "A" and "M", in that order of importance. On the bogus specimen, the short leg of "R" emanates from the top loop as a straight diagonal line; on the genuine overprint, this same leg of "R" forms an arch before leaving the top loop on a downward stroke. The letter "A" of the bogus overprint has a large triangle in it. The letter "M" has less discernible differences. The inner right arm of "M" on the bogus is skewed more towards the left to form an uneven angle at the middle depression; the base of its right leg has a crude half-serif. These defects are absent on the genuine. (see Table I)

Using these as guides, collectors will find it easy to detect the bogus specimens. It is quite possible that these counterfeit specimens came into the market very recently; as recently as 1989 or 1990.

If anyone has any additional bogus specimens, please contact the IPPS.

Reference

Peterson, Donald. "Specimens of the Spanish Philippines". *Philippine Philatelic News*, Vol. X, No. 2, April, 1988.



1 milesima stamp
with bogus overprint



Genuine 3 milesima
specimen



Puerto Rican 5
milesima stamp with
same bogus overprint

MUESTRA

Bogus

MUESTRA

Genuine

Bogus

1. Measures 3mm X 14mm, from "M" to "A".
2. Middle depression of "M" unevenly angled; crude half-serif at bottom of right leg.
3. Short leg of "R" joins with top loop diagonally.
4. Broad letter "A" with large triangle.

Genuine

1. Measures 3mm X 13mm.
2. Well-formed letter "M".
3. Short leg of "R" archs downwards.
4. Slim "A" with small triangle.

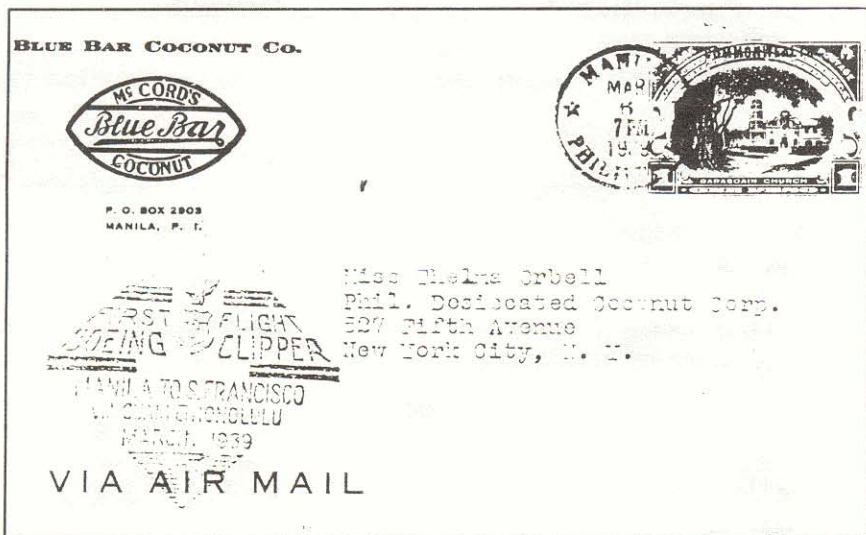
LETTERS IN COVERS

by James Biedzynski

The field of commercial and letter covers is a nearly inexhaustible specialty. Every cover is unique and reveals a small part of a country's postal history. Sometimes the original letter will still be within the cover. For the philatelist, these old letters are a means of discovering earlier eras and how people viewed them at the time. Letters of ordinary people can be just as illuminating as those of prominent individuals. Thus, cover collectors are preserving small portions of a nation's past as they pursue their hobby.

Two letters found inside prewar covers illustrate the historical angle of cover-collecting. Each was written by an individual who was probably not a philatelist but knew someone who collected Philippine stamps.

Covers carried by the Pan American trans-Pacific Clippers were very popular among stamp collectors of the 1930s and 1940s. The large seaplanes carried many thousands of covers. In 1939, Pan American introduced a larger seaplane built by the Boeing Corporation. J.D. McCord, of the Philippine Dessicated Coconut Corporation sent a letter and cover to Thelma Orbell, an employee at the Corporation's New York office.



March 6, 1939

Dear Miss Orbell:

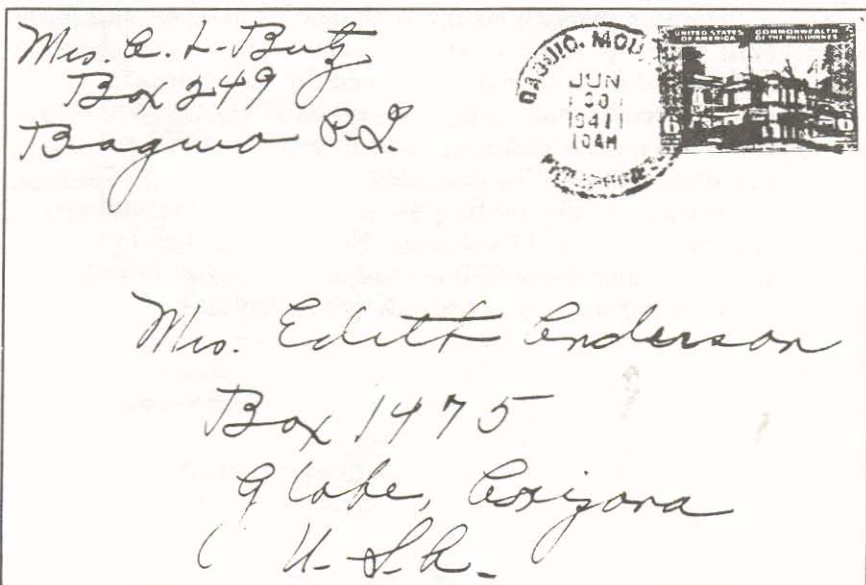
I am sending you this letter via Pan American Clipper mail as this mail will leave here tomorrow morning on the first trip of the new Boeing Clipper.

It occurred to me that you would be interested in getting the cover as the Post Office will give it a special "CACHET" indicative of the flight.

With kindest regards,
J.D. McCord

Ruth Butz was evidently married to a miner and lived in Baguio prior to World War II. Aside from the letter's contents, nothing else is known of her. We can deduce that she did not collect stamps but merely saved them for friends who did. The error in the 1941 general issue (Scott Nos. 461 & 037) probably made the local newspapers and was the subject of amusement just as similar fiascos can be found in our media today.

Perhaps the most striking feature of the letter is the total absence of fears of a Japanese invasion. As it happened, the archipelago was



dragged into hostilities less than six months later. During the final months of peace, many people in the Philippines believed American military might was sufficient to deter any aggressor and the spreading world war would leave the Philippines unscathed. Many of these same individuals were horrified to watch the Japanese overrun the Philippines in a few months and then see the country ravaged by three years of occupation and liberation. For individuals like Mrs. Butz, the summer of 1941 was the last period of normality before catastrophe.

June 27, 1941

Dear Mrs. Anderson,

My O.E.S. receipt with your nice letter arrived about a month ago and I thank you very much.

There is a Masonic lodge in Baguio but no O.E.S. chapters.

The last Spring I was in Globe you had grand chapter and I will always remember it because I enjoyed it so much.

We has heard that you have had much rain. The other day we received the May number of Arizona Highways and it has a picture of water going over the spillways at Roosevelt. Certainly looked good.

Mrs. Robinson lives just across the hill from us but I have to go to town to see her.

Here are two new stamps with Jose Rizal's picture. Will save up some more and send next year as I understand they have discontinued the issue already. They parted his hair on the wrong side I believe. Will also save more Commonwealth ones for you if I get any that are not to [o] mutilated.

We are having our first typhoon of the season and is as hard a one as I have seen. Not worried at all but so much water makes it very hard to work in the mine.

Best wishes to you and to Globe Chapter #27.

Sincerely,
Ruth Butz

PLATE FLAW ON 20c BISTRE-BROWN
ISSUE (SCOTT #87)

by Donald J. Peterson



Non-flawed and flawed Scott #87

The 1882 Philippines 20c bistre-brown issue (Scott #87) occurs with a plate flaw. Interestingly, there are more stamps with the plate flaw than without it. The horizontal line above the "20" is frequently missing, as well as some of the design above the line, giving the appearance of a prominent white (colorless) area above the "20."

After inspecting several hundred "loose" stamps of this issue, it was evident that the flaw was more common than the non-flawed design. From this sample, the flaw occurred on approximately 90 percent of the stamps.

I recently obtained a full sheet of 100 (10 X 10) of this issue (sheet number 0.003.128). From that particular sheet, 80 stamps, or 80 percent of the stamps, were flawed. On the sheet, the flaws varied in degree from stamp to stamp. The non-flawed stamps occurred in a seemingly random manner throughout the sheet. Another sheet, actually the top margin strip of ten (sheet 0.003.076) in the fabulous Nestor Jacob collection, was also inspected. Like mine, all of the ten stamps in the top row showed the flaw.

Little information is available on the printing of this and other Spanish Philippine issues of the 1880's; however, it appears that the flaw occurred early in the printing process and probably remained throughout the remainder of the printing.

In this unusual instance, collecting the non-flawed stamps is more

challenging than collecting the flawed stamps.

Another interesting but unrelated matter about this stamp is that there is little agreement in the philatelic literature as to the first day of issue, although all references agree it was in 1882. Mencarini (1896) indicated it was issued in February, the earliest date given: Hanciau (1905) indicated it was in March: Bartels et al. (1904) and Palmer (1912) both indicated July 19. Perhaps a study of cancel dates on the stamps will provide the answer. The used stamps and postal history in my collection provide no clue, all showing dates after 1883.

If you have any additional information on this issue and the flaw, please contact PPN or Don Peterson, 7408 Alaska Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20012.

References

- Bartels, J.M., F.A. Foster, and F.L. Palmer. *The Postage Stamps of the Philippines*. 1904. Boston.
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- Palmer, F.L. *The Postal Issues of the Philippines*. 1912. New York.

FROM THE ALLIED INTELLIGENCE BUREAU TO MINDANAO: THE "FREE PHILIPPINES" GUERRILLA STAMPS

by Walter H. Adler

Reprinted from American Philatelist, September, 1982

During World War II a 2-centavo stamp known as the "Free Philippines" Guerrilla stamp was issued for use on the island of Mindanao. The stamp was printed in Australia and delivered to Col. Wendell W. Fertig, Commanding Officer of the 10th Military District, Guerrilla Forces, with headquarters at Esperanza in Agusan Province, Mindanao, Philippines.

The stamps were printed in sheets of twenty-five (Figure 1), in rows of five by five. All were of 2-centavo denomination, printed in blue

on white paper, and measuring 1.95 by 3.75 cm. They were printed by the letterpress process, with rouletted perforations. They show a Series 1943 dating.

Virtually all that is known of the stamp is found in a 1949 study¹ by Pablo Esperidion of the Philippines, and a subsequent study in 1961² by Arnold H. Warren of the United States.



Figure 1. Full sheet of the 2-centavo blue-on-white Philippine Guerrilla stamps issued by the "Free Philippines," 10th Military District, Esperanza, Mindanao.

Realizing that many questions remained unanswered in the previous studies, I undertook and developed a research project over the past three years. Ferreting out answers to many of the remaining questions has been a difficult and time-consuming task involving a great deal of correspondence and the help of a large number of people. It should be realized that time, distance, and the cloak of wartime secrecy all have been factors that impeded my progress at the outset.

I did not know even the names of all the key persons involved, and as the study progressed it was revealed that two of the most directly involved, key people who could have helped the most, Cols. Allison Ind and Wendell W. Fertig, were deceased. The third key figure mentioned in both the previous studies, Cdr. Charles R. "Chick" Parson, United States Naval Reserve, has not responded to my several letters of inquiry.

In the beginning, there were six questions which intrigued me:

1. *Who printed the Guerrilla stamps?*
2. *Where were they printed?*
3. *What printing process was used?*
4. *Where was the written documentation regarding the alleged authorization from Pres. Manuel A. Quezon?*
5. *Was the data correct given by Esperidion and Warren in their articles?*
6. *Were the numbers of stamps printed correct as stated by these authors?*

Those questions, in turn led to a series of additional ones:

1. *Who placed the order for the stamps?*
2. *Who designed the stamp?*
3. *What was the date of printing?*
4. *Who paid for the stamps?*
5. *Where did the funds come from?*
6. *Who picked the stamps up from the printer's?*
7. *To whom were the stamps given and to whom delivered?*
8. *How was the order paid for?*
9. *Who delivered the stamps to Colonel Fertig?*
10. *On what submarine were they taken to Mindanao?*
11. *How many stamps were delivered to Mindanao?*
12. *How many unused stamps are still in existence?*
13. *How many stamps were used on covers, and how many of those still exist?*
14. *Were covers prepared only on Mindanao?*
15. *Were the covers used both for local service on Mindanao as well as for mail leaving Mindanao for overseas addresses?*
16. *What was the first day of issue of the stamps and covers?*

Discovery of the answers to these numerous questions would clarify the picture and, it was hoped, would provide a complete history for collectors of this unique Philippine stamp.

In a research project such as this, one of the great problems is to find people with specific knowledge of the events relative to the stamp. In this case I was able to locate a number of key people who "had been there" but who had not been consulted for the earlier studies. Among them were Maj. Bobb B. Glenn and Capt. Charles Wilcox, who worked in the Supply Section of the Allied Intelligence Bureau (AIB); Capt. Edward Williams, who was in the Philippine Sub Section of G-2 (Intelligence, AIB); Col. Charles M. Smith and Capt. Jordon Hamner, who were Party Leaders in the Philippine Island Section of AIB; Lt. Col. J.L. Evans, who was a medical officer and radio operator working in Colonel Fertig's 10th Military District Headquarters; Capt. Jesus J. Montalvan, who was the Adjutant in Colonel Fertig's headquarters (and had been consulted for the earlier studies but

provided further information for the present study); and Mr. A.C. Donald, who was the Managing Director of the printing firm of Simpson, Halligan and Co. in Australia.

Mindanao

This, briefly, was the situation on Mindanao: After the surrender of the United States Army Forces Far East (USAFFE) on Corregidor Island in May 1942, many guerrilla groups were formed throughout the Philippine Islands. Conditions for a guerrilla movement on Mindanao were favorable. There were a large number of unsundered American and Filipino servicemen on the island; the Island was large and sparsely populated; and the Japanese occupied only a few cities in the coastal areas.

The rest of the island - approximately ninety-five percent - remained in American and Philippine hands. By February 1943, General MacArthur's Headquarters, South West Pacific Area, Australia, had established radio contact with Col. Wendell W. Fertig, after which Colonel Fertig was confirmed as Commanding Officer of the 10th Military District, which was comprised of all of Mindanao and the Sulu Islands. Later, the Sulu Archipelago was separated from the 10th Military District.

Colonel Fertig attempted to use all methods possible to hold the people together and, at the same time, build a guerrilla force. It is true that General MacArthur wanted Colonel Fertig to gather intelligence for the South West Pacific Area Headquarters; however, Fertig felt that it was imperative that there be resistance to the Japanese to maintain the moral of the Filipino people. Fertig also realized that there had to be tangible evidence that General MacArthur and the United States had not forgotten the Philippine people. As a result, such items as recent issues of Life magazine, book matches, medicines, and weapons were brought in by submarine.

All of this leads up to the original idea for the stamp. In Warren's article of October 1961, he stated that "Colonel Fertig said that he originated the idea."² This could be very true; however, others have credited Charles Parsons, now residing and working in the Philippines, others have given credit to Charles Smith, and it also has been suggested that the idea originated with Col. Allison Ind, who worked in Philippine Island Section, AIB.

In some of my correspondence with persons who worked in Colonel Fertig's headquarters, it became apparent that only a few persons were

aware of the existence of the stamps and their usage. The same was true at MacArthur's GHQ in Australia. Edward Williams, of the Allied Intelligence Bureau, wrote: "We did not know of this business until a subsequent submarine from Mindanao brought in franked letters."⁷

The usage of the stamp on Mindanao by various people has been an interesting study. Was the stamp issued for legitimate postal purposes, or for morale purposes, or both? Esperidion wrote:

Originally, the use of the stamp was for military personnel only of the 10th Military District. Later on, however, civilians were allowed to use them within the said military area. Although civilians were allowed to use them on mail, these stamps were not sold at any civilian post office in the unoccupied areas, there being no civilian post offices in operation.¹

I do know from my research that eight persons used the stamps on covers. The eight were all military men; namely, Capt. Jesus Montalvan, Capt. Filamon Lagman, Col Charles M. Smith, Cpl. Rafael Martinez, Col. W.W. Fertig, Maj. Calexto M. deLeon, Lt. Cdr. M.M. Wheeler, Lt. R.L. Thommes, and Sgt. P.R. Echam.

Capt. Filamon Lagman was Colonel Fertig's Adjutant prior to the arrival of Captain Montalvan, Infantry, Adjutant to the Chief of Staff, G-2 Section (Intelligence), 10th Military District. It was from Captain Lagman that Montalvan received the rubber canceling devices that are observed on the 10th Military District Guerrilla covers.

In a letter that I received from Montalvan dated March 7, 1980, he states:

Colonel Charles Smith told me that five hundred Guerrilla stamps were given to Colonel Fertig... I do not know what happened to the supply of stamps that was not given to me for the trial run. I received only twenty-five stamps...used by me to send letters to President Manuel Quezon, Vice President Osmena, General Basilio Valdez, and Colonel Soriano (Philippine Government in exile in the United States) by submarine, and by courier to my wife, and other friends that I cannot remember now... I remember Colonel Smith told me that President Manuel Quezon ordered the printing of the two centavo stamp for use between Guerrilla units in the Free Philippines for the identification and other purposes, but due to the Japanese pressure in all areas, the plan was not carried out and only Mindanao was able to use it. The first mail bearing the Guerrilla stamp was sent by Colonel Fertig before I took the G-2 office and I believe it was censored by him and no other. I gave one envelope to Lt. Thommes personally and he requested me to do all the marking, in fact it was marked by the Post Office of Mambajao, Misamis Oriental to show that the area was not occupied by the enemy and where Lt. Thommes was stationed at the time.¹⁶

This particular Guerrilla cover just referred to was prepared and stamped at Colonel Fertig's Headquarters, Esperanza, Mindanao, and then Carried to Mambajao, Camiguin Island, located off the north coast of Mindanao in the Mindanao Sea.

Recently I have seen a xerox copy of another Guerrilla cover, with stamp, and the usual cancellation of the 10th M.D., dated January 1, 1944, and carrying the Mambajao postal cancellation. However, the cover was not addressed to anyone; nor did it give the name of the sender.

Mr. Montalvan's statements reveal who prepared the covers for President Quezon and the others on his staff in the United States. It also indicates, first, that Colonel Fertig retained practically all of the Guerrilla stamps; and second, that the stamp on the Thommes cover received a post office cancel in the free area. This does not mean that the cover went through the post office, but instead was given a local postmark by a friendly postmaster. Some of the photocopies of covers that I have seen do not show post office cancellations from the free areas, but only the distinctive oval postmark of Fertig's Headquarters. In another letter, Montalvan wrote:

My intention to have postmarks of the different post offices was to show that on Mindanao the Japs occupied some municipalities only, not the whole island... covers that were postmarked by post offices are mostly mine, because when I took my vacation to visit my family, I used to pass through the nonoccupied areas and asked the postmaster, then I let him postmark the letters. All the letters at that time were sent by couriers.¹⁶

In a letter from Lt. Col J.L. Evans, M.D., the following statement was made:

Fertig did discuss these stamps with me, but said that they were unveiled as a morale booster and anti-Japanese symbols. In fact we did use them occasionally on correspondence inside Mindanao and I have seen them so used. As far as I know they never had an official status other than for that purpose.¹¹

Dr. Evans arrived on the Mindanao scene on the second trip of the submarine *Narwhal*, and subsequently served as doctor/radio operator for the command.

Australia

Now to travel to Australia, as at this point it is important to take a closer look at General MacArthur's South West Pacific Area Head-

quarters (SWPA) and that part of its operation which is of interest to us in this research.

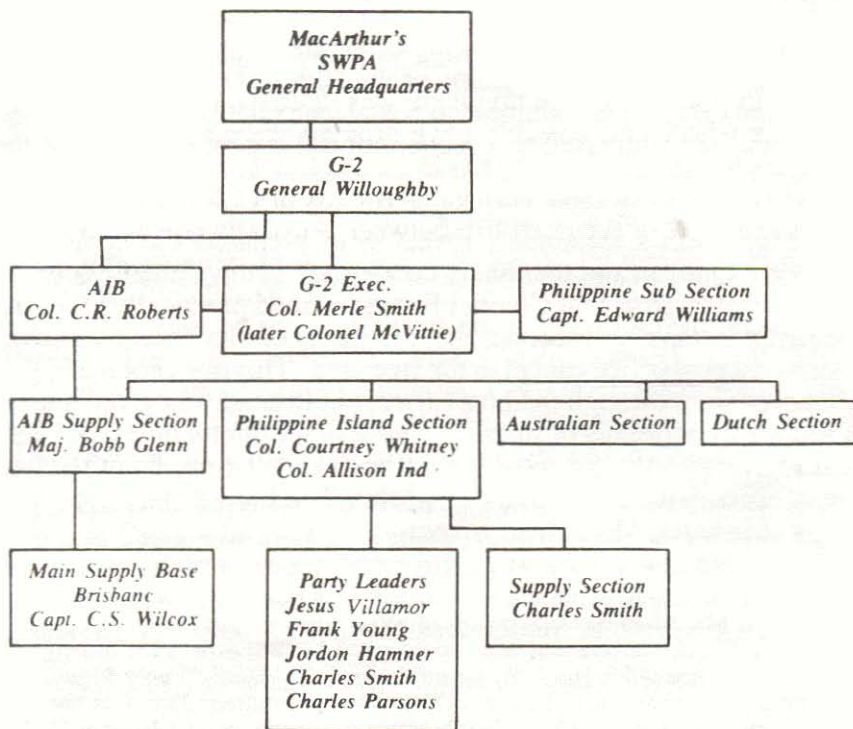


Figure 2. Organizational Chart

The American Philatelist

Within the headquarters structure was the Allied Intelligence Bureau, more commonly known as the AIB. The AIB was an intelligence-gathering agency, highly secret in nature and function. The three sections of the AIB that are of great importance to this study were the AIB Supply Section; Philippine Island Section; and the Philippine Island Sub Section. Their importance here lies both in their functions and in parts that the various people played within them. The organizational chart (Figure 2) gives a picture of how the chain of command was set up, which in the military is of the utmost importance as decisions are made only at the top levels, and what goes on within the structure must go up or down the chain through its various commanders. However, in the case of the Guerrilla stamps, this standard procedure does not appear to have been followed.

It was, therefore, important and essential to my research that I discover where in AIB any discussion had taken place about the printing of the stamps. It was logical that I look toward the Philippine Island Section headed by Col. Courtney Whitney, and I finally learned that there had been discussion in Colonel Whitney's office about a stamp.

It was important to learn that there was discussion, and that the only persons who could possibly have brought the matter up were Col. Charles Smith and Cdr. Charles Parsons. It is an established fact that these two officers were very good friends of Colonel Fertig. Also, both had made a previous trip between Australia and Mindanao by submarine bringing in medical supplies, arms, ammunition, radios, and other badly needed items for both the guerrilla military organization and the civilian population.

According to Mr. C.M. Nielsen:

There are no radio messages in the voluminous files in the archives from Colonel Fertig to Australia that mention either the plates for currency or the stamp. Consequently, I assume that Charles Smith carried the message himself, either oral or written. Smith served as a sort of procurement officer while he was in Australia in respect to getting supplies for Fertig.¹⁴

Interestingly enough, Nielsen feels that the Guerrilla stamps were not postage stamps, for this reason: "No fee was collected for delivery of messages; courier service was free, but of course all who used it were either guerrilla officers or Provisional officials, so it might be called an official mail."¹⁴

Nielsen has done a great deal of study of the Emergency and Guerrilla Currency of the Philippines, and a number of his articles have been published in the *Bank Note Reporter*.

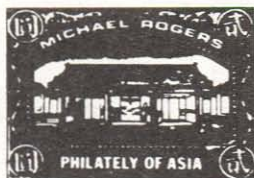
Col. Charles Smith was a national war hero. He and a few companions sailed a small boat from Mindanao through Japanese-controlled waters to Australia, leaving Mindanao in early December 1942 and arriving in Australia several weeks later, on New Year's Eve.⁸ According to a statement by him to Arnold Warren, Charles Smith was supply officer of AIB.²

Continued Next Issue...



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Album Page...

TREASURY DEPARTMENT
U. S. PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE
FORM NO. 1937.

Copy of
United States of America

NO. 74

BILL OF HEALTH

C. S. Gilchrist

ACTING ASSISTANT SURGEON U. S. P. H. S.

I, _____ (the person authorized to issue the bill, at the port of _____) do hereby state that the vessel hereinafter named clears (or leaves) from the port of _____ under the following circumstances:

Name of vessel Str. "HANOVER" Nationality American
Master E. S. Nicholson Tonnage gross 5816 ; net 3567 Name of medical officer _____

Number of officers 2 ; of crew, including petty officers 27 Officers' families ---
Passengers destined for the United States. --- first cabin: --- second cabin: --- steerage.
Ports visited within preceding four months New Orleans, Galveston, Honolulu, Manila, Iloilo, Hongkong, Swatow, Shanghai, Dairen, Taku Bar and Manila, P.I.

Location of vessel while in port—wharf ----- ; open bay yes ; distance from shore 1/4 mile.

If any passengers or member of crew disembarked on account of sickness, state disease None.

Time vessel was in port from Feb. 13- to Feb. 16, 1924.

Character of communication with shore No restriction.

Sanitary condition of vessel Good.

Sanitary measures, if any, adopted while in port All precaution taken.

Sanitary condition of port and vicinity Fair.

Prevailing diseases at port and vicinity Malaria, Tuberculosis and Dysentery.

Number of Cases and Deaths from the Following-Named Diseases During the Past Two Weeks Ending Feb. 9, 1924.

DISEASE	NUMBER OF CASES	NUMBER OF DEATHS	REMARKS <small>(Any conditions affecting the public health existing in the port of departure or arrival to be here stated.)</small>
Yellow fever	0	0	
Asiatic cholera	0	0	
Cholera nostras or cholerae	0	0	
Smallpox	0	0	
Typhus fever	0	0	
Plague	0	0	
Leprosy (segregated)	Present.		



Handwritten notes:
Hutchinson T. 14
Was 17-24
R. P. Sanchez
P. A. Sings

Date of last case (within preceding year):

Cholera None during preceding year.

Yellow fever Do.

Human plague Do.

Typhus Do.

Rodent plague Do.

I certify that the vessel has complied with the Quarantine Rules and Regulations made under the Act of February 15, 1893, and that the vessel leaves this port bound for New York, Boston, Philadelphia United States of America, via Pulupandan, P. Canal and way ports.

Given under my hand and seal this 16th. day of February, 1924.

[SEAL]

(Signature of issuing officer)

C. S. Gilchrist
U. S. Public Health Service.

Countersigned by

Surgeon, U. S. Public Health Service.

International Philippine Philatelic Society

*(A non-profit, non-stock, educational organization incorporated in the
City of Manila, Philippines, on September 24, 1974 as per
SEC Registration #58004.)*



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