



PHILIPPINES

from the D.J.J. Lutera Collection



On September 2, 1906, the Bureau of Insular Affairs received from the USPS, our own **E2** with a distinct Filipino design depicting a uniformed foot Messenger carrying a mail bag with famous Mayon volcano on its background. The E2 issue engraved, perforation 12 and printed on watermarked paper (wmk.191P) by the U.S. Bureau of Engraving and Printing (BEP). The E2 stamps were sold to the mailing public starting September 8, 1906, about 150 known copies on cover dated and may be considered first day covers. There are two color varieties known of the E2 as a result of two distinct printings the first in ultramarine (August 1906) and another in pale ultramarine (November 1906). The E2 was made available only in Manila, Cebu, Iloilo, Lipa and Legaspi post offices. Reported quantity: 40,000



"specimens."

In 1907, a Special printing issue prepared by BEP, overprinting "PHILIPPINES" diagonally in red about 200 copies of U.S. No. E6. Scott's identified as **E2A**. The stamps intended for presentation packs were to be distributed during the Pan-American Exposition of 1907. Very few were made available and most went to philatelic dealers, collectors, estates and foreign dignitaries. There are **no known used copies or on cover** to date. USPOD consider these issues as



Late March 1911, new stocks of special delivery stamps arrived bearing same 1906 design, perforation 12 but different watermarked paper (wmk. 190P). This was known as the **E3** in deep ultramarine and reported inventory about 90,000 (USPS sources). The E3 started formal postal duty first week April 1911 (*April 4??*). The **E3** were the first special delivery emissions made available in all city and provincial-capital post offices nationwide with distribution based on volume-use of

special delivery service in past years.

The service gained steady popularity with the mailing public with its prompt delivery because it received "special attention" though it was costlier at 20 centavos [at that time], with the ordinary mail rate only 2 centavos, still demand of this mail service grew.

May 20 (??) 1916, to augment the depleting supplies of the E2 and E3 emissions, the Insular Government thru prompt representations, requested U.S. BEP to dispatch new stocks of special delivery stamps to the islands. Fresh stocks arrived on July 23, 1916, reported quantity 38,000. Initially was intended to be **provisional stocks** only, while the BEP was awaiting delivery of watermarked paper stocks from its suppliers so it could run new prints. Similar in design and color to the 1906 issue, the BEP used a **new gauge 10 perforation** and printed un-watermarked The **E4** was printed in two batches. Reported quantity about 3,000 pieces



By March 1919, unavailability of sufficient watermarked paper allocations for the U.S. colonies and overseas offices, forced the BEP to prepare the special delivery stamps of the Philippine Islands on un-watermarked paper and had it perforated 11 employing the same 1906 design, giving birth to the Philippines' **E5** issue.