

Number of Airmail Rate Units

Manila Post Office wrote the number of 5-gram weight units on each airmail cover
The rate notations of "3-R" are very helpful on these two covers, both were overpaid.

UPPER COVER

The total franking of postage stamps is 1P 32c.

However the "3R / 112" notation indicates that the Post Office knew it was a triple rate cover, and the 1P 12c was the correct rate. The sender had overpaid by putting on one too many 20 centavo stamps.

LOWER COVER

This First Day Cover with the high-value 2 peso stamp, went through the mail. Backstamps of Manila Registered, Singapore, Milan and Herisau.

The "3R" notation indicates that it was in the weight range 11-to-15 grams. This proves to me that the notation was done after the letter was posted. It may have been an accountancy mark, so that Manila could calculate how much to pay foreign airlines and post offices for carrying air mail.

UPPER COVER

Manila
4 Feb 1935
to Germany

LOWER COVER

Manila
15 Feb 1935
to Switzerland

