

## "Via Hong Kong / Imperial" Manuscript Endorsement Overpaid using the Clipper Rate to USA

The 1P 50c rate on this cover is inconsistent with any rate from the Philippines to Europe.

I speculate on an explanation for this incorrect rate.



Manila 2 Oct 1936, to London

### *Rate*

This envelope has the printed return address of Bay View Hotel on the reverse.

It is very likely that the sender was a visitor to the Philippines.

At the time USA was the most common destination for Philippines airmail, and 1P 50c was the airmail rate to USA for a letter up to 15 grams. I suggest that the writer ordered from the hotel several pre-stamped envelopes so he could address some mail to USA. This letter was addressed to England, and he may not have realised that there were different airmail rates to Europe.

At the Manila Post Office it was realised that the letter was overpaid, so they sent it by the more expensive route via Hong Kong. The endorsement "via Hong Kong / Imperial" was written in a different hand from the address.

### *Backstamp*

Hong Kong 5 Oct.

### *Route*

Ship to HK. Air to Penang. Air to Brindisi. Train to Paris. Air to London.