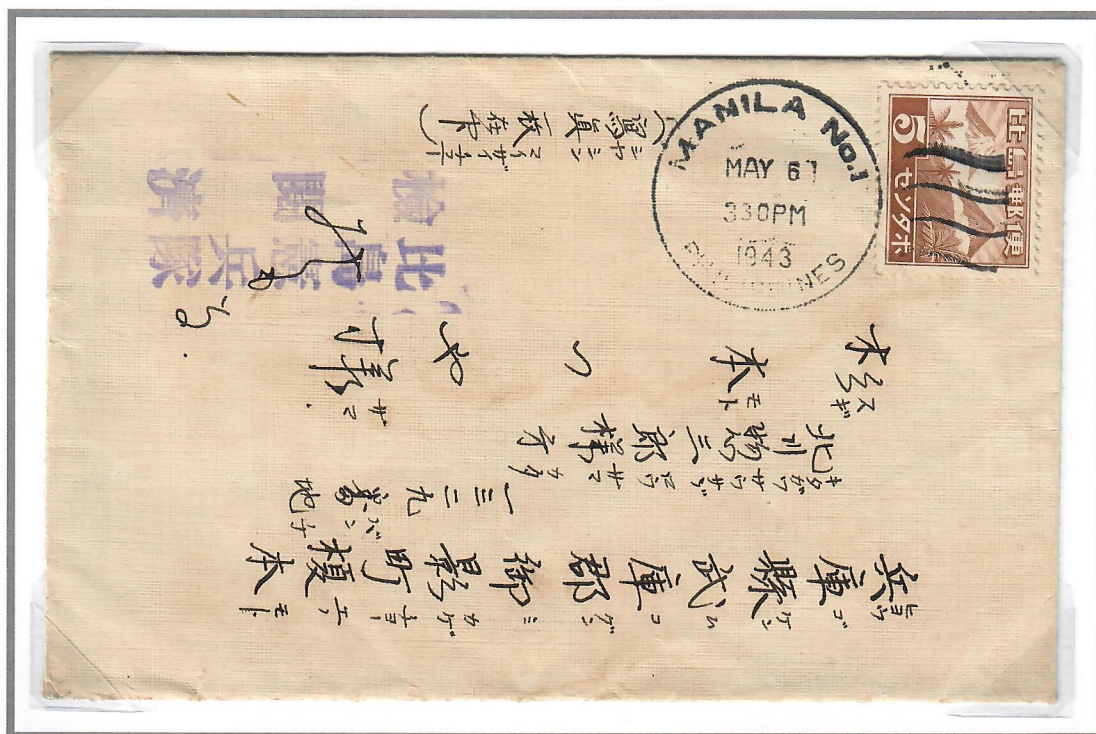


COMMERCIAL MAIL

1942 - 1945

OVERSEAS COMMERCIAL COVER



6 May 1943 – Cover from Manila to Japan. 5c stamp paying First Class foreign postal rate, tied with Manila No. 1 Duplex cancel. Rectangular purple Foreign Mail handstamp (Garrett Type IE1), which was applied on all foreign mail to Japan.

Rates for Foreign Mail was the same as those for prevailing for Domestic Mail from the inauguration of Foreign Mail Service on October 5, 1942 until May 14, 1944, until the First Class letter rate was increased to 7c.

The Foreign Mail handstamp was used in Manila and Davao and employed exclusively for foreign mail matters addressed to Japan and designated occupied territories within the Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere. Two lines of Japanese characters, translated as “Philippine Military Police Corps / Censored”. Foreign mail matters were required to display this mark for the duration of the Occupation, unlike domestic censor marks which were discontinued after 30 June 1943.