

Postmark used from 5 July 1909 to September 1914

Schatsykou was a small village located on the Yellow Sea. Although its postal facility opened in February 1908, the canceller did not arrive until mid-1909. In the interim, mail was sent to Litsun for postmarking.

KIAUTSCHOU

Tsingtau-Grosses Hafen

DEUTSCH-ASIATISCHE BANK, TSINGTAU.

Herrn

Emil Ipsen



Via Sibirien.

Einschreiben

Herrn

Eugen Bühler

*Wörstehausen
Lössach*



Deutschland

Baden 17



Postmark used from 21 February 1910 to September 1914

As a result of an increased need for a postal facility in the port area, a new office was opened in 1910 with cds reading "Tsingtau-Main Harbor."



Postmark used from 1 July 1911 to September 1914

The last post office to be opened in the colony was at Taitungtschen, at the southeast corner of Kiautschou Bay. It was in operation for only a little over three years before the Japanese occupation, so that mail with its postmark is relatively elusive.

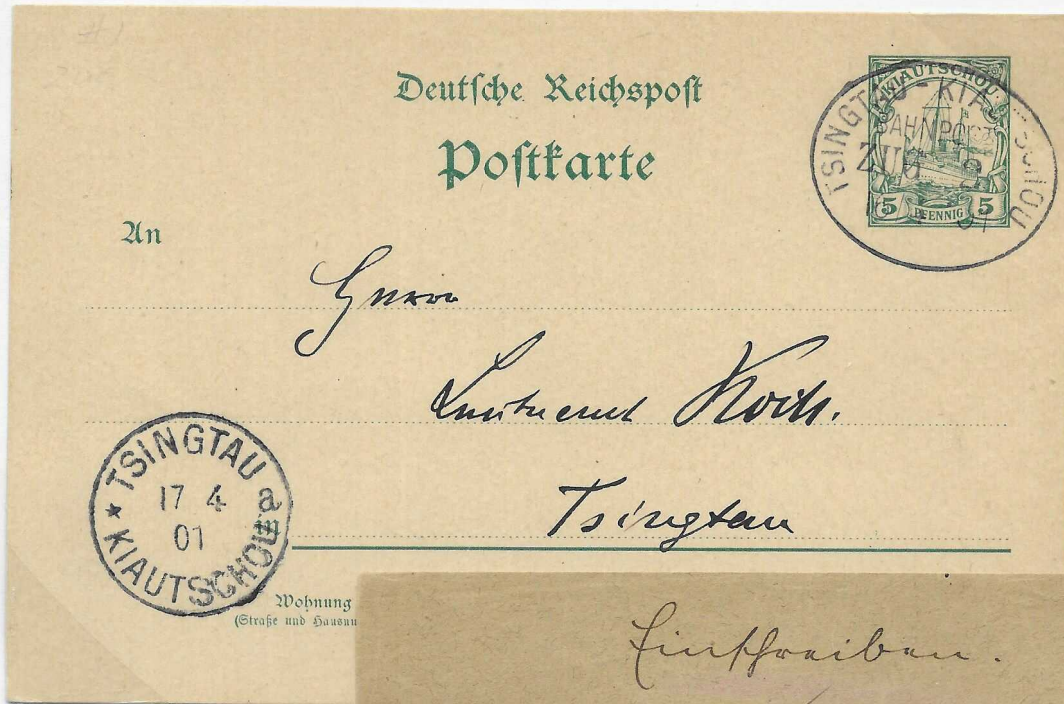


Postmark used from May 1901 to June 1914

Once German commercial interests became active in the colony, postal steamers serving the German community in China proper began to call at Tsingtau. Thus, the postmark of the Shanghai-Tientsin line is found on Kiautschou stamps.

KIAUTSCHOU

Tsingtau-Kiautschou Bahnpost



Postmark used from
8 April 1901 to
23 January 1902

Tsingtau-Kaumi Bahnpost

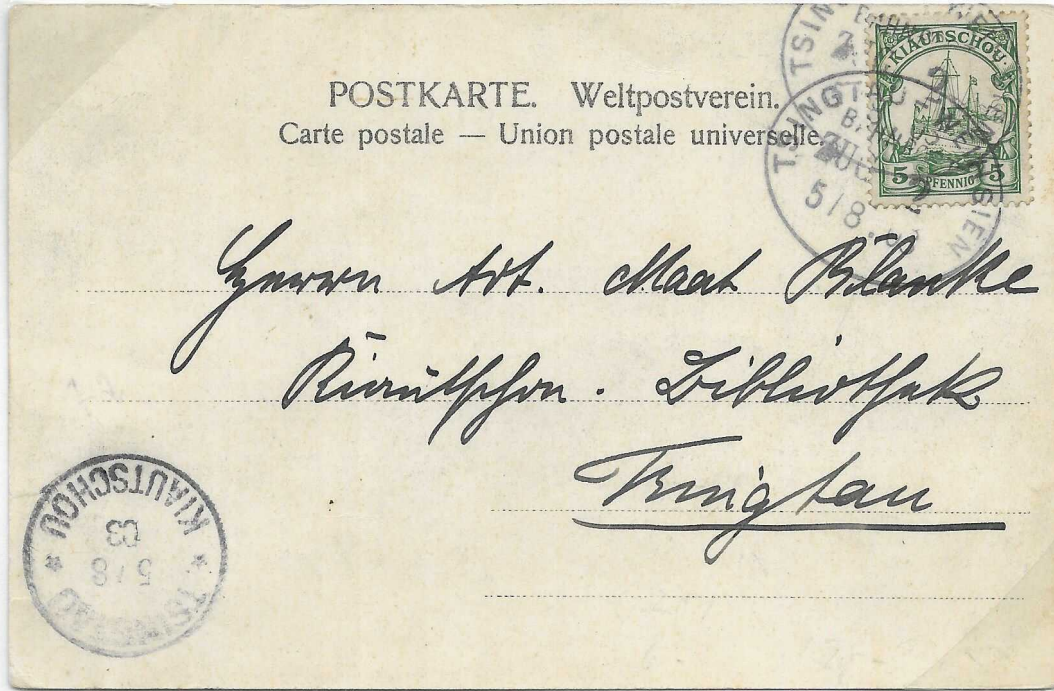


Postmark used
from 24 January
to 1 June 1902

During the construction of the Shantung Railway, postal service was inaugurated on the trains as each stretch was completed. The first TPO was opened on the route from Tsingtau to Kiautschou City in the spring of 1901. When the line was extended to Kaumi in the following year, a new postmark so indicating was introduced.

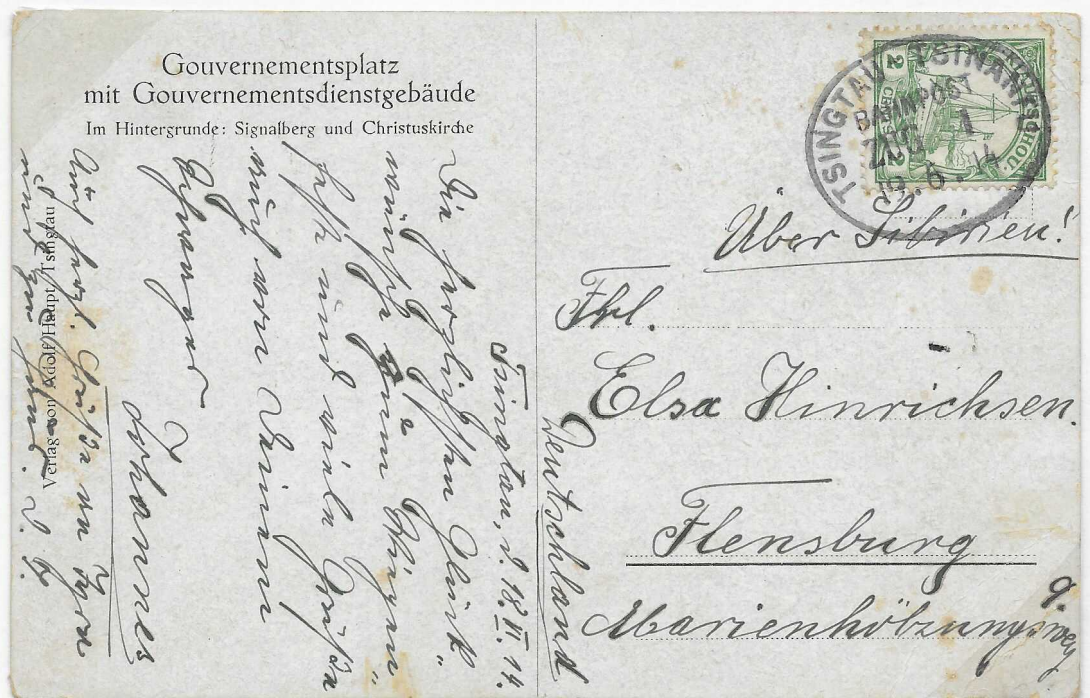
KIAUTSCHOU

Tsingtau-Weihsien Bahnpost



Postmark used from
2 June 1902 to
1 November 1904

Tsingtau-Tsinanfu Bahnpost



Postmark used from
1 November 1904
to 13 September
1914

As the two final stages of the Shantung Railway were completed, appropriate new TPO postmarks were placed in service. The Tsinanfu version remained in use until the Japanese occupation at the beginning of World War I.



Despite heavy Japanese and British shelling of Tsingtau, which began on 29 October and continued until the surrender, life went on as normally as possible. Sometime after the Japanese attack, a new 4 cent postal card was issued. *Michel* records a usage on 2 November, and the latest usage recorded in the *Neues Ganzsachen Katalog* is 5 November. Cancelled cards are extremely scarce. Above example represents souvenir usage by Garrison Construction Assistant Eissner on the latest known date.

Abt. Artillerie - Wart ^{von} Hamuth Feldpostkerb.
Hingeb. d. 18. 8. 14 Postkarte



Lebe geliebt,
mit dir in
großer Sorge um dich
den du dich, wo du bist
in die deine Handlung.
mich sehr an mich denken
und so mich wissen
das ich dich sehr lieb

From
Gefriede Jagerabend
Sonderbure

Verlag von Adolf Haupt, Tsingtau.

Sonderbrief

Freilich

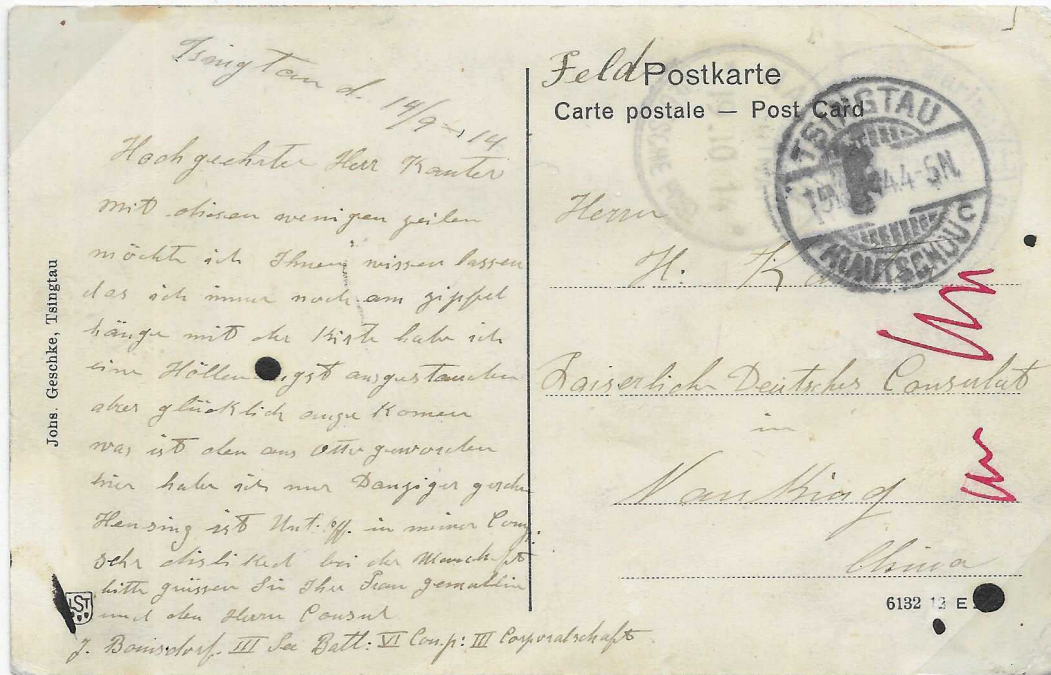
Emma Löhr

Sachsudorf

by Eisfeld S.H.

Usage from August to November 1914

At the start of World War I, a State of Siege was declared in Kiautschou on 30 July 1914. Full mobilization was ordered on 2 August. Japan demanded surrender of the colony on 15 August and, receiving no reply, declared war on Germany on 23 August. Free franking was introduced for the German military forces on 1 August 1914, and such mail could be forwarded to addresses outside the colony in the early part of the campaign.



Usage from August to November 1914

On 30 August, German engineers blew up the major bridges between Kiautschou City and the leased territory. The Japanese invaded the latter on 16 September and gradually tightened their siege until Tsingtau surrendered on 7 November. Mail posted after mid-September could only be delivered locally or, with good luck, smuggled into China proper.

ATTEST

RONALD F. STEUER

Verbandsprüfer
des Bundes der philatelistischen Prüfer e.V. im BDPH und APHV
A-1010 Wien, Stubenring 6, Tel. 5 12 18 80

Nr. 5

Datum 19.7.93

Die zur Beurteilung vorliegende Postkarte
KIAUTSCHOU - BELAGERUNGSPOST

mit Stempel: "TSINGTAU KIAUTSCHOU c 15.9.14.4-5N"
ist e c h t .

Es handelt sich um eine als Feldpostkarte gebrauchte Ansichtskarte aus Tsingtau an das Kaiserlich Deutsche Consulat in Nanking. Geschrieben am 14.9.14, dem Tag an dem die Belagerung des Schutzgebietes begann, da japanische Truppen die Landblockade schlossen. Die darauffolgenden Tag in Tsingtau abgestempelte Karte erhielt zusätzlich zur Beglaubigung der Portofreiheit den violetten Stempel "Kaiserliche Marine BRIEFSTEMPEL III. See-bataillon". Da das Poststück einen korrekten Ankunftsstempel "NANKING DEUTSCHE POST 19.10.14" aufweist und somit über einen Monat unterwegs war, wurde es wahrscheinlich durch den Blockaderring geschmuggelt. Dies geschah fast immer mittels chinesischer Freiwilliger. Die extrem seltene Vorlage ist für ein derartiges Bedarfsstück sehr gut erhalten, wurde nicht signiert und ist auf Blatt zwei dieses Attestes abgebildet.

Ronald F. Steuer
Ronald F. STEUER

Prüfgebiet: Deutsche Post in China u. Kiautschou

Die Prüfung erfolgte auf Grund der Prüfordnung des Bundes der Philatelistischen Prüfer e.V.



15.9.1914

Lieber Kollege !

Ihren Kartengruss mit Dank erhalten. Sehr erfreut, dass es Ihnen gut geht. Hier gibt es Umstellungen aller Art. Ich hoffe, dass Sie meine Karte erreicht, da sie per Boot gehen soll.

Herzliche Grüsse !
Paul Meyer

*Blockadepost! Karte durch Pinaue
 am 16.9.14 weiterbefördert. 100.*

Usage from September to November 1914

Above post card was carried on the last sailboat to leave Tsangkou for Tapatur. That route was closed on the following day (16 September) when the Japanese occupied Kiautschou City. Thereafter, such little mail as left the colony was smuggled by Chinese, sometimes in hollow bamboo poles. (C.)

ATTEST

DR. FRIEDRICH F. STEUER

Mitglied des Verbandes Österreichischer Briefmarkenprüfer (VÖB)
A-1010 Wien, Stubenring 6, Tel. 0222/512 18 80

Datum 6.7.91

Die zur Beurteilung vorliegende Feldpostkarte

KIAUTSCHOU BLOCKADEPOST 1914

frankiert mit MiNr.29b, 2 Cts. dkl.grün
Entwertung: "TSINGTAU KIAUTSCHOU *a 15/9/14"
ist e c h t .

Die bereits während der Belagerungszeit geschriebene Karte wurde als Privatpost portogerecht frankiert und erhielt den großen Zensur-Gummistempel, der auch ohne weitere hds. Eintragungen als korrekt anzusehen ist. Der Poststempel besitzt alle Merkmale einer zeitgerechten Entwertung. Die Karte wurde am 16. September durch eine Regierungspinasse ins Landesinnere befördert und gelangte durch das noch nicht besetzte Gebiet nach Schanghai. Die Vorlage ist doppelt signiert "BOTHE BPP" und es liegt ein ausführliches Attest Hr. Bothes aus 1974 bei. Keine zusätzliche Signatur. Abbildung auf Blatt zwei dieses Attestes.



Dr. F. STEUER BPP.

Prüfgebiet: Deutsche Auslandspostämter und Deutsche Kolonien.

Die Prüfung erfolgte aufgrund der Prüfordnung des Verbandes österreichischer Briefmarkenprüfer (VÖB) und bezieht sich auf den Zustand der Vorlage zur Zeit der Prüfung.



Mailed in August 1914

Letters addressed to the colonies were being mailed right up to the outbreak of the war. However, due to the British blockade and capture of German ships on the high seas, there was no opportunity for delivery. Thus, mail already in the postal system was marked "Return to sender due to the state of war" and sent back to the writer.

MARIANA ISLANDS

Germany purchased the Marianas in the same transaction as the Carolines -- for 17 million marks. The official transfer took place on 18 June 1899, but a post office was not opened until November at Saipan, the capital. This territory was unique among the German colonies in that it had only one post office and one postmark.

Saipan



Postmark used from 18 November 1899 to August 1914

Spanish mail despatch of 29 November 1899



Stamps of the Spanish Philippines continued in use in Saipan between the time of the official transfer of the islands to Germany on 18 June 1899 and the opening of the German post office on 18 November. However, because a substantial quantity of these stamps disappeared during the capture of Manila by American forces, the local authorities authorized available stocks to be overprinted with a boxed "Marianas Espanolas." The quantities produced were very small, including only 50 copies of the 6 centavos value, shown on the above cover with a pair of the 2 centavos. Only four covers franked with the 6 centavos stamp have been recorded.

There was only one despatch of mail franked with this issue -- on the steamer *Uranus* which left for Manila on 29 November -- after the German postal service was in operation. Thus, such covers can be regarded as having an officially accepted type of "forerunner" franking for the Marianas.



Francisco Graus
 Experto en Filatelia e Historia Postal
 Association Internationale des
 Experts Philatéliques - a.i.e.p.
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 08037 Barcelona (España)

Certificado
 N.º B3/50-7



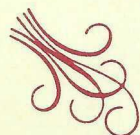
Marianas nº 1 + 4

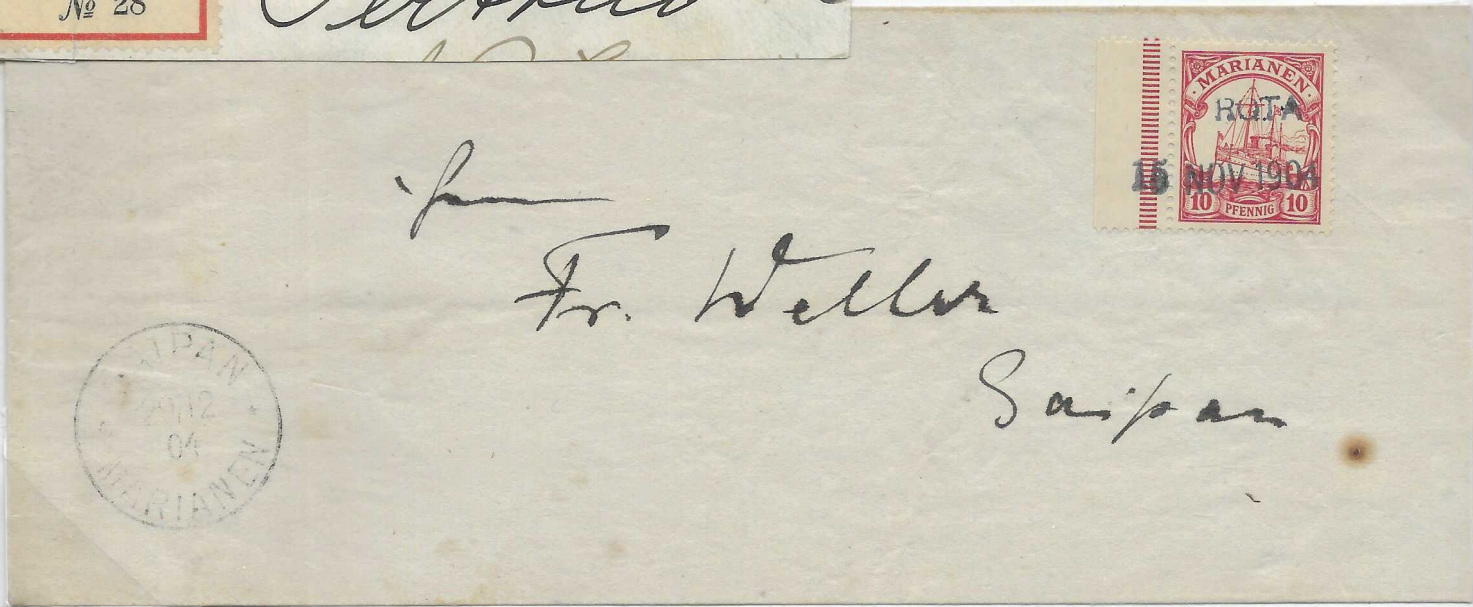
He examinado el fragmento, con los sellos de Filipinas, valores: pareja del 2c. verde y unidad del 6c. azul, efígie de Alfonso XIII, emisión de 1988, con la sobreimpresión en color violeta 'MARIANAS ESPAÑOLAS' para uso postal en 1899, obliterado 'GOBIERNO P.M. YSLAS MARIANAS' ovalado con escudo real en el centro, en tinta de escribir.-----

 EN MI OPINION la pieza es auténtica y el matasellos es original de la época y a mi juicio es ejemplar de gran rareza por el valor de 6c. En el momento de su examen tiene buen estado de conservación y no se advierten reparaciones ni defectos ocultos.-----

Lo que manifiesto, firmo y rubrico este original que lleva incorporada una reproducción fotográfica de la/s pieza/s examinada/s, a los efectos oportunos en Barcelona a veintidós de Diciembre de mil novecientos noventa y uno.-----

[Handwritten signature]





Marking used from June 1904 to October 1906

Rota was the second largest of the German Marianas, but in 1903 its population was only 480 natives and one Spaniard. In June 1904, a German agronomist (Herr Reichel) was sent out to examine agricultural possibilities. Although an application was made to establish a postal agency on Rota, there is no evidence that this was ever granted. In the meantime, Reichel prepared stamp cancellations (with the name of the island in two different sizes) which were used over the ensuing two years. These markings are considered as unauthorized but tolerated, and only five examples are recorded on covers or cards.

MARIANA ISLANDS

Saipan

Inbound Official Mail

Packet mailed from the Colonial Office in Berlin to District Commissioner Fritz on 24 August 1899, nearly three months before he would raise the German flag and take over administrative responsibility for the colony on 17 November.

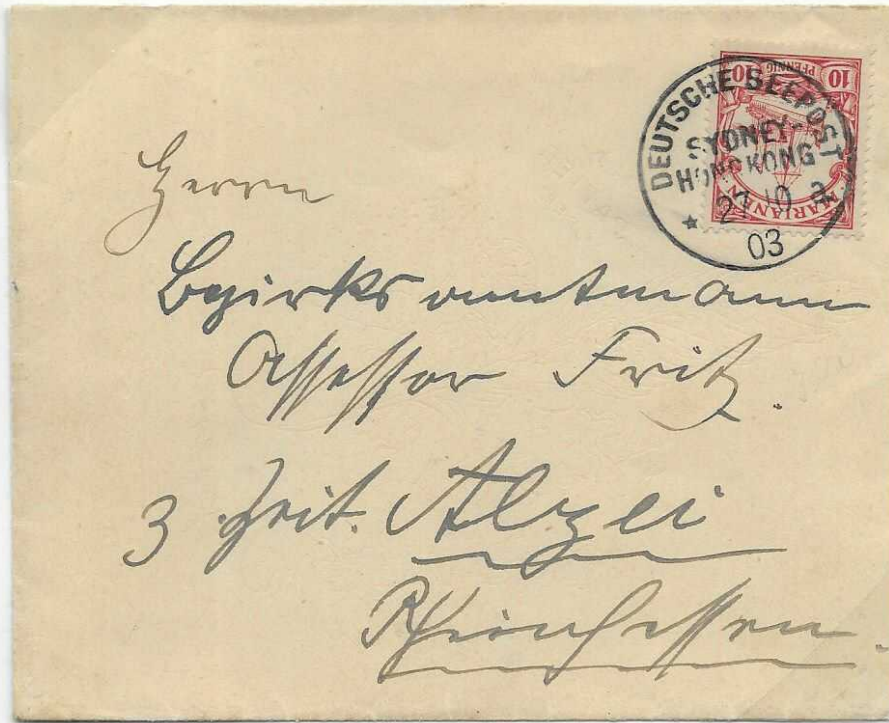


Mail service into the Marianas was especially uncertain during the first year, being dependent on occasional passing ships. The first German postal steamer, the Munchen of the New Guinea Branch Line, arrived 17 August 1900 (with this cover and other mail). Has transit markings of Jaluit on 24 November 1899 and Yap of 15 January 1900.

As the first datestamp had only "99" for the year designation, the bottom of the 9's were filed off to make the small "oo" shown in the receiving markings. The ship also brought new type for the cancel. This cover makes 21 August the latest recorded date for the old marking (four days later than previously recorded).

MARIANA ISLANDS

Sydney-Hong Kong Seepost



Postmark used from 3 April 1903 to January 1905

Jaluit-Linie Seepost



Postmark used from February 1905 to July 1914

Seapost markings exist on stamps of the Marianas from several of the lines serving the German Pacific possessions. Cover above has the identifying mark "a" in the cds and was mailed on the Steamer *Oceana*; card below has a "b" code and was mailed on the Steamer *Germania*.