PHILIPPINES
Luzon

Mil Sta. No.2 Cavite
7 February 1900
10 November 1900

Examples of earliest and latest recorded dates of the 4-line Cavite registration marking, struck in purple and red. Large cover was official mail which required payment of the 8 cent registry fee but was free of ordinary postage.

PHILIPPINES
M.O.B. Postmark

Mil. Sta. No.2 Cavite
31 August 1899

Examples of money orders from the campaign in the Philippines are very elusive. In fact, the one shown above provides the only recorded example of the M.O.B. cancel for Military Station No.2 at Cavite, which was used on a form for a payment of 25 cents. This piece apparently survived as it was never cashed.

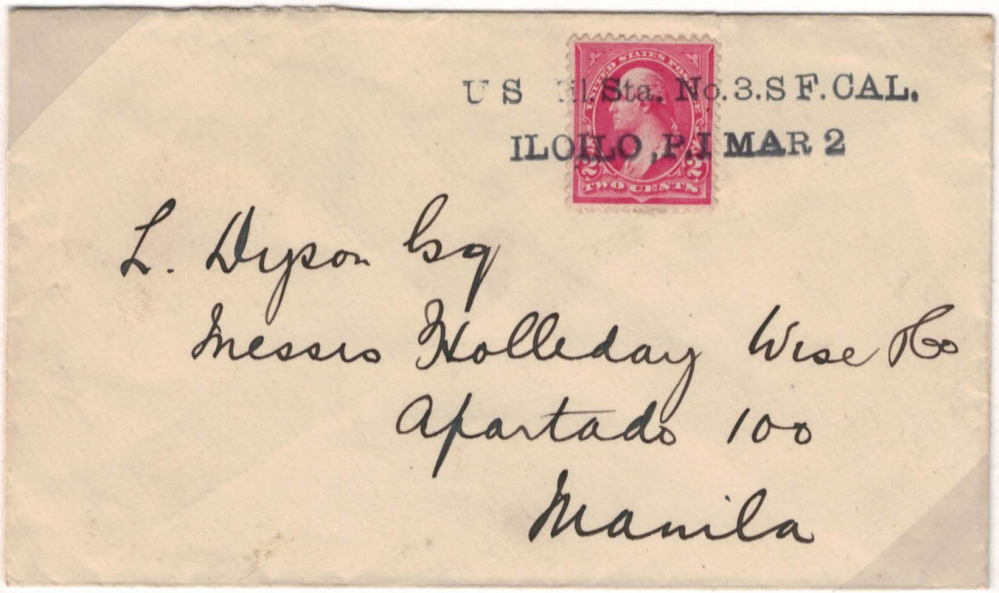
PHILIPPINES
Panay

U.S. Mil. Sta. No. 3 Iloilo Harbor
10 February 1899
- February 1899

The first provisional marking was used on a transport ship in Iloilo Bay. It reads "Iloilo Harbor" and is one of the most elusive military station markings from the Philippines. It is recorded used between 7 January and 7 March 1899. The cover shown above is backstamped for receipt in San Francisco on 25 February.

PHILIPPINES
Panay

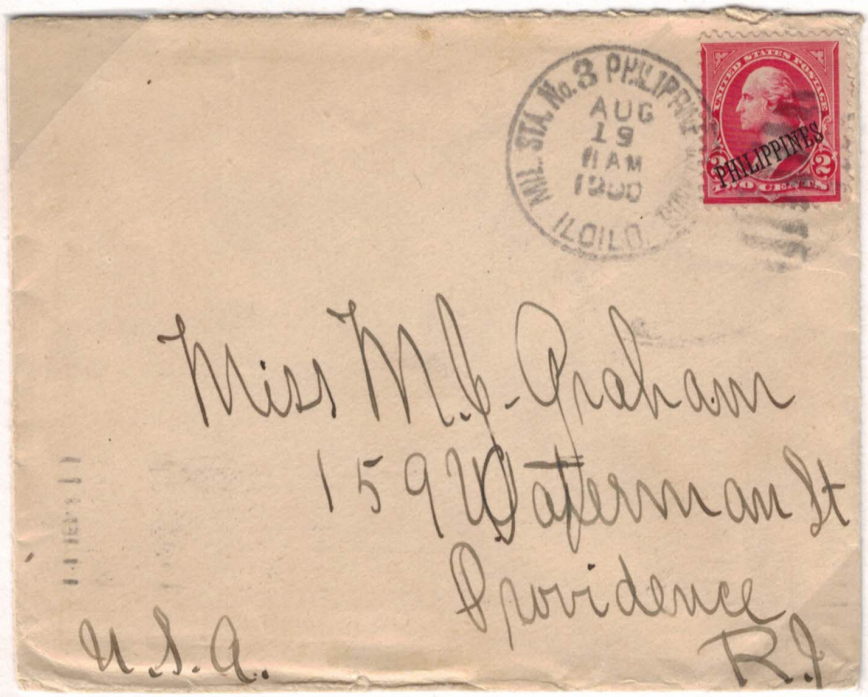
U.S. Mil. Sta. No. 3 Iloilo
2 March 1899
7 March 1899

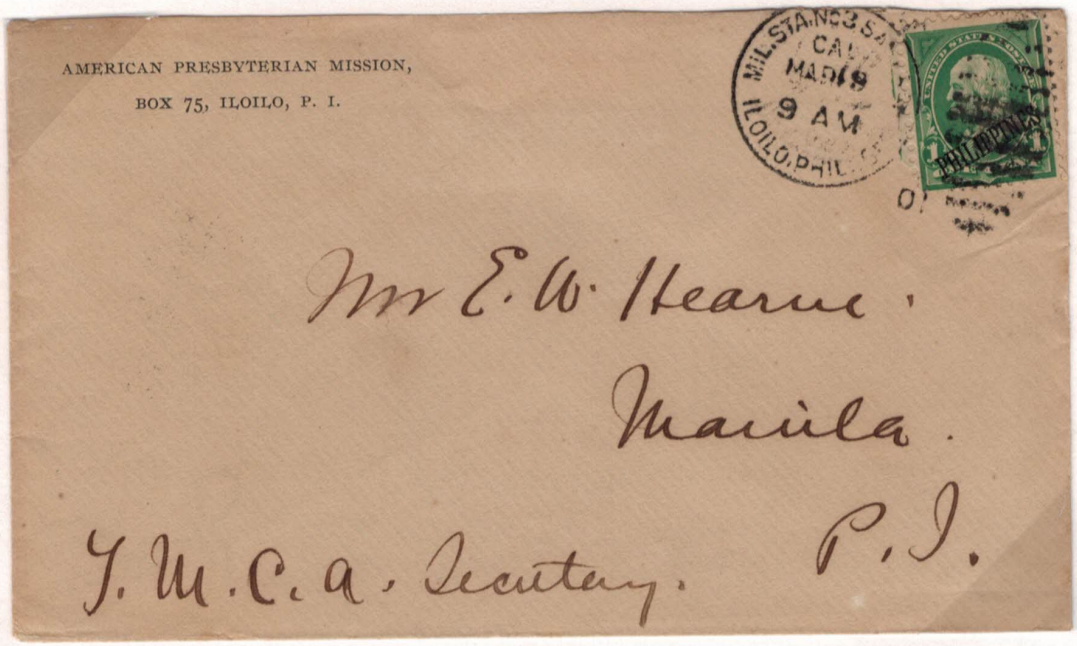


The second provisional marking dropped the "Harbor" designation. It has been recorded as being used for only 2 months, from 11 February to 11 April 1899. Examples are shown with black and purple ink, with the latter being on a registered cover, a very unusual usage.

PHILIPPINES
Panay

Mil. Sta. No. 3 Iloilo
19 August 1900
19 March 1901





Both types of steel duplexes were used at Iloilo. The small version is recorded from 16 March 1899 to 28 November 1901, which the larger one runs from 6 May 1899 to 14 September 1900.

PHILIPPINES
Panay

Mil Sta. No.3 Iloilo
15 March 1899
29 July 1899

Two types of registration markings are known from the Iloilo military station. **The first is a four-line handstamp, not previously recorded, of which the discovery example is shown.** The double-ring type was used more extensively and is recorded from 17 April 1899 to 16 September 1901.

PHILIPPINES
Cebu

Mil Sta. No.4 Cebu
17 March 1899
30 March 1899

The most unusual military marking from the Philippines was an undated one used at Military Station No.4 on Cebu in March and April 1899. It was used in conjunction with a temporary cds transferred from Manila but with the station number "1" excised. Above examples on outbound and inbound mail.

PHILIPPINES
Cebu

Mil Sta. No.4 Cebu
22 June 1899
21 November 1899

The standard single-circle cds for Cebu is recorded used from 6 June 1899 to 14 September 1900. A few examples of a matching receiving mark, similar but with "Rec'd." at the bottom of the circle, are known.

PHILIPPINES
Cebu

Mil. Sta. No.4 Cebu
4 October 1899
11 December 1901
4 March 1902

Shown above are the earliest and latest recorded dates for the 4-line registry marking. However, these differ in color and in the spacing of the dates on the second line. Below is a cover with a hand-drawn box for the registration number and the circular registry marking used later; sent to Singapore.

PHILIPPINES
Negros

Mil Sta. No. _
30 March 1899

Mil. Sta. No.5 Bacolod
9 May 1899

In March 1899, a small contingent (not more than a company) of California Volunteer Infantry was sent to occupy the Island of Negros. As new steel postmarks had been put in service in Manila, the Californians were given the old rubber double-ring marking with the station number "1" excised. This temporary cancel was used at Bacolod from 15 March to 2 May 1899. The new single-ring rubber marking was used from 3 May 1899 to 20 April 1901.

PHILIPPINES
Negros

Mil Sta. No.5 Bacolod
12 May 1899
31 January 1902

Bacolod used only one type of receiving mark, similar to the single-circle despatch mark but with "Rec'd." at the bottom of the circle. Registered mail from Bacolod is very unusual. Only four examples of the 4-line marking are recorded (three on outbound mail). **Cover from Spain showing its use as a receiving mark is the discovery example on inbound mail.**

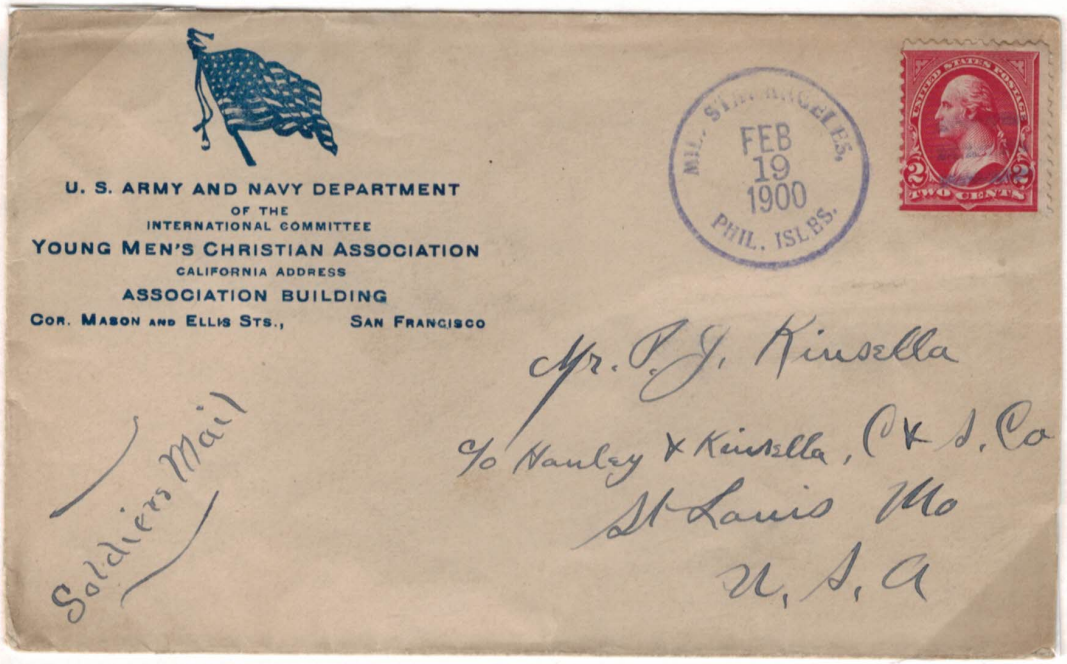
PHILIPPINES
Luzon

Mil. Sta. No. 6 Malolos
5 July 1899
11 July 1899

The last and most difficult of the numbered military postal stations in the Philippines, there are only five examples recorded of the Station No. 6 marking -- with postmarks from April to July 1899.

PHILIPPINES
Luzon

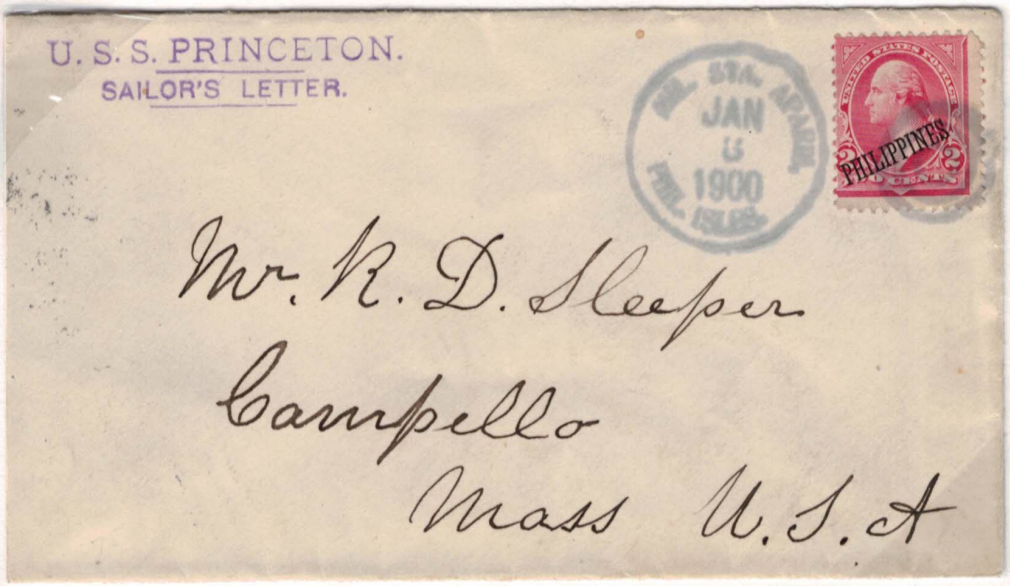
Mil. Sta. Angeles
7 December 1899
19 February 1900

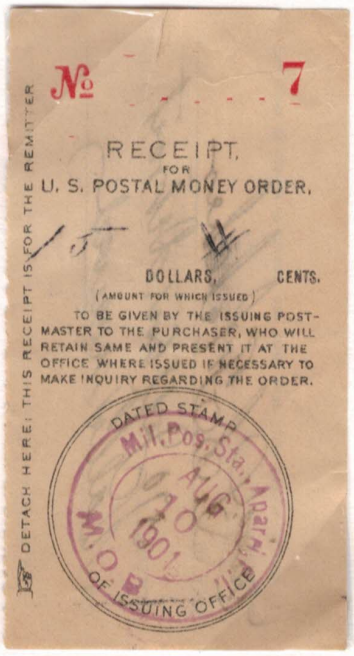


After the initial six military postal stations, nine more units were opened, but no additional numbers were assigned. One of this latter group was in the town of Angeles, located on the Dagupan & Manila railway. It used a single type of circular cds, with recorded dates from 5 October 1899 to 13 February 1901.

PHILIPPINES
Luzon

Mil Sta. Aparri
3 January 1900
3 February 1900
10 August 1901





The *U.S.S. Concord* anchored off Aparri in northernmost Luzon and took formal possession in May 1899. However, there are no recorded examples of an Aparri postmark until December 1899. The lower cover shows cds with a scalloped edge, clearly a second form of the device. **The "M.O.B." cancel shown used on a money order receipt is the discovery example of this marking, previously unrecorded in any of the literature.**

PHILIPPINES
Luzon

Mil Sta. Aparri
12 September 1900
10 September 1901

Two other postal markings are known on registered mail from Aparri. The first is a highly unusual straight-line "Aparri" apparently applied as a killer on the two stamps affixed to the lower right corner of the cover; the postage was also struck with an illegible circular postmark. The second and later usage is a rectangular box marking, shown here struck in red violet on a large piece of package wrapping.

PHILIPPINES
Sulu Archipelago

Mil. Sta. Bongao
15 June 1902

Most elusive of all the Military Station markings from the Philippines.

Bongao is by far the most obscure place in the Philippines to have a postal station. Only a tiny garrison was sent there, which is on a very small island within sight of the coast of Borneo.

Its marking was unknown to Goodale, and only four covers have been confirmed subsequently, with dates ranging from 1 July 1900 to 10 September 1902.

Bongao did not have a registry marking, but the cover was registered as it transited Jolo four weeks later. Transit marking of Manila (21 July) is on the reverse, along with New York receiving backstamp of 7 September.

PHILIPPINES
Luzon

Mil. Sta. Dagupan
14 February 1900
24 May 1900

Dagupan was located at the northern terminus of the military railroad from Manila. Its postmark was previously recorded used only from November 1899 to April 1900. Note the obvious deterioration of the rubber handstamp due to the tropical climate.

PHILIPPINES
Sulu Archipelago

Mil. Sta. Jolo
26 October 1899
15 May 1900
7 May 1901

U.S. forces relieved the Spanish garrison at Jolo in the Sulu Archipelago on 19 May 1899. Examples of the standard rubber cds are recorded from 8 August 1899 to 7 May 1901. Postage due assessment on the upper cover reflects its lack of "soldier's letter" endorsement and being charged double deficiency of the 3 cent underpayment. The 1 cent stamp on the internal cover to Manila has a **Jolo "Received" cancel, the only recorded example of this marking.** Registration marking recorded used from 15 May (above) to 19 December 1900.

PHILIPPINES
Luzon

Mil. Sta. San Fernando
15 July 1899
29 August 1899

Unrecorded in the literature, there are two distinct types of the single ring rubber cds for this office. One states "Phil. Isl'ds." and the other "Phil. Islands." The reason for this is unknown, and the dates of usage are overlapping, with the overall period recorded extending from 15 July 1899 (above) to 18 July 1900.

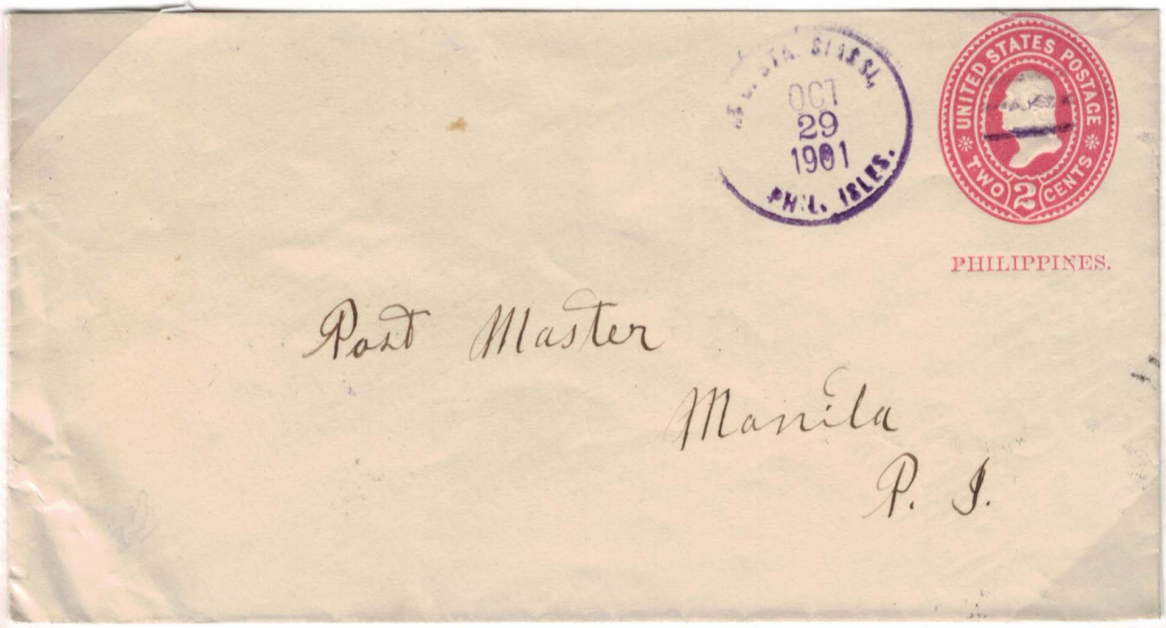
PHILIPPINES
Luzon

Mil Sta. San Fernando
27 February 1900
13 July 1900

The San Fernando receiving mark is not recorded in the literature. **Above is the discovery example used as a despatch marking** on an outbound letter. The typical military station 4-line registration marking was issued to San Fernando, but examples of registered mail were unknown until recent years. **Only four such covers have been recorded to date, of which the above is the latest known.**

PHILIPPINES
Sulu Archipelago

Mil. Sta. Siassi
29 October 1901
26 January 1902



U.S. forces occupied Siassi shortly after Jolo, thus consolidating their position in the Sulu Archipelago. Use of the rubber cds is recorded from November 1899 to March 1902.

PHILIPPINES
Luzon

Mil. Sta. Vigan
16 February 1900
1 May 1900
26 May 1900

Vigan used military markings for an extended period, recorded from 16 January 1900 to 3 August 1901, but examples are elusive and often not well struck. Even allowing for deterioration of the rubber due to the tropical climate, the evidence is that at least three devices of differing size were used.

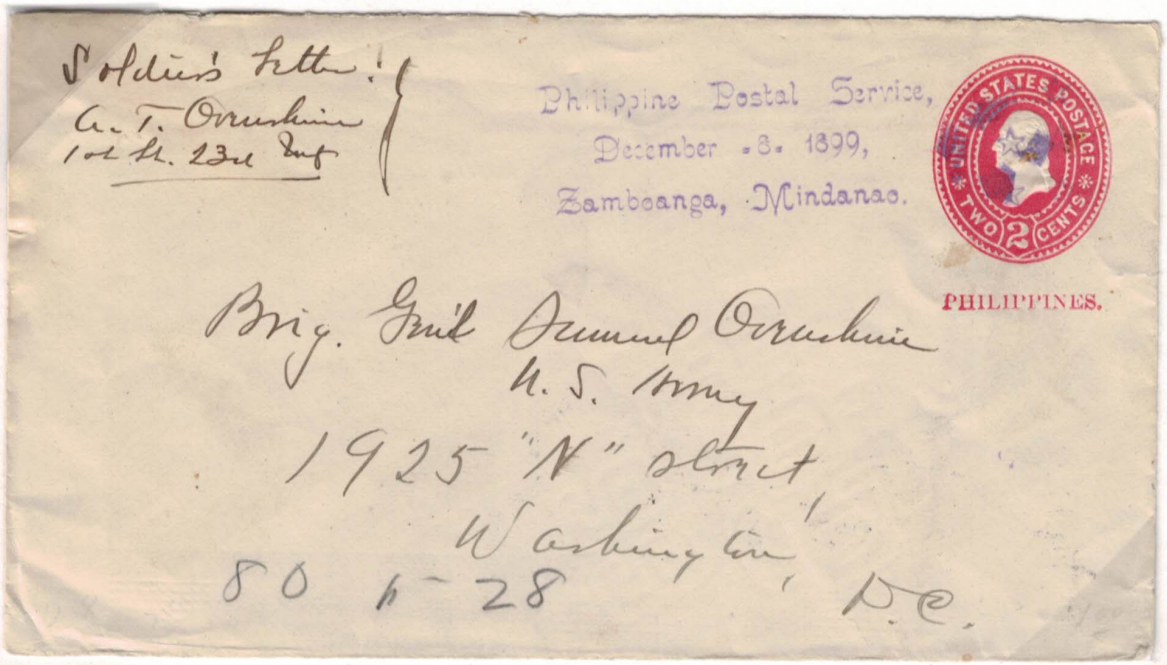
PHILIPPINES
Luzon

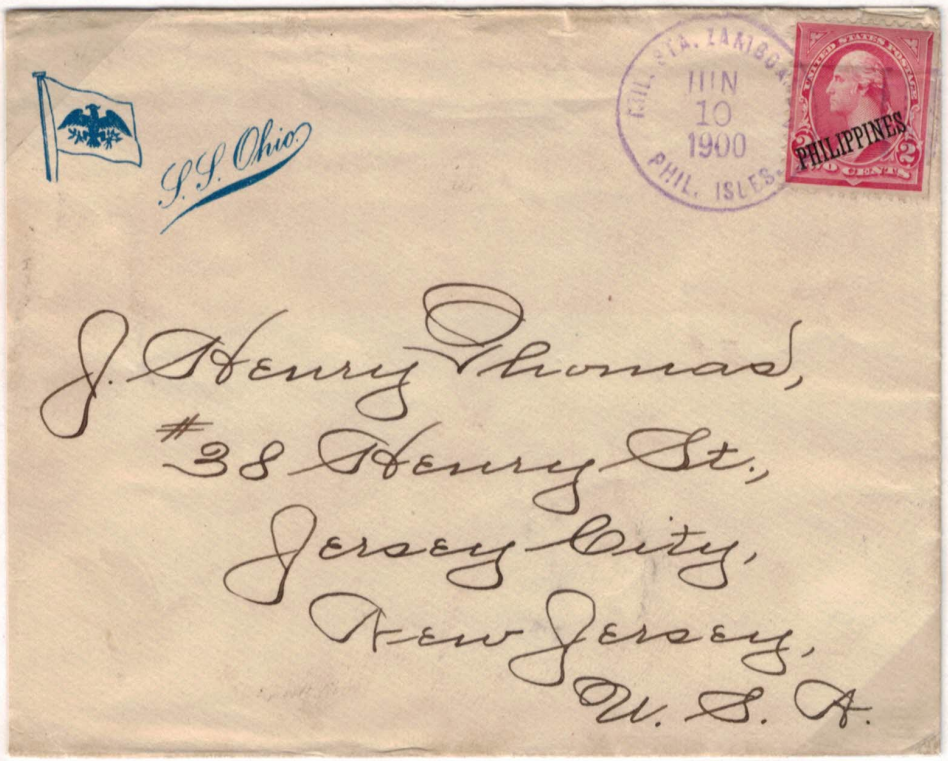
Mil Sta. Vigan
26 March 1901
7 June 1901

Registered mail from Vigan is known only late in the military period. It was marked with a rectangular box, similar to but larger than that used at Aparri, applied in red or black as per the above examples.

PHILIPPINES
Mindanao

Mil. Sta. Zamboanga
8 December 1899
10 June 1900





The first postmark of Zamboanga was an unusual 3-line provisional, which has been recorded from 12 August to 27 December 1899. The standard rubber cds has been seen used from 5 January 1900 to 17 March 1901.