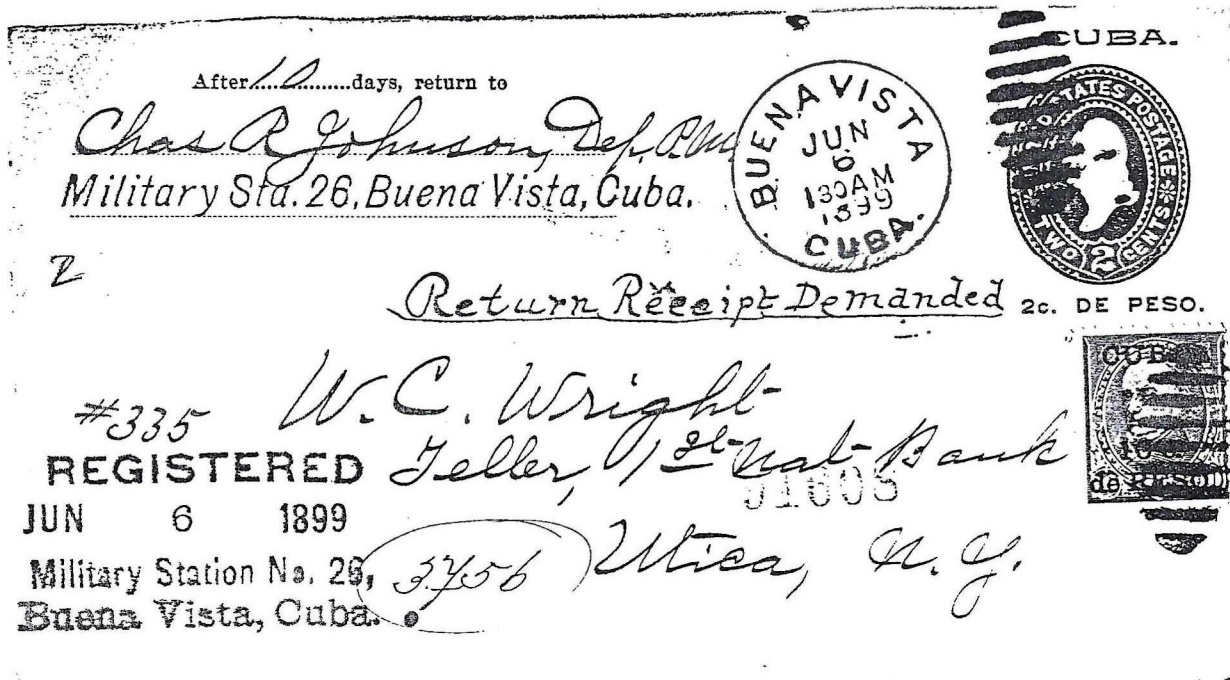
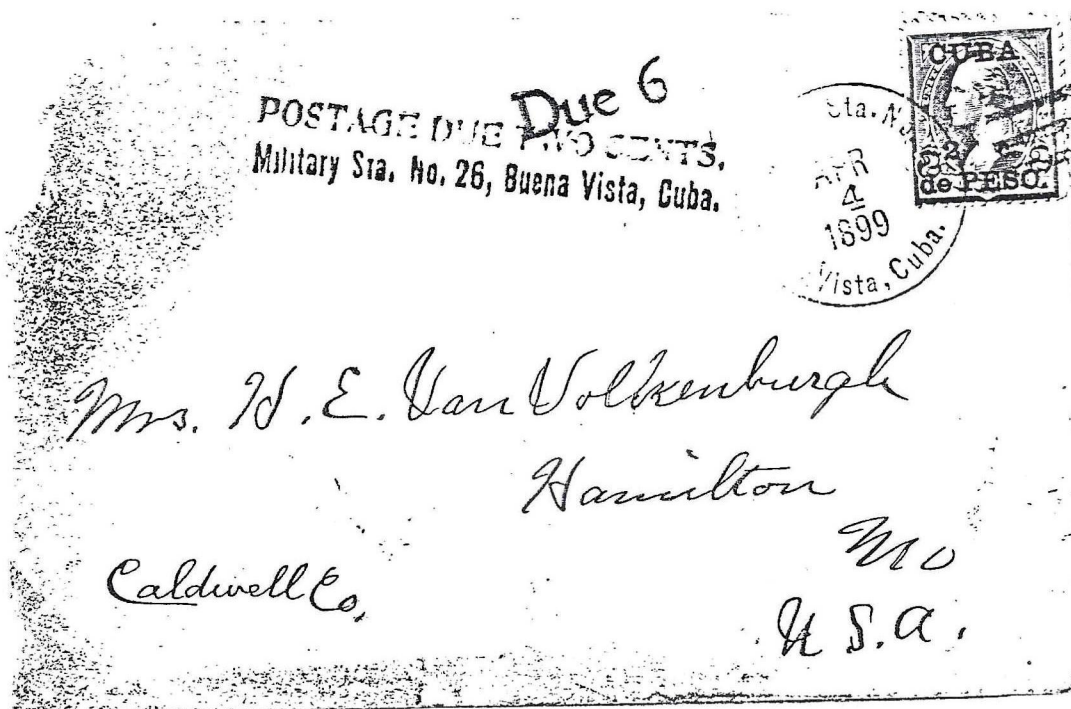


Cuba 1898-1902

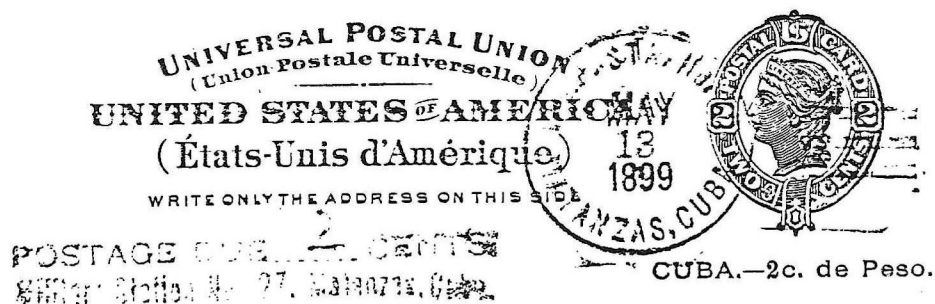
Postmarks
Military Sta. No. 26 Buena Vista



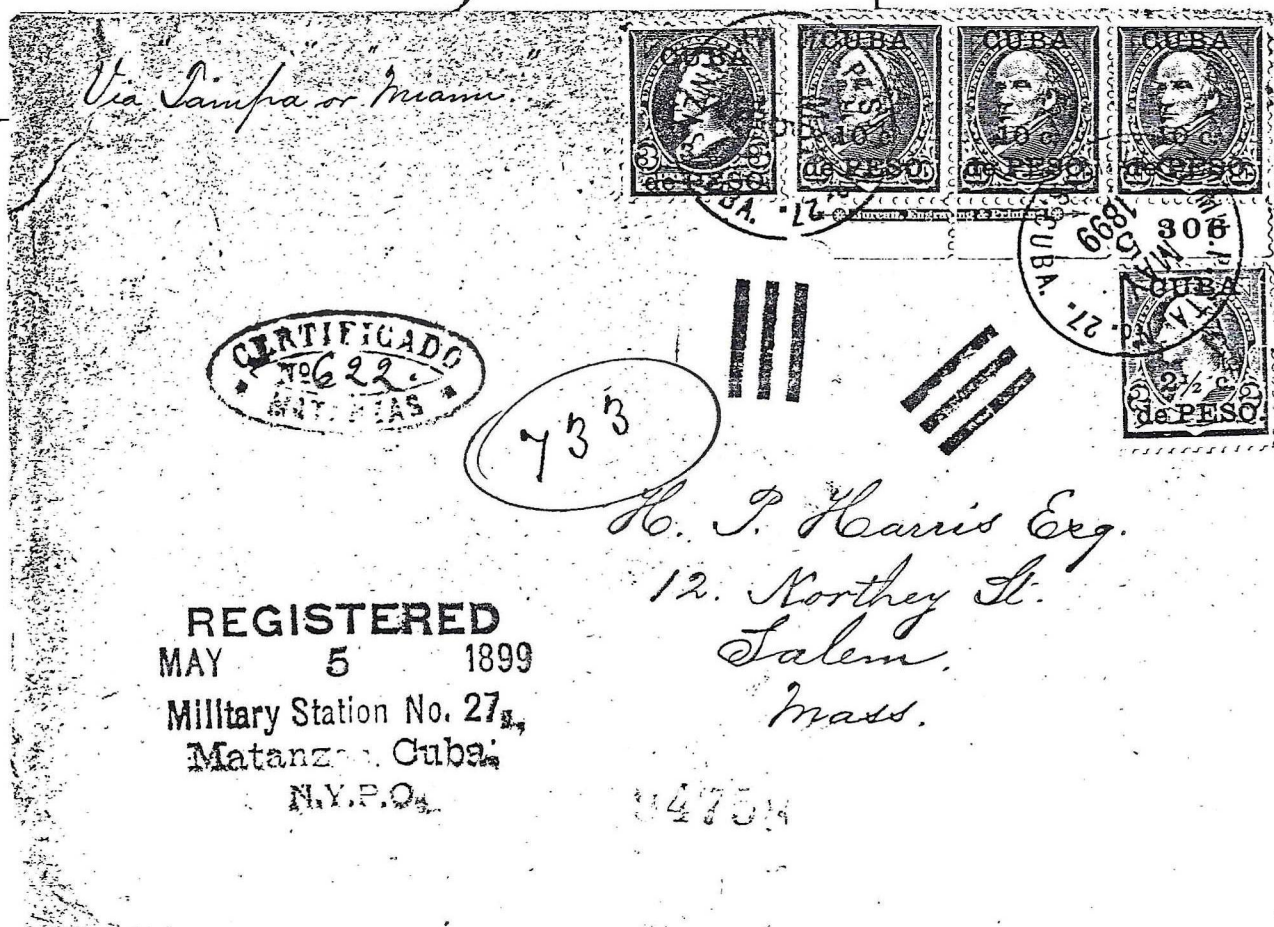
Examples above show rubber cds, postage due, and 4-line Registration markings of Buena Vista. The "Postage Due" type is unrecorded in Baker. As the upper cover is not endorsed "soldier's letter," it was assessed a double deficiency for the 3 centavos underpayment.

Cuba 1898-1902

Postmarks
Military Sta. No. 27 Matanzas



*Lynn Taintallray Dr. W. Molly,
Morp. Moresnet,*



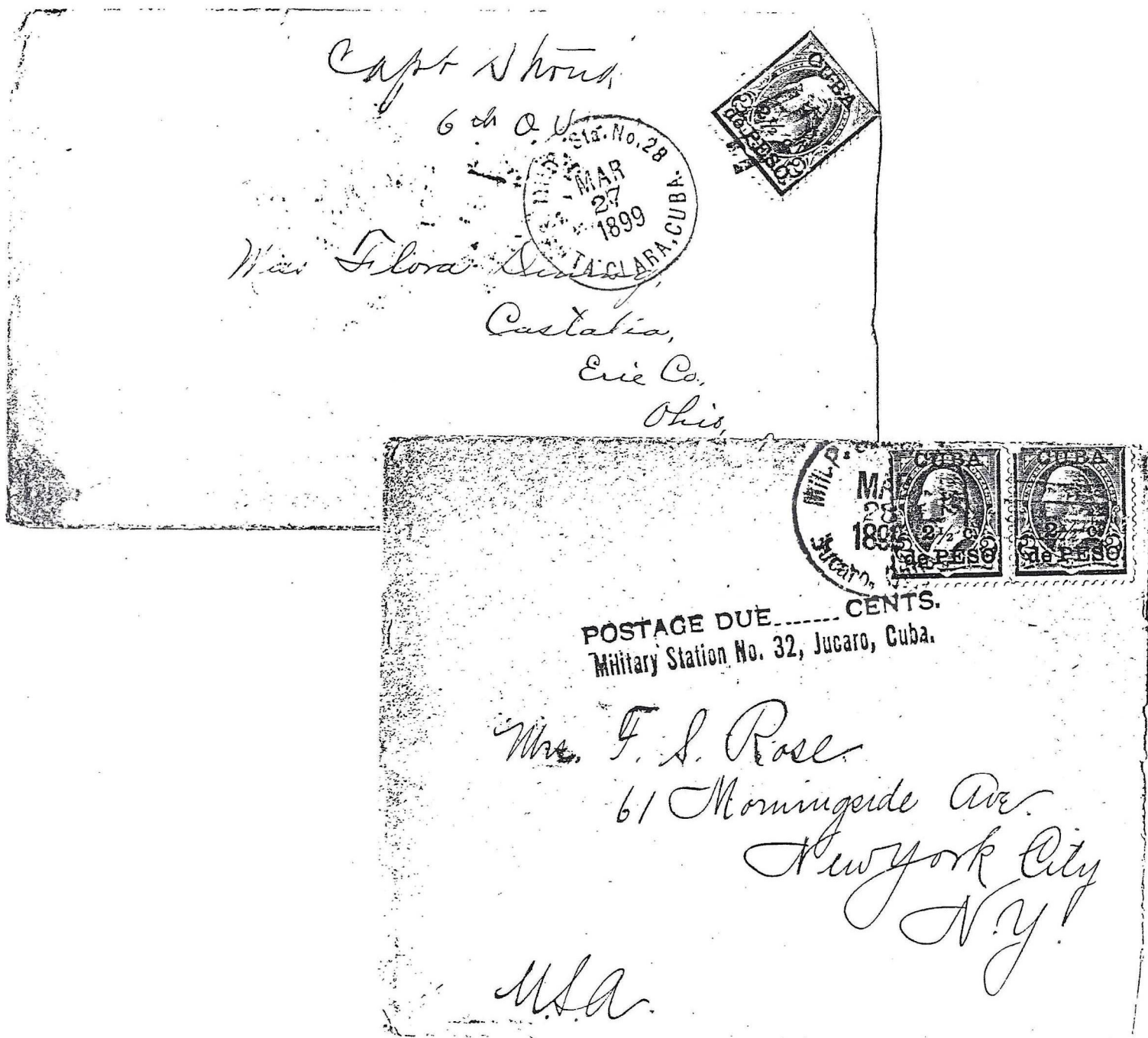
Examples above show rubber cds, postage due, and 5-line Registration markings of Matanzas. The former is recorded used from 28 January to 2 August 1899, while the "Postage Due" and "Registered" types are unrecorded in Gordon. Note the use of the captured Spanish oval registration marking on the lower cover.

Cuba 1898-1902

Postmarks

Military Sta. No. 28 Santa Clara

Military Sta. No. 32 Jucaro



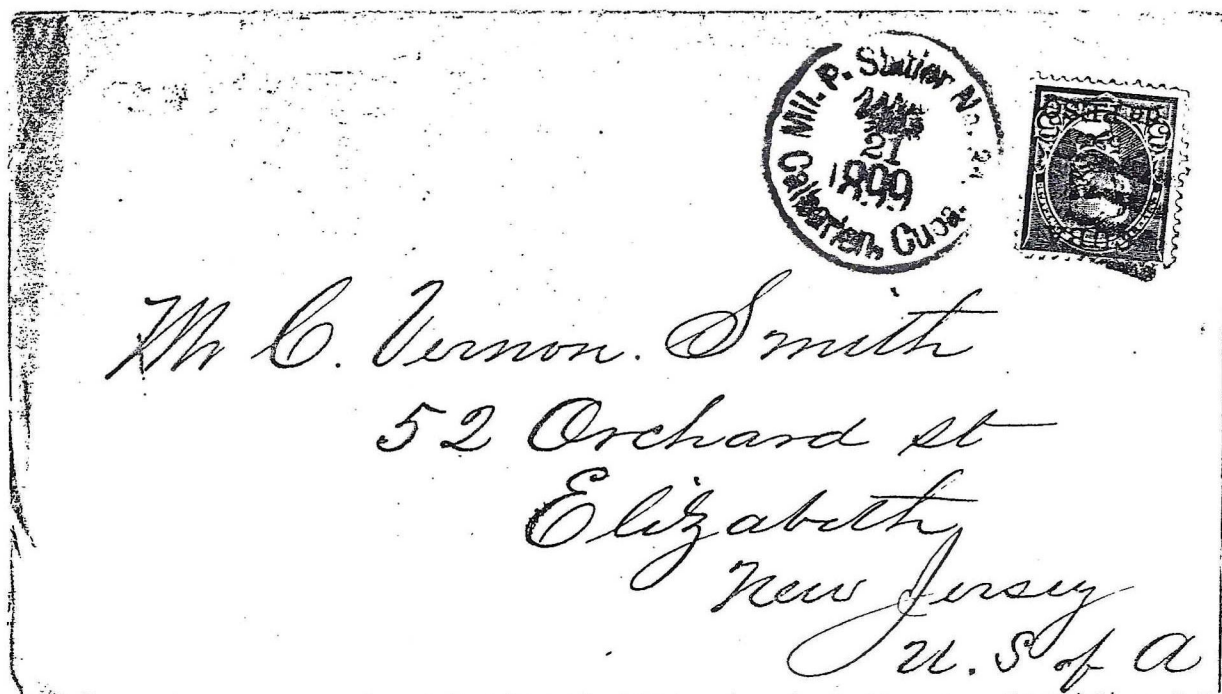
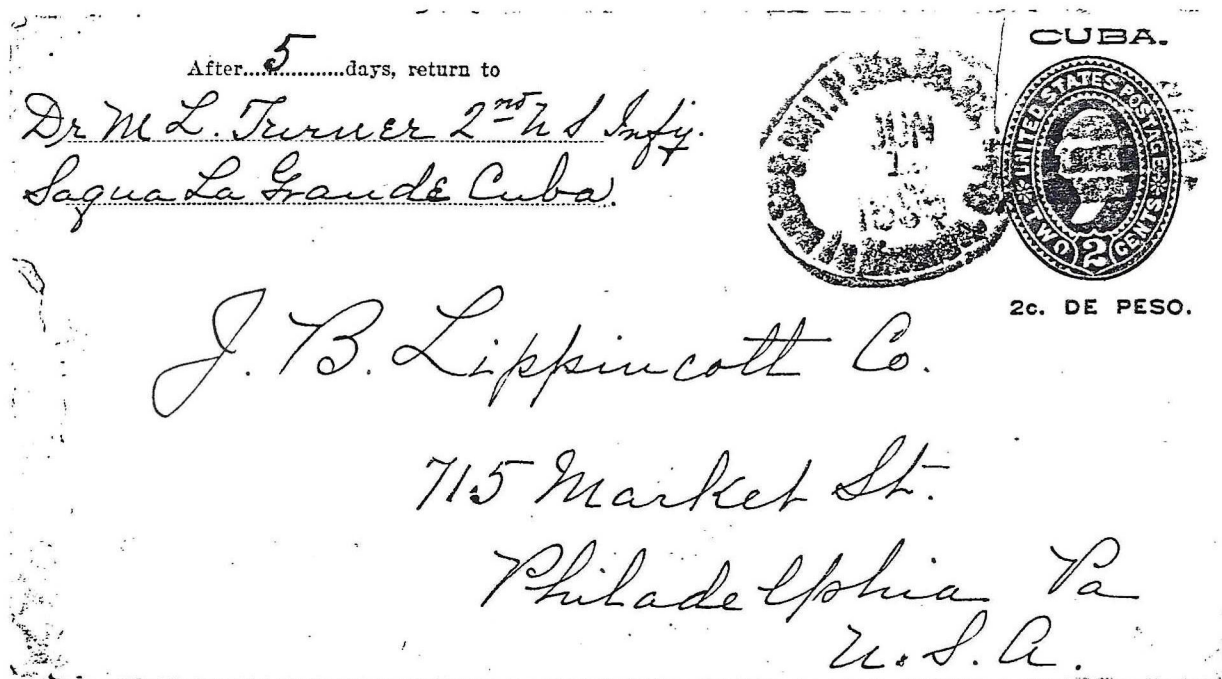
Examples of the higher number military stations, which were open only briefly, are scarce. Postmarks of Santa Clara are recorded from 17 February to 20 April 1899 and of Jucaro from 28 March (above) to 9 June 1899. The bottom cover also bears an unusual postage due marking, reflecting an underpayment of 1 centavo. (Because of an error in printing this denomination, these stamps were sold for 2 centavos each, rather than 2½.)

Cuba 1898-1902

Postmarks

Military Sta. No. 33 Sagua la Grande

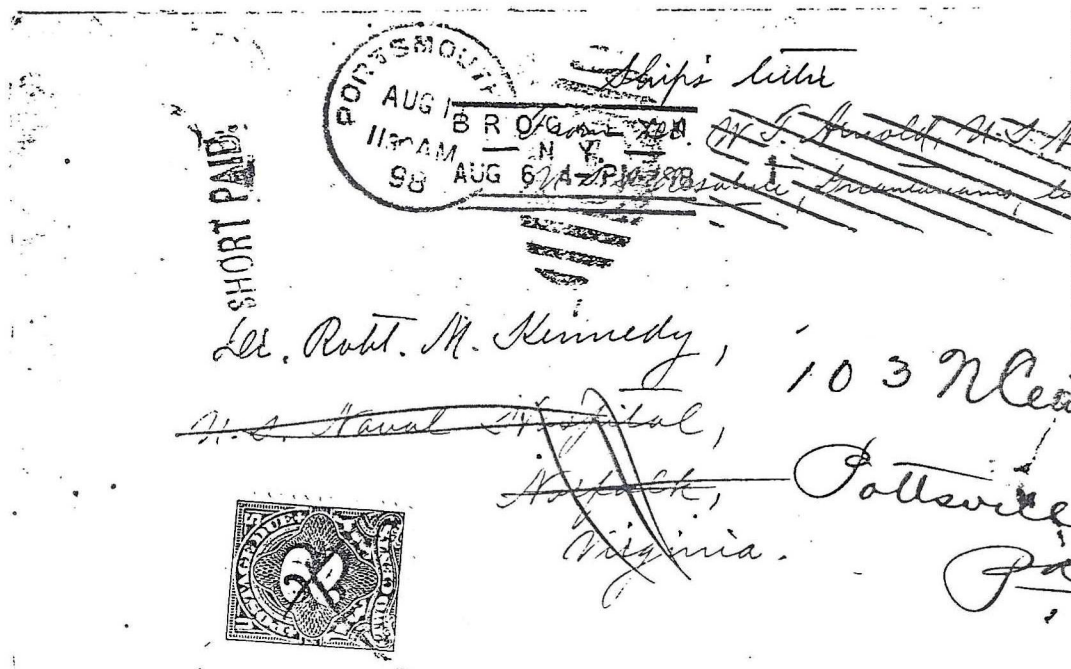
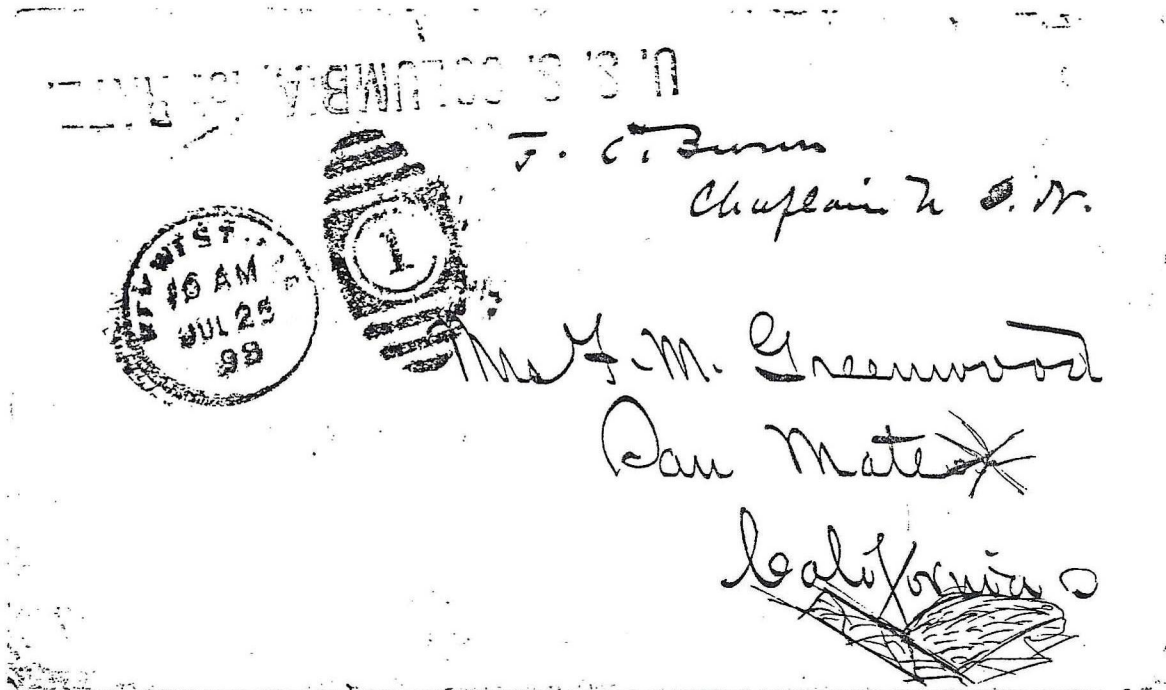
Military Sta. No. 34 Caibarien



The rubber cds of Sagua la Grande is known used from March to July 1899. The Caibarien postmark is only recorded used in March 1899, and the number of examples is less than five.

Cuba 1898-1902

Navy Mail
Guantanamo Bay



Upper cover mailed by sailor from protected cruiser U.S.S. *Columbia* at Camp McCulloch, Guantanamo. Contents state that "We are coaling up here and expect to leave for Porto Rico tomorrow," and that "All hands are out of stamps now and we must send our letters C.O.D." However, postage due was apparently not assessed when letter entered the mails at Key West. Lower cover from U.S.S. *Resolute* to Naval Hospital at Norfolk, where it was redirected on arrival 6 August.

1898-1902

Navy Mail
Cienfuegos

U.S.S. Brooklyn
Cienfuegos Cuba
May 26th 1898

Dear Bertha

I have
opportunity to
a few lines so
you know that
all right we
here Sunday a



Miss Bertha Greenworldt
#926 Park ave
Hoboken
N.J.

6 U.S.S. "NASHVILLE."



Mrs. Washburn Maynard -

1213 Whitfield Court

Newport

Rhode Island -
U.S.A.

Upper cover mailed by sailor from U.S.S. Brooklyn at Cienfuegos to girl friend in Hoboken, arriving on 29 May. Contents state "We arrived here Sunday and were going to do the Dewey trick but they would not fire at us". Lower cover sent by Commander Maynard of the U.S.S. Nashville to his wife in Newport, where it arrived 6 March.

Cuba 1898-1902

US Army Hospital Ship
Havana



Single-line rubber handstamp "U.S. Army Hospital Ship "Missouri," not previously recorded. Hospital ship mail from this campaign is extremely scarce.

Cuba 1898-1902

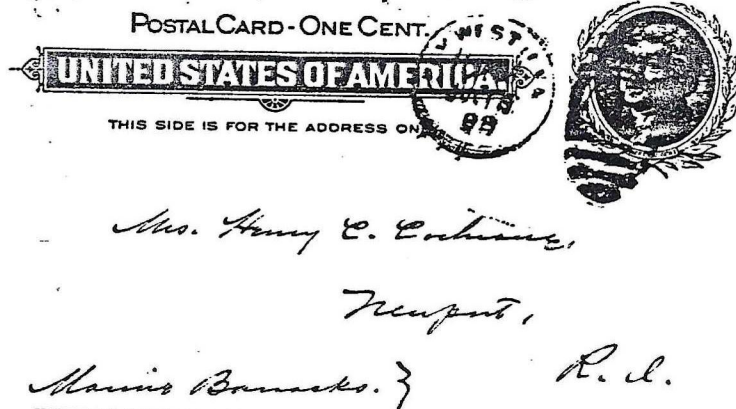
Marine's Mail
Carried Out of Mails to Key West

Only recorded piece of USMC mail from Guantanamo during Spanish-American War.

*Yesterday and inquire my family for all Mrs. M. & family
from home in Key West.*

Camp of the
First Marine Battalion,
Guantanamo 7/14-1898.
My Precious.

I have written
several times within a week
and this is to go, I believe,
via Key West, the place
where yr letters seem to stop.
No word from Newport since
17th ult. Suppose many
letters will come in a lot.
Wrote Mr. Dole to-day congrat-
ulating upon annexation of Ha-
waii. Have written Benton.
Santiago surrendered to-day wh.
pleases us very much. The y. f.
is lost but has not reached us
yet. Three ships in quarantine
in the harbor & much care taken
to guard against infection.
Capt. Bishop & Com. Waten here.



Maj. Henry Clay Cochrane was second-in-command of the First Marine Battalion in Cuba. Message notes that "Santiago surrendered today." Card was delivered by ship to the post office at Key West and placed in the mails four days after message was written.

PUERTO RICO 1898-1901

American troops landed in Puerto Rico on 25 July 1898 at Guanica, a small village near Ponce, the principal town on the south coast. Resistance by the Spanish forces was light, and Ponce was captured on the 28th. Large portions of the island were quickly overrun, and hostilities ceased upon the declaration of an armistice on 12 August. On 18 October the local Spanish government formally passed control of the island to the US, and this arrangement was ratified in the Treaty of Paris, 10 December 1898. On 12 April 1900 the Foraker Act established a civil government for the Territory and on 1 May 1900 the first civilian governor was inaugurated. However it was not until 25 July 1901 that President McKinley proclaimed civil government in Puerto Rico and free trade with the U.S.

Troops in Transit

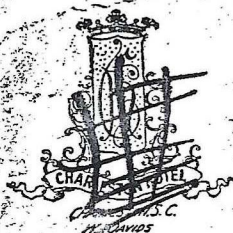
Thursday AM. July 21st

Dear Mother

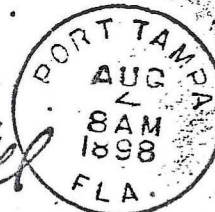
I send this by the pilot.
at last we are off bound

for Porto
not even
right, so
anchor it
tide.

Love



Soldier's Letter
Derrick Astill
Lieut Colonel U.S.V.



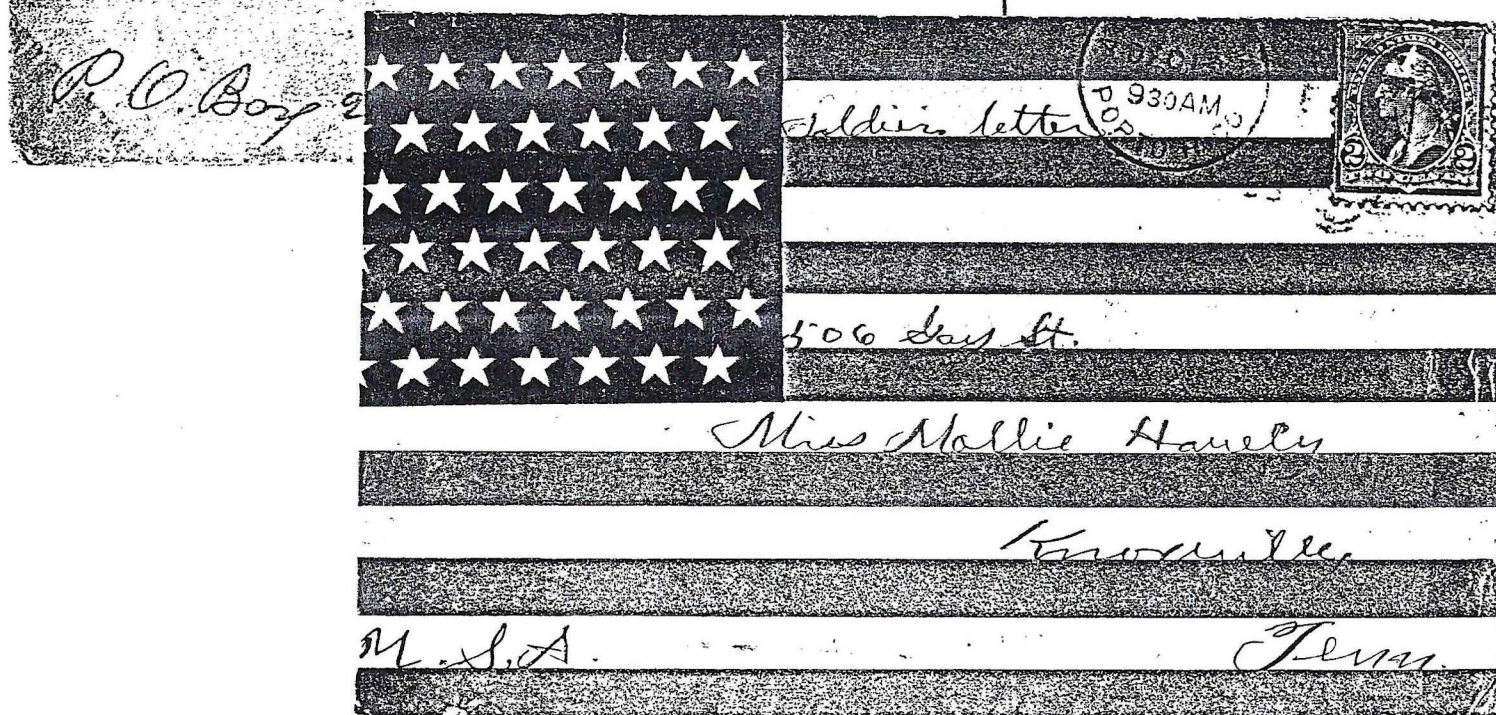
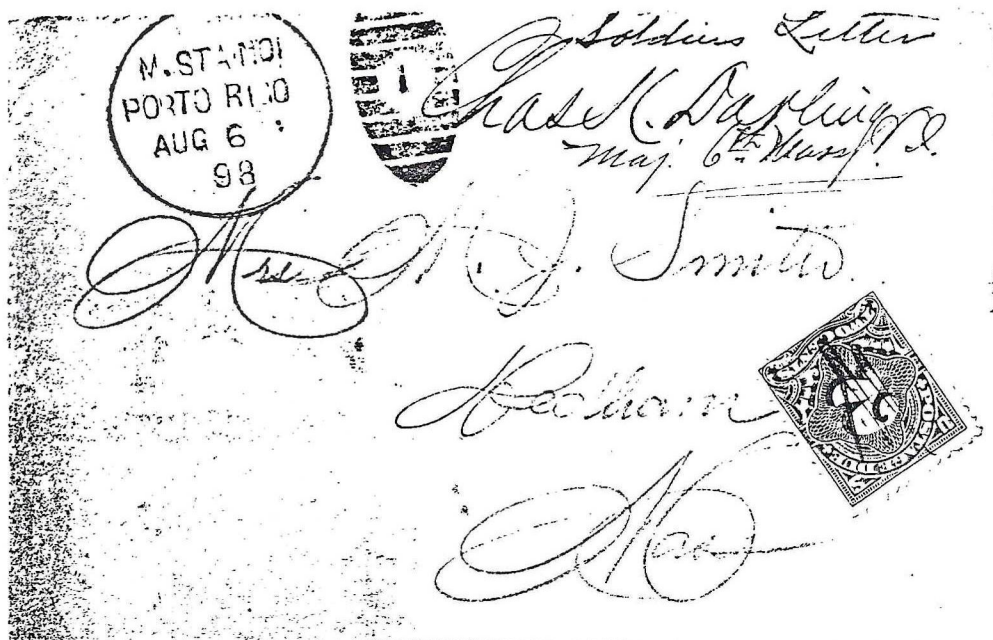
Mrs. E. J. Hill

40 West Ave.

Norwalk

Conn

On 21 July 1898 Gen. Miles left Santiago de Cuba with 3,300 men, and an additional Brigade left Charleston, S.C. the same day. The Charleston unit arrived in Puerto Rico on 27 July (2 days after the Cuban group) and took Ponce the next day. Posting of this cover on 4 August suggests that it was not given to the pilot as planned, but went with the writer to Puerto Rico and was posted on the ship's return to the U.S.

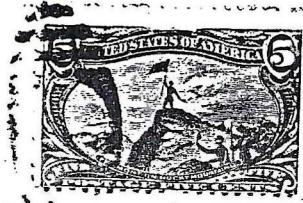


As in Cuba, American servicemen enjoyed U.S. domestic rates for mail to the U.S. and its territories, provided that their unit was shown on the cover. (The requirement for an officer's signature appears to have gone by the boards by late September 1898). Unpaid mail to the U.S. was handled on a postage due basis without the deficiency penalty. Mail to foreign countries was charged UPU rates.

U.S. military involvement in Puerto Rico was much less than it had been in Cuba, with the total of US forces never exceeding 20,000. Most of these troops were on their way home by mid-September 1898. As a result, mail from U.S. troops in Puerto Rico is much harder to find than similar mail from Cuba.



ARMY & NAVY DEPARTMENT
OF THE
INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE
YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATIONS
3 WEST TWENTY-NINTH STREET,
NEW YORK, N. Y.



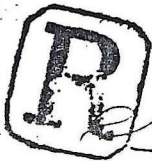
No. 27
William Foulke,
Bible House, Astor Place,

H. D.



Nicolas Lopez de Victoria
San Juan, P.R.

751



POSTAL CARD - ONE CENT.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

THIS SIDE IS FOR THE ADDRESS ONLY.

Gen. Lina
Berta Worn



L. P. Nicolsgund
biem - Nordbahn
Nord Böhmen

Civilian mail (from both U.S. and Puerto Rican civilians) to foreign countries was required to be paid at UPU rates. According to Hill, effective 3 (or 8) August 1898 mail to the U.S. was subject to the 5c UPU rate, and examples of this rate are found well into 1899. However, beginning in early 1899 there appears to have been increasing use (and acceptance) of a 2c letter rate to the U.S.

Upper cover likely sent by a YMCA civilian, as no unit is designated and full civil rate is paid.

Puerto Rico 1898-1901

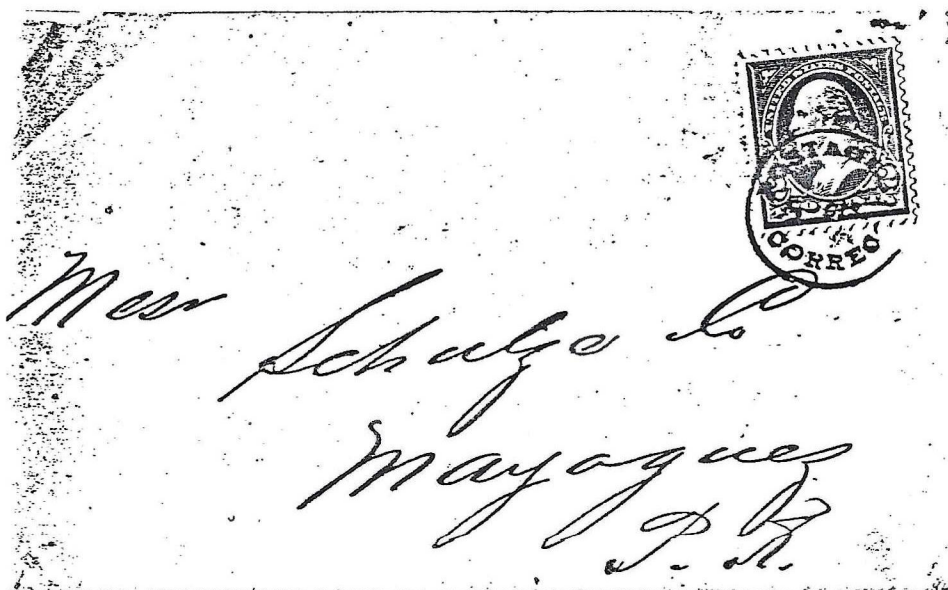
Postage
Spanish Issues



Though a cease fire was arranged on 14 August 1898, Spanish forces under arms continued to occupy a portion of the island around San Juan until the formal surrender was arranged on 18 October. The Spanish post office continued to operate in this area as before (including sending mail to the outside world by neutral vessels, and across the lines in Puerto Rico), except that postal communications to the U.S. were suspended.

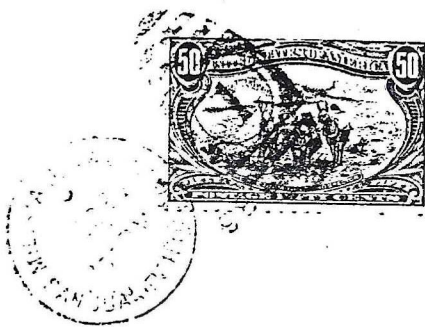
Puerto Rico 1898-1901

Postage
Ponce Municipal Post

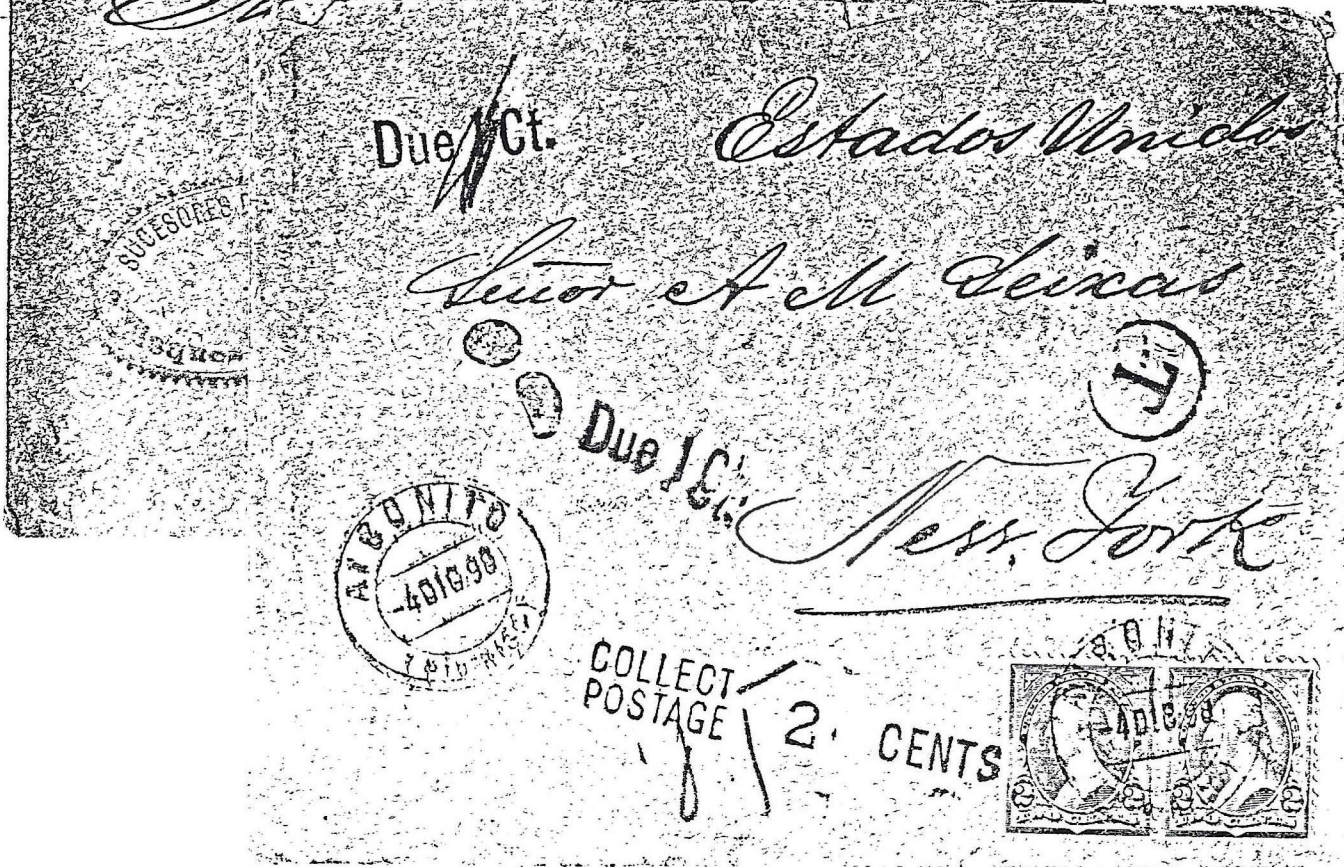
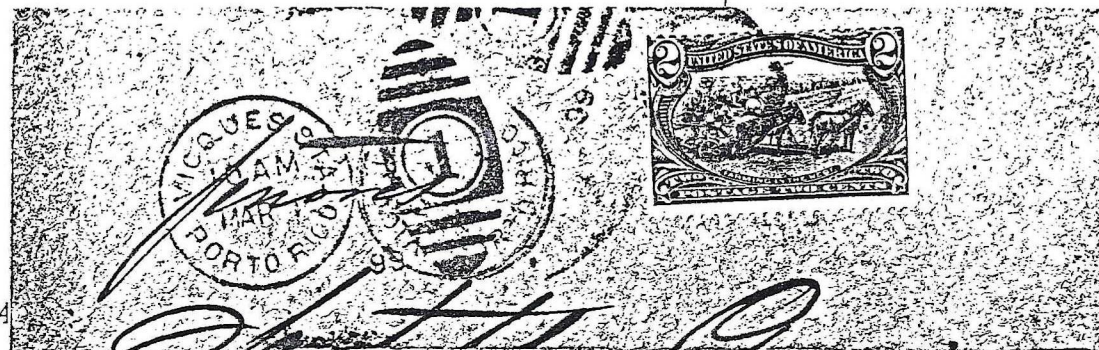


On 2 August 1898, with the permission of Maj. Gen. Wilson, the Mayor of Ponce established a municipal postal system for carriage of mail between Ponce and 8 other towns (including Yauco). He was further authorized to create a "stamp" to collect the fee of 5 centavos per letter carried by this service. The Ponce provisional is known in 3 forms: as an adhesive stamp (made by applying the handstamp to plain paper; no used examples recorded); as a stamped envelope; and as a paid handstamp. In this last form, Hill records it as "Also found struck on U.S. postage stamps, to pay the postage on letters forwarded over the military system after having travelled over the municipal routes."

The 5c. + 2¢ franking on the above cover was required for carriage by the Ponce municipal post from Ponce to Yauco, and by the U.S. military postal system from Yauco (MPS No. 7, opened 9 September 1898) to Mayaguez (MPS No. 3 opened 23 August 1898).



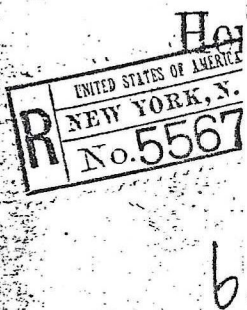
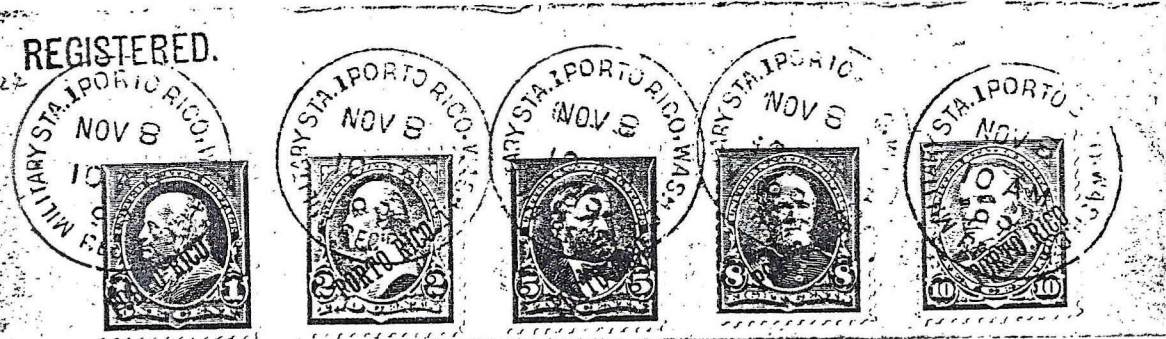
28 PA



Except for the local municipal post issues in Ponce and Coamo, unoverprinted US stamps were used initially in both military stations and municipal post offices; and the use of Spanish stamps was explicitly prohibited on 27 October 1898.

Puerto Rico 1898-1901

Postage
Overprinted Issues

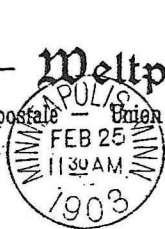


Senor



Postkarte - Weltpostverein.

Post Card - Carte postale - Union postale universelle.

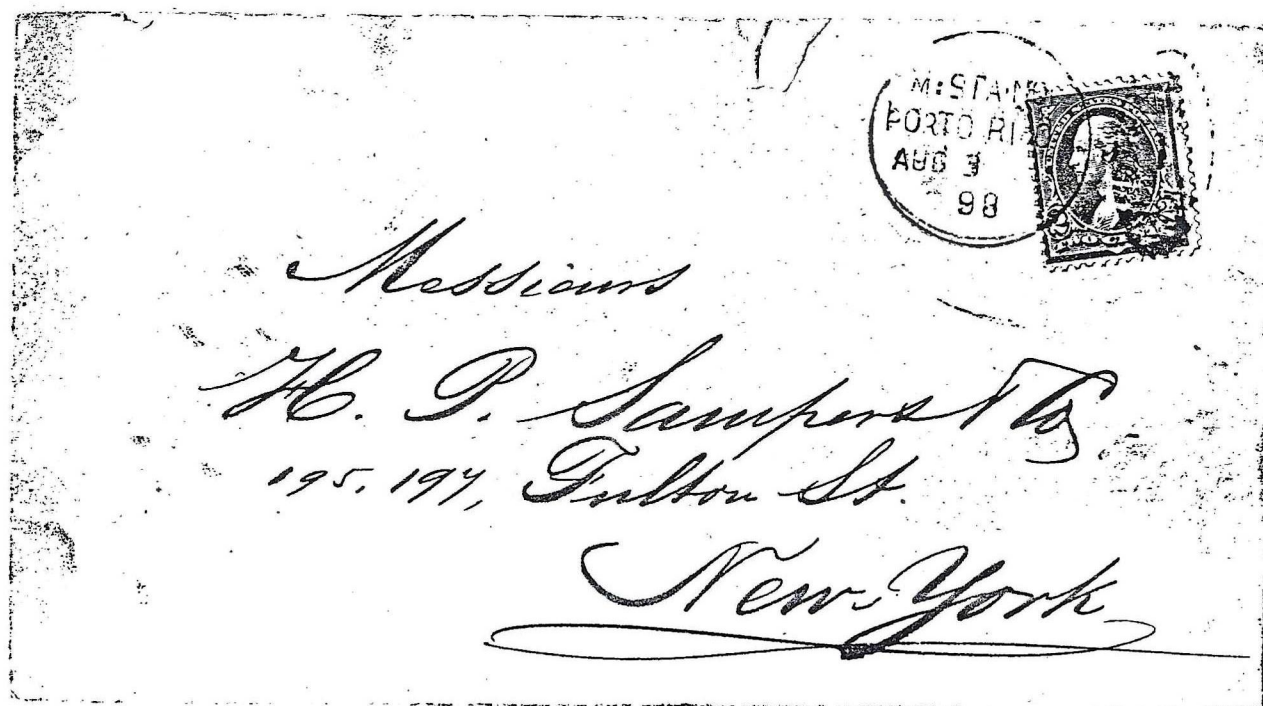


Miss Mayail Thompson
314 So 6 Street
Minneapolis
Minnesota
U.S.A.

San Juan
P.R.

When the "Independent Department of Posts of Porto Rico" was established, it was necessary to give it separate stamps so as to insure that the revenues of the 2 postal systems were not threatened by stamps brought in from one to the other. Consequently, 5 postage stamps (along with 2 postage dues and various items of postal stationery) overprinted "PORTO RICO" were issued on 15 March 1899. In response to local dissatisfaction with the English spelling "Porto," the 2 postage stamps most commonly used within Puerto Rico were replaced with ones bearing a new overprint in 1900.

Two examples recorded of opening day postmark.



Military Station No. 1 opened in the former Spanish Custom House at Playa de Ponce on 3 August 1898. A postmark modeled on RPO devices in use in the U.S. at the time was used initially.