



AN ESSAY ON THE BATAAN STAMPS

Translated by Edward J. Rasmussen
(NY) from an article entitled
BATĀN KITTE TŌKI

by F. YANO

in

KANSAI YŪSHU
VII & VIII, 1985

(Revised 1987.)



AN ESSAY ON THE BATAAN STAMPS

by F.YANO (Sakai, Japan)

*Translated by Edward J. Rasmussen from an article entitled BATAAN KITTE TŌKI by YANO Fumihiko in Kansai Yūshu, July and August, 1985.

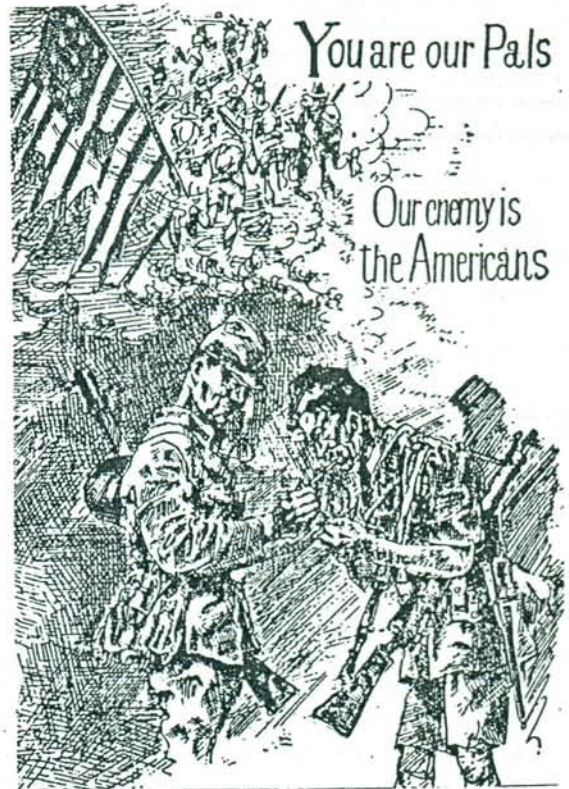
The year 1985 marked the passage of forty years since the end of the late war. Stamps issued in those days for the regions of Southeast Asia occupied by the Japanese Army and Navy forces, the so-called 'Southern Area stamps', are no longer mere relics of a distant past. Postwar collectors and study groups in Japan and abroad have cooperated in regional studies, and especially in recent years, what may be called a whole aspect has been illustrated and compiled in catalogs. Nevertheless, except for some specific items, detailed studies on each stamp are few.

The stamps referred to herein as 'The Bataan Stamps' are those commemorating the first anniversary of the fall of Bataan and Corregidor (Sc#N26-7) which were produced by the Cabinet Printing Bureau in Japan and put on sale in the Philippine Islands under Japanese Military Administration on 7 May 1943. They may perhaps be called the finest example of the Southern Area stamps.

[The Bataan-Corregidor Episode] Invasion of the Philippines was the mission of the 14th Army. In twenty-six days after the commencement of hostilities, it had occupied Manila (2 Jan '42), the capital city and headquarters of the U.S. Far East Army, but had been stalled in its efforts to capture the Bataan Peninsula and Corregidor Island strongholds in which the U.S.-Philippines military forces had been contained. During the five months the U.S.-Philippines forces were under siege, the Japanese Army sought ways to divide the Filipino officers and men from the Americans, and its Propaganda Section in frequent broadcasts and leaflets urged the Filipino soldiers to surrender. Furthermore, a plan was announced on March 4th, as reported in the Tribune of the 5th, to forward to the Filipino soldiers among the belligerent forces letters from the families they had left at home, and from friends and

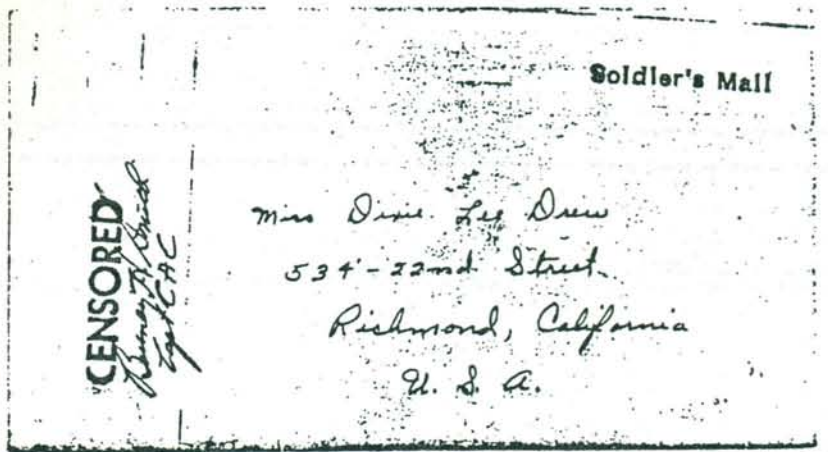
sweethearts as well. It was stated that such mail was to be deposited in boxes specially installed in downtown Manila, one in front of the Heacock's Building and one in the lobby of the TVT Newspaper Co. (publisher of the Tribune) by 10 p.m. of March 6th, and that it was not necessary to write the actual name of the sender, a nickname or pet name would suffice. It appears that the volume of mail deposited did not come up to the expectations of the Japanese military authorities. Nevertheless, the newspaper reported on the 11th that an airplane had made the drop over Bataan the day before, and it was emphasized that this measure was an expression of the Bushido (Samurai-spirit) of the Japanese Army. One would expect that in addition to the original announcement there would have been one concerning the location designated for the drop, but there is no record of it on the Philippines Army side, and to this day the so-called "Bataan Drop Mail" relaying letters from their families to enemy soldiers seems to have vanished into thin air.

Meanwhile, Philippines President Quezon and his party had left Corregidor on the night of February 20th aboard the U.S. submarine Swordfish, and on the night of March 11th, MacArthur and 22 others made their escape by torpedo (PT) boat, transferring en route to military aircraft, arriving on the sub-continent of Australia on the 17th. At that time, Japanese sea and air surveillance was inadequate, and U.S. Navy small craft and submarines were able to maintain contact with several bases in the Philippines. For a period of five months, mail continued to be brought out from Corregidor Island by submarine, and relayed via Australia to be forwarded by various routes to the



*A kind of Japanese Leaflet.

U.S. The dates of such mail begins with January 30th via Soerabaja on the Island of Java, includes others dated February, March and April, and ends with items put into the mail after arrival on the U.S. West Coast



* An example of 'Corregidor Mail.'
WCC Bull. Dec. 1977.

at San Francisco postmarked there June 22nd-25th. Several such 'Corregidor Mail' covers had been reported by 1975.

On 3 April the Japanese Army launched its second general offensive on the Bataan Peninsula, and by 11 April it was completely in their hands, but it took nearly another month before Corregidor fell (7 May). The number of U.S. and Filipino soldiers taken prisoner was unexpectedly large and more than half were suffering from disease, so the movement of these prisoners was an ordeal, in the course of which many died en route. This was what widely known later as the 'Bataan Death March', and after the war, among other fateful consequences, the chief commanding officer at that time, HOMMA Masaharu, was brought before the U.S. Military Tribunal in Manila accused of responsibility for cruelty to prisoners, and condemned to death by firing squad.

[In the Wake of the Bataan Stamp] Just about the time American forces were opening their counter-invasion of the Philippines, the United States issued a stamp on 27 September 1944 (Sc#925) honoring the great struggle put up by the U.S.-Philippines forces on Corregidor, and following the death of



*Sc#925

MacArthur (1880-1964) a stamp with his portrait was issued on 26 January 1971 (Sc#1424) honoring him as Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers in the Pacific Area.



*Sc#1424

During the war a commemorative stamp was

issued in the Philippines on 18 May 1942(Sc#N8), the tenth day after the fall of Corregidor, and following 'Philippines Independence' (the Second Republic), stamps were issued on 7 May 1944(Sc#N35-6) to commemorate the second anniversary. These stamps were overprinted and surcharged pre-war Philippines stamps(Sc#384 & C60-1).



*Sc#N8

The postwar Republic of the Philippines issued three stamps on 3 February 1948(Sc#519-21) with MacArthur's portrait noting his fulfillment of his "I shall return" vow, and five commemorative stamps were issued on 15 May and 31 August 1967(Sc#966-8,971-2), relating to the twenty-fifth anniversary (8 May 1967) of the Battle of Bataan-Corregidor. Additionally, there was the



*Sc#N36



*Sc#519



*Sc#966

thirty-fifth anniversary 'Reunion for Peace Year' sponsored by the Philippine government, in which Japanese, Filipino and American veterans, rising above the passions of the past, gathered together on the old fields of battle (May 1977). The 100th anniversary of

MacArthur's birth was marked by the issuance of three stamps and one souvenir sheet on 26 January 1980(Sc#1449-51 & 1452), and finally, two commemorative stamps and one souvenir sheet

were issued for the fortieth annual Bataan Day on 9 April 1982, designs for which the public submitted designs(Sc#1583-4 & 1585).

DOUGLAS MacARTHUR CENTENARY

PILIPINAS P5.00



"I HAVE RETURNED BY THE GRACE OF ALMIGHTY GOD OUR FORCES STAND AGAIN ON PHILIPPINE SOIL..."

Douglas MacArthur

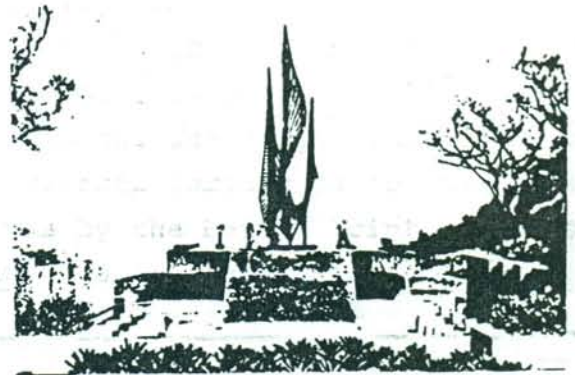
*Sc#1452





* The Mt. Samat Cross.

Over a period of five years from 1966, the Philippine government erected a huge cross, 96 meters in height, dedicated to the repose of those who died in battle, on a point on Mt. Samat (1,852ft.), the scene of fierce fighting on the Bataan Peninsula, and in June 1968 completed a memorial hall and a large metal sculpture monument on Corregidor Island. Among the Philippine people, the historical facts of Bataan and Corregidor continue to be handed down even today.



* The Corregidor monument with metal sculpture.

[The Stamps Commemorating the First Anniversary of the Fall of Bataan-Corregidor] In January 1942, YOSHIMASA Shigeyasu of Urawa City and his staff were sent to the Philippines to take charge of the postal system in the occupied Philippines as civilian employees of the Army. That autumn he made a temporary return trip to Japan during which he requested production of fourteen different regular stamps (Sc#N12-25) and one type of postal card (Sc#NUX3) from the Cabinet Printing Bureau, and at that time, he also put in an order for commemorative stamps for the first anniversary of the fall of Bataan-Corregidor. At the Printing Bureau, preparation of proofs for four regular stamp designs were the respective responsibilities of MATSUURA Masao (Nipa House), KATO Kurakichi (Rice Planting), NOMA Kenichi (Mt. Mayon) and WATANABE Fumio (Moro Vinta), but the commemorative stamp design was assigned to YAMANO-UCHI Takao.



*Nipa House



*Rice Planting

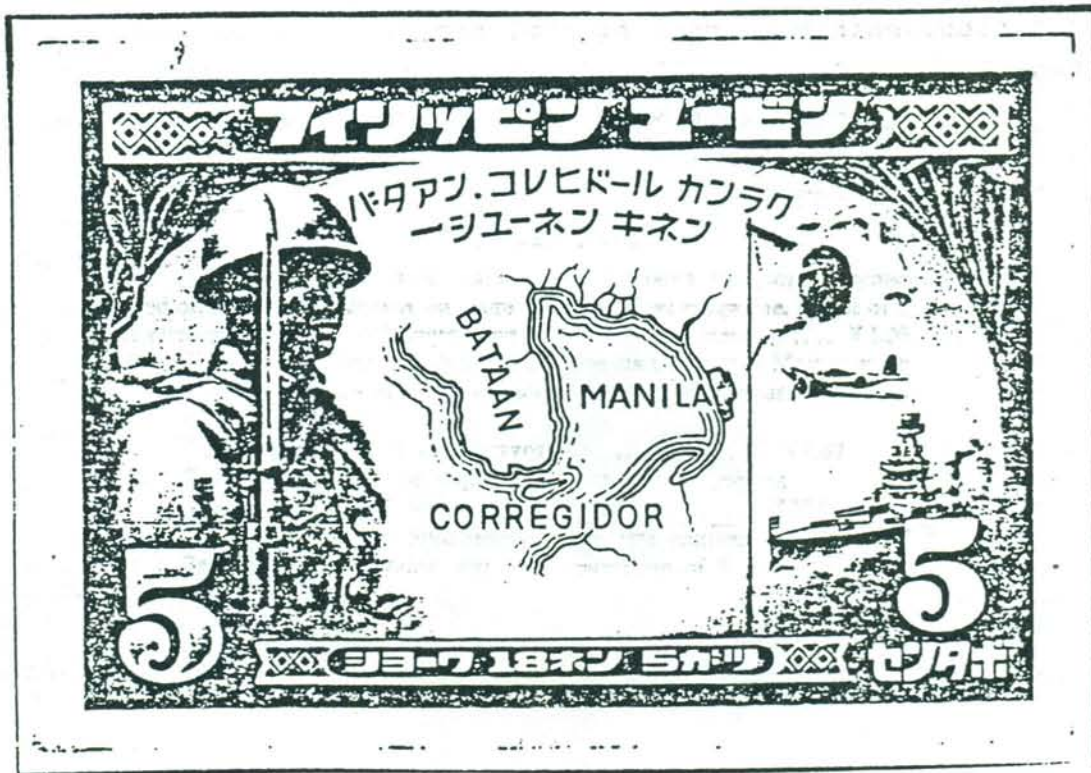


*Mt. Mayon



*Moro Vinta

[Vignette and Composition] The design has a map showing the Bataan Peninsula at center, with a soldier in regular battle dress holding a rifle with fixed bayonet on the left, while on the right appear a waving Rising Sun flag, a fighter plane of what looks like the Zero type, and a warship resembling a Mutsu or Nagato class battleship, representing what was then called the Imperial Army, Navy and Air forces which had produced dazzling successes in the initial stages of the war. All printing, except for places on the map, was in Japanese katakana characters as then required by the area military administration authorities in furtherance of their plans to promote the use of the Japanese language. There are Philippine records pertaining to this stamp design which state that it was by the Manila Printing Bureau designer, Rafael Araujo, but this is clearly in error.



These large size stamps are in two values, 2 centavo(red) and 5 centavo(green), produced by photogravure on white paper by the Printing Bureau's Takinogawa plant, perforated 13 x 13½, 50 stamps to a sheet, with a plate inscription at bottom center of the sheet (reading from right to left)



造 製 局 刷 印 閣 内

NAIKAKU INSATSU-KYOKU SEIZŌ, which means 'Produced by the Cabinet Printing Bureau'. They are of a type different both from those in use at the time in Japan proper and from the regular Philippine stamps of Japanese printing.

[The Allotment to Japan] The printing was 1,000,500 each of the two values, out of which the Japanese Ministry of communications (Teishinshō) purchased 15,000 copies of each at face value in order to earmark the amount in YEN of the payment due the Printing Bureau, and through the medium of the Japan Postage Stamp Association (Nippon Yūbin Kitte kai), which was the sole philatelic window, allotted them to the association members. According to the Association Reports column of the time, published in both English and Japanese in Vol.5, No.6, 1943 of the Postage Stamp Magazine (Yūbin Kitte), the two denominations (face value, 7 centavos) were offered as a set at 15sen with a limit of five sets per person.

* Original announcements in the YŪBIN KITTE, 1943.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

17. New postage stamps of Malay, Java, Sumatra and North Borneo issued on April 29th shown on page 18 of our last magazine. A set of 8 varieties will be sold with restriction of one set per member.... ¥1.00

18. New Philippine stamps illustrated on the inside cover of May number

A. Eleven denominations of low value of the regular issue sold with restriction of 3 sets

from 1 centavo to 25 centavos..... ¥1.60

B. Three varieties of high value restricted to one set

from 1 peso to 5 peso ¥10.00

C. The stamps to commemorate the first anniversary of fall of Bataan and Corregidor sold with restriction of 5 sets

2 centavos and 5 centavos..... 15 sen

19. A. Copies of the photographs used for the Daisetsuzan National park stamps a set of 4 kinds ¥1.40

B. Those of the Kirishima park stamps..... ¥1.40

20. Manchoukuo postcard bearing the special postmark

A. The tenth anniversary of the enforcement of the system of Shingking Special City (April 26th)..... 6 sen

B. The tenth ann. of postal saving in Manchoukuo (May 1st)

..... 6 sen

At that time the SEN and CENTAVO were at par, so the price was approximately twice face value. In the May 1956 issue of Kite magazine (No.170), MAEDA Akira (editor) expressed the feeling that the circumstances of the Japan Postage Stamp Association receiving these stamps had been described in rather unclear terms so that even today these circumstances are not well understood among philatelists. It seems that during the war news of stamps of the various Occupied Territories was not much circulated in philatelic circles in the home islands, so we are left wishing to know more about their reaction to the allotment of these few stamps destined for Occupied Territories and printed in Japan Proper.

[Release for Sale and First Day Cancels in the Philippines] Of the 985,500 copies of each of the two values that were sent to the Philippines, 500 sets were requisitioned by the Military Administration authorities for use by members of the Philippine Executive Commission for presentation purposes.

At the time these stamps were put on sale in the Philippines in early May 1943, about one-fifth (or about 210) of pre-war postoffices had reopened postal service, and the 985,000 copies remaining after the foregoing allotments were put on sale at the capital, Manila, and the principal provincial postoffices. Also, a uniform type of commemorative first day cancel, differing only as to postoffice name, were prepared in the Tagalog language (except for the word, Fuirippin, i.e. Philippine, in Japanese katakana). The wording is UNANG KASANTAUNAN PAGSUKO NG BATAAN-KOREHIDOR (First Anniversary of the Surrender of Bataan-Corregidor) MAYO 7, 1943 ... Place Name... FUIRIPPIN.

Postwar Philippine and U.S. records indicate the scope of the sale extended throughout the islands and it is expressly stated that eight chartered cities and forty provincial capital seats were involved. However,



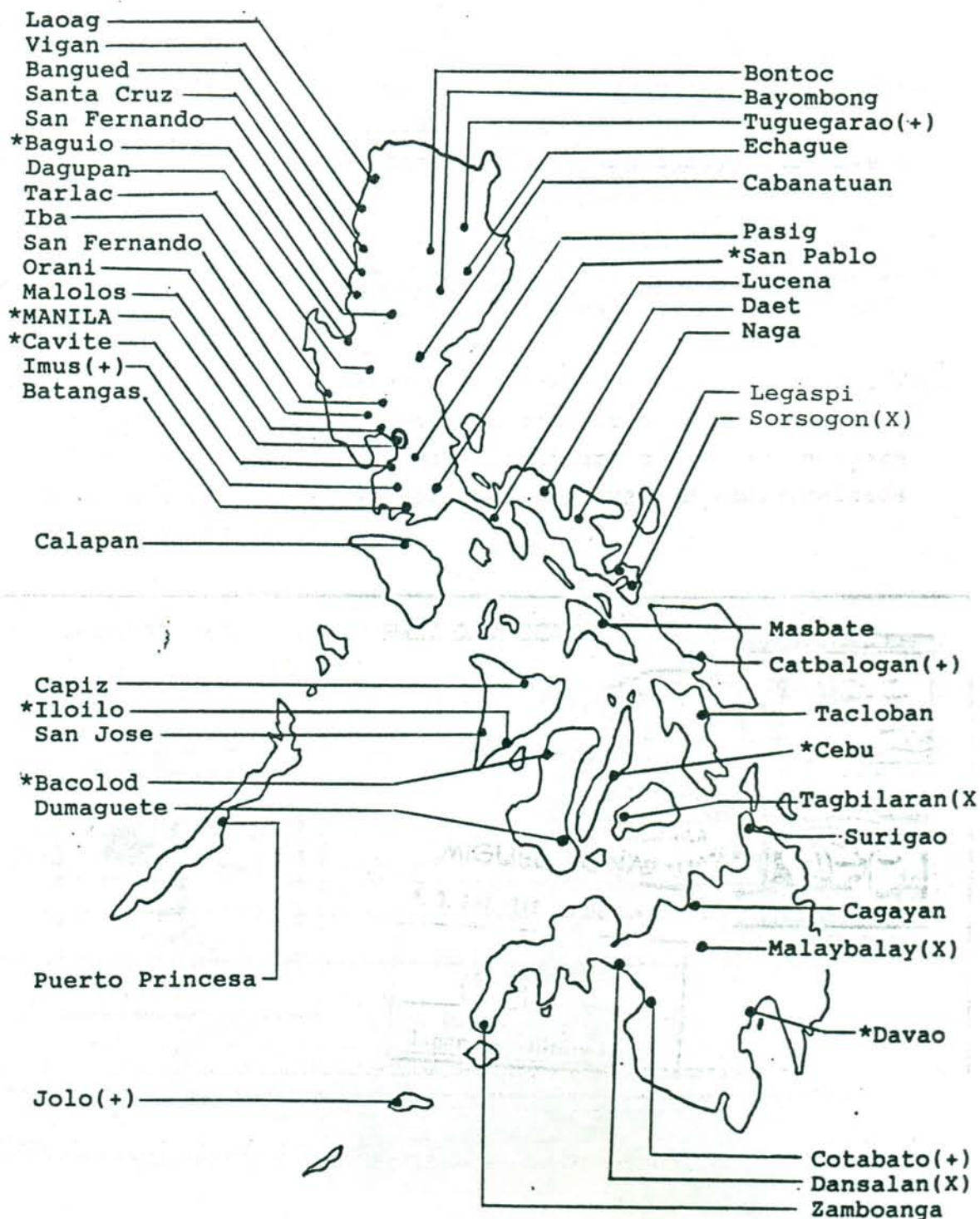
*Manila PO



*A local PO
SAN PABLO
CITY

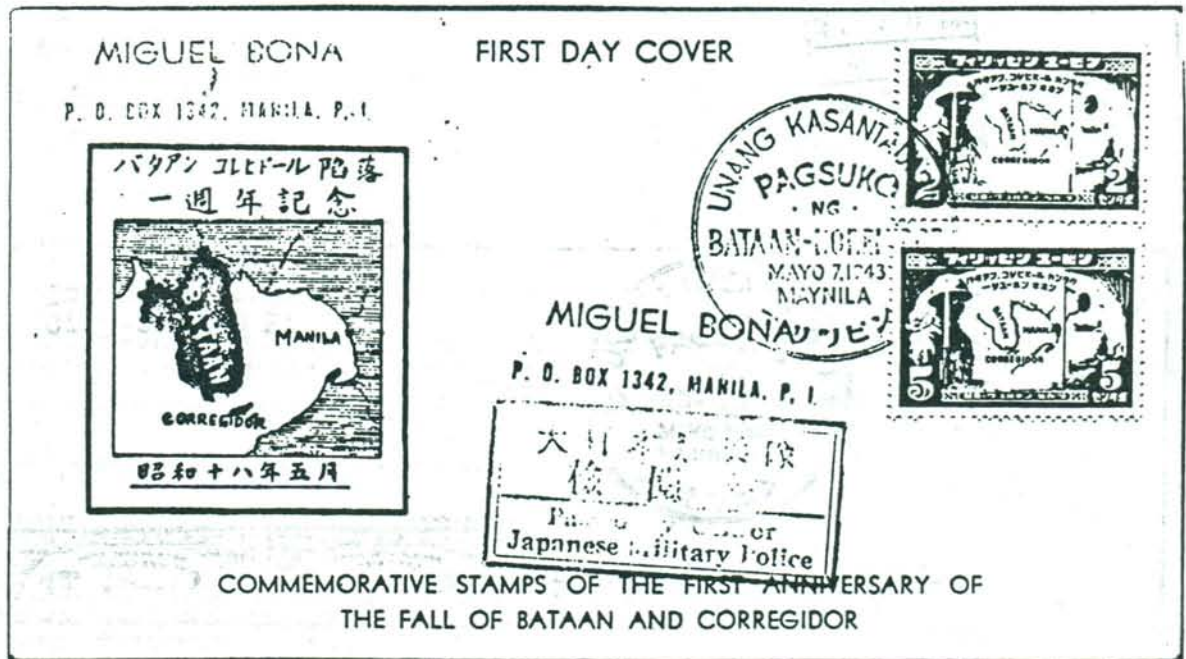
the author and various Philippine and American co-hobbyists have continued to exchange information regarding First Day Cancels for a long time, and according to what is since definitely known, as of the end of 1984, a total of 39 postoffices in principal cities have been confirmed.

*A map of forty-eight principal cities.

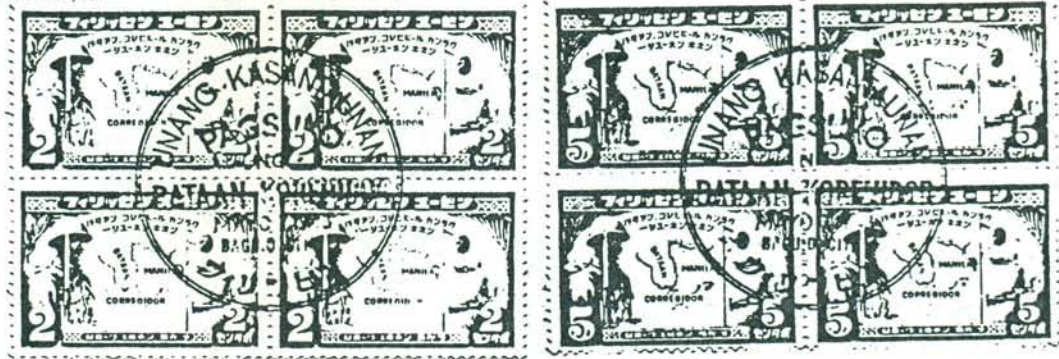


There are catalogs which state that the number of First Day covers produced was 40,000, but the authority for this is not identified. It is easy even today to obtain a cover with Manila postoffice marking, but many of the local postoffice markings are difficult to acquire.

Among provincial seats, the following had not yet resumed postal service on the date of issue:(marked X on the map):Tagbilaran (Bohol Province,postal service reopened on 19 May 1943),Dansalan (Lanao Province,10 Sept 1943),Malaybalay (Bukidnon Province,17 Oct 1943) and Sorsogon (Sorsogon Province, 27 Nov 1943), while of those which had by that time resumed handling mail, the following are thought to have had first day markings, but to this day none has been confirmed: (marked + on the map)Imus (Cavite Province, 16 Aug 1942),Tuguegarao (Cagayan Province,24 July 1942),Catbalogan (Samar Province, 5 Dec 1942),Jolo (Sulu Province,29 Jan 1943), and Cotabato (Cotabato Province, 30 Mar 1943). Regarding the ink used in applying the first day markings, the Manila postoffice used green ink and the regional postoffices used purple ink. There are also instances where ordinary cancellations were used with first day cancels (example are San Pablo,Malolos and Vigan etc.).



* FDC Manila PO



Mr Arne Johnson,
16 C Abanao Street
Baguio
Mount. Prov.

パギオ憲兵隊
検閲済
Open by the Censors
Passed Inspect

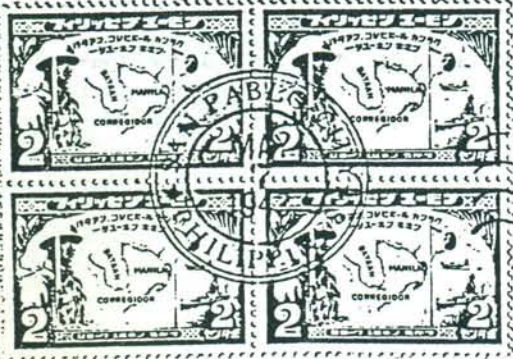


Alex Luhanat
driquet Avenue
old, occ. Negros, Philippines

パコロド
憲兵分隊
年 月
検閲済
コリア

Dr. I. R. Lozada
City of San Pablo

UNANG KASANTAUNAN
PAGSUKO
NG
DATAAN-KOREHIDOR
MAYO 7, 1943
SAN PABLO CITY
コリア



Mr. Restituto S. Mariño
City of San Pablo

サンパブロ
大日本憲兵隊
検閲済
Passed by Censor
Japanese Military Police

* Baguio PO

* Bacolod PO

* San Pablo PO

[The Original Design and Its Present Location] The manager of the Printing Bureau's Takinogawa plant, ISHIKAWA Ryōichi, contributed an article to the No.1 edition in January 1948 issue of KITTE BIJUTSU (The Stamp Art) magazine published by Ekirei-sha (Postal Bell Co., Tokyo) entitled "The Inside Story of Stamp Production" in which appears this account: "Around October of 1947, there was talk concerning the gravure stamp for the first anniversary of the fall of Bataan-Corregidor to the effect that the original design for the gravure had been tendered to Commander-in-Chief MacArthur as a goodwill offering, and at the time of the presentation the question was raised at his HQ as to whether it was a photo or a drawing. This question was directed to me, and I replied that it was a drawing done by Technical Official YAMANOUCHI, whereupon it was expressly requested by Commander-in-Chief MacArthur that, if this so skilful a person was Japanese, and if he was still living, he would like for him to sign the original drawing as a souvenir." (Quoted directly from the above-mentioned article.) Perhaps there may exist a first account detailing the particulars of how the original design at the Printing Bureau was handed over to the occupation authorities. However, a brief account in a later article entitled "Japan's Occupied Southern Areas Stamps" which appeared in the Zen Nippon Yūshu (Organ of the Japan Philatelic Union) issue of December 1966 is similar in content.

Regarding the later whereabouts of the original design, the author some time ago, as a consequence of an investigation at his request by a friend in America, was enabled to direct an inquiry concerning this to MacArthur's widow, but this effort ended inconclusively. Then in 1984, through the kindness of Mr. Joseph M. Judge, Curator of the MacArthur Memorial Museum in Norfolk, Virginia, I learned that the original design is presently located there. He promptly responded to my wish by sending me a color photo, and in addition, a copy of the document which is reproduced in next page.



*MacArthur Memorial
Museum VA.

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
FAR EAST COMMAND
Office of The Provost Marshal

15 September 1947

MEMORANDUM FOR THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF:

SUBJECT: Etching of Japanese Commemorative Stamp

1. During the course of an investigation currently being conducted by Lt. Colonel John E. Murray, CMP, Chief of Criminal Investigation, Far East Command, the original etching for the stamp issued by the Japanese Government in commemoration of the fall of Bataan and Corregidor was located in the files of the Japanese Printing Bureau.
2. Mr. Ichikawa, Chief of Security, Japanese Printing Bureau, has informed this office that the etching, which is inclosed with this memorandum, was the original for both the two (2) and the five (5) centavo stamp. The figure five now appearing in the lower right and left hand corners of the etching was superimposed on the original figure two after the plates for the two centavo stamp were made, thus permitting the Printing Bureau to make both stamps from the same etching.
3. Opposite the etching in the attached folder is a print made from the plate for the two centavo stamp, showing the actual stamp dimensions. Beneath this print are samples of the colors used in the stamps issued. The two centavo stamp was green and the five centavo stamp red. Also appearing on the attached folder are the seals of Mr. Hakanura, Head Master of the Takinagawa Printing Factory, Mr. Kato, Chief of the Engraving Section, Japanese Printing Bureau, and Mr. Tsuda, Japanese Navy. After the Engraving Section completed their work on the etching, it was forwarded to the Japanese Navy for final approval, according to Mr. Ichikawa. The handwritten Japanese characters appearing above the seals were reportedly placed there by Mr. Tsuda and read "finished proof reading."
4. The Japanese characters on the front of the folder read, "Design of Postage Stamp in Honor of the Fall of Bataan and Corregidor." The Japanese characters on the face of the etching read as follows from top to bottom:

Mail for the Philippines
In Honor of the Fall of Bataan:
Corregidor--First Year
May 1943--18 Year of Showa

Centavos (lower right just
below the number
five)

5. Mr. Takao Yamanouchi, Chief of the Small Design Section, Japanese Printing Bureau, is the designer of this stamp and the person who made the etching. He is still employed at the Printing Bureau.
6. Records of the Japanese Printing Bureau indicate that 1,500,000 of each of the two stamps were printed and the entire production was sent to the Philippines. None of the finished stamps have been located in Tokyo.
7. The attached folder may be of interest to the Commander-in-Chief as a collection item.

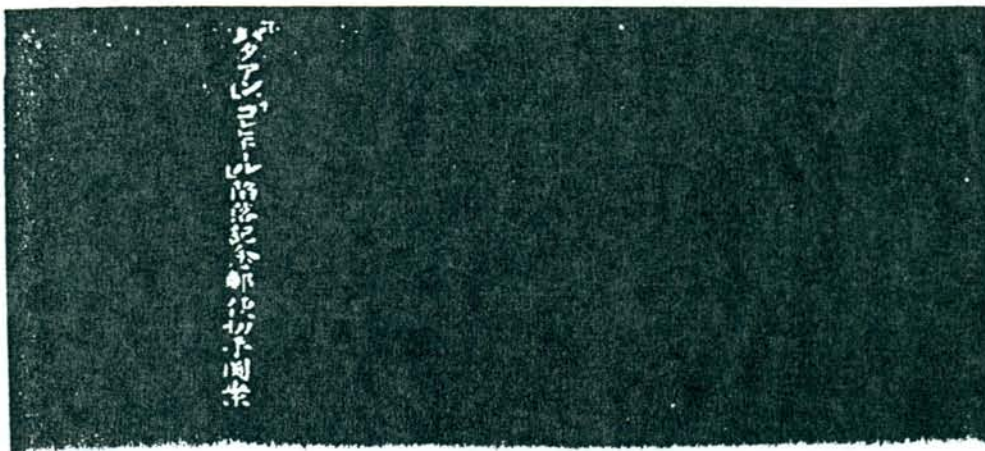
1 Incl

William G. Purdy
WILLIAM G. PURDY
Colonel CMP
Provost Marshal

The actual size of field of the original design is 90 X 132mm (four times the dimensions of the field of the stamps) in which the design previously described is finely delineated in monochrome. It is mounted on the left half of a black mat 165 X 360mm. Centered in the right half are attached a print of the stamp in actual size, above, and below that, two 22mm squares of paper, red to the left and green to right, as color specimens. Also, in the blank space on the extreme right of the mat are the personal seals, reading down, of TSUDA, NAKAMURA and KATŌ, above which Kōryō (Proofreading completed) has been written by brush in red ink. On the cover, in the middle of the left side, BATĀN KOREHIDŌRU KANRAKU KINEN YŪBIN KITTE ZUAN (Design for the Anniversary of the Fall of Bataan-Corregidor Postage Stamp) is written in white ink.



* Mat with original design & color specimens.



* An inscription on the cover.

The U.S. military must have known that the Japanese military administrative authorities had issued these stamps, and perhaps because the memory of MacArthur leaving behind so many of his men in escaping from Corregidor to Australia was painful, they did not wish to leave something of this sort in Japanese hands, but it is difficult to judge from the above document what was discovered by the investigative procedure by an order of MacArthur and what became known otherwise. The above report differs somewhat from what was stated by the Japanese source. Also, the signature of the reported original designer, Technical Official YAMANOUCI, does not appear on the design or on the mat, nor was his personal seal applied. In the period after the U.S. Military Police officer conducting the investigation discovered the original design and confiscated it, while he was reporting the details to his superiors and the Provost Marshal was drafting his report, there were various exchanges between the Japanese and American officials involved, so perhaps at this time there may have been the previously stated word from MacArthur or someone, but bearing in mind the dignity and authority of SCAP (Supreme Commander of the Allied Powers) in those days, it is difficult to believe that MacArthur, the one who exercised supreme authority, would have sent word directly regarding an original design of a stamp. It appears that the fact that an allotment had been retained for Japan was not mentioned at the Printing Bureau, but the question had already arisen in the spring of 1946, and that July these stamps were classified along with 'Purged Stamps', so there is the possibility that in the course of searching out existing stocks of the stamps in Japan, this original design was discovered accidentally, but recently I have also wondered if the investigating authorities while visiting the Printing Bureau may have asked for it to be produced. Whatever the case may have been, there is now no way for me to determine the true facts, so I would like to leave the answer to those who may have access to the text of relevant documents generated by the U.S. Army.

Regarding the statements in the Memorandum that the number issued was 1,500,000 of each, and that the 2c. was green and the 5c. red, perhaps the investigating officer misunderstood what he heard, or these were errors in typing.

One thing I found surprising was that the final check of design was made by the Navy. While it is true that their 31st Special Base Unit participated, the Bataan-Corregidor battle was principally an Army operation. Perhaps it was because these were the first commemorative stamps related to an occupied territory to be printed in the mainland of Japan and the Navy had some expectations as to the design, or possibly they had expressed some dissatisfaction with an initial design and had requested some changes. It is not distinct in the photo in the illustration, but the characters for Kōryō (Proofreading completed) are written in red on the upper center of the mat.

[Printing Cost and Revenue] A claim to recover the cost of printing was made by the Printing Bureau upon the Philippine Executive Commission via the Japanese Military Administration for the Philippines, the details of which were published in the Official Gazette, Vol. 2, No. 6, (Jun 4) 1943 (see below), as Director General of the Japanese Military Administration Instruction No. 52.

OFFICIAL GAZETTE

VOL. 2, No. 6

Instruction No. 52

PAYMENT OF PRINTING FEE FOR POSTAGE STAMPS

June 4, 1943

The Honorable **QUINTIN PAREDES**
 Commissioner of Public Works
 and Communications
 (Through the Honorable, the Chairman
 of the Executive Commission)
 Manila

In connection with the order previously placed with the Cabinet Bureau of Printing for the printing of Philippine postage stamps, you are requested to pay to the said Bureau the following printing fee for regular and commemorative stamps. As to the procedure of payment, you are to follow the direction of the Department of Communications of the Military Administration.

Total amount of payment	26,397.01
(a) Total printing fee	37,567.01
(b) Amount of postage stamps sold in Japan	11,170.00

As to the details, please refer to the attached sheets.

**DIRECTOR GENERAL
 JAPANESE MILITARY ADMINISTRATION**

The claim included the cost of regular stamps, postal cards and commemorative stamps, and is given (left) in its original English language form.

For the purpose of this article, I shall omit the referred to details except to what pertains to these stamps, in regard to which, the expense of printing at ¥7.50 per 10,000 copies came to total of ¥1,540.76.

The total sold in Japan came to ¥1,050.00. Consequently, the net printing expense was ¥490.76, so sales in the Philippines totalling ¥68,950. face value netted a profit of over 99% for the Executive Commission (Department of Public Works & Communications).

[Varieties] Some of the 5 centavo green stamps (Position 40) have a distinct white dot on the right of the denomination numeral on the left side and this was soon noted and catalogued in the Philippines as a variety, and has also been included in the Scott Catalog since the 1973 edition. This has been termed a 'security mark' in the literature in England. But I think the dot was perhaps a plate maker's error. There was also early confirmation of the existence of offsets (image on the reverse) on the 2 centavo.



No40



* Enlarged white dot.

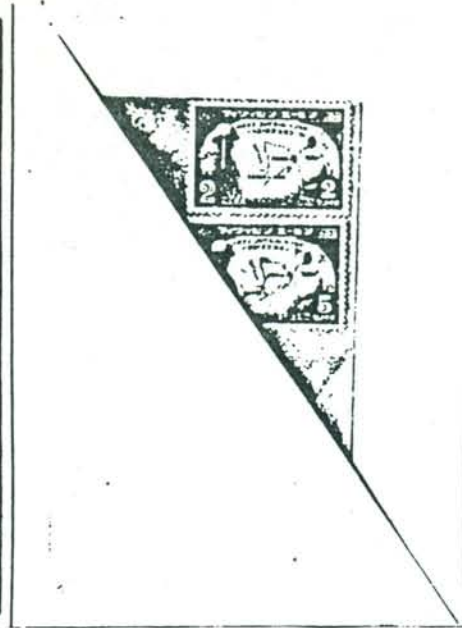
[Commemorative Souvenir Folder] A small commemorative souvenir folder (Fig. see next page) containing a set of the single stamps was prepared by the Philippine Executive Commission to present to high Japanese and Philippine government officials and other appropriate persons. It is thought that some of these may have been sent to Japan, but this has not been verified. Dr. Spaulding (U.S.) dealt with this subject in English in the Kitte Shumi magazine, vol.41, No.1, 1955.. Also, a photograph only of this by the present author has appeared in the Zen Nippon Yūshu magazine February edition, 1978.

贈呈

比島行政政府

With
Compliments
of the

Philippine Executive Commission
Manila



バタアン、コレヒドール
陥落一周年記念郵便切手
バタアン、コレヒドール陥落一周年記念
郵便切手、昭和十八年五月七日発行
切手発行
二仙 (紅色)
五仙 (綠色)
中央はバタアン半島、コレヒドール島
地圖ヲ挿ヤ用價ニ帝國陸海軍ノ情状
ヲ表ス

Commemorative stamps for the First Anniversary of the Fall of Bataan and Corregidor.

May 7, 1943

This issue consists of the following postage stamps:

2 centavos (Red)
5 centavos (Green)

In the center are shown the Bataan Peninsula and the Island of Corregidor and on both sides the Imperial Japanese Army and Navy forces.

*Commemorative Souvenir Folder

[Forged Markings] In the several years since the late 1960's, counterfeit Philippines Occupation covers and cards have been offered for sale in the United States at discount prices (35¢ to \$1), among them some franked with these stamps. They have bogus cancellations of the ordinary type dated the first day of issue. None is from any office other than Manila PO. A censor marking of the type used at Manila PO has also been applied, but since new-style (postwar) characters were used, when Japanese see them they immediately recognize them as counterfeit.



[Censor Markings] Censorship of mail was in force in the Philippines from March 4, 1942, when mail service was resumed, until June 30th of the following year. Therefore, with the exception of two or three places, censor markings were applied to the First Day covers for these stamps when they went on sale, as previously noted, in approximately forty towns and cities. The principal types of these markings are shown in next two pages. Under military administrations, postal matter is subject to censorship, so in a study of wartime postal history, censor markings ought not be ignored. Even censors' signatures, in the West, or their personal seals in the case of Japanese, may be a matter of interest. In regard to the censor markings used in the Philippines, this topic has previously been presented in The American Philatelist (Aug & Sep 1977) and IPPS News (II, No. 2, 1982) by Mr. Garrett (U.S.), but in my country the data in this area have not been compiled. The Japanese Military Police Service was the organization responsible for censorship in the wartime Philippines, and there are more or less standard markings including 'Greater Japan Military Police Corps', 'Military Police Section', 'Military Police Detachment', etc., but among these are more than a few different types. Including the above, more than twenty types have been identified for the Philippines. Also, eight varieties have been found among censor-labels, although censor-labels were rarely used.

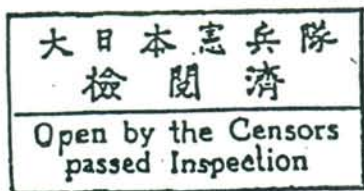
Furthermore, while not postal, there also exist censor markings of the Watari Group (The 14th Army) Information Department on various publications.



* DAI-NIPPON KEMPEITAI KENETSUZUMI.
(Greater Japan MP Censored.)

Manila PO.

Examples are known on covers
pmk'd Orani, Pasig & San
Fernando.



* do.

San Fernando (Pa) PO

Examples are known on covers
pmk'd Malolos, Dagupan & Iba.



* do.

Cebu



* KEMPEI KENETSUZUMI.
(MP Censored.)

Legaspi

Examples are known on covers
pmk'd Daet & Naga.



* do.

Zamboanga

Examples are known on covers
pmk'd Jolo.

バギオ憲兵隊
 検閲済
 Open by the Censors
 Passed Inspection

* BAGIO KEMPEITAI KENETSUZUMI.
 (Baguio MP Censored.)

Baguio

Examples are known on covers
 pmk'd Bontoc.

サンパブロ
 大日本憲兵隊
 検閲済
 Passed by Censor
 Japanese Military Police

* SAN PABURO DAI-NIPPON KEMPEITAI
 KENETSUZUMI.
 (San Pablo Greater Japan MP Censored.)

San Pablo

Examples are known on covers
 pmk'd Batangas & Lucena.

カビテ憲兵分隊
 検閲済
 CENSORED BY
 CAVITE MP.

* KABITE KEMPEI-BUNTAI KENETSUZUMI.
 (Cavite MP Section Censored.)

Cavite

バヨಂಬン憲兵隊
 年月日
 検閲済

* BAYONBON KEMPEITAI KENETSUZUMI.
 (Bayombong MP Censored.)

Bayombong

Examples are known on covers
 pmk'd Echague.

ダグupan
 憲兵分隊
 年月日
 検閲済

* DAGUPAN KEMPEI-
 BUNTAI KENETSUZUMI.
 (Dagupan MP Section
 Censored.)

Dagupan

Same type censor
 marks are known
 from Baguio,
 Iloilo, Calapan,
 Bacolod, Tarlac,
 Cabanatuan, San
 Pablo, Cotabato,
 Tacloban, Palawan
 & Legaspi.

ビガン
 憲兵分遣隊
 年月日
 検閲済

* BIGAN KEMPEI
 BUNKENTAI KENETSU
 ZUMI.

(Vigan MP Detach
 ment Censored.)

Examples are
 known on covers
 pmk'd Laoag &
 Bangued.

Same type cens
 mark is known
 from Surigao.

[Valuation] As shown below, Scott #N26-7 catalog values have approximately doubled over the past forty years from the original valuation to the present. I doubt many collectors would agree with these values.

	1948	1958	1968	1978	1988
2 centavo	.06	.06	.09	.12	.12
5 centavo	.10	.10	.15	.18	.18

Available results for auctions of the Philippine Philatelic Society which, even in wartime, met frequently show that a set of sheets, face value 3.50 pesos, was for sale one year later for 8 pesos, over twice face value, although this rate of increase was not high compared to other commemorative stamps, perhaps because of the number issued.

Referring to Scott's 12cent valuation, today that is equivalent to about 16yen, or converted to pesos, about 2.40pesos. For the past several years, the Japan Specialized Catalog has valued the 2 centavo and 5 centavo at ¥200.(about \$1.50) each, much higher than the actual retail price in the U.S. of 30 cents each (1985 Harris Catalog), and in the Philippines one can acquire them at still lower prices.

Since these stamps were on sale for a fairly long time, it was not uncommon for them to be used on general mail and Official Mail, in addition to philatelic covers. However, use on Official Mail of provincial government agencies bearing a rubber stamped KŌYŌ, K.P. (Official) marking, or on mail addressed to Japan may be called rare, along with the previously noted local office FDCs. Local postoffice FDCs are being traded in the Philippines for U.S.\$40. to \$80., but they are few and from a limited number of towns and cities.



The Chief of Civil Service

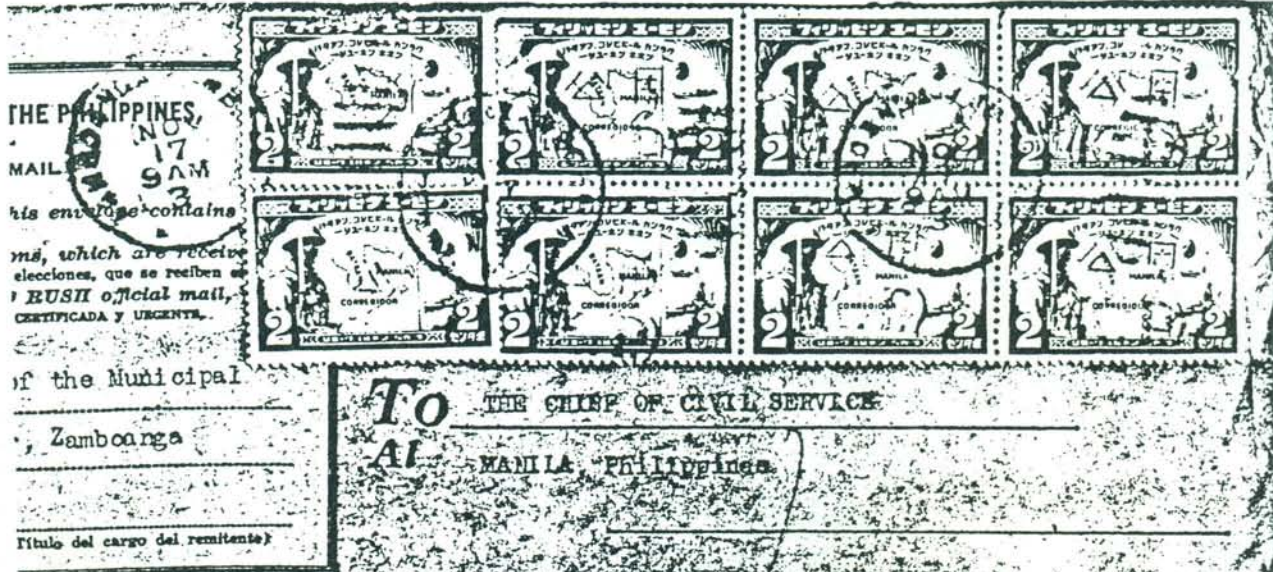
菲律賓中華基督教會會堂
 UNITED CHINESE EVANGELICAL BRANCH OF PHILIPPINES
 984 BENAVIDES ST.
 MANILA, PHILIPPINES

Church Report



F E C P Headquarters
 Union Church Building
 A. Mabini & P. Faura Sts.,
 Ermita, Manila.

* General mails
 in June & July,
 1943.



* Mayor of Zamboanga official mail; with KÖYÖ, K.P. handstamp.

[Postscript] In the philatelic history of the Philippines, there were occasions in the old days when proposals from the philatelic circles had influence on the issuing of stamps and the production of commemorative markings. Even in the case of stamps issued in wartime Philippines, such events were not uncommon.

When Japanese soldiers and civilians were being repatriated after defeat in the war, they left everything behind. Then, for ten or more years after the war, it was virtually impossible for most Japanese to travel to the Philippines. Meanwhile, the many American officers and men who had taken part in the counter-invasion, or had been stationed in the Philippines after the war, brought back home with them a variety of things as war souvenirs, and according to philatelic colleagues, quantities of stamps and covers were among them.

Now for some years exchange of wartime items and information concerning them has been going in with philatelists in the Philippines and the U.S. who have an abundance of material, but there are still many areas which have not yet been explored. Much material in this article is thanks to philatelic colleagues in those other countries, but as for the literature in Japan, I have seen almost nothing except for what has been referred to below, and I would very much appreciate being informed of anything which may come to a reader's attention.

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Correspondence with Mr.GARRETT,E.A.(US),Mr.JUDGE,J.(US),
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* All examples illustrated are from the author's collection except Corregidor Mail on p.3 and belongings of the MacArthur Memorial Museum.



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