

MAILERS POSTMARK PERMIT NUMBER 001 - KOLONIA, POHNPEI, FM 96941

On January 29, 1991 the FSM's first, and so far only, Mailers Postmark was used for the first, and so far only, time. Florance M. Sugarberg, Secretary/Treasurer of the Mailers Postmark Permit Club tells how it came about.

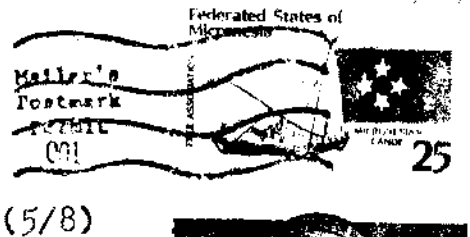
"I am the permit holder for MPP No. 001 from Kolonia, Pohnpei, FM 96941. My permit has been issued by the Postal Service of the FSM. I first became interested in the FSM when I met and became friends with the FSM's first Postmaster General, Leo Falcam at Ameripex '86 in Chicago. Mr. Falcam introduced me to Ignacio Stephen, the country's Assistant Postmaster General. I later met Mr. Stephen at World Stamp Expo '89 in Washington DC. It took over four years of correspondence and personal contacts with Mr. Stephen before my permit was finally approved on August 27 1990. The permit was issued by Mr. Stephen with the approval of the FSM Postmaster General and the FSM Postal Services Inspection Division. Approval of my final cancellation design was issued on December 3 1990. Mr. Stephen advised me that Albert Falcam, Pohnpei Postmaster, would personally handle my mailing. My permit required me to use my MPP only on First Class Mail bearing FSM Postage Stamps. On January 29th, 1991 my first mailing was made at the Post Office in Kolonia, Pohnpei. The mailing consisted largely of the mailing of the Jan/Feb 1991 edition of our club journal "Permit Patter" to each of our members. I can assure you that mine is the only MPP issued by the FSM Postal Service. As any mail cancelled with my MPP must be franked with First Class FSM postage stamps and mailed through Kolonia Post Office it is not feasible to provide examples of my MPP to fellow collectors."

NOTE: U.S. Post Office regulations permit organisations and individuals to postmark their own mail. They must obtain a permit to do so and the design of the postmark must be approved by the USPO.

Use of Mailers Postmarks has declined in recent years in favour

of Meter Mail and printed Postage Paid markings. There is however an enthusiastic group of collectors interested in this material. Their organisation is the Mailers Postmark Permit Club which can be reached through Florance M. Sugarberg at P.O. Box 5793, Akron, OH 44372-5793, USA.

Robert T. Murphy in his "Postal History/Cancellation Study of the U.S. Pacific Islands" lists permits used in the U.S. Pacific islands up to 1983. A list supplied to me by Florance Sugarberg closely follows that listing and includes Permits Nos 10 & 11 issued in Agana Guam in 1982 and which appear in the Addenda to Murphy. To the best of my knowledge no other Mailers Postmark Permits have been issued within our area of interest. However since the FSM, Marshall Islands and Palau largely follow U.S. Postal regulations such useage in the future is quite possible as it is in the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas, Guam, American Samoa, Wake ...



(5/8)

MARSHALL ISLANDS POSTAGE STAMPS:

According to Miss P. Basley, Deputy Catalogue Editor for Stanley Gibbons the forthcoming 4th edition of Part 22 of Gibbons Catalogue will not include two Unicovert issues listed in the 3rd edition (nos 241/8).

I believe these to be the first two Unicovert issues - The First Men on the moon 1969-1989 Booklet with integral souvenir sheet issued on Aug 1 1989 and the Invasion of Poland 1939 25c issued on September 1 1989.

I have not been able to see a copy of Part 22 to confirm this.