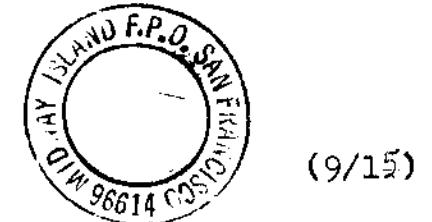
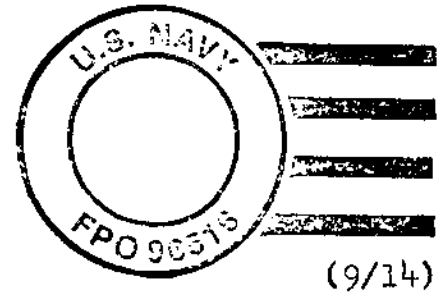


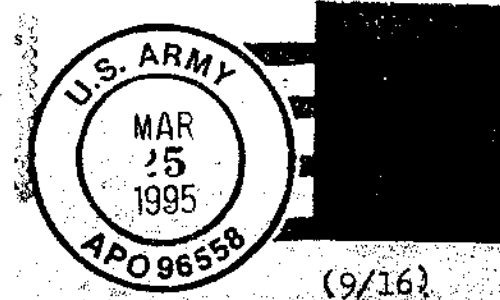
MIDWAY ISLAND FPO AP 96516:

Thanks to Cy Kitching I can illustrate two new markings/datestamps from Midway Island. Cy has received a postcard from the Postmaster at Midway showing Bulletin Illustrations 2/2 and 3/4 dated Feb. 6 1995 and in addition two undated markings previously unknown to me. These are shown as Illustrations 9/14 and 9/15. Illustration 9/14 was probably issued for use when the Military Zip Codes were changed on 15 July, 1991. Was it ever used? I have seen only Bulletin Illustration 2/1 used between 1991 and May 1993 when the geographical description "Midway Island" reappeared on the datestamps. Illustration 9/15 bears the old Zip Code 96614 and was therefore issued prior to July, 1991. Unusually it includes SAN FRANCISCO as part of the P.O. identification. Initially I thought this was perhaps a reserve device which had never been used but a few days after receiving the card from Cy Kitching I attended a meeting of the Pacific Islands Study Circle of U.S. where Bryan Jones, editor of the PISC quarterly publication "Pacifica" showed a Registered cover posted in Fiji and addressed to Midway Island. On the reverse of the cover was the datestamp shown here as Illustration 9/15 dated Feb. 6, 1991. This clearly indicates that Illustration 9/15 was postally used, if only as a 'received' datestamp for Registered mail. If any reader has examples of either of these datestamps postally used at Midway - or indeed extended dates of use of Bulletin Illustrations 2/1, 2/2 and 3/4 please let me know. My last examples of Murphy 3.5.21 and 3.5.22 (Addendum No. 1 to "A Postal History/Catellation Study of the U.S. Pacific Islands" by R.T. Murphy) were in 1989. Can anyone report later dates?



JOHNSTON ISLAND - APO AP 96558:

Illustration 9/16 shows a new datestamp from Johnston Island first seen on Mar 25, 1995. Johnston Island is a U.S. Army base. Newspaper reports over the past few years suggest that the base is used for the destruction by burning of Chemical Warfare materials from both Western Countries and from the former Soviet Union..



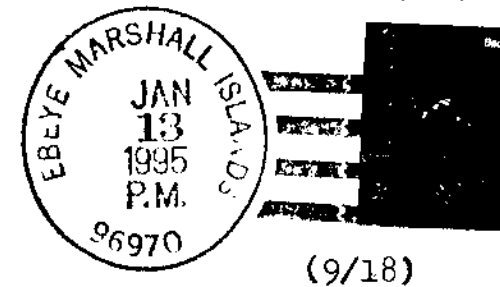
APG AP 96555 (KWAJALEIN, MARSHALL ISLANDS)

Bernd Neuhaus send a photocopy of a new 4 Bar in use at Kwajalein on 14 Mar 1995. Slightly smaller than previous 4-bars used at Kwajalein it appears to have space for only 3 date lines rather than the usual 4. The use of the 4th line for AM/PM on existing datestamps is rare. (9/17)



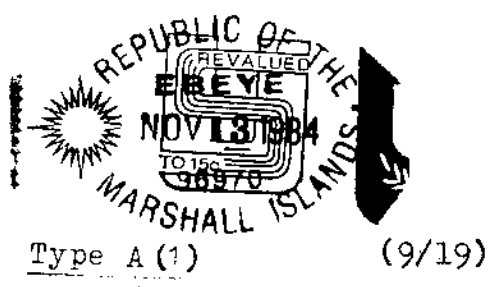
EBEYE, MARSHALL ISLANDS 96970:

Bernd Neuhaus has written to me about the "Updating Murphy" item in Bulletin No. 8. Commenting on my suggestion that Illustration 8/6 may exist as two separate but identical devices Bernd says that he does not believe this to be so. He says that staff at Ebeye Post Office often provided backdated impressions of this (and other) postal datestamps for collectors and that this would explain the different dates. As further evidence he refers to Illustration 8/4 in Bulletin No. 8. This shows the date Apr. 23 1986 as does the same device in the reduced Illustration 8/8 - BUT....the year plug is clearly different (Look particularly at the '6' and the '9'). Bernd says this difference does not indicate that two identical versions of Illustration 8/4 exist but simply that in between the two impressions being made the date slugs had been removed to provide another date and then re-assembled to show Apr 23 1986 - but with a different year slug. To show that the 4 bar illustrated as 8/4 is still alive and well - and available on request - Bernd sends a photocopy showing it used on Jan 13 1995. See illustration 9/18.

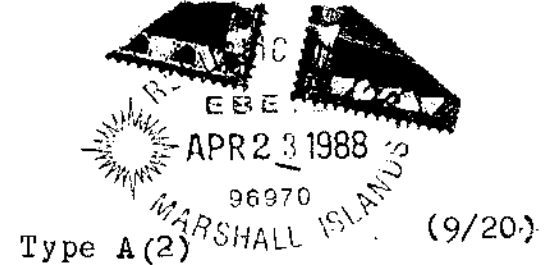


EBEYE, MARSHALL ISLANDS, 96970:

In Issue No. 7 of the 'Bulletin' an article by Bernd Neuhaus about the Ebeye Oval Datestamps appeared. Bernd has since seen new material and sends the following Addendum to his article:- In his publication "The Handstamps and Issue dates of the Marshall Islands Postal Service" George L. Machado Jr. writes that the first oval handstamp (Type A) was damaged and had to be withdrawn in late 1984. I had assumed that it was repaired and sent back to Ebeye, but I now have evidence that this was not the case. I have now identified two 'Type A' Oval handstamps. Early Marshall Islands Oval Handstamps can easily be differentiated from later ones by one distinctive feature - the use of a large/wide '3' in the date-line. (Note: The datelines of the oval datestamps were mounted on elastic bands running around 'wheels' and were an integral part of the datestamp unlike the 4-Bar datestamps which use 'loose' type to set up the date) This '3' only appears in the very first devices issued. Type A used in 1974 had this distinctive '3'. (See illustration 9/19) I have called this 'Type A (1)'. This was replaced by another device (See Illustration 9/20) which I have called 'Type A (2)'. According to George L. Machado Jr. this would have been supplied to Ebeye in 1985. Type A (2) has a narrow '3' in the date-line. (Bernd asks if anyone has an example of Type A with a wide '3' dated during 1985 or later in their collection)



ULITHI STA., YAP FH 96943: The pictorial datestamp (Illustration 8/2) is no longer held in Ulithi and is believed to have been damaged. P.O. Staff at Ulithi have asked for a new pictorial datestamp but do not know if one will be supplied. Information received in letter from Post Office Ulithi.



Type A (2) (9/20)