

**GUAM (Continued)**

**NEW BOOK:**

**"The Liberation of Guam, 21 July - 10 August 1944"** Harry Gailey.  
 Describes events leading up to the Japanese takeover of the island in December of 1941 and details the day-by-day battle action after the American amphibious landing on July 21, 1944. Illustrated 231 pages. Available from Philstamps, 505 N. Arrowhead Ave., Suit 507, San Bernardino, CA 92401-1222, U.S.A. Price \$17.95 plus \$2.50 postage to U.S. addresses, Postage to Foreign addresses is \$3.00 plus \$4.95 compulsory Registration.

**GUAM EARLY COVERS - EXTENSION TO MURPHY DATES:** The May 22, 1996 Mail Auction by Philstamps of San Bernardino CA. included a number of early Guam covers including Murphy 1.9, 1.14(?), 2.3, and Guam Guard Mail Covers of the 1930/31 period from Asan, Agana & Merizo. A cover bearing what appears to be Murphy 2.6 dated **May 24, 1904** is shown here (reduced) as illustration 13/22. Murphy lists this datestamp as known **June 9, 1905** to March 26, 1915. The auction catalogue description reads "U.S. 301 (SE) and 306 tied by indistinct cancels to registered cover. Guam to California. Guam double circle registry h/s of May 24, 1904. Reduced and unevenly opened at left Scarce. Estimate \$75-85."

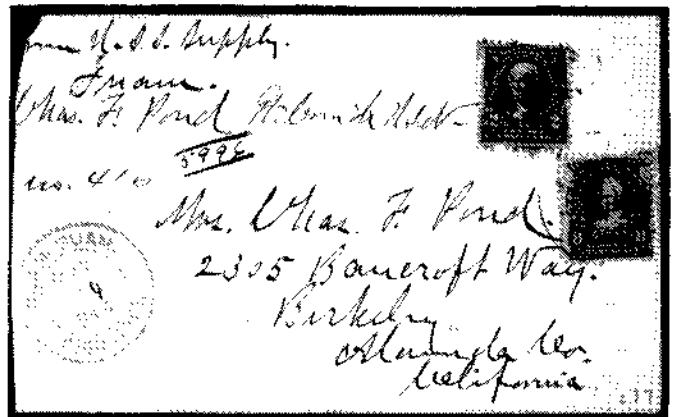


Illustration 13/22

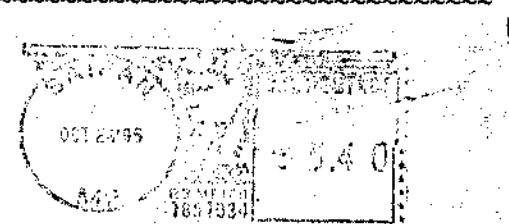
**COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS:**

**SAN VICENTE RURAL BRANCH MP 96950:** Has 1246 postal boxes. (the Clerk-in-Charge)

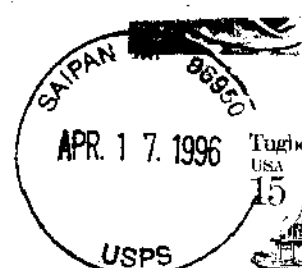
**TINIAN (SAN JOSE BRANCH) MP 96952:** Commenting on the material on Page 3 of "Bulletin" # 12 Michael A. White writes that in the mid-80's two people named "A. Hofschneider" worked at the Tinian P.O. Tinian was a rural (contract) branch at that time. Andresina U. Hofschneider was an employee of the contractor; she was not the Postmistress. Her daughter, Ana U. Hofschneider, occasionally helped out. This does tend to prove that the P.O. at Tinian was indeed open in 1983 and that the datestamps shown as illustration 12/19 & 12/20 were indeed applied at Tinian P.O. In the "U.S. Pacific Islands Newsletter" # 78 dated November/December, 1984 Michael Mochizuki reports receipt of a cover from Tinian datestamped Oct 4, 1984 with Bulletin Illustrations 3/11 and 3/12 from (in Michael's words) "PM. A. Hofschneider". Illustration 3/12 had the date shown only as 1984. However as it appeared on a cover clearly datestamped Oct 4 1984 we can amend the dates of use of this device as shown in Bulletin # 3 to read **Illustration 3/12 known October 4, 1984 to April 28, 1987**. The appearance of the "A. Hofschneider" signature goes to suggest that the office was continuously open throughout 1984, though under two separate titles - San Jose Br. and Tinian CM, and possibly two different contracts or different classifications or status.

**SAIPAN M.P. 96950:** On Oct. 26, 1995 the Marianas Visitors Bureau was using a Pitney-Bowes Meter Number PB 1851034. (See illustration 13/23) This is similar to Murphy 5.4. The differences are in the lettering which reads "SAIPAN / MP". In Murphy Addenda # 1 the Mariana Visitors Bureau is shown as using Meter Number 1255514.

**SAIPAN MP 96950:** A previously unreported single circle datestamp was used to cancel stamps (using bright red ink) on a cover dated Apr. 17, 1996. This is shown here as illustration 13/24. A cover cancelled with a 4-Bar datestamp (Illustration 3/6) is also known from the same date. Michael A. White believes that the large double circle datestamps similar to illustration 12/17 are now available from all Post Offices in the Northern Mariana Islands. (A Canadian collector tells me that similar datestamps were used in Canada some years ago and were known as 'Barrel' datestamps because of their similarity to the top of a barrel). Reports of their use in our area of interest and of the new type 4-Bar similar to illustration 11/15 - would be appreciated together with photocopies for illustration in the Bulletin. So far the 'Barrel' datestamp has been illustrated from Rota & Capitol Hill (and also Koror, Palau) while the new type 4-Bar has been illustrated only from Rota and Capitol Hill.



illus. 13/23 ↑



← illus. 13/24

↓ illus. 13/25

**REPUBLIC OF PALAU**

**KOROR, PW 96940**

A clear copy of the current Koror 4-Bar can now be illustrated. (See illustration 13/25) This datestamp was previously shown in "Bulletin" # 9 as illustration 9/12. I have seen a number of commercial covers bearing this datestamp used during the latter part of 1995. Very few are legible. The inkpad used appears to be dry and the fact that the outline of the block on which the datestamp is mounted appears on most covers suggests that considerable force has been used in applying the datestamp.

