

REPUBLIC OF THE MARSHALL ISLANDS: (MORE)

POSTAL STATIONERY: Bernd Neuhaus has sent photocopies of two envelopes used by the Postmasters at Majuro and Ebeye. Illustration 14/22 shows [reduced] a USPS "Postage Paid" envelope used by the Majuro Postmaster on Jan 11, 1995. Bernd wrote to the Postmaster Ebeye asking if he also used USPS "Postage Paid" envelopes. The Postmaster Ebeye replied on March 15, 1996 stating that he did not have any USPS "Post Paid" envelopes - but his reply came in a USPS 32c stamped envelope [Freedom Bell design] with a 28c Marshall Islands stamp to make up the postage fee to Europe of 60c. This clearly shows that the Marshall Islands Post Offices continue to carry stocks of USPS stamped envelopes and have renewed their stocks since postal rates increased on July 10, 1995.

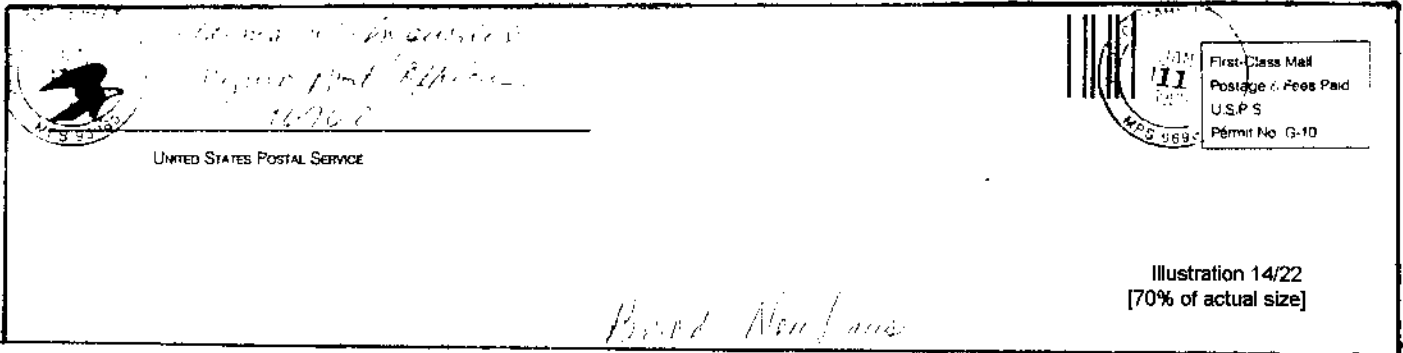


Illustration 14/22
 [70% of actual size]

FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA:

KOLONIA, POHNPEI FM 96941: A new version of the Pictorial datestamp has been seen on a philatelic cover dated May 20, 1996. (See Illustration 14/23) The lettering is slightly larger, the style of the day of the month figure is different, the illustration above the date is very much less detailed and does not touch the letters "KOL" of "KOLONIA" as on the earlier datestamps and lastly the state emblem below the date has the stars 'floating' rather than grouped and touching, as on the earlier datestamps. The earlier datestamp is shown here as Illustration 14/24 for comparison. For some time commercial mail from Kolonia, Pohnpei has been cancelled with a very worn datestamp with the dateline inverted in relation to the rest of the datestamp. (See Illustration 8/16) Possibly a new datestamp was obtained and supplied to the Philatelic Bureau (who I assume usually deal with philatelic covers sent to Kolonia for datestamping) while the original philatelic Bureau datestamp has been returned to the Post Office for use on commercial mail. Does anyone have an earlier date for the new datestamp? Has anyone seen any commercial mail with a clear datestamp in the last year or so?



Illustration 14/23

WENO, CHUUK, FM 96042 The postage Due marking shown here as Illustration 14/25 appears on a cover addressed to Fiji. The 32c stamp is cancelled with the Weno, Chuuk datestamp (Illustration 7/10) dated May 22 1995. No additional postage was collected in Fiji. (Pacific Study Circle Postal Auction - April, 1996)



Illustration 14/24

TRUK, FM 96942 METER STAMP: Gabriel Pustel has sent a photocopy of a Bank of Guam meter mark from the US administration period. [See Illustration 14/26] The Meter number is PB 730527. This meter number is shown as Fig. 1.8 in Bob Murphy's "A Postal History/Cancellation Study of the U.S. Pacific Islands". The dates of use are given as April 3, 1975 to January 14, 1981 and the user as Bank of America. Illustration 14/26 shows that at least on January 14, 1981 it was being used by the Bank of Guam. I have a cover bearing this meter dated Feb 19, 1980 and the Bank of America address stamp on this cover shows the return address as P. O. Box 69, Truk. The Bank of Guam cover sent by Gabe bears the same return address. I guess this is the same meter - only the Banks name has changed. Can anyone clarify this?

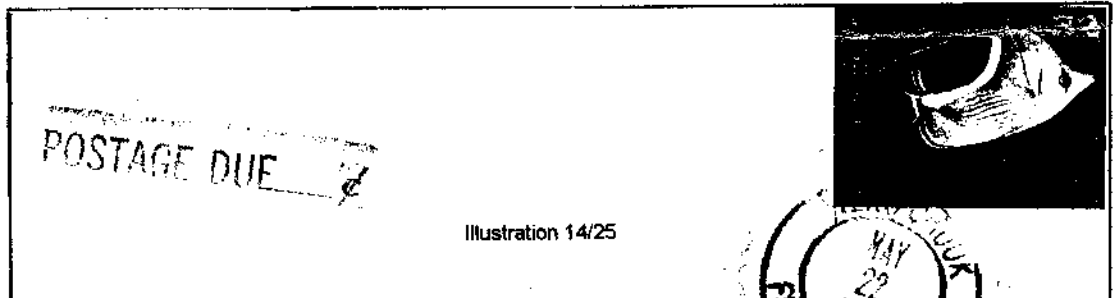


Illustration 14/25

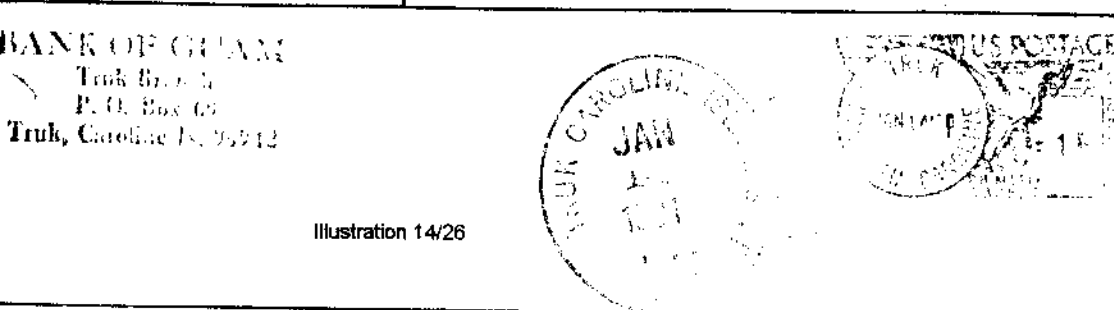


Illustration 14/26