

REPUBLIC OF PALAU (Continued)

SINGLE CIRCLE 'PICTORIAL' DATESTAMP: George L. Machado Jr. tells me that Illustration 16/20 is a First Day of Issue handstamp with the "First Day of Issue" slug removed from below the date. He says it has been in use for around 10 years and encloses a photocopy of what appears to be a commercial cover showing use of Illustration 16/20 on March 30, 1994. William S. Tufts tells me that illustration 16/20 has been appearing on philatelic mail since early 1996. His earliest cover is dated Feb. 15, 1995 tho' he believes this to be in error for 1996. The earliest cover with the year shown as 1996 in his collection is datedstamped March 19, 1996.

George L. Machado Jr. sends a photocopy of two covers bearing a smaller version of this datestamp used on Mar 12, and Jun 30, 1987 [See Illustration 18/13] and with the "First Day of Issue" slug in place on June 15, 1987 [Illustration 18/14]

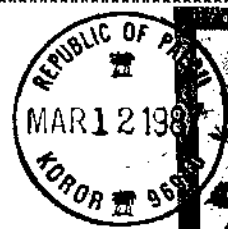


Illustration 18/13

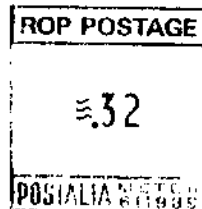


Illustration 18/14

METER MARKS: By courtesy of Steven Zirinski a meter used on Nov 27, '96 by the Bank of Hawaii, Koror Branch on a cover to Yap is shown as Illustration 18/15. The number appears to be 611939.



Illustration 18/15



SHRINKING PROBLEM HITS PALAU POST OFFICE !!: "May, 1996 - The Palau Post Office is getting smaller and smaller by the day, prompting another ground breaking ceremony on a new construction project to expand the facility." [Extracted from the "Highlights of 1996" column in the December, 1996 edition of "The Palau Gazette" - # 48]

GUAM:

METER MARKS: Thanks to Gabe Pustel I can illustrate meter number F2228083 seen used on Nov 6, 1996 and showing the office of origin as GMF/GUAM. This is the first reported with this inscription. The user is "IT & E - Island Telecommunications & Engineering Corporation". [See Illustration 18/16]. Also reported by Gabe is PB meter 1814678 used by the Law Offices of ?ido Bordallo & Brooks LLP of Agana on Jul 16 1997. The meter is not clear being over stamped with a Barrigada GU. MPO datestamp of Jul 17, 1997 and is therefore not illustrated here.

Thanks to New York dealer Steven Zirinski I can illustrate two Meter marks not previously reported in the Bulletin or by Murphy. Illustration 18/17 shows PB Meter 1894625 in use on Dec 6, '96 by "Mid-Pacific Liquor Distributing Corporation", Agana, Guam 96932. Illustration 18/18 shows PB Meter 988670 used by the Bank of Hawaii, Guam Branch, P.O. Box BH, Agana 96910 on Dec. 17, 1996. This differs from the 1983 meter from the Bank of Hawaii, Agana shown as Illustration 15/30

Adventist World Radio was still using PB meter number PB 1615774 on April 11, 1997. The meter shows the town of posting as Agana but the return address is given as P.O. Box 7468, Agat, GU 96928. This was last reported in use by the same organisation in 1987. See Bulletin # 15.

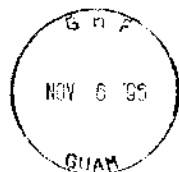


Illustration 18/16

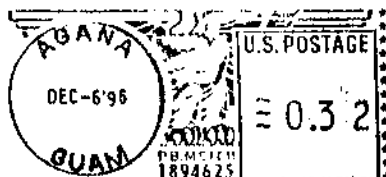
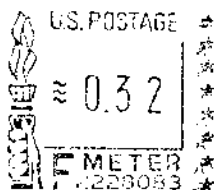


Illustration 18/17



Illustration 18/18

AUCTION REALISATIONS: The 1996 USPPS annual auction included a number of items from our area of interest. I noted a copy of Robert T. Murphy's "A Postal History/Cancellation Study of the U.S. Pacific Islands" realised for \$24. A couple of Wake Island covers bearing Murphy 1.2b used in April 1963 and 1.8 used in November 1975 went for \$5.50 each. A number of USPS FDC's (7/1/71) covers, Saipan, Tinian and Pago Pago went for between \$8.50 and \$10. A couple of similar items from Ponape & Truk with an estimate of \$20 the pair were not sold.

The PISC of GB January '97 auction had a few items from the area - A Sept 8, 1941 cover from Tutuila Station [apparently the one referred to on Page 6 of Bulletin # 13] with an estimate of £12 was unsold. A Ta'u cover - Murphy 4.1 - dated April 1972 with additional Pago Pago 1.19 realised £4. A Manu'a cover datestamped with Murphy 3.3 dated April 1972 also realised £4. An Ofu cover of Sept 1973 cancelled with Murphy 8.4 also realised £4. While on Ofu-Olosega cover of April 1972 with an unspecified 4-bar cancellation went for £5. Some earlier items from American Samoa included Burge 1.1 dated 29.9.08 PPC which realised £19. A Pago Pago duplex [Burge 1.5] dated 8.9.33 - return address Naval Station Tutuila brought £8 while a Leone Tutuila [Burge 9.1] dated 22.1.34 realised £6. A Marcus Island cover with a 8 Nov 1970 "Iguana" datestamp [sounds like Murphy 1.1.1] brought in £16. A Capitol Hill Opening Day [Aug 13, 1966] cover realised £6. An pair of Midway covers datestamped August 1979 & Dec '89 realised £3. A 1944 US army censored cover originating in Enewetok together with a 1975 cover cancelled with a Kwajalein machine brought in £4 for the pair while a ship cover [MS Asmar] bearing French stamps and cancelled at Truk [with a 4-Bar] in October 1969 realised £3. A "Raymond W. Milling" ships cover - cachet Moen I to Dublin I - date not specified - but with 8c U.S. 1972 Olympic stamp realised £5. At the moment £1 buys approximately US \$ 1.60.

MISCELLANEOUS POSTAL MARKINGS: Illustration 18/19 is shown thanks to Steven Zirinski. This appears on the reverse of a Registered cover from Japan addressed to Yap. Accompanied by a Barrigada Gu. APDS dated Dec 13, 1996 it reads "Received at MPO, Guam/with the flap sealed with a scotch tape."



Illus. 18/19

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