

GUAM GUARD MAIL

This exhibit shows examples of stamps issued and mail delivered by the only official local post in United States history. This local post was created because the Post Office Department had only one post office on the island of Guam in the capital, Agana, and did not have local mail delivery to any other parts of the island. This meant that postal customers had to travel to Agana to send and/or receive their mail whether it was overseas or intra island.

After being asked by the governor, Commander Willis A. Bradley Jr., to start island wide delivery the Post Office refused. The military government of Guam then started its own postal service to serve the island and was open for all citizens of Guam to use. Post offices were opened on 8 April 1930 in Agana, Agat, Asan, Piti, and Sumay in the northern part of the island. On 29 August 1930 post offices were opened in the southern part of the island in towns of Inarajan and Merizo.

The necessary stamps were acquired from the Philippines at printing cost and overprinted 'GUAM GUARD MAIL' in black at the Naval Printing Office in Agana for use on the island of Guam only. These stamps were sold for half the face value in cents. The first stamps were issued on 8 April 1930 in the two and four centavos (one and two cents) values in quantities of 2,000 and 3,000 respectively.

The second set was issued on 10 July 1930 and were printed locally. This was done since the stamps from the first issue had run out, and the new stamps had not arrived from the Philippines. These stamps were issued in values of one and two cents in quantities of 1,000 and 4,000 respectively.

The third set was issued on 21 August 1930 and were again the same Philippines stamps overprinted, but with a different typeset in black. This was necessary since not enough of the older typeset was available to overprint the greater number of stamps. Twenty thousand of the two and eighty thousand of the four centavos were issued. As with first issue these stamps were sold at half their face value in cents.

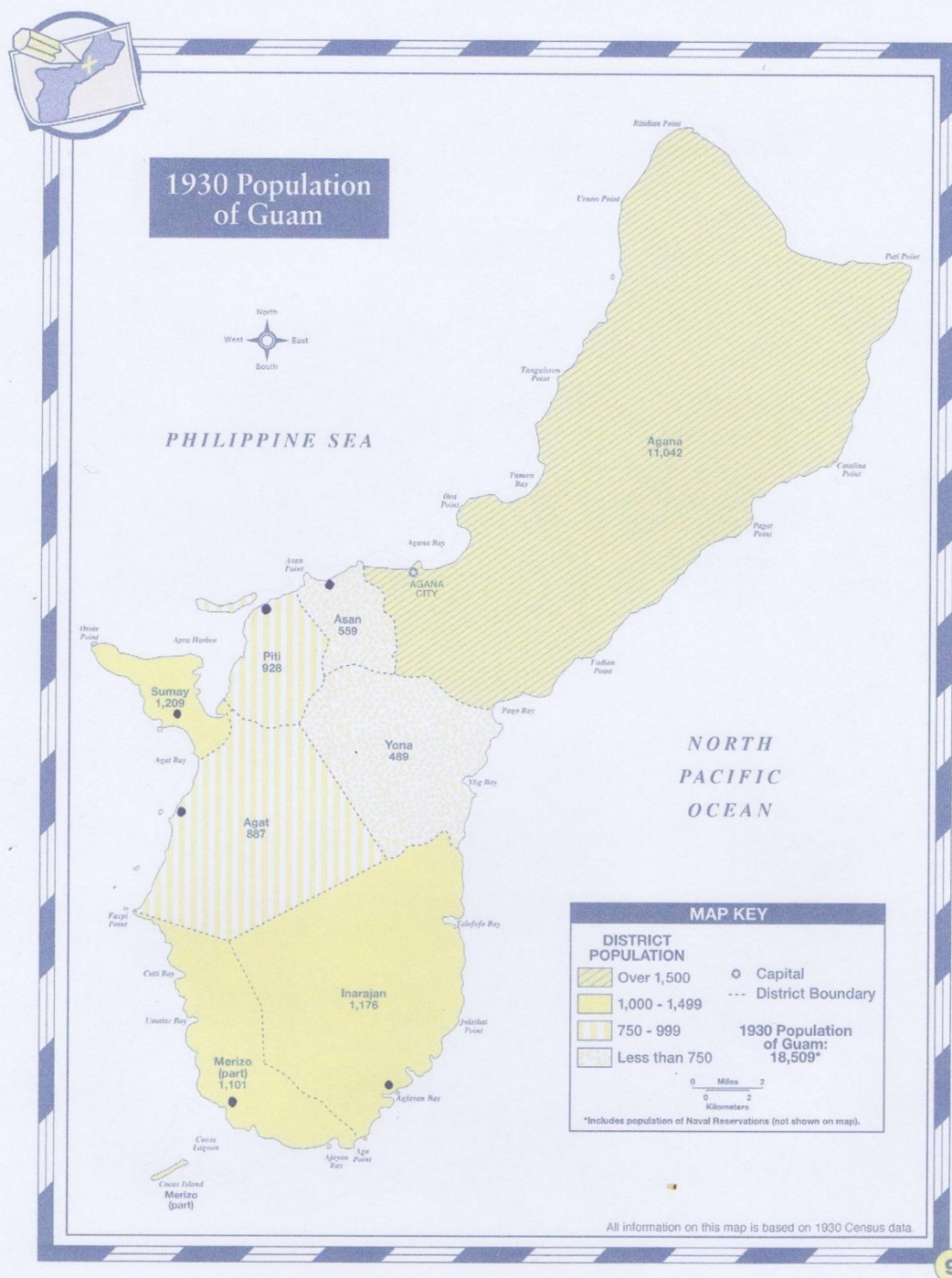
The last set was issued on 29 December 1930 and was the Philippines stamps of the values two, four, six, eight, and ten centavos. They were overprinted with the same typeset as the previous issue, but in red. The two and four centavos were issued in quantities of fifty thousand and the four, six, eight, and ten centavos values in quantities of twenty five thousand. As with first and third issues these stamps were sold at half their face value in cents.

The Guam Guard Mail postal offices in the northern half of the island were taken over by the Post Office Department on 1 January 1931. Guam Guard Mail continued to operate their post offices in Agana and two cities in the southern of part of the island until 8 April 1931. Then from this date forward the Post Office Department delivered mail to all addresses on the island.

Interestingly enough Guam Guard Mail actually made a profit during its one year of operation.

Exhibit Contents

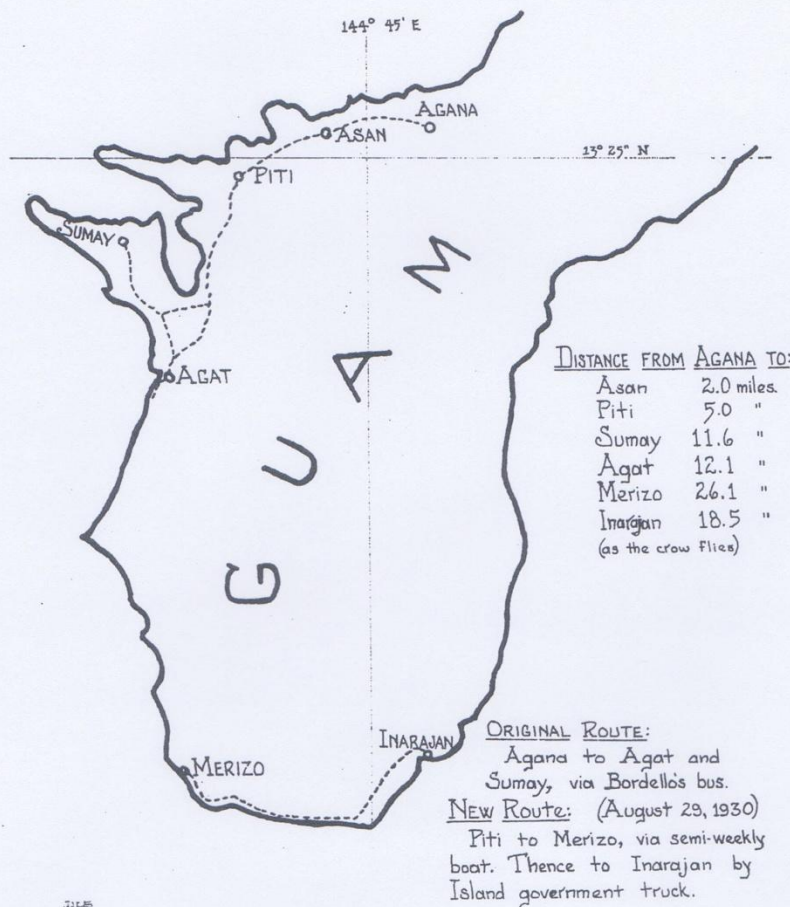
- I) Introduction
- II) Guam
 - a) Map of Guam
 - b) Guam Guard Mail Postal routes
- III) First Issue
 - a) Orders establishing Guam Guard Mail
 - b) Wrapper containing samples of first issue
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 - d) First day cover & Postal Card with 2 centavos
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 - b) Sheets
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 - a) Sheets
 - b) Plate blocks showing all plate numbers used
 - c) First day covers
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 - a) Sheets
 - b) Plate blocks showing all plate numbers used
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 - d) Covers showing various city cancels
- VII) Guam Guard Mail extended to southern districts of Guam
 - a) Orders to extend Guam Guard Mail to southern districts
 - b) Covers from towns in southern districts
- VIII) USPOD takes over mail in northern part of Guam
 - a) Cover showing the first day for Star Route 81102
 - b) Covers showing various cities on Star Route 81102
- IX) Guam Guard Mail is shutdown
 - a) Orders to shutdown Guam Guard Mail
 - b) Covers showing last day
- X) Guam Guard Mail Official Postal Stationary



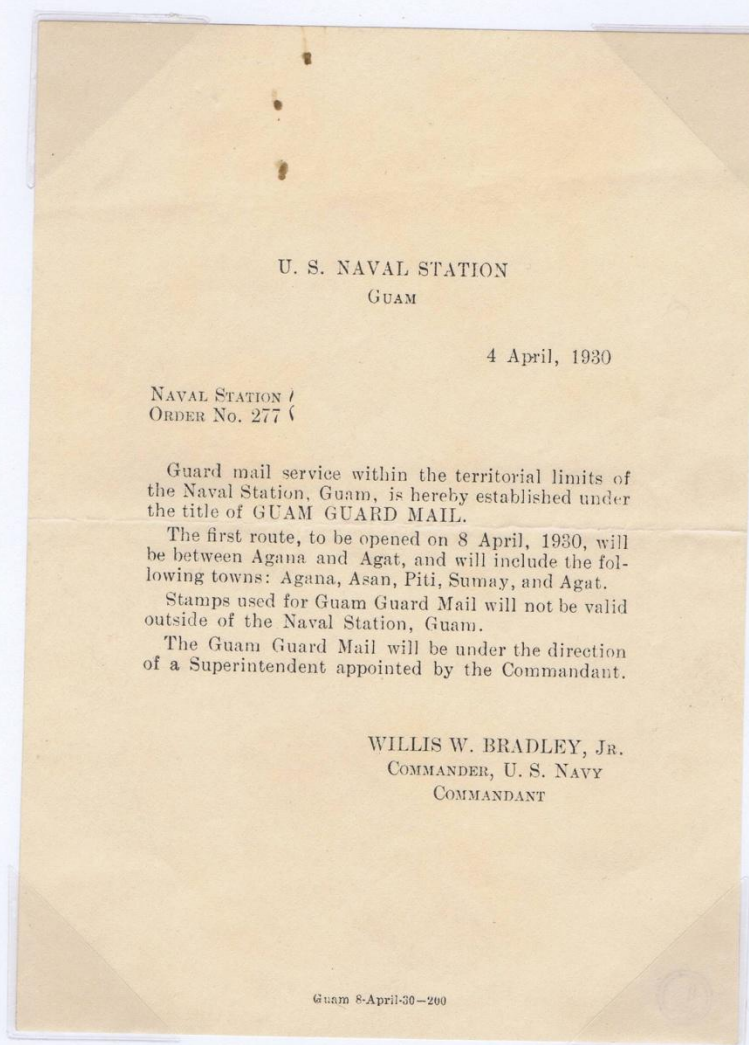
POSTAL ROUTES

OUTLINE MAP OF SOUTHERN GUAM

Showing routes of Guam Guard Mail
1930

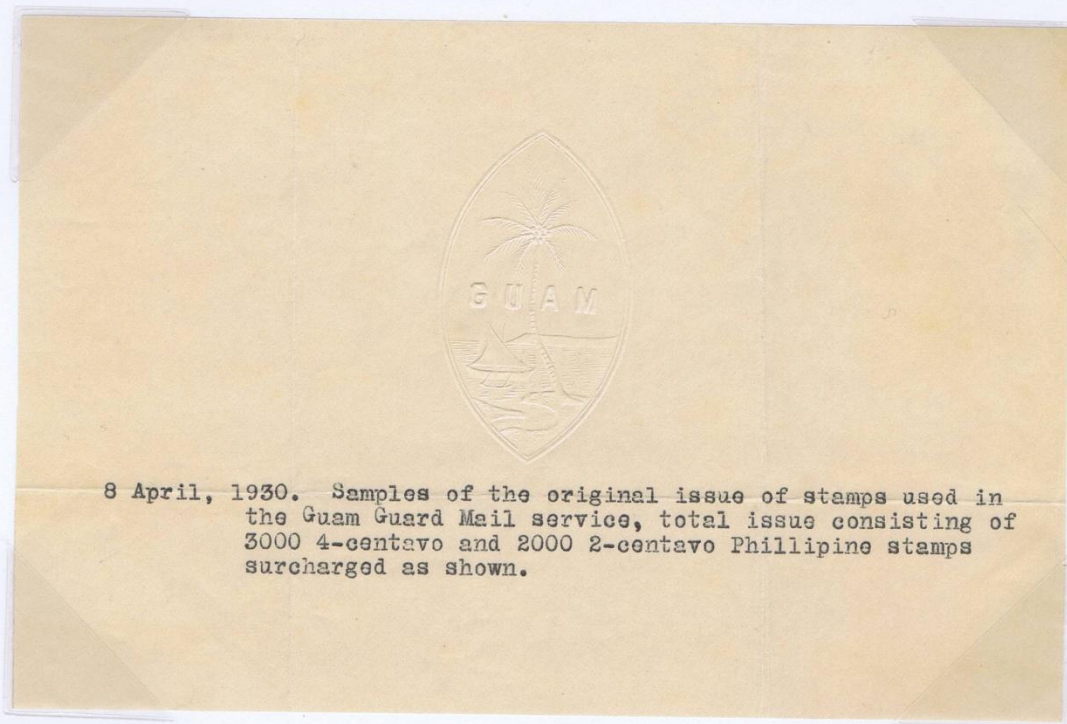


IIIa - First Issue - Orders establishing Guam Guard Mail



Original Naval Government order establishing Guam Guard Mail service; 200 were printed. First Day is given as April 8, 1930.

IIIb - First Issue - Wrapper containing samples of first issue



Official presentation wrapper which once contained "samples of the first issue showing an embossed seal of the Naval Government, used for the vignettes of the second issue



1 centavos

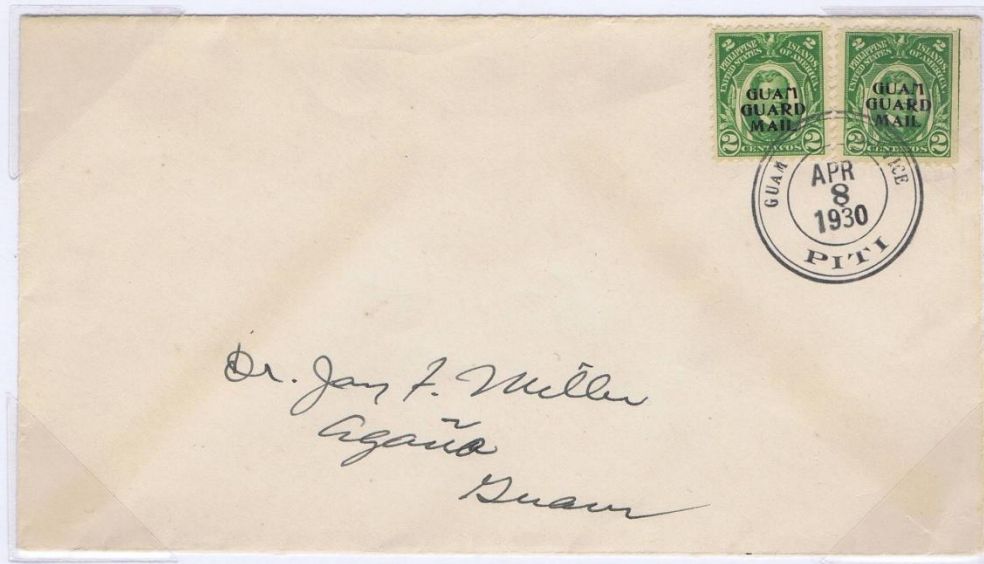
2 centavos

IIIc - First Issue - Largest known block of 2 centavos



Block of 35 of the 2 centavos with plate number 103592
This is largest known block

IIIId - First Issue - First day cover & Postal Card with 2 centavos



First day cover with pair of 2 centavos mailed on April 8, 1930 from Piti to Agana



Philippine postal card with 2 and 4 centavos cancelled on April 10, 1930 in Agana
This is one of the few postal cards known with Guam Guard Mail stamps

IIIId - First Issue - Largest known block of 4 centavos

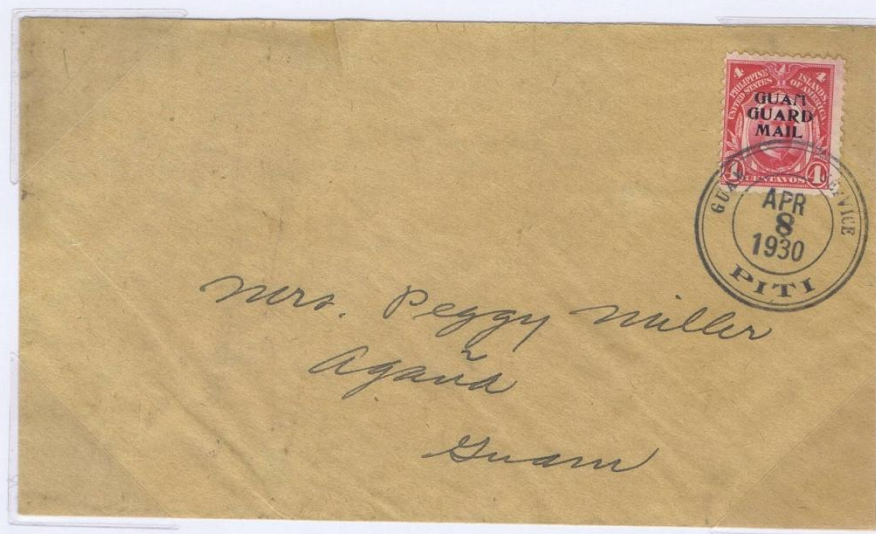


**Block of 15 with plate number 44876 of 4 centavos
This is largest known block**

III f - First Issue - First Day Cover of 4 centavos

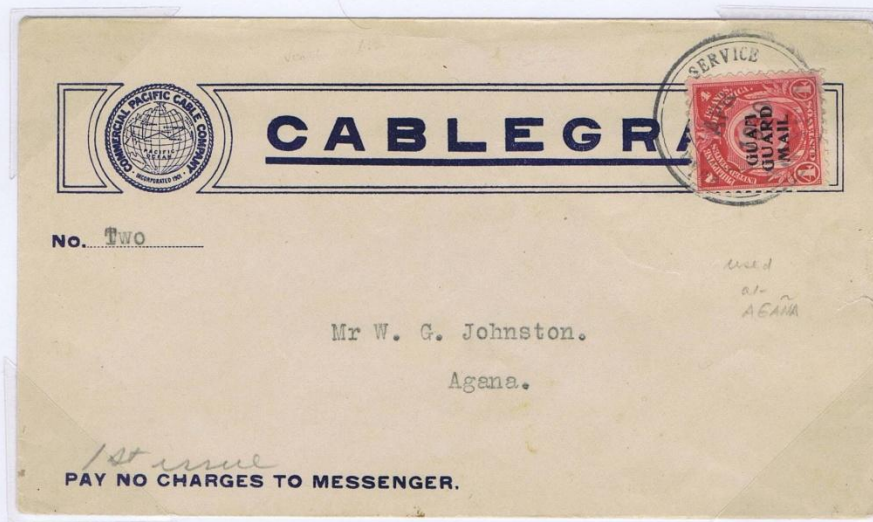


First day cover with 4 centavos cancelled on April 8, 1930 in Agana

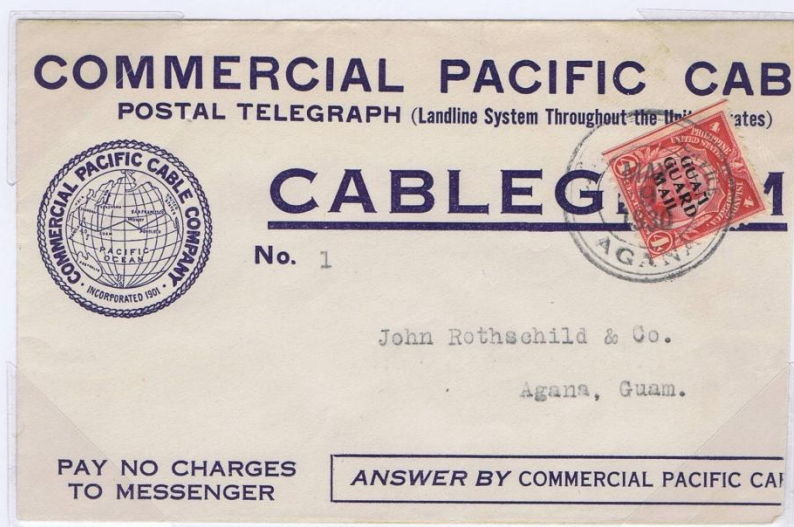


First day cover with 4 centavos mailed on April 8, 1930 from Piti to Agana

IIIg - First Issue - Covers showing various city cancels



Cover with 4 centavos mailed on April 1930 to Agana
The date slug was missing in the hand cancel

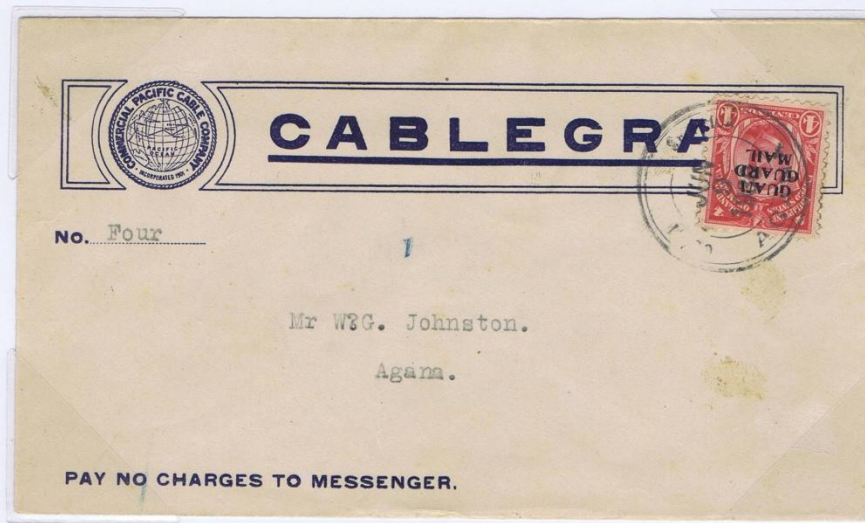


Cover with 4 centavos mailed on May 9, 1930 to Agana

IIIg - First Issue - Covers showing various city cancels

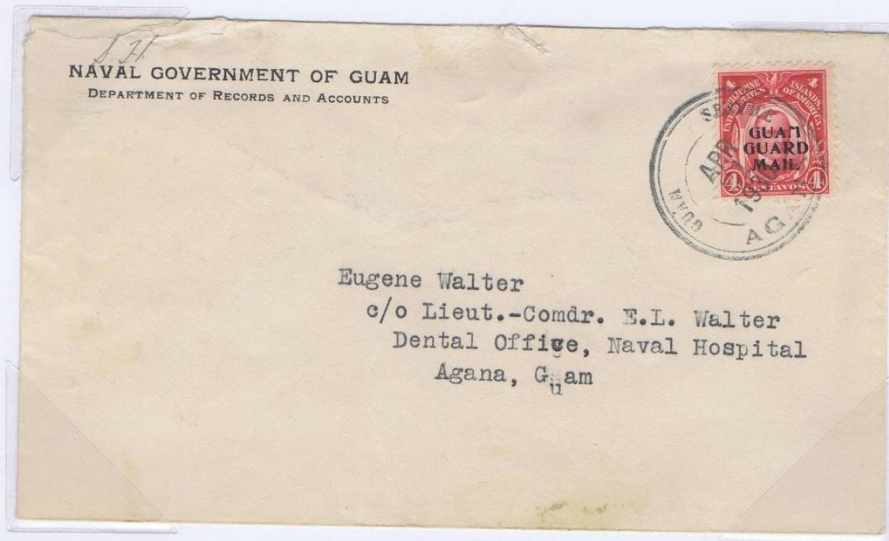


Cover with 4 centavos mailed on July 9, 1930 from Agana to Merizo



Cover with 4 centavos mailed on June 9, 1930 to Agana

IIIg - First Issue - Covers showing various city cancels

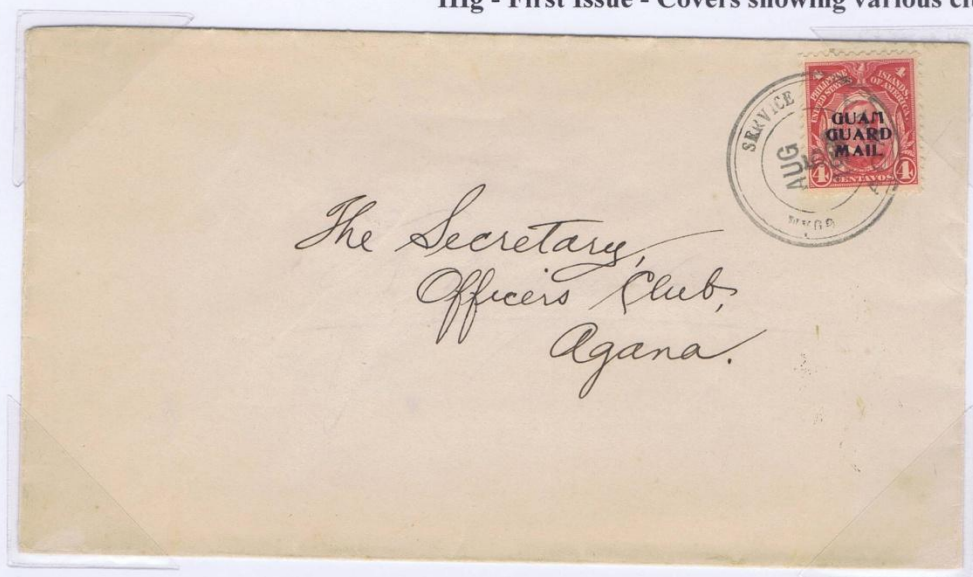


Cover with 4 centavos mailed on April 21, 1930 in Agana

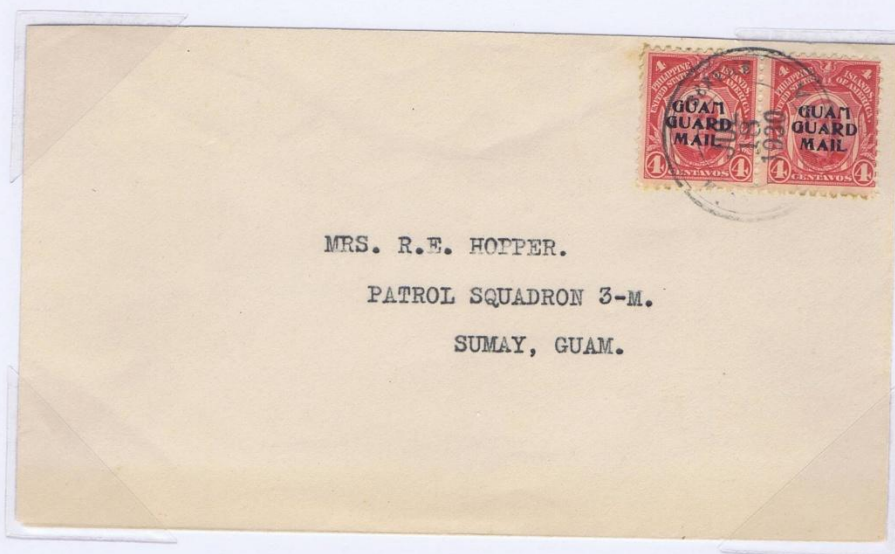


Cover with 4 centavos mailed on October 17, 1930 from Agana to Sumay

IIIg - First Issue - Covers showing various city cancels



Cover with 4 centavos cancelled on August 5, 1930 in Agana



Cover with 4 centavos mailed on July 18, 1930 from Agana to Sumay

One cent proof sheet of 25

IVa - Second Issue - Proofs

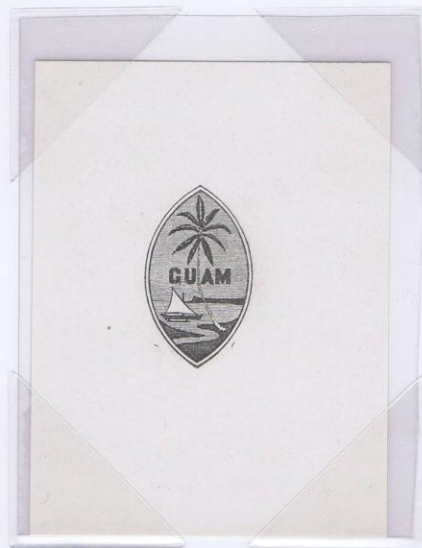
GUAM GUARD MAIL

1 1
ONE CENT

IVa - Second Issue - Proofs



Green die proof of vignette

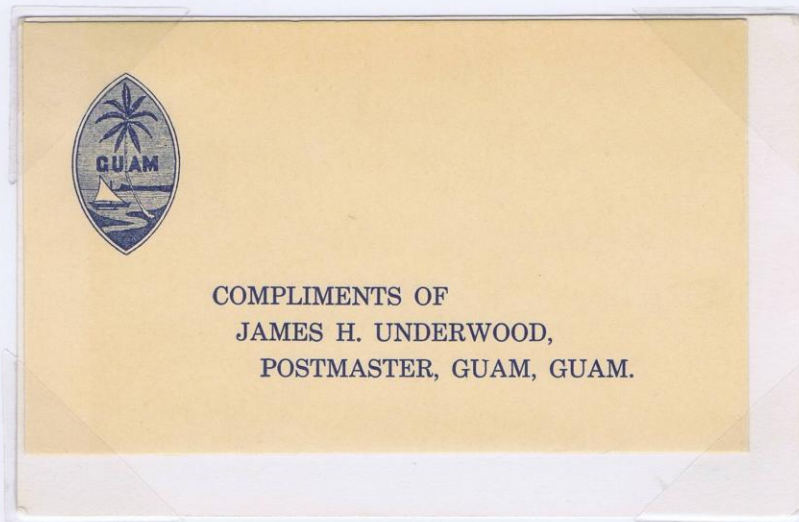


Black die proof of vignette



Red die proof of vignette

IVa - Second Issue - Proofs



Blue proof of die vignette



Black proof of die vignette

Original die used for illustration in The Stamp Specialist 1939 Volume 1 Part 1

IVb - Second Issue - Sheets



1 cent sheet of 25 as issued

IVb - Second Issue - Sheets



2 cent sheet of 25 as issued

IVc - Second Issue - First day cancel

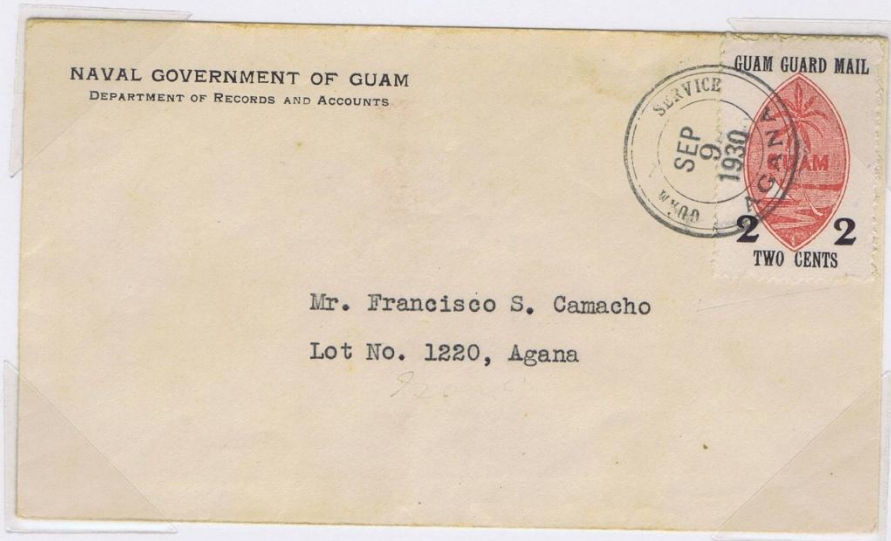


**Piece with 2 cent cancelled on July 10, 1930 in Agana
This is the first day of issue**

IVd - Second Issue - Covers showing various city cancels

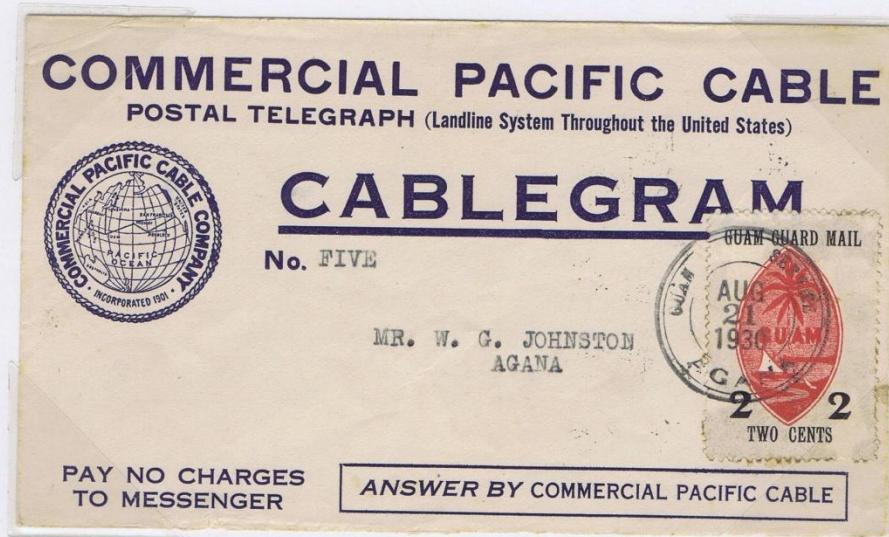


Cover with pair of 1 cent mailed on December 18, 1930 from Agat to Agana

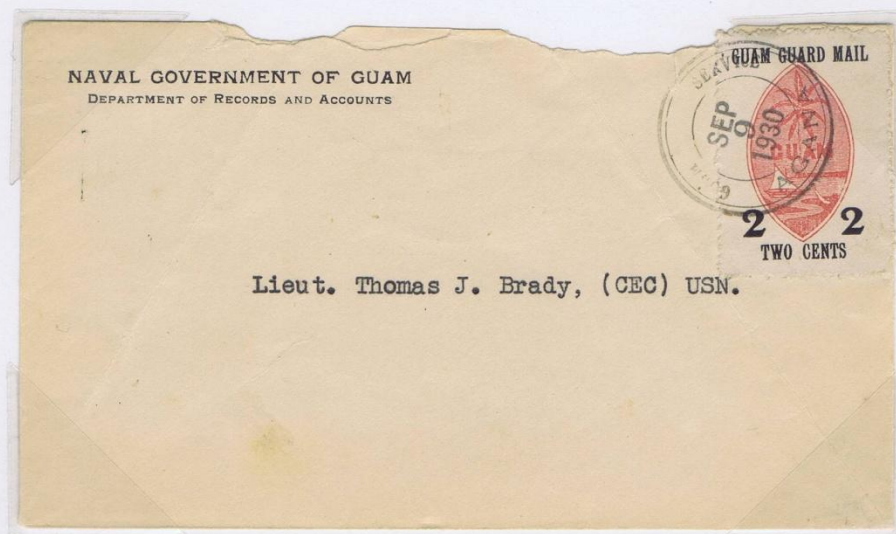


Cover with 2 cent mailed on September 9, 1930 in Agana

IVd - Second Issue - Covers showing various city cancels

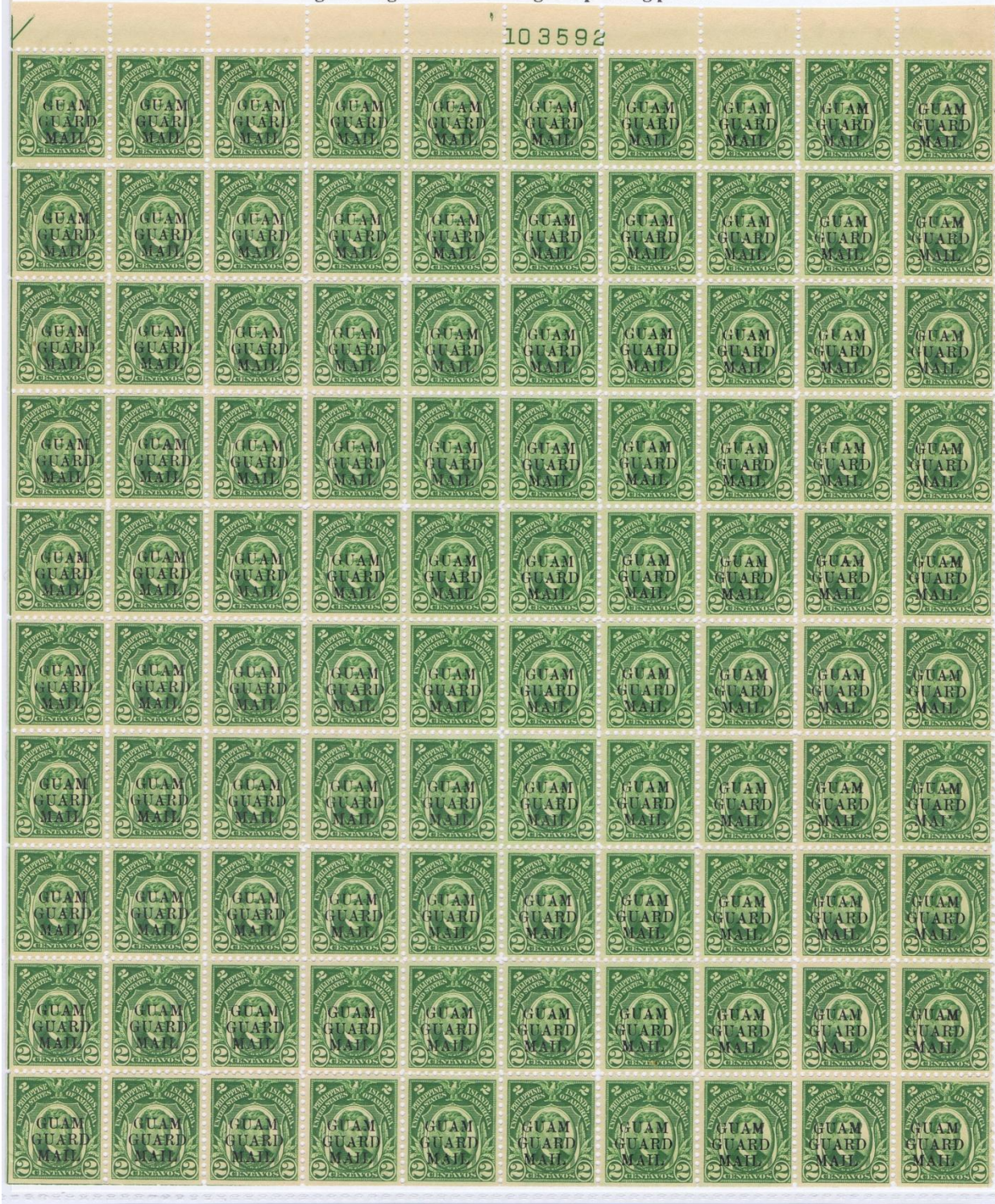


Cover with 2 cent mailed on August 21, 1930 from Agana



Cover with 2 cent mailed on September 9, 1930 from Agana

Top right sheet of 2 centavos with plate number 103592
Right selvage removed during overprinting process



Vb - Third Issue - Plate blocks showing all plate numbers used



Top and right plate blocks of 2 centavos with plate number 103589



Top and right plate blocks of 2 centavos with plate number 103590

Vb - Third Issue - Plate blocks showing all plate numbers used



Top and right plate blocks of 2 centavos with plate number 103591

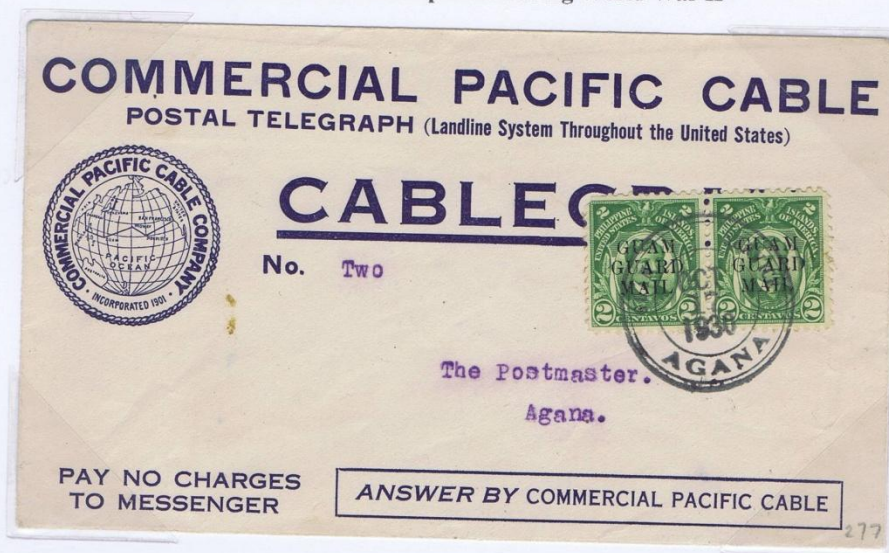


Top and right plate blocks of 2 centavos with plate number 103592

Vd - Third Issue - Covers showing various city cancels

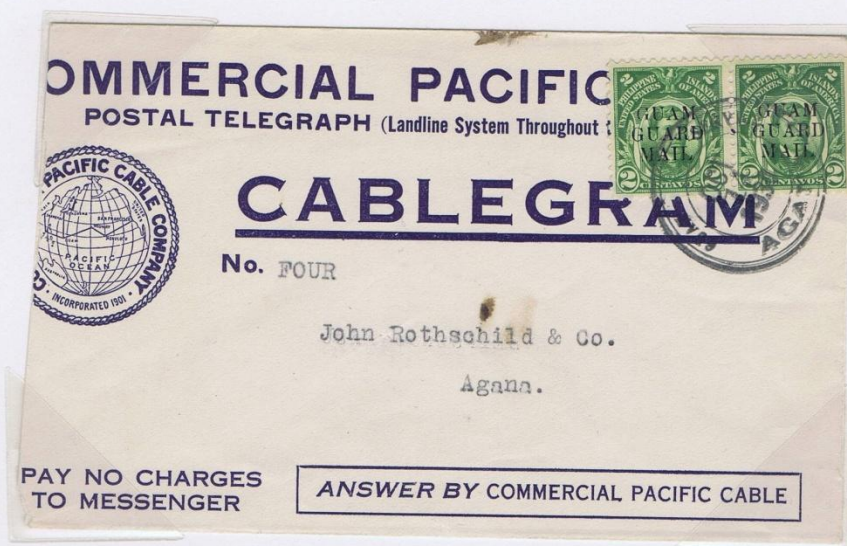


Cover with pair of 2 centavos mailed on September 12, 1930 from Agana to Sumay
Addressed to the officer in charge of the Guam Guard Mail and later led the forces which
re-took Guam from the Japanese during World War II

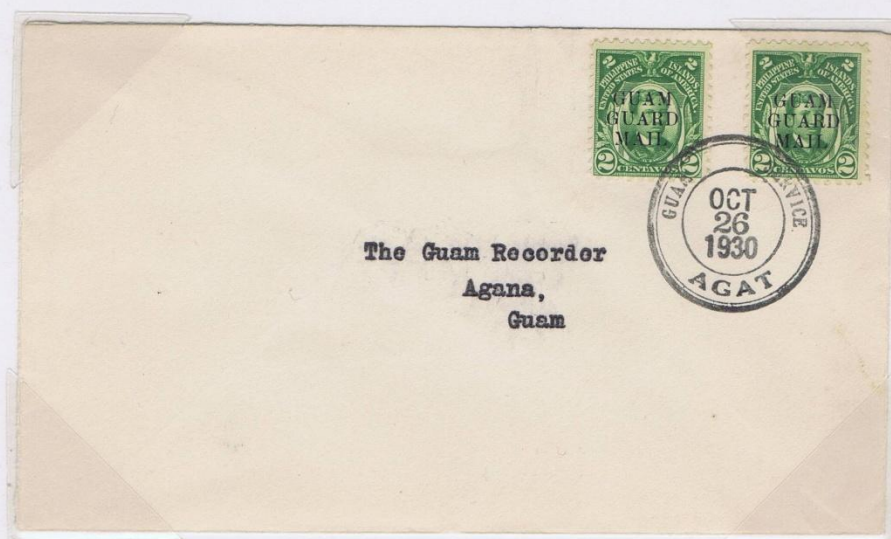


Cover with pair of 2 centavos mailed on November 15, 1930 in Agana

Vd - Third Issue - Covers showing various city cancels



Cover with pair of 2 centavos mailed on October 11, 1930 in Agana

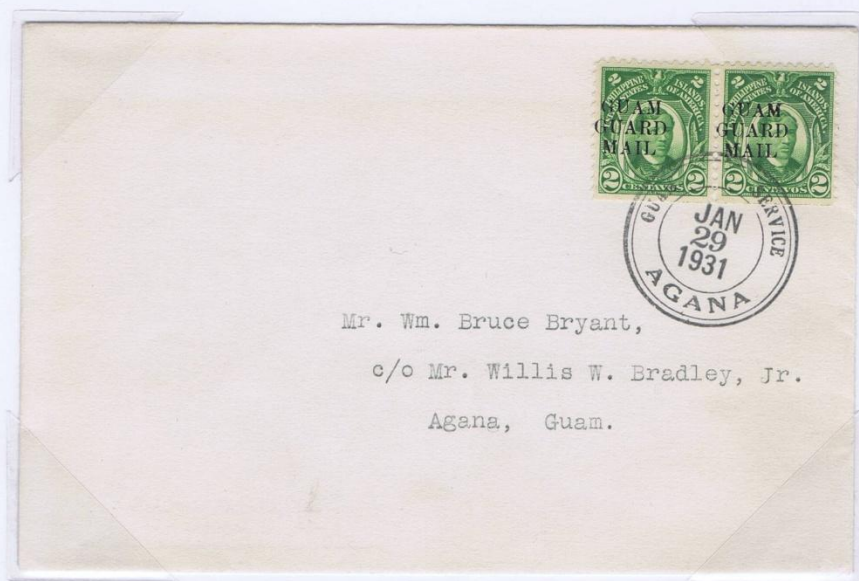


Cover with pair of 2 centavos mailed on October 26, 1930 from Agat to Agana

Vd - Third Issue - Covers showing various city cancels



Cover with pair of 2 centavos mailed on November 15, 1930 in Agana



Cover with pair of 2 centavos mailed on January 29, 1931 in Agana

Va - Third Issue - Sheets

Top left sheet of 4 centavos with plate number 44874 on top and left selvage



Vb - Third Issue - Plate blocks showing all plate numbers used



Top and left plate blocks of 4 centavos with plate number 44873



Top and left plate blocks of 4 centavos with plate number 44874

Vb - Third Issue - Plate blocks showing all plate numbers used



Top and left plate blocks of 4 centavos with plate number 44875



Top and left plate blocks of 4 centavos with plate number 44876

Vc - Third Issue - First day covers

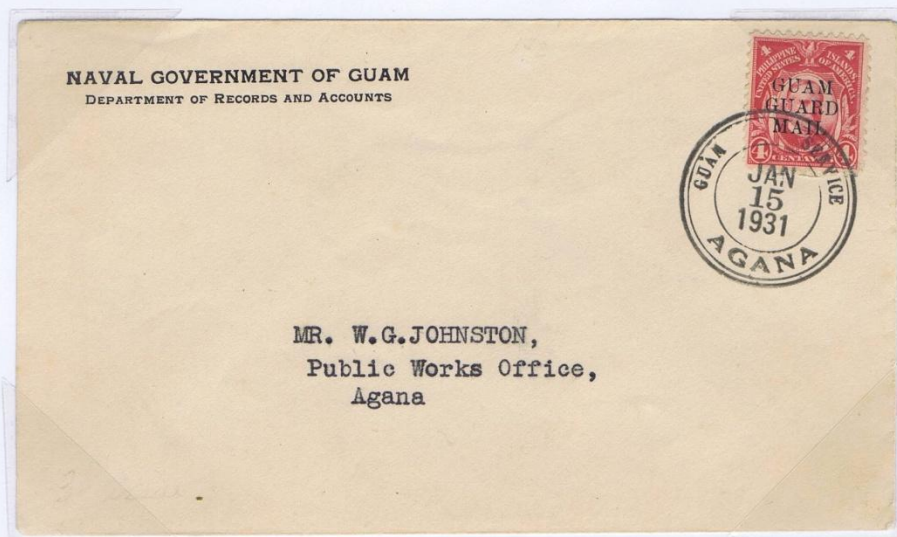


First day cover with 2 centavos cancelled on August 21, 1930 in Agana

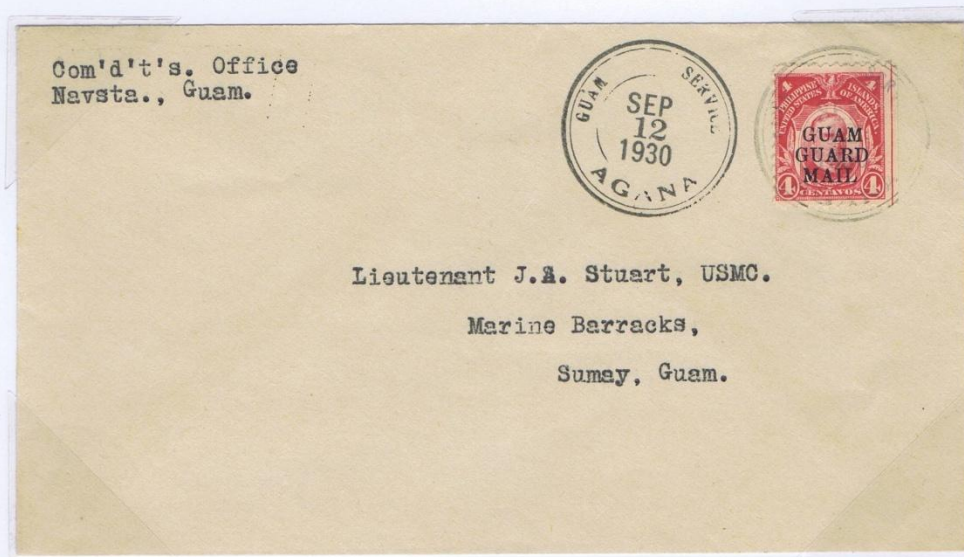


First day cover with 4 centavos cancelled on August 21, 1930 in Agana

Vd - Third Issue - Covers showing various city cancels

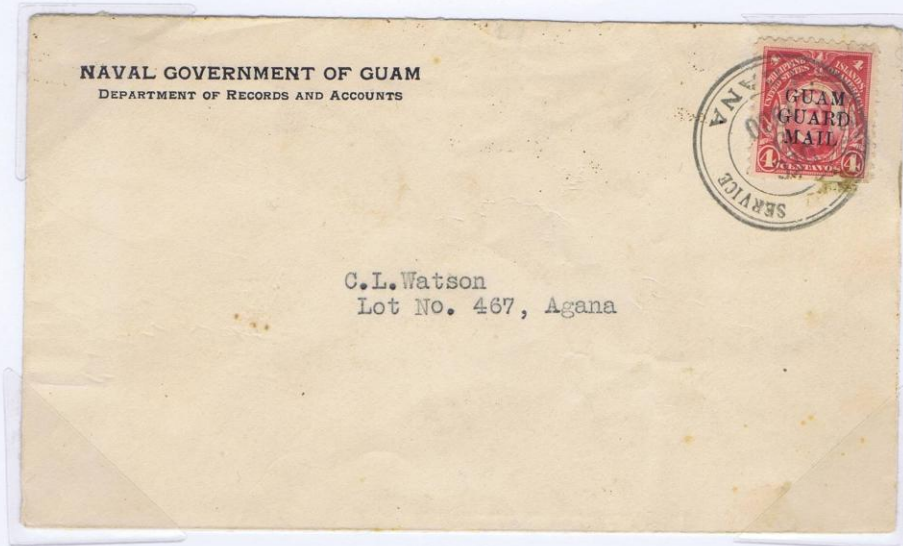


Cover with 4 centavos mailed on January 15, 1931 in Agana

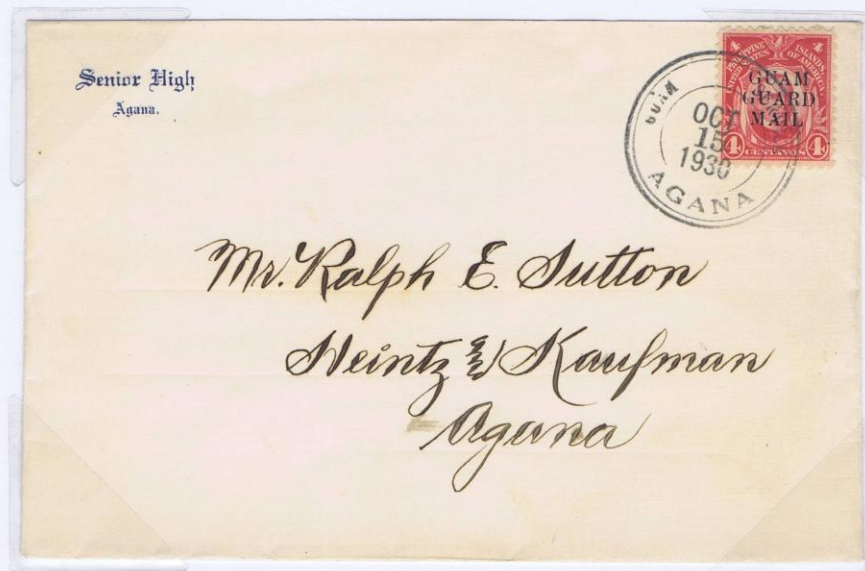


Cover with 4 centavos mailed on September 12, 1930 from Agana to Sumay

Vd - Third Issue - Covers showing various city cancels

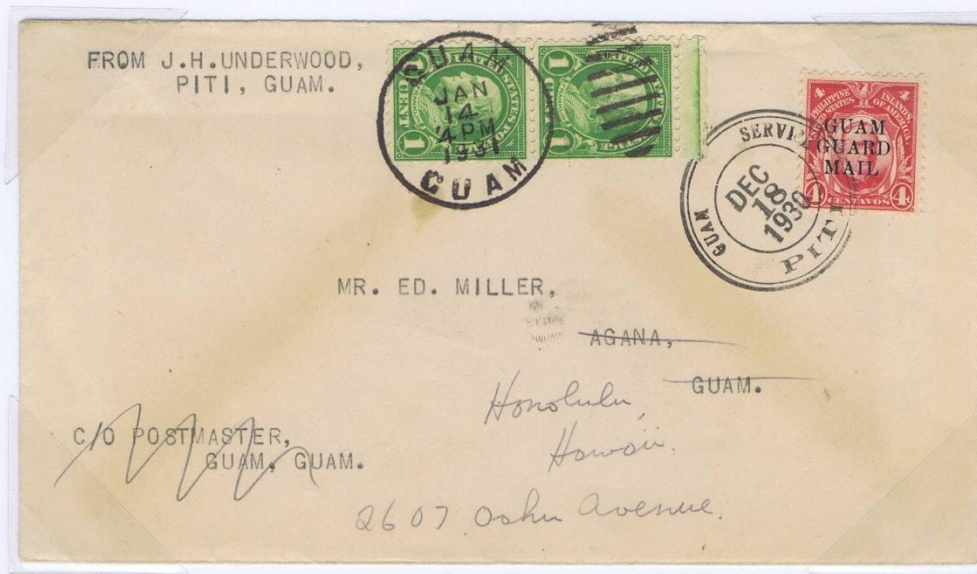


Cover with 4 centavos mailed on December 9, 1930 in Agana



Cover with 4 centavos mailed on October 15, 1930 in Agana

Vd - Third Issue - Covers showing various city cancels

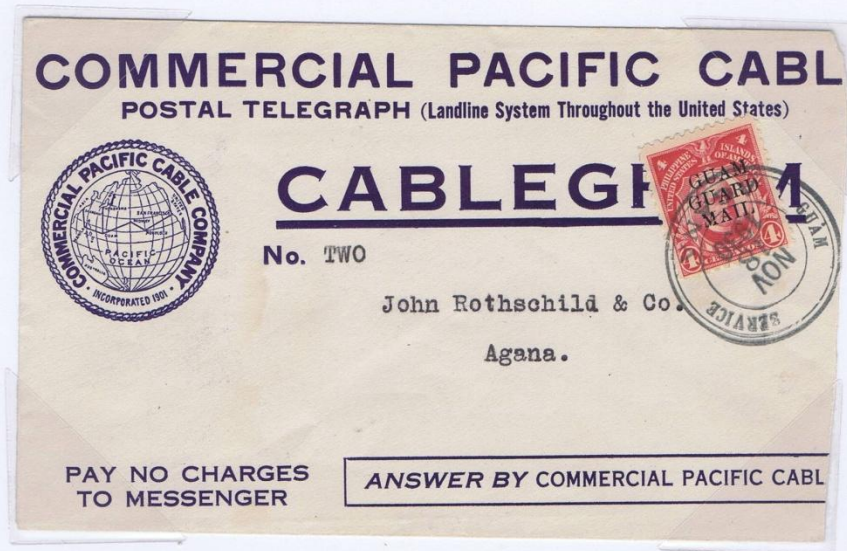


Cover with 4 centavos mailed from Agat to Agana on December 18, 1930
and then forwarded to Honolulu, Hawaii on January 14, 1931

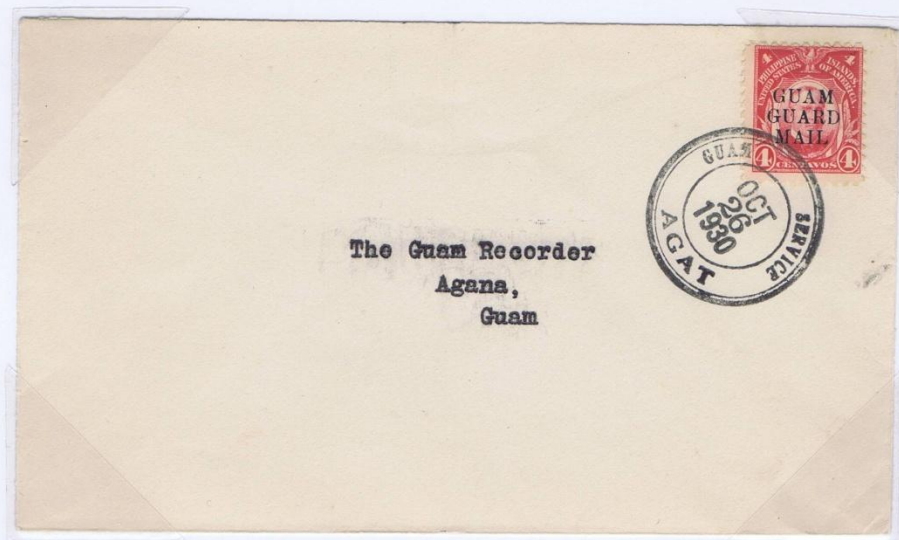


The reverse of the above cover showing the ship cancel U.S.S. Chaumont
which carried it to Honolulu on January 18, 1931

Vd - Third Issue - Covers showing various city cancels

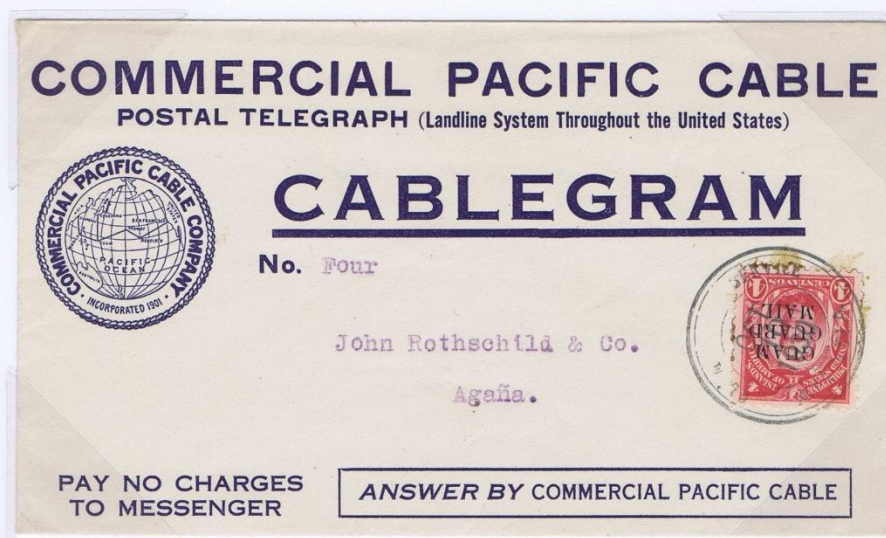


Cover with 4 centavos mailed on November 18, 1930 in Agana

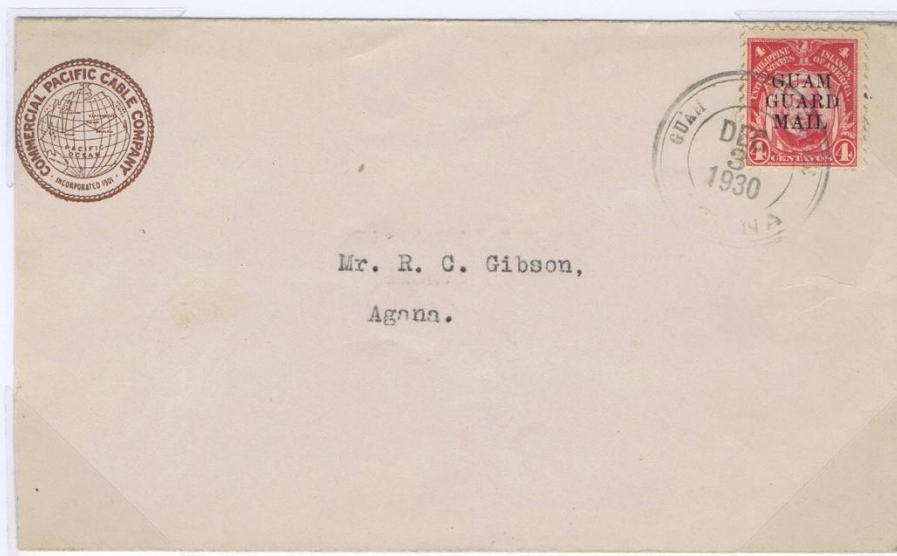


Cover with 4 centavos mailed on October 26, 1930 from Agat to Agana

Vd - Third Issue - Covers showing various city cancels

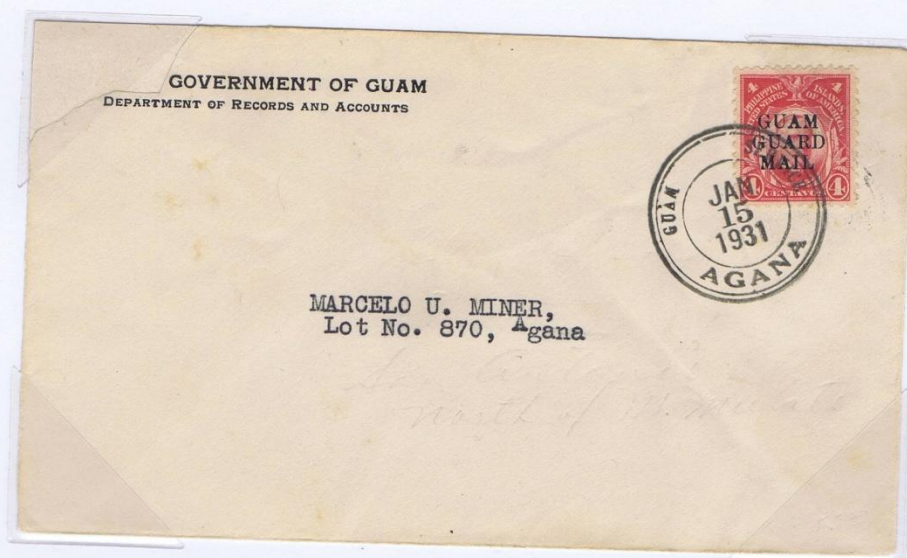


Cover with 4 centavos mailed on October 10, 1930 in Agaña

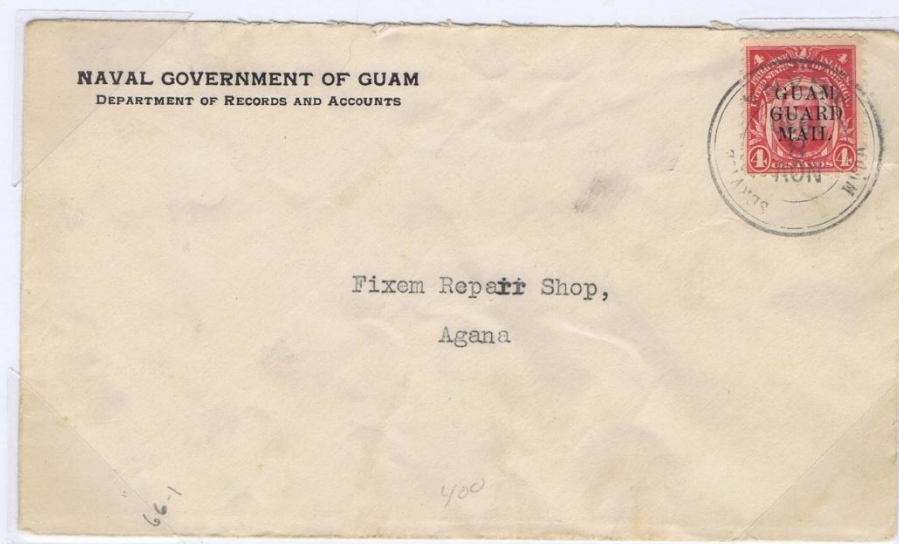


Cover with 4 centavos mailed on December 3, 1930 in Agaña

Vd - Third Issue - Covers showing various city cancels

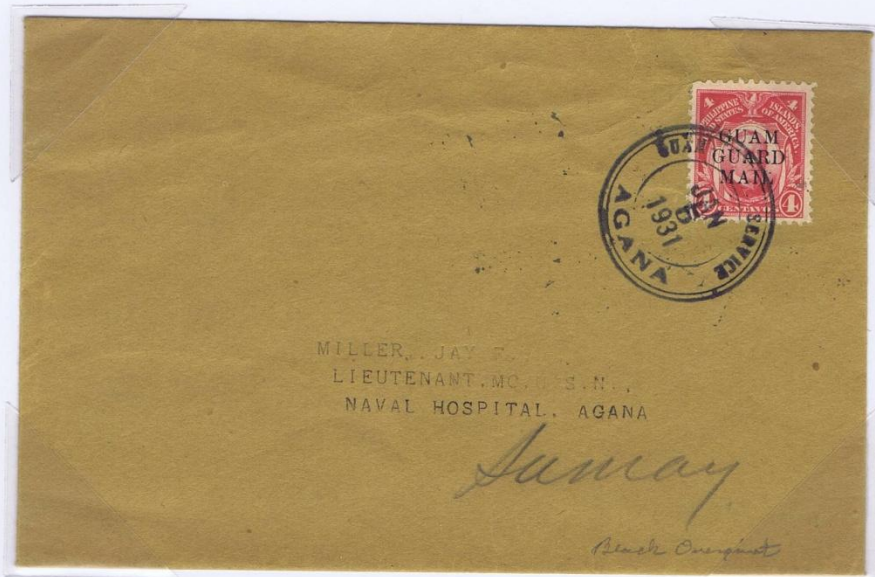


Cover with 4 centavos mailed on January 15, 1931 in Agana

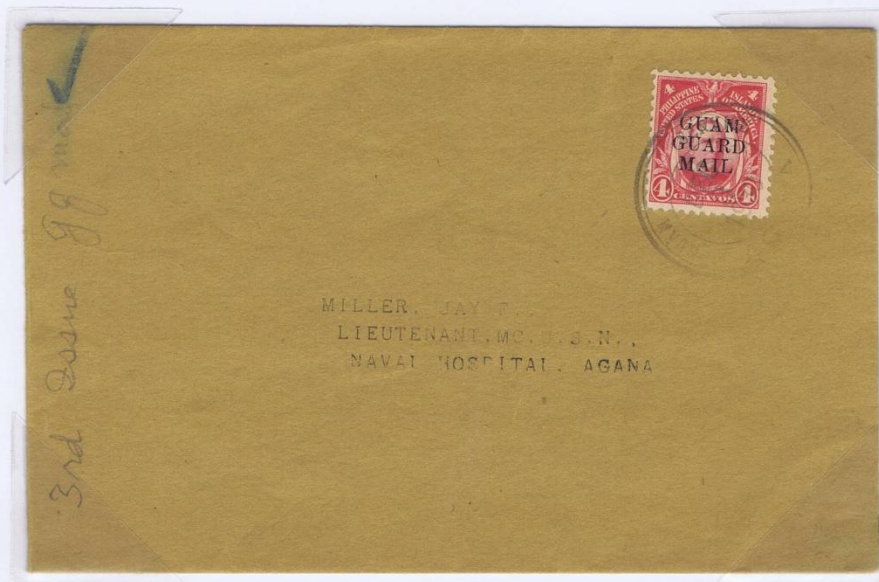


Cover with 4 centavos mailed on November 8, 1930 in Agana

Vd - Third Issue - Covers showing various city cancels

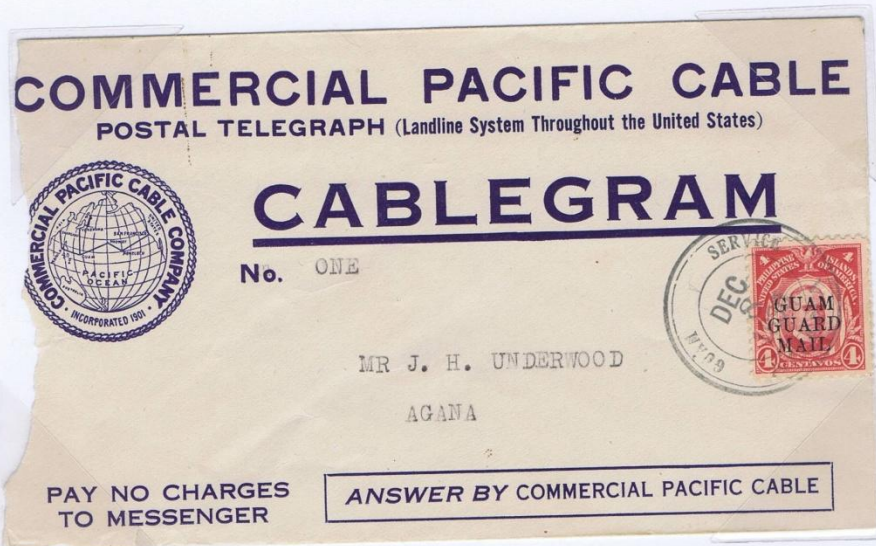


Cover with 4 centavos mailed on January 5, 1931 in Agana and forwarded to Sumay

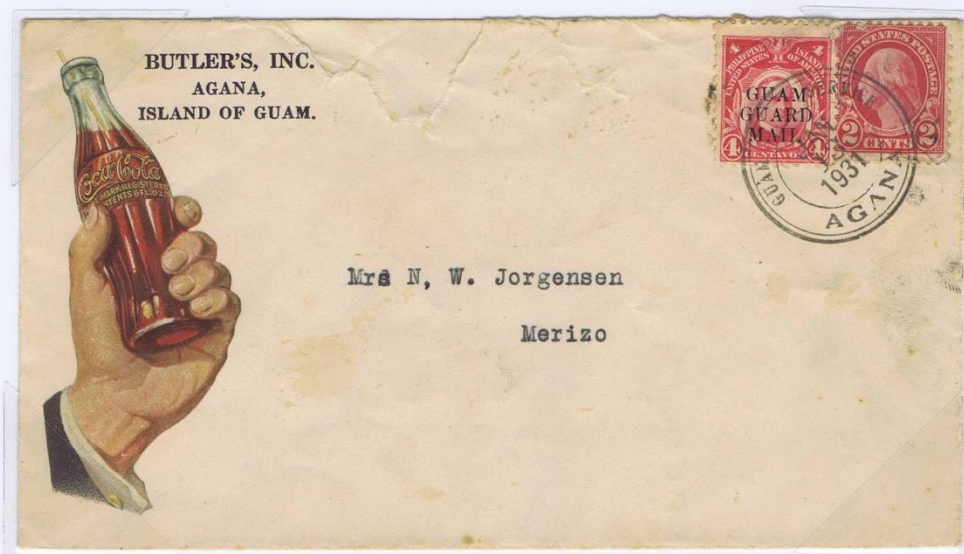


Cover with 4 centavos mailed on December 3, 1930 in Agana

Vd - Third Issue - Covers showing various city cancels

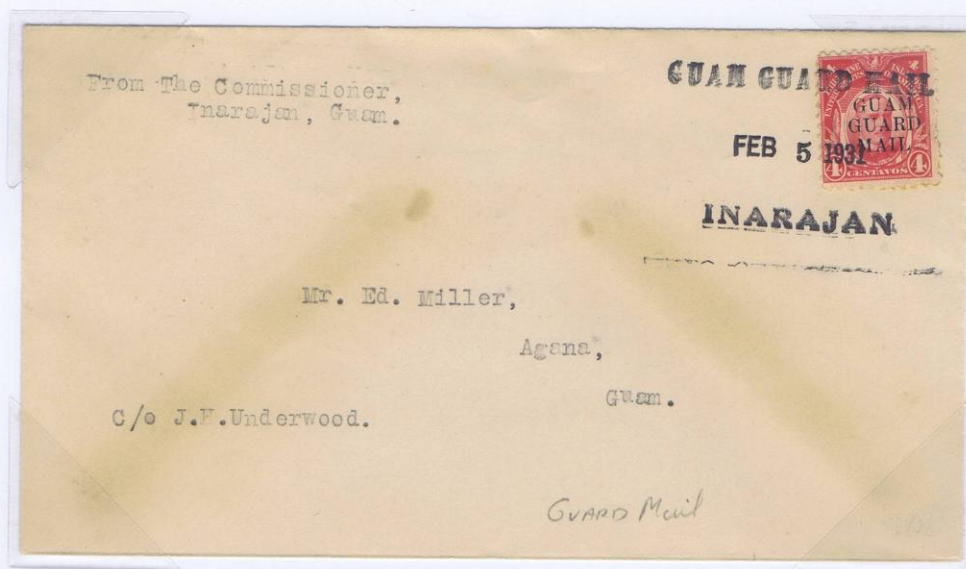


Cover with 4 centavos mailed on December 8, 1930 in Agana



Cover with 4 centavos mailed on January 13, 1931 from Agana to Merizo
This is one of two covers known with a commercial cachet

Vd - Third Issue - Covers showing various city cancels



First day cover with 4 centavos mailed on February 5, 1931 from Inarajan to Agana



Cover with 4 centavos cancelled on December 3, 1930 in Agana

[illegible]

VIA - Fourth Issue - Sheets

Top left sheet of 2 centavos with plate number 121071 showing "GRAUD" misspelled in position 63 and "MIAL" misspelled in position 84. This is one of 7 presentation sheets

121071

The image displays a single sheet of 100 green 2-centavo postage stamps from Guam, arranged in a 10x10 grid. The plate number '121071' is visible at the top center. Each stamp features a circular design with the text 'GUAM GUARD MAIL' and '2 CENTAVOS'. Two arrows point to specific stamps: the first arrow points to the stamp in row 7, column 4 (position 63), which contains the misspelling 'GRAUD'; the second arrow points to the stamp in row 9, column 4 (position 84), which contains the misspelling 'MIAL'.

Via - Fourth Issue - Sheets

Top left sheet of 2 centavos with plate number 121070 showing the stamps missing in positions 63 and 84. The error stamps were removed before being sold to the public

121070



Vib - Fourth Issue - Plate blocks showing all plate numbers used



Top plate blocks of 2 centavos with plate numbers 121068 and 121069



Top plate blocks of 2 centavos with plate numbers 121070 and 121071

Vlb - Fourth Issue - Plate blocks showing all plate numbers used



Top right plate blocks of 2 centavos with plate numbers 121068 and 121069 and 'F' marking

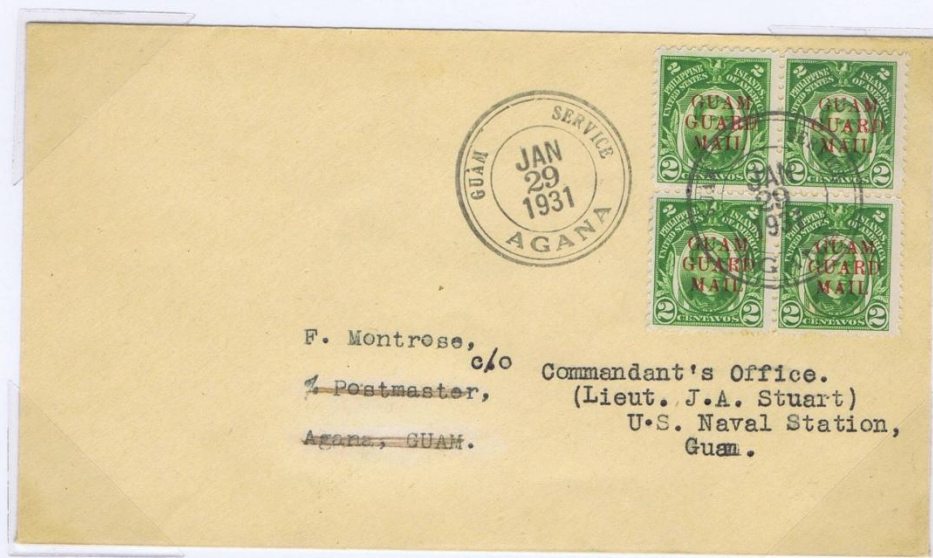


Top right plate block of 2 centavos with plate number 121070 and 'F' marking

Vlc - Fourth Issue - First day covers
 VId - Fourth Issue - Covers showing various city cancels

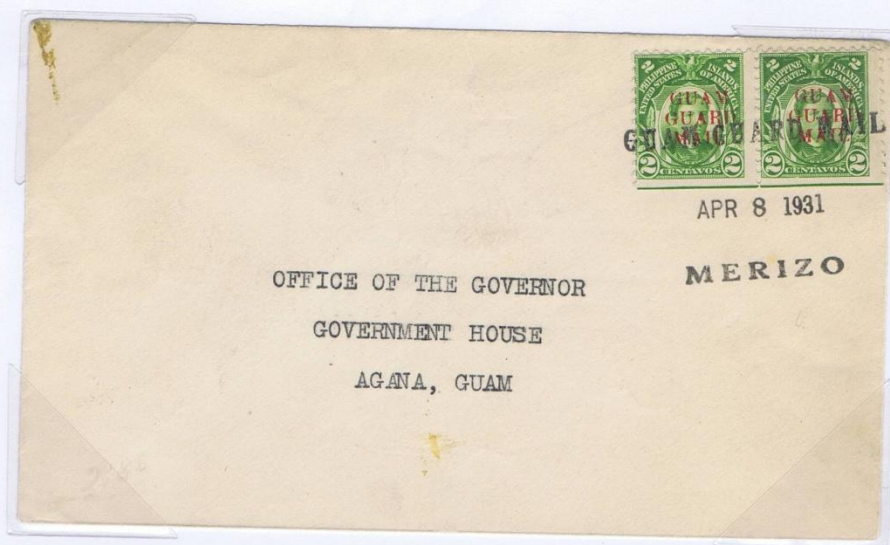


First day cover with 2 centavos cancelled on December 29, 1930 in Agat



Cover with block of 2 centavos mailed on January 29, 1931 from Agaña to the U.S. Naval Station

Vlc - Fourth Issue - Covers showing various city cancels



Cover with pair of 2 centavos mailed on April 8, 1931 from Merizo to Agana
This was the last day of service

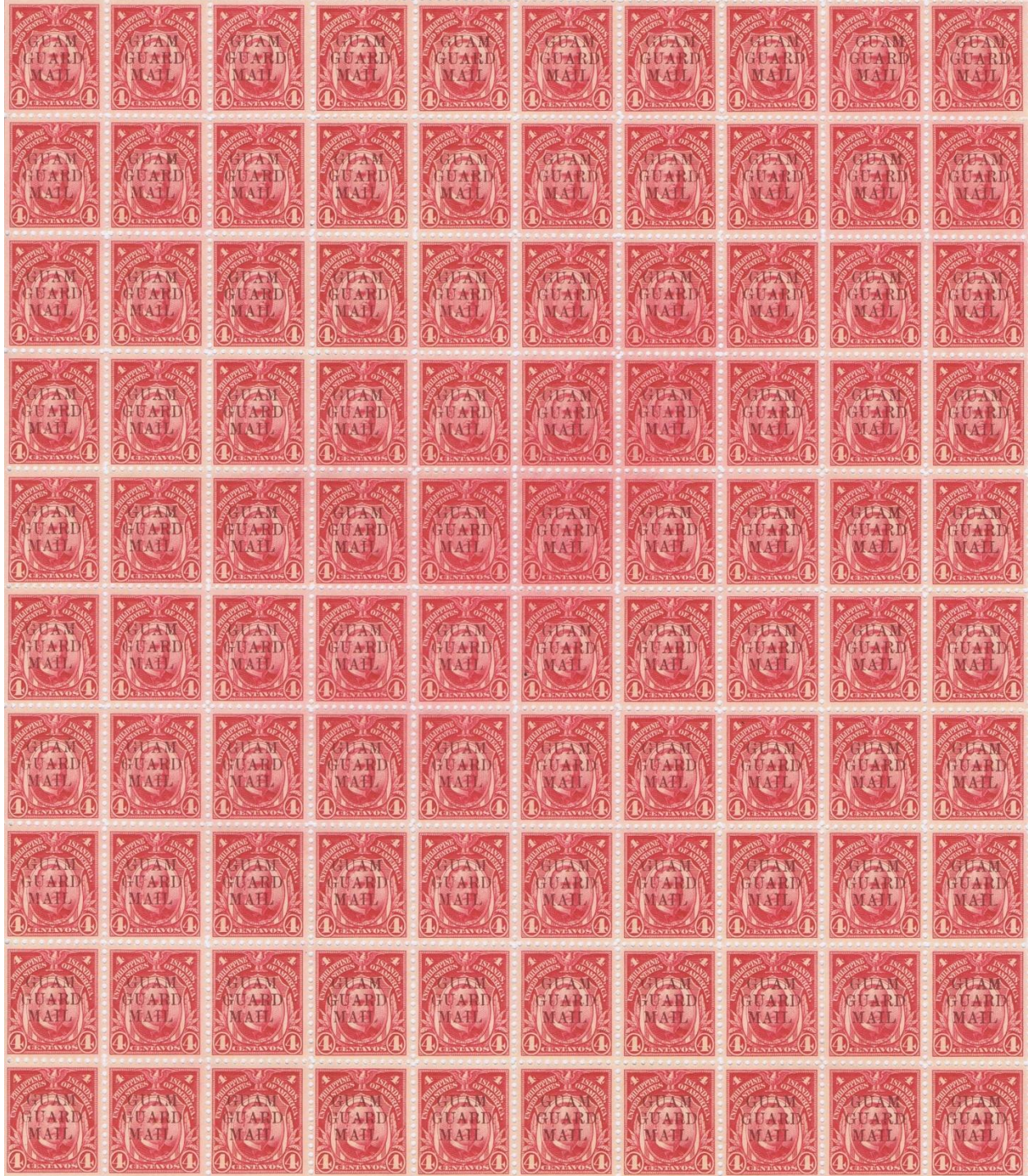


Cover with block of 2 centavos mailed on February 5, 1931 from Inarajan to Agana

Via - Fourth Issue - Sheets

Top right sheet of 4 centavos with plate number 44875
Right selvage removed during printing process

44875



Vib - Fourth Issue - Plate blocks showing all plate numbers used

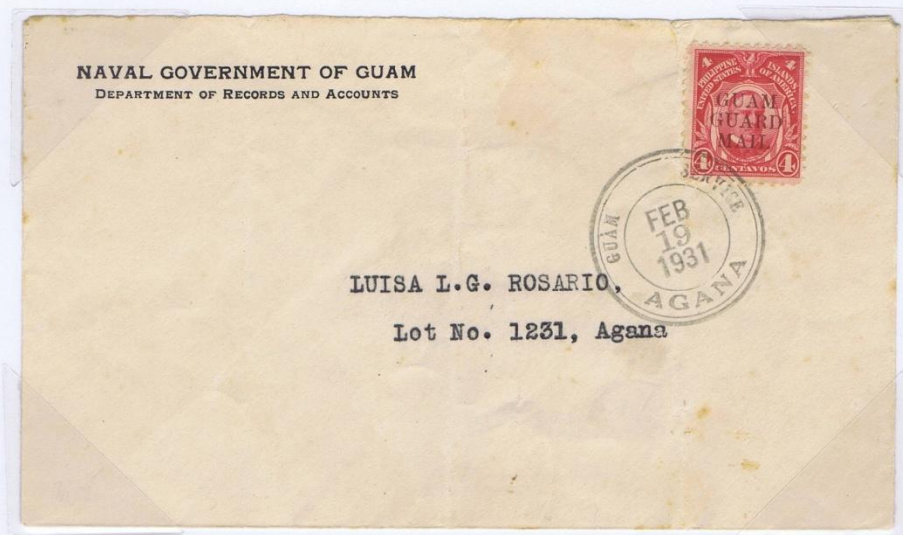


Top plate blocks of 4 centavos with plate numbers 44873 and 44874

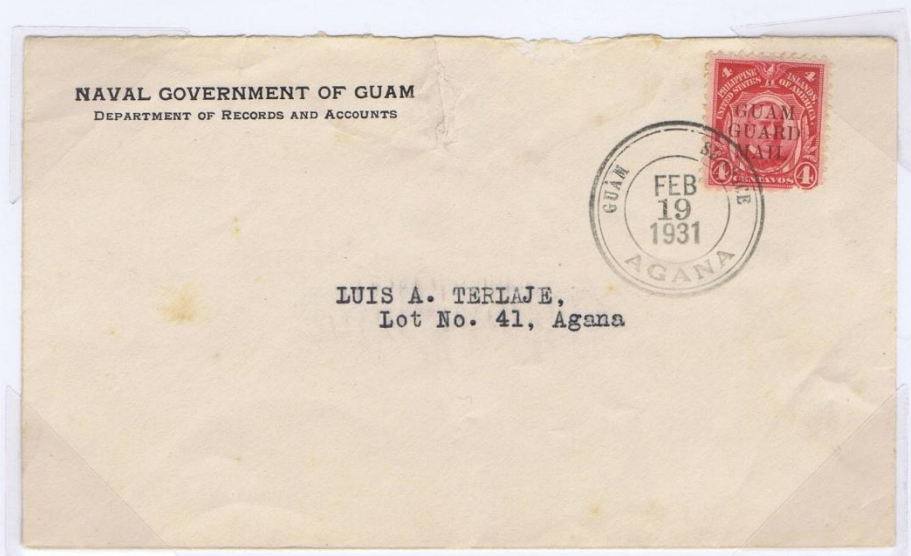


Top plate blocks of 4 centavos with plate numbers 44875 and 44876

VId - Fourth Issue - Covers showing various city cancels

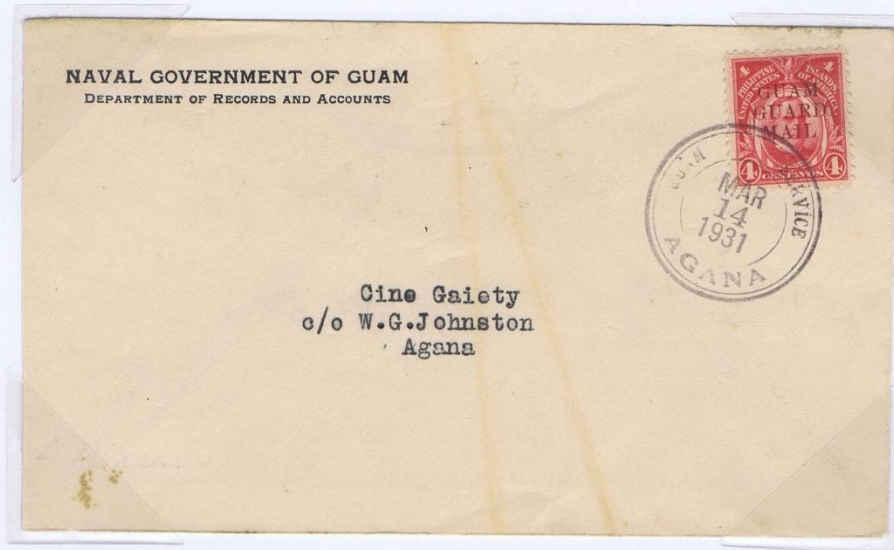


Cover with 4 centavos mailed on February 19, 1931 in Agana



Cover with 4 centavos mailed on February 19, 1931 in Agana

VId - Fourth Issue - Covers showing various city cancels

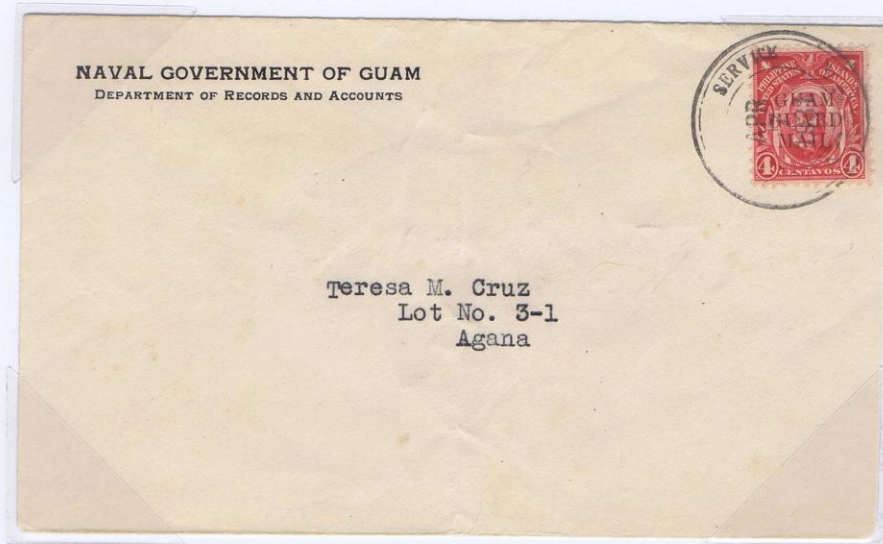


Cover with 4 centavos mailed on March 14, 1931 in Agana

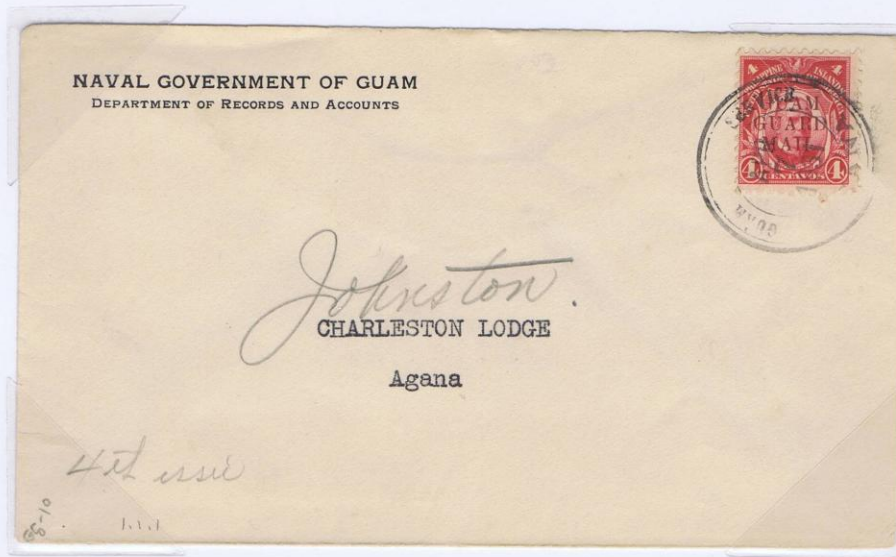


**Cover with 4 centavos mailed on December 31, 1930 from Piti to Agana
This was the last day of service at this office**

Vid - Fourth Issue - Covers showing various city cancels

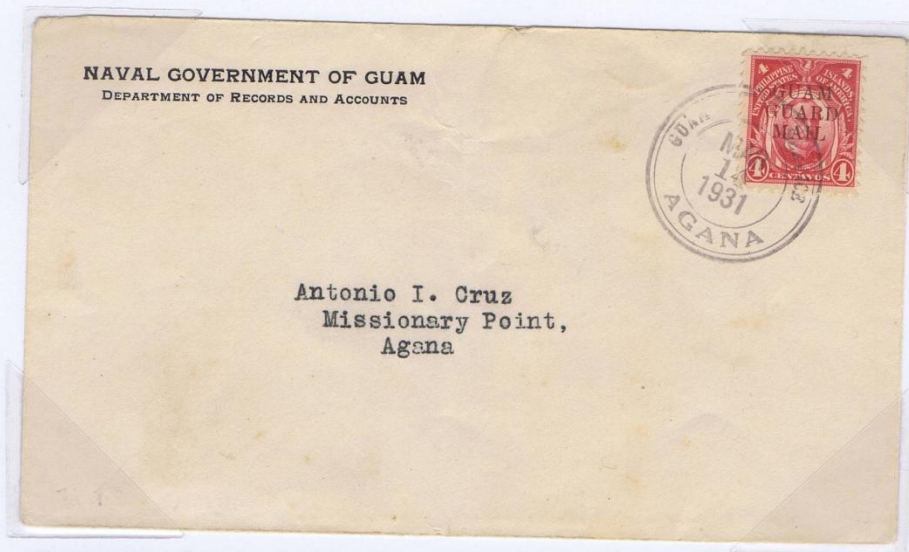


Cover with 4 centavos mailed on April 7, 1931 in Agana

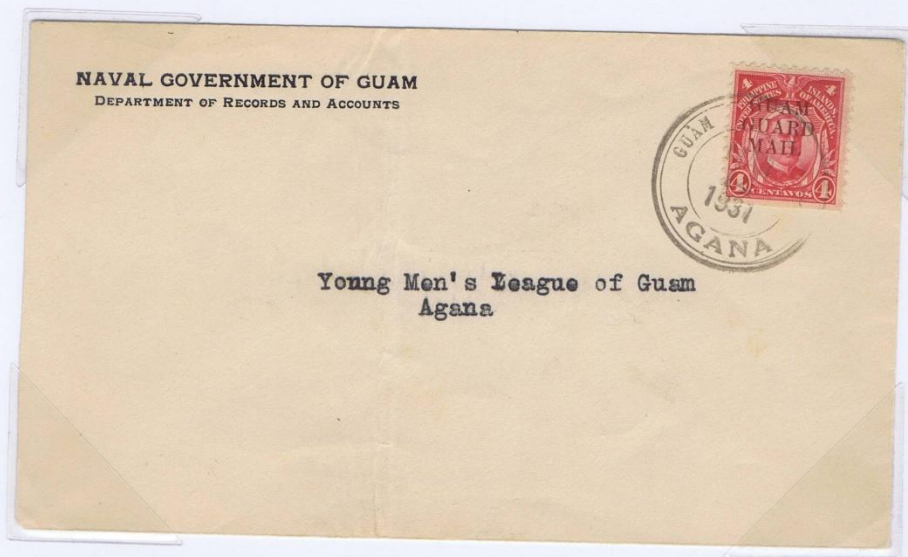


**Cover with 4 centavos mailed on April 8, 1931 from Inarajan to Agana
This was the last day of service**

VId - Fourth Issue - Covers showing various city cancels

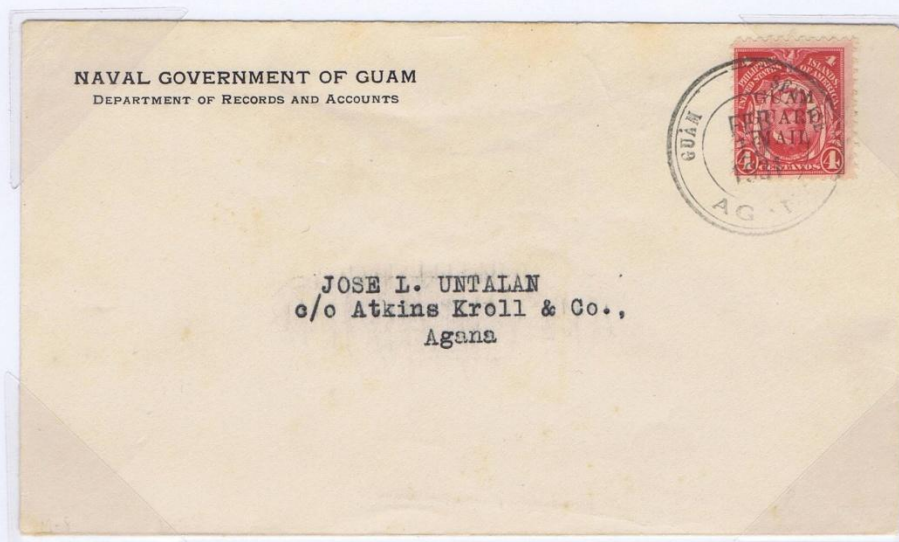


Cover with 4 centavos mailed on March 14, 1931 from Agana to Missionary Point

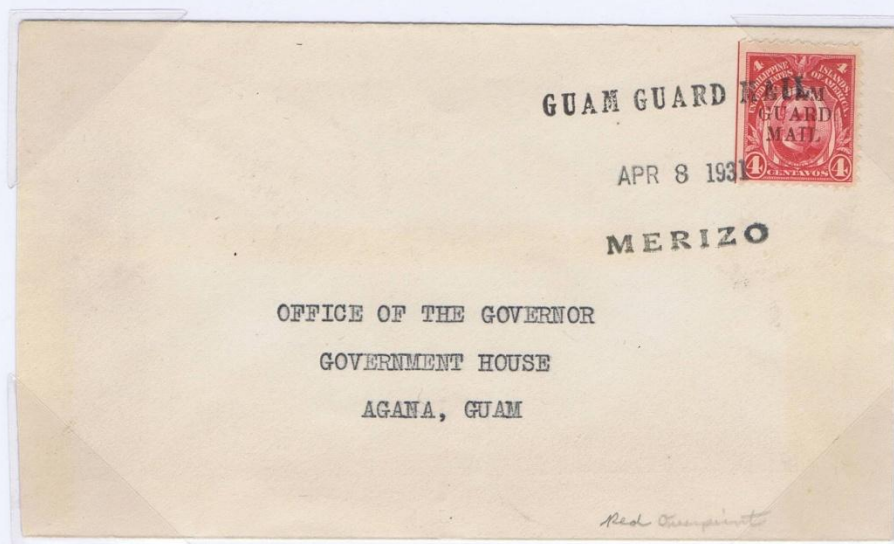


Cover with 4 centavos mailed on March 14, 1931 in Agana

VId - Fourth Issue - Covers showing various city cancels

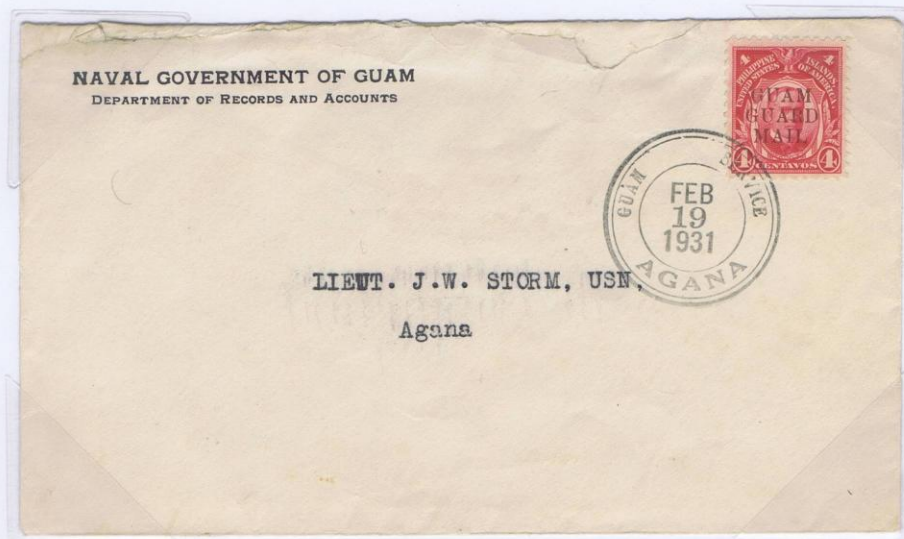


Cover with 4 centavos mailed on February 13, 1931 in Agana

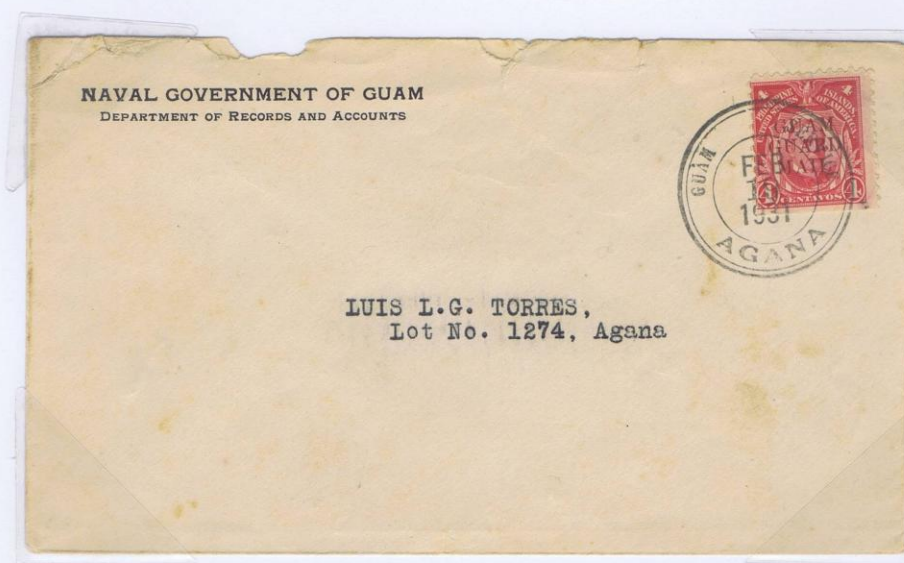


**Cover with 4 centavos mailed on April 8, 1931 in Agana
This was the last day of service**

Vid - Fourth Issue - Covers showing various city cancels

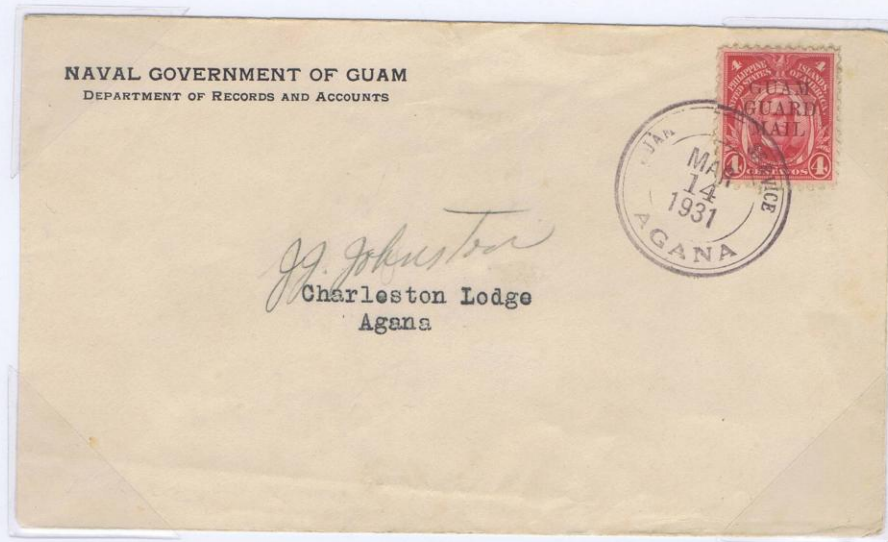


Cover with 4 centavos mailed on February 19, 1931 in Agana

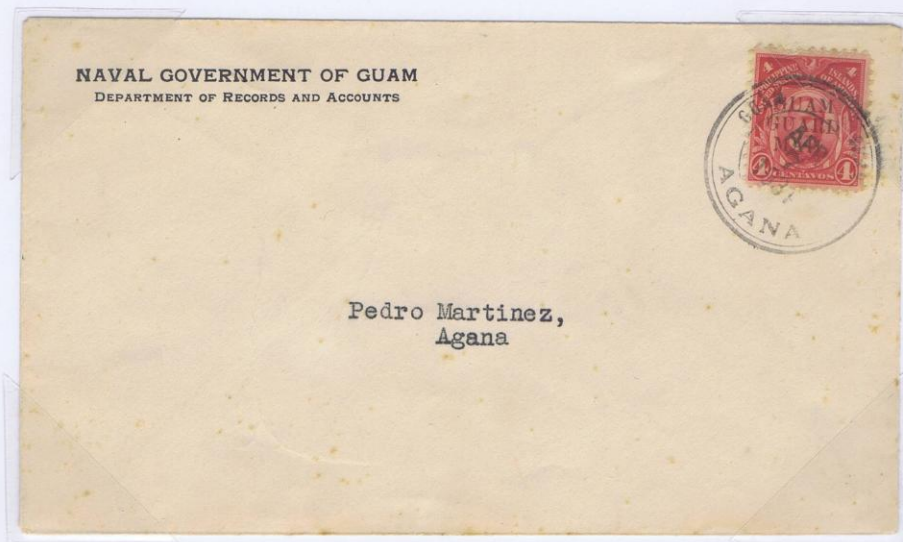


Cover with 4 centavos mailed on February 19, 1931 in Agana

Vld - Fourth Issue - Covers showing various city cancels



Cover with 4 centavos mailed on March 14, 1931 from Agana to Charleston Lodge



Cover with 4 centavos mailed on April 7, 1931 in Agana

Via - Fourth Issue - Sheets

Right side sheet of 6 centavos showing plate number 34820 and imprint on top and bottom selvage
Right selvage removed during printing process



Vlb - Fourth Issue - Plate blocks showing all plate numbers used



Bottom plate block of 6 centavos with plate number 34817 and imprint



Top plate block of 6 centavos with plate number 34820 and imprint

VIb - Fourth Issue - Plate blocks showing all plate numbers used

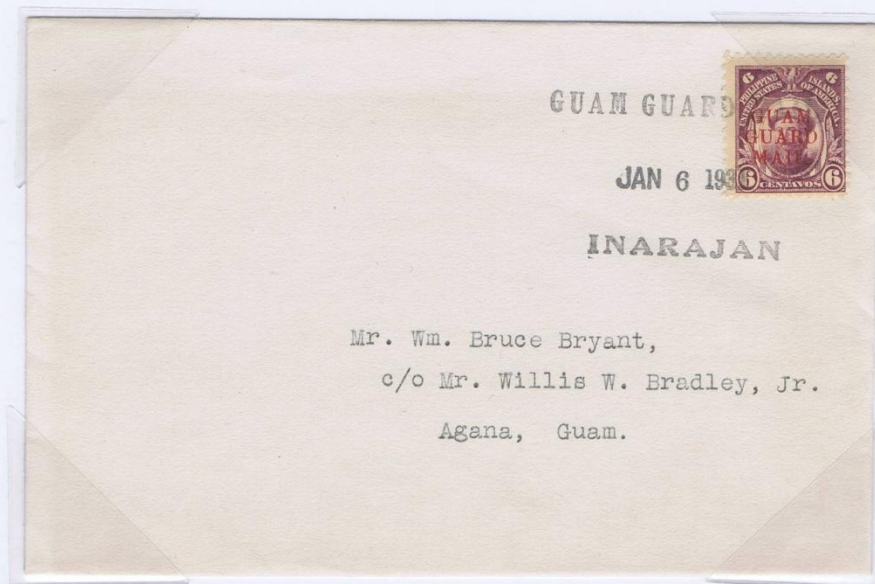


Bottom plate block of 6 centavos with plate number 34821 and imprint

Vib - Fourth Issue - Plate blocks showing all plate numbers used
VId - Fourth Issue - Covers showing various city cancels



Bottom plate block of 6 centavos with plate number 34789 and imprint



Cover with 6 centavos mailed on January 6, 1931 from Inarajan to Agana

Vlc - Fourth Issue - First day covers



First day cover with pair of 6 centavos mailed on December 29, 1930 from Agat to Agana

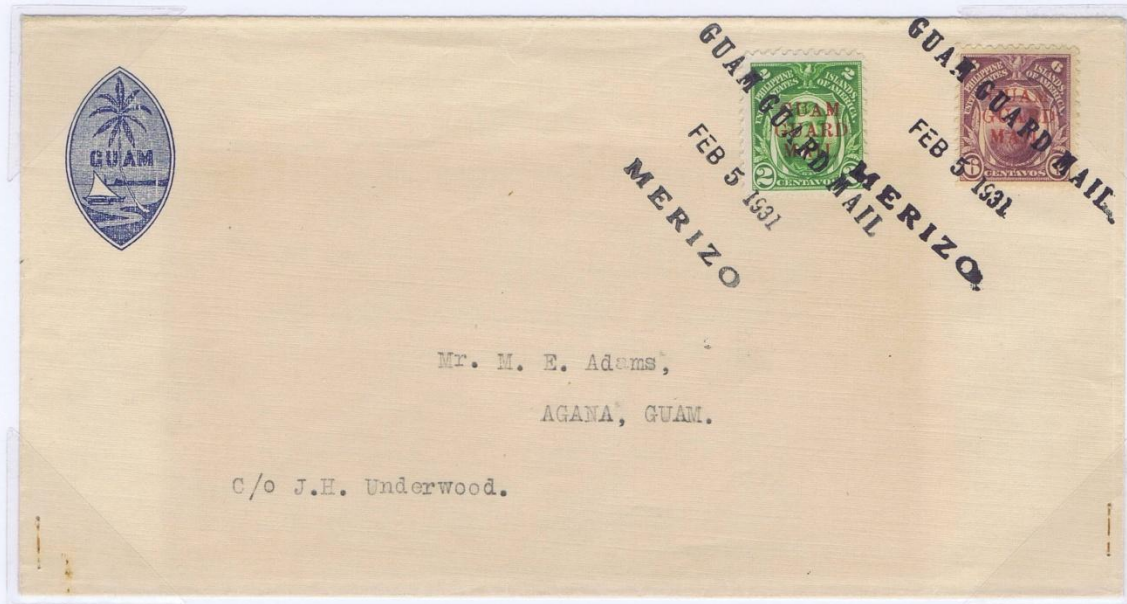


First day cover with pair of 6 centavos mailed on December 29, 1930 from Asan to Agana

VId - Fourth Issue - Covers showing various city cancels



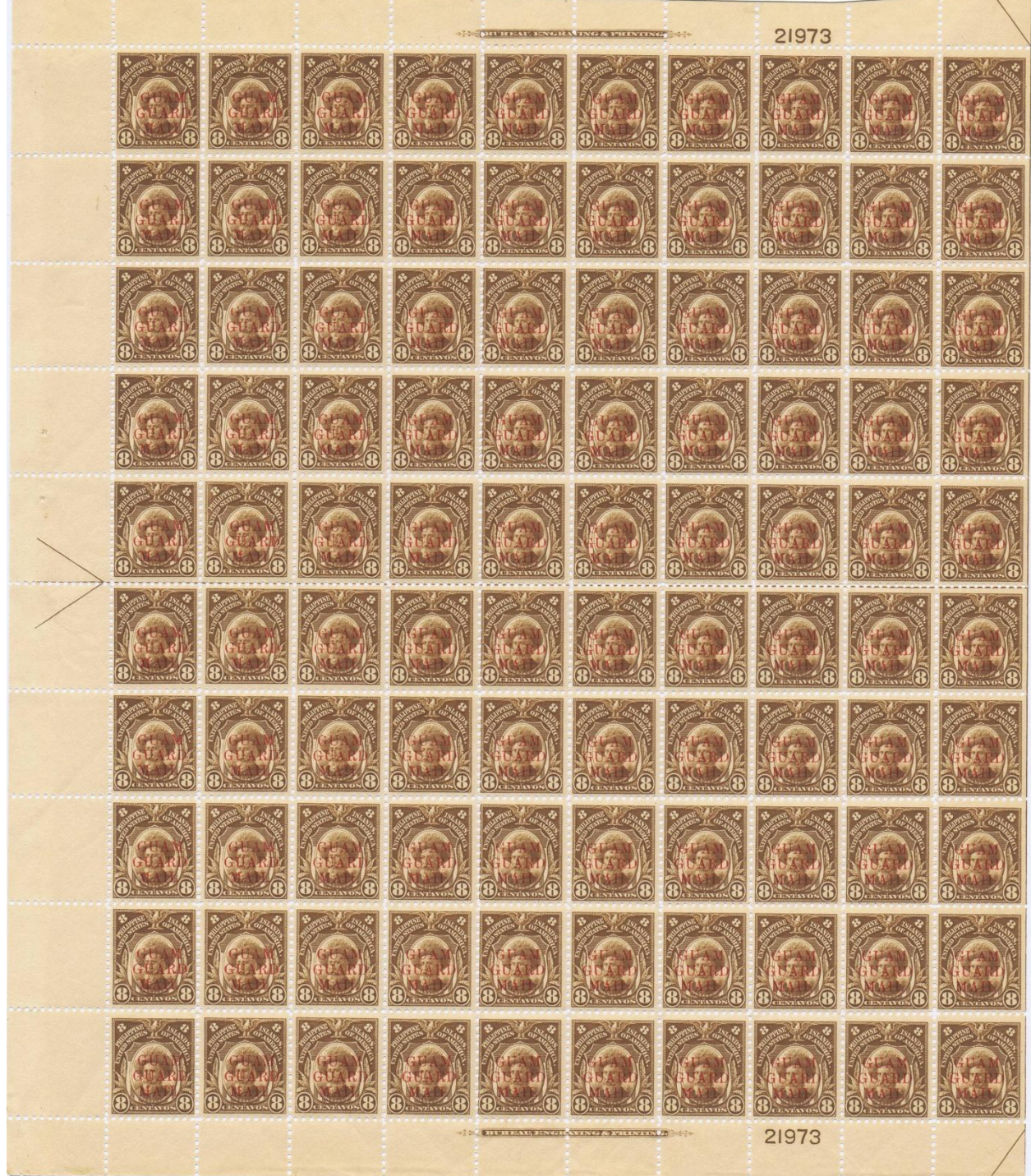
Cover with block of 6 centavos mailed on December 29, 1930 from Piti to Agana
This was the last day of operation at this office



Cover with 2 and 6 centavos mailed on February 5, 1931 from Merizo to Agana

Via - Fourth Issue - Sheets

Left side sheet of 8 centavos with plate number 21973 and imprint on top and bottom selvage



Vib - Fourth Issue - Plate blocks showing all plate numbers used



Top plate block of 8 centavos with plate number 21973 and imprint



Bottom plate block of 8 centavos with plate number 21973 and imprint

Vlc - Fourth Issue - First day covers



First day cover with 8 centavos mailed on December 29, 1930 from Asan to Agana

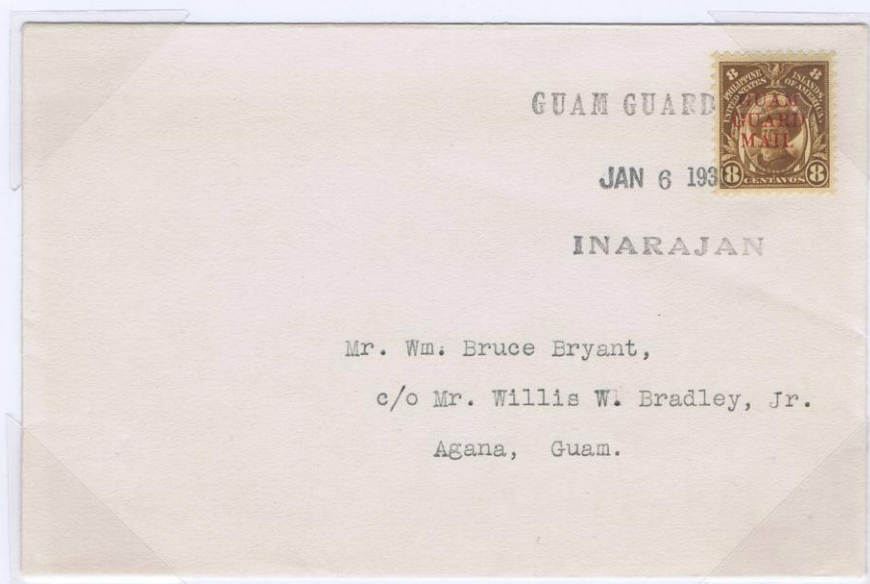


First day cover with 8 centavos mailed on December 29, 1930 from Sumay to Agana

VId - Fourth Issue - Covers showing various city cancels



Cover with 8 centavos mailed on December 31, 1930 from Piti to Agana
This was the last day of service from this office



Cover with 8 centavos mailed on January 6, 1931 from Inarajan to Agana

Via - Fourth Issue - Sheets

Top right side sheet of 10 centavos with plate number 34827 and imprint on top selvage
Right and bottom selvage removed during printing process



Vib - Fourth Issue - Plate blocks showing all plate numbers used



Top plate block of 10 centavos with plate number 34827 and imprint



Top plate block of 10 centavos with plate number 34792 and imprint

Vib - Fourth Issue - Plate blocks showing all plate numbers used
VId - Fourth Issue - Covers showing various city cancels



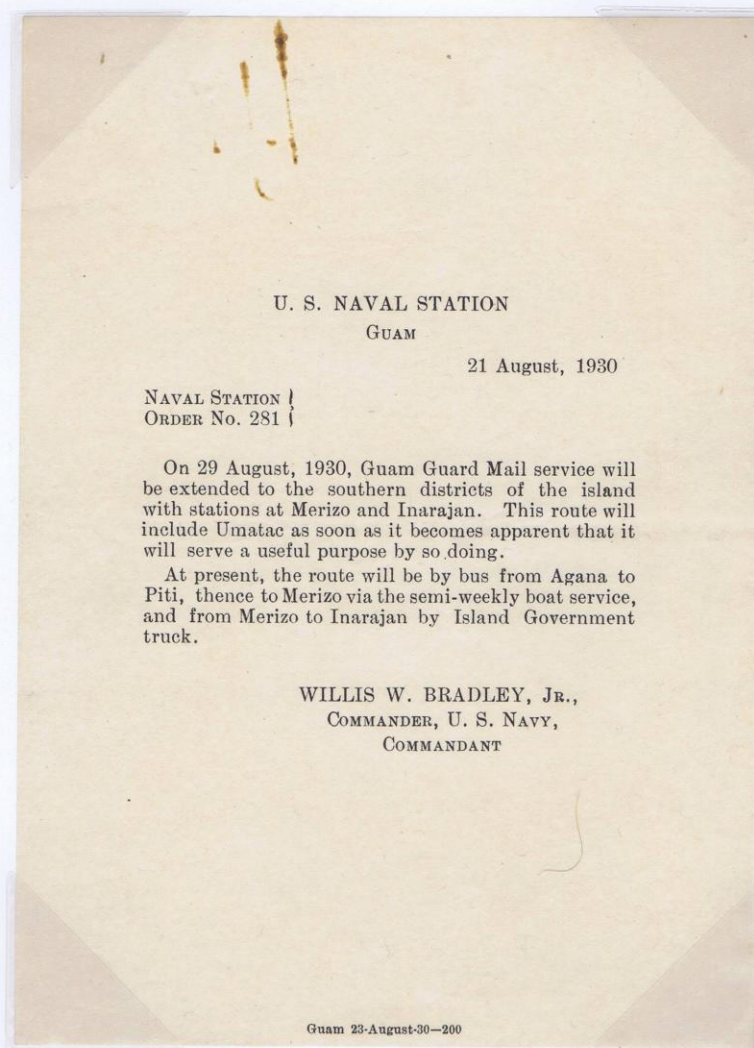
Top plate block of 10 centavos with plate number 34807 and imprint



Cover with 10 centavos mailed on December 31, 1930 from Piti to Agaña
This was the last day of service from this office

VIIa - Guam Guard Mail extended to southern districts of Guam -

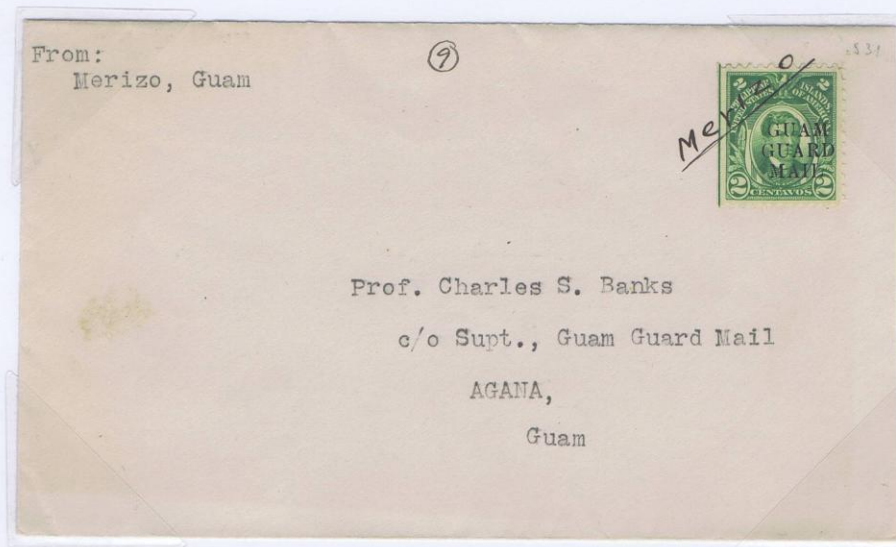
Orders to extend Guam Guard Mail to southern districts



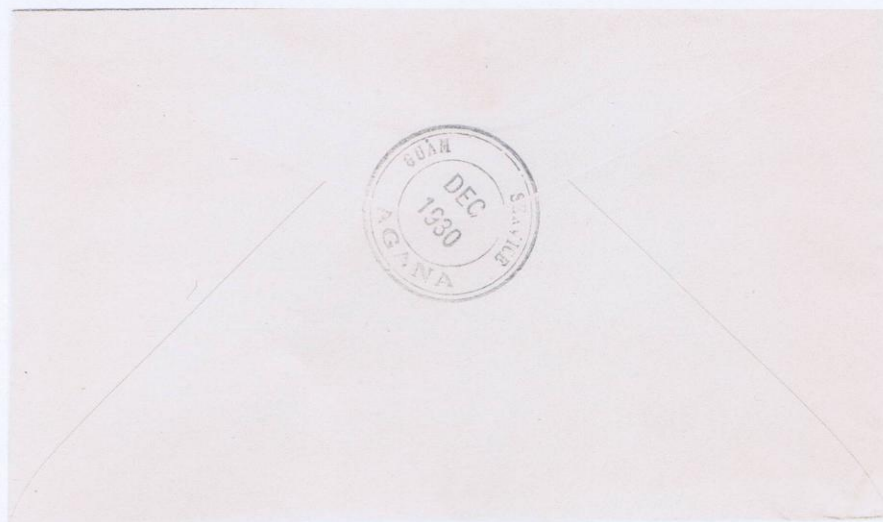
Original Naval Government order extending the mail route to Merizo and Inarajan, as of August 29, 1930. 200 printed, August 23, 1930

VIIb - Guam Guard Mail extended to southern districts of Guam –

Covers from towns in southern districts



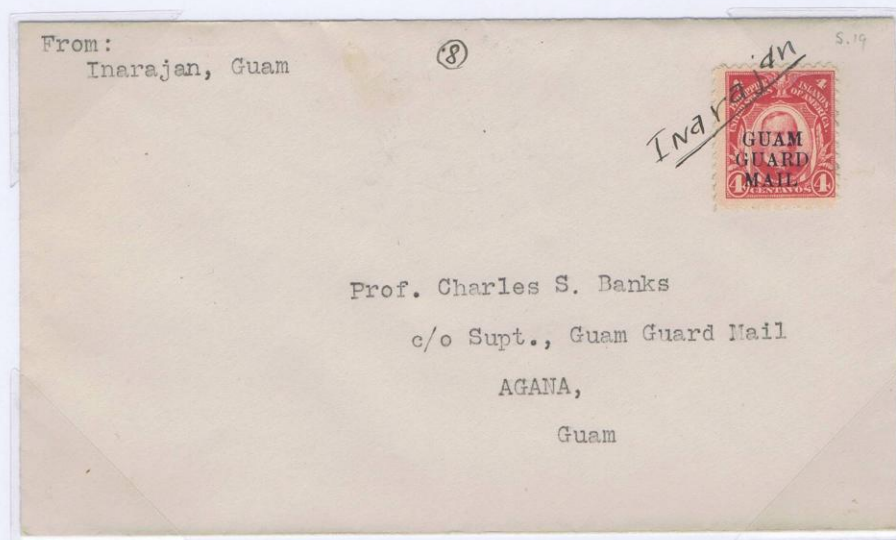
**Cover with 2 centavos mailed from Merizo to Agana
Hand cancels unavailable until February 1931**



Back stamped in Agana December 1930 with date slug missing

VIIb - Guam Guard Mail extended to southern districts of Guam –

Covers from towns in southern districts

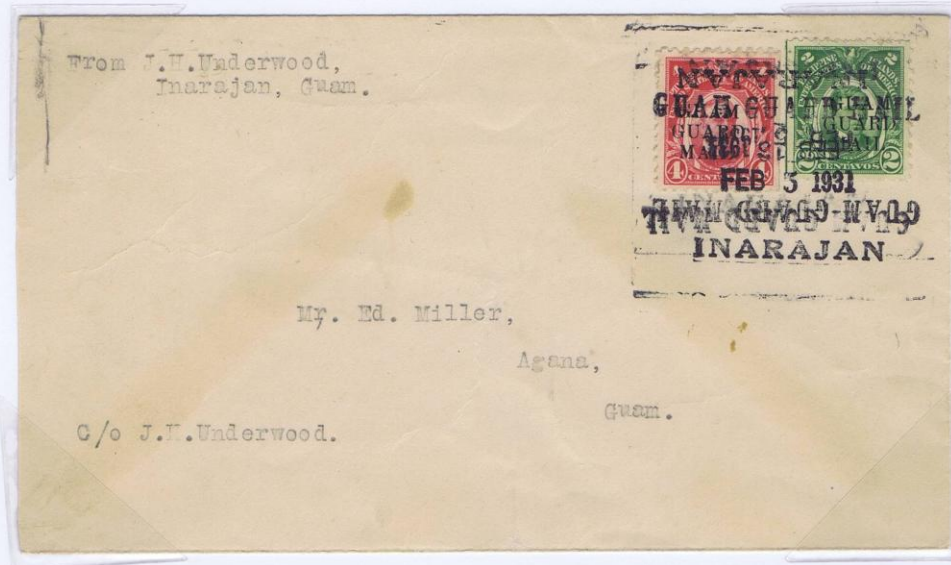


**Cover with 4 centavos mailed from Inarajan to Agana
Hand cancels unavailable until February 1931**

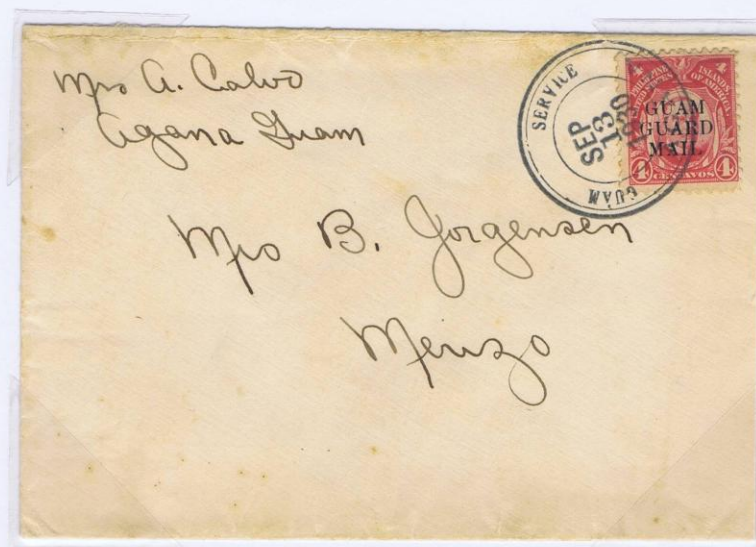


Back stamped in Agana December 1930 with date slug missing

VIIb - Guam Guard Mail extended to southern districts of Guam -
Covers from towns in southern districts



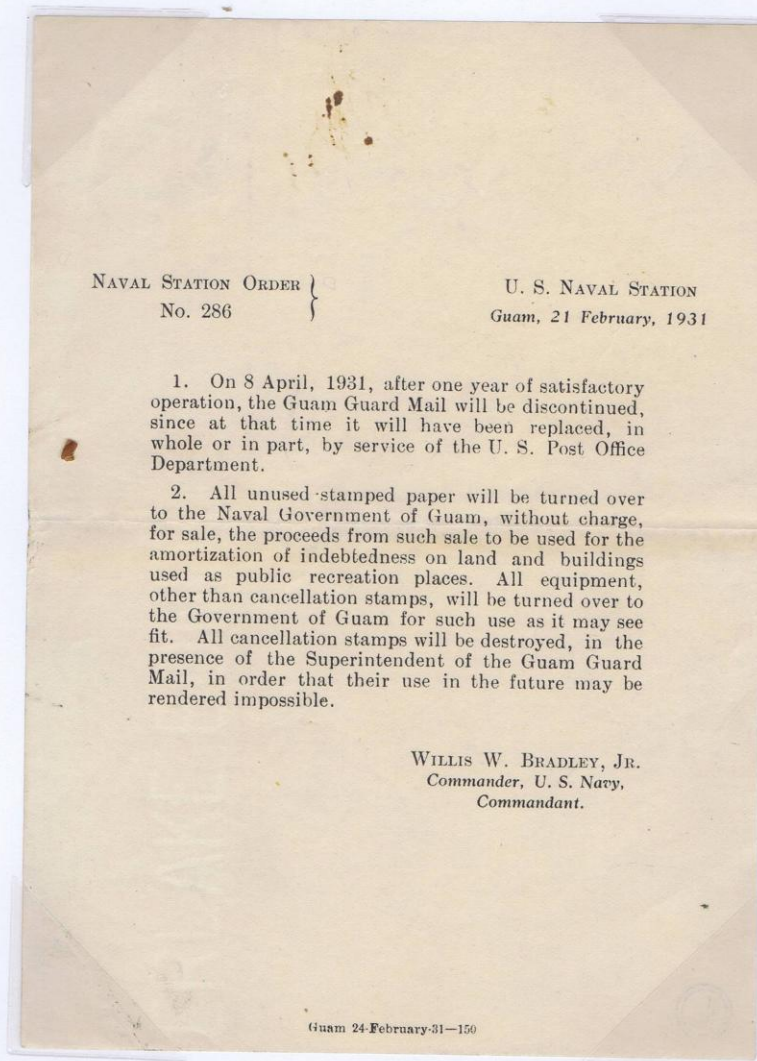
Cover with 2 and 4 Centavos mailed on February 5, 1931 from Inarajan to Agana



Cover with 4 centavos mailed on September 13, 1930 from Agana to Merizo

VIIIa - USPOD takes over mail in northern part of Guam -

Cover showing the first day for Star Route 81102



**Original Naval Government order discontinuing the Guam Guard Mail, with the reason
(the U.S.P.O.D. "Star Route" established on January 1, 1931).
150 were printed on February 24, 1931**

The “Star Route” 81102 established on January 1, 1931 in the northern districts of Guam

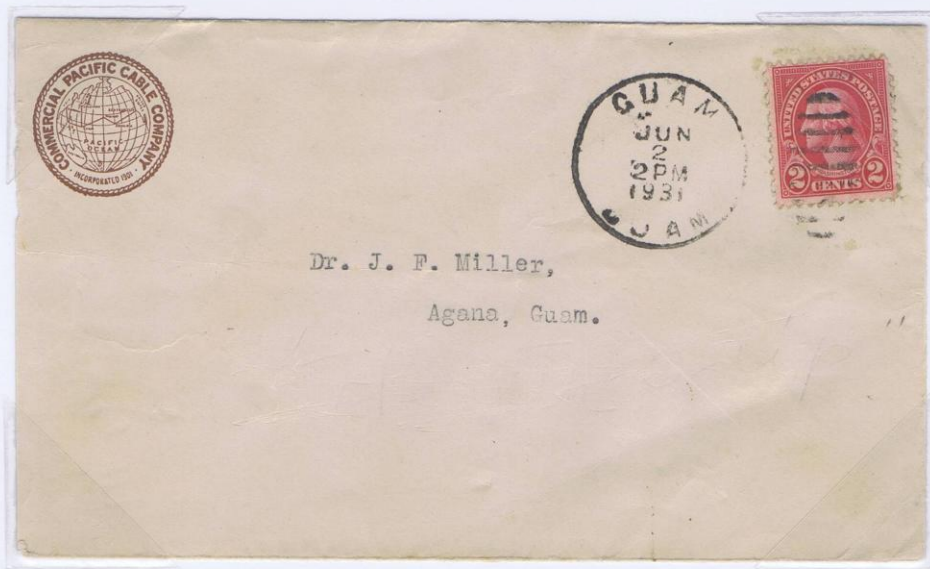


VIIIb - USPOD takes over mail in northern part of Guam -

Cover showing the first day for Star Route 81102



Cover with Guam Guard Mail stamps used and accepted as postage October 20, 1931 in Agana



Cover with 2 cent stamp June 2, 1931 in Agana on Star Route 81102

IXb - Guam Guard Mail is shutdown - Covers showing last day



Cover with all values of the fourth issue cancelled on the last day of service April 8, 1931 in Agana

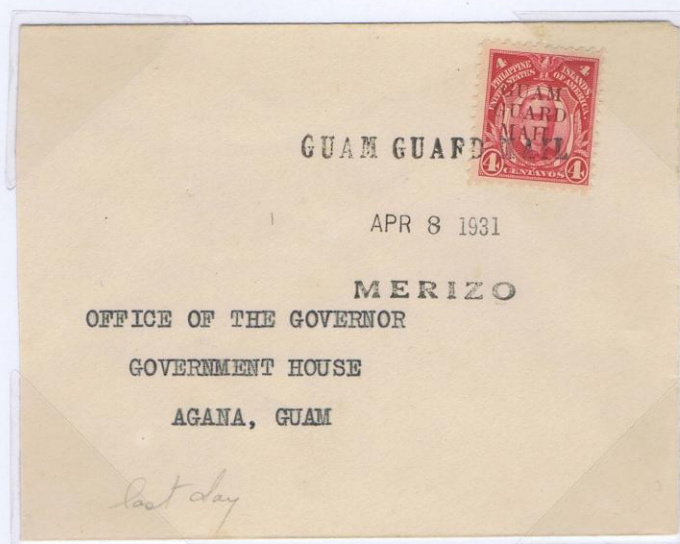


Cover with blocks of the 6, 8, and 10 centavos cancelled on the last day of service April 8, 1931 in Agana

IXb - Guam Guard Mail is shutdown - Covers showing last day

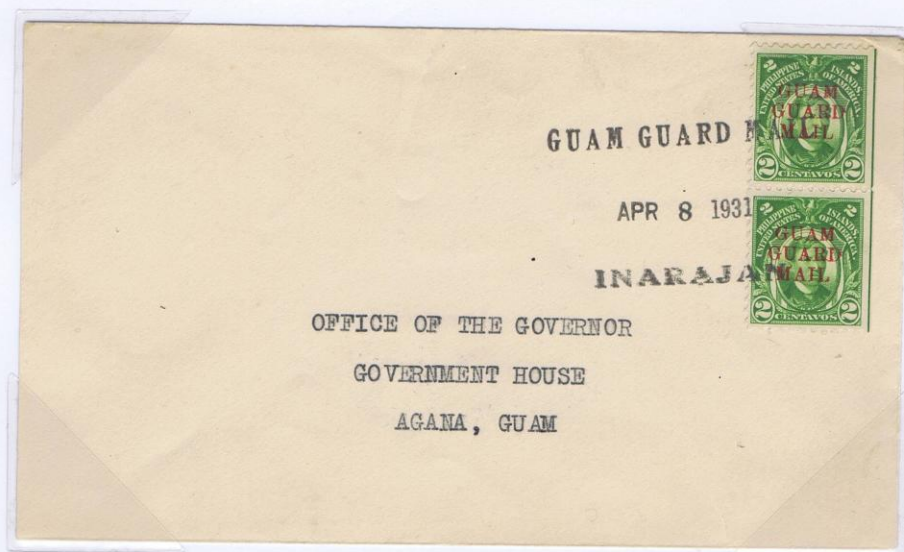


Cover with pair of 2 centavos mailed on the last day of service April 8, 1931 from Merizo to Agana

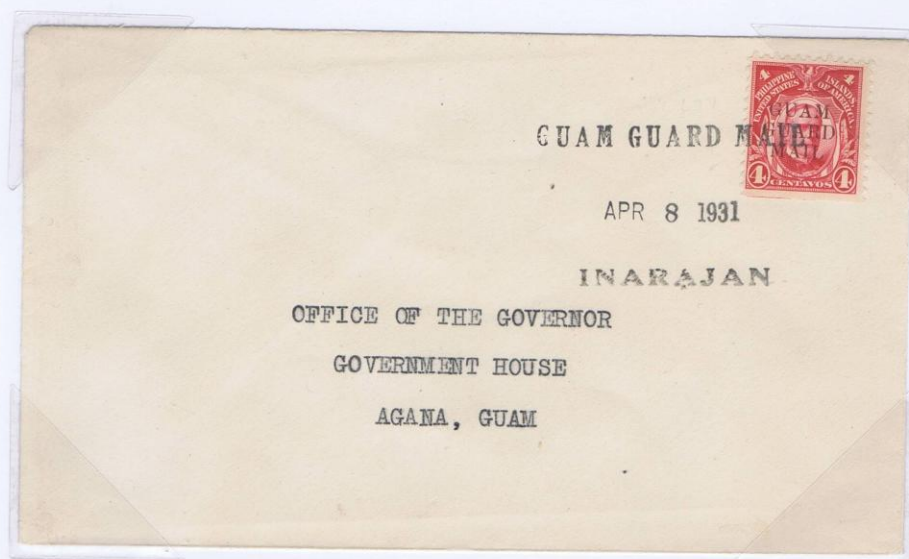


Cover with 4 centavos mailed on the last day of service April 8, 1931 from Merizo to Agana

IXb - Guam Guard Mail is shutdown - Covers showing last day



Cover with pair of 2 centavos mailed on the last day of service April 8, 1931 from Inarajan to Agana



Cover with 4 centavos mailed on the last day of service April 8, 1931 from Inarajan to Agana

X - Guam Guard Mail Official Postal Stationary

Official Guam Guard Mail envelope
cancelled in Agana, Guam on
October 7, 1930

