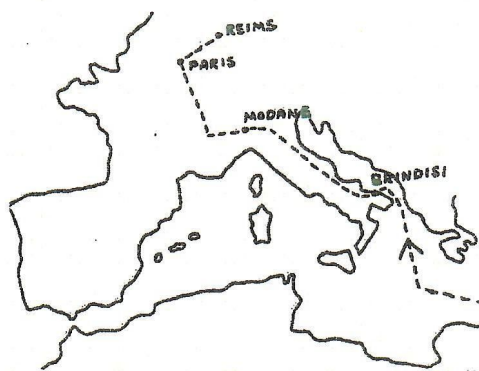


1874 ISSUE

OVERSEAS MAIL TO FRANCE

BRINDISI ROUTE

In 1870, the Franco-Prussian War closed the port of Marseilles, the usual route for Philippine mail to Europe. As a result, mail from Manila to Europe went "VIA BRINDISI" Italy. In January 1872, although mail resumed via Marseilles, some mail continued to go via Brindisi until the 1880s. The mail was often carried to Brindisi via a British Peninsular and Oriental packet from Singapore, via Suez.



EARLIEST PHILIPPINE-STAMPED COVER TO
NON-SPANISH OVERSEAS DESTINATION



1876 Manila to Reims, France via Brindisi, then by railroad through Italy (Modane) and Paris. The "POSS. ANG. V. BRIND" cancel is a French railroad cancel applied at Modane for British packet mail through Brindisi.