

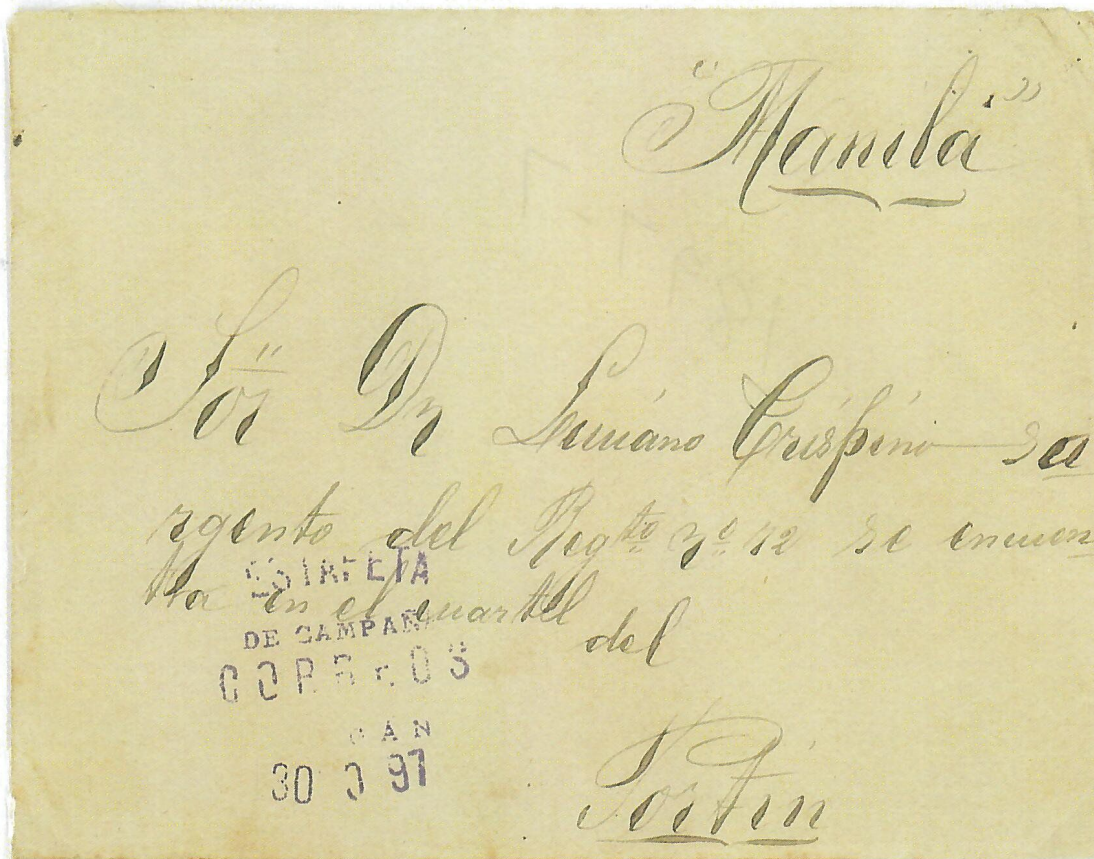
1896-1897

SPANISH EXPEDITIONARY INFANTRY FORCES IN THE PHILIPPINES

Following an outbreak of a rebellion in August 1896, the Governor-General requested reinforcements from Spain. By November 1896, approximately 10,000 Spanish soldiers had arrived, totaling 46,000 Spanish and native soldiers on the Islands in late 1897. The rebellion was crushed in December 1897. Spanish soldiers could use the free franking privilege when the mail was marked by a military handstamp of the unit.

INTERIOR MAIL

In 1897, a locally-prepared, dated military unit cachet was applied to Spanish soldier's mail from garrisons in the provinces of Ylagan, Mindoro, and Mindanao, indicating the free franking privilege for Spanish soldiers.



1897 (October 10) Ylagan to Manila showing the Ylagan military unit cachet. A Manila receiving cancel (dated November 11) is on the reverse.

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Spanish military unit cachet from Ylagan.