

1898

PRE-AUGUST 13 SPANISH SOLDIER MAIL

Following defeat of the Spanish fleet on May 1, 1898, Spanish soldiers remained in control of Manila and the post office. Spanish Philippine stamps continued to be sold and used on mail until the surrender of the Manila garrison to the U.S. and closure of the post office on August 13, 1898. U.S. postal operations opened in Manila on August 14, 1898, and began replacing Spanish postal operations throughout the Islands. The last Spanish garrison, Zamboanga, was occupied by the U.S. Army on December 1, 1899.

ONLY KNOWN COVER FROM SPANISH SOLDIER MAILED AFTER DEFEAT OF THE SPANISH FLEET (MAY 1) AND BEFORE THE SPANISH SURRENDERED IN MANILA (AUGUST 13)



1898 (June 18) small town in Luzon to Manila showing the military unit handstamp (Battalion No. 1?). The letter was addressed to a Spanish soldier, Battalion Leader, Rural Police, 6th Company, in Manila at the double-weight interior (between towns) rate of 6 centavos. Under-paid by 1 centavo, indicated by "Recibo un fracturo Manila 2 Julio 98" in manuscript on reverse.