

# Guam Perfin

Steve Endicott

At the end of the 'G' listings in the United States Perfin Catalog there is a notation about a perfin with the pattern 'Guam', about which we knew nothing - until now.

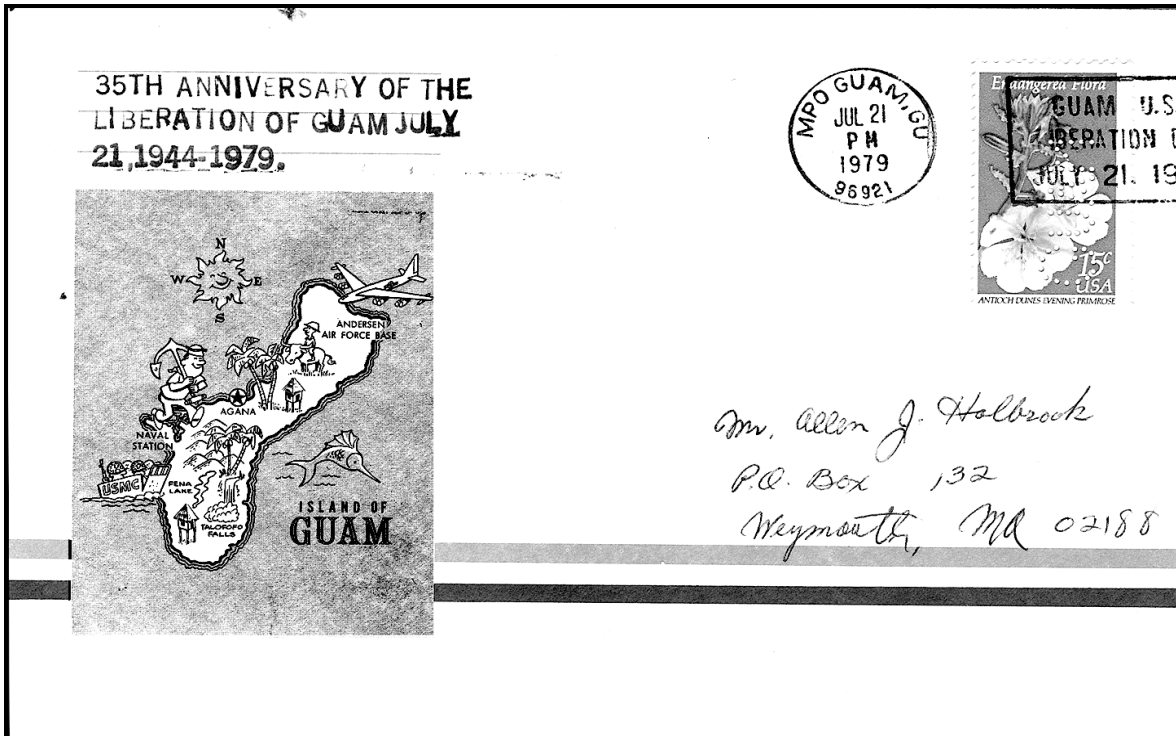
I was talking with a dealer at a recent national stampshow while going through his covers and he mentioned that he had seen a perfin with the pattern 'Guam' on it. This, of course, got my immediate attention. I asked if I could see it, to which he

responded that he had left it back at the store. I gave him my address and told him that I'd be interested in knowing more about it. I didn't hear anything for a while and was ready to give up on it, when I received a response from him in the mail - not one cover, but two covers, which I enthusiastically agreed to purchase!!

The front sides of the covers are shown here. Both are addressed to Mr. Holbrook in Weymouth, Mass.

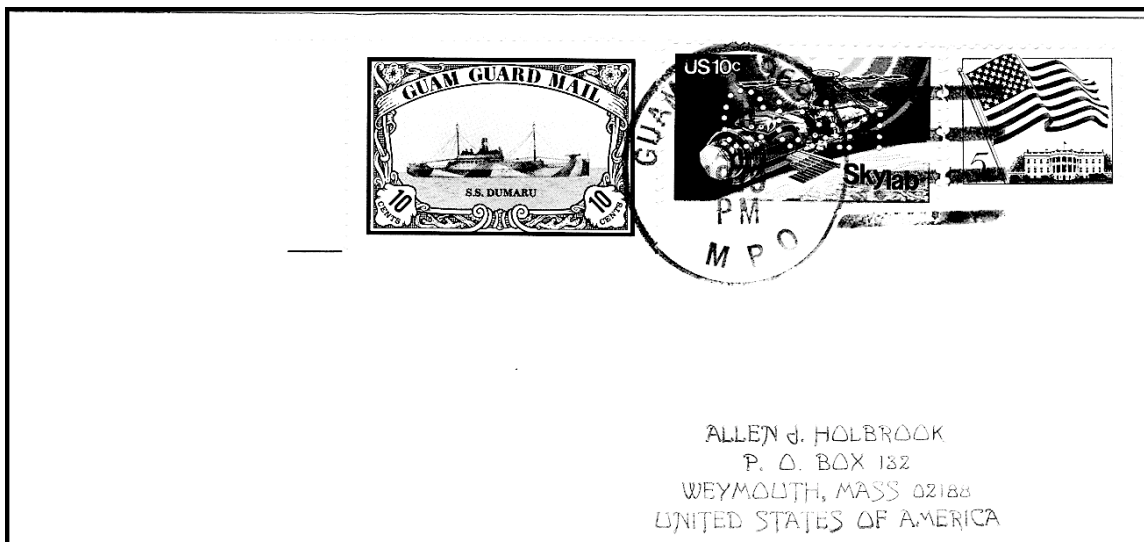
The first has a return address of Mr. Milling in Agana, Guam. Both covers were postmarked at a military post office in 1979. From the first cover, we see the celebration of the 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the

liberation of the island Guam in World War II. The second cover includes a Guam Guard Mail stamp in addition to US postage. The commemoratives on both covers have clear copies of the 'Guam' pattern.



Since this usage is relatively recent (although I believe my children would disagree with that observation), I decided to write to both, the sender and the recipient, to try to learn more about this perfin.

Mail to the recipient was returned to me as non-forwardable. But the daughter of the sender, Mr. Milling, wrote a nice letter back to me. Unfortunately, her father passed away about a year and a half ago. He was an avid stamp collector



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interested in many areas of philately. She could not provide me with any information about the perfin pattern, its extent of usage or the whereabouts of the pattern device.

Although questions remain, it was a nice find at Westpex.

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