

# Exemption from Postage: Governmental Cachets

By Steven Zirinsky

The use of governmental cachets to indicate postage exemption is prevalent in many countries of the Pacific Basin. Many collectors come across these items and wonder "what is this"?

What makes this area interesting is that these covers are not philatelically inspired and are not expensive to acquire. These represent a living country and the markings, utilitarian in nature, are ever changing in response to the changing needs of each government.

This listing is by no means complete. In fact, it would be better phrased "Current Exemptions" and to consider this a working draft. Hopefully, you can help make this listing more complete. My intention is to ultimately issue a monograph on each country.

The symbols used under each marking can be broken down as follows:

<u>Reference No.</u>	<u>Period of Use</u>	<u>Color</u>	<u>Rarity</u>
POL-G1	1993 - 1995	Blk	S

The reference number prefix is explained in an introductory table for each country. In this case, the "-G" refers to Guadalcanal Province. This will be different for each country.

The rarity indicators are: C=Common NC=Not Common S=Scarce R=Rare RR very Rare

These ratings are for internal usages only. External usage is generally much scarcer.

Thus, we start with the first segment.

## The Solomon Islands

The Solomon Islands are broken down into the following seven provinces:

- |                                     |             |
|-------------------------------------|-------------|
| Central Province (C)                | Malaita (M) |
| Guadalcanal (G),                    | Temotu (T)  |
| Isabel (I) sometimes spelled Ysabel | Western (W) |
| Makira (K)                          |             |

The Ministry Designations used are as follows:

- |                                    |                              |                                     |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| AGR = Agriculture & Fisheries      | HOM = Home Affairs           | SOC = Social Welfare                |
| COM = Commerce, Employment & Trade | IMM = Immigration            | SPOR = Sports, Youth & Women        |
| CRE = Credit Union                 | LAN = Lands & Housing        | STAT = Statistics                   |
| CUST = Customs & Excise            | MAG = Magistrate Court       | TELE = Telekom                      |
| DEV = Development                  | MED = Medical                | TOUR = Tourism & Aviation           |
| DIS = Disaster Council             | MET = Meteorological         | TRAN = Transport, Works & Utilities |
| ED = Education                     | N.P. = National Parliament   | U = Unknown to me                   |
| ELECT = Electoral Commission       | NAT = Natural Resources      | WHO = World Health Organ            |
| EMB = Embassy/Consul               | OMB = Ombudsman              |                                     |
| ENG = Energy, Minerals & Water     | PM = Prime Minister          |                                     |
| FIN = Finance                      | POL = Police                 |                                     |
| FOR = Forestry                     | PRIS = Prison                |                                     |
| FGN = Foreign Affairs              | PUB = Public Employees Union |                                     |
|                                    | PS = Public Service          |                                     |
|                                    | PROV = Provincial Govt       |                                     |



AGR-1A 95 Blue C



AGR-1B 95 Blue C



AGR-1C



AGR-2 93 Green NC



AGR-3 93/94 Lt Blue NC



AGR-4 94/95 Black NC



A 94  
AGR-5 B 93/95



COM-1A 94 NC



COM-1B 93/94 Blue NC














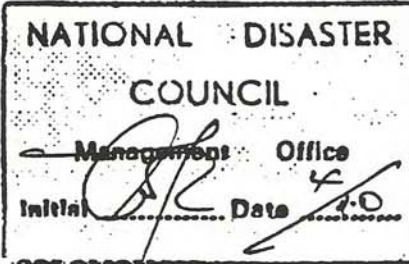
COM-1C 1995



COM-2 94 R



COM-3 95 R

 <p>COM-4 94/95 Blue</p>	 <p>COM-5 95 Blue</p>	 <p>CRE-1 95 Blue</p>
 <p>CUST-1 95</p>	 <p>CUST-G1 93/95 Blue <sup>199</sup></p>	 <p>CUST-T1 R</p>
 <p>CUST-W1 95 Blue R</p>	 <p>CUST-W2 95 Blue RR</p>	 <p>DEV-1 93 Blue NC</p>
 <p>DEV-2 NC</p>	 <p>DEV-G1 94 NC</p>	 <p>DIS-1 A 93 Blk B 95 Blue</p>



ED-1 95 Purple; Blue NC



ED-2A 95 Bl;Grn;Purp



ED-2B RR



ED-3



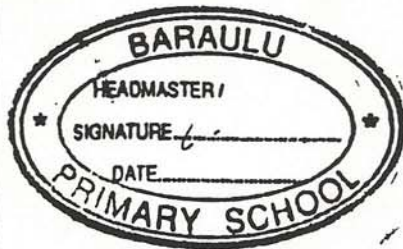
ED-4 NC



ED-5 94



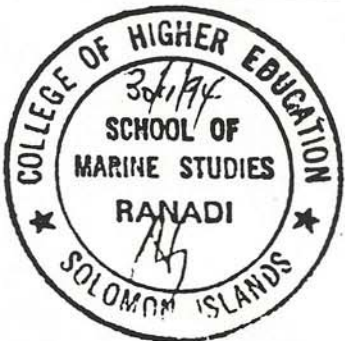
ED-6 95



ED-G1



ED-G2 R



ED-G3 94 RR



(reduced) ED-G4A 94/95 Blue RR



ED-G4B 95 Black RR



ED-G4C 94
















ED-G4D 94



ED-G4E 94 RR

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By Steven Zirinsky - (Continued from Winter 1995-96, p. 17).

 <p>ED-G5A 95</p>	 <p>ED-G5B</p>	 <p>ED-G6</p>
 <p>ED-M1 95</p>	 <p>ED-M2 95 Blue</p>	 <p>ED-W1 92/93 Black</p>
 <p>ED-W2 91</p>	 <p>ED-? 90</p>	 <p>ELECT-1 93 R</p>
 <p>EMB-1 Black RR</p>	 <p>EMB-2 Purple RR</p>	 <p>EMB-3 Black RR</p>
 <p>ENG-1 94/95 A Blue B Green</p>	 <p>FIN-1A 95 Blue</p>	 <p>FIN-1B 93 Blue</p>



FIN-2 95



FIN-3 93



FIN-G1 94/95 Purple



FIN-G2 95 Blue



FIN-W1 95 *blue 02*



FOR-G1 95



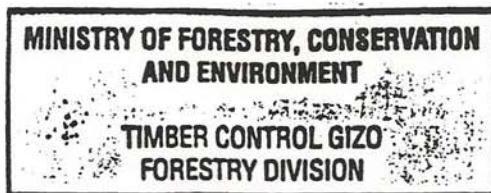
FOR-G2A 94/95 Blue



FOR-G2B 94/95 Blue



FOR-W1 94/95 Blue



FOR-W2



FGN-1A 94/95 bl, grn



mispelled (!)  
FGN-1B 95 RR



FGN-2 93 Blue



HOM-1 94/95 Black



IM-1 93 Blue



LAND-1 93



LAND-2 Purple/Blue



MAG-1A 90



MAG-1B 94 *Muhoo*



MAG-2 94/95 Green



MAG-3 93/95 Purple C



MAG-4 94/95 Blue



A 94/95 Blue  
MAG-5 B 94/95 Dp purple *oo*



MAG-6



MAG-7 94/95 Blue



MAG-8 95 Blue R



MAG-C1 95 Black R



MAG-G1



MAG-K1 95 Blue R



MAG-M1



MAG-W1 95



MAG-W2 90



MED-1 94/95 Red C



MED-2 95 Blue



MED-3



MED-G1 94/95 Purple



MED-G2 (reduced)



MED-I1 94 Blue



MED-K1 94



MED-M1 94 Black



MED-T1 93 Black RR



MED-W1 93



MED-W2(reduced)



MED-W3 95 Purple



# Exemption from Postage: Governmental Cachets

By Steven Zirinsky - (Continued from Spring 1996, p. 54).

 <p>MED-? <span style="color: red;">00</span></p>	 <p>MET-1 95 Purple <span style="color: red;">Blahob</span></p>	 <p>N.P.-1 93/94 Blue <span style="color: red;">199</span></p>
 <p>NAT-1A</p>	 <p>NAT-1B</p>	 <p>NAT-G1A</p>
 <p>NAT-G1B 93</p>	 <p>OMB-1 93/94 Purple</p>	 <p>OMB-2</p>
 <p>OMB-3 93/94 Blue S</p>	 <p>PM-1</p>	 <p>PM-2 94</p>



PM-3



PM-4 94/95 Blue *known*



PM-5A 94/95 Blue



PM-5B 94/95 Blue



POL-C1 95



POL-G1 94/95 Purple

SURVEILLANCE CENTRE  
POLICE HEADQUARTERS  
P. O. BOX 63, 7/11/94  
HONIARA, S. I.

POL-G2 frame not shown



POL-G3 95 Black

ROYAL SOLOMON ISLANDS POLICE  
DATE 07-05-92  
P. F. F.

POL-G4 92



POL-G5 95 Blue



POL-G6 95



POL-G7 94



POL-G8 95 LT Blue



POL-G9 95



POL-G10 95











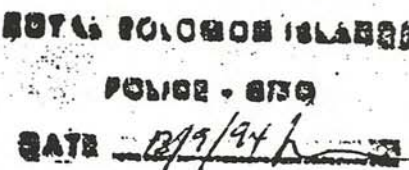


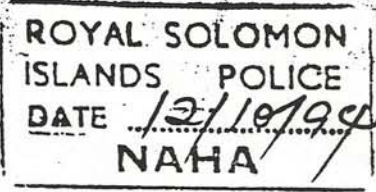





POL-G11 95 Blue R



POL-G12 95 Blue R



POL-G13 95

 <p>POL-G14 93/94 Purple</p>	 <p>POL-G15 95</p>	 <p>POL-G16 95</p>
 <p>POL-I1 95 (reduced)</p>	 <p>POL-M1 95 Dp Purple</p>	 <p>POL-M2 94/95 Blue</p>
 <p>POL-T1 94 (reduced)</p>	 <p>POL-W1 95 Lt Blue</p>	<p>POL-W2 95</p>
 <p>POL-W3 94 w/o frame</p>	 <p>POL-W4 94</p>	 <p>POL-W5 94</p>
 <p>POL-? 94</p>	 <p>PRIS-1 93/95 Blue NC</p>	 <p>PS-1 94</p>
 <p>PS-2 93 Purple</p>	 <p>PUB-1 95</p>	 <p>PROV-1 93/95 Blue NC</p>



PROV-C1 95 Red (Yadina)



PROV-C2 95 Blue (Tulagi)



PROV-C3 94/95 Blue



A 93 Blue/ Grn  
PROV-G1A B 95 Blue



PROV-G1B 93 Blue



PROV-G2 94/95 Purple



PROV-G3 95



PROV-G4 93/94 Red C



PROV-I1 93/95 Purple



PROV-K1 94 Blue



PROV-M1A 93/95 Black



PROV-M1B



93 Green  
PROV-T1 95 Purple




PROV-W1 90



PROV-W2 93/94 Blue

# Exemption from Postage: Governmental Cachets

By Steven Zirinsky - (Continued from Summer 1996, p. 76).

 <p>PROV-W3 95</p>	 <p>PROV-W4 95 Blue</p>	 <p>PROV-W5 95 RR</p>
 <p>PROV-W6 94 Blue</p>	 <p>PROV-W7 94 Blue</p>	<p>PROV-W8 93 Black</p>
 <p>PROV-W9 95</p>	 <p>PROV-10 94</p>	<p>PROV-11 95 Green R</p>
 <p>PROV-? reduced RR</p>	 <p>SOC-1 Green RR</p>	 <p>SPOR-1 95 Blue NC</p>



SPOR-2 95 Blue NC



STAT-1 94/95 Blue NC



A 93/95 Green C  
TEL-1 B - 95 Blue C



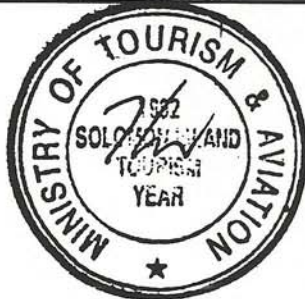
TEL-2 94/95 Blue C



TEL-3 95 Blue NC



TEL-4



TOUR-1 92



TOUR-2 92



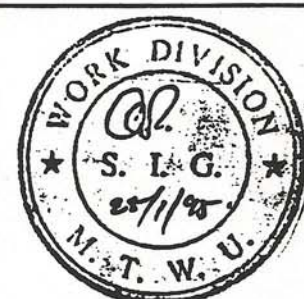
TOUR-3A



TOUR-3B 95 Blue



TOUR-4 95 Black



TRANS-1 95 Purple



TRANS-2 90



TRANS-3 94/95 Black



A 93 Black  
TRANS-4 B 94 Blue



TRANS-5 95 Black S



TRANS-6 94



TRANS-7



TRANS-8 A 93/94 Black B 95 Purple



TRANS-9 93 Green R



TRANS-K1 94/95 S



TRANS-M1 94/95 Blue



TRANS-T1 95 Blue R

W.H.O. Country Liaison Officer



Honiara, Solomon Islands

WHO-1 95 Red RR



WHO-2 95 Red RR



SOLOMON ISLANDS

U-1 You tell me RR