From Wales to Guam, via New York and San Francisco



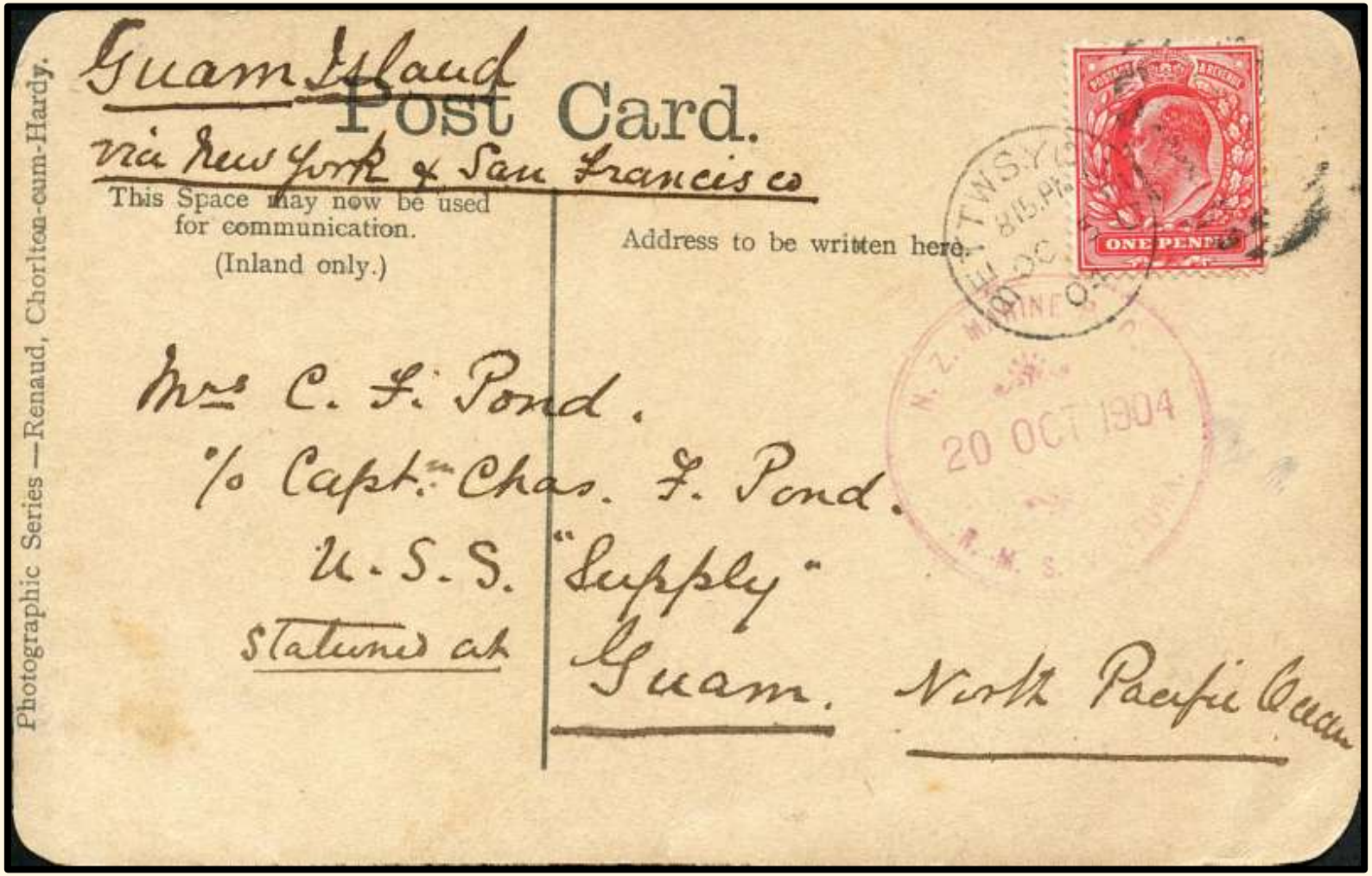
From Wales to Guam, via New York and San Francisco



Swallow Falls, Betws-y-Coed

What connects a postcard, posted in 1904 from Betws-y-Coed in Wales, carried via New York and San Francisco to Guam in the Pacific Ocean, with the development of aircraft carriers?

From Wales to Guam, via New York and San Francisco



1d Edward VII stamp postmarked ‘BETWSYCOED’, 5 October 1904.

R.M.S. Ventura

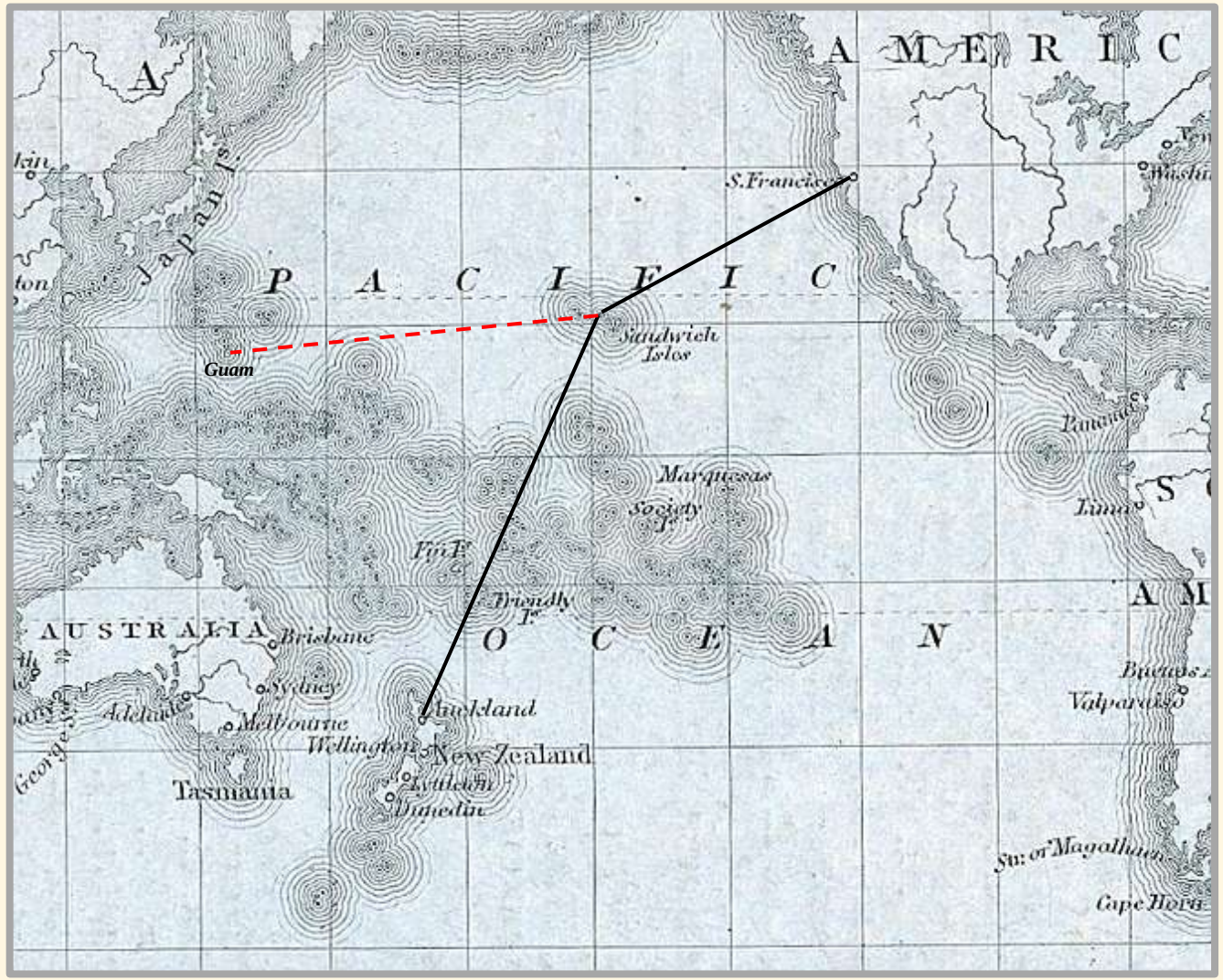


R.M.S. *Ventura* - one of three twin-screw steamers built in 1900 for the Oceanic Steamship Co.

These supplemented their other ships used on the route between Auckland and San Francisco.



San Francisco to Auckland, via Hawaii



Map of the Pacific Ocean from a 1905 'New Zealand Shipping Company' brochure.

1875 -1885
- Pacific Mail Steamship Company

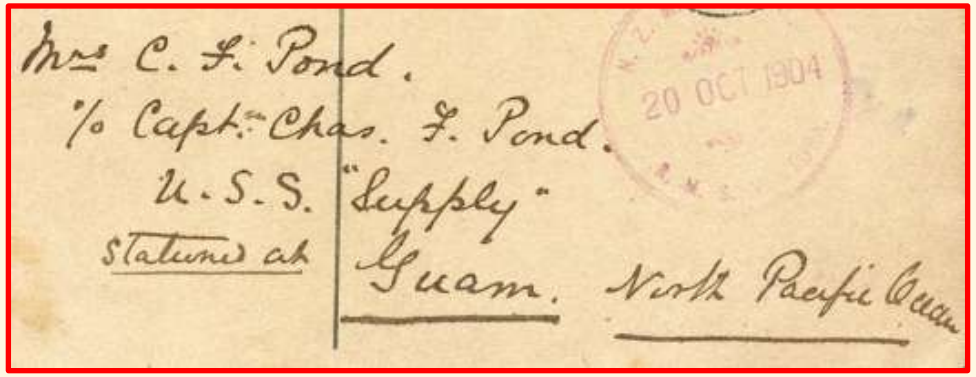
1885 -1900
- Union Steamship Co. of New Zealand
- Oceanic Steamship Co. of the USA

1900 - 1907
- Oceanic Steamship Co. of the USA ("Spreckel's Line")

Hawaii - Guam ?

- Probably by naval supply ship.

The Addressee



- Mrs C. F. Pond.
- Born Emma McHenry. She married Charles Pond in 1880 and travelled extensively with him.
- Died in 1934.



Captain Charles Fremont Pond
(1856-1929)

Guam

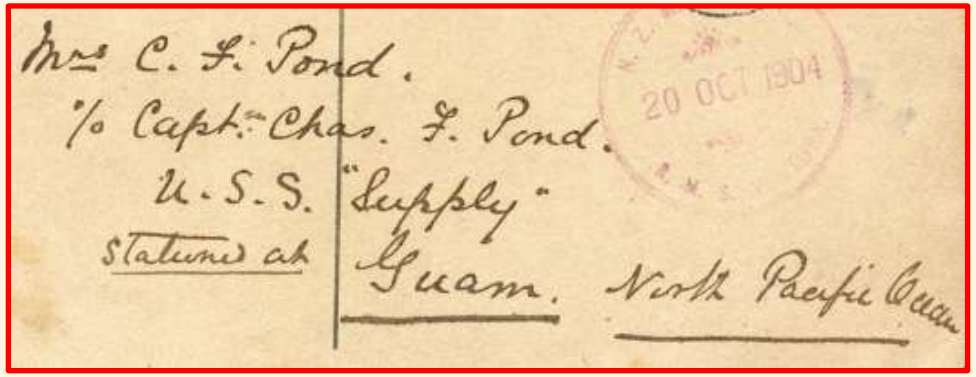

NORTH AMERICA
EUROPE
ASIA
AFRICA
SOUTH AMERICA
OCEANIA
Atlantic Ocean
Pacific Ocean
Indian Ocean
Guam
NORTH AMERICA
SOUTH AMERICA
Atlantic Ocean
Pacific Ocean

Guam



- Under Spanish control since 1668.
- Captured by the US on 21 June 1898, during the brief Spanish-American War.
- Transferred to US Navy control by President McKinley in December 1898.
- Formally ceded to the US under the terms of the ‘Treaty of Paris’.
- Service station for merchant and war ships travelling between the US and the Philippines.

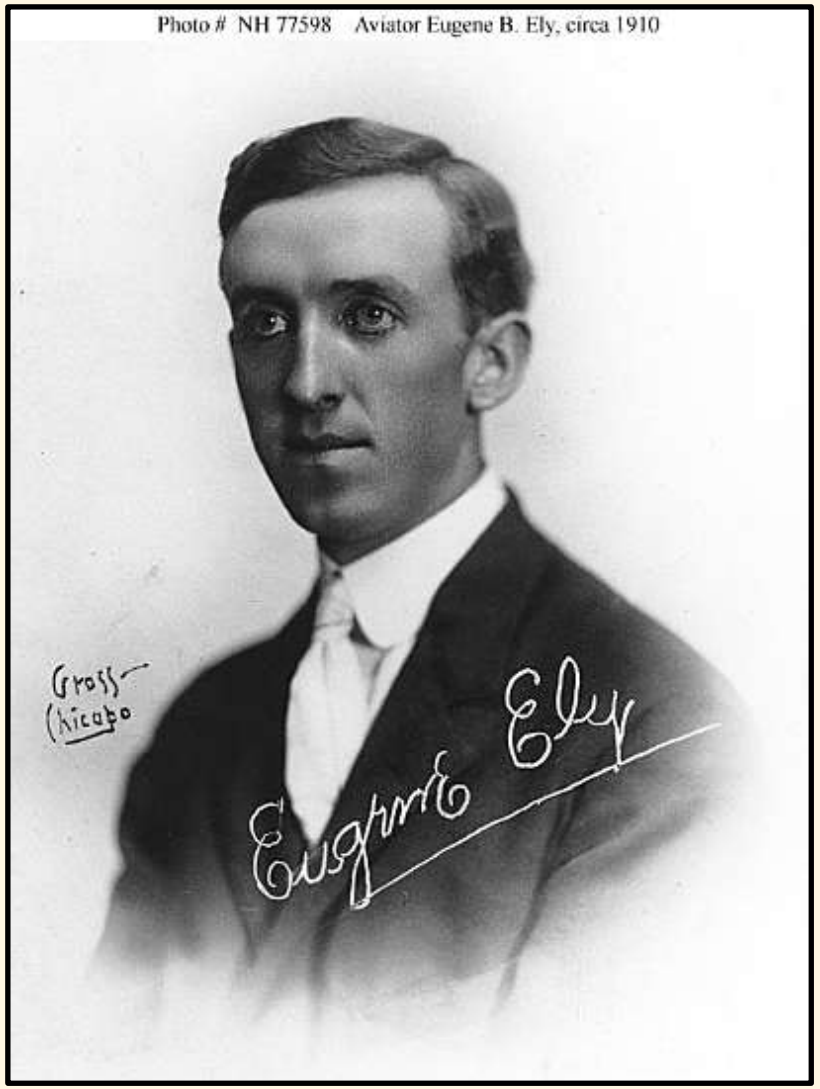
USS *Supply*



- Supply ship in Cuban waters during Spanish-American war.
- Decommissioned in 1899.
- Recommissioned in 1902 and stationed at Guam for many years.



Eugene Burton Ely



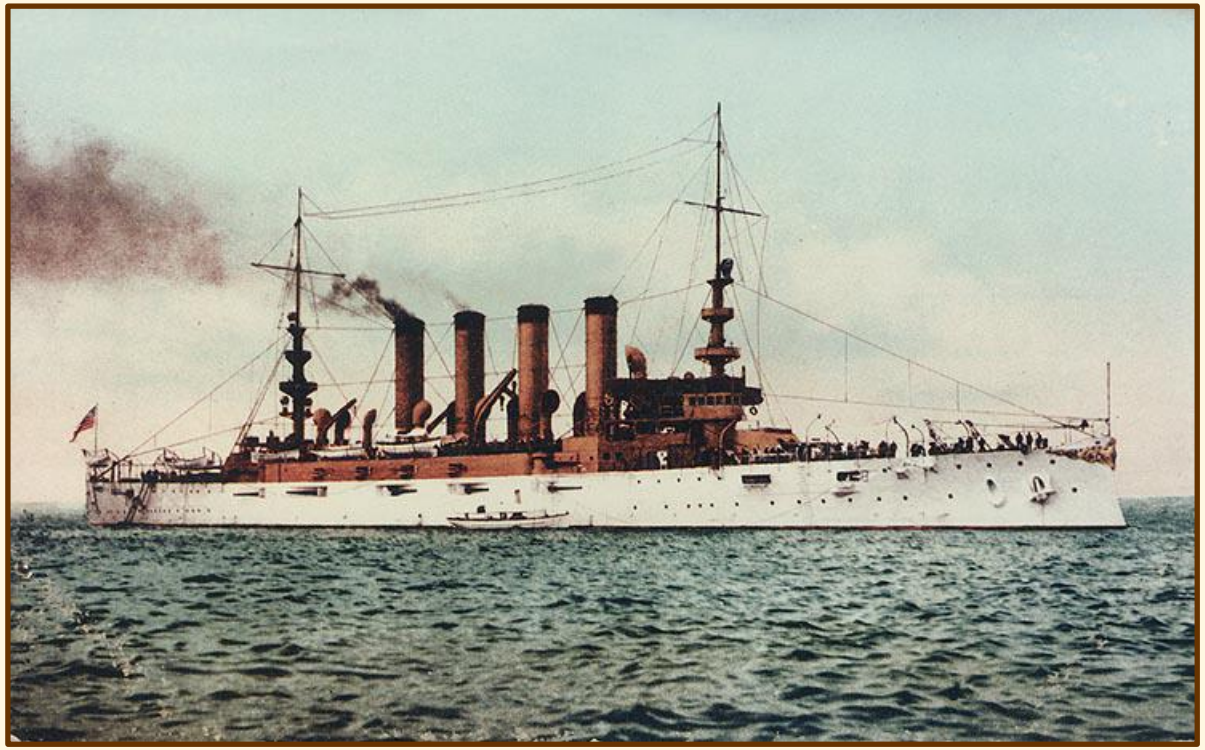
- Automotive salesman and engineer
- Self taught aviator
- Member of the Curtiss Exhibition Team

- 14 November 1910 took off from a platform constructed on the deck of the **USS *Birmingham***.
- 18 February 1911 landed and took off from **USS *Pennsylvania***.

USS *Pennsylvania*



Captain Charles Fremont Pond
(1856-1929)



USS *Pennsylvania*
(c1904-8)

Ely landing on the deck of USS *Pennsylvania*



[Photo: Naval History & Heritage Command website – NH1385]

Ely on the deck of USS *Pennsylvania*



[Photo: Naval History & Heritage Command website – NH77588]

Ely on the deck of USS *Pennsylvania*



[Photo: Naval History & Heritage Command website – NH77580]



[Photo: Naval History & Heritage Command website – S-005]

From Welsh Waterfall to Aircraft Carriers

