

AIR ORIENT REGULAR SERVICE, SAIGON - MARSEILLES



November 1932
to Germany

Surface letter rate, per 1oz	\$0.20
Airmail fee, per 1/2oz	<u>\$1.35</u>
Total	\$1.55

The black cross applied in
Marseilles indicated that the letter
was to go by rail from Marseilles
to München



Only example after 6
December cancelled in
red recorded to date

December 1932 to
United Kingdom

Surface letter rate, per 1oz	\$0.12
Airmail fee, per 1/2oz	<u>\$1.35</u>
Total	\$1.47

'LA ZÉLÉE' SAIGON - HONG KONG FLIGHT

30 October 1932

In the hope that it would be the precursor of a regular air service between Saigon and Hong Kong, an experimental extension flight was made. A Fokker F7b-3m named 'La Zélée' left Saigon on 30 October 1932 and arrived in Hong Kong on 1 November, after overnight stops at Hanoi and Canton



October 1932 from
United Kingdom

8d for postcard

Backstamped
Marseille 19 X 1932,
Saigon 29 10 32,
Hanoi 30 10 32,
Hong Kong 1 NO 32
in red



October 1932
from Ninh-Binh

25 centimes per 1/2oz

Backstamped Hanoi
30 10 32, Hong Kong
1 NO 32 in red

'LA ZÉLÉE' HONG KONG - SAIGON FLIGHT

5 November 1932

'La Zélée', after making the experimental Saigon to Hong Kong flight on 30 October 1932, made the return journey. It left Hong Kong on 5 November and arrived in Saigon at 14.30 on 8 November. All mail was cancelled in red ink. Unfortunately, a regular service was not started because China refused to give permission for use of its air space



November 1932 to Hanoi

Surface letter rate, per 1oz	\$0.20
Airmail fee, per 1/2oz	\$0.15
Total	\$0.35

Backstamped Hanoi 5 11 32

November 1932 to United Kingdom

Surface letter rate, per 1oz	\$0.12
Airmail fee, per 1/2oz	\$1.35
Total	\$1.47

Arrived in United Kingdom on 24 November 1932

SPECIAL CHRISTMAS POSTCARD SERVICE

5 - 6 December 1932

As a special concession for Christmas 1932, a one-off rate was used for postcards to the United Kingdom and Europe. This rate was confined to the standard postcards with a preprinted stamp on sale at post offices, and postcards had to be endorsed "Saigon-Marseilles Air Mail Service". The rate was 49¢, i.e. 8¢ surface postcard rate plus 41¢ airmail fee. However, the actual cards cost 1¢ each, which meant a saving of 5¢, the normal postcard rate being 55¢. This special despatch was carried from Hong Kong to Saigon by 'S.S. Aramis'



December 1932
to Switzerland

Cards to European
destinations uncommon

The black cross applied in Marseille
indicated that the card was to go by
rail from Marseille to Switzerland



December 1932
to United Kingdom

Characteristic blood-red ink used
at Kowloon Post Office

KLM REGULAR SERVICE, BANDOENG - AMSTERDAM

First Despatch AIRMAIL
Hong Kong - London via
BANDOENG - AMSTERDAM.

**BY AIR MAIL
PAR AVION**



**NON RECLAMÉ
NOT CALLED FOR**

**RETOUR
RETURNED**

J. B. Macdonald Esq.,
Poste Restante,
G. P. O.,
Bangkok, SIAM.

If not called for
within 7 days return to
J. B. Macdonald,
Gloucester Building,
Hong Kong.

First despatch

June 1933 to Siam

Hong Kong to Singapore by
'S.S. Kaiser-i-Hind'

20¢ per 1/4oz air letter rate

BANQUE DE L'INDOCHINE

Agence de Hong-Kong

Bandoeng/Amsterdam Airmail

**BY AIR MAIL
PAR AVION**



Titres.

BANQUE DE L'INDOCHINE
96, Boulevard Haussmann, 96,

PARIS (8e)

France.

December 1933
to France

\$1.00 per 1/4oz
air letter rate

Backstamped
Marseille 16 XII 1933,
Paris 17 XII 1933

TRANSMISSION BY AIR WITHIN CHINA

From 24 October 1933

On 24 October 1933 the Chinese Post Office first accepted air mail for Hong Kong with transmission from Canton to Hong Kong by sea



November 1933 from Chungking

50¢ per 1/2oz airmail fee, plus
5¢ per 1oz surface letter rate

Cancelled Paksien (Chungking)
17 November 1933

Backstamped Shanghai 18 November 1933



Reduced photocopy of back

TRANSMISSION BY AIR WITHIN CHINA

From 28 October 1933

Similar to the scheme for the United States in the 1920s, in 1933, the Chinese Post Office accepted mail from Hong Kong for airmail transmission within China. The incoming mail had to be pre-franked with Chinese postage stamps to pay the airmail fee. This was in addition to the normal surface rate in Hong Kong stamps. The necessary stamps were made available in Hong Kong to allow this system to operate. The airmail fee was 50¢ (China) per 1/2oz. The mail travelled from Hong Kong to Canton by sea



On second flight of Canton-Shanghai service

October 1933 to Shanghai

5¢ (Hong Kong) per 1oz surface letter rate,
plus 50¢ (China) per 1/2oz airmail fee

Chinese adhesives cancelled Canton 1 November 1933

Backstamped Shanghai 2 November 1933

CHRISTMAS CONCESSIONARY POSTCARD RATE

5 - 8 December 1933

As in 1932, a one-off concessionary rate was used for postcards to the United Kingdom and Europe for Christmas 1933. This rate was confined to the standard postcards with a preprinted stamp on sale at post offices, and cards had to be endorsed "Bandoeng-Amsterdam Air Mail Service". The rate was 49¢, i.e. 8¢ surface postcard rate plus 41¢ airmail fee. However, the actual cards cost 1¢ each, which meant a saving of 5¢, the normal postcard rate being 55¢



Only recorded example at this rate

December 1933 to United Kingdom

49¢ for postcard

IMPERIAL AIRWAYS REGULAR SERVICE, SINGAPORE - UNITED KINGDOM

Airmail rate period: 23 December 1933 - 31 May 1934

Extension of the Imperial Airways Limited route from Karachi to Singapore on 9 December 1933 provided a third sea/air service to the United Kingdom and Europe. The inclusive 1/4oz and 1/2oz air letter rates were the same as for the Air Orient and KLM despatches. The different schedules of the three carriers, i.e. Air Orient, KLM and Imperial Airways, gave postal users great flexibility



February 1934 to
United Kingdom

\$1.60 per 1/2oz
air letter rate, plus
20¢ registration fee



May 1934 to
United Kingdom

\$1.60 per 1/2oz
air letter rate

AIR ORIENT, KLM AND IMPERIAL AIRWAYS REGULAR SERVICES

Airmail rate period: 1 June 1934 - 31 December 1934

For the sea/air services of all three carriers, i.e. Air Orient, KLM and Imperial Airways, on 1 June 1934, the inclusive 1/4oz and 1/2oz air letter rates were changed, those to the United Kingdom and Europe being reduced to 80¢ and \$1.35, respectively



Postcards at this rate uncommon

June 1934 to United Kingdom by Imperial Airways

50¢ for postcard



December 1934 to United Kingdom by KLM

80¢ per 1/4oz air letter rate

AIR ORIENT, KLM AND IMPERIAL AIRWAYS REGULAR SERVICES



September 1934
to Germany

80¢ per 1/4oz air letter rate

Backstamped Marseille 7 X 1934,
Offenbach (Am Main) 9 10 34



August 1934
to Belgium by KLM

1oz at \$1.35 per 1/2oz air letter rate,
plus 20¢ registration fee

IMPERIAL AIRWAYS REGULAR SERVICE, UNITED KINGDOM - AUSTRALIA

Airmail rate period: 8 December 1934 - 19 March 1936

On 8 December 1934, mail was despatched by sea to join the first flight on the Imperial Airways Limited extension from Singapore to Australia. This route had been extended from Karachi to Singapore on 9 December 1933, the route beyond Singapore to Australia being operated by Qantas aircraft to Brisbane. The 1/4oz and 1/2oz air letter rates to Australia and New Zealand were 35¢ and 60¢, respectively. On 1 January 1935 the 1/4oz rate was abolished, the 1/2oz one remaining the same



First despatch

December 1934 to Australia

35¢ per 1/4oz air letter rate

Backstamped Melbourne 22 DE 34