1933 Graf Zeppelin Mail Service

The same successful routes and procedures used in 1932 continued into 1933.

Schedule - Nine outbound and eight return flights carried commercial mail between Europe and South America - The schedule was extended to include the summer months.

Monthly departures	*Departures every two weeks*
1. 6 May	5. 19 August
2. 3 Jun	6. 2 September
3. 1 July	7. 16 September
4. 5 August	8. 30 September
	9. 14 October

Chicago Flight - The ninth flight returned via the Century of Progress Fair at Chicago and did not carry regular mail to Europe.

Quantities of Mail - Increased to about 25,000 letters per crossing.

	Berlin	Friedr.	Recife
DLH	6 May	6 May	
Zeppelin		6 may	9 May

FIRST 1933 OUTBOUND FLIGHT

Red cachet for Berlin connecting flight

Free City of Danzig - To a Condor Airline Pilot in Rio - To Condor pilot Berthold Alisch from a female relative, E.L. Alisch, in Danzig-Langfuhr - Postage 2.20 gulden airmail, .35 surface.

Zeppelin mail from Danzig was routed via the Berlin connecting flight to Friedrichshafen.

ZEPPELIN FLIGHT WITHIN BRAZIL

Zeppelin	Recife	Rio
	10 May	11 May

Mail from Passenger on Board Flight within Brazil - To the sender's father in Buenos Aires - Correct postage RM 1.25 airmail, .25 air to Argentina, .15 surface - Only1.25 paid.

FIRST 1933 RETURN FLIGHT

Zeppelin	Recife	Friedr.
	13 May	17 May

Zeppelin Cachets in Both Red and Blue - Cachet applied twice in error - Postage 7$000 airmail (2 x 3$500 per 5 grams), 700 surface.

FIRST 1933 RETURN FLIGHT

	Recife	Seville	Madrid
Zeppelin	13 May	16 May	
Airline		16 May	17 May

Seville airmail postmark on back

Passenger Mail Off-loaded at Seville - Written on outbound flight, held for return flight, and taken off the airship at Seville during a short landing there - Flown to Madrid and sent by surface to Rotterdam - Postage RM 1.25 airmail, .15 surface.

Direct Delivery from Seville to Portugal - Off-loaded at Seville and delivered to Portugal by surface mail - Postage 3$500 airmail, 700 surface, 1$400 registration.

SECOND 1933 OUTBOUND FLIGHT

	Friedr.	Recife	Rio
Zeppelin	3 Jun	6 Jun	
Condor		6 Jun	7 Jun

Finland - Routing changed from Air France to German zeppelin service - Weight 26 grams - Postage 126.50 mark = 120.00 airmail (6 x 20.00 per five grams), 4.00 double surface, 2.50 registration (6.50 on back).

SECOND 1933 OUTBOUND FLIGHT

	Friedr.	Recife	P. Alegre
Zeppelin	3 Jun	6 Jun	
Condor		6 Jun	7 Jun

Photocopy of reverse

Tag for Parcel Post Mail Bag - Purple overprint in French 'Colis Postaux.' - Flown by Condor from Recife to Porto Alegre - Weight 2.6 Kilograms.

SECOND 1933 RETURN FLIGHT

	Santos	Recife	Friedr.
Condor	8 Jun	9 Jun	
Zeppelin		9 Jun	13 Jun

Coffee Sample Bag - From Santos, Brazil to London - Noted in French 'Echantillon de Café Sans Valeur' (coffee sample without value) - Weight 100 to 125 grams - Reduced rates for samples - Postage on back 17$500 airmail (5 x 3$500 per 25 grams), 500 surface.

	Friedr.	Recife	P. Alegre
Zeppelin	1 Jul	4 Jul	
Condor		4 Jul	5 Jul

Special Rate for Commercial Papers

Commercial Papers from the Netherlands - Meter franking showing reduced rate for this special class of mail - Total postage 2.07½ gulden = 1.80 zeppelin airmail (2 x .90 per 25 grams), 12½ surface, and .15 registration. Letter rate zeppelin airmail fee for this weight would have been 7.20.

THIRD 1933 OUTBOUND FLIGHT

	Friedr.	Recife	São Luiz
Zeppelin	1 Jul	4 Jul	
Panagra		4 Jul	5 Jul

Envelope for Post Office Letter Bill - This envelope contained the Briefkarte (letter bill) which inventoried the contents of a consignment of zeppelin airmail sent to São Luiz de Maranhao in northern Brazil.

THIRD 1933 RETURN FLIGHT

	Rio	Recife	Friedr.
Condor	7 Jul	8 Jul	
Zeppelin		8 Jul	12 Jul

Lilac Cachet Struck over Black Cachet from Earlier Flight - The cachet from the first flight of 1933 was used by mistake, and the proper cachet was applied three times to correct the error.

THIRD 1933 RETURN FLIGHT

	P. Alegre	Recife	Friedr.
VARIG	4 Jul ?		
Condor	6 Jul	8 Jul	
Zeppelin		8 Jul	12 Jul

1. Santa Cruz
2. Porto Alegre

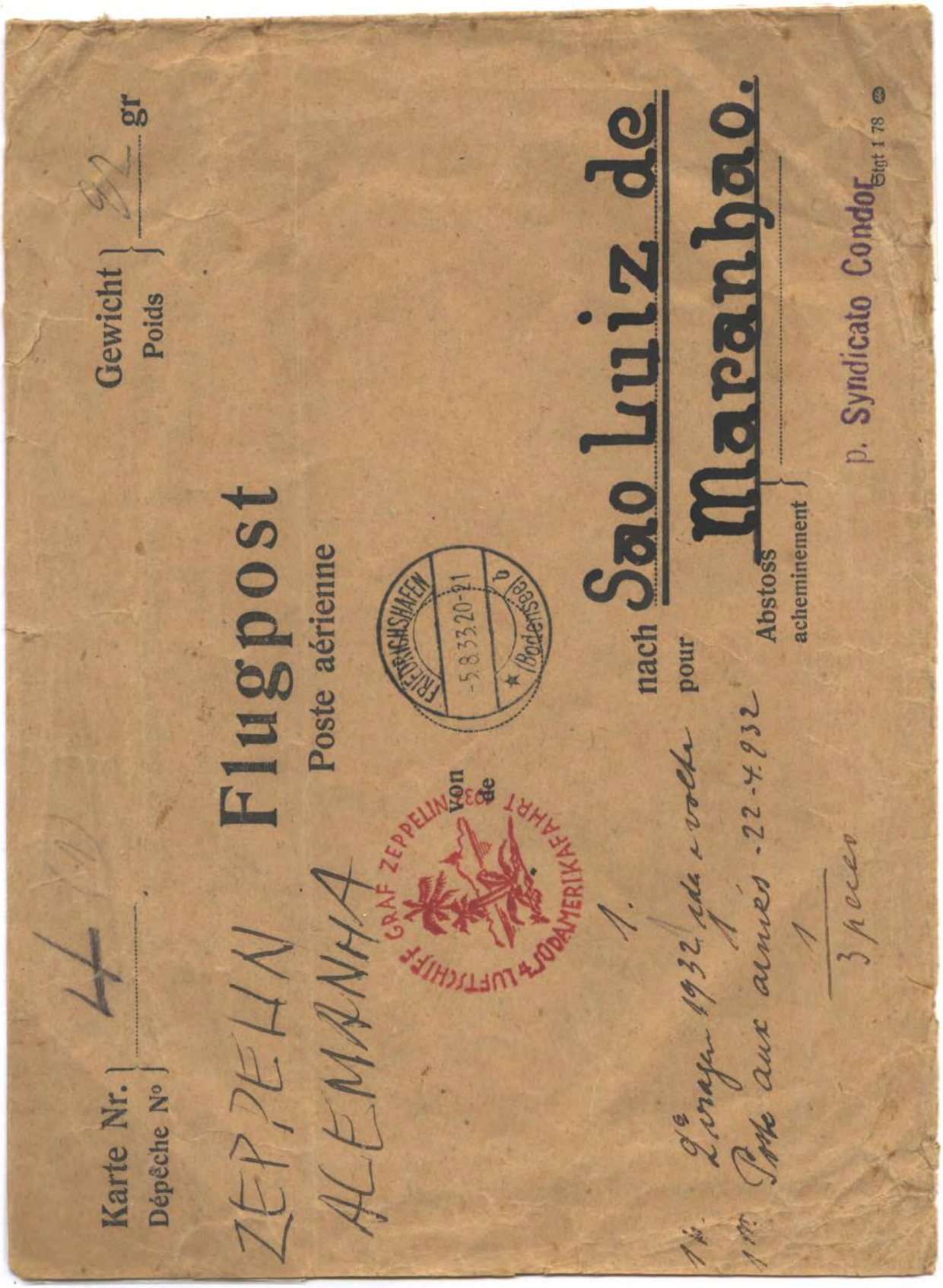
Separate Postage for VARIG Airline - Flown by a local airline, VARIG, from Santa Cruz to connect to Condor at Porto Alegre - Postage 350 VARIG airmail (separate stamp), 3$500 condor-zeppelin airmail, 700 surface.

Express Letter

Hand delivered by a messenger after its arrival in Frankfurt.

"Eilboten" label and red crayon X added by the German post office.

Postage for 5 - 10 gr.
. 2 x 3$500 airmail
. 1$400 express fee
. 700 surface.



Zeppelin Mail Pouch - Contained 92 grams of mail, about 20 pieces, for a small city in northern Brazil - The dispatch was inventoried in Karte (letter bill) number 4.

FOURTH 1933 OUTBOUND FLIGHT

	Berlin	Friedr.	Recife
DLH	5 Aug	5 Aug	
Zeppelin		5 Aug	8 Aug

Photocopy from reverse

Poland - From Warsaw to the Brazilian National Coffee Department - Stamps are on the back of the envelope, the normal practice in eastern Europe.

Postage 325 groszy airmail, 60 surface, 60 registration .

Red cachet for Berlin connecting flight

Photocopy of front

Currency Control Seals
Opened to ensure no cash was enclosed - Friedrichshafen post office seal and postmarks.

Postage RM 1.50 airmail beyond Brazil, .25 surface.

FOURTH 1933 OUTBOUND FLIGHT

	Friedr.	Recife	São Paulo
Zeppelin	5 Aug	8Aug	
Condor		8 Aug	9 Aug

Meter Franking on Registered Bank Letter - Weight 27 grams - Postage RM 8.20 = 7.50 airmail (6 x 1.25 per 5 grams), .40 double surface, .30 registration.

FOURTH 1933 OUTBOUND FLIGHT

	Friedr.	Recife	B. Aires
Zeppelin	5 Aug	8 Aug	
Condor		8 Aug	10 Aug

Oval Postmarks of Soest-Norden Railway Line - Business return address from a small town along the route - Postage 1.50 zeppelin air, .25 surface.

FOURTH 1933 RETURN FLIGHT

	Santos	Recife	Friedr.
Condor	10 Aug	11 Aug	
Zeppelin		11 Aug	15 Aug

Commercial Printed Matter (Impressos) - Unsealed business mail - Reduced rate of 3$500 per 25 grams airmail, 300 per 50 grams surface.

	Friedr.	Recife	B. Aires
Zeppelin	19 Aug	22 Aug	
Condor		22 Aug	24 Aug

Additional postage affixed at Amsterdam on reverse

Netherlands - Additional Postage Affixed by Post Office - Short-paid .40 gulden - required amount added by Amsterdam central post office - Postage due notice sent to sender - Postage 2.27½ gulden = 2 x 1.00 zeppelin airmail beyond Brazil, .15 registration, .12½ surface.

Great Britain - Triple Weight Bank Letter - Postage 10s 6d airmail (3 x 3s 6d per half ounce), 3d registration.

SIXTH 1933 OUTBOUND FLIGHT

	Berlin	Friedr.	Recife
DLH	2 Sep	2 Sep	
Zeppelin		2 Sep	5 Sep

Connecting Flight from Berlin - Late posting from East Prussia sent on the special connecting flight from Berlin to Friedrichshafen.

Routing Changed from French to German Airmail - Posted the day before the zeppelin flight and rerouted from the French Aéropostale service to catch the next airmail service - Postage RM 15.55 (15.00 on back) = 10 x 1.50 per five grams airmail beyond Brazil, .55 triple surface.

SEVENTH 1933 OUTBOUND FLIGHT

	Berlin	Friedr.	Recife
DLH	16 Sep	16 Sep	
Zeppelin		16 Sep	19 Sep

Red cachet for connecting flight from Berlin

Czechoslovakia - Meter Franking - Postage 14.00 Kc = 11.50 airmail, 2.50 surface.

Switzerland - Weight 15 grams - Postage 5.70 CHF = 5.10 airmail (3 x 1.70 per five grams), .30 surface, .30 registration - Zeppelin cachet on back.

SEVENTH 1933 OUTBOUND FLIGHT

	Friedr.	Recife	Rio
Zeppelin	16 Sep	19 Sep	
Condor		19 Sep	20 Sep

Letter Bill Envelope for Mail Posted on Board - Contained an inventory of mail processed during the flight - Postmark date shows that on-board mail was off-loaded at Recife rather than being carried by the zeppelin to Rio.

SEVENTH 1933 RETURN FLIGHT

	Recife	Friedr.
Zeppelin	22 Sep	26 Sep

Heavy Letter - Weight 20 to 25 grams - Postage 5 x 3$500 per five grams airmail, 1000 double surface.

EIGHTH 1933 OUTBOUND FLIGHT

	Friedr.	Recife	B. Aires
Zeppelin	30 Sep	3 Oct	
Condor		3 Oct	5 Oct

Missed Zeppelin Flight

Airmail flight from Croydon was delayed, reached Berlin too late for the zeppelin flight.

Berlin arrival after zeppelin left Friedrichshafen

Commercial mail was sent on next Air France flight reaching Buenos Aires ten days late.

Buenos Aires arrival 15 Oct instead of 5 Oct

EIGHTH 1933 RETURN FLIGHT

	Recife	Friedr.
Zeppelin	6 Oct	10 Oct

Danzig postage due

Rated up to Express Mail in Danzig - Explanatory label, blue crayon "40", and Danzig postage due stamp - The Danzig Post Office changed some incoming airmail to express delivery and charged 40 pfennig due, if the receiver accepted the extra service.

EIGHTH 1933 OUTBOUND FLIGHT

	Rio	Recife	Friedr.
Condor	5 Oct	6 Oct	
Zeppelin		6 Oct	10 Oct

All-Over Advertizing for Brazilian Paper Manufacturer - Airmail stamps for 3$500 airmail, meter franking for 700 surface.

Paraguay - In 1933 Paraguay was the only nation in South America beyond Brazil to accept mail for the zeppelin service to Europe.

Postage 22.50 peso airmail, 2.50 surface, 2.00 registration.

Zeppelin cachet is in Spanish rather than Portuguese.

	Friedr.	Recife	Rio
Zeppelin	14 Oct	17 Oct	
Condor		17 Oct	18 Oct

CHICAGO FLIGHT

Route and Purpose. The zeppelin took a triangular route from Germany to Brazil, the United States and back to Germany to visit the Century of Progress Fair at Chicago.

Regular Mails. The first leg was flown as part of the regular schedule and carried commercial mail from Europe to South America using normal rates and procedures.

Mail to North America. A small amount of regular mail was flown from Brazil to North America along with a large amount of philatelic mail.

Special Stamps. Both Germany and the United States issued special airmail stamps for the flight. Non-philatelic use of these stamps is rare.

Business Letter Flown on Regular Route from Friedrichshafen to Recife. Off-loaded at Recife, flown by Condor to Buenos Aires and by PANAGRA to Santiago - Meter franking on oversize envelope - Postage RM 4.75 = RM 4.50 airmail (3 x 1.50 per five grams beyond Brazil), .25 surface.

1933 Graf Zeppelin Mail Service
Chicago Flight

NINTH 1933 OUTBOUND FLIGHT

	Friedr.	Recife	B. Aires
Zeppelin	14 Oct	17 Oct	
Condor		17 Oct	19 Oct

Commercial Use of Chicago Flight Stamps - RM 2.00 and 4.00 values overprinted "Chicago Flight/World's Fair/1933" on business mail to Argentina - Postage 6.00 airmail (4 x 1.50 per 5 grams beyond Brazil), .25 surface.

Austria - Sent by Pneumatic Tubes to Central Vienna. - Red crayon destination office number "1/5" and minutes in postmark times show delivery by pneumatic tubes into the central city.

Postage 3.00 schilling airmail, .50 surface.

NINTH 1933 OUTBOUND FLIGHT

	Friedr.	Recife	Curityba
Zeppelin	14 Oct	17 Oct	
Condor		17 Oct	18 Oct

France to Brazil - From a business firm in Paris using a Portuguese language typewriter - Postage 10.00 francs = 8.50 airmail, 1.50 surface.

GERMANY TO UNITED STATES

	Friedr.	Chicago
Zeppelin	14 Oct	26 Oct

Advertizing Card of Romanoff Caviar Company - Highly publicized flight used to promote a commercial product - Postage to U.S. RM 2.50 zeppelin, .15 surface card.

Red cachet for connecting flight from Berlin

1933 Graf Zeppelin Mail Service
Chicago Flight

BRAZIL INTERNAL FLIGHT

	Rio	Recife
Zeppelin	19 Oct	20 Oct

Business Letter Flown by Zeppelin within Brazil - Postage 800 airmail, 200 surface, 100 postal tax.

BRAZIL TO UNITED STATES

	Recife	Akron
Zeppelin	20 Oct	25 Oct

Company Mail flown from Brazil to the United States - Some commercial mail normally sent via PANAGRA was carried by zeppelin on this single flight - Weight 15-20 grams - Postage 4 x 3$500 per 5 grams airmail, 200 surface, 400 registration, 100 postal tax.

1933 Graf Zeppelin Mail Service
Chicago Flight

BRAZIL TO UNITED STATES

Zeppelin	Recife	Miami
	20 Oct	23 Oct

Brazil Meter Franking on Motion Picture Correspondence - By zeppelin to Miami and by surface to New York - Postage 3 x 3$500 airmail, 200 surface (meter franking), 100 postal tax.

Zeppelin	Recife	Chicago
	20 Oct	26 Oct

Coffee Sample Bag - 10¢ Due for Customs Inspection in Chicago - Weight 125 to 150 grams - Stamps on back pay reduced rates for samples without value - 6 x 3$500 per 25 grams airmail, 600 surface, 100 postal tax.

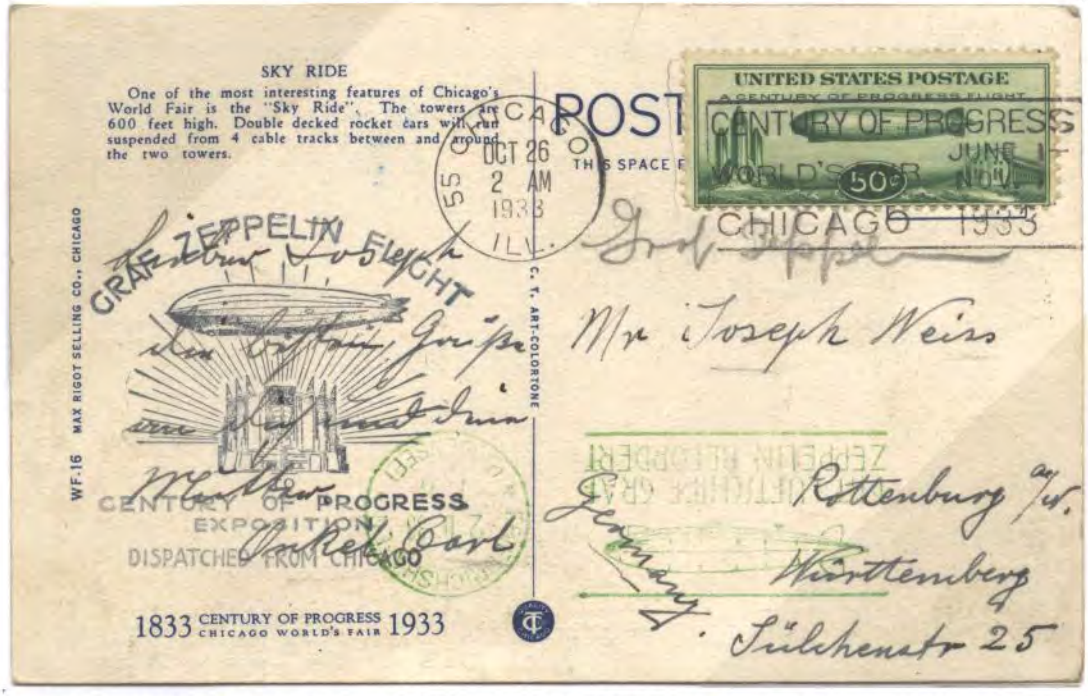
1933 Graf Zeppelin Mail Service UNITED STATES INTERNAL FLIGHT
Chicago Flight

	Akron	Chicago
Zeppelin	26 Oct	26 Oct

Passenger Mail Written On Board Flight to Chicago World's Fair - Written on board while the Graf Zeppelin was "just flying into Illinois" on her way to the Century of Progress Exposition - Postage RM 1.25 airmail, .15 surface card.

RETURN FLIGHT TO GERMANY

	Chicago	Friedr.
Zeppelin	26 Oct	2 Nov



Personal Message from a Visitor at the Chicago Fair - Picture postcard from "Uncle Carl" to family in Germany - Direction "Graf Zeppelin" added by postal clerk - Zeppelin postage 50¢, including surface.