

EXPANSION OF MAIL SERVICES
1907-1913

Chinese Post Office Mail
1908

THE CHINESE POST OFFICE FIRST BECAME A MEMBER OF THE UPU IN SEPTEMBER 1914
REQUIRING ANY OVERSEAS-BOUND MAIL BEFORE THAT DATE TO BE ROUTED THROUGH A
FOREIGN POST OFFICE IN CHINA.

Agreements with foreign post offices in China were eventually concluded eliminating
any double-franking requirements.

CHINA TO UNITED
STATES OF
AMERICA MAIL
(Japanese Post Office)

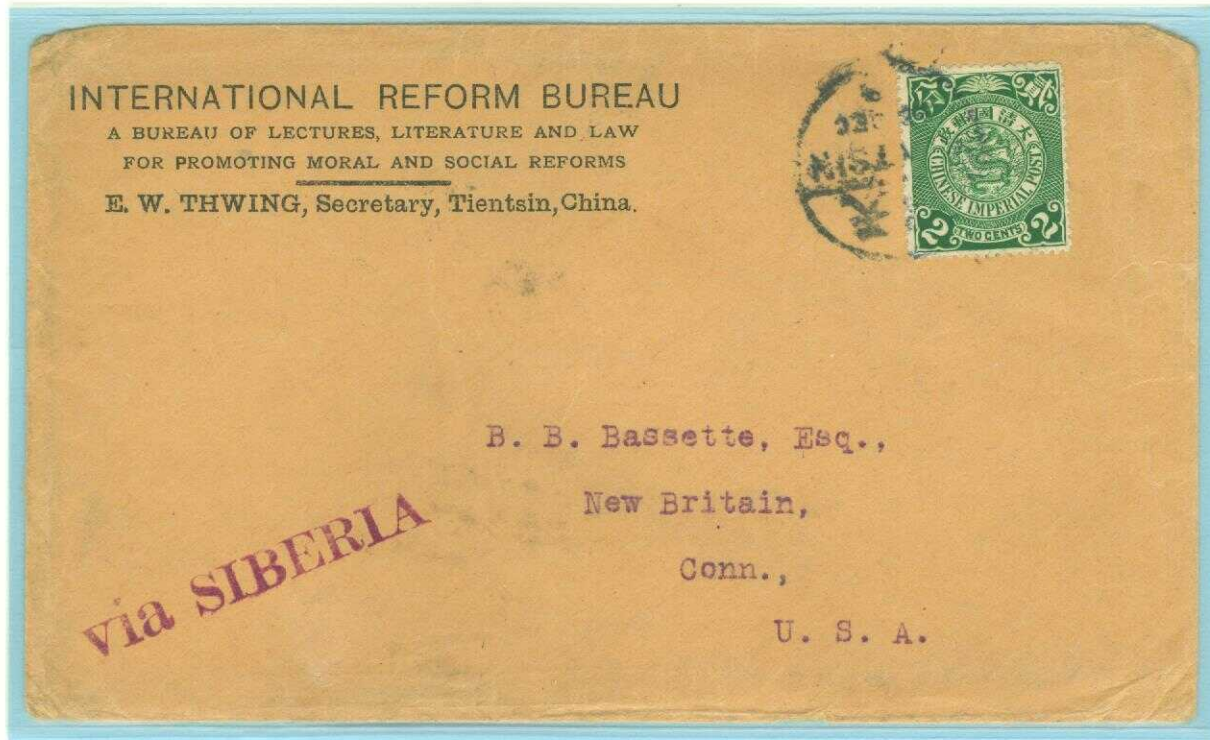
26 DECEMBER 1908

Printed-matter mail,
postmarked at
Tientsin,
with route
endorsement
"via Siberia",
sent to
New Britain,
Connecticut.

Transit Postmark:
(Reverse)
"Mukden, IJPO,
28 December 1908"

Route:
Tientsin-Mukden-
Harbin-Irkutsk-
Moscow-Berlin-
Hamburg-USA

2 Cents...
Printed Matter
rate up to two
ounces



CHINA TO
SWITZERLAND
(French Post Office)

12 DECEMBER 1908

View-card, postmarked
at Hankow,
route endorsement
"via Siberia".
sent to
Bern, Switzerland.

Transit Postmark:
"Peking,
16 December 1908"

Route:
Hankow-Peking--
Mukden-Harbin-Irkutsk-
Moscow-Berlin-Basel-
Zurich-Bern

4 Cents..
UPU International
Postcard-Rate



**EXPANSION OF MAIL SERVICES
1907-1913**

**Chinese Post Office Mail
1910-1911**

CHINA TO SWEDEN MAIL
(Chinese & French Post Offices)

16 July 1910

Up-rated postal stationery card,
postmarked at
Kiaochow, China, sent to
Stockholm, Sweden, through
French Post Office, with route
endorsement
"Via Siberia".

Transit & Arrival Postmarks:
"Tientsin, 21 July 1910"
"Stockholm, 5 August 1910"

20-day transit time
(Kiaochow-Tientsin-Mukden-
Harbin-Irkutsk-Omsk-St.
Petersburg-by sea..Sweden)



CHINA TO ITALY MAIL

29 November 1910

'Christmas Greetings' mail,
postmarked at
Amoy, China, sent to Naples, Italy,
with route endorsement
"Italy Via Siberia".

Transit & Arrival Postmarks:
"Shanghai,
5 December 1910"
"Naples,
28 December 1910"

29-day transit time
(Amoy/Shanghai.. by sea..-Dalny.. by
train..-Harbin-Irkutsk-Moscow-Berlin-
Munich-Naples)

CHINA TO ENGLAND MAIL

27 December 1910

'New Year's Greetings' mail,
postmarked Tientsin, China, with
route endorsement **"Via Siberia"**
to Boston, Lincolnshire, England.

Arrival Postmark:
(Reverse)

"Boston, 12 January 1911"

16-day transit time
(Tientsin-Mukden-Harbin-Irkutsk-
Moscow-Berlin-Hamburg-England)

Franking:
4 Cents..

**UPU International Postcard-
Rate.**



**EXPANSION OF MAIL SERVICES
1907-1913**

**French Post Office in China Mail
1908-09**

**OPENING OF THE TRANS-SIBERIAN NETWORK ALSO ENABLED
FRENCH POST OFFICE EXPANSION ALONG THE COAST,
In support of commerce and shorter mail movement to France.**

**CHINA TO SPAIN MAIL
(French Post Office)**

15 JUNE 1908

View card,
postmarked at
Chefoo, China, sent to
San Sebastian, Spain,
with route endorsement
"Via Transiberia".

Route:
(Chefoo..by sea..-
Dalny.. by train..-
Harbin-Irkutsk-Moscow-
Berlin-Paris-San
Sebastian)

**4 Cents..
UPU International
Postcard-Rate.**



**CHINA TO
SWITZERLAND
MAIL
(French Post Office)**

**12 NOVEMBER
1909**

Commercial cover,
postmarked Canton,
China, with route
endorsement
"Via Dalny & Siberia"
Sent to
Affoltern/Zurich,
Switzerland.

Arrival Postmark:
(Reverse)
"Affoltern,
4 December 1909"

22-day transit time:
(Canton/Shanghai..
by sea..-Dalny.. by
train..-Harbin-Irkutsk-
Moscow-Berlin-
Basel-Zurich)

**25 Centimes...
(Indo China Stamps/
5 & 15 Cent. values
with printing error
"CanPon")
UPU International
Single-Weight
Letter-Rate.**



EXPANSION OF MAIL SERVICES
1907-1913

French Indo-China
Seapost 'Via Siberia' Mail to Germany
1910

SEAPOST MAIL, OFF-LOADED AT SHANGHAI WITH ROUTING
THROUGH THE FRENCH POST OFFICE,
endorsed 'Via Siberia', could be routed through Russia.



FRENCH INDOCHINA SEAPOST MAIL TO GERMANY
(French Seapost)

1 DECEMBER 1910

Civilian view-card (Saigon), postmarked
"Marseille to Yokohama Line No. 1"
with route endorsement
"Par Transsiberien",
sent to Reutlingen, Württemberg, Germany

Transit Postmark:
"Shanghai,
9 December 1910"

Routing:
by sea..-Shanghai.. by train..-Harbin-Irkutsk-Moscow-Berlin-Reutlingen

10 Centimes...
(Indo China Stamps)
UPU International Postcard Rate

**EXPANSION OF MAIL SERVICES
1907-1913**

**Russian Post Office in China Mail
'Westbound' Mail to Europe**

**ALL 'WESTBOUND' MAIL SENT THROUGH THE RUSSIAN POST OFFICE
IN CHINA WAS ROUTED 'Via Siberia' WITH OR WITHOUT NEED
FOR ROUTE-ENDORSEMENT INDICATION.**

**MAIL FROM TIENTSIN
TO GERMANY**

17 APRIL 1908
(Julian)
30 APRIL 1908
(Gregorian)

Reply postal stationery
card, postmarked at
Tientsin, with route
endorsement
"Via Siberia"
to Berlin, Germany.

Arrival Postmark:
"Wilmersdorf
bei Berlin,
18 May 1908"

18-day transit time:
Tientsin-Mukden-Harbin-
Irkutsk-Moscow-Berlin

4 Kopeck..
UPU international
Postcard-Rate.



**REGISTERED MAIL FROM
PEKING TO GERMANY**

6 SEPTEMBER 1910
(Gregorian)

Registered postal
stationery, postmarked
at Peking,
with route endorsement
"Via Siberia"
sent to Giengen,
Württemberg, Germany.

Route:
Peking-Tientsin-Mukden-
Harbin-Irkutsk-Moscow-
Berlin-Leipzig-Stuttgart-
Giengen

26 Kopeck..
Double-weight
Registered Letter
10 + 6 Kopecks.. UPU
Double-Weight
(20-40 grams) Letter-Rate
+ 10 Kop. Registration fee



**EXPANSION OF MAIL SERVICES
1907-1913**

**Russian Post Office Mail
Printed-Matter Mail to Europe**

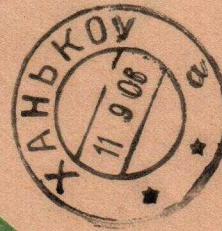
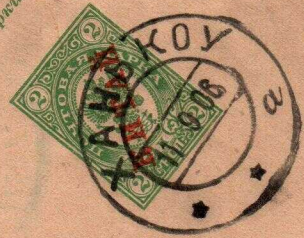
MAIL TO PRAG
(Austro-Hungary)

11 SEPTEMBER 1908

**Printed matter
newspaper wrapper
mail postmarked at
Hankow, China,
sent to Prag
with no route
endorsement
necessary.**

**Route:
Hankow-Peking-Tientsin-
Mukden-Harbin-Irkutsk-
Moscow-Berlin-Dresden-
Prag**

Копия за пересылку прилагается бесплатно
2 коп. по оплате отправления корреспонденции.
ПОСЛАНИЕ



Envelopsache
Herrn Dr. Karl Pösi
25 Heimgasse
Prag
Oesterreich

**2 Kopeck.
UPU International
Printed-Matter Rate
for mail up to 50
grams.**

**EXPANSION OF MAIL SERVICES
1907-1913**

**Russian Post Office in China Mail
'Westbound' Mail to
Finland (Russia)**

**MAIL TO FINLAND
FROM SHANGHAI**

10 DECEMBER 1909

View-card,
postmarked at
Shanghai, China,
with route
endorsement
"via Siberia" sent
to Nystad, Finland
(Russia).

Arrival Postmark:
"Nystad,
28 December
1909"

18-day transit time:
Tientsin-Mukden-
Harbin-Irkutsk-
Moscow-Berlin

**3 Kopeck.
Russian inland
postcard-rate.**



**MAIL TO FINLAND
FROM HANKOW**

24 DECEMBER 1912

'Christmas
Greetings' Card,
postmarked at
Hankow, China,
to Helsinki, Finland
(Russia).

Arrival Postmark:
"Helsinki,
8 January 1913"

15-day transit time:
Hankow-Peking-
Tientsin-Mukden-
Harbin-Irkutsk-
Omsk-
St. Petersburg-
Helsinki

**3 Kopeck.
Russian inland
postcard-rate**



EXPANSION OF MAIL SERVICES
1907-1913

Japan-Origin Mail
1908-10

JAPAN-ORIGIN MAIL FOR EUROPE WAS USUALLY ROUTED THROUGH THE JAPANESE PORT OF TSURUGA FOR SEA TRANSPORT TO VLADIVOSTOK, RUSSIA, WHERE IT THEN TRAVELLED BY TRAIN TO EUROPE via the Trans-Siberian railway network southern route.

JAPAN TO
SWITZERLAND MAIL
(Japan Post Office)

26 JULY 1908

'Imperial Hotel' Cover,
postmarked at
Tokyo, Japan, sent to
Bern, Switzerland, with
route endorsement
"via Siberia".

21-day Transit time
(Tokyo-Tsuruga.. by
sea..-Vladivostok.. by
train..-Harbin-Irkutsk-
Moscow-Berlin-Bern)

Arrival Postmark:
(Reverse)
"Bern,
16 August 1908"

10 Sen..
UPU International
Single-Weight
(20 grams)
Letter- Rate.



JAPAN-ORIGIN MAIL
TO GERMANY
(Japan Post Office)

22 JUNE 1910

Commercial postal card,
postmarked at Kyoto,
Japan, with route
endorsement
"Via Siberia" sent to
Beuel/Bonn, Germany.

Transit Postmark:
"Tsuruga, Japan,
22 August 1910"

Route:
Kyoto-Tsuruga..by sea..-
Vladivostok.. by train..-
Harbin-Irkutsk-Moscow-
Berlin-Bonn

4 Sen...
UPU International
Postcard Rate



EXPANSION OF MAIL SERVICES
1907-1913

Japan Post Office in China
Mail to Europe
1910

MAIL TO GERMANY
(Japan Post Office)

15 SEPTEMBER 1910

Cover through Japanese
Post Office at Tientsin,
China,
sent to Giengen,
Württemberg, Germany,
with route endorsement
"via Siberia".



Transit Postmark:
"Changchun, IJPO,
17 September 1910"

Route:
Tientsin-Mukden-
Changchun-Harbin-
Irkutsk-Moscow-Berlin-
Stuttgart-Giengen

11 Sen...
10 Sen.. Single-weight
(20 grams)
UPU International
Letter-Rate with
1 Sen over-franking

EXPANSION OF MAIL SERVICES

1907-1913

German Post Office in China Mail

Coastal Offices 1908-10

**OPENING OF THE TRANS-SIBERIAN ROUTE WITH ITS CONNECTION TO
MOSCOW-BERLIN ENABLED MAIL TO MOVE TO WESTERN EUROPE MUCH MORE
EXPEDITIOUSLY THAN BY USING THE SEA ROUTE**

enabling the German Post Office to extend its post office locations in support of
commerce expansion along the coast and inland.

CHINA TO GERMANY MAIL

(German Post Office)

18 DECEMBER 1908

Cover,
postmarked at
Canton, China, sent to
Augsburg, Germany, with
route endorsement
"via Siberia".

Route:
Canton/Shanghai..by
sea...Dalny..by train...-
Harbin-Irkutsk-Moscow-
Berlin-Augsburg

4 Cents..
German concession rate for
letter-mail sent to Germany.



CHINA TO GERMANY REGISTERED MAIL

(German Post Office)

12 NOVEMBER 1909

Commercial mail, postmarked at
Hankau, China, with route endorsement
"Via Siberia" sent to Hamburg, Germany

24-day transit time

(Hankau/Shanghai.. by sea to Dalny.. by train...-Harbin-Irkutsk-Moscow-Berlin-Hamburg)

Arrival Postmark:

(Reverse)

"Hamburg, 24 June 1910"

14 Cents....

4 Cents .. Single weight (20 grams) letter concession-rate +

10 Cents .. Registry fee

**EFFECTIVE 1 SEPTEMBER 1909, MAIL FROM THE GERMAN PACIFIC COLONIES
HAD ACCESS TO THE TRANS-SIBERIAN RAIL NETWORK,**

based on agreement between the German & Russian Post Offices.

Such mail moved by steamer to Hong Kong or Shanghai and subsequently by coastal vessel to Dalny on the Liaotung Peninsula/China, with access to the Eastern Chinese Railway of the trans-Siberian rail network.



GERMAN MARSHALL ISLAND MAIL (NAURU) TO GERMANY
(German Post Office)

24 FEBRUARY 1913

Postal stationery card, postmarked on the Island of Nauru,
manuscript route endorsed "*via Siberia*", sent to Berlin, Germany

Sender:

**"Martha Brauns", wife of the German engineer
in charge of the German government telegraph station on Nauru.**

**Estimated 34-day transit time
(Nauru-Hong Kong-Dalny-Mukden-Harbin-Irkutsk-Moscow-Berlin)**

5 Pfennig...

**Postcard concession-rate for
German colony mail sent to Germany**

**EXPANSION OF MAIL SERVICES
1907-1913**

**German 'Shantung' Railway
'Pukow-Tientsin' Railway**

The 1904 completed German-built *Shantung Railway* connected Tsingtao-with Tsinanfu. A British-German Consortium built the *Tientsin-Pukow Railway* between 1909-1912 connecting southern China at Hankow to northern China at Tientsin along with connection to the Shantung Railway.

BOTH RAIL LINES EXPEDITED THE MAIL MOVEMENT TO THE CHINESE NORTHERN AND EASTERN RAILWAYS, THE LATTER BEING PART OF THE TRANS-SIBERIAN NETWORK.

**CHINESE TIENSIN-
PUKOW RAILWAY
FORERUNNER
MAIL**

(Chinese & French
Post Offices)

7 FEBRUARY 1909

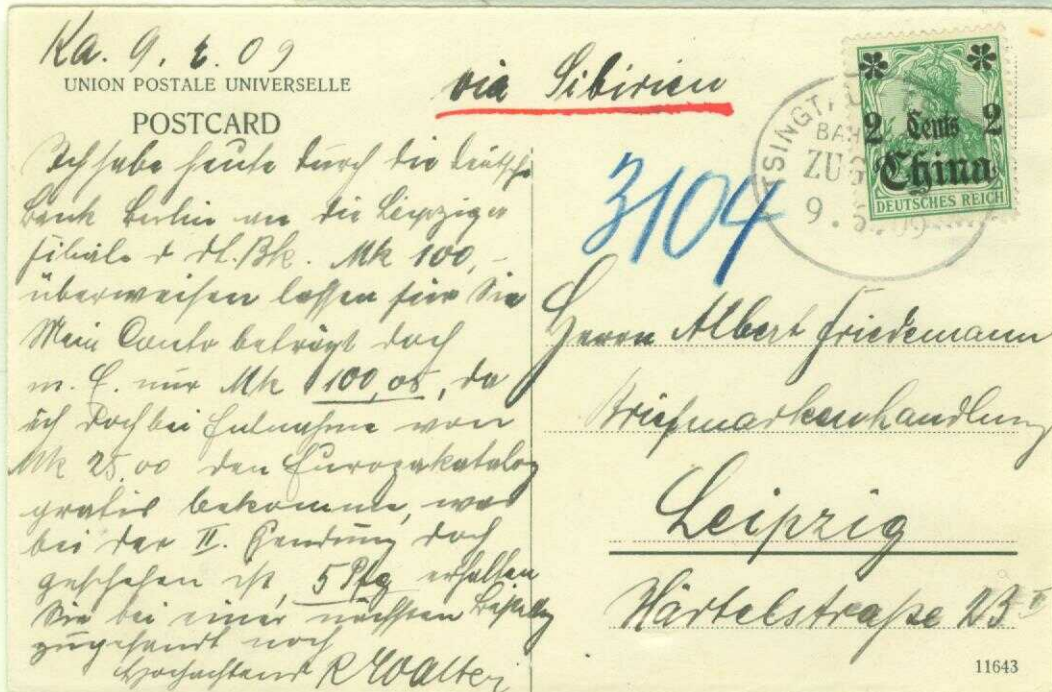
Commercial cover,
postmarked at
Tsangochow, China,
sent to Berlin with
route endorsement
"via Siberia".

Transit Postmark:
"Tien-tsin, French Post
Office China,
7 February 1909"

Arrival Postmark:
"Berlin,
21 February 1909"

14-day Transit Time:
Tientsin-Mukden-
Harbin-Irkutsk-
Moscow-Berlin

10 Cents..
UPU International
Single-Weight
Letter-Rate



**SHANTUNG RAILWAY
T.P.O. MAIL
(German Post Office)**

9 JUNE 1909

View-card mail sent by German
Provincial Administrator
"Walter" at Kaumi, Kiautschou,
postmarked "Tsingtau-Tsinanfu
Train 2" to Leipzig, Germany,
with route endorsement
"Via Siberia".

Route:
Tsingtau-Tsinanfu T.P.O.-
Tientsin-Mukden-Harbin-Irkutsk-
Moscow-Berlin-Leipzig

2 Cents....
German concession postcard-
rate for mail to Germany

**EXPANSION OF MAIL SERVICES
1907-1913**

**German Post Office in China Mail
German Transit Mail 1909**

**MAIL SACKS FOR NON-GERMAN DESTINATION IN-TRANSIT MAIL WERE ALSO
HANDLED BY THE RUSSIAN & GERMAN POST OFFICES**

**CHINA TO HOLLAND
MAIL**

(German Post Office)

17 SEPTEMBER 1909

View card,
postmarked at
Shanghai, China, to
Amsterdam, Holland,
with route endorsement
"via Siberia".

Arrival Postmark:
"Amsterdam,
3 October 1909"

16-day Transit Time
(Shanghai.. by sea to
Dalny.. by train..-
Harbin-Irkutsk-Moscow-
Berlin-Amsterdam)

**4 Cents..
UPU International
Postcard-Rate**



**CHINA TO DENMARK
MAIL**

(German Post Office)

12 NOVEMBER 1909

Re-directed cover,
postmarked at Peking,
China, for Hellerup,
Denmark, with route
endorsement
"Via Siberia".

Arrival Postmark:
(Reverse)
"Hellerup,
7 June 1909"

14-day Transit Time
(Peking-Tientsin-
Mukden-Harbin-Irkutsk-
Moscow-Berlin-
Denmark)

**10 Cents....
UPU Single Weight
(20 grams)
International
Letter-Rate**



1907-1913

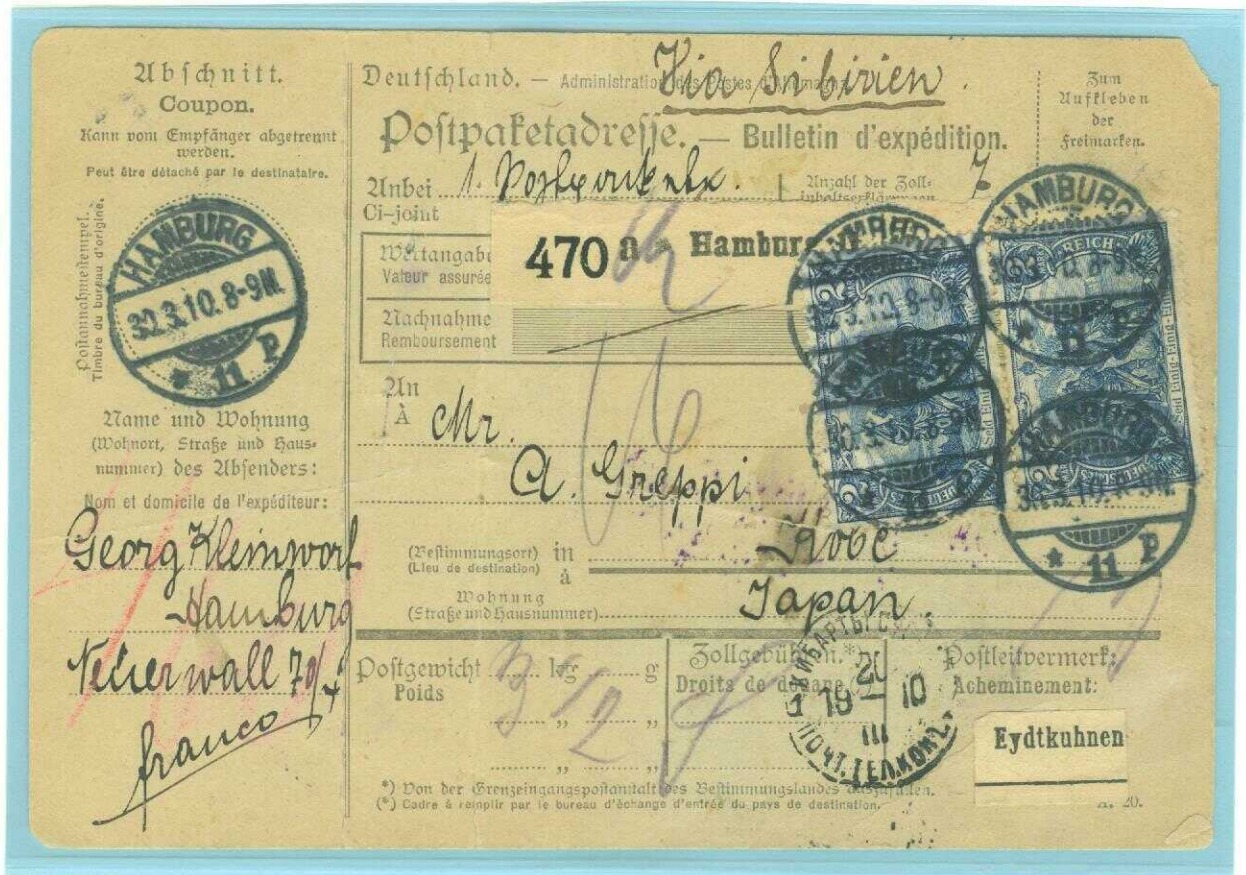
1910

A 1910 AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE RUSSIAN & GERMAN POST OFFICES NOW PERMITTED GERMAN PARCEL POST TO BE SENT BY WAY OF THE TRANS-SIBERIAN NETWORK.

(up to 5 kg and 2800 Marks in value to Shanghai/otherwise 800 Marks)

German-origin/transit parcel post did not move over the standard route of Berlin-Alexandrowo-Moscow-Harbin... but rather the more northerly European rail route...

Berlin-Eydtkuhnen (Prussian-Russian border)-St. Petersburg-Omsk-Harbin...



PARCEL POST TO JAPAN
(German Post Office)

30 MARCH 1910

Early 'via Siberia' parcel post card (3½ Kg parcel), postmarked at Hamburg, Germany, manuscript route endorsed "via Siberia", sent to Kobe, Japan

Border Crossing Marks:

German: "Eydtkuhnen, 1 April 1910"

Russian: "Eydtkuhnen, 20 March (Julian Calendar)

= 2 April" (Gregorian Calendar)

Transit Route:

Hamburg-Berlin-Eydtkuhnen-St. Petersburg-Omsk-Irkutsk-Harbin-Vladivostok-Tsuruga-Kobe

RM 4.60 ...

German flat-rate parcel post charge for international parcels up to 5 Kg in weight.



Reverse Side Franking

EXPANSION OF MAIL SERVICES
1907-1913

German Post Office in Kiautschou
German Marine's Mail
1910

Upon the murder of two German missionaries in Shantung Province in November 1897 and subsequent occupation of the City of Tsingtao by German marines in 1898, China & Germany signed a 99-year lease of the Kiautschou Bay area in the north-eastern part of the province in March 1898.

THE GERMAN FAR-EAST CRUISER SQUADRON WITH ITS CONTINGENT OF MARINES SUBSEQUENTLY HAD THEIR OVERSEAS HOME PORT/BASE AT TSINGTAU/KIAUTSCHOU BETWEEN 1898-1914.

V i a S i b i r i e n !

E i n s c h r e i b e n !

Herrn

Carl F o e r s t e r

D r e s d e n - 5

WeiBeritzufer 50.



CHINA TO GERMANY REGISTERED MAIL
(German Post Office)

8 APRIL 1910

Registered German marine's mail
(2nd Unit/3rd Marine Battalion),
postmarked at Tsingtao, Kiautschou,
China, with route endorsement
"Via Siberia" sent to
Dresden, Germany

Arrival Postmark:
(Reverse)

"Dresden, 22 April 1910"

14-day transit time:

Tsingtao/Kiautschou..by sea to Dalny.. by train..-Harbin-Irkutsk-Moscow-Berlin-Dresden

18 Cents....
8 Cents .. double-weight (up to 250 grams)
German concession letter-rate +
10 Cents .. registry fee

**EXPANSION OF MAIL SERVICES
1907-1913**

German Post Office in Kiautschou
Introduction .. Value-Letter Mail 1910

EFFECTIVE 10 OCTOBER 1910, VALUE-LETTER MAIL WAS PERMITTED TO BE SENT OVER THE 'VIA SIBERIA' ROUTE (Amtsblatt RPA No. 76/1910), albeit only initially between the Russian & German Post Offices for mail sent from/to northern China. South China Mail (Fuchou, Amoy, Swatow & Canton) was not eligible.



Ex Kosack

**VALUE-LETTER SENT FROM KIAUTSCHOU (LEASEHOLD) TO GERMANY
(German Post Office)**

26 MARCH 1913

Sealed (Registered) Value-Letter Mail
(sent by a civil servant of the Kiautschou Government),
postmarked at Tsingtao, Kiautschou,
with route endorsement "*Via Siberia*"
& five seals (reverse), sent to Ibbenbüren, Germany

Transit & Arrival Postmarks:
(Reverse)

"Chefoo, Japanese P.O., 31 March 1913"
"Chefoo, Russian P.O., 31 March 1913"
"Ibbenbüren, 20 April 1913"

32-day transit time:
Tsingtao/Kiautschou..Chefoo by sea to Dalny ..
by train..-Harbin-Irkutsk-Moscow-Berlin-Hanover-Münster-Ibbenbüren

40 Cents....
8 Cents .. Double-weight (up to 250 grams)
German Colonial Letter-Rate
+ 10 Cents .. Registry fee
+ 8 Cents via Japanese to Russian Post Offices (Chefoo) Value/Letter Rate
+ 14 Cents (via Russian Post Office) Value-Letter Less Than \$120

Only known example.

EXPANSION OF MAIL SERVICES
1907-1913

Eastern United States-Bound Mail
1910

BECAUSE OF TRANSIT TIME SAVINGS, MAIL TO THE EASTERN UNITED STATES COULD ALSO
BE ROUTED "VIA SIBERIA"

traveling between 20-25 days total from China until arrival in the United States,
including 7-days by sea from Hamburg to the U.S.A., rather than via Yokohama-
Seattle (or San Francisco) by sea and overland by train to destination.

GERMAN P.O IN CHINA
MAIL TO PENNSYLVANIA

20 JANUARY 1910

"Peking Club" cover,
postmarked at Peking,
China, sent to Bryn
Mawr, Pennsylvania,
with route endorsement
"Via Siberia".

Route:

Peking-Tientsin-
Mukden-Harbin-Irkutsk-
Moscow-Berlin-
Hamburg-Philadelphia-
Bryn Mawr

10 Cents..
UPU International
Single-Weight
(20 grams)
Letter-Rate.



GERMAN P.O. IN
TERRITORY OF
KIAUTSCHOU MAIL TO
NEW YORK

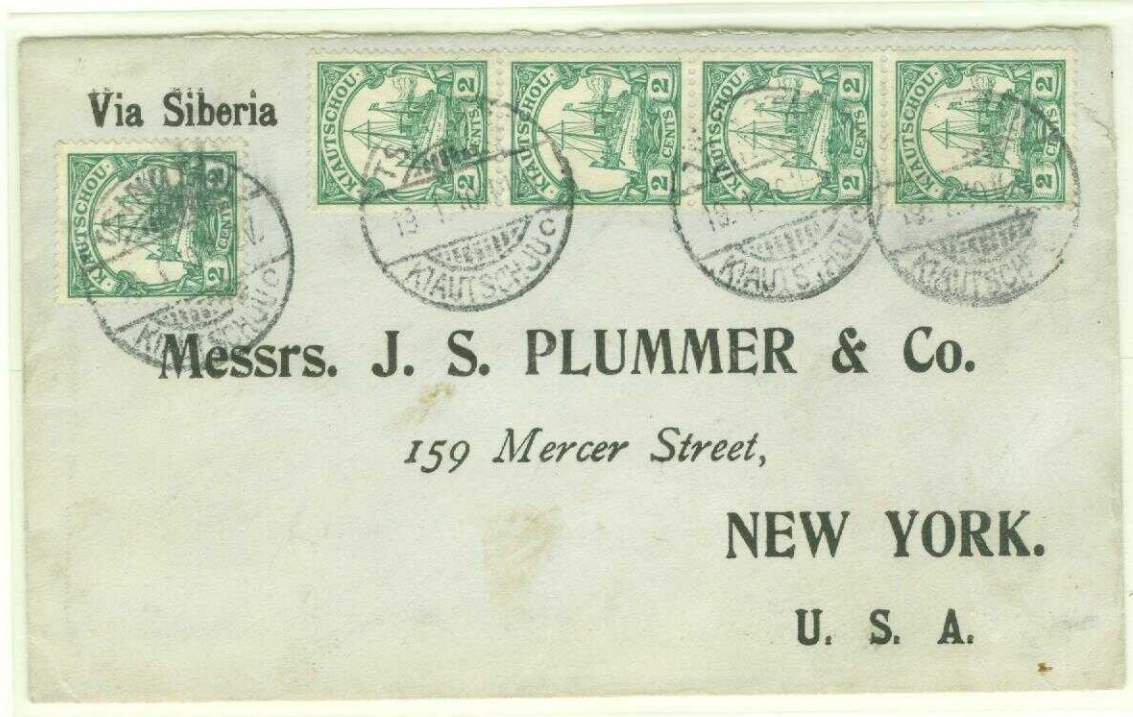
19 JANUARY 1910

Commercial cover,
postmarked Tsingtao,
Kiautschou, China, with
route endorsement
"Via Siberia"
sent to New York City.

Route:

Tsingtao .. by
sea..Dalny.. by train..-
Harbin-Irkutsk-Moscow-
Berlin-Hamburg-
New York

10 Cents..
UPU International
Single-Weight
(20 grams)
Letter-Rate



**EXPANSION OF MAIL SERVICES
1907-1913**

**Philippine Islands-Origin Mail
1910...**

PHILIPPINE ISLANDS-ORIGIN MAIL TO EUROPE HAD A SURCHARGE OF TWO CENTAVOS FOR POSTAL CARDS ENDORSED 'Via Siberia' VERSUS MAIL TO AMERICA AT FOUR CENTAVOS, WHILE LETTER MAIL HAD THE UPU INTERNATIONAL RATE.

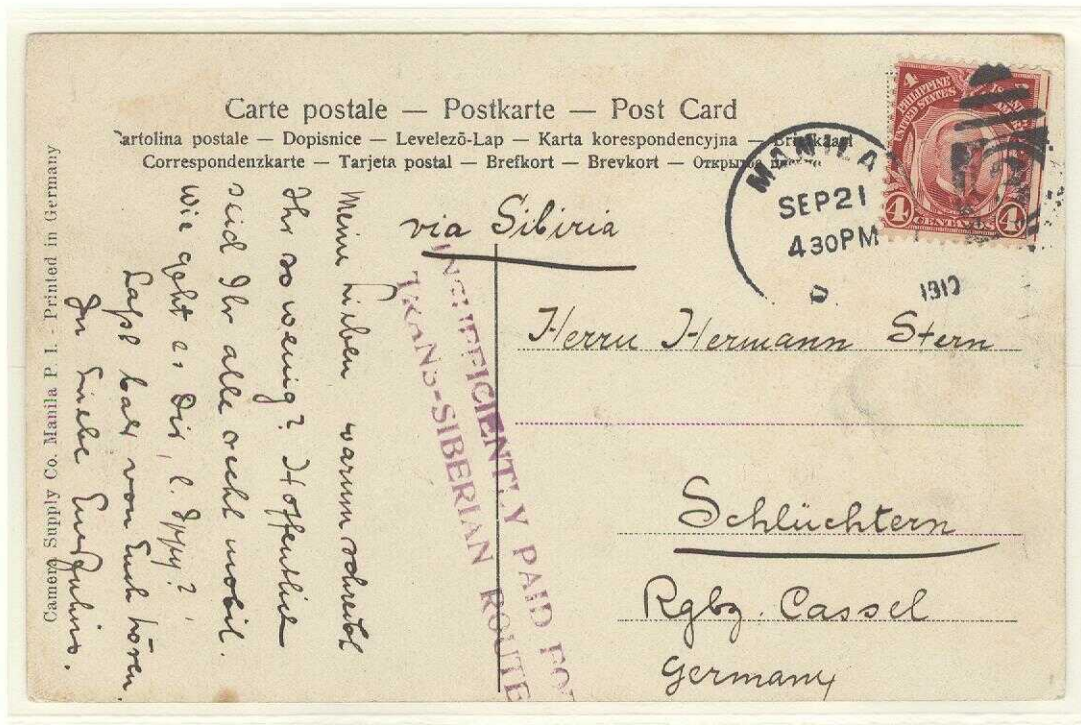
**INSUFFICIENTLY
FRANKED POSTCARD
MAIL TO GERMANY**

21 SEPTEMBER 1910

**Viewcard
postmarked at
Manila, Philippines,
with route
endorsement
"via Siberia".**

**Cachet Handstamp:
"Insufficiently paid for
Trans-Siberian Route"**

**4 Centavos..
2 Centavos under-
franked for routing
"Via Siberia" for rate
of 6 Centavos.**



SHIP'S CAPTAIN MAIL TO GERMANY

12 APRIL 1912



**"S.S. Vandalia"
Cover,
postmarked at
Manila, Philippines,
with endorsement
"Via Siberia",
sent to Altona,
Germany.**

**'S.S. Vandalia' was
sunk by torpedo
in 1918.**

**Route:
Manila.. by sea..-
Vladivostok.. by
train..-Harbin-
Irkutsk-Moscow-
Berlin-Altona.**

**20 Centavos...
Double-weight
UPU International
Letter-Rate.**

EXPANSION OF MAIL SERVICES

1907-1913

Chinese Post Office Mail

1910-1911

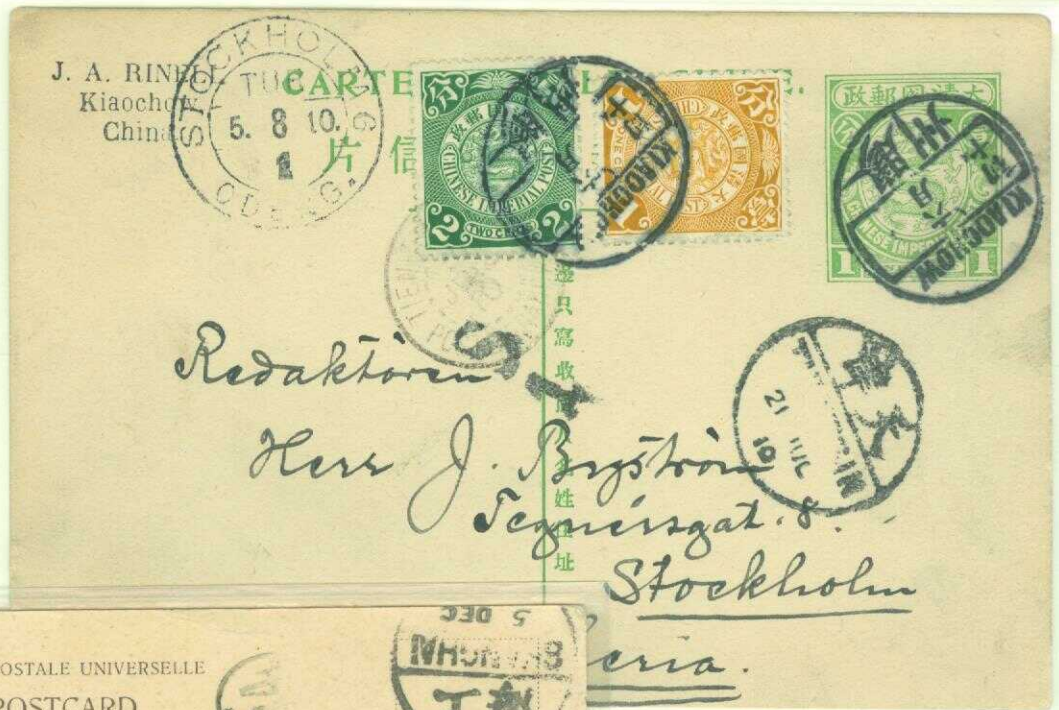
CHINA TO SWEDEN MAIL (Chinese & French Post Offices)

16 JULY 1910

Upgraded postal stationery card, postmarked at Kiaochow, China, sent to Stockholm, Sweden, through French Post Office, with route endorsement "Via Siberia".

Transit & Arrival Postmarks:
"Tientsin, 21 July 1910"
"Stockholm, 5 August 1910"

20-day transit time
(Kiaochow-Tientsin-Mukden-Harbin-Irkutsk-Omsk-St. Petersburg-by sea..Sweden)



CHINA TO ITALY MAIL

29 NOVEMBER 1910

'Christmas Greetings' mail, postmarked at Amoy, China, sent to Naples, Italy, with route endorsement "Italy Via Siberia".

Transit & Arrival Postmarks:
"Shanghai, 5 December 1910"
"Naples, 28 December 1910"

29-day transit time
(Amoy/Shanghai.. by sea..-Dalny.. by train..-Harbin-Irkutsk-Moscow-Berlin-Munich-Naples)



CHINA TO ENGLAND MAIL

27 DECEMBER 1910

'New Year's Greetings' mail, postmarked Tientsin, China, with route endorsement "Via Siberia" to Boston, Lincolnshire, England.

Arrival Postmark:
(Reverse)
"Boston, 12 January 1911"

16-day transit time
(Tientsin-Mukden-Harbin-Irkutsk-Moscow-Berlin-Hamburg-England)

4 Cents..
UPU International
Postcard-Rate.



EXPANSION OF MAIL SERVICES

1907-1913

North African & European Mail

to China ... 1910-1911

CHINA-BOUND MAIL FROM NORTH AFRICA & EUROPE WERE ROUTED 'VIA SIBERIA' AS THE SHORTEST & FASTEST ROUTE TO THE FAR EAST.

MAIL FROM EGYPT TO SHANGHAI (Egyptian Post Office)

1 JULY 1910

View card, postmarked at Cairo, Egypt, sent to Shanghai, China, with route endorsement "via Siberia".

Arrival Postmark:
(British Post Office)
"Shanghai BPO,
29 July 1910"

28-day Transit Time
Probable route:
Port-Tajeio (Egypt)- by sea to Brindisi-by rail to Berlin-Moscow-Irkutsk-Harbin-Mukden-Dalny-by sea to Shanghai

4 Millimes..
UPU International
Postcard-Rate



RE-DIRECTED MAIL GERMANY-CHINA (German Post Office)

25 DECEMBER 1911

Re-directed mourning cover, postmarked at Stuttgart, Germany, for "Mrs. Max Müller, German Consul's wife", at Shanghai, then re-directed to Hankau, China, with cachet route endorsement "via Siberia".

Arrival Postmark:
(Reverse)
"Hankau, 15 January 1912"

21-day Transit Time
Probable route:
Stuttgart-Berlin-Moscow-Irkutsk-Harbin-Mukden-Dalny-by sea to Shanghai-Hankau

10 Pfennig..
Concession-rate for
single-weight
(20 grams) letter-mail from
Germany to a German Post
Office in China



EXPANSION OF MAIL SERVICES
1907-1913

Outbreak of Plague in Manchuria
1911

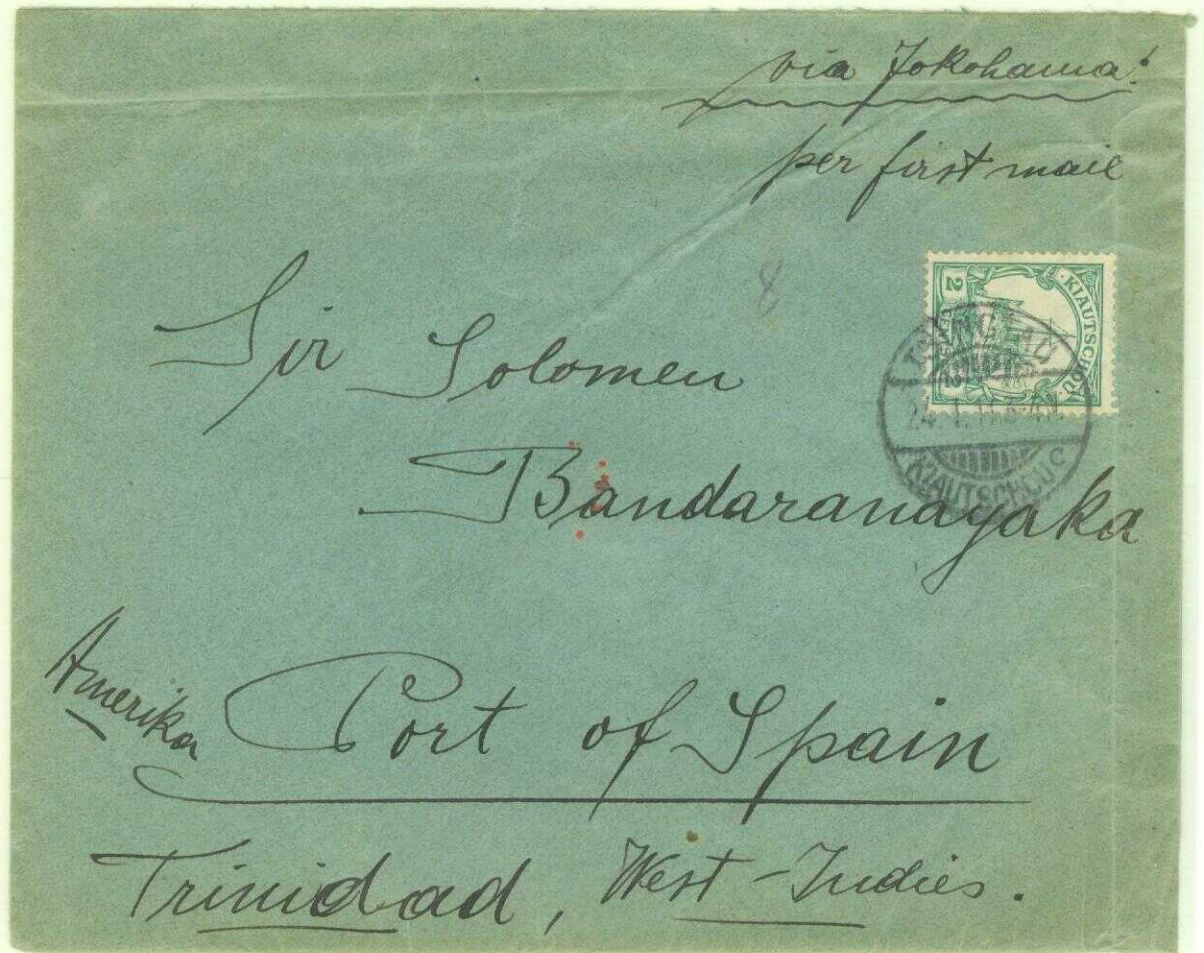
BETWEEN JANUARY-MARCH OF 1911, OPERATION OF THE MANCHURIAN RAILWAY,
(south of Harbin)
& THE CHINESE EASTERN RAILWAY TO DALNY,
WAS HALTED BECAUSE OF AN OUTBREAK OF PLAGUE IN MANCHURIA.

24 JANUARY
1911

(German Post
Office
Kiautschou)

Printed-
matter,
postmarked
at Tsingtau,
Kiautschou,
routed
'via
Yokohama &
America',
sent to Port of
Spain,
Trinidad.

2 Cents..
UPU
International
Printed-Matter
Rate
(50 grams)



ANDREWS, VON FISCHERZ & GEORGE, Ltd.
1, FOOCHOW ROAD
SHANGHAI.

Via Siberia.

Titl. Z e n t r a l - B u r e a u d e r
G l a s f a b r i k e n u n d R a f f i n e r i e n
J o s e f I n w a l d A c t. G e s.,

V i e n n a .
V I . M a r i a h i l f e r s t r a s s e 1 0 3 .



17 FEBRUARY 1911
(German Post Office in
China)

Commercial-mail,
postmarked at
Shanghai, China,
route-endorsed
'via Siberia',
with diversion route
most probably
Shanghai-
Yokohama-San
Francisco-New
York-Hamburg-
Vienna,
sent to Vienna,
Austria

10 Cents..
UPU International
Letter-Rate
(20 grams).



**EXPANSION OF MAIL SERVICES
1907-1913**

**Revolution in China
Establishment of a Republic
1911**

LATE 1911 & EARLY 1912, INNER-CHINA RAIL INTERRUPTIONS TOOK PLACE AS A RESULT OF REVOLUTION IN CHINA,
commencing on 10 October with establishment of the Chinese Republic in December 1911.

EUROPE-BOUND MAIL WAS TEMPORARILY ROUTED FROM SHANGHAI BY SEA TO JAPAN, THEN VLADIVOSTOK, RUSSIA, FROM WHERE MAIL MOVED OVER THE NORTHERN TRANS-SIBERIAN RAILWAY ROUTE WESTWARD.

During this revolutionary period, the Provisional Government abolished 'pigtails', adopted the Western Calendar, and Sun Yat-Sen, became leader of the of the Kuomintang (Nationalist) Party, and, later, in 1921, was elected China's president.

10 DECEMBER 1911
(German Post Office)

Commercial mail,
postmarked at Shanghai,
route-endorsed
*"via Japan-
Vladivostok"*,
sent to Vienna, Austria.

Route:
Shanghai.. by sea..-
Japan-Vladivostok,
Russia, by train..-Irkutsk-
Moscow-Berlin-Vienna.

10 Cents....
Single-weight (20 grams)
UPU International
Letter-Rate



**27 DECEMBER
1911**
(German Post Office)

Commercial mail
postmarked at
Shanghai, route
endorsed
"Via Siberia",
sent to Bremen,
Germany.

Route:
Shanghai.. by sea..-
Japan-Vladivostok,
Russia, by train..-
Irkutsk-Moscow-
Berlin-Bremen

4 Cents....
Single-weight
concession-rate for
letter-mail from a
German Post Office
in China to Germany.

EXPANSION OF MAIL SERVICES
1907-1913

Midwestern United States-Bound Mail
1911-1912

MAIL TO THE MIDWESTERN UNITED STATES WAS ALSO ROUTED "VIA SIBERIA"
rather than via Yokohama-Seattle or San Francisco by sea
with train overland to destination.

USA-BOUND MAIL
TO
OHIO
(German Post Office)

3 JULY 1911

Single-weight cover,
postmarked at Peking,
China, sent to
Gettysburg, Ohio,
with route endorsement
"Via Siberia".

Arrival Postmark:
(Reverse)
"Gettysburg Received,
27 July 1911"

24-day transit time
Route:
Peking-Tientsin-
Mukden-Harbin-Irkutsk-
Moscow-Berlin-
Hamburg-Philadelphia-
Ohio



USA-BOUND MAIL
TO
MINNESOTA
(Chinese & French
Post Offices)

20 MARCH 1912

Official wax-sealed
American Consular
cover, postmarked at
Tientsin, China,
with route
endorsement
"Via Siberia"
sent to
Minneapolis,
Minnesota.

Transit Postmark:
(Reverse)
"Tien-Tsin-Chine,
21 March 1912"

Route:
Tientsin-Mukden-
Harbin- Irkutsk-
Moscow-Berlin-
Hamburg-New York

AMERICAN CONSULAR SERVICE
Tientsin, China.

Burt McGana, Esq.,
321 North Newton st.,

Via Siberia

Minneapolis,

Minnesota,

United States of America.

10 Cents..
UPU International Single-Weight (20 grams) Letter-Rate.

**EXPANSION OF MAIL SERVICES
1907-1913**

**Russian P.O. Vladivostok &
Trans-Siberian T.P.O. Mail**



**'WESTBOUND' MAIL FROM VLADIVOSTOK
ROUTED WITH THE TRANS-SIBERIAN RAILWAY,
mailed on-board or at the post office,
WAS CACHET ROUTE-ENDORSED
"BY SIBERIAN EXPRESS"
in German & Russian by the
Russian Post Office.**

**VLADIVOSTOK-
ORIGIN MAIL TO
ENGLAND**

25 AUGUST 1911

English sailor's mail
written on-board the
"SS Den of Ogil",
mailed at
Vladivostok, Russia,
for Redcar,
Yorkshire, England.

**Route:
Vladivostok-Harbin-
Irkutsk-Moscow-
Berlin-Hamburg-
England**

**4 Kopeck..
UPU International
Postcard-Rate**



**TRANS-SIBERIAN
EXPRESS T.P.O. MAIL**

11 JULY 1912

Art-Card,
postmarked aboard
'Train 3', sent to
Leipzig/re-directed to
Blumenau, Germany.

**Route:
Vladivostok T.P.O.-
Harbin-Irkutsk-
Moscow-Berlin-
Leipzig-Blumenau**

**4 Kopeck....
UPU International
Postcard-Rate**



CHINESE P.O. MAIL TO PENNSYLVANIA
(Chinese/Japanese Post Offices)

7 SEPTEMBER 1912

Cover, postmarked at Peking, China, sent to Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania, with route endorsement "Via Siberia".

Transit Postmark:
(Reverse)
"Mouken,
9 September, 1912"

Arrival Postmark:
(Reverse)
"Bryn Mawr,
29 September 1912"

22-day transit time:
Peking-Tientsin-Mukden-Harbin-Irkutsk-Moscow
Berlin-Hamburg-Philadelphia-Bryn Mawr

10 Cents..
UPU International Single-Weight (20 grams) Letter-Rate.



BRITISH P.O. MAIL TO PENNSYLVANIA
(Hong Kong Postage)

10 FEBRUARY 1913

"Shanghai Club" Cover,
postmarked Shanghai,
with route endorsement
"Via Siberia".

Route:
Shanghai-Pukow-Tientsin-
Muken-Harbin-Irkutsk-
Moscow-Berlin-Hamburg-
New York

20 Cents..
UPU International Single-
Weight (20 grams)
letter-Rate

EXPANSION OF MAIL SERVICES

1907-1913

Commercial Mail .. China - USA

1912-1913

THE TRANS-SIBERIAN ROUTE ENABLED AN EXPANSION OF COMMERCIAL MAIL USAGE TO NORTH AMERICA FROM CHINA BECAUSE OF LESS TRANSIT TIME (Approx. 21-25 Days) WITH THE IMPROVED RAIL CONDITIONS AND EXPRESS TRAINS VERSUS THE SEA ROUTES.

**PEKING-ORIGIN
BANK-MAIL TO
WASHINGTON
D.C.**

(German Post Office)

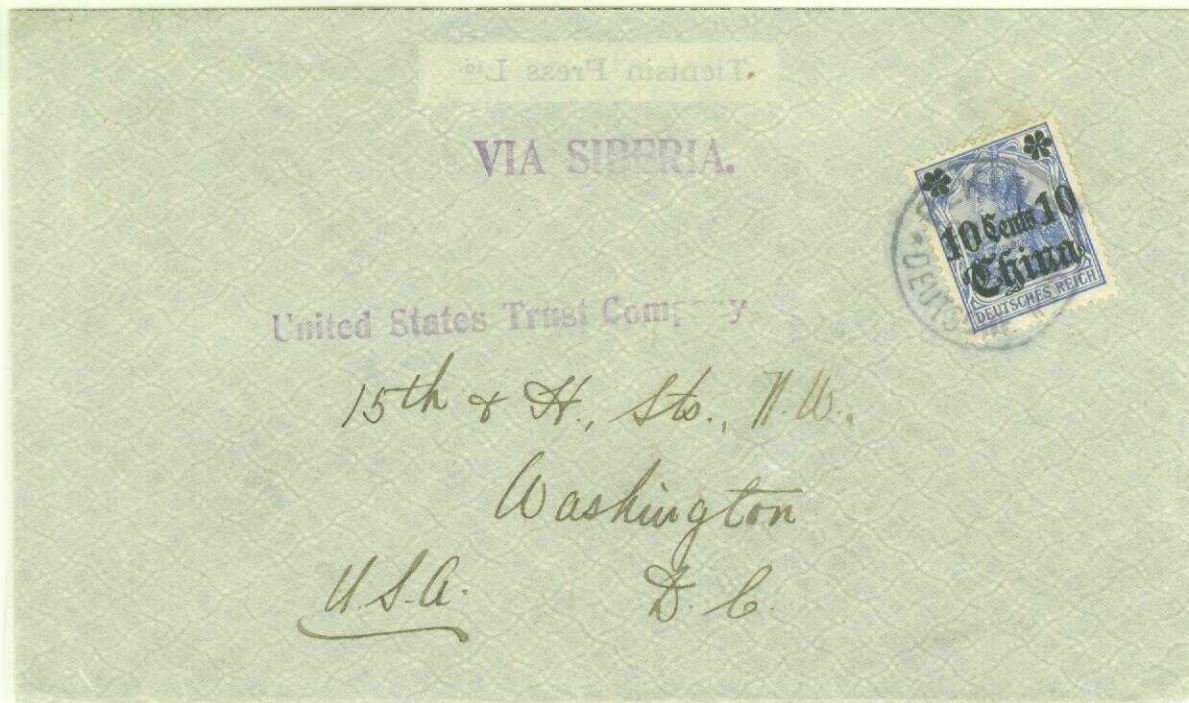
29 MARCH 1912

Bank mail,
postmarked at Peking,
China, sent to
Washington D.C., with
route endorsement
"Via Siberia".

Arrival Postmark:
(Reverse)
Washington D.C.,
April 20, 1912"

22-day Transit Time:
Peking-Tientsin-
Mukden-Harbin-
Irkutsk-Moscow-
Berlin-Hamburg-
Philadelphia

**10 Cents..
UPU Single-Weight
International
Letter-Rate.**



**TIENTSIN-ORIGIN
REGISTERED-MAIL TO
CHICAGO
(German Post Office)**

**28 OCTOBER
1913**

Commercial mail,
postmarked at
Tientsin, China, with
route endorsement
"Via Siberia",
sent to
"Montgomery
Ward & Co.",
Chicago.

Arrival Postmark:
(Reverse)
"Chicago, Illinois,
November 22,
1913"

25-Day Transit
Time:
Tientsin-Mukden-
Harbin- Irkutsk-
Moscow-Berlin-
Hamburg-U.S.A.



**20 Cents...
10 Cents: Single-Weight (20 grams) UPU International Letter-Rate +
10 Cents: Registration fee**

EXPANSION OF MAIL SERVICES

1907-1913

Commercial Mail to Germany

1912-1913

THE REDUCED 'CONCESSION RATE FOR MAIL SENT FROM A GERMAN POST OFFICE IN CHINA TO GERMANY' AS WELL AS A MUCH SHORTER TRANSIT TIME (Approx. 15 Days) TO EUROPE. EXPANSION OF MAIL FROM/TO CHINA FROM GERMANY INCREASED.

TIENTSIN-ORIGIN MAIL (German Post Office)

16 SEPTEMBER 1912

Cover, postmarked at Tientsin, China, sent to Berlin, Germany, with route endorsement "Via Siberia".

Route: Tientsin-Mukden-Harbin-Irkutsk-Moscow-Berlin



利亞藥房 The Oriental Pharmacy S. J. Betines & Co. PEKING.

Via Siberia



From Margarethe Fischer.

München.

Deutschland.

Görresstr. 41/0.

PEKING-ORIGIN MAIL (German Post Office)

8 FEBRUARY 1913

Cover, postmarked at Peking, China, with route endorsement "Via Siberia" sent to Munich, Germany.

Route: Peking-Tientsin-Mukden-Harbin-Irkutsk-Moscow-Berlin-Munich

4 Cents.. Single-weight (20 grams) concession letter-rate for mail sent to Germany.

**EXPANSION OF MAIL SERVICES
1907-1913**

**1912 – Returned/Undeliverable Mail
Germany-Manchuria-China-Germany**



GERMAN-ORIGIN RE-DIRECTED/RETURNED/INSPECTED/RESEALED UNDELIVERABLE MAIL

19 DECEMBER 1912

Cover, postmarked at Zehlendorf, Germany, sent to "Carl Klatt - Custom House" at Harbin, Manchuria, with route endorsement "Via Siberia".

Upon arrival at Harbin and finding no "Carl Klatt", the cover was forwarded to Tientsin, China, and, again not finding the recipient, subsequently returned to Zehlendorf where opened & inspected for the sender's address, resealed with a hand-stamp applied indicating the sender could not be determined.

Transit/Arrival Postmarks:
(Reverse)

"Harbin, Russian Post Office, 30 December 1912"
(Gregorian Calendar)

"Tientsin, Chinese Post Office, 27 March 1913"
"Zehlendorf, (manuscript) 11 April (1913)"

Route:

Zehlendorf-Berlin-Moscow-Irkutsk-Harbin-Mukden-
Tientsin-Mukden-Harbin-Irkutsk-Moscow-
Berlin-Zehlendorf

20 Pfennig....

Single-weight (20 grams) international letter-rate

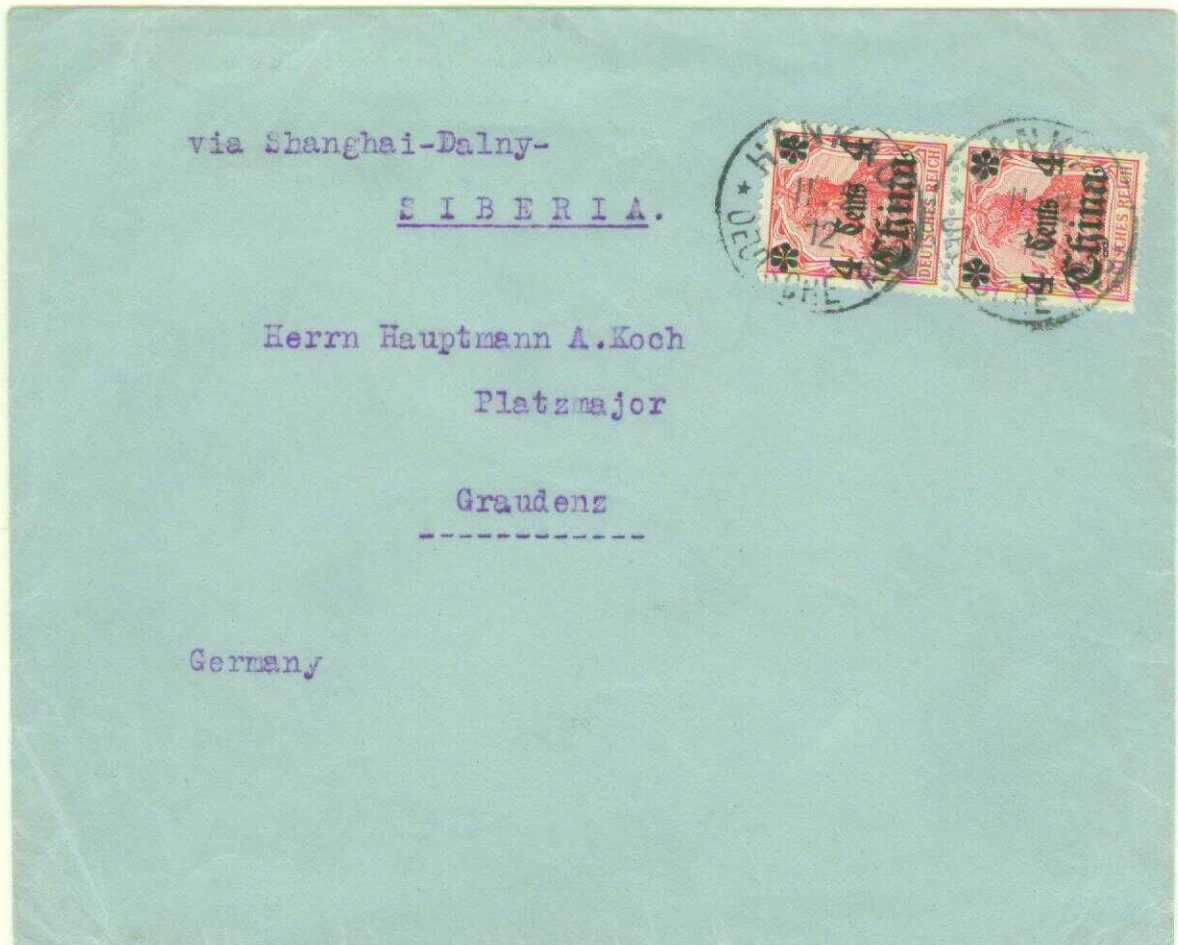


Reverse

EXPANSION OF MAIL SERVICES
1907-1913

Central China Mail to Europe
Prior to Opening of the 'Pukow-Tientsin' Railway
1912

PRIOR TO THE OPENING OF THE 'PUKOW-TIENTSIN RAILWAY' ON 1 JANUARY 1913,
MAIL FROM HANKAU (Hankow) & SHANGHAI IN CENTRAL CHINA HAD TO BE ROUTED
BY COASTAL VESSEL FROM SHANGHAI TO DALNY ON THE LIAOTUNG PENINSULA
connecting with the Chinese Eastern & South Manchurian Railways,
part of the trans-Siberian rail network.



COMMERCIAL MAIL SENT TO GERMANY
PRIOR TO OPENING OF THE 'PUKOW-TIENTSIN RAILWAY'
(German Post Office)

11 FEBRUARY 1912

Commercial cover written by "Carlowitz & Company",
postmarked at Hankau, China,
with route endorsement
"Via Shanghai-Dalny-Siberia",
sent to Graudenz, Germany.

Route:

Hankau-Shanghai- (by sea) -Dalny- (by rail) -Harbin-Irkutsk-Moscow-Berlin-Graudenz.

8 Cents....

Double-weight (20-250 grams) concession rate for
German Offices in China mail sent to Germany

EXPANSION OF MAIL SERVICES

1907-1913

German Post Office Control Mail

1912-1913

THE GERMAN REICHSPPOST AT BERLIN MONITORED & CONTROLLED THE MAIL BAGS PREPARED AND SHIPPED 'VIA SIBERIA' TO THEIR POST OFFICES IN CHINA IN FORM OF CONFIRMATION-OF-RECEIPT CARDS..

**to be completed by the recipient post office and returned to Berlin.
Information requested: date of receipt, bag number and transit time.**

GERMAN POST OFFICE AT HANKAU

27 MARCH 1912

Manuscript completed card indicating:

"Bag 28 shipped on 4 March received on 21 March.. 17 days transit time"

Route:

Berlin-Moscow-Irkutsk-Harbin-Mukden-Peking-Tientsin-Hankau

Free-frank post office official mail



Postkarte

An

das Kaiserliche Bahnpostamt Nr. 18

Postsache.

Berlin O. 17.



GERMAN POST OFFICE AT PEKING

16 MAY 1913

Pre-printed hand-completed card indicating:

"Bag 52 shipped on 1 May received on 16 May .. 15 days transit time"

Route:

Berlin-Moscow-Irkutsk-Harbin-Mukden-Peking

Free-frank post office official mail

EXPANSION OF MAIL SERVICES
1907-1913

French Post Office in China
Registered Mail to Italy
1913



REGISTERED MAIL FROM PEKING TO ROME
(French Post Office)

9 APRIL 1913

Registered cover, postmarked at the French Post Office at Peking,
sent to Rome, Italy, with route endorsement
"via Siberia".

Arrival Postmark:
(Reverse)
"Roma,
27 April 1913"
18-day transit time

Route:
Peking-Tientsin-Mukden-Harbin-Irkutsk-
Moscow-Berlin-Leipzig-Munich-Rome

20 Cents...
10 Cents.. Single-Weight (20 grams)
UPU International Letter-Rate +
10 Cents.. Registration fee

EXPANSION OF MAIL SERVICES

1907-1913

über Sibirien

Frauentin Lucie Hiern

Schn



1259

Mad

Einschreiben.

Oversize Registered Letter
German P.O. in China Mail to Germany

en. 13



erundar

hwerin

Mecklenburg

skrankent. aus.

TIENTSIN-ORIGIN OVERSIZED
(320 x 250mm)
REGISTERED LETTER MAIL
SENT TO GERMANY
(German Post Office)

3 OCTOBER 1913

Registered cover,
postmarked at the German
Post Office at Tientsin, China,
with route endorsement
"Via Siberia"
sent to Schwerin, Germany.
12-day transit time.

Arrival Postmark:
(Reverse)
"15 October 1913,
Schwerin (Mecklb.)"

Route:
Tientsin-Mukden-Harbin-
Irkutsk-Moscow-Berlin-
Schwerin

18 Cents...
8 Cents..
Double-weight
(260 grams) concession
letter-rate for mail sent to
Germany through a German
Post Office in China +
10 Cents.. registration fee
(Validity: 1 July 1913 -
8 September 1915)

EXPANSION OF MAIL SERVICES

1907-1913

Mail from/to Central China-Europe

'Pukow-Tientsin' Railway

1913

MAIL FROM GERMANY TO HANKAU, CHINA
(German/Russian Post Offices)

2 JUNE 1913

Patriotic view-card, postmarked Satteldorf, Germany, sent to a German Consulate employee at Hankau, with route endorsement "via Siberia".

Arrival Postmark: "Hankau, Russian Post Office China, 8 June 1913 (Julian Calendar) = 20 June"

18-day Transit Time: Satteldorf-Stuttgart-Berlin-Moscow-Irkutsk-Harbin-Mukden-Tientsin-Hankau

5 Pfennig.. Concession postcard-rate for mail to a German Post Office in China.

THE 'PUKOW-TIENTSIN RAIL LINE',
built by a German-British Consortium between 1909-1912,
CONNECTED WITH THE CHINESE NORTHERN AND EASTERN RAILWAYS,
THE LATTER BEING PART OF THE TRANS-SIBERIAN NETWORK.
With completion of the 1271m (4131 ft.) bridge across the Hoangho (Yellow) River,
effective 1 January 1913, German Post Office mail bags from Shanghai and Hankau could move by express train to/from Europe over the Trans-Siberian Rail Network in as little as 15 days!



HANKAU-ORIGIN MAIL TO SWITZERLAND
(German Post Office)

4 DECEMBER 1913

View-card, postmarked at Hankau, China, sent to Geneva, Switzerland, with route endorsement "Via Siberia".

Route: Hankau-Tientsin-Mukden-Harbin-Irkutsk-Moscow-Berlin-Suttgart-Basle (Basel)-Geneva

4 Cents.... UPU International Postcard-Rate