

1926 Madrid-Manila Flight

Spain organised this flight to show its prowess in aviation.

The Philippines was a Spanish colony from the 1560s until 1898. This flight was the most important event in restoring friendly relationships between the two countries.

On 5 April 1926, three planes departed Madrid bound for Manila. Two planes crashed en route but a Breguet Type 19 bomber reached the Philippines at Aparri on 11 May, with aviators Loriga and Gallarza.



This cover was prepared by Stephen Smith, and signed by pilot Loriga.

Calcutta 18 Apr 1926, to Manila



Aparri
13 May 1926
to Manila

At Manila, this large cachet was applied to the reverse of all covers. It caused some smudging on the front.

They received a tremendous welcome at Aparri in northern Luzon, and they flew to Manila on 13 May.

While they stayed at Aparri enterprising philatelists were able to prepare covers to be carried on the flight.

