

Second Earliest AV2 Cover in the World

The second-oldest known example of an AV2 cover anywhere in the world.

The AV2 marking was applied to the top item in a bundle of letters for onward air transmission.



Manila 28 Apr 1937, to London

On 28 April 1937 Pan Am extended its service from Manila to HK.

This was the first time that Hong Kong was the point of connection of two flights. The AV2 marking, in pencil lower left, was applied to the top letter in a pile of letters from Philippines to London.

Heifetz (2000) surveyed all known AV2 covers, and a 1934 example was the only one recorded before 1938.

Rate

88c, single rate up to 5 gram.

Air from Manila to Hong Kong by Pan Am Clipper = 40c (per 15g).

Air HK to Europe = 36c (per 5g).

Foreign Letter = 12c (per 20g).

Markings

All covers on this first flight from Manila were stamped with the First Flight cachet. Most were philatelic addressed to HK or Macao. Very few continued onto Europe like this cover.

Note there is correctly no marking PAR AVION / (HONG KONG) / VIA AIR MAIL.

Victoria Hong Kong 28 Apr.