

WW2 Routes and Rates to Europe (1939-40)

In Europe the War began in early September 1939. The first effect was on the routes to Europe, which were changed to fly in southern Europe. As the war progressed some European portions of the routes went by surface. Airmail rates from the Philippines to Europe were reduced at the beginning of 1940.

Imperial Airways' new route in Europe

When the War started the route from Athens to England was changed to fly in southern Europe. From Athens the planes flew via Corfu, Rome, Marseilles and Biscarosse. The English port became Poole, and later Southampton.



Route

To HK by sea.
By Imperial branch
line to Bangkok,
and then to Poole.
To Denmark by sea
instead of air.

Markings

Victoria 10 Sept.
"By air to London
only" in UK.

Rate

48c single via HK.

Manila
7 Sept 1939
to Denmark

Route

This cover was on
the last flight to
arrive at Poole on
11 October.

Backstamp

Victoria 1 Oct.

Rate

1P 98c, quintuple
rate, 21-25g.

Air from HK, 36c
x 5. Foreign letter
12c for first 20g +
6c for next 20g.

Manila
28 Sept 1939
to England

