By Air to USA, then by Air to Europe Last Pacific Flight. Disrupted by War.

This letter was undeliverable as both its destination and its origin became engulfed in war during its transit.



Manila 28 Nov 1941, to the Hague, Netherlands

1P 72c stamps in Manila for the Two-Oceans route.

Endorsed "Clipper and Transatlantic / Lisboa to Holland."

This cover was carried by the "China Clipper" which left Manila on 1 Dec. The Japanese attacked Manila at the same time as Pearl Harbour. There were no more airmail flights out of Manila.

This letter was carried via Honolulu, San Francisco and New York to Bermuda.

At Bermuda it was opened by a British censor and resealed. The Examiner Number 4522 was recorded used in Bermuda by Konrad Morenweiser.

There are no backstamps, so we cannot be sure what happened next. It is very likely that it was carried by air to Lisbon.

It was no longer possible to send mail to Netherlands because of the War.

It is possible that it was sent to Britain.

It was decided to return the letter to its sender.

It was sent by sea to New York.

The New York Post Office knew it could not be returned to the Philippines. It was stamped:

RETURN / TO SENDER / SERVICE SUSPENDED - New York / 24 July 1942.

