From Rocket Mail to Space Mail

Between the two world wars, enthusiastic young men launched rockets containing mail. Their goal was not only rocket mail, but also to initiating space travel. In 1928 Austrian Friedrich Schmiedl shot missives with pre-trial rockets. In 1931 real rocket mail followed. On 15.04.1931 Reinhard Tilling shot postcards with his rocket glider near Osnabruck. In June 1931 William Swan ignited a pair of rockets on his glider in Atlantic City, NJ. A month later a model airplane was equipped with two rockets in Struthers, Ohio. In May 1932 Franz Kareis ignited first liquid fuelled mail rocket K 7 in Wien, Austria. In 1936 mail was shot from McAllen, Texas in USA to Reynosa, Taumalipas in Mexico. On 15.10.1939 the first postage stamps for rocket mail were issued in Havana, Cuba.

After German A-4 war rockets shot from Peenemunde reached space, rocket mail flights not leaving the earth's gravitational field could not significantly contribute to rocketry and space research. Thus pioneer rocket mail ends with the end of world war.

On 04.10.1957 the Soviet Union shot the very first satellite Sputnik into earth orbit. Russian Yuri Gagarin was the first human to reach space with Vostok-1 on 12.04.1961. NASA astronauts Borman, Lovell and Anders circled our Moon on Apollo 8 in 1968.

On 12.11.1960 US spy satellite Discoverer-17 carried letters addressed to dignitaries. The first opportunity of real space mail was in January 1969, when Soyuz 4 and 5 docked. Cosmonaut Yevgeni Khrunov delivered two letters to Vladimir Shatalov. Astronauts took covers around the Moon with Apollo 11, 13 and 15 and to lunar surface with Apollo 14, 15 and 16. Neil Armstrong took a postmark to the Moon, Dave Scott two.

Regular space mail began when the first visiting crew arrived at Salyut-6 station in 1978. In March 1978 Alexej Gubarev and the Czech Vladimir Remek delivered postmarks. Georgi Grechko was appointed first postmaster in orbit. Extensive mailings went on in Salyut-7, Mir and ISS. A permanent post office was installed on board Mir in 1988.

US Space Shuttles Discovery, Atlantis und Endeavour docked with Mir and later ISS. Most of these flights delivered mail for cosmonauts on board the station or back to earth, respectively. The construction of the International Space Station began in 1998. ISS has been constantly manned since 2.11.2000. In 2008 the Russian segment of the ISS received a postmark. Special Russian postmarks were issued for anniversaries like 55 years Sputnik, 15 years ISS modul Sarya launch and 40 years Soyuz Apollo docking.

China sent covers with recoverable satellites and all unmanned and manned Shenzhou flights and Tiangong-1 space station. Covers surrounded the Moon with Chang'e 5-T1.

Most of the covers shown are flown; many contain letters handwritten by cosmonauts.

Common information is straight, *philatelic aspects in Italian letters.*

Friedrich Schmiedl

Schmiedl launched his 1 m high trial rocket V1 from Schöckl mountain towards Radegund. It already landed softly due to a parachute.

Schmiedl noted on 19 covers shot with V 2 on 03.07.1928: "Final goal of my rocket flight trials are rocket mail and space travel".

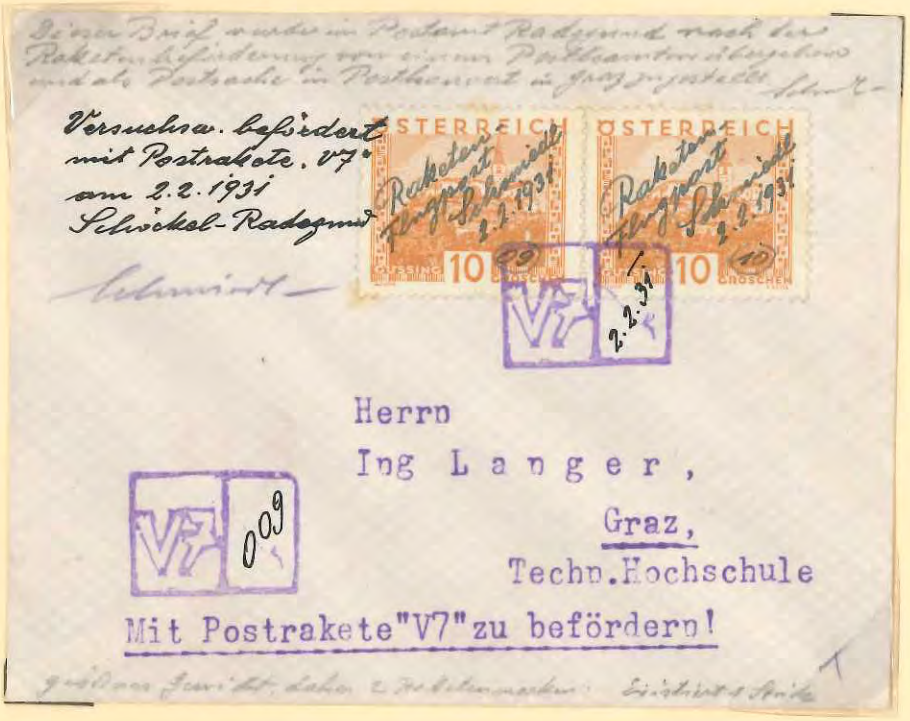
V 3 and V 4 were shot simultaneously from Schöckl plateau towards Radegund for determining the deviation of their trajectories.

V 3 and V 4 were equipped with measuring instruments for temperature and pressure.

On each V 5 flown cover Schmiedl noted: "Theoretically letter mail may be delivered from Europe to America within 40 minutes. Theoretically rockets can reach every point of the earth's surface in less than 1 hour. Theoretically we can leave Earth with rockets: Space Flight."

A shortwave radio control should V 6 back to the Schöckl plateau. The missile oversteered and crashed. *A cover was burnt significantly.*

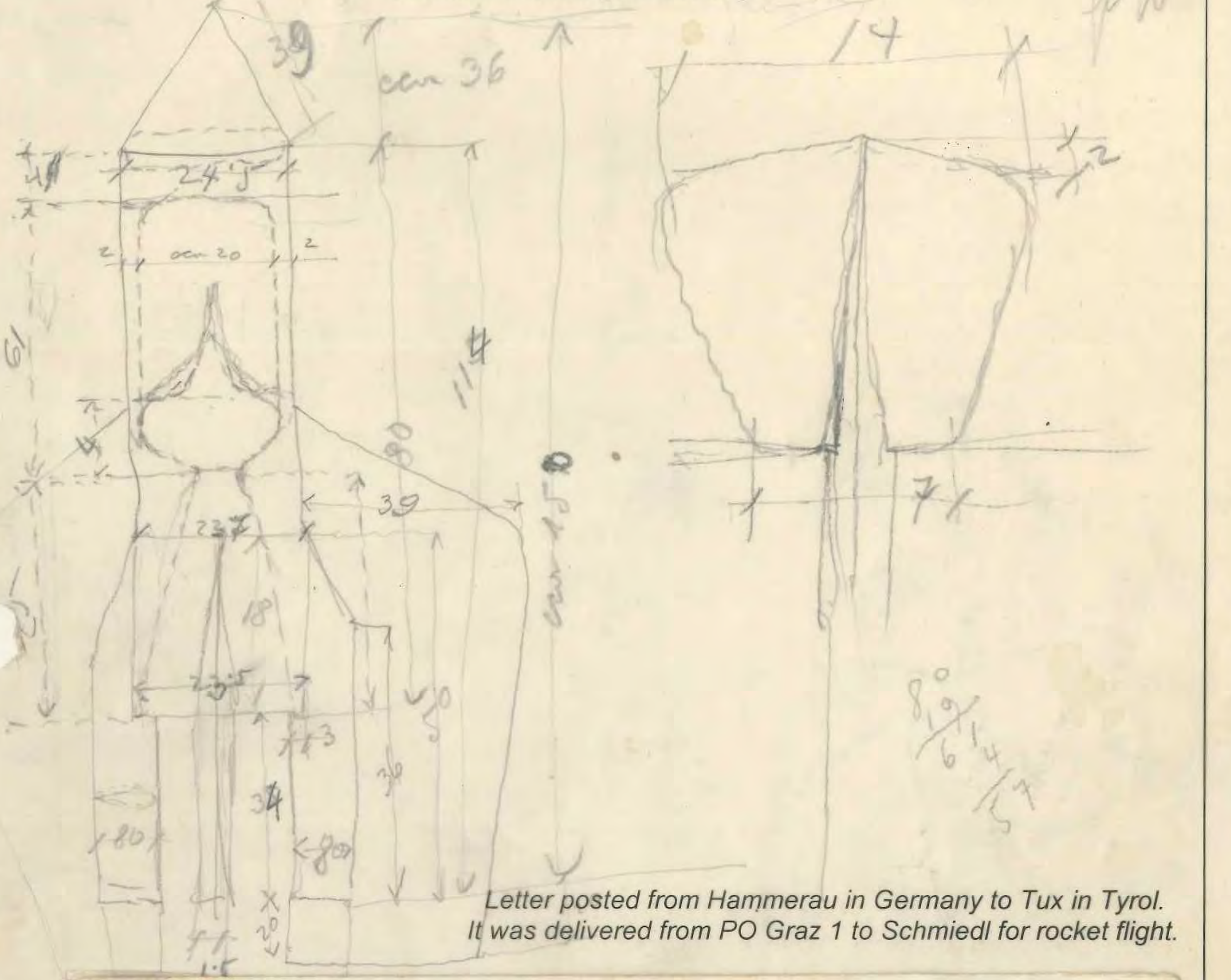
On 02.02.1931 Schmiedl shot its V 7 rocket from Schöckl to St. Radegund. It was equipped with shortwave remote control and a gyro stabilization. *Only one cover was franked with two Manuscript Stamps. Unlike most V 7 flown items it was put into a letter box and delivered as official business.*



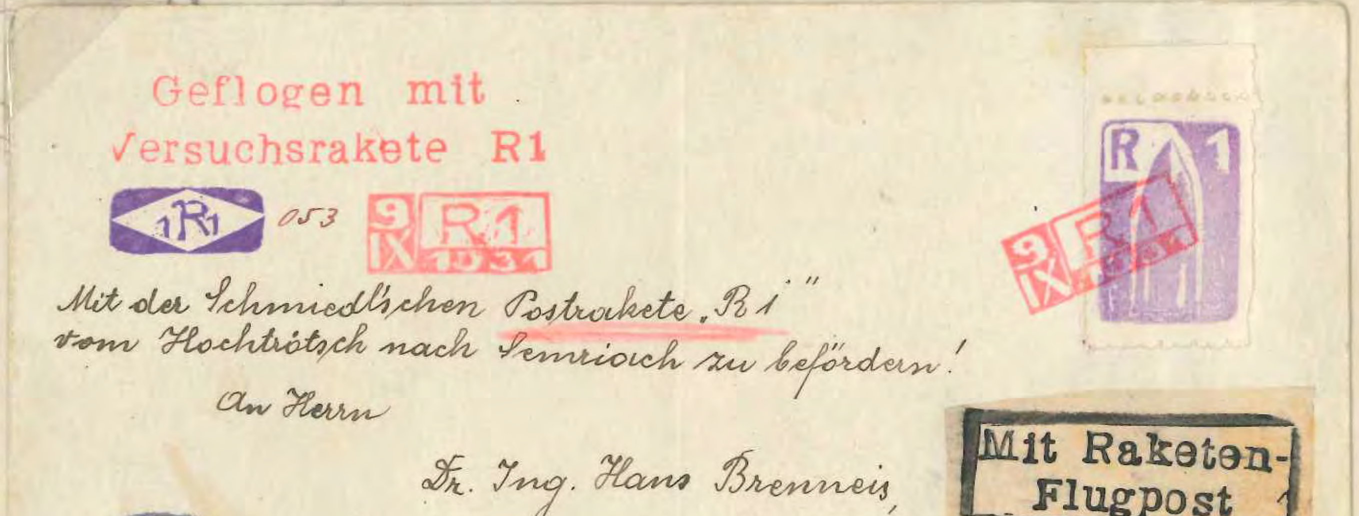
Unflown *Rocket-Flight Postcard B which later was cancelled with a* ***faked*** *rocket cancellation.*

On 9.09.1931 Schmiedl shot his regular rocket R 1 from Hochtrötsch mountain towards Semriach. The rocket was 1.5 m heigh and propelled by 24 kg solid fuel. It reached a height of 14 km, before landing on a parachute 7 km away. Beetles and butterflies were flown. *Registered letter to Chicago.*

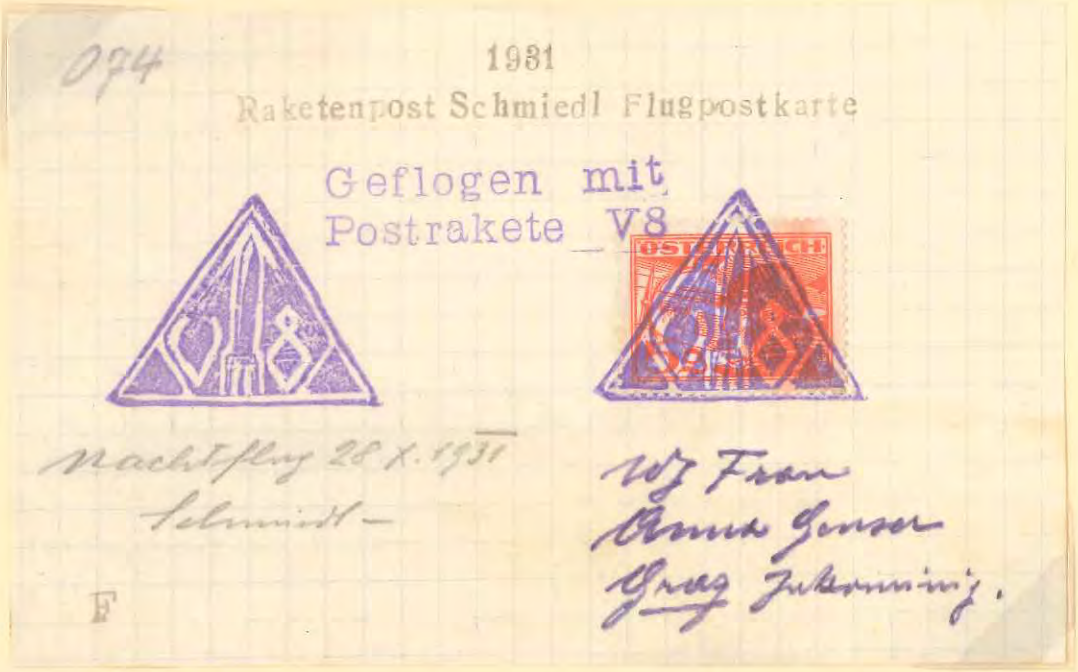
Schmiedl's drawing for building R 1



Letter posted from Hammerau in Germany to Tux in Tyrol.
It was delivered from PO Graz 1 to Schmiedl for rocket flight.

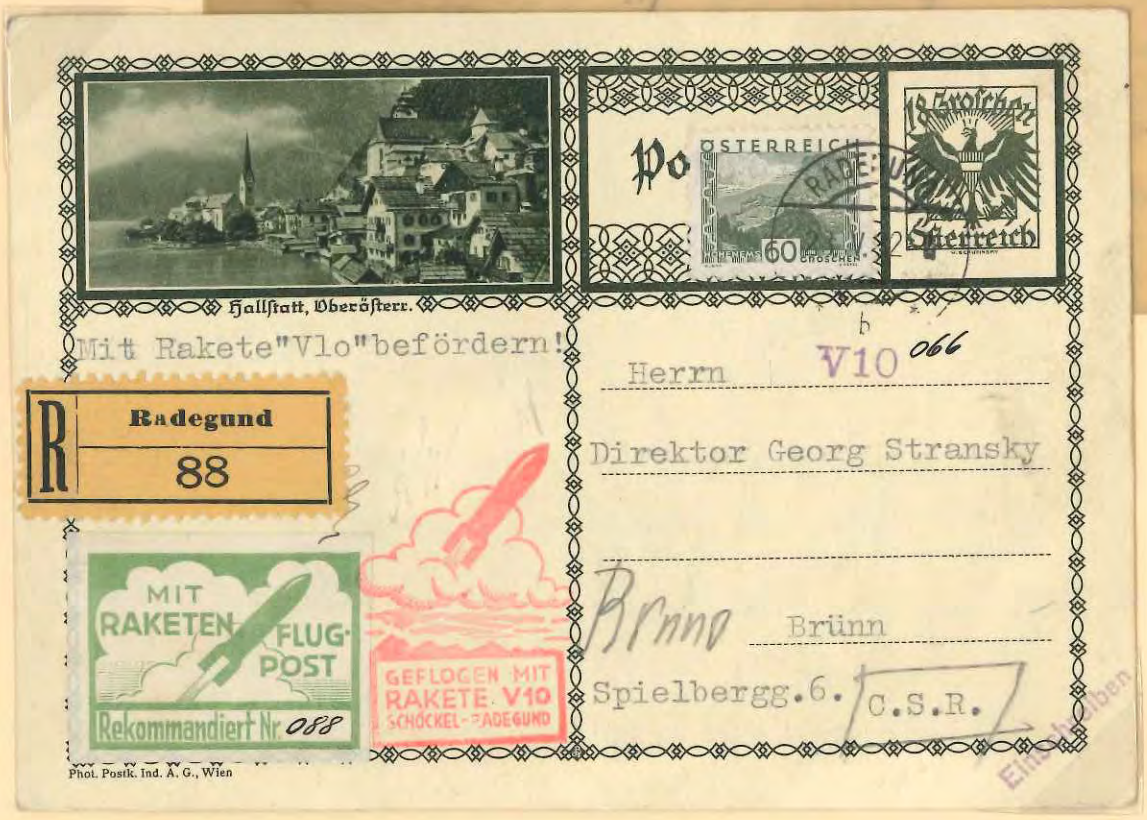


On 28.10.1931 Schmiedl shot world's first night postal rocket from Grazerfeld to St. Peter. Simulating lunar orientation he guided the rocket using selenium cells. However, it missed the illuminated balloon. *Rocket-Flight Postcard F with a 5 g airmail stamp prepared by Schmiedl. Its borders are reddish.*

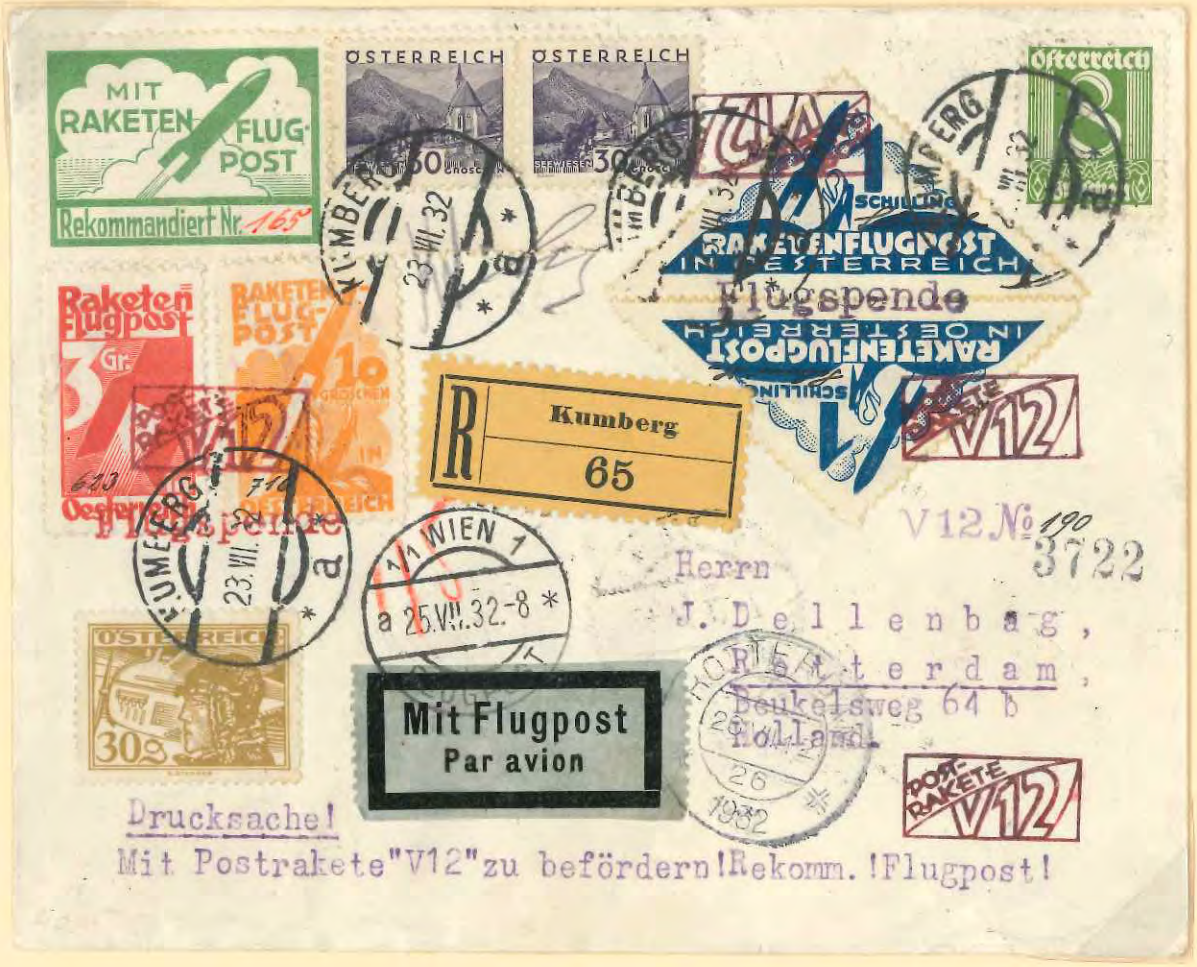


On 11.04.1932 Schmiedl inserted V 11 to test rocket trajectory during night and storm conditions. 28 items were flown, including 11 items posted from Liebenau. *10 g surcharge were charged for poste restante address. The rocket cancellation consists of two parts. Thus rocket location differs.*

On 23.05.1932 Schmiedl shot his V 10 from Schöckl near the Stubenberghaus towards Radegund.
Design for rocket stamp for V 10 rocket cancellation. Eduard Hodurek manufactured rocket stamps and cancellation device. Registered card to Brno in Czechoslovakia with imperforated green rocket stamp.



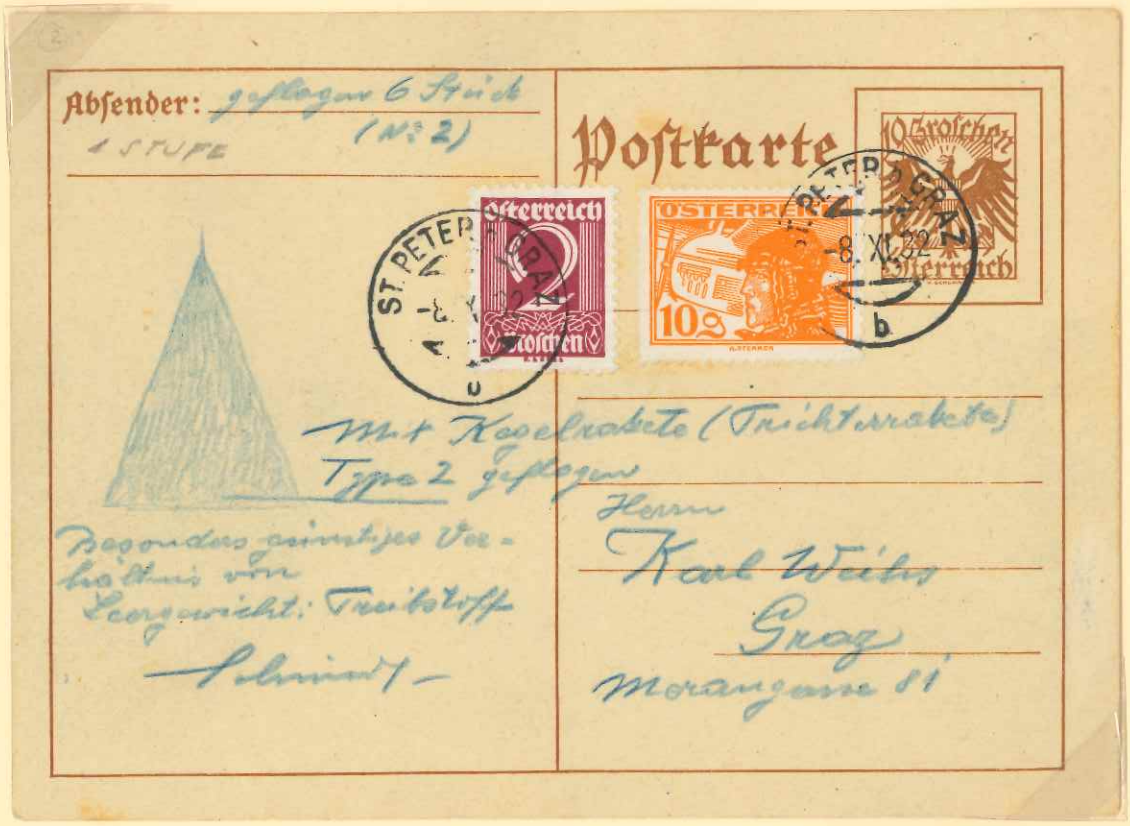
On 23.07.1932 Schmiedl shot V 12 from Schöckl plateau towards Kumberg. *Airmail to Holland was transported from South Station TA Wien 76 R/a to telegraph office Wien 1 R/b by pneumatic tube.*



To demonstrate how cut-off huts could be supplied, Schmiedl fixed a fireworks rocket on his V 13. Upon V 13 landing near Kumberg he shot the reply rocket without launch pad back towards Schöckl. It covered only 800 m and drifted. *Only a single V 13 flown letter-card was shot with the reply rocket.*

Gravity and air resistance decrease at higher altitudes. Thus initially rockets need most drive. Schmiedl built models of cone-funnel rockets which should be suitable for space flights and crossing the Channel. The two stage cone-funnel rocket type 1 was 50 cm high and *carried 6 postcards*.

On 08.11.1932 Schmiedl tested also 50 cm high cone-funnel rocket type 2 successfully at Grazerfeld. He put the nozzles into a massive nozzle plate. Edge nozzles and rudders achieved remote control. The conical shape and solid fuels of different thrust optimized the payload to take-off weight ratio.



On 17.03.1933 Schmiedl shot V14 from mountain Garrachwände towards the Styrian village Arzberg. *For this experiment he crafted envelopes of tissue paper. Austrian Staatsdruckerei printed postage stamps. Back then 5 g was postage for printed matter domestic up to 50 g or abroad up to 10 g.*

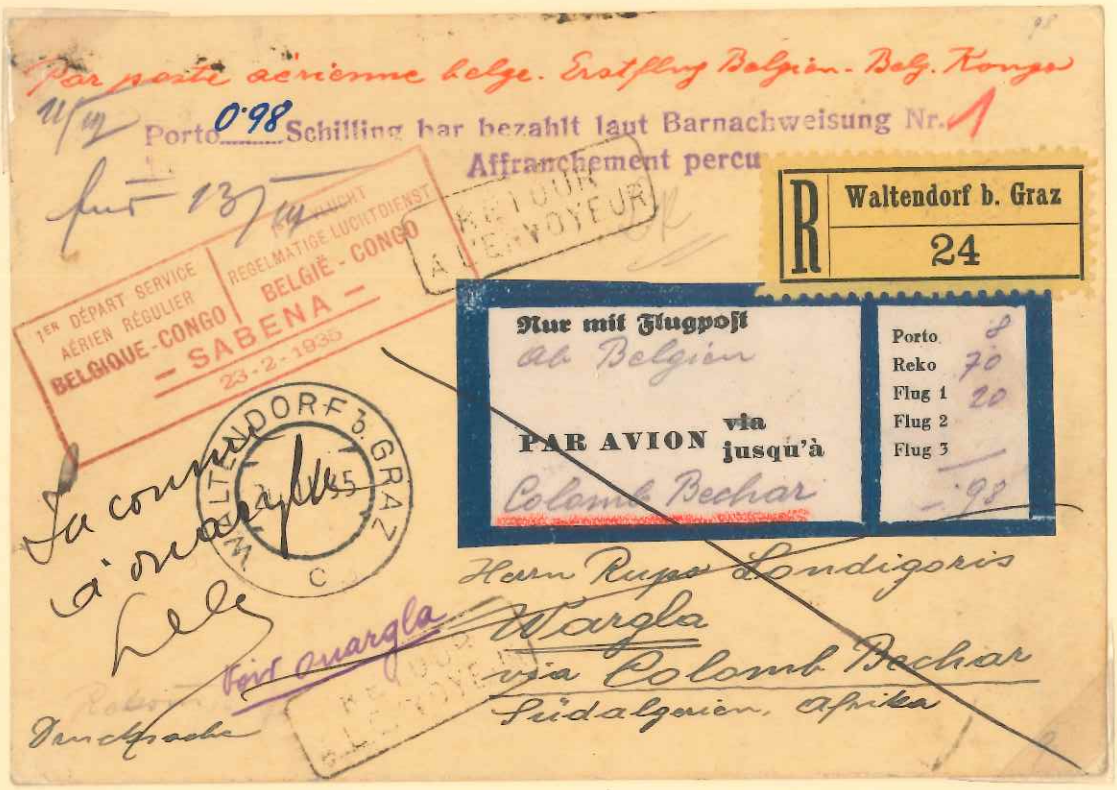
When V 14 reached its peak, an inflatable balloon was ejected to show the air flow. The balloon was not found until the next day. Therefore Schmiedl hold the trial for a failure. *The imprinted postage stamp of the only cover carried remained unused. Arrival postmark Graz 1 17.03.1933 on its back.*

On 27.09.1933 Schmiedl shot V 15 and V 16 from 1,720 m high Hochlantsch towards St. Jakob. *The two covers shown were delivered with connecting flight from Berlin to Friedrichshafen and with Zeppelin from Friedrichshafen to Curitiba in Brazil. Postage was 3.78 S (printed matter abroad 8 g, registered 70 g, connecting flight 20 g and Zeppelin 2.80 S transportation). 28 g were added in Vienna.*

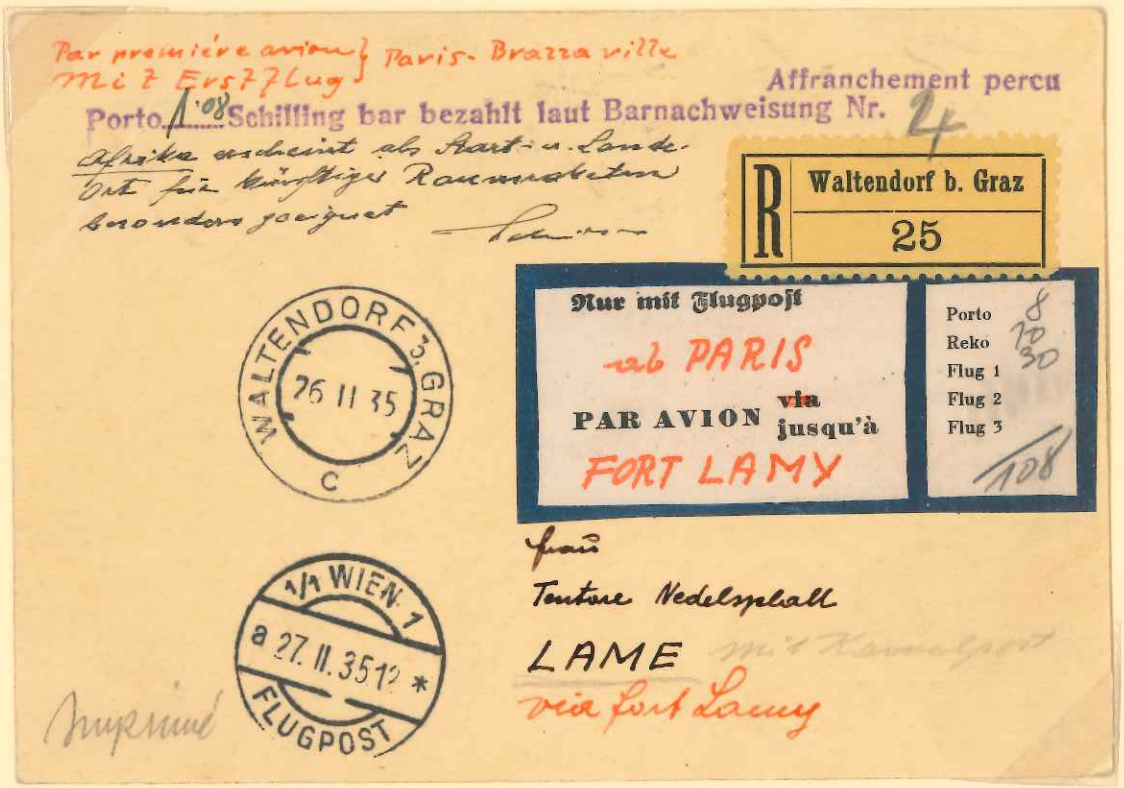
On 29.12.1933 Schmiedl shot his Katapult rocket K 1 from a small boat at Murtal barrier lake. He named a slow booster bringing K 1 into mid-air without endangering people in the boat Catapult. *Schmiedl overprinted 20 g rocket stamps with „Katapultflug“. Cover with tête-bêche rocket stamps.*

A genuine flown cover with scarce variety Overprint above rocket was „improved“ by a ***faked inverted overprint****. It is lustreless instead of shimmering bluish in sunlight. “f” and “l” are further distanced. Double overprinted stamps on cover are scarce. No cover with double overprint, one inverted is known.*

In February 1935 Schmiedl launched three small rockets testing heat and cold resistant rocket fuel. Each was loaded with 9 blank cardboards. *On 23.02.1935 they were delivered with Sabena first flight to Léopoldville, Belgian Congo. R-No. 16 to 24 flew with 1st desert rocket. Card to Colomb-Béchar.*



A few days later 4th Desert rocket carried 16 postcards R-No. 13 to 28. They were delivered with Air Afrique first flight subsequent to the Air France route Paris to Algiers. 3 got lost. On some Schmiedl noted: "Africa seems particularly suitable as a launch and landing site for future space rockets." Cards of all 5 desert rockets bear postage in specie. Card sent to an oasis near Fort Lamy, Chad.



On 21.12.1935 Schmiedl shot N 6 from the Kanzel mountain towards Gösting bei Graz. Fuel was liquid hydrogen and alcohol. *All 27 flown covers were dispatched registered. On 23.12.1930 Gösting post office was renamed "Gösting bei Graz". Old registration label were used with stamped suffix "b/Graz".*

Schmiedl shot N 7 from Kanzel towards Gösting bei Graz. Three solid rockets served as starting aid. These boosters were not ejected at cut-off. Fuel of the main stage were liquid oxygen and ethyl alcohol. After vertical launch N 7 was deflected by IR remote control. Short flights of N 6 and N 7 disappointed.

Reinhold Tiling

On 15.04.1931 Tiling launched his rocket plane (K) FTL 3 on Ochsenmoor at Dümer lake. The swing-wing rocket rose vertically to a height of 1.5 to 1.8 km, spread wings and circled within 5 minutes to earth. It landed near the launch site. *The flown photo-postcards were dispatched at post office Dielingen.*

3 cards lack Reinhold Tiling's signature. Card #41 bears 2 postmarks.

The launch protocol was postmarked, signed and sealed by the post office Dielingen.

P r o t o k o l l

aufgenommen am Mittwoch, den 15. April 1931

Betr. 1. Deutscher Flugraketenstart mit Postbeförderung.

Am Mittwoch, den 15. April 1931, nachmittags 15 Uhr, fanden auf dem Ochsenmoor am Dümmersee, Post Dielingen, Regierungsbezirk Osnabrück, Provinz Hannover, durch den Ingenieur Reinhold T i l i n g die ersten Startvorführungen der von ihm erfundenen Flugzeugraketen statt.

Die Raketenstarte waren keine Experimente, sondern Vorführungen, die den bisher erreichten Stand der Tiling'schen Arbeit an der Rakete und ihrer Verwendung für Verkehrszwecke kennzeichnen sollten.

Bei dieser Gelegenheit wurde unter Beweis gestellt, dass mit diesen Flugraketen praktisch Post befördert werden kann.

Etwa gegen 15 Uhr 30 startete die erste Postrakete. Senkrecht schiesst die Rakete empor, hoch, immer höher scheint sie sich in die blaue Himmelskuppel bohren zu wollen. So steigt sie ca. 1500 bis 1800 m hoch. "Achtung! Die Auslösung!" Und programmässig-fast in der Sekunde der Ankündigung-sieht man, wie sich die Flügel der Rakete selbstständig auslösen. In wunderbar ruhigem Gleitflug, grosse Kreise über der jubelnden Zuschauerschar ziehend, gleitet das Raketenflugzeug langsam zur Erde nieder. Fast 5 Minuten dauert es, bis ganz dicht an der Abschusstelle das Flugzeug auf einer Wiese unbeschädigt landet. Die Vorführungen fanden vor etwa 200 geladenen Gästen der Behörden, Presse, Wissenschaft und Technik statt.

Es wurden insgesamt 190 Photo-Karten, deren Bild eine soeben startende Tiling-Rakete im Flug zeigt, hergestellt. Die Adressenseite wurde mit folgendem Aufdruck versehen:

1. Deutscher Postraketenstart
15. April 1931 am Dümmersee — Raketen-Postkarte

Sämtliche Karten wurden fortlaufend nummeriert und vom Erfinder, Reinhold Tiling, eigenhändig unterschrieben.

2 Fehldrucke wurden vernichtet. Es gelangten also 188 Karten mit der Rakete zur Beförderung. Diese waren vorher mit nachstehendem rotem Stempel versehen worden:

Tiling
Raketenflugzeug
(K) F T L 3
Osnabrück
15. IV. 1931

Nach Landung der Rakete wurde die Post entnommen und zu dem etwa 10 Minuten entfernt liegendem Postamt Dielingen, wo sie durch den nachstehenden amtlichen Poststempel entwertet wurden, gebracht. Etwa 10 Karten waren durch die Pulverdämpfe angeschwärzt.

Für die anwesenden Behörden- und Presse-Vertreter war ein Teil dieser Karten "postlagernd Dielingen" gesandt worden, während der Rest der beförderten Raketenpost auf gewöhnlichem Wege durch die Reichspost den Adressaten zugestellt wurde.

Die Unterzeichneten erklären hierdurch, dass sich der Vorgang, wie oben angegeben, abgespielt hat.

Eduard Petersilie jr. — Bernard Brickwedde

Reinhold Tiling

Reinhold Tiling

- - -

Für die Richtigkeit:

Städt. Verkehrs- u. Presseamt
Osnabrück

Für die Fertigmachung, Zählung und Übergabe der Post:

Dielingen, am 15. April 1931

Hans Neubert

DIELINGEN 15.4.31. 3-4N.

Deutsche Reichspost Dielingen

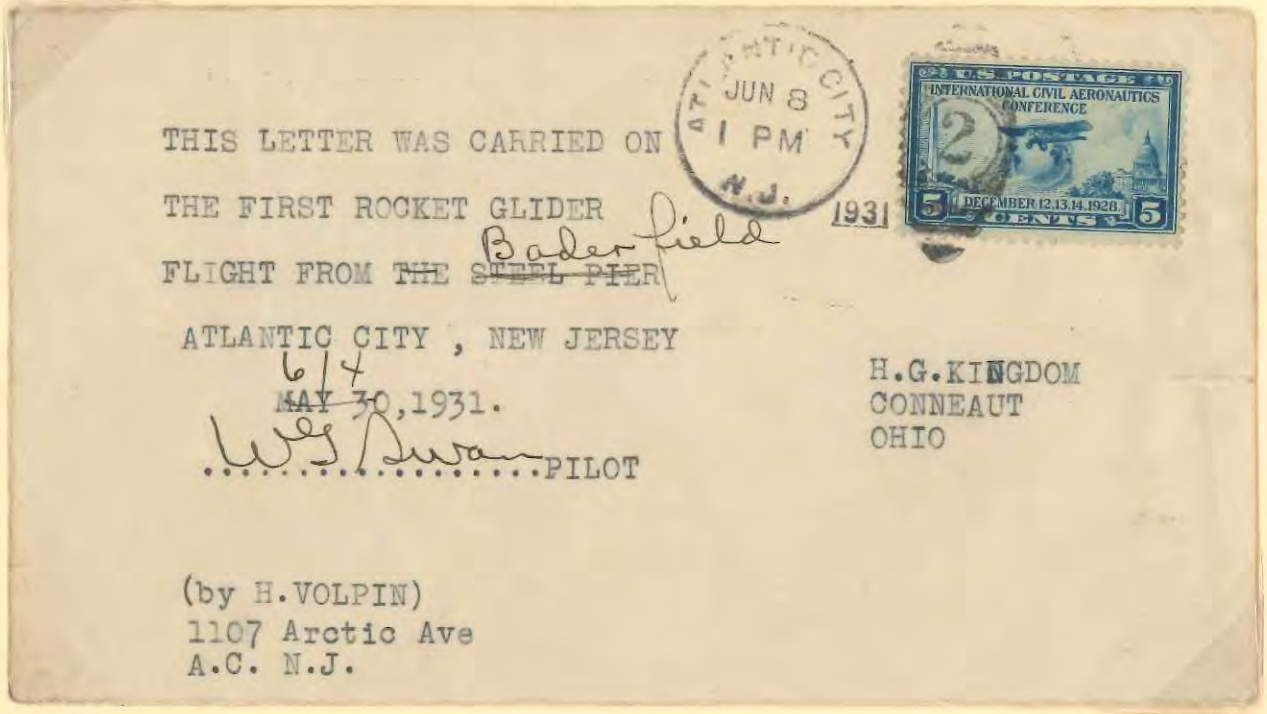
Dielingen, den 15. April 1931.

Postamt

Köhling

William G. Swan

William Swan wanted to fly his rocket glider on steel jetty in Atlantic City as a summer attraction. On 04.06.1931 his first trial took place from Bader airfield in Atlantic City, New Jersey. Ground crew catapulted his 90 kg glider into the air. Swan lit the first rocket pair. He was nearly catapulted from his seat. The pilot did not take any further risk and landed after 8 minutes 300 meters away from start.

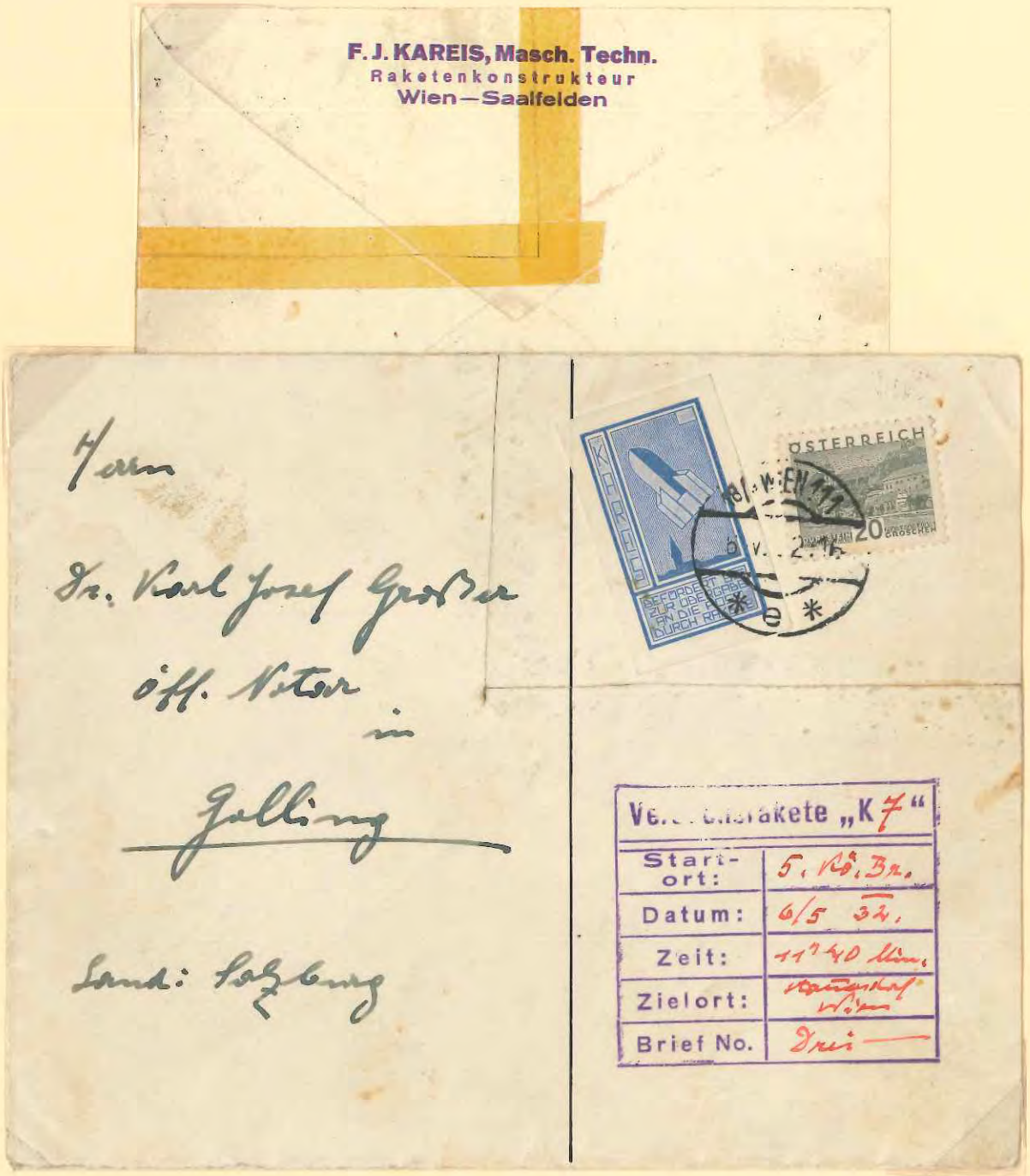


Miniature Airways

On 01.07.1931 a model airplane tournament was held in Struthers, Ohio. During this event *20 covers* were flown with a model aircraft equipped with rockets from the Struthers towards Poland. *Flown covers were postmarked Struthers JUL 1 12.30 PM. On the back is an arrival postmark of Poland at 4 PM.*

Franz Josef Kareis

On 06.05.1932 at 11:40 AM Franz Kareis shot his trial rocket K 7 from Königsbrunn towards Stammersdorf in the 21st district of Wien. For the first time covers were flown by a liquid-fuel rocket.
Stamp and rocket stamp were postmarked at a post office near Kareis' home at Michaelerstraße.



Gerhard Zucker

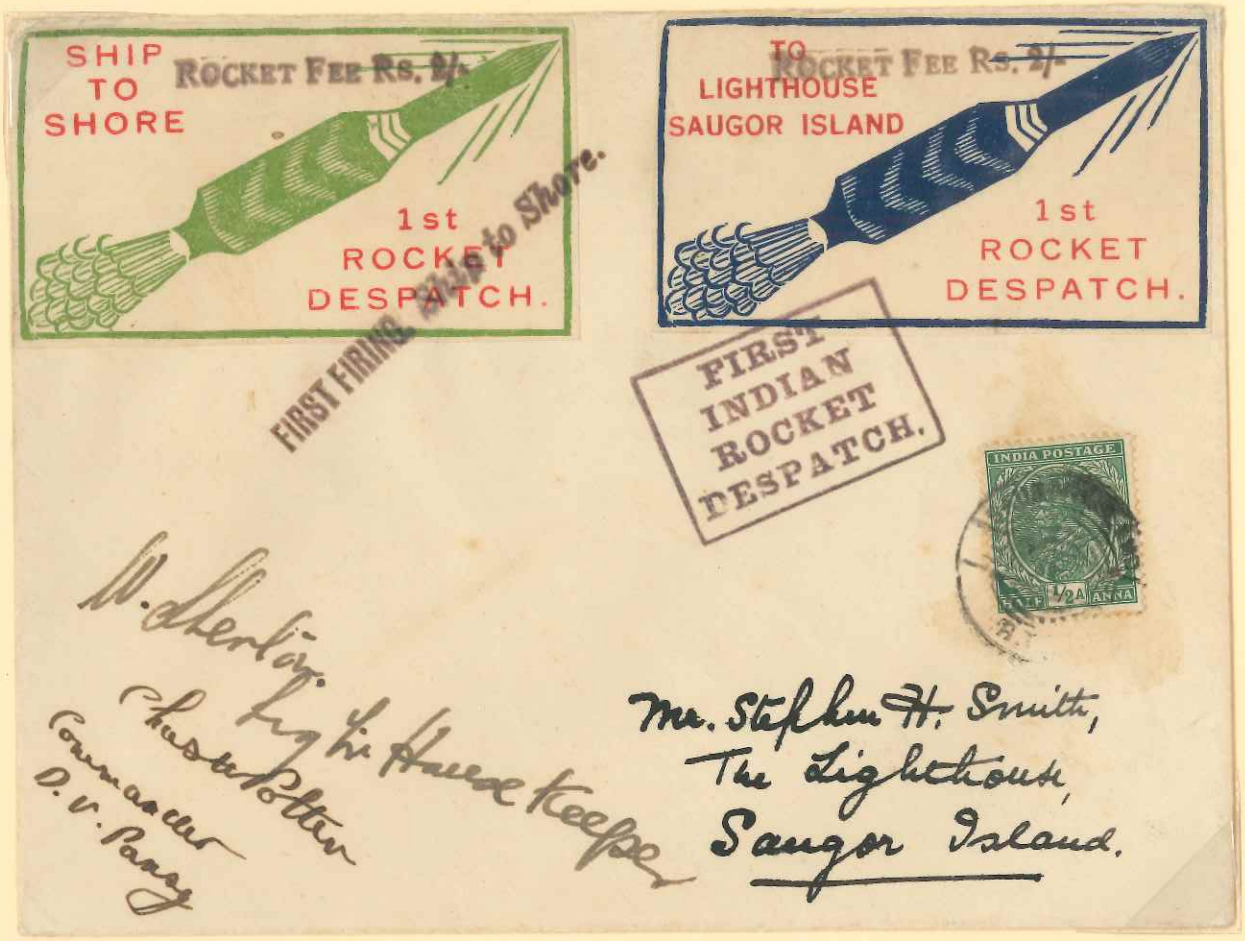
On 28.01.1934 Zucker launched a rocket in favour of Winterhilfswerk from Hexentanzplatz on Brocken in Germany. *On 02.02.1934 two letters and a card were redispatched for Lufthansa first flight from Berlin to South America. A He 70 flew them Stuttgart - Marseille - Seville, a Ju 52 via Las Palmas to Bathurst, British Gambia. After airbase ship Westphalia, catapult flight delivered to Natal in Brazil.*

On 07.04.1934 Zucker undertook a trial for the 1st rocket catapult flight he undertook on the next day at Blankenburg. *Only a postcard was flown. It was dispatched at post wagon Halberstadt-Tanne, Train 10. On his way Gerhard Zucker posted it to its addressee inside a cover with same postmark.*

Zucker announced to deliver military messages and letters with rockets during second Italo-Ethiopian War in 1935/1936. He asked for advance payment. Although Zucker arrived in Addis Ababa no rocket was launched. *After the fall of Ethiopian emperor Haile Selassie prepared rocked stamps appeared.*

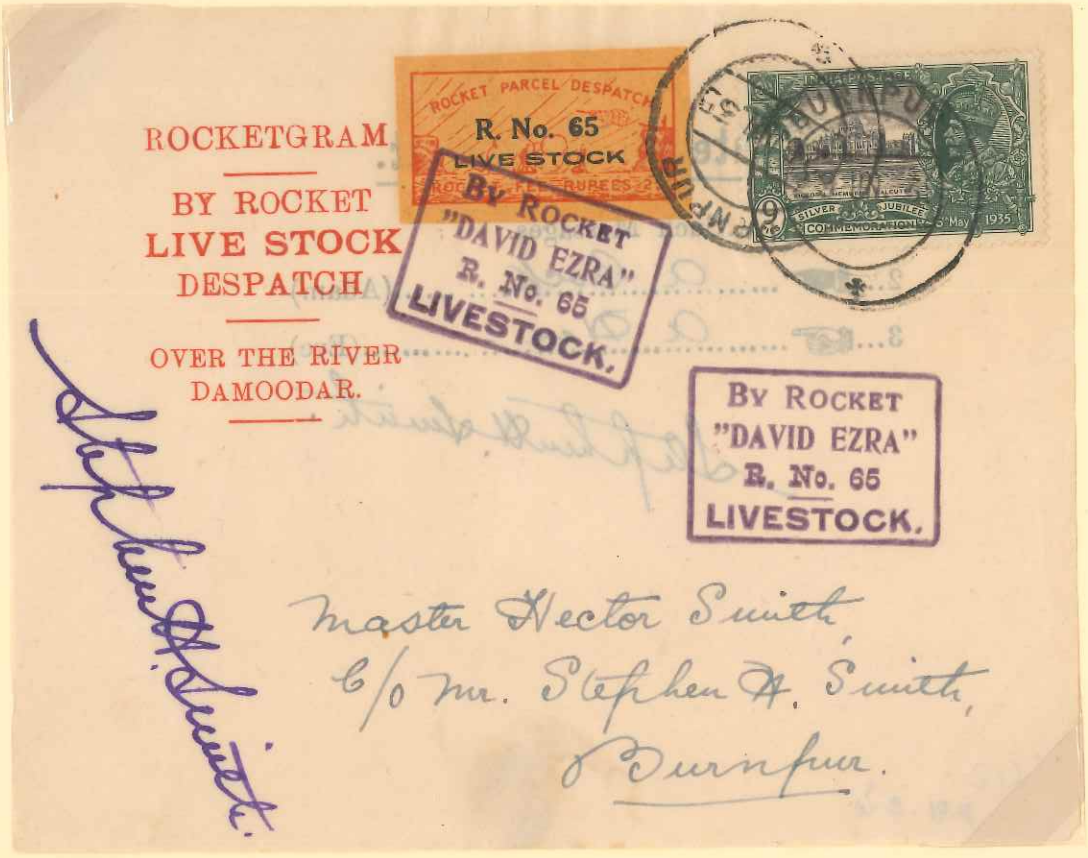
Stephen H. Smith

On 30.09.1934 a fireworks rocket was shot from sounding vessel Pansey towards Saugor Island. It burst after 30 m. Afterwards Lighthouse keeper Walter Shenton shot rocket Nr. 4 from the ground across a small bay towards lighthouse. It covered only 112 m. *Cover despatched with both rockets.*



On 02.03.1937 Lady Olave Baden-Powell of Gilwell attended Girl Guide rally in Bengal. She ignited Smith's Propaganda Rocket No. 7. *Flown covers were treated by Post Office Park Street, Calcutta.*

On 29.06.1935 Smith shot rooster Adam and hen Eve from Damoodar shore across the river Damoodar to Ramkanali shore. The rocket David Ezra landed after 750 m without injuring the birds.



The postmaster of Gangtok fired Rocket Nr. 87 Jerong from Tashi Namgyal Field to British residence.

During 2nd World War Stephen Smith tried to develop rockets for military purposes. On 07.07.1941 he launched his Rocket No. 258 at Maidan Park in Calcutta. *Flown covers were posted from Fort William.*

On 10.07.1941 Smith launched his Rocket No. 259 Aerotorpedo at Maidan Park in Calcutta.

Australian Rocket Society

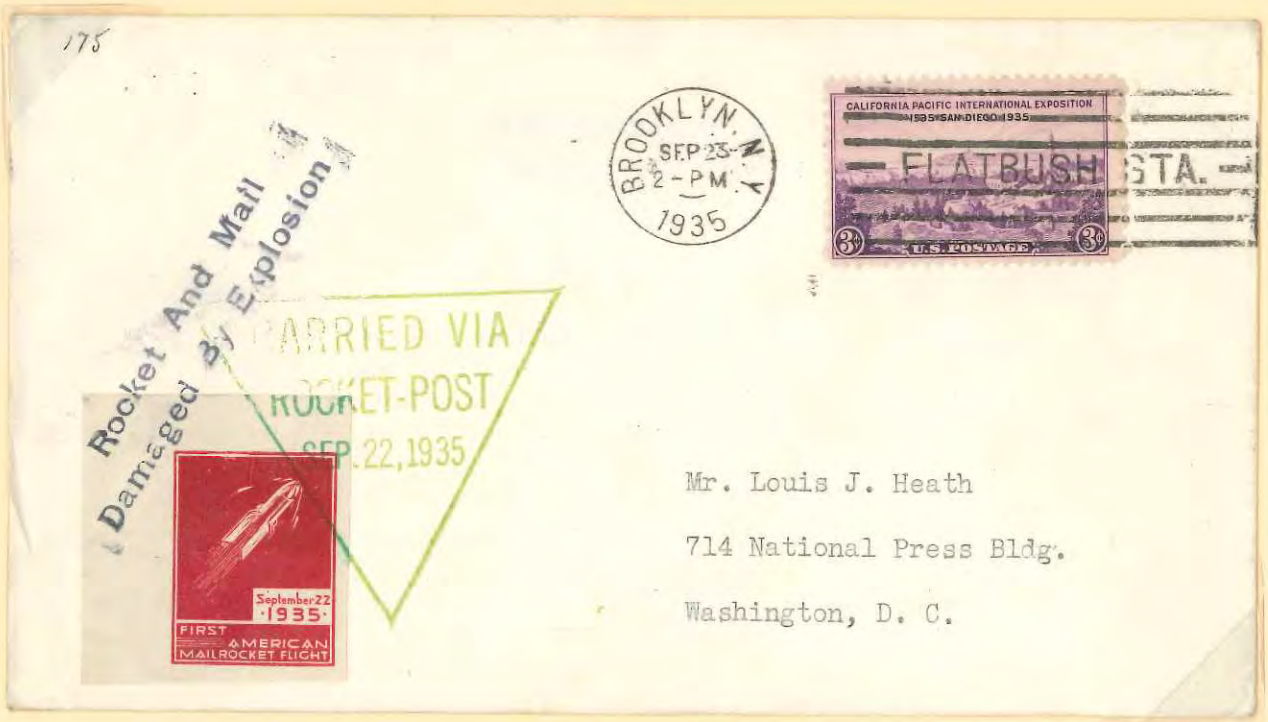
On 24.02.1936 Alan Young ignited the 2nd silver jubilee rocket Orion from the north bank of the Brisbane River near the Moggill Ferry. It was 1.5 meters long with a launch weight of 9.5 kg. The rocket lost height, hit a pine tree and fell into the river. *Young and his helpers needed 10 hours to dry the mail.*

At an airmail exhibition in Melbourne Ken Atock fired a mail rocket at Fishermans Bend in Melbourne. It did not take off. The heat melted the solder and burnt some of the attached covers.

William S. Sykora

On 22.09.1935 Sykora ignited his first mail rocket at Holmes airport in Astoria, Long Iceland. Soon the engine of the steel-made rocket exploded. Falling parts injured a spectator severely, another on his finger. *Only 28 damaged letters were recovered. They were posted from Flatbush Sta., Brooklyn, NY.*

Sykora second launch at Holmes airport in Astoria, Long Iceland was a bit more successful. The aluminium rocket exploded in mid-air. *The covers fluttered down and landed in a large radius.*



Willy Ley

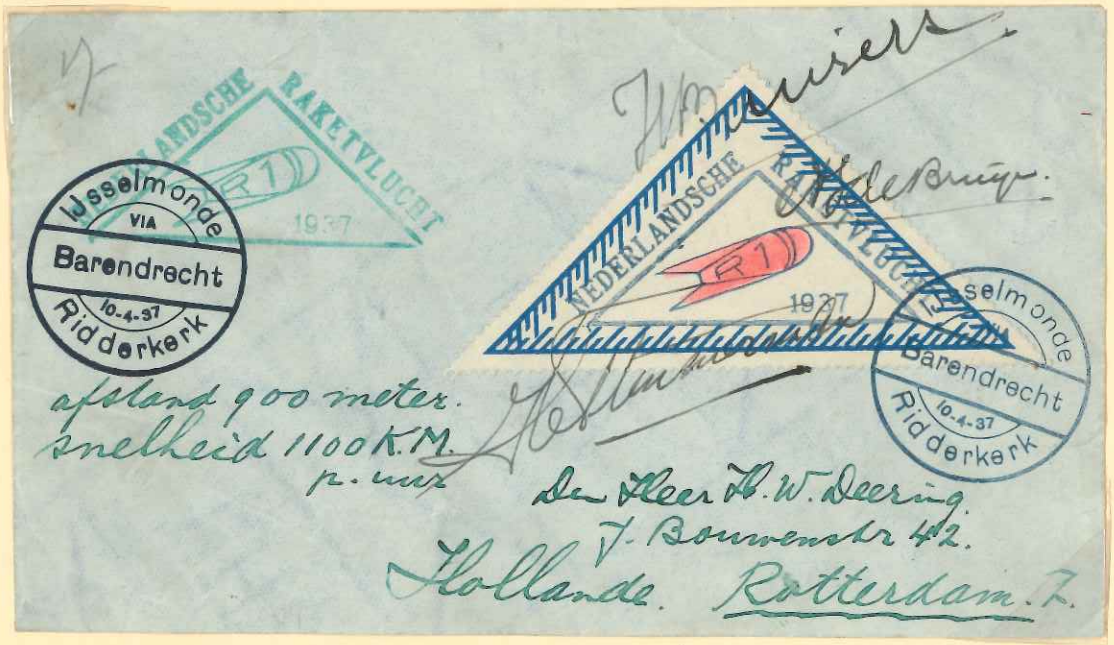
On 23.02.1936 Willy Ley shot 6,149 covers and cards in two "Gloria" aluminium alloy rocket gliders on Greenwood Lake in New York. Fuel was ethyl alcohol, gasoline and liquid oxygen. They were 3.8 m long, had a wingspan of 4.6 meters and weighed 27 kg. Being launched with catapult one skidded on the ice to New Jersey. The other skidded 160 m on the ice until the wings wrapped around the torso.

Adam de Bruijn

On 23.06.1936 Adam J. de Bruijn shot his Rocket No. 323 from IJsselmonde via Barendrecht to Ridderkerk. After 400 m it bounced hard on the ground. *The 20 flown covers were heavily wrinkled.*

On 06.07.1936 dentist Adam de Bruijn shot his Rocket No. 326 in the center of Amsterdam. All 5 flown covers were damaged. *The experimenter posted them at post office Amsterdam Central Station.*

On 10.04.1937 de Bruijn fired his rocket plane R1 from Ijsselmonde via Barendrecht to Ridderkerk near the city of Rotterdam. *9 covers with rocket stamp and green triangular rocket cancellation were flown.*

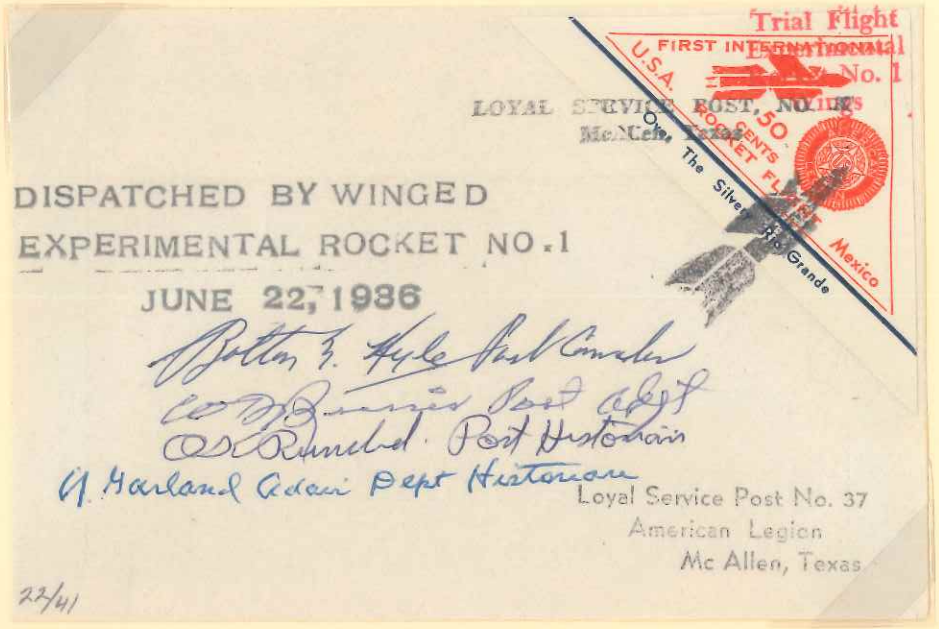


On 09.06.1938 Adam de Bruijn shot his rocket SF 2 from Feyenoord Stadium in Rotterdam.
It was constructed by H. W. Deering and exploded after 500 m.

Keith E. Rumbel

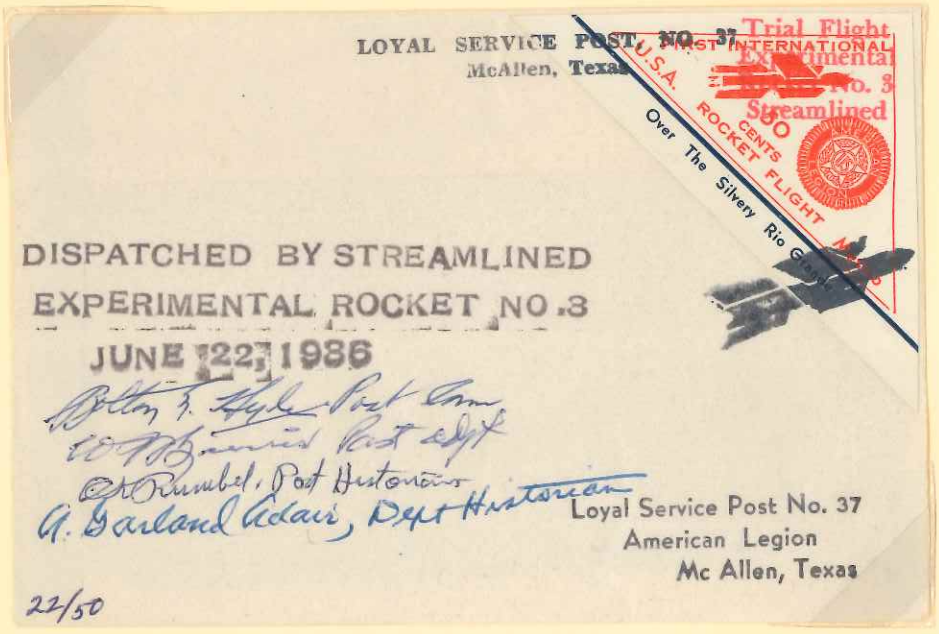
On 22.06.1965 Rumbel tested different rocket designs.

Rocket No. 1
Wings



Rocket No. 2
Wingless

Rocket No. 3
Streamlined

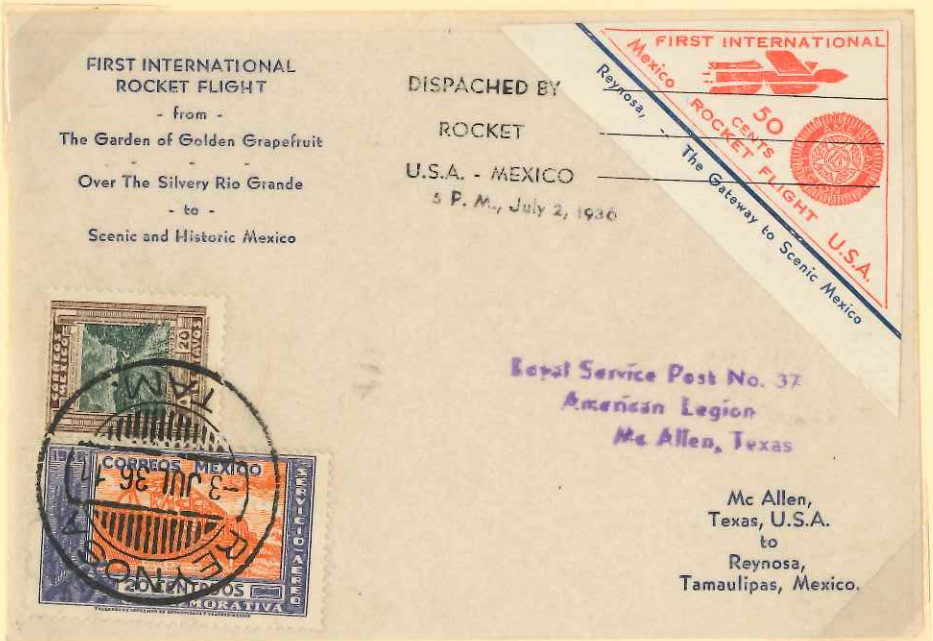


American Legion Post 37 celebrated inauguration of their new home with fist international rocket mail. A total of 10 rockets were 2.5 m high with 0.1 m diameter. *Each transported 200 to 350 light letters.*

The first rocket was shot over flooded Rio Grande toward Reynosa in Mexico. After 30 m it exploded. *Only 51 letters or parts of them were recovered 15 m away from Texan bank.*

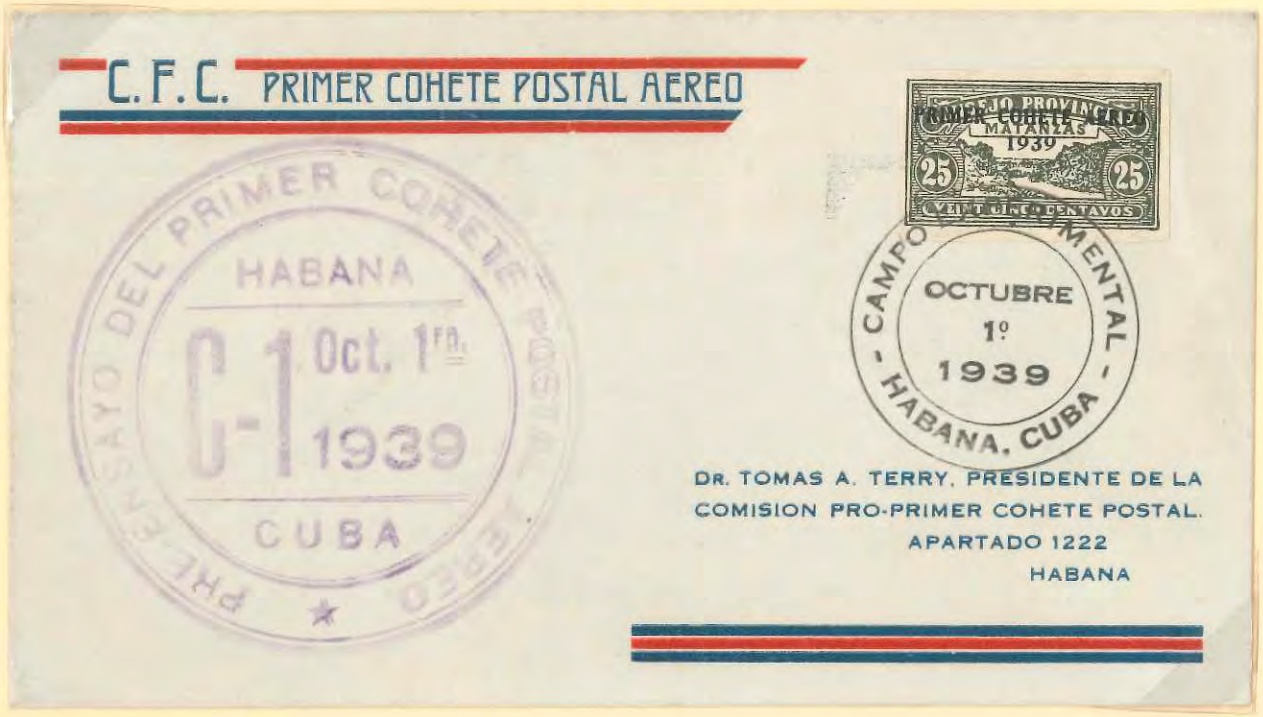
The second rocket crossed Rio Grande, flew over its target and hit the tavern American bar in Reynosa. *The rocket with 150 covers were seized and released only after 20 years. Pair of rocket stamps on cover.*

The remaining three rockets reached Reynosa as desired. *Cover with error rocket stamp "Mexico - US" and "Dispached" error of the rocket cancellation.*



Antonio V. Funes

Antonio Funes and Du Pont built a 75 cm high test rocket. It exploded after 12 m. *10 of 70 flown covers were destroyed. Unperforated 25 Centavos revenue stamps of province Matanzas were overprinted.*



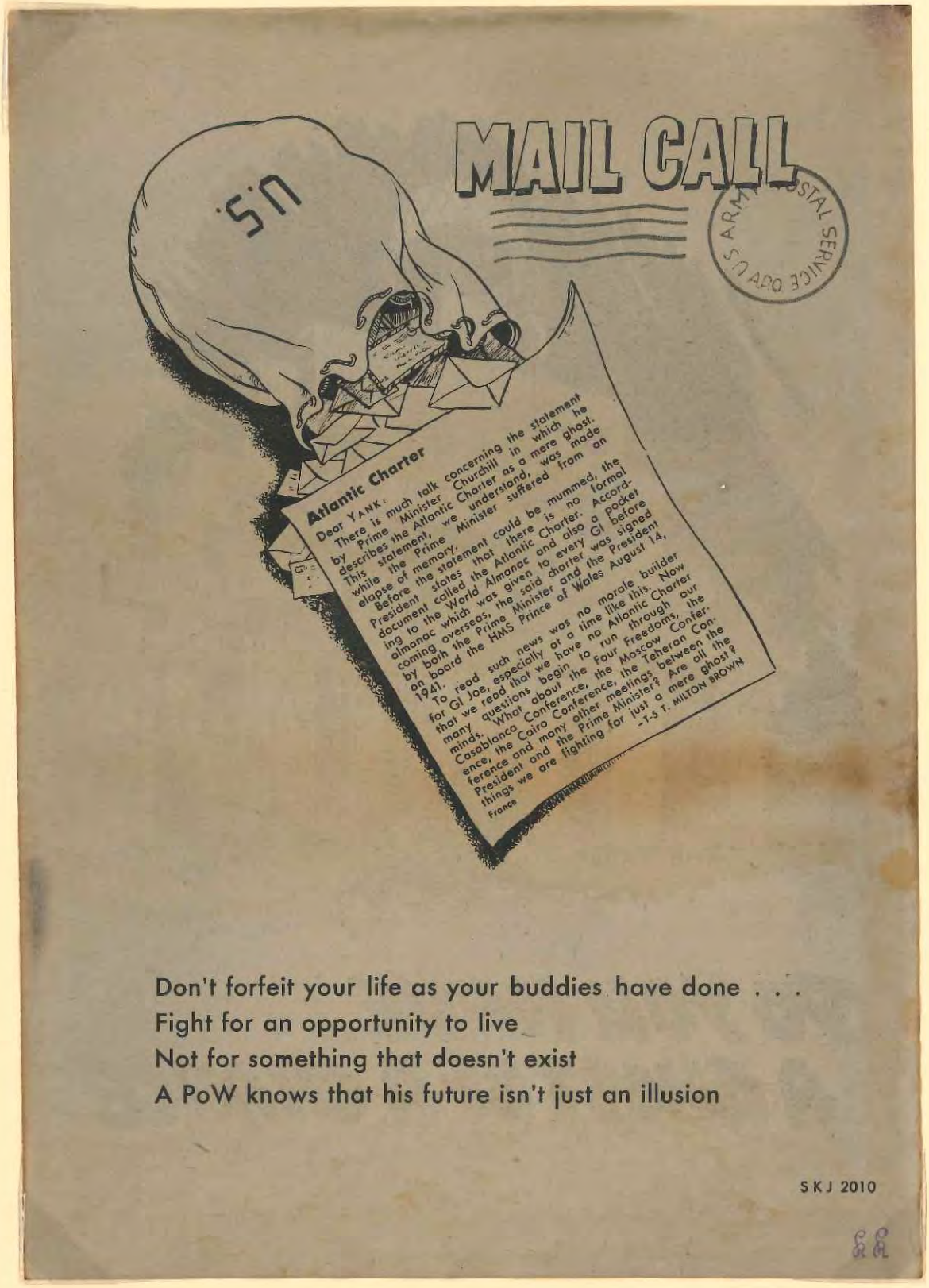
Funes increased stability by arranging 3 pairs of propellants in the middle of the rocket. On 03.10.1939 the rocket crossed more than 500 m. *A few covers have a postmark of Havana, Cuba on the back.*

08.10.1939 test rocket was named Marilyn. After gaining height it was hit by a strong headwind. Thus it landed in the sea just 200 meters away from the start. *A few flown covers bear the postmark "Admon. De Correos Habana - Cuba" on a gray 25 Centavos revenue stamp of province Matanzas.*

On 15.10.1939 the rocket for first official rocket mail stamps was launched at Casino Deportivo de La Habana. The rocket took off, quickly lost his balance and buried itself into the earth 15 m away. *It carried 200 of 2,581covers. Registered letter to Santiago de Cuba with top cut space mail stamp.*

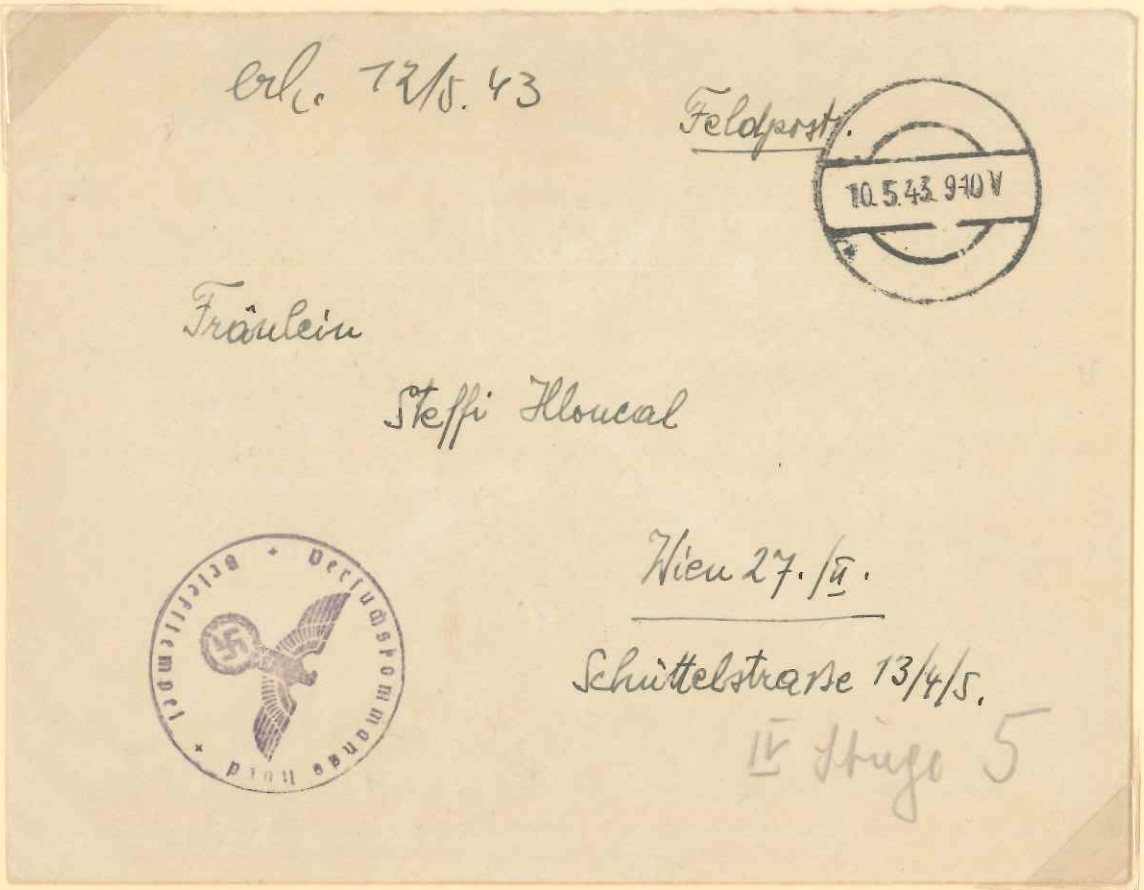
Propaganda leaflets

After the Allied troops landed in Normandy, France on 06.06.1944, the SS-Standarte Kurt Eggers increasingly shot leaflets with small-calibre rockets over the front-lines. Each propaganda projectile PrGS41 was 41 cm long. Diameter: 7.3 cm. Weight: 3.2 kg. It shot 100 leaflets across 3.2 km.



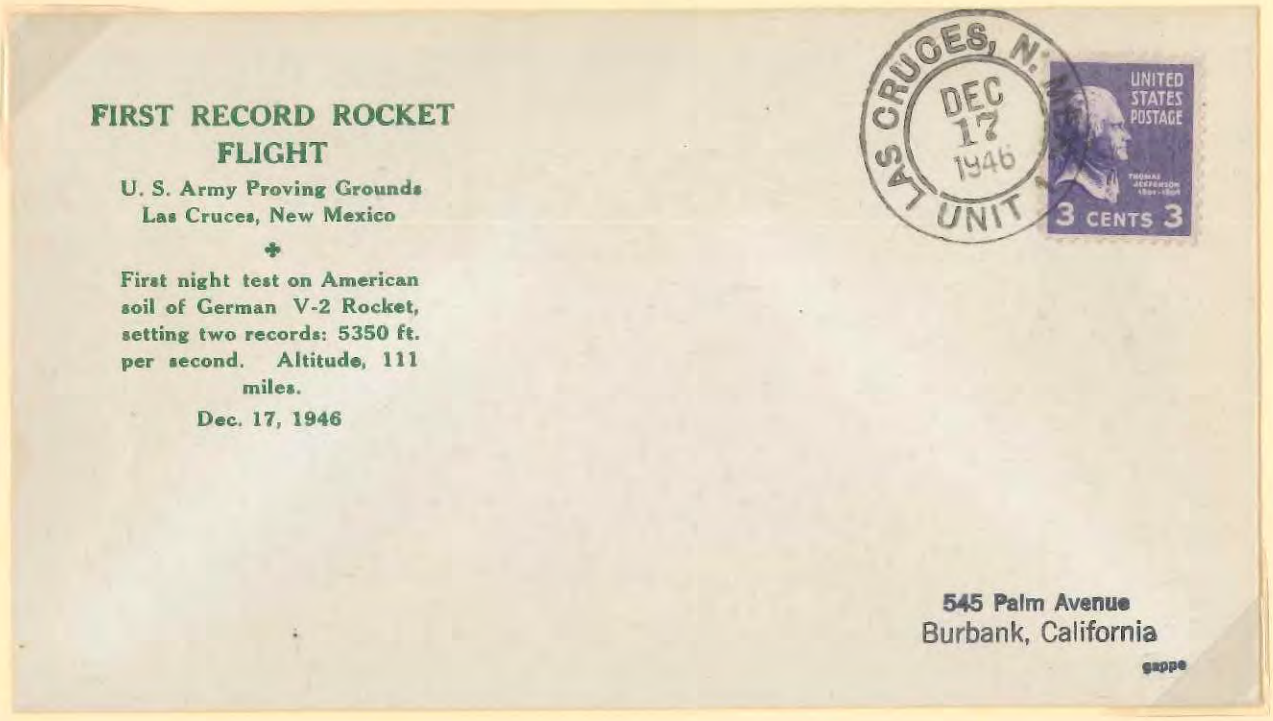
The beginning of Space Flight

On 03.10.1942 Versuchskommando Nord shot an A 4 rocket from Peenemunde 84.5 km high. This was regarded as space at that time. *The 8th company was responsible for the telemetry.*

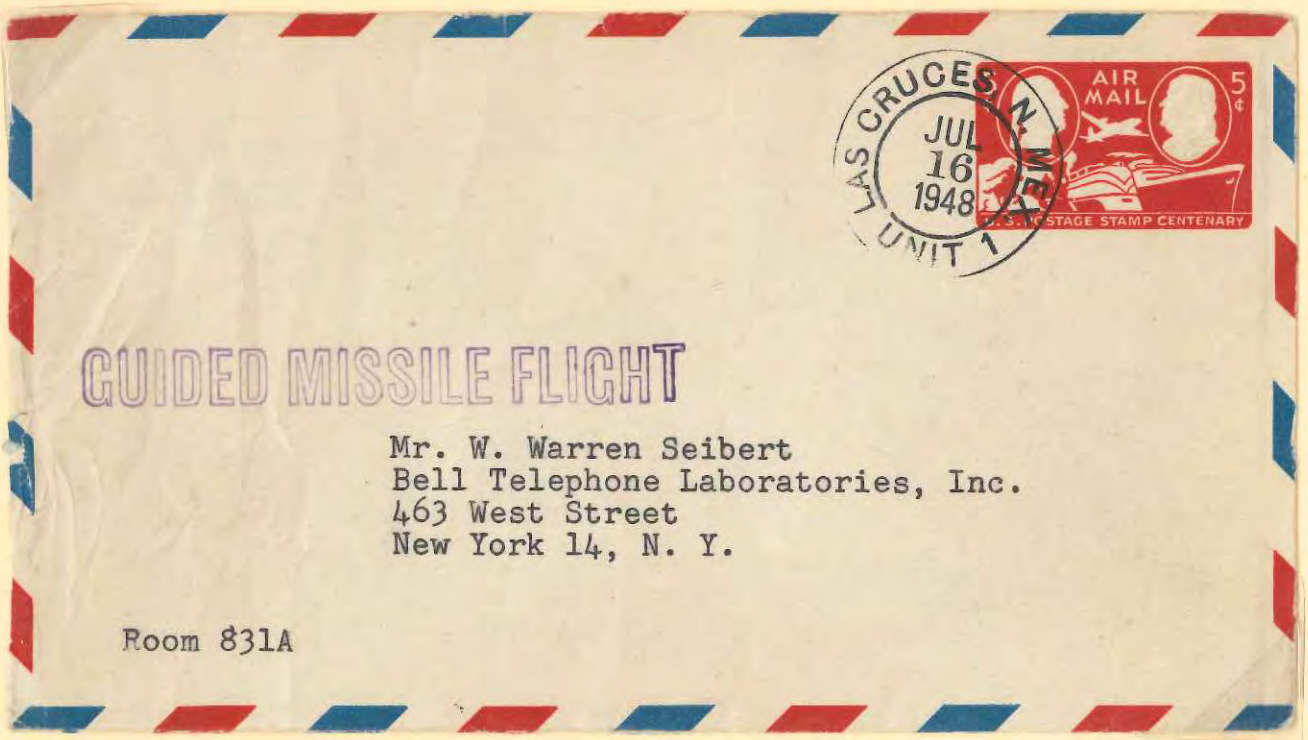


After British RAF bombed Peenemunde on 18.08.1943, VKN was renamed Heimat-Artilleriepark 11.

By operation Paperclip German rocket engineers leaded by Wernher von Braun and V-2 rockets were brought to the US. On 17.12.1946 a V-2 launched from White Sands launch complex 33 exploded after 440 s. It reached 5,780 km/h and 183 km altitude - the highest of all US V-2 shots.



On 15.07.1948 Nike 18R air defence missile developed by US Army was launched from LC 33 at White Sands Missile Range, New Mexico reaching a height of 10 km. This cover flew with this rocket.



On 04.10.1057 at 22:28 Moscow time Soviet scientists under Sergey Korolev launched the first earth satellite Sputnik from Cosmodrome Baikonur. The 83.6 kg ball with 58 cm diameter measured the radio wave propagation in the ionosphere. At the launch site it was already 0:28 of 5.10.1957.

The first US satellite Explorer 1 was launched on 31.01.1958 on top of a Jupiter-C rocket from Launch Complex 26A at Cape Canaveral in Florida. Although weighing only a sixth of Sputnik, its measuring instruments discovered the inner Van Allen radiation belts surrounding our Earth.

Discoverer 17

On 12.11.1960 USAF launched spy satellite Discoverer 17 from Vandenberg AFB. It circled Earth at an altitude of 190 to 984 km. The film uncoiled prematurely. After 30 orbits Captain Gene Jones picked up the return capsule with a C-119 Pelican II aircraft at an altitude of 3 km on 14.11.1960.

28 letters addressed to high-ranking militaries and politicians were flown with Discoverer 17. They were posted at Sunnyvale, CA on 15.11.1960. Letter to Army Chief of Staff L. Lemnitzer.

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF STAFF
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON, D. C.

General L. L. Lemnitzer
Chief of Staff
United States Army

Dear General Lemnitzer

In order to reach you, this letter will have flown a distance of almost one-half million miles both within and without the earth's atmosphere, travelling over 17 times around the world at speeds greater than 18,000 miles per hour. Contained in the DISCOVERER satellite, it will have been launched by the United States Air Force into an orbit about the earth from Vandenberg Air Force Base, California, and recovered in the mid-Pacific.

This is the first time that letters have been sent by a satellite and is in the tradition of airmen who less than thirty years ago pioneered in the first use of airmail.

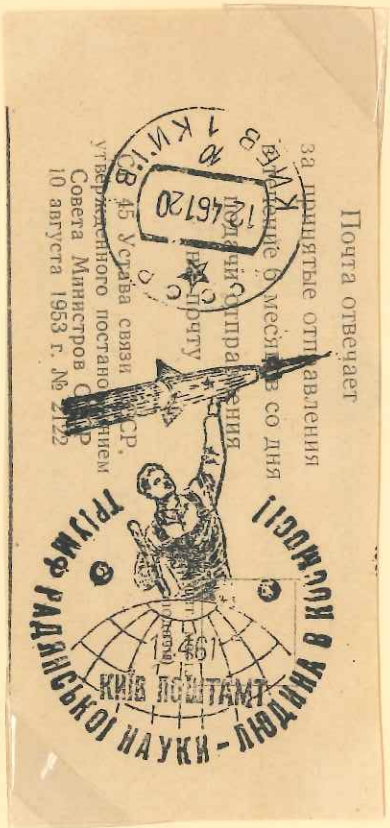
This remarkable achievement could not have been accomplished without the dedication of a great many people from Congress, from science, from industry, from the Services, and from the National Aeronautics and Space Administration. We are grateful to all who have had a part in bringing this Nation one step nearer to man's transcendence over the limits of the earth.

Sincerely

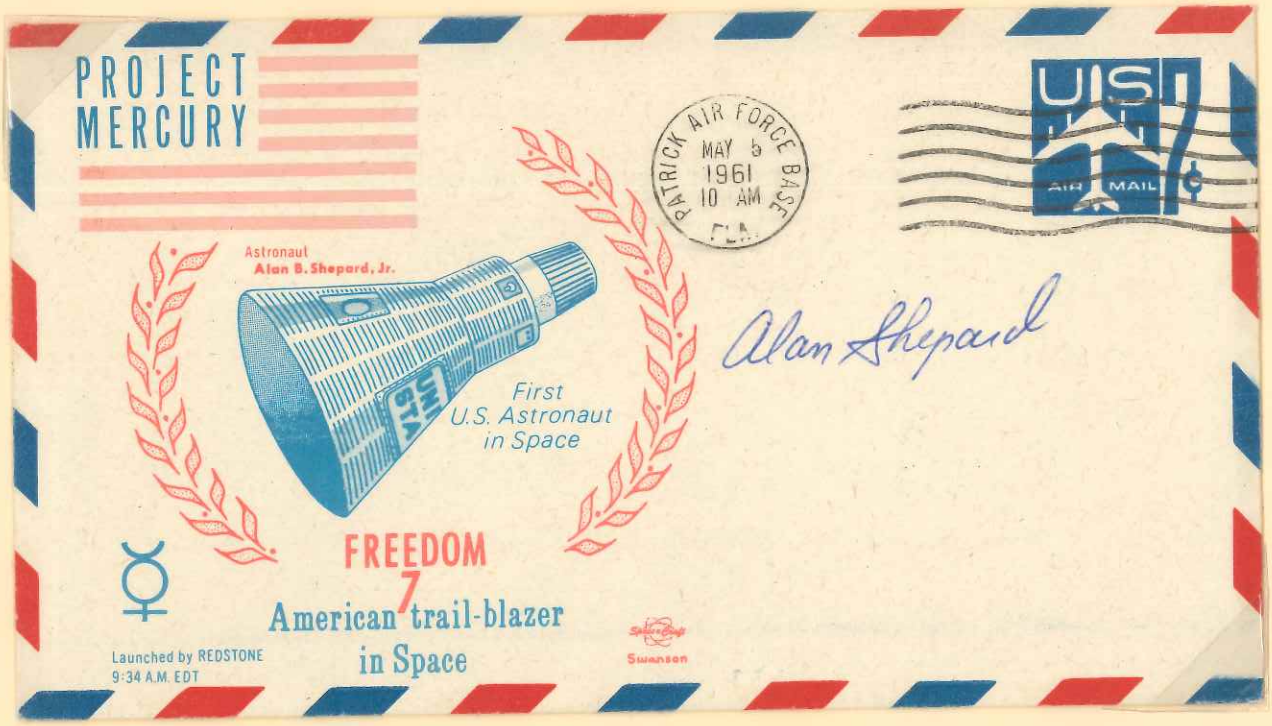
Thomas D. White

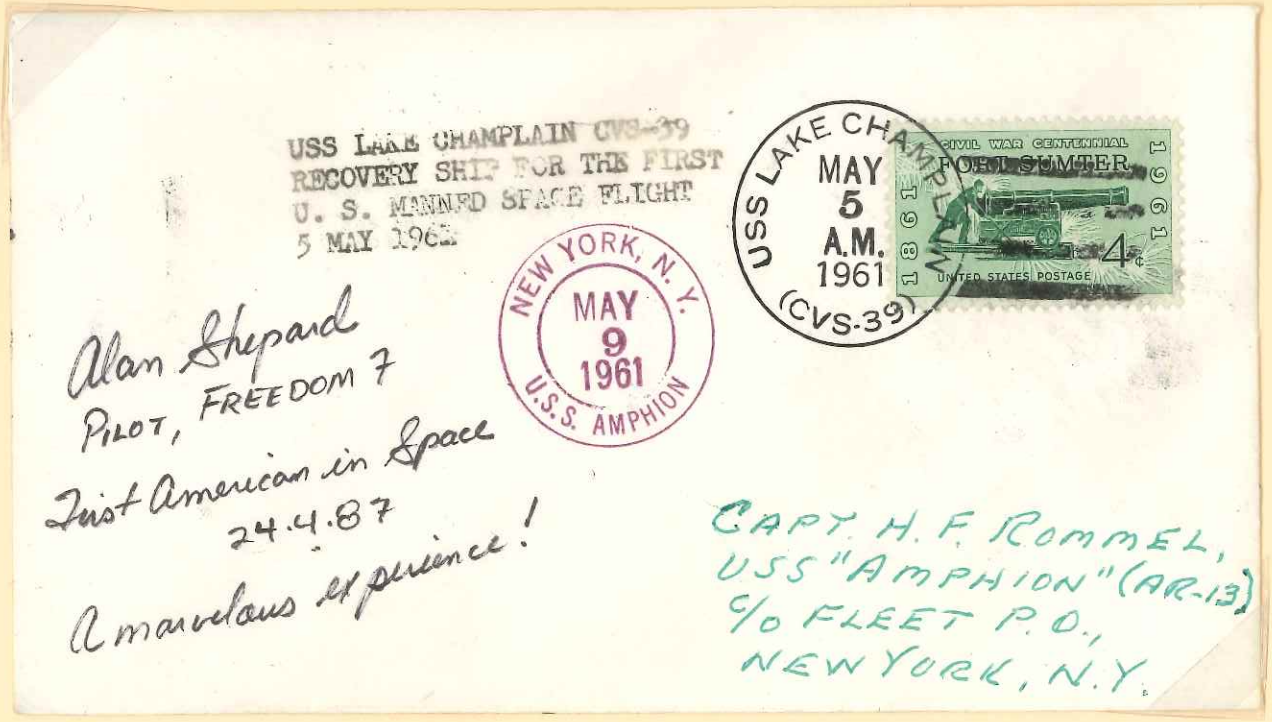
THOMAS D. WHITE
Chief of Staff

On 12.04.1961 Yuri Gagarin became first human to orbit Earth. He saw our wonderful blue planet 327 km below. Vostok mission lasted 108 minutes. Yuri Gagarin landed with parachute near Engels.
Registered letter with special cancellation. On this day the postmark Kiev 1 was used with letter "Ю".

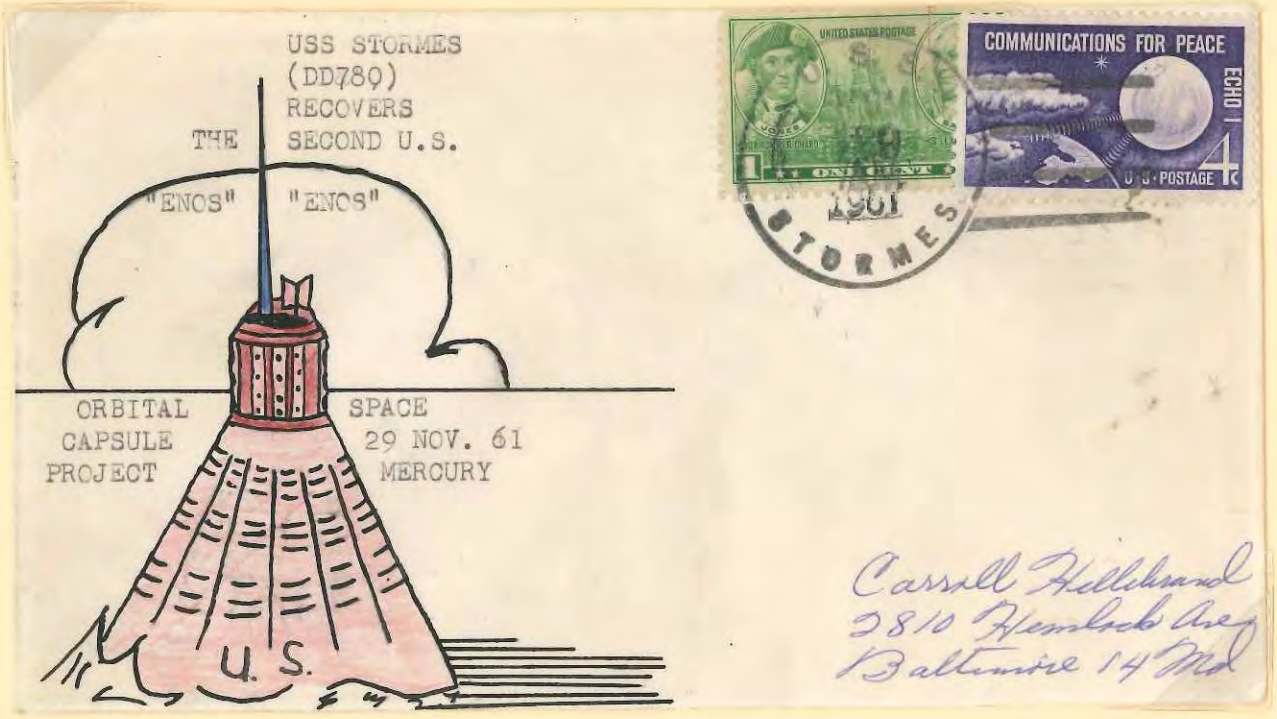


On 05.05.1961 Alan B. Shepard launched with Mercury-Redstone 3. On a ballistic trajectory he reached an altitude of 186 km. After 15 minutes he splashed down in Atlantic Ocean and was picked up by USS Lake Champlain CVS-39. *The recovery cover shown was posted to USS Amphion.*





On 29.11.1961 chimpanzee Enos orbited Earth twice in MA-5. Problems of attitude control had led to an abort. Enos landed unhurt. The capsule was recovered by destroyer USS Stormes DD-780.



On 20.02.1962 John Glenn orbited Earth three times with Mercury-Atlas 6 - Friendship 7.
After splashdown in the Atlantic capsule and astronaut were recovered by destroyer USS Noa.

On landing day the ship's postmark on board USS Noa was used with date "FEB 20 1962 P.M.".
Some 300 covers were postmarked without AM or PM after the ship reached harbour on 23.02.1962.

Internationally space begins at an altitude of 100 km. The USAF awarded astronaut wings to pilots exceeding a height of 50 miles being 80.47 km. 13 rocket plane X-15 missions exceeded 50 miles, two of them 100 km. On 17.07.1962 Robert White became first X-15 astronaut reaching 95.94 km.

On 22.08.1963 Joseph Walker at 91st X-15 flight reached 107.96 km – a record for rocket planes which existed till first Space Shuttle landing in 1981. X-15 was launched from Boeing B-52 Superfortress.

On 10.03.1967 Pete Knight set speed record for rocket planes to 7,270 km/h on 188th X-15 flight. Height was 31.12 km. On this flight Knight carried 10 water colours by William Numeroff. Two weeks later, Pete Knight earned USAF astronaut wings the for his 85.5 km flight.

NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION
MANNED SPACECRAFT CENTER
HOUSTON, TEXAS 77058

IN REPLY REFER TO:

March 9, 1966

Dr. George E. Mueller
Associate Administrator for
Manned Space Flight
National Aeronautics and
Space Administration
Washington, D. C. 20546

Dear George:

This letter comes to you after being transported into space on an Atlas-launched Agena Target Vehicle, and being recovered by Astronaut David Scott, during his extravehicular operation from the Gemini VIII spacecraft. The Gemini spacecraft, launched by a Titan II, was flown to a rendezvous and docking with the Agena by Astronauts Neil Armstrong and David Scott.

All of the people in NASA, in the Department of Defense, and in American industry, who have worked on this project, hereby send you greetings and congratulations!

Sincerely

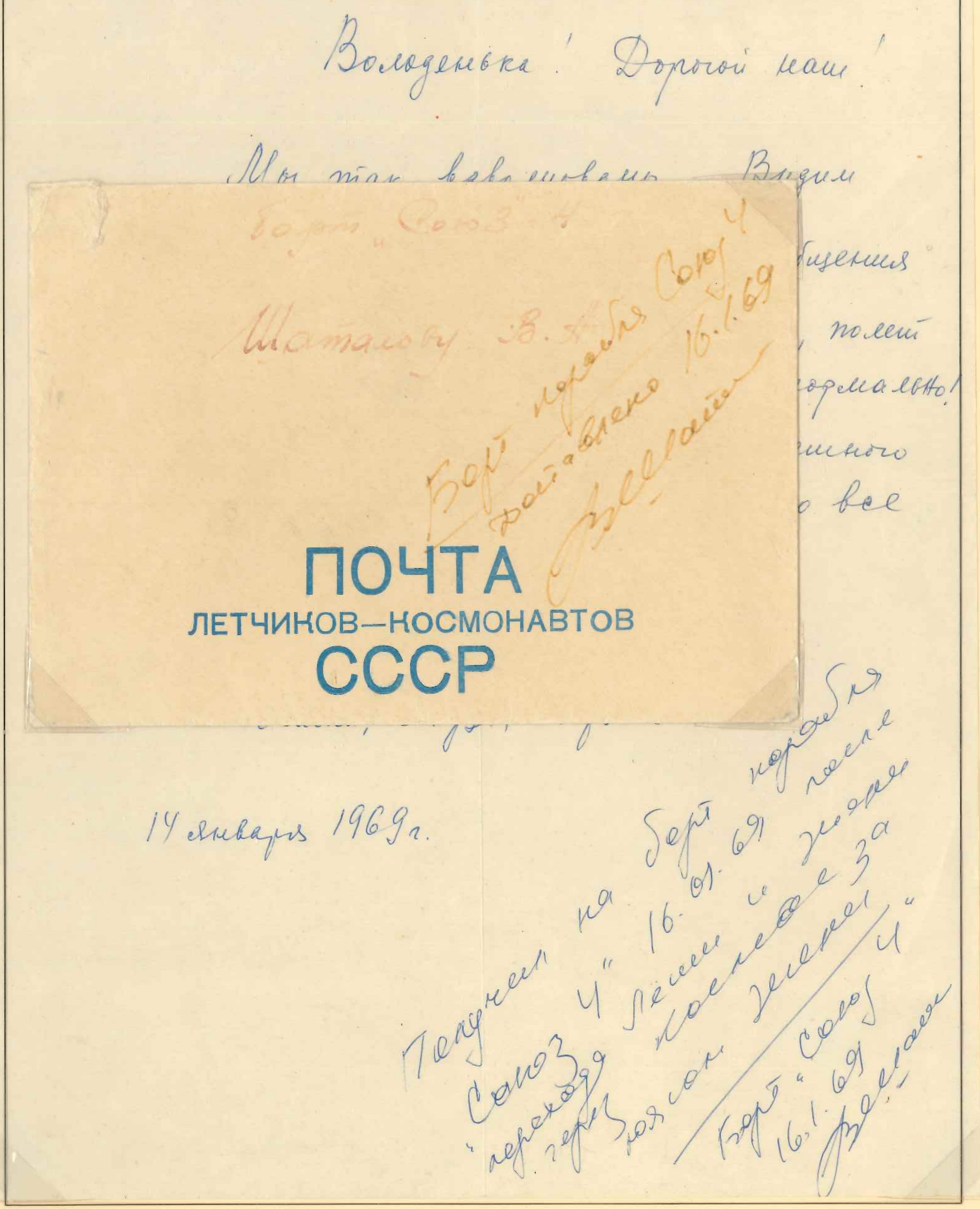
Robert R. Gilruth
Director

Charles W. Mathews
Manager,
Gemini Program

After Gemini 8 docked with Gemini 8 Agena Target Vehicle, they began rolling. Neil Armstrong and David Scot returned to earth. The planed EVA to was postponed till Gemini 10. On 20.07.1966 Michael Collins retrieved a Micrometeoroid package and the microfilm of a letter from NASA MSC Director Robert Gilruth and Gemini program manager Charles W. Mathews to George E. Mueller.

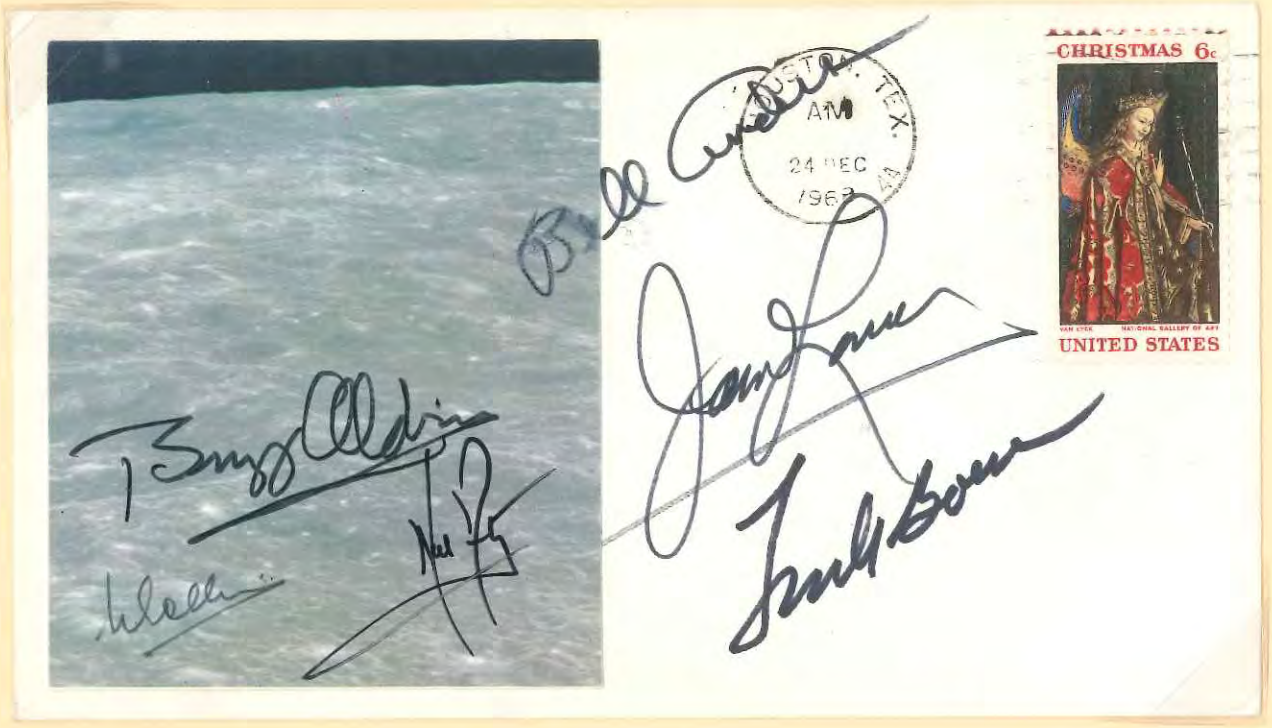
Soyuz 4 and 5

On 14.01.1969 Vladimir Shatalov launched with Soyuz 4. Next day Boris Volynov, Aleksey Yeliseyev and Yevgeny Khrunov followed with Soyuz 5. In an EVA Yeliseyev and Khrunov moved to Soyuz 4. Khrunov surprised Shatalov with 2 letters. Shatalov first opened and read the letter from his wife Muza.

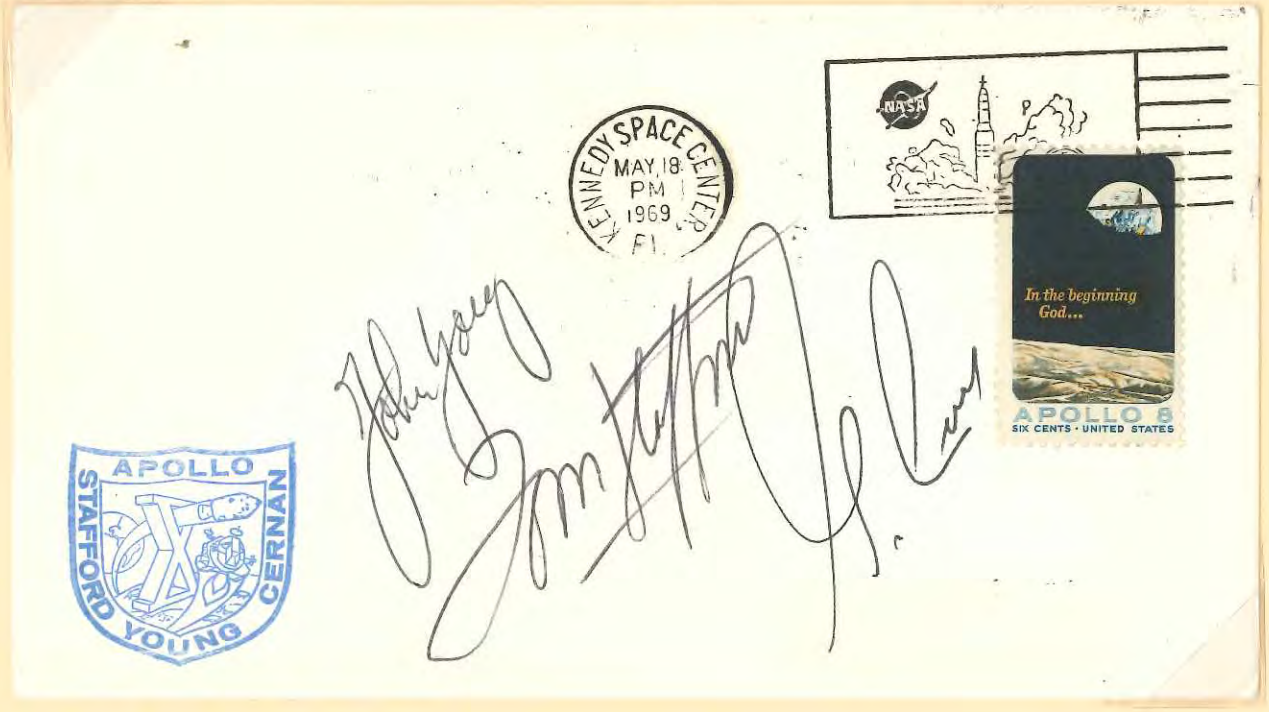


Apollo missions to the Moon

On 24.12.1968 Frank Borman, James Lovell and Bill Anders became the first humans to circle our Moon in Apollo 8 (21. to 27.12.1968). *Control Center was in Houston, Texas. No covers were flown.*



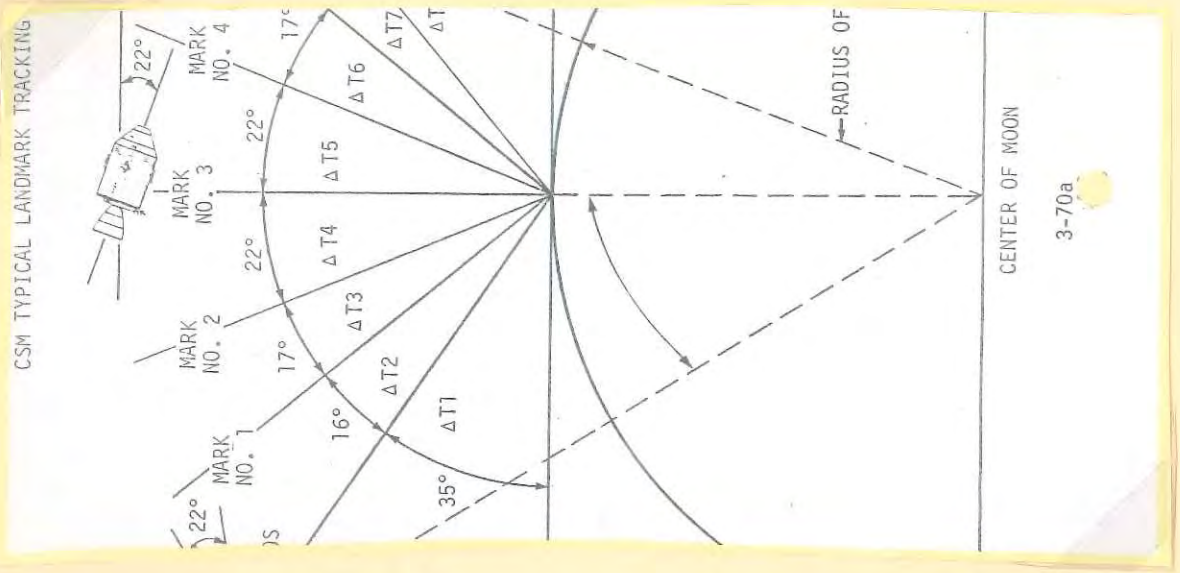
Tom Stafford, John Young and Gene Cernan launched on 18.05.1969 from Kennedy Space Center. On 22.05.1969 they tested a Lunar Module at the Moon without landing. *No covers were flown.*



On 20.07.1969 Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin were the first men to land at the Moon with Lunar Module Eagle. Michael Collins surrounded the Moon in Command Module Columbia. After being recovered the astronauts spent 18 days in quarantine. *One of the covers Aldrin took to the Moon.*

This unflown space cover was postmarked on the day astronauts were released from quarantine. Like the flown covers it was postmarked at Webster, Texas post office. The ***notation*** *is a* ***fake****.*

Neil Armstrong got a postmark for cancelling an official cover on the Moon. Many activities did not allow this before 22.07.1969 at the beginning of the return flight to Earth. Prior he made 3 trial cancellations.



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Launch was on 14.11.1969. Charles Conrad and Alan Bean landed on the Moon, while Richard Gordon stayed in lunar orbit. *NASA read this telegram to the astronauts on their way back to Earth.*

DOMESTIC SERVICE
Check the class of service desired; otherwise this message will be sent as a fast telegram
TELEGRAM
DAY LETTER
NIGHT LETTER

$
S
E

WESTERN UNION
TELEGRAM
®

INTERNATIONAL SERVICE
Check the class of service desired; otherwise the message will be sent at the full rate
FULL RATE
LETTER TELEGRAM
SHORE-SHIP

NO. WDS.-CL. OF SVC.	PD. OR COLL.	CASH NO.	CHARGE TO THE ACCOUNT OF	TIME FILED
			JAMES G FULTON MC 2161 RHOB	NOV 20 2 58 PM '69

Send the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

OFFICIAL

18 NOVEMBER 1969

ACTION CB
INFO CA, AA, AC

ASTRONAUT CHARLES CONRAD
ASTRONAUT RICHARD GORDON
ASTRONAUT ALAN BEAN
THE MOON
VIA ROBERT GILRUTH, DIRECTOR
NASA MANNED SPACECRAFT CENTER
HOUSTON TEXAS

WE ARE CERTAINLY PROUD OF YOUR FINE SUCCESS TO DATE ON APOLLO TWELVE FLIGHT. YOUR COMMENTS AND OBSERVATIONS ARE MOST INTERESTING AND THE COLOR TV PICTURES ARE FINE QUALITY. YOUR DESCRIPTIONS ADD SO MUCH TO WHAT WE ARE SEEING IN THE PICTURES.

AS RANKING MINORITY MEMBER OF THE HOUSE SCIENCE AND ASTRONAUTICS COMMITTEE, COUNT ON MY CONTINUED FULL SUPPORT FOR APOLLO MOON LANDING PROGRAMS IN WHICH YOU ARE DOING SO MUCH TO ADVANCE MANS KNOWLEDGE OF OUR CLOSE NEIGHBOR THE MOON, AS WELL AS BROADENING THE SCOPE OF RESEARCH INTO MANS ENVIRONMENT ON OUR OWN PLANET EARTH.

MY HEARTY GOOD WISHES FOR YOUR COMPLETE SUCCESS AND SAFE RETURN

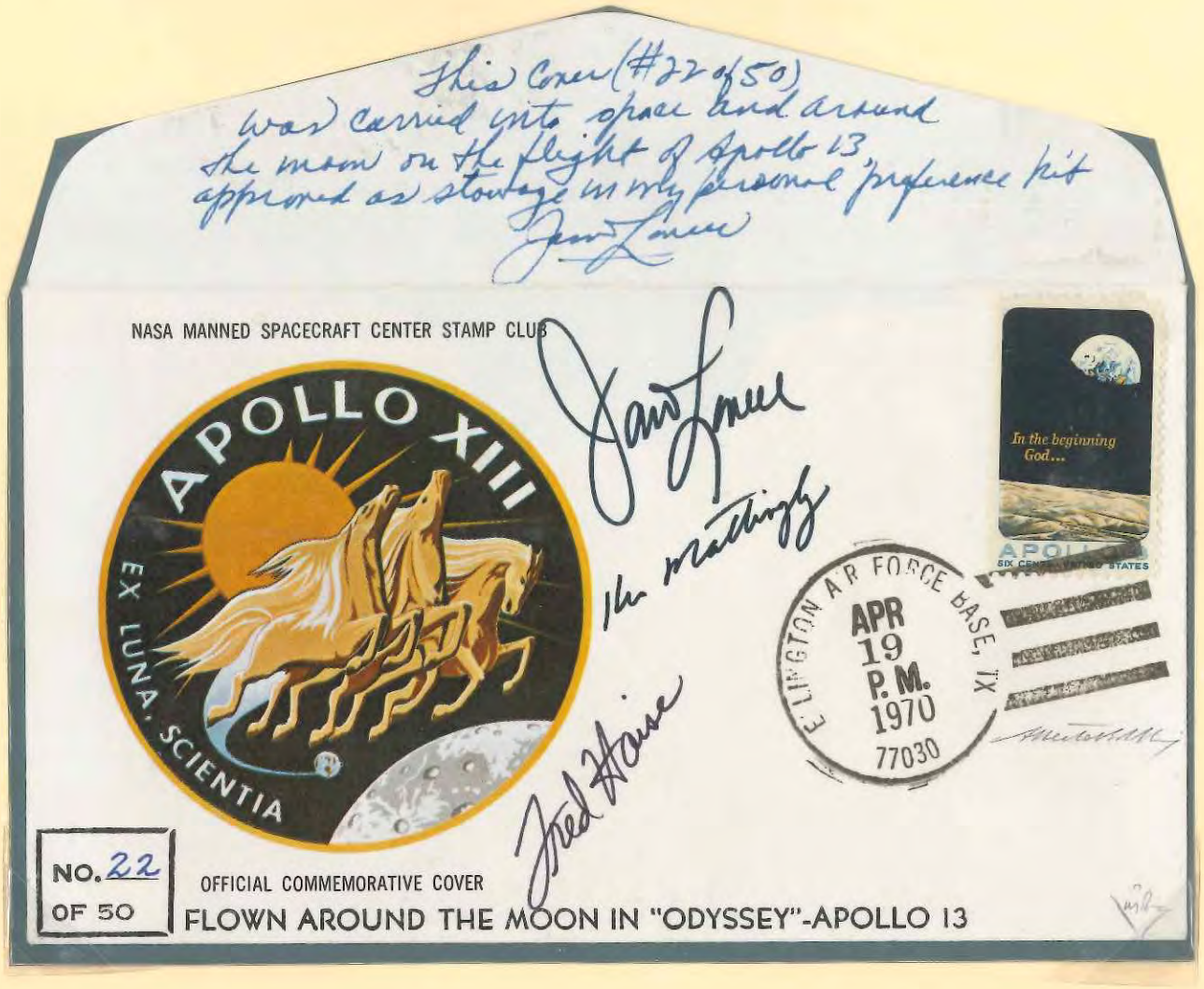
CONGRESSMAN JIM FULTON
PENNSYLVANIA

JGF:mmm

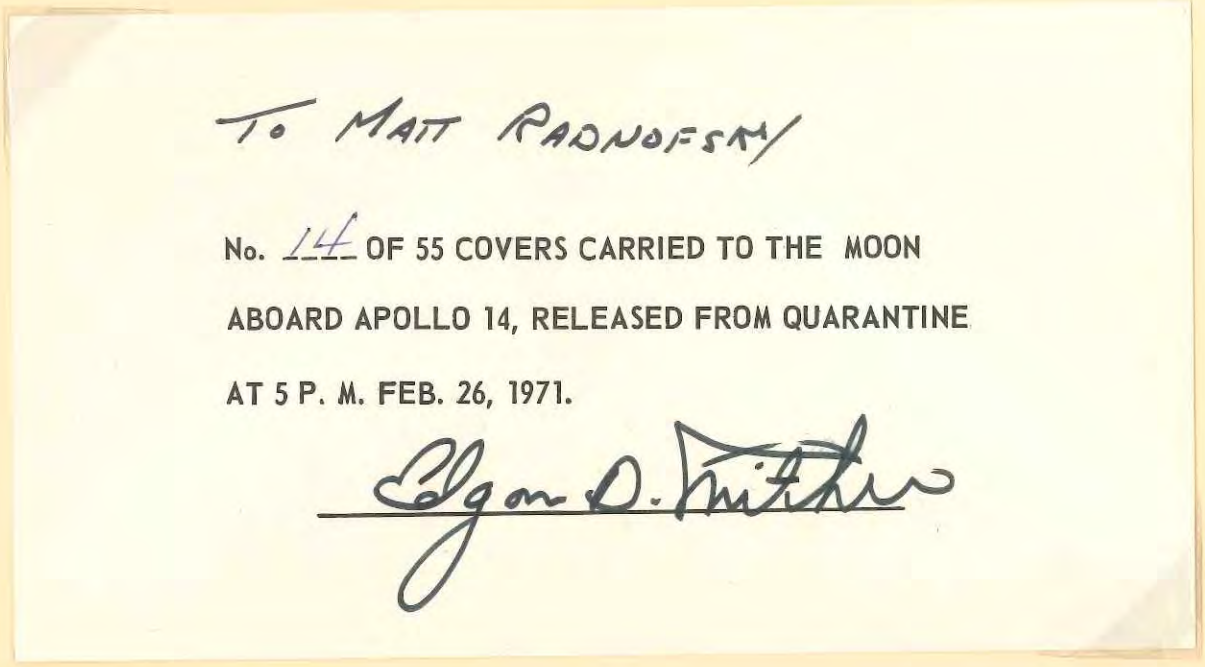
SO NICE TO HAVE SOMEONE APPRECIATE MY CAMERA WORK ON APOLLO 12. TIME GIVES HUMANS A MORE ACCURATE UNDERSTANDING OF THE EVENTS OF 1969. ALAN BEAN APOLLO 12

WU1211 (R2-65)

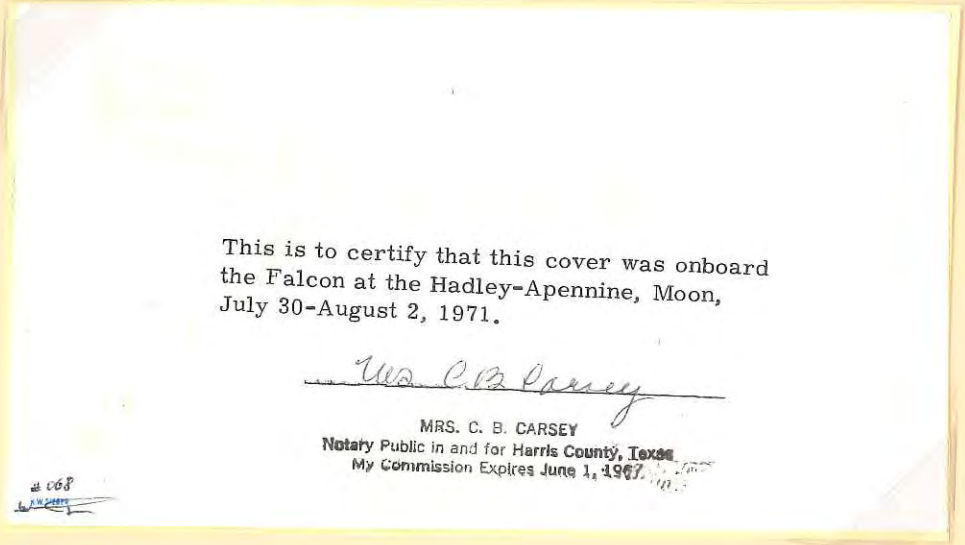
Apollo 13 was launched on 10.04.1970. On 13.04.1970 an oxygen tank in the Service Module Odyssey exploded. James Lovell, Fred Haise and John Swigert surrounded the Moon inside Lunar Module Aquarius. They splashed down in South Pacific on 17.04.1970. *Lovell carried 50 covers.*



On 31.01.1971 Apollo 14 was launched from KSC. Alan Shepard and Edgar Mitchell landed with LM Antares at Fra Mauro highlands, while Stuart Roosa surrounded the Moon in the CM Kitty Hawk. The astronauts left quarantine on 26.02.1971. *Mitchell took 55 covers in Antares to lunar surface.*



On 26.7.1971 Apollo 15 was launched on top a Saturn V rocket. Dave Scott and Jim Irwin landed with LM Falcon at Hadley–Apennine, while Al Worden surrounded the Moon in the CM Endeavour. Scott and Irwin had 3 EVAs with Lunar Roving Vehicle. *Falcon delivered 398 unauthorized covers.*


This is to certify that this cover was onboard
the Falcon at the Hadley-Apennine, Moon,
July 30-August 2, 1971.

Mrs C B Carsey

MRS. C. B. CARSEY
Notary Public in and for Harris County, Texas
My Commission Expires June 1, 1967

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Since the covers which landed at lunar surfa… registered in Personal Preference Kit list, in 1972 NASA seized 359 covers flown … 60 Phases of the Moon covers of Worden. On the back they have a n… neral counsel S. Neil Hosenball.

Dave Scott carried a cover for Barbara Baker, a friend of Apollo 12 astronaut Richard Gordon.

Scott delivered two postmarks. "Moon Landing, USA" only was tested prior to Apollo 15 launch.

On 02.08.1971 Scott postmarked the official cover with postmark "United States on the Moon". Before Apollo 15 launch Matthew Radnovsky did a few trial cancellations of both Moon postmarks.

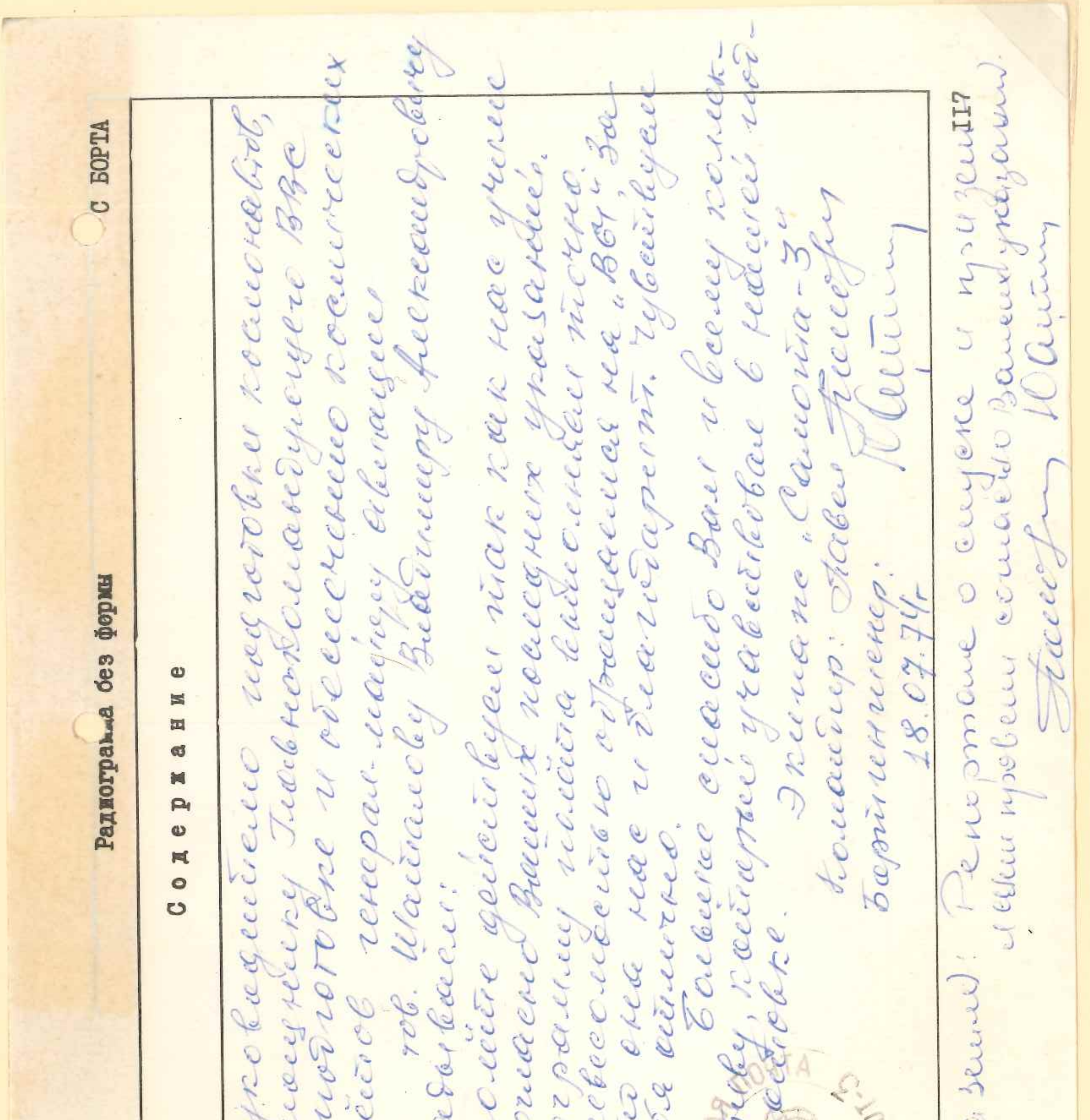
Apollo 16 was launched on 16.04.1972. John Young and Charlie Duke landed with LM Orion at crater Descartes, while Ken Mattingly surrounded the Moon in the CM Casper. Young and Duke went 27 km by LRV. *Duke carried 28 covers. They were exposed to the vacuum of space during 3 lunar EVAs.*

Salyut-3

The military space station Salyut-3 was launched on 25.06.1974. It was equipped with a Nudelman cannon. Soyuz 14 crew Pavel Popovich and Yuri Artyukhin (3. to 19.07.1974) mainly observed Earth.

On 27.08.1974 Gennady Sarafanov and Lew Dyomin failed to dock Soyuz 15. *Design office Vladimir Chelomei provided all Almaz crews with a "Space Mail" cancellation for marking on-board documents.*

Salyut-3 crew sent the earliest known telegram from outer space to General Vladimir Shatalov:
"We carefully fulfill the instructions and keep our timetable. We pay close attention to weightlessness. It is kind to us. We feel good. We are very grateful to you and the whole team involved in our training."


Радиограмма без формы — С БОРТА

№ р/г	Содержание
1.	Руководителю подготовки космонавтов, помощнику Главнокомандующего ВВС по подготовке и обеспечению космических полётов генерал-майору авиации тов. Шаталову Владимиру Александровичу докладываем: В полёте действуем так как нас учили и согласно Ваших последних указаний. Программу полёта выполняем точно. С невесомостью обращаемся на „Вы", за что она нас и благодарит. Чувствуем себя отлично. Большое спасибо Вам и всему коллективу, который участвовал в нашей подготовке. Экипаж „Салюта-3" Командир: Павел Попович Бортинженер: Ю. Артюхин 18.07.74г

P.S. (на земле): Репортаже о спуске и приземлении провели согласно Ваших указаний. Попович Ю. Артюхин

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Apollo-Soyuz Test Project

On 15.07.1975 Alexei Leonov and Valery Kubasov launched on Soyuz 19 from Baikonur Cosmodrome. 7.5 hours later Thomas Stafford, Vance Brand and Donald Slayton followed in Apollo from Kennedy Space Center. *Flown Soyuz 19 launch cover with special postmark from Baikonur signed by all five.*

Two days later, both spaceships docked with an adapter. *Kubasov surprised his colleagues with three different stationaries which were postmarked in Baikonur before launch. All signed in space.*

Salyut-5

Between 6.7. and 24.08.1976 Soyuz 21 crew Boris Wolynov and Vitally Scholobov spent 49 days in military station Salyut-5. They observed Earth and conducted medical, biological and technical tests.

In October 1978 Vyacheslav Sudov and Valeri Rozhdestvensky failed to dock Soyuz 23 to Salyut-5. *16 trial strikes of the station's seal proof how difficult clear imprints were obtained in weightlessness.*

Salyut-6

Yuri Romanenko and Georgi Grechko (Soyuz 26/29) were first resident crew. Vladimir Dschanibekow and Oleg Makarov (Soyuz 27/26) delivered a space mail cancellation. *Board cover done by 7 crews.*

To distinguish earth from board cancellations, Grechko rasped away the 6th star below the T of ОРБИТАЛЬНОЙ. Letter from Alevshina Romanenko to her husband Yuri on board Salyut-6.

On 16.01.1978 Dshanibekov took to earth the responding letter from Romanenko to Alevshina.

On 02.03.1978 Alexei Gubarev and Czech Vladimir Remek launched with Soyuz 28. *They brought Soviet Union and Czech postmarks. The setting -8-3 78 of the Soviet one proofs space cancellation.*

1 марта 8
120

Борт орбитальной станции
"САЛЮТ-6" Бортинженеру
тов.ГРЕЧКО ГЕОРГИЮ МИХАЙЛОВИЧУ

Направляется специальный календарный штемпель первого в мире космического отделения связи "САЛЮТ-6".

Примите поздравления с назначением Вас нештатным сотрудником космического отделения связи"САЛЮТ-6".

Дополнительные разъяснения работы специальным календарным штемпелем:

I. Штемпель переводной.

2. Спецгашение провести датой выхода телерепортажа по прилагаемому сценарию.

3. Обработать утвержденное количество конвертов согласно сценария одним отиском штемпеля углы марок.

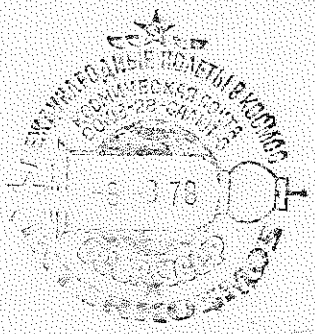
4. Возвратить прилагаемые конверты и спецштемпель с экипажем "СОЮЗ-28" с последующей через Дерябина Ю.И. начальнику узла связи.

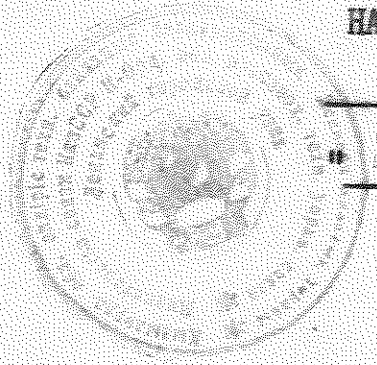
Космодром - Байконур
Журавлевой Г.Ф.

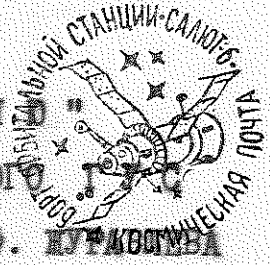
Основание - указания ГУПС Минсвязи СССР.

Начальник Ленинского ГУС Г.Ф.ЖУРАВЛЕВА

ОТТИСК СПЕЦИАЛЬНОГО КАЛЕНДАРНОГО ШТЕМПЕЛЯ







"З А В Е Р Я Ю"

НАЧАЛЬНИК ЛЕНИНСКОГО Г.У.С.

_____ Г.Ф. КУЛАКОВА

"__" _____ 1978 года

По возможности при возврате опечатать и составить реестр.

Georgi Grechko was appointed the first postmaster in orbit. *Document issued by Cosmodrom Baikonur post office handing over stamps and envelopes for this task.*

Kovalyonok and Ivanchenkov were next resident crew. Soyuz 30 crew Pyotr Klimuk and Miroslaw Hermaszewski visited them. *The Soviet board postmark 01 07 78 was used in Salyut-6 only.*

Immediately after Soyuz 30 landing board postmarks were forged with dates used in space. Genuine launch cover with ***forged board postmark*** *delivered from Baikonur to Dnepropetrovsk.*

The second resident crew did not mark letters they received from earth. This letter from Nina Kovalyonok was delivered to her husband Vladimir Kovalyonok with Progress 3 on 08.08.1978.

Здравствуй, дорогой мой и любимый!

Володенька, вот и прошёл месяц, для вас - это месяц трудной и почётной работы в необычных для человека условиях. Для меня этот месяц пролетел как один день.

Володя, дома у нас все в порядке. Живём с Вовкой дружно. Без тебя и без Инессы нам грустно. Она ведь у нас, как говорит Вова - „спортсменка, пионерка, активистка". Поэтому не кинит дом той бурной деятельностью, когда мы все вместе. Каждый вечер

Valeri Bykovsky and Sigmund Jähn from GDR visited Salyut-6 with Soyuz 31. Using the multispectral camera MKF-6M which was produced in Jena they searched for mineral resources in GDR.

With Soyuz 31 Vladimir Kovalyonok sent a letter to his wife Nina. Postmarks' date is docking.

On 10.04.1979 Nikolai Rukavishnikov and Bulgarian Georgi Ivanov launched with Soyuz 33. Next day main engine failed during docking attempt. *Museum cover addressed to Intercosmos Council of Soviet Academy of Sciences. 1 and 2 of the date of Soviet board postmark on same line proof a flown cover.*

Space mail was treated after landing at Hotel Cosmos. Many of them also were marked with special Cosmonauts day postmark. Letter delivered to Vladimir Lyakhov and Valery Ryumin with Progress 6.

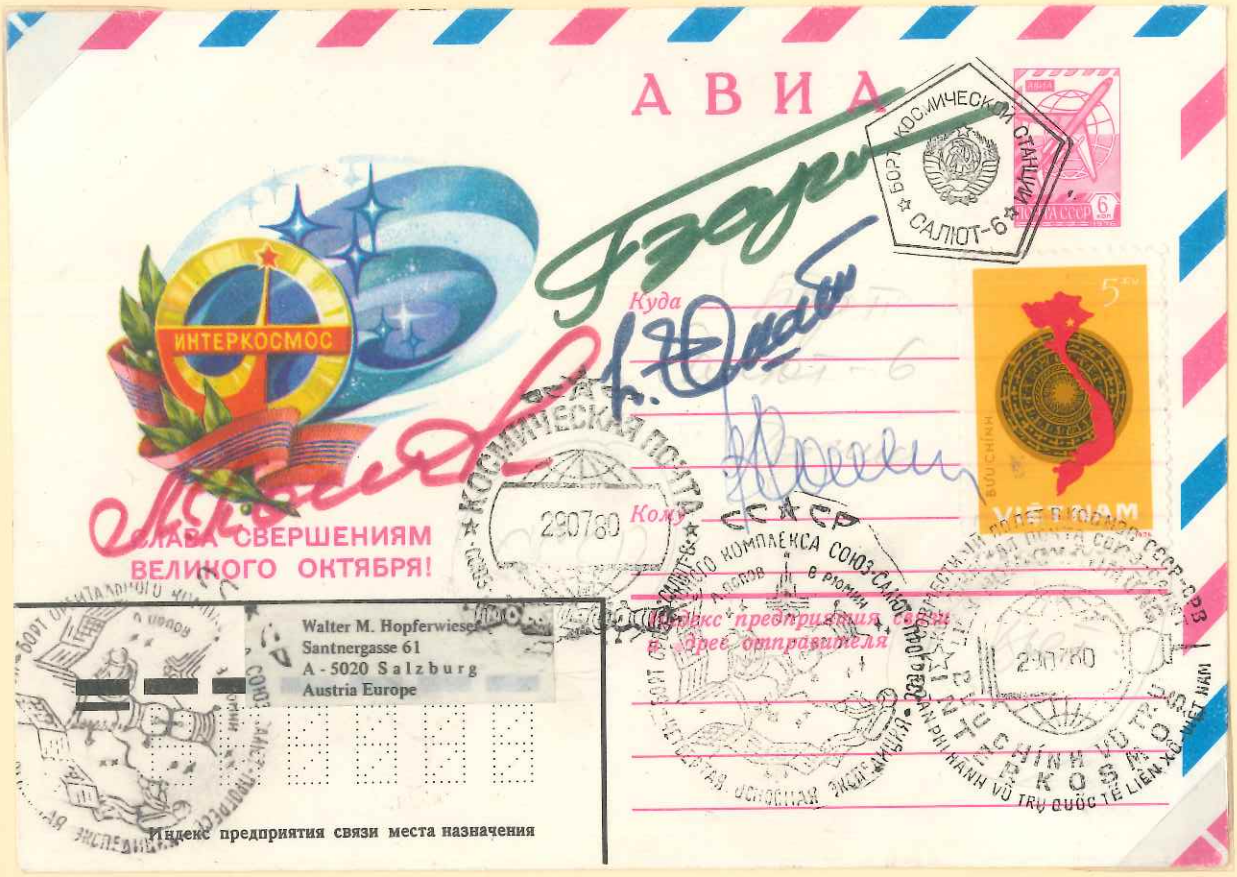
6 weeks prior to his next mission Valentin Lebedev was injured on the trampoline. Thus Leonid Popov and Valery Ryumin launched on 09.04.1980 with Soyuz 35. *Long-time cover from 5 Soyuz crews.*

A Hungarian cosmonaut was to launch with Soyuz 34 on 05.06.1979. This mission was postponed due to failed Soyuz 33 docking. *In the meantime postage rose from 4 to 5 Forint. Prepared 4 Forint stamps were withdrawn and destroyed. First day cover with board postmarks for scheduled flight.*

Towards end of their mission Valeri Kubasov and Hungarian Bertalan Farkas (Soyuz 36/35, 25.05. to 03.06.1980) realised they forgot to treat the covers for museums. Only they got the date 30.05.1980.

Leonid Popov used a cover postmarked during Soviet-Hungarian space flight for this letter to Yuri Romanenko. Yuri Malyshev and Vladimir Aksyonov delivered it to earth with Soyuz T-2 on 9.06.1980.

Viktor Gorbatko and Vietnamese Pham Tuan (Soyuz 37, 23.-31.07.1980) scaned damage of poison war in Vietnam and planned afforestation. *The pentagonal seal of Salyut-6 proof th cover was flown.*



Yuri Romanenko and the Cuban Arnaldo Tamayo Méndez (Soyuz 38, 18 to 26/09/1980) studied the growth of sugar cane in Cuba. *Cover with arrival postmark Star Town 12.10.1980 on back.*

Vladimir Dzhanibekov and the Mongol Shugderdemidyn Gurragtschaa launched on 22.03.1981 with Soyuz 39. *The trilingual Mongolian board postmark contains the words "КОСМИЧЕСКАЯ ПОЧТА".*

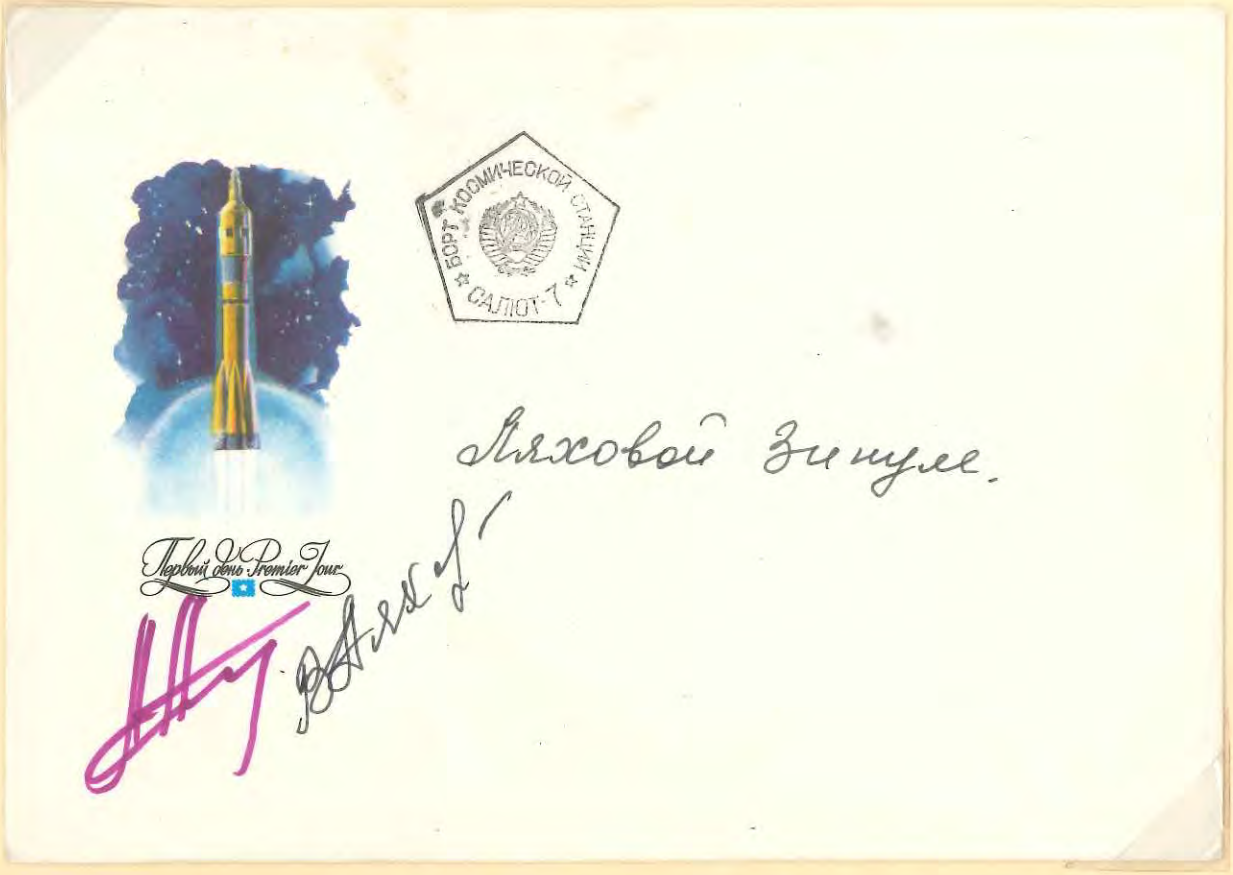
Leonid Popov and Romanian Dumitru Prunariu (Soyuz 40, 14. to 22.05.1981) was the last visiting crew on board Salyut-6. *The Romanian board postmark words "Cosmodomul Baiconur Mai 1981".*

Salyut-7

Vladimir Dzhanibekov, Alexander Ivanchenko and Frenchman Jean-Loup Chrétien were the first Salyut-7 visiting crew. *Dzhanibekov used a "Par avion" rubber stamp as proof of space mail.*

Leonid Popov, Alexander Serebrov and Svetlana Savitskaya docked with Soyuz T-7. 19 years after Valentina Tereshkova Savitskaya was second woman in space. *Cover with Soyuz T-6 board postmark.*

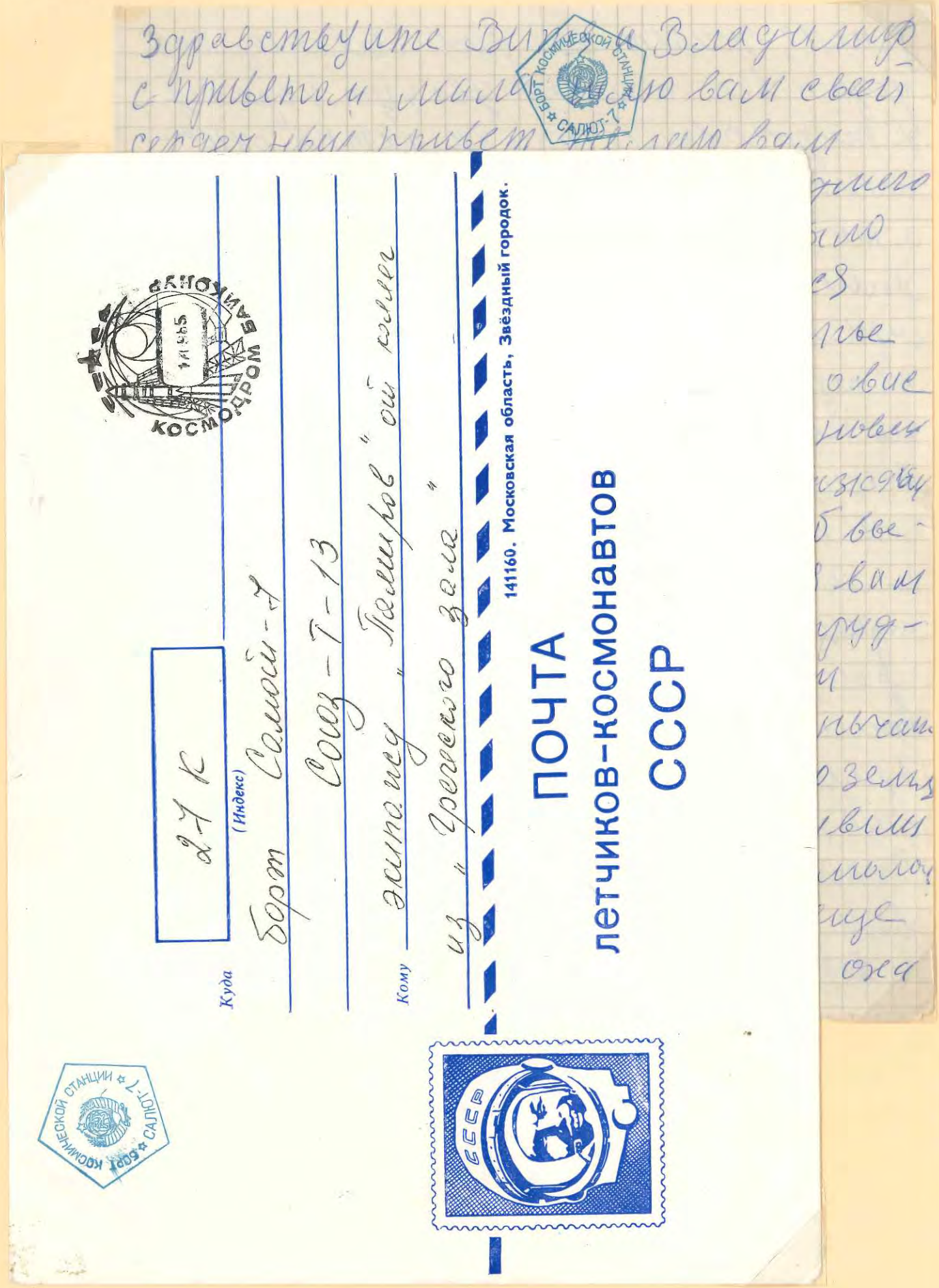
As Soyuz T-10-I exploded Soyuz T-9 crew Vladimir Lyakhov and Alexander Alexandrov received only two unmanned Progresses. *Letter Lyakhov sent to his wife with Kosmos 1443 on 23.08.1983.*



On 05.04.1984 Yuri Malyshev, Gennady Strekalov and Indian Rakesh Sharma docked Soyuz T-11. *Cover with Soviet 5 K stamp issued for this mission. Sharma wrote the name below each signature.*

India Post prepared a 2 Rupees stamp featuring the crews Anatoli Berezovoy, Georgi Grechko and Ravish Malhotra as well as Yuri Malyshev, Nikolai Rukavishnikov and Rakesh Sharma. One month before launch Rukavishnikov fell ill. He was replaced by Gennady Strekalov. *India Post withdraw the stamp. The only known copy of this stamp was postmarked before flight with Indian board postmark.*

Vladimir Dzanibekov and Viktor Savinykh revitalized ice-covered Salyut-6 as power supply had failed.
On 19.09.1985 Soyuz T-14 brought Savinykh 5 letters from his mother and others inside this cover.



Mir

On 20.02.1986, Mir (Earth, peace) station with 6 docking adapters was launched. Leonid Kizim and Vladimir Solovyov (Soyuz T-15, 13.3. to 16.07.1986) settled. After 52 days they left towards Salyut-7.

Kizim and Soloviev picked up covers that Savinykh, Vasyutin and Volkov had forgotten In Salyut-7 when suddenly returning to Earth. They finished experiments before returning to Mir on 25.6.1986.

Yuri Romanenko and Alexander Laveykin were first resident crew. Alexander Viktorenko, Alexander Alexandrov and Syrian Muhammad Fares *delivered this letter from Romanenko's son Artyom to Mir.*

Syrian first day cover addressed to Intercosmos Council of Soviet Academy of Sciences.

Progress 33 delivered 1038 addressed covers and an octagonal seal of Mir from space agency Glavkosmos into the station. "Not for sale" covers were made for museums and dignitaries.

Vladimir Titov and Mussa Manarov launched on 21.12.1987. They stayed a whole year in space.
Long-time cover with trial cancellations of Soviet postmark 259897 and Bulgarian -9. AUG 1988.

Anatoly Solovyov, Viktor Savinykh and Bulgarian Alexander Alexandrov docked with Soyuz TM-5 on 09.06.1988. *Letter from cosmonaut Lev Dyomin to resident crew Vladimir Titov and Musa Manarov.*

Solovyov, Savinykh and Alexandrov landed on 17.06.1988. *Titov's responsing letter to Dyomin.*

Essay for the twin-card shown on the next page drawn by German Komlev.

Alexander Volkov, Sergei Krikalev and Frenchman Jean-Loup Chrétien docked to Mir on 28.11.1988. Titov opened first permanent post office in Earth orbit. *Cover with scarce French board postmark.*

Twin-card delivered with Progress 41 and Soyuz TM-7. Backdated duplicate of Baikonur postmark.

3 №471 КОСМОДРОМ БАЙКОНУР

КОСМИЧЕСКАЯ ПОЧТА Space Mail

30-ЛЕТИЕ ЗАПУСКА ПЕРВОЙ СОВЕТСКОЙ РАКЕТЫ В СТОРОНУ ЛУНЫ

ЗАПУСКА ПЕРВОЙ СОВЕТСКОЙ РАКЕТЫ В СТОРОНУ ЛУНЫ 02·01·1989

ПЕРВЫЙ ДЕНЬ · PREMIER JOUR · МОСКВА · ПОЧТАМТ

почта СССР 15

КОСМИЧЕСКАЯ ПОЧТА cdx ПОЧТА СССР 1 руб 1976

* ИСТОРИЯ СОВЕТСКОЙ КОСМОНАВТИКИ *

„ЛУНА-1"

2 января 1959 года. Космодром Байконур
Запуск первой ракеты в сторону Луны

ОРБИТАЛЬНЫЙ ПИЛОТИРУЕМЫЙ КОМПЛЕКС „МИР" 180389 ПОЧТОВОЕ ОТДЕЛЕНИЕ „МИР"

КОСМОДРОМ 160389 БАЙКОНУР

ДОСТАВЛЕНО ★ ПРОГРЕСС-41 ★ НА КОМПЛЕКС «МИР»

КОСМОС

Экипажу орбитального комплекса "Мир"

468320

А №471 AU

КОСМИЧЕСКАЯ ПОЧТА Space Mail

ДОСТАВЛЕНО ★ СОЮЗ ТМ-7 ★ НА ЗЕМЛЮ

ОРБИТАЛЬНЫЙ ПИЛОТИРУЕМЫЙ КОМПЛЕКС „МИР" 270489 ПОЧТОВОЕ ОТДЕЛЕНИЕ

КОСМИЧЕСКАЯ ПОЧТА cdx ПОЧТА СССР 1 руб 1976

* ИСТОРИЯ СОВЕТСКОЙ КОСМОНАВТИКИ *

С 20 февраля 1986 года функционирует
в космосе орбитальный комплекс МИР

Специальное издание для космической почты

Международная книга Москва, СССР

ЖДУССР ПОЧТОВЫЙ ЯЗГАН ОБЛАСТЬ 27048313

468320

Главкосмос
Москва

КОСМОС

Б №471 AU

Alexander Volkov, Tachtar Aubakirow and Austrian Franz Viehböck docked Soyuz TM-13 to Mir on 04. 10.1991. *They delivered this cover, which landed with Progress M-10 return capsule Raduga-4.*

Космонавт-исследователь – Герой Советского Союза, летчик-испытатель СССР
АУБАКИРОВ ТОКТАР ОНГАРБАЕВИЧ;

Космонавт-исследователь – гражданин Австрийской республики, ассистент кафедры электротехнических измерений Венского технического университета
ФРАНЦ ВИЕБЕК.

ВТОРОЙ ЭКИПАЖ:

Командир – Герой Советского Союза, летчик-космонавт СССР, полковник
АЛЕКСАНДР СТЕПАНОВИЧ ВИКТОРЕНКО;

Космонавт-исследователь – мастер спорта по высшему пилотажу
ТОХТАТ АМАНТЕЛЬДИЕВИЧ МУСАБАЕВ;

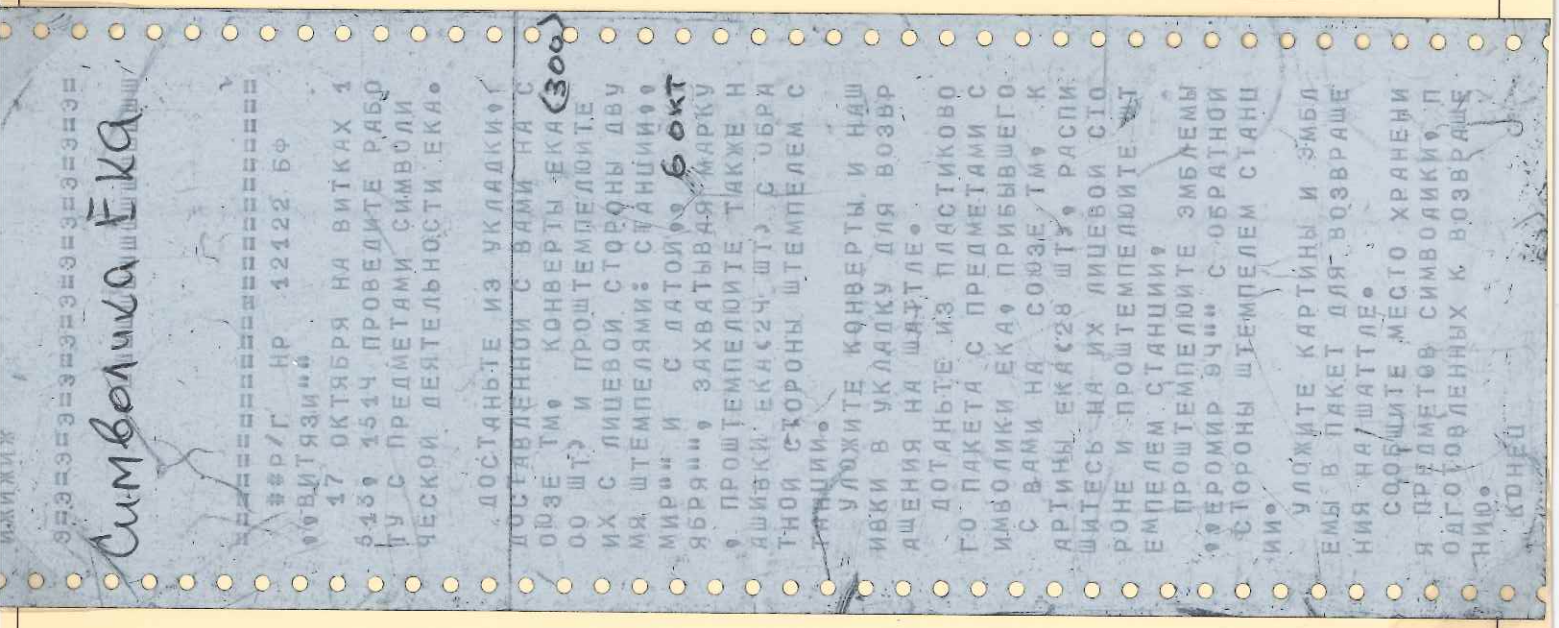
Космонавт-исследователь – гражданин Австрийской республики, врач-анестезиолог
КЛЕМЕНС ЛОТАЛЛЕР.

035

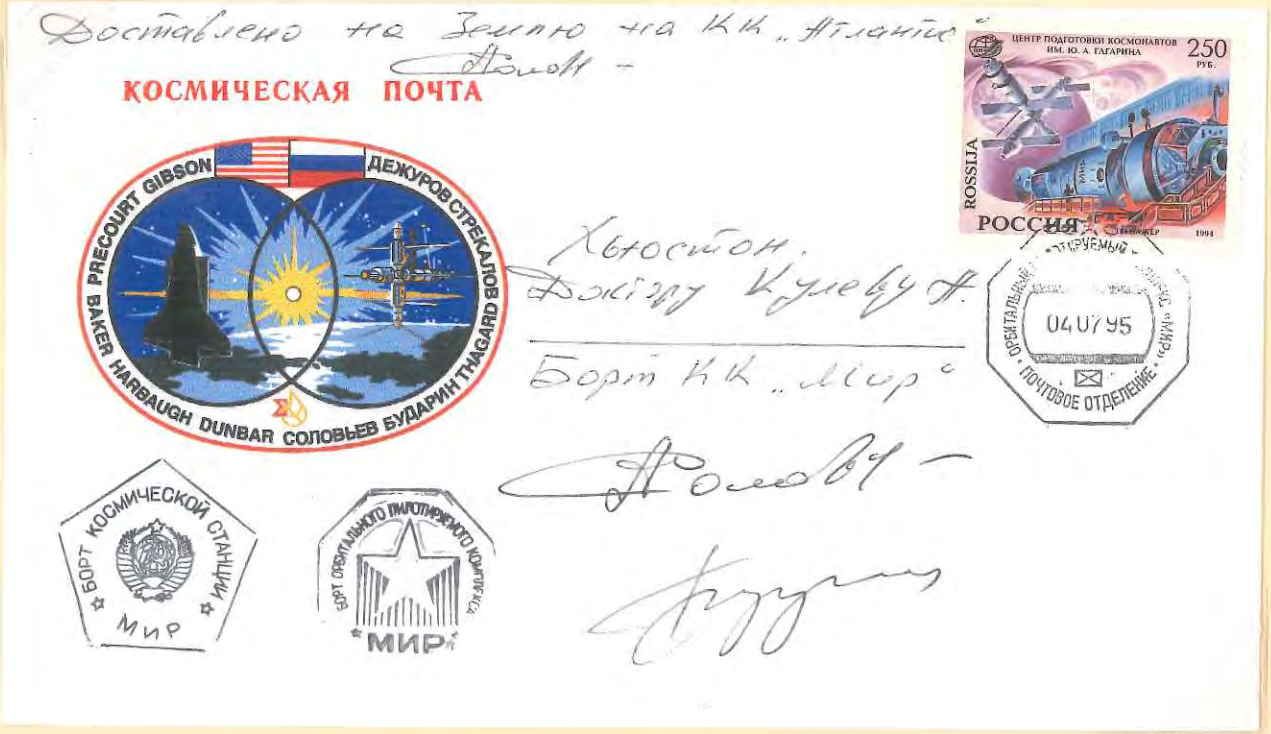
ÖSTERREICHS KOSMONAUTEN
Dipl. Ing. Franz VIEHBÖCK u. Dr. Clemens LOTHALLER

Board letter of Austrian Ministry of Science and Research with non-postal Trodat board cancellation

On 3.10.1994 Alexander Viktorenko, Jelena Kondakova and Ulf Merbold launched with Soyuz TM-20.
This telex instructed the crew how to treat ESA Euromir covers. Cover and telex landed with STS-71.



On 7.04.1995 Vladimir Dezhurov, Gennady Strekalov and Norman Thagard landed with US Space Shuttle Atlantis / STS-71. *They delivered a letter from Anatoly Solovyov to space doctor Kylev.*



US Capcoms in Russian Control Centre ZUP at Kaliningrad near Moscow congratulated the crew for historical STS-71 docking. Fax transmitted via Mission Control in Houston to Space Shuttle Atlantis.

MSG NO. 00A PG 2 OF 2
TITLE: CONFIDENTIAL MSG A

Нашим добрым друзьям в Центре Управления Полетами и экипажам экспедиций СТС-71, Мир-18 и Мир-19

Какой момент! Сто американских пилотируемых космических полетов. Как много эти полеты принесли всем нам, где бы в этом мире мы не жили. Все мы знаем об огромных затратах и жертвах, но предпринятые вами усилия и наши достижения обогатили нашу жизнь. Спасибо вам!

Не менее важно то, что семена, посаженные 20 лет назад и взращенные Россией и Соединенными Штатами принесли плоды в виде стыковки Мира и Шаттла. Последние годы также были свидетелями вклада, внесенного в общее дело многими странами. Как далеко мы ушли! Как прекрасно знать, что нашим детям не придется жить с чувством страха, в котором мы выросли... Как это прекрасно!

Это письмо получено на борту „Атлантис" (STS-71) 29.06.95 г.

Всего вам доброго,

Марк, Джерри и МакКензи.

On 15.11.1995 Kenneth Cameron, James Halsell, Jerry Ross, William McArthur and Canadian Chris Hadfield docked Atlantis / STS-74 to Mir. *They delivered this letter from space doctor W. P. Mateyev.*

Добавлено на ОК „Мир"
КК „Атлантис"

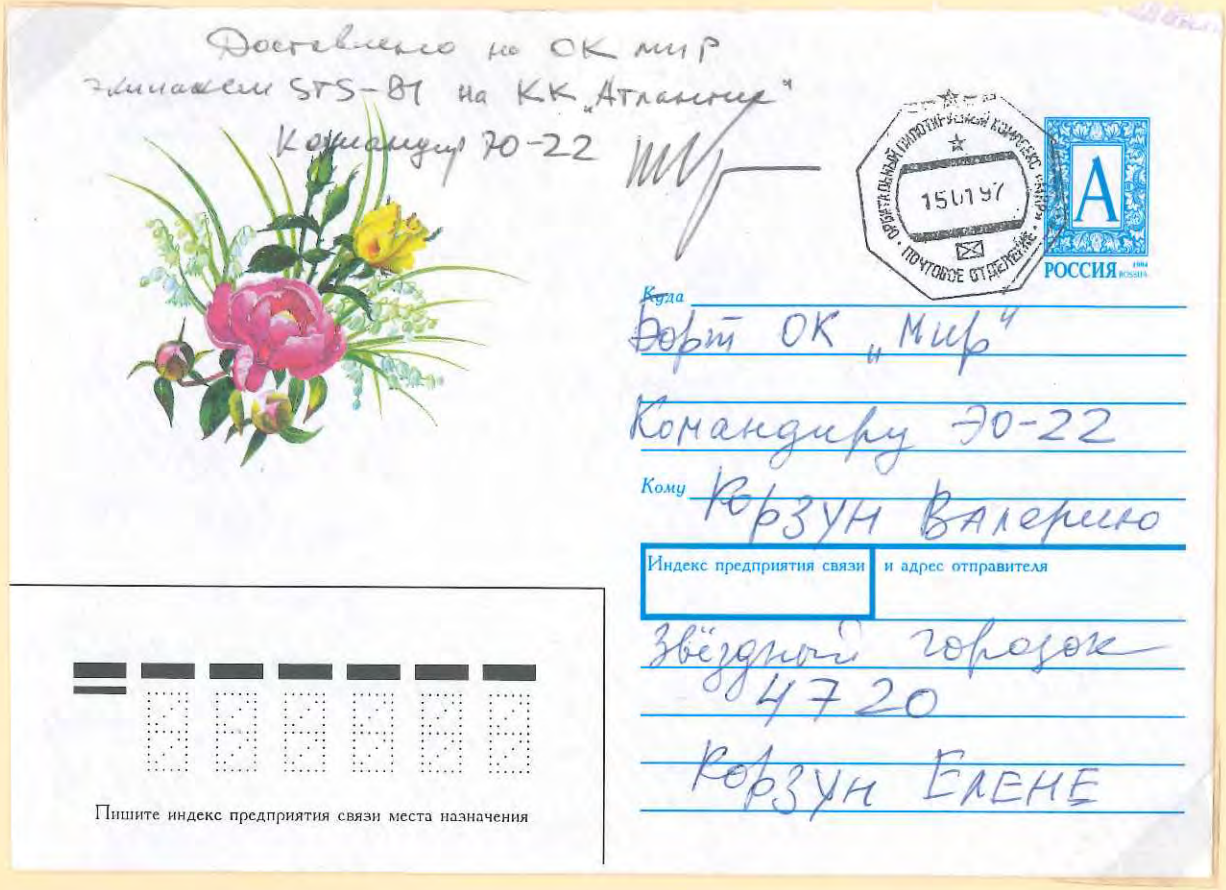
Экипажу ЭО-20
Гидзенко Ю. Авдееву С.
Томасу Раттеру
от врача экипажа ЭО-20
Матвеева В. П.

NASA prohibited all Space Shuttle astronauts to carry philatelic items. A cosmonaut working aboard Mir was allowed to send 4 kg private luggage including this letter from Yuri Gidsenko to his family.

141160
Московская обл. Звездный
гор. г. 47 кв 21
Гидзенко О. В.

Орбитальная станция „Мир"
Гидзенко Ю. П.

On 15.01.1997 Michael Baker, Brent Jett, John Grunsfeld, Marsha Ivens, Jeff Wisoff, Jerry Lineger docked Atlantis / STS-81 to Mir. *They delivered this letter from his wife Yelena to Valeri Korzun.*



On 20.1.1997 the STS-81 crew delivered a three-page letter from Valeri Korzun to his wife Yelena.

On 7.8.1997 Anatoly Solovyov and Pavel Vinogradov docked with Soyuz TM-26. Their main task was repairing Mir after collision between Progress M-34 and module Spektr. *Cover returned with STS-86.*

Hungarian back-up cosmonaut Bela Magyari addressed a cover with 5 Forint Soyuz 36 and withdrawn 4 Forint stamp to Vasili Tsibliyev. Anatoly Solovyov postmarked it with Progress M-36 docking date.

On 27.09.1997 STS-86 crew James Wetherbee, Michael Bloomfield, Wendy Lawrence, Scott Parazynski, Vladimir Titov, Jean-Loup Chrétien and David Wolf docked Atlantis to Mir station.
Pavel Vinogradov postmarked this letter to his wife Irina with docking rather than undocking date.

This cover signed by everybody on board Mir was delivered to earth with STS-86 on 03.10.1997.

The STS-89 crew Terrence Wilcutt, Joe Edwards, James Reilly, Michael Anderson, Bonnie Dunbar, Salizhan Sharipov and Andrew Thomas was on board Mir with Endeavour from 24. to 29.01.1998.
Sharipov took 15 covers to Mir and back to earth. They were postmarked and signed on board Mir.

Discovery was last Space Shuttle visiting Mir. Charles Precourt, Dominic Gorie, Franklin Chang-Diaz, Wendy Lawrence, Janet Kavandi and Valeri Ryumin worked in the space station from 4. to 8.06.1998.
STS-91 crew delivered to earth this letter from Talgat Musabayev to his daughter Katyusha.

РЕЕСТР

почтовой корреспонденции, отправленной с ОК "МИР"
на Землю на космическом корабле Союз ТМ-27

N° п/п	
1.	Падалка Г. А. от Падалка Г. И.
2.	Падалка Е. Г. от Падалка Г. И.
3.	Вальтеру Хопфервизеру от Падалка Г. И.
4.	Господе Бекарий от Падалка Г. И.
5.	Господину Лаузер от Падалка Г. И.
6.	
7.	Gennadiy Padalka
8.	From „MIR" orbital complex
9.	via p/o Zvyozdny Gorodok Moscow region 141160 Russia
10.	
11.	
12	
13.	Walter Michael Hopferwieser Santnergasse 61 A-5020 Salzburg Austria Австрия

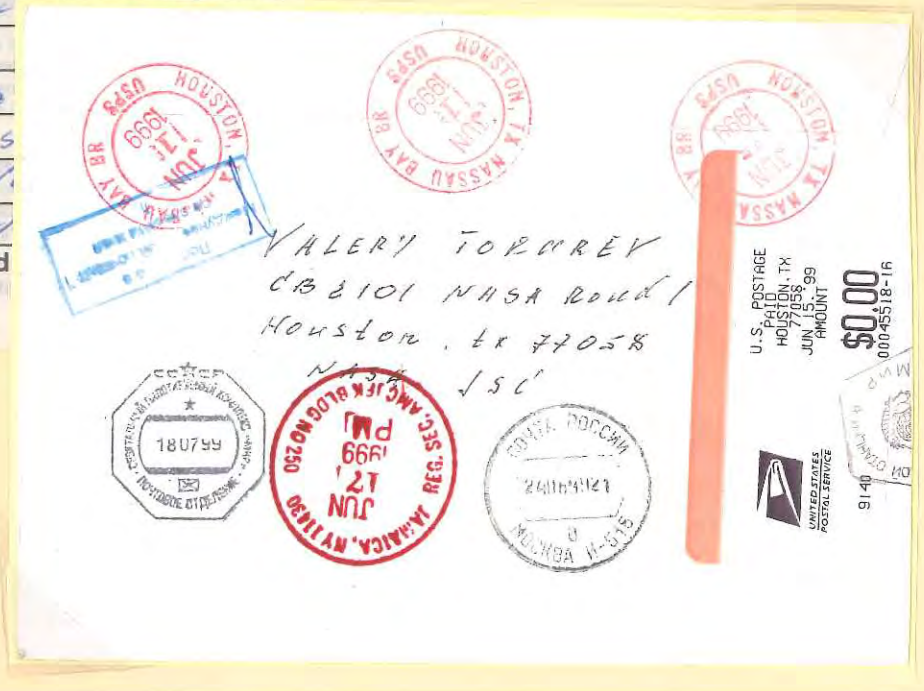
Soyuz TM-28 crew Gennady Padalka and Sergey Avdeyev listed each letter Soyuz TM-27 return crew Talgat Musabayev, Nikolai Budarin and Yuri Baturin brought to earth on 25.08.1998. This letter from Padalka to Salzburg is the earliest known letter from a space station posted directly registered abroad.

Soyuz TM-30 crew Sergey Salyotin and Alexander Kaleri were the last to work on board Mir.
Progress M1-2 delivered this letter from Alexander Poleshchuk to Kaleri on 27.04.2000.
MirCorp company could not finance any further mission. Thus Mir deorbited on 23.03.2001.

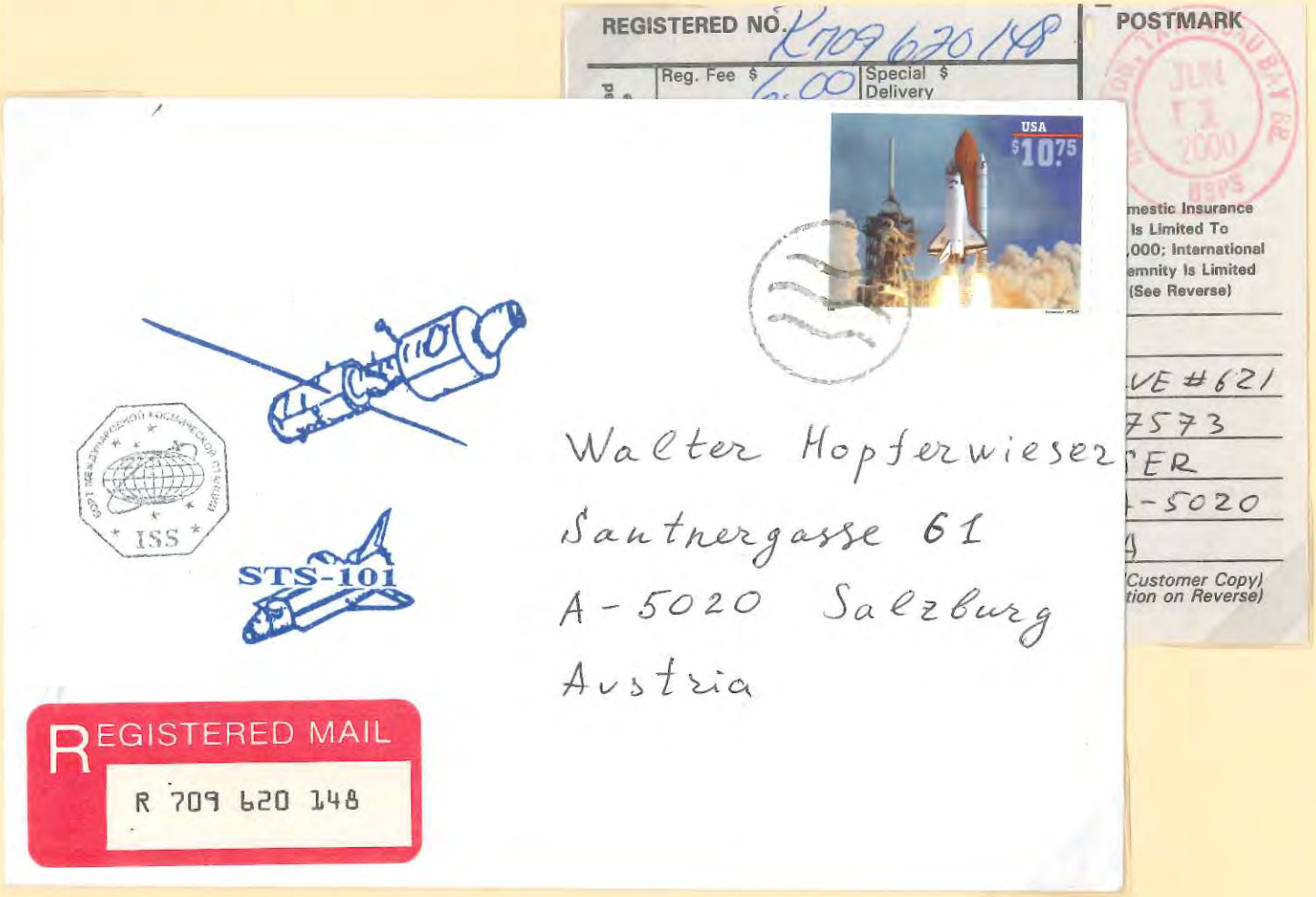
International Space Station

Russian base block Zarya (Dawn) was launched from Cosmodrome Baikonur on 20.11.1998. Endeavour / STS-88 (6. to 15.12.1998) brought US connecting node Unity. *Sergey Krikalyov found two rubberstamps, a few covers and paper in Zarya. He wrote 7 letters to his family and friends.*

Kent Rominger, Rick Husband, Tamara Jernigan, Ellen Ochoa, Daniel Barry, Julie Payette and Valery Tokarev continued building up ISS with Discovery STS-96 (27.5. to 06.06.1999). *This letter Tokarev's was delivered to Sergei Avdeyev on board Mir with Progress M-42 on 18.07.1999.*



Halsell, Horowitz, Weber, Williams, Helms, Voss and Russian Yuri Usachyov were STS-101 crew.
In ISS Usachyov wrote 12 letters that were posted from Houston 2 days after landing on 29.5.2000.



Russian Service Module Zvezda was launched from Baikonur on 12.7.2000. *It delivered 20 covers. Malenchenko took them back with STS-106. RKK Energia gave 10 to Russian grandees, 10 to NASA.*

Terrence Wilcutt, Scott Altman, Edward Lu, Richard Mastracchio, Daniel Burbank, Yuri Malenchenko and Boris Morukow / STS-106 worked in ISS from 10. to 18.9.2000. *Malenchenko wrote 6 letters.*

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Reg. Fee $ 6.00	Special Delivery $		
Handling Charge $	Return Receipt $		
Postage $ 0.60	Restricted Delivery $		
Received by			

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09/26/00

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To Be Completed By Customer (Please Print) All Entries Must Be in Ballpoint or Typed

Customer Must Declare Full Value $

With Postal Insurance

Without Postal Insurance

FROM: YURI MALENCHENKO
601 ENTERPRISE AV. #221
LEAGUE CITY, TX 77573

TO: GENNADI PADALKA 141160
Московская обл. Звездный гор.
Почта лётчиков-косм. RUSSIA

PS Form **3806**, February 1995 — **Receipt for Registered Mail** *(Customer Copy)* *(See Information on Reverse)*

Гене привет

дела ...

ки ме...

...вышли

...шел 9-й день

...та. По российскому

...ебу все работы

...или. Завтра

...сервируем и домой.

...ездом буду в

...це Сентября.

...есь ты тоже

...ешь Тем.

До встречи, Ю. Маленченко

GMT: 260/17:45:00

SSI

Борт Международной Космической Станции

РОССИЯ 17 СЕН 2000 Российский сегмент Международной Космической

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00062868-16

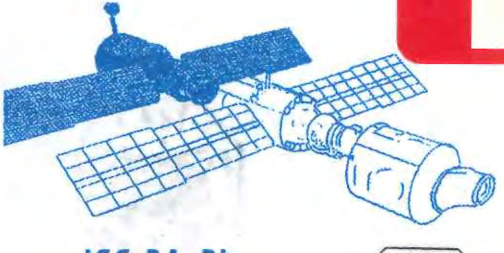
UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE 9140

REGISTERED MAIL

R 748 375 106

США

GENNADI PADALKA
141160, Московская обл.,
Звездный городок,
Почта лётчиков-космонавтов
RUSSIA



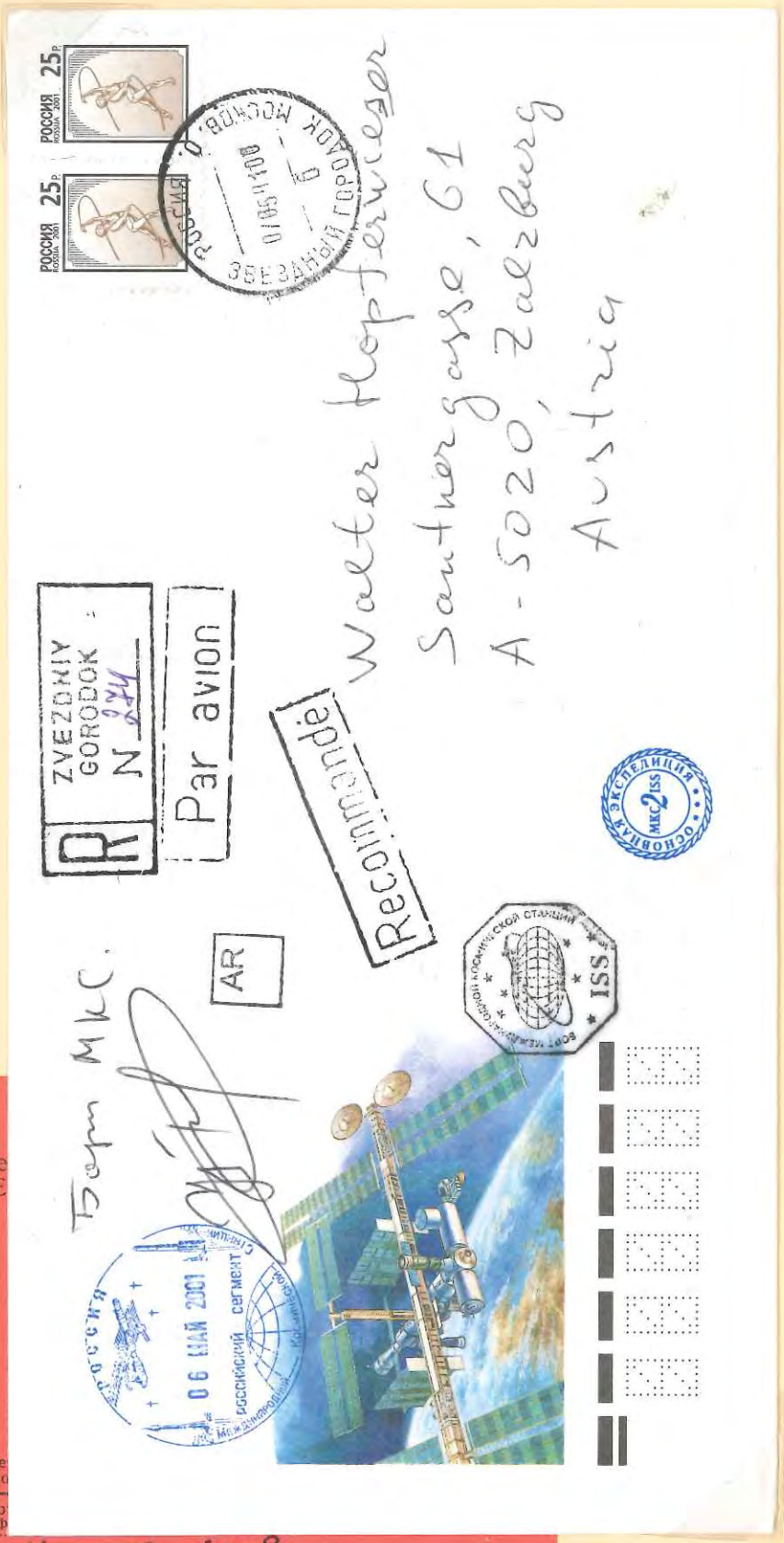
ISS 2A. 2b

Борт Международной Космической Станции ISS

ISS has been permanently manned since Yuri Gidzenko, Sergey Krikalyov and William Shepherd docked with Soyuz TM-31 on 02.11.2000. *Letter Gidzenko wrote to his son Sasha delivered to Earth with Space Shuttle Endeavour / STS- 97 on 09.12.2000. It was posted registered from Houston.*

Letter with Special Soyuz TM-31 launch postmark from Wien. It run postally to Star City and was delivered to Yuri Gidzenko with Space Shuttle Atlantis on her mission STS-98 on 09.02.2001.

Initially ISS-crews changed with Space Shuttles. A Soyuz was their rescue capsule. As Soyuz was certified for 6 months, it had to be exchanged twice a year. Talgat Musabayev, Yuri Baturin and participant Dennis Tito formed Taxi-1 crew. *They delivered this letter from Yuri Usachyov to Earth.*



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Отправляющая почтовая администрация

AVIS de réce
УВЕДОМЛЕ

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Bureau de dépôt
Учреждение подачи ~~отделение связи~~ Звездный городок

№ 274

Date de dépôt
Дата подачи 07.05.2001

A renvoyer par la voie la plus rapide (aérienne ou de surface), à découvert et en franchise de port.

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РОССИЯ 141160 МОСКОВСКАЯ ОБЛ. ЗВЕЗДНЫЙ ГОРОДОК 6

Re
Po

Усачев Ю.В.

Rue et n°
Улица и № P.O. box 154

Localité
Населенный пункт Zvezdny gorodok

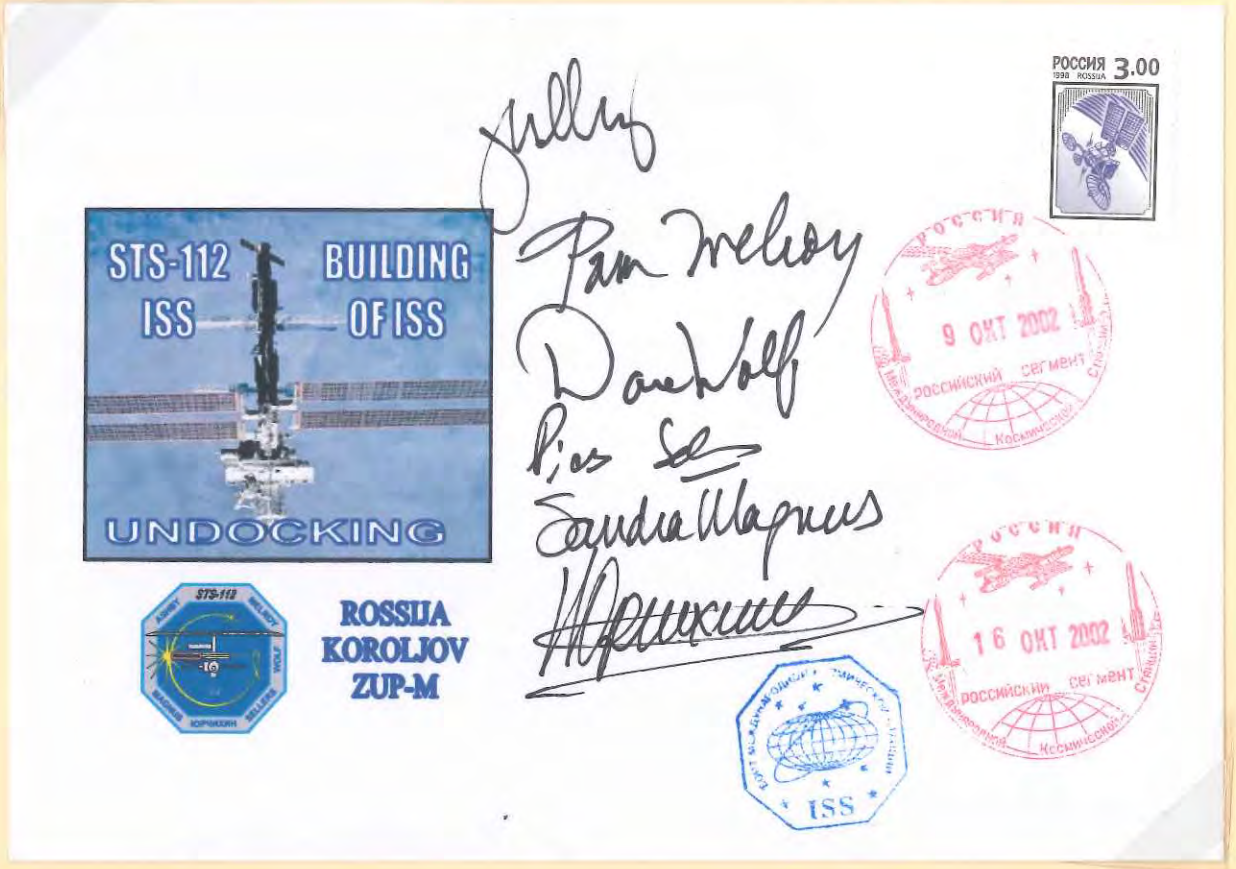
Pays
Страна 141160 Russia - Россия

г. Мозырь, тип. Зак. 2116—2.751.000.

On 17.09.2001 Progress DC-1 delivered module Pirs, fuel, equipment, food *and one letter* to ISS.

On 27.04.2002 Yuri Gidsenko, Italian Roberto Vittori and South African Mark Shuttleworth docked.
Bonusbrief sent from Koppl. Registration fee was added with ATS, EUR and supplementing stamps.

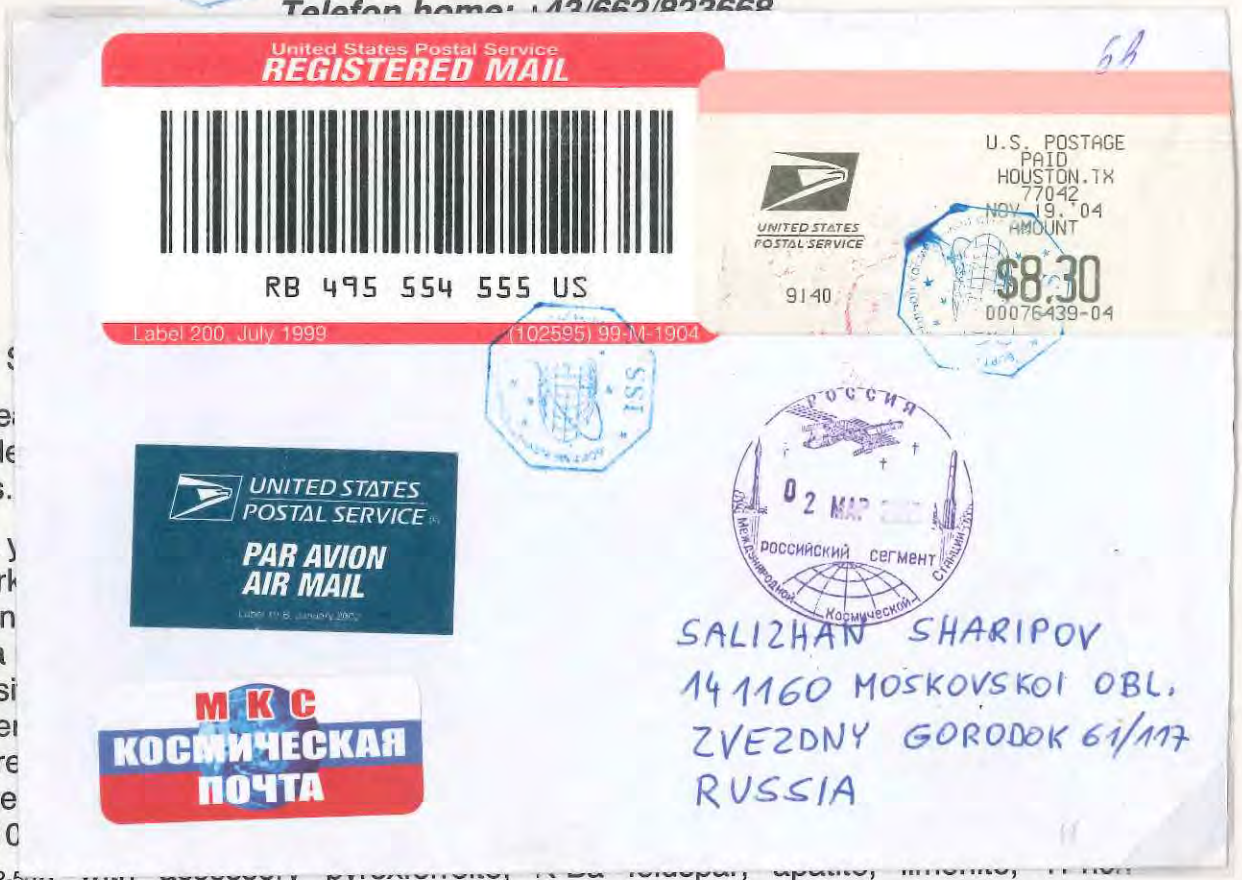
STS-112 crew Jeffrey Ashby, Pamela Melroy, David Wolf, Sandra Magnus, Piers Sellers and Russian Fyodor Yurchikhin were on board ISS with Space Shuttle Atlantis from 09. to 16.10.2002.



After loss of STS-107, ISS-7 crew Yuri Malenchenko and Ed Lu arrived with Soyuz TMA-2. *They delivered a letter from Houston-based Russian space doctor Vladimir Matveev to Nikolai Budarin.*

Letter posted from Houston on 35th anniversary of Apollo 12 moon landing. It was delivered to Salizhan Sharipov with Progress M-52. Lunar meteorite DHO 287 is similar to Apollo 12 moon rocks.

Walter Michael Hopferwieser
Santnergasse 61
A-5020 Salzburg
Österreich
Telefon home: +43/662/823668



Dear S

35 ye
Charle
rocks.

Here y
A dark
Oman
It is a
Classi
Univer
and re
augite
(50-10
$_{25}En_{2-50}$; with accessory pyroxferroite, K-Ba feldspar, apatite, ilmenite, Ti-rich chromite, ulvöspinel, baddeleyite, silica, tranquillityite, troilite, Fe-Ni metal, and a fayalite + K-rich glass mesostasis; shock veins and impact melt pockets are present; plagioclase is totally converted to maskelynite; mineral modes (vol%) are pyroxene = 49, maskelynite = 26, olivine = 18, opaques = 4, impact melt = 2; whole-rock TiO_2 content = 2.8 wt%; Fe/Mn = 75; a prominent negative Eu anomaly is present; **similar** in composition **to Apollo 12 mare basalts**, but distinctly higher in Na and incompatible elements. Regolith breccia portion: clast-rich, with numerous lithic and mineral grains (up to 1 mm) cemented by fine-grained mineral fragments (<100 µm) and minor impact melt; dominated by low-Ti and VLT mare basalt lithologies; minor highland material probably present; lithic clasts are fine-grained, vitrophyric, granular to ophitic, basaltic rocks and impact melt breccias; mineral fragments dominated by pyroxene, olivine, and plagioclase; glass fragments and spherules also occur; plagioclase, An_{98-66}; olivine, Fo_{80-25}; pyroxenes highly variable, $Wo_{5-40}En_{2-80}$; main accessories are silica, fayalite, pyroxferroite, K-rich glass, apatite, ilmenite, Ti-rich chromite, ulvöspinel, troilite, and FeNi metal.

I hope you and Leroy like having this nice meteorite slice onboard ISS.

All my best wishes,

Walter

Eileen Collins, James Kelly, Charles Camarda, Wendy Lawrence, Soichi Noguchi, Stephen Robinson and Andrew Thomas docked with Discovery / STS-114 on 28.7.2005. *Letter from Yuri Gidsenko.*

On 06.08.2005 STS-114 took Sergey Krikalov's answer to Earth. It was delivered personally.

ISS-15 crew received STS-117 and 118: Frederick Sturckow, Lee Archambault, Patrick Forrester, Steven Swanson, John Olivas, James Reilly, Clayton Conrad Anderson; Scott Kelly, Charles Hobaugh, Tracy Caldwell, Rick Mastracchio, Dave Williams / Canada, Barbara Morgan and Benjamin Drew.

STS-120 delivered Node 2 Harmony to ISS. *On 4.11.2007 it delivered 4 letters Yuri Malenchenko's.*

On 25.03.2008 Space Shuttle Endeavour / STS-123 took 4 letters Yuri Malenchenko's to Earth. On 09.04.2008 they were posted registered from Houston Nassau Bay St. post office to Russia.

On 02.06.2008 Space Shuttle Discovery / STS-124 delivered a letter from cosmonaut Alexander Volkov to his son Sergey. Soyuz TMA-12 commander Sergey Volkov was member of ISS-17 crew.

In 2005 Austrian Post prepared a 1.25 € stamp for the 70th birthday of Dalai Lama. Upon request of China it was withdrawn. A letter with greetings from Georgi Grechko, Roman Romanenko, philately head Erich Haas and others run postally to Star City. It was delivered to ISS with Progress M-67.

Soyuz TMA-21 launched on 5.04.2011. *Launch postmark of GUP Baikonursvyazinform, a company belonging to Russian Post as Kazakhstan is independent. Postmark of Russian segment of ISS of docking day 07.04.2011. Cover signed by everybody including STS-134 and STS-135 Shuttle crews.*

On 12.04.2011 the 50th anniversary of Yuri Gagarin's first-ever manned space flight was celebrated. *During celebrations souvenir sheets for this event were postmarked the day before their issue. Letter from Star City to Alexander Samokutayev on board ISS delivered with Progress M-10M.*

Space Shuttle Atlantis was stand-by for STS-134 emergencies. It was launched on 08.07.2011 from Kennedy Space Center, Florida as last Space Shuttle flight. *On 10.07.2011 Christopher Ferguson, Douglas Hurley, Sandra Magnus and Rex Walheim delivered this letter from Graz to Sergey Volkov.*

On 18.07.2011 STS-135 took Volkov's reply to Earth. It was posted from Houston on 23.09.2011.

On 17.05.2012 Gennady Padalka carried with Soyuz TMA-04M a letter from Apollo 16 astronaut Charlie Duke into ISS. The souvenir sheet shows Duke on the Moon. This copy has a second, unperforated hologram stamp. Both stamps were postmarked in New Braunfels on 4.01.2012.

On 25.05.2012 first privately-built unmanned spacecraft Dragon C2 docked with ISS.
On this demonstration flight it delivered 460 kg freight into ISS and 660 kg back to Earth.

Gennady Padalka sent this letter to Sergey Volkov with Soyuz TMA-03M on 01.07.2012. Printer marked packages of 1,000 souvenir sheets "50 years manned spaceflight" with unnumbered s/s.

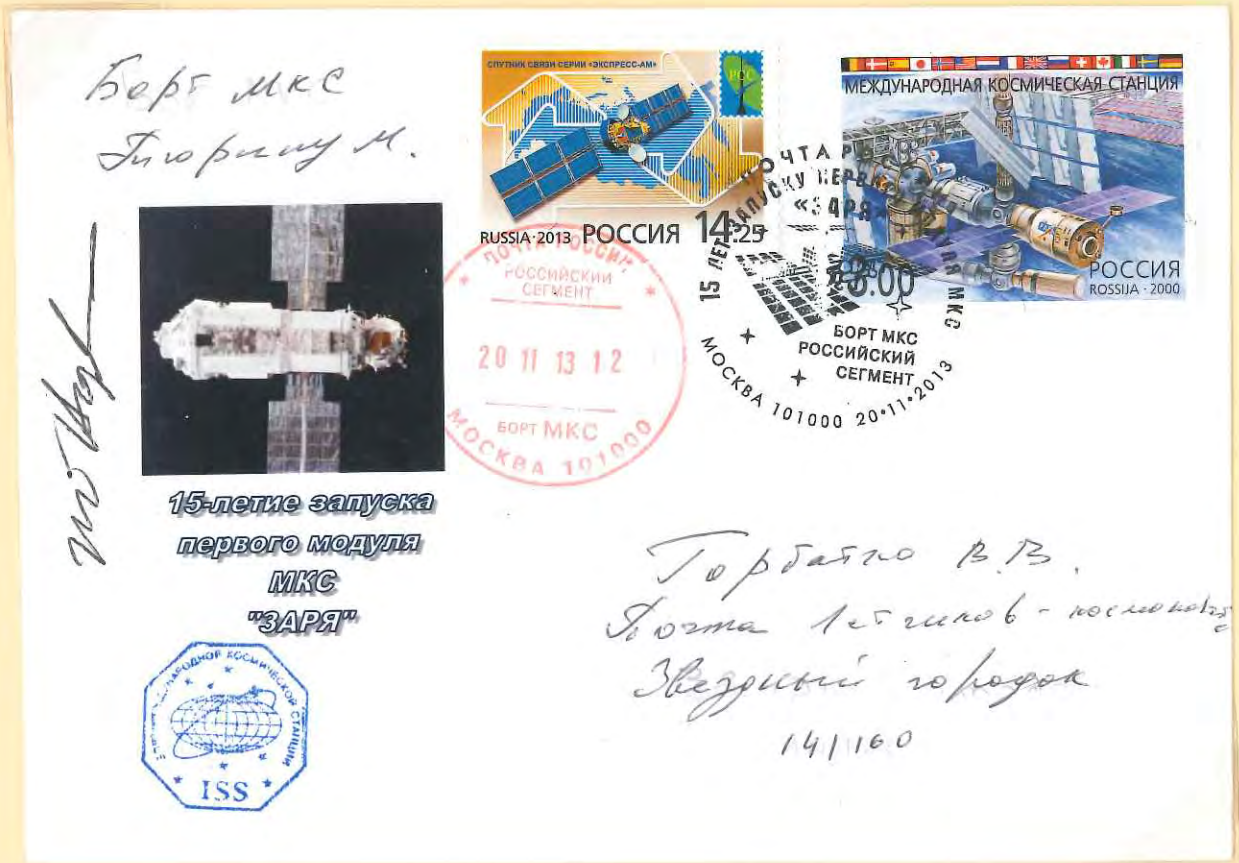
On 17.09.2012 Yuri Malenchenko sent this letter to Earth with Soyuz TMA-04M. It was reposted in Star City on 19.02.2012. In Germany address label was lost. It arrived in Star City on 23.11.2012.

Malenchenko carried this letter with Soyuz TMA-05M. 23.10 R stamps were postmarked on board ISS with special postmark “55 years Sputnik” on board ISS on 4.10.2012, remaining 6 R in Star City.

On Dumitru Prunariu's 60th birthday 4 letters were posted from his place of birth Brashov to ISS. Roman Romanenko, Chris Hadfield and Tom Mashburn delivered this one with Soyuz TMA-07M.

Pavel Vinogradov carried this letter for Valeri Bykovsky with Soyuz TMA-08M on 11.09.2013. It has the special on board postmark “50 years first woman in space” of 16.06.2013 in red.

Mikhail Tyurin sent this letter to Viktor Gorbatko with Soyuz TMA-10M on 11.03.2014. It has special on board postmark “15 years module Sarya”. Arrival postmark Star City 21.03.2014 on the back.



On 20.04.2014 Dragon CRS-3 brought 2,089 kg freight to ISS. On 18.05.2014 it was separated from module Harmony with 1,600 kg freight. *Letter posted from Houston after SpaceX gave it to NASA.*

Dragon CRS-5 delivered 2,317 kg freight to ISS. On 10.02.2015 she splashed down into Pacific ocean near California. *Letter posted from Hawthorne in Texas, the seat of manufacturer SpaceX.*

Доставлено на борт МКС с „Союз ТМА-16М" Г. Падалка

ISS

28 МАР 2015
РОССИЙСКИЙ СЕГМЕНТ МКС

БОРТ МКС
28 03 15
РОССИЙСКИЙ СЕГМЕНТ
МОСКВА 101000

БОРТ МКС
28 03 15
РОССИЙСКИЙ СЕГМЕНТ
МОСКВА 101000

129336 Москва
ул. Малыгина 18-1-86
Ревин С.Н.

Борт МКС
Шкаплерову А.Н.

On 28.03.2015 Gennady Padalka, Mikhail Korniyenko and Scott Kelly docked to ISS. Sergey Revin addressed this letter to Anton Shkaplerov on board ISS. It is franked with a pair of Gagarin souvenir sheets. Such items were included in sales packages created for high ranked politicians and grandees.

On 28.03.2015 Soyuz TMA-16M delivered first official space mail from Liechtensteiner Post to ISS.

Letter posted on 18.03.2015 – the 50th anniversary of Alexey Leonov's space walk from Wien to ISS. After Progress M-27M failure Soyuz TMA-17M docking was delayed from 23.05.2015 to 23.07.2015.

On 17.07.2015 40th anniversary of Apollo-Soyuz docking was celebrated on earth and in space.
Letter with special postmark from Moscow delivered to ISS with Soyuz TMA-17M on 23.07.2015.

Mikhail Korniyenko sent this letter with ISS special postmark Apollo-Soyuz with Soyuz TMA-16M.

Chinese Space Mail

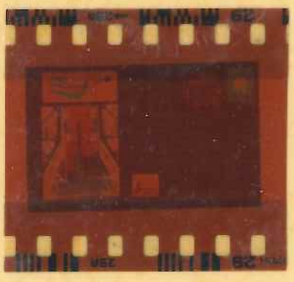
The 16th recoverable satellite was launched on 03.07.1994 with a Long March 2D rocket from Jiuquan Satellite Launch Center. Landing on 18.07.1994 in Suining. *Flown cover from JLSC military post office.*

at Jiuquan Satellite Launch Center On 1994. 5. 20., after a voyage in space, it was taken from the recovered cabin at ~~Beijing~~ DaZu when the cabin was unsealed on 1994. 7. 18.

宋爱民 丁江

發射裝封現場公證人簽章
Signature & seal notary in charge of put—in
日期(Date)

開艙取封現場公證人簽章
Signature & seal notary in charge of take—out
日期(Date)



發射場發射日郵政日戳
Postmark of launch site on launch day

着陸場着陸日郵政日戳
Postmark of landing site on landing day

On 9.1.2001 Shenzhou 2 was launched with a monkey, dog and rabbit. During landing on 16.1.2001 the clip of the parachute's bracket broke. The impact badly damaged the capsule. *Board cover issued by CISME No. 287. It was postmarked in Beijing Xibeiwang on the day it was loaded into spaceship.*

Only CISME covers No. 1 to 2000 are flown. Unflown covers have a red diamond stamp "Not flown". Both types also have the postmark "Beijing Aerospace City, loading into the capsule" of 1.10.2000.

Shenzhou 3 was launched on 25.3.2002. The main task was to test the life support system. *Board cover of China Institute of Space Medico-Engineering being responsible for life support system.*

Shenzhou 4 was launched on 29.12.2002. On 05.01/2003 it landed 40 km from Hohhot in Inner Mongolia. *Flown cover the China Institute of Space Medico-Engineering signed by all 14 taikonauts.*

On 25.10.2003 Yang Liwei launched in Shenzhou 5 from Jiuquan Launch Center. After 21 hours the taikonaut landed at Siziwang in Inner Mongolia. *Cover of China Institute of Space Medico-Engineering signed by all 14 taikonauts. The notary's dry seal proofs that the cover was flown.*

Silk cover of China Manned Space Engineering Office. Similarly to covers flown on other Chinese space flights most were distributed among political leaders, project participants and state guests.

Die Shenzhou-5 Belege des CMSE waren beim Flug in 15 Postsäcken verstaut.

邮政包裹包装袋

1 0 0 0 9 4

2003.9.6.10

兰州二十七支局

收件人地址：中国北京航天城1号信箱

收件人姓名：张 建 明 收

寄件人地址姓名：中国酒泉卫星发射中心 王东成

京司证01007号证据保全专用章

公证人员： 金东霞

保全日期：2003年 9月 6日

邮编：732750

北京邮政管理局监制 7号

007

Fei Junlong and Nie Haisheng flew from 12. to 17.10.2005 with Shenzhou-6. *A few covers addressed to ISS crew flew with Shenzhou-6. They were delivered to ISS with Soyuz TMA-8 on 1.4.2008.*

On 27.09.2008 Zhai Zhigang undertook first Chinese space walk in Feitian spacesuit. Liu Boming supported him in Russian Orlan spacesuit. Ling Haipeng stayed in Shenzhou-7 landing module.

On 29.09.2011 the first Chinese space station Tiangong-1 was launched. *This card was launched in Tiangong-1. Shenzhou-9 taikonauts working in the station from 18. to 24.06.2012 returned it to earth.*

On 03.11.2011 Chinese Space Post Office opened in Beijing Aerospace City. Next day unmanned Shenzhou-8 docked. *Cover issued by Jiuquan Satellite Launch Center Military Post Office.*

On 16.06.2012 first „sky fairy“ Liu Yang was launched. Shenzhou-9 crew was completed by Ling Haipeng and Liu Wang. *Cover issued by China Beijing Aerospace City with notary's dry seal.*

On 23.10.2014 Chang'e 5-T1 was launched from China Xichang Satellite Launch Centre XSLC. It surrounded the Moon and landed in Siziwang in Inner Mongolia. *Cover delivered by BITTT.*