

INTRODUCTION

THE OCEANS

THE OCEAN, CONTINUOUS BODY OF SALT WATER, COVERS NEARLY 71 PER CENT OF THE TERRESTRIAL SURFACE. THIS WORLD OCEAN IS COMMONLY DIVIDED IN FIVE MAJOR OCEANS: ARCTIC, ATLANTIC, INDIAN, PACIFIC AND ANTARCTIC.

1. The spherical world projection



The ARCTIC OCEAN, centring approximately on the North Pole, is almost completely surrounded by the landmass of Eurasia, North America and Greenland.



The ATLANTIC OCEAN separates the continents of Europe and Africa to the east from the Americas to the west.



G. KOPPERMANN & CO.



G. KOPPERMANN & CO.
HAMBURG 1

Postfach 926

Firma
Chr. Beck & Söhne K.G.

K A S S E L

Wilhelmshöher Allee 40

THE OCEANS

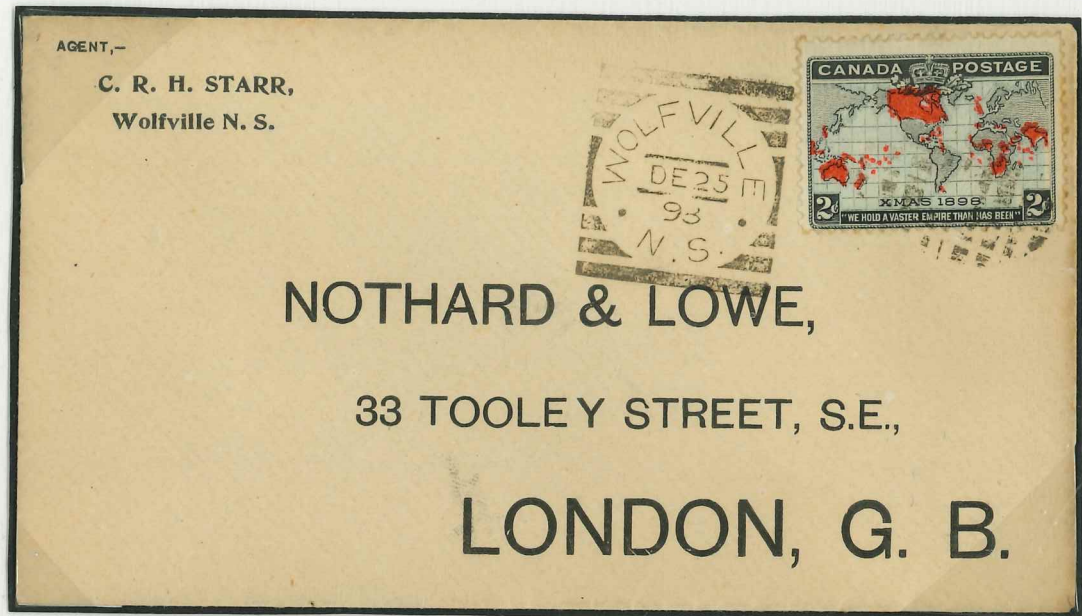
6. The cylindrical or Mercator's world projection

In the cylindrical or Mercator projection is used a system based in a flat figure of the Earth, the projection surface of which is a cylinder tangent to the spherical equator.

The PACIFIC OCEAN occupied about one-third of the surface of the earth and is by far the largest of the world's ocean.



blue - green



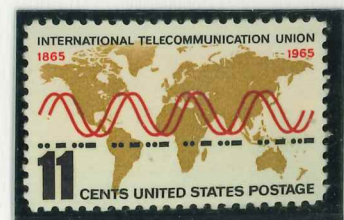
squared circle postmark



The ATLANTIC OCEAN with its marginal seas constitutes the world's second largest ocean.

The ARCTIC OCEAN is the smallest of the world's ocean.

The INDIAN OCEAN with its marginal seas constitutes the world's third largest ocean.



PART 1

NATURAL LINKS BETWEEN THE OCEANS

BESIDES THE DIRECT CONNECTIONS THERE ARE STRAITS AND CHANNELS LINKING OCEANS; BUT SOMETIMES THESE LINKS DON'T EXIST IN LATITUDES WHERE THE MARITIME TRAFFIC IS MORE INTENSE. THAT IS TO SAY BETWEEN THE ATLANTIC AND THE INDIAN AND BETWEEN THE ATLANTIC AND THE PACIFIC OCEANS.

1. The Atlantic and the Arctic

1.1 The direct connection



Between the Atlantic and the Arctic Oceans, besides the connections allowed by the Hudson and the Davis Straits (at the west of the Greenland) and by the Denmark Strait (at the east of Greenland) forward mentioned, it exists a direct connection from the Iceland to the Norwegian coast.



NATURAL LINKS BETWEEN THE OCEANS

6. The Atlantic and the Pacific

6.2 MAGELLAN STRAIT

The Strait of Magellan is a channel linking the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans between the mainland tip of South America and Tierra del Fuego Island. It is 350 miles long and 2-20 miles wide.



Postmark "Correos Magallanes"



Two ships, the Dolphin and the Swallow, commanded by the English navigators Wallis and Carteret, passed through the Strait in 1766 and were separated when they arrived at the Pacific Ocean.

Postmark "Magallanes"



NATURAL LINKS BETWEEN THE OCEANS

6. The Atlantic and the Pacific

6.3 BEAGLE CHANNEL

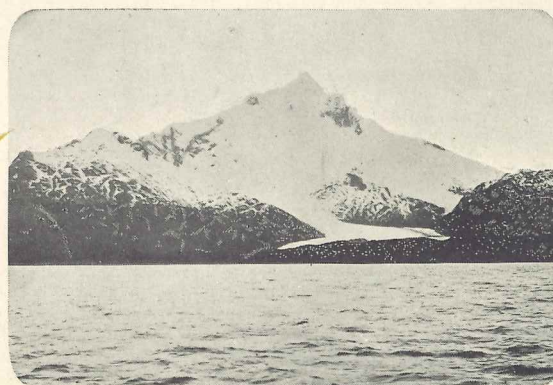
The Beagle Channel is a strait on the south of the Magellan Strait in the Tierra del Fuego archipelago at the southern tip of South America. It is about 150 miles long and 3 to 8 miles wide.

MEMORÁNDUM POSTAL



reverse

FELIZ AÑO NUEVO



CANAL DE BEAGLE (TIERRA DEL FUEGO)

Enero 1.º de 190

NATURAL LINKS BETWEEN THE OCEANS

6. The Atlantic and the Pacific

6.3 BEAGLE CHANNEL

The Beagle Channel was named for the famous British ship "Beagle" in which Charles Darwin explored the area between 1831 and 1836.



Charles Darwin (1809-1882), English naturalist renowned for the theory of the origin of species.



PART 2

SUEZ CANAL

THE LACK OF A NATURAL CONNECTION BETWEEN THE ATLANTIC AND THE INDIAN OCEANS SITUATED IN A FAVOURABLE LATITUDE TO THE MARITIME TRAFFIC, GAVE RISE TO THE BUILDING OF A CANAL THROUGH THE ISTHMUS OF SUEZ.

1. Localisation of the Isthmus of Suez

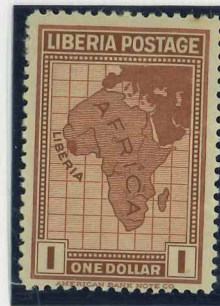


rouletted



imperforate

As seen in Part 1, the natural connection between the Atlantic and the Indian Oceans, only discovered in 1482 (forward mentioned), is to be found in the south extremity of the African continent, in a no favourable latitude to the maritime traffic.



The Isthmus of Suez is situated in the north-east of the Egypt and links the African continent with the Asia.



SUEZ CANAL

2. Maritime access to the Isthmus of Suez

2.2 On the Atlantic Ocean side

GIBRALTAR STRAIT

The Strait of Gibraltar is a channel connecting the Mediterranean Sea with the Atlantic Ocean, lying between southernmost Spain (Rock of Gibraltar) and northwestmost Africa (Mount Macho, near Ceuta). It is 36 miles long and narrows to 8 miles.



Post card circulated on the Strait between Tangier and Gibraltar.



SUEZ CANAL

2. Maritime access to the Isthmus of Suez

2.2 On the Atlantic Ocean side

TURKISH STRAITS

The Turkish Straits (the Bosphorus and the Dardanelles) allow the connection between the Black Sea and the Mediterranean.

BOSPORUS STRAIT



The Bosphorus Strait unites the Black Sea and the Sea of Marmara. It is 19 miles long with a maximum width of 2-3 miles.



Cover circulated in the Bosphorus



Constantinople, now Istanbul, is situated on the Bosphorus shores.



SUEZ CANAL

6.Ferdinand de Lesseps



postmark «PARIS/ R.DES ÉCLUSES ST.MARTIN/54/18 MAI 69»

The French Emperor Napoleon III was the great support of Lesseps when the British tried to block the building of the Canal.



The stamps of the Suez Canal Company were valid between 8th of July and 16th of August 1868.



forged

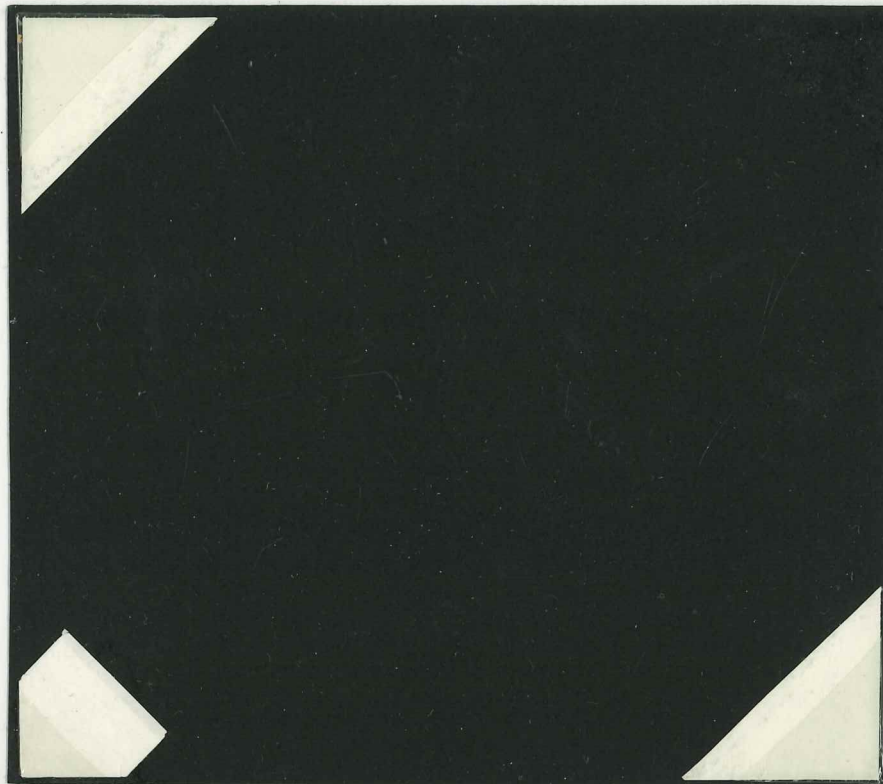


SUEZ CANAL

7. The Overland Route

Before the building of the Suez Canal, the only alternative to cut out the interminable voyage via the Cape of Good Hope was to disembark at Alexandria or Suez, proceed overland ("The Overland Route", like Thomas Waghorn with his "Overland Mail" since 1835) and join another ship at the Red Sea end or the Mediterranean respectively.

Covers circulated in the Overland Route



From Portuguese India with boxed transit cachet
"POR ALEXANDRIA"



From French India with postmark in red
"COL.FRA./13 DEC. 59/V.SUEZ AMB.A"

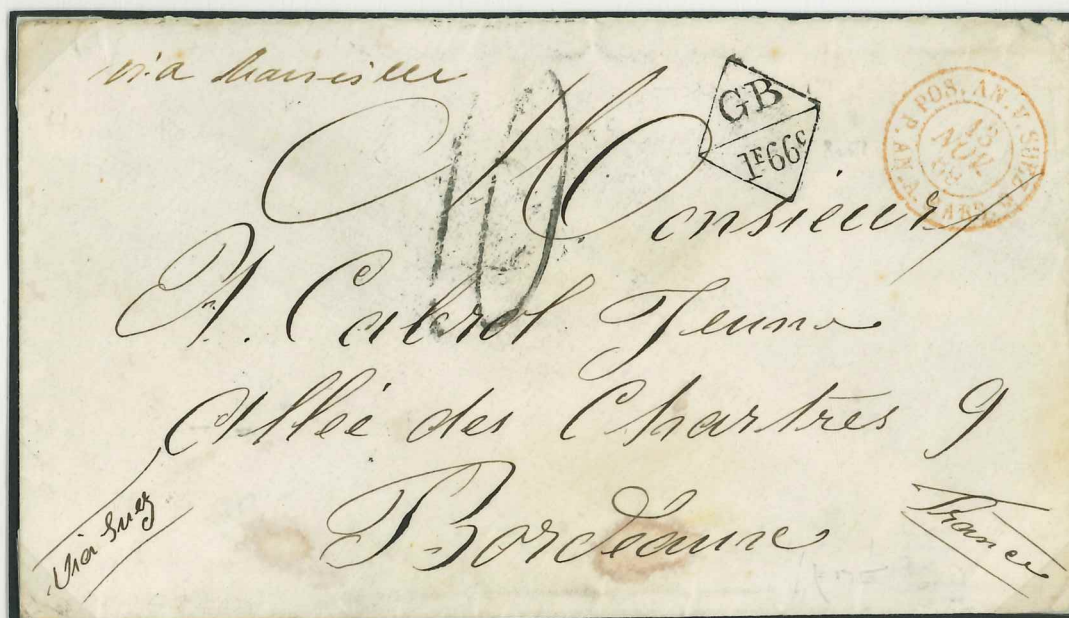
SUEZ CANAL

8. The Canal opening in 1869

The Canal has 105 miles. From its northern terminal at Port Said, the Canal passes through the salt marsh area of Lake Manzala. At about the halfway point it enters Lake Timsah and passes Ismailia. Thence the waterway proceeds through the Bitter Lakes and on to Port Tawfiq, the southern terminal on the Red Sea, a few miles from the town of Suez.



With the progression of the works, the waters of the Mediterranean and of the Red Sea joined in the middle of August (1869).



The Canal was opened officially on 17th of Nov. 1869.

From Hong-Kong with postmark in red
"POS. AN. V. SUEZ/13 NOV. 69/P. AN. A. MARS."

In 1869 the Viceroy or Khédive of Egypt was Ismail Pasha by death of Said Pasha in 1863.



interpostal seal

The great festivities concerning the inauguration assumed an special importance in Ismailia, where a thousand tents were installed in order to bring about the official banquet followed by fireworks and a ball.

SUEZ CANAL

8.The Canal opening in 1869

Individualities that were present at the inauguration festivities



Ferdinand
de Lesseps



Postmark slogan "150 ANIVERSARIO/
/NACIMIENTO DE/FERDINAND DE LESSEPS"

From Paris to Cap Haïtien via St.Nazaire, with postmark of
16 DEC.68/LIGNE B * N°3 (Boat "Impératrice Eugénie")

Empress Eugénie



The Empress Eugénie was in representation of his husband Napoleon III, who was absent due to an illness.

SUEZ CANAL

9. After 1869

CONTROLE POSTAL MILITAIRE



1569 VIA SUEZ

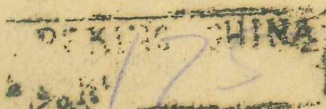
CHÉMIN DE FER DE L'ÉTAT CHINOIS.

LIGNE DU LUNG HAI.

REGISTERED



Compagnie Générale de Chemins de
Fer et de Tramways en Chine
C/o Messieurs Liouet Wiener
Post box, 14



Scheveningen

(Hollande)

From PEKING, re-
gistered, via "SHAN-
CHAI/10 FEB/17",
"VIA SUEZ" in vi-
olet, with post-
mark "MARSEILLE/
20-4/17" and cen-
sor cancel in
brown more strip
cancel, to "SCHE-
VENINGEN/20.5.
17" (Netherland).

SUEZ CANAL

9. After 1869

Covers circulated in the Canal



From "BOMBAY/24 FEB/73", with postmarks "SUEZ/MR 11/73" in black and "CAIRO/MR 12/73" in blue.



From "ISMAILIA/POSTE EGIZIANE/16/APR/77" with postmark "ALESSANDRIA/POSTE EGIZIANE/16/APR/77" (reverse), via MARSIELLE (reverse) and boxed red cancel "PAQUEBOTS DE LA MEDITERRANEE", to "PARIS/24/AVRIL/77" (reverse).

PANAMA CANAL

1. Discovery of the Isthmus of Panama



Vasco Núñez de Balboa, a Spanish conquistador and explorer, in September 1513 marched south across the Isthmus and ascended the cordillera; on Sep. 25 (or 27) he sighted the Pacific.



Some days later, he reached the shore of the Gulf of Panama and took possession of the Pacific Ocean for the King of Castile.



Isthmus
of
Panama



PANAMA CANAL

5. The Overland Route

Covers circulated in the Isthmus

Before the building of the Panama Canal, the only alternative to cut out the long voyage via Magellan Strait was to disembark at Colon (Caribbean Sea) or Panama (Pacific Ocean), proceed overland and join another ship at the Panama or Colon, respectively.

The Isthmus was crossed by the Cruces Mule Trail during colonial times. The Transisthmian Railway, between Panama and Colon, was opened in 1855.

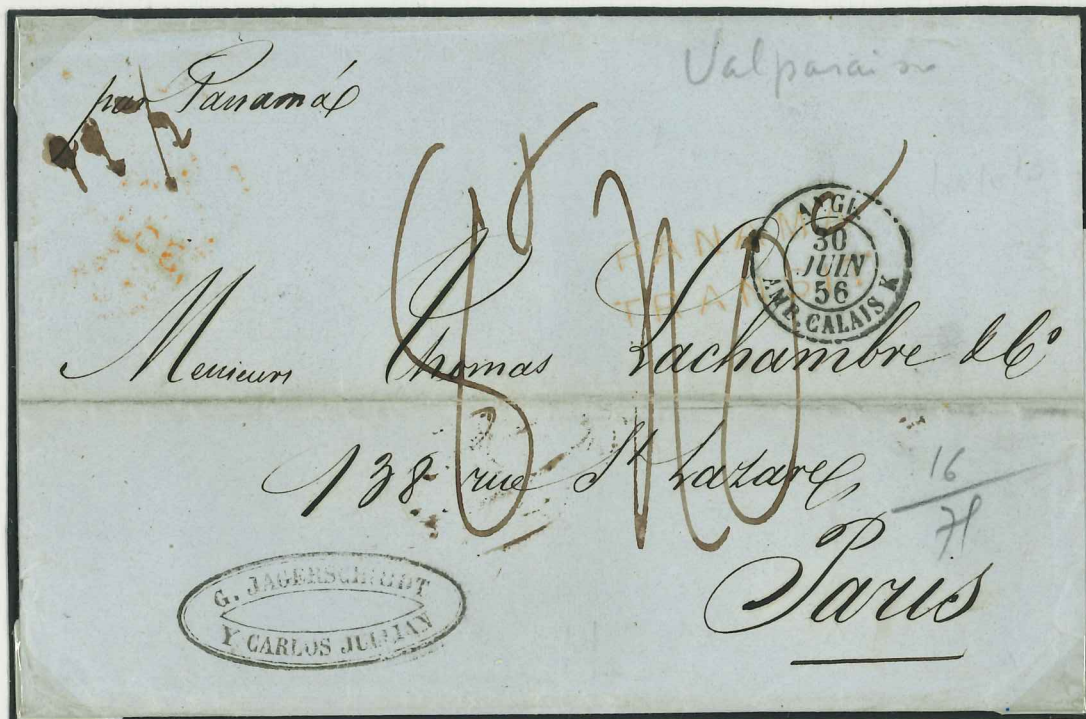


From "VALPARAISO/SP 30/1849" (Chile), with manuscript tax and British cancel "PANAMA TRANSIT" in red, to HAVRE.

PANAMA CANAL

5. The Overland Route

Covers circulated in the Isthmus



From "VALPARAISO/MY 6/1856"(reverse), with manuscript tax and British cancel "PANAMA TRANSIT" in red, to PARIS (reverse).



From "PARIS/15/SEPT/60", with postmark "PANAMA/OC 6/1860" in black, to AREQUIPA(Peru).

PANAMA CANAL

7. Ferdinand de Lesseps's project and first works



First, Lesseps proposed a sea-level route via Lake Nicaragua, but construction difficulties forced him to abandon this project in favour of a high-level lock canal between Panamá and Colon, proposed in 1879.



pelure
paper



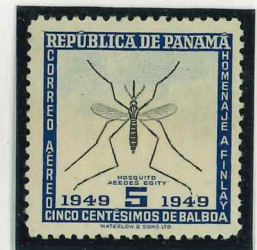
These maps show the route of the proposed Panama Canal.



Bonaparte Wise was the main person in charge of the studies in loco, during four years, used by Lesseps.



Lesseps obtained from Colombia the right to build the canal and formed the "Compagnie Universelle du Canal Interocéanique", that began work in 1881.



The Company failed in 1889 partly on account of poor planning and corruption, but mainly on account of the terrible toll exacted by the yellow-fever carrying mosquitos.



PANAMA CANAL

8. United States interest for the construction of the Canal



A Nicaragua stamp of 1900 with the Mo-motombo volcano, resulted in the U.S. Congress selecting Panama (instead of Nicaragua) for building the Canal.

But construction was complicated by political difficulties and questions of sovereignty. A Treaty between British and the U.S. (1901) recognized the exclusive U.S. right to construct, regulate and manage a canal across the Isthmus; but Panama was Colombian territory and the Colombia Senate refused ratification of a treaty with the U.S.



After a revolt (3 November, 1903) and with independent Panama Republic recognized by U.S. 6 November, in 18 the Hay-Brunau-Varilla Treaty granted the U.S. canal-building rights and the control of the Canal Zone.



overprint
"PANAMA"



overprint
"REPÚBLICA DE PANAMA"



Theodore Roosevelt, through his efforts while President of the United States, made possible the construction of the Panama Canal.



PANAMA CANAL

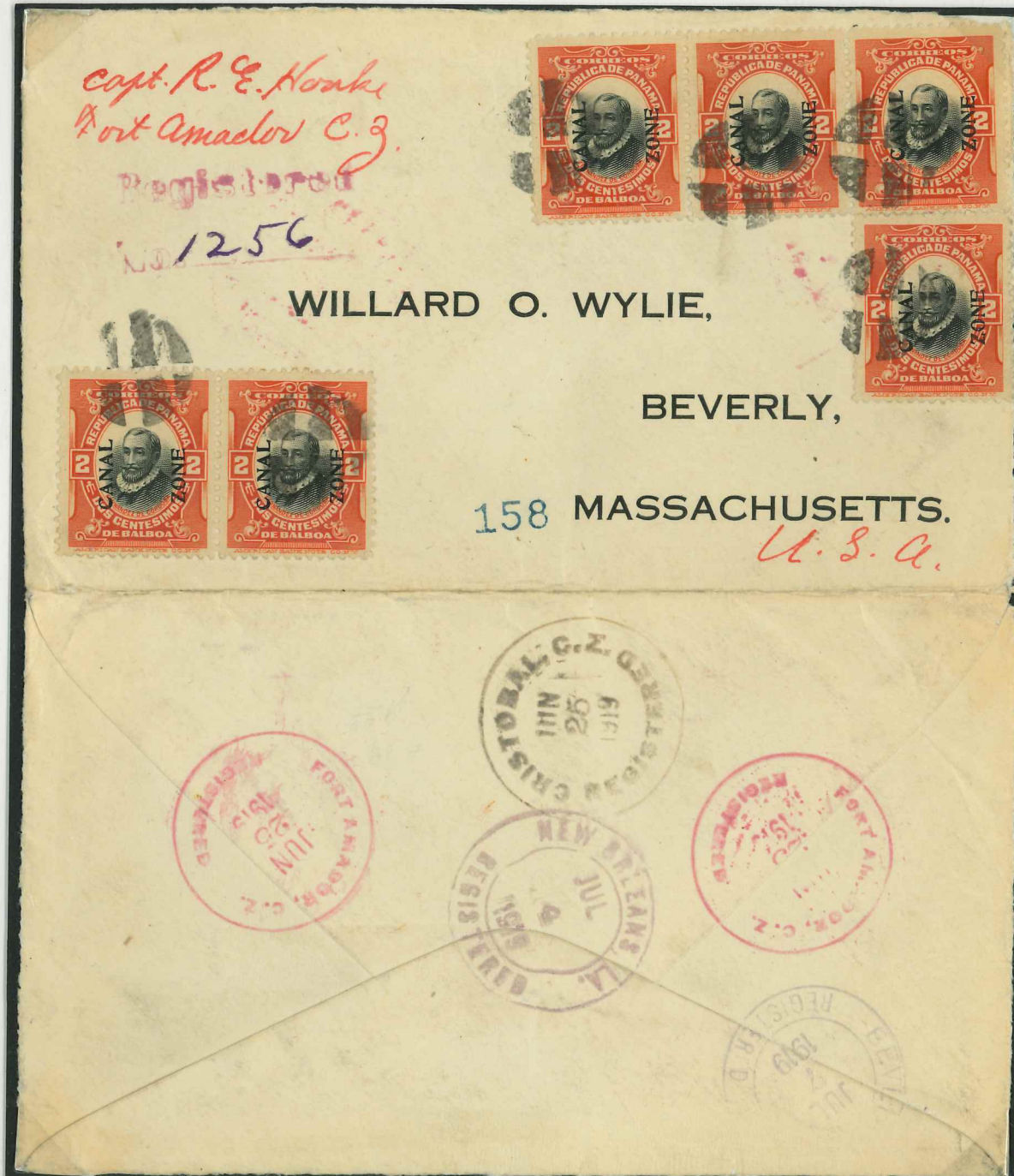
10.The Canal

10.1 General view



Canal allegory

The Canal was inaugurated in the 15th of August, 1914, but the I World War delayed its full exploitation to 1919/1920.



Cover circulated in 25 June, 1919, from Fort Amador (side of Pacific Ocean) until Cristobal (side of Atlantic Ocean), to United States.

PANAMA CANAL

10.The Canal

10.2 Description

The Canal has 11,5 miles from the Atlantic coast, near Cristobal and Colon, to the Gatun Locks.



Cristobal

Postmarks "Cristobal" "Colon"



Gatun
Locks



center
inverted



Gatun
Lake

The engineers created the Gatun Lake, long and navigable, damming a river (Chagres).



Gatun Spillway



Madden Dam



NATURAL LINKS BETWEEN THE OCEANS

2. The Atlantic and the Indian



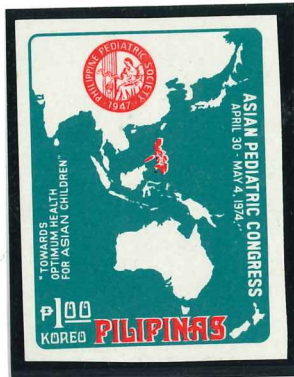
The only natural connection between the Atlantic and the Indian Oceans exists at the south extremity of the African continent.



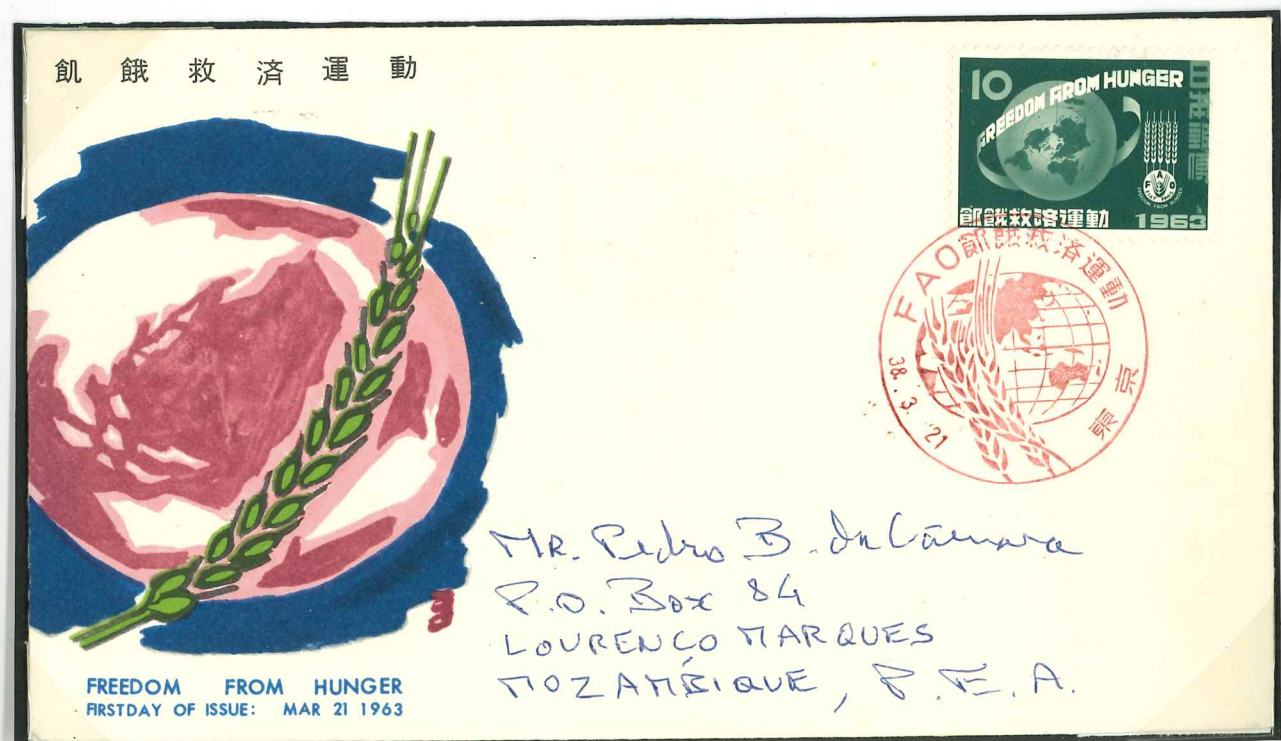
NATURAL LINKS BETWEEN THE OCEANS

3. The Indian and the Pacific

3.1 The direct connections



Between the Indian and the Pacific Oceans, besides the connections allowed by the Malacca, Torres and Bass Straits forward mentioned, exist connections between Tasmania Island and Antarctica and through the Philippines and the Indonesia Islands.



MR. Pedro B. de la Cruz
P.O. Box 84
LOURENÇO TÁRQUES
MOZAMBIQUE, S.E.A.

NATURAL LINKS BETWEEN THE OCEANS

3.The Indian and the Pacific

3.2 MALACCA STRAIT



The Strait of Malacca is a waterway connecting the Indian Ocean and the South China Sea (Pacific Ocean). It is 500 miles long and 40-155 miles wide.



NATURAL LINKS BETWEEN THE OCEANS

3. The Indian and the Pacific

3.2 MALACCA STRAIT

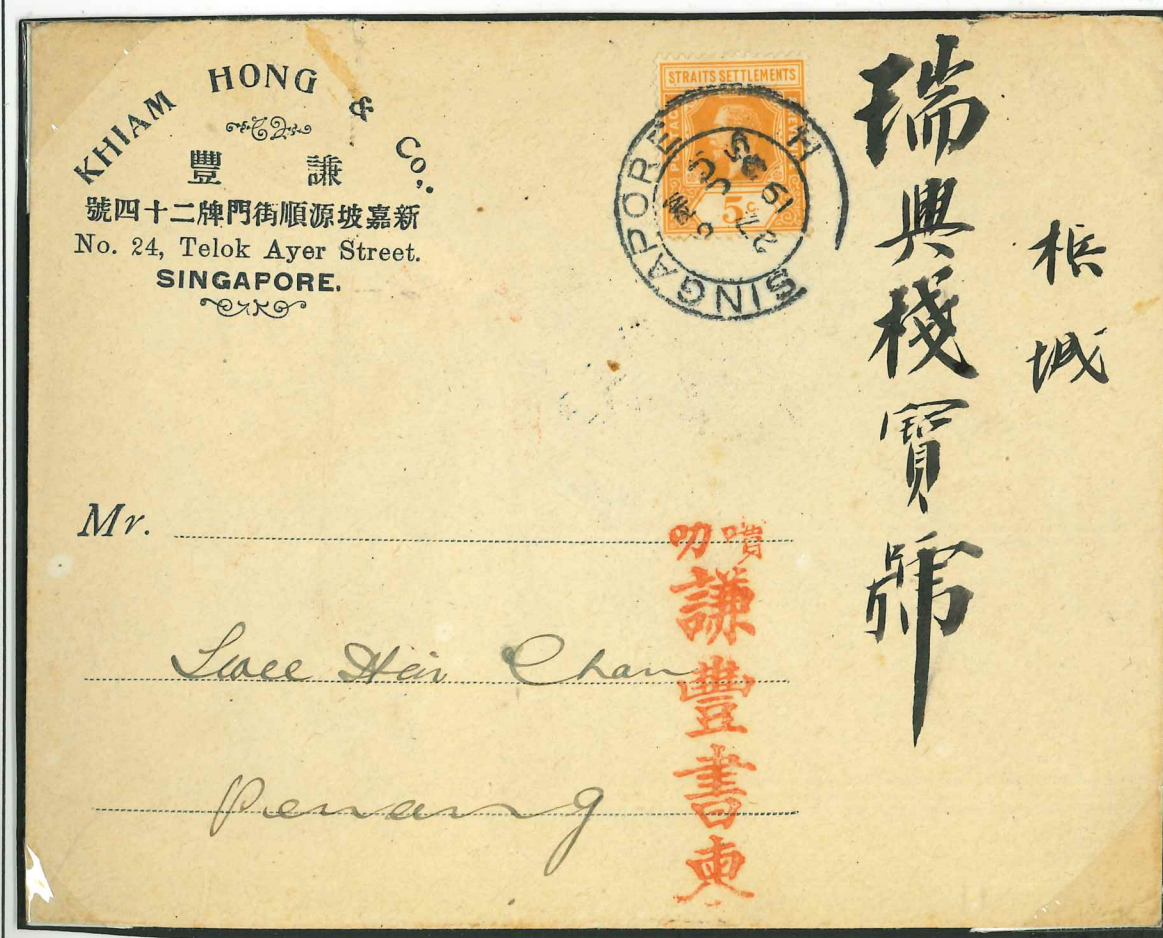
The town of Malacca is in the middle of the Strait.



From Singapore
to Penang

Covers circulated in the Strait

From Malacca
to India



Singapore and
Penang are in
the extremi-
ties of the
Strait.

reverse



NATURAL LINKS BETWEEN THE OCEANS

3.The Indian and the Pacific

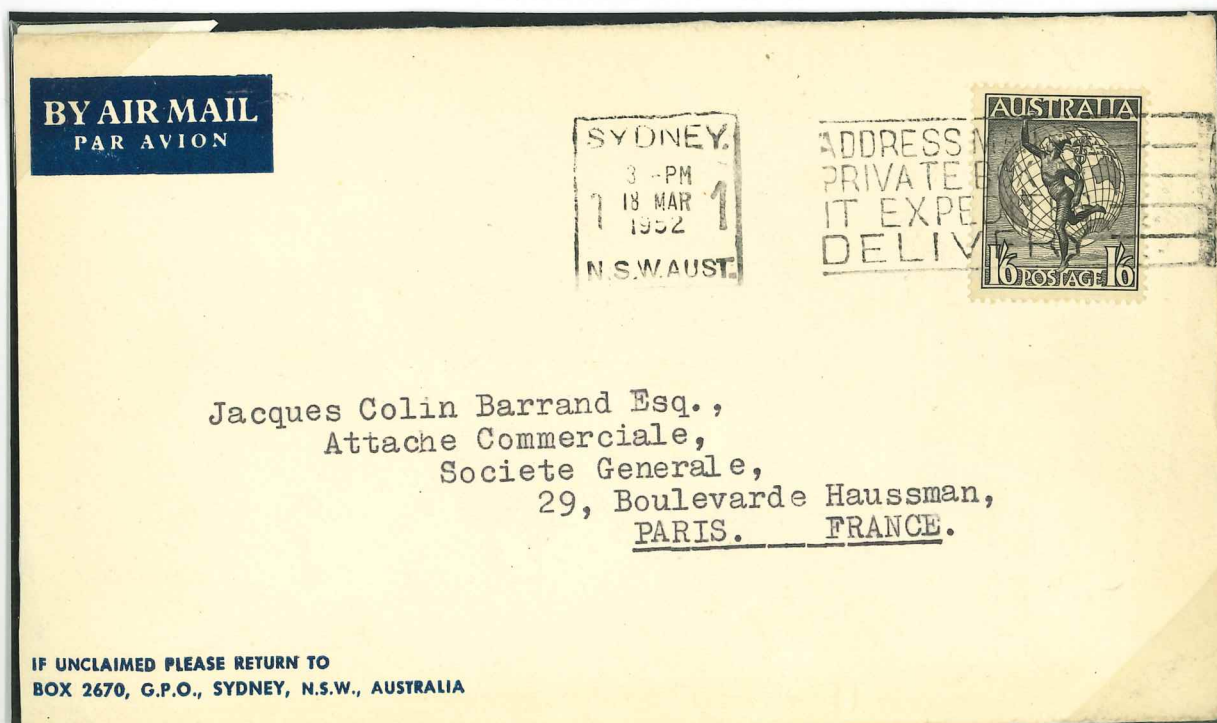
3.3 TORRES STRAIT

The Strait of Torres is a passage between the Coral Sea (Pacific Ocean) and the Arafura Sea (Indian Ocean); to the north lies New Guinea and to the south Cape York Peninsula (Queensland, Australia). It is about 80 miles wide and has many reefs and shoals dangerous to navigation.



Torres map

The Strait was discovered in 1606 by the Spanish mariner Luis Vaez de Torres and its existence was kept secret until 1764.



NATURAL LINKS BETWEEN THE OCEANS

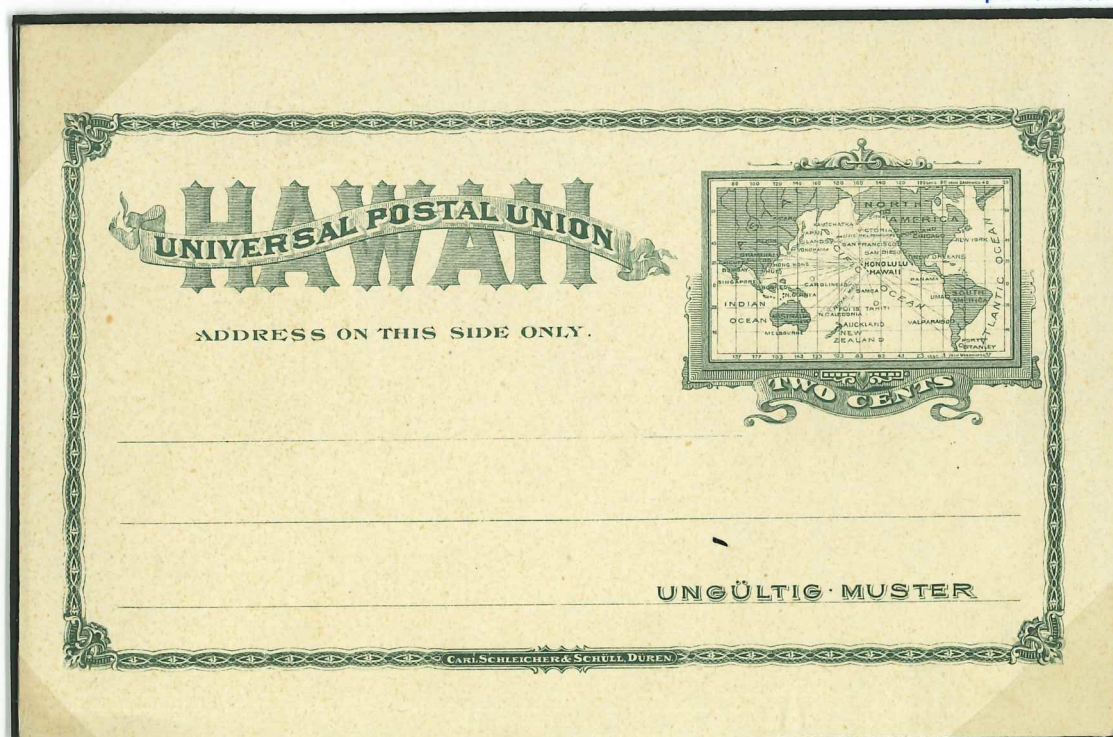
3. The Indian and the Pacific

3.3 TORRES STRAIT

The second European to sail the Strait, in 1774, was Capt. James Cook.



specimen



NATURAL LINKS BETWEEN THE OCEANS

3. The Indian and the Pacific

3.4 BASS STRAIT

The Strait of Bass is a channel separating Victoria (Australia) from the island of Tasmania on the south. Its maximum wide is 150 miles.



multiple
watermark
crown A



watermark
crown A



NATURAL LINKS BETWEEN THE OCEANS

3. The Indian and the Pacific

3.4 BASS STRAIT

The Strait of Bass is named after Bass (a surgeon-explorer) by the English navigator Flinders.



Bass



watermark



Flinders



watermark



NATURAL LINKS BETWEEN THE OCEANS

4. The Pacific and the Arctic

BERING STRAIT

The only connection between the Pacific and Arctic Oceans is the Bering Strait that links the Arctic Ocean with the Bering Sea and separates the continents of Asia and North America. It is about 125 miles long and its narrowest is about 53 miles wide.



Saint-Ilja
mountain



NATURAL LINKS BETWEEN THE OCEANS

4. The Pacific and the Arctic

BERING STRAIT

The Strait was named after Victor Bering (1680-1741), a Danish captain at the service of the tsar Peter the Great, who sailed into the Strait in 1728.



Bering



Saint-Peter
(Bering's boat)



Tsar
Peter
the Great

essay



NATURAL LINKS BETWEEN THE OCEANS

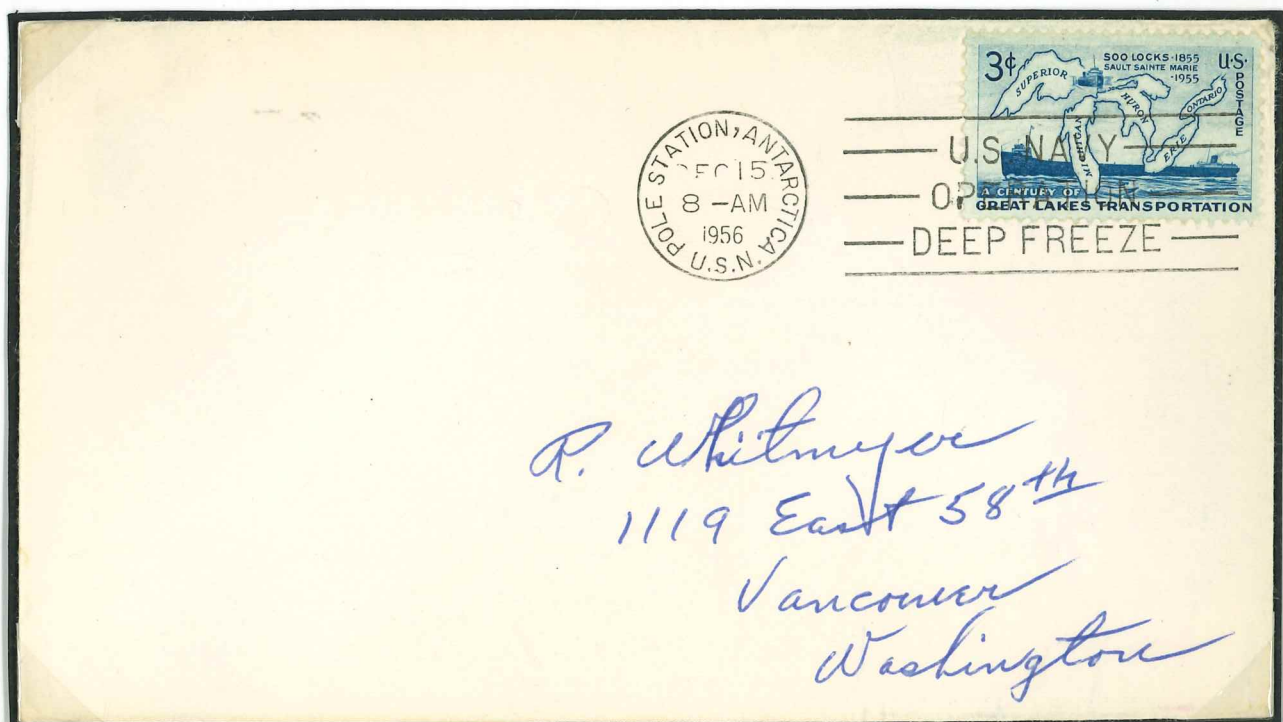
5. The Atlantic, the Indian and the Pacific
and the Antarctic



It is direct the connection
between the Antarctic and
the others Oceans.



Postmark slogan "U.S.Navy/Operation/Deep Freeze"



NATURAL LINKS BETWEEN THE OCEANS

6. The Atlantic and the Pacific

6.1 The direct connection



Between the Atlantic and the Pacific Oceans, besides the connections allowed by the Magellan Strait and the Beagle Channel forward mentioned, it exists a direct connection through the Drake Passage, at the south of the Horn Cape (extremity of the South America).



NATURAL LINKS BETWEEN THE OCEANS

6.The Atlantic and the Pacific

6.2 MAGELLAN STRAIT



Ferdinand Magellan (1480-1521), a Portuguese sailing for Spain (King Charles I, later Emperor Charles V), left Sanlúcar de Barrameda on Sept. 20, 1519. After reaching Santa Cruz, Magellan started south again and on October 21, 1520, entered the passage that proved to be the strait of his seeking, later to bear his name.



King Charles I



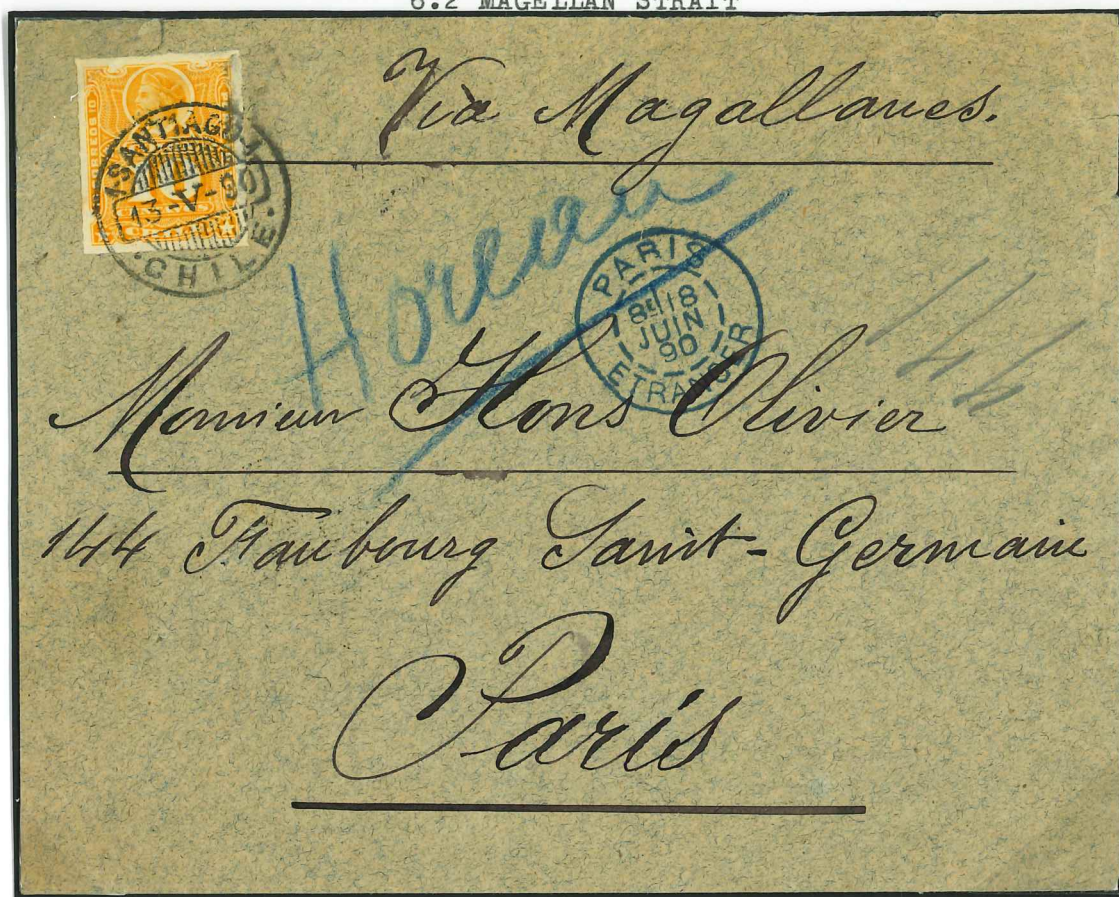
Magellan was killed in a fight with natives on Philippines Islands.



NATURAL LINKS BETWEEN THE OCEANS

6. The Atlantic and the Pacific

6.2 MAGELLAN STRAIT



Covers circulated in the Strait



THE OCEANS

1. The spherical world projection



The INDIAN OCEAN extends from the Antarctic region on the south to the continent of Asia in the north and Australia on the east and Africa to the west.



glossy paper



The ANTARCTIC OCEAN also called southern ocean, includes the southern portions of the Pacific, Indian and Atlantic Oceans and their tributary seas surrounding Antarctica.

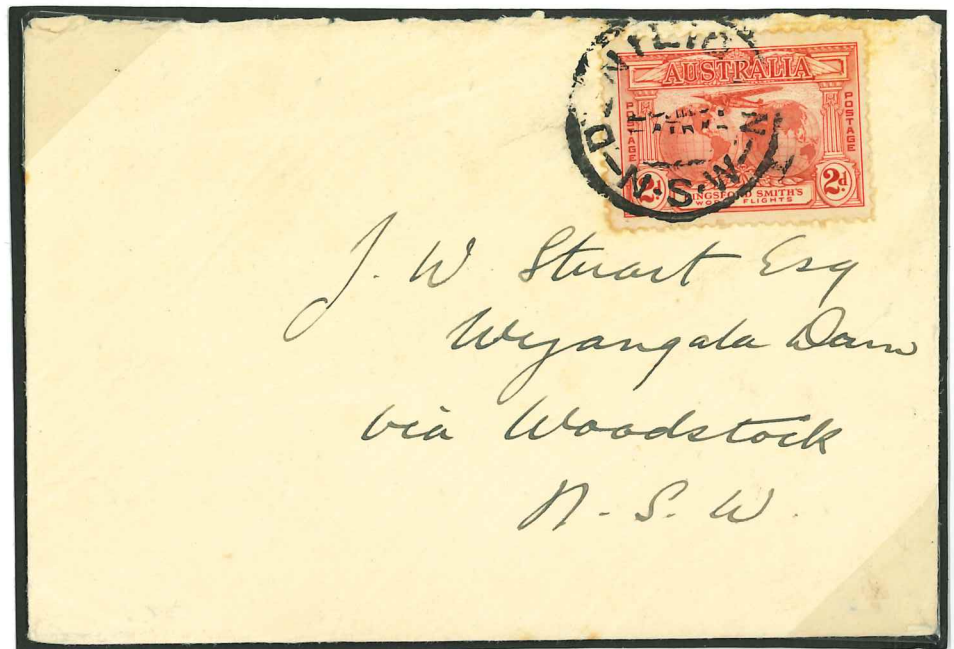
without watermark



THE OCEANS

1. The spherical world projection

The PACIFIC OCEAN extends from the Antarctic region in the south to the Arctic in the north and between the continents of Asia and Australia on the west and North and South America on the east.



THE OCEANS

4. The open world projection

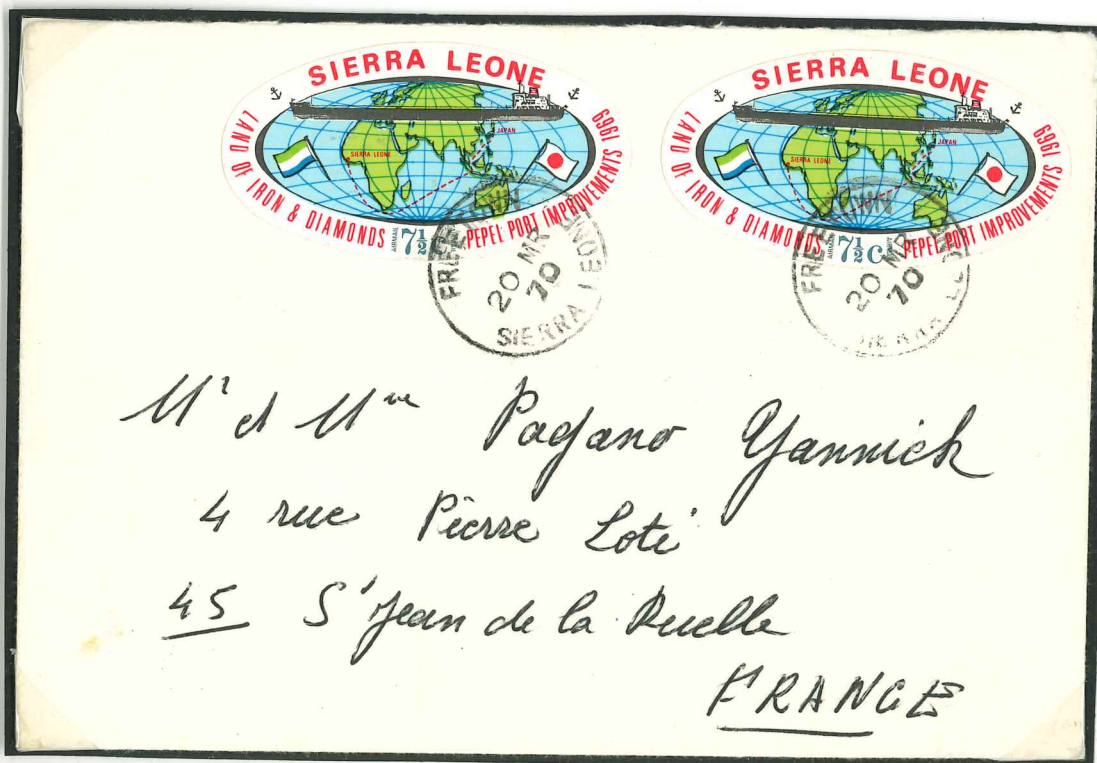
The open world projection is a variation of the idea of depicting the earth in a single circle.



THE OCEANS

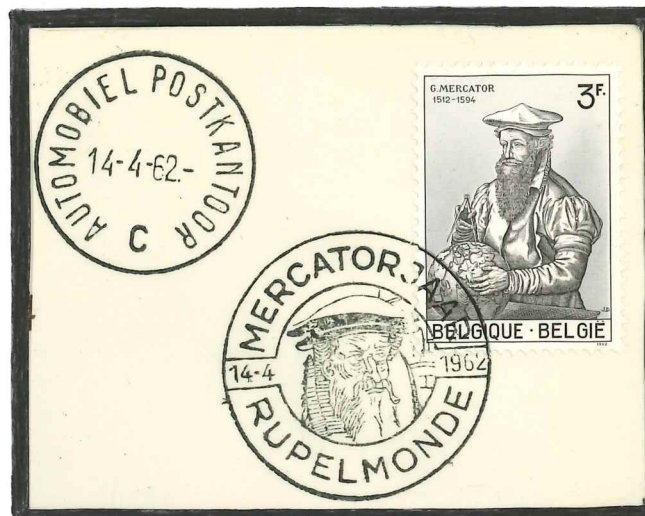
5. The elliptical world projection

In the elliptical or equal-area projection the surfaces are in the correct proportions but shapes, distances and directions are distorted especially near the edges.



THE OCEANS

6.The cylindrical or Mercator's world projection



Mercator is a Flemish mathematician and geographer (Rupelmonde 1512-Duisburg 1594) who conceived the cylindrical projection, that was widely known and used.



NATURAL LINKS BETWEEN THE OCEANS

1. The Atlantic and the Arctic

1.2 HUDSON STRAIT



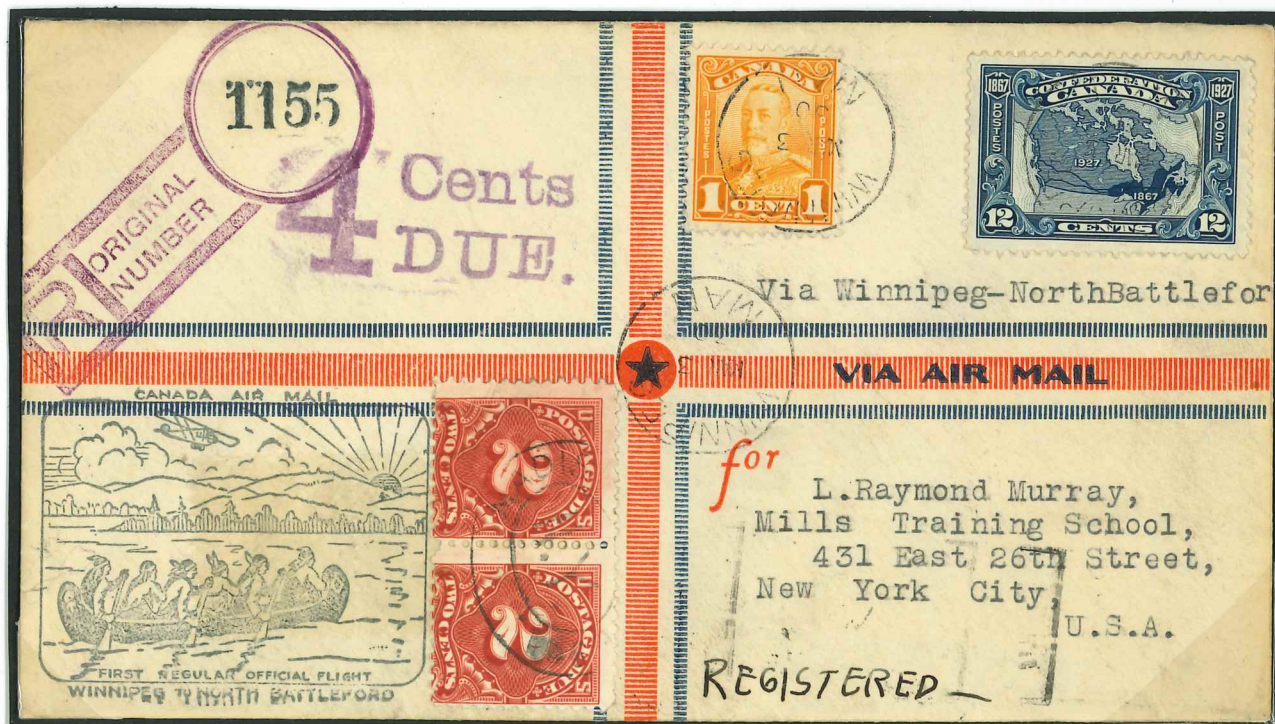
The Hudson Strait, arm of Atlantic Ocean between Baffin Island and northern Quebec, links Hudson Bay and Foxe Basin with the Labrador Sea. It is about 500 miles long and 40-150 miles wide.



Henry Hudson (1515-1611), English navigator and explorer sailed over the Hudson Strait in 1610, that was named after him.



Martin Frobisher, English navigator that explored partly of the Hudson Strait in 1578.



NATURAL LINKS BETWEEN THE OCEANS

1. The Atlantic and the Arctic

1.3 DAVIS STRAIT



watermark C



The Davis Strait is situated between southeastern Baffin Island and southwestern Greenland. It is approximately 400 miles long and 200 to 400 miles wide.



The Strait was named for John Davis (1550-1605), an English navigator, who attempted to find the Northwest Passage (between the Atlantic and the Pacific Oceans).



Davis proposed his plan to find the Northwest Passage during the reign of the Queen Elizabeth I.



NATURAL LINKS BETWEEN THE OCEANS

1. The Atlantic and the Arctic

1.4 DENMARK STRAIT



watermark C



The Denmark Strait is situated between the Greenland and the Iceland.



Iceland



SUEZ CANAL

2. Maritime access to the Isthmus of Suez

2.1 General view



The access to the Isthmus of Suez is possible, on the Atlantic Ocean side, through the Gibraltar Strait and the Mediterranean Sea (annexed to that Ocean); also annexed sea is the Black Sea which is connected with the Mediterranean through the Turkish Straits.

One can accede to the Isthmus of Suez on the Indian Ocean side, through the Bab-el-Mandeb Strait and Red Sea (annexed to that Ocean).



dark green



perf.
12 x 12



SUEZ CANAL

2. Maritime access to the Isthmus of Suez

2.2 On the Atlantic Ocean side

TURKISH STRAITS

DARDANELLES STRAIT



The Dardanelles is a narrow strait linking the Sea of Marmara with the Mediterranean. It is 38 miles long and 3/4 to 4 miles wide.



Cover circulated in the Dardanelles



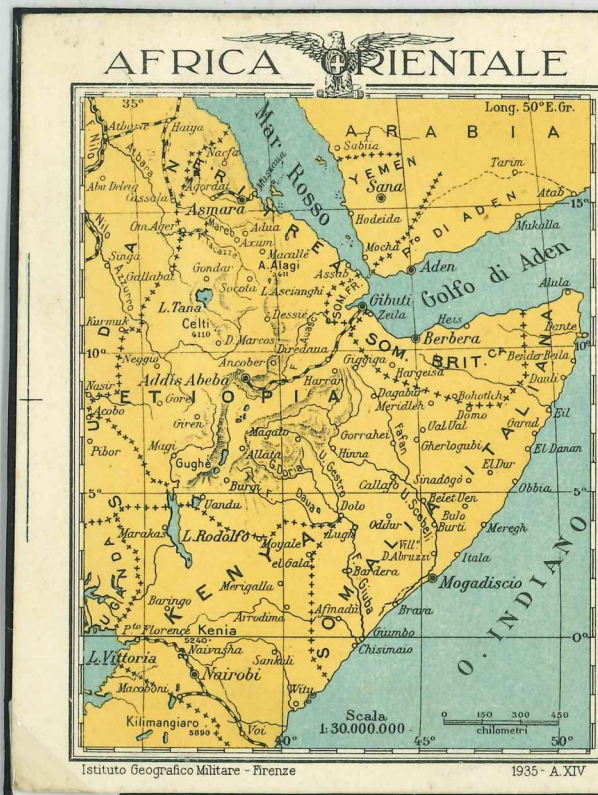
SUEZ CANAL

2. Maritime access to the Isthmus of Suez

2.3 On the Indian Ocean side

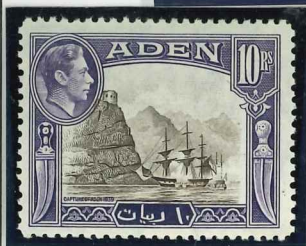
BAB-EL-MANDEB STRAIT

The Bab-el-Mandeb Strait links the Red Sea with the Gulf of Aden and the Indian Ocean



Rude Corcoz 21-5-XIV
Carissimus.
giunto in giornata
qui, e autamente
ho anato Patrice e Vellach
trasferiti per ignota destinazio
ne. To sto bene. Ti scrivero
una lettera appena possibile
Ti abbraccio con
Intorino

Aden and Djibouti are the
harbours more important
in the area of the Strait.



Aden
Harbour



Djibouti
Harbour



SUEZ CANAL

2. Maritime access to the Isthmus of Suez

2.3 On the Indian Ocean side

BAB-EL-MANDEB STRAIT



Postal cards circulated in the Strait



SUEZ CANAL

3. First works

The first attempts to connect the Nile river with the Red Sea date from the pharaohic period.



Around 1760 B.C. the Pharaoh Sesostriis made an attempt to dig a canal connecting the Nile river (Pelusiatic branch) with the Red Sea, that functioned with intervals during nearly one thousand years.



Nile river

In 617 B.C. the Pharaoh Necos started the operation to cut a canal which began in Mit Abou Ali (the Pelusiatic branch) and ended in the Red Sea (via Timsah Lake, the Bitter Lakes and the Gulf of Suez).



About 523 B.C. Darius I, the King of ancient Persia, finished the construction of the canal.



center
inverted



Palace of Darius
the Great



Trajan, the Roman emperor, around 98 A.C. reconditioning the canal, brought its head to Babylon (near the present city of Cairo) and baptized the canal after his name.



The canal functioned till after the reign of the Caliph Omar Ibn Abdel Aziz (723 A.C.) and afterwards it sanded up due to the negligence of the governors.



SUEZ CANAL

4. Discovery of the Cape Route

The discovery of the natural connection with the Orient using the Cape Route was begun by Bartolomeu Dias - who discovered the Cape of Good Hope in 1488 - and was completed by Vasco da Gama who arrived until Calicut in 1498.



Bartolomeu
Dias



Vasco
da
Gama



Vasco da Gama
route

Fleet arriving
at Calicut



second overprint
inverted



The Zamorin of Calicut
receiving Vasco da Gama

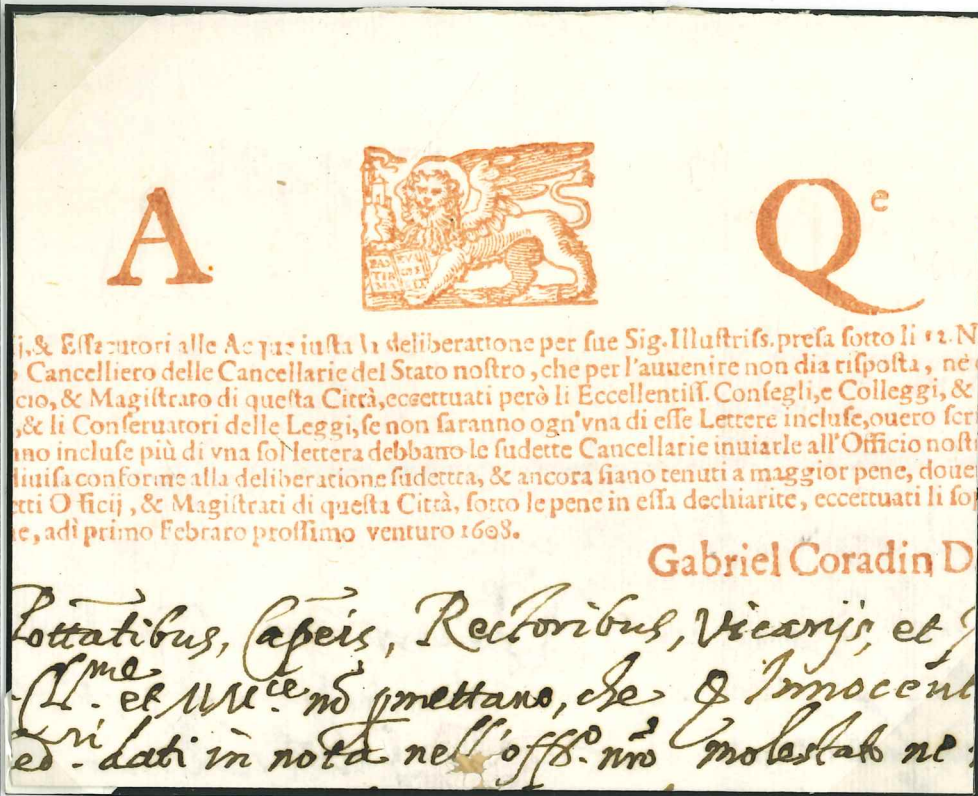


SUEZ CANAL

5. Dreams and projects



Venitian
standard



With the discovery of Cape Route, which reduced the commerce with the Orient through the Venitian Republic, came about since 1504, among the merchants of Venice, the idea of opening a canal to connect the Nile and the Red Sea.

"Acque venitien" of the Venitian Republic
with the winged Lion, symbol of Venice



Around 1512, also Afonso de Albuquerque the Great will have possibly thought in connecting the Red Sea with the Mediterranean through the removal of alluvion from the canal of Pharaoh Necos, in order to shorten the way to Europe and reduce the Moslem great power.



Saint-Simon's
door

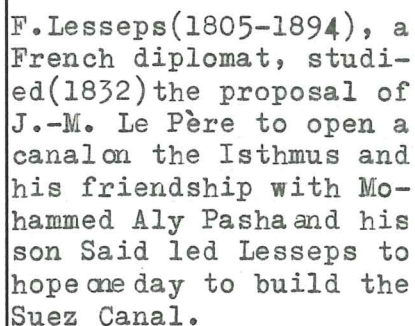


In spite of Napoleon had thought in re-establish the connection through the Nile, opened by the pharaohs, one of Napoleon's chief-engineers, J.-M. Le Père, proposed to the Emperor, around 1798, to open a canal on the Isthmus of Suez.



The projects come one after another; one emphasize the saint-simonians Talabot and d'Enfantin project which in 1846 gave rise to a study society, that sent engineers to the place.

6. Ferdinand de Lesseps



Mohammed Aly Pasha and, after, his son Said Pasha support Lesseps. On Nov.30,1854, Said Pasha signed the first act of concession authorizing Lesseps to pierce the Isthmus.



A first scheme was immediately drawn up without using locks and adopted by an international commission of engineers (1856). The Suez Canal Company was organized in 1858. The first blow of the pickaxe was given by Lesseps at Port-Said on April 25, 1859.

SUEZ CANAL

7. The Overland Route

Covers circulated in the Overland Route



From Netherlands Indies with postmark in red
"PAYS ETR./24 MAI 61/V.SUEZ AMB."



From China with postmark in red
"PAQ. AN. V.SUEZ/26 AOUT 63/AMB.MARS.2"

SUEZ CANAL

7. The Overland Route

Covers circulated in the Overland Route



From Réunion Island with postmark in red
"COL.F. V.SUEZ PAQ.F./15 JANV.66/MARS."



From Mauritius Island with postmark in red
"POS.AN. V.SUEZ/15 JUN.68/P.F. AMB.MARS."

PANAMA CANAL

5. The Overland Route

Covers circulated in the Isthmus

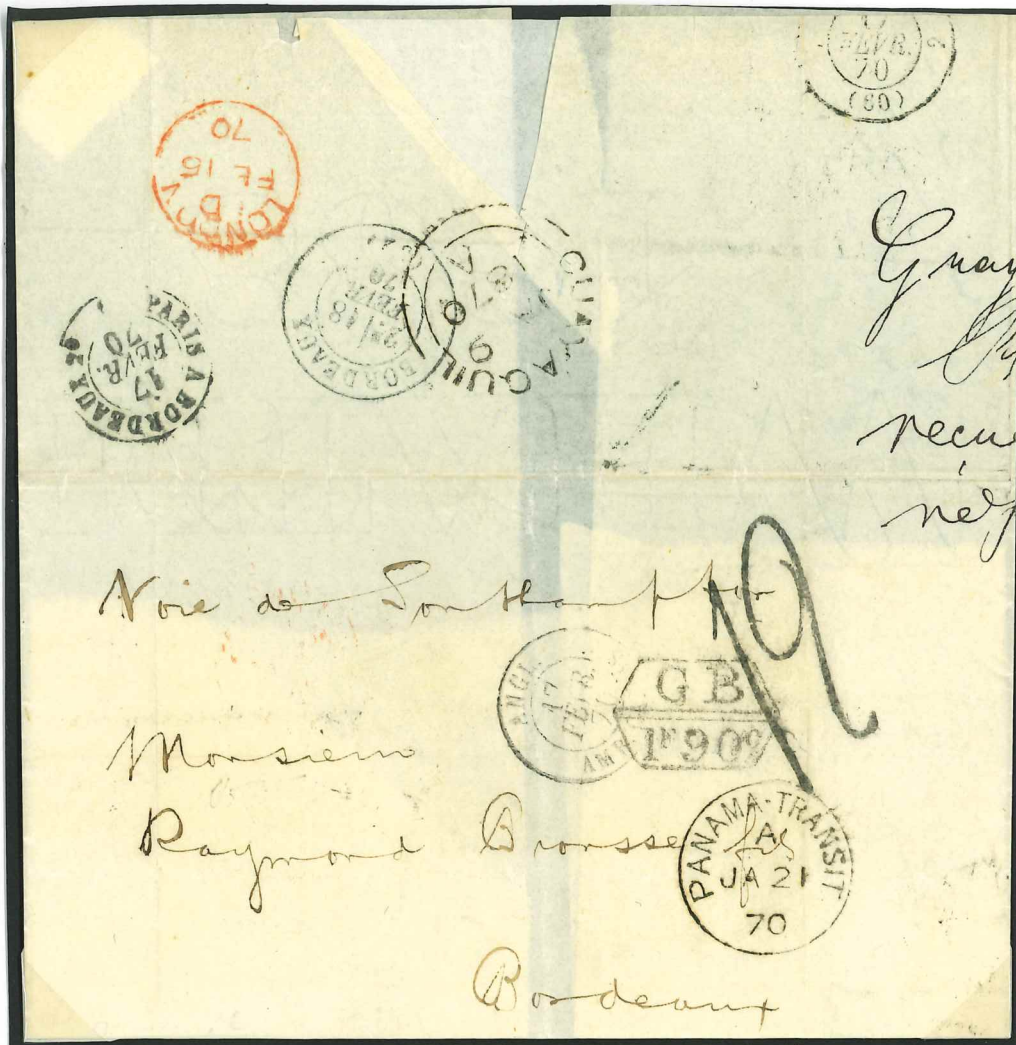


From "JERSEY/NO 15/64, with postmark "PANAMA/DE 10/1864" in black, to VALPARAISO.



From "VALPARAISO/MR 3/1868" (reverse), with manuscript tax, via PANAMA, with cancel "GB/1F90c" in black, to AMIENS.

PANAMA CANAL
5.The Overland Route
Covers circulated in the Isthmus



From "GUAYAQUIL/JA 9/18/70" (Ecuador), with manuscript tax and postmark "PANAMA-TRANSIT/JA 21/70", to BORDEAUX.



From "GUAYAQUIL/MR 9/1871" (reverse), with manuscript tax and postmark "PANAMA-TRANSIT/MR 20/71", to LONDON.

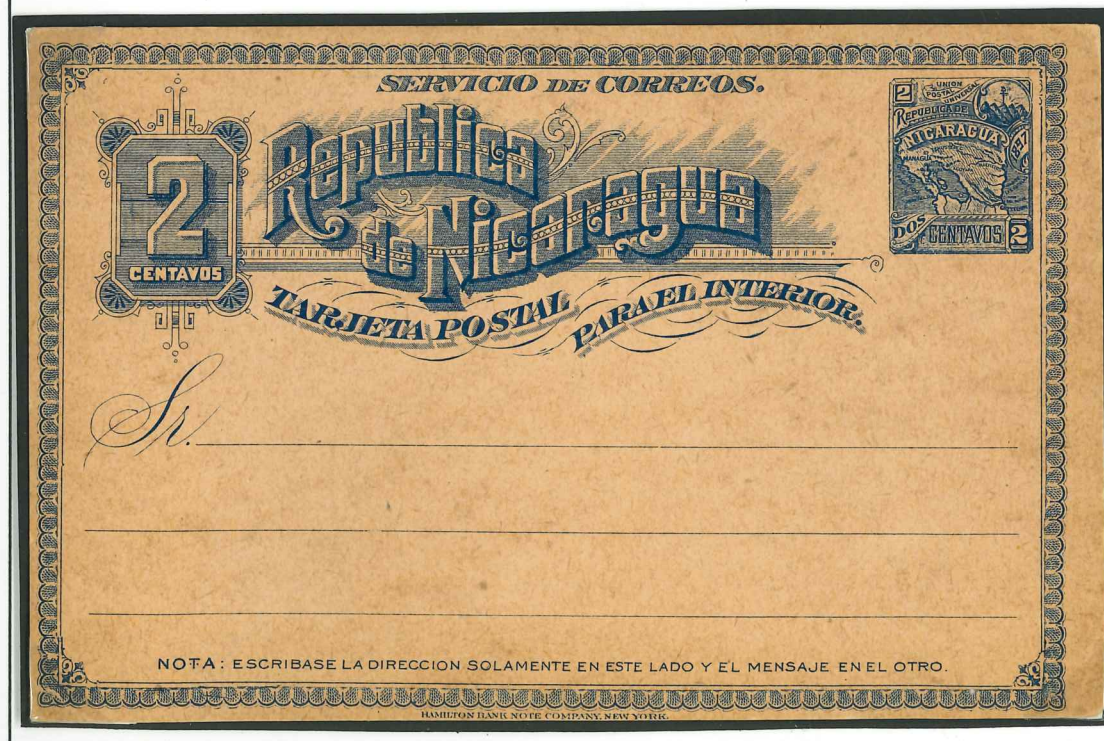
PANAMA CANAL

6.Project of canal by Nicaragua

A great number of projects came out between 1845 and 1870. Some of them used the Isthmus of Panama and others the Nicaragua depression. In 1870, a committee of american scientists appointed by the United States Congress, pronounced itself in favour of the Nicaragua depression planning.



The proposed route, which was to follow the San Juan river for part of its distance, then through Lake Managua, is delineated on a map of the country showed in the stamps and postal cards.



PANAMA CANAL

9. Occupation of the Canal Zone and building of the Canal



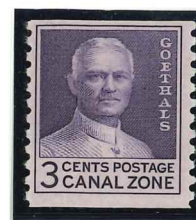
overprint
"CANAL ZONE"

The construction of the Canal under U.S. supervision, which had begun in 1904, was accelerated after the U. S. Congress adopted John F. Stevens' plan (with high-level locks).



John F. Stevens

Occupation of what later came to be known as the "Canal Zone" (about 5 miles of land on each side of the future canal) by the Americans began in May 1904 and it started by controlling the insect pests.



George Washington Goethals was the engineer who directed the building of the Canal.



PANAMA CANAL

9. Occupation of the Canal Zone
and building of the Canal



Construction
of the Canal



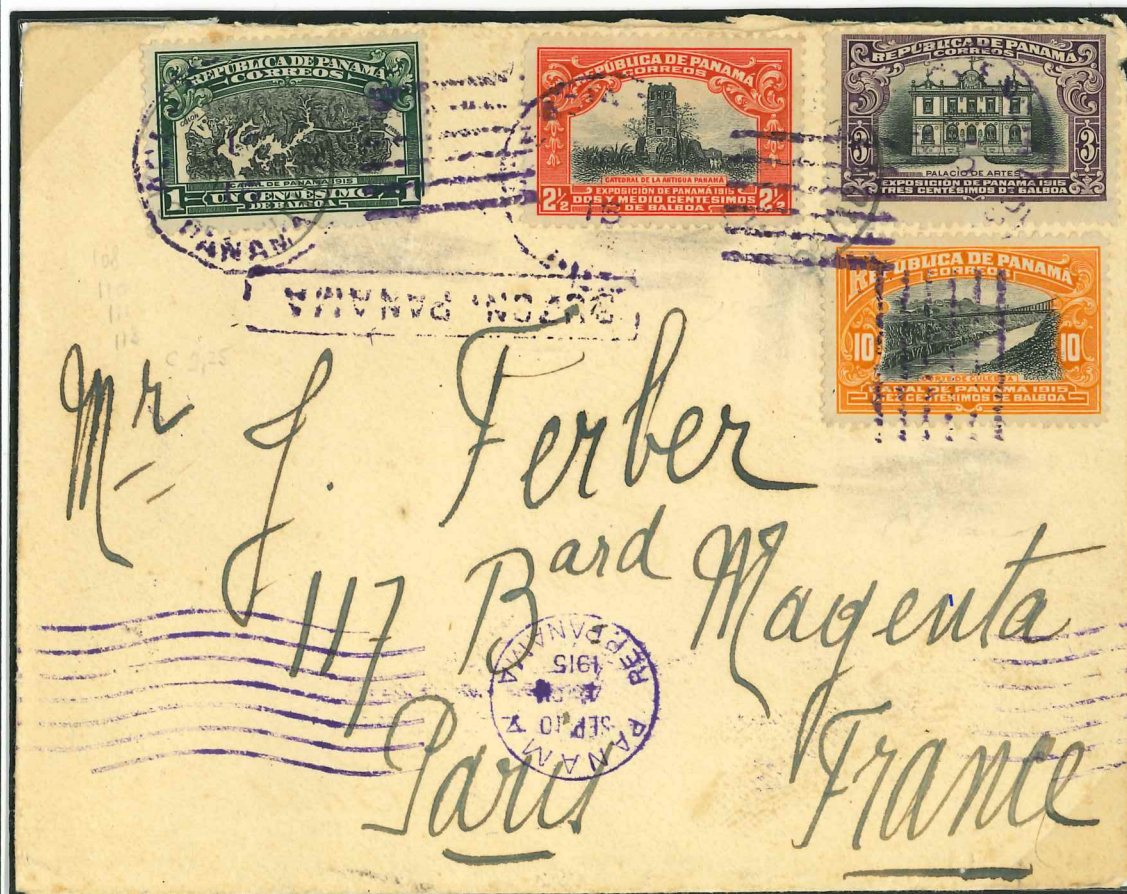
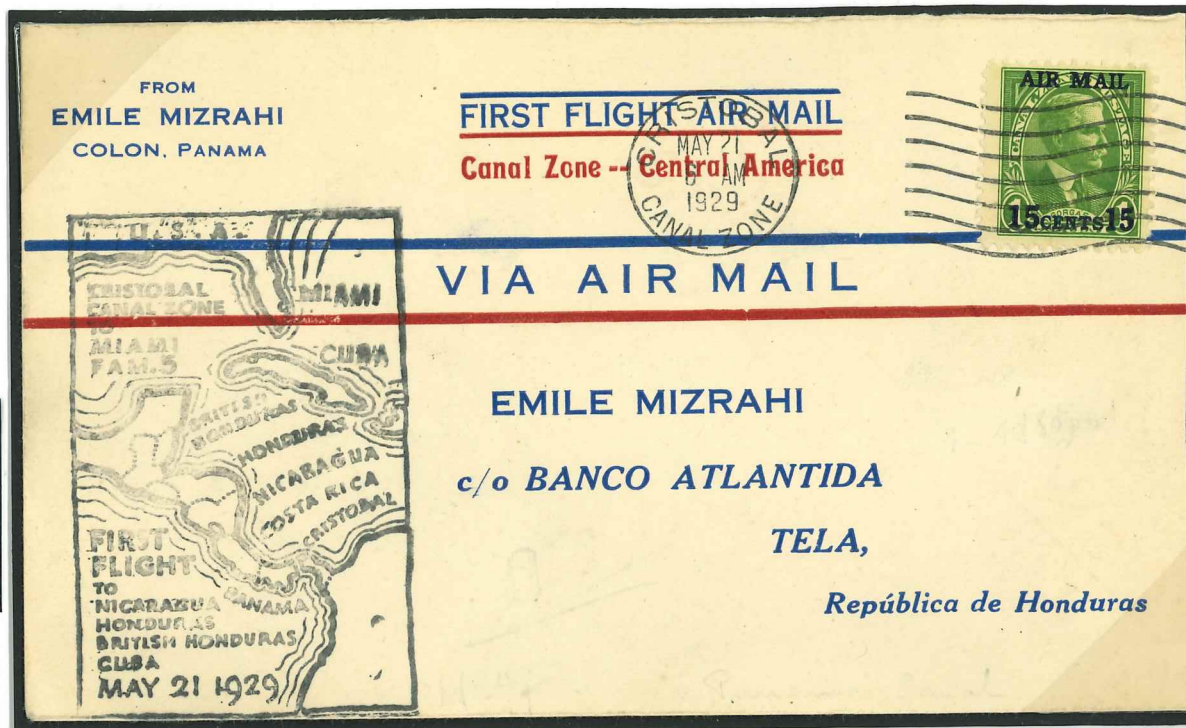
white paper
light blue



PANAMA CANAL

10.The Canal

10.1 General view



center
misplaced



overprint
"CANAL ZONE"

PANAMA CANAL

10.The Canal

10.1 General view

DR. HARRY W. MITTEN JR.

P. O. BOX 593

BALBOA, CANAL ZONE



Ritter Dental Co.,
Rochester,
New York

Postmark slogan "THE PANAMA CANAL/SPEEDS WORLD COMMERCE"



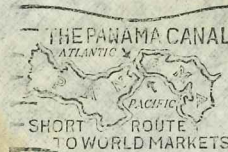
Postmark slogan "THE PANAMA CANAL/GATEWAY OF WORLD TRADE"

IF NOT DELIVERED RETURN TO
Box 5051X 2222
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Mr. Frank Sterling

128 Ocean Avenue

Edgewood 5, R.I.



VIA AIR MAIL

BTH 194 Edg

Postmark slogan "THE PANAMA CANAL/SHORT ROUTE TO WORLD MARKETS"

PANAMA CANAL

10.The Canal

10.2 Description



Gamboa

The Canal continues south and southwest through a channel in the Lake for about 23 miles to Gamboa, where the Culebra Cut begins.



Gaillard or
Culebra Cut



Gaillard

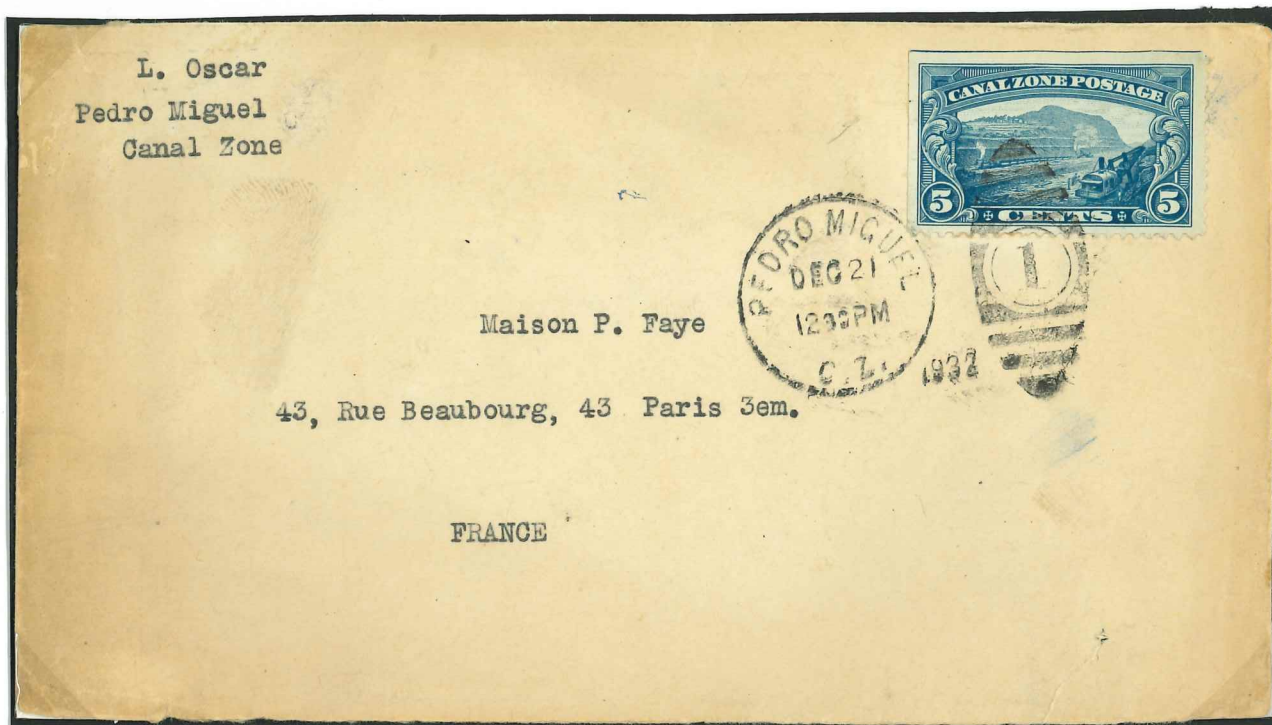
The Gaillard or Culebra Cut (Culebra being the native name and Gaillard the name of the U.S. engineer responsible for its cutting) is 8 miles long and 500 feet wide.



PANAMA CANAL

10.The Canal

10.2 Description



Postmark from "PEDRO MIGUEL"



Pedro Miguel
Locks



After the Culebra Cut ap-
pears the Pedro Miguel
Locks, a single lock low-
ers ships 31 feet (9.4m)
to a small lake.



PANAMA CANAL

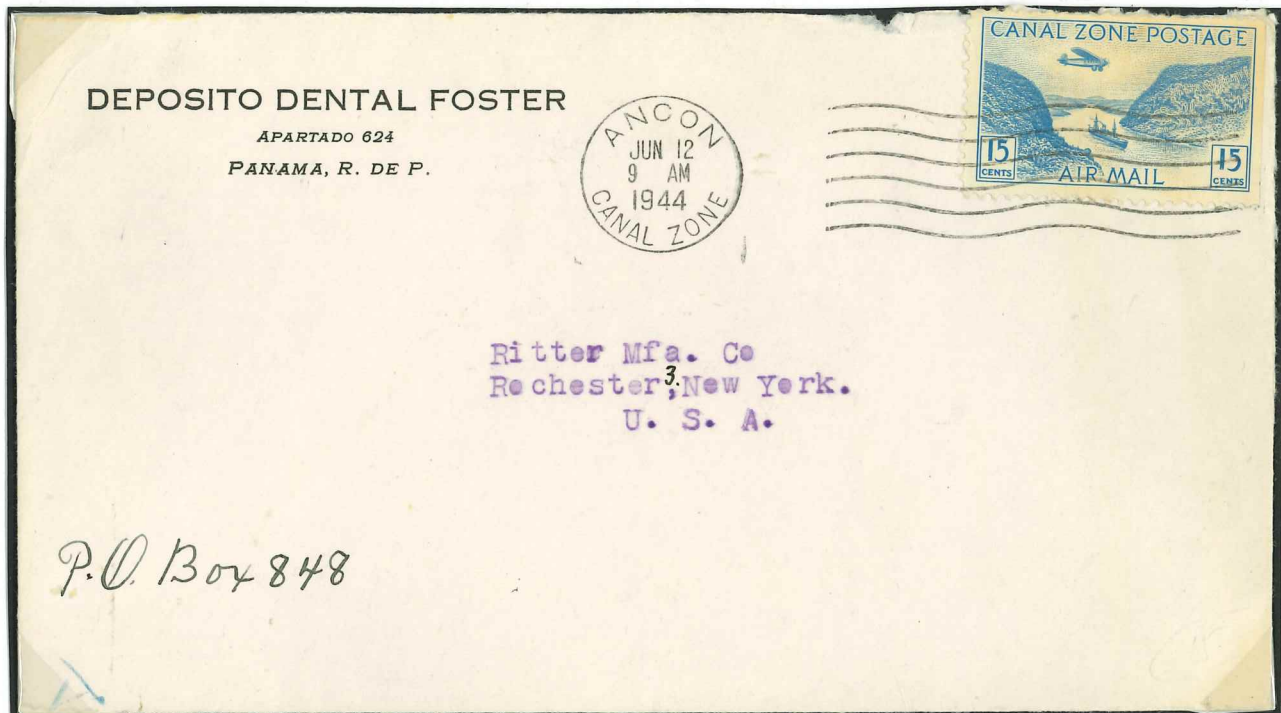
10.The Canal

10.2 Description

The vessels pass one mile through the small lake and are lowered another 54 feet(16m) by the two sets of locks at Miraflores.



Miraflores
Locks



Postmark from "ANCON"



Balboa

After, the Canal pass to the sea-level dredged channel 7 miles long, near Ancon and Balboa, and arrived to the Pacific.



center
misplaced



PANAMA CANAL

3. Maritime access to the Isthmus of Panama



The Pacific Ocean is in direct contact with the Panama Isthmus in the gulf that carries the same name; in what concerns the Atlantic Ocean, the access is possible through the Caribbean Sea.



The Caribbean Sea, suboceanic basin of the western Atlantic Ocean, is situated north of Equator in the Western Hemisphere and washing the northern coasts of South America and the eastern coasts of Central America and part of Mexico.



The Atlantic Ocean connects with the Caribbean Sea through Channels: YUCATAN; WINDWARD; JAMAICA; MONA; and other Channels or Straits between the islands of the Lesser Antillean Chain.



PANAMA CANAL

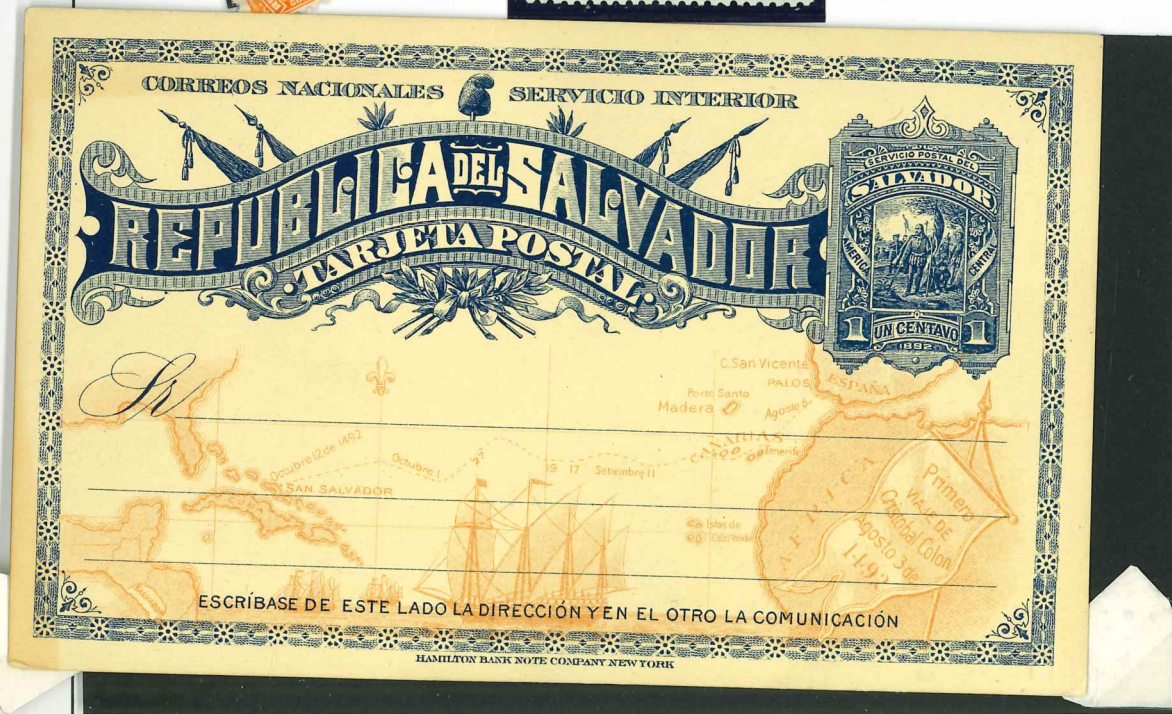
3. Maritime access to the Isthmus of Panama



The Yucatan Channel is a strait connecting the Gulf of Mexico and the Caribbean Sea.



The Hispaniola Island is separated: from Cuba by the Windward Channel; from Jamaica by the Jamaica Channel; and from Puerto Rico by the Mona Channel; Other straits separate the islands of the Lesser Antillean Chain.



PANAMA CANAL

4.Dreams and projects

In 1528, the Emperor Charles V demanded a research study about the possibility of opening a maritime passage in Central America.



In 1780, Nelson stood up for the opening of a canal through the Nicaragua.



PANAMA CANAL

4.Dreams and projects



In 1804, Alexander von Humboldt, a German naturalist and explorer, established, in loco, five canal planning projects; the main project cut the Isthmus in its narrow place, from Chagres to the city of Panama.



Simon Bolivar, the Liberator (1783-1830), thought also in a project to open a canal in Panama.



PANAMA CANAL

4. Dreams and projects

In 1845, the Nicaragua Government wanted the success of the canal project that crossed the country and also wished to attract the european capital funds. So, asked for the support of Louis Bonaparte, imprisoned in Ham (Somme/France).

letter carried by
«Le Colonel Charras»
balloon



SUEZ CANAL

8.The Canal opening in 1869

The inauguration festivities counted with the participation of the Khédive himself, as host, besides other high individualities of the time.



Khédive
Ismail Pasha



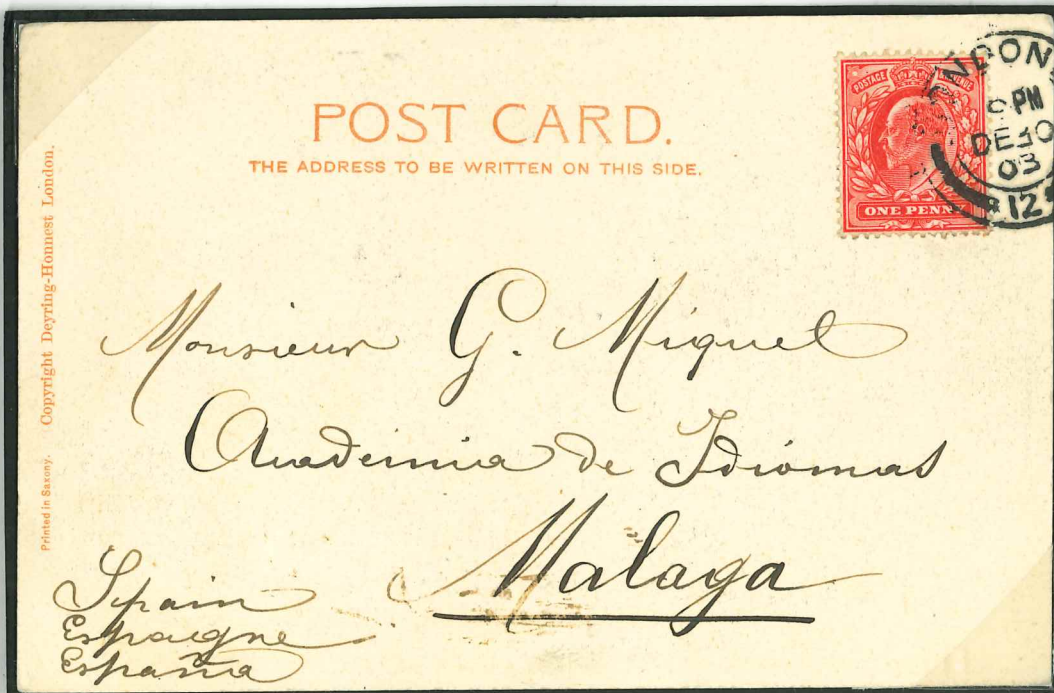
SUEZ CANAL

8. The Canal opening in 1869

Individualities that were present at the inauguration festivities



Emperor
Franz Josef



Edward,
Prince of Wales



SUEZ CANAL

8.The Canal opening in 1869

Individualities that were present at the inauguration festivities

Prince Henry
of the Netherland



Coat of arms
of the Netherland



Emir
Abd-el-Kader
(of Damas)



SUEZ CANAL

8. The Canal opening in 1869

Individualities that were present at the inauguration festivities

Kronprinz
Frederick
of the
Prussia



Coat of
arms
of the
Prussia



Duke of Aosta (Italy)



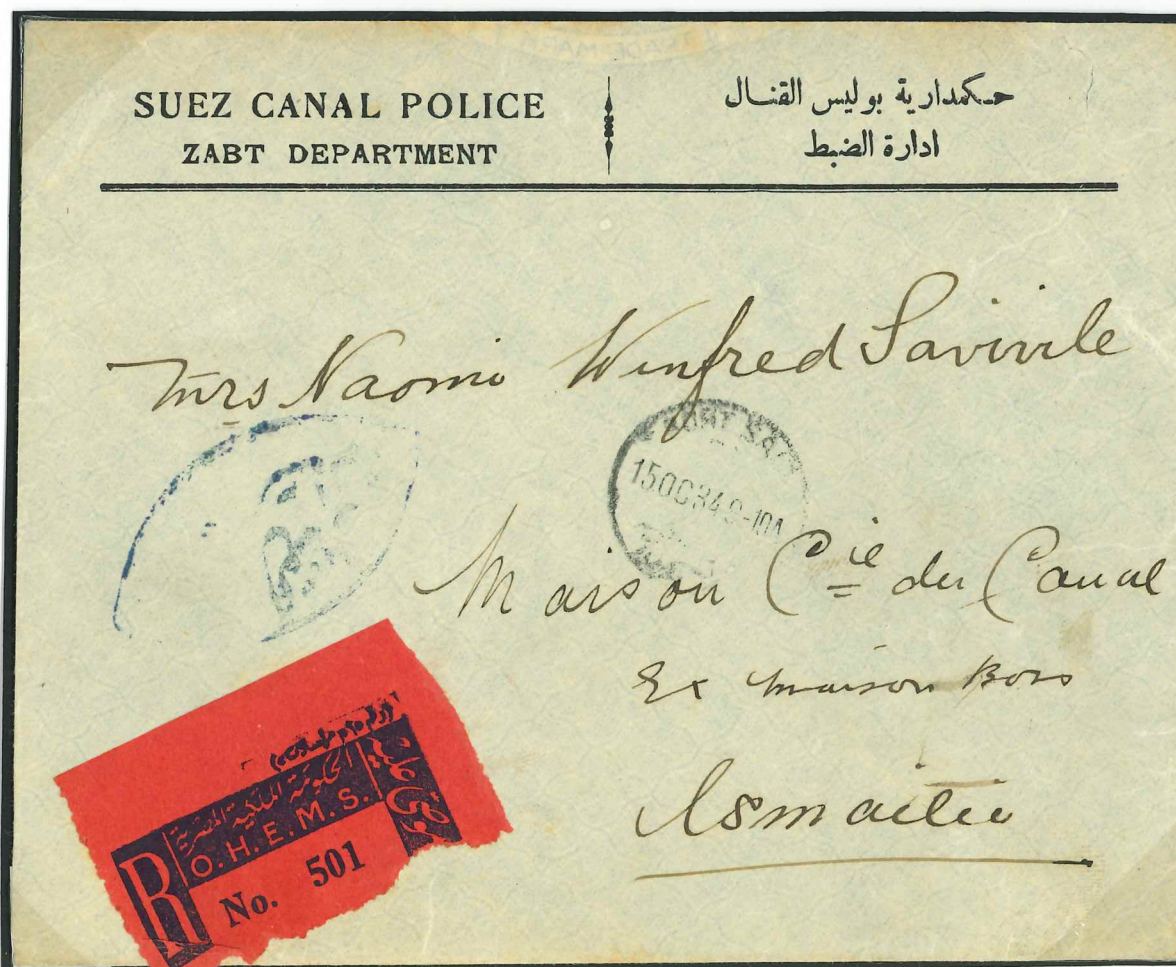
not
issued



SUEZ CANAL
9. After 1869



From "BRISBANE/6 JU 81/QL", with postmark "ALEXANDRIE/2 AOÛT 81/EGYPTE", via LYON (reverse), to "ORLEANS/9 AOÛT 81"(reverse).



Cover "SUEZ CANAL POLICE", registered, from "PORT-SAID/15 OC 34" to "ISMAILIA/15 OC 34" (reverse).

PANAMA CANAL

2. Localisation of the Isthmus of Panama



The Isthmus of Panama is situated in the middle of the American continent.

As seen in Part 1, the natural connections between the Atlantic and the Pacific Oceans are to be found in the south extremity of the American continent, in a no favourable latitude to the maritime traffic: Magellan Strait, Beagle Channel and Drake Passage.

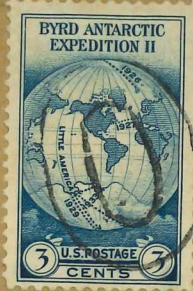


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