Dick Malott: Frame 1/8

CANADA
AIRMAIL FLIGHT COVERS
CANADIAN CRASH COVERS

The development of airmail services in Canada, as in the U.S.A, and other parts of the world, has been marred by aircraft interrupted flights and crashes of various types in which crew and passengers have been killed and the mail destroyed, damaged, or delayed.

This exhibit includes various interrupted flight covers from the pioneer and semi-official period of Canadian airmail development 1918 to 1930, and the period of official government flights 1931 to the present. The interrupted flight covers exhibited include airmail from Canadian and Foreign aircraft that have crashed in Canada, and airmail cooing to or going from Canada that has been interrupted by crashes of Canadian or Foreign aircraft outside of Canada. The interrupted covers are arranged chronologically.

Within the exhibit is a study of the many different cachets and date cancellations used to forward the large quantity of salvaged mail from the Trans Canada Airlines (now Air Canada) North Star aircraft mid-air collision with a RCAF Harvard trainer aircraft over Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan, on 8 April 1959.

The Post Office Department of Canada (now Canada Post Corporation) has always made a conscientious effort to get the salvaged airmail to the addressee. The collecting of interrupted (crash) covers with appropriate markings, makes an interesting addition to a collection of Canadian airmail flight covers.



An Edward VII Canadian post card, circa 1910, advising of a pending visit, barring an interrupted (crash) flight. Is this a forerunner of interrupted or crash covers?

CANADA
AIRMAIL FLIGHT COVERS
CANADIAN CRASH COVERS

Windsor, Ontario Experimental Air Mail Flight 4 September 1915

This cancelled post card is one of three prepared for the air mail flight, Windsor, Ontario to the Michigan State Fair near Detroit, Michigan. The flight was not completed since the aircraft crashed during a trial flight by the Patterson brothers at Windsor, Ontario.



Canada's First Official Air Mail Flight – Montreal to Toronto 24 June 1918

Canada's first official air mail was flown from Montreal to Toronto by Captain Brian A. Peck. No. 43 squadron, RAF (Canada), Station Leaside. This envelope was one of the 124 flown envelopes, all of which received the red triangular red cachet dated 23 June 1918. Due to inclement weather the flight was delayed one day.

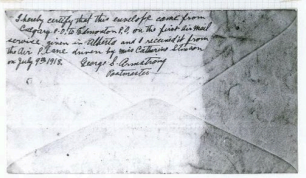


CANADA
AIRMAIL FLIGHT COVERS
CANADIAN CRASH COVERS

First Air Mail Flight in Western Canada 9 July 1918

Katherine Stinson carried on her flight from Calgary to Edmonton, Alberta on 9 July 1918. 259 stamped envelopes and at least one unstamped envelope. The envelope has the official cachet on the front. On the back is the signed statement by Mr. George S. Armstrong, Postmaster of Edmonton: "I hereby certify that the envelope came from Calgary P.O. to Edmonton P.O. on the first Air Mail service given in Alberta and I received it from the Air Plane driven by Miss Katherine Stinson on July 9th 1918." A few minutes after take-off Miss Stinson's aircraft developed an oil leak forcing her to land for repairs and causing an interruption in the flight.





CANADA
AIRMAIL FLIGHT COVERS
CANADIAN CRASH COVERS

First Non-Stop Trans-Atlantic Flight from St.John's, Newfoundland to Clifden Ireland by Alcock and Brown on 14 - 15 June 1919



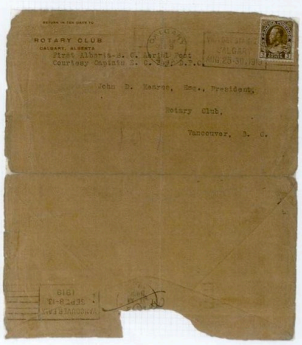
The first successful flight across the atlantic ended in a crash landing in a bog near Clifden, Ireland on 15 June 1919. Alcock and Brown flew 196 airmail covers over the 1890 mile route. A $1.00 overprint on a .15¢ Newfoundland stamp paid the postal fee on this historic flight. The secondcover was flown to ward New York on 4 July 1919 but the aircraft crashed at Parrsboro, Nova Scotia.



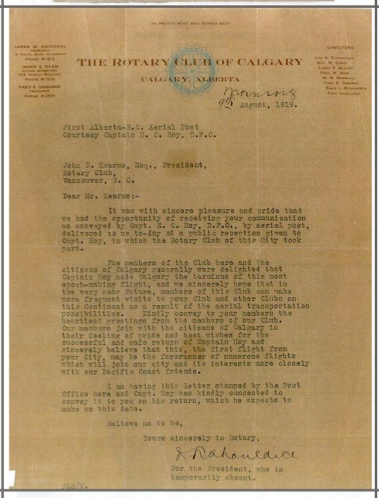
CANADA
AIRMAIL FLIGHT COVERS
CANADIAN CRASH COVERS

First Air Mail Over The Rocky Mountains 7 August 1919

The first flight over the Canadian Rocky Mountains from Vancouver to Calgary was flown in a Curtiss JN-4 by Captain Ernest C. Hoy, via Vernon, Grand Forks, Cranbrook and Lethbridge. The return trip on 11 August 1919 from Calgary to Vancouver ended in a crash at Golden, B.C. Captain Hoy carried 54 to 58 envelopes and a package of newspapers to Calgary and a small quantity for the return trip. This was flown from Calgary, Alberta to Golden, B.C. The mail continued on to Vancouver by train.



CANADA
AIRMAIL FLIGHT COVERS
CANADIAN CRASH COVERS



CANADA
AIRMAIL FLIGHT COVERS
CANADIAN CRASH COVERS

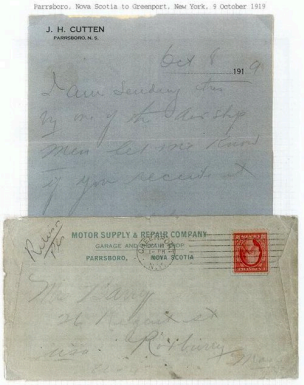
First Air Mail Over The Canadian Rocky Mountains Westward – 11 August 1919

This envelope was flown on the first westward flight over the Canadian Rockies by Captain E.C. Hoy from Golden, B.C. Hoy stopped at Golden to refuel on his return flight to Vancouver from Calgary on 11 August. He could not land at the intended field due to the large crowd so he landed in a farm field near the town. When taking off he had to swerve to avoid two children. As a result the aircraft crashed, smashing the wings and cracking the engine. This envelope, the only one from Golden, was carried by Captain Hoy to Vancouver by rail, and cancelled there on 13 August 1919.



CANADA
AIRMAIL FLIGHT COVERS
CANADIAN CRASH COVERS

Parrsboro, Nova Scotia to Greenport, New York, 9 October 1919



This letter and cover were carried on "The Atlantic" from Parrsboro, N.S. to Greenport, N.Y., USA on 9 October 1919. The rescheduled flight to New York ended in another forced landing, this time at Greenport, New York.

CANADA
AIRMAIL FLIGHT COVERS
CANADIAN CRASH COVERS

Parrsboro, Nova Scotia to Minoola, New York, 9 October 1919



The Handley Page bomber "The Atlantic", after 4 months of repairs, left Parrsboro, N.S., for Minoola, New York, on 9 October 1919. Publicity and time allowed enthusiastic pioneer air mail collectors an opportunity to prepare and send for inclusion in authorized mail from Parrsboro to Minoola, New York, first flight covers. This cover, with nine cents postage and five cents war tax, was prepared by and sent to Mr. Harry E.A. Truby of New Kingston, Pennsylvania, USA, a noted pioneer air mail collector. The cover inscribed "Via Handley Page Aerial Mail" is cancelled on 9 October 1919 at Parrsboro, N.S. The envelope is annotated on the back that it was received in New Kensington at 9:30 a.m., Saturday 11 October 1919.

The aircraft enroute to Minoola, N.Y., was forced to land at Greenport, N.Y., due to a broken oil line.

CANADA
AIRMAIL FLIGHT COVERS
CANADIAN CRASH COVERS

Botwood, Newfoundland to Halifax, Nova Scotia 10 December 1921

On 10 December 1921, after several delays, an airmail service from St. John's, Newfoundland to Halifax, Nova Scotia was inaugurated, originating at Botwood, Newfoundland. The aircraft after flying 95 miles, was forced down at Deer Lake on the Humber River, Newfoundland. For this special flight the .75¢ regular issue stamp was overprinted "AIR MAIL/to Halifax, N.S./1921". These three envelopes were mailed on 10, 22 and 26 November 1921.



CANADA
AIRMAIL FLIGHT COVERS
CANADIAN CRASH COVERS

Halifax, Nova Scotia to St. John's, Newfoundland 20 January 1922

On or about 20 January 1922 an attempt to fly airmail was made between Halifax, Nova Scotia and St. John's, Newfoundland but it was not successful. Envelopes with .34 cents postage were marked with a boxed seven line violet cachet reading "First-Air Mail-Halifax-To-St. John's-January-1922". Mail dated from various parts of Canada has a Halifax, Nova Scotia date of 20 January 1922 and a St. John's or St. John's East, Newfoundland date of 24 January 1922. The mail went by ship but no record of an aircraft crash is recorded in the newspapers. Most likely an aircraft malfunction cancelled the flight.

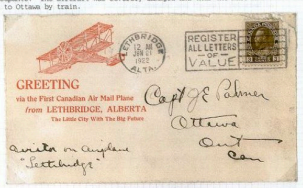




CANADA
AIRMAIL FLIGHT COVERS
CANADIAN CRASH COVERS

Lethbridge, Alberta to Ottawa, Ontario 22 June 1922

On 22 June 1922 an attempted flight carrying airmail commenced at Lethbridge, Alberta. The pilots were Captain J.E. "Jock" Palmer and Lieutenant H. H. Fitzsimmons. During a landing after a test flight at Minot, North Dakota a car driven by a lady under driving instruction drove in front of the aircraft. The pilot had to swerve to miss the car and the two lady occupants. The aircraft was severely damaged and thus the mail had to be sent on to Ottawa by train.



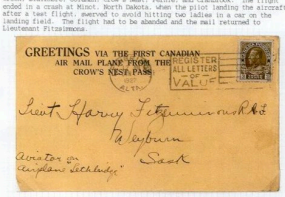


Lieut. H.H. Fitzsimmons the promoter of the Lethbridge to Ottawa Flight 1922

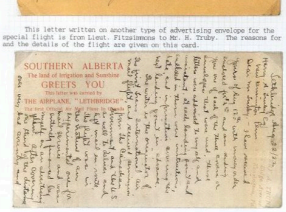
CANADA
AIRMAIL FLIGHT COVERS
CANADIAN CRASH COVERS

Lethbridge, Alberta to Ottawa, Ontario Air Mail Flight 22 June 1922

This yellow envelope addressed to Lieutenant Harry Fitzsimmons was one of the few special type envelopes flown on this flight providing data on towns in the Crow's Nest Pass of the Canadian Rockies – Lethbridge, Macleod, Pincher Creek, Blairmore, Coleman, Crow's Nest, Fernie, and Cranbrook. The flight ended in a crash at Minot, North Dakota, when pilot landing the aircraft after a test flight, swerved to avoid hitting two ladies in a car on the landing field. The flight had to be abandoned and the mail returned to Lieutenant Fitzsimmons.



This letter written on another type of advertising envelope for the special flight is from Lieut. Fitzsimmons to Mr. H. Truby. The reasons for and the details of the flight are given on this card.



CANADA
AIRMAIL FLIGHT COVERS
CANADIAN CRASH COVERS

Estevan, Saskatchewan to Winnipeg, Manitoba 1 October 1924

Estevan, Saskatchewan planned to promote the nine billion tons of lignite coal in its vicinity by the advertising on the back of the specially flown envelopes on 1 October 1924 from Estevan to Winnipeg, Manitoba. The flight ended suddenly at Bienfait, Saskatchewan when the aircraft's oil line broke forcing the JN-4 aircraft to make an emergency landing. The special mail with the three cent government rate postage and the $1.00 special vignette was forwarded by surface means to Winnipeg.

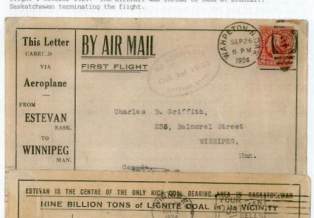


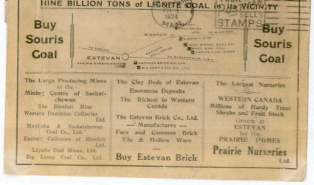


CANADA
AIRMAIL FLIGHT COVERS
CANADIAN CRASH COVERS

The Estevan to Winnipeg Air Mail Flight 1 October 1924

The top envelope is one of three envelopes flown on the Estevan to Winnipeg flight and mailed from Walpeton, North Dakota on 26 September 1924 carrying US postage for transmission on to Estevan. The bottom envelope depicts the advertising on the back of all flown envelopes on the Estevan flight 1 October 1924. The aircraft was forced to land at Bienfait, Saskatchewan terminating the flight.





CANADA
AIRMAIL FLIGHT COVERS
CANADIAN CRASH COVERS

Toronto to Red Lake, Ontario via Sudbury, Pogamasing, and Sioux Lookout 1926

Captain Roy Maxwell of Patricia Airways and Exploration Co. Ltd. who flew a new aircraft "The Lark" from New York to Toronto, obtained permission to carry mail from Toronto, Ontario to Red Lake via Sudbury, Pogamasing and Sioux Lookout, Ontario. The flight 27 March to 12 April 1926 was a most difficult one due to bad weather and mechanical difficulties which delayed the delivery of the mail. Some covers were carried from New York to Toronto.





Dick Malott: Frame 2/8

CANADA
AIRMAIL FLIGHT COVERS
CANADIAN CRASH COVERS

Toronto to Red Lake. Ontario via Sudbury. Pogamasing. and Sioux Lookout 1926

These 3 envelopes flown by Captain Roy Maxwell to Red Lake were mailed from Sudbury on 29 March. Pogamasing on 6 April and Sioux Lookout on 12 April 1926. This is an air stage service whereby all mail is carried at surface rates. Bad weather and aircraft mechanical difficulties caused many delays to the flight.

VIA AIR MAIL
SUDBURY ONT.
EARLY STARTER
RED LAKE ONT.

Mr. F.G. Griffin,

VIA AIR MAIL

F.G. Griffin,
Red Lake,
Ontario.

VIA AIR MAIL

Mr. S. Osborne,
c/o Mr. F.G. Griffin,
Red Lake,
Ont.

17

CANADA
AIRMAIL FLIGHT COVERS
CANADIAN CRASH COVERS

London. Ontario to London. England Flight 1-7 September 1927

OFFICIAL BUSINESS ONLY

AIR MAIL
LONDON CANADA - LOND
1927

CANADA POST OFFICE
"Correct addressing speeds delivery"



On 1 September 1927. after much preparation. Captain Terrence Tully and Lieutenant James Hadcalf took off from London. Ontario in the special Stinson aircraft the "Sir John Carling" carrying with them a small bag of envelopes. On each was a special vignette depicting the two pilots and the aircraft. Each envelope was cancelled with a die reading "Air Mail: London. Canada - London. England - - 1927 - -". On 7 September the aircraft took off from St. John's Newfoundland and disappeared. No trace was ever found of the aircraft or its crew. The above envelope was cancelled in London. Ontario on 19 August 1927 depicting the special cancellation. The original photograph shows Tully and Hadcalf before the Stinson aircraft in London. Ontario preparing for their flight.

CANADA
AIRMAIL FLIGHT COVERS
CANADIAN CRASH COVERS

London. Ontario to London. England Flight 1-7 September 1927

This original telegram. obtained from the family of Captain Terrence B. Tully. captain of the ill-fated Stinson-Detroiter aircraft. The Sir John Carling. in mute testimony to the brave effort by Captain T.B. Tully and Lieutenant James Victor Hadcalf. Since only one example of the prepared 94 envelopes exists to-day. as well as only six mint copies of the original 100 vignettes printed. this historic telegram sent from Harbour Grace. Newfoundland on 7 September 1927 is a significant historical document in Canada's air mail history. The telegram. sent to Tully's wife Anne. sends love to his two sons. Terry and Pat. as well as his wife. The aircraft disappeared over the Atlantic on 7 September 1927 with its two aviators and bag of mail.

CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY COMPANY'S TELEGRAM

TELEGRAM

HARBORGRACE NFLD SEPT 7-27

CARE ARTHUR LONDON

WE ARE JUST OFF ON A LONG PATROL TODAY YOU SHOULD HEAR FROM US THIS TIME TOMORROW LOVE TO YOU

TERRY AND PAT.

TERRANCE.

9084

CANADA
AIRMAIL FLIGHT COVERS
CANADIAN CRASH COVERS

White Horse. Yukon to Dawson. Yukon 24 November 1927

On 24 November 1927. the Yukon Airways and Exploration Company. Ltd. aircraft. flown by pilot A.D. Cruickshank. was forced down by extremely bad weather conditions. The aircraft and pilot were located and the mail was taken by dog-team to Mayo on 4 December. Wernecke on 5 December. Keno Hill on 6 December. and Dawson on 8 December. A few weeks later the aircraft was repaired and flown back to White Horse. The first envelope is from White Horse to Mayo. backstamped 4 December 1927 and the second to Keno Hill. cancelled 6 December 1927 on the front.

Via AIR MAIL
from WHITE HORSE

AIR MAIL - Care of YUKON AIRWAYS & EXPLORATION CO., LTD., WHITE HORSE

W.R.Patton,
MAYO, Yukon

Via AIR MAIL

W.R.Patton,
Keno Hill, Yukon

AIR MAIL - Care of YUKON AIRWAYS & EXPLORATION CO., LTD., WHITE HORSE

CANADA
AIRMAIL FLIGHT COVERS
CANADIAN CRASH COVERS

Two other envelopes from the forced down aircraft of Yukon Airways and Exploration Company Ltd, on 24 November 1927 are the following - one from White Horse to Dawson, Yukon back stamped 8 December and one prepared for the flight from Wernecke, Yukon on 24 December. This latter envelope was not flown and is thus not an actual crash cover. It has a 25¢ semi-official stamp on the back of the envelope.

Via AIR MAIL
from WHITEYHORSE

AIR MAIL - Care of YUKON AIRWAYS & EXPLORATION CO., LTD., WHITE HORSE

W.R.Patton,
DAWSON, Yukon

AIR MAIL - Care of YUKON AIRWAYS & EXPLORATION CO., LTD., WHITE HOR

CANADA
AIRMAIL FLIGHT COVERS
CANADIAN CRASH COVERS

Greenly Island. Labrador. Private Aircraft. 13 April 1928

This is an interesting souvenir of the famous Trans-Oceanic Record Flight from Ireland to Labrador. Two Germans, Baron Gunther Von Hunfeld and Captain Herman Koehl, accompanied by Major James Fitzmaurice, Commander of the Irish Free State Air Force, made the first aerial crossing of the Atlantic from West to East. The crossing from Baldonnel, Ireland to Greenly Island, Labrador covered a distance of 2,125 miles in 37 hours. This was an amazing speed averaging only 57 miles per hour. Headwinds had always discouraged west to east crossing until this semi-successful flight.

The World famous pilot Floyd Bennett died while attempting to rescue the fliers on remote Greenly. They were eventually rescued by an equally famous pilot Duke Schiller.

Bremen Flyer Landed at Greenly Island, 8:30 P.M. Atlantic Time Hans Eastern Standard Time Friday April 13 1928

John & Jungblut
Light Keeper
Greenly Island
Labrador

ERWIN VALLEY Labrador
8025 LANDELL
DETROIT MICH

CANADA
AIRMAIL FLIGHT COVERS
CANADIAN CRASH COVERS

British Columbia Airways

This envelope from the Victoria Branch. Navy League of Canada was postmarked on 25 August 1928 at Victoria. B.C.. the day British Columbia Airways' only plane crashed into the sea. The Ford Tri-motor aircraft went down about 10:00 A.M. This envelope with the cancelled company's stamp dated 26 August 1928 on the back was carried to Vancouver by boat.

CANADA
AIRMAIL FLIGHT COVERS
CANADIAN CRASH COVERS

Huron. Ohio. USA National Air Service. Inc. CAM-17. 20 December 1928

During a blinding snow storm a National Air Service aircraft piloted by Leo J. McKeon crashed into a barn at Huron. Ohio. The pilot was killed. the aircraft destroyed. and most of the 493 pounds of mail on board were destroyed. The recovered mail. badly burnt. was rubber stamped with a three-line purple cachet. "DAMAGED IN MAIL PLANE/ACCIDENT AT HURON. OHIO/DEC. 20. 1928 6 p.m." These two envelopes. one mailed from New York. New York on 20 December 1928 and addressed to Victoria. British Columbia. Canada and the other from Bartonville. Ontario mailed on 19 December 1928 to Los Angeles. California were aboard this ill-fated flight.

LOGAN & BRYAN
42 BROADWAY
New York, N.Y.

VIA AIR MAIL

PEMBERTON & SONS.
VICTORIA, B.C.

V - 15

DAMAGED IN MAIL PLANE ACCIDENT AT HURON DEC. 20, 1928

CANADA
AIRMAIL FLIGHT COVERS
CANADIAN CRASH COVERS

Halifax. Nova Scotia to Saint John. New Brunswick 28 January 1929

On 28 January 1929 an inaugural service flight of air mail was scheduled between Ottawa. Ontario. Montreal. Quebec. Saint John. New Brunswick. and Halifax. Nova Scotia. The RCAF provided the aircraft and the pilots. F/O A.D. McLean and F/L T.A. Lawrence. On the flight from Halifax to Saint John. F/L Lawrence was forced down at Foleigh Lake in Nova Scotia. The mail was forwarded by train to Saint John.

Via Air Mail
to
Montreal, Que.
Flown by

Mr I.C.Morgan
2462 Fuel Street,
Montreal, Canada.

Via Air Mail
Halifax - Saint John

CANADA
AIRMAIL FLIGHT COVERS
CANADIAN CRASH COVERS

Pitcairn Aviation Corporation Crash at Daytona Beach. Florida 1 March 1929

The Pitcairn Aviation Corporation's first flight from Daytona Beach to Tampa. Florida. CAM 25. on 1 March 1929 crashed at Daytona Beach. Pilot C.J. Faulkner's aircraft motor failed on take-off and the aircraft fell into the river. The 500 pounds of watersoaked mail. were forwarded to recipients without special markings.

The first exhibited envelope was remailed on 9 February 1931 for another first flight from West Palm Beach to Victoria. British Columbia on Route AM 25. The envelope is backstamped Tampa. Florida 1 March 1929 and Victoria B.C. 12 February 1931. The second envelope. addressed to Wolseley. Saskatchewan. and mailed from Macon. Georgia on 1 March 1929. was part of the salvaged mail.

2617

FIRST FLIGHT

VIA AIR MAIL

ATLANTA - MIAMI

ROUTE AM 25

VIA AIR MAIL
FIRST FLIGHT
Miami-Tampa

ATLANTA - MIAMI

ADMIRAAL
WOLSELEY, SASK.
CANADA

CANADA
AIRMAIL FLIGHT COVERS
CANADIAN CRASH COVERS

Park City. Utah. USA Boeing Air Transport. 11 March 1929

On the Boeing Air Transport Company's CAM-18 route. San Francisco to Chicago. Illinois. Pilot R.T. Praeg crashed his aircraft at 7:30 pm during a snow storm at Park City. Utah. The 1826 pounds of mail were salvaged in a burnt condition. marked with one of two purple cachets. and forwarded to Salt Lake City. Utah. The pilot. survived the crash.

Here are two damaged salvaged envelopes one mailed from San Francisco. California on 9 March 1929. is addressed to Winnipeg. Manitoba. and the other mailed from Pasadena. California on 10 March 1929 is addressed to Toronto. Ontario. The two types of purple cachets used are depicted on the covers.

Damaged in Plane Crash
PARK CITY, Utah
Dution, P.O Isp.

VIA AIR MAIL

Mr. E. Hauck
Toronto
Ontario
Canada.

CANADA
AIRMAIL FLIGHT COVERS
CANADIAN CRASH COVERS

Dawson Yukon to Aklavik. Yukon. 2 April 1929

Yukon Airways and Exploration Company Ltd. operated in the Yukon Territory commencing on 25 October 1927. The company's first plane was a Ryan monoplane. a sister ship of Lindbergh's aircraft. named "Queen of The Yukon".

On 2 April 1929 pilot A.D. Cruickshank flying the "Queen of The Yukon" from Dawson to Aklavik. crashed at Mayo and completely wrecked the aircraft. The small mail aboard was returned to Dawson. All envelopes flown received the .25¢ semi-official stamp of Yukon Airways and Exploration Company Ltd. as well as two cents for the Canadian postage rate.

AFTER FIVE DAYS RETURN TO

AIR MAIL

G. H. Linke,
Aklavik,
N. W. T.

AIR MAIL - Care of YUKON AIRWAYS & EXPLORATION CO., LTD., WHITE HORSE

AIR MAIL - Care of YUKON AIRWAYS & EXPLORATION CO., LTD., WHITE HORSE

CANADA
AIRMAIL FLIGHT COVERS
CANADIAN CRASH COVERS

Fort McPherson. Georgia. USA Pitcairn Aviation Inc. CAM-19. 13 September 1929

Pilot Sid Malloy of Pitcairn Aviation Inc., flying route CAM-19. New York to Atlanta. Georgia. was killed when his aircraft crashed at 5:40 am into a radio mast at Fort McPherson. Georgia. One hundred pounds of the 311 pounds of mail aboard the aircraft were salvaged in a burnt condition. Aboard the aircraft were many special first flight covers for the first trip of the Foreign Air Mail (FAM) extension from San Juan. Puerto Rico to Paramaribo. Dutch Guiana. South America. Various cachets in purple were applied to the damaged envelopes. the most prevalent being the two-line "Damaged in Plane Crash/ATLANTA. GA. SEPT. 13. '29". This cover. perhaps unique. bearing Canadian postage. was cancelled at Montreal. Quebec 12 September 1929. at San Juan. Puerto Rico 22 September 1929. and back stamped at St. Johns. Antigua. British West Indies on 25 September 1929. The purple crash cachet is on the back of this envelope.

Mr. A. V. Barrus
Postmaster
St.Johns,
Antigua

FIRST FLIGHT

VIA AIR MAIL

SAN JUAN — PARAMARIBO

CANADA
AIRMAIL FLIGHT COVERS
CANADIAN CRASH COVERS

St. Catharines. Ontario 13 September 1929

Canada Seeks Cause of Plane Crash Killing 6

5 Victims of Sightseeing Craft Were on First Flight at New Airport Opening

Wreck Offers Few Clues

Fear Flames Ruined Chance of Finger Recognition

On 13 September 1929 the Niagara District Airport at St. Catharines. Ontario was opened. Souvenir airport opening envelopes were prepared for the three day event - 13 to 15 September. The envelopes for 14 September marked the tragedy of the crash of the first aircraft to carry passengers from Homer Airport. All six aboard died in the fiery crash. Although the souvenir envelopes were not flown on the crashed aircraft. they do make a sober memento of the opening of the airport and of the aircraft's crash. The pilot was Frank Bradfield. a First World War aviator.

VIA AIR MAIL

L.O. NETZGAR
DRYDEN, N.W.
U.S.A.

CANADA
AIRMAIL FLIGHT COVERS
CANADIAN CRASH COVERS

Air Crash near Portland. Oregon 9 November 1929

Charred cover salvaged from an Eastbound Flight from Seattle. Washington. U.S.A., 9 November 1929. The aircraft piloted by Kenneth W. Neece, was carrying about 150 pounds of mail. Approximately two thirds of this mail was successfully salvaged. Beneath the cover. which has no backstamps. is mounted the P.O. slip enclosed with the salvaged mail. The envelope mailed from Victoria. B.C. on 4 November 1929 was destined for London. England.

N. L. Saville,
'Waldron'
Victoria B. C.

AIR MAIL

G. F. Priestley Esq.,
13 Harrington Square,
London, N. W.

Portland, Oregon
Nov. 9, 1929

The inclosed piece of air mail was burned in wrecked air plane near Portland, Oregon, November 9, 1929.

J. M. Jones,
Postmaster.

CANADA
AIRMAIL FLIGHT COVERS
CANADIAN CRASH COVERS

Portland, Oregon. USA Varney Air Lines Inc. CAM-32 9 November 1929

On 9 November 1929 at 7:00 p.m. on the Seattle to Pasco route in the State of Washington. Pilot Kenneth W. Neece's aircraft crashed and burnt at Portland, Oregon. One hundred pounds of mail, partially burnt, were salvaged and forwarded with a mimeographed notice to all addressees. Mail was aboard from both Portland, Oregon and Seattle, Washington. This envelope mailed at 7:00 p.m. on 9 November 1929 from Seattle, Washington. is addressed to Montreal, Quebec, Canada.

THE SECRETARY
SUN LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY OF CANADA,
MONTREAL,
CANADA.

(C.S.V. & Loan Section)

Portland, Oregon
Nov. 9, 1929

The inclosed piece of air mail was burned in wrecked air plane near Portland, Oregon, November 9, 1929.

J. M. Jones,
Postmaster.

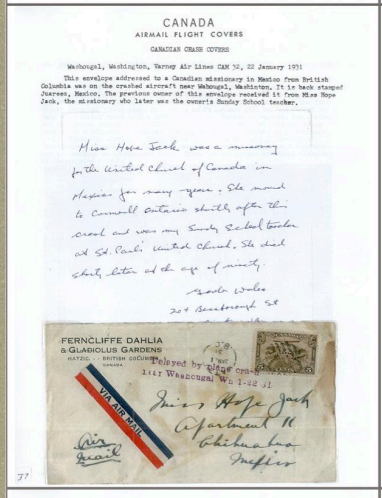
Dick Malott: Frame 3/8


CANADA
AIRMAIL FLIGHT COVERS
CANADIAN CRASH COVERS
Harbour Grace. Newfoundland to Croydon Airport. London. England 1930
On 9 October 1930 Captain J. Errol Boyd, a Canadian WW I pilot, and Lt. Harry P. Connor, an American WW I USN navigator, flew their monoplane the "Columbia" from Harbour Grace. Newfoundland to Croydon Airport, London. England. The flight ended in a forced landing near Land's End, England. Special overprint stamps were issued for the flight "Trans-Atlantic Air Mail. by B.M. "Columbia". September 1930. Fifty Cents". These two envelopes bearing regular postage, are autographed by Boyd and Connor.
33

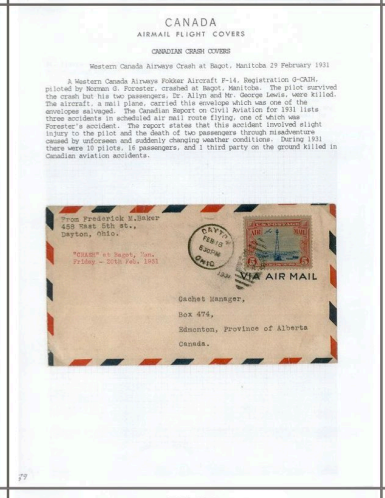

CANADA
AIRMAIL FLIGHT COVERS
CANADIAN CRASH COVERS
Atlanta. Georgia-Newark. New Jersey: Eastern Air Transport 12 November 1930
On 12 November 1930 pilot Dick Merrill while flying the night run from Atlanta Georgia to Newark, New Jersey, on CAM Route #19, ran into heavy fog after leaving Charlotte, North Carolina. He flew blind for some hours and then after running out of gas, he was forced to parachute to land. The aircraft crashed 20 miles from Shelby, N.C., near the town of Casar, N.C. Since the aircraft did not catch fire, all the mail was salvaged. There are four known surviving covers with sworn affidavits that the covers are authentic. Several dignitaries autographed this cover, as well as pilot Dick Merrill. Mr. John J. McHale, the addressee, who was a dedicated air mail collector and a mail carrier for the Halifax Nova Scotia post office. This envelope was cancelled and sailed from the Air Show at Charlotte, North Carolina on 11 November 1930 and backstamped at Halifax, Nova Scotia, on 14 November.
34


CANADA
AIRMAIL FLIGHT COVERS
CANADIAN CRASH COVERS
Alhambra, California. USA Western Air Express, Inc. CAM 4, 22 December 1930
On the USA Contract Air Mail Route No. 4, Salt Lake City, Utah to San Diego, California, at 2:40 a.m., 22 December 1930, Pilot Howard B. Dow's aircraft developed engine trouble and crash landed at Alhambra, California. There were 575 pounds of burnt and soaked mail salvaged and stamped with two-line purple cachet "DAMAGED BY AIR PLANE WRECK/DECEMBER 22, 1930". These two exhibited covers one, mailed from Winnipeg, Manitoba at 4:30 p.m. on 19 December 1930, was addressed to San Diego, California and the other mailed from Calgary, Alberta on 19 December 1930 was addressed to Walnut Park, California. The postage rate was five cents for the first ounce to the USA.
35


CANADA
AIRMAIL FLIGHT COVERS
CANADIAN CRASH COVERS
Washougal, Washington, Varney Air Lines CAM 32, 22 January 1931
On this route between Seattle and Pasco, Washington, USA, an aircraft of Varney Air Lines, piloted by E. Case, struck a cliff at Beldy Mountain. The aircraft was destroyed and the pilot killed. The wreckage was located on 29 January, 7 days after the crash. There were 250 pounds of mail salvaged, water and oil soaked. The mail was forwarded to Portland, Oregon with special cachets applied, as depicted, to the salvaged envelopes. This envelope, mailed in Vancouver, British Columbia on 21 January 1931, and addressed to Toronto, Ontario, was being transported via the USA for faster service since there was no Canadian air mail service across the Canadian Rockies in January 1931. The postage rate for such air mail service was five cents.
8

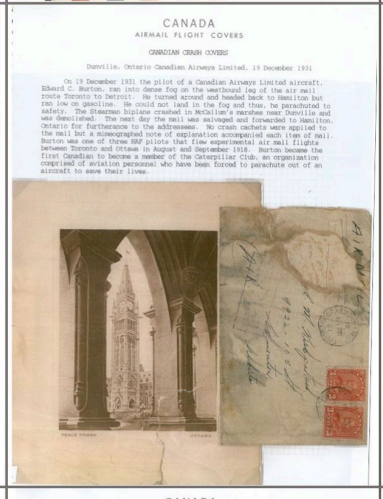

CANADA
AIRMAIL FLIGHT COVERS
CANADIAN CRASH COVERS
Washougal, Washington, Varney Air Lines CAM 32, 22 January 1931
This envelope addressed to a Canadian missionary in Mexico from British Columbia was on the crashed aircraft near Washougal, Washington, It is back stamped Juarez, Mexico. The previous owner of this envelope received it from Miss Hope Jack, the missionary who later was the owner's Sunday School teacher.
37

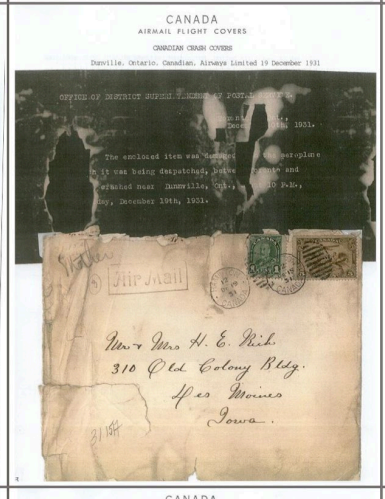

CANADA
AIRMAIL FLIGHT COVERS
CANADIAN CRASH COVERS
St. John's to Hampden. Newfoundland. Newfoundland Airways Ltd. 29 January 1931
Pilots A.D. Sullivan and D.C. Fraser of Newfoundland Airways Ltd., were contracted to fly their "Moth" to isolated Newfoundland outposts during the winter months in early 1931. The route of 660 miles from St. John's to St. Anthony via Hampden, Western Arm and Conche was very hazardous. The first flight departed, Cuidi Vidi, St. John's on 29 January 1931 but was forced to land at Batting Brook with a broken oil line. Delays in repairs, bad weather and unexpected storms during flight resulted in the mail delivery not being made until 8 February at Hampden, Western Arm and St. Anthony on 15 February 1931. These two envelopes cancelled at St. John's on 2 and 28 January 1931 (autographed by pilot A.D. Sullivan) were delivered to Hampden on 8 February and St. Anthony on 13 February 1991. These two covers are excellent examples of interrupted flights.
8

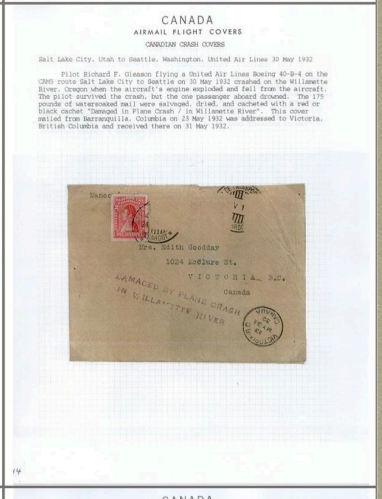

CANADA
AIRMAIL FLIGHT COVERS
CANADIAN CRASH COVERS
Western Canada Airways Crash at Bagot, Manitoba 29 February 1931
A Western Canada Airways Fokker Aircraft F-14. Registration G-CAIN, piloted by Norman G. Forester, crashed at Bagot, Manitoba. The pilot survived the crash but his two passengers, Dr. Allyn and Mr. George Lewis, were killed. The aircraft, a mail plane, carried this envelope which was one of the envelopes salvaged. The Canadian Report on Civil Aviation for 1931 lists three accidents in scheduled air mail route flying, one of which was Forester's accident. The report states that this accident involved slight injury to the pilot and the death of two passengers through misadventure caused by unforseen and suddenly changing weather conditions. During 1931 there were 10 pilots, 16 passengers, and 1 third party on the ground killed in Canadian aviation accidents.
79

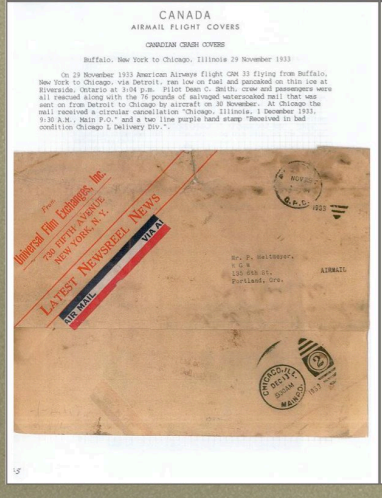

CANADA
AIRMAIL FLIGHT COVERS
CANADIAN CRASH COVERS
St. Pierre - St. John's. Newfoundland - Sydney, Nova Scotia,Maritime and Newfoundland Airways. August 1931
A scheme to transport mail by Maritime and Newfoundland Airways between the Maritimes, Newfoundland and St. Pierre failed because Charles H. Roy, pilot and manager of the Airways, did not obtain approval from any of the three governments, his illegal attempt to begin the service was held up by fog, and because on 6 August 1931 when taxiing for a take-off in a load of mail he hit a dead-head log damaging a pontoon. The mail with all the special vignettes was returned to senders.
40

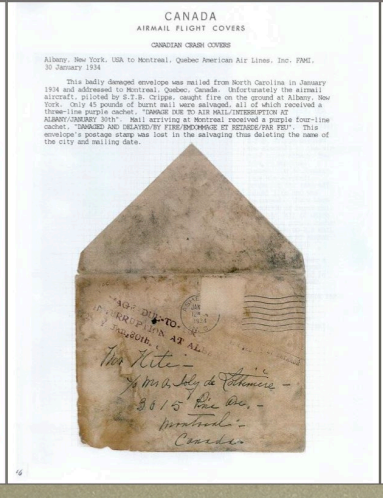

CANADA
AIRMAIL FLIGHT COVERS
CANADIAN CRASH COVERS
Maritime and Newfoundland Airways 1931
The status of the envelopes and vignettes of the Maritime and Newfoundland Airways is revealed by a hand-written letter by Charles H. Roy, Pilot and Manager of the Airways dated 16 December 1930. The American air mail cover dealer A.C. Roessler of East Orange, New Jersey is advised of the difficulties of weather and bureaucracy. The envelopes were eventually prepared in August 1931 but weather still interposed as indicated by this telegram dated 6 August 1931. The project was refused support by the Canadian Post Office and thus all mail was returned with apologies to the senders.
77

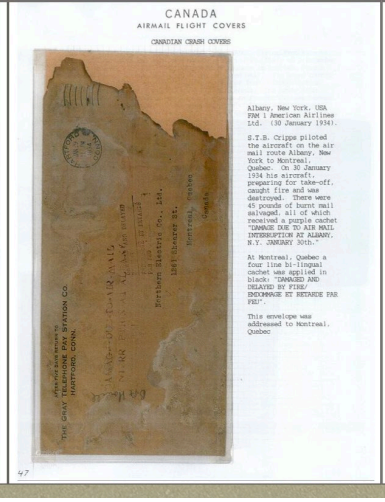

CANADA
AIRMAIL FLIGHT COVERS
CANADIAN CRASH COVERS
Dunville. Ontario Canadian Airways Limited. 19 December 1931
On 19 December 1931 the pilot of a Canadian Airways Limited aircraft, Edward C. Burton, ran into dense fog on the westbound leg of the air mail route Toronto to Detroit. He turned around and headed back to Hamilton but ran low on gasoline. He could not land in the fog and thus, he parachuted to safety. The Eleeman biplane crashed in McCallum's marshes near Dunville and was demolished. The next day the mail was salvaged and forwarded to Hamilton, Ontario for furtherance to the addressees. No crash cachets were applied to the mail but a mimeographed note of explanation accompanied each item of mail. Burton was one of three RAF pilots that flew experimental air mail flights between Toronto and Ottawa in August and September 1918. Burton became the first Canadian to become a member of the Caterpillar Club, an organization comprised of aviation personnel who have been forced to parachute out of an aircraft to save their lives.
8


CANADA
AIRMAIL FLIGHT COVERS
CANADIAN CRASH COVERS
Dunville. Ontario. Canadian. Airways Limited 19 December 1931
79


CANADA
AIRMAIL FLIGHT COVERS
CANADIAN CRASH COVERS
Salt Lake City. Utah to Seattle. Washington. United Air Lines 30 May 1932
Pilot Richard F. Gleason flying a United Air Lines Boeing 40-B-4 on the CAM5 route Salt Lake City to Seattle on 30 May 1932 crashed on the Willamette River, Oregon when the aircraft's engine exploded and fell from the aircraft. The pilot survived the crash, but the one passenger aboard drowned. The 175 pounds of waterseaked mail were salvaged, dried, and cachseted with a red or black cachet "Damaged in Plane Crash / in Willamette River". This cover mailed from Barranquilla, Columbia on 23 May 1932 was addressed to Victoria, British Columbia and received there on 31 May 1932.
14


CANADA
AIRMAIL FLIGHT COVERS
CANADIAN CRASH COVERS
Buffalo. New York to Chicago. Illinois 29 November 1933
On 29 November 1933 American Airways flight CAM 33 flying from Buffalo, New York to Chicago, via Detroit, ran low on fuel and pancaked on thin ice at Riverside, Ontario at 3:04 p.m. Pilot Dean C. Smith, crew and passengers were all rescued along with the 76 pounds of salvaged waterseaked mail that was sent on from Detroit to Chicago by aircraft on 30 November. At Chicago the mail received a circular cancellation "Chicago, Illinois. 1 December 1933. 9:30 A.M., Main P.O." and a two line purple hand stamp "Received in bad condition Chicago L Delivery Div.".
15


CANADA
AIRMAIL FLIGHT COVERS
CANADIAN CRASH COVERS
Albany. New York. USA to Montreal. Quebec American Air Lines. Inc. FAM1. 30 January 1934
This badly damaged envelope was mailed from North Carolina in January 1934 and addressed to Montreal, Quebec, Canada. Unfortunately the airmail aircraft, piloted by S.T.B. Cripps, caught fire on the ground at Albany, New York. Only 45 pounds of burnt mail were salvaged, all of which received a three-line purple cachet "DAMAGE DUE TO AIR MAIL/INTERRUPTION AT ALBANY/JANUARY 30th". Mail arriving at Montreal received a purple four-line cachet. "DAMAGED AND DELAYED/BY FIRE/ENCOURAGE BY RETARDS/PAR FEU". This envelope's postage stamp was lost in the salvaging thus deleting the name of the city and mailing date.
16


CANADA
AIRMAIL FLIGHT COVERS
CANADIAN CRASH COVERS
Albany, New York. USA
FAM 1 American Airlines Ltd. (30 January 1934).
S.T.B. Cripps piloted the aircraft on the air mail route Albany, New York to Montreal, Quebec. On 30 January 1934 his aircraft, preparing for take-off, caught fire and was destroyed. There were 45 pounds of burnt mail salvaged, all of which received a purple cachet "DAMAGE DUE TO AIR MAIL INTERRUPTION AT ALBANY, N.Y. JANUARY 30th."
At Montreal, Quebec a four line bi-lingual cachet was applied in black: "DAMAGED AND DELAYED BY FIRE/ ENCOURAGE BY RETARDS PAR FEU".
This envelope was addressed to Montreal, Quebec
47


CANADA
AIRMAIL FLIGHT COVERS
CANADIAN CRASH COVERS
Brindisi. Italy. Imperial Airways Flying Boat Crash 5 December 1937
The Imperial Airways flying boat "Cygnus", G-ADEZ, flying from Karachi, India to England crashed and sank on take-off at Brindisi, Italy on 5 December 1937. Two aboard were killed. Ten varieties of cachets in English, French and German are known to have been applied to salvaged mail. The boxed cachet in black reads "DAMAGED by Sea/Water" on the envelope from Colombo, Ceylon addressed to Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, Canada. The cover from Jodhpur, India to Courtney, British Columbia states in French "Correspondence delayed by an aircraft accident. Please do not tax". Despite this request because of the missing stamps, Canada Post Office taxed the recipient twenty cents.

Dick Malott: Frame 4/8

CANADA
AIRMAIL FLIGHT COVERS
CANADIAN CRASH COVERS

Regina, Saskatchewan Trans Canada Airlines 18 November 1938

This envelope from the Union of South Africa, addressed to Salmon Arm, B.C. was salvaged from Trans Canada Airlines first air crash, on 18 November 1938, at a site two miles west of Regina, Saskatchewan. The twin engine Lockheed 10A aircraft and the 10 to 12 bags of mail were badly burned. The crew of two, including Captain D.O. Imrie, were killed in the crash. This is the second known identified salvaged envelope reported from this crash. The official envelope returning this damaged envelope was from Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan and postmarked at Vancouver, B.C., 21 November 1938.

OFFICIAL BUSINESS ONLY
O.H.M.S.
Damaged Air Mail letter enclosed
Cover supplied at Moose Jaw
D. Calver
Salmon Arm, B.C.
CANADA POST OFFICE
VANCOUVER NOV 21 1938 B.C.
D. Calver
Salmon Arm.
British Columbia

CANADA
AIRMAIL FLIGHT COVERS
CANADIAN CRASH COVERS

Toronto, Ontario to Vancouver, British Columbia Trans-Canada Air Lines. Regina, Saskatchewan Crash 18 November 1938

Captain Dave Imrie and First Officer Jack Herald were killed when their twin engined Lockheed aircraft crashed and burned in a farmer's field two miles west of Regina. The 10 to 12 bags of mail were badly damaged and received no cachet except an "821" marking in purple. Only three covers are known to exist. This was TCA's first crash and loss of life. The Canada Post ambulance cover to deliver the damaged letter and cover to Mr. R.W. Millard in Vancouver, B.C. had been cut down on the right side.

The second cover from Toronto, Ontario dated 16 November addressed to Vancouver, British Columbia also has a clear "821" marking.

OFFICIAL BUSINESS ONLY
Damaged Air Mail Letter Enclosed.
Cover supplied
CANADA POST OFFICE
VIA AIR MAIL
Mr. R. W. Millard
2005 Court St.
Vancouver
B.C.
BY AIR MAIL PAR AVION
821
Mrs. R. L. Bollert
180 10th Ave W
Vancouver B.C.

CANADA
AIRMAIL FLIGHT COVERS
CANADIAN CRASH COVERS

Crash of the Flying Boat "Calpurnia". 27 November 1938

Air crashes throughout the world often carried mail from or to Canada. This envelope was a first day cover dated 15 November 1938 of the 13 cent Canadian stamp depicting the entrance to Halifax Harbour. The envelope registered No. 724 at Ottawa on 15 November 1938 was addressed to a Mr. John F. Johnson, 62 King Street, Wanganui, New Zealand. It bears on the back cancellations dated 15 November 1938 at Montreal, Quebec and Whangarei, New Zealand dated 10 January 1939. On the front are two, two-lined cachets in purple "RECEIVED IN DAMAGED CONDITION/EX FLYING BOAT CALPURNIA".

The "Calpurnia", a S-23 Empire Flying Boat operated by Imperial Airways, was on a flight from Lake Tiberius (Galilee) in Palestine to Lake Habbaniyah in Iraq. The "Calpurnia" took off at 1218 hours GMT and was seen flying over Lake Habbaniyah between 1515 and 1530 GMT. The weather was bad and a cold front had given rise to a sandstorm creating poor visibility. While positioning to land the aircraft flew into the water killing the commander of the aircraft, Captain Attwood, and the First Officer, Mr. Spottiswood, as well as two passengers. Two crew members survived the crash. The balance of the payload was Christmas mail which was subsequently salvaged by the Royal Air Force.

FIRST DAY OF ISSUE
RECEIVED IN DAMAGED CONDITION
EX FLYING BOAT CALPURNIA
Mr John F. Johnson,
62 King Street,
Wanganui,
New Zealand.
Airmail-Par Avion Via England
ORIGINAL MS.

CANADA
AIRMAIL FLIGHT COVERS
CANADIAN CRASH COVERS

Lumbo, Mozambique Imperial Airways 1 May 1939

The Imperial flying boat G-AZVB "CHALLENGER", on its flight from England to South Africa crashed at Lumbo, Mozambique when it struck a small boat while landing on 1 May 1939. Three crew members were killed.

This envelope mailed from Montreal, Quebec on 13 April 1939 and destined for Capetown, South Africa, is marked with a boxed two-line cachet in English and Afrikaner. In English it states, "Flying Boat Correspondence Damaged By Seawater". There were five other types of cachets or markings placed on the salvaged mail.

FLYING BOAT CORRESPONDENCE DAMAGED BY SEAWATER
BRIEFWISSELING VERMIST DOOR WATER BESCHADIGD
* 06
BARCLAYS BANK (D.C. & O.),
CAPETOWN,
SOUTH AFRICA.

CANADA
AIRMAIL FLIGHT COVERS
CANADIAN CRASH COVERS

Imperial Airways Crash at Hoogly, India near Calcutta, 12 June 1939

Imperial Airways flying boat "Centurion" flying from Sydney, Australia to England on 8 June 1939 had an accident while landing on the Hoogly River near Calcutta on 12 June 1939. The crew and 4 passengers were rescued and 40 bags of mail were salvaged. There were 17 variations of the 2 line cachet on the salvaged mail, "SALVAGED MAIL/EX. CENTURION".

This registered letter "Singapore 2 - 3918" was addressed to Calgary, Alberta. The stamps and most of the postal cancellations on the back are missing due to water emersion. A letter of explanation from the Post Office Department, Canada, dated 7 July 1939, apologizes for the delay.

Registration Label to be affixed here.
Returned Letter No. F.L. 7620.
On His Majesty's Service
R SINGAPORE 2 3918
B. Home Esq.
2709, Montcalm Street
Calgary
Alberta
Canada
SALVAGED MAIL EX CENTURION

CANADA
AIRMAIL FLIGHT COVERS
CANADIAN CRASH COVERS

Imperial Airways Crash at Hoogly, India near Calcutta, 12 June 1939

24.86
Reference No. Insp. 10112.

Post Office Department, Canada
GENERAL SUPERINTENDENT OF POSTAL SERVICE
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF INSPECTOR
Ottawa, July 7th, 1939.

REGISTERED

Dear Sir:-

I beg to enclose Registered article "Singapore 2-3918", addressed to you.

The British Postal Authorities advise that the article was salvaged from the Air Liner "Centurion" which met with an accident near Calcutta on June 18th.

Encl.

Yours truly,

H. Fortier
H. Fortier,
Chief Inspector.

B. Home, Esq.,
2709 Montcalm Crescent,
Calgary, Alberta.

CANADA
AIRMAIL FLIGHT COVERS
CANADIAN CRASH COVERS

Imperial Airways Crash at Luxeuil/Selms, France, 11 August 1939

On 11 August 1939 the Imperial Airways aircraft piloted by Captain Scott on the route London, England to Zurich, Switzerland, made a forced landing at Saint Sauveur near Luxeuil (Haute Saône) France. After landing safely the aircraft caught fire and was destroyed. The crew and nine passengers escaped safely and part of the mail was salvaged in damaged condition. The mail received different cachets in red or violet ink.

This post card depicting "Le Château Frontenac" in Quebec City, Quebec, was mailed on 1 August 1939 to Geneva, Switzerland. The card is taxed 10 francs since part of the postage was lost and it has a two-line cachet in red "Endommagée lors de l'accident survenu à l'avion postal à Luxeuil" (Damaged in an aircraft accident at Luxeil).

AU DÉPART CANADA PITTORESQUE
QUEBEC
Mr. & Mrs. Schmid
Bd. de St. Agnes 12
Genève
T 10
Switzerland
Carte à 10 francs postal à taxer.

CANADA
AIRMAIL FLIGHT COVERS
CANADIAN CRASH COVERS

TRANS CANADA AIRLINES CRASH ARMSTRONG ONT. 5 FEB. 1941

On 5 February 1941 a Trans-Canada Airlines aircraft, flying from Montreal to Winnipeg, Manitoba, crashed near Armstrong, Ontario. Some mail was recovered from the crash and taken to Winnipeg where it received a circular magenta handstamped, "Airmail Inspection/Winnipeg District/12 April 1941". This envelope was posted at Oshawa, Ontario on 5 February 1941. It suffered oil stains and water damage. A two-line cachet in purple is on the front: "SALVAGED FROM T.C.A./ CRASH OF FEBRUARY 5/41".

SALVAGED FROM T.C.A. CRASH OF FEB. 5/41
TCA

CANADA
AIRMAIL FLIGHT COVERS
CANADIAN CRASH COVERS

Armstrong, Ontario Crash : Trans-Canada Air Lines 5 February 1941

This rare Bahrain, Persian Gulf crash cover was part of the salvaged mail from the Trans-Canada Air Lines crash at Armstrong, Ontario on 5 February 1941, Mailed on 3 January 1941, the back of the envelope is cancelled 7 February 1941 at Transcona, Manitoba. Since the envelope did not receive the normal crash cachet, the Postmaster at Winnipeg verified that it was salvaged from the crash of 7 February 1941. The postal rate was 15 annas - 12 annas plus three annas on the back of the envelope.

By Air Mail
Par Avion
AIR MAIL
Mr. A. Cunningham,
165, Kinclaven Avenue West,
Transcona,
(Nr. Winnipeg)
Manitoba
Dominion of Canada
This Letter was in
The Armstrong Ontario Canada
Aeroplane Wreck
and was received at Transcona
Manitoba, on 7th February, 1941.
and forwarded by Postmaster at Winnipeg
Signed Manitoba
Alexander Cunningham
Husband of
Mrs A. Cunningham
at 165 Kinclaven Ave West
Transcona Manitoba

CANADA
AIRMAIL FLIGHT COVERS
CANADIAN CRASH COVERS

North Bay Interrupted Mail 25 September 1941

This is a true interrupted air mail cover, in lieu of a crash cover. This envelope was one in an air mail bag that was lost from a mail compartment in a Trans-Canada Airlines aircraft over North Bay, Ontario on 25 September 1941. The mail bag was found on or about 1 October 1941.

The envelope is dated 25 September 1941 at Ottawa, Ontario and stamped on the back 1 October 1941, at the District Undelivered Mail Section, North Bay, Ontario. The envelope was addressed to the Provincial Mental Institute, Edmonton, Alberta where a Dr. W. Scott Hamilton obtained and kept it for 48 years. The envelope received no cachet to explain its condition nor its late arrival. A statement from Dr. Hamilton explained what happened.

VIA AIR MAIL
Mrs W. J. Mc Alister
c/o Dr. W. J. Mc Alister
Provincial Mental Institute
Edmonton
Alberta

CANADA
AIRMAIL FLIGHT COVERS
CANADIAN CRASH COVERS

Northwest Airlines flight from Minneapolis to Seattle crashed landed at Moorhead, Minnesota on 30 October 1941, Pilot Clarence Bates survived and 745 pounds of burnt mail were salvaged. Two different cachets were used on the mail but this salvaged envelope to White Court, Alberta could not take a cachet so a cacheted chit was added and nailed in the US Post Office "soffix envelope".

DAMAGE DUE TO AIR MAIL INTERRUPTION NEAR ELCHERO, ONT. OCTOBER 30, 1941.
Construction Co. Ltd., White Court, Alberta.
POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT
P. O. FARGO, N. DAK.
OFFICIAL BUSINESS
Western Construction Co., Ltd.,
White Court, Alberta.

CANADA
AIRMAIL FLIGHT COVERS
CANADIAN CRASH COVERS

Sheddon, Ontario, American Airlines AMC 30 October 1941

The remains of a letter salvaged from the American Airlines aircraft crash at Sheddon, Ontario on 30 October 1941 had to be packaged in a cellophane container and then mailed to the addressee in a U.S. Post Office ambulance cover. A small official note was enclosed reading, "Enclosed mail damaged in plane near Sheddon, Ontario Oct. 30, 1941. Roscoe B. Huston, Postmaster, Detroit, Mich.".

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT
POST OFFICE, DETROIT, MICH.
OFFICIAL BUSINESS
Inclosed mail damaged in plane near Sheddon, Ontario, Oct. 30, 1941.
Roscoe B. Huston, Postmaster, Detroit, Mich.

CANADA
AIRMAIL FLIGHT COVERS
CANADIAN CRASH COVERS

Sheddon, Ontario, American Airlines AMC 30 October 1941

This damaged cover addressed to a Private Leo Blumenthal, Fort Knox, Kentucky, is from the American Airlines Aircraft crash at Sheddon, Ontario, 30 October 1941. The letter was written in German and mailed 5 weeks before the U.S.A. entered the Second World War. A covering "ambulance" envelope is dated 5 November 1941.

TTK MOTT
Pvt. LEO BLUMENTHAL
A.O.16th Engr. Bn (A)
Fort Knox, Ky.
RECEIVED FROM POST OFFICE AT AMHERST, NOVA SCOTIA, CANADA
POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT
POST OFFICE, DETROIT, MICH.
OFFICIAL BUSINESS
AIR MAIL
IMPORTANT OFFICIAL MAIL
NO POSTAGE REQUIRED
Pvt Leo Blumenthal
A Co 16th Engr Bn A
Fort Knox Ky

CANADA
AIRMAIL FLIGHT COVERS
CANADIAN CRASH COVERS

This salvaged Canadian Forces air letter form was mailed by a mother from St. Thomas, Ontario on 9 March 1944 to her son Private R.J. Newton, somewhere in Europe. A service aircraft crash sometime in March 1944 delayed the delivery of this air letter to Private Newton who by 10 August 1944 had returned to Canada. The postal markings tell the story.

AIR LETTER TO ARMED FORCES
SALVAGED FROM AIR CRASH
BY AIR MAIL
IF ANYTHING IS ENCLOSED, THIS LETTER WILL BE SENT BY ORDINARY MAIL.
AFFIX 10c POSTAGE FOR U.K.
Number, Rank or Rating and Name
Unit (Company, Battery, Ship, Squadron, etc.)
Regiment, Branch, Establishment or Station
Service
FROM (Sender's full name and address)

CANADA
AIRMAIL FLIGHT COVERS
CANADIAN CRASH COVERS

This service air letter form from HMCS Ingonish on 17 March 1944 was salvaged from one of the many air crashes during World War II. A purple cachet on the front "SALVAGED FROM/AIR CRASH" explains the soiled condition of the air letter.

ARMED FORCES AIR LETTER
AIR MAIL
SALVAGED FROM AIR CRASH
TO: CAPT. C.M. WESTCOTT
DIV. SEC. & CON. HQRS.
DIV. SUB-PARA.
CANADIAN ARMY
CENTRAL MED. FORCES.

CANADA
AIRMAIL FLIGHT COVERS
CANADIAN CRASH COVERS

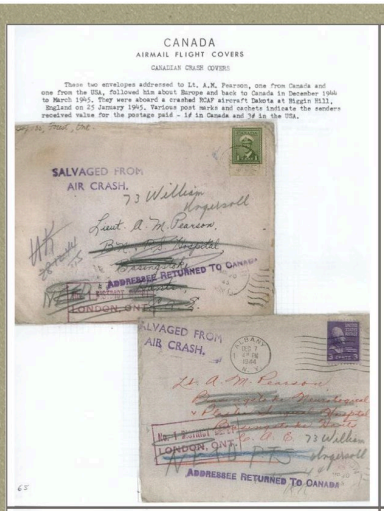
The war-time delivery of mail to Canadian Armed Forces personnel was on occasion interrupted by air crashes. This crash cover addressed to an officer of the Royal 22nd Regiment in the Canadian Army Overseas was mailed from London, England on 20 March 1944.

On Ready
Oct 6-8-44
Captain J.M. Chicoine,
Royal 22nd Regiment,
Canadian Army Overseas.
RECORDS MAY BE ADDRESSED AS
FROM

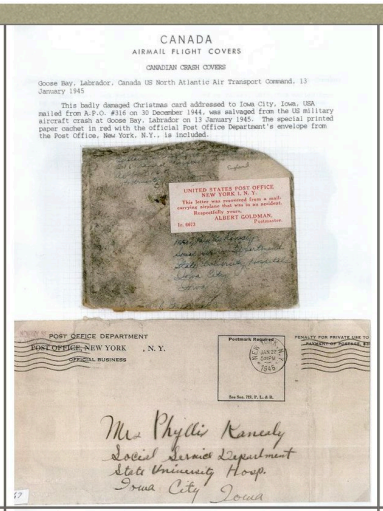
This envelope mailed from Field Post Office 313 somewhere in Italy during WW II was from this same aircraft crash. The location of the crash is not known. The rate using United States postage was six cents.

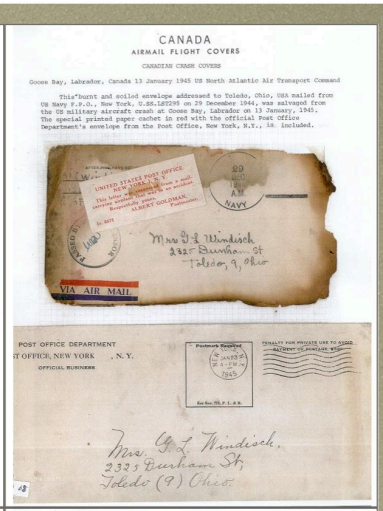
P.O. Alexander, Lt.
Loc. C. Co. H.Q.
SALVAGED FROM AIR CRASH.
Mrs. H. Alexander
182 Queen's Crescent
Kingston, Ontario,
Canada
P.O. Alexander

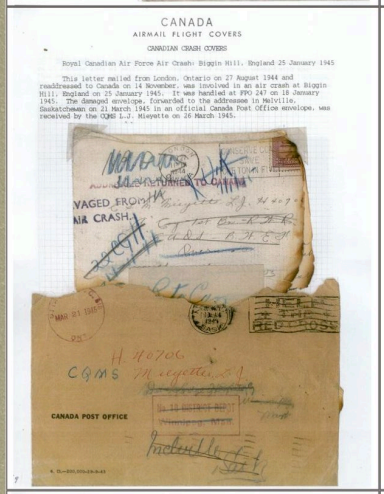
Dick Malott: Frame 5/8

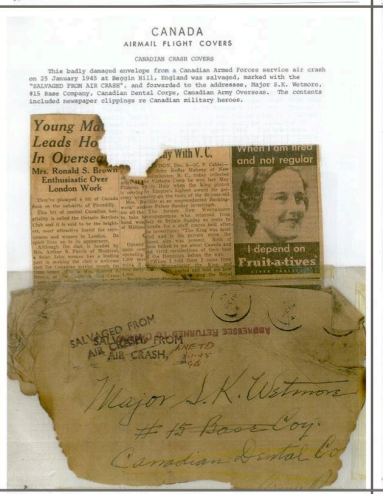

CANADA
AIRMAIL FLIGHT COVERS
CANADIAN CRASH COVERS
These two envelopes addressed to Lt. A.M. Pearson, one from Canada and one from the USA, followed him about Europe and back to Canada in December 1944 to March 1945. They were aboard a crashed RCAF aircraft Dakota at Biggin Hill, England on 25 January 1945. Various post marks and cachets indicate the senders received value for the postage paid - 1¢ in Canada and 3¢ in the USA.
SALVAGED FROM AIR CRASH.
ABDRESSEE RETURNED TO CANADA
SALVAGED FROM AIR CRASH.
ABDRESSEE RETURNED TO CANADA

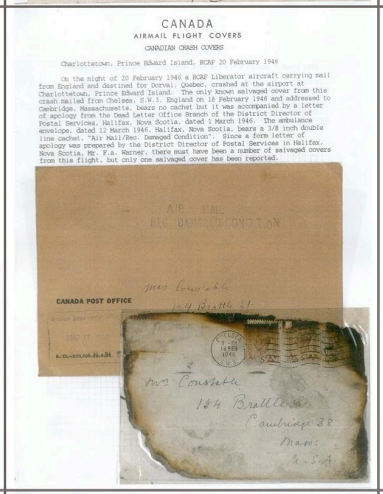

CANADA
AIRMAIL FLIGHT COVERS
Canadian Crash Covers
RCAF Air Mail Crash in England March 1944
The delivery of mail to Canadian service personnel overseas was sometimes marred by aircraft crashes. These two Canadian Armed Forces Air Letters from Canada - Niagara Falls, Ontario dated 21 March 1944 and RMCS Stadacona F.M.O. Halifax, Nova Scotia 16 March 1944 - were damaged but salvaged from an air crash, cachseted "Salvaged From Air Crash" and then forwarded to the addressee.
ARMED FORCES AIR LETTER
AIR MAIL
ARMED FORCES AIR LETTER
AIR MAIL

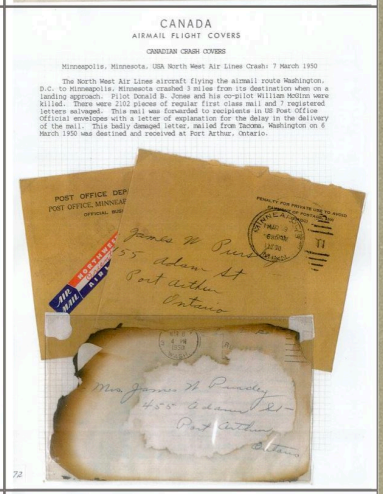

CANADA
AIRMAIL FLIGHT COVERS
CANADIAN CRASH COVERS
Goose Bay, Labrador. Canada US North Atlantic Air Transport Command. 13 January 1945
This badly damaged Christmas card addressed to Iowa City, Iowa, USA mailed from A.P.O. #316 on 30 December 1944, was salvaged from the US military aircraft crash at Goose Bay, Labrador on 13 January 1945. The special printed paper cachet in red with the official Post Office Department's envelope from the Post Office, New York, N.Y., is included.
UNITED STATES POST OFFICE NEW YORK, N.Y.
POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT
POST OFFICE, NEW YORK, N.Y.
OFFICIAL BUSINESS
Mrs. Phyllis Kanealy
Social Service Department
State University Hosp.
Iowa City, Iowa

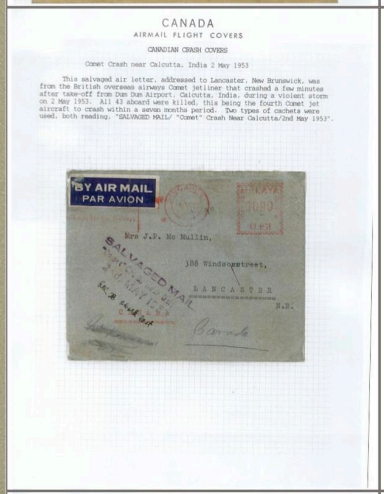

CANADA
AIRMAIL FLIGHT COVERS
CANADIAN CRASH COVERS
Goose Bay, Labrador, Canada 13 January 1945 US North Atlantic Air Transport Command
This burnt and soiled envelope addressed to Toledo, Ohio, USA mailed from US Navy F.P.O., New York, U.S.S.LST295 on 29 December 1944, was salvaged from the US military aircraft crash at Goose Bay, Labrador on 13 January, 1945. The special printed paper cachet in red with the official Post Office Department's envelope from the Post Office, New York, N.Y., is included.
UNITED STATES POST OFFICE NEW YORK, N.Y.
NAVY
VIA AIR MAIL
POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT
POST OFFICE, NEW YORK, N.Y.
OFFICIAL BUSINESS
Mrs. O.L. Windisch.
2325 Dunham St.
Toledo (9) Ohio


CANADA
AIRMAIL FLIGHT COVERS
CANADIAN CRASH COVERS
Royal Canadian Air Force Air Crash: Biggin Hill, England 25 January 1945
This letter mailed from London, Ontario on 27 August 1944 and readdressed to Canada on 14 November, was involved in an air crash at Biggin Hill, England on 25 January 1945. It was handled at FPO 247 on 18 January 1945. The damaged envelope, forwarded to the addressee in Melville, Saskatchewan on 21 March 1945 in an official Canada Post Office envelope, was received by the O/C No. 1 J. Misyette on 26 March 1945.
SALVAGED FROM AIR CRASH.
CANADA POST OFFICE

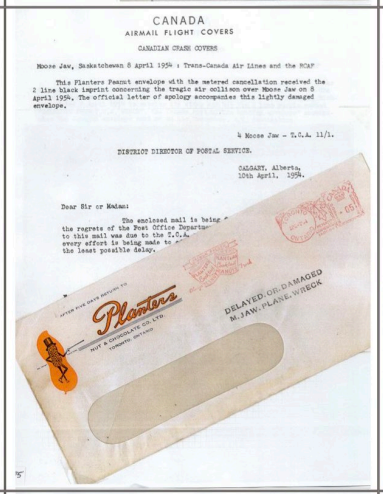

CANADA
AIRMAIL FLIGHT COVERS
CANADIAN CRASH COVERS
This badly damaged envelope from a Canadian Armed Forces service air crash on 25 January 1945 at Biggin Hill, England was salvaged, marked with the "SALVAGED FROM AIR CRASH", and forwarded to the addressee, Major S.K. Wetmore, 615 Base Company, Canadian Dental Corps, Canadian Army Overseas. The contents included newspaper clippings re Canadian military heroes.
Young Ma... Leads Ho... In Overse...
Mrs. Ronald S. Brown Enthusiastic Over London Work
...By With V. C.
What I am tired and not regular
I depend on Fruit-a-tives
SALVAGED FROM AIR CRASH.
Major S.K. Wetmore
#15 Base Coy.
Canadian Dental Co

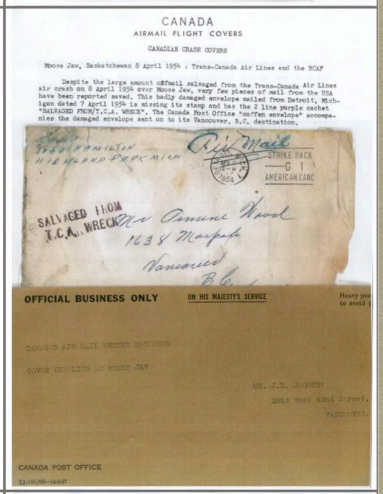

CANADA
AIRMAIL FLIGHT COVERS
CANADIAN CRASH COVERS
Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, RCAF 20 February 1946
On the night of 20 February 1946 a RCAF Liberator aircraft carrying mail from England and destined for Dorval, Quebec, crashed at the airport at Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island. The only known salvaged cover from this crash mailed from Chelsea, S.W.3, England on 18 February 1946 and addressed to Cambridge, Massachusetts, bears no cachet but it was accompanied by a letter of apology from the Dead Letter Office Branch of the District Director of Postal Services, Halifax, Nova Scotia, dated 1 March 1946. The ambulance envelope, dated 12 March 1946, Halifax, Nova Scotia, bears a 3/8 inch double line cachet, "Air Mail/Exc. Damaged Condition". Since a form letter of apology was prepared by the District Director of Postal Services in Halifax, Nova Scotia, Mr. F.A. Warner, there must have been a number of salvaged covers from this flight, but only one salvaged cover has been reported.
CANADA POST OFFICE

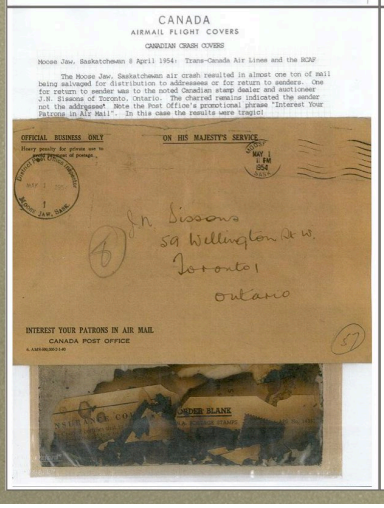

CANADA
AIRMAIL FLIGHT COVERS
CANADIAN CRASH COVERS
Minneapolis, Minnesota, USA North West Air Lines Crash: 7 March 1950
The North West Air Lines aircraft flying the airmail route Washington, D.C. to Minneapolis, Minnesota crashed 3 miles from its destination when on a landing approach. Pilot Donald B. Jones and his co-pilot William McGinn were killed. There were 2102 pieces of regular first class mail and 7 registered letters salvaged. This mail was forwarded to recipients in US Post Office Official envelopes with a letter of explanation for the delay in the delivery of the mail. This badly damaged letter, mailed from Tacoma, Washington on 6 March 1950 was destined and received at Fort Arthur, Ontario.
AIR MAIL
SOUVENIR

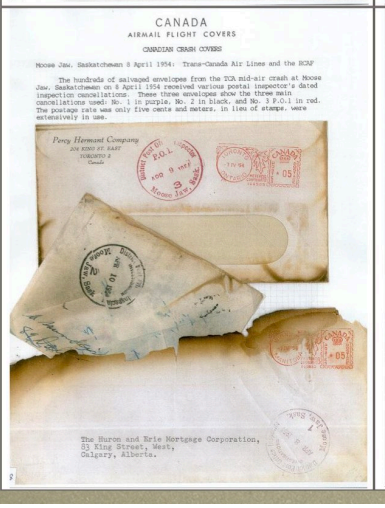

CANADA
AIRMAIL FLIGHT COVERS
CANADIAN CRASH COVERS
Comet Crash near Calcutta, India 2 May 1953
This salvaged air letter, addressed to Lancaster, New Brunswick, was from the British overseas airways Comet jetliner that crashed a few minutes after take-off from Dum Dum Airport, Calcutta, India, during a violent storm on 2 May 1953. All 43 aboard were killed, this being the fourth Comet jet aircraft to crash within a seven months period. Two types of cachets were used, both reading, "SALVAGED MAIL/ "Comet" Crash Near Calcutta/2nd May 1953".
BY AIR MAIL PAR AVION
SALVAGED MAIL
Mrs J.P. Mc Mullin,
188 Windsorstreet,
LANCASTER
N.B.
Canada

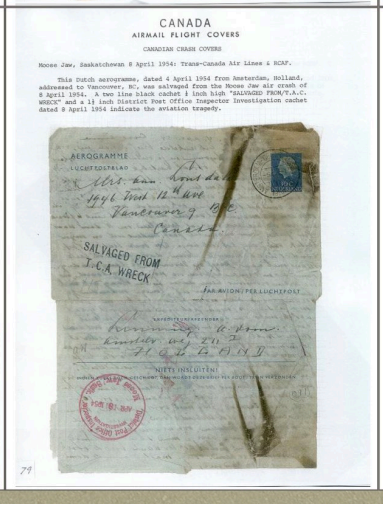

CANADA
AIRMAIL FLIGHT COVERS
SALVAGED FROM T.C.A. WRECK
All B.C. Crew Aboard TCA Aircraft Perish
Fiery North Star Plunges Into Moose Jaw Homes
MOOSE JAW—Thirty-seven people were killed today when a westbound Trans-Canada Air Lines North Star and an RCAF training plane collided over northern Moose Jaw and crashed in flames.
CRASH SCENE
Eyewitness: 'I Watched Wing Drop'
CAPT. IAN HENRY BELL, 3006 West Second, Vancouver.
FIRST OFFICER DOUGLAS W. GUTHRIE, Sr., 102, 385 Kyle Terrace, ...
EDWARD LOUIE H. PENNER, 1505 Mary avenue, New Westminster.
STEWARDESS MARJORIE QUINNEY, 2850 Pine, Vancouver.

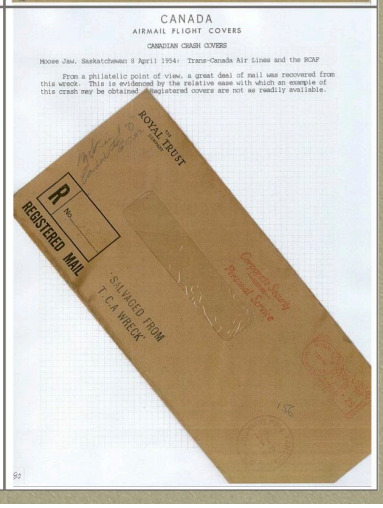

CANADA
AIRMAIL FLIGHT COVERS
CANADIAN CRASH COVERS
Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan 8 April 1954 : Trans-Canada Air Lines and the RCAF
This Planters Peanut envelope with the metered cancellation received the 2 line black imprint concerning the tragic air collision over Moose Jaw on 8 April 1954. The official letter of apology accompanies this lightly damaged envelope.
4 Moose Jaw - T.C.A. 11/1.
DISTRICT DIRECTOR OF POSTAL SERVICE.
CALGARY, Alberta, 10th April, 1954.
Dear Sir or Madam:
Planters
DELAYED OR DAMAGED M.JAW-PLANE, WRECK


CANADA
AIRMAIL FLIGHT COVERS
CANADIAN CRASH COVERS
Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan 8 April 1954 : Trans-Canada Air Lines and the RCAF
Despite the large amount ofmail salvaged from the Trans-Canada Air Lines air crash on 8 April 1954 over Moose Jaw, very few pieces of mail from the USA have been reported saved. This badly damaged envelope mailed from Detroit, Michigan dated 7 April 1954 is missing its stamp and has the 2 line purple cachet "SALVAGED FROM T.C.A. WRECK". The Canada Post Office "soften envelope" accompanies the damaged envelope sent on to its Vancouver, B.C. destination.
SALVAGED FROM T.C.A. WRECK
OFFICIAL BUSINESS ONLY
ON HIS MAJESTY'S SERVICE
CANADA POST OFFICE

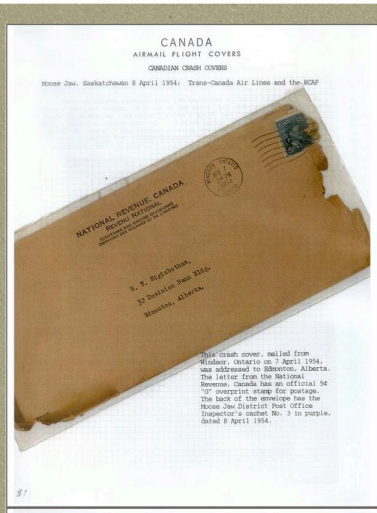

CANADA
AIRMAIL FLIGHT COVERS
CANADIAN CRASH COVERS
Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan 8 April 1954: Trans-Canada Air Lines and the RCAF
The Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan air crash resulted in almost one ton of mail being salvaged for distribution to addressees or for return to senders. One for return to sender was to the noted Canadian stamp dealer and auctioneer J.N. Sissons of Toronto, Ontario. The charred remains indicated the sender not the addressee! Note the Post Office's promotional phrase "Interest Your Patrons in Air Mail". In this case the results were tragic!
OFFICIAL BUSINESS ONLY
ON HIS MAJESTY'S SERVICE
J.N. Sissons
59 Wellington St. W.
Toronto
Ontario
INTEREST YOUR PATRONS IN AIR MAIL
CANADA POST OFFICE
ORDER BLANK

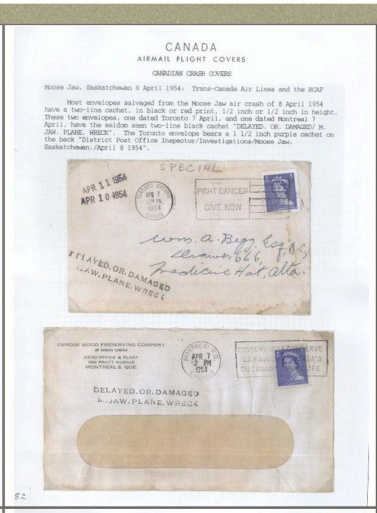

CANADA
AIRMAIL FLIGHT COVERS
CANADIAN CRASH COVERS
Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan 8 April 1954: Trans-Canada Air Lines and the RCAF
The hundreds of salvaged envelopes from the TCA mid-air crash at Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan on 8 April 1954 received various postal inspector's dated inspection cancellations. These three envelopes show the three main cancellations used: No. 1 in purple, No. 2 in black, and No. 3 P.O.1 in red. The postage rate was only five cents and meters, in lieu of stamps, were extensively in use.
Percy Hermant Company
The Huron and Erie Mortgage Corporation,
83 King Street, West,
Calgary, Alberta.

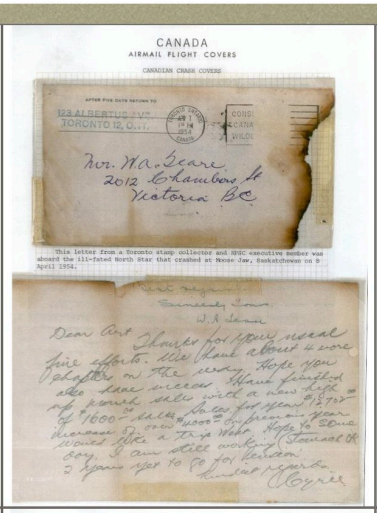

CANADA
AIRMAIL FLIGHT COVERS
CANADIAN CRASH COVERS
Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan 8 April 1954: Trans-Canada Air Lines & RCAF.
This Dutch aerogramme, dated 4 April 1954 from Amsterdam, Holland, addressed to Vancouver, BC, was salvaged from the Moose Jaw air crash of 8 April 1954. A two line black cachet 1 inch high "SALVAGED FROM/T.C.A.C. WRECK" and a 1¼ inch District Post Office Inspector Investigation cachet dated 8 April 1954 indicate the aviation tragedy.
AEROGRAMME
LUCHTOSTBLAD
SALVAGED FROM T.C.A. WRECK
PAR AVION/PER LUCHTPOST
NIETS INSLUITEN!

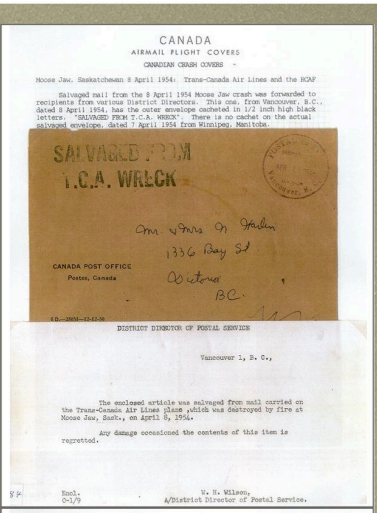

CANADA
AIRMAIL FLIGHT COVERS
CANADIAN CRASH COVERS
Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan 8 April 1954: Trans-Canada Air Lines and the RCAF
From a philatelic point of view, a great deal of mail was recovered from this wreck. This is evidenced by the relative ease with which an example of this crash may be obtained. Registered covers are not as readily available.
ROYAL TRUST
REGISTERED MAIL
SALVAGED FROM T.C.A. WRECK

Dick Malott: Frame 6/8

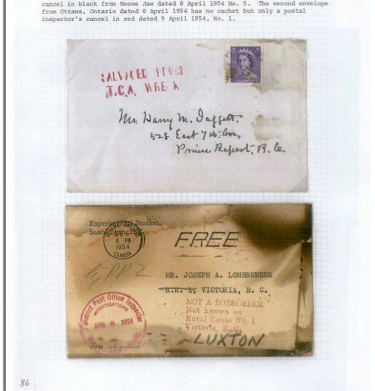

CANADA
AIRMAIL FLIGHT COVERS
CANADIAN CRASH COVERS
Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan 8 April 1954: Trans-Canada Air Lines and the RCAF
This crash cover, mailed from Windsor, Ontario on 7 April 1954, was addressed to Edmonton, Alberta. The letter from the National Revenue, Canada has an official 5¢ "G" overprint stamp for postage. The back of the envelope has the Moose Jaw District Post Office Inspector's cachet No. 3 in purple, dated 8 April 1954.

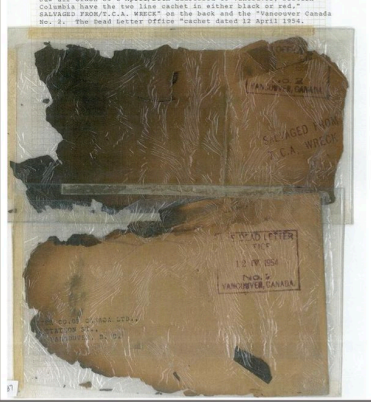

CANADA
AIRMAIL FLIGHT COVERS
CANADIAN CRASH COVERS
Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan 8 April 1954: Trans-Canada Air Lines and the RCAF
Most envelopes salvaged from the Moose Jaw air crash of 8 April 1954 have a two-line cachet, in black or red print, 1/2 inch or 1/2 inch in height. These two envelopes, one dated Toronto 7 April, and one dated Montreal 7 April, have the seldom seen two-line black cachet "DELAYED. OR. DAMAGED/M. JAW. PLANE. WRECK". The Toronto envelope bears a 1 1/2 inch purple cachet on the back "District Post Office Inspector/Investigations/Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan./April 8 1954".


CANADA
AIRMAIL FLIGHT COVERS
CANADIAN CRASH COVERS
This letter from a Toronto stamp collector and RPSC executive member was aboard the ill-fated North Star that crashed at Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan on 8 April 1954.


CANADA
AIRMAIL FLIGHT COVERS
CANADIAN CRASH COVERS
Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan 8 April 1954: Trans-Canada Air Lines and the RCAF
Salvaged mail from the 8 April 1954 Moose Jaw crash was forwarded to recipients from various District Directors. This one, from Vancouver, B.C., dated 8 April 1954, has the outer envelope cacheted in 1/2 inch high black letters. "SALVAGED FROM T.C.A. WRECK". There is no cachet on the actual salvaged envelope, dated 7 April 1954 from Winnipeg, Manitoba.


CANADA
AIRMAIL FLIGHT COVERS
CANADIAN CRASH COVERS
Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan 8 April 1954: Trans-Canada Air Lines and R.C.A.F.
This badly burnt envelope was mailed from Toronto, Ontario on 7 April 1954 and salvaged from the air crash the next day. It has the District Post Office Inspector's stamp No. 2 on the back in black dated 10 April 1954.
From Edmonton Journal Saturday 10 April 1954
Attempt To Sort Salvaged Mail


CANADA
AIRMAIL FLIGHT COVERS
CANADIAN CRASH COVERS
Mail salvaged from the Moose Jaw crash of 8 April 1954 received several cachets and markings to denote the Post Office's actions to deliver the delayed mail. The first envelope from an unknown source dated 9 April 1954 has a two-line red cachet "Salvaged From/T.C.A. Wreck" and a postal inspector's cancel in black from Moose Jaw dated 8 April 1954 No. 5. The second envelope from Ottawa, Ontario dated 6 April 1954 has no cachet but only a postal inspector's cancel in red dated 9 April 1954, No. 1.


CANADA
AIRMAIL FLIGHT COVERS
CANADIAN CRASH COVERS
Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan 8 April 1954: Trans-Canada Air Lines and RCAF
These two badly burnt envelopes were salvaged from the Moose Jaw air crash of 8 April. Both addressed to Vancouver, British-Columbia have the two line cachet in either black or red." SALVAGED FROM/T.C.A. WRECK" on the back and the "Vancouver Canada No. 2. The Dead Letter Office "cachet dated 12 April 1954.

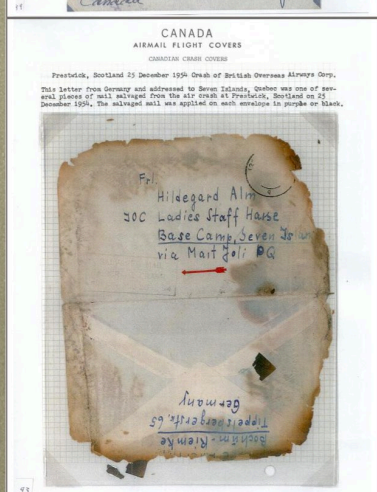

CANADA
AIRMAIL FLIGHT COVERS
CANADIAN CRASH COVERS
Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan 8 April 1954: Trans-Canada Air Lines
Captain I.W. Bell of Vancouver and First Officer D.W. Guthrie as well as the balance of the crew and all the passengers were killed. A plane flown by a student pilot collided with the big four-engined ship at 2,000 ft. causing it to crash in flames. These two envelopes depict 2 coloured types of the smaller "Salvaged From T.C.A. Wreck" cachet.

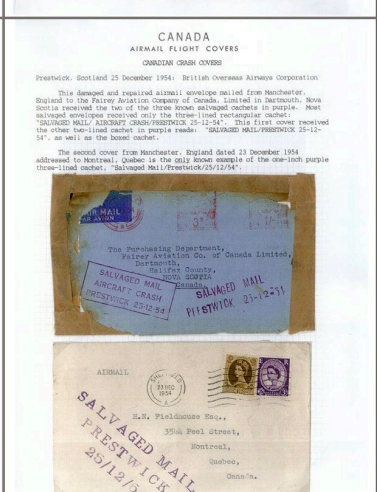

CANADA
AIRMAIL FLIGHT COVERS
CANADIAN CRASH COVERS
Norwich, Connecticut Air Crash 3 August 1954
This salvaged letter from Paris to Montreal, Canada received the three-lined purple cachet "Delay caused by Air/Mail Interruption Near/Norwich, Connecticut. August 3, 1954". The Air France Constellation aircraft crashed at Norwich, Connecticut killing all aboard.


CANADA
AIRMAIL FLIGHT COVERS
CANADIAN CRASH COVERS
Prestwick, Scotland 25 December 1954: British Overseas Airways Corporation
The mail salvaged from the Prestwick air crash on 25 December 1954 received cachets in purple or black "SALVAGED MAIL/AIRCRAFT CRASH/PRESTWICK 25-12-54". Both of these letters were addressed to Toronto, Ontario, Canada.

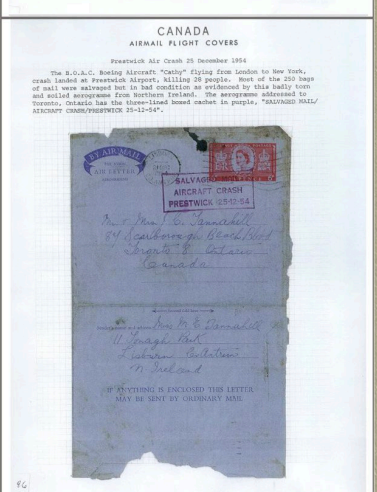

CANADA
AIRMAIL FLIGHT COVERS
CANADIAN CRASH COVERS
BOAC Air Crash at Prestwick, Scotland on 25 December 1954
This Christmas Card from Bangkok, Thailand and destined for Toronto, Ontario was damaged in the BOAC Aircraft "Cathay" air crash at Prestwick, Scotland on 25 December 1954. The aircraft flying from London to New York crashed on landing at Prestwick, killing 28 people and damaging over 250 bags of mail. All envelopes received the boxed three-line purple cachet, "Salvaged Mail/Aircraft Crash/Prestwick 25-12-54".


CANADA
AIRMAIL FLIGHT COVERS
CANADIAN CRASH COVERS
Prestwick, Scotland 25 December 1954: British Overseas Airways Corporation
On 25 December 1954 a British Overseas Airways Stratocruiser crashed and burned at Prestwick Airport, Scotland. This Christmas card from Thailand was addressed to Toronto, Ontario, Canada. Most of the salvaged mail for Canada were Christmas greetings from Europe and Asia.


CANADA
AIRMAIL FLIGHT COVERS
CANADIAN CRASH COVERS
Prestwick, Scotland 25 December 1954 Crash of British Overseas Airways Corp.
This letter from Germany and addressed to Seven Islands, Quebec was one of several pieces of mail salvaged from the air crash at Prestwick, Scotland on 25 December 1954. The salvaged mail was applied on each envelope in purple or black.


CANADA
AIRMAIL FLIGHT COVERS
CANADIAN CRASH COVERS
Prestwick, Scotland 25 December 1954: British Overseas Airways Corporation
This damaged and repaired airmail envelope mailed from Manchester, England to the Fairey Aviation Company of Canada, Limited in Dartmouth, Nova Scotia received the two of the three known salvaged cachets in purple. Most salvaged envelopes received only the three-lined rectangular cachet: "SALVAGED MAIL/ AIRCRAFT CRASH/PRESTWICK 25-12-54". This first cover received the other two-lined cachet in purple reads: "SALVAGED MAIL/PRESTWICK 25-12-54", as well as the boxed cachet.
The second cover from Manchester, England dated 23 December 1954 addressed to Montreal, Quebec is the only known example of the one-inch purple three-lined cachet. "Salvaged Mail/Prestwick/25/12/54".


CANADA
AIRMAIL FLIGHT COVERS
CANADIAN CRASH COVERS
Prestwick, Scotland 25 December 1954: British Overseas Airways Corporation
The B.O.A.C. Stratocruiser that crashed at Prestwick, Scotland on 25 December 1954 carried passengers, mail and $ 1 million in diamonds. Most of the passengers and crew were killed, 90% of the diamonds were recovered as described in the newspapers, and salvaged mail was cacheted and forwarded to addressees.
Still Seek Lost Gems
Recover Most Of Lost Gems

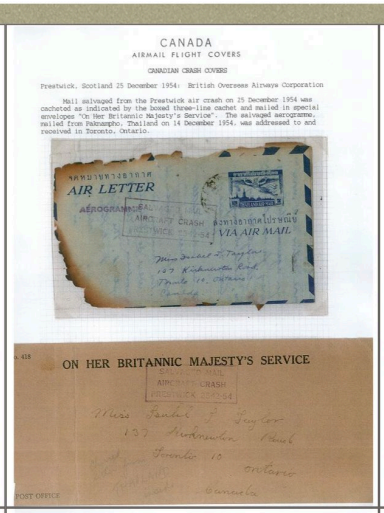

CANADA
AIRMAIL FLIGHT COVERS
CANADIAN CRASH COVERS
Prestwick Air Crash 25 December 1954
The B.O.A.C. Boeing Aircraft "Cathy" flying from London to New York, crash landed at Prestwick Airport, killing 28 people. Most of the 250 bags of mail were salvaged but in bad condition as evidenced by this badly torn and soiled aerogramme from Northern Ireland. The aerogramme addressed to Toronto, Ontario has the three-lined boxed cachet in purple, "SALVAGED MAIL/ AIRCRAFT CRASH/PRESTWICK 25-12-54".

Dick Malott: Frame 7/8


CANADA
AIRMAIL FLIGHT COVERS
CANADIAN CRASH COVERS

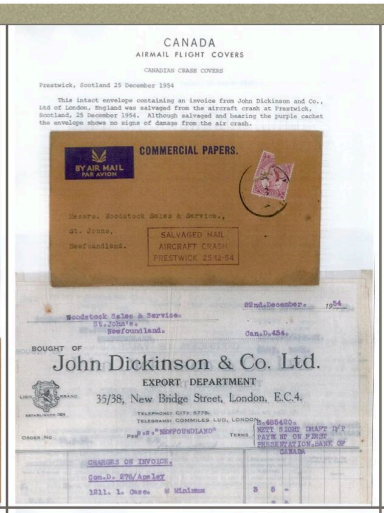
Prestwick, Scotland 25 December 1954; British Overseas Airways Corporation

The Christmas mail salvaged from the Prestwick aircraft crash on 25 December 1954 at Prestwick Airport, Scotland, received a boxed three-line purple cachet "Salvaged Mail/Aircraft Crash/Prestwick 25-12-54". These two envelopes are addressed to Toronto, Ontario and Montreal, Quebec.


CANADA
AIRMAIL FLIGHT COVERS
CANADIAN CRASH COVERS

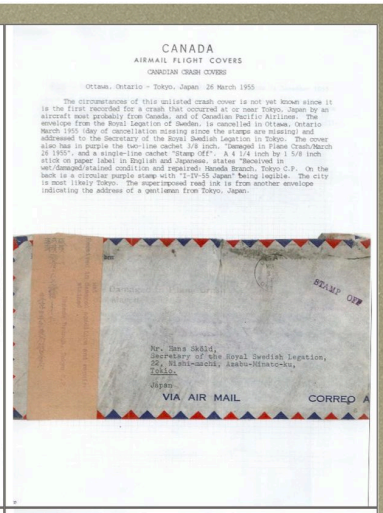
Prestwick, Scotland 25 December 1954; British Overseas Airways Corporation

Mail salvaged from the Prestwick air crash on 25 December 1954 was cacheted as indicated by the boxed three-line cachet and mailed in special envelopes "On Her Britannic Majesty's Service". The salvaged aerogramme, mailed from Pahrampho, Thailand on 14 December 1954, was addressed to and received in Toronto, Ontario.


CANADA
AIRMAIL FLIGHT COVERS
CANADIAN CRASH COVERS

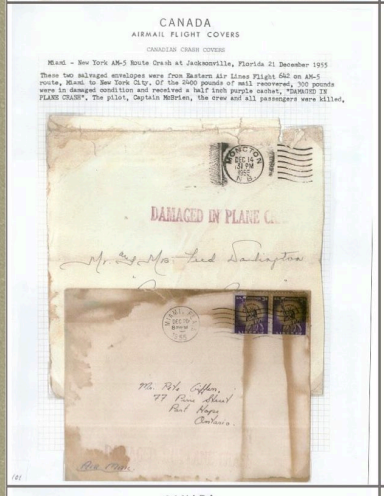
Prestwick, Scotland 25 December 1954

This intact envelope containing an invoice from John Dickinson and Co., Ltd of London, England was salvaged from the aircraft crash at Prestwick, Scotland, 25 December 1954. Although salvaged and bearing the purple cachet the envelope shows no signs of damage from the air crash.


CANADA
AIRMAIL FLIGHT COVERS
CANADIAN CRASH COVERS

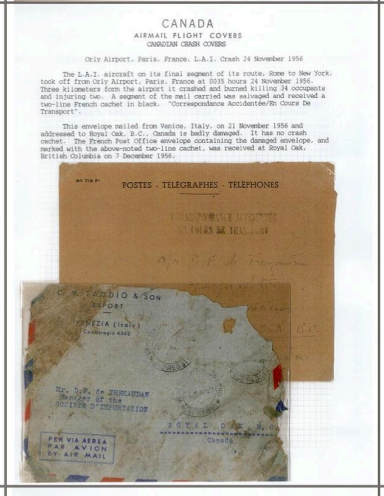
Ottawa, Ontario - Tokyo, Japan 26 March 1955

The circumstances of this unlisted crash cover is not yet known since it is the first recorded for a crash that occurred at or near Tokyo, Japan by an aircraft most probably from Canada, and of Canadian Pacific Airlines. The envelope from the Royal Legation of Sweden, is cancelled in Ottawa, Ontario March 1955 (day of cancellation missing since the stamps are missing) and addressed to the Secretary of the Royal Swedish Legation in Tokyo. The cover also has in purple the two-line cachet 3/4 inch. "Damaged in Plane Crash/March 26 1955", and a single-line cachet "Stamp Off". A 4 1/4 inch by 1 5/8 inch stick on paper label in English and Japanese, states "Received in wet/damaged/stained condition and repaired: Haneda Branch, Tokyo C.P. On the back is a circular purple stamp with "I-IV-55 Japan" being legible. The city is most likely Tokyo. The superimposed read ink is from another envelope indicating the address of a gentleman from Tokyo, Japan.


CANADA
AIRMAIL FLIGHT COVERS
CANADIAN CRASH COVERS

Miami - New York AM-5 Route Crash at Jacksonville, Florida 21 December 1955

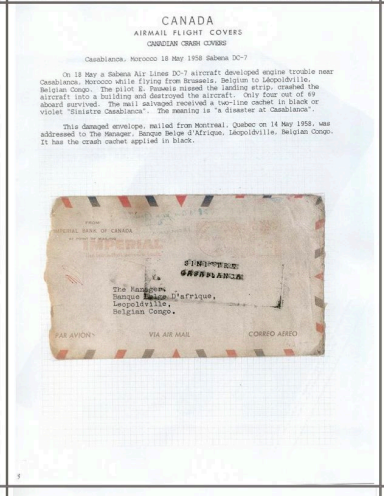
These two salvaged envelopes were from Eastern Air Lines Flight 560 on AM-5 route, Miami to New York City. Of the 2400 pounds of mail recovered, 300 pounds were in damaged condition and received a half inch purple cachet, "DAMAGED IN PLANE CRASH". The pilot, Captain McBrien, the crew and all passengers were killed.


CANADA
AIRMAIL FLIGHT COVERS
CANADIAN CRASH COVERS

Orly Airport, Paris, France. L.A.I. Crash 24 November 1956

The L.A.I. aircraft on its final segment of its route, Rome to New York, took off from Orly Airport, Paris, France at 0035 hours 24 November 1956. Three Kilometers from the airport it crashed and burned killing 34 occupants and injuring two. A segment of the mail carried was salvaged and received a two-line French cachet in black. "Correspondance Accidentée/En Cours De Transport".

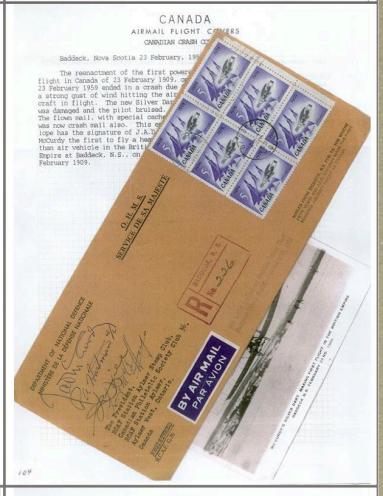
This envelope mailed from Venice, Italy, on 21 November 1956 and addressed to Royal Oak, B.C., Canada is badly damaged. It has no crash cachet. The French Post Office envelope containing the damaged envelope, and marked with the above-noted two-line cachet, was received at Royal Oak, British Columbia on 7 December 1956.


CANADA
AIRMAIL FLIGHT COVERS
CANADIAN CRASH COVERS

Casablanca, Morocco 18 May 1958 Sabena DC-7

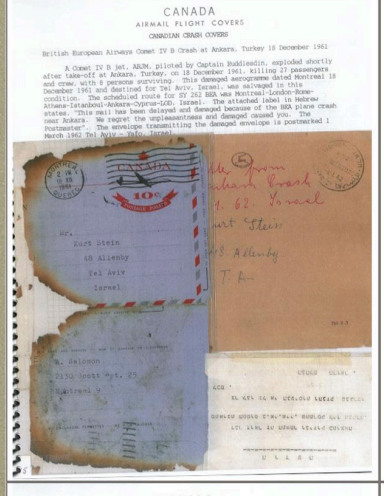
On 18 May a Sabena Air Lines DC-7 aircraft developed engine trouble near Casablanca, Morocco while flying from Brussels, Belgium to Léopoldville, Belgian Congo. The pilot E. Pauwels missed the landing strip, crashed the aircraft into a building and destroyed the aircraft. Only four out of 69 aboard survived. The mail salvaged received a two-line cachet in black or violet "Sinistre Casablanca". The meaning is "a disaster at Casablanca".

This damaged envelope, mailed from Montreal, Quebec on 14 May 1958, was addressed to The Manager, Banque Belge d'Afrique, Léopoldville, Belgian Congo. It has the crash cachet applied in black.


CANADA
AIRMAIL FLIGHT COVERS
CANADIAN CRASH COVERS

Baddeck, Nova Scotia 23 February, 1909

The reenactment of the first powered flight in Canada of 23 February 1909, ended in a crash due to a strong gust of wind hitting the aircraft in flight. The new Silver Dart was damaged and the pilot bruised. The flown mail, with special cachet was now crash mail also. This envelope has the signature of J.A.D. McCurdy the first to fly a heavier than air vehicle in the British Empire at Baddeck, N.S., on 23 February 1909.


CANADA
AIRMAIL FLIGHT COVERS
CANADIAN CRASH COVERS

British European Airways Comet IV B Crash at Ankara, Turkey 18 December 1961

A Comet IV B jet, ABUM, piloted by Captain Buddleadin, exploded shortly after take-off at Ankara, Turkey, on 18 December 1961, killing 27 passengers and crew, with 8 persons surviving. This damaged aerogramme dated Montreal 18 December 1961 and destined for Tel Aviv, Israel, was salvaged in this condition. The scheduled route for BY 252 BEA was Montreal-London-Nicosia-Istanbul-Ankara-Cyprus-LOD, Israel. The attached label in Hebrew states, "This mail has been delayed and damaged because of the BEA plane crash near Ankara. We regret the unpleasantness and damaged caused you. The Postmaster". The envelope transmitting the damaged envelope is postmarked 1 March 1962 Tel Aviv - Yafo, Israel.

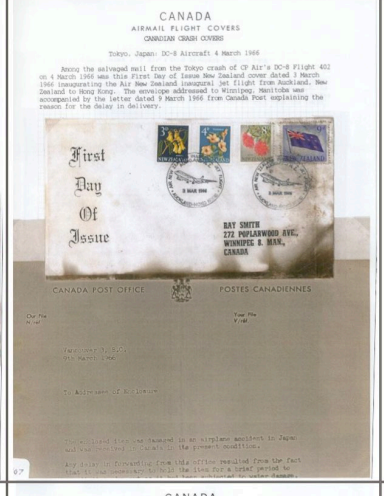

CANADA
AIRMAIL FLIGHT COVERS
CANADIAN CRASH COVERS

Tokyo, Japan: 4 March 1966

These two letters mailed from Hong Kong on 3 March 1966 were damaged in an air crash 4 March 1966 at Tokyo, Japan. The first cover addressed to the Registrar of the University of British Columbia, Vancouver, B.C., shows stains and burns as well as the black cachet "Damaged in Air Crash at Tokyo".

A CP Air DC-8 aircraft, Flight 402, departed Hong Kong at 1414 hours 4 March 1966 and crashed during a landing at Tokyo International Airport later that day. The aircraft was holding in bad weather over Tokyo and had tried to go to Taipei but upon returning to Tokyo commenced its approach, dropped suddenly, hit the sea wall and overturned. Of the 62 passengers and 10 crew on board, only 8 passengers survived. The pilot Cecil H. McNeil, the 1st Officer Charles Mews, and the 2nd Officer W.J. Robertson were among those killed. The aircraft was destroyed and only a few bags of mail salvaged.

The aerogramme has a slight stain and a different style two-line cachet in black "Damaged in Air Crash / At Tokyo".


CANADA
AIRMAIL FLIGHT COVERS
CANADIAN CRASH COVERS

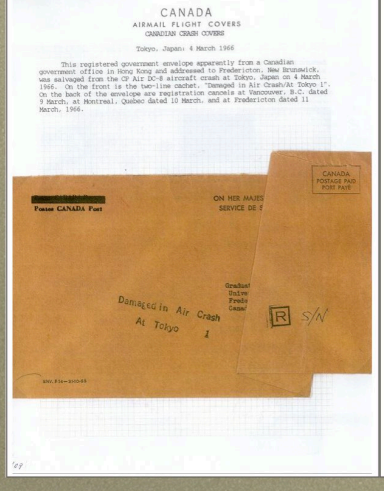
Tokyo, Japan: DC-8 Aircraft 4 March 1966

Among the salvaged mail from the Tokyo crash of CP Air's DC-8 Flight 402 on 4 March 1966 was this First Day of Issue New Zealand cover dated 3 March 1966 inaugurating the Air New Zealand inaugural jet flight from Auckland, New Zealand to Hong Kong. The envelope addressed to Winnipeg, Manitoba was accompanied by the letter dated 9 March 1966 from Canada Post explaining the reason for the delay in delivery.


CANADA
AIRMAIL FLIGHT COVERS
CANADIAN CRASH COVERS

Tokyo, Japan : CP Air's DC-8 Aircrash 4 March 1966

Among the salvaged mail from the 4 March 1966 CP-Air DC-8 crash at Tokyo were these two items. The first from Hong Kong addressed to Vancouver, B.C, is written in Chinese. The second also from Hong Kong and addressed to Toronto has the impression of a stamp and address of another piece of mail from the crash.


CANADA
AIRMAIL FLIGHT COVERS
CANADIAN CRASH COVERS

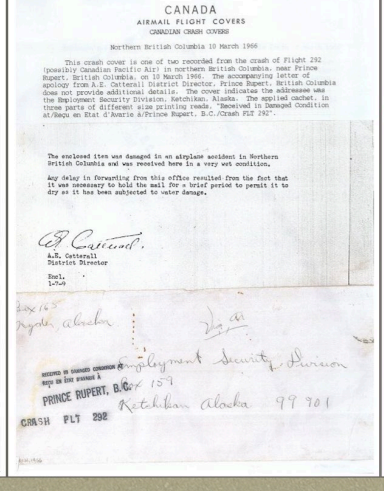
Tokyo, Japan: 4 March 1966

This registered government envelope apparently from a Canadian government office in Hong Kong and addressed to Fredericton, New Brunswick, was salvaged from the CP Air DC-8 aircraft crash at Tokyo, Japan on 4 March 1966. On the front is the two-line cachet. "Damaged in Air Crash/At Tokyo 1". On the back of the envelope are registration cancels at Vancouver, B.C. dated 9 March, at Montreal, Quebec dated 10 March, and at Fredericton dated 11 March, 1966.


CANADA
AIRMAIL FLIGHT COVERS
CANADIAN CRASH COVERS

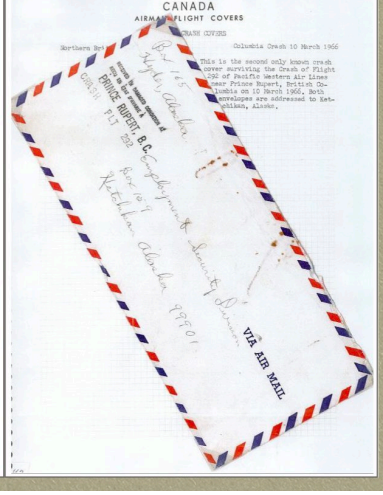
Tokyo, Japan: 4 March 1966

Flight 402 of the CP Air DC-8 aircraft from Hong Kong to Tokyo crashed during the landing at the Tokyo International Airport on 4 March 1966. This envelope dated 3 March 1966 in Hong Kong was addressed to Toronto, Ontario. The two-line black inked cachet "Damaged in Air Crash/At Tokyo 1" is stamped on the front of the envelope. The post card with similar markings applied in Tokyo was mailed from Hong Kong on 4 March 1966.


CANADA
AIRMAIL FLIGHT COVERS
CANADIAN CRASH COVERS

Northern British Columbia 10 March 1966

This crash cover is one of two recorded from the crash of Flight 292 (possibly Canadian Pacific Air) in northern British Columbia, near Prince Rupert, British Columbia, on 10 March 1966. The accompanying letter of apology from A.E. Catterall District Director, Prince Rupert, British Columbia does not provide additional details. The cover indicates the addressee was the Employment Security Division, Ketchikan, Alaska. The applied cachet, in three parts of different size printing reads, "Received in Damaged Condition at/Reçu en Etat d'Avarie à/Prince Rupert, B.C./Crash PLT 292".


CANADA
AIRMAIL FLIGHT COVERS
CANADIAN CRASH COVERS

Columbia Crash 10 March 1966

This is the second only known crash cover surviving the Crash of Flight 292 of Pacific Western Air Lines near Prince Rupert, British Columbia on 10 March 1966. Both envelopes are addressed to Ketchikan, Alaska.

Dick Malott: Frame 8/8

