

# LZ 127 "Graf Zeppelin" flies to Norway



LZ 127 "Graf Zeppelin" visited Norway on two occasions, both in July, 1930.

During the 1<sup>st</sup> Nordland flight, the flight to the Arctic (Friedrichshafen – Spitsbergen – Friedrichshafen), two mail bags were dropped over Hammerfest on 10 July, containing in total approximately 800 covers and 2,500 postcards.

Mail drop for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Nordland flight, the flight to the North (Friedrichshafen – Iceland – Friedrichshafen) was planned over Tromsø, but was changed to Bergen due to the weather conditions. Two mail bags were dropped over Bergen on 16 July, containing a total of 658 covers and 1,812 postcards.

German all-inclusive postage rates (except special services) for zeppelin mail posted within Europe were 100 Rpf (1 RM) for postcards and 200 Rpf (2 RM) for regular letters, valid from 11 April, 1930 to 6 June, 1932.

A special flight cachet was used, in green for the first flight and blue for the second flight.

Flight to the Arctic

Mail from Germany

9-11 July, 1930



Postcard addressed to Switzerland from "FRIEDRICHSHAFEN -8.7.30". Dropped over Hammerfest, postmark "HAMMERFEST 10 VII 30". 1 RM all-inclusive postage rate for postcards to all destinations.



Postcard to Sweden from "FRIEDRICHSHAFEN -8.7.30". Dropped over Hammerfest and postmarked "HAMMERFEST 10 VII 30". 1 RM all-inclusive postage rate for postcards to all destinations.



Cover to Sweden from "FRIEDRICHSHAFEN -8.7.30". Dropped over Hammerfest and backstamped "HAMMERFEST 10 VII 30". 2 RM all-inclusive postage rate for covers to all destinations.



Cover sent from "FRIEDRICHSHAFEN -8.7.30" to Nidaros (now Trondheim), Norway. Dropped over Hammerfest and forwarded to Nidaros by ship. Backstamped "HAMMERFEST 10 VII 30" and receiving postmark "NIDAROS 14.7.30". The all-inclusive postage rate for covers was 2 RM to all destinations.



Cover sent from "FRIEDRICHSHAFEN -8.7.30" to Spitsbergen, dropped over Hammerfest and forwarded to Spitsbergen by ship. Backstamped "HAMMERFEST 10 VII 30". The all-inclusive postage rate for covers was 2 RM to all destinations, thus 4 RM for double weight.



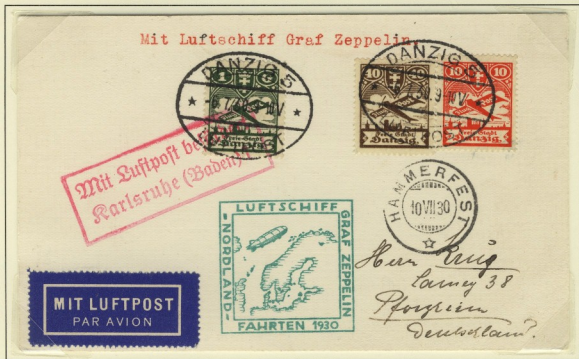




Postcard postmarked "WIEN -6.VII.30" and addressed to Vienna, Austria. 1.70 Schilling postcard rate to all destinations. Dropped over Hammerfest, and postmarked on front "HAMMERFEST P.P. 10 VII 30". Receiving postmark "WIEN 17.VII.30". Note that several different Hammerfest postmarks were used. A total of 221 postcards and letters with Austrian franking were sent on this flight.



Postcard sent from "WIEN -3.VIII.30" by air mail "WIEN -6.VII.30" to Krefeld, Germany at the 1.70 Schilling postcard rate. Dropped over Hammerfest, and postmarked on front "HAMMERFEST 10 VII 30". On return air mail via "BERLIN 16.7.30" and Düsseldorf.



Postcard sent from "DANZIG -6.7.30" to Pforzheim, Germany. 1.50 Gulden all-inclusive postage rate for postcards to all destinations. Dropped over Hammerfest, and postmarked "HAMMERFEST 10 VII 30". On the return sent air mail via Karlsruhe, Germany.



Cover sent from "DANZIG 23.6.30" to Hammerfest, Norway. 3 Gulden all-inclusive postage rate for covers to all destinations. Dropped over Hammerfest, and backstamped "HAMMERFEST 10 VII 30".





Postcard sent from "VADUZ -7.VII.30" to Romanshorn, Switzerland.

1.40 Fr all-inclusive postage rate for postcards to all destinations.

Dropped over Hammerfest, and postmarked on front "HAMMERFEST P.P. 10 VII 30".



Postcard sent from "TRIESENBERG -5.VII.30" to Hammerfest, Norway. 1.40 Fr all-inclusive postage rate for postcards to all destinations. Dropped over Hammerfest, and postmarked on front "HAMMERFEST 12 VII 30". Note that the mail drop took place on 10 July. Possibly this postcard was postmarked two days later because it was addressed to Hammerfest?



Prior to 1931, mail from Luxembourg could only be sent by 'Graf Zeppelin' with additional German franking. Postcard sent from "LUXEMBOURG VILLE III -27.30" to Rotterdam, the Netherlands. 80c postage for regular foreign postcards, and German 1 RM all-inclusive zeppelin rate for postcards to all destinations. Dropped over Hammerfest, and postmarked on front "HAMMERFEST 10 VII 30". Arrival postmark "ROTTERDAM 17.VII.30".



Postcard sent from "SAARBRÜCKEN -7.7.30" to Völklingen, Saar. 7 Fr all-inclusive postage rate for postcards to all destinations. A total of 75 postcards and 31 covers from Saar were carried on this flight. Dropped over Hammerfest, and postmarked on front "HAMMERFEST 10 VII 30". On the return air mail via "BERLIN 16.7.30" and Saarbrücken.





Postcard sent from "ROMANSHORN -7.VII.30" Oslo, Norway.

1.40 Fr all-inclusive postage rate for postcards to all destinations.

Dropped over Hammerfest, and postmarked on front "HAMMERFEST 10 VII 30".



Postcard sent from "ROMANSHORN -7.VII.30" to Pforzheim, Germany.

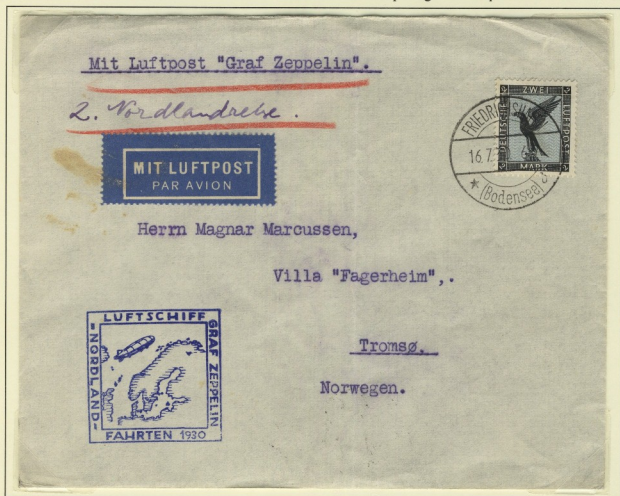
1.40 Fr all-inclusive postage rate for postcards to all destinations.

Dropped over Hammerfest, and postmarked on front "HAMMERFEST 10 VII 30".

Air mail via Karlsruhe, Germany.



This flight was advertised as the 2<sup>nd</sup> Nordland flight, and mail drop was planned over Tromsø. As it turned out, mail was dropped over Bergen, and the course was set for Iceland due to the weather conditions. Two mail bags were dropped over Bergen on 16 July, containing a total of 658 covers and 1,812 postcards. Postcard sent from Friedrichshafen, Germany to East Orange, N.J., U.S.A., dropped over Bergen and forwarded across the Atlantic ocean by ship. Postmarked on front "BERGEN 16 VII 30". 1 RM all-inclusive postage rate for postcards to all destinations.



Cover to Tromsø, Norway, sent from "FRIEDRICHSHAFEN 16.7.30", and dropped over Bergen. Postmarked on reverse "BERGEN 16 VII 30". 2 RM all-inclusive postage rate for covers to all destinations.



Postcard sent to Tromsø, Norway, posted on board "Graf Zeppelin" on her northbound flight, and dropped over Bergen. Postmarked on front "BERGEN 16 VII 30". 1 RM all-inclusive rate for postcards to all destinations.



The passengers on this flight were mainly from Switzerland. Postcard sent to Zürich, Switzerland, posted on board and dropped over Bergen. Postmarked on front "BERGEN 16 VII 30" and "LÜBECK TRAVEMÜNDE FLUGHAFEN 18.7.30". 1 RM all-inclusive postage rate for postcards to all destinations.





Postcard sent to Brooklyn, New York, U.S.A., posted on board "Graf Zeppelin" on her northbound flight, and dropped over Bergen. Postmarked on front "BERGEN 16 VII 30", and "FOREIGN SECTION / G.P.O. N.Y.". 1 RM all-inclusive rate for postcards to all destinations.



Cover posted on board and sent to Lexington, N.C., U.S.A.. Backstamps "BERGEN 16 VII 30" and "FOREIGN SECTION / G.P.O. N.Y.". 2 RM all-inclusive postage rate for covers to all destinations. The franking value of the U.S. postal envelope was not necessary.



Postcard from "INNSBRUCK 20.VII.30" to Innsbruck, Austria. 10 Groschen postcard rate, and German 1 RM franking for the zeppelin air mail surcharge. This franking is highly unusual, because Austrian franking could pay for the zeppelin surcharge. Dropped over Bergen, and postmarked on front "BERGEN 16 VII 30". Air mail via Breslau (Wroclaw), Poland and Munich, Germany.



Postcard from "WIEN 10.VII.30" to Stammersdorf, Austria. 1 Groschen overpaid for the 1.70 Schilling all-inclusive postage rate for postcards to all destinations. Air mail via "WIEN FLUGPOST 13.VII.30". Dropped over Bergen, and postmarked on front "BERGEN 16 VII 30" and "WIEN 20.VII.30".



Postcard sent from “BUDAPEST 930 JUL -6” to Oslo, Norway. 20 filler postcard rate, 50 filler air mail surcharge and 1 pengő zepplin surcharge, total 1.70 pengő postage rate. 2 filler overfranked. Dropped over Bergen, and postmarked on front “BERGEN 16 VII 30”.



Cover sent from “TRIESENBERG 14.VII.30” to Hedingen, Switzerland. 5 Rappen underfranked, the all-inclusive postage rate for letters was 2.80 Fr. Dropped over Bergen, and postmarked on front “BERGEN 16 VII 30”. Air mail via “LÜBECK 18.7.30” and Frankfurt am Main. Backstamped “HEDINGEN 19 VII 30”.





Cover from "AMSTERDAM 12.VII.1930" to Tromsø, Norway. 12½ cents base rate for letters 1928-1946 and 110 cents zeppelin surcharge in Europe 1929-1931, total 122½ cents. Dropped over Bergen. Backstamps "BERGEN 16 VII 30" and "TROMSÖ 22 VII 30". A total of 165 covers and 172 postcards with Dutch franking were carried on this flight.



Postcard from "ROMANSHORN 15.VIII.30" to Basel, Switzerland. 1.40 Fr all-inclusive postage rate for postcards for all destinations. By air mail via Lübeck and Frankfurt (Main) to Friedrichshafen. Dropped over Bergen, and postmarked on front "BERGEN 16 VII 30".



Postcard from "SAARBRÜCKEN 14.7.30" to Pforzheim, Germany.  
 7 Frs all-inclusive postage rate for postcards for all destinations.  
 Dropped over Bergen, and postmarked on front "BERGEN 16 VII 30".  
 Air mail via Frankfurt am Main.



Postcard from "SAARBRÜCKEN 14.7.30" to New York, U.S.A.  
 7 Frs all-inclusive postage rate for postcards for all destinations.  
 Dropped over Bergen, and postmarked on front "BERGEN 16 VII 30".  
 Backstamped "FOREIGN SECTION / G.P.O. N.Y.".