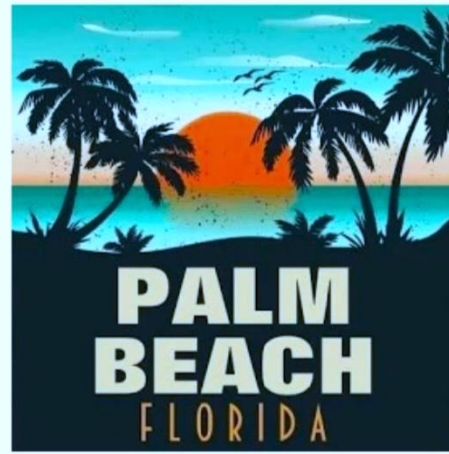


# Palm Beach Stamp Club Newsletter



APRIL 2025

Almost every week since 1912, the Lake Worth Herald has rolled off the presses and into mailboxes and shop racks, delivering local headlines, event listings and, when warranted, sharp jabs at city leaders, and specifically – since 1970, news about and for our stamp club. That remarkable 112-year run ended January 2<sup>nd</sup> when the Herald published its final issue, a sad milestone reported under the front-page headline “The End of an Era.” We thank the Easton family publishers for their unwavering support of our philatelic activities.

April is National Card & Letter Writing month, a time where we continue the tradition that has helped preserve our nation’s history. Celebrate by writing a personal card or letter to a friend. Beginning April 20<sup>th</sup>, we acknowledge National Volunteer Week to recognize the contributions of our club volunteers. April 1<sup>st</sup> is Fools Day; National Library Day is on the 6<sup>th</sup> with National Librarian Day following on the 16<sup>th</sup>; and finally, Easter is celebrated on the 20<sup>th</sup>.

*Regards, Michael Swope*

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*Stamp of the Month*

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*US Scott #1810*

**Meetings: 1:00 p.m.  
2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays**

**Mid-County Senior Center  
3680 Lake Worth Road  
Lake Worth, Florida 33461**

**[www.palmbeachstamp.club](http://www.palmbeachstamp.club)**

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Membership Affiliate #81338**

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**APRIL 2025**



With all of the philatelic resources that are available at the American Philatelic Research Library (APRL), getting an idea of what pertains to your research needs can seem a bit daunting. This is where the Philatelic Union Catalog comes in handy. Located on the Library home page of the APS website, you will find, "The David Straight Memorial Philatelic Union Catalog." In this catalog, you can perform a search of your topic and a list of sources will appear.

President Richard Kaye, with technical assistance from Treasurer Pat Hensley, provided a philatelic presentation at the Palm Beach County Canyon Branch Library, on Monday, March 3, 2025, from 2:00 to 3:00 p.m. The presentation entitled "The Joy of Stamp Collecting" was well received by 30+

attendees who watched a powerpoint and received free stamps and albums. The next presentation is scheduled for May 10, 2025 at the Palm Beach County Library, Lantana Branch, from 11:00 a.m. to Noon.

At our March 11<sup>th</sup> club meeting, Michael Swope provided a demonstration on how to remove self-adhesive postage stamps from paper without damage. "G&K" watermark fluid and talcum powder were used.

Dan Maddalino provided an interesting talk on "Miami, Florida, First Night Flight" covers at our March 25<sup>th</sup> meeting. The presentation was highlighted with several covers he has collected.

Kudos to Charlotte Chapin and her husband from North Palm Beach. Charlotte inherited a 1930's stamp collection and brought it to our March 25<sup>th</sup> meeting for evaluation and auction. Everyone was satisfied with the results!



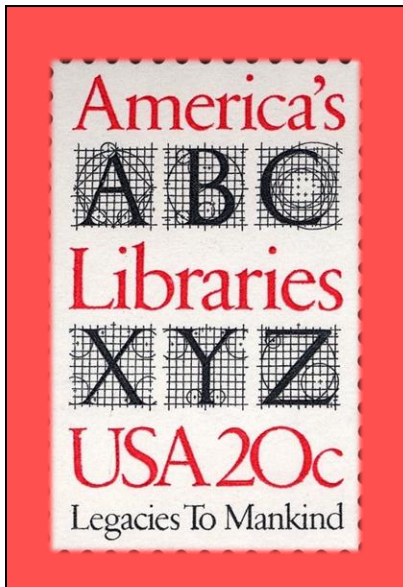
April 5<sup>th</sup>, Central Florida Stamp Club Spring Stamp Show, Maitland Civic Center, Saturday 10:00-3:30. Maitland 32751

April 13<sup>th</sup>, Second Sunday Stamp & Coin Show at the Azan Shrine Center, Sunday 9:30-3:00. Melbourne, 32935.

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# America's Libraries

Pat Hensley



In 1982, the United States Postal Service released a 20-cent stamp (Scott #2015) to honor America's libraries. This stamp was first issued on July 13, 1982, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, during the American Library Association's annual convention. The stamp's design features the first three and last three letters of the alphabet, symbolizing the foundational role of libraries in education and literacy. Designed by Bradbury Thompson, the stamp emphasizes the importance of libraries in American society. It was printed using the engraved method by the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, with a total of 169,495,000 stamps issued. This commemorative stamp serves as a tribute to the countless libraries across the nation that have provided invaluable resources and services to people of all ages.

National Librarian Day is celebrated annually on April 16<sup>th</sup> to honor the dedicated professionals who manage and organize our libraries. Librarians play a crucial role in providing access to information, supporting literacy, and fostering a love for reading within their communities. They not only manage collections of books and other materials but also offer various services such as educational programs, technology assistance, and community events.

The origins of National Librarian Day are closely linked to National Library Week, which was first sponsored by the American Library Association (ALA) in 1958 to encourage reading and library use. National Librarian Day specifically recognizes the hard work and dedication of librarians and is observed during this week-long celebration. It's a time to express gratitude for the invaluable contributions librarians make to education and the betterment of society.

So, if you have time, go visit your local library! You never know what treasures you might find.

#### *References:*

*National Postal Museum*  
*Mystic Stamp Company*  
*National Today*  
*American Library Association*

# China Airmail

Michael Rogers

China's vast distances marked by mountain ranges, sweeping plains and deserts, ensured the success of airmail within the country. What was accomplished in days of road and river navigation took just hours by plane. Five airmail stamps were issued on July 1, 1921 to be used on flights beginning the same day, from Peking to Shanghai. The airmail postage stamps are identified in Scott as C1 thru C5.



As seen above, the central design of these first Chinese airmail postage stamps features an airplane bearing the emblem of the Chinese Republic. These well-designed stamps are denominated 15¢, 30¢, 45¢, 60¢, and 90¢. At the time of issue, the basic airmail rate was 15¢, in addition to the normal postal rate.

Mail was carried 450 miles by train from Shanghai to Tsinan, and then 230 miles by air from Tsinan to Peking. An estimated 400 pieces of mail, including newspapers, were carried on the July 1<sup>st</sup>, 1921, flight. A large 20-character black box cancel was used on these first flight airmail stamps. The translated message in the box reads "Mail carried by First Flight of the Aerial Postal Service Established by China." Cancelled-to-order, never flown covers, bearing the full five-stamp set exist and some specimen sets can be found without gum.

In China's second airmail issue, the basic five-value, 1921 airmail design was revised in 1929 to place the new National badge on the tail of the airplane. These issues (Scott #C6-C10) were first used on a July 8, 1929 flight from Shanghai to Nanking. Variations in shade are known of the 15¢ and 30¢ values.

China's third airmail issue (1932-1937) is another horizontal stamp, unwatermarked, which depicts a Junkers F-13 mono-plane over the Great Wall. As postal rates changed, ten stamps were issued in three stages (C11-C20). The Peking printings are perforated 14, while Hong Kong issues are perforated 12 to 13.



Ref: Reprinted in part from Linn's Stamp News, January 17, 2000

# USS *Macon*, Last of the Navy's Dirigibles (Part II)

*Keith Lichtman*

The purpose of this article is to document the 1934 missions of the U.S.S. *Macon* through philatelic covers. The *Macon* departed on its fourth trip from Moffett Field in California on January 3, 1934, for maneuvers over coastal waters. She returned to Moffett on January 6<sup>th</sup> and cacheted covers were issued to commemorate the *Macon* passing over Los Angeles and San Joaquin Valley. (Covers #1 & #2).

*Macon* left Moffett Field again on February 8<sup>th</sup>, bound for Camp Kearny at Linda Vista, California, the first of its four trips in 1934. The *Macon* spent the next few days at Kearny practicing take offs & hook-ups with the F9C Sparrow Hawk fighterplanes. (Covers #3, #4 & #5).

On March 20<sup>th</sup> the *Macon* left Moffett Field at 10:05 a.m. for a training / endurance flight at sea. One cachet for this event was issued reading "TRAINING FLIGHT / U.S.S. MACON / BLOSSOM Day 1934 / And the Mail flies again". The *Macon* was never officially allowed to carry United States mail, so whoever made the cachet got it wrong. (Covers #6 & #7).

Crew members would sometimes carry personal mail on *Macon* flights, which lead to "unofficial" mail delivery, but cachet makers could not have known this. As previously reported in "USS *Macon*, Last of the Navy Dirigibles, Part I", unofficial mail was carried twice in 1933. Both times those covers were signed by Postmaster Jay Matthews at Moffett Field, acknowledging they were carried on *Macon* flights. Neither Matthews nor *Macon* crew member names appear on those covers.

On April 9<sup>th</sup>, *Macon* departed Moffett Field to join the Pacific Fleet on a training flight to Miami, Florida. (Cover #8). During the cruise, some fleet ships honored the *Macon* with cacheted covers. (Covers #9 & #10). On April 12<sup>th</sup>, she returned to Moffett Field. (Cover #11)

*Macon* departed Moffett Field again for fleet maneuvers in Opa-Locka, Florida (near Miami) on April 20<sup>th</sup>. (Cover #12). During this trip, the *Macon* encountered rough air over Texas and an unusually strong gust of wind caused structural damage. The crew was able to make temporary emergency repairs and kept the ship in the air while continuing to Opa-Locka. *Macon* arrived at Opa-Locka on April 22<sup>nd</sup> and remained while some repairs were made. (Cover #13).

In early May, the Navy decided that the remaining repairs were not urgent, documenting that "it is considered that it [repairs] can be accomplished from time to time, as opportunity offers, at the discretion of the commanding officer, and, therefore, will not interfere with operating schedules." This decision will eventually lead to the crash of the *Macon*.

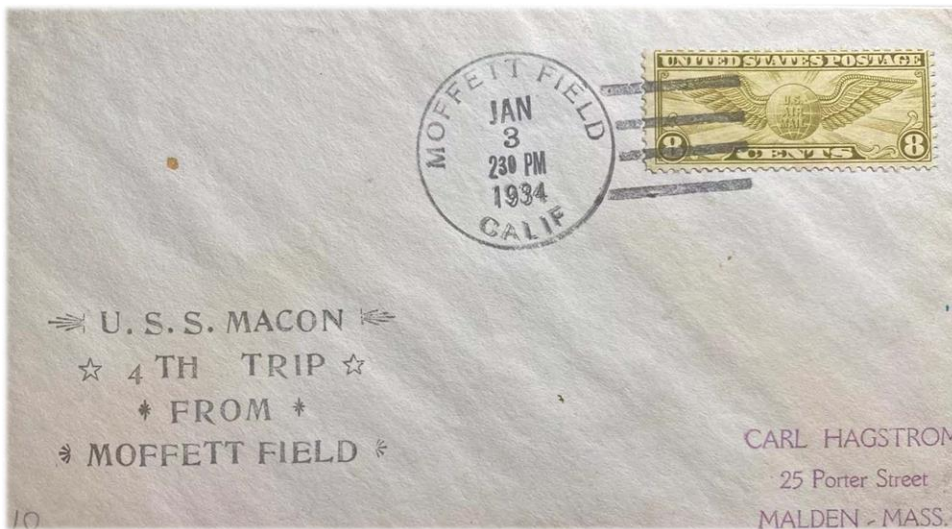
On May 5<sup>th</sup>, *Macon* departed Opa-Locka for war maneuvers in the Caribbean. This event is commemorated in Miami and over the next few days, by ships she encountered during this exercise. (Covers #14 & #15).

On May 7<sup>th</sup> the *Macon* makes a quick return to Miami and is back out to the Caribbean the next day. (Cover #16) On May 8<sup>th</sup>, during mock battles, the *U.S.S. Lexington* issued a cover with ship postmark that reads “ENROUTE MIAMI / MACON ATTACKS / LEXINGTON.” (Cover #17).

On May 13<sup>th</sup>, *Macon* makes its second return flight to Miami after completing maneuvers. (Cover #18) The ship rested a few days before leaving for its home base at Moffett Field on May 16<sup>th</sup>. (Cover #19), where she arrives in a record-breaking 48 hours, on May 18<sup>th</sup>. (Cover #20).

The *Macon* received a change of command on May 23<sup>rd</sup>, when captain Harry Shoemaker was reassigned and Captain Alger Dressel took command. (Covers #21 & #22).

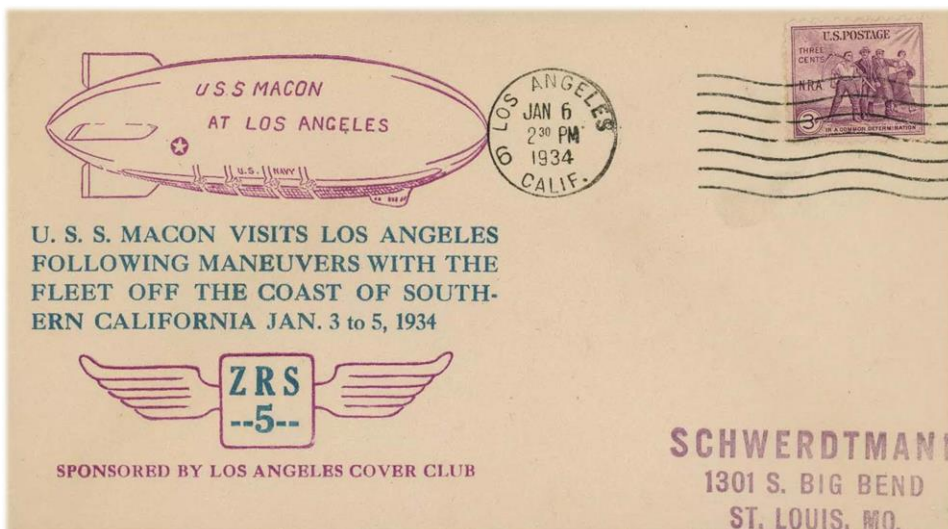
On June 19<sup>th</sup>, *Macon* set sail from Moffett Field on a training flight to the Pacific Northwest. She passed over San Francisco on her way to Oregon and Washington, (Cover #23) and returned to Moffett on June 20<sup>th</sup>. (Cover #24).



**Cover #1**

8¢, Winged Globe Issue Stamp, Scott #C17.

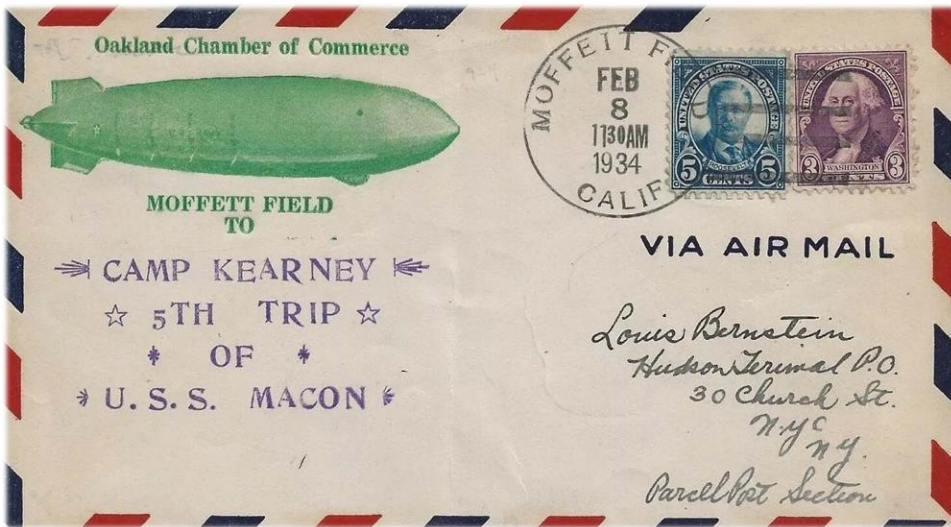
Cancelled at Moffett Field, California on January 3, 1934



**Cover #2**

3¢, National Recovery Act Issue Stamp, Scott #732.

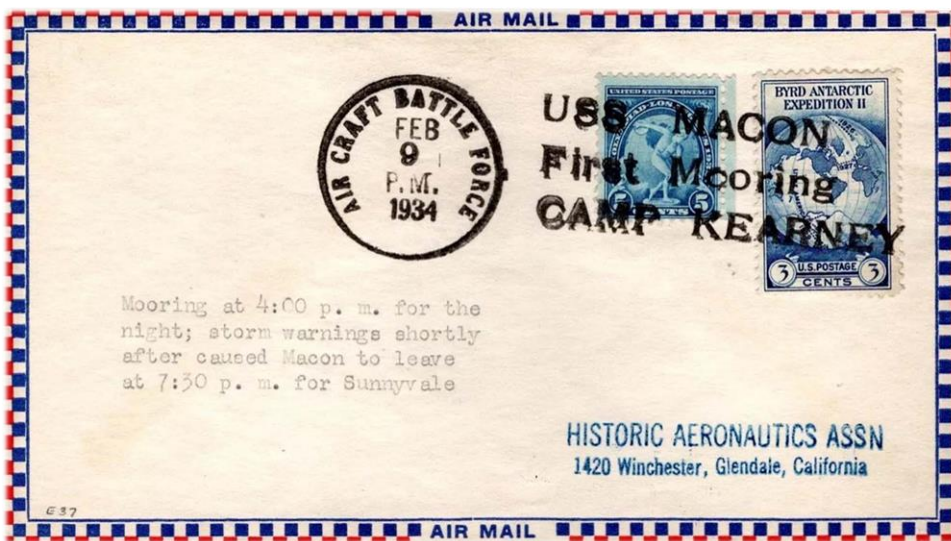
Cancelled at Los Angeles on January 6, 1934.



**Cover #3**

5¢, Theodore Roosevelt Regular Issue Stamp, Scott #557, w/  
 3¢, George Washington Regular Issue Stamp, Scott #720.

Cancelled at Moffett Field on February 8, 1934.



**Cover #4**

5¢, Olympic Games Issue – Myron's Discobolus Stamp, Scott #719, w/  
 3¢, Byrd Antarctic Issue Stamp, Scott #733.

Cancelled at Camp Kearny, California on February 9, 1934.



**Cover #5**

8¢, Winged Globe Issue Stamp, Scott #C17.

Cancelled on board the *USS Relief* on February 10, 1934.



**Cover #6**

3¢, George Washington Regular Issue Stamp, Scott #720, w/  
5¢, Olympic Games Issue, Myron's Discobolus Stamp, Scott #719.

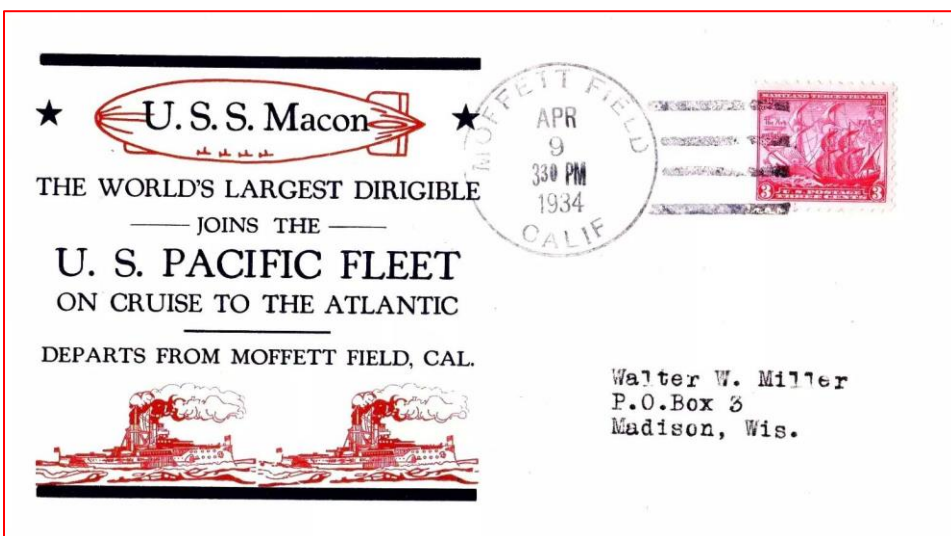
Cancelled at Moffett Field on March 20, 1934.



**Cover #7**

8¢, Winged Globe Issue Stamp, Scott #C17.

Cancelled at Bakersfield, California on March 20, 1934.

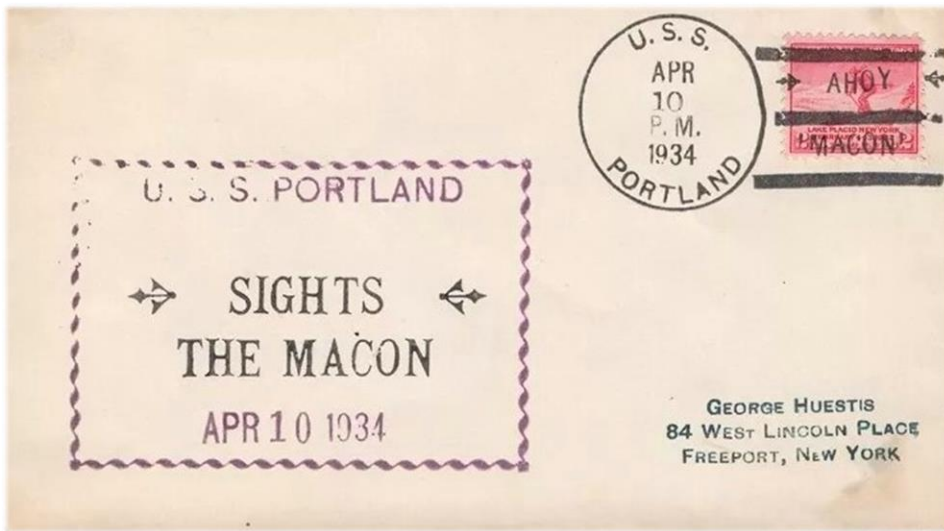


**Cover #8**

3¢, Maryland Tercentenary Issue Stamp, Scott #736.

Cancelled at Moffett Field on April 9, 1934.





**Cover #9**

2¢, Olympic Winter Games Issue Stamp, Scott #716.

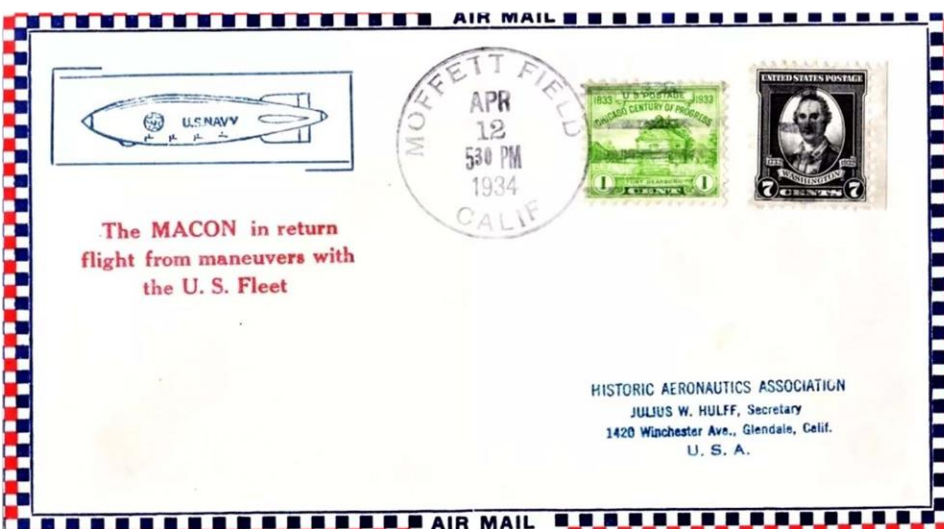
Cancelled on board the *USS Portland* on April 10, 1934.



**Cover #10**

3¢, Maryland Tercentenary Issue Stamp, Scott # 736, w/ 3¢, Washington Bicentennial Issue Stamp, Scott #708, w/ 2¢, Casimir Pulaski Issue Stamp, Scott #690.

Cancelled on board the *USS New York* on April 11, 1934.



**Cover #11**

1¢, Century of Progress Issue, Fort Dearborn Stamp, Scott #728, w/ 7¢, Washington Bicentennial Issue Stamp, Scott #712.

Cancelled at Moffett Field on April 12, 1934.



**Cover #12**

4¢, Washington Bicentennial Issue Stamp, Scott #709, w/ 2¢, Sullivan Expedition Issue Stamp, Scott #657, w/ 2¢, Ohio River Canalization Issue Stamp, Scott #681.

Cancelled at Moffett Field on April 20, 1934.



**Cover #13**

8¢, Winged Globe Issue Stamp, Scott #C17.

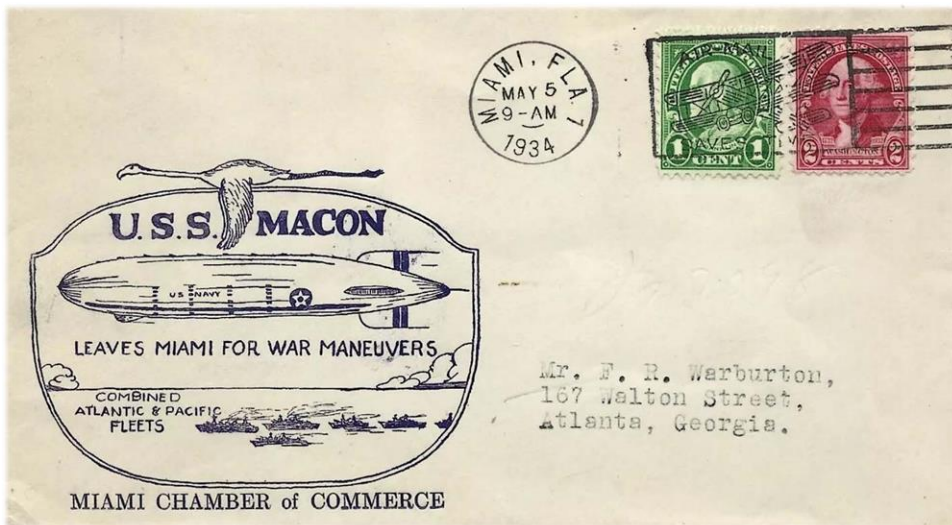
Cancelled at Miami, Florida on April 22, 1934.



**Cover #14**

Two, 1¢, Washington Bicentennial Issue Stamps, Scott #705.

Cancelled on board the *USS Tillman* on May 5, 1934.



**Cover #15**

1¢, Benjamin Franklin Regular Issue Stamp, Scott #552, w/ 2¢, Washington Bicentennial Issue Stamp, Scott #707.

Cancelled at Miami, Florida on May 5, 1934.



**Cover #16**

3¢, Maryland Tercentenary Issue Stamp, Scott #736, w/ 5¢, Theodore Roosevelt Regular Issue Stamp, Scott #557.

Cancelled at Miami, Florida on May 7, 1934.



**Cover #17**

Three, ½¢, Nathan Hale Regular Issue Stamps, Scott #551.

Cancelled on board the *USS Lexington* on May 8, 1934,



**Cover #18**

8¢, Winged Globe Issue Stamp, Scott #C17.

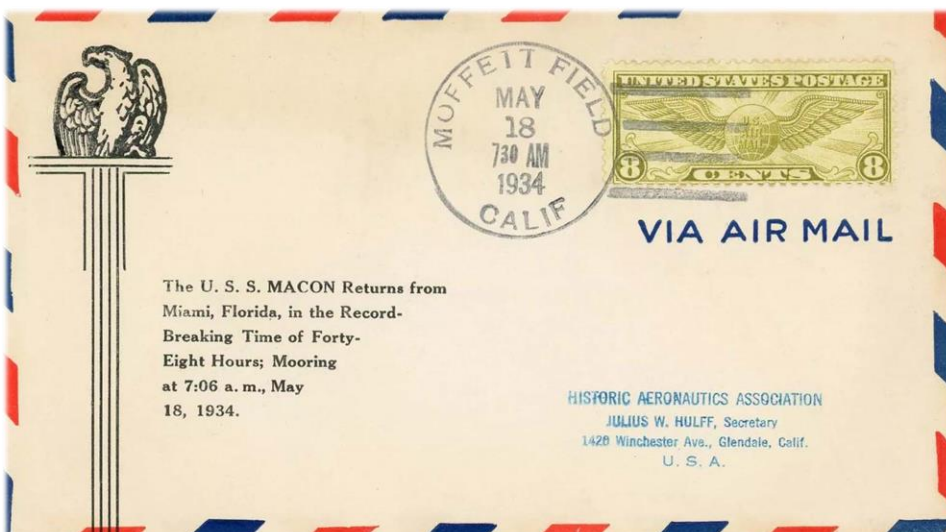
Cancelled at Miami, Florida on May 13, 1934.



**Cover #19**

3¢, Mothers of America Issue, Whistler's Mother Stamp, Scott #737.

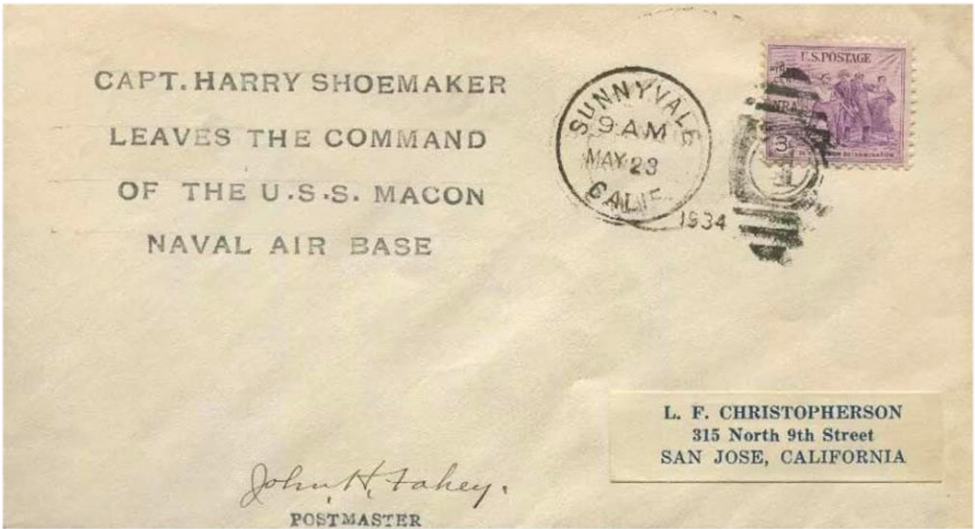
Cancelled at Opa-Locka, Florida on May 16, 1934.



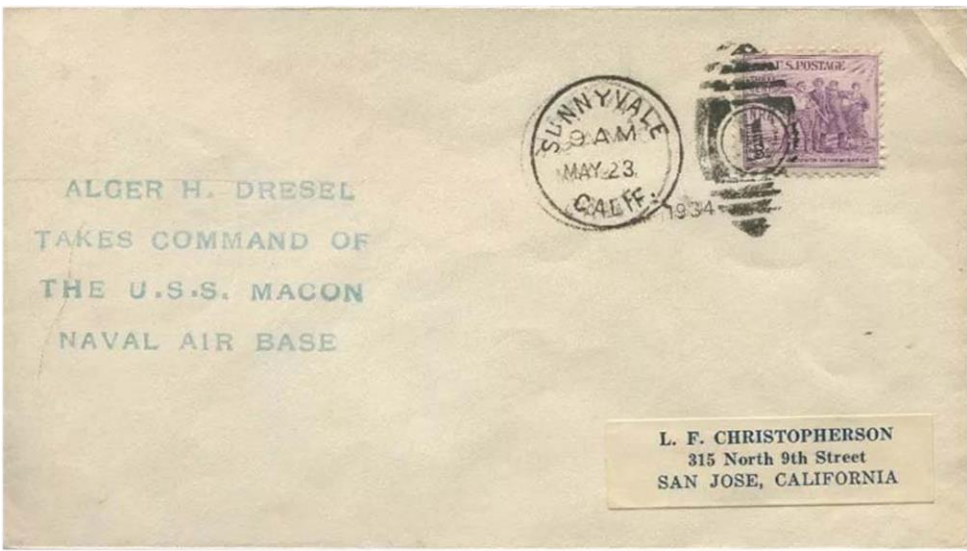
**Cover #20**

8¢, Winged Globe Issue Stamp, Scott #C17.

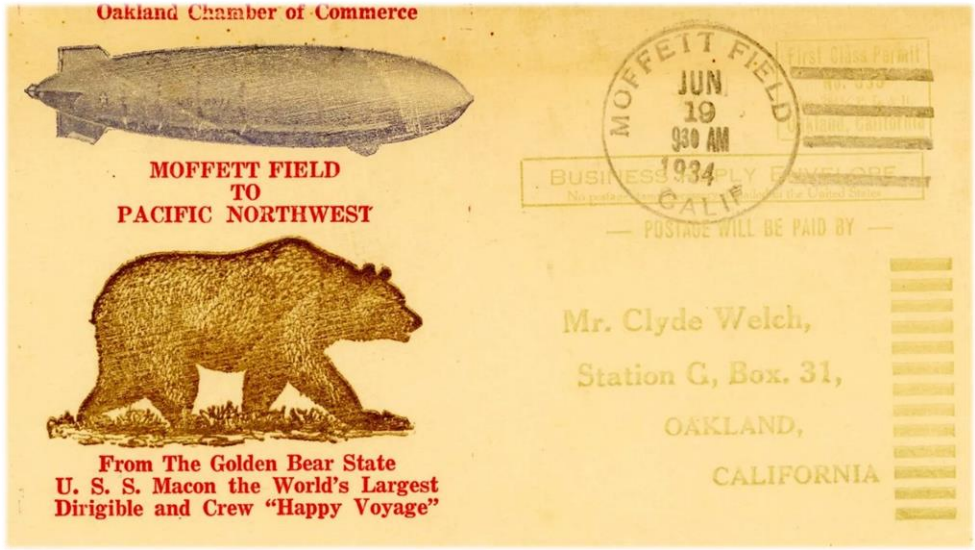
Cancelled at Moffett Field on May 18, 1934.



**Cover #21**  
3¢, National Recovery Act Issue Stamp, Scott #732.  
Cancelled at Sunnyvale, California on May 23, 1934.



**Cover #22**  
3¢, National Recovery Act Issue Stamp, Scott #732.  
Cancelled at Sunnyvale, California on May 23, 1934.



**Cover #23**  
Business Reply Post Card.  
Cancelled at Moffett Field on June 19, 1934.



### Cover #24

3¢, Mothers of America,  
Whistler's Mother Issue  
Stamp, Scott #737.

Cancelled at Moffett Field on  
June 20, 1934.

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# China Stamp Agency

Michael Swope



Established in 1981, the China Stamp Agency in North America opened at 1155 Avenue of the Americas in New York City. The agency was created to facilitate the distribution and sale of Chinese postage stamps and philatelic products to collectors and enthusiasts in North America.

The agency offered a unique glimpse into the philatelic history of China and its cultural heritage, with postmarked envelopes and postage stamps serving as tangible pieces of postal history. The stamps and philatelic products offered by the agency were a testament to the rich cultural heritage of China, offering collectors a way to connect with Chinese history and culture.

Acquired by the Uncover Corporation in 2010, The China Stamp Agency in North America brand continued until 2018, when Uncover was sold to Bay Area Stamps in Santa Clara, California. Uncover, under new management, partnered with the China Philatelic Corporation to continue the services previously provided by the China Stamp Agency.

Featured above is a commemorative cacheted postcard celebrating the opening of the China Stamp Agency in North America. The card is franked with the Peoples Republic of China, first day issue, blue, 8 Fen, Cizhou Kiln Ceramic Pottery - Amphora with Apricot Blossoms postage stamp (Scott #1673) and cancelled in China on April 15, 1981.

Ref: Postcard from Author's collection; Uncover.com