



## Trans-Atlantic Air mail

Pan American internal airmail Sierra Leone to Liberia 1942

THE FOREIGN SERVICE  
OF THE  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

FREETOWN, SIERRA LEONE

AIRCO

Mr. Jim Adams, Chief Engineer,  
Pan American Airways,  
Harbell, Liberia.

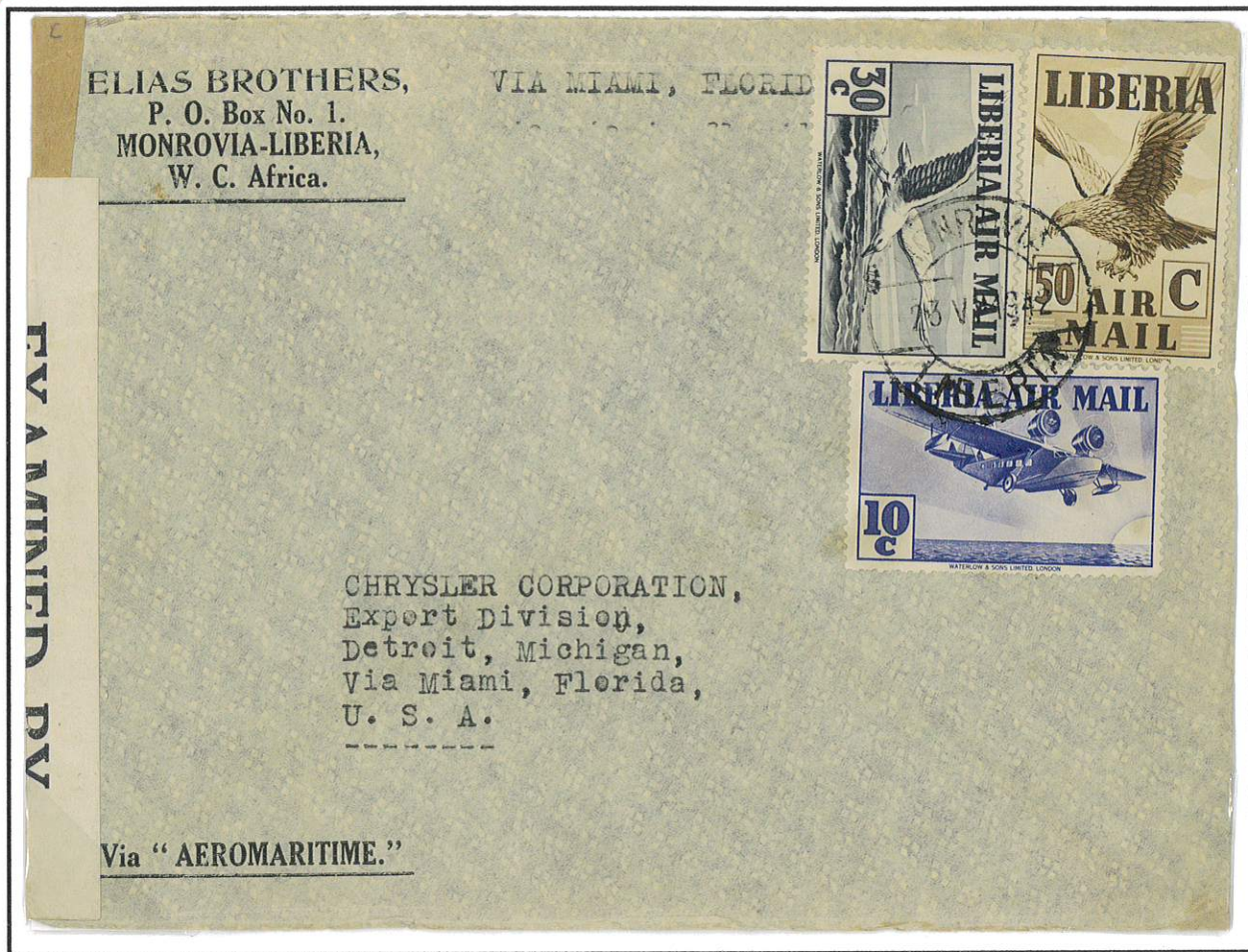
- Route: Carried Freetown to Monrovia by Pan American internal airmail service. Despatch 8 June 1942.
- Rate: Carried free as Diplomatic mail.
- Censor: None needed.
- Features: Letter written at the US Embassy in Freetown, enclosing a letter to Dr. Walker, the Pan American site Doctor in Liberia. Addressed to Jim Adams, the senior Civil Engineer for Pan American in Liberia. Letter includes: "Have heard plenty about the grand airport that you have there now". "AIRCO" was the telegraphic abbreviation for Pan American Airways.

How are things with you? Have heard plenty about the grand airport that you have there now and I suppose getting it finished has kept you stepping.

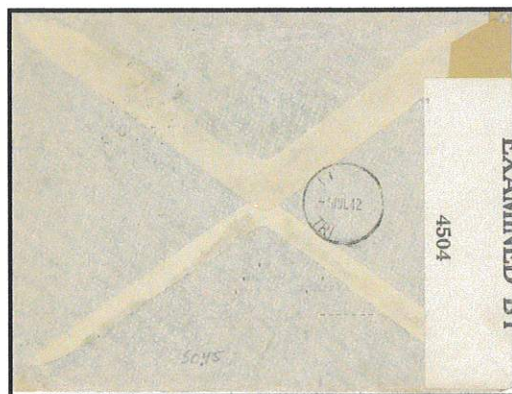


## Trans-Atlantic Air mail

Pan American "Special Mission" flight from Liberia to United States 1942.



- Route: Monrovia to Detroit via Fisherman's Lake-Natal-Trinidad-Miami. Despatch Monrovia 23 June 1942. Trinidad 1 July 1942.
- Rate: 90 c. No information available on Liberia airmail rates.
- Censor: Wike TR CH10A censor mark. US Miami censor label 4504.
- Features: Pan American flew clandestine "Special Missions" from Miami to Liberia via Natal, with shuttles between Natal and Fisherman's Lake beginning on 15 June 1942. Documents in the Pan American Archive confirm that these flights carried commercial mail in addition to military supplies and personnel. This cover was probably carried on SM34 or SM35 which flew from New York to Fisherman's Lake and carried out five Fisherman's Lake-Natal shuttles before returning to New York.



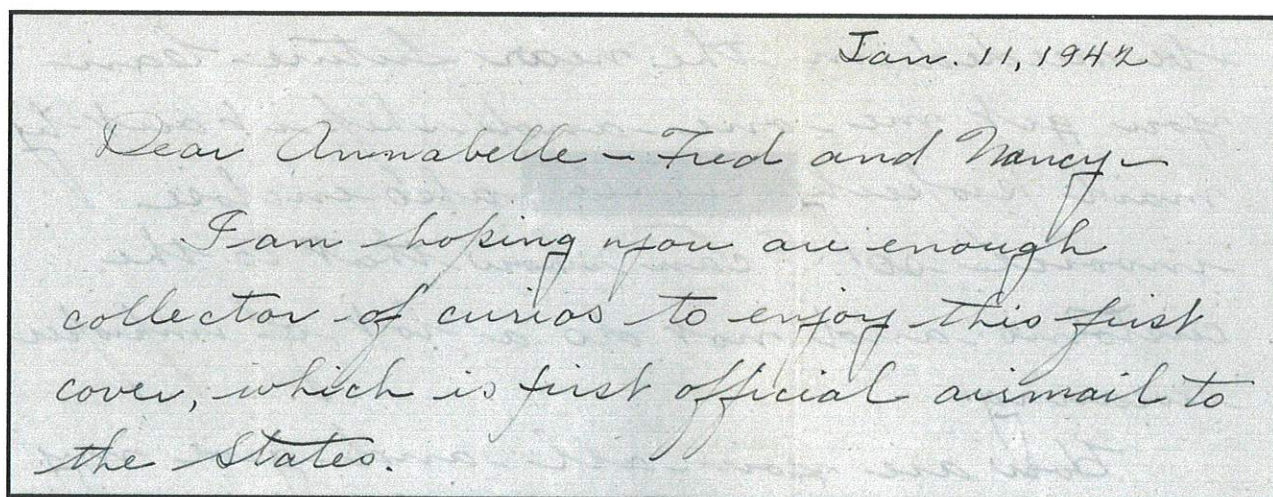


## Trans-Atlantic Air mail

Pan American "Special Missions" Liberia to United States 1942



- Route: Carried Monrovia to Fisherman's Lake by local PAA aircraft. Fisherman's Lake to Cranford N.J. via Natal-Trinidad. Despatch 14 January 1942.
- Rate: Combined fee 50c. Cannot be confirmed due to the absence of documentary evidence of Liberia postal rates, but assumed to be correct due to the sender being a Pan American employee.
- Censor: None. Carried on behalf of Pan American employee.
- Features: Letter written at the Harbel rubber plantation near Monrovia on 11 January 1942 by Jim Adams, the Senior Civil Engineer for Pan American, who flew to Liberia on Special Mission 03 with the task of building the installations at Fisherman's Lake, Roberts Field and Marshall Field. Text confirms that this was despatched on "first official airmail to the States".





## Trans-Atlantic Air mail

Pan American "Double Atlantic" route from Liberia to England 1943.



- Route: Monrovia to London via Fisherman's Lake-Natal-Trinidad-New York-Botwood-Foynes. Despatch Monrovia ?? September 1943.
- Rate: 70 c. No information available on Liberia airmail rates.
- Censor: Miami censor label 4393. Censored in UK No. 3466.
- Features: Cover travelled "Double Atlantic" from Liberia to America then from New York to Foynes by Pan American Northern route via Newfoundland.  
A scruffy cover but of some significance as to route.

