



World War 2 Airmail

India to China 1941

Cover carried on the opening flight of the "Over the Hump" wartime service from Calcutta to Chungking. Despatched Calcutta 23rd December 1941. Indian censor mark of Calcutta A10. Addressed to C.N.A.C. in Chungking. The original service was to Hong Kong but this ceased on 7th December following Japanese occupation. The new service following this first flight operated Calcutta-Rangoon-Lashio-Kunming-Chungking on a twice weekly basis. The service operated until mid March 1942 when the call at Lashio was omitted and flights went directly from Calcutta-Kunming-Chungking.

Rate paid 1 Rupee, 6 ½ Annas.





Wartime Air mail

China to India "Over the Hump" 1941.



- Route:** Chungking-Calcutta by CNAC. First flight of what was to become the only airmail route into and out of unoccupied China in WW2. Despatch Chungking 18 December 1941. Arrival Calcutta 20 December.
- Rate:** Surface rate \$1, air fee \$2.25 (From November 1, 1941). Total \$3.25 as on cover.
- Censor:** Calcutta A/2 inspection.
- Features:** A significant flight, leading to the wartime airmail carriage of all mail into and out of unoccupied China across the lower Himalayas. CNAC carried all the civil airmail on this route, interfacing with BOAC at Calcutta. American military airmail was carried by military flights, starting in April 1942.

