

The Flying Date Postal Marking of Taiwan

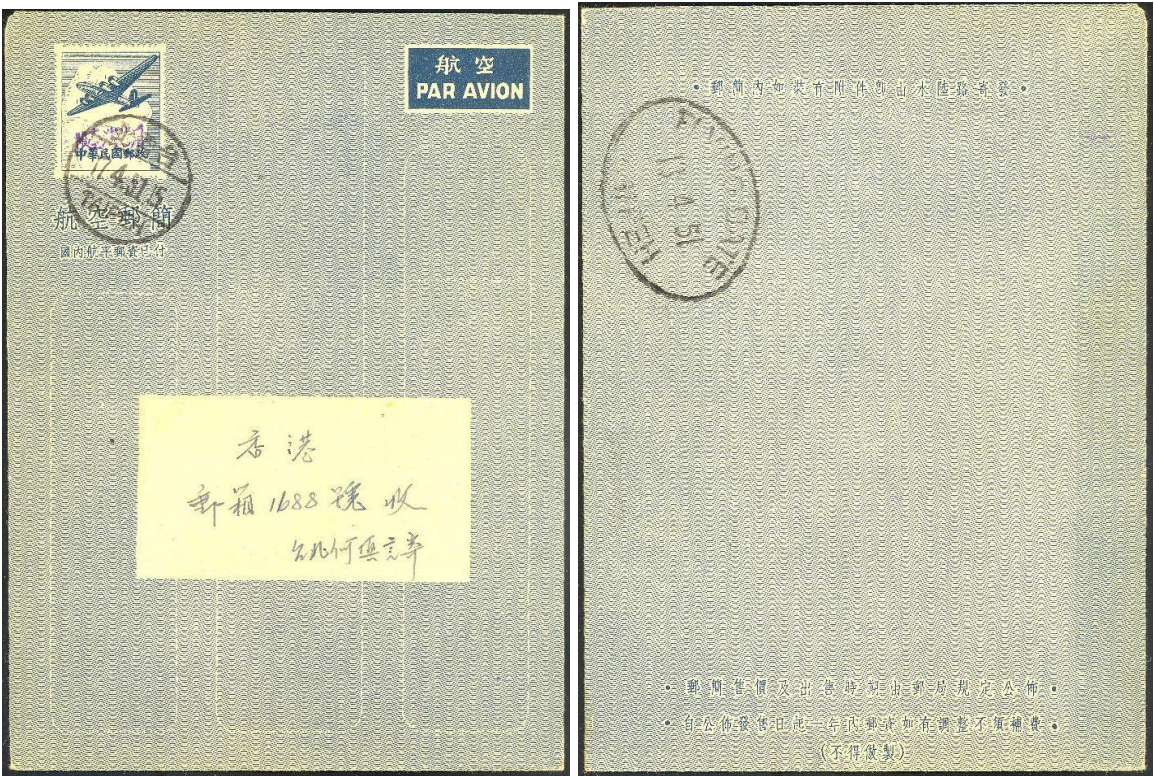
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There was a hand stamped postal marking "Flying Date" that was used for about one year in 1950-51.





Figure 1-3 shows the marking used on a cover from Taipei to Macau, mailed on July 27, 1950 and arrived in Macau on July 28. This has the “Flying Date” in a straight line and is known as type 1.



Figures 4-6 show the marking applied to an aerogramme from Taipei to Hong Kong, mailed April 7, 1951 from Taipei, but the “Flying Date” marking indicates April 13, 1951. Perhaps research could find the reason for no airmail service during this period. The oval design is known as the type 2 and was used for the longest period of time.

Previous articles, including one in the China Clipper, implied that this was a censor marking. This is not correct – the marking was applied to all airmail when the Taipei arrival cancel was different from the actual date of dispatch by airmail. For example a letter was mailed from down island and did not arrive in Taipei in time for dispatch that day, then the actual date of dispatch would be stamped as the “Flying Date”.

The only two examples that I have seen of the type 1 is July 12 (in black) and the 28 July (in blue), both in 1950. If anyone has examples of the type 1, please provide the information to the editor so that we may determine the actual period of usage.