

# Scribblings



...from the Rocky Mountain Philatelic Library

Vol. 8 - No. 3  
Phone - 303 - 759-9921

2038 So. Pontiac Way, Denver, CO 80224  
www.collectors-mall.com/philib/RMPL.htm

May - June, 2000  
E-Mail - rmpl@uswest.net

## L.A.T.I.

Part 2

by Sergio Lugo  
RMPL Volunteer

Continued from the March - April issue of "Scribblings"...

There was no direct connection to the rest of South America until 1941. To insure that their mail made the Brazilian connection to LATI, the sender had to clearly indicate CONDOR-LATI on the envelope. While LATI covers are few and far between among the wares of philatelic dealers, these handwritten markings for the service connection are an invaluable tool to identifying LATI covers.

The first direct connection to Buenos Aires, Argentina was made on July 28, 1941. To better understand the structure of Argentine franking practices, I'm going to digress for just a moment to explain an important postal feature of Argentine mail services. From the outset

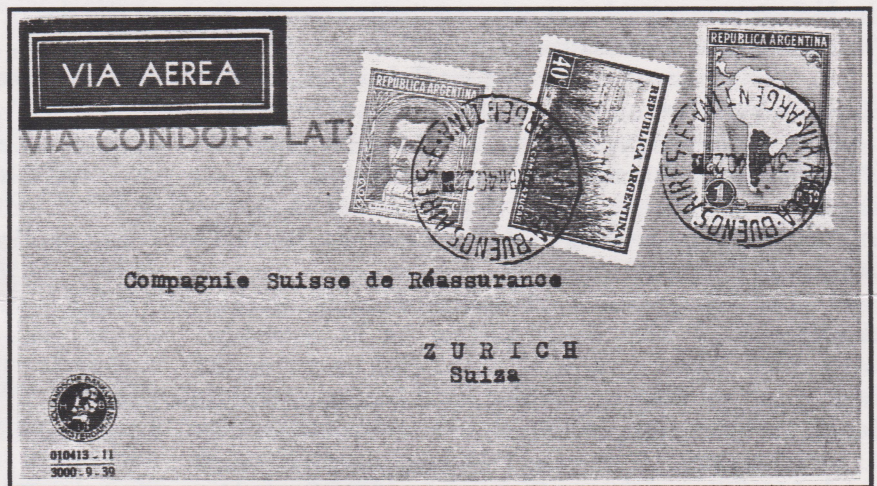


Figure 4: The CONDOR- LATI connection came to be affixed by a variety of markings - usually pens, but also including rubber stamps for more frequent users of the service.



Figure 5: Uruguayan CONDOR-LATI example paying correct rates.

of air mail service in the late 1920's, Argentina treated the air mail fee as an overcharge over and above the ordinary postal rates for mail delivery. Thus, from the late 1920's onward, Argentine postal authorities always charged not only the ordinary mail fee, but the overcharge. In 1941, rates from Argentina to Europe were increased to M\$N \$1.70, consisting of an ordinary rate charge of \$. 20 centavos, and \$1.50 for air mail. Rates from the rest of Latin American were: Chile to Europe in 1941 amounted to 14.40 Chilean pesos, consisting of \$1.90 for ordinary postage, and \$12.50 for the airmail fee for each 5 grams; Peru to Europe amounted to 1.70 gold soles for

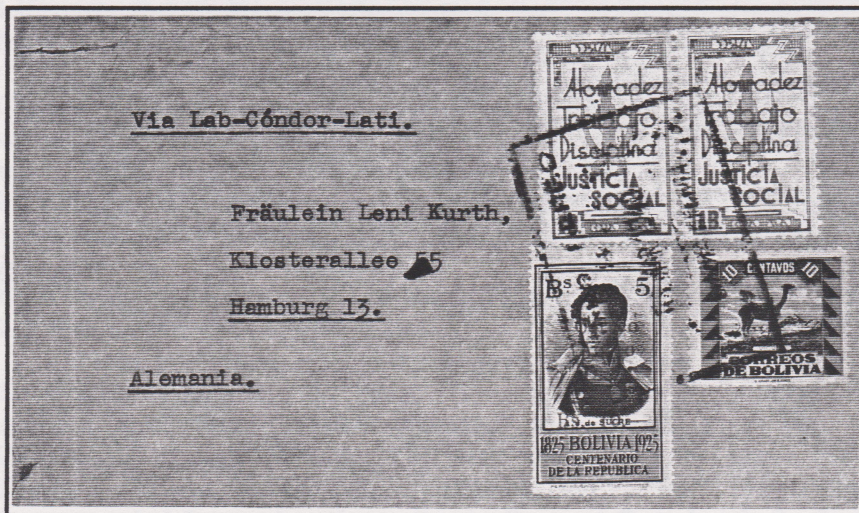


Figure 6: Bolivian LAB-CONDOR-LATI example paying correct rates.

air mail; Uruguayan rates remained the same as the prewar rates of \$.75 centavos on this March, 1940 example.

While LATI had contributed to the maintenance of transoceanic service (increasing its flights to weekly in June, 1941), once Italy joined the war in June 1940 LATI (like CONDOR) began experiencing Allied pressure against it. That pressure resulted in large part as a result of the close connections between LATI (in June the airline had been militarized by the Italian government) and CONDOR to the Axis powers. In April, 1941 a fine was imposed by the Brazilian government because a flight was seen as for reasons other than "civil diversion". At other times, Italian airmen were known to have reported to submarine commanders

the positions of allied convoys. As the war intensified and the prospects deepened of American involvement, the U.S. government became increasingly concerned about the ties of South American commercial airlines to the Axis powers and the dominance of German civilians in them.

Nationalization actions by Colombia prompted the U.S. to encourage their spread in the rest of Latin America by threatening the withholding of aviation gasoline as a "weapon of war". Finally, in December, 1941 LATI experienced problems relating to fuel supplies at Brazilian sites as the U.S. government cut off supplies a few days after the declarations of war against Germany and Italy that brought the U.S. into the fray. By December 22, 1941, LATI services had ceased, and within four months CONDOR experienced a name change to SERVICIOS AEREO CONDOR and, under further pressure, Brazil terminated CONDOR's operations at the end of the year.

And that, ladies and gentlemen, constitutes the brief history of LATI. Hope you enjoyed that cup of coffee.

**For further reading on LATI, might I suggest the following:**

- Beith, Richard, *The Italian South Atlantic Air Mail Service, 1939-1941* (Chester, England: Richard Beith Associates, 1993)
- Kriebel, William Victor, *CORREIO AEREO: A History of the Development of Air Mail Service in Brazil*, (Mineola, NY: American Air Mail Society, 1996)
- Kurchan, Mario *RUTAS Y TARIFAS DE LOS CORREOS AEREO EN SUDAMERICA, 1928-1940* (Air Mail Routes and Rates in South America. 1928-40), (Buenos Aires, 1999)
- Seek New Transatlantic Route to Italy, *Airpost Journal*, Nov., 1939 11:31
- Smith, Henry Ladd, *AIRWAYS ABROAD* (Washington: Smithsonian Institution Press, 1991), 67-68
- Pezillo, Sam, *SOUTH AMERICAN SERVICE OF LATI*, *Airpost Journal*, June 1980 61:7
- VanRysdam, John, *LATI COVER THAT ISN'T*, *Airpost Journal*. Nov., 1993 64:463

*News From the RMPL...*

**RMPL SILENT AUCTION AT ROMPEX**

The RMPL receives many donated philatelic items. Each year we hold a silent auction at ROMPEX where these items are offered for sale with the proceeds going to help to pay the monthly bills. Each year it is our goal to have the proceeds from the Silent Auction pay for all the bills for at least one month.

This year we have assembled, from the donated items, a very large group of auction lots.

Members will notice that we have included a complete list of the Silent Auction lots with this issue of Scribblings. For the many non-members on our mailing list - you may obtain a copy of the Silent Auction lots by sending us 55 cents for postage and we will mail one to you. Lists will be available at the RMPL table at ROMPEX, also.

Since we feel that it is for a good cause, we urge you to bid early, to bid often, and to bid high. There are lots that might go

for under a dollar and lots that should go for well over \$100. It should be a lot of fun for all bidders.

**SECOND SATURDAY AT THE RMPL**

We are pleased to announce that the "Second Saturday at the RMPL" educational programs will continue throughout the summer. The program for Saturday, May 13 starting at 9:00 AM, will be given by Jerry Eggleston on the subject of "Galena, IL".

The program for Saturday, June 10, 9:00 AM, will be given by Bill Dunn on the subject of "Croatia". Now there is a country that few of us know much about. Here's our chance to learn!

Attendance has been increasing and most who attend once come back again. The coffee pot is always ready and usually the "donut fairy" makes a visit prior to the meeting. Afterwards it seems that the philatelic stories are like fish stories - they get bigger the longer someone talks about them. We have a good time and we learn a lot about subjects that we don't usually collect. We urge all

members to attend and bring along a philatelic friend.

We are always looking for persons who are willing to do one of these programs at some future date. Should you be interested in volunteering for a Second Saturday, or should you want to suggest some other person to do a program, please contact Don Beuthel at 303-755-9328.

### RMPL KID'S STAMP CLUB

The RMPL Kid's Stamp Club has been meeting for several months now and reports that they are doing well and having fun with stamps. They decided at the last meeting that they would not meet in May because their meeting date falls on ROMPEX weekend and that they would not meet during the summer months. They will resume their 1:00 PM meetings on the 3rd Saturday of each month starting again in September - September 16th - and each month after that. They are looking for new members and, of course, adult help. Interested persons should contact Felice Vainer at 303-751-7657 for further information.

### THANK YOU - DONORS

A non-profit public charity like the RMPL is highly dependent upon donations. Those of us who process the donations at the RMPL never cease to be amazed at the quality and the quantity of these donations. They come in all forms ranging from an envelope of used stamps for the Kid's Club to large cash donations; from the latest issue of a periodical to a significant philatelic literature collection. At the beginning of the RMPL, never in our wildest dreams did we expect such a response as we have received. The RMPL is growing rapidly thanks to all who have been kind enough to share with others through the RMPL. We can never thank you enough. And one of the most wonderful parts of this is that people are coming to the library to make use of your donations for research and study. We sincerely hope that your generosity continues and our collection continues to grow in size and in quality.

Persons who have contributed during the past two months include: Colin Spong, Joe Thompson, Don Beuthel, Jack Willard, Ward Crowley, Civil Censorship Study Group, Ron Mitchell, Kenneth Kamholz, Doris Chandler, Jack Marchuck, Hal Grossman, Robley Rhine, Dave Capra, Bob Brown, Loren Brodahl, Herman Axelrod, Robert Debus, Bill Dunn, Art Weaver, Jim Davenport, Glenn Mallory, Daniel Metschler, Matt Zieringer, Bob Wolf, Tim Bartshe, C. Mauk, Jack Dear, George Brodahl, Joe Crosby, Steve Shaw, Mort Turner, Bob Ainsworth, James Moorman, Leonard Piskiewicz, US Postal Stationery Society, Carol Blatherwick, Peter Bergen, Terence Hines, Tom TenEyck, Kent Rickard, Norm Ritchie, Lois Teed, F. W. Bear, Rusty Morse, Nigel Evans, Jim Lay, and Phil Beutel.

Again some material just shows up and we can't trace from whom it came - some was even left on our doorstep one Saturday morning while

a meeting was in progress. We sincerely thank each and every one of our donors - known and unknown.

We like to remind you that the RMPL has a 501 (c)(3) Public Charity status with the IRS and donations to the RMPL may be declared as contributions if you itemize on your tax forms. We try to send each donor a letter acknowledging receipt of the donation. If you didn't receive a letter, and need one, please contact Bill Dunn at 303-321-8746.

### MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

With each issue of the Scribblings we send out membership renewal information. Some of you will be receiving our First Notice, or Second Notice, or Final Notice. We hope that you will renew your RMPL membership promptly and generously. Those who have renewed recently should receive your current membership card.

The following are new RMPL members:

Roberto B. Colla	Thomas Surppenaut
J. Robert Moore	Steve F. Shaw
Clark Lyda	Tom TenEyck
Ray Suderman	Jack R. VanEns

### MAPS AND PHILATELY

by Bob Brown - Deputy Cartographic Archivist

What do maps have to do with philately? The short answer, LOTS!! The long answer, read on.

A map may be considered as a portrait in time. Technically, it is nothing more than a graphic rendition of a piece of "terra firma," i.e., a piece of dirt. But different maps of this piece of dirt represent different time periods.

The early maps of Colorado show many towns, localities, camps, etc... that are no longer in existence. What happened to them? In many cases, these places were mining camps that lasted anywhere from one to two weeks, or if the mines lasted, maybe a couple of years. Some of these camps were fortunate to have a post office. The places that had no post office -- it's anyone's guess where they may have been located. On *Nell's Topographic & Township Map of the State of Colorado, 1880*, locations having post offices as of July 1, 1880 are shown by a special symbol. There are 213 of these locations on the map. They range from ranch post offices on the plains to small locations in the western part of the state. The same map shows some of the early wagon roads and the railroads.

Speaking of railroads, did you know that your Rocky Mountain Philatelic library has a set of twelve maps showing the Railway Mail Service 1905, 1908? The coverage of the maps is the entire United States. Colorado shows a rather extensive coverage of the Railway Mail Service routes. Returning to "those thrilling days of yesterday," when railroads were considered to be nothing more than Robber Barrons, *Thayer's New Map of the State of Colorado, 1878*, shows the extent of the land grants provided by the Federal Government to the Kansas Pacific Railroad, the Denver Pacific Railroad, and the Union Pacific Railroad.

Other map holdings include an almost complete set of the General Highway Maps of Colorado as published by the State Department of Highways. This series of maps got their start during the 1930's, when there was little coverage of the United States by the U. S. Geological Survey. Virtually every highway department in the nation produced these maps up until recently. With the advent of computer cartography, the maps produced now bear little resemblance to the early maps produced by pen and ink. The off-highway culture that was depicted, was extensive, ranging from sawmills to turpentine stills (whatever those are). The inventory dates of our collection range from 1963 to 1981, while the revision date is January 1, 1984. The inventory date reflects the gathering of field data by driving the roads, while the revision date is the date of the latest revision. Our set is missing one supplement of Pueblo County.

Some turn of the century maps by a local mapmaker, The Clason Map Company, are found in our collection of maps. George Clason was a local mapmaker with offices in Denver and Chicago. His company produced many maps of the western United States. A series of Green Guides contained information regarding towns and cities, the railroads, and later on of course, the highways. Some

turn of the century maps by a local mapmaker, The Clason Map Company, are found in our collection of maps. George Clason was a local mapmaker with offices in Denver and Chicago. His company produced many maps of the western United States. A series of Green Guides contained information regarding towns and cities, the railroads, and later on of course, the highways. What would a Philatelic Library be without some reference to Post Route Maps prepared by the Topographer of the Post Office Department? Your library has the 1892 edition which has been revised to December 1, 1893.

Another interesting map is the *Map of the Military Department of New Mexico, 1864*. The current states of Arizona and New Mexico comprise the Military Department of New Mexico. This map shows Wagon Roads, Trails and Routes of Reconnoitering (sic) Parties, Recommended Routes for Wagon Roads, Route of Parties Exploring for Wagon Roads, and Military Posts, occupied and abandoned.

Rand McNally & Co. map of Colorado, 1879, shows the early development of the railroads, mostly along the

front range and the plains. The Denver & Rio Grande Railroad is just starting to work its way into the mountains. Also shown are several wagon roads, although not identified as such. One other interesting aspect of the early maps is the development of place names. Over time, names may change by local custom, by spelling and/or pronunciation or a variety of other factors.

The Cartographic Collection in the RMPL includes a large number of National Geographic Maps, and early highway maps for Colorado and other states and regions. It should also be noted that there are a number of duplicate National Geographic Maps which are being offered for sale.

The Rocky Mountain Philatelic Library is here to serve the community, philatelists or not, members or nonmembers. The Cartographic Collection is just one of the tools available for use by the library patrons. It is the hope of the Volunteer library staff that this write up will serve as an introduction to the cartographic aspect of philately and the users will feel free to make use of its resources.

## ...What's Happening at the RMPL...

*"Come and enjoy the activities"*

### MAY 2000

Mondays: May 1, 8, 15, 22 Open 10-4  
 Tuesdays: May 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Open 10-4  
 Wednesdays: May 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 Open 10-4  
 Thursdays: May 4, 11, 18, 25 Open 2-8  
 Fridays: May 5, 12, 19, 26 Open 10-4  
 Saturdays: May 6, 13, 20, 27 Open 10-4  
 May 3 - Aurora Stamp Club  
     6:30 Trading 7:30 Meeting and Program  
 May 10 - Meeting - 7:00 PM  
     Denver Germany Stamp Club  
 May 13 - Second Saturday at the RMPL - 9:00 AM  
     Program by Jerry Eggleston - "Galena, IL"  
 May 13 - Meeting - 2:00 PM Universal Ship  
     Cancellation Society U.S.S. Colorado Chapter  
 May 19, 20, 21 - Silent Auction  
     RMPL Silent Auction at ROMPEX  
 May 27 - Meeting - 2:00 PM  
     China Stamp Society  
 May 29 - RMPL CLOSED - Memorial Day

### JUNE 2000

Mondays: June 5, 12, 19, 26 Open 10-4  
 Tuesdays: June 6, 13, 20, 27 Open 10-4  
 Wednesdays: June 7, 14, 21, 28 Open 10-4  
 Thursdays: June 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Open 2-8  
 Fridays: June 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Open 10-4  
 Saturdays: June 3, 10, 17, 24 Open 10-4  
 June 3 - Meeting - 9:30 AM  
     Scandinavian Collectors Club  
 June 7 - Aurora Stamp Club  
     6:30 Trading 7:30 Meeting and Program  
 June 10 - Second Saturday at the RMPL - 9:00 AM  
     Program by Bill Dunn - "Croatia"  
 June 10 - Meeting - 11:00 AM  
     Rocky Mountain Aerophilatelists  
 June 10 - Meeting - 2:00 PM Universal Ship  
     Cancellation Society U.S.S. Colorado Chapter  
 June 14 - Meeting - 7:00 PM  
     Denver Germany Stamp Club  
 June 17 - Meeting - 10:00 AM  
     Mexico/Latin America Philately Group  
 June 24 - Meeting - 2:00 PM  
     China Stamp Society  
 June 27 - ROMPEX Meeting - 7:00 PM

**Scribblings** is published bi-monthly by the Rocky Mountain Philatelic Library, 2038 So. Pontiac Way, Denver, CO 80224.

**Donald G. Beuthel, Editor**

The Rocky Mountain Philatelic Library is a chartered Colorado non-profit corporation. Membership subscriptions more than the annual regular membership, and donations of appropriate philatelic materials, are deductible for U.S. income tax purposes. The RMPL is an Internal Revenue Service designated 501(c)3 charitable organization.

**RMPL Board of Directors**

President: Donald G. Beuthel    Vice-President: Jim Kilbane    Secretary: William S. Dunn    Treasurer: Robert Blatherwick  
 Members at Large: Sergio Lugo - Ron Mitchell - James L. Ozment - John H. Willard