

Duitse Post

The "Graf Zeppelin" flight to and from Iceland, 1931.

Germany (Reich) Zeppelin airmail stamps to be used on cards and letters on outwards flights (from Friedrichshafen) to various destinations on all flights, showing the airship "Graf Zeppelin LZ127" in full flight over a globe.

- Germany, Airmail/Zeppelin, **1 Mark** red 1931, Mi. 455, perforation 12, watermark 2
For usage on cards.
- Germany, Airmail/Zeppelin, **2 Mark** ultramarine 1928, Mi. 423, perforation 12, watermark 2
For usage on letters.
- Germany, Airmail/Zeppelin, **4 Mark** brown 1928, Mi. 424, perforation 12, watermark 2
For usage on letters.



The Graf Zeppelin flight to and from Iceland 1931

Cancels



1.



2.



A.

TYP A



3.



B.

TYP B



C.

TYP C



D.

Legenda

1. Triangular **Iceland flight** cachet (green).
- A. **Reykjavik type A**; Long beam, separation lines broken in the center. (black).
- B. **Reykjavik type B**; Long beam separation lines unbroken in the center. (black).
- C. **Reykjavik type C**; Short beam close lines in frame and no separation lines (black).
- D. **Board post cancel** (purple) (1-7-1931)
2. **Friedrichshafen** departure cancel
3. **Friedrichshafen** arrival cancel

The "Graf Zeppelin" flight to and from Iceland, 1931.

Non-usual franking of an ordinary airmailstamp and dispatch to the United States.

Card franked with ordinary airmailstamp Mi. 382 (1926). The 1 Mark Zeppelin stamp was issued just within two months before the Icelandflight, so not yet commonly known for usage. The 2 and 4 Mark stamps were issued in 1928. This card was taken from the Zeppelin in Reykjavik and then dispatched to Defiance, Ohio after initially being directed to Frankfurt Germany.

Front:

- Airmaillabel "Mit Luftpost" / "Par Avion"
- **Friedrichshafen** "30.6.31"
- Triangular **Icelandflight** cachet.
- **Reykjavik type A** "1.VII.31"



Rear:

- **Defiance, Ohio** "Jul 16 1931"



The "Graf Zeppelin" flight to and from Iceland, 1931.

American Zeppelin mail card via Friedrichshafen, Reykjavik & England to Chicago

Card franked with the 1 Mark Zeppelin stamp Mi. 455. This card was taken from the Zeppelin in Reykjavik and then dispatched to England by the Royal Mail Service (RMS) send on to Chicago Illinois by airmail and finally to Ishpeming.

Front:

- Friedrichshafen "30.6.31"
- Triangular **Icelandflight** cachet
- Reykjavik **type B** "1.VII.31"
- Chicago Illinois "jul 16 1931"
- Mailman cancel **3**

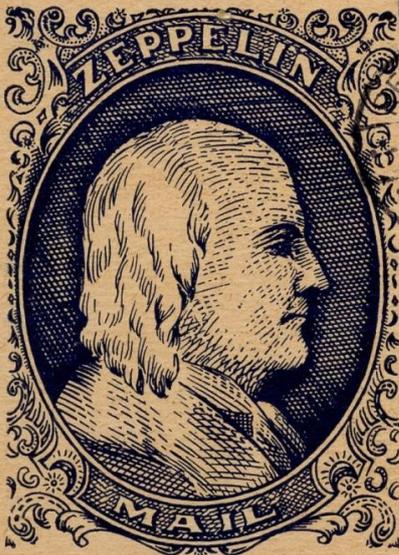


Rear:

- Stempel **RMS** (Royal Mail Service (UK))
- Arrivial cancel **ISHPEMING & CHI 16-jul-1931 R.P.O**



ZEPPELIN MAIL



VIA ICELAND



AUGUST E. KOEH
Main Street
KRWASKUM, WISC.
U.S.A



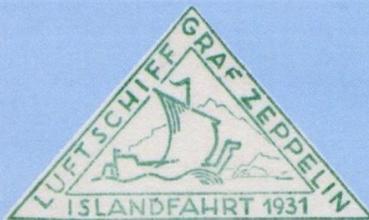
The "Graf Zeppelin" flight to and from Iceland, 1931.

Zeppelin letter from Friedrichshafen to St. Paul Minnesota U.S.A.

Cover franked with 1 Mark Zeppelin stamp Mi. 455. (twice!). This cover was aboard of the airship during the Iceland flight on the onwards journey. This card was then landed with mailbags and sent on to its U.S. destination St. Paul Minnesota during the visit of the Zeppelin in Reykjavik. The rate for sending letters was 2 Mark. The zeppelin stamp of 2 Mark (Mi. 423) would have been the appropriate franking. The usage of the (new) 1 Mark stamp on letters is very uncommon!

Front:

- Departure cancel **Friedrichshafen** "30.6.31" (twice!)
- Triangular **Icelandflight** cachet
- **Reykjavik type A** "1.VII.31"



The "Graf Zeppelin" flight to and from Iceland, 1931.

Bordpostcancel on picturepostcard of the zeppelin with 1 Mark zeppelin stamp.

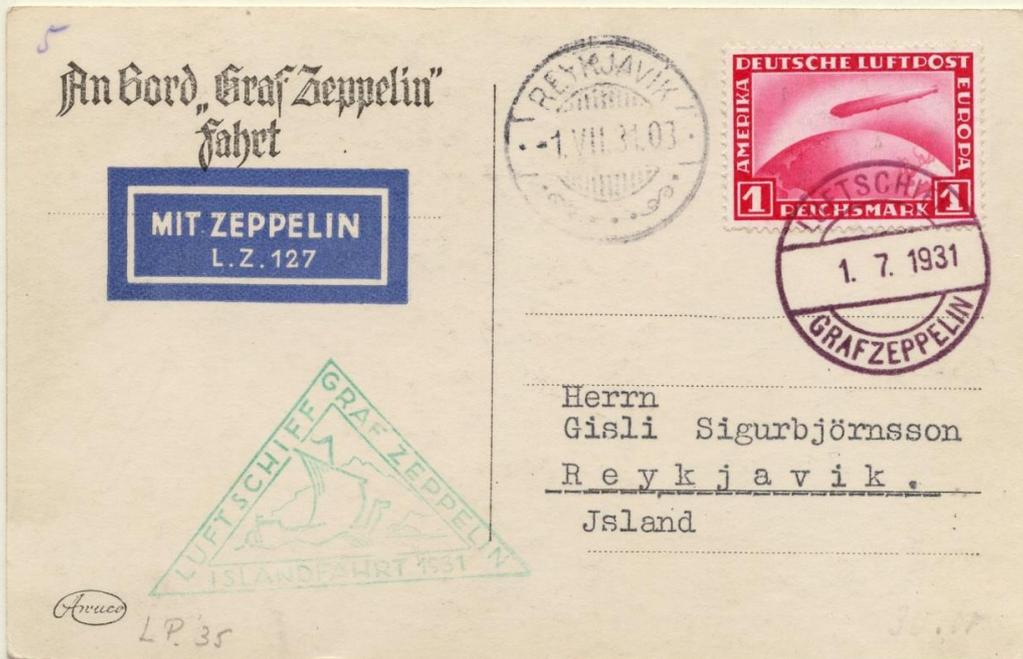
Card franked with the 1 Mark Zeppelin stamp Mi. 455. This card was posted on board of the airship during the Iceland flight on the onwards journey. The Friedrichshafen cancel is missing on this card. The purple cancel Luftschiiff Graf Zeppelin indicates the boardpost usages. The card was landed with mailbags on ropes to its Reykjavik destination.

Front:

- Boardpostcancel of the "Graf Zeppelin" in violet **LUFTSCHIFF / 1.7.1931 / GRAF ZEPPELIN.**
- Triangular **Icelandflight** cachet (lightly vague)
- **Reykjavik type A** "1.VII.31"

Achterzijde:

- Fotokaart van de Graf Zeppelin bij de landing



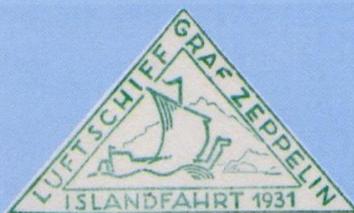


The “Graf Zeppelin” flight to and from Iceland, 1931.

Letter with 2 Mark zeppelin stamp.

Card franked with the 2 Mark Zeppelin stamp Mi. 423 to Reykjavik. This covers was landed with mailbags on to its Reykjavik destination during the visit of the Zeppelin in Reykjavik. The cover bears a written statement “via Sevilla”. The sender probably intended to have the cover shipped via Sevilla (to create a “special” cover) on the 29th. However nothing on the cover indicates that it was part of an earlier flight of Graf Zeppelin.

- **Friedrichshafen** “30.6.31”
- Triangular **Icelandflight** cachet
- **Reykjavik type A** “1.VII.31” (slightly vague)



*Luftschiff, Graf Zeppelin
Friedrichsh - Reykjavik.*



Jón Þórnsson

Fa. Verzlunin Björn Krissjansson.



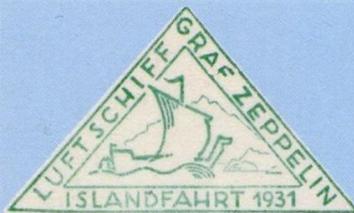
Reykjavik.

The "Graf Zeppelin" flight to and from Iceland, 1931.

Boardpostcancel on letter with 2 Mark zeppelin stamp.

Card franked with the 2 Mark Zeppelin stamp Mi. 423 to Reykjavik. This letter was posted aboard of the airship during the Iceland flight on the onwards journey. This covers was then landed with mailbags on to its Reykjavik destination during the visit of the Zeppelin in Reykjavik.

- Boardpostcancel of the "Graf Zeppelin" in violet **LUFTSCHIFF / 1.7.1931 / GRAF ZEPPELIN.**
- Triangular **Icelandflight** cachet
- **Reykjavik type A** "1.VII.31"



TYP A

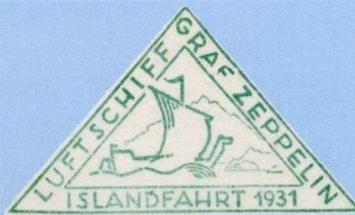


The "Graf Zeppelin" flight to and from Iceland, 1931.

Boardpostcancel on letter with 2 Mark zeppelin stamp.

Card franked with the 2 Mark Zeppelin stamp Mi. 423 to Reykjavik. This letter was posted aboard of the airship during the Iceland flight on the onwards journey. This covers was then landed with mailbags and sent on to its German destination during the visit of the Zeppelin in Reykjavik. The cover is addressed to a famous collector of zeppelin mail who has made an enormous variation in covers, cancels and destinations (Kummer in Cottbus).

- Boardpostcancel of the "Graf Zeppelin" in violet **LUFTSCHIFF / 1.7.1931 / GRAF ZEPPELIN**.
- Triangular **Icelandflight** cachet
- **Reykjavik type A** "1.VII.31"



The "Graf Zeppelin" flight to and from Iceland, 1931.

Boardpostcancel on letter with 4 Mark zeppelin stamp.

Card franked with the 4 Mark Zeppelin stamp Mi. 424 to Wageningen. This letter was aboard of the airship during the Iceland flight on the onwards journey. This covers was then landed with mailbags and sent on to its Dutch destination during the visit of the Zeppelin in Reykjavik. The return trip of the cover went via Berlin which transit cancel is on the reverse of the cover. The cover is adressed to a famous collector of zeppelin mail who has made a lot of variation in covers, cancels and destinations (Adama in Wageningen).

Front:

- **Friedrichshafen** "30.6.31"
- Triangular **Icelandflight** cachet
- **Reykjavik type A** "1.VII.31"
- Langstempel **"MIT LUFTSCHIFF „GRAF ZEPPELIN"** in violet (2x)

Back:

- Transit cancel **Berlin** "7.7.31"



TYP A



MIT LUFTSCHIFF „GRAF ZEPPELIN"



Verdragstaten post

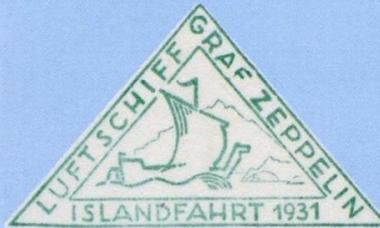
The "Graf Zeppelin" flight to and from Iceland, 1931.

Treatypost Icelandflight Liechtenstein from Triesenberg to Triesenberg

Card franked with the Liechtenstein Airmail 1930, 35 Rappen Mi. 111, 1 Franc Mi. 113 and ordinary mail 5 Rappen Mi. 95. (Total of 1,40 Francs). This card was aboard of the airship during the Iceland flight on the onwards journey. This covers was then landed with mailbags and sent on to its Liechtenstein destination during the visit of the Zeppelin in Reykjavik. The return trip of the cover went via regular (air)mail, the card was not taken back with the Zeppelin.

Front:

- Departure cancel **Triesenberg** (Liechtenstein) "27.VI.31"
- Advertising cancel "**Besucht / das schone / Fürstentum / Liechtenstein**"
- **Friedrichshafen** "30.6.31"
- Triangular **Icelandflight** cachet
- **Reykjavik type A** "1.VII.31"





The "Graf Zeppelin" flight to and from Iceland, 1931.

Treatypost Icelandflight of the Netherlands from Amsterdam Central Station to Reykjavik
 Picturepostcard of the "Graf Zeppelin" during landing procedures. Card franked with Netherlands NVPH airmail nr. LP4, NVPH nr. 180 and NVPH nr. 187 (Total of 62,50 cents, 40 cents in airmail stamps and 22½ in ordinary stamps). This card was aboard of the airship during the Iceland flight on the onwards journey. This card was then landed with mailbags and sent on to its Reykjavik destination during the visit of the Zeppelin in Reykjavik.

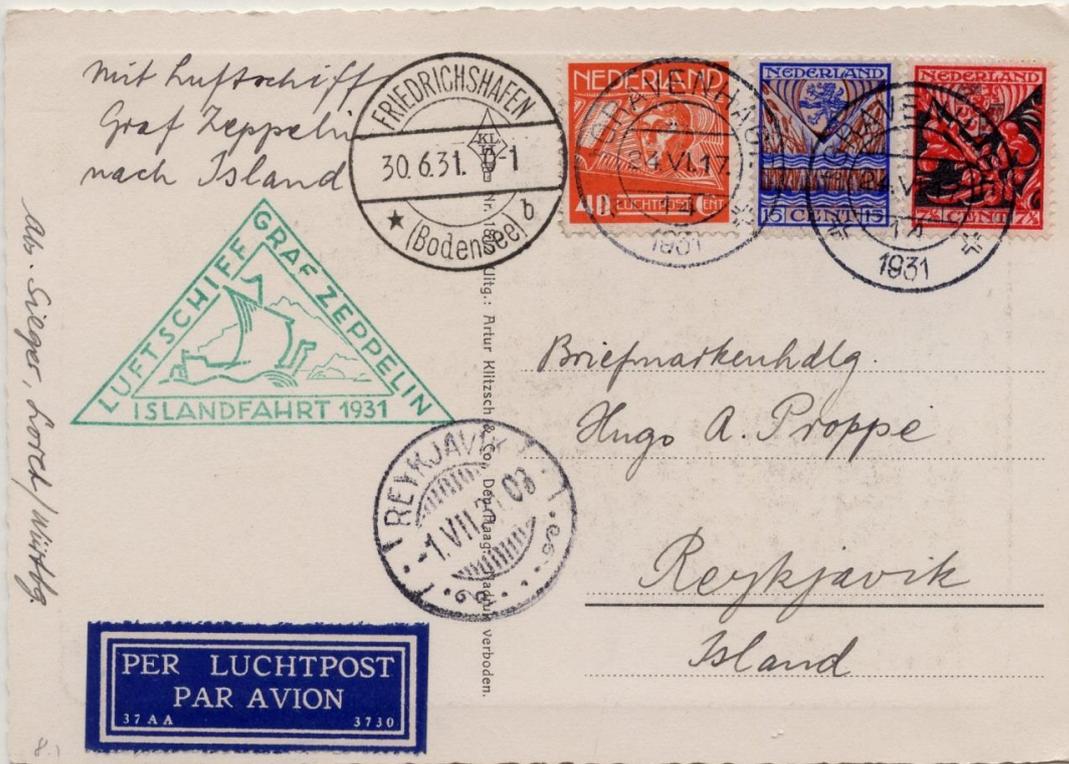
Front:

- Departure cancel **Amsterdam Centraal Station** "26.VI.31"
- Transit cancel **Friedrichshafen** "30.6.31"
- Triangular **Icelandflight** cachet
- **Reykjavik type A** "1.VII.31"
- Cancel "**Mit Luftschiff Graf Zeppelin**" in violet



Mit Luftschiff Graf Zeppelin





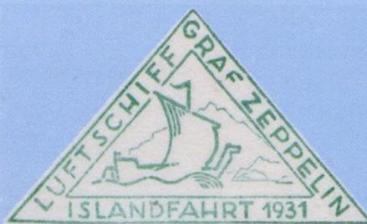
The "Graf Zeppelin" flight to and from Iceland, 1931.

Treaty-post Icelandflight of the Netherlands from The Hague to Reykjavik

Picturepostcard of "The Hague" city hal. Card franked with Netherlands NVPH airmail nr. LP4, NVPH nr. 210 and NVPH nr. 211 (Total of 62,50 cents, 40 cents in airmail stamps and 22½ in ordinary stamps). This card was aboard of the airship during the Iceland flight on the onwards journey. This card was then landed with mailbags and sent on to its Reykjavik destination during the visit of the Zeppelin in Reykjavik.

Front:

- Departure cancel 's-Gravenhage "24.VI.31"
- Transit cancel **Friedrichshafen** "30.6.31"
- Triangular **Icelandflight** cachet
- **Reykjavik type A** "1.VII.31"



The "Graf Zeppelin" flight to and from Iceland, 1931.

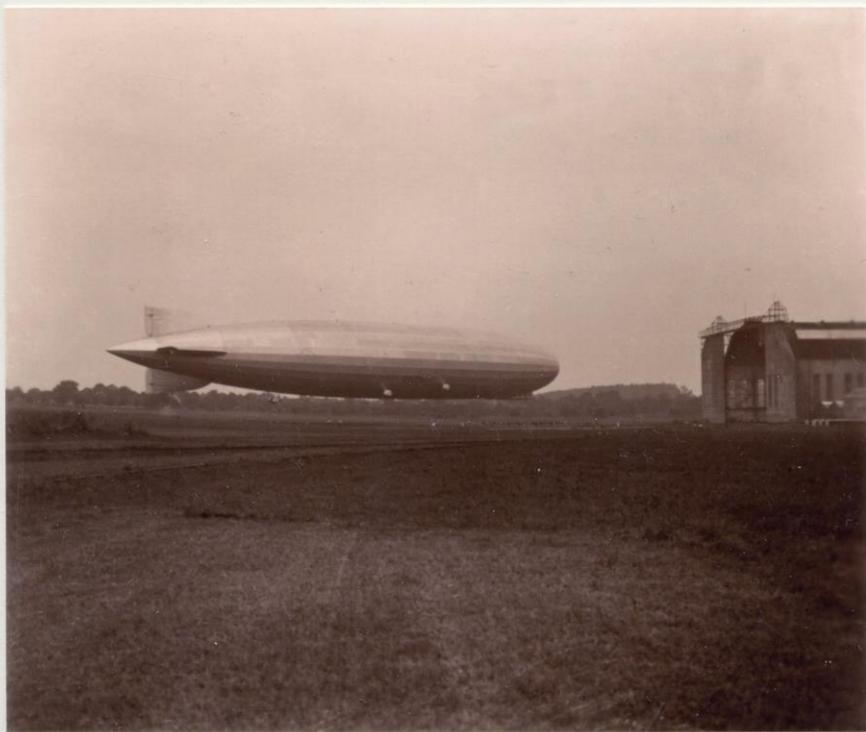
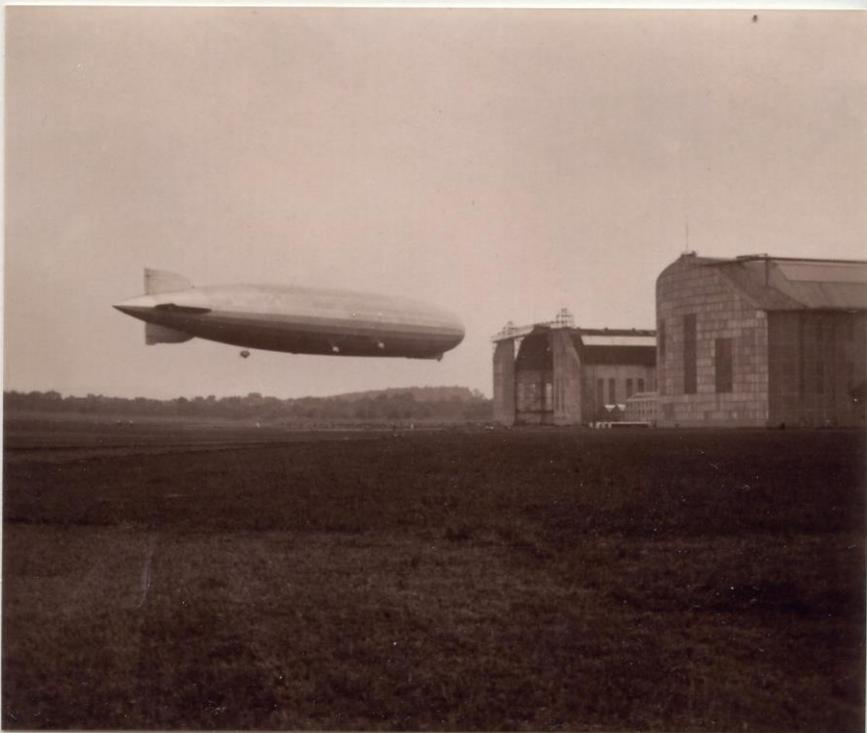
The Zeppelin hangar at Friedrichshafen.

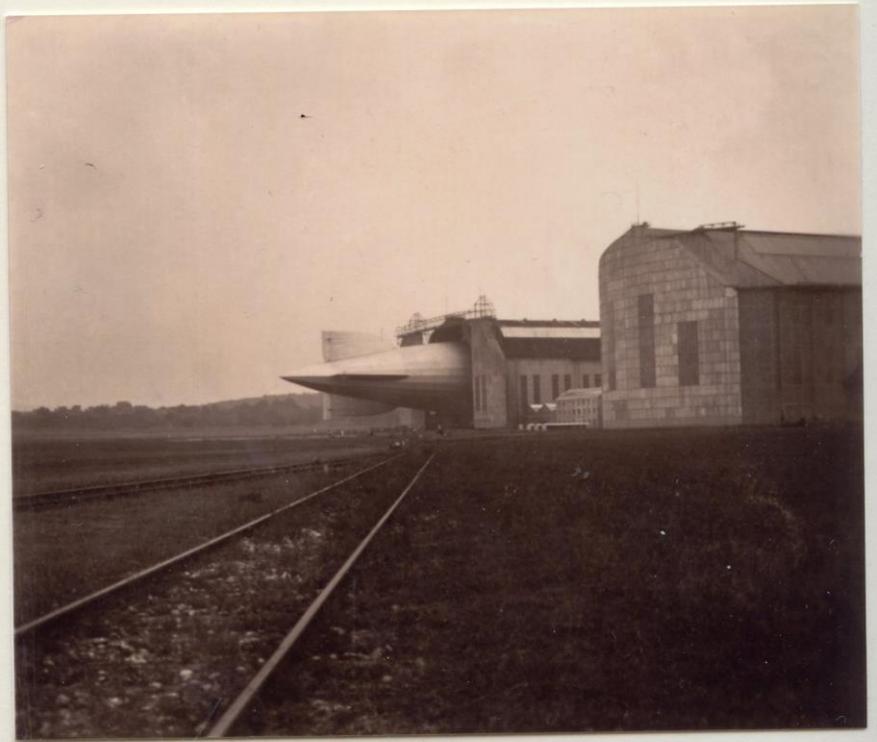
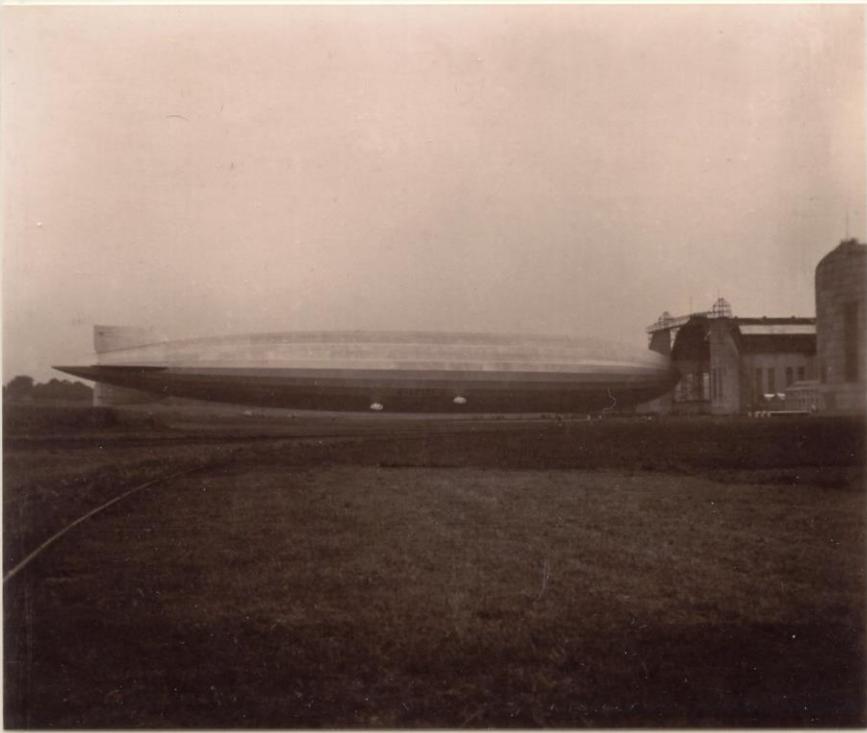
The following 5 photo's showing the Graf Zeppelin manouvering into the hangar at Friedrichshafen airport.

Zeppelins needed sheltering in hangars during construction, maintance and storage. Rigid airships needed to be placed in shelters because the possible change of weather (and winds) were a serious risk.

The first hangars where build in Friedrichshafen before the First World War. In the 1920's and 1930's the big hangars for the LZ127 (Graf Zeppelin) and LZ129 (Hindenburg) were constructed.







Islandfahrt vor 75 Jahren

CUSTOS

Fahrten des Luftschiffs "Graf Zeppelin", das die Kurzbezeichnung LZ 127 trug, waren vor 75 Jahren nicht nur in Deutschland, sondern auch international aufsehenerregende Ereignisse. Das belegt zum Beispiel die Tatsache, daß 1931 in Ungarn, Ägypten, Liechtenstein und auf Island ebenso Sondermarken zu Zeppelinbesuchen erschienen wie in der Sowjetunion, in Brasilien und Paraguay.

Die Islandfahrt begann am 30. Juni 1931 um 5.35 Uhr in Friedrichshafen und endete

dort am 3. Juli um 6.18 Uhr. Es gab einen grünen, dreieckigen Bestätigungsstempel mit einem Wikingerschiff im Bild sowie drei Sondermarken Islands.

Diese Ausgabe bestand aus Werten zu 30 Aur sowie 1 und 2 Kronen mit dem Porträt von König Christian X. und einem zweizeiligen Aufdruck "Zeppelin / 1931".

Es gab normale Post ab Friedrichshafen sowie Bordpost auf der Hin- und Rückfahrt. Ab Island wurden die Marken der Sonderausgabe der Insel verwendet, und zwar zu einer Krone für eine Karte, zu 2 Kronen für einen Brief sowie zu 30 Aur für Einschreiben.



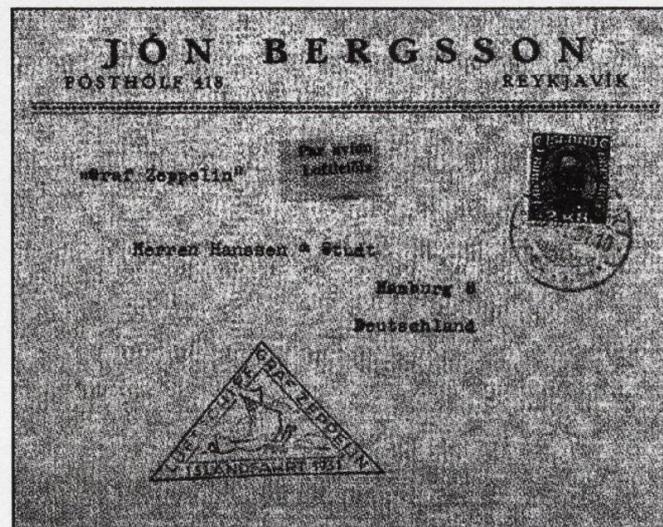
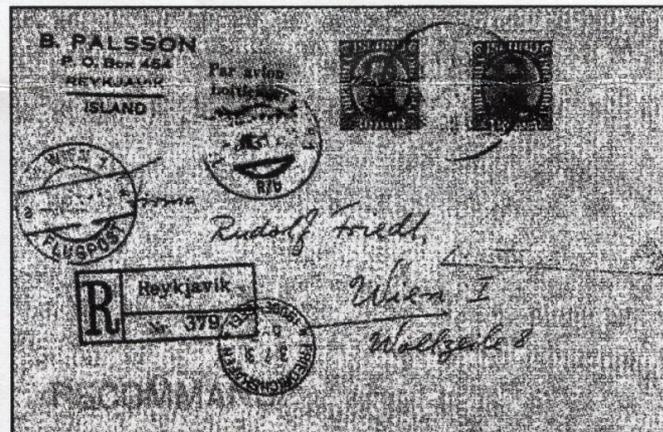
Aus Auktionen der Düsseldorfer Firma Felzmann sind zwecks Illustrierung hier abgebildet:

- ein Brief aus Friedrichshafen, der am 1. Juli in Reykjavik gestempelt wurde, dann weiter in die USA ging und als Besonderheit eine deutsche Zeppelinmarke zur Südamerikafahrt (MiNr. 438) an deren letztem Gültigkeitstag trägt (rechts oben);

- je eine Bordpostaufgabe von Hinfahrt und Rückfahrt, davon letztere mit Impressionen aus der Luft über Dänemark und seine Landwirtschaft (linke Spalten);

- eine R-Karte nach Wien mit tarifgerecht verklebten Islandmarken und ein gewöhnlicher Brief nach Hamburg (rechte Spalten).

DBZ



ZEPPELINPOST der ISLANDFAHRT



Ivo LUKANC, AIJP