

3 MONTHS IN '31

The Brief Service Life of Chile's Elusive Vermilion 2 Peso Airmail Provisional



Santiago to USA July 3, 1931

UPAEP Surface .25, Panagra Airmail Surcharge 3.60, Registration .25 = \$4.10

1 of 4 covers recorded with multiple Vermilions

Beginning in 1928, Chile's postal administration ordered the overprinting of specified regular stamps from the "Presidente" series for airmail use. This overprinting continued, by means of Typography then later via Offset on various values, until 1934, when Chile issued their first definitive international airmail series. In early 1931, while overprinting with the first Offset overprint, a small batch, estimated at 30 sheets (50 per sheet=1,500 stamps) of some remnant \$2 Pesos stamps from a 1921 Santiago printing were used to complete an order. These stamps are unique not only in their Vermilion color, but in other details which are described and shown, establishing clear parameters for their identification.

These sheets were apparently only delivered to the main Santiago post office and began to be sold and used in early June of 1931. Used examples seen thus far, both on and off cover, confirm that the stamps were used between June 10 and August 19, and only in Santiago. By the time collectors discovered this variety months later, they were no longer available, thus unused examples are very rare and covers created by philatelists aren't known.

This exhibit shows a timeline of the various overprintings and uses, describes the specific identifying characteristics of the Vermilion stamp in contrast with other printings, provides specifics about the Offset overprint, and presents a thorough representation of their use on cover during their short-lived service, including regular and registered uses and several examples of multiples used on cover. **Considering a total overprinting of only 1,500 stamps of this specific type, the Chile Vermilion \$2 Peso Airmail Provisional is a rarity indeed.**

First Overprinting
 July 1928
 Via Typography
 Blue on Rose Red

 No Watermark
 Vertical Paper Grain



Second Overprinting A
 March 1930
 Via Offset
 Dot after O
 Blue on Rose Red

 No Watermark
 Vertical Paper Grain



Second Overprinting B
 Stocks appear June 1931
 Via Offset
 Dot after O
 Blue on **VERMILION**

 No Watermark
HORIZONTAL Paper Grain



Third and subsequent Overprintings
 July 1931 – 1933
 Via Offset
 No dot after O
 Blue on Rose, Red, etc

 Mostly watermarked



September 1928
 Santiago to Germany
 UPU Surface .70
 CGA Airmail Surcharge 3.20 x 2
 Registration .70 = \$7.80

March 1930
 Santiago to Nicaragua
 UPAEP Surface .25
 Panagra Airmail Surcharge 4.20
 = \$4.45 Over franked .05

July 1931
 Santiago to Switzerland
 UPU Surface .70
 CGA Airmail Surcharge 3.20=\$3.90

July 1931
 Valparaiso to Holland
 UPU Surface .70
 CGA Airmail Surcharge 3.20=\$3.90

Characteristics of the \$2 Vermilion



Unused examples
are quite rare.
Less than 20 are
known.

Color, Overprint, Paper Grain, Usage



Dot after the O,
with 2 additional
dots found upon
closer inspection

- Color ranges from Bright Vermilion to Bright Orange-Red
- Perforations are often shallow or defective measuring 14ish
- Overprint in Blue via Offset with "Dot after O of AEREO"
- Paper grain is Horizontal
- Known used in Santiago only, June 10, 1931 – August 19, 1931
- Total overprinted reported at 1500 (30 sheets of 50 stamps)

Once basic criteria have been met, determining the direction of the paper grain is essential in confirming a Vermilion.



On earlier Typographed and
Offset overprintings paper
grain runs vertically...



On true Vermilions, though harder to discern, the
paper grain runs in a **horizontal** orientation.



Can you identify the Vermilions? (answer below)



(Answer: they all are!)

Leading up to June of 1931

May '30 and '31 in Santiago, Relevant Rates



May 3, 1930
Santiago to USA

UPAEP Surface .25
Panagra Airmail
Surcharge \$3.60
Registration .25
\$4.10
"Dot after O"
Not Vermilions



May 29, 1931
Santiago to USA

UPAEP Surface .25
Panagra Airmail
Surcharge \$3.60
\$3.85
"Dot after O"
Not Vermilion

Relevant Rates in 1931

To Europe via CGA (Compañia General Aeropostal)

UPU Surface rate	70c first 20g
CGA Airmail Surcharge	\$3.20 per 5g
Registration	70c

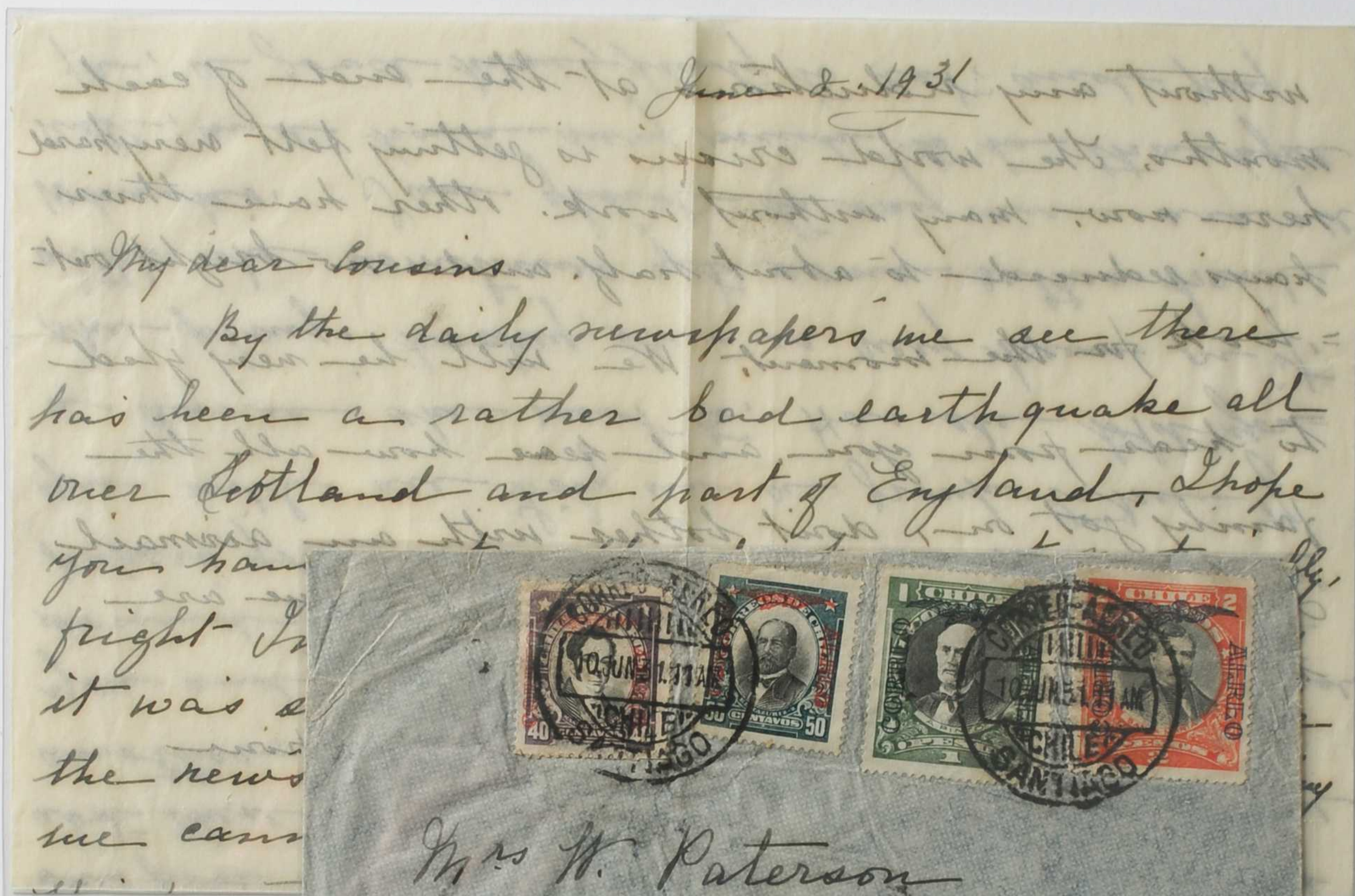
Northern Routes via PANAGRA

UPAEP Surface rate	25c first 20g
Panagra Airmail Surcharge to USA	\$3.60 per 10g
Panagra Airmail Surcharge to Canada	\$4.10 per 10g
Panagra Airmail Surcharge to Colombia	\$2.05 per 10g
Registration	25c

(Canada was accepted into the UPAEP later in 1931 thus paid UPU rates at this time)

June 1931

Vermilion - Earliest Recorded Use

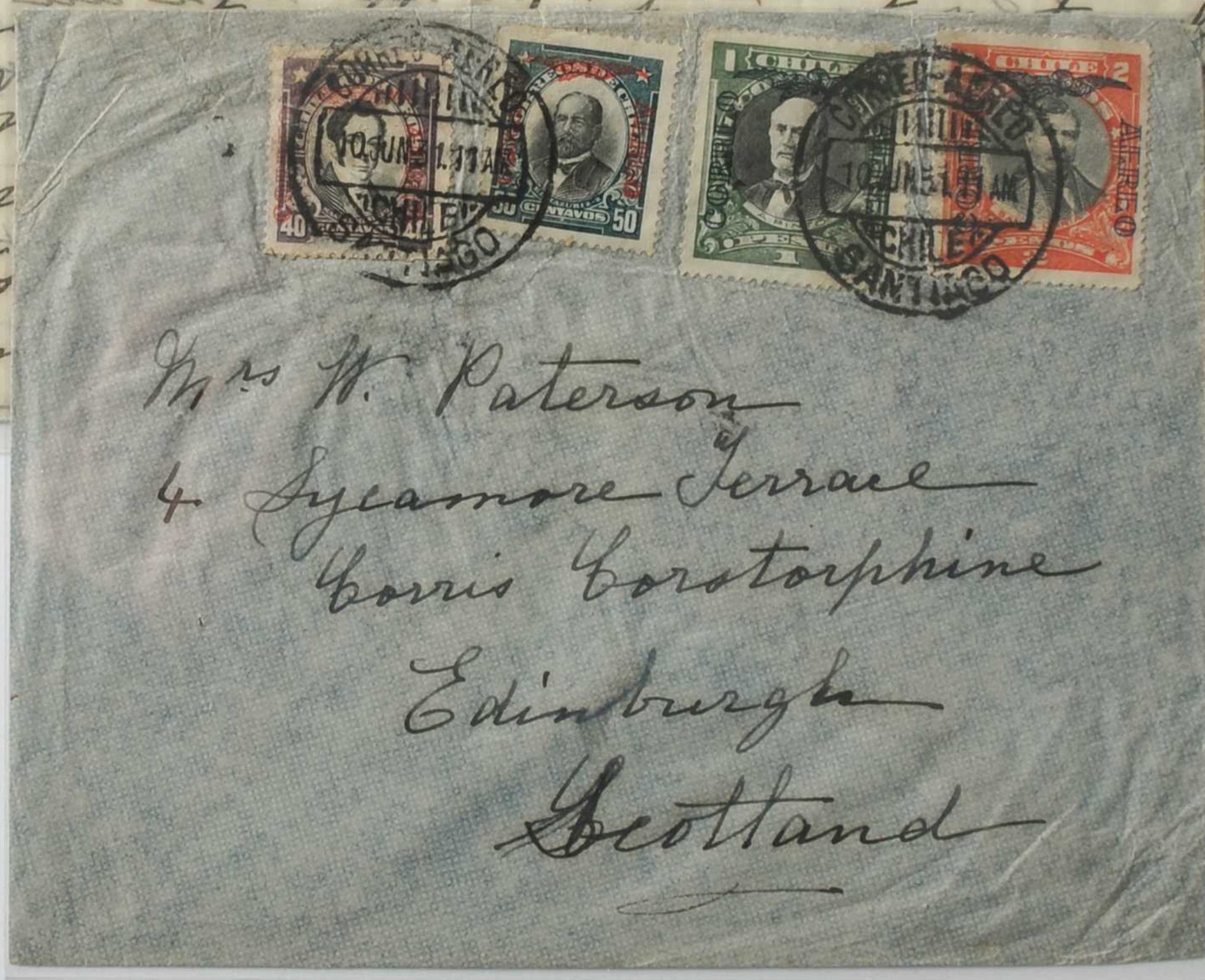


June 10, 1931
Santiago to Scotland

UPU Surface .70
CGA Airmail
Surcharge \$3.20
\$3.90

Vermilion

1 of 3 recorded
June 10 covers



Letter dated June 8 inquires about the effects of "...a rather bad earthquake all over Scotland and part of England..." The Dogger Bank Earthquake of June 7 remains the United Kingdom's strongest earthquake at 6.1 on the Richter scale.

June 1931

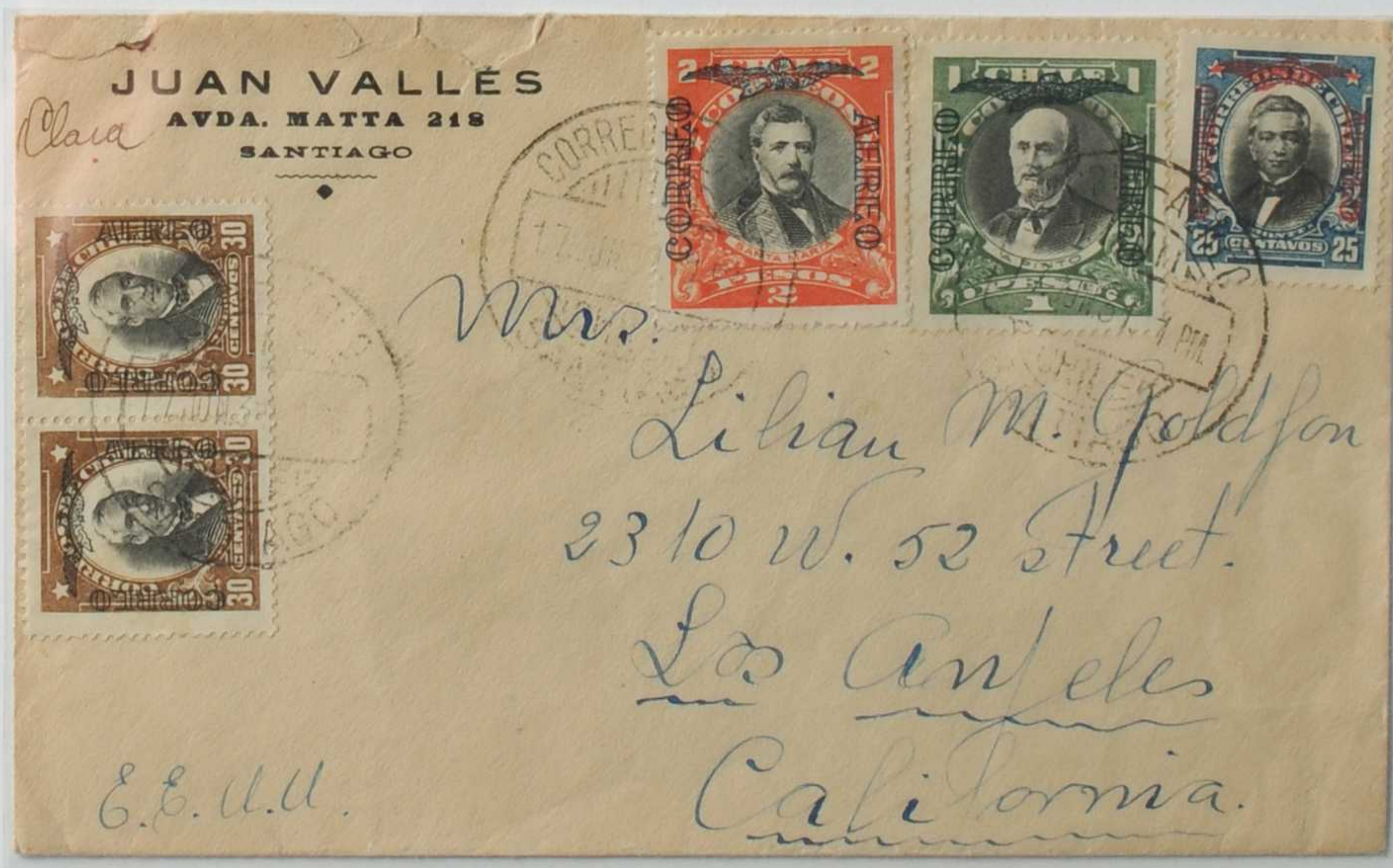
6.11 to Italy, 6.17 to USA



June 11, 1931
Santiago to Italy

UPU Surface .70
CGA Airmail
Surcharge \$3.20
\$3.90

Vermilion



June 17, 1931
Santiago to USA

UPAEP Surface .25
Panagra Airmail
Surcharge \$3.60
\$3.85

Vermilion

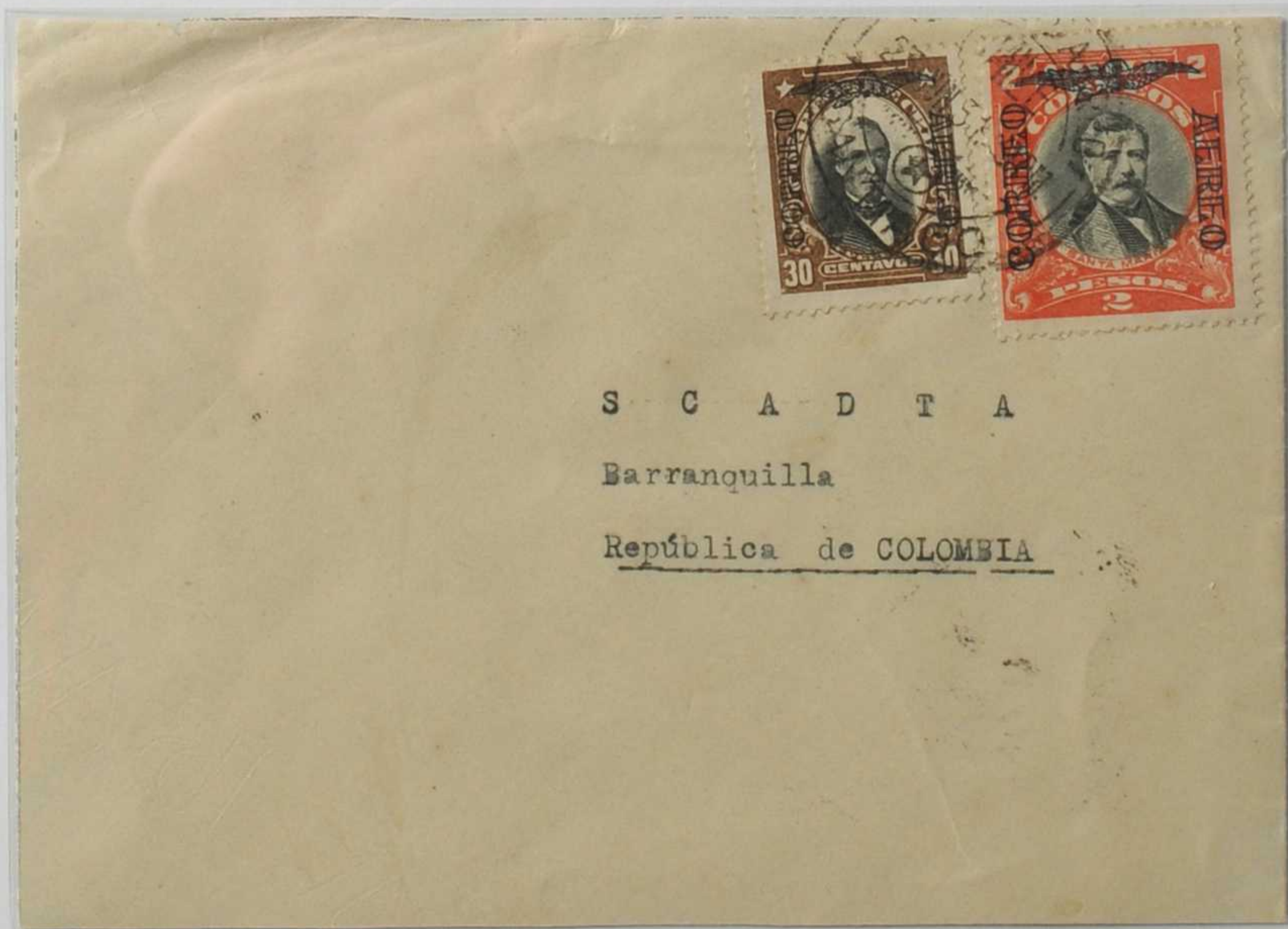
June 1931

6.18 to France, 6.23 to Colombia

June 18, 1931
Santiago to France

UPU Surface .70
CGA Airmail
Surcharge \$3.20
\$3.90

Vermilion



June 23, 1931
Santiago to Colombia

UPAEP Surface .25
Panagra Airmail
Surcharge \$2.05
\$2.30

Vermilion

July 1931

7.02 to France, 7.14 to USA



July 2, 1931
Santiago to France

UPU Surface .70
CGA Airmail
Surcharge \$3.20
\$3.90

Vermilion



July 14, 1931
Santiago to USA

UPAEP Surface .25
Panagra Airmail
Surcharge \$3.60
\$3.85

Vermilion

July 1931

7.21 to USA, 7.24 to Italy

July 21, 1931
Santiago to USA

UPAEP Surface .25
Panagra Airmail
Surcharge \$3.60
Registration .25
\$4.10

Vermilion

1 of 4 recorded with
multiple Vermilions



July 24, 1931
Santiago to Italy

UPU Surface .70
CGA Airmail
Surcharge \$3.20
\$3.90

Vermilion

July 1931

7.23 to France, 7.28 to USA



July 23, 1931
Santiago to France

UPU Surface .70
CGA Airmail
Surcharge \$3.20
\$3.90

Vermilion



July 28, 1931
Santiago to USA

UPAEP Surface .25
Panagra Airmail
Surcharge \$3.60
\$3.85

Vermilion

August 1931

8.05 to Germany, 8.08 to France

August 5, 1931
Santiago to Germany

UPU Surface .70
CGA Airmail
Surcharge \$3.20
\$3.90

Vermilion



August 8, 1931
Santiago to France

UPU Surface .70
CGA Airmail
Surcharge \$3.20
\$3.90

Vermilion

August 1931

8.07 to France, Overprint Variety



August 7, 1931
Santiago to France

UPU Surface .70
CGA Airmail
Surcharge \$3.20
\$3.90

Vermilion



Top of CORREO missing

Only repeating variety of the
CORREO AEREO with Dot
Offset Overprint found on
the Vermilion.

Known on contiguous
vertical pairs from the far
left column.

August 1931

8.10 to Canada, 8.11 to USA

August 10, 1931
Santiago to Canada

UPU Surface .70
Panagra Airmail
Surcharge \$4.10
\$4.80

Vermilion

1 of 4 recorded with
multiple Vermillions



August 11, 1931
Santiago to USA

UPAEP Surface .25
Panagra Airmail
Surcharge \$3.60
\$3.85

Vermilion

August 1931

8.13 to France, 8.19 to Germany



August 13, 1931
Santiago to France

UPU Surface .70
CGA Airmail
Surcharge \$3.20
\$3.90

Vermilion

August 19, 1931
Santiago to Germany

UPU Surface .70
CGA Airmail
Surcharge \$3.20 x 2
Registration .70
\$7.80

Vermilion



Latest recorded use of the Vermilion
1 of 2 recorded 8.19 covers

Santiago, resupplied with new \$2

8.24 to USA, 8.27 to Switzerland

New \$2 stamps, overprinted via offset with "no dot" on watermarked paper replaced the exhausted stock of Vermilions...



August 24, 1931
Santiago to USA

UPAEP Surface .25
Panagra Airmail
Surcharge \$3.60
\$3.85
underfranked by .20

Not Vermilion

No "Dot after O"
Watermarked Paper

August 27, 1931
Santiago to Switzerland

UPU Surface .70
CGA Airmail
Surcharge \$3.20
\$3.90

Not Vermilion

No "Dot after O"
Watermarked Paper



"No Dot" overprintings on watermarked paper continued until 1933, and a definitive Airmail series appeared in 1934.