

# Palestine Aerophilately: World War I - 1948

This exhibit displays the entire breadth of Palestine-related aerophilately, from the World War I conflict, through to the end of the British Mandate period. Mail from, to and through Palestine is used to illustrate the complexity of the country's linkages.

The importance of this theme includes the introduction of aviation into the Middle East and the development of extensive British commerce via air routes to and through British Palestine.

Exhibit highlights include early military aviator mail from Allied and Central Powers, pioneering RAF flights that developed into Imperial Air's Cairo-Baghdad route, early Imperial flight mail, interrupted Imperial mail, Palestine Airways internal airmail, and Haganah clandestine air mail of the late Mandate period. Also shown are catapult and LZ-127 Zeppelin mail, including Orient Flight wild drops (with the newly discovered Jaffa drop), Egypt, and South American flights.

(POW cover)

12 MY 18 Mole Creek, Tasmania to Lieutenant Lee, **First Squadron of Australian Flying Corps**,  
via International Red Cross, held as POW of Ottoman Empire

## Exhibit Plan

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|--|---|
| 1.0 Early Military Period Mail (1916 – 1923)       | 2.6 MISR                                  |
| 1.1 RAF and Australian Flying Corps mail           | 2.7 Palestine Airways                     |
| 1.2 German Air Forces mail                         | 2.8 Crash mail                            |
| 1.3 Egyptian Expeditionary Force Emergency Flights | 2.9 British and Allied Military Mail      |
| 1.4 RAF Transdesert Cairo – Baghdad route          | 2.10 World War II re-routings             |
| 2.0 Civilian Period Foreign Mail (1923 – 1948)     | 2.11 Post-WWII routes                     |
| 2.1 Imperial Air via Gaza, Lydda, Tiberias         | 3.0 End of the Mandate (April – May 1948) |
| 2.2 KLM  | 3.1 Closure of services (Lydda)           |
| 2.3 ALA  | 3.2 Clandestine Hagannah air mail         |
| 2.4 LOT  | 4.0 Special Services                      |
| 2.5 Air France                                     | 4.1 Catapult Flights                      |
|  | 4.2 LZ-127 Orientflight Zeppelin Mail     |
|  | 4.3 LZ-127 South American Flight          |

## Primary Informational Sources

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**Abbreviations:** (e)= certificate

**Items of special significance are matted.**