

# THE LETICIA INCIDENT

## COMMISSION FOR THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE TERRITORY OF LETICIA, 1933-1934

This display exhibit explores the League of Nations' involvement with the '*Leticia Incident*', a territorial dispute between Colombia and Peru. In an attempt to defuse the combat, Colombia and Peru agreed to arbitration by the League of Nations. The League appointed three member nations as a '*Commission for the Administration of the Territory of Leticia*'. Each side's military forces were withdrawn and a neutral force under the Commission's supervision policed the disputed area. This was the earliest use of a military force, under international control, for peace-keeping purposes.



Colombia  
Coat of Arms



**War Memorial in Tarapacá, Colombia**

*"To the Heroes of the Colombian Air Force; who with true courage gave the best of themselves; flying with their noble aircraft over river and jungle. Declaring over our Amazonia with the sound of their motors the sovereignty of our country during the war with Peru." - Wikipedia/Wikimedia*



Peru  
Coat of Arms  
*Inverted overprint*

### *Exhibit Plan*

The Port City of Leticia

The Combatants

The Peacemakers

Postal Routing of Commission Mail

Postal Markings of the Commission

Outgoing Service Mail

Incoming League Service Mail

Incoming Peacekeeper Mail

The League of Nations' Decision

Background of the area and the port city

Nations and personalities engaging in conflict

Nations and personalities engaging in peace efforts

Methods and routes to deliver the mail

Markings of Commission mail and postal systems

Mail from the Leticia Commission

League of Nations mail to the Leticia Commission

Mail to the Leticia Commission's Peacekeepers

Leticia remains a part of Colombia

### *Rarity*

Official service mail *to and from* the Commission is scarce due to the short period of the Commission's existence and its remote location. ***Only nineteen examples of service mail are currently recorded.***

Significant items are highlighted with dark blue matting.