In the present political situation in Europe it is of course as impossible to open the Berlin-Shanghai line as it proved for us to open the northern line.

The benefits of a peaceful air-communication between Europe and East Asia thus share, and will continue to share — for God knows how long — the sad lot of numberless enterprises in the service of mankind that are drowned in the mael-strom of present world events — a maelstrom that swallows up all reasonable work for human progress.

Accompanied by one of the German aviation experts, Major Eduard Zimmer-Mann, I left Berlin on October 31st, 1926. Taking the trans-Siberian route via Harbin and Mukden, we arrived in Peking on November 20th.

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