

The Ottoman Post Office Bon Samaritain (Khan al-Hathrur)

Austrian Levant Perfins: O&M

Late Use of the Small Ottoman Postmark of Kerek

Palestine Mandate London II: The Missing Upper Panes

Republic of Turkey: Ay Yıldız

A 1931 Rerouted Overland Mail Cover: London–Iraq–Palestine

The “Wartime Economy Use” of a Palestine Meter Mark Cover

Egypt Stamps and Rates

Reply Coupons of The Arab Postal Union

Lebanon: More Gum-Side Surcharges

Jordan’s Touristic Post Cards

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How to Sell a Parable: The Ottoman Post Office Bon Samaritain (Khan al-Hathrur)

by Folkert Bruining and Tobias Zywiets¹

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Our area of collection covers that part of the world where the “religions of the book” originate. This means that one regularly encounters religious themes: mosques and churches are frequently depicted on the stamps of our collection area. Stamp issues are dedicated to special places visited by pilgrims: think about Mecca or Jerusalem, but also lesser known places in northern Africa or Iraq.

Pilgrimage to holy places on the Arabian peninsula or in Palestine in order to fulfil religious duties is a very old phenomenon. For a Moslem the *hajj*,² the pilgrimage to Mecca, is even one of the five pillars of Islam.

In modern times – let’s say since the end of the 19th century – a new kind of pilgrimage developed: *touristic pilgrimage*. Opportunities to travel increased; people who could afford such luxury travelled to the Middle East to behold the holy places. Friends and relatives at home were kept informed by post cards sent from the visited places. The illustrations on the post cards, but also all kind of additions like postmarks and labels, kept up the illusion of the voyage being a pilgrimage.



Fig. 1: Post card of the inn Khan al-Hathrur, related to the parable of *The Good Samaritan*.³

1 This is a completely revised article, based on an article first published by Folkert Bruining in February 2007 in *Al Barid*, the magazine of FCIW (Dutch Study Circle of the Middle East).

2 Or *ḥaġġ* – حج.

3 All images, unless otherwise stated, are from the collection of Folkert Bruining.

The Caravanserai Khan al-Hathrur: “The Good Samaritan”

One of the most remarkable expressions of this kind of pilgrimage souvenir are post cards and post-marks concerning the *Parable of the Good Samaritan*. The location of the story in the Bible – halfway between Jerusalem and Jericho – is certainly imaginary. But still in around 1900 at this location an inn (or better a *caravanserai*) existed, regarded as the *Good Samaritan's Inn*.⁴

The inn *Khan al-Hathrur* is said to have been built by Ibrahim Pasha⁵ during the Egyptian occupation of Palestine in the 1830s.⁶ On the basis of various travel guides it is our impression that the inn already existed before 1831: some sources mention the existence of an inn in the 13th century, later destroyed by the Mamluks.⁷

The 1876 Baedeker guide says:⁸

There are several dilapidated buildings here, but they are uninhabited and afford no refreshment or accommodation. The water in the cisterns is bad.

In 1884 the buildings were renovated and changed into a kind of roadside restaurant with inn for travellers. In 1895 the khan became more important when the road between Jerusalem and Jericho was made suitable for freight transport, probably with simple carriages and coaches to replace the horse or camel. The inn was destroyed in 1918, but rebuilt after the Great War.

The Parable of the Good Samaritan⁹

On one occasion an expert in the law stood up to test Jesus. ‘Teacher,’ he asked, ‘what must I do to inherit eternal life?’ ‘What is written in the Law?’ he replied. ‘How do you read it?’ He answered, “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind”; and, “Love your neighbour as yourself.” ‘You have answered correctly,’ Jesus replied. ‘Do this and you will live.’

But he wanted to justify himself, so he asked Jesus, ‘And who is my neighbour?’ In reply Jesus said: ‘A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, when he was attacked by robbers. They stripped him of his clothes, beat him and went away, leaving him half-dead. A priest happened to be going down the same road, and when he saw the man, he passed by on the other side. So too, a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side.

But a Samaritan, as he travelled, came where the man was; and when he saw him, he took pity on him. He went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he put the man on his own donkey, brought him to an inn and took care of him. The next day he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper. “Look after him,” he said, “and when I return, I will reimburse you for any extra expense you may have.”

‘Which of these three do you think was a neighbour to the man who fell into the hands of robbers?’ The expert in the law replied, ‘The one who had mercy on him.’ Jesus told him, ‘Go and do likewise.’

4 Baedeker, 1912, p.126; Cook, 1907, p. 119.

5 A footnote in Conder & Kitchener, 1883, p. 207, says: “Père Liévin (‘Guide,’ p. 383) speaks of the Khan as having been built by Ibrahim Pasha.” The references in later editions of Liévin de Hamme’s guide do not corroborate this. See quotes later on.

6 Cf. *The Inn of the Good Samaritan*, online: <http://www.israelandyou.com/the-inn-of-the-good-samaritan/> (accessed 5.05.2018): “The Ottomans erected in the 1830’s a rectangular caravanserai (hostel) over the ruins of the southern wall of the Crusader fortress. It is composed of 6 rooms, with an entrance on the south. The inn was damaged in WWI, then restored by the British and later by the Jordanians.”

7 Cf. biblewalks.com: *Euthymius Monastery*. See full quote on p. 7.

8 Baedeker, 1876, p. 260.

9 Luke 10:25–37, quoted here from the *New International Version*. Source: <https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Luke+10&version=NIVUK> (accessed 11.04.2018).

The Other Inn: Khan al-Ahmar

On post cards sometimes the name of *Khan al-Ahmar* (خان الأحمر)¹⁰ is mentioned, while the illustration on the card gives the impression that this is “the real inn” of the Good Samaritan.

Whereas *Khan al-Hathrur* (خان الحثروور) lies on the main road from Jerusalem to Jericho, *Khan al-Ahmar* is on a branch route leading to the important Moslem pilgrimage site Nebi Musa. In the 1898 edition of the Baedeker travel guide, besides *Khan al-Hathrur*,¹¹ *Khan al-Ahmar* is mentioned, but it is left out of later editions.

Maps from the 1850s show *Khan al-Ahmar* as ruin.¹² Franciscan monk Liévin de Hamme¹³ describes it in 1876 as destroyed by Ibrahim Pasha;¹⁴ by 1887 he writes that reconstruction work started in 1883 and was ongoing.¹⁵

In the Hachette guide of 1956 a trip from Jerusalem to Jericho is neatly described:¹⁶ 13.5 km from Jerusalem one encounters “The Red Inn,” and after 19.2 km the *Khan al-Hathrur*. The latter is referred to as the “real inn of the Good Samaritan” ...



Fig. 2: Post card of the Khan al-Ahmar (“red inn”).
Like Khan al-Hathrur this place was evidently also sold
as the place of the “Good Samaritan” parable.

10 خان الأحمر – “the red inn.”

11 خان الحثروور.

12 Cf. sheet 5 of Velde, 1858.

13 Friar (Frère) Liévin de Hamme, born in Belgium as Édouard Colleman (1822–1898).

14 Hamme, Liévin de: *Guide-indicateur* ..., 2nd ed., 1876, vol. 2, p. 178.

15 Hamme, Liévin de: *Guide-indicateur* ..., 3rd ed., 1887, vol. 2, pp. 314–315.

16 Finbert, 1956 and 1957.



Fig. 3: The two inns on a map from the 1912 edition of Baedeker's *Palestine and Syria*.¹⁷

While from 1906 the Baedeker guide only mentions *Khan al-Hathrur*,¹⁸ previous editions also refer to *Khan al-Ahmar*.¹⁹ The descriptions of the route read thus:

Baedeker 1898²⁰

The route now descends the *Wâdi el-Hôd*, a somewhat barren valley. After 25 min. we leave to the right the small *Wâdi el-Jemel* ('camel valley'); after 52 min. we reach *Wâdi es-Sidr* [...]. After 12 min. a small valley called *Sa'b el-Meshak* lies on the left.

In 23 min. more we reach the ***Khân Haḍrūr***, which has been newly erected and lies about halfway to Jericho. Good water and, in the season, refreshments may be obtained here. This district is quite deserted, and tradition localises the parable of the Good Samaritan here (St. Luke x. 30–37).

Above the *khân* is the 'hill of blood', *Tell 'at ed-Dam*, with ruins of a mediæval castle. The name, which is probably due to the red colour of the rock, has led to the supposition that the spot is the 'going up of Adummim' (Joshua xv. 7; xviii. 17). After 20 min. more a path to the right leads to the ***Khân el-Aḥmar***, which was probably once a castle for the protection of the road. The valley to the right is the *Wâdi er-Rummâneh* ('valley of pomegranates').

Baedeker 1912²¹

The route now descends the *Wâdi el-Hôd*. After 20 min. the *Wâdi el-Jemel* ('camel valley') descends from the right; 10 min. later the *Wâdi el-Hârîk*, also to the right; after 36 min. we leave the *Wâdi el-Hôd* at the *Wâdi el-Mufâkh* (on the right), and enter the *Wâdi es-Sikkeh*.

Farther on we cross the *Wâdi es-Sidr* [...]. About halfway to Jericho, 50 min. from the *Wâdi el-Mufâkh* (see above), lies the ***Khân Haḍrūr*** (refreshments; Turkish post-office). This district is quite deserted, and tradition localizes the parable of the Good Samaritan here (Luke x. 30–37).

Above the *khân*, to the N.E., are the ruins of a mediæval castle. From the *khan* we descend the *Tal 'at ed-Dam* ('Ascent of Blood'), the 'going up to Adummim' of the Bible (Josh. xv. 7; xviii. 17). The descent into the (20 min. from the *khan*) *Wâdi er-Rummâneh* ('valley of pomegranates') is called *Aḳabet el-Jerâd* ('ascent of the locusts').

¹⁷ The map is positioned inbetween pages 92 and 93.

¹⁸ Baedeker (English), 1906, p. 126, Baedeker (German), 1910, p. 118, Baedeker (English), 1912, pp. 126–127.

¹⁹ Baedeker (German), 1875, pp. 271–272, Baedeker (English), 1876, p. 260, Baedeker (English), 1894, p. 260, Baedeker (English), 1898, pp. 149–150.

²⁰ Baedeker (English), 1898, pp. 149–150.

²¹ Baedeker (English), 1912, pp. 126–127.

The History of the Two Inns

Khan al-Ahmar was on the site of a 5th century monastery and pilgrimage inn, the *Euthymius Monastery*.²²

During the Islamic period, the monasteries in [the] Judean desert were frequently attacked. In 809 this monastery, as well as others, was plundered, resulting in [...] severe damage. The monastery was finally destroyed in the 12th C[entury]. Some parts of it were repaired during the Crusaders [sic!] period (13th century), but it survived only until the Mameluke period (13th–16th century).

After the Mameluke period the site was in ruins, although it continued to serve as a station (Khan) along the road to Nebi Musa and the Jordan. It was called the “Red Inn” (Arabic: Khân el-Akhmar), named after [...] the color of the rocks in the lower section of the road).

In the 1870s survey of the Palestine Exploration Fund the ruins are described thus:²³

Khân el Ahmar (N s).—The ruins of a Saracenic hostel beside the old road to Jerusalem. It resembles that next mentioned, and has large cisterns supported on arches beneath, on the east. A few courses of the walls are standing; the masonry is of moderate size and well dressed.

Khân Hathrûrah (N s).—A Saracenic hostel, standing on high ground, and just north of the present Jericho road. A few piers and some of the walls are still standing. On the opposite side of the road are two or three small caves, in one of which is a stone with an Arabic inscription. Cisterns, well-built and supported on arches, exist beneath the Khân, and contain water.

North-east of this, on the highest part of the hill, are the remains of a strong fortress, which commands the road here, ascending through a narrow pass between walls of rock on the east. On the west also there is a winding ascent to the neighbourhood of the Khân. The rock especially on the west, is of a ruddy colour, like burnt brick, whence the title, Tallât ed Dumm, ‘Ascent of Blood’ is applied to the whole hill, and sometimes to the castle on the summit.



Fig. 4:

Detail from the 1858 map by van de Velde²⁴ showing the situation of the two inns in the 1850s: Khan al-Ahmar is shown as a ruin “el-Khân”. The ruin labeled as “Khân Hadrur” is actually a mediaeval fortress mentioned in several guides, the caravanserai itself is marked on the street as just “Khân”.

Franciscan friar Liévin de Hamme describes the situation in 1876.²⁵

Khan el-Ahmar. History. Tradition places in Khan el-Ahmar the parable of the Good Samaritan†. It seems that, from the earliest times, there was an establishment there to receive travellers. It was still frequented in the XIV. century. Ibrahim Pasha found a Khan there and destroyed it from top to bottom.

Current state. From Khan el-Ahmar there are still some sections of walls standing. The cisterns that are open in the ground still contain water, but it is not always potable.

Then in 1887 he writes:²⁶

The government of Jerusalem began in 1883 the reconstruction of Khan al-Ahmar, but the work is not yet completed.

22 Cf. biblewalks.com: *Euthymius Monastery*.

23 Conder & Kitchener, 1883, p. 207–208.

24 Velde, C. W. M. van de, 1858, sheet 5.

25 Liévin de Hamme: *Guide-indicateur* ..., 2nd ed., 1876, vol. 2, p. 178.

26 Liévin de Hamme: *Guide-indicateur* ..., 3rd ed., 1887, vol. 2, pp. 314–315.



Fig. 5: Travellers, pilgrims, and tourists at the Khan al-Hathrur, ca. 1910.²⁷



Fig. 6: A postcard by Fr. Vester (American Colony, Jerusalem).²⁸



Fig. 7: Post card, cancelled to order, possibly at the inn, but sent on 8.04.1909 from the Austrian post office in Jerusalem. The postmark of Khan al-Hathrur is partly underneath the Austrian stamp. Probably sold by the hotel (Grand New Hotel, A. & J. Morcos, Jerusalem) and taken to the inn on a trip from Jerusalem to Jericho. Although probable, due to lack of arrival marks, it is impossible to say whether this card was properly transported by the post. Cancelled-to-order cards are also known being sent from Jericho.

27 American Colony, Jerusalem: *Inn of the Good Samaritan, 1910*. Originally published on p. 180 of *The Holy Land* by Robert S. Hichens, 1910. Source: Wikimedia Commons, online: https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Inn_of_the_Good_Samaritan_American_Colony_Jerusalem_1910.jpg (accessed 1.05.2018). Licence: public domain.

28 Vester, Frederik (American Colony, Jerusalem): *Good Samaritan's Inn*. Postcard. Source: Wikimedia Commons, online: https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Good_Samaritan%C2%B4s_inn_by_Vester.jpg (accessed 1.05.2018). Licence: public domain.

The “Bon Samaritain” Post Office

The *Khan al-Hathrur* is philatelically interesting because of an Ottoman post office that was established there. But why a post office? “*This district is quite deserted ...*”,²⁹ so for the local population, if any, there was no direct need for such a service in the middle of nowhere.

In our opinion the only reason is the emerging tourism to the Holy Land. To comfort the “touristic” pilgrims an official post office (listed in official Ottoman postal directories from 1903, see *figs. 8 and 9*)³⁰ was established using a genuine, authorised canceller. Tourists could “prove” to relatives and friends at home that they were there just by sending a post card.

The name of the inn-keeper’s family was Saliha.³¹ Given the circumstances (no local population, catering solely for tourists and commercial traders) one has to conclude that this was in effect a small postal agency, run by the inn-keeper on behalf of the Ottoman Post, just cancelling cards and handing these over to the regular postal transport from Jericho to Jerusalem and vice-versa.

— 17 —
H

DIVISION	POSITION	Intérieur ou Port	VILAYET	SANDJAK	DIRECTION PRINCIPAL
Hamidié (Khoçab) <i>Hogab</i>	L T. Asie	int.	Van	Hekari	Van
Hamidié (Yarsavat) <i>Ceyhan</i>	» »	»	Adana	Adana	Adana
Hamidié (Barotine Dospat)	L T. d Europe	»	Salonique	Drama	Salonique
Hamidié (Tcherkes) <i>keui Turbé (déré)</i>	L T. Asie	»	Andrinople	Tekfour dagh	Direct Cent.
Hamidié (Musyaf)	L »	»	Syrie	Hama	Syrie
Hamourguian (Sarméné)	L »	port.	Trébizonde	Trébizonde	Trébizonde
Hanékine (Hadji kara)	n/2 »	int.	Bagdad	Bagdad	Bagdad
Hania (La Canée)	u Ile de Crète	port.	Crète	Canée	Aïdin
Han-ul-hatrour	T. d'Asie	int.	Jérusalem	Jérusalem	Beyrouth
Haré	Tripoli Afrique	port.	Tripoli Afrique	Tripoli Afr.	Tripoli Afr.
Harim (Kefret ul-harim)	Turquie d'Asie	int.	Alep	Alep	Alep

Fig. 8: The entry for “Han-ul-hatrour” in the 1903 official directory of Ottoman post and telegraph offices.

— 20 —
H

DIVISION	POSITION	Situation	VILAYETS	SANDJAKS	DIRECTIONS PRINCIPALES
Han-ul-hatrour	P T. d'Asie	int.	Jérusalem	Jérusalem	Beyrouth
Han younous	I** »	port.	»	»	»
Hapsmané	P »	int.	Trébizonde	Trébizonde	Trébizonde
Hardine	P »	»	Liban	Liban	Beyrouth
Haré	P Tripoli d'Afr.	port.	Tripoli d'Afr.	Tripoli d'Afr.	Tripoli d'Afr.
Harret-ul-amaré (chévifat)	P (8) T. d'Asie	»	Liban	Liban	Beyrouth
Harret-ul-rassilé (choubet-ul-Haré)	P »	int.	Beyrouth	Liban	»
Harim (kefret)	P** V* C* Ta/	»	Alep	Alep	Alep
Harpout (kharpout)	P** V* C* T c	»	Mamouret-ul-Aziz	Mamouret-ul-Aziz	Diarbékir

Fig. 9: The entry for “Han-ul-hatrour” in the 1909 official directory of Ottoman post and telegraph offices.

29 Baedeker, 1912, p. 126. See full passage on p. 6.

30 Cf. *Nomenclature des bureaux de poste ...*, 1903, p. 17, and 1909, p. 20.

31 Cf. Steichele, 1981, p. 1020,13 and Collins & Steichele, 2000, p. 61.

One notes that Steichele shows a postcard of Khan al-Ahmar (very similar to *fig. 2*) and not Khan al-Hathrur.

The Operation of the Post Office

We shall deal with the details of the postmark later, but the first question is, of course, when the post office was opened. The philatelic literature cannot agree to an answer:

- Coles/Walker³² mention the postmark and state that it was used in the period 1905 until 1914. Besides the valuation (15 points) they give no further information.
- Pollack³³ gives more information but the period of use, 8th August 1912 until 1914 seems a little bit short.
- Collins/Steichele³⁴ indicate a period of use from 15th June 1902 until 1914. Valuations are omitted. They state that from 1909 the inn is mentioned in the official listings of Ottoman post offices. In spite of that, in the 1903 listing,³⁵ the inn is recorded.³⁶

Despite the fact that we have never seen a postmark dated 1902 it is possible the post office was opened in that year. We think it was closed at some time during the war, but not, as Collins/Steichele report, as early as 1914.³⁷

Collins/Steichele report that in 1909 and 1914 the post office “accepted ordinary mail for all destinations.”³⁸ Besides post cards we have never seen other items (e.g. letters) sent from the inn. This supports the idea that the post office was solely set up for tourists and their picture post cards.

The “Bon Samaritain” Postmark

A canceller was used by the office: C&W type C3. The colour of the postmark was black or violet. The inscription is in Arabic “خان الحتور” (*hān al-ḥatrūr*) and French “BON SAMARITAIN”. As far as is known only one canceller was used during all the years the post office was in operation.

So visitors could deposit their post cards with the inn-keeper, who acted as the postal agent, to be sent home by the Ottoman Post. But in a lot of cases, we think, the tourists only asked for the postmark to be struck on the card, i.e. have it cancelled to order, with or even without a stamp. Collins/Steichele give this warning:³⁹

Most postcards with this postmark are blank souvenir cards to which a fake address and message has been added.

Birken shows one cancel with the wrong spelling:⁴⁰ “BON SAMARITAN” (see *fig. 12*). This illustration is derived from the work of Bayındır (see *fig. 15*).⁴¹ his draftsmen often inserted deliberate errors⁴² into the postmarks illustrated, here they took out the “i” and added a dot to the second “ح”. Ağaoğullari & Papuçcuoğlu⁴³ show the cancel with empty date-bridge and the correct spelling of “BON SAMARITAIN”, but leave out the *sukūn* over the last “ر” (see *fig. 13*).

32 Coles & Walker, 1988, p. 81.

33 Pollack, 1962, pp. 42–43.

34 Collins & Steichele, 2000, p. 61.

35 *Nomenclature des bureaux de poste ...*, 1903, p. 17.

36 This is confirmed by Jung, 1994, part III: Africa and Asia, vol. 1, p. x, and vol. 2, p. 2.

37 Collins & Steichele, 2000, p. 61.

38 Collins & Steichele, 2000, p. 61. Their assertion is solely based on the 1909 and 1914 PTT lists; cf. *Nomenclature des bureaux de poste ...*, 1909, p. 20, where it is classed as “P”: “Bureau de poste ouvert au service interne et au service international pour la correspondance postale ordinaire.”

39 Collins & Steichele, 2000, p. 61.

40 Birken, vol. Suriye, 2016, p. 67.

41 Bayındır, 1992, vol. 2, p. 465.

42 This is an often used method in many handbooks and catalogues under the pretence of thwarting forgeries.

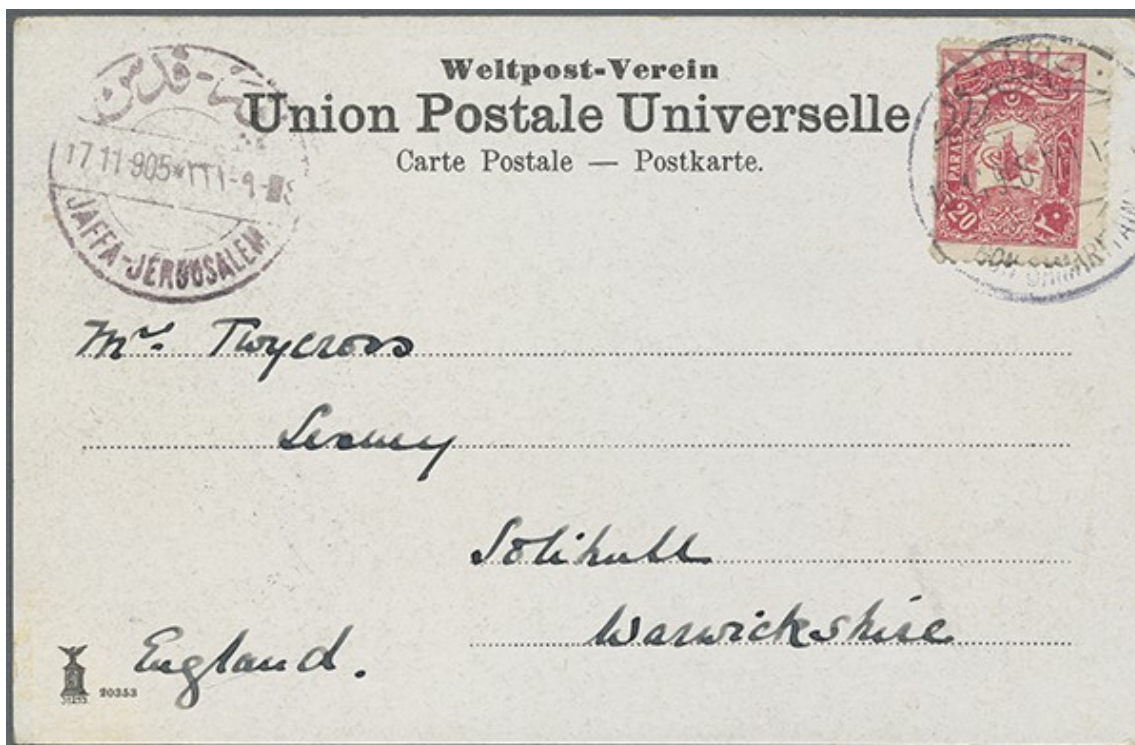
43 Ağaoğullari & Papuçcuoğlu, 2004, vol. 5, p. 27



Figs. 10 and 10a: Front and reverse of a 1909 post card to Odense, Denmark, featuring an early "French cancel". The two *behi'ye* stamps are cancelled at Jericho, 29.04.1909.⁴⁴ The sender writes that he is in Jericho.

44 Source: Auction offer on Ebay, June 2018, online: <https://www.ebay.com/itm/Palestine-1909-Ottoman-Emp-PPC-tied-Jericho-amp-Bon-Samaritain-Pmk-to-Denmark-RR-/173306530654?>

Used by permission from dealer Haidar Al-Dafrawi (HA Stamps & Numismatics; Ebay: [stamps.numismatics](https://www.ebay.com/str/stamps.numismatics)).



Figs. 11 and 11a: Front and reverse of a post card from Jericho to Solihull, England.⁴⁵

Postmark 16.11.1905, transit mark Jaffa-Jérusalem (T.P.O.) 17.11.1905.

The writer states "Nov. 15.05. Jericho" and that they just travelled from Jerusalem. It's possible that the card was posted on the way back to Jerusalem at the inn while the text was already written a day earlier at the hotel in Jericho. Travel guides describe the route in the Jericho direction only.

45 Offer at the 40th Christoph Gärtner auction, June 2018, lot 8550: <https://cat.philaworld.de/?FTSearchHTML/Name=DetailsA&Cat=GP&UID=88915BDF4E4965AFC12582810042628F&Phase=AUCTION&Lang=EN&DetailIDB=PHILNET/GAERTNER/GPKATAUK&CID=1>. Used by permission of Auktionshaus Christoph Gärtner GmbH & Co. KG, Bietigheim-Bissingen, Germany.

Han ül-Hatrur
(Khân al-Hatrûra)

خان الختور



BAY 1 60F (1905)
C/W II 122 15P (1905-14)
Collins: (1902-14)
black, blue, violet



Correct inscription is
BON SAMARITAIN



HAN ELHATRUR

خان الختور

BON SAMARITAIN

Kudüs-i Şerif Sancağı
Khân al-Hatrûrî / ISRAİL



HAN ELHATRUR -
"BON SAMARITAIN"

1902-1914

AP08

☒ M

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Fig. 12: The entry in the Birken catalogue.⁴⁶

Fig. 13: The entry in the Ağaoğullari & Papuçcuoğlu catalogue.⁴⁷

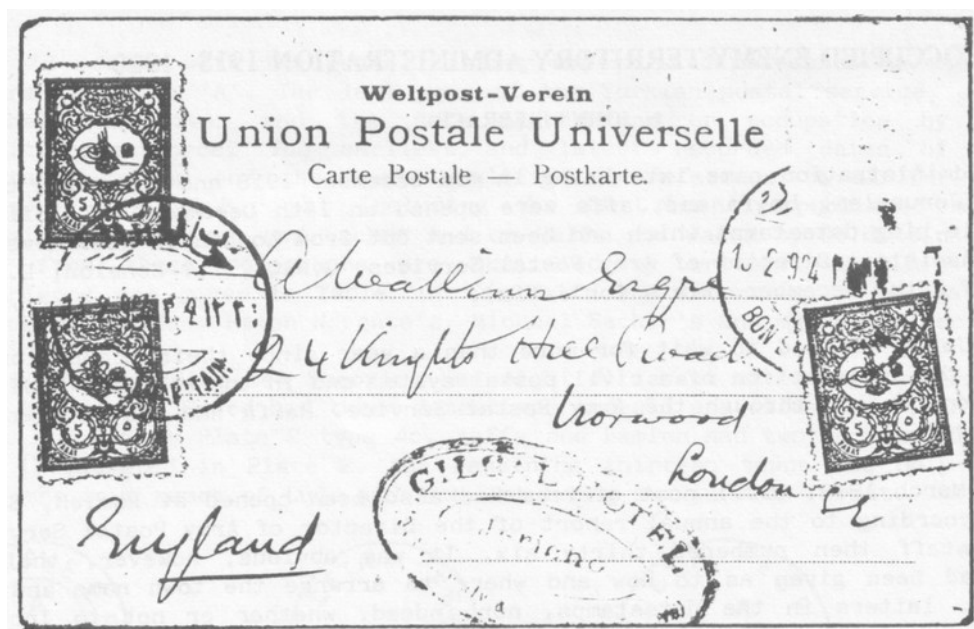


Fig. 14: Post card to Norwood, London, postmark 13.02.1904. One of the four 5 para stamps has fallen off. Hotel cachet: "GILGAL HOTEL / Jericho / J. Shamaly & Co. (Proprietors)".⁴⁸

46 Birken, 2016, vol. Sûriye, p. 67. Used by permission.

One notes that the conversion of the date from Western to Arabic (Rumi) is correct in the first two postmarks illustrated, but not in the last one: 2.08.1904 is 20.05.1320, not 20.06.1320 as shown.

47 Ağaoğullari & Papuçcuoğlu, 2004, vol. 5, p. 27. Used by permission.

48 Source: Bruckheimer, Nathan: *Cachets of hotels in the Holyland*. In: BAPIP Bulletin, no. 112, 1985, pp. 44-45.

The Curious “French” Cancels

As far as we are aware no forgeries of the postmark seem to exist but one can detect rather strange deviations on examples from 1909 and 1911: On these post cards (see *figs. 10, 17 to 21*) close inspection reveals an inverted “2” and (at the right) an inverted “5”. And while in all the other examples of Bon Samaritain postmarks the Gregorian date is on the left, here it is on the right. These strikes feature a different shade of violet and come either thin or very thick.

The four cards from 1911 were directed to France and were likely written by a single part of French pilgrims. Two of these cards feature dates within the text: “Jericho 22-4-11” and “22 Avril”. In addition there’s such a strange cancel on a card sent from Jericho to Denmark in 1909. The Bon Samaritain postmark underneath the stamps has a Rumi date (partly unreadable) on the left and shows some of the same characteristics as the 1911 strikes.

One constant feature here is that the stamps used were overprinted “ب” for *behi’ye*, i.e. these were sold by Ottoman post offices at a 20% discount but only in large quantities targeting firms and bulk users.⁴⁹ One can assume that hotels were holding large stocks of stamps, Ottoman and foreign, for the needs of their guests.⁵⁰ Inserting correct dates in the canceller has always been a problem and unauthorised use of the canceller cannot be excluded completely.



Fig. 15: The postmark in the Bayındır catalogue.⁵¹



Fig. 16: A very clear and genuine strike of the postmark, 1.05.1904.⁵²



Fig. 17: A 1909 “French” cancel.



Figs. 18–21: Four more clearer strikes of the “French” cancel.⁵³

49 More details on p. 15.

50 Cf. *Levant, buitenlandse postdiensten in het Ottomaanse rijk*, 2010, p. 610: “These stamps are regularly seen on picture postcards already stamped by the seller” (translated).

51 Source: Bayındır, 1992, vol. 2, p. 465. The conversion of the date is correct in this postmark illustrated: 19.03.1905 (Gregorian) = 6.01.1321 (Rumi).

52 The conversion of the date is incorrect in this postmark: 1.05.1904 (Gregorian) is 18.02.1319 (Rumi); but here it says 18.03.1319.

53 Cf. entries in the table on p. 22.

Postal Competition Ottoman Style

Given the presence of foreign post offices all over the Ottoman Empire and the reputation of the Ottoman Post as slow and unreliable, there was a fierce rivalry between all the postal services for the highly lucrative international mail market.

The Ottoman administration tried to hinder the operation of the foreign posts in any conceivable way, e.g. forbidding the sale of stamps by agents, or obstructing mail transportation.⁵⁴ Despite such measures, in many cities the Ottoman Post was left with less than 10% market share.

In order to stay competitive or at least stopping more loss of traffic, the Ottoman Post introduced a systematic rebate for international correspondence. Without contravening the rules set by the Universal Postal Union (UPU) it sold specially overprinted stamps⁵⁵ at 20% discount "*behi'ye*," but only in bulk: for instance a sheet of 120 1-piastre stamps was sold for 100 piastres. This targeted especially commercial firms with a high volume of correspondence;⁵⁶ these were often foreign owned and sometimes bore an allegiance to one of the foreign post offices.

As a counter-measure, the foreign posts issued stamps in a different currency: the French gold franc. Due to favourably set conversion rates and the weakness of the Turkish currency, this gave them a small advantage once more:

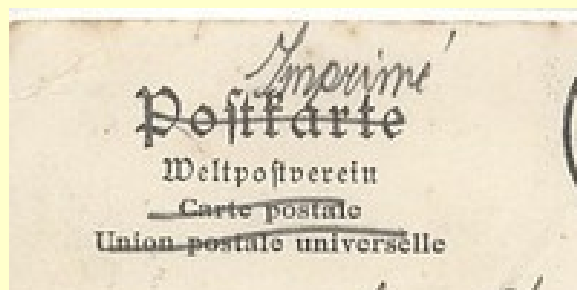
Mail type	Foreign PO rate	Turkish Rate	Conversion centimes to para ⁵⁷	Discounted Turkish Rate
Printed matter	5 c	10 pa	8.8 pa	8 pa
Post card	10 c	20 pa	17.6 pa	16 pa
Letter (20 g)	25 c	40 pa	43.9 pa	32 pa

So, the rate for printed matter was 5 gold centimes, for (picture) postcards 10 gold centimes, letters (up-to 20 grammes) 25 gold centimes. Due to the conversion rates 5 gold centimes was cheaper than 10 paras and 10 gold centimes cheaper than 20 paras. However 25 centimes was more expensive than 40 paras (= 1 piastre). Also some of the higher values (1, 2, and 5 piastres) were overprinted. So the 20% discount was more than a compensation for the lower face values, but from 1 piastre (40 pa) it was more a dumping rate.

Post cards sent as printed matter

The occurrence of 10 paras and 20 paras frankings on post cards can be explained by the UPU rules concerning post cards:

The UPU rate was 20 para for sending a picture post card abroad; but if one simply wrote the word 'imprimé' on the card (see example on the right)⁵⁸ and provided there were no more than 5 words of manuscript text, the card could be sent at the reduced rate for printed matter (10 paras).⁵⁹



54 The company operating the Jerusalem–Jaffa railway was forbidden to transport the foreign offices' mail; these had to hire mail coaches travelling the dangerous streets.

55 *Behi'ye*, *behie*, *behié*, *beyi'ye*: rebate or discount; some catalogues say "overprinted for foreign postage" (*harici posta*). Stamps overprinted "ب": Tughras 1905–1910, Post Office 1913, stamps overprinted "★": Views 1914.

56 The *behi'ye* stamps were valid for all postage, not just to foreign countries. Cf. Birken, 2017, p. 7.

57 Ca. 1900, 100 gold centimes equal 175.48 paras. Cf. *Levant, buitenlandse postdiensten in het Ottomaanse rijk*, 2010, p. 642.

58 Detail from a 10 para card sent 01.09.1904 to Germany.

59 Cf. *Levant, buitenlandse postdiensten in het Ottomaanse rijk*, 2010, p. 630; and Falk, 2007, p. 132.

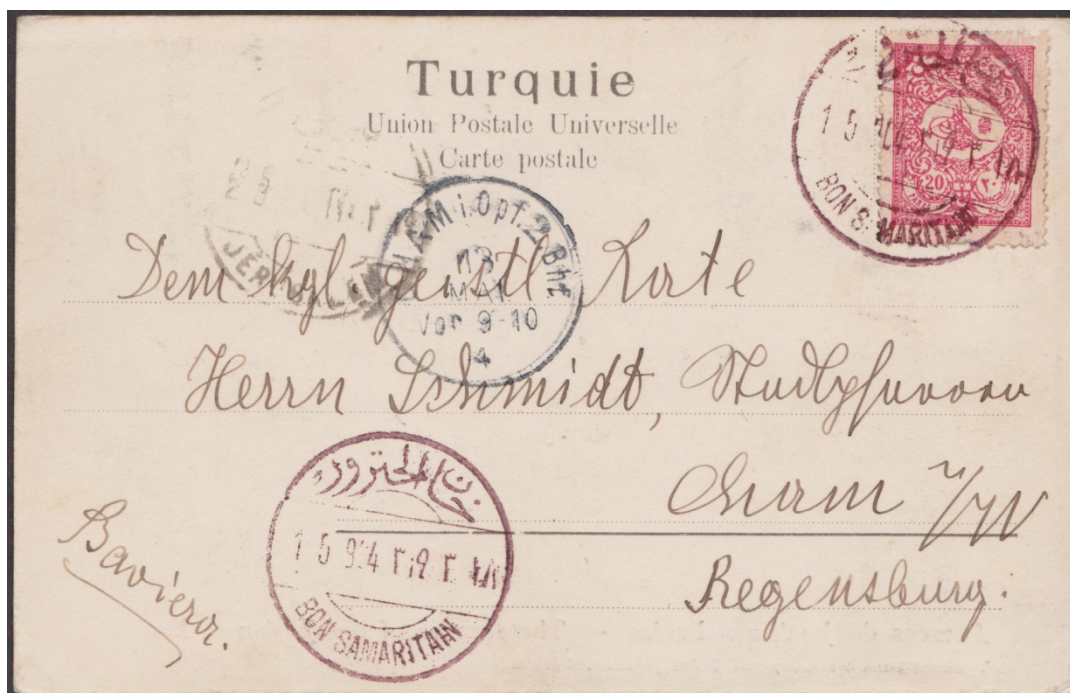


Fig. 22: Post card sent on 1.05.1904 to Cham, Bavaria.⁶⁰
Transit Jerusalem (Ottoman post office, 2.05.1904). Arrival mark 13.05.1904.
The presence of a transit and an arrival mark shows that it is
probably not an adapted cancelled-to-order card.

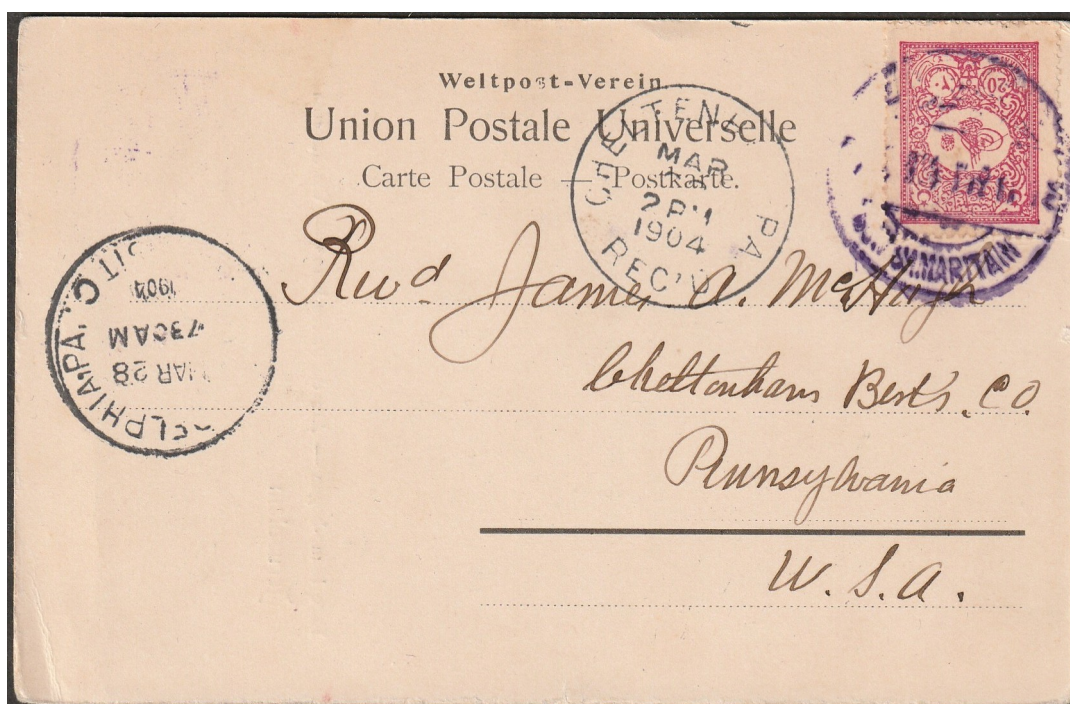


Fig. 23: Post card sent 27.02.1904 to Cheltenham, Pennsylvania.
Two arrival marks on front: 29.03.1904.

⁶⁰ Addressed to M. Schmidt, Kgl. Geistlicher Rat (Royal Bavarian spiritual counsellor), Dechant (dean), and Stadtpfarrer (parson) in Cham, Bavaria.

Ottoman Postmark Dates: Rumi Takvim

The Islamic, or *hiğrî* calendar is different to the Christian calendar in several ways: it is based on a lunar, not solar, cycle and a year has only 354 days in 12 months (odd months have 30 days, even months 29 days). The first day of the first month in year 1 is defined as the first new moon after the day the Prophet Mohammed moved to Medina. i.e. 16.07.622 C.E. (Julian). Being 11 ¼ days short, the months wander through the seasons in a 30 year cycle. The *hiğrî* calendar is augmented by a complicated system of leap days and years.

For any largely agrarian society, such a cumbersome system totally unrelated to the move of seasons, is highly impractical. Therefore many Muslim countries have used for many centuries the solar-based Julian calendar for day-to-day business such as agriculture, administration, and taxes.

In the Ottoman Empire religious and ceremonial purposes were run according to the Islamic calendar (*hicrî takvim*) and year (*sene-i hicrîye*, “H”), but agriculture and administration was using the “Roman” (i.e. Greek) system (*rumi takvim*) and financial year (*sene-i rumiye* or *sene-i mâliye*, “M”). This civil calendar was formalised on 1.03.1789 and continued until 1.03.1917, when Turkey moved to the Gregorian calendar.

From 1918 the beginning of a civil year was set to 1st January instead of 1st March. Turkey finally switched to the fully westernised system (*beynelmîlî takvim*) in 1926.

No.	Turkish Rumi Month	No.	Western Month	Days
1	مارت Mart (or Azar)	3	March	31
2	نيسان Nisan	4	April	30
3	مايس Mayıs (or Eyyar)	5	May	31
4	حزيران Haziran	6	June	30
5	تموز Temmuz	7	July	31
6	اغستوس Ağustos	8	August	30
7	ايلول Eylül	9	September	31
8	تشرين اول Teşrin-i Evvel	10	October	31
9	تشرين ثانى Teşrin-i Sâni	11	November	30
10	كانون اول Kânûn-ı Evvel	12	December	30
11	كانون ثانى Kânûn-ı Sâni	1	January	31
12	شباط Şubat	2	February	28

A basic rule to convert *mâliye* dates that appear on Ottoman postmarks to Western (Gregorian) dates from 14.07.1900 to 1.03.1917 is to add 584 to the *hiğrî* year and add two months and 13 days.⁶¹ Some examples:⁶²

Postmark	Western	Rumi
29 5 909 / ٣٢٥ ٣ ١٦	29.05.1909	16.03.1325
9 1 911 / ٣٢٦ ١٠ ٢٧	09.01.1911	27.10.1326
18 6 914 / ٣٣٠ ٤ ٥	18.06.1914	05.04.1330
20 11 916 / ٣٣٢ ٩ ٧	10.11.1916	07.09.1332
10 12 917 / ٣٣٣ ١٠ ١٠	10.12.1917	10.10.1333
27 2 918 / ٣٣٤ ٢ ٢٧	27.02.1918	27.02.1334

61 Until 13.07.1900 one has to add only 12 days. The online conversion tool *Rumi Takvim Dönüştürücü* (<http://www.i-takvim.com/takvimler/rumi.php>) works fine, but sometimes the year can be wrong for dates in January and February. When reverting from Rumi to Gregorian (“Miladi”) the converter shows the correct year.

62 Note that many postmarks express the year in either two-digit or three-digit form: 917 or 17; 332 or 32.



Figs. 24 and 24a: Front and reverse of a post card to a Sergeant Frederick R. Parker at Royal Army Pay Corps Headquarters in Cairo.

Franked with 10 para. Arrival mark "MILITARYPOSTOFFICE / CAIRO / 4 JA 06 TV".

The text on the card reads:

"Good Samaritan Inn / 28/12/05 / Dear Fred. Stopping at this Inn on the way to Jericho / Hoping all are well / Harry."

The Survey of Cards

In auctions and on the internet items with the postmark of Bon Samaritain are offered regularly. We gathered all the information into one table (see pp. 20–22). Sometimes it is quite clear that a card was cancelled to order, and some cards are suspect, e.g. due to insufficient postage. The inland rate for post cards was 10 paras (5 paras with only 5 words), and for sending a card abroad the rate was 20 paras (or 10 paras printed matter with only five words). But often it is not clear whether the card was properly sent, not even when transit or arrival marks are present.

But cancelled-to-order or “adapted” cards are also interesting and useful for philatelic research, because they give information about the period of use of the postmark and give some indication of the number of tourists who visited the inn until 1914. In our opinion these cards are not really scarce: the price you pay (or you’re willing to pay) is merely for peculiarity, rather more than relevance from the viewpoint of postal history. In some cases it is not cheap to buy such cards on the internet or at auctions.

Been there, done that, sent a postcard ... – Conclusions⁶³

These are our conclusions and hypotheses drawn from all the information amalgamated and the postmarks and cards registered are:

1. In most cases the civil Ottoman date is barely readable and if readable often the Rumi date does not correspond to the Georgian date after conversion (the Georgian date can be cross-checked by transit and arrival marks).
2. No cards from the year 1902 have been found, despite (according to literature) the post office having been open(ed) in that year.⁶⁴
3. After 1908, possibly, no cards were *postally* sent from the inn. Can this mean that after 1908 the canceller was no longer used in an authorised way or even *at* the inn? Only new material can give an answer to this question.
4. The cards from 1911, likely written by one party of French pilgrims, feature strikes with identical deviations such as reversed and implausible dates. We suspect these may not have been applied at the khan, but by a hotel in Jericho or Jerusalem. An earlier card, sent in 1909 from Jericho to Denmark, shows a postmark with a similar deviation.
5. All later cards (1913) are only cancelled to order.

It is our strong impression that hotels, especially in Jerusalem and Jericho, did sell pre-cancelled (cancelled-to-order) postcards, with or without stamp(s). It was easy to produce the cards by sending a hotel clerk to the inn or making arrangements with tour guides. Four scenarios are possible:

- Cards regularly posted at the inn.
- Cards cancelled-to-order at the inn, with or without stamp.
- Cards bought at a hotel (Jerusalem, Jericho) already cancelled, with or without stamp. Hotels often hold stocks of postcards from tourist attractions in their vicinity.
- Card posted at the hotel prepaid and pre-cancelled with postmark of Khan al-Hathrur.

Some hotels in Jerusalem or Jericho bought postcards, and likely mass-produced these by putting on cheap *behi'ye* stamps from the hotel stock, have them cancelled at the inn (or at the hotel?) with a deliberately unreadable date. Guests could buy these cards, write their message on it, pretending to have visited the “Real Inn of The Good Samaritan.” The cards were accepted “as is” by the Ottoman post to be sent elsewhere?

⁶³ Our variation of an American expression “been there, made a picture, bought a t-shirt.”

⁶⁴ Collins & Steichele, 2000, p. 61, depict a scanned postmark dated 10.08.1902. The Rumi date should be 28.05.1318, but the cancel shows [28].07.318. This image was inserted by Collins. The draft for the 2nd edition prepared by Steichele shortly before his death in 1988 shows the same cancel as in the 1st edition, namely 4.03.1905.

The Survey of Cards and Postmarks

Gregorian Date	Rumi Date	Correct Rumi Date	Destination	Colour	Fig.	Remarks
???.1903	–	–	Ireland	Violet		20 para. ⁶⁵
11.03.1903	26.02.1318	26.12.1319	–	Violet		Only picture side seen; manuscript date: 10.03.1903.
12.03.1903	27.02.1318	27.12.1318	Germany	Violet		20 para. Cachet of Lloyd Hotel Jerusalem, arrival mark.
27.03.1903	14.03.1319	14.01.1319	Bristol, U.K.	Violet		20 para (2×10 para). Cachet: “Grand New Hotel / A. & J. Morcos / Jerusalem” (violet). ⁶⁶
22.05.1903	–	09.03.1319	France	Violet		20 para (2×10 para). Arrival mark.
21.01.1904	08.02.1319	08.11.1319	France	Violet		20 para. Transit mark Jérusalem (Ottoman), arrival mark.
13.02.1904	31.12.1319	31.11.1319	Norwood, U.K.	–	14	20 para (4×5 para, one stamp fallen off). Cachet “Gilgal Hotel / Jericho / J. Shamaly & Co. (Proprietors)”. ⁶⁷
27.02.1904	unreadable	14.12.1319	Cheltenham, Pa.	Violet		20 para. Arrival mark 29.03.1904 on front. ⁶⁸
27.02.1904	?4.??1319	14.12.1319	Cheltenham, Pa.	Violet	23	20 para. Two arrival marks 29.03.1904 on front. ⁶⁹
???.1904	–	–	France	Violet		French Levant, ? centimes. ⁷⁰
03.04.1904	??05.1319	21.01.1320	Germany	Violet		20 para (2×5 + 10 para). Arrival mark, cachet Hotel E.L. Kaminitz, Jerusalem.
06.04.1904	11.01.1319	24.01.1320	Jerusalem	Violet		20 para (4×5 para). Arrival mark, Jerusalem (German Post) 7.04.1904. ⁷¹
08.04.1904	??01.1319	26.01.1320	Lima, Ohio	Violet		German Levant, 20 para. Jerusalem (German Post).
01.05.1904	18.03.1319	18.02.1320	Germany	Violet	16, 22	20 para. Transit mark Jérusalem (Ottoman) 2.05.1904, Arrival mark 13.05.1904.
02.08.1904	11.06.1320	20.05.1320	–	–		Cancelled-to-order. Writer mentions travels in the Jerusalem area and Syria.
01.09.1904	19.06.1320	19.06.1320	Pless, Germany	Black?		10 para. Manuscript “Imprimé”. Arrival mark Pless 12.09.1904.
21.09.1904	09.08.1320	08.07.1320	London	Black?		20 para. ⁷²

65 Robson Lowe Auction, London, May 1958. Referenced in BAPIP Bulletin, no. 25, 1958, p. 37.

66 Bale, 2008, p. 191.

67 Shown in Bruckheimer, Nathan: *Cachets of hotels in the Holyland*. In: BAPIP Bulletin, no. 112, 1985, pp. 44–45.

68 Ex Dr. Esmer Collection, auctioned at Köhler auction 364, March 2017, as lot 5147.

69 Collection of Folkert Bruining.

70 Referenced in: Dickstein, Emil S.: *Realized at auction*. In: The Israel Philatelist, vol. 45, 1994, no. 7/8 (August 1994), p. 7083.

71 Ağaoğullari & Papuçcuoğlu, 2004, vol. 5, p. 27.

Gregorian Date	Rumi Date	Correct Rumi Date	Destination	Colour	Fig.	Remarks
???.?.1905	—	—	Amsterdam	—		— ⁷³
???.?.19??	—	—	Paris	—		— ⁷⁴
???.?.19??	—	—	—	—		20 para (4×5 para). ⁷⁵
19.02.1905	06.12.1320	06.12.1320	USA	Violet		20 para. Transit mark Jérusalem (Ottoman).
28?.03.1905	15.01.1321	15.01.1321	Germany	Violet		15 para (5 + 10 para). Two arrival marks.
01.05.1905	18.03.1319	18.02.1321	Cham, Germany	Violet		20 para. Transit mark Jérusalem 2.05.1904 (Ottoman), arrival mark Cham 13.05.1904.
09.08.1905	26.03.1321	27.05.1321	none	Violet		Cancelled-to-order.
03.10.1905	???.10.????	20.07.1321	Auch, France	Violet		Arrival mark.
16.11.1905	???.01.1321	03.09.1321	Solihull, U.K.	Violet	11	20 para. Manuscript “Nov.15.05.Jericho”. Transit mark Jaffa–Jérusalem (T.P.O.) 17.11.1905. ⁷⁶
28.12.1905	14.???.????	15.10.1321	Cairo	Black	24	10 para. Arrival mark Cairo (Military) 04.01.1906. Text on card indicates this was despatched at the inn. ⁷⁷
23.03.1906	24.10.1311	10.01.1322	Syria	Black?		20 para. Transit mark Beyrouth (Ottoman).
25.03.1906	14.???.????	12.01.1322	Kansas City, Missouri	Black?		20 para. ⁷⁸
27.03.1906	14.01.1322	14.01.1322	Sopron, Hungary	Violet		20 para (2×5 + 10 para). Three transit/arrival marks. ⁷⁹
???.07.1906	16.01.1316	???.02.1322	Germany	Violet		10 para (2×5 para).
28.11.1906 28.12.1906	unreadable	15.09.1322 15.10.1322	Lyon, France	Violet		20 para. Manuscript on card: “28 Décembre 1906.” (therefore the postmark saying “28.11.906” is wrong). Sent from Ottoman PO Jerusalem, 30.12.1906.

72 Lot 103 in the 85th Holyland Postal Bid Sale, March 2016: <http://www.stampcircuit.com/zh-hans/stamp-Auction/negev-holyland/6604872/lot-103-ottoman-period-turkish-offices-negev-holyland-85th>.

73 Robson Lowe Auction, London, January/February 1961. Referenced in BAPIP Bulletin, no. 35, 1961, p. 32.

74 Dr. L. Berger Auction, Ascona, November 1968. Referenced in BAPIP Bulletin, no. 61, 1969, p. 32.

75 Philatelia Auction, Tel Aviv, December 1964. Referenced in BAPIP Bulletin, no. 48, 1965, p. 32.

76 Auction offer at the C. Gärtner Auction no. 40, June 2018, lot 8550: <https://cat.philaworld.de/?FTSearchHTML&Name=DetailsA&Cat=GP&UID=88915BDF4E4965AFC12582810042628F&Phase=AUCTION&Lang=EN&DetailDB=PHILNET/GAERTNER/GPKATAUK&CID=1&>

77 Auction offer on Ebay, June 2018: <https://www.ebay.com/itm/Postcard-River-Jordan-to-Army-Pay-Corps-Cairo-1906-postmarks/372315526397>.

78 Auction offer on Ebay, May 2018, <https://www.ebay.com/itm/Palestine-Turkey-Bon-Samaritan-1906-on-sound-card-ira28-/173302340853>.

79 Auction offer on Ebay, September 2017: <https://www.ebay.co.uk/itm/Turkei-Palastina-Tugra-MiF-Bon-Samaritain-1905-AK-Grabeskirche-nach-Ungarn-5092-/202047276283>.

Gregorian Date	Rumi Date	Correct Rumi Date	Destination	Colour	Fig.	Remarks
23.02.1907	–	10.12.1322	USA	Black?		20 para. Arrival mark.
28.02.1907	unreadable	15.12.1322	Walla Walla, Wa.	Violet		20 para. Arrival mark 27.03.1907. ⁸⁰
19.03.1907	–	06.01.1323	France	Violet		10 para.
22.03.1907	26.11.1311	09.01.1323	Jaffa	Violet		10 para.
02.05.1907	unreadable	19.02.1323	Jerusalem	Violet		5 para.
02.03.1908	18.02.1313	18.12.1323	Jerusalem	Violet		No stamp.
???.1908	–	–	Germany	Violet		Austrian Levant, 5 centimes. ⁸¹
07?.04.1909	unreadable	25.01.1325	Bloomfield, N.J.	Violet	7	Austrian Levant, 20 para. Postmark Jerusalem 8.04.1909 (Austrian). Ottoman postmark is below the Austrian stamp.
19.04.1911?	unreadable?	06.02.1327	Odense, Denmark	Violet	10	20 para (2×10 para, behi'ye). On stamps postmark Jericho, 29.04.1909. The sender writes that he is in Jericho.
09.01.1910	???.11.1326	27.10.1325	Oy, Germany	Violet		10 para. Manuscript "18.[XII?].09". ⁸²
19.04.1911?	unreadable?	06.02.1327	Paris	Dark Violet	18	10 para (behi'ye). Two arrival marks 4.05.1911, manuscript on card: "Jericho 22-4-11". ⁸³
19.04.1911?	unreadable?	06.02.1327	Paris	Dark Violet	19	20 para (behi'ye). Two arrival marks 4.05.1911, manuscript on card: "22 Avril".
19.04.1911?	unreadable?	06.02.1327	Neuilly, France	Violet	21	20 para (behi'ye). Arrival mark 4.05.1911. Text of card mentions being at the inn of the Good Samaritan travelling back from Jericho.
19.04.1911?	unreadable?	06.02.1327	Villefranche-sur-Mer, France	Light Violet	20	20 para (2×10 para, behi'ye).
09.07.1913	11?.03.1316	26.04.1329	none	Violet		Cancelled-to-order.
???.1913	–	–	–	–		10 para. ⁸⁴

80 Auction offer on Ebay, December 2017: <https://www.ebay.com/itm/BON-SAMARITAIN-Jerusalem-Israel-palestine-postcard-to-USA-1904/253027884256>.

81 Dickstein, Emil S.: *Realized at auction*. In: The Israel Philatelist, vol. 45, 1994, no. 9/10 (October 1994), p. 7157.

82 C. Gärtner Auction no. 40, June 2018, lot 22661: <https://cat.philaworld.de/?FTSearchHTML|Name=DetailsA&Cat=GP&UID=65AE70838AE3103AC1258290004998F8&Phase=AUCTION&Lang=DE&DetailDB=PHILNET/GAERTNER/GPKATAUK&CID=1&SessionID=IkMNMxjwA7dzRY0UBAdn>.

83 Auction offer on Ebay. May 2018: <https://www.ebay.co.uk/itm/Palestine-Turkey-Bon-Samaritain-1911-to-Paris-France-code1113/172885661684>.

84 Stern, Walter J.: *Realized at auction*. In: The Israel Philatelist, vol. 26, 1975, no. 7/8 (August 1975), p. 894.

The Two Inns Today

The inn *Khan al-Hathrur* was destroyed in 1918, but rebuilt after the Great War. The post office Bon Samaritain is not mentioned in any philatelic literature about post-WWI Palestine, so one must assume that it was never re-opened. Nowadays a museum has been established in the six halls surviving from the Ottoman period caravanserai.

Khan al-Ahmar has been destroyed entirely and the archaeological site with the St. Euthymius monastery now lies within an industrial zone of the illegal Israeli settlement Ma'ale Adumim. A small Arab settlement called Khan al-Ahmar was established by Bedouin refugees from the Negev desert in the 1950s about 1 km to the north. Wedged inbetween Israeli settlements, it is in danger of demolition by the occupation forces.



Fig. 25:

*Khan al-Hathrur,
as museum,
photographed in 2010.*⁸⁵



Fig. 26: Khan al-Hathrur, likely around 1900.⁸⁶



Fig. 27: The ruins of Khan al-Hathrur in the 1960s.⁸⁷

85 Bukvoed [user name]: *Good Samaritan's Inn* (7.11.2010); Source: Wikimedia Commons, online: <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Good-Samaritan-Inn-656.jpg> (accessed 1.06.2018). Licence: [Creative Commons Attribution 3.0 Unported](#).

86 Detail (cropped) from a post card. Source: Collins & Steichele, 2000, p. 61. Provenance is attributed to "Collection Andruisier." Used by permission of Adrian Andruisier, June 2018.

87 Detail (cropped) from a 1960s Jordanian post card by "Photo Leon". Source: akpool GmbH, Berlin, online: <http://www.akpool.de/ansichtskarten/26624924-foto-ansichtskarte-postkarte-good-samaritans-inn-zwischen-jericho-palaestina-und-jerusalem-israel-ruine> (accessed 10.04.2018). akpool GmbH reserves all rights to this image. Under Licence from akpool GmbH's agency Arkivi: <https://www.arkivi-bildagentur.de> (ref.: 828/0724092415/1).

Request for Information

This article's genesis began when Folkert suggested in November 2017 to revise an article he published in 2007 in *Al Barid*, the magazine of *Filatelistische contactgroep van de Islamitische wereld* (FCIW), the Dutch study circle of the Middle East.⁸⁸ Over the last few months we have studied all available literature, greatly enhanced the original short article, added numerous illustrations, and surveyed all known cards and postmarks.

Our research could answer some questions, but gave rise to even more:

- do postmarks from 1902 exist?
- do letters (covers, not post cards) with the Khan al-Hathrur postmark exist?
- do cards exist that went through the regular post from the inn after 1908?
- was there really only one canceller in use throughout the whole period 1902–1914?

Therefore we appeal to all readers to assist in further research: Anyone who owns post cards or letters, or has knowledge of such, should come forward. We're also looking for articles, papers, references not mentioned in footnotes and the bibliography. Actually anything related to the subject is of interest to us.



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Syrian IRC

900 Piastres

Issued at Damascus
22.03.1991



Austrian Levant Perfins: O&M. Observatoire et Musée Scientifique de Jérusalem

by Peter Keeda with material from Tel Aviv Stamps and Dick Scheper

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Regarding Gerhard Sand's request for information on Levant perfins in the last issue of MEPB,¹ I can show a probably unique illustrated cover postmarked "JERUSALEM / ÖSTERREICHISCHE POST / 1 / 5" [1899] with an Austrian Levant 2 Piastre stamp perfinned "O&M." (see fig. 1 to the right, and figs. 2 and 2a). The illustration shows the Dome of the Rock and says "VILLE DE JÉRUSALEM / 1898. / EXPOSITION-CONCOURS UNIVERSEL / Scientifique Industriel et Philanthropique / DE LA TERRE SAINTE. / ADMINISTRATION: Jérusalem (Palestine.)"



Fig. 2: Front of the illustrated exposition cover featuring the "O&M." perfin.

¹ Sand, Georg, et al.: *Request for information: Levant perfins*. In: *The Middle East Philatelic Bulletin*, no. 8, 2018, pp. 8–13.

I acquired the cover recently,² the accompanying certificate by Norman J. Collins says:³

The 1898 Exposition cover below is one of only two known to me, the other cover is illustrated as Figure 292, on page 307, of volume II THE FOREIGN POST OFFICES in PALESTINE 1840-1918.⁴

The cover below is franked by Austrian Levant 2 Piastre on 20 Kreuzer green, which is perfin O & M = Observatory and Musee. The other cover mentioned was franked by a 1 Piastre Austrian Levant stamp. The 2 Pt stamp is the only one of this value I have seen with the O & M perfin. The stamp is cancelled by postmark type 545 dated 1st May 1899. On the reverse is the French arrival mark of SEURRE dated 11th May 1899.

This cover shows some aging, but this does not detract due to the extreme, rarity, being one of only two recorded by me.

Collins didn't even mention the exposition label on the reverse, which gives additional thematic value to the imprint on the front side. This makes this cover a key exhibit for any topical collector of 19th century exhibitions: "EXPOSITION UNIVERSELLE / SCIENTIFIQUE, INDUSTRIELLE & PHILANTROPIQUE / DE JERUSALEM 1898".



Fig. 2a: Reverse of the cover featuring the exposition label and the arrival postmark "SEURRE / COTE-D'OR / 11 / MAI / 99".

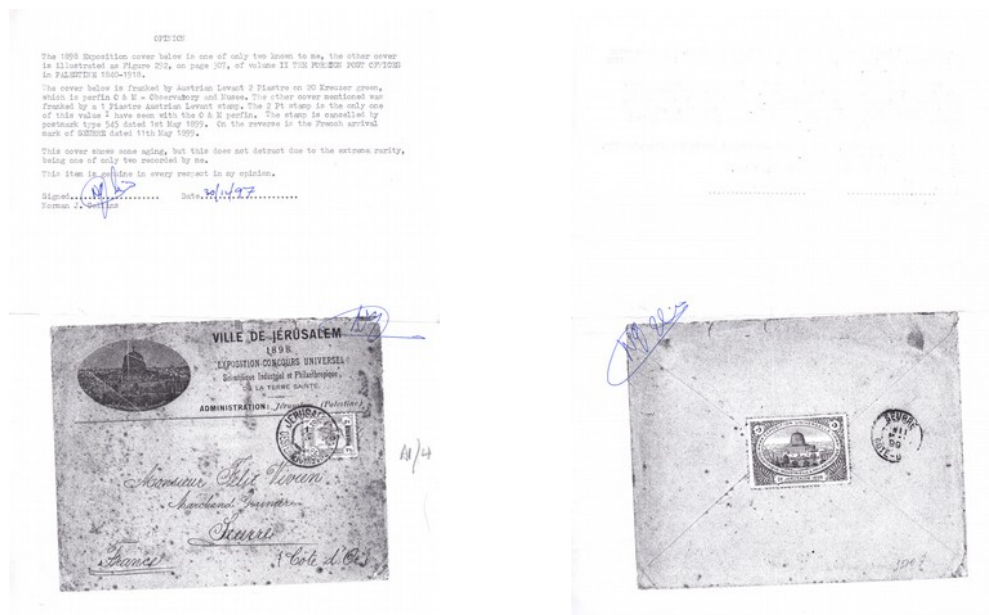
2 This cover was offered at Tel Aviv Stamps Auction no. 43, 9.11.2016, as lot 80. Online: <http://www.telavivstamps.com/tel-aviv-stamps-auction-43-80-austria> (accessed 30.05.2018).

3 See figs. 3 and 3a.

4 Referring to Steichele, 1991.

This label is in fact central when Arthur H. Groten described the cover in a 2012 article on Judaica labels:⁵

[...] label was issued for the 1898 International Scientific, Industrial and Philanthropic Exposition to be held during the Kaiser's visit. The Exposition was never held but a promotional label was issued. [...] There were, apparently, letter sheets with the same image on them. Long thought to be proofs, one has been found with correspondence on the reverse. [...] As is often the case, a commemorative envelope was released. I show the one of two recorded examples. It has one of the promotional labels on the reverse and was used from Jerusalem to France in May 1899, franked with a 2 piastre Austria used in Palestine stamp. Further, the stamp is perfinned with the very rare "O.M." (Observatory and Museum) initials.



Figs. 3 and 3a: Front and reverse of the 1997 expertise by Norman J. Collins.

The “**O&M.**” perfin on the 2 Piastre stamp is very rare on cover, but with the perfinned 1 Piastre stamp several examples are known. Collins refers to volume 2 of Steicheles’ 1991 handbook,⁶ where on pp. 307–308 an exhibition cover (1st February 1898 to Germany) and a piece (Jerusalem 20th January 1898) with the 1 Piastre perfinned “**O&M.**” is shown.

The rarity of this perfin is attested to by specialist Dick Scheper:⁷

Covers are very rare indeed. In 30 years of collecting I only saw three covers with this perfin. Two covers showed the complete user identity and the other cover probably is the one of which you've sent me the photocopy. [...] At least I think it is, because it looks very much like the cover I have seen offered last year by an auction house in Israel (same stains etc.). [...]

The perfin “O&M” is only known in Austrian Levant stamps, not in other Levant stamps. In my collection I have this perfin in a 1 piastre (on 10) and a 2 piastre (on 20) stamp.

5 Cf. p. 53 of Groten, Arthur H.: *Nineteenth Century Judaic Labels*. In: *The American Stamp Dealer & Collector*, September 2012, pp. 52–54. Online: http://www.ephemerassociety.org/3/grotenPDFs/52-54_ASDCSeptember2012.pdf (accessed 27.05.2018)

6 Steichele, Anton: *The foreign post offices in Palestine : 1840–1918* / Anton Steichele ; Engl. rev. ed.: Norman J. Collins & Leopold Dickstein. Volume 2. Chicago, Ill.: World Philatelic Congress of Israel, Holy Land, and Judaica Societies, 1991. 303 p.

7 E-mail to the editor, 28.05.2018. Dick is the author of the 2009 book *Perfins of the Ottoman Empire, Turkey, Crete and the foreign post offices in the Levant*. 70p. (out of print).



Figs. 4 and 5:

The O&M.-52 perfin on Austrian Levant 1 p on 10 kr, and 2 p on 20 kr.

From the collection of Dick Scheper.

In the same auction, another cover with two “O&M.” perfins was offered and described thus:⁸

stationery cv of "Observatoire et Musee Scientifique de Jerusalem" mailed to Bolivia! frank Austrian Levant 1pi on 10Kr & 2pi on 20Kr stps both perfins O & M tied by pmk JERUSALEM OESTER... 8 3 98, back w/circular cachet JERUSALEM MUSEE 8 MAR 98, transit pmk on face French Maritime "LIGNE D ... 26 MARS 98" (line Bordeaux to Colon); f - vf, 1 of 4 cvs recorded w/these perfins, certif Tsachor – Aloni



Fig. 6: Front of the 1898 cover to Cochabamba, Bolivia, featuring the 1 p and 2 p Austrian Levant stamps, both perfined “O&M.”⁹

⁸ Lot 81, 43rd Tel Aviv Stamps Auction, 9.11.2016. Online: <http://www.telavivstamps.com/tel-aviv-stamps-auction-43-81-austria> (accessed 30.05.2018).

⁹ Image used by permission of Yacov Tsachor of Tel Aviv Stamps.

The Late Use of the Small Ottoman Date-Bridge Postmark of Kerek in Transjordan

by Bernd-Dieter Buscke¹

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During the Ottoman Empire, the small date-bridge postmark of Kerek, Jordan² was used from 1912 onwards (*figs. 1 and 2*). But it continued to be used for a long period after the downfall of the Ottoman Empire.

In the course of the advance of the allied Egyptian Expeditionary Force (E.E.F.) under the command of General Sir Edmund H. H. Allenby, Kerek, later also called Kerak, was captured during the week from 21st to 27th September 1918, pushing the unified German, Austrian, and Ottoman troops further northwards. In the course of the military and political events following the conquest of Damascus, the Arab Kingdom of Syria was founded in March 1920 on parts of today's Syria and Jordan. The Kingdom lasted only for a short period of three months.

Kerek is located in the south of the country. An Arab Kingdom of Syria negative seal of Kerek inscribed 1919 is known in literature (*fig. 3*), which is also shown in Kaczmarczyk & Unwin's "Philatelic History of the Arab Kingdom of Syria."³ In this work, only cancellation marks used on stamps of the Kingdom of Syria are registered.



Fig. 1: The small Ottoman date-bridge postmark of Kerek.



Fig. 3: The Syrian negative seal Kerek 1919

However, I am only aware of a single strike of this negative seal on a stamp, piece, or cover. The actual canceller of this negative seal seems to have been lost or became unusable very early on, so that by 1920 the Ottoman postmark of Kerek was again used.

The southern part of the Arab Kingdom of Syria became a British mandated territory in 1920, and after the separation from Palestine at the end of 1920, a League of Nations Mandate was established in what is now Transjordan, under the supervision of the British High Commissioner for Palestine.

For a short period the stamps of the Arab Kingdom of Syria were still in use (*fig. 4*), until Jordan's first stamps were issued in November 1920. The Arabic surcharge on Palestine's E.E.F. stamps reads "شرقي الاردن"⁴ (*fig. 5*). The stamps on both pieces shown are cancelled with the Ottoman Kerek postmark.

¹ Translated by Tobias Zywiets. The German article was originally published in *Türkei-Spiegel* no. 117.

² Type C4, C/W no. 7; cf. Coles & Walker, 1987, p. 67, and Birken, vol. Suriye, 2016, p. 40.

³ Cf. p. 44 of Kaczmarczyk and Unwin, 2nd ed., 2014.

⁴ شرقي الاردن – šarqī al-urdun – "the east of the Jordan."

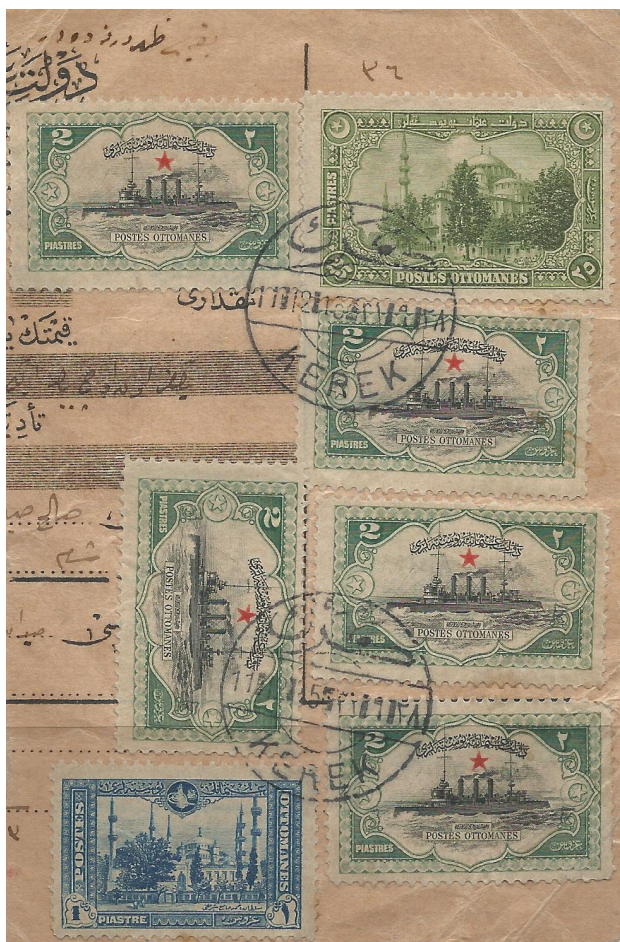


Fig. 2: 1915 use of the Kerek cancel on an Ottoman form.



Fig. 4: 1920 use.



Fig. 5: The Kerek cancel, 1921, on piece with pair of MiNr. 5C.

In the Emirate of Transjordan, which was established in 1922 under British suzerainty, the Ottoman Kerek cancel was still used (see *figs. 6 and 7*), although starting in 1922 an oval rubber hand-stamp (*fig. 8*) came into use. And even after the nominal independence of Transjordan on 25th May 1923 the Ottoman Kerek postmark remained in use.



Fig. 6: The Kerek cancel on piece with MiNr. 63 of 1923.



Fig. 7: The Kerek cancel on piece with MiNr. 64 of 1923.

The last stamp issue of Transjordan on which one can find the Ottoman Kerek cancel is the provisional issue of 1st November 1925 which contains the changed “شرق / الاردن” surcharge in a new typeface (*fig. 9*). This constitutes a remarkable late use of at least seven years after the allied occupation of Kerek and the closure of the Ottoman post office there.



Fig. 8: The regular Transjordan oval rubber hand-stamp of Kerek.



Fig. 9: MiNr. 104C and 107C on piece, cancelled KEREK (date uncertain).

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The Palestine Mandate London II (Waterlow) Issue: The Mystery of the Missing Upper Panes of the 9, 10, and 20 Piastres (Perf. 14)

by Avo Kaplanian with material from Jacques Kaufmann¹

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When the *London II* (or *Waterlow*) stamps were printed in the period 1922–1927, two sets of perforations were used, viz. perf. 15×14, and 14×14. If we look at the complete set with the **SPECIMEN** overprint, we see that all the Millièmes values plus the one and two Piastres are perf. 14, while the 9, 10, and 20 Piastres are perf. 15×14. This leads us to the conclusion that the first printings of the four high value stamps were perforated 15×14 and that perf. 14 followed.

We also know that all values to the 2 Piastres were printed in full sheets of 240 stamps, with two panes of 120 stamps separated by a 25mm high intersecting gutter in the same colour as the stamp. The higher values of 5, 9, 10, and 20 Piastres, however, were printed from plates of 120 stamps. So the plate varieties of the upper pane are identical to those of the same positions on the lower pane. The complete sheets of 240 stamps were then cut in half and shipped to Palestine as two separate sheets of 120 stamps.

What is interesting here is the fact that these four high value sheets have the intersecting gutter in blank and do not have the four thick lines in the stamp colour like the Millièmes and the one and two Piastres stamps.

Also the plate number “1” is not found above stamps positions 2 and 11 in the upper pane and below positions 230 and 239 in the lower pane, as is the case with the denominations above. The plate number “1” of these four high values is found above the same stamps in the upper pane. But the ones in the lower pane are replaced by plate number “1” below stamp positions 110 and 119. These same plate numbers will be above positions 122 and 131 of course, as these plate numbers are in the intersecting blank gutter. These plate numbers are usually found cut in half as the sheets were generally cut at the middle of the blank gutter before being sent to Palestine.²

The Missing Upper Panes of the 9, 10, and 20 Piastres (Perf. 14)

Concentrating on the four higher values, the ones perforated 15×14 are found abundantly. When we come to those with perforation 14, something strange happens. Except for the 5 Piastres denomination, almost 98% of these stamps come from the sheets that were the lower panes, i.e. positions 121 through 240. Perf. 14 stamps of the upper pane, i.e. positions 1 through 120, are practically non-existent. In my huge *London II* collection, of all the perf. 14 stamps of 9, 10, and 20 Piastres, only two 10 Piastres stamps from the upper pane were found, one of which is the 25mm high stamp from position 67.

After checking with other collectors of this issue, my observations were confirmed. None of them had more than one or two of these stamps from the upper panes. So the question is: where are these stamps? And why can't we find them?

¹ This is a revised and updated version of two articles first published in 1998 and 1999.

² Dorfman, 1989, pp. 58 and 61. Cf. also images in Kaplanian/Kaufman, 1998, on p. 145.

An Explanation

I suspect that when the complete sheets were printed and cut in halves, the lower pane sheets were put on top of the upper ones. The sheets to be shipped to Palestine were taken from that pile; the rest, namely the upper pane sheets, were left behind in London. Alternatively, the whole pile was sent to Palestine, but the lower panes were on top so these were the ones sold.

Before reaching the upper pane sheets, the *Pictorial* stamps were issued, so the perf. 14 upper pane sheets were almost never sold. These remaining sheets were left in Palestine. What happened to them?

I shall be very interested to hear any other explanation. I also want to know if anybody has found 9, 10, or 20 Piastres perf. 14 stamps from any plate position between 1 and 120. Readers wishing to check their copies will be helped by Dr. Hirst's illustrations of the overprint varieties published in the BAPIP Bulletin in 1965,³ which were later reproduced in David Dorfman's handbooks.⁴

Further Explanations

After the publication of this said article, a few discussions took place between the author and Mr. Jacques Kaufmann regarding this theory and its possible explanations. We went back to our collections and re-studied the stamps we have. We found that 65% of the 5 Piastres perf. 14 stamps came from the lower pane. None was found of the 9 Piastres denomination. As for the 10 Piastres perf. 14 stamp, almost 90% of these came from the lower pane. And finally, almost 60% of the 20 Piastres stamps originated from the lower pane.



Fig. 1: Two perf. 14 plate blocks of the 5 and 10 Piastres values from the lower pane showing the complete uncut plate numbers. Notice the black outer sheet line which continues upwards proving that these plate blocks are from the lower half sheet.

Another explanation for this mystery might be the following: We know from the deteriorating quality of the overprints on these stamps that these were the last to be overprinted. The overprinting letters are very often thick, less prominent and not very clear. This is the case especially with the 9 and 10 Piastres values.

³ Hirst, 1965, in: The BAPIP Bulletin, no. 48, 1965, pp. 9–10, xb, and no. 49, 1965, pp. 8, xd.

⁴ Dorfman, 1989, pp. 69–70; and Dorfman, 2001, pp. 71–72.

A study of the earliest and latest known dates of the postmarks on these two values shows the following:

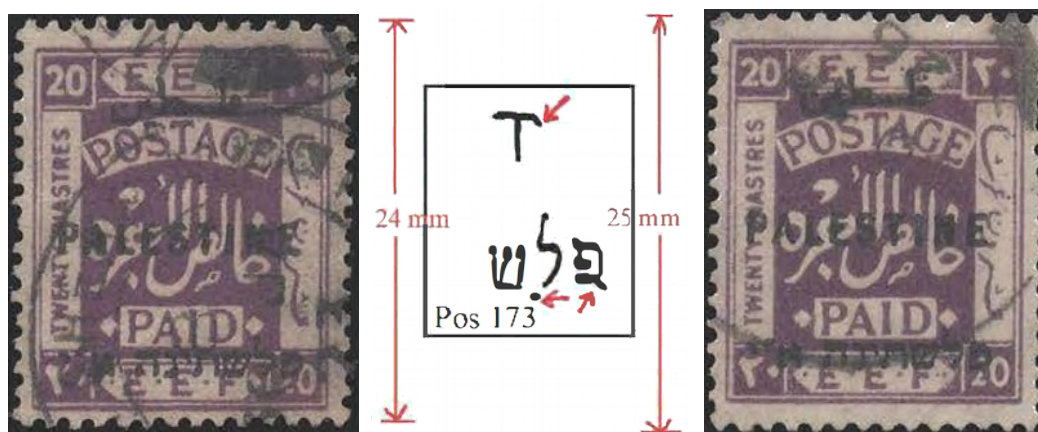
Value	Perforation	Earliest Known Date	Latest Known Date
9 Piastres	14×14	24.03.1926	– .11.1926
10 Piastres	15×14	07.11.1922	02.04.1925
	14×14	19.05.1925	12.08.1927

So maybe the deterioration of the overprinting plates of the upper panes was so bad that it had to be discarded and only those of the lower pane were used to finish the overprinting of the three high value stamps.

An argument supporting this theory will be supplied by looking at the perf. 14 plate blocks of the 5 and 10 Piastres. While the other two high value plate block numbers are cut in half, the 5 and 10 Piastres ones are found complete. The perf. 14 plate blocks of the 9 and 20 Piastres are so scarce that we haven't seen them yet.

Position 173 with 24mm and 25mm

A spectacular discovery was made when we found 20 Piastres perf. 14 stamps from plate position 173 (see *fig. 2a* and *2c*):



Figs. 2a–2c: Two high value 20p perf. 14 stamps from position 173. The left stamp is 24mm high and the right one is 25mm high as it is supposed to be in this perforation. In the centre: The overprint plate errors for position 173.⁵

The left stamp should have been 25mm high as it comes from the fifth row of the lower pane. We know that this whole row, i.e. positions 169 through 180, in this perforation must be 25mm high. But the left 20 Piastres stamp is the normal 24mm high one.

Close scrutiny of the plate and overprint characteristics (see *fig. 2b* above) shows clearly and undoubtedly that these stamps come from position 173.

⁵ Images taken from Kaufmann, 2007. Jacques Kaufmann describes the discovery of a 25mm high stamp from pos. 173 in his article: "It appears that the first printing of 20 Piastres perforated 14 stamps were perforated with the same machine and in the same manner as the 1 mil thru 2 Piastres stamps of the set, all 24mm high. The 25mm high stamps must have come from the second printing."

How could this be? Has anyone found such high value perf. 14 stamps from the sixth row of the upper pane, i.e. positions 61 through 72 or from the fifth row of the lower pane, i.e. positions 169 through 180 which are not 25mm high? And how can we explain this?

The only explanation we can offer is that for an unknown reason, the same perforating machine with gauge 14 which was used to perforate the lower values was also used here instead of the later machine with the 25mm high stamps in the above-mentioned rows which was used at the end of the printing period for the four higher denomination stamps.

An argument to support this explanation would be the fact that in reality the 25mm high 20 Piastres stamp is much scarcer than the 9 Piastres one which is usually considered the scarcest of the four high stamps.

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Embossed Egyptian Fiscals

by Wolfgang Morscheck (Bad Säckingen)¹

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In Avo Kaplanian's article on Jordan revenue stamps in MEPB 7,² I noticed that on the documents shown on pp. 38 and 39, there were, besides the Jordanian adhesive fiscals, Egyptian fiscal stamps embossed. That is natural, of course, as the life insurance company "Ash-Sharq" was based in Cairo, so every contract was liable for stamp duty in Egypt as well as in the country of the policy holder, in this case: Jordan. This was not Kaplanian's topic, so he didn't elaborate on that. I can show a number of such embossed fiscals; some colour variants are not even listed by Feltus.³



Fig. 1: The third "Kindom of Egypt" issue, here with 50 Mills and 30 Mills, both embossed.



Fig. 2: The same issue here with 50 Mills and (as adhesive stamp) 30 Mills.



Fig. 3:

The third "Kindom of Egypt" issue of 1948-50 exists in many colours: dark green, light green, mint, red, red-orange, and others.

- 1 There are two fiscals collectors called Wolfgang Morscheck in Germany, the other is living in Wülfrath.
- 2 Kaplanian, Avo: *Jordan Palestine aid obligatory tax stamps : revenue overprint varieties of 1947 and 1953*. In: *The Middle East Philatelic Bulletin*, no. 7, 2017, pp. 27–39.
- 3 Feltus, Peter R.: *Catalogue of Egyptian revenue stamps with Sudanese revenues & Egyptian cinderellas*. Southfield, Mi.: Postilion, 1982. 235 p. ISBN: 0-94148001-1.

Some Remarks about the Ay Yıldız Issue

by Otto Graf¹

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The *Star and Crescent* or *Ay Yıldız* issue, as it is called in Turkey, has fascinated and irritated me for two decades now. When I was writing up my collection in a new style one year ago I revisited all the questions that have puzzled me for many years.

After solving some of the riddles I hope to be able to offer a few insights that may help other collectors as well. Instead of trying a complete overview of this issue—which I am planning for a later stage—I will rather ask some central questions related to this stamp issue and offer my thoughts.

Date of Issue

An FDC collector will not be happy with the *Ay Yıldız* issue. There are no first day covers and it is not yet known, when the first stamps of this series were issued. Adolf Passer has the following information:²

In 1923 the postal administration at Constantinople ordered an issue of nineteen values, which were not checked for errors of printing or perforation, and were thus distributed to all parts of the Republic.

In fact the earliest known usage significantly predates Passer's date. Peter Michalove presented a card in *The Levant* that shows a date of 25th November 1922, which was confirmed by Richard Rose,³ who deciphered the text of the postcard. Therefore I would suggest that the *Ay Yıldız* stamps were issued from the end of 1922. But we have to assume that not all values were available at once. Rather, only some values were distributed to post offices that needed these specific values. This date is in line with the information I saw in a Large Gold collection of Turkish Republic. I would assume that an earlier date than 25th November 1922 can be found. The race is on!

The *Ay Yıldız* stamps were printed by three printing houses:

- Ahmed Nazmi Matbaasi
- Ikdam newspaper
- Dette Publique⁴

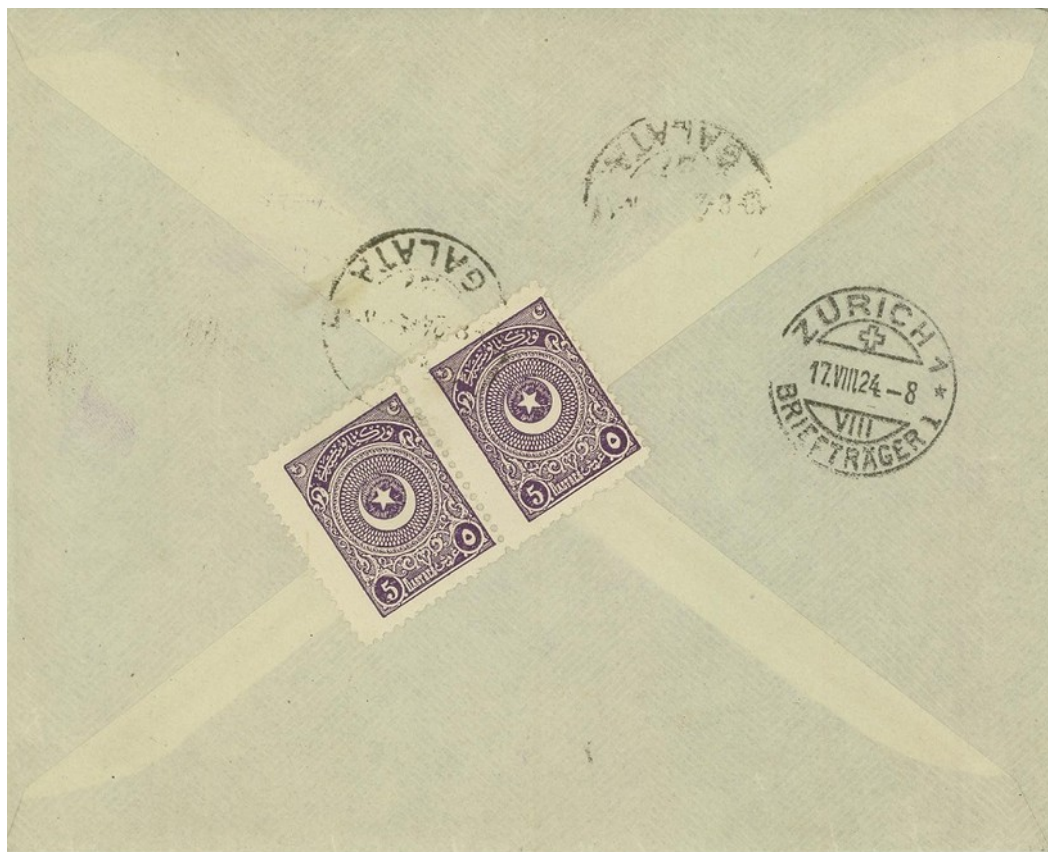
Therefore it is interesting to look also at the earliest usages of the other printings. The catalogues say that the Ikdam stamps were issued in 1924. When looking through my covers I find one cancelled 13th August 1924 as the earliest usage. For the Dette Publique printing, the catalogues say it was released in 1925. The earliest usage of a Dette Publique stamp on cover that I could find is not earlier than 16th August 1925. I am pretty sure that finds of new earliest known usages are possible.

1 This article was first published in the January and May editions of *The Levant*, the Journal of the Ottoman and Near East Philatelic Society (ONEPS), and is reprinted here by kind permission of both the author and ONEPS.

2 Passer, 1938, p. 168.

3 Editor of *The Levant*.

4 The debt administration of the Ottoman Empire.



Figs. 1 and 1a: Registered cover sent from Galata (13.08.1924) to Zurich (17.08.1924); originally franked with three 5 Ks Ikdam stamps, one fallen off. This is the earliest usage of an Ikdam stamp on cover I could find so far.

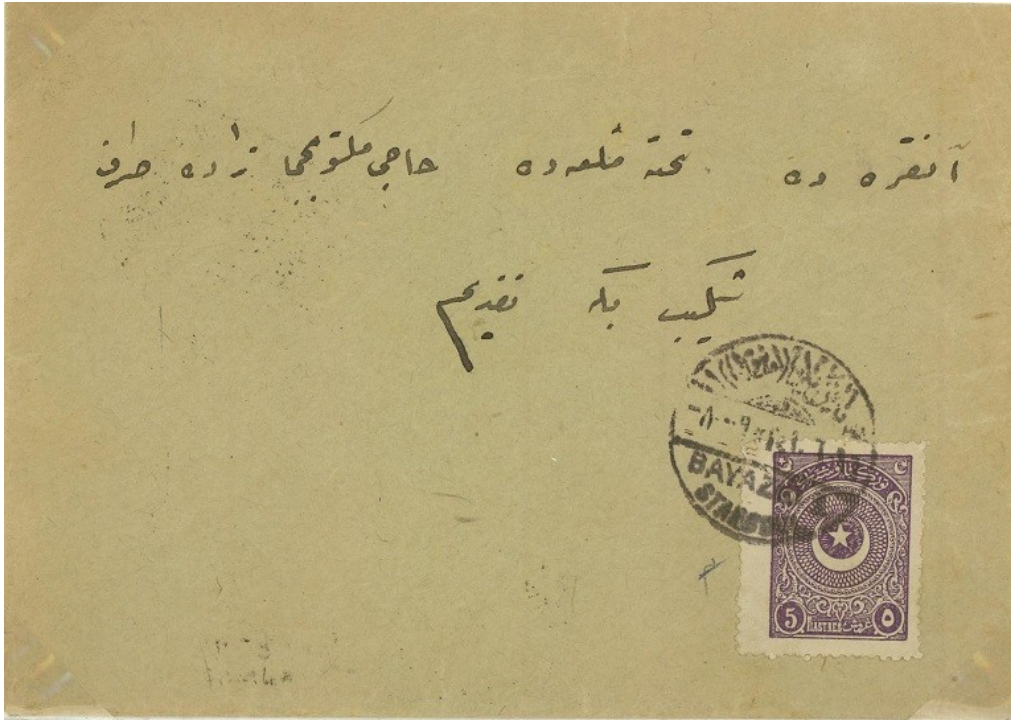


Fig. 2: Cover sent from Beyazit/Istanbul to Ankara (11.6.341 = 11.06.1925).

5 Ks stamp, Dette Publique, perf.12.

Currently, this is the earliest known usage of a Dette Publique stamp on cover.

Printing Method

All the catalogues and literature I am aware of either do not postulate a printing method for the *Ay Yıldız* stamps, or they suggest a version of flat printing process for all three printings (Nazmi, Ikdam, Dette Publique). This is generally called stone printing or lithography. Max Mayo speaks of zincography. I cannot agree with this.

The printing process of the *Ay Yıldız* stamps is not easily visible on typical stamps. But examining many specimens I concluded that these stamps were printed in letterpress printing. But as I am disagreeing with authorities like Passer and Mayo I wanted to test my findings and asked other Turkey collectors to check their *Ay Yıldız* stamps. All of them agreed that the printing method of these stamps is hard to detect but that they thought they were printed in letterpress. Then I asked two stamp experts in Germany who are not Turkey collectors, one of them a retired printer, what they thought about the printing process of the *Ay Yıldız* stamps. Both agreed that these stamps are hard to judge for their printing process, but both opted for letterpress as well.

But why are the *Ay Yıldız* stamps so hard to expertise for their printing method? The problem is that usually the design is not really pressed into the paper, generally a typical characteristic of letterpress printed stamps. But what I could find is a marginal piece of a 7½ Kuruş stamp of the Nazmi printing that has the Ottoman word “نومرو” (numro, or number) printed in the margin. The contours of the word stand out clearly on the back. It is a picture perfect example of letterpress printing. As it is highly unlikely that the margins of this stamp issue were printed in another printing technique than the stamps themselves, we have one more indication for the letterpress printing.

And I can even offer some explanation why Max Mayo interpreted zincography as a flat printing process. Zincography is an ambiguous term. On the one hand it is indeed a type of flat printing process. On the other hand it can mean a method with which clichés are produced by using zinc.



Figs. 3a and 3b: This marginal piece of the 7½ Ks Nazmi stamp shows the word “نومرو” (numro) clearly embossed into the paper. A picture perfect example of letterpress printing.

Therefore my conclusion is that the *Ay Yıldız* stamps were printed by using zinc clichés that were put together to form a sheet of a hundred stamps. So the printing was done in letterpress. Also from worn plates one can deduct that really clichés were used: clichés became loose with time and the alignment of stamps changed.

Perforation

Measuring perforations of *Ay Yıldız* stamps can bring a collector close to the madhouse. But this has a lot to do with lacking or wrong information in the major catalogues and literature sources. So I will try to sort out things and keep Turkey collectors away from mental problems. The basic distinction of perforations is easy. Nazmi stamps are perf. 13¼, Ikdam stamps are perf. 11, and Dette Publique stamps are perf. 12 or 13½. So first of all one has to be careful to distinguish 13¼ Nazmi stamps from 13½ Dette Publique stamps. But as colours of the printings are different, this should not be a problem.

As there was no quality control whatsoever when the *Ay Yıldız* stamps were issued, perforation varieties are plentiful. But offerings and listings can be very confusing, because such varieties are at times listed for printings from which they possibly cannot exist. The clue to understand this is not only to look at perforation size, but also at the perforation method. Aside from the Michel catalogue, no source seems to care whether these stamps are comb perforated or line perforated. The stamps of each printing can only be found in one perforation method each. Nazmi stamps were comb perforated; Ikdam and Dette Publique stamps were line perforated.

This explains why Nazmi stamps have always the same width of 25½ millimetres and only vary in their vertical size. Ikdam and Dette Publique stamps vary in size because of their line perforation.

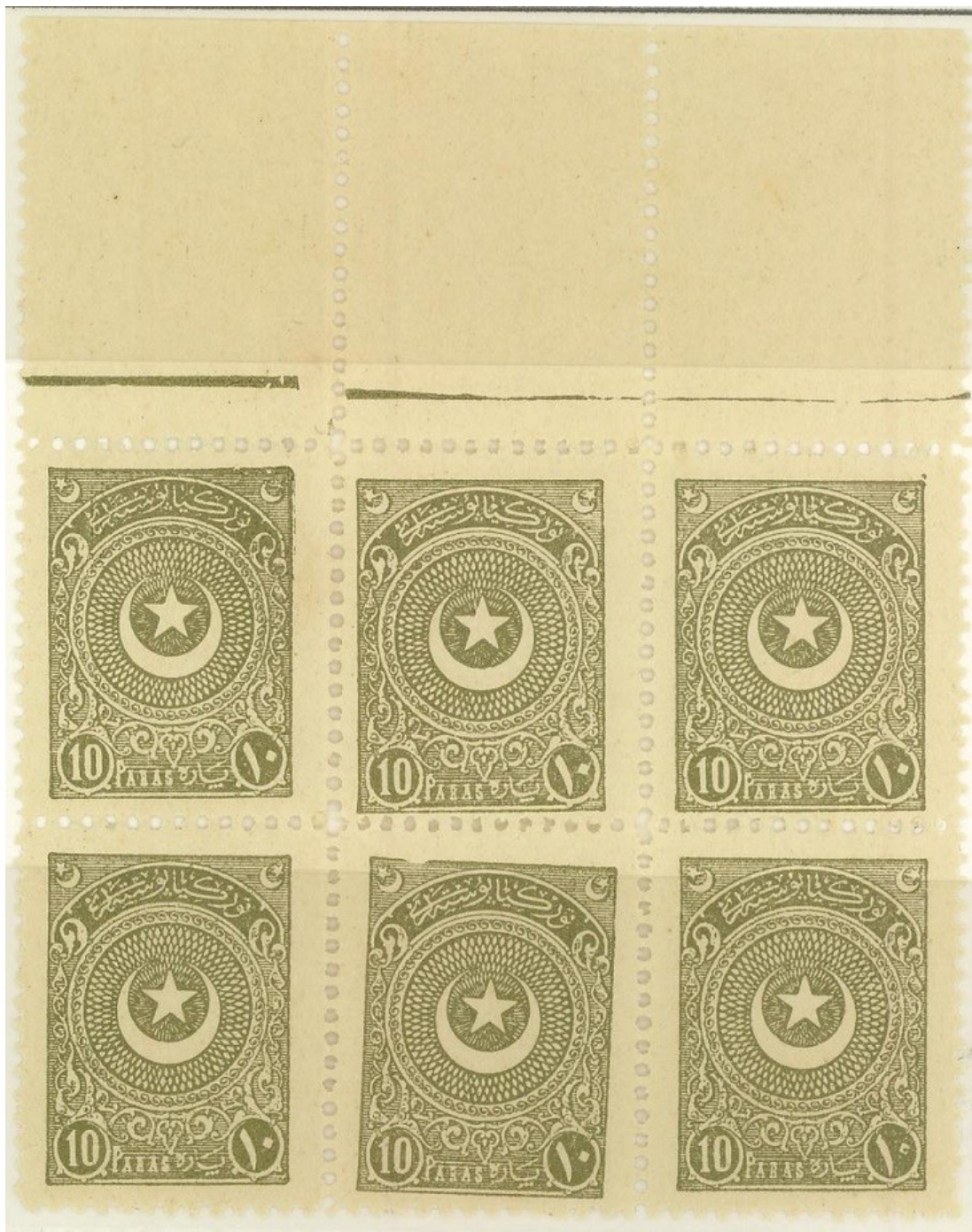


Fig. 4:

This block of six of the 10 Pa Ikdam printing shows that the central row of clichés has shifted downwards compared to the first vertical row. The lower central cliché is also twisted. This is a clear indication that printing plates were composed of single clichés.

This block also shows the plate error 'broken upper frame line' on the middle stamp of the bottom row. This error is on plate position 16 and can be found from the Nazmi printing already. So this block also proves that plates were handed from printer to printer.

At this point it is worth mentioning the 13 perforation variety of the Nazmi stamps. The comb of the Nazmi perforation machine got damaged at some point. Therefore it had to be repaired. The damage was on the horizontal part of the 6th stamp. One needle was taken out from it, so that the perforation of the whole vertical 6th row is 13 instead of 13¼.

By this repair the comb was also slightly shortened in the 6th row. So each stamp perforated 13 will only measure 25 mm in width instead of 25½ mm. The catalogues which list this variety do so for each stamp of the Nazmi printing. But this would mean that the perforation comb was already damaged when the production of the *Ay Yıldız* stamps began. To prove this theory one would have to find one of each value perforated 13 instead of 13¼. I am not yet done with this exercise.

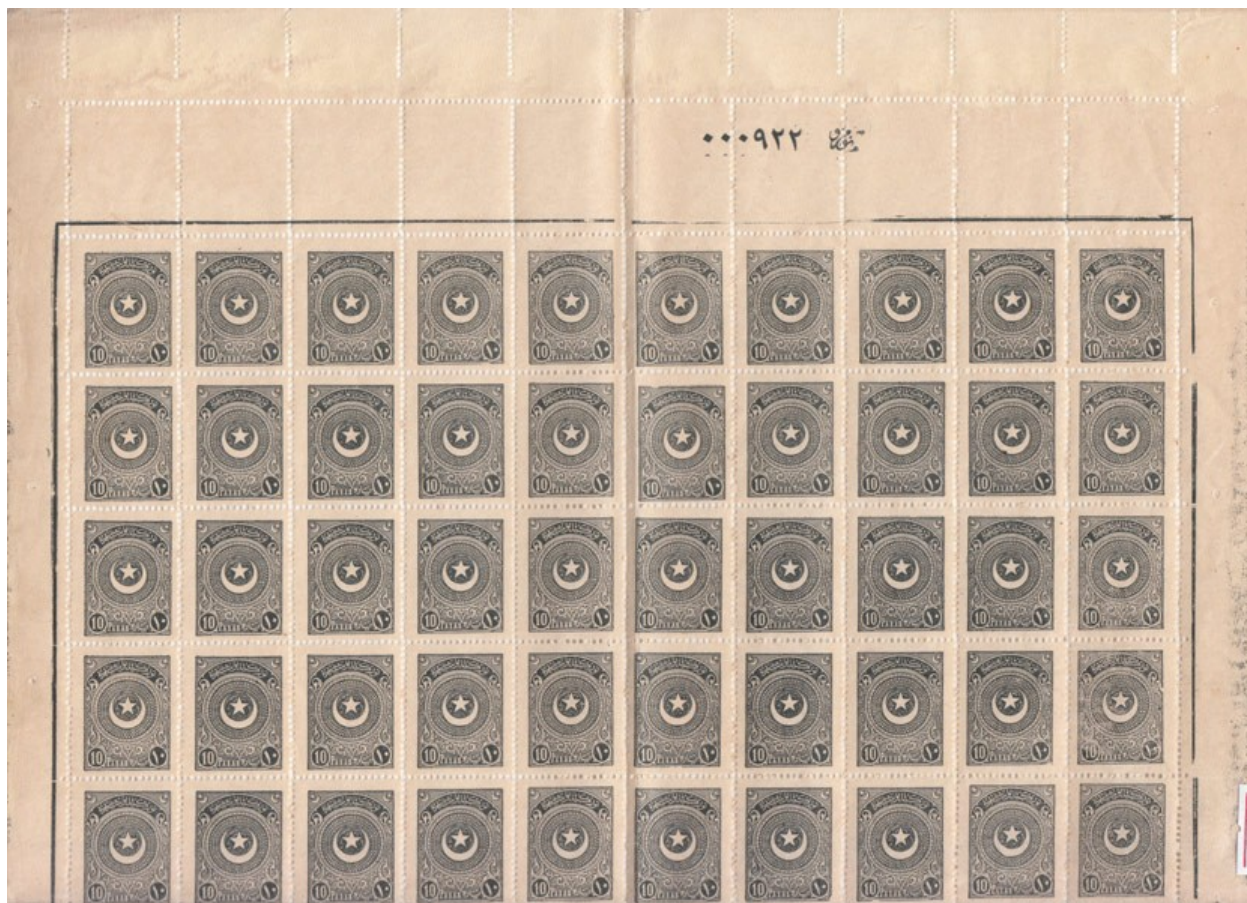


Fig. 5: Upper half sheet of the 10 Pa Nazmi printing (illustrating the whole sheet would not add any information): it is nicely visible that Nazmi comb perforated 'his' stamps and that there are 'empty stamps' or tags on top of the sheet, as may be found at the bottom of the sheet. This part sheet shows also plate position 16 with the 'broken upper frame line'.

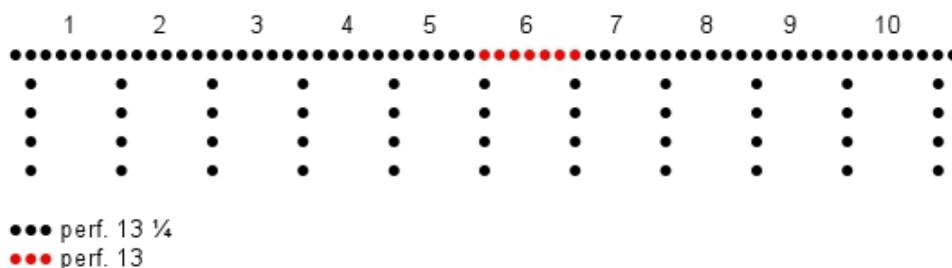


Fig. 6:
Drawing of
repaired comb
defect.



Fig. 7: Local cover sent from Beylerbey to Couzgroundjik and franked with one pair of the 20 Pa Nazmi stamps which is one side imperforate. Such a variety from the Nazmi stamps cannot exist. Indeed the stamps were trimmed at one side as the width of the pair is only 24½ mm.

Knowing that the Nazmi stamps were comb-perforated, a partly perforated Nazmi stamp can only be imperforate at the bottom or left, right, and top at the same time. But it is impossible that e.g. only the right side is imperforate. Having said that, two Nazmi stamps came my way that do not easily fit into the picture: a pair on cover which is imperforate on one vertical side. But measuring the width of the stamp it is obvious that the stamps were trimmed on this side. Maybe because they were considered too rough. As the item is commercial there was no philatelic intention behind it.

Even more puzzling is a small Nazmi stamp I did find recently. From perforation and colour it is definitely a Nazmi stamp. But it is very narrow and does not show uneven perforation on top or bottom which would point into the direction of a horizontally shifted double perforation. My only guess would be that a collector tried his perforation device on this stamp. But that is obviously a very hypothetical explanation.

But there is one special case when only one side of a Nazmi stamp could be left imperforate. This is when the sheet was folded over during the perforation process. But in such a case the perforation line is generally bent, so it is easy to understand how this error came about.



Fig. 8 (left): This is a small Nazmi stamp. Probably someone tried his personal perforating device on it. It cannot be the outcome of the regular Nazmi perforation process.

Fig. 9 (right): This is the only valid example of a Nazmi stamp that is imperforate at one side. A part of the sheet was folded over during perforation. So only one side is imperforate.

The Riddle of the 4½ Kuruş Plate

One of the stories around the *Ay Yıldız* stamps that has fascinated me for a long time was told by Max Mayo in the following version:⁵

Nazmi Bey had a problem with the 4½ guruh plate. For some reason the base row of clichés became worn rather early in the run. The order was for over two million stamps of this denomination. Perhaps that might be the reason. In any event he was compelled at some point to remove the bottom row of clichés across, and proceed to print this denomination in sheets of but ninety subjects. The bottom row of these sheets will be evidenced by the presence of blank clichés.

I was watching out to find this variety. But it proved impossible. And after analysing the facts I can offer an explanation for why I could not find this variety and offer a better version of this story.



Fig. 10:

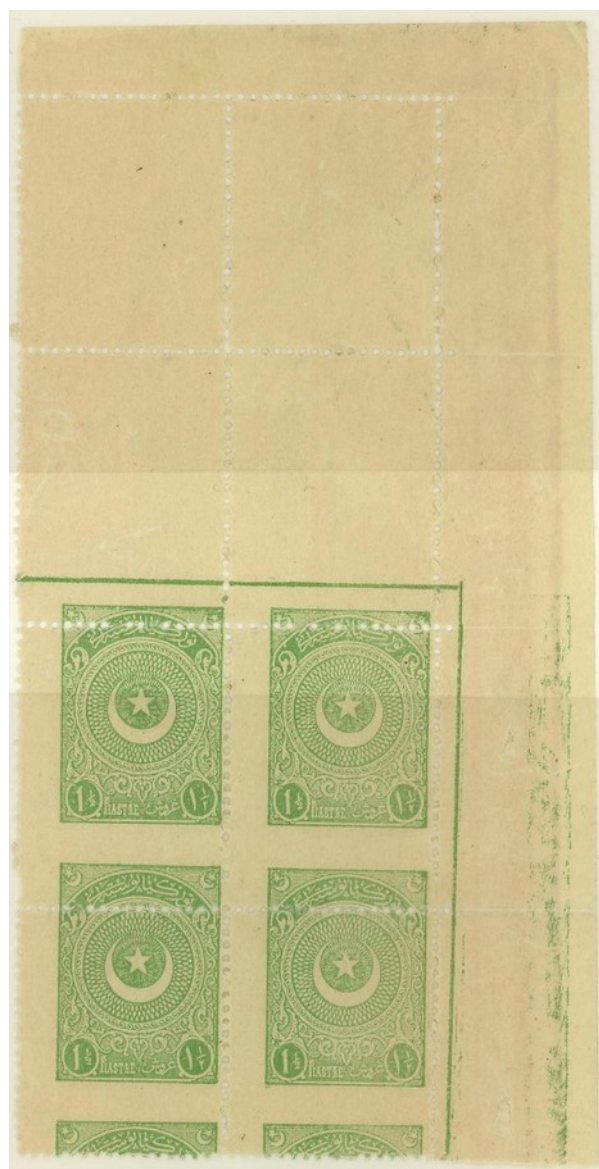
Corner block of five of the 4½ Ks Nazmi stamp. There is a row of empty stamps under the proper stamps. But the frame line goes all around.

This is the typical Nazmi frame line (compare to the sheet of the 10 Para).

⁵ Mayo, 1990, p. 312.

As the printing plates were made out of zinc, as I assume, they would not last for high printing numbers. To get an idea how long the plates could be used one can look at the printing numbers of the 5 Kuruş stamp. Nazmi printed 9,038,500 five Kuruş stamps, which is 90,385 sheets. As we know that Nazmi printed the 5 Kuruş stamps from two plates, one with the small “5”, one with a large “5”, we can estimate that one plate was good for something between 50,000 to 80,000 sheets.

Going back to the 4½ Kuruş stamp, Nazmi and Ikdam together printed approximately 4,500,000 stamps. This is significantly less than one plate lasted for the 5 Kuruş stamp. Therefore we assume that the plate which was replaced by Nazmi cannot be attributed to normal wear and tear but to some kind of damage of the plate. So if we follow Mayo in this regard, we would have to prove that the plate of the 4½ Kuruş stamp was replaced by Nazmi.



Figs. 11a and 11b: These two marginal blocks of the 1½ Ks stamp show that empty stamp on top and bottom of the sheet can be found from other values as well.
It is not a specific characteristic of the 4½ Ks stamp.

So let's go through Mayo's argument step by step. Firstly he must have seen some 4½ Kuruş stamps with tabs at the bottom. From this he concluded that there must have been some kind of damage to the plate.

Studying these stamps for many years I could also find other values with empty fields at the bottom. This is not a peculiarity of the 4½ Kuruş stamp. It is rather due to the fact that the wide margins of the sheets were perforated until the very end of the sheet, giving a row of empty stamps.

Unfortunately such marginal blocks are very hard to find. The *Ay Yıldız* stamps were printed and used in years that were economically very difficult for Turkey. Therefore these tiny 'sticky notes' found a lot of uses and were not kept for stamp collectors.



Figs. 12a and 12b: Marginal block of four and marginal pair of the 4½ Ks Ikdam stamp:

These two blocks clearly show that the Nazmi frame line is no longer present. So the 4½ Ks plate was replaced. But the margins are wide, also allowing for empty stamps, especially at the bottom of the sheet where there is more than one stamp height difference between the stamp and the partly visible plate number.

Mayo assumes that the lowest row of clichés in the plate was damaged and removed, and for that reason the 4½ Kuruş stamp was printed in sheets of 90 rather than 100.

But I think that this is a wrong conclusion drawn from the existence of “empty stamps” in the bottom row. If the 10th row of clichés was damaged and removed one would expect to find 4½ Kuruş stamps with damaged designs. But even after searching many years for such stamps I could not find any. The other proof would be a vertical row of 9 stamps plus empty field or better a full sheet of this value. But none has come to light in the last twenty years and I strongly doubt that an item like that exists. My bottom corner block of the 4½ Kuruş Nazmi shows the typical border lines of the Nazmi print, but does not show the imprint that generally is in that corner. Comparing the block with a marginal block of four of the Ikdam print, it is clear that the plate Ikdam used does not have the marginal lines as is typical for plates which were prepared by Ikdam.

So we know that the 4½ Kuruş plate was replaced at least once between the early Nazmi and Ikdam prints. But we do not have any proof of the theory of a damaged row of stamps on the 4½ Kuruş plate as the reason for which it was replaced. To further clarify this question one would need more corner blocks of the 4½ Kuruş stamp. But these are quite rare. So to date no further conclusion is possible.

Plates and Varieties

When a collector starts collecting the *Ay Yıldız* stamps the first source of information will be one of the major catalogues. These list the three printings by Nazmi, Ikdam, and the Dette Publique and some varieties, like the 5 Kuruş stamps with small and large “5” of the Nazmi printing, or the small and large Arabic “٢” of the Ikdam printing. Mayo declares these varieties on the same plate by saying:

Within the plate there were several clichés wherein both the western and Turkish numeral twos are noticeably smaller.⁶

As Mayo has by far the most detailed listing of the *Ay Yıldız* stamps I followed this idea for many years and went astray with it. *Ex oriente lux* (light from the East), enlightenment came with an auction lot of the İfila auction of 16th January 2005. At this auction a partial sheet of 32 stamps of the Ikdam 2 Kuruş stamp was sold. All of these stamps were of the variety with the small Arabic “٢”. Therefore small and large Arabic “٢” are not found in different plate positions but rather printings from two plates.

We should have a closer look at the plates from which the *Ay Yıldız* stamps were printed. Obviously Nazmi, as the first printer of these stamps, prepared plates for all values he printed. Then we know that plates would be usable for a printing run of around 50,000 sheets; when they were worn, they had to be replaced. Therefore the most used 5 Kuruş stamp (domestic letter rate etc.) was already reprinted by Nazmi with a second plate, which we can easily distinguish from the first plate by the different size of the “5”, the large “5” being the early plate, the small “5” being the later plate.

Collectors will realize that the small “5” Nazmi stamp is much rarer in mint condition than the large “5” Nazmi stamp. Collectors tend to get their stamps when a new emission comes out. Nobody took notice of the second plate and the 5 Kuruş stamp was the most widely used stamp that was used up on mail. So only a few mint stamps with small “5” survived.

And the handing over of plates can be proven. Plate position 16 of the 10 Para stamp shows a very characteristic damage: the upper frame of the stamp is broken on top left. This plate position can be documented for the Nazmi and the Ikdam printing. So we can be sure that the plate was handed over (see *fig. 10*).

⁶ Mayo, 1990, p. 320.



Fig. 13:

Block of the 2 Ks Ikdams:
all small Arabic “٢”.

But the more interesting aspect is that plates were handed over from printer to printer. So Ikdams received all plates from Nazmi and used them as long as they were usable. When a plate was worn during the Ikdams printing, Ikdams would replace it. All the Ikdams plates then in turn were handed over to the Dette Publique. The literature I am aware of does not pay attention to this fact. But knowing this concept makes understanding this stamp issue much easier.

Applying this concept to sort out the different versions of some of the values one can establish a rather simple pattern, which is best visible for the 2 and 5 Kuruş stamps. The most used 5 Kuruş stamp was already reprinted by Nazmi, when the small “5” was substituted. The Ikdam and Dette Publique printing continued with small “5”.

But with the high printing numbers of the 5 Kuruş stamp, further replacements of the plate are likely. But these cannot be detected by the size of the numeral. I am sure that other plates like the one of the 3 Kuruş were replaced as well. But when the design, especially the size of the Western and Arabic numbers was not changed, this is not easily recognisable.



Fig. 14a to 14d: 5 Ks – Nazmi big, Nazmi small, Ikdam, Dette Publique.



Fig. 15a to 15d: 2 Ks – Nazmi, Ikdam big, Ikdam small, Dette Publique.

The earliest stamps were overprinted “SPECIMEN”, thus showing the original appearance of the numerals.

The pattern for the 2 Kuruş stamp is very similar. The 2 Kuruş stamp was regularly used but not in as high demand as the 5 Kuruş stamp. So we can safely assume that the original plate was handed over from Nazmi to Ikdam.

Then during Ikdam’s printing the plate got worn and Ikdam replaced it. The old plate had a large Arabic “٢” and the new plate had a small “٢” in the value plate. So we can find the Ikdam 2 Kuruş stamp in these two versions. Later Ikdam handed the 2 Kuruş plate to the Dette Publique. So we only know the 2 Kuruş Dette Publique stamp with small “٢”, a fact known to Passer.

It is interesting to note that the Turkish catalogues follow the plate pattern even if they are not explicitly saying it. These versions all have their own catalogue numbers, because in fact they are stamps from different plates.

Paper

One of the very little researched aspects of the *Ay Yıldız* stamps is the paper used for printing this stamp issue. The three printers of this stamp issue used different papers. This is widely documented in the literature. But there is more to the paper sorts used for the *Ay Yıldız* stamps.

It is not surprising that different papers can be found. The years during which the *Ay Yıldız* stamps were current were very difficult for Turkey. Turkey had gone from World War I immediately into the War of Independence and this was just over when the *Ay Yıldız* stamps were printed. So materials were not plentiful in the country and printers had to use what was available.

Nazmi Printing

Mayo describes the paper of this print as relatively thin with an oily feel to it. In fact, the printing shines through when viewed from the back. But there is also a thicker, opaque paper to be found with the 7½ Kuruş stamp printed by Nazmi. Mayo classifies it as version of the Dette Publique printing perforated 13½, which is not correct. Mayo also lists the 10 Para value in deep black printed on newspaper paper. To date I have not seen this variety. For the relatively common 7½ Kuruş stamp I can document four different papers:



Figs. 16a to 16d: 7½ Ks – oily thin paper, white thin paper, grey thin paper, thick paper

Ikdam Printing

Mayo describes the paper of this print as thick and white but not as white as the Dette Publique paper. Passer mentions a deep black 10 Para stamp on very thin paper.

Dette Publique Printing

The typical paper of this print is a somewhat thicker, fibrous paper. The printing cannot be seen from the back. Much rarer is a grey paper that was used by the Dette Publique. These are sought-after varieties, and are listed in the Turkish catalogues.

It is relatively easy to distinguish these major varieties of papers used for printing the *Ay Yıldız* stamps. But there are certainly finer distinctions. As the *Ay Yıldız* stamps are nearly 100 years old now, not only papers may have changed with age, but also their colours. Therefore it will be difficult to categorise paper varieties with any greater precision.

Conclusion

The *Ay Yıldız* stamps are exciting for their complexity. By applying the few concepts offered here, they should be much easier to understand. This is only the beginning of studying this stamp issue, which will keep a collector busy for many years.

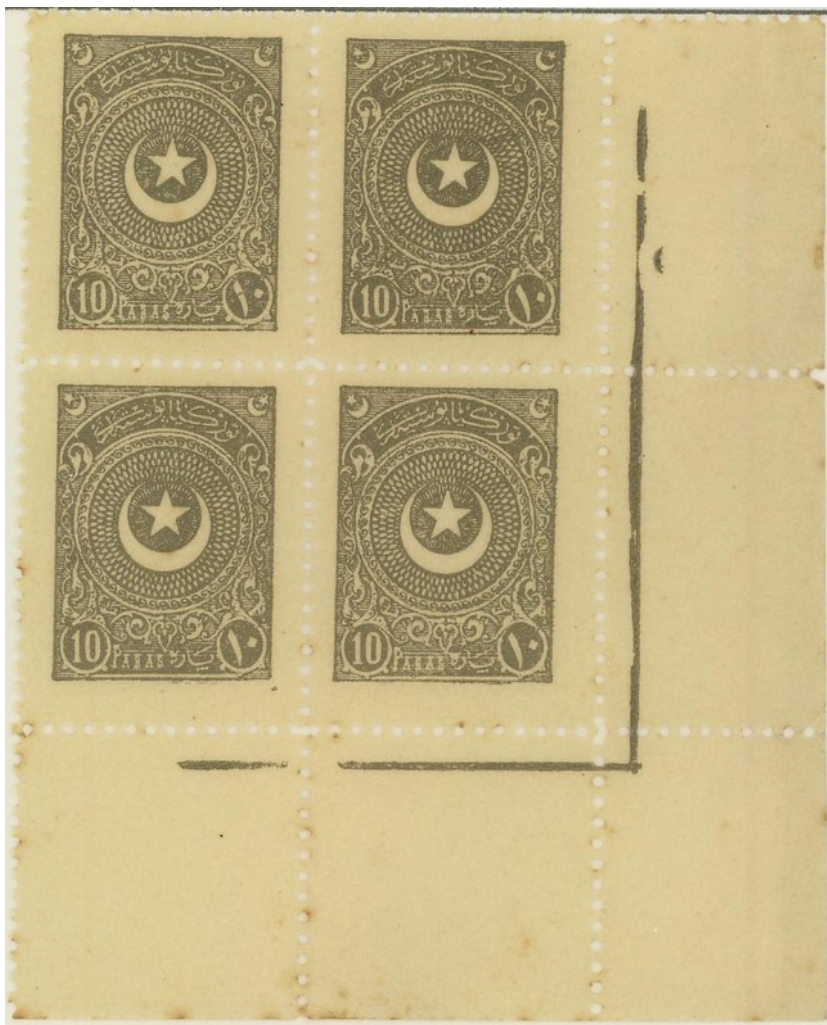


Fig. 17: Block of four of 10 Pa İkdām on thin paper.

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A 1931 Rerouted Overland Mail Cover: London–Baghdad–Anah–Hit–Haifa–Jerusalem–Afule

by Rainer Fuchs (FRPSL, AIJP)

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Some time ago I discovered a lot at an auction containing several covers; one of which I present here. It's proof of the capabilities of the *Overland Mail Baghdad–Haifa* in the 1930s.

The cover shown was sent by ordinary mail, not air mail, and not registered, on 5th June 1931 from Lewisham, London, to Hit, Iraq. The addressee, Stanley A. Bunnell, Esq., had already moved away from Hit, hence the cover was rerouted to Haifa, then to Jerusalem, and finally to Afule.

The rate of postage was 2½ d. There is no *Overland Mail Haifa–Baghdad* route instruction on the cover. The surcharge for routing via *Overland Mail* required by British Post had been abolished on 29th August 1929; better said: that was the last day the *Overland Mail* surcharge was required.

There would be a theoretical chance that the cover was sent by air mail but there is no airmail route instruction and any such postal packet was generally sent by surface mail. Based on the short transit times between the stations it is safe to assume it was sent overland between Iraq and Palestine.

The Routing

Date	Days	Postmark	Remarks
05.06.1931	–	Lewisham, London S.E. 13	Dispatched from Lewisham to Hit, Iraq.
17.06.1931	12	Baghdad SOR.	“SOR.” stands for the Sorting Office.
18.06.1931	1	Ramadi	Red manuscript marking (back): “It entered Ramadi Post / 20/6”
20.06.1931	2	Anah (Iraq)	Red manuscript marking: “Hit” (?)
21.06.1931	1	Hit (Iraq)	Red manuscript marking (back): “The recipient of the cover left for Haifa one month ago without leaving a forwarding address. To be asked for (at Haifa). Baghdad, 31/6/21” Red manuscript marking (front): “Baghdad”
24.06.1931	3	Hit (Iraq)	Cover redirected to Haifa, Palestine, P. O. Box 47
25.06.1931	1	Baghdad SOR.	
25.06.1931	0	Baghdad / 5 – P.M.	
28.06.1931	3	Baghdad SOR.	
30.06.1931	2	Haifa	Cover was most likely sent by Overland Mail Baghdad–Haifa: transit time of only 2 days. Cover redirected to Jerusalem, P. O. Box 632
1.07.1931	1	Jerusalem	
2.07.1931	1	Jerusalem	Cover redirected to P. O. Afule
3.07.1931	1	Haifa	
5.07.1931	2	Afule	Final arrival.



Figs. 1 and 1a: Cover from Lewisham, London, to Hit, Iraq, 5.06.1931. No route instruction indicating Overland Mail Haifa-Baghdad. The cover is franked with 2½ d for an ordinary first-rate letter, but the short transit times indicated it was routed "overland" from Palestine to Iraq and back. In Hit, the cover was rerouted to Haifa, Jerusalem and finally to Afule where it arrived on 5.07.1931.



05.06.1931
Lewisham
S.E. 13



17.06.1931
Baghdad SOR.
Proud DY8



[1]8.06.1931
Ramadi
Proud D2 ?



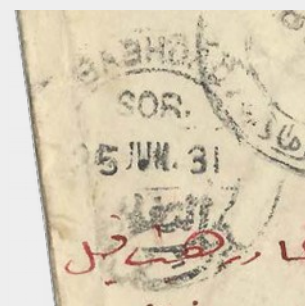
20.06.1931
Anah (Iraq)
Proud D2



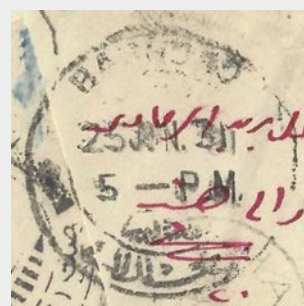
21.06.1931
Hit (Iraq)
Proud: D2



24.06.1931
Hit (Iraq)
Proud: unlisted (typ. KD2)



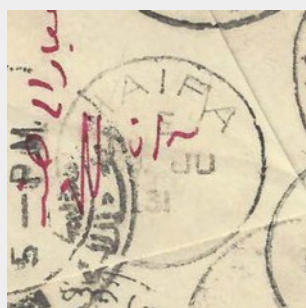
25.06.1931
Baghdad SOR.
Proud DY8



25.06.1931
Baghdad 5 – P.M.
Proud: unlisted



28.06.1931
Baghdad SOR.
Proud DY8



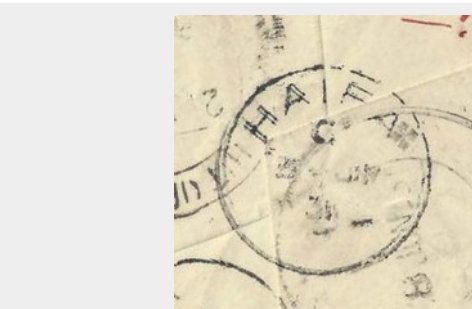
30.06.1931
Haifa E
Sacher B7, Proud D34 ?



1.07.1931
Jerusalem
Sacher F3, Proud M2



2.07.1931
Jerusalem B
Sacher B31, Proud D24



3.07.1931
Haifa C
Sacher B7, Proud D24?



5.07.1931
El Affule
Dorfman 4, Sacher 4, Proud D10

Afule

The agricultural colony Afule, south of Nazareth, was founded by Jewish settlers in 1925 with most of the Arabs from the village of 'Affuleh ('Affuleh, 'Affulah, El-'Affule, عفولة, العفولة) and surrounding areas being evicted. By the 1931 census the population had increased to 874, living in 236 houses, 90 % were now Jewish.¹ The village was well connected due to its railway junction connecting the Nablus branch line to the main Haifa–Damascus line. The post office opened on 11.08.1922 (see fig. 2).² The arrival postmark on the cover is known for the period 30th October 1926 to 2nd December 1936: Dorfman 4, Proud D10 (24.5 mm single-circle date-stamp, Dorfman type III, see fig. 3 for the depiction in Dorfman's book)³ and must be described as rare.

PALESTINE POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS.

NOTICE.

I.

It is notified for information that an office was opened at Afule on the 11th August for the transaction of the following classes of business:—

- (1) Sale of Postage Stamps.
- (2) Acceptance and delivery of
 - (a) Correspondence (registered and ordinary)
 - (b) Inland insured letters and parcels.
 - (c) Inland parcels registered and ordinary.
 - (d) Foreign parcels ordinary.
- (3) Issue and payment of
 - (a) Postal Orders.
 - (b) Ordinary and Telegraph inland.
Money Orders and Ordinary Foreign Money Orders.
- (4) Acceptance and delivery of telegrams.
- (5) Public telephone call office.

Hours of business.

Monday to Friday, 8 a.m.—1 p.m.; 3 p.m.—5 p.m.
Saturdays and Sundays, 8 a.m.—12 noon.

Fig. 2: Afule post office opening announcement.

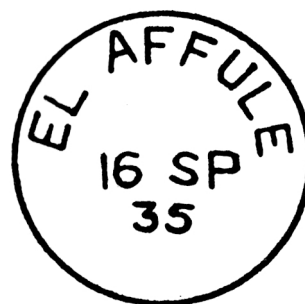


Fig. 3: EL AFFULE
(Dorfman 4, Sacher 4, Proud D10).
Shown here as the idealised redrawing (as
is the case with most of his depictions)
from Dorfman's 1985 book.

Conclusion

While the cover does not bear any route instruction for the use of the *Overland Mail Haifa-Baghdad* and reverse, due to the very short transit times of 12 days from England to Baghdad and again only 2 days from Baghdad back to Haifa it is safe to assume that the cover was carried on both ways by *Overland Mail*. The cover shows some rare Iraqi small town transit markings (Anah and Hit), in addition the rare arrival postmark of Afule.

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1 1922 Census: 471 Muslims, 61 Christians, 28 Jews, and 2 Baha'is. 1931 Census: 786 Jews, 76 Muslims, 9 Christians, and 3 villagers are classified as 'no religion.' These numbers appear small, but the often recently immigrated European Jews produced a disproportionately high postal traffic.

2 Official Gazette of the Government of Palestine, 4. 1922, no. 74 (1.09.1922), p. 9.

3 Dorfman, 1985, pp. 32–36.

The Raid on the Bethlehem Post Office on 13th September 1938 in Photographs

by Tobias Zywietz

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During my philatelic research work I became aware of an image collection in the U.S. Library of Congress: the “*G. Eric and Edith Matson Photograph Collection*.” The focus of the more than 23,000 images, mostly film negatives and glass plates, is Palestine in the period from 1898 to 1946. The collection draws on the archives of the companies *American Colony (Jerusalem) Photo Department* (1898–1940) and its successor *Matson Photo Service* (from 1940).

Among the photographers known by name are Elijah Meyers (founder of the Photo Department), Erik and Lars Lind, Furman Baldwin, John David Whiting, Lewis Larsson, Najib and Jamil Albina, and Gästgifvar Eric Matson (who took over the company and its archives in 1940).

Unfortunately there are relatively few pictures on the subject of postal services and facilities: most topical images relate to the then newly opened General Post Office in Jerusalem in 1938. In this instalment I’d like to present two pictures relating to the raid of the Bethlehem post office by Palestinian rebels during the night of 13th to 14th September 1938.

Historical Context

The so-called “Arab Revolt” in Palestine began in April 1936, following the death of the leader of the underground organisation “Black Hand,” Sheikh Izz ad-Din al-Qassam, in a skirmish with British Mandate Police near Ya’bad on 20th November 1935. The trigger was an attack on a Jewish convoy and subsequent mutual revenge attacks.

During the years 1933 to 1936, Jewish immigration reached its peak: the number of Jews in Palestine had approximately doubled since 1931. In July 1937, the Peel Commission report on partition of Palestine was published, and subsequently rejected by the Arab side.

During the second wave of the revolt (July 1937 to Autumn 1938) there was widespread strike action and the country sank into civil-war-like conditions. On both sides raids, hostage-takings, arson, attacks on civilians and the authorities, but also atrocities by police, were an almost daily occurrence.

After publication of the Woodhead Commission report in November 1938, the British government dropped its partition plans. Until the outbreak of World War II the revolt claimed (depending on the source) 2,000–5,000 mainly Arab fatalities. These figures include about 300 Jews and 262 British subjects. Mandate powers executed 108 Palestinians and 4 Jews.

The Raid on the Bethlehem Post Office

I could not unearth much about the specific circumstances of this attack on official buildings in Bethlehem, and unfortunately nothing about the postal consequences. The English-language Jewish newspaper *The Palestine Post* reports on 15th September:¹

1 Cf. fig. 9 on p. 61.

On Tuesday evening an armed band set fire to the Police Station, and Municipal Offices in Bethlehem. The Post Office was also damaged by fire, but the mails were not destroyed.”

On the left side of the photograph one can see paper, maybe letters scattered on the ground, and I believe I can make out trails of smoke on the lintels. In other pictures of the same day one can see the neighbouring headquarters of the British police, which had been set on fire.²



Fig. 1: Scene after the attack on the post office Bethlehem, 14.09.1938.

The annual report of the Mandate administration to the League of Nations does mention the incident, amongst many other attacks and raids on post offices and officials:

August 1938

[...] ; on the 16th, a post office employee in Nablus was robbed of a bag containing £P.2,000; on the 21st, the Qalqiliya post office was raided and £P.36 stolen; [...]. On the 19th, a general raid on Hebron town resulted in the urban police post, Barclays bank and the post office being attacked and extensively damaged.

September 1938

[...] on the 13th, in Gaza town, armed men robbed postal employees of four mail bags, one of which contained over £P.1,000. [...] During the night of the 13th–14th a large gang raided Bethlehem and destroyed the police station and did considerable damage to the municipal and post offices.

² Cf. Scully.

November 1938

In Haifa, the Levant Bonded Warehouse was burnt down and the post office was raided, the robbery yielding over £P1,500.



Fig. 2: Scene after the attack on the post office Bethlehem, 14.09.1938.

Contemporary Newspaper Reports

In the following I show some newspaper clippings from August and September 1938, all from the Jewish newspaper "The Palestine Post," detailing some of these incidents.



Fig. 3: Masthead of The Palestine Post, Jerusalem, vol. 14, no. 3752, 14.09.1938, p. 1.

Nablus Barclays Loses Again

LP. 2,000 TAKEN IN DAYLIGHT
MAILBAG HOLD-UP

NABLUS, Tuesday. — The local branch of Barclays Bank lost another LP. 2,000 today when a mail-bag robbery was perpetrated in broad daylight.

An Arab Post Office employee was set upon and robbed by two brigands as he was taking the mail to the bus station.

It is understood that among the letters stolen was a registered packet from the Nablus branch of Barclays Bank to the head office in Jerusalem, containing the sum of LP. 2,000.

The theft occurred about 3 o'clock in the afternoon in Shueitri Street, not far from the terminus of the Arab Bus Company.

The criminals were two Arabs who are reported to have been armed. They apparently succeeded in getting away unmolested, after holding up the postman and seizing the mail-bag which he was carrying to the bus.

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Fig. 4: The Palestine Post, Jerusalem, vol. 14, no. 3728, 17.08.1938, p. 1.

C.I.D. Report. No. 202/38 Aug. 17

in the Haifa suk.

In Nablus yesterday, two armed men held up the Post Office messenger in the afternoon, and robbed him of the mail, which included letters containing £2,000 for Barclays Bank; at midnight, an armed party estimated at 30 men penetrated the Urban Police Station and stole four rifles and some ammunition.

Railway supernumeraries were sniped

The following incidents were reported during the last 24 hours: —

In Nablus yesterday, two armed men held up the Post Office messenger in the afternoon, and robbed him of the mail, which included letters containing £2,000 for Barclays Bank; at midnight, an armed party estimated at 30 men penetrated the Urban Police Station and stole four rifles and some ammunition.

Fig 5: The Palestine Post, Jerusalem, vol. 14, no. 3729, 18.08.1938, p. 2.

Note: "Barcleys" should read "Barclays."

them, forcing them to retreat.

MONEY, STAMPS AND A WRIST WATCH

TULKARM, Sunday.— The Post Office at Kalkilia was robbed this morning by three brigands who carried out a hold-up in broad daylight and got away with money, some stamps and the postmaster's watch.

At 10.45, three armed Arabs entered the post office which was empty except for the postmaster. They took LP.36.- in cash, stamps and the postmaster's wrist watch, and made off again.

MONEY, STAMPS AND A WRIST WATCH

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At 10.45, three armed Arabs entered the post office which was empty except for the postmaster. They took LP.36.- in cash, stamps and the postmaster's wrist watch, and made off again.

Fig 6: The Palestine Post, Jerusalem, vol. 14, no. 3732, 22.08.1938, p. 1.

ously wounded, while two suffered severe bruises.

At Kalkilya, yesterday morning, three armed Arabs held up Post Office employees and stole a sum of money, a watch and some stamps from the Office.

In Haifa, yesterday afternoon, a bomb thrown at a taxi bounced off the roof

C.I.D. Report. No. 207/38 Aug. 22

The following incidents were reported during the last 24 hours: —

At Kalkilya, yesterday morning, three armed Arabs held up Post Office employees and stole a sum of money, a watch and some stamps from the Office.

Fig. 7: The Palestine Post, Jerusalem, vol. 14, no. 3733, 23.08.1938, p. 1.

MAILBAG HOLD-UP

At 7.30 a.m. armed men held up Post Office employees and robbed them of 4 mail-bags, which they were carrying from Gaza Post Office to the railway station. The hold-up occurred in an isolated cemetery about a quarter of mile from the Post Office.

MAILBAG HOLD-UP

At 7.30 a.m. armed men held up Post Office employees and robbed them of 4 mail-bags, which they were carrying from Gaza Post Office to the railway station. The hold-up occurred in an isolated cemetery about a quarter of mile from the Post Office.

Fig. 8: The Palestine Post, Jerusalem, vol. 14, no. 3752, 14.09.1938, p. 1.

ARSON IN BETHLEHEM

On Tuesday evening an armed band set fire to the Police Station, and Municipal Offices in Bethlehem. The Post Office was also damaged by fire, but the mails were not destroyed.

ARSON IN BETHLEHEM

On Tuesday evening an armed band set fire to the Police Station, and Municipal Offices in Bethlehem. The Post Office was also damaged by fire, but the mails were not destroyed.

Fig. 9: The Palestine Post, Jerusalem, vol. 14, no. 3753, 15.09.1938, p. 2.

... machine.
ARSON
 At 11.25 on Friday morning, armed men held up a Post Office truck at km. 35 on the Jerusalem-Nablus road and burnt it. The vehicle did not contain any mail.
 At 10 a.m. on Friday, fire broke out in an unoccupied house in the

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ARSON

At 11.25 on Friday morning, armed men held up a Post Office truck at km. 35 on the Jerusalem-Nablus road and burnt it. The vehicle did not contain any mail.

Fig. 10: The Palestine Post, Jerusalem, vol. 14, no. 3755, 18.09.1938, p. 1.

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The “Wartime Economy Use” of a Palestine Meter Mark Cover

by Rainer Fuchs (FRPSL, AIJP)

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Some time ago I purchased the cover shown below which demonstrates a nice example of “wartime economy use”: as paper and stationery was in short supply, material was re-used in whichever way possible and incoming covers were kept for future use, as in this case.

The cover was initially sent by Palestine Oil Industry «SHEMEN» Ltd., Haifa, Palestine, P.O.B. 136 (see imprinted address on the reverse, *fig. 3*) to the Director of Customs, Import Licensing Section, Haifa franked with the meter frank mark used by the company rated 2×5 Mils: HAIFA 30 IV 41.¹ The slogan simply says “SHEMEN / OLIVE OIL AND SOAP / FROM THE HOLY LAND”. On the reverse is a transit mark of Haifa, 30th April 1941. This slogan meter frank mark (Sacher G12) was used between 1934 and 1945.² The contents may have been customs documents but not printed matter, hence the double value of 2×5 Mils, representing the first letter rate of 10 Mils).



Fig. 1: Front of the re-used envelope.

1 Name head: Sacher Haifa Type D; value tablet: Sacher Haifa type III; cf. Sacher, 1995, pp. 170–171.

2 Sacher, 1995, p. 174.

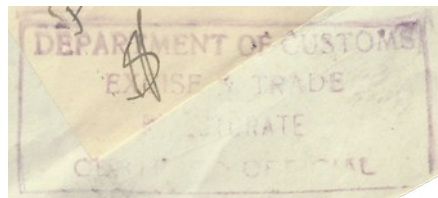
The Cover re-used a year later

Almost a year later, the Department of Customs has re-used that envelope for a letter addressed to the Palestine Bonded Warehouse Ltd., P.O. Box 1789, Tel Aviv. Since the cover was sent from a Governmental organisation on official business it was exempt from postage: the new address label (“economy label”)³ features this inscription:

ON HIS MAJESTY’S SERVICE

It is augmented by the rectangular hand-stamp (Sacher 6b)⁴ with an officer’s signature (*fig. 2*):

DEPARTMENT OF CUSTOMS
EXCISE AND TRADE
DIRECTORATE
CERTIFIED OFFICIAL



Beside that address label, a plain date-stamp “2 MAR 1942” has been placed: the date the letter was received at the Palestine Bonded Warehouse offices. On the reverse side there are transit marks from Tel Aviv 1st March 1942 and a partial marking of Haifa, as well as a postmark from the cover’s first journey: Haifa 30th April 1941.



Fig. 3: Reverse of the re-used envelope.

³ Form number: “Gen. 5A.”

⁴ Sacher, 1995, p. 295. Sacher notes the latest date of use as 12.02.1942, so this cover would extend the period to 28.02.1942.

Wartime Economy Use of Stationery and Office Supplies

by Tobias Zywiets

These economy measures were not restricted to the civil service, including Palestine Post, but were practised in the commercial world as well as by private persons struggling through the war.

The *Post Office Circular Letter No. 131/79*, dated 27th September 1939, read as follows:⁵

Owing to the War, difficulty will probably be experienced in obtaining supplies of postal stores and stationery. Every possible economy should therefore be exercised. The Postmaster-General calls for the earnest cooperation of all members of the staff to ensure that there is no waste or unnecessary use of stores and stationery of all kinds.

Postal economy use is summarised by Hochheiser⁶ as follows:

1. *"Interim" use of the forms of the Military Administration by the Civil one, beginning in July 1920.*
2. *Duplicated British forms to be used on an "Interim" basis.*
3. *Strict supervisory control over the re-ordering of equipment including pencils, type-writer ribbons, carbon paper, etc., to avoid undue waste.*
4. *Instructions for carefully opening departmental envelope flaps, without tearing them, so that envelopes could be re-used.*
5. *Use of small overlay tabs to close envelope flaps, to avoid tearing them.*⁷
6. *Requiring writing on both sides of paper and limiting right and left margins to one inch.*
7. *Using the backs of all duplicated forms for message writing and keeping all usable correspondence for the same purpose.*
8. *Approaching large commercial firms to secure their co-operation in returning envelopes to the Postal Department, again for re-use.*

Wartime Economic Controls

The official "A Survey of Palestine" contains a section on "Wartime Economic Controls"⁸ describing the situation in Palestine. I quote here a few sections pertinent to Fuch's cover and the Shemen company:

24. In comparison with other countries of the Middle East, Palestine, being by no means self-supporting in either foodstuffs or raw materials for industry, is unusually sensitive to interruptions of supplies from external markets.

25. Immediately after the outbreak of the war the supply position was generally satisfactory. Jewish immigrants, who had been permitted to bring from Europe capital assets only in the form of manufactured goods, had furnished the country with large stocks of miscellaneous articles; neighbouring territories did not immediately restrict exports of foodstuffs and other commodities; and, although imports from overseas were somewhat reduced, the effect of this was not at first apparent. There was no real shortage of consumers' goods for the first two years of the war despite considerable hoarding on the part of householders and merchants during the early months.

*26. During the last half of 1941 the supply position gradually deteriorated, and, early in 1942, steps were taken by way of rationing and control to conserve existing stocks and imports. Enforcement of measures of control over the use of commodities was of particular difficulty in a country where there is little sense of public responsibility in such matters, no unity of national purpose and a natural disinclination to submit to Government restrictions, a disinclination strengthened by the years of disorder and rebellion preceding the war. Moreover, the economic make-up of the country is complex and, in consequence, a very elaborate system of control over the essential commodities was necessary, the elaboration reaching its peak in 1944, after which time an easing of the supply position warranted progressive relaxation.*⁹

⁵ Hochheiser, 1992, p. 83.

⁶ Hochheiser, 2000, p. 127.

⁷ Hochheiser, 1992, quotes on p. 84 a further postal circular: "To facilitate the opening of envelopes sealed with "economy labels", the moistening of the gum when sealing should be restricted to a strip one-half inch wide at the top and bottom of the label."

⁸ *A survey of Palestine*, 1946, pp. 994–1036.

⁹ *A survey of Palestine*, 1946, pp. 994–995.

[...]

(a) Food Control.

[...]

Oils, Fats and Soap

51. The Defence (Oils and Fats) (Limitation of Prices) Order, 1942 fixed maximum prices for all edible oils and fat produced from imported oil seeds. Local oils such as olive oil and sesame oil were proclaimed as controlled articles but were not controlled as to price. Imports of oil seeds for the manufacture of margarine, edible oil and soap are obtained through centralised purchase on Government account in accordance with quotas authorised by the world supply authorities. The movement within Palestine of edible oils, margarine and soap in quantities in excess of 50 kilogrammes is subject to permit restrictions.¹⁰

[...]

(c) Paper, stationery and office equipment, and books.

97. Paper, office machinery, stationery and office equipment were brought under control in July, 1942, although a limited degree of control had been exercised for some months previously by the Government Printer acting as Deputy Controller of Supplies (Paper). Annual imports of paper (excluding newsprint) and cardboard had, before the war, been in the region of 10,000 and 2,000 tons respectively. This had been cut to about a quarter during the first two years of the war, the annual quota fixed by the Middle East Supply Centre and put into effect from 1943, totalled 1,180 tons for the two commodities together.

98. The Defence (Control of Paper) Order 1942 restricted the use of paper for numerous purposes, e.g., it prohibited wrapping (except foodstuffs) and the printing of directories or guidebooks; limited the size of posters and prohibited the publication of trade circulars, or the insertion of advertising leaflets in packings; prohibited the production of numerous articles (such as view-cards and paper handkerchiefs) and restricted sizes of show-cards, menus and programmes.

99. In August, 1942, the Defence (Control of Paper, Office Machines, Stationery and Office Equipment) Order, was enacted, placing all types of paper, stationery etc., under control. This order provided for the declaration of stocks of paper exceeding 50 kgs. and of all types of office machines; dealers in any of the controlled articles had to be licensed; and no printer or manufacturer was permitted to execute, without obtaining the authority of the Controller, any order which involved the use of paper or hoard exceeding 25 kgs. The importation of paper and cardboard has been left in the hands of the trade with the exception of newsprint of which Government was the sole importer through the U.K.C.C. All arrivals of newsprint under existing licences were taken over by Government upon arrival; the actual distribution of the newsprint was under control of the Public Information Office.

[...]

101. Utility stationery. A Utility scheme to cover writing paper and pads was launched at the end of 1942 in order to reduce prices on the local market. About 80 tons of paper per annum are set aside for this purpose.

[...]

103. As a measure of de-control, the control of all articles of stationery, except those manufactured only or mainly from paper, ceased as from the 17th May, 1945. Similarly, control of all articles of office equipment, except office machines, was abolished on the same date. The limitation of prices of locally produced cardboard and common wrapping paper was abolished with effect from 6th February, 1945.¹¹



¹⁰ *A survey of Palestine*, 1946, p. 1004.

¹¹ *A survey of Palestine*, 1946, pp. 1020–1022.

Palestine Oil Industry «SHEMEN» Ltd., Haifa: “The world known brand from the Holy Land”¹²

Founded in 1906 as Atid (Hadid), it became a limited company registered in London in 1919 and still exists today as Shemen Ltd.¹³ It was a key part of the Zionist industrialisation programme, but unlike the two other large Jewish industrial manufacturers in Haifa, Nesher Cement Co. and Grand Moulins flour mills, it adhered strictly to strategies set by the Zionist Organisation (ZO) in London such as boycotting Arab seed producers and not employing Arab workers, while at the same time flooding the local (mainly Arab) market, competing with traditional local oil and soap producers.¹⁴



The company manufactured mainly edible oils (olives, vegetable, coconut, etc.), olive oil soaps, and cosmetics. Known brands were the vegetable oil “Meged” and the coconut oil “Kokosin.” Its factory complex, built in the 1920s just east of the railway station, was a prominent building in Mandate Haifa.



The “Shemen” factory in Haifa.¹⁵

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¹² As depicted, this slogan was also used on a meter frank mark (Sacher G8) from 1946; cf. Sacher, 1995, p. 173.

¹³ Company website: <http://www.shemen.co.il/about-us/about-shemen-industries-ltd/> (accessed 14.05.2018).

¹⁴ Cf. Seikaly, 2002, pp. 87–94.

¹⁵ Detail from a 1930s postcard published by Eliahu Bros., Tel Aviv.

Nablus AM/PM Postmarks Revisited (III)

by Avo Kaplanian

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This new discovery of a **NABLUS / PM** cancel was found on an official government circular mailed by the *Department of Printed Matters and Publications of the Ministry of Exterior* from Amman on 15 DEC '56 (postmark ①). The circular was mailed first via Nablus on 16 DE 56 (postmark ②) and then via Jenin on 18 DEC 56 (postmark ③). The circular was addressed to the postmaster of Yabed with the violet arrival postmark of Yabed dated 18 DEC 1956 (postmark ④).

In addition to the four postmarks, a double-circle grey-blue cachet was stamped on the circular: “المملكة الاردنية الهاشمية / وزارة المواصلات / البريد” i.e. “The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan / Ministry of Communications / Postage” authenticated with a manuscript signature of the sender (⑤, see fig. 1 to the right).

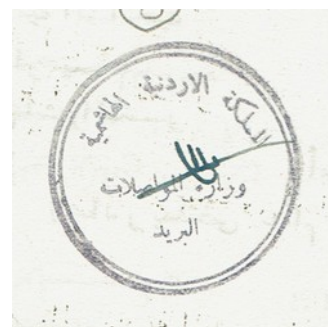


Fig. 2: The outside of the circular, which was sent as a folded sheet of paper.



Figs. 3–3c: The four postmarks.

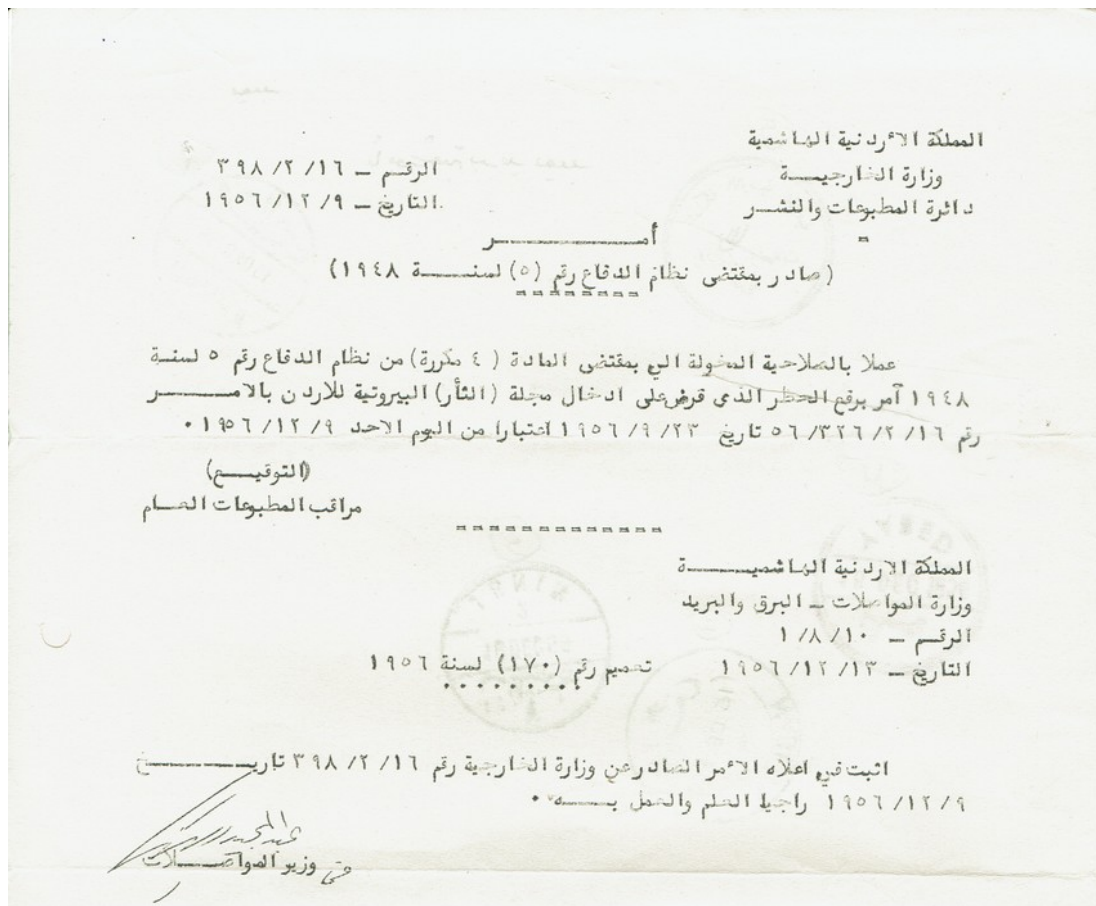


Fig. 4: The text inside the circular is instructing the postmaster to end the ban of the Lebanese Arabic magazine الثأر (Al-Tha'ar, "revenge") published in Beyrouth per the 9th of December 1956.

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- Kaplanian, Avo: *Nablus AM/PM postmarks revisited (II)* / provided by Avo Kaplanian. In: The Middle East Philatelic Bulletin, no. 7, 2017, p. 40.

Egypt Stamps and Rates: What, no Stamp?

by Edmund Hall¹

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It seems obvious that the purpose of a definitive issue, the most obvious and most used stamp, must be to pay the normal letter rate within the issuing country. But on several occasions since Egypt's first issue of 1866 the contemporary definitive stamps did not include a denomination to match the basic internal letter rate.

One can only guess at the reason: a sudden rate rise to keep up with inflation perhaps, or simply a lack of communication between the designers and the rate setting office. Principally this article is about the internal letter rate but sometimes when this basic rate was not covered so also were others, such as a single stamp to pay for a registered letter or for postage overseas.

The first occurrence was 11th July 1940, when the effects of the war had triggered inflation. How quickly the decision to change the basic internal letter rate from 5 millièmes to 6 millièmes was made and then implemented I don't know, but the current *Boy King* definitive set did not have a 6 millièmes denomination. That stamp was issued only three months later, on 20th October 1940.



Fig. 1: Various combinations can be found to make up the correct rate but an additional 1m stamp is possibly the most common. The postmark is dated 19.09.1940 which is within the period between the rate rise and the issue of the 6m stamp.

¹ The late Edmund Hall was editor and webmaster of the Egypt Study Circle, 1998–2017. This article was first published in the Egypt Study Circle's journal *Quarterly Circular*, no. 256 (vol. 22, no. 9), March 2016, pp. 208–213. Used by permission of both the author and Egypt Study Circle.

The letter rate was increased to 10 millièmes 12th August 1943, 20 millièmes in 1967, 15 millièmes in 1975 and 20 millièmes in 1975, there being a current definitive each time to match the rate.

It was increased again in November 1981, to 30 millièmes, again without a definitive to match the rate in the new series. This was despite having ten stamps in the issue, the *Second Pictorials* with the 1 millième *Blue Waterwheel*.

After a gap of some two months a 30 millièmes stamp was issued on 23rd January 1982. An 80 millièmes stamp was issued on 10th February 1982, on account of an increase in the registered letter rate from 70 millièmes to 80 millièmes.



Fig. 2: An example of the correctly franked letter rate.
It also has a *British Community War Fund* label.

In my collecting I have concentrated on stamps of the same series showing a correct rate. I had not previously thought of trying to collect covers showing what happened when there was no definitive stamp for the inland letter rate. The fact that I could do so for the *Boy King* is merely fortuitous and I suspect that had I searched for the others I would have no more than I have, or haven't, as the case may be.

Finding post-monarchy covers with acceptable postmarks in the right time range is difficult enough. The cover in fig. 7 has the 70 millièmes made up to 80 millièmes with the 29th July 1981 *Festival* stamp. However the date-stamps are only partially readable. It is 1982, possible February, but covers showing an 80 millièmes rate made up of various stamps, including the 70 millièmes, are found long after the price increase.



Fig. 3: A cover with a 20m stamp from El Arish dated 2.08.1981

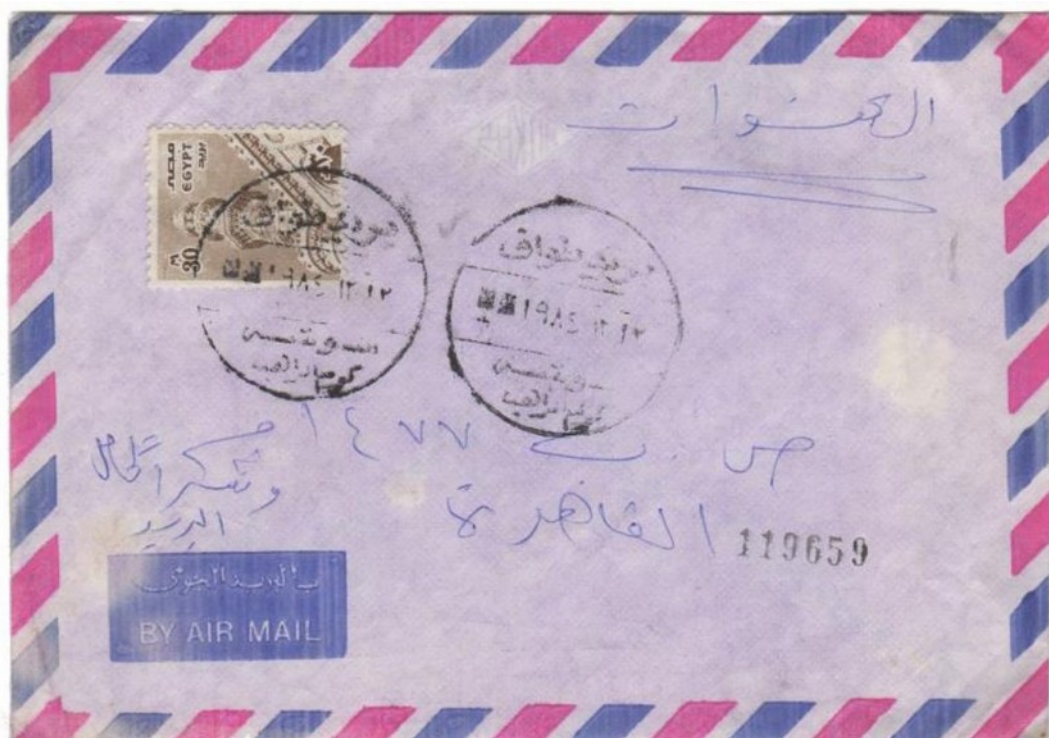


Fig. 4: A cover with a 30m stamp and a rural hand-stamp dated 22.12.84



Fig. 5: A cover with a 70m stamp to pay postage and registration from Ard El Mule, El Minia, 12.08.1981.



Fig. 6: A cover with an 80m stamp to pay the new rate from El Shin dated 19.11.1989.



Fig. 7: This cover has the 70m made up to 80m with the 1981 *Festival* stamp (issued 29.02.1981). However the date-stamps are only partially readable: possibly February 1982.



Fig. 8: Cover with *Arabesque* 10pt postmarked Cairo 28.08.1992 well within the 10pt rate period.

The rate changed from 10 piastres to 15 piastres during January 1993 with the then-current *Arabesque* issue of 1st October 1989, having no matching 15 piastres stamp. A new definitive set, the *First Pharaonic Heads*, was issued on 1st February 1993 – and included a 15 piastres stamp.



Fig. 9: A cover with a 10m stamp and 5pt to make up the 15pt before the *Pharaonic Head* set issued a 15pt stamp

While writing this article I was a bit surprised to find that I did not possess an example of the 15 piastres *Pharaonic* on cover to pay for the letter rate. It does show just how difficult it is to find such covers: are they really rare, or just the sort of material dealers don't want to stock?

The next rate change took place on 1st January 1997, the letter rate going from 15 piastres to 20 piastres again without a matching stamp. A new definitive set, the *Second Pharaonic Heads*, was issued on 1st February 1997 – with a 20 piastres stamp.

The February stamp had a picture of *King Horemheb* but this was replaced by a new 20 piastres on 23rd June 1999, of *Queen Nofret*. This was reprinted in August 2000 with a more amenable picture of the Queen. On 21st March 2001, there was another rate rise, so this stamp had only six months of use for the internal letter rate.



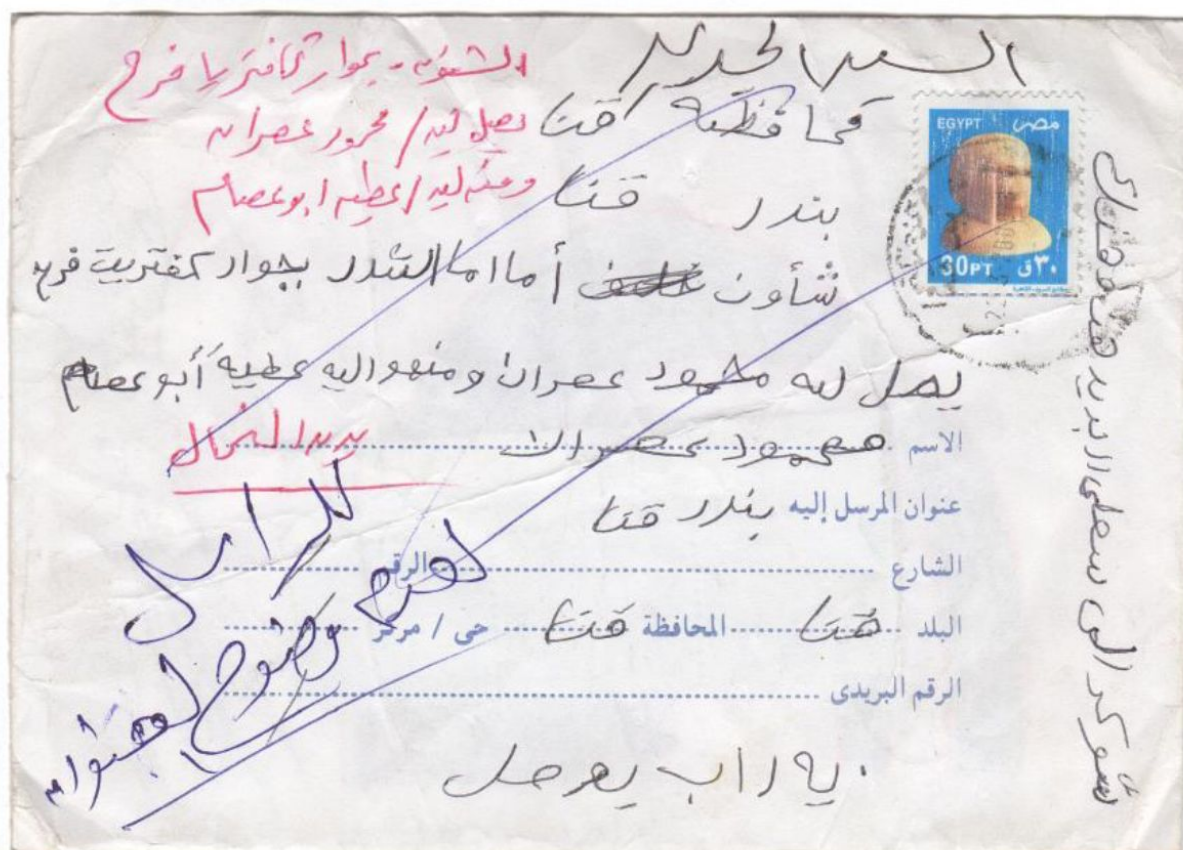


Fig. 10: A cover franked by 20pt, date-stamped 24.02.1999.



Figs. 11 and 12: The upper with the original *Nofret* dated 21.02.2001.
The lower cover with the 'nice stamp' dated 11.01.2001.

The change from 20 piastres to 30 piastres on 21st March 2001, was again without a matching stamp. No 30 piastres stamp was issued until August 2001 with the image of the *Goddess Silakht*. A new set of stamps was issued on 25th May 2002; this had a 30 piastres stamp with the head of *Princess Merit Atoun*.



Figs. 13: 30pt *Princess Merit Atoun* paying the internal letter rate. This is one of only two I have seen. But this is probably because covers of normal letters are nearly always thrown away.

It's not that the *Goddess Silakht* stamps are not found used on cover: I have a few paying the registered letter rate of 110 piastres, either a 10 piastres value used with a £E1 *Queen Nefertari* (issued October 1997) or 3×30 piastres *Silakht* and a 20 piastres *Queen Nofret* stamp. These illustrate, I think, that most modern covers of internal letters are saved or sold on to British dealers who rightly see no market for them. Nearly all my post-monarchy material has come from the internet directly from sellers in Egypt.

I have no information of internal postage rates up to 1st January 2015, when Sherif el-Kerdani reported² a post office circular announcing an increase from £E1.25 to £E1.50. The last 30 piastres stamp issued was the joint issue with Singapore, 17th October 2011, so it's reasonable to assume that a change in rates took place at about that time. But to what? Since the 30 piastres stamp, up to the present day most new stamps have been issued at 'high' denominations of £E2, £E3, or £E4.

² See el-Kerdani, Sherif: *Postal rates rise – and a registration surprise*. In: The Egypt Study Circle Quarterly Circular, no. 252, 2015, p. 99.



Fig. 14: A parcel card with two values of the *Silakht* stamps and both printings of the Nofret stamps.
Dated 4.09.2012. That is ten years after the set had been replaced by the 2002 Pictorials!

There are however the two 50 piastres stamps (orange and green), issued on 7th October 2013 and in December 2014: the first of these is two years after the last 30 piastres stamp. I might guess that the new rate might have been £E1, for which there was a £E1 definitive. The next £E1 is the festival set of 18th August 2012, and festival stamps tend to be issued at the standard internal rate.

If the rate then went up to £E1.25 the first stamp to appear is the *Egyptian Scout Centenary* of 15th October 2014, followed by the set of six *Birds of Egypt* on 10th December 2014. The next stamp issued, for the *National Theatre* on 20th December 2014, was £E1.50, followed by another £E1.50 for the *150th Anniversary of the Egyptian Post*, 2nd January 2015. These two stamps fit well with Sherif el-Kerdani's report. There has however been no £E1.50 stamp since then. From 25th January 2015, there have been seven stamps issued at £E2.00. Was the £E1.50 a short-lived rate, or has the Egyptian Post Office given up on issuing stamps for normal postage?

If the internal basic letter rates were in fact £E1.25, £E1.50, and £E2.00, then there are no such denominations in the definitive issue of these values. So again it's a case of "What, no stamp?"

Trying to see Rate Changes

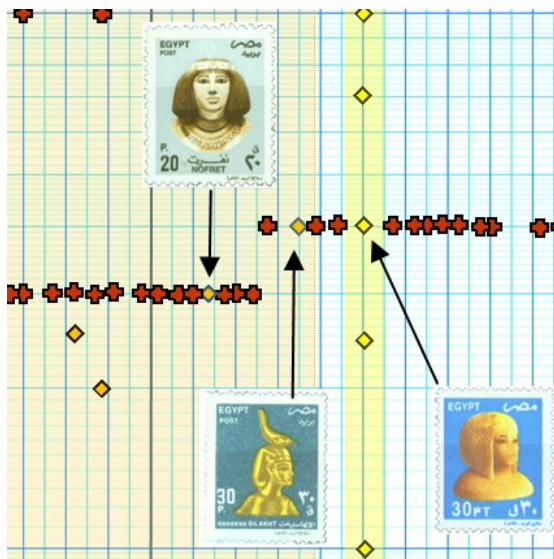


Fig. 15.

I showed at the January 2008 *Egypt Study Circle* meeting some of my graphs matching stamps to various rates, making the assumption that stamps reflect to some degree postal rates.³ This is borne out by plotting rates against time. See *fig. 16* below for the one for the internal letter rate, and note that the stamp value is plotted on a logarithmic axis while time is on the linear axis. As can be seen, a discontinuity occurs when the values of the stamp reflect the new rate. Now, it could be that the stamp value is changed in preparation for a postal rate change, or more likely soon after. There are occasions when a set is issued on the day of the change.

Above (*fig. 15*) is part of a graph I did for all the stamps issued from 1990 to November 2015. The diamonds indicate definitives, the crosses other stamps.

In the final graph the individual points are replaced by a line. Below (*fig. 16*) is the completed graph. It clearly shows the changes 15→20→30 and that the 30 millièmes value lasted until the third quarter of 2011. After that it becomes a little problematic but it seems that the letter rate went to £E1 somewhere between November 2011 and August 2012, then to £E1.25 before December 2014, and on to £E1.50 at the beginning of 2015.

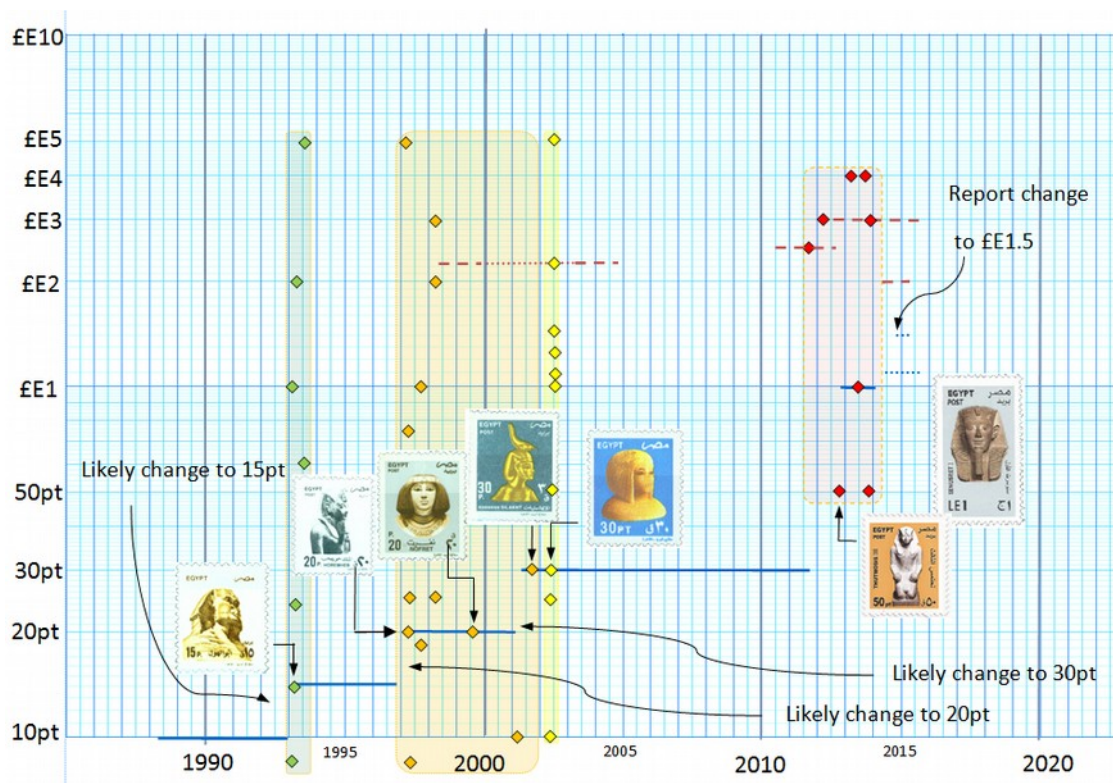


Fig. 16: Graph of time vs. letter rate with related definitive stamps issues, 1989–2015.

3 See Hall, Edmund: *Stamps and rates*. In: The Egypt Study Circle Quarterly Circular, no. 228, 2009, p. 102.

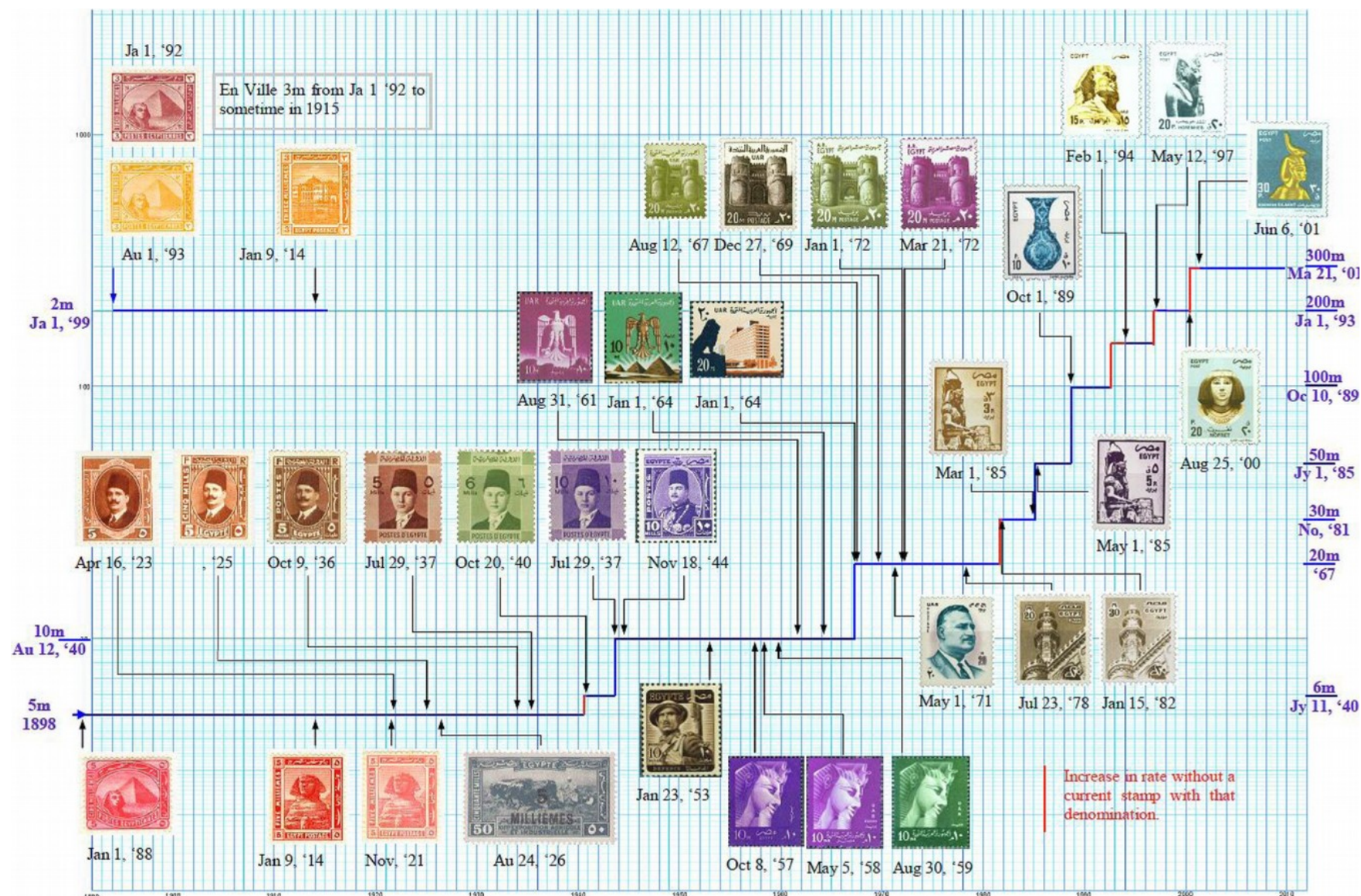
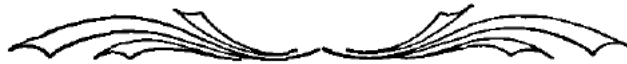


Fig. 17:

Graph of
time vs.
letter rate
with related
definitive
stamps,
1898–2010.

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Map of the
Mutasarrifate of Jerusalem
(Kudüs-i Şerif Mutassarrıflığı)
on an Ottoman post card
(before 1906).

The Reply Coupons of the Arab Postal Union

by Hálfdan Helgason and Tobias Zywietz

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International Reply Coupons (IRC, *coupon-réponse internationale*) were first introduced by the *Universal Postal Union* (UPU) on its 1906 congress held in Rome. The first coupons were released on 1st October 1907. This followed long-standing discussions and suggestions for a “world-stamp” or “international reply-stamp” to aid people wanting to pre-pay replies to their mail and not to burden their correspondence partners. Another idea in that endeavour was the reply-paid postcard (*carte postale avec réponse payée*) which was introduced by the 1891 UPU congress at Vienna.¹

IRCs with form numbers *A* (1906), *C26* (1929), *C22* (1947), and *CN01* (1994) are issued by individual UPU member countries, but until 2001 were printed in Switzerland and then distributed centrally from Berne. They are valid in every UPU member country, but their issue is not obligatory.

Initially an IRC was exchanged for the postage needed for an international letter of the lowest weight band sent overland or by sea. In many countries international postage rates do not make a distinction between overland/sea and airmail nowadays, so it can now be exchanged for one or more postage stamps representing the minimum postage for an unregistered priority airmail letter of up to twenty grammes sent to another member country. The minimum selling price is regulated by the UPU and the redeeming country is reimbursed by the issuing country through the Union’s comprehensive fees and dues system.



Fig. 1: Egyptian IRC, “Rome” type Ro-3, denominated at 11 Millièmes (109 × 80 mm) issued in 1920.

¹ Reply-postcards were abolished by the 1969 UPU congress in Tokyo and became invalid by 1.07.1971.



Fig. 2: Austrian Post in the Levant, "Rome" type Ro-2, issued in Jerusalem 2.07.1909, 28h (109 × 80 mm). One of probably only two registered Rome-type coupons issued in JERUSALEM by the Austrian Postal Service while it operated in the Levant. The other known coupon is of type Ro-1, issued 3.03.1908.

Regional Reply Coupons

Besides "Coupon-Réponse International" (*International Reply Coupons*) issued by the UPU, several postal organisations issued their own reply coupons: "Imperial Reply Coupons" and later British "Commonwealth Reply Coupons", "Coupon Respuesta Americoespañol" (*Union Postale Américano-Espagnole*), "Coupon Réponse Franco-Colonial" (French Colonies), "Coupon Réponse CAPTEAO" (*Conférence Africaine des Postes et Télécommunications de l'Afrique de l'Ouest*), "قسمة جواب" (*Arab Postal Union*), and others.



Fig. 3:

Imperial Reply coupon, type Im-1, proof (no country name or value imprint) from the bottom-right margin of the printing sheet (127 × 99 mm).

Printer: Waterlow & Sons Ltd., London.

Arab Postal Union Regional Reply Coupons

Following the Arab Postal Conference of 1946, the Communications Commission of the *League of Arab States* established اتحاد البريد العربي (*Arab Postal Union, APU*) in 1952.² A restricted union of the UPU³ with its headquarters in Cairo, it became by 1989 the *Arab Permanent Postal Commission* (APPC).

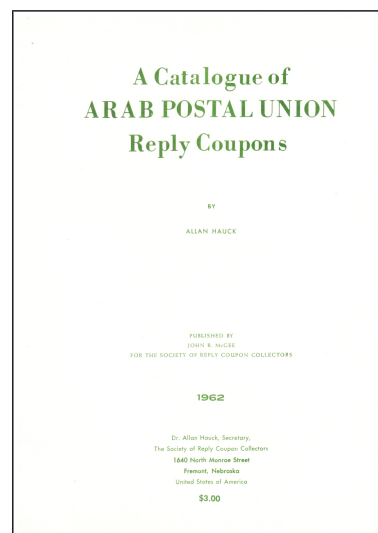
As of 2018 the APPC has 23 members: Algeria, Bahrain, The Comoros, Djibouti, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Palestine, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Libya, Sudan, Syria, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, and Yemen.

Dr. Allan Hauck writes in 1962:⁴

The 1955 Cairo Congress of the Arab Postal Union authorized the issuance of Arab Postal Union Reply Coupons. Article 21 of the Cairo Convention states that the selling price of the coupons is to be set by the issuing country but that it is not to be less than 16 gold centimes.

Each coupon was to be exchangeable for postage stamps representing the prepayment of the ordinary single-weight internal⁵ letter. Administrations have the privilege of requiring that the coupons and the article that they are to prepay be presented at the same time. Article 110 of the Cairo Convention states that the coupons must conform to the model attached (the model states that the coupons are to be 8 × 12 cm.). They are to be printed on the authority of the Permanent Bureau of the Arab Postal Union on paper bearing the watermark "Arab Postal Union" in Arabic and they are to be supplied to members at cost.

Accounts are to be presented annually, taking the value of each coupon to be 16 gold centimes each. Their period of validity is unlimited. Administrations have the privilege of not selling the coupons but they must redeem them.



Seventeen APU members issued such coupons between 1956 and 1992. Eight types can be distinguished: Ua-1 to Ua-8.

The APU Reply Coupons were initially printed in Egypt by publishing and printing house Imprimerie Misr S.A.E., Cairo, and have a very distinct design. Unlike with UPU IRCs, the reverse side is blank as no explanations in other languages than Arabic were needed.

The printing is done on more or less white paper, watermarked or not, of variable thickness going from very heavy to very fine according to the types or the periods. The frame and the instructions for use are in dark green (shades) then in grey (shades) and finally in black. The background is pale yellow (sometimes so pale that it becomes illegible).

The coupons' dimensions have varied over time, both at the coupon level itself and at the printed frame level. The coupons initially measured approximately 123 × 86 mm (with variations that can then go up to more than 3 mm in both directions), then were significantly reduced for the Ua-8 type to 111 × 81 mm. The printed part was at first 102 × 72 mm before passing to 100 × 71 mm for the last type.

² 1956 according to MacDonald, 1965, p. 187.

³ In accordance with Article 8 of the Universal Postal Convention. "Restricted" in the sense of not open to all UPU members; cf. <http://www.upu.int/en/the-upu/restricted-unions/appc/about-appc.html> (accessed 30.01.2018).

⁴ Hauck, 1962, p. APU-1.

⁵ "internal" in the sense of "within the APU."

Four different watermarks, “IMPRIMERIE MISR”, Cléopatra 1 (tight), Cleopatra 2 (loose) and “EXTRA STRONG / BANK” exist. Each one can possibly be found in eight different positions.

The emblem of the Arab Postal Union with a postal horn embedded is yellow-green, more or less dark, in the centre of coupons Ua-2 to Ua-8. On coupon Ua-1 is no emblem.

On the following pages the types are tabulated and an example of each type is shown, as well as a few variants and types of surcharges.



The Types of Arab Postal Union Reply Coupons

FIAS Hauck	Issued	Watermark	Countries
Ua-1 I ⁶	1956	IMPRIMERIE MISR	Egypt Iraq Jordan Lebanon Libya Saudi Arabia Syria
Ua-2 II ⁷	1958	IMPRIMERIE MISR	Iraq Jordan Morocco Sudan Syria Yemen (North)
Ua-3 III ⁸	1960	Cléopatra 1 (tight)	Algeria Kuwait Lebanon Morocco Qatar Sharjah Syria
Ua-4	1963	Cléopatra 2 (loose)	Kuwait Qatar Sudan Yemen (South)
Ua-5	1971	no watermark	Algeria Dubai (also used in Umm al-Quwain)
Ua-6	1972/73	EXTRA STRONG / BANK	Algeria
Ua-7	1973	EXTRA STRONG / BANK	Algeria Iraq Libya Morocco Oman Yemen (North)
Ua-8	1980	no watermark	Morocco

⁶ Hauck, 1962, p. APU-3.

⁷ Hauck, 1962, p. APU-4.

⁸ Hauck, 1962, p. APU-5.

The Types of Arab Postal Union Reply Coupons

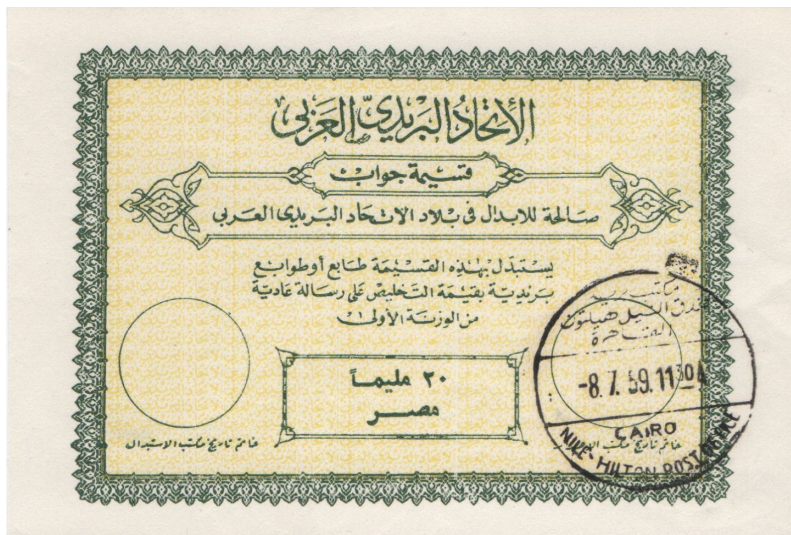


Fig. 4

Type Ua-1

Watermark:
IMPRIMERIE / MISR
No emblem of APU
First issued in 1956
Egypt 20 Millièmes
Issued in Cairo 8.07.1959
Egypt joined the APU in 1956

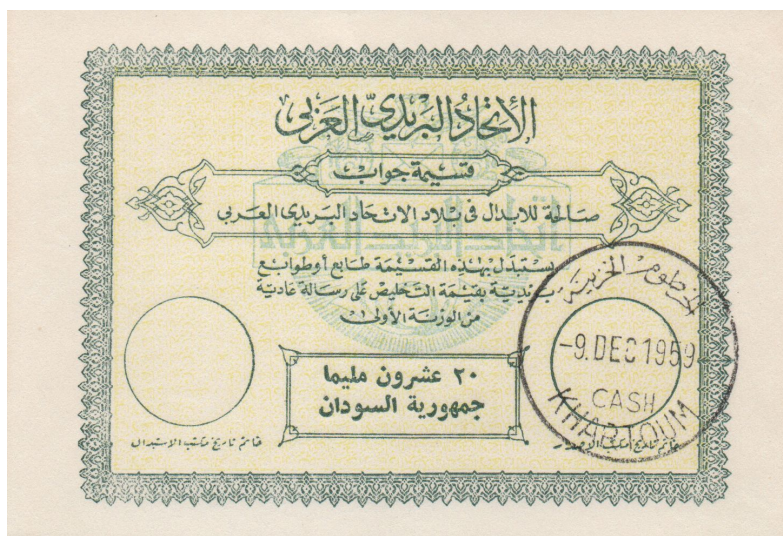


Fig. 5:

Type Ua-2

Watermark:
IMPRIMERIE / MISR
First issued in 1958
Sudan 20 Millièmes
Issued in Khartoum 9.12.1959
Sudan joined the APU in 1958

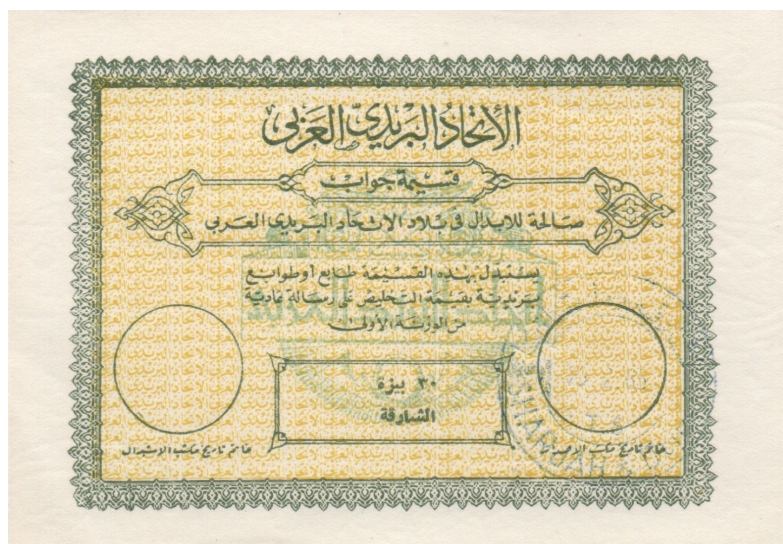


Fig. 6

Type Ua-3

Watermark: Cléopatra 1
First issued in 1960.
Sharjah 30 Pesa.
Issued in Sharjah 1965
Sharjah joined the APU in 1964

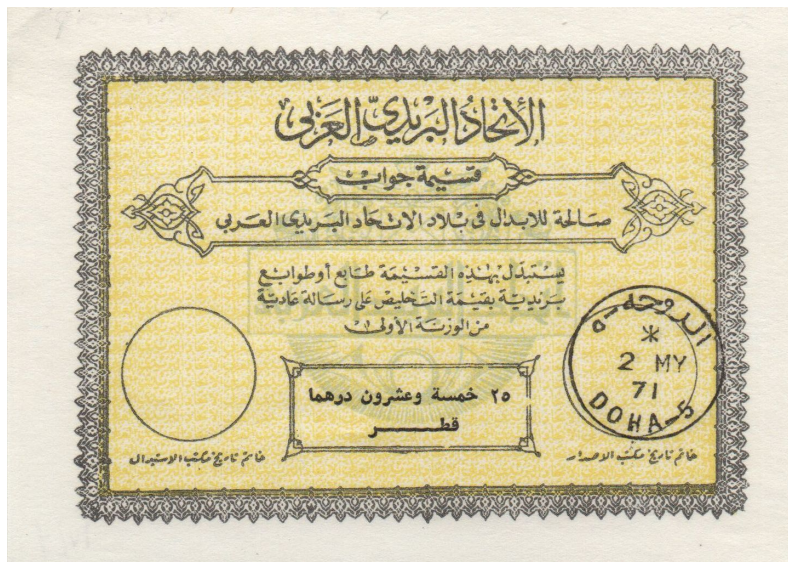


Fig. 7:

Type Ua-4

Watermark: Cléopatra 2
 First issued in 1963
 Qatar 25 Fils
 Issued in Doha 2.05.1971
 Qatar joined the APU in 1969

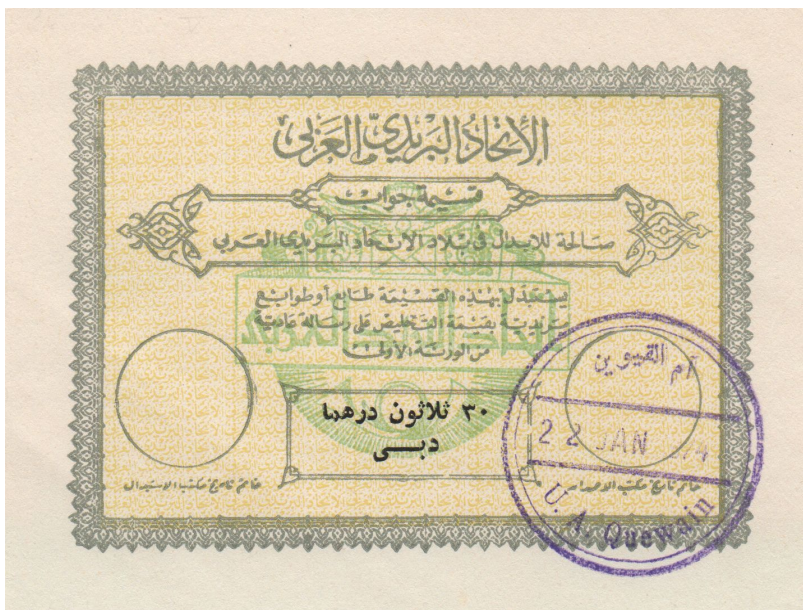


Fig. 8:

Type Ua-5

No watermark
 First issued in 1971
 Dubai 30 Dirham
 Issued in Umm al-Quewain
 22.01.1974
 Dubai joined the APU in 1971

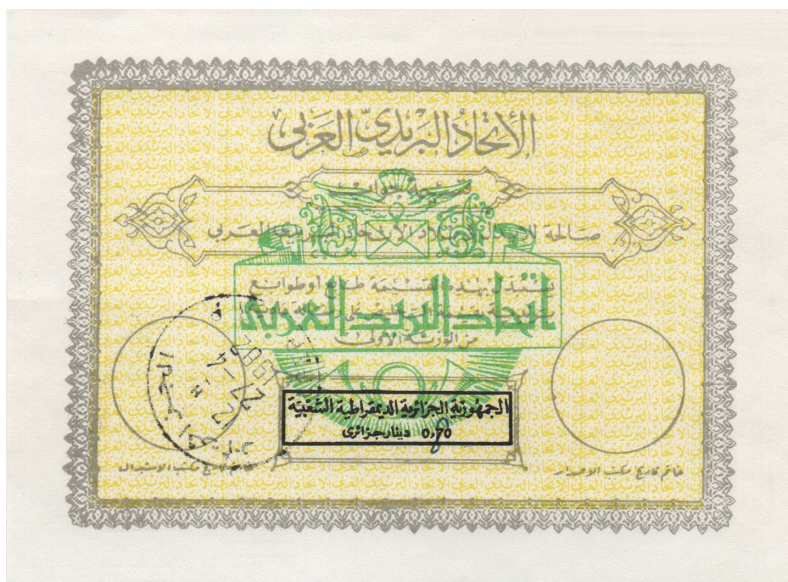


Fig. 9:

Type Ua-6

Watermark:
 EXTRA STRONG / BANK
 First issued in 1972/1973
 Algeria 0.80 (manuscript) on
 0.70 Dinar
 Issued in Algiers 27.04.1982
 Algeria joined the APU in
 1962/63

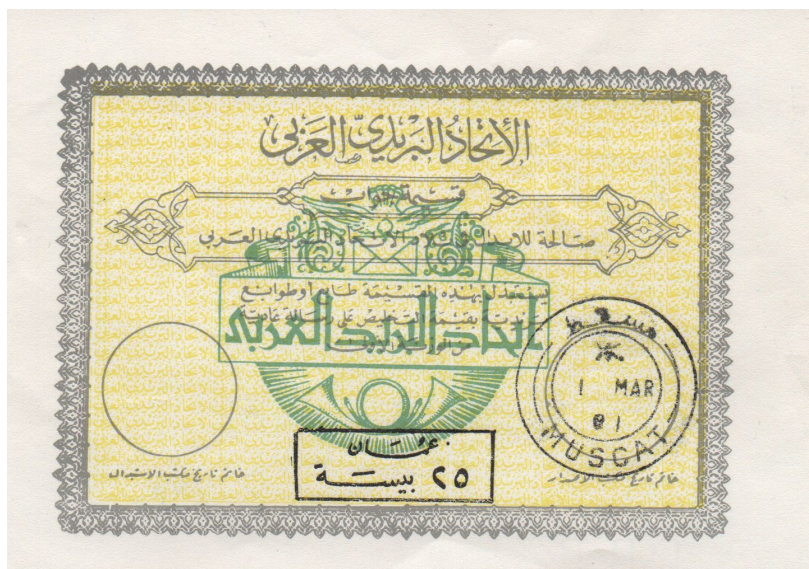


Fig. 10:

Type Ua-7

Watermark:

EXTRA STRONG / BANK

First issued in 1973

Oman 25 Pesa

Issued in Muscat 1.03.1981

Sudan joined the APU in 1980

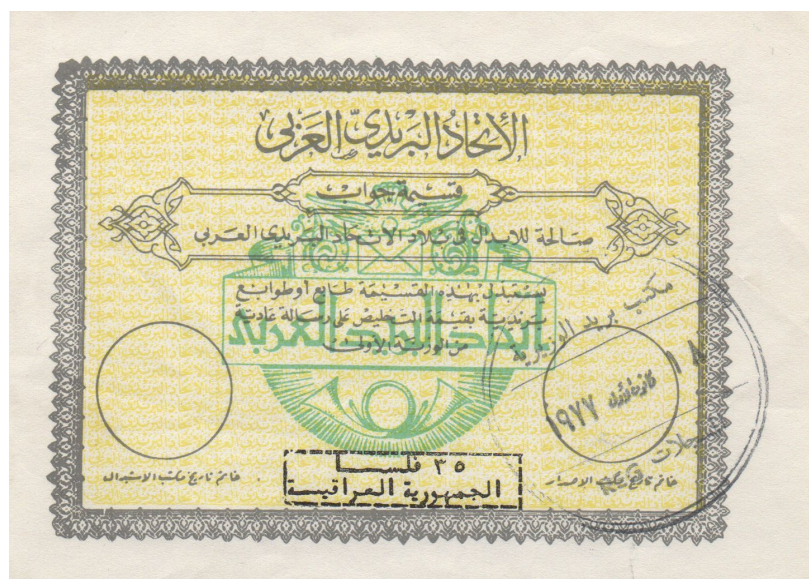
Printed box with country name
and value: 30×10 mm

Fig. 11:

Type Ua-7

Watermark:

EXTRA STRONG / BANK

First issued in 1973

Iraq 35 Fils.

Issued in Baghdad 1.08.1977

Iraq joined the APU in 1957

Printed box with country name
and value: 35×7.5 mm

Fig. 12:

Type Ua-8

No watermark

Size: 111×81 mm

First issued in 1980

Morocco Dirhams 2,00

Issued in Rabat RP

Morocco joined the APU in
1958

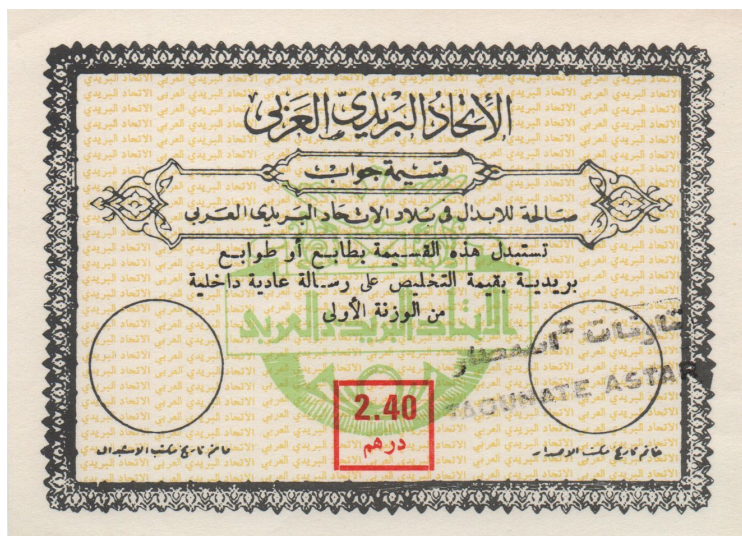


Fig. 13:

Type Ua-8

No watermark
First issued in 1980
Morocco 2.40 Dirhams
Issued in Taounate Astar
Morocco joined the APU in 1958.

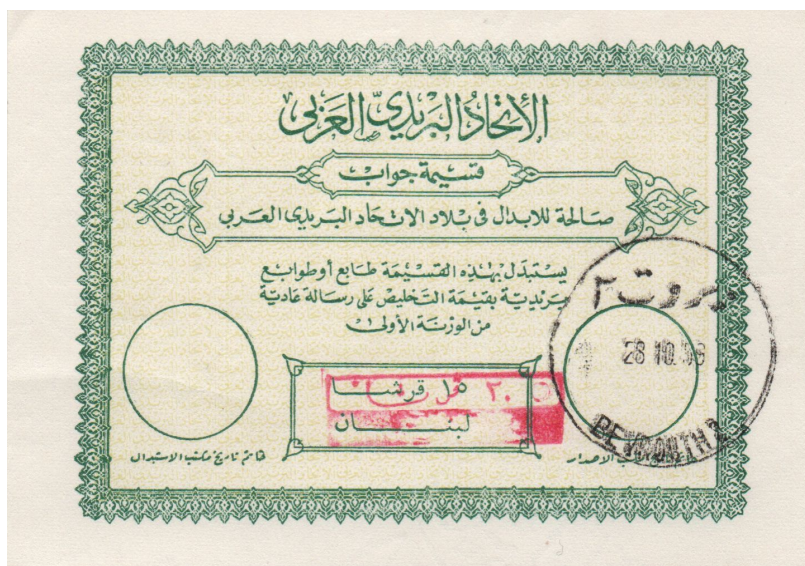
Surcharges and Errors**Surcharge**

Fig. 14:

Type Ua-1

Lebanon
15 Piastres uprated by a red
boxed cachet to 20 Piastres
Issued in Beyrouth 28.10.1958

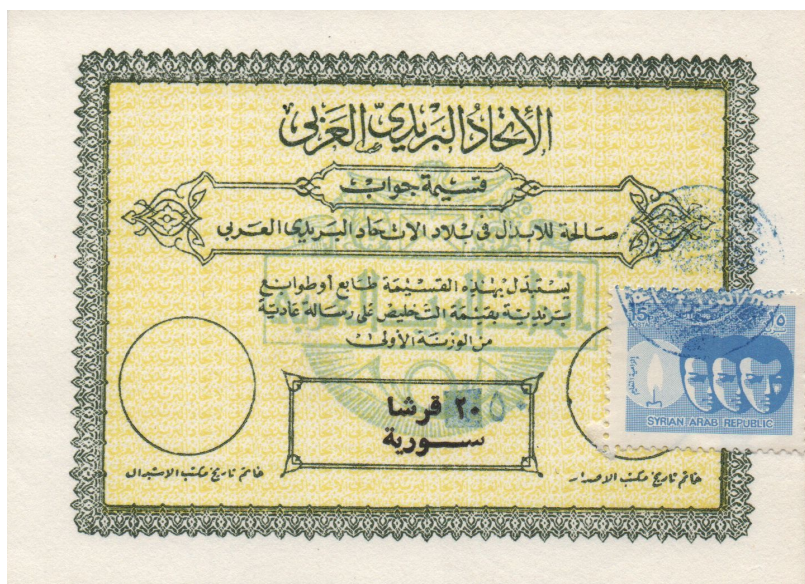
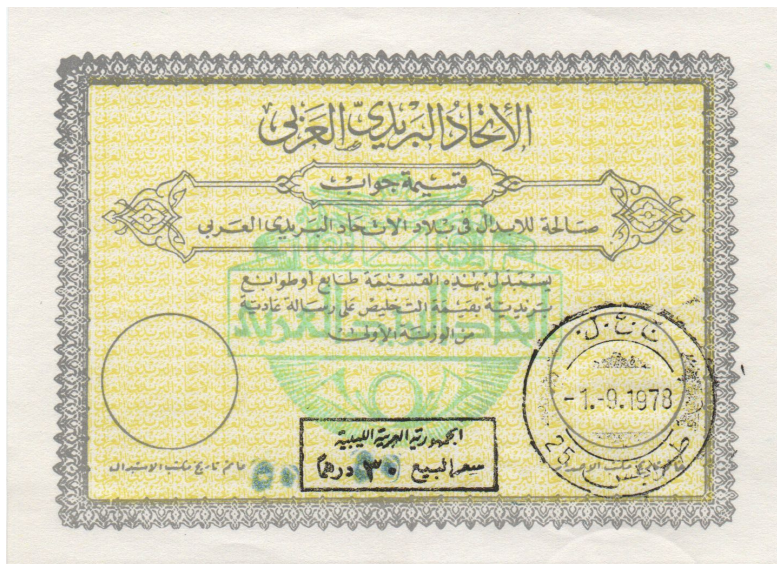
**Surcharge**

Fig. 15:

Type Ua-3

Syria
20 Piastres uprated by a blue
hand-stamp to 50 Piastres,
then uprated to 65 Piastres by
adding a 15 Piastres stamp



Surcharge

Fig. 16:

Type Ua 7

Libya
30 Dirhams uprated to 50
Dirhams
Issued in Tripoli 1.09.1978

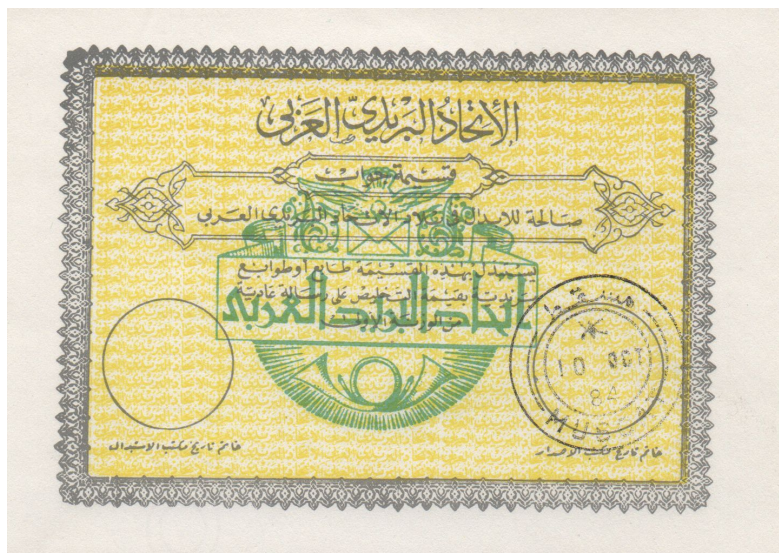


Surcharge

Fig. 17:

Type Ua-3

Morocco
30 Dirhams uprated by hand
to 40 Dirhams
Issued in Rabat RP.



Printing Error

Fig. 18:

Type Ua-7

Oman
Missing country name and
value
Issued in Muscat 10.10.1984



Printing Error

Fig. 19:

Type Ua-7

Oman
Frame for country name and
value (20 Baiza) inverted
at top.
Issued in Muscat in
13.04.1986.

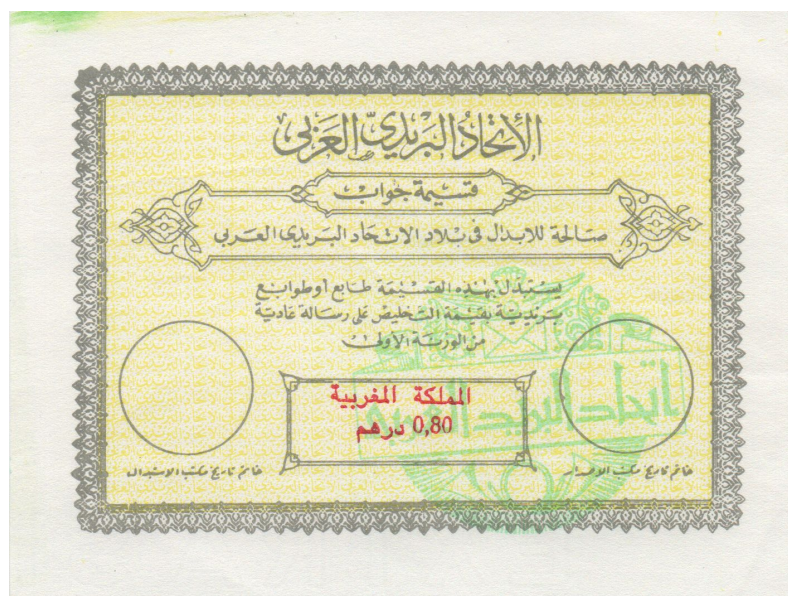


Printing Error

Fig. 20:

Type Ua-7

Morocco 0,80 Dirhams
Missing frame and text

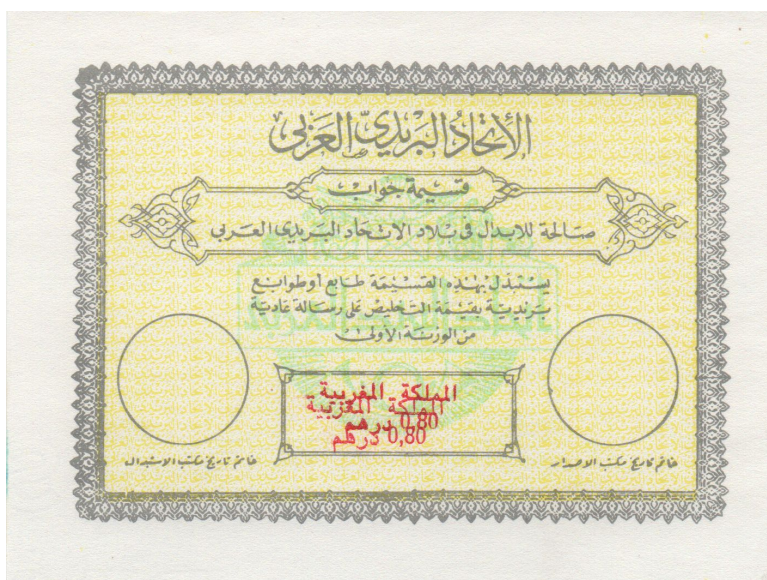


Printing Error

Fig. 21:

Type Ua-7

Morocco 0,80 Dirhams
APU emblem shifted SE



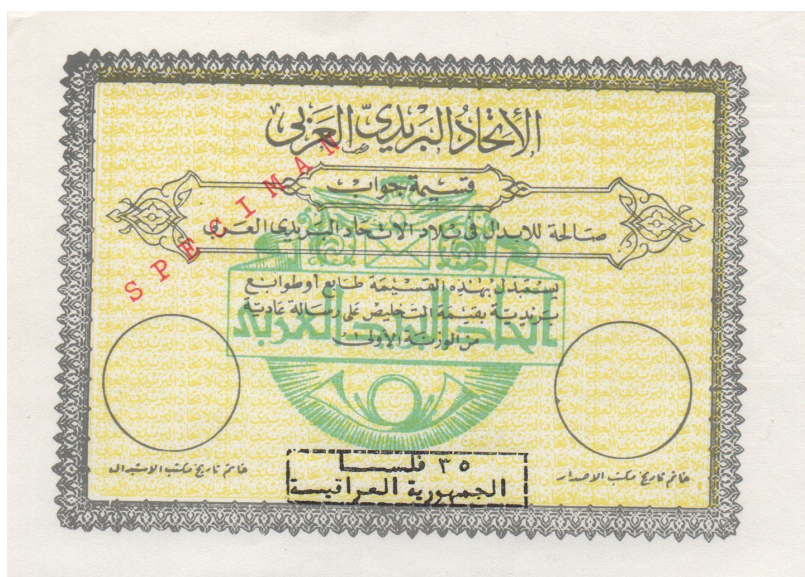
Printing Error

Fig. 22:

Type Ua-7

Morocco

Double print of country name and value (0,80 Dirhams).



Specimen

Fig. 23:

Type Ua-7

Iraq 35 Fils

Specimen overprint, typography in red, diagonally SW to NE, erroneously spelled "SPECIMAN"

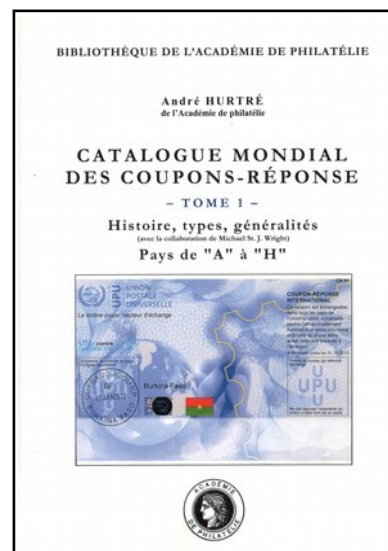
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⁹ Dr. Allan Hauck, 19.05.1925–16.02.2009, was professor of religion and philosophy, editor of The Reply Coupon Collector from 1954 to 1994, and president of Collectors of Religion on Stamps (COROS) for 20 years.

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[note: volume 2, originally planned for 2012, is now due in 2019]
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Acknowledgements

All images of reply coupons shown are from the collection of Hálfðan Helgason.

The authors want to express their thanks to Jürgen Debus of ForGe Internationale Antwortscheine (FIAS) for providing the 1962 Hauck catalogue, which was very useful in the creation this article, as well as for comments and advice by André Hurtré and Wolfgang Leimenstoll.



Collectors' Societies

There's only one society specifically on IRCs: Forschungsgemeinschaft Internationale Antwortscheine im BDPH (no website). Contacts: Jürgen Debus (j.debus@gmx.net) or Horst Hoffmann, P.O. Box 1535, 29505 Uelzen, Germany. Peter Robin operates the International Reply Coupon Society (no website). Contact: Peter Robin (peterrobin@verizon.net), P.O. Box 353, Bala Cynwyd, Pa., 19004-0353, USA.

Usually, Postal Stationery societies also care for IRCs, these include: [The Postal Stationery Society](#), [United Postal Stationery Society](#), [Postal Stationery Society of Australia](#), [Berliner Ganzsachen-Sammler-Verein](#), [Swiss Postal Stationery Collectors Society](#), [Association des Collectionneurs d'Entiers Postaux](#), and [Unione Filatelisti Interofili](#).

More Lebanon Gum-Side Surcharges

by Johann Baumgartner¹

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Following the publication of the request for information by Rainer Fuchs in MEPB7,² and the follow-up in MEPB 8,³ I became inspired, as a specialist Lebanon collector, to look into this curious affair. Unfortunately I do not have independent knowledge for what purpose these overprints were made or what caused them. But I can share my own observations and findings.

The overprint disintegrates together with the gum when a stamp is removed from its paper base. So only if cancelled stamps have not yet been removed from the cover or cut-out it is relatively easy to recognise the surcharge on the back: you only have to hold the cover against a strong light source or under a transmitted-light microscope (see images on p. 97). Such detection depends on the thickness of the paper, i.e. won't work with post cards.

I have looked through the covers and documents available to me (almost entirely ordinary company correspondence) and I can, on the basis of cancellations, determine the places and periods of use. The amount of material available to me is of course too small to draw definitive conclusions, but perhaps other interested collectors also have the opportunity to look through their holdings.

However, there are indications from my research that usage lasted from late 1957 to early 1960. Regarding the geographical spread I could not see any system at all: the imprints are almost everywhere throughout Lebanon. Unfortunately I do not have any covers from southern Lebanon from this period.

The following list contains all covers where I could determine the existence or absence of the surcharge. Where available the sender's address (town) is also listed as the cancelling post office may not necessarily have been the post office from which the sender bought the stamps.

Date	Cancel	Stamps (Michel-Nr.)	Ovpt.	Sender
04.12.1957	Beyrouth R.P.	2 × 585	◆	Beirut
05.12.1957	Beyrouth R.P.	581, 595	—	(unknown)
09.12.1957	Beyrouth R.P.	538, 551, 592, 593	—	Beirut
10?.12.1957	Beyrouth R.P.	2 × 585	◆	Beirut
17.12.1957	Beyrouth R.P.	587	◆	(unknown)
06.01.1958	Beyrouth R.P.	583, 2 × 591	—	Beirut
24.01.1958	Tripoli – Liban	2 × 614	—	Tripoli
11.02.1958	Beyrouth R.P.	2 × 614	◆	Beirut
11.02.1958	Zahle	581, 612, 614	—	Ainjar

¹ Translated by Tobias Zywietz.

² Fuchs, Rainer: *1957 Lebanon Cedar Definitives with Surcharge on the Reverse: a Request for Information*. In: The Middle East Philatelic Bulletin, no. 7, 2017, pp. 41–42.

³ Zywietz, Tobias, with material from Luigi Martinoja, Phil Le Page, and Albert Massaad: *Lebanon Cedar Definitives with Surcharge Revisited*. In: The Middle East Philatelic Bulletin, no. 8, 2018, pp. 57–59.

03.03.1958	Beyrouth R.P.	579 607, 608	— ◆	Beirut
14.03.1958	Beyrouth R.P.	584, 604, 614	◆	Beirut
15.03.1958	Beyrouth R.P.	2 × 614	—	Beirut
02.09.1958	Beyrouth R.P.	2 × 614	—	Beirut
11.09.1958	Tripoli – Liban	3 × 552, 606	—	Tripoli
24.09.1958	Chtaura	552, 557	—	Ainjar
11.10.1958	Beyrouth R.P.	2 × 614	—	Beirut
29.12.1958	Tripoli – Liban	2 × 565, 614	—	Tripoli
05.11.1958	Beyrouth R.P.	2 × 614	—	Beirut
20.12.1958	Tripoli – Liban	565, 2 × 614	—	Tripoli
09.01.1959	Beyrouth R.P.	611 633	◆ —	Beirut
09.02.1959	Beyrouth R.P.	623, 633	◆	Beirut
23.04.1959	Aéroport int. .. Beyrouth	625, 631	—	Beirut
02.05.1959	Beyrouth R.P.	614, 632	—	Beirut
17.06.1959	Aitanit	583, 587	◆	Aitanit Bekaa
04.07.1959	Beyrouth R.P.	606, 611, 625, 631	—	Beirut
30.07.1959	Beyrouth R.P.	614, 625, 630	—	Beirut
31.07.1959	Beyrouth 1	625, 626	—	Beirut
01.08.1959	Beyrouth R.P.	631, 632	◆	Beirut
07.08.1959	Tripoli – Liban	612, 635	—	Tripoli, El Koubeh
23.09.1959	Zahle	607 633, 2 × Z 13	◆ —	(unknown)
09.10.1959	Tripoli – Liban	2 × 614	—	Tripoli
21.10.1959	Beyrouth 3	2 × 622 2 × 633	— ◆	Beirut
02.11.1959	Beyrouth R.P.	629, 633	◆	Beirut
23.11.1959	Beyrouth R.P.	2 × 581, 2 × 624	◆	Beirut
26.11.1959	Beyrouth R.P.	2 × 606, 625	◆	Beirut
05.12.1959	Beyrouth R.P.	2 × 622	—	(unknown)
12.12.1959	Beyrouth R.P.	607, 622	—	(unknown)
08.02.1960	Beyrouth R.P.	622 633, 648	— ◆	Ainjar
12.02.1960	Tripoli – Liban	622, 3 × 624	◆	(unknown)

Therefore I can add several stamps as overprinted on the reverse from seven series and two further stamps that were not listed in the table on p. 59 of MEPB 8. A revised table and photographs of some covers from 1958 and 1959 follow below.

While editing this article, I revisited the Michel catalogue *Nord Arabien und Iran* (2017) and I found on p. 543 a hitherto overlooked footnote with MiNr. 652 referring to the gum-side surcharge. It says:

Die Marke zeigt in der Mitte rückseitig eine Zierlinie.

i.e. “the stamp has a decorative line in the middle on the backside”. This 65 p stamp from 1957 was overprinted with a new value of 40 p in 1959. New values were also printed on MiNr. 624, 625, 609, and 588 (creating MiNr. 648–651), but there’s no similar footnote there... (editor)

Revised Table of Lebanon 1957–1959 Gum-Side Surcharges

Issue / Year	Values	colour	Ovpt.	SG	Michel	Y&T	TL
Cèdres 1957	0.50 p	light blue	◆	559	578	129	820
	2.50 p	lilac rose	◆	560	579 a/b	130	821
Pont Nahr el Kalb 1957	7.50 p	red	—	561	580	131	822
	10 p	chestnut	◆	562	581	132	823
	12.50 p	deep grey-blue	—	563	582	133	824
Canal de Litani 1957	10 p	bright violet	—	564	583	136	825
	15 p	orange	◆	565	584	137	826
	20 p	green	◆	566	585	138	827
	25 p	slate-blue	—	567	586	139	828
Ski au Cèdres 1957	35 p	bronze-green	◆	568	587	140	829
	65 p	reddish purple	—	569	588	141	830
	100 p	bistre-brown	—	570	589	142	831
Cèdres 1958 (YT/Mi: 1957)	0.50 p	blue	◆	582	601	136	852
	1 p	brown	◆	583	602	137	853
	2.50 p	lilac	◆	584	603	138	854
	5 p	green	◆	585	604	139	855
Mineur 1958 (YT/Mi: 1957)	7½ p	rose-pink	—	586	605	140	856
	10 p	purple-brown	◆	587	606	141	857
	12½ p	blue	◆	588	607	142	858
Moin Potier 1958 (YT/Mi: 1957)	25 p	grey-blue	◆	589	608	143	859
	50 p	yellow-green	—	590	609	144	860
	100 p	sepia	—	591	610	145	861
Cèdres & Zodiac 1958 (YT/Mi: 1957)	5 p	emerald	◆	592	611	PA 152	843
	10 p	yellow-orange	◆	593	612	PA 153	844
	15 p	brown	◆	594	613	PA 154	845
	20 p	brown-purple	◆	595	614	PA 155	846
	25 p	deep violet-blue	◆	596	615	PA 156	847
Centrale Électrique 1958 (YT/Mi: 1957)	35 p	dull purple	—	597	616	PA 157	848
	50 p	deep green	—	598	617	PA 158	849
	65 p	yellow-green	—	599	618	PA 159	850
	100 p	sepia	—	600	619	PA 160	851
Cèdres 1959 (YT/Mi: 1958/59)	0.50 p	blue	◆	601	620	149	864
	1 p	orange	◆	602	621	150	865
	2.50 p	violet	◆	603	622	151	866
	5 p	green	◆	604	623	152	867
Indépendance 1959 (YT/Mi: 1958/59)	12.50 p	blue	◆	605	624	153	868
	25 p	indigo	◆	606	625	154	869
	50 p	brown	—	607	626	155	870
	100 p	sepia	—	608	627	156	871

Aéroport 1959 (Mi: 1958/59)	5 p	green	—	609	628	PA 161	872
	10 p	claret	◆	610	629	PA 162	873
	15 p	deep violet	—	611	630	PA 163	874
	20 p	orange-red	◆	612	631	PA 164	875
	25 p	deep violet-blue	◆	613	632	PA 165	876
Électricité 1959 (Mi: 1958/59)	35 p	bronze-green	◆	614	633	PA 166	877
	50 p	turquoise-blue	—	615	634	PA 167	878
	65 p	sepia	—	616	635	PA 168	879
	100 p	ultramarine	—	617	636	PA 169	880
Indépendance Surchargé 1959	7.50 p (12.50 p)	blue	◆	629 (605)	648 (624)	160 (153)	892 (868)
	10 p (12.50 p)	blue	—	630 (605)	649 (624)	161 (153)	893 (868)
	15 p (25 p)	indigo	—	631 (606)	650 (625)	162 (154)	894 (869)
	40 p (50 p)	yellow-green	—	632 (590)	651 (609)	163 (144)	895 (860)
Ski au Cèdres Surchargé 1959	40 p (65 p)	reddish purple	◆	633 (569)	652 (588)	178 (140)	896 (830)



Jordan's Touristic Post Cards The 'One and Only' Post Card of Jordan Revisited

by Avo Kaplanian with material from Bernd-Dieter Buscke

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In MEPB 4¹ I re-published a 2008 article entitled “The ‘One and Only’ Post Card of Jordan,” in which I stated that the card in question was the only official post card issued by Jordan and was issued on 28th April 1955 (see *fig. 1*). This was indeed the case until a set of five touristic post cards was printed by *The Ministry of Post and Communications* in Amman.² The date of issue of these cards is unclear. The two imprinted stamps on the backside show the year 2001 in English and 1421 A.H. in Arabic. But I believe that the cards were issued a few years later than that date.

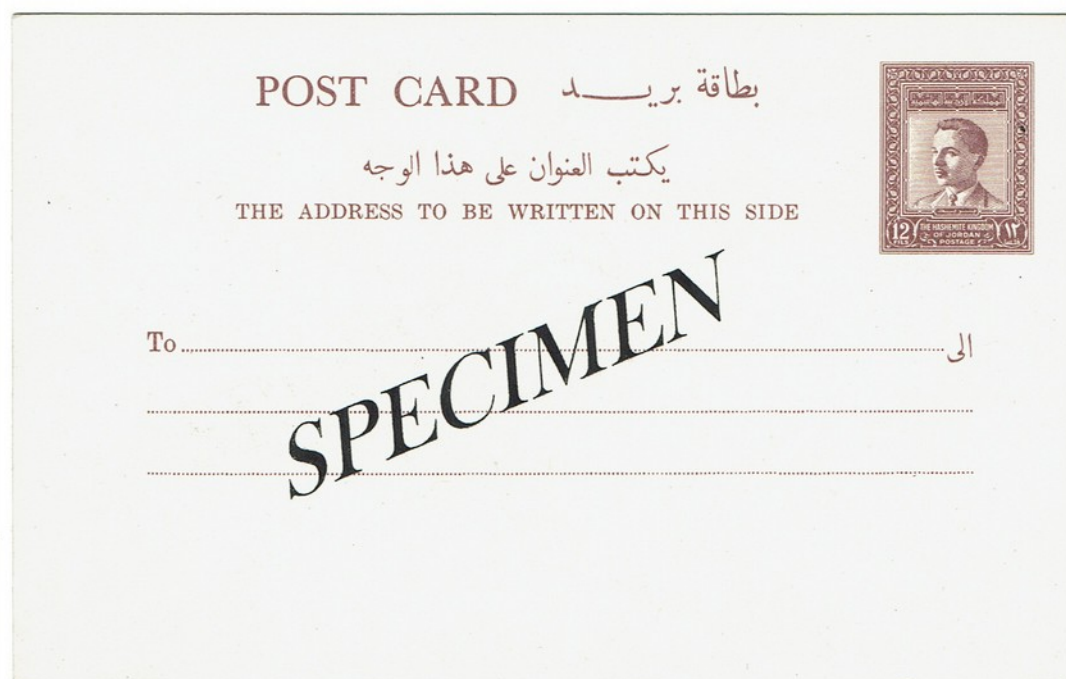


Fig. 1: Jordan's 1955 post card as specimen.

The backside of all five cards is the same (see *fig. 2*): it shows in the upper right corner two horizontally printed stamps with printed perforations all around but not vertically between the two stamps. The stamps have denominations of 100 fils (yellow, on the right) and 200 fils (blue, on the left). Below the four address lines, the following text is printed: “Postage prepaid to anywhere in the world”. Furthermore, each card has a serial number in the lower middle of the backside. On the lower right corner of the front of each card we see another stamp-like imprint with this bilingual text: “AMMAN / JORDAN POST / P.P.”³ (see *figs. 3–5*).

1 The Middle East Philatelic Bulletin, no. 4, 2016, pp. 21–26.

2 After the article was reprinted in *The Levant*, vol. 9, no. 4, 2017, pp. 60–61, Bernd-Dieter Buscke alerted the editor about these modern post cards. I dived into my collection and came out with the cards shown here.

3 “P.P.” = postage paid.



Fig. 2: Backside of the Aqaba post card.
Apart from the numerator, this side is identical to all five cards.



Figs. 3–5: The postage imprints on the backside (100 f and 200 f and “Postage prepaid to anywhere in the world”) and the “AMMAN / JORDAN POST / P.P.” imprint on the front of the post cards.⁴

⁴ These imprints do not correspond with any actual adhesive stamps, so they are distinct to this form of stationery.

The Five Post Cards

These five post cards were issued to stimulate and promote tourism to Jordan. That's why the front sides show the five main touristic locations in Jordan:

- Petra (fig. 6)
- Aqaba (fig. 7)
- Madaba (fig. 8)
- Jerash Colonnaded Street (fig. 9)
- Wadi Rum (fig. 10)

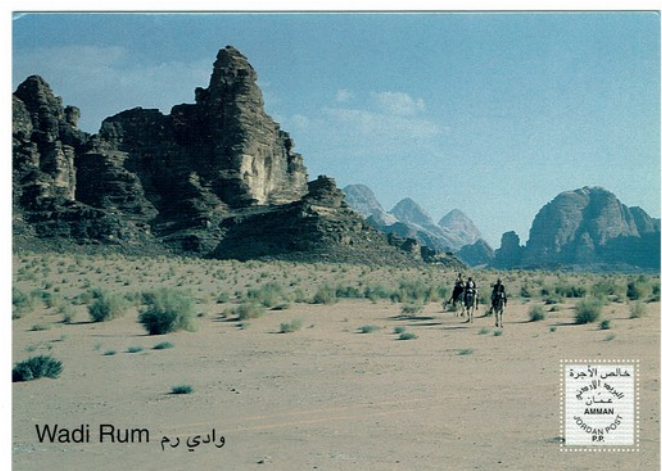
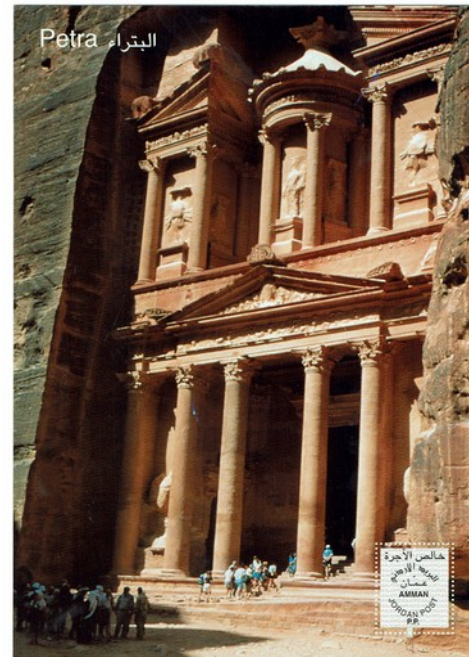
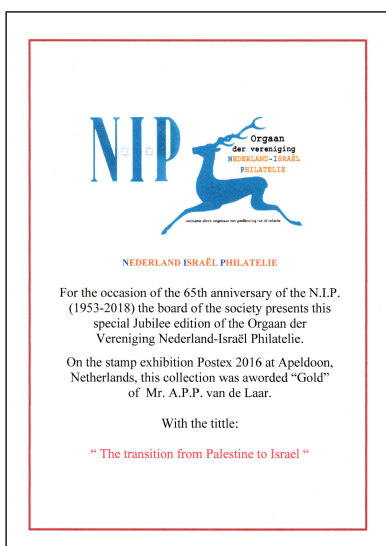




Fig. 11: A postally used copy of the Aqaba post card, Petra to Vienna, 4.07.2009.
One notes that the postmark is not covering the imprinted stamps.
Image courtesy of Bernd-Dieter Buscke.

New Books

A.P.P. van de Laar: The Transition from Palestine to Israel



A.P.P. van de Laar: The Transition from Palestine to Israel. 65th Anniversary number of N.I.P.

Vereniging Nederland-Israël Philatelie, 2018.

107 pages, colour illustrations, A4, softbound.

Price: 25 € plus p&p (Europe: 12.60 €, World: 15.40 €). Orders: Ton van de Laar, a.p.p.van.de.laar@home.nl. Website: <http://vernip.nl/homepage/>

For the occasion of its 65th anniversary, the Dutch collectors' society *Vereniging Nederland-Israël Philatelie* has issued a special jubilee edition of their journal N.I.P., which presents the award-winning exhibit (Gold at Postex Apeldoorn 2016) of member A.P.P. "Ton" van de Laar. The original version was published in Dutch as "De overgang van Palestina naar de staat Israël," but an English version has now been prepared.
(editor)

Franco Rigo: Venice and the Levant (Venezia e il Levante)

reviewed by Tobias Zywietz

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Franco Rigo: Venezia e il Levante : Palazzo del Bailo a Costantinopoli ; la posta XIV-XVIII secolo = Venice and the Levant : Bailo Palace in Constantinople ; the mail XIV-XVIII century.

Italian and English, 271 pages, coloured illustrations, A4, softbound.

Padova: Elzeviro, 2017. ISBN: 978-88-88939-72-8.

Price: 20 € (p&p for Europe: 15 €).

Orders: Franco Rigo, Contrada della Sorgata, 15, 30033 Noale (VE), Italy.

E-mail: studiorigo@libero.it.

Rigo starts by tracing an early report of Venetian trade with Constantinople: the trade mission of three galleys to El Tana (Azov)

in the Black Sea in the Summer of 1390. There were already strong trade links with many merchants' bases established in the "Venetian Quarter" with the republic's embassy at its centre.

The author then ventures into the history of the embassy as the *bailo* (Venetian representative, pictured on the right in his regalia) moved in 1453 to the Galata quarter of Pera, and in 1532 into a new building in the outskirts of Pera (today's Beyoğlu):¹ the Bailo Palace (*Palazzo Venezia*). After Venice lost its independence in 1797, the palace was used by Austria from 1814, became Italy's embassy in 1919 and is now its consulate general (the embassy moved to Ankara in 1923). The third chapter (the bulk of the tome) concentrates on the postal service, its operation and the routes: a regular postal connection (initially for diplomatic despatches only, but by the early 17th Century open for merchants' letters) was established in 1535 with pedestrian couriers (later Janissaries) though Montenegro and Herzegovina to the Venetian port of Cattarro (Kotor).



From around 1700 the Austrian Post to Vienna, and thence to Venice, was used in parallel. This was displaced in 1786 by the Spanish Post, initially going through Spalata (Split), and from 1787 through Zara (Zadar) and thence Ancona. After the end of the Austro-Turkish War (1788–1791) and the Russo-Turkish War (1787–1792) Venice used the Austrian Post again (from April 1793 exclusively). This chapter is augmented by several dozens of letters, explanations of their senders and recipients, the routes taken, and part-transcriptions or summaries of their contents. A brief chapter looks at the circumstances surrounding the news about the Treaty of Sistova (Svishtov) reaching Venice delayed: even the Russian ambassador in Venice received earlier notice than the Senate of Venice, as the then *bailo* was unable (for financial reasons) to arrange for a special courier

¹ From *bey oğlu* (son of the bey): derived from Alvise Lodovico Gritti, illegitimate son of the bailo Andrea Gritti.

The Author

Born 1934 in Noale, Veneto, Franco Rigo worked as surveyor and started collecting at age 10, by 1952 he successfully took part in philatelic exhibitions. Over the past 30 years, Rigo has written extensively about local and postal history of Venice and the Veneto, and has published 17 books.

Today, as then, I find myself dreaming of adventurous journeys, rides, epidemics, galleys, when reading the old letters of the SERENISSIMA, I have collected throughout my life.⁴

Bibliographic Record

Rigo, Franco: *Venezia e il Levante : Palazzo del Bailo a Costantinopoli ; la posta XIV-XVIII secolo = Venice and the Levant : Bailo Palace in Constantinople ; the mail XIV-XVIII century* / Franco Rigo. — Padova : Ed. Elzeviro, 2017. — 271 p. : ill. (col.) ; 30 cm (softb.)
Italian and English (parallel texts).
ISBN: 978-88-88939-72-8

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⁴ Quote from p. 17.

⁵ Dr. Piccinini transcribed several key documents from the Venice State Archives (Italian only).

⁶ List of the author’s previous 17 publications on Venetian local and postal history.

Heijs: »Postkrieg« – Specialised Postal War Catalogue

reviewed by Tobias Zywiets

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Jan Heijs: Postkrieg : specialised postal war catalogue 1970–2008.

German and English, 231 pages, (mostly) coloured illustrations, A5, softbound.

7th edition. Amsterdam: Heijs, 2011. ISBN: 978-94-6190-250-4.

Price: 34 € (p&p for Europe: 8.50 €, Germany: 1.20 €).

Orders: Jan Heijs, Laing's Nekstraat 64, 1092 GZ Amsterdam, Netherlands.

E-mail: heijsmo@xs4all.nl.

One might ask: What is “*Postkrieg*”? Most philatelists will have come across such items and may have a general idea about the subject. Helpfully Heijs gives an exact definition of the term, and therefore the scope of the catalogue, which was developed over many years by experts in the field:

Postal War is defined as measures taken, for political reasons, by competent national authorities against postage stamps issued by the postal authority of another postal area, as well as against postmarks or other postal material, including postal rates, by the same authority. Such measures may be:

- 1. The refusal of mail bearing such postage stamps or postmarks.*
- 2. The refusal of other postal material.*
- 3. The complete or partial removal or obliteration of either 1 or 2.*
- 4. The imposition of postage due payments despite the fact that the mail items in question have been properly franked in accordance with the rules of the country of origin.*
- 5. The addition of political propaganda cachets.*

A “Postal War cover” is a mail item that is showing one of the measures taken during a postal war. A “Postal War cover” is also a mail item which is not showing measures taken as a result of a postal war, but shows characteristics of measures which have been taken by the postal authority as a result of a postal war initiated by another postal authority. Such measures may be:

- 1. Early returning or special treatment of mail that is at risk by a postal war in order to reduce as much as possible the impact of the postal war on postal relations;*
- 2. The use by the postal authority, or tolerance by it, of circumvention measures;*
- 3. Retaliation with the aim of a cessation of the postal war.*

The catalogue itself is set out in strictly chronological order, starting with the non-acceptance by France of German stamps used in the occupied French territories in 1870 and ends with Greek measures in the dispute about the name of Macedonia from 2000. About 300 postal war incidents between about 70 countries are known for the period 1870 to 2011.

Each chapter briefly describes the historic events or circumstances leading to *Postkrieg* measures, which are then catalogued in a standardised fashion, and priced. Hundreds of covers and markings are illustrated, mostly in colour. Given the A5-size and the two-column layout (positioning German

and English text side-by-side), the covers shown are rather small at half-width of a page (ca. 6 cm): one can broadly make out the measures taken by postal authorities (like blackening stamps, adding slogan hand-stamps or labels) but not fully enjoy the plethora of beautiful covers.

Central to the catalogue are the *Postkrieg* measures between “The West” and “The East” during the “Cold War,” which were especially fierce between West and East Germany. For Middle East collectors, there are several episodes of interest:

- Hatay 1939: Syria and Lebanon rejecting Turkish stamps overprinted “HATAY DEVLETİ” for use in the disputed Sandjak of Alexandrette.
- Egypt 1957: France rejecting Egyptian stamps on the topic of the Suez War.¹
- Israel 1967–1980: German Democratic Republic and other Eastern Bloc countries rejecting Israeli stamps with military themes.
- Palestine 1995: Israel rejecting Palestinian (PNA) stamps depicting stamps from the British Mandate and stamps denominated in “Mils” (the Mandate era currency). This chapter shows exclusively the well-known and quite common covers of Israeli dealer Joseph Wallach.
- France 1999: Lebanon rejecting the French stamp on the anniversary of diplomatic relations with Israel.

The actual catalogue part is supplemented by a number of appendices: a 1952 study on the early stamps issues of West Berlin and the *Postkrieg* measures between Western and Eastern postal authorities, a list of Berlin post offices in 1948/49, a summary of West Berlin’s postal rates, and a list of potential (i.e. not yet fully researched and confirmed) postal wars. This includes the Iranian stamps rejected by Kuwait in 1988. The tome concludes with an Index.

The Postkrieg Website

This specialist catalogue was last published as a book seven years ago. The small community of specialist collectors doesn’t easily allow for a printed catalogue to appear every few years. But in the age of the internet, it is very easy to establish a website and issue updates whenever the need arises. And that’s exactly what experts Jan Heijs, Wolfgang Elsner, and Dieter Becker, after extensive preparations, did in January 2017.

On www.postalwar.info and www.postkrieg.info one can find updates to the catalogue (and to two of Elsner’s books), topical articles, notices on new or potentially new postal wars, and a forum for discussion. Updates with Middle East connections include:

- Crete 1900–1913: Ottoman Empire rejecting stamps of autonomous Crete.
- Egypt 1957: France rejecting Egyptian stamps on the topic of the Suez War.
- Israel 1967: Romania rejecting the stamp “Let my people go.”

The Author

Jan Heijs is a specialist collector of *Postkrieg* since 1980; he also collects postal history items showing political propaganda where they did not lead to a postal war. He is a member of (and contributor to) several philatelic research and study groups at national Dutch and international levels, such as AIJP, Philatelic Academy of the Netherlands, RPSL, BDPh, FG Berlin, ArGe DDR, and DeuNot. Jan has taken over editorship of the specialised “Postkrieg” catalogue from its creator, the late Dedo Burhop,² some years ago.

1 Cf. Heijs, Jan: *1957 Egyptian mail rejected by France – addendum and 1967 Israeli mail rejected*. In: MEPB 8, 2017, pp. 53–56.

2 Dedo Burhop (1925–2017), landscape gardener, philatelic trader and expertiser.

Gebühren und Nachgebühren zwischen Deutschland/Etats-Lohnungen und Frankreich									
	1a Periode 11.9-22.9.1871	2a Periode 22.9.23.9.1871	3a Periode 26.10.-3.7.1871	4a Periode 1.8-24.11.871	5a Periode 1.9-31.12.1871	6a Periode 1.1.14.24.1872			
Weg und Sendungsort	Ges. gebühr	Nach- gebühr	Nach- gebühr	Nach- gebühr	Nach- gebühr	Nach- gebühr	Ges. gebühr	Nach- gebühr	Nach- gebühr
Ets.Loth.-F.:									
Drohkutsche	a	30	4	4	10	4	10	10	10 g.
a 40p	20	30	20	20	30	20	20	20	2 g.
Brief 15 g.	20	30	20	20	30	20	20	20	2 g.
Rent-Zahlung							50	50	2 g.
F.-Ets.Loth.:									
Drohkutsche	a	30	4	4	10	4	10	4	10 g.
a 40p	10	30	10	30	10	4	10	4	10 g.
Brief 15 g.	20	30	20	20	30	20	20	20	2 g.
Rent-Zahlung							50	50	2 g.

Aus der Anhang des ersten Perioden (im Oktober) sind Briefe ohne Taxatur befreit.

1870 Deutschland/EtatsLoth.-Frankreich. Okulationsmarken auf Sendung nach dem französischen Postgebiet.	11.9.1870 - 31.12.1871
1870-1-G Nachporto Tanspiel	70,-
1870-1-La Doppelmarkatur mit franz. Marken	225,-



1870 Deutschland/EtatsLoth.-Frankreich. Marken des Deutschen Reichs (Braunschweig) auf Sendung nach dem französischen Postgebiet.	1.1.1872-24.5.1872
1870-2-G Nachporto Tanspiel	80,-
1870-2-La Doppelmarkatur mit franz. Marken	250,-



1939 HATAY TÜRKEI (NICHTANERKENNUNG
DER PROVISORISCHEN AUFDRUCKMARKEN)

Die Nazis aufzubrechen. Tote warden in Syrien und Jordan beerdigt worden." Aber: "Aber diese beiden Aussagen sind als Propaganda zu betrachten", sagt der Historiker. "Es ist nicht möglich, dass die Nazis in Syrien und Jordan in der Lage waren, Tote zu beerdigen. Die Leichen wurden in den Lagern verbrannt." Der Historiker weist auf die Tatsache hin, dass die Nazis in Syrien und Jordan in der Lage waren, Tote zu beerdigen. Die Leichen wurden in den Lagern verbrannt.

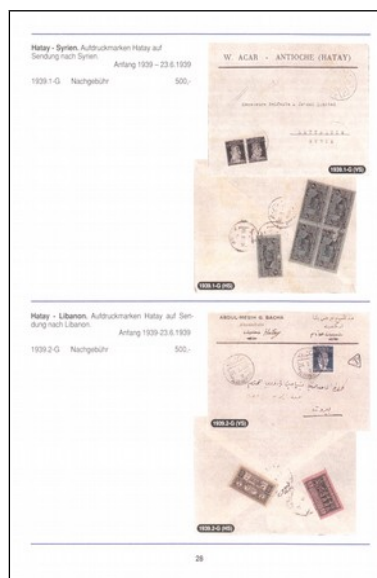
1939 HATAY/TURKEY (NON-RECOGNITION
OF THE PROVISIONAL OVERPRINTS)

The Turkish saints with the 'Hatyay' were requested to leave Lebanon. Why? France took Alexander (in Turkish: Hatay) out of the Syria Mandate area in the 2 September 1936 (because a Turkish province on 27 July 1936 had a largely Turkish population). When the negotiations about becoming a partition of Turkey did not go very well, the Turkish Hatay DCTI was founded in 1939, issued Turkish stamps with the Hatay DCTI-Logo. France did not want it, or could not resist the international pressure. The Hatay DCTI was a postal region which should underline the position of France. On 23.6.1939 France and Turkey agreed to make the province of Alexandrette of Turkey a part of Turkey. The Hatay-Administratum-Turkey



Hauptaufnahmestadt Tübingen

second set of Hatay stamps were accepted because they were issued one day before the agreement. Also, Lebanon, being a French mandate, did not recognize the first Hatay stamps. The quarrel about Alexandrette was not important for Lebanon. But France wanted to create a separate state of Lebanon.



Heijs, Jan M.: *Postkrieg : Spezialkatalog 1870–2008 = Specialised postal war catalogue 1870–2008 ; Burhop/Heijs 2011* / Jan Heijs [ed.] — 7th edition. — Amsterdam: Heijs, 2011. — 231 p. : ill. ; 21 cm (pbk.)
German and English (parallel texts). On cover: “*mit Netto-Preisen in € = with net-prices in €*”
ISBN: 978-94-6190-250-4

3 All images used by kind permission of Jan Heijs.

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1900–1913: Turkey vs. Crete

Crete stamp, blackened by the Ottoman Post, cover taxed.

Image taken from an update to the catalogue, published in 2018 on the “Postkrieg” website.⁴

4 Source: http://www.postkrieg.info/_assets/img/new/main/8_postkriegkat_1900_1-kreta-turkei.pdf.

Ulf Zahn: Ein wahrhaft irdisches Jerusalem



Ulf Zahn: Ein wahrhaft irdisches Jerusalem : Mosaik aus Philatelie, Geschichte und Literatur.

Schwülper: Zahn, 2017.

467 pages, colour illustrations, A4, softbound. German.

Price: 45 € (incl. of p&p). Orders: Ulf Zahn, zwei.zaehne@t-online.de.

Zahn's tome is the work of a lifetime: a Holy Land collector for over 50 years, Zahn edited the journal of Germany's IG Israel for over a decade.

The book is more than just another philatelic study on Jerusalem: it neatly combines postal history, social history, and literary history of and about the city.

The book opens not with a dry study of the inefficiencies of the Ottoman Post and the dominance of the foreign post offices, but with a refreshing look at the emerging pilgrims' tourism and its use of maritime traffic of the 19th century. Zahn shows covers and postcards, often not because of their special philatelic nature, but, in the best tradition of social philately, to illustrate and substantiate historic facts and developments. This is profusely supplemented by photographs, maps, picture post cards, and topical documents.

What's admirable is that the author read the texts on cards and letters, bringing many (at first sight) not so remarkable exhibits, to life. Another characteristic of Zahn's working method is to select fitting quotes from a plethora of literary works: Mark Twain, Herman Melville, Gustave Flaubert, to name but a few.

Only by page 43, Zahn ventures into the postal affairs of the country and the city. Besides many cards and covers, he details the city's postal services and their postmarks.¹ Zahn looks at aspects such as the Kaiser's visit and the industrious souvenir Christmas post cards produced, to name only a few.

After the First World War is (too) briefly covered, the next chapters are about the British occupation and the Mandate period: the history of stamps, postmarks, stationery, and the postal services. Aspects covered include the building of the new G.P.O. and the Zeppelin Orient flights. The 1948 siege and transition period is followed by the State of Israel and the ongoing Israeli occupation of East Jerusalem. Zahn at least tries to sustain a neutral standpoint in the conflict, which is commendable and lets this tome stand out – to some extent – against similar works. *(editor)*



¹ Based primarily on Steichele's 1970s and 1980 studies.

World Stamp Championship “ISRAEL 2018”

by Tobias Zywietz¹

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Under the patronage of the Fédération Internationale de Philatélie (FIP), a world stamp championship “ISRAEL 2018” was held by the Israel Philatelic Federation from 27th to 31st May 2018 at the International Convention Center in West Jerusalem. The hard-working organising committee and the philatelic committee, lead by Mr. Yigal Nathaniel, received acclaim from participants.

Competitive classes included the Championship Class, National Class, Traditional Philately, Postal History, Modern Philately, and Philatelic Literature. In total 155 exhibits (1028 frames) and 95 literature exhibits took part, of which 24 exhibits (178 frames) and 8 literature exhibits were Middle-East related.

As the contest was held in Israel, some potential exhibitors could not take part due to travel restrictions imposed by the host country or by their home nations, general political sensitivities, or the widely observed economic, academic, and cultural boycott of Israel. A couple entrants only took part under the pseudonym “John Smith.”



Fig. 1: FIP Grand Prix Club displays at the Court of Honour.²



Fig. 2: National Commissioners of ISRAEL 2018.³

The actual transporting of the exhibits, most of which were hand carried in the commissioners' luggage, was rather easy as the Israeli Customs had no real interest in them. One can recall quite a different attitude on customs from other countries holding philatelic exhibitions in the past.

A bit more complicated was the mounting of the exhibits, as the day before the opening was a Saturday. The *sabbath* is strictly observed in Jerusalem and no work at all was possible until sunset, so many collections could only be mounted on Saturday night after 9 p.m. The frames themselves were those used at the 2016 New York World Stamp Exhibition, which were procured (presumably

1 I didn't attend the exhibition, but received reports and criticism of the Jury's work and decisions soon afterwards. I contacted a dozen exhibitors and this report is an amalgamation and summary of the information that was submitted by them. As most contributors asked specifically to remain anonymous, I had to oblige to that demand.

2 Source: Flash, no. 125, 2018, p. 24. Courtesy of Fédération Internationale de Philatélie. Used by permission.

3 Source: Flash, no. 125, 2018, p. 21. Courtesy of Israel Philatelic Federation. Used by permission.

as loan)⁴ by the Israeli organising committee. These frames were not of best quality and functionality in 2016 and have not improved since: they still appear very unstable. A frame's front cover is intended to be fixed with six screws: not an easy task as no electric screwdrivers were available. On this occasion the front cover was affixed with four screws (two on each side) and two cable ties on the bottom of the frame (see image below, *fig. 3*). Some exhibitors may have feared for the safety of their possessions.



The official opening, only to be attended by invitation, was held on Sunday at 2 p.m.: light refreshments were followed by the usual opening speeches. The quality of exhibits was generally regarded as high-class, especially the Holy Land related entries. Accommodation was judged good to excellent, but unfortunately there was not a suitable space to congregate in the hall, like a bistro; the facilities and the restaurant of the adjacent hotel were to be utilised instead.

Jury feedback rounds were generally available and turned out to be useful for some collectors eager to improve their displays for future exhibitions. The results of the Jury received very mixed responses, which is true for most philatelic exhibitions.⁵ Here such criticisms seem more widespread: some collections were downgraded by the jurors: reductions by four points from a score achieved at a previous FIP show seem harsh in any case.

Two exhibitors told me that one of the judges was apparently not familiar with Middle Eastern topics and as a result several exhibits received unjustified medal levels lower than in previous FIP international shows. On the other hand, some of the well-known high-class exhibits received (what some describe as) bonuses, based on their reputation and the high value of items displayed, rather than a strictly rules-based adjudication of the exhibits displayed.



Fig. 4: Trade booths and displays of exhibits in the main hall.⁶



Fig. 5: The Jury of ISRAEL 2018.⁷

An often heard complaint is that very rich people can just buy already well-formed collections, have them remounted by “helpful hands,” and win praise and awards without actually having ever laid hands on the items. Their only substantial involvement was the buying price.⁸

4 I found no mention about a loan or other arrangements about the frames, or any acknowledgement of the American Philatelic Society, who I presume still own the frames.

5 Cf. Adema, 2016.

6 Source: Flash, no. 125, 2018, p. 21. Photograph courtesy of Israel Philatelic Federation. Used by permission.

7 Source: <http://wscisrael2018.blogspot.com/>. Used by permission, courtesy of Israel Philatelic Federation.

8 I was told this anecdote: After receiving a number of Grand Gold medals, an exhibitor said at the award ceremony

Several contributors laid praise on Paolo Risi's exhibit of Palestine Blues for its excellent research. It was rightfully awarded Gold and given the committee's Felicitations for Research. On the other hand, exhibits about a topic very popular in Israel, the 1948 transition period (sieges and emergency mails), maybe did more than well, given the often philatelic or contrived nature of material included.

The regular contributor to MEPB and Overland Mail Baghdad–Haifa specialist, Rainer Fuchs, had shown his exhibit in 5 frames for the first time on international level and has been awarded Large Vermeil. I believe he would not have minded a Gold medal, but for him this was still a success as his collection now qualifies for 8 frames.

The jury's attitude became clear when Fuchs was criticised for not showing a cover from 1948 as the title of his exhibit refers to "1923–1948" – Fuchs explained that the date of 1948 is only of hypothetical nature because the actual end date of the Overland Mail Baghdad–Haifa remains unknown, hence it is assumed that it could not operate later than May 1948 due to the creation of the state of Israel, followed by the Arab-Israeli war. This explanation was however not accepted. Similarly the jury made it clear that points for rarity would not increase unless he could show forerunners starting in the 18th century: a strange demand since the topic of his collection is specifically the period 1923–1948.

One exhibitor, also receiving an award lower than expected, was criticised to have included too much historical context, thereby transgressing exhibition regulations. However, he was somewhat conciliated by the interest of viewers about this topic. Other participants saw many important collections not being well laid out (lots of "white space"), not well explained, and (even high-class material) not adequately described; but still such displays were awarded high scores for their perceived rarity and value of the items shown.

The high score for Raphaël Livnat's second edition of his book "Jérusalem et la Poste Française en Terre Sainte 1843–1914" came a bit of a surprise, given the controversy surrounding the publication of the first edition and the quality of Livnat's research and source-work. One might assume that the judges' inadequate commandment of French as well as lack of knowledge about the topic itself have left them incapable to derive at a proper evaluation.

Calls to revise judging rules, to recalibrate the weighting of points scores, and, generally, to allow more flexibility ever grow louder. FIP should seriously rethink such matters and give more emphasis on Open Philately as well as Social Philately; otherwise these "old school" exhibitions, which already find it difficult to attract large crowds, will lose their credibility with existing and also potential new exhibitors. Visitor numbers for this World Stamp Championship have not been made public, as far as I am aware.



that he didn't know what he was exhibiting because he only put together one of the collections himself.

Middle East Exhibits and Awards at WSC 2018

Class	Frames	Exhibitor	Title	Award ⁹
World Stamp Championship	1001–1008	Itamar Karpovsky	Holy Land: Forerunners Postal Services up to 1918	– ¹⁰
World Stamp Championship	1081–1088	Alfred Khalastchy	Iraq British Occupation Issue from Baghdad and Iraq 1917–1923	– ¹⁰
National Class	2153–2157	Esteve Domeanech	The Franciscan Custody of the Holy Land: 1655–1847, a Postal History Approach	V (82)
National Class	2158–2165	Shaula Alexander	Turkish Post in the Holy Land 1841–1918: Routes, Rates & Postmarks	LG (96) SP ¹¹
National Class	2166–2170	Joseph Hackmey	The British Mandate of Palestine	LG (95)
National Class	2171–2175	Paulo Renato Risi	Into the Blues: Palestine 1918 E.E.F. Provisional Stamps Issued for use in the Occupied Territories	G (90) ¹²
National Class	2176–2183	Jonathan Becker	The Conquest and British Military Administration of Palestine and (Greater) Syria: 1914–1920	G (90)
National Class	2184–2191	Michael Bass	Foreign Postal Operations in the Holy Land 1852–1914	G (91)
National Class	2192–2196	Joel Weiner	The Civilian Postmarks and Postal Markings of British Jerusalem 1918–1948	LV (86)
National Class	2197–2201	Rainer Fuchs	Overland Mail Baghdad–Haifa 1923–1948	LV (85)
National Class	2202–2206	Ton van de Laar	The Transition from Palestine to Israel	LS (75)
National Class	2207–2214	Itamar Karpovsky	Israel 1948 Transition Period. Cities Under Emergency Conditions	G (93) SP
National Class	2215–2222	Henry Nogid	The Four Siege Cities of 1948	G (93) SP
National Class	2223–2230	Robert Pildes	Artists Drawings, Essays, Proofs and Associated Material of the 1948 Doar Ivri Issue of Israel ¹³	G (91)
National Class	2231–2235	David Held	Israel Military Postal Services During the War of Independence May 1948–June 1949	V (80)
Trad. Class – Europe	3393–3400	Kemal Giray	Ottoman Empire: The "Dulos" Issues, 1865–1882	G (90)
Trad. Class – Europe	3401–3405	Joseph Hackmey	The Tughras of Turkey	G (91)
Trad. Class – Asia, Oceania & Africa	3445–3452	anonymous ¹⁴	Study of Early Lion Stamps, 1st & 2nd Portrait Issues in Persia	G (92)
Trad. Class – Asia, Oceania & Africa	3489–3496	Gregory Todd	Egypt 1866: The First Issue	G (93) SP
Trad. Class – Asia, Oceania & Africa	3497–3504	– ¹⁵	The "In British Occupation" Provisionals of Baghdad and Mosul	LV (88)
Postal History Class – Europe	4730–4737	Zoran Stepanovic	Bosnia and Herzegovina 1826–1918: The Cancellations Study	G (90)
Postal History Class – Europe	4769–4776	Necip Tokoglu	Ottoman Postal History in the Balkans 1840–1918	G (93) SP
Postal History Class – Europe	4777–4784	Atadan Tunaci	Ottoman Railway Postal History	(absent)

9 Cf. FIP evaluation grades: <http://www.f-i-p.ch/wp-content/uploads/GREV-English.pdf> (accessed 1.06.2018).

10 Hors compétition.

11 Also awarded Grand Prix National.

12 Also awarded Felicitations for Research.

13 Previous title: The 1948 Doar Ivri and D'mei Doar Issues of Israel and Their Usage.

14 Credited to "John Smith."

15 Name excised upon request of the exhibitor.

Postal History Class – Asia, Oceania & Africa	4858–4865	anonymous ¹⁶	The Postmarks of Iran (Persia) 1875–1925	LV (87)
Literature Books	L13	Raphaël Livnat	Jérusalem et la Poste Française en Terre Sainte 1843–1914	G (90)
Literature Books	L14	Itamar Karpovsky ¹⁷	Holy Land : Foreign Post Offices in Palestine 1852–1914 ; The Itamar Karpovsky Collection. (Edition D'Or ; 48)	V (80)
Literature Catalogues	L24	Genady Berman	Postal Labels & Forms of Israel	LV (85)
Literature Books	L28	Franco Rigo	Venice and the Levant : Bailo Palace in Constantinople ; the Mail XIV-XVIII Century.	LV (86)
Literature Books	L43	Cyprus Turkish Philatelic Society	Cyprus Turkish Postal History	S (71)
Literature Books	L48	Alfred Khalastchy	"Baghdad in British Occupation" : the Story of the 1917 Provisional Stamps	LG (95)
Literature Catalogues	L78	Schwaneberger Verlag	MCHL Overseas in 20 Volumes; judged: MICHEL Nordarabien und Iran 2017 (part 10.1) and MICHEL Süd- und Zentralarabien 2017 (part 10.2)	LV (86)
Literature Catalogues	L82	anonymous ¹⁶	The Stamps of Iran 2017: Qajar Pahlavi Islamic Republic	V (82)

Sources and Literature

- *List of Exhibitors*: http://wscisrael2018.blogspot.com/p/exhibits_9.html (accessed 3.06.2018).
- *List of Awards*: <http://wscisrael2018.blogspot.com/p/competitive-exhibit-listing-by-class.html> (accessed 3.06.2018).
- Heimann, Alexander: *World Stamp Championship Israel 2018 in Jerusalem*. In: Linn's Stamp News. 13.07.2018. Online: <https://www.linns.com/news/world-stamps-postal-history/2018/july/world-stamp-championship-israel-2018.html> (accessed 24.07.2018).
- Adema, Kees: *International Federation of Philately jury system needs a clean sweep*. In: Linn's Stamp News. 14.07.2016. Online: <https://www.linns.com/news/world-stamps-postal-history/2016/july/international-federation-of-philately-jury-system-stamp-hobby-views.html> (accessed 22.07.2018).
- *WSC Israel 2018*. In: Flash (Fédération Internationale de Philatélie), no. 125, 2018, pp. 20–28.



Fig. 6:

Rainer Fuchs proudly standing in front of his award-winning exhibit.¹⁸

¹⁶ Credited to "John Smith."

¹⁷ Credited to "Global Philatelic Network."

¹⁸ Source: <https://www.bdph.de/forum/showthread.php?17229-World-Stamp-Championship-ISRAEL-2018-27-31-May-2018> (accessed 3.06.2018)

Recent Philatelic Journals

by Tobias Zywietz

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A selection of articles related to Middle East Philately from recent philatelic journals. Usually these journals are only available to members of the respective societies. Where known I am listing the price at which the society provides individual journals to non-members. Please enquire with each society for its conditions of supply.

OPAL Journal 235 – March 2017

Oriental Philatelic Association of London, English, A5, colour, –

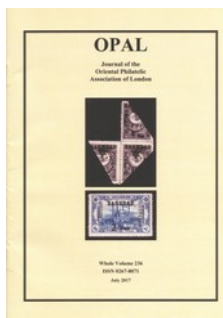


- B. Bradford reports on Spring Stampex 2017 and lists the awards achieved by OPAL-relevant exhibits (2–4).
- A. Özbek shows parts from his Duloz exhibit shown at Spring Stampex 2017, achieving 93 points and Large Vermeil ([a], 5–10, [c], [d]).
- B. Stuchel responds to I. Clare's query in OPAL 234 on a curious 1908 postmark: he suggests that this was not a postmark but an impression from a coin (11).
- M. Lovegrove reports on his finding regarding the reported by never-seen "3" overprint on Hejaz Railway Revenue stamps: he suggests that the "3" is part of the OETA overprint handstamp and not a separate "3" surcharge (12–13).
- A Constantinople postmark on a Chinese stamp is shown: BRITISH POST OFFICE CONSTANTINOPLE [reprint from The Overprinter] (13).
- R. Malim reports on the shades of British Levant 4 piastres on 1d [reprint from The Overprinter] (14).
- J. Smith shows a "KUWATT" postmark (double-circled date-stamp, type 13) used 15.06.1948 [reprint from The Overprinter] (15).
- B. Bradfords reports on a find of possibly colour trials or printer's waste of Duloz stamps from the collection of forgeries of Bath Philatelic Society (16).
- R. Malim revisits British Levant 2/6d "Seahorse" overprints [reprint from The Overprinter] (17–18).
- A. Tregurtha shows a new Kuwait overprint variant, recently added by Stanley Gibbons: 1955 2r on 2/6d in with type III surcharge "S central under T" [reprint from The Overprinter] (19).
- R. Malim studies an official envelope used in 1901 by the British Consulate General in Constantinople and also shows a similar cover from Smyrna, 1904 [reprint from The Overprinter] (20–22).
- J. Gledhill shows a British postal order issued in Smyrna in 1909 [reprint from The Overprinter] (23–25).
- T. Stanford looks at "EXPRESS D'ORIENT" labels on cover, showing also a postcard from an online auction of 2014. In response, A. Papadopoulos and U. Dörr both agree that this card is a forgery [both reprints from The Overprinter] (25–28).
- B. Bradford reports on a forged type 4 overprint "T.E.O. / CILICIE" (29).
- T. Hacking show the Bogus 1945 "Hava Kurumu / Jardin Aliti / +10 K / 1944-1945" overprint [see OPAL 233] (30).
- B. Bradford shows a forgery inverted "O. M. F. / Cilicie / 3 / PIASTRES" (30).
- In *Queries*, T. Hacking asks about the 100k and 200k stamps in the 1931 and 1950/55 Atatürk series of Turkey (31).

- B. Bradford shows the backside of ½pi and 2pi from the Austrian Levant second Postage Due set of 1908/10, suggesting there are three papers with distinct thickness in existence (32).

OPAL Journal 236 – July 2017

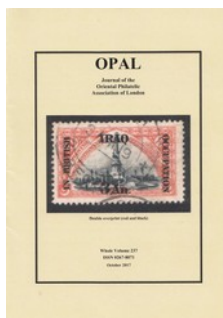
Oriental Philatelic Association of London, English, A5, colour, –



- F. Khalastchy updates readers on Stampex 2017, the presentation of his book, and the gold medal he won for his exhibit (2).
 In “Baghdad in British Occupation,” F. Khalastchy charts the origins of Iraq’s first stamps in 1917. The piece is profusely illustrated and a fitting recommendation for his recently published book (3–23, [1], [46]).
 R. Fuchs presents his research in the British Postal Museum Archives holdings of British Post Office mail bag tags for use with the Overland Mail Baghdad–Haifa: documents pertaining to the tags are quoted from with many tags being also depicted (24–38, [45]).
 F. P. Katz replies to a query (OPAL 234 and OPAL 235) detailing that this unusual cancellation is an imprint of a 20pa coin, with M. Salis reporting another such instance (39).
 M. Whittaker shows a (likely) 1874 cover from Constantinople to Gabrovo, Bulgaria, pre-paid 20pa, with 2×2pi postage dues (40–42).

OPAL Journal 237 – October 2017

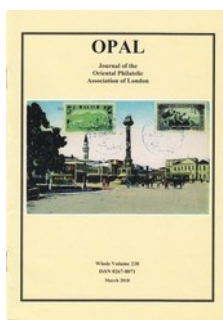
Oriental Philatelic Association of London, English, A5, colour, –



- The cover shows a rare “IRAQ IN BRITISH OCCUPATION” stamp with double “3 An.” surcharge, one in red and the other in black ([a]).
 T. Hacking presents his studies on foreign and private overprints on Ottoman stamps and their historical context. Besides Eastern Roumelia, he covers these Greek overprints: Lemnos 1912, Mytilene November 1912, Gumuljina (Komotini) 1913, Dedeagatch October 1913, Thrace High Commission 1920, Redestos 1919 (2–15).
 R. Unwin researched the overprints of the Arab Government of Syria: the first and second provisional issues are detailed (16–24).
 M. Lovegrove shows Ottoman Stamps overprinted for use in Saudi Arabia: Nejd (1925/26) and Hejaz-Nejd (1933) (25–32).
 M. Whittaker shows a (likely) 1874 cover from Constantinople to Gabrovo, Bulgaria, pre-paid 20pa, with 2×2pi postage dues [reprise from OPAL 236, pp. 40–42] (33–34).
 W. Pijnenburg questions the existence of the Susurluk 1 cancel (qv. Bayındır 1, Birken 1) and compares the relevant entries in catalogues and handbooks (35–39).
 O. Graf shows a multiple-censored 1918 cover from İzmir to Switzerland (40–43, 45, 46).
 M. Cole shows a 1937 British *Coronation Stamp* with spoof black overprint “PALESTINE”, likely applied by *Letraset* or similar dry-transfer method (44).

OPAL Journal 238 – March 2018

Oriental Philatelic Association of London, English, A5, colour, –



- O. Graf researched the overprints of Ottoman stamps in Albania and Northern Epirus 1912–1914 (2–13).
 F. Khalastchy catalogues Indian Expeditionary Force (I.E.F. ‘D’) stamps used in Mesopotamia in 1919 (11–18).
 F. Khalastchy charts the “IRAQ IN BRITISH OCCUPATION” issues, including the “ON STATE SERVICE” officials, and looks at the manuscript surcharges applied by the district commissioner of Erbil, William Rupert Hay (19–27).
 The editor shows scans from the Bath Philatelic Forgery Collection: Dedeagatch October 1913 (28–29).
 The article “To Medina by Steam Train” by F. Bruining and M. Lovegrove is

reprinted from the Dutch magazine *Filatelie* (April 2017, pp. 210–213) in translation. It gives an overview of the Hedjaz Railway line, the associated Ottoman tax stamps, and revenue stamps issued by various entities after 1918, as well as station and T.P.O. postmarks (30–46).

The official announcement dated 18.08.1918 about the issue of the “BAGHDAD IN OCCUPATION” stamps is shown by the editor (47–48).

The editor, Bob Bradford, announces that the scanning of the OPAL clippings archive and of all OPAL Journals has been completed (48).

OPAL Journal 239 – July 2018

Oriental Philatelic Association of London, English, A5, colour, –



B. Tatham presents the stamps and post cards of Eastern Roumelia and of South Bulgaria (a, 2–23), augmented by the editor showing a 5pa Eastern Roumelia stamp with traces of the text of the 20 pa stamp in reverse (24).

R. Rose responds to the Dedeagatch piece in OPAL 238 by bringing an article of A. Birken in *Türkei-Spiegel*¹ to the attention of readers (25).

R. Fuchs asks “Where have the Obverland Mail Haifa–Baghdad collectors gone?” (26).

A. Hayworth reports on the formation of a British Levant Study Group within the [Great Britain Overprint Society](#) (27).

I. Stantzopoulos shows blocks of Turkey’s 1945 Airmail set with bogus overprint “Hava Kurumu / Jardin Aliti / +10 K / 1944-1945” (27–31, d).

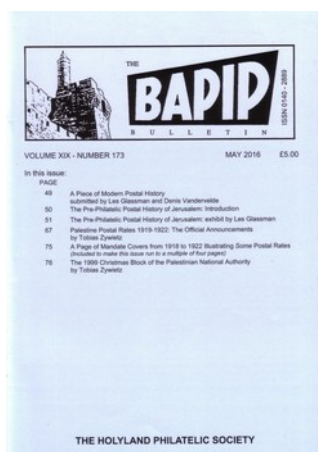
B. Bradford makes sense of the cataloguing of the 1931/44 and 1950/55 Atatürk definitives (32–41).

B. Bradford shows a diagram on the genesis of the P.T.T/Bull’s Head/Käfer overprint (41).

Obituaries: Keith Tranmer (1928–2017); Dr. César T. (Cesai Taufiq) Wahby (2017); Mark Perkins (2017).

BAPIP Bulletin 173 – June 2016

Holyland Philatelic Society, English, A4, colour, £5-00



L. Glassman & V. D. Vandervelde show the front and reverse of *Israel Post*’s ETB (first-day souvenir sheet) for the joint issue “25 Year of Diplomatic Relations Israel–Greece” of 9.02.2016 (49–50).

L. Glassman presents his 16-page competition exhibit “The Pre-Philatelic Postal History of Jerusalem” (50–66). *[Editor’s comment: The 73 points achieved are generous, given the lacklustre descriptions and ghastly layout]*

T. Zywiez details the official announcements of postal rates in Mandate Palestine 1919–1922 in facsimile (67–75).

T. Zywiez reports on Palestine’s 1999 Christmas block with its missing numerator [revised version of the article in MEPB2] (76–80).

As of January 2018, Mr. A. Andruisier, Vice-President of the Holyland Philatelic Society, has come forward as new editor; so hopefully this year will see a new issue of The BAPIP Bulletin.

As of June 2018, sadly, no further progress can be reported.



¹ Referring to “Türkisch-Westthrazien – ein Fantasia-Land?” in *Türkei-Spiegel*, no. 65, 2003, pp. 4–16, and “Westthrakien – zum zweiten...” in *Türkei-Spiegel*, no. 90, 2009, pp. 14–25.

Türkei-Spiegel 119 – 1/2017*Arge Osmanisches Reich/Türkei, German, A5, colour, €5-00*

A. Birken describes the attempted Turkish expansion onto the Sinai, including the stamps and postmarks prepared in advance (6–15).

T. Zywiets reports on Turkey's first philatelic journal: "Le Timbre Levantin" [reprint from MEPB 4] (16–21).

A. Birken portrays the postal and philatelic history of Kerak (Jordan) (22–25).

B.-D. Buscke studies usage of Hejaz postmarks after Maan became part of Transjordan (26–31).

A. Birken detected two forged 19th Century covers found on eBay (33–35).

In "Antworten. Reaktionen..." [answers & reactions] B.-D. Buscke responds to the "par train éclair" piece in TS 118 (37), and H. Gerzabek explains the Austrian Levant's designation of Üsküb (Skopje) as "Salonich Ü" (37–38).

New literature: "De Hedjaz Spoorlijn" [special edition of Al-Barid] (32); and A. Birken's "Die Empire-Marken" (49).

Reports from the 2016 AGM (4–5, 40–44).

Türkei-Spiegel 120 – 2/2017*Arge Osmanisches Reich/Türkei, German, A5, colour, €5-00*

In "Türken und Griechen" (Turks and Greeks), A. Birken summarises his views on the two peoples' relationship during the centuries (4–7).

H. P. Soetens writes on the routing of mail on railway lines in Europe: Temeswar (Timișoara)–Basiasch (Bazias), Kustendje (Constanța)–Czernawoda (Cernavodă), Ruscuk (Ruse)–Varna, Odessa–Berlin, Vienna–Trieste, Belgrade–Niš (8–23).

K. Giray and T. Zywiets revisit the 1890/1892 Baghdad Provisionals [translation from MEPB 5] (24–31).

W. Pijnenburg sheds light on a neglected stamp: Pulhan 784a (vermillion/brick-red 7½pi on 3pi), reacting on comments by B. Bradford and R. Malim in OPAL 233 and 234, arguing for its insertion into catalogues as a variety (32–37).

T. Zywiets shows a 1916 postcard from Mecca to Algiers (collection Saad M. Aldrees) with a "FEE PAID" mark, presenting also illustrations of other contemporary Hedjaz "fee paid" marks from Tomkins and Warin (38–40).

A. Birken spells out his interpretation of "Mache" (philatelic fabrication), citing entries from Grallert's encyclopaedia and the opinion of G. Bechthold on the German inflation-period *Opitz* covers. He draws some parallels to the *Adjémian* (or *Agémian*) covers with Ottoman postage-due marks (41–47).

Obituary of Willi (Wilhelm) Weber (16.09.1940–21.01.2017), the long-time past president of AROS (3). *BDPh grants a bronze pin to Bernd-Dieter Buscke in honour of his philatelic works in research and literature* (48–49).

Türkei-Spiegel 121 – 3/2017*Arge Osmanisches Reich/Türkei, German, A5, colour, €5-00*

A. Birken retraces the events surrounding the Balfour declaration of 1917 (5–10).

B.-D. Buscke studies the usage of Mandate postmarks on the Westbank 1948–50, listing and depicting some 18 such cancellers and their usage dates. The piece is profusely illustrated with a dozen covers (11–28).

A. Birken maps the "Six Days War" of 1967 (29–30).

J. Warnecke shows a newly discovered 1pi of 1908, MiNr. 137, perforated 12:13¼, and a 50pi of 1913, MiNr. 221, also 12:13¼. He comes to the conclusion that all issues between 1901 and 1913 exist in all four possible perforation types (31).

W. Pijnenburg shows four newly discovered postmarks: GUENAN (Gönen, 1902), Kozan posta ve telegraf merkezi 332 (1914), KARS 1 (with Arab on top, 1926), CHARLI (Şarlı, Trabzon) (32).

A. Birken reviews the new 2017 edition of the İSFİLA specialised catalogue "Ottoman Empire 1840–1922." Originally planned for 2016, it was published

only earlier this year, with 640 pages in two A4-sized volumes. Birken shows positive and negative developments, points out omissions and errors, and notes that the inclusion of blocks-of-four largely lead to the expansion from 224 to over 600 pages (33–39).

In “Antworten, Reaktionen...” [answers & reactions] W. Pijnenburg questions the existence of the Susurluk cancel 1 (Bayındır 1, Birken 1), and A. Birken shows further “IMPRIMÉE” forgeries offered on eBay (40–41).

Announcement of Dr. Birken’s fourth tome on Ottoman stamps: “Wappen-Marken und Thessalien-Ausgabe” (*Coat-of-Arms & Thessaly*) (49).

T. Zywiets reports on the move of the AROS-Library to new premises (3–4).

Invitation for the 2017 AGM, to be held in November in Cologne (42–45).

Türkei-Spiegel 122 – 4/2017

Arge Osmanisches Reich/Türkei, German, A5, colour, €5-00



K. Huber, member of specialist society *Arge Bayern (klassisch)* studies prephilatelic Ottoman covers to and crossing Bavaria between 1808 and 1847 (3–16).

R. Fuchs presents a share of *Beyrouth-Baghdad-Téhéran-Automobile (Eastern Transport Company) S.A., Beyrouth* (17–21).

B.-D. Buscke researched what really happened to the supposedly lost first 1949 Transjordan postmark of Nablus (22–32).

A. Birken portrays the postal and philatelic history of Ankara (Angora) (33–43).

In “Antworten, Reaktionen...” [answers & reactions] B.-D. Buscke corrects two errors in his piece in TS 121 (45).

Türkei-Spiegel 123 – 1/2018

Arge Osmanisches Reich/Türkei, German, A5, colour, €5-00



A. Birken portrays the postal and philatelic history of Brusa (Bursa, Brousse) (4–12).

A. Birken tries to clarify the variations in cataloguing the 1916 *tur u-sina* stamps (13–14).

A. Birken looks at the correct attribution of the definitive article for state names, and surveys the names of (mainly) Arab states (15–29).

In “POSTA BEY’İYE ŞUBESİ 28 İSTANBUL” N. Tokoğlu presents a 1926 postcard with said postmark and looks into the history of the sender, a pharmacist, enquiring with a German pharmaceutical company (30–31).

A. Birken questions the existence of Turkey MiNr. A367 (32–33).

In “Antworten, Reaktionen...” [answers & reactions] A. Birken reports on Turkish postal rates in 1916; O. Richter shows parcel cards with Turkey MiNr. 279 in pink and MiNr. 416 (42–45).

Portrait of 94 year old Hubert Gerzabek (3). Minutes and pictures from the 2017 AGM (36–42).

Türkei-Spiegel 124 – 2/2018

Arge Osmanisches Reich/Türkei, German, A5, colour, €5-00



N. Tokoğlu classifies trial prints of Turkey, especially of the London and Vienna prints of 1914–1920 (3–8).

W. Pijnenburg sets out his critique about specimen overprints missing from the specialised catalogue *Türk Pulları Spesyalizasyon Kataloğu* (9–20).

A. Birken questions the differing dates of issue stated in catalogues for some wartime stamps series (MiNr. 477–484) (21).

A 1913 report on ethnicities in the Balkans is reprinted: “Die Bevölkerung auf dem Balkan um 1912” (from journal *Welt des Islams*) (22–27).

A. Birken portrays the postal and philatelic history of İzmir (Smyrna) (28–40).

N. Tokoğlu presents a newly discovery postmark “POSTA BEY’İYE ŞUBESİ 43 İSTANBUL” from İstanbul-Ortaköy (41).

A. Birken reports an offer on Ebay of another Adjémian postage due cover, which he regards as philatelic fabrication (42).

A. Birken is looking for scans of stamps for the next instalments of his update of *Passer* (43).

In “Antworten, Reaktionen...” [answers & reactions] W. Filbert presents his copy of MiNr. 350IC and G. Stobbe does likewise with MiNr. A335, A350, and A367 (44).

Announcement of Dr. Birken’s fifth tome on Ottoman stamps: “Die Kleinen Tughras” (small tughras) (49).

Türkei-Spiegel 125 – 3/2018

Arge Osmanisches Reich/Türkei, German, A5, colour, €5-00



P. Rohrbach’s 1917 essay on the economic capacity of the Ottoman Empire is reprinted (5–9).

A. Birken tells the story of the *Administration de la Dette Publique Ottomane*, its revenue streams and stamps (10–16).

A. Birken portrays the postal and philatelic history of Erzurum (17–22).

O. Graf reports on the rarely used obligatory tax stamps in aid of the Turkish Air Force (23–31).

A. Birken dwells on the Turkish names of provinces, here: Cebel-i Lübnan sancağı (32–34).

N. Tokoğlu shows his award gained at the 2018 World Stamp Championships (39).

In “Antworten, Reaktionen...” [answers & reactions] R. Stuchell reports that the photo shown in TS 124 (p. 39) actually is the Austraina post office in Jerusalem, not Smyrna; J. Warnecke points out several errors in Birken’s 6th instalment of his update on *Passer* (40–41).

A. Birken searches for scans of MiNr. 374I (41).

Announcement of Dr. Birken’s sixth and seventh tome on Ottoman stamps:

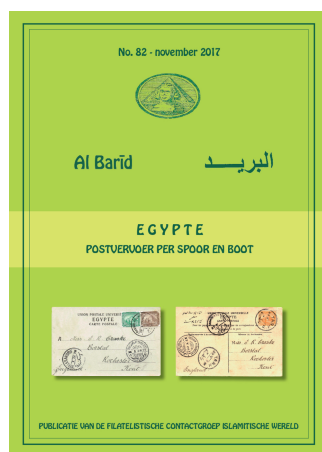
“Sultansreise und Postamtsserien” (sultan’s travels and post office) and

“Ansichten von Konstantinopel” (views of Constantinople) (45).

The board gives a brief overview on GDPR (3–4) and invites members to the 2018 AGM held on 2 to 3 November in Cologne. Guest are welcome! (35–38).

Al Barīd 82 البريد – November 2017

Filatelistische Contactgroep Islamitische Wereld, Dutch, A4, colour, –



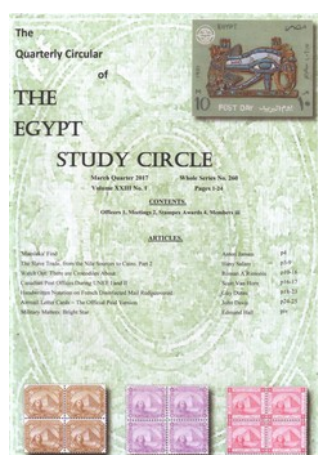
The volume is entitled “Postal Transport by Rail and Boat,” with T. Jansen giving an introduction to transport in Khedival Egypt (6).

R. van Pellecom traces the postal history of the Alexandria–Aboukir–Rosetta line. Construction started in 1876 but commercial success came only with the expansion of Alexandria’s eastern suburbs towards Ramleh and Montaza in the 1890s. The postal history is extensive due to the number of different postmarks used on the legs of the line: Aboukir, Rashid, Hadra, Sidi Gaber, Zahrieh, Ramle, Sidi Bishr, Mandara, Montazah, Kharaba, and others (7–21).

J. van Zellem writes on postal transport by railway in Egypt and into Sudan: “A philatelic journey across and along the Nile” is studded with numerous cards and covers from the 1870s to the 1930s with T.P.O. cancels, bringing to life the ways and means of mail conveyance of the era (23–37).

T. Jansen writes an obituary of Ton Zonneveld, who died on 25.09.2017 aged 91 (22). From this issue *Al Barīd* comes in A4 size. FCIW hopes to publish one regular issue of *Al Barīd* as well as one special edition each year.

**Please come forward with your articles,
comments, research, or images!
MEPB always needs interesting new material!**



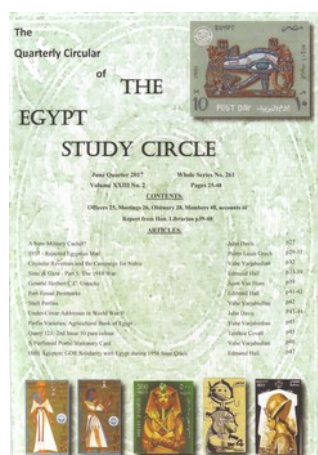
The Quarterly Circular 260 (Vol. 23, No. 1) – March 2017

The Egypt Study Circle, English, A4, colour, –

- A. Jensen found a new early date for the “Mamlaka” Farouk 6m letter sheet 29.06.1942 (4).
 H. Salam’s article “The Slave Trade, from the Nile Sources to Cairo” is reprinted from OPUS 14 with its second part: slave markets and slave traders (5–9).
 R. A. Rimonis looks at depictions of crocodiles, concentrating on postcards (10–11, 14–16).
 S. Van Horn reports on Canadian Post Offices during UNEF I and II (16–17).
 G. Dutau studies a handwritten notation on a cover and sheds light on French Disinfected Mail [reprint from Documents Philatéliques] (18–23).
 J. Davis reports on Air Mail Letter Cards with “Official Paid” marks (24–25).
 E. Hall reports on U.S. (Navy FPO 09527, 1981) and French (BPM 126, 2001) military post offices in modern Egypt (iv).
Reports from the 2017 AGM (2–3) and on ESC member’s awards at Spring Stampex 2017 (4); the death of Erik Menné Larsen is recorded (iii).

The Quarterly Circular 261 (Vol. 23, No. 2) – July 2017

The Egypt Study Circle, English, A4, colour, –



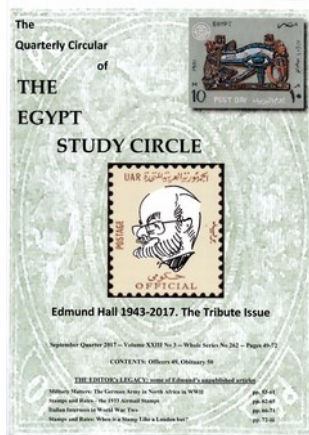
- At the May meeting, amongst other topics, R. Rimonis held a talk about the history of Cairo bookshop and publishers Lehnert & Landrock (26–27).
 J. Davies shows an unrecorded dated cachet: “MILITARY WIRELESS / EGYPT / 7. FEB. 1915” situated at or near Ismailia² (27).
 P. L. Grech studies the Franco-Egyptian *Postal War* of 1957, when French postal authorities rejected several stamps connected to the Suez conflict (29–31).
 V. Varjabedian catalogues the Consular Revenue stamps used for the *Nubian Monuments* appeal (32).
 The fifth part of E. Hall’s study of Sinai and Gaza concerns the 1948 War, listing Egyptian postal facilities and cancels, showing most on cover (33–38).
 S. Van Horn looks at an 1899 postcard to Col. (later Gen.) H. C. C. Uniacke (39).
 E. Hall studies the postmarks of Port Fuad (40–41).
 V. Varjabedian presents perfin varieties of Shell Company [shell symbol] (41); perfins of Agricultural Bank of Egypt: “A B / E” (45), and an 1889 perfined postcard³ of M. Joss & Löwenstein (Ismailia): “M. J. / & L.” (46).
 J. Davis looks at under-cover addresses during WWII (42–43).
 T. Covell presents a Second Issue 10pa in green (45).
 E. Hall reports on the G.D.R. 1956 issue “HELFT/ ÄGYPTEN” (Help Egypt) and shows a 1958 cover addressed to an UNEF officer in Khan Yunis (47).
Obituary: Peter Andrews (1925–2017) (28). J. Davies reports on new items in the ESC Library, mainly from the estate of the late Peter Smith (39–40). Edmund Hall, long-term editor and webmaster has been forced to give up both posts due to ill-health. Editorship is handed over to Mike Murphy, the new webmaster is Neil Hitchens (48). ESC accounts for 2016 (iii).



2 According to Yigal Sheffy’s “British Military Intelligence in the Palestine Campaign, 1914-1918” (chapter 7) the Signal Squadron at “Medforce” GHQ was indeed operating in Ismailia in early 1916. Later a 15-man “Special Wireless Section” was attached to Signal Branch of E.E.F.
 3 First shown in QC no. 215, 2005, p. 79.

The Quarterly Circular 262 (Vol. 23, No. 3) – September 2017*The Egypt Study Circle, English, A4, colour, –*

QC 262 is a tribute issue to the late Edmund Hall, editor from 1998 to 2017, who died on 13th August 2017 aged 84. M. Murphy writes a moving appreciation of Edmund's philatelic life, followed by tributes from J. Davis, A. Jansen, and T. Cakebread (50–52). The rest of the issue prints unpublished articles from Edmund's vaults:



His article on the German Army in North Africa during WWII looks especially at the system and distribution of German *Feldpost-Nummern* and *Kenn-Nummern* (field post numbers and unit-specific postmark indexes). Edmund gives reference to two standard works he used for identifying units, their marks and movements: Norbert Kannapin's "*Die Deutsche Feldpostübersicht 1939–45*" (3 volumes, 1980, easily obtainable at around 500 €) and Georg Tessin's epic "*Verbände und Truppen der deutschen Wehrmacht und der Waffen-SS im Zweiten Weltkrieg 1939–1945*" (20 volumes, 1975–2002, setting you back some 1,000 € as many volumes became rare after the publisher went bankrupt) (53–61).

In response to J. Sears' piece in QC 243 on Egypt's Air Mail set of 1933, Edmund researched their use in respect of Air Mail rates at the time (62–65).

Edmund looks at marks and cachets used for internee camps for Italian civilians in Egypt (66–71).

Another study concerns the usage of the 1953/1955 10m stamp with had its inscription "DEFENCE" changed to "DEFENSE" (72–iii).

The Quarterly Circular 263 (Vol. 23, No. 4) – December 2017*The Egypt Study Circle, English, A4, colour, –*

At the 9th July 2017 meeting, Paul Green reports on his Egypt meter markings collection (74–75).

J. Sears shows a 1914 *Marc Pourpe* Air Mail cover auctioned by Argyll Etkin (78).

M. Ramadan reports the initial findings from a discovery of a stash of letters during the demolition of a house in Asyut, dubbed "Asyut Find." It contains the correspondence of merchant family Khashaba from the 1850s to the 1880s. This gives new insights into the workings of the *Khedival Post* and leads to the discovery of new negative seals (79–84).

R. van Pellecom researched covers posted on board LZ 127 "Graf Zeppelin" during its *Ägyptenfahrt* (Egypt Flight) of 1931 (85–91).

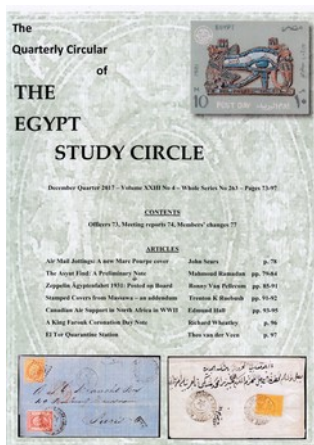
T. K. Ruebush II adds information on new covers of the Egyptian Post Office in Massawa with type IV postmark "POSTE KHEDIVE EGIZIANE / MASSAWA" (91).

The late E. Hall reports on the Canadian air support in North Africa during WWII: RCAF Squadron 417. The covers shown suggest that the Canadians troops were likely served by British F.P.O. 600 (93–95).

R. Wheatley shows a short note by Stephan M. Casulli directed at Richard Stead on the occasion of the coronation of King Farouk on 29th July 1937 (96).

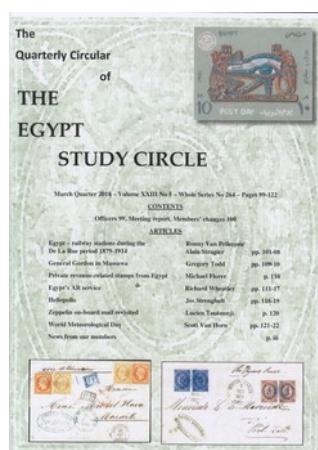
T. van der Veen shows a 1908 cover from Alexandria to "M. le Dr. Felix Gotschlich" at "Campement Quarantenaire El Tor" (a quarantine station on the Southern Sinai established in 1871 for pilgrims returning from Mecca) with a "CAMPEMENT TOR" postmark. [*Dr. Felix Gotschlich (1874–1914) was a German biologist and hygienist who discovered the cholera bacterium vibrio cholerae El-Tor in 1903–1905. His brother Emil (1870–1949) was also a famous scientist and Director of Hygiene in Alexandria, 1896–1914*] (97).

Extensive reports on meetings 9th July, 16th September, and 4th November, on the success of auctions, and on gaining new members (74–77).



The Quarterly Circular 264 (Vol. 23, No. 5) – March 2018

The Egypt Study Circle, English, A4, colour, –



R. van Pellecom and A. Stragier researched railway station postmarks 1879–1914, i.e. cancellers with inscription “STAZIONE” or “S” (101–108).

R. Todd (of traders Carmichael & Todd) adds new General Gordon covers from the Egyptian Post Office in Massawa (109–110).

M. Florer shows two private revenue-related stamps: two cotton textile exchange coupons, one by *Company for the Sale of Egyptian Manufacturers*, the other by *Daoud Arch & Sons* (110).

R. Wheatley studies Egypt’s AR (*avis de réception*) service from its inception (the oldest known form stems from 1875) to modern times (111–117).

J. Strengholt delves into the postal history of Heliopolis (118–119).

L. Toutounji shows two 1931 Zeppelin covers in response to R. van Pellecoms’ article in QC 263 (120).

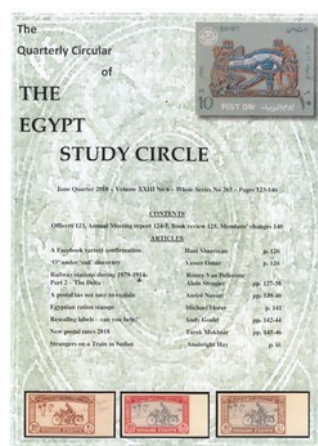
S. van Hoorn researched Egyptian stamps on the topics of *World Meteorological Day* and the *World Meteorological Organisation* (WMO) (121–122).

Short notices include P. Newroth showing a *Fuad 100m on £E1 FDC* addressed to poet Christopher Toutonghi; T. Cakebread reports that the Tony Chisholm Egyptian postcard collection, comprising some 20,000 cards in total, will be auctioned by Christoph Gärtner; S. van Hoorn seeks help on the routing of a 1948 printed matter from Brussels to Cyprus with Egyptian censorship (iii).

A full-page ad presents Sami M. Fereig’s three-volume “A Postal History Of Egypt Under The Muhammad Ali Dynasty.” Volume 1 covers 1805–1914, volume 2 features 1914–1957, with the third volume documenting post office cancellations 1866–1914 ([iv]).

The Quarterly Circular 265 (Vol. 23, No. 6) – June 2018

The Egypt Study Circle, English, A4, colour, –



J. Davis reviews Stanley Gibbons’ Commonwealth Stamp Catalogue “East Africa with Egypt & Sudan” in its 4th edition of 2018 (125).⁴

H. Sharestan shares his discovery of a stamp NP D3c (MiNr. 3b) with variety “blob on the value,” and Y. Omar shows a variety of NP A8 (MiNr. 261?) (126).

R. van Pellecom and A. Stragier continue their series on railway station postmarks 1879–1914 (127–138).

A. Navari deciphers the postage due on a 1906 redirected cover: Cairo–London–Zurich (139–140).

M. Florer portrays Egyptian ration stamps of the mid-20th century on petrol, diesel, and sugar (141).

A. Gould reports on postal resealing labels for damaged covers (142–144).

B.-D. Buscke shows a cover with a tête-bêche pair of the 3rd issue 5 pa (MiNr. 14II) in response to M. Ramadan’s piece in QC 263 (144).

T. Mokhtar reports on the new Egyptian postage rates from 1.01.2018 (145–146).

The editor thanks P. Green for bringing to his attention that the March 2017, October 2017, and April 2018 editions of Gibbons Stamp Monthly vastly update on Egypt’s recent stamps issues (146).

A. Hay shows and describes a 1952 cover from Khartoum to the Hollywood actor Farley Granger (iii).

Reports on the 2018 AGM (124–125).

Adverts: Todd & Carmichael show an 1879 Massawa cover (ii); Grosvenor auction with material from the Alan Jeyes collection (iv); J. Davis promotes his book “Egypt From The Postal Concession Until Suez 1932 to 1956 – Part II: Commonwealth and Other Allied Forces During World War II” (insert).

4 See publisher’s offer at <https://www.stanleygibbons.com/east-africa-with-egypt-sudan-stamp-catalogue-4th-edition-stamp-catalogues-r2984-18.html>.

المقتني العربي **The Arab Collector 1 – May 2016⁵***The Arab Collector; Arabic, A4, colour, digital only, gratis*

The *Featured Picture* shows the Inspector General of the U.S. Mint in San Francisco controlling coins being produced for the Republic of China in 1949 (2). The team behind *The Arab Collector* describe their aims (3).

M. Ibrahim looks at *scalloped* coins used in the Arab world and the Indian influence on this kind of shape. Discussed are Ottoman, Iraqi, Egyptian, Sudanese, Yemeni, and Libyan coins (4–9).

M. Rizkallah details the first postal exhibition in Egypt held in Cairo in February 1946 to commemorate 80 years of Egyptian stamps. It was attended by King Farouk I (10–11).

M. Omar looks at coins depicting Queen Victoria (12)

M. Ibrahim describes special coins and stamps on the 90th birthday of Queen Elizabeth II (13).

A. Al-Ghareeb researched the history of the 1919 “Kom Ombo” local currency, suppressed by the British (14–15).

M. Rizkallah reports on the world’s most famous stamp forger, Jean de Sperati (16–17).

M. Ibrahim reports on Arab banknotes and military medals auctioned by Spink in London (18–21).

A. Mohammed translated a piece from *The Numismatist* with general advice for collectors: knowledge, patience, and decisiveness (22).

Short Notices: U.S. Mint takes possession of the sole surviving 1974 Aluminium cent coin; the unveiling of new Australian five dollar bill; medals of Donald Trump; a Croatian stamp issue commemorating 100 years of Albert Einstein’s theory of relativity (23).

المقتني العربي **The Arab Collector 2 – June 2016⁴***The Arab Collector; Arabic, A4, colour, digital only, gratis*

The *Featured Picture* shows coins of Sultan Mohammed III of Morocco produced by Spain from gold bullion sent by the Sultan in 1787. They were never issued and only 10 are believed to have survived (4).

A. Mohammed looks at currency grading: its concept, terminology, and historical development (5–7).

M. Al-Kahtani reports from the 2016 Gulf Philatelic Exhibition (*21st GCC Stamp Exhibition*) in Jeddah (8–9).

M. Rizkallah portraits American coin deal Abe Kosoff (10–11).

O. Abdulaziz presents designs, stamps and FDCs of the *Arab Postal Union* joint issue on the inauguration of the Arab League Secretariat building in 1960. The artists involved were Ramzi Labib, Mohammed Badr Bahjat and Ando Clefes, and the stamp was issued in Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Libya, Morocco, Lebanon, Syria, Jordan, Yemen (Kingdom), and Sudan (12–17).

M. Omar looks at the history of coins in the Maldives (18–19).

M. Ibrahim researched the history of the legendary *Maria-Theresien-Taler* (Maria Theresa thaler), minted since 1741 and widely used in the Arab world and East Africa well into the 20th Century (20–23).

M. Rizkallah looks at the design *Camel Rider* drawn by Colonel E. A. Stanton, Governor of Khartoum, and used on Sudanese stamps and banknotes (24–25).

M. Rizkallah studies Egyptian lottery tickets through the years (26–28).

M. Ibrahim presents British military medals from the Egyptian campaigns of 1882–1889 (29–31).

M. Rizkallah portraits U.S. President Franklin D. Roosevelt as philatelist (32).

M. Ibrahim reports on the *Ahli-Hijazi Bank* banknotes which were seized and destroyed by Egyptian customs in 1924 (33–37).

M. H. Atteyeh looks at the Omnibus as a means of transportation in Egypt in the

5 The reviews of *The Arab Collector* are based on contributions by Baha Obeidat. Articles not concerned with Middle Eastern topics are also included.

19th Century (38).

Short Notices: British Virgin Islands issue a silver dollar in the shape of Big Ben; 5 dollar New Zealand banknote 'banknote of the year'; USPS *Eid* greetings stamp 2016 (39).

M. Bseiso studies Jordan's currency notes for 500 fils and 1/2 dinar notes, 1949–1997 [article in English, reprint from the IBNS Journal] (40–46).

المقتني العربي **The Arab Collector 3 – July 2016⁴**

The Arab Collector, Arabic, A4, colour, digital only, gratis

The *Featured Picture* looks at the myth of a person's picture resembling in appearance an Egyptian farmer on the £.E. 1 note in the 1920s/30s, the so-called "Egyptian Farmer Pound" (3).

M. Rizkallah researched international conferences and exhibits held in Egypt during the reign of King Fouad I (1922–1936) and produced a catalogue of special postmarks from 1925 (Int. Geographical Congress) to 1936 (15th Agricultural & Industrial Exhibition). Though some such events received stamps and medals, those of lesser importance were commemorated only with special cancellations used at temporary offices. [*The quality of the postmark images is sadly rather poor*] (4–12).

M. Ibrahim studied the Moroccan Rif banknotes, issued by the Berber rebels under Mohammed Abd al-Karim fighting the Spanish (and later also the French) occupiers in Northern Morocco during the *Rif War* of 1921–1927 (13).

M. Rizkallah continues his portrait of American coin dealer Abe Kosoff, centring on the Kobbah Palace auction in 1954 (14–15).

A. Al-Ghareeb starts his "Currencies Atlas" with the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, showing the current coins and notes (16–17).

M. Ibrahim continues his research into the history of the legendary *Maria-Theresien-Taler* (Maria Theresa thaler), looking at its use, local and regional embellishments and counter-markings in the Arab world (18–24).

A. K. Sabri presents Iraqi Railway stamps, on cover and as booklet (25).

Short Notices: 1 and 2 Saudi Riyal coins to replace the paper notes; printing of paper notes of 1 Egyptian pound to resume in 2016; Bronze medal at Jeddah Philatelic Exhibition awarded to a 1978 Iraqi stamp album; death of Chester L. "Chet" Krause, publisher of *Standard Catalog of World Coins*; U.S. stamp error "Inverted Jenny" fetches 1.35 million US-Dollars at auction; A US Cent minted on a Quarter Indian Rupee (26–27).

M. Ibrahim reports on the journey of a "Penny Black" sheet from the Postal Museum in London to be shown at World Stamp Show in New York (28–29).

M. H. Atteyeh writes about establishment of the National Bank of Egypt in 1898 (30–31).

M. Ibrahim presents British military medals from the Anglo-Egyptian War in Sudan (32–35).

A. Mohammed abridged an article by Dr. Abdel Rahman Fahmi Mohammed, Coins Secretary at the Islamic Art Museum in Cairo, on Christian embellishments and Coptic symbols on Islamic minted coins (36–38).

O. Abdulaziz looks at stamps of the ultimately failed Arab unity projects *Federation of Arab Republics* (Egypt, Libya, and Sudan) and *United Arab States* (Yemen joining the *United Arab Republic* of Egypt and Syria) (39).

O. Abdulaziz and M. Ibrahim show commemorative stamps and blocks of the World Stamp Show, New York 2016 (40–41).

In a *Letter to the Editor*, K. Al-Ma'ri explains the types of exhibits allowed at philatelic exhibitions and presents the scale of awards (42).

M. Mohammed describes his love for collecting coins and its educational value (43).

A. R. S. Al-Rasa' studied the history of currency in Tunisia (44–45).

M. Ibrahim reports on Brazilian Mint's unveiling of its medals for the 31st Olympic Games held in Rio de Janeiro (46–47).

H. Sharestan, of the Egypt Study Circle, describes his impressions visiting the 2016 World Stamp Show in New York [article in English] (48).



Random Notes 92 – July 2017

Arabian Philatelic Association Int., English, ca. A4, colour, digital only, gratis

In “Random Notes #92” the editor assembled short notes on a number of topics:

1962 Anti-Malaria stamp: 6q in green and blue as proof; it is suggested that Mayo 977X (“1961”) is an essay, not a proof (3); ‘Framed Kaaba’ 2r found in black and turquoise (colours of the 100h) (3); Warning about forged Nejd ‘Matbu’a’ stamps in the market (4); King Ali essays in format 72×46mm (4); 1925 Nejd Medina forged overprint (5); Saudi linear registration barcode labels: postcode as part of coding (5–6); Hejaz caliphate overprint variety: horizontal bar, presumed border of overprint plate on field position 13 (6); Saudi Officials: plate variety of the 2p (6); Hejaz postage dues overprint varieties (7); Faisal Boeing stamps on un-watermarked paper (MiNr 355–382 Y) sold at 20 times estimate (19,000 €) (7); A ‘Barid Mumtaz’ linear barcode EMS parcel label (8); Linear barcode from Riyadh C.P.O. with postcodes 20300 and 215521 (8); David Jessich supplied a checklist of Saudi ‘Flowers’ and ‘Cities’ giving details on watermark, gum, and UV-colour (9–10); ‘Khafji’ plate variety “RJYAL” (11); Transjordan Hejaz Railway revenue stamp forged (11); Hejaz postage dues and Jeddah overprint forgeries (11–12); Marginal inscription on Anti-Malaria essay (12); Haschemite gold and black surcharge varieties (12); Suspected forgeries of Ottoman postmark “EL-ULA” (12).

J. I. Kearney looks at Saudi domestic surface covers during Hejaz, Nejd, and Hejaz & Nejd periods (13–16).

D. Jessich reports on the tracking of a 2016 registered cover, Al-Khobar to Riyadh, franked with the 2008 5r Arab Post Day stamp (not block), noting that transit took seven days. Jessich shows the stamp under UV-light (17–18).

J. I. Kearney updates an article by R. Thoden in RN 35 on a US Army Post Office forwarding service for CASOC and BAPCO employees during WWII. The cover address was “Arabian American Oil Company, A.P.O. 816, c/o Postmaster, New York, N.Y.” Kearney discerns four types of the “U.S. ARMY POSTAL SERVICE / A.P.O. / 816” postmark (19–22).

D. Jessich retraces his methods of deciphering hard-to-read cancels (23–25).

J. I. Kearney shows two double-weight CASOC covers from WWII (26–27).

M. Lovegrove looks at a new type of the 150r ‘Manpower Resources’ revenue stamp with *al-malia* instead of *Kingdom of Saudi Arabia* security overprint: he’s inconclusive whether it’s a forgery or an essay (28–29).

The Levant Vol. 9, No. 1 – January 2017

Ottoman & Near East Philatelic Society, English, A4, colour, US-\$ 1.50

A. Tunaci shows pages on the *Orient Express* (1 page), and on the *Roumelia Oriental Railways* (6 pages) from his award-winning exhibit (3–9).

O. Graf researched the 1891/1892 “Imprimé” overprints on the UPU Empire and Coat of Arms issues; R. Rose added examples from a recent auction (10–12).

R. Stuchell shows a cover contributed from Z. Aloni, believed to be the earliest international mail via the Ottoman Post: Constantinople to London, 19.10.1876. Dr. Birken reports that it was theoretically possible to send foreign mail via the Ottoman post from 1st July 1875. It’s then concluded that the actual earliest date is the issue of the bilingual stamps on 27.09.1876 Gregorian, i.e. 15.09.1876 Julian (13).

R. Stuchell shows a 1900 cover from Camaran (Yemen) to Paris with a hand-drawn registration marking mimicking the printed labels (13–14).



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See page 7

Random Notes #92 - Page 1



The Levant, Journal of the Ottoman & Near East Philatelic Society, Vol. IX, No. 1, Jan. 2017

The Levant Vol. 9, No. 2 – May 2017*Ottoman & Near East Philatelic Society, English, A4, colour, US-\$ 1-50*

A colour postcard shown depicts 6 Ottoman stamps, all forgeries (17).

G. Riachi endeavours to determine the number of stamps issued of the 1917 Hejaz 2pi overprinted in 1925 (19–23).

A. Tunaci shows further five pages from his award-winning exhibit on Ottoman-European railways (24–28).

M. R. Michaels studies further hand-drawn registration markings from Camaran (Yemen) (29–31).

M. Round reviews “Guide To The Postal Stationery Of Iraq” by Rubec and Al-Manaseer. [See also my review in MEPB 4] (32).

Obituary for David George Newton (1935–2016), ONEPS member and former US ambassador to Yemen (1994–1997) and to Iraq (1984–1988), holding various other diplomatic posts in Arabia (23).

The Levant Vol. 9, No. 3 – September 2017*Ottoman & Near East Philatelic Society, English, A4, colour, US-\$ 1-50*

U. Togay shows a 1913 colour post card depicting *Grand Rue de Péra* (now Yüksek Kaldırım sokak) in İstanbul (33).

D. Scheper gives an introduction to *Perfins* of the Levant [reprint from MEPB 1] (35–37).

A. Al-Manaseer surveys the first Transjordan stamps with its varieties (37–40).

R. Fuchs reports on the ‘provisional stamps’ of Habbaniya R.A.F. station in Iraq [reprint from MEPB 1] (41–46).

The late B. Robertson’s article on the design for the 1913–1920 Ottoman pictorial stamps is reprinted from the OPAL Journal (47–51).

The latest two books by A. Birken on the Ottoman *Empire* and *Coat-of-Arms* stamps are presented (51).

The Levant Vol. 9, No. 4⁶ – January 2018*Ottoman & Near East Philatelic Society, English, A4, colour, US-\$ 1-50*

U. Togay shows a colour postcard issued as part of a series by the Red Crescent Society (53).

O. Graf researched the 1922 *Ay Yıldız* issue, discussing the earliest date known (25.11.1922), the printing, and perforation (54–59).

A. Kaplanian presents his research into the first (and only) postcard of Jordan. [Reprint from MEPB 4] (60–61).

G. A. Karim presents new information about the “Habbaniya Provisionals”: Mounzer Baqous, in an Iraqi booklet of his, states that they were used in several cities due to a shortage of stamps in January 1942. Karim shows two covers from Baqous’s publication: Junoubi 15.01.1942 and Habbaniya 15.01.1942 (62–63).

K. Giray shows five pages on the Ottoman Red Crescent and the International Red Cross Society from his award-winning exhibit on Ottoman P.O.W.s during WWI (64–68).

A. Gaiser brings to the attention of readers his study (co-author: James Riggan) “Stamps of the Fallen” published by the academic blog *Mizan Project*: part one is entitled “On Martyrs, Nations, and Postage Stamps,”⁷ and part two “Martyrs on the Postage Stamps of the Islamic Republic of Iran”⁸ (69).

In the *Q&A* section, C. Maki asks for an explanation of an overprint “as” on a Turkish stamp, R. Cork shows a Smyrna stamp in green, and two blue postage due stamps in different design and colour (essays?) (69).

6 Note that this issue is erroneously numbered “Volume 10 Number 4.”

7 Link: <http://www.mizanproject.org/stamps-of-the-fallen-part-1/>.

8 Link: <http://www.mizanproject.org/stamps-of-the-fallen-part-2/>.

The Levant Vol. 9, No. 5⁹ – May 2018*Ottoman & Near East Philatelic Society, English, A4, colour, US-\$ 1-50*

B. Stuchell shows on the cover a post card commemorating the third anniversary of Lebanon's independence from Syria, 1.09.1923 (53).

T. Ali Reza's article "What might have been: early British Relations with Ibn Saud, 1910–1918" is reprinted from the journal of the *Society of Postal Historians*, Postscript (55–60).

O. Graf continues his research on the 1922 *Ay Yıldız* issue, discussing plates, the plate varieties, and the paper used (61–66).

K. Giray shows another section of his award-winning exhibit on Ottoman P.O.W.s during WWI: Kut al-Amara and Hasanbeyli. [Editor's note: sadly, many of the scanned images shown are in very poor quality] (64–68).

D. Barchard dwells on the political turmoils in Turkey from the armistice with Bulgaria in December 1912, the coup ousting of Grand-Vezier Mehmet Kamil in January 1913 to the peace-treaty with Bulgaria in December 1913 [reprinted from *Cornucopia* magazine] (72–74).

In the *Q&A* section, R. Cork's query from the previous issue is resolved by reference to cinderella literature; the queries on a Turkish stamp overprinted "as" and about two blue postage due stamps in different design and colour are reprinted (75).

Holy Land Postal History 132/133 – Spring 2017*Israel Philatelic Federation, English, ca. C5, colour, US-\$ 25-00*

In *Letters to the Editor*, G. Zuzkis shows a 1939 telegram from Warsaw to Tel Aviv, sent just hours before the start of WWII (5); and L. Martinoja refers to a Minhelet Ha'am postmark (6–7).

M. I. Fock shows usage of newspaper stamps as used by the Ottoman and foreign post offices in the Holy Land (8–12).

I. Karpovsky [spelled here Karpovskiy] shows a number of A.R. covers, Ottoman Post, Austrian and French Post Offices; and one from the 1948 transition period (Minhelet Ha'am) (3–23, [a]).

J. Aron adds to his previous article on pigeon post by looking at a manual used by the Jewish underground militia during the Mandate era (24–27).

Y. Kleiner compiled information about censorship procedures during WWI (28–39).

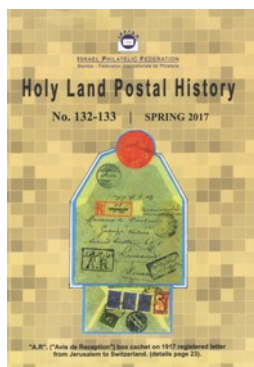
The study of B. Longo about the 1840s private postal service of Santelli & Micciarelli is reprinted from the website of the Lebanese Philatelic Association (<http://lapsite.org/santelli-micciarelli/>), in an abridged version. Y. Kleiner adds several further covers in an appendix (45–58).

M. I. Fock looks at the express service operated by the Italian Post in the Levant: The Italian 25c "ESPRESSO"-stamp was overprinted in 1908 "LEVANTE / 1 PIASTRA 1" [MiNr. 18], and a 30c stamp was overprinted "LEVANTE / 60 PARAS 60" in 1910 [MiNr. 19] (59–61).

Z. Aloni presents a handwritten and officially certified copy of a public notice announcing the postal rates in Jerusalem in 1871. The piece only adds a 30 Para local rate Jerusalem–Hebron to the already known rates (62–65).

Y. Kleiner describes the 4th book in the "Postal History of the Transition Period in Israel 1948" series: Zvi Aloni's "Vol. I: Official Postal Services: Postal Administration of British Mandate, Minhelet Ha'am and Israel." (550 pages, US-\$ 65) (66–69).

In *Items of Interest*, an 1870 *ballon monté* cover from Paris to Jerusalem, and a 1901 registered letter via German Post in China from Weihsien via Siberia to Jerusalem are shown (70). The back-cover shows four blocks-of-25 from the top right corner (with plate no. 1) of Palestine Mandate *Pictorials* 4, 5, 10, and 90m, as colour trials. All are overprinted "HARRISONS / SPECIMEN" ([d]).



9 Note that this issue is erroneously numbered "Volume 10 Number 5" and starts (as the previous issue) with p. 53.

The Israel Philatelist – Winter 2017 – 68. 2017, No. 1*Society of Israel Philatelists, Inc., English, ca. A4 (letter), colour, US-\$ 4-95*

In *Letters to the Editor*, Y. Leheavy reports on a British F.P.O. 535 cover of 19.05.1948 (4); A. Ben Arie shows a 1948 cover from Germany to Palestine, censored in Egypt, posing the question as to its route (4–5); N. Zankel clarifies that the “late fee” had to be paid at the counter with extra stamps (5). B. Weiner studies a 1948 cover from Beirut (17.04.1948) to Gaza, intercepted by Israel and returned “no service” (8).

Z. Aloni transcribed a public notice announcing the postal rates in Jerusalem in 1871. The piece only adds a 30 Para local rate Jerusalem–Hebron to the already known and published rates (26–27).

N. Zankel shows an early Air Mail cover from Palestine to India, franked 26m: Jerusalem 5.04.1927, “via Air Mail Gaza–Karachi” and transit marks of Baghdad 7.04.1927 and Karachi 14.04.1927¹⁰ (35).

S. Samuels presents “Mandate Gems:” London II, K14 (SG nos. 71–81, 83, 87) with “SPECIMEN” overprint; 20p, Jerusalem III, K14, pale-grey, cancelled Mea Shearim (SG no. 59) (41).

M. Bass reports from the *Jerusalem 2016* exhibition (42–45).

E. Kroft presents the second part in his introduction about how best to exhibit Holy Land material (53–57).

Y. Tsachor details recent forgeries of Holy Land material, including: a French 1869 cover to Hungary, redirected to Jerusalem; German P.O. Jaffa 1.10.1898 to Berlin; Palestine Mandate, SG no. 3, FDC 5.03.1918; two Israel 1948 covers.

S. Morginstin gives a beginner’s guide to Holy Land philately (53–57).

The Israel Philatelist – Spring 2017 – 68. 2017, No. 2*Society of Israel Philatelists, Inc., English, ca. A4 (letter), colour, US-\$ 4-95*

In *Letters to the Editor*, S. Morginstin announces the death of Edward B. Proud (FRPSL, RDP) at the age of 86 (4); S. Morginstin asks for help researching Israeli Postal Stationery (4); N. Greenberg and B.A. Levine comment on N. Zankel’s piece in the previous issue (4–5).

J. Spector, S. S. Shialit, H. Salzman and E. Helitzer report on two letters of the Minhelet Ha’am period (14–16).

Al Ben Arie studies a cover sent in 1948 from Arnstadt (Russian Zone) to an internee at the Waldheim camp near Haifa, censored at Cairo (18–19).

N. Zankel summarises information on the Haifa-Baghdad Overland Mail, showing a registered cover from October 1923, Haifa to Baghdad, with 79m franking. Zankel also shows an Air Mail postcard, Jaffa 24.11.1923 (via Cairo, viz. Kantara-Haifa TPO South 4.12.1923) to Hamadi (date not readable), sporting a boxed cachet “AIR MAIL” over the initial manuscript “Overland Mail” direction; franking: 33m (22–23).

Slide lecture by J. Wallach on the Jordanian Occupation of the Westbank (36–39).

E. Checlouche reports on the counter ATM of Israel from 1991, “Massad” (40–42).

B. Gruzd shows essays and leaflets of Israel’s 1950 Airmail stamps (44–45).

S. Morginstin continues his beginner’s guide to Holy Land philately (50–53).

A. Harris looks at Israel Revenue Stamps and their use at the Adam Bridge and Allenby Bridge border controls, ie. on the occupied Westbank (54–55).

E. Kroft presents in “Forerunner Gem” a 1914 postcard from Zamarin (Haifa) to Austria (with cachet “Zichron-Jakob”), and a 1916 cover from Rehoboth (Jaffa) to Berlin.

E. Kroft mentions in his President’s address a few noteworthy book projects: Steve Zwilling’s “Commemorative Covers of the Opening of the Israeli Post Office in Gaza (1956–1957)”, and E. Kroft’s “The Transformation and Evolution of the Civilian Postal System in Palestine during the British



¹⁰ Imperial Airways inaugural regular flight starting Cairo 6.04.1927, but terminating at Basra. Mail was forwarded from Baghdad (or Basra?) with the next flight on 16.04.1927 (starting at Cairo 13.04.1927); cf. Laurence Kimpton: *Airmails Across The Middle East 1918–1930*, 2016, pp. 239–240.

Military Campaign 1917–1918” (60).

M. Bass reports from London's Stampex 2017 (24–27). Obituary Martin Marco (1911–2010) (56–57).

The Israel Philatelist – Summer 2017 – 68. 2017, No. 3

Society of Israel Philatelists, Inc., English, ca. A4 (letter), colour, US-\$ 4-95

In *Letters to the Editor*, N. Greenberg shows an air mail cover Poland-Palestine 27.10.1936 (4); M. Bass notes the passing of collector Richard Barson (4).

A. Harris researched exit permit stamps used by the Israeli occupation forces on the Westbank (14–16).

S. Morginstin continues his beginner's guide to Holy Land philately, reaching the Israel period, but also showing material from the Jordanian and Egyptian occupation (18–21).

Y. M. Lehavvy presents a study entitled “Stamps and Politics” where he traces Israel Post's enquiries with the U.P.U. about the 1979 and 1983 Saudi stamps (Scott 781 and 866) for not containing the country's name. The stamps, in solidarity with Palestine, depict the *Dome of the Rock* (22–24).

A. Kaplanian shows a 1956 Jordan 25f *aérogamme* (air letter) uprated by 2×10f from Bethlehem to the U.S.A.: the addressee is the famous actress Lana Turner (24–25).

B. Gruzdz shows plate varieties and actual usage of Israel's 1950 50pr Air Mail stamp (40–42).

The first part of F. Adams' 12-page thematic exhibit with a special history viewpoint “The United Nations and Palestine 1947–1951.” stamps and covers help to tell the story about committees, commissions, mediations, and the failure to resolve the dispute over Palestine. This part focusses on the creation of UNSCOP in May 1947 (44–45).

J. Wallach shows covers from the 1948 Egyptian and Transjordan occupation of the south of Palestine, mainly Bethlehem (46–49).

M. Zelenietz presents part 4 of his thematic compilation of birds on Israeli stamps (50–52).

L. Glassman reports from the Finlandia 2017 exhibition in Helsinki (54–55).

Elections for President, Vice-President, Director and Board of SIP are to be held by postal ballot ending 1.11.2017 or in person at the AGM 17–19.11.2017 in Chicago: the candidates are given the opportunity to address the members on pages 56–57. There is only one candidate for each position, no candidate for Secretary/Treasurer; and only three candidates for the four positions on the board. Electors can 'write-in' members of their choosing.

The Israel Philatelist – Fall 2017 – 68. 2017, No. 4

Society of Israel Philatelists, Inc., English, ca. A4 (letter), colour, US-\$ 4-95

In *Letters to the Editor*, R. Fuchs (in response to N. Zankel's Haifa–Baghdad Overland Mail article in the Summer 2017 issue) points out that rates

information is available on his website, and corrects some details (4); F. Korr

makes some assumptions about a cachet on an air mail cover Poland-Palestine 27.10.1936 shown by N. Greenberg in the same issue (5).

K. Torby shows a registered air mail cover, Haifa to USA, 28.06.1948, franked 80m: 65m air mail + 15m registration (20).

The editor shows a philatelic cover from the collection of Selwyn Uriah: Montreal to Israel, 21.10.1948, taxed 150c = 150m, with five Doar Ivri postage due stamps (28).

I. Aizenberg presents the story of the Brudo private courier service in Morocco, 1891–1900 (30–36).

The second part of F. Adams' 12-page thematic exhibit with a special history viewpoint “The United Nations and Palestine 1947–1951.” This part focusses on the workings of UNSCOP (44–45).

A. Harris presents Israeli “Exit Permit Stamps” for the Occupied Gaza Strip, 1986–1990 (46–47).



J. Wallach shows more covers from the 1948 Egyptian and Transjordanian occupation of the south of Palestine, mainly Bethlehem, but also Beersheba, Hebron, and Beit Jala (54–56).

Society election results: President: Howard S. Chapman, 1st Vice-President: Edward Rose, 2nd Vice-President: Joel Weiner, Directors: I. Aizenberg, Zachary Simmons, Howard Wunderlich, and Edwin Kroft (58).

The Israel Philatelist – Winter 2018 – 69. 2018, No. 1

Society of Israel Philatelists, Inc., English, ca. A4 (letter), colour, US-\$ 4-95

In *Letters to the Editor*, Y. Asif (Israel Philatelic Service) responds to claims about the origins of illustrations used on the Israeli stamp commemorating the air war during WWI (5).

B. Weiner dissects a 1948 cover sent from Khartoum to a Sudanese soldier serving with the Egyptian Army, then in an Israel P.O.W. camp (6–7).

H. Chapman shows a May 1948 interim cover franked with JNF labels overprinted “Doar” after their demonetisation, duly taxed (8).

The third part of F. Adams’ 12-page thematic exhibit with a special history viewpoint “The United Nations and Palestine 1947–1951.” This part focusses on the workings of UNSCOP and UNCP (12–13).

A. Harris shows some PNA fiscals. *[Editor’s note: The most glaring errors and omissions will be remedied by A. Kaplanian in the next issue]* (14–16).

In a new series, J. Wallach shows items from the Jordanian occupation of the Westbank, mainly Bethlehem, including a 1967 parcel card to Beit Jala (54–56).

From the Alexander Collection a 1914 post card from the Jewish colony Hadera, sent via Austrian Post to Jaffa is shown, it features part of a small pink label inscribed (in Hebrew) “Yod Hadera Colony Yod” (35).

Y. Leheavy dwells on the persons illustrated on the Israeli stamp commemorating the air war during WWI and its FDC. *[Editor’s note: Leheavy’s claims about the identity of the persons depicted have been refuted by Israel Philatelic Service, see p. 5, so one wonders why this article was printed at all]* (36–37).

S. Uria shows a 1949 cover from New York to Tel Aviv, taxed 245 Mils (45).

E. Kroft looks the 1948 postal rate for Inland Newspapers in Palestine and then Israel. *[Kroft copies extensively the regulations and references the notices in the Official Gazette, but without mentioning my articles in MEPB, as basic courtesy would have required. Thankfully, I do not bear a grudge for such carelessness, whether intended or not]* (50–52).

The Israel Philatelist – Spring 2018 – 69. 2018, No. 2

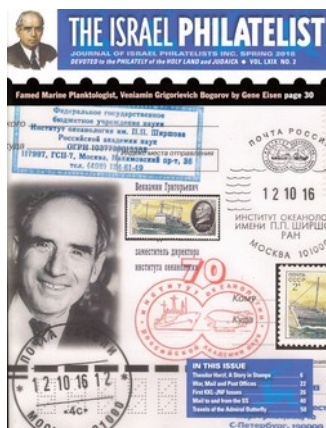
Society of Israel Philatelists, Inc., English, ca. A4 (letter), colour, US-\$ 4-95

In *Letters to the Editor*, the editor refers to N. Zankel’s piece on the Haifa-Baghdad Overland Mail in TIP of Spring 2017, referencing rates information from Rainer Fuchs’ website, failing to solve the conundrum of a 1923 letter franked 79 Mils (4); R. Fuchs enquires about the end of the Haifa-Baghdad Overland Mail after WWII (5).

D. S. Bull traces the writer (Major The Rev. Stephen Rensselaer Trowbridge, then with the American Red Cross’ *Mission to Palestine*) and the recipient (Trowbridge’s father-in-law Byron Horton) of a 1918 cover from Jerusalem to New York (10–11).

The third part of F. Adams’ 12-page thematic exhibit with a special history viewpoint “The United Nations and Palestine 1947–1951.” This part focusses on the Truce Commission and Count Bernadotte¹¹ (12–13).

J. Wallach shows more covers from the Jordanian occupation of the Westbank, focussing on postal agencies: Mazari’ en-Nubai, Jiljilyya, Deir Dibwan, Beituniya, and Nur Shams (16–18).



11 Count Folke Bernadotte, the United Nations Security Council mediator, was assassinated by the Zionist terrorist group Lehi on 17.09.1948; a fact not mentioned in the article.

- N. Zankel deciphers the story of a 1917 cover, registered with return receipt (A.R.), from Baltimore to Jerusalem. The cover was apparently interrupted by Ottoman Post in Beyrouth and only forwarded to Jerusalem in 1922 (22).
- A. Kaplanian remedies the most glaring errors and omissions in A. Harris' piece on PNA fiscals in the previous issue (36–39).
- B. Gruzdz looks at FDCs of Israel's first airmail stamps (44–45).
- E. Kroft depicts a May 1948 interim post card, taxed 14 Mils (49).
- B. Belonje presents NIP's anniversary book with T. v. d. Laar's award-winning exhibit on the Palestine–Israel transition (50–51).
- A. Harris looks at more Israel Revenue stamps used in the occupied Westbank (56).
- S. Uria shows a 1949 cover from Massachusetts to Tel Aviv, compulsorily registered and taxed 50 Mils (45).



Israel-Philatelie 30 – December 2017

IG Israel, German, A4, colour, –

- U. Zahn presents his book “Ein wahrhaft irdisches Jerusalem : Mosaik aus Philatelie, Geschichte und Literatur,” a thematic study on all aspects of the holy city (10–11).
- H.-P. Förster looks at depictions of *chamsa* (خمسية, “Hand of Fatima”) amulets on stamps. (12).
- E. Klett translated an article by J.-P. Danon from Doar Ivri no. 30 on the change of denomination of Israeli stamps from *mils* to *prutot* (13).
- E. Klett translated a piece by C. D. Abravanel from Doar Ivri no. 39 pointing out that a maximum card for an Israeli stamp commemorating the air war during WWI shows the Australian Flying Corps, whereas the stamp itself shows a German pilot and his aeroplane (14).

Doar Ivri 40 – May/August 2017

Cercle Français Philatélique d'Israël, French, A4, colour, –



- The editor shows a photograph of the German post office in Jerusalem from the Library of Congress (3).
- Z. Aloni and Y. Tsachor report on recently discovered forgeries of Holy Land material: an 1869 letter Jaffa–Vienna with forged French “Jerusalem Cross” cancel, a forged cancel “JAFFA DEUTSCHE POST / 1 10 / 98”, a forged British APO SZ 44 “5 MR / 18” (first day of the *Blues*); 3m Doar Ivri perforated 10×10 on FDC; two Israeli Revenue stamps added to an FDC (6–8).
- D. Avzaradel continues his broad overview of the British military and later civilian administration over Palestine. Part 2 concentrates on stamps and postmarks from 1920 [Reprint of a 1998 article with additional illustrations, some borrowed from the Zobbel website](9–19).
- C. D. Abravanel studies machine cancellations of the Mandate era (20–21).
- M. Daniels continues his studies on the printing dates on Israel's landscape definitives (22–26).
- A. Bachus shows postal use of Israel's 1952 Official Stamps series (26–27).
- Small pieces: J.-P. Danon on Doar Ivri overprinted “T” (28); J. Rémond on a 1944 electoral cover from US-American APO 682, at the time stationed in Palestine (28); C. D. Abravanel on Jordan stamp set for the 100th anniversary of the Great Arab Revolt (29); C. D. Abravanel on mixed franking of *O.M.F. Cilicie* (1p) and *E.E.F.* (2p) stamps on a 1922 A.R. cover Adana–Philadelphia (29).
- M. Bernier and B. Wright show and comment on a censored 1918 postcard from Jerusalem to Lydda Junction between two officers of the Italian Detachment. Franking: 2m+1m Typos = 3m (31).
- An 1853 letter Jaffa–Marseilles, taxed 10c, is shown ([32]).

Doar Ivri 41 – September/December 2017*Cercle Français Philatélique d'Israël, French, A4, colour, –*

The editor shows a detail from a Jerusalem city map, marked with the locations of post offices just before 1914 (3).

C. D. Abravanel shows a strip of an unissued Israel ATM stamp of 1994 (5).

D. Chafetz studies printed-matter covers directed to the Holy Land (10).

M. Hadida researched local post service in Morocco 1891–1911 (11–13).

C. D. Abravanel presents the story of the 1917 Allied campaign on the Sinai and into Palestine using covers and postcards (14–19).

S. Stern looks at the 1949 Israeli “The Road to Jerusalem” stamp and its FDC: essays, printing varieties, numerators, and marginal markings (20–23).

C. D. Abravanel studies machine cancellations of Israel (24–27).

Small pieces: M. Bernier shows a 1920 cover, Jerusalem to France with *Jerusalem I*, *Jerusalem II*, and *Narrow Setting* surcharges (28); a cover from Libya to Israel in 1952 is shown (29); A. Varan shows a block from Grenada on “First Stamps of UN Member States” (29).

An 1831 cover from Jerusalem to Madrid is shown ([32]).

Doar Ivri 42 – January/April 2018*Cercle Français Philatélique d'Israël, French, A4, colour, –*

The editor shows a detail from a photograph of the Jerusalem General Post Office, ca. 1928, taken from the Library of Congress’ *Matson Photo Collection* (3).

C. D. Abravanel shows a June 1927 postcard, Rehoboth–Port Said–Frankfurt, franked with 4m; and a 1950 QSL card, Jerusalem–Portland (USA) (5).

D. Blau surveys the R.A.F.’s emergency air service for E.E.F. and the later “Desert Air Route” connecting Baghdad, 1918–1927 (6–9).

B. Gruzd details Israel’s first air mail stamps, 1950 (10–14).

C. D. Abravanel continues his studies of machine cancellations of Israel (15–17).

Z. Simmons shows a 1919 registered cover of Italian troops in Palestine, the *Distaccamento Italiano di Palestina*, franked with a British 2d stamp, cancelled APO SZ 17 on 5.07.1919 (28).

C. D. Abravanel shows another maximum card for an Israeli stamp commemorating the air war during WWI, showing now the proper photo of a German pilot and his plane, as depicted on the stamp itself (29).

Z. Simmons shows a picture postcard of Jerusalem, sent from the French Detachment in Palestine, bearing the French military cancels Trésor et Postes 410 of 21.09.1915 and Trésor et Postes 601A of 23.09.1917, with the sender clearly giving his address as “Secteur 601” (29).

J.-P. Danon shows a 1950 registered 500p “Negev” FDC, Eilat 26.12.1950 (31).

A 1910 picture postcard Jerusalem–Hamburg is shown: the sender franked it with a German Levant 10c on 10 Pf stamp, but apparently gave it to the Ottoman Post, which taxed the card, as did the Hamburg post office ([32]).

Doar Ivri 43 – May/August 2018*Cercle Français Philatélique d'Israël, French, A4, colour, –*

The editor reprints the picture of the Austrian mail coach passing Sabil Abu Nabbut (Jaffa) in 1912 from p. 14 of MEPB 1, and adds as insert a picture of the fountain today (3).

C. D. Abravanel shows two 1932 post cards from New York to Rehovoth transported over the Atlantic by *Schleuderflugpost* (catapult post) via the German ship *Bremen* (5).

H. Rotterdam researched compulsory registration in Mandate Palestine (one example from 1944) and Israel, focusing on Israeli *Postage Due* stamps, rather than the topic of compulsory registration per se (6–11).

D. Blau looks at mail transportation during the Mandate era, focussing on air mail and disaster mail (12–15).

D. Avzaradel gives an overview on the history of Mandate Palestine’s Coils,

covering the basics about paper and colour varieties of the stamps from the *Pictorials* series used for the coils (22–25).

A 1913 post card from Haifa to Vienna is shown, sporting the rare octagonal postmark “CAÏFFA 3” (10.12.1913) ([32]).

Obituary for Brian Gruzd (1946–2018) (11).

Doar Ivri 44 – September/December 2018

Cercle Français Philatélique d’Israël, French, A4, colour, –



Z. Aloni presents excerpts from his 2014 book “Postgeschichte und Philatelie in Israel im Wandel der Zeit. = La poste et la philatélie en Israël au fil du temps” (6–17).

P. Steuer looks into the “Jerusalem Cross” (*croix potencie*) cancellations of the French Post in Jerusalem, 1858–1880 (18–21).

A cover from Jerusalem by French Post, 13.08.1852, is shown; likely the earliest known by French Post: Jaffa 14.08.1852, Beyrouth 16.08.1852, Smyrna, Marseilles 6.09.1852, Lyon 7.09.1852 ([32]).

Short report on the 2018 World Championship in Jerusalem (31).

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Editorial

by Tobias Zywietz (mep-bulletin@zobbel.de)
 Publisher & Editor, *The Middle East Philatelic Bulletin*

The Contents of this Issue

When *Folkert Bruining* suggested last November to reprint an article he published in 2007 in AL BARID, I couldn't foresee the amount of enjoyable time I and Folkert spent over several months to create **The Ottoman Post Office Bon Samaritain**. His original piece spanned 4 pages in A5 with two illustrations; it now covers 23 pages in A4 with 27 illustrations and 88 footnotes.

Peter Keeda came forward with a cover featuring **Austrian Levant stamps perfinned "O&M."** Some searching and help from specialists unearthed another cover and some insight into these rather rare perfins. However the "Observatoire et Musée Scientifique de Jerusalem" remained illusive.

Bernd-Dieter Buscke continues his series on early cancellations in Transjordan with **The Late Use of the Small Ottoman Date-Bridge Postmark of Kerek**.

Avo Kaplanian revised his and Jacques Kaufmann's research into the **Missing Upper Panes** of some high values of the **Palestine Mandate London II** issue.

Revenue specialist *Wolfgang Morscheck* (Bad Säckingen) responded to Avo Kaplanian's piece on Transjordan Revenues in MEPB 7 with some examples of **Embossed Egyptian Fiscals**. This starts a series by Morscheck on Arabian fiscals and documents.

Otto Graf researched the Turkish **Ay Yıldız** issue and presents his conclusions, bringing him sometimes at odds with authorities like Passer. Reprint from THE LEVANT.

Rainer Fuchs presents a remarkable multi-redirected cover from 1931: **London–Hit–Haifa–Jerusalem–Afula**. In a second piece Fuchs shows a 1940's **Wartime Economy** cover, augmented by background information on "economy usage" in Palestine.

From my own files I contribute a small article about Post Office robberies during the Arab Revolt in 1938, centring on two photographs from the aftermath of a **Raid on the Bethlehem Post Office**.

Avo Kaplanian revisits the **Nablus AM/PM Postmarks** by showing an incoming official circular of 1956 with such a cancel.

The late *Edmund Hall* was a pleasant and very generous fellow allowing me to freely use his articles published in the ESC QUARTERLY CIRCULAR. In this issue I can reprint a study about missing stamps values at the

time of rate changes: **Egypt Stamps and Rates: What, no Stamp?**

Hálfdan Helgason presents a typification of the **Reply Coupons of The Arab Postal Union**. Stationery, such as Reply Coupons, is an – by many philatelists – often neglected field, even more so these regional ones.

Following-up on the articles about **Gum-side Surcharges of Lebanon Stamps**, Johann Baumgartner can add further overprinted issues and presents his study of covers.

Avo Kaplanian responds to a notice by Bernd-Dieter Buscke after his article from MEPB 4 about Jordan post cards was reprinted in The Levant: Buscke pointed to modern "touristic" cards.

As promised I could now include several book reviews and notices: *Ton van de Laar's The Transition from Palestine to Israel*; *Franco Rigo's Venice and the Levant*, *Jan Heijs' "Postkrieg" Catalogue*, and *Ulf Zahn's Ein wahrhaft irdisches Jerusalem*.

With the help of several exhibitors, I review the **World Stamp Championship "ISRAEL 2018"** and, as usual, give an overview of other philatelic journals.

Archive and Adverts Section

The **Archive Section** remains suspended: I planned to include an index to the series so far (1919–1929), but the time spent on other projects just didn't allow it. This index will now appear in MEPB 10 with the regular series on Palestine Gazettes due to resume in 2019.

I have also kept the **Ads Section** suspended, but hope to resume this in MEPB 10. Readers are reminded that everyone registered with me is entitled to place free ads. Please come forward with your needs and wishes.

Future Articles

These are some of the topics and articles I am, together with authors, working on to include in future issues of MEPB:

- The French Military Mission in the Hejaz 1916–1920
- The "Er Ramle" postmark on Zeppelin Orient Flight covers of 1931
- The Oriental Travels of Julius Bolthausen: More Postcards and The Caiffa Bisects

- Early Postcards of Muscat
- Palestine: Jerusalem I Overprinting in August 1920
- The Printing Process of the Blues of Palestine
- PNA Issues: Gaza Freedom Fleet 2011
- Iraqi Railway Stamps Booklets
- 17th Century Mail by French Merchant Ships
- The RAF Postal Service in Sharjah
- The Postage Rates and Overland Mail charges of Iraq
- Court Fee stamps of the Palestine Mandate
- Book Review: Sultanate of Oman Postal System 1966–2016
- Book Review: Anglo-Egyptian & French Colonial Censorship in WWII
- Book Review: Birken series on Ottoman Stamps
- Book Review: Michel North Arabia and Iran 2017
- Archive: The Postal Service in Palestine in 1922
- The Revenue Stamps of Palestine 1994–2016
- Middle East Postal Wars
- Habbaniya Provisionals Revisited
- Zeppelin Orient Flight 1929: The Press Drops over Palestine
- Israel: A Rejected Letter to Gaza 2009
- Manuscript Re-Vatuations of Jordan IRCs
- The Jordan Revenue and “Aid” Overprint Stamps
- The Beyrouth-Baghdad-Téhéran-Automobile (Eastern Transport Company)
- The Late Use of Mandate Postmarks in the Westbank 1948-50
- Danish Mission in At-Tayieh
- Nabuls Single Circle Datestamp 1949

Contributions

I will consider any article of quality for potential inclusion: be it a large article with original research, a small piece looking at a particular aspect, a concise description of an interesting cover, or a long-forgotten piece of research rediscovered. It can be original writing, or material already published.

I will advise and help with anything that is offered. Translation into English can be arranged, and all steps and processes are closely coordinated with the author.

*If you think you can contribute to the journal,
please do not hesitate to contact me!*

Articles should be submitted as plain text (TXT), rich text (RTF), LibreOffice/OpenOffice (ODT), MS Word (DOC, DOCX) or Adobe Acrobat (PDF). Images can be JPEG/JPG- or PNG-files in 300dpi (or higher) resolution.

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should be cleared, or at least be flagged-up, so that I can deal with any such issues. If in doubt: just ask! I will strive to resolve any such occurring problems.

Acknowledgements

I'd like to thank again all contributors and all those aiding and encouraging me in the creation of this journal. The list would be too long to print here, so I mention just one non-philatelist, who, as native speaker, helped me with proofreading and gave advice on style of writing, namely *Colin Booth*.

My special thanks go the *Baha Obeidat* for translations in preparation of the inclusion of THE ARAB COLLECTOR in the Journal Reviews section.

Several organisations and persons gave me general permission to reprint articles from their journals and archives. One person I have especially to thank is Barry D. Hoffman, copyright owner of F. W. Pollack's *The Holy Land Philatelist*.

Many thanks to all!

Translator and Proof-Reader Needed!

I'm looking for help in editing this journal, namely volunteers willing to translate or check translations (German/English, Dutch/English, Arabic/English) or to proof-read material submitted.

Download Statistics

As of early August 2018, the number of downloads of the first eight issues of MEPB continue to rise steadily, the cumulative total is now at 16,951, averaging 130 downloads per month per issue. But, naturally, numbers are tailing off after the first few months an edition is published. The totals for each issue so far:

Issue 1 (December 2015):	4,617	142/month
Issue 2 (April 2016):	2,543	90/month
Issue 3 (August 2016):	2,377	99/month
Issue 4 (December 2016):	1,899	95/month
Issue 5 (April 2017):	2,014	126/month
Issue 6 (August 2017):	1,439	123/month
Issue 7 (December 2017):	1,204	150/month
Issue 8 (April 2018):	858	211/month

**Please come forward with your articles,
research notes, queries, and images!
MEPB needs interesting new material!**

Imprint

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Datenschutzerklärung zu Mailing-Liste

Mailing List Data Protection Policy

by Tobias Zywietz (mep-bulletin@zobbel.de)
 Publisher & Editor, *The Middle East Philatelic Bulletin*

Zusammenfassung

- Jeder Nutzer kann sich kostenlos registrieren lassen, um per E-Mail Informationen zum Erscheinen und Inhalt meiner elektronischen Zeitschrift *The Middle East Philatelic Bulletin* zu erhalten.
- Die gespeicherten Daten umfassen Name und E-Mail-Adresse des Nutzers.
- Die gespeicherten Daten werden zum Versand von Informationen zum Erscheinen und Inhalt meiner elektronischen Zeitschrift *The Middle East Philatelic Bulletin* genutzt sowie zur zweckdienlichen individuellen Kommunikation.
- Jeder registrierte Nutzer kann jederzeit die Änderung oder Löschung der Daten verlangen. Die Änderung oder Löschung erfolgt umgehend.

Summary

- Any user can register for free to receive information by e-mail about the publication and content of my electronic magazine *The Middle East Philatelic Bulletin*.
- The stored data include the name and e-mail address of the user.
- The stored data will be used to send information about the publication and content of my electronic journal *The Middle East Philatelic Bulletin* and for appropriate individual communication.
- Every registered user can request the modification or deletion of the data at any time. The modification or deletion takes place immediately.

Datenschutzerklärung

Datenschutz hat einen besonders hohen Stellenwert für mich. Eine Nutzung meiner Zeitschrift ist grundsätzlich ohne jede Angabe personenbezogener Daten möglich.

Die Verarbeitung personenbezogener Daten, beispielsweise des Namens, und der E-Mail-Adresse einer betroffenen Person, erfolgt stets im Einklang mit der Datenschutz-Grundverordnung und in Übereinstimmung mit den für mich geltenden landesspezifischen Datenschutzbestimmungen. Mittels dieser Datenschutzerklärung möchte ich die Öffentlichkeit über Art, Umfang und Zweck der von mir erhobenen, genutzten und verarbeiteten personenbezogenen Daten informieren. Ferner werden betroffene Personen mittels dieser Datenschutzerklärung über die ihnen zustehenden Rechte aufgeklärt.

Ich habe als für die Verarbeitung Verantwortlicher zahlreiche technische und organisatorische Maßnahmen umgesetzt, um einen möglichst lückenlosen Schutz der über diese Internetseite verarbeiteten personenbezogenen Daten sicherzustellen. Dennoch können internetbasierte Datenübertragungen, wie E-Mail, grundsätzlich Sicherheitslücken aufweisen, sodass ein absoluter Schutz nicht gewährleistet werden kann. Aus diesem Grund steht es jeder betroffenen Person frei, personenbezogene Daten auch auf alternativen Wegen an mich zu übermitteln.

I. Name und Anschrift des Verantwortlichen

Der Verantwortliche im Sinne der Datenschutz-Grundverordnung und anderer nationaler Datenschutzgesetze der Mitgliedsstaaten sowie sonstiger datenschutzrechtlicher Bestimmungen ist

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II. Allgemeines zur Datenverarbeitung

1. Umfang der Verarbeitung personenbezogener Daten

Ich verarbeite personenbezogene Daten von Nutzern grundsätzlich nur, soweit diese zur Bereitstellung von Information über eine Mailing-Liste erforderlich ist. Die weitergehende Verarbeitung personenbezogener Daten erfolgt nur nach Einwilligung des Nutzers.

2. Rechtsgrundlage für die Verarbeitung personenbezogener Daten

Soweit ich für Verarbeitungsvorgänge personenbezogener Daten eine Einwilligung der betroffenen Person einhole, dient Art. 6 Abs. 1 lit. a EU-Datenschutzgrundverordnung (DSGVO) als Rechtsgrundlage für die Verarbeitung personenbezogener Daten.

Bei der Verarbeitung von personenbezogenen Daten, die zur Erfüllung eines Vertrages, dessen Vertragspartei die betroffene Person ist, erforderlich ist, dient Art. 6 Abs. 1 lit. b DSGVO als Rechtsgrundlage. Dies gilt auch für Verarbeitungsvorgänge, die zur Durchführung vorvertraglicher Maßnahmen erforderlich sind.

Soweit eine Verarbeitung personenbezogener Daten zur Erfüllung einer rechtlichen Verpflichtung erforderlich ist, die mir unterliegt, dient Art. 6 Abs. 1 lit. c DSGVO als Rechtsgrundlage.

Für den Fall, dass lebenswichtige Interessen der betroffenen Person oder einer anderen natürlichen Person eine Verarbeitung personenbezogener Daten erforderlich machen, dient Art. 6 Abs. 1 lit. d DSGVO als Rechtsgrundlage.

Ist die Verarbeitung zur Wahrung eines berechtigten Interesses von mir oder eines Dritten erforderlich und überwiegen die Interessen, Grundrechte und Grundfreiheiten des Betroffenen das erstgenannte Interesse nicht, so dient Art. 6 Abs. 1 lit. f DSGVO als Rechtsgrundlage für die Verarbeitung.

3. Datenlöschung und Speicherdauer

Die personenbezogenen Daten der betroffenen Person werden gelöscht oder gesperrt, sobald der Zweck der Speicherung entfällt. Eine Speicherung kann darüber hinaus dann erfolgen, wenn dies durch den europäischen oder nationalen Gesetzgeber in unionsrechtlichen Verordnungen, Gesetzen oder sonstigen Vorschriften, denen der Verantwortliche unterliegt, vorgesehen wurde. Eine Sperrung oder Löschung der Daten erfolgt auch dann, wenn eine durch die genannten Normen vorgeschriebene Speicherfrist abläuft, es sei denn, dass eine Erforderlichkeit zur

weiteren Speicherung der Daten für einen Vertragsabschluss oder eine Vertragserfüllung besteht.

III. Mailing-Liste

Es steht jedem Nutzer frei, sich freiwillig und kostenlos per E-Mail in meine Mailing-Liste einzutragen. Dadurch entstehen keinerlei Verpflichtungen für den Nutzer.

1. Beschreibung und Umfang der Datenverarbeitung

Folgende Daten werden hierbei erhoben:

1. Name und Vorname des Nutzers
2. E-Mail-Adresse des Nutzers

2. Rechtsgrundlage für die Datenverarbeitung

Rechtsgrundlage für die vorübergehende Speicherung der Daten ist Art. 6 Abs. 1 DSGVO.

3. Zweck der Datenverarbeitung

Die Mailing-Liste dient dem Zweck, dem Nutzer Informationen zu Inhalten und Erscheinen der Zeitschrift zu übermitteln.

4. Dauer der Speicherung

Der Nutzer kann jederzeit die Mailing-Liste verlassen. Die Daten werden umgehend gelöscht.

5. Widerspruchs- und Beseitigungsmöglichkeit

Die Erfassung der Daten zur Bereitstellung der Mailing-Liste ist für den Betrieb der Mailing-Liste zwingend erforderlich. Es besteht folglich seitens des Nutzers keine Widerspruchsmöglichkeit.

Der Nutzer kann aber jederzeit der Speicherung widersprechen und damit die Mailing-Liste verlassen.

IV. E-Mail-Kontakt

1. Beschreibung und Umfang der Datenverarbeitung

Auf meiner Webseite ist eine Kontaktaufnahme über die bereitgestellte E-Mail-Adresse möglich. In diesem Fall werden die mit der E-Mail übermittelten personenbezogenen Daten des Nutzers gespeichert. Es erfolgt in diesem Zusammenhang keine Weitergabe der Daten an Dritte. Die Daten werden ausschließlich für die Verarbeitung der Konversation verwendet.

V. Rechte der betroffenen Person

Werden personenbezogene Daten von Ihnen verarbeitet, sind Sie Betroffener i.S.d. DSGVO und es stehen Ihnen folgende Rechte gegenüber dem Verantwortlichen zu:

1. Auskunftsrecht

Sie können von dem Verantwortlichen eine Bestätigung darüber verlangen, ob personenbezogene Daten, die Sie betreffen, von mir verarbeitet werden. Liegt eine solche Verarbeitung vor, können Sie von dem Verantwortlichen über folgende Informationen Auskunft verlangen:

- (1) die Zwecke, zu denen die personenbezogenen Daten verarbeitet werden;
- (2) die Kategorien von personenbezogenen Daten, welche verarbeitet werden;
- (3) die Empfänger bzw. die Kategorien von Empfängern, gegenüber denen die Sie betreffenden personenbezogenen Daten offengelegt wurden oder noch offengelegt werden;
- (4) die geplante Dauer der Speicherung der Sie betreffenden personenbezogenen Daten oder, falls konkrete Angaben hierzu nicht möglich sind, Kriterien für die Festlegung der Speicherdauer;
- (5) das Bestehen eines Rechts auf Berichtigung oder Löschung der Sie betreffenden personenbezogenen Daten, eines Rechts auf Einschränkung der Verarbeitung durch den Verantwortlichen oder eines Widerspruchsrechts gegen diese Verarbeitung;
- (6) das Bestehen eines Beschwerderechts bei einer

Aufsichtsbehörde;

(7) alle verfügbaren Informationen über die Herkunft der Daten, wenn die personenbezogenen Daten nicht bei der betroffenen Person erhoben werden;

(8) das Bestehen einer automatisierten Entscheidungsfindung einschließlich Profiling gemäß Art. 22 Abs. 1 und 4 DSGVO und – zumindest in diesen Fällen – aussagekräftige Informationen über die involvierte Logik sowie die Tragweite und die angestrebten Auswirkungen einer derartigen Verarbeitung für die betroffene Person.

Ihnen steht das Recht zu, Auskunft darüber zu verlangen, ob die Sie betreffenden personenbezogenen Daten in ein Drittland oder an eine internationale Organisation übermittelt werden. In diesem Zusammenhang können Sie verlangen, über die geeigneten Garantien gem. Art. 46 DSGVO im Zusammenhang mit der Übermittlung unterrichtet zu werden.

Dieses Auskunftsrecht kann insoweit beschränkt werden, als es voraussichtlich die Verwirklichung der Forschungs- oder Statistikzwecke unmöglich macht oder ernsthaft beeinträchtigt und die Beschränkung für die Erfüllung der Forschungs- oder Statistikzwecke notwendig ist.

2. Recht auf Berichtigung

Sie haben ein Recht auf Berichtigung und/oder Vervollständigung gegenüber dem Verantwortlichen, sofern die verarbeiteten personenbezogenen Daten, die Sie betreffen, unrichtig oder unvollständig sind. Der Verantwortliche hat die Berichtigung unverzüglich vorzunehmen.

Ihr Recht auf Berichtigung kann insoweit beschränkt werden, als es voraussichtlich die Verwirklichung der Forschungs- oder Statistikzwecke unmöglich macht oder ernsthaft beeinträchtigt und die Beschränkung für die Erfüllung der Forschungs- oder Statistikzwecke notwendig ist.

3. Recht auf Einschränkung der Verarbeitung

Unter den folgenden Voraussetzungen können Sie die Einschränkung der Verarbeitung der Sie betreffenden personenbezogenen Daten verlangen:

- (1) wenn Sie die Richtigkeit der Sie betreffenden personenbezogenen für eine Dauer bestreiten, die es dem Verantwortlichen ermöglicht, die Richtigkeit der personenbezogenen Daten zu überprüfen;
- (2) die Verarbeitung unrechtmäßig ist und Sie die Löschung der personenbezogenen Daten ablehnen und stattdessen die Einschränkung der Nutzung der personenbezogenen Daten verlangen;
- (3) der Verantwortliche die personenbezogenen Daten für die Zwecke der Verarbeitung nicht länger benötigt, Sie diese jedoch zur Geltendmachung, Ausübung oder Verteidigung von Rechtsansprüchen benötigen, oder
- (4) wenn Sie Widerspruch gegen die Verarbeitung gemäß Art. 21 Abs. 1 DSGVO eingelegt haben und noch nicht feststeht, ob die berechtigten Gründe des Verantwortlichen gegenüber Ihren Gründen überwiegen. Wurde die Verarbeitung der Sie betreffenden personenbezogenen Daten eingeschränkt, dürfen diese Daten – von ihrer Speicherung abgesehen – nur mit Ihrer Einwilligung oder zur Geltendmachung, Ausübung oder Verteidigung von Rechtsansprüchen oder zum Schutz der Rechte einer anderen natürlichen oder juristischen Person oder aus Gründen eines wichtigen öffentlichen Interesses der Union oder eines Mitgliedstaats verarbeitet werden.

Wurde die Einschränkung der Verarbeitung nach den o.g. Voraussetzungen eingeschränkt, werden Sie von dem Verantwortlichen unterrichtet bevor die Einschränkung aufgehoben wird.

Ihr Recht auf Einschränkung der Verarbeitung kann insoweit beschränkt werden, als es voraussichtlich die Verwirklichung der Forschungs- oder Statistikzwecke unmöglich macht oder ernsthaft beeinträchtigt und die Beschränkung für die Erfüllung der Forschungs- oder Statistikzwecke notwendig ist.

4. Recht auf Löschung

a) Löschungspflicht

Sie können von dem Verantwortlichen verlangen, dass die Sie betreffenden personenbezogenen Daten unverzüglich gelöscht werden, und der Verantwortliche ist verpflichtet, diese Daten unverzüglich zu löschen, sofern einer der folgenden Gründe zutrifft:

- (1) Die Sie betreffenden personenbezogenen Daten sind für die Zwecke, für die sie erhoben oder auf sonstige Weise verarbeitet wurden, nicht mehr notwendig.
- (2) Sie widerrufen Ihre Einwilligung, auf die sich die Verarbeitung gem. Art. 6 Abs. 1 lit. a oder Art. 9 Abs. 2 lit. a DSGVO stützte, und es fehlt an einer anderweitigen Rechtsgrundlage für die Verarbeitung.
- (3) Sie legen gem. Art. 21 Abs. 1 DSGVO Widerspruch gegen die Verarbeitung ein und es liegen keine vorrangigen berechtigten Gründe für die Verarbeitung vor, oder Sie legen gem. Art. 21 Abs. 2 DSGVO Widerspruch gegen die Verarbeitung ein.
- (4) Die Sie betreffenden personenbezogenen Daten wurden unrechtmäßig verarbeitet.
- (5) Die Löschung der Sie betreffenden personenbezogenen Daten ist zur Erfüllung einer rechtlichen Verpflichtung nach dem Unionsrecht oder dem Recht der Mitgliedstaaten erforderlich, dem der Verantwortliche unterliegt.
- (6) Die Sie betreffenden personenbezogenen Daten wurden in Bezug auf angebotene Dienste der Informationsgesellschaft gemäß Art. 8 Abs. 1 DSGVO erhoben.

b) Information an Dritte

Hat der Verantwortliche die Sie betreffenden personenbezogenen Daten öffentlich gemacht und ist er gem. Art. 17 Abs. 1 DSGVO zu deren Löschung verpflichtet, so trifft er unter Berücksichtigung der verfügbaren Technologie und der Implementierungskosten angemessene Maßnahmen, auch technischer Art, um für die Datenverarbeitung Verantwortliche, die die personenbezogenen Daten verarbeiten, darüber zu informieren, dass Sie als betroffene Person von ihnen die Löschung aller Links zu diesen personenbezogenen Daten oder von Kopien oder Replikationen dieser personenbezogenen Daten verlangt haben.

c) Ausnahmen

Das Recht auf Löschung besteht nicht, soweit die Verarbeitung erforderlich ist

- (1) zur Ausübung des Rechts auf freie Meinungsäußerung und Information;
- (2) zur Erfüllung einer rechtlichen Verpflichtung, die die Verarbeitung nach dem Recht der Union oder der Mitgliedstaaten, dem der Verantwortliche unterliegt, erfordert, oder zur Wahrnehmung einer Aufgabe, die im öffentlichen Interesse liegt oder in Ausübung öffentlicher Gewalt erfolgt, die dem Verantwortlichen übertragen wurde;
- (3) aus Gründen des öffentlichen Interesses im Bereich der öffentlichen Gesundheit gemäß Art. 9 Abs. 2 lit. h und i sowie Art. 9 Abs. 3 DSGVO
- (4) für im öffentlichen Interesse liegende Archivzwecke, wissenschaftliche oder historische Forschungszwecke oder für statistische Zwecke gem. Art. 89 Abs. 1 DSGVO, soweit das unter Abschnitt a) genannte Recht voraussichtlich die Verwirklichung der Ziele dieser Verarbeitung unmöglich macht oder ernsthaft beeinträchtigt, oder
- (5) zur Geltendmachung, Ausübung oder Verteidigung von Rechtsansprüchen.

5. Recht auf Unterrichtung

Haben Sie das Recht auf Berichtigung, Löschung oder Einschränkung der Verarbeitung gegenüber dem Verantwortlichen geltend gemacht, ist dieser verpflichtet, allen Empfängern, denen die Sie betreffenden personenbezogenen Daten offengelegt wurden, diese Berichtigung oder Löschung der Daten oder Einschränkung der Verarbeitung mitzuteilen, es sei denn, dies erweist sich als unmöglich oder ist mit einem unverhältnismäßigen Aufwand verbunden. Ihnen steht gegenüber

dem Verantwortlichen das Recht zu, über diese Empfänger unterrichtet zu werden.

6. Recht auf Datenübertragbarkeit

Sie haben das Recht, die Sie betreffenden personenbezogenen Daten, die Sie dem Verantwortlichen bereitgestellt haben, in einem strukturierten, gängigen und maschinenlesbaren Format zu erhalten. Außerdem haben Sie das Recht diese Daten einem anderen Verantwortlichen ohne Behinderung durch den Verantwortlichen, dem die personenbezogenen Daten bereitgestellt wurden, zu übermitteln, sofern

- (1) die Verarbeitung auf einer Einwilligung gem. Art. 6 Abs. 1 lit. a DSGVO oder Art. 9 Abs. 2 lit. a DSGVO oder auf einem Vertrag gem. Art. 6 Abs. 1 lit. b DSGVO beruht und
- (2) die Verarbeitung mithilfe automatisierter Verfahren erfolgt.

In Ausübung dieses Rechts haben Sie ferner das Recht, zu erwirken, dass die Sie betreffenden personenbezogenen Daten direkt von einem Verantwortlichen einem anderen Verantwortlichen übermittelt werden, soweit dies technisch machbar ist. Freiheiten und Rechte anderer Personen dürfen hierdurch nicht beeinträchtigt werden.

Das Recht auf Datenübertragbarkeit gilt nicht für eine Verarbeitung personenbezogener Daten, die für die Wahrnehmung einer Aufgabe erforderlich ist, die im öffentlichen Interesse liegt oder in Ausübung öffentlicher Gewalt erfolgt, die dem Verantwortlichen übertragen wurde.

7. Widerspruchsrecht

Sie haben das Recht, aus Gründen, die sich aus ihrer besonderen Situation ergeben, jederzeit gegen die Verarbeitung der Sie betreffenden personenbezogenen Daten, die aufgrund von Art. 6 Abs. 1 lit. e oder f DSGVO erfolgt, Widerspruch einzulegen; dies gilt auch für ein auf diese Bestimmungen gestütztes Profiling.

Der Verantwortliche verarbeitet die Sie betreffenden personenbezogenen Daten nicht mehr, es sei denn, er kann zwingende schutzwürdige Gründe für die Verarbeitung nachweisen, die Ihre Interessen, Rechte und Freiheiten überwiegen, oder die Verarbeitung dient der Geltendmachung, Ausübung oder Verteidigung von Rechtsansprüchen.

Werden die Sie betreffenden personenbezogenen Daten verarbeitet, um Direktwerbung zu betreiben, haben Sie das Recht, jederzeit Widerspruch gegen die Verarbeitung der Sie betreffenden personenbezogenen Daten zum Zwecke derartiger Werbung einzulegen; dies gilt auch für das Profiling, soweit es mit solcher Direktwerbung in Verbindung steht.

Widersprechen Sie der Verarbeitung für Zwecke der Direktwerbung, so werden die Sie betreffenden personenbezogenen Daten nicht mehr für diese Zwecke verarbeitet.

Sie haben die Möglichkeit, im Zusammenhang mit der Nutzung von Diensten der Informationsgesellschaft – ungeachtet der Richtlinie 2002/58/EG – Ihr Widerspruchsrecht mittels automatisierter Verfahren auszuüben, bei denen technische Spezifikationen verwendet werden.

Bei Datenverarbeitung zu wissenschaftlichen, historischen oder statistischen Forschungszwecken:

Sie haben auch das Recht, aus Gründen, die sich aus Ihrer besonderen Situation ergeben, bei der Verarbeitung Sie betreffender personenbezogener Daten, die zu wissenschaftlichen oder historischen Forschungszwecken oder zu statistischen Zwecken gem. Art. 89 Abs. 1 DSGVO erfolgt, dieser zu widersprechen.

Ihr Widerspruchsrecht kann insoweit beschränkt werden, als es voraussichtlich die Verwirklichung der Forschungs- oder Statistikzwecke unmöglich macht oder ernsthaft beeinträchtigt und die Beschränkung für die Erfüllung der Forschungs- oder Statistikzwecke notwendig ist.

8. Recht auf Widerruf der datenschutzrechtlichen Einwilligungserklärung

Sie haben das Recht, Ihre datenschutzrechtliche Einwilligungserklärung jederzeit zu widerrufen. Durch den Widerruf der Einwilligung wird die Rechtmäßigkeit der aufgrund der Einwilligung bis zum Widerruf erfolgten Verarbeitung nicht berührt.

9. Recht auf Beschwerde bei einer Aufsichtsbehörde

Unbeschadet eines anderweitigen verwaltungsrechtlichen oder gerichtlichen Rechtsbehelfs steht Ihnen das Recht auf Beschwerde bei einer Aufsichtsbehörde, insbesondere in dem Mitgliedstaat ihres Aufenthaltsorts, ihres Arbeitsplatzes oder des Orts des mutmaßlichen Verstoßes, zu, wenn Sie der Ansicht sind, dass die Verarbeitung der Sie betreffenden personenbezogenen Daten gegen die DSGVO verstößt.

Die Aufsichtsbehörde, bei der die Beschwerde eingereicht wurde, unterrichtet den Beschwerdeführer über den Stand und die Ergebnisse der Beschwerde einschließlich der Möglichkeit eines gerichtlichen Rechtsbehelfs nach Art. 78 DSGVO.

Data Protection Policy

This is a non-binding translation into English. The only legally binding text is the German "Datenschutzerklärung" above.

All references are to the German text of the General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR, German: Datenschutz-Grundverordnung, DSGVO).

Data protection is of particular importance to me. Use of my electronic journal pages is possible without any indication of personal data.

The processing of personal data, such as the name and e-mail address of a person, is always carried out in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and in accordance with the country-specific data protection regulations applicable to me. By means of this data protection declaration I would like to inform the public about the type, scope and purpose of the personal data collected, used and processed by me. Furthermore, data subjects will be informed of their rights by means of this data protection declaration.

As data controller, I have implemented numerous technical and organisational measures to ensure the utmost protection of the personal data processed via this website. Nevertheless, Internet-based data transmissions, like e-mail, may in principle contain security risks, so that absolute protection cannot be guaranteed. For this reason, every person concerned is free to transmit personal data to me also in alternative ways.

I. Name and address of the person responsible

The person responsible in the sense of the General Data Protection Regulation and other national data protection laws of EU member states as well as other data protection regulations is:

Tobias Zywiets
Hauptstr. 10
75245 Neulingen
Germany
Phone: 07237-44 39 03
E-mail: mep-bulletin@zobbel.de
Website: www.zobbel.de

II. General information about data processing

1. Scope of processing of personal data

In general, I only process personal data of users if this is necessary to provide information by way of a mailing-list. The further processing of personal data only takes place with the user's consent.

2. Legal basis for the processing of personal data

Insofar as I obtain the consent of the data subject for the processing of personal data, Art. 6 para. 1 lit. a EU General Data Protection Regulation serves as the legal basis for the processing of personal data.

In the processing of personal data required for the performance of a contract to which the data subject is a party, Art. 6 para. 1 lit. b DSGVO serves as the legal basis. This also applies to processing operations that are necessary to carry out pre-contractual measures.

As far as the processing of personal data is necessary for the fulfilment of a legal obligation, which is subject to me, Art. 6 Abs. 1 lit. c DSGVO serves as legal basis.

In the event that the vital interests of the data subject or another natural person require the processing of personal data, Article 6(1)(d) DSGVO serves as the legal basis.

If processing is necessary to safeguard a legitimate interest of mine or of a third party and if the interests, fundamental rights and freedoms of the data subject do not outweigh the former interest, Art. 6 para. 1 lit. f DSGVO serves as the legal basis for processing.

3. Deletion of data and storage time

The personal data of the person concerned will be deleted or blocked as soon as the purpose of storage ceases to apply. Furthermore, data may be stored if this has been provided for by the European or national legislators' regulations, laws or other provisions to which the person responsible is subject. The data will also be blocked or deleted if a storage period prescribed by the aforementioned standards expires, unless there is a need for further storage of the data for the conclusion or fulfilment of a contract.

III. Mailing-List

Every user is free to subscribe for free to my mailing list via e-mail. This does not create any obligations for the user.

1. Description and scope of data processing

The following data is collected:

1. surname and first name of the user
2. e-mail address of the user

2. Legal basis for data processing

The legal basis for the temporary storage of data is Art. 6 para. 1 DSGVO.

3. Purpose of data processing

The purpose of the mailing list is to provide the user with information about the contents and appearance of the journal.

4. Storage duration

The user can leave the mailing list at any time. The data will be deleted immediately.

5. Possibility of objection and elimination

The collection of data for the provision of the mailing list is absolutely necessary for the operation of the mailing list. Consequently, there is no possibility of objection on the part of the user. The user can, however, object to the storage at any time and thus leave the mailing list.

IV. E-Mail contact

1. Description and scope of data processing

You can contact me via the e-mail address provided on my website. In this case, the user's personal data transmitted by e-mail will be stored. In this context, the data will not be passed on to third parties. The data is used exclusively for processing the conversation.

V. Rights of the person concerned

If your personal data is processed, you are affected within the meaning of the DSGVO and you have the following rights vis-à-vis the person responsible:

1. The right to information

You can ask the person in charge to confirm whether personal data concerning you will be processed by me. If such processing is available, you can request the following information from the person responsible:

- (1) the purposes for which the personal data are processed;
- (2) the categories of personal data processed;
- (3) the recipients or categories of recipients to whom the personal data concerning you have been or are still being disclosed;
- (4) the planned duration of the storage of the personal data concerning you or, if specific information on this is not possible, criteria for determining the storage period;
- (5) the existence of a right to rectification or deletion of personal data concerning you, a right to limitation of processing by the controller or a right to object to such processing;
- (6) the existence of a right of appeal to a supervisory authority;
- (7) any available information on the origin of the data if the personal data are not collected from the data subject;
- (8) the existence of automated decision-making including profiling in accordance with Art. 22 para. 1 and 4 DSGVO and – at least in these cases – meaningful information on the logic involved and the scope and intended effects of such processing for the data subject.

You have the right to request information as to whether the personal data concerning you is transferred to a third country or to an international organisation. In this context, you may request to be informed of the appropriate guarantees pursuant to Art. 46 DSGVO in connection with the transmission. This right to information may be limited to the extent that it is likely to make it impossible or seriously impair the realisation of research or statistical purposes and the limitation is necessary for the fulfilment of research or statistical purposes.

2. The right of correction

You have a right of rectification and/or completion vis-à-vis the data controller if the personal data processed concerning you are incorrect or incomplete. The person responsible shall make the correction without delay.

Your right to correction may be limited to the extent that it is likely to render impossible or seriously prejudicial the achievement of the research or statistical purposes and the limitation is necessary for the fulfilment of the research or statistical purposes.

3. Right to limitation of processing

Under the following conditions, you may request that the processing of personal data concerning you be restricted:

- (1) if you dispute the accuracy of the personal data concerning you for a period that enables the data controller to verify the accuracy of the personal data;
- (2) the processing is unlawful and you refuse to delete the personal data and instead request the restriction of the use of the personal data;
- (3) the data controller no longer needs the personal data for the purposes of the processing, but you do need them to assert, exercise or defend legal claims, or (4) if you have filed an objection to the processing pursuant to Art. 21 para. 1 DSGVO and it has not yet been determined whether the legitimate reasons of the person responsible outweigh your reasons. If the processing of personal data concerning you has been restricted, such data may only be processed - apart from being stored - with your consent or for the purpose of asserting, exercising or defending rights or protecting the rights of another natural or legal person or on grounds of an important public interest of the Union or a Member State.

If the processing restriction has been limited according to the

above conditions, you will be informed by the person responsible before the restriction is lifted.

Your right to limitation of processing may be limited to the extent that it is likely to render impossible or seriously prejudicial the achievement of research or statistical purposes and the restriction is necessary for the fulfilment of research or statistical purposes.

4. The right of deletion

a) Duty of deletion

You may request the data controller to delete the personal data relating to you immediately, and the data controller is obliged to delete this data immediately, if one of the following reasons applies:

- (1) The personal data concerning you are no longer necessary for the purposes for which they were collected or otherwise processed.
- (2) You revoke your consent, on which the processing was based pursuant to Art. 6 para. 1 lit. a or Art. 9 para. 2 lit. a DSGVO, and there is no other legal basis for the processing.
- (3) You file an objection against the processing pursuant to Art. 21 para. 1 DSGVO and there are no overriding legitimate reasons for the processing, or you file an objection against the processing pursuant to Art. 21 para. 2 DSGVO.
- (4) The personal data concerning you have been processed unlawfully.
- (5) The deletion of personal data relating to you is necessary to fulfil a legal obligation under Union law or the law of the Member States to which the data controller is subject.
- (6) The personal data concerning you were collected in relation to information society services offered pursuant to Art. 8 para. 1 DSGVO.

b) Information to third parties

If the data controller has made the personal data concerning you public and is obliged to delete it pursuant to Art. 17 para. 1 DSGVO, he shall take appropriate measures, including technical measures, taking into account the available technology and the implementation costs, to inform data processors who process the personal data that you as the data subject have requested the deletion of all links to this personal data or of copies or replications of this personal data.

c) Exceptions

The right to cancellation does not exist if the processing is necessary

- (1) to exercise freedom of expression and information;
- (2) to fulfil a legal obligation required for processing under the law of the Union or of the Member States to which the controller is subject, or to perform a task in the public interest or in the exercise of official authority conferred on the controller
- (3) for reasons of public interest in the field of public health pursuant to Art. 9 para. 2 lit. h and i and Art. 9 para. 3 DSGVO;
- (4) for archiving purposes in the public interest, scientific or historical research purposes or for statistical purposes pursuant to Art. 89 para. 1 DSGVO, insofar as the law referred to under a) is likely to make it impossible or seriously impair the attainment of the objectives of such processing, or
- (5) to assert, exercise or defend legal claims.

5. Right to information

If you have exercised your right to have the data controller correct, delete or limit the processing, he/she is obliged to inform all recipients to whom the personal data concerning you have been disclosed of this correction or deletion of the data or restriction on processing, unless this proves impossible or involves a disproportionate effort. Uhnen has the right vis-à-vis the person responsible to be informed about these recipients.

6. Right to data transferability

You have the right to receive the personal data concerning you that you have provided to the person responsible in a structured,

common and machine-readable format. In addition, you have the right to transmit this data to another person in charge without obstruction by the person in charge to whom the personal data was provided, provided

(1) processing is based on consent pursuant to Art. 6 para. 1 lit. a DSGVO or Art. 9 para. 2 lit. a DSGVO or on a contract pursuant to Art. 6 para. 1 lit. b DSGVO and

(2) processing is carried out by means of automated methods

In exercising this right, you also have the right to request that the personal data concerning you be transferred directly from one data controller to another data controller, insofar as this is technically feasible. The freedoms and rights of other persons must not be affected by this.

The right to transferability shall not apply to the processing of personal data necessary for the performance of a task in the public interest or in the exercise of official authority conferred on the controller.

7. Right of objection

You have the right to object at any time, for reasons arising from your particular situation, to the processing of personal data concerning you under Article 6(1)(e) or (f) of the DSGVO; this also applies to profiling based on these provisions.

The data controller no longer processes the personal data concerning you, unless he can prove compelling reasons worthy of protection for the processing, which outweigh your interests, rights and freedoms, or the processing serves to assert, exercise or defend legal claims.

If the personal data concerning you are processed for direct marketing purposes, you have the right to object at any time to the processing of the personal data concerning you for the purpose of such advertising; this also applies to profiling, insofar as it is associated with such direct marketing.

If you object to the processing for direct marketing purposes, the personal data concerning you will no longer be processed for these purposes.

You have the possibility to exercise your right of objection in connection with the use of Information Society services by means of automated procedures using technical specifications, notwithstanding Directive 2002/58/EC.

For data processing for scientific, historical or statistical research purposes:

You also have the right to object to the processing of personal data concerning you for scientific or historical research purposes or for statistical purposes pursuant to Art. 89 para. 1 DSGVO for reasons arising from your particular situation.

Your right of objection may be limited to the extent that it is likely to make it impossible or seriously impair the realisation of the research or statistical purposes and the limitation is necessary for the fulfilment of the research or statistical purposes.

8. Right to revoke the declaration of consent

You have the right to revoke your data protection declaration of consent at any time. The revocation of consent shall not affect the legality of the processing carried out on the basis of the consent until revocation.

9. Right of appeal to a supervisory authority

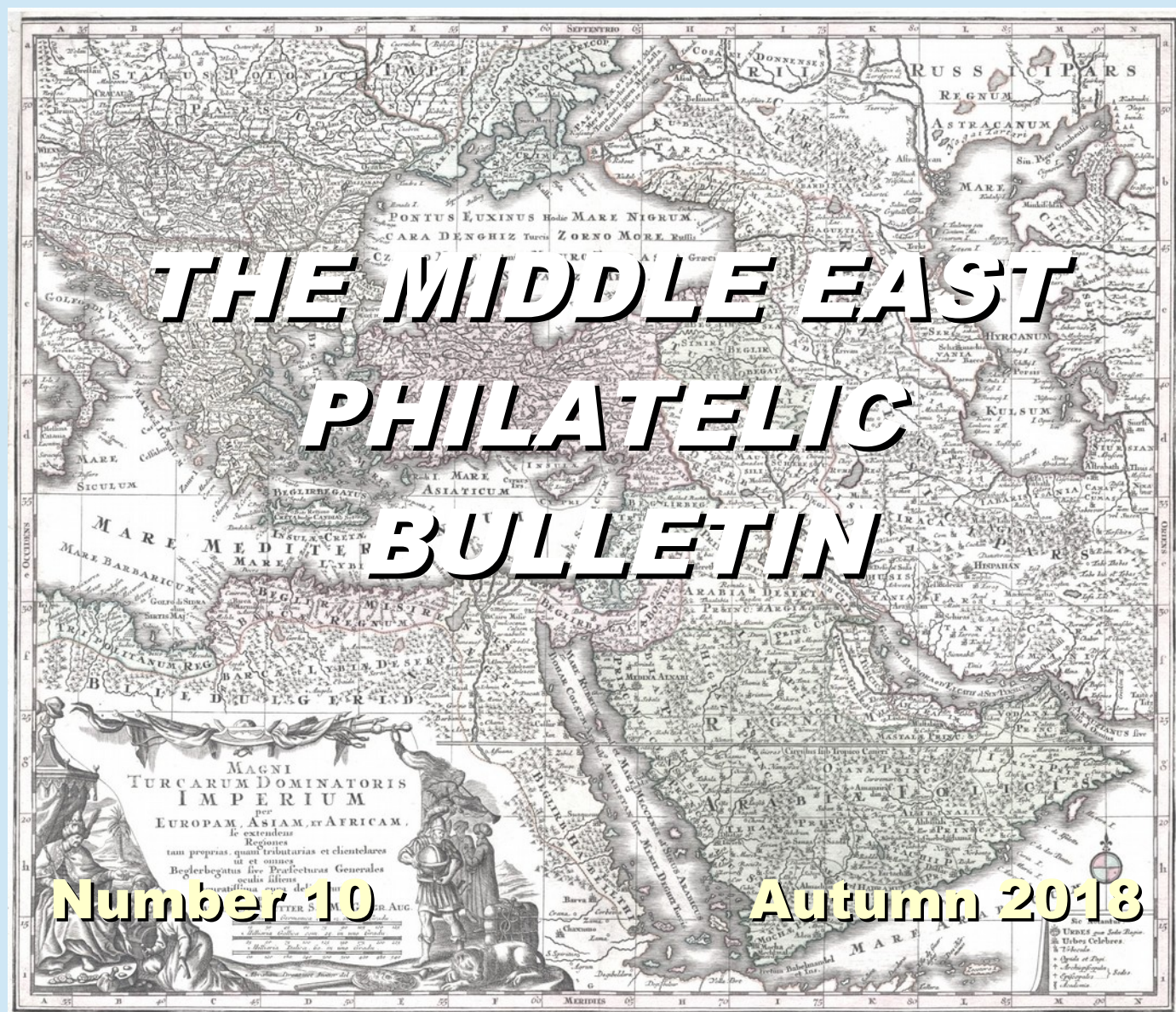
Without prejudice to any other administrative or judicial remedy, you have the right of appeal to a supervisory authority, in particular in the EU member state where you reside, work or suspect the infringement, if you believe that the processing of personal data concerning you is contrary to the DSGVO.

The supervisory authority to which the complaint has been submitted shall inform the complainant of the status and results of the complaint, including the possibility of a judicial remedy under Article 78 DSGVO.



**Please come forward with your articles,
research notes, queries, and images!
MEPB needs interesting new material!**





Some of the Articles in Preparation:

Palestine: Contemporaneous Records of the Jerusalem I Overprinting

The French Military Mission in Hejaz

Zeppelin Orient Flight 1929: The Press Drops over Palestine

Danish Mission in At-Tayieh

Overland Mail: Route Instruction Label Types

The Jordan Revenue and "Aid" Overprint Stamps

Manuscript Re-Valuations of Jordan IRCs

The Revenue Stamps of Palestine 1994–2016

Review: Anglo-Egyptian and French Censor Marks WWII (Sprenger/Specht)

Archive: The Postal Service in Palestine in 1922