

The İstanbul Provisionals

From Scotland to Sudan: Tale of a Stationery Wrapper

The Postal History of Heliopolis 1909–1952

Jordanian Postmarks of Ma‘ān

Iraq Railway Post Stamps: The Booklet of the Fifth Issue

The Imperial Reply Coupons of Palestine

The All-Arabic Jordanian West Bank Censor Markings

Registration Labels of the Aden Protectorate States

Book Review: The Werner Schindler Collection of Austrian Levant

Archive: The Postal Services in Palestine 1913

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The İstanbul Provisionals: An Update

by Willy Pijnenburg¹

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According to Passer (1938) the İstanbul provisional stamps were issued in 1887 and therefore have a long philatelic history. I begin with Passer in the (as it turned out) erroneous assumption that he summarised the then status of research about these stamps.

I don't know when the first illustrations were published in philatelic literature, at least the stamps are shown by Passer in his 1938 book.² Two types can be distinguished from the outset:

- surcharge with a number (value) only
- surcharge with a number (value) and a currency expression.

But as early as 1926 Higlett dedicated two pages to the İstanbul provisional stamps in his essay,³ which was obviously overlooked by Passer and his successors. Unfortunately Higlett does not show any illustrations.



Fig. 1: Illustrations in the ISFILA catalogue (Y155–Y162).

The Status of the Stamps

The İstanbul provisional stamps have been viewed with suspicion from the beginning. It's all supposed to be scam, bogus, in German "Mache." Higlett, who is said to have known the instigators of the alleged fraud personally, says:⁴

It is to be regretted that these stamps ever required catalogue rank.

1 Translated by Tobias Zywiets.

2 Cf. p. 89 and fig. 15.

3 Higlett, 1929, chapter "Dec. 1886 Unauthorised bisected stamps" on pp. 6–7; part of his essay "The bisected stamps" (pp. 4–7).

4 Cf. Higlett, 1929.

Adolf Passer says:⁵

In concluding the record of this period, mention may be made of some unquestionably forged provisionals produced during the years 1887 to 1892 for the purpose of exploiting inexperienced collectors. These illustrated later as F.1 to F.9, were surcharges placed on diagonally, vertically, or horizontally bisected stamps.

For the İstanbul provisional stamps I only know of diagonally bisected stamps.

Passer's illustrations are very difficult to interpret, because they are only printed in black and white. With some illustrations it is not possible to see whether they were cut and then reassembled, or whether they are to be regarded as one whole stamp.⁶ There are illustrations with diagonal and horizontal surcharge, which I have not seen in the relevant literature or in my collection. Furthermore, I am not aware of any stamps which received both a horizontal and a diagonal overprint.

Pulhan states the following about İstanbul Provisionals:⁷

Stamps 91–97 were fabricated for profit and have therefore not been given a full catalogue number.

Garmiryán says somewhat more leniently:⁸

As one knows, these issues are unofficial. But since they are very attractive, they are very popular with some philatelists. [...] Not very often there are also stamps that are not halved.

The İSFİLA catalogue does not say anything special about these stamps. Birken concludes his discussion as follows:⁹

The İstanbul [...] provisional stamps are no longer considered fakes.

Period of Usage

It is generally believed that the provisional stamps were issued in the years 1887/1888. However, Higlett distinguishes two phases: firstly, the bisecting permitted by the Post Office due to a lack of 10 para stamps and 20 para stamps with blue or black overprint, and secondly, all other unauthorised surcharges from December 1886 onwards. However, he does not mention an end date. Only Passer gives 1892 as the end date, but this date probably refers to the Baghdad provisionals.

Garmiryán states the following:¹⁰

On the 1884-86 and the 1886 issues, the 20 p., 1 k., 2 k., and 5 k. a surcharge of (10) and (20) paras and 1 or 2 (piastre) overprint was applied and the stamps are bisected diagonally.

This does not necessarily mean that the overprint is dated to 1884, only that the stamps themselves date from that year. However, there is not a single copy with a surcharge from 1884. Moreover, this is not true of the description he adds to his illustrations: there it says "1887-1888".

Garmiryán continues:¹⁰

A very limited number of them were, with the help of the postal employees, even past [sic!] from the post.

5 Passer, 1938, p. 89.

6 Cf. Passer's figs. 4, 4a, and 5 on pl. 15.

7 Pulhan, 1973, p. 134: "(91–97) numaralı pulların hususi menfaatlar için yapıldığı anlaşıldığından tam numara ile gösterilmemişlerdir." (translated into German by Mehmet Başaran).

8 Garmiryán, 1991, p. 36.

9 Birken, 2016, p. 36: "Die İstanbul [...] Provisorien werden heute nicht mehr als Fälschungen angesehen."

10 Garmiryán, 1991, p. 36.

Perhaps *fig. 2* can illustrate this:

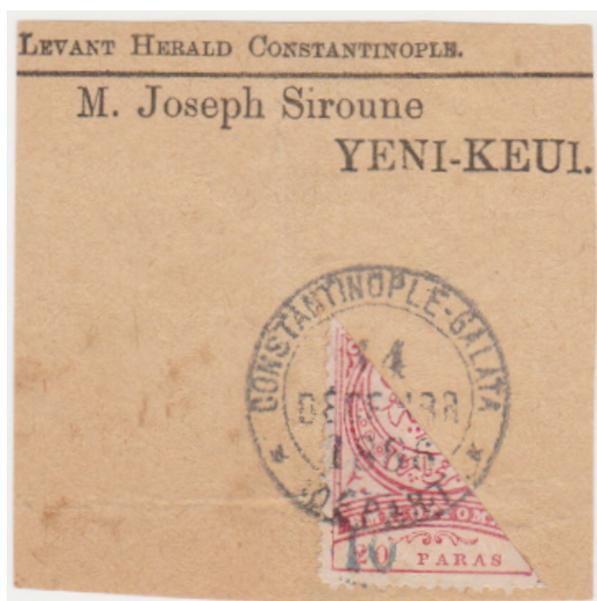


Fig. 2:

Cut-Out with the
earliest date I know of:
14.12.1886.

CONSTANTINOPLE-
GALATA / DEPART / 14
/ DECEMBR / 1886.

Birken refers to this note in the Michel catalogue pertaining to the 1884 issue: “*Bisecting occurs frequently for this issue*” – but this only means that there must also be bisected stamps which are not overprinted and therefore do not belong to the İstanbul provisional stamps.

My earliest date-stamp, however, is 14.12.1886 (Bayındır Galata 34, see *fig. 2*), as already indicated by Higlett, and my latest date is 18.11.1892 (again Bayındır Galata 34). From that year there is also Bayındır “İstanbul 111” and “Cons/ple 186”. Other postmarks that may give information about the period of usage are: “P.I.O. Dersaadet” 1890–1901 (Ağaoğulları 44), “Galata Départ” 1888–1900 (Ağaoğulları 23); there are also *retta* and *battal* postmarks. Perhaps Passer was right after all with the end date 1892.

It should also be noted that all provisional stamps stuck onto paper have a false postmark, the forger tried to imitate the Galata 34 postmark: the name of the month “DECEMBR” (as in the genuine postmark, i.e. without the final “E”) is shown in full, but that is still shorter in length than the original. The *imprimé* stamps have a date-stamp “8 NOVEMBRE 1891”.

Unlike İSFİLA catalogue where five different stamps are mentioned,¹¹ some of which still differ in surcharge, there are actually 11 stamps involved, namely:

1. 20 Para, carmine on pale rosé (İsf. 116, MiNr. 46A)
2. 1 Piastre, deep blue on pale blue (İsf. 117, MiNr. 47A)
3. 20 Para, carmine on pale rosé (İsf. 119, MiNr. 46B)
4. 1 Piastre, deep blue on pale blue (İsf. 120, MiNr. 47B)
5. 2 Piastres, brownish yellow on yellow (İsf. 121, MiNr. 48)
6. 2 Piastres, orange on pale blue (İsf. 126, MiNr. 52)
7. 5 Piastres, blue-green on pale blue-green (İsf. 127, MiNr. 53)
8. 20 Para, rosé on grey (İsf. 137, MiNr. 60A)
9. 20 Para, rosé on grey, perf. 11½ (İsf. 137 DE 07, MiNr. 60B)
10. 1 Piastre, grey-blue on grey (İsf. 138, MiNr. 61)
11. 20 Para, rosé on grey (*imprimé*) (İsf. 151, MiNr. 65)

The following table (*fig. 3*) gives an overview:

¹¹ Cf. İSFİLA, 2018, p. 113.

Higlett 1926	Passer 1938	Pulhan 1973	Garmiryar 1991	İSFİLA 2016	Pijnenburg 2019
Dec. 1886	1887–1892	1887–1888	1887–1888	1887–1888	1886–1892
116	116	116	116	116	116
117	117	117	-	117	117
-	119	-	-	-	119
-	-	-	-	-	120
121	121	121	121	121	121
126	126	126	-	126	126
127	127	127	127	127	127
-	-	-	-	-	137
-	-	-	137DE07	-	137DE07
-	-	-	-	-	138
-	-	-	-	-	151

Forms of Bisection

The stamps are bisected. In principle there are four variants: The stamp is cut from top left to bottom right, or from top right to bottom left. This creates four halves: top left (A), top right (B), bottom left (C) and bottom right (D). So you need two stamps to document the four different halves:

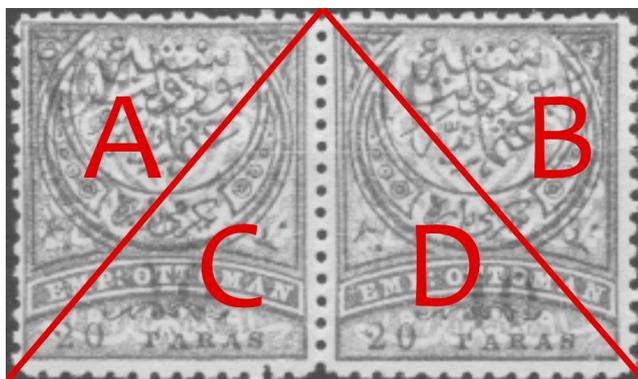


Fig. 4:

Schematic chart of the four variants of bisection.

What has not been mentioned so far is that bisecting was not only executed by cutting, but, although rarely, also by perforating. In my collection I found this only with İsf. 137. At items 1.2.1–1.2.3 examples get mentioned.

The surcharges also occur on un-bisected (whole) stamps.

Types

The types of the provisionals can be divided into three sections:

- stamps surcharged with number only, no indication of currency
- stamps surcharged with a number and a currency indication (sometimes not genuine)
- stamps with additional *kaçak* surcharge (all are likely not genuine)

A. Stamps with number only

1. 10 [Para] on 20 Para

- 1.1 Diagonally cut
 - 1.1.1 on İsf. 116; (blue-)black surcharge: BCD (*fig. 5*)
 - 1.1.2 on İsf. 116; blue surcharge: ABCD (*fig. 6*)
 - 1.1.3 on un-bisected İsf. 116; blue surcharge (*fig. 7*)
 - 1.1.4 on İsf. 137; blue surcharge: CD (*fig. 8*)
 - 1.1.5 on un-bisected İsf. 137; (blue-)black surcharge (*fig. 9*)
 - 1.1.6 on İsf. 119; blue surcharge: D (*fig. 10*)
 - 1.1.7 on İsf. 137DE07; blue surcharge: AC (*fig. 11*)
 - 1.1.8 on İsf. 151; blue surcharge: BC (*fig. 12*)¹²
 - 1.2 Diagonally perforated, perforation 13¼
 - 1.2.1 on İsf. 116; (blue-)black surcharge: A (*fig. 13*)
 - 1.2.2 on İsf. 116; blue surcharge: AD (*fig. 14*)
 - 1.2.3 on perforated but un-bisected İsf. 116; blue surcharge (*fig. 15*)¹³
- #### 2. 2 [Piastres] on 5 Piastres (İsf. 127); red surcharge
- 2.1 on İsf. 127; red surcharge: ABD (*fig. 16*)

B. Stamps with number and currency indication Para/Piastre(s)

1. 10 Para on 20 Para

- 1.1 With horizontal surcharge (black)
 - 1.1.1 on İsf. 116: ACD (*fig. 17*)
 - 1.1.2 on un-bisected İsf. 116 (*fig. 18*)
 - 1.1.3 on İsf. 119: AC (*fig. 19*)
 - 1.1.4 on İsf. 137: CD (*fig. 20*)
 - 1.1.5 on İsf. 137DE07: ACD (*fig. 21*)
- 1.2 With diagonal surcharge (black)
 - 1.2.1 on İsf. 116: B (*fig. 22*)
 - 1.2.2 on İsf. 137: AB (*fig. 23*)
 - 1.2.3 on İsf. 119: C (*fig. 24*)

2. 20 Para on 1 Piastre

- 2.1 With horizontal surcharge (black)
 - 2.1.1 on İsf. 117: ABCD (*fig. 25*)
 - 2.1.2 on un-bisected İsf. 117 (*fig. 26*)
 - 2.1.3 on İsf. 138 CD (*fig. 27*)
 - 2.1.4 on İsf. 120: ABCD (*fig. 28*)
- 2.2 With diagonal surcharge (black)
 - 2.2.1 on İsf. 117: A (*fig. 29*)
 - 2.2.2 on İsf. 138: AB (*fig. 30*)
 - 2.2.3 on İsf. 120: AB (*fig. 31*)

3. 1 Piastre on 2 Piastres (İsf. 117)

- 3.1 With horizontal surcharge (black)
 - 3.1.1 on İsf. 117: ACD (*fig. 32*)
 - 3.1.2 on un-bisected İsf. 117 (*fig. 33*)

12 This *imprimé* stamp has not been mentioned so far, but can be seen in Garmiryán, 1991, p. 36 (far left).

13 The two halves were not separated.

- 3.2. With diagonal surcharge
 - 3.2.1 on İsf. 117: AB (fig. 34)
- 4. **1 Piastre on 2 Piastres** (İsf. 121)
 - 4.1 With horizontal surcharge (black)
 - 4.1.1 on İsf. 121: BCD (fig. 35)
 - 4.1.2 on un-bisected İsf. 121 (fig. 36)
 - 4.2 With diagonal surcharge (black)
 - 4.2.1 on İsf. 121: AB (fig. 37)
- 5. **2 Piastres on 5 Piastres** (İsf. 127)
 - 5.1 With horizontal surcharge
 - 5.1.1 Black surcharge
 - 5.1.1.1 on İsf. 127: ABCD (fig. 38)
 - 5.1.1.2 on un-bisected İsf. 127 (fig. 39)
 - 5.1.2 Red surcharge
 - 5.1.2.1 on İsf. 127: C, red surcharge.
With additional *kaçak* surcharge also D (fig. 40)
 - 5.2 With diagonal surcharge
 - 5.2.1 on İsf. 127: black surcharge: A (fig. 41).
 - 5.2.2 on İsf. 127: red surcharge: AB only.
With additional *kaçak* surcharge (fig. 42)

Looking at all these types and variants, it can be assumed that, in general, all parts (A, B, C and D) of all stamps have been surcharged.



Fig. 5.



Fig. 6.



Fig. 7.



Fig. 8.



Fig. 9.



Fig. 10.



Fig. 11.



Fig. 12.



Fig. 13.



Fig. 14.



Fig. 16.



Fig. 17.



Fig. 18.



Fig. 19.



Fig. 20.



Fig. 21.



Fig. 22.



Fig. 23.



Fig. 24.



Fig. 25.



Fig. 26.



Fig. 27.



Fig. 28.



Fig. 29.

Fig. 30.

Fig. 31.



Fig. 32.



Fig. 33.

Fig. 34.



Fig. 35.

Fig. 36.



Fig. 37.



Fig. 38.



Fig. 39.



Fig. 40.



Fig. 41.



Fig. 42.



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C. Stamps with additional Kaçak surcharge

One further complication: there are quite a few bisected stamps, which have been afterwards surcharged with different *kaçak* cachets, namely Bayındır nos. 5, 6, and 7. Colours used are black, red, and blue. These are in all instances glued on paper but never carry any postmarks. A selection follows (fig. 43).



Fig. 43: Stamps with additional *kaçak* surcharge.



Reprints of Iran's 1906 "Service Intérieur" Surcharges

by Lee Coen

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I love it when the fake stamps are so easy to detect in online offers:

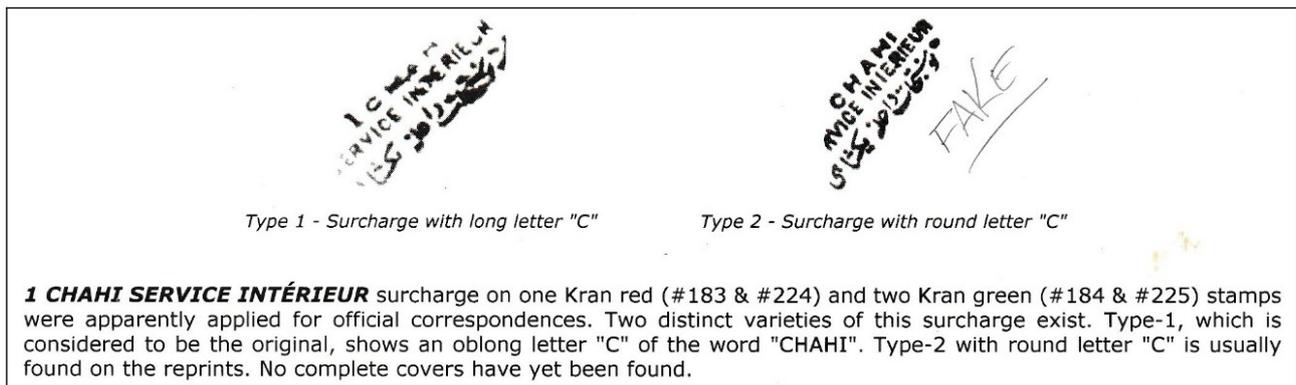


Fig. 1:

PersiPhila 371B,
black surcharge on
2 kr green.

Not listed in Scott.

Persiphila's Iran Classic Philatelic Reference clearly shows the two types of the surcharge (fig. 2):¹



You will notice I wrote the word "fake" next to the type two surcharge: I did this to save myself and all collectors money. If a stamp is a reprint, any stamp, the value goes down considerably for an investment view. I prefer to collect valid stamps and shy away from anything that is a reprint.

Well, there you go. A seller just showed anyone that reads this article: an oblong letter "C" is where your money is at. I want to thank the seller for making this write up very easy for me.

¹ See p. 100 in: Sadtri, Mehrdad: *Iran classic philatelic reference. Volume 1: Qajar dynasty*. Glendora, Ca.: Persiphila, c 2007. 214 p. ISBN: 9789643501587.

From Scotland to Sudan: A Tale of a Great Britain Post Office Postal Stationery Wrapper

by Dr. John K. Curtis (FRPSL)

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An analysis of more than 11,000 used post office postal stationery wrappers of Great Britain has revealed only one known recorded case of Sudan as a destination. Although there is no rarity scale for destinations, this surviving wrapper to Sudan must qualify as a rare destination.

The wrapper (*fig. 1*) was mailed from Port Erroll, a small fishing community in Scotland on the north coast of Cruden Bay 26 miles north of Aberdeen. A railway branch line was opened in 1897 and the Great North of Scotland Railway company promoted Cruden Bay as the Brighton of the North, being only 12 hours from London and boasting a tramway linking the station to the newly built Cruden Bay Hotel.



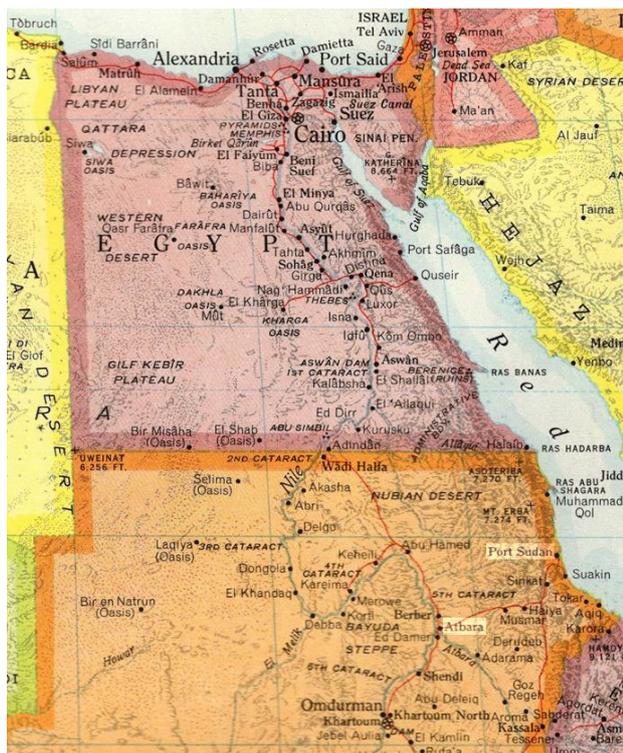
Fig. 1: GB ½ d newspaper wrapper, uprated with 1 d, sent from Port Erroll, 18.10.1911, to Atbara, Sudan.

This ½ d yellow green December 1904 issue of King Edward VII is uprated 1 d with a 1911 carmine KGV, perf. 15×14 and watermarked with the Imperial Crown (SG 329, Scott 152). The total postage paid of 1½ d is equal to the third weight scale of between 4–6 ounces.¹ The manner in which the wrapper had been folded, with the top part of the indicium covered with a fold, gives the impression that the wrapper enclosed more than one newspaper which is consistent with the third weight scale.

¹ Cf. Post Office Guide, 1911, p. 55: “The prepaid rate of postage on Printed Papers for all places abroad is ½ d. per 2 oz.”

The 27/17 mm double-circle postmark is “PORT ERROLL 4 PM OCT 18 11”² and identifier “712” between two thick 8 mm arcs, the numeral 712 assigned to Port Erroll. The wrapper is addressed to “Angus J. P. Scaife, Sûdan Government Railway, Atbara, Sûdan, Egypt.” The Post Office Guide for 1911 does not list Sudan as a separate destination country, but includes “Egyptian Soudan” under the details for Egypt.³ This probably explains why Egypt has been included in the address. The voyage by British Packet proceeded via Brindisi every Friday evening. According to the Post Office Guide, letters and boxes for the Sudan could not be insured.⁴

Atbara, Sudan



The wrapper is addressed to Atbara, Sudan. Atbara was a strategic location for military operations, being located at the confluence of the Nile River and its most northern tributary, the Atbara or Black River (see map, *fig. 2* to the left).

By the date of the wrapper in 1911, rail made Atbara more readily accessible to European travellers and officials. In 1905, a rail line had been laid from the Nile at Atbara to the old port of Suakin on the Red Sea; the line was extended to the new Egyptian-financed Port Sudan and opened in 1906.

This Port became a transit point for European officials going to and coming from the Sudan. Instead of travelling by train from Cairo to Aswan, then onwards to Khartoum by river steamer and rail, European officials and travellers could travel directly by sea from Europe via the Suez Canal, usually trans-shipping at Port Said, or more commonly by rail from Alexandria or

Cairo to the Canal. The route was then by steamer to Port Sudan and by rail to Khartoum via Atbara. Port Sudan became a port of call for the mail steamers for mail to Atbara and Khartoum.

Sudan Government Railways

The city of Atbara was inextricably tied to the Sudanese railway industry, being an important railway junction and railroad manufacturing centre. The rail system which had commenced in 1875 as an adjunct to military operations was ultimately abandoned in 1905 due to poor construction and neglect. The present Sudan railways was also a military undertaking built by the British which eventually continued to the capital Khartoum at the end of 1899.

The line opened a trade route for cotton, gum Arabic and other commodities from central Sudan through Egypt to the Mediterranean. This rail transport route finally became uneconomic because of the distance and trans-shipment via the Nile. It was soon replaced with a line from Atbara to the Red Sea and Port Sudan, thereby proving a link between Khartoum and ocean-going shipping.

² 18.10.1911 was a Wednesday.

³ Cf. Post Office Guide, 1911, pp. 726–729 (for letter post) and pp. 788–789 (for parcel post).

⁴ According to p. 727 letters and boxes to Sudan could not be insured, however parcels could (cf. p. 789): “The limit of insurance for parcels for the Sudan is £20. Insurance in the Sudan is confined to the following places— [...], Atbara, [...]. See p. 75. – Parcels for other places may be insured, but only as far as the above mentioned places.”

Most employment in Atbara was related to rail. It was known as the “Railway City” and was the Sudanese Railways Company’s headquarters and rail workshops. The tight discipline and control of the railway department permeated daily life with sirens that were blown several times to signal the beginning and end of the working day, meal times and breaks.

The Sudan Government Railways became a dominant factor in the colonial economy and a byword for European efficiency and foreign comfort. One of the oldest clubs was the elite Atbara Club limited to senior British railway employees and administrative staff. Was the recipient of the wrapper a member of this Club?



Fig. 3: Atbara Railway Station.⁵

Angus Scaife

The recipient of the wrapper was Mr. Angus James Percy Scaife. He was born 2nd July 1882 in Buckinghamshire, England. He appears in the UK census for 1891. Before taking up a new position with the Sudan Government Railways in Atbara, according to the Ancestry website,⁶ he worked in England as a “divisional goods manager” which is probably a euphemism for storeman. At about age 28, possibly sensing a career advancement, he left England for Sudan around 1910 to join the colonial forces that worked on the railway.

In 1912, he returned to England to marry Emily C. M. Adams in Plymouth, Devon. He returned to Sudan (presumably with his wife) in 1912 from London to Port Said, changed to a ferry through the Suez Canal and the Red Sea to Port Sudan. During the course of WWI, he returned to England and enlisted in the army. He attained the rank of major in the Royal Garrison Artillery, 187th Siege Battery and was awarded the Distinguished Service Order. He appears in the New Year’s Honours list of 1919. He died in Bromley, Devon, in 1976 at age 94.

Sender Details

The coastal fishing village of Port Erroll in Cruden parish, Aberdeenshire, located at the mouth of the Water of Cruden has a post office. This would have been part of the local grocer/general store on

⁵ Undated post card, published by F. Fiorillo, Alexandria & Assouan.

⁶ Cf. information on the Ancestry website: https://www.ancestry.com/search/?name=Angus+James+Percy_Scaife&birth=1882.

Harbour Street rather than a dedicated post office building. A more recent photo exists from the Conservation Report of Port Erroll that states “the sign present on the façade of the Post Office is of an attractive and sympathetic design.” As an aside, Erroll is the only name place in the UK ending in the letters “roll”. In 1881, 30 years before the wrapper was posted, the population was 493, by 1912 it had risen to 616.⁷



Figs. 4 and 4a: Geographic position of Port Erroll and Cruden Bay.⁸

The evolution of Port Erroll was due significantly to investments undertaken by the 18th and 19th Earls of Erroll.⁹ These included a £14,000 investment in 1875 in developing a harbour. Unfortunately, the tidal nature of the harbour limited the size of fishing vessels that could be used and this resulted in the village missing out on the herring fishing trade. Instead, the 180 fishermen and 68 boats using the facility prospered from white fish and shell fish.



Fig. 6: The picturesque village of Port Erroll.¹⁰

7 Cf. <http://www.porterroll.net/>.

8 Left: Map of modern Aberdeenshire, adapted from Wikimedia Commons.
Right: Ordnance Survey map, 1930.

9 William George Hay (1801–1846) and William Harry Hay (1823–1891). Cf. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Crudon_Bay.

10 Source: Gorman, 2005.

There were Scaife family names residing in Port Erroll in 1911 so it is tempting to infer that the only residents who would be interested in sending a wrapper and its contents to Angus in Atbara would be relatives. The use of a post office wrapper also implies that the contents were more than one local newspaper, the 1½ d paying to the third weight scale of 6 ounces.



Figs. 5 and 5a: Port Erroll Post Office (in the Kilmarnock Arms Hotel) (left)¹¹ and the current Post Office built in 1907 (right), from where the wrapper was posted in 1911.¹²

The Route

A major difficulty in determining the route of a wrapper to Sudan and elsewhere is that newspapers were second class mail sealed in closed bags. There are normally no identified ship or transit or arrival postmarks to assist with identification of the vessels involved and in-transit times and specific routes. Consequently, when the route of a wrapper is stated it is usually the most likely routing at that time based on information in the Post Office Guide for 1911 – but it cannot be proven from markings. One concern is that newspapers travelled at a low concessionary rate and using this argument the routing would be the cheapest to the Post Office. The alternative viewpoint is that mail was conveyed in the fastest possible manner.

With regard to this wrapper to Sudan, the journey started from the post office in Port Erroll on Wednesday 18th October 1911 and sent by mail cart to the nearest train station, namely Cruden Bay on the Boddam Branch Line. The ‘Up’ train of the Great North of Scotland Railway Company conveyed the wrapper south to Aberdeen.

One would expect the quantity of mail from north Scotland to Sudan to be immaterial and it was probably included in a separate pouch within the mails for Australia to be conveyed via the Suez Canal. The wrapper was transferred to the mail train to London’s Kings Cross via Edinburgh.

Depending upon the attitude of the Post Office regarding the processing of newspapers from a cost versus speed vantage, the cost argument would have seen the re-sorted mail being sent directly by rail to Southampton for a P&O Royal Mail Steamer sailing to Gibraltar, Malta, Naples, Port Said and Port Sudan. The alternative routing, and consistent with the Post Office Guide was rail to Dover for the channel crossing to Calais and then onboard the fast mail train to Brindisi which took in the vicinity of 36 hours.

11 Image taken from Port Erroll Heritage Group on Facebook: <https://d.facebook.com/1649423275297898/photos/pcb.1846251908948366/1846251135615110/>. Cf. also the website of Kilmarnock Arms Hotel <https://www.kilmarnockarms.com/history-kilmarnock-arms-hotel.html>

12 Source: *Port Erroll conservation area appraisal*, 2017, p. 24. For the building cf. *British Post Office Buildings and Their Architects : an Illustrated Guide*, online: <http://britishpostofficearchitects.weebly.com/1900-1919.html>.

One of the fast P&O steamers, Isis or Osiris, then took the mail from Brindisi to Port Said where mails for Sudan were transhipped through the Suez Canal and Red Sea by mail boat to Port Sudan. The mail train then took the wrapper on its final leg to the junction at Haiya and then west to Atbara (and onward south to Khartoum).

120 POSTAL DIRECTORY. FOREIGN AND COLONIAL MAILS.		
Countries.	Despatches from Aberdeen.	Arrivals at Aberdeen.
Australia, N.S. Wales, Queensland, Tasmania, Victoria, New Zealand, via Italy.... United States and Canada....	Fridays—5.40 a.m. Wednesdays—12.30 p.m., and Saturdays—9.20 a.m. Thursdays—10.20 p.m.	Sundays. Sundays and Thursdays. Sundays.
Canada (direct)..... Cape, Natal, Orange River Colony, Rhodesia, Transvaal, Madeira, Mozambique..... W. Coast of Africa.....	Fridays—7.10 p.m. Tuesdays and Fridays— 7.10 p.m.	Sundays. Saturdays.
China, Japan, Straits, Ceylon	Fridays—5.40 a.m.	Saturdays.
China, Japan, via Vancouver..	Every fourth week— Thursdays—10.20 p.m.	Every fourth week.
India, Aden, Zanzibar.....	Fridays—5.40 a.m.	Saturdays.
West Indies, also Gulana....	Alternate Tuesdays—3 p.m., via Southampton	Alternate Tuesdays.
Jamalca, via Bristol.....	Alternate Thursdays—7.10 p.m.	Alternate Thursdays.
Continent of Europe.....	Week-days—5.40 a.m., 3 p.m., and 6.50 p.m. Sundays—12.30 p.m. and 3.0 p.m.	Daily.
Gibraltar, Malta.....	Daily—3 p.m.	Daily.

Fig. 6:

Part of p. 120 from the *Post Office Aberdeen Directory, 1911–1912*, describing despatch times to reach overseas connections from London.

EGYPT (including the Egyptian Soudan)	14.	By British Packet (via Brindisi)	via Marseilles (see Col. 9)	Colon about every fifth day. M., every Thursday	40s (see Col. 9)	4lb	5lb	Letters and boxes for the Soudan cannot be insured. Correspondence for the Soudan is not sent by British Packet via Marseilles. Prohibited Articles: Coin, gold and silver bullion, and (except in insured boxes) manufactured gold and	EGYPT
			via Brindisi	B., every Friday Oct. 1, 18, 15 and then every Friday					

728 Foreign and Colonial Mails, (For Parcel Post, see separate tables pp. 772-831.) Rules of Postage, &c.					729				
Country.	Letter Postage from United Kingdom per Oz. †	Route.	Dates of Despatch of Outward Mails from London.	Homeward Mails due at Port of Arrival.	Limit of Insured Value for Letters.	Limits of Weight of Printed and Commercial Papers.	Limitations of the Service and General Observations. (See pp. 52-78.)	Country.	
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	10.	
EGYPT—contd.		By Austrian Packet	E., every Tuesday; M., every Saturday; Supplementary M., every Wednesday	Every Wednesday and Thursday	No service.		silver, precious stones and jewellery, tobacco in any form by sample post. Insured Box Post: Postage 2s. 8d., Customs Declarations 1; see page 73.	EGYPT	
		* By Italian Packet	M., Oct. 14, '8; Nov. 14, '8; Dec. 14, '8	7 and 21 each month					
		By French Packet	Oct. M. 9; Dec. E. 23; and for specially addressed correspondence Oct. E. 23, M. 24; Nov. E. 8, M. 9; E. 21, M. 24; Dec. E. 8, M. 9						

Figs. 7a–d: Excerpts from pp. 726–729 of *The Post Office Guide, 1911*.

Mails to “Egypt including the Egyptian Soudan” were despatched by either British Packet (via Marseilles every Thursday morning, via Brindisi every Friday evening, by Austrian Packet (every Tuesday evening and every Saturday morning), by Italian Packet (via Brindisi, every fortnight, but note the *), or by French Packet (via Marseilles, every fortnight).

Notes:

In column 9 it is stated: “Correspondence for the Soudan is not sent by British Packet via Marseilles.”

M = morning, A = afternoon, E = evening.

* = “Correspondence intended for transmission by this route must be specially so addressed.”

Summary

The only known recorded copy of a Great Britain post office postal stationery wrapper with Sudan as the destination was sent from a small fishing village in Scotland, Port Erroll. The recipient was Angus Scaife who worked for the Sudan Government Railways in Atbara, Sudan. The route was by rail to Brindisi via Aberdeen, Edinburgh, Dover and Calais, linking with the mail steamer to Port Sudan and the mail train to Atbara. Such is the tale of this 108-year old extant wrapper.



Fig. 8: Port Sudan on the Red Sea.¹³



Fig. 9: Mail train arriving at Port Sudan.¹⁴

¹³ Undated post card.

¹⁴ Undated post card; source: <https://www.pinterest.de/pin/163748136434569066>.

Acknowledgement

I thank Sheila Mackenzie for her edit of an earlier draft and helping to research the recipient of the wrapper.

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The Postal History of Heliopolis 1909–1952

by Jos Strengholt¹

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The post office of Heliopolis (Egypt) (*fig. 4*), a beautiful suburb north east of Cairo, was opened in 1909. The oldest cancellation known is from 1st August 1909. The earliest known incoming postcard was marked 5.30 pm on 10th August 1909 (*fig. 5*).



Figs. 1–3: Three of the earliest postmark strikes of Heliopolis.

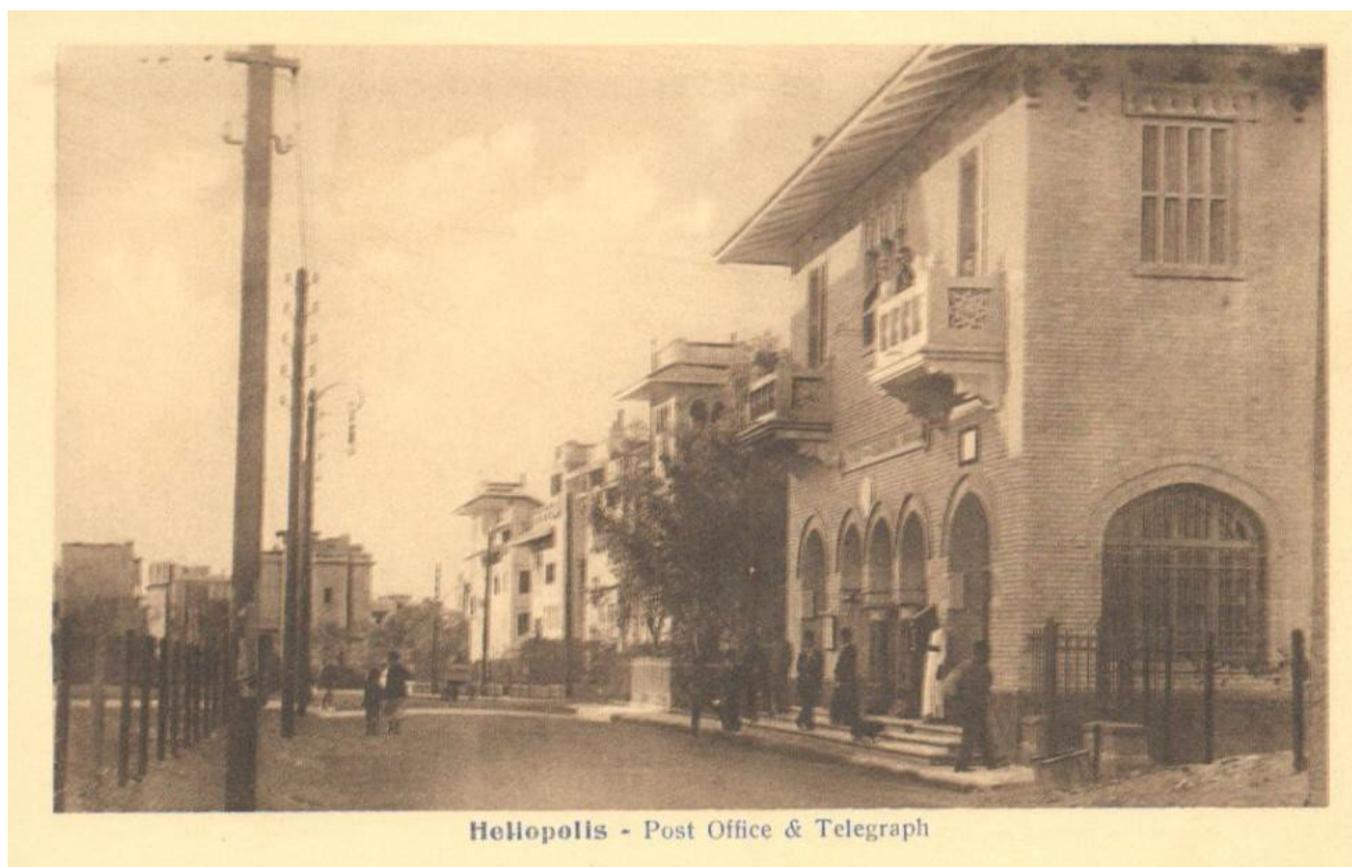


Fig. 4: Picture post card depicting the Heliopolis Post & Telegraph Office.

¹ Revised translation of Strengholt, 2018, with the addition of the privately circulated postmark catalogue by Jos Strengholt. Vahe Varjabedian and Hani Sharestan aided in the preparation of Jos' catalogue.



Fig. 5: The earliest outgoing mail: a postcard cancelled at 14:30 on 1.08.1909.²



Fig. 6: The earliest known incoming mail to Heliopolis: 10.08.1909 17:30.

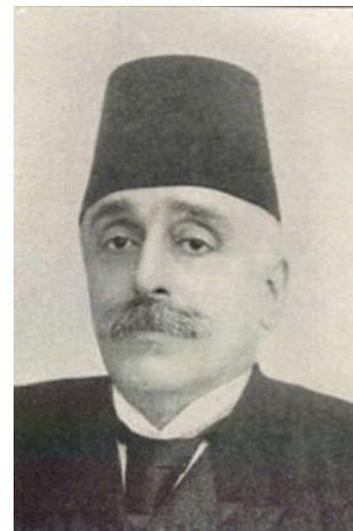
² The person who mailed this card from Heliopolis to Mannheim actually wrote the card in Khartoum, it seems, on 16.07.1909; he probably took it to Heliopolis where he put it in the mailbox.

That office's first postmark reads in English "HELIOPOLIS / CAIRO" but in Arabic, curiously enough, 'Ain Shams Oasis in Cairo: "واحة عين شمس / (بمصر)". The Arabic text was incorrect, so the canceller was withdrawn in December. I haven't been able to find a usage date later than 9th December 1909 (fig. 7), while the new postmark was used at least from 31st December 1909 (fig. 11). What was wrong with that first postmark? I think we see here a good example of the Egyptian Post making mistakes and being influenced by commercial interests of the owners of the land in Heliopolis



Fig. 7: Strike of the first Heliopolis postmark, one of the later dates known: 9.12.1909.

In 1905, a Belgian consortium headed by Baron Empain (figs. 8 and 9)³ and the Armenian-Egyptian Boghos Nubar (fig. 10 and 14)⁴ acquired 24 km² of open desert, 10 km north east of Cairo. In 1907 their company *The Cairo Electric Railways and Heliopolis Oases Company* started construction of the new luxury district of Heliopolis, and of the tram connection from Cairo Central Station to this new suburb.



Figs. 8–10: Baron Empain,⁵ also depicted on a Belgian stamps, and Boghos Nubar Pasha.⁶

Perhaps the word "Oases" in the name of the company caused the Post Office to use also that phrase in the postmark? I'm sure the company didn't have a problem with that. But the fact that the name

³ Édouard Louis Joseph Empain, Baron Empain, 1852–1929.

⁴ Boghos Nubar Pasha, 1851–1930, son of Egyptian Prime Minister Nubar Pasha.

⁵ Source: Wikimedia Commons, https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Category:Edouard_Empain#/media/File:Edouard_Empain.GIF. Licence: public domain.

⁶ Source: Wikimedia Commons, [https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Boghos_Nubar_Pasha_\(1906\)_-TIMEA.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Boghos_Nubar_Pasha_(1906)_-TIMEA.jpg). Licence: [Creative Commons Attribution-Share Alike 2.5 Generic](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/2.5/).

'Ain Shams, another suburb of Cairo, was used, was a mistake. It had to be "Heliopolis" – that name had to be hammered into everyone's head; and the link with Cairo was also not desirable for the owners of Heliopolis: they wanted to sell something new, separate from Cairo (fig. 11).

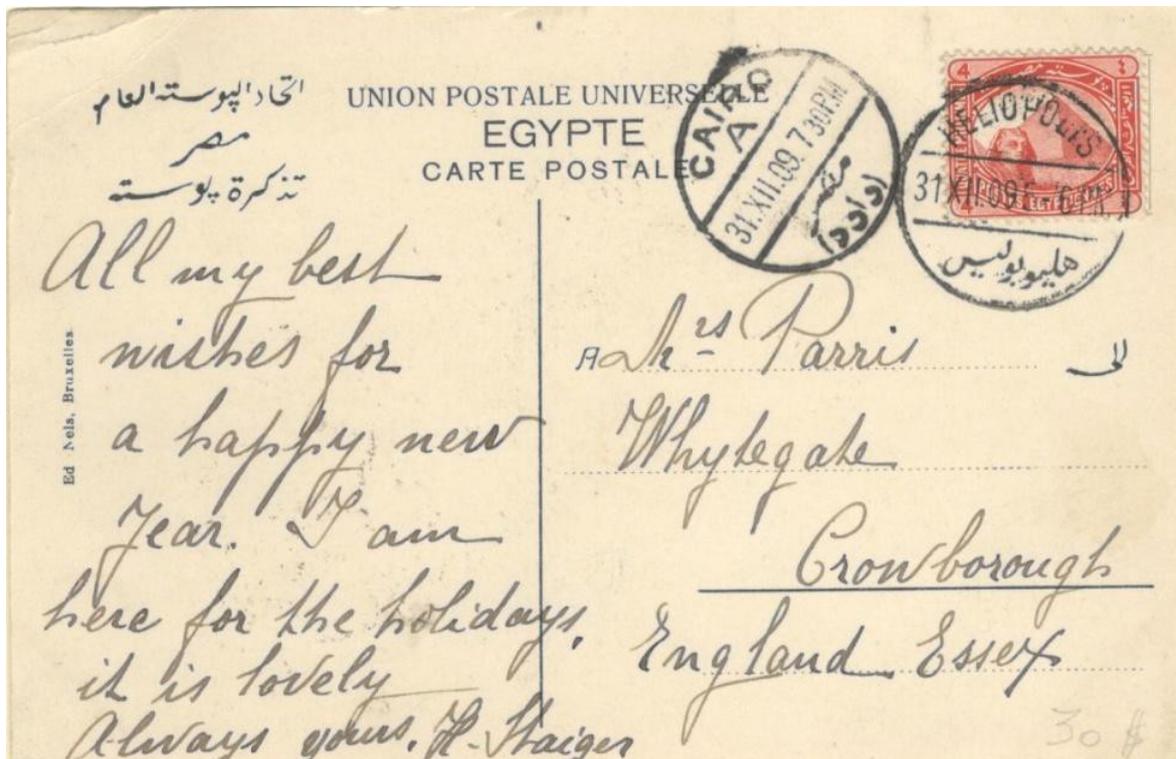


Fig. 11: Earliest strike of the new "هليوبوليس." postmark: 31.12.1909 18:00.

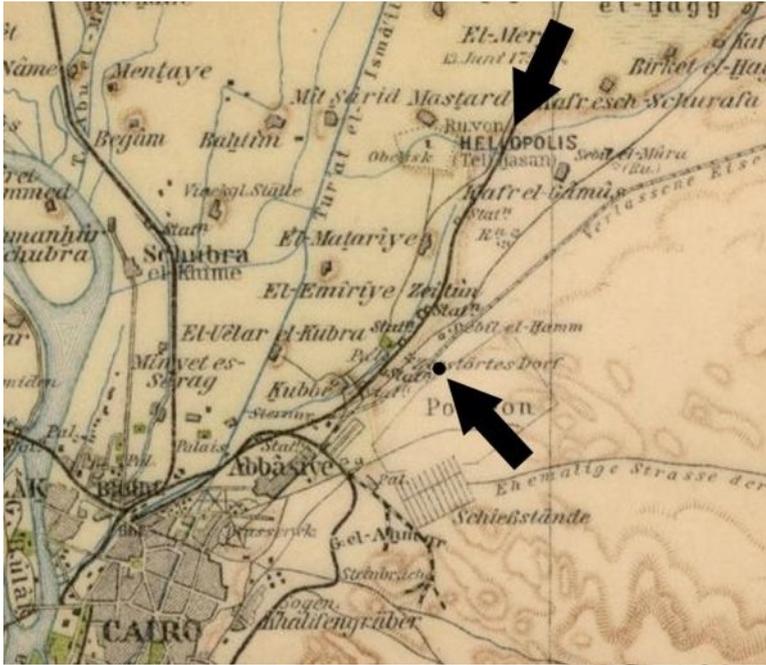
It was strange that the name Heliopolis was going to be used, because the old Pharaonic city of Heliopolis was situated some 10 kilometres north of the new district. Fig. 12 is a map from the Baedeker Guide of 1906, when the name Heliopolis on the map only indicated the old Pharaonic city, while the new Heliopolis later rose on the place marked by the bottom arrow.

That old Pharaonic⁷ city stretched further south than Baedeker shows, reaching the present district of 'Ain Shams. The name of this district means 'Source of the Sun', which reminds us of the old Heliopolis, 'City of the Sun'. But even 'Ain Shams was still one and a half kilometres west of the modern Heliopolis, which was built on desert sand without Pharaonic history.

The owners of the new district were smart marketers. Heliopolis as a name sounded good for the foreign residents they wanted to attract from Cairo to new villas in Heliopolis. Heliopolis also sounded better for the tourists who needed to come to the magnificent Heliopolis Palace Hotel (opened in 1909) from all over the world. Heliopolis also sounded nice and Pharaonic, much better than the Arabic 'Ain Shams.

That the marketing for the district and hotel worked well is shown by the numerous post cards of Heliopolis from this very early period. Visitors to Heliopolis, the hotel or to the other attractions that were quickly built, like a Luna Park, sent post cards of Heliopolis in its state of construction. Even from the hotel still under construction post cards were sent to all destinations in the world, which probably attracted new customers for the establishment (see fig. 15). And from fig. 11 we see that from December 1909 onwards stamps at the post office in Heliopolis were only cancelled with Heliopolis in English and Arabic: هليوبوليس.

⁷ Egyptian: Iwnw or Iunu; Greek: Ἡλιούπολις.



Figs. 12 and 13:

Maps showing the positions of ancient Heliopolis and Empain's new development: 1906 (left)⁸ and 1914 (below)⁹

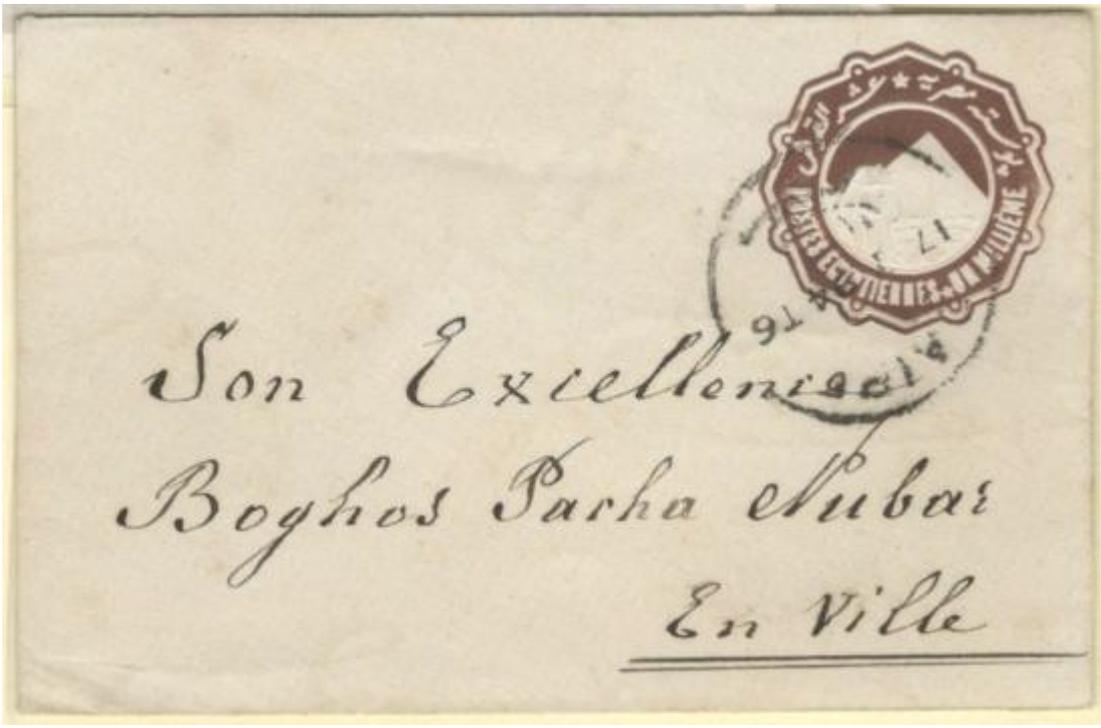
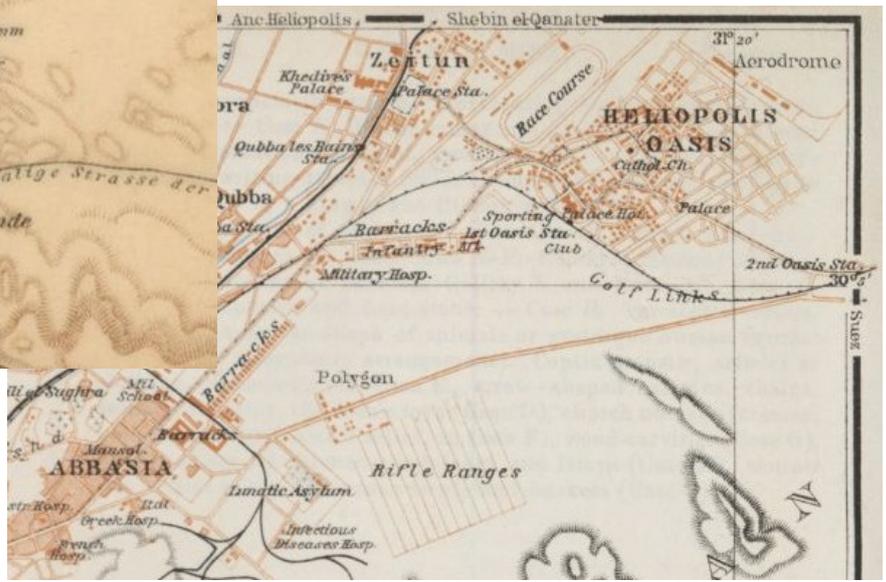


Fig. 14: Cover addressed to Boghos Nubar Pasha.

8 Source: Baedeker, 1906. Details from map.
 9 Source: Baedeker, 1914. Detail from map opposite p. 104.



Fig. 15: The Heliopolis Place Hotel was still under construction when this post card was issued.

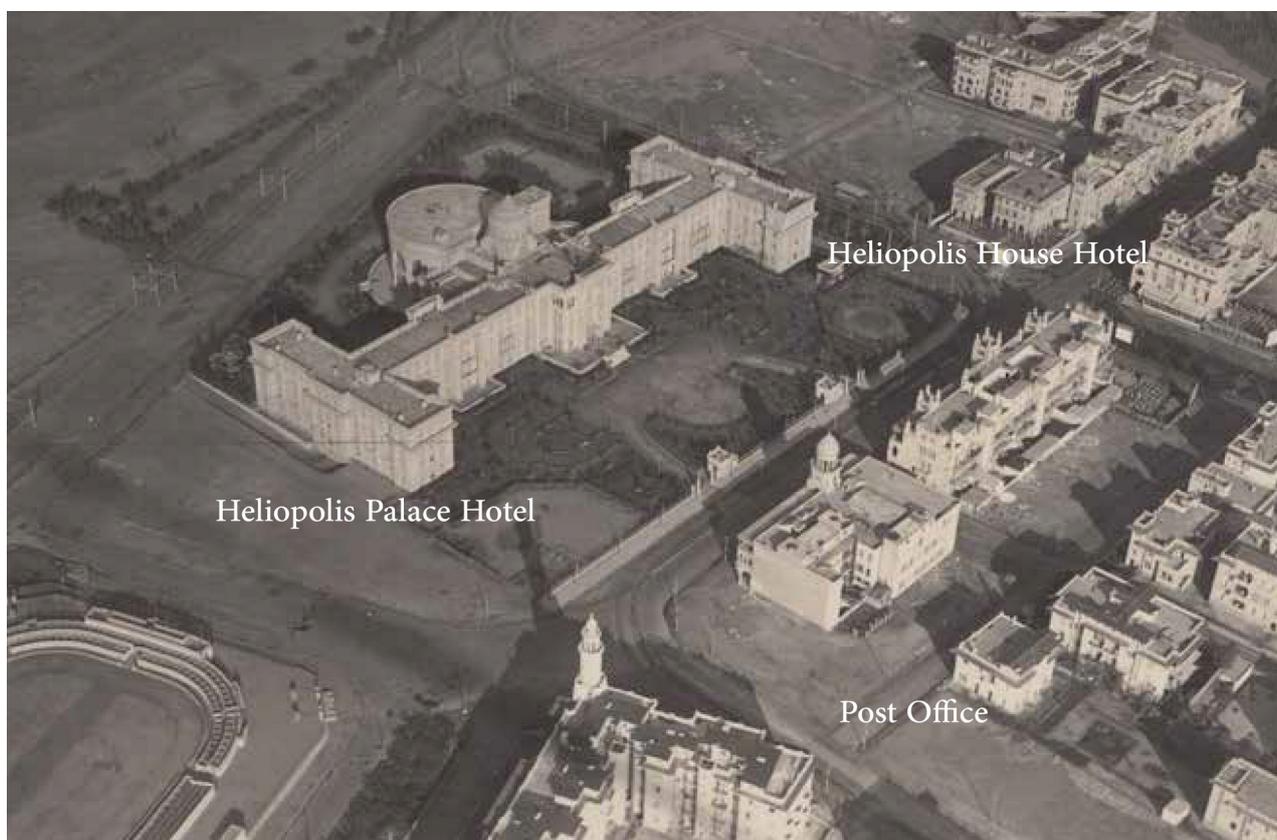


Fig. 16: Aerial photograph of Heliopolis Palace Hotel (now the Egyptian Presidential Palace) with the Heliopolis Post Office.

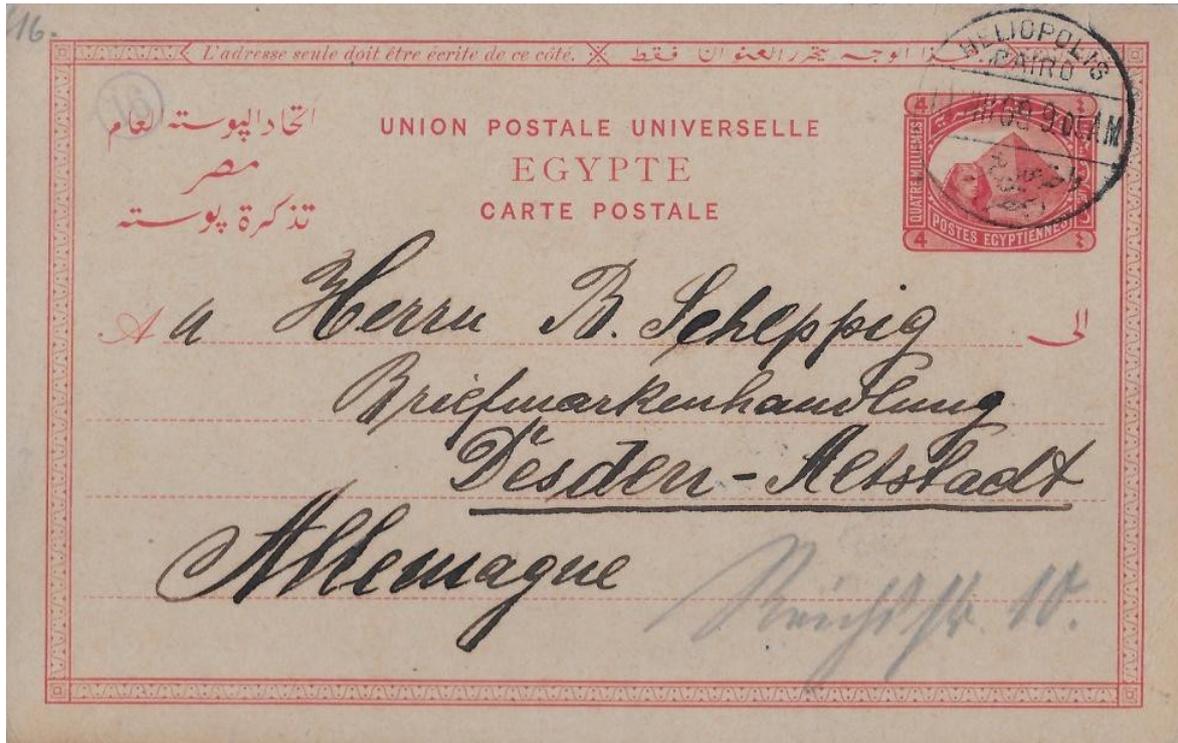


Fig. 17: Another very early outgoing mail: a postcard cancelled at 9.05 am on 10th August 1909.¹⁰



Figs. 18 and 19: The Heliopolis Post Office in 2017, still in the same (almost unrecognisable) building as in 1909.

¹⁰ Courtesy of Hani Sharestan (California).

Catalogue of Postal Markings of Heliopolis 1909–1952

This catalogue of circular date stamps (CDSs) and other postal markings from Heliopolis (1909–1952) has been a cooperative effort of Vahe Varjabedian, Hani Sharestan and Jos Strengholt. We always expect new finds, and we encourage you to communicate those to us. Please email jos@strengholt.info in case you have updated information.

I. Common Mail

ID	Drawing	Exemplar Strike	Diameter Bar Width	Earliest Latest Known Date	Comments
HP 1			25 mm 8 mm	01.08.1909 25.12.1909	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Arabic: <i>واحة عين / (بيمصر) شمس</i> [Oasis 'Ain Shams (in Cairo)]
HP 2			26 mm 8 mm	31.12.1909 25.12.1913	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compare with nos. 4, 5, and 6. Month in Roman numerals. Bars do not touch the circle
HP 3			27 mm 8 mm	13.07.1910 28.12.1923	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compare with no. 7. Month in letters. Width of Arabic Heliopolis 17 mm. Bars do not touch the circle.
HP 4			25 mm 8 mm	03.02.1914 07.04.1916	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compare with nos. 2, 5, and 6. Month in Roman numbers. Black ink used.
HP 4a			25 mm 8 mm	12.09.1915	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Similar as previous but blue ink used.

ID	Drawing	Exemplar Strike	Diameter Bar Width	Earliest Latest Known Date	Comments
HP 5			28 mm 10 mm	31.05.1916 12.05.1920	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compare with nos. 2, 4, and 6. Month in Roman numerals. Easiest recognisable from bar width.
HP 6			30 mm 8 mm	12.11.1923 28.04.1925	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compare with nos. 2, 4 and 5. Month in Roman numbers. Easiest recognisable from diameter.
HP 7			27 mm 8 mm	16.01.1924 23.11.1927	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compare with no. 3. Month in letters. Width of Arabic Heliopolis: 14mm. Bars touch the circle.
HP 8			29 mm 9 mm	31.08.1928 12.03.1937	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compare with nos. 9, 10, 11, and 15. Notice the relatively small Arabic Heliopolis.
HP 9			29 mm 11 mm	30.09.1930 14.12.1931	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compare with nos. 8, 10, 11, and 15. Easiest recognisable from bar width.
HP 10			29 mm 9 mm	05.01.1932 12.04.1934	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compare with nos. 8, 9, 11, and 15.

ID	Drawing	Exemplar Strike	Diameter Bar Width	Earliest Latest Known Date	Comments
HP 11			27 mm 8 mm	26.02.1933 24.08.1945	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compare with nos. 8, 9, 10, and 15. Easiest recognisable from small diameter.
HP 12			28 mm 8 mm	13.07.1934 27.06.1949	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compare with nos. 16, 23, and 24. "T" stands for transport or traffic, indicating outgoing mail?¹¹
HP 13			29 mm 8 mm	15.07.1935 26.07.1937	
HP 14			29 mm 9 mm	26.01.1937 17.01.1939	
HP 15			27 mm 10 mm	03.01.1938 27.05.1943	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compare with nos. 8, 9, 10, and 11
HP 16			30 mm 9 mm	08.02.1939 04.10.1950	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compare with nos. 12, 23, and 24. Easiest recognised from its large diameter.

11 The Arabic *safariyat* also means 'departure'.

ID	Drawing	Exemplar Strike	Diameter Bar Width	Earliest Latest Known Date	Comments
HP 17			27 mm 8 mm	12.08.1941 01.04.1944	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compare with nos. 19. Small <i>tashkeel</i> symbols above Arabic Heliopolis.
HP 18			28 mm 9 mm	20.05.1945 25.05.1952	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compare with nos. 20, 21, and 25. Arabic Heliopolis to the right. English Heliopolis positioned high and in large letters.
HP 19			27 mm 8 mm	04.09.1945 19.04.1948	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compare with no. 17. No small <i>tashkeel</i> symbols above Arabic Heliopolis. Black ink used.
HP 19a			27 mm 8 mm	19.04.1948 23.01.1949	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Similar to previous but blue ink used.
HP 20			27 mm 8 mm	17.12.1945 21.11.1947	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compare with nos. 18, 21, and 25. Arabic and English Heliopolis are well centred. Black ink used.
HP 20a			27 mm 8 mm	01.06.1949	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Similar to previous but blue ink used.

ID	Drawing	Exemplar Strike	Diameter Bar Width	Earliest Latest Known Date	Comments
HP 21			28 mm 8 mm	–.12.1945 20.06.1950	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compare with nos. 18, 20, and 25. • Both Arabic and English Heliopolis positioned to the left.
HP 22			28 mm –	29.02.1948 25.02.1949	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No bars. • Blue ink used.
HP 22a			28 mm –	23.06.1949 16.07.1953	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Same as previous. • Black ink used.
HP 23			28 mm 8 mm	11.06.1949 08.09.1949	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compare with nos. 12, 16, and 24. • English Heliopolis in sans serif type, but the "T" shows serifs.
HP 24			29 mm 9 mm	23.11.1949 03.01.1952	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compare with nos. 12, 16, and 23. • English Heliopolis T with serifs.
HP 25			28 mm 8 mm	14.02.1950 23.12.1953	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compare with nos. 18, 20, and 21. • English Heliopolis with serifs.



Fig. 20: HP 2 on a post card to Mechelen (Malines), Belgium: 11.01.1912.



Fig. 21: HP 5 on a cover to London: 31.05.1916.

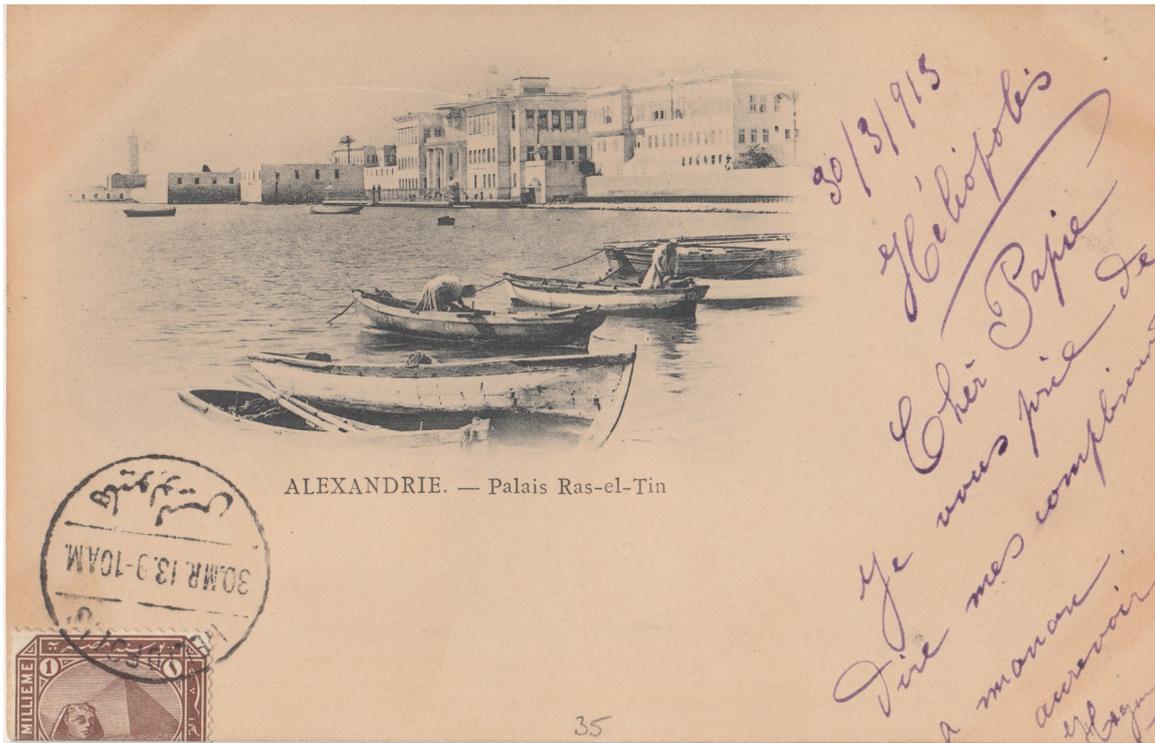


Fig. 22: HP 3 on a post card: 30.03.1913



Fig. 23: HP 4 on a post card to Dresden, Germany: 19.03.1914.



Fig. 24: HP 6 on a post card to Leipzig, Germany: 12.12.1923.
 Franked with 8 Millièmes, taxed 30 Centimes = 20 Pfennig.



Fig. 25: HP 17 on a censored air mail cover to New York: 18.08.1941.
 Franking: 112 Mills.



Fig. 26: HP 19 on a censored cover Wakayama, Japan: 11.07.1948.



Fig. 27: HP 20 on a cover to Nashville, U.S.A: 2.04.1947.



Fig. 28: HP 22a on an inland cover to Manfalūt (Beni Gora), redirected to Cairo: 24.07.1949.



Fig. 29: HP 23 on a Cairo Electric Railways and Heliopolis Oases Company cover, 2.08.1949.

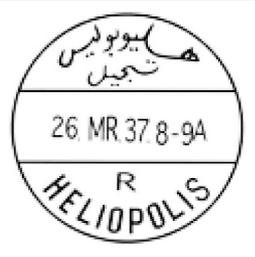


Fig. 30: HP 24 on a censored air mail cover to Bad Salzflen, Germany, 23.11.1949. Franking: 42 Mills.



II. Registered Mail and Parcels

ID	Drawing	Exemplar Strike	Diameter Bar Width	Earliest Latest Known Date	Comments
HP 30			27 mm 8 mm	20.01.1914 03.06.1924	• For Registered Mail and Parcels.
HP 31			30 mm 10 mm	30.01.1914 04.10.1937	

ID	Drawing	Exemplar Strike	Diameter Bar Width	Earliest Latest Known Date	Comments
HP 32			29 mm 8 mm	31.08.1925 04.10.1937	
HP 33			30 mm 10 mm	23.03.1937 21.03.1938	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compare with no. 34.
HP 33a			30 mm 10 mm	13.10.1937 05.07.1941	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Right side of circle is straight. This is the damaged version of no. 33.
HP 34		—	30 mm 10 mm	—	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compare with no. 33. • With <i>tashkeel</i> symbols above Arabic. • Maybe a perfectly circular cancellation no. 34 never existed? Or was it in an early stage damaged to become no. 34a?
HP 34a			30 mm 10 mm	25.12.1941 16.10.1952	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • With <i>tashkeel</i> symbols above Arabic. • This is probably the damaged cancel of no. 34.



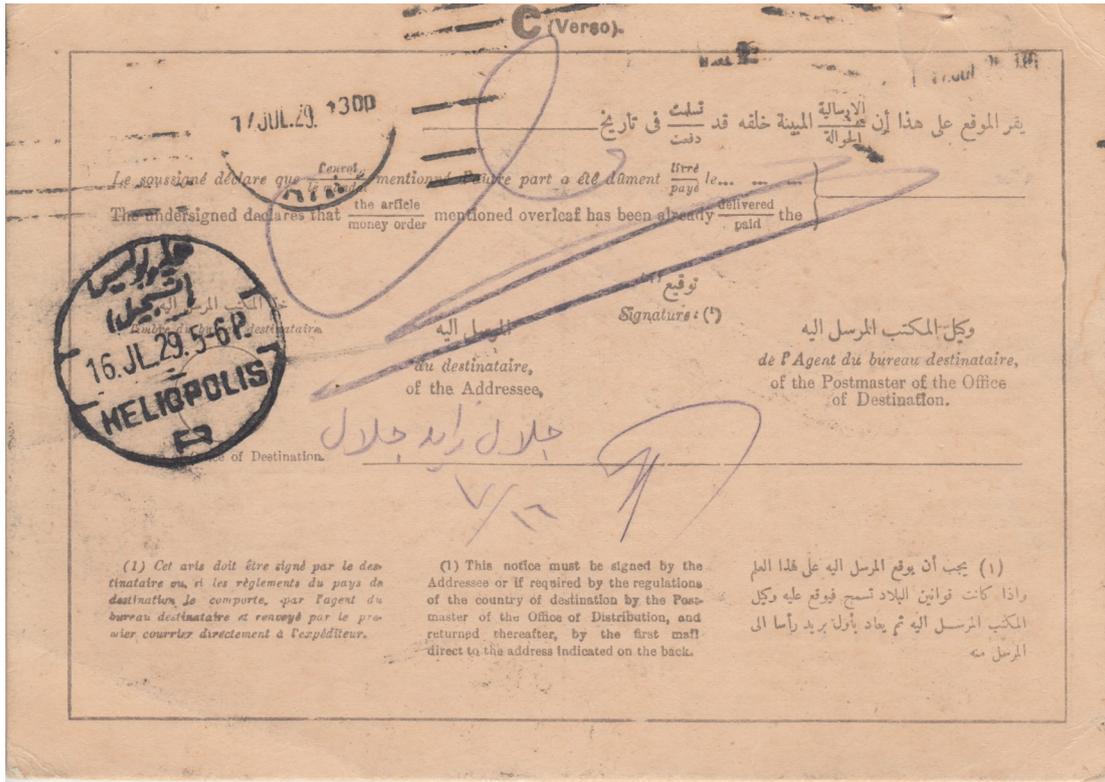


Fig. 31: HP 32 on the reverse side of an avis de réception, 15.07.1929.

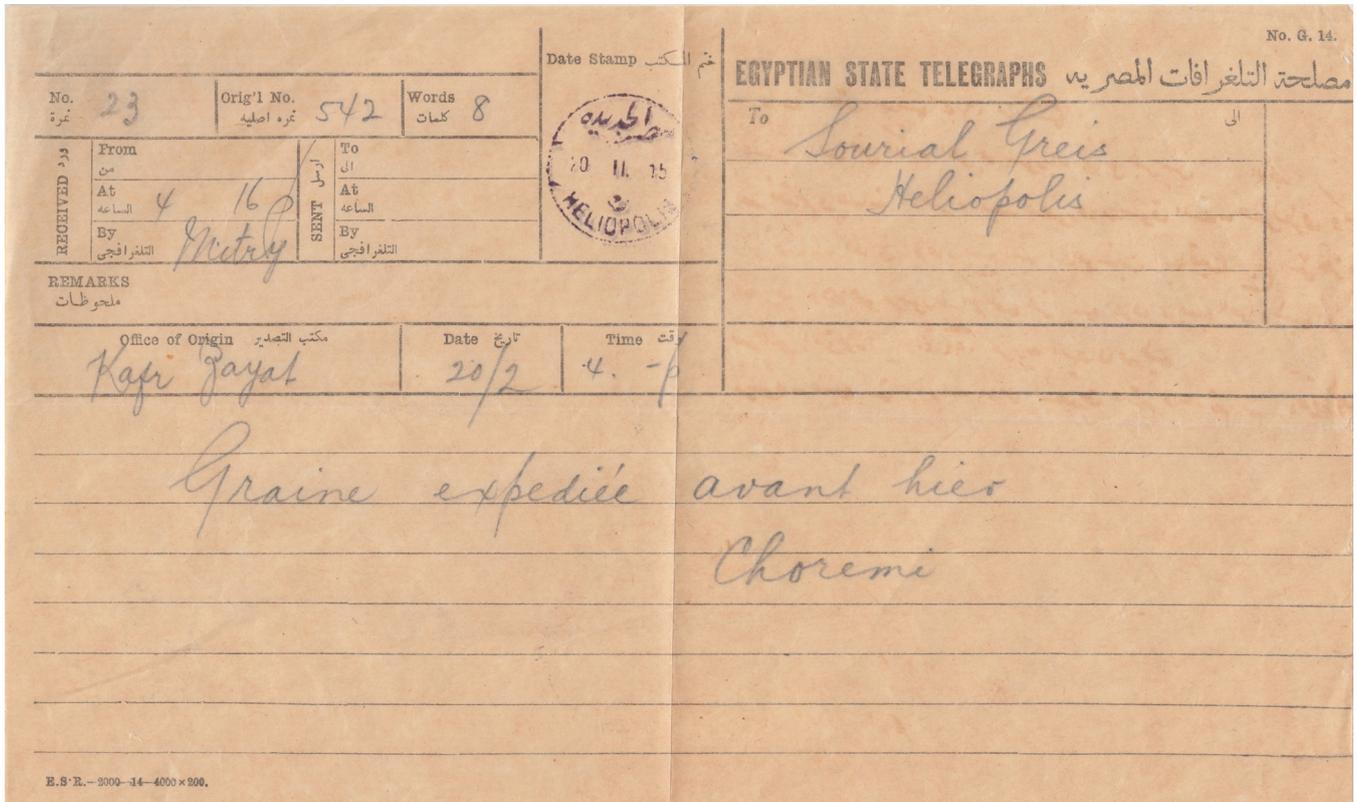


Fig. 32: HP 35 on a telegramme form: 10.02.1915.

III. Cash, Telegraph

ID	Drawing	Exemplar Strike	Diameter Bar Width	Earliest Latest Known Date	Comments
HP 35			28 mm 8 mm	20.02.1915	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Month in Roman numerals. • For Telegraph. • Purple ink used.
HP 36			30 mm 11 mm	28.05.1916 19.03.1917	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Month in French. • For Telegraph. • Purple ink used.
HP 37			30 mm 7.5 mm	09.03.1943 30.12.1946	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For cash (postal banking) transactions.
HP 38			27 mm 8 mm	07.08.1945 29.03.1953	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For cash (postal banking) transactions.



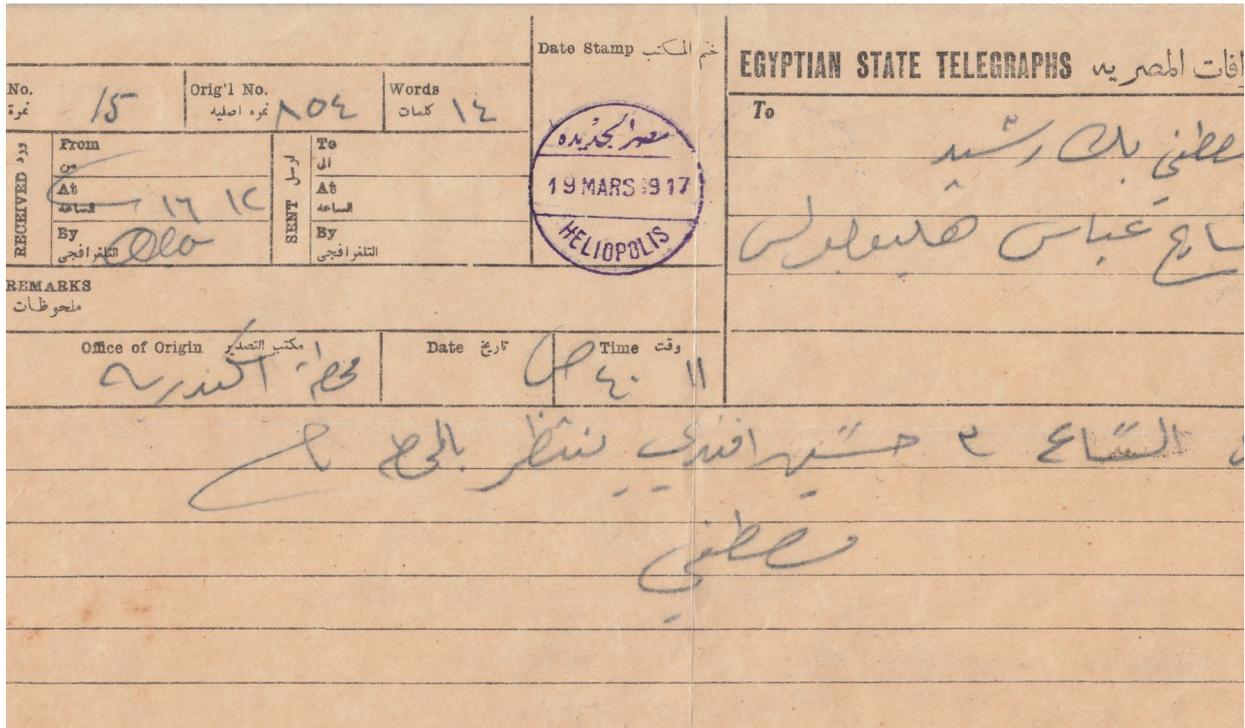


Fig. 33: HP 36 on a telegramme for: 19.03.1917.

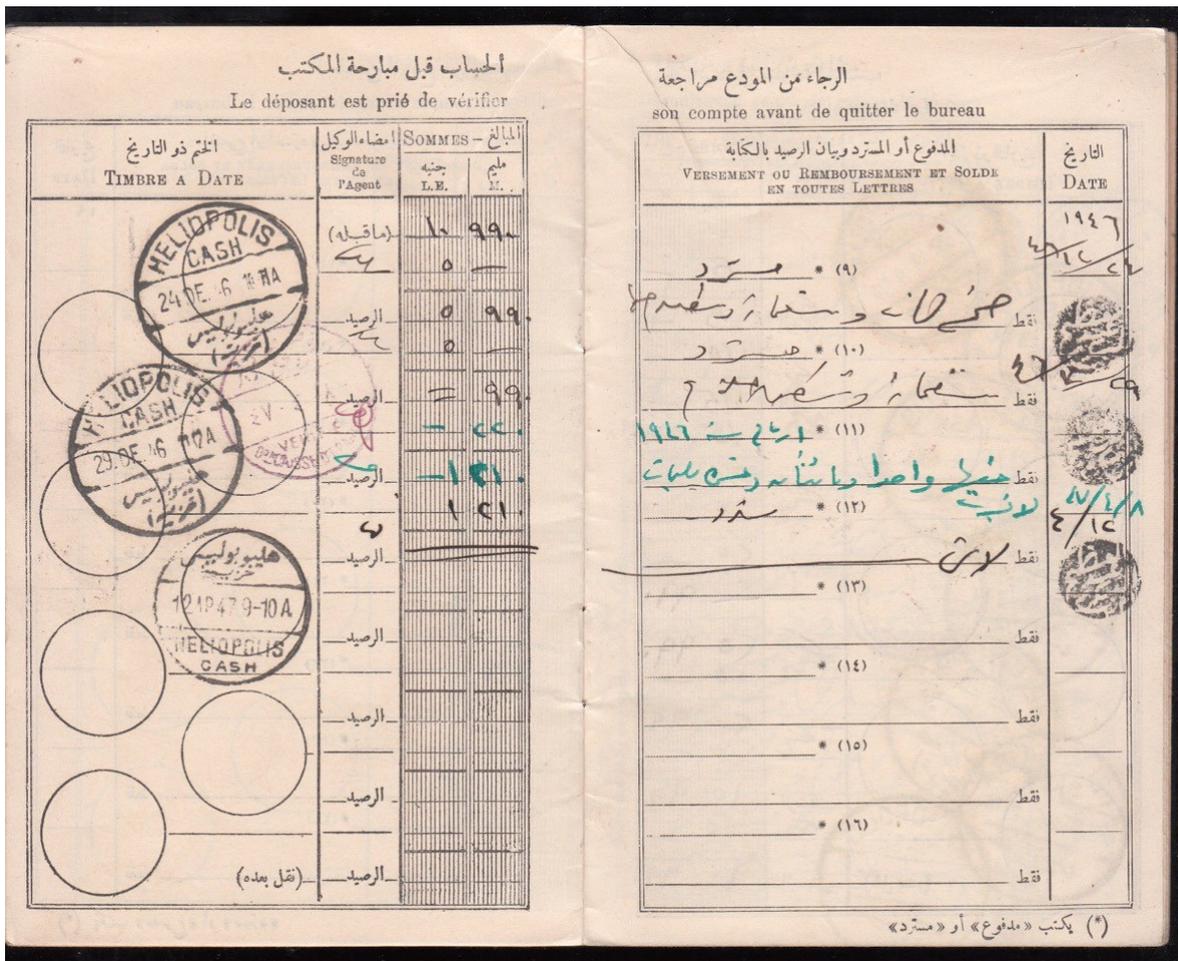


Fig. 34: HP 37 in a postal savings book: 24. and 29.12.1946.

IV. Heliopolis Bahari

ID	Drawing	Exemplar Strike	Diameter Bar Width	Earliest Latest Known Date	Comments
HP 40			27 mm 8 mm	24.07.1933 08.08.1946	• For cash (postal banking) transactions.
HP 41			27 mm 7 mm	14.05.1932 20.10.1947	• For Registered Mail and Parcels.
HP 42			22x37 mm -	10.12.1932 21.11.1936	• For the administration of registered mail.
HP 43			27 mm 8 mm	17.06.1944 22.11.1953	



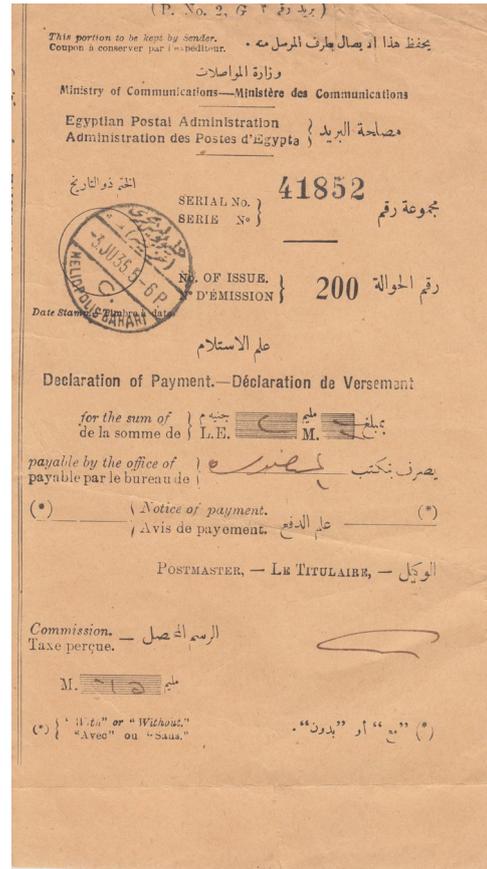


Fig. 35: HP 38 on a money order receipt: 7.08.1945. Fig. 36: HP 40 on a money order receipt: 3.06.1935.



Fig. 37: Heliopolis Bahari, HP 41 and HP 42 on a registered cover: 9.10.1934.

V. Commemorative Mail

Heliopolis Air Show 1910

Air show held on Heliopolis Airfield (north of Higaz Street) from 6th–13th February 1910. With a booth for the postal marking at the area of the air show.

ID	Drawing	Exemplar Strike	Diameter Bar Width	Earliest Latest Known Date	Comments
HP 50			25 mm –	06.02.1910 13.02.1910	
HP 50a			25 mm –	06.02.1910 3.50 P	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Falsification of no. 50: The size of Arabic <i>hā'</i> and <i>ṭah'</i> and English "A" (in red circles) is different. The font used for the "3" in the date is also different.

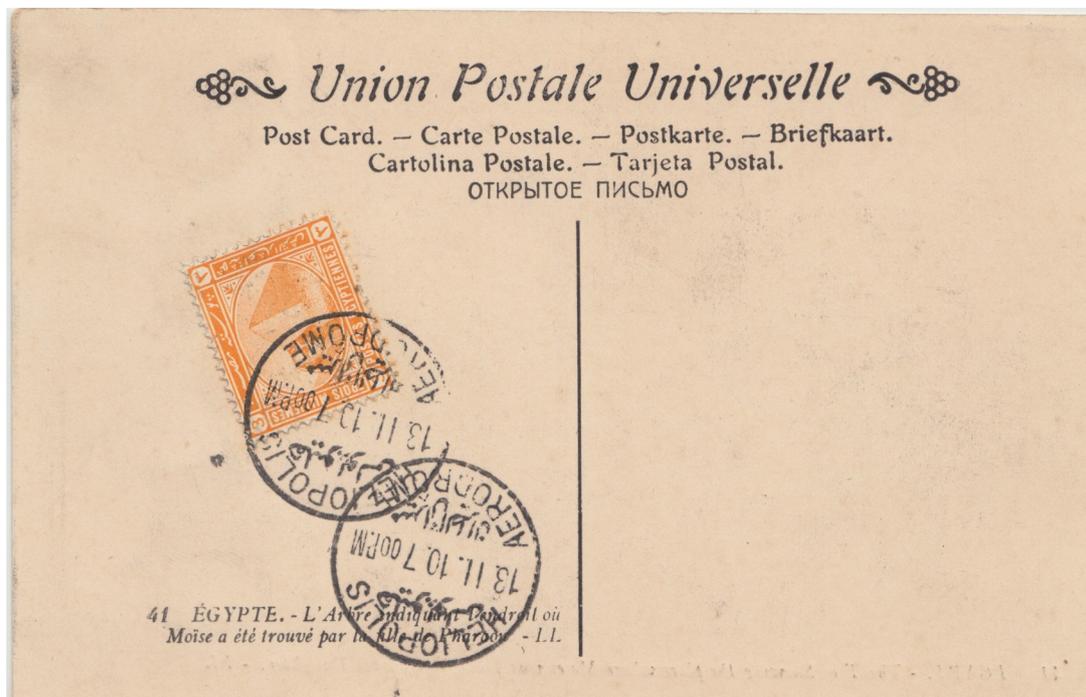


Fig. 38: Heliopolis Aerodrome, HP 50 on a c.t.o post card: 13.02.1910.

International Railway Congress 1933

International Railway Congress (19th–30th January 1933) held in the Heliopolis Palace Hotel.

ID	Drawing	Exemplar Strike	Diameter Bar Width	Earliest Latest Known Date	Comments
HP 51			27 mm 7 mm	19.01.1933 14.02.1933	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compare with nos. 51a and 52. Black ink used.
HP 51a			27 mm 7 mm	19.01.1933 30.01.1933	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Same to previous but blue ink used.
HP 52			27 mm 6 mm	19.01.1933 30.01.1933	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compare with nos. 51. Different bar width. Cypher ١ in ١٩٣٣ more left and days of month larger than in no. 51. Black ink used.
HP 52a			27 mm 6 mm	19.01.1933	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Same to previous but blue ink used.
HP 53		—	27 mm 7 mm	19.01.1933	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Similar to no. 52, but with "1933" in English mirrored. Only seen on FDC?
HP 54			38×24 mm	06.02.33	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> For the administration of registered mail during the International Railway Congress. Blue ink used.

ID	Drawing	Exemplar Strike	Diameter Bar Width	Earliest Latest Known Date	Comments
					
<p>HP 55</p>	 		<p>50×30 mm</p>	<p>30.01.1933</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General congress cachet to be used on mail or other papers. • Blue ink used.
<p>HP 55a</p>			<p>50×30 mm</p>	<p>23.01.1933 30.01.1933</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Similar to previous but red ink used.



International Aviation Congress 1933

International Aviation Congress (20th–23rd December 1933) held in the Heliopolis Palace Hotel. Booth in the hotel for the postal markings.

ID	Drawing	Exemplar Strike	Diameter Bar Width	Earliest Latest Known Date	Comments
HP 56			28 mm 8 mm	20.12.1933	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Black ink used.
HHP 56a			28 mm 6 mm	20.12.1933	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Similar to previous but blue ink used. This CDS has been seen with "20DE32".
HP 57			55×35 mm	–.12.1933	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> General congress cachet to be used on mail or other papers. Purple ink used.
HP 57a			55×35 mm	20.12.1933	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Same as previous but blue ink used.



Fig. 39: HP 51 and HP 54 on registered cover to London: 6.02.1933.



Fig. 40: HP 56a on stationery cover of the organising committee: 20.12.1933.

U.P.U. Congress 1934

Universal Postal Union Conference from 1st February–20th March 1934. Information about U.P.U. cancellations is from United Nations Philatelists Inc. website.¹²

ID	Drawing	Exemplar Strike	Diameter Bar Width	Earliest Latest	Comments
HP 58			28 mm 7 mm	11.01.1934 31.03.1934	• Used in the post office?
HP 59			34.5 mm 8–9 mm	09.03.1934 19.03.1934	• Used in the Heliopolis Palace Hotel in the conference mail room? • Black ink used.
HP 59a			34.5 mm 8–9 mm	30.01.1934 31.03.1934	• Same as previous but violet ink.
HP 59b			34.5 mm 8–9 mm	01.02.1934 31.03.1934	• Same as previous but red ink used.
HP 60			24×38 mm –	11.01.1934 19.03.1934	• For the administration of registered mail at the U.P.U. conference.

12 Cf. <http://www.unpi.com/>.

ID	Drawing	Exemplar Strike	Diameter Bar Width	Earliest Latest	Comments
HP 61	 		24×45 mm –	21.02.1934	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Postage Paid” mark at U.P.U. conference.

International Telecommunication Conference 1938

International Telecommunication Conference (1st February–8th April 1938) in the Heliopolis Palace Hotel. With booth in the hotel for the postal marking.

ID	Drawing	Exemplar Strike	Diameter Bar Width	Earliest Latest Known Date	Comments
HP 62			32 mm 9 mm	21.01.1938 09.04.1938	
HP 63	 		22×36 mm –	01.02.1938	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For the administration of registered mail.



Fig. 41: HP 62 on commercial FDC with stamp set: 1.02.1938.

Middle East Air Navigation (M.E.A.N.) Conference 1946

Middle East Air Navigation (M.E.A.N.) Conference (1-18 Oct 1946) in the Heliopolis Palace Hotel. With booth in the hotel for the postal marking.

ID	Drawing	Exemplar Strike	Diameter Bar Width	Earliest Latest Known Date	Comments
HP 64			26 mm 7 mm	01.10.1946 02.11.1946	
HP 64a			26 mm 7 mm	01.10.1946 02.10.1946	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Similar to previous, but wrongly with "CAIRO 1945" instead of "CAIRO 1946".

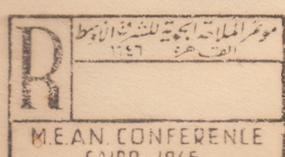
ID	Drawing	Exemplar Strike	Diameter Bar Width	Earliest Latest Known Date	Comments
HP 65	 		20x36 mm –	01.10.1946 10.10.1946	• For the administration of registered mail.



Fig. 42: HP 64 on a FDC with the surcharged stamp: 1.10.1946.

VI. Heliopolis Palace Hotel General Cachet

ID	Drawing	Exemplar Strike	Diameter Bar Width	Earliest Latest Known Date	Comments
HP 66	 		50x27 mm —	17.12.1913	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This cachet was used for general purposes in the Heliopolis Palace Hotel.

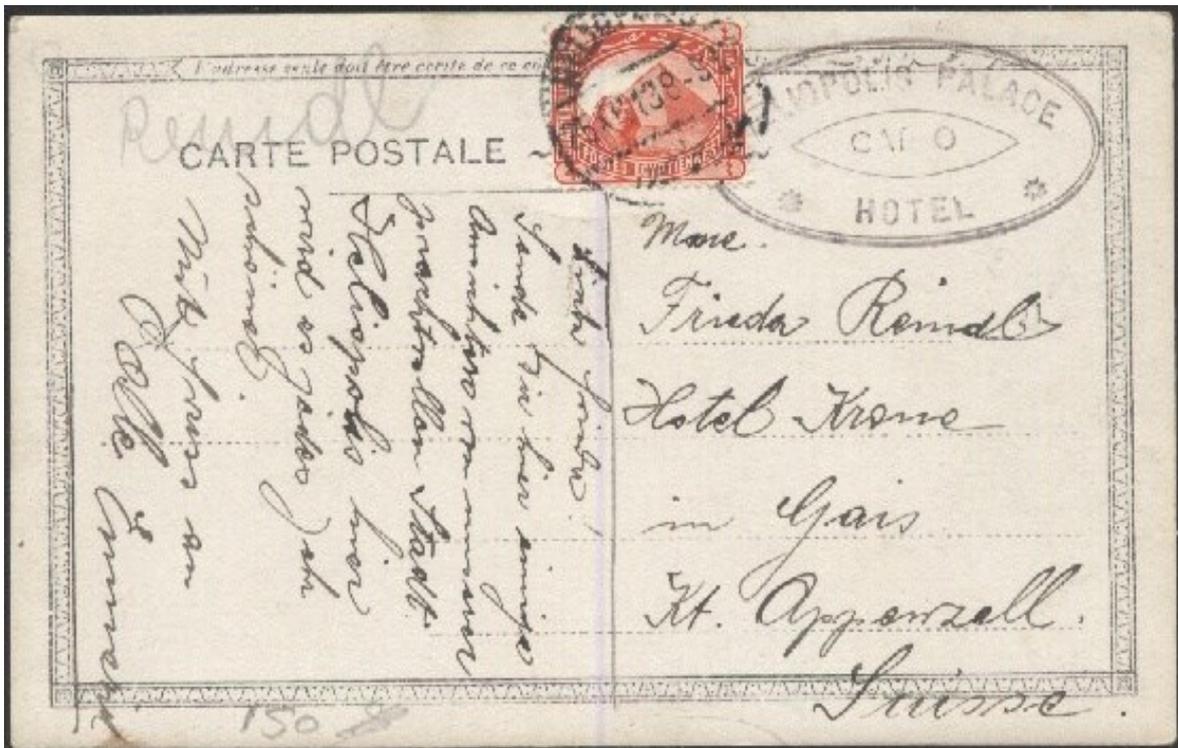


Fig. 43: HP 66 on a post card to Switzerland: 25.12.1913.

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Figs. 44–45: Heliopolis Bahari Post Office, Damascus Street, in 2016.



Jordanian Postmarks of Ma'ān

by Avo Kaplanian

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After reading Bernd-Dieter Buscke's article in MEPB 8¹ and especially after reading the last sentence of his article in which he invited readers and fellow philatelists to supply new and additional information of these Ma'ān postmarks, I got stimulated to find out whether I have any other such cancels in my collection that can provide more information on these fascinating postmarks which might help in complementing those listed by Mr. Buscke. While Mr. Buscke's article concentrated on the Hejazi postmarks of Ma'ān in Transjordan, my contribution here in this article is on the Jordanian cancels of Ma'ān.

The first postmark I found was the small violet negative seal, listed by Najjar² as number C15 (see *fig. 1a* to the right). This seal was applied to frank a 3 mils Emir Abdullah stamp (SG no. 160, perf. 14) on the picture side of a postcard addressed to Mr. C. Rigby, Cook Company in Petra.

Mr. Najjar describes this 1925 postmark as a "very rare negative seal cancel for Ma'an Post Office."³

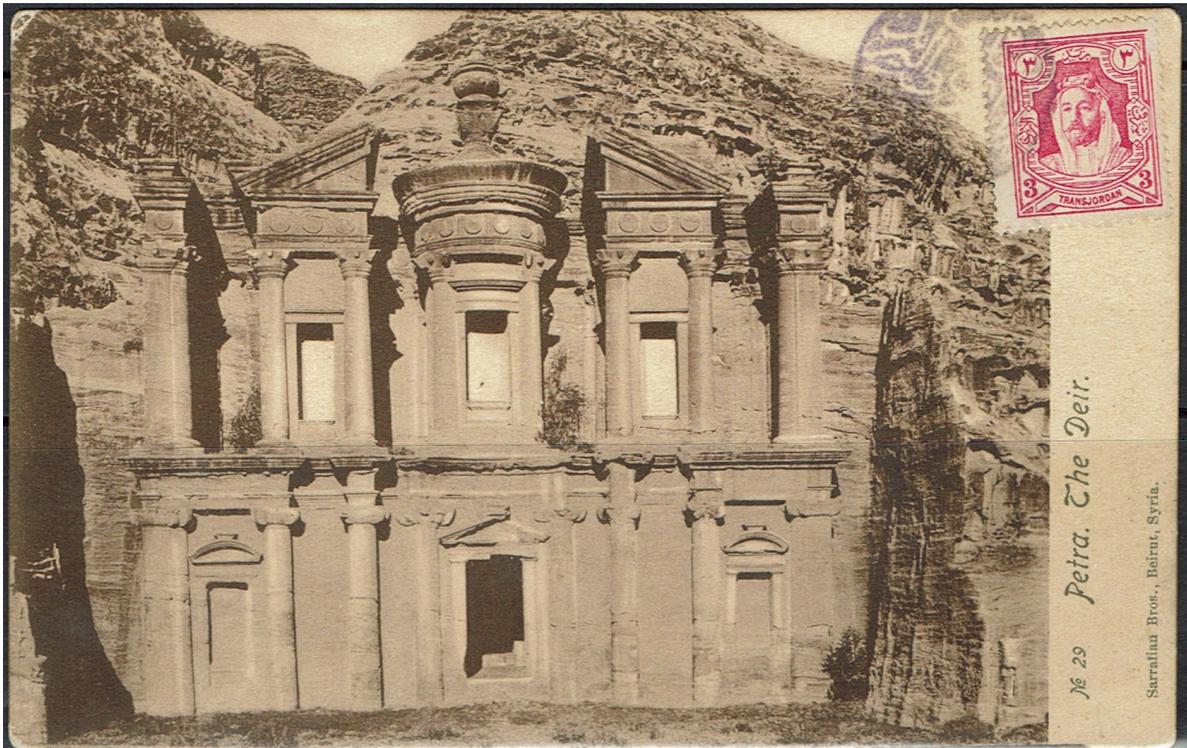


Fig. 1: Picture post card depicting "The Deir" in Petra. The 3 m stamp is cancelled by the rare negative seal in violet.

1 Buscke, 2018.

2 Najjar, 2009, p. 38.

3 Najjar, 2009, p. 37.

The New 1932 Date-Bridge Postmarks

An interesting item is Major J. J. Darlow’s proof in violet on a piece of semi-transparent paper (*fig. 2*). On the back of this proof is a handwritten pencil two lines remark reading: “No. 8 / Ma’ān”.

The following item is the specimen strike of what Mr. Buscke calls “The First Jordanian date bridge cancel” of 1932. In that year, the postmaster general in Amman ordered new bilingual postmarks for all the post offices in Jordan. A specimen book of the cancels was prepared for the postmaster so that each post office would acknowledge the receipt of the respective cancels upon arrival in each office. The specimen sheets were passed to all the post offices and then returned to the postmaster general in Amman. In many cases the postmaster of the local post office would sign the postmark before passing it on. These cancels are indeed very scarce and some postmarks featured have not seen any actual use.

In *fig. 3* we see a pair of the “MAAN” specimen cancel dated “4 MR 32” (ie. 4th March 1932), one with the index “A” and the other with index “B”. Both cancels were signed by the local postmaster. Atop these two postmarks we see the two lines text in Arabic reading “عام ١٩٣٢” (year / 1932).



Fig. 2: 1920s specimen, ex-Darlow.

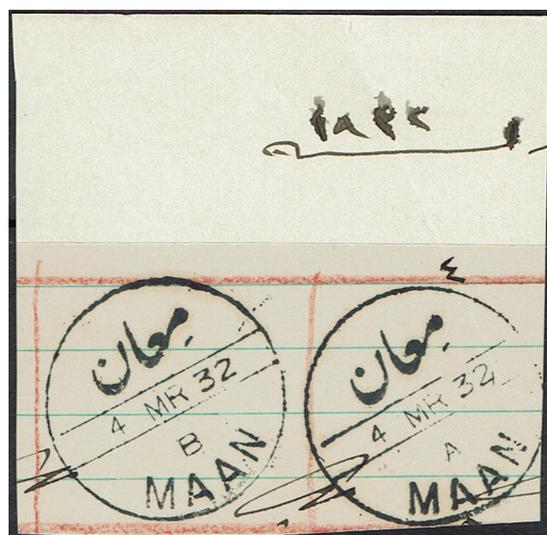


Fig. 3: 1932 proof strikes.

In *fig. 4* we see the Amman–Ma’ān T.P.O. cancel which was used in the years 1926 to 1938. The Arabic name “عمان·معان” is in a straight line while the English “AMMAN·MAAN” is curved. The date-bridge shows an English date. As I do not have this relatively scarce postmark on cover, I am showing here two separate Emir Abdullah stamps (1 mil and 15 mils) with parts of the cancel:



Fig. 4a to 4c: Three strikes of the 1926 Amman–Ma’ān T.P.O. cancel.

The next postmark is one which is very similar to the previous one, but with one difference: the

name inscribed is just “MAAN” in English and “معان” in Arabic. While the Arabic is straight, the English is curved. The date is in English and in a bridge and the index is either “A” or “B” (fig. 5).

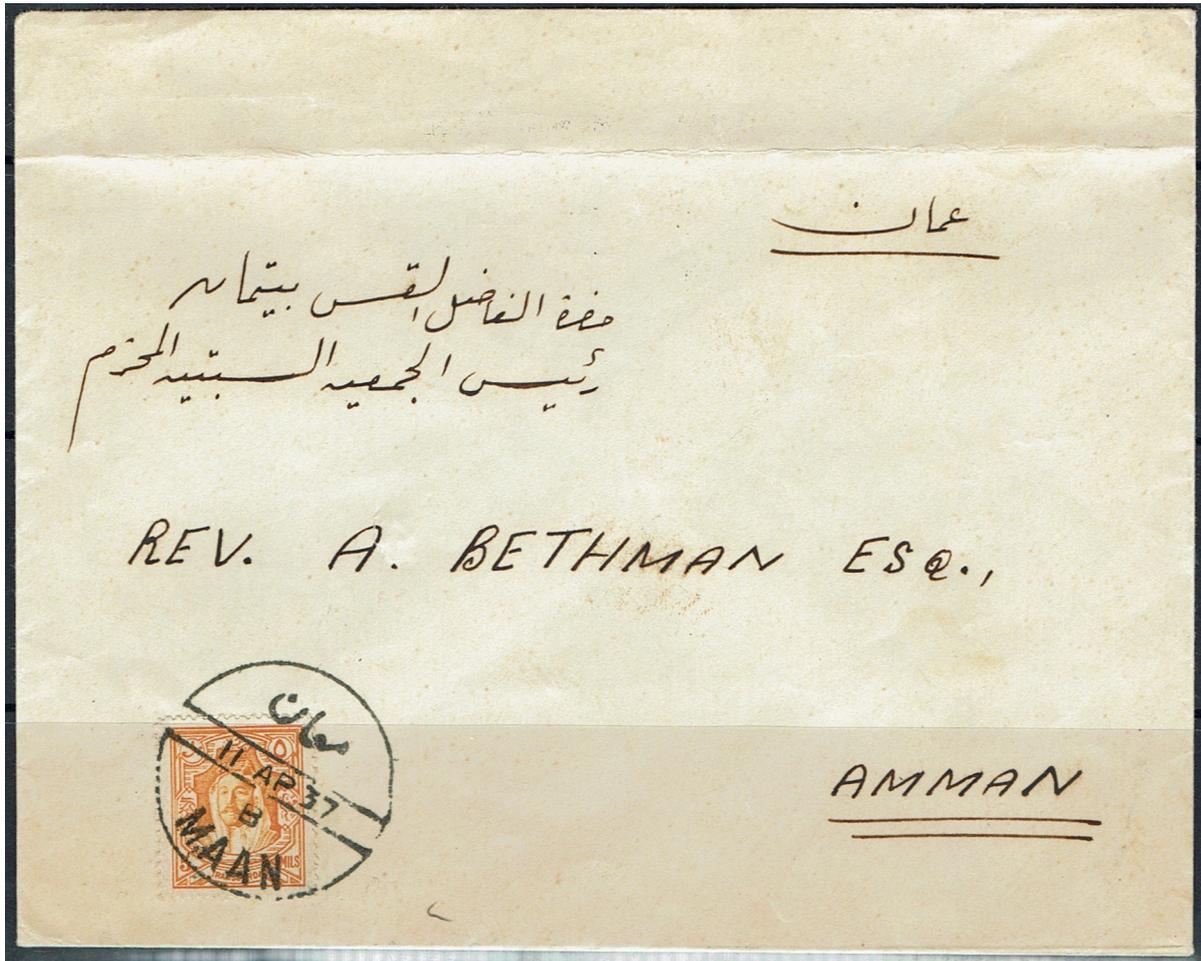


Fig. 5: “MAAN / B” with narrow date-bridge, 11.04.1937.

The next cancel is the single circle with a central bridge in which the date is in English. The name appears in a straight line in both Arabic “معان” and English: “MA‘AN”. This postmark is known with index numbers “١ / 1” and “٢ / 2” (fig. 6).

The final cancel in this run is the T.P.O. postmark “AMMAN–MA‘AN”. This single circle cancel has also a central bridge in which the date is in English. The Arabic name “عمان معان” is straight while the English one is curved (fig. 7).

The only postmark missing in this listing is the small single circle cancel which Mr. Buscke calls “The regular Transjordanian postmark” (fig. 8 to the right). This cancel has numerals of the day and month, but not for the year.

Sometimes, the whole date was missing in this cancel which was used between 1923 and 1927 and this type of postmark was only used in the cities of Amman and Ma‘ān.



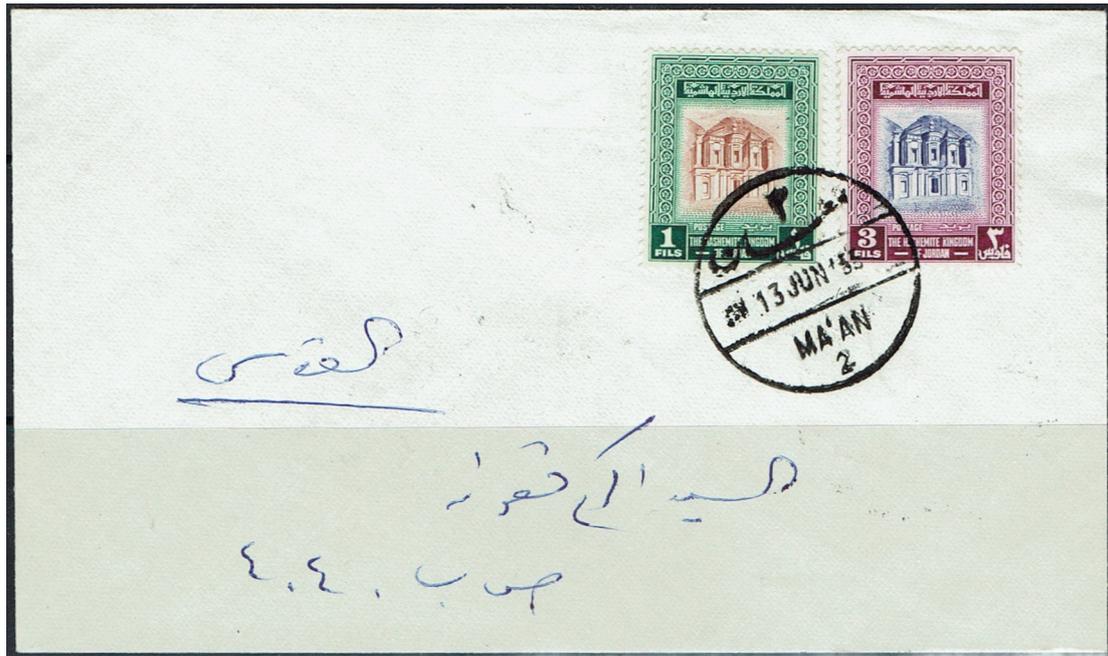


Fig. 6: “MA’AN / 2” single circle with a central date-bridge.



Fig. 7: An “AMMAN–MA’AN” T.P.O. postmark.

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Egypt Essays, Proofs and Varieties from the Joseph Chalhoub Collection

by Tobias Zywietz with material from David Feldman S.A., Geneva

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During its December 2018 auctions, David Feldman offered a part of the *Joseph Chalhoub Collection of Egypt*.¹ This part was focussing on the *interbellum* commemoratives and included over 200 lots: artists' drawings, essays, proofs, control blocks, perforation and other varieties, and covers. I'd like to show a small selection of interesting pieces here.

Lot	Auctioneer's Description	Estimate	Result
10006	1895 Winter Festivals Foundation, De La Rue archive sheet showing issued set, plus four bicoloured proofs sets of all three values, attractive, colourful and a very rare set of colour trials (15) Provenance: Vahan Andonian. Nile Post C1-C3	4,000 €	16,000 €
10129	1945 Anniversary of King Farouk's Birthday, 10m violet, Royal imperforate sheetlet of nine on watermarked paper, very fine and extremely rare, only two such sheetlets exist (Nile Post RPC93) Provenance: The Palace Collection, Abdallah Mishrick. Nile Post C93	11,000 €	19,000 €
10150	1946 Withdrawal of British Troops, 10m brown and green, Royal imperforated CANCELLED on the reverse in corner marginal plate block of four, numbered A/46, very fine and a unique control block. Provenance: The Palace Collection, Samir Fikry. Nile Post C102c	1,200 €	2,200 €
10169	1948 Arrival of Egyptian Troops at Gaza, 10m green, Royal imperforated CANCELLED on the reverse in corner marginal plate block of four, numbered A/48 in Roman and Arabic script, very fine and a unique control block. Provenance: The Palace Collection, Samir Fikry. Nile Post C118a	1,200 €	4,600 €



Fig. 1:

1946 Withdrawal of British Troops, 10 m brown & green.
Royal imperforated
"CANCELLED" on reverse;
plate block of four: "A/46",
(ex Lot 10150)

¹ Cf. <https://www.davidfeldman.com/dfsa-auctions/2018-december-auction>, online: https://www.davidfeldman.com/dfsa-auctions/2018-december-auction/egypt/?soff_page=1; PDF-catalogue: https://www.davidfeldman.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/209_Egypt_Commemoratives_WEB.pdf (accessed 6.03.2019).

The auction catalogue profiles Joseph Chalhoub and gives detailed explanations about the nature of stock offered.



Fig. 2: 1895 Winter Festivals Foundation: De La Rue archive sheet showing issued set, plus four bicoloured proofs sets of all three values. (Lot 10006).



Fig. 3: 1945 Anniversary of King Farouk's Birthday, 10 m violet, Royal imperforate sheetlet of nine on watermarked paper. (Lot 10129)



Fig. 4: 1948 Arrival of Egyptian Troops at Gaza, 10 m green, Royal imperforated "CANCELLED" on reverse; plate block of four: "A/48" (Roman & Arabic). (Lot 10169)

All material shown with the kind permission of David Feldman S.A., Geneva.

Joseph Chalhoub

Chalhoub was born in Choubrah on 18.03.1946 of Syrian-Lebanese descent. The family moved to Heliopolis in 1950. He studied at Cairo University and emigrated to Canada in 1965, graduating B.Sc. in Chemical Engineering in 1968 at the Université de Montréal.

Chalhoub very comprehensively collects Egypt: stamps, postal history, essays and colour trials, and especially "Royal Collection" material, such as proofs on card, "cancelled" on reverse, colour trials, imperforate, oblique perforated stamps and other varieties. This formed the basis for his book "The Nile Post : Handbook and Catalogue of Egyptian Stamps" in 2004.

David Feldman publish in their "Grand Philatelic Collections" a series of books representing Chalhoub's collections. As of March 2020, six of the eleven planned volumes have been published.²

² Cf. <http://www.davidfeldman.com/dfs-a-shop/>.

Iraq Railway Post Stamps: The Booklet of the Fifth Issue

by Rainer Fuchs (AIJP, FRPSL)

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This is the continuation of the article published in MEPB 13¹ which covered the Iraq Railway Post Stamp booklet of the first issue (RP-1).

No complete booklet or even empty booklet covers are known for issues RP-2 to RP-4, but I am aware of some very few complete sheets of RP-5 (the coloured issue), of some two blocks-of-four (panes with trimmed margins), and of a booklet kept in a UK collection containing two of four booklet panes remaining *in situ*.

To the surprise of many collectors, the July 2019 auction at Spink (London)² offered, aside from many very nice Iraq lots, also an Iraq Railway Post Stamp booklet RP-5 (red background). The author was happy to secure this for his collection. The booklet was described as follows:–

Lot 612

£ 1,700 (£ 250–300)

Iraq – Railway Letter Stamps

1926 (c.) “Railway Letter Stamps.” 160f. booklet containing four panes of four 10f. blue and red “Iraqi Railways” labels, two panes with faults but a scarce booklet

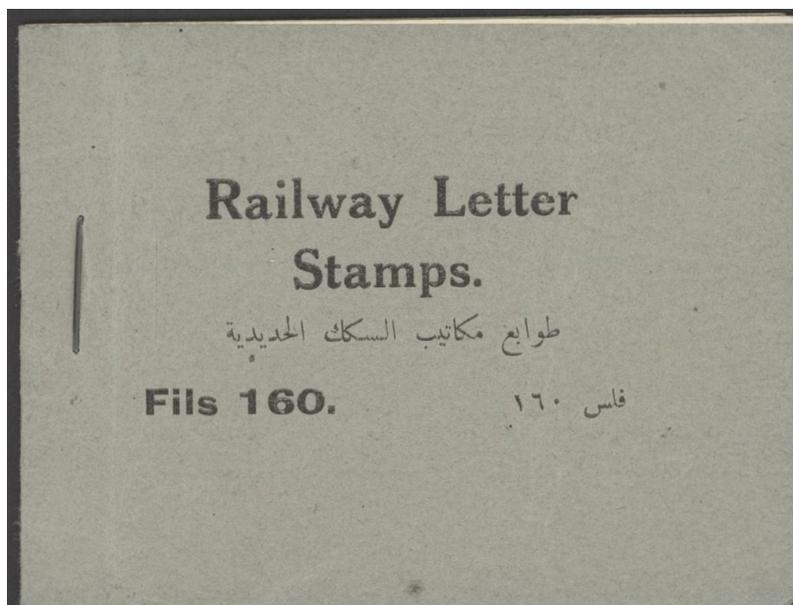


Fig. 1:

Image of the front cover of the booklet.

1 Fuchs, Rainer: *Iraq railway post stamps: The booklet of the first issue*. In: MEPB 13, 2019, pp. 29–32.

2 Cf. p. 94 of: *Spink (UK) Auction 19029, held from 10-11 July 2019, The Philatelic Collector Series' Sale*. Online: <https://d3ums4016nedkp.cloudfront.net/auction/catalogue/19029/19029.pdf>. For prices realised cf. https://www.spink.com/auction/19029?AuctionLotSearch%5Bkeyword%5D=&AuctionLotSearch%5Bfrom_lot%5D=612&AuctionLotSearch%5Bto_lot%5D=612&AuctionLotSearch%5Bmin_price%5D=&AuctionLotSearch%5Bmax_price%5D=&sp_department_id%5B%5D=-1&category_id%5B%5D=-1#idNavJustified.



Fig. 2:

Image of two of the damaged panes (one from the back, the other from the front)



Fig. 3:

Image of one of the panes without any damage.

Images provided by auction houses often do not tell the whole story, so I was eager to see how the booklet and its content will look once it was in my possession. But first I will detail the stamps:

The Four Types

My previous studies have revealed that the stamps of the 5th issue can be distinguished by two cliché-types:



Fig. 4: Type A – Curved trail of smoke under “WAYS”.



Fig. 5: Type B – Straight trail of smoke under “WAYS”.

The most recent detailed studies of the various known booklets revealed however, that all four stamps in the pane can be distinguished as per the variations in the cliché:



Fig. 4a and 4b: Type 1 (previously type "B")

Bulges in the inner frame line and straight trail of smoke below „WAYS“ (above)

The lines forming sand dunes behind the palm trees and the speckles representing grass vary from type to type (right).



Fig. 4c and 4d: Type 2 (previously type "A").

Frame lines broken above "IR" and curved trail of smoke below "WAYS" (above).

The lines forming sand dunes behind the palm trees and the speckles representing grass vary from type to type (right).

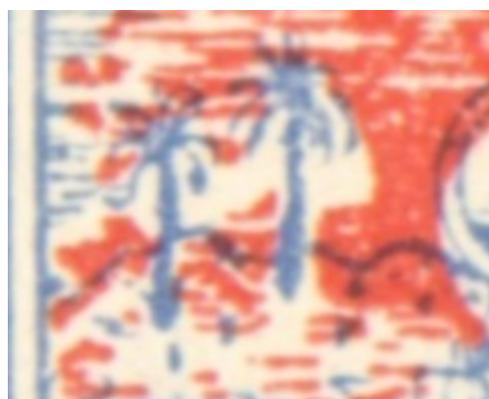


Fig. 4e and 4f: Type 3 (previously Type "A").

Frame lines **not** broken "IR" and curved trail of smoke below "WAYS" (above).

The lines forming sand dunes behind the palm trees and the speckles representing grass vary from type to type (right).

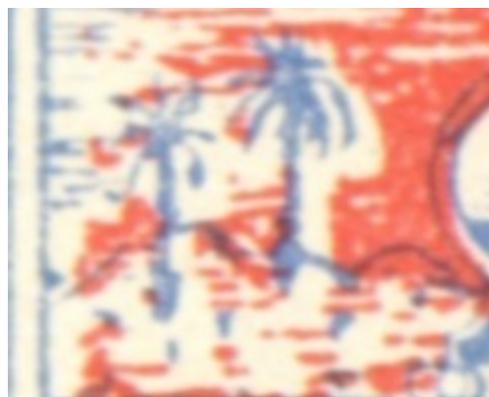


Fig. 4g and 4h: Type 4 (previously Type "B").

Bulges in the inner frame line and straight trail of smoke below "WAYS" (above).

The lines forming sand dunes behind the palm trees and the speckles representing grass vary from type to type (right).



The background colour (red, yellow, or orange) was added in a second printing and therefore never

matches precisely the blue design drawing. It therefore cannot be taken as distinguishing feature. We'll see later how these four different types appear on the four panes in the booklet.

Details of the Fifth Series Booklet

But let's start with the scanned booklet cover (front and reverse, slightly reduced for illustration purposes). The cover does not show any speciality, ordinary greenish thin cardboard, the panes stapled with a metal staple on the left side of the booklet.

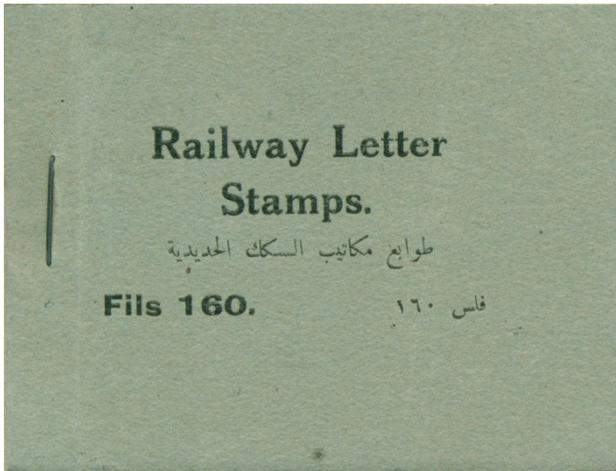


Fig. 6: Front



Fig. 7: Reverse

The Booklet's Panes

The booklet panes itself were, like the booklet covers, scanned with 600 dpi, but since the panes are still stapled into the booklet and I did not want to fully fold open the booklet, only a small part of the left pane-margin could be scanned. The sequence assigned is pane 1 (top), pane 2, pane 3, and pane 4 (bottom). I believe it would be safe to conclude that only one setting exists from these panes-of-four, each containing one stamp of the four different and identifiable clichés.

It would be interesting to know if other collections contain additional panes and eventually complete booklets or empty booklet covers.



Fig. 8:

Booklet Pane 1

Type allocation in the pane:

1	2
3	4



Fig. 9:

Booklet Pane 2

Type allocation in the pane:

1	2
3	4



Fig. 10:

Booklet Pane 3

Type allocation in the pane:

1	2
3	4



Fig. 11:

Booklet Pane 4

Type allocation in the pane:

1	2
3	4

I am aware of a few additional booklets panes in my own and in other collections and a detailed study of them revealed that they all have the same cliché distribution among the panes.

Pane of Red Stamps (Collection Fuchs)



Fig. 12:

Type allocation in the pane:

1	2
3	4

Pane of Red Stamps (Collection Freddy Khalastchy).



Fig. 13:

Type allocation in the pane:

1	2
3	4

Pane of Red Stamps (Collection Sami Al Salman)³



Fig. 14:

Type allocation in the pane:

1	2
3	4

³ Margins trimmed off.

Pane of Yellow Stamps (Collection Akthem Al-Manaseer)⁴



Fig. 15:

Type allocation in the pane:

1	2
3	4

Pane of Orange Stamps (Collection Fuchs)



Fig. 16:

Type allocation in the pane:

1	2
3	4

Pane of Orange Stamps (Collection Fuchs)



Fig. 17:

Type allocation in the pane:

1	2
3	4

⁴ Margins trimmed off.

The Imperial Reply Coupons of Palestine A New Discovery: Type II

by Rolf Wernecke
with additional material by Tobias Zywiets

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When I saw this Imperial Coupon (*fig. 1*) for the first time,¹ it immediately excited my interest. On the one hand the image shown was very appealing, on the other hand I was very interested in the date of the postmark, 1936, as I suspected this to be a special feature.

I had acquired a few Imperial Reply Coupons from Palestine some years ago and had dealt with the topic at that time; so I was not completely unprepared now.

Once my new acquisition arrived, the big surprise for me was actually the watermark: this type A watermark (*fig. 2*) was hitherto only known for the first issue of the Imperial Reply Coupons² printed by Waterlow & Sons (1927).



Fig. 1: Imperial Reply Coupon, type II, Palestine, 12 m,
Issued at Talavera Barracks, 29.08.1936:
TALAVERA BKS / JERUSALEM / C / 29 AU / 36 (Sacher H24).
Not redeemed.

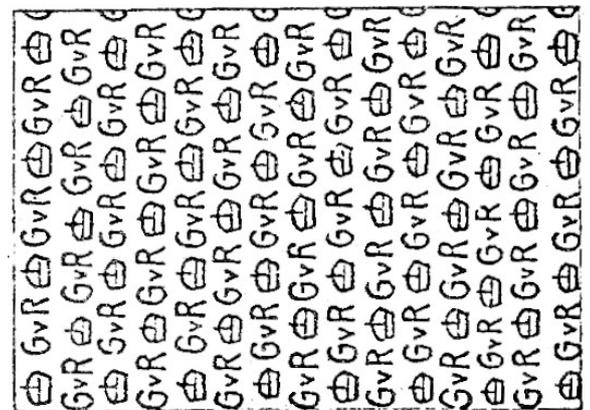


Fig. 2: Watermark A (schematic drawing)³
as used in types I and II

1 Offered for sale in 2017 by German auction house Christoph Gärtner as part of a large sales of Arab/Middle East material at its 37th auction (22.06.2017): https://arabic.stamp-auctions.de/palestine_2/palestine.php.

PDF-download: <https://arabic.stamp-auctions.de/palestine.pdf>

2 The general types of Imperial Reply Coupons are explained on p. 77.

3 Source: Koch, 1982, p. 29.

The Talavera Barracks Postmark

Before we investigate the coupon itself, we should look at the postmark that raised my interest:⁴

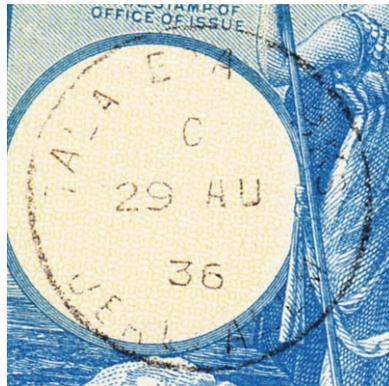


Fig. 3:
The cancel reads:
TALAVERA BKS / JERUSALEM /
C / 29 AU / 36
“BKS” stands for barracks.

This civilian post office was located on military premises, Talavera Barracks, and only operated for less than three months.⁵ Proud lists usage dates as 20th July 1936 to 28th September 1936, whereas Sacher states 15th July 1936 to 7th October 1936. This short period is the reason for its rarity, especially on forms and entires! From September 1936 this civilian postal service was replaced by three Field Post Offices attached to Army units deployed during the Arab Revolt: F.P.O.s 16, 18, and 20. Apparently none was situated at Talavera Barracks itself.⁶

Talavera Barracks

Talavera Barracks, later known as Allenby Barracks and Allenby Camp, was situated on Bethlehem Road, the main road to Hebron and the South, between the Arab village of El-Baq'a and the St. Claire Monastery,⁷ i.e. south of the Greek and German Colonies and north of the new Jewish quarter of Talpiyot. They were named after the 1809 battle of Talavera de la Reina, when Spanish and British troops beat the French. (*ed*)



Fig. 4: Entrance to Talavera Barracks, 1936.⁸

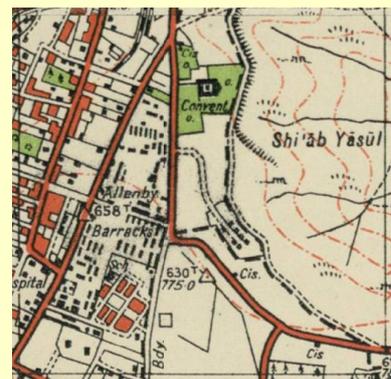


Fig. 5: A 1940s map of the area.⁹

4 The image’s brightness and contrast has been manipulated to make the postmark better recognisable.

5 Proud, 2006, p. 2019; Sacher, 1991, p. 105.

6 Cf. Sacher, 1994, p. 111.

7 Cadastral block no. 113.

8 Source: American Colony, 1936.

9 Survey of Palestine, 1:20.000, 1942–48. Source: Palestine Open Maps, online: <https://palopenmaps.org/view>.



Fig. 6:

A similar coupon, issued at the same post office on the same day, was shown in MEPB 6 under this description:

Imperial Reply Coupon, 1936 issue (blank reverse), price 12 Mils (Dorfman RC9). Issued at Jerusalem: **TALAVERA BKS / JERUSALEM / C / 29 AU / 36** (Sacher H24), not redeemed.

Image courtesy of Thomas Schubert.¹⁰

Palestine Imperial Reply Coupons

Siegfried Ascher mentions in 1956 three issues of Imperial Reply Coupons: 1926, 1927, and 1937, but the renowned stationery expert must have been mistaken Imperial for U.P.U. Reply Coupons.¹¹

Until June 1927 there were only E.E.F. stamps overprinted “Palestine” in three languages issued in Egyptian currency.¹² Prior to the reform of currency on 1st November 1927, the post office introduced new stamps starting from 1st June 1927 (known as “Pictorials”) for the new Palestinian currency,¹³ which would last until the end of the Mandate in 1948. The change in stamps was followed by the issue of new postal stationery like postcards, letter card and registered envelopes, as well as International Reply Coupons and Imperial Reply Coupons.

A specialised source of information is Paul-August Koch’s 1982 catalogue of Palestine and Israel Reply Coupons. Koch and Wright write about Palestine Imperial Reply Coupons:¹⁴

The British Empire issued for use within the countries of the Empire, beginning April 1927, special “Imperial Reply Coupons” [impRC], the selling price of which was lower in comparison with the price of the IRC, corresponding to the lower rate for a letter within the Empire, but which had validity only in the British Empire. [Successor of these ImpRCs were the corresponding “Commonwealth Reply Coupons”.]

The issue of such ImpRCs for the mandated territory of Palestine was applied for on August 30th, 1930 by the General Post Office in Jerusalem to the Director-General of Postal Services Dept. of the GPO in London.¹⁵ But the GPO in London did not regard “the issue of ImpRCs by Palestine as expedient because they would only be valid in Great Britain (and vice versa); this was because there was no reduced postal tariff between Palestine – as a merely mandated territory, expected to become independent some day – and the Empire generally, only in

10 Cf. MEPB 6, 2017, p. 23. This coupon also is shown by Zywiets, 2009.

11 Ascher, 1956, p. 409.

12 1 Egyptian Pound (E.£) = 100 Piastres (p) = 1,000 Millièmes (m).

13 1 Pound Sterling (£) = 1 Palestinian Pound (P.£) = 1,000 Mils (m). The official conversion rate was set at 1 P.£ = 0.975 E.£. Cf. doc. 261 on p. 66 of MEPB 5. The new stamps do not state a currency: neither Mils nor Millièmes.

14 Koch, 1982, p. 28. The chapter *The Imperial Reply Coupons of the British mandated territory of Palestine* was compiled by Prof. Dr. P.-A. Koch and M. St. J. Wright.

15 *Thanks to the examination of the correspondence between the GPO in Jerusalem and the Director-General of the Postal Services Dept. of the GPO London, details about the issue of these ImpRCs can be given and earlier publications on this subject can be corrected or amplified.* [footnote in the original text]

relations with Great Britain. Not before a new request by the General Post Office in Jerusalem of March 17th, 1934 the GPO agreed with note of April 20th, 1934 to the issue of ImpRCs for Palestine if these, according to a proposal of Jerusalem, would get an imprint in red in English, Arabic and Hebrew: "For exchange in the United Kingdom only". This imprint intended for the reverse was to be effected by the administration in Jerusalem. The General Post Office in Jerusalem ordered after this an initial stock of 1000 ImpRCs with a selling price of 12 Mils – virtually equal the 3 d. charged in Great Britain – from the Director-General of the GPO in London. Hereupon London delivered by registered letter of November 1st, 1934 986 ImpRCs with blue-black imprinted country name PALESTINE and selling price 12 Mils. In the P.O. Circular of the British Post Office of December 27, 1934 was announced thereupon the following:

*"Commencing on the 1st of January [1935] Imperial Reply Coupons will be valid for exchange between United Kingdom and Palestine. Coupons issued in Palestine for exchange in this country will be overprinted in red with the phrase "For exchange in United Kingdom only" and its equivalent in Arabic and Hebrew."*¹⁶

By 1939 Palestine (as a by-product of the Empire Air Mail scheme which had introduced air mail without surcharge within the Empire) did enjoy reduced-rate postage with all Empire countries, and therefore, following another request by the General Post Office in Jerusalem of September 25th, 1938, to approve the ImpRCs for exchange in all countries of the British Empire, the Director-General of the GPO agreed, after consultation with the other administrations, to the validity of a general exchange in all countries of the British Empire excluding Egypt and the Anglo-Egyptian Sudan – which did not take part in the Imperial Reply Coupons Scheme –, these ImpRCs being issued now without the former imprint on the reverse, beginning July 1st, 1939.

From this description one can conclude that there have been Imperial Reply coupons available at Palestine's post office counters only since 1st January, 1935. The official announcement by the Postmaster-General published in the Palestine Gazette confirms this:

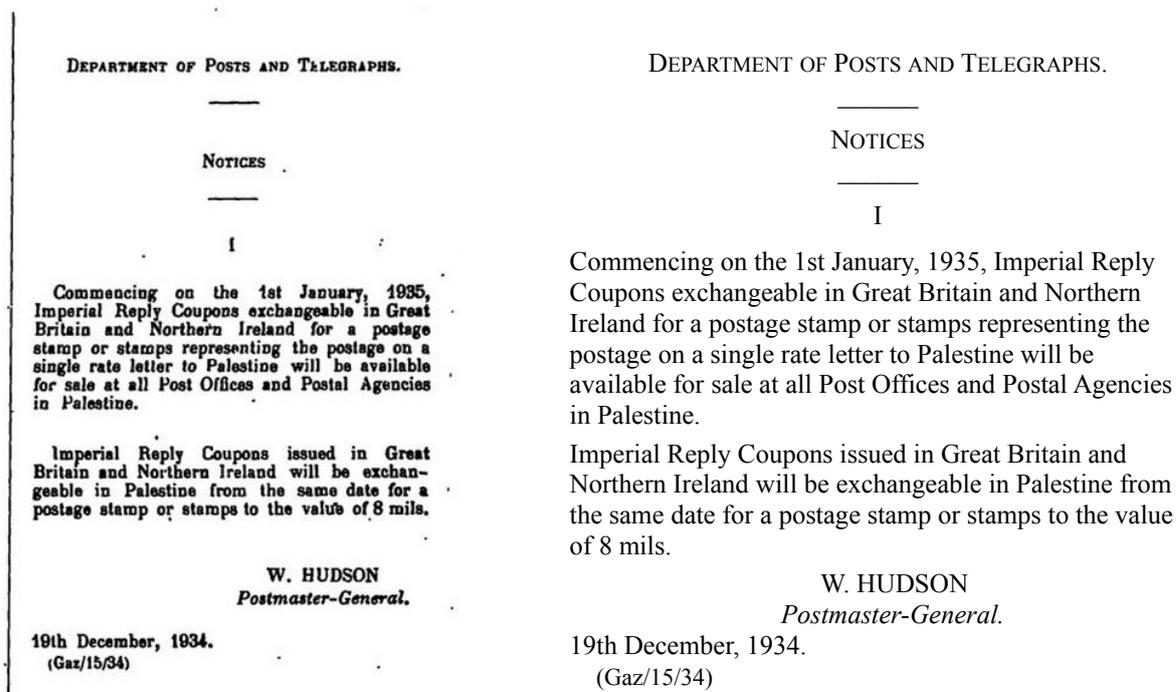


Fig. 7: The Palestine Gazette (Jerusalem), vol. 16, 1934, no. 482 (27.12.1934), p. 1267.

16 There's no evidence that Imperial Reply Coupons with the red overprint as described do exist. See p. 80.

At this point my original intention was to create an updated catalogue; that's when I came across a published catalogue of Imperial Reply Coupons by Peter Robin.¹⁷

A Statistical Evaluation

After studying the catalogue, I set about a statistical evaluation of the first four types of coupons. The dates given in the catalogue for some of the coupons are actually delivery dates based on research by Douglas Muir. I had initially held them to be postmark (i.e. usage) dates, but Robin states: "The dates in small print are registration dates provided by Douglas Muir."¹⁸

There were some 76 countries, territories, and colonies participating in the Imperial Reply Coupons scheme, but not every type was issued in every country. I was only interested in the issues that were also known to have been used in Palestine: this concerns types I, II, III, and V.¹⁹

Type	Issuing Countries	Dated in Robin	Earliest Known Date	Known Date for Palestine
I	49	35	Mostly February 1927 to late 1929 (Ceylon)	29.08.1936
II	16	13	1934, 19	29.08.1936
III	30	21	1936	29.09.1942
V	19	13	1939	14.12.1945
VI	14	8	1940	–

Norman J. Collins quotes information about the dates recorded for specimen copies of Palestine Imperial Reply Coupons in the London G.P.O. Official Collection, now held at the British National Postal Museum in London.²⁰

Type	Palestine	Changes
I	11.12.1934	Original 1927 watermark (A).
III	04.09.1937	Revised wording and watermark (B).
V	22.09.1939	Revised watermark (C).

The Three Watermark Types²¹

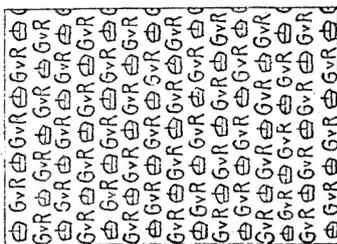


Fig. 8: Watermark A (1927/1934).

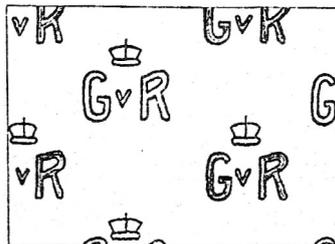


Fig. 9: Watermark B (1937)

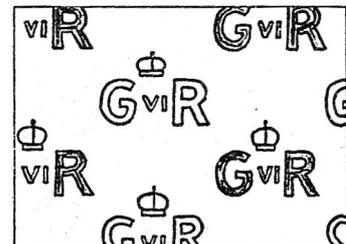


Fig. 10: Watermark C (1939).

17 Robin, 2014 (4th ed.)

18 Robin, 2014 (4th ed.)

19 A total of eight types exist. Cf. King/Buxton, 2017, p. 72 (see p. 77).

Type VI has never been mentioned in relation to Palestine. It was issued in 1940 for India, 1942 for Aden and Ceylon, and 1943 in New Zealand. Since the British envisaged withdrawing from their mandated territory of Palestine after the end of World War II, it looks unlikely that the type VI coupon was issued there.

20 Collins, 1989, p. 118, referring to the types as I, II, and III, these correspond to Koch types I, III, and V.

21 Source: Koch, 1982, pp. 29–30.

Imperial and Commonwealth Reply Coupon Types²²

This is a guide to the classification of coupon types used by general collectors of coupons. Not all types were issued in the UK, but as with the international reply coupons it seemed best to classify those that *were* using accepted type numbers, and to give the full list for reference (including the dates they applied from). UK-issued types are shown in **bold**.

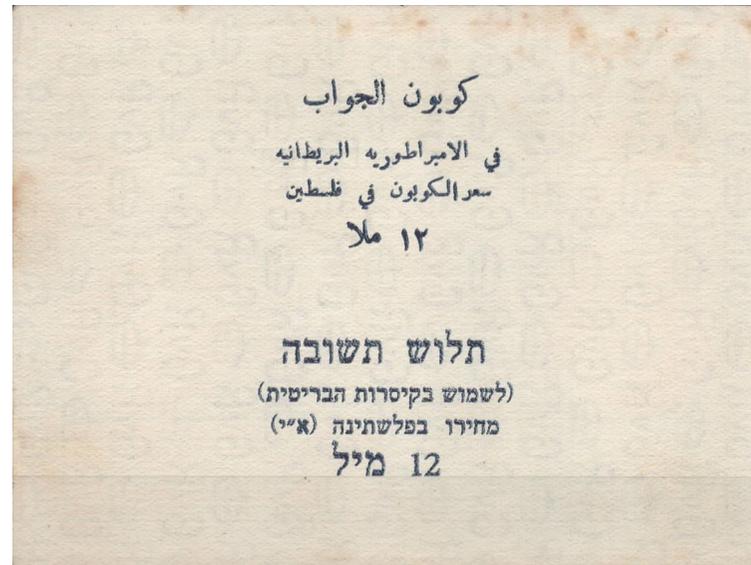


Imperial Reply Coupon design 1927–53

Design with figure of Britannia and shield on rocks with a ship in the background, printed in blue with a yellow background. Country name and price printed in space above ship. Explanatory text in English only in a box at lower right. Back is blank.

Type	Description
I	Watermark multiple continuous GVR cypher Explanatory text ends “VALID FOR SIX MONTHS EXCLUSIVE OF THE MONTH OF ISSUE” Printer’s imprint WATERLOW & SONS LIMITED. LONDON
II	As Type I except: Explanatory text ends “TO A DESTINATION WITHIN THE EMPIRE” Printer’s imprint HARRISON & SONS, LITH. S ^T MARTINS LANE, W.C.
III	As Type II except: Watermark multiple single GVR cypher
IV	[Provisional issue] As Type III except: Violet handstamp at top reading “EXCEPTIONALLY, THE EXCHANGE VALUE / IN INDIA IS 2½ ANNAS”
V	As Type III except: Watermark multiple single GVIR cypher
VI	As Type III except: Explanatory text ends “EXCEPTIONALLY, THE EXCHANGE VALUE IN INDIA IS 2½ ANNAS”
VII	As Type III except: Watermark multiple single GVIR cypher Explanatory text ends “EXCEPTIONALLY, THE EXCHANGE VALUE IN INDIA AND BURMA IS 2½ ANNAS”
VIII	As Type VII except: Explanatory text ends “EXCEPTIONALLY, THE EXCHANGE VALUE IN INDIA AND PAKISTAN IS 2½ ANNAS”

²² Source: King/Buxton, 2017, p. 72. Used by permission. Only the part referring to Imperial Reply Coupons (types I–VIII) is shown here.



Figs. 11 and 11a:

Front and reverse of no. 1, type I (1935) with the black-blue surcharges.

Courtesy of Wolfgang Leimenstoll

For no. 2, type II: see fig. 1.



Fig. 12:
No. 3, type III (193x).
Source: Koch, 1982, p. 30.



Fig. 13:
No. 4, type V (1939).

Imperial Reply Coupons of Palestine under British Mandate

I propose the following catalogue of coupons issued in Palestine:

Base design: *Coupon with figure of Britannia with trident and shield and a sailing vessel in the background, headed "IMPERIAL REPLY COUPON" At right and at left a white circle for the cancellation each of 25 mm diameter, left for the issuing and right for the exchanging post office. Validity instructions in a white panel, bottom right. Surcharge on front: "PALESTINE / SELLING PRICE / 12 Mils" (blue-black).²³ Border: one thick and seven thin lines. Print in blue, underprint (pattern with tiny stars) in light yellow, covering only part of the design. Size: 108×80 mm.*

Pales tine	Type	Koch	Dorf man	Issued Known Dates	Description	Surcharges on reverse ²⁴
1	I	1	RC8	01.01.1935	Validity instructions (six months exclusive of the month of issue) in six lines; last line centred, reading: "OF THE MONTH OF ISSUE." Imprint at bottom: WATERLOW & SONS LIMITED, LONDON" Cliché size: 101×70 mm. Watermark: A.	Arabic: كوبون الجواب / في الامبراطورية البريطانية / سعر / الكوبون في فلسطين / ١٢ ملا ²⁵ Hebrew: / (לשמוש בקידוח הבריטי ת) / מחיר בפלשתינה (א"י) / 12 מיל ²⁶
2	II	–	–	1935 29.08.1936	Validity instructions in five lines, last line reading: "THE EMPIRE." Imprint at bottom: HARRISON & SONS., LITH., S ^T MARTIN'S LANE, W.C." Cliché size: 102½×70½ mm. Watermark: A.	–
3	III	2	RC9	1936 29.09.1942	Validity instructions in five lines, last line reading: "THE EMPIRE." Imprint at bottom: HARRISON & SONS., LITH., S ^T MARTIN'S LANE, W.C." Cliché size: 102½×70½ mm. Watermark: B.	–
4	V	3	RC10	1939 14.12.1945	Validity instructions in five lines, last line reading: "THE EMPIRE." Imprint at bottom: HARRISON & SONS., LITH., S ^T MARTIN'S LANE, W.C." Cliché size: 102½×70½ mm. Watermark: C.	–

The end of the British Mandate over Palestine on 14th May 1948 also marks the end of Imperial Reply Coupons used in the territory.

²³ Surcharge performed in London. Examples used in Palestine without this overprint are known.

²⁴ Surcharge performed in Jerusalem.

²⁵ Translates as: "answer coupon / for the British Empire / price in Palestine / 12 Mils".

²⁶ Translates as: "answer coupon / for use in the British Empire / price in Palestine (E.I) / 12 Mil".

The Illusive Red Surcharge

The British Post Office announced the issue of an Imperial Reply Coupon with a red overprint on 27th December 1934:²⁷

Commencing on the 1st of January [1935] Imperial Reply Coupons will be valid for exchange between United Kingdom and Palestine. Coupons issued in Palestine for exchange in this country will be overprinted in red with the phrase "For exchange in United Kingdom only" and its equivalent in Arabic and Hebrew.

Despite this such coupons have never surfaced and are not mentioned anywhere. Koch catalogued this illusive coupon as type "A". Apart from the text and colour of the surcharge, this seems identical to the Imperial Reply Coupon actually issued on 1st January 1935. Koch himself states:²⁸

This ImpRC is reported neither in a list or publication, nor seen till now; its edition would seem, however, very probable with regard to the announcement in the P. O. Circular of the British Post Office, reproduced above.

Since the imprint on the reverse was to be effected locally in Jerusalem, either a different arrangement was agreed (but was never announced), or the Palestinian Postmaster-General did not adhere to the specifications set and printed something different, which is very unlikely (adding a few lines in English would have been quite easy). The most likely scenario is that post offices were informed on the exchange conditions by internal circular and/or by the packaging (bundles of ten), rather than by overprinting the actual coupons, and then had to advise buyers accordingly. The official announcement in the Palestine Gazette clearly states:²⁹

Commencing on the 1st January, 1935, Imperial Reply Coupons exchangeable in Great Britain and Northern Ireland for a postage stamp or stamps representing the postage on a single rate letter to Palestine will be available for sale at all Post Offices and Postal Agencies in Palestine.

One notes also that the surcharges in Arabic and Hebrew that do exist in black also do not state the agreed terms and just say "answer coupon / for the British Empire / price in Palestine / 12 Mils":

كوبون الجواب / في الامبراطوريه البريطانيه / سعر الكوبون في فلسطين / ١٢ ملا
תלוש תשובה / (לשמוש בקידוה הבריטית) / מחיר בפלשתינה (א"י) / 12 מיל

British Letter Tariff ³⁰	Empire	Foreign	Palestine Letter Tariff ³¹	UK & Eire	Foreign
1923	1½ d	2½ d	1923	13 m	13 m
			1926	7 m	13 m
			1929	13 m	13 m
			1930	7 m	13 m
			1932	8 m	15 m
1940	2½ d	3 d	1938	10 m	15 m
			1943	15 m	20 m

27 P.O. Circular of the British Post Office, 27.12.1934; quoted from Koch, 1982, p. 28.

28 Koch, 1982, p. 28.

29 Cf. fig. 7 on p. 75.

30 First ounce (15 g); cf. <http://www.gbpa.org.uk/information/rates/overseas/surface/letters-1875-1975.php>.

31 First 20 g; cf. Zywiets, Tobias: *Postal rates*. In: A Short Introduction To The Philately Of Palestine. 2008. Online: https://www.zobbel.de/stamp/pal_60.htm.

Correspondence Regarding the Issue of Imperial Reply Coupons in Palestine

As referred to by Koch, there exists an exchange of letters between the Postmaster-General of Palestine and the Post Office and the Colonial Office in London. This was unearthed in the Post Office Records Department of the G.P.O. London by Norman Gladstone in 1989:³² (*editor*)

30th August 1930

Postmaster General, Jerusalem,³³ to the Secretary at the General Post Office in London.³⁴

General Post Office,
Jerusalem,
30th August 1930.

PT/ 5/24.

Sir,

The accompanying Imperial Reply coupon presented at the Post Office, Jerusalem, has been exchanged exceptionally at the rate for a letter from Palestine to Great Britain not exceeding 20 grammes in weight.

The first rate for a letter from Palestine to Great Britain is 7 mils. As there are 1000 mils to the Palestine Pound, the equivalent of the pound sterling, the mil is slightly less in value than a farthing.

Notwithstanding that, however this Administration would be willing should you desire to extend the facility to the public of Great Britain to exchange such coupons for postage stamps, of 7 mils denomination provided the redemption price of the coupons would not result in a loss.

In the circumstances I shall be glad to be informed of the redemption price of the coupons.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

(sgnd)

for Postmaster General.

*The Secretary,
General Post Office,
London, EC1.*

7th October 1930

A letter directed by the secretary to Lord Passfield,³⁵ acknowledging a letter of the 20th September 1930, and requests the secretary at the General Post Office, to inform the Postmaster General, that he has no objection in principle to the inclusion of Palestine in the Imperial Reply coupon scheme.

3rd November 1930

A letter from the Postmaster General at Jerusalem to the secretary at the General Post Office, London, EC1, requesting a reply to his letter of the 30th August last.

18th November 1930

Letter written to the Undersecretary of State for the Colonial Office³⁶ replying to the letter directed by Lord Passfield on 7th October 1930.

24th November 1930

Reply mailed from Downing Street, acknowledging receipt of letter of the 18th November 1930, and seeing no objection to the terms of the reply which it is proposed to address to the Palestine Post Office.

32 Gladstone, 1989. The author added "Up to the time of writing this article the author has yet to see any Imperial Reply Coupons with this red overprint that is mentioned above, and wonders whether this was ever produced." and "All the letters quoted, if they were reproduced in full, would have taken up too much space, but the most relevant notes and dates are given here that will throw much light on this hitherto undiscussed subject."

33 Lieut.-Col. William Hudson, CBE, OBE, MC, Postmaster General, 1920–1937.

34 Unclear, maybe Sir (George) Evelyn Pemberton Murray (1880–1947), Secretary of the Post Office, 1914–1934.

35 Sidney James Webb, 1st Baron Passfield, OM, PC (1859–1947), Secretary of State for the Colonies, 1929–1931.

36 Sir Thomas Drummond Shiels, MC, MB, ChB (1881–1953), Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies, 1929–1931.

2nd December 1930

Copy of the letter mailed from the Undersecretary of State for the Colonial Office,
to the Postmaster General at Jerusalem:

P.T. 5/24

Sir,

With reference to your letter of the 30th August last, I am directed by the Postmaster General to say that the Imperial Reply Coupon scheme was adopted with the object of enabling the sender to prepay the postage on a single rate letter in the Imperial service, where a rate of postage lower than the ordinary international rate applies.

The coupons are printed by the British Post Office and are supplied to the various British Dominions and Colonies at cost price – estimated at 11/- per thousand.

In view of the small balance involved by the sale and exchange of the Coupons, there is no accounting between the Administration of issue and exchange; but each issuing office retains the revenue which it obtains from the sale of the Coupons.

Seeing that the ordinary international rate of postage applies to letters from Palestine to the British Empire (with the exception of the United Kingdom) the Imperial Reply Coupon would not be suitable for use between Palestine and the countries of the British Empire in general. Arrangements could be made for the Coupon to be limited to the service between Palestine and the United Kingdom; but the restriction would probably not be properly observed by the public with the result that complaint would arise; and it seems doubtful whether the facility, if so restricted, would be of much practical utility. In the circumstances, you will no doubt agree that it would not be advisable to attempt to introduce such a restricted exchange.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

(sgnd)

for the Secretary.

*The Postmaster General,
Jerusalem.*

17th March 1934

After further research we find that it was not until the 17th March 1934 that the Postmaster General at Jerusalem, referring to the letter of the 2nd December 1930 stated: further consideration of introducing the Imperial Reply Coupons service for a trial period of one year.

20th April 1934

A reply from the Undersecretary of State for the Colonial Office³⁷ to the Postmaster General at Jerusalem raising NO objection to the Imperial Reply coupons being used in Palestine on a limited exchange, and will arrange a supply of Imperial Reply Coupons to be sent to Jerusalem.

3rd May 1934

A reply to the letter of the 20th April 1934, was sent by the Postmaster General of Jerusalem to the General Post Office with further reference to the Imperial Reply coupons.

16th May 1934

A proposal to overprint the coupons with the words: FOR EXCHANGE IN THE UNITED KINGDOM ONLY, and the equivalent in Arabic and Hebrew, will presumably be done in Palestine ... circular to be sent out to instruct Counter officers to acknowledge coupons, as previously Imperial Reply Coupons sent to Palestine by members of the public in the country (Great Britain) have been refused by the Palestine Post Office.

11th July 1934

Letter from the Postmaster General at Jerusalem to Director General Postal Supplies Department at the General Post Office, London EC1, requesting an initial stock of 1,000 Imperial Reply Coupons between the United Kingdom and Palestine. Propose to charge 12 mils equivalent to 3 d per coupon.

³⁷ Ivor Miles Windsor-Clive, 2nd Earl of Plymouth, PC (1889–1943), Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies; 1932–1936:

26th October 1934

From the Postal Supplies Department in London EC1 informing that ... 986 Imperial Reply Coupons overprinted "PALESTINE SELLING PRICE 12 mils" were forwarded to the Post Office Stores Department on 24th October 1934, for despatch to General Post Office in Jerusalem.

4th December 1934

Letter sent from the Postmaster General at Jerusalem to Director General, G.P.O. London EC1, to place the Imperial Reply Coupons on sale in Palestine on 1st January 1935, and coupons issued in Great Britain will be redeemable in Palestine on the same date.

27th December 1934

... Notice was issued that the Imperial Reply Coupons will be on sale in Palestine on 1st January 1935, between the United Kingdom and Palestine. Coupons issued in Palestine for exchange in this country will be overprinted in RED with the phrase: "FOR EXCHANGE IN THE UNITED KINGDOM ONLY", and its equivalent in Arabic and Hebrew.

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The All-Arabic Jordanian West Bank Censor Markings

by Avo Kaplanian

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In the late Fifties and early Sixties of the former century, the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan censored a big part of the mail in the West Bank. This included local, as well as outgoing and incoming mail from abroad. The West Bank was placed under Jordanian administration after the end of the Second World War.

The censored items were embellished by many different censor marks, mostly civilian but some military too, in many different shapes and different colours, all of which were in Arabic. Every now and then censor re-seal labels, also in Arabic, were used too.

A 1949 Precursor

Before I start listing these special censor marks, I would like to go back a few years, to the late forties to be exact, and show a double circular cachet with a 34 mm diameter and with an Arabic four lines text reading “المملكة / الاردنية الهاشمية / روقب / عمان” i.e. “The Kingdom / of Hashemite Jordan / censored / Amman” (see *fig. 1* to the right).



What is interesting about this censor mark is that it was not exclusively used in the West Bank, but was also used on mail from and to the East Bank, i.e. Jordan proper too.

In *fig. 2* we see this mark on a cover from Amman to London mailed on 15th October 1949. The cover is franked by four stamps totalling 35 fils plus two “Aid” stamps totalling 18 fils, the obligatory 50% of the total franking value. This censor cachet was used much earlier than the other censor marks listed here and it was solely used during the month of October of 1949 and only between the 14th and the 28th of that month.

Civil Censorship Marks

From 1949, we make a jump to the late Fifties and early Sixties. During those years, many censor marks were used in the West Bank: both for local and international mail.

As was mentioned before, these markings were all in Arabic and came in different shapes such as circular or double circular, square, rectangular, hexagonal, boxed and unboxed, etc. The colours were either red, black, or violet.

Here follows a systematic listing of all the censor marks known to me so far with the information I have gathered of each mark.



Fig. 2: An October 1949 censored cover to London.

Type	Text ¹	Form Dimensions	Colour	Earliest Known Date	Latest Known Date	
CCM 1	الرقابة	single circle (thick) 30 mm	violet	01.10.1958	10.01.1963	
CCM 2	الرقابة	double circle 27 mm	violet	15.05.1958	29.08.1959	

1 الرقابة = censorship; روقب = censored; مجاز = passed or authorised.

Type	Text	Form Dimensions	Colour	Earliest Known Date	Latest Known Date	
CCM 3	مجاز	double circle 23 mm	red	08.11.1949 ²	–	
CCM 4	روقب	rectangle 25×13 mm	violet	04.01.1958	08.11.1958	
CCM 5	الرقابة / ٣	single circle 25 mm	black	26.11.1958 ³	–	
CCM 6	روقب / ٣	double circle 28 mm	violet	–	–	
CCM 7	روقب / ٤	double circle 28 mm	violet	23.04.1958	20.12.1959	
CCM 8	روقب / ٦	single circle 28 mm	black	23.03.1958	06.11.1960	

2 Only one cover known.

3 Only one cover known.

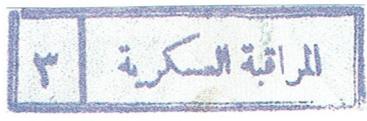
Type	Text	Form Dimensions	Colour	Earliest Known Date	Latest Known Date	
CCM 9	روقب / ٦	single circle 35 mm	violet	12.12.1960	04.07.1961	
CCM 10	روقب / ٦	double rectangle 26×29 mm	violet	14.12.1964	09.09.1965	
CCM 11	روقب / ٦	hexagon 34×34 mm	violet	17.12.1962	13.07.1963	
CCM 12	روقب / ٧	double circle 29 mm	violet	18.01.1958	11.01.1960	
CCM 13	روقب / ٨	single circle 40 mm	black violet	01.10.1958	28.12.1958	
CCM 14	روقب / ٩	rectangle 27×25 mm	violet	07.12.1958	25.08.1959	

Type	Text	Form Dimensions	Colour	Earliest Known Date	Latest Known Date	
CCM 15	٩ / روقب	hexagon 34×34 mm	black	26.06.1962	30.12.1899	
CCM 16	١٠ / روقب	rectangle with rounded sides 35×33 mm	black	26.04.1959	20.12.1959	
CCM 17	١٠ / روقب	double rectangle 28×25 mm	black violet	2.01.1959 ⁴	11.01.1959	

Of these, censor marks CCM 3, CCM 5 and CCM 6 are the least common and are very hard to find, while censor marks CCM 8, CCM 9, CCM 10, CCM 12, and CCM 16 are found more frequently.

Military Censorship Marks

Next to these civil censor marks, military censorship was also exercised in the same area and the same period, i.e. the late Fifties and early Sixties of the twentieth century. Four of these marks are known to me. These are the following:

Type	Text ⁵	Form Dimensions	Colour	Earliest Known Date	Latest Known Date	
MCM 1	الرقابة العسكرية ١	double rectangular 41×14 mm	violet	29.12.1958	07.07.1959	
MCM 2	الرقابة العسكرية ٣	double rectangular 41×14 mm	violet	13.12.1958	03.09.1960	

⁴ Only two covers known.

⁵ الرقابة العسكرية = military censorship; قطاع الخليل / رقابة العسكرية = Hebron Sector / military censorship.

Type	Text	Form Dimensions	Colour	Earliest Known Date	Latest Known Date	
MCM 3	رقابة العسكرية	41×10 mm	violet	10.05.1958	04.09.1959	
MCM 4	قطاع الخليل رقابة العسكرية	39×22 mm	black	4.05.1960 ⁶		

The Covers

In order to illustrate the usage of these censor marks, I am showing here a few covers with such censor markings. In *fig. 3*, we see a cover mailed from Leipzig (East Germany) to Jerusalem on the 26th of November 1958. On the front we see censor mark CCM 5 in black which was struck upon arrival in Jerusalem.

The next item is a local cover mailed from Jerusalem to Ramallah dated 28th September 1958. Upon arrival the next day in Ramallah, the cover was censored and supplied with censor mark CCM 8 reading “رقيب / ٦” (censored / 6) (*fig. 4*).

Fig. 5 shows a cover mailed in Jerusalem to Cairo on the 17th December 1962. The cover was first censored in Jerusalem with a strike of CCM 11 “رقيب / ٦” (6 / censored) censor mark and in Cairo with the black circular “رقابة البريد” (postal censorship) cachet.

Fig. 6 shows an air letter mailed in Anabta to Chicago on the 30th July 1959. On the back we see the CCM 14 “رقيب / ٩” (censored / 9) rectangular censor mark in violet.

In *fig. 7* we see a local cover mailed in Jenin to Qalandia (near Jerusalem) on the 22nd July 1959. On the back is the black CCM 16 “رقيب / ١٠” (censored / 10) squarish censor mark.

Finally in *fig. 8* we see another local cover mailed in Irbid to Qalandia on the 7th July 1959. On the back of the cover we see the violet rectangular strike of MCM 1 “الرقابة العسكرية | ١” (military censorship / 1). Furthermore, on the right we see part of the black on red “military censorship” re-sealing label.

In addition to the usage of these different civil and military markings, some letters were marked by a manuscript indicating their being censored. A few examples of such so-called manuscript censorship follow here.

In *fig. 9* we see a domestic cover mailed in Hebron to Jerusalem / Ramallah on the 4th December 1958. On the back we see the arrival postmark of Ramallah (5th December 1958) and part of the B.H. 280 bilingual label with the text: “Received torn / open and officially secured”. On the left in Arabic and in green ink is the hand-written word “censored” with the signature of the postal clerk.

A similar cover is shown in *fig. 10*. The local cover is mailed in Irbid to Qalandia (Jerusalem Air Port) on 4th July 1959. On the back we see the transit postmark of Jerusalem (5th July 1959) and the arrival postmark of Jerusalem Air Port (i.e. Qalandia) dated 6th July 1959. Here also we see the Arabic manuscript “رقيب” (censored) in red plus the postal clerk’s signature.

⁶ Only one cover known.

What is more interesting is the one line cachet MCM 3 in violet reading “رقابة العسكرية” (military censorship) struck twice on the left and the right.

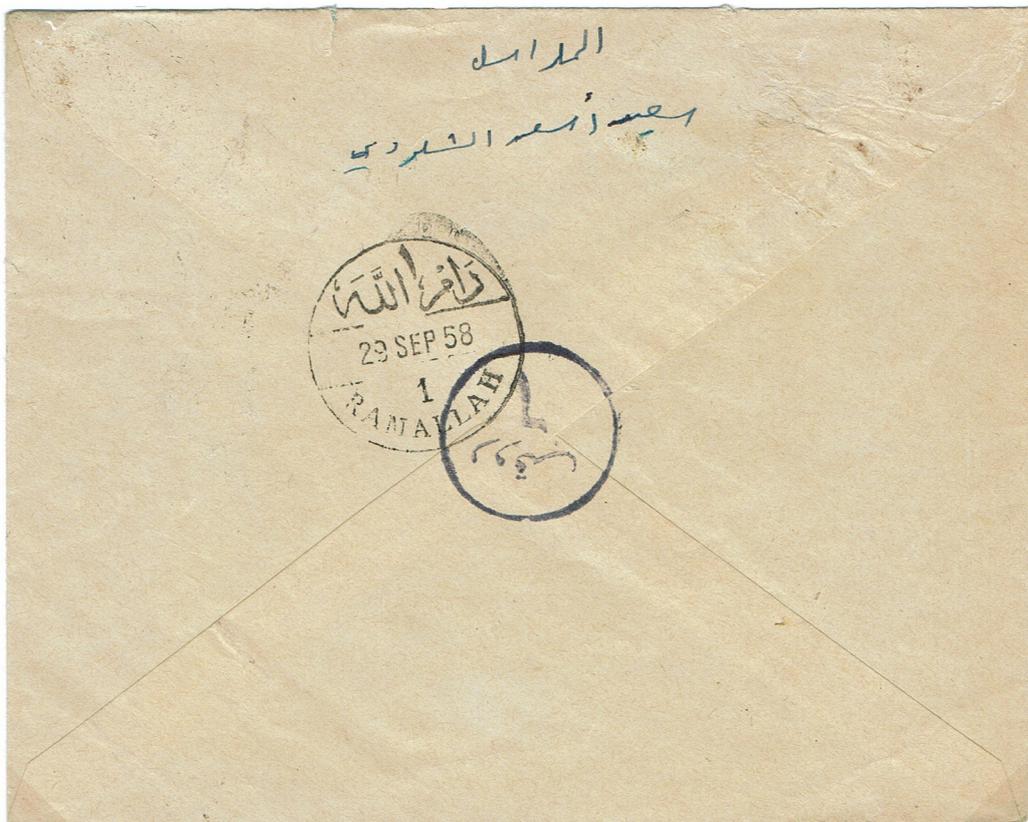
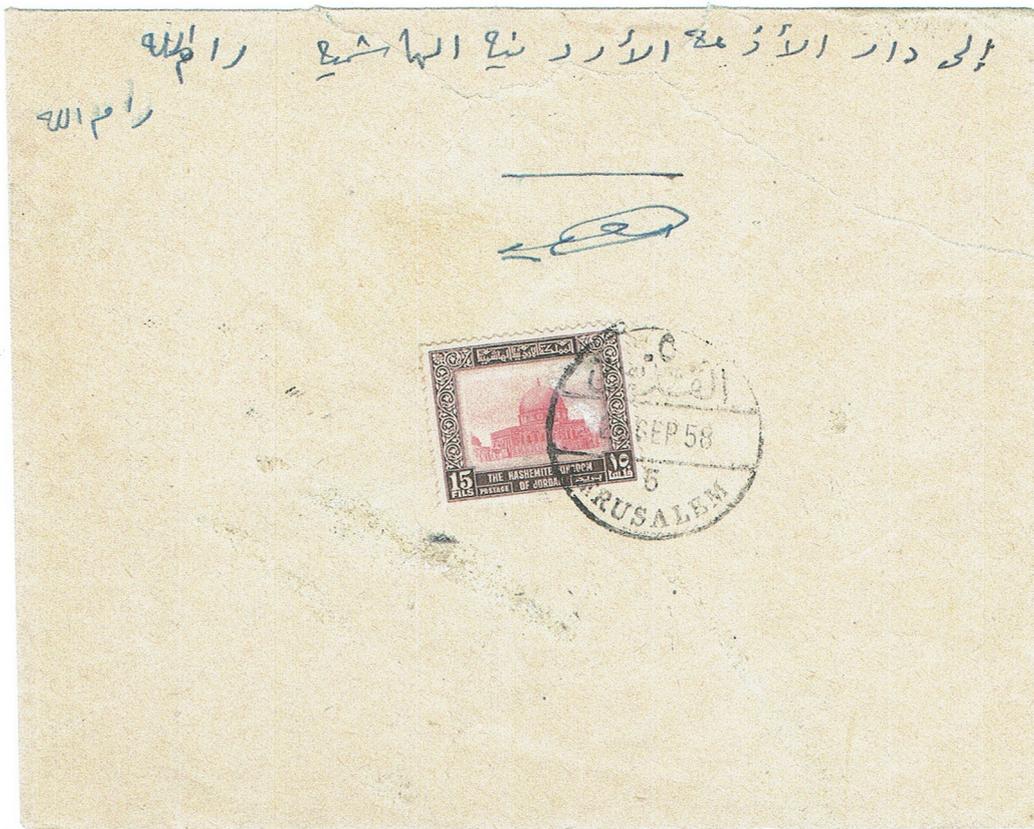
Fig. 11 shows a cover mailed in London to Jerusalem on the 8th January 1960. On the back is the transit postmarks of Amman (10th January 1960) and Jerusalem (11th January 1960) plus the arrival postmark of Jerusalem Citadel, also 11th January 1960. On the front and back of the cover we see the Arabic hand-written word “تحقيق” (*tahqiq*) in red meaning inspection or investigation plus the signature of the responsible postal employee.

Finally fig. 12 shows a cover mailed in Oakland, California to Bir Zeit on the 1st April 1966 (very late date). On the back are the transit postmarks of Jerusalem (4th April 1966) and Ramallah (5th April 1966) plus the arrival postmark of Bir Zeit (6th April 1966). On the front we see the manuscript “تحقيق” (inspection/investigation) in blue.

The cover was force-registered in Jerusalem and was struck by a violet Arabic-only two-line cachet reading “ورد يحمل اثار صغ / على قفلانه” (received with gum traces on the flaps). Furthermore, on the left we see the in Arabic hand-written sentence reading “I have received the full contents. A cheque of U.S. \$20.00 and nothing else”. The signature of the addressee Miss Hanan Mazbar is under the sentence. Then on the right we see the signature of the director of Bir Zeit post office.



Fig. 3: Cover mailed from Leipzig to Jerusalem, 26.11.1958, sent by East Germany's largest stamp album and accessories company Schaubek to the well known stamp trader and philatelist Akram E. Kawar. Censor mark CCM 5 in black, struck upon arrival in Jerusalem.



Figs. 4 and 4a: Cover mailed from Jerusalem to Ramallah, 28.09.1958. Censored on arrival with censor mark CCM 8 reading "رقيب / ٦" (censored / 6).



Figs. 5 and 5a: Cover from Jerusalem to Cairo, 17.12.1962. First censored in Jerusalem with CCM 11: "٦ / روقب" (6 / censored) and in Cairo with the black circular "رقابة البريد" (postal censorship) cachet.

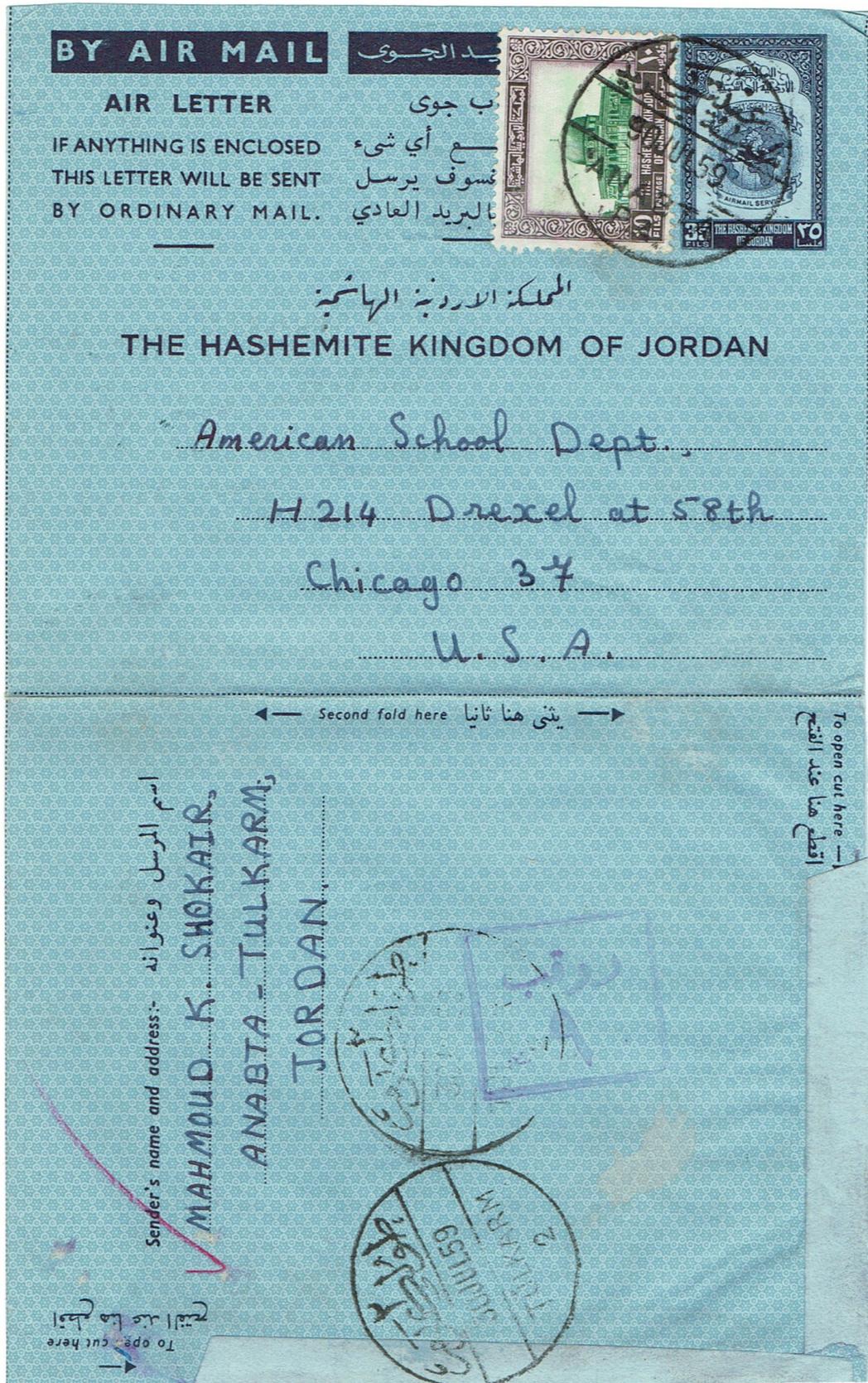


Fig. 6: Air letter from Anabta via Tulkarm to Chicago, 30.07.1959
On the back: rectangular censor mark in violet CCM 14: "موقوف / 9" (censored / 9).



Figs. 7 and 7a: Local cover from Jenin to Qalandia (Jerusalem Air Port), 22.07.1959. On the back clear strike of the squarish censor mark CCM 16 in black: "مرفق / ١٠" (censored / 10).



Figs. 8 and 8a: A local cover from Irbid via Amman to Qalandia, 7.07.1959. On the back strike in violet of the rectangular censor mark MCM 1: "الرقابة العسكرية | 1" (military censorship / 1). Furthermore, on the right we see part of the black on red military censorship re-sealing label.



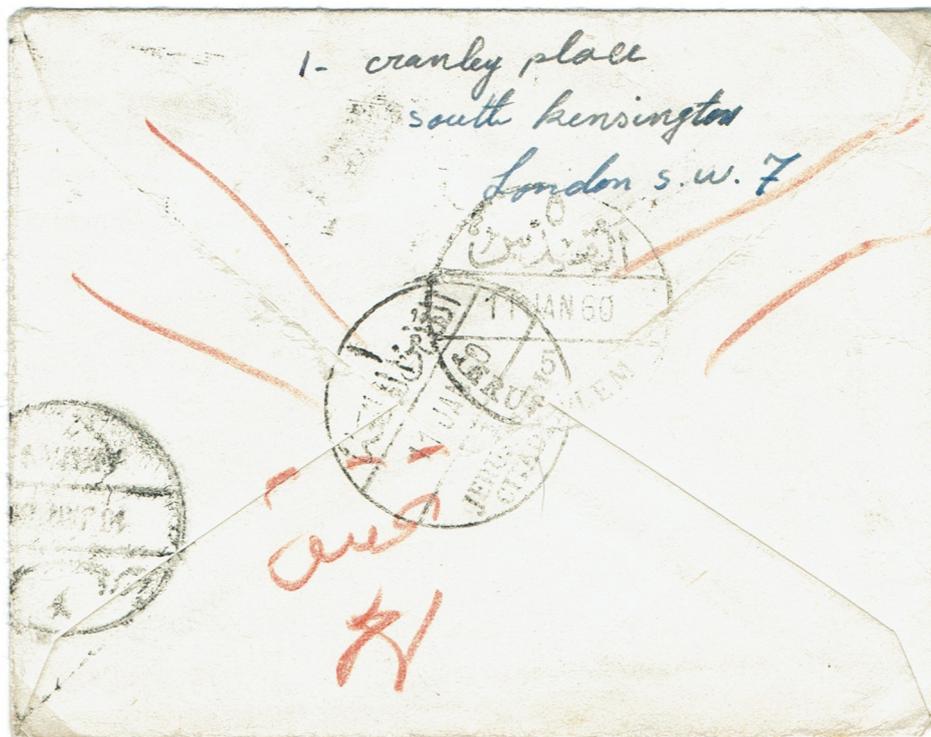
Figs. 9 and 9a: A domestic cover from Hebron to Jerusalem, 4.12.1958.

On the back postmarks Jerusalem 4.12.1958 and the forwarded (because the Broadcast Service was not in Jerusalem but Ramallah) to Ramallah 5.12.1958 and part of the B.H. 280 bilingual label with text translating as “received torn / open and officially secured”.

On the left in green ink hand-written the word “وقف” (censored) with the signature of the postal clerk.



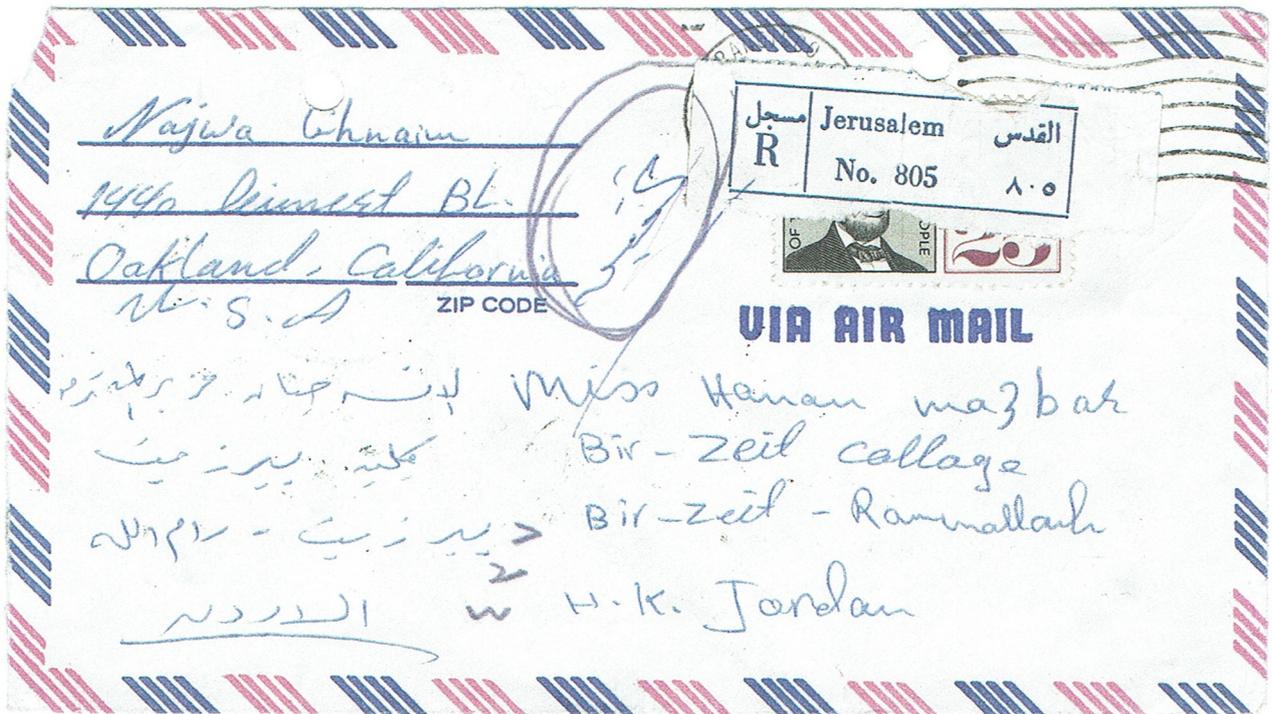
Figs. 10 and 10a: Another local cover mailed in Irbid to Qalandia on 4.07.1959. On the back there's the transit postmark of Jerusalem (5.07.1959) and the arrival postmark of Jerusalem Air Port (i.e. Qalandia) dated 6.07.1959. Here also we see the Arabic manuscript "روقب" (censored) in red plus the postal clerk's signature. More interesting is the one line cachet MCM 3 in violet reading "رقابة العسكرية" (military censorship) struck twice on the left and the right.



Figs. 11 and 11a: Cover from London to Jerusalem, 8.01.1960.

On reverse transit postmarks of Amman (10.01.1960) and Jerusalem (11.01.1960) plus the arrival postmark of Jerusalem Citadel, also 11.01.1960.

On front and back Arabic hand-written words “تحقيق” (*tahqiq*, inspection or investigation) plus the signature of the responsible postal employee.



Figs. 12 and 12a: A cover mailed in Oakland, California, to Bir Zeit, 1.04.1966.

On the back are the transit postmarks of Jerusalem (4.04.1966, three strikes) and Ramallah (5.04.1966) plus the arrival postmark of Bir Zeit (6.04.1966). On the front "تحقيق" (inspection/investigation) in blue.

The cover was force-registered in Jerusalem and was struck by a violet Arabic-only two-line cachet reading "ورد يحمل اثار صنع / على قفلانه" (received with gum traces on the flaps).

Furthermore, on the left there's a hand-written note reading "I have received the full contents. A cheque of US-\$ 20.00 and nothing else" signed by the addressee Miss Hanan Mazbar; on the right we see the signature of the director of Bir Zeit post office.

Registration Etiquettes and Cachets used in the Aden Protectorate States

by Mike Pettifor & Neil Williams

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The Protectorate States were all those polities in the hinterland of Aden Colony (later Aden State) and in the Hadhramaut which entered into treaties with the British Government. The Protectorates were administratively divided into the Eastern Aden Protectorates (EAP), comprising the Wahidi, Qu'aiti, Kathiri and Mahra States, and the Western Aden Protectorates (WAP) consisting of 16 states. The Colony comprised an area of 192 km² around the Port of Aden, plus the island of Perim; the island of Kamaran was also administered by the Colony.

Until April 1937, the Colony and the Protectorates were governed from India, including postal administration. Postal activities were well established in what became the Colony¹ by the mid-1800s, but it was not until the 1930s that economic and political drivers led to the establishment of postal offices in the Protectorate States. The first opened in 1937 at Mukalla and at Seiyun, the principal towns of the Qu'aiti and Kathiri States, respectively. During the 1940s further offices were opened at other major centres in the EAP, whilst in the 1950s and 1960s a substantial number of Postal Agencies were opened serving smaller and more remote settlements throughout the Protectorates.

This article aims to show the development of usage of registration etiquettes and cachets in the postal history of the Protectorate States, i.e. 1937–67, together with a few of similar design from the first years of the subsequent Republic which are shown for completeness. To avoid confusion in terminology, I use the philatelic term “etiquette” to mean a small piece of paper (a label), either gummed or un-gummed, perforate or imperforate, which is attached to registered mail to facilitate its tracking, and “cachet” to mean a mark for the same purpose applied directly to the mail by means of a hand-stamp.

The Early Years 1937–47

Mail from Seiyun and other locations in the Hadhramaut was passing through Mukalla on its way to Aden for further distribution and it seems that registration was being handled at Mukalla, as no labels marked Seiyun or elsewhere have been seen before 1947. Mukalla initially used un-named blank registration etiquettes, of standard Indian pattern, cut from sheets and with the town name added in black or red manuscript (*figs. 1 and 60*), as well as amended stock from Aden GPO (*figs. 2 and 3*).

On the issue of the first Kathiri and Qu'aiti postage stamps in July 1942, FDCs from Mukalla, Seiyun and Shihr (at least) had more modern etiquettes, again with the name of Mukalla written in (*fig. 4*). The first pre-printed named etiquette appears by October 1942 (*fig. 5*). As can be seen, it was not uncommon, especially in this period, for the registration number to be ‘officially amended,’ presumably to avoid duplication with a previously used number.

¹ The following offices in the Colony issued registration etiquettes at various times: Aden GPO, Harbour, Aden Camp, Crater, Maalla, Khormaksar, Aden RAF, Sheikh Othman, Little Aden, Perim, Kamaran. From 1957 to 1967, military and forces concession mail used the Field Post Office system which had separate registration arrangements.

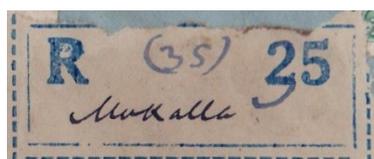


Fig. 1: Mukalla 1938



Fig. 2: Mukalla 1937



Fig. 3: Mukalla 1939



Fig. 4: Mukalla, July 1942



Fig. 5: Mukalla, October 1942

The First Series of Standard Etiquettes

Starting with Mukalla (fig. 5), these were issued beginning 1947 and were in widespread use through to the early 1970s, with those issued in the Protectorate period normally having printed place names, and those in the Republic era having names applied by hand-stamp on blank stock. Reflecting the development of postal services, the earlier printed labels are mainly from locations in the Qu'aiti and Kathiri States. The etiquettes were provided in rolls, with average dimensions of 18 mm × 41 mm, imperforated vertically and perforated horizontally between 12½ and 15 and printed in blue. A number of the busier offices required reprints, resulting in different presentations of the name, notably at Mukalla and Seiyun. Dates of noted use are given.



Fig. 6: Ahwar 1971

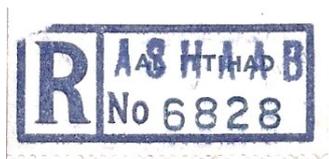
Fig. 7: Al Hautah² 1963-64Fig. 8: Al Ittihad³ 1967

Fig. 9: Ashaab 1970



Fig. 10: Ataq 1971



Fig. 11: Beihan 1970

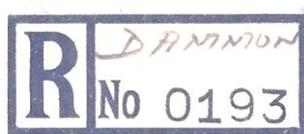


Fig. 12: Dammun 1961-63

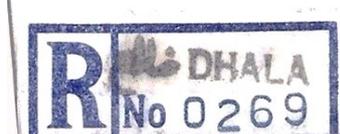


Fig. 13: Dhala 1970

Fig. 14: Du'an⁴ 1953-62

2 Al Ittihad was the name used for the seat of the Federation of South Arabia. It reverted to its traditional name of Ashaab in 1968.

3 Al Hautah was an alternative name for the office of Huatat Ahmed Bin Zain.

4 Duan office was located at Alkhuraybah and was subsequently renamed as such.



Fig. 15: Gheil Ba Wazir 1968



Fig. 16: Haura 1955-61



Fig. 17: Huatat Ahmed Bin Zain⁵
1953-56



Fig. 18: Hureidah 1955-66



Fig. 19: Mukalla 1947-66



Fig. 20: Mukalla 1950



Fig. 21: Nisab 1971



Fig. 22: Seiyun 1946-47



Fig. 23: Seiyun 1951-59



Fig. 24: Seiyun 1953



Fig. 25: Seiyun
used at Al Hautah 1957



Fig. 26: Seiyun 1964



Fig. 27: Seiyun 1963-66



Fig. 28: Shibam 1954-62



Fig. 29: Shihr 1959-65



Fig. 30: Tarim 1953-61



Fig. 31: Tarim used at Sah 1957

5 Al Hautah was an alternative name for the office of Huatat Ahmed Bin Zain.

The Use of Cachets

Starting in the mid-1950s, a number of Offices used cachets in parallel with the use of etiquettes (*fig. 66*). There appears to be a geographic and a time distribution – the simpler monolingual cachets seem to be used from the 1940s in the Qu'aiti State, whilst the bilingual cachets are used in the Kathiri State in the 1960s. The cachet used at Hureidah in the 1940s is a 'one-off.'



Fig. 32: Dammun 1957

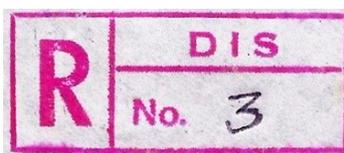


Fig. 33: Dis 1954

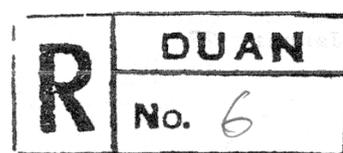


Fig. 34: Duan⁶ 1955

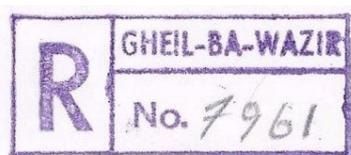


Fig. 35: Gheil-Ba-Wazir 1954-66

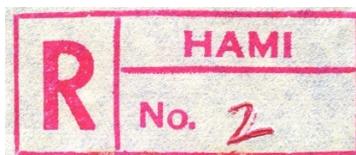


Fig. 36: Hami 1954

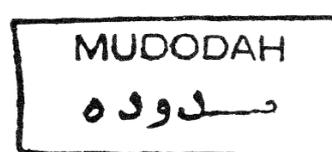


Fig. 37: Mudodah 1958

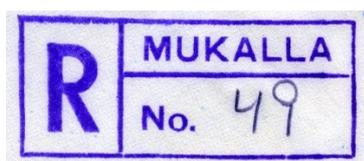


Fig. 38: Mukalla 1967

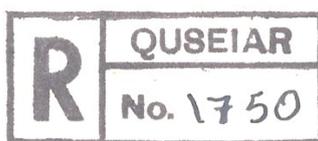


Fig. 39: Quseiar 1955

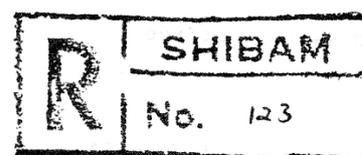


Fig. 40: Shibam 1961



Fig. 41: Seiyun 1963-67



Fig. 42: Seiyun 1963-67

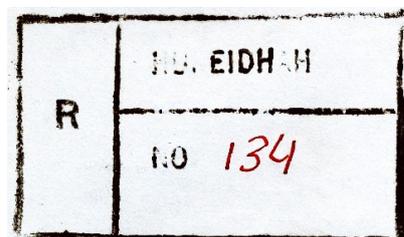


Fig. 43: Hureidah 1955

Etiquettes from other than the Place of Origin

As the postal service expanded into the less populated areas, the first step was usually the opening of a Postal Agency, which would offer a more limited service than a Sub-Post Office, which itself offered fewer services than a main Post Office.

One of the services which might not be available, or sometimes intermittently, was that of registration – registered mail might be accepted but would not be 'logged' into the registration system until reaching the nearest 'higher' office. Envelopes might therefore have regular or registered date-stamp cancels from the place of origin, but then etiquettes (and usually also an accompanying registered transit date-stamp) applied elsewhere (*figs. 62-65*). As services improved, the frequency of this 'double registration' decreased. Examples noted include:

⁶ Duan office was located at Alkhuraybah and was subsequently renamed as such.

Origin	Etiquette	Dates	Origin	Etiquette	Dates
Alghurfa	Seiyun	1959–63	Huatat A'd Bin Zain	Seiyun	1953
Alradood	Seiyun	1963–65	Jol Ba Hawa	Mukalla	1961–66
Amd	Du'an4	1954	Mudodah	Seiyun	1959–64
Bor	Seiyun	1959–63	Quseiar	Shihr	1963
Dammun	Mukalla	1964	Quseiar	Mukalla	1963
Dar-Saad	Crater	1964	Reidat Abdul Wadud ⁷	Shihr	1954–63
Dis	Shihr	1954–63	Sah	Seiyun	1954–59
Gheil-Ba-Wazir	Mukalla	1950–56	Sah	Tarim	1957
Hami	Shihr	1954–62	Shihr	Mukalla	1942
Hami	Mukalla	1963	Tariba ⁸	Seiyun	1953–65
Haura	Mukalla	1963	Tarim	Seiyun	1951

The Second and Third Series of Standard Etiquettes

From 1964, a larger style of etiquette was introduced, measuring approximately 25 mm × 41 mm, and normally with the place name in both English and Arabic. Both were printed in blue and supplied in rolls with the vertical edges imperforate (*fig. 66*).

The Second Series are horizontally perforated and have the place name(s) printed. The Third Series are rouletted and have the place name(s) applied by a hand-stamp (see also e.g. Ahwar etc. in the First Series) – two fonts of the “R” have been noted.

The numerals below the “R” are sequence numbers and do not relate to the office. It is likely the use of hand-stamps on blank etiquettes was more economical and more operationally flexible than the ‘fully printed’ etiquettes.



Fig. 44: Ja'ar 1964–66



Fig. 45: Lahej 1965–67



Fig. 46: Zingibar 1964–66

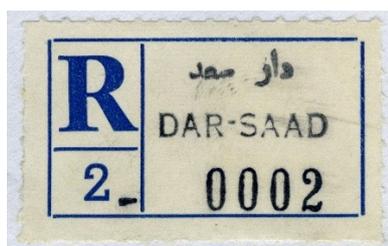


Fig. 47: Dar-Saad 1964



Fig. 48: Lahej 1964



Fig. 49: Dar-Saad 1969

⁷ Reidat Abdul Wadud was later renamed Raidet Sharqiah.

⁸ Also known as Tarba or Tarbah.



Fig. 50: Mukeiras 1967



Fig. 51: Zara 1971

Some Additional Variations

As seen with some early examples of Mukalla, offices would from time to time run out of their supply of 'standard' named etiquettes. In some cases, surplus or emergency stocks of etiquettes were available, in extremis the registration details were completed by hand.



Fig. 52: Mukalla 1952



Fig. 53: Seiyun 1957



Fig. 54: Tarim 1956

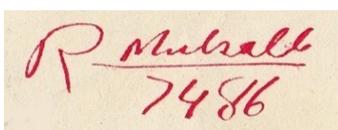


Fig. 55: Mukalla 1953

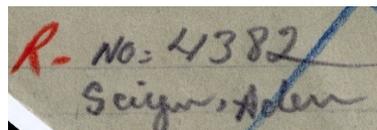


Fig. 56: Seiyun 1949

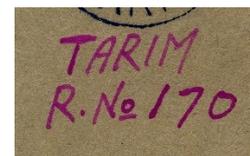


Fig. 57: Tarim 1955

A Final Note

The postal history of the smaller places in the Protectorates is limited by survival rates from a low volume of mail. Typically, much of what little survives has been produced for and gone into the collections of pro-active philatelists – admittedly some specimens are 'contrived,' but there are no known forgeries and it is all there is. Messrs. Dearlove, Graham, Towner, Scott, Bridger, Russell, Stewart and their fellows should be congratulated for acquiring and saving at least part of the postal history of this area.

Sources and Literature

- Pettifor, Mike: *Registration etiquettes used in the Aden Protectorate states*. In: *The Dhow*, no. 71, 2018 (Vol. 19, no 1), pp. 9–14.
- Proud, Edward B.: *The postal history of Aden and Somaliland Protectorate*. Heathfield: Proud-Bailey, c 2004. 368 p. ISBN: 1872465412.
- Dearlove, L. R.: *The postal markings of Aden from 1937 to 1967 and of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen*. Private monograph, c 1980. 37 p.

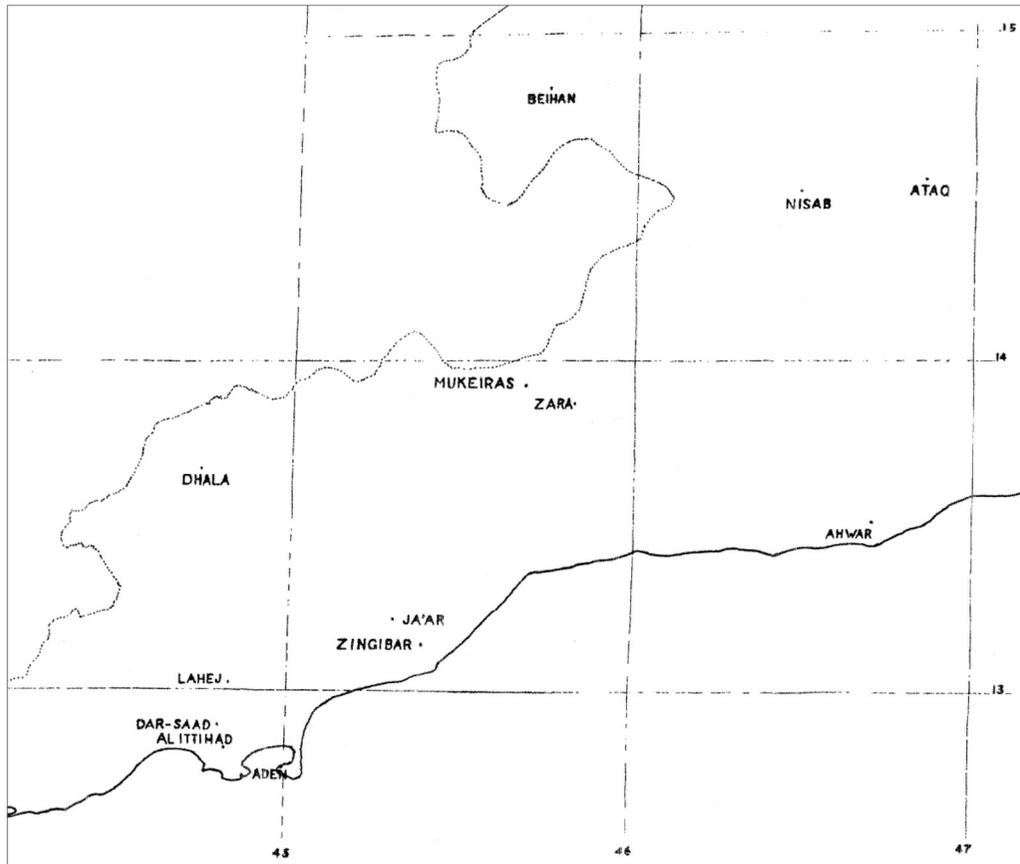


Fig. 58: Locations in the Western Protectorates mentioned in this article. Note Aden at the lower left and the then border with Yemen.

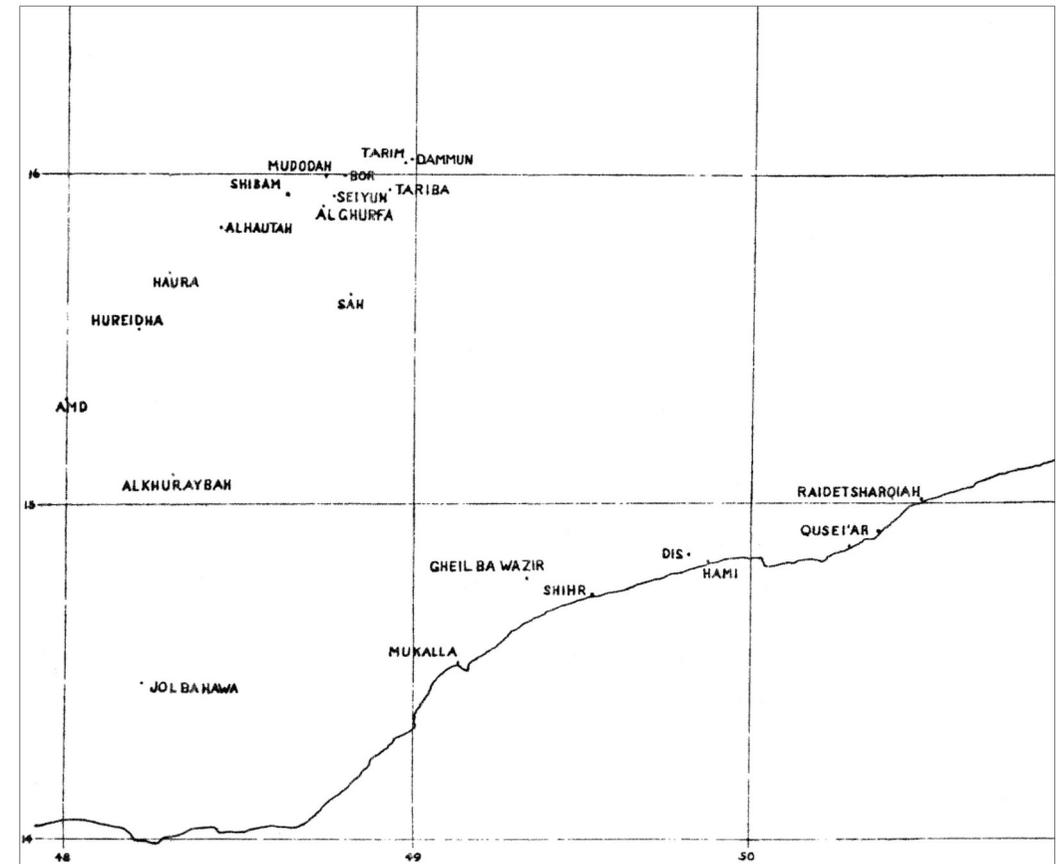


Fig. 59: Locations in the Eastern Protectorates mentioned in this article (after Dearlove)⁹. Note the distribution on the coast and in the Hadhramaut valley.

9 Dearlove, 1980.

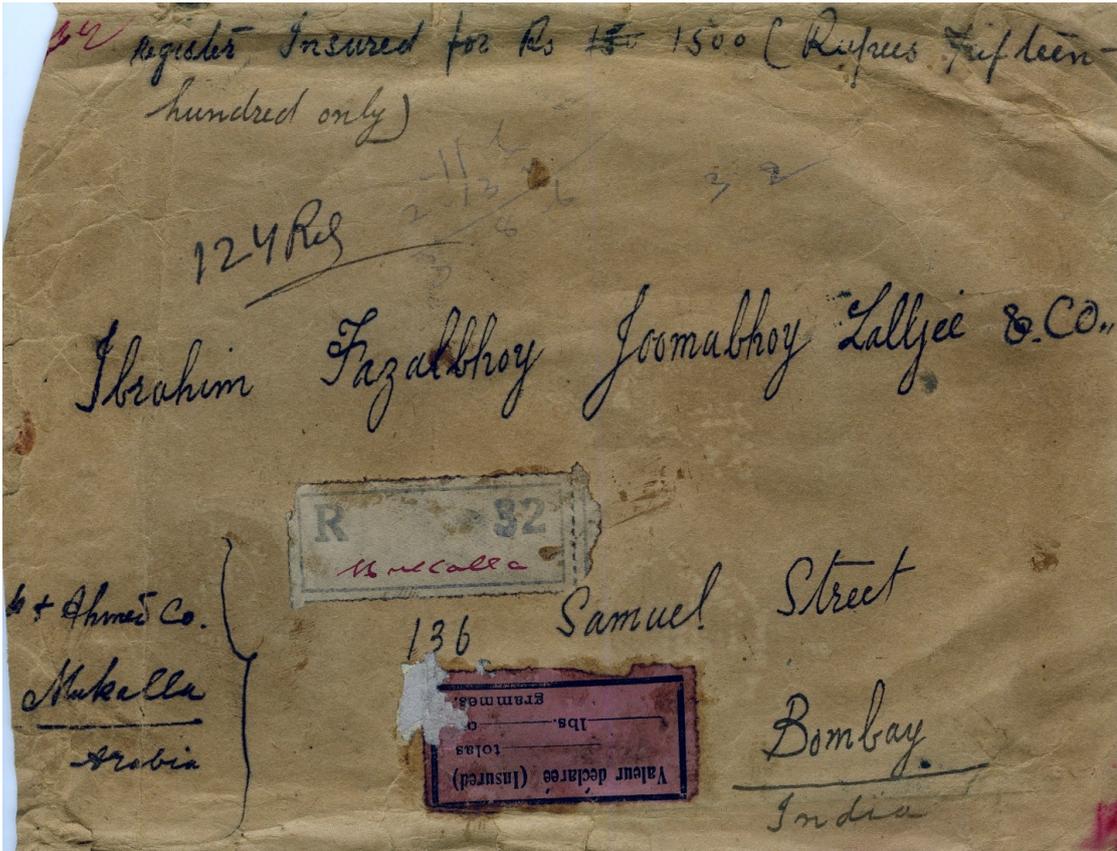


Fig. 60:

Envelope sent registered insured from Mukalla to Bombay.

Early style registration etiquette with Mukalla added by hand, standard India-type "declared value" insurance etiquette, part obscured by remains of the receipt which was attached to registered mail for signature by the recipient and kept for post office records. Registration number "32" repeated on the envelope.

In the upper centre of the envelope is the post office calculation of the cost: - 11 6 plus 2 13 - = 3 8 6 standing for 3 Rupees, 8 Annas, and 6 Pies. The 11½ As is 3 As registration fee plus 8 oz letter rate (1½ As the 1st oz and 1 A per subsequent ounce or part). The insurance cost of 2 Rs 13 As (= 45 As) is 3 As per 100 Rs or part thereof. Franking on reverse of 3 Rs 8½ As. Cancellations: MUKALLA 30 JULY 39, transit ADEN REG 5 AUG 39, arrival CUTCH BANDRA DELY REG, 18 AUG 39.



Fig. 61:

Local cover to Aden Camp, with a Shibam etiquette applied over a Shibam cachet, which has no number inserted. Note the repeat of the Etiquette number "1885" on the envelope, which was standard practice until the late 1950s as part of the tracking of registered mail.

Franked on reverse with 55 cts being 30 cts registration fee and 25 cts Internal Aden airmail.

Cancellations: SHIBAM 24 FEB 55, with transit marks ADEN GPO REG 26 FEB 55 and ADEN CAMP REG 27 FEB 55.



Fig. 62: SEIYUN registered cachet on SAH mail. Philatelic mail to Mr. L. Towner, and received on 6.04.1965.



Fig. 63: Envelope to the philatelist E. Marshall showing the DIS registration cachet with SHIHR etiquette. Franked 1 sh 55 cts: 30cts registration fee and 1 sh 25 cts airmail letter rate to UK. Cancels: DIS 7 SP 54, with transit marks MUKALLA REG 12 SP 54 and ADEN REG 15 SP 54. Routing: Dis–Shihr–Mukalla–Aden.



Fig. 64: It is unlikely to be a coincidence that the number in the Gheil-Ba-Wazir cachet is the same as on the Mukalla etiquette, and it may be that the number in the cachet was inserted at Mukalla.

Cancellations at GHEIL BAWAZIR 4 MY 66, no transit marks.

This is most certainly a philatelic cover, as the franking is no known rate.

Also, both Qu'aiti and Kathiri States had changed currency to South Arabian Dinar/Fils on 1.04.1966, though stamps in the old currency remained valid.



Fig. 65: Aden Postal Stationery Envelope from Tariba to Aden. TARBAH REG cancels of 21 JY 63 (note spelling), with etiquette applied at Seiyun with backstamp SEIYUN REG 22 JUL 63.

Franking: 75 cts: 50 cts registration fee (the rate increased on 1.10.1959) with 25 cts internal airmail.

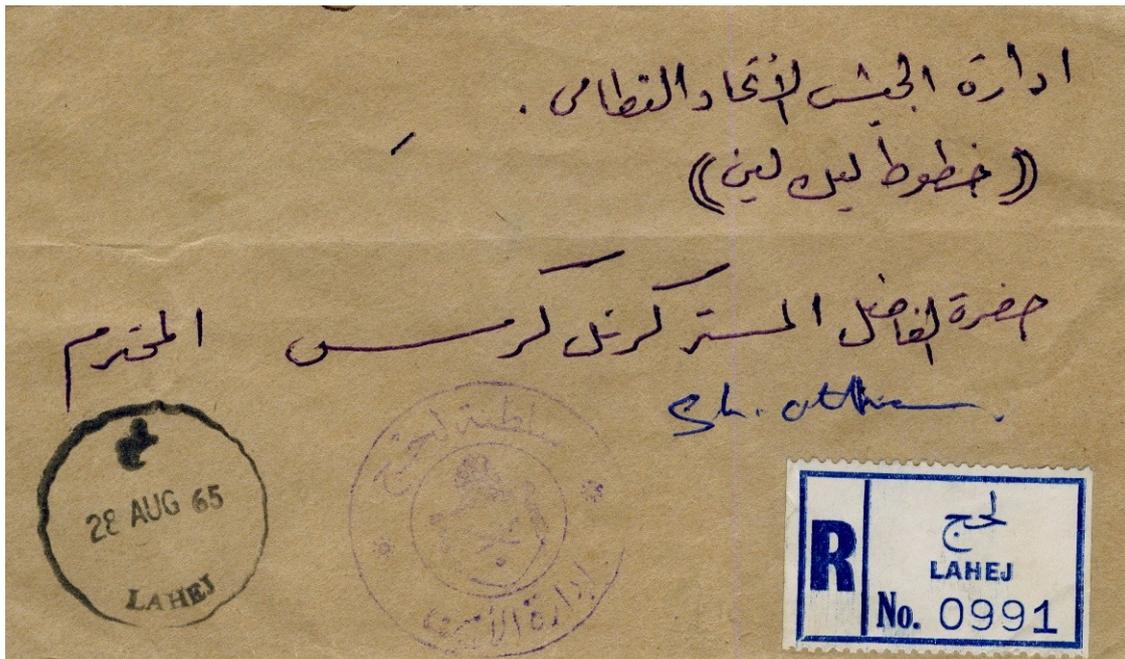


Fig. 66: Local official envelope from Lahej sent registered to Sheikh Othman. Circular cachet for the Sultanate (State) of Lahej, bilingual pre-printed etiquette and date-stamp LAHEJ 28 AUG 65.



Fig. 67: SEIYUN registration, handwritten. Back of entire envelope to London with 6 Rs 4 As Seiyun stamps. Postmarks: SEIYUN 1 MAR 50 with MUKALLA REG 5 MAR 50 (transit).



Fig. 68: SEIYUN hand drawn box. Philatelic envelope. Postmarks: SEIYUN 17 OCT 45, with ADEN REG 3 NOV 45 (transit).



Fig. 69: Aden Registered Letter (size G, 2nd printing) from Seiyun to Paris and returned to sender unclaimed. Provisional white registration etiquette with misspelled “SIEYUN”. Franking of 1 sh 70 cts on the reverse, the airmail letter rate to Europe Cancelled SEIYUN REG 25 JUL 57, with ADEN REG 30 AU 57 (transit) and PARIS VII 2 9 1957. It seems likely the wrong month slug was used in the Seiyun canceller, a not uncommon occurrence in the Protectorates..

Request for Information: 1983 Israeli Censorship on West Bank Mails

by Marc Parren

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Recently I was able to obtain the attached two covers from Hebron sent to Bulgaria and censored by Israel. Have you seen this type of censorship before? Any information on this is appreciated!



"נפתח ע"י הצנזור" reads "opened by the censor".



Jordan: New 2019 Commemorative Reply Coupon

contributed by Wolfgang Leimenstoll

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Jordan has recently issued a new commemorative Istanbul type IRC celebrating the U.P.U.'s 145th anniversary: "145 ANS / LIVRER LA CROISSANCE."¹ It also shows "JORDANIE" and "JO" and Jordan's flag. The IRC is denominated at 1.5 JD (ca. 1.90 €) and apparently printed in a limited edition of 1,000 copies. The table published in MEPB 11² is therefore amended:

Figure	Type	Value	Issued	Source	Issued – Remarks
97	Is-45a	1.5 JD	17.09.2019 (print date)	wl	"145 ANS / LIVRER LA CROISSANCE" "20190917 / 0001851 - 0001880 AA" Limited edition of 1,000 copies (unconfirmed)

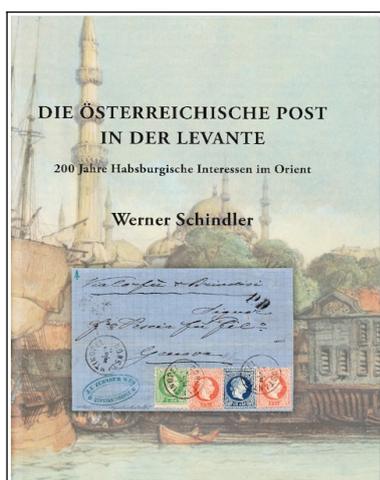


- 1 See *UPU's 145th Anniversary: Delivering Development*. In: UPU, online: <http://news.upu.int/outreach/upus-145th-anniversary-delivering-development/> (accessed 13.03.2020).
- 2 Hálfdan Helgason/Avo Kaplanian/Wolfgang Leimenstoll/Bernd-Dieter Buscke: *The Reply Coupons of Jordan II*. In: MEPB 11, 2019, pp. 60–97.

Werner Schindler: Die österreichische Post in der Levante

reviewed by Tobias Zywiets

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Werner Schindler: *Die österreichische Post in der Levante : 200 Jahre habsburgische Interessen im Orient.*

German,¹ 562 pages, full colour, 26×35 cm.

Wiesbaden: Global Philatelic Network, 2019.² Price: 89 €.

Orders: Auktionshaus Heinrich Köhler, Wiesbaden, info@heinrich-koehler.de, <https://www.heinrich-koehler.de/en/austrian-post-office-levant-werner-schindler>.

Once a collector has reached certain heights with his collection, with little room for further improvements and few challenges remaining, with all possible accolades and prizes at exhibitions reached, he often turns to another field of collection and sells off his exhibit. At the next Corinphila auction to be held in Zurich from 8th

to 12th September 2020³ the collection “The Austrian Post in the Levant” by Werner Schindler will be sold. Where in the past auction houses would have created just another catalogue, nowadays a collector wants to create a handbook or reference work as his legacy. Global Philatelic Network have just done that.

The Contents of the Book

The book is broadly arranged chronologically, starting with a biographical portrait of Werner Schindler, then we are briefly introduced to the collection field: this gives a very concise overview of politics and communication in south east Europe from the 17th to the 20th Century. Schindler won several trophies with his “Levant” exhibit: once *Large-Vermeil* & four times *Large Gold* (2008–2016). Thereafter follow a number of very broad chapters, each consisting of an exuberantly illustrated handbook part augmented by a part featuring Schindler’s actual collection with illustrations and detailed descriptions.

Introduction

The actual introduction extends to 50 pages, starting with a timeline of relevant events from the 1680s to 1920s which are then detailed: The Austro-Turkish wars of 1529–42, 1566–68, 1592–1606, 1663–64, 1683–99 (Peace of Karlowitz), 1716–18 (Peace of Passarowitz), 1737–39 (Peace of Belgrade), 1788–91 (Peace of Sistova). This fundamental conflict between West and East lasted for over 250 years and was followed by several wars without direct Austrian involvement: The Russo-Turkish War of 1787–92, The Crimean War 1854–56, and the Balkan Wars of 1912/13. The

1 Only the introduction and the paragraphs heading each chapter are provided in English.

2 Holding group of these five leading auction houses: Auktionshaus Heinrich Köhler, Corinphila Auktionen, Corinphila Veilingen, John Bull Stamp Auctions, H.R. Harmer.

3 The spring auction, originally scheduled for 26.–30.05.2020 had to be postponed. with regard to the current global health crisis.

Austrian and Ottoman rulers of this long period are briefly outlined.

Then Schindler looks at the postal connections of the Habsburg Empire and its capital Vienna. In 1797 one of the five main mail routes is described as “through Hungary and Croatia, towards the Adriatic Sea, to Slavonia, then the Ottoman states.”

The importance of Greek traders in Vienna is explored: in 1767 there were 300, rising to over 4,000 by the end of the Napoleonic period. The same treatment is then given for Constantinople, describing the importance of foreign traders there: Franks (ie. any European Christians, including Venetian, French, Dutch, and English), Greeks, and Armenians. The author explores trade between nations and peoples as the driving force behind all communications. He explains the peace treaty of Passarowitz (1718) and the accompanying treaties on trade and navigation.

The trade treaty of 1784 includes in its 5th chapter provisions for Austria’s “most favoured nation” status: this stipulates that Austrian traders are granted the same rights and opportunities as were already provided to French (1536), Dutch, and English (1580) traders. In its 6th chapter Austria received the right to navigate the Danube into the Black Sea without hindrance. Austria’s trade with the Levant was also enhanced when Venice, with its traditional trade links in the Mediterranean Sea (though already in decline for some time at the time) became part of the Austrian Empire in 1797.

Schindler then shows and explains the range of trader’s documents forming the corpus of communications: bill of exchange, bill of lading, shipping or consignment note, acknowledgement, invoice and portrays some of the leading trading houses.

Chapter 1: Beginning to Congress of Vienna

This chapter details the Treaty of Passarowitz of 1718, with its accompanying trade treaties, involved Holland and England as mediators. The trade and navigation treaties include the first provisions for a “most favoured nation” status. Already after the Treaty of Eisenberg (1664) diplomatic exchanges by couriers had been agreed. These connections were reconfirmed and updated in later treaties, and in the Treaty of Belgrade (1738) the protection and security of such diplomatic couriers was guaranteed by both sides. The trade treaty of 1784 explicitly confirms in Article 5 the “most favoured nation” status enjoyed by Austria.

The peace Treaty of Sistova (1791) gave Austria further rights and confirms earlier provisions, including the protection of (supposedly diplomatic) couriers. Such regular couriers were maintained by Turkish elite soldiers (janissaries) and are documented from as early as 1720: Vienna, Budapest, Belgrade, Sofia, Adrianople to Constantinople. In an aside Schindler describes the sanitary provision for travellers, goods and mails made at the quarantine stations at Parakin (this later moved to Semlin), Rothenthurm pass, and Trieste. Also covered is the language academy of Vienna, and prominent forwarding agents.

Chapter 2: Expansion on Land

This chapter describes further developments including the (initially private) courier services of the Austrian vice-consul at Saloniki (1770) and the consular post offices at Bukarest (1782) and Jasy (1793). In 1788 there were four main postal routes from Vienna to Constantinople:

- via Buda – Belgrade – Sofia – Adrianople to Constantinople
- via Venice – Ragusa – Skopje – Tatar-Pazardzik – Adrianople to Constantinople
- via Herrmannstadt – Rothenthurm pass – Bukarest to Constantinople
- via Orsova (instead of Belgrade) – Sofia – Adrianople to Constantinople⁴

4 The route was only briefly used to avoid internal strife in Serbia.

This is followed by an analysis of postage rates and currency relations. An aside deals with the “black cabinet” system of censorship and the cumbersome ways of travelling to the Orient.



Fig. 1: The earliest known cover franked with Austrian stamps (3×15 + 5 = 50 Soldi):
Alexandria 11.09.1963.

Chapter 3: Expansion at Sea

The founding of the *Erste Donau-Dampfschiffahrts-Gesellschaft* (First Danube Steamboat Shipping Company, D.D.S.G.) in 1829 and of *Dampfschiffahrtsgesellschaft des Österreichischen Lloyd* (Second Section, ie. shipping division, of Lloyd Austriaco) in 1836 greatly enhanced the Austrian transport capabilities on the Danube, in the Black Sea, and in the Eastern Mediterranean. Trieste became the main hub for Austrian communications by sea: Lloyd Austriaco established a network of shipping lines with over 60 agencies in port towns, and also took on the postal contract with Greece established in 1834 by Austria's I. & R. Marine, which ran a monthly postal line on the Adriatic coast from Trieste to Corfu from 1819, extending to a bi-monthly service to Patras in 1834.

D.D.S.G. steamships operated on the Danube and also in the Black Sea (Trabzon), the Aegean Sea (Smyrna, Saloniki) and the Adriatic. Some lines were run in competition with Lloyd Austriaco, so that in 1843 a takeover was agreed, leading to a further expansion of shipping lines by Lloyd Austriaco. In 1845 Lloyd Austriaco received the status of Official Austrian Postal Agent, having been in commercial contract with the Austrian Post since 1837. D.D.S.G. continued to operate postal agencies along the Danube from 1846: at Widdina, Rustschuk, Giorgieva, and Silistra, with the addition of Ibraila and Galatz in 1848. At Galatz connection was made with the Lloyd Austriaco steamers on the Black Sea and the routes to Constantinople.

Lloyd Austriaco rapidly expanded its services in the Eastern Mediterranean and dominated passenger, postal and goods traffic in this region until the First World War. From 1869 Lloyd Austriaco lines went through the Suez Canal to Port Said and Bombay, extending from 1879 to Singapore and Hong Kong. In an aside, Schindler reports about the disinfection station at Trieste.



Fig. 2: Forbidden mixed franking of stamps in Soldi and Kreuzer currency, 1875:

Chapter 4: Tariff Structure

Whereas previous chapters look at routes and means of transport, here Schindler concentrates on postal tariffs and their changing nature between 1837 and 1914. From 1863 franking was allowed by use of postage stamps: sales of stamps started on 1st September 1863 at the Lloyd Austriaco agency in Alexandria; the first known cover (in Schindler's collection) dates from 11th September 1863. Distinctive stamps were introduced in 1867, initially denominated at 2, 3, 5, 10, and 15 Soldi, later added were the values of 25 and 50 Soldi. The complicated Austrian tariff structure was simplified in 1866: a typical example is 5 Kreuzer/Soldi (Austrian inland rate) plus 15 Kreuzer/Soldi for the Lloyd transport to and from Trieste.

Chapter 5: The Status of the Austrian Post Office

In this chapter Schindler compares the Austrian postal services with those of rival operations in the Levant, looking at routes and specifically the expansion of shipping lines for the consular post offices and the postal agencies operated by Lloyd Austriaco. Both systems were from 1869 run from the I. & R. Post Office in Constantinople.

Chapter 6: International Postal Communications in Europe

This chapter looks at the general development of postal communications, the historical and economic circumstances, the development of steam-powered ships and the expanding railway networks. It was not until 1888 that a direct rail link between Vienna and Constantinople was established: the last gaps in the network in Bulgaria and Serbia had been completed.

Chapter 7: Worldwide Postal Communications

In this chapter, Schindler looks further afield and reports on the worldwide expansion of regular maritime and postal connections – by sail or steam – giving insight into the history and operations of the major shipping companies.

Chapter 8: The Last 50 Years

The era after the establishment of the U.P.U. in 1875 was a time of consolidation. As the extent of the Ottoman Empire decreased, so did the number of Austrian post offices and Lloyd agencies: between 1869 and 1878 a total of 24 offices in Bulgaria, Romania, Montenegro, and Serbia had to close.

The foreign postage rate was fixed by the U.P.U. at 25 Centimes (French Gold Franc) for a 15 g letter, equivalent to 25 Soldi or Kreuzer. New services were introduced: Post Card, Post Card with Reply Card, Postal Order, and Parcel. In 1886 Austrian postage stamps in Turkish currency (Para) were introduced, and in 1903 – due to primarily French competition – also in French currency (Centimes).

In those years, a major driver of postal services, besides trade, was tourism: Greece and its islands, Constantinople, Palestine, and Egypt became major attractions increasingly popular with the European *élites*, both secular and religious.

The Balkan Wars of 1912/13 significantly redrew the political map of the region: Serbia, Bulgaria, and Greece expanded, Albania was created, “Turkey in Europe” was reduced to a small province between Edirne (Adrianople) and İstanbul (Constantinople).

Upon the start of the First World War Turkey was finally in a position to abolish all treaties favouring foreign companies, traders and individuals (the so-called “capitulations”): all foreign post offices closed on 1st September 1914 (including those by Germany and Austria, allies of Turkey). Lloyd Austriaco had to suspend its services on 4th August 1914 already, largely due to a blockade of the Adriatic by Allied forces.

Chapter 9: Sources & Tables

In this last section we see assembled lists the sources, books, online resources, etc., consulted by the author. Additionally he details currencies and coinage in circulation in Austria and the Levant, conversion tables, weights & measures, trade reports, as well as the journals published by Lloyd Austriaco. Further appendices list Austrian ambassadors and postmasters in Constantinople and give summary accounts of the Austrian post offices’ turnover in 1868. This chapter concludes with a select bibliography.

Summary and Significance

Wolfgang Maassen⁵ has perfectly summarised the book:

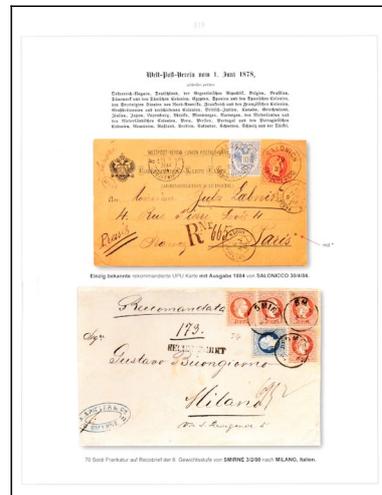
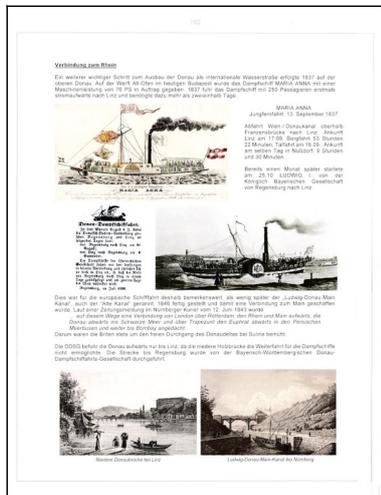
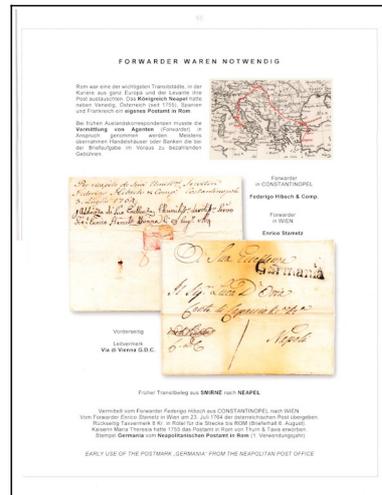
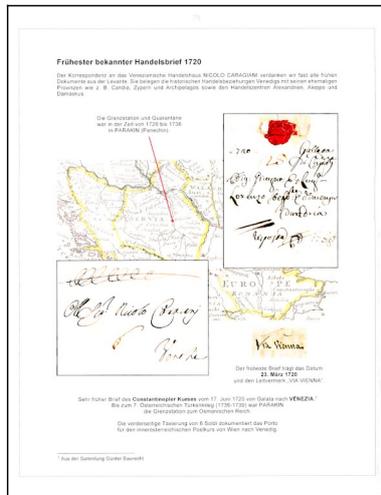
[...] a perfect mixture of comprehensive information, richly combined with interesting, valuable and attractive covers from the period covered. But Schindler does not stop there. He also takes the next step with regard to what is often referred to today as “social philately”. He includes contemporary illustrations of all kinds, reproduces original texts, maps, paintings of people, photos and much more, which brings to life the otherwise “dry” historical material. [...] This book is not a compendium, that is, not a concise textbook, it is an encyclopaedia of the Austrian

⁵ Source: Maassen, 2019.

Post and the Habsburg claims in the Levant – an encyclopaedia which has not existed in this form and with this content until now. [...]

As a competent postal history expert, however, Schindler knows how to put facsimiles of old postal treaties in their overall context instead of reprinting them page by page, as is often the case, and he describes documents in such a way that one can learn from them. He is aware of and interprets the correspondence of large companies and trading houses, he knows about treaties and their backgrounds, but he does not simply leave them isolated in space, but interprets them against the background of previous and subsequent historical events, so that an overall picture of this complex matter emerges.

Sample Pages⁶



Sources and Literature

- Billion, Jan: *200 Jahre Postgeschichte im Orient*. In: Deutsche Briefmarken-Revue, 71. 2020, no. 3 (March 2020), pp. 53–54.
- Maassen, Wolfgang: *Die österreichische Post in der Levante : 200 Jahre habsburgische Interessen im Orient (Werner Schindler)*. In: Deutsche Briefmarken-Revue, 70. 2019, no. 8 (August 2019), p. 72. Online: https://corinphila.ch/de/_ptshop/?action=show_item&id=1768#.

6 All images used by kind permission of Auktionshaus Heinrich Köhler, Wiesbaden.

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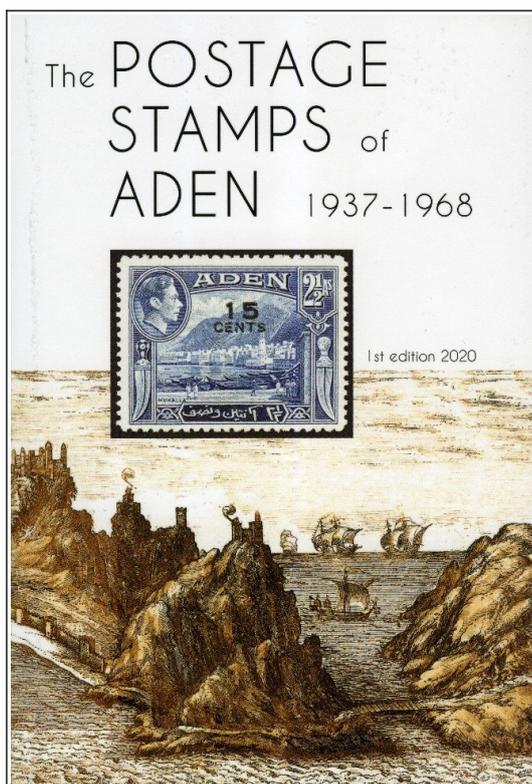
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Peter Bond: The Postage Stamps of Aden 1937–1968

reviewed by Neil Williams

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This book consists of an introduction and 90+ pages of stamp listings with what the author considers to be a guide to market value (in US-Dollars).

The layout and presentation are clear, and a novelty is the inclusion of FDCs of some issues. Many known varieties and shades are included – some are not – as are the late states issues such as listed in Michel’s Middle East catalogue. There are a few varieties of the later Seiyun issues I have not seen listed before.

In summary I would say this book would make a good starting place for someone thinking about specialising in Aden and States philately. The existing specialist should (!) already have access to catalogues and specialist publications offering more detail, but it is no bad thing to have information in one place.

Bond, Peter J.: *The postage stamps of Aden 1937–1968* / Peter James Bond. – Rosny Park, Tas.: Bond, 2020 [c 2019]. – 104 p. : b/w ill. ; 23 cm (pbk.)

ISBN: 978-0-9873470-9-1 : £ 14.95

Website: <https://www.pjbond.com/postage-stamps-of-aden>.

Available from Amazon and other online book dealers.

Editor’s Comments

I first became aware of this book when the author posted a short message on the “Arab Gulf and Yemen Stamp Group” in November 2019.¹ The author was unknown to me and other collectors. Online I found one other philatelic work of his, *Australian Commemorative Postmarks 1879–1980*, published in three editions between 2014 and 2019.

The description stated simply that it was “formatted as a catalogue” and that “each issue is illustrated”. So when I received it I was surprised that apart from the cover the whole book was printed in black & white only (see sample page to the right).² One wonders why the effort of printing a physical book was undertaken rather than publishing a PDF or creating a website.

The stamps are indeed all shown, and the basic facts and motifs are listed. The specialisation into varieties does go beyond a standard catalogue, but the specialist collector would have expected much more detailed and comprehensive coverage. One hopes that for the next edition the author will seek advice from specialists in the field on making improvements.

1946		Victory			
		15 October 1946			
Watermark:		Multiple Script CA			
Perforation:		13.5 x 14			
					
		Royal House of Parliament, London			
20	1XA	carmine	1.00	75	
30	2XA	blue	1.00	75	
		... watermark inverted	\$2,500	\$1,000	
29/30		set of 2	2.00	1.50	
	S	... perforated SPECIMEN	60.00		
	F	... FDC		15.00	
1949		Silver Wedding			
		17 January 1949			
Watermark:		Multiple Script CA			
Perforation:		14 x 15 (1XA), 11.5 x 11 (10R)			
					
		Queen Elizabeth and King George VI			
31	1XA	scarlet	1.00	1.00	
32	10R	mauve	35.00	40.00	
31/32		set of 2	36.00	41.00	
	F	... FDC		50.00	

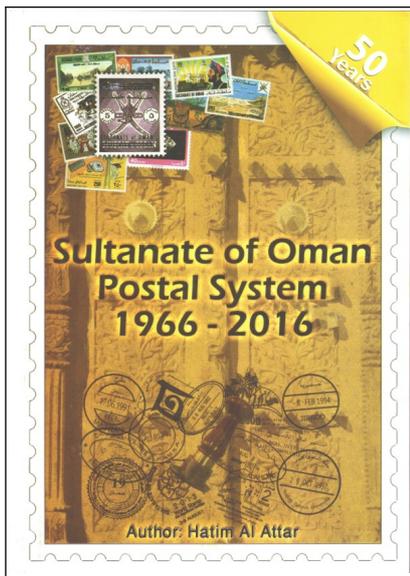
1 Cf. <https://groups.io/g/ArabGulfandYemenStampGroup>.

2 Taken from the author’s website: <https://www.pjbond.com/postage-stamps-of-aden>.

Hatim Al-Attar: Sultanate of Oman Postal System 1966–2016

reviewed by Calvin H. Allen, Jr.

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Hatim Al-Attar: Sultanate of Oman Postal System 1966–2016.

Ruwi: Al-Attar; 2016. English and Arabic. 192 pages, colour, A4.

Price: 10 Omani Riyal (ca. 26 US-\$) (plus p&p). Orders: Hatim Al-Attar, hatimomani@hotmail.com.

“Sultanate of Oman Postal System 1966–2016”, published by the Omani Philatelic Association in 2016, commemorates the 50th anniversary of the independent post office in Oman. It might strike some readers as strange that Oman has only had a postal system for 50 years. The first post office actually opened in Muscat in the 1860s, but until 1966 Muscat remained the sole post office in the country, and it was managed by India until 1948, followed for a very brief period by Pakistan, and then by the British Postal Agencies in Eastern Arabia. The author, Hatim Al-Attar, has been

a collector of Omani stamps for more than 40 years, and his collection has won awards at both regional and international exhibitions. He also serves on the committee responsible for selecting new issues of Omani stamps. He is well qualified to write this volume.

The Sultanate of Oman Postal System is an encyclopedic work that documents many aspects of Omani philately. Al-Attar begins with a list of all Omani post offices, with opening and, when relevant, closing dates. This is followed by images of mobile post office vehicles and post office boxes. Al-Attar then turns to a comprehensive listing of postal markings, including regular and registration date stamps; postal agency cancellations; meter franking; first day, slogan, exhibition, and festival postmarks; registration, airmail, and express mail labels; postage, postage due, and ‘On Postal Service’ post marks; a whole array of post office forms; and a catalogue of aerogrammes. The book concludes with a listing of postal rate books. Everything is printed in full colour.

The book is an excellent source of information on post offices and postal markings. The list of post office opening and closing dates is especially valuable. Al Attar’s compilation of the apparently comprehensive list of postal markings is a major accomplishment and one that postal history collectors will find particularly useful.

What the reader will not find in this book is a catalogue of stamps, although many are pictured as part of the coverage of first day cancellations. This is not meant as a criticism as such information is regularly available in the standard printed and increasing number of free online catalogues, and there is no need to reproduce it here. However, two other omissions do serve to limit the book as a source on postal history. First, while Al-Attar generally identifies the starting date for various postal markings, he does not provide either earliest or latest known dates for any specific cancellation. Admittedly, such documentation is a daunting task, but it is important information for postal history collectors. An undaunting task would have been a chart of postal rates. The list of postal rates books

is only of use if one has access to these books, but a chart of specific numbers on basic domestic and international rates and registration and other service fees would be very useful for postal history collectors.

My two criticisms aside, and it should be noted that Al-Attar is writing a history of the postal system and not postal history, this is an essential work for any collector of the postal history of Oman since postal independence in 1966. The book is highly recommended.

Bibliographic Record

–al-‘Attār, Hātim: ٢٠١٦-١٩٦٦ نظام الخدمة البريدية في سلطنة عمان = Sultanate of Oman Postal System 1966–2016 / حاتم العطار
= Hatim Al Attar. – Ruwi: Al-Attar ; Muscat: Omani Philatelic Association, 2016. – 192 p. : ill. ; 30 cm (pbk.)
ISBN: 978-99969-0-779-1

Philatelic Literature on Oman

The literature on Oman’s postal history since 1966 is fairly limited. A few articles have appeared in the general philatelic press,¹ and more regular coverage came in specialised publications like Howard Courtney’s Arab World Philatelist² and The Arabian Gulf States Postal History and Stamps Quarterly.³ T. E. Jones’ “The Aerogrammes of the Arabian Gulf, Post-Independence Issues”⁴ covered air letter issues. The two volume “Postal History of Oman”⁵ includes full colour photos of Oman’s postage stamps but, despite its title, almost nothing on postal history except images of first day and various slogan cancels. Thomas Johansen’s excellent website⁶ contains detailed information about all stamp issues through 2000 and some postal history information. In 2002 Alastair Gunn and Calvin Allen’s “Aspects of Omani Postal History”⁷ offered the first catalogue of post-independence cancellations, registration labels, meter frankings, ‘On Postal Service’ marks, first day cancels, postal rates, and miscellaneous other information. T.E. Jones’ “A Postal History of the Arabian Gulf Post Offices, Volume 3: Oman”⁸ closed out these early publications.

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1 See the useful bibliography at <http://www.ohmygosh.on.ca/stamps/dubai/article.htm>.

2 See <http://rhcourtney-collector.com/Journal.html>.

3 Available on demand at www.Lulu.com.

4 Accrington (England), 1994.

5 Published by the Omani Ministry of P.T.T: Part I 1856-1985 (1986) and Part II 1986-1990 (undated).

6 See www.oman-stamps.com/home/php.

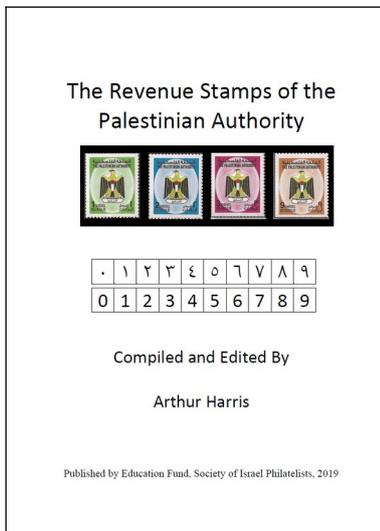
7 Available on demand at www.Lulu.com.

8 First edition: Accrington (England), 2007; second revised edition: 2009.

A. Harris: The Revenue Stamps of the Palestinian Authority

reviewed by Tobias Zywietz

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This small booklet compiles information drawn from a number of contributors (Bart Belonje, Jan R. Blok, Jonathan Kaplan, Avo Kaplanian, Andrew McClellan, and Joe Rossi) which has, to some extent, already been published in the SIP journal THE ISRAEL PHILATELIST, as well as elsewhere.

It is quite useful to see all this information gathered in one place. It's a pity that most stamp collectors ignore fiscal issues (regular catalogues just do not list these), so this catalogue is warmly welcomed!

Listed and appropriately shown are 18 sets of revenue stamps issued by the Palestinian Authority or its government departments, both West Bank and Gaza. Several documents illustrate the stamps' usage, though there's very little information about the regulatory background, production, or distribution.

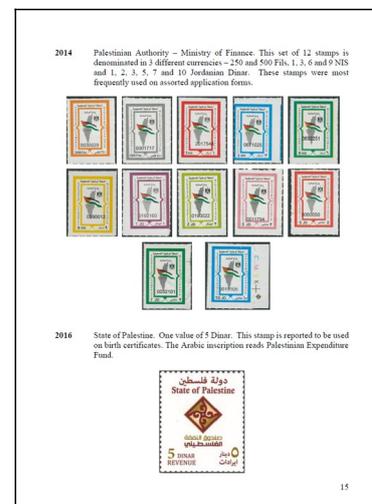
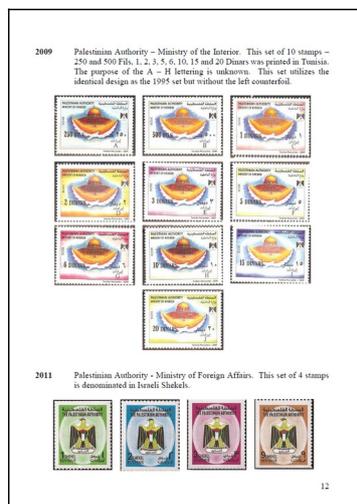
The inclusion of a 1989 set (more than four years before the establishment of the PNA) and a 2008 charity stamp seems odd. From a technical standpoint some illustrations could have been better prepared. A must for any collector of modern Palestine.

Harris, Arthur: *The revenue stamps of the Palestinian Authority* / compiled and edited by Arthur Harris. – Bellfont, Pa.: Society of Israel Philatelists / Education Fund, 2019. – 24 p. : ill. ; 25 cm (pbk.)

ISBN: 978-0-9986211-2-8

Price: US-\$ 7.00. Orders: Society of Israel Philatelists, Inc., 100 Match Factory Place, Bellefonte, PA 16823, USA, website: www.israelstamps.com.

Sample Pages



The Postal Services in Palestine 1913

by Ernst Johann Schmitz

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On the following pages I reprint an article written in 1913 by a catholic priest based in Jerusalem, describing the various postal services as they existed on the eve of World War I. This is followed by the German text, scans of the original 1913 publication, and of Pollack's 1960 translation (editor).

Reception

While researching the philatelic escapades of the Solingen travel entrepreneur Julius Bolthausen, I came across the translation of Schmitz' essay from 1914 into English. Although this article contained the illustration of a Bolthausen document from 1908, the actual text did not mention this circumstance at all. After I had found the German original, it became clear that all illustrations of the English version had been added by the translator and editor Friedrich-Wilhelm Pollack. Further research, however, yielded little: the article seems never to have been taken up in the philatelic press (except for the translation in THE HOLY LAND PHILATELIST in 1960), only Falk (2007) quotes it briefly, but in a translation back from English into German. Even the groundbreaking monograph by Lindenberg (1926) nowhere refers directly to Schmitz.

The Author

Ernst Johann Schmitz was born in 1845 in Rheydt (Rhineland) and died in 1922 in Haifa. He belonged to the Lazarist Order (*Congregatio Missionis*)² and was ordained a priest in 1869. After stations in Bedburg (Rhineland), Braga and Funchal (Portugal) as well as Theux (Belgium), Schmitz was appointed director of institutions in Palestine of the *Deutscher Verein vom Heiligen Lande* (German Association of the Holy Land). In 1908 he opened a teachers seminar in Jerusalem.

He gained importance through his zoological research work: he established extensive scientific collections in Funchal and Jerusalem and also published in specialist journals. Several animal species were named after him, e.g. the Palestinian subspecies of the Caracal: *felis caracal schmitzi*. Before the start of the First World War Schmitz moved to the hospice of the association in Tabgha³ at the Sea of Galilee and joined the Borromeo Order in Haifa in 1920, where he died in 1922.



1 Newly translated with a foreword and annotations by Tobias Zywietz.

2 Congregation of the Mission, also known as Vincentians or Lazarists.

3 عين الطابغة = 'Ain at-Ṭābiġa.

Acknowledgements

I would like to thank Mrs. Häußler-Eisenmann, press officer of the *Deutscher Verein vom Heiligen Lande*, and her colleague Mr. Schuster, for providing photocopies of the original 1913 article.

Barry D. Hoffman, copyright owner of F. W. Pollack's *THE HOLY LAND PHILATELIST*, has given me general permission to reproduce articles from the journal.

Sources and Literature

See p. 136.



The Postal Services in Palestine

P. Ernst Schmitz

Postal services in Palestine are of a quite peculiar nature. For Europeans it is difficult to get a right idea about them. The main reason for this is that, despite repeated efforts, the Turkish Government has so far been unable to set up a postal service in its own country which could be, even remotely, compared with the postal service in European countries. The principle causes for this are: firstly the major shortcoming of good roads, secondly, the great difficulty of forming strict and obliging civil servants from Orientals, which tend towards indolence,⁴ and thirdly the impossibility for the regional postal administration to employ civil servants according to their proficiency. This is due to the fact that in the Turkish pasha system many other factors have to be taken into consideration. This situation has led to the introduction of, in part officially recognised, in part only tolerated, post offices of **foreign** states. In Jerusalem, for example, there is an Austrian, a German, a French, a Russian, and an Italian post office—in addition to the sovereign Turkish post office. When and how these foreign post offices were established will be explained later. For the time being, we will only discuss the amenities and inconveniences that these postal conditions here in Jerusalem entail for natives as well as for domiciled people and pilgrims.

Amenities. The **first** such amenity is the competition between these six post offices working side-by-side almost in the same street. Where the postal service is a monopoly, as in other countries, postal regulations can be implemented with all rigour and even ruthlessness. When posting registered or insured letters, postal orders or parcels, one is often told at the counter: this is not good, or that is good; this is missing here, and this is missing there. One gets rejected two or three times and has all sorts of trouble until the matter is finally accepted. Such behaviour is unknown here: one finds the greatest friendliness and constant accommodation at all post offices. Parcel notes and postal orders are often filled-in for the sender by the officials themselves, and sometimes even wrapping packages is carried out in a friendly manner, etc. That's because if one is not served well

⁴ This text was written by a German catholic priest in 1913, reflecting attitudes widely held at the time (*editor*).

and friendly in one post office, then one only needs to go to the other office next door. The regulations concerning what is to be regarded as printed matter and what is not, which length, width and height postal items are allowed to have, etc., are interpreted as generously as possible for the same reason.

The **second** amenity is that nowhere else the German postal service is as cheap as here: all post-cards for foreign countries are conveyed for less than eight Pfennigs, and all printed matter for less than four pfennigs, using Centime currency.⁵ Even if Piastre currency is used, the regular postage rate for letters is less than 19 Pfennigs. However, if you write abroad via the Turkish post office using the so-called *behie* stamps,⁶ the postage rate for letters will be as low as 15 Pfennigs. The postage for other items is reduced at the same ratio, namely 20%. Of course, one has to buy the *behie* stamps in bulk (for about 10 Marks). For an individual posting this is certainly only a small difference, but for businesses, where tens of thousands of letters get mailed, quite considerable amounts are saved by this practice. But this is not a case of generosity by the Imperial German post office, which otherwise calculates everything so precisely, or by the Turkish post office which grants these discounts, but, as we will see later, the very misery and competition with other post offices are forcing them to do so. Thus letters within the city are carried **completely free** of charge by all six post offices.

As a **third** and final convenience, surpassing others, I describe the ease with which stamp lovers can augment their collections and give great pleasure to other stamp lovers. Every day of the week you can send your letters by a **different** post office, and each post office offers a wide selection of postage stamps, especially the German and Austrian offices, which offer stamps in two different currencies.⁷ Without much expense it is possible to post truly philatelic masterpieces, for example, visiting five post offices, one after the other, with a post card, having a stamp cancelled appropriately at each post office, and then handing the card in at the sixth post office paying the actual postage with a sixth stamp.

Inconveniences. There is no lack of these in the Holy Land, especially in Jerusalem. Let me mention first the **lack of connections** with Europe. While in every somewhat important city in Europe one receives the mail once, twice or more times a day, here it happens that one remains eight full days, even two weeks or even longer, without European mail. The link between the Holy Land and Europe goes always through Egypt and by sea. According to sailing schedules, at least twice a week a ship should carry European mail to Jaffa; but especially during winter storms, the weather does sometimes not allow landing at Jaffa. The mailbags are taken to Beirut and only handed over at Jaffa on the return journey five days later, provided a new storm does not make landing again impossible. Then the mailbags return to Egypt in order to be handed over on a later journey. When the mail finally arrives at the same time as that of other mail ships, then the volume is sometimes so huge that all pleasure in reading messages fades and newspapers etc. are left unread.

Another inconvenience is the fact that the foreign posts, with the exception of some Turkish ports, can only transport letters and the like abroad, but not to the interior of the Turkish Empire. For the Turkish empire itself one is forced to use the Turkish post office, which is unfortunately not very reliable, very slow and highly expensive. The inland postage rate corresponds to European foreign postage, especially the charges for parcel post are very high. In addition, there are only 30 Turkish post offices in the whole of Palestine, i.e. in an area larger than the Rhineland and Westphalia. If one wants to communicate with Jaffa, Haifa, and Beirut and use the German, Austrian, or Russian post offices established there, that is possible, but only by paying foreign postage rates. A letter

5 100 centimes equal 1 French franc (*editor*).

6 *Behi'ye, behie, behi'e, beyi'ye*: rebate or discount; some catalogues say "overprinted for foreign postage" (*harici posta*), however these stamps were valid for all postage, not just to foreign countries. Stamps overprinted "ب": Tughras 1905–1910, Post Office 1913, stamps overprinted "★": Views 1914 (*editor*).

7 German stamps and Austrian stamps were issued in Turkish para/piastre as well as French centime/franc (*editor*).

from Jerusalem to Jaffa costs exactly as much as a letter to Germany or to any place within the Universal Postal Union. Since some people in Germany believe that because German post offices have been established in Jerusalem and Jaffa inland rates would be sufficient for sending mail here, we are often “delighted” with penalty charges for letters or printed matter from Germany, franked only with 10 or 3 Pfennigs, respectively.

As the **last** inconvenience regarding the local postal system I would just like to mention the lack of postmen. According to oriental custom, people receive their mails only by collecting these themselves at the post office, or by sending a certified person to pick it up. For this purpose, all important institutions have a so-called kavass, a uniformed house official, who calls at the various post offices on arrival of the European mail, thus taking over almost completely the task of delivering the mail. A letter addressed *poste restante* can easily end up in a post office where it is least expected, and can thus remain there for days and weeks.



Some of the stamps used in the six different post offices in 1913.

Those who want to stay in touch with the outside world through the post in Jerusalem and the Holy Land experience such a varied mixture of joy and sorrow.

Now let’s hear something about the individual post offices, first about the Turkish office. It is, of course, the oldest and was until thirty years ago also the sole post office. If only it had been organised reasonably, none of the foreign post offices would ever have been established, depriving the Turkish state of postal income – in Jerusalem alone – of more than 200,000 Marks annually. Very important developments have certainly happened in Turkey in recent years to improve the

postal administration. Some old abuses have been stopped, but the administration has not yet gained the full trust, so that even locals prefer the services of foreign post offices wherever they can. The Turkish government must be most worried that even intermediate postal traffic in its own country is in the hands of foreigners. Jerusalem is of course the only non-port city that has foreign post offices, the other cities are port cities such as Jaffa, Haifa, Beirut, Tripoli, Alexandrette, Smyrna, Dardanellen, Constantinople, Kerassunde, Trebizond and Rize.⁸ In order to prevent foreign post offices from using these ports to attract postal traffic, the Turkish postal administration has reduced postage to all Turkish port cities by half. Nevertheless, some still prefer foreign post offices. Of the 30 Turkish post offices in Palestine, most belong to the postal district of Jerusalem; the ones north of Nablus, namely Jenin, Zamarin, Haifa, Nazareth, Safed, and Tiberias, belong to the postal district of Akko; the few on the East Bank to the postal district of Damascus. Only in a few cases can postal bags be transported by rail or coach: they are usually carried by riders, often by camel riders. When the Jaffa–Jerusalem railway was opened, the administration was contractually obliged never to carry mailbags from foreign offices, only the Turkish ones.

But how did foreign post offices get established in Jerusalem without permission and against the will of the Turkish authorities? Until well into the eighties of the last century, all foreigners brought letters for foreign countries, which they did not want to entrust to the Turkish post office, to the appropriate consulate in order to be transported with all official documents by express courier to the mail ships landing at Jaffa. No consulate was used more for this than the Austrian one, because almost all immigrant Jews came from Galicia and Hungary. An employee of the Austrian consulate, the current chancellor of the consulate Torresian, as a private person, rented a room on the ground floor in a secluded alleyway in order to relieve the consulate from the distribution of incoming letters and the acceptance of outgoing letters. Letters were accepted and received here after the arrival of the mail ships, with the sole window serving as counter. This private mail became extremely popular and soon achieved a huge turnover. After the arrival of a European mail, people backed up in front of the primitive post office so that the road became impassable for other traffic. Even today the Austrian Post in Jerusalem has the largest turnover of all and affords the most stately post office building.

On 1st March 1900, early in the morning, the inhabitants of Jerusalem saw near the constantly busy Jaffa Gate an imposing signboard, never seen before, with a German eagle and the inscription “Kaiserlich Deutsche Post Jerusalem”.⁹ It was installed above the entrance of a recently empty shop that had been rented by a Mr. Paulus, an employee of the German consulate. The shop had been secretly furnished into a very pretty and practical post office. Two days before the first of March, two gentlemen had arrived at the German hotel in Jerusalem as business travellers, but no one had any idea that these two gentlemen would be the first officials of the so suddenly beginning German postal service. This news had an impact in Jerusalem like the bursting of a bomb. The authorities did not know what to do. They sent police to the new post office, but since these always found the kavass of the German consulate at the entrance to the post office, they did not dare to proceed and were satisfied to observe closely the people entering and exiting. The German Post soon became very popular not only with Germans, but also with other Europeans and locals. It currently resides in a spacious building not far from its initial seat. Following the opening of the German Post, the older Austrian post office also received much more fitting furnishings. A special achievement of the German Post is the introduction of a previously unknown parcel service, especially for traffic with Jaffa. Until then it was very cumbersome to have even a small parcel transported to Jaffa. The German Post began a daily connection with Jaffa by wagon: parcels are at the low rate of one *bishlik*, about 50 Pfennig, per piece.

8 Tripoli = Țarābulus, Dardanellen = Çanakkale, Kerassunde = Giresun, Trebizond = Trabzon (*editor*).

9 Imperial German Post Jerusalem (*editor*).

The French and the Russian postal services, which had previously only operated in the consulate, soon appeared on the scene, and since the former introduced its home tariff, namely only 10 centimes for postcards and 5 Centimes for every 50 g of printed matter, it threatened to attract this part of postal traffic in its entirety. This could only be prevented by the German and Austrian postal services introducing the same tariff. On 8th August 1908, this currency began to be used alongside the Turkish one, with the five pfennig stamps receiving a surcharge “5 Centimes” and the ten Pfennig stamps overprinted “10 Centimes”. For sake of convenience, corresponding 25, 50 and 100 centimes stamps were introduced for heavier printed matter, instead of 20, 40, and 80 Pfennig stamps. The Austrian Post did likewise with its Heller stamps. Only when the Habsburg anniversary stamps were introduced, specific stamps of 5, 10, 15, 25, 50 Centimes and 1 franc **without overprint** were produced and issued.

The local Russian postal service is until today not part of the Russian postal authority, but a private institution dependent on the powerful Russian Palestine Society. This is the only way to explain certain occurrences which otherwise seem inexplicable, such as the fact that the recently issued Russian Romanov anniversary stamps for the Levant in all their values above 1 Piastre were suddenly completely withdrawn from sale, whereas some employees sell them underhand for double or triple their value.

How the last of the foreign post offices, the Italian one, was introduced not only here but in some other cities of the Turkish Empire, namely four years ago as a result of the Italian naval demonstration, which forced the Turkish government to give in, is still in good memory. Just the same for the forced closure of the Italian post offices here in Jerusalem and everywhere in Turkey during the course of 1912, only for them to be revived after the peace accord. The issue of very special stamps for each individual post office with the respective overprints “Gerusalemme”, “Smirne”, etc., can hardly be explained by any necessity or usefulness; its only aim seems to be for the purse of stamp collectors.

As mentioned already, only the Turkish post office, and thus the European mail, is connected with Jaffa by **railways**. All foreign post offices have to maintain their traffic by daily coach journeys, and these are neither easy nor without danger, especially in winter time. Due to heavy rains, the Jaffa–Jerusalem road often becomes almost impassable. The draught animals must always be changed at halfway stage. As some sections are almost uninhabited and full of hiding places, and besides journeys usually take place at night time, each mail wagon is always accompanied by an armed kavass for security reasons. Despite this, isolated robberies have occurred over the years. Two years ago, such a robbery happened to an Austrian postal wagon, and it was successful. The kavass was shot from a dark hiding place and the car was plundered, although later a significant part of the haul could be recovered. In order to reduce the costs for these wagon transports, the German, French, Russian, and Italian post offices have decided to join forces and undertake the wagon journeys at common expense. It seems that this four party arrangement is now permanent, for it is of great benefit to each associate. It is not possible to give exact figures about the turnover of each post office, since the individual offices are instructed to keep these secret; but one would not be wrong to attribute the largest turnover to the Austrian post office, followed by the Russian, Turkish, German, French, and finally, Italian office.¹⁰

Jerusalem, September 1913.

P. Ernst Schmitz.

¹⁰ Patera, p. 211, quotes these turnover figures for 1909 (all in French Francs): Austrian Post 250,000, Russian Post 100,000, German Post 60,000, Turkish Post 20,000, Italian Post 15,000 (*editor*).

Das Postwesen in Palästina

P. Ernst Schmitz

Die Post in Palästina ist eine durchaus eigenartige, von der sich der Europäer nur schwer eine richtige Vorstellung machen kann. Der Hauptgrund davon ist, daß die türkische Regierung trotz wiederholter Bemühungen bisher nicht imstande war, im eigenen Land einen Postverkehr einzurichten, der sich auch nur entfernt mit dem Postverkehr in europäischen Staaten vergleichen ließe. Und die Hauptursachen davon sind: 1. der große Mangel an guten Straßen, 2. die große Schwierigkeit, aus den so zur Indolenz neigenden Morgenländern stramme, dienstefrige Beamten zu bilden, und 3. die Unmöglichkeit der Oberpostverwaltung, die Beamten gemäß ihrer Tüchtigkeit anzustellen, da infolge türkischer Paschawirtschaft auf vieles andere Rücksicht genommen werden muß. Es hat dieser Zustand zur Einführung halb anerkannter, halb nur geduldeter Postämter **fremder** Staaten geführt. In Jerusalem z. B. gibt es außer dem türkischen Landespostamt ein österreichisches, ein deutsches, ein französisches, ein russisches und ein italienisches. Wann und wie diese fremden Postämter entstanden sind, soll später erläutert werden. Einstweilen soll nur die Rede sein von den Annehmlichkeiten und Unannehmlichkeiten, die diese Postverhältnisse für Eingeborene wie für Angesiessene und Pilger hier in Jerusalem mit sich bringen.

Annehmlichkeiten. Die **erste** Annehmlichkeit ist der Wettbewerb dieser sechs nebeneinander fast in derselben Straße arbeitenden Postämter. Wo die Post, wie in anderen Ländern, Monopol ist, da können postalische Vorschriften mit aller Strenge und selbst Rücksichtslosigkeit durchgeführt werden. Handelt es sich um eingeschriebene oder Wertbriefe, um Postanweisungen oder Postpakete, dann heißt es so oft am Schalter: Dieses ist nicht gut, oder jenes ist gut; hier fehlt dies, und hier fehlt das. Man wird zwei- und dreimal abgewiesen und hat allerlei Schererei, bis die Sache zur Annahme gelangt. So etwas ist hier unbekannt; man findet auf allen Postämtern größte Freundlichkeit und stetes Entgegenkommen. Begleitscheine zu Poststücken und Postanweisungen werden öfters von den Beamten selber ausgefüllt für den Absender, bisweilen sogar die Verpackung selber freundlichst ausgeführt usw. Denn wird man nicht gut und freundlich auf einem Postamte bedient, dann braucht man nur auf das andere nebenan zu gehen. Die Vorschriften über das, was als Drucksache zu betrachten ist und was nicht, welche Länge, Breite und Höhe Poststücke haben dürfen u. dgl., werden aus demselben Grunde so großmütig wie möglich ausgelegt.

Die **zweite** Annehmlichkeit ist die, daß nirgendwo die deutsche Post so billig ist wie hier, indem alle Postkarten fürs Ausland für weniger als acht Pfennige, alle Drucksachen für weniger als vier Pfennige befördert werden, unter Benutzung der Zentimwährung. Selbst bei Gebrauch der Piasterwährung stellt sich das gewöhnliche Briefporto auf weniger als 19 Pfennige. Schreibt man aber ins Ausland durch die türkische Post unter Benutzung der sogen. Behiemarken, dann stellt sich das Briefporto sogar auf nur 15 Pfennige, und in demselben Verhältnisse, nämlich um 20 %, verringert sich das Porto für andere Sendungen. Freilich muß man dann die Behiemarken en gros (etwa für 10 M.) kaufen. Für die einzelne Sendung ist das gewiß nur ein geringer Unterschied; in Geschäften aber, wo es sich um tausende und zehntausende Sendungen handelt, werden dadurch ganz erkleckliche Summen gespart. Aber es ist nicht etwa eine Anwandlung von Großmütigkeit, daß die sonst so genau alles berechnende kaiserlich-deutsche Post oder die türkische Post diese Nachlässe gewähren, sondern, wie wir später sehen werden, die liebe Not und der Wettbewerb mit anderen Postämtern nötigen dazu. So wird auch die Stadtbriefpost von allen sechs Postämtern **vollständig umsonst** befördert.

Als **dritte** und letzte Annehmlichkeit, um andere zu übergehen, bezeichne ich die Leichtigkeit, mit welcher hier Markenliebhaber ihre Sammlungen bereichern und anderen Markenfreunden große Freude bereiten können. Jeden Tag der Woche kann man mit **verschiedener** Post seine Briefe

schicken, und ein jedes Postamt bietet eine große Auswahl in Postwertzeichen, besonders das deutsche und österreichische, die solche in zwei verschiedenen Währungen führen. Man kann ohne viele Kosten wahre philatelistische Bravourstücke ausführen, indem man z. B. der Reihe nach mit einer Ansichtskarte fünf Postämter besucht und auf jedem eine aufgeklebte entsprechende Marke entwerfen läßt, um die Karte dann auf dem sechsten Postamte zur Beförderung mit einer sechsten Marke abzugeben.

Unannehmlichkeiten. Auch an solchen fehlt es nicht im Heiligen Land, im besonderen in Jerusalem. Ich erwähne als erste die **mangelhafte Verbindung** mit Europa. Während man in jeder etwas bedeutenden Stadt Europas täglich ein, zwei und mehrere Male die Post erhält, kommt es hier vor, daß man acht volle Tage, ja zwei Wochen oder noch länger ohne Europapost bleibt. Die Verbindung des Heiligen Landes mit Europa geht immer über Aegypten, und zwar über Meer. Nach dem Schiffsfahrtsplane sollte freilich wenigstens zweimal die Woche ein Schiff die Europapost nach Jaffa befördern; aber besonders in der Winterszeit erlauben die Stürme das Anlaufen in Jaffa manchmal nicht; die Postsäcke werden nach Beirut mitgenommen und erst auf der Rückreise nach fünf Tagen in Jaffa abgegeben, sofern nicht ein neuer Sturm das Land wieder unmöglich macht und dann die Postsäcke nach Aegypten zurückgehen, um auf einer späteren Fahrt abgegeben zu werden. Kommt endlich die Post an zugleich mit derjenigen anderer Postschiffe, dann ist sie manchmal so groß, daß alle Lust am Lesen der Nachrichten vergeht und man Zeitungen usw. unbesehen liegen lassen muß.



Einige der 1913 in den sechs verschiedenen Postämtern gebrauchten Marken.

Eine **andere** Mißlichkeit ist der Umstand, daß die fremdländischen Posten, mit Ausnahme einiger türkischen Hafenplätze, Briefe u. dgl. nur ins Ausland, nicht aber ins Innere des türkischen Reiches befördern können. Für das türkische Reich selber ist man gezwungen, sich der türkischen Post zu bedienen, und diese ist leider wenig zuverlässig, sehr langsam und sehr teuer. Das Inlandporto entspricht dem europäischen Auslandporto, und besonders ist die Paketpost in ihren Gebühren sehr hoch. Dazu gibt es in ganz Palästina, also in einem Gebiete, größer als Rheinland und Westfalen, nur 30 türkische Postämter. Will man sich wenigstens für den Verkehr mit Jaffa, Haifa und Beirut der dort eingerichteten deutschen, österreichischen oder russischen Postämter bedienen, so kann man es tun, aber nur gegen Auslandporto. Ein Brief von Jerusalem nach Jaffa kostet genau soviel wie ein Brief nach Deutschland oder nach irgend einem Orte des Weltpostvereins. Da in Deutschland gar manche glauben, wegen des in Jerusalem und Jaffa eingerichteten deutschen Postamtes sei Inlandporto für den Verkehr mit hier genügend, werden wir nicht selten mit Strafporto für Briefe oder Drucksachen aus Deutschland „erfreut“, die nur mit 10 bezw. 3 Pfennigen frei gemacht waren.

Als **letzte** Unannehmlichkeit beim hiesigen Postwesen will ich nur noch den Mangel an Briefträgern erwähnen. Nur derjenige bekommt für gewöhnlich nach orientalischer Sitte seine Postsachen auf dem Postamte, welcher sie selber abholt oder durch eine beglaubigte Person abholen läßt. Alle bedeutenderen Häuser haben auch zu diesem Zweck einen sogenannten Kawassen, einen uniformierten Hausbeamten, der nach Ankunft einer Europapost die verschiedenen Postämter abgeht und diesen so die Arbeit des Austragens fast vollständig abnimmt. Ein *poste restante* adressierter Brief kann leicht auf ein Postamt geraten, auf welchem man ihn am wenigsten erwartet, und kann so tage- und wochenlang auf demselben liegen bleiben.

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Hören, wir jetzt etwas über die einzelnen Postämter, zunächst über das türkische. Es ist natürlich das älteste und war noch bis vor dreißig Jahren das einzige. Wäre es nur leidlich organisiert gewesen, so wäre es niemals zur Einrichtung fremder Postämter gekommen, und die jährlich den anderen Postämtern zufließenden Einnahmen von mehr als 200 000 M. einzig in Jerusalem wären dem türkischen Staate nicht verloren gegangen. Ganz Bedeutendes zur Besserung der Postverwaltung ist gewiß in der Türkei in den letzten Jahren geschehen, manche alte Mißbräuche sind abgestellt worden, aber ein volles Vertrauen hat sich die Verwaltung noch nicht erworben, so daß selbst Einheimische, wo immer sie können, den Dienst der fremden Postämter bevorzugen. Am meisten muß es die türkische Regierung wurmen, daß sie selbst im eigenen Lande den Postzwischenverkehr in den Händen Fremder sieht. Jerusalem ist freilich die einzige Nichthafenstadt, die fremde Postämter besitzt; die übrigen Städte mit solchen sind Hafenstädte, wie Jaffa, Haifa, Beirut, Tripolis, Alexandrette, Smyrna, Dardanellen, Konstantinopel, Kerasiin, Trapezunt und Rize. Um den Postverkehr mit diesen Häfen den fremden Postämtern abwendig zu machen, hat die türkische Postverwaltung das Porto nach allen türkischen Hafenstädten überhaupt auf die Hälfte herabgesetzt. Trotzdem ziehen manche die fremden Postämter noch immer vor. Von den 30 türkischen Postämtern Palästinas gehören die meisten zum Postbezirke Jerusalem; die nördlichen, von Nablus an, nämlich Dschenin, Zamarie, Haifa, Nazareth, Safed und Tiberias, zum Postbezirk Akko; die wenigen des Ostjordanlandes zum Postbezirke Damaskus. Die Beförderung der Postsäcke kann nur in den wenigsten Fällen mit Eisenbahn oder Wagen geschehen; sie geschieht meist durch Reiter, oft Kamelreiter. Bei Eröffnung der Eisenbahn Jaffa-Jerusalem wurde die Verwaltung kontraktlich verpflichtet, niemals Postsäcke der fremden Aemter, sondern ausschließlich die türkischen zu befördern.

Wie ist es nun aber ohne Genehmigung und gegen den Willen der türkischen Behörde zur Einrichtung der fremden Postämter in Jerusalem gekommen? Bis weit in die achtziger Jahre des

letzten Jahrhunderts brachten alle Ausländer etwaige Briefe fürs Ausland, die man nicht der türkischen Post anvertrauen wollte, auf das entsprechende Konsulat, um mit allen amtlichen Schriften durch Eilboten auf die in Jaffa anlaufenden Postschiffe befördert zu werden. Kein Konsulat wurde dadurch mehr in Anspruch genommen als das österreichische, weil fast alle einwandernden Juden aus Galizien und Ungarn stammten. Ein Angestellter des österreichischen Konsulates, der jetzige Konsulatskanzler Torresian, mietete als Privatmann ein Erdgeschoßzimmer in einer abgelegenen Gasse, um das Konsulat zu entlasten von der Verteilung der einlaufenden und der Annahme der auslaufenden Briefe. Hier wurden Briefe angenommen und nach Ankunft der Postschiffe eingelaufene Briefe verteilt, wobei das einzige Fenster als Schalter diente. Diese Privatpost wurde äußerst beliebt und hatte bald einen gewaltigen Umsatz. Nach Ankunft einer Europapost stauten sich die Leute derart vor der primitiven Post, daß die Straße für sonstigen Verkehr unmöglich wurde. Noch jetzt hat die österreichische Jerusalem Post von allen den größten Umsatz und verfügt über das stattlichste Postgebäude.

Am 1. März 1900 sahen frühmorgens die Bewohner Jerusalems in der Nähe des immer sehr belebten Jaffatores ein vorher nie gesehenes stattliches Schild mit deutschem Adler und der Aufschrift „Kaiserlich deutsche Post Jerusalem“. Es befand sich über dem Eingang eines Ladens, der in letzter Zeit leer gestanden und der von einem Herrn Paulus, Angestellter des deutschen Konsulates, gemietet worden war. Der Laden war in aller Stille sehr hübsch und praktisch zu einem Postamt eingerichtet worden. Zwei Tage vor dem 1. März waren im deutschen Hotel zu Jerusalem zwei Herren als Geschäftsreisende abgestiegen, aber kein Mensch ahnte, daß diese zwei Herren die ersten Leiter der urplötzlich beginnenden deutschen Post sein würden. Die Nachricht hiervon wirkte in Jerusalem wie das Platzen einer Bombe. Die Behörden wußten nicht, was sie tun sollten. Sie schickten zwar Polizei zur neuen Post. Da diese aber an dem Eingänge derselben immer den Kawassen des deutschen Konsulates fand, wagte sie nicht vorzugehen und begnügte sich damit, die Ein- und Ausgehenden genau zu beobachten. Die deutsche Post machte sich bald nicht nur bei Deutschen, sondern auch bei anderen Europäern und Einheimischen sehr beliebt, und verfügt gegenwärtig ebenfalls über ein geräumiges Gebäude unweit des ersten Sitzes. Mit Eröffnung der deutschen Post erhielt auch die ältere österreichische eine viel vollkommenere Einrichtung. Ein besonderes Verdienst der deutschen Post ist die Einführung der bis dahin ganz unbekanntenen Paketpost, zumal im Verkehre mit Jaffa. Bis dahin war es sehr umständlich, auch nur ein kleines Paket nach Jaffa zu befördern. Die deutsche Post begann einen täglichen Wagenverkehr mit Jaffa für Pakete zu dem geringen Preis eines Bischlick, etwa 50 Pfg., das Stück.¹¹

Nun erschien auch bald die französische und die bisher nur im Konsulat tätige russische Post auf dem Plan, und da die erstere ihren Heimatstarif einführte, nämlich nur 10 Centimes für Postkarten und 5 Centimes für je 50 g Drucksache, drohte sie diesen Teil des Postverkehrs ganz an sich zu ziehen. Dem konnte nur vorgebeugt werden dadurch, daß auch die deutsche und die österreichische Post denselben Tarif einführten. Am 8. August 1908 begann diese Währung neben der türkischen, indem die Fünfpfennigmarken den Ueberdruck „5 Centimes“, die Zehnpfennigmarken den Ueberdruck „10 Centimes“ erhielten. Der Bequemlichkeit wegen führte man für schwerere Drucksachen eine entsprechende 25, 50 und 100 Centimes-Marke ein statt deren von 20, 40 und 80 Pfg. Die österreichische Post tat dasselbe mit ihren Hellermarken. Erst bei Einführung der Habsburg-Jubiläumsmarken wurden **ohne Ueberdruck** eigene Marken von 5, 10, 15, 25, 50 Centimes und 1 Franc angefertigt und verausgabt.

Die hiesige russische Post ist auch heute noch nicht ein Glied der russischen Postbehörde, sondern eine Privatanstalt unter Abhängigkeit vom mächtigen russischen Palästinaverein. Nur so kann man sich gewisse Vorkommnisse erklären, die sonst unerklärlich erscheinen, wie z. B., daß die letzthin

¹¹ Die schönen blauen Briefkasten, die die deutsche Post an gelegenen Stellen Jerusalems anbringen ließ, veranlaßten nun auch die österreichische, solche in gelber, die türkische, solche in roter Farbe anbringen zu lassen. [footnote in the original text],

erschienenen russischen Romanow-Jubiläumsmarken für die Levante in allen ihren höheren Werten, über 1 Piaster hinaus, plötzlich ganz dem Verkauf entzogen wurden, dagegen von dem einen oder anderen Angestellten unter der Hand für den doppelten oder dreifachen Wert verkauft werden.

Wie das letzte der fremden Postämter, das italienische, nicht nur hier, sondern in manchen anderen Städten des türkischen Reiches eingeführt worden ist, nämlich vor vier Jahren infolge der italienischen Flottendemonstration, die die türkische Regierung zum Nachgeben zwang, ist noch in aller Erinnerung. Desgleichen, wie im Laufe des Jahres 1912 hier in Jerusalem und überall in der Türkei diese italienischen Postämter wieder geschlossen werden mußten, um mit dem Friedensschlüsse wieder neu zu erstehen. Die Ausgabe ganz besonderer Marken für jedes einzelne Postamt mit dem jeweiligen Aufdrucke „*Gerusalemme*“, „*Smirne*“, usw. läßt sich schwerlich durch irgend eine Notwendigkeit oder Nützlichkeit erklären; man scheint es dabei nur auf die Börse der Markensammler abgesehen zu haben.

Wie oben schon gesagt, steht nur die türkische Post vermittelt der **Eisenbahnzüge** im Verkehre mit Jaffa und dadurch mit der Europapost. Alle fremden Postämter müssen den Verkehr durch tägliche Wagenfahrten aufrecht erhalten, und diese Wagenfahrten sind weder leicht noch ungefährlich, besonders zur Winterzeit. Durch die starken Regengüsse wird die Straße Jaffa–Jerusalem oft fast unfahrbar. Halbwegs müssen die Zugtiere immer gewechselt werden. Da einzelne Strecken fast unbewohnt und voller Verstecke sind, außerdem die Fahrten meist zur Nachtzeit geschehen, ist jeder Postwagen zur Sicherheit stets von einem bewaffneten Kawassen begleitet, und selbst so sind im Laufe der Jahre vereinzelt Raubanfälle vorgekommen. Vor zwei Jahren noch fand ein solcher auf einen österreichischen Postwagen statt, und zwar mit Erfolg. Der Kawaß wurde aus dunklem Verstecke heraus erschossen und der Wagen geplündert, wenn auch später ein bedeutender Teil des Raubes wiedererlangt werden konnte. Um die Kosten dieser Wagenfahrten zu vermindern, haben das deutsche, französische, russische und italienische Postamt beschlossen, diese Wagenfahrten auf gemeinsame Kosten anzustellen, und es scheint, daß dieser Vierbund von Dauer ist, da er jedem Teilhaber großen Nutzen bringt. Genaue Angaben über den Umsatz eines jeden Postamtes sind nicht möglich, da die einzelnen Aemter angewiesen sind, solche geheimzuhalten; aber man geht wohl nicht fehl, wenn man dem österreichischen Postamte den größten Umsatz zuschreibt, demnächst dem russischen, dem türkischen, dem deutschen, dem französischen und endlich dem italienischen.¹²

Jerusalem, September 1913.

P. Ernst Schmitz.



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¹² Patera (S. 211) nennt für 1909 folgende Umsatzzahlen (jeweils in franz. Franc): Österreichische Post 250.000, Russische Post 100.000, Deutsche Post 60.000, Türkische Post 20.000 und Italienische Post 15.000 (*editor*).



58. Jahrgang.

Köln, Januar 1914.

1. Heft.



Das Postwesen in Palästina.

Die Post in Palästina ist eine durchaus eigenartige, von der sich der Europäer nur schwer eine richtige Vorstellung machen kann. Der Hauptgrund davon ist, daß die türkische Regierung trotz wiederholter Bemühungen bisher nicht imstande war, im eigenen Land einen Postverkehr einzurichten, der sich auch nur entfernt mit dem Postverkehr in europäischen Staaten vergleichen ließe. Und die Hauptursachen davon sind: 1. der große Mangel an guten Straßen, 2. die große Schwierigkeit, aus den so zur Indolenz neigenden Morgenländern stramme, dienstfrige Beamten zu bilden, und 3. die Unmöglichkeit der Oberpostverwaltung, die Beamten gemäß ihrer Tüchtigkeit anzu-

stellen, da infolge türkischer Paschawirtschaft auf vieles andere Rücksicht genommen werden muß. Es hat dieser Zustand zur Einführung halb anerkannter, halb nur geduldeter Postämter fremder Staaten geführt. In Jerusalem z. B. gibt es außer dem türkischen Landespostamt ein österreichisches, ein deutsches, ein französisches, ein russisches und ein italienisches. Wann und wie diese fremden Postämter entstanden sind, soll später erläutert werden. Einstweilen soll nur die Rede sein von den Unnehmlichkeiten und Unannehmlichkeiten, die diese Postverhältnisse für Eingeborene wie für Angeseidete und Pilger hier in Jerusalem mit sich bringen.

Unnehmlichkeiten. Die erste Unnehmlichkeit ist der Wettbewerb dieser sechs nebeneinander fast in derselben Straße arbeitenden Postämter. Wo die Post, wie in anderen Ländern, Monopol ist, da können postalische Vorschriften mit aller Strenge und selbst Rücksichtslosigkeit durchgeführt werden. Handelt es sich um eingeschriebene oder Wertbriefe, um Postanweisungen oder Postpakete, dann heißt es so oft am Schalter: Dieses ist nicht gut, oder jenes ist gut; hier fehlt dies, und hier fehlt das. Man wird zwei- und dreimal abgewiesen und hat allerlei Schererei, bis die Sache zur Annahme gelangt. So etwas ist hier unbekannt; man findet auf allen Postämtern größte Freundlichkeit und stetes Entgegenkommen. Begleitscheine zu Poststücken und Postanweisungen werden öfters von den Beamten selber ausgefüllt für den Absender, bisweilen sogar die Verpackung selber freundlichst ausgeführt usw. Denn wird man nicht gut und freundlich auf einem Postamte bedient, dann braucht man nur auf das andere nebenan zu gehen. Die Vorschriften über das, was als Drucksache zu betrachten ist und was nicht, welche Länge, Breite und Höhe Poststücke haben dürfen u. dgl., werden aus demselben Grunde so großmütig wie möglich ausgelegt.

Die zweite Unnehmlichkeit ist die, daß nirgendwo die deutsche Post so billig ist wie hier, indem alle Postarten fürs Ausland für weniger als acht Pfennige, alle Druckfachen für weniger als vier Pfennige befördert werden, unter Benützung der Zentimwährung. Selbst bei Gebrauch der Piasterwährung stellt sich das gewöhnliche Briesporto auf weniger als 19 Pfennige. Schreibt man aber ins Ausland durch die türkische Post unter Benützung der sogen. Behiemarken, dann stellt sich das Briesporto sogar auf nur 15 Pfennige, und in demselben Verhältnisse, nämlich um 20%, verringert sich das Porto für andere Sendungen. Freilich muß man dann die Behiemarken en gros (etwa für 10 M.) kaufen. Für die einzelne Sendung ist das gewiß nur ein geringer Unterschied; in Geschäften aber, wo es sich um tausende und zehntausende Sendungen handelt, werden dadurch ganz erkleckliche Summen gespart. Aber es ist nicht etwa eine Anwandlung von Großmütigkeit, daß die sonst so genau alles berechnende kaiserlich-deutsche Post oder die türkische Post diese Nachlässe gewähren, sondern, wie wir später sehen werden, die liebe Not und der Wettbewerb mit anderen Postämtern nötigen dazu. So wird auch die Stadtbrieffpost von allen sechs Postämtern vollständig umsonst befördert.

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abholt oder durch eine beglaubigte Person abholen läßt. Alle bedeutenderen Häuser haben auch zu diesem Zweck einen sogenannten Kawaffen, einen uniformierten Hausbeamten, der nach Ankunft einer Europapost die verschiedenen Postämter abgeht und diesen so die Arbeit des Austragens fast vollständig abnimmt. Ein *poste restante* adressierter Brief kann leicht auf ein Postamt geraten, auf welchem man ihn am wenigsten erwartet, und kann so tage- und wochenlang auf demselben liegen bleiben.

Also, Freud' und Leid in bunter Mischung wird dem zuteil, der in Jerusalem und im Heiligen Lande mit der Außenwelt durch die Post in Verbindung bleiben will.

Hören wir jetzt etwas über die einzelnen Postämter, zunächst über das türkische. Es ist natürlich das älteste und war noch bis vor dreißig Jahren das einzige. Wäre es nur leidlich organisiert gewesen, so wäre es niemals zur Einrichtung fremder Postämter gekommen, und die jährlich den anderen Postämtern zufließenden Einnahmen von mehr als 200 000 M. einzig in Jerusalem wären dem türkischen Staate nicht verloren gegangen. Ganz Bedeutendes zur Besserung der Postverwaltung ist gewiß in der Türkei in den letzten Jahren geschehen, manche alte Mißbräuche sind abgestellt worden, aber ein volles Vertrauen hat sich die Verwaltung noch nicht erworben, so daß selbst Einheimische, wo immer sie können, den Dienst der fremden Postämter bevorzugen. Am meisten muß es die türkische Regierung wurmen, daß sie selbst im eigenen Lande den Postzwischenverkehr in den Händen Fremder sieht. Jerusalem ist freilich die einzige Nichthafenstadt, die fremde Postämter besitzt; die übrigen Städte mit solchen sind Hafenstädte, wie Jaffa, Haifa, Beirut, Tripolis, Alexandrette, Smyrna, Dardanellen, Konstantinopel, Kerasiin, Trapezunt und Rize. Um den Postverkehr mit diesen Häfen den fremden Postämtern abwendig zu machen, hat die türkische Postverwaltung das Porto nach allen türkischen Hafenstädten überhaupt auf die Hälfte herabgesetzt. Trotzdem ziehen manche die fremden Postämter noch immer vor. Von den 30 türkischen Postämtern Palästinas gehören die meisten zum Postbezirke Jerusalem; die nördlichen, von Nablus an, nämlich Dschenin, Samarie, Haifa, Nazareth, Safed und Tiberias, zum Postbezirk Akko; die wenigen des Ostjordanlandes zum Postbezirke Damaskus. Die Beförderung der Postfäcke kann nur in den wenigsten Fällen mit Eisenbahn oder Wagen geschehen; sie geschieht meist durch Reiter, oft Kamelreiter. Bei Eröffnung der Eisenbahn Jaffa-Jerusalem wurde die Verwaltung kontraktlich verpflichtet, niemals Postfäcke der fremden Aemter, sondern ausschließlich die türkischen zu befördern.

Wie ist es nun aber ohne Genehmigung und gegen den Willen der türkischen Behörde zur Einrichtung der fremden Postämter in Jerusalem gekommen? Bis weit in die achtziger Jahre des letzten Jahrhunderts brachten alle Ausländer etwaige Briefe fürs Ausland, die man nicht der türkischen Post anvertrauen wollte, auf das entsprechende Konsulat, um mit allen amtlichen Schriften durch Gilboten auf die in Jaffa anlaufenden Postschiffe befördert zu werden.

Kein Konsulat wurde dadurch mehr in Anspruch genommen als das österreichische, weil fast alle einwandernden Juden aus Galizien und Ungarn stammten. Ein Angestellter des österreichischen Konsulates, der jetzige Konsulatskanzler Torrefian, mietete als Privatmann ein Erdgeschoßzimmer in einer abgelegenen Gasse, um das Konsulat zu entlasten von der Verteilung der einlaufenden und der Annahme der auslaufenden Briefe. Hier wurden Briefe angenommen und nach Ankunft der Postschiffe eingelaufene Briefe verteilt, wobei das einzige Fenster als Schalter diente. Diese Privatpost wurde äußerst beliebt und hatte bald einen gewaltigen Umsatz. Nach Ankunft einer Europapost stauten sich die Leute derart vor der primitiven Post, daß die Straße für sonstigen Verkehr unmöglich wurde. Noch jetzt hat die österreichische Jerusalem Post von allen den größten Umsatz und verfügt über das stattlichste Postgebäude.

Am 1. März 1900 sahen frühmorgens die Bewohner Jerusalems in der Nähe des immer sehr belebten Saffatores ein vorher nie gesehenes stattliches Schild mit deutschem Adler und der Aufschrift „Kaiserlich deutsche Post Jerusalem“. Es befand sich über dem Eingang eines Ladens, der in letzter Zeit leer gestanden und der von einem Herrn Paulus, Angestellter des deutschen Konsulates, gemietet worden war. Der Laden war in aller Stille sehr hübsch und praktisch zu einem Postamt eingerichtet worden. Zwei Tage vor dem 1. März waren im deutschen Hotel zu Jerusalem zwei Herren als Geschäftsreisende abgestiegen, aber kein Mensch ahnte, daß diese zwei Herren die ersten Leiter der urplötzlich beginnenden deutschen Post sein würden. Die Nachricht hiervon wirkte in Jerusalem wie das Plagen einer Bombe. Die Behörden wußten nicht, was sie tun sollten. Sie schickten zwar Polizei zur neuen Post. Da diese aber an dem Eingange derselben immer den Kawassen des deutschen Konsulates fand, wagte sie nicht vorzugehen und begnügte sich damit, die Ein- und Ausgehenden genau zu beobachten. Die deutsche Post machte sich bald nicht nur bei Deutschen, sondern auch bei anderen Europäern und Einheimischen sehr beliebt, und verfügt gegenwärtig ebenfalls über ein geräumiges Gebäude unweit des ersten Sitzes. Mit Eröffnung der deutschen Post erhielt auch die ältere österreichische eine viel vollkommenere Einrichtung. Ein besonderes Verdienst der deutschen Post ist die Einführung der bis dahin ganz unbekanntenen Paketpost, zumal im Verkehre mit Saffa. Bis dahin war es sehr umständlich, auch nur ein kleines Paket nach Saffa zu befördern. Die deutsche Post begann einen täglichen Wagenverkehr mit Saffa für Pakete zu dem geringen Preise eines Bischlick, etwa 50 Pfg., das Stück.¹⁾

Nun erschien auch bald die französische und die bisher nur im Konsulat tätige russische Post auf dem Plan, und da die erstere ihren Heimatstarif einführte, nämlich nur 10 Centimes für Postkarten und 5 Centimes für je 50 g Drucksache, drohte sie diesen Teil des Postverkehrs ganz an sich zu ziehen.

¹⁾ Die schönen blauen Briefkasten, die die deutsche Post an gelegenen Stellen Jerusalems anbringen ließ, veranlaßten nun auch die österreichische, solche in gelber, die türkische, solche in roter Farbe anbringen zu lassen.

Dem konnte nur vorgebeugt werden dadurch, daß auch die deutsche und die österreichische Post denselben Tarif einführten. Am 8. August 1908 begann diese Währung neben der türkischen, indem die Fünfpfennigmarken den Ueberdruck „5 Centimes“, die Zehnpfennigmarken den Ueberdruck „10 Centimes“ erhielten. Der Bequemlichkeit wegen führte man für schwerere Druckfachen eine entsprechende 25, 50 und 100 Centimes-Marke ein statt deren von 20, 40 und 80 Pfg. Die österreichische Post tat dasselbe mit ihren Hellermarken. Erst bei Einführung der Habsburg-Jubiläumsmarken wurden ohne Ueberdruck eigene Marken von 5, 10, 15, 25, 50 Centimes und 1 Franc angefertigt und verausgabte.

Die hiesige russische Post ist auch heute noch nicht ein Glied der russischen Postbehörde, sondern eine Privatanstalt unter Abhängigkeit vom mächtigen russischen Palästinaverein. Nur so kann man sich gewisse Vorkommnisse erklären, die sonst unerklärlich erscheinen, wie z. B., daß die lezt hin erschienenen russischen Romanow-Jubiläumsmarken für die Levante in allen ihren höheren Werten, über 1 Piafter hinaus, plötzlich ganz dem Verkauf entzogen wurden, dagegen von dem einen oder anderen Angestellten unter der Hand für den doppelten oder dreifachen Wert verkauft werden.

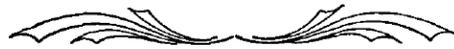
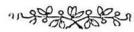
Wie das lezte der fremden Postämter, das italienische, nicht nur hier, sondern in manchen anderen Städten des türkischen Reiches eingeführt worden ist, nämlich vor vier Jahren infolge der italienischen Flottendemonstration, die die türkische Regierung zum Nachgeben zwang, ist noch in aller Erinnerung. Desgleichen, wie im Laufe des Jahres 1912 hier in Jerusalem und überall in der Türkei diese italienischen Postämter wieder geschlossen werden mußten, um mit dem Friedensschlusse wieder neu zu erstehen. Die Ausgabe ganz besonderer Marken für jedes einzelne Postamt mit dem jeweiligen Aufdrucke „Gerusalemme“, „Smirne“ usw. läßt sich schwerlich durch irgend eine Notwendigkeit oder Nützlichkeit erklären; man scheint es dabei nur auf die Börse der Markensammler abgesehen zu haben.

Wie oben schon gesagt, steht nur die türkische Post mittels der Eisenbahnzüge im Verkehre mit Jaffa und dadurch mit der Europapost. Alle fremden Postämter müssen den Verkehr durch tägliche Wagenfahrten aufrecht erhalten, und diese Wagenfahrten sind weder leicht noch ungefährlich, besonders zur Winterzeit. Durch die starken Regengüsse wird die Straße Jaffa-Jerusalem oft fast unfahrbar. Halbwegs müssen die Zugtiere immer gewechselt werden. Da einzelne Strecken fast unbewohnt und voller Verstecke sind, außerdem die Fahrten meist zur Nachtzeit geschehen, ist jeder Postwagen zur Sicherheit stets von einem bewaffneten Kawaffen begleitet, und selbst so sind im Laufe der Jahre vereinzelt Raubanfälle vorgekommen. Vor zwei Jahren noch fand ein solcher auf einen österreichischen Postwagen statt, und zwar mit Erfolg. Der Kawaff wurde aus dunklem Verstecke heraus erschossen und der Wagen geplündert, wenn auch später ein bedeutender Teil des Raubes wiedererlangt werden konnte. Um die Kosten dieser Wagenfahrten zu vermindern, haben

das deutsche, französische, russische und italienische Postamt beschlossen, diese Wagenfahrten auf gemeinsame Kosten anzustellen, und es scheint, daß dieser Vierbund von Dauer ist, da er jedem Teilhaber großen Nutzen bringt. Genaue Angaben über den Umsatz eines jeden Postamtes sind nicht möglich, da die einzelnen Aemter angewiesen sind, solche geheimzuhalten; aber man geht wohl nicht fehl, wenn man dem österreichischen Postamte den größten Umsatz zuschreibt, demnächst dem russischen, dem türkischen, dem deutschen, dem französischen und endlich dem italienischen.

Jerusalem, September 1913.

P. Ernst Schmitz.



Das Personal der Deutschen Post vor dem Kaiserl. Deutschen Postamt in Jerusalem.
Aufnahme Lampe.

The personnel of the German Post in front of the German Post Office in Jerusalem.¹³

¹³ Attributed to H. Lampe, senior government official. Source: Friedemann, Albert: *Die Postfreimarken und die Entwertungen der deutschen Postanstalten in den Schutzgebieten und im Auslande*. Leipzig: Friedemann, 1921. 491 p.



Jerusalem's Jaffa Gate about 50 years ago.

THE HOLY LAND'S POSTAL SERVICES IN 1914

by P. ERNST SCHMITZ

The Germans were very active in the Holy Land in the decades before World War I. They also issued a number of publications devoted to various problems connected with Palestine.

We publish here a translation of a very instructive article which, under the heading "Das Postwesen in Palaestina", appeared in the January 1914 issue of "Das Heilige Land", issued in Cologne.

The Ed.

Palestine's postal system is a very odd one, which a European would find it hard to understand. The chief reason for this is that, despite repeated efforts, the Turkish government has so far been unable to set up in the Ottoman Empire a postal system even distantly resembling those existing in European countries. The main reasons for this state of affairs are: 1) the lack of good roads; 2) the great difficulty in training indolent Orientals to be industrious civil servants; 3) the incapacity of the Postal Administration to employ officials according to their efficiency, as many other factors have to be taken into consideration, owing to the corrupt pasha rule. This situation has led to the establishment of semi-recognized and semi-tolerated post offices by foreign states. In Jerusalem, for instance, there are, in addition to the Turkish post office, an Austrian, a German, a French, a Russian and an Italian post office. When and how these offices came about will be explained later. First we shall discuss the advantages as well as the disadvantages of this situation to natives, residents and pilgrims in Jerusalem.

COMPETITION AMONG SIX POST OFFICES

The first advantage is the competition among the six post offices working side by side, almost in the same street. In other countries, where the post is a state monopoly, rules can be carried out strictly, even ruthlessly. Whether you want to send registered or money letters, postal orders or parcels,

you often hear at the counter: "This is wrong and that is wrong; this is missing or that is missing". One is turned away two or three times and experiences many difficulties before the object is accepted. Such things are unknown here. At the post office one always meets friendliness and the officials are eager to please. Receipts accompanying parcels and money orders are frequently filled out by the clerks themselves on behalf of the sender, and sometimes they are so kind as to wrap the parcels. In fact, if you are not satisfied with the service given at one post office, you can always go to the next one further down the street. The regulations as to what should be considered as printed matter or not, or what should be the maximum length, breadth and height of postal objects, etc., are, for the same reason, interpreted as liberally as possible.

CHEAP POSTAL RATES

The second advantage is that nowhere in the world are German postal rates as cheap as they are here, since all foreign postcards are forwarded for less than 8 pfennig and all printed matter for less than four, using the centimes currency. Even using the piaster currency, ordinary letter postage costs less than 10 pfennig. But if you send a letter abroad through the Turkish post office, using the so-called "Behie-stamps", postage will be 15 pfennig only and postage for lower-class mails are also cheaper, i.e. 20% less. Of course one has to buy the "Behie-stamps" wholesale (for about 10 marks). For a single letter this is only a slight difference, but in business, when tens of thousands of letters are being mailed, this arrangement saves considerable amounts. However, it is not out of generosity that the Imperial German posts, always inclined to cold business reckoning, or the Turkish posts grant these reductions, but, as we shall see later, out of necessity and in order to be able to compete with other post offices. Furthermore, all

six offices in Jerusalem accept mail for delivery within the city completely free of charge. As the third and last advantage, though there are others, I shall mention the case with which philatelists can enrich their collection here and give pleasure to other stamp-lovers. Every day of the week one may send a letter from a different post office, each of which offers a great variety of postage stamps, specially the German and the Austrian which sell stamps in two different currencies. Without much expense one can mail from here such philatelic curiosities as a postcard franked and post-marked with stamps and obliterations from six different offices, the sixth serving as postage at the last office visited.

POOR COMMUNICATIONS WITH EUROPE

Now let us consider the disadvantages, which are not lacking in the Holy Land, particularly in Jerusalem. In the first place, I refer to the defective communications with Europe. Whereas in any average town in Europe mail is distributed once or twice or more frequently every day, one has to wait eight days or even two weeks or more for mail from Europe. The main maritime communications between the Holy Land and Europe still pass through Egyptian ports. According to the schedule of calls, mail from Europe should be brought, at least twice weekly, directly to Jaffa, but, especially during the winter season, gales often do not permit ships to anchor at Jaffa. In such cases, the bags are taken to Beirut and delivered at Jaffa only on the return voyage, provided a new storm does not make this impossible again. In this case, the mailbags are carried back to Egypt, to be delivered on the next voyage. When the mail eventually arrives, together with the mail transported by other steamers, it is some-

times so voluminous that the recipient loses all interest in the news and does not care to read the papers. Another deficiency is the fact that foreign post offices are not allowed to carry inland mail, except to some Turkish coastal towns, but only mail to the exterior. For postal communications within the Ottoman Empire one is forced to use the Turkish posts which are, unfortunately, unreliable, slow and expensive. The inland rates are the same as the European foreign rates and they are particularly high for parcels. In addition, there are in Palestine, an area bigger than the Rhineland and Westphalia, no more than 30 Turkish post offices. If one wishes, at least for correspondence with Jaffa, Haifa and Beirut, to use the local German, Austrian or Russian post offices, one may do so but only by paying full-rate foreign postage. A letter from Jerusalem to Jaffa thus costs the same as a letter to Germany or any other country within the Universal Postal Union. As many people in Germany believe that in view of the existence of German post offices in



The seal of the Imperial German Post Office in Jerusalem which opened on March 1, 1900.



A philatelic souvenir envelope prepared by a tourist to Jerusalem in 1908. He went to the Turkish and to the Foreign post offices operating in Jerusalem — and they all complied with his wishes.

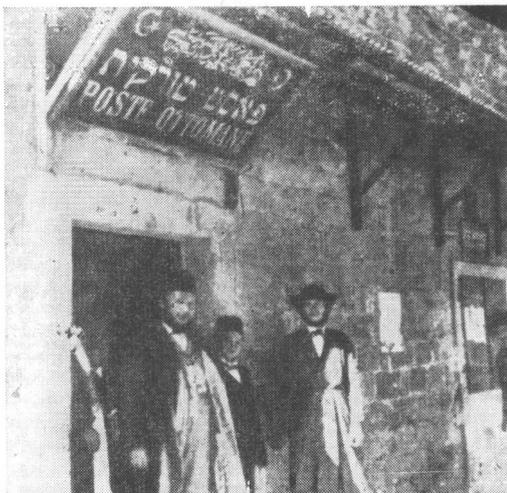
Jerusalem and Jaffa, it is sufficient to frank letters to Palestine according to the German inland-letter rate, residents here are sometimes "surprised" by insufficiently franked letters or printed matter, bearing 10, respectively 3 pfennig stamps, the postage due being collected here.

LACK OF POSTMEN

As the last inconvenience I shall cite the lack of postmen. Only those who, in accordance with oriental custom, call at the post office in person or send some trusted person to fetch their mails, receive them. All important firms and institutions therefore employ a *kavass*, a uniformed clerk, who, after arrival of mails from Europe, calls at the different post offices to collect the mail, thus saving them the task of delivery. A letter sent care of general delivery (*poste restante*) is quite liable to turn up at some post office where one least expects it, laying there for days or even for weeks. And so, as you see, keeping in touch by mail with the world from Jerusalem and the Holy Land means a weird mixture of sorrow and joy...

Let us look at the various post offices, starting with the Turkish post office which, naturally, is the oldest and, until as recently as 30 years ago, the only one. Had it been tolerably well organized nobody would have thought of establishing foreign post offices and the Turkish Treasury would not have lost the 200,000 marks yearly which, in Jerusalem alone, represent the income of the foreign offices. Much has been done indeed in recent years to improve the standard of the postal administration in Turkey, many ancient abuses have been eliminated, but the Administration has not yet acquired full public confidence, so that even the local population prefers to use the foreign service whenever feasible. What particularly irritates the Turkish postal administration is the fact that even inland mail is being transported by foreigners al-

The Turkish Post Office in the "Quartier Isra-elite" — the Jewish quarter of Jerusalem.



1438

though Jerusalem is the only inland town that has foreign post offices, there are offices in ports like Jaffa, Haifa, Beirut, Tripoli, Alexandrette, Smyrna, the Straits, Constantinople, Kerasiim, Trebizond, and Rize. In order to lure away business from the foreign offices, the Turkish administration has reduced by half the rate of postage to all Turkish coastal towns, yet even so many prefer to avail themselves of the foreign services. Of the 30 post offices in the country, the majority belongs to the Jerusalem postal district. The towns in the north, like Nablus, Jenin, Samaria, Haifa, Nazareth, Safad, and Tiberias are part of the Acre postal district; and the few existing east of the Jordan belong to the district of Damascus. Transportation of mailbags can only rarely be effected by train or coach and is done mainly on horse-back or even camel-back. When the railroad between Jaffa and Jerusalem started operation, the Administration pledged itself never to carry mailbags of foreign offices, but of the Turkish posts exclusively.

AGAINST THE WISHES OF THE TURKS

The question arises as to how the foreign post offices were set up in Jerusalem without the authorization and against the wishes of the Turkish authorities. Until the late 1880's all foreigners used to bring letters which they were reluctant to forward by the Turkish posts, to their respective consulates, to be sent, together with official correspondence, by messenger to the steamers calling at Jaffa port. No consulate suffered more by this arrangement than the Austrian, as most of the Jewish immigrants came from Galicia and Hungary. An official of the Austrian consulate, Mr. Terresian, at present chancellor of the consulate, privately rented a room in a distant street, in order to release the consulate of the embarrassment of the distribution of incoming and the acceptance of outgoing mail. In that room letters were accepted and incoming mail distributed after the arrival of ships. The room, which was situated on the ground floor, had one window which served as a counter. This private post became very popular and soon had a considerable turnover. After the arrival of ships so many persons used to queue up in the street that traffic became impossible. The Austrian post office in Jerusalem still enjoys the biggest turnover, and now it is situated in the best building of all.

THE NEW GERMAN POST OFFICE

On March 1st, 1900, the inhabitants of Jerusalem encountered, in the vicinity of Jaffa Gate, an impressive sign, never before seen, which bore the Imperial German eagle and the inscription "Kaiserlich Deutsche Post Jerusalem". The sign hung over the entrance of a shop that had been vacant for some time being rented finally by Mr. Paulus of the German consulate. Almost secretly the shop had been attractively and practically decorated to serve as a post office. Two days before March the 1st, two gentlemen had arrived at the

AN UNUSUAL POSTER

This photo of a crudely hand-written postal notice received from Israel's President, Mr. Jitzhak Ben-Zvi, who kept the original in his archives as a strange souvenir from Turkish times.

The approximate English translation from a rather primitive Hebrew reads, as follows:

ANNOUNCEMENT

The mail arrives on Sundays, Tuesdays and Thursdays and letters can be despatched every day except on the Holy Sabbath and Festivals. Everyone having letters for despatch will inscribe his name on the door of his house.

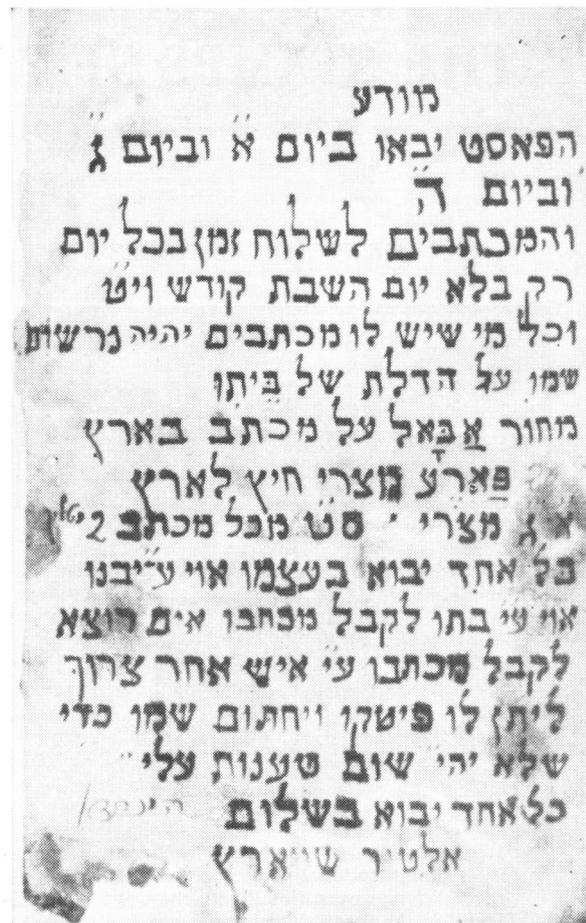
The price of a stamp for letters within the country is 20 Egyptian para, for letters sent abroad 31 (?) Egyptian centimes plus 2 matlik on each letter.

Persons wishing to receive letters will either come themselves or send their son or daughter; should they wish their letters to be given to any other person then such persons must be given a note signed by them in order that nobody will come to me afterwards with complaints.

Peace upon all my customers.

ALTER SCHWARTZ

German Hotel in Jerusalem, apparently commercial travellers, but nobody suspected that they were to be the first managers of the German post office started overnight. The news had the effect of a bombshell. The authorities of the city were helplessly surprised. They sent some policemen to the new post office, but these kept at a respectful distance when they saw the *kavass* of the German consulate at the door and did not dare to interfere, contenting themselves with following with their eyes those going in and coming out of the shop. Soon the German post office became very popular not only with the Germans, but also with other Europeans and natives. It now commands new and spacious premises, near its first site. Simultaneously with the opening of the German post office, the Austrian post office also moved to much more convenient quarters. A special merit of the German post office is the introduction of the parcel post service, which until then had been unknown, especially to Jaffa. Until this service was started, it was most difficult to send even a small parcel to Jaffa. The German post office



started a daily service by coach in both directions, the rate being as cheap as one *bishlik* (about 50 pfennig) per parcel.

COLOURFUL COLLECTING BOXES

The pretty blue collection boxes, put up by the German post office in various parts of Jerusalem for the convenience of the public, impelled the Austrians to set up yellow boxes, and the Turks red boxes of their own.

Before long there appeared on the scene the French post office and the Russian, which so far had been functioning only within the Russian consulate. As the French post office introduced its metropolitan rates — only 10 centimes for postcards and 5 centimes for printed matter not exceeding 50 gr. — it threatened to attract the entire volume of postcards and printed matter. This could only be frustrated by the German and Austrian post office establishing the same rates.

(to be continued)

THE HOLY LAND'S POSTAL SERVICES

IN 1914

(Continuation)

INTRODUCTION OF FRENCH CURRENCY

In August, 1908, the German post office began to use the French currency together with the Turkish. 5 pfennig stamps were overprinted "5 centimes" and 10 pfennig stamps — "10 centimes". For the

by P. ERNST SCHMITZ

sake of expediency, 25, 50 and 100 centimes stamps were used for heavy printed matter, instead of the 20, 40 and 80 pfennig denominations. The Austrians did the same with their "heller" stamps, and only when the Habsburg jubilee issue appeared, the stamps were not overprinted but gave the original designations of value: 5, 10, 15, 25 centimes, and 1 franc.

THE RUSSIAN POST — A PRIVATE ESTABLISHMENT

The Russian post office in Jerusalem does not belong as yet to the Russian Administration of Posts. It is a private establishment, under the patronage of the influential Russian Palestine Society. Only thus can one explain certain practices which otherwise seem inexplicable, as for instance, the fact that all the higher denominations of the recent Romanoff Jubilee set for the Levant, above 1 piaster, were suddenly withdrawn, whereas one could buy them from certain clerks of the post office at prices double or thrice their face value.

A member of the Russian Orthodox clergy in front of the Russian Post Office at Jerusalem, opposite the public garden in Jaffa Road.



The modest building of the French Post Office at Jerusalem, situated on Jaffa Road (between the Turkish and the German Post Offices) not far from Jaffa Gate.

THE LAST OF THE FOREIGN POST OFFICES

It is still remembered how the last of the foreign post offices, the Italian, was established, not only here but in many other towns of the Turkish Empire, some four years ago, as a result of the demonstration of the Italian navy which forced the Ottoman government to compromise. It is also fresh in many minds how, in 1912, here in Jerusalem and everywhere in Turkey, the Italian post offices were closed down only to emerge again after peace was signed. The issue of stamps especially overprinted for each post office, "Gerusalemme", "Smirne", etc., can hardly be explained by necessity or expediency; it seems that it was an attempt on the pockets of stamp collectors.

DIFFICULTIES IN TRANSPORTING MAIL BETWEEN JAFFA AND JERUSALEM

As has been stated, the Turkish post office has the exclusive right of transporting mails by train to Jaffa and thence to Europe. All foreign post offices are compelled to maintain the service by daily coach traffic and these journeys are neither easy nor devoid of danger, specially during the winter season. As a result of heavy rains the road between Jaffa and Jerusalem frequently becomes impassable. Halfway down the road one has to change horses. As some stretches along the road are almost uninhabited and full of hiding places, and as most journeys are made by night, every coach is escorted by an armed *kavass*, and even so some attacks by highwaymen were carried out

POSTE RUSSE JAFFA		РУССКАЯ ПОЧТА Яффа		הפוסט הרוסי יפא	
May 1914.		מאי 1914.		מ' בסדר תר"ד.	
День и число יום וספר Jour et date	Приходъ изъ הבא מזה Arrivee de	Название парохода שם האוניה Nom du bateau	Пароходн. 0-во הברת Compagnie	Отходъ въ הסע לחצי Depart pour	
Воскресенье יום ראשון Dimanche 24/V	I. Александрия, П.-Саид אלכסנדריה, פ. סעיד Alexandrie P. Saïd	Одесса אדיססא Odessa	P. O. П. и Т. הברת רוסייה Cie Russe	Кайфа, Бейрут, Смирну Кон-поль и Одессу ח'פה, ביירות, סמינ, קונסטאנטינופול Caiffa, Beyrouth, Smyrne. Con-ple et Odessa	
Понедельник יום שני Lundi 25/V	I. Бейрута ביירות Beyrouth	Порто-ди-Роди פורטו-די-רודי Porto-di-Rodi	Итальянское איתלק Italienne	Триполи טריפולי Tripoli	
	II. Александрия, П.-Саид אלכסנדריה, פ. סעיד Alexandrie, P. Saïd	Саид סעיד Saïd	Хедивье Ко הדיב Khedivle Ko.	Кайфа, Бейрут, Мерсина הח'פה, ביירות, מרסין Caiffa, Beyrouth, Mersine	
	III. Мерсина, Ал-дретта, Бейрута, Кайфа מרסין, אלכסנדריה, ביירות, ח'פה Mersine, Alexandrette, Beyrouth, Caiffa	Тевоник טבוניק Tewfikleh	"	П.-Саид, Александрия פ. סעיד, אלכסנדריה P.-Saïd, Alexandrie	
	IV. Мерсина, Бейрута, Кайфа מרסין, ביירות, ח'פה Mersine, Beyrouth, Caiffa	Горция גורция Gortia	Австр. Лд. לליוד האוטרי Lloyd Austr.	П.-Саид, Александрия, Триест פ. סעיד, אלכסנדריה, טריסט P. Saïd, Alexandrie, Trieste	
Вторник יום שלישי Mardi 26/V	I. Бейрута ביירות Beyrouth	Карнак קארנאק Karnak	Месс. Марит. מסני מריט Mess. Marit.	П.-Саид, Александрия, Марсель פ. סעיד, אלכסנדריה, מרסיל P. Saïd, Alexandrie, Marseille	
Среда יום רביעי Mercredi 27/V	I. Одесса, Конст-поля, Смирна, Бейрута, Кайфа אדיססא, קונסטאנטינופול, ח'פה Odessa, Cons-ple, Smyrne Beyrouth, Caiffa	Чихачевъ צ'ихצ'ב Schichatscheff	P. O. П. и Т. הברת רוסייה Cie Russe	П.-Саид Александрия פ. סעיד, אלכסנדריה P. Saïd, Alexandrie	
Четверг יום חמישי Jeudi 28/V	I. Александрия, П.-Саид אלכסנדריה, פ. סעיד Alexandrie, P. Saïd	Семирамисъ סמירמס Semiramis	Австр. Лд. לליוד האוטרי Lloyd Austr.	Кайфа, Бейрут, Мерсина ח'פה, ביירות, מרסין Caiffa, Beyrouth, Mersine	
Суббота יום שבת Samedi 30/V	Марселя, Александрия, П.-Саид מרסיל, אלכסנדריה, פ. סעיד Marseille, Alexandrie, P. Saïd	Эрн. Симонъ ארנ. סימן Ernest Simon	Месс. Марит. מסני מריט Mess. Marit.	Бейрут ביירות Beyrouth	

ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE RUSSIAN POST AT JAFFA

This tri-lingual announcement, printed in Jaffa, was distributed by the Russian Post in Jaffa. It contains full particulars about the arrival and departure of all mail-carrying steamers during the month of May, 1914.

Imp. Dickinson-Steinfeld, Jaffa

דפוס דיקינסון-שטיינפלד, יפא

ATTACKS BY HIGHWAYMEN

during these years. As late as two years ago the robbers staged a successful hold-up on the Austrian mailcoach. The kavass was shot from ambush and the coach pilfered, although some of the money stolen was recovered later. In order to cut down the expenses of these journeys, the German, French, Russian and Italian post offices have decided to effect them in common and it seems that this quadrilateral union will endure, as it is very useful to each party.

Exact data about the turnover of each post office cannot be given as each office is advised to keep this secret, but one may safely guess that the Austrian office enjoys the biggest turnover, followed by the Russian, the Turkish, the German, the French, and finally the Italian post offices.

INFORMATION WANTED



Readers are requested to furnish information on the two "stamps" shown here. (Left) A 2 mils Mandate London II, with red overprint, between vertical lines, "1 & T.P.T. 37". The oval, violet rubber stamp with which the stamp is obliterated, shows the word "Foreign" and the figure "22". (Right) A "stamp" of 1936 with inscriptions in 4 languages, including the Hebrew "Rebate Stamp".

Recent Philatelic Journals

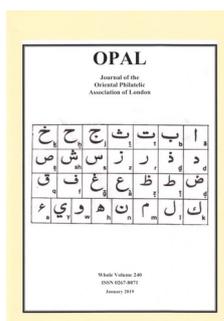
by Tobias Zywietz

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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 240 – January 2019

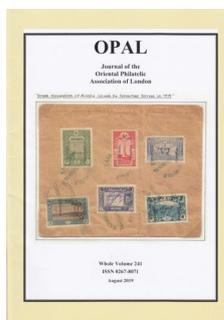
Oriental Philatelic Association of London, English, A5, colour, –



- O. Graf discovers a forgery on cover of the rare Baba Boghazi cancel of the 1897/98 Turkish occupation of Thessaly (2–4, [d]).
The editor presents a document detailing a British agreement with France on retreating forces from Syria and Cilicia by 1.11.1919 (5–7).
J.-B. Parenti researched the history of “Oméga : Association Internationale d’Échanges, d’Achat & de Vente” founded in 1919 in Constantinople and its journal “Le Messenger d’Orient” (8–11).
G. F. Paiste looks at the Féké Provisionals of 1920. [*Reprint from OPAL Supplement 2*] (12–14).
A. Tanrikut reports an account given in 1961 by a former local director of Tartar post services, Mehmet Baytaş bey. [*Reprint from OPAL-Tughra Times joint issue 2*] (15–21).
K. Giray shows postmarks and covers from Sofar (Sawfar, صوفر), a Druze village in Aley District, Lebanon (22–23).
T. Stanford shows a private registration marking (“R” in oval) used on a 1905 British Levant cover at Beirut. [*Reprint from The Overprinter, 2/2018*] (24).
B. Bradford provides a timeline of events relevant to Cilicia and O.E.T.A. North from 30.10.1919 to 10.08.1920 (26–34) followed by a series of post cards and covers from Cilicia in early 1919 (35–48).

OPAL Journal 241 – August 2019

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



- A. Hawthorne and M. Wlodarczyk continue their research into the overprint varieties of the British Levant: the article looks at the 1¼ Piastre on 4 d KEVII stamp (SG no. 23) [*Reprint from The Overprinter*] (2–15, [c]).
W. Pijnenburg looks at a plate error “spot beside the crescent” of the 10 Para green Dulos issue (17–20, [d]).
T. Hacking reports an internet offer (asking price: 85.50 US-\$) of a 2 Para “IMPRIMÉ” expertised by APS as “Turkey Scott no. P13, used, genuine, forged overprint” (21–22).
The book “Les Timbres Semeuse de Cilicie” by Philippe Lejeune and Christian Lebel is briefly described (22).
Press release by the RPSL on Freddy Khalastchy’s display of Baghdad overprints (23).
B. Bradford reports a display by Jim Fulton about the occupation stamps prepared for Kydonia (Ayvalik) in 1919. The author lists Greek and Turkish place names and shows the respective postmarks (24–31, [a]).

- Z. Aloni gives an account of a document in the Alexander Museum: an 1870 handwritten copy of Turkish postage rates in Jerusalem (32–35).
 B. Bradford shows the Arabic alphabet and gives a few examples to read postmarks (36–41).
 M. K. H. Brumby lists the perforation varieties of Turkey's Atatürk definitives, 1931–1955, and of the İnönü definitives, 1942–1945 (42–44).

OPAL Journal 242 – February 2020

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



- B. Bradford checks a variety of the August 1921 **18 3/4 d Piastras** on 1s overprint reported in *The Overprinter* (2–3).
 J. Bagwell presents a 1906 registered cover from Beirut to London with a pair of “Beyrouth Provisionals”: British Levant 1 Piastre on 2d overprint (4–5).
 B. Bradford analyses published information (Bremond Reports) about the “Cilicie” overprints on Ottoman stamps and details his findings on types, print-runs and dates (6–10).
 A. D. Taylor-Smith reports on the obligatory tax stamps of Turkey: Red Crescent (1910–1958), Child Welfare (1928–1925), Aviation Society (1926–1934) and the 1958 law ending such usage, after which date Turkey's PTT stated issuing several sets of charity stamps (75% surcharge) per year, coinciding with festival dates (11).
 B. Bradford surveys covers with Turkish stamps overprinted “Cilicia”: of 1,000 covers from this period in his database only some 300 make use of such stamps (12–45).
Newsletter no. 124 (March 2020): Agenda & Reports for the 71st AGM to be held in July 2020. The society has currently 132 members (1–4, 7–8).
 P. Longbottom enquires about a postmark “SUERDOS” on a 1908 postcard (5). Two postcards from Ephesus are shown (6).

Türkei-Spiegel 127 – 1/2019

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



- H. Lampe, former ministerial official, reports on the history of German post offices in Turkey. [*Reprint from Deutsche Postgeschichte, 1938, no. 1, pp. 175–182.*] (3–23).
 A. Birken comments on the date of issue of the 1894 *matbu'a* (printed matter) stamps, referencing M. Tükoğlu's piece in *The Levant* (vol. 9, no.2, pp. 82–83) (24).
 A. Birken portrays the postal and philatelic history of Sofia (Sofya) (25–31).
 B.-D. Buscke shows a Palestine Mandate “Greetings Telegram” envelope used in Jenin (West Bank) in 1952.
 The release of Turhan Turgut's new book “Osmanlı İmparatorluğu Posta Tarihi” (ISBN 9786051718323) is mentioned.¹
Reports from the 2018 AGM (37–40). Member R. Fuchs achieved an award at the 'Postgeschichte Live' exhibition in Sindelfingen (35–36).

Türkei-Spiegel 128 – 2/2019

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



- A. Birken explains the naming of Ottoman provinces: Hüdavendigâr vilayeti (3–6).
 A. Birken portrays the postal and philatelic history of Kerkük [Kirkuk] (7–12).
 T. Zywiets looks at the history of the Danish Missionary Society in Syria (Østerlandsmissionen) with covers courtesy of L. Martinoja. [*Reprint from MEPB II*] (13–21).
 100 years ago: “Politische Rundschau im Osten: Türkei” – reprint of a political survey of Turkey from *Der Neue Orient*, 1919 (22–29).
 A. Birken shows a cover with the Mudros commemoratives (30).
 R. Fuchs describes the first mail transport overland from Baghdad to Haifa with a

1 Publisher's website: <https://www.alfayayinlari.com/kitap.php?id=369009>.

press report and a “first day” cover (31–33).

A. Birken shows an example of an Ottoman postal form used in 1926 (34).

A. Birken gives a brief review of Turhan Turgut’s book “Osmanlı İmparatorluğu Posta Tarihi = Postal History of the Ottoman Empire” (35).

In “Antworten, Reaktionen...” [answers and reactions] R. Fuchs speaks to the situation of today’s philately; B. Stuchell and Y. Nakri look at dates on negative seals; O. Graf revisits a source for his Thessaly piece in TS 126, and U. Dorr announces her book on the Orient Express (34–39).

Türkei-Spiegel 129 – 3/2019

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



A. Birken explains the naming of Ottoman provinces: Aydin vilayeti (3–5).

A. Birken portrays the postal and philatelic history of Aydin (6–12).

A. Birken reports about the French occupation of Cilicia 1919–21 (13–25).

100 years ago: “Politische Rundschau im Osten: Türkei” – continued reprint of a political survey of Turkey from *Der Neue Orient*, 1919 (26–29).

J. Warnecke studies the Red Crescent as part of the family of Red Cross societies, focussing on symbols used on stamps (30–38).

C. Schlötzer’s essay “Istanbul heißt Istanbul” is reprinted from *Süddeutsche Zeitung*, 2019 (40).

H. Gerzabek has been appointed honorary member of Austrian society of stamp expertisers *VÖB* (39). Invitation for the 2019 AGM (41–44).

Türkei-Spiegel 130 – 4/2019

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



A. Birken explains the naming of Ottoman provinces: Ma‘muret ül-‘Aziz vilayeti (Elaziz, Elazığ, Agavat Mezre‘si, Mezere) (3–6).

T. Zywiets reports a new T.P.O. cancel of the Smyrna–Dinar line (İzmir–Geyikli) found by Hakan Berkil (7–9).

100 years ago: “Politische Rundschau im Osten: Türkei” – continued reprint of a political survey of Turkey from *Der Neue Orient*, 1919 (10–14).

A. Birken portrays the postal and philatelic history of Dedeağaç (Dedeagatsch, Dede Aghadj, Dedeagh, Dédéagh, Alexandroupolis) (15–20).

W. Pijenburg reconstructed the postmark of Marmaritz (Memeris, Marmaras, Marmarice) from partial strikes and reports new cancels from Basra (BASSORA 2), Çorum, Kafarn, and Trabzon (21–25).

A. Birken gives a brief summary of the Egyptian Expeditionary Force (E.E.F) with its stamps and postal history of the Occupied Enemy Territories (O.E.T.A. or T.E.O.) (26–32).

B. Bradford gives an account of the “Cilicie” and “T.E.O. / Cilicie” overprints and the numbers printed based on an account by the French officer in charge, Col. Édouard Brémond [Translation from OPAL] (33–37).

A. Birken queries about a 1914 cover from Arsun (Lebanon) with a blue-green oval postmark Arsun Posta Şubesi: “ARZUN.LIBAN” with transposed “Z” different to the one shown by Bayındır (39).

In “Antworten, Reaktionen...” [answers and reactions] J. Warnecke notes that the 150th anniversary of the Turkish Red Crescent was commemorated with a stamp issue a year after the actual event: *Osmanlı Yaralı ve Hasta Askerlere Yardım Cemiyeti* was founded on 11th June 1868 – not 1869; and A. Schild queries about the six-pointed star and crescent emblem used by a coal mine in Lusatia, Germany,² both J. Warnecke and A. Birken reply; B. Bradford let it be known that the dates-of-issue for Cilicia stamps in A. Birken’s piece in TS 129 are from the Michel-catalogue and differ from the research he entertained; W. Pijenburg serves a repost on C. Schlötzer’s essay “Istanbul

² Grube Ilse was part of Ilse Bergbau AG, owned by the renowned stationery collectors Ignaz and Julius Petschek, and sons Ernst and Franz Petschek. Cf. Maassen, Wolfgang: *Ein Lehrstück über die Gier : das Schicksal der Brüder Petschek ; eine deutsch-tschechische Geschichte*. In: *Phila Historica*, 2018, no. 2, pp. 86–99.

heißt Istanbul” in TS 129 (40–44).

The release of Mehmet Akan & Timur Kuran’s first volume of “Türkiye’de Postanın Mikrotarihi 1920-2015” (ISBN: 9786052958926) is mentioned.³



Türkei-Spiegel 131 – 1/2020

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

O. Graf studies the usage of charity stamps for the Turkish Red Crescent Society (15–34).

T. Zywiets reviews the book “Der Orient-Express 1883–1914” by Ute & Elmar Dorr (35–38).

Obituaries for Dr. Andreas Birken (1942–2019) by T. Zywiets, J. U. Clauss, W. Maassen, the editors of MICHEL catalogue, and T. Berndt (6–14). Reports from the 2019 AGM (39–42). After the sudden death of Dr. Birken, Tobias Zywiets has taken over the role of editor of Türkei-Spiegel.

Türkei-Spiegel 132 – 2/2020

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

O. Graf gives a personal view how to collect Ottoman postmarks, its pitfalls and his advice on best practice. He uses his expertise on collecting Albania to show examples (6–19).

W. Pijnenburg updates the knowledge about the “İstanbul-Provisionals” i.e. bisected and overprinted stamps used in Constantinople in the 1880s, catalogued by İsfila as Y155–162 (20–36).

J. Warnecke adds some information about the Red Crescent charity stamps studied by O. Graf in TS 131 (37).

T. Zywiets continues his series about the old General Post Office building of Jerusalem with a second (38–39).

M. Pettifor & N. Williams study the registration labels and cachets of Aden Protectorate 1937–1967. The series starts with an overview and the early examples used until 1947 (40–42).

T. Zywiets previews the auction of the Werner Schindler collection of Austrian Levant at Corinphila Zurich (43).



Al Barīd 83 البريد – May 2018

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

A. Kaplanian features a Jordanian air letter sent from Bethlehem in 1956 to the Hollywood film star Lana Turner (2203–2205).

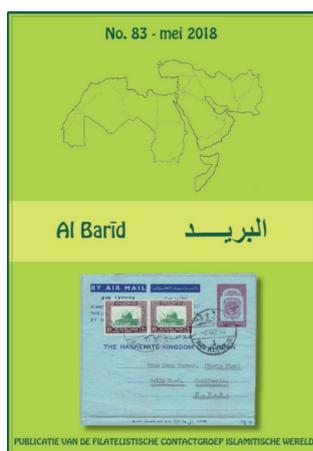
T. van der Veen shows a cover sent from Alexandria in 1908 to the Egyptian El Tor quarantine station on Sinai with arrival postmark “CAMPEMENT TOR” and explains the background to the station and its director Dr. Felix Gotschlich (2205–2208).

A. Koopmanr looks at maps on stamps showing and explaining examples from Afghanistan, Egypt, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, and Sudan (2208–2211).

J. Strengholt documents the history of the new resort town ‘Heliopolis’ (actually Ain Shams Oasis inbetween the historic Heliopolis and Cairo) and its post office and postmarks from 1909 (2211–2217).

W. Pijnenburg looks at the cataloguing policy in 2016’s *Türk Pulları Spesyalize Kataloğu. Osmanlı imparatorluğu (1840-1922)* by Ağaoğulları & Papuçuoğlu in respect of U.P.U. Specimen perforations which the catalogue does not fully cover. He also looks at specimens distributed by the U.P.U. to its member countries and subsequent overprints (like “ULTRAMAR” or COLONIAS) by some states who further distributed such specimen stamps to their colonies. Reference is given to James Bendon’s 1988 study *U.P.U. Specimen Stamps* (2217–2225).

R. Dauwe revisits the postmarks of Egyptian Nubia: El-Shallal, Khor Rahma, Korosko, Tumas, and Tochka. [Refs. to *Al-Barid* 81] (2226–2229).



3 Publisher’s website: <https://www.iskultur.com.tr/turkiyede-postanin-mikrotarihi-1920-2015-cilt-i-1920-1950.aspx>.

Al Barīd 84 البريد – September 2019*Filatelistische Contactgroep Islamitische Wereld, Dutch, A4, colour, –*

This is the 50th Anniversary edition. The society has currently 50 members.

T. Jansen recounts the society's history from its founding in 1969, becoming *Postzegelstudiegroepen Oost Europa en Mohammedaanse Wereld* in 1975 to transform in 1982 into *Filatelistische Contactgroep Islamitische Wereld*. The journal was then renamed *Al Barīd* (6–8).

F. Bruining and S. van der Ven recount the Field Post organisation of the Egyptian Expeditionary Force (9–11).

F. Bruining explains how to measure postmarks (12–13).

T. Jansen gives an introduction to the stamps of Sudan (14–17).

W. Pijnenburg explains a 1906 cover from Rostow (Russia) to Jerusalem (17–18).

T. Jansen studies the hotel post office at Mena House Hotel, Giza (19–22).

H. Julsing reports on the local courier services in Morocco, 1891–1914 (23–31).

W. Jansen looks at how best to collect stamps of Iran by giving an overview of the various series and types issued (32–37).

S. van der Ven presents a letter sent from Uqd to Switzerland by a delegate of the Red Cross mission in Yemen in 1964 (38–39).

A. Koopman reports on the boundary conflict between Egypt and Sudan regarding the areas of Hala'ib and Bir Tawil (40–42).

J. van Zelle studies the Travelling Post Offices of van Suez (43–45).

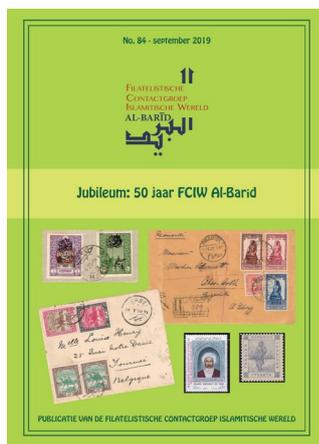
J. Blok looks at 'undercover' mail between Israel and Arab countries using cover addresses in Cyprus and London (46–47).

A. Kaplanian gives an account of some aspects of early Transjordan stamps: the "Moab" provisional stamp issued by the British district commander Alex Kirkbride (48); the November 1922 issue by Emir Abdullah (49); the 1925 "East of the Jordan" overprints (50); the 1923 Hejaz Postage Dues overprinted for Transjordan (51).

P. Leever recounts the philatelic history of the Arab Kingdom of Syria, 8.03.1920–25.07.1920 (52–55).

J. Strengholt looks at Abu Simbel and Trajan's Kiosk: "Save the Monuments of Nubia" (56–61)

K. Wagtenonk reports on Rafah International Airport (62).

**Al Barīd 85 البريد – November 2019***Filatelistische Contactgroep Islamitische Wereld, English, A4, colour, –*

This is a special edition commemorating World War I and its aftermath in the Middle East.

T. Hooft gives a preface and S. van der Ven outlines the history and postal history of the area (5–7).

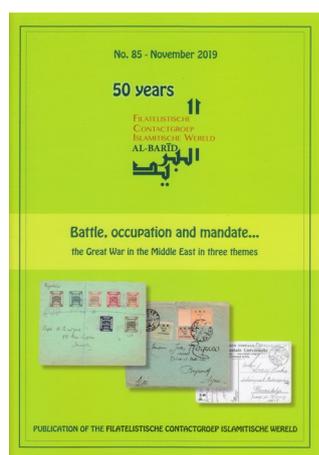
H. van Elzelingen & F. Bruining study the German and Austro-Hungarian Field Post (8–15).

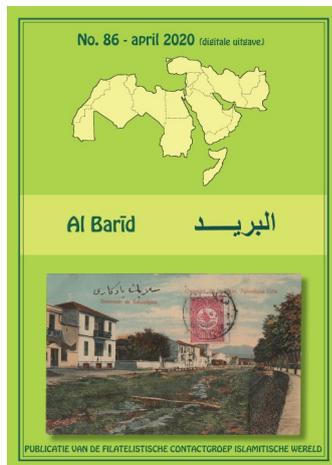
S. van der Ven looks at the history and postal history of O.E.T.A (Occupied Enemies Territories Administration) 1918–1923 (16–25).

A. Kaplanian reviews the aftermath western and eastern of the Jordan (26–33).

F. Bruining looks at the usage of currencies and the tariffs in force (35–38).

S. van der Ven & A. Koopman outline of political agreements and treaties affecting the Middle East and list some key Arabic and Turkish expressions (38–41).



Al Barīd 86 البريد – April 2020*Filatelistische Contactgroep Islamitische Wereld, Dutch, A4, colour, –*

A. Kaplanian produces a catalogue of Arab-language-only civil and military censor marks used by Jordan on the Westbank [Dutch version of Kaplanian's article in this issue] (2231–2242).

Book reviews: “Alexandria : Postal History until 1918 – Part 1” (Ronny van Pellecom), “Alexandria dans la Première Guerre Mondiale” (Jean-Yves Empereur, ed., ISBN: 978-2-490128-03-7); “The Egyptian Maritime Postal History 1845–1889” (Hany Salam, ISBN: 978-908239874-8) (2243–2245).

T. Jansen, F. Bruining & J. van Zelleme dissect a multi-cancelled multi-redirected postcard from Medan (Dutch East Indies) to Hamburg, Alexandria, Aden, Port Said, etc. (2246–2248).

F. Bruining details postcards with significance on Ottoman railway lines: map of vilayet Salanik (Thessaloniki), Doiran to Saloniki, Kilkiche near Avrat Hissar to Salonki; Cavalla to Adrianople (Edirne), Saloniki via Dedeagatch to Germany (2249–2255).

F. Bruining ask for information regarding postcard from Deir-ez-Zor: the cancel “DEIR ZOR / 1” has a narrow datebridge but no date in it, W. Pijnenburg and P. Longbottom give their opinion (2255–2256).

R. van Pellecom shows a 1906 multi-redirected cover: Stuttgart, Berlin, Cairo, Helouan (2257–2259).

Advert for Corinphila's auction of a specialised Egypt collection ([2261]).
Digital only preview due to Covid-19 and the lockdown in the Netherlands.

The Quarterly Circular 268 (Vol. 23, No. 9) – March 2019*The Egypt Study Circle, English, A4, colour, –*

The February 2019 meeting included displays from the collections of Egyptian Fiscals by David Jones, Vahe Varjabedian and Mats Edstrom (196–197).

R. van Pellecom and A. Stragier continue their series on railway station postmarks 1879–1914 with a fifth instalment (199–209).

J. Clarke notices some oddities on a block-of-four of the 17 m green Farouk ‘cancelled back’ offered at the last ESC member's auction, and asked for help on the genuineness of the piece (210).

R. Wheatley shows two items related to the 1901 Swedish Zoological Expedition in Egypt (211).

R. A. Rimonis shows a dozen post cards depicting street water sellers: *saqqayeen* (212–216).

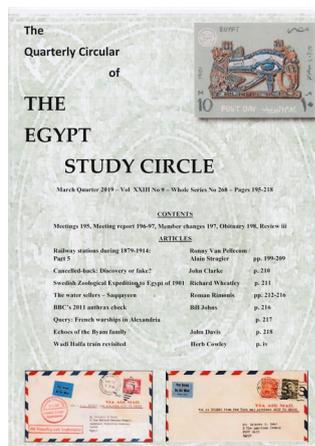
B. Johns shows a cover directed to the BBC World Service marked with a red hand-stamp “CHECKED / 7”: these were checked for Anthrax during a scare in 2011/2012 (2016).

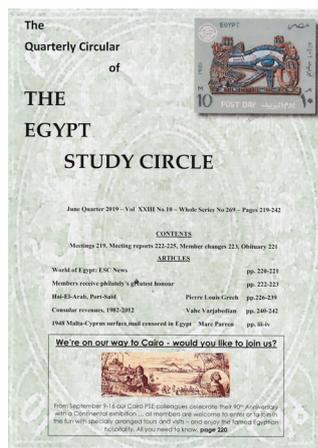
A query by A. Janson about a cover from a French naval ship at Alexandria in 1940 is answered by P. Grech summarising his article on the topic from QC251 of 2014 (217).

H. Cowley reviews J. Davis' book “Egypt : From The Postal Concession Until Suez, 1953–1956 ; Part II” (220 p., £45) (219).

In response to a short piece by B. Sedgley in QC266, H. Cowley shows four further post cards of a train at Wadi Halfa with (almost) identical pictures (220).

In the report of the February 2019 meeting S. Sadek is presented as the new treasurer, taking over from Brian Sedgley after 15 years of service (196). Obituary: Mostapha Kadry El-Dars (1926–2019)(198). A report by J. Davis on one of the ESC's founding fathers, Dr. William Byam, is reprinted from QC221 (218).





The Quarterly Circular 269 (Vol. 23, No. 10) – June 2019

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

P. L. Grech studies the history and postal history of Port Saïd's Arab quarter Hai-el-Arab/Qism Sani, presenting covers, cards, its interpostal seal, and a survey of postmarks from 1895 (226–239).

V. Varjabedian details the Revenue Stamps of Egypt from 1982–2012, updating P. Feltus' book of 1982 (240–242).

M. Parren reports on a cover from Malta to Cyprus censored in Egypt in 1948. [Revised reprint from MEPB 11] (iii–iv).

News about the society's trip to Cairo and the 2019 AGM (220–221). Obituary: Leon Balian (2019). Reports from the RPSL 100th anniversary exhibition Stockholmia 2019 (222–225).

The Quarterly Circular 270 (Vol. 23, No. 11) – September 2019

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

S. Sadek presents his research into Egyptian T.P.O.s focussing on the use of timetables in determining routes taken. The examples studied are from the light-railway system in the Eastern Delta (248–255).

In "Updata" the editor assembles feedback on topics raised in recent QCs: A. Stragier replies to B. Sedgley's discovery of a stationery cover from "Tokar" (QC 267) in showing another such cover (18.11.1894) and also shows fiscally stamped papers in response to B. John's piece in QC 267; S. Laaksonen shows more consular revenue stamps following-up V. Varjabedian (QC 269) to which the editor can add further examples; Murphy also looked into material on the Arab quarter of Port Saïd (Hai el-Arab) (256–257).

G. Todd shows an Airgraph sent by Jean Boulad d'Humières to A.S. Mackenzie Low in 1943 detailing the new postage rates effective 13.04.1943 (258).

J. Chalhouh and H. Hadad detected a forgery of an 1866 10 p block-of-four with reversed watermark (SG 7-wm1b) offered at auction (259).

S. Sigals reports the discovery of the 5 m "O.H.H.S" official stamp of 1917 (SG O76/Nile Post O5) on paper without watermark (259).

P.-L. Grech explores the philatelic commemoration of French author and aviator Antoine de Saint-Exupéry (260–261).

R. Wheatley shows two 1908 covers addressed to Edwardian author Thomas Hall Caine at the Semiramis Hotel in Cairo, both redirected to Aswan (262).

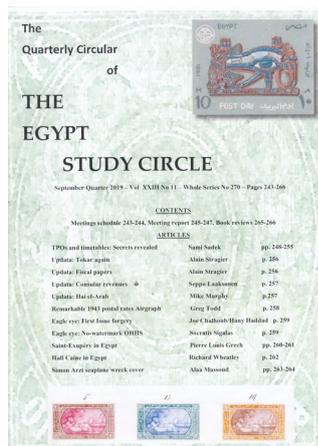
A. M. Massoud studies a 1937 air crash cover from Port Saïd to Britain: a boxed cachet "DAMAGED BY / SEA WATER / IN AIRPLANE / ACCIDENT" was applied by British Post after the Imperial Airways plane crashed at Phaleron Bay near Athens (263).

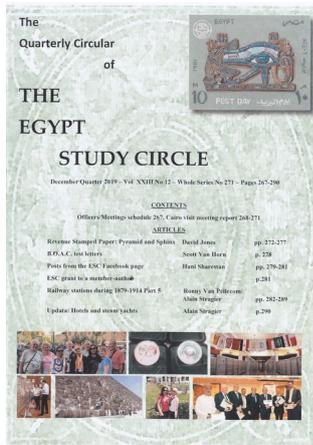
The editor issues a correction to two images' descriptions in P.-L. Grech's piece on Hai el-Arab in QC 269 (264).

M. Murphy reviews Humphrey Davies' and Lesley Lababidi's book "A Field Guide to the Street Names of Central Cairo" (265).

J. Davis reviews a 1972 book by Patricia Wright "Conflict on the Nile" which deals with the 1898 'Fashoda Incident' when France explored an expansion into Sudan (266).

Reports from the AGM (245–247), incl. the society's accounts for 2018 (iii).



The Quarterly Circular 271 (Vol. 23, No. 12) – December 2019*The Egypt Study Circle, English, A4, colour, –*

D. Jones catalogues the design types of fiscally stamped or embossed paper (272–277).

S. Van Hoorn reports on test letters sent by airline B.O.A.C. in 1945 and 1946 for quality control purposes (278).

H. Sharestan collected interesting exchanges on the Circle's Facebook page:

J. Strengholt and A. Kandeel report on early cancellations: Heliopolis

1.08.1909 and Exposition Alexandrie 23.04.1894; B. Barclay asks about

Egypt stamps perforated "S.G." (Sudan Government); A. Bassili showed a

1948 mixed franking Gaza/Britain from F.P.O. 121; an album page with

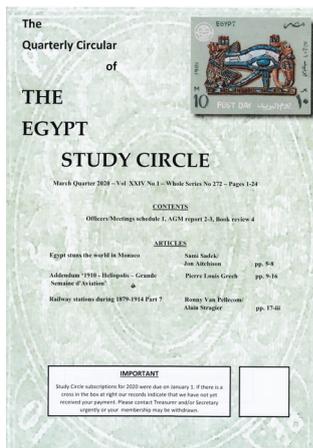
"Princess Ferial" essays; R. Michael asks about a Bulah Dacruv postmark; H.

Sharestan reports a plate error on the 1926 air mail issue (279–281).

R. van Pellecom and A. Stragier continue their series on railway station postmarks 1879–1914 with a sixth instalment, centring on the railway system of the Suez Canal towards Port Saïd (282–289).

In "Updata" A. Stragier gives feedback on topics raised in recent QCs: J. Davis' query on a "SAVOY HOTEL / CAIRO" cachet in QC 250 is answered with an illustration of a 1905 post card; and Davis' article on S.Y. Argonaut in QC 258 gets three post cards added (290).

Reports from the exhibition in Cairo on occasion of the 90th anniversary of the Philatelic Society of Egypt (268–270). V. Centonze gives a personal account of the exhibition (271). The Circle is going to support the publication of R. van Pellecom's book on the postal history of Alexandria (281).

The Quarterly Circular 272 (Vol. 24, No. 1) – March 2020*The Egypt Study Circle, English, A4, colour, –*

P. L. Grech reviews Ronny van Pellecom's newly published book "Alexandria : Postal History until 1918, Part 1" (4).

P. L. Grech adds more information on the 1910 Heliopolis Air Meeting including reports on the forgeries of the "Heliopolis Aérodrome" postmark (9–16).

R. van Pellecom presents the 7th part in his series on Railway stations 1879–1914 centring on the Port Saïd–Ismailia and the Ismailia–Zagazig–Cairo routes (17–24, iii).

Reports from the 2019 AGM. The society has 165 members (2–3). Reports from MonacoPhil (5–8). Advert for the four volume book series of Sami M. Fereig's "A Postal History of Egypt under the Muhammad Ali Dynasty" (iv).

Random Notes 93 – September 2018*Arabian Philatelic Association Int., English, ca. A4, colour; digital only, gratis*

September 2018	Number 93
CONTENTS	
The Arabian Philatelic Association International	2
Random Notes #93, by Martin Lovegrove	3
Note regarding air mail rates in 1947, by Khalid Omaira	10
Note regarding variety of Scott C60 / C89	11
World War I in Arabia, by Kenneth Knight	12
Collecting Postally Used Covers, by Yusuf Aidroos	15

The Acting Editor put this issue of Random Notes together and it is obvious that the quality of the publication falls short of the standard we have been used to from Martin Lovegrove. Martin kindly supplied the Random Notes starting on page 3 and Ken Knight sent in the article on World War I starting on page 10.

In addition, we have an article on collecting covers by Yusuf Aidroos, which illustrates some uncommon postmarks and origins.

If anyone has complete or partial sheets of Bejar stamps with or without overprints, please consider scanning them at 254dpi or 508dpi and sending the scans to me at help@arabianphilatelic.com where they can join many others on the website. If you are interested in the scans we have please email me.

In *Random Notes* #93 M. Lovegrove assembled short notes on a number of topics: Forgeries by laser printer on Ebay (3–4); A 1972 registered official cover Riyadh–Cairo with a meter mark (type Hasler F-88), likely new early date for meter marks in Saudi Arabia (4–5); Stamp essays or colour trials by printers *Dar Al Isfahani* in Jeddah (5); Postmark variety for DAHRAN A.P. / 02 with Arabic index not ٢ but ١٠ (5); another forgery: black without gold (5); new Saudi non-delivery label CN15 on a letter from Algeria to Qatar (5–6); ARAMCO incoming registered date-stamp from 1954 (8–9) [follow-up to RN52]; K. Omaira shows an official announcement on Air Mail rates published in *Umm Al Qura* on 5.09.1947 (10–11); P. Moorer shows Sc. C60 or C89 with two missing perforation wholes (11).

K. Knight presents a 1918 post card with its text and historical context: Ernest Rawcliffe R.A.S.C., Hejaz Armoured Car Company, was part of T. E. Lawrence's troops in the „Arab Revolt" (12–14).

Y. Aidroos dwells on collecting postally used covers, and shows a number of

examples from Saudi Arabia (15–24).
 Marwan Nusair has assumed the role of acting editor after the resignation of Martin Lovegrove (2).

Random Notes 94 – February 2020

Arabian Philatelic Association Int., English, ca. A4, colour, digital only, gratis

In *Random Notes #94* M. Lovegrove assembled short notes on a number of topics: Envelopes with Stamp-like postage-paid “7563” imprint (3); Varieties of the ‘illegible’ issue of Hejaz (4); Forgeries of SG 122b (4); A 1947 company envelope “Transcontinental & Western Air Inc.” (TWA) (5); Postmark “DHAHRAN-AIRPORT” with hyphen (6); Varieties of the ‘caliphate’ overprint on Hejaz Postage Due (6); Info from U.P.U. about the 2019 “EMS” stamp issue (6–7); More instances of the “wide tooth” perforation variety of the framed Kaaba series (7); Example of Chamber of Commerce attestation labels (8); A “courtesy” visa (9); A bogus postmark “24 MAR 25” (9); A new variation of barcode registration labels (10); Introduction of VAT on 1.01.2018 (exempting postal charges) (10); Imperforate stamps from the 1990s stemming apparently from proof sheets for the ministry’s stamp review committee (11); Differences in fluorescence on the 1949 Airmail series (11); A 1950s cover Dammam–London with multiple franking (12); Essays and colour trials of 995W from printers Dar al-Asfahani (13); A 10 q airmail stamp on very thick paper (14); Reprints of the Hejaz & Nejd essays on watermarked paper “ELECTRIC” (14); Different background for 2015 stamps from blocks (15–16); The mysterious “ق” in postmarks (16); A flood of sale offers of Saudi official stamps (24).

G. Pos & M. Lovegrove update the research in to the King Ali overprints following on articles in RN 63, 64 and 87) (17–19).

M. Lovegrove revisits the ‘wide tooth’ perforation variety of the Cairo Dam issue (20–21).

M. Lovegrove studies forgeries of the 1923/24 Transjordan overprints on Hejaz stamps comparing the genuine overprints SG types 10 and 16a to bogus copies. The forgeries appeared in K.C.R, Souan’s books as genuine (22–23).

M. Lovegrove reviews Saudi material appearing at recent auctions (ClassicPhil Vienna, Oct. 2019, Cherrystone Nov. 2019, Feldman June 2019).

APAI Publications: “One Man’s Collection - Part 1 - Saudi Arabia: Modern Technology (1970–2018)” and Kenneth Knight’s “The Postal Markings of Hejaz, Nejd, Hejaz and Nejd and Saudi Arabia” (29).



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See page 7

Random Notes 94 - Page 1

The Levant Vol. 10, No. 1 – January 2019

Ottoman & Near East Philatelic Society, English, A4, colour, US-\$ 4-00

★ THE LEVANT ★
 Journal of the Ottoman & Near East Philatelic Society
 095-83344-247
 January 2019
 President: Robert Scharf

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Turkish Postal Services in Occupied Thessaly	1
Osmanlı İktisadiyatı: Postal Hizmetleri	3
Atatürk Türkiye	8
Postal Services of the Kingdom of Syria in Transjordan	15
Bernd-Dietrich Buscke	18
Q & A: R. Cork	18
Philately	19
Obituary of Member: Nurhan	19

From the President
 Our 2018 annual meeting was held at NH&S on Sunday Oct 29. Attendees: G. Brown, G. Graf, R. Scharf, P. W. Yates.

Treasurer's Report - Marwan Nusair
 Bank balance Oct. 12, 2018 was \$10,337 which is \$14 less than last year, but this latest period included four issues of The Levant. In the normal three or six no holding period.
 View list of our members here: [http://www.levant.org.uk/members](#). Our requests could be reduced if more members changed to our 'rolling only' subscription. See the next page for details.
 Membership status - of 267 paid up members. Last year we had 117 members.

Secretary's Report - Holly Smith
 We had 73 members in the UK and 4 in Turkey. We passed our cheques: 11 requests to a date in Feb.

How to Increase Membership
 One of our members did not pay his 2018 subscription fee. If anyone has any arrears please let us know.

2019 Annual Meeting - BALDWIN, Sep. 30, 4th Oct. 2019, Hain, Valley, Md.
 Thanks Representatives - Mr. Klaus Frenn continues to do an excellent job.

Does every possible at the end of 2018. If your dues have not been received, a small notice included with this issue. Please send your dues promptly. This is the last issue you will receive until payment is received. See next page for details.

Editorial
 Contributions



Photographed by Robert D. Schmidt and published by the publishers, the president shows the Tokatlian Hotel in Istanbul which is the gateway to the city of the Levant. The building is a masterpiece of architecture. It is situated in the heart of the city and is one of the best buildings in Istanbul. The building is a masterpiece of architecture. It is situated in the heart of the city and is one of the best buildings in Istanbul. The building is a masterpiece of architecture. It is situated in the heart of the city and is one of the best buildings in Istanbul.

The Levant, Journal of the Ottoman & Near East Philatelic Society, Vol. 10, No. 1, Jan. 2019

U. Togay shows a post card with the Tokatlian Hotel in Therapia, Istanbul (1).
 O. Graf deals with the question of when Turkey introduced postal services for the occupied area of Thessaly in 1897/98 (3–7).

A. Tunaci looks at maritime mail services in the Ottoman Empire, concentrating on the Russian РОПНТ service in the Black Sea, and also the Czernowoda–Küstendje railway line of Danube & Black Sea Railway Co. (DBSR) [Editor’s note: sadly, many of the scanned images shown are of very poor technical quality.] (8–14).

B.-D. Buscke researched the late use of the postmarks of the Arab Kingdom in Transjordan. [Reprint from MEPB 7.] (15–17).

R. B. Rose reviews the latest four booklets in Dr. Andreas Birken’s series of translations and updates to Adolf Passer’s *The Stamps of Turkey* (18).
 In the Q&A section, R. Cork asks about a local fiscal stamps from Smyrna (18).
Reports from the 2018 AGM: President’s Report, Treasurer’s Report and Secretary’s Report ([1]). Obituary for Martin R. Soring (1921–2018) (19).

The Levant Vol. 10, No. 2 – May 2019

Ottoman & Near East Philatelic Society, English, A4, colour, US-\$ 4-00



The Levant, Journal of the Ottoman & Near East Philatelic Society, Vol. X, No. 2, May 2019 21

- U. Togay shows a post card with a market scene from Constantinople (21).
- P. Winders reports on post-revolution mail in Southern Yemen, 1967/68 (23–24).
- T. Zywietz shows a 1918 cover courtesy of Bernardo Longo with the rare postmark “Amman (Salt)” and the only instance on cover of an Amman censor mark. [Reprint from MEPB 3] (25–27).
- R.B. Rose studies Ottoman postage stamps used as emergency currency and catalogues known examples (28–31).
- R. Stuchell discovered a 1915 Red Crescent P.O.W. post card used at a very late date: 31.12.1917 (32–33).
- In the Q&A section, R.B. Rose reports on a cover sent in by Ravi Vora: the cover was sent registered in April 1914 from Basra (Indian P.O.) franked 4½ Annas, but was taxed at Mersine with 4 p. Y. Çorapçioğlu joined in the discussion about postage rates (34–36).
- The editor shows several revenue stamps from a lot offered on Delcampe (36).

The Levant Vol. 10, No. 3 – September 2019

Ottoman & Near East Philatelic Society, English, A4, colour, US-\$ 4-00



The Levant, Journal of the Ottoman & Near East Philatelic Society, Vol. X, No. 3, Sept 2019 37

- U. Togay shows a post card with a sabre dance scene (37).
- B. Longo gives an account of the development of postal services in the Bekaa Valley (cazas Bekaa, Hasbaya, and Rachaya) at the end of WWI, detailing offices and postmarks on cover (41–45).
- K. Giray and T. Zywietz revisit the 1889/1892 “Baghdad Provisionals “ [Reprint from MEPB 5] (46–50).
- R. Fuchs looks at the beginnings of the Haifa–Baghdad Overland mail in 1923 [Translation from Türkei-Spiegel 128] (51–52).
- The editor issues a correction to an illustration in P. Winders’ piece on Southern Yemen in the preceding issue (53).
- In the Q&A section, R. Cork is looking for information of an Ankara Government cover with censor mark, and about the postage rate at the time. Corks also enquires about a commemorative block imprinted with a stamp from the 1940 Atatürk series (53).
- R. Rose reports feedback from A. Birken and T. Zywietz about the British post office at Basrah, and Iraqi fiscal stamps overprinted “BUSREH” and “BUSHIRE” in 1922 (54).
- The editor reports Turhan Turgut’s new book “Osmanlı İmparatorluğu Posta Tarihi” and reviews Yavuz Çorapçioğlu’s “From Smyrna to İzmir: Everyday Life” (55–56).
- The editor commemorates the 40th anniversary of the society: *The Turkey & Ottoman Philatelic Society was founded 1979 and published the first edition of The Tughra Times in September of that year. After acrimonious fall-outs amongst officers, the original society fell apart and the Ottoman & Near East Philatelic Society started in 2000 by publishing The Levant (39–40).*

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



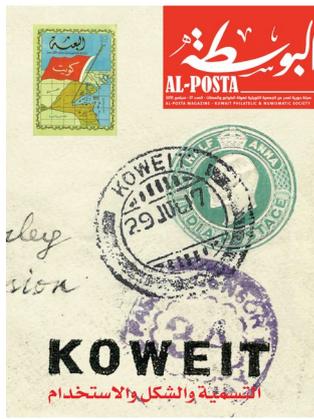
The Levant Vol. 10, No. 4 – January 2020

Ottoman & Near East Philatelic Society, English, A4, colour, US-\$ 4-00

- B. Longo reports on the French military postal agency in the Marina (military port) of Beirut (59–62).
 - J. Warnecke writes about the history of the Red Crescent societies [reprint from *Türkei-Spiegel*] (63–66),
 - P. Lunde & R. Rose portray the philatelic life of Jacob von Uexküll and attach album pages on the Egyptian PO in Jeddah, the Ottoman PO in Jeddah, and the 1934 Saudi-Yemen war (67–71).
- Reports on next AGM (57). Levant index now on website (57). Obituaries: Carl R. Catherman and Andreas Birken (72).*

Al-Posta البوسطة No. 37– September 2015

Kuwait Philatelic & Numismatic Society, Arabic and (partly) English, A4, colour, –



- The editor reprints A. N. Donaldson’s article “The KOWEIT ‘Leak’” from 1986 [Reprint from *The Philatelist & Philatelic Journal of Great Britain*] (1–5/2–7) and a 1969 advert of Bridger & Kay for who Donaldson worked (6/–). Essays of King George V stamps overprinted “KOWEIT / SERVICE” were leaked in or after 1923. I. Y. Dashti portays the Queen’s private collection of Kuwaiti stamps, focussing on the leaked 1923 essays, and tracing their history though collections and sales (–/8–19).
- K. A. Mughni reports on the cancellation of Kuwait starting 21st January 1915 (7–9/36–43).
- M. A. H. Jamal interviewed Jaafar Haider Al Rasheed about working in the Kuwait post office in 1944 (–/20–25).
- The editor traces postal-related material from a Kuwaiti magazine called “البعثة” (Al-Ba’etha) published between 1946 and 1954 (–/25–36).

More issues of Al-Posta will be reviewed in due course.

The Dhow 75 (Vol. 20, No. 1) – March 2019

Aden & Somaliland Study Group, English, A4, colour, –

The Dhow

Aden & Somaliland Study Group Journal
Volume 20: Number 1
March 2019
Whole number 75

20th ANNIVERSARY EDITION



DHOWS AT ANCHOR AT SUNSET – MAALLA - 1960

This is the 20th Anniversary Edition, consisting mostly of short pieces of members presenting a special item from their collections:

- S. Hopson: Aden to Seychelles via Mauritius. 1866 (4); M. Pettifor: Underpaid 9 pi ‘Dhow’ post card to Tel Aviv, Palestine, taxed 6 m, 1937 (5); T. Cochrane: Aden to Lisbon via Alexandria and Gibraltar, 1874 (5–6); J. Cowell: Aden military correspondence to Bannockburn, 1850 (6); C. Gregory: Abyssinian Field Force, 1867–68 (7); N. Williams: Aden Field Service post card, 1942 (8); J. Rankin: The postal agency at Irma, 1953 (9); D. Turner: QE II definitive set FDC, 1953 (9); B. Sohrne: Yemen correspondence from the ruling Imam, 1933 (10); M. Cox: Post card to Berbera, 1895 (11); G. Brown: Aden States high values: double frame plate numbers, 1942 (11–12); M. Lacey: Sea Post Office early use of the oval date-stamp, 1868 (12–13); D. Doren: A post card from Socotra, 1896 (13); A. Gondocz: A fourth type of surcharge Aden KGVI air letter, 1953 (14); N. Williams: 1937 Aden Coronation: the “broken A” flaw of the 1 a (16).
- Reports from the 2019 AGM (3). Index for The Dhow, vol. 19, 2018 (15).*



The Dhow 76 (Vol. 20, No. 2) – June 2019*Aden & Somaliland Study Group, English, A4, colour, –***The Dhow**

Aden & Somaliland Study Group Journal

Volume 20: Number 2

June 2019

Whole number 76



Aden 1960: Registered Aden Airways stationary envelope to Corrale at the 3000s North American airmail rate with SIRA registration fee. Universal Mail-Voke machine U.V. overmark Aden GPO, the machine stamp of Aden Airways and with their slogan. Illustrated as an introduction for the appeal for information on Aden Meter mail (see pages 11-12) (Neil Williams)

- T. Cochrane shows an 1854 Aden Shipletter to Samulcottah (Rajamundry) via Bombay (3)
- S. Hopson reports an 1892 Seychelles post card via Aden Sea Post Office to Bombay (4).
- The 1951 Shihr & Mukalla 5/- on 5 R with inverted watermark (S.G. 27w) has been offered at auction (4).
- M. Lacey shows a 1920 cover from New York to Macassar (Duth East Indies) with Aden Sea Post Office hand-stamp “MALDIRIGÉ” and two taxation markings: 25 centimes and 5 Annas (5).
- M. Pettifor & N. Williams present two 1937 Aden Air Mail covers to Accra (Gold Coast)(Ghana) via route of Cairo–Khartoum–Kano–Lagos : one cover went from Lagos to Accra by sea, the other (after 13.10.1937) by air (6).
- N. Williams & G. Mentgen report on a 1940 Aden Air Mail via Djibouti & Marseilles (7–10).
- G. Brown, N. Williams & T. Zywietz appeal for a research paper on Aden Meter marks (11–12)
- B. Sohrne shows an 1892 returned cover from the U.S.A. to Socotra Island with manuscript “No Communications” (13).
- N. Williams presents a 1937 cover from Mukalla to Aden Camp with an unlisted 1 Anna horseshoe tax mark: “ADEN-CAMP / DUE / ONE ANNA” (14).
- M. Lacey shows covers from South Yemem (1969 & 1972): Aden Civil Airport, and Al Hautah (Hautat Ahmed Bin Zain) (15).
- C. Gregory displays a 1903 cover from the Aden-Yemen Boundary Commission cancelled “EXPERIMENTAL P.O. / B-84 / AP 14 / 03” (16).

The Dhow 77 (Vol. 20, No. 3) – September 2019*Aden & Somaliland Study Group, English, A4, colour, –***The Dhow**

Aden & Somaliland Study Group Journal

Volume 20: Number 3

September 2019

Whole number 77



Aden Camp 1937: Airmail envelope from DIEGO SUAREZ, MADAGASCAR to ADEN CAMP. Franked with 6 F 15 centimes (no 3000s on reverse). Cancelled DIEGO SUAREZ, MADAGASCAR, 16 ADULT 15 with boxed mark APPARITION DES MARSES (SUSPENSIF) (postmark) and T mark applied. Denominator ADEN CAMP DUE TWO ANNAS for taxation (SUSPENSIF) applied on arrival at Aden Camp Post Office on 10 SEP 37. This cover due to the cover by the reproduction of the ADEN CAMP 15 SEP 37 applied to the reverse. See pages 4-5 for a fuller description of this cover and its routing. (Neil Williams)

- N. Williams shows a 1937 air mail cover from Madagascar to Aden Camp taxed with an unlisted horseshoe mark “ADEN CAMP / DUE / TWO ANNAS” and analyses route & rate (1, 4–5).
- T. Cochrane looks at an 1859 letter from Bombay to H.M.S. Cyclops in the Red Sea with “ADEN ST. POINT” (3).
- G. Mungen looks at usage of the 1938 Somaliland definitives (6–11).
- N. Williams reports on a letter (Air Mail Aden–USA, 1942) containing an export permit granted by the Aden Exchange Control Office pertaining to “42 assorted French Equatorial postage stamps” (12–13).
- N. Williams shows a 1953 registered air mail envelope from Seixun to Sheikh Othman with boxed cachet “DESERT LOCUST / CONTRIOL / 1 JUN 1953 / HADHRAMAUT” (14).
- B. Sohrne looks at a 1930 Yemen cover: the franking was a 1926 5 bogashe (pre-U.P.U.), so taxed, but this was then withdrawn and the cover forwarded untaxed from Aden to London (15).
- N. Williams discovered a 1 Anna 1937 Aden KGVI Coronation stamp with “broken E” flaw (field pos. 14/3) (16).



The Dhow 78 (Vol. 20, No. 4) – December 2019*Aden & Somaliland Study Group, English, A4, colour, –***The Dhow**

Aden & Somaliland Study Group Journal

Volume 20: Number 4

December 2019

Whole number 78



Aden 1962. Doubled surcharge of the wide setting (Aden) of 50 CENTS of the 2nd surcharge change another issue. Stated by the previous collector "only one copy was found". Cause does not mention any double surcharge in his Postal Stationery of Aden - Adenites or Postal Stationery Collector (August 1967), while Higgins & Cogg list only a double surcharge of the short setting (22mm) as FG4a. Either 1962 were wrong or the above is a "new leaf" (see following).

N. Williams presents an uncatalogued 6 Annas Aden *Air Letter* with double surcharge "50 CENTS" (1).

T. Cochrane describes an 1868 4 Annas *Officer's Concession* cover from Bombay to Bristol via Aden (5).

A. Gondocz shows a 1918 Indian ¼ Anna inland post card in a rare use at Aden (uprated by 3½ Annas) to Singapore (6).

N. Williams continues his series of Aden postal history source material. In this 9th part he shows a 1966 official reply to an English collector in which the State Postmaster of Seiyun directs enquiries on stamps to a Lebanese dealer, Abdul Amir Al-Ghazzi (7).

N. Williams reports on a typewritten manuscript by Margarethe Mathilde (Pepita) de Sturler-Raemaekers (1905–1958), the designer of the 1955 Quaiti State pictorial definitives, detailing the motifs chosen (8–9).

N. Williams looks at varieties of the 1966/67 surcharged stamps of Seiyun contributed by J. Hollands (10–11).

G. Mentgens reports on Somaliland Scouts unit hand-stamps (12–13).

B. Sohme shows a 1931 cover franked with 63 b of the first U.P.U. series (14).

The editor reprint a 1966 article on the operation of FPOs, concluding that no counter services existed outside Aden (except for Thumier/Habilayn) and that cancels travelled with the aircraft operating on an ad-hoc basis (15–16).

Joint meeting with Indian Ocean Study Circle on 9.05.2020 (2).

Obituary: Gary Brown (3-4).

The Dhow – Special Issue December 2019*Aden & Somaliland Study Group, English, A4, colour, –***The Dhow**

Aden & Somaliland Study Group Journal

SPECIAL ISSUE 2019

THE ITALIAN OCCUPATION OF SOMALILAND PROTECTORATE
AUGUST 1940 UNTIL MARCH 1941
BY GERMAIN MENTGEN



Italian Propaganda card showing the British Somaliland Protectorate

G. Mentgen details the Italian Occupation of Somaliland Protectorate, August 1940–March 1941. Little has been written about the Italian Occupation of Somaliland Protectorate. Mentgen treats it from an mainly Italian point of view ([1]–[20]).

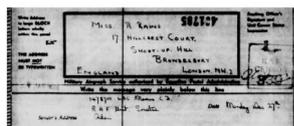
The Dhow

Aden & Somaliland Study Group Journal

Volume 21: Number 1

March 2020

Whole number 79



Aden - Socotra December 1943. This Airgraph is the only recorded example of a W92 censor seal to mail from either the RAF (censorship) or the Army (censorship) on Socotra Island. This Airgraph has proved problematic on the attribution of the RAF censor mark (censor type R11 number 32) - whether the mark was used at Socotra or Aden. Censor or one publication - 329 is recorded from Aden (a number of times) - and also from the RAF Unit on Socotra. Surely the problem is that item is not recorded - yet in another publication for writing "the stamp was applied at Aden itself". Abdul Khayyat, in R11528, on 27 December 1943. There are grave doubts concerning the antecedents of this censor and one cannot help wondering whether - the stamp was applied at Aden itself. Abdul Khayyat, in whose collection this item was used recently, writes it up as "sent from Socotra passed through Aden and the censor stamp was probably applied at RAF Khormaksar". Interestingly, the writer says in the message "don't use the above address, as I will probably be back at the Meteorology Office by the time your reply comes". (see following)

The Dhow 79 (Vol. 21, No. 1) – March 2020*Aden & Somaliland Study Group, English, A4, colour, –*

N. Williams describes a 1943 Airgraph, the only known example from an R.A.F. unit stationed on Socotra Island (1).

In *Letters and News*, T. Zywiets reports an article referring to Qu'aiti State Pictorial Definitives designs in Dhow 78 (3).

B. Sohme shows a 1931 cover from Hodeidah to Libya (Ital. Tripolitania) (3).

G. Mentgen updates an article by J. Hart in Dhow 1 about 1943 Aden Airmail crash mail (4–7).

A. Gondocz shows a 1916 postcard from Japan to Ethiopia. Transit marks incl. Aden, Perim, Harrar, and Port Said (8).

S. Hopson presents two maps of Aden from the 1889 "British Colonial Pocket Atlas" (9).

J. Hollands and N. Williams look at varieties of the 1966/67 surcharged stamps of Seiyun. This second part focusses on severely shifted overprints (10–11).

N. Williams resolved the mystery about 1958 ship covers addressed to "BM/HTOM / LONDON W.C.1 / ENGLAND": this address was used by the

paquebot and posted-at-sea collector/dealer K.J. Nally (12).

N. Williams reviews books: "Hunters over Arabia : Hawker Hunter operations in the Middle East" (Ray Deacon); "The Postage Stamps of Aden 1937–1968" (Peter Bond); "Air War East Africa" (Jon Sutherland & Diane Canwell).

Group member Ute Dorr advertises the English edition of "The Orient Express 1883–1914" due in Summer 2020 [reviewed in MEPB 13] (13–14).

M. Cox shows a post card (after 1910) of the Roman Catholic Mission's station at Berbera (Somalia) (15).

Secretary's report on next AGM and the state of the group (3). Index for The Dhow, vol. 10, 2019 (15–16).

Iran Philatelic Study Circle Bulletin 207 – February 2019

Iran Philatelic Study Circle, English, ca. A4 (letter), colour, –

انجمن مطالعات تبرشاسی ایران
Iran Philatelic Study Circle
Bulletin No. 207
February 2019



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4387	A New Discovery, by Mikal (email)
4388	Trademarks, emblems and street vendors of a bygone era, by Susan Pejhan
4404	Translation of 1915 Denarii, by Wolfgang Morscheck
4409	The last safety underprint on Persian 1st stamps, by Wolfgang Morscheck

NEXT MEETING:
The next meeting will be held at Room 1451, Business Design Centre, Upper Street, Islington, London on **Saturday 22nd March 2019** at 2pm when the Operations of the Open Denarii (9629-627), Farabakhsh 525-536 and 636-661 will be discussed and discussed. **Visual Meeting** please meet before the meeting at The Sports Passage, 44-45 Upper Street, between 12.30 and 1.30 pm as it will be necessary for those attending the meeting to be signed in at the BDC.

REMAINING MEETINGS FOR 2019

4 July 2019	Members' Show and Fair
7 September 2019	Operations of the Public Denarii (962 2095-214), Farabakhsh (511-513), 1346-1379 and 1994-1995)
7 December 2019	Monarchs of the Shahs Series (91 298-336), Farabakhsh 283-321, N1-2)

4383

In a follow-up to W. Lade's article in Bulletin 206, the 1950s *League of Red Cross Societies* vignette can be properly shown (4386).

M. Esmaili reports an unlisted 1 ch on blue paper overprinted "Imprimés" [Note: *Michel catalogue lists this stamp as no. 251*] (4387).

S. Pejhan illustrates "tradesmen, craftsmen and street vendors of a bygone era" on post cards, incl. a 38-card set by Seyed Abdor Rahim Kachani (4388–4403).

W. Morscheck [Bad Säckingen] translates and decodes the inscriptions on a 1915 "barnameh" (way bill) from Meched to Teheran (4404–4407).

W. Morscheck [Bad Säckingen] details the safety method of a 'leaf' underprint on Persian fiscal stamps printed by Austrian State Printer, as the same method was extensively used for Austrian fiscals of that era (4408–4415).

Reports from the September 2018 meeting (4384–4385). Obituary: Khosrow "Joe" Hadi Youssefi (1943–2018) (4385–4386).

Iran Philatelic Study Circle Bulletin 208 – August 2019

Iran Philatelic Study Circle, English, ca. A4 (letter), colour, –

انجمن مطالعات تبرشاسی ایران
Iran Philatelic Study Circle
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4383

M. Sadri looks for information about hitherto unknown 1950s army picture postcards (4413–4414/4421–4422).

The editor presents Iran New Issues for ۱۳۹۷ (2018) (4415–4416/4424–4425).

W. Morscheck [Bad Säckingen] looks at cigarette wrappers and tobacco tax, showing also unlisted 1 kr stamp overprinted "majani" and "en hesar dokhaniai" (free/tobacco monopoly) (4417–4419/4426–4428).

S. Pejhan looks at unlisted Sandogh type postmarks (4420–4425/4429–4434).

Reports on the 2019 AGM (4209–4412/4418–4421). Note that the pages of the whole issue are misnumbered: bulletin 207 ends at p. 4416, this bulletin starts at p. 4408.



The Israel Philatelist – Spring 2019 (Vol. 70, No. 2)

Society of Israel Philatelists, Inc., English, ca. A4 (letter), colour, US-\$ 4-95

E. Kroft continues his series about usage of Israel's 1948 'Doar Ivri' stamps (6–9).

J. Wallach and I. Atzmon continue their series on the military parcel post service in the Israeli Occupied Territories. Part 2 "A Political Parcel" catalogues the types of parcel labels used (15–18).

V. Kachan displays on butterflies on Israeli stamps, also showing the 1998 Palestinian stamp with the Southern Swallowtail (*papilio alexanor*): *Zobbel 96* from block *Zobbel Bl. 11* (24–25).

A. Harris looks at 1950s/1960s Israeli Fiscal stamps for taxing private transport companies : "Defense Stamp" (26–27).

L. Nelson charts the Jewish Brigade and its predecessors through postal history items (36–38).

H. Rotterdam looks at Israeli joint issues from 2011 onwards (40–42).

E. Kroft shows a 1931 registered and insured envelope from Jerusalem to Kehl,

postal history items (30–33), to which Y. M. Lehavy adds information on the Palestine Transport Company: R.A.S.C. 462 (33).

M. K. Kolman looks at Rachel's Tomb near Bethlehem (35).

D. Dubin reports on an official hand-stamps found on a 1937 cover:

“MAGISTRATES COURT / HEBRON” (Sacher 5) and “DISTRICT OFFICER / HEBRON / PALESTINE / GOVERNMENT” (Sacher: not listed) found on a 1926 cover (36–37).

R. Lapas dissects a December 1939 cover from Tel Aviv to Lithuania, then already under German occupation. It features multiple censorship marks and was returned to Palestine in 1941. The author also looks into the history of Italian airline Ala Littoria and its routes (53–46).

Reports from the SIP summer convention NAPEX with pictures (56–59).



The Israel Philatelist – Winter 2020 (Vol. 71, No. 1)

Society of Israel Philatelists, Inc., English, ca. A4 (letter), colour, US-\$ 4-95

In Letters to the Editor, the S.N. Shure collection in the National Postal Museum is recommended (4).

E. Kroft continues his series on commercial postal usage of the Doar Ivri issue with part 5 (10–18).

J. Wallach & D. Dubin present a study about inflation as reflected in postage rates (22–25).

A. Harris looks at Israeli license fee stamps (*agrah rishayonot*) (46–47).

D. Kaplin reviews new S.I.P publications, incl. Arthur Harris' booklet “The Revenue Stamps of the Palestinian Authority” (53).



Israel-Philatelie 31 – September 2019

IG Israel, German, A4, colour, –

In a tribute to the late Hans-Peter Förster, several of his last articles are published in this issue, including amongst others thematic studies on the creation of the state of Israel (6–7), and Jewish influences on the Holy Qur'an (16–19),

S. Nussenbaum presents two covers from his collection: a censored 1918 cover from Jerusalem (APO SZ 44) to New York, and a 1926 registered cover from Tel Aviv to Chicago with a Haifa–Kantara T.P.O. transit cancel (20).

Obituaries to Hans-Peter Förster (1941–2018) (3–4). Reports from the 2019 AGM. The new officers elected are: Christoph Wendland (President), Alexander Schonath (Vice-President.), Martin Rutkowski (Treasurer), Stefan Göllner (Editor).



Israel-Philatelie 32 – March 2020

IG Israel, German, A4, colour, –

S. Göllner explores the designer of the Doar Ivri series, Otte Wallish (4–6).

T. Zywietz updates his research on the old GPO building in Jerusalem (8–11).

C. Wendland researched free online stamp catalogues (14–17).

The issue contains a questionnaire for members' interests and wishes.

Doar Ivri 45 – January/April 2019*Cercle Français Philatélique d'Israël, French, A4, colour, –*

The editor shows a picture of the Jaffa Post Office in 1947 [*source is not mentioned*] (3).

E. Domènech i Baño studies correspondence of the Franciscan Order in the Holy Land from the 17th to 19th century: most letters are directed to a convent in Madrid (6–9).

J.-B. Parenti researched the embossed Revenue Stamps of Mandate Palestine (10–13).

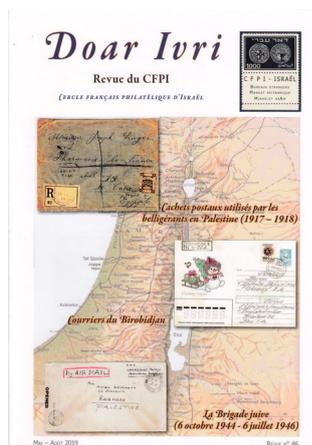
D. Avzaradel looks at postal items from the final years of the British Mandate (14–23).

C.-D. Abravanel shows two cover from the 1948 war: Bethlehem 11.07.1948 and Lydda 24.11.1948 (23).

C.-D. Abravanel looks at “Return to Sender” mails in their various forms and applications, 1934–1969 (24–27).

E. Ferrier shows a 1937 cover from China to Jerusalem, back-stamped Port Tawfiq (28).

An 1860 cover from London to Jerusalem is shown, addressed to the “Anglican Lord Bishop in Jerusalem”;⁴ with transit marks of Calais 11.05.1860, Paris 11.05.1860, Alexandria 18.05.1860 ([32]).

Doar Ivri 46 – May/August 2019*Cercle Français Philatélique d'Israël, French, A4, colour, –*

C.-D. Abravanel shows two Israeli cachets for delayed incoming mail in 1974, and a Maritime Post Office cancel “S/S Jerusalem” on a philatelic post card (5).

J. Weiner summarises Field Post serving the troops during the Palestine campaign if 1917/18. Examples of Ottoman and German cancels are shown, but the main part concentrates on the Allied troops and their postal facilities and postmarks (6–14).

T. Zywiets details a cover provided by Daryl Kibble on the suspension of Israeli mails to Gaza in 2009 [reprint from MEPB 10] (19).

C.-D. Abravanel shows covers from the time of the Armistice of Mudros, a port on the island of Lemnos (30.10.1918), and a post card from the Arab Kingdom in 1920 franked with 5 p, and two covers from Damascus and Aleppo in the 1921/22 (20).

R. Callens looks at the (postal) history of the Jewish Brigade during WWII [Reprint from Belgaphil no. 52] (22–25).

Small Items: M. Bernier shows an early cover with 1 p used at Jerusalem 1.03.1918, as well as a return cover Gaza—Nabil with air mail and overland mail in 1927, and J.-M. Garaud report the possible use of a cancelling device (type Daguin) at the French P.O. in Jerusalem in 1913. A German inflation-time cover to Jerusalem is shown, franked 6.150 Million Marks (26–28).

J.-B. Parenti details a 1925 immigration document with a Palestine revenue stamp surcharged 25 p “I. & T” (immigration and travel, Bale R.F.2) ([32]).



4 At the time this was Samuel Gobat (1799–1879).

Doar Ivri 47 – September/December 2019*Cercle Français Philatélique d'Israël, French, A4, colour, –*

H. Rotterdam shows taxed post cards and covers from Ottoman (Ottoman and foreign post offices) to Mandate times (6–10).

W. Elsner writes about Postal Wars between Israel and other countries (12–16).

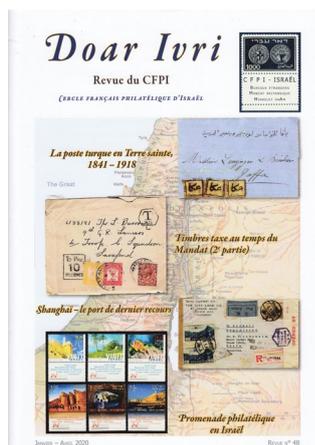
J. Rémond looks at post offices during the Israeli occupation of the Sinai (16–17).

In *Small Items* G. Rey and J. Rémond show an Israeli “unknown” (return to sender) cachet in all-Hebrew on a post card of 1961 (29); and the editor shows an imprinted envelope of “La Terre Sainte,” the journal of the Franciscan Custodia Terrae Sanctae (29).

In the “10 Questions for” section, M. Seviran displays a 1934 cover from Palestine to Australia which was returned to sender after an odyssey though the Fifth Continent (30–31).

The editor describes an October 1939 cover from Jerusalem to Lithuania, then already under German occupation. It features multiple censorship marks and was returned to Palestine. The cover was sold at the April auction of Historama for 3,479 US-\$ ([32]).

J. P. Danon reports on the demise of the Holyland Philatelic Society (HPS), formerly the British Association of Palestine-Israel Philatelists (BAPIP) (11); and reviews edition 11 of MEPB, centring on the articles by J. Weiner and W. Elsner (31).

Doar Ivri 48 – January/April 2020*Cercle Français Philatélique d'Israël, French, A4, colour, –*

The editor prints a photograph of the main public hall of the Jerusalem G.P.O from the Matson Collection in the Library of Congress [shown in MEPB 11] (3).

C.-D. Abravanel shows examples of Palestine stamps cancelled abroad (5).

S. Alexander Yemini gives an overview of the Turkish post in the Holy Land: routes, tariffs and postmarks 1841–1918 (6–11).

H. Rotterdam looks at Mandate Postage Due stamps, following on from his piece in DI 47 (12–15).

In *Small Items* D. Avzaradel describes a cover from Beyrouth to Tel Aviv with French stamps cancelled “POSTES AUX ARMÉES 606” and P. Goerke shows a 1941 air mail cover from Tel Aviv to Prague (28–29).

J. P. Danon shows types of Israeli triangular military cachets (31).

The editor shows an 1875 cover from Alexandria via Jaffa to Jerusalem by French Post franked 40 c Cérés offered on the internet for 360 € ([32]).

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

Small Ads

Any reader can place an ad in this section for free. I offer a box number service for people not wanting their name, address or e-mail displayed.

*Small ads that are not purely of a private nature, e.g. organisations and commercial dealers, are marked by an **Ж** to fulfil German advertisement regulations.*

To place an ad please contact the editor: mep-bulletin@zobbel.de

Private Gratis-Anzeige 13/002

Wanted: Ottoman Fiscals

I'm looking for nos. 467–471 and 477–491 according to Suleymaniye catalogue "Revenue Stamps of Ottoman Empire" (pp. 62/63)

Please contact:
Willy Pijnenburg
verpijn@xs4all.nl

Private Gratis-Anzeige 11/003

President Arafat Signed FDCs 1.01.1995

Two very unique **Gaza-Jericho First Day** issue envelopes signed by the late President Yasser Arafat. One stamped Gaza and the other Jericho, both are dated 1st January 1995.

Enquiries to:
MEPB Adverts – Box Number 11/003
mep-bulletin@zobbel.de

Private Gratis-Anzeige 11/002

Ottoman Transdesert Mail Overland Mail Baghdad–Haifa Iraq Railway Stamps 1928–1942

Advanced research collector and exhibitor is interested in exchange of information, philatelic and historical material, photos, etc. related to the mentioned areas as well as purchase of interesting items missing in my collections.

Additional information can be found on my award winning websites:

<http://fuchs-online.com/overlandmail>
<http://fuchs-online.com/iraq>

Replies to:
Rainer Fuchs
rainer@fuchs-online.com

Private Gratis-Anzeige 10/008

International Reply Coupons

I collect International Reply Coupons (IRC) worldwide, 1907 until today. I am always interested to buy both single items and entire IRC collections and lots of whatever size.

A good stock of duplicates (only IRCs) is available for trade and exchange. Please contact me with whatever questions or suggestions you would like to make.

If you are a country collector and interested in information about IRC of your country please also don't hesitate to contact me!

Replies to:
Wolfgang Leimenstoll
wolfgang.leimenstoll@t-online.de

Private Gratis-Anzeige 13/003

Wanted: Russian Levant

I'm looking for 10 kop. 1872
Michel nos. 9x and 9y (perf. 14½×15)
Please do not offer the 10 kop. of 1888
(perf. 14¼×14¾)!

Please contact:
Willy Pijnenburg
verpijn@xs4all.nl

Private Gratis-Anzeige 12/008

For Sale: Saudi Arabia

Saudi Arabia stamps, singles and sets,
mint and used.

Please contact:
Marwan Nusair
+1-513-289-6337
hejaz@tccincinnati.com

Private Gratis-Anzeige 01/005

Palestine World War I

For research purposes I'm looking for originals,
photocopies, or scans of issues of

The Palestine News

This was the weekly military newspaper of EEF
and OETA(S), published in Cairo in 1918/1919.

Replies to:
Tobias Zywietz
zobbel@zobbel.de

Private Gratis-Anzeige 12/009

**1956 Suez Canal Crisis & United Nations
Peacekeeping Operations**

Looking for interesting covers of this period and
UN Peacekeeping Operations such as UNEF I
and UNIKOM as well as operations
on the African continent.

Can offer much likewise material as well.

Please contact:
Marc Parren
marcparren@hotmail.com

Private Gratis-Anzeige 02/001

**Sand Dunes
Sahara Republic**

I am interested in the *Sand Dune* stamps of the
late 1960s and early 1970s plus the *Sahara
Republic*, also the present day revival of the *Sand
Dune* stamps now flowing from the Baltic
Countries.

Want to exchange information, possible stamp
trades or purchase. CTO is OK with me. All I want
is an example of each stamp.

Replies to:
Richard Barnes
rtbarnes@shaw.ca

Private Gratis-Anzeige 01/004

Palestine Mandate 1918–1927

To complete and illustrate my article series on
official postal announcements I'm looking for
covers, cards, forms and images thereof, showing:

- rare usage of stamps
- postal rates
- rare destinations
- stamp combinations
- unusual franking
- postal forms, telegramme forms

from the pre-Pictorials era.

Replies to:
Tobias Zywietz
zobbel@zobbel.de

Private Gratis-Anzeige 10/004

Holy Land Cancels on Austrian Stamps

Collector seeking to purchase the following Holy Land-related material with postmarks from Jerusalem (Gerusalemme), Jaffa, or Haifa (Caifa):

Lombardy-Venetia stamps from 1863 or 1864, perf. 14 or perf. 9 (Michel: 14–23)

Austrian Levant 20 Para on 10 Heller with varnish bars (Michel: 40)

Austrian Crete 25 Cent (Michel: 3)

Replies to:

Aaron Huber (APS member)
ashuber@gmail.com

Private Gratis-Anzeige 10/003

Pre-1901 Postal History Palestine–Australia

I'm researching postal history between the Ottoman Palestine and Australia and am looking for details of any covers, cards, etc. sent in either direction prior to 1901. So far I know of a grand total of only three!

Any assistance would be appreciated, including references to material and auction offers. Besides information about this topic, I am also interested in purchasing such material.

Replies to:

Joseph Aron
shabbatshalom@gmail.com

Private Gratis-Anzeige 10/005

Qatar Postal History

Collector looking for unique Postal History items such as covers, letters, rare overprints and surcharges.

Offers to:

Adil Al-Husseini, P.O. Box 695, Doha, Qatar
ezgert@yahoo.com

Private Gratis-Anzeige 03/009

Jordan Postal Rates 1948–1967

Information on all Jordan postal rates during the Palestine annexation period (1948–67) is requested. I am trying to compile my own list as I cannot find any tables in the literature.

Replies to:

Paul Phillips
paulxlpe@gmail.com

Private Gratis-Anzeige 10/006

Jordan and Palestine Revenue Stamps and Reply Coupons

Wanted:

Revenue Stamps of Jordan
Revenue Stamps of the Palestinian Authority
International Reply Coupons (IRCs)
of Jordan and Palestine

Offers to:

Avo Kaplanian, Noordeinde 82,
1121 AG Landsmeer, Netherlands
avo1945@hotmail.com

Private Gratis-Anzeige 11/004

Digitisation of Philatelic Knowledge: “Holy Land Postal History”

I offer a complete run of the journal “Holy Land Postal History” (1979–2017) to anyone willing to scan and digitise it.

Technical and logistical help is assured. Further information was published in MEPB 10.

Offers to:

Mark Sommer, brocean@aol.com

Private Gratis-Anzeige 14/002

Wanted: Perfins

Perfins (stamps and covers) of the Middle East, Levant, Turkey and Egypt.

Offers to:

Rainer von Scharpen
Tucholskyweg 5, 55127 Mainz, Germany
rainervonscharpen@t-online.de

Private Gratis-Anzeige 14/006

Research into Ladino Correspondence

For an archival database, I'm looking for correspondence (letters or post cards) from the Ottoman Empire and the Balkans (Serbia, Roumania, Bosnia, Austria) (1850–1913) written in script that looks like Arabic or Hebrew but is actually written in Ladino (Judeo-Spanish). Don't worry about correct id: I'll do that.

Please send scans/photocopies to
D. Sheby (hosp@voicenet.com)

Private Gratis-Anzeige 14/003

Wanted: Palestine World War I

Wanted for collection are examples on cover of the following Army Post Office cancels:

APO SZ52 used 1918
APO SZ53 used 1918
APO SZ54 used 1918
APO SZ55 used 1918/19
Unusual WW1 covers from Palestine

Offers to:

Joel Weiner
jweiner@ualberta.ca

J – Gratis-Anzeige 14/004



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stamps of Persia
and Iran.**

bluecollarwrench.net

Member APS (American Philatelic Society) and the
IPDA (Internet Philatelic Dealers Association)

Private Gratis-Anzeige 10/001

Covers: Iraq–USA / USA–Iraq

I'm looking for interesting covers of Iraq to USA as well as USA to Iraq for the period 1939 to 1945.

Send images (jpeg) with your asking price or ask for my at-market offer.

Replies to:

K. David Steidley, Ph.D.
David@Steidley.com

J – Gratis-Anzeige 02/008

Ottoman Cancellations Software

Ottoman Cancellations software for identifying, cross-referencing, cataloguing and documenting Ottoman Cancellations and fragments thereof.

Please ask for free demo version (Windows), user manual, and conditions of sale from:

George Stasinopoulos
stassin@cs.ntua.gr

Private Gratis-Anzeige 14/005

Wanted: Palestine Covers (Jordanian Occupation)

I am looking for covers sent from Palestine franked with Jordanian stamps overprinted "PALESTINE"

Send offers (with scans please) to:

J. L. Emmenegger, Switzerland

jl.emmenegger@gmail.com

Private Gratis-Anzeige 12/002

Judaica (Not Israel)

I am Interested in Judaica-themed stamps from all over the world (not from Israel).

I have many to sell, or ideally exchange with fellow collectors.

Also interested in countries that have issued anti-Israel themed stamps too.

Please contact Gary at

judaicathematicsociety@talktalk.net

Private Gratis-Anzeige 02/003

Wanted: Ottoman Postal History

To buy or exchange Ottoman postal history (no Foreign Offices) with a bias toward material from the Middle Eastern area, e.g. Lebanon, Syria, Jordan etc. However, all areas are welcome.

Replies to:

Robert Stuchell

rstuchell@msn.com

Private Gratis-Anzeige 03/006

Oman Stamps & Postal History

I am intrigued by my lack of knowledge about the State of Oman stamps and history.

I would like to correspond with anyone with knowledge about the history surrounding this fantasy country, possibly exchange stamps and perhaps work towards creating a State of Oman Stamp catalogue.

Replies to:

Richard Barnes, 11715 - 123 ST NW, Edmonton, AB, Canada, T5M 0G8

rtbarnes@shaw.ca

Private Gratis-Anzeige 02/004

United Nations in the Middle East

I offer commercially used (really mailed) covers from UN observation missions and military forces for sale:

UNTSO, UNEF I and II, UNDOF, UNIFIL, etc.

Can be sorted out by contingents nationalities.

I'm looking for early UN missions 1947–1950 in Israel and Palestine, such as:

UNTSOP, UN-Mediator Mission, UNSCOP, etc.

Replies to:

J. L. Emmenegger, Switzerland

jl.emmenegger@gmail.com

JH - Gratis-Anzeige 04/003

The BAPIP Bulletin 1952–2016

The complete archive of the BAPIP Bulletin, the journal of the **Holyland Philatelic Society**, has been digitised.

Available are entire issues or individual articles from 1952–2016.

Visit:

www.zobbel.de/stamp/lit_09.htm

Private Gratis-Anzeige 01/012

Wants: Sharjah, Yemen, Oman

Sharjah Scott O1-9, NH or used (S.G. O101-09)
 Yemen Scott 597, 607, 615, 632, 633, 634, 635, C145 (S.G. 74, 82, 94, 112, 126, 127, 128, 129)
 Yemen (combined), any, used
 Oman Scott 110, 111, 112, 114, 115, 116, 118, any, used
 (S.G.: same numbers)

Buy or trade.

Offers to:

Burl Henry

henrysatshamrock@aol.com

Private Gratis-Anzeige 03/001

World War One Indian Army Field Post Offices

For research purposes, collector is interested in exchanging scans and information on the WWI Indian Army Field Post Offices in what is today Lebanon, Syria and Cilicia.

Replies to:

Bob Gray

robertgray@me.com

Private Gratis-Anzeige 12/006

Palestinian Authority Revenue Stamps

Wanted:

Palestinian Authority revenue stamps
 Israeli Military revenue stamps
 MNH as well as on document

Replies to:

Arthur Harris

arthurhythec@gmail.com

Private Gratis-Anzeige 05/003

1992 Israel–China First Flight Cover Wanted



I am looking to purchase a First Flight cover Tel Aviv–Beijing of 3.09.1992. I have other covers from this event, but am looking for this specific cachet as pictured.

Apparently less than 100 registered covers exist.

Offers to:

Mark Sommer, brocean@aol.com

Private Gratis-Anzeige 04/002

Holy Land Stamps and Literature

I seek high quality and high value Holy Land stamps and postal history as well as Literature (eg. The Holyland Philatelist, BAPIP Bulletins, and monographs).

Please contact:

masch@fairmanage.com

Private Gratis-Anzeige 13/001

Currency Notes

I want to collect currency note of PALESTINE, PANAMA, ZANZIBAR. I have many countries to exchange and sell.

Please contact:

C. Abrahm Jos, PVS-Iris Apts., Tower 1 -11A,
P.O. Desom, Aluva 683 102, India
abrahamjohanncheeran@gmail.com

JH - Gratis-Anzeige 02/007



The Lebanese Philatelic Association (LAP) encourages and promotes philately and postal history collecting in Lebanon. It represents Lebanon in the world body of philately, co-operates with Arab and International Philatelic Associations and clubs. It holds symposia and exhibitions and provides a committee of experts for Lebanese stamps and postal history.

The association's journal *LAP Magazine* is published every four months.

www.lapsite.org

Private Gratis-Anzeige 07/001

Palestine Articles by Major J. J. Darlow

For research purposes I'm looking for originals, photocopies, or scans of philatelic articles on Palestine by Major J. J. Darlow published in the 1920s and 1930s, especially two pieces published in 1922 in Harris Publications'

The Philatelic Magazine
(nos. 170 and 171).

Replies to:

Tobias Zywiwetz
zobbel@zobbel.de

Private Gratis-Anzeige 01/002

Looking for pro-Palestinian Slogans

I am looking for postal slogans in support of the Palestinian people and the refugees. I have a small collection of these and there are probably more available. Can you help me out?

Replies to:

Lawrence Fisher
Lf.stamps@gmail.com

Private Gratis-Anzeige 01/013

Turkish Occupation of Thessaly

Collector is interested in any postal history material related to the Turkish occupation of Thessaly 1897–1898.

Exchange of information is also highly welcome.

Offers to:

Otto Graf
otto@skanderbeg.net

Private Gratis-Anzeige 01/010

Persia & Yemen Postal History

Collector of Postal History of Persia (before 1930) and of Yemen (before 1945) wishes to purchase interesting items.

Replies to:
Bjorn Sohrne
bjornsohrne@gmail.com

Private Gratis-Anzeige 12/005

Wanted: Smyrna Postal History

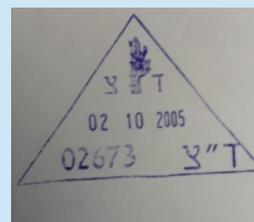
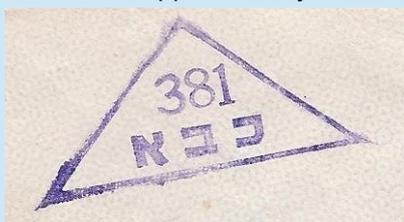
Entire letters to and from Smyrna dated before 1800.

Replies to:
Gene Ekonomi
gekonomi@yahoo.com

Private Gratis-Anzeige 12/001

Wanted: Israel's Triangular Military Unit Handstamps

There are 3 styles of triangular Handstamps used on Military Mail in Israel. The first style lowest numbers were used from 1948 to about 1960. I am trying to collect all of these and am still missing a few numbers. The mid period ran from approximately 1960 to 1980.

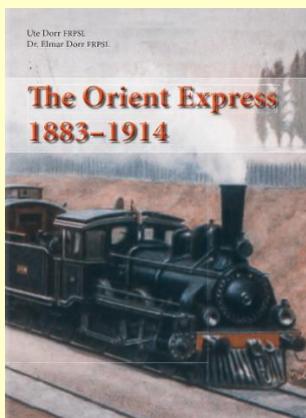


I have almost a complete run of these numbers but am still looking for a few of them including 1014, 1021, 1032, 1035, 1043, 1048, 1049, 1060, 1091, 1094 and 1098 and a few others. The most recent zero series style started about 1980 and is still in use. Zero series numbers I am looking for include 01433, 01455, 01526, 01636, 01833 to 01860, 02129 and 03350.

I am trying to collect all the numbers and I estimate that there are over 5000 issued across the 3 styles. I am also looking for your lists of numbers to check against my database. All correspondence and offers to trade material welcome.

Please contact A. Harris via stamps@gmx.co.uk

HC - Gratis-Anzeige 14/007

**The Orient Express 1883-1914**

The postal history study by Ute Dorr & Dr. Elmar Dorr will be available in English soon!

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Please enquire for postage & packing fees.

Ute Dorr, Pistoriusstr. 3, 73527 Schwäbisch Gmünd, Germany, utedorr@web.de

Private Gratis-Anzeige 12/004

Wanted: Arabian Gulf Postal History

I'm looking for Arabian Gulf postal history for research or purchase.

India used in the Gulf: Muscat, Guadur, Persia, Iraq, Bahrain & Kuwait

British Gulf: Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar, Dubai, Abu Dhabi & Muscat

Independent postal administrations: Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar, Abu Dhabi, Dubai, UAE & Oman

Please contact:

Thomas Johansen at

arabiangulfphilately@gmail.com

Private Gratis-Anzeige 14/001

Wanted: East Asian Military Mail

Covers, entires, PC, PPC of:
Sino-Japanese War of 1894–95 / Boxer Uprising of 1900 / Russo-Japanese War of 1904–05
Military Mail/Rail FPO/Ship FPO/C.E.R./Internal China FPO
Russian Military Mail Siberia / Manchuria / Diplomatic: RJW

Replies to:

Myron Palay, myronpalay@aol.com,

+1-216-226-8755, c. 548-6485

Private Gratis-Anzeige 12/003

U.K.-based Collector always interested in buying Egypt for his Collection

I am particularly interested in revenues, Cinderellas, perfins, telegrams, officially sealed labels, Interpostal Seals, Suez Canal Company, stamp dealer's mail, franking meters, Great Bitter Lake Association, Postal Concession, postal stationery, printed illustrated envelopes and anything unusual, but I also buy mainstream subjects.

From single items to whole collections, please let me make you an offer.

Please contact Jon Aitchison:

+44 (0) 1279 870488

britishlocals@aol.com

Private Gratis-Anzeige 12/008

Wanted: East Asian Military Mail

Sino-Japanese War of 1894–95

Boxer Uprising of 1900

Russo-Japanese War of 1904–05

Russian mail from Siberia via the C.E.R. or via ship from a military post office (FPO)

Japanese military mail from Manchuria, China, Korea.

Replies to:

Myron Palay, myronpalay@aol.com,

+1-216-226-8755, c. 548-6485

Private Gratis-Anzeige 12/007

Qatar Postal History

Looking for Qatar Postal History items.

Covers of the 1950s – 1960s.

Stamps with errors such as inverted & misaligned overprints (no colour trials please).

Replies to:

Adil Al Hussein, PO Box 695, Doha

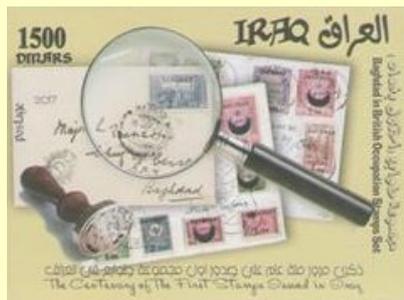
State of Qatar

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HC - Gratis-Anzeige 07/201



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HC - Gratis-Anzeige 01/008

Doar Ivri

Revue du CFPI

(CERCLE FRANÇAIS PHILATÉLIQUE D'ISRAËL)



« Doar Ivri » is the 32 page, full colour (A4), award winning, quarterly journal in French of the **Cercle Français Philatélique d'Israël (C.F.P.I.)**, founded in 2004.

It and covers all aspects of Holy Land philately and Judaica. Ask for a free sample copy (PDF) or visit our website:

www.cfpi-asso.net

Replies to:
Jean-Paul Danon

president.cfpi@cfpi-asso.net

Private Gratis-Anzeige 01/015

The online resource for Palestine Collectors

The award-winning, non-commercial website

Short Introduction To The Philately Of Palestine

presents a wealth of information for the collector of Palestine: be it First World War FPOs, Mandate stamps and postal history, Egyptian and Jordanian occupation, and modern-day PNA: stamps, postmarks, registration labels, postal history.

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www.zobbel.de/stamp

H - Gratis-Anzeige 01/009

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H - Gratis-Anzeige 10/201



The Institute of Postal Historical Studies "Aldo Cecchi" Prato, Tuscany, Italy

When you study postal history, you investigate on organized communication, particularly focusing on material aspects. This is a new, productive approach connecting different subjects, such as social history and history of culture, epistolography, history of management and of entrepreneurship, paleography, diplomatics, economic history, historical geography, history of journalism and of commerce, collecting.

Since 1982, in Prato, **Istituto di Studi Storici Postali "Aldo Cecchi"** has been an international reference centre for those concerned. The Institute is aimed at building, improving and sharing knowledge of the postal-historical subjects through publications, courses, workshops, exhibitions, and other cultural events.

One of the highlights of the Institute is his role as a **specialized library**, collecting guidebooks and old postal maps as well as modern philatelic editions. The library includes more than 13,000 items (volumes and booklets). Over time, the library has become a proper documentation centre on organized postal communication. The library is divided into special sections: the periodicals section contains almost 2,000 titles. The special collection of commercial philatelic publications (auction catalogues, fixed-price offers, promotional material, traders' price lists) numbers 15,000 items.

Last but not least, the Institute also holds an archival fond which is extraordinarily important for the history of Italian postal communications: the archive of the **"Direzione Superiore della Posta Militare"** (High office for Military Mail), containing some 400,000 original documents about its activity during the 20th century.

As you may understand, books and publications on postal-historical topics are welcome and ready to be inserted in the always-growing catalogue which can be consulted online. **You are therefore invited to send us your publications: they will be available to the international community of philatelists!**

www.issp.po.it

Istituto di Studi Storici Postali "Aldo Cecchi", Via Ser Lapo Mazzei 37, 59100 Prato, Italy

H - Gratis-Anzeige 01/006

OMAN STUDIES CENTRE

for Documentation and Research on Oman and the Arabian Gulf

The Oman Studies Centre is pooling resources on Oman and the Gulf to support research on Oman and to provide advisory services. In addition to the Oman Library with books, maps, and documents, the information pool includes special collections such as a philatelic collection and a numismatic collection. For our philatelic collection we buy stamps, postal history, stationery, and documents in the following areas:

- India used in Muscat and Gwadar
- Pakistan used in Muscat and Gwadar
- British Post Office in Muscat
- Muscat & Oman, Sultanate of Oman
- "rebel stamps" State of Oman and Dhufar

We currently also buy early postcards of Oman (pre-1970) and Muscat quarter Anna varieties to complete collections that will result in the publishing of specialised catalogues in these two fields.

We have extensive holdings of duplicate material in all fields and are willing to sell or exchange for other Oman material. Enquiries are welcome.

Replies to:

Oman Studies Centre, Berlin Office, Kronenstr. 69, 10117 Berlin, Germany

collections@oman.org

Gratis-Anzeige 11/201



The Aden & Somaliland Study Group

A study group for the collectors of Aden, Yemen and the Somalilands

Quarterly Journal: The Dhow

Areas covered: India used in Aden; Aden-Bombay Sea Post Offices; Aden Colony; Kathiri State of Seiyun; Qu'aiti State of Shihr & Mukalla; Qu'aiti State in Hadhramaut; Mahra State of Qishn & Socotra; Upper Yafa; South Arabian Federation; People's Republic of South Yemen; Yemen; India used in Somaliland; Somaliland Protectorate; Côte Française des Somalis; Afars & Issas; Djibouti; Obock; Eritrea; Italian Somaliland; Somalia.

Subscriptions: £18 UK, £25 Europe, £30 World (paper copy); £10 GBP (pdf-only)

Contact: Neil Williams neil53williams@yahoo.co.uk

Gratis-Anzeige 12/201



The GB Overprints Society

The GBOS promotes the collection and study of overprints on British stamps and postal stationery and their usage, from the first overprints for use outside the United Kingdom issued in Cyprus in 1880 right through the "British Levant" issues to the final use of overprints when the British postal agency at Muscat closed in 1966.

The GBOS range of interests also includes revenues and postal orders overprinted for use abroad as well as the British departmental overprints.

Collectors at all levels are always welcome, whether experienced researchers or beginners.

We have an informative and lavishly illustrated website and publish a quarterly journal "The Overprinter", available in paper form or electronically. We have also published books on overprinted British postal stationery for use in many countries, including the Middle East and the Gulf.

For more information visit the website at <http://www.gbos.org.uk>
or write to The GBOS Secretary, 118 Maldon Road, Tiptree, Colchester CO5 0PA, UK

Gratis-Anzeige 04/201

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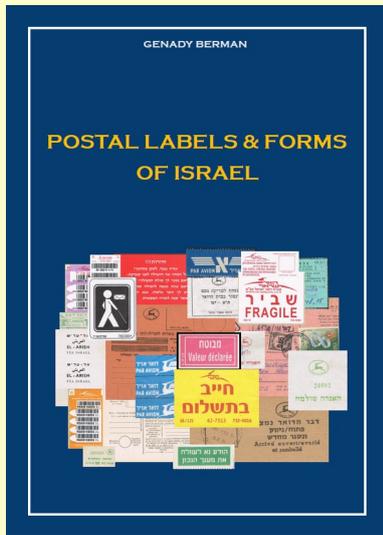
www.pv-al-barid.com

Association dedicated to Middle East Philately, our members are mostly specialist in their field of collecting. The association supports them by organizing 4 meetings a year, 3-4 publications per year, readings, library and exhibitions.

Interested in becoming a member?

Contact our secretary at wim.poppelaars@hotmail.com

H - Gratis-Anzeige 10/007



Israel Postal Labels and Forms Catalogue

Extensive listings of forms and labels: Registration, Official Registration, Air Mail, Express, AR, Insurance, COD, Parcels, Non-Delivery, Customs, and many more.

Book, 2017, 84 pages. ISBN: 978-965-572-473-8. US-\$ 40 plus p&p. Large Vermeil Medal at World Stamp Championship 2018.

Enquiries to:
Genady Berman
bermangenady@gmail.com

H - Gratis-Anzeige 01/202

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Gratis-Anzeige 01/201

The Oriental Philatelic Association of London



ORIENTAL PHILATELIC ASSOCIATION
OF LONDON

The Oriental Philatelic Association of London was founded in 1949. Its remit is very broad both geographically and historically as it covers all philatelic aspects of post within the former Ottoman Empire and all its myriad successor states. Nevertheless many members specialise in one small area. Over one third of our membership of over 150 lives abroad, with a particular large number in the USA.

OPAL publishes a couple of journals per year along with a couple of newsletters. Both publications are also used to answer members' queries. If our extensive library can't help with queries, then our membership invariably contains someone who can help, however specialised or esoteric. There are informal meetings held in various UK locations as well as our annual get together for our AGM.

Membership costs presently £5 per annum. Further details can be found on and contacts can be made via OPAL's website: www.mclstamps.co.uk/opal/opalhome.html.

Philip Longbottom, OPAL secretary, email: prlongbottom@aol.com

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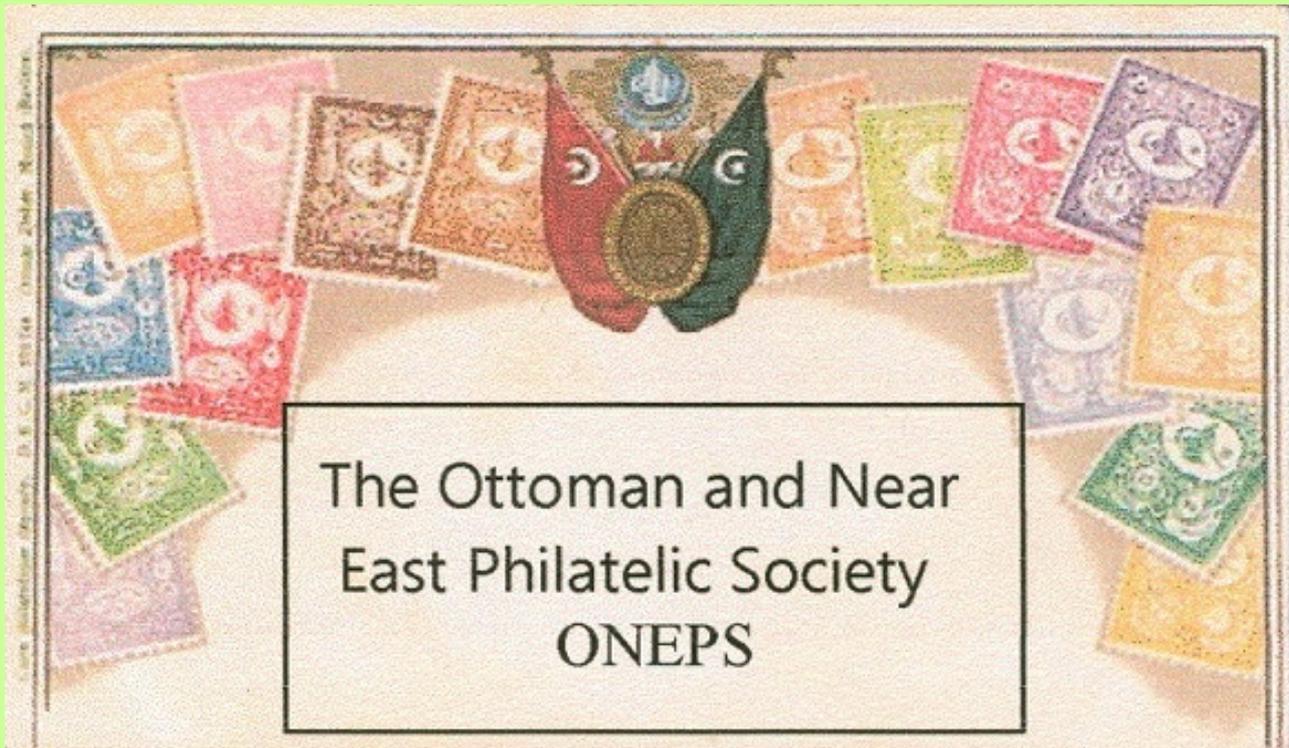
- a research website: egyptstudycircle.org.uk
- a vibrant Facebook page, open to all
- a free quarterly magazine in full colour
- five Saturday-afternoon meetings a year
- an extensive Library of Egypt-related books
- close to 200 members worldwide
- strong and friendly contacts in Egypt

... and much much more in the way of knowledgeable, enthusiastic and helpful colleagues.

For more information and a copy of a recent Quarterly Circular magazine, contact:

The Secretary, 11 Waterbank Road, Bellingham, London SE6 3DJ
egyptstudycircle@hotmail.com

Or come and visit us on [Facebook](#) or the [website!](#)



The Ottoman and Near East Philatelic Society (ONEPS) promotes the collection and study of postage and revenue stamps, stationery, and postal history of the Ottoman Empire, the Republic of Turkey, and Ottoman successor states, including the Near and Middle East, Egypt, Arabia, and the Balkans.

Our journal, "The Levant," is published three times a year, and an index to all articles is posted on our website: www.oneps.net.

Membership in the society opens the door to a philatelic community with a wide range of interests, including Turkey, Palestine, Lebanon, Syria, Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Jordan, Yemen, Egypt, Armenia, Greece, Cyprus, Bulgaria and Romania, philatelic and political history, postal administration, stamp authentication and forgeries, picture post cards and postal ephemera.

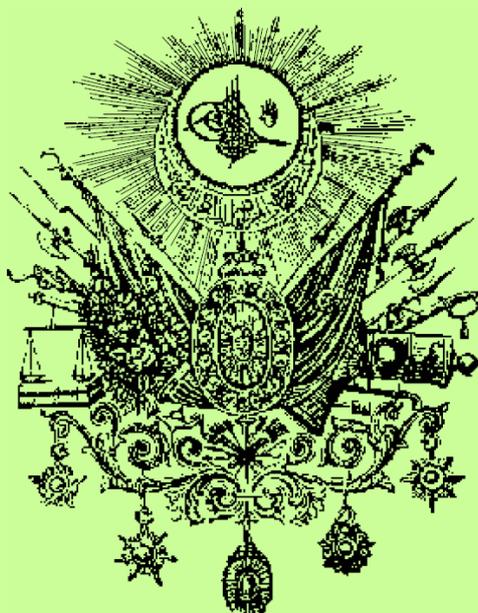
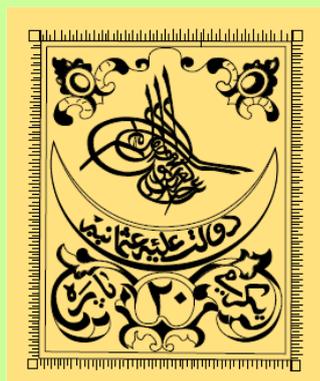
Annual dues are \$20 in North America; £17 in the UK; €20 or \$25 all other countries. Join by submitting an application, available from the Secretary, Mr. Rolfe Smith, at xbow2@mac.com or as download from our website: www.oneps.net.

www.oneps.net

AROS

**Arbeitsgemeinschaft Osmanisches Reich/Türkei
im Bund Deutscher Philatelisten e.V.**

Study Circle Ottoman Empire/Turkey



Die Arbeitsgemeinschaft Osmanisches Reich/Türkei (AROS) ist eine Vereinigung der Türkei-Philatelisten. Ihr Ziel ist die Verbreitung und Vertiefung des Wissens über die Briefmarken und Postgeschichte des Osmanischen Reichs und der Türkei sowie der Nachfolgestaaten des Osmanischen Reichs von Albanien bis Jemen.

Unsere Sammelgebiete

- Osmanisches Reich
- Levantepost und Militärmission
- Republik Türkei
- Türkisch-Zypern
- Libyen
- Ägypten
- Jemen und Oman
- Saudi-Arabien
- Qatar, Bahrain, Kuwait, VAE
- Iraq
- Syrien und Libanon
- Palästina und Jordanien
- Albanien
- Kooperation mit den ArGen Bulgarien, Griechenland und Rumänien

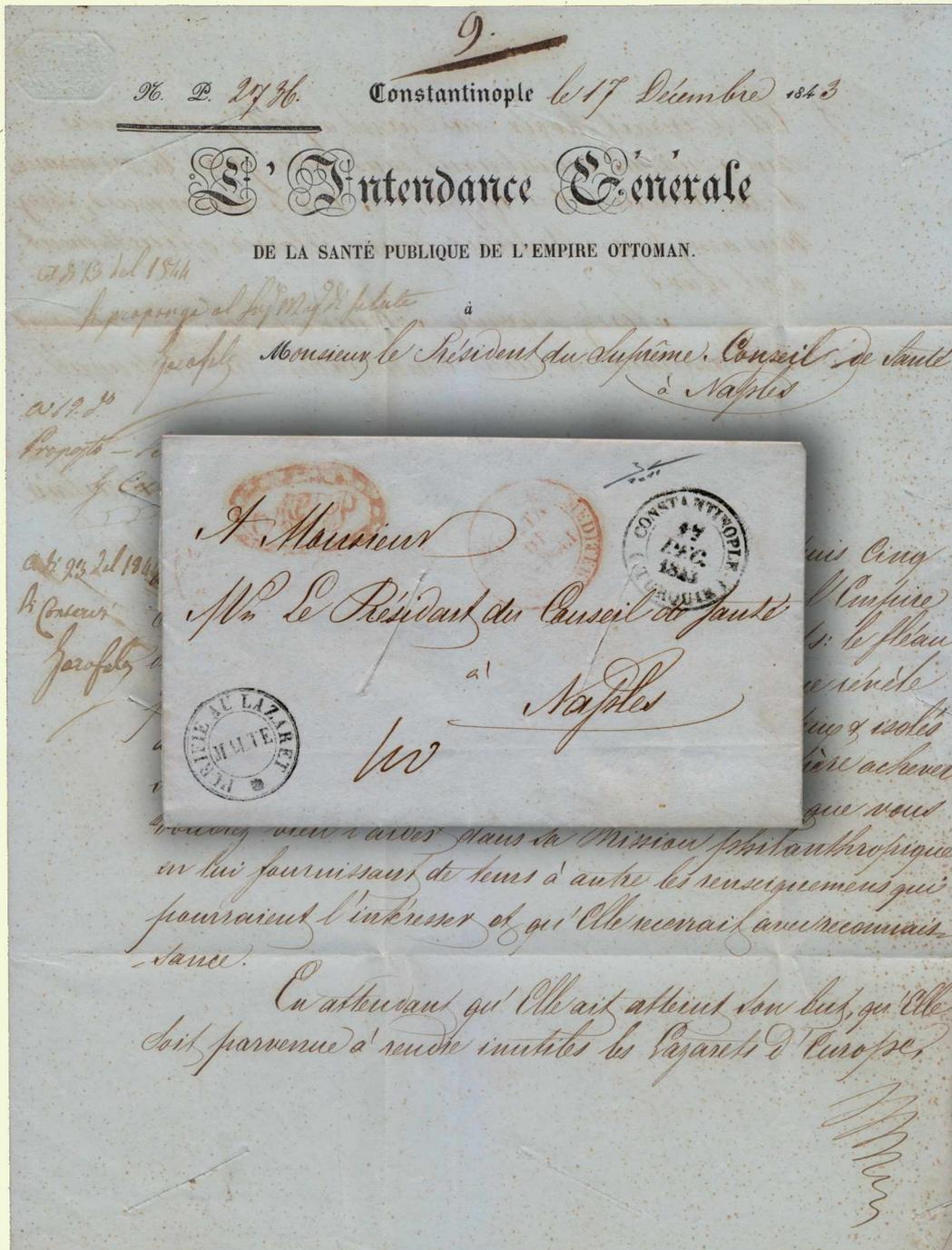
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- viermal jährlich das Mitteilungsheft „Türkei-Spiegel“ mit Informationen und Forschungsergebnissen

Kontaktadresse: Tobias Zywietz, Hauptstr. 10, 75245 Neulingen, Germany
tuerkeispiegel@zobbel.de

www.arosturk.org/aos.htm

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Postal History & Stamps sale

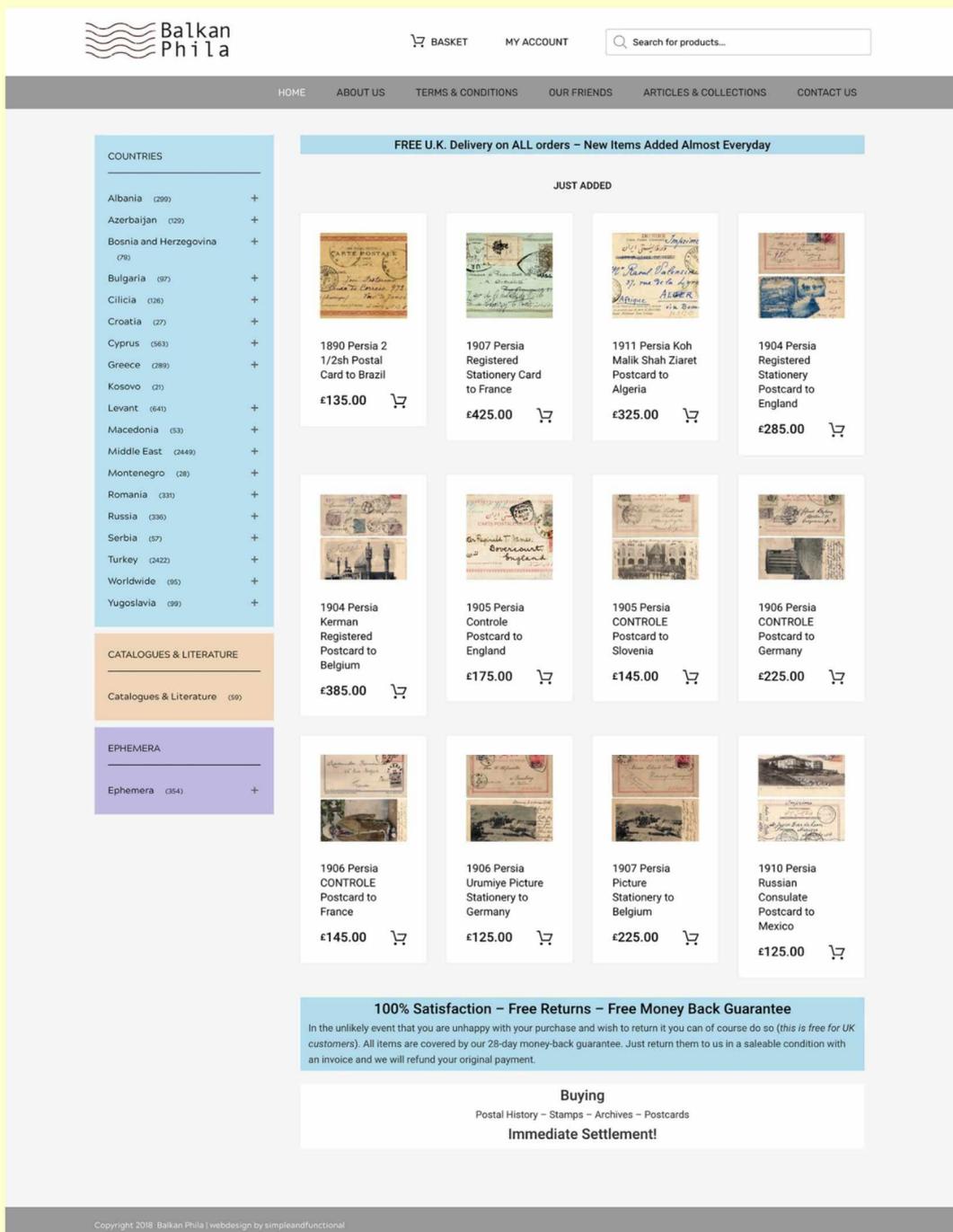
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Lebanon

Telefax: + 961 1 901830
info@cedarstamps.com
www.cedarstamps.com

Website for collectors of the Ottoman Empire, Balkans and Middle East: Stamps & Postal History, Postcards & Literature, Articles & Collections, Maps & Books, Photographs & Gravures

Kemal Giray AIJP
RPSL, ONEPS, OPAL, GBOS, ONS, CSS, IPS, IFD
info@balkanphila.com

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The screenshot shows the website's interface with a navigation menu, a search bar, and a grid of philatelic items. The items are categorized by country and type, with prices listed in British pounds (£).

Navigation: HOME, ABOUT US, TERMS & CONDITIONS, OUR FRIENDS, ARTICLES & COLLECTIONS, CONTACT US

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1905 Persia Controle Postcard to England	£175.00
1905 Persia POSTROLE Postcard to Slovenia	£145.00
1906 Persia CONTROLE Postcard to Germany	£225.00
1906 Persia CONTROLE Postcard to France	£145.00
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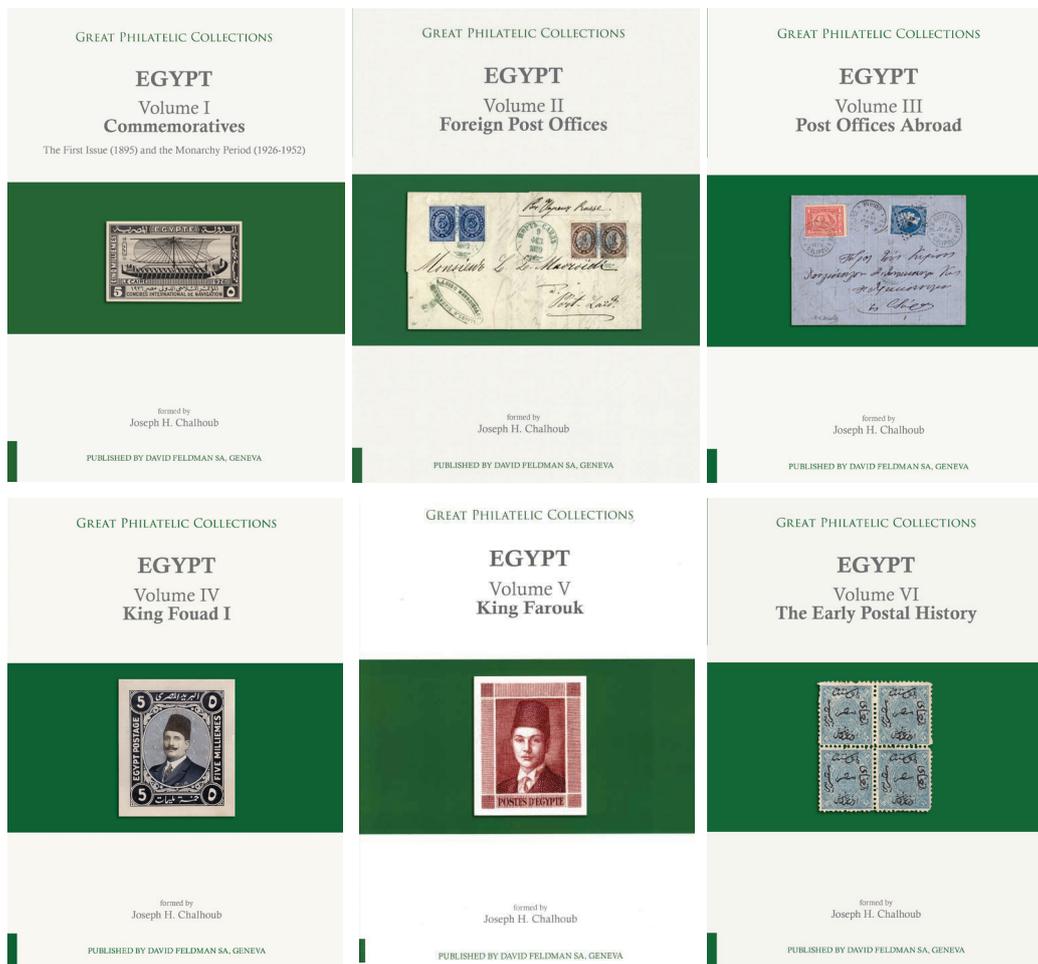
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Editorial

by Tobias Zywietz (*mep-bulletin@zobbel.de*)
 Publisher & Editor, *The Middle East Philatelic Bulletin*

The Contents of this Issue

Willy Pijnenburg gives an update on the state of research about the **Istanbul Provisionals**, a series of controversial bisected and overprinted stamps issued in Istanbul in 1887.

Lee Coen reports on very easy to detect forgeries of **Iran's 1906 "Service Intérieur"** surcharges, though these forgeries are mere catalogued as "reprints".

Dr. John A. Courtis' contribution has a long history of gestation: he first sent me his article back in the spring of 2019, but due to a change in e-mail addresses contact was interrupted and only re-established earlier this years. The result is a very interesting postal and social history study. **From Scotland to Sudan** is a tale of an, at first sight unspectacular, newspaper wrapper. It travelled all the way from Scotland to Sudan in 1911 and is likely the sole surviving such entire with that, in any case rare, destination.

Jos Strengholt takes a keen interest in the history as well as the postal history of the Cairo suburb of **Heliopolis**. Established in the years prior to World War I as a European-style luxury new town with hotels, a race course, a theme park, residential areas, recreational facilities, it later found itself in close vicinity to the Cairo Aérodrôme. Jos charts the postal history through its cancellations from 1909 to 1952.

Avo Kaplanian responds to Bernd-Dieter Buscke's article in MEPB 8 and charts the Jordanian Postmarks used in Ma'an.

The ongoing series of sales of the collection of eminent Egyptian philatelist **Joseph Chalhoub** prompted me to select a small sample of intriguing items. I have to thank David Feldman S.A., Geneva, for their cooperation.

Rainer Fuchs continues his journey of discovery of **Iraq's Railway Post Stamps** and presents his newest research results about the booklet of the Fifth Issue.

Rolf Wernecke's latest contribution took a while to get finalised. Sadly stationery is not the most trendy part of philately, but that allows for new discoveries, even after 80 years! His research leads to a new catalogue of **Imperial Reply Coupons of Palestine**.

In his second piece for this edition, *Avo Kaplanian* catalogues the **Jordan's All-Arabic Censor Markings for the West Bank**, detailing both civilian and military censor marks.

The origins of the next article lay in a piece by *Mike Pettifor* I read in THE DHOW in 2018. Rather than letting me reprint this article, Neil Williams decided to rewrite it adding a whole range of new material and information. The result is a fantastic piece of original research about the **Registration Labels & Cachets of the Aden Protectorate States**.

Marc Parren, who wrote about censorship topics in MEPB 5, 11, and 12, requests information about **Israeli censorship** on mails from the West Bank in the 1980s.

Following on from the groundbreaking article in MEPB 11, Wolfgang Leimenstoll can report a new **2019 Commemorative Reply Coupon of Jordan**.

Book Reviews include **The Werner Schindler Collection of Austrian Levant** (Die Österreichische Post in der Levante) by the editor, Peter Bond's **The Postage Stamps of Aden 1937–1968** by *Neil Williams*, Hatim al-Attar's **Sultanate of Oman Postal System 1966–2016** by *Cal Allen*, and Arthur Harris' **The Revenue Stamps of the Palestinian Authority**, by the editor.

The Archive Section contains a rediscovered piece about the **Postal Services in Palestine** written by a German catholic priest, *Ernst J. Schmitz*, in 1913, here presented in a new translation. The series about the **Official Gazettes for Palestine** will resume next time. Taking over the editorship of TÜRKEL-SPIEGEL from the late Dr. Andreas Birken has taken its toll with many projects not advancing at a rate I was expecting.

The **Adverts Section** features several new and also revised entries. Every registered reader is entitled to place free ads, so please come forward with your needs and wishes!

Future Articles and Research Projects

These are some of the topics and articles I am working on, together with many authors, to include in future issues of MEPB. If you have information, covers, opinions about any of these subjects, please let me know!

- The Barīd: Umayyad, Abbasid and Mamluk Postal Services in Egypt and Syria
- The "Er Ramle" postmark on Zeppelin Orient Flight covers of 1931
- Heliopolis Philatelists Club
- Julius Bolthausen: The Caiffa Bisects
- A soldier's account of the 1918 Famine in Lebanon
- The Printing Process of the Blues of Palestine
- PNA Issues: Gaza Freedom Fleet 2011

- The French Military Mission in the Hejaz 1916–1920
- 17th Century Mail by French Merchant Ships
- The RAF Postal Service in Sharjah
- The Postage Rates and Overland Mail Surcharges of Iraq, 1923–1929
- Overland Mail Route Instruction Labels
- Court Fee Stamps of Palestine Mandate
- Book Review: Anglo-Egyptian & French Colonial Censorship in WWII
- Book Review: Birken series on Ottoman Stamps
- Book Review: Michel North Arabia and Iran 2017
- Dr. Hoexter's Syrian FDCs
- Habbaniya Provisionals – Revisited
- Book Review: Osmanlı İmparatorluğu Posta Tarihi
- Book Review: Türkiye'de Postanın Mikrotarihi 1920–2015 (Volume 1: 1920–1950)
- Archive: Mail Communications and the Indian Post Offices in the Persian Gulf
- Archive: The Telegraphs of the Persian Gulf
- Lebanon 'Palestine Aid' covers
- RAF Emergency Air Mail 1919: Aerial EEF
- The Iraq/Kuwait Postal War
- Posta Bey'iye Şubesi 28 İstanbul
- Jordan Stamps & Banknotes
- Telegraph Codes: Mosse, Liebèr, Bentley, & al.
- Early Postcards of Muscat
- Service Automobile Palestine–Syria
- Archive: Friedrich Perlbarg's *Bilder aus dem Heiligen Lande*
- Book Review: Genady Berman's Israel Postal Labels
- Postal and Communications information from the Guide-Annuaire d'Égypte (1872), the Annuaire Oriental (1891), the Indicateur Égyptien (1897), and the Egyptian Directory (1908)
- British Mandate and Jordanian Postmarks of Nablus
- Forgeries of the 1923/24 Transjordan Overprint on The Makka Arms Issue of Hedjaz
- Das Austrian Post Office at Çeşme
- Turkish Red Crescent obligatory tax stamps used on cover
- The Red Crescent exhibition in Constantinople 1917

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.

Rights to texts and images not belonging to the author 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 to *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!*

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Issue 3 (August 2016):	3,897	89/month
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Issue 5 (April 2017):	3,828	106/month
Issue 6 (August 2017):	2,715	86/month
Issue 7 (December 2017):	3,037	108/month
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Issue 9 (August 2018):	2,562	130/month
Issue 10 (December 2018):	1,952	123/month
Issue 11 (April 2019):	2,192	184/month
Issue 12 (August 2019):	1,392	176/month
Issue 13 (December 2019):	916	258/month

**Please come forward with your articles,
research notes, queries, and images!
MEPB needs interesting new material!**

Imprint

The Middle East Philatelic Bulletin

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Mailing List Data Protection Policy

by Tobias Zywietz (mep-bulletin@zobbel.de)
 Publisher & Editor, *The Middle East Philatelic Bulletin*

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- 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.
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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 der 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 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: +49-(0)7237-44 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 time of data and storage

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. Recipients have 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

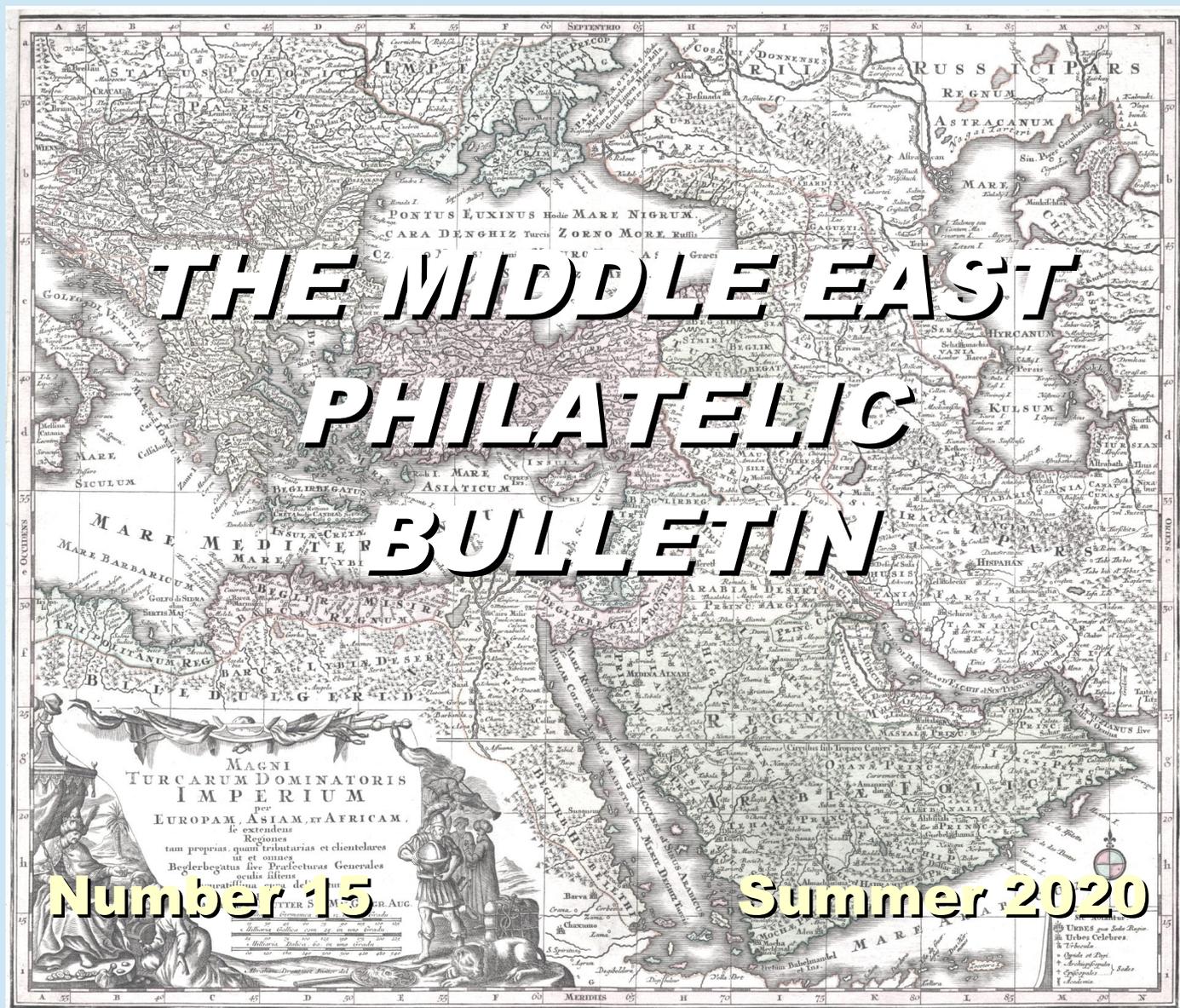
Without prejudice to any other administrative or judicial remedy, you have the right of appeal to a supervisory authority, in particular in the EU member state where you reside, work or suspect the infringement, if you believe that the processing of personal data concerning you is contrary to the DSGVO.

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:

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The Austrian Post Office at Çeşme

The Famine on Mount Lebanon

The Postal History of Maadi

Palestine Revenue Forgeries

British Mandate and Jordanian Nablus Postmarks

Forgeries of the 1923/24 Transjordan Overprint on Hejaz' Makka Arms

Turkish Red Crescents Obligatory Tax Usage

Archive: Official Gazettes for Palestine 1931