

ARABIAN GULF STATES

POSTAL HISTORY

QUARTERLY



26 January 1905: An Indian postal stationery used in Bahrain and sent to Munich in Germany. An interesting piece showing an unusual two-reigns combination franking in the form of a pre-printed quarter Anna, a 3 Pies Queen Victoria stamp and a 1/2 Anna King Edward stamp cancelled by Donaldson Type 4

Edition 25 - Winter 2007

Edited and Published by Thomas Johansen based on the concept of Terry Jones
PO Box 5410, Manama, Bahrain
Email: cameltom@batelco.com.bh / Phone +973 39614651

www.bahrain-stamps.com - www.oman-stamps.com - www.abu-dhabi-stamps.com
www.dubai-stamps.com - www.kuwait-stamps.com - www.qatar-stamps.com

CONTENTS

- Welcome to Edition 25	02
- Comments, Questions & Corrections	03
- Bahrain	06
- Kuwait	16
- Muscat & Oman	39
- Qatar	48
- United Arab Emirates	
o Abu Dhabi	51
o Dubai	53
- Links, Contacts and Credits	62

Welcome to Edition 25 of the Quarterly

And so we have reached the end of 2007 - I hope you had a good Eid and Christmas and wish you all a Happy New Year. It means that I have now completed my first full year as Editor of The Quarterly and I must admit it has been very interesting and I have certainly learned a lot from it. My thanks to everyone that has helped me by supplying images, ideas, thoughts, theories, suggestions etc.

However, it is now time to focus on 2008 and the next four issues and in line with all my previous introductions I kindly ask you to submit as much material and information as possible.

On another note there is the 2008 subscription. The charges for The Quarterly will remain unchanged as listed below:

- | | |
|------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1. Electronic Version: | USD 30 |
| 2. Printed Version: | USD 50 for the Gulf |
| 3. Printed Version: | USD 60 for Europe and the UK |
| 4. Printed Version | USD 70 for USA and rest of the world |

Payment can be done to my PayPal account kamelton2004@yahoo.com – if you want to pay by cash/check please let me know. Sterling checks will go to my father in law and for other currencies please contact me first.

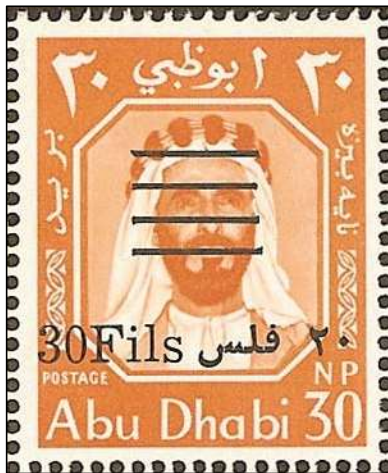
Once again thanks for 2007 and all the best for 2008

In hope of your continued support,
Thomas

Comments, Questions & Corrections

Reader's Feedback

ABU DHABI – Arabia 20 Fils instead of 30 Fils Error



I recently had the good fortune of meeting Neil Donaldson which gave me the chance to ask him a few questions as to the information he published in his 1975 book. One of the questions I asked him related to his reference to only five copies of the Arabic 20 Fils error. H.P. Whynn, the Post Master in Abu Dhabi, had actually given Mr. Donaldson the five sheets with the error and informed him that they were the only ones left and that the rest had been destroyed.

I have still only managed to track down four of the five copies and I am still looking for the half sheet with the albino sold at Mr. Donaldson's 1988 Harmers auction.

A number of comments from one of your readers who is "catching up":



EDITION 21 – Page30

"Since I supplied you with the scan of the cover from Iran, I have obtained a copy of "JUSQU'A AIRMAIL MARKINGS" by Ian McQueen which lists a similar (but much longer) straight line marking with the addition of "MAIL", i.e. "BY AIR MAIL UP TO BAHRAIN ONLY" which he lists as being applied at Basra in 1954, coincidentally also on a cover to Doha. I therefore now think it

much more likely that the mark on my cover from Iran was also applied at Basra".

Another cover was previously mentioned to me as well – also to Qatar – with the same handstamp so the Qatar covers are accumulating – now three – we have a pattern.

EDITION 22 – Page 11 - The caption to the First Flight cover appears to be largely an incorrect repetition of the caption at the bottom of page 7. Were only 7 covers also flown on the Cyprus leg of the flight?

Reply: In the write-ups that I received that is what was mentioned – since it was the same for both it was copied – however I will look into it so that we don't reconfirm something that is wrong.

The illustration shows a Tax mark which is not familiar to me - it looks like "1 CP". Could it mean "1 Cyprus Piaster"?

EDITION 23 – Page12



The ???OMA transit is DODOMA

EDITION 23 – Page 15



You described the cover I supplied as a "variety of Type 39" but might it not be a completely different cancel unlisted by Donaldson as the layout at the base is completely different and it was dated prior to the date in Type 39 illustrated by Donaldson?

Has anyone got any comments on this strike?

EDITION 23 – Page 33



The "FORWARDED" appears to be a USA mark and the Express label also appears to be a USA type, probably applied when the cover was forwarded.

EDITION 24 – Page 19



The "POSTED OUT OF COURSE" would have been applied in London at the time when the London Registration label was applied and means that the item was received in London as unregistered mail and compulsorily registered because of the

blue lines put on the envelope, probably by Mr. Collinson before sending the cover to Kuwait for postmarking. How extraordinary that the Kuwait P.O. failed to deal with the cover correctly!

EDITION 24 – Page 49



Could the Bahrain local have been added after it went through the post?

Editors reply: It is obviously possible but it is not unusual to find "international" covers with locals stamps applied where the local stamps have not been cancelled.

Bahrain



21 June 1892: The “ONE ANNA” overprint Queen Victoria Post Card used in Bahrain and sent to St. Pauli in Hamburg, Germany. The post card has been dated Bushire, 20 June 1892 and has then been carried by hand to Bahrain where it was posted. From the writing on the back it would appear that the sender started writing the post card in Bushire but finished doing so either on board the boat to or in Bahrain.

There is a July 1 1892 “B” Sea Post Office transit mark and Hamburg arrival backstamp dated 19 July 1892 indicating 26 days in transit.

The Bahrain Parcel Cancellation



The Bahrain parcel canceller used on two pieces, both dated 1st August 1900 – canceling one piece with a pair of 8 Annas QV (1882-90) and another piece with a 1 Rupee QV (1892-97).



The 1 Rupee piece is illustrated on left along with two examples of the Bahrain Type 1. The canceller is the same size as Type 1 and the early version of Type 2 – i.e. 20 mm in diameter.



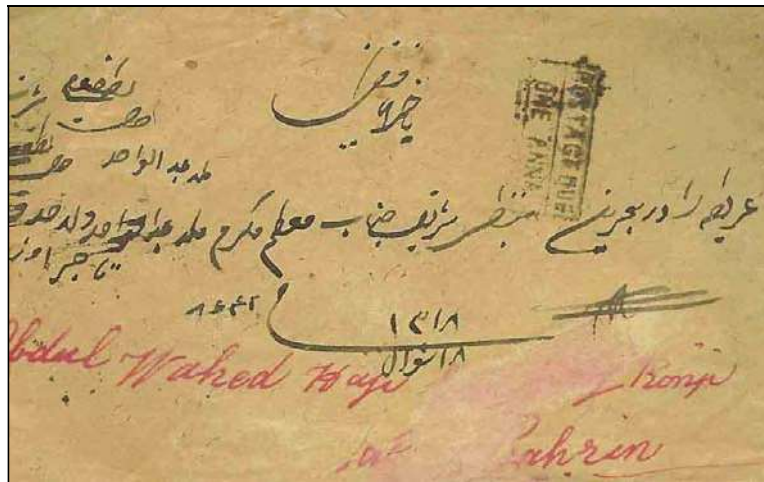
Can anyone shed further light on the parcel strike – it is the first time I have seen it?

The back of the parcel receipts

The Rectangular Postage Due Cachets



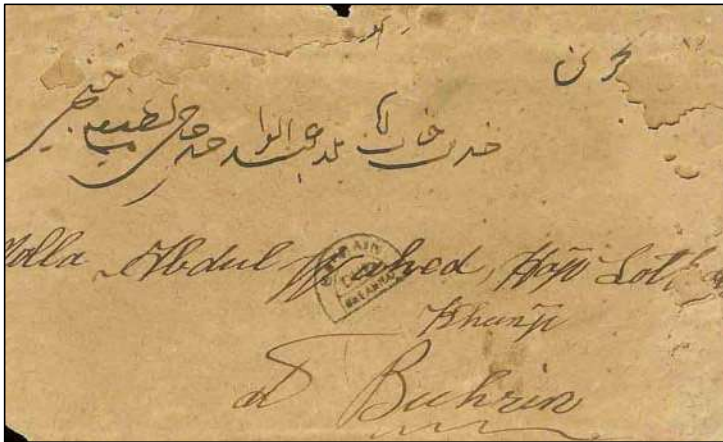
The two types of the rectangular All-India Postage Due handstamps, both measuring 25 x 11 mm, used on Bahrain mail.



10 February 1901: Incoming cover with Donaldson Type 3 backstamp dated 10 February 1901. I have not been able to make out the origin of the cover yet.



13 January 1902: An unfranked incoming cover with Donaldson Type 3 arrival backstamp. Where would these two Postage Due cachets have been applied – at origin or destination – or could it be either?



15 January 1902: An unfranked incoming cover with Donaldson arrival backstamp

This is the **earliest recorded use of the “ONE ANNA” Horseshoe Postage Due cachet** and interestingly it is dated two days later than the rectangular cachet illustrated on the page before. In a similar way to the previous cover this is unfranked, has a Donaldson Type 3 arrival backstamp, no outgoing datestamp and the Postage Due cachet applied is a Bahrain cachet. Does that indicate the following: 1) that the Rectangular Postage Due cachet was most likely applied in Bahrain and 2) that the Horseshoe Postage Due cachet was introduced in Bahrain very close to 15 January 1902.

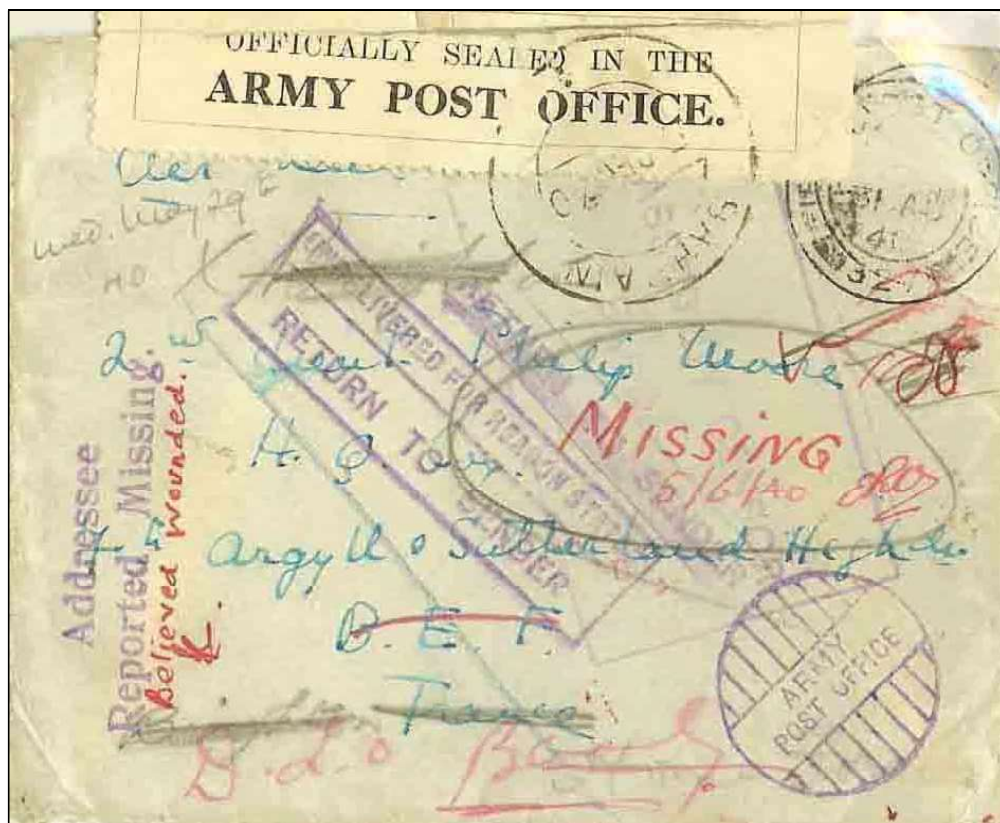


19 October 1932: A registered letter sent from the Director of Customs and Port Officer at Bahrain to Sussex in England. It is difficult to imagine that this registered letter was not philatelically inspired but none the less it is interesting – it is the only sample of this 3 Annas (1 Anna postage and 2 Annas registration) stationary (228 x 157 mm in size) recorded used in Bahrain. The letter has “Total Cost = Rs 3-3-0” endorsed on the back and does show signs of having had a sizeable and heavy content. However, Rs 3-3-0 is 51 Annas and the cover is only franked with 47 Annas and shows no sign of a stamp having been removed. Finally, I wonder if the franking represents what stamps were available in Bahrain at the time.



1 June 1940: An Airmail cover sent to an officer in the Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders, B.E.F. France, franked with 21 ½ Annas, the postal rate to Europe introduced on 2 September 1939 following the outbreak of WWII and remained in place for the duration of the war.

The cover was cancelled with strikes of Donaldson Type 7 – BAHRAIN AIR



The officer was apparently reported missing during the British evacuation from Dunkirk and the letter could not be delivered, eventually returning via Bahrain (5 December 1940) to the Bombay D.L.O. (31 December 1940 and 2 January 1941 DLO strikes) and boxed DLO mark dated 3 January 1941. A remarkable and fascinating cover with a variety of violet instruction marks on the front – including “Addressee Reported Missing” and red M/S endorsements, overlaid on green ink of original address plus FPO 440 and 327 strikes. It also acquired a black/white perforated “officially sealed in the army post office” label tied by Bahrain arrival canceller.

THE EARLY "FORMULAR" (UNSTAMPED) AEROGRAMMES OF THE ARABIAN GULF

by Gary Watson



30 October 1942: Unusual black/white form used at PAI Force Staging Post No 43 at Bahrain, cancelled at Cairo (left) and 14 January 1943: From the same correspondence, unusually with a Bahrain adhesive, similarly cancelled (right).

For ten years, formular aerogrammes - known at the time as "air mail letter cards" or "air letters" - were the only types available in the Gulf States. The earliest versions were distributed to members of the British Armed Forces from about the middle of 1942, though Terry Jones states usage in the Gulf was authorized only in October of that year.



25 September 1944: Usage of grey-blue/white form with blank reverse & hand-written "honor certification", from PAI Force Staging Post No 44 at Sharjah (left) and 26 June 1944: Similar form but with blue triangle at base & printed "This privilege Air Mail Letter Card..." on the reverse, used at Bahrain (right).

Although I have twice exhibited my aerogrammes, I have been seriously collecting them for only five years and do not claim any great degree of expertise in this field. In fact, where the formular issues are concerned, I have no idea how complete my selection is, or how many gaps there are. My purpose in publishing these extracts from my exhibit is to

invite comment and feedback from the more knowledgeable readers of the Arabian Gulf Postal History Quarterly.



November 1943: Unusual red/white form - the only example seen by me - with printed 'Xmas/Greetings/...' from the ROYAL AIR FORCE/MIDDLE EAST 1943' inside, from the tiny RAF detachment at Ras el Hadd in Oman, the eastern-most point on the Arabian Peninsular (left) and 12 March 1945: Blue/grey form with 'THESE CARDS ARE FOR THE USE OF H.M. FORCES ONLY' on the reverse, from a nurse at Bahrain (right).

If a strong picture emerges of what exists, and even what is believed to exist, I'm sure it would be helpful for many collectors if a proper listing of this interesting material could be compiled. Earliest and latest dates of use of each type of form need to be established. It's also important to pinpoint the places where each aerogramme was used to see if there is any pattern of geographic distribution.



29 January 1946: Post-war use of 'BLUE TRIANGLE' form with same heading on reverse as the previous item plus an honour certificate, from an Indian telegraphist based at HMS "Juffair", the naval shore station at Bahrain (left) and 9 October 1947: Pale blue/grey civilian form with imprint 'S.S.P.LTD...' of Sree Sawasaty Press at Calcutta, the further details in the imprint disclosing that it was printed on 27.10.1944, unusually to South Africa (right).

I invite readers to provide feedback to me by e-mail (gary@prestigephilately.com) providing details of the forms you own, including dates and place of usage, and good quality scans (front and back, and within if relevant) suitable for reproduction: 600dpi is ideal.

I began collecting Gulf aerogrammes for the specific purpose of entering the Middle East Collectors' Challenge of Australia (MECCA) - conducted at Canberra in March 2006 - which he won]



Two similar forms in dark blue/dark grey from a different printer "M.I.P.", the first with imprint at lower-right of the form, the other with imprint at upper-right. Can someone please identify the printers?



Somewhat out of order, this is the earliest usage in the group, 18th July 1942 from a corporal with the I/C Medical Detachment at Bahrain. **This proves usage in the Gulf three months earlier than Terry Jones says such usage was authorized** (left) and a most unusual usage. The letter refers to "the Anniversary Stamps issued by the Kuwait Government". The sender has affixed one of these labels to the face of the form, at lower-left. He was doubtless told that no such label was permitted on the front, so he removed it - gum residue and paper fragments remain - and replaced it on the reverse where it was duly (and improperly) cancelled by the post office.

Donaldson Type 26

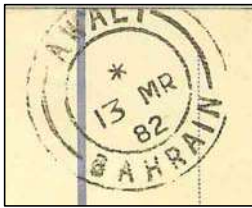
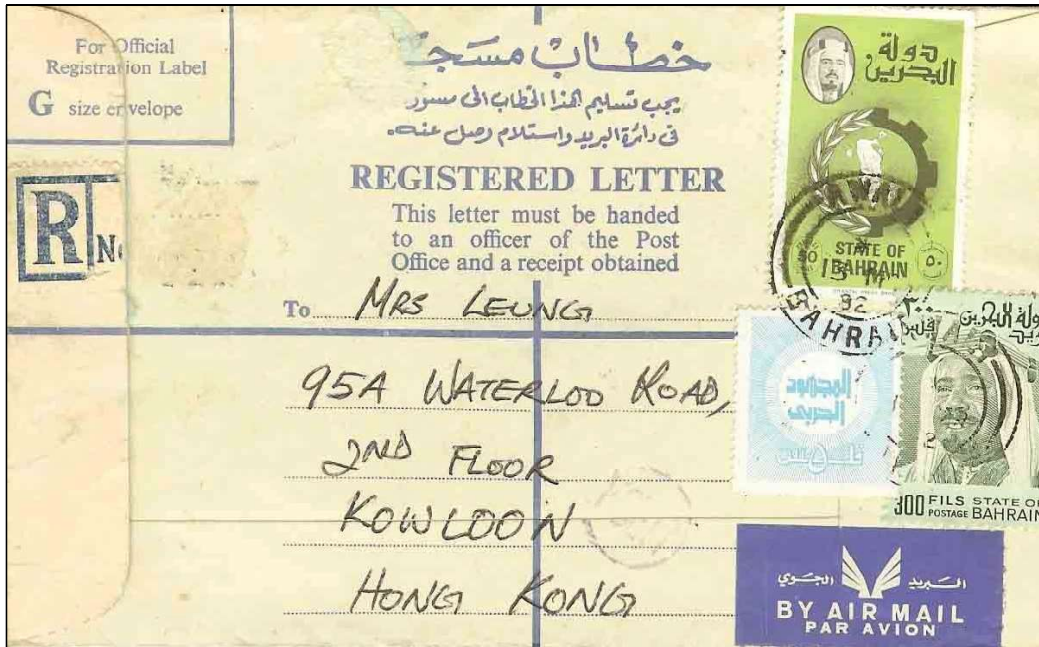


23 June 1949: A cover sent to Zurich in Switzerland franked with six copies of the 1 Anna GVI red. **The earliest recorded use of Donaldson Type 26** (previously recorded as 25 June 1949 on the Internet website www.bahrain-stamps.com)



25 May 1953: A registered cover sent to Birmingham, England cancelled with Donaldson Type 27 showing the **inverted date variety**.

Donaldson Type 24



13 March 1982: A registered letter sent to Hong Kong and uprated with a 350 Fils and a war tax stamp. **The letter shows the latest recorded use of Donaldson Type 24** – Awali double circle date stamp. The previous latest recorded use as per Terry Jones and www.bahrain-stamps.com was 24 June 1981.

The 1968 WHO “Lake in Bahrain” Variety



An unlisted error found at the bottom of the sheet in Pane 1A on the 20 Fils value. The “Lake” is found at the bottom of the scepter on which the snake is curled and looks like a white circular spot. It is not known if the error is constant but more than one copy exists.


بريد البحرين
BAHRAIN POST

يوجد بريد البحرين لائمتكم ان المادة البريدية المرفقة قد وجدت ،
Item was found:

OPEN	☐	مفتوحة
TORN	☐	ممزقة
BROKEN	☐	مكسورة
DAMEGED	☐	متلفة
	☐	

.....

بالتفاهة عن بلد المصدر يرجى قبول اعتذارنا عن أي ضرر تسبب لكم.
On behave of the office of origin would you please accept
our apology for any inconvenience caused.

Kingdom of Bahrain
Ministry of Transportation
Postal Directorate

مملكة البحرين
وزارة المواصلات
إدارة البريد

ص.ب. ١٢١٢ ، مملكة البحرين - هاتف : ١٧ ٥٢١٥٢٢ ، تليفاكس : ١٧ ٥٢١٥٥٥
P.O.Box 1212, Kingdom of Bahrain. Tel.: 17 534534 – Telefax.: 17 533455

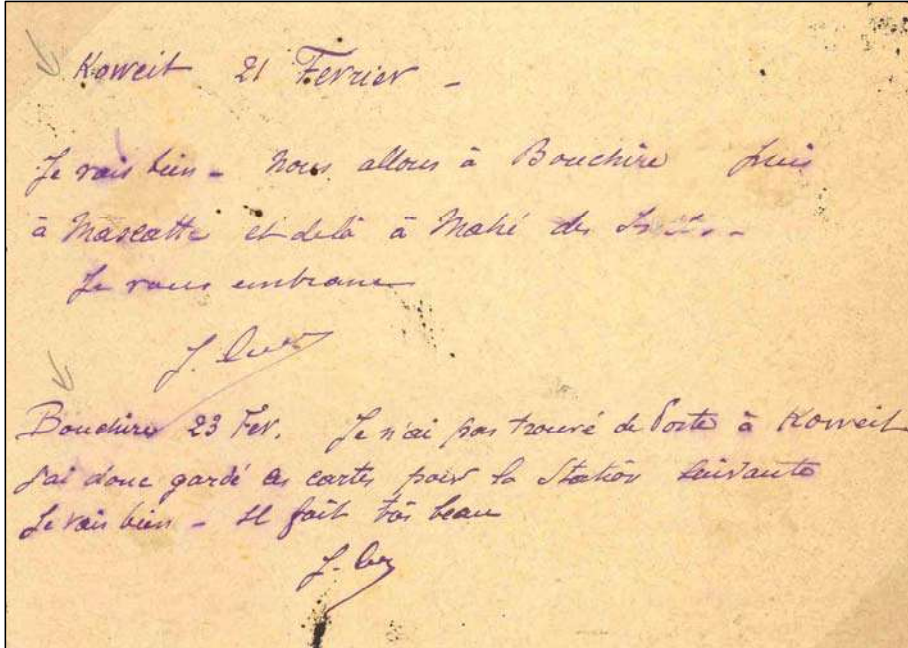


And finally a little bit of recent postal history as I received a pile of bills from one of my business associates in Dubai. The letter was damaged during transit and upon arrival in Bahrain the brown envelope had a “Found Damage – Officially closed” handstamp applied to it where after it was sealed in an official plastic bag with lots of blue print on it.

They don’t seem to check their grammar before they finalize their handstamps – do they?

Kuwait

Pre-Post Office Postal History



23 February 1902: A post card sent from Kuwait to France. The post card was written by a traveler onboard a boat who attempted to post it in Kuwait. As described by the traveler: "I did not find a Post Office in Kuwait so I kept the card with me until the next stop". The card was sent from Bushire two days later.

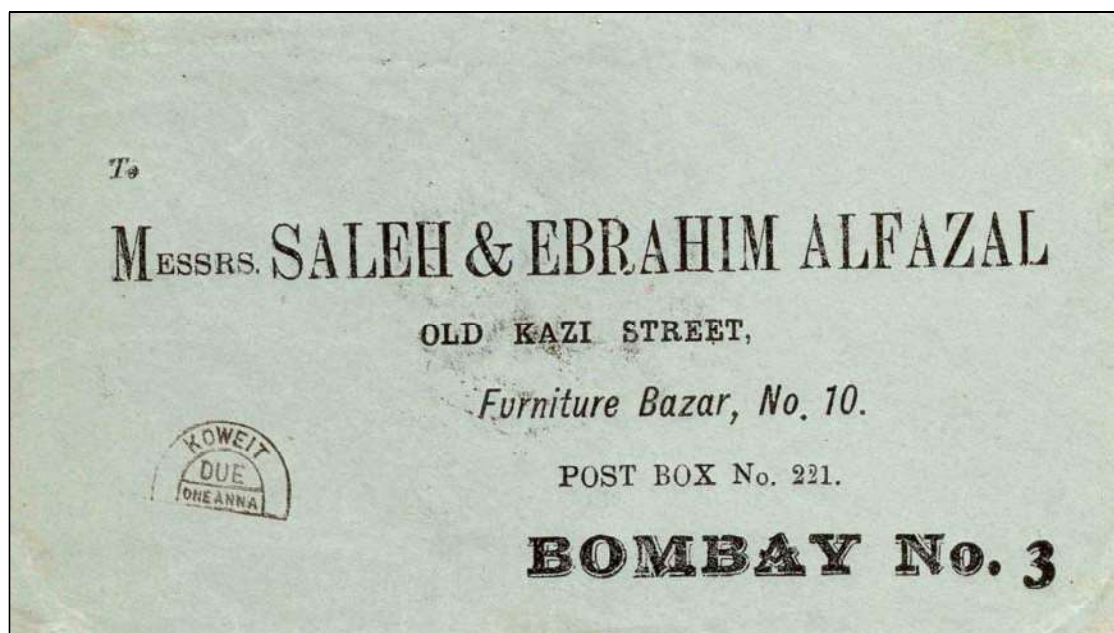


13 February 1910: A post card sent from Aarhus, Denmark to the Political Agent in Kuwait – KOWEIT, Turkey in Asia, Persian Gulf.



1914: An uprated stationary sent from York, Pennsylvania via Bombay to Reverend Edwin E Calverley in Kuwait.

One Anna Koweit Postage Due Cachet



18 February 1915: Cover showing the rare KOWEIT Postage Due handstamp – only a month after the post office was opened.

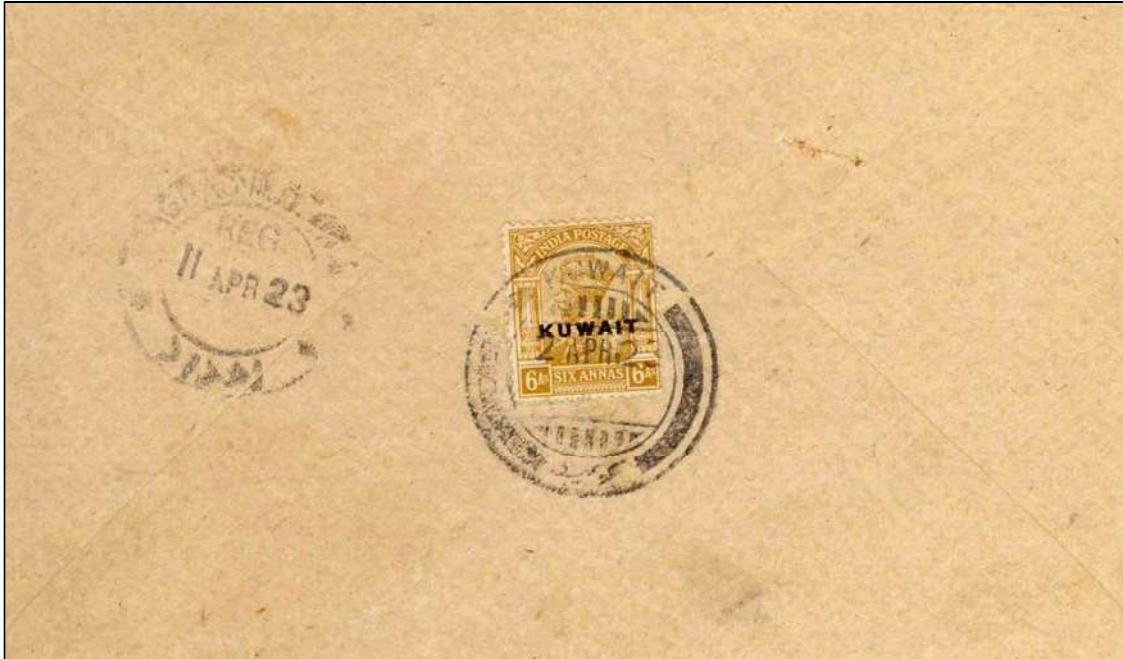
The Kuwait Registration Handstamp



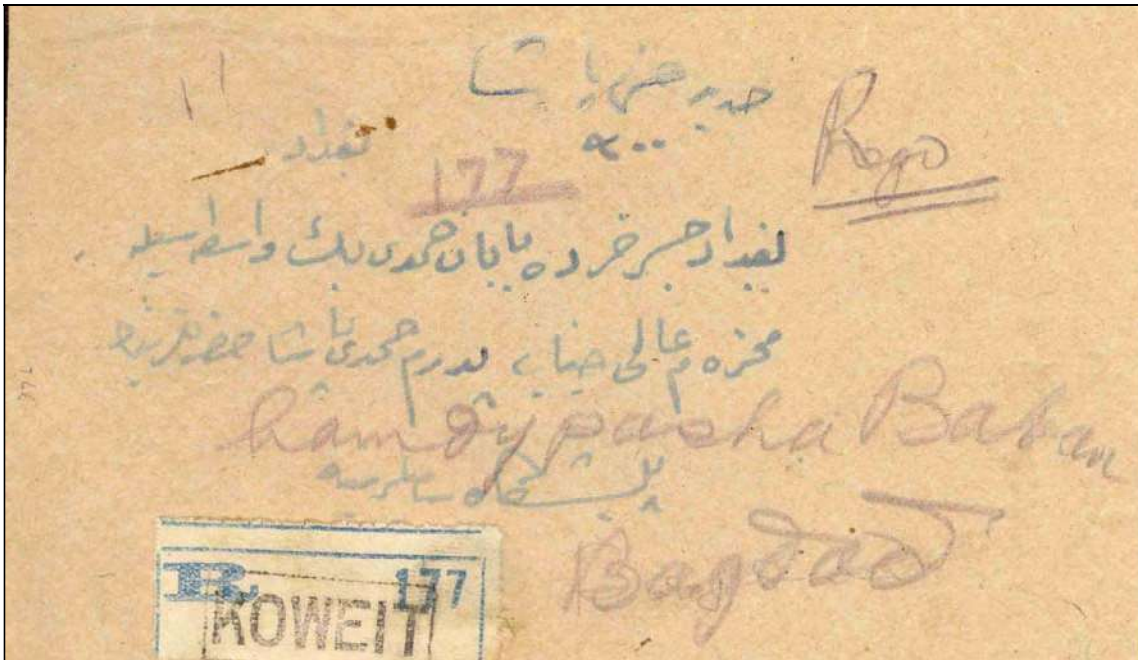
30 June 1916: A cover sent from Kuwait to Muscat illustrating the “KOWEIT” registration handstamp endorsed in red with NO 080.



Early use of Indian Stamps overprinted Kuwait



2 April 1923: A registered cover sent from Kuwait to Baghdad, Iraq showing early use of Indian stamps overprinted Kuwait. The overprinted stamps were introduced on the 1 April 1923 making this 2nd day use. *(See the front of the cover on next page)*



2 April 1923: The front of the cover is also interesting as it shows the use of the “KOWEIT” registration handstamp rather than a handstamp with the new spelling indicating that the new handstamps most probably had not arrived in time for the introduction of the overprinted stamps.

Kuwait's early Meter Marks – by Joel Hawkins

President, Meter Stamp Society (www.worldmeterstamps.com)

1953, Neopost (Limited Value-6)



The value is an upright rectangle with simulated perforation outer border and straight line inner border. "KUWAIT" at top, "POSTAGE PAID" in ribbon, value figure at bottom center with denomination at sides. Meter "N .1" in bottom of TM. TM: BIC.

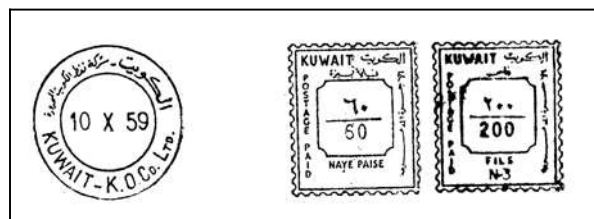
- A. Denominated in ANNAS ("A") – Values seen: 6 and 10
- B. Denominated in RUPEES ("RS") – Values seen: 1, 2 and 10
- C. Denominated in NAIE PAISE (NP). – Values seen: 5, 10, 25, 40, 50, 75, 80 and 100



10 July 1955: An example of the 1 Rupee value – old currency

19 July 1958: An example of the 5NP, 10NP and 25 NP values – new currency

Universal "Simplex" (Limited-Value-23)



"KUWAIT" small at top left. Value figures inside inner box with indented corners. Value figures Arabic over western numerals with line between. TM: DC.

A. Without M#. Denominated in NAYE PAISE – Values seen: 25, 60 and 75 Naye Paise

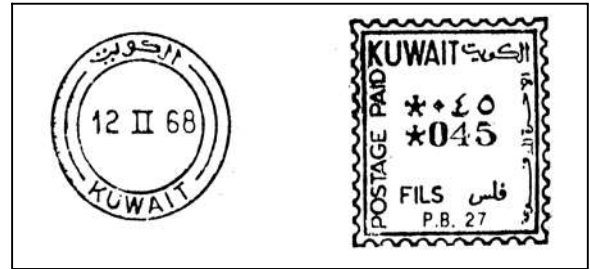
B. Without M#. Denominated in RUPEES – Values seen: 1 and 2 Rupees

C. M# with "N" prefix at bottom and denominated in FILS – M#s N2 and N3 seen – Values seen: 10, 30, 60, 200 and 500 Fils



14 November 1959: An example of the 60NP value.

Universal "Multi-Value" (MV).



Large frank with simulated perforation outer border and straight line inner border and large box containing the value figures. Value figures Arabic over western numerals without line between. M# with "U." prefix.

A. Denominated in NAYE PAISE \$100

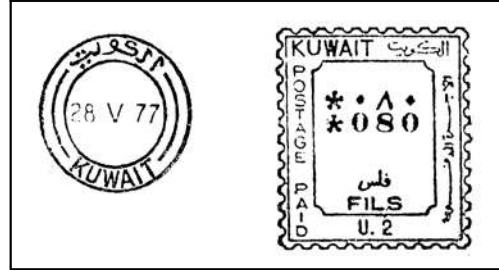
B. Denominated in FILS \$50

V/F: *000



20 February 1962: A cover sent from Kuwait to Amsterdam, Holland showing a 90 Fils franking of the Universal Multi-Value

Pitney Bowes-GB "Automax" (MV)

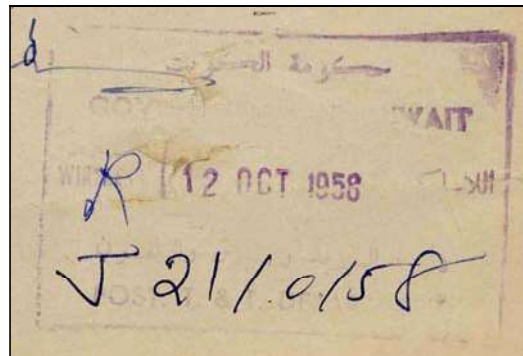


An upright rectangle, 26 x 28 mm, with simulated perforation outer border and straight line inner border. "KUWAIT" at top left, "POSTAGE PAID" vertical reading up. Bilingual value figures denominated in "FILS". Meter number with "P.B." prefix at bottom. TM: DC V/F: *000

Did Kuwait Post Office Utilize Experimental Cancellers When Established in 1958?

By Khaled Abdul-Mughni

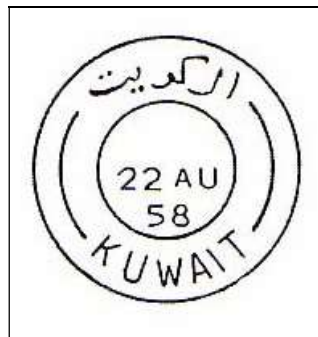
The following article written by Khaled Abdul-Mughni is a continuation of an article that was published in Edition 24. It represents an alternative view of what was going on at the time and has already been published in Al Bosta - Kuwait Philatelic-Numismatic Society's magazine - one year ago.



In their book, at the beginning of the third chapter, under the item "**Kuwait Local Mail Cancellations**" Salam & Saleem Al Shakkar mention: An Experimental Rubber Hand Stamp (1958-1959) – page 62 – on a letter coming from U.K. which was struck with a rubber stamp as illustrated above. They pointed out "Indicates that Kuwait local control of postal services could have started as early as 1 January 1958" page 61.

This canceller, along with another similar one (in the same form but with the word “Post” added inside), is referred to as an “Experimental Rubber Cancellor”. This interpretation is obviously respected but I believe that there is another explanation. As is well known, preparation for Kuwait to take over its postal works had commenced by the end of 1956 following an agreement between Finance Department of Kuwait and the British Post Office. The Government of Kuwait had to delegate two of its citizens who were given the responsibility of finalizing the transfer of duties – after one year the local postal service and then the international postal service after two years. These preparations verify that postal duties had not suddenly been taken over by the Kuwaiti authorities and therefore the transition should not have necessitated the use of “Experimental” cancellers. The transition had been well prepared in the form of administration, training and even the construction of a special building for the new postal administration – the new Safat Post Office.

All sources indicate that the transfer of local postal services from the British Administration to the Local Administration took place on February 1st 1958 in conjunction with the opening of the Safat Post Office. The first canceller to be used at the Safat Post Office was Donaldson Type 38 which was used to cancel ordinary local mail.



Type 38



Type 39

Donaldson Type 39 was introduced at the same time and used for canceling registered mail. Simultaneously with the introduction of the local postal service three new stamps were issued – the so-called local issue – comprising of three values: 5, 10 and 40 Naye Paise all depicting Sheikh Abdullah. The 5 and 10 Naye Paise stamps covered local mail and the 40 Naye Paise stamp covered local registered mail.

With regards to the so-called Experimental Rubber Cancellers (1958-1959) they were in my opinion never used as postal cancellers. Instead they were related to the Cable and Wireless Department. The article published in Edition 24 relied on five correspondences - all of which represent incoming mail. All five were sent from England and all were addressed to Hamza Ismail, one of the pioneer workers in the Cable & Wireless Telegrams Division known as the Telegram & Telephone Department. This department was established following the Government of Kuwait taking over from the Cable & Wireless on the first of February 1956.

These Rubber Cancellers, or rather Rubber Date Stamps, belong to the Cable & Wireless Department and were utilized to datestamp inward telegrams as well as date stamping correspondences sent to the department and its workforce.

Accordingly, the first Rubber Date Stamp identified in the Al-Shaker book (KLC 01) is a date stamp used by the Telegram and Telephone Department prior to its merger with the Post Department in February 1958. The seal was not used to backstamp incoming correspondence from the British Administration as claimed in Edition 24 but rather to date stamp incoming telegrams as mentioned above and illustrated on the next page in the form of a telegram June 26th 1957 – the date stamps is found in the telegrams upper corner.

حكومة الكويت - دائرة البرق والتلفون
برقية واردة

ختم المكتب

حكومة الكويت
GOVERNMENT OF KUWAIT
28 JUN 1957
دائرة البرق والتلفون
TELEGRAPH & TELEPHONE DEPT.

CLERK عبدالله	TIME ٧:١٥	No 9764				
PREFIX ٦٦٦	OFFICE OF ORIGIN البرق	WORDS ٦/٥	DATE ٢٧	TIME ١٨:٤٥	REMARKS	
To	المصيري كويت		مستجمل		له	

٢٦/٥

شكر

The second Rubber Date Stamp identified in the Al-Shaker book (KLC 02) was utilized after the merger of Post Department with the Telegram & Telephone Department and following the transfer of the local postal service. The word “Post” has been added to the rubber date stamp verifying the merger and appears as “Post, Telegram & Telephone Department – the Wireless”. This is illustrated on the following page by a telegram received on the March 21st 1959 – the date stamps is again found in the upper corner.

حكومة الكويت - دائرة البريد والبرق والتلفون
قسم البرق
برقية وارده

ختم المكتب
KUWAIT
21 MAR 1959
الدائرة العامة
دائرة البريد والبرق والتلفون
POST, TELEGRAM & TELEPHONE DEPARTMENT

CLERK للموظف	TIME الوقت	No. الرقم				
	١٥	10295				
PREFIX الامارة	OFFICE OF ORIGIN مكتب التصدير	WORDS الكلمات	DATE التاريخ	TIME الوقت	REMARKS ملاحظات	
ASU 1076	بيروت 1684	٧	٢١	١٢٢٥		
To	الى					

متجمل المبدئي كويتي

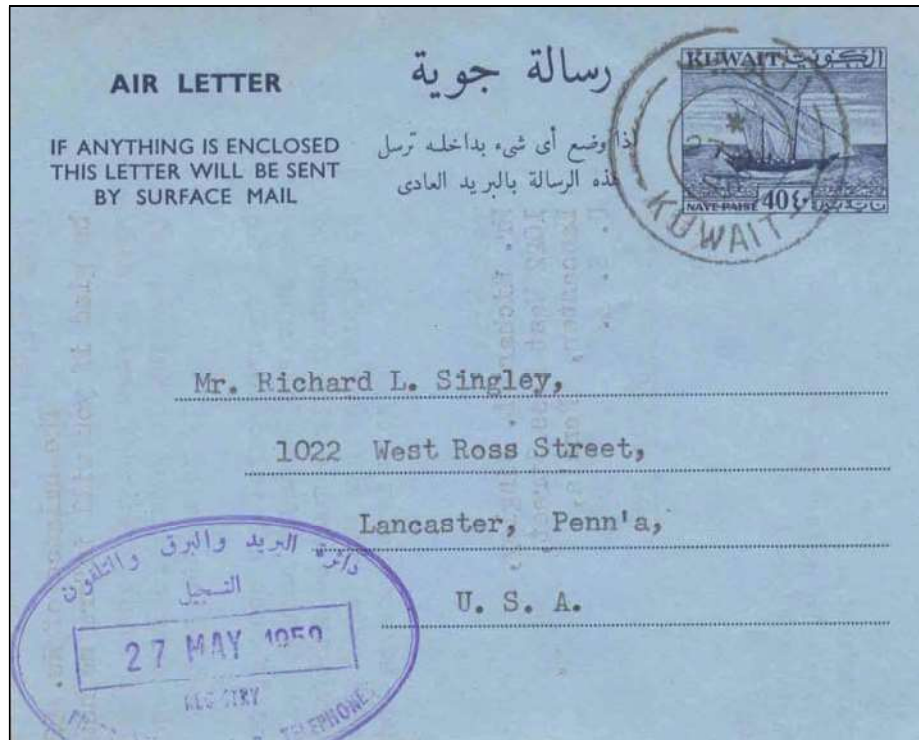
٢٥٠ الف اير لبيان

حكر

٢٥٠

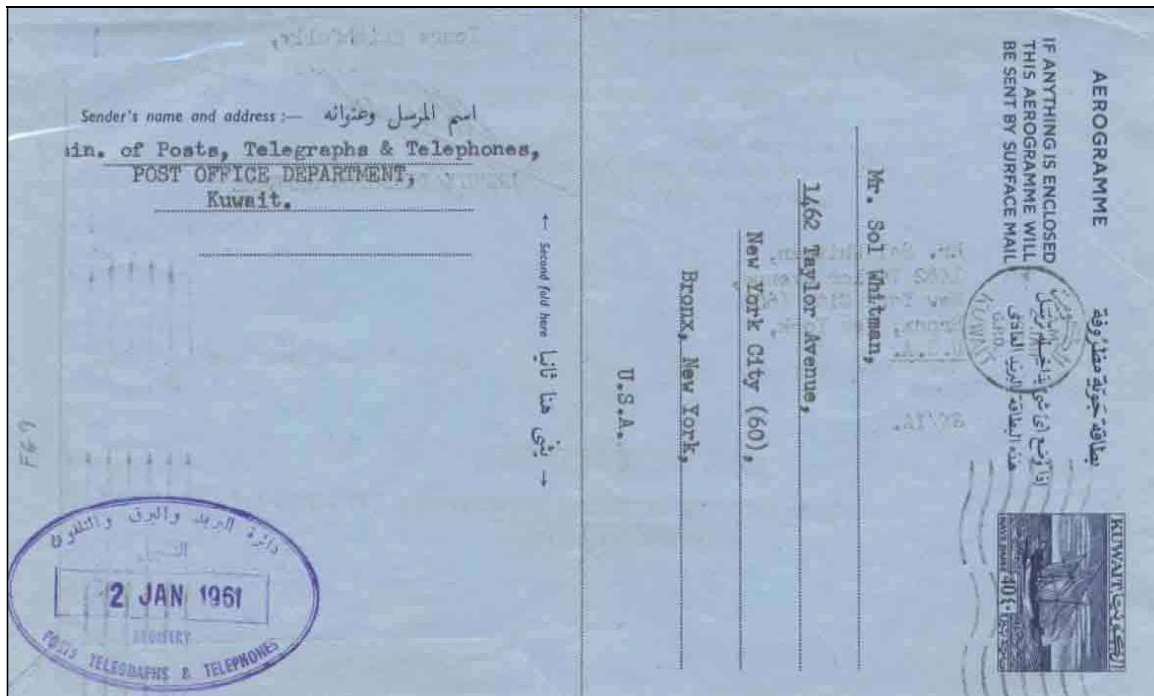
If this datestamp indeed was “Experimental” for the transitional stage of the local postal service then why would such an experimental canceller include the word “Wireless” if it was to be applied on mail? Furthermore, we have only seen the datestamp used on correspondence to one of its workers with the latest date being November 1958. Why would the local postal service be considered experimental in 1958 considering that a total of six new post offices were inaugurated that year – this being apart from the Safat Post Office – i.e. the post offices of Sharq, Mirgab, Salmiya, Hawalli, Fahaheel and Airport

which all had their own cancellers? At which post office was the “Experimental” canceller used?



It is to be noted that all the covers illustrated in Edition 24 were backstamped with type 38 – i.e. at the Safat Post Office which belonged to Kuwait Post Department. However, it was erroneously interpreted as a British canceller and utilized to backstamp mail received from the British Administration.

The third Rubber Date Stamp identified in the Al-Shaker book (KLC 03) is claimed to have been used to cancel registered mails during the transitional period of the local postal service. The datestamp was not used for stamping the registered mail but did belong to the Post, Telephone & Telegraph Department. It was used to datestamp the local mail from various departments of the State and was also used to stamp similar international correspondence – again for the internal mail registries. Many departments, such as departments of Education and Health, had their “Registry” datestamps which they used to record outward and inward correspondence.



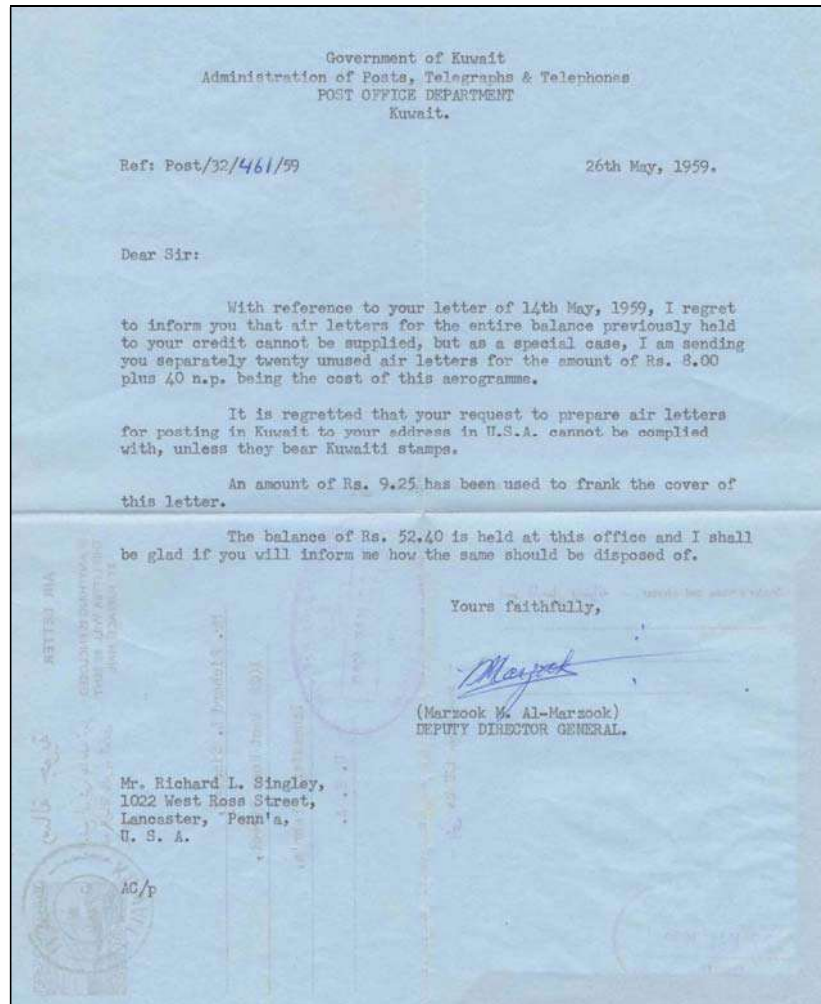
The work “registry” contained in the middle of the datestamp does not mean that the letter had been sent via registered mail but rather that the correspondence had been entered in to registry for outward correspondence.

Evidence of that:

1. Aerogramme of such correspondence does neither bear registration label, serial number, nor the letter R.
2. No indication that it is a registered mail through the postal rate applied to the aerogram.
3. All of the covers and aerogrammes that were stamped with this hand stamp are sent by the Post, Telegraph and Telephone Department. No other “senders” have been found which indicates that the handstamp was used as “sender” identification.

The reason for the application of the datestamp on covers and aerogrammes between 1958 and 1962 was that after the Government had taken over the local and foreign postal service it issued a definitive set of stamps along with airmail letters, aerogrammes and registered letters. These new issues resulted in a large demand from philatelists all over the world requesting various aspects of philatelic material from the postal authorities. As the post department at that time was newly established it did not have a philatelic section – just as had been the case during the British Administration – and the Philatelic Section was not opened until the beginning of 1963.

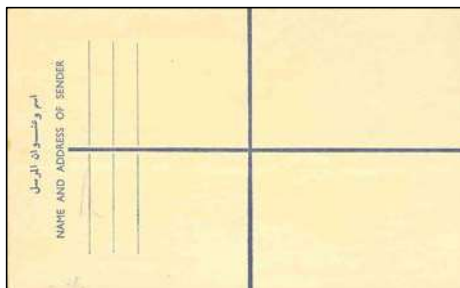
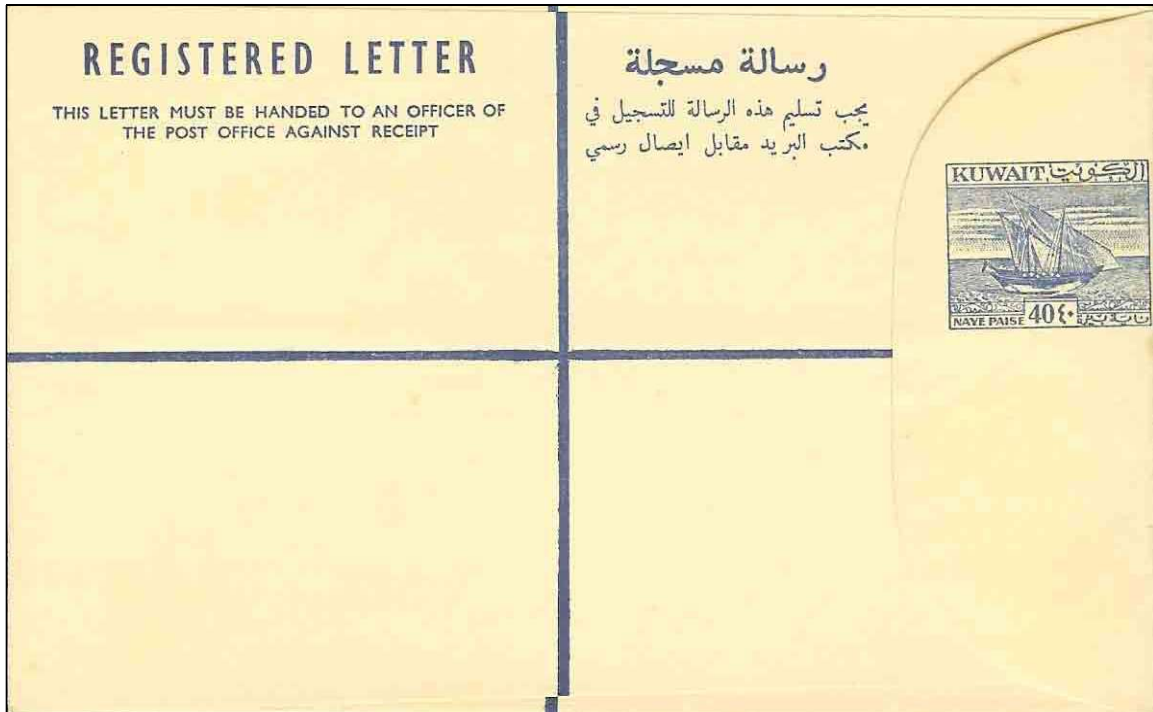
Philatelic correspondence used to be made directly with the office in-charge, who in their role, used to respond to the applicants. This is represented in this air letter which bears the oval seal of the postal department after it had been entered in the outward mail registry. The response of the post master in the text of his letter to the philatelist in providing his requirements from the stamps, explains the situation.



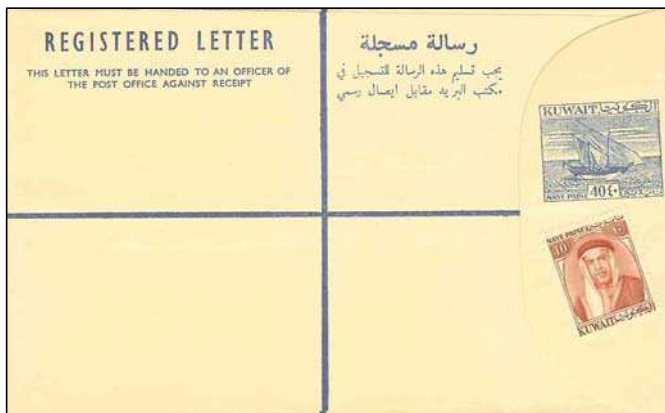
Therefore, we notice that covers and aerogramme bearing the oval shaped datestamp utilized during the period of Feb. 1958 to late 1959 bear the datestamp of the Safat Post Office. From the end of 1959 to 1962 such covers and aerogramme bear the datestamp of General Post Office following its opening and shifting the postal administration and its officials to its local from the Safat Post Office.

I am very thankful and appreciate Mr. Abdul Rahman Quraishi, who was the pioneer worker of the post office through the Indian, Pakistani, British and Independent postal periods of Kuwait. He was Post Master at the Safat Post Office and was then appointed Chief of the Foreign Postal Services during the transitional period. During one of his visits to Kuwait he expressed to me the non-definitude of the information pertained to the availability of "experimental" datestamps used during the transitional period.

The 40 Naye Paise Registered Letters



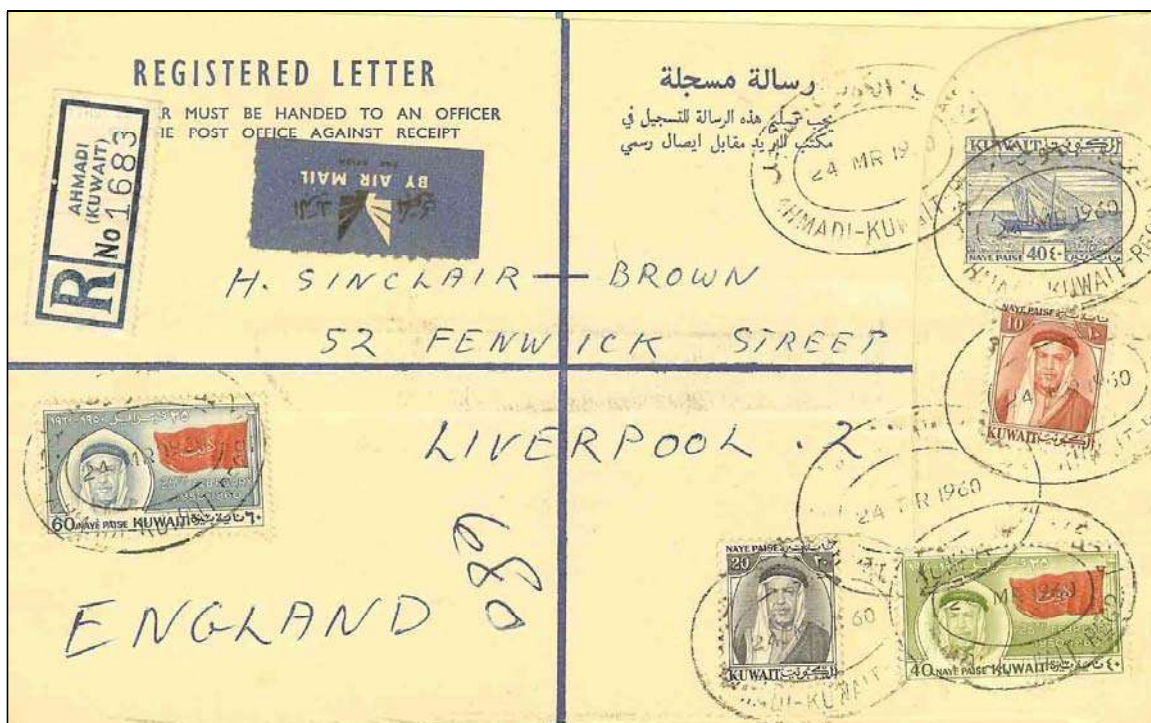
Around 1959/60 the 40 Naye Paise registered letter was introduced. It is found in three different sizes:



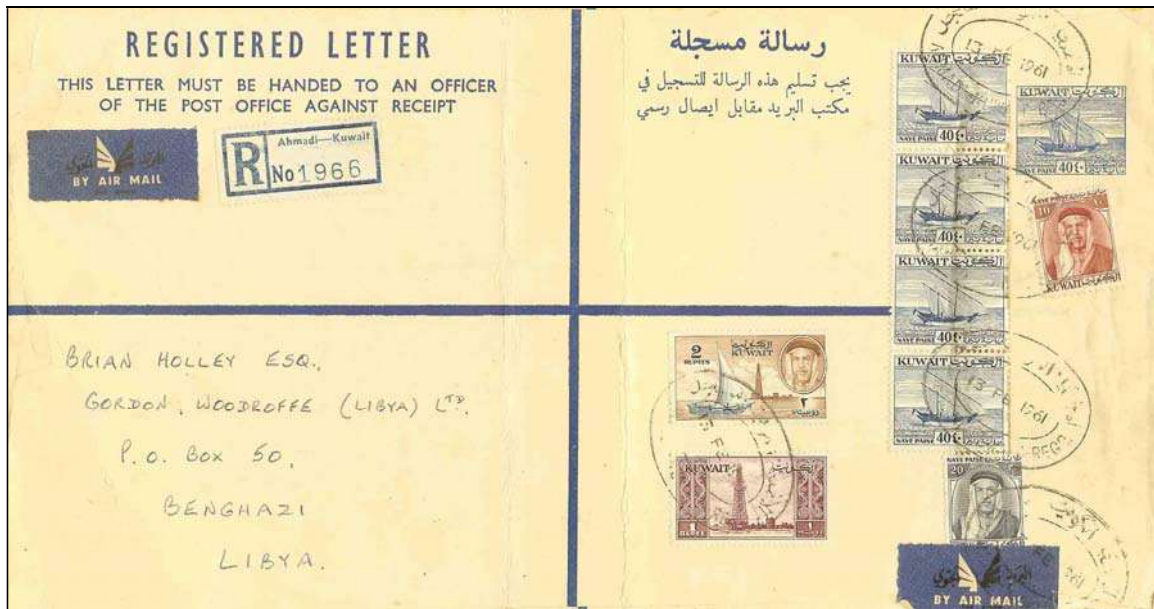
The release of the registered letter came simultaneously with an increase in the postage rate from 40 Naye Paise to 50 Naye Paise so the registered letters had a 10 Naye Paise 1959 definitive value added to it by the Post Office.



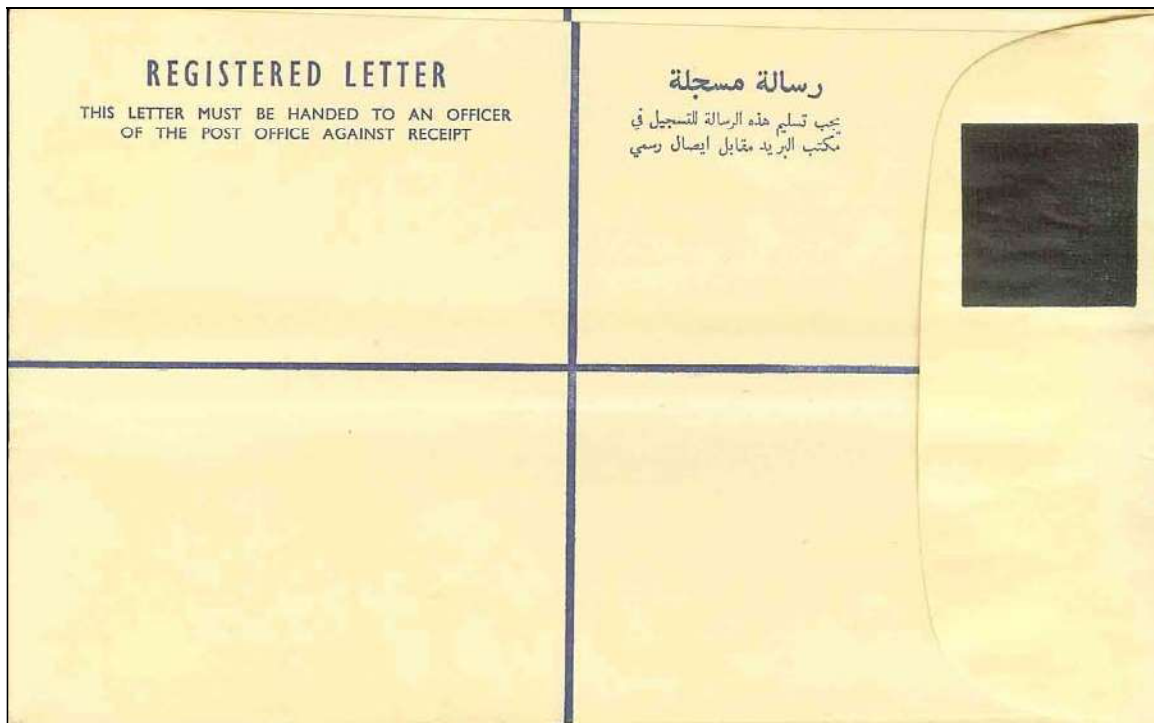
9 February 1961: The small size registered letter sent from Kuwait to London, England – incidentally by Neil Donaldson, and uprated with an additional 1 Rupee and 20 Naye Paise.



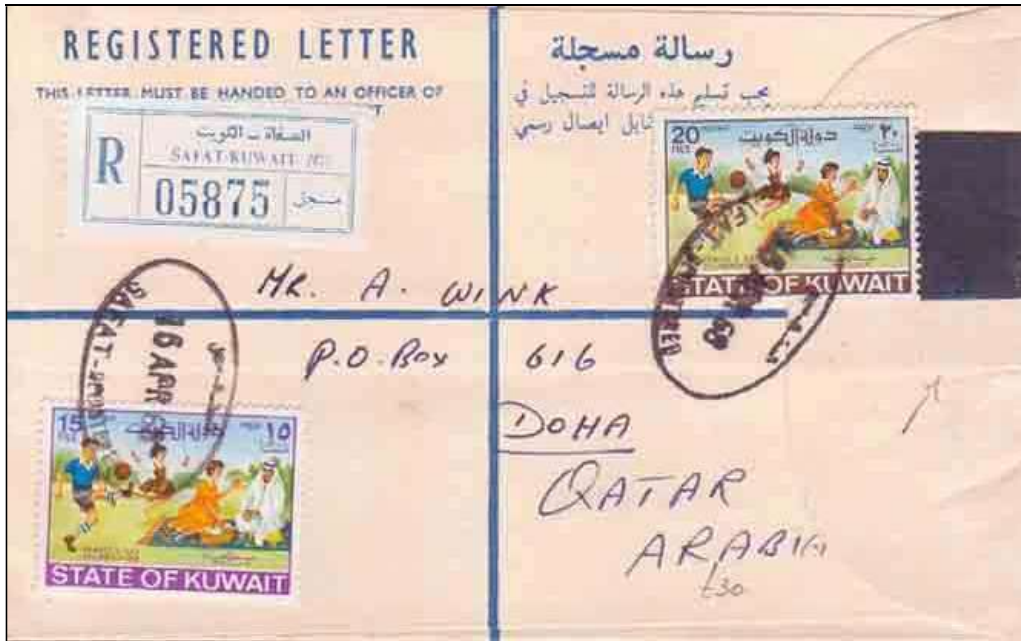
24 March 1960: The medium size registered letter sent from Kuwait to Liverpool, England and uprated with an additional 60 Naye Paise.



13 February 1961: The large registered letter sent from Kuwait to Benghazi, Libya – incidentally by Neil Donaldson. Brian Holley was ex-British Bank of the Middle East in Kuwait and moved on to Libya.



With the introduction of the new currency, Dinar and Fils, in Kuwait all remaining registered letter had the Naye Paise value blacked out and postal use of the stationeries subsequently required postage by stamps.



The stationeries remained in use well into the 1960s illustrated here by two postally used items – both sent to Doha, Qatar.

16 April 1968: Above
6 July 1968: Below



Postal Traditions: Those Mystifying Blue Crosses ...!¹

Dr. Mashael A. Alhajeri
redab70@hotmail.com

(C) Mashael A. Alhajeri, 2006

¹ An abridged Arabic version of this article was run in: *Alboust* [journal of the Kuwaiti Philatelic and Numismatic Society], no. 1, May 2006.

I have always been intrigued by the blue crosses that are often drawn on registered mail from Kuwait during the Indian and the British postal administration periods (and, for all that matters, from most commonwealth countries, including the Gulf States).

A registered cover from the said eras would usually be marked with a blue cross drawn on the front side to side and top to bottom, thus segmenting the cover into four equal sections.

I have investigated the matter. My findings are that such crosses, drawn by hand with a blue crayon or blue pencil, were added by postal workers to registered covers. They served as a visual notification to other postal workers that the cover required special handling in the mail stream. The practice used to be common throughout the British Empire and, later, the Commonwealth.

Government offices and businesses which frequently used registered mail used envelopes that were pre-printed with blue crosses.

The practice originated from the very old (pre-stamp era) practice of tying a blue ribbon around very important documents. In Kuwait, this practice could be traced back to the onset of the country's postal service. It appears to have been originated from the Indian Post Office, and is still lived by the registered stationary covers that are currently supplied by the Kuwait Post Office; they remain to bear this blue cross.

Two examples are attached.



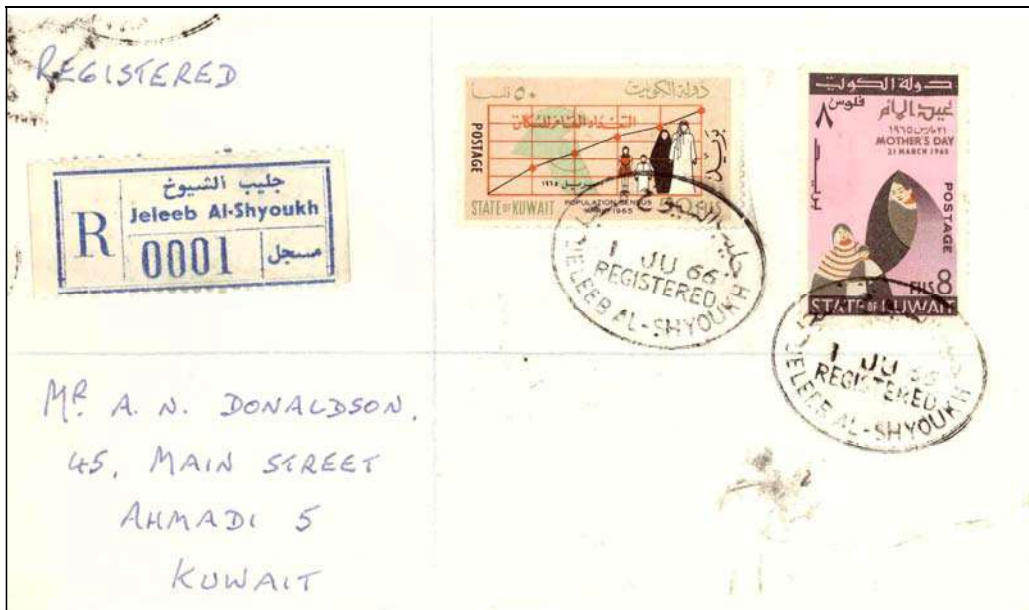
Figure (A)

An airmail cover sent from Kuwait to England franked with a pair of QEII overprinted 40NP, tied by an exceptionally crisp “REGISTERED/KUWAIT/27 OC 58” oval datestamp and with a “KUWAIT 6” registration label and backstamped with three fine strikes of the registration canceller. The cover shows a cross drawn with a blue crayon on recto and verso.



Figure (B)

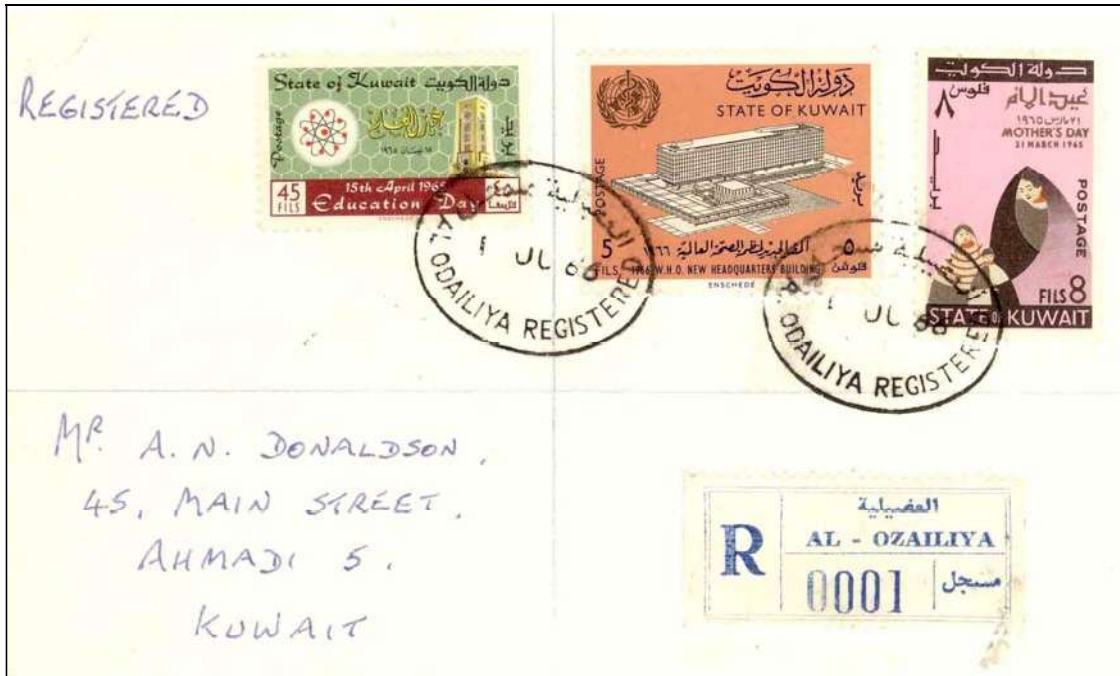
A postally used example of Kuwait's modern postal stationery, with a black cross on both recto and verso (23cm x 16cm).



CERTIFICATE OF POSTING		شهادة ايداع	
The undermentioned Postal item has been registered and posted here this day.			
Regn. No :	رقم التسجيل :	Postage incl.	الاجور بما فيها
0001		58	
To : Mr. A. N. Donaldson		ختم التاريخ	
45 Main St Ahmadi 5		5	
SIGNATURE OF		Date Stamp	
Accepting officer :			

1 July 1966: The opening of the Jeleeb Al-Shyoukh Post Office and the first registered cover to leave it.

24 October 1966 (Above): The opening of the Salmiya Central Post Office. Again the first registered cover to leave the Post Office and as with all three covers clever creations of Neil Donaldson.



1/207/ب

CERTIFICATE OF POSTING		شهادة ايداع	
ان رزمة البريد المذكورة ادناه قد سجلت في هذا المكتب اليوم			
The undermentioned Postal Packet has been registered and posted here this day.			
Regn. No :	رقم التسجيل :	Fils / فلس	
0001		Postage incl.	الاجور بدا فيها
		Regn. fee 58	رسم التسجيل :
To : Mr. A. N. Donaldson		ختم الترخيص	
45 Main St Ahmazi		1 JUL 66	
Kuwait		ODAILIYA REGISTERED	
SIGNATURE OF		توقيع	
Accepting officer :		الوظف المستلم	
		Date Stamp	

1 July 1966: The opening of the Al Odailiya Post Office and the first registered cover to leave it. Already at this early stage there were spelling discrepancies between the cancellation and the registration label.



1983 – World Heritage issue with a double impression.

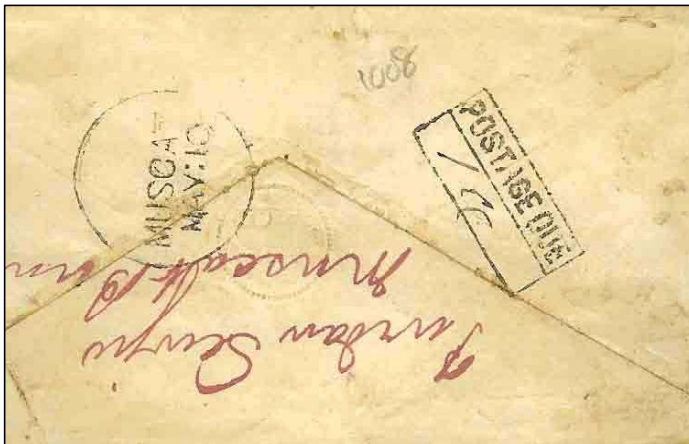
This stamp was recently offered at auction and remained unsold. Can anyone give more information about this?

Muscat & Oman

The K-4 Duplex datestamp used on its own



November 10: A cover sent from Muscat – presumably to India – showing the use of the K-4 Duplex. The interesting aspect of this cover is the use of the datestamp segment of the duplex on the back of the cover.



It is the only example that I have seen of the duplex being split up and the datestamp used on its own. I am presuming that this has happened as the letter was due and was passed to the Postmaster before dispatch, which, if correct, could indicate that the Postage Due handstamp was applied in Muscat.



A copy of the Great Britain 1885 Consular Service 2s 6d black and orange (Barefoot 8) used in Muscat and struck by part of the “BRITISH CONSULATE - MUSCAT” handstamp.



10 June 1899: A cover sent from the Political Agency in Muscat to J. Scott Keltie, Editor of the Statesman's' Yearbook in London, UK. The ½ Anna overprinted OHMS stationary has been uprated by two 1 Anna OHMS overprints making up the correct Sea Mail rate of 2 ½ Annas from Muscat to London.

The recipient, Sir John Scott Keltie (1840-1927) was a Scottish geographer. He was inspector of geographical education for the Royal Geographic Society, librarian, and secretary of the society. In 1880 he became editor of *The Statesman's Yearbook*, and in 1925 joint editor of the *Geographical Journal*. His works include *A History of the Scottish Highlands and Clans* (1874), *Report on Geographic Education* (1886), *The Partition of Africa* (1894), *Applied Geography* (new ed. 1908), and *History of Geography* (with O. J. R. Howarth, 1914).



14 October 1898: A 1-Anna QV stationary sent from Muscat to Karachi. The stationary has been uprated to registered status and applied a Donaldson Type 16 registration handstamp – registered stationary is rare.

In Edition 24 I listed a total of 42 different varieties of the Oman's second registration strike – the oval canceller. Since then I have come across three illustrated below.



KHABOORA



ROSTAQ



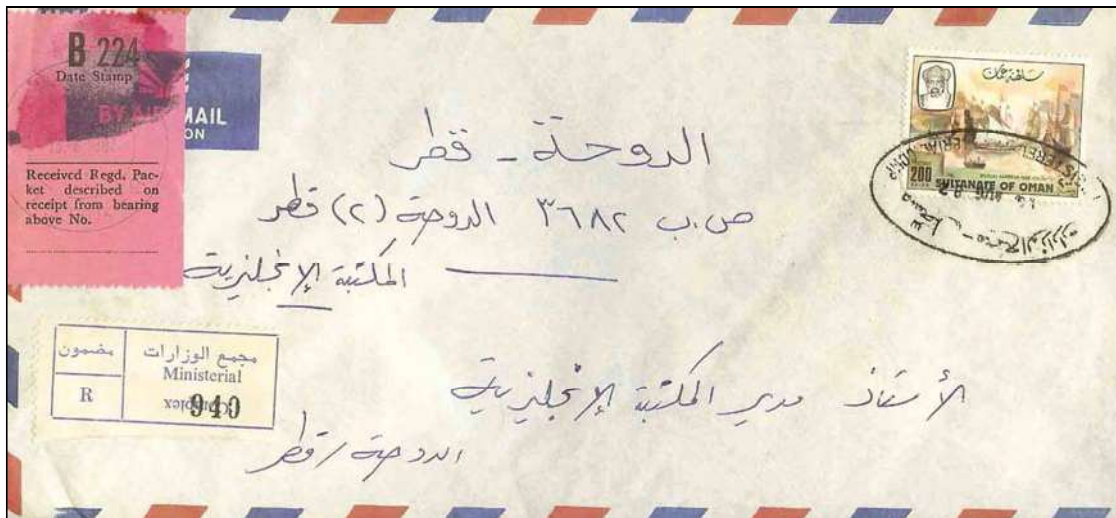
MINISTERIAL COMP

Khaboora (Dhahirah Region) – recorded as above 05-07-1983

Rostaq (Dhahirah Region) – recorded as above 09-08-1982

Ministerial Complex (Muscat Governorate) – recorded as above 10-08-1982





10 August 1982: Just one comment on this cover – it has a Ministerial Complex registration label on it – but the “Complex” is inverted? Has anyone seen similar other examples of this registration label?

Various Commemorative Handstamps of the 1980s

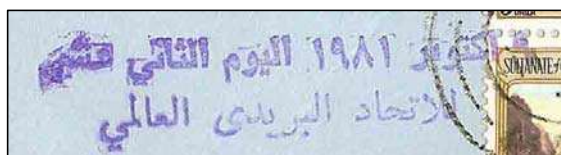
In this Muscat & Oman summary book Terry Jones lists a number of commemorative handstamps which came in to use in the 1980s. As mentioned in Edition 24 I recently came across a large number of covers from a personal correspondence belonging to a James “Digger” Jones. Since Digger Jones himself was a philatelist I thought that it would be interesting just to write a short biography about him, so I asked the person who supplied me with the covers to tell me a bit about Digger Jones for the Quarterly”

“James Richard (Digger) Jones was born April 23, 1918 in Orange, New Jersey. He received a degree in geology from Princeton and a master's degree from Syracuse. He volunteered for the Corps of Engineers May 1942, was a Pearl Harbor survivor, and served in eight campaigns in the Pacific and European theaters. He worked for the Water Resources Division of the US Geological Survey in the upper Midwest, Idaho, Libya, Ethiopia, Bangladesh, Afghanistan, India and Yemen. Employment after retirement took him to Thailand and Oman. Because of his interest in stamps he was an active volunteer at the Postal History Foundation in Arizona. He collected stamps and covers wherever he was in the world. He would get his friends and co-workers to collect for him. He donated much of his collection to the PHF. James “Digger” Jones died on November 15, 2006 in Tucson, Arizona from pneumonia.”

Thanks to Digger Jones’ philatelic efforts the Quarterly has been able to display several post offices, postal marks and registration labels that we have not previously recorded.



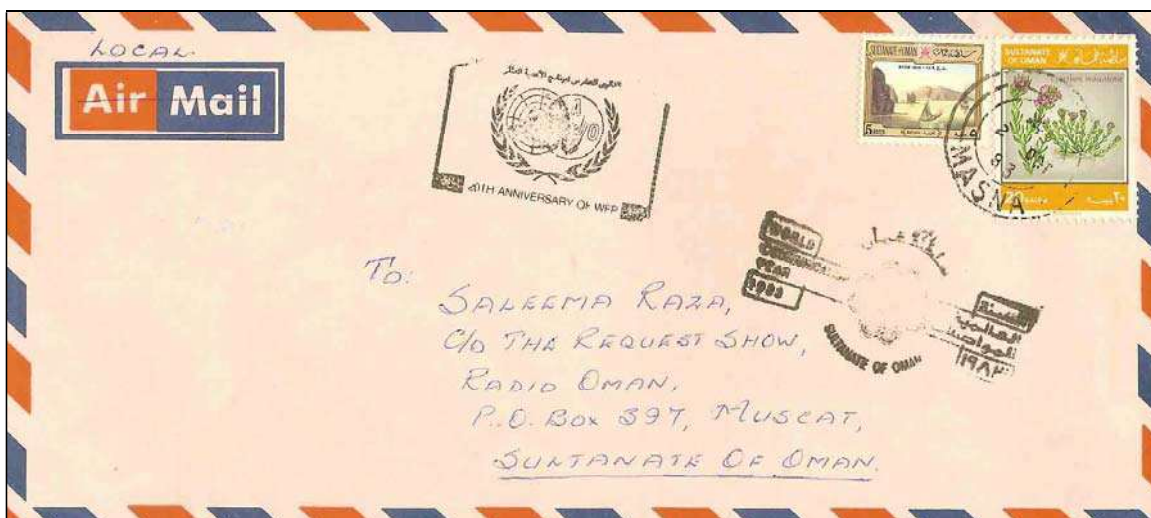
6 November 1985: A cover carrying the handstamp commemorating the **6th GCC (Gulf Corporation Council) Summit** which was held in Oman. Incidentally it was for this event that the Al Bustan Intercontinental Hotel was built and it hosted the summit.



11 October 1981: A cover carrying a handstamp commemorating the Universal Postal Union on the 9th of October.

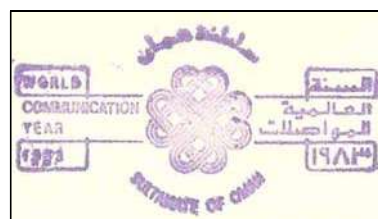
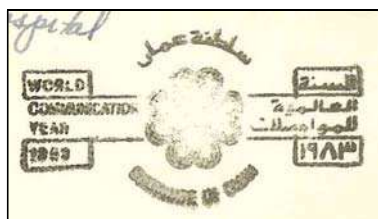
“9 October 1981 – the twelfth day / Al Ettihad Al Bareedy Al Alamy” (UPU)

The U.P.U. was created in 1874, under the name "**General Postal Union**", as a result of the Treaty of Berne and signed on the 9th October 1874. In 1878, the name was changed to "Universal Postal Union". The purpose of the treaty was to unify disparate postal services and regulations so that international mail could be exchanged freely and Berne was where the treaty was signed. It was the result of the United States calling for an international postal congress that was eventually held in 1863, and it was Heinrich von Stephan, the German Minister for Posts that founded the Universal Postal Union, which is now the second oldest international organization (after the ITU).



2 October 1983: A cover showing the handstamp commemorating the **20th anniversary of the WFP** – World Food Program – a part of FAO. The cachet measures 39 x 25 mm.

The WFP was first conceived at the 1961 Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) Conference, when George McGovern, director of the US Food for Peace Programs, proposed establishing a multilateral food aid program. WFP was formally established in 1963 by the FAO and the United Nations General Assembly on a three-year experimental basis. In 1965, the program was extended to an ongoing basis.

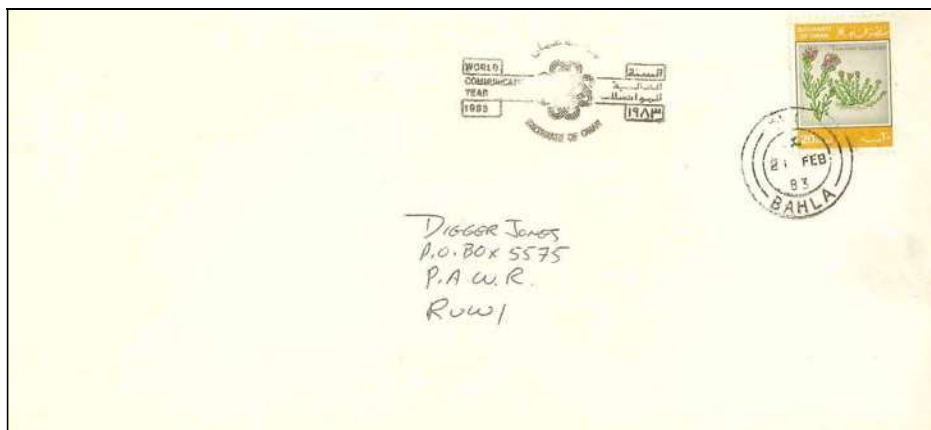


The **World Communication Year** was held by the United Nations in 1983 under the slogan “Communications are for People”. On the occasion Oman introduced the above handstamp which I have recorded in black, purple and blue. Furthermore, I have recorded the handstamp on mail origination from a number of different Post Offices in Oman:

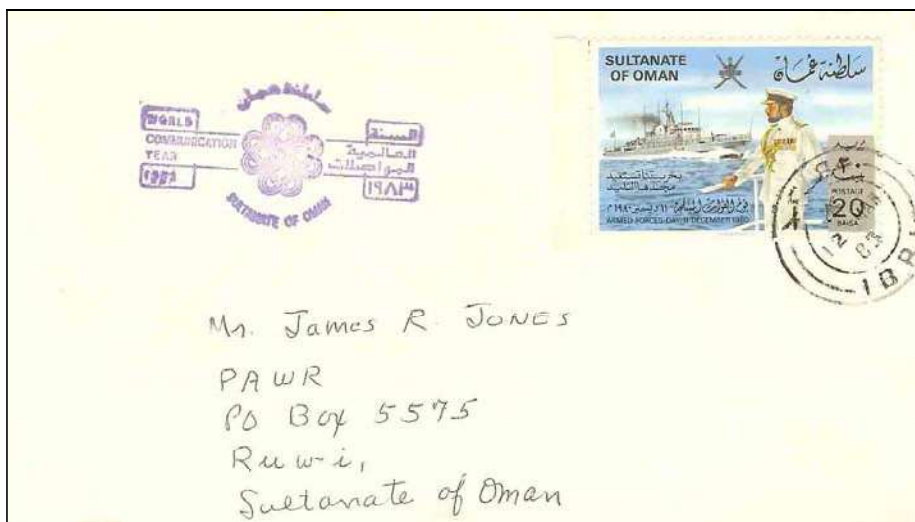
Masna: 26-02-1983 and 02-10-1983
Bahla: 21-02-1983
Ibra: 25-02-1983

Ibri: 12-03-1983
Sur: 23-02-1983
Adam : 31-03-1983

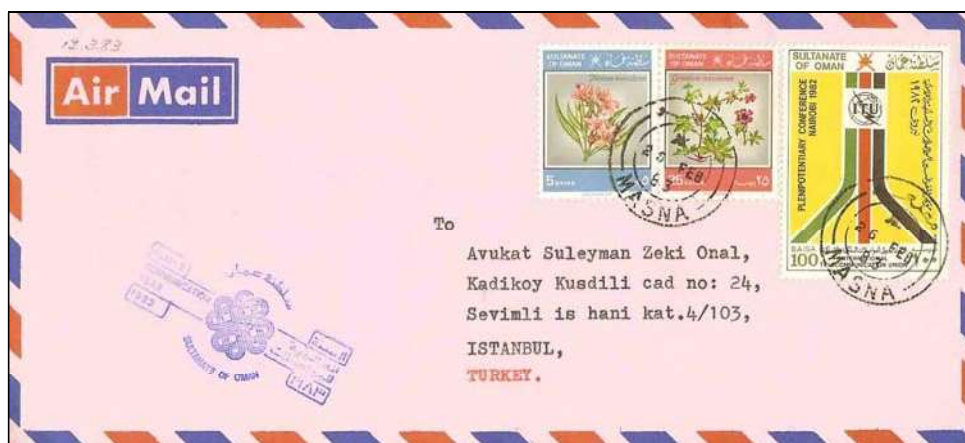
The handstamp seems to have been in use for most of 1983. I presume that all mail, local and international, went through the Muscat Post office and as such that the handstamps were applied in Muscat. Alternatively some 60-70 handstamps were distributed across the country. The cachet measures 48 x 25 mm.



21 February 1983: Local cover sent from Bahla to Ruwi – black color.



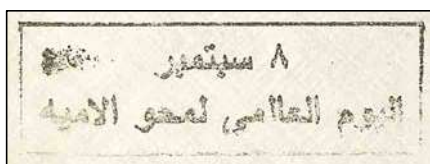
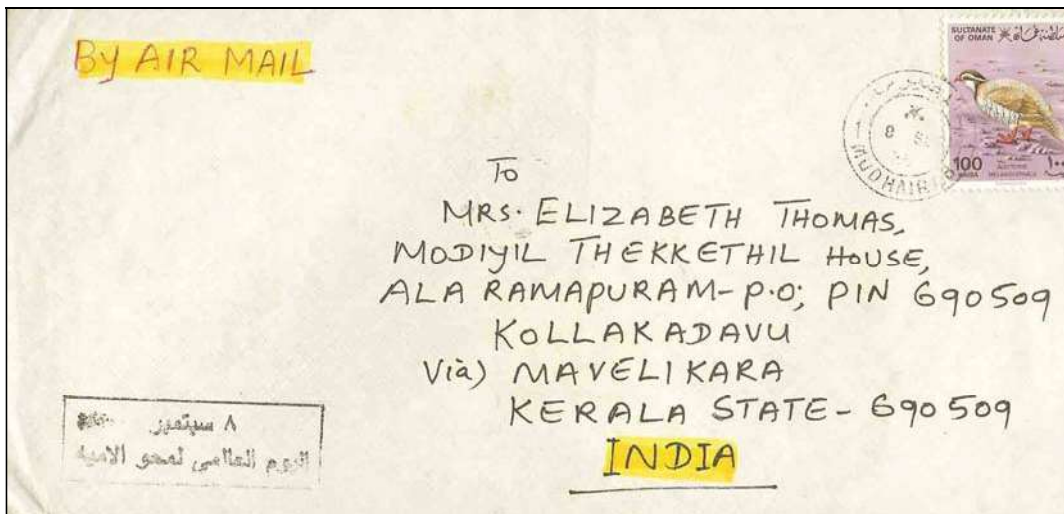
12 March 1983: Local cover sent from Ibri to Ruwi – purple color.



26 February 1983: A cover sent from Masna to Istanbul, Turkey – this handstamp appears blue when looking at the cover, maybe because of the color of the envelope.

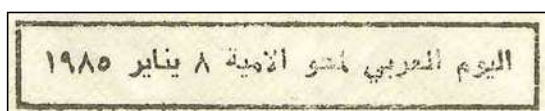
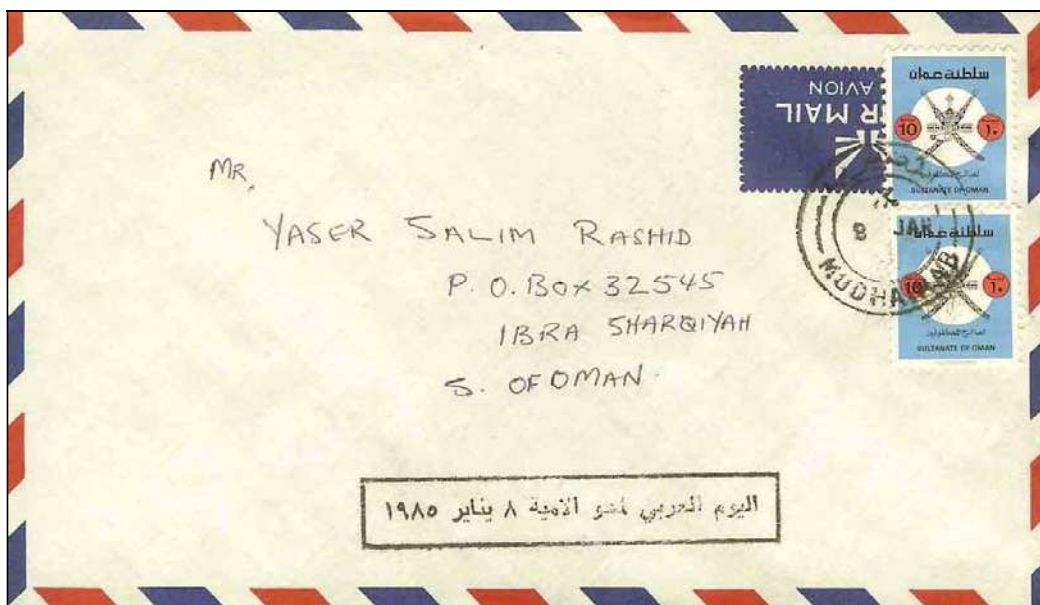


27 August 1988: A cover sent from Ruwi to the USA illustrating the use of the “**Year 1988 Preservation of the Historic City of Sana’a**” cachet. The cachet measures 50 x 28 mm.



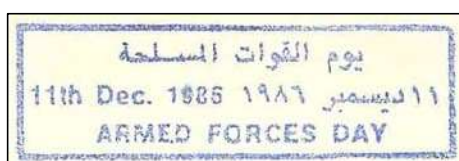
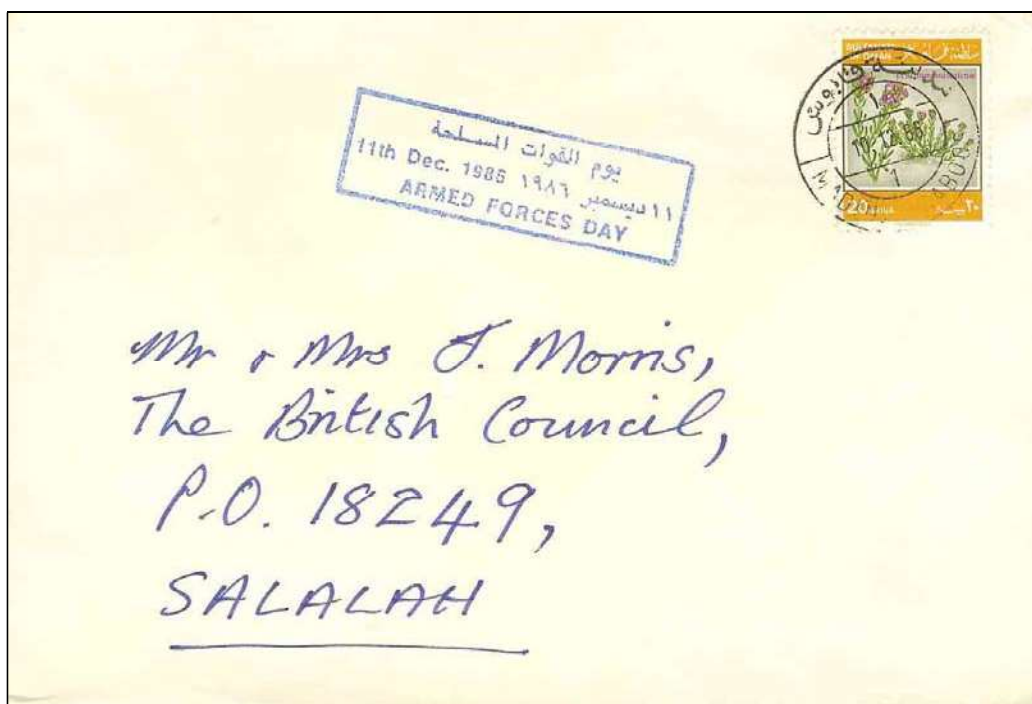
8 September 1985: A cover sent Mudhairab to India illustrating the use of the “**8 September – International Day of Eradication of Illiteracy**” cachet. The cachet measures 58 x 17 mm.

This annual celebration started following a recommendation of the World Conference of Ministers of Education on the Eradication of Illiteracy which met in Tehran in September 1965. The Conference recommended that 8 September, the date of the inauguration of the Conference, be proclaimed International Literacy Day and be observed world-wide.



cachet. The cachet measures 65 x 10 mm.

8 January 1985: A cover sent from Mudhairab to Ibra illustrating the 1985 “The Arabic Day for Eradication of Illiteracy”



10 December 1986: A cover sent from Madinat Qaboos to Salalah illustrating the “11th December 1985 – Armed Forces Day” cachet. The cachet measures 57 x 17 mm and is struck in blue.

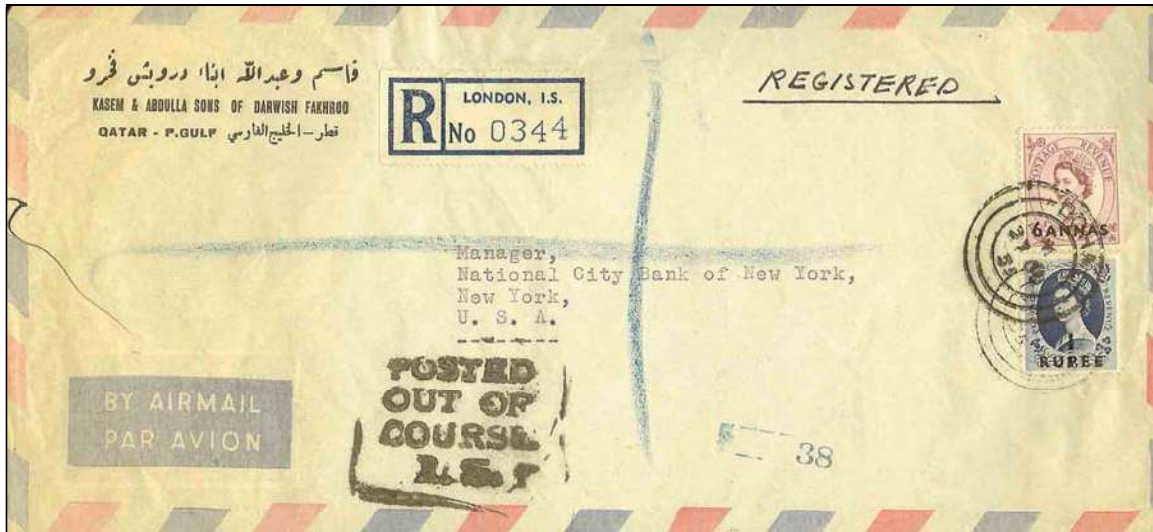
Qatar



20 December 1949: A Pre-Post Office cover sent from P.D. (Petroleum Development) Qatar Ltd. via Bahrain to California, USA. The Doha Post Office was not opened until the 16th of May 1950.



7 July 1956 and 27 August 1956: Two covers both sent from Umm Said to Karachi – one with a referral to West Pakistan – showing the use of Bahraini stamps in Qatar.



27 October 1955: A cover sent from Doha to New York, USA. I do not know where the "38" was applied but suggest New York, so in the absence of a Doha Registered cancel it was not treated as Registered mail in Doha (presumably dropped into a mail box rather than handed over a Post Office counter). On

arrival in London, the "REGISTERED" was noticed, the cover stamped with "POSTED OUT OF COURSE I.S." - "I.S." refers to the Inland Section of the G.P.O. in London - and compulsorily registered. The "I.S." – given the first letter is so blurred - could be "F.S." referring to the Foreign Section. Any other thoughts are welcomed.

Qatar – Doha Cancellor Number “4”



14 May 1968: A Bahrain parcel piece sent to Doha in Qatar. The parcel has had a cream arrival label applied and struck with Doha – Qatar (4) as arrival stamp. It is the only time that I

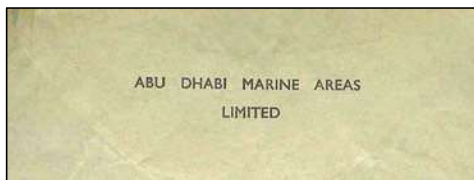
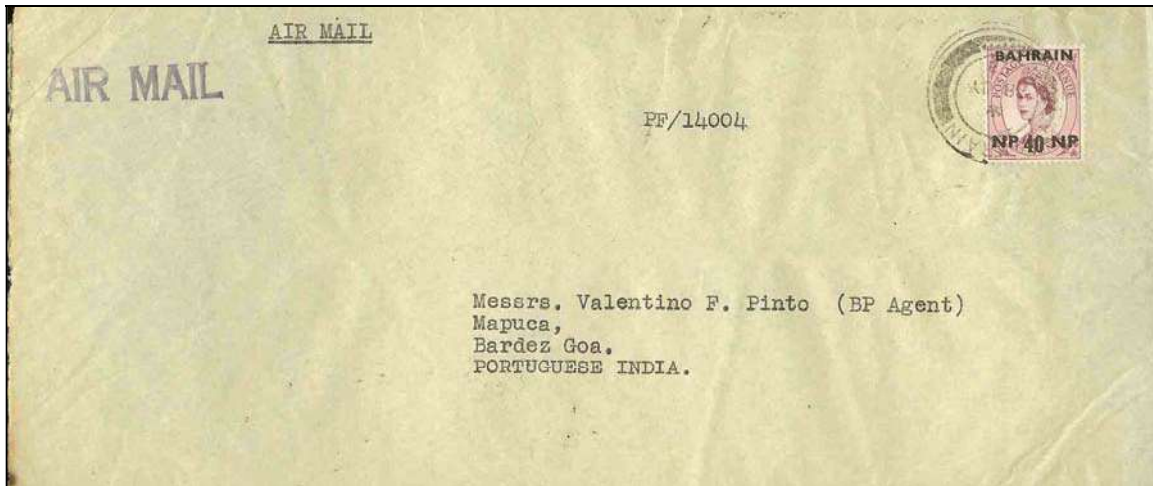
have recorded number 4 so far – has anyone got any other examples of Doha “4”?

Below is illustrated the First Day Cover for the 1966 Coin Issue – I have not previously seen the cover that was printed for the occasion.



UAE - Abu Dhabi

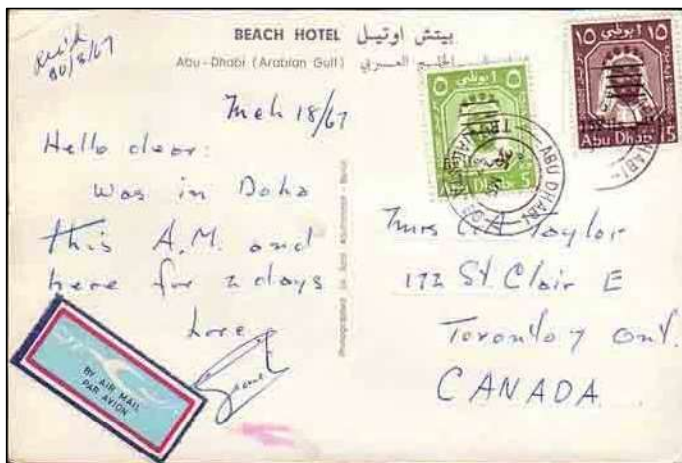
Early Mail from Das Island



28th July 1958: A cover sent from Abu Dhabi Marine Areas at Das Island to Goa in Portuguese India – the earliest copy of Das Island mail that I have recorded to date.



8 July 1971: A cover franked with the 25 Fils Nasser issue and sent from Abu Dhabi to Sharjah – an unusual intra-Trucial States cover.

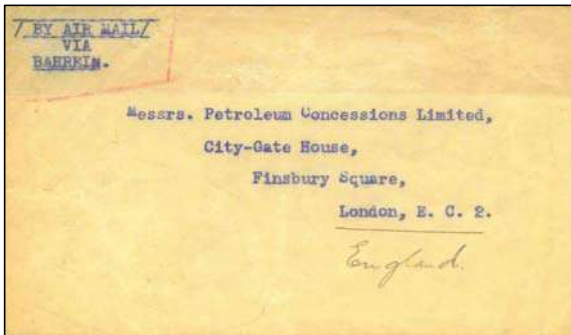


25 March 1967: A post card sent from Abu Dhabi to Canada and franked with the 5 Fils and 15 Fils definitive provisional issue.



The Beach Hotel in Abu Dhabi 1967 – Try visiting Abu Dhabi today!

UAE – Dubai



4 September 1936: A cover sent from Dubai to London, UK – the cover has been endorsed with a “BY AIR MAIL VIA BAHRAIN”. The going rate at the time for Air Mail from India to the UK was 7 ½ Annas and this cover is franked with 8 Annas. Is the additional ½ Anna a charge from Dubai to Bahrain or is it to cover the Air Mail Late Fee of ½ Anna?

Dubai and its' 5 Rupees covers



In Donaldson's 1975 book he mentions that there are no recorded covers franked with the 5 Rupee KGVI value. Since then we have fortunately expanded our knowledge of Dubai and illustrated on the following pages are the three covers currently known to exist.



12 July 1946: A cover sent from Sharjah via Dubai to the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company in Abadan, Iran care of Rafidain Oil Company Ltd in Muftieh, Basrah, Iraq. The sender of the cover is the A.I.O.C. Ltd Agents – Sharjah. The cover has been franked with a total of 9 Rupees 14 ½ Annas (9-14-6) which represents the registered Air Mail rate for 4 ½ ounces to Iraq – (Air 16 As * ½ ounce * 9 = 9 Rupees) + (Ordinary 3 ½ for the first ounce + 2 As per additional ounce * 4 more ounces = 11 ½ As) + (Registration 3 As).

One of the two 2-Rupee stamps has the top Pearl Flaw.



15 August 1976: A similar cover in every way sent from the same origin to the same recipient and franked with the same rate.



19 September 1946: A cover sent from Dubai again to the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company in Abadan – C/O Rafidain Oil Company in Muftieh by Basrah, Iraq. The cover has been franked with a total of 5 Rupees 10 ½ Annas (9-14-6) which represents the registered Air Mail rate for 2 ½ ounces to Iraq – (Air 16 As * ½ ounce * 5 = 5 Rupees) + (Ordinary 3 ½ for the first ounce + 2 As per additional ounce * 2 more ounces = 7 ½ As) + (Registration 3 As)

Dubai Independent Period Cancellers

By Khalid Omaira



Type 29 – Dubai 1 – Small Single Circle

Earliest Recorded Use: 01-05-1967

Latest Recorded Use: 27-07-1968

Type 29 was introduced in late 1965. The canceller has “**DUBAI 1**” inscribed in Arabic and English and it is known used on both registered and normal mail.



Type 30 – Dubai 2 – Small Single Circle

Earliest Recorded Use: 11-02-1967

Latest Recorded Use: 25-11-1969

Type 30 was also introduced in late 1965. The canceller has “**DUBAI 2**” inscribed in Arabic and English and it is known used on both registered and normal mail.



Type 31 - Dubai 3 – Small Single Circle

Earliest Recorded Use: 30-09-1965

Latest Recorded Use: 12-01-1977

Type 31 was also introduced in late 1965. The canceller has “**DUBAI 3**” inscribed in Arabic and English and it is known used on both registered and normal mail.



Type 32 – Dubai 4 – Small Single Circle

Earliest Recorded Use: 17-09-1970

Latest Recorded Use: 13-10-1976

Type 32 was introduced in 1970 at the Airport Post Office. The canceller has “**DUBAI 4**” inscribed in Arabic and English and it is only recorded used as a backstamp on outgoing and incoming mail. The earliest recorded used for this type is on September 17th, 1970, and the latest is on October 13th, 1976.

Type 33 – Dubai 5 – Small Single Circle

Type 33 was the last of the Small Single Circle cancellers and it was introduced in October 1971, two months before the union, at the new Satwa Post Office. The canceller has “**DUBAI 5**” inscribed in Arabic and English. No examples of the strike have been recorded until now so if you have one please send me a scan.



Type 34 – Deira-Dubai 1 – Small Single Circle

Earliest Recorded Use: XX-XX-1965

Latest Recorded Use: 17-09-1972

Type 34 was introduced in late 1965. The canceller has “**DEIRA – DUBAI 1**” inscribed in Arabic and English and it is known used on both registered and normal mail.



Type 35 – Deira-Dubai 2 – Small Single Circle

Earliest Recorded Use: 05-07-1966

Latest Recorded Use: 11-03-1973

Type 35 was introduced in late 1965. The canceller has “**DEIRA – DUBAI 2**” inscribed in Arabic and English and it is known used on both registered and normal mail.



Type 36 – Deira-Dubai 3 – Small Single Circle

Earliest Recorded Use: 15-08-1967

Latest Recorded Use: 20-03-1973

Type 36 was introduced in late 1965. The canceller has “**DEIRA – DUBAI 3**” inscribed in Arabic and English and it is known used on both registered and normal mail.

UAE – Trucial States & The UAE

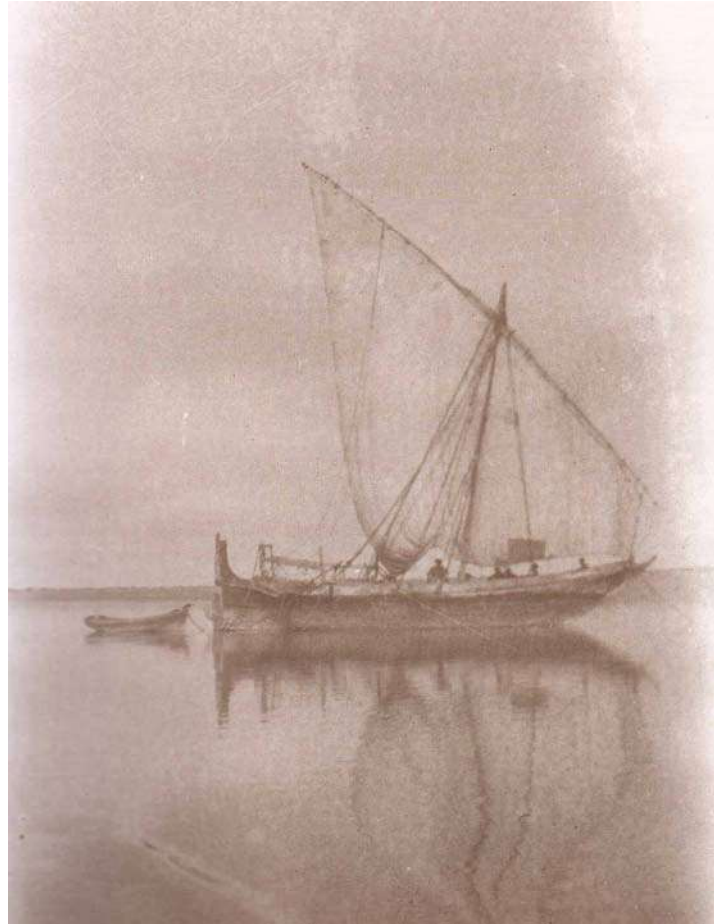
Ras al Khaima before Inauguration of the Post Office – By Khalid Omaira

Ras Al Khaima Post Office, which was the last post office to be opened in the Trucial States, was opened on the 21st December 1964. Prior to opening the post office mail sent from the Emirate was transferred either by “Tareesh” (messenger) or through the neighbouring post offices in Dubai or Sharjah.

Before the opening of the Post Office a “Tareesh”, also called an “El Basta”, was the medium available for the public to send their correspondences. The role of the Tareesh was to receive items, such as correspondences, gifts, commercial goods or even money, from the sender and then arrange his own means of transportation to carry the goods to the addressee. The fee applied during the 1950s and 1960s was Five Rupees, but this fee could obviously differ from Tareesh to Tareesh and was also subject to the time of the year that the deliver was taking place. Travel by boat was the principle mode of transportation of the Tareesh to the various destinations and normally, the destinations of the Tareesh would not go beyond the usual sea routes of Ras Al Khaima. However, there

were some destinations which required the Tareesh to travel by road and other means - those destinations later will be discussed later.

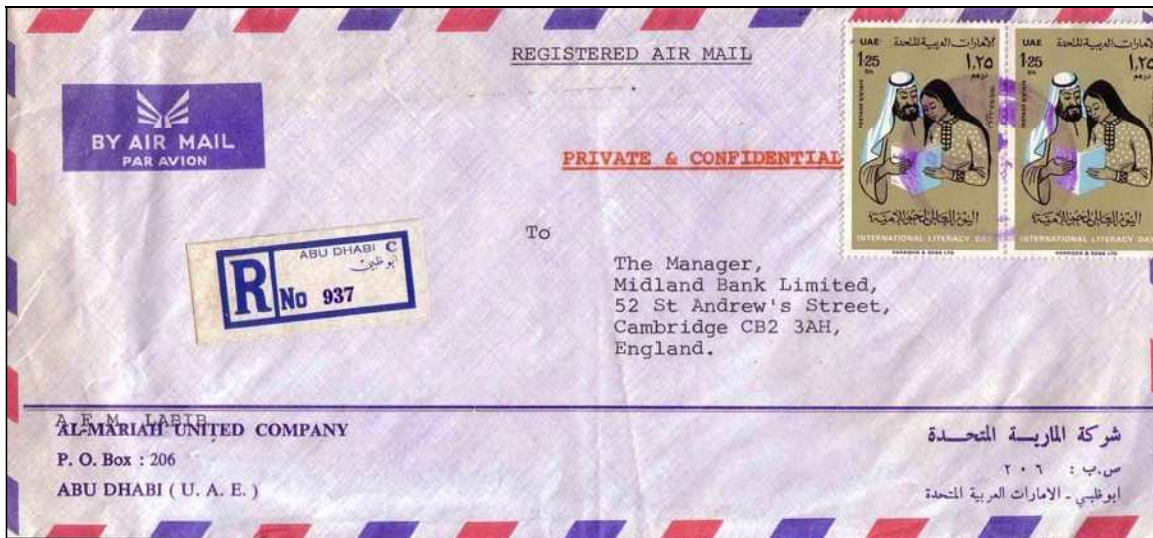
Many people have become famous from being a Tareesh. One example was Ahmed Bin Salem Al Keith who was residing in "Freij Al Mean" and who included Kuwait as one of his destinations. The Kuwait route was practical because it included several stops on the way, including Dubai, Bahrain, ports in Saudi Arabia and then Kuwait. Stops in the major ports along the route were consistent but stops in ports could be made if required. Other famous Tareeshes are Ibrahim Bin Othman, also from the "Freij Al Mean" area and Sultan Bin Abdulla Al Arri from the "Freij Al Beda" area who both covered the same destinations as Ahmed bin Salem Al Keith. Salem Bin Othman from the "Freij Al Mahara" area covered Kuwait and a Hamdan Al Ajam covered Saudi Arabia.



"El Baqara" near Ras Al Khaima beach. Photograph by Mr. H. R. Vaughan in September 1928.

With regard to sea communications, the main destinations were Dubai, Abu Dhabi, Qatar, Bahrain, Al Qatif in Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Basra, India, Aden, Mogadishu, Mombassa and Zanzibar. The general mode of transportation was sail ships such as the El Boum, El Batil, Al Baqara, El Sanbouk and El Smaa.

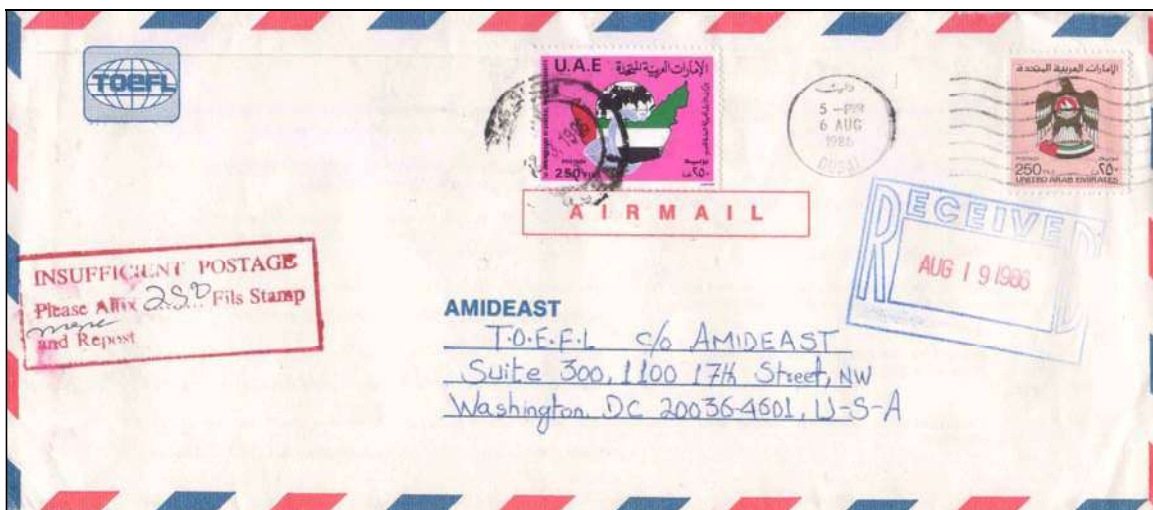
During the 1950s the Ras Al Khaima government began to modernise its postal system by leasing post box number in Dubai post office. Upon the opening of the new service, the government and public mail were sent twice in a week – Monday and Tuesday – to Dubai by Land Rover service. Mr. Abdulla Ibrahim Al Shoker was appointed in charge of the postal service, which was similar to a government postal agency. His duties included carrying government and public mails to and from the Dubai Post Office. There was no place to sell stamps in Ras al Khaima, so, Al Shoker accepted envelopes without stamps and then purchased the stamps from Dubai Post Office when he got there and applied



29 July 1976: A cover sent Abu Dhabi to the UK and cancelled with a purple “Abu Dhabi 4” strike. It is one of the unusual types of cancellers recorded used during the early days of the UAE Postal Administration. A total of three types have been recorded, all used in 1976 and all numbered "4" and with Arabic font missing! This one of the uncommon cancellers during the UAE administration



6 August 1986: A cover sent from Dubai to the USA that carried insufficient postage of 250 Fils. The cover has then had an additional 250 Fils (left stamp) and been reposted – cancelled in Dubai again on 12 August 1986.



Links, Contacts and Credits

GOVERNMENT PHILATELIC OFFICES

Emirates Stamp Club
Emirates Post
P.O. Box 99999
Dubai
U.A.E.
+973 4 2031421
Email: philatelic@emiratespost.ae
Website: www.emiratespost.co.ae

Director General of Posts
Philatelic Department
PO Box 3338
P.C 112
Ruwi
Muscat
Sultanate of Oman
Email: ptphil@omantel.net.om
Website: www.comm.gov.om

Qatar Philatelic Bureau
+974 4464309
Email: philatelic@qatarposts.com
Website: www.qpost.com.qa

Bahrain Philatelic Bureau
Postal Directorate
PO Box 1212
Manama
Bahrain
Email: stamp@bahrain.gov.bn

Kuwait Philatelic Section
Post Office Department
PO Box 888
Safat 13309
Kuwait

INDEPENDENT PHILATELIC ASSOCIATIONS

Emirates Philatelic Association
P.O. Box. 33333
Dubai, UAE
Telephone number: 00971 4 353 8383
Website: www.epa.ae

Kuwait Philatelic-Numismatic Society
P.O.Box 49
Souk AL-Dakhly, 15258,
KUWAIT
kp-ns@hotmail.com
fax +965 2529625

Bahrain Philatelic Society
Email: bahrainps@yahoo.com
Website: www.geocities.com/bahrainps

WEBSITES RELATED TO GULF POSTAL HISTORY

www.bahrain-stamps.com
www.kuwait-stamps.com

www.oman-stamps.com
www.dubai-stamps.com

www.abu-dhabi-stamps.com
www.qatar-stamps.com

6 interactive website containing more than 10.000 images of stamps, covers, philatelic items, cancellation marks, registration labels, postage due hand stamps, aerogramme and other postal markings. Without a doubt the biggest compilation of philatelic material related to the Gulf on the Internet today. These website are under constant development and all contributions are accepted in all forms: comments, image contributions, theories, photocopies, CD-ROMs of exhibitions and collections etc.

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/arabgulffandyemenstampgroup/>

A yahoo group created in 1999 with 899 member (As of March 2006) – a forum that focuses on anything that has to do with Gulf postal history but the group also includes Yemen and occasionally other regional post offices.

<http://www.gbos.org.uk/index.php/Home> - Great Britain Overprint Society

The GB Overprints Society (GBOS) helps members and collectors to explore the many ways and reasons why British stamps and other postal material have been overprinted, whether it is for use outside the UK or for special functions within the UK. This opens up a wide variety of avenues, which will interest not only GB collectors who want to find out other uses of their favorite stamps, but also collectors of particular countries or themes.

<http://www.indiastudycircle.org> - India Study Circle

This is the website for anyone interested in Indian Stamps, Postal Stationery, Indian States Stamps, Revenue Stamps and all areas of Indian Philately. Membership of The India Study Circle is a great way to learn more about all aspects of Indian Philately. It is also an excellent way to buy stamps, covers and all sorts of Philatelic material from other members, and to sell your own surplus material.

<http://www.postalcensorship.com> - censored and military postal history

Started in 1996 the postal censorship website was intended to concentrate on the story of Postal Censorship in Ireland during World War II, 1939-1945, known as 'The Emergency'. The site now hosts an array of Civil Censorship and Military Mail information mostly related to World War II but adding material from other periods as collectors provide covers to show and as other information comes to hand.

<http://www.worldmeterstamps.com/>

Virtually the only source and certainly the most comprehensive source for metered mail in the world.

Many more pages will be added to this list once I define the exact web address that should be presented here with the web masters.

CREDITS

Edition 25:

Philip Kaye
Neil Donaldson
Gary Watson
Ray McMillan
Salam Al Shaker
Jaffar Islah
Joel Hawkins
Mashael Alhajeri
Khalid Abdul-Mughni
Abdullah Khoory
Khalid Omaira
Alastair Gunn
Thomas Johansen