



THE *Arab World* PHILATELIST



THE Arab World PHILATELIST

1980

No. 5

R. HOWARD COURTNEY
Editor

400 copies printed

Single Copy \$4.00
U.S.A.

Canada

Single Copy \$5.75
Foreign Nations
(Via Airmail)
\$4.00
(Surface Mail)

Published Quarterly
by



R. Howard Courtney
1325 W. Moss
Peoria, Illinois
61606
309/674-1386

Printed by
Leonard A. Unes Printing Co.
Peoria, Illinois

EDITORIAL

1

ARTICLES

UN Stamp Debate: a sticky issue	2
The Turkish Posts of Lebanon/Syria: Part Two: Aleppo	4
Gulf Revenues: an inquiry	10
The 4 Bogash Surcharges of Yemen: 1939-1966	14
Egyptian General Revenues overprinted "PALESTINE" for use in Gaza	18
Postal Tax Stamp for "Palestine"	22
Arafat and Mina Pilgrimage Covers	24
Notes on the Syrian Stamps of 1920	28
Specimen Overprints on Yemen Stamps	31

FEATURES

For the Record	32-35
----------------------	-------

+++++
Copyright 1980 by R. Howard Courtney All
rights reserved
+++++

This independent publication is totally unrelated to any governmental/philatelic agency, dealership, or other periodical.

The editor reserves the right to revise all material submitted for publication. Opinions expressed in by-lined articles are those of the writer, not necessarily of this publication's editor, sponsors, or advertisers.

News items and articles are welcomed, but unsolicited material cannot be acknowledged or returned unless postage is provided. We cannot assume responsibility for material sent but will make every effort to safeguard it while in our possession.

FRONT COVER - Progressive proofs of unissued Saudi stamps. Colors are light blue, dark blue and light red. Can anyone provide additional information on the set? Submitted by Howard Lewin.

EDITORIAL

It is quite obvious that our area of collecting is gaining in popularity. Older and 'good' material is becoming even scarcer and one is seeing more and more 'buy ads' by dealers for particular items. What is encouraging is the appearance of buy ads from dealers for previously ignored material. If one has been observant, the buy ads for Abu Dhabi (Scott #15-25) are more noticeable recently. That is the set with the currency reevaluation and the bars obliterating the ruler's portrait. The complete set is virtually impossible to locate used, but is available mint if one looks. Only 3000 complete sets are possible as that is the number of the high value sold. The mint set is currently selling for about \$50-60 in the States. Since most dealers know nothing about the area you can pick up the individual stamps used for a good price. It will take you a long time to complete the set though. Errors in the surcharges sell for very high prices - especially in England. The complete set mint, including an error, is in the donation auction for this journal. It will be interesting to see what it sells for. Although Abu Dhabi was one of the Gulf sheikdoms, it held its stamps issuing policy well in check - only issuing 84 stamps in eight years. Two of the 84 were surcharged issues that were not announced to the philatelic press. There were no imperfs of any issue, nor were there any souvenir sheets.

The prices for early Kuwait are going up rapidly. If you find a mint set of Scott C1-4, buy it now while you can afford it. Gibbons lists C-3 at 100 pounds (that's over \$200). Scott lists the set at about \$80. There are lots of buy ads for the early material - by dealers.

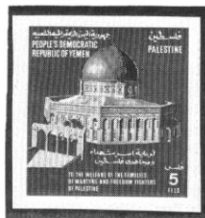
Without a doubt, Bahrain (the British issues overprinted or surcharged, as in Kuwait) will also see a rapid increase in pricing soon. There are many buy ads for the early material but the prices are still within reason.

Many of you may not be aware that Max Mayo recently disposed of his collection of Saudi Arabia. Max is the person who is largely responsible for the interest in the country. Before he wrote his catalog, there was little interest in the material. The collection was auctioned through Sotheby Parke Bernet Stamp Auction Co., Inc. on March 20, 1980. It would not be possible to assemble such a collection again. It was so vast that the entire Kingdom of Saudi Arabia issues, 1934-1977 was sold as one lot. It consisted of 16 volumes. There were 312 other lots in the collection. The catalog will be a valuable addition to any philatelic library and I would suggest you pick up a copy if you can.

Max indicated to me that he was giving up the collection for several reasons - 1) He had about everything; 2) It was impossible for him to locate new material and 3) Prices had risen too high. Some time back he told me he flew to Switzerland to an auction but was totally unsuccessful in obtaining any of the Saudi material he wanted as he was out bid on every lot. Fortunately, he was successful in picking up some material in another area he collects. We all owe Max a debt of gratitude for his contribution to the field and for creating the present interest in Saudi material. Fortunately, we have the Arabian Philatelic Association that will continue to provide information to us.

Carl Catherman tells me he is listing the Yemen issues presently ignored by Scott for them. The issues are all good and there is no wallpaper. Gibbons and the other catalogs have listed the material for some time.

Bruce Conde was back in Lebanon but has left for Spain again. Let's hope he gets his visa and passport problems straightened out once and for all. If you haven't corresponded with Bruce, you have no idea what an interesting character he is. Bruce knows about everyone of importance in the Middle East and has lots of interesting tales to tell. Few people know that it was Bruce who said the prayers at St. John Philby's funeral. I have told him that my brush with fame was having met Kim Philby's dog Margo after Kim fled to Russia. I was in Beirut when an exiled Rumanian prince, who then had the dog, visited the two Englishmen I was staying with. Kim is Philby's son, who turned out to be a Russian agent.



UN STAMP DEBATE: A STICKY ISSUE

By Daniel Keren



The following article appeared in the December 2, 1979 issue of the New York Daily News and is reprinted with the permission of the editor. The resolution in question was passed on December 12th, ten days after the article first appeared. The same resolution had an additional provision which called on all member nations of the UN to issue their own stamps on the theme of Palestinian rights. It appears that beginning about next October one will see the issuance of such stamps.

"A heated battle began in the United Nations General Assembly last week, and most people don't know about it. But the dispute is having major reverberations in the world's philatelic or stamp collecting community.

"The fight, in part, involves an attempt by a UN committee concerned with Palestinian rights to push for the issuance of a special UN postage stamp commemorating the Palestinian cause. The committee, called the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, supports and works with the Palestine Liberation Organization - and the PLO is widely believed to be the guiding force behind the stamp proposal.

"The issue that has stamp collectors around the world up in arms has nothing to do with who is right or wrong in the Arab-Israeli conflict. The philatelists are upset because UN stamps have traditionally avoided political themes, and to issue a pro-Palestinian stamp, they feel, would break that policy.

"Since the inception of its stamp program in 1951, the UN has issued over 400 stamps for use on letters mailed by diplomats and tourists who visit the main UN headquarters here and UN offices in Geneva and Vienna. But the overwhelming majority of UN stamps are purchased by collectors.

"Since August, when the committee first announced it would consider a pro-Palestinian stamp, protests have been pouring in from collectors and stamp dealers across the globe. Several prominent dealers are predicting a significant number of stamp collectors will drop UN stamps from their collections if the Palestinian stamp is issued.

"A Palestinian stamp would be a travesty on the good name of the United Nations and the good name of philately," said one prominent dealer who operates a chain of stamp shops in large urban department stores, including Gimbels here in New York. The dealer called the issuance of such a stamp a propaganda attempt that will "lose the collector by the tens of thousands."

"But it's not just collectors and dealers who are having problems with the proposal. Uncle Sam has also taken a position against a pro-Palestinian UN stamp. 'The United States has...made known its opposition to the issuance of such a stamp as an unnecessary politicization of the UN Postal Administration,' wrote Donald F. McHenry,

who replaced Andrew Young when the latter lost his job after conducting meetings with PLO representatives.

"The stamp proposal was part of a package of pro-Palestinian resolutions brought before the General Assembly by the Inalienable Rights Committee last week. The Committee, which has been working with the PLO on the proposals, is dominated by Third World and Communist bloc nations.

"Up to now, there has been no design for the stamp under consideration. The proposed resolution simply authorizes the UN Postal Administration to get going on the design project. For the last several years, however, the PLO has been actively supporting and helping to design pro-Palestinian stamps issued in various Third World countries. These stamps have all been similar in style and content.

"Most of them show a photo of the Dome of the Rock Mosque in Jerusalem, which is now under the jurisdiction of Israel. And, although the PLO is not mentioned by name, the stamps, wherever they are issued, bear the inscription: *'To the welfare of the families or martyrs and freedom fighters of Palestine.'* The implication according to many collectors, is that the PLO is acting on behalf of the entire Islamic world in attempting to regain control of the mosque. The mosque is sacred to Moslems as the site where the prophet Mohammad ascended to the seventh heaven on his horse.

"Where this dispute will end remains to be seen. If the stamps are approved in a vote expected on Tuesday, it would take at least a year for the design to be finalized and the stamp to be issued. But the big fear in stamp circles now is that approval of such a stamp will open a can of worms that could affect future UN stamps, making them vehicles for a variety of political causes."

ASTEX INTERNATIONAL

Dealers in fine Middle East Stamps and Postal History
Some items from our current stock

EGYPT Sc.#

20bg:	10pa Tete beche pr. M, VF	\$150.00
21b:	20 pa, M, VF	25.00
22b:	1pi, variety dble perf. VF	8.00
23b:	2pi, marginal blk of 6, M, VF	175.00
25b:	5pi, M, VF	25.00
172-6:	M, extremely fine	21.00
C1-4:	Air set, M, vf	37.00
C4:	Variety, dble offset w/R.P.S. cert.	55.00

JORDAN S. Gibbons & Sc.#s

SG 1a:	1m, inverted O.P., R.P.S. cert.	\$350.00
SG 9a:	1m, inverted O.P., R.P.S. cert.	390.00
SG 53a:	Inverted O.P., extremely rare, R.P.S. cert.	POR
13:	M, VF, signed	70.00
16:	M, VF, signed	85.00
131-12:	M, VF	75.00
255-269:	M, VF	31.00
J12-17:	Specimen, M, VF	85.00
J30-35:	Specimen, M, VF	75.00

IRAQ Sc.#

15-25:	M, VF	\$642.00
28-43:	M, VF	83.00
039-054:	M, VF	92.00
055-071:	M, VF	35.00

SYRIA Sc#

232-250:	Supurb marginal blk of 4 M, NH	\$190.00
C57-66:	Supurb marginal blk of 4	300.00

YEMEN: Sc#

7-23	Block of 4, M, NH	85.00
------	-------------------	-------



ASTEX INTERNATIONAL

P.O. Box 36010

Los Angeles, California 90036

213/476-2652

the Turkish Posts of LEBANON/SYRIA

PART TWO: ALEPPO



by Joe Nahra

THE TURKISH POSTAL MARKINGS OF ALEPPO

Throughout its history, Aleppo has known great prominence as an economic and cultural center and the wrath of war and destruction. It grew and developed along one of the key merchant trade routes which extended eastward to Persia, India and China. Westward, it had convenient access to the port city of Alexandretta (Iskenderum).

As a trading center then, much correspondence travelled in and out of its walls. The opportunity to collect and study in depth the rich postal history of this city is largely made possible by the accumulations of commercial records which have been left undestroyed. My main objective here, as it was in Part One of this series (*Arab World Philatelist* Vol. 3), is to describe and illustrate the postal markings. In an article to be published later, I will discuss in greater depth the postal history of Aleppo, with special attention paid to the pre-philatelic period, private couriers, the role of the foreign consular posts, and the types of mixed frankings which make this city so rich for collecting and research possibilities.

In this article I have transliterated the Arabic as Aleppo, though the city is also known as Alep, Haleb and Halep.



1



3



5



6



7



8



9



10



11



12



13



14



15



16



17



18



19



20



21



22



23



24



25



26



27



28



29



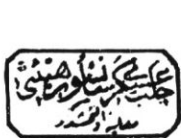
30



31



32



33



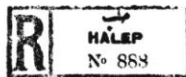
34



22a



Ex. 6



Ex. Reg.

NO.	TYPE	DESCRIPTION	NUMBER OR NAME
1.	Pu Ia	Negative seal, <i>An Canabi Postai Haleb</i> in Turkish, date of introduction A.H. 1257 (or A.D. 1841)	
2.	Pu IXb	Negative seal (not illustrated)	
3.	Pu XVIII B XXVI-8	Negative seal in Turkish, date of introduction A.H. 1278 (or A.D. 1862)	
4.	B II T I	Battal cancellation (assumed to exist, but no examples seen thus far)	
5.	B III-20	Triple rectangular box cancel with date of introduction A.H. 1281 (or A.D. 1865)	
6.	B XXVIII	Double ring 29 mm postmark in French and Turkish, date set in six lines in center (see supplement at end of illustrations)	

*TYPE CODES: B-Brandt, P-Pollack, PT-Pollack and Tomkins, Pu-Pulham, T-Tomkins

7.	B XXVIII A	Double ring 25 mm postmark in French only, date set in three lines in center	ALEP TURQUIE
8.	B XX-3	Oval postmark 37 mm wide with date of introduction A.H. 1311 (A.D. 1895)	
9.	PT 6	Double ring 29.5 mm postmark, ALEP in French on bottom, Turkish equivalent at top, date set in six lines in Turkish and French in center	
10.	"	As above, 28 mm, but different setting of ALEP in French and Turkish	
11.	"	As above, 31 mm, but ornaments (consonants) in Turkish	
12.	PT 7	Double ring 32 mm postmark, inscriptions in French and Turkish, date set in one line across center	
13.	PT 7	Very similar to above, but smaller inner circle (partial illustration)	
14.	P 9 T 7	Double ring 28 mm postmark, inscriptions in French and Turkish, numbered figure in segment	HALEB 1
15.	"	As above	HALEB 2
16.	"	As above	HALEB 3
16a.	"	As above	HALEP 4
17.	"	As above	ALEP 4
18.	"	As above	ALEP 5
19.	"	As above	ALEP 6
20.	"	As above	HALEB 5
21.	P 10 T 8	Similar to above, 32 mm, but vertical lines in segment, date in Turkish only	
22.	P 14 T 10	Octagonal 27 mm postmark, inscriptions in Turkish and French, numbered figure after office name	HALEB 5
22a.	"	Similar to above, but date in Turkish only (see supplement)	HALEB 5
23.	"	As above	HALEB 8
24.	PT 7	Double ring 31 mm postmark, inscriptions in French and Turkish, date in one line across center, numbered figure in segment	SEVKILHABIL 1 (ALEP)
25.	P 14 T 10	Octagonal 27 mm postmark, inscriptions in French and Turkish, numbered in segment	SOUK-UL-HABIL 1
26.	"	Octagonal 28 mm postmark, inscriptions in French and Turkish, vertical lines in segment	(HALEB) (SOUK-UL-HABIL)

- | | | |
|-------------|---|------------------------|
| 27. PT 7 | Double ring 31 mm postmark, inscriptions in French and Turkish, date in one line across center, numbered figure in segment | DJEDIDE 1 |
| 28. P 9 T 7 | Telegraph 29.5 mm postmark in Turkish only, date in Turkish across center, vertical bars in segment | |
| *29. | Negative seal, Telegraph <u>Posta Hana Halep</u> A.H. 1290 (A.D. 1874), double border | |
| 30. | Military postmark (World War I), town name in Turkish at top, numbered figure in Turkish at bottom, date in Turkish across center, vertical bars in segment | 1 |
| 31. | As above | 2 |
| 32 | Star and crescent World War I military censor marking in Turkish only | |
| 33. | Rectangular 37 mm World War I military censor marking | |
| 34. | Double ring postmark (railway?), inscriptions in French and Turkish | D'ALEP A DAMAS |
| 35. P 9 T 7 | Double ring postmark, inscriptions in French and Turkish, date in one line across center. | RUE AZIZIYE
(HALEB) |

*Can possibly be read as HILLE. Additional information from collectors appreciated

NOTES

1-3 The first of the negative seal types is pre-philatelic since it predates the first stamp issue. No. 2 is listed in Pulhan, but I have seen no examples thus far. No. 3 could exist on a stampless cover; examples are known on the star and crescent issue.

5-6 This "box" cancel is found on combination or mixed franking covers of the pre-UPU era; this often resulted from their transfer to the French or Russian post office in Alexandretta or the application of the postage due stamps. In 1870 the first bilingual datestamp was introduced (no. 6); but all examples I know are as an auxiliary marking to no. 5. Sometimes the postal clerk misaligned the date setting, resulting in examples similar to 6a.

8 This oval marking, difficult to find on cover or in a full strike, possibly comes from a branch office, and is often found in combination with 9, 10 or 11. Brandt lists another oval (XX-2) with a date of A.H. 1292, but this is believed to be bogus. I know of no confirmed or authentic example.

12-13 No. 12 is one of the most frequently seen Aleppo datestamps. In fact, it is easy to overlook the elusive no. 13 because of the very close similarity. There is a strong chance there is yet another variety of this same marking, distinguished only by a small difference in size or distance between letters; more complete examples must be found in order to confirm this.

14-20 Of this basic type, nos. 18 and 20 are very difficult to find; I know of only a handful of no. 18.

22-23 Although only two numbers, 5 and 8, are listed here, there is a very good possibility that other numbers (1-4, and 6-7) also exist.

24-26 The branch office in the SOUK or market district: no. 24 is one of the most common Aleppo markings, and 25-26 two of the scarcer ones. No other numbers are known thus far.

27 I have seen only two examples; a scarce marking.

28-29 Telegraph markings: No. 28 is known on telegram receipts and as an auxiliary marking on cover (used as censor?). I owe the existence of the negative seal, no. 29, to Mr. Robert Stuchell. Both markings are scarce.

34 Probably a datestamp for a railroad post office. Scarce.

Lastly, for reference, a registration label is illustrated.

Assistance for this article was provided by Messrs. Robert Stuchell, Carl Catherman and Ara Mesrobian.

BEYROUTH MARKINGS PREVIOUSLY DESCRIBED BUT NOT ILLUSTRATED

37. Octagonal 4
39. Octagonal 6
41. Huriette Bagtohesi
42. Beyrouth (Gare)
45. Beyrouth (Echele)
48. World War I censor marking



37



39



41



42



45



48

SUPPLEMENT TO THE PREVIOUS LISTINGS OF BEYROUTH MARKINGS

NO.	TYPE	DESCRIPTION	NAME OR NUMBER
1.	B XXVIII	Double ring 29 mm postmark in French and Turkish, date set in six lines in center	
2.	B XXVA	Oval postmark without date, <i>Succursale Poste Beyrouth 1</i> in Turkish and French (illustration with permission of OPAL)	
3.	P 9 T 7	Double ring 34 mm postmark, inscriptions in Turkish and French, date set in one line across center, numbered figure in segment	4
4.	"	As above	5
5.	"	Double ring 28 mm postmark, inscriptions in Turkish and French, date in one line across center, numbered figure in segment (The example illustrated was found as a receiving mark)	10
6.	P 14 T 10	Octagonal 28 mm postmark, inscriptions in Turkish and French, date in one line across center, numbered figure after office name	1
7.	B XXIVA	A diamond centered in an oval of vertical lines, Beyrouth in Arabic (reprinted from OPAL, with permission)	
8.	P 14 T 10	Octagonal 27.5 postmark, inscriptions in Turkish and French	(Beyrouth) Djedidet-ul-Metn 1
9.	P 9 T 7	Double ring 32 mm postmark, inscriptions in Turkish (Beyrouth - Sham) and French, date in one line across center, probably a railroad cancellation (not illustrated)	
10.	P 9 T 7	Double ring 32 mm postmark, inscriptions in Turkish and French, French name set in two lines, date in one line across center, numbered figure in segment, probably a T.P.O.	BUR. AMB. Beyrouth



1



2



3



4



5



6



7



8

GULF REVENUES: AN INQUIRY

By CALVIN ALLEN



Figure 1

An interesting but little explored area of Arabian Gulf philately is revenue stamps. For many of the Gulf states (at least Bahrain and Oman), revenues were the first stamps actually issued by the governments as postal affairs were handled by the Indian and then British post office. My own introduction to Gulf revenues came quite by accident in 1977 when I had the opportunity to reside in Muscat for a year. While going through the papers of an Indian merchant friend, I happened upon some old official documents bearing some stamps inscribed State of Muscat and Oman. They were of only passing interest at that time, and I noted only their existence without any of the particulars.

After leaving Muscat for London, those revenues began to haunt me, and I began searching for information. There was nothing to be found. The India Office records, a gold mine of philatelic information, were no help, and a letter to Tim Clutterbuck, a British dealer who specializes in revenues and spent some time in the Gulf, was answered rapidly with a request for any additional information that I might have. Muscat turned out to be a dead end.

Fortunately, I did xerox a number of those old documents and managed to get a copy of one of the stamps (Fig. 1). The document is dated 1344 (c 1925). Please note that this is a rendition from my poor copy. I have no recollection whatsoever of colors or perforations, and the wording (in both English and Arabic is light with a dark background).

My search for information on revenues did not go completely unrewarded. Clutterbuck had been going through his stock and came across some Bahrain revenues overprinted Waterlow and Sons. He knew nothing about them. A letter to Waterlow brought no information. Finally, though, I happened to look through a small book entitled Welcome to Bahrain, and, al-hamdu lillah, the author, James Belgrave, had included a small section on revenue stamps.

Belgrave describes two separate revenue issues, although his information on each is disappointingly scanty. The first issue, no date given, included the following values and designs:

4 anna- old peddler weighing his goods	10 rupee - donkey carrying water skins
8 anna - section of Manama with sailing boats	
1 rupee - Arab with saluqi and falcon	50 rupee - pair of camels
5 rupee - pearl shells	100 rupee - date palms

No colors, perforations or sizes are given.

The values and designs described by Belgrave are very similar to the Waterlow specimens pictured. The technical details on these are as follows:

4 anna - bistre brown, perf 9½	10 rupee - violet, perf 9½
8 anna - brown red, imperf	50 rupee - yellow, imperf
1 rupee - not available	100 rupee - deep blue green, perf 9½
5 rupee - light ultra., imperf	

Are these specimens the actual stamps, proofs or samples?



On the second issue Belgrave is much more helpful. The set came out in 1953 and included the following designs and values:

- | | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 4 anna - Shaykh Sulman | 50 rupee - Rifaa palace |
| 5 rupee - Dhow | 100 rupee - Sitra pool |
| 10 rupee - Suq al-Khamis mosque | |



Belgrave does include some photographs of these, but there is no technical information.

Obviously, there is a need for much more research on these and other Gulf revenue stamps. Anyone out there have any information?



1952 Hand-painted essay of 100R revenue. Frame in maroon with grey vignette. Endorsed on reverse. (200 pounds)

THE ITEMS ILLUSTRATED WERE OFFERED BY STANLEY GIBBONS SEVERAL YEARS AGO AT THE PRICES INDICATED.



1956 1R frame, pencil & hand-painted essay, without the head plate, on buff card (108 x 96 mm) with photograph. (250 pounds)



1956 3a composite essay in green on thick card (42 x 43 mm), the frame hand-painted, the head engraved. (150 pounds)

1961 9a composite essay on thick card, hand-painted except for the oval head which is engraved. (250 pounds)

SYLVAN OAKS

WAYNE D.J. GASZAK
P.O. Box 34
Worth Illinois 60482

APS SPA
90800 35041

	MNH	Unused	Used
459-61/C654-56		\$2.88	
462		.05	
B1-12		\$6.40	
B13-15		.25	.16
B16-18/CB15-17		1.53	
B16-18		.30	
C1-4		3.25	\$3.20
C1-4			
(No Gum)	1.00		
C5-8		7.55	6.80
C9-12		2.10	.60
C9-12 (No Gum)	.46		
C13-16		1.72	
C17-20		1.30	
C21-24		3.25	
C33-35			12.80
C36		55.00	25.45
C37		.10	
C38		.14	
C39-48		5.06	2.60
C49-56		22.31	
C57-64		7.50	
C65-74		1.90	
C75-78	1.79	1.44	
C75-78 (No Gum)	.60		
C79	.62	.40	.40
C80-1	1.69	1.14	
C80-1 (No Gum)	.52		
C82-87	23.50		
C88-90	2.70	1.63	1.60
C91-96		29.67	
C97-100	12.75		2.63
C101-6	4.50	3.65	
C106A	13.80		
C106A (Small tear at bottom)		4.00	
C106B	15.85		
C107-10		5.25	
C111-14	2.75	2.39	
C115-8		2.64	
C119-28		20.50	5.90
C129-34	8.97	4.96	
C135-40		10.50	1.41
C141-45		10.00	
C145A-47B		115.00	
C145A-47A (Short Set)	25.34		

	MNH	Unused	Used
C148-9		\$5.45	
C148-9 (Gutter Pr.)		13.95	
C148-9			4.02
C149A		7.50	
C149A (Small Creases)		3.50	
C150-53			1.53
C153A		18.75	
C154-58		5.75	4.00 1.94
C159-64			5.85 1.95
C165-74		37.50	32.50 5.47
C175-82		8.05	7.00 .85
C175-82 (C175 Used)			5.81
C183-92			21.00 2.38
C193-96		2.02	1.61
C197		.07	.05
C198-99		.79	.60
C200-06			10.00 1.13
C207-10	1.33		.30
C207-10 (Some Stain)			.89
C210A		2.30	
C211-20		6.86	2.32
C221-2			3.30
C223-28		4.00	3.51
C229-35		3.89	.94
C236-42		2.99	
C243-4			1.30
C245-53		3.33	.94
C254-62		4.55	2.36
C263-4		.49	
C265		.39	.34
C266-68		.85	.73
C269-70		.79	.52
C271		.75	
C272-3		.49	
C274			.13 .11
C275-83		1.66	
C284-5		.49	
C285A		5.50	
C284B-5B		4.00	
C284C-85C		3.40	
C286-8		.85	
C289-90			.64 .33
C291-2		.62	
C293-5		.70	.46
C296-8		.67	
C299-302			1.51 1.08

SPECIALIZING IN LEBANON

The 4 Bogash Surcharges of YEMEN: 1939-1966

by Carl Catherman

The southwestern Arabian Kingdom of Yemen became a member of the Universal Postal Union in 1930 and in the same year issued a series of six stamps printed by the Reichsdruckerei in Berlin. Augmented by the additional issue of eleven stamps from the same printing house in the following year, these were sufficient for the limited needs of the kingdom for a number of years.

In the late 1930s stocks of the 4 bogash (4b) value, which was the most needed as it was used for inland ordinary mail, began to be depleted. As a temporary measure, pairs of the 2b value were used in lieu of 4b stamps, and plans were initiated for the preparation of a new set of definitives. The release of the Arab Alliance commemoratives in 1939 gave postal officials some relief, but as the 4b value of this set could not be depended upon to last until the arrival of the new definitives, it was decided to solve the problem by overprinting. That decision presaged an eighteen-year era in which no less than twenty-nine different surcharged stamps were produced by overprinting various values of five different definitive issues. Moreover, following the revolution of 1962 both the Republican and Royalist postal services employed the method of overprinting to solve the problem of occasional shortages of 4b stamps.

THE OVERPRINT TYPES

The basic overprint used in the Imamate period consisted of a rectangular frame, inside which there were the Arabic words *Barid al-Yemen* (Yemen Post) at the top, and Arabic figure "4" in the center and the English word *Yemen* at the bottom. In some cases the Arabic "4" was replaced by other elements. The overprint was struck by hand to one stamp at a time, although investigation of seldom-seen multiples indicates that the handstamp was not always re-inked after each strike.

Handstamps, of course, wear out and it became necessary from time to time to prepare new ones. Seven different handstamps of five types were used between 1939 and 1957. These five types will be referred to as "a", "b", "c", "s" and "d".

Each of the seven handstamps has many unique characteristics to distinguish it from all the others. Only the most obvious ones will be mentioned in the descriptions that follow. Overinking or underinking will sometimes obscure some of these measurements to be given. Frame measurements are made using the outside edges and are given to the nearest mm.



Fig. 1

Scott #30, first type "a"



Fig. 2

Scott #62, second type "a"

The type "a" overprint, introduced in 1939, has an 11x16mm frame, the English Yemen is 1mm above the bottom frame-line and the "Y" of this word nearly touches or does touch the left frame-line. There are two slightly different handstamps of this type which can be distinguished easily by referring to the Arabic "4". In the first the three strokes of the figure are well-aligned vertically (Fig. 1), while in the second these strokes are aligned poorly so that the figure appears to be leaning backwards (Fig. 2).

The type "b" overprint, first used in 1949, is more nearly square than type "a". The letters of the English Yemen are from 1mm to 1½mm above the bottom frame-line and the "Y" is again either very close to or touching the left frame-line. As



Fig. 4



Fig. 3



Fig. 5

with the previous type, there are two different handstamps. In the first of these, the frame is 13x15½mm and the letters of the word Yemen are all the same distance from the bottom frame-line (Fig. 3). In the second, the frame is 13x15½mm and the letters "Yem" run downhill (Fig. 4).

The first of these is seen frequently with the left frame-line missing (Fig. 5). This missing frame-line, which is particularly prevalent on the 2b and 3b values of the Rome issue is not due to its being broken off. The explanation lies instead in a combination of the human factor plus the fact that the piece of metal which formed this frame-line was embedded more deeply in the base of the handstamp than were the other elements of the design.

The last issues to receive this handstamp show a somewhat lesser tendency to have this line missing, probably due to the other elements becoming more deeply embedded in the base, but by 1956 the entire overprint was deteriorating (Fig. 6). In its final months the deterioration of this handstamp occasionally combined with watery ink to produce some fantastic results (Fig. 7).

ABOVE

Fig. 3 - Scott #64a, first type "b"

Fig. 4 - Scott #82, second type "b"

Fig. 5 - First type "b" with missing frame-line



Fig. 6 - First type "b" in deteriorated state



Fig. 7 - First type "b" with watery ink



Fig. 8 - Minkus #101x1, type "c"



Fig. 9 - Minkus #101x1, type "s"



Fig. 10 - Minkus #75x1, type "d", 4 frame-lines and 5 central slugs

Introduced late in 1953 and thenceforth used concurrently with type "b", the type "c" handstamp (Fig. 8) measures 12x16mm. The English Yemen is about 1mm above the bottom frame-line. It is this last characteristic which makes type "c" easy to distinguish from type "a". For the benefit of collectors who are familiar with Bruce Conde's articles published in various philatelic newspapers over twenty years ago, it should be mentioned that Conde referred to this handstamp as type "d". Its designation has been changed because it is now known that this handstamp preceded Conde's type "c".

Type "s" (Conde's type "c") is easily recognized due to its large size, 15x18 mm, and also because there is no Arabic "4", this having been replaced by two crescents facing each other (Fig. 9). This handstamp was an unauthorized production of the Sana'a postmaster which was used only in early October of 1956.

Type "d" (Conde's type "e"), introduced in 1957, measures 13x15mm. This overprint almost never appears upright but is normally struck horizontally so that the top frame-line appears at the right side of the stamp (Fig. 10). The English Yemen is between 1mm and 1.5mm above the bottom frame-line and the "Y" is about 1mm from the left frame-line. There is no Arabic "4", the central portion of the overprint being occupied instead by vertical slugs. The number of slugs ranges from two to five, depending upon the strength of the strike. The "m" of the Yemen is always missing and generally this is the most reliable test for identification of this



Fig. 13 - Scott #67, typical strike of type "b"

LEFT Fig. 11 - Inverted type "d" with only 2 frame-lines and 3 central slugs



Fig. 12 - Scott #45, typical strike of type "a"

type. In some cases, a very small dot appears in place of the missing letter. The type "d" handstamp is less scarce inverted (Fig. 11) than any of the other types.

It should be pointed out that clear, legible strikes of any of the handstamps are not found frequently. The strikes shown in some of the preceding illustrations are far better than the average. More typical strikes of types "a" and "b" are shown in Figs. 12 and 13.

REMARKS ON DATES

It is totally hopeless to attempt to establish the day of issue for any of the surcharged stamps. In some cases even the year of issue is uncertain. A perusal of the four standard catalogs reveals many points of disagreement on dates and it is not an easy matter to resolve these conflicts. There were no formal first-day ceremonies and postal officials were unconcerned about publicizing the day of issue. There was only one (part-time) stamp dealer in the entire country and few, if any, collectors during the surcharge era. In any case, the day of issue was generally a matter of chance, being determined by the first post office that both needed and received a supply of the most recently surcharged stamps.

In most cases the year of issue is known, but any attempt to refine this information is dependent upon what can be learned from the study of postmarks. Aside from the fact that a large percentage of postmarks are struck too lightly or too unclearly to reveal the date, there are further difficulties. The date wheel of the Sana'a canceller became stuck on October 24, 1949. Nevertheless, this defective device continued to be used, unrepaired, for many years, thus rendering one of the most frequently encountered postmarks useless for establishing dates. Additionally, the dates on the cancellers of many towns were not changed regularly and in some cases, were never changed; some postmarks do not even contain a date except for the year of manufacture.

Thus, some dates in the next section must be viewed with caution and it is in fact possible that some of the events described could be out of sequence, although they are based on the best available evidence. (Information has never been easy to obtain in Yemen, even by those who were resident there.) Those dates which have been firmly established will be indicated in the tabular summary in a later section.

ROCELT AG EISENGASSE 9 6004 LUZERN, SWITZERLAND



SAUDI ARABIA (October overprints)

Scott	S. Gibbons	Price
L51a	59a 1/8 Vert. pr., Ovprt. Invtd.	\$ 70.00
L51b	59c 1/8 Ovprt. dbie. on reverse	144.00
L52b	60b 1/4 Ovprt. dbie.	35.00
L52a	61a 1/4 Ovprt. invtd., hor. pr.	75.00
L54a	65a 1 Ovprt. Invtd.	46.00
L55a	66a 1 Bloci. ovprt. invtd.	116.00
L55b	66b 1 Ovprt. dbie., corner pr.	52.00
L56a	67a 1/8 Vert. Pr., Invtd. ovpt.	58.00
L57b	68a 1/4 Block. ovprt. invtd.	102.00
LJ125 & LJ125a	D96 & D96b 2 P. Due. Normal & invtd. Opts.	47.00

Jordan

155	1927 200mill. die Proof (cut small) in purple/manuscript "Final"	\$438.00
145	1927 2mill. die Proof (cut small) in green	460.00
183	1930 500mill. Die Proof (large size) in black/manuscript "Approved for die" 8/2	690.00



Holy Land and Palestine Mandate

Private Collector interested in buying fore-runner covers from Holy Land, German, Austrian and French Offices.

WWI through July, 1948
Palestine Mandate Stamps and Covers

Joseph Wofchuck

P.O. Box 94
Wall Street Sta.
N.Y., N.Y. 10005
212/747-2638

EGYPTIAN GENERAL REVENUES OVERPRINTED

"PALESTINE" FOR USE IN GAZA

by Peter Feltus

It is known that Egyptian postage stamps overprinted "PALESTINE" were used in Gaza from May of 1948. It is not known how soon thereafter similarly overprinted revenues made their appearance; the earliest known dated documents bearing them are from August 1950.

What I take to be the first two issues listed below may actually have been overprinted and used together; the basic stamps were already at least nine years old by the time the overprinting was done.



فلسطين

PALESTINE

1948 (?) First Bilingual Issue

Typographed overprint reading "PALESTINE" in English and Arabic, applied sideways to the 1938 "Ministere des Finances" general revenues.

50m. deep blue (red overprint)

Other values may exist; the unoverprinted set consists of five values. The two examples of the 50m. so far examined bear overprints of slightly different sizes: one is 15.6mm. deep with the Arabic 15.8mm. wide. The other is 15.4mm. deep with the Arabic 16.6mm. wide. No multiples have been seen to date.



فلسطين

PALESTINE



فلسطين

PALESTINE

1950 (?) Second Bilingual Issue

Typographed overprints reading "PALESTINE" in English and Arabic, applied upright to the 1939-54 "Egyptian Tax" general revenues. Watermarked Crown & Arabic F.

1m. green (red)

5m. slate purple (red)

10m. brown (red)
10m. brown (black)

30m. deep bluish green (rosine)
30m. deep bluish green (magenta)
30m. deep bluish green (vermillion)

50m. deep blue (red)

200m. red-brown & slate, wmk. sideways (red)
200m. red brown & slate, wmk. sideways (black)
200m. red-brown & slate, (green)
ovpt. misplaced upwards; "PALESTINE" over Arabic
ovpt. misplaced upwards; Arabic missing (from bottom row)

The examined overprints on the 1m. to 50m. values measure 15.6mm. from the bottom of the Arabic to the top of the French; though this is the same size as the ovpts. on the postage and postage due stamps, the 99th stamp in the sheets of revenues seen (two of each value) does not show the "broken lam" variety that is characteristic of the 99th stamp in the sheets of all the postage stamps, therefore the revenues were overprinted from a different setting. The known revenue control blocks are: 1m. A/55, 5m. A/51, 10m. A/55, 30m. A/50, A/51 A/53, and 50m. A/53. Earlier ones must exist.

The examined overprints on the 200m. value are of two sizes, though a block of four with black overprints shows them together indicating one setting. The sizes are 20.75 mm. from the bottom of the Arabic to the top of the French (red, black and green overprints) and 21.25mm. from the bottom of the Arabic to the top of the French (black overprint only).

The misplaced green overprint varieties were reported with a supporting photocopy (a pair of each used together on a passport page).

1958-59 (?) Third Bilingual Issue

Same, but Watermarked Small Eagles & Egypt.

10m. brown (black)

50m. deep blue (red)

These are known on documents of 1958-1959. Other values probably exist.

1959 (?) Fourth Bilingual Issue

Same, but Watermarked U A R.

1m. green (red)

10m. brown (blue)

20m. carmine-red (black)

20m. carmine-red (blue)

30m. deep bluish green (red)

50m. deep blue (red)

The examined blue overprint on the 20m. measures 15.4mm. from the bottom of the Arabic to the top of the French. Other values may exist.



فلسطين

فاطسين

Normal

Error

1959 (?) First Arabic Issue

Small horizontal typographed overprints reading "FALESTINE" (Palestine) on the 1959-62 "Egyptian Tax" general revenues. Watermarked U A R.

5m. deep violet (red)

10m. brown (black)

∞ error: "FALETSIN"

50m. deep blue (red)

Examination of the overprints reveals that each position was individually typeset, so there are detectable differences. An interesting example is the transposed letters variety which is illustrated above - it is the first stamp in the strip. All of these are known on documents of 1959-1964. Other values may exist.



فلسطين

1962 (?) Second Arabic Issue

Medium size typographed overprints on the 1959-62 "Egyptian Tax" general revenues. Watermarked U A R.

1m. green (red)

10m. brown (black)

20m. carmine-red (black)

x inverted watermark

30m. deep bluish green (red)

50m. deep blue (red)

200m. red-brown & slate (black)

Some of these are known on documents of 1962-1967. One control block is known: 200m. A/54 A/55 A/59 A/62.



فلسطين

1963 (?) Third Arabic Issue

Very small typographed overprint applied vertically in the left side of the 1959-62 "Egyptian Tax" general revenues. Watermarked U A R.

5m. slate purple (red)

20m. carmine-red (black)

30m. deep bluish green (red)

50m. deep blue (red)

These are known on documents of 1963-1964. Other values may exist.



فلسطين

1965 (?) Fourth Arabic Issue

Large lithographed overprints on the 1964-67 U.A.R. general revenues. Watermarked Large Eagles.

10m. brown (red)

50m. blue (red)

examples of the 10m. value are known on documents of 1967. The recorded dates of printing (on sheet selvages) are 10m. 1 I 67 and 50m. 17 I 65 (these are the printing dates of the basic stamps, not the overprints).

All "PALESTINE" overprints were printed in sheets of 100.

POSTAL TAX STAMP FOR "PALESTINE"



1965 (?) Palestine Postal Tax Issue

Photogravure by the Postal Authority Press. Inscribed "*daribat el-tahrir*" (Liberation Tax) at lower right. Perf. 11, unwatermarked.

5m. emerald green

This stamp was issued in sheets of 100 with the date of printing in the lower left selvage; the one date known is 1 IX 66. The stamp was applied (along with Egyptian "PALESTINE" postage stamps) to letters from Gaza of 1965-1967. Funds raised in this way are believed to have been for the Palestinian cause.

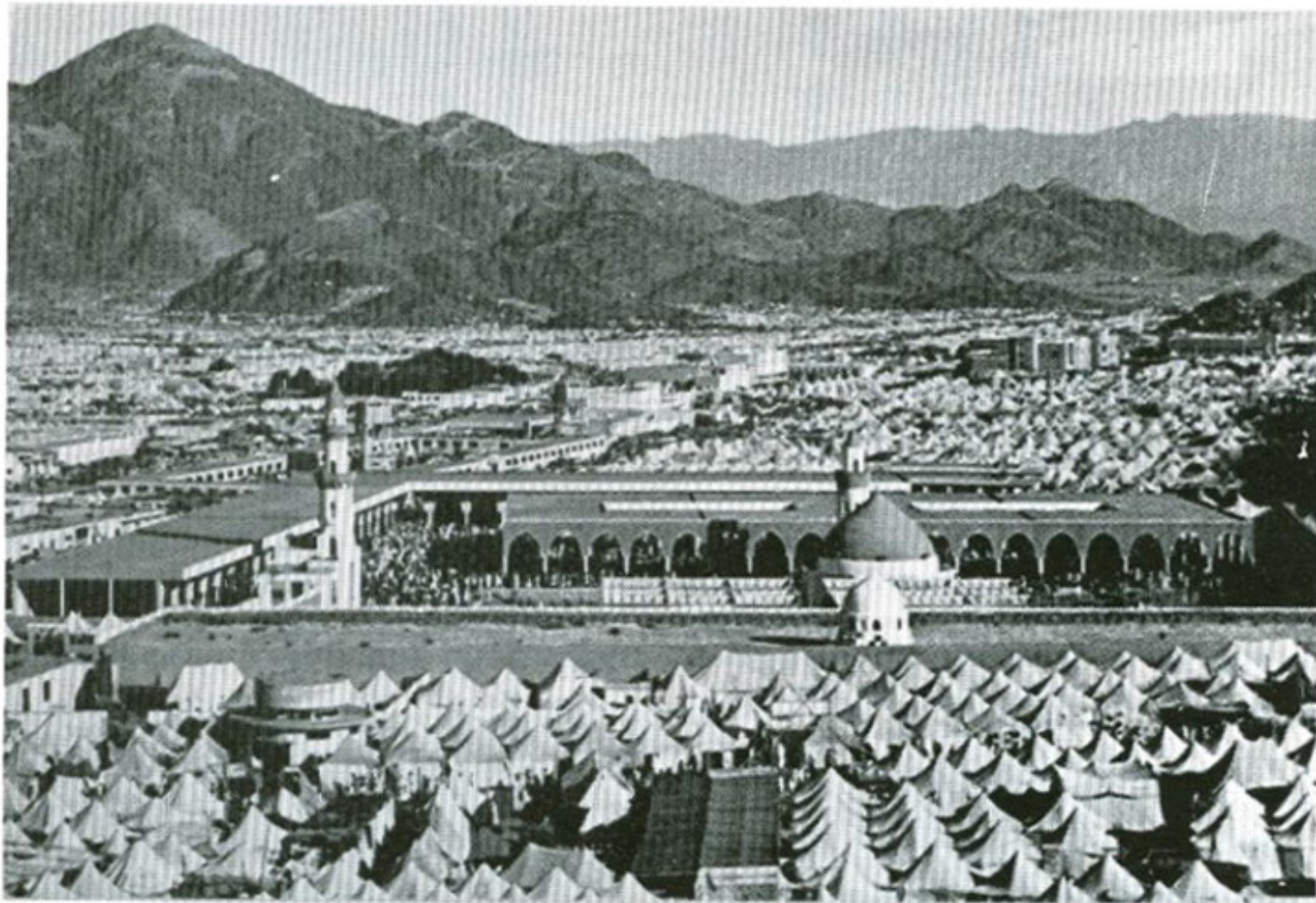
Mr. Feltus asks that anyone with additional information or varieties of Egyptian revenue stamps contact him. See his ad on the inside back cover for his address.



Typical commercial envelope sold to pilgrims and tourists - from the late 1940's
See article on page 24 regarding special covers.

ARAFAT AND MINA PILGRIMAGE COVERS

by Abdul Aziz Said



Al-Khair Mosque in Mina - Surrounded by Pilgrims' Camps

During the last two months, Dhu al-Qida and Dhu al-Hijja, of the hejira year, approximately two million Muslims come to Mecca from all over the world for the pilgrimage.

The pilgrimage involves circling the Holy Ka'aba, journeying seven times between as-Safa and al-Marwa, ascending Mount Arafat on the ninth day of Dhu al-Hijja, where they remain until after sunset, descending, and spending the night in Muzdalefa. In the early morning of the tenth day they go to Mina where they sacrifice a sheep or goat. For three days the pilgrims remain in Mina and daily stone a pillar representing the Devil. They then return to the Holy Ka'aba and end the pilgrimage by circling it seven times. Pilgrims who complete the rituals and visit can then claim the title "Hajji."

Each year the Ministry of P.T.T. opens several temporary post offices and telegraph cabins during the pilgrimage period to receive the letters and telegrams of the pilgrims, enabling them to contact their relatives in their respective countries. During the November 1978 pilgrimage, the Ministry of P.T.T. opened 21 offices for posts and telegraphs and 12 cabins for international calls in Mecca, Arafat and Mina. When the pilgrimage ended the offices were closed as there is no permanent population living in Arafat and Mina.

In previous years other Arab countries sent postal clerks to share the work of the Saudis in forwarding the mail sent by the pilgrims. In the last few years the Saudi postal workers undertook the entire work.

In the early sixties the Saudi postal administration in Mecca began commemorating the pilgrimage, the standing on Arafat and the stay in Mina, by issuing about 100 special envelopes which portray the scene of Arafat. They also used special cancellations on the envelopes. The cancellations were changed annually and used on the appropriate days only. The postage stamps used were the then current commemoratives and definitives of the Kingdom. The envelopes were not put on sale at the counter windows or the philatelic bureau, but were presented as souvenirs to the officials in the Ministry of P.T.T, the Directorate of Posts and the Postmasters of the major cities.



Mina cancellations show little variety - 1968-70 illustrated above. Note 1964 cancellation on title page.



Stoning the Devil at Mina



1962



1964



1969



1974



1976

Special Arafat cancellations



Arafat, the Mountain of Mercy

COMMEMORATION OF
ARAFAT DAY
PERFORMING
8 / 3 / 1968



تذكري
الوقوف بعرفات
يوم الجمعة ٨٧/٨٢/٩



COMMEMORATION
OF ARAFAT DAY
PERFORMING
13 / 1 / 1973



تذكري
الوقوف بعرفات
يوم السبت
١٣/١٢/٩





Fig. 1 above

Fig. 2 at right

NOTES ON THE SYRIAN STAMPS OF 1920

By

DAVID M. ZIMMERMAN, JR



The following is translated from the 30 November 1936 issue of *L'Echo de la Timbrologie*. It provides a useful and amusing vignette to the history of the only definitive stamps issued by the Syrian Arab Kingdom (Scott Nos 86-93), as related by the printers themselves to the author, identified only by the initials "R.G." I am most indebted to Monsieur Jacques Gervais, editor of *L'Echo*, who kindly authorized the reprinting of this article in English. In my translation I have done my best to retain the ambience of the original French text.

"By chance my business put me in contact with the printers of the 1920 issue, and from them I was able to learn something about the circumstances surrounding the production of these stamps. It seemed to be that these historical details would interest philatelists who, once they realized the difficulties the printers had to face, would be more tolerant of this issue's defects, and would salute the skillful ability of the Syrians, like the French, to improvise.

"However, a few historical facts are in order before we concern ourselves with the stamps.

"In 1918, after the Germans and Turks evacuated Syria, the Levant was occupied by the British army, which included a small French contingent; and an Arab government, headed by a member of the Abd el-Kader family, was established in Damascus.

"In keeping with the 17 September 1919 accord between Clemenceau and Lloyd George, the British forces withdrew to Palestine, leaving the occupation of Lebanon and Cilicia to the French, and the cities of Damascus, Homs, Hama and Aleppo to the Arabs.

"On November 21st of that same year, General Gouraud, the French High Commissioner designate, arrived in Beyrouth, and almost simultaneously a congress of representatives of the various regions of Syria was convened in Damascus. Prince Faisal came to Damascus on 14 January 1920, and on March 8th the congress elected him King of Syria. The intrigues (sic) of the Damascus government, however, forced General Gouraud to issue it an ultimatum on July 14th, and on the 22nd the battle of Khan Messaloun brought an end to Faisal's kingdom which had lasted only four months and a few days.

"At the outset of this agitated period, the Damascus government had overprinted and used Turkish stamps; but it undertook to have a definitive issue of its own printed. Toufik Bey Tarek, a well-known Damascene artist, was commissioned to design the new stamp, and bids were entertained for the printing of 17 million stamps with values from 1 millieme to 10 piastres. The low bidder, Abdul Jelil Itani, defaulted, and by mutual agreement the contract was awarded to Ibrahim Cozma. The contract was not officially approved until 3 April 1920, that is to say, after the first stamps had been delivered, as we shall see.

"The Cozma family was engaged in the commodities trade, and, consequently, was completely unprepared for the production of postage stamps. But the father had previously concluded that there was not room in his business for all five of his sons, and so had provided one of them, Ibrahim, with some very modest printing equipment consisting merely of a foot-operated press, a perforating machine, and, of course, the necessary type font. With this meager equipment, installed in one of the family warehouses in the Souk Bzourie, he had printed only a few commercial invoice forms up until then. Under such circumstances, it was truly audacious of Ibrahim to undertake to print 17 million postage stamps on a moment's notice. It is true, of course, that he knew he could count on the complete cooperation of his four brothers, thanks to the laudable spirit of solidarity which is so characteristic of the Syrian family and is one of its most endearing qualities.

"Above all, he had to move fast. Without waiting for the government to sign the contract, Ibrahim Cozma commissioned a certain Taher Tanir to engrave a stamp. Tanir's successful counterfeiting of bank notes during the Turkish administration was adequate proof of his technical qualifications.

"The operation started with the most commonly used denomination, the 5 millieme stamp. As soon as the engraver had produced five cliches, they were lined up in the press and the first row of five stamps was printed. The paper was then moved up a bit and below the first row a second was printed, then a third, a fourth and a fifth. In this way sheets of twenty-five stamps were printed, a portion of the paper remaining blank.

"Where did the paper come from? The Cozma brothers found this to be one of their most difficult problems to resolve. In the aftermath of the war, all commercial stocks of paper in Damascus were exhausted, so they had to buy paper from the British and French armies, and they also used stocks abandoned by the German army. It is not surprising, therefore, that the size and quality of the paper on which these stamps were printed often varied.

"A similar problem arose with ink which was not to be found in the market place either. Never mind, they'd make their own inks. By chance, one of the Cozma brothers had noticed a reddish stain caused by a drop of oil which had fallen on some seed or other. Inspired by this, the Cozmas mixed linseed oil with these seeds and produced the red-brown color of Yvert et Tellier Nos 75b (since changed to 75A; Scott 85) and 80 (Scott 86), the first stamps to appear.

"For several months they produced only the red(-brown) stamps. It was not until 12 August 1920, that is after the collapse of Faisal's government, that they printed the 1 millieme stamp (sic., i.e., 1/10 piastre; Y&T 72; Scott 87 - see Fig. 1) in a brown color obtained by a mixture of red and black. This stamp, smaller than the original 5 millieme denomination, was printed in sheets of 100.

"But just printing the stamps was hardly the end of the operation. They had to be gummed and perforated.

"The gumming was done by hand. Some fifty workers were employed to apply a diluted mixture of gum arabic by brush to the back of the sheets. The gummed sheets were then spread to dry completely on hangers rented from a soap factory. This gum proved inadequate, however, and my friendly informants laughingly told me that as long as their stamps were on sale glue pots had to be made available in the post offices so the public could affix the stamps securely to their letters.

"I indicated previously that Ibrahim Cozma had a perforating machine. It could perforate *only one row at a time*. With this machine, and one can imagine with what difficulty, the first sheets were perforated, four or five at a time. To speed up the work they went so far as to use a sewing machine.

"But let us get back to the printing of the red-brown 25-stamp sheets of the 5 millieme denomination. By the rudimentary process which we have described, 900 sheets were printed. At the request of the government, 600 of these were overprinted: "*To Commemorate the Independence of United Syria, 8 March 1920*" (Fig. 2). These 600 overprinted sheets were delivered to the Postal Administration on March 6th or 7th, that is to say on the eve of the election of the Emir Faisal as King of Syria. They were sold to the public in Damascus only.

"The initial delivery by Ibrahim Cozma, therefore, preceded by almost a month the signing of the contract by the Administration on April 3rd. Ibrahim did not wait for the signature before attempting to speed up production; it was clear to him that he could never fulfill the contract by printing his stamps one row of five at a time. So from the original five cliches primitively engraved by Taher Tanir, the one with the fewest defects was selected. From a paste of very finely ground glass and marble, a mold was made, and with this mold, which had to be remade several times, fifty new cliches were cast which enable the printers to make a second plate. With the new plate they could now print fifty stamps at once. Considerable improvement! The casting process had unavoidably resulted in a cliche smaller than the mold, and, therefore, smaller than the prototype, so the stamps printed from the fifty-cliche plate were a little bit smaller than those printed from the five original engraved cliches.

"The foregoing information is useful to those sorting stamps of the Syrian Arab Kingdom. There exist two types of the 5 millieme denomination. Type one is larger (27x21 $\frac{1}{2}$ mm) and was printed in a red-brown vegetable ink. 900 sheets of 25 stamps were printed, 600 of which received the overprint commemorating the coronation of King Faisal. Type two is smaller (27x21mm), and was printed in a variety of shades running from red-brown to bright rose.

"Therefore, as the *Yvert et Tellier* catalogue correctly notes, all overprints found on type two are forgeries.

"According to chronological and historical sequence, the stamp which ought to be listed as No. 1 of the 1920 issue is the overprinted stamp (Y&T No. 80; Scott 86); next came the type one red-brown 5 milliemmes (Y&T No. 75b - now 75A; Scott 85) of which only 300 sheets were sold; and finally the 5 milliemmes type two (Y&T No. 75; Scott does not distinguish between Y&T 75 and 75A, listing them both as Scott 85).

"Following this digression, let us return to our subject. Not satisfied with his achievement in creating the fifty-cliche plate, Ibrahim Cozma, assisted by his brothers, proceeded to acquire additional equipment from the largest printing establishment in Damascus. But he was so far behind schedule that it was difficult to catch up, and in May 1920 he received a formal warning from the Postal Administration; so far he had only delivered 116,000 stamps out of 17,000,000! The authorities, furthermore, were keeping an eye on his work which was being done under the control of four supervisors, two from the Postal Administration, and two from the Treasury. In truth, three of the four supervisors, with a typically oriental nonchalance (sic), very often turned over their seals to the fourth to whom fell the sole responsibility of storing the cliches under seal at the end of each working session.

"It was not until the middle of 1921 that the Cozmas completed their printing, the price of which had been contracted for at 1,225 Egyptian Pounds. By then, of course, the authorities who had placed the order had been gone for over a year. Ultimately, it was the France-Syrian government which settled the account.

"Approximately ten million of the stamps were burned, under what conditions I have not been able to discover. The remainder were overprinted "O.M.F." and put into circulation in 1921. But that is another story.

"Since that epoch, already receding into the past, Ibrahim Cozma's shop has been equipped with modern presses, and, as "Cozma Brothers - Printers", become one of the biggest printing houses in Syria and Lebanon - a shining example of what can be accomplished by a single family through the cooperation and ceaseless hard work of its members.

"Customarily, the printing of postage stamps is entrusted to firms with well established reputations. In this case, however, it was out of the printing of a postage stamp that a large printing house emerged. Perhaps this is unique in philatelic history. R.G."

SPECIMEN OVERPRINTS ON YEMEN STAMPS

by Peter Winders

The most commonly seen "SPECIMEN" overprints by stamp collectors are those that were produced for distribution to the Universal Postal Union, which in turn distributed these to other member nations after retaining some for their own records at the Berne, Switzerland headquarters. This practice was introduced in 1879 but is seldom followed today. Originally, unused stamps were supplied as specimens, but were later overprinted as a precaution against their postal use. After 1928, punched perforations reading "SPECIMEN" were sometimes applied to the stamps.

Yemen became a UPU member on January 1, 1930 and the 1930-31 series of definitive stamps typographed in Berlin (Scott #7-23) were the first values that were valid for foreign, as well as domestic postage. All 17 values of this set exist with a black "SPECIMEN" overprint. Printing quantities for specimens in general numbered in the hundreds during these years.

UPU specimens reportedly also exist for Aden stamps, which were handled by the Crown Agents firm in London.

In an entirely different category lie the Waterlow & Sons specimens. When attempting to secure printing contracts from foreign governments Waterlow prepared special samples of their work. These were generally printed in the design later used for postage, on gummed, but unwatermarked paper. The samples were printed in changed colors as well as overprinted "WATERLOW & SONS, LTD./SPECIMEN" and punched through with a small hole to prevent their use for postage. The Waterlow firm printed a number of the earlier Yemen issues.

Yemen Scott #26 (10b Arab Alliance value) exists in this condition in red with a green center. Scott #41 (½ definitive) set was printed in green with a black center. A 5b consulate stamp, later overprinted and issued by the Royalists in 1964 (Michel #57) was prepared as a sample in orange.

It is quite possible that values from other Waterlow & Sons printed issues from Yemen, such as the 1946 Hospital set, Scott #49-52 and the 1942 Postage Due set Scott #J1-8 exist in this sample form, but have not been seen by this observer.

Anyone having additional information or listings please contact the editor.



ABOVE - UPU Specimen overprint

RIGHT - Waterlow & Sons sample stamps



All stamps are perforated.



See translation at right

Mr. Charles Hass had indicated that through a typo an error crept into his article Egypt - New Observations concerning the Occurrence of Two Different Types of Arabic 'Mim' on Three Issues of Overprinted Stamps. Please change the letter "d" to "B" on page 21, second line from the top to read - "Setting B is the most prolific for errors..." (Issue No. 4, pp.16-27)

Additionally, he has encountered a corner block of the 10m from the B plate of the Ameery overprint. In a future issue Mr. Hass will give a corrected recalculation of the percentage of stamps of that value with the "large mim".

JOHN A. NICOLINI jr

AEROGRAMMES - old & new issues - WORLD-WIDE

BOUGHT & SOLD

- Free Bi-Monthly descriptive new issue listings for all postal stationery sent upon request. ●

P.O. Box 1220 — Duluth, Georgia 30136

Number above normal
Date March 8, 1920

To the Honorable Mr. Khalil Rifat Bik, Judge
of the Criminal Court

In commemoration of this glorious historical day, the day of independence of the United Arab Syria, by the hands of His Majesty King Feisal, the son of the Great Hussein, I present to your honor a sample of the postal stamps that had been printed in Damascus, the capital of the King. They will be in use from the moment of sale (in happiness and joy). Wishing the Almighty God to cause the life of this nation to be overwhelmed with glory and long-lasting honor, and may God give my master long life.

Damascus: General Director of the Postal and Telegraph Service
Hallan al-Hakim

The above document is owned by Howard Lewin and is an interesting item by any standard. The text is printed with gold-colored ink but portions are handwritten. The portions handwritten are underlined in the translation. The seal at the left is in purple, as is the cancellation on the stamp. The uncanceled stamp on the left is Scott #85 (Syria -Arabian Government) and the other is Scott #86. The overprint is actually gold but appears green. Several of the Arab governments dusted the stamps with gold dust after applying the overprint. Early Jordanian and Hejaz stamps are found with different colors under the gold that was dusted on them. This document was one of many (?) presented to dignitaries, a conclusion drawn by the editor since it is printed with blanks to be filled in at a later date. The item is most likely quite rare.

Note that Fig. 2 in the article Notes on the Syrian Stamps of 1920 is from a similar document.



Iraq issued a set of three airmail stamps on October 10, 1970 to commemorate the Legislation of the National Development Plan for the years 1970-1974. The three stamps carry the following valuations - 10, 15 fils and 1 dinar. Only 7500 sets of the stamps, printed by Thomas De La Rue of London, were issued.



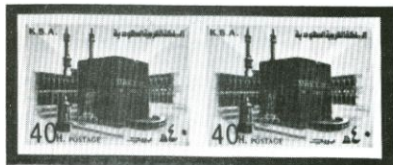
U.A.E. aerogramme FD cancellation.
See Issue #2 for the overprinted varieties on the first issue.



ABU DHABI cancellation? Comments appreciated.



The 1976 United Arab Emirates provisional (Scott 68), 50 fils on 75 fils. The stamp is greatly under-catalogued and not easy to locate.



The current Saudi definitives are available in gutter pairs with a variety of watermark positions. The Ka'aba image is readily recognizable in two types. The first of the two is illustrated by a single stamp of the 40H value. Note that the minarets at the top are white. In the reengraved stamp they are black, and the 40H is moved to the right. An imperf pair illustrates the reengraved stamp.



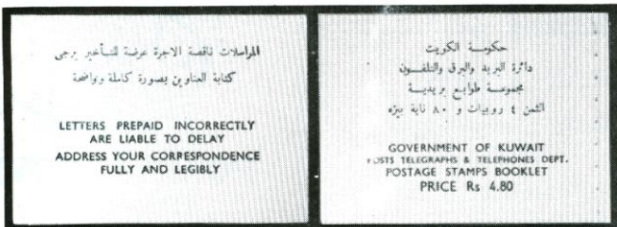
Issued 7p value



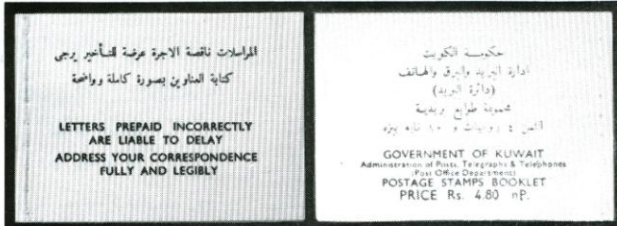
Proof set in issued colors but values are 3p

Several years ago the Arabian Philatelic Association in Dhahran made available to its members the three items illustrated above. Imperf proofs of the three values of the FREEDOM FROM HUNGER set were printed in the issued colors but all the values were printed as 3p. The set was originally made available to members for \$20. Today it is selling for up to \$75. Each stamp was numbered on the back in pencil.

Booklet
A



Booklet
B



Scott #143

KUWAIT Booklets each containing six panes of the 1959 issue portraying Sheik Abdul-lah (Scott #140-4); 5np green (2), 10np rose brown, 15np yellow brown, 20np grey violet and 25np vermilion. The selva on both of these booklets is on the right hand side. Do booklets exist with the selva on the left side?

Booklet A has text only on the front and back as illustrated, and sells for about \$5.00 U.S. Booklet B has four additional pages (printed on both sides) of information on the inside - two in Arabic and two in English, regarding postage rates and the posting of envelopes. This booklet is the scarcer of the two and is selling for about \$20.00 U.S., when available.

LEBANON, F-VF

All stamps are Mint, NH, except as noted. Used: U.S. 4¢ W/h.m. with huge margin.

148-50 + 1.25	220-24.	B13-15.	C101-06 14.50	C175-82 22.50	C308.
152-54 1.20	C141-45.	C812-15 4.75	C111-14	C183-82 55.00	S/5 1.75
156-59 4.00	Imp	S/5 9.75	" 3.00	C200-06 22.50	S/5 75
Same + 2.50	" 75np	C815-7 4.75	C115-18 7.75	Same + 9.75	Pair 110.00
163-66.	mar. 275.00	B16-18.	C119-28 75.00	Same + 12.75	
C82-87 95.00	225-27.	C815-7 4.75	C122a 2.00	C427-36 12.75	
169-72.	C148-49 12.50	C9-12 + 2.75	C126-28 60.00	C81-4 11.50	
C91-96 110.00	Imp	C124 + 6.00	C129-34 22.50	Same + 6.00	
173-76 1.25	board 125.00	C38 + 30	C135-40 15.00	C85-9 75.00	
Same + 75	S/5 7.50	C39-48 + 5.75	Same + 10.00	Same + 25.00	
181-88 15.00	234-47 27.50	C49-54 + 35.00	Imp	Same + 35.00	
Same + 10.00	C57-64 + 7.50	C141-45 15.00	C175-82 22.50		
202.	C75-78 3.75	C75-78 3.75	C183-82 55.00		
C107-10 40.00	229-23 + 20.00	Same + 2.00	C200-06 22.50		
IB 175.00	234-47 27.50	C80-81 + 2.25	C211-20 30.00		
203-09 50.00	C242-44 75.00	C82-87 + 35.00	C221-22 5.75		
206-09 45.00	243-44 3.50	C88-90 + 2.50	C237-38 12.75		
Same + 25.00	C245-46 1.50	C89-90 1.50	C248-45 75		
210-19 45.00	247-50 45.00	C90-91 1.50	C258a.		
Same + 25.00	256-65 50.00	C91-92 1.50	C258b.		
	266-74 32.50	C93-94 1.50	C258c.		
	275-84 75.00	C95-96 1.50	C258d.		
	313-14	C97-100 1.50	C258e.		
		C97-100 1.50	C258f.		
		C97-100 1.50	C258g.		
		C97-100 1.50	C258h.		
		C97-100 1.50	C258i.		
		C97-100 1.50	C258j.		
		C97-100 1.50	C258k.		
		C97-100 1.50	C258l.		
		C97-100 1.50	C258m.		
		C97-100 1.50	C258n.		
		C97-100 1.50	C258o.		
		C97-100 1.50	C258p.		
		C97-100 1.50	C258q.		
		C97-100 1.50	C258r.		
		C97-100 1.50	C258s.		
		C97-100 1.50	C258t.		
		C97-100 1.50	C258u.		
		C97-100 1.50	C258v.		
		C97-100 1.50	C258w.		
		C97-100 1.50	C258x.		
		C97-100 1.50	C258y.		
		C97-100 1.50	C258z.		
		C97-100 1.50	C259-30 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C260-31 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C261-32 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C262-33 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C263-34 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C264-35 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C265-36 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C266-37 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C267-38 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C268-39 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C269-40 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C270-41 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C271-42 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C272-43 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C273-44 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C274-45 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C275-46 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C276-47 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C277-48 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C278-49 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C279-50 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C280-51 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C281-52 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C282-53 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C283-54 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C284-55 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C285-56 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C286-57 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C287-58 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C288-59 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C289-60 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C290-61 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C291-62 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C292-63 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C293-64 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C294-65 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C295-66 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C296-67 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C297-68 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C298-69 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C299-70 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C300-71 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C301-72 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C302-73 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C303-74 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C304-75 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C305-76 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C306-77 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C307-78 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C308-79 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C309-80 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C310-81 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C311-82 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C312-83 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C313-84 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C314-85 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C315-86 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C316-87 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C317-88 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C318-89 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C319-90 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C320-91 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C321-92 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C322-93 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C323-94 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C324-95 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C325-96 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C326-97 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C327-98 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C328-99 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C329-100 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C330-101 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C331-102 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C332-103 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C333-104 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C334-105 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C335-106 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C336-107 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C337-108 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C338-109 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C339-110 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C340-111 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C341-112 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C342-113 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C343-114 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C344-115 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C345-116 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C346-117 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C347-118 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C348-119 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C349-120 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C350-121 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C351-122 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C352-123 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C353-124 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C354-125 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C355-126 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C356-127 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C357-128 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C358-129 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C359-130 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C360-131 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C361-132 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C362-133 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C363-134 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C364-135 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C365-136 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C366-137 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C367-138 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C368-139 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C369-140 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C370-141 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C371-142 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C372-143 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C373-144 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C374-145 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C375-146 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C376-147 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C377-148 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C378-149 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C379-150 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C380-151 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C381-152 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C382-153 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C383-154 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C384-155 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C385-156 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C386-157 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C387-158 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C388-159 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C389-160 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C390-161 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C391-162 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C392-163 30.00		
		C97-100 1.50	C393-164 30.00		
		C97-10			

BECK STAMP AUCTIONS

Arab World

STAMPS & COVERS

in all our sales at public
auction

**REQUEST YOUR FREE
CATALOG NOW**

P. O. Box 2216, Mesa, AZ 85204

ATA - SPA - APS - ASDA

AAMS - CSDA

SAUDI ARABIA

Bought & Sold

HEJAZ
PLATED OVERPRINTS

As you know, all Hejaz overprints have been extensively forged. Some of these fakes are so good that the only effective way to expertize them is by plating both the overprint and the stamp back to their original positions on full sheets.

All conscientious dealers make an effort to sell only genuine material, but most simply do not have the requisite knowledge to judge this material effectively. The stamps you buy, therefore, may or may not be genuine; and it becomes your responsibility to prove that a particular stamp is a fake. This certainly costs you time, and it can cost you money as well.

NOT SO HERE! All Hejaz overprints I sell have been plated **BEFORE** I put them on my lists. It is an extra assurance for you that the material you buy from me is genuine — an extra assurance which is standard policy with me.

I have just published a list of the 16mm. Jeddah Three Line Overprint of 1925 (Scott L81-L131, S.G. 94-147) — all plated. This list, along with my new Spring Regular Stock List for Saudi Arabia, is available for the asking.

APS

APA



PATRICK RIGGS

P.O. BOX 8017
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78712



POSTAL COVERS

mail bid sales

"COVER THE WORLD"

ALWAYS INTERESTING "ARAB" COVERS



For catalog send \$1.00 to:

Theo. van Dam

Box 26, Brewster, NY 10509

EGYPT

**Want Lists Filled From Stock
(Mint Only)**

Most 20th Century Issues

Available

Prompt Service



PAUL D. FRANK

P.O. Box 100

West Danby, N.Y. 14896

EGYPT



BOUGHT & SOLD

General & Specialized
Classic & Modern

NOTICE!

Mr. Feltus will be in Egypt during the latter part of April and London the first half of May. Correspondence will be answered upon his return.

Want lists are invited for older material, specialty and unusual items and better Egypt.

Mr. Feltus' catalog on Egyptian Revenues is presently being put into order for publication in the not too distant future. Inquiries from interested parties are being solicited at this time.

PETER R. FELTUS
5709 KEITH AVENUE
OAKLAND, CA 94618

GAMIL ATALLAH

104 GREENWOOD ROAD
DEWITT, N.Y. 13214

A.P.S.

A.T.A.

- RANDOM LISTING BELOW -

ARAB EMIRATES	
50	\$ 10.00
100	35.00
ADEN & STATES	
Pre Independence	
50	3.50
100	9.00
ALAOUITES	
50	16.00
70	55.00
ALEXANDRETTA	
No Hatay included	
20	10.00
25	20.00
31 country compl.	50.00
BAHRAIN	
75	11.00
100	20.00
CYPRUS	
100	10.00
150	24.00
200	43.00
DUBAI	
150	8.00
200	18.00
EGYPT w/U.A.R.	
800	40.00
1000 Mounted	72.00
IRAQ	
500	22.00
800 Mounted	110.00
1000 Mounted	300.00
JORDAN	
300	25.00
500 Mounted	100.00
KUWAIT	
300	\$ 45.00
400 Mounted	100.00
500 Mounted	190.00
LATAKIA	
20	6.00
25	9.00
LEBANON	
500	28.00
800 Mounted	85.00
1000 Mounted	190.00
1200 Mounted	400.00
LIBYA No	
Italian Ocup.	
200	28.00
500 Mounted	140.00
PALESTINE MANDATE	
ONLY with shades	
50	12.00
100 Mounted	55.00
QATAR - All	
Scott listed	
100	4.75
150	15.00
200	30.00
SUDAN (Brit.)	
200	17.50
250	33.00
SYRIA	
500	35.00
800 Mounted	135.00
1000 Mounted	275.00
1200 Mounted	490.00

- NEAR EAST COLLECTIONS -

"My Specialty" - at low prices. All different. Fine copies. Postfree in U.S. for orders over \$25.00

Ask for my free complete price list. Many postally used of Near East Countries may also be supplied against want list.

LONDON & NEW YORK STAMP CO., LTD.

INTERNATIONAL STAMP DEALER

P.O. Box 72, Harrow, Middlesex, HA13LG, Great Britain

SELECTED ITEMS FROM OUR STOCKS

EGYPT	Austrian Post Office. Pair of SG 16 tied to cover by straight line.	
	Col Vapore d'Alessandria	\$225.00
EGYPT	1927 photogravure proofs of SG 171-172 on cancelled paper	300.00
EGYPT	SG 189-192 Unmounted set with misplaced perforations — Rare	450.00
EGYPT	1922 essay by Harrison & Sons, London — marginal block of six.	
	Zeheri 75	300.00
IRAQ	SG 153-154 Unmounted high values	50.00
IRAQ	SG 114c Unmounted corner block of four. Superb	400.00
JORDAN	SG 183-194 USED set	72.00
JORDAN	SGD 189-D 194 mounted Specimen set	40.00
JORDAN — OCCUPATION OF PALESTINE		
	SG PD 26b unmounted pair	20.00
	SG P31 unmounted with double overprint	50.00
LEBANON	YVERT 1-6 imperforate marginals	100.00
LEBANON	SG 143 unmounted with inverted overprint	50.00
LIBYA	Two piastre Turkish forerunner with Tripoli CDS	150.00
LIBYA	SG D 161 - D 165 unmounted set	80.00
LIBYA	SG 176-187 unmounted set	72.00
SYRIA	Turkish forerunner with fine Damascus negative seal in blue black	175.00
SYRIA	Turkish forerunner on piece tied by fine Hamidiye negative seal in black ..	80.00
SYRIA	SG 166-169 unmounted set	50.00
SYRIA	Alaoutes SG 42b (error 5p Lebanon) unmounted corner copy	90.00
YEMEN	20p Turkish forerunner two pairs forming a block of four being tied by Hudeida CDS	80.00

All items are offered subject unsold. If any are of interest we will be pleased to hear from you, or to receive your "wants list" for similar material.