



THE *Arab World* PHILATELIST



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R. HOWARD COURTNEY
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FRONT COVER Imperforate color essay presented to H.H. Sheikh Saqr b. Sultan of Sharjah by the printers of Sharjah's first stamps. See story on page 2.

The Response

This issue was to include an article on Arab World Oil Theme Stamps by Luther Williams. Unfortunately, Mr. Williams passed away before the material was sent to me. Our condolences go to Mrs. Williams and her family.

I would like to thank everyone for their tremendous assistance in the production of this second issue and for their financial support in purchasing a copy of the premiere issue. There were four hundred copies of the first issue printed.

In this issue you can see that I have been able to attract writers who have provided articles on older material. The individual associations continue to produce many scholarly articles in their respective publications, but by-and-large, they are read by only a handful of people. I hope to be able to reprint some of those articles as time passes, as the information is important and should be read by a larger audience.

From the comments I have received, it appears that the journal fills a void that has existed for some time. The August issue of the American Philatelic Association Journal ran a very favorable review, which resulted in several orders and a good deal of publicity. My thanks to them.

I learned four things from your responses: 1) Many of you are looking for new sources of material, as evidenced by the twenty-six requests I had asking for more advertisements. These requests came from the States and overseas; 2) You are not interested in a "NEW ISSUE" listing. Eight people indicated such, while one wanted it included. The consensus was that such information is readily available in the *Scott* and *Minkus* journals and elsewhere, and the space could be better taken up with more articles; 3) Saudi Arabia is the real sleeper in the philatelic world. I had several requests for "sources" of Saudi material. The pre-1955 material goes at full, or above catalog, when you can locate it. We are all looking forward to the Arabian Philatelic Association's annual auction in October to see what trends will be set in motion. The Saudi Airs, GOSP and Dam issues are eagerly sought after and some of them are extremely difficult to locate, and; 4) All older material from the Arab World is going at a premium. Prices here in the States are still low compared to overseas.

If you should contact a dealer who advertizes in this journal, please indicate where you saw the ad. This shows them that they are getting a return on their money and in turn, makes it easier for me to sell future ads.

The article promised last time on Propaganda Stationery (envelopes and letter-heads) is written and the photographic work done. There simply wasn't enough room to include it this time without increasing the production costs. Postage is literally eating me up. To mail a single copy here in the States the cost is 53¢ for the lowest rate available. Overseas airmail Printed Matter (the lowest rate) is \$1.31 to Europe and \$1.70 to Africa and the Middle East. If I can get 200 subscribers here in the U.S. I can obtain a mailer's permit. Such permits are not good for delivery outside the country.

One other major problem I face by mailing at such rates is that the journal is not forwarded if you should move. It is simply thrown away. Please let me know as soon as possible if you should move.

Please submit information and articles as the total effort is geared towards your interests. After proofreading the completed issue I was amazed to see that not one of the articles bore my name. That shows that the effort is not mine alone.



R. Howard Courtney
Editor

HOW A STAMP WAS BORN: SHARJAH'S first definitives

by Bruce Condé



Anything could happen in the Arabian Nights atmosphere of the Arab/Persian Gulf principalities during the closing days of the British Raj in the 1960's - and often did.

During a second exile from Yemen for supporting Crown Prince (later Iman and King) Muhammad al-Badri's reforms of 1959, I found myself passportless and stateless. Mentioning this to a visiting friend from the Gulf, His Highness Sheikh Saqr bin Sultan, the Ruler of Sharjah, while sipping aperitifs on the balcony of his Beirut seaside home, brought the response of "No problem." April 2, 1961 found me disembarking at Sharjah's British R.A.F. airport on the last day of validity of my Yemeni *laissez passer*. There I picked up my new British-protected Trucial States (of Oman) passport under the superscription of Sheikh Saqr of Sharjah, together with Sharjan nationality.

Wishing to repay in some measure the Ruler's kindness, I agreed to make a feasibility study of a separate postal system for Sharjah to replace an unsatisfactory arrangement with the British-administered Trucial States post office so that the small principality could issue its own definitives to replace the rather unimaginative set for all seven of the Trucial States.*



New Sharjah Post Office, 1963. Author on left holding flag with Postal Assistant Tony Muawwad. Postmaster General Tadros on far right next to postal clerk.

His Highness said, "What about Stamps? I wish them to be the best in the Gulf." I explained that to achieve this it would be necessary to retain the services of Britain's leading security press - Harrison and Sons of London. Also, it would be desirable to pack the greatest amount of symbolism possible into the first issue.

"Precisely what?" he asked.

"First, we must acquaint the world with where Sharjah is," I replied. He winced at this, as though I were telling him most people did not know where the country is, or anything about it. He read my feelings and replied, "Go ahead."

To do such, we needed a map of the Trucial States, with Sharjah standing out in a separate color. I obtained an enlargement I had made of a Sharjan middle school (high

*See "The Sheikdoms: Trucial States to U.A.E." *THE ARAB WORLD PHILATELIST*, No. 1, 1978, p 18.

school) class project map that showed the crazy quilt pattern of the seven sovereign states with their innumerable separated enclosures scattered over the northeastern "hook" of the Arabian Peninsula. Sharjah's four component parts stood out in brilliant red. I explained, "At the top, to cover the Sultan of Oman's Musandam Peninsula enclave, which doesn't belong to the Trucial States, we can put an oval portrait of your highness and the flag of Sharjah in full colors. This will show the world your portrait, the national flag and the fact that Sharjah is the premier and most important state of the peninsular Trucial States." This pleased Saqr no end and he said, "Let it be done."

"To whom shall I entrust the art work and design?" I asked.

"Do it yourself. I don't trust anyone else to carry out your suggestions exactly and without changes," was his response.

"But I'm no artist," I replied.

"Use Harrison's staff artists, but you must make a rough sketch of what you have explained to me for them to follow, and they must follow it exactly or I won't approve the design." He then took his favorite official portrait from a silver frame he had on a bookcase near his desk and said, "Use this portrait and draw in the flag in correct colors on your sketch."

And so it came to be, as seen from the accompanying illustration of my original first draft, which he approved and ordered sent to London (see following page). From this, Harrison's artists drew the second pen and ink sketch (page 24), into which they inked a rough pen-picture of the Ruler. They rearranged the lettering and finally agreed on a color scheme of four colors per stamp, with the map and sea colors changed for each value. The resultant 1 naya paisa low value (illustrated at top of title page), was the final product and prototype of the 15 value postage and 6 value airmail set. The airmails, in addition, carry the silhouette of a hawk and the words "AIRMAIL" in Arabic and English (see front cover). The additional symbolism of the hawk recalls the Ruler's name, "Saqr," which means "hawk" in Arabic, and his fine group of famous hunting hawks on their golden perches. The completed set turned out to be one of the finest and most colorful of all of Harrison's printings of postage stamps and was never equalled by subsequent Sharjan or other Trucial States issues.

Technically, these stamps should have been issued in late 1962, but due to technical reasons, construction and postal arrangement delays, as Saqr would have nothing but the best, other states got wind of the project. Entrepreneurs from Beirut scrambled all over the place to get in on the act. As Dubai, the next state to the southwest of Sharjah, already held the British Trucial States main post office and postal facilities, it had a head start in that instance, but had not had the long and careful planning and execution period for an initial issue. Sheik Rashid of that state, rather unfortunately for himself, called on one of the Beirut entrepreneurs to duplicate Sharjah's efforts. The result, ready on June 15th, nearly a month before Sharjah's planned first day ceremonies, was a long set of bicolored sea life topicals (snails, urchins, crabs, etc.), in various colors with poor Sheikh Rashid tucked away, as an afterthought, in an irregular corner plaque in the same color as the stamp margin.

While the stamps were being prepared, postal negotiations with the British Postal Agency for the Gulf, in Bahrain, were completed, airmail contracts were signed, postal equipment and personnel hired and a small two-room post office constructed on the plaza in front of the Ruler's palace (see title page).

On July 10th, 1963, Saqr's teenage son, Sheikh Sultan bin Saqr, Regent of Sharjah, presided with Her Britannic Majesty's Political Agent for the Trucial States, Michael de Burton, over the opening of Sharjah's first Post Office and officially received from Postmaster General Yusef Salim Tadros the first sheet of Sharjan stamps. He affixed one of them to a first day cover addressed to his father in Beirut and cancelled it with his own hand. Political Agent de Burton affixed and cancelled the second cover. The first of these, with a 30np Arab Postal Union area rate stamp

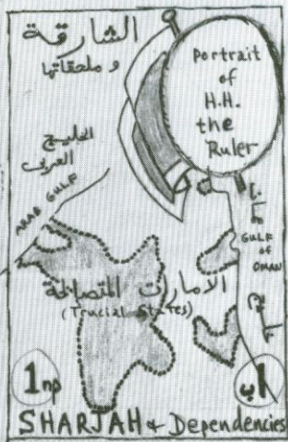
Common Red. 4 colors. 15 values. 7 colour changes. Sea & land. Translating can change. Arabic translation.

Arabic country name large & prominent

geographical →
South (Arabia) for
Arab Gulf countries
ably reduced in
size
Turquoise blue
sea if possible

Green to con-
trast w/ buff
desert lands
details of boundaries
from map

"Trucial States"
in Arabic & English
paint & reduced, as
geographical identity
only



← from photo (A)



flag of Sharjah

← English script reduced
in size so as not
to interfere with
design (same principle)

← Arabic script as on map
(B)

← values as per
Trucial States ones
but abbreviate

ش.ج.

as if
for emblem
with np

4 rupee as
or 4/5
if artistically
possible

NOTE: Country name, portrait, values must
be same color & must change color
for each value; flag, map, sea colors
will be constant on all values.

Revised; Country name in white

Portrait & lettering in black

Flag always red & white

map & sea colours change

for each value

Note: Please return this sketch to
c/o Box 2208, Beirut, Lebanon

Original color sketch by Bruce Conde (reduced) on onionskin paper that was submitted to Harrison & Sons in London. Note Harrison's artists' pen and ink rendition of same design submitted to Sheikh Saqr for his approval (page 24).

CONTINUED ON PAGE 24

Literature

SUDAN two new works

by the late Major E.C.W. Stagg

Those who favor the Sudan can count themselves exceedingly fortunate in having two major works published in the last four years. They do not, and do not claim to, provide all the answers but they do present a veritable mine of information and give guidance and coherence to those collecting Sudan postal issues and history. The two books are reviewed by Howard L. Bowyer, Secretary of the Sudan Study Group.

SUDAN - THE POSTAL MARKINGS 1867-1970 by Major E.C.W. Stagg. London: The Royal Philatelic Society, 1974, 5 4/8 x 8 6/8 inches, hardbound, 196 pp.

The first two chapters of this masterly work deal with the precursor Egyptian/Mahdist periods (1867-1896). Intriguing and informative. Here we see the key reference factor that permeates the book. Meticulously drawn illustrations of postal strikes derived from the originals. The size has been reduced and the reader is directed to a conversion scale at the back of the book. Clarity is excellent and each marking is given a type number referred to in the text. Useful is the indication of scarcity for these cancels but it would be wrong to be overly cowed by such as "only one example recorded" for it is quite possible other copies remain to be discovered, particularly in cases of part cancellations showing the Arabic. If these two chapters indicate the excellence that is in store they also give warning of a criticism that can so frequently be leveled at philatelic books. The paucity of precise references. To give one example. When describing the Military Post Offices in use when troops were sent to Suakin in 1896 (Stagg says during June but the first troopship arrived end of May) we are told that the Base Office opened on the 21st June and closed 25th September, yet this writer has seen three apparently genuine covers with the Base Office cancellations, moving the date well into October. Clearly, it would be useful to note the precise wording of any official statement. When positively delineating the opening and closing of a post office it is helpful to be given some guide as to where the evidence resides.

Chapter Three concerns the Reconquest/Military Period (1897-1903) with attendant, albeit brief, correlation of the post offices with military movements. Sadly, and remarkable, no map. Attention is drawn to forged covers of 1898 but a little more warning of others in this early period would have helped put the collector necessarily on guard. A big plus for the description of the "Telegraphs," an interesting and important feature of military communications at this time.

Chapters Four and Five deal with the Head Post Office at Khartoum and the Post Offices and Postal Agencies for 1904-1970. A treasure of condensed and meaty information replete with the excellent illustrated strikes, although it must be said that the type numbering of these is not always sequential and clearly some have been added "subsequently," resulting on occasions in curious sub-numbering. I like the alphabetical approach, rather than grouping in provinces, for this makes for ready reference. The province location is given alongside each post office - a great help.

Sudan T.P.O's. are a study in themselves and a central plank in postal services. The section on these is particularly pleasing for with the attendant map the routes are explained with rewarding detail.

Military, Censorship, and a hodgepodge of other markings are the themes of the final two chapters. Once again one feels frustrated by the lack of references regarding definitive statements. This is all the more surprising when so much is tentatively and properly expressed as being derived from cancellations so far seen. There is a mass of recording based on extensive correlation of material and the usual delightful illustrations. We must still await however, a detailed exposition of military markings in the fuller context of troop locations and movements. A very impressive listing of the interesting Rettas is given but sadly no dates of usage. It is a pity so little is said of the Lado enclave.

The Bibliography appears as an anaemic afterthought. There is a good index.

Inevitably, this volume of documentation harbours a few errors and omissions. No one was more aware of this than Major Staggs who took the lead in publishing through the Sudan Study Group listings of amendments and updating addenda. Overall, the book would have benefited from more maps and a few well chosen covers. A work of this quality is unduly short on references which point the way to evidence and further research. Yet when one considers the massive amount of information and the host of invaluable illustrative markings this book is an outstanding expression of knowledge and sheer hard work. The achievement completely dwarfs any criticism.

SUDAN - THE STAMPS AND POSTAL STATIONERY OF 1867-1970 by Major E.C.W. Staggs. West Yorkshire: Harry Hayes, 1977, 8 5/8 x 11 4/8 inches, hardbound 144 pp.

The opening chapter on early philatelic history, deceptively modest in length, is a real treat. Egyptian stamps used at specified post offices in the Sudan are given complete with a scale of scarcity ratings. Postage dues and Interpostals are also listed. An intriguing insight into a connoisseurs area. There is a fine page, with map, on the Lado enclave which is very welcome.

The following chapter concerning the permanent and provisional definitive issues begins a little strangely with an 1896 Dongola cover. Lovely to see but perhaps more appropriate elsewhere. The 1897 provisionals are expertly studied with the types of overprints and settings superbly illustrated. The pane settings of the major varieties of the 1940 5 milliemes surcharges are also fully displayed. Much is related about the "Camel" stamps without achieving the complete in-depth profile of printings that we have yet to see. It is pleasing to find proper cognizance given to proofs, colour trials, and specimens. Turning to the 1951 and 1962 issues, there is a feeling of disappointment. Interesting background about the pictorial designs but little else. Shades exist, the author abruptly tells us, in the 1951 set. Then why not mention some of the more glaring examples such as those on the Stack Laboratory and Darfur Chief stamps? The implication is, as elsewhere in the book, that shades are not of much consequence, when in reality they can provide useful markers to printings. The apparent philatelic sterility of the 1951 and 1962 definitives is a myth unrelieved here and it is a pity the author did not show the way even if only via major shade differences being listed.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 23

u.a.e. aerogramme varieties

by

John A. Nicolini, Jr.



The first regular aerogramme of the United Arab Emirates was released on June 1, 1974. Printed by the Pakistan Security Printing Corporation of Karachi, with a face value of 60 fils, the aerogramme could be posted to any country without need for additional postage.

The purple and brown stamp imprint shows the country's coat of arms, a falcon with a dhow depicted on its chest. The background of the imprint is made up of light and dark purple wavy lines emanating from the falcon, with all wording in both English and Arabic.

Unfolded, the lettersheet measures approximately 9 6/16 inches (23.81cm) wide by 12 7/16 inches (31.59cm) high, including the flaps. Papers exist in colors ranging from light blue to gray and sometime with a slight purple tinge. Aside from the stamp imprint, all remaining inscriptions are in brown ink with instructions such as "First Fold Here" in both English and Arabic. Illustration above is reduced in size.

In 1976, the postal rate for the aerogramme was increased to 75 fils and stocks of the 60 fils sheet were surcharged with the new rate. To date, this sheet has been surcharged with five different and distinctive surcharge printings, all of them done in Dubai. Printed by machine in black ink, both English and Arabic versions of the old value were obliterated and surcharged with the appropriate numerals - "75". Aerogrammes with these overprints have been found on all paper colors mentioned above.



ENLARGED APPROXIMATELY TWICE NORMAL SIZE

Top left: Surcharge number 1 applied by the National Printing Press.

Top right: Number 2, printed at the Technical Press.

Center left: Number 3, also printed at the Technical Press.

Center right: Number 4, applied at the Union Press.

Left: Fifth, and current surcharge, done at the Modern Press.

(1) The first surcharge was applied by the National Printing Press. This is the easiest overprint of the five to recognize since the obliteration is by two horizontal bars with a small space between them.

(2) The second surcharge was applied at the Technical Printing Press with the old value overprinted as explained above. The bottom stroke of both the Western 7 and 5 end with what looks like a large dot. This makes the vertical leg of the 7 resemble a tear drop. Distance between the new value and the box is 1 1/4mm.

(3) Overprinting was again done at the Technical Printing Press but differed from the previous effort. The large dots are now missing from the bottom of both numerals. The space between the surcharge and the solid box is now 1 3/4mm. When measured from the outside edges, the total length of the two block obliterations is 25 1/2mm.

(4) The next surcharge was applied by the Union Printing Press. It is similar to the third printing but the numbers are now much thinner though still the same height. When measured from the outside edges, total length of the two block obliterations is 26mm.

(5) The fifth and current surcharge was done by the Modern Printing Press. Like the second printing, numerals again have the dots, though quite a bit smaller this time. Space between the surcharge and obliteration is 2mm, versus 1 1/4 for the second

The aerogrammes of this young country appear to be issued primarily for postal usage, with even minor errors seemingly nonexistent.

The writer would be interested in hearing from anyone who has other varieties or errors of the above aerogrammes. He can be reached at his new address - Post Office Box 1220, Duluth, Georgia 30136.

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egypt's first fiscals

Peter R. Feltus

Egypt's first adhesive revenue stamps were issued about twenty years after the appearance of the first adhesive postage stamps. In recent years some documents, essays, proofs, and sheets of the stamps have come to light, and so the story can be told in some detail.

In November of 1885, the Director General of the Egyptian Postal Administration sent a letter to Thomas de la Rue & Co., Ltd., the London firm that had been producing Egypt's postage stamps since early 1879. As that letter was entirely about the desired revenue stamps, a translation of the whole letter (from the original French) appears below.

Alexandria, Nov. 3, 1885

Gentlemen,

The Egyptian Government intends to introduce some adhesive Stamps for the collection of some inland taxes, and I am instructed to ask you on what terms you would undertake the manufacture of those Stamps.

The idea would be to use the "master die", Sphinx and Pyramid, of the Egyptian Postage Stamp for the center of the new fiscal stamp. But we should like a stamp a little larger than the present Postage Stamp.

There will be 12 values:^{*} 2, 10 and 20 Paras, 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 10, 25, and 50 Piastres. The words "Postes Egyptiennes" will be replaced by the words "Gouvernement Egyptien", of which I enclose a translation into Arabic as well as that of the different duties.

It is desired to preserve the mode of writing the duty at full length, reproducing it in figures at the corners of the Stamps. Your samples should show the colour as well as the shape.

I should be glad if you would inform me at the same time your price for their manufacture as well as the time necessary for it. The latter point is important, because the Government desires to issue these Stamps as soon as possible.

It is within my knowledge that a Government Committee has been sitting at London this year to examine the question of the colours of the Postage Stamps and the inks with which they are printed. I should be glad if you could tell me what was the result of the deliberations of that Committee and send me, if possible, a copy of their report.

The new fiscal Stamps will be cancelled, as in England, by the application to them of a portion of a seal, of a signature, or of the date affixed to the document Stamped.

**Although the letter mentions twelve values, Mr. Halton lists only eleven.*

The above article previously appeared in the October 24, 1977 issue of LINN'S.

The natives seal, and do not sign, their documents, and for this purpose they make use of a special ink, a sample of which I send you by the same post. They also use the same ink for writing.

You will find on the enclosure hereto some specimens of native seals and writing.

It is very important that the Egyptian Gov't. should be protected against the employment a second time of these fiscal Stamps, and I beg you in your reply to let me know whether you can insure that it will be impossible to remove from them without trace the ink which the natives use, as well as that which Europeans use.

I am &c

(signed) W.F. Halton
Director General

One can assume that a similar letter was also sent to the Alexandrian firm of V. Penasson, for two reasons. First, at this time Penasson was producing Egypt's postage due stamps (issues of 1884, 1887 and 1888), which were designed by Mr. L. Barkhausen. Second, a hand-drawn essay which, though undated, conforms to Halton's requirements, has come to light from the archives of the Barkhausen family. It is done with black ink over a pencilled sketch.



*Barkhausen's hand-drawn essay
shown actual size.*

In response to the letter, de la Rue produced a series of hand-painted essays. Four, at least, have survived. Three of them, each on a numbered card dated December 18, 1885, are as follows: #1) 2 paras, reddish-lilac; #2) 10 paras, reddish-lilac; and #6) 3 piastres, green. The fourth, dated March 31, 1886, was produced in compliance with instructions received from Egypt's representative in London, just a week earlier, as follows, "The 20 paras design has to be altered and the words '5 ochr el girch' added in English and Arabic. . .". Of course, the firm realized that what was wanted in Egypt was French and Arabic.



During the next several months there must have been considerable correspondence between Egypt and London. Die proofs with handstamped dates in September 1886 and the words "before hardening" show the resulting final designs for an issue of just six values, with modified Arabic wording. (It is interesting to note that neither of the low value stamps, with values in paras, is included; some months later a change was made in the currency, dividing the piastre into ten milliemes rather than into forty paras. It was not until March 29, 1887, that Egypt instructed de la Rue about this and requested postage stamps in the new currency for issue on January 1, 1888).



After apparent approval of the designs and dies, the stamps were printed by typography on the same watermarked paper used for postage stamps. They were printed in sheets of 120 that were divided by a blank gutter into two panes (10 x 6 or 6 x 10), and all sheets show plate number 1 in the four corners. Three values are reddish-lilac (5/10pt., 5pt. and 10pt.) and three are green. The ink employed is fugitive (i.e. water soluble) in accordance with the request that "it will be impossible to remove from them without a trace the ink" used to cancel them. (Collectors should therefore not wash these stamps).

CANCELLATIONS OF THE OTTOMAN
POSTS IN YEMEN
by B.D. Stannard

The Ottoman postal service dated from 1840 (A.H. 1256) until the formation of the Turkish Republic in 1920.

A proposition for the issuing of postage stamps, having been approved by Agah Efendi, the Minister of Posts, was authorized by the Sublime Porte through an imperial firman dated 14 Ramadan 1278 (March 3, 1862). The date for issue of stamps was thus set at 1 January 1863 (old style) of 23 Radjeb 1279 (Islamic date).

The first known cancels of the Ottoman posts in Yemen appear to be at Sanaa in 1868, at Taiz in 1871 and Hodeidah in 1873. These three cancels were in use until 1892 and were circular in design with two rings enclosing the city name (figs. 1-3).



Figure 1



Figure 2



Figure 3

While this type of cancel was usually reserved for post offices in Turkish Europe, several postal offices in Turkish Asia received cancellation dies of this design in error.

The second type of cancel appeared in Menafe in 1884 (fig. 4). The town name is now surrounded by a double line rectangle. This was the correct format for cancellations for Ottoman post offices in Asia. In 1890, another cancel of this format appeared for the Port of Lahye (Loheiya) on the Red Sea and was used until about 1892 (fig. 5).



Figures
4 & 5



In 1892, a large number of new cancels appeared in Yemeni post offices. The town of Bacil (Bajel) received an octagonal cancel with the city name enclosed in a double line frame (fig. 6). The town of Havran (Hawran) received an oval cancel at the same time. The single lined oval frame enclosed the town name which was indicated in Thulus script (fig. 7).



Figure 6



Figure 7



Figure 8

Zeydiye (Zabid) was the next town to see postal service. A cancel similar to the 1884 Manafe cancel and the 1890 Loheiya cancel was issued in 1892 and was used until 1901 (fig. 8).

In 1892 Muka (Mocha) also came upon the philatelic scene. A cancel of the same format as Sanaa (1868) and Hodeidah (1873) was used, but it is not known for how long (fig. 9). This cancel is extremely rare. Brandt's researches indicated in 1963 that only one example is known.* Of equal scarcity is the 1892 cancellation for Katiye, which is rectangular with three lines enclosing the town name (fig. 10). The final date of use is not known.

A very rare cancel for Beit al-Figah also appeared around 1892 and was used until about 1901. The design is a single rectangular line around the town name (fig. 11).



Figure 9



Figure 10



Figure 11

It should be remembered that in 1874 the Ottoman Empire was one of the founding members of the Universal Postal Union. As early as 1867, bilingual cancels in Turkish and French were used. These consisted of a double ring circle enclosing the town name and the date, expressed in both Arabic script (Islamic date) and French (Gregorian date) (fig. 12).

Since many Arab postal clerks were not familiar with French or the Gregorian dates, many errors in cancels are found, such as inverted numbers and incompatible Islamic and Gregorian dates (fig. 13).



Figure 12



Figure 13

Until about 1892, these bilingual cancels were primarily used as control stamps, with the earlier cancels used to "cancel" postage. Use of most of the early cancels ceased about this time and were replaced by the bilingual cancels. Later cancellations are bilingual and of a different design. Examples of such have been seen for Taiz, Salif (fig. 14), Hodeidah (at least 5 different), Menake, Sanaa (at least 2 different), Tebouk and Beit Beriche.



Figure 14



*Brandt, O and S. Ceylan, *TURK POSTALARI ILK FILATELIK DAMGA VE MUHURLERI 1863-1920*. Istanbul: (?), 1963.

A LETTER FROM *Arabia*

August 1978

It's a pleasure to report that the art of collecting Saudi Arabian stamps is alive and well. This is the month of Ramadhan here, when all Muslims fast from sun-up to sun-down. The postal authorities have been quiet, and there have been no stamp issues other than the definitives, now coming out with the Ka'aba design as redrawn with dark towers and other changes. If the Government follows the usual practice, they will issue some items in conjunction with the holidays that immediately follow Ramadhan and mark the breaking of the fast. We still hear rumors of a special set with first day covers, souvenir sheet, etc., but nothing has come out as yet.

The way to find out what is really scarce among Saudi stamps is to take your want list and compare it with those of a number of other serious collectors. When the same items keep showing up, you begin to understand that these are the true rarities. Some of these are not highly regarded by the catalogue makers, and this is true incidentally, of other countries as well. Others, of course, are widely recognized as rarities. Some stamps that are marked up in catalogues are not at all difficult to find, just expensive, and this fact testifies to popularity as much as to scarcity. In any event, the scarce items among our favorite stamps are all under-catalogued, and you should be ready to pay if they show up at auction. Whether or not we will get any of these goodies at the up-coming Arabian Philatelic Association auction remains to be seen.

When you consider how rare some of the Hejaz items are, you wonder why anyone would take on such a difficult area. Let's take, for instance, the $\frac{1}{2}$ pi green, (Scott design A1) as overprinted by the Hejaz Government in 1925. The gold overprints on the roulette 20 stamps (Scott L61) are truly scarce. As far as is known, there was only one sheet of each underprinting -- one was printed by letting gold dust stick to wet ink using red ink, and the other using blue ink. Thus, we speak of red underprint and blue underprint. A New York dealer broke up the bottom half of the red underprint sheet a few years ago, and that's where I got mine -- the bottom two rows including the plate numbers, were acquired by one of our members who still holds this piece. All of you who didn't get this one are looking for the remaining 25 copies. I have seen a few of the blue underprint, but I would say that your chances of finding it are much better, since I have only seen five or six of them.

The unframed overprint of December, 1921, provides some trouble. First, there are many fakes, especially of the better items, although all have been forged. There were only 3,000 of the 1 para overprinted, according to *Warin**-- the stamp (Scott L14) is in fact hard to find. The $\frac{1}{8}$ pi orange, (Scott L15) of which 10,000 were printed, turns out to be just about as hard to find as the 1 para. Many collections do not have it. *Scott* now prices it the same as the 1 para, and I think that this is a proper relationship. The printings on the roulette 20 (Scott L15c, L16c and L17b), plus the unlisted 1pi roulette 20 and perf 10, are true rarities, there being perhaps not more than a few sheets of each. I don't own a one of them. The story goes that few if any went to Europe or the West in general. Most seen in dealers' stocks in Europe and the States are forgeries. There were some in the stock of Jal Cooper, so it is said, but these were dispersed when he passed away, and nothing seems to be known of their whereabouts. Information gratefully received.

Another toughie that shows up on want lists is *Scott* L25, the $\frac{1}{8}$ pi orange with the framed overprint of January, 1922. Adequate quantities were printed, but it just doesn't show up. Again, there are a lot of fakes floating around. We are all looking

**Warin*, D.F., *THE POSTAL ISSUES OF HEJAZ, JEDDAH AND NEJD*. London: D. Field, 1927

CONTINUED ON PAGE 26



Guide Markings on the ~~£~~1 Farouk Stamp of Egypt, 1945-1946



by Charles F. Hass

It is indeed an uncommon occurrence when a major alteration takes place in the design of a stamp, that change going unnoticed, or at least unexplained, for a period in excess of 30 years. Such is the case, however, with the first ~~£~~1 Farouk definitive stamp of Egypt. First issued in 1939, that stamp went through 5 printings over a period of 6 years (A/39, A/40, A/43, B/43, A/44 - all but the first from the same rotogravure printing cylinder). In 1945 a new cylinder, having control #A/45, was prepared.

During the printing lives of the original two cylinders, there was apparently some difficulty encountered with the registration of the two colors of the design (sepia for the oval portrait of the vignette, blue for the frame), many examples of the stamp having been seen with the center quite markedly misplaced. It is indeed a fact of life in the printing trade that an oval or a circle within another presents greater difficulty in registration than a square or rectangle within another. The degree of movement required to register both the horizontal and vertical planes on the press is easily seen and corrected on the latter. When dealing with the former, however, the problem is magnified many times, it being quite difficult to determine the axis on which the press must be adjusted in order to bring the colors into proper registration.

With the manufacture of the new A/45 cylinder, an effort was made to provide a device to be used by the printer (The Survey of Egypt) to facilitate proper registration of the two colors on the rotogravure press. That device took the form of a small sepia arc in the upper left-hand corner of each stamp on the pane of 50, corresponding to the rounded corner of the blue frame line. The addition of such a mark was obviously geared to alleviate the previously encountered misregistration problems by providing a more readily seen guide for the pressmen. When the stamps bearing the guide were printed in perfect registration, the sepia guide mark becomes nearly invisible, having been "killed" by the blue ink of the frame line. The merit of such an addition is somewhat doubtful as I have seen many copies of the stamp in question with varying degrees of misregistration. The problem does seem to be more acute on the stamps of the earlier printings, however, so some small improvement may have resulted from the change. The illustration accompanying this article shows a corner pair with control #A/45, magnified 2x linear. The degree of misregistration is obvious at the lower right of each vignette (indicated by white arrows), and the corner guides are easily seen at the upper left-hand corner of each stamp (black arrows). The inset at lower left shows a 4x linear enlargement of the corner and guide.

The surprising fact is that almost no mention has ever been made of the guide marking in the philatelic press. None of the catalogues listing Egypt mention it, not even the specialized *Zeheri Catalogue* of Egypt. I have seen only two references to the guide, both of them in *L'Orient Philatelique* over 25 years ago. The first, in *L'O.P.* #78 (Apr. 1952), was a short piece by Leopold Megglé. It illustrated three different configurations of marks seen by the writer, and was basically an inquiry as to their significance and location on the sheet. I have yet to see any examples of the two deformed marks illustrated by Megglé, and can only attribute their appearance to variances of inking. The second reference to the marks appeared in *L'O.P.*



#80 (Oct. 1952), and was a reply to the query of Megglé by C.W. Minett. Minett came close to the answer, stating that the marks appeared to be "in the nature of guide lines", but made no attempt to explain their positions on the sheet or to which printings they belonged. He did inquire as to the presence of such marks on the 50pt stamp of the same issue, as well as on the later 50pt and 1l stamps of 1949-52. Apparently no further attempts were made to clarify the situation.

The fact is that the guide markings appear only on the 1l stamp in question, none having been used for the 50pt or for the 50pt and 1l of the later issue. The registration problem was apparently solved in another way for the later 1l stamp, as I have yet to encounter a badly misregistered example.

To sum up, let me state the circumstances of the occurrence of the guide marking. It appears on all stamps printed from cylinders #A/45 and A/46, the latter having been also overprinted for Palestine in 1948, and further overprinted with bars in 1953. It appears on all positions of the pane of 50 stamps, having been photocomposed into the multipositive used to prepare the rotogravure cylinder. It is difficult to discern when the two images are printed in exact registration, but a good glass used in strong light will reveal its presence.

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lebanese forgeries

by

ROBERT HUDSON

It is believed that the first Lebanese forgery appeared on the Lebanese market during the French Mandate. A local dealer in Beirut went to a large wholesaler and purchased roughly 200 postally used copies of *Scott* #101. Within days, these stamps began to appear on the Beirut market as #C36.

When offered to the French officers and soldiers, they were heard to remark, "But the airplane isn't quite right."

"But sir," protested the forger, "it is used. It has to be right!"

I guess most of these stamps are still somewhere in France. I have never seen one, but it is a well known, and told, story in Beirut.

Some years after the above incident, a large scale counterfeit operation was conducted from Beirut. Principally, it was a system to defraud the postal service.

Perhaps I should interpose at this point with a comment on the mechanics of the Lebanese postal service. Beirut has its main post office, of course, but the branch offices are quite different from those in most other countries. These branches are actually rural stores, cigarette shops, etc., which have a contract with the post office to sell stamps and handle registered mail. Their profit comes as a commission, or discount when they restock the stamps from the main post office distribution center.

Three stamp dealers in Beirut recognized a golden opportunity by offering counterfeit stamps to the branch offices at a greater discount than the post office gave.

As I understand it, zinc plates were made of most monicolor definitives, airmails and postage dues up to 1954. It is believed that no commemorative issues were counterfeited due to the fact that their printings were small and the main post office never distributed them for daily usage as they did the definitives.



C366 "Not quite correct colors?"

Counterfeit #50 and #201

"Rotten fruit of Lebanon" #398

CONTINUED ON PAGE 22

COLLECTING THE WORLD

The following article is composed of extracts from a longer article by Mr. Stan Cornyn that appeared in Linn's and an auction catalog prepared by Collectors Auction Service, P.O. Box 6996, Burbank, Calif. 91510. C.A.S. is disposing of the Cornyn-Geller collection in a series of auctions. For additional information please contact them at the above address.

Everyone says, "No serious collector attempts to collect the whole world today. There are just too many stamps. Collectors today must specialize."

The advice was met with stubborn resistance by two stamp collectors in Southern California's San Fernando Valley. We ignored every piece of advice we heard or read.

For five years, we spent most evenings and weekends sending out want lists, bidding at auctions, sifting through ads and working over bourses with our ever-shrinking, ever more elusive list of "wants."

As year followed year, our needs narrowed, from 100,000 missing stamps, to 10,000, to 1,000. Wants became needs. Needs became frustrations. Frustrations became obsessions.

We decided the *Scott International Series* (in 1971, seven volumes) provided the best background for our collection.

Our primary goal was to obtain every *Scott*-listed stamp cataloging 10 cents or less. This goal proved an anecdote on the road to our final goal. The 10¢ formula was forgotten, and is today still a frontier for someother obsessed collector to pass.

Some stamps remained incredibly elusive. For some reason, the *International Series* has a space in Syria for an error (106c) that nobody had. French Colonies dealers just shrugged. It wasn't even listed by *Yvert & Tellier*.

We corresponded with nearly every dealer in France. To say that it was on every want list we sent out is an understatement. We tried every stamp dealer in Syria - there are not a lot there, to be sure - with no luck.

We were tempted to change our self-imposed rule that every stamp shown in the albums had to be that stamp, and no other. But we didn't. We held firm.

Finally, a letter arrived from - of all places - Dubai! We figured at first it was a new issues solicitation.

But it turned out to be a letter forwarded to a dealer who had moved from Damascus to Dubai. In it was Syria 106c. "Never again will we think of Dubai as a country that never sends letters," added Geller.

The toughest set to acquire was Spanish Sahara 36-50. We lost it once bidding double catalog. We only saw it at auction three times in five years. The third time it was ours, or else!

The toughest single was from Syria: RA10. After three years' search, we finally wrote a letter to every Syria-interest collector listed in the American Philatelic Society directory.

We received 15 letters of sympathy. The 16th letter enclosed the stamp, free. We've lost that collector's name, but we are forever in his debt.

Other extremely tough "finds" included Persia 070-71; Puerto Rico MR5 in the right shade; and the maze of gas, dam and oil plant definitives in recent Saudi Arabia.

In reviewing the time and effort that went into building our collection - which numbers 195,000 stamps in 29 volumes - we have to pay tribute to the select clerks, dealers and companies that got involved in our hunt, and who still "do the world."

Would we recommend that others follow our path and collect the whole world? "Absolutely," Geller offers. "For all the problems - and the *International Volume I* is really a bit of a mess - it's been the most fun I've had since my honeymoon."

Libya: Unique Error?

by
G.M. Abrams



From a correspondent in Malta came the photo shown here. It illustrates what I believe may be a one-of-a-kind double error, and, if so, it is far more rare than any inverted US airmail. This is a 1969 Consular Service issue, I am told, with a violet frame and a green center. Notice anything peculiar?

You guessed it...in the stamp at right, the eagle is missing from the center. But that's not all. Take a look at the frame on each. This is a ½ Dinar denomination, and if you look again, you will note that the frame of the stamp with the missing eagle is a mirror image of the stamp at left. This is indeed noticeable in the Arabic script.

My correspondednt indicates that in 1977 he obtained this pair from a friend, taken from a sheet in which only the second from the left vertical row appeared thus, with the rest of the stamps in the sheet normal as is the stamp on the left. A new design came into being at that time, and (sad to report) the sheet from which this pair was taken, with all of the errors, and all other normal sheets of the same design were BURNED under the eyes of the Consular authorities.

It is therefore suspected that this is indeed a unique pair. It is mint, in excellent condition and obviously superbly centered. I have tried to obtain this pair from my Maltese amigo, but every offer I have made has been refused. Small wonder.

=====

The above article appeared in the April, 1978 (Vol. 23, No. 4, Whole No. 304) of THE AMERICAN REVENUEUR, the Journal of the American Revenue Association.

It is with the deepest regret that the death of Major E.C.W. Stagg on the 30th May 1978 is announced.

Edward Stagg was pre-eminent for his knowledge and expertise in the stamps and postal history of the Sudan. As an officer in the Royal Signals, he spent a lengthy period in Egypt and the Sudan, where his work gave him an invaluable insight into communications. On more than one occasion he travelled by camel to the remoter areas. It was during this period that he developed his lasting interest in Sudan philately. A founding member of O.P.A.L., he was for a time that society's editor. On retirement from the Army in 1969, Edward Stagg was able to devote his considerable energies to furthering his researches and liaising with fellow specialists. The fruits of his endeavours and a most fitting memorial can be seen in his authorship of the two modern standard works on Sudan Philately, "*Sudan-The Postal Markings 1867-1970*" published by the R.P.S.L. in 1974 and "*Sudan-The Stamps and Postal Stationery 1867-1970*" published by Harry Hayes in 1977. There can be no doubt that these major works helped stimulate a resurgence of interest in Sudan philately. Major Stagg played a leading role in the formation of the Sudan Study Group in 1977, rightly becoming its first President. In spite of ill health he remained highly active to the end. A most warm personality and a great enthusiast, he will be sadly missed by his many colleagues and friends around the world. Most sincere condolences to his wife and family.

H.L. Bowyer

QUESTIONS ETC.

Where can I obtain a copy of the *GEBARA SPECIALIZED SYRIA AND LEBANON CATALOG*? I have tried many sources, and most of them claim never to have heard of it. Howard Lewin, 5210 Jessen Drive, La Canada, California 91099

WANTED: Commercial covers bearing Lebanon and Syria 1924 Olympic stamps. FDC's of 1948 Olympic issue of Great Britain overprinted for use in Persian Gulf areas. Sherwin Podolsky, 16035 Tupper St., Sepulveda, California 91343

NEED FOR PLATING: Sheets or large multiples of the following Hejaz overprints or surcharges: *Scott* L40-8, L135-43, L148-50, L155, LJ11-16 and LJ26-34. If you can sell or loan such material it will help in determining forgeries in the overprints. John M. Wilson C/O ARAMCO, Box 1687, Dhahran, Saudi Arabia

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Egypt's First Fiscals contd.

It is not known when these stamps were issued in Egypt, but early 1887 seems possible and likely. Used copies of the two highest values are unknown, though according to de la Rue records all six values were sent to Egypt. In 1972 the firm consigned or sold approximately 800 mint sets to an English philatelic house, since which time they have been sold extensively, and all known complete sets are from this archival lot.

Though by 1916 there were two more issues of general revenues available in Egypt, some of these first issue stamps were still being used as late as 1933. They are known used on a death certificate, an application for a driver's license, an application for a passport, a visa to enter Egypt, etc.

Mr. Feltus is writing a catalog on Egyptian revenues (general, salt, cigarette, consular, union fee, etc.). Please contact him if you have any information or revenues for sale. Peter R. Feltus, 4970 Desmond St., Oakland, California 94618

Forgeries contd.

The basic characteristics of the counterfeits are as follows:

- 1) The design is frequently blurred or poorly printed, and/or
- 2) The engraver's and printer's names are not always straight, and/or
- 3) The paper is in a different shade or color.

The issues of this period which are known or suspected to be counterfeited are as follows:

# 50	138A*	C91-6
72	162-66	107-10
86	169-72	119-28
114	177-80	135-40
115*	197-219	145A-47B
137	227A (?) -242	154-92
137A	245-84	200-06
137B	C36	J37-68*
138 (?)	82-7	



Many of the stamps issued after 1955 were in two or more colors and for seven years the counterfeiters appeared to have retired from the scene.

In 1962, Lebanon issued the "Produce of Lebanon" issues. The stamps were poorly printed, which sparked one dealer to collect over fifty different shade varieties of Scott #398 with blotches and blemishes. He termed this assemblage his "Rotten fruit of Lebanon collection."

Such poor printing left the door wide open for more fraud. Since the stamps were printed in Beirut, the same counterfeiters went to the printers and proposed that the high value of the airmail (Scott #C366) be run in "not quite correct colors" and be set aside for destruction. However, rather than destroy them, sell them to them. The stamps were set aside and picked up by those involved and eventually found their way into the branch post offices.

Who were the dealers involved? Unfortunately, I am not at liberty to say, although I do know. Two of the dealers were involved in the Arabian Gulf wall paper issues and the third is a packet maker. As far as I know, this material may still be coming into the country from Beirut as packet material.

*Indicates that there may be additional issues following this number. In the case of the dues, there may be additional earlier listings.

The section on airmails is nicely done with pertinent drawings for differentiating dies and varieties. Proofs and colour trials are quoted but in the case of the "statue" air mail stamps perhaps a point could have been stretched to depict some of the charming family of essays, examples of which do arrive on the market from time to time. First flights are well covered.

There is some enjoyable reading about the commemorative stamps with much of it descriptive of the designs and events. The indication is that many have yet to receive studious attention. No mention of misplaced centres on some of the large camel commemoratives is made and other omissions come to mind.

Thoroughly pleasing script on the postage dues is highlighted with a list of dates of recorded bisects. Most surely the fruits of long perceptive research. The same can be said of the ten page chapter on postal stationery. Quite eye opening as one views the detail of the extensive listings.

Taking the "Officials" and "Army Service" area as a whole, this is a stimulating excursion into a "difficult" aspect of Sudan philately. Very welcome indeed is the reproduction of the plate proof settings for the Army Service stamps. Once a headache, now one can see from where the vertical and horizontal shifts of the overprint are derived.

Military Telegraphs are not forgotten and the usage of the centrally perforated 1898 issue is succinctly explained. Meter marks are given an airing and the compilation of "specimens" is surely definitive.

Mail Services is the title of the final chapter and the author rightly says that a whole book could be written on this subject. It is not intended as a serious attempt to get to grips with this vast topic and certainly it doesn't. The piece on postal rates can mislead with its evident inaccuracies and generalizations. No references for the published figures are given. A sparse Bibliography follows.

In summary, a fine book generously illustrated and beautifully laid out. A positive mine of information. Clearly the scholarship of the author's assisting colleagues has been put to good use.

These two books are essential for any serious collector of the Sudan. Those only mildly interested in this region could do far worse than invest in a purchase. Overall, an exceptional value.

**THE POSTAL MARKINGS 1867-1970 is currently selling in the U.S. for \$13.50 and the STAMPS AND POSTAL STATIONERY OF 1867-1970 for \$20.00. Contact Peter R. Feltus (see advertisement) who will have a small supply of both books if you are interested in purchasing either.*

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affixed, was later given by Sheikh Saqr to me and is illustrated with this article (see outside back cover).

The first issue of Sharjah, unlike subsequent Trucial States fantasies, was a "clean" issue, with no imperfs, souvenir sheets, artificial errors, "deluxe" or "numbered" sheets, marginal imprinted waste, or "rare varieties." It still sells for only a few dollars and its total face was less than 3 rupees for the postage values and 25 for the airmails. Not so Dubai, whose nominal face ran to 56 rupees (\$12.32), with so many varieties and "errors" that they have not been discovered in their totality today.* The explanation is simple, they were what is called in the States a "basement printing job," rather than products of a security press. The only oddity discovered among Sharjah's first issue post office stocks and presented by the Postmaster General to me, was a somewhat embarrassing one. It appears that the black geographical and postal lettering was printed separately from the fine black oval portrait of the Ruler, and on one sheet of the 5np value, particularly at the bottom of the sheet, this black plate had slipped to the left, leaving "Gulf of Oman" neatly lettered across the country's eastern desert (see outside back cover).

Although there were no imperf stamps, imperforate color essays, on a gold-embossed Harrison & Sons card, beneath the British Royal Arms and "By Appointment To Her Majesty the Queen, Printers", were submitted to the Ruler for his Highness' approval. One of these, the 5 rupee airmail, was given by Sheikh Saqr to me and is illustrated on the front cover of this journal.

*The Editor has a substantial collection of these "errors" from later issues printed by the same firm but few for the first issue. He is attempting to compile a list for a catalog on Dubai and would appreciate hearing from anyone who has any of this material.

Pen and ink drawing prepared by Harrison & Sons, Ltd. of London for Sharjah's first issue. Note the similarities to the proposed design submitted by Bruce Conde on page 4 and the finished product as illustrated at the top of the title page. (Image reduced)



ASSOCIATIONS

ARABIAN PHILATELIC ASSOCIATION

The A.P.A. is devoted to the study of the issues of Saudi Arabia, including the Hejaz and Nejd. A one-time fee of 25 Saudi Rials is charged upon joining, in addition to the annual dues of 10 Saudi Rials. Consult your bank or Linn's for the current rate of exchange. Fees should be paid to the Arabian Philatelic Association, and mailed to John M. Wilson, c/o ARAMCO, Box 1687, Dhahran, Saudi Arabia.

EGYPT PHILATELISTS INTERNATIONAL

The group was dissolved in early 1978.

EGYPTIAN STUDY CIRCLE

Write for information to the Secretary/Treasurer, Dennis H. Clarke, 49 Tregelles Rd., Hoddesdon, Hertfordshire, England.

FRANCE AND COLONIES PHILATELIC SOCIETY, INC.

While there is little interest in North Africa, those interested should write for information to Walter Parshall, Secretary, 103 Spruce St., Bloomfield, New Jersey 07003.

IRAN PHILATELIC STUDY CIRCLE

Although Iran is not an Arab country its history is closely allied with that of the other populations in the Middle East. Contact the Secretary, B. Lucas, 99 Moseley Wood Drive, Leeds LS16 7HD, England for an application. The annual dues for 1978 are 2 £'s.

JORDAN

Anyone interested in forming an organization of the collectors of the stamps of Jordan is asked to contact Curtis Brown, 7214 Big Tree Rd., Pavilion, New York 14525.

ORIENTAL PHILATELIC ASSOCIATION OF LONDON (OPAL)

O.P.A.L. is largely concerned with the Turkish Empire. Contact K. Tranmer, 8 Billet Lane, Hornchurch, Essex RM11 1XP. The U.S. representative is Robert W. Stuchell, 940 Cloverly Rd., Berwyn, Pennsylvania 19312. A subscription to OPAL is 2 pounds per annum or \$5.00 in U.S. funds.

SUDAN STUDY GROUP

Contact the Secretary Howard L. Bowyer, 27 Maidstone Drive, Marton, Middlesbrough, Cleveland, England TS7 8QW or the U.S. representative Charles F. Hass, P.O. Box 106, Jenkintown, Pennsylvania 19046.

YEMEN PHILATELIC SOCIETY

The organization is attempting to reorganize after a period of dormancy and will be using this journal to publish its articles. Numerous articles are in preparation at this time. Those interested in contributing information and articles should contact Blair D. Stannard, 262 St. Laurent Blvd., Ottawa K1K 2Z1, Canada.

Letter

for L67 and L69 - I managed to get L67 a few months ago and count myself lucky. All copies that I have seen of L67 come from the same sheet judging from the way the two overprints are positioned on the stamps. Only one sheet is said to exist. There are supposed to be 80 copies of L69, and I have seen copies from each of two sheets (part sheets). Only two copies from one of the two sheets have been seen, which may indicate that this is the scarce one, perhaps providing the 30 copies that go with a full sheet of 50 to make up the total of 80 given in *Warin*.

You say you don't have Scott L185, the 10pi red and orange? You have a lot of company. I have seen a full sheet, plus part of a sheet broken up to show all the positional markings of the overprint. Not too many copies are floating around loose, especially since the aforementioned holding lock up a substantial portion of the total supply.

I'll let the definitives go until another letter. They have problems all their own, and I would like to hear from anyone who thinks he or she has a complete collection. They exist, and after seeing the advertisement by one Randall Jay in *Stamp Collecting* (London), someone apparently has them in quantity. I hope they will come back on the market. All the best from Dhahran, Saudi Arabia.

John M. Wilson

associations contd.

TOPICAL GROUPS

OLD WORLD ARCHAEOLOGICAL STUDY UNIT: Annual dues of \$5.00 a year includes a subscription to their newsletter issue quarterly. Checks or money orders should be sent to E. Koschmann, 9941 Shady Lane, Brooklyn, Ohio 44144.

PETROLEUM PHILATELIC SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL: Collectors interested in the topic of Petroleum (oil theme stamps) should write to PETROPHIL, 2808 Baylor St., Bakersfield, California 93305.

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AUCTION RESULTS

The following auction results deal exclusively with "Kennedy" topical material, most of which was produced by the Trucial State countries. Most stamp dealers have had some of this material at one time or another and have been at a loss as to how to price it. The material was greatly overpriced when first issued and much of the interest in the topic has dissipated. While this may be the case, there is still an interest in the material by those collecting the Trucial States. It appears that there is a steady market for the material from the mail I have received. I have not included all the lots in the auction, only those that mention unlisted items, errors or lots that sold near the estimated value.

ROBERT E. LIPPERT (May 6, 1978), 23800 Greater Mack, St. Clair Shores, Michigan 48080 No charge for well illustrated catalogs.

LOT #	DESCRIPTION	VALUE	SOLD
989	AJMAN Kennedy lot of 104 stamps of souv sheets incl. imperfs and a few proofs. Og, nh, f-vf. est. net \$20	\$ ----	\$ 23.00
990	-#19-26; Minkus #19-27, 19A-27A Kennedy regular and surcharged issue cpt, both imperf & perf. incl. all 4 souv. shts., og, nh, f-vf. Minkus	134.50	6.50
991	-#113-23 (Minkus) Kennedy sets & souv. shts. cpt. perf and imperf. Og, nh, f-vf, Minkus	29.70	2.00
992	-Minkus #113//119 Proof impressions of frames only, 3 imperf singles (1 w/o value), 1 imperf gutter pr. & 1 perfed pr. Singles w/o gum, others are og, nh, f-vf Est. Net \$12	----	10.00
993	-Minkus #114//121 Six diff. imperfs w/o border or value, 2 w/o gum, vf, Est. Net \$10	----	4.50
994	-Minkus #114, 117-18, 121 Six diff. varieties incl. two diff. blks. of 8 of #121. Missing centers, shifts, etc. f-vf Est. Net \$15	----	5.00
995	-Minkus #115-16, 118 Four diff. varieties incl. perf shifts and missing color. #118 blk has stains Og, nh, f-vf Est. Net \$8	----	8.00
996	-Minkus #117 Imperf blk. of 4 with dble print of central design only, one print inverted. Og, nh, vf	----	10.00
997	-Minkus #122-23 Proof printing of both souv. shts. in green and black. Printed se-tenant and ovptd. Specimen. No gum, creased, vf Est. Net \$25	----	5.50
998	-Minkus #122-23 Kennedy souv. shts. (2), #122 imperf vert. with blue border inscriptions, #123 perfed but missing central design of bottom right stamp, og, nh, f-vf	----	5.50
999	-Minkus #122-23 Lot of 12 diff cancelled souv. shts. with varieties incl. inv. inscr., missing inscr. shifts, etc., f-vf Est. Net \$15	----	7.00

<u>LOT #</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>VALUE</u>	<u>SOLD</u>
1000	-Minkus #122v-123v Kennedy souv. shts. (6), imperf. \$ on heavy paper with varieties. Missing designs, color shifts, black or blue inscriptions and #122v with missing inscription. Nh, vf Est. Net \$25	-----	\$ 8.50
1001	-Minkus #122v-123v Imperf Kennedy souv. shts. (8 diff), all with varieties incl. missing designs (5), shifts (2), and missing frame (1). Og, nh, f-vf Est. Net \$30	-----	9.50
1002	-Minkus #122v Imperf Proof of souv sht. w/o margin inscriptions. Og, nh, vf Est. Net \$15	-----	15.50
1004	-Minkus #174-75 Kennedy presentation folder with #174-75 inside. Also imperf pr. of #174 with ink notes on back, vf. Minkus	20.00	5.00
1005	-Minkus #174 Imperf gold foil Kennedy, proof impression on gummed paper. Slight gum dist., og, nh, vf. Est. Net \$15	-----	2.00
1006	-Minkus #174 Kennedy proof impression on silver foil. Light creases, vf Est. Net \$8.00	-----	2.00
1007	-Minkus #175 Gold foil souv. sht. with albino impression of margin inscr, og, nh, vf, signed Est. Net \$10	-----	4.00
1009	-Minkus type of #246 Two diff. imperf souv. shts, each with only single stamp, og, nh, vf. Unlisted thus. Est. Net \$15	-----	7.00
1010	-Minkus #364-71 Paintings proofs cpt. Plate proofs each mounted on card, vf Est. Net \$10	-----	4.00
1011	-Minkus #381-84A Kennedy cpt. incl. #381A, 384A imperf (unlisted). Og, nh, f-vf. Minkus	48.00	4.00
1012	-Minkus #400-401A Kennedy gold & silver foils, six diff. Presentation Packs of 14 each in various colors, vf. Retail \$225. Est. Net \$40	-----	15.50
1014	-Minkus #672 Kennedy imperf sheet plus set of 4 diff. progressive proofs in sheets. Also souv. sht. & 5 progressive proofs. Og, nh, f-vf Est. Net \$15	-----	5.50
1015	-Minkus #862-69 Builders of Peace souv. shts plus Kennedy souv. sht. proofs (2), and Kennedy imperf sht. plus 2 proof sheets imperf. Og, nh, vf Est. Net \$!%	-----	5.50
1036	DUBAI #C25-27; Minkus #73//100B Kennedy issues, unmounted collection of 56 items incl. many blks, numerous ovpt, paper and perf varieties. Incl. double, color shifts, etc. Og, nh, f-vf Est. Net \$25	-----	18.50
1037	-#25-27 Ten diff. proofs of Central Vignette or background only. Incl. 2 of the souv. shts, og, nh, f-vf Est. Net \$12	-----	20.00

<u>LOT #</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>VALUE</u>	<u>SOLD</u>
1038	-#C25 Kennedy single, blk. of 4 and souv. sht. all with inverted centers. Vf, nh Est. Net \$30	\$ -----	\$ 34.00
1039	-#26-27 Trial color proofs in strips of 4 or 6 showing two or 3 diff. color combinations per strip. Eight strips in all. Og, nh, f-vf Est. Net \$15	-----	13.50
1040	-#C27 Irregularly printed blk. of 9 missing value and inscriptions with gray background shifted. Og, nh, vf	-----	6.50
1041	-#73 Uncut blk. of 3 souv. sheets, og, nh, vf Est. Net \$10	-----	17.00
1042	-#C52-54 May 29 ovpt., basic set, imperf set, set with dble ovpt. & set with inv. ovpt. Og, nh, f-vf Cat. as normal \$27. Est. Net \$8	-----	9.00
1043	-#C52-54 May 29 ovpts. on Kennedy, 8 imp. blks. of 4. Incl. cpt. sets of inv. and dble. ovpts one in red inverted. Og, nh, f-vf. Minkus cat. as normal	160.00	57.50
1044	-#C52-54 Proof impressions of May 29 ovpt. only, 8 pieces incl. blks. of 6, dble. ovpts. Various papers, some gummed, vf Est. Net \$12	-----	8.50
1045	-Minkus #100A Kennedy souv. sht. with May 29 ovpt., six sheets with varieties incl. green ovpt. dble, with & without control numbers, gold overprint, etc. Og, nh, vf. Minkus as normal	90.00	35.00
1046	-Minkus #100B Kennedy with 22 Nov. ovpt., 70 stamps mostly in multiples with imperf, part perf, shifted ovpt., dble. ovpts., etc. Og, nh, f-vf Minkus. .	373.00	26.00
1047	-Minkus #100B Two diff. imperf blks. of 4. Red ovpt. on one, black on the other. Og, nh, vf Minkus. .	40.00	7.00
1048	-Minkus #100B, Wenger DU-5ux Kennedy with 22 Nov. ovpt.. vert. pr. imperf between, signed. Og, nh, vf. Wenger. .	250.00	31.00
1049	-Minkus #100B Unusual printing imperf blk. of 4, w/o black and printed on both sides, vf	-----	5.00
1050	-Minkus #169-79 Kennedy cpt. in imperf proofs affixed to 11 Special Presentation cards, vf. Est. Net \$30	-----	25.00
1075	OMAN (<i>State of Oman</i>) Wenger #OM1-2 Red & black ovpts. cpt., og, nh, f-vf Wenger. .	35.00	2.50
1076	-Ovpt. varieties 4b black ovpt. dble., 1R black ovpt. dble. one invtd. Both in blks of 4, og, nh, f-vf Est. Net \$15	-----	6.00

<u>LOT #</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>VALUE</u>	<u>SOLD</u>
1077	-Ovpt. varieties, 15b black ovpt. invtd., 15b red ovpt. dble. and 1R red ovpt. inv. Og, nh, f-vf Est. Net \$10	\$ ----	\$ 4.00
1078	-Wenger #OM3-4v Kennedy ovptd. set and souv. sht. cpt. perf & imperf. Og, nh, f-vf Wenger as normal. .	50.00	4.00
1079	-Wenger #OM3-4v Kennedy ovpt. invtd., perf & imperf set and souf. sht. Og, nh, f-vf Wenger as normal. .	50.00	5.00
1080	-Wenger #OM3-4v Kennedy ovpt. dble. one invtd., perf and imperf set and souv. sht. Og, nh, f-vf Wenger as normal. .	50.00	4.50
1081	QATAR #42-46 Ovpt. dble., og, nh f-vf Wenger. . .	50.00	4.50
1082	-#42-46 Ovpt. invtd., og, nh, f-vf Wenger. . .	50.00	8.50
1083	-#42-46, Minkus #44-48, A, B, Kennedy ovpts. cpt. Og, nh, f-vf Minkus. . .	85.00	6.00
1084	-Minkus #115//24x Kennedy se-tenant blk plus 6 diff. souv. shts., og, nh, f-vf. Minkus. . .	110.00	11.00
1085	-Minkus #120A-23A Se-tenant blks of 4 (x2), dble. surcharge on first, triple on second Og, nh, f-vf Est. Net \$25	-----	8.50
1086	-Minkus #120A-23A Four imperf blks. of 4, dble. ovpt., inv. ovpt. and 2 with shifted ovpts. Og, nh, f-vf Est. Net \$30	-----	9.00
1087	-Minkus #124A, 124x Ovpt. varieties, #124A surcharge invtd., #124x red ovpt. invtd. Og, nh, f-vf Est. Net \$20	-----	8.00
1088	-Minkus #125A-30A Kennedy with ovpt. dble. cpt. Og, nh, f-vf Wenger. . .	50.00	6.00
1089	-Minkus #125A-30A Kennedy with ovpt. invtd. Og, nh, f-vf Wenger. . .	50.00	6.00
1090	-Minkus #125A-30A Kennedy ovpts. cpt. in blks. of 6. Top row of blks normal ovpt., bottom row ovpt. invtd. Og, nh, f-vf Minkus plus Wenger. . .	56.00	4.50
1091	-Minkus #125-31A, B Kennedy cpt. perf & imperf plus ovpts. Oh, nh, f-vf	65.50	6.00
1092	-Wenger #QA4s-vs Kennedy compact perf & imperf shts. Og, nh, f-vf Wenger. . .	80.00	5.50
1093	-As Wenger #QA6s Proof impressions of black ovpt. and red Kennedy background, on large onion skin paper. Light creases, f-vf Est. Net \$35	-----	12.00
1094	-Wenger #QA6s, QA7s Five diff. compact shts. with various errors, shifted ovpts., ovpt. on back (creased), blue ovpt. missing, etc. Og, nh, f-vf Wenger as normal. . .	300.00	26.00
1095	-Wenger #QA6s-vs Compact sheets perf & imperf with black ovpt. Og, nh, f-vf Wenger . . .	110.00	9.00

<u>LOT #</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>VALUE</u>	<u>SOLD</u>
1096	-Wenger #QA6S Compact sheet with black ovpt. invtd. Og, nh, f-vf. Wenger as normal. . .	\$ 50.00	\$ 4.50
1097	-Wenger #QA7S-VS Compact sheets perf & imperf with red ovpt. Og, nh, f-vf Wenger. . .	165.00	14.50
1098	-Wenger #QA7S Compact perfed sheet w/o red ovpt. Og, nh, f-vf Wenger as normal. . .	75.00	6.00
1099	-Wenger #QA10S-VS Revalued perf & imperf compact shts. Og, nh, f-vf Wenger. . . .	200.00	15.00
1100	-Wenger #Q12S-VS Revalued perf & imperf compact shts with black ovpt. Og, nh, f-vf Wenger. . . .	250.00	19.00
1101	-Wenger #QA13S-VS Revalued perf & imperf compact shts with red ovpt. Og, nh, f-vf Wenger. . . .	380.00	27.00
1102	-Wenger #QA13S-VS Compact sht. with inverted sur- charges, perf & imperf. Og, nh, f-vf Wenger as normal. . .	380.00	30.00
1104	RAS AL KHAIMA Kennedy Minkus #9-14, 9A-14A, 104- 09 Kennedy sets and souv. shts cpt. incl. dble. ovpts on #9-11A and invtd. plus dble. on #12A-14A. Og, nh, f-vf Minkus. . .	139.24	23.00
1105	-Minkus #10A-11A Three shts. of 6 with dble., invtd., or shifted ovpts. Faults, og, fine. Est. Net \$10	----	4.50
1107	-Minkus #155-57 Kennedy proofs, cpt. set of imperf proofs pasted to perfed paper to simulate issued stamp. Og, nh, f-vf Est. Net \$12	----	5.50
1108	-Minkus type of #155-57 Unlisted souv. sht. of 3 arranged vertically. Oh, ng, vf Est. Net \$10	----	7.50
1110	-Minkus #195-6, 204 Efimex, 2 diff. unlisted souv. shts. Og, nh, vf. Est. Net \$10	----	13.00
1111	-Minkus #204 Unlisted issue on gold foil, perf & imperf stamp, imperf souv. sht., and imp. sht. with Apollo 13 inscr. in margins. Og, nh, f-vf Est. Net \$15	----	9.50
1112	-Minkus #209-209c Kennedy gold coins & gold souv. shts cpt. in 2 numbered Presentation Folders. VF Minkus. . . .	70.00	13.00
1113	-Minkus #209B Kennedy gold coin souv. sht. part. printed, nh, vf. Est. Net \$10	----	5.00
1114	-Minkus type of #241 Uncut pane of 2 souv. shts. Og, nh, vf Est. Net \$10	----	4.50
1115	-Minkus #242-77 Kennedy gold & silver coins cpt. Each set in special Presentation Folder, vf Minkus. . . .	150.00	19.00
1116	-Minkus #242A-77A Kennedy gold & silver souv. shts. cpt. Each set in plastic Presentation Folder, vf. Minkus. . . .	150.00	21.00
1120	-Minkus #292v Armstrong souv sht. imperf with invtd. gold seal. Og, nh, vf Est. Net \$20	----	3.50

<u>LOT #</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>VALUE</u>	<u>SOLD</u>
		\$	\$
1124	-Minkus #378 Unlisted miniature souv. sht. with ovpt, 2 shts., 1 normal, other missing part of ovpt. Og, nh, vf Est. Net \$10	----	4.50
1148	ARAB STATES Lot of 62 diff. FDC's, most states represented, incl. perf, imperf, souv. shts., gold or silver foil: f-vf Est. Net \$35	----	31.00
1150	ADEN Lot of 18 diff. FDC's incl. Quaiti, Katheri, and Mahra States. F-vf, retail \$110 Est. Net \$10	----	9.50
1151	AJMAN Minkus #400-401A Gold & silver foil issue, lot of 10 diff. FDC's with unpriced color varieties, f-vf. Retail \$100 Est. Net \$15	----	13.00
1152	-1967-1971 Lot of 38 diff. Kennedy FDC's incl. gold & silver foils and souv. shts. Retail well over \$200, f-vf Est. Net \$35	----	28.00
1156	DUBAI Wenger #DUL-9 Kennedy issues cpt. on cach. unaddr. FDC's, f-vf Retail \$92.90 Est. Net \$10	----	5.50
1157	FUJAIRA 1965-72 Lot of 20 diff. FDC's incl. a couple registered, vf. Retail \$125 Est. Net \$20	----	5.00
1158	-Wenger #FJ8-11 Gold Foils cpt. on six cach. unaddr. FDC's, f-vf Wenger \$112 Est. Net \$20	----	10.00
1166	JORDAN Wenger #JD1-JD7 Kennedy issues cpt. on cach. unaddr. FDC, f-vf Wenger \$110.50 Est. Net \$15	----	5.00
1168	MANAMA 1968-71 Lot of 32 diff. Kennedy FDC's, incl. gold foil and souv. shts. Enormous retail value, f-vf. Wenger plus Minkus \$160 Est. Net \$30	----	28.00
1174	QATAR Wenger #QA12S, QA13S. Two diff. compact shts, each on large registered cover to US, bkstd. f-vf. Wenger \$225 Est. Net \$40	----	16.00
1178	RAS AL KHAIMA 1965-1971 Lot of 12 diff. sets on 21 FDC's, incl. many miniature shts. and souv. shts. f-vf Est. Net \$20	----	10.00
1181	SHARJAH Wenger #SH7//SH23 Lot of 19 diff. FDC's incl. #SH14v, f-vf. Wenger \$184 Est. Net \$20	----	12.50
1184	YEMEN Wenger #YM25 Lot of 52 diff. FDC's plus 7 more unlisted, incl. #YM1-4 cpt. Mostly cacheted, f-vf Wenger \$533 Est. Net \$60	----	82.50
1185	Yemen (Kingdom) 1969 registered cover to US bearing Kennedy souv. sht. with strong color shift in US flag, bkstd, f-vf Est. Net \$10	----	21.00

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1937-43	12. - 20c. Boy King, 29 different Control Blocks of 4 or six (no 13c.), fine, n.h.	\$5
1940	5c. brown Boy King, Control Block (A/40) of twelve with selvage on three sides (from pane of 60 made for booklet production), fine, n.h.	\$5
1942	6c. green Boy King, Control Block (A/42 A/42) of 12 with selvage on 3 sides, fine	\$5
1959	Printing Experiments, Blocks of Four: purple (unwmkd.), blue, orange & black (wmkd.), see Gehari page 168, v.f., n.h.	\$15
1970	30c. Arab League area Aerogramme, mint	\$1
1973	30c. brown El Fetouh Gate Envelope, mint	\$1
1975	10c. green & lilac Flowers Envelope, mint	\$1
1976	45c. Arab League area and 120c. whole world Aerogrammes, mint & attractive	\$1

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A.T.A.



LEFT

Plate block of stamps with the black plate shifted progressively more to the left. The only known oddity of Sharjah's first issue



BELOW

First Sharjah stamp affixed to a cover and sent to Sheikh Saqr. b. Sultan the Ruler of the country
See story on p.2



First stamp of Sharjah
affixed to a cover by
Sheikh Sultan bin Saqr
Ruler of Sharjah



H.H. Sheikh Saqr b. Sultan
Ruler of Sharjah & Dependencies
Hotel Excelsior, BEIRUT, Lebanon