

The Postal Markings of Hejaz, Nejd, Hejaz and Nejd, and Saudi Arabia

By: Kenneth D. Knight



Reproduced from a series of articles by Kenneth D. Knight published in Random Notes, the journal of the Arabian Philatelic Association.

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A Reproduction of the Series of Articles

Written by Kenneth D. Knight

and Published by the Arabian Philatelic Association

in their Journal '*Random Notes*'



A Weatherings Book

Published by:

Martin Lovegrove
The Weatherings
East End
Gooderstone
KINGS LYNN
PE33 9DB
United Kingdom.

email: weatherings@aol.com

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Cover: Undated type SA160 from Bani Thubyaan, Baha to Dhahran. See part 7 page 4.

I would like to express my sincere thanks to Kenneth D. Knight for granting permission to reproduce his series of articles. I hope you find this book a useful addition to your library.

I hope that by publishing this book, further research into Saudi Arabian postal markings will be stimulated.

The contents of this book previously appeared in the following editions of *Random Notes*:

Part 1	Random Notes 44, January - March 1989
Part 2	Random Notes 45, April - June 1989
Part 3	Random Notes 46, December 1989
Part 4	Random Notes 47, June 1990
Part 5	Random Notes 48, September 1990
Part 6	Random Notes 49, March 1991
Part 7	Random Notes 52, December 1992

Martin Lovegrove

Arabian Philatelic Association International

Editor, *Random Notes*

September 2021

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THE POSTAL MARKINGS OF HEJAZ, NEJD, HEJAZ AND NEJD, AND SAUDI ARABIA

By: Kenneth D. Knight

A Preliminary Note to A.P.A. Members

A.P.A. members who also belong to the Oriental Philatelic Association of London (OPAL) will be aware that since early 1986 I have been writing a series of articles for the OPAL journal entitled "The Postmarks of Hejaz, Hejaz and Nejd, and Saudi Arabia". The form of the OPAL articles is that of an incomplete but continuing study; each article identifies, and more often than not, illustrates types of postal markings not previously recorded by the study, then lists the office(s) known to have used that particular marking along with known dates of use. In addition, each article includes a section updating the dates of use, etc. for postmark types recorded and classified in previous articles. I intend, time and other relevant factors permitting, that the articles submitted to RANDOM NOTES will catch up with those already published in twelve to eighteen months time. Although the RN articles must perforce be based on material gathered when writing for OPAL they will not be a verbatim regurgitation of what has gone before. Also, certain facets of the study will be published in OPAL but not in RN (e.g. notes on forged/bogus postmarks are to be included in the next OPAL article, but will be omitted from the RN articles because such items are being dealt with in greater detail in the REFERENCE MANUAL OF SAUDI ARABIAN FORGERIES.

As will be appreciated, the subject of this study is vast, perhaps too vast to be undertaken by one person. Accordingly, comment and reports of unrecorded postal markings are always welcome. All correspondence will be answered, and any information used in future articles will be credited. My address is:

75 Ansdell Road,
Rochdale, OL16 4TT,
United Kingdom

There is a proposal that David Graham and myself will cooperate to produce a book on Saudi Postmarks and Postal History. However, because of David's current commitments (in particular the production of a specialized catalogue of Saudi Arabian stamps), and also the amount of postmark collecting, collation of material and historical research which remains to be done, publication of this book is some years in the future.

Prior to publication of the book it will be necessary to renumber the postmarks. Firstly, because over the years additional information has come to light and a few postmarks are now listed with an incorrect prefix. Secondly, because I would like to retain a rough chronological order to the numbering and certain sections of the listing are now out of order. However, in order to minimize confusion I propose, for the moment, to retain the numbers assigned when writing the OPAL articles.

INTRODUCTION

Explanation of the Numbering System

For reference of specific postmark types I devised a system which consists of a letter or letters followed by a number. The first letter indicates the historical period of the postmark's introduction as follows:

- 'H' for postmarks introduced by the Hejaz P.O. 1916-1925.
- 'N' for postmarks introduced by the Nejd P.O. 1925-1926.
- 'X' for postmarks introduced by the Hejaz and Nejd P.O. 1926-1934.
- 'S' for postmarks introduced by the Saudi Arabia P.O. 1934 to date.
- 'AA' for postal markings of the Al Barid Al Muntaz service.

Datestamps which include a letter or wording to indicate a specific purpose, or are of an easily identifiable type (e.g. mechanical or all-Arabic), have a second letter preceding the number which indicates that the postmark is of a specific type or had a specific use, as follows:

- 'A' for Arabic only CDS.
- 'D' for departure (outgoing mail) types.
- 'I' for arrival (incoming mail) types.
- 'M' for mechanical cancellations.
- 'N' for negative seal.
- 'R' for registered.
- 'RD' for registered departure.
- 'S' for slogan
- 'Z' for meter cancellations.

For example, SR100 indicates a datestamp issued by the Saudi authorities for use on registered mail and given type number 100. Similarly, H50 indicates a general purpose datestamp used by the Hejaz P.O.

As the study progressed the parameters were extended to include registration, redirection and similar cachets. Such postal markings have the INITIAL letter 'M' (miscellaneous). The letter which follows 'M' is used to indicate the type/purpose of the cachet.

- 'C' for confusing (Private marks which could easily be construed as official).
- 'D' for postage due.
- 'FF' for first flight.
- 'L' for local.
- 'R' for registration.
- 'S' for special (commemorative).
- 'U' for unknown (return to sender).

Thus MD20 references a cachet which indicates that part or the whole postage has not been paid.

Additional indicators will be added to this last list as and when warranted by new types of cachet being included in the study.

Illustrations

Whenever possible postmark illustrations are photocopies but on occasion resort has had to be made to tracing, or even freehand sketches.

Coloured Datestamps

Coloured datestamps have been seen on covers emanating from Saudi Arabia since the 1920s to date. David Hardwick records modern postmarks in black, blue, purple, red and pink inks. I can add green to the list. Though there is some evidence to support the view that in the 1920s and 1930s a red-violet was normally reserved for registered mail, there seem no logic behind the use of different coloured inks in modern times, and I do not list the colours of cancellations unless there is a pertinent reason for so doing.

Conversion of Hijrah dates to the Gregorian Calendar

When necessary to convert from Hijrah to Gregorian dates, I use conversion charts whenever possible. However, as I do not possess all the necessary charts, it is sometimes expedient to resort to other means. Consequently I developed a computer program to calculate the equivalent dates for years other than those for which I have charts. I was unable to ascertain exactly how the Hijrah cycle is calculated and had to use averages, i.e. 29.5 days per Hijrah month and 354.5 days per Hijrah year. A consequence of using averages is frequent error. On checking the program against 56 known dates over the last 100 years, I found the program was correct 16 times (28.5%), gave a one day error 38 times (68%), and gave a two day error twice (3.5%). The nearer my 1st January 1986 base line, the more likely an error.

Despite the "built-in" error, I intend, until a more accurate method is found, to utilize the computer program whenever I need to convert from the Hijrah calendar to the Gregorian calendar. Therefore, any date appearing in the text which has been converted from the Hijrah calendar may be wrong by a maximum of two days.

Current Postmarks - Latest Dates of Use

Although relevant that a postmark study records the period of use of postmarks being recorded, it is futile to continually publish updates of the latest date of use of current postmarks, the sole exception being the last day of use for an office being closed. Therefore, for the moment, I do not list new latest dates of use for cancellations which already have a latest recorded use after 31.12.1985, an exception being when other pertinent data are being recorded simultaneously (e.g. a previously unrecorded number for datestamps which contain an office, counter, or cancelling device number). When the study is nearing completion, i.e. when reports of new datestamp types and data relative to the earlier postal markings become hard to find, I'll produce a final listing which will update latest dates of use for current postmarks.

Slogan cancellations

When referred to, modern slogan cancellations are indicated by number as per the following list:

- (1) "CLEAR AND LEGIBLE ADDRESS IS IMPORTANT"
- (2) "IT IS BETTER TO USE ORDINARY MAIL FOR YOUR CORRESPONDENCE"
- (3) "DON'T FORGET TO INSERT THE POSTAL CODE"
- (4) "PROPER USAGE OF STAMP DISPENSERS IS FOR YOUR BENEFIT"
- (5) "POSTAL CODE HELPS TO EXPEDITE DELIVERY"
- (6) Slogan omitted..... result..... a dirty black smudge.
- (7) "SUFFICIENT ADDRESS ENSURES PROPER DELIVERY"
- (8) "THE POST OFFICE ALWAYS AT YOUR SERVICE"

Bibliography

The following philatelic references have been used in the preparation of these articles:

- (1) Auction catalog for March 18-21, 1980 sale which included the M. M. Mayo collection of Saudi Arabia. Published by Sotheby Parke Bernet Stamp Auction Co., U.S.A. Also various other catalogues (Filatco, David Feldman, the "Hibbert" sale, etc.) containing good ranges and illustrations of Arabian material.
- (2) BARID AL-SA'UDIYYAH WA AL-HEJAZ WA NAJD by M. Max Mayo. Published 1973.
- (3) "The Capture of Al-Qunfudhah by Ibn Saud" by Dr. Randall Baker. Published in THE PHILATELIC MAGAZINE, May 1975.
- (4) THE POSTAL ISSUES OF HEJAZ, JEDDAH AND NEJD by D.F. Warin. Published by D. Field, London, 1927.
- (5) THE POSTAGE STAMPS OF HEJAZ by Haworth and Sargent. Published 1922.
- (6) A SHORT NOTE ON THE DESIGN AND ISSUE OF POSTAGE STAMPS PREPARED BY THE SURVEY OF EGYPT FOR HUSSEIN, EMIR AND SHERIF OF MECCA & KING OF THE HEJAZ. Published by the Survey of Egypt, November 1918.
- (7) Various issues of the Arabian Philatelic Association's RANDOM NOTES.
- (8) THE HEJAZ: A HISTORY IN STAMPS by John M. Wilson. Published by Lance D. Limoges, 1982.

The following historical references have been used in the preparation of of these articles:

- (1) SEVEN PILLARS OF WISDOM by T.E. Lawrence. Published privately 1926, later editions from 1935 by Jonathan Cape.
- (2) A SHORT HISTORY OF THE MIDDLE EAST by George E. Kirk. First published 1948 by Methuen & Co., London.
- (3) THE DESERT KING (THE LIFE OF IBN SAUD) by David Howarth. Published Collins 1965; in paperback by Quartet Books 1980.
- (4) JOURNAL OFFICIEL. Official epistle of the Egyptian Government. Published regularly throughout the years.
- (5) ORIENTATIONS by Sir Ronald Storrs.
- (6) KINGDOM by Robert Lacey. Published by Hutchinson & Co. Ltd., London.

Finally, a list of fellow collectors who have contributed material for use in the study. Without their assistance, comment and encouragement, the study could not have reached its present (albeit far from complete) state: David Hardwick, David Graham, Carl R. Catherman, Wm. A. Sandrik, R. McGregor, James I. Kearney, Tarik Ali Alireza.

CANCELLATIONS OF THE SHERIFATE AND KINGDOM OF HEJAZ (1916-1925)

At first sight the Sherifate and Kingdom of Hejaz Post Office appears to be easily investigated and researched - after all no fewer than six of the books listed in the bibliography deal extensively with this period of history - however when I began to compare the writings of one author with the writings of another, inconsistencies started to emerge. For example, on page 55 of their book, Haworth and Sargent state "On account of the war pilgrimages [to Makkah] were suspended.....but in 1917 were resumed...", while in ORIENTATIONS Sir Ronald Storrs wrote that on 17 October 1916 Abdallah [the Sherif of Makkah's son, later to be Emir and eventually King of Transjordan] claimed 20,000 pilgrims attended the 1916 Hajj celebrations.

Mistakes and oversights are not infrequent, especially in philatelic works. Later in this article I shall correct Haworth and Sargent's illustration of the EL-WAJHE cancellation, and marshal evidence to show that the dates of issue as published by the Survey of Egypt, and later adhered to by philatelic writers and catalogue publishers are incorrect. Oversights are not limited to older works. Page 19 of Wilson's THE HEJAZ - A HISTORY IN STAMPS contains the comment that authorized dates of use for FEE PAID marks at Ta'if are earlier than the September surrender of the Turkish garrison there. It can be readily established (SEVEN PILLARS OF WISDOM, ORIENTATIONS, other historical works) that Ta'if fell on 24 September 1916, therefore the authorized dates of use quoted by Mr. Wilson - 5 July 1917 to 9 August 1917 - are quite feasible.

The purpose of the foregoing paragraphs is not to belittle previous works but to inspire the reader to examine everything that has been published, whether historical or philatelic, about the Hejaz at this time - including the present article - with an inquiring and critical mind. Some conclusions I draw from the evidence I have gathered are best described as speculative, and I would be just as happy to see hard evidence which disproves them as I would be to see them confirmed.

It is my intention that this article will establish which datestamps were used, and when they were used, to CANCEL ADHESIVES (i.e. NOT when used alongside FEE PAID markings). In order to achieve this it will be necessary to establish as accurately as possible the date of issue of the postage stamps concerned, and when the various Hejaz post offices opened.

First, a brief resume of Hejaz postal history prior to the issue of postage stamps for an independent Hejazi state. An Egyptian post office operated at Jeddah 1865-1881. After the Egyptian post office closed, various Ottoman offices opened in the Hejaz and, until 1916, were the only post offices operating there. By 1914 two post routes to/from the Hejaz existed, by rail via the Hejaz Railway, and by sea through the port of Jeddah. Apart from "local" mail travelling along the coast, say to Qunfudhah, mails leaving Jeddah by sea whether east or west bound connected with mailboat services using the Suez Canal.

Changes to the pattern came in 1914 when, in a series of announcements between 8 August and 12 December the JOURNAL OFFICIEL, organ of the Egyptian Government, let it be known that first insured parcels, then ordinary parcels, and finally all postal communications with Turkish Red Sea offices had been suspended, thus cutting the Suez route.

Bearing the last paragraph in mind, it is interesting to speculate on the route taken by Mr. T.A. Alireza's "Palembang" cover (RN #41). Pre-war it would have connected with a mailboat service passing through the Suez Canal, but in January 1916??? The Dutch were neutral in WWI. Was the letter collected at Jeddah by a Dutch mailboat? If so, why no Jeddah transit stamp? And why was it unloaded at Singapore instead of going straight to the Dutch East Indies? Could it have gone north via the Hejaz Railway, through Europe to neutral Holland, and then onto Allied shipping? Or did the Red Crescent (Red Cross) organization somehow transfer it across front lines?

On 6 June 1916 Storrs met with Zaid, a son of the Sherif of Makkah. Later that same day he wrote in a communique to England, "It is to our interest and ultimate economy to allow this first independent [Hajj] season to open as brilliantly as possible hence it is my present preoccupation to create temporary cable, postal, quarantine, and other services sufficient to tide us over this next three months". At this time the postal service was just one of several options.

Meanwhile the Arab revolt was underway. According to ORIENTATIONS, Storrs' autobiography, Makkah surrendered 13 June, and Jeddah followed 16 June. However it was not until 27 June that Sherif Hussain declared the Hejaz free from Ottoman rule. Because the newly independent Hejazi state lacked a stock of postage stamps the use of FEE PAID handstamps was authorized. Haworth and Sargent state the periods of authorization as:

Makkah and Jeddah	- 24 June 1916 till 14 October 1916
Yanbu'	- 3 August 1916 till 5 January 1917
Ta'if	- 8 July 1917 till 9 August 1917

Other authorities differ in some instances by a day or two as to when the use of FEE PAID handstamps was sanctioned, but such differences are of no great consequence because the handstamps were not infrequently used after the period of authorization. Additionally, manuscript FEE PAID endorsements are known prior to the authorization of handstamps.

An entry in the JOURNAL OFFICIEL dated 7 August 1916 announced the acceptance of correspondence [from Egypt] for the towns of Jeddah and Makkah. Though 7 August is the date the announcement was published rather than the actual reopening of the mail route, the entry is thought to be reasonably current. Consequently Hejaz covers dated June or July and addressed to destinations other than Makkah or Jeddah should be treated with suspicion. Those to destinations outside the Hejaz should bear appropriate transit/arrival datestamps and censor marks. It should be noted that the earliest cover in the Hibbert auction to have a CIVILIAN censor's mark is dated 8 August 1916, thus suggesting that prior to the re-establishment of regulated postal services, mail that originated in the Hejaz was carried by military transport.

Referring back to Storrs' communique of 6 June, we see that he was concerned with the propaganda coup a successful Hajj would create. His need to provide evidence that an Arab revolt was in progress became more urgent when Berlin Radio announced (27 June), "We are in a position to deny absolutely that there has been a rebellion in the Hejaz at all"; and from the same source (2 July), "A rapid end has been made to local disturbances in the ... Hejaz ... Order in the province has been restored". Storrs asked the Arab Bureau, a small organization dedicated to intelligence and propaganda, to suggest means to counter propaganda. Thus it was that when publishing his autobiography Storrs was able to

write [in retrospect], "Shortly after the Arab Revolution we found that its success was being denied or blanketed by the enemy press (which was of course quoted by neutrals), and we [Storrs and Lawrence] decided that the best proof that it had taken place would be provided by an issue of Hejaz postage stamps, which would carry the Arab propaganda, self-paying and incontrovertible, to the four corners of the earth".

The Survey of Egypt agreed to produce the first Hejaz postage stamps. The story of their production first appeared in the Survey of Egypt's book (1918) and has been reproduced in whole or in part by virtually every philatelic handbook dealing with the Hejaz that has appeared since. The story is well known and need not be repeated here.

Their booklet claims 2,900 of the one piastre blue were issued 20 August 1916. Haworth and Sargent support the 20 August issue date but contend 900 of the stamps were presented as samples to Postal Union authorities or donated to various learned societies, leaving 2,000 for sale to the public. Warin, Gibbons, Mayo, et al, also quote 20 August as the issue date.

I have yet to see a cover franked with adhesives, whether genuine or by favour, bearing a cancellation dated August 1916, or even one with a September date. It is my opinion 20 August was the date the Survey of Egypt assigned the stamps to the Arab Bureau. In pursuance of its propaganda brief, the Bureau then spent a couple of days distributing samples as per Haworth and Sargent, before forwarding the remainder, via the British Representative at Jeddah, to the Sherif for his approval. The timing of such manouevring (2 to 3 days with the Bureau, 5 to 6 days in transit from Cairo to Jeddah, 1 or 2 days being delivered to Makkah) dovetails nicely with the date of the Sherif's reply - a letter dated 5 Dhul Qudah 1334 which is reproduced in the Survey of Egypt's handbook and alluded to by Haworth and Sargent. This short letter addressed to the British Diplomatic Agent in Jeddah, admits to having received some postage stamps and enclosed comment by Abd el Qadir, Director of the Telegraph and Post Office in Makkah. Abd el Qadir's letter, which is dated 6 Dhul Qudah 1334, expresses displeasure that the stamps are not in the design ordered, that the wording on the stamps is not as suggested, that the different denominations previously requested are not evident, and (reading between the lines) that the quantity is too small. He continues with the request that the Jebel Abu Qubeis design should be used and that the words "Hejaz Postage" be replaced with "Stamps of the Government of the Sherifate of Sacred Makkah and its Dominions".

There is nothing in Abd el Qadir's letter to suggest the stamps are, or are about to be, on sale to the general public. It is early September and the stamps are NOT ACCEPTABLE to the Sherifate authorities.

According to the Survey of Egypt's handbook, 4,100 of the half piastre red and 19,050 of the one piastre were "issued" during September. However, it is not until 1 October they replied to Abd el Qadir's letter (reproduced in full in the Survey's booklet and in part by Haworth and Sargent) and urge the Sherif to accept the Makkah al Mukarrama design. Two days later, 3 October, long before their letter could have exhorted the Sherif to accept their designs, the Survey "issued" 17,000 of the quarter piastre.

15 October 1916 found Storrs en ship aboard the LAMA bound for Jeddah. He wrote in his diary: "Prepared an inforamatory and propogandist list

for distribution from Jeddah of the new Hejaz stamp issue". Apparently the British were tiring of the Sherif's prevarications. The LAMA, which also had Lawrence on board arrived at Jeddah 7 A.M. on 16 October, the very day Lawrence mailed the item which became lot #70 in the 1987 Hibbert sale. It would be convenient to think of the Lawrence cover as a first day cover. The wording of Storrs' diary entry can only be taken to mean that it was his intent to instigate distribution of the stamps after his arrival in Jeddah. Indeed it would be forgivable to assume the LAMA also transported the stamps. However, lot #1279 in the Mayo sale (1980) was a cover dated 11 October. I've also seen a piece cancelled 15 October 1916.

It must be concluded therefore that postage stamps preceded the LAMA to Jeddah, and Colonel Wilson, the British Diplomatic Agent there, released some of them on his own initiative. The real date of issue, that is, the date the stamps were actually available for sale to the general public of Jeddah, was probably less than a week prior to the arrival of Storrs and Lawrence. It should also be noted that an issue date of mid-October is in approximate agreement with the ending of the authorized period of use for the FEE PAID handstamps, and the "official" reason for the authorization was because no stamps were available. Later use of FEE PAID markings can be explained by temporary shortages of certain values or even by favour.

The issue and use of adhesive postage stamps at Jeddah was a British initiative. Possibly designed to force the Sherif's hand? Possibly designed to distribute as many of the new stamps as possible during the Hajj season?

By 17 October, in a letter to his brother, Lawrence claimed the whole of the half piastre stamp issue had sold out!

The final letter reproduced in the Survey of Egypt's handbook is dated 25 Dhul Hijjah 1334 (23 October 1916), is from Abdallah, Minister of Foreign Affairs for the Sherifian Government to Colonel Wilson, and announces the decision to accept the Makkah al Mukarrama design in preference to the Jebel Abu Qubeis design. In addition to accepting the previously unwanted design, Abdallah orders further stamps of various denominations to the value of £1000.

If we accept Abdallah's letter at its face value, use of adhesive stamps postage stamps at Jeddah and Makkah was not officially sanctioned by the Sherifian authorities until 23 October, at which time it could be expected adhesives to be on sale at both offices. Whether the Sherifian authorities were aware of the earlier sale and use of stamps at Jeddah, and whether they approved of that action, I cannot say.

Despite the expectation that adhesives were on sale to the public in Makkah by 23 October, the only cover from there prepaid with postage stamps and used during 1916 which I have recorded is the one from Storrs to Brigadier General Paul (lot #67, Hibbert sale). The MEKKE cancel on the cover seems genuine and it is known to have been used at this time in conjunction with FEE PAID items, but there are puzzling aspects: (1) no transit marks, (2) no censor marks, (3) Storrs was never in Makkah, (4) Storrs was not even in the Hejaz when this item was mailed.

At long last, we come to the postmarks themselves, starting with the offices known to have used FEE PAID marks.

The lot number in the Mayo sale should be 1729 and not 1279.



H50



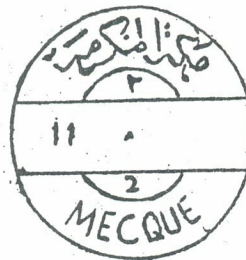
H20



HA50



HA10



X20

Makkah (MEKKE or MECQUE on datestamps)

According to Haworth and Sargent the earliest Makkah postmark is the type illustrated as H50, an octagonal bicalendar datestamp with the vertical bars filling the inner segments. The English reads "MEKKE 3" and the Arabic translates as "Makkah al Mukarrama 3". Haworth and Sargent state that use of this datestamp ceased 27 November 1916. A similar cancellation with English "MEKKE 2, with corresponding Arabic, is known to have been used alongside FEE PAID markings until about 10 October.

A second postmark type used at Makkah was the type designated as H20, a bilingual bicalendar CDS with no numeral in the inner segments. Haworth and Sargent record this cancellation as only used on the perforated issue.

The most common Makkah cancellations from this period are the all-Arabic types illustrated as HA10 and HA50. On both types the upper Arabic reads "Makkah", the lower Arabic "al Mukarrama", and the datebelt contains only the Hijrah date.

A fifth postmark used at Makkah was type X20 (1).

Makkah capitulated to the forces of Abdul Aziz towards the end of September 1924. Some of the postmarks described above continued to be used by the Nejd P.O., and later postal administrations, as indeed did several other postmarks described in this article.

Rudy Thoden reported an H50 cancellation dated 13-1-17 (13 January 1917).

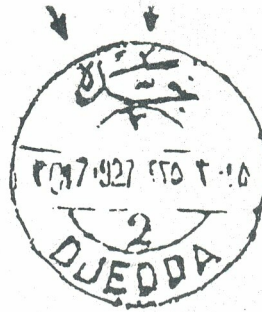
The captions beneath the illustrations have been corrected.



H10



H10



H10 var



H20



S190

Jeddah (DJEDDAH or DJEDDA on datestamps)

Haworth and Sargent state the earliest Jeddah CDS to be a type H10 with the spelling DJEDDAH which incorporated the numeral 3. Later a variation of type H10 with the spelling DJEDDA was introduced. This is found with the numerals 2, 3, or 5. Haworth and Sargent say this cancellation was not introduced until May 1917, but I record it as early as 1 November 1916. The DJEDDA H10 datestamp with numeral 2 differs orthographically from the H10 datestamps which have either the numeral 3 or the numeral 5 and is illustrated as H10 var.

A type H20 cancellation, as H10 but with no number in the inner segments appears to have been introduced at Jeddah in 1924.

A fourth cancel used at Jeddah was type S190 (2). Type S190 has been noted on obviously philatelic covers dating from the 1925 siege period, but the earliest commercial use reported by a contributor to this study is 3.6.1926 (3).

Jeddah was besieged for over a year before King Ali capitulated to the Nejdi forces just before Christmas 1925.

Yanbu' (YAMBO on datestamps)

The third post office to open under the Sherifian administration was Yanbu'. The only references I have which give a clue to when the Yanbu' office opened, and when it received its stock of adhesives, are the authorized dates of use for FEE PAID markings. Therefore I assume the former Turkish post office at Yanbu' was re-opened by the Hejaz authorities 3 August 1916, but did not receive a stock of adhesives until 5 January 1917. The late date for the receipt of postage stamps does not preclude the use of adhesives before January 1917, as there is always the possibility of a traveller, or someone such as Lawrence, mailing items franked with stamps at Yanbu' prior to the arrival of stamp stocks.

Yanbu' commonly used a type H20 cancelling device.

Mr. R. J. Thoden reports a part strike of a second CDS used by the Hejaz P.O. at Yanbu'. It is similar to type H30 but with serified European lettering and ten or so thin narrowly spaced vertical bars inside the inner segment. I have assigned it the reference H35. Does anyone own a complete strike of this datestamp so that it can be illustrated?

I found no references to Sherifian forces making a stand at Yanbu', and consequently would expect the town to have owed allegiance to Nejd from sometime in the Autumn of 1924. Such being the case, I would further surmise that the Kingdom of Hejaz P.O. there closed in Autumn 1924. However, Mr. T. A. Alireza owns covers franked with Jeddah overprints which have been cancelled at Yanbu' in May and October of 1925. It would appear that the post office at Yanbu' operated until the fall of Jeddah.

Carl R. Catherman reports that the H20 datestamp used at Yanbu' is definitely a captured Turkish device. Both he and I, and indeed several other Saudi specialists I have spoken to, suspect that several of the cancellations used by the Hejaz P.O. were obtained by this means. With the sole exception of the "EL AKABA" cancellation, they are certainly of Turkish design.



H20

Not
Available

H35



H10

Ta'if (TAIF on the datestamp)

The fourth post office re-opened by the Hejazis was at Ta'if. Once again I am forced to refer to the authorized dates of use for the FEE PAID markings and surmise the Ta'if post office began accepting mail 5 July 1917, and that adhesives went on sale there 9 August 1917.

A type H10 datestamp was used at Ta'if, with the index number always being 1.

The Hejazi P.O. at Ta'if was closed when Nejd forces sacked the town in September 1924.

Other offices

In addition to the offices already mentioned, Haworth and Sargent list Hejazi post offices at:

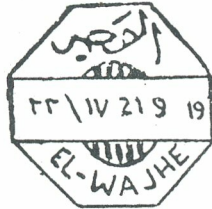
Wajh (EL-WAJHE on the datestamp)

Situated approximately halfway between the mouth of the Gulf of 'Aqaba and Yanbu', it was captured from the Turks 25 January 1917. Haworth and Sargent record the Wajh post office to have opened towards the end of

1917. FEE PAID handstamps were apparently not authorized so it must be assumed adhesives were on sale from the first.

Haworth and Sargent claim Wajh used an octagonal type H55 cancellation, and the illustration is from their book. However, every example of this datestamp seen by myself and correspondents has vertical bars filling the inner segments as type H50 (4).

I suspect the Hejazi P.O. closed temporarily during the 1924-25 conquest period, probably within days of the surrender of Makkah.



H50



H55



H60

'Aqaba (EL-AKABA on the datestamp)

Situated at the extreme north of the Gulf of 'Aqaba, and nowadays in Jordan, it was captured from the Turks 6 July 1917 and considered part of the Hejaz until the frontier agreement between Transjordan and Nejd (November 1925). FEE PAID handstamps are not recorded, so once again it must be assumed adhesives were available from the beginning. But when was that beginning? The earliest possible, but improbable date is 6 July 1917. According to Haworth and Sargent an 'Aqaba datestamp was used at Alexandria for CTO purposes until at least June 1917 - "used on sheets of the postage due stamps". A JOURNAL OFFICIEL entry dated 22 February 1917 confirms that the Egyptian Postal Administration was charged with selling "the new Hedjaz stamps (for face value plus 5%) from the Direction General des Postes, Alexandria". The 'Aqaba cancellation used by the Egyptian Postal Administration - illustrated as type H60 - has several similarities to a datestamp type in use in Egypt at the time. It has also been seen with impossible dates - June 1916 (prior to the issue of the first Hejazi stamps) and other dates later in 1916 - before the capture of 'Aqaba from the Turks. Because type H60 was used for CTO purposes, apparently with a flexible date, the only authoritative guides to when the 'Aqaba office opened are covers with corroborative transit stamps. The earliest cancellation on cover known to me is dated 8 May 1918 and is owned by Mr. T.A. Alireza.

CTO examples of this cancellation are more plentiful than genuinely used examples. Of eleven 'Aqaba cancellations known to me, seven have dates in 1916 and one an illegible date. The other three are Mr. Alireza's cover and two loose stamps with possible genuine dates in 1919.

The latest possible closing date for a post office under Hejaz administration is November 1925 on the surrender of Jeddah, but 'Aqaba probably closed some nine months earlier. Unlike most other Kingdom of Hejaz post offices, there is reason to suppose it may have remained open for some time after the fall of Makkah to Abdul Aziz, if only because when King Hussein abdicated the Hejaz throne, his first place of refuge was 'Aqaba.



HN10



H30



H10



H50

Not Available

H20

Madina (MEDINE or MEDINE on datestamps)

Madina remained in Turkish hands until some four months after the 1918 armistice. The Hejaz post office reportedly opened 15 February 1919.

The first cancellation used at Madina which is found on Hejaz postage stamps is a negative seal which is reputed to have remained in use until 23 March 1919. I have called this type HN10. Because it was used for such a short time, part strikes of the negative seal are scarce, and complete examples of the cancellation are rare.

A second Madina datestamp used during the Hejaz period was a type H30.

A type H10 datestamp with a number 3 inside the inner segment, and an accent on the final "E" of MEDINE, was introduced in 1920. Examples of MEDINE H10 cancellation with the definite article omitted from the Arabic are known, but as yet no examples have been recorded from the Hejaz P.O. period, and this variety will be dealt with in a later article.

Current records of this study indicate that a type H50 was introduced at Madina in 1921, and a type H20 in 1922.

Madina was invested shortly after the fall of Makkah. The siege lasted until its surrender in December 1925 so even if the post office remained open the only reliable and regular service it could have provided would be a local one.

Most writers describe the siege as starving Madina into submission, but postal evidence indicates that the siege was not watertight. Mr. T.A. Alireza has a cover addressed to the Amir of Bahawalpur which bears a King Ali 2p stamp cancelled by Madina type H50. I cannot make out the date of the Madina cancellation, but a Port Said CDS, one of several marks on the reverse of the cover, is dated -6 XII 25. As the letter must have taken at the very minimum five days to reach Port Said from Madina, it would seem the siege was broken at least twice, once to let the King Ali stamps in, and again to let the letter out. Historical works stress that Abdul Aziz was at pains not to arouse opposition to his conquest of the Islamic holy places for Muslims outside of Arabia.

Because the Emir of Bahawalpur was a foreign Muslim of some standing, the possibility that mail addressed to him was allowed passage cannot be discounted. It should also be noted that the continued operation of the post office at Yanbu' throughout 1925 would allow mail from Madina to connect with coastal and international mail routes.

Qunfudhah (CONFODAH datestamp)

Qunfudhah is a small port in southern Hejaz serving the Asir. A Turkish post office operated at Qunfudhah certainly until 1914, probably until October 1916 when it was first captured by the Arab armies, and possibly as late as 1918. The Turks regained Qunfudhah in December 1916; in fact, it changed hands several times. It was finally occupied by the Hashemites towards the end of the Arab revolt. The Hejaz post office probably opened 1919-1920.

A type H30 datestamp was in use at Qunfudhah.

I suspect the office at Qunfudhah closed for a period of between three and five months after the surrender of Makkah before being re-opened by the Nejdīs during the siege of Jeddah.

Rabigh (RABEGH on datestamp)

A port approximately 50 miles north of Jeddah, it owed allegiance to Sherif Hussein from the first day of the Arab revolt. I have been able to find out very little about this post office.

Mr. R. J. Thoden has an octagonal H50 part strike on the 1 piastre blue perforated 10. The Gregorian date is incomplete and the Hijrah date is 5.5.19. Assuming that the dateline should in fact read 35.5.19, we arrive at a date of 13 March 1917.

I suspect the Rabigh P.O. closed shortly after the surrender of Makkah.



H30



H50



H20

Ma'an (MA'AN on the datestamp)

Ma'an is situated where the Hejaz Railway crossed the temporary Hejaz/Transjordan border. Haworth and Sargent report the post office opened early in 1921.

The datestamp used at Ma'an was a type H20. The illustration of this cancellation is from a photocopy provided by David Graham. The Arabic half photocopied poorly and the illustration is my guess at what it should look like.

The Ma'an post office probably closed late in 1924 after the collapse of an effective Hejaz government, but as it must have operated virtually as a branch office of the P.O. at 'Aqaba, there is an outside chance it remained open for some months afterwards.

Possible Unrecorded Hejazi Post Offices

Writing in 1922, Haworth and Sargent say "Matters are, however, moving so rapidly that in all probability before these lines appear in print new ones [post offices] will have opened".

As far as is known, no further offices did open.

Mail Routes

When the Hejaz postal service began operating in June 1916, it had but one post route, overland between Makkah and Jeddah. A second route was established in August 1916 when the office at Yanbu' opened. It is possible that mail between Yanbu' and Makkah was transported along the Madina-Makkah pilgrim trail, but more likely that Jeddah became the hub of the Hejaz postal routes, with mail transported from Yanbu' to Jeddah by sea before being sent inland. In 1917, with the opening of offices at Ta'if and Wajh, a mail route was extended inland from Makkah and the sea route extended northward from Yanbu'. If, as current evidence suggests, a post office opened at 'Aqaba in mid-1918, the mail route from Jeddah via Yanbu' and Wajh would then be extended northwards to serve this new office. The commissioning of the Madina P.O. in 1919 probably marked the opening of two new post routes, one for internal mail following the old Makkah-Madina pilgrim route and one for foreign mail to Yanbu' and thence by ship. Later (1920) when the Qunfudhah office opened, the mail boat route extended southwards. The Ma'an office, which probably opened February/March 1921 when Emir Abdullah esconced there with ambitions to raise a rebellion against the French in Syria, was most probably served by a route through 'Abd el Lissan to 'Aqaba. Rabigh, a coastal town, would be served by mailboats plying between Jeddah and 'Aqaba.

The postal routes just described operated but a short time. With the sacking of Ta'if, capitulation of Makkah, and investment of Madina, in September 1924 the Hejazi Postal Administration effectively ceased to exist. With the exceptions of Madina, Yanbu' and 'Aqaba, there is no evidence to suggest a possibility that any of the Hejaz post offices other than Jeddah functioned after September 1924.

Footnotes

- (1) When first classified, this datestamp type (for Makkah) was not then recorded as having been used by the Hejaz P.O., and will eventually be redesignated as H10.
- (2) This particular cancellation, though of a smaller diameter, has all the attributes of a modern type already included in the study, hence the "S" prefix. Will probably be renumbered.
- (3) Wherever dates consisting only of numerals are quoted in the text they are as per the postmark, i.e. day/month/year.
- (4) Some weakly struck cancellations of Wajh appear to have a break in the vertical bars which would allow the insertion of a letter or number, but until a clear strike is found, this variety will not be listed.

List of Postmarks and Recorded Dates of Use

N.B. Office names in capitals in the following list are reproduced as they appear in the non-Arabic part of the datestamp. Lower case names are all-Arabic.

When it is known that a datestamp type continued to be used by the Nejdī postal administration, I have assumed it was in use by the Kingdom of Hejaz P.O. until the day the office closed. Such late dates are shown by use of an asterisk, e.g. *.9.24.

D/S Type	Office Name	Earliest Date	Latest Date	Diam. mm.	Notes
H10	DJEDDA	1.11.916	12.10.21	32	Numerals: 2, 3, 5. See illustration for Arabic orthographical differences of D/S with numeral 2. Numeral 3. Numeral 3. Numeral 1.
	DJEDDAH	11.10.16	*.12.25	28	
	MEDINE	14.6.20	*.11.25	29	
	TAIF	28.4.18	24.4.20	28	
H20	DJEDDA	-9.1.24	*.12.25	32.57	Black, violet, blue.
	MA'AN			32	
	MEDINE	3.3.22		29	
	MEKKE	14.10.16		31	
H30	CONFODAH	??.20	??.9.22	28	Violet. Earliest date reads 4.6.18*38/6/?. Greg. date assumed wrong.
	MEDINE	20.12.19	??.3.1920	28	
H35	YAMBO				
H50	EL-WAJHE	??.?.17	*.?.?.24	26	Black, blue, violet. No numeral. Numeral 1. Numeral 3. Also seen with numeral 2, used until early Oct. 1916 but not seen on adhesives. Hijrah date 5.5.19.
	MEDINE	27.12.21	*.11.25	26	
	MEKKE		13.1.17		
	RABEGH	13.3.17		27	
H55	EL-WAJHE				Current evidence suggests type H55 does not exist.
H60	EL-AKABA	8.5.918	16.6.919	32	See text for notes on CTO use.
HA10	Makkah	??.?.16	* Sept 24	32	Several "cuts" of this cancel known. Slight differences in Arabic and diameter.
HA50	Makkah	7 Feb 17	1 Jan 19	32	
HN10	Madina	15 Feb 19	23 Mar 19	34	Dates of use per Haworth & Sargent.
X20	MECQUE		*.9.24	32	Numeral ?
S190	DJEDDAH		*.12.25	24.5	

The following datestamp types are known to have been forged or to have had dubious use:

Makkah H20, HA10 and HA50.
Jeddah H10 and H50.

Some of the dates and CDS diameters were amended by Rudy Thoden based on information in his and Mr Tarik Alireza's collections.

Further Notes:

Part 1- page 10 (Yanbu)

One of Mr. Alireza's covers, used in May 1925, bears a copy of the 2p three-line Jeddah overprint (Scott L94, SG119). The other, used in October 1925, has a copy of the 2p King Ali (Scott L173, SG 182). Both covers are to Egypt and bear the appropriate backstamps.

Historical references describe the capture of other Red Sea ports such as Qunfudhah, Lith, Rabigh and Wajh, but are silent regarding Yanbu'. Randall Baker's book KING HUSAIN AND THE KINGDOM OF HEJAZ describes the fall of Yanbu' in 1916. He says it was almost impregnable to land assault, being situated on a coral spit with water on three sides and an open area of scrubland landward. It was naval guns that pounded the garrison into submission. Since the Nejdīs in 1925 are not known to have had a navy that could have bombarded Yanbu', this may explain why it held out.

Yanbu' probably was supplied with stamps from Jeddah by sea.

Part 1- page 13 (Madina)

Randall Baker's book, KING HUSAIN AND THE KINGDOM OF HEJAZ, states that Madina was not isolated from Jeddah until September 1925 when the Harb tribe defected to the Saudis. This would explain why Jeddah provisionals, issued earlier in 1925, were available in Madina.

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THE POSTAL MARKINGS OF HEJAZ, NEJD, HEJAZ AND NEJD, AND SAUDI ARABIA

By: Kenneth D. Knight

----- Additions to the Introduction

I begin with additions to the list of correspondents who have assisted in the preparation of these articles. Firstly there is Mike Murphy who I inadvertently omitted from my initial list. Although Arabia is outside his own collecting interests, when queried about entries relating to the Hejaz postal services in the JOURNAL OFFICIEL, he not only waded through the relevant issues, but located and generously provided a photocopy of the Survey of Egypt's booklet. Secondly, there is Mr. R. J. Thoden, the RANDOM NOTES editor; his assistance with the first of these articles is self-evident and will no doubt continue.

I have included a cancellation (NH10) in my listings of postmarks used by the Nejd Post Office which originates from Mina (Makkah), where a post office is open only during the Hajj. Hence the creation of a new category, and the addition of "H" to the list of indicators (RANDOM NOTES #44, page 8).

A second new category, which will not be fully described until a later article, is that of "branch" post office. Such branch post offices will be indicated by the letter "B".

----- Corrections to Previous Article

In my first article of this series I complained at some length about the oversights, errors and mistakes of other writers, then propagated two such errors myself.

Illustrations HA10 and HA50 are transposed. The type shown as HA10 is actually HA50, and vice versa.

The reference to lot #1279 of the Mayo sale should have read lot #1729.

----- CANCELLATIONS OF THE NEJD POST OFFICE (1925)

It should be noted at the outset that the title "Nejd Post Office" is a misnomer chosen by the catalogues, I suspect, merely to indicate that it operated independently of, if simultaneously with, the Kingdom of Hejaz Post Office. No postal facilities existed in Nejd at this time. A more correct, if longwinded, title would be "Sultanate of Nejd Post Offices in Occupied Hejaz".

After the surrender of Makkah a postal service became necessary for the legions of Muslims it was hoped would make the pilgrimage, for the merchants who serviced the pilgrims, and to prove to the world at large, especially the Islamic countries, that the Nejdis were more than a band of marauding bedouin.

Consequently captured Turkish postage and Hejazi postage and fiscal stamps were overprinted for use by the Sultanate of Nejd Post Office. According to Gibbons, the first stamps overprinted "1343 Barid Al Sultanat Al Nejd" were issued in March 1925. Warin is a little more precise with "at the end of March". However, the earliest cancellation I have recorded is dated 30 Ramadan 1343 (23 April 1925), almost a month later than the Gibbons date.

After Makkah was occupied it soon became paramount for the Nejd to capture at least one Red Sea port to allow mail, pilgrims, food and other essential supplies into and out of the Holy City, the traditional route via Jeddah being proscribed because that city was still held by King Ali of the Hejaz.

It is generally accepted that the Nejd occupied the small coastal towns of Rabigh, Lith, and Qunfudhah before "July 1925". The small port of Qunfudhah was selected as the inlet/outlet point for international mail. Philatelic evidence indicates Qunfudhah was captured at least three months "before July". The earliest cover from Makkah I know of which was routed via Qunfudhah is in the Alireza collection. The stamp is cancelled Makkah 30 Ramadan 1343 (23.4.25) and the cover has transit stamps of Qunfudhah (4 Shawwal 1343 - 27.4.1925), Massawa (28.4.25) and Port Taufiq (5.5.25).

In his article "The Capture of Al-Qunfudhah by Ibn Saud" (1), Dr. Randall Baker records and illustrates a cover sent from Makkah (23.5.25 CDS) via Qunfudhah (7.6.25) and Massawa (12.6.25) to Egypt.

A second cover in the Alireza collection is cancelled Makkah (27 Dhu al Hijjah 1343 - 19.7.25) and has transit stamps of Qunfudhah (8 Muharram 1344 - 28.7.25), Massawa (8.8.25) and Port Taufiq (15.8.25).

I detail the various datestamp markings of the above covers because they demonstrate the disparity of time, sometimes amounting to weeks, that mail routed via Qunfudhah could be in transit.

Three covers do not provide enough statistical evidence to make definitive statements, nevertheless they do provide evidence which allows some guesswork which, with luck, will be corroborated by the markings on other covers which travelled this route.

- (1) The covers recorded show a transit time from Makkah to Qunfudhah of between four and fifteen days. I interpret this to mean that mail was only despatched from Makkah when a viable quantity was awaiting shipment, and that actual travelling time was between four days and a week.
- (2) Likewise, there are disparities in the time taken from Qunfudhah to Massawa (one to eleven days), and from Massawa to Port Taufiq (one to seven days). I am of the opinion that these disparities were caused by the sailing schedules of the mailboats involved.

Before listing the cancellations of the Nejd Post Office in Occupied Hejaz, there is a point of semantics to consider - when did the Nejd Post Office in Occupied Hejaz become the Hejaz and Nejd Post Office? To the catalogue editor or a stamp collector unconcerned with postmarks the answer is when the first Hejaz and Nejd stamps were available; but to the postal historian, if I can claim such a grandiose title, it must surely be the date that the two postal services (Hejazi and Nejdi) were

united under a single administration. Such unification occurred shortly after the fall of Jeddah, when mail from Makkah with an overseas destination was once again routed through Jeddah. Baker records a cover from Makkah dated 29.12.25 which has a Jeddah transit stamp, but for practical purposes I propose to use 31 December 1925 as the dividing line.

Recorded Nejdi Post Offices in Occupied Hejaz

Makkah (MECQUE on bilingual datestamps)

The most common cancellation of Makkah during 1925 was the all-Arabic type HA10 (illustrated in previous article).

The bilingual type X20 (illustrated previous article) with the numeral 6 in the inner segments also saw some use at this time. I have recorded only two examples, both of them in October (21 and 22) of 1925.

Mina (Makkah) (Only all-Arabic datestamp recorded)



NH10

The Feldman catalogue of November 19-23, 1985 illustrates a special cancel which they describe as used for the first day of the 1925 Hajj pilgrimage(2). Because the post office at Mina, which is about 3 km. from Makkah, is believed to have opened --- as it does today--- only during the Hajj season, I have listed this cancel as type NH10. At this time I have no evidence to cast doubt on its authenticity, but my intuition tells me to distrust the item. Mr. R.J. Thoden points out that the cancellation date, 10 Dhu al-Hijjah (2 July 1925), is neither the first day of issue of the stamps it cancels nor the first day of the Hajj. It is however the date of the 'Id al-Adha (Feast of the Sacrifice) which takes place in Mina. David Graham comments that Warin could have been wrong about the issue date. Was the datestamp intended only to produce souvenirs for sale to the Hajjis?

One of the reasons put forth by Abdul Aziz for his attack on the Hejaz was to reorganize the Hajj as a religious occasion rather than the extortionate fund-raising opportunity he claimed it had degenerated into. Another of his intentions was to guarantee safe passage for the pilgrim when travelling to the various religious centers. Could it be that the Mina cancel was in part a propaganda exercise and in part a philatelic money raising exercise? The money raising aspect should not be dismissed lightly as it is extremely unlikely that the Nejd Post Office in 1925 was self-financing.

Does anyone have an example on cover which would demonstrate a genuine postal use?

Madina (MEDINÉ on datestamp)

Lots #1933 and #1935 of the 1980 Mayo auction catalogue consisted of Al-Saudiya overprints cancelled with the Madina type H50 datestamp (illustrated previous article), with legible dates of 11.12.25 and 18.12.25. Neither item is on cover so it is not possible to verify the dates of use by checking the dates of transit marks, but both dates are after the surrender of Madina to the Nejdīs and consequently possibly genuine. To date I have not recorded the use of authorized Nejd overprints from Madina in 1925.

Qunfudhah (ALGUNFADA on datestamp)



H40

It would appear that the type H30 cancel of Qunfudhah was mislaid or destroyed shortly after the Nejdī invasion. Latterly the datestamp I have designated type H40, sometimes referred to as "provisional", was employed. All examples seen have had Hijra date only.

Al-Lith

I have a report of a part strike of an Al-Lith cancel similar in style to the H40 of Qunfudhah. It is in red-violet and found on a genuine S.G. 218 dated ? Rabi' Thani 1344 (Gregorian equivalent end October/early November 1925). Unfortunately I am not able to illustrate it at this time.

Possible Unrecorded Nejdī Post Offices in Occupied Hejaz

In recent years several covers with Nejdī provisional overprints which have been cancelled by the octagonal Wajh datestamp (H50) have appeared in auctions, but I have not been able to decipher the dates of use from the photographs. Consequently, I have assumed use in 1926 by the Hejaz and Nejd Post Office.

Yanbu' and Rabigh were captured before the surrender of Jeddah, but I have not recorded cancellations from any of these towns on Nejdī stamps during 1925.

Several examples of a bilingual cancel of Duba (DEBA on the cancel) are known on Nejd provisional overprints. Duba is on the Red Sea roughly half-way between the Gulf of Aqaba and Wajh, and I understand it was a quarantine station for pilgrims from Egypt. Such being the case, if in Nejd hands at the time of the 1925 pilgrimage, it would undoubtedly have been used by them. However, unless/until a cover is found with dated transit stamps, or a dated cancellation which places its use in 1925, I intend to assume it was used by the Hejaz and Nejd Post Office after the fall of Jeddah.

 List of Postmarks and Recorded Dates of Use

N.B. Office names in capitals in the following list are reproduced as they appear in the non-Arabic part of the datestamp. Lower case names are all-Arabic.

D/S Type	Office Name	Earliest Date	Latest Date	Diam. mm.	Notes
H40	ALGUNFADA	27.4.25	*.12.25	35	Hijra date only.
H50	MEDINE	11.12.25	*.12.25	26	Numeral 1.
HA10	Makkah	23.4.25	*.12.25	32	
NH10	Mina (Makkah)	2 July 25	-----	33	Used at post office open only during Hajj
X20	MECQUE	22.10.25	*.12.25	32	Numeral 6 in inner segment.

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THE POSTAL MARKINGS OF HEJAZ, NEJD, HEJAZ AND NEJD, AND SAUDI ARABIA

By: Kenneth D. Knight

CANCELLATIONS OF THE HEJAZ AND NEJD POST OFFICE (1926-1932)

By New Year 1926 the occupation of the former Kingdom of Hejaz by the Saudi forces - with the exception of the 'Aqaba-Ma'an enclave (1) - was complete.

Although the conquest made Abdul Aziz de facto ruler of the Hejaz, it was uncertain in 1926 whether the territory would be annexed by Nejd. Indeed, Abdul Aziz convened an Islamic Congress of leaders from other parts of the Muslim world to discuss the future government of Islam's Holy Cities. But the Congress dissolved without reaching a decision, and Abdul Aziz remained unchallenged as ruler of the Hejaz. Six years were to pass before, on September 22, 1932, he issued the declaration which united the Nejd and Hejaz into the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. Hence there was a period when Arabian stamps bore the legend "Hedjaz & Nejdde", in Arabic only on the first issues but in both French and Arabic on later issues.

In 1926 the title Hejaz and Nejd Post Office was a misnomer because the mails operated only in the Hejaz region. I have not been able to establish when postal services were extended eastwards - the earliest cancellations I have recorded from cities in the Nejd and the Eastern Provinces are dated 1933, after the declaration of union.

However, there is no reason why some postal facilities should not have existed in Riyadh (seat of government for Nejd, if not the whole country), Hofuf (commercial center), and possibly other towns. Whether verifiably genuine postal cancellations from these places will ever be found is another matter.

It may well be that post offices were opened in Nejd but no postal markings of these offices have survived. Until 1932, all non-Muslims, including foreign diplomats and businessmen, were restricted to the town of Jeddah. Most Muslim visitors to the country were pilgrims and journeyed no further than Makkah and Madina. A large proportion of the indigenous population were illiterate. These three facts go a long way to explain why very few stamps from this period are found with postmarks other than Jeddah, Makkah, and to a lesser extent, Madina.

At the turn of the century the country, now known as the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, did not exist. Its establishment, and expansion to the boundaries familiar today, owes much to one man, Abdul Aziz Ibn Abdul Rahman al Faisal al Saud.

In 1902, twentyone-year-old Abdul Aziz, hitherto the son of a royal house in exile, captured Riyadh from the descendents of Ibn Rashid, and re-established Saudi rule of the city. The early years were expended in extending the area of central Arabia under Saudi rule. In 1904 he defeated the Rashidis, adding the cities of Buraidah and Unaizah to the Saudi domain, only to lose them in 1905 and regain them in the spring of 1906. During this period a Turkish force commanded by Lieutenant General Sudgi was quartered at Buraidah and Unaizah. These garrisons were not occupying forces, but a foreign presence allowed by Abdul Aziz, supposedly (in Turkish eyes) to keep the peace between the Saudis and the Rashidis. Any postal arrangements for Sudgi's men would have to have been organized and operated by the Turkish army as there was no established civil postal service. A mail service to and from Sudgi's units would have been highly unreliable as the desert tribes were able to isolate his forces, and even official army dispatches from Sudgi rarely reached his superiors.

In May 1913 Abdul Aziz captured the town of Hofuf(2) from the Turks, and with it the Al-Hasa coastal region. Coles and Walker in their POSTAL CANCELLATIONS OF THE OTTOMAN EMPIRE list a post office with the name Ahsa or Nejd which is thought to have been located at Hofuf. There is no evidence the House of Saud operated postal services for use by the general public until after the conquest of the Hejaz. The Nejdi Post Office which operated for much of 1925 before the capitulation of King Ali was dealt with in a previous article.

The provisional stamps of the Nejd Post Office which were issued in 1925 continued in use during the early months of 1926. "FEE PAID" handstamps were also used intermittently during 1926 (and less frequently in later years). I do not list the "FEE PAID" handstamps because articles dealing with them have appeared in recent issues of RANDOM NOTES (3).

It is natural to expect that the new administration would want to reopen all the post offices which had been established by the Hashemite Kingdom. This was not possible because, as we have already seen, 'Aqaba and Ma'an had been ceded to Transjordan. Most historical writers report that the townfolk of Ta'if were expelled after the sacking. Thus it would be expected that early dated cancellations do not exist, however such is not the case, and Ta'if cancellations are known by 1926.

Post Offices of the Hejaz and Nejd P. O.

Makkah (MECQUE or MEKKE on bilingual datestamps)

During the period of the Hejaz and Nejd P.O., Makkah continued to use the all-Arabic HA10 and the bilingual X20 datestamps (illustrated in previous articles).

The X20 style cancellation remained in use for many years - into the 1950s. Over the years at least one new device in the same design was brought into service, differentiated by finer lettering. At this time I do not possess enough material to enable an estimation of when the recut datestamp was introduced, whether more than one new device was manufactured, or whether the old and new devices saw contemporaneous use.

The Hejaz and Nejd P.O. introduced a datestamp for a specific purpose, in this case to cancel registered mail. The cancel, which I have designated XR20, is a bilingual, double ring cancel, with datebelt and vertical bars filling the inner segments. Every example seen had only the Hijra date. The best strike I have of the XR20 cancel though on cover is somewhat smudged, hence the undoubtedly corrupted Arabic in the illustration. I would guess the "squiggle" in the brackets (top left) is meant to be the independent form of miym, and abbreviation for "mussajil", and counterpart of the "RG" abbreviation for registration in the non-Arabic half of the datestamp. The condition of this canceller seems to have deteriorated rapidly. By 1930 examples are to be found which have the letters missing from the brackets in both Arabic and non-Arabic halves. Even the example (June 1926) used in preparing the illustration shows no sign of the number "2" which must surely have followed the letters "RG". Later examples of this cancellation with the lettering excised from the brackets are listed in the table at the end of this article as type XR20a.

XR20



X30

Duba (Deba on bilingual datestamp)

Duba, the location of a quarantine station for pilgrims arriving from Egypt, is situated roughly halfway between the Gulf of 'Aqaba and Wajh. The X30 datestamp used at Duba is datebelted and is similar in many respects to the Hejaz P.O. 'Aqaba cancel, with a single ring Arabic portion and double ring lower half. It has been recorded on stamps with the Nejd provisional overprints and the 1927 Toughra issue. However, as not one of the known examples is dated, cancellations on the Toughra issue may have been struck any time until the early 1930s.

Jeddah (Djeddah or Djedda on bilingual datestamps)

Jeddah continued to use cancellation types H10, H20 and S190, all of which have been illustrated in previous articles.

It is something of a minor mystery why S190, the neatest of the Jeddah cancelling devices was replaced. David Graham suggests it was because S190 showed only the Hijra date, but then so did the XR20 Makkah cancel yet its use continued.

Madina (MEDINE on datestamp)

Madina continued to use type H10 and H50 datestamps as previously illustrated.

The type H50 octagonal datestamp with the integral number "2", a device that had not been used since Ottoman times, was reintroduced in the late 1920s. Articles in RANDOM NOTES #43 and #44 give dates for its use from 27.3.29 through 1934.

A variety of type H10 which I have illustrated as X50 also occurred in the late 1920s. The illustration is taken from a photograph of a clear strike in the FILATCO auction catalog of June 20, 1986 (lot #836). In general the omission of the definite article from the Arabic part of a datestamp was an Ottoman trait, but the Ottoman equivalent of this cancellation had a straight line over the initial "miym" whereas X50 has three dots.



Qunfudhah

The type H40 cancellation continued to be used at Qunfudhah.

I have only recorded one cancellation from Qunfudhah during the period of the Hejaz and Nejd P.O. and that in 1926. Although there is no reason to suppose the Qunfudhah post office was closed down, further later dated examples need to be recorded before it can be said for certain that the post office there did remain open.

Rabigh

The only cancellation of Rabigh I have recorded from the Hejaz and Nejd P.O. period is illustrated as type XA20 (4). As can be seen the lower half of the datestamp is illegible, but from the odd character that can be discerned it appears to be all-Arabic. Should a legible example be found it is feasible that the Arabic in the lower half assigns it to a specific purpose, probably use with registered mail.

(Editor's Note: The Arabic in the brackets at top left seems to read "Al-Hejaz").

As with Qunfudhah it is necessary to record further Rabigh cancellations in order to ascertain that the Rabigh post office continued to function.

Ta'if (Taif on bilingual datestamp)

The only Ta'if cancellation I have recorded used during this period is illustrated as type X40, a single ring datestamp, notable for the way the English lettering extends at the bottom to follow the lower circle. Can anyone supply a complete example showing the Arabic lettering?

Wajh (El-Wejhe on bilingual datestamp)

Wajh continued to use the H50 datestamp, illustrated previously, throughout this period.

Wajh cancels seem to be more common than would be expected. Does anyone know the reason for this?

Yanbu' (Yambo on bilingual datestamp)

Yanbu' continued to use the type H20 datestamp, illustrated previously, throughout this period, usually struck in violet

Other Possible Offices

My previous article mentioned a cancellation of Al-Lith dating from 1925. I have no record of a Lith cancel dating from the Hejaz and Nejd P.O. period which would indicate continued operation of this office.

I have no recordings of cancellations from cities east of the Hejaz during this period, but suspect some postal facilities, if only for the use of representatives of the Sultan and members of the royal family, must have existed at Riyadh.

Footnotes:

(1) The 'Aqaba-Ma'an area was ceded (annexed) to Abdullah of Transjordan by King Ali. According to Abdullah in his memoirs, the annexation happened a few days after his father (King Hussain) left 'Aqaba for exile in Cyprus. Hussain sailed from 'Aqaba on H.M.S. Delhi on 17 June 1925. See also RANDOM NOTES #45.

(2) David Howarth in his book THE DESERT KING gives the date of May 1914 for the capture of Hofuf.

(3) RANDOM NOTES #39 and #41.

(4) The XA20 Rabigh cancellation illustrated in RANDOM NOTES #33, page 9 is alongside the rectangular FEE PAID mark usually regarded as having been used at Madina. The accompanying text suggests this could indicate that the FEE PAID handstamp was moved from Madina to Rabigh, or vice versa. However, as indicated in T.A. Alireza's article on FEE PAIDs in RANDOM NOTES #41, arrival or transit cancels sometimes appeared on the front of envelopes, and it is likely the Rabigh cancel here is just an arrival or transit mark.

List of Postmarks and Recorded Dates of Use

N.B. Office names in capitals in the following list are reproduced as they appear in the non-Arabic part of the datestamp. Lower case names are all-Arabic.

D/S Type	Office Name	Earliest Date	Latest Date	Diam. mm.	Notes
H10	DJEDDAH	*.1.26	*.9.32	32	Numeral 3.
	MEDINE	*.1.26	??.??	29	Numeral 3.
H20	DJEDDA	*.1.26	*.9.32	32.5	
	YAMBO	*.1.26	*.9.32	33	
H40	ALGUNFADA	*.1.26	18.4.26	35	Hijra date only.
H50	EL-WAJHE	*.*.26	*.9.32	26	
	MEDINE	*.1.26	*.9.32	26	Numerals 1 and 2.
HA10	Makkah	*.1.26	7.9.26	32	
X20	MECQUE	28.9.26	*.9.32	32	Numerals 1,2,3,4,6.
X30	DEBA	??.?.26	??.?.27	32	Several examples known on SG 219 and one on SG 288. All are undated.
X40	TAIF	??.?.26		29	
X50	MEDINE	29.7.30	*.9.32	??	Numeral 3.
XA20	Rabigh	??.?.26		33.5	
XR20	MEKKE	27.6.26		27	
XR20a	MEKKE	??.9.30	*.9.32	27	
S190	DJEDDAH	23.6.26	9.9.27	25	

The following datestamps have been noted alongside FEE PAID marks used by the Hejaz and Nejd P.O.: H20 DJEDDA, HA10 Makkah, X20 MECQUE 6, H50 MEDINE, and XA20 Rabigh(4).

THE POSTAL MARKINGS OF HEJAZ, NEJD, HEJAZ AND NEJD, AND SAUDI ARABIA

By: *Kenneth D. Knight*

CANCELLATIONS OF THE KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA POST OFFICE (1932 TO DATE)

On September 22, 1932, almost seven years after he conquered the Hejaz, Abdul Aziz issued a declaration which united the until then supposedly separate states of Hejaz and Nejd into the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

There was a period of some fifteen months before the first stamps inscribed "Royaume de L'Arabie Soudite" - the Heir Apparent set - were issued. In the meantime, issues of the Hejaz and Nejd post office remained in use, as did several existing cancelling devices and cachet handstamps.

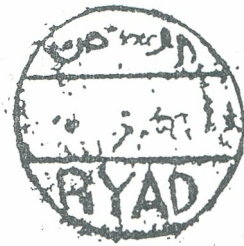
Datestamps Introduced by Earlier Administrations which Continued in Use				
Type	Office Name	Earliest	Latest	Notes
H10	DJEDDAH	*.9.32	3. 7.33	Numeral 3.
	MEDINE	*.9.32		Numerals 3,4.
	TAIF	*.9.32	? 8.34	Numeral 1.
H20	DJEDDA YAMBO	*.9.32	7. 2.34	Late use on Yemen war tax stamp.
		*.9.32	? ? 34	
H30	CONFODAH	*.9.32	? ? 34	Late use on Yemen war tax stamp.
H50	EL WAJHE MEDINE	*.9.32	? 2.36	Numerals 1,3.
		*.9.32		
X20	DJEDDAH MECQUE	*.9.32	5. 4.37	Numerals 1,3. Numerals 3. 2
		*.9.32	12. 8.49	
XR20a	MEKKE	*.9.32	16. 2.34	

The continued use of Hejaz and Nejd postage stamps should not be taken as an indication of lethargy on the part of the postal administration as progress was afoot in other directions.

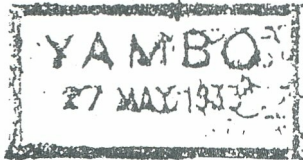
My earliest recording of a Riyadh cancellation dates from 1933, indicating extension of postal services to the capital. By 1936 mail routes had been further extended to the Eastern seaboard, and post offices have been reported at Hassa (Al-Hasa), Jubail, Katif (Qatif), and Okair (Al-Uqair), though as yet I have neither seen nor recorded the early cancellation(s) of Jubail.



Type X10: A single ring datestamp with belted bicalendar dateline. Arabic shaped to fit the upper portion. The western office name is straight and consists of tall thick letters.



Type X10				
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	Diameter	Notes
HAYEL			39	Circa late '50s.
KATIF	5. 1.34	7.10.36	32	
MINA (MECQUE)	22. 3.37	23. 9.50	29	Two types exist. Diff. height of western name.
RYAD	25. 6.33	7.10.36	30	
TAIF	14. 9.34	14. 7.52	30	



Type S15: A rectangular boxed cancellation that contains no Arabic and has only Gregorian date.

Type S15				
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	Diameter	Notes
YAMBO		27MAY1933		Size: 37x19 mm.



S10



S11

Type S10: A bicalendar belted datestamp with single ring upper segment and double ring lower segment. Note the style of the Western lettering.

Type S11: As S10, but western office name without serifs. Differentiated from X30 by size and style of Arabic, smaller western lettering, narrower outer ring in lower segment, and inclusion of bicalendar date.

Type S10				
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	Diameter	Notes
DJEDDAH	17. 1.34	5.12.34	30	

Type S11				
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	Diameter	Notes
DEBA		3. 3.40	32	

Type S22: A bicalendar belted datestamp with Arabic office name filling single ring at top. The bottom half of the cancellation is a double ring with shaded inner segment and western office name in the outer circle. The shaded segment has about 12-15 vertical bars (examples seen were not clear).



Type S22				
HASSA	14. 6.33		32	



Type S20: A single ring, bicalendar CDS with datebelt. Arabic office name fills the upper segment. Western office name is semi-circular. Note the Gregorian date appears to be reversed (34.-5.1.).

Type S20				
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	Diameter	Notes
OKAIR	5. 1.34		32	

* * * * *

Hodeida Cancels of the Saudi-Yemeni War

Recent articles in RANDOM NOTES #37, #42 and #46 by Carl R. Catherman and R. J. Thoden excellently summarized what is known about postal arrangements for the Saudi occupation forces in Hodeida. For the sake of eventual completeness, I illustrate the two cancellations used at Hodeida.

In her book THE SOUTHERN GATES OF ARABIA, Freya Stark suggests (pp22-23) that the Saudis used a naval force which acted in support of the land forces attacking along the coastal plain. If this were so, it raises the question of why the covers from Hodeida to Egypt were routed via Aden when it would have been more practical to route them via Jeddah.

Yemeni
C.D.S.



Saudi
C.D.S.

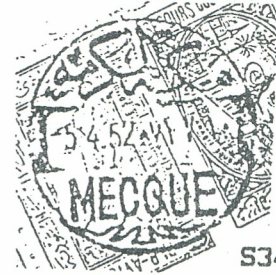




S32



S33



S34

Type S32: A bicalendar belted single single ring datestamp. The Arabic office name is shaped to fill the whole upper segment. The western office name is in a straight line and above an ornamental design. N.B. inked areas at each end of the datebelt.

Type S33: Virtually the same design as S32, but without inked areas at ends of the datebelt and with a different ornamental design at foot.

Type S34: A variation of the S32 MECQUE cancel with different ornament at foot and stars at each end of the datebelt.

Office Name	Earliest	Latest	Diameter	Notes
Type S32				
HAYEL MECQUE	30. 4.35 1.11.34	9.11.39	30 30	Ornaments open but can be solid due to inking.
Type S33				
HASSA	5.10.34	? 9.36	30	
Type S34				
MECQUE	9.10.34	25. 4.52	30	

* * * * *

Mail Routes of the 1930s

I located one description of postal service in the 1930s, a summary of which may be of interest to readers. The quotation which is attributed to Dr. Rashad Pharaon describes how foreign mail was brought from Kuwait to Riyadh by truck in 1936 and dumped by the corner of the main mosque. Townsfolk dived into the pile searching for letters and packages that were addressed to themselves, and if they found anything addressed to a friend or neighbor, would deliver it on their way home. (Source: THE KINGDOM, page 251, by Robert Lacey).

Notwithstanding the above extract from THE KINGDOM, it would appear from transit marks to be found on covers which entered Saudi Arabia at this time that the normal route for mail, especially that originating in the Western Hemisphere, was through Jeddah and then overland via Makkah, Ta'if and Riyadh. The cover shown as Figure 2 in Mr. F. C. Benedict's article entitled THE OHLIGER CORRESPONDENCE (RN #45) aptly illustrates this route.

Previous articles in RANDOM NOTES which dealt with early postal services available to oil personnel employed by SOCAL (Standard Oil Company of California), its subsidiary CASOC (California Arabian Standard Oil Co), and subsequently ARAMCO, describe mail being routed through Bahrain. It should be borne in mind that the Bahrain route was available to company employees and their dependents only - outgoing mail transported by CASOC barge to Bahrain - incoming mail addressed to the employee, care of CASOC, Bahrain Island. Although in later years the Saudi authorities monitored the Bahrain service it was always, in essence, operated by the company.



S35

Type S35: A bicalendar belted single ring datestamp. The Arabic office name is shaped to fill the whole of the upper segment. The semi-circular western office name encloses an inked segment.



S36

Type S36: As S35, but with the inked segment broken to show a numeral.

Type S35				
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	Diameter	Notes
DJEDDAH	28. 4.35	4. 5.40	29	See RN #37,42,46.
HODEIDAH	15. 5.34	23. 6.34	32	
OMLOUJ			29	
Type S36				
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	Diameter	Notes
DAFIR		3.10.52	29	Numeral ?
DJEDDAH	5. 1.39	1.11.49	29	Numeral 2.
YAMBO	23. 1.37	24. 1.45	29	Numeral 1.

Type S5: As type H30, however, there are differences between this cancellation and the original Ottoman datestamp, and it must be concluded that the device was both manufactured and used by the Saudi postal authorities. (Major difference is in the slant of the final alif of the Arabic).



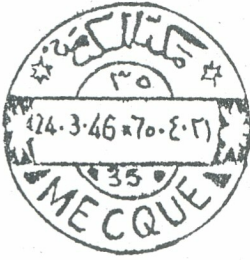
Type S5				
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	Diameter	Notes
EL ULA	? . 2.36		29	



Type ST100: A bicalendar belted triple ring CDS with inked ends to the dateline. The outermost circle has the Arabic office name at top and the western name at bottom - note the curly foot of the letter "J" in "DJEDDAH". The bottom inner circle has the French "MANDATS" and the top inner circle the Arabic "hawalat" (حوالات) or "transfer".

In the only example of this marking seen on a cover, it was used as a transit mark on an insured letter originating in Makkah. It is also known cancelling stamps. Does anyone have more information?

Type ST100				
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	Diameter	Notes
DJEDDAH	21. 7.37	? .10.42	32	



Type S30: A bicalendar belted double ring datestamp with star motif at each end of the datebelt. The inner segments enclose a number. The ornamentation before and after Arabic office name differs on the various cancels.

Type S30				
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	Diameter	Notes
ABHA	3. 6.41		32	Numeral 4.
DJEDDAH	23. 4.42	7. 4.52	32	Numeral 23.
ELWAJHE	7. 6.39		32	Numeral 16.
HASSA	6. 7.45	10. 2.51	32	Numeral 27.
KHARJ	13. 4.44		32	
KONFUDAH	15. 4.38		32	
MECQUE	22. 1.37	5. 5.49	32	Numerals 1,35.
MEOQUE	24. 2.46	3. 3.50	32	Numeral 1. Note spelling error.
MEDINE	1. 7.38	3. 6.46	32	Numeral 1.
MISHAAB	undated		32	Numeral ?. No stars in datebelt.
RABEG			32	
TABOUK	26. 6.46		32	Numeral 3.
TAIF	5. 8.44		31	Numerals 2,25.
YANBO	22. 3.37		32	Numeral 5. Seriffed letters.



SR20a



SR20c

Type SR20a: A single ring datestamp with bicalendar datebelt "filled" at both ends. This device was intended for use on registered mail as evidenced by the word "tasjeel" (تسجيل) in the Arabic portion of the design. The DJEDDAH cancel also exists not filled at ends of datebelt.

Type SR20b: The datestamp of this design used at Jeddah seems to have been damaged during the years it was in service. The main feature of the damaged state is that "R-2" at the bottom of the western segment shows as "I-2".

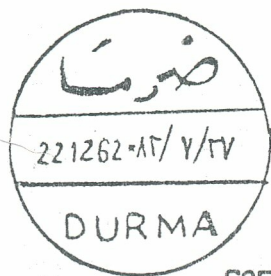
Type SR20c: As type SR20a, but the Arabic at top is enclosed in ovals rather than segments.

Type SR20a				
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	Diameter	Notes
DJEDDAH	22. 2.39	? . 7.48	32	R-2 at foot.
MECQUE	21. 2.39	1.10.52	32	R-1 at foot.
MEDINE	7. 7.43	10. 6.52	32	R-3 at foot.
Type SR20b				
DJEDDAH	30. 5.55	? . 9.59	32	I-2 at foot.
Type SR20c				
KHOBAR	8.10.46	? . 1.48	31	R-5 at foot.
RYAD	12. 6.43	16. 9.46	32	R-4 at foot.

Type S55: A bicalendar, belted single ring CDS with both Arabic and western lettering in a straight line. There is an office or counter number; the Arabic is within an oval at the top; the western number is in brackets <> at the bottom. This cancel is similar in some ways to the registration cancel type SR20, but there is no indication that its intended use was for registered mail.



Type S55				
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	Diameter	Notes
ALLIT (Al Lith)	22.7.44		32	Numeral 5.



S25

Type S25: A bicalendar belted single ring datestamp. Both Arabic and western office names are in a straight line.

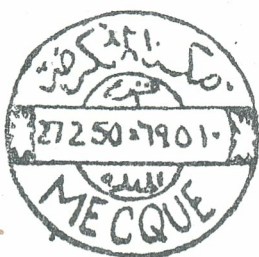
Type S28: As S25, but the Arabic office name is shaped to fill the whole of the upper segment. The western office name is in a straight line.



S28

Type S25				
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	Diameter	Notes
BAHRA	undated		31	
DJEDDAH	25. 2.50		34	
DURMA	22.12.62		35	
JEDDAH			40	
KARYA	? 7.56		31.5	
KHOBAR	12. 7.40	26. 6.46	32	
TAIF	20. 6.69		40	

Type S28				
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	Diameter	Notes
JOBEIL		15. 3.48		
RABIGH				
RYAD	6. 7.40	22. 2.43	32	
TAIF				Circa 1970.



Type SB100: A bicalendar bilingual double ring cancellation with Arabic script in both upper and lower inner segments. The Arabic word in the upper inner segment reads "far'a" (فرع) and is accompanied by a number, while that in the lower inner segment is the name of the branch office. The illustration shows "far'a 1" (branch 1) and "Al Ma'alah". Ma'alah is the district of Makkah where Khadija, the wife of the prophet Mohammad, is buried. I have a record of "far'a 2" with the number to the left of the script rather than underneath, however, I do not have a translation of the branch office name.

Type SB100				
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	Diameter	Notes
MECQUE (Al Ma'alah)	17.11.47	? 7.51	33	Branch 1.
MECQUE (??)			33	Branch 2.



S45



S46



S47



S48

Type S45: An unusual cancellation on two counts: (1) the date is boxed, and the box does not fully cross the datestamp; (2) the numbers in the bottom half are in negative form. Most examples of this cancel are found on registered covers, however there is nothing to indicate it was intended for use on registered mail in either the Arabic or western sections of the cancel.

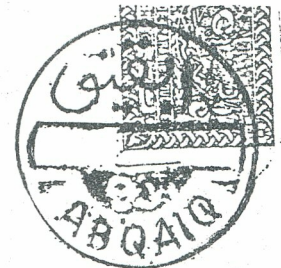
Type S46: Very similar to type S45 but with the negative Arabic number in an inked semi-circle above the date and the equivalent western number in an inked semi-circle below the date. This datestamp also has stars at the ends of the datebelt.

Type S47: As type S45 but has a double outer circle.

Type S48: As type S45 but with stars at ends of the datebelt.

Type S49: As type S46 but with western number only. No Arabic number.

The common characteristic of this group of cancels is the negative office/counter numbers.



S49

Type S45				
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	Diameter	Notes
AFEAF EL-MUBARRAZ DHAHRAN	undated 28. 8.57 ?. ?.49	20.SEP.52	32 32.5 32	Numeral ?. Numeral ?. Numeral 61. Mostly undated, but also known with Gregorian date only added.
DJEDDAH KHOBAR MEDINE	2.12.51 14. 7.49	?. ?.52 3.12.51	32.5 32	Numeral 79. Numeral 54. Numeral 50.
Type S46				
DHAHRAN	4.11.48		32	Numeral 37.
Type S47				
AL MISSEJID	undated		30	Numeral 53.
Type S48				
BEESHA DAMMAM RAS-TANURA	21. 5.44	?. 7.48	32 32 32	Numeral ?. Numeral 28. Numeral ?.
Type S49				
ABQAIQ DJEDDAH TAIMA	undated 8. 5.51		32 32 32	Numeral 93 (?). Numeral 85. Numeral 82 (?).

Historical Note

After the end of World War II, ARAMCO's development of Saudi oilfields began in earnest. Dhahran airfield was built in 1944, and TWA began commercial airmail service from there in July of 1946. The port of Damman was completed in 1951. Oil royalties increased, primarily because of increased production, throughout the 1950s and 1960s.

* * * * *



S50



S60



S62

Type S50: A bicalendar unbelted single ring datestamp. Arabic office name in straight line. Western office name is semi-circular.

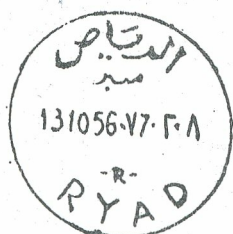
Type S60: As S50, but both Arabic and western office names are semi-circular.

Type S62: As S60, but bracketed numeral following both Arabic and western office names.

Type S50				
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	Diameter	Notes
DJEDDAH	12. 2.52	13. 4.58	29	
DJEDDAH	12. 8.56	30.12.57	33.5	Diff. diameter.
HASSA	? 7.56	15.10.64	30	
JEDDAH	27.10.58	31.11.58	35	Different western spelling.
OMLUJ	27.11.73		35	
RAS-TANURA	22. 4.58		29	
Type S60				
DAHRAN	31.12.52	19.10.53	30	NB. spelling.
DAFIR	26. 7.56		29	
DAMMAN	1.11.58	??. 1.69		
DHAHRAN	? 7.57	7. 4.69	35	
DHAHRAN AIRPORT			29	
KHOBAR			29	
MECQUE	1.12.52	22. 3.63	29	
MECQUE	13. 3.58		34	Diff. diameter.
MEDINE	6. 7.56	2. 3.59	29	
PORT-DAMMAN	11. ? 55		29	
RYAD	28. 7.57	5. 1.60	29	
RYAD	2.10.57		34	Diff. diameter.
SHAQ(RA)?	28. 2.60		30	
TAIF	2. 4.53	? 8.56	29	
TAIF	8. 4.59	27.10.72	35	Diff. diameter.
Type S62				
MECQUE	5. 6.56	5. 1.65	28	Nums. 2,3,4,6,7.



SR55



SR56



SR62



SR50

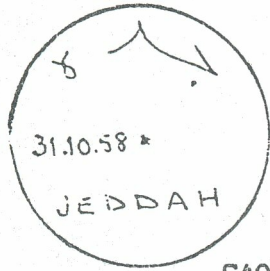
Type SR55: A bicalendar unbelted single ring datestamp intended for use on registered mail. The Arabic office name is in a straight line above the word "musajjal" (مسجل). The western office name is semi-circular and encloses a letter R with a quotation mark or dash at both sides.

Type SR56: As SR55, but with semi-circular Arabic office name.

Type SR62: As SR56, but counter number following both the Arabic and western office names.

Type SR50: As SR56 but larger diameter and the R in inverted commas is larger.

Type SR55				
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	Diameter	Notes
DJEDDAH	15. 2.53	9. 9.57	29	
KARYA	39. 9.55		29	Date error.
Type SR56				
ALMISSEJID	19. 5.56		29	
ANAIZA	5. 7.56		29	
BURAI DA				
DAHRAN	16. 2.53		32	
ELWAJHE	24. 1.55		29	
HASSA	30. 6.56		29	
KHARJ	?. 7.57		29	
KHOBAR			29	
MECQUE	18. 8.54	?. 5.62	29	
RAHEAMA	5. 9.55	?. 12.56	29	
RYAD	11. 1.55	21. 3.57	29	
TABOUK	?. 7.57		29	
Type SR62				
MECQUE	12. 7.56	15. 7.62	29	Numerals 2,5.
Type SR50				
DAMMAN	4. 12.56	2. 5.69	34	
DHAHRAN	10. 5.61		34	
DJEDDAH	19. 1.62		34	
KHOBAR	7. 11.56	6. 6.62	35	
MECQUE				
RAHEAMA	3. 6.56	3. 9.58	34	
RYAD	29. 6.59	7. 10.69	35	



S40

Type S40: A bicalendar unbelted single ring datestamp with semi-circular Arabic office name and western office name in straight line.

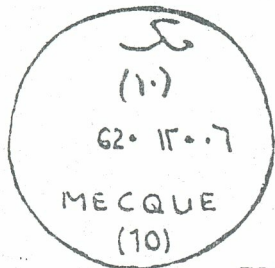


S70

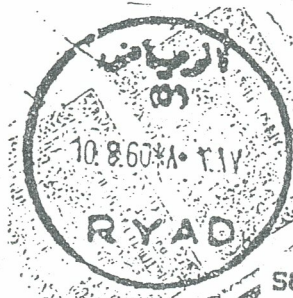
Type S70: As type S40, but both Arabic and western office names in a straight line.

Type S40				
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	Diameter	Notes
AIRPORT DHAHRAN	26. 4.60		34	
DHAHRAN	? ? 58		34	
JEDDAH	27.10.58		34	
RYADH			34	

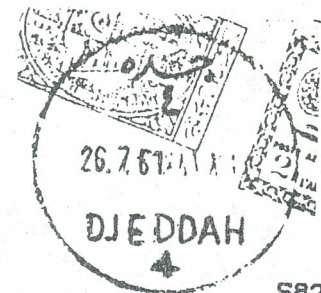
Type S70				
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	Diameter	Notes
AIRPORT DHAHRAN	26.10.59	9.11.60	34	NB: Spelling!
DJEDDAH		28. 6.60	35	
JEDDAH	27. 7.58	7. 8.60	34	
JIZAN	21.10.56	25. 2.57	34	
MEOQUE		17. 8.61	29	
MECQUE	30.10.60		34	
MEDINA	9. 1.59		34	
RYAD	26. 4.58	11.11.63	34	
TAIF	28.10.79		39	
WEJH			34	



S80



S81



S82

Type S80: A bicalendar unbelted single ring datestamp. The Arabic office name is over a bracketed office/counter number. The western office name is in a straight line above an office/counter number in brackets.

Type S81: As type S80, but with Arabic counter number only. No counter number appears in the lower half of the cancellation.

Type S82: As type S80, but both counter numbers are not bracketed.

Type S80				
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	Diameter	Notes
DJEDDAH	30. 7.61		35	Numeral 4
MECQUE	5. 4.59	28.10.62	35	Nums. 5,6,9,10.

Type S81				
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	Diameter	Notes
JEDDAH	26. 8.58		35	Numeral ?.
RYAD	2. 5.59	10. 8.60	35	Nums. 1,2,5.

Type S82				
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	Diameter	Notes
DJEDDAH	26. 7.61	25.12.61	34	Numerals 2,4.

Type SA60: An all-Arabic bicalendar unbelted single ring datestamp. Upper segment contains the word "barid", or "post". Lower segment contains semi-circular office name.



Type SA60				
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	Diameter	Notes
Dhahran Airport	? 7.60	4. 5.69	34	



Type SRD100: A bicalendar belted single ring CDS intended for use on outgoing registered mail. The western office name is in a straight line and gives no indication of intended use. The upper line of Arabic is the office name; the lower line reads "tasjeel S". "Tasjeel" translates as registered and is equivalent to "musajjal". The letter "S" is presumed to be an abbreviation for "صدر" (Sadr/Departure or outgoing).

Type SRD100				
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	Diameter	Notes
DJEDDAH	11. 6.62		35	
RYADH	1. 2.61		35	

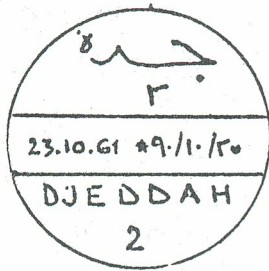
Type SD100: A bicalendar belted single ring CDS intended for use on outgoing mail. Distinguishing feature is the word "OUT" in large letters in the lower segment. I have yet to find an example which would allow accurate reproduction of the Arabic part of the cancel.



Type SI100: As type SD100, except the word "OUT" is replaced by "IN". The Arabic is not legible in the examples seen. Presumably intended as an arrival marking, but also used to cancel stamps on outbound mail.

Type SD100				
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	Diameter	Notes
DHAHRAN AIRPORT	17. 3.61	? 7.67	39	

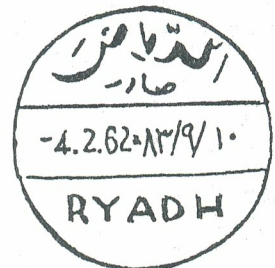
Type SI100				
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	Diameter	Notes
DHAHRAN AIRPORT			39	
JEDDAH AIRPORT	11. 7.61		39	



Type S95: A bicalendar belted single ring datestamp. Both the Arabic and western office names are in a straight line with office/counter number underneath.

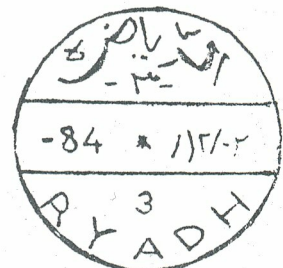
Type S95				
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	Diameter	Notes
DJEDDAH	23.10.61	29.10.61	34	Numeral 2.

Type SD50: A bicalendar belted single ring datestamp intended for use on outgoing mail. The semi-circular Arabic office name encloses the word "صادر" (sadir) or "outbound". The western office name is straight and has no indication of intended use.



Type SD50				
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	Diameter	Notes
DHAHRAN AIRPORT	31.12.62		35	
RYADH	4. 2.62		35	
TAIF	28. 6.64		34	

Type S100: A bicalendar belted single ring datestamp. Both Arabic and western office names are semi-circular and enclose an office/counter number.



Type S100				
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	Diameter	Notes
DHAHRAN A.P.	19. 1.75		40	Numeral 19.
JEDDAH	1. 1.75			Numeral 26.
LA MECQUE	9. 6.62	28.11.62	34	Numeral 10.
MEDINA	? . ? .70			Numeral 2.
RIYADH	5.11.75		40	Numeral 60.
RYADH	7.11.63	15. 2.76	35	Numerals 2,3,6.
TAIF	8.10.75		40	Numeral 15.

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THE POSTAL MARKINGS OF HEJAZ, NEJD, HEJAZ AND NEJD, AND SAUDI ARABIA

By: Kenneth D. Knight

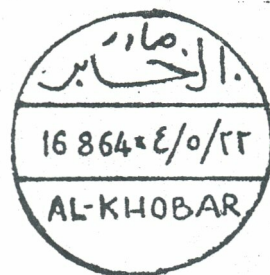
CANCELLATIONS OF THE KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA POST OFFICE (1932 TO DATE)



Type SDF90: A bicalendar belted single ring CDS which was probably intended for use on foreign outgoing mail. The straight line western office name gives no indication of the intended use. Two distinguishing features in the Arabic: (1) the last two characters of the word "sadir" (صدر), or "departure", are arranged vertically and (2) the letter "kha" (خ), which is believed to be an abbreviation for "khariji" (خارجي) or "foreign".

Type SDF90				
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	Diameter	Notes
DJEDDAH	7. 5.62	26. 7.62	34	

Type SD60: A bicalendar belted single ring datestamp. The Arabic is in two straight lines; the lower line is the office name and the upper line indicates intended use on outgoing mail. The western office name is in a straight line and has no indication of intended use.

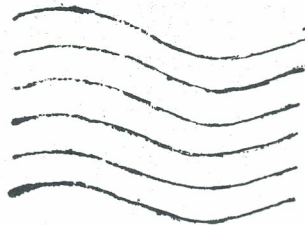


Type SD60				
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	Diameter	Notes
AL-KHOBAR	8. 1.63	16. 2.78	34	



Type SRD105: As type SRD100, but with the Arabic word for departure written in full.

Type SRD105				
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	Diameter	Notes
DAHMAN	29.10.63		34	
MEDINA			33	
TAIF	24. 6.63		34	



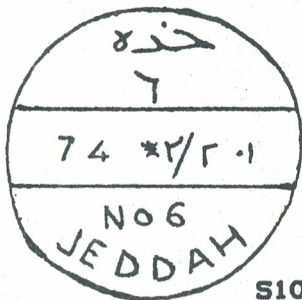
Type SM5: A mechanical cancelling device made up of two 28mm. single ring datestamps separated from each other by six wavy lines. Both the circles are bilingual; the Arabic is shaped to fit the upper segment and the western office name is semi-circular. The date, sandwiched between two straight lines, is Hijra in one circle and Gregorian in the other.

Type SM5				
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	Diameter	Notes
DHAHRAN-AIRPORT	10. 7.63	22. 3.73	--	

Type S101: A bicalendar belted single ring CDS. The Arabic office name is semi-circular enclosing office/counter number. Western office name in straight line with trailing number. Can someone supply a clear example of this type?



Type S101				
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	Diameter	Notes
DAMMAM	29. 1.79		40	Numeral 4.
MECCA	? . ? .65			Numeral 10.
RIYADH	20. 5.67			Numeral 3.
TAIF	02.10.72			Numeral 2.



S105

Type S105: A bicalendar belted single ring CDS. The Arabic office name is in a straight line with the counter/branch office number underneath. The western office name is semi-circular and encloses the counter/branch office number preceded by "NO".

Type S106 (not illustrated): As type S105, but with semi-circular Arabic office name.

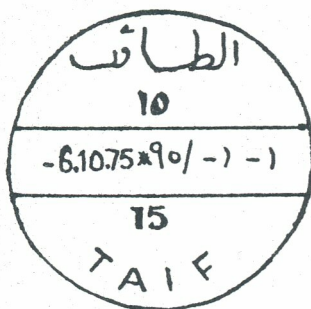
Type S105				
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	Diameter	Notes
DHAHRAN A.P.	12.12.74			No. 2.
JEDDAH	11.12.69	17.10.72	38	No. 1,2,3,5,6,10, and 11.
MECCA			39	No. 4,8.

Type S106				
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	Diameter	Notes
RIYADH	? . 1.70	16. 1.72	39	No. 2,3,9.

Type S85: As type S25, but both Arabic and western office names followed by an office/counter number.



Type S85				
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	Diameter	Notes
JEDDAH	11. 1.68		39	Num. 1.
MECCA		19.11.84	39	Num. 10.
MEDINAH	29.12.75	24. 3.76	38.5	Num. 5.
RIYADH			39	Num 3.



Type S90: A bicalendar belted single ring CDS. The Arabic office name is straight and has the counter/branch office number underneath. The western office name is semi-circular and encloses the counter/branch office number. Distinguished from Type S105 by lack of the word "NO" preceding the counter number in the western segment.

Type S90				
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	Diameter	Notes
ABQAIQ	31.12.75		39	Num. 3.
AL HAFR	10.11.79		39	Num. 4.
AL-HASA	-7.11.73	21. 9.77	39	Num. 1,4,6,9.
AL-KHOBAR	10. 8.74	13. 3.76	39	Num. 2,8.
AL-HOBARAZ	9. 3.76	14. 3.76	39	Num. 2.
DAMMAM	7. 8.74	13.11.79	39	Num. 3,10,12.
DHAHRAN A.P.	31.10.73	10. 3.76	39	Num. 2,3,6,8,13, 14,15,16,19,20.
JEDDAH	25.10.70	10.12.77	39	Num. 1,11,20,21, 22,32.
MECCA	22.12.75	30. 7.77	39	Num. 2,5,6,10,14, 22,23,25,27,28, 33,36.
RIYADH	3. 3.74	31.12.76	39	Num. 3,5,7,13,14, 21,28,31,45,53, 54,60.
RYADH	18. 1.75		39	Num. 38.
TAIF	6.10.75	28. 3.76	39	Num. 2,9,13,14,15



S170

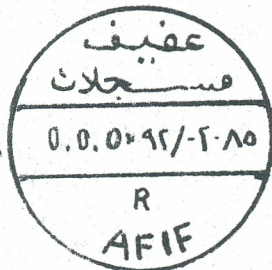
Type S170: A bicalendar belted single ring CDS. The Arabic office name is in a straight line. The western office name is semi-circular.

Type S171: As type S170, but the Arabic office name is preceded by "barid" (بريد) or "post".



S171

Type S170				
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	Diameter	Notes
ABHA	15. 1.76	16. 3.76	35	
AL-HAFR	10.10.79	13.11.79	36	
AL-MANDAK	17. 3.76		35	Greg. 8.8.76.
DHAHRAN A.P.	25. 9.71	25. 8.73	39	
FAIFA	15. 3.76		35	
HOTAT B. TAMEEM	3. 5.76		39	Western name in mirror image.
MECCA			39	
QURAYAT	1. 4.76	5. 4.76	35	
RIYADH	1.11.71		39	
RUFAlDAH	25. 3.76		39	
SAFANIYA	13. 1.82		35	Arabic in 2 lines
SAFWA	20. 3.76		35	
SEHAT			35	
TABUK	23.12.75	22. 3.76	35	
UNAIZAH	11. 5.83		40	
YANBOU	12. 3.76	21. 3.76	35	
Type S171				
AFLAJ	23. 3.76		39	Greg. 32.3.71.
AL-KATEEF	16. 3.76		39	
KHAIBAR	? . 3.76		39	
HAFJMAA	28.11.71		39	



Type SR100: As Type S170, but with "musajjalat" (مسجلات) or "registered" under the Arabic office name, and an R (without commas) over the western office name.

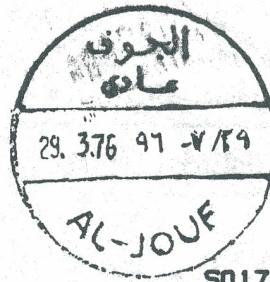
Type SR100				
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	Diameter	Notes
AFIF	15. 3.76		35	Greg. date 0.0.0.
AL-HASA	? . 3.73		35	
AL-KHAFJI	9.11.75		39	
BRAIDAH	11. 3.76		35	
DAMMAN	20. 1.76		35	
OMLUJ			35	
SHAQRA	? . 7.76		35	
TRAF	2. 2.76		35	



SD170



SI170



S0170



SD0170

Type SD170: As Type S170, but with "sadir" (صادر) or "outgoing" under the Arabic office name.

Type SI170: As Type S170, but with "warid" (وارد) or "receiving" under the Arabic office name.

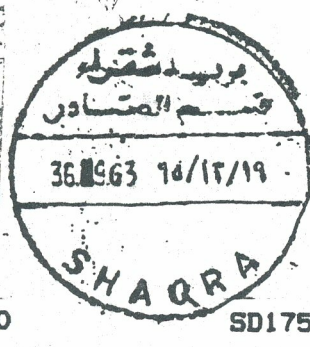
Type S0170: As Type S170, but with "'adi" (عادي) or "ordinary" under the Arabic office name.

Type SD0170: As Type S170, but with "'adi sadir" (عادي صادر) or "ordinary outgoing" under the Arabic office name.

Type SD170				
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	Diameter	Notes
ABHA	4. 1.76		35	
AL-HAFR	1. 1.76		35	
AL-KHARJ	30.11.75		35	
BADR	7. 3.76		35	
BALJURASHI	3. 7.75		35	
DHAHRAN A.P.	26. 6.75		39	
HOTAT B. TAMEEM	7. 3.76		39	
KUNFODAH	15. 3.76	28. 3.76	35	
QATEEF	2. 3.76		35	
RANYA (?)	10. 3.76		35	
SAFWA	1. 3.76		35	
Type SI170				
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	Diameter	Notes
AL-KHAFJI	5. 8.78		39	
DAMHAM	29.12.75	17. 3.76	35	
Type S0170				
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	Diameter	Notes
AL-JOUF	29. 3.76		35	
YANBOU	2. 3.76	28. 3.76	35	
Type SD0170				
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	Diameter	Notes
MECCA	14. 3.76	30. 3.76	39	
MEDINA	12. 1.75	11. 3.76	38.5	



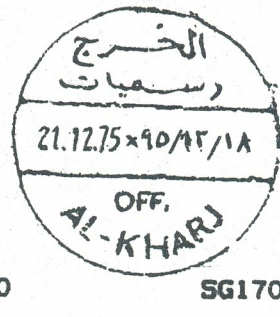
SDF0170



SD175



SRD170



SG170

Type SDF0170: As Type S170, but "adi khariji sadir" (عادي خارجي صادر) or "ordinary foreign outgoing" under the Arabic office name.

Type SD175: As Type S170, but with "gism al sadir" (قسم الصادر) or "outgoing section" under the Arabic office name. Arabic office name preceded by "barid" (بريد) or "post".

Type SRD170: As Type S170, but with "al musajjalat al sadirat" (المسجلات الصادرة) or "outgoing registered" under the Arabic office name.

Type SG170: As Type S170, but with "OFF." under western office name and "rasmayat" (رسميات) or "official" under the Arabic office name. Intended for use on official mail, but also used on ordinary mail.

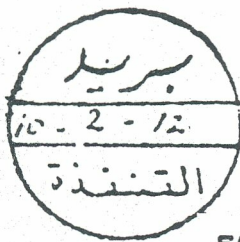
Type SDF0170				
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	Diameter	Notes
RIYADH	10. 3.69		39	
Type SD175				
BURAIDAH	13. 12. 75	15. 12. 75	39	
ONAIZA	22. 7. 75		39	
SHAQRA	22. 12. 75		39	Greg. 36.9.63.
Type SRD170				
DHAHRAN A.P.	20. 6. 73		38.5	
MEDINA	27. 12. 75		38.5	
RIYADH	3. 12. 71		38.5	
Type SG170				
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	Diameter	Notes
ABHA	4. 1. 76		35	
AL-HASA	28. 12. 75	16. 3. 76	35	
AL-KHARJ	21. 12. 75		35	
BISHA	17. 3. 76		35	
HOTAT B. TAMEEN	? . ? . 76		39	

* * * * *

Historical Note

After the Arab-Israeli War of 1973, oil royalties rocketed. In the same period the literacy rate of the Saudi population rose, the numbers of foreigners working in the Kingdom increased, trade and business expanded --- factors which led to exponential growth in Saudi postal services.

* * * * *



SA90



SA85



SA88



SA95

Type SA90: A belted single ring postmark with the date added in manuscript. Arabic at top reads "Barid" (بريد) or "post". Office name at bottom. See RN #7.

Type SA85: As Type SA90, but datebelt divided into 3 parts by diagonal slashes with the first two digits of the year "13" (13) permanently in place. Example seen was undated. Date inferred from transit CDS.

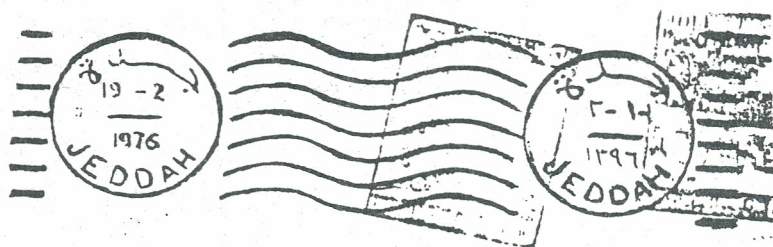
Type SA88: As Type SA85, but the Arabic at top reads "maktab barid" (مكتب بريد) or "post office". Center segment also has "هـ" for "Hijra" before the "13" for the first two digits of the year. Seen on Tughra issue, thus 1960 or earlier.

Type SA95: As Type SA85, but with Arabic letter "ق" at top, the meaning of which is unknown. The year in the central segment is expressed as "139" (h139). Examples seen were undated, but used on covers with late 1975 transit cancels.

Type SA90				
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	Diameter	Notes
Al Qunfudhah	10. 2.72		29.5	Manuscript date.
Type SA85				
Al Ha'it	undated		30	Transit 23.10.82.
Type SA88				
Umm Asalmiy ?	undated		29	On Tughra issue.
Type SA95				
Ifqara'	undated		29	Used in 1975.

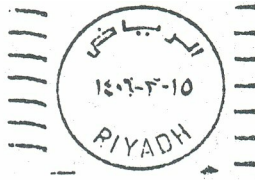
The SM10 Mechanical Cancellations

Type SM10: A mechanical cancellation consisting of two bilingual single ring datestamps. One datestamp has Hijra date, the other the matching Gregorian date. The two datestamps are spaced 40mm. apart by either six or seven wavy lines. Some offices, e.g. Dammam, have been noted using both.

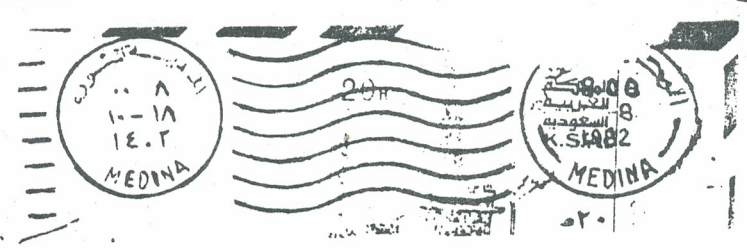


The next several pages are devoted to describing the many variations of the SM10 cancellation which have been noted to date. The illustration at the head of this section was selected as the archetypal example because it was initially both the earliest and commonest type in my collection.

The only constant parts of this datestamp are the short straight lines which occur at the right hand and left hand extremes. Even the wavy line matrix can be removed and reinserted, or perhaps it is a case of inserting the date circles upside down, then inverting the whole cancellation, regardless, the effect is the same -- inverted wavy lines.



The greater number of variations occur in the makeup of the circles, the most obvious difference being the presence or omission of the "arc lines" inside the circles. That arc lines are a variation and not a different datestamp is proved by the fact that examples are to be found with one circle having "arc lines" and the other not having them as per the example from Medina illustrated below.

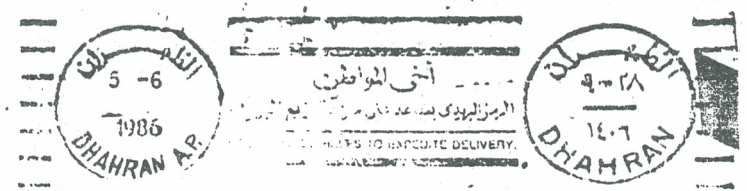


Another date circle variation concerns the Arabic town name. At the time of first drafting these paragraphs (July 1986), three different styles of Arabic script had been noted. One of these scripts has only been seen with datestamps which incorporate a slogan, but as the wavy line/slogan portion of the datestamp matrix is apparently removable, I assume that eventually examples of this third style of Arabic will be found used in conjunction with wavy lines. All three types are described here.

The first script is fluid as in جدة (Jeddah) and الطائف (Taif).
 The second script is boxlike as in جدة (Jeddah) and راحة (Rafha).
 The final script while still angular lacks much of the squareness which is a feature of the boxlike script.
 Examples: جدة (Jeddah) and سكاكا (Sakaka).

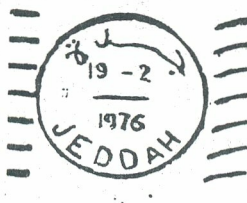
The western script occurs in two sizes, narrow and wide. To date the only offices known to use both western scripts are Dammam, Dhahran, Jeddah, Makkah and Riyadh. In the case of Makkah, the smaller western script is recorded only where the Arabic reads Makkah Al-Mukaramah, and the larger western script only where the Arabic reads simply Makkah. Both scripts are 2.25mm. high, but the difference in overall word length is easily seen. With Dhahran, Jeddah and Riyadh the length of the horizontal bar of the letter "H" varies from 0.6mm. wide on the narrow script to 0.75mm. on the wider script.

That the use of a specific western script is not dependent upon the particular Arabic script in use is demonstrated by the mixed scripts which are to be seen used in conjunction with both the boxlike and the fluid Arabic scripts. The angular Arabic script of Riyadh has been seen in conjunction with both narrow and wide western scripts.

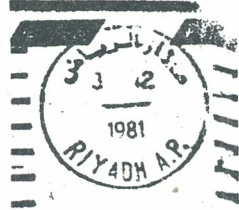


Though not all possible combinations of the different scripts have been recorded, this series of datestamps is still current and therefore allowance must be made for the possibility of combinations not yet seen being found at some future date. As can be seen from the table below and the following illustrations, twelve different combinations are possible. No less than eight of the twelve possible varieties have been recorded. In lieu of a more accurate description I have used the term "die" to annotate the different arrangements.

	NO ARC LINES		WITH ARC LINES	
	Lge. Ltrs	Sm. Ltrs	Lge. Ltrs	Sm. Ltrs
Fluid Arabic	Die I	Die Ia	Die II	Die IIa
Angular Arabic	Die III	Die IIIa	Die IV	Die IVa
Boxlike Arabic	Die V	Die Va	Die VI	Die VIa



Die I



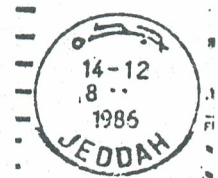
Die Ia



Die II



Die IIa



Die III



Die IIIa



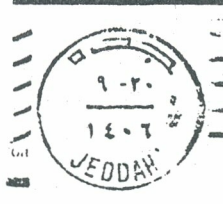
Die IV



Die IVa



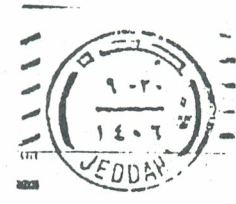
Die V



Die Va



Die VI



Die VIa

The next features to be considered are variations in the date portion of the device. Though the following notes relate to the Gregorian date circle such comments also apply to the corresponding Hijra date circle.

There are two basic "dateslugs". The earliest cancellations had a three line date but some more recent datestamps have been seen with the date in one line.

The three-line date is made up of three separate slugs which represent i) day and month, ii) time of day and iii) the year. There are two types of day/month slug and three types of the time slug (see below). The three slugs can be arranged in any sequence within the cancellation.

Day/month slugs: (a) (h)

Time slugs: (b) blank (c) line (d) time

Year slug: (e)

Various arrangements of the individual slugs which make up the three-line date have already been reported; they are (reading from top to bottom of the date insert): a/b/e, a/c/b, a/c/e, a/d/e, a/e/b, a/e/c, a/e/d, c/a/e, d/a/e, d/e/a, e/c/a, e/d/a, and h/c/e.

Two sub-types of the one-line date exist.

-2.10.85

-2.10.1985

(f): dd.mm.yy format

(g): dd.mm.yyyy format

In all, there are 38 possible arrangements of the date, a fact which when considered along with the twelve possible die types gives rise to a total of 456 possible sub-types (912 if we allow for Gregorian date being in either right hand or left hand circle), and this number must be doubled to allow for the occurrence of inverted wavy lines, and increased still more to allow for the errors such as inverted and part-inverted dateslugs. The following listings are of necessity simplified with date arrangements indicated in the notes column. The notes column is also used to indicate whether inverted wavy lines have been recorded for each sub-type. Where a "mixed" cancellation such as the one illustrated from Medina above have been seen, they are recorded twice, once for each die.

It should also be noted that two sizes of numerals (both western and Arabic) have been seen; the smaller are 2.5mm high, the larger 3mm tall. The two sizes of numerals are frequently seen used in the same cancellation, usually pre-1980 and usually with the taller numbers used only for the year of the date.

Type SM10 is further sub-divided dependent upon which circle contains the Gregorian date. Where it is on the right, this is designated by the suffix "R", and where it is on the left, by the suffix "L".

Type SM10R					
Office Name	Die	Earliest	Latest	Date Arrangements	Notes
AL-HASSA	IVa	25.10.1979	13.11.1979	a/c/e	
AL-KHOBAR	IIIa	13. 1.1981	25. 6.1981	a/c/e	
BURAYDAH	IVa	9. 2.1982	8. 8.1982	a/c/e	1,2
DAMMAH	Ia	9.11.1979	28. 5.1982	a/c/e	
	IIIa	10. 1.1981	20.10.1983	a/c/e	3
	IVa	19.12.1978	27.10.1980	a/c/e	
	V	8.11.1984	15. 3.1987	a/c/e	5
DHAHRAN	I	20. 3.1974		a/c/e	
DHAHRAN A.P.	Ia	9. 5.1977	13.11.1979	d/a/e	4
	IIa	5.11.1980		a/c/e	4
HAIL	IVa	7. 8.1982	27.11.1982	a/c/e	
JEDDAH	I	13.12.1984		a/b/e	
	IIIa	13.12.1984	27. 3.1985	a/b/e	
	V	4.11.1984	2. 2.1987	a/c/e	3,5
JEDDAH A.P.	Ia	24. 9.1977	26. 6.1986	a/c/e, a/b/e	4,6
	IIIa	6. 2.1978	25. 2.1987	a/c/e, a/b/e	
	IVa	1. 9.1981	16. 8.1986	a/c/e, a/b/e	7
MECCA	I	29.10.1981	16. 3.1982	a/c/e	D
	IIIa	1.12.1977		a/c/e.	D
MECCA	IIIa	29.10.1979	12.11.1979	a/c/e.	C
MEDINA	Ia	23. 2.1981	17. 8.1982	d/a/e	3
	IIa	7. 4.1983		d/a/e	E
	IIIa	19. 8.1978	17. 8.1982	d/a/e	3, E
	IVa	13. 8.1978	12. 2.1982	d/a/e	E
RIYADH	I	7.11.1972	14. 7.1973	a/c/e, e/c/a	8
	IIIa	12.11.1981	31.12.1983	a/b/e, a/c/e	3
	IVa	19. 8.1979	15. 3.1982		
	V	7. 4.1985	21. 5.1987	a/c/e	3
	Va	28.12.1983		a/c/e	
RIYADH A.P.	Ia	3. 8.1976		a/c/e	
	IIIa	3. 8.1982	20. 2.1985	a/c/e	
TABOUK	IIa	7.10.1979		a/c/e, e/c/a	9
	IVa	28.10.1979	11.11.1979	a/e/c	
TAIF	IVa	25.12.1981		a/e/c	10
TA' IF	IIIa	4. 1.1987		a/c/e	
	IVa	3. 4.1981	23.11.1982	a/c/e, e/c/a	11

Type SM10L					
Office Name	Die	Earliest	Latest	Date Arrangements	Notes
ABHA	Ia	4.10.1981		d/a/e	
	IVa	26.10.1979		e/d/a	
AL-HASSA	IVa	5. 6.1981	15. 1.1982	a/c/e	12,13
AL-KHARJ	IVa	8. 7.1981		a/c/e	
AL-KHOBAR	Ia	5.11.1979	12.11.1979	a/c/e	
BURAYDAH	IIIa	17. 6.1986		a/c/e	14
	IVa	17. 4.1982	17. 6.1986	a/c/e	
DAMMAM	IIIa	5.12.1981	29. 6.1983	a/c/e	3
	IVa	? . 3.1979	14. 6.1982	a/c/e, a/b/e	
	V	26. 2.1985	21. 4.1987	a/c/e	5,15, 16 17
DHAHRAN	I	5. 2.1974	22. 9.1974	a/c/e	
DHAHRAN A.P.	Ia	18. 9.1977	1.11.1979	a/c/e	
	IIIa	18.10.1981	7. 3.1983	a/b/e, a/c/e	
	IVa	13.11.1979	7. 3.1983	a/c/e, d/a/e	3
HAFR	IVa	21. 3.1982	18. 5.1982	a/c/e	
HA' IL	IVa	10. 1.1987		a/c/e	18
JEDDAH	I	19. 2.1976	23.11.1982	a/c/e	3
	IIIa	18. 6.1986	9. 3.1987	a/c/e, a/d/e	
	V	1.10.1984	15. 4.1987	a/c/e	3,19
JEDDAH A.P.	Ia	26.10.1979	28. 2.1978	a/c/e, a/e/c	4,A
	IIIa	11.12.1977	26. 6.1986	a/c/e, a/b/e	20,A
	IVa	26.10.1979	9. 3.1987	a/c/e, a/b/e, a/e/b	3,11, B
KHAMIS NUSHAYT	Ia	26.10.1979	6. 2.1983	a/d/e	
	Ila	22. 6.1979	6. 2.1983	a/d/e	
MAKKAH	Ia	31. 5.1986		a/d/e	
	IVa	26. 1.1983		a/c/e	
MECCA	I	10. 1.1982		a/c/e	
	Ia	21. 3.1979		a/c/e	C
	IIIa	15. 3.1978		a/c/e	
MEDINA	Ia	26.10.1979		d/a/e	4,E
	IVa	22.10.1979	7.11.1979	d/a/e	3,E
NAJRAN	Ia	31.10.1983		a/e/c	21
	Ila	28.12.1980	4. 1.1982	c/a/e, a/e/d	
	IVa	24. 6.1981		c/a/e	
RAFHA	Vla	14.11.1979		e/d/a	
RIYADH	III	11. 9.1975	3. 3.1983	a/c/e	
	IIIa	6.12.1983	29. 1.1987	a/c/e	5,22
	IVa	10. 9.1980	2.11.1982	a/b/e, a/c/e	3
	V	3. 3.1984	29. 3.1987	a/c/e, a/c/f, a/c/g	3
RIYADH A.P.	Ia	17. 8.1977	16. 8.1990	a/c/e, a/b/e	3,F
	IIIa	29. 7.1978	17.12.1988	a/c/e, a/e/c	3
	IVa	1. 9.1981	8. 2.1983	a/c/e, a/b/e	
SAKAKA	IVa	20. 2.1980		a/d/e	
TABOUK	IVa	24. 6.1979		a/c/e	
TAIF	I	2.10.1979	?? . ?.1981	a/c/e, e/c/a	
TA' IF	IIIa	11. 1.1987		a/c/e	
	IVa	14. 1.1982	28. 1.1983	a/c/e, a/e/c	23
TA-IF	IVa	23. 5.1981		e/c/a	

The following notes describe varieties of the SM10 cancellations listed on pages 14 and 15:

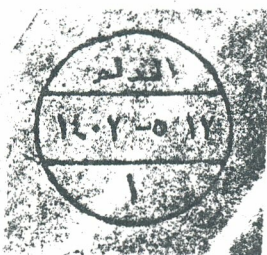
- (1) Right circle omitted and date in left circle inverted (8.8.82).
- (2) Both circles inverted (9.2.82).
- (3) Exists with inverted wavy lines.
- (4) Seen only with inverted wavy lines.
- (5) Exists with right circle inverted.
- (6) As (4), also with Hijra date circle inverted and day/month of Gregorian circle also inverted.
- (7) Arabic and western town names of right circle inverted.
- (8) Date slug completely omitted.
- (9) Hijra date, day of month omitted.
- (10) Date slug inverted.
- (11) Arabic and western town names of left circle inverted.
- (12) Day and month of left circle inverted.
- (13) Year of right circle inverted (14.12.81).
- (14) Day and month of both circles inverted.
- (15) Left circle date inverted.

- (16) Right circle month inverted.
- (17) Also seen with date slug completely omitted.
- (18) As (4), also with left circle inverted except for year slug.
- (19) Entire right circle inverted.
- (20) Left circle inverted except for day and month of date (b/e/a).
- (21) Day, month, year, time slugs of left circle inverted.
- (22) Year of Gregorian date inverted.
- (23) Date inverted in left circle (a/e/c).

The following describe variations in the Arabic office names.

- (A) Arabic reads "Mataar Jeddah al-dowli" (Jeddah International A.P.).
- (B) Arabic reads "Mataar Jeddah" (Jeddah Airport).
- (C) Arabic reads "Makkah Al-Mukaramah".
- (D) Arabic reads "Makkah".
- (E) Arabic reads "Madinat Al-Munawarah".
- (F) Arabic reads "Mataar Riyadh" (Riyadh Airport).

* * * * *



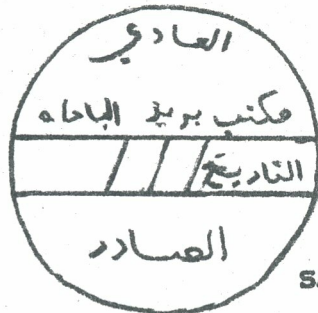
Type SA100: An all-Arabic belted single ring CDS. Town name in upper segment and a numeral in lower segment. Hijra date only.

Type SA100				
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	Diam.	Notes
Al Baha	24. 3.1976		25	Num. 3.
Al Bukharia	24. 9.1986		25	Num. 4.
Al Dammam	22. 2.1976	1. 4.1976	25	Num. 9,11,15.
Al Dilam	24. 3.1976	17. 1.1987	25	Num. 1.
Al Hafr	12. 4.1984	25. 1.1986	25	Num. 1,7.
Al Khafji	27. 3.1976		25	Num. 2 (?)
Al Khobar	30. 4.1985		25	Num. 8.
Al Majmaa	1. 3.1976	27. 3.1976	25	Num. 5.
Al Namas	23. 3.1976		25	Num. 2.
Al Qatif	8. 2.1981	7. 7.1982	25	Num. 1,4.
Arafat	16. 9.1983	4. 9.1984	25	Num. 4.
Baljarshi	7. 4.1976		25	Num. 1,6.
Darin	22. 1.1986		25	Num. 1.
Dhahran	7. 1.1980	12. 4.1983	25	Num. 8,12,19.
Dhahran Airport	7. 7.1976		25	Num. 6.
Hail	14. 1.1977	21. 2.1983	25	Num. 2,8.
Hurma	24. 3.1976	27. 3.1976	25	Num. 1.
Jaizan	24. 3.1976		25	Num. 2.
Jeddah	16. 3.1981	17. 3.1981	25	
Jeddah Airport	7. 6.1976	25. 2.1982	25	Num. 1,2,6.
Jubayl	5. 7.1980		25	Num. 1.
Khamis Mushayt	4. 11.1976		25	Num. 4.
Makkah	4. 6.1977	7. 6.1977	25	Num. 25.
Al Mukaramah				
Medina	2. 11.1977		25	Num. 16.
Al Munawarah				
Najran	22. 3.1976	27. 3.1976	25	Num. 3,6.
Onaiza	8. 2.1986		25	Num. 2.
Riyadh	12. 7.1985	19. 3.1986	25	Num. 2,3.
Riyadh Airport	15. 3.1976	26. 4.1979	25	Num. 2,4.
Sharurah	12. 11.1987		25	Num. 1.
Yanbu	29. 2.1983	26. 3.1986	25	Num. 3.
Zulfi	22. 7.1986		25	Num. 2.

Type S130: A belted single ring datestamp. The Arabic office name is written in a straight line beneath a numeral; the western office name is semi-circular and encloses a numeral. Every example seen to date has Gregorian date only.



Type S130				
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	Diam.	Notes
ABHA	27. 3. 1976		25	Num. 3.
ABQAIQ	12.12.1977		25	Num. 1,2.
BAHA	24. 3. 1976	28. 3. 1976	25	Num. 1.
BURAI DAH	23. 4. 1977		25	Num. 2.
DAMMAM	19. 3. 1976		25	Num. 5.
DHAHRAN A.P.	5. 5. 1977	25. 5. 1978	29	Num. 1,2,3,10.
DHIBA	30.10.1979	-4.11.1979	25	Num. 2.
DIYAIRIYA	24.10.1979		25	Num. 1.
HAFR	24.10.1979	14.11.1979	25	Num. 2.
HAYEL	10.11.1979	14.11.1979	25	Num. 2.
JEDDAH A.P.	19. 6. 1976	-4. 8. 1977	29	Num. 1,4,5.
JUBAIL	6.10.1980		25	Num. 1.
KAISUMA	? 4. 1977	22.-1.1983	25	Num. 1.
KHAFJI	26. 3. 1977		25	Num. 1(?).
KHOBAR	25. 3. 1979		25	Num. 1.
MAJMAA	22. 3. 1976		25	Num. 1.
MEDINA			25	Num. 1.
MEDINA	7. 4. 1976		29	Num. 1. Diameter.
MUZNAB	26.10.1979	11. 2. 1980	25	Num. 1.
QAISUMA	22.-1.1985		25	
QURAYYAT	24.10.1979	2.12.1981	25	Num. 1.
RAHEEMA	? 6. 1977	-7.-7.1980	25	Num. 1,2.
RIYADH	6. 2. 1979	2. 7. 1979	25	Num. 12.
RIYADH A.P.	1. 5. 1979		29	Num. 1,6.
SIHAT	21.-1.1979	12.10.1982	25	Num. 1,2.
TAIF	? ? 1977		25	Num. 1.
TAIMA	25.10.1979	28.10.1979	25	Num. 1.



SA110



SAR110

Type SA110: An all-Arabic single ring postmark for use on ordinary outgoing mail. Curved at the top is "al'adi" (العادي), or "ordinary". Beneath this is the office name preceded by "maktab barid" (مكتب بريد) or "post office". The central segment has "al-tarikh" (التاريخ), or "date" and three slashes dividing it into segments. At bottom in a straight line is "al-sadir" (الصادر), or "outgoing". Undated.

Type SAR110: As Type SA110, except the top line reads "musajjalat" (مسجلات) or registered, and in the second line only "barid" (بريد) or "post" precedes the office name. Undated.

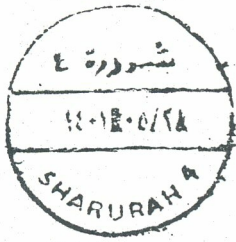
Type SA110				
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	Diameter	Notes
Al Baha	undated		40	Used in 1976.

Type SAR110				
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	Diameter	Notes
Al Baha	undated		40	Used in 1976.



Type S175: A bicalendar datebelted single ring cancellation. Arabic office name is written in a straight line. Western office name semi-circular. Differs from type S170 in that both Arabic and western office name trails a number.

Type S175				
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	Diameter	Notes
ABHA	29.10.79		40	Num. 6,7.
AFIF	1.10.79	? 9.81	40	Num. 1,3,5,7. Greg. date reads 00.00.00 or 08.08.99.
BALJARSHI			40	
BISHA	15. 7.81	? 2.82	40	Num. 1.
CONFUDAH			40	Num. 4.
DAMMAM	19. 4.79	? 2.88	40	Num. 2,3,4,5,6,9, 11,13,18,20,21, 23,24,28,29,41, 42,44,46. Dammam 5 exists with heavy or thin letters.
DHAHRAN	? 9.78		40	Num. 1.
GIZAN	? 10.78	? 7.83	40	Num. 1,2,4.
HASSA	5. 2.81	18. 2.82	40	Num. 6.
JEDDAH A.P.	25. 9.78	10.02.80	40	Num. 1,3,5,8.
KHARJ	? 10.79	8.11.79	40	Nums. 1 and 4.
KHOBAR			40	Num. 1.
MEDINA	20.10.79	2. 5.83	40	Num. 4,12,15,18, 20. Arabic is "Madinat al Munawarah".
MISHA'A			40	Num. 3.
MUBARRAZ	? 11.81		40	
NAJHRAN	23.10.79		40	Num. 1.
QUNFUDAH			40	
QUWAYIYAH	? ? 79		40	Num. 4. Greg. date 00.00.99.
RASS	13. 4.85		40	Num. 10.
RIYADH	21. 7.81	24. 2.87	40	Num. 23,24,31,33, 74.
RIYADH A.P.	? 3.80	14. 2.90	40	Num. 5,6,10,19, 20,21,22,30,31, 35,40,44,50.
RIYADH AL KHOBRA	5. 1.87		40	Num. 7.
SABYA	? ? 84		40	Num. 2.
SAFWA	30.10.79		40	Num. 4.
SARAT ABIDAH	8.12.86	21.12.86	40	Num. 4.
UMM EL HAMAM	24. 4.85		40	Num. 3.
WEDJH	29. 9.79	26.10.79	40	Num. 16.



Type S195: Similar to type S175 but has EITHER the Hijra or Gregorian date, not both.



Type S195				
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	Diam.	Notes
ABA ADDUD	22. 9.1979		35	Num. 1.
ABQAIQ			30	
ARTAWIYAH	7. 7.1981		30	Num. 1.
ARVAH	15. 5.1985	7. 7.1985	30	Num. 1.
BALJARSHI	6. 2.1980		30	Num. 12.
BARRAH	7. 7.1984		30	Num. 2,3.
DAMINA	30. 3.1985	3.11.1986	30	Num. 1.
DHAHRAN EL GANOUB	24.10.1982	29.11.1986	34	Num. 2.
DHIBA	7. 3.1987		30	
DIRIYA			30	Num. 1.
HAFR	7. 7.1982	11. 3.1987	30	Num. 1,4,5.
HARADH	8. 6.1982		30	
JEDDAH A.P.	28. 6.1981	22.10.1981	30	Num. 7,9.
KHABRA'A	30. 4.1986		30	Num. 8.
MENA	17. 9.1983	5. 9.1984	30	Num. 8,13,14.
MIKHA	6. 2.1980		30	Num. 1.
NIFI	1.11.1982		30	Num. 2.
RIYADH KHABRA'A	1. 2.1986	20. 6.1987	30	Num. 1,4.
SELAYL	12.11.1979	1. 4.1981	30	Num. 1,3.
SHARURAH	18. 1.1987	28. 1.1987	30	Num. 2,4.
TANNURAH			30	Num. 1.
TAYMA	11. 9.1982		30	Num. 2.
ULA	25. 1.1982	23.-1.1984	30	Num. 5,7.
UNAIZAH	6. 4.1985		30	Num. 1.
UYAYNAH	1. 1.1987		35	Num. 2.
UYUN	6. 3.1986		30	Num. 2.
UYUN AL JAWA	3. 5.1986		35	Num. 2.
WEDJH	8. 2.1980		30	Num. 2,8.

* * * * *

As the result of new discoveries listed in this part, it is necessary to make the following additions to the list of cancel type/use prefixes given in the original article. See page 8 of RANDOM NOTES #44:

- 'AR' for all-Arabic registered
- 'DF' for foreign outgoing
- 'DFO' for ordinary foreign outgoing
- 'DO' for ordinary outgoing
- 'G' for official
- 'I' for incoming or receiving
- 'O' for ordinary

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THE POSTAL MARKINGS OF HEJAZ, NEJD, HEJAZ AND NEJD, AND SAUDI ARABIA

By: Kenneth D. Knight

CANCELLATIONS OF THE KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA POST OFFICE (1932 TO DATE)

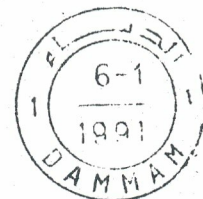
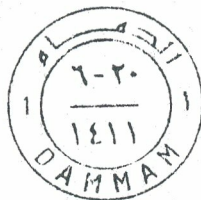
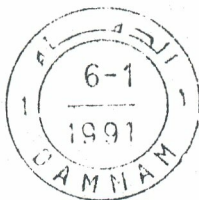


Type S205: As type S195, but with semi-circular Arabic office name. Date is still Hijra only.

Type S205				
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	Diameter	Numbers
AL KHOBAR	17. 5.81	22.10.81	30	6
ASSRAH	12. 8.86		30	7
BAHA			30	2
BURAYDAH	2. 6.82	17. 3.87	30	1,2,3,5
DAMMAM	21.12.80	? 7.86	30	2,11,15,18
DARIN	22. 1.86		30	1,2
DOMAT AL JANDAL	8. 2.80		30	1
HASSA			30	1
HAUTET SEDAIR	8. 2.80		30	4
JALAJIL	8. 2.80		30	2
JEDDAH	29.10.82		30	9
JEDDAH AIRPORT		1.10.90	30	3
JUBAYL	27. 7.80	22. 8.80	30	1,3
MAZNAB	2. 4.85		30	2
QURAYYAT	16.11.80	8.10.86	30	1
RIYADH	12.12.83	20.11.86	30	11,13,14,16,17, 18,19,26,38
TABOUK	26. 7.85		30	5
TARUT	9. 2.81		30	1,2
UNAIZAH	6. 4.85		30	1



SM20



SM22

Type SM20: A bilingual double circle double ring CDS with Hijra calendar date in one circle and Gregorian date in the other. The office name appears in Arabic at the top of both circles and in English below. The 25mm. circles comprising the datestamp are spaced 14mm, and separated by three short diagonal wavy lines. The datestamps exist with Gregorian date in either the right or the left circle. As with type SM10 and other two-circle cancels, I divide the following lists according to whether the Gregorian date is at the left (suffix L) or right (suffix R).

Type SM21: As type SM20, but without the wavy lines. All SM21 examples seen, with one exception (Dammam with no number), were transit marks.

Type SM22: As type SM20, but a repeating cancel with the two circles recurring at 120mm. intervals. Five almost straight lines between the circles spaced 14mm, and five wavy lines between the circles spaced 56mm. All examples seen (except SM22R of Dammam 3) were transit marks.

Type SM20L				
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	Number	Notes/Vars.
JEDDAH	5. 10. 1983	5. 5. 1984	None.	1
JEDDAH A.P.	17. 3. 1983	27. 2. 1984	None.	2, A
RIYADH	16. 6. 1981	26. 6. 1989	1, 2, 3, 6, 8, 9, 11, 13, 15, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 25	3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10
RIYADH A.P.	19. 11. 1981		None.	
Type SM20R				
JEDDAH	7. 7. 1982	27. 7. 1983	None.	11, 12
JEDDAH A.P.	3. 4. 1982		None.	
RIYADH	19. 5. 1981	31. 12. 1986	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 8, 19.	13, 14, 15, 16
Type SM21L				
DAMMAM	14. 12. 1983	2. 2. 1986	None.	
RIYADH	26. 4. 1983	20. 9. 1986	None, 2, 3.	17, 18
Type SM21R				
DAMMAM	1. 2. 1986	5. 11. 1986	None.	
RIYADH	7. 12. 1983	24. 1. 1987	2, 3, 5.	18, 19
Type SM22L				
DAMMAM	12. 8. 1984	7. 3. 1987	None, 1.	20, 21
JEDDAH	17. 3. 1981		4.	
RIYADH	27. 9. 1983	8. 10. 1986	1, 2, 4, 5.	22, 23, 24, 25
Type SM22R				
DAMMAM	14. 5. 1981	2. 3. 1991	None, 1, 3.	20, 26
JEDDAH	7. 7. 1982	1. 12. 1984	None	27
RIYADH	3. 5. 1983	12. 9. 1990	1, 2, 3, 4, 5.	28, 29

Notes and varieties:

- (A) Arabic reads "Mataar Jeddah Al-Dowli".
- (1) Seen both as cancel and backstamp.
- (2) Only seen as transit mark.
- (3) Nos. 1 and 21 only seen as transit mark.
- (4) Nos. 6, 8, 11, 13, 15, 18, 19, 20, 22 and 25 only seen as cancels.
- (5) Riyadh 2 and 15 with city and number inverted in right outer circle.
- (6) Riyadh 15 and 20 with city and number inverted in left outer circle.
- (7) Riyadh 20 with date inverted in left inner circle.
- (8) Riyadh 15 with date as figure 1 below.
- (9) Riyadh 13 with date as figure 2 below.
- (10) Riyadh 1 in left circle, Riyadh 3 in right circle (1983).
- (11) Only seen as a cancel.
- (12) Hijra year omitted.
- (13) Nos. 1, 2 and 3 only seen as backstamps.
- (14) Nos. 4, 7, 8 and 19 only seen as cancellations.
- (15) Riyadh 4 with city and number inverted in right outer circle.



Fig. 1

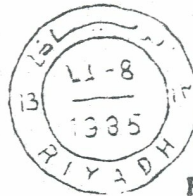


Fig. 2

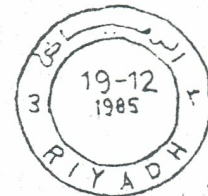
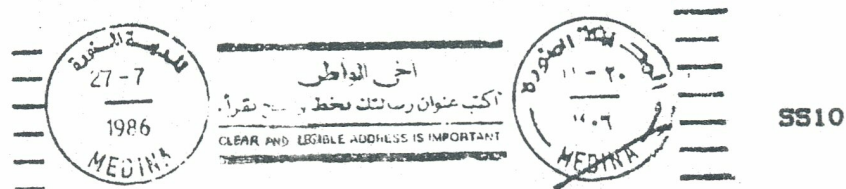


Fig. 3

- (16) Riyadh 8 - entire left circle inverted.
- (17) Riyadh 2 and 3 - code number missing from right circle.
- (18) Riyadh 3 - date as Figure 3 below.
- (19) Riyadh 2 and 3 - code number missing from left circle.
- (20) All examples have inverted wavy lines.
- (21) Hijra year omitted (no number).
- (22) Riyadh 1 - code number omitted in right circle.
- (23) Riyadh 2 - day and month of Gregorian date inverted.
- (24) Riyadh 1 in left circle, Riyadh 2 in right. Inverted wavy lines.
- (25) Riyadh 4 in left circle, Riyadh 5 in right.
- (26) Hijra year omitted (no number and Damman 1).
- (27) Entire right circle inverted.
- (28) Riyadh 2 in left circle, Riyadh 1 in right. Inverted wavy lines.
- (29) Riyadh 2 - year in Gregorian date inverted.



Type SS10: SS10 slogan types are similar to SM10 wavy line cancellations but with horizontal slogans replacing the wavy lines. All possible subtypes for the SM10 datestamp are also possible for the SS10 series. Accordingly, the listing has a format similar to that for SM10.

The Arabic " أخي المواطن " heading the slogans on this type and on the SS30 and SS40 types (to be dealt with later) reads "Aakh al-mowatan" and translates as "dear citizen".

Slogan numbers given in the following tables refer to the list published in the introduction to this series of articles (RN #44). Slogans found with SS10 datestamps are of a HORIZONTAL format whereas those of types SS30 and SS40 are VERTICAL.

Type SS10L					
Office Name	Die	Earliest	Latest	Date Arrangements	Notes
Slogan 1 - CLEAR AND LEGIBLE ADDRESS IS IMPORTANT					
AL-KHOBAR	Ia	8. 6.1985	24.11.1986	a/c/e	
AL-KHOBAR	IIIIa	8. 6.1985	24.11.1986	a/c/e	
BURAYDAH	IIIIa	23. 2.1986	7. 2.1987	a/c/e	
DAMMAM	Ia	28. 5.1986	9. 4.1988	a/c/e, h/c/e	
	IIIIa	10. 4.1984		a/c/e	
MAKKAH	Ia	29. 7.1986		a/c/e, a/d/e	
MEDINA	Ia	5.11.1986	19. 1.1987		
	IIIIa	27. 7.1986	19. 1.1987	a/d/e	
	IVa	27. 4.1985	19. 1.1987	a/c/e	A
RIYADH	IIIIa	20. 8.1984		a/c/e	
SUR-DAMMAM	I	19.10.1986		a/c/e	B
	Ia	4. 6.1984	17. 3.1991	a/c/e, a/c/b, a/b/e	B.1, 2
Slogan 2 - IT IS BETTER TO USE ORDINARY MAIL FOR YOUR CORRESPONDENCE					
GIZAN	IIIIa	9.11.1986	19. 1.1987		
	IVa	9.11.1986	19. 1.1987		
RIYADH	IIIIa	9. 6.1983	26. 1.1987	a/b/e, a/c/e	3,4

Type SS10L (continued)					
Office Name	Die	Earliest	Latest	Date Arrangements	Notes
Slogan 3 - DON'T FORGET TO INSERT THE POSTAL CODE					
ABHA	IVa	29. 7.1986	3. 1.1987	a/e/d, b/e/a, d/e/a	5,6
JEDDAH	IIIa	25. 4.1984		a/c/e	
MEDINA	Ia	2. 9.1985		a/c/e	
	IIIa	5.12.1984	2. 9.1985	a/c/e	A
	IVa	2. 9.1985		a/c/e	A
RIYADH	IIIa	17. 5.1983	22. 3.1987	a/c/e	
Slogan 4 - PROPER USE OF STAMP DISPENSERS IS FOR YOUR BENEFIT					
JEDDAH	IIIa	18. 2.1984	21. 2.1987	a/c/e, a/d/e	
RIYADH	IIIa	16. 3.1985	22. 2.1987	a/b/e, a/c/e	7
Slogan 5 - POSTAL CODE HELPS TO EXPEDITE DELIVERY					
AL-KHOBAR	Ia	22. 1.1987		a/c/e	
BURAYDAH	IIIa	4. 1.1984	2.10.1984	a/c/e, a/b/e	
	IVa	4. 1.1984		a/c/e, a/b/e	
DAMMAM	Ia	16. 2.1984	18. 3.1991	a/c/e, a/b/e	3
	III	24.11.1983	3. 3.1985	a/c/e	
DHAHRAN	III	9. 8.1986	8.10.1986	a/c/e	
DHAHRAN/A.P.	I/la	21. 3.1984	6. 3.1991	a/b/e, a/c/e	C
DHAHRAN A.P.	IIIa		8.10.1986		
JEDDAH	IIIa	12. 4.1984		a/c/e	
NAJHRAN	Ia	11.11.1986	25.11.1986		
	IVa	11.11.1986	26.11.1986		
RIYADH	IIIa	28. 4.1984	23. 4.1987	a/c/e, a/b/e, a/e/b	3,7
Slogan 7 - SUFFICIENT ADDRESS ENSURES PROPER DELIVERY					
DAMMAM	Ia	26. 1.1984	6. 6.1986	a/c/e	
	IIIa	26. 5.1985	7. 3.1987	a/b/e, a/c/e	
	IV	4.11.1985	4. 6.1986	a/b/e, a/c/e	
	IVa	10.12.1983	24. 3.1987	a/b/e, a/c/e	
JEDDAH	IIIa	4. 2.1984		a/c/e	
	IVa	4. 2.1984		a/c/e	
JUBAYL	IVa	31. 3.1985	17. 8.1986	a/c/e	
MEDINA	IIIa	27. 4.1985	27. 7.1986	a/c/e	A
RIYADH	IIIa	16. 6.1985	16. 6.1987	a/b/e, a/c/e, b/e/a	3,8
Slogan 8 - THE POST OFFICE ALWAYS AT YOUR SERVICE					
DAMMAM	Ia	13.10.1984	23. 5.1985	a/c/e, c/a/e	9
RIYADH	Ia	3. 2.1987		a/c/e	
TYPE SS10R					
Slogan 3 - DON'T FORGET TO INSERT THE POSTAL CODE					
YANBUO	IIIa		30. 2.1991	a/c/e	10

Notes and varieties:

- (A) Arabic reads "Madinat Al-Munawarah".
- (B) "SUR" in this cancel is not part of the office name, but stands for "Surface". The cancel was used to backstamp incoming surface mail.
- (C) This cancellation has a left circle (with Gregorian date) reading "DHAHRAN A.P." and a right circle (Hijra date) reading "DHAHRAN". The Arabic of both circles is identical and reads "Dhahran".
- (1) Gregorian year omitted.
- (2) As (1), plus Hijra year inverted.
- (3) Both circles inverted.
- (4) Gregorian date in both circles.
- (5) Except when variety (6) occurs, Gregorian time (00.8) inverted.
- (6) Left circle inverted, but time upright.
- (7) Left circle inverted.
- (8) Left circle inverted except for day/month.
- (9) Town names of left circle inverted, remainder upright.
- (10) Hijra date 8.16.1411 corresponds to March 2, 1991.

* * * * *

An indication of the rapid growth of postal operations during the 1980s can be gathered from two newspaper reports a mere five years apart.

The first dates from June 1981. The Director General of Posts, Samir Banaja, is quoted as saying Saudi Arabia then had 437 main post offices 126 branch post offices and provided postal facilities to 3,200 towns and villages throughout the kingdom.

By 9th October 1986 the ARAB NEWS reported Mr. Banaja as saying the modern Saudi postal network covered 4,000 cities, villages and hamlets; a network consisting of 442 main post offices, 159 branch offices, 638 postal agencies and 128 postal centers. Electronic sorting of mail has been introduced in Dammam (Eastern Province), Jeddah and Riyadh; the "high-speed, high-class" Al-Barid Al-Mumtaz service (to be dealt with separately) has been introduced for both internal and international communication; and eleven postal administrative regions (Riyadh, Jeddah, Eastern Province, Makkah, Madina, Southern Province, Qasim, Hail, Northern Province, Baha and Jizan) are in existence.

Director General Banaja also stated that in 1406H the Saudi post office handled 700 million items of mail compared with 80 million in 1390H - a 775% increase in fifteen years!

* * * * *



S250



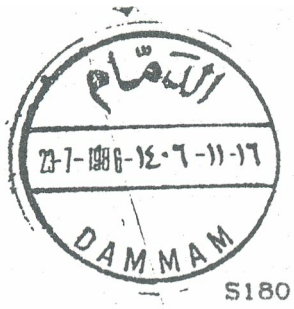
SI0250

Type S250: This type of datestamp has, until now, only been noted from Madinat Yanbu Alsinaiyah (Yanbu Industrial City). There are at least two "cuts" of this cancellation, easily identified by a size difference in the western lettering. Examples with small letters are 36mm. in diameter and those with large letters 39mm. These cancels have Gregorian date only. Year of date consists of either two or four figures.

Type SI0250: As type S250, but with additional English wording reading "ORDINARY INCOMING". Diameter 38mm.

Type SD0250: As type S250, but with additional English wording reading "ORDINARY OUTGOING". Diameter 38mm.

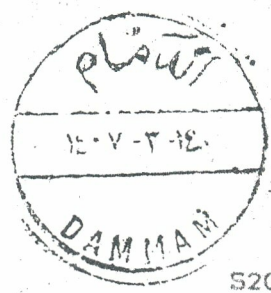
Type S250			
Office name	Earliest	Latest	Notes
MADINAT YANBU ALSINAIYAH	25 ??R 83	15 MAR 1987	
Type SI0250			
MADINAT YANBU ALSINAIYAH	16 NOV 1986		
Type SD0250			
MADINAT YANBU ALSINAIYAH	4-MAY 1986	10 OCT 1986	



S180

Type S180: A bicalendar, belted datestamp with both the Arabic and western office names curved.

Type S200: As Type S180, but with Hijra date only. This CDS sometimes has full or partial double circles, probably due to a heavy impression.

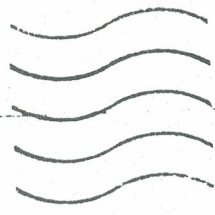
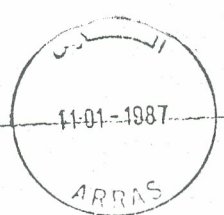


S200

Type S180				
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	Diameter	Notes
DAMMAM	28. 4.83	18. 7.90	33	
Type S200				
DAMMAM	24. 9.86	24. 3.91	33	



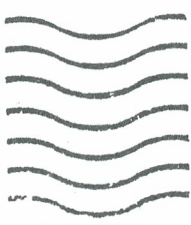
SM30



SM31



SM32



SM40

Type SM30: A mechanical cancellation consisting of two 27mm. single ring datestamps spaced 31mm. apart. As with type SM10, one datestamp has the Hijra date, the other the Gregorian date.

Type SM31: As Type SM30, but with 26mm. date circles spaced 32mm. apart with five wavy lines between.

Type SM32: As Type SM30, but with 26mm. circles spaced 35mm. apart with four wavy lines between. This is a repeating cancel with pairs of circles across the cover at 120mm. intervals.

Type SM33 (not illustrated): As type SM30, but a repeating cancel with several pairs of circles across the cover.

Type SM40: As Type SM30, but with 26mm. circles spaced 32mm. apart with seven wavy lines between.

Type SM41 (not illustrated): As Type SM33, but circles 26mm. in diameter instead of 30mm.

Types SM30 through SM41 are further subdivided dependent on which date occurs in which date circle. Where the Gregorian date is on the left, this is designated "L"; where it is on the right, it is designated "R".

Datestamps similar to Types SM30 through SM41 but with a boxed slogan between the circles will be listed later as type SS30 through SS41.

Type SM30L			
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	Varieties
ALBAHA	19.01.1987		
Type SM30R			
ABQAIQ	12. 4. 1986		
ADDAWADMI	22.01.1985	12.11.1986	
ALBAHA	9. 2. 1987		
ALBIKAI RIYA	26.01.1987	07.02.1987	
ALKHARJ	30. 9. 1985	7. 3. 1987	
ALLEETH	34.04.1983	1. 8. 1985	1
ALMAJMA'A	2. 6. 1986		
ALOLA	-7.01.1984		
AZZOLFI	6.12.1983		
HAYEL	28.05.1983		
JEDDAH	3. 5. 1983		
KHOLAIS	-6.07.1986		
ONAIZA	29.12.1984	21.03.1987	
RABIGH	15.10.1986	11.11.1986	
RIYADH ALKHABRA	12.08.1986	25.02.1987	
SEEHAT	17.10.1983		
Type SM31L			
ARRAS	22. 1. 1986	04.02.1987	
Type SM31R			
AL-HASA		14. 3. 1987	
HAFR	3. 8. 1986	10.02.1987	
HAYEL	13.08.1983		
KH. MOSHAIT		10. 2. 1987	
ONLUJ		22. 1. 1986	
S. DHAHRAN	22.11.1986	01.12.1986	2
YONBOU		23. 2. 1987	
Type SM32L			
DAMMAM	8. 4. 1985		
DAMMAM CENTRAL P.O.		31.12.1988	
DHAHRAN	17. 9. 1985	-5.02.1991	
HAIL CENTRAL P.O.	9.10.1985		
JEDDAH	10. 1. 1985	-8.02.1991	3
JEDDAH CENTRAL P.O.	2. 3. 1985	29.01.1987	
JEDDAH ISLAMIC SEAPORT	14. 8. 1985	30.12.1986	
RIYADH CENTRAL P.O.	6. 4. 1985	-4.10.1986	

Type SM32R			
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	Varieties
ALKHOBAR	3. 9.1985	29. 3.1986	
ALMOWA'IH	11. 1.1986	2. 3.1986	4
AL-HASA	9. 4.1985	15. 3.1986	5
BORAIDA	3. 2.1985	09.03.1987	
JEDDAH	15. 1.1987	26.02.1987	
JEDDAH CENTRAL P.O.	17.02.1987	10.03.1987	
KH. MOSHAIT	5. 2.1985	2. 4.1986	
YONBOU	19. 5.1985	22. 1.1986	
Type SM33			
ALBAHA	23. 4.1985	28. 2.1987	
RABIGH	-2.12.1968		6
Type SM40L			
AFLAJ	15.11.1986	11. 1.1987	
AL-HASSA	12. 3.1986		
AL-KHARJ	10. 8.1985		
AL-KHOBAR	17. 4.1985	1. 3.1989	
AR'AR	8. 4.1985	15.12.1986	
BISHA	13.12.1986	22. 3.1987	
BURAYDAH	28. 1.1987		
DAMMAN	8. 3.1986	14. 9.1986	
DARIYAH	1.12.1984	20.10.1986	
DAWADMI	18. 5.1985	-3.-2.1987	
DHAHRAN A.P.	26.11.1984	-8.-2.1987	7,8
DHARMAH	27. 5.1986	8. 2.1987	9
DHIBA	9. 1.1985	16. 5.1985	
DULAYMIYAH	11. 1.1986	27.10.1986	
GHASHAMRAH	7. 2.1985	7. 4.1986	10
HAFR AL BATEN	-2.-6.1986	3. 1.1987	
HA'IL	24. 6.1985	10. 3.1987	11
HA'IT		11. 3.1986	
HIRAIMLA'A	4. 6.1986	22. 6.1986	
HAUTET SEDAIR	10. 4.1985	12. 1.1987	
H. BANI TAMEEM	9. 3.1986		
JEDDAH	19. 1.1985	31. 7.1986	
JUBAYL	21. 1.1986	26. 7.1986	
JUBAYL AL SINAIYAH	18.11.1984	20.12.1986	
KHABRA'A	12.-8.1986	17.12.1986	
KHAFJI	1.11.1984		
KHAMIS MUSHAYT	8.12.1986	20.12.1986	
KING ABDUL AZIZ A.P.	8.10.1986	19. 3.1990	
MAHA'IL	26. 7.1985	24. 1.1987	
MAJMA'H	6. 2.1985	16. 2.1987	12
MIRAT	10. 2.1986	17. 3.1987	
NAJHRAN	31. 3.1985	4. 3.1987	
QHOD AL MASSARHA	-1.-2.1985		
QURAYYAT	4. 2.1986	-7.-3.1987	
RABEGH	-3.-3.1986	-6. 5.1986	
RAFHA	28. 3.1985		
RAHIMAH	17. 9.1986	17. 1.1987	
RIMAH	23. 7.1986		
RIYADH	19.11.1984	1. 1.1989	13,14
SAFWA	9. 3.1986		
SAKAKA	28. 2.1986	10. 9.1986	15
SHAQRA'A	21. 7.1986	3. 2.1987	
SLAYEL	23.12.1986	-9.-3.1987	
TA'IF	31. 3.1985	14.12.1986	16,17
THADIG	15.10.1985	26. 7.1986	
WADI ADDAWASER	7. 7.1986		18
ZULFI	9. 4.1985	22. 7.1986	
Type SM41			
BURAYDAH	21. 5.1985	17. 3.1987	19

Varieties of the above:

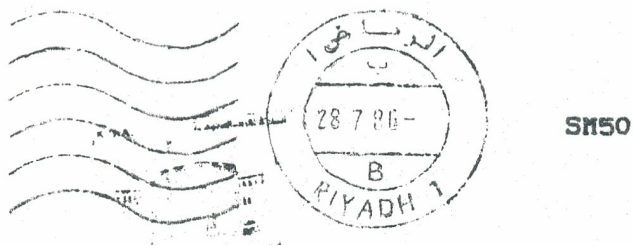
- (1) Earliest date should read 5.4.1983.
- (2) Gregorian date 25.11.1987 in error for 25.11.1986.
- (3) Gregorian date 12.01.1989 in error for 12.01.1987.

- (4) Gregorian date 2.3.1986 (21.6.1406H) paired with 21.6.1405H.
- (5) Hijra 11.8.1405 (1.5.1985G) paired with 1.5.1986G.
- (6) Earliest date should be 1986.
- (7) Gregorian year 84 instead of normal 1984. Date seen: 26.11.84.
- (8) Hijra year 1404 in error for 1405. Date seen: 13.6.1404H, 4.3.85G.
- (9) Right circle inverted.
- (10) Gregorian date 0.0.1985 or 0.0.1986 for all dates in 1986.
- (11) 3.4.1406H (equiv. to 15.12.1985G) paired with 5.9.1992G.
- (12) 16.5.1405H (equiv. to 6.2.1985G) paired with 5.3.1997G.
- (13) 27.7.1405H (equiv. to 17.4.1985G) paired with 17.4.1984G.
- (14) 22.4.1406H (equiv. to 3.1.1986G) paired with 1.2.1985G.
- (15) Gregorian date reads 0.0.0 on several examples.
- (16) 8.18.1985G for 8.10.1985G.
- (17) Day/month transposed in Gregorian date circle. Date: 6.10.1986.
- (18) Hijra date of recorded cancel ? .7.1406 (Mar/Apr 1986).
- (19) Gregorian date 1985 in error for 1986. Date: 1.3.1986.



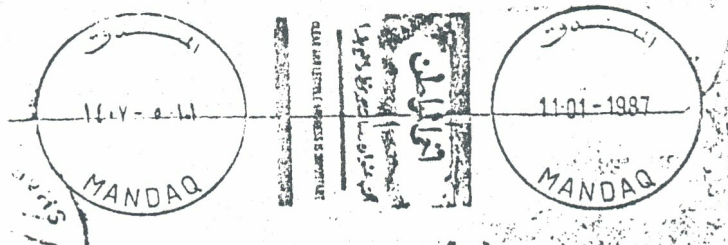
Type SMA300: An all-Arabic mechanical cancellation consisting of two 27 mm. diameter double ring datestamps separated by six wavy lines. One datestamp has Hijra date and the other Gregorian. The Arabic at top of each circle (left in the illustration) reads "Al-Mamlakah Al-Arabiyyah Al-Sa'udiyah" (the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia), while the Arabic at bottom reads "Barid Jeddah Al-Mataar" (Post Jeddah Airport).

Office Name	Earliest	Latest	Notes
Jeddah Airport	9.12.1983		



Type SM50: A 29mm. single circle, double ring, belted mechanical datestamp with six wavy lines at left. The segment between the datebelt and inner ring contains an index letter, English below the date and Arabic above. Every example seen to date has had Gregorian date.

Type SM50			
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	Notes
RIYADH 1	11. 9.1984	24. 3.1987	Index letters A and B.



SS30

Type SS30: As type SM30 (R or L) with vertical slogan replacing the wavy lines.

Type SS40 (not illustrated): As type SM40 (R or L) with vertical slogan replacing the wavy lines.

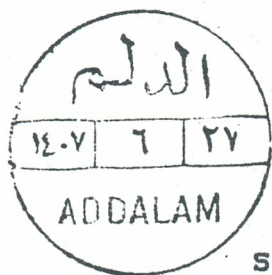
Type SS30L				
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	Slogan	Notes
ALMAZNAB	29.04.1986	6. 8.1986	8	
ALQOVAI'EYA	15. 1.1986		2	
	21. 7.1986	28. 7.1986	4	
RAHIMA			4	
Type SS30R				
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	Slogan	Notes
ABI AREESH	31. 5.1986	17.01.1987	6	
ADDILAM	-7.12.1986	15.04.1987	3	
	3.05.1986	01.09.1986	4	
	4.12.1984		5	
AFEEF	27.05.1986	8.11.1986	1	
	10.01.1986		6	
ALJOBAIL	9. 5.1984	18.12.1984	4	
ALKHAFJI	30.11.1986		4	
ALKHARJ	24.11.1987		6	
ALMAJARDA	15.11.1986		6	
ALQORAYYAT	7. 4.1985		6	
ALQUAISOMA	6. 8.1986	20.12.1986	4	
ANNAHAS			2	
	12.11.1988	18.12.1988	8	1
ASHABAIN	3. 7.1986		7	
HOTET BANI TAMEEM	28. 5.1986	27. 8.1986	2	2
MAHAYEL	11.11.1986	32.11.1986	8	3
MANDAQ	-6.01.1987	20.01.1987	1	
ONAIZA	6. 5.1986	22.12.1986	6	
RAHIMA	23.10.1985		2	
	19.11.1984	3.12.1984	4	
	19. 1.1986		6	
S. DHAHRAN	25.11.1986		1	
SEEHAT	31. 3.1985		3	
	2.11.1985	28.01.1987	4	
SHAROWRA	-9.09.1986	11.02.1987	1	
	2.06.1986		6	
	24.11.1986		8	
TABURJUL	28.01-1986		3	
TATHLEETH	7. 5.1986		7	
TIRAIF	14. 5.1986	20.01.1987	6	
Type SS40R				
HOTAT SIDAIR	8.12.1984		4	
SARAT OBAIDA	?. ?.1985		?	

NOTES:

- (1) Listed dates are as they appear in postmark. Year should be 1986.
- (2) Gregorian date on every example seen by me reads 00.04.1989.
- (3) Latest date is an error and should have read 23.11.1986.

Type S150/S158 cancellations

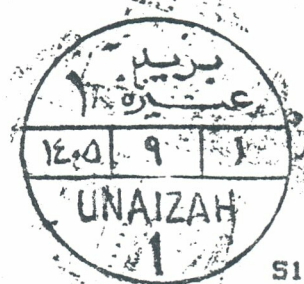
Datestamp types S150 through S158 are similar to each other, and are differentiated from other types by the datebelt which is divided into three rectangles by vertical bars.



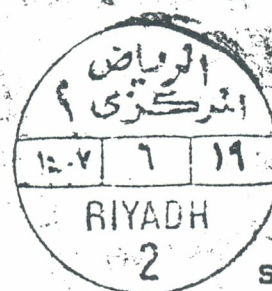
S150



S151



S152



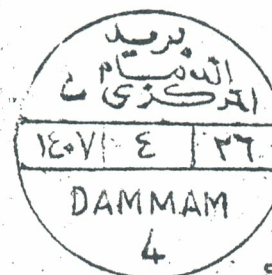
S153



S154



S155



S156



S157



S158

Type S150: A single ring datestamp, 34mm. in diameter, with Arabic name in upper section, western name in lower section and central date belt.

Type S151: As type S150, but incorporating a counter/office number. The Arabic number follows the office name.

Type S152: As type S151, but with "Barid" (بريد), or "post" above the Arabic office name.

Type S153: As type S151, but with "Al-Markazi" (المركزي), or "central" below the Arabic office name.

Type S154: Similar to type S151, but used at sea and air ports. The western script is in two or three lines as indicated in the table below by a "/". The Arabic is in two lines. The translation of the Arabic name often differs somewhat from the western name, e.g. "Mataar Al-Dhahran Al-Dowli" (Dhahran International Airport) is translated "Dhahran A.P.". In the table, a "#" character indicates that a number occurs at that position.

Type S155: As type S154, but with "Barid" (بريد), or "post" preceding the Arabic office name.

Type S156: An amalgam of types S152 and S153. The Arabic reads "Barid/ Al Dammam/ Al Markazi".

Type S157: As type S151, but Arabic office/counter number is over the office name instead of to the left of it.

Type S158: As type S150, but incorporating "PILGRIM'S MAIL SERVICE" in English and Arabic. Used at special postoffices during the Pilgrimage to Makkah (Hajj). [Renumbered in Part 7 to SH158.]

Types S150 through S157 are found with either Hijra date (in Arabic numerals) or Gregorian date (in western numerals). For offices with more than one counter number, one number may be used exclusively with Hijra date, and another number exclusively with Gregorian date. In the "HG" column of the table, an "H" indicates Hijra date, a "G" Gregorian date.

Type S150					
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	HG	Numbers	Notes
ADDABB	9.11.1986		H		
ADDALAM	17.11.1986	22. 3.1987	H		
ADDAR/ALHAMRA	22. 6.1986	13.10.1986	H		1
ALARTAWIYAH	30. 3.1985	21. 7.1986	H		
ALBIKAIIRIYAH	07.02.1987		H		
ALFAWWARAH	28. 1.1986	16. 4.1986	H		
ALGHAT	4. 6.1985	1.12.1986	H		
ALHADA	7. 3.1985	26.10.1986	H		
ALHAYEK	8. 5.1985		H		
ALHILWA	22. 6.1986		H		
ALJIBAILAH	27.12.1986	23. 3.1987	H		
ALJOBAIL	7. 4.1985		G		
ALKHABRA'A	30. 3.1986	30.12.1986	H		
ALKHOBAR	16.11.1986		G		
ALMASQI	5. 2.1986		H		
ALMASARHA	10. 3.1987		H		
ALQAISOMA	27. 5.1986	30. 5.1986	H		
AL MOWASSAM	23.12.1985		H		1
AL-AREEN	21.12.1986		H		
AL-EYNIYAH &/ AL-HINAKIYAH	11. 1.1986		G		
AL-EYNIYAH &/ ALJIBAILAH	7.12.1986		H		
AL-MAHD	23.12.1985		H		
AL-MAJARDAH	11.11.1986		H		
AL-MOFJAH	14.11.1985		H		
ANNIWA'I'AMIYA	16. 3.1986	18.10.1986	H		
ARRAIN	27. 4.1985		H		
ARRIQI'E	15. 5.1985	14.10.1986	H		
ASHIMLI	2. 4.1985		H		
ASHAQEEQ	2. 8.1986	18.10.1986	G		
ASSAIL/ASSAGHEER	21. 7.1986		H		1
ASSA'EERA	14. 7.1986		H		
ASSOWAIDRA	29. 1.1986	8. 3.1986	H		
AZZABIYA		26. 7.1986	G		
BAHRA	14. 6.1986		H		
BASHOUT	27. 1.1986	28. 1.1986	H		
DALAM	10. 8.1985		H		
DARIYAH	22. 4.1985	28. 5.1986	H		
DHAHRAN	5. 2.1985	17.11.1989	HG		
DOKNA	2. 2.1987		H		
DORMA'A	14.10.1986		H		
FAIFA	17. 5.1986		H		
HAJUR	18. 1.1986		H		
HALAT/AMMAR	12. 8.1986		G		1
IRAQAH	?? 1.1986	30. 1.1986	H		
JOUF A.P.	19. 7.1986		H		
KHOLAIS	6. 7.1986		H		
MALHAM	30. 5.1986		H		
MORAT	21. 5.1985		G		
NIFI	8.10.1986	2. 2.1987	H		
OKLAT		? 3.1986	H		
OUTHETHAH	16. 1.1987		H		
O'SHEIKAR	14. 3.1987		H		
QASR BIN/UQAYIL	28. 5.1986		H		2
QOBAH	29. 7.1986		H		
RABEGH	22. 7.1986		G		
RAMAH	11. 5.1985		H		
RAWDAH/SEDAIR	20.10.1986		H		1

Type S150 (continued)					
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	HG	Numbers	Notes
RIYADH/ALKHABRA'A	17. 8.1986		H		2
SAB YA	24. 3.1986		H		
SAJIR	6. 7.1986		H		
SARAT/OBAIDAH	20. 1.1986	11.11.1986	H		2
SHARURAH	20.10.1986	9. 2.1987	H		
SIWAI	28. 5.1986		H		
SOBEIH	22. 1.1986	29. 1.1986	H		
TANNUMAH	13.12.1986		H		
THARMADA'A	11.10.1986	12. 3.1987	H		
THOWAL	7. 7.1986		H		
TIMAIR	30. 5.1986	18.10.1986	H		
UMM ALJIRM	15. 8.1986		H		
UMM ASSAHIQ	21. 2.1985	24.10.1985	H		

Type S151					
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	HG	Numbers	Notes
ABQAIQ	9. 4.1986	10. 3.1991	HG	1,2	
AFEEF	21. 7.1986	23. 7.1986	H	2	
ALBIKAHIYAH		15. 3.1986	H	1	
ALKHAFJI	1.12.1986	11. 3.1987	H	2	
ALKHOBAR	10. 1.1985	3.12.1990	HG	1,2	
ALMANDAQ		8. 3.1986	H	1	
ALQARA	9. 6.1986		H	?	
ALZULFI	27. 5.1986	11. 8.1986	HG	1,2	
AL HASA	28. 1.1985	14. 2.1987	G	2	
AL QATIF	31. 3.1986		H	1	
AL-OLA		25. 1.1986	H	1	
ARRASS	30. 4.1986		G	5	
DOMAT/AL JUNDAL	22. 7.1986	27.10.1986	H	2	2
GIZAN	14. 6.1986	9. 9.1986	H	?	
HAIL	24. 6.1985	28. 9.1985	H	1,4	
HAUTET BANI TAMEEM	22. 7.1986		H	2	
HAUTET SEDAIR	9. 4.1985	8. 2.1986	H	2	
KH. MOSHAIT	5.10.1986	28.12.1986	HG	2,4	4
MADINA	2. 9.1985	2.11.1986	H	1,4,5	5
NAJLAN	20.10.1986	10.12.1986	H	1	
RAS TANNORA/& RAHIMA	18.10.1984	25. 1.1987	HG	1,2	
SEEHAT	18.10.1984	4. 2.1986	HG	1,2	
SHAQRA'A	29. 8.1986		H	1	
SIKAKAK-JOUF	12. 1.1986	27.10.1986	H	3,4	
TAIF	29. 6.1986	6. 8.1986	G	4	
THADIQ	21. 7.1986		H	2	
YONBU'O	2.10.1986	30.10.1990	H	1,2	

Type S152					
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	HG	Numbers	Notes
ALKHOBAR	8. 4.1985	19.11.1985	G	2,4	
GIZAN	14. 6.1986		G	2	
KH. MOSHAIT	31. 2.1985		G	1	4,6
MADINA	4.10.1986	10.12.1986	H	4	
UNAIZAH	24. 4.1985	20. 5.1985	H	1	

Type S153					
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	HG	Numbers	Notes
ABHA	1. 6.1985		H	4	
BURAYDAH	6.12.1984	14. 3.1987	HG	1,2,3,4	
DAMMAN	25. 5.1985	20. 3.1991	HG	1,2,4,5, 6,7,9,10	
GIZAN	8.10.1986	26. 1.1987	H	4	
JEDDAH	1. 1.1985	24. 2.1987	HG	6,7,8	
MAKKAH	30. 1.1986	1. 3.1986	H	3	7
RIYADH	14. 8.1984	8. 3.1987	HG	1,2,6,9, 10	
UNAIZAH	24. 5.1984	22. 7.1986	G	1,4,5	

Type S154					
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	HG	Numbers	Notes
DHAHRAN/A.P. #	21. 4.1984	17. 3.1991	HG	1,2,3,4,5	8
JEDDAH/A.P. #	7. 6.1984	25. 1.1987	H	1,2,5,6	9
JEDDAH/ISLAMIC/ SEA PORT/#	8. 7.1984	25. 8.1986	H	1,2	10
K.A. AZIZ/SEAPORT/#	15. 3.1986	24. 9.1986	H	5	11
RIYADH/A.P. #	10. 7.1984	? 3.1987	HG	1,2,3,4,5	12

Type S155					
DHAHRAN/A.P. #	7. 9.1985	3. 9.1990	H	1,2	13
JEDDAH/ISLAMIC/ SEA PORT/#	2. 1.1985	4. 1.1987	H	1,2	10
RIYADH/A.P. #	27. 5.1986	6. 8.1986	G	?	

Type S156					
DAMMAM	27.12.1986	12. 1.1991	H	3,4	

Type S157					
ALKHOBAR		3.12.1990	H	3	
BQAQE	5. 2.1989	6. 2.1991	G	1	

Type S158					
ARAFAT	22. 8.1988		H		
MAKKAH	26. 8.1988		H		
MINA	23. 8.1988		H		
MUZDALIFAH	22. 8.1988		H		

NOTES:

- (1) Arabic office name in one line, western name in two lines.
- (2) Both Arabic and western office names in two lines.
- (3) Arabic office name in two lines, western name in one line.
- (4) Arabic name in two lines "Khamis / Moshait"; western in one line, abbreviated.
- (5) Arabic name in two lines "Madina / Al-Munarawa".
- (6) This datestamp featured in Riyadh press because of impossible date.
- (7) Arabic name reads "Makkah Mukarama".
- (8) Arabic name reads "Mataar / Al-Dhahran Al-Dowli" (Airport / Dhahran International).
- (9) Arabic name reads "Mattar Jeddah / Al-Dowli" (Airport Jeddah / International).
- (10) Arabic name reads "Mina al-malik / Faisal al-islami" (Port of King / Faisal Islamic).
- (11) Arabic name reads "Mina al-malik / AbdulAziz" (Port of King / AbdulAziz).
- (12) Arabic name reads " Mataar / Al-Riyadh Al-Dowli" (Airport / Riyadh International).
- (13) Arabic name reads "Barid Mataar / Al-Dhahran" (Post Airport / Dhahran).

Type S190 (not illustrated): As Type S170, but has either Gregorian or Hijra date, not both.

Type S190				
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	Diameter	Notes
ASSHAIL	? 1.1986		30	
HAFR			30	
HAMRAH	28. 1.1986		30	
OWAILAN	5.10.1986		30	



Type SA120: An all-Arabic, unbelted, double ring datestamp. The Arabic above the dateline reads "Makkah Postal District"; the Arabic below the date is the office name.

Type SA120				
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	Diameter	Notes
Al Hawaiaa	8. 3.1986	29.12.1986	37.5	

Type SA200: An All-Arabic, unbelted, double ring datestamp. The Arabic reads (from top to bottom): "Barid Mataar / Al Malik Abdul Aziz Al-Dowli / Jeddah /date/ Al Tarheel Al Dakhli" which translates as "Post Airport / King Abdul Aziz International / Jeddah /date/ Internal Transfer". Although this type has been seen as a backstamp on outgoing mail, it should be noted that "Dakhli" could also be translated as "incoming".



Type SA200				
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	Diameter	Notes
Jeddah Airport	10. 6.1986	18. 2.1987	40	



Type SA150: An all-Arabic, undated double ring cancellation with central motif depicting the Saudi post office emblem. The upper Arabic reads "xxx postal district". The office name is at the bottom. Recorded dates for this cancellation have been deduced from transit and other postal markings.

Type SA150				
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	Diam.	Notes
Al Murabba	6. 8.1986		48	Qasim district.
Zalam	? . 1.1986	? . 7.1986	48	Makkah district.

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THE POSTAL MARKINGS OF HEJAZ, NEJD, HEJAZ AND NEJD, AND SAUDI ARABIA

By: Kenneth D. Knight

This constitutes the first UPDATE to THE POSTAL MARKINGS OF HEJAZ, NEJD, HEJAZ AND NEJD, AND SAUDI ARABIA, and includes all new markings reported since the series was started two years ago. This update includes notes from my own observations, material submitted by previously mentioned contributors, and additional information supplied by Launce Shearlaw and Elias Kavar. I have also made use of material from the article "Eastern Province Post Offices and their Cancellations (RN #31) by Messrs Stokoe, Quraish and Marhoun.

The additions will be organized as follows:

- A. Previously unreported cancel styles.
- B. Additional post offices using previously reported cancel styles.
- C. Late/early usages and additional office numbers for previously reported post offices.
- D. Problem corner.

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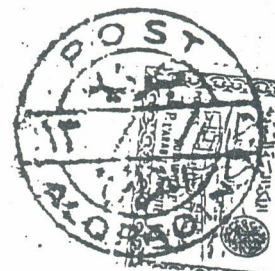
A. PREVIOUSLY UNREPORTED CANCEL STYLES.

Type N20: Similar to the H20 cancel of the Hejaz period, this seems to be a new device created by the Najdis after the occupation of Makkah. Characterized by thicker letters. The Western name completely fills the lower segment.



Type N20				
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	Diameter	Notes
MEKKE	7. 5.25		32	See above.

Type S110: A double ringed, datebelted, bilingual cancel of unusual style. Inside the double rings is "POST" at the top and "ALQRAOIN" at the bottom. The Arabic equivalent is squeezed into the segments between the rings and the datebelt. The datebelt has "13 / /", with the date to be written in manually (which was not done in the examples seen).



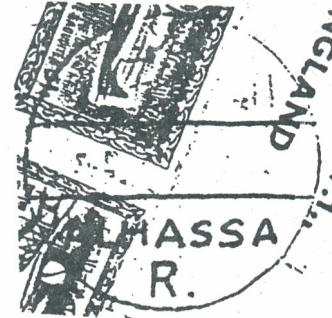
Type S110				
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	Diameter	Notes
ALQRAOIN			32	Ca. 19??

Type STP25 : Similar to type S25, but with Arabic wording "Barid al-Tawaf" and French wording "Ambulant" above the town name, making this a travelling post office cancel.



Type STP25				
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	Diameter	Notes
AFLAJ	1.10.62		35	

Type SR 75: A single circle, datebanded bilingual registered cancel distinguished by the large "R." at the bottom. The example seen is not completely legible, but the Arabic word at the top appears to be "musajjal".



Type SR75				
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	Diameter	Notes
AL HASSA			39	

Type SD51: A bicalendar belted single ring datestamp intended for use on outgoing mail. Similar to type SD50, except the Arabic office name at top is in a straight line.



Type SD51				
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	Diameter	Notes
HAYEL	30. 8.63		34	



Type SRI105: Similar to type SRD105, but the Arabic word "warid" for "receiving" replaces "Sadir" or "outgoing".

Type SRI105				
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	Diameter	Notes
MEDINA	2.11.63		34	

Type S120: A single ringed, datebelted cancel which is distinguished by its unusually wide datebelt. The word "POST" is included in both the Arabic and Western office names.



Type S120				
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	Diameter	Notes
BELGEARASHI	??		34	

Type SH40: A Hajj cancel used at Arafat during the pilgrimage of 1384 (1965). Cancel is single ringed, with datebelt showing Hijrah and western dates on separate lines.



Type SH40				
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	Diameter	Notes
ARAFAT	11. 4.65		32	

Type S91: As Type S90, but with the word "barid" preceding the Arabic segment of the postmark.



Type S91				
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	Diameter	Notes
TABOUK	6.11.71		39	Num. 1.

Type SA75: A rectangular, all-Arabic marking reading "al Sha'oun al Baridiyah" (postal affairs), "al Maktab barid al Qura" (villages post office) and "bil at Tawilah" (in at-Tawilah). At lower right is "al tarikh", or "dated", but in the copies seen, there is no date.

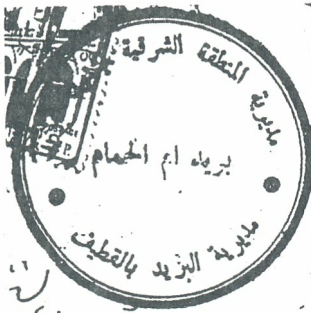


Type SA75				
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	Size	Notes
At-Tawilah	?. 3.1976		34x25	



Type SATP60: A double ringed cancel with the inner ring very thin. Without datebelt. Curved Arabic at the top reads "Barid At-Tawaf", or "circuit post". The straight line Arabic below the stars reads "villages of xxxxxx". Undated. Dates have been deduced from transit cancels.

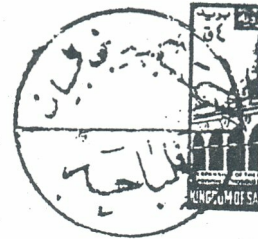
Type SATP60				
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	Diameter	Notes
Al Hawiyah	?.	3.76		38.5
Misaan	?.	3.76		38.5
Turaat Thakif	?.	3.76		38.5



Type SA180: A double ringed cancel with the inner ring very thin. Without datebelt. Curved Arabic at top is "Director of Eastern Province Postal Affairs". Central line reads "Barid Umm Al-Hammam". Bottom line "Directorate of Qatif Post". No date. Date deduced from backstamps.

Type SA180				
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	Diameter	Notes
Umm Al Hamman	?.	3.76		39

Type SA160. An undated single ring cancel with bar splitting it into semi-circles. The top half reads "Maktab barid Bani Thubyaan" or "Sons of Thubyaan Post Office". The bottom half reads "al-Baha".



Type SA160				
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	Diameter	Notes
Bani Thubyaan/Baha	?.	3.76		29

Type S300: A bilingual oval datestamp as per the illustration.



Type S300				
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	Size	Notes
AL-QATEEF	-4FEB1983		60x32	

Type S206: My example of this cancel is blurred, making the Arabic illegible. It is similar to Type S205, the difference being in the Western portion of the datestamp where S206 has a word written horizontally.



Type S206				
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	Diam.	Notes
LABOURER'S CANTONMENT	20. 6.1986		??	Num. 4

Type S260: A single circle, bicalendar CDS with datebelt. "KKIA" means "King Khalid International Airport". Inside the upper and lower segments is "RIYADH" and the counter number.



Type S260				
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	Diameter	Notes
KKIA RIYADH	3. 1.90	30. 7.92	35	Num. 6

* * * * *

B. ADDITIONAL POST OFFICES USING PREVIOUSLY REPORTED CANCEL STYLES.

Type S35				
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	Diameter	Notes
NAJHRAN	24. 8.36			Date reads 24.8.63

Type ST100				
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	Diameter	Notes
MECQUE	23. 5.39		32	
Type S25				
ALBAKARIYA	16. 4.70		34	
BALJARSHI	? 1.64		34	
DAMMAM	5. 2.76	14. 3.76	38.5	
EL-QUAISUMAH	10. 3.76		34	
ESHAIQUER	23. 3.76		34	
HARMAH	? 7.76		34	
KOUYEL			34	
MAJMAA			34	
MANDAK	? 7.64		34	
MECCA	15. 6.72		38	
MEDINAH	23.12.75	16. 3.76	38.5	
OULA				
RANYA	21.11.63		34	
TABOUK	6. 2.63		34	
TAIF	17. 3.76	2. 4.76	38.5	
Type S28				
MEDINA	30. 5.71		34	
Type S48				
DAFIR			32	Num. ??
QUOIYA	?? 10.61		32	Num. 79 (?)
Type S60				
ANAIZA	15. 9.70		29	
HASSA	? 7.54		30	
NAGRAN	19.11.68		29	
Type SR55				
MARAT-NAJD	19. 7.53		29	NAJD omitted in Arabic.
Type SR56				
BEESHA	? 7.63	21. 3.76	29	
HAYEL	29.10.63		29	
TAIF	11. 3.54			
Type SR50				
RAS-TANURA	6. 1.62		34	
Type S70				
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	Diameter	Notes
AZ-ZILFA	28. 3.76		35	
DAWADMI	? 7.61		34	
Type SRD100				
DHEBA	? 7.63		34	
MEDINA	29. 5.62			
Type SD100				
JEDDAH AIRPORT	? 7.67		39	
Type SD50				
MEDINA	9. 8.71		34	

Type SM5					
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	Diameter	Notes	
DJEDDAH	16. 7.63				
Type S105					
RIYADH	27.11.71	5.12.71	39	Num. 9,10	
Type S90					
AL ULA	27. 9.71		39		
Type S171					
MAJMAA	? . ? .74		39		
Type SD170					
BRAIDAH	23.10.73		35		
Type S1170					
AFIF			35	Greg. date 0.0.0	
Type SM10L					
Office Name	Die	Earliest	Latest	Date Arrangements	Notes
GIZAN	IVa	22. 9.1989		a/c/e	
Type SA100					
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	Diam.	Notes	
Al Taif	8.12.1977			Num. 14	
Type S130					
?ATEEF	? . ? .1976			Num. 2. Probably KATEEF or QATEEF.	
Type S175					
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	Diameter	Notes	
TARUT	26.01.88			Num. 4	
Type S195					
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	Diam.	Notes	
BEJADIYAH				Num. 2. Hijra date is 24.6.13.	
SALEHIYAH				Num. 3	
THUGBAH		27.11.1980		Num. 1	
Type SM30L					
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	Varieties		
ALMAZNAB	6.02.1988				
Type SM30R					
ABI AREESH	29. 4.1990				
Type SM31L					
AL BAHA	27.09.1989				
AL MAJARDA	1. 9.1988				
SAMTA	1.10.1989				

Type SM31R			
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	Varieties
SAMTA	4.10.1988		

Type SM40L			
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	Varieties
ABU ARISH	17. 8.1989		
ASIAH	14.12.1986		
AL-MAZNAB	15. 2.1989		
BAHA	17. 6.1988		
DOMAT EL JANDAL	28. 8.1988		
DUFAIR	27.01.1989		
HAFR AL BATEN	2.10.1989		
MAKKAH	11. 3.1992		
QALWAH	26.10.1988		
QURA	15. 2.1989		
TANNUMAH	24.10.1988		

Type SS30R				
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	Slogan	Notes
KH. MOSHAIT	9.11.1987		3	

Type S150					
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	HG	Numbers	Notes
ABU-RAKA	18.10.1988		H		
ADDARB	15.10.1986		H		
ADDILAIMIYAH	1.12.1987		H		
AIBAN	16.11.1988		H		
ALGHAZALAH	25. 2.1989		H		
ALHAQOU	13.10.1988		H		
ALHAWIYAH	1.10.1989		H		
ALHARJA	28. 5.1988		H		
ALHAYER	30. 9.1988		H		
ALKAMEL	30.10.1988		H		
ALKHADRAA	18. 9.1988		H		
ALMADAYAH	10. 1.1989		H		
ALMADDAH	10.12.1986		H		
ALMAHANI	5.11.1988		H		
ALQARAH	1.10.1989		H		
ALQIDAIH	8.11.1984		H		
ALMAZROIYA	21. 1.1989		H		17
ALMIZAHMIYAH	3. 1.1989		H		
ALSALIHIYA	22.10.1988		H		
ALSHABAIN	16. 3.1988		H		
AL RAWDAH	18.10.1987		H		
AL-ASHEIKH	11. 2.1989		H		
AL-EASS	6. 9.1987		H		
AL-FAQEER	8. 3.1989		H		
AL-HINAKIYAH	14. 2.1989		G		
AL-WASTA	13. 5.1989		H		
ANAK	22. 9.1984		H		
ANNI 'AIRIYA	31.10.1989		G		
AOLAIH ATTAWAR	1.12.1986		H		1
ASHA'ARA	23. 6.1988		H		
ASSAFFANIYAH	3. 9.1984		H		
ASSARRAR	11. 9.1988		H		
BALLAHMAR	29.10.1988		H		
BANI MALIK GIZAN	6. 4.1988		H		2
BIN HASHBAL	18.11.1987		H		3
DHIBA	7. 2.1989		H		
HABONA	12. 3.1989		H		
HALBA	29. 2.1992		H		
HARADH	26.10.1988		H		
HAROOB	22. 9.1989		H		
HEID ABBS	17. 8.1988		H		
IBANAT	8. 3.1989		H		
IRRQAH	19.11.1988		H		
JASH	12. 9.1987		H		
JOUDA	10. 8.1989		H		
KH. MITAIR	16. 3.1988		H		15

Type S150 (continued)					
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	HG	Numbers	Notes
MAHAYL	14.12.1986		H		
NAMIRAH	25.11.1987		H		
OKLAT ASSOQOUR	12. 9.1987		H		3
QARIYA	3. 4.1988		H		
QUOSAIBA'A	? . ?.1988		H		
SABT AL-ALAYA	21.12.1986		H		1
SAFWA	24. 9.1984		H		
SH'AFF BALGARN	6. 4.1988		H		
SHUOBAT ANSAB	22. 3.1989		H		2
S. DHAHRAN	11. 5.1988		H		16
S. KHAIBAR	16. 3.1988		H		14
THALOUTH HASWAH	2.12.1986		H		1
THAMRAH	? . ?.1988		H		
THERIBAN	6. 2.1989		H		
UMM ALHAMAM	29. 8.1984		H		1
UMM RUDHMAH	7. 3.1989		H		
WADI ALJAMOOM	18. 4.1987		H		2

Type S151					
ALMANDAQ	16. 9.1987		H	2	
ALQATEEF	27.12.1986		G	2	21
DOMAT ALJANDAL	21. 2.1989		H	2	
HIRAIMLA'A	30.10.1988		H	2	

Type S152					
ALHASA	12. 2.1989		G	1	

Type S156					
BORAIDA	14.10.1988			2	23

Type S157					
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	HG	Numbers	Notes
ALBASHAIR	13. 2.1989		H	1	
ALFARSHAH	9. 3.1989		H	3	
ATFAL-JABRAH	25.10.1988		H	3	
BADR AL JANOUB	22.12.1989		H	3	
BARIQ	23.10.1988		H	4	
RAJLA'A	24.10.1988		H	3	
SARAT OBAIDAH	9. 9.1988		H	5	1
YONBUO	15. 2.1989		H	1	19

Type SH158

Type S158 should be renumbered to type SH158 since it is a cancel style used only at Hajj time at the Hajj post offices.

Two additional cancels in the S150/158 group are identified as follows:

Type S158: As type S150, but includes the word "al-Markazi" (المركزي) or "central" after the Arabic office name. Differs from type S153 in that there is no counter/office number.



Type S158					
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	HG	Numbers	Notes
ALMAHD	12. 3.1989		H		18
DAMMAM	? . 6.1992		H		22

Type S159: As type S157, but includes the word "al-Markazi" (المركزي) or "central" after the Arabic office name.



Type S159					
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	HG	Numbers	Notes
MADINA	29.10.1988		H	7	20

NOTES FOR TYPES S150-S159:

- (14) Arabic reads "Khaibar al-Janoub".
- (15) Arabic reads "Khamis Mitair".
- (16) Arabic reads "Dhahran al-Janoub".
- (17) Arabic in two lines reads "Shabat Al-mazroiya bal-Hofuf".
- (18) Arabic reads Al Darb al-markazi.
- (19) Arabic reads "Yonbu al-Sinaiyah."
- (20) Arabic reads "Madina al-Munawarah al-markazi".
- (21) Note different western spelling, all in one word.
- (22) Type S153 with office numerals removed.
- (23) Arabic in two lines reads "Barid Boraida al-markazi".

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C. LATE/EARLY USAGES AND ADDITIONAL DEVICE/COUNTER NUMBERS.

Following are new earliest or latest dates for cancellations no longer in current use. Earliest/latest dates for styles still current are not reported at this time. Also included in this list are additional device/counter numbers.

HEJAZ PERIOD

Type	Office Name	Earliest	Latest	Notes
H10	TAIF		2.11.21	
H30	MEDINE	7.10.19		

HEJAZ & NEJD PERIOD

Type	Office Name	Earliest	Latest	Notes
X20	MECQUE	12. 7.26		

SAUDI PERIOD

Type	Office Name	Earliest	Latest	Notes
H10	DJEDDAH		13. 2.37	32mm diam Num 3
H30	CONFUDAH		? 9.36	
S10	JEDDAH	15.12.33		
S22	HASSA		12. 7.33	
S28	TAIF	6. 8.70	26. 4.78	
S30	DJEDDAH		15. 7.52	
	MEDINE	6. 4.37		
S32	MECQUE		10. 8.51	
	MEOQUE	28.12.44		
	MECQUE	6.10.34		
S35	DJEDDAH	? 12.34		

SAUDI PERIOD (continued)

Type	Office Name	Earliest	Latest	Notes
S36	DJEDDAH	6. 2.37		
S60	DAHHRAN	?. ?.54		
	DAMMAM	?. ?.54		
	MEDINE		31. 5.62	
	RYAD		6.10.62	
S70	JIZAN		30. 4.60	
S81	RYAD	30. 3.59		Num. 3
S90	AL-HASA			Num. 8
	JEDDAH			Num. 24
	MECCA	6. 5.76		Num. 13
	RIYADH	26.11.73		Num. 1,5,16, 20,27
	TAIF		9. 8.77	Num. 11
S100	LA MECQUE		9. 3.63	
S130	DHAHRAN A.P.		16. 8.1978	
	JUBAIL	21. 8.1977		
S151	AL HASA			Num. 1
	KH. MOSHAIT			Num. 5
S152	GIZAN			Hijrah date.
S153	RIYADH			Num. 7
S170	RIYADH	20. 3.71		
S175	DAMMAM			Num. 7
SB100	MECQUE (Al Ma'alah)		5. 4.52	Branch 4.
SD50	DHAHRAN AIRPORT	7.10.62		
SD175	SHAQRA	-7. 4.69		
SI100	JEDDAH AIRPORT		11. 7.67	
SM10L	RIYADH	5. 8.72		Die I a/c/e (1)
SM10R	TA' IF	22. 3.78		Die IVa
SR20a	DJEDDAH	10. 2.39	5. 4.52	
SR50	KHOBAR	27. 8.56		
SR55	DJEDDAH		14.10.57	
	TABOUK	18. 7.56		
SR56	RYAD	22. 7.53	21.10.57	
SRD105	TAIF	12. 6.62	25. 1.64	
SS30R	ANNAMAS		02.03.1992	New slogan 3.
	SHAROWRA		8. 9.1989	New slogan 4.

Note: (1) The whole of the left circle is inverted, except for the year.

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D. PROBLEM CORNER

Following are some styles which are not clear enough to be deciphered. Can anyone figure out the lettering and/or submit clear impressions of these markings? Problems 2-4 are extracted from the article in RANDOM NOTES #31.



Problem 1



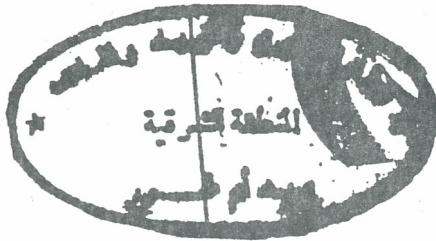
Problem 2



Problem 3

The blurred Western lettering on Problem #1 appears to read "POSTAL AFFAIRS RIYADH". Can anyone provide a clear strike of this device, or alternatively, confirm the blurred Western lettering by translating the Arabic?

I have an example of Problem #2 myself and I think the office name is "Jarudiyah".



Problem #4

Problems #3 and #4. I cannot transcribe, let alone translate the Arabic.



One type of undated cancellation with the Saudi P.T.T. emblem (palm tree, swords and envelope) inside the inner circle has already been listed (SA150 on page 20, RN #49). So far, five types of these cancels have been noted:

1. That listed as SA150 - double outer circle, no wording in the inner circle. Outermost circle is double-lined.
2. As Type 1, but outermost circle is single-lined.
3. Also has wording in the inner circle, as per the figure above.
4. Inner circle is small and joined to outer circle by a belt containing wording.
5. Very small inner circle.

These cancellations are usually unclear and the lettering is difficult to decipher. The size is not standardized and various diameters are known for some types. There is the probability that these markings were originally intended to be used as seals on the back of internal postal communications, but there is no doubt they were frequently used to cancel stamps in numerous post offices.

I hope to have further illustrations and translations in the next update.

Illustrated right is another puzzle. The Arabic reads "Barid Ar-Ras / outgoing / Gassim District". This seems to have been used as a re-directional mark. It is on a cover from Riyadh to Ar-Ras. It has a Riyadh meter franking; on the reverse are two Ar-Ras type SM31L backstamps dated 17.08.1986 and 05.10.1986 and a barely legible Riyadh slogan cancel dated 6-??-1986. The illustrated all-Arabic cancel is applied to the cover front across the address label as if to obscure the original addressee and facilitate delivery to the return address. There are no "Unknown", "Return to Sender" or similar markings.

