

# Arabian zatilatelic $\mathfrak{A s s o c i a t i o n ~}$  <br> 且hahran，Saudi Arabia 

ARABIAN PHILATELIC ASSOCIATION<br>RANDOM NOTES NO． 10<br>JULY 29， 1977

Attached are Random Notes No．10．I wish that it were possible to produce these Notes on some regular schedule（say，quarterly）but I can＇t schedule my vacations to fit anything like that，and most of us out here who do the study and editorial work have full－time－plus jobs that tend to elbow hobbies aside．I am corresponding with a fair percentage of our 40 or so members who live outside of the Dhahran area，and that also tends to keep me busy．The Random Notes come out when they can！My thanks go to all of you who have been contributors and who have been very patient when $I$ have had to sit on your items until I could get my other pieces together．

Also attached is a new article by Benedict and Thoden，entitled：＂A Study of the Fifth Jiddah Issue＂．Here we go again，pruning our collections and eliminating the album weeds！However，it must be done and Fred Benedict and Rudy Thoden have done their usual，thorough，scholarly job．

You will also find，with these Notes，an address list covering everybody not living in the Eastern Province．Our local list will need a little more editing before we can release it．If we don＇t have your name and address right，please let us know．Incidentally，we now have about 140 members．

I will be away from Saudi Arabia until August 27.

John M．Wilson
Corresponding Secretary


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ARABIAN PHILATELIC ASSOCIATION<br>Dhahran, Saudi Arabia July 19, 1977

RANDOM NOTES NO. 10

1. I recently saw and confirmed the existence of all of the unframed overprints on stamps other than the ordinary roulette 13 . This is the complete listing:

Unframed overprint on:
1 pi blue, perf 10
Scott Cat No
$1 / 8$ pi orange, roulette 20
Unlisted
a. Inverted overprint L15c
L15d
1/4 pi green, roulette 20 L16c
a. Inverted overprint

Unlisted
1/2 pi red, roulette 20
1 pi blue, roulette 20

L17b
Unlisted

I don't have any of them. There have been, so far as $I$ know right now, only two sources of the authentic stamps: the dealer 'abd al-Qadir Qutah, of Jiddah, and dealers living in India. Most copies of these elusive stamps found in the hands of westerners and western dealers are fake.

Some doubts can be entertained about this issue. Why only a limited printing, using all the roulette 20 values? Why a perf 10? In view of the small quantity, why the inverts? This whole thing has an aura of "special purpose" about it, and it may have been produced to the order of the dealers originally involved. Nevertheless, the stamps are genuine, and the overprints are from the same plate that overprinted the roulette 13 stamps. I am not advising you to avoid the issue. They remain among the rarest of the rare.
2. Tarik Ali Alireza, our member in Jiddah, tells me that when the 1951 commemoratives honoring the visit of King Talal of Jordan were issued (Scott 185,186), the postmaster sent the first copies on a letter to Tarik's father. This was quite routine, something that this postmaster did regularly for this collector. The copies on this particular cover have the "BOYAUME" spelling. Tarik advises that when this error was discovered, the issue was withdrawn. As readers of these "Notes" will know, the bottom of the "B" was scratched off the plate in all positions to leave an "R" somewhat shorter than the other letters. The issue was then reprinted from these altered plates and reissued. Cancelled copies are thus possible; if anybody has one, please let us know.
3. I also saw recently four copies of the rare Scott L67, the unframed overprint on the $1 / 2 \mathrm{pi}$ red, roulette 13 , with added two-line Jiddah overprint. On these copies, the unframed overprint is somewhat off
center, and the color of the ink is gray rather than black. Many, many fakes exist of this rare stamp, of which only 80 copies are said to exist.
4. APEX-6 was a great show. I'm only sorry that our members living outside of the Eastern Province of Saudi Arabia find it so hard to exhibit or attend. Rudy Thoden's entry, Saudi Arabian Revenue Stamps, won First Prize Adults and went on to win the Grand Award; second place for adults for Saudi Arabia went to Folke Johansson's collection of Saudi plate blocks. Other winners were:

First Place, Foreign: Warren Latshaw - New Orleans, Fancy Cancels on Cover
Second Place, Foreign: R. A. Silas - Gandhi Commemoratives First Place, Mini-Exhibits: Latshaw - Kicking Mule Cancels Second Place, Mini-Ex's: A. L. Bowsher, Saudi Arabian Rover Moot Stamps
First Place, Juniors: David Ketchum, Commemoratives Illustrating a Brief History of the United States
Second Place, Juniors: Paul Wade - East European Stamps
The Director of Postal Affairs for the Eastern Province, 'Abd al-Karim al-Dhuwayhi, attended the show accompanied by the Director of the Post Office for the Dhahran Area, Ghallum al-Ansari. Art Bowsher was Chairman for the Show and earned everybody's thanks and appreciation.
5. Stanley Gibbons, a short time ago, was offering an Albert Eid cover registered AR 1143, Jeddah to Cairo 26-11-44 bearing the following adhesives:
a. Scott Design A2, the 1926 Nejd definitive series, 5 pi denomination in olive instead of brown or brown red.
b. Block of four of Scott \#77, perf $14 \frac{1}{2}$ xll, except imperf between horizontally.

Albert Eid appears to me out of the Saudi Arabian philatelic past as a father figure to early Nejdi emissions. Randall Baker says that some stamps occur only on covers prepared by Eid. Eid's covers have, usually, all the appropriate cancellations and transit markings, appropriately dated, and most are registered; however, his shadow hovers over these envelopes and appears over the printer's shoulder, at the postal clerk's elbow, and aboard the mail ship as it crosses the Red Sea. I have one of his creations, postmarked in Cairo, stamped at the usual transit points, and bearing only Nejdi postage dues, properly cancelled. Dates and times are all reasonable. But, does anybody believe that the Cairo officials let that thing go without stamps? - unless someone helped the process along?

Nevertheless, fake stamps do not appear on Eid's covers, to the best of my current knowledge. They often give an apparently correct picture of the postal history for the period. They are usually neat and well preserved. They are greatly desired by collectors, even though clearly philatelic in nature; you need have no fear of them. You'll probably get
all your money back when you come to sell. I don't see any reason at all why they shouldn't be exhibited, and I show mine, but you ought to describe them as "Albert Eid" covers and consider making cautionary statements about their philatelic origins.

Fake overprints do appear on stamps bearing "A. Eid" on the back. His stamped signature may indicate only that the stamps involved passed through his hands. You will have reasonably good luck with Nejdi items so signed, but only average luck with Hejazi items.
6. We keep getting asked about the overprints on the 1962 Malaria Issue, Scott 249-51, and our good friend Frank Patterson has presented me with an article on the subject, which is reproduced in full as an attachment. I don't collect these overprints as Saudi Arabian stamps, but they are of historical interest to the hobby, and some of our members do indeed go after them. Read Frank's article and make up your own mind.
7. As you will see from the last item, and the next few, I was in Holland recently and had a chance to sit down with Frank Patterson and talk about Saudi Arabian stamps. He referred to the "Final Report, Refugee Stamp Plan, United Nations, Geneva, 1962" concerning the 1960 World Refugee Year Issue, Scott 208-10. In this report, it is reported that Saudi Arabia was one of the seventy-two nations issuing special WRY stamps. Of these nations, fifty-four, including Saudi Arabia, donated complete mint sets for sale by the U.N. Committee. Saudi Arabia contributed 112,000 complete sets having a total face value of US\$24,888 (1960 rates of exchange).
8. Attached is a copy of a letter from the US Mission to the United Nations to Frank Patterson. According to the figures, Saudi Arabia issued 100,000 sets of the "Freedom from Hunger" stamps, but 66,928 were later destroyed, leaving 33,072 actually sold to dealers and collectors or used for postage plus whatever was required for special purposes. There doesn't seem to be any shortage of this set, and you still find it with dealers from time to time.
9. I have yet another item from Frank. He pointed out to me the existence of two different cliché types for the Hejaz Railway Tax Stamps that were overprinted by the Nejdis to create postal emissions. The clichés are illustrated in an attachment to these Notes. Type I is the common one. Type II appears to come once per sheet of 36 , being position 30 on one full sheet and several plateable pieces that I have seen. I have also seen a complete sheet of 18 subjects of the 500 pi tax stamps produced from the same clichés that make up the bottom three rows of the 36-subject sheet, and Type II is again the last stamp at right in the second row from the bottom. However, Frank has a part sheet, being the bottom three rows from a sheet, and Position "30" does not contain Type II, nor does Type II appear anywhere else on this part sheet. As you can see, pairs
containing one example each are possible. The clichés are quite different, and you will have no trouble distinguishing between them, provided that you are lucky enough to find Type II to start with.
10. The new definitive series is appearing gradually. We have so far:

| Khafji Platform: | 5ha | 40ha |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  | 10 | 45 |
|  |  |  |
|  |  | 65 |
|  | 30 | 1 |

The sheets are coming in two formats. The first is two panes of 50 each with a gutter in between, giving rise to gutter pairs. These sheets show an imprint below the lower left corner stamps of each pane, reading: "Matabi' al-Hukuma, Riyadh" which translates as "Government Press, Riyadh". In the upper part of the gutter, there is a "1" to the right of the last stamp, first row, left-hand pane, and a "2" to the left of the first stamp, first row, right-hand pane. These are plate numbers. On the 20ha Quba Mosque, these numbers are in Arabic; on the 50ha Quba Mosque, they do not appear at all. In the second format, we get precut panes of 50 showing no marginal markings at all. We also find sheets, apparently from the gutter panes, precut before delivery to the Postal Agents in the Provinces.

The watermarks are coming in various positions, and both of the recent watermarked papers are being used. We will try to publish a listing when our information is more complete.

John M. Wilson, Editor
29 July 1977

## THE 1962 OVERPRINTED "ANTI-MALARIA" STAMPS OF SAUDI ARABIA

In support of the UN World Health Organization's drive against malaria, a set of three commemoratives was released on 7 May 1962 by Saudi Arabia (Scott 249-51; SG 452-54; Michel 127A-29A). These were lithographed in sheets of 50 by the Esfahani Press at Jiddah. Some months later, the basic stamps appeared on the New York market overprinted with revised year dates only or with additional bilingual AIR MAIL inscriptions. The two sets of overprints, face value 38\%, retailed for up to $\$ 5$. The $8 p$ value with inverted overprint was priced at $\$ 9$. The status of these overprinted items has long been in question and although only footnoted in the above three catalogues, they have been given formal listing in others and continue to show up in auctions.

Few collectors are aware that the authoritative Jiddah newspaper, al-Bilad, carried a headlined feature article on this subject in its Issue No. 1075, dated 13 August 1962. For the record and without comment, a translation from the original Arabic is presented here for the first time.

## AL-BILAD LAYS ITS HANDS ON A QUANTITY OF FAKED STAMPS: THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR GENERAL OF POSTAL AFFAIRS ASSERTS THAT THE STAMPS ARE FORGED!

Some counterfeit Saudi postage stamps have been found. A series of anti-malaria stamps was received by the Arabian Stamp Shop in Jiddah which differ from those issued by the Kingdom on 3 Dhu al-Hijjah 1381 ( 7 May 1962) and announced by us. Following is the illustrated press report written by our colleague, I. A. Malibari, editor of the World of Stamps column in al-Bilad newspaper:

Some faked Saudi postage stamps have been discovered. A series of Saudi anti-malaria stamps was received by the Arabian Stamps Shop in Jiddah. However, the new series were found to have an alteration which had not existed before. The alteration consists of a crossing out of the date on the issued stamps and replacing it with another date of 1962-1382. The words 'Air Mail' are inscribed in Arabic and English in the middle and an airplane appears in the upper corners. As for the second faked set, the date is altered without the addition of the words 'Air Mail' on the stamps. The recognized issuance date in the lower center of the original stamps, namely 1381-1962, is crossed out.

After contacting the official sources at the Directorate General of the PTT and receiving from it a confirmation that these stamps were considered unofficial and that the anti-malaria stamps had never been so overprinted, the Arabian Stamp Shop in Jiddah issued a circular in English warning dealers and collectors throughout the world against these faked stamps and to consider them unofficial. Following is a translation of

Circular No. 1 (in English) issued by the Arabian Stamps Shop to dealers and collectors throughout the world:
'We have been advised from several foreign sources of two altered sets of Saudi Arabia malaria stamps: one of three denominations of 3, 6, and $8 p$ to which the words AIR MAIL have been added and the other with the same denominations on which the issuance date has been altered to read 1382-1962. Since this is the first time that we have heard of such stamps, we telephoned the Deputy Director General of Postal Affairs inquiring from him about the overprinted series. His reply was that Saudi Arabia never issued the altered Malaria stamps and that these should be considered and treated as fakes.
'As a matter of fact, these stamps are absolutely considered fakes for the simple reason that they were never distributed by any mail center in the Kingdom nor were they issued by the Directorate General of PTT, which exercises supervision over every stamp series which is issued by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. In concluding, we ask the help of every stamps dealer and collector in guiding us to the persons who have printed these fakes in violation of local and international law. We, in turn, will inform the postal authorities of any correct information that we may receive about these faked stamps.
'(Sgd.) the Arabian Stamp Shop, Jiddah'
Upon receipt and examination of the stamps, it was established from the following facts that they were faked:

1. The stamps did not appear in the market until after they had been delivered to the Malaria Stamp Sale Agency in New York! This Agency was chosen by the UN World Health Organization to undertake the sale of such stamps which were donated by various countries to wHO for the purpose of fighting malaria. It is known widely that Saudi Arabia contributed about 40,000 sets to WHO and these were delivered in New York in the beginning of July.
2. The forgers took advantage of the sale of Saudi stamps at a low price abroad - their official price was 19 - and purchased as many as they could and made the alterations thereon. The forgers figured that when they monopolized the air-mail stamps that collectors will be forced to buy them at fantastic prices, ranging from $\$ 3$ and currently $\$ 4.50$.
3. In addition is the fact that the original date is crossed out and replaced by the new date of 1382-1962. The ignorance of the forgers led them to believe that the issuance date should be 1382 so it may correspond to 1962 while everyone knows that the PTT issued these stamps on $3 / 12 / 1381$ !
4. The word 'al-Jawwi' on the airmail stamps is incorrect because the words inscribed on all Saudi airmail stamps are 'Barid Jawwi'. The word 'al-Jawwi' is normally used in Syria and the Lebanon.

International Contacts to Determine the Truth
Sayyid Nasuh Mahfus, a prominent stamp dealer in Damascus, sent a telegram to the Arabian Stamp Shop inquiring about the overprinted stamps and the quantity printed. When informed that they were unofficial, he cabled directly to the Saudi Directorate General of PTT and received from it the following telegraphic reply:
$\begin{array}{lc}\text { 'Sayyid Nasuh Mahfus } & \text { Riyadh } \\ \text { Damascus } & 31 \text { July } 1962\end{array}$
Your cable dated 27 Safar 1382 (29 July 1962). Our Directorate did not alter any stamps. Any stamps overprinted are faked.
(Sgd) Postgen'
Clarification of the Truth
We request the Directorate General of PTT to issue a public statement in English and French, declaring these stamps to be fakes and illegitimate, and to instruct our representatives and legations abroad to contact important newspapers in order to publish that statement so that these stamps may have their status clarified as being null and worthless to stamp collectors.

Finally, we ask the responsible officials at the Directorate not to contribute large quantities of Saudi Arabian stamps to foreign agencies. In these cases, the stamps should be sold locally and the proceeds of those intended to be donated may be paid in cash to the concerned agency of the United Nations. By so doing, we prevent such fakers from purchasing our stamps in large quantities at face value from the UN Agencies.
(End of article)

Frank E. Patterson III
20 November, 1972
Note: The editor of the Random Notes has retyped this article in order to provide better margins, etc. Mr. Patterson has not had a chance to proofread the resulting text. Any errors, omissions, etc., should be laid at the editor's door, and not Mr. Patterson's.

Note: Further format changes made 23 August 2021.

## United States Mission to the United Nations

June 10, 1966

799 Unitbd Nations Plaza
NEW YORK, N. Y. 10017

## YUkom 6-2424

Mr. Frank E. Patterson III
Box. 1328 (Aramco)
Dhahran, Saudi Arabia
Dear Mr. Patterson:
I am terribly sorry for the long delay in answering your letter. Unfortunately, it was misplaced during a turnover in our office and only now came to our attention. Ambassador Goldberg hopes you will understand that his busy schedule prevents him from answering you personally.

For the "Freedom for Hunger" campaign Afghanistan issued 25,000 sets of stamps of which 3,356 sets were destroyed and Saudi Arabia issued 100,000 sets and 66,928 were destroyed.

Thank you for contacting our office and for future information concerning the FAO, you might find the FAO Headquarters in Rome helpful.

Sincerely,

hejaz rail way tax stamp


TYPE I

'ALSO LIKE THIS; OUERINKING FILLS IT IN.


LINES AT TOP OF BOILER

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { JMW /AP } \\
& 28 \text { JULY } 1977
\end{aligned}
$$

DO NOT CROSS VERTICAL BAND

BY R.J. THODEN AND F.C. BENEDICT

INTRODUCTION

As with the other Jeddah Issues, it has been apparent to the authors for some time that there are several types of surcharges of all values of the Fifth Jeddah Issue. The purpose of this paper is to describe the various types, point out their distinguishing characteristics, and present the authors' opinion as to which are genuine and which are forgeries.

The Fifth Jeddah Issue is listed in the catalogs as follows:

| Scott | L142 | to | L159 |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Gibbons | 161 | to | 176 |
| Mayo | 251 | to | 276 |

It was issued about March-April 1925 and consisted of an overprint and a surcharge in four lines on basic stamps of the 1922 definitive issue.

| Al-hukumah | The government |
| :--- | :--- |
| al-hejaziah | of the Hejaz |
| 5 Rabi' al-awwal 1343 | 4 October 1924 |
| X qirsh | X piastres |

The surcharges were applied to full sheets of the basic stamps from plates containing 36 cliches, each having trivial differences which allow them to be plated. Since the basic stamps can be plated as well, absolute assurance of genuineness is obtainable by determining that the basic stamp position and the surcharge position agree. This, of course, requires full sheets of reference material with which to work, as well as a magnifier. Fortunately, with one major exception to be noted later, this is not usually necessary as the genuine and forged surcharges have certain distinguishing characteristics.

Three different overprint colors, black, blue and red, were used, though not all colors on all values.

GENERAL COMMENTS ON THE FORGERIES

Most of the forgeries to be described herein are of excellent quality and can easily deceive the unsuspecting collector, as they did the authors originally. However, with a little patience, these can now be fairly easily identified (except 10 qirsh surcharges on 2 qirsh and 3 qirsh basic stamps). It is possible that there are even more types of forgeries that have not yet come to the attention of the authors, and which would make the information to follow incomplete.

The best way to spot the forgeries is to become thoroughly familiar with the distinguishing characteristics of the genuine. Any deviation is then
cause or suspicion. Fortunately, all denominations of genuine stamps have certain characteristics in common. These are:

(1) Dots at left are joined.
(2) Small space between tip of tad marbutah and dots.
(3) Alif distinctly crosses Haw at right.

SECOND LINE

(1) Mark over line has distinctive shape.
(2) Distinct dot under jiym.
(3) Narrow space between lam and Had.

THIRD LINE

(1) Alif seems to cross lam.
(2) Waw has round head.
(3) Tail of ham points distinctly upward.

The forgeries identified as Type 1 of each denomination have many features in common, are frequently found in sets (even sets of blocks), and are thus believed to be the product of the same forger. These are by far the most common forgeries in both normal and inverted position. These comments also apply to the Type 2 forgeries of the 1 qirsh surcharge.

The other types of forgeries described in this paper are less frequently met with, and are usually found as inverts. Indeed, the very large majority of inverted surcharges seen in collections and on the market are forgeries.

These were made in black or blue ink on $1 / 2$ qirsh red basic stamps. Mayo and Gibbons also list it on the deep rose early printing of the basic stamp. This deep rose stamp has not been seen by the authors with a genuine surcharge.

The $1 / 8$ qirsh stamps seem to be scarce in large blocks and sheets and we have none to illustrate. A typical genuine surcharge is enlarged in Figure 1, while Figures 2, 3 and 4 illustrate various forgeries. Table I summarizes the major distinguishing characteristics of these surcharge types.

## THE $1 / 4$ QIRSH SURCHARGE

This denomination was made in black or blue on $1 / 2$ qirsh red basic stamps. As is the case for the $1 / 8$ qirsh, Mayo and Gibbons list it also on the $1 / 2$ qirsh deep rose, which we have not seen with a genuine surcharge.

Figure 5 shows the major part of a full sheet of $1 / 4$ qirsh surcharges. Figure 6 is an enlargement of a typical genuine surcharge. Figures 7, 8 and 9 show various forgeries. The differences between the various types are given in Table II.

THE 1 QIRSH SURCHARGE
This value was prepared on $1 / 2$ qirsh red, $1-1 / 2$ qirsh, 2 qirsh and 3 qirsh brown basic stamps in black, blue and red inks (the $1 / 2$ qirsh was not done in red). Mayo and Gibbons again list this surcharge on the $1 / 2$ qirsh deep rose, as well as on the 5 qirsh (in red). We have seen none of these.

Figure 10 shows a full sheet of the surcharge. Figure 11 is an enlargement of a typical genuine pair, showing spacing differences in the fourth line. Figures 12, 13, 14 and 15 show various forgeries. Table III gives the differences between the various types.

Note that in the case of forgery type 4 (Figure 15), the basic stamp is forged also. This is most easily detected by the fact that the perforation is 10-3/4, compared to 11-1/2 for the genuine stamp. It is believed that all denominations of this issue exist as total forgeries (see Mayo page 61), but this is the only one seen by us thus far.

THE 10 QIRSH SURCHARGE
The 10 qirsh value was normally surcharged on 5 qirsh basic stamps. See the "Surcharge Errors" section of this paper for a discussion of 10 qirsh surcharges on 2 qirsh and 3 qirsh basic stamps.

Figure 16 illustrates a full sheet of 10 qirsh surcharges. An enlarged typical genuine block with spacing differences on the fourth line of the surcharge is shown in Figure 17, while Figures 18 through 20 show various forgeries. Table IV tabulates the characteristics of genuine and forged surcharges.

The most puzzling aspect of this issue is the existence of 10 qlrsh surcharges on 2 qirsh and 3 qlrsh basic stamps normally used for 1 qirsh surcharges.

According to Warin, the sheet of the 1 qirsh surcharge originally included two positions (1 and 2, at the top left corner of the sheet) with 10 qirsh surcharges. Thus, se-tenant pairs of 10 qirsh and 1 qirsh surcharges from these sheets can exist, but are apparently very scarce. Again according to Warin, this error was corrected when discovered, which must have been very quickly in view of the scarcity of these errors. The correction consisted of removing the dot, thus converting the Arabic "10" to a "1". The authors have none of the above-mentioned se-tenant pairs, but only a single copy of a 10 qirsh on 3 qirsh surcharge, which plates perfectly against position 1 of the normal 1 qirsh sheet, with the exception of the extra dot. The genuineness of such surcharges might however be questionable, since a forger could simply add a dot of his own to a genuine 1 qirsh surcharge.

With the above-mentioned exception, all of the authors' copies of 10 qirsh on 2 qirsh and 3 qirsh stamps plate perfectly against various positions of the 10 qirsh sheet. Presumably, this means that full sheets of these stamps received the 10 qirsh surcharge in all three colors. Whether this was the result of error, or was intentional, is not known. Mayo and Gibbons also list the $1-1 / 2$ qirsh basic stamp with a 10 qirsh surcharge in red, but this has not been seen by us.

To compound the mystery are the existence of:
(a) a block of four 2 qirsh stamps in which the top two stamps (positions 29 and 30 in the sheet) have a 10 qirsh surcharge, while the bottom two stamps (positions 35 and 36) have a 1 qirsh surcharge (in black).
(b) a block of four 3 qirsh stamps in which the top two stamps (positions 11 and 12 in the sheet) have a 1 qirsh surcharge, while the bottom two stamps (positions 17 and 18) have a 10 qirsh surcharge (in black).

These stamps plate perfectly against the corresponding positions of the 10 qirsh sheet. Thus, originally, the sheet of 10 qirsh surcharges had at least these four positions with the 1 qirsh errors. These errors were corrected by simply adding a dot after the "1", converting the value to "10". Surprisingly, we have not seen similar surcharges on the 5 qirsh basic stamp normally used for the 10 qirsh surcharge. However, this printing could be the explanation for the red 1 qirsh surcharge on 5 qirsh listed by Mayo and Gibbons.

In addition to the previously described 10 qirsh forgeries, it is suspected that partial forgeries exist of these 10 qirsh on 2 qirsh and 3 qirsh stamps produced by adding a dot (representing the Arabic "0") to genuine 1 qirsh surcharges. None have been seen by us, but it is unlikely that forgers would not have thought of this. Therefore, to be accepted
as genuine, 10 qirsh on 2 qirsh and 3 qirsh stamps must be plated against the 10 qirsh sheet to be sure that the basic stamp and surcharge positions agree. If they do not, these stamps would be highly suspect unless they were positions 1 or 2 , as discussed earlier.

Inverted surcharges exist of all denominations in all surcharge colors, including the 10 qirsh on 2 qirsh and 3 qirsh stamps. Based on what the authors have seen, most of these are not at all common in genuine condition, which is contrary to Mayo's observation. Forgeries are plentiful, however.

Double surcharges exist of the $1 / 8$ qirsh on $1 / 2$ qirsh and the 1 qirsh on $1 / 2$ qirsh, both in blue. These are scarce. No forgeries have been seen.

Strongly shifted surcharges exist. For example, a 1 qirsh on 2 qirsh stamp has the surcharge shifted so far up that the fourth line of the surcharge appears at the top of the stamp, below which are the first three lines from the next lower plate position. The bottom row of stamps from this sheet (not seen by us) would thus have only the fourth line at the top of the stamp.

## CONCLUSION

This paper provides the means of distinguishing the various types of surcharges seen by the authors. It should be considered preliminary. It is again emphasized that the labeling of certain types of surcharges as forgeries represents the authors' opinion only.

To make the study more complete, the authors would appreciate hearing from readers who can show them any of the following:
(a) a complete sheet of the $1 / 8$ qirsh surcharge.
(b) a complete sheet of the $1 / 4$ qirsh surcharge.
(c) a complete sheet including both 1 qirsh and 10 qirsh surcharges.
(d) a $1 / 8$ qirsh, $1 / 4$ qirsh or 1 qirsh genuine surcharges on the 1/2 qirsh deep rose basic stamp.
(e) a 1 qirsh on 5 qirsh genuine surcharge.
(f) a 10 qirsh on $1-1 / 2$ qirsh genuine surcharge.
(g) any stamp with a surcharge type not described in this paper.
(h) any forged basic stamp with surcharge other than 1 qirsh.
(i) multiples of any type 2, 3 or 4 surcharge (except 1 qirsh type 2) .
(j) proof that the surcharge type called forgeries by the authors are, in fact, forgeries.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

To A. G. Huddleston and B. H. Moody for the photography.

## REFERENCES

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M. Max Mayo, "Barid al-Sa'udiyyah wa al Hejaz wa Najd", 1973.

Scott Publishing Co., "Standard Postage Stamp Catalog", Volume 4, 1977.
Stanley Gibbons, "Stamp Catalog, Overseas 4", 1975.
Arabian Philatelic Association, August 1977.

TABLE I 1/8 QIRSH SURCHARGE TYPES

|  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { GENUINE } \\ & (\text { FIGURE 1) } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { TYPE 1 } \\ \text { FORGERY } \\ \text { (FIGURE 2) } \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { TYPE } 2 \\ \text { FORGERY } \\ \text { (FIGURE 3) } \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { TYPE } 3 \\ \text { FORGERY } \\ (\text { FIGURE 4) } \end{gathered}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| GENERAL <br> Plate size <br> Impression <br> Other | $\begin{gathered} 36(6 \text { x 6) } \\ \text { usually clear } \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 4(2 \times 2) \\ \text { often light } \end{gathered}$ | unknown* <br> resembles T. 1 | unknown* |
| FIRST LINE Length, mm. | 20.5-20.7 | 20.5-20.6 | 20.3 | 20.7 |
| SECOND LINE <br> Length, mm. <br> Space between <br> laam \& Haa, mm. <br> Mark above line | $\begin{gathered} 14.3-14.4 \\ 0.2-0.3 \\ \text { distinct } \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 14.1-14.2 \\ 0.4-0.5 \\ \text { indistinct } \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 13.9 \\ 0.4 \\ \text { as T.1 } \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 14.3 \\ 0.4 \\ \text { dash } \end{gathered}$ |
| THIRD LINE <br> Length, mm. <br> Laam-alif <br> Waw <br> Laam <br> Other | ```20.0-20.1 alif crosses laam round head points up distinctly first alif varies``` | 19.9-20.0 <br> alif does not <br> cross laam <br> oval head <br> points up <br> less distinctly <br> pos. 3 has <br> dot over <br> laam-alif | ```19.6 as T.1 as T.1 as T.1 dot over laam-alif; tint dot under first r``` | $\begin{gathered} 20.2 \\ \text { as T.1 } \\ \text { as T.1 } \\ \text { as T.1 } \end{gathered}$ |
| FOURTH LINE <br> Length, mm. <br> Arabic 1 in $1 / 8$ <br> Dots over gaf <br> Space between raa <br> and shiyn, mm. <br> Dots over shiyn <br> Arabic 8 <br> Projections at right of shiyn | ```20.7-21.0 over bar separated 1.1 distinct right stroke very slightly shorter than left distinct``` | 21.0-21.2 <br> as genuine <br> joined <br> 0.6 <br> as genuine <br> as genuine <br> as genuine | $20.7$ <br> touches bar <br> as T. 1 $0.4$ <br> all joined as genuine <br> only right one distinct | ```21.0 as genuine as genuine 1.1 as T.2 right stroke very slightly longer than left indistinct``` |

TABLE II $1 / 4$ QIRSH SURCHARGE TYPES

|  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { GENUINE } \\ & \text { (FIGURE 6) } \end{aligned}$ | TYPE 1 FORGERY (FIGURE 7) | TYPE 2 FORGERY (FIGURE 8) | $\begin{gathered} \text { TYPE } 3 \\ \text { FORGERY } \\ \text { (FIGURE 9) } \end{gathered}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| GENERAL <br> Plate size Impression Other | 36 (6 x 6) usually clear | $\begin{gathered} 4(2 \times 2) \\ \text { often light } \end{gathered}$ | unknown* <br> resembles T. 1 | unknown* |
| FIRST LINE Length, mm. Other | 20.6 | 20.7 | $\begin{aligned} & 20.5 \\ & \text { extra dash } \\ & \text { under waw } \end{aligned}$ | 20.9 |
| SECOND LINE Length, mm. Space between laam \& Haa, mm Mark above line | $\begin{gathered} 14.3-14.5 \\ 0.2-0.3 \\ \text { distinct } \end{gathered}$ | ```14.2 0.5 indistinct``` | $\begin{gathered} 14.0 \\ 0.5 \\ \text { as T. } 1 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 14.5 \\ 0.4 \\ \text { dash } \end{gathered}$ |
| THIRD LINE <br> Length, mm. Laam-alif <br> Waw <br> Laam <br> Other | 19.9-20.3 alif crosses laam round head points up distinctly first alif varies | 20.0 <br> alif does not <br> cross laam oval head points up less distinctly | $\begin{array}{cc}  & ? \\ \text { as } & \text { T. } 1 \\ \text { as } & \\ \text { as } & \text { T. } 1 \end{array}$ | $\begin{gathered} 20.4 \\ \text { as T.1 } \end{gathered}$ <br> as genuine as genuine |
| FOURTH LINE <br> Length, mm. <br> Arabic 4 <br> Arabic 1 <br> Projections at right | 21.2-21.3 <br> long top <br> stroke, 0.7 mm . straight <br> distinct | ```21.1 short top stroke, 0.4mm. as genuine as genuine``` | $\begin{gathered} \text { ? } \\ \text { as T.1 } \\ \text { as genuine } \\ \text { as genuine } \end{gathered}$ | $21.6$ <br> as genuine <br> sharply curved <br> right one <br> very high |

TABLE III
1 QIRSH SURCHARGE TYPES

|  | GENUINE <br> (FIGURE 11) | TYPE 1 FORGERY (FIGURE 12) | TYPE 2 <br> FORGERY <br> (FIGURE 13) | TYPE 3 <br> FORGERY (FIGURE 14) | TYPE 4 FORGERY (FIGURE 15) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| GENERAL <br> Plate size | 36 (6x 6) | 4 (2x 2) | 4 (2x 2) | unknown | unknown* |
| FIRST LINE <br> Length, mm. <br> Dots at upper left <br> Alif-Haa at right <br> Other | $\begin{gathered} \text { 20.8-20.9 } \\ \text { joined } \\ \text { alif goes } \\ \text { through Haa } \\ \text { clearly } \end{gathered}$ | 20.6 <br> as genuine <br> as genuine <br> pos 2, top dot at left defective | 20.6-20.7 <br> as genuine <br> as genuine | 19.8-19.9 <br> clearly <br> separated <br> alif barely <br> crosses Haa | ```21.1 as genuine alif doesn't cross Haa last char. at left is too low``` |
| SECOND LINE Length, mm. space between laam \& Haa, mm. Mark above line Dot under jiym | $\begin{gathered} 14.4-14.5 \\ 0.3-0.4 \end{gathered}$ <br> distinct distinct | $\begin{gathered} \text { 14.1-14.2 } \\ 0.5 \\ \text { indistinct } \\ \text { as genuine } \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 14.2-14.3 \\ 0.5 \\ \text { as T.1 } \\ \text { very small } \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 13.8 \\ 0.3 \\ \text { just a dot } \\ \text { small } \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 14.9 \\ 0.2 \\ \text { dash } \\ \text { missing } \end{gathered}$ |
| THIRD LINE <br> Length, mm. <br> Laam-alif <br> Waw <br> Laam <br> Dots at left Other | 20.1-20.3 <br> alif crosses laam <br> round head points up distinctly <br> two joined first alif varies | 19.9-20.0 <br> alif doesn't <br> cross laam oval head points up less distinctly dash | $\begin{gathered} 19.9-20.1 \\ \text { as T.1 } \\ \text { as T.1 } \\ \text { as T.1 } \end{gathered}$ <br> dash | 19.5 as T.1 as genuine as genuine single dot poorly formed \& | $\begin{gathered} 20.4 \\ \text { as T.1 } \\ \text { as T.1 } \\ \text { as T.1 } \\ \text { large dot } \end{gathered}$ |
| FOURTH LINE <br> Length, mm. <br> Numeral 1 <br> Damah <br> Space between <br> 1 and qaf, mm. <br> Other | ```18.8-20.3 almost vert. like comma 0.6-1.7``` | 19.3-19.5 <br> as genuine <br> wide open 1.1 | ```20.3-20.5 slants right as T.l 1.6-1.7``` | 19.0 <br> as genuine as genuine 1.1 | 19.7 <br> as genuine <br> as genuine <br> 1.1 |

[^0]|  | GENUINE <br> (FIGURE 17) | TYPE 1 <br> FORGERY <br> (FIGURE 18) | TYPE 2 <br> FORGERY (FIGURE 19) | TYPE 3 FORGERY (FIGURE 20) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\frac{\text { GENERAL }}{\text { Plate size }}$ | 36 (6x 6) | 4 (2x 2) | unknown, but at least 2 pos | unknown, but at least 2 pos |
| FIRST LINE <br> Length, mm. Dots at upper left <br> Alif-Haa at right <br> Alif at right | ```20.8-21.0 joined alif crosses Haa clearly distinct serifs at top``` | 20.4-20.6 <br> as genuine <br> as genuine <br> as genuine | 19.9-20.0 <br> clearly <br> separated alif barely crosses Haa as genuine | 20.5-20.6 as genuine as genuine lacks serifs |
| SECOND LINE Length, mm. Space between laam \& Haa, mm. Mark above line | $\begin{gathered} 14.4-14.5 \\ 0.2-0.4 \\ \text { distinct } \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 14.2 \\ 0.5-0.6 \\ \text { indistinct } \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 13.9-14.0 \\ 0.3-0.4 \end{gathered}$ <br> just a dot | ```14.4 0.3 a little less distinct than genuine``` |
| THIRD LINE <br> Length, mm. <br> Laam-alif <br> Waw <br> Laam <br> Dots at left Other | 20.2-20.3 alif crosses laam round head points up distinctly two joined first alif varies | ```19.9-20.0 alif doesn't cross laam oval head points up less distinctly dash``` | $\begin{gathered} 19.4-19.5 \\ \text { as T.1 } \\ \text { as genuine } \\ \text { as T.1 } \\ \text { single dot } \end{gathered}$ | 20.1 <br> as genuine <br> as genuine almost same as genuine dash |
| ```FOURTH LINE Length, mm. Numeral 1 Relation of dot to 1 Damah Distance between dot and qaf, mm. Dot``` | ```21.0-21.7 almost vert. near bottom like a comma 3.5-4.8 smooth corners``` | ```22.2-22.3 slants right near middle wide open 5.0 sharp corners``` | $\begin{gathered} 21.0-21.7 \\ \text { as genuine } \\ \text { varies } \\ \text { as genuine } \\ 3.9-4.8 \\ \text { as T.1 } \end{gathered}$ | 21.1 <br> as genuine <br> varies as genuine 3.8-4.1 as T. 1 |






FIGURE 7
TYPE 1 FORGERY
IN BLOCK OF 4 AS PRINTED


FIGURE 6
GENUINE
FIGURE 9
TYPE 3 FORGERY

TYPE 2 FORGERY
20
FIGURE 8

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FIGURE 11
PAIR OF GENUINE SURCHARGES SHOWING WIDE AND NARROW SPACING BETWEEN ) AND ق IN BOTTOM LINE




FIGURE 14
TYPE 3 FORGERY


FIGURE 15
TYPE 4 FORGERY


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 FIGURE 13
TYPE 2 FORGERY
IN BLOCK OF 4 AS PRINTED FIGURE 12
TYPE 1 FORGERY
IN BLOCK OF 4 AS PRINTED



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[^2]


FIGURE 19
TYPE 2 FORGERIES - 2 EXAMPLES NOTE DIFFERENCES IN )• IN BOTTOM LINE

-iviv Jy Mre 0


FIGURE 20
TYPE 3 FORGERIES - 2 EXAMPLES NOTE DIFFERENCES IN )• IN BOTTOM LINE


[^0]:    *Only one copy seen on forged basic stamp
    **Pos. 1 has extra dot left of damah; pos. 2 has broken numeral 1.

[^1]:    - 

[^2]:    
    IN BLOCK OF 4 AS PRINTED

