



Arabian Philatelic Association
c/o Aramco, Box 1929
Dhahran, Saudi Arabia

Random Notes No. 15
February 6, 1981
APA

Dear Member,

Random Notes No. 15 are attached. Comments are welcome, as are any thoughts and discoveries for No. 16. Most of the items herein are from readers and members, so your help is vital.

Also attached:

- Specialized listing of current Saudi Arabian definitives, by Rudy Thoden
- Jeddah Provisionals - Fourth Issue, by Rudy Thoden
- Prices realized for last November's APA Auction.

Once we establish who has paid dues for 1981, I'll put out an address list.

Dues! Dues are once again due, and are once again SR10 per year for local members, or \$5 USA, £2 sterling for those in Europe.

You will notice that your editor is once again in Saudi Arabia. I have gotten installed in a nice one-bedroom house, and time has finally been found for these notes. I have an accumulation, and new issues will be on their way soon-- I am just waiting for another issue or two, due out shortly. My address:

John M. Wilson
c/o Aramco, Box 8641
Dhahran, Saudi Arabia

Keep in touch!

Philatelically yours,

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ARABIAN PHILATELIC ASSOCIATION

February 6, 1981

RANDOM NOTES No. 15

1. In 1980, philately was on the upswing in Saudi Arabia. On May 8, the Saudi philatelic Society held its 1980 Stamp Show and Auction in Riyadh. The news clipping that reported this mentions a film show entitled "The History of Saudi Arabia Through Stamps", and I hope we will get to see this in Dhahran. Congratulations to the gang in Riyadh!

Meanwhile, in Dhahran, the APA held its annual show, APEX-9, at the end of May. Rudy Thoden took the Grand Award for Best in Show for "Jiddah Provisionals, Fourth Issue". A gold award went to Warren Latshaw for "New Orleans Overland Mail 1813-1868." Silver awards went to Richard Fagence for "British Regional Definitives 1958-79", and in the mini-exhibit category to Latshaw for "Early Pony Express Mail" . Several hundred visitors attended this ninth annual show.

2. At SCOPEX in State College, Pennsylvania, the reserve grand award was swept in by our APA member, Lance Limoges, for his exhibit on the stamps and postal history of Saudi Arabia. As some of you may not know, Lance was a professor at the University of Petroleum and Minerals in Dhahran; he is now in the stamp business in State College, being one-half of the firm of Hahn and Limoges. Congratulations, Lance!

3. Rudy Thoden is working on a second edition of his catalog of Saudi Revenue Stamps. The first version was published in the American Revenuer in Jan-Feb 1977, and a reprint was attached to Random Notes No. 9. The second edition will update the Saudi listings, and also include the Hejaz issues and the Turkish issues to raise funds for the Hejaz Railway.

Anyone who has revenue stamps unlisted in the first edition is invited to send them, or send photocopies with pertinent data, to Rudy: Mr. R. J. Thoden, c/o Aramco Box 1802, Dhahran, Saudi Arabia.

4. In the next few months, the APA will issue the first section of the REFERENCE MANUAL OF SAUDI ARABIAN FORGERIES. The manual will contain enlarged illustrations of genuine and forged stamps and overprints, with the distinguishing characteristics described. Rudy Thoden will be editor. Contributors will be Fred Benedict, David Graham, Alex Kaczmarczyk, and Jack Wilson. The Manual will fill an urgent need, as it has been noted that

forgeries are beginning to appear at auctions with increasing frequency.

5. Random Notes No. 12 mentioned a 5pi Tughra stamp in perf. 6. It should be pin-perf $6\frac{1}{2}$, and it is on Tom Wood's paper type 10. The 4pi airmail has shown up with the same perf on the same type paper. Cancels are blurred, but appear to be of Jiddah in 1958. The 3pi Dammam Port with sideways watermark (from the imperf souvenir sheet) also exists with this pin-perf $6\frac{1}{2}$. Perhaps this was a local operation in Jiddah to make use of stamps received there in imperf condition.

6. Rudy Thoden submits some corrected information on the First Saudi Commemorative souvenir sheet. The stamps and sheet were issued June 4, 1979. The printing of the souvenir sheet was 15,000, of which 5,788 were used for presentation purposes, the remaining 9,212 being given to the Philatelic Agency in Riyadh. The sheets were originally sold one to a person to those appearing at the Philatelic Agency only. Two sets of stamps had to be purchased to get one souvenir sheet.

In August, 2,000 of the souvenir sheets were sent from the Philatelic Agency to other post offices in the Kingdom, where they were distributed locally. Quantities were: Dammam 350, Riyadh 400, Jiddah 400, Medina 350, Abha 200, Qasim 100, Al Jauf 100, and Jaizan 100. Through the courtesy of the Director of Posts for the Eastern Province, the APA was able to obtain one sheet for each new issue subscriber of record at the time.

It is reported that the Philatelic Agency later relaxed its policy, and one APA member reports having obtained five sheets by mail.

7. In Random Notes No. 14, I was too lazy to check the date of the Glynn Grylls Sale. It was in March of 1974.

8. International Year of the Child, February 19, 1980. Actually commemorates the Year of the Child, 1979. This issue is being speculated in, and I don't know why. I know of no reason why there should have been a short printing. Jim Sitron wrote in to ask, and others have said the same, and I wish I knew. I notice that all new issues are higher at retail lately.

9. Other new issues:

- Thirty-Fifth Anniversary of the Arab League, 20ha blue, black, and green. The black is sometimes gray, producing a distinct color variation. David Graham says that imperforates exist, and increasingly we are seeing them or hearing of them for modern issues. Issue date: April 27, 1980.
- 50th Anniversary of UNESCO Educational Bureau, 50ha blue, red, and green. The red can be light or dark, just inking variations. Issue date: May 4, 1980. David Graham reports a constant plate flaw, a green line joining two numerals in one of the dates, position 8.
- 80th Anniversary, Armed Forces. King Abdul Aziz Ibn Sa'ud on horseback. 20ha green and brownish yellow, and 80ha green and orange. Again, imperforates have been reported.
- WHO anti-smoking issue. The 20ha has an outline of the human body showing the lungs. The 50ha has a crossed-out cigarette. The legend reads: "smoking or health - the choice is in your hands". The red and blue colors come light and dark. David Graham reports that the set was to have been issued May 20, but the club in Riyadh had sets two weeks in advance.
- A two-stamp set for 20th Anniversary of OPEC. The two values are quite different, one being mostly yellow and green, and the other a deep royal blue.
- A four-stamp set for the recent Islamic Summit Conference. The designs:

20ha blue frame, multicolor design of the
Prophet's Mosque

20ha pink frame, multicolor design of the
Mecca Mosque

20ha black frame, multicolor design of the
Dome of the Rock, Jerusalem

20ha all-black design, showing the seal of the
Conference.

That's right, all four stamps are 20ha denomination.

- We now have two 2-riyal stamps, one with the Khafji design, and one with the Ka'abah design. So far, the only one issued locally has been the Ka'abah, but we are working on obtaining more.

10. We anticipate a set of three stamps plus a souvenir sheet for the Fifteenth Century Hijra. We anticipate even more trouble getting the souvenir sheet this time than we had last time. The authorities issue these things in very limited quantities, creating instant valuable items but doing the ordinary collector out of them altogether.

A set of two stamps is out or due out soon for Industry Week, showing pictures of the stylized version of an industrial complex in chocolate on a circular orange background, framed by silver for the 20ha and gold for the 80ha. The Riyadh gang got early copies, and sent some out on letters to us here, but the issue was then withdrawn for issue later on.

Other issue-to-come items include one for Disabled Persons, a Telecommunications set, and the long-talked-about new definitive set, which as usual is expected to come out a few stamps at a time.

11. I'd like to ask again if anyone has seen the 1916 1/4pi green perf 12x10. Glynn Grylls said that it existed and that he had seen it.

12. Has anyone seen the map stamp, Scott #177c, with crossed-out legends, perf 11? All of ours appear, on checking, to be perf 11½ (close to 11.4). Rudy Thoden is putting together a theory that this map stamp was not a postage stamp.

13. Has anyone seen Scott L48A, the 1/4pi green Coat of Arms, on a legitimate cover? Can anyone show us a King Ali stamp (Scott L160-185) with Cairo control on a legitimate cover?

14. I heard a story recently about the newspaper stamps, Scott P1-3. I reported in Random Notes No. 12 that the Philatelic Foundation of New York has copies of correspondence that casts doubt on the authenticity of these stamps. The recent story is that an old Arab gentleman told a member of the Riyadh Philatelic Society that he once attended a large stamp exhibition in India, and that among the items on display was a wrapper bearing one of the newspaper stamps, apparently properly used. Keep tuned to this station.

15. Prices on Saudi material can only be said to be skyrocketing. Scott's Catalogue Volume 4 shows the Heir Apparent set at \$1200, but sets offered recently have been priced in the \$1500 to \$1800 range. Imperforates of the King Ali postage dues have shown surprising strength lately, and any set of four seems to bring around \$50. The double prints, horizontal overprints, and double overprints bring even more. Sets of just plain old

King Ali, sorted by control type (Cairo or Jiddah) bring many times catalogue, even though individual stamps are quite numerous. Two copies of L12, each with Akaba cancel, made \$60 each in the Riyadh club's sale last May. Modern imperforates are in great demand, with prices approaching \$50 per stamp. One local member reports that he has offered for sale in London auctions the King Khalid "wrong dates" sets (Scott 727a-28a) and has realized 50 pounds per set, about \$120. I could cite even more evidence.

I would like to say that these price rises are not just speculation. We have all watched the prices of British stamps rise and rise, knowing that there was plenty of material around that was being held off the market in hopes of even higher prices. Well, that market broke last year. In 1979, I was paying in London prices reflecting Gibbons Catalogue plus 10%, but in late 1980 I was suddenly paying Gibbons less 40%. In the case of Saudi Arabian material, the prices usually reflect true scarcity--there just isn't much of the better stuff around.

16. Back last April, Pete DeGroot showed Warren Latshaw the 20ha green Khafji definitive without the orange flare and numerals--he paid SR50 for it in Cairo.

17. I am going to attempt a listing here of the stamps bearing the Medina provisional handstamp overprint, Scott 55-58D. I will make the listing without regard to whether the small or large version of the handstamp was used.

1pi blue, locomotive (tax stamp) Scott 55
King Ali 1/2pi carmine rose (black control) Scott 58B
1/8 brown (black Jiddah I control)
1/4pi ultramarine (red Jiddah I control)
1/2p carmine rose (black control) with
handstamp inverted
2pi blue (red? control) with handstamp invtd.
1pi yellow green (black Jiddah I control)
Scott 58C
2pi blue (red Jiddah I control) Scott 58D
Coat of Arms 1 1/2pi violet Scott 56
-I haven't seen the violet handstamp
2pi orange Scott 57
10pi on 5pi olive green Scott 57A

I know that I am missing some, especially this handstamp on Coat of Arms stamps bearing the three-line overprint. Please report to me what you have that is not on this list. The 1pi locomotive is known on cover, sometimes with properly handstamped Nejd issues in combination, and it appears that the handstamp

was a way of converting the tax stamp to a postal requirement. Other denominations may have been made to convert that stamp to a Nejd issue, but it is also possible that other stamps were taken to the counter in Medina for a favor handstamp and did not see postal duty. If King Ali took all Hejaz issues with him when he fled to Jiddah, how did they come to exist in Medina to receive the handstamp? Not having postal validity, the tax stamps may well have been left lying around.

18. I have in front of me a small reprint entitled "A Statistical Summary of Postal Traffic in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia." The listing gives figures for each year, 1972 to 1978. Total pieces of domestic mail increased from 24,557,000 to 55,794,000 in this period, a lot of mail by any standard. Foreign mail rose from 18,256,000 pieces to 61,558,000; this was outgoing, and incoming rose from 26,636,000 to 106,383,000. The number of stamps sold was 20,337,500 in 1972, rising to 74,097,900 in 1978, and one wonders where they all went--there is nothing like that number of used copies floating around, or mint, either. The bulk of these sales, which were definitives only, were in the three big areas, the Western, Central, and Eastern Regions, and were about equally divided among them. As for commemoratives, there were 965,500 sold in 1972, and 2,515,220 in 1978.

In 1978, there were 371 official post offices in the Kingdom, and 46,545 Special Post Boxes.

19. I was in the shop of David Field on Berkeley Street in London late last year, and I mentioned an ad that I had seen advertising that the firm of Roger Koerber had offered a reprint of the Warin book. Oh yes, they told me, they had heard about it. In fact, they still considered that they owned the rights to it, and said that they had asked Koerber to stop doing the reprints. I have been quoting from Warin for years without giving the matter a second's thought, and I promptly told them so. They said that they have no objection to quotes, provided that proper credit is given, and I have always done that, I believe. Len Thawley brought this to my attention.

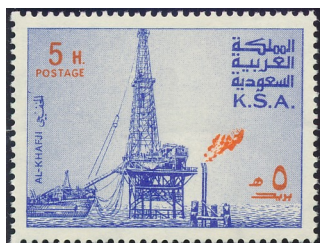
20. David Graham says that the International Year of the Child exists on two different papers. I haven't seen them, and I'll describe them for you when I have.

21. David Graham did a very interesting article on the forgeries of Saudi Arabia in Stamp Collecting last year. Unfortunately, the magazine did a poor job of reproducing the pictures. Any way, David is to be applauded for his efforts.

J.M. Wilson, Editor
6 Feb 1981

SPECIALIZED LISTING OF CURRENT SAUDI ARABIA DEFINITIVES

A. KHAFJI PLATFORM



	PAPER A				PAPER B		PAPER C				
	WMK	WMK	WMK	WMK	WMK	WMK	WMK	WMK	WMK	WMK	
	U	D	R	L	U	D	U	D	R	L	
5H. VIOLET BLUE & ORANGE ('76)	X	X	X	X							
A. MILKY BLUE & ORANGE ('80)	X										
10H. YELLOW GREEN & ORANGE ('76)	X	X					X	X			
A. IMPERF.								X			
15H. YELLOW BROWN & ORANGE ('77)	X	X									
A. PALE YEL. BRN. & ORANGE ('79)							X	X			
B. IMPERF.								X			
20H. DARK GREEN & ORANGE ('77)	X	X					X	X	X	X	
A. IMPERF.								X			
25H. DARK PURPLE & ORANGE ('77)	X	X			X	X	X	X			
A. IMPERF.								X			
30H. BLUE & ORANGE ('77)	X	X		X	X	X					
35H. GRAY BROWN & ORANGE ('78)	X	X									
A. IMPERF.	X										
40H. DARK RED LILAC & ORANGE ('77)	X	X			X	X	X	X			
45H. RED VIOLET & ORANGE ('77)	X	X			X	X					
A. IMPERF.							X				
50H. PALE RED & ORANGE ('77)	X	X					X	X			
A. ARABIC VALUE & FLAME OMITTED							X				
B. ORANGE & ORANGE ('77)	X										
C. PINK & ORANGE ('79)	X										
55H. BLuish GREEN & ORANGE ('77)					X	X					
65H. BROWN & ORANGE ('77)	X	X			X	X	X	X			
A. IMPERF.								X			
1R. GRAY & ORANGE ('77)	X	X			X	X	X	X			
A. IMPERF.								X			
2R. GRAY VIOLET & ORANGE ('80)	X	X									

WATERMARK IS SCOTT'S TYPE 361. WMK "U,D,R,L" REFERS TO THE ORIENTATION OF THE WATERMARK, UP, DOWN, RIGHT, LEFT AS SEEN FROM THE FRONT OF THE STAMP.

ALL VALUES WERE PRINTED IN SHEETS OF 100 (10X10) WITH A VERTICAL GUTTER ONE STAMP WIDE BETWEEN THE 5TH AND 6TH COLUMNS. PRINTER'S INSCRIPTION UNDER THE 91ST AND 96TH STAMPS. UP TO LATE 1979, EACH SHEET HAD PLATE NUMBERS (WESTERN 1 AND 2) IN THE GUTTER BETWEEN THE 5TH AND 6TH STAMPS. LATER PRINTINGS OF THE 10,15,20,25,40,50,65H, AND 1R VALUES (ON PAPER C) HAVE NO PLATE NUMBERS. THE 5H. WAS ALSO PRINTED (IN 1976) IN SHEETS OF 50 (5X10) WITHOUT PRINTER'S INSCRIPTION OR PLATE NUMBER. IN THE INTERIOR OF THESE SHEETS, THE CENTER PERFORATION OF EACH BLOCK OF FOUR IS MISSING. THE SIDEWAYS WATERMARK VARIETIES OF THE 5H. COME FROM THESE SHEETS OF 50.

SOME VALUES EXIST ON MORE THAN ONE KIND OF PAPER. PAPER A IS THICKER AND ROUGHER THAN PAPER B. PAPER B IS SLIGHTLY THINNER AND SMOOTHER THAN PAPER A AND THE DESIGN SHOWS THROUGH SLIGHTLY ON THE BACK. PAPER B WAS NOT USED AFTER 1977. THE 55H. VALUE WAS PRINTED ONLY ON PAPER B AND CAN THUS BE USED AS A BASIS FOR IDENTIFICATION OF THIS PAPER. BOTH PAPERS A AND B ARE LUMINESCENT UNDER ULTRA-VIOLET LIGHT. ON PAPER A, THE LUMINESCENCE VARIES FROM CLEAR BRIGHT TO MOTTLED. PAPER C RESEMBLES PAPER A UNDER ORDINARY LIGHT BUT IS DULL PURPLE BROWN (NON-LUMINESCENT) UNDER ULTRA-VIOLET LIGHT AND THE COLORS OF THE DESIGN ARE QUITE DIFFERENT UNDER THIS LIGHT. PAPER C WAS INTRODUCED IN MID-1979 AND IS BEING USED FOR ALL CURRENT REPRINTINGS.

THE 50H. IN ORANGE IS REPORTED TO BE THE RESULT OF AN ERROR, WHEN INK INTENDED FOR THE ORANGE NUMERALS WAS MIXED WITH THAT USED TO PRINT THE BASIC DESIGN. THIS OCCURRED DURING THE INITIAL PRINTING.

THE SAME BASIC DESIGN PLATE HAS BEEN USED FOR ALL VALUES. POSITION 97 OF THE FIRST PRINTINGS OF THE 30H., 40H. AND 45H. VALUES (ON PAPER B) HAD A LARGE DOT OVER THE ARABIC INSCRIPTION AT TOP RIGHT. THIS DOT WAS RETOUCHEDED ON THE 25H. (ON PAPER B), BUT IS STILL VISIBLE. LATER PRINTINGS OF THE 25H., 30H., 40H. AND 45H. (ON PAPER A) SHOW THE DOT COMPLETELY GONE.

LATE 1979 PRINTINGS OF THE 65H. AND 1R. VALUES (ON PAPER C) HAD A LARGE DOT UNDER THE "K" OF "K.S.A" IN POSITION 10. THIS WAS QUICKLY REMOVED.

SEVERAL VARIETIES EXIST ON THE DENOMINATION PLATE OF THE 50H. VALUE OF THE ORIGINAL PRINTING. POSITION 22 HAS A LARGE DOT BELOW THE FLARE. POSITION 45 HAS A BROKEN ARABIC "5". POSITIONS 44 AND 49 HAVE A SHORT TAIL ON THE ARABIC "HAA" OF "HALALAH". THIS WAS NOTICED ALMOST IMMEDIATELY AND A CRUDE TAIL WAS ADDED BY RETOUCHING. POSITION 84 HAS A SHORT "P" IN THE ENGLISH "POSTAGE". ALL THESE VARIETIES WERE CORRECTED IN A 1979 PRINTING.

POSITION 13 OF THE 35H. VALUE HAS A SHORT "P" IN THE ENGLISH "POSTAGE". THIS WAS CORRECTED IN A 1979 PRINTING.

PRINTINGS OF THE 35H., 50H., 65H. AND 1R. VALUES OF UNKNOWN DATE SHOW TWO VARIETIES: POSITION 7 HAS A DOT IN THE TOP FRAME LINE, AND POSITION 95 HAS A DOT LEFT OF THE FLARE PIPE.

SHADES EXIST OF BOTH THE BASIC DESIGN COLOR AND THE ORANGE VALUE IMPRINT, MOST OF THESE ARE BELIEVED TO BE DUE TO VARIATIONS IN THE AMOUNT OF INK ON THE PLATE. WHERE A STAMP EXISTS ON BOTH PAPERS A AND B, THOSE ON PAPER A HAVE A MORE INTENSE COLOR.

MANY VALUES EXIST WITH IMPERFORATE TOP OR BOTTOM MARGIN AND/OR WITH DOUBLE OR TRIPLE PERFORATIONS IN THE TOP OR BOTTOM ROW OF THE SHEET.

ONE SHEET OF THE 35H. VALUE COMPLETELY IMPERFORATE IS REPORTED TO HAVE BEEN FOUND IN RIYADH. THE ORIGIN OF THE OTHER IMPERFORATES IS UNKNOWN.

IT WAS ORIGINALLY REPORTED UNOFFICIALLY THAT BOTH THE KHAFJI PLATFORM AND THE HOLY KAA'BA SETS WOULD CONSIST OF 25 VALUES, EVERY 5 HALALAHS FROM 5H. TO 95H. AND 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 AND 10 RIYALS.

B. HOLY KA'ABA



	REDRAWN					
	ORIGINAL		PAPER A		PAPER C	
	WMK U	WMK D	WMK U	WMK D	WMK U	WMK D
5H. VIOLET & BLACK ('78)			X	X		
10H. PALE VIOLET BLUE & BLACK. ('78) A. IMPERF.			X	X		X
15H. SALMON & BLACK (O-'76,R-'78) A. IMPERF.	X	X	X	X	X	X
20H. LIGHT BLUE & BLACK (O-'77,R-'79) A. IMPERF. B. BLUISH GREEN & BLACK ('80)	X	X	X	X	X	X
25H. YELLOW & BLACK ('78) (LGT. BROWN UNDER UV LIGHT) A. IMPERF. B. FLUORESCES ORANGE ('79)			X	X		X
30H. GRAY GREEN & BLACK ('78) A. IMPERF.			X	X	X	X
35H. PALE BROWN & BLACK ('78) A. IMPERF.			X	X	X	X
40H. LIGHT GREEN & BLACK (O-'77,R-'78) (LGT. BROWN UNDER UV LIGHT) A. IMPERF. B. FLUORESCES YELLOW ('79) C. AS B, IMPERF.	X	X	X	X	X	X
45H. VIOLET BROWN & BLACK ('78)			X	X		
50H. PINK & BLACK ('78) A. IMPERF.			X	X	X	X
65H. ULTRAMARINE & BLACK ('79) A. IMPERF.			X	X	X	X
1R. OLIVE & BLACK ('78) (LGT. BROWN UNDER UV LIGHT) A. FLUORESCES YELLOW ('80) B. AS A, IMPERF.			X	X	X	X
2R. BLUISH GREEN & BLACK ('79)			X	X		

ALL VALUES WERE PRINTED IN SHEETS OF 100 (10X10) WITH A VERTICAL GUTTER BETWEEN THE 5TH AND 6TH COLUMNS. PRINTER'S INSCRIPTION UNDER THE 91ST AND 96TH STAMPS. NO PLATE NUMBERS.

THE REDRAWN TYPE HAS THE CENTRAL DESIGN VERY SLIGHTLY LARGER AND STRENGTHENED TO MAKE IT DARKER AND CLEARER. THE DIFFERENCE IS MOST NOTICEABLE IN THE TWO MINARETS. THERE ARE ALSO SMALL DIFFERENCES IN THE RELATIVE POSITIONS OF THE WESTERN AND ARABIC NUMERALS AND "H".

THE 15H. AND 40H. ORIGINAL TYPES ARE ON PAPER B. THE 20H. ORIGINAL IS ON PAPER A. REFER TO "KHAFJI PLATFORM" FOR PAPER DESCRIPTIONS.

THE REDRAWN 15H. HAS THREE CONSTANT VARIETIES. ON STAMP 47, THERE ARE 3 DOTS INSTEAD OF 2 ABOVE THE TAA MARBUTAH OF MAMLAKAH. ON STAMP 50, THERE ARE 3 DOTS INSTEAD OF 2 ABOVE THE TAA MARBUTAH OF HUKUMAH. ON STAMP 65, THERE IS A COMMA BETWEEN THE WESTERN "1" AND "5". ALL THESE WERE CORRECTED IN A 1980 PRINTING (ON PAPER C).

THE IMPERFORATE 40H. STAMPS (ON PAPER A) WERE PURCHASED BY THE A.P.A. NEW ISSUE SERVICE FROM THE POST OFFICE AND DISTRIBUTED TO SUBSCRIBERS. THE ORIGIN OF THE OTHER IMPERFORATES IS UNKNOWN.

MANY VALUES EXIST WITH IMPERFORATE TOP OR BOTTOM MARGIN AND/OR WITH DOUBLE OR TRIPLE PERFORATIONS IN THE TOP OR BOTTOM ROW OF THE SHEET.

MANY SHADES EXIST. MOST OF THESE ARE BELIEVED TO BE DUE TO VARIATIONS IN THE AMOUNT OF INK ON THE PLATE, RATHER THAN TO DIFFERENT INKS BEING USED.

C. QUBA MOSQUE



	WMK U	WMK D	WMK R	WMK L
20H. ORANGE & GRAY ('76)	X	X	X	X
A. RED ORANGE & GREENISH GRAY ('78)	X	X		
50H. GREEN & VIOLET ('76)	X	X	X	*
A. IMPERF.		X		(REPORTED, NOT SEEN)
B. BRIGHT GREEN & REDDISH VIOLET ('78)	X	X		

BOTH VALUES WERE PRINTED IN SHEETS OF 100 (10X10) WITH A VERTICAL GUTTER BETWEEN THE 5TH AND 6TH ROWS. PRINTER'S INSCRIPTION UNDER THE 91ST AND 96TH STAMPS. PLATE NUMBERS (ARABIC 1 AND 2) IN THE GUTTER BETWEEN THE 5TH AND 6TH STAMPS. THE 1978 PRINTINGS HAVE NO PLATE NUMBERS. THE 50H. WAS ALSO PRINTED IN SHEETS OF 50 (5X10) WITH PRINTER'S INSCRIPTIONS AND PLATE NUMBERS. IN THE INTERIOR OF THESE SHEETS, THE CENTER PERFORATION OF EACH BLOCK OF FOUR IS MISSING.

ALL STAMPS ARE ON PAPER A.

THE COLORS OF THE 1978 REPRINTS VARY FROM LIGHT TO DARK. THIS IS BELIEVED TO BE DUE TO VARIATIONS IN THE AMOUNT OF INK ON THE PLATE. RATHER THAN TO DIFFERENT INKS BEING USED.

ONLY ONE USED PAIR (WITH A BLURRED CANCEL, POSSIBLY OF DAMMAM) IS KNOWN THUS FAR OF THE 50H. IMPERFORATE.

READERS WHO HAVE OTHER VARIETIES ARE INVITED TO REPORT THEM TO THE AUTHOR SO THEY MAY BE INCLUDED IN THE NEXT EDITION OF THIS LISTING.

R. J. THODEN. ARABIAN PHILATELIC ASSOCIATION, DECEMBER 1980.
PUBLICATION ELSEWHERE WITHOUT PERMISSION IS PROHIBITED.

JEDDAH PROVISIONALS - FOURTH ISSUE

BY R. J. THODEN

BY MARCH-APRIL 1925, SUPPLIES OF CERTAIN DENOMINATIONS OF THE FIRST THREE ISSUES OF JEDDAH PROVISIONALS WERE EXHAUSTED, AS WERE THE POSTAGE DUES. AVAILABLE VALUES OF THE 1922-24 DEFINITIVES WERE THEREFORE SURCHARGED IN VERY SMALL LETTERS WITH THE USUAL INSCRIPTION "AL HUKUMAT AL HEJAZIAH / 5 RABI' AL AWWAL 1343" AND A NEW VALUE FOR THE POSTAGE SET. THE POSTAGE DUE ISSUE WAS THE SAME EXCEPT THAT "MUSTAHIQ" REPLACED THE NEW VALUE IN THE THIRD LINE.

IT WAS QUICKLY REALIZED THAT THE SURCHARGE (EXPRESSED IN WORDS ONLY FOR THE POSTAGE SET) WAS SO SMALL AS TO BE ILLEGIBLE. TO CORRECT THIS PROBLEM, THE BULK OF THE ISSUE WAS HANDSTAMPED IN LARGER LETTERS WITH THE SAME NEW VALUE AS ORIGINALLY SURCHARGED. THE POSTAGE DUES WERE HANDSTAMPED WITH A LARGE "MUSTAHIQ" IN A BOX.

THE NORMAL POSITION OF THE HANDSTAMP WAS BELOW THE ORIGINAL OVERPRINT/SURCHARGE, BUT MANY VARIETIES EXIST.

WHEN HANDSTAMPING THE ALREADY SURCHARGED STAMPS, THE WRONG HANDSTAMP WAS OCCASIONALLY USED. THIS PRODUCED STAMPS ON WHICH THE HANDSTAMPED DENOMINATION DID NOT AGREE WITH THE ORIGINALLY SURCHARGED VALUE.

A.P.A. MEMBER F.E. PATTERSON PREPARED A LISTING OF THIS ISSUE IN 1968, AND FORMER A.P.A. MEMBER T. RIGHTER DID ONE IN 1972. SCOTT'S CATALOG (L135-141, LJ26-34) IGNORES THE VARIETIES COMPLETELY, EXCEPT FOR THE FIRST PRINTING WITHOUT HANDSTAMP. GIBBONS (148-D171) LISTS THE VARIETIES OF THE ORIGINAL OVERPRINT/SURCHARGE, BUT NOT OF THE HANDSTAMP. MAYO (207-T250) LISTS AN ENORMOUS NUMBER OF VARIETIES.

IN RECENT YEARS HOWEVER, THE A.P.A. HAS BECOME AWARE OF THE PREVALENCE OF FORGERIES OF THIS ISSUE. THUS THERE HAS BEEN CONSIDERABLE DOUBT AS TO JUST WHICH VARIETIES EXIST AS GENUINE STAMPS.

IN AN ATTEMPT TO ANSWER THIS QUESTION, THE AUTHOR CAREFULLY EXAMINED MAYO'S COLLECTION OF THIS ISSUE AT THE MARCH 1980 AUCTION IN NEW YORK. THE ATTACHED LISTING IS THE RESULT OF THAT EXAMINATION, TOGETHER WITH THE VARIETIES IN HIS OWN COLLECTION, AND THOSE OF CERTAIN OTHER A.P.A. MEMBERS.

THE LISTING USES AN IDENTIFICATION SYSTEM CONSISTING OF TWO LETTERS TO DENOTE FIRST, VARIETIES OF THE OVERPRINT/SURCHARGE, AND SECOND, THE VARIETIES OF THE HANDSTAMP. VARIETIES WITHOUT HANDSTAMP HAVE A SINGLE IDENTIFYING LETTER ONLY. FOR EXAMPLE:

B = INVERTED OVERPRINT/SURCHARGE, NO HANDSTAMP.
AF = NORMAL OVERPRINT/SURCHARGE, INVERTED HANDSTAMP.
EH = DOUBLE OVERPRINT/SURCHARGE BOTH INVERTED, INVERTED VIOLET
HANDSTAMP AT TOP.

THE COMPLETE SET OF VARIETY IDENTIFICATION LETTERS IS AS FOLLOWS:

OVERPRINT/SURCHARGE VARIETIES

A = NORMAL
B = INVERTED
C = DOUBLE
D = DOUBLE, ONE INVERTED
E = DOUBLE, BOTH INVERTED
F = DOUBLE, ONE UP
G = DOUBLE, ONE DOWN
H = TRIPLE, ONE UP, ONE DOWN
I = TRIPLE, ONE INVERTED
J = TRIPLE, ALL INVERTED
K = SURCHARGE ON BOTH SIDES
L = SURCH, BOTH SIDES, INVTD. ON BACK
M = DOUBLE ON FRONT, INVTD. ON BACK
N = NORMAL ON FRONT, DOUBLE ON BACK
O = DIAGONAL
P = DOUBLE, ONE DIAGONAL
Q = DOUBLE ON FRONT, ONE DIAGONAL,
INVERTED ON BACK
R = DOUBLE ON FRONT, ONE DIAGONAL,
DBL. INVTD. ON BACK, ONE DIAGONAL
S = OMITTED

HANDSTAMP VARIETIES

A = NORMAL
B = PAIR, ONE WITH HANDSTAMP OMITTED
C = AT TOP
D = VIOLET OR BLUISH
E = VIOLET AT TOP
F = INVERTED
G = INVERTED AT TOP
H = INVERTED VIOLET AT TOP
I = DOUBLE
J = DOUBLE, ONE AT TOP
K = DOUBLE, BOTH AT TOP
L = DOUBLE VIOLET
M = DOUBLE VIOLET AT TOP
N = DOUBLE, ONE INVERTED
O = DOUBLE, ONE INVERTED AT TOP
P = DOUBLE VIOLET, ONE INVERTED
Q = DBL. VIOLET, ONE INVTD. AT TOP
R = DOUBLE, BOTH INVERTED
S = DOUBLE, BOTH INVERTED AT TOP
T = DBL. VIOLET, BOTH INVTD. AT TOP
U = TRIPLE
V = TRIPLE ONE AT TOP
W = TRIPLE, ONE INVERTED AT TOP
X = HANDSTAMPED ON BOTH SIDES

IN THE DETAILED LISTING FOLLOWING, STAMPS ARE IDENTIFIED AS FOLLOWS:

X = VERIFIED TO EXIST GENUINE.
F = SEEN ONLY AS A FORGERY.
? = LISTED IN MAYO OR GIBBONS, OR BY PATTERSON OR RIGHTER,
BUT NEVER SEEN BY THE AUTHOR.

THE AUTHOR WOULD LIKE TO HEAR FROM READERS WHO CAN REPORT OTHER VARIETIES,
ESPECIALLY VARIETIES THAT THEY CAN VERIFY AS GENUINE, BUT WHICH ARE LISTED
HEREIN ONLY AS "F" OR "?".

FIRST PRINTING - NO HANDSTAMP

<u>POSTAGE</u>	<u>A</u>	<u>B</u>	<u>C</u>	<u>D</u>	<u>E</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>G</u>	<u>H</u>	<u>I</u>	<u>J</u>	<u>K</u>	<u>L</u>	<u>M</u>
1/4Q ON 1/8Q RED BROWN	X	X	X	F	X						?	?	
A. ORANGE BRN													
1/4Q ON 1/2Q SCARLET	X	F	X	X		?			?		?		
A. DEEP ROSE	F	F											
1Q ON 2Q ORANGE	X	F	X	F									
1Q ON 3Q BROWN	X	F											
1Q ON 3Q BROWN RED	X	X	F	F									
10Q ON 5Q OLIVE	X	F											

ERRORS

1/4Q ON 2Q ORANGE	?
1Q ON 1/2Q SCARLET	? ?

<u>POSTAGE DUE</u>	<u>A</u>	<u>B</u>	<u>C</u>	<u>D</u>	<u>E</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>G</u>	<u>H</u>	<u>I</u>	<u>J</u>	<u>K</u>	<u>L</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>P</u>	<u>R</u>
1/8Q RED BROWN	X	F	?	F				X							
A. ORANGE BROWN															
1/2Q SCARLET	X	X	?			X		X							
A. DEEP ROSE	F														
1Q DARK BLUE	X	X													
1-1/2Q VIOLET	X	X													
2Q ORANGE	X	X	?	X		X									
3Q BROWN	X	F													
3Q BROWN RED	X	X	?	F		X	X	X							
5Q OLIVE	X	X		?		?									
10Q VIOLET & BROWN	X	F	X	F	F								F	F	F

SECOND PRINTING - WITH HANDSTAMP

<u>POSTAGE</u>				<u>AA</u>	<u>AB</u>	<u>AC</u>	<u>AD</u>	<u>AE</u>	<u>AF</u>	<u>AG</u>	<u>AH</u>	<u>AI</u>	<u>AJ</u>	<u>AK</u>	<u>AL</u>	<u>AM</u>		
1/4Q	ON	1/4Q	ON	1/8Q	RED BROWN	X	X		X	X		X	X					
				A.	ORANGE BRN	X												
1/4Q	ON	1/4Q	ON	1/2Q	SCARLET	X	X	X	X	?	X	X	X	?	X	X		
				Z.	IMPF RT MGN	X												
				A.	DEEP ROSE	X						?						
1Q	ON	1Q	ON	2Q	ORANGE	X	X		X		X	X			F			
1Q	ON	1Q	ON	3Q	BROWN	X	X		X	X		X			F			
1Q	ON	1Q	ON	3Q	BROWN RED	X	X	X	X		X							
10Q	ON	10Q	ON	5Q	OLIVE	X	X	X	X		X				F			
						<u>AN</u>	<u>AO</u>	<u>AP</u>	<u>AQ</u>	<u>AR</u>	<u>AS</u>	<u>AT</u>	<u>AU</u>	<u>AV</u>	<u>AW</u>	<u>AX</u>	<u>BA</u>	<u>BF</u>
1/4Q	ON	1/4Q	ON	1/8Q	RED BROWN	?	?			X			?	?		?		
				A.	ORANGE BRN													
1/4Q	ON	1/4Q	ON	1/2Q	SCARLET	?												
				A.	DEEP ROSE													
1Q	ON	1Q	ON	2Q	ORANGE	?		X										
1Q	ON	1Q	ON	3Q	BROWN	?	?	X	X									
1Q	ON	1Q	ON	3Q	BROWN RED	?		X								X	X	
10Q	ON	10Q	ON	5Q	OLIVE	X		X				F			F			
						<u>BG</u>	<u>BH</u>	<u>BS</u>	<u>BT</u>	<u>CA</u>	<u>CB</u>	<u>DA</u>	<u>DG</u>	<u>ED</u>	<u>EF</u>	<u>EG</u>	<u>EH</u>	<u>JG</u>
1/4Q	ON	1/4Q	ON	1/8Q	RED BROWN	X	?	X				F				?	X	?
				A.	ORANGE BRN													
1/4Q	ON	1/4Q	ON	1/2Q	SCARLET	X		?		X					?			
				A.	DEEP ROSE	X												
1Q	ON	1Q	ON	2Q	ORANGE	X				X	?	F						
1Q	ON	1Q	ON	3Q	BROWN	X						X						
1Q	ON	1Q	ON	3Q	BROWN RED	X		F		X		F						
10Q	ON	10Q	ON	5Q	OLIVE	X		X	?				X	?	?			
						<u>KA</u>	<u>KD</u>	<u>LA</u>	<u>LD</u>	<u>LI</u>	<u>SA</u>	<u>SF</u>	<u>SI</u>					
1/4Q	ON	1/4Q	ON	1/8Q	RED BROWN			X	X	?								
				A.	ORANGE BRN													
1/4Q	ON	1/4Q	ON	1/2Q	SCARLET	X	X											
				A.	DEEP ROSE													
1Q	ON	1Q	ON	2Q	ORANGE							F						
1Q	ON	1Q	ON	3Q	BROWN													
1Q	ON	1Q	ON	3Q	BROWN RED													
10Q	ON	10Q	ON	5Q	OLIVE						F		F					

SECOND PRINTING - WITH HANDSTAMP

POSTAGE

HANDSTAMP ERRORS

AA AD AF AI AL BG

1/4Q ON 1/4Q ON 2Q ORANGE	?	?				
1/4Q ON 1Q ON 1/8Q RED BROWN (WITH 1/4Q SURCH. ON BACK)						F
1/4Q ON 1Q ON 1/2Q SCARLET	?					?
1/4Q ON 1Q ON 2Q ORANGE	X					
1/4Q ON 1Q ON 3Q BROWN	?					
1/4Q ON 1Q ON 3Q BROWN RED	X					
1/4Q ON 10Q ON 5Q OLIVE	?					
1Q ON 1/4Q ON 1/8Q RED BROWN	?	?	X			
1Q ON 1/4Q ON 1/2Q SCARLET	X			?	X	?
A. DEEP ROSE	F					?
1Q ON 1/4Q ON 2Q ORANGE	?			?		?
1Q ON 10Q ON 5Q OLIVE	X					
10Q ON 1Q ON 2Q ORANGE	X					
10Q ON 5Q POSTAGE DUE OLIVE	?					

