



Arabian Philatelic Association

c/o Aramco, Box 1929
Dhahran, Saudi Arabia

RANDOM NOTES NO. 17
FALL 1981

Dear Member,

Herewith the Fall 1981 Random Notes. In addition to the Notes themselves, we have a fine and provocative article by Mr. R. J. Thoden, entitled: "Saudi Arabia's 1946 Map Stamp". In it, Mr. Thoden propounds the theory that this was not a postage stamp at all, but rather some sort of postal tax stamp. Your comments are invited, and are in fact needed, I think, if we are to discover the truth.

We have brought up to date the tentative listing of imperforates, etc., included with the last Random Notes, and this is also attached. Further, there is a catch-all listing, woefully incomplete, of first-day covers and official brochures from the Editor's collection. This listing gives what data were available for quantities issued, dates of issue, and the like. Lots more could be done in this area. Please report what first-day covers you have that are not listed here.

The auction promises to be a big one again. It will be held November 19 in the Dhahran Auditorium beginning at 12:00 noon. The catalogue is now available, and you should write Rudy Thoden for your copy:

R. J. Thoden
c/o Aramco, Box 1802
Dhahran, Saudi Arabia

The catalogue will not be distributed automatically - you must request it.

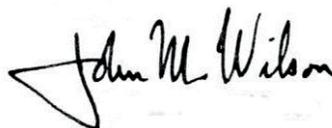
Those attending the sale will be allowed to bid only if they have submitted written bids in advance. The purpose is to provide realistic starting bids and save time. This continues the practice of previous auctions. A wide variety of material is available, from the more common modern commemoratives to the great rarities. A few items are worthy of mention. Up front are three covers and two post cards bearing Turkish stamps cancelled in Saudi Arabia. The very difficult L22,23 are present. Many varieties of the two-line Jiddah overprint are in the Sale, and they include L61, the rare gold on roulette 20, never offered before in an APA Auction. L66B is offered as a block of four, which can be split if the bidders prefer. There is a Colonial Photo Stores Cover. There are two copies of the Medina Provisional, Scott 55 • There is a used copy of the difficult lpi Dam, Faisal, watermarked (431). And much, much more!

We anticipate the publication, some time before the end of this year, of a printed album for Saudi Arabian stamps. This will be a deluxe edition with pictures of the stamps in full color. We have nothing yet on price. We'll keep you informed.

Ah, yes, the book, again. It now seems that it will be out in November. The price has been continued at the pre-publication price of \$17, but to this must be added \$1.50 for postage. Those of you who have already placed orders should send me another \$1.50--sorry about that. Some of you, who ordered after August 1, were charged \$20--you will get back the difference between \$18.50 and your \$20. Thank you all for your patience.

No adlets? The offer is still open.

Philatelically yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John M. Wilson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "J".

John M. Wilson
Editor

1 October 1981

ARABIAN PHILATELIC ASSOCIATION
FALL, 1981

RANDOM NOTES NO. 17

1. The new book, "The Hejaz - A History in Stamps" has been delayed. The publisher now tells me that November 1st is the target.
2. We are reviewing a draft of Tom Wood's paper on the Tughra, Airmail, and Hospital Tax stamps. A very thorough piece of work. Tom is now forecasting mid-October as a date for final distribution. We will try to send it to you with the year-end Random Notes, if not in October.
3. Frank Patterson sent along some extracts from "Gibbons Stamp Monthly", and I have copied them here for you.

8/1925 It has been reported that the King Ali stamps have been placed on sale without overprint but an official Government statement says that such items will not be recognized.

5/1932 The new 1/8g yellow (Sc. 130), issued in March, has been temporarily withdrawn since large stocks of the 1926-27 1/8g (Sc. 107) are still available. The new rate of 2-1/4g for foreign postage will require a new value.

8/1932 5000 of the new 1/2g stamps (Sc. 136) were printed, of which 2000 were sent to Mecca. A reprinting will be made of the 1-3/4g value (Sc. 133) to replenish stock.

9/1932 A new 2-1/4g denomination (Sc. 137) has been issued.

11/1933 The foreign letter rate has been raised from 2-1/2g to 3-1/2g.

2/1934 The Ministry of Finance has authorized the local postmasters to use the 1927 Postage Dues as 1/2pi postage stamps when same are not available. A Postage Due stamp so used is reported seen on a cover posted from Mecca, postmarked 12/18/33.

The Heir Apparent set was reported as being issued in January and to remain in use until 1 April 1934.

4/1934 Only 4000 complete sets of the Heir Apparent set were printed, equally divided between perforate and imperf. The total quantities were:

1/4g	100,000	10g	10,000
1/2g	100,000	20g	10,000
1-1/2g	50,000	30g	10,000
3g	30,000	1/4s	8,000
3-1/2g	20,000	1/2s	6,000
5g	15,000	1sov	4,000

6/1934 The PTT advised that the Heir Apparent stamps would be kept on sale until 30 June.

4. Frank also sent along some unlisted items. From the 1925 L135-141 series, the 1pi on 1/4pi on 1/8pi red with handstamp inverted at the bottom. Also, a copy of L34, the 1/2pi red Coat of Arms with the Medina Provisional Overprint, bearing the usual octagonal Medina postmark. Finally, a most interesting copy of 128, the 3-1/2g green from the 1930 commemorative set, perf 11½x11½x11½x11, the perf 11 being at the left.

5. The dealer, Robert E. Hudson, PO Box 15258, Sarasota, Florida 33579, sent out a price list in July with some very high prices in it. A few examples will serve to give you the idea:

Scott	64-68	Jedda Issue	\$ 500.00
	107-14	1927 overprints	150.00
	117-20	1929-30 defins	225.00
	138-49	Heir Apparent (minute gum thins)	1800.00
	173-6	Radwa	100.00
	645-7	100th Ann'y UPU	75.00
	648-9	Int'l Book Yr	35.00
	656-58	UPU Headquarters	37.50

Prices around here are a good deal less, but prices in Riyadh may sometimes approach these levels. We generally find ourselves behind the market!

6. The Nejdīs overprinted all Hejaz stamps that they could find, including unissued stamps and fiscals, but not any of the 1917 and 1921 postage dues, which are still fairly common today. How come? Asked by Frank Patterson. I confess I don't understand this myself.

7. The basic background plate for the al-Khafji definitives has been retouched. There was a very short diagonal stroke attached to the left vertical margin, just above the wording at left, and this has been taken out, leaving a tiny white spot. Also, an extra dot above this same wording has been removed. On the original plate, in the second stamp above the marginal inscription, there was a white dot in the "S" of "K.S.A.", and this is gone from the new plate. Finally, the inscriptions are moved over to the bottom right from the bottom left.

8. More on the subject of prices. These are from a recent Earl P. L. Apfelbaum price list:

618	3pi value from the Steel Rolling Mill set	\$10.00
691, 694-7	Ka'abah defins, 5ha, 20-35ha	20.00
LJ37		120.00

The rest of the list appears to contain many errors.

9. I asked Abdul Aziz Said about recent first day covers, and he advises that none were prepared for the 1981 issues so far, except that for the Islamic Summit Conference in Taif a special handstamp was made to cancel the stamps on covers sent from the temporary post office in the hotel in Taif. The President of the Philatelic Society, Riyadh, requested 50 FDCs to be sent to Riyadh for the members, each of whom got one cover. Nothing was sold in the post offices or the Philatelic Bureau. The date of issue does not appear in the handstamp. A similar handstamp was made but inscribed "postage paid" for covers mailed without stamps.

10. We are totally flabbergasted here by the extremely high prices being quoted for quite recent commemoratives. We do note that when these issues appear at the post offices, they are soon used up, both for mail and by collectors. It may be that the distribution overseas to new issue dealers has somehow broken down, and that nobody has stocked these stamps. We just don't know. We didn't have any difficulty here getting most of them. The last few issues, however, were very quickly sold out, and usually it is the 20ha denomination that goes first to meet postage requirements-- this is the internal airmail rate, and the airmail rate to certain Arab countries. Can anybody offer an opinion on this subject? We are all ears! Incidentally, when we say "quickly sold out", we mean in a few days.

11. In recent years, each new commemorative issue has been accompanied by a small brochure giving details about the issue plus a picture of one of the stamps. Which details are given varies slightly from one set to another, and the date of issue is often missing. The quantity issued is almost always given. I have taken the information from those brochures in my possession, plus dates of issue taken from first day covers, and put it together in a table, attached to these Notes.

12. John Nicosia wrote recently asking, as others of you have, whether we could reprint all the back Random Notes. We agreed among ourselves early this year to look into this, and the results were somewhat discouraging. Much of the information has been changed by later editions; many of the attachments would not copy well; several editions were done by the "ditto" process, which results in a weak and now fading ink; one set of notes was done on a longer paper than the rest, and so on. We now don't think that we will try to do all of this. I'll undertake to go back through the older Notes and repeat any important items for you. All the information on forgeries, etc., will be brought forward into the Forgeries Manual, much updated.

13. I recently wrote to the American Philatelic Society asking about protection against theft of stamps, and Mrs. Maryette B. Lane wrote back and sent me a nice two-page article on the subject, which appears to be a standard APS handout. I would like to condense this for you into a few short paragraphs.

The bad news: there is no magic formula, no easy way, to keep our stamps from being stolen. There are some things the collector should do,

and the first is to obtain insurance. The best policy is that available through the APS itself. You must be sure that you have a complete record of what you own, and the best method is photostating or microfilming the collection pages. Don't keep your inventory or your pictures with the collection.

Second, identify your stamps. Your name and address should be applied, preferably by rubber stamps, to each album page, each stock card, each box, each container. The more places, hidden or not, where it can be applied, the better. This simple protective measure provides incriminating evidence that thieves prefer to avoid. Theft victims frequently report that "they took everything except the covers bearing my name."

Safes are discussed, but even the best safe can be opened by the collector himself at gunpoint. Many times, houses are structurally damaged by thieves ripping out a wall safe. A safe deposit box is good protection, but then the stamps are not easily accessible. Don't leave your stamps in your house during vacation.

14. From an-Nadwah No. 6815, Aug 6, 1981, and other newspapers: Royal approval has been given for Saudi Arabia's participation in the celebrations of World Food Day on October 16. The Ministry of Water and Agriculture will issue special stamps on the occasion and organize agricultural exhibits throughout the Kingdom.

15. A correction to Random Notes No. 16. In Paragraph 6, we referred to Scott "105a"; we meant "L105a", the Hejaz item. I hope this didn't cause any confusion. Fred Benedict spotted it right away.

16. A few prices (estimates) from Mail Sale No. 6, International Stamp Dealers, England.

<u>Lot No</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Price Estimate</u>
420	S.G.331. 1934-37 issue ½g carminc imperf pair	£Stg 100
421	Colour trial of 1960-61 Convair 440 issue, imperf un/m marginal block of four in grey-green	200
422	S.G.431 above issue 4p un/m vertical pair with mis-perforations	150
423	S.G.433 above issue 6p un/m vertical pair with mis-perforations	150
424	Four colour trials in blue/turquoise, red/blue, green/grey, and purple/rose of 1963 Islamic Institute on unissued value of 6p	375
425	S.G.459-61 1963 Freedom from Hunger, un/m imperf set	200
426	Five colour trials of 1963 Opening of Dhahran Airport on unissued value 3p	500

17. Quantities printed of Saudi Arabian Commemorative stamps are not very large. The usual set recently has had a printing of about 400,000 sets. In fact, for the last 20 years or so, only a few issues have been relatively large. Best known would be the World Refugee Year set of 1960; I don't have the amount at hand, but extra quantities were printed and sold to benefit the Palestine Refugees. My understanding based on talks with the stamp trade is that many of these were sold below face value. At any rate, they are pretty easy to find nowadays, and Scott Catalogue value of \$3 for a set is much too high, in my opinion. I have bundles of extra sets. The next exception to the rule of limited printings would be the low values from the King Faisal set:

Scott 671	4pi	1,500,000	
672	16pi	1,000,000	
673	23pi	500,000	-- or, only this many complete sets.

Only 5,000 of the souvenir sheets and first day covers were prepared. There were three sets in 1978 and 1979 that had printings of 800,000 sets:

769-70	Taif-Abha-Jaizan Road
771-2	1978 Hajj
775-7	50th Anniversary of the First Commemorative Stamp

There were only 300,000 sets of Scott 767-8, 25th Anniversary of the Arab Postal Union.

Scott 786-7, International Year of the Child, was printed in the usual quantity of 400,000, but there were heavy rains in Riyadh that caused flooding of the Government Security Press, and only 280,000 20ha and 300,000 50ha were released for sale. Stories of a smaller printing are apparently not true. (Thanks to Dr. Elias Kawar for this information, printed in Linn's Stamp News.)

A lot of stamps inside the Kingdom are used up as postage, and probably only a small portion of the commemorative printings find their way into the hands of collectors.

18. In the last Random Notes, we spoke of the 40ha printed by error in the color of the 25ha, al-Khafji definitive. It is said that only 50 copies exist. Seems as though there ought to be more--check your used copies and see if some don't turn up.

19. I passed my ultra-violet lamp over my stock book pages the other day, and noticed that practically all of the 1960 commemoratives on unwater-marked paper show up dark brown in this light. However, one gleaming patch of white met my eye, and it was a used copy of Scott 210, the 10pi value from the World Refugee Year Issue of 1960. A quick check of duplicates, and I have a large quantity, did not turn up another. Please check yours, if you can, and see whether a mint copy can be found--there is always the suspicion with used copies that the fluorescence was soaked off something else and into the paper of the used stamp.

20. We have received the following new issues since the previous Random Notes:

World Football Cup - 20, 80ha

-A circular design in the center contains inscriptions. There is an insert showing the Riyadh water tower superimposed on a football.

International Year of the Disabled - 20, 50ha

-20ha: a blind man reading a book in Braille

-50ha: a man in a wheelchair weaving on a vertical hand loom

Third Five-Year Plan - 20ha

-The symbols for the plan at one side radiate colors showing the year-by-year levels to be achieved.

50th Anniversary, Proclamation of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia -

5, 10, 15, 20, 50, 65, 80 and 115ha (eight stamps)

souvenir sheet - 10 Saudi Riyals

-Each stamp shows an outline map of Saudi Arabia, on which appears the head of the old King, Abdul Aziz, better known to westerners as Ibn Saud, the founder of the Kingdom. The souvenir sheet shows the same design plus a scroll with the proclamation.

Arabian Philatelic Association

John M. Wilson, Editor

1 October 1981

QUANTITIES PRINTED AND
DATES OP ISSUE

The data in this list are taken from the brochures provided by the Ministry of Telegraphs, Posts, and Telephones for some of the issues, plus dates taken from first day covers. The list will also serve as a provisional check list for first day covers, which exist according to my own collection. I would like to hear from you about others that you have.

<u>Scott Cat No</u>	<u>Issue</u>	<u>Date of Issue</u>	<u>Quantity Printed</u>	<u>FDC</u>
204	Arab League Center	22 March 1960	-	Djeddah* Jeddah
201-3	APU Congress -comes after the Arab League Center, but listed by Scott in the wrong order	11 April 1960	-	Barid Mu'tamar ar-Riyadh*
205-07	First International Radio Station	4 June 1960	-	Mina
208-10	World Refugee Year Souvenir cards also exist, cancelled Djeddah. All covers and cards also bear a special fancy cancel, and some bear only the fancy cancel. I also have one cancelled on the second day.	30 October 1960		Djeddah Mecque Mecque "R"
240-2	Dammam Port -A fancy cancellation was also applied. Covers are said to exist with the miniature sheets.	16 August 1961		Port Dammam
246-8	Arab League Week	22 April 1962		Riyadh FC
249-51	Eradication of Malaria -FDCs exist with the souvenir sheet-mine is cancelled Jeddah, and another Riyadh. I have two different cachets for the bogus airmail overprints bearing the legitimate Riyadh fancy cancel	7 May 1962		Jeddah FC Riyadh FC
252-4	Islamic Institute -Date of cancel differs from date of issue given in Scott.	10 March 1963		Medina FC
287-9	Freedom from Hunger -I have a cover with two copies of the 2½pi bearing the fancy cancel, mailed to Jannin, Jordan properly backstamped.	21 March 1963		FC-no city name*

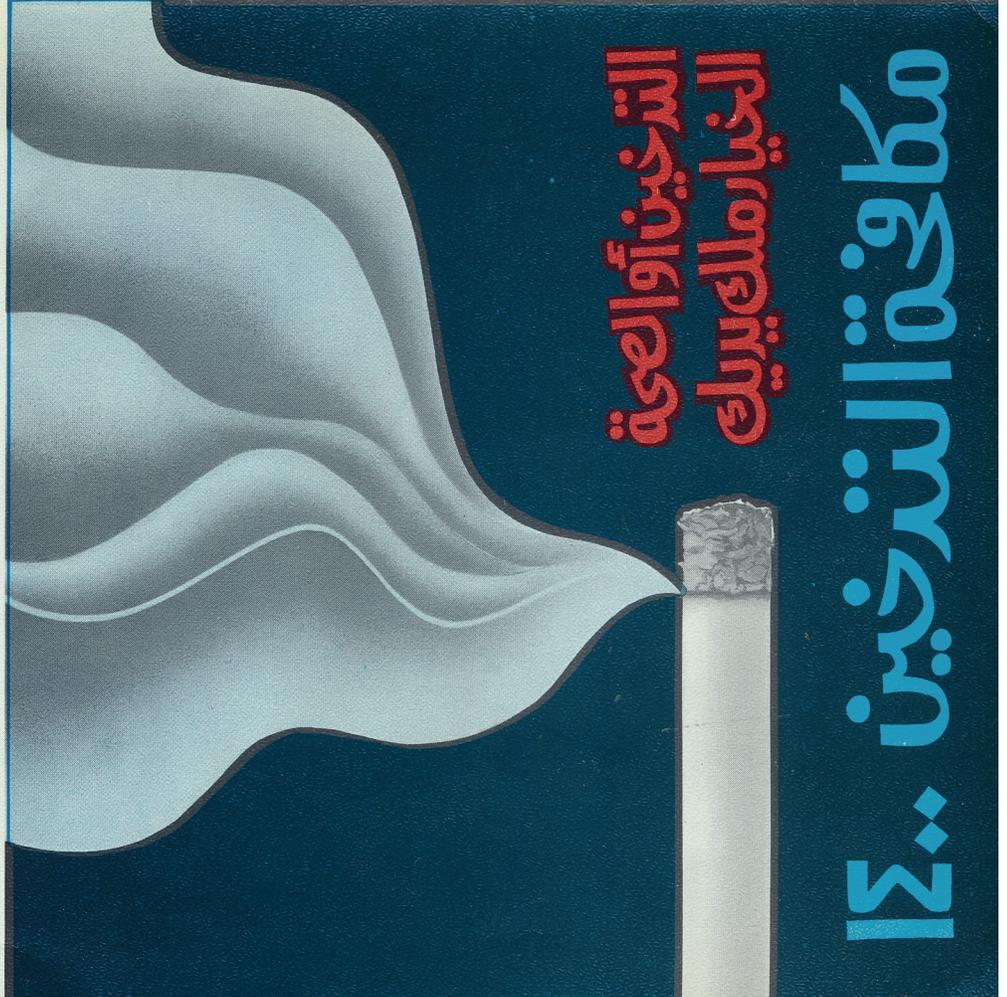
296-8	Human Rights	10 April 1964	Jeddah*
299	Installation of Faisal	2 November 1964	Jeddah FC Madina FC* Riyadh FC
344-6	Mecca Conference, Muslim World League	17 April 1965	Mecca FC*
350-3	Taif-Arafat Road -The wording "Taif-Arafat" is taken from the fancy cancel	2 June 1965	Jeddah FC*
354-7	Int'l Cooper'n Year	10 November 1965	FC-no city*
388-92	8 th Congress, Arab Telecomm Union -Date of cancel differs from date of issue given in Scott	5 November 1966	Riyadh FC*
614-5	Islamic Conf of Foreign Ministers -I have one FDC with double print of black color, 4pi value.	23 March 1970	Dammam FC* Dahran Airport FC* Jeddah FC* Madina FC* Mecca FC* Riyadh FC*
622-3	World Telecomm Day	17 May 1971	FC-no city*
635	World Literacy Day **Cover is marked "First Day Cover", but the date looks wrong. Any comments?	31 December 1972**	Riyadh
655	Postal Studies	26 October 1974	Riyadh plus FC
668-9	Day of the Blind	31 March 1975	Riyadh
671-3	King Faisal 4pi 16pi 23pi Min Sheet, 40pi -data from the brochure. Each official FDC contained a copy of the brochure and one miniature sheet. In Jiddah, the miniature sheet was laid on the space printed for it in the brochure, but not stuck down, and the fancy cancel was applied to tie it to the brochure. The cities listed at right are those authorized to sell the special set. I have one private envelope, canceled Medina FC, with an additional ordinary Medina postmark, which does not appear to have gone through the mail. Note: King Faisal passed away March 25, 1975.	6 July 1975	Dhahran*FC Mecca*FC Medina*FC Jeddah*FC Riyadh*FC
			1,500,000 1,000,000 500,000 5,000

-	Air letter sheet, 10pi. Can anyone verify this date?	23 August 1975		Riyadh 31
678-9	Conf of Muslim Orgns -The stamps say "6-10/4/1974". A puzzle.	17 September 1975		Riyadh 31
683-4	Ancient Islamic Holy Places	26 October 1975		Riyadh 12
685-6	World Food Program	26 October 1975		Riyadh 12
687	Sci&Tech Conference	20 March 1976		Riyadh 12 Riyadh 31
688	10 th Ann'y Saudi TV	26 May 1976		Riyadh 12 Riyadh 31
689-90	Second 5-Year Plan	28 June 1976		Riyadh 12
719-20	Quba Mosque: 20ha 50ha -the two stamps are on the same cover. The 20ha is cancelled in purple, and the 50ha in black.	25 May 1976 17 July 1976		Riyadh 12 Riyadh 12
721	Telephone Centenary	17 July 1976		Riyadh 12
722	Arab Summit Conf	30 October 1976		Riyadh 12
727-8	King Khalid -reissue with corrected dates	14 August 1977		Riyadh 12
729	Dammam-Riyadh RR	23 May 1977		Riyadh 12
730	Famous Imams	15 August 1977		Riyadh 12
761	Mohenjo-Daro	23 October 1977		Riyadh 12
762-3	Arabian History	1 November 1977		Riyadh 12
764-5	King Faisal Specialist Hospital	13 November 1977		Riyadh 12
766	1 st World Conf on Muslim Education	24 January 1978		Riyadh 12
767-8	25 th Ann'y APU -the brochure shows the stamp design without denomination, in black. -I have a cover marked First Day, and it was the intent of the sender to give me a first day cover, but the letter stayed in the mailbox overnight and was cancelled on the second day! This same cover also bears an example of the 50ha al-Khafji orange color error.	21 January 1978	300,000 sets	Riyadh 12

769-70	Taif-Abha-Gizan Road -the brochure contains a print of the 80ha value, all in deep ultramarine, with the denomination crossed out by a white line. -Designer: Ibrahim Al-Turki -There were two brochures. The first had several typographical errors that were corrected in the second, also, the whole cover design is redrawn and improved.	16 October 1976 800,000 sets	Riyadh 12
771-2	1978 Hajj -the brochure shows the 20ha value in red brown; the value is crossed by a white line.	6 November 1978 800,000 sets	Riyadh 12
773-4	Gulf Postal Orgn -The "FC" is the cancellation of the Philatelic Agency in Riyadh. -Designer: Ibrahim Al-Turki Executor: Saleem Ghorri -the brochure shows both stamps in full color; the colors differ slightly from the stamps themselves. The brochure had an error in the Arabic writing on the cover, and some of them were corrected by whitening out the offending marks and putting in the correct ones with a blue pen or brush.	6 February 1979 800,000 sets	Riyadh 12 plus FC
775-7 778	50 th Lunar Ann'y 1 st Commemoratives -I have the miniature sheet on FDC. -the brochure shows Scott 129 in black on the cover; inside is the 20ha value in full color, the yellow being slightly different from the stamp color. -Designer: Ibrahim Al-Turki Executor: Saleem Ghorri	4 June 1979 800,000 sets 15,000 min sheets	Riyadh 12 plus FC(PA)
782-3	Ka'abah Gold Doors -I don't have the FDC. The date of issue is given: "--were put on sale on the day of the ceremony", by which is meant the traditional washing of the Ka'abah by King Khalid. The brochure contains prints of both denominations in full color, close to the stamp colors. The "gold" color is given in the brochure as "chrome yellow". -Designed by: Directorate General of Posts	13 October 1979 400,000 sets	

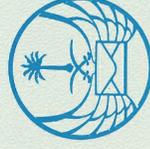
المملكة العربية السعودية

KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA



التخين أو الصحة
الخيار ملك يديك

مكافحة التدخين



اصدار

المديرية العامة للبريد
وزارة البرق والهاتف
المملكة العربية السعودية

Issued by

THE DIRECTORATE GENERAL OF POSTS
MINISTRY OF POSTS TELEGRAPHS & TELEPHONES
KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA

طابع البريد - الرياض



الملامح المميزة للطابع

- ١ - تذكارى :
٢ - ابعاد الطابع : ٣٠ × ٤٠ مم
٣ - الرسم والنقش :
طابع ٢٠ هله
٤ - طابع ٥٠ هله

شكل الاتسان يدخن وبين بالرئة الدخان في الشعب الهوائية
اتناء التدخين وعلى رأسه عبارة « التدخين أو الصحة -
الخيار ملك يدك » وعلى اليمين شعار منظمة الصحة العالمية.
السيجارة عليها علامة X في دائرة حمراء وعلى اليمين شعار
منظمة الصحة العالمية واسفله عبارة « التدخين أو الصحة -
الخيار ملك يدك » .
طابع فئة ٢٠ هله : احمر ، ازرق تركواز ، اخضر واسود
طابع فئة ٥٠ هله : احمر ، ازرق تركواز ، اسود



- ١ - النوع :
٢ - ابعاد الطابع :
٣ - الرسم والنقش :
طابع ٢٠ هله
٤ - طابع ٥٠ هله

شكل الاتسان يدخن وبين بالرئة الدخان في الشعب الهوائية
اتناء التدخين وعلى رأسه عبارة « التدخين أو الصحة -
الخيار ملك يدك » وعلى اليمين شعار منظمة الصحة العالمية.
السيجارة عليها علامة X في دائرة حمراء وعلى اليمين شعار
منظمة الصحة العالمية واسفله عبارة « التدخين أو الصحة -
الخيار ملك يدك » .
طابع فئة ٢٠ هله : احمر ، ازرق تركواز ، اخضر واسود
طابع فئة ٥٠ هله : احمر ، ازرق تركواز ، اسود

- ٥ - عدد الطوايح في
الصيغة الواحدة :
٦ - الكمية المطبوعة :
٧ - نوع الطباعة :
٨ - المصمم :
٩ - التنفيذ والطباعة :
٥٠ طابع
٤٠٠٠٠٠ (اربعمائة الف) مجموعة
أفست
الديبرية المامة للبريد
مطابع الحكومة - الرياض .

Outstanding Features of the Stamp

1. Type : Commemorative
2. Dimensions of stamp : 30 × 40 mm.
3. Content of inscription and denominations :
20 H. Stamp : Man's figure smoking and the bronchi of his lung are full of smoke, above his head written: "Smoke or Health ? The Choice is yours".
50 H. Stamp : On the right drawn the emblem of IHO. Inside a red circle there is a cigarette which is marked X. On the right drawn the emblem of IHO and the sentence: "Smoke or Health? The Choice is yours" is written beneath.
4. Colours : 20 H. Stamp : Red, Turquoise Blue, Green and Black.
50 H. Stamp : Red, Turquoise Blue, Black.
5. Number of stamps per sheet : 50 Stamps.
6. Quantity printed : 400,000 sets.
7. Process of printing : Offset.
8. Designer : Directorate General of Posts.
9. Printing agency : Government Security Printing Press, Riyadh.

نشرة طابع مكافحة التدخين

لقد منعت منظمة الصحة العالمية نظر المكتب الدولي الى الشعار (التدخين أو الصحة ؟
الخيار ملك يدك) وهو الشعار الذي تم الأخذ به ليوم الصحة العالمي في عام ١٩٨٠ م . ربما كانت عادة التدخين أكبر على يمكن تفاديها وهي سبب لسوء الصحة في العالم ، ذلك ان الزيادة العالية في التدخين تهدد قبل أي شيء آخر شعوب البلاد النامية ، وهي الشعوب التي تستهونها حملات الدعاية التي يشنها صانعو السجائر وهناك يخشى ان يصبح التدخين واحدا من أكبر الاخطار على الصحة في الهند .

وسيكون يوم الصحة العالمي الذي سيعتقل به في ٧ ابريل « نيسان » ١٩٨٠ م علامة البداية لحملة مدعومة بدرجة كبيرة الصحة . وذلك بفضل جهود الجماعات والاشخاص الذين يعملون بالتعاون مع أعضاء اسرة الأمم المتحدة .
وقد انتهزت المديرية العامة للبريد هذه الفرصة وقامت باصدار طابع تذكارى للمساهمة في هذه الحملة الانسانية ضد التدخين .

GIVING UP SMOKING STAMP BULLETIN

The World Health Organization has invited the attention of the International Bureau to the announcement (Smoking OR Health ? The Choice is yours). This announcement has been chosen for the 1980 Health Day. Smoking is perhaps the biggest problem to be avoided. It is a cause of bad health throughout the world. The present increase in the number of smokers threatens more than any thing else peoples of the Third World where producers' propoganda is active and where smoking is likely to be one of the biggest dangers to health.

Health Day, which shall be celebrated on 7th April 1980, is going to witness the start of a big Health Campaign supported by Organizations and individuals working in collaboration with members of the United Nations family.

The Directorate General of Posts has availed itself of the opportunity and issued a commemorative stamp in support of this humane campaign against smoking.

SAUDI ARABIA

MODERN IMPERFORATES
AND PART PERFORATES

The attached list combines the trial listing given with the previous Random Notes with information sent in by a number of correspondents, for which the Editor is grateful.

As before, the Scott Catalogue major numbers are used to represent imperforates whenever they are not listed as such by Scott. Where Scott has a listing, the correct Scott minor variety number is given.

<u>Scott No.</u>	<u>Description</u>
23	horizontal pair, imperf between
39a	
39a	with inverted handstamp
39-	horizontal strip of three, imperf between left two stamps, and imperf in left margin.
39c	
40b	
40-	imperf vertically
42	imperf without handstamp (proof?)
43	imperf without handstamp (proof?)
(44a)	not seen
45	imperf without handstamp (proof?)
46a	
47a	
47b	imperf
64	horizontal pair, imperf between
64	vertical pair, imperf between
69	
70	
71	
71-	horizontal pair, imperf between
72-	vertical pair, imperf between
74	
75-80	imperf
75-80-	horizontal pair, imperf between and in left margin
75-	vertical pair, imperf between, perf 14
79-	vertical pair, imperf between, perf 14
79-	vertical pair, imperf between, perf 11x14
80-	imperf horizontally
80-	vertical pair, imperf between, perf 14
78-	imperf horizontally

MODERN IMPERFORATES AND PART PERFORATES - CONTINUED

95- horizontal pair, imperf between
129- imperf in right margin
130- horizontal pair, imperf between
136- imperf in bottom margin

130-19

161, 165

208-10

211, 211A, 213-18, 221-3 Note:the 8pi Dam, Cairo, exists in various
224-7, 230-39 colors as an essay

240-2
243-5
246-8
249-51

(256/60) the 1pi exists imperforate, though not listed perforated
263- imperf in left margin
265, 266, 268

287-9
287,288- background omitted (on watermarked paper)

292- emerald color only (on watermarked paper)
293 on unwatermarked paper--proof?

296-8

345- black color only, no gum--proof?
346-,347- imperf in top margin
463

692-7, 698b, 710 Also, 692- imperf in top margin
720 Only one used pair known
732-5, 737a, 739, 743, 750

782-3
787 J16-18
788-9 J16- Vertical pair, imperf
between and in top
margin

20ha Arab League
20ha Arab University J17- Vertical pair,
50ha Books imperf between

C1, C2, C5, C6 J18- Horizontal pair,
C2-, C3- imperf vertically imperf between
C3-, C6- double impression, imperf

C2- vertical pair, imperf between O11-15
C4- imperf in bottom margin RA-8

C11, C14-17
C27-, C28- centres only

SAUDI ARABIA'S 1946 MAP STAMP

By: R. J. Thoden

All catalogs list this stamp as a normal postage stamp, issued to commemorate the return of King 'Ibn Sa'ud from Egypt. (Scott 177, Gibbons 356, Mayo 846-847).

The author suspects that it may not have been a regular postage stamp, but rather a tax stamp of some sort. The following points are significant:

- (1) All letters, both domestic and foreign, between late January and August 1946 seen by the author bear one and only one copy of this stamp. No cover with more than one copy has been seen, and no cover from this period without a copy of this stamp has been seen.
- (2) Domestic letters, for which postage was $\frac{1}{2}$ qirsh, airmail letters to the U.K. for which postage was 11 qirsh, and airmail letters to the U.S.A. for which postage was 16 qirsh, each bear one copy of the $\frac{1}{2}$ qirsh Map stamp in addition to the postage. These rates apply to letters originating from the Western Province (Jeddah, Mecca, etc). Airmail covers to the U.S.A. from Khobar in the Eastern Province have $33\frac{1}{4}$ qirsh in postage, plus the $\frac{1}{2}$ qirsh Map stamp. Before January and after August, 1946, covers bear these same amounts of postage, but do not have a Map stamp. A number of covers bear one or more copies of the $\frac{1}{2}$ qirsh Tughra stamp (Scott 161a) as part of the postage in addition to the $\frac{1}{2}$ qirsh Map stamp. If the Map stamp were just an ordinary stamp equivalent to the $\frac{1}{2}$ qirsh Tughra stamp, this mixed usage of $\frac{1}{2}$ qirsh stamps on commercial covers is not easy to understand.
- (3) The Map stamp has been seen used in conjunction with other categories of revenue stamps on documents. In addition to several pieces, the author has in his possession a complete document which bears, in addition to a single copy of the Map stamp, a 1 qirsh flat rate documentary stamp, a 1 qirsh road tax stamp and a $\frac{1}{8}$ qirsh hospital tax stamp, all cancelled by the same circular customs cancellation.
- (4) The Map stamp is inscribed totally in Arabic. Other stamps of this period used for postage bear Arabic and French inscriptions. The Map stamp, being totally in Arabic, is consistent with other revenue stamps in this respect.

The inscriptions on the stamp itself give no clues. In the banners at the upper left and upper right is "God is One and only One, Muhammed is His Emissary". In the panel at the bottom above the denomination is "Commemorating the return of His Majesty the King to the capital of His Kingdom, January 1946". It is reported that offense was taken by the religious authorities at the defacement of the inscriptions in the banners by postmarks, etc. and that is why they were scratched out.

Examination of about 35 covers bearing a copy of the Map stamp reveals that the unscratched variety, perforated $10\frac{3}{4}$, was used between January and March, the unscratched perforated $11\frac{1}{2}$ between March and April, and the scratched, perforated $11\frac{1}{2}$, from April until August. The author has seen only one copy of the scratched flags, perforated $10\frac{3}{4}$, not on cover. This variety is evidently quite scarce.

Who has information which can prove, or disprove, the author's theory about this Map stamp? Correspondence is invited to the author at Aramco Box 1802, Dhahran, Saudi Arabia.



Map stamp used in combination with revenues on a customs document.



Above: Map stamp used on a domestic letter in combination with the 1/2 qirsh "Tughra" stamp.

Below: Map stamp used on a registered airmail letter to the U.S.A. in combination with two 1/2 qirsh "Tughra" stamps. Postage of 19 qirsh includes 3 qirsh for registration.

