

# Anabian 羽hilatelic $\mathfrak{A s s o c}$ ation <br> c／o $\mathfrak{A r a m c o}$ ，雃ox 1929 <br> 马hatran，Baudi \｛rabia 

RANDOM NOTES NO． 19

SPRING 1982

Dear Member，
The big news with this issue is the appearance of Mr．Thomas P．Wood＇s study of the Tughra，Airmail，and Hospital Tax stamps．Mr．Wood has been working a long time on these stamps，and many of you will remember his first effort，published in January， 1972 and attached to Random Notes No． 3．I have included Mr．Wood＇s letter to me because I thought that you would all be interested in some of his remarks．Please note that you should not reproduce his study without his express permission，and you should write him if you are so interested．

If you have not paid your dues for 1982，and if you don＇t soon，this is the last Random Notes that you will receive．Local members－if you don＇t pay up by the April meeting，you are in danger of being dropped from the new issue service．There are still a few of you who have not picked up your new issues in a while，and you may get dropped，too．Overseas members－there are still five of you who owe me for previous new issue Shipments，and you need to settle with me，now that Mr．Jim Kearney will be handling this end of the business．

The APA＇s annual show，APEX－11，will be held in Dhahran on April 29 in the Auditorium．See you there！Al Sonntag is Chairman，and if you want to exhibit，please contact him soon before the frames are gone．I know from personal experience that $I$ would never have mounted up my Hejaz without the spur of these shows，and that in a nutshell is their whole purpose－ to convert you from accumulators to collectors．You will really find out the importance when you come to sell－it is easier to describe what you have when it is nicely laid out．Dealers are under no obligation to try to find the good items in a messy accumulation so that they can pay you more．

Part II of the＂Reference Manual of Saudi Arabian Forgeries＂will be ready for distribution soon．All members who requested a copy of Part $I$ ， and who have paid their 1982 dues，will receive Part II automatically．

New members joining the APA in 1982 or members newly interested in the Manual may request both Parts I and II．Cost of mailing Part II is included in 1982 dues，but to cover the cost of mailing Part $I$ ，the following advance payments should accompany your request：

| USA | $\$ 2$ |
| :--- | :--- |
| Europe | $\$ 1.50$ |

Mr. Thoden advises that you can send him mint, undamaged postage stamps in payment - US or European, full gum please. His address:

Mr. R. J. Thoden<br>c/o Aramco, Box 1802<br>Dhahran, Saudi Arabia

The book, "The Hejaz - A History in Stamps", by John M. Wilson, was published March 15 and you should be getting your copy soon. If you didn't order one and would like to, please write the publisher:

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Lance D. Limoges, Inc.
P.O. Box 315
State College, PA 16801USA
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Cost: \$21.50 including mailing charges.

Announcing: the annual Auction, No. 12, will be held November 18th. The Prospectus, containing this announcement and soliciting material, is attached to these Random Notes. Please note that in the last few years many lots go unsold because of high reserve bids. We suggest that you send material that you want to sell and that you put reasonable reserve bids on each item - otherwise, we clog up the auction with lot after lot going unsold. Granted, you don't always know what price to expect, but a lot of advice is available here, and if the item is really good, the bidders will run it up for you quite nicely.

Also attached is a copy of the postal rates chart for Saudi Arabia. These rates went into effect September 1, 1970, and have remained unchanged.

Because of the volume of paper already included, we will not review back Random Notes this time, but save up until next issue.

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My best regards,
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John M. Wilson Editor

1 April 1982

1. We reported to you previously that the al-Khafji design, of the current definitives had been retouched (Random Notes no. 17, Par 7). Where there used to be a short, diagonal stroke extending inward from the left-hand frame, there is now a small, white spot. In the second retouch, this white spot has been filled in by the addition of one or two background dots. These second retouches are coming out in sheets of 100 without gutters; so far, we have seen the 20 ha and the 65 ha. The paper of the 65 ha has dull color under UV, whereas the original 65ha printings were on a paper that shows white under UV.
2. New definitives may be appearing. We have in hand a full sheet, 150 stamps, no gutter, of a 65ha blue. The design is like the current Ka'abah series except that the design is only 26 x 21 mm instead of 36 x 26 mm . The Ka'abah is slightly smaller in relation to the frame, leaving more room for the numerals at the bottom. How many denominations? Will they also do the al-Khafji? We'll report when we know.
3. New issues: 25th Anniversary of King Sa'ud University, Riyadh. 20ha and 50ha, bearing the Coat of Arms of the University in green. Backgrounds light blue for the 20ha, and pale purple for the 50ha. We don't have date of issue or quantities issued yet.
4. The 20ha Dome of the Rock, first issued July 2, 1979, has just been reissued here. The original is Scott 781. The original plates appear to have been used. Under uv, the green ink of the frame and the upper inscriptions is dark under the light, whereas in the originals the green is pale and fluoresces slightly; the red numerals at the bottom appear to show more fluorescence in the reprints than in the originals. At the top of the sheets in the 1979 printings, there were color bars and numerals and the word "KALLE" in a box, and none of this appears on the reprints. On a portion of the new printing, there is a large dot breaking the bottom frame line, position 2.
5. I have an interesting note from Paul Jensen, our member in Norway. Paul has been active for many years in Norway's philatelic affairs, and he was recently elected President of the Federation of Norwegian Philatelists. He reports that the Saudi Arabian Philatelic Society, located at Makkah, was admitted into the International Federation of Philatelists (FIP) during the 49th Congress at Essen, Germany, in November, 1980. He sent me a copy of a letter from the Secretariat confirming this and the dates as well.
6. This has certain consequences, as Paul points out, in his letter.
"Under these circumstances, the APA must seek affiliation with this body if any of the members wish to exhibit at an FIP exhibition. Under FIP rules, any exhibitors domiciled in a member country must be associated to that country's FIP affiliate to be admitted to an international show."

My thanks to Paul for the information.
7. Max Mayo's handbook lists, on page 15, a number of proofs of the Hejaz Survey of Egypt issues. There are basically three kinds:
a. Die proofs on heavy white board. I have seen only the lpi blue, but Mayo lists all denominations in this same blue. He goes on to say that Haworth and Sargent report proofs drawn in other colors, implying that these are also on the heavy white board, although it is not clear what is intended.
b. Plate proofs on heavy coated paper, somewhat like the slick paper used in fancy "coffee-table" magazines, ungummed. Mayo lists the full set of Survey of Egypt designs in issued colors. I have all of these except the two low denomination postage dues.
c. Plate proofs on gummed stamp paper, imperforate. These come in the issued colors, and I have seen the 1pi in "powder blue", a very pale shade. For some reason, the $1 \frac{1}{2} p i$ seems harder to find than the $\frac{1}{4}$ pi and 1pi, and $I$ have seen no others. I still don't have the $1 \frac{1}{2} p i$, or the powder blue. Do others exist?

Into all of this comes a copy of the 1pi design on the heavy coated paper (these are all imperforate, by the way) but in a lilac red color, courtesy of Henry O'Pella. Are these things the proofs in various colors referred to by Haworth and Sargent? It would be nice to know.
8. The handstamp "ela" of the Egyptian dealer, E. L. Angeloglou, on the backs of Hejaz stamps has generally been accepted by knowledgeable APA members as a sign that the item is genuine. This has proved reliable in the past for perhaps $95 \%$ to $98 \%$ of such stamps.

However, on a recent trip to the USA, Rudy Thoden saw a large quantity of some obvious and some not-so-obvious forgeries with an "ela" handstamp in red on the back in the lower left corner. Many of these also had a small red "Zagha" in a circle hand stamped in the lower right corner.

Closer examination showed that the "ela" hand stamp differed from that found on genuine stamps and is itself in all probability a forgery. This "ela" is slightly larger and the letters are shaped somewhat differently than those of the "ela" found en genuine stamps.

The forged stamps ranged from Scott L22-3 to 46-8. This last set included every conceivable kind of surcharge error, such as inverts, doubles, words reversed, individual characters of the words inverted, etc. It should be noted that the genuine "ela" backstamp has only rarely been seen on any Nejdi issue and not on this one; with these rare exceptions, the genuine "ela" is confined to Hejaz stamps.

While we are en the subject of backstamps, a few other comments may be in order. First, the mark "A. EID" (two separate types) has generally proved reliable on early Nejd issues. All other back stamps seen, such as H.G.O., GA, K SARAFIAN, J.Z.N., E.J.S., Etc., are not evidence of genuineness, and this comment applies as well to many pencilled signatures seen. In fact, all of these are pretty good evidence that the item is a forgery.
9. Attached to Random Notes No. 15 was an article entitled "Jeddah Provisionals - Fourth Issue" by Rudy Thoden, in which he listed all varieties of this issue seen by him. Since then, he has also come across these additional varieties:

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First Printing - No Handstamp
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| $1 / 4 q$ on $1 / 2 q$ deep rose | variety A (genuine) |
| :--- | :--- |
| $1 q$ on $3 q$ brown red | variety C |
| $1 / 8 q$ postage due | variety $F$ |

Second Printing - With Handstamp

$$
\begin{array}{ll}
1 / 4 q \text { on } 1 / 4 q \text { on } 2 q & \text { variety AA (genuine) } \\
1 q \text { on } 1 / 4 q \text { on } 1 / 8 q & \text { variety AA (genuine) } \\
\text { 1q on } 1 / 4 q \text { on } 1 / 2 q & \text { variety AD (genuine) } \\
\text { 1q on } 1 / 4 q \text { on } 2 q & \text { variety AA (genuine) } \\
\text { 3q brown-red postage due } & \text { variety AG (genuine) } \\
10 q \text { postage due } & \text { variety BH (forgery only) }
\end{array}
$$

You may wish to update your copy of Mr. Thoden's article.
10. William Reiser points out that Michel prices the 50 ha orange al-Khafji at DM45, and the 55ha value at DM55. The 55ha is going to be a tough stamp to get, and many people tell me that they missed it. That's US\$20!
11. Carl Cathermam has sent me some speculations about those HEDJAZ overprints on French stamps. I have simply retyped the whole thing, and it is attached. I would appreciate further comments.
12. Dr. Leon Chernee, of New Orleans, sent in a page taken from an advertisement of Superior Stamp \& Coin Co. It includes a number of Saudi booklets from the tourist Issue. Those prices are in US Dollars - ouch! I wonder how many they sold? The page is reproduced as an attachment to these Notes.
13. David Graham sent the picture, below, of a copy of the 100 pi green official stamp, Scott 062. It has watermark II, inverted (same as mine). His copy shows a prominent dot by the hilt of the right-hand sword, apparently a plate marking. Position unknown.


These officials are tricky. The 1pi through 6pi, 10pi, 20pi, and 31pi were released to the stamp trade and are priced reasonably in Scott. Of the others, only the 7pi has a price. It is not known whether or not mint copies of the others even exist. The one in the illustration looks like a mint copy, but David didn't say. I don't have either the 11pi or the 50pi, either mint or used; I have a copy of the 100 pi , used. Nothing is offered. Good luck finding them.
14. Bob Jung gave me two items while $I$ was in The Hague last month. I have put his pictures on a separate page, attached.
15. Also attached is a copy of a sheet of Scott 46, genuine, showing the surcharges. You will note that the entire third row has the first word (the word at the right) inverted. Several type fonts were used for these surcharges. One qirsh was the standard rate to Bombay and other overseas destinations, and shortages led to the extensive surcharging that we see. Most sheets seen do not have this error.
16. You are warned again about fake covers with all sorts of good Hejaz and early Nejd stamps with fake overprints, and fake cancellations. The covers are airmail envelopes, not even available at the time the stamps were printed. You can always check with us before buying expensive material.

Dear John,
Reading the Winter, 1982 issue of Random Notes, I was particularly interested in Note 6 regarding the HEDJAZ overprints on stamps of France. Assuming nobody comes up with anything better, let me do a little speculating about these.

Immediately following the Great War, the British military authorities issued a wide variety of fiscal stamps for use in the occupied territories of what is now Israel and Jordan. Some of these were crude type-set issues, others were stamps of G.B. or EEF, i.e., Palestine, with various overprints. In either case, we find the inscriptions "O.P.D.A." and "H.J.Z." among others. It is generally accepted that O.P.D.A. stood for Ottoman Public Debt Administration, and, while it seems a bit far-fetched, that H.J.Z. stood for Hejaz Railway. (The fact is that the H.J.Z. overprint was identified as above in philatelic literature as early as 1923, when the stamps were currently in use, if that proves anything.)

I have never seen an explanation of the function of the Ottoman Public Debt Administration, if indeed that is what O.P.D.A. meant. O.P.D.A. and H.J.Z. stamps are often found side-by-side on bills, checks, receipts, etc. that have no apparent connection with the Hejaz Railway.

Now, however, admitting that we really know very little about these issues, let us suppose that H.J.Z. really does have some connection with the Hejaz Railway. We might presume, for example, that the H.J.Z. stamps were used in connection with some tax imposed upon goods transported on that portion of the Hejaz Railway which ran through British-occupied territory. It then becomes reasonable to assume that the French might have imposed a similar tax, applicable on the portion of the railway which passed through French-occupied territory. Thus, we have a possible solution to the problem posed by the French stamps with HEDJAZ overprints.

There are other possible solutions, but they seem less likely on the basis of the available evidence. One thing that might be helpful would be dates. What is the date of issue for the basic unoverprinted stamps? Do the cancels reveal date of use?

One thing that we might keep in mind is that the Ottoman government was hopelessly in debt to the British and French. Naturally, the latter would want to salvage what they could out of an impossible situation and the stamps in question might have been a result of that. The O.P.D.A. might, for example, have been formed using as a model the commission formed by the British and French in the late 1870 s to manage the Egyptian debts to the western powers.

Finally, $I$ can think of no reason to assume that these overprints have any direct connection with the Hejaz.

What do your other readers say?
Regards and best wishes for 1982.
Signed: Carl (Catherman)

## Saudi Arabia

All with green covers. Note: Numbers have been given to different varieties to facilitate your ordering.


Original list supplied by Dr. Chernee
The Saudi booklet details have been extracted from the information given in the original version of Random Notes \#19.

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号



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Top stamp is an example of the "HEDJAZ" overprints on French stamps.


# Anabian zatilatelic $\mathfrak{A s s o c i a t i o n ~}$ <br> เ/o $\mathfrak{A x a m c o}$, 焐 $19 \times 1929$ <br> 且hahran, Baudi Axahia 

AUCTION PROSPECTUS<br>12th AUCTION - NOVEMBER 18, 1982

The Arabian Philatelic Association will hold an auction on Thursday, November 18, 1982, at a time and place to be announced later. This Prospectus invites the submission of lots for the auction and sets forth the applicable rules. The schedule is as follows:

Lots must reach auctioneer by: August 15
Catalogue will be released by: September 15
Auction:
November 18

Auction rules applicable to sellers are:

1. Each lot must be mounted on a separate piece of paper. Small-sized lots may be mounted on $5 \frac{1}{2} x$ x $8 \frac{1}{2}$ inch sheets, large lots on $8 \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{x} 11$ sheets. The stamp(s) or cover(s) must be protected by a glassine envelope or other transparent covering. Do not seal or staple the envelopes shut, as it will be necessary to remove all stamps and covers for examination here. Describe the lot by Scott Catalogue number (Mayo or Gibbons if not listed by Scott), condition, and catalogue value. A reserve must be stated, and it should conform to the following bidding increments:

| Mininun of SR20 to SR50 | SR2 | increments |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Over SR50 to SR 100 | SR5 | $"$ |
| Over SR100 to SR200 | SR10 | $"$ |
| Over SR200 to SR500 | SR20 | $"$ |
| Over SR500 |  | SR50 |

2. No lot with a reserve less than SR20 (about US\$6) will be accepted.
3. All lots will be sold to the highest bidder at one increment over the second highest bid. Mail bids will be accepted and executed on the same basis as floor bids. Further information for bidders will be contained in the Catalogue for the auction.
4. The auctioneer reserves the right to reject lots that he considers as unlikely to be sold, such as very common or low value material, defective items, etc. The auctioneer also reserves the right to divide or group lots as he deems appropriate or as will make them sell better.
5. This is primarily an auction of Saudi Arabian material including Hejaz and Nejd, and this is what the buyers will be looking for. Other material will be accepted, but if we get too much material for one day's selling, non-Saudi lots may be offered on a mail bid only basis, or offered later at the next regular meeting, at the discretion of the Auctioneer.
6. Lots should be mailed by first class registered airmail, or delivered by hand. The Auctioneer's address is given below.
7. A commission of $5 \%$ of the selling price, or of the reserve in the case of unsold lots, will be charged to the seller.
8. Neither the Auctioneer or the Arabian Philatelic Association assumes any liability in connection with this auction. We intend to take out insurance this year while the lots are in the custody of the Auctioneer, and we are investigating whether or not this can be extended to the lots while in the mail back to the buyers/sellers.
9. Unsold lots will be mailed back to the seller if overseas, and all postage and related fees will be to his account.
10. In the event that buyers return lots as not being in accordance with the description, the validity of such claims will be decided by the APA Officers Committee. Sellers agree to accept the decision of the Committee and to make refunds as necessary.
11. Only APA members may participate in this Auction.
12. Remittances will be made to sellers (less commission, postage, any exchange fees, etc.) as soon as possible after buyers have paid for the lots.
13. Sellers should note carefully that submission of lots signifies complete acceptance of the above rules and conditions.


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

EFFECTIVE DATE: SEPTEMBER 1,1970

| country | Letters |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | PERIODICALS, NEWSPAPERS \& PUBLICATIONS (EXCLUDING DAILIES) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | Vocal messages |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | gooos SaMPLES |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | NON.PERIODCAL NEMSPAPERS <br> ANO PUBLICATIONS |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | small parcels |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
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|  | -13 | -161 |  |  |  |  |  |  | 5-08 | -11 | 1.02 |  |  |  | 154.10 | 5.05 | $6-00$ | 6.15 | 7.101 |  |  |  | 5-10. | 6-08 | 7-06 | 8.04 | 9.02 | 1.021 .13 |  |  | 414.17 | 5-13 | 609 | 7.05 | 801 |  |  |  |  | 17. 513 | 609 | 7.05 | 8.01 |  |  | $73-11 \mid 405$ | $4.0555 .02$ | 5-19 | 6.16 | 7-13 | 8.10 |
|  | -14 | -17 |  |  |  |  |  |  | $5 \cdot 18$ | -12 | 1.04 |  |  |  |  | 6.06 | 7.04 | 8.02 | 9.001 | 1.032 .04 |  | 4.065 5.07 | 6.08 | 7-09 | 8-10 | 9-11 | 10-12 |  |  |  | 16515 | 614 | 713 | 812 | 9.11 |  |  |  | 4.165-15 | 15614 | 7-13 | 8-12 | 9-11 |  |  | $64 \cdot 03 \mid 5 \cdot 00$ | $5.00 \mid 600$ | 7.00 | 8.00 | 9.00 10 | 000 |
| Hongkong, Indonesia, Angola, Borneo, Cape Verde (Is.), Philippines | - 17 | 1.00 | 1-122- | 2.093 .0 | 3.013-18 | (4-10 5 | 15-077-1 | 5-1916-26 | 7.08 | - 151 | 1-10 | - 1911.18 | 1812-17] |  | 1515 -14 | 6-13 | 7.12 | 8-11 | 9-101 | 1-04 $2-0 e^{1}$ |  | 4 1015 -12 | $6 \cdot 14$ | 7-16 | $8.18{ }^{1}$ | 10.001 | 11.02 |  |  | 5-01 | -16-01 | 7.01 | $8-01$ | 901 | 10.01 | $1-012.0$ | 2.013 .01 | 14-015-1 | 016.01 | -01701 | 8.01 | 9.01 | 10.01 |  |  | 4.077 5.05 | 5.05 6.06 | 7.07 | 3-08 | 9.9 |  |
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SURF ACE AND bOAT MAIL RATE,

|  | Post | GREETITGS CAROS UNSEALED |  |
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|  | cards | 20 cms | 40 cms |
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| Other Courlities | 05 | -03 | . 06 |
| dally Newspaplers - Each Issue One Qirsh - All Counties |  |  |  |





| WEIGHT IN GRAMS $\longrightarrow$ | 50 | 100 |  | 200 | 3030 | 350 | 400 | 450 | 500 |  |  | 650 |  |  |  | 850 | 900 | 950 |  |
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| SAMPLES - All Arab League Countries- Other Counties | . 05 | -05 | . 05 | -05 | .06.07 | . 0 | -09 | -10 | -11 | 1 | 12-13 | 13 - 14 | 14 - 15 | -16 | -17 | 18 | - 19 | 1.00 |  |
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| SMALL PARCELS - All Arab League Countries <br> - Other Countries | 10 | 10 | - 10 | -10 | -10-12 | - 1 | -16 | -18 | 1.00 | 200 1.02 | 221.04 | 041.06 | 26.081 | 1.10 | 1 | 1.14 | 1.16 | $1-1$ |  |
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| PERRIOOICALS, NEWSPAPERS \& PUBLCATIONS (Excluding Dailies) - All Counties |  | -02 | . 03 | - 04 | . 05.06 | -07 | . 08 | -8 09 | - 10 | - 11 |  |  |  |  |  | -17 |  | -19 |  |
| NON-PERIOOICAL NEWSPAPERS \& PUBLICATIONS - All Arab League Countries- Other Countries |  | -03 | -04 | -05 | -06-07 | -08 | - | 9 - 10 | 11 |  |  |  |  | -16 | -17 | 18 |  | 1.00 |  |
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| VOCAL MESSAGES - All Arab League Countries |  | -07 | -10 |  | -16-19 | 1.02 | 1.05 | 1.08 | 1.11 | .11-1 | 141.17 | 172.00 |  |  | 2 209 | 2-12 | 2.15 | 218 |  |
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