



# جماعة هواة الطوابع العربية ملاحظات عابرة

## Arabian Philatelic Association Random Notes

SUMMER 1985

NUMBER 32

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## THE ARABIAN PHILATELIC ASSOCIATION

The Association was established in 1968 in Dhahran, Saudi Arabia by a group of Aramco employees particularly interested in Saudi Arabian philately. Membership is open to all interested Aramco employees and their dependents eligible to use Aramco facilities. Annual dues are SR 10. Others may subscribe to A.P.A. publications and participate in the A.P.A. new issue service and auctions. Annual subscription fee is SR 10 in Saudi Arabia, \$5 (U.S.) in Europe, and \$7 in the U.S.A. Late renewals, after April 1, are SR 20, \$8 and \$10, respectively. There is a one-time initiation fee of SR 25 or U.S. \$7.50 for both members and subscribers. Annual fees include all publications for the year (by airmail).

Applications for membership or subscriptions, together with dues or fees, should be sent to the membership secretary. Checks should be made payable to The Arabian Philatelic Association. All changes of address should also be sent to the membership secretary.

All of the following A.P.A. officers may be addressed c/o Arabian Philatelic Association, ARAMCO Box 1929, Dhahran 31311, Saudi Arabia.

	B.H. Walthall, President	
A.E. Sonntag, Vice President		R.J. Thoden, Forgeries Manual
W.A. King, Secretary		J.I. Kearney, Auctioneer
S. Manjikion, Treasurer		K. Quarfoth, Annual Show Chairman
E.W. Bain, Librarian		

A.P.A. meetings are held the second Saturday of each month at 7 P.M. in Aramco facilities in Dhahran, Saudi Arabia.

The A.P.A. provides a new issue service for Saudi stamps to its members and subscribers. This is handled by:

R.J. Thoden - for members attending meetings in Dhahran.  
J.M. Wilson - for subscribers in U.S.A. Mr Wilson charges a fee for his services. His address is: P.O.Box 3054, Humble, Texas, U.S.A. 77347-3054.  
J.I. Kearney - for subscribers elsewhere, including Saudi Arabia. Mr Kearney charges a fee for his services.

## RANDOM NOTES

The A.P.A.'s publication, RANDOM NOTES, is issued four times a year.

The editor is Mr. R. J. Thoden, ARAMCO Box 1802, Dhahran 31311, Saudi Arabia.

Contributions for publication in the RANDOM NOTES are solicited and should be submitted to the editor. Short items from subscribers in the U.S.A. may also be submitted to Mr. J.M. Wilson for incorporation into his regular article. The right to edit or reject all submissions is reserved.



## RANDOM NOTES FROM DHAHRAN

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By: R. J. Thoden

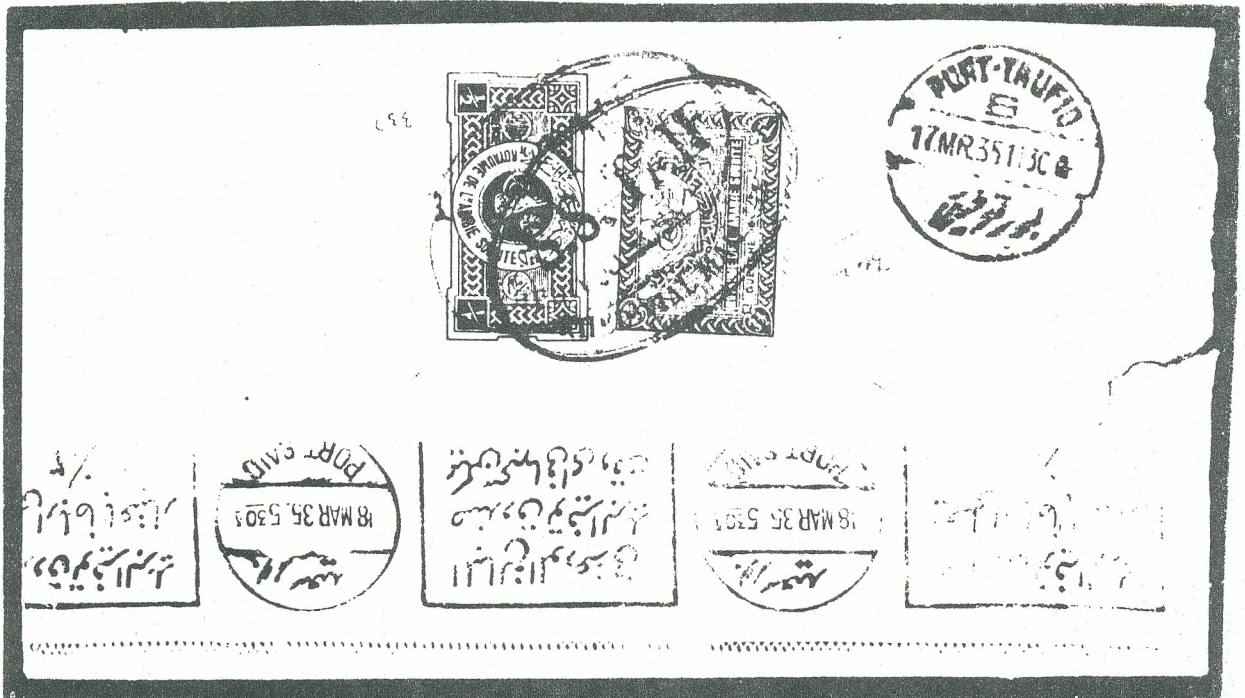
1. The A.P.A. auctioneer, Jim Kearney, announces that our next auction will be held on Thursday, February 27 in Dhahran. The auction prospectus is being mailed along with these RANDOM NOTES.
2. Preparations for our annual show, APEX-14, are proceeding. The show will be held December 5. The show chairman, Ken Quarfoth, has entry blanks for exhibitors. He would also like to hear from those requiring tables.
3. Four offers have been received to prepare the RANDOM NOTES index. It is expected that this will be completed in the first half of 1986. Thanks to Gene Alley, Greg Polonica, Henry O'Pella and Al Sonntag.
4. Najib Kawar submits a photocopy of a cover with RA1, the Yemeni War victims fund stamp, cancelled in May 1934. The date is not legible from the photostat, but there are numerous transit and receiving cancels of May 26-29. Tom Wood, in his "A Study of Saudi Arabian Stamps 1934-1964", mentions having a cover cancelled MECQUE May 15, 1934. Scott's says the stamp was issued in June 1934. Obviously, this needs to be corrected.
5. In RANDOM NOTES No. 31, I raised the question of whether the initial printings of the first airmail set, Scott's C1-6, were really made in Cairo as reported by Max Mayo. Frank Patterson writes:

"The source of Mayo's statement will be found in SANABRIA'S AIR POST CATALOGUE. The Saudi airmails were first listed in the 1953 edition, published in 1952, wherein it was stated that the set of 6 was lithographed at Cairo, Egypt and issued on October 1, 1949. Successive editions in 1959-60 and 1966 repeated the same incorrect data even though I advised Sanabria that the stamps were typographed and the plates carried a Makkah imprint. But Mayo seems to have repeated the Sanabria error without change although a simple check would have shown that the stamps were typographed and not lithographed! Also, during that period, the Survey of Egypt was only producing Egyptian stamps by photo-gravure and would not have turned out crude typographed stamps for Saudi Arabia."
6. Another tip from John Ross's "Stamp Market Tips" column in STAMPS magazine. This time it is for the first official set, Scott's O1-6. Catalogue price is \$114. Mr. Ross says "dealers in the Middle East are asking almost \$200 for the issue, if and when they have one for sale, and are willing to pay around \$125."
7. Seen in a new issues ad in a U.S. magazine - the Arabsat 20h commemorative offered at U.S. \$1.25. Quite a markup for a stamp with a face value of 5-1/2 cents!

8. Elias Kawar sends a photocopy of a cover addressed to Alexandria, with Mesopotamia Scott's N36, cancelled "S.S.TAIF" and with a June 30, 1919 Port Taufiq transit mark. Your editor has the same cancel (in red) on a cover to India with Saudi Arabia 167 and RA1, backstamped Port Taufiq 17 March 1935 and Port Said 18 March 1935. The Khedivial Mail Line appears to have been an Egyptian company carrying the mails in the Red Sea.



Mr F. Hendrey  
P.O.Box 578  
Alexandria  
EGYPT.

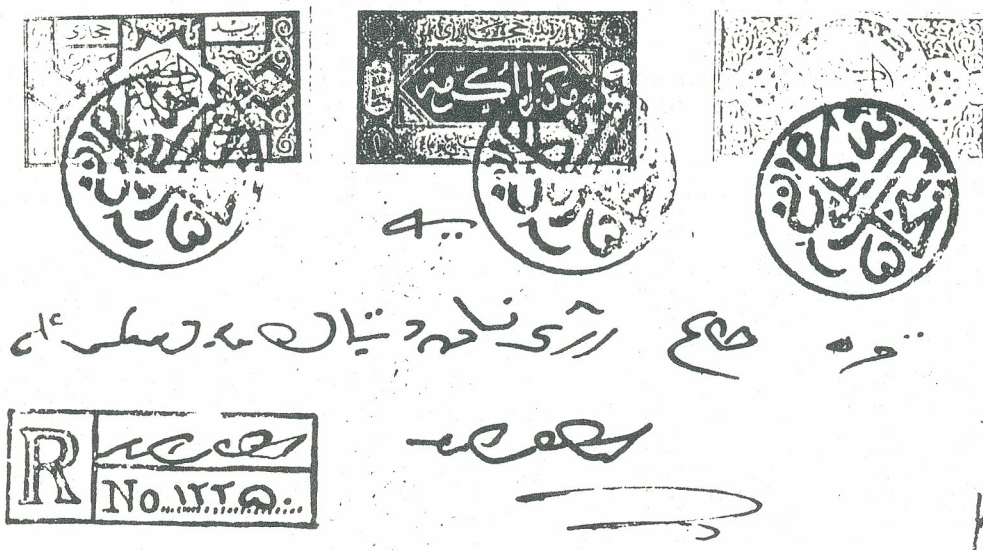




9. Several inquiries about the A.P.A. mailing list have been received lately. Please note that current A.P.A. policy is to not release the mailing list. This position has been supported by the majority of members who have expressed an opinion.

10. The Directorate General of Posts has apparently resumed the production of new issue brochures. As far as I had known, the last of these had appeared in 1981. I've seen them now for the Prince Sultan/Discovery and 1985 Hajj issues.

11. Also from Elias Kawar is a photocopy of an obviously fake cover. He says: The "5" in both the registration number and the cancel like an inverted heart symbol, is an Afghan or Farsi type. Nobody has been able to decipher either the cancel or the address so far.



12. More forged Hejaz overprints have been showing up which also have a forged "ela" backstamp. The fake is slightly larger and has several differences. The genuine "ela" is at the left, with the fake at the right.

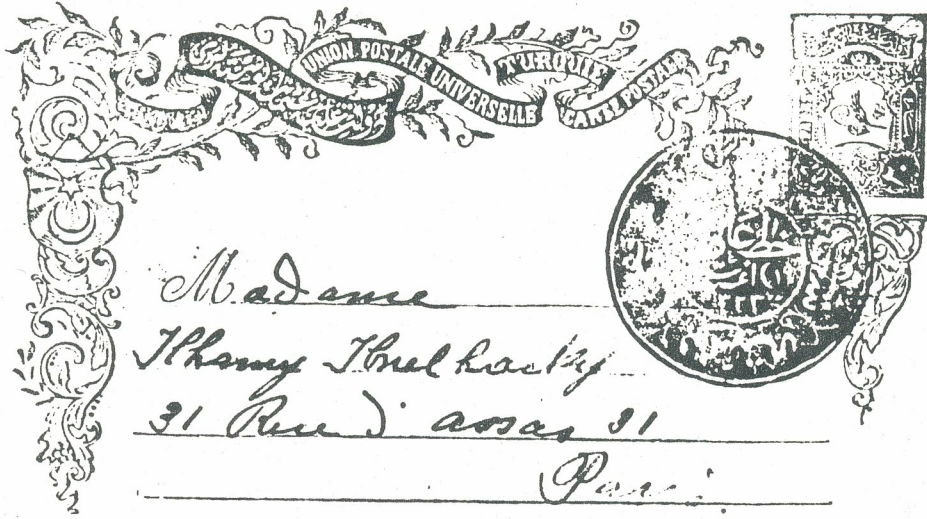
13. Your editor recently obtained another fake cover. This one is addressed to Stanley Gibbons in London, yet has no transit or receiving backstamps. Cancelled-to-order blocks of four of Scott's L4 and L5 were stuck on the cover and the cancels on both blocks slightly touched up at the right so as to "tie" them to the cover.



14. Fred Benedict has the following comments about lot #11438 in David Feldman's Public Auction of April 21-24, 1985. The lot description "reads in part '1925 Nejd postage due 2pi orange with due HS in blue instead of black.....superb and very rare, only a few known, signed Uexkull (SG D233a).'" This single, top marginal copy sold for SF4800, not including the 15% buyer's commission, or about \$2200!!! The A.P.A. membership should be informed that the stamp is not that rare. I traded a full sheet of Scott J13 for a bunch of Hejaz errors I needed. This sheet had all blue overprints except the bottom row. From the illustration, it appears my trading partner broke up the sheet. The illustrated stamp had the 'mustahiq' handstamp misplaced over the value, and my sheet had this in rows 1 and 2. I also have a single with blue handstamp which did not come from the sheet I had. So there are at least 30 stamps from one sheet and an unknown quantity from at least one more sheet."

15. From Elias Kawar, a Turkish U.P.U. postcard with the Al Ula negative cancel commemorating the opening of the Tebouk-Al Ula segment of the Hejaz Railway, sent by I. Ilhamy to his wife in Paris. Part of the message reads "Today the inauguration of El-Oula. I have been awarded the medal of merit in gold. The card may figure in Maurice's collection as the cancellation is special for the ceremony and will only be used for one day.... 1st September, 1907".





N.-B. — Ce côté-ci est réservé  
exclusivement à l'adresse.

اشبو جهت مرسل اليك نام وشهرت  
و محل اقامتك تدر برينه مخصوص صدر

Ma chère femme — Avez-vous vu  
l'histoire de l'El-Bula. On m'a  
donné la médaille de mérite en Or.  
La carte peut figurer dans la  
collection de Maurice pour l'  
obliteration est spéciale à ton  
usage et n'aura une durée que  
d'une fin. Baisers aux enfants.  
Salutations affectueuses.

Le 1<sup>er</sup> septembre 1907.

# THE KING ALI ISSUE

## PART I

by J. I. Kearney

### Introduction

In this issue and the next several issues I will attempt to distribute information about the Hejaz postage and postage due stamps known as the King Ali issue. The purpose of these articles will be to share what is known about the King Ali issue based on personal studies of this issue and by comparing other informed sources namely, Warin (The Postal Issues of the Hejaz, Jeddah and Nejd, Mayo (Barid al-Sa'udiyah wa al Hejaz wa Nejd) and Wilson (The Hejaz, A History in Stamps). Another purpose is to solicit comments from readers to increase our knowledge. Ideally, preliminary checklists and other listings would be updated after reader comments are received.

The first installment will deal with the regular unoverprinted issues, imperforates and proofs. Other installments will cover the Cairo overprints, Jeddah Type I, Jeddah Type II overprints and perhaps all the postage dues as one installment. Any suggestions along the way will be greatly appreciated.

### UNOVERPRINTED POSTAGE STAMPS

When the stock of the locally overprinted stamps (the Jeddah four line overprints) was exhausted, the Hejaz Government decided in May of 1925 to issue a new definitive set for King Ali (his father Hussain having abdicated on October 5, 1924). The request was originally placed with the Survey of Egypt (who printed the first perforated, roulette 20 and roulette 13 issues). Early delivery was not assured so the order was given to the Mourafatti Press in Cairo. The stamps were lithographed in sheets of 50, perforated 11 1/2. They were distributed in groups of 20 sheets with a printed cover, the color of the printing being the same as the stamps. A translation of the printed cover is as follows:

Post of the Hejaz Arabian Government  
Ordered by  
His Highness Ali ibn Al-Hussain King  
Governor of Hejaz Arabia  
Postal Stamps  
20 pages each containing 50 stamps  
Value of each stamp (the value) piasters

The cover for the three piasters is shown as Attachment I.

The values prepared were 1/8, 1/4, 1/2, 1, 1 1/2, 2, 3, 5 and 10 piasters. The 10pi. was printed frames first (red) and centers last (green). All values exist imperforate. The 10pi. also exists with centers inverted. Scott lists the 10pi. without overprint as an issued stamp below all of the overprinted stamps. The author can find no justification for such listing. It is not mentioned in Warin. Warin lists the 10pi. yellow green (center) and blue green along with 10pi. red and green as a basic stamp. In my opinion this is in error. None of 10pi. yellow green and blue green (I have this item listed as yellow green and green) stamps to my knowledge were subsequently overprinted. If this stamp was a proof it was one of a few proofs of this issue that the author has seen perforated.

Mayo also lists the 3pi. olive green with the basic stamps, the author considering it only as a proof. Warin's choice of colors is olive green for the 3pi. I prefer to describe the basic 3pi. as dark green. A listing of the perforated stamps, the imperforated stamps and the proofs follow. All of these should be considered as unissued stamps. None have been found genuinely used.

Several values are known to exist with certain omitted perforations, imperf. horizontally or imperf. vertically. Two values are known with double vertical perforations, the 1 1/2 and the 1/2 but in the left margin. Other examples probably exist.

Attachment II lists the stamps as they were probably intended to be used with various varieties. Varieties listed by Mayo but not seen by the author are indicated "M". Attachment III lists proofs.



دَابِرُ الْإِسْلَامِ وَمَتْنُ الْعَرَبِيِّ لِلْبَيْهَقِيِّ

أَمْرٌ تَطْبَعُهُ

صَلَّى الْجَلِيلَةَ الْيَفْنَاعَةَ عَلَى بَيْتِكَ مَلِكِ الْإِسْلَامِ وَالْحَبَشِيِّ  
بِجَزَائِرِ



طَوَابِعُ بَكْرِيْدَامِيْرِيَّةِ

عِشْرُونَ صَحِيْفَةً فِي كُلِّ مِنْهَا خَمْسُونَ طَابِعًا

مِنْ قِيَمَةِ ثَلَاثَةِ قُرُوشٍ صَاغَا





## KING ALI POSTAGE STAMPS (UNOVERPRINTED)

	Perf.	Imperf.
1/8pi. chocolate	x	x
1/4pi. ultramarine	x	x
a. vertical pair, imperf. between	x	
b. horizontally imperf.	M	
1/2pi. carmine	x	x
a. double vertical perfs in left margin	x	
1pi. yellow green	x	x
a. double impression		M
1 1/2pi. orange	x	x
a. double vertical perfs	x	
b. vertically imperf.	M	
c. vertical pair, imperf. between	M	
2pi. blue	x	x
a. extra vertical perfs approx. 1/3rd into design	x	
b. horizontal pair, imperf. between	x	
c. horizontally imperf.	M	
3pi. dark green	x	x
a. horizontal pair, imperf. vertically	x	
5pi. orange brown	x	x
a. vertically imperf. in right margin	x	
b. double impression		M
10pi. red & green	x	x
a. center double	x	
b. vertical strip of 3, imperf. between	x	
c. horizontal pair, imperf. between	x	
d. center inverted	x	M

KING ALI POSTAGE STAMPS (UNOVERPRINTED)  
PROOFS

	Gummed paper as issued stamps		Ungummed paper	
	Perf.	Imperf.	Perf.	Imperf.
2pi. rose			x	M
3pi. olive green	x	x		
10pi. yellow green and yellow green		x	x	
10pi. yellow green center only				M
10pi. yellow green and green	x	x		x
10pi. yellow green and olive		x		
10pi. yellow green and gray green		x		
10pi. gray green center only				x
10pi. yellow green and blue		x		
10pi. blue center only				x
10pi. yellow green and orange		x		
10pi. orange center only				M
10pi. yellow green frame only		x		
10pi. red and olive		x		
10pi. red and orange		x		
10pi. red and gray green		x		
10pi. red and blue		x		
10pi. red frame only		x		
10pi. light blue and olive				x
10pi. light blue and gray green				x
10pi. light blue and blue				x
10pi. light blue and orange				x
10pi. light blue frame only				x
10pi. gray violet and olive				x
10pi. gray violet and gray green				x
10pi. gray violet and blue				x
10pi. grey violet frame only				M



## FORGED OVERPRINTS LIKE SCOTT ILLUSTRATIONS

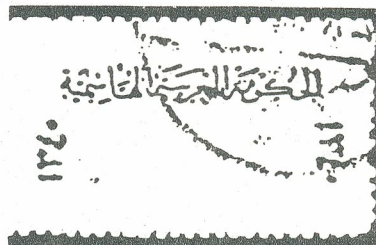
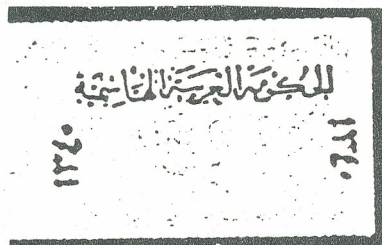
By: David Graham

The following forged overprints have all, or nearly all, of the individual characteristics of those currently illustrated in Scott's Catalogue. As they do not seem to have been recorded previously, and many have obvious faults, it would seem that they are of recent origin, although with perhaps one exception, they have all been used in the catalogue for 40 years at least. The possible exception is the four line overprint with surcharge, which in the fakes and in editions of the catalogue from 1979 has a variant "1" with a wide upper two-thirds on top of normal lower third, as will be clear from the illustration. However, the similar illustration in my 1942 edition (the only earlier one I have) shows a normal "1", though all other distinctive features are the same except for an additional long upright stroke at the far left of line 1.

These fakes all turned up in a small Midwestern auction in the U.S. It is quite likely that (a) similar ones are in circulation and (b) some not listed here, but made from other illustrations in Scott could appear at any time, or may even have turned up by the time these notes are published.

Details as follows, in order of catalogue illustrations.

1. UNFRAMED OVERPRINT. Distinctive numerals, especially tops of "3"s. Both "3"s and "1"s have "whiskers" - slight projections. Body of "ain" is open underneath (  instead of  ). Found on used stamps as L15, L16, LJ4, also mint L15c, L16c. (Editor's note: This appears to be a cleanly printed version of Type 8 forgery illustrated in the REFERENCE MANUAL OF SAUDI ARABIAN FORGERIES).



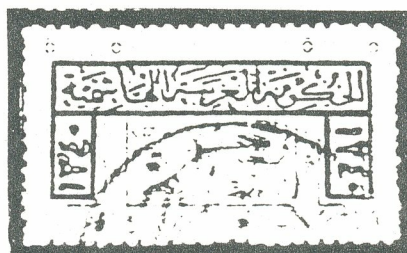
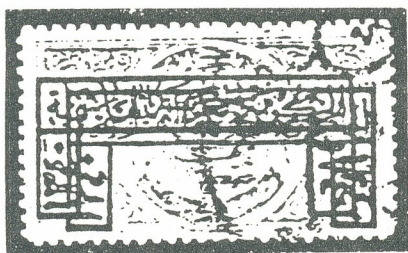
2. 1/2Q SURCHARGE. Breaks in letters. Thick tail to "faa". Found as L30 mint.

قرش واحد نصف قرش






3. 1Q SURCHARGE. Downward stroke from "qaf" through "raa" is straight rather than curved and ends in a fat "toe". Break between "Haa" and "daal"; slight projection in "shiy". Found on L31 making an apparent L31b, mint.
4. FRAMED OVERPRINT. Straight even frame bars without breaks. Hollows in numerals identical. Found on genuine L26, L27 and L28 to make apparent double overprint varieties, and as LJ8, all used.

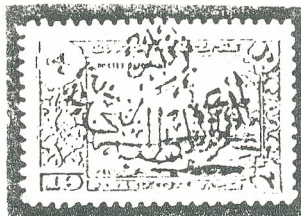


5. LARGE 3-LINE OVERPRINT. Rather low hook at left of line 1. Hump to the right of it is thickish with a point on top. Faint small stroke over diagonal above. Faint dot under "jiym", line 2. Found as mint L94a, L97a and double overprint variety of L96, on which the first overprint is a fake of some kind, with only one dot at top left. The basic stamp is also a reprint in pinkish brick, perf. 11-1/2, with a slightly speckled look similar to some 1/8 and 1/4q reprints. (Editor's note: This appears to be a clearly printed version of Type 3 forgery. The top line is too long - 17mm).

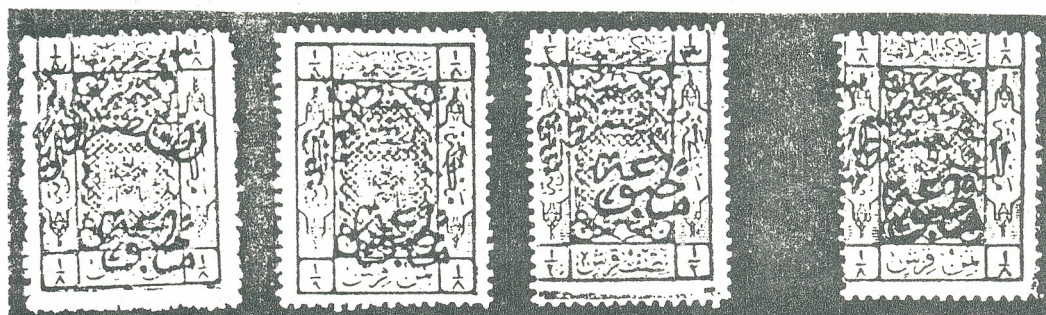


6. LARGE 4-LINE SURCHARGE. Line 1, knobs in first "alif" at right. Line 2, indentation in first "alif"; very distinctive diagonal dash over "zaa". Line 3, distinctive first "alif" and final "3" of "1343". Line 4, very distinctive "1" with bend, as described in the introductory paragraph. Found as mint L145a, L146a and L147 with crude almost triangular dot added to make "10".
7. SECOND NEJD HANDSTAMP. Characteristic cross-tie between down-stroke of "raa" in "bariyd" to diagonal stroke below. Break in "nun" of "sultanat" with serif (  ). Found as mint 36a, 38A. In the case of the latter, the ink is black and shiny, on a light brick red reprint with a speckled appearance,

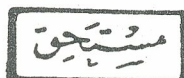
perf. 11-1/2. Also on J9 again with black ink instead of the proper violet.



8. MATBU'A HANDSTAMP. Identical to Scott illustration, except for slight indentation in hook of "miym" to right of dot. Found as mint P1, P2, P3. Ink is grayish black and not oily and also has slight streaky appearance sometimes seen on chemical-paper photocopies. P1 and P2 basic stamps are Scott 11 and 12, respectively. The fourth stamp shown is a P2 which may not be genuine, but is the right basic stamp and has oily ink.



9. BOXED MUSTAHIQ HANDSTAMP. Scott type "b", as on LJ26-39. Ink grayish black with slight streakiness. Characters very neat. Identical to Scott illustration except in downward rounded projection of left side of frame at bottom. Bottom line measures 18.75mm instead of 18.5mm in genuine ones of which LJ35-39 also have oily ink and rougher impressions. Found as mint LJ39.



10. 1935 "T" HANDSTAMP. Diameter 17.5mm against 18mm for those I believe to be genuine. Almost identical to Scott illustration, but without dots over crossbar of "T" at left and on circle at right. On the genuine ones, the serifs and upright of the "T" are open here and there, and formed of horizontal lines rather than solid, and are generally rougher than this fake. The



bottom crossbar of the forged "T" also slopes down to the right and touches the circle. Found on 1950's printing of the basic stamp on coarse white, fairly thick paper, vermilion red and pin-perf. 11, rather than thin waxy paper, carmine, clean perf. 11-1/2 of first Tughra issue printing. The apparently genuine handstamp also has oily ink with slight spots showing through on the backs of the stamps.

11. KING ALI OVERPRINT. The same auction also had a set of 7 King Ali values with horizontal Jeddah-type black overprints, year "1343" below. All are identical, with rough broken numerals, especially the "1" in the year date. The upper tablet frame clearly widens out at the top. These overprints seem to be a copy of a genuine normal one (shown alongside), especially in the features of the day/month tablet. The genuine ones also have 3 horizontal bars between the final "3" and the frame at right whereas the fakes have an extra diagonal stroke below the bars. The fake overprint may also be a copy made from some catalog illustration. Found on mint 1/8, 1/4, 1/2, 1-1/2, 2, 3 and 5 qirsh stamps.

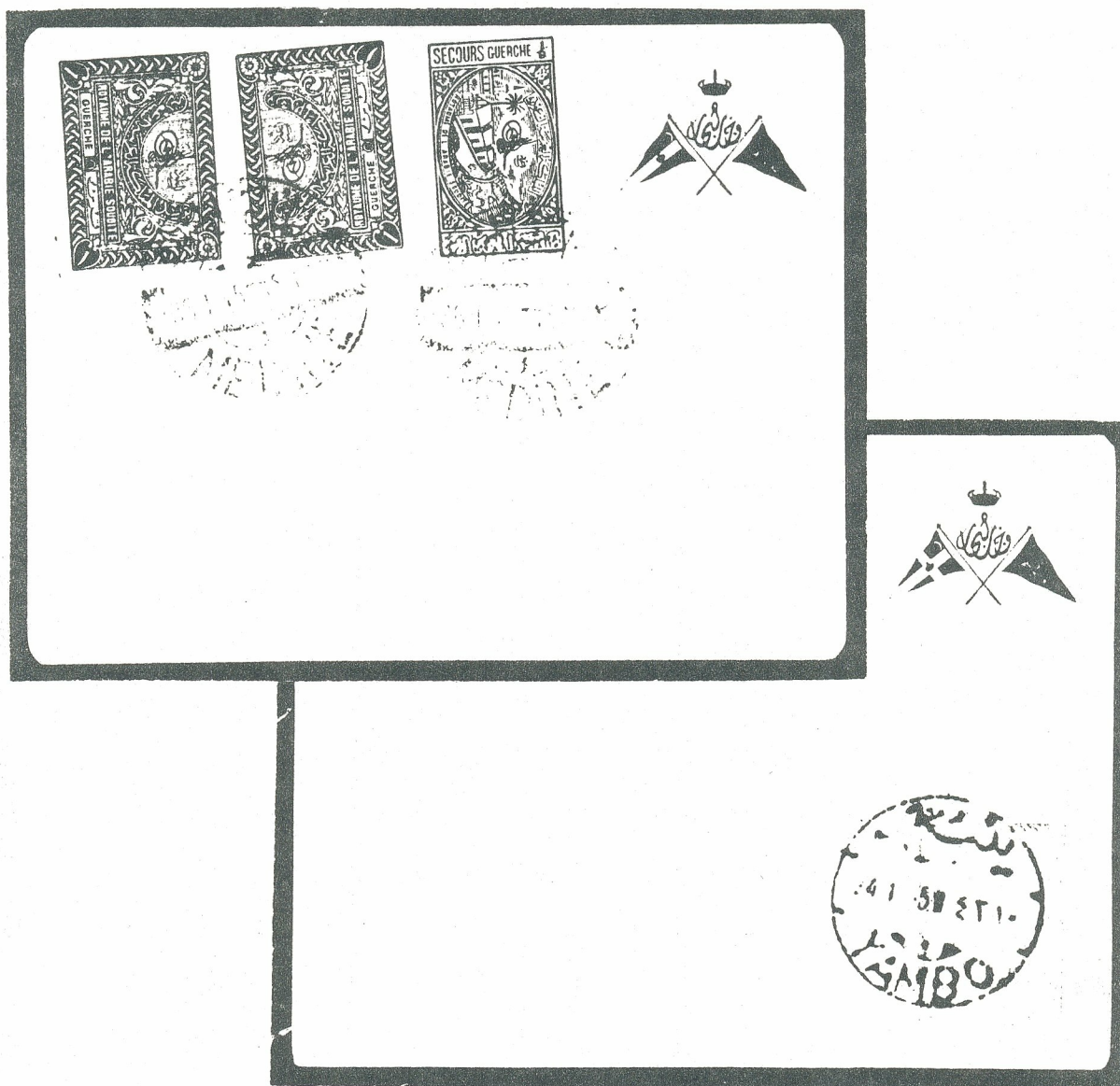


WHAT IS IT?

By: R.J. Thoden

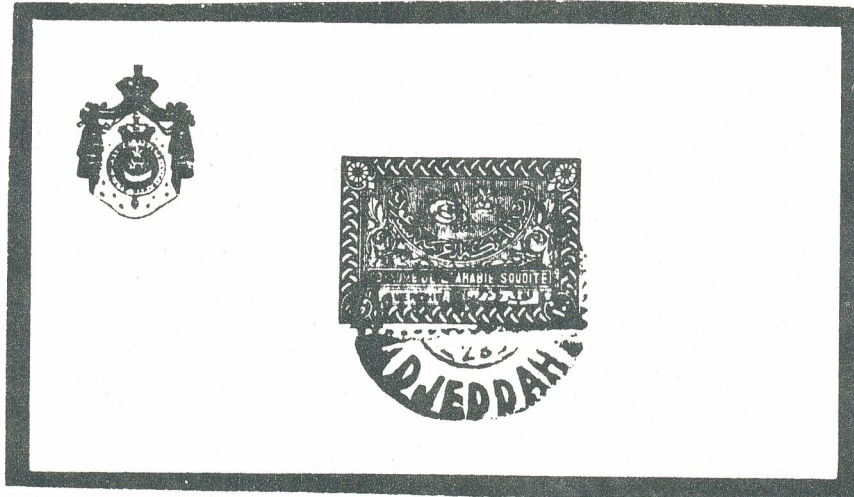
1. I have owned the illustrated cards for over 10 years and have not come across any information explaining what they are. Who can help?

The larger card is gilt-edged and has two crossed pennants, a crown and the inscription "fakhr al-bihar" (Pride of the Sea) at top right. One of the pennants has 3 stars and a crescent, possibly suggesting Egyptian origin. Cards cancelled YAMBO 24-1-45 (4-2-10 Hijrah) have either a 1/8 or 1/4 qirsh Tughra stamp. Cards cancelled MEDINE 36-1-45 (64-2-12 Hijrah) have two 1 qirsh Tughra stamps and a postal tax stamp. The western date is obviously an error, and should be 26-1-45. Scott's catalogue has a note under nos. 173-176 that Kings Ibn Sa'ud of Saudi Arabia and Farouk of Egypt met at Jebel Radwa near Yanbu (Yambo) on January 24, 1945. It is known that Farouk owned a royal yacht and that he was an avid stamp collector. Could these cards be souvenirs of his visit to Saudi Arabia?

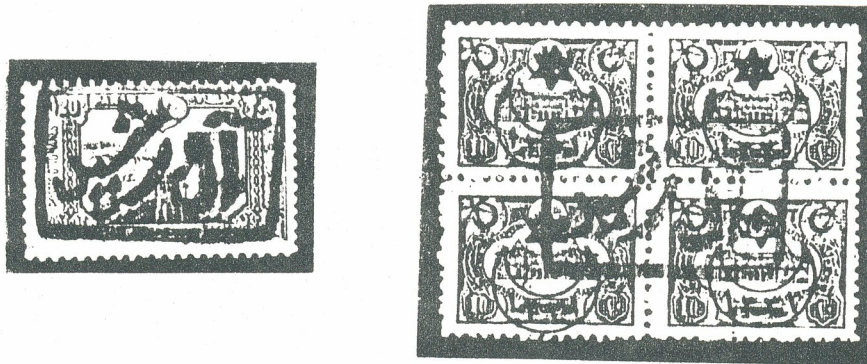




2. The smaller card is also gilt-edged and has a gold coat-of-arms at top left. The emblem includes 3 stars and a crescent which may indicate Egyptian origin. The cards have a single Tughra stamp of 10, 20 or 100 qirsh denomination. Others may exist but I have not seen them. The cancellation is DJEDDAH 21.9.45 (64.10.14 Hijrah).



3. Elias Kowar submits photocopies of Turkey Scott's 259 and 329 (block of four) with red "Al Rashid" handstamps. Al Rashid was the ruling family of the Hayil region in north central Saudi Arabia, which was allied with Turkey and opposed to the Al Saud family. Anybody know anything about these?





## THE REST OF THE CAIRO PRINTINGS STORY

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By: Frank E. Patterson III

In a previous issue of RANDOM NOTES I reported on the dated lower right corner blocks of the initial and first reissues of the 1960-63 definitive postage and airmail stamps. These were produced under contract by the Survey of Egypt in Cairo. The dates indicate the year in which the plates were prepared and usually when they first went to press. One plate was made for each pane and each press-sheet contained two panes. Since the dates were entered on the plates by hand, two variations of the dates can be identified for each value.

During this contract period, the Survey of Egypt also produced a total of five commemorative issues for the Saudi Arabian Government. Subsequently the printing contract was taken over by the Dar Al-Esfahani Press of Jiddah. The said commemoratives also had dates in the lower right corners of the sheets similar to those for the definitive issues. A complete listing follows:

Issue Date	Subject	Scott No.	Plate Date
4/1960	Arab Postal Union Congress	201-3	A/60
3/1960	Arab League Center	204	A/60
6/1960	International Radio Service	205-7	A/59
8/1961	Arab Telecommunications Union	243-5	A/61
4/1962	Arab League Week	246-8	A/62

Note the early date for the International Radio Service plates. Why?

The key plates used by the Survey of Egypt to print the green design of the Arab League Center bi-color commemorative, Scott 204, are of special interest. The same plates were also employed to produce similar commemoratives for Egypt, Jordan, Libya, Sudan, Syria and Yemen. Auxiliary plates were then used to imprint the individual country names, logos and values in black.

No report can be included on the Cairo-printed postage due stamps since I have never owned or seen any of the lower right corner blocks. On the basis of consistency, it is to be expected that they were also dated. Can anyone confirm this?

### EDITOR'S NOTES:

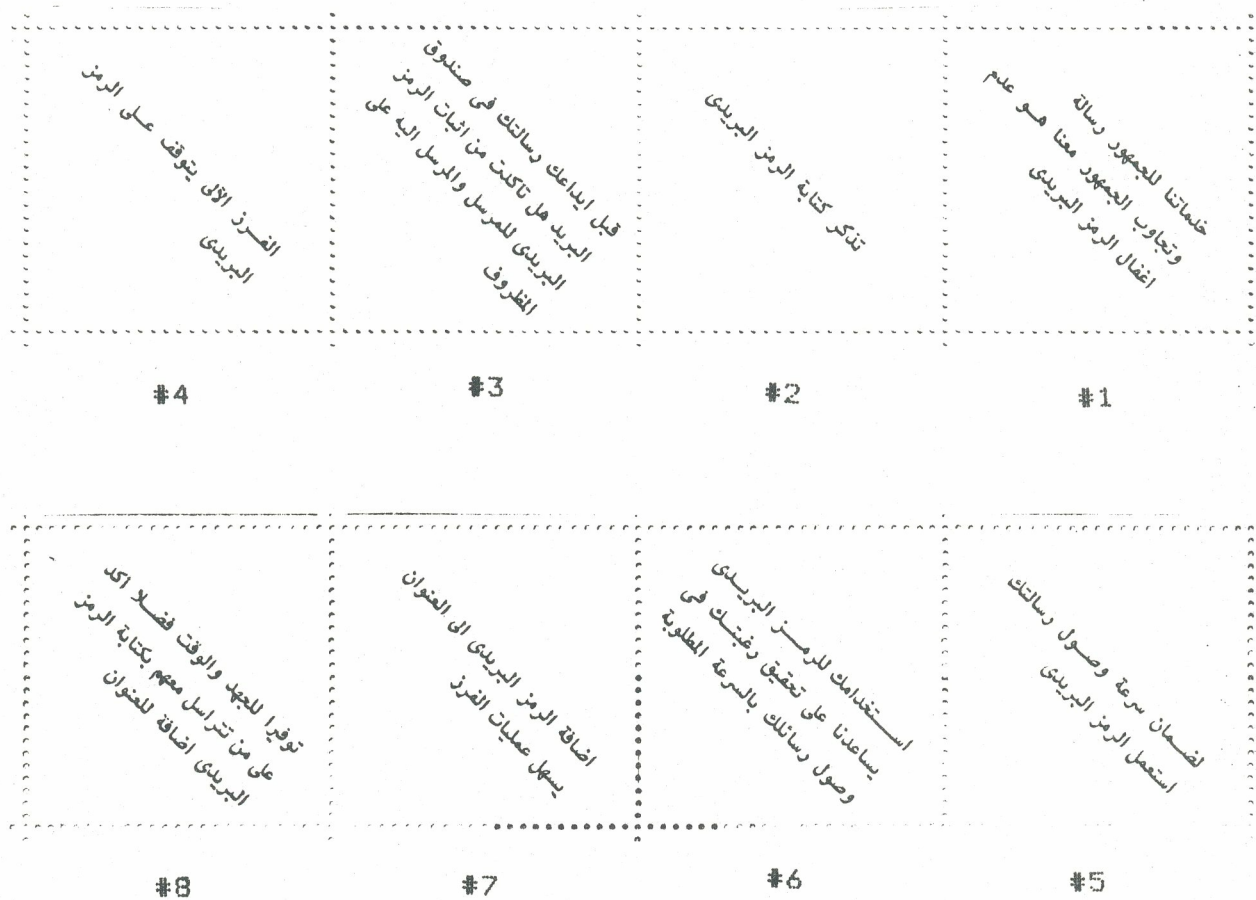
Mr. Patterson's first report on the Cairo printings was included in RANDOM NOTES No. 28, pages 4-5. The Cairo-printed postage dues have A/60 in the lower right corners. How about the Cairo-printed officials?

## POSTAL CODE LABELS

By: R. J. Thoden

A Postal Code system was inaugurated in Saudi Arabia in 1984. As one means of publicizing this, labels with postal code slogans were included in the sheets of certain commemorative issues with layouts of 4 x 13 or 6 x 9. With one exception, there were either two or four labels, so that there were 50 stamps per sheet. The exception was the Fourth Five Year Plan issue of 1985 which consisted of four rows of three blocks of four, with the entire bottom (ninth) row consisting of six labels.

Eight different slogans have been used. They are illustrated and translated below.



- (1) Our services to the public is our message and the public response should be not to forget the Postal Code.
- (2) Remember to write the Postal Code.
- (3) Before dropping your letter in the mail box, have you made sure that the Postal Codes of the sender and addressee are written on the envelope?
- (4) Automatic sorting (of mail) depends on the Postal Code.



- (5) To ensure the speedy delivery of your mail, use the Postal Code.
- (6) Using the Postal Code helps us to fulfill your wish in delivering your mail as quickly as required.
- (7) Adding Postal Code to the address facilitates the sorting process.
- (8) In order to save time and effort, please impress upon those you are corresponding with of the need to add the Postal Code to the address.

A complete listing, to date, of the labels appearing with the various commemorative issues follows:

90th Anniversary I.D.C.	20h - labels 5, 6, 7 and 8
	50h - labels 1, 2, 3 and 4
Arabsat	20h - labels 6 and 3
Koran Reading Competition	20h, 65h - labels 5, 6, 7 and 8
Fourth Five Year Plan	block of 4 - labels 5, 7, 8, 1, 2 and 4
East-West Pipeline	20h, 65h - labels 5 and 6
Prince Sultan/Discovery	115h - labels 2 and 1
Makkah/Medina Highway	20h - labels 2 and 1
	65h - labels 4 and 3
Postal Code Publicity	20h - labels 1 and 2
1985 Hajj	10h, 15h, 20h, 65h - labels 3 and 6

The existence of these labels opens up a new collecting interest for Saudi stamps, that of collecting these labels horizontally or vertically se-tenant with a stamp. This type of collecting enjoys considerable popularity in Europe, especially in Germany.



WATERMARK DIRECTIONS ON COMMEMORATIVE STAMPS

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K.H. Jung & R.J. Thoden

Most issues of Saudi Arabia printed on watermarked paper exist with the watermark in more than one direction; some come in all four directions. For many issues, the different directions seem to be equally available. However, for others, more care was evidently taken, and variant directions are scarce.

The listing that follows indicates varieties in the authors' collections: X - in both collections, J - in Jung's collection, T - in Thoden's collection. Varieties in only one collection may possibly, but not necessarily, indicate scarcity.

All directions are as seen from the front of the stamp: U = up, D = down, L = left, R = right. The watermark direction on diamond-shaped stamps is that when the stamp is oriented with the western denomination numeral at the lower left corner. Catalogue numbers are Scott's.

		U	D	L	R				U	D	L	R
<u>Dammam Port Expansion</u>		-	-	-	-		<u>Dhahran Airport</u>		-	-	-	-
240	3p	X	X				290	1p			X	X
241	6p	X	X				291	3-1/2p			X	
242	8p	X	J				292	6p			T	X
	3p sheet				T	X		293	7-1/2p		X	X
	6p sheet				X	T		294	9-1/2p		X	X
	8p sheet				X	X		<u>Human Rights</u>				
<u>Arab League Week</u>							296	3p			X	X
246	3p	X	X				297	6p			X	X
247	6p	X					298	9p			X	X
248	8p	X	T				<u>King Faisal</u>					
<u>Malaria</u>							299	4p			X	X
249	3p	X	X				<u>Makkah Conference</u>					
250	6p	X	X				344	4p			X	X
251	8p	X	X				345	6p			X	X
251a	sheet				X	X		346	10p		X	X
<u>Islamic Institute</u>							<u>Bourguiba Visit</u>					
252	2-1/2p				X	X		347	4p		X	X
253	7-1/2p				X	X		348	8p			X
254	9-1/2p				X	X		349	10p		X	X
<u>Freedom From Hunger</u>												
287	2-1/2p				X	X						
288	7-1/2p				X	X						
289	9p				X	X						

	U	D	L	R		U	D	L	R
Makkah-Taif Highway	-	-	-	-	King Abdul Aziz Univ.	-	-	-	-
350 2p			X	X	624 3p	X	X		
351 4p			X	X	625 4p	X			
352 6p			X	X	626 10p	X	X		
353 8p			X	X	Arab League Week				
Trans-Arabia Highway					627 10p	X	X		
453 1p		X			Int'l Education Year				
454 2p		X			628 4p	X	X	J	J
455 3p		X			OPEC				
456 4p		X			629 4p	X	X		
457 10p		X			Telecom. Day 1972				
3rd Rover Moot					630 4p	T		X	X
607 1p		X	X		Automatic Telephone				
608 4p		X	X		631 1p	X	X	J	X
609 10p		X	X		632 4p	X	X	J	X
Traffic Day					633 5p	X	J	J	J
610 3p			X		634 10p	X	J	X	X
610a 3p		X			World Literacy Day				
611 4p		X	X		635 10p	X	X		
612 10p		X	J		5th Rover Moot				
WHO					636 4p	X	X	X	X
613 4p		X	X	X	637 6p	X	X	X	J
Islamic Conference					638 10p	X	X	X	X
614 4p			X	X	Palestine Week				
615 10p			X	X	639 4p	X	X	X	X
Telecom. Day 1970					640 10p	X	X	X	X
616 4p		X	X		Hydrological Decade				
617 10p		X	X		641 4p	X	X	X	T
Steel Mill					Arab Postal Union				
618 3p			X	X	642 4p	X	J	X	X
619 4p			X	X	643 10p	X	X	T	X
620 10p			X	X	Childrens Day				
4th Rover Moot					644 4p	X	X		
621 10p		X	X						
Telecom. Day 1971									
622 4p			X	X					
623 10p			X	X					



75th Anniv. U.P.U.  
 -----  
 645 3p X X X  
 646 4p X X X X  
 647 10p X J X X

Int'l Book Year  
 -----  
 648 4p X X  
 649 10p X X

Desalination Plant  
 -----  
 650 4p X X X X  
 651 6p X X X X  
 652 10p X X X X

Interpol  
 -----  
 653 4p X X  
 654 10p X X

Consultative Council  
 -----  
 655 4p X X

U.P.U. Headquarters  
 -----  
 656 3p X X  
 657 4p X X  
 658 10p X X

Military Cantonment  
 -----  
 659 3p X X  
 660 4p X X  
 661 10p X X

Red Crescent  
 -----  
 662 4p X X  
 663 6p X X  
 664 10p X X

6th Rover Moot  
 -----  
 665 4p X X  
 666 6p X X  
 667 10p X X

Day of the Blind  
 -----  
 668 4p X X  
 669 10p X X

Int'l Meteorological  
 -----  
 670 4p X X

Charity Society  
 -----  
 676 4p X T  
 677 10p X X

Muslim Org. Conf.  
 -----  
 678 4p X J  
 679 10p X

Dome of the Rock 1979  
 -----  
 781 20h X X

Dome of the Rock 1983  
 -----  
 866 20h X

Ramadan T.V. Contest  
 -----  
 RA9 1R T X X

## EARLY SAUDI ARABIA AIRMAILS

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By: David Graham

Following are photocopies of two of my "first flight" covers as described by Mayo on page 91 of his book BARID AL-SA'UDIYYAH WA AL HEJAZ WA NAJD. Aerophilately specialist Patrick Earl of England sent the following comments regarding Saudi first flights:

"Misr Airwork sent an aeroplane into the Hejaz as far back as November 1933 when Mr. J. Mahoney, one of the company's pilots, flew a DeHavilland Dragon from Almaza to Jeddah by way of Tor, at the south end of the Sinai Peninsula (195 miles), Wedjh, on the east side of the Red Sea (215 miles) and Yambo (176 miles), making 784 miles in all. The Holy Cities of Makkah and Medina had so far not come within the regular radius of action of commercial airmail.

In November 1934, a DeHavilland Dragon flown by Mr. G.S. Brown and a Fox Moth flown by Sidki Effendi went to Jeddah by the same route. The party carried included Talaat Harb Pasha, managing director of the Misr Bank and director of Misr Airwork S.A.E. and Kemel Beg Eloui, managing director of Misr Airwork.

On January 9, 1936 Talaat Harb Pasha again went with a party, but by a DeHavilland Rapide, to Jeddah with stops having been made at Tor and Yambo. They arrived the same day after flying for 6 hours and 33 minutes. On Sunday the 18th of January, the party left Jeddah for Medina which they reached after a flight of 1 hour 45 minutes. Two days later, January 20, they flew from Medina via Yambo to Almaza in 5 hours 40 minutes.

The flight of November 1933 was the first civil flight to the Hejaz. That to Medina in January 1936 was the first civil flight to this Holy City, and it is believed that the machine was the first ever to visit Medina - although perhaps some of the pilots under Capt. Stent (R.A.F.) may have penetrated so far during the war in 1914-18 and some of the Air Force of King Ibn Saud may have been there.

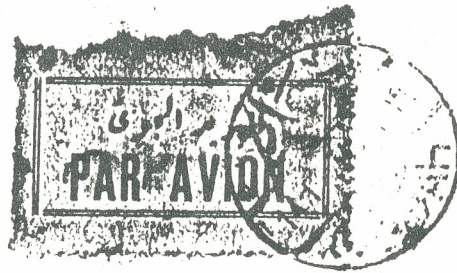
On each trip, the arrangements for aerodrome and refuelling were arranged by Misr Airwork, who had to send representatives to prepare landing grounds.

The pilgrim traffic to Makkah had always been a special line with the shipping companies, who kept specially-fitted pilgrim ships which went to Jeddah. As all classes of Muslims made this pilgrimage, the air service had hoped to carry a share of this traffic.

In 1937, Misr Airworks made special flights during the pilgrimage time.

The above is all the information that I have found but this does not seem to agree with the dates of your covers."





الرجاء

مخمس العام ١٤١٦  
عبد الحليم محمد ابراهيم



1st. Air Mail Medina - Jeddah, 14/1/36

By Air Mail,  
Jedda - Medina.



Mr. Syed Husein Imran Habbobi,  
Medina.

المدينة المنورة

عبد الحليم محمد ابراهيم  
عبد الحليم محمد ابراهيم

1st. Air Mail Jeddah - Medina, 17/1/36

HABBAZ



First Air mail from Medina to Jeddah.  
Special flight by Inson Airways 14-1-36.  
The D. H. Dragon machine that carried this  
mail was the first aeroplane to visit the  
Holy City of Medina.

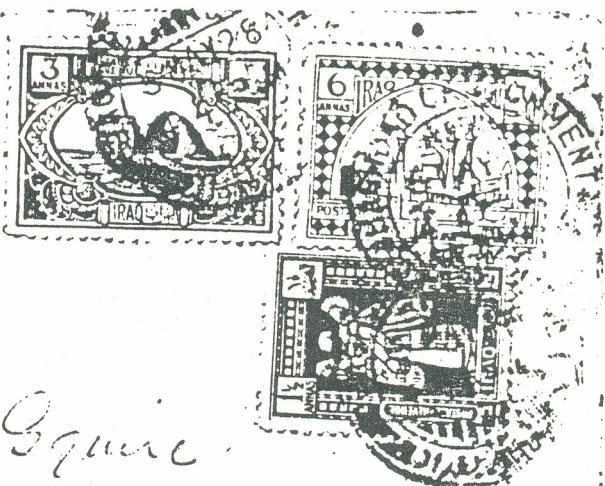
1st. Air Mail Medina - Jeddah, 14/1/36

First Air mail from Jeddah to Medina.  
Special flight by Inson Airways 17-1-36.  
This was the first Air mail to arrive at  
Medina as no mail was carried on the first  
flight a few days previously. 15/1/36

1st. Air Mail Jeddah - Medina, 17/1/36

Also, from Patrick Earl, a photocopy of an air mail cover, together with Francis Field's commentary thereon. I wrote in the date as it did not come out clearly.

**AIR MAIL**  
**BAGHDAD-CAIRO.**



To Hama, via UR  
By Consign, of 30 Sqdn

Miss L. Guine

94 Dame Agnes Street,  
Woodborough Road

Baghdad - Cairo  
Writing to

TELEPHONE 1748

FRANCIS J. FIELD.  
AIR MAIL CONSULTANT.  
LICENSED VALUER  
AND  
EXPERTISER.

"ROSEMOUNT,"  
SUTTON COLDFIELD,  
Nr. BIRMINGHAM,  
ENGLAND.

23 JUNE 19 32

First Hedjaz Air Mail.

In March, 1928, a unit of the British R.A.F. was sent to the assistance of Ibn Saud of Hedjaz in the ~~assistance~~ suppression of a revolt. Air mails from this unit were flown by a communications aeroplane to ~~Bag~~ Baghdad where they were postmarked, and then carried over the ordinary air line to Egypt.

Two or three letters only have been traced. The cover herewith was sent and inscribed by Ft.-Lieut. C.R. Carr, an officer of the unit, and flown to Baghdad via Ur by a machine of No. 30 Squadron.

Francis Field



SAUDI ARABIA REVENUE CATALOG PROJECT

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By: R. J. Thoden

COURT FEE STAMPS

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Usage: These stamps were used to denote payment of the fees levied by the registrar on legal documents such as "all kinds of deeds, documents pertaining to matters of rights, and civil and religious transactions" requiring registration in the Shari'ah courts. The fees were either fixed according to the kind of document, or levied on a percentage basis. They were in addition to other applicable documentary, railway, etc. taxes.

ISSUES OF HEJAZ

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1921(?)

Perf. 11-1/2

Unwmkd.

RCF1	CF1	1q red
RCF4	CF1	5q green
RCF5	CF1	10q greenish blue
RCF6	CF1	20q brown red
RCF8	CF1	50q red
RCF9	CF1	100q green
RCF11	CF1	500q red

The inscriptions read "Al-Hukumah Al-Arabiyah Al-Hashemiyah" (The Hashemite Arab Government), "'Abdu" (God's Servant), "Al-Husain bin 'Ali" (the King's name) and "khas bi al-mahakum al-Shari'ah" (special for Shari'ah Courts).

Other values may exist.

Stamps of 1921  
handstamped  
in black



1925

Perf. 11-1/2

Unwmkd.

RCF20	CF1	1q dull red
RCF24	CF1	10q greenish blue

Nos. RCF20-24 were provisionally issued in Jeddah during its siege by the Saudi forces. The handstamp reads "Al-Hukumah Al-Hejaziah 1344" (The Hejaz Government 1925). The handstamp was applied to prevent the use of stamps seized by the Saudi forces when they captured Makkah, where the Stamp Printing Press was located.

Other values probably exist.

#### ISSUES OF HEJAZ AND NEJD

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1926(?)

Perf. 11-1/2

Unwmkd.

RCF35	CF2	5q blue
RCF38	CF2	50q yellow green
RCF39	CF2	100q red brown
RCF40	CF2	500q brown

Inscriptions read: "Al-Hukumah Al-Arabiyah" (The Arabian Government) and "khas li-kuttab al-'adl" (special for Shari'ah Court registrars).

Other values undoubtedly exist.

ISSUES OF SAUDI ARABIA



1934-45

Perf. 11, 11-1/2

Unwmkd.

			A. Perf. 11-1/2	B. Perf. 11
RCF45	CF3	5q ultramarine		X
RCF46	CF3	10q red		X
		a. brown red on grayish	X	

Top inscription now reads "Al-Mamlakah Al-Arabiyyah Al-Saudiyyah" (the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia).

Other values probably exist.

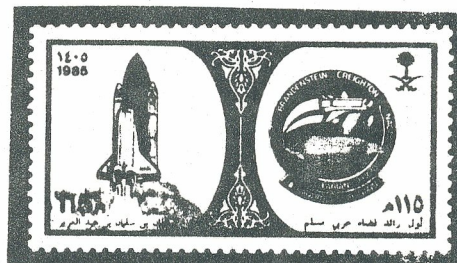
A Royal Order dated May 17, 1955 discontinued the registrar's fees for legal documents, thus ending the use of these stamps.

NEW ISSUES OF SAUDI ARABIA

By: Abdul Aziz Sa'id

In RANDOM NOTES No. 31, the quantity for the East-West Pipeline set released on June 9, 1985 was reported as 800,000 sets. Only 400,000 sets were actually released, however, as this was the quantity called for in the original 1983 printing order. The balance will be destroyed.

July 7, 1985: A set of two stamps, 20h and 115h, was issued to mark the participation of the first Arab-Muslim astronaut, Prince Sultan ibn Salman ibn Abdul Aziz Al Sa'ud, in voyage 51-G of the American space shuttle, Discovery, launched June 17, 1985. The 20h stamp depicts the shuttle at launch, the Tughra of Prince Sultan and Arabsat 2. Designed by Mohammad Al-Tageb. Printed in sheets of 50 stamps (10 x 5). The 115h stamp depicts the mission emblem at the right and the shuttle at the left. Designed by Mohammad Gharib Farwar. Printed in sheets of 50 stamps and 2 postcode labels (4 x 13). Unwatermarked paper. Perforated 12. Quantity: 800,000 sets.

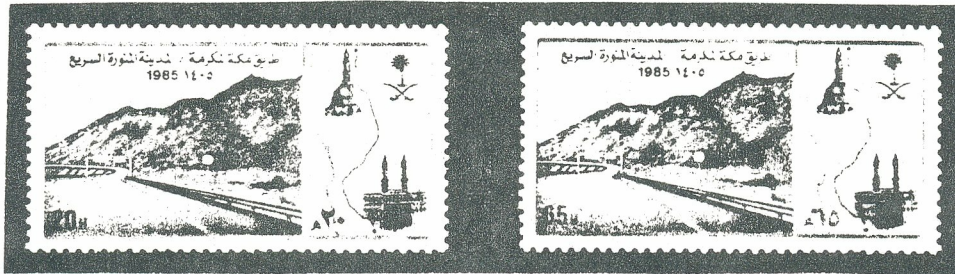


July 15, 1985: A 20h stamp was issued to commemorate the 40th anniversary of the founding of the United Nations. The design shows the figure 40 with the U.N. emblem within the "0" of "40". Designed by Ashfaq Ghani. Printed in sheets of 50 stamps (5 x 10). Unwatermarked paper. Perforated 12. Quantity: 800,000 stamps.





July 22, 1985: A set of two stamps, 20h and 65h, was issued to commemorate the inauguration of the Makkah-Medina highway on October 11, 1984. The design depicts the highway, mountains, a map of the route, the Holy Ka'aba in Makkah and the Prophet's Mosque in Medina. Designed by Ashfaq Ghani. Printed in sheets of 50 stamps and 2 postcode labels (4 x 13). Unwatermarked paper. Perforated 12. Quantity: 800,000 sets.



July 24, 1985: A 20h stamp was issued to publicize the Postcode. The design shows a letter with postcode 11254, the Directorate General of Posts emblem and several other postcodes. Designed by Abdulkader Al-Husseini. Printed in sheets of 50 stamps and 2 postcode labels (4 x 13). Unwatermarked paper. Perforated 12. Quantity: 800,000 stamps.



July 30, 1985: A set of three stamps, 20h, 65h and 115h, was issued to commemorate the victory of the Saudi team in the 8th Asian Soccer Cup competition in 1984. The design depicts the cup and a football. Designed by Mohammad Gharib Parwar. Printed in sheets of 50 stamps (5 x 10). Unwatermarked paper. Perforated 12. Quantity: 800,000 sets.

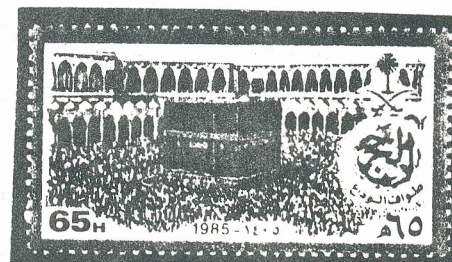
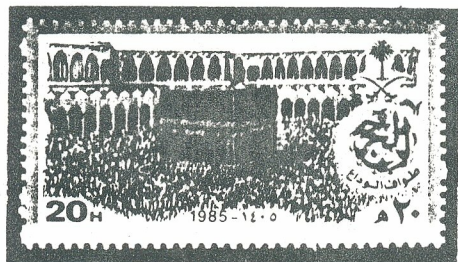
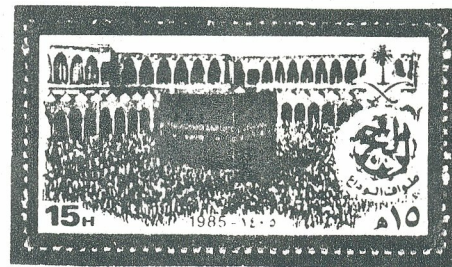
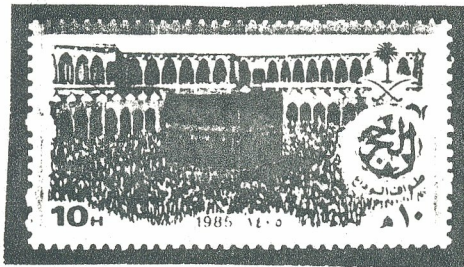




August 3, 1985: Two additional values, 15h and 50h, of the small definitives depicting the Holy Ka'aba were issued in Riyadh\*. Sheets of 105 stamps (7 x 15). Creamy paper with watermark Scott type 361 upright. Perforated 12.



August 25, 1985: A set of four stamps, 10h, 15h, 20h and 65h was issued to commemorate the 1985 Hajj (Pilgrimage). The design shows pilgrims performing the Farewell Tawaf (circling of the Ka'aba). Designed by a Security Press artist. Printed in sheets of 50 stamps and 2 postcode labels (4 x 13). Unwatermarked paper. Perforated 12. Quantity: 800,000 sets.



To be issued: A 65h of the small definitives depicting the Holy Ka'aba, similar to the original but printed on unwatermarked paper of the type used for commemorative stamps. Sheets of 105 stamps (7 x 15). Perforated 12.

All of the above stamps were offset printed by the Government Security Printing Press, Riyadh.

\* Editor's note: These two stamps were on sale in Dammam about one week earlier.



FREE ADLETS

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RANDOM NOTES will publish as many free adlets in each issue as will fit on one page. Maximum five lines per adlet. Send to the editor. If more adlets are received than there is space available, a priority system will be used whereby repeat adlets by the same person will be put at the bottom of the waiting list.

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WANTED: Saudi Arabia mint Scott's L22-23, L108-115, L135a-141a, LJ11-13, LJ26a-34a, LJ35-39, J4-6. Write to: Abdul Aziz Sa'id, Box 1317, Riyadh 11431, Saudi Arabia.

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FOR SALE: Saudi Arabia Scott 016-20, mint never hinged. \$20.00  
Same, block of 4 \$100.00  
PERSIPHILA, P.O. Box 1589, Glendora, CA 91740-1589, USA.  
Telephone: (818)963-1232.

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SPECIALIZED mail auctions & net price lists of Saudi Arabia, Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Syria, Yemen and other Middle Eastern countries. For more information or to receive a free copy of our next sale, write PERSIPHILA, Box 1589, Glendora, CA 91740-1589, USA.

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AVAILABLE: Scarce Saudi definitives and commemoratives. Want lists are welcome. Aouni Edriss, P.O. Box 2578, Hofuf 31982, Saudi Arabia. Phone: 03-5874483.

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ACCEPTED: Hejaz want lists from A.P.A. members in Dhahran and vicinity. Most low and medium priced stamps available. All are genuine. Indicate your preferences on centering and hinging, although not all stamps are available in all grades. R.J. Thoden, Aramco Box 1802, Dhahran 31311, Saudi Arabia.

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WANTED: Hejaz stamps with clear postmarks of CONFIDAH, MAAN, RABIGH, TEBOUK and other less often seen cities. No DJEDDAH or "MECCA" required. Will pay a large premium over catalog price. R.J. Thoden, Aramco Box 1802, Dhahran 31311, Saudi Arabia.

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TO BE SOLD: by Robert Siegel, 160 E. 56 Street, New York, N.Y. 10022 in October, on behalf of an A.P.A. subscriber: Saudi Arabia Scott's L31a (sheet of 50), P1 and P3. These items were in the 1980 Mayo sale as lots 1810, 1916 and 1918. P1 and P3 have Philatelic Foundation certificates.

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WANTED: Court Fee revenue stamps like those listed in this RANDOM NOTES. R.J. Thoden, Aramco Box 1802, Dhahran 31311, Saudi Arabia.

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FOR SALE: 35 different MNH Saudi Arabia airmails includes C30-32, C34/50, C55/70, C72-73. Scott catalog 1985 \$87.20. Price SR250 or \$69.00. Kearney, Aramco Box 5060, Dhahran 31311, Saudi Arabia.

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FOR SALE: The Postal Issues of Hejaz, Jeddah & Nejd by D.F. Warin. One of 350 copies from the original printing. With gray cover and all inserts as issued. SR525 or \$150 postpaid. Kearney, Aramco Box 5060, Dhahran 31311, Saudi Arabia.

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# Arabian Philatelic Association

c/o Aramco, Box 1929,  
Dhahran, Saudi Arabia

AUCTION PROSPECTUS  
15th AUCTION  
FEBRUARY 27, 1986

The Arabian Philatelic Association will hold an auction on Thursday, February 27, 1986 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:	November 13, 1985
Catalogue to be released by:	December 18, 1985
Auction:	February 27, 1986

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 1/2 x 8 1/2 inch sheets, large lots on 3 1/2 x 11 inch 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 centering and condition of gum (MNH, mint, no gum or used) and 1986 Scott catalogue number. (If not listed by Scott use the most appropriate Scott number and "var" and then list the Mayo (M) or Stanley Gibbons (SG) catalog number.) We will attempt to publish the auction catalogue with 1986 Scott catalogue values, if available when we distribute the catalogue. A reserve must be stated, and it should conform to the following bidding increments:

Minimum of SR30 to SR50	SR 2 increments
Over SR50 to SR100	SR 5 increments
Over SR100 to SR200	SR 10 increments
Over SR200 to SR500	SR 20 increments
Over SR500 to SR1,000	SR 50 increments
Over SR1,000	SR 100 increments

2. No lot with a reserve of less than SR30 (equal to \$8.26 as of August 31, 1985) 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, heavily cancelled items, defective items, forgeries, etc. The Auctioneer also reserves the right to divide or group lots or accept bids on groups of lots as he deems appropriate or as he deems will make them sell better.

5. This is primarily an auction of Saudi Arabian material, including Egyptian and Turkish forerunners, Hejaz and Nejd, and this is what the buyers will be looking for. Other material will be accepted, but if too much is received for one afternoon's selling, non-Saudi lots may be offered on a mail bid only basis, or offered later at the next regular meeting of the Association.

6. Lots should be mailed by first class registered airmail, or hand delivered, to the Auctioneer at the address 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, with a minimum of SR 2 per lot. The maximum commission charged for an unsold lot will be SR 25.

8. Neither the Auctioneer nor the Arabian Philatelic Association nor any of its officers assumes any liability whatsoever in connection with this auction.

9. Unsold lots will be mailed back to the seller if overseas, and postage and registration will be for the account of the seller.

10. In the event that buyers return lots as not being correctly described, the validity of such claims will be decided by a committee comprised of three officers of the Association. Sellers agree to accept the decision of the committee and to make refunds as necessary.

11. Only APA members and subscribers as of December 1, 1985 may participate in this auction. Questions concerning your status should be directed to the Secretary.

12. The Treasurer of the Association will make remittances to sellers (less commission, postage and registration) as soon as possible after buyers have paid for their lots.

13. Sellers should note carefully that submission of lots signifies complete acceptance of the the above rules and conditions.

James I. Kearney  
1986 Auctioneer

c/o Aramco, Box 5060  
Dhahran, Saudi Arabia  
Tel. 966-3-875-2181