



جماعة هواة الطوابع العربية  
ملاحظات عابرة

Arabian Philatelic Association  
Random Notes

FALL 1985

NUMBER 33

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\*  
\* THIS WILL BE THE LAST ISSUE OF \*  
\* RANDOM NOTES \*  
\* YOU WILL RECEIVE UNLESS YOUR \*  
\* 1986 DUES OR SUBSCRIPTION FEES ARE PAID! \*  
\*  
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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.

J. I. Kearney, President	
B.H. Walthall, Past President	P.C. Stainer, 1st Vice president
R.J. Thoden, 2nd Vice president	R. Bradford, Corresponding Secretary
W.A. King, Membership Secretary	J.I. Kearney, Auctioneer
G.P. Polonica, Treasurer	K. Forber, Annual Show Chairman

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/subscribers attending meetings in Dhahran.  
J.M. Wilson - for subscribers in U.S.A. Mr Wilson is a stamp dealer and charges a fee for his services. His address is: P.O.Box 3054, Humble, Texas 77347-3054, U.S.A.  
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.

Articles on all aspects of Saudi Arabian philately are urgently needed for publication in the RANDOM NOTES, and should be submitted directly to the editor. The right to edit or reject all submissions is reserved.

# RANDOM NOTES FROM DHAHRAN

By: R. J. Thoden

1. Elections for 1986 officers were held at the January 11, 1986 A.P.A. meeting in Dhahran. The new officers are listed on page 2. Since the A.P.A. is an ARAMCO sponsored organization, only A.P.A. members (that is, ARAMCO employees) are eligible to be officers and to vote in the election.
2. APEX-14 was held on December 5 in Dhahran. Quality of the exhibits was very high. The following awards were made:

## GRAND AWARD:

P.C. Stainer for "Ceylon - The Local Surcharges of 1885"

## GOLD MEDALS:

J.I. Kearney for "Saudi Arabia - 1934-1953"

W.A. King for "The Airmails of Sudan"

W.A. King for "The 64 Cent of Ceylon" \*

## SILVER MEDALS:

W.A. King for "The Pence Issues of Ceylon"

P.C. Stainer for "Ceylon Postal Commission Surcharges 1888-1890"

R.V. Gehle for "Saudi Arabia Postal Tax and Official Stamps" \*

## BRONZE MEDALS:

Saima Khan for "Transportation - Cars" \*\*

G.E. Benham, Jr. for "American Trivia" \*

R. Bradford for "Czechoslovakian Airmails 1921-1939) \*

K. Forber for "British Islands Under German Occupation" \*

\* Mini-exhibit.

\*\* Junior exhibit.

3. LINN'S STAMP NEWS included "Trends of Stamp Values" for Saudi Arabia in its October 7, 1985 issue. For those who may have missed this, LINN's made the following comments:

"In 1981, Trends noted a wide disparity of prices among dealers advertising stamps of this important country. Taken on the average however, prices for most Saudi stamps appeared to be rising at that time.

Once again this week, it is important to note that the variance of prices among the several dealers now advertising Saudi stamps is, if possible, even wider than it was in 1981. The implication of this statement for collectors and investors is, of course, that it pays to shop around and to participate in mail bid sales and at auctions to take advantage of disparate prices.

But when all figures are totaled, there is no question but that something of very major significance is happening in the Saudi Arabian market. Prices are not up for every stamp, but they are for an overwhelming number of issues. Some stamps have soared by 100, 200 or 300 percent or more.

It seems obvious that Saudi Arabia is the current "boom" prospect. Some investors and a great many speculators are now in this market, and a good number of dealers, sensing quick profits, are taking considerable opportunity to raise prices accordingly.

Serious collectors might do well to sit this one out until the dust settles, or else take a chance on paying high premiums for the stamps they need.

Trends will of course monitor this part of the marketplace and as factors of price warrant will update this country again."

4. David Graham, an A.P.A. subscriber and General Manager of Filatco, a firm dealing in Saudi stamps, had the following letter printed in "Readers' Opinions" in LINN's of November 4, 1985:

"Recent comments on the Saudi Arabian stamp market, in particular Trends of Stamp Values in the Oct. 7 LINN's, have missed several important points.

The number of collectors in the Kingdom has been growing steadily and there are now three active stamp clubs there. The Arabian Philatelic Association of Dhahran is the principal center of research; the government-sponsored Saudi Arabian Philatelic Society promotes collecting in schools and youth clubs; and there is now a Red Sea Philatelic Society based in Yanbu Al-Sinaiyah.

Each of these groups has some 300-400 members, I understand, although not all collect Saudi stamps.

Many early stamps of 1924-5 were printed in very small quantities and these are not only errors and other varieties; for example, Scott L61 (100 printed), L67 (50), L69 (80), and LJ17 (100).

The figures for Scott L84, L92, L98, L100, L105, 38A, 38B and J5 are not known, but all are very rare. Only a few longtime collectors have managed to find them.

The Scott 1985 valuations of \$50-100 for most of these are much too low. These items are on nearly everyone's want list.

Unfortunately, there are thousands of forgeries of the early issues, which masks the fact that so many genuine stamps are scarce. It took me seven years to find a mint Scott 39B, priced at \$10 (\$2 catalog)! L124 (\$6 catalog) probably does not even exist, and if it does must be worth \$1,000 or more.

Between about 1967-78, expatriate workers poured into the country and put a great strain on the postal service, so that post offices were often short of stamps and refused to sell them except for postal use.

The Riyadh Government Security Press gave postage stamps a rather low priority. Print runs were often small, usually about 300,000-400,000. Foreign companies would buy large quantities of stamps which paid the rate to their home countries so that their workers could avoid standing in line at post offices in the searing heat. This meant that a new issue often was sold out in a week or so.

Distribution was based on the demand for certain values at the individual post offices. Thus, while there were about 250 different definitive stamps of various denominations and designs in circulation, a typical postmaster might have only seven or eight values, regardless of their design or of collectors' wants.

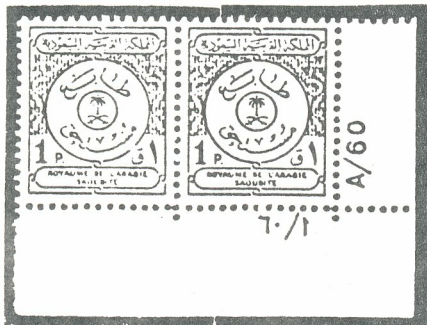
So many stamps that are now very scarce, such as Scott's 329, 431, 434, C33A, C35A, C57A, and all the 50 piaster to 200p values of the long definitive and airmail sets, were only available by chance. They were almost impossible for collectors to find, especially as information about stamps issues was rarely if ever published.

The Saudi post office never sought to profit from stamp collectors. Yet until quite recently its stamps were lumped together with the spurious issues of Ajman, Fujeira and other "sand dunes".

For many years interest in Saudi Arabia's stamps was limited to some 500 collectors worldwide, together with a handful of specialist dealers who would maintain small stocks only, and in many cases could not get more than a few stamps of any issue.

Currently, growing numbers of collectors, as well as investors, speculators and topical specialists are all creating an increasing demand for Saudi material which is, for the periods mentioned above, in very limited supply."

5. LINN'S STAMP NEWS of December 2, 1985 also had an article entitled "Philatelic World starting to notice intriguing story of Saudi Arabian stamps".
6. With reference to Frank Patterson's article on the Cairo Printings in RANDOM NOTES #32, Abdul Aziz Sa'id submits photocopies of the lower right corner copies of J28-30 and 07-15. The imprint dates are A/60 on J28-30 and 07-10, and A/61 on 011-15.



7. Thanks to Abdul Aziz Sa'id for submitting copies of souvenir post cards and covers prepared for Mission 51-G of the Space Shuttle Discovery on June 17, 1985. Aboard was the first Arab-Muslim astronaut, Prince Sultan ibn Salman ibn Abdul Aziz Al-Saud as a payload specialist responsible for launching the ARABSAT-B communications satellite. Refer to the new issues article in RANDOM NOTES #32. Anyone interested in obtaining these should refer to Mr. Sa'id's free adlet in this issue.



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Iceboat 1880s  
USA  
14



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8. Thanks also to A.A. Sa'id for a cover bearing a special handstamp commemorating the United Nations Environmental Program. The U.N. requested member countries to use such handstamps during the period May 15-June 15, 1985. The Directorate General of Posts, Riyadh, prepared 12 special handstamps for distribution to the postal districts, but this did not take place until very late in the designated period. In Riyadh the handstamp was put in use at the Philatelic Bureau for only one day, June 12 (the last work day before the 'Id holiday). A total of 220 covers were cancelled.

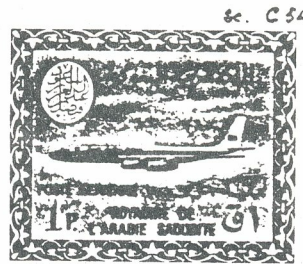
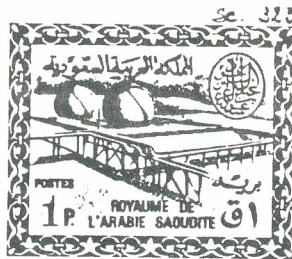
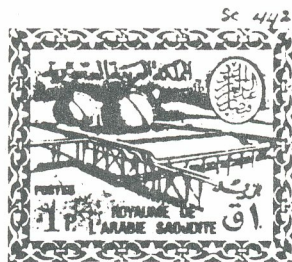


9. Another special handstamp was used in Makkah, per Philip Stokoe. It reads "The Universal Day of the Post / 9 October 1985 / 25 Muharram 1406 / The Post, the World at your Door."



10. Bob Jung reports three constant plate varieties on the 1964-1978 De La Rue and Riyadh printings of the Dam/GOSP/Plane definitives. He says this proves that the same frame plates were used for all these issues.

- (a) Dot behind Arabic "1" on Scott 442 and C71.
- (b) "Beheaded" Arabic "1" on Scott 323 and C54.
- (c) Missing frame ornament at left on Scott C73. (He also has a copy of Scott 405 with partial defect at the same spot).



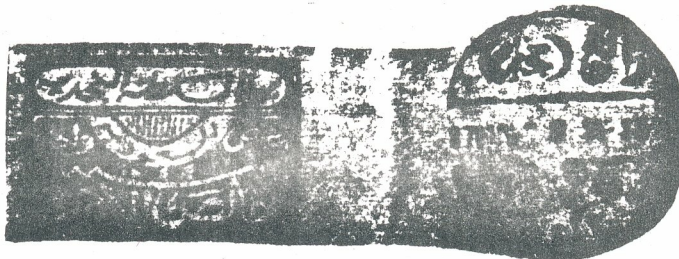
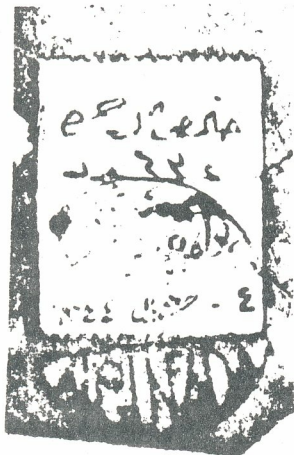
11. Bob Jung also reports he erred in claiming to have a copy of Scott 612 with watermark in the down position. Please correct your listing in the article on watermark position varieties in RANDOM NOTES #32 accordingly.
12. Vic Torson has prepared a computerized inventory listing of his Saudi collection. He offers a copy of this, with explanatory comments, to anyone interested for \$2.50 postage. Write to him directly at P.O. Box 47, Enid, OK 73702, USA.
13. Vic Torson also submitted a RANDOM NOTES Index. This is currently being reviewed by Gene Alley. Hopefully, this will be in final form in time to be included with RANDOM NOTES #34.



14. John Ross' "Stamp Market Tips" column in STAMPS magazine recommends Scott 178-179. Ross says "this set is on every buylist of dealers who handle Saudi Arabia; current buy price is pretty close to Scott's 1985 price of \$10.50. I've seen pricelists that charge about \$15 for the issue". (Editor's Note: Scott's 1986 is up to \$20 for this set).
15. RANDOM NOTES #32 illustrated cancellations from the S.S. TAIF of the Khedivial Mail Line. There were at least two other vessels used by this line; S.S. RODA and S.S. TALODI. Has anyone seen cancels from these ships on Saudi stamps?
16. Jim Kearney's article on the 1926 FEE PAID marking in RANDOM NOTES #31 generated a letter from Fred Benedict. Fred reports he has an example of this type used from "MECQUE" on 28.11.31. The Western year is a bit unclear, but the Hijrah year is (13)50, which confirms the 1931.

Fred has another interesting piece corroborating the shortage of stamps in Hijrah 1344. This is a piece of selvage from the right margin of a 1/2 qirsh sheet, as indicated by the color of the sheet frame line which shows at the left. "FEE PAID" is written in pencil on the top line, with what appears to be "ain", "42", "miym" and "daal" on the second line. Can anyone decipher this? The piece has a clear AL-QUNFADA CDS dated 4 Shawwal 1344, which corresponds to April 18, 1926.

Finally, Fred reports another example of the purple provisional Nejdi Sultanate one qirsh handstamp. This one has an adjacent Rabigh cancel with an unclear date. Can anyone read the marking inside the parentheses after "Rabigh"? Two other examples of this marking have been reported in earlier RANDOM NOTES. Randall Baker reported an example in RANDOM NOTES #4 with an adjacent octagonal MEDINE 1 CDS dated Feb. 16, 1926. The other example, on a cover with a MEDINE 1 cancel of Feb. 18, 1926, was illustrated in RANDOM NOTES #24. Fred's example would imply that either this handstamp was moved from Medina to Rabigh (or vice-versa), or that more than one such handstamp was prepared. Comments, anyone?



17. New stamp booklets have been prepared, but not put on sale yet. It is said they are to be sold from vending machines. There are two kinds: SR 2 and SR 5. The SR 2 booklet contains 5 panes of four 10 halalah stamps while the SR 5 booklet contains 5 panes of four, consisting of one 10 and one 50 halalah stamp in the top row and two 20 halalah stamps in the bottom row. The stamps are in the Holy Ka'aba design, but in a new size intermediate between the current small size and the earlier large size definitives.

A.P.A. new issue service subscribers should notify their supplier of their requirements for these booklets, or they will receive only one copy each, when issued. Only complete booklets will be supplied; no individual stamps.

18. REMINDER!! The auction is on February 27. If you haven't sent your bids yet, please do so immediately.
19. David Graham reviews the 1986 Scott prices for Saudi Arabia in this issue. While Scott has revised many prices, once again we are disappointed that there are no improvements in the listings, except for the addition of new issues.
20. The editor apologizes for the lateness of this issue of RANDOM NOTES. This is due in part to his vacation, but is primarily the result of lack of material for publication. Surely, in an organization of almost 300, there should be more of you that can contribute. Many topics and issues have yet to be covered. Some suggestions for articles:

Study of Saudi Arabian Postal Rates  
The 1923 Postage Due Overprints  
The Hajj as Depicted on Saudi Stamps  
Ottoman Stamps Cancelled in Arabia  
The 1922-24 Regular Issues  
What are "Dealer Cancels"?

If you have rough notes and photos, but are short of time, send in what you have and the editor can put it in shape for publication for you. Also needed are more short items for inclusion in the "RANDOM NOTES FROM DHAHRAN" AND "WHAT IS IT?" articles.

# THE KING ALI ISSUE

## PART II

by J. I. Kearney

### Introduction

In this installment, the second about the King Ali issues, I will discuss the overprinting of the regular postage stamps that was done in Jeddah as compared to the overprinting in Cairo. For ease of identification collectors refer to these as Jeddah overprints and Cairo overprints.

### THE JEDDAH OVERPRINTS

Due to a leakage of the King Ali stamps, the Hejaz Government decided to overprint all stamps upon their arrival in Jeddah. Two tablets were placed, one on each side of the stamp, one containing the day and month: 5 Rabi' al-Awwal, the other containing the year: 1343. 5 Rabi' al-Awwal 1343 is equivalent to 4 October 1924, the date of the accession of Ali, son of Hussain.

The Type I "tablet" overprints were applied from a plate of five vertical strips of five in red, blue and black without apparent discrimination as to the placing of the tablets, i.e. the year tablet can be on the left or on the right, the day and month tablet on the right or left, respectively. The five vertical strips of five were repeated to overprint the bottom half of the sheet. The relative position of the strips to each other changed during the course of the printing. The Type II tablet overprints were applied from a plate of 50 subjects.

Since the overprinting was later applied in Cairo, before the overprints can be classified by collectors as Jeddah Type I or Type II, the Cairo printing will have to be identified.

It is fairly easy to distinguish the Jeddah overprints from the Cairo. The easiest way is that the bar on top of the Arabic number 0 is long in the Jeddah overprintings and short in the Cairo overprints.

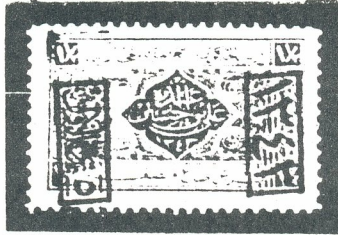
Cairo

Jeddah



Note however that Mayo is incorrect in the pictures of the tablet overprints. He has Cairo tablet overprints (with a short bar over the 0) pictured on page 49 under the description Jeddah Control Issue. On page 52 under the description Cairo Control Issue, the tablet overprints pictured in the top group are Jeddah overprints. The bottom group on page 52 is correctly identified.

It should be noted that the normal positions of the tablets, regardless of whether the year tablet is on the left or the right is the bottom of the year tablet will be at the border of the stamp and the top of the day and month tablet will be at the border of the stamp. Below is a variety with both tablets inverted.



Once the overprintings are separated as to Jeddahs and Cairo, a more difficult task is the identification of Jeddah I and Jeddah II. There is no one conclusive rule (short of having entire sheets) for segregating Jeddah I from Jeddah II. There are two distinguishing differences - the size of the tablets and the color of the red and blue overprints. The table below summarizes the characteristics of Jeddah Types I and II.

	<u>Tablet Size*(mm)</u>	<u>Color</u>
<u>Black</u>		
Type I	30.5 - 32.4	n/a
Type II	28.8 - 30.4	n/a
<u>Blue</u>		
Type I	30.7 - 32.6	purplish-blue
Type II	29.6 - 30.5	<b>greenish-blue</b>
<u>Red</u>		
Type I	30.5 - 32.3	pink-red
Type II	28.9 - 30.3	bright blood red

\* Tablet measurements are the sum of the two tablets. Measurements are made lengthwise from the middle of the tablet to the middle of the other side of the tablet. Measurements are made from the middle of the inking.

This method is accurate in most stamps measured. One position of Type II has been found which measures 30.7 mm. and therefore could be mistaken for a Type I based on tablet size.

With a little practice a large number of stamps can be distinguished by sight alone. A list of Type I and Type II varieties are prepared as Attachments I and II and are presented to solicit information. The number of varieties of the Jeddah overprints is small in comparison to the Cairo overprinting.

Based upon a limited review of covers and pieces, it appears that the only type used postally was Type I. Covers and pieces have been found with Djedda circular date stamps between July 29 and October 12, 1925. No Jeddah Type II has been found on cover and a review by one member of the APA of cancelled Type II stamps has concluded that all cancels were not legitimate.

I will conclude this installment by saying that additional work needs to be done on the Type I overprints. The author is still hoping to locate a complete sheet or half sheet of Type I. We may find that individual cliches within the strips of five changed positions.

## JEDDAH TYPE I

VALUE & COLOR	BLACK		RED		BLUE	
	YEAR LEFT	YEAR RIGHT	YEAR LEFT	YEAR RIGHT	YEAR LEFT	YEAR RIGHT
1/8pi. chocolate	x	x	x	x	x	x
a. narrow spacing	x	x		W		
b. tablets 6 mm apart	x					
1/4pi. ultramarine	x	x	x	x	n/a	n/a*
a. narrow spacing			W			
b. vert. pair, imperf between			Wa			
1/2pi. carmine	x	x	n/a	n/a	x	x
a. narrow spacing	x					
b. double impression of tablets	x					
1pi. yellow green	x	x	x	x	x	x
a. narrow spacing	W					
1 1/2pi. orange	x	x	x	x	x	x
a. narrow spacing	x					
b. both tablets inverted		x				
2pi. blue	x	x	x	x	n/a	n/a
a. narrow spacing				x		
b. vert. pair, one with narrow spacing				Wa		
3pi. dark green	x	x	x	x	x	x
5pi. orange brown	x	x	x		x	x
a. vertically imperf at rt.						Wa
b. vertical pair, tete- beche overprints					( Wa )	
10pi. red & green	x	x		x	x	x
a. center inverted		W				

Narrow spacing varieties are those in which the distance from one tablet to the other is between 12-15 mm. The normal distance between the tablets is usually 17-18 mm. No narrow spacing Jeddah II varieties exist.

W = reported by Wilson, not seen by author

Wa = reported by Warin, not seen by author

\* = reported by Warin, but all known copies have been forgeries

## JEDDAH TYPE II

<u>VALUE &amp; COLOR</u>	BLACK		RED		BLUE	
	<u>YEAR LEFT</u>	<u>YEAR RIGHT</u>	<u>YEAR LEFT</u>	<u>YEAR RIGHT</u>	<u>YEAR LEFT</u>	<u>YEAR RIGHT</u>
1/8pi. chocolate	x		x	x	x	x
1/4pi. ultramarine	x	x	x	x	n/a	n/a
1/2pi. carmine	x	x	n/a	n/a	x	x
1pi. yellow green	x	x	x	x	x	x
1 1/2pi. orange	x	x	x	x	x	x
2pi. blue	x	x	x	x	n/a	n/a
3pi. dark green	x	x	x	x	x	x
5pi. orange brown	x	x	x	x	x	x
10pi. red & green	x	x	x	x	x	x
a. center inverted		x				
b. year tablet inverted		x				
c. date tablet inverted		x				
d. both tablets inverted		x				

# PLATING THE 3 GUERCHE FIRST AIR MAIL

By: K.H. Jung

## INTRODUCTION

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Figure 1 is a 1.41 enlargement of an original sheet of 25 stamps. The original enlargement was copied in a light blue color; flaws were marked in red with black numbering. (Editor's Note: This could not be reproduced too well, unfortunately).

My thanks to Mr. R.J. Thoden who was so kind as to place a photocopy of an original sheet at my disposal.

Flaws marked on Figure 1, together with the application of some general rules, should enable collectors to determine the correct position of stamps in the sheet or, in short, to plate any individual 3 guerche stamp.

All sheets were printed from one single plate of 5 x 5 stamps. Every single 3 guerche stamp, without exception, of the 130 examples that were examined fitted in with one of the 25 positions.

Flaws were only marked on the enlargement if confirmed at least twice. They have been drawn as accurately as possible, but a certain tolerance should always be allowed, if only because flaws are "born, sometimes "grow up", and often "die", by repairs or retouches at unpredictable intervals. Also for this reason, it is not necessary that all marked flaws should manifest themselves on the same stamp at the same time. Nor will the flaws that are marked be the only ones that can be found. However, the marked flaws, combined with observing the following general rules, will make it possible to plate any single stamp. Only the first undamaged printings and the very last printings that were very crude and smudgy might cause some trouble.

## GENERAL RULES

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1. Each plate consists of 9 "central" stamps and 16 "marginal" stamps. Marginal stamps can often be identified by remnants of the thick framelines and for this reason be limited to one of five possible positions. Characteristics of the framelines and color lines and dots in the margin can often facilitate further identification.
2. The bottom horizontal row of 5 stamps (positions 21-25) is shifted 1/2 to 1 mm. to the left compared with the upper rows.
3. A similar shifting can be observed vertically, but this is caused by a "tilting up" of the righthand side of the stamps in the four vertical columns rather than by a vertical shifting of complete columns.
4. The position and shape of the western and Arabic numerals in the lower corners often differs considerably.



5. The leftmost cloud in the central oval was originally formed by seven dots and a trapezoid shadow, but was gradually deformed into very characteristic disfigurements by which stamps often can be identified.

The above characteristics should be studied in the beginning and will prove quite helpful in identifying plate positions. It goes without saying that vertical or horizontal pairs, strips and blocks are easiest to plate.

#### FLAWS

Flaws have been marked on Figure 1 and will speak for themselves. They have been numbered for future reference, for example 13/2 refers to flaw number 2 of position 13.

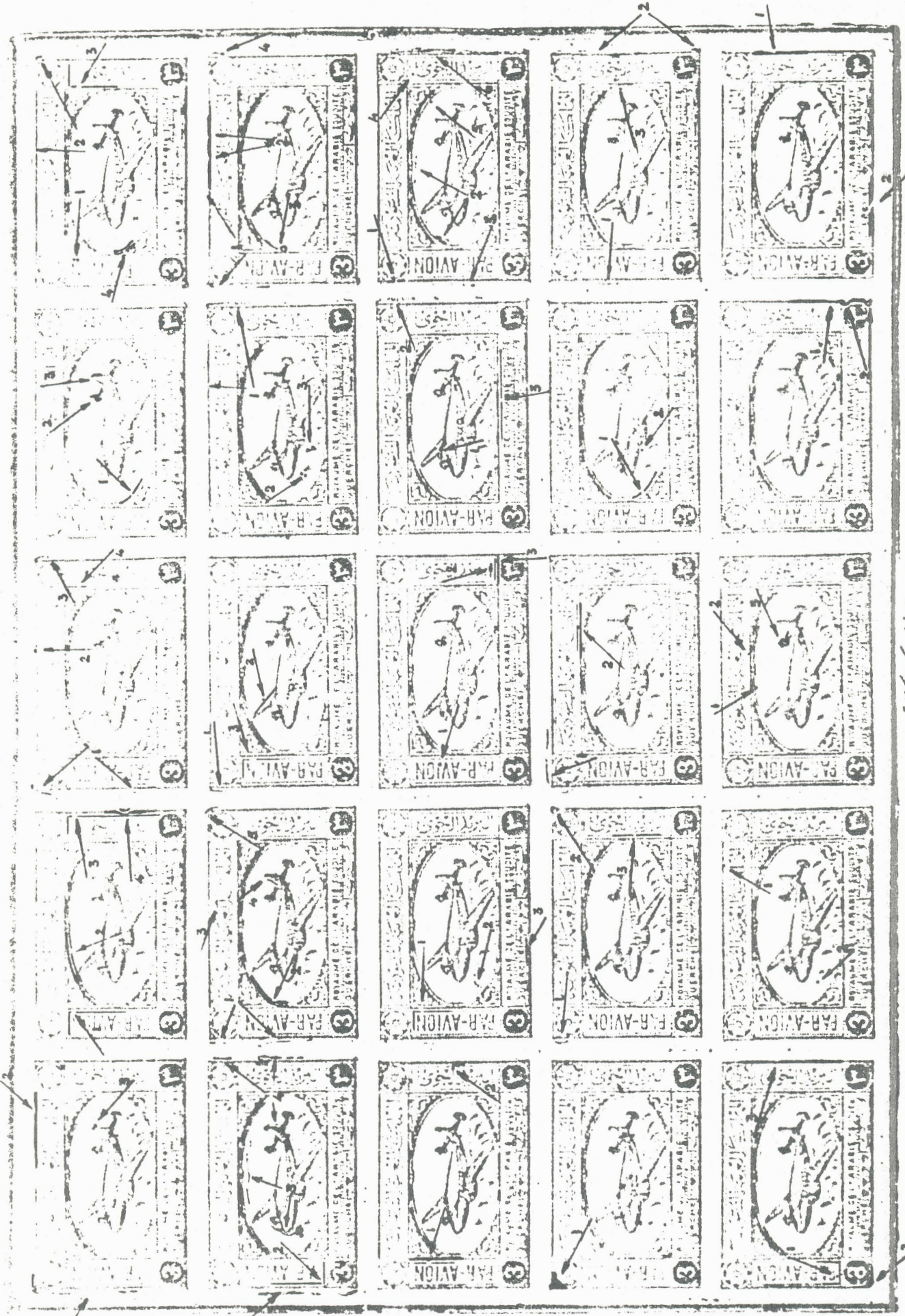
#### PLATING OTHER VALUES

Mr. Thoden also sent me photocopies of the 1, 4 and 20 guerche sheets. Copies of the 10 and 100 guerche sheets are still wanted. I would also like horizontal and vertical pairs, strips, blocks and even singles of the 1, 4, 20 and 100 guerche values, although the 1 and 20 guerche plates are almost completely reconstructed.

Especially 4 guerche material is wanted, since this value was printed as a single sheet of 25 stamps (until mid-1957) and a double pane of 2 x 25 stamps with a small gutter since mid-1957.

I own a sufficient number of 10 guerche stamps. Whether sufficient material of the 100 guerche will become available remains a question.

I would like to hear from A.P.A. members who would be willing to loan their material for some time. If successful, it is my intention to make a complete study available to those interested. Please write to me: K.H. Jung, West-Sidelinge 78, 3043 SP Rotterdam, Netherlands.



مجلس التعليم العالي بولاية سطيف

# SCOTT 1986 SAUDI ARABIA PRICE REVISIONS

By: David Graham

Cat. No.	1986	1985	Cat. No.	1986	1985	Cat. No.	1986	1985
L8-13	\$35	\$25	L49	\$5	\$2	L69	\$1500	\$1000
L8-12 ea	\$3	\$2	L49a	\$5	\$2	L70	\$50	\$35
L13	\$20	\$15	L50	\$5	\$4	L70a	\$750	\$300
L14-19	\$85	\$52	L50a	\$25	\$20	L71	\$50	\$35
L14	\$15	\$12.50	L50b	\$25	\$15	L71a	\$1000	\$500
L15	\$30	\$17.50	L50c	\$5	\$4	L72	\$80	\$50
L15a	\$100	\$50	L51	\$10	\$6	L73	\$80	\$45
L15b	\$200	\$150	L51a	\$100	\$60	L73a	\$650	\$400
L15c	\$600	\$500	L51b	\$200	\$90	L74	\$100	\$60
L15d (U)	\$1200	\$1000	L52	\$10	\$6	L75	\$75	\$50
L16	\$10	\$5	L52a	\$40	\$30	L75a	\$600	\$250
L16a	\$100	\$50	L52b	\$50	\$30	L76	\$1000	\$125
L16b	\$200	\$125	L52c	\$150	\$100	L76A	\$1500	\$150
L16c	\$600	\$500	L53	\$50	\$30	L77	\$100	\$75
L17	\$10	\$5	L53a	\$100	\$75	L78	\$100	\$50
L17a	\$150	\$85	L54	\$30	\$15	L80	\$30	\$20
L17b	\$600	\$500	L54a	\$75	\$60	King Ali - most up 50%		
L18	\$10	\$6	L54b	\$120	\$80	L185	\$300	\$100
L18a	\$25	\$20	L55	\$10	\$5			
L18b	\$35	\$30	L55a	\$50	\$35	26	\$20	\$10
L18c	\$100	\$60	L55b	\$50	\$35	27	\$30	\$15
L18d	\$700	\$600	L55c	\$100	\$75	28	\$20	\$15
L19	\$10	\$6	L56	\$25	\$12.50	29	\$30	\$20
L22-23	\$200	\$100	L56a	\$60	\$40	146	\$250	\$150
L24-31	\$51	\$42	L57	\$20	\$10	138-149	\$2425	\$2325
L24	\$4	\$3	L57a	\$500	\$100	177	\$15	\$10
L24a	\$75	\$50	L57b	\$35	\$25	177a	\$30	\$15
L24b	\$100	\$50	L57c	\$300	\$100	178-179	\$20	\$10.50
L24c	\$120	\$60	L58	\$25	\$10	180-184	\$50	\$22
L25	\$12	\$10	L58a	\$50	\$25	184a	\$200	\$50
L25a	\$60	\$45	L59	\$25	\$12.50	185-186	\$20	\$10
L25b	\$90	\$60	L59a	\$75	\$40	187-191	\$80	\$40
L26	\$4	\$3	L60	\$20	\$8	192-193	\$15	\$10
L26a	\$60	\$45	L60a	\$50	\$35	194-195	\$25	\$12
L26b	\$100	\$75	L61	\$1500	\$1000	196-197	\$20	\$10
L27	\$3	\$2	L62	\$25	\$15	198-200	\$23	\$14.50
L27a	\$50	\$40	L62a	\$75	\$40	201-203	\$8	\$4
L27b	\$90	\$60	L63	\$15	\$9	204	\$1.50	\$0.40
L28	\$3	\$2	L63a	\$60	\$40	205-207	\$10	\$6.25
L28a	\$90	\$60	L63b	\$90	\$60	208-210	\$2.50	\$1.50
L28b	\$100	\$60	L64	\$90	\$75	211-223	184.25	169.25
L29	\$8	\$5	L64a	\$150	\$100	240-242	\$10	\$6
L31a	\$100	\$70	L65a	\$50	\$35	Sheets	\$300	\$75
L31b	\$90	--	L65b	\$800	--	243-245	\$5	\$2.05
L32-39	\$14	\$8.75	L66	\$25	\$9	246-248	\$6	\$3
L40-41	\$55	\$15	L66a	\$75	\$50	251a	\$15	\$10
L42-48	\$25.50	\$15.75	L66B	\$750	\$500	252-254	\$6	\$2.75
L48A	\$5	\$1.50	L67	\$1500	\$1000	255-260	\$40	\$38
L48b	\$15	\$5	L68	\$60	\$32.50	261-262	\$9	\$5.50

Cat. No.	1986	1985	Cat. No.	1986	1985	Cat. No.	1986	1985
261-270	\$51	\$30.50	648-649	\$10.50	\$5	796-797	\$1	\$0.70
287-289	\$4	\$2	650-652	\$6	\$3	798-801	\$2	\$0.80
290-294	\$15	\$8	653-654	\$9	\$1.50	802-804	\$3.50	\$1.50
292a	\$10	\$6	655	\$1	\$0.35	822-823	\$1	\$0.70
296-298	\$15	\$7.50	656-658	\$12	\$8	825-832	\$5.40	\$3.60
299	\$3	\$1.75	659-661	\$9	\$2.30	833	\$60	\$20
300-22D	274.80	243.30	662-664	\$9.50	\$3.75	834-835	\$75	\$0.85
323-43D	300.60	260.10	665-667	\$6	\$3	836	\$0.50	\$0.20
344-346	\$15	\$11	668-669	\$4.50	\$1.50	845	\$0.50	\$0.20
347-349	\$13	\$9	670	\$2.50	\$0.50	846-847	\$1	\$0.85
350-353	\$15	\$8.50	671-673	\$7.50	\$4.50	848-849	\$1	\$0.85
354-358	\$10	\$6	674	\$400	\$350	850-851	\$1	\$0.70
359-362	\$8	\$4	675	\$2	\$1	852	\$0.50	\$0.20
363-368	\$15	\$6.50	676-677	\$4	\$1.15	853	\$0.50	\$0.20
369-372	\$10	\$3	678-679	\$4	\$1			
377-379	\$20	\$5	680-681	\$4	\$1.50	C7-21	184.50	161.50
380-382	\$7	\$2	682	\$2.50	\$1.10	C24-29	\$38.50	\$25
383-387	\$10	\$3	683-684	\$4	\$1.75	C30-32	\$29.50	\$17
388-392	\$13	\$3	685-686	\$4	\$1.40	C96-99	\$49.50	\$33
393-			687	\$2	\$0.50			
4021	542.70	495.70	688	\$2	\$0.50	LJ1-3	\$9	\$7.50
403-			689-690	\$4	\$1.50	LJ4	\$20	\$12
420A	526.85	477.85	691-711	\$9.75	\$8.85	LJ4a	\$150	\$80
421-425	\$20	\$9	719-720	\$3	\$1	LJ4b	\$25	\$12.50
426-430	\$20	\$6	721	\$1.50	\$0.50	LJ5	\$5	\$2
431	\$250	\$225	722	\$1.50	\$0.50	LJ6	\$30	\$15
432-441A	\$108	\$95	723	\$2.50	\$0.35	LJ6a	\$30	\$17.50
442-452	\$34.80	\$29.30	724	\$1.50	\$0.40	LJ7	\$5	\$3
453-457	\$6	\$3	725	\$1.50	\$0.30	LJ7b	\$30	\$7.50
458-486	\$97	\$96	726	\$1.50	\$0.30	LJ8	\$25	\$20
607-609	\$12	\$7	727-728	\$2.25	\$1.30	LJ8a	\$40	\$25
610-612	\$4	\$2	729	\$1.50	\$0.30	LJ9	\$3	\$1.50
610a	\$8	--	730	\$5	\$1.25	LJ9a	\$50	\$20
613	\$5	\$3	731-751	\$19	\$18.10	LJ10	\$3	\$1.50
614-615	\$3	\$1.50	761	\$1.50	\$0.60	LJ11	\$4	\$1.50
616-617	\$6	\$2	762-763	\$2.25	\$1	LJ12	\$6	\$1.50
618-620	\$10	\$3	764-765	\$2.25	\$1.15	LJ13	\$4	\$2
621	\$4	\$2	766	\$1.25	\$0.30	LJ14	\$10	\$3
622-623	\$3	\$1.50	767-768	\$2.25	\$1.25	LJ15	\$30	\$3
624-626	\$7	\$3.25	769-770	\$2.25	\$1	LJ16	\$10	\$5
627	\$2	\$1	771-772	\$2.25	\$1	LJ17	\$400	\$200
628	\$1	\$0.30	773-774	\$2.25	\$0.70	LJ17a	\$600	\$300
629	\$1.50	\$0.75	775-777	\$4.75	\$1.85	LJ18	\$600	\$400
630	\$2	\$1	779-780	\$2.25	\$0.70	LJ19	\$20	\$15
631-634	\$8	\$4	781	\$0.75	\$0.20	LJ19a	\$20	\$12
635	\$2	\$1	782-783	\$1.75	\$1	LJ20	\$25	\$10
636-638	\$12	\$6	784-785	\$1.75	\$0.70	LJ20a	\$75	\$60
639-640	\$3	\$1.50	786-787	\$5	\$0.70	LJ21	\$10	\$6
641	\$2	\$1	788-789	\$1.75	\$1	LJ21a	\$60	\$50
642-643	\$6	\$3	790	\$0.50	\$0.20	LJ22	\$350	\$250
644	\$2	\$0.50	792-793	\$1	\$0.70	LJ22a	\$350	\$250
645-647	\$90	\$45	794-795	\$1	\$0.70	LJ24	\$25	\$20

Cat. No.	1986	1985	Cat. No.	1986	1985	Cat. No.	1986	1985
LJ25	\$20	\$12	LJ33	\$20	\$6	LJ34a	\$50	\$15
LJ25a	\$40	\$25	LJ34	\$30	\$9	LJ35-39	\$800	\$600
LJ25b	\$400	\$200	LJ26a-34a	\$380	\$85	LJ35	\$150	\$100
LJ26-34	\$190	\$60	LJ26a	\$40	\$8	LJ36	\$150	\$100
LJ26	\$20	\$5	LJ27a	\$40	\$8	LJ36a(U)	\$1500	\$1000
LJ27	\$20	\$5	LJ28a	\$40	\$8	LJ38	\$150	\$100
LJ28	\$20	\$6	LJ29a	\$40	\$8	LJ39	\$150	\$100
LJ29	\$20	\$6	LJ30a	\$40	\$8	LJ40-55	\$48	\$15
LJ30	\$20	\$9	LJ31a	\$40	\$9			
LJ31	\$20	\$8	LJ32a	\$40	\$9	01-6	\$136	\$114
LJ32	\$20	\$6	LJ33a	\$50	\$12	016-20	\$10	\$8.50

All prices are for mint, unless marked U for used.

#### EDITOR'S COMMENTS:

These price changes should, in general, be welcomed by those with an interest in Saudi stamps as they bring Scott's more closely into line with the market. However, in the editor's opinion, the increases have been overdone in some areas while other issues were left unchanged at far below the current market. Comparison of Scott's with the recent LINN's TRENDS will show some interesting differences.

Used prices were left unchanged in nearly all cases. In the editor's opinion, used stamps of many of the Hejaz overprints are far scarcer than mint and are well worth picking up at current prices, assuming they have a genuine cancellation. Most of the inverted, double, etc. overprint varieties are worth taking even if they have a "dealer" cancel, since they are seldom found any other way.

The new prices for L51-66 seem a little on the high side. There seem to be enough of these around despite the low published quantities issued, and they can be obtained from certain sources at well below the new Scott prices.

On the other hand, many of the scarce stamps of the later Jeddah issues such as L84, L90, L92, L98, L100, L104, L108-131, L149-159, and almost all the errors of these issues cannot be bought anywhere near the Scott prices, which are unchanged from 1985.

The Heir Apparent set, 138-149, seems somewhat high at \$2425. Recent prices are more like \$1500.

There are still many strange prices in the 1960's-70's definitives. For example, 307 at \$75 is much more available than 434 at \$20.

The new price for 834-835 is an obvious error.

# SAUDI ARABIAN REVENUE CATALOG PROJECT

By: R. J. Thoden

## TOBACCO TAX STAMPS

USAGE: No information is available as to whether tobacco tax stamps were in use in the Hejaz Kingdom or in the Hejaz and Nejd Sultanate. However, it is believed a number of stamps were in use in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia that pre-date those listed here.

According to the Customs Regulations, tobacco, tumbacc, cigarettes, cigars, jurak (honeyed tobacco smoked in hubble-bubbles) and cigarette paper must have banderole stamps affixed. "The banderole stamps shall be affixed in the factories making the tobacco, cigarettes, etc. so firmly and so securely that they cannot be removed and used again. If the banderole stamps cannot be affixed at the place of export, the goods shall not be released from the Customs area until after the stamps have been affixed to them carefully and under Customs supervision so that such stamps shall not be misused". The preceding is quoted from Chapter XIII, Article 177 of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia Customs Regulations and Rules for Implementation, Royal Approval No. 425, issued 5 Rabi' 1372 (Nov. 23, 1952) with subsequent amendments.

The above regulations resulted in (a) many of the stamps being affixed with non-water soluble adhesive so that it was almost impossible to remove the stamps from the packages without damaging them and (b) some of the stamps being overprinted with code letters or numbers by the manufacturers of the goods. The stamps were not cancelled.

## ISSUES OF THE KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA



T5

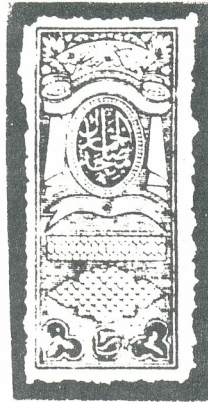
1937(?)

Perf. 11-1/2

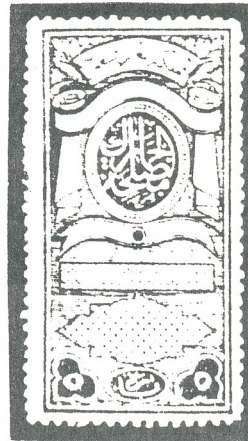
Unwmkd.

RT20 T5 1-1/4p purple violet

Top inscription is "Al-Mamlakah Al-Arabiyyah Al-Sa'udiyah" (The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia). In the center is "maalahat al-jamarik" (Customs Department).



T6



T7

1951		Perforated, rouletted or imperforate	Unwmkd.			
			A. Perf. 11-1/2	B. Perf. 11	C. Roul. x Perf.	D. Imperf.
RT25	T6	3p carmine a. "2" for "3"	X	X		X
RT26	T6	3p orange red a. "2" for "3"				X
RT27	T6	3p black	X			
RT28	T6	3p yellow			X	
RT29	T7	3p blue	X(?)			
RT30	T7	5p carmine	X			
RT31		5p brown				
RT32		8p green				
RT33		10p red				

The inscriptions for Types 6 and 7 are the same as those of Type 5.

The Arabic "2" for "3" variety has a "٢" instead of "٣" in the lower right corner. The lower left corner is correct.

Numbers RT29 and 31-33 have not been seen by the author, but are mentioned in the 1951 Customs Schedule, according to Frank Patterson (the author has not been able to locate a copy of this schedule). A photo of a 3p stamp in Type T7 has been seen and it is assumed that it is RT29.

According to Frank Patterson, stamps of type T6 were printed in sheets of 80 (20 x 4) with outer frame line and dated inscription in the lower margin.

One report states that these stamps are of the "Third Series".

RT28 may have been printed by an independent printer in view of the unusual method of separation (rouletted 7 x rough perf. 10-3/4).

These stamps are denominated in "para" (40 paras = 1 qirsh).

No. RT25D  
 surcharged  
 new value  
 in qirsh



1956 Imperforate Unwmkd.

RT34 T6 1/8q on 3p carmine (13.5 mm surcharge)  
 a. 14.2 mm surcharge  
 b. on RT25Da ("2" for "3")

1957-63 Perf. 11 or imperforate Unwmkd.

Similar to 1951 issue, but values in qirsh.

			A. Perf. 11	B. Imperf.
			-----	-----
RT35	T6	1/8q indigo	X	X
RT36	T6	1/8q blue (shades)	X	X
RT37	T6	1/8q light blue ('63)	X	X
RT38	T6	1/8q dark brown purple ('58)		X
RT39	T6	1/2q carmine		X

Inscriptions are the same as previous issues.

Printed in sheets with colored outer frame line and "Stamps Printing Press, Makkah, 1954-55" at bottom.

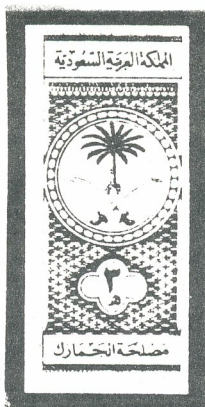
1964 Perf. 11 or imperforate. Unwmkd.

Similar to 1951 issue, but values in halalah.

			A. Perf. 11	B. Imperf.
			-----	-----
RT42	T6	2h indigo	X	X
		a. dark blue	X	X
RT43	T6	2h dark gray blue		X
		a. light gray blue		X

There may be two plates, as stamps exist 18 x 44 mm. as well as 18-1/4 x 44-1/2 mm.





T8

1968

Perf. 14 or imperforate.

Unwmkd.

Size: 19-1/4 x 46 mm.

A. Perf. 14    B. Imperf.

			-----	-----
			A. Perf. 14	B. Imperf.
RT45	T8	2h ultramarine	X	X
RT46	T8	3h pale red		X
RT47	T8	5h green		X

RT47 was seen at the Security Printing Press, Riyadh, during a 1971 visit, but has not been seen in use.

The inscriptions on Type 8 are the same as those on Type 5.

1971

Imperforate

Sheet wmk.

Similar to 1968 issue, but size now 18-1/2 x 45 mm.

RT48	T8	3h pale red
		a. dark red

The panel at the bottom of the stamp is shorter (3.2 mm. vs. 3.8 mm).

The watermark covers a number of stamps in the center of the sheet of 50 (10 x 5).

1972

Perforated 13-3/4

Wmk. 337

Similar to 1968 issue, but on luminescent wmkd. paper.

RT49	T8	2h ultramarine
RT50	T8	3h orange red

Tobacco tax stamps were discontinued early in 1976.

# NEW ISSUES OF SAUDI ARABIA

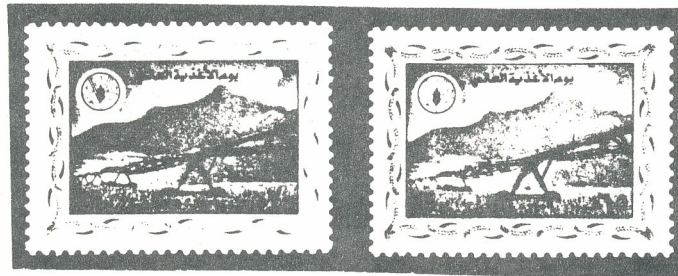
By: Abdul Aziz Sa'id

The set issued on August 25, 1985 to mark the Pilgrimage was designed by Ashfaq Ghani.

Sept. 8, 1985: A set of two stamps, 20h and 115h, was issued to mark the First Olympic Day of the Gulf Cooperation Council, which was observed in Riyadh on May 2, 1985. The design depicts the G.C.C. emblem, Olympic rings and a multicolored background. Designed by Mohammad Gharib Parwar. Printed on unwatermarked paper in sheets of 50 (5 x 10). Perforated 12. Quantity: 800,000 sets.



Oct. 16, 1985: A set of two stamps, 20h and 65h, was issued to mark World Food Day. The design depicts a farm irrigation system, background mountains, the F.A.O. emblem and a decorative frame of wheat. Designed by Ashfaq Ghani. Printed on unwatermarked paper in sheets of 50 (5 x 10). Perforated 12. Quantity: 800,000 sets.



Nov.-Dec. 1985: The 65h and 1 riyal Holy Ka'aba definitive stamps in the small format were issued on white unwatermarked paper, the 65h on Dec. 30, and the SR 1 in late November. Printed in sheets of 105 (7 x 15). Perforated 12.



Dec. 1, 1985: A set of four stamps, 15h, 20h, 65h and 80h, and a miniature sheet of S.R. 10 were issued to publicize the International Conference on the History of King Abdul Aziz Al-Sa'ud, held in Riyadh. The design shows a group of horsemen in front of the Masmak Fort and a portrait of King Abdul Aziz. The miniature sheet shows the insignia of the conference and contains imperforate copies of each of the four stamps. Designed by Ashfaq Ghani. Printed on unwatermarked paper in sheets of 50 stamps and 2 post code labels (4 x 13). Stamps are perforated 12. Quantity: 800,000 sets and 50,000 miniature sheets.



Dec. 18, 1985: A set of two stamps, 20h and 65h, was issued to note the King Fahd Holy Qu'ran Press Compound, Medina. The design shows Qu'ran covers coming off the press and a different view of the Compound on each stamp. Designed by Ashfaq Ghani. Printed on unwatermarked paper in sheets of 50 stamps and two post code labels (4 x 13). Perforated 12. Quantity: 800,000 sets.



Dec. 24, 1985: A set of two stamps, 20h and 65h, was issued to mark the 25th anniversary of the founding of OPEC (The Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries). The design shows the OPEC emblem and the western numerals "25". Designed by Mohammad Gharib Parwar. Printed on unwatermarked paper in sheets of 50 (5 x 10). Perforated 12. Quantity: 800,000 sets.



Jan. 8, 1986: A 20h stamp was issued to commemorate International Peace Year 1986. The stamp depicts a dove and the Peace Year emblem, and was designed by Abdul Qader Al-Husseini. Printed on unwatermarked paper in sheets of 50 (10 x 5). Perforated 12. Quantity: 800,000.

All the above issues were offset-printed by the Government Security Press, Riyadh.

The printers have been instructed to discontinue the printing of stamps in the Holy Ka'aba design. Existing stocks in this design will remain in use until sold out. Preparations are underway for two new regular issues to replace the Khafji and Holy Ka'aba types.

## FREE ADLETS

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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FILATCO will participate in AMERIPEX 86 May 22-June 1 in Chicago. We hope to publish our specialized Saudi Arabia catalog by then and also the new pages to update our album. Anyone not already receiving our regular mail auctions and price lists, please write to FILATCO, Box 1461, Appleton, WI 54913, USA.

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WANTED: Syria 1982 issue for Traffic Day; Libya set of 3 issued 10/83 for Traffic Day; Oman issued 1/85 for Police Day. Anne Kennedy, ARAMCO Box 5171, Dhahran 31311, Saudi Arabia.

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FOR SALE AT FACE VALUE: U.S. 3/4/5/8 cent stamps (full gum) from 1930's to 1970's in \$5 lots. Include self-addressed stamped envelope. James L. Lewis, 411 Vittorio, Coral Gables, FL 33146, USA.

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AVAILABLE: Closeout list of Saudi Arabia and other Middle East areas. Many items remain in quite comprehensive Saudi section, stamps and covers. Many Yemen covers on separate list. Please send SASE or postage if possible. Dennis Coules, Box 850, Berkeley, CA 94701, USA.

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WANTED for plating studies. Complete or part sheets (or photocopies) of Scott C4 (10q), C6 (100q) airmails and revenue Scott types R2 (2q flat rate documentary tax) and R3 (1q Hejaz Railway Tax). K.H. Jung, 78 West-Sidelinge, 3043 SP Rotterdam, Netherlands.

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FOR SALE: Space Shuttle Mission 51-G souvenir covers and postcards as illustrated in this issue of RANDOM NOTES. Price SR 50 in Saudi Arabia, or U.S. \$15, for the pair. Sent reg. airmail. Personal checks not accepted. Abdul Aziz Sa'id, P.O. Box 1317, Riyadh 11431, Saudi Arabia.

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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 Edriess, 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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