



جماعة هواة الطوابع العربية ملاحظات عابرة

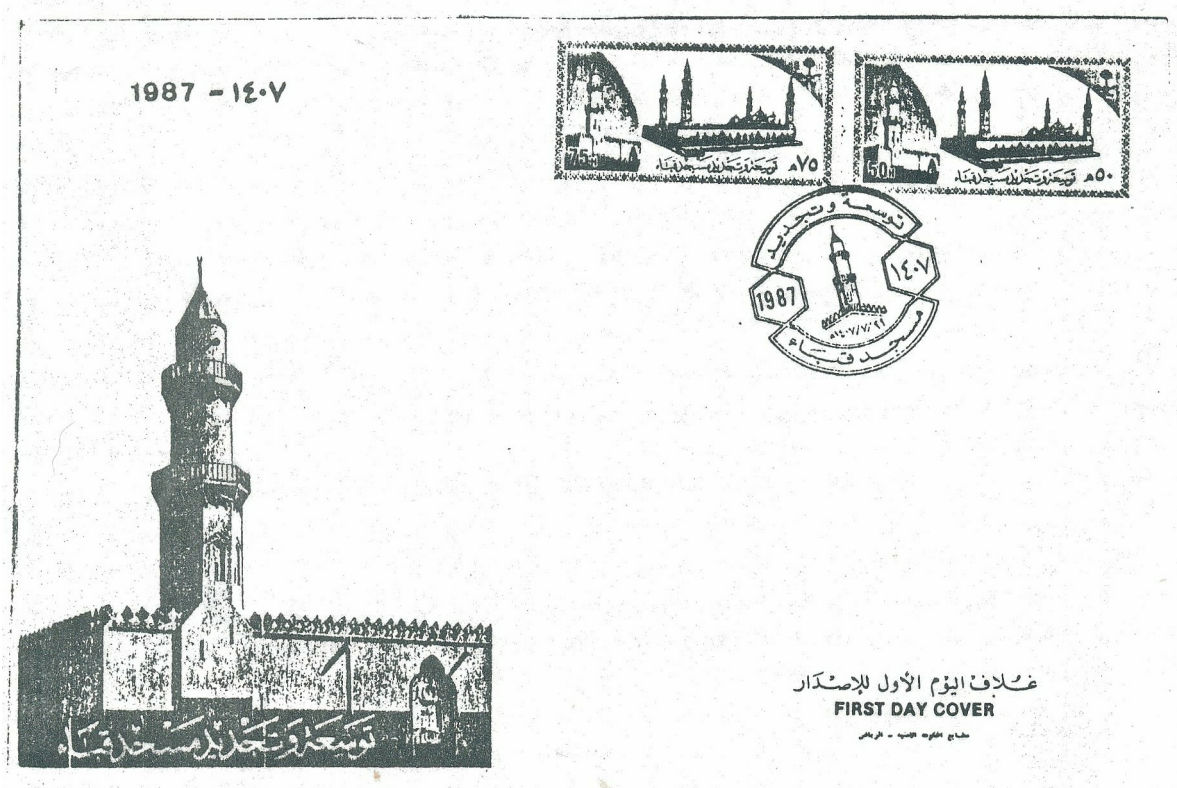
Arabian Philatelic Association Random Notes

JANUARY-MARCH 1987

NUMBER 38

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An Official First Day Cover (see [page 29](#)).

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 Saudi Aramco employees and dependents eligible to use Saudi Aramco facilities. Annual dues are SR 10. Others may subscribe to A.P.A. publications and participate in in the A.P.A. new issue service and auctions. Annual subscription fee is SR 15 for Saudi Arabia and other Arab countries, and U.S. \$8 for all other countries. Late renewals after April 1 cost SR10 or U.S. \$3 in addition to the normal dues or fees. The one-time initiation fee for new members and subscribers is SR 25 or U.S. \$7.50. Annual fees include all publications for the year via 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.

W.A. King, President.

R. Bradford, Vice President	R.J. Thoden, Vice President
J.I. Kearney, Past President	N. Lannin, Corresponding Secretary
T.K. Forber, Membership Secretary	J.I. Kearney, Auctioneer
F.W. Myers, Treasurer	To be appointed, 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. & Canada. 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.
W.A. King - for subscribers elsewhere, including Saudi Arabia.

RANDOM NOTES

The A.P.A.'s publication, RANDOM NOTES, is issued four times a year, assuming sufficient material is available to justify it.

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. Saudi Arabia introduced new postal rates on January 31. These are much higher than the old rates, however, the last time the rates were increased was in 1964. This is quite a contrast with the U.S.A. or the U.K. where rates go up every 2 to 3 years. There is also much simplification in the new rate structure; there are now only three country classifications instead of twelve for airmail, the weight steps for printed matter and small parcels have been changed from 50 grams to 100 grams, and all rates are in multiples of 25 halalah. A summary of the new rates follows:

	Saudi Arabia, GCC*, Iraq		Other Arab Countries		All Countries	Other Countries
	AIR SURFACE		AIR SURFACE		AIR SURFACE	
MESSAGES						
Post Cards	0.50	0.25	0.50	0.25	1.00	0.50
Letters, first 20 grams	0.50	0.50	----	0.50	----	1.00
Letters, each add. 20 grams	----	0.25	----	0.25	----	0.50
Letters, first 10 grams	----	----	0.75	----	1.50	----
Letters, each add. 10 grams	0.50**	----	0.50	----	1.00	----
NEWSPAPERS & PERIODICALS						
First 100 grams	1.50	0.50	1.50	0.50	3.00	1.00
Each add. 100 grams	1.00	0.25	1.00	0.25	2.00	0.50
OTHER PRINTED MATTER						
First 100 grams	2.00	1.00	2.00	1.00	4.50	2.00
Each add. 100 grams	1.25	0.50	1.25	0.50	2.50	0.75
SMALL PARCELS/RECORDINGS						
First 100 grams	3.00	1.50	3.00	1.50	6.00	3.00
Each add. 100 grams	1.75	0.75	1.75	0.75	3.50	1.50
PRINTED MATTER FOR THE BLIND						
First 100 grams	0.50		0.50		1.00	
Each add. 100 grams	0.50		0.50		1.00	
PACKAGES						
Up to 1kg.	Surface	5.00	----		----	
1kg. to 5kg.	plus	10.00	----		----	
5kg. to 10kg.	SR 10	15.00	----		----	
10kg. to 20kg.	per kg.	25.00	----		----	
REGISTRATION FEE	2.00		2.00		3.00	
TRACER FEE	2.00		2.00		2.50	

* The countries of the GCC (Gulf Cooperation Council) are Bahrain, Kuwait, Qatar, the United Arab Emirates and Oman in addition to Saudi Arabia.

** About April 1, this was changed to SR1.75 for 30 grams plus 0.50 for each additional 10 grams.

2. The Harry Hibbert collection of Arabia, comprising 560 Saudi lots and 451 lots of other Arab countries was auctioned by Harmer's of London on March 10-11. This was undoubtedly the most significant auction of Saudi material since the Mayo sale in 1980. Mr. Hibbert served in the British Middle East forces during the World War I period and started the collection at that time.

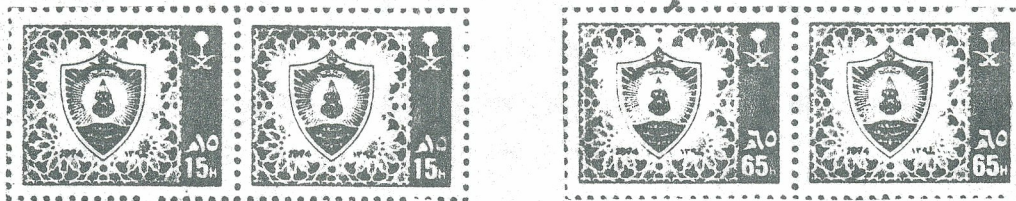
A few of the outstanding items:

- 20 FEE PAID covers of 1916.
- a selection in singles, pairs and blocks of the 1921 unframed Hashemite Government overprint on roulette 20 basic stamps.
- a presentation sheet cancelled DJEDDAH bearing a complete set of the first Jeddah provisional overprint on the unframed and framed Hashemite Government overprints, including the five inverted overprints (Scott L67-75). Scott lists L68a which probably doesn't exist, but omits the invert of L69 which was present on this sheet.

The full list of prices realized is not yet available here, but from a sampling, it seems auction estimates were, in general, moderately exceeded for the stamps (estimates averaged about 60% of Gibbons catalog values) and greatly exceeded for many of the covers (up to ten times!).

Unfortunately, there were many forgeries in the sale, some of which could be seen from the photos. Mr. David Graham, an A.P.A. subscriber who attended the sale and viewed the lots, advised Harmer's of the problem. The lots were not withdrawn, presumably to avoid the public embarrassment that would result from such action. Subsequent to the sale, purchasers of the doubtful lots received a letter from Harmer's stating that the authenticity of those lots had been questioned and suggesting they have the lots checked by Mr. Graham. Mr. Graham is a contributor to A.P.A.'s REFERENCE MANUAL OF SAUDI ARABIAN FORGERIES and is well-qualified to judge the authenticity of Saudi stamps. Harmer's is to be commended for this action. In a number of cases, Mr. Graham's opinion conflicts with that of the European "expert" who supplied certificates for many of the lots in the sale.

3. Two apparently constant varieties have been found in the new Imam Ibn Saud University definitives. On the 15h, position 104, the "5" has a short top stroke. On the 65h, position 24, two normally colored ornaments at the top center are white.



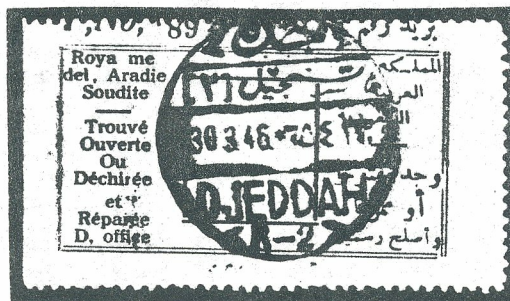
4. Cover collectors, beware! Those totally fake Hejaz and Nejd covers may be showing up again. The March 31 sale of the southern California auctioneer mentioned in RANDOM NOTES #37 included one (possibly two) of these. The unaddressed cover bears Scott L129-131, with several strikes of the fake DJEDDA 5 10-11-917 cancel. The description says the date looks like 1924, but the photo doesn't support this.
5. John Ross' "Stamp Market Tips" column in LINN'S STAMP NEWS recommends the 1974 U.P.U. anniversary set, Scott 645-647, now cataloging \$120. Mr. Ross says dealers in Europe and the U.S.A. are offering to buy at \$90, a substantial increase from a few years ago. I note that FILATCO is offering the set at \$100 in their latest price list.
6. I recently had the opportunity to examine a group of unlisted stamps with the first Nejd handstamp. The handstamp on these appeared to be identical to that on the issued and listed stamps. Presumably, these are essays, or perhaps the handstamp fell into the wrong hands. The stamps are:

Scott	Description	H/S Color	H/S Position
L3	1916 1pi, perf 10	Red	Inverted
L8	1917-18 1 para	Blue	Normal
L8	1917-18 1 para	Blue	Inverted
L9	1917-18 1/8 pi	Blue	Normal
L9	1917-18 1/8 pi	Blue	Inverted
L13	1917-18 2 pi	Blue	Inverted
LJ2	1917 1 pi due	Red	Normal
LJ5	1921 unframed ovpt. 1 pi due	Red	Normal
L24	1922 framed ovpt., 1 para	Blue	Normal
L43	1924 Caliphate, 1/2 pi	Blue	Normal
L48	1924 Caliphate, 5 pi	Blue	Normal
TRR5*	Turkish Railway Tax, 1 pi	Blue	Inverted
RR6*	Hejaz Railway Tax, 20 pi	Red	Normal
RR6*	Hejaz Railway Tax, 20 pi	Blue	Normal

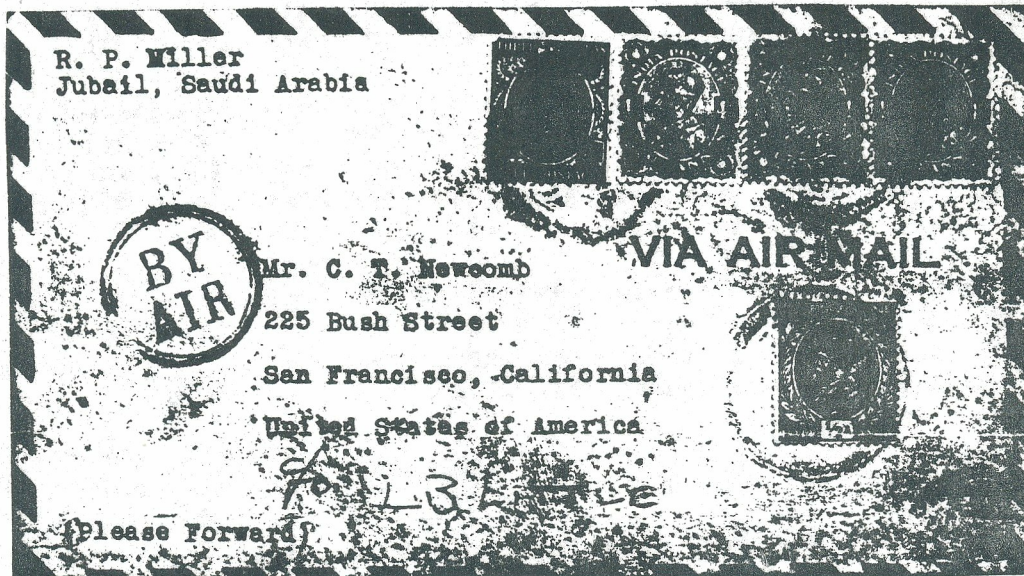
* See RN #29.

This lot also included the Medina commemorative handstamp (as on Scott 59-63) in black, inverted, on one stamp of a pair of L13.

7. Thanks to T. A. Alireza for a copy of an official seal cancelled in DJEDDAH on 30.3.46. It is printed on a thin toned paper, perforated 10-3/4, and bears a strong resemblance to the modern version shown in RANDOM NOTES #27. Note the numerous spelling errors in the French inscription.



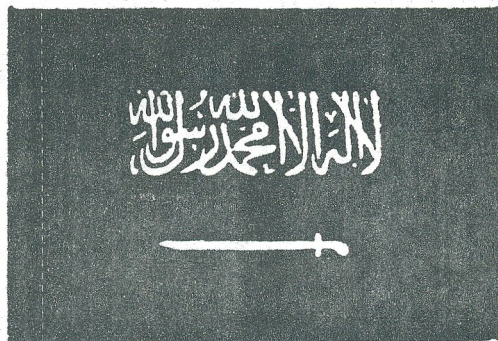
8. Thanks to Bob McFarlane for sending a group of photostats of early CASOC covers that are different from those included in my "Early ARAMCO Postal History" article in RANDOM NOTES #35.



- (a) A cover from the CASOC camp at Jubail to the U.S.A. The cover went via Bahrain, with 15-1/2 annas postage, is cancelled Mar. 3, 1935 and is backstamped Paris on Mar. 9, 1935. This cover shows that there was no Saudi post office at Jubail at the time. It was written by R. P. Miller, one of the first two CASOC geologists who landed at Jubail in 1933.
- (b) A cover from the CASOC camp at Jubail to England with 9-1/2 annas postage and Bahrain cancel with illegible 1935 date. Endorsed "Via Bagdad and Bahrain". No backstamp.
- (c) A registered cover with 3 rupees 2-1/2 annas postage cancelled Bahrain Oct. 21, 1941. Rubber stamped "Via B.O.A.C. to Singapore Pacific Clipper to Sanfrancisco". Hand endorsement "Via B.O.A.C. to Sydney, then by Pan American to U.S.A." Backstamped Honolulu (Nov. 5) and San Francisco (Nov. 7). The transit time thus was 17 days. Another point of interest shown by this cover: use of the Saudi post office at Khobar for CASOC mail was supposed to start on Oct. 5, 1941. This cover shows mail still going to Bahrain on Oct. 21.
- (d) CASOC cover with 35-1/2 qirsh Saudi postage, plus tax stamp, cancelled Khobar November 25, 1941. Hand-endorsed "Via B.O.A.C. Sydney, then by Pan-American to U.S.A." Backstamped Bahrain the same day and Vallejo, California Feb. 12, 1942. The cover was apparently held up by the outbreak of the war in the Pacific. It is not clear why the postage is 35-1/2 instead of 33-1/4 qirsh.
- (e) CASOC cover to U.S.A. with 18-1/8 qirsh Saudi postage cancelled Khobar Feb. 20, 1942. Endorsed "Via Durban So. Africa". Large rectangular censor marking "PASSED BY CENSOR BAHRAIN". No South African censorship tape.

9. Subscriber Harold Deed, a vexillologist as well as a philatelist, writes that the cover illustrated under item 11 of "Random Notes from Dhahran" in RANDOM NOTES #37 depicts the Saudi national flag incorrectly (the tip of the sword points to the right). Mr. Deed provides the following information about the flag:

The present national flag was adopted in 1932 upon the founding of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.



It is the only national flag that has an inscription as its main feature. This is the "Shahada" (Muslim creed) and translated, reads: "There is no God but God; Mohammed is the messenger of God". The inscription and unsheathed sword below it are displayed in white on a green field. The inscription represents the first principle of Islam; total submission to the will of God and the sword symbolizes prosperity and strength through justice.

Arabic writing is read from right to left. To allow the inscription to be read correctly on either side, two identical flags have to be sewn back-to-back. This is another unique feature of the Saudi flag.

As the words of the inscription are considered to be of divine origin - the words of God, the flag is never lowered in deference to a mortal, not even to half-mast upon the death of a Monarch.



Incidentally, a quick check of the catalog shows the Saudi flag has been used on only 5 stamp designs:

- Scott A19 - Arab Postal Union Conference, 1960.
- Scott A56 - 3rd Arab Rover Moot, 1969.
- Scott A114 - 25th Anniversary of the Arab Postal Union, 1977.
- Scott A124 - 80th Anniversary of the Saudi Army, 1980.
- Scott A132 - 1500th Anniversary Hegira, 1981.

10. The A.P.A.'s 16th auction was held in Dhahran on February 26. The pattern was fairly similar to recent auctions; interest in Hejaz was only moderate while modern material attracted many bidders. The list of prices realized is on page 32. L51 (reserve of SR9400 - \$2520) was unsold. 431 used brought SR1400 (\$375) vs. Scott catalog of \$150. One of a pair of 489 sold at SR1900 (\$509) vs. Scott of \$125. A disturbed gum copy of the same stamp brought SR800 (\$214), showing that bidders are very concerned with condition. Much to my surprise, both copies of the rare Saud 2p airmail sold at SR3200 and SR3000 (\$858 and \$804) vs. Scott's \$85!

Of 625 lots offered, 407 were sold. The large number of unsold lots resulted primarily from overly optimistic reserves, in my opinion.

11. Bob Bradford is coordinating the effort to produce a RANDOM NOTES index. Starting with the preliminary version submitted by Vic Torson in 1985, several club members are going through the back issues to bring it up to date. It is expected this will be available by the end of the year.
12. In January 1987, A.P.A. subscriber and charter member Art Sundberg visited Saudi Arabia and reminisced about his stamp collecting days here. Art brought a photograph taken at the Aramco Annuitant's Reunion in Pennsylvania in October 1986. The photo included A.P.A. former members (or wives) Tom Wood, Art Sundberg, Jack Wilson, Harry Foster, Frank Patterson, Fred Benedict, Folke Johansson, Margaret Sullivan, Marcia LaFrenz, Margaret Chandler and Barbara Bowler.
13. A. A. Sa'id reports that one complete sheet of 50 stamps of the 80h value of the Taif-Abha-Jizan Highway (Scott #770) has been found with a double impression of the black color, the route. Another sheet of 50 was found with the black color missing. The two values of this issue were found with the colors shifted (misplaced) to the left, right or bottom. Also, they are found in several different shades.



PLATING OF THE KING ALI OVERPRINTS

By: F. C. Benedict

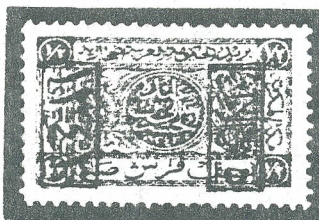
The many varieties of the King Ali overprints have been detailed by D. F. Warin in THE POSTAL ISSUES OF HEJAZ, JEDDAH AND NEJD. Information on the different plate settings is not detailed, however, and specific data on tablet spacings are also not given. The purpose of this study is to provide more specific plate setting data for these issues.

The first King Ali overprint, "Jeddah-1", was done in a block of twenty-five which was composed of five vertical strips of five "month" tablets paired with five vertical strips of five "year" tablets. Figure 1 shows one setting of this plate in black on a bottom half sheet of the 1-1/2 pi., missing positions 46 and 47. However, a lower left corner block of four with the same setting in black on the 1pi. was available and these tablets are shown in positions 46 and 47. The 1-1/2pi. was photographed with a red filter, and the 1pi. was photographed separately with a green filter. This accounts for the slight difference in appearance. Figure 1 is the reference setting for determining the other Jeddah-1 setting orientations. The month and year strips of five are numbered 1 through 5. The Warin "key stamp" is at the top of vertical month strip 2.

Warin's "key stamp" list shows that month tablet in four different positions: 1, 2, 3 and 4, year tablet left (positions 25, 24, 23 and 22, year right), which implies that there were four different settings of the plate. However, this does not take into account the different tablet spacing which Warin states ".....varies from between 12-1/4 to 19-1/4 millimetres, the narrowest being on a sheet of the 1/2 piastre rose, black overprint." It is not noted whether the tablet spacing varies within one plate setting or if the entire setting has one constant spacing. From the stamps, blocks and sheets seen by the author, it appears that the spacing is constant within any one setting, and that there are three different spacings of the tablets. These are 12-13 mm. (narrow), 15-16 mm. (medium), and 17.5-19.5 mm (wide).



narrow



medium



wide

Seven different settings of Plate 1 have been found: one with narrow tablet spacing, three with medium spacing, and three with the wide spacing which had the most use. Table 1 shows the tablet orientations of the various settings, on which stamps they appear and which ink colors were used for them. The orientation code is based on the reference setting B in Figure 1. For example, in Setting C the first vertical column of stamps, year left, would have the month tablet from strip 2 and the year tablet from strip 5 of the reference setting B. In this study, this will be called "2/5".

FIGURE 1
 JEDDAH-1 KING ALI OVERPRINTS
 SETTING B

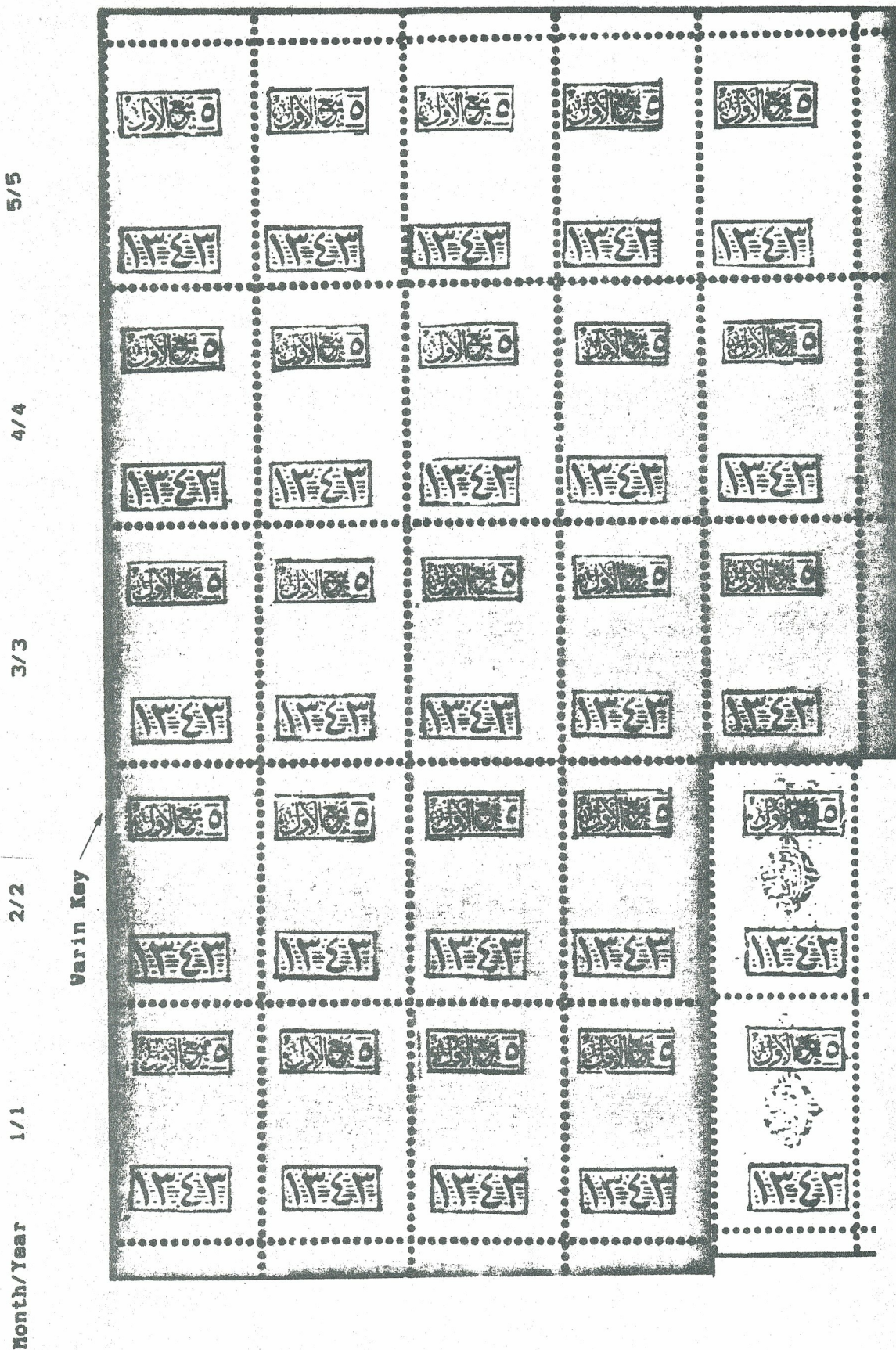


TABLE I
JEDDAH-1 KING ALI OVERPRINTS
SETTINGS

S E T T I N G	TABLET ORIENTATION (YEAR LEFT)	SPAC ING	OVPT. COLOR	DENOMINATION AND YEAR TABLET									
				1/8	1/4	1/2	1	1- 1/2	2	3	5		
				L R:L	R:L R:L	R:L R:L	R:L R:L	R:L R:L	R:L R:L	R:L R	R		
A	Probably same as B	nar.	Black	X		X							
B	1/1 2/2 3/3 4/4 5/5	med.	Black				X	X					
C	2/5 3/3 1/1 4/2 5/4	med.	Black	X	X	X	X	X					
D	3/3 1/5 2/4 5/1 4/2	med.	Red		X O	X					X		
E	3/3 1/5 2/4 5/1 4/2	wide	Red Blue	O	X X	X	O	X X	X X	X X	X X	X X	X X
F	5/2 1/1 4/5 2/3 3/4	wide	Black Blue	O	X X	O X	X X	X X	O X	O O	X O	O	O
G	Unknown (3/3 2/4)	wide	Blue				X						

X = seen by author O = reported by others

Orientation of Setting C is based on a full sheet of the 1/8pi. black overprint, year right. Setting D was determined from strips and blocks of the 2pi. red overprint, year right. Setting E is based on a complete sheet of the 5pi. blue overprint with year tablet both left and right, as the overprint on the bottom half sheet was inverted in relation to the top half as shown in Figure 2. Warin reported seeing two sheets like this. Orientation of Setting F was determined from strips and blocks of the 1/4pi. black overprint, year left.

No blocks of Setting A have been seen, but all the single stamps have the 1/1, 2/2, 3/3, 4/4 or 5/5 of Setting B. Warin's "key stamp" list (Table II) has a 1/2pi. black overprint, year left, with the "key stamp" in position 2, and other varieties listed by Warin for the 1/2pi. black overprint, same "key stamp", fit the Setting B orientation.

Two other settings have the same orientations, but differ in tablet spacing. These are D and E, and must have been the settings Warin referred to in the statement "We have seen several sheets of the two piastres blue, red overprint, the top half of the sheet having the tablets set wide, and the bottom half with the tablets set closer together." This also implies that the tablet spacing was constant within a setting.

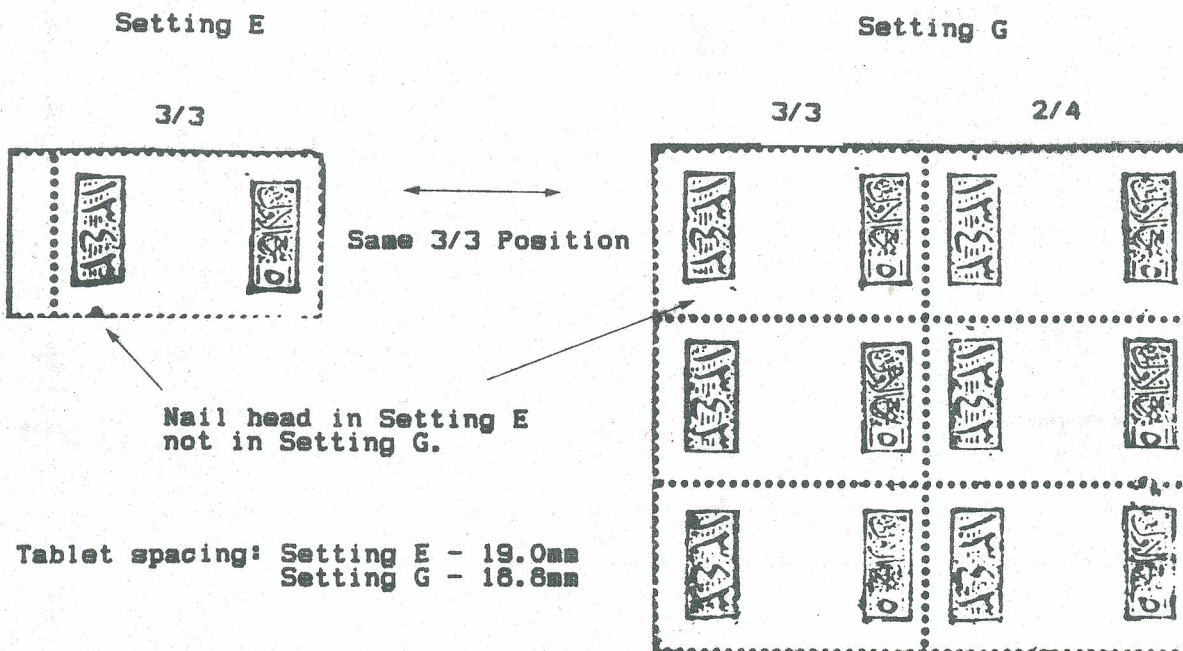
Setting G is based on a reconstructed block of the 1/2pi. blue overprint as shown in Figure 3.

**TABLE II
JEDDAH-1 KING ALI OVERPRINTS
PLATE SETTINGS OF VARIN'S "KEY STAMP"**



SETTING	KEY STAMP NO	VALUE	COLOR	VERT. STRIP	YEAR TABLET
F	4 & 29	1/8	Black	4th	Left
F	22 & 47	1/8	Black	2nd	Right
C	25 & 50	1/8	Black	5th	Right
?	?	1/4	Blue	?	Right
D/E	23 & 48	1/4	Red	3rd	Right
?	?	1/4	Red	?	Left
A	2 & 27	1/2	Black	2nd	Left
F	4 & 29	1/2	Black	4th	Left
?	?	1/2	Black	?	Right
E	23 & 48	1/2	Blue	3rd	Right
C	1 & 26	1	Black	1st	Left
F	4 & 29	1	Black	4th	Left
F	22 & 47	1	Black	2nd	Right
E	23 & 48	1	Red	3rd	Right
C	1 & 26	1-1/2	Black	1st	Left
B	2 & 27	1-1/2	Black	2nd	Left
F	4 & 29	1-1/2	Black	4th	Left
F	22 & 47	1-1/2	Blue	2nd	Right
F	3 & 28	1-1/2	Red	3rd	Left
F	4 & 29	2	Black	4th	Left
D/E	23 & 48	2	Red	3rd	Right
E	3 & 28	3	Red	3rd	Left
E	3 & 28	5	Blue	3rd	Left
?	?	5	Blue	?	Right
?	?	5	Red	?	Left

**FIGURE 3
JEDDAH-1 KING ALI OVERPRINTS
SETTING G**



The Setting B of Figure 1 exhibits the Warin varieties which are common to all settings of Jeddah-1. There are a number of Warin varieties which occur only in Setting F, and this could be an indication that Setting F was one of the last settings. Because of the limited printings of the settings with the narrow and medium tablet spacings, it is presumed that these were done first. Table III shows the earliest and latest use of each setting based on a limited number of covers and used stamps. Except for the only used copy of Setting A available, the earliest dates seem to confirm that presumption.

Three of the Jeddah-1 overprints were subsequently overprinted with the Medina provisional handstamp. Scott 58B, 1/2pi. has not been seen by the author. Scott 58C, 1pi., comes from Setting C, and 58D, 2pi., comes from Setting E.

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TABLE III
JEDDAH-1 KING ALI OVERPRINTS
DATES OF USE - 1925

SETTING	EARLIEST	LATEST
A		November 9
B		August 31
B/C (1)	June 30	November 29
C	July 19	December 10 (2)
D	July 28	September 22
E	August 7	December 10
F	September 16	December 10
G	---	---

(1) Settings B and C have one strip of stamps with the same 3/3 orientation and almost identical tablet spacing, so cannot be certain of the setting.

(2) The December 10 dates come from two covers photographed in the Mayo sale and a recent Feldman sale. Both covers have a printed return address of:

Parke, Davis and Company
Manufacturing Chemists,
Beak St. Regent St.,
London, W.

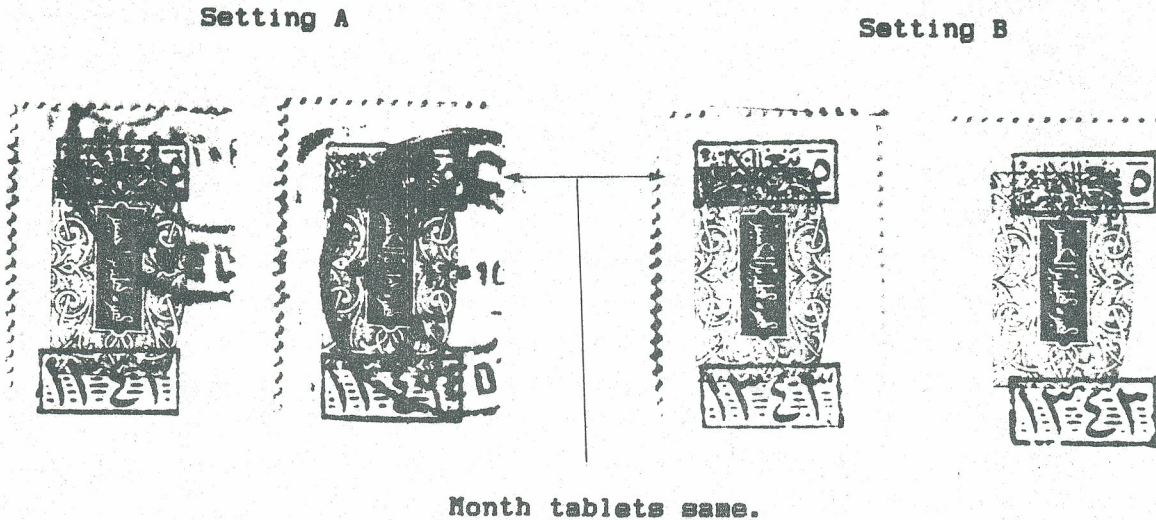
Both are addressed to Mr. J.M. Millet, Continental Hotel, Cairo. Both are registered; the Feldman cover No. 275 and the Mayo cover No. 276. Both had stamps on front and back, but only the fronts are photographed. All were Jeddah-1. The catalog description indicates the set through the 10pi., but the 10pi. must have been on the reverse.

The mailing date was nine days before the surrender of Jeddah.

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The 10pi. Jeddah-1 overprints are not plentiful, and they were not reported by Warin. No multiples have been seen. The four in the author's collection are shown in Figure 4, and while the tablets bear some resemblance to those of Settings A-G, they are not identical and are not arranged the same way. Although the black ink and printing are also similar, it appears that another plate was used for the 10pi. The sheets are about 2 cm. longer than sheets of the other denominations, and the strips of 5 would not fit. There appear to have been two settings of the 10pi. as two of the stamps in Figure 4 have the same month tablet, but not the same year tablet, and the tablet spacings are different.

FIGURE 4
 JEDDAH-I KING ALI OVERPRINTS
 10 PI.



Tablet spacing: 17.4-17.7mm

18.7-19.1mm

Setting B positions which these resemble:

19/5

10/7

10/25

3/22

Cancellation Date: ٢٤٤٤ ٤ ٢٢ * 10... (10 Nov. 1925)

The Jeddah-II overprints were done with a new plate which had 50 different month and year tablets. Setting A was used for all values except the 10pi. No full sheet of this setting was available, but a reconstruction from various blocks was made, and most of the tablets are shown in Figure 5. Unfortunately not all were on stamps that photograph well, the green of the 3pi. being especially difficult to filter out. Two different settings were used for the 10pi. Figure 6 shows Setting B, the sheet of the 10pi. that was described by Varin, with the various inverted tablets indicated by "X". These tablets were corrected as the blocks in Figure 7 show. Setting B has been seen with black overprint only. Setting C was used with all three inks, but only a few blocks have been seen. Two are shown at the bottom of Figure 7.

FIGURE 5
JEDDAH-II KING ALI OVERPRINTS
SETTING A

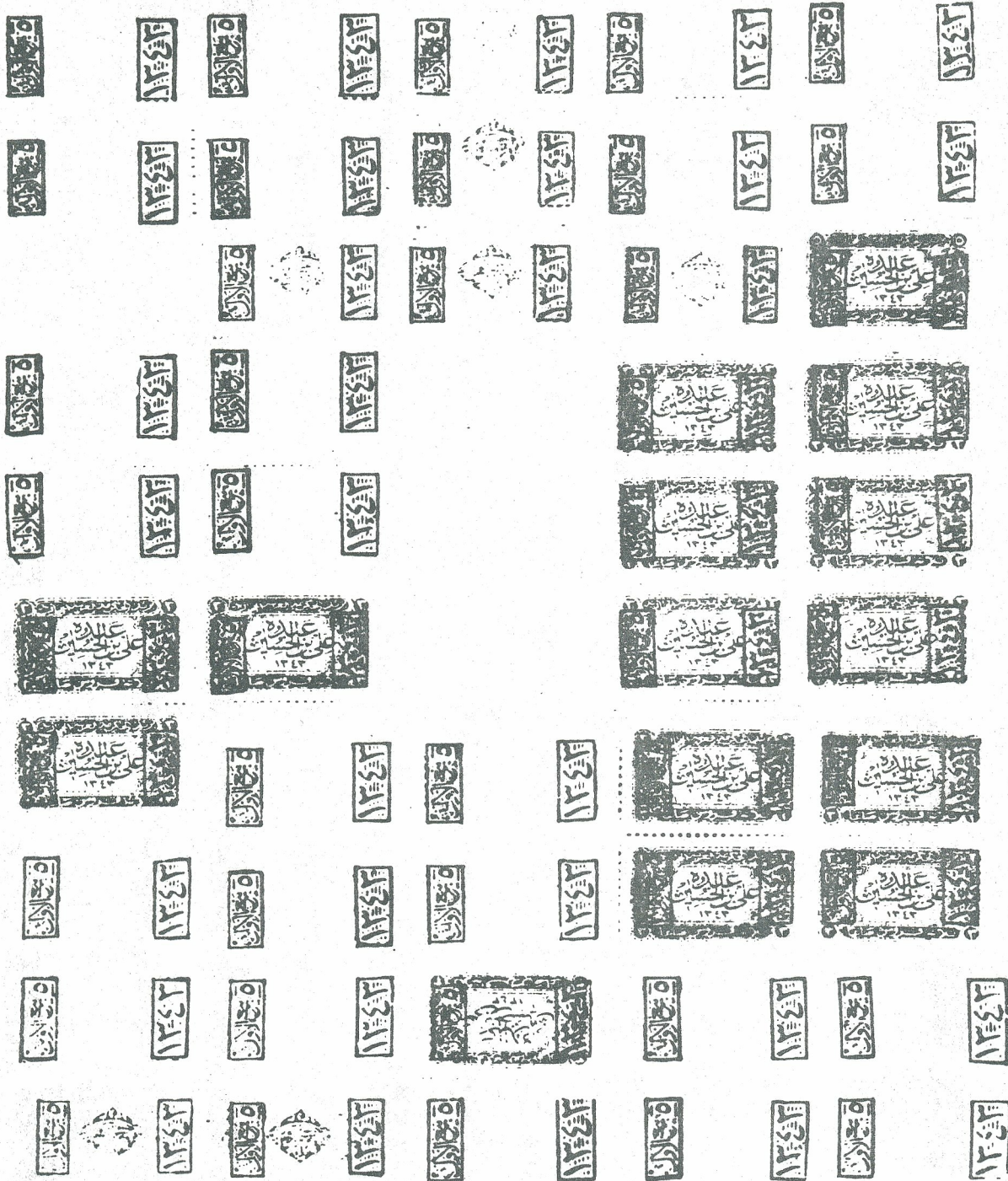


FIGURE 6
JEDDAH-11 KING ALI OVERPRINTS
SETTING B



**FIGURE 7
JEDDAH-11 KING ALI OVERPRINTS
SETTING C**

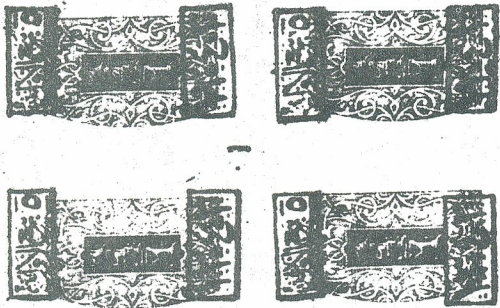
**Setting A
Position 47
Blue ovpt. on 5pi.**



**Month tablet same as
setting B, position 9
and setting C, position 4.
See below.**

**Setting B
Black ovpt. on 10pi.**

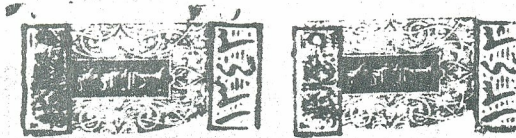
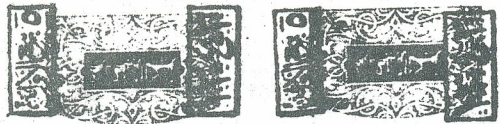
**Note inverted clichés
in positions 5 and 12
have been corrected.**



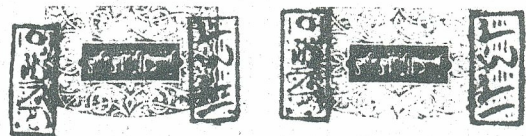
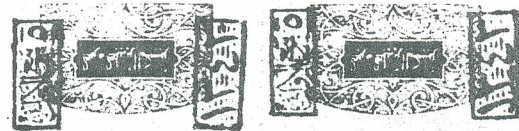
Pos. 4/5



Pos. 9



Pos. 4



**Setting C
Black ovpt. on 10pi.
inverted center.**

Blue ovpt. on 10pi.

In distinguishing between Jeddah-I and Jeddah-II overprints, the tablet size, color of ink, printing and frame lines are useful criteria. A quick method is to measure the height of the year tablet and check the color and printing of the frame lines. The year tablet of most Jeddah-I are 7.0 mm or more in height, while very few Jeddah-II reach 7.0 mm.; or add the width and height of the year tablet; this sum varies from 21.8-23.4 mm for Jeddah-I and slightly less, 20.9-22.4 mm for Jeddah-II. Table IV gives the dimensions of the tablets for Jeddah-I, and Table V gives the dimensions for most of the tablets in Jeddah-II. The color and density of the ink in the frame lines is useful in separating the Jeddah-I and Jeddah-II overprints. The black ink of Jeddah-I is dull under a light, while the Jeddah-II black has a shiny surface. As mentioned in RANDOM NOTES #33, the red of Jeddah-I is a pink-red, while Jeddah-II is a bright blood red. The blue of Jeddah-I is a purplish-blue, while Jeddah-II is greenish-blue. (An exception is the 10pi., which does not appear to exist in blue in Jeddah-I. It does exist in Jeddah-II, but the ink is the purplish-blue normally seen in Jeddah-I). In Jeddah-I, the ink is not applied evenly in the frame lines and appears squeezed to the edges of the lines. That is, the ink is thinner in the middle of the line, and thus does not have a uniform density across the line. This occurs in all three colors of Jeddah-I, while the inks of Jeddah-II, especially the black and the red, show a uniform density across the frame line. In plating the Jeddah-I, the frame lines and their various distinctive irregularities are the best indicators.

The Cairo overprints were done with a plate which also had 50 different month and year tablets. Setting A is shown in Figure 8 and was used for all denominations in all three colors. However, for the 10pi., the tablets were moved further apart vertically to cover the longer sheet. There are errors in the setting, which are not constant, which give tete-beche horizontal pairs. Figure 9 shows some tete-beche blocks, and it appears that the lower denominations result from the tablets in the fourth column (year right) being inverted. On the 10pi. the tete-beche pairs result from the third column being inverted. There is another setting, B, which is made up of 25 month and year tablets arranged differently from Setting A. It is repeated twice on the sheet. It has only been found on an imperforate sheet of the 1-1/2pi. shown in Figure 10. The tablet spacing in Setting A is 18.8-19.9 mm., while Setting B varies from 15.7-19.0 mm.

No Jeddah-II or Cairo King Ali overprints have been found used on genuine covers. As shown in Table III, Jeddah-I overprints were still being used in December 1925, just before the surrender of Jeddah. Apparently there was no shortage of Jeddah-I stamps even though Warin states that the Jeddah-II were printed in June. The earliest date of Jeddah-I usage is June 30, 1925, and while there may have been a shortage of the earlier Jeddah issues (Scott L51-159), covers have been seen dated mid-September with many of these earlier issues. If the Jeddah-II and Cairo overprints were actually on sale and available for postage in Jeddah, it is strange that none have been found on Colonial Photo Stores covers. Every other Jeddah provisional issue has been used on these philatelic covers.

A number of "used" King Ali stamps with Cairo overprint have been seen cancelled with a Jeddah circular date stamp which is questionable. It has a date line which looks like this:

11 25 0900-12-0

Note that the month "11" comes first which is not the way dates were written in the Hejaz. Also, the parallel lines above and below the date are 11 mm. apart rather than the normal 10 mm. Two Jeddah-II 10pi. have been seen cancelled with the same CDS.

The postage due stamps were also overprinted with the Jeddah-I month and year tablets, but in a different format. This would be a separate plate as the strips of five tablets as used on the postage stamps would not fit the postage dues. No multiples of the Jeddah-I postage dues have been seen to be able to confirm the description by Warin, but a stamp with bottom selvege and a blotch which fits Warin's variety on position 41 or 46 has been seen.

Much of the Jeddah-II postage due plate has been reconstructed from a number of blocks. This is shown in Figure 11. Varieties listed by Warin can be found, so it is probable that only one setting was used.

The Cairo postage due overprint is shown in Figure 12. It includes the inverted tablet in position 4. According to Warin, there were two settings of the Cairo postage due overprint, the other having inverted tablets in positions 8, 11, 28 and 50.

Handstamps of the King Ali overprints are thought to be forgeries. A number of these are shown in Figure 13. The inks used (black, red and blue) are usually quite thick and frequently one of the tablets is inverted. Blue overprints on the 1/4pi. are always forgeries.

The author would like to thank those members/subscribers of the A.P.A. who made their material available for study and reproduction and which contributed so much to the completeness of the study. Comments and additional information on covers, dates of usage and blocks of Jeddah-I Settings A and G are invited and may be sent to the Editor or to the author at P. O. Box 905, Turlock, CA 95381, U.S.A.

TABLE IV
 JEDDAH-I KING ALI OVERPRINTS
 MEASUREMENTS - SETTING B - YEAR LEFT

POSITION	TABLET SPACING	YEAR TABLET		MONTH TABLET		SUM OF YEAR TABLETS
		WIDTH	HEIGHT	WIDTH	HEIGHT	
1	15.0	16.0	7.25	15.5	6.75	23.25
2	15.75	16.0	7.25	15.75	6.75	23.25
3	15.5	15.5	7.25	15.75	6.75	22.75
4	15.5	16.25	7.25	16.0	6.75	23.5
5	15.0	16.25	7.0	16.5	7.0	23.25
6	15.4	15.5	7.0	15.5	6.6	22.5
7	15.5	16.0	7.4	15.75	6.75	23.4
8	15.5	15.25	7.0	15.5	6.6	22.25
9	15.75	16.0	7.5	15.25	6.5	23.5
10	15.75	15.25	6.9	16.0	7.0	22.15
11	15.6	15.25	7.1	15.25	6.5	22.35
12	15.6	15.75	7.25	15.25	6.75	23.0
13	15.75	15.25	7.0	15.5	6.5	22.25
14	15.25	15.5	7.5	15.5	6.5	23.0
15	15.5	16.0	6.9	15.75	7.0	22.9
16	15.75	14.75	7.0	15.25	6.75	21.75
17	15.6	15.75	7.25	15.25	6.75	23.0
18	15.6	15.75	7.0	15.25	6.5	22.75
19	15.5	15.75	7.5	14.75	6.4	23.25
20	15.1	15.25	7.0	15.5	7.0	22.25
21	15.75	16.0	7.5	15.5	6.75	23.5
22	15.5	16.0	7.25	15.75	6.75	23.25
23	15.75	15.5	7.0	15.5	6.6	22.5
24	15.4	16.0	7.25	15.5	6.5	23.25
25	15.5	15.5	7.1	16.0	7.0	22.6
RANGE	15.0 -15.75	14.75 -16.25	6.9 -7.5	14.75 -16.5	6.4 -7.0	21.75 -23.5

Note: Distances measured at center of tablets and from center of frame lines.

TABLE V
JEDDAH-II KING ALI OVERPRINTS
MEASUREMENTS

POS	SETTING A (YEAR LEFT)						SETTING B 10PI. (YEAR LEFT)				
	TAB. SPACE	YR. TABLET		MON. TABLET		YEAR TAB. SUM	TAB. SPACE	YR. TABLET		MON. TABLET	
		WIDTH	HGT.	WIDTH	HGT.			WIDTH	HGT.	WIDTH	HGT.
1	18.5	15.3	7.0	14.8	6.7	22.3	19.3	15.1	7.0	15.0	6.3
2	18.4	15.3	7.0	15.3	6.6	22.3	17.5	15.0	6.7	15.0	6.5
3	18.1	15.2	7.0	15.1	6.6	22.2	19.8	14.7	6.5	15.3	6.3
4	18.0	14.9	6.8	14.8	6.4	21.7	16.5	15.0	7.0	15.0	6.5
5	18.4	14.7	6.6	14.9	6.2	21.3	15.5	15.0	6.9	14.7	5.9
6	18.5	15.3	7.0	13.9	6.0	22.3	20.6	14.5	6.5	14.7	6.2
7	18.5	14.3	6.6	14.8	6.6	20.9	18.7	15.1	6.8	15.0	6.2
8	18.5	15.0	7.0	14.6	6.7	22.0	18.7	14.7	6.6	14.8	6.5
9	17.7	14.6	6.7	14.5	6.5	21.3	16.3	14.3	6.6	15.0	6.5
10	18.1	15.0	6.7	14.6	6.2	21.7	18.1	14.7	6.8	14.9	6.5
11							18.5	15.4	7.0	14.5	6.7
12	18.2	14.7	6.8	14.9	6.6	21.5	16.7	14.7	6.7	15.3	6.6
13	18.5	14.8	7.0	14.6	6.6	21.8	18.4	15.2	6.8	15.3	6.6
14	18.0	15.0	6.4	14.6	6.2	21.4	17.7	15.0	6.8	14.9	6.6
15	18.4	14.7	6.6	15.0	6.3	21.3	17.9	14.8	6.6	14.7	6.2
16	18.5	15.3	7.0	14.7	6.1	22.3	19.4	15.2	6.9	15.1	6.3
17	18.1	14.8	6.6	15.2	6.6	21.4	17.9	15.3	6.9	14.7	6.2
18							17.7	15.2	7.0	14.6	6.1
19	18.0	14.5	6.6	14.8	6.3	21.1	17.5	15.3	6.9	14.7	6.4
20	18.1	14.7	6.8	15.1	6.4	21.5	17.1	15.3	7.1	14.5	6.6
21	18.7	15.3	7.0	15.3	6.3	22.3	20.7	14.9	7.1	13.8	6.1
22	17.7	15.3	6.7	15.5	6.7	22.0	17.9	15.2	6.9	15.5	6.5
23							18.4	15.0	6.8	14.6	6.6
24	17.5	15.2	6.8	15.0	6.4	22.0	17.3	15.3	6.9	15.0	6.2
25	18.3	15.0	6.7	15.0	6.3	21.7	17.3	15.2	6.8	15.3	6.5
26	18.3	14.7	6.6	14.9	6.3	21.3	21.3	14.7	6.6	14.9	6.4
27	17.9	14.9	6.8			21.7	17.6	15.6	6.9	14.4	6.4
28							17.5	15.2	6.9	14.9	6.5
29	18.3	15.4	7.0	15.3	6.6	22.4	16.1	15.2	6.6	14.8	6.3
30	18.5	15.1	6.9	14.7	6.1	22.0	17.6	15.6	6.9	15.1	6.4
31	18.1	15.0	6.8	14.5		21.8	21.5	14.6	6.7	14.6	6.2
32	17.6	14.5	6.7	14.4	6.4	21.2	17.5	15.6	7.0	14.8	6.1
33	18.5	14.8	7.0	14.6	6.2	21.8	17.2	14.8	6.6	14.8	6.3
34	18.4	14.3	6.7	14.9	6.6	21.0	17.4	15.0	6.5	15.0	6.5
35	18.4	15.2	7.0	13.9	6.0	22.2	16.0	14.6	6.7	14.8	6.2
36	18.4	14.7	6.6	14.9	6.2	21.3	21.0	15.2	6.9	15.0	6.5
37	17.9	15.1	6.6	14.6	6.2	21.7	16.6	15.1	7.0	14.5	6.5
38	18.4	15.0	7.1	14.6	6.6	22.1	16.9	15.2	6.7	14.9	6.4
39	18.2	14.7	6.7	14.8	6.5	21.4	15.6	15.0	6.6	15.4	6.7
40	18.3	15.0	7.0	14.9	6.4	22.0	18.3	15.9	7.0	15.3	6.5
41	18.1	14.7	6.7	15.3	6.4	21.4	21.0	15.1	6.7	15.1	6.6
42	18.0	14.6	6.6	14.7	6.3	21.2	17.4	14.3	6.6	15.2	6.4
43	18.4	15.3	7.0	15.0	6.5	22.3	18.6	14.9	6.7	14.7	6.0
44	18.0	14.9	6.6	15.3	6.5	21.5	15.7	14.6	6.6	15.0	6.2
45	18.4	15.4	6.9	14.6	6.0	22.3	18.2	15.3	6.8	15.3	6.6
46	18.2	15.1	6.7	15.0	6.3	21.8	20.5	14.8	6.9	14.7	6.7
47	17.4	15.2	6.7	15.1	6.5	21.9	17.1	15.2	6.8	14.9	6.2
48	18.4	15.5	6.9	14.8	6.4	22.4	18.4	15.3	7.0	14.8	6.4
49	17.6	15.3	6.8	15.4	6.7	22.1	16.3	15.1	6.9	14.8	6.4
50	18.6	15.2	7.0	15.1	6.4	22.2	19.0	14.5	6.8	14.0	6.0
RANGE											
	17.5	14.3	6.4	13.9	6.0	20.9	15.5	14.3	6.5	13.8	5.9
	-18.5	-15.5	-7.1	-15.3	-6.7	-22.4	-21.5	-15.9	-7.1	-15.5	-6.7

Note: Distances measured at center of tablets and from center of frame line.

FIGURE 8
CAIRO KING ALI OVERPRINTS
SETTING A

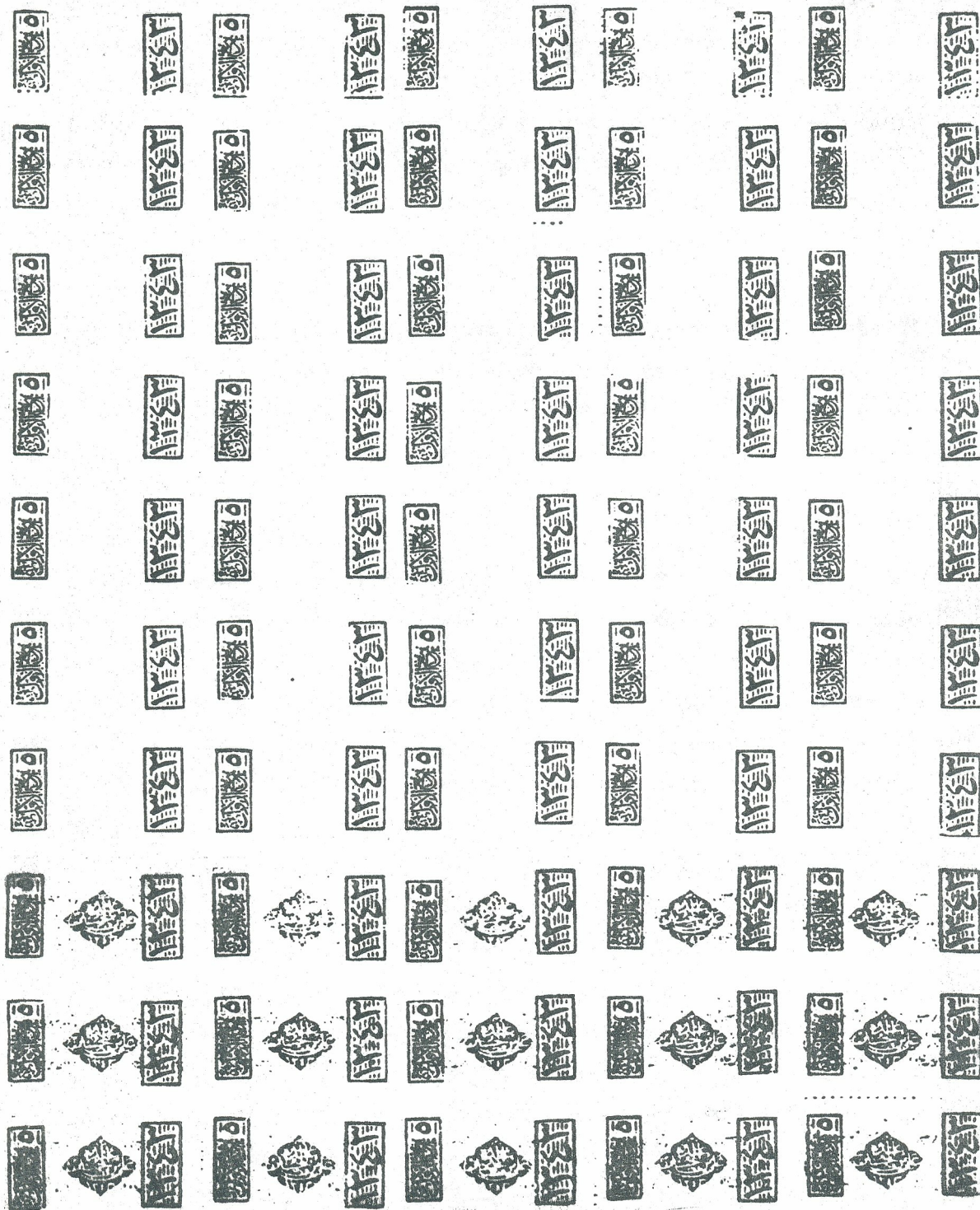
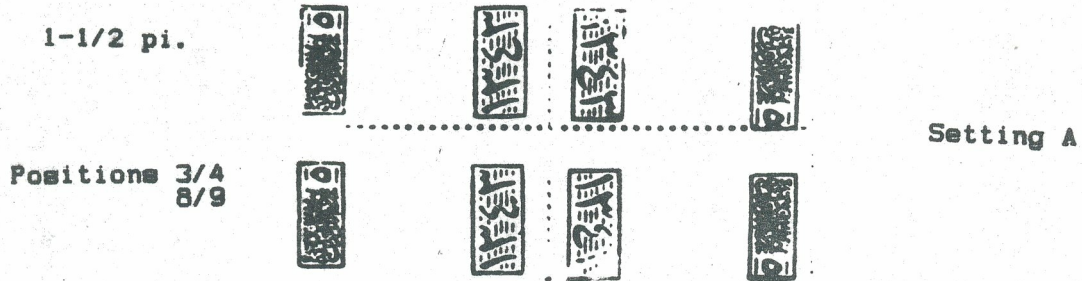


FIGURE 9
CAIRO KING ALI OVERPRINTS
TETE-BECHE OVERPRINTS



Tete-beche of the 1/8, 1-1/2, and 3pi. seen have the tablets in the 4th column (year to right) reversed. Year-to-year occur in pairs from columns 3 and 4, while month-to-month occur in pairs from columns 4 and 5. Tete-beche have been found only with black overprint. Tete-beche of the 10pi. occur as a result of the tablets being reversed in the 3rd column.

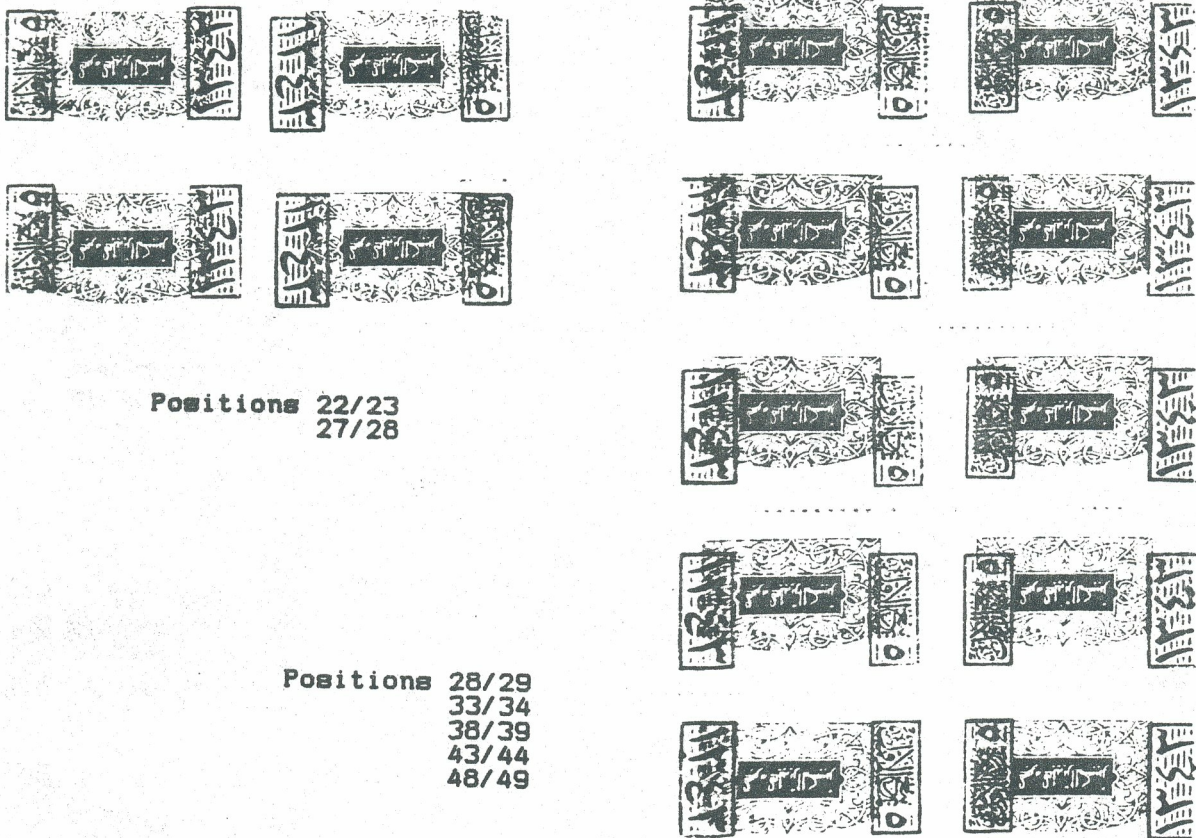


FIGURE 10
CAIRO KING ALI OVERPRINTS
SETTING B



FIGURE 11
 JEDDAH-11 KING ALI OVERPRINTS
 POSTAGE DUES

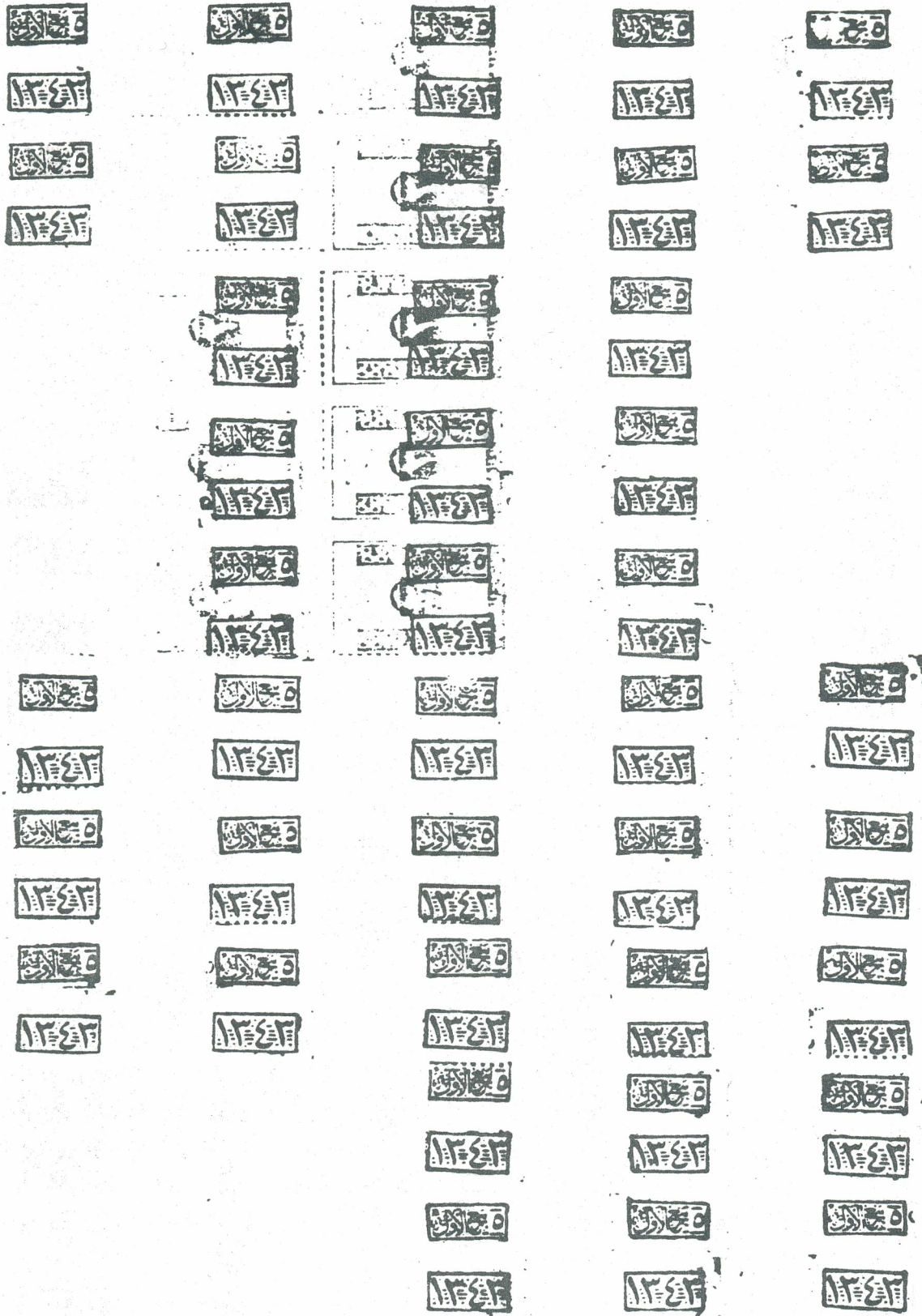


FIGURE 12
CAIRO KING ALI OVERPRINTS
POSTAGE DUES

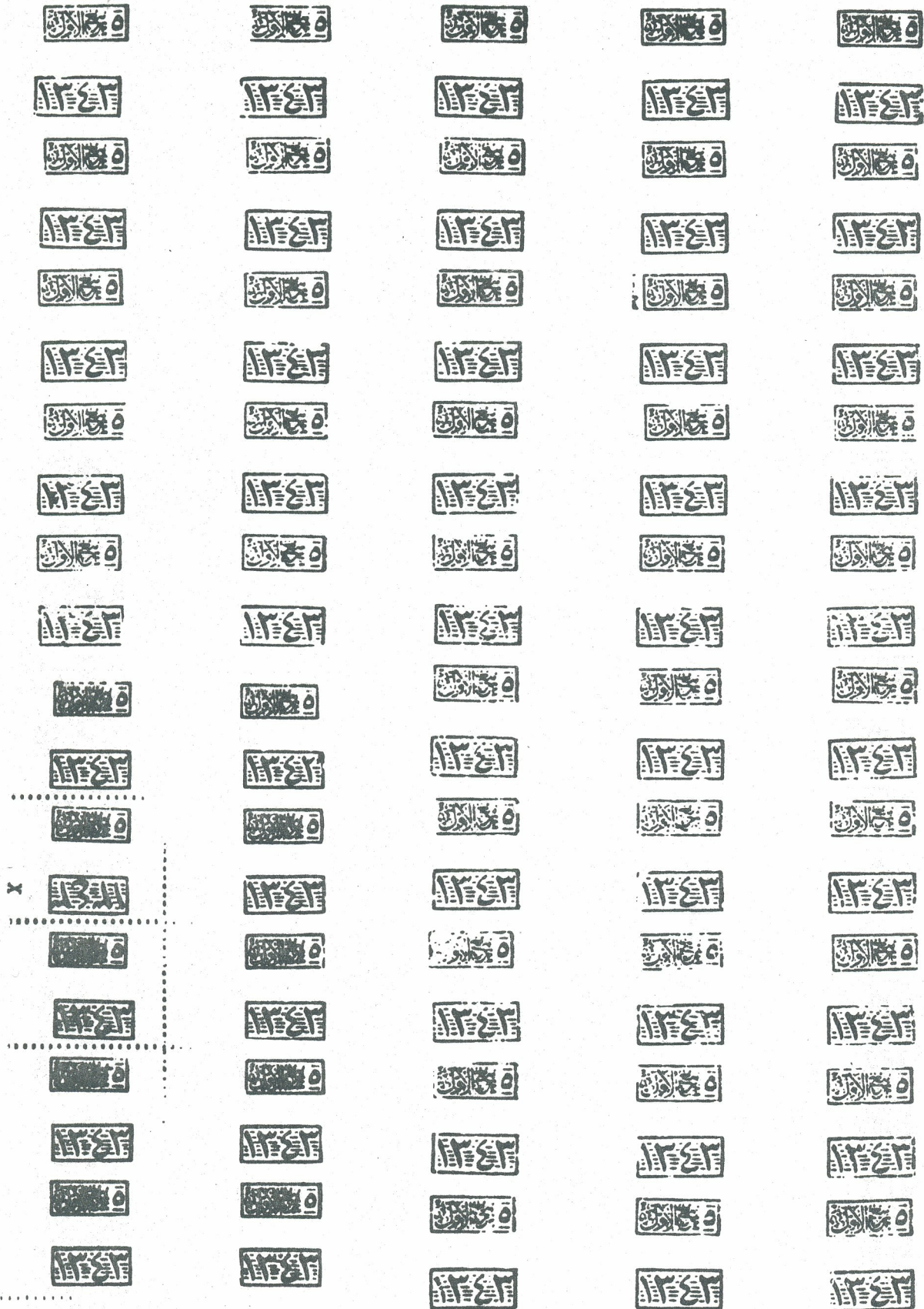


FIGURE 13
KING ALI OVERPRINTS
FORGERIES



Black
on 1/4 pi.



Red
on 1pi.



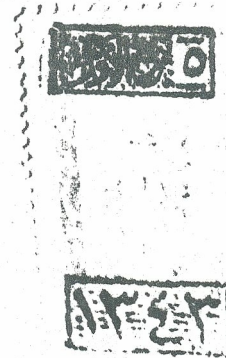
Black
on 3pi.



Red
on 1/4pi.



Blue
on 3pi.



Blue
on 5pi.

Same tablets,
different orientation.

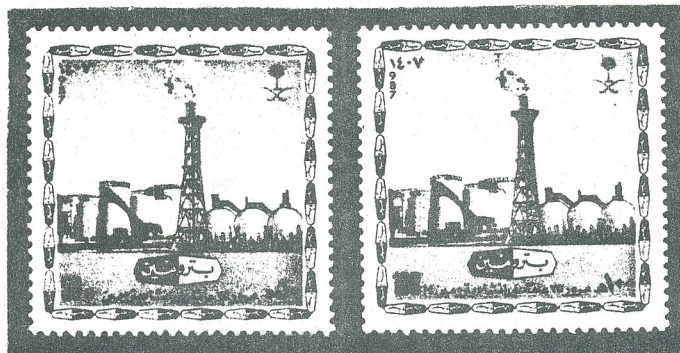
NEW ISSUES OF SAUDI ARABIA

By: Abdul Aziz A. Sa'id

The location of Sabra and Shatilla camps mentioned in RANDOM NOTES #37 was incorrect. They are not near Sidon but rather south of Beirut.

The denominations of commemorative and definitive issues including the Holy Ka'aba and the Universities series will be equivalent to the new postage rates. Lower values, as well as 65h, will not be printed in the future.

February 23, 1987: Two stamps, 50h and 100h, were issued to commemorate the 25th anniversary of the General Petroleum and Minerals Organization (Petromin), established by Royal decree No. 25 of 25/6/1382H. The design shows oil tankage, LPG spheres, a flare stack, a tanker and the Petromin emblem. Designed by Abdul Qader Al-Husseini. Printed in sheets of 50 stamps and 4 postcode labels (9 x 6) on white unwatermarked paper. Perforated 12. Quantity: 800,000 sets.



March 10, 1987: A 50h stamp of the "Saudi Cities" definitive series was issued depicting the Shobra Palace in Ta'if. Designed by Ibrahim Turki. Printed in sheets of 52 stamps (4 x 13) on yellowish watermarked paper, (Scott's type 361, up). Perforated 12.



March 21, 1987: Two stamps, 50h and 75h were issued to commemorate the start of the expansion and renewal of the Quba Mosque in Medina. This mosque was the first to be erected in Islam (622 A.D.). The design depicts the mosque before and after the expansion. Designed by Abdul Qader Al-Husseini. Printed in sheets of 50 stamps and 2 postcode labels (4 x 13) on white unwatermarked paper. Perforated 12. Quantity: 800,000 sets.

An official first day cover was prepared with the 2 stamps, a cachet and a special cancellation. Quantity: 5,000 covers, which were distributed in the large cities as well as the Philatelic Bureau and the Saudi Arabian Philatelic Society branches in Riyadh, Makkah and Jeddah.



March 29, 1987: A 100h stamp in the "Saudi Universities" definitive series was issued depicting the emblem of the Umm-al-Qura University in Makkah within Islamic ornamentation. The university was founded in 1981. Designed by Ashfaq Ghani. Printed in sheets of 105 stamps (7 x 15) on white unwatermarked paper. Perforated 12.

Date given is estimated date of sale in Dammam. Stamp not yet on sale in Riyadh.



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

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.

FREE: Price list of packets of the world. Mounted world collections from 10,000 different for \$90 to 100,000 different for \$7000. C. Timour, 423 N. Ave. 66, Los Angeles, CA 90042, USA. Telephone: 1-213-255-6290.

WANTED: Saudi Arabia Scott RA2 on cover. Please send details or photo with price to J. I. Kearney, Aramco Box 5060, Dhahran 31311, Saudi Arabia

WANTED: CASOC covers with Bahrain or Saudi stamps such as those mentioned in this issue of RANDOM NOTES. Also, 1944-46 ARAMCO A.P.O. 816 cover. R. J. Thoden, ARAMCO Box 1802, Dhahran 31311, Saudi Arabia.

FREE: Catalogs for our periodic mail sales of Middle East. Sale #5 is on April 24. The Perfect Perf, Box 16127, Pittsburgh, PA. 15242, USA.

WANTED: Large Swedish officials with clear city date stamp cancels. F.W. Myers, Aramco Box 1671, Dhahran 31311, Saudi Arabia.

WANTLISTS invited for used Scandinavia, Canada, modern Saudi stamps. F.W. Myers, Aramco Box 1671, Dhahran 31311, Saudi Arabia.

WANTED: Any Saudi stamp cancelled HODEIDAH (Saudi type) per RANDOM NOTES #37 article. R. J. Thoden, Aramco Box 1802, Dhahran 31311, Saudi Arabia.

AVAILABLE: KSA souvenir sheets, year issues (1981-1986) and modern FDCs, (including vending machine booklets). Prices on request from Y. Aidroos, Box 87874, Riyadh 11652, Saudi Arabia.

FOR SALE: New Saudi booklets - \$100.00 per pair of complete booklets, \$20.00 for one pane from each booklet. Personal checks not accepted. AbdulAziz A. Sa'id, PO Box 1317, Riyadh 11431, Saudi Arabia.

STILL AVAILABLE: THE REFERENCE MANUAL OF SAUDI ARABIAN FORGERIES. New members and subscribers - if you collect Hejaz & Nejd, you need this to protect yourself against the forgeries so prevalent today. Contains more than 100 pages illustrating and describing the differences between genuine and forged overprints. Price on request. R. J. Thoden, ARAMCO Box 1802, Dhahran 31311, Saudi Arabia.

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.

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

List of Prices Realised at APA Auction - 26th Feb. 1987

LOT	SR	LOT	SR	LOT	SR	LOT	SR	LOT	SR	LOT	SR	LOT	SR	LOT	SR
1	50	85	36	160	240	238	3000	308	550	383	36	465	85	554	280
2	160	86	34	162	280	239	38	309	80	384	160	466	100	555	340
3	130	87	36	163	120	240	500	310	80	387	36	467	110	556	100
4	100	88	60	164	40	242	320	311	150	389	110	468	70	557	110
8	50	89	55	165	75	243	70	313	40	390	1400	469	80	558	260
9	100	90	60	166	50	244	30	314	85	391	60	470	70	559	85
12	30	91	30	167	120	245	200	315	700	392	80	473	260	560	42
13	95	92	110	168	160	248	30	316	950	393	42	480	80	561	120
14	150	93	160	169	240	249	30	317	650	395	30	482	30	562	280
15	170	94	80	170	340	250	40	320	100	408	80	484	30	563	42
16	50	95	85	171	220	251	800	324	130	409	80	488	85	564	50
17	85	96	44	172	480	252	650	325	280	410	160	496	340	566	60
19	150	99	80	173	100	253	150	326	280	411	80	500	50	577	240
20	32	100	120	175	65	254	75	327	260	413	1900	501	50	578	150
21	85	101	75	176	60	255	50	328	30	415	800	502	55	579	40
22	36	103	50	177	60	256	60	330	100	416	340	504	150	582	320
25	38	107	34	178	65	257	110	331	85	417	420	505	95	588	40
26	110	109	600	179	500	258	30	332	100	418	120	506	95	591	50
27	120	110	40	180	50	259	600	333	50	419	120	507	30	592	50
30	30	111	40	182	40	260	550	335	38	420	130	508	75	593	30
31	50	112	70	186	220	262	220	337	150	421	55	512	160	594	65
35	100	114	190	187	260	263	160	339	32	422	50	513	100	596	30
36	85	116	120	188	30	264	30	341	100	423	110	515	60	597	30
38	46	117	70	189	32	265	110	342	75	424	30	516	240	598	240
39	60	118	100	190	110	266	170	345	50	425	120	517	30	599	50
42	46	121	42	191	340	268	220	348	30	426	65	518	650	600	2100
43	55	122	80	192	300	269	85	349	100	427	120	519	550	601	50
46	150	123	30	193	600	270	40	350	100	428	30	520	400	602	700
47	85	127	44	195	110	271	220	353	200	429	46	521	400	605	75
48	55	130	170	198	85	272	110	355	40	432	34	523	140	606	55
49	120	131	50	199	110	273	32	358	60	433	36	524	1000	607	280
50	55	132	65	200	550	276	30	359	50	434	65	525	280	608	400
51	70	133	110	204	300	277	700	360	100	436	30	526	1000	609	110
52	200	134	65	206	150	278	300	361	65	437	65	527	1100	610	260
53	110	135	65	207	110	279	400	362	120	438	30	528	110	611	440
54	50	136	190	212	30	280	320	364	30	440	50	529	340	613	700
55	42	139	150	213	600	281	30	365	80	441	42	531	220	616	300
57	100	143	200	214	90	285	130	366	85	442	40	532	260	617	32
58	34	144	110	215	700	286	100	367	150	445	160	533	170	618	100
59	60	145	40	217	220	288	260	368	100	446	85	534	120	619	110
60	60	146	110	218	80	289	280	369	150	448	75	535	600	620	90
61	65	147	50	219	160	290	260	370	440	449	120	536	280	621	180
62	65	148	200	220	320	291	600	372	1400	450	30	538	700	622	220
63	65	149	110	223	110	293	130	373	500	451	36	539	300		
65	550	150	40	224	80	296	60	374	180	452	32	540	180		
67	500	151	60	226	120	297	80	375	90	453	42	543	160		
68	400	152	850	228	110	298	80	376	340	454	40	545	3200		
72	600	154	1000	230	170	299	110	377	700	455	40	546	3000		
75	1500	155	850	231	50	300	40	378	800	456	150	548	260		
80	55	156	800	234	30	302	460	379	1000	462	36	549	120		
83	100	157	60	235	800	304	200	380	650	463	85	552	300		
84	100	159	170	237	850	306	500	382	40	464	85	553	170		