



جماعة هواة الطوابع العربية
ملاحظات عابرة

Arabian Philatelic Association
Random Notes

APRIL-AUGUST 1987

NUMBER 39

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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 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
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T.K. Forber, Membership Secretary	J.I. Kearney, Auctioneer
F.W. Myers, Treasurer	G.E. Benham, Jr., 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 to the editor. The right to edit or reject all submissions is reserved.

Material from this publication may be reprinted provided credit is given to "Arabian Philatelic Association Random Notes" and the author of the article. Please send a copy of the reprint to the editor.

RANDOM NOTES FROM DHAHRAN

By: R. J. Thoden

1. You will note that this issue is dated April-August, 1987. There will be only three issues of RANDOM NOTES this year in order that we may bring you the long-awaited RANDOM NOTES INDEX, which will be out shortly. In addition, sufficient contributions for publication are not being received to support a RANDOM NOTES issue every three months. There must be some among the more than 300 of you out there who know something that hasn't been published yet. Write it up and send it in!
2. Glen Benham announces that APEX-16, the A.P.A.'s annual show, will be held on Thursday, November 19, 1987 in the Al-Diwan Building in Aramco facilities in Dhahran.
3. Jim Kearney announces that the next A.P.A. auction will be held on February 26, 1988. For this auction, reserves will not be listed in the catalog, but both Scott and Gibbons catalog prices will be given to assist bidders. Sellers should submit lots to the auctioneer between October 8 and November 12. Copies of the auction catalog will be sent automatically to all participants in the 1987 auction in December. Others may write to the auctioneer for a copy.
4. The recent Vocational Training block of four 50h stamps was printed in a quantity of 800,000 stamps (200,000 blocks). Unfortunately, the A.P.A. was allowed to purchase only the same number of sheets of stamps that we normally purchase for each issue, even though a sheet contained four different designs. Therefore, each A.P.A. new issue subscriber received a maximum of three blocks only. Sorry, but this was beyond our control. Of course, anyone who has not yet paid 1987 dues has been dropped from the new issue service and will not receive any of these blocks or any other item whose availability is limited. Please keep this policy in mind when your annual renewal notice arrives. No dues, no new issues!
5. GIBBONS STAMP MONTHLY for June included an ad for a block of 6 of the 1/8pi Caliphate, one with "no date" error, with certificate for £600 (Scott L42, SG 50). Readers should be aware that the "no date" errors are not known as genuine stamps. Caliphate forgery type 3 includes two positions with these "errors". It appears certificates are being issued by "experts" who don't know their material. However see item 7 for more on certificates.
6. Saudi stamps continue to appear frequently in John Ross' "Stamp Market Tips" column in LINN'S STAMP NEWS. The latest are: (a) the 1974 Interpol set, Scott 653-654. Mr. Ross says that Middle Eastern dealers are offering full Scott of \$9 for these, and that he is unable to find any sell ads; (b) the 1968 Trans-Saudi Arabia Highway set, Scott 453-457. In Scott at only \$6, Mr. Ross reports dealers willing to pay \$12; (c) the 1953 pair marking the visit of King Hussein of Jordan, Scott 196-197. Scott catalog is \$20. Mr. Ross says dealers in England and the Middle East are paying \$16, and their retail price has gone up to \$25; (d) the 1974 International Book Year (UNESCO) set, Scott 648-649 cataloging \$10.50. Mr. Ross says dealers in England and the Middle East are paying \$16, and the asking price is over \$25.

7. The Superior Galleries' sale of May 4-5 contained a nice group of Hejaz lots. The auctioneer said in the catalog "All lots in this presentation are unconditionally guaranteed. The collection was put together by a collector living in the Middle East during the 40's and 50's. He was quite knowledgeable concerning all Middle Eastern material and used as his sources only the finest and most reputable dealers and collectors". Despite these reassurances, the sale included a number of forgeries, judging from the descriptions and illustrations. In addition to 3 genuine lots, I purchased lot #1398 (Scott L120a, the rare three-line Jiddah overprint inverted on the 2pi Caliphate) which turned out to be a Type 9 forgery. To their credit, Superior did make a very prompt refund and has now purchased a copy of the A.P.A.'s reference manual of forgeries. Superior's November sale includes a very complete Saudi collection and they offer to send a free catalog to A.P.A. members and subscribers. This is not an endorsement of Superior, but if interested, write to:

Superior Stamp & Coin, Inc.
Attn: Michael Orenstein
9478 West Olympic Blvd.
Beverly Hills, CA 90212-4236 U.S.A.

8. Christie's-Robson Lowe's sale in Zurich on May 13-14 included about 40 lots of scarce Hejaz overprints. I was pleased to see that almost every item was accompanied by a FILATCO certificate. FILATCO is owned by Dr. Elias Kawar, and the general manager is David Graham, both of whom are A.P.A. subscribers. These certificates should give a high degree of confidence to bidders.
9. David Graham reports seeing the 1/2p Makkah Arms with large three-line Jiddah overprint (Scott L91), plus the "illegible" 1/4pi handstamp (such as used on Scott L135-136).
10. Bob Jung reports several varieties of the large Khafji definitives not included in the last listing of these in RANDOM NOTES #29.
- 20h - Paper C, watermark down, retouched
30h - Paper C, watermark up
35h - Paper A, watermark right
11. Lot 1242 in Harmers of London June 17 sale was described as SG 342P "1934-47 200g a proof tetebeche pair on white gummed paper, imperf, fine" and estimated at 80. Proofs and tetebeche pairs in the Tughra issue are previously unrecorded. If any of our subscribers have seen this or similar items, I would be grateful to know about it. However I'm skeptical of this item.
12. David Graham takes exception to my conclusion (in item 8 of this column in RANDOM NOTES #38) that there was no post office in Jubail in 1934-35. David has a 1/2q Heir Apparent stamp with the bottom half of an undated "JOBEIL" cancel. Though undated, the cancel almost certainly dates from 1934, as Heir Apparent stamps are never seen (at least by me) cancelled other than in 1934. Presumably then, there was a post office in Jubail, but it did not handle CASOC foreign mail, which was taken to Bahrein.

13. Lot 2534 in the Royale Stamp Auctions (London) sale of July 8 consisted of two 1927 acknowledgement-of-receipt forms. They exist today because they were not returned to Makkah as they should have been by the receiving post office in Sweden (the signature of the recipient and the receiving postmark are missing from the back of the forms). Each carried postage of 1-1/2 qirsh. I bid on the lot but didn't get it. Estimated at £20, it sold for £190.

يد الحجاز ونجد وملحقاتها
**ADMINISTRATION DES POSTES DU HEDJAZ
 ET NADJED ET DEPENDANCES**

اخطار بالوصول
AVIS DE RÉCEPTION
 اخطار بالتسليم
AVIS DE PAYEMENT

ارسالية مسجلة (١) *رسالة*
 طرد /
 خطاب - مله - طرد - ذوقية ملن عنها /
 خواله برديه من مكتب /
 سجلت في مكتب البريد *في مكة*
 تحت رقم *٢٥٤٨* المرسل *عبدالله*
 المرسل اليه *نوري البرود*

Envoi recommandé (*lettre*) (1)
 Coils
 Lettre - Boite - Cplis
 avec valeur déclarée de _____
 Mandat de poste de _____
 enregistré au bureau de poste de *meccque*
 le *20-11-27* sous le No *2528*
 expédié par M. *de allard*
Kentöping Sweden
 (1) جنس الارسالية المسجلة ونوعها (خطاب مطبوعه الخ...)
 1) Nature de l'envoi lettre, imprimé, etc.

المستلم اليه *abdulzakur*
meccque
Hedjaz
 معاملات برديه
 Service des postes
 Lieu de destination
 مكة الحجاز
 Pays de destination

بملاها المرسل
 1 A remplir par l'expéditeur

بمان الموقع امضائه ادناه ان الارسالية المذكورة بوجه هذه الورقة سلمت في *١٩٢٧*
 الحواله
 Le sousigné déclare que *l'envoi* mentionné d'autre part
 le mandat *le mandat*
 a été dûment *livré* le *192*
 payé

ختم مكتب الورود
 Timbre de bureau
 destinataire

امضاء المرسل اليه
 du destinataire

امضاء الموظف بمكتب الورود
 Signature 1) de l'agent du bureau
 destinataire

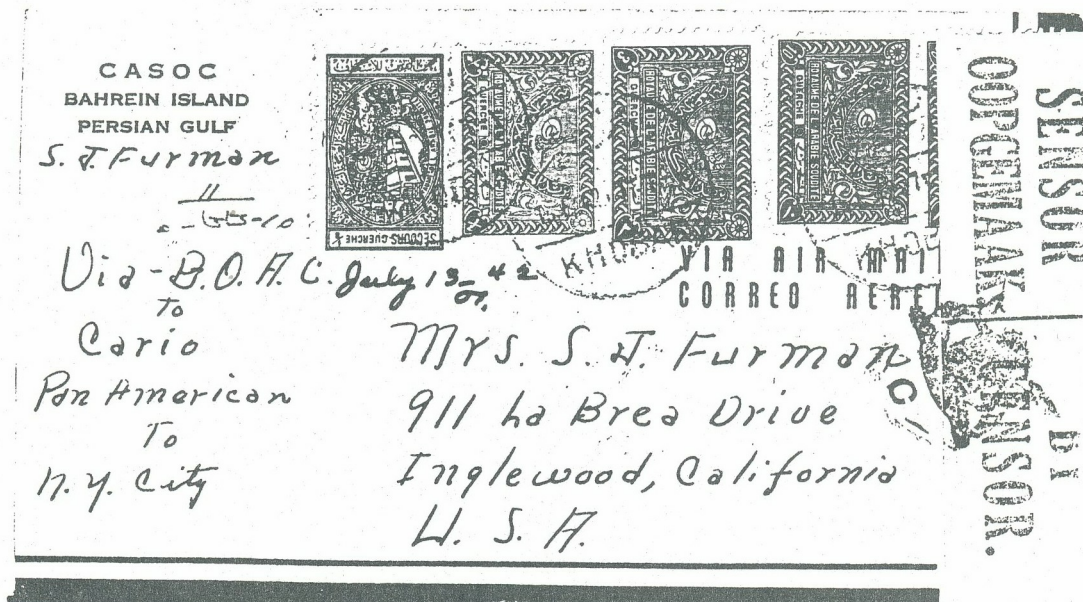
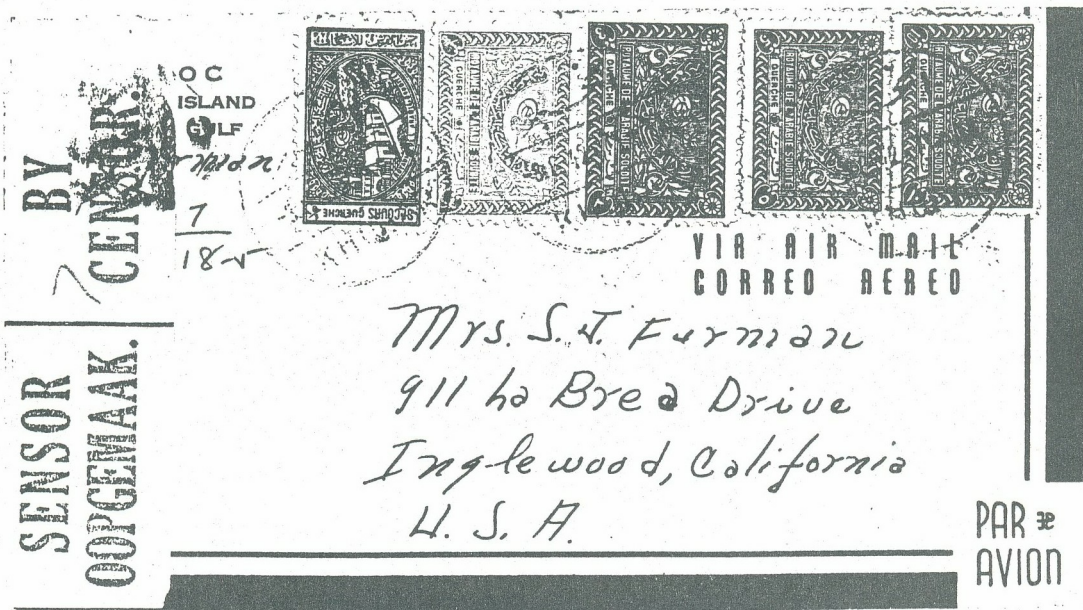
٢٦.١١.٢٧
 P.P.

١) Cet avis doit être signé par le destinataire ou, si les règlements du pays de destination le comportent, par l'agent du bureau destinataire, et renvoyé par le premier courrier directement à l'expéditeur.

14. David also points out that the list of Saudi stamp designs showing the Saudi flag (in item 9 of this column in RANDOM NOTES #38) left out the 1946 Map stamp, Scott design A11.
15. In the last few years, I have read about German forgeries produced by photocopier. Now someone has gotten in the act of producing Hejaz forgeries in this manner. Thus, we now have perfectly plateable forgeries. I recently examined a complete set of unframed Hashemite overprints on rouletted 20 basic stamps (Scott L15c, 16c, 17b, 18d), where the overprint was applied by photocopier. This kind of forgery is of course very dangerous, but is nevertheless very easy to detect if you know what to look for.
16. The actual issue date of the 100h Umm al-Qura University definitive mentioned in RANDOM NOTES #38 new issues article is subject to some uncertainty. Apparently the stamp was not put on regular sale in Riyadh until some time in April, but advance copies may have been available and the stamp exists on cover dated March 10 (photostat submitted by Yusuf Aidroos).
17. The purchaser of lot #524 in the Hibbert sale has made available a complete photostat. This is a cover from Zanzibar to Makkah. It has 80 cents in Zanzibar postage, is postmarked "31 JA 35", has a rubber stamped "T" and hand-written "35c", and bears two copies of the Saudi postage due provisional of 1935 (Scott J24). Little is known of this stamp and no cover has previously been seen. Some collectors have doubted the legitimacy of this stamp. Does this cover prove the authenticity of this stamp? I doubt it myself. The two copies of J24 are uncanceled, and 1 Saudi qirsh hardly equals the indicated 35 gold centimes of postage due. (Postage due on international mail in those days was supposed to be expressed in gold centimes). Comments are invited from anyone more knowledgeable in such matters than I.



18. I recently obtained two CASOC covers, both from the same sender in Dhahran to the same recipient in California, mailed 7 days apart in June 1942. One is marked "Via BOAC to Cairo, Pan American to New York City" and bears 33-1/4 qirsh postage. The other has no route markings and bears 18-1/8 qirsh postage. However, both have South African censorship tapes, thus it appears both letters went via BOAC to Durban, South Africa, thence by sea to Brazil, and then to the USA via Pan-Am's Natal-Belem-Trinidad-Puerto Rico-Miami route. Apparently, the first cover was intended for Pan-Am's Khartoum-Lagos-Bathurst Trans-Africa route established in December, 1941, but was not carried on that route, perhaps because it was not being used for civilian mails at that time, or because the transfer arrangements at Khartoum had not been completed. Does anyone have specific information on mail routes from Saudi Arabia to the USA in 1942?



19. Mr. Y. M. Al-Zoubi has shown me presentation (?) sheets of Saudi commemorative issues of 1945-50 (Scott's 173-184). Mr. Al-Zoubi says these were prepared in small green booklets containing 10 of these sheets (except the item shown on page 10 - individual booklets).



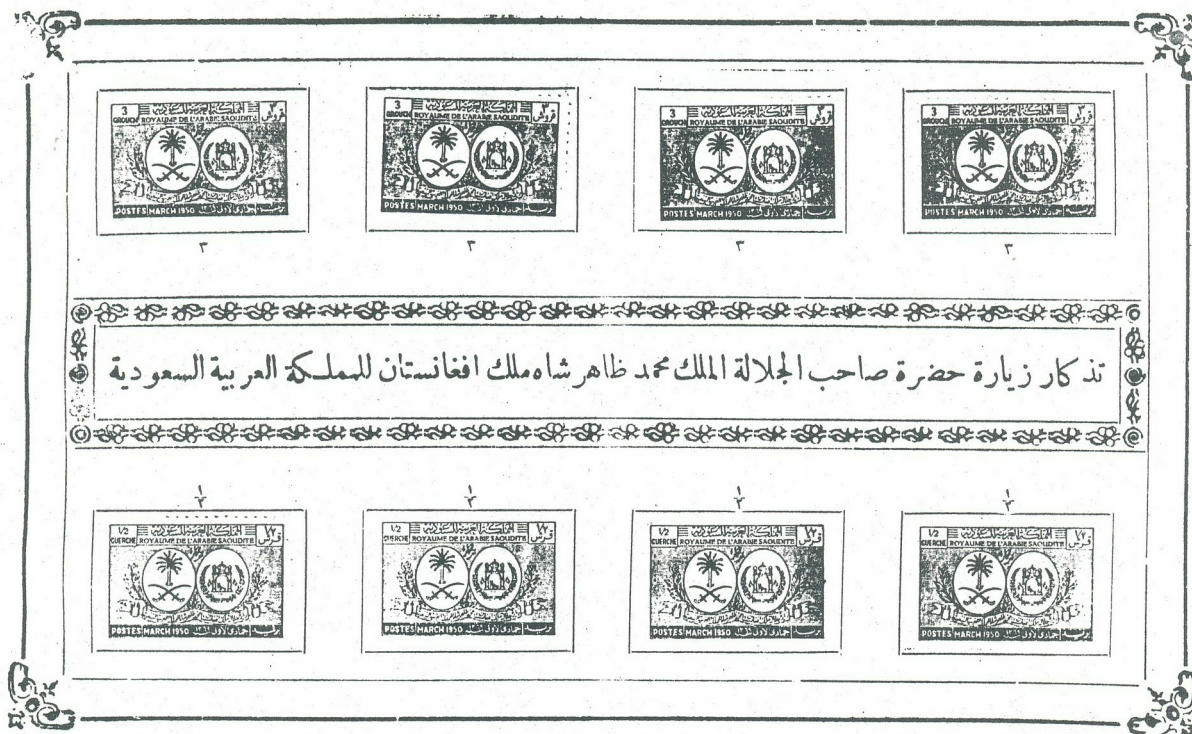
طبعة ايكاتر

Black inscription "Remembrance of the meeting of the Kings at Radhwa in Safar 1364H". Scott 173-176.



طبعة ايكاتر

Black inscription "Remembrance of the return of the King to the capital of His Kingdom, Safar 1365H". Scott 177.

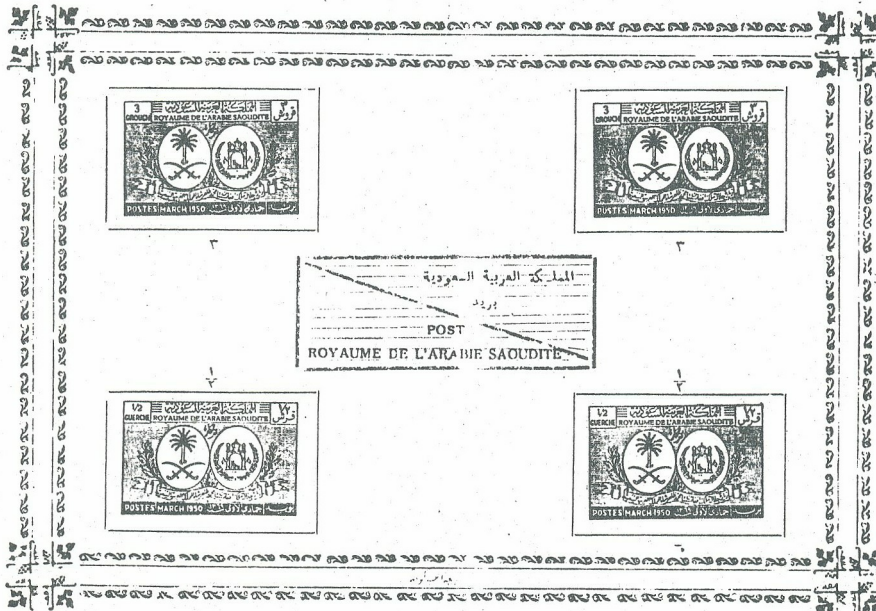


Outer frame is blue. Central gold inscription "Commemoration of the visit of Mohammad Zahir Shah, King of Afghanistan, to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia". Scott 178-179.



مطبعة الحكومت

Frame and inscriptions in either green and brown, or blue and dark blue. Inscription reads "Remembrance of the 50th anniversary of the capture of Riyadh, 4 Shawwal 1319 - 4 Shawwal 1369". Scott 180-184.



Cover in blue, green and red. Page with stamps is in blue and orange. Inscription reads "Remembrance of the visit of His Excellency, the King of Afghanistan, to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in Jumada I, 1369".

FEE PAID MARKINGS

By: R. J. Thoden

Little has appeared in this publication on FEE PAID markings over the years other than articles by R. Baker (RANDOM NOTES #4, but see also RANDOM NOTES #24) and J. I. Kearney (RANDOM NOTES #31), each on one specific type.

Recently, quite a number of these items, in many different types, have appeared in auction sales. The objective of this article is to summarize the available information and to offer a listing of the various types. I am not an expert in these items, and I have only two examples in my own collection. Thus, I am indebted to Mr. T. A. Alireza and others for most of the illustrations that appear in this article.

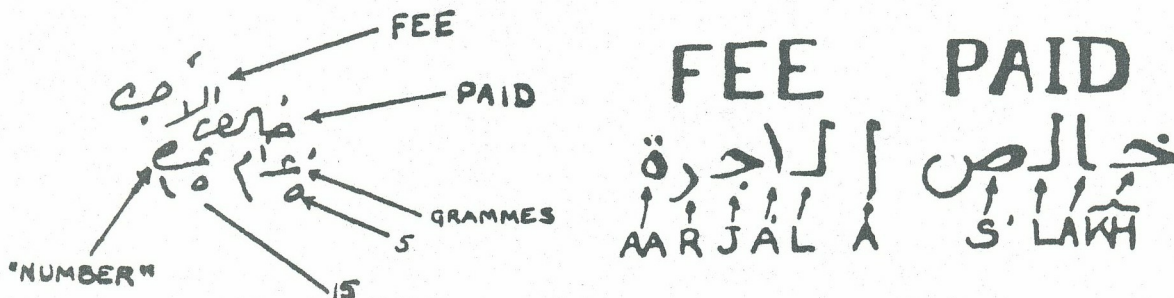
The Arab revolt in the Hejaz started on June 10, 1916 in Makkah, Jiddah and Ta'if. These cities were soon under the control of the new Hejazi government. King Hussain was eager to make known the new status of Hejaz to the world, and thus felt the continued use of Ottoman stamps to be inappropriate, even if they were overprinted. However, it would take time to prepare a definitive issue of stamps for the Hejaz. Thus, the use of FEE PAID markings was resorted to as an interim measure.

Haworth and Sargent give the following periods during which use of these markings was authorized:

Makkah:	June 24 - October 14, 1916.
Jiddah:	June 24 - October 14, 1916.
Yambo:	August 3, 1916 - January 5, 1917.
Ta'if:	July 8 - August 9, 1917.

Slightly different dates are given by Warin and Mayo. Since the source of the dates is unknown, it is not possible to say which reference is correct. More importantly, use of these marking both slightly earlier and considerably later than the "official" dates is known.

Initially, in Jiddah and Makkah, the FEE PAID was written in by hand. The marking reads "khallis al-ajra", plus a control number and weight in grams. Two examples are shown on page 13. Manuscript markings are known as early as June 11 (see Hibbert lot #30), continuing into July.



(P.R. Baker)

The earliest handstamped FEE PAIDs are straight line markings in English only, and are known from Makkah and Jiddah with cancellations starting in August, 1916.

No further FEE PAIDs are known from Jiddah (until 1925). Presumably the supply of the new stamps was adequate there.

In Makkah however, there seems to have been a continuing or intermittent shortage of the new stamps. At least six additional FEE PAID handstamps were used there from August 1916 to August 1917. Some of these were entirely in Arabic; others were bilingual.

The situation in Ta'if and Yambo is uncertain. A Jiddah collector has been reported to own two examples of a Ta'if FEE PAID, but no copies of a Yambo FEE PAID have been recorded, to the best of my knowledge.

Note that no FEE PAID markings were used in Medina during the original period because Medina remained under Ottoman control until January 1, 1919.

FEE PAID markings were again used in Makkah, Jiddah and Medina in 1925-1926, apparently in connection with stamp shortages resulting from the Saudi-Hejazi war. Some later usages are also known.

FEE PAID markings from Makkah are most frequently met with, followed by those of Jiddah. Prices for these markings are highly dependent on the condition of the cover and clarity of the FEE PAID and accompanying cancellation. Prices for the best items have exceeded U.S. \$2000 at auction. Cutouts are much commoner than complete covers and are worth comparatively little.

It is extremely unlikely that any official information will ever become available, and it is only possible to reconstruct the situation in more detail from an analysis of the covers which remain in existence. I would like to coordinate the gathering of this information, and would appreciate receiving reports, accompanied by photostats, from A.P.A. members and subscribers who own FEE PAID covers.

A description of the various types seen by me follows on pages 14-18.

REFERENCES:

-
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- D.F. Warin: THE POSTAL ISSUES OF HEJAZ, JEDDAH AND NEJD. London. 1927.
- M.M. Mayo: BARID AL-SA'UDIYYAH WA AL-HEJAZ WA NAJD. New York. 1973.
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- P.R. Baker: NEW LIGHT ON THE "FEE PAID" MARKINGS OF THE HEJAZ. Journal of the Royal Philatelic Society (Vol. 85). London. 1976.
- J.I. Kearney: 1925 FEE PAID HANDSTAMPS. A.P.A. Random Notes #31. Dhahran. 1985.
- J.H. Coles & H.E. Walker: POSTAL CANCELLATIONS OF THE OTTOMAN EMPIRE, ARABIA-HEJAZ. The Philatelist-PJGB (Nov-Dec 1985). London. 1985.

الحمد لله
 بسم الله وكرمه
 الشيخ سليم بن سليمان أمان قبايلي
 رئيس البلدية سلمه الله ورعاها
 ١٢٠٥ هـ
 في شهر ربيع الأول

Manuscript FEE PAID covers from Makkah.

من مكة المكرمة
 الى مصر المحروسة
 شيخنا الحاج محمد بن علي
 شيخنا الحاج محمد بن علي
 ١٢٤٤ هـ
 (Circular stamp: Makkah 1244) (Rectangular stamp: PASSED CENSOR 3)

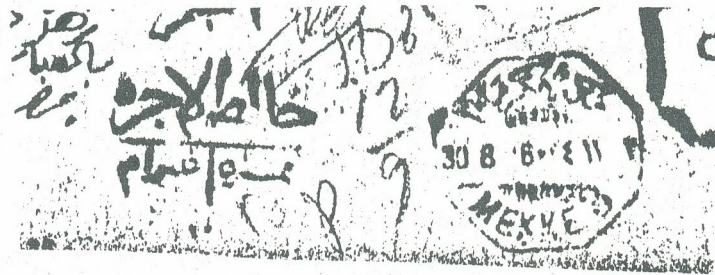
Makkah FEE PAID Handstamps

Type: MK-1
 Color: Black
 Used in: Aug-Sept, 1916
 Cancels: Bilingual
 MEKKE 2, MEKKE 3

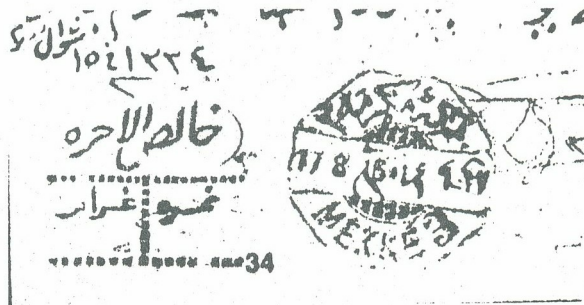
FEE PAID



Type: MK-2
 Color: Black
 Used in: August 1916
 Cancels: Bilingual MEKKE 3



Type: MK-3
 Color: Black
 Used in: Aug-Sept, 1916
 Cancels: Bilingual MEKKE 3

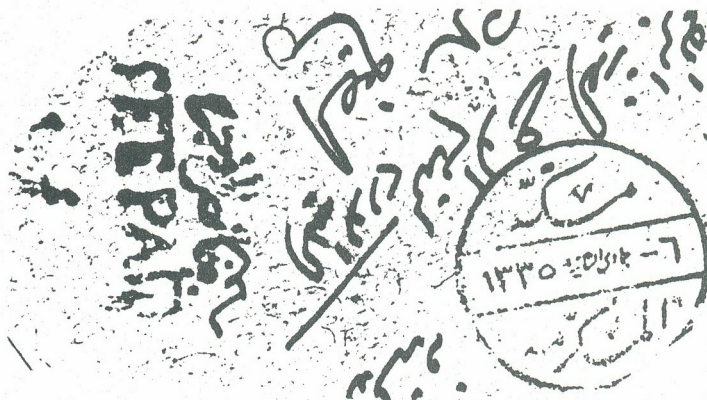


Type: MK-4
 Color: Black
 Used in: Oct-Dec, 1916
 Cancels: Bilingual MEKKE or
 monolingual

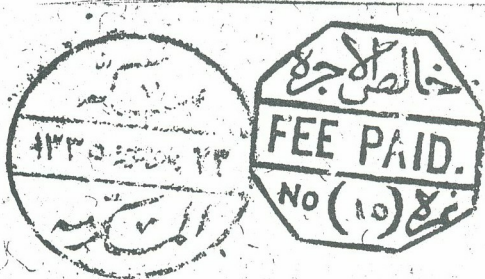


Makkah FEE PAID Handstamps

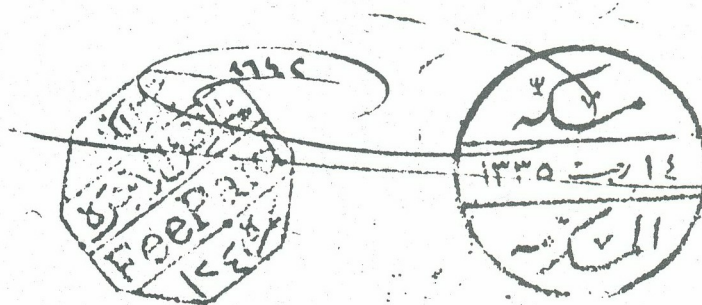
Type: MK-5
 Color: Black
 Used in: Dec 1916-Mar 1917
 Cancels: Monolingual



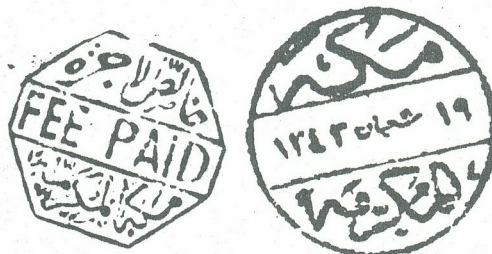
Type: MK-6
 Color: Black
 Used in: Apr-June 1917
 Cancels: Monolingual



Type: MK-7
 Color: Black
 Used in: May-Aug 1917
 Cancels: Monolingual
 Comment: Makkah in top line.



Type: MK-8
 Color: Red
 Used in: Mar 1925-Nov 1931
 Cancels: Monolingual or
 bilingual MECQUE 6
 Comment: Makkah in bottom line.
 Used on printed matter.

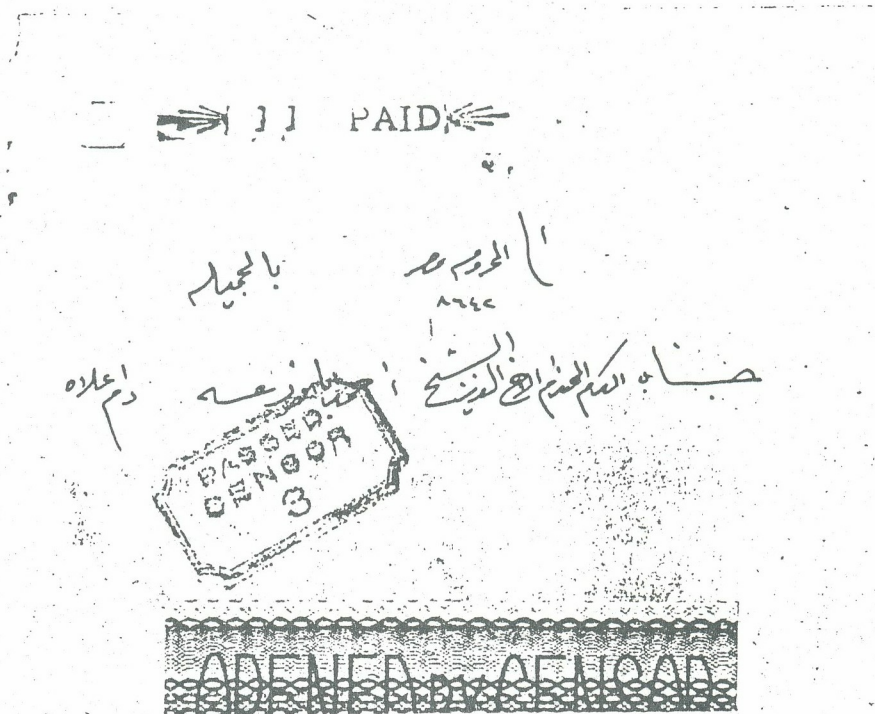


Jiddah FEE PAID Handstamps

Type: J-1
 Color: Black
 Used in: Sept 1916
 Cancels: Bilingual
 Comment: "Fee Paid"



Type: J-2
 Color: Black
 Used in: Sept 1916
 Cancels: ?
 Comment: "FEE PAID"



Jiddah FEE PAID Handstamps

كراشي
الهند
جناب عبد الرحمن العثمان انشا

Type: J-3
Color: Black or violet
Used in: Dec 1925
Cancels: Bilingual DJEDDA
Comment: Jiddah in top line.

M. A. O. Sharikh

55 Rampart Row

Karachi

«India»



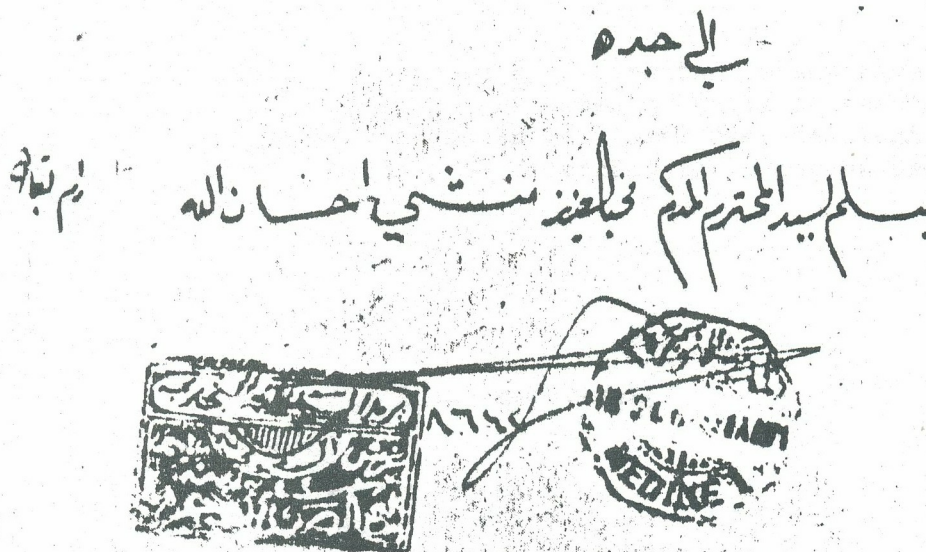
Type: J-4
Color: Black
Used in: 1935
Cancels: Bilingual DJEDDAH 3
Comment: Jiddah in top line.
Coles & Walker call this an Ottoman marking used in 1910-1916.

بمجلس السبئية

عن الكرم عثمان بن الشيخ عمر باحيدر المحسن



Medina FEE PAID Handstamps



Type: MD-1
Color: Violet
Used in: Dec 1925-Feb 1926
Cancels: Bilingual MEDINE 1
Comment: Also inscribed "Nejdi Sultanate Posts", "Al Sa'udiyah", "One qirsh" and "1344".



Type: MD-2
Color: Black
Used in: Jan 1926-Jan 1934
Cancels: Bilingual MEDINE 3

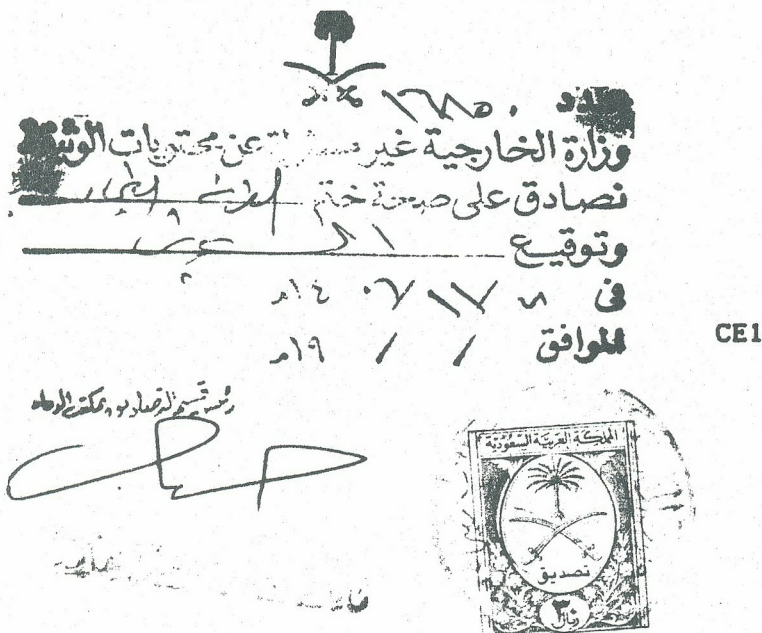
SAUDI ARABIAN REVENUE CATALOG PROJECT

By: R. J. Thoden

Since the last installment was published in RANDOM NOTES #34, one new category of revenue stamps has turned up, as well as about two dozen additions to previously listed categories. Most of these are from the collection of T. A. Alireza.

CERTIFICATION FEE STAMP

USAGE: This stamp denoted payment of the fee for certification of various documents by government agencies.



1986

Perf. 12

Unwmkd. (?)

RCE1 CE1 30R pale orange brown

Inscription under the crossed swords read "tasdiq" or "certification".

Under ultra-violet light, the front of the stamp shows a seven-line orange security inscription in Arabic.

COURT FEE STAMPS

Add to 1926 issue:

RCF30	CF2	5p light yellow olive
RCF31	CF2	10p dull blue green
RCF32	CF2	20p bistre yellow
RCF33	CF2	1q light reddish orange
RCF34	CF2	2q reddish brown
RCF36	CF2	10q red(?)

FLAT RATE DOCUMENTARY STAMPS

Add note before first issue:

Several copies of a Turkish 10p flat rate documentary stamp have been seen with a black handstamp reading "Al Hussain Malik Al-Arab", or "Hussain King of the Arabs". The handstamp is placed over the tughra of the Sultan Mehmed V Reshad. Listing is deferred until copies used on document have been seen.

Add to 1920-21 issue:

RF4 F1 3q dark red

Add to 1925 provisional issue (Al-Hejaz handstamp):

RF25 F1 1q orange brown
 a. violet handstamp
RF27 F1 5q orange brown (violet handstamp)
RF29 F1 20q orange yellow (violet handstamp)

RF30 F3 20p carmine
 a. handstamp in black

Add to 1925 provisional issue (Jiddah handstamp):

RF35 F1 3q dark red

RF45 F3 1q on 20p carmine
 c. handstamp "c" in blue

Add to 1926 issue:

RF55 F5 3q deep reddish purple
RF59 F5 20q dark brown orange(?)
RF60 F5 25q red brown

Add to 1934-45 issue:

RF71 F6 5q dark violet (perf 11-1/2, white paper)

PROPORTIONAL DOCUMENTARY STAMPS

Add note before first issue:

A Turkish 1q proportional documentary stamp has been seen with a black handstamp reading "Al Hussain Malik Al-Arab" or "Hussain King of the Arabs". The handstamp is placed over the tughra of the Sultan Mehmed V Reshad. Listing is deferred until copies used on document have been seen.

Add to 1920-21 issue:

RQ5A Q1 4q red (6001-8000)

Add to 1926 issue:

RQ50 Q3 20q reddish brown (20001-40000)

RQ51 Q3 25q orange (40001-50000)

RAILWAY TAX STAMPS

Add to 1925 provisional issue (Jiddah handstamp):

RR32 X1 1q on 1/8q chocolate

RR44 X1 1q on 10q red & green
b. handstamps "b", "c" and "d" in blue

RR55 X5 1q on 2q light brown

Add to 1926 issue:

RR64 R2 20q deep reddish purple

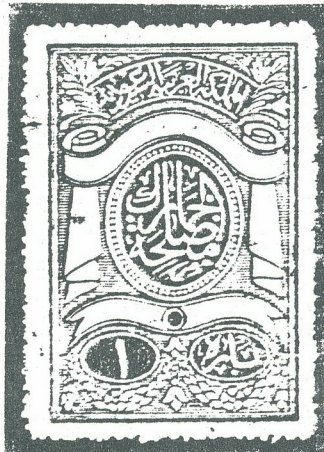
RR65 R2 30q gray olive

RR66 R2 50q blackish purple

RR67 R2 100q red orange

TOBACCO TAX STAMPS

Add to 1937 issue:



RT19 T4 1p light green (33x49 mm)

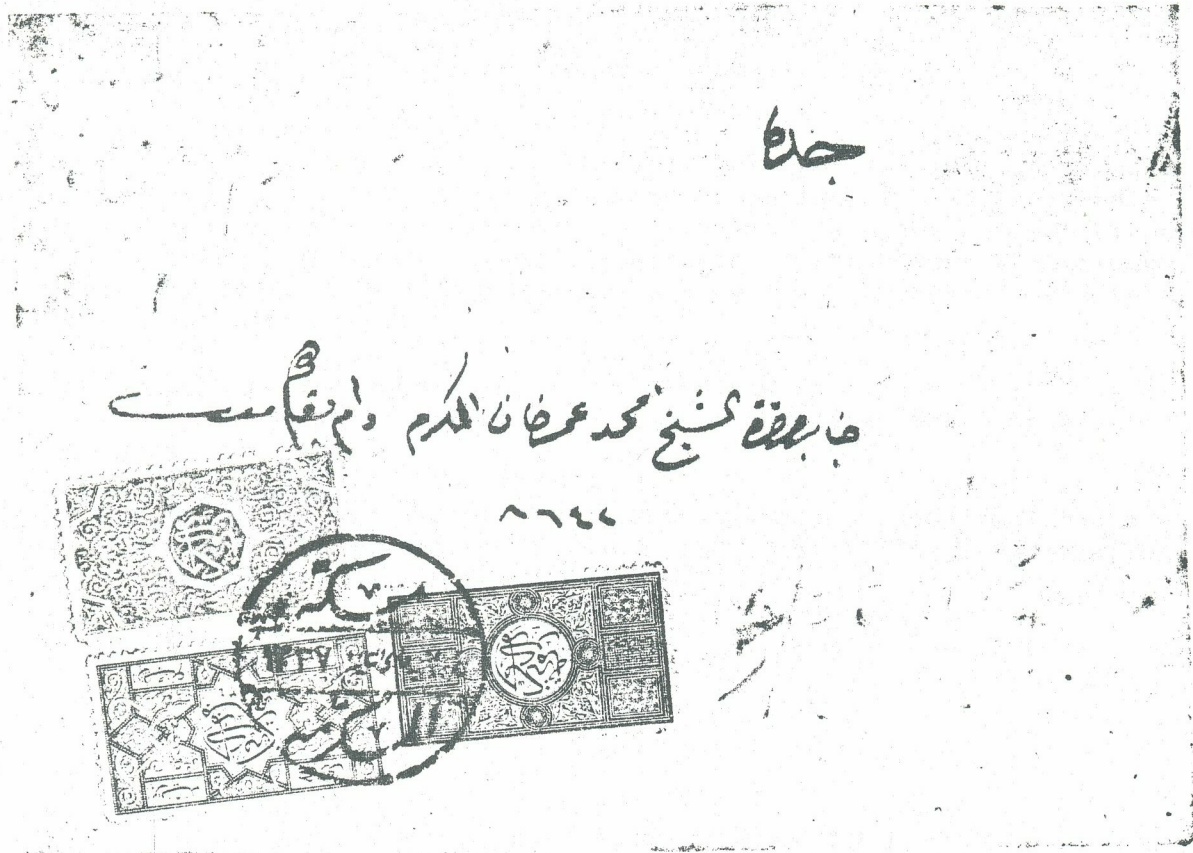
Add to 1951 issue:

RT29A T7 3p carmine (perf. 11-1/2)

WHAT IS IT?

By: J. I. Kearney

In auction catalogs over the past several years, there have been several covers with Scott L8, L9 and L10 neatly arranged, usually cancelled with a Makkah monolingual Arabic circular date stamp. The covers were usually addressed to Jiddah. An example is shown below:



I recently had the opportunity to examine a number of pieces similar to the covers I had seen. These were in lot #14 of the A.P.A.'s auction of February 26, 1986. In this lot were 28 pieces each cancelled with a Makkah monolingual Arabic CDS or with a DJEDDA 5 bilingual CDS. A check of the covers I had seen showed all of them addressed to Jiddah, and that all of them were of normal size. I must conclude that there was some kind of special rate of 4/10 piaster for letters between Makkah and Jiddah (and vice versa) compared to the normal domestic rate of 1/2 pi. The 4/10 pi is calculated as follows:

Scott L8	1 para (1/40 pi)	= 0.025 piaster
Scott L9	1/8 pi	= 0.125 piaster
Scott L10	1/4 pi	= 0.250 piaster
	Total	= 0.400 piaster

Not all the dates on the cancelled pieces were readable. Those I could read and convert showed Makkah cancels between April 1918 and May 1919; the Jiddah cancels were between May 1919 and August 1919.

Can anyone explain the use of this 4/10 pi rate?

THE HARRY HIBBERT ARABIA SALE

By: Harmers of London

THE "HARRY HIBBERT" ARABIA RAISES £330,000
AT HARMERS ON MARCH 10,11

The remarkable collection of Arabian stamps and covers amassed by the late Harry Hibbert, a long-time Manchester bank manager, raised £330,671 when auctioned by Harmers of London on March 10 and 11.

£262,154 paid for Saudi Arabia

More than half of the 1000+ lots were devoted to Saudi Arabia and provided the lion's share of the proceeds, making £262,154 for the first day's session.

1867 Egyptian Post letter makes top price at £17,600

The sale was an unqualified success with many exciting realisations. Evidence of strong demand was clear from the outset with lot number 1, opened by auctioneer Ray Haffner at £7,000, finally falling at £17,600, (including 10% premium). The price was only to be matched once more; the victor, a specialist dealer from the Isle of Man, obtaining a rare 1867 entire-letter carried by the Egyptian postal service from Jeddah to Cairo and franked with the Egyptian first issue 1 piastre stamp. Mr. Hibbert's original cost at the William C. Hinde sale in 1957 was a modest £21!

An interesting group of covers sent through the Turkish post from Jeddah excited keen competition with an astounding £5,500 paid for an 1886 envelope to Bombay showing a rare negative seal postmark tying 1884-86 1pi, with a fine framed "BOMBAY/SHIP LETTER/POSTAGE DUE 1 an." cachet also evident. An unpaid envelope sent from Yambo in 1904 with the rare type 37 Yambo despatch mark also amazed with £3,300 obtained when the hammer finally fell.

"Lawrence" envelope returns to Jeddah for £4,600

Stamps were first issued in the Saudi Arabian predecessor state of the Hejaz in 1916. An imperf. proof sheet of 50 of the 1/4pi obtained £5,225 despite two folds. From a British point of view lot 70 was probably the star attraction among the Saudi material. This 1916 cover franked with the Hejaz 1pi blue was endorsed "T.E. Lawrence" - Lawrence of Arabia - and was sent on Lawrence's first day in Jeddah. Opening at £1,800, a Jeddah businessman was the eventual winner at £4,620.

£4,840 paid for front cover illustrated block

The part o.g. block of 4 of the 1921 unframed Hashemite overprint 1/8pi showing variety overprint inverted - illustrated in colour on the auction catalogue cover - brought £4,840. A rare block of 4 of the 1pi blue, normal, from the same issue went to the same buyer also for £4,840. A fine large part o.g. example of the 1924, zig-zag roulette 13 2pi, variety blue overprint inverted raised £2,860 against S.G. catalogue of £1,500.

Presentation Folder brings £17,600

A Presentation Folder containing examples of the Hejaz 1924 Framed Hashemite issue (S.G. 76-85) with stated printing figures, signed by King Ali and presented in Egypt to Mr. Abdul Khatib, a keen stamp collector, brought £17,600 against an estimate of £8,000 and a catalogue total of £12,000+. The folder was among many lots purchased by a keen collector from Saudi Arabia.

£6,600 was paid by the same buyer for a fine copy of the Nejd 1925 first handstamped Matbua issue 1/2pi scarlet with Matbua at top - apparently only 18 examples exist.

Essays for the Hejaz and Nejd 1926 definitives brought good realisations while a rare mint block of 6 Saudi Arabia 1936 Charity Tax 1/8g. scarlet raised £1,750.

[Editor's Note: Sections of the press release commenting on items from other Arab countries have been omitted.]

Auction Catalogue Sells Out

Due to unprecedented demand, reference copies of the Hibbert auction catalogue are no longer available, it having now completely sold out.

N.B. All prices quoted include the 10% buyer's premium.

HARMERS OF LONDON press release, 16th March 1987.

A REPORT ON THE HIBBERT SALE

By: David Graham

[Editor's Note: Mr. Graham was fortunate enough to be in London at the time of the Hibbert sale, and was able to inspect the lots in detail.]

Because of the problem of forgeries as noted in the latest RANDOM NOTES a few bidders may have been put off, or bid low for what are truly scarce items, which I'll deal with individually. Also, as there were some very determined collectors present, who obviously weren't going to let go cheaply any of the choicest pieces, and one or two had occasional agreements to take a certain lot in return for giving up another, prices may not have been subject to cutthroat competition.

Harmers are to be praised for publishing a price list including buyer's commission showing true cost to buyers; at the time of the sale the exchange rate was approximately £1 = \$1.64.

Lot 1, the 30 July 1867 cover bearing the first issue Egypt 1p cancelled "GEDDA" fetched the top price of £17,600, which was equaled only by Lot 250, of which more later. Lots 29 and 30, the manuscript "FEE PAID" covers of June 16 and 11 seemed real bargains at £286 and £264 for the earliest provisional mail of the independent Hejaz administration. The large offering of different "FEE PAID" handstamps and of early stamped covers may help to clarify the actual periods of use of both stamps and handstamps. Since it seems that the Hejaz authorities did not officially approve and accept or order the actual stamps until October 23, after the dates normally listed for the issue of the perforated values, it may be that Lot 70, the Lawrence of Arabia cover (£4620) was in fact a first day cover. I'm hoping to get some notes on Storr's autobiography to see if his movement might coincide with the appearance of the stamps since, according to Lawrence, he went to Jiddah with the Holy Ka'aba covering about August-September.

There was an excellent selection of the essays and proofs of the 1916-17 issues, most of which went for several times the estimates. I'd like to mention here that in his studies of these issues, Dr. Elias Kawar has found that the imperforates on gummed paper are from later states of the plates than the first printed issues, and should therefore be listed as error varieties in catalogues rather than as proofs.

The postal history material throughout was superb; among the more unusual items were Lot 475, a Nejdi Sultanate cover from El Wajhe (£990) the Nejdi provisional handstamp on a cover from Medina of 25-12-1925 (lot 494, £3300) and a previously unrecorded usage of the 1935 "Postage Due T" handstamped 1/2q on a front from Zanzibar, Lot 524, a real bargain at £308. There were loads of goodies among the cancellation and assorted cover lots, especially the "lucky dip" box, Lot 556 (£935, est. £100) which contained among other scarce items, a block of 4 of the Saud DLR 5p airmail lightly cancelled on a cover. Two covers and a card from the French Military Mission in Jiddah (Lots 114-116) went for about double estimate; it is worth noting here that the illustration in Mayo's catalogue of the "TRESOR ET POSTES" CDS reads incorrectly "TRESORS" and is presumably a fake.

Turning to the actual stamps, the 1921-22 Unframed and Framed overprint sections contained almost every known variety, except the 1921 overprint on 1pi perf. 10, both as singles and blocks of four. Prices for these were generally over the estimates but lower than the Gibbons catalogue valuations.

The 1924 Caliphate overprint section had a large quantity of forged inverted overprints, mostly on reprints of the 1pi in a greyish blue which were unsold. There were also several blocks and large multiples, including sheets, of the quite easily identifiable reprints of the Makkah Arms 1/8, 1/4, 1 and 3pi, the latter in scarlet, etc., scattered through the collection; most were unsold or went for low prices.

The 1924 two-line overprint group included most known varieties, with only Scott L67/SG 86 missing - this seems to be much harder to find than the gold overprint on roulette 20 1/4pi, Scott L61/SG 62, as the latter stamp has been sold several times in the past few years while the former has only been seen for sale once or twice. The gold overprint copy here (Lot 226) went for £2420. Another variety, the blue overprint inverted on 2pi, Scott L66B/SG 75, brought £2860. The highest price, however, was for Lot 260, a presentation folder to "Abdul El Hamid Khatib", via the Hejaz Government Agent in Cairo with all the normal and inverted overprints on the 1922 Framed overprint issues plus the Unframed type mentioned above, all on a single page with Jiddah 31-8-925 CDS. It was accompanied by a letter signed by King Ali, and realized £17,600. Underneath the stamps was a note of the quantity of each issued, which calls for further comment. The Hashemite Government Agent in Cairo Abdul Malik El Khatib (a relative of the recipient?), is quoted by Warin as stating in a letter dated 25th October, 1925 that the only inverted overprints were 30 of the 1/4pi and 25 of the 1/2pi. Yet the presentation page bears a cachet of his Agency dated 23 Safar 1344 (12 Sept. 1925), and has five of the invert varieties. The three not listed in his October letter are the 1/8 and 2pi values and the 1pa surcharged 1pi. Quantities printed are given as 4, 4 and 30 respectively. Mayo, however, gives figures of 50 each for the latter two but does not list the former one, which is listed by Gibbons as No. 78a, but not by Scott. The 1/8pi was also sold as a single (Lot 246, £3080) plated as position 45. By a fortunate coincidence, I was able recently to plate another of these as position 46 with plate number "20J" in the margin suggesting that at least 10 (two rows) and probably more were printed, in fact, I'd be inclined to believe that as there were 80 of the normal stamp, possibly the remainder of the second sheet, i.e. 20 received the error. The figure of 4 for the 2pi variety on the presentation page must be incorrect, as I know of about a half a dozen plated ones, including the two singles (Lots 252-3, £1430 and £770) also in the sale.

Lots 261-271, the two-line overprint vertically on the 1/2 and 10pi Makkah Arms were all in my opinion doubtful, with three having the extra ink traces of known fakes. All were very good-looking overprints otherwise but with no good features, such as plateable characteristics, offsets, or the genuine "ela" cachet - two in fact had the larger fake signature. The large three-line overprints contained most varieties other than vertical overprints, but also a quantity of fakes, including sheets of 36. Among the rare items were Scott L98/SG 95a, L100/SG 97 L100a/SG 97a and L105/SG 102, which seemed quite cheap at £605, £506,

£396 and £990 as I feel sure that only one sheet of 36 of each was made since they are extremely hard to find. The blue and black overprints on 1pi seem a little easier to come by, though some of those offered were fake or doubtful; prices were £341 and £308 for the blue Scott L84/SG 107, £275 and £286 for two of the invert variety in blue, then £220 each for a normal and inverted type with black overprint.

The same overprint on Caliphate issues was again almost complete, but the black overprint on 1/2pi, Scott L124/SG 144 turned out to be the APA Type 9 fake, which is quite hard to detect but fairly common on this issue. Although listed by the major catalogues, I don't believe this stamp has yet been seen genuine.

The "Illegible" and four-line overprint sections again had a mixture of good and bad with all the blocks of the "Illegible" postage due varieties (Lots 412-7) fake as usual.

Among the large quantity of King Ali proofs and control issues were two of the rare blue overprint, year at right, on 10pi red and orange, which sold for £242 each. A complete sheet of these is owned by a prominent collector, who also has about 25 with year at left. The latter were in Warin's collection, though not mentioned in the book. This would imply that there were two sheets issued of the year right variety with at least one of the other type, so that the total should be 150 or possibly 200 of both types. Lot 443 (£176) was described as proofs of the Cairo overprints, which should perhaps all be classed as proofs, since none has been found postally used. It contained a set of eight to the 5pi with horizontal blue overprint, year at top, including the blue basic stamps (I have the 1/4pi), so that there may be some genuine ordinary "blue on blue" types around, though all recorded so far have been phony.

The Nejd Sultanate lots contained all three of the newspaper stamps; but unfortunately one, Lot 459, had a clearly fake handstamp, while the rarest 1/2pi type looked good. However, I was able to compare it with newspaper stamps on Albert Eid covers and it had one clear difference that made it suspect, as well as being unsigned. I would hesitate to buy one of them not signed by Eid, as most seem to have passed through his hands. The very rare Scott J5/SG D204B was a bargain at £308 as were Lots 483-4 (£60, £187), postage dues with second handstamp inverted.

Lot 453 turned out to have a fake first handstamp that I hadn't seen before. The color was all right, being of the greyish-lilac rather than violet. However, the lettering was very fuzzy and indistinct, even for a light impression. Many details such as the character resembling a "W" and the two upright strikes with dot at center left were just vague smudges whereas they are quite clearly outlined even on light genuine handstamps. The same type fake was on two items just sent to me from Lot 452 - the 1pi railway stamp printed on the orange 2pi without value and with a pale orange phony inverted handstamp in a wrong shade.

Lot 48 (£242), the red "FEE PAID" franking with Makkah 23-7-1926 CDS should probably have been listed under Nejd, according to Jim Kearney's theory that this handstamp was for a 1/8pi printed matter rate. The fact that these have no indication of value or weight like the others would suggest they were for a fixed rate as Jim believes. The 1926 essays in miniature sheets of three large and four normal size stamps (Lots 495-503) brought around £1000 each.

Of the Kingdom issues, Lot 520, a 1934 U.P.U. booklet including 1927-32 values and an Heir Apparent set brought £825. These are very scarce, but as in later presentation items, the stamps are usually heavily stuck down. A rare unmounted mint block of six of the 1936 first Hospital tax stamp went for £1760.

Finally, the Survey of Egypt book of 1928 with the various essays in color, and of which only 200 were printed, realized £1210.

The sale brought a total of over £330,000 including £262,000 for the Saudi material.

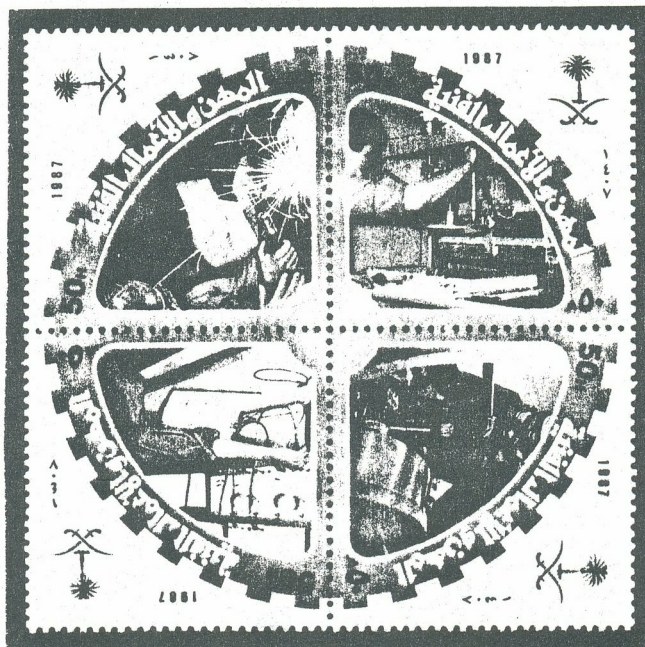
Harmers auction of April 7-8 contained a few leftovers from the Hibbert estate including early maps of the Ottoman Empire and Arabian Peninsula and a nice group of covers of 1961-65 with some very unusual cancels. Among these were "Aflaj Ambulant", "Badarshi", "Post Belgearashi", "Dheba", "Karya", "Mandak", "Post Alqraoin", "Quoiya", "Ranya" and last but the most interesting one with "Zone Neutre" registration cachet and Dammam transit CDS. The sender gives his address in Arabic as "Eastern Restaurant Neutral Zone", conjuring up visions of some bold entrepreneur in a shack selling Pepsi, sandwiches of Kraft cheese and Chinese melon jam, transistor batteries, fly whisks, etc. mending punctures and presumably authorized to perform postal duties, out in the middle of nowhere.

The highlights of that sale, however, were 122 lots of Ottoman Empire covers and cancels from the Coles collection. It included a part cover from Jiddah to Aden with a block of eight plus four singles of the Turkey 1905 10pa with the rectangular double-frame cancel of 1884 (Mayo type D) for £2090 and a military cover from the Turkish garrison in Medina with October 1916 CDS at £660. A collection of 133 pieces or stamps with a few covers, all Ottoman and including Abha, El Ula, Taif and Yambo as well as different types of Jiddah, Makkah and Medina brought £1650 against a low estimate of £150. Most surprising were prices for Lebanon from the collection with figures of £1000-1650 for covers with unusual cancels estimated at only £25-80, while similar items of Syria were going for 10-15 times estimate also.

NEW ISSUES OF SAUDI ARABIA

By: Abdul Aziz A. Sa'id

April 5, 1987: A 10h definitive stamp of the small Holy Ka'aba type was issued. Printed on white unwatermarked luminescent paper with slightly-shiny gum in sheets of 105 (7 x 15). Perforated 12.



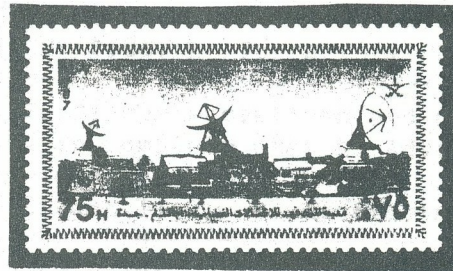
April 8, 1987: A block of four 50h stamps was issued as publicity for technical education and vocational training. The stamps depict a welder, drill press operator, lathe operator and lab technician. Printed in sheets of 48 (6 x 8, or 12 blocks of four) on white unwatermarked paper. Perforated 12. Quantity: 200,000 blocks.

June 17, 1987: A set of two stamps, 50h and 75h, was issued to publicize the "The Kingdom: Yesterday and Today" exposition held in Cairo, Egypt. The design depicts the pyramids of Giza, the Riyadh TV tower, the King Khalid International Airport terminal in Riyadh and an old fort. Printed in sheets of 50 (10 x 5) on white unwatermarked paper. Perforated 12. Quantity: 800,000 sets.



July 21, 1987: A set of two stamps, 50h and 75h, was issued to publicize the inauguration of the King Fahd Space Communications Center at Umm Al-Salam, Jiddah. The designs show views of the center. The 50h was printed in sheets of 54 (9 x 6) consisting of 50 stamps and 4 post-code labels while the 75h was printed in sheets of 52 (4 x 13) consisting of 50 stamps and 2 post-code labels. White unwatermarked paper. Perforated 12. Quantity: 800,000 sets.

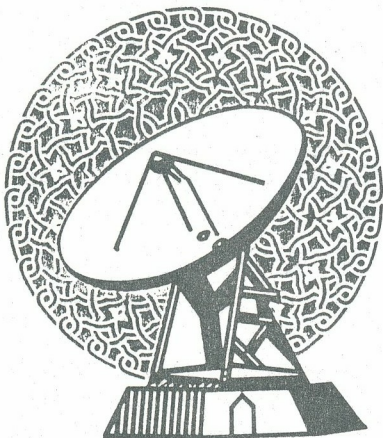
Official cacheted first day covers were also issued.



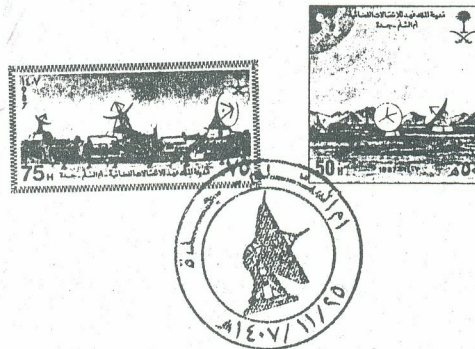
FIRST DAY COVER غلاف اليوم الأول للإصدار

1987

١٤٠٧



مدينة الملك فهد للإتصالات الفضائية
أم السَّلم - جدة



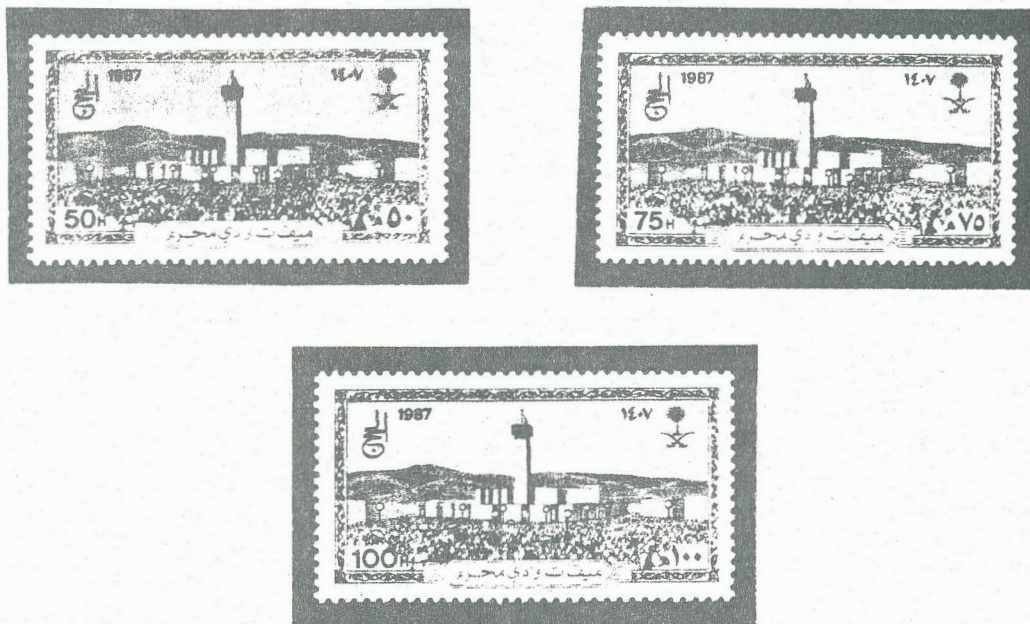
مطابع الحكومة الأمنية - الرياض

July 22, 1987: An additional 100h stamp in the Saudi Universities series was issued depicting the emblem of King Sa'ud University, Riyadh within Islamic ornamentation. Printed on white unwatermarked paper in sheets of 105 (7x15). Perforated 12.



July 25, 1987: A set of two stamps, 50h and 100h, was issued to call attention to the resistance movement in Afghanistan. The design shows a resistance fighter with rifle over a map of Afghanistan. Printed in sheets of 50 stamps (10x5) on white unwatermarked paper. Perforated 12. Quantity: 800,000 sets.

August 3, 1987: A set of three stamps, 50h, 75 and 100h, was issued to mark Hajj (the pilgrimage to Makkah) 1407. The design shows a general view of Ihram from Wadi Muhrim Meqat, and Meqat Wadi Muhrim Mosque. A meqat is a place for donning the ihram, the simple white clothing worn by all pilgrims. Printed in sheets of 52 (4x13), consisting of 50 stamps and 2 post-code labels. White unwatermarked paper. Perforated 12. Quantity: 800,000 sets.



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

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

COLLECT KSA, UAE & former "Trucials", Oman, Bahrain, Qatar, Kuwait, Yemen, Syria, Iraq, Jordan? Free catalogue.
MAGAN STAMPS, PO Box 32, Epworth, Doncaster, DN9 1EZ, UK.

AVAILABLE: Max Mayo's BARID AL-SA'UDIYYAH WA AL-HEJAZ WA NAJD (new).
12.50 + postage. MAGAN STAMPS, Box 32, Epworth, Doncaster, DN9 1EZ, UK.

FOR SALE to dealers and investors: Saudi commemoratives and definitives from Scott 691 (Gibbons 1122) to date in complete sheets. Advise numbers wanted and top price you are willing to pay.
Abdul Aziz A. Sa'id, P.O. Box 1317, Riyadh 11431, Saudi Arabia.

AVAILABLE to A.P.A. members/subscribers only: Color album pages of Saudi Arabia at 50 percent of retail price, \$60.
FILATCO, Box 1461, Appleton, WI 54913, USA.

FREE: catalog for our October 9 mail sale of Middle East.
FILATCO, Box 1461, Appleton, WI 54913, USA.

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.
Y. Aidroos, Box 87874, Riyadh 11652, Saudi Arabia.

STILL AVAILABLE: THE A.P.A. REFERENCE MANUAL OF FORGERIES. New members and subscribers - if you collect Hejaz & Nejd, you need this to educate yourself about the many philatelic forgeries being offered by dealers and in auctions. Contains more than 100 pages that illustrate and describe the differences between genuine and forged overprints. Price on request. R. J. Thoden, ARAMCO Box 1802, Dhahran 31311, Saudi Arabia.

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