



جماعة هواة الطوابع العربية ملاحظات عابرة

Arabian Philatelic Association Random Notes

JANUARY-MARCH 1988

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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 25. 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 25 for Saudi Arabia and other Arab countries, and U.S. \$11 for all other countries. A discount of SR10 or U.S. \$3 is allowed for renewals paid before March 1, and for new members/subscribers. The one-time initiation fee for new members and subscribers is SR 25 or U.S. \$7. 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.J. Thoden, Vice President
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A.P.A. meetings are held the second Saturday of each Gregorian 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 anywhere who want new issues by mail.

RANDOM NOTES

The A.P.A.'s publication, RANDOM NOTES, is issued four times a year. The editor is Mr. R. J. Thoden, ARAMCO Box 1802, Dhahran 31311, Saudi Arabia.

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

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RANDOM NOTES FROM DHAHRAN

By: R. J. Thoden

1. A series of articles entitled "The Postmarks of Hejaz, Nejd and Saudi Arabia", by Kenneth D. Knight, is appearing in the journal of OPAL, the Oriental Philatelic Association of London. Thanks to Bob Jung for this information.
2. Bob also points out that a listing of the Palestine "H.J.Z." fiscals appears in THE STAMPS OF PALESTINE MANDATE catalog, published by Michael H. Bale in London. Listed are six series of typeset stamps, totalling 49 major varieties and a set of 11 overprints on Palestine postage stamps. "H.J.Z." means "Hejaz Jordan Zone". The stamps represented a tax for the Hejaz Railway Debenture Retirement Fund. Examples were illustrated in RANDOM NOTES #31.
3. The catalog for Harmer's of London March 9 sale brought out into the open the fact that certificates are being issued for stamps of Hejaz and Nejd that are forgeries by the A.P.A. standards as documented in our REFERENCE MANUAL OF FORGERIES.

Lot #1548 was described as "S.G. 87 with Holcombe (1986) and B.P.A. (1987) certificates as genuine and Filatco cert. (1987) as forged overprint on reprint. Sold 'as is'". Also, lot #1568 was offered "as is" with a B.P.A. certificate as genuine and a Filatco certificate as a forgery. Lot #1554 (S.G. 97) was offered only with a Holcombe certificate, but the stamp appeared to be a forgery by the A.P.A. standards (the basic stamp was obviously position 36, but the overprint was a type 2 forgery).

As mentioned earlier in RANDOM NOTES, Filatco certificates are based on the A.P.A. criteria. It is not known what bases are being used by the other "expertizers" mentioned. This is a sorry state-of-affairs, which certainly does not help instill confidence in the collecting of these stamps.

4. Abdallah Ba-Gader points out that in addition to the 1 and 15 riyal Algeria Day contribution stamps mentioned here in the last issue, a 100 riyal denomination also exists in the same colors. Since the illustration last time was not too good, we'll try again with the 100 riyal stamp.



5. Attention, "Free Adlet" advertisers! In the next RANDOM NOTES, all present adlets will be removed. If you want to advertise, send me a new adlet by July 1.

6. The recent Madina Mosque souvenir sheet comes in at least two shades of green; a yellow green and a blue green. The green was printed as a mixture of blue and yellow. On the blue green sheets, the basic blue appears more heavily inked. It appears this does not represent use of different inks. Such inking differences have appeared on a number of Saudi commemoratives in recent years. Nothing to get too excited about, in my opinion.

7. In the last RANDOM NOTES, it was mentioned that the Christie's-Robson Lowe November 12 sale in Zurich included complete sets of the De La Rue Sa'ud cartouche GOSP, Dam and air definitives, including the unissued values. The realizations are now available:

Lot 2233 Complete GOSP set (S.G. 529-556), including unissued 100p (Est. SF 2000)	SF 8,438
Lot 2234 Complete Dam set (S.G. 557-584), including unissued 50p (Est. SF 1500)	SF 8,438
Lot 2235 Complete Air set (S.G. 585-610c), including unissued 50,100,200p (Est. SF 6500)	SF21,375

Realizations include 12-1/2% buyer's commission.

8. The unrealistic prices in Scott for the rare Jeddah red three-line overprints have been mentioned in RANDOM NOTES on several occasions. Here are some recent auction realizations for these:

Sale	Lot #	Scott #	Comments	Cat.	Realization
P	?	L98	with "ela"	\$50	\$660
HL	296	L98	with "ela"	\$50	£605
S	2067	L98	with "ela"	\$50	\$440
HF	30586	L98	pos. 7, no gum, crease	\$50	SF575
HL	302	L100	with "ela"	\$40	£505
S	2078	L100	with "ela"	\$40	\$577.50
S	2079	L100	possible fake	\$40	\$506
S	2080	L100	possible fake	\$40	\$506
HF	30587	L100	pos. 34, no gum	\$40	SF633
HL	304	L100a	with "ela"	\$40	£396
S	2081	L100a	possible fake	\$40	\$385
S	2082	L100a	possible fake	\$40	\$385
HF	30588	L100a	doubtful	\$40	SF575
HF	30589	L100a	pos. 7, no gum	\$40	SF368
HL	315	L105	with "ela"	\$75	£990
S	2083	L105	with "ela"	\$75	\$715

P = Persiphila, Mar. 7, 1987
 HL = Harmer's of London, Mar. 10/11, 1987 (Hibbert sale)
 S = Superior Galleries, Nov. 16/17, 1987
 HF = Habsburg, Feldman, Nov. 16/21, 1987 (Kaczmarczyk sale)

All prices include buyer's premium. Note that the Harmer's sale brought the best prices. Note also the occurrence of probable fakes even in these "name" sales.

Since Scott's gets a copy of this publication, perhaps they'll take note and correct their prices in the 1989 edition of their catalog.

MORE ON THE "FEE PAID" HANDSTAMPS

By: T. A. Alireza

After reading Mr. R. J. Thoden's article on "Fee Paid Handstamps" in RANDOM NOTES #39, I have additional information that I would like to share with the A.P.A. membership. I have organized this by the type numbers as given in Mr. Thoden's article.

TYPE MK-1



Figure 1. Type MK-1 used for postage due.

I have three covers of this type. One was mailed in August 1916 and another in September. However, the third cover (Figure 1), which I bought in the Hibbert sale, looks like a "Fee Paid" used as postage due! The cover was mailed from Makkah around mid-January 1916 (estimate) to Palembang in what is now Indonesia while Makkah was still Ottoman. Although the stamp had fallen off somewhere along its 11 month journey, it is obvious that the letter was underpaid originally as the Dutch East Indies authorities applied a handstamp reading "insufficiently stamped" as well as a handwritten "must be 25 cents". After failing to be delivered, the letter was returned to Makkah, arriving there on December 6, 1916. (Under a light, it is possible to read in Arabic "from Holy Makkah to Palembang" under the censor label). Hejaz was by then independent and the "Fee Paid" marking would appear in this case to have been used to show receipt of money paid for postage due by the sender. The cover has a rich selection of markings: censor strip of the Straits Settlements, Singapore 24/2/16 and 25/2/16, Kajoeagoeng 1/3/16, "wrongly dealt with by Head P.O. at Kaj. Informed Head P.O." in red ink in Dutch, Palembang (date unclear), Singapore 10/7/16, Singapore Dead Letter Office 12/7/16, bilingual oval "Return to Sender" 6/9/16, Singapore 30/10/16 and finally back to Makkah 6/12/16.

TYPE MK-2

The RN #39 article shows usage of this type in August 1916. I have a cover from Makkah to Jeddah (Figure 2) with "MEKKE 3" octagonal cancel dated 8 September 1916.

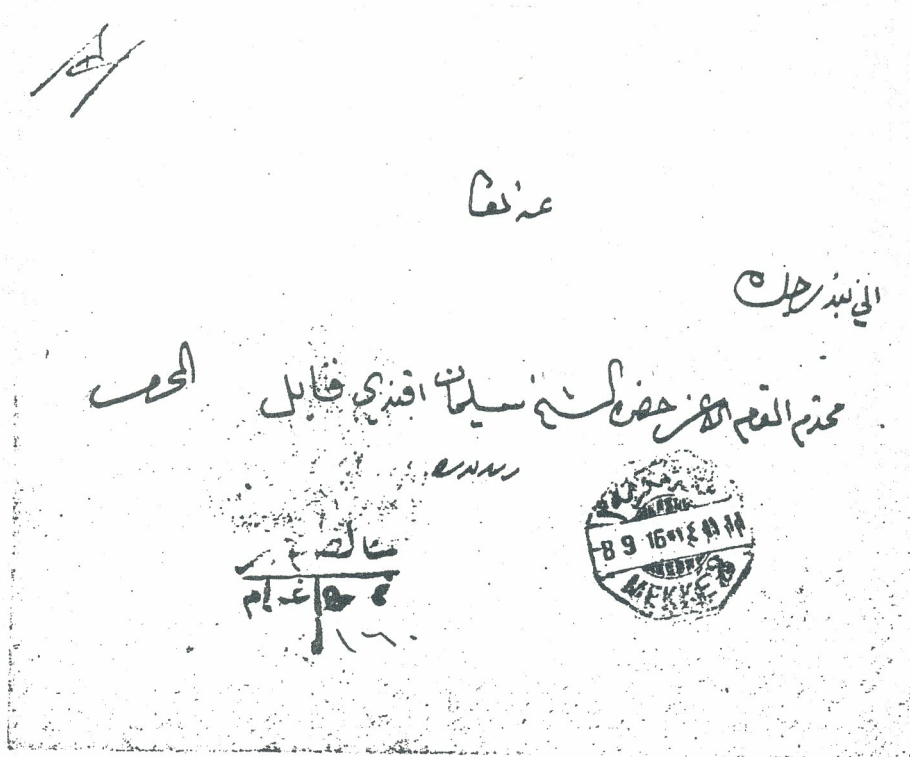


Figure 2. Type MK-2 used September 8, 1916.

TYPE MK-3

I have two covers of this type, and it would appear that both were mailed from Jeddah for several reasons:

- (a) Both covers are addressed to Egypt and have only a "DJEDDAH 3" cancellation (on the back).
- (b) Neither cover has a Makkah cancel.
- (c) The cover shown (Figure 3) has written on the back "Expéditeur (sender) Raad Djeddah".

Although the cover in the article does show a Makkah CDS alongside the "Fee Paid", this may be a receiving cancel. See my comments under MK-5.

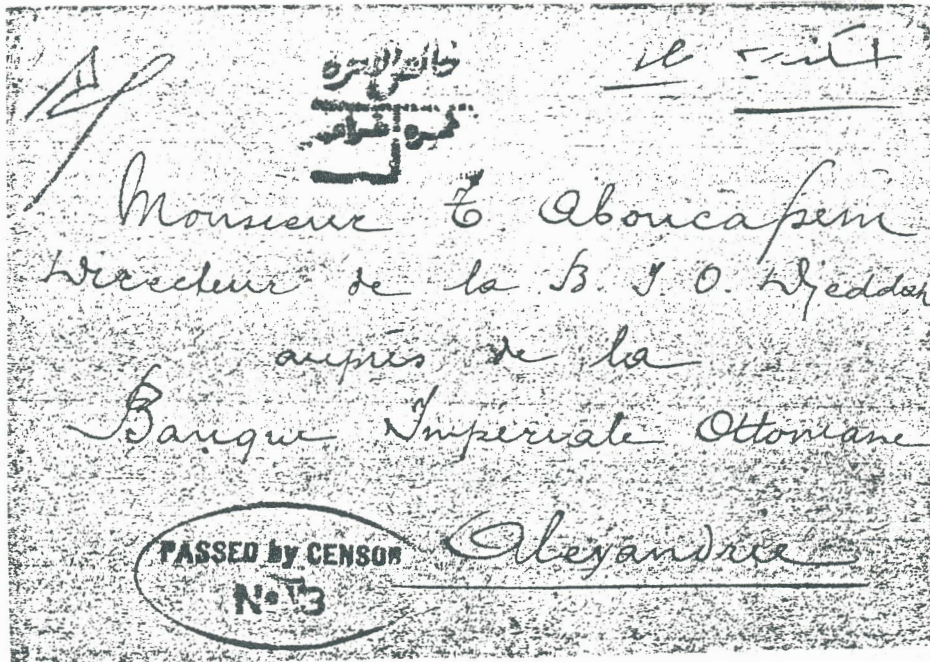


Figure 3. Type MK-3 used from Jeddah to Egypt.

TYPE MK-5

I have three covers of type MK-5, one of which is the one shown in the article. I have indicated (Figure 4) the Arabic which shows this cover was addressed to Makkah from Jeddah. It is odd that the sending P.O. would apply its cancel on the back, but why should we be surprised? The cancellation dates bear this out. In the "DJEDDA 5", the Hijra date is 5/6/335, while on the front, the all-Arabic Makkah cancel is dated 6 Jamad Al Thani 1335 or the next day.

On the second cover, the dates also work! In the "DJEDDA 5" on the back, the dates are 30/12/916 and 5/3/35, while the all-Arabic Makkah cancel on the front is dated 6 Rabi' Al Awal 1335, again one day later.

The third cover has a "DJEDDA 5" CDS on the back, but does not have a Makkah arrival cancellation.

To Makkah Al-Musharrafah

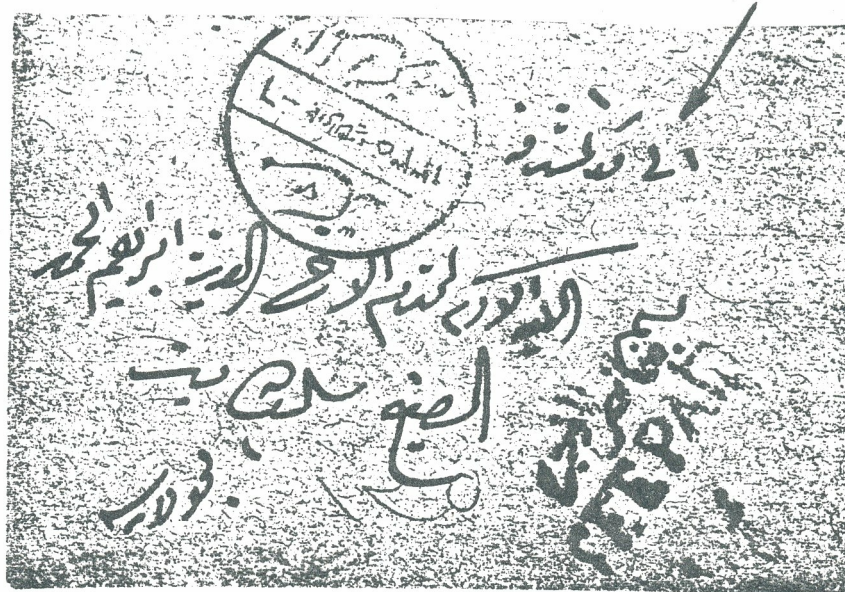


Figure 4. Type MK-5 used from Jeddah to Makkah.

TYPE MK-8

Figure 5 shows a cover with the octagonal "Fee Paid" marking used together with a Nejd 2pi (SG 217). This must have been due to shortages of 1pi stamps at that time, necessitating the use of the "Fee Paid" handstamp to complete the postage of 3pi. This stamp shortage in October-November 1926 is also attested to by three covers I have showing use of 2pi postage stamps for all or part of the postage. Figure 6 shows a cover from Makkah (19/11/26) to Egypt with three 2pi postage dues (Ed. Note: presumably a double weight cover). The other two covers are from Jeddah to Egypt and have one 2pi postage due combined with other stamps to make the normal 3pi rate.

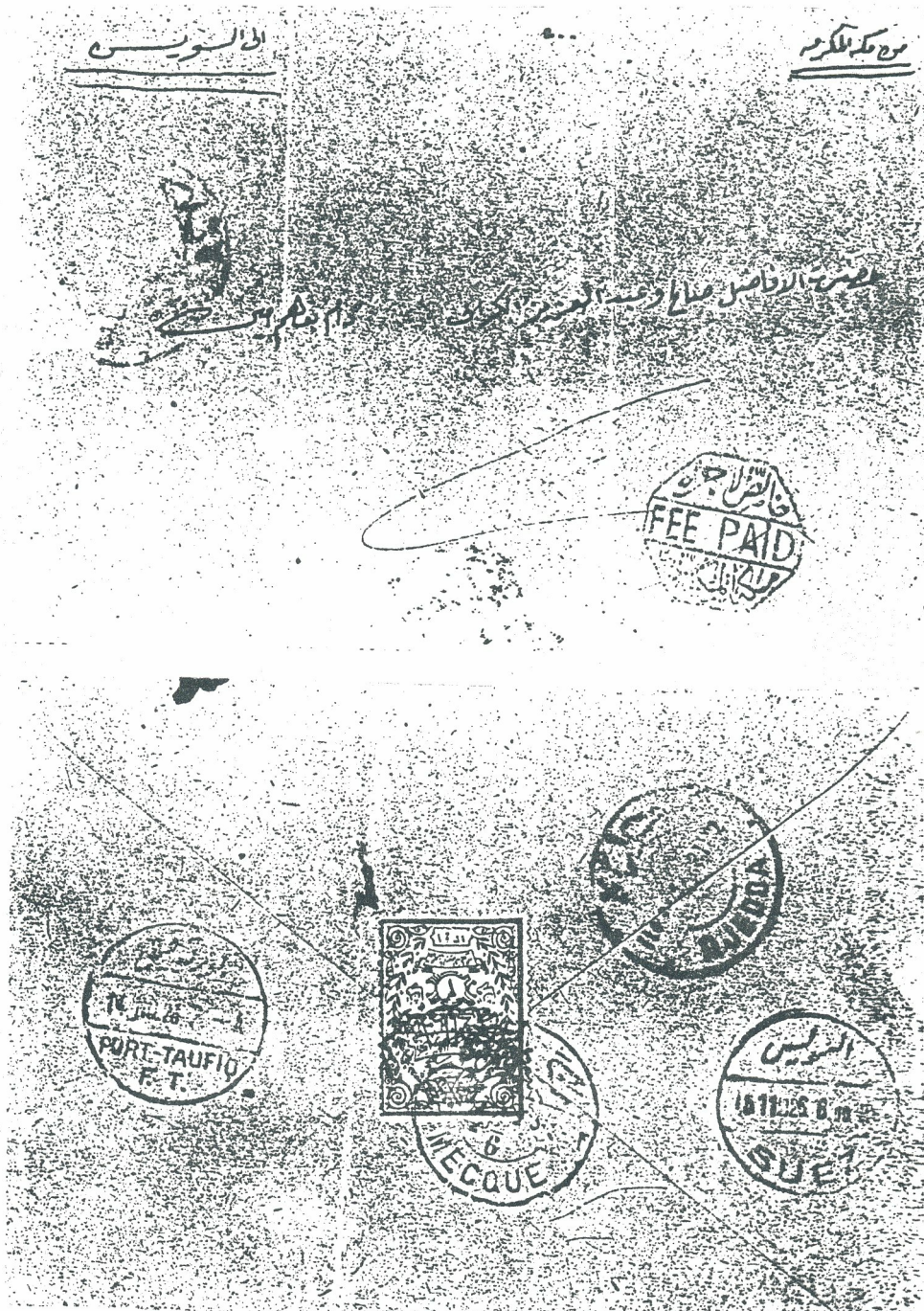


Figure 5. Type MK-8 used in combination with stamp.

MOHAMED SABER

TASHKANDI
MECCA (Hejaz)

محمد صابر طاشكندی

مكة المكرمة (حجاز)

الى مصر القاهرة
 من الحاج محمد حبيب الله وشركاه
 مدينة الرياض العزيز عبد الصالح المدي مصطفى
 575243
 Post Due

إذا لم يسلم في ظرف ثلاثة ايام يرد بالتالي

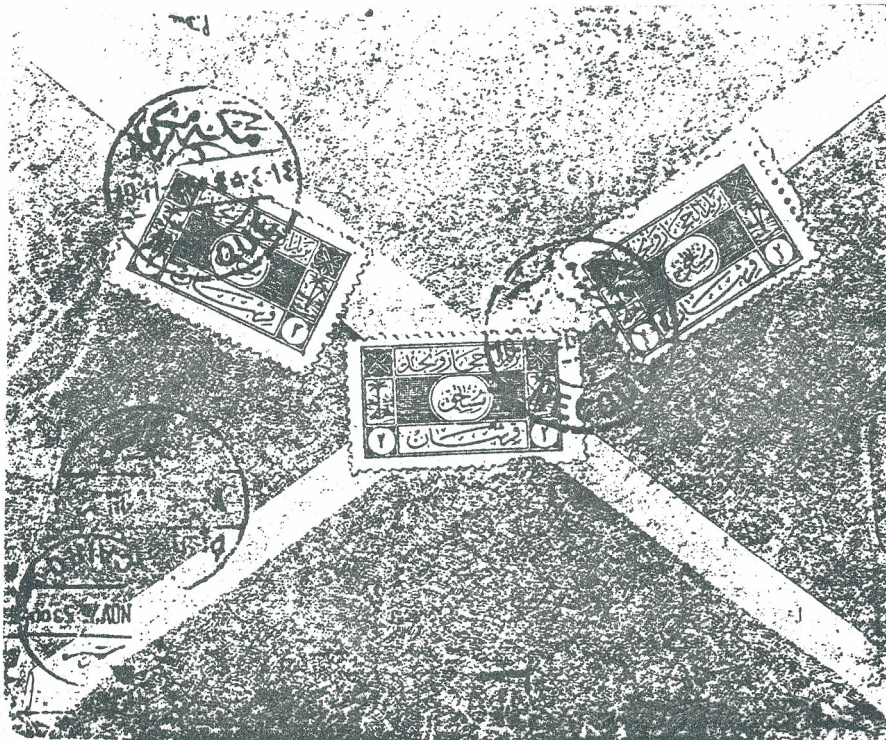


Figure 6. 2pi postage due stamps used for postage.

TYPE J-1

The article show usage in September 1916. My cover of this type is from Jeddah to Alexandria with a "DJEDDAH 3" CDS dated 31 August 1916.

TYPE J-2

The article shows usage in September 1916. I have a cover (Figure 7) that was sent from Jeddah to Suez, but incorrectly routed to Bombay first. The "DJEDDAH 3" is only partly clear (.../10/16) but it is obvious it was sent in October reaching Bombay 21 October, Bombay D.L.O on 6 and 13 November and finally Suez 30/11/16.



Figure 7. Type J-2 used in October 1916.

Figure 8 shows another example of Type J-2. It is registered from Jeddah to Alexandria. Does anyone know what the four wavy lines under the handwritten "N11" mean? Also, at the upper left is written in French: "charge / contenant 10 coupons de Fer d'ensemble". What does this mean?

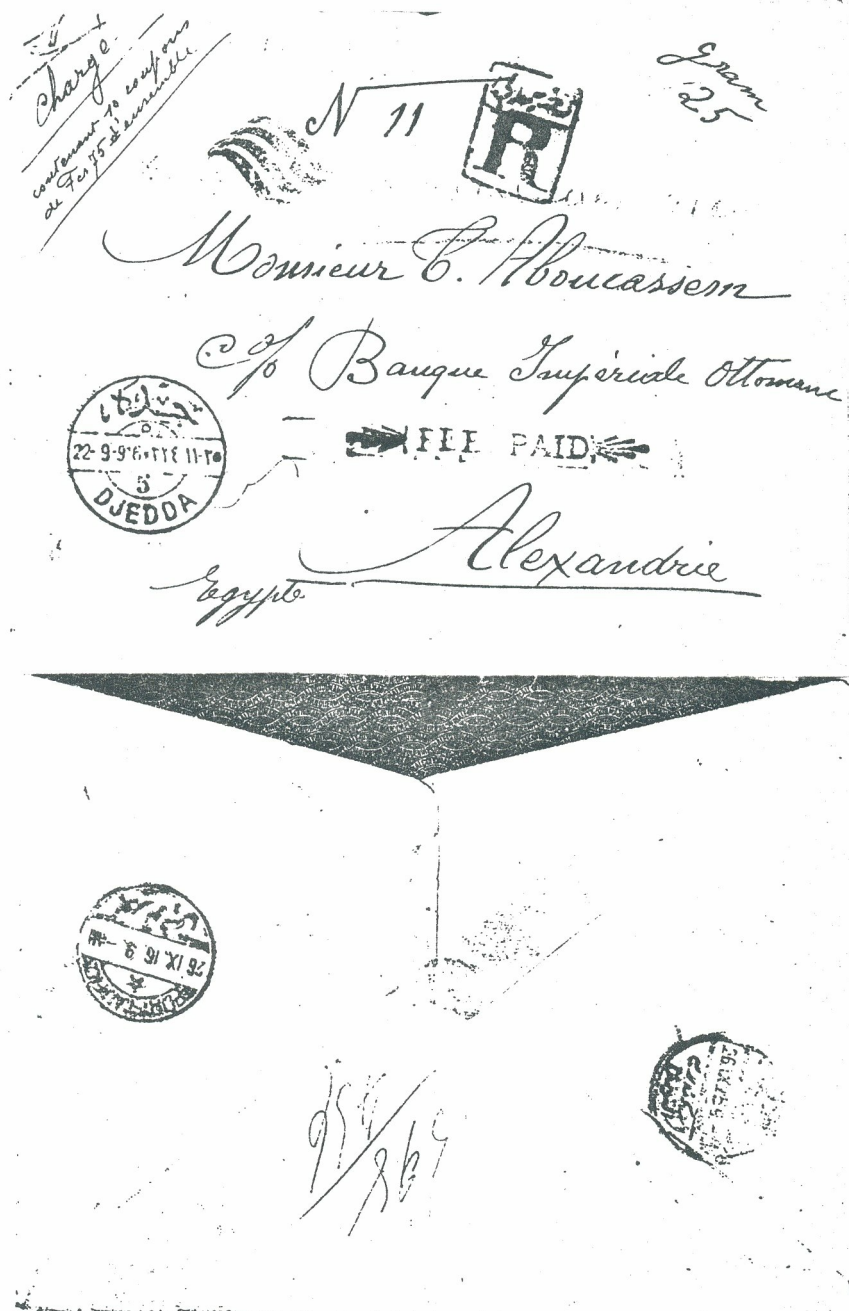


Figure 8. Type J-2 used from Jeddah to Alexandria.

Type J-3

The article shows usage in 1926. I have a cover with type J-3 (Figure 9) from Jeddah to Makkah with "DJEDDA 5" CDS of 29/5/17 and Makkah arrival of 31/5/17. The "Fee Paid" is in black.

The newspaper wrapper shown in the article has both the "DJEDDA 5" and the "Fee Paid" in purple. The date here is almost certainly 5/3/926.

Thus it appears this type was originally made and used in 1917, and then pulled out and put back in service during the stamp shortages of 1926!



Figure 9. Type J-3 used from Jeddah to Makkah in 1917.

Type J-4

The cover shown in the article has a "DJEDDAH 3" cancellation on the reverse dated 30 Ramadan 1352, equivalent to 16 January 1934. The date and the small size of the cover suggest that it carried an "Id Al Fitr" greeting card. Perhaps this "Fee Paid" was to cope with the holiday mail rush!

Figure 10 is a real teaser! It is a cover (front only) addressed to Sheikh Abdulraouf Al Sabban (delegate of the Hejaz Nationalist Party in Egypt) at the house of Sayed Mohamed Hamed Al Faqih in Cairo. It bears SG 121 and 175 cancelled with a bilingual "DJEDDA" dated 21/2/925. When you pull back the top stamp, which is a bit loose, there lies behind a clear and complete Type J-4 "Fee Paid", the right-hand part of which is just visible at the right of the stamp. There is also a complete strike of Type J-4 under the other stamp, but this stamp is well affixed with only a small part of the handstamp showing.

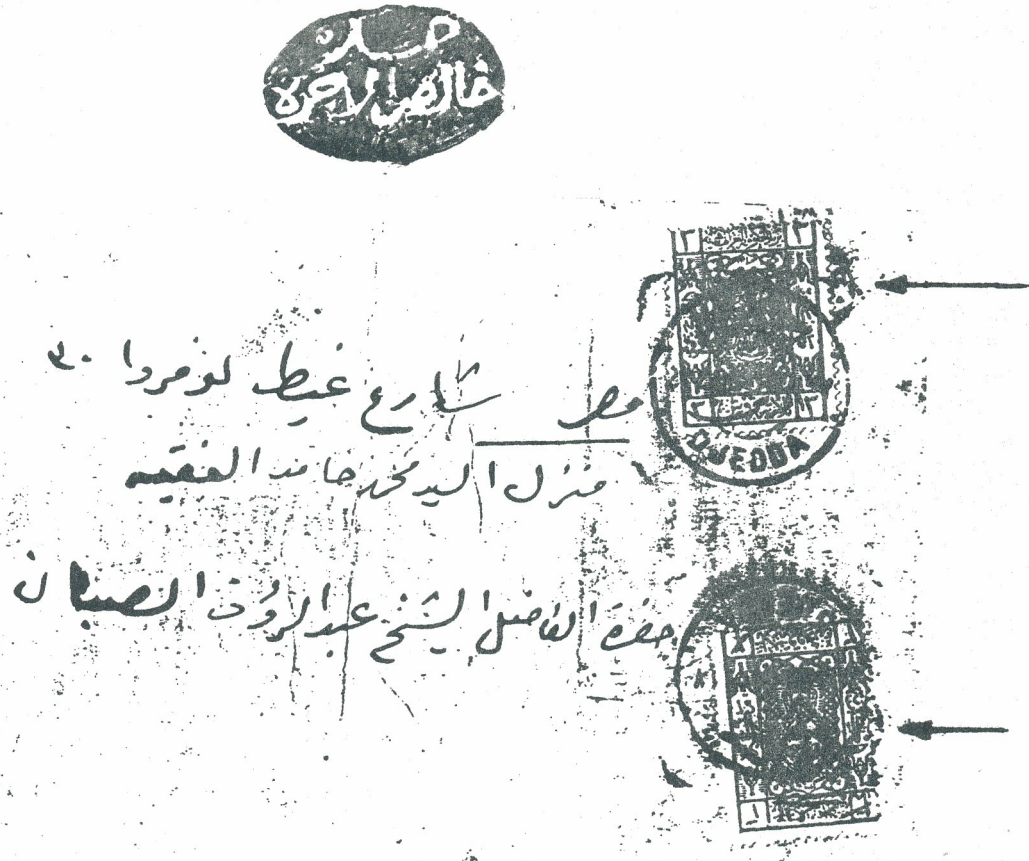


Figure 10. Type J-4 underneath the stamps.

At the Feldman auction, I had a chat with two Turkish dealers about this particular strike which Coles and Walker* attributed to the Ottomans. I inquired whether the words "Khalis Al Ugra" were Turkish as well as Arabic. They both agreed that it was not. They gave me two Turkish equivalents which were nothing close. One of the dealers stated his opinion that this was a seal from the Egyptian Post Office in Jeddah (Gedda?). He promised to look into this for me.

Editor's Comments: Mr. Alireza makes a good case that "Fee Paid" types MK-3 and MK-5 were used in Jeddah rather than Makkah. This requires a renumbering of the types. However, it is probably best to wait a while before doing so to see what other information may turn up.

* POSTAL CANCELLATIONS OF THE OTTOMAN EMPIRE. John H. Coles and Howard E. Walker.

THE "MAKKAH ARMS" 1/8 QIRSH

By: David Graham

As part of the necessary research for a forthcoming specialized catalog of Saudi Arabia, I am making detailed studies of many issues in order to decide which varieties to list and which to relegate to footnotes.

The 1916-21 definitives (which have been the subject of recent intensive research by my colleague, Dr. Elias Kawar), the 1922-25 Makkah Arms issues, the 1934-50 Tughras and several later series all require similar careful examination.

This is a preliminary survey of the lowest value of the Makkah Arms issues, the 1/8 qirsh, which was required for the usual printed matter rate. Very few exist postally used, as the majority went to dealers and collectors. This survey includes two charts. The first deals with stamps used by the independent Hejazi Government and includes the many Jeddah overprints and handstamps. The second chart features the different types of this value handstamped for the Nejdi Sultanate Post. All are listed by Stanley Gibbons Stamp Catalogue, Part 19, Middle East (1986) numbers.

Colours are described according to the Stanley Gibbons STAMP COLOUR KEY, except in cases where I have been unable to match stamps exactly to the key, for example #10 and #11 in the charts, for which I have given approximate shades.

To simplify matters, I have limited paper types to three, called X, Y and Z:

Paper X is thick, in an ivory or cream shade, with none or very little of the stamp design visible through the back.

Paper Y is a medium grade, usually a little whiter than Type X, with strong parts of the design showing from the back.

Paper Z is thin, sometimes grayish, with most of the design detail visible through the back.

The three paper types are not always identical in different printings. Obviously, the papers used for the bogus reprints and forgeries are generally different from the original types, although I have classified them as X, Y or Z.

Washing or cleaning stamps often affects their appearance, so I have excluded stamps without gum and cancelled ones, unless on cover or piece, from this survey. Other factors may influence stamp colours. As noted on the charts, stamps in the "Indian red" ink become a dull shade on the thin paper. Light or heavy inking may also cause apparent colour differences, as with the "deep rose red" of the Nejdi Sultanate Post. It should also be noted that different lighting (daylight/fluorescent/artificial) can make colours seem quite different.

Among the colour varieties listed, #8 was probably a proof, in a shade very similar to the darker type of the 1924 3 qirsh brown red (SG 57b). #9 is so far known only with Nejdi Sultanate first handstamp. #10, #11 and #12 are known only as reprints made from the original plates, with thicker impressions, especially of the frame lines. The paper usually has a mottled, waxy appearance, often with ink spots on the gum. They are usually perforated 11-1/2 like the genuine, although 11 has also been reported. These reprints are believed to be unofficial. They are not known postally used, but are often found with forged overprints and fake or doubtful cancels. They are common with forged Caliphate overprint (SG 50), frequently in blocks of six, one with missing year. #13 is a total forgery, perforated 11 instead of the correct 11-1/2, and it may be found with crude forged overprints or handstamps in colours quite unlike the authentic ones.

Items on the charts marked * have been recently checked by the author; those marked (*) were seen some time ago, or have been reported. Items marked P or (P) are proofs. Forged overprints or handstamps are marked F.

The unlisted columns are for unrecorded items, fiscal or revenue usage, etc. I have also included as proofs the 1922 imperforate basic stamp and a Nejdi Sultanate item with black "1343" first handstamp and a further handstamp of SG type D29 in red. I have seen only one example of the latter, CTO in blue on a dealer's ruled paper. I should be pleased to hear of any varieties not included in these charts. Kindly send details, preferably with examples, to me c/o Filatco, P.O. Box 1461, Appleton, Wisconsin 54913, U.S.A.

Plate flaws have not been included in this survey, but major ones will be listed in the catalogue. Some are constant, found on all printings; others may have been noticed and removed by the printers, or have developed after much use and wear of the plate. Plate flaws often occur as dots or marks beside numerals, making "10" for "1", etc. Those on this value are:

1. "1/08". Position 20 LL. Constant.
2. "1 1/8". Position 19, UL and LL. Worn plate.
3. "10/8". Position not identified, UL. Worn plate.
4. "8" printed as a filled-in triangle. LL, LR or both on position 4, 15 and 16 at different stages of plate wear.

I shall be preparing similar reference tables for the other "Makkah Arms" values, though fortunately, none except perhaps the 10 qirsh has so many colour varieties.

1922-1925 "MAKKAH ARMS" 1/8 QIRSH - HEJAZ GOVERNMENT

Ref #	Colour	Paper	39	47	50	95a	105	114	123	136	143	148	D154	154	D163	Unlisted
1	lake brown " "	X Y Z	*		*		*		F		*				*	
2	brown red " "	X Y Z	*	*			*		*	*		*	#F	F	#F	
3	Indian red " " (dull)	X Y Z	*	*	*		*		*	*	#F			*F	F	F
4	chestnut " "	X Y Z	*							F						
5	orange brown " "	X Y Z	*	*	*				F					*F	*	(P) Imperf.
6	dull scarlet " "	X Y Z		*												
7	Venetian red " "	X Y Z	*	*	*		*		F						*	
8	brown carmine " "	X Y Z	*						F							
9	deep rose red " "	X Y Z														
10	bright brownish red " "	X Y Z	F		F		F		F							
11	dull brownish red " "	X Y Z													F	F
12	red brown shades " "	X Y Z	F	F	F		F		F	F						
13	vermillion shades " "	X Y Z		F					F							

Numbers are S.G.

1922-1925 "MAKKAH ARMS" 1/8 QIRSH - NEJDI SULTANATE POST

Ref #	Colour	Paper	198	198a	198b	198c	198ca	198cb	N208	N208a	224	224a	Unlisted
			vio.	lil.		vio.	lil.	vio					
1	lake brown	X Y Z	*	*	*			*					
2	brown red	X Y Z			*			F					
3	Indian red	X Y Z	*		*			*					
	" (dull)	X Y Z			*			*					(*) (P) Mustahaq
4	chestnut	X Y Z											
5	orange brown	X Y Z											
6	dull scarlet	X Y Z											
7	Venetian red	X Y Z	*		*			*		*	*	*	
8	brown carmine	X Y Z											
9	deep rose red	X Y Z			*			*		F			
10	bright brownish red	X Y Z						*					
11	dull brownish red	X Y Z											
12	red brown shades	X Y Z			F			F					
13	vermillion shades	X Y Z								F			

Numbers are S.G. vio. = violet handstamp lil. = lilac handstamp

THE "ILLEGIBLES" - AN UPDATE

By: R. J. Thoden

Since my previous article on the fourth Jeddah provisional issue (also commonly known as the "illegibles") in RANDOM NOTES #27, I have seen more than 25 new varieties. In addition, it seems logical to separate the handstamp positional (normal or inverted, at top or bottom, double, etc.) varieties from the handstamp color (black or violet) varieties. Thus I have revised the variety identification system.

The revised variety identification system used here has a single letter for stamps without handstamp. Those with handstamp have two additional letters, one for the handstamp variety, and another for the handstamp color (b = black and v = violet). For example:

B = inverted overprint/surcharge, no handstamp.
AFb = normal overprint/surcharge, inverted black handstamp.
EGv = double overprint/surcharge both inverted, inverted violet handstamp at top.

The complete set of variety identification letters is as follows:

Overprint/surcharge Varieties

A = Normal
B = Inverted
C = Double
D = Double, one inverted
E = Double, both inverted
F = Double, one up
G = Double, one down
H = Triple, one up, one down
I = Triple, one inverted
J = Triple, all inverted
K = Surcharge on both sides
L = Surch. both sides, invtd. on back
M = Double on front, invtd. on back
N = Normal on front, double on back
O = Diagonal
P = Double, one diagonal
Q = Double on front, one diagonal,
inverted on back
R = Double on front, one diagonal,
dbl. invtd. on back, one diagonal
S = Omitted
T = Surch. both sides, invtd. on front

Handstamp Varieties

A = Normal
B = Pair, one without handstamp
C = At top
F = Inverted
G = Inverted at top
I = Double
J = Double, one at top
K = Double, both at top
N = Double, one inverted
O = Double, one inverted at top
R = Double, both inverted
S = Double, both inverted at top
U = Triple
V = Triple, one at top
W = Triple, one inverted at top
X = Handstamped on both sides
Y = Dbl. both at top, one invtd.
Z = Quadruple, one at top

In the detailed listing attached, stamps are identified as follows:

X = Verified to exist genuine.
F = Seen only as a forgery.
? = Listed or reported elsewhere, but never seen by the author.

I would like to hear from readers who can report other varieties, including varieties which are listed here only as "F" or "?", but which the reader thinks are genuine. If possible, I would like to see all such varieties in order to verify their genuineness.

FIRST PRINTING - NO HANDSTAMP

POSTAGE

Variety->	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
1/4Q on 1/8Q red brown	X	X	X	F	X						?	?	
a. orange brn													
1/4Q on 1/2Q scarlet	X	F	X	X		?			?		?		
a. deep rose	X	F											
1Q on 2Q orange	X	F	X	F									
1Q on 3Q brown	X	F											
1Q on 3Q brown red	X	X	X	F									
10Q on 5Q olive	X	F											

WRONG DENOMINATION ERRORS

VARIETY->	A	B
1/4Q on 2Q orange	?	
1Q on 1/2Q scarlet	?	?

POSTAGE DUE

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	P	R
1/8Q red brown	X	F	?	F		X		X							
a. orange brown															
1/2Q scarlet	X	X	?			X		X							
a. deep rose	F														
1Q dark blue	X	X													
1-1/2Q violet	X	X													
2Q orange	X	X	?	X		X		X							
3Q brown	X	F													
3Q brown red	X	X	?	F		X	X	X							
5Q olive	X	X		?		?									
10Q violet & brown	X	F	X	F	F								F	F	F

SECOND PRINTING - POSTAGE - WITH HANDSTAMP

Variety->	AA	AB	AC	AF	AG	AI	AJ	AK	AN	AO	AR	AS	AU
Handstamp Color->	bv	bv	bv	bv	bv	bv	bv	bv	bv	bv	bv	bv	bv
1/4Q on 1/4Q on 1/8Q red brown	XX	X		X	X	X	X		XX	?	X		?
a. orange brown	X												
1/4Q on 1/4Q on 1/2Q scarlet	XX	X	XX	X	XX	XX	X	XX	X				
z. Imperf right mgn	X												
a. deep rose	X					?							
1Q on 1Q on 2Q orange	XX	X	XX		XF	X		?	X				
1Q on 1Q on 3Q brown	XX	X	X	X	XX	X	X	?	X	?	X		
1Q on 1Q on 3Q brown red	XX	X	X	X	X			XX					
10Q on 10Q on 5Q olive	XX	X	X	X	XX			XX					F

Variety->	AV	AW	AX	BA	BC	BF	BG	BO	BS	CA	CB	DA	DG
Handstamp Color->	bv	bv	bv	bv	bv	bv	bv	bv	bv	bv	bv	bv	bv
1/4Q on 1/4Q on 1/8Q red brown	?		?	X			X?	X	X				F
1/4Q on 1/4Q on 1/2Q scarlet	X			X			X	X	?	X			X
a. deep rose							X						
1Q on 1Q on 2Q orange							X	X		X	?		F
1Q on 1Q on 3Q brown					X		X						X
1Q on 1Q on 3Q brown red				X		X	X	X	X	X			F
10Q on 10Q on 5Q olive		F					X		X?				X

Variety->	EA	EF	EG	JG	KA	LA	LI	SA	SF	SI	TG
Handstamp Color->	bv	bv	bv	bv	bv	bv	bv	bv	bv	bv	bv
1/4Q on 1/4Q on 1/8Q red brown			?	X?		XX	?				F
1/4Q on 1/4Q on 1/2Q scarlet		?		XX							
1Q on 1Q on 2Q orange									F		
1Q on 1Q on 3Q brown											
1Q on 1Q on 3Q brown red											
10Q on 10Q on 5Q olive	?	?						F		F	

SECOND PRINTING - POSTAGE - DENOMINATION ERRORS

Variety->	AA	AF	AI	BG	FA
Handstamp Color->	bv	bv	bv	bv	bv
1/4Q on 1/4Q on 2Q orange	X?				
1/4Q on 1Q on 1/8Q red brown				F	
(with 1/4Q surch. on back)					
1/4Q on 1Q on 1/2Q scarlet	?		?		
1/4Q on 1Q on 2Q orange	X				
1/4Q on 1Q on 3Q brown	?				
1/4Q on 1Q on 3Q brown red	X				
1/4Q on 10Q on 5Q olive	?				
1Q on 1/4Q on 1/8Q red brown	X?	X			
1Q on 1/4Q on 1/2Q scarlet	XX		?	X?	X
a. deep rose	F		?		
1Q on 1/4Q on 2Q orange	X		?	?	
1Q on 10Q on 5Q olive	X				
10Q on 1Q on 2Q orange	X		X		
10Q on 5Q postage due olive	?				

SECOND PRINTING - POSTAGE DUE - WITH HANDSTAMP

Variety->	AA	AB	AC	AF	AG	AI	AJ	AK	AY	AZ	BA	BF	BG	BJ	BO	BR
Handstamp Color->	bv	bv	bv	bv	bv	bv	bv	bv	bv	bv	bv	bv	bv	bv	bv	bv
1/8Q red brown	XX	X	XX	X	X	?					X	X				
a. orange brown	X															
1/2Q scarlet	X	X	X	X	X	F	X				X	X				
a. deep rose	F				F	F							?			
1Q dark blue	XX	X	X	X	X	X							X			
1-1/2Q violet	X	X	XX	X	X	F							X	X	?	X
z. imperf vert.	X															
2Q orange	XX	X	X	X	X						X	X	X			
3Q brown	XX	X	XX	XX	X								X			
3Q brown red	XX	X	XX	X	X	XX	?		X	X			X			
5Q olive	XX	X	X	X	X	F							X			
10Q violet & brn	XX	?	X	X	F	F					X	X	XF			

Variety->	BS	CA	DA	DI	FA	GA	MA	NA	OA	OF	PA	QA	TF
Handstamp Color->	bv	bv	bv	bv	bv	bv	bv	bv	bv	bv	bv	bv	bv
1/8Q red brown		X	F										F
1/2Q scarlet		X											
1Q dark blue													
1-1/2Q violet		?	X		X	X	X						
2Q orange		?		F					F	F			
3Q brown													
3Q brown red		?	X	X									
5Q olive													
10Q violet & brn	?	F	F					?			F	F	

ERRORS -WITH ADDITIONAL POSTAGE HANDSTAMP

Variety->	AA
Handstamp Color->	bv
	--
1/4Q on 5Q olive	X
10Q on 5Q olive	?

SUPPLY OF NEW ISSUES BY THE A.P.A.

By: W. A King

You must be an A.P.A. member or subscriber in order to get new issues. The basic condition is that each member/subscriber wishing to receive new issues is required to provide an interest-free deposit to the A.P.A. New Issue Manager. This deposit, which is directly proportionate to the number of stamps required, is used to purchase stamps on behalf of the member/subscriber. This deposit is returnable at any time the member/subscriber wishes to discontinue receiving new issues. The rate may vary but it is currently set at SR12 per stamp required.

Service for new issue subscribers attending meetings in Dhahran:

The New Issue Manager will supply these subscribers directly. New issue subscribers must arrange to collect and pay for their new issues as they are made available. New issue subscribers who cannot attend a meeting should make arrangements for someone else to collect their new issues or leave a larger deposit with the New Issue Manager.

Those subscribers who fail to collect their new issues before their deposits are exhausted will be charged TWICE FACE for ALL ISSUES which are retained for them. They may also be dropped without notice at the discretion of the New Issue Manager.

The deposit for subscribers not resident in Dhahran is SR18 per stamp.

Service for subscribers not attending meetings in Dhahran:

A.P.A. subscribers who cannot attend meetings in Dhahran may receive new issues by post, regardless of where they reside. Additional deposits are required to meet the costs of post/packing/insurance and the irregular availability. However, those who maintain a deposit above the minimum level will receive new issues at face value plus post/packing/insurance.

Stamps Required	Minimum Deposits		
-----	-----	-----	-----
1 or 2 stamps	SR 50	\$14	£ 8
3 to 5 stamps	SR100	\$28	£ 16
6 or more stamps	SR 20	\$ 5.50	£ 3 (per stamp)

Subscribers who allow their deposits to fall below the minimum levels noted will automatically be charged TWICE FACE value until the deposit remaining is used up and then no further stamps will be purchased on their behalf.

A.P.A. annual subscription renewal will be paid automatically from the new issue subscriber's deposit.

Dealer service for subscribers in the U.S.A.:

Alternatively, subscribers may purchase stamps directly from stocks held by J. M. Wilson in Texas without having to supply a deposit. The A.P.A. will supply restricted issues to A.P.A. fully paid-up subscribers who are registered through Mr. Wilson on the same basis as supplied by post from Dhahran or to subscribers who attend meetings in Dhahran. Note that Mr. Wilson is a dealer and charges prices higher than face value.

Guarantee

There is no guarantee that any particular issue will be made available. The postal authorities in Saudi Arabia only occasionally provide advance notice and do not necessarily supply all new issues to the Head Post Office of the Eastern Region in Dammam. The New Issue Manager maintains regular contact with this office in an endeavour to provide all possible issues. We have had pretty good luck in the past with everything except a few perforation or watermark position varieties. There have also been a few instances where enough souvenir sheets could not be obtained. In such cases, they are allocated one per person on a basis that considers both seniority and service to the A.P.A.

Restricted Issues

If any issue is available in restricted quantities, then preference will be given to ensuring each member/subscriber has a copy. Requests for multiples will only be filled when supplies are sufficient. Note that souvenir sheets have almost invariably been available on a restricted basis. The A.P.A. new issue service cannot supply "varieties" that are not normally available from the Saudi postal authorities. Note that when there is a restricted issue, the entire new issue register is checked for duplication!!

Contacts

Names and addresses of those currently handling new issue subscriptions are given on Page 2 of each issue of RANDOM NOTES.

RANDOM NOTES BACK ISSUES

The order book closed officially on March 31 and negotiations for the printing are currently underway. Provisional plans to distribute in May-June are still on schedule. However, if you forgot to order and want some back issues, we may still be able to add in your request - if you reply immediately!

THE STRANGE PLATING OF L66B

By: F. C. Benedict

Information on Scott L66B (S.G. 75), the 2pi magenta with inverted blue two-line Jeddah provisional overprint, is sketchy. D. F. Warin in THE POSTAL ISSUES OF HEJAZ, JEDDAH AND NEJD does not list this stamp, but the pricelist entitled THE POSTAGE STAMPS OF THE HEJAZ, JEDDAH AND NEJD compiled by D. F. Warin for D. Field does list it and indicates that 50 were so overprinted. The stamp was unpriced in the list perhaps because D. Field had no copies. With 50 copies, it would be assumed that only one sheet was overprinted because the two-line plate has 50 cliches.

The Habsburg, Feldman auction of November 1987 had two lots of L66B described in part as follows:

- Lot 30521 2 pi claret with BLUE overprint inverted, nh bottom sheet marginal block of 10, only one sheet of fifty printed.
Lot 30522 2 pi claret BLUE overprint inverted (pos. 6), lh marginal single, only one sheet of fifty printed.

There is an apparent inconsistency here. Lot 30521 has stamp positions 41-50 with overprint positions 1-10 including position 6, and lot 30522 is also position 6 overprint. Were there two sheets printed instead of one? Or, can you get two position 6 overprints on one sheet?

I first noticed this dilemma when the Feldman auction of September 1979 offered a left marginal vertical pair of L66B with overprint positions 10 and 15. I had a left marginal block of four with overprints 14, 15, 19 and 20. How could there be two position 15s from the same sheet? Subsequently, I obtained another left marginal block of four (ex Mayo) which was contiguous to my other block. On the top row of this block were overprint positions 24 and 25 as would be expected, but the bottom row of the block had overprint positions 4 and 5! Had something happened to the overprint plate and was this another setting of the plate? But no other block or sheet with the two-line overprint showed anything but the normal plate setting of 50 cliches. More thorough examination of the block then revealed a horizontal fold, thus providing a plausible explanation for the dilemma.

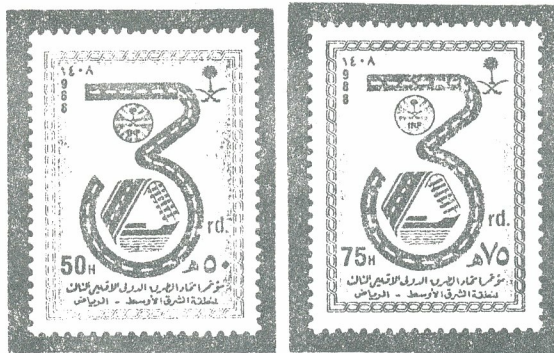
The evidence suggests that a sheet of the 2pi was folded in the middle and was stuck together so that it had to be put into the press twice, receiving the top half of the overprint plate (positions 1-25) each time. If top marginal stamps from the sheet do exist, the selvedge should show inverted overprint positions 26-30. If some stamps were stuck together and could not be salvaged, then fewer than 50 copies may exist making L66B one of the rarest Hejaz stamps. Lot 30521 sold for almost \$20,000, and Lot 30522 for nearly \$2,000 including buyer's commission. The block of ten previously sold in the Mayo sale in 1980 for \$1,650.

Existence of an L66B with an overprint position between 26 and 50 would indicate more than one sheet was overprinted. It would be interesting to take a census of L66B, and it would be appreciated if owners would send me the plate positions of their copies. The results will be submitted for publication in the RANDOM NOTES. My address is: P.O. Box 905, Turlock, CA. 95381 U.S.A.

NEW ISSUES OF SAUDI ARABIA

By: Abdul Aziz A. Sa'id

February 13, 1988: A set of two stamps, 50h and 75h, was issued to mark the Mid-East Third Regional Highways Conference held in Riyadh. The design shows a large "3", the emblem of the Ministry of Communications, a strip of road and railroad and part of a ship. Perforated 12. Printed in sheets of 50 (10x5) on unwatermarked paper. Quantity: 800,000 sets.



March 2, 1988: A set of two stamps, 50h and 150h, was issued on the occasion of the inauguration of the King Fahd International Stadium in Riyadh. The 50h shows an aerial view of the stadium with a frame of sport emblems, while the 150h shows a side view. Perforated 12. The 50h was printed in sheets of 50 stamps and 4 postal code labels (9x6), while the 150h was printed in sheets of 50 and 2 postal code labels (4x13). White unwatermarked paper. Quantity: 800,000 sets.



April 7, 1988: A set of two stamps, 50h and 75h, was issued to mark the World Health Day and the 40th anniversary of the World Health Organization (WHO). The design shows the WHO building, a large "40" and the WHO emblem. Printed in sheets of 50 stamps and two post code labels (4x13) on white unwatermarked paper. Perforated 12. Quantity: 800,000 sets.



All the above printed by offset by the Security Printing 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.

FREE: Pricelist of Saudi Arabia First Day covers sent free on request. Abdul Aziz Sa'id, P.O. Box 1317, Riyadh 11431, Saudi Arabia.

AVAILABLE: THE HEJAZ: A HISTORY IN STAMPS. A 131 page book combining a specialized listing of Hejaz with extensive philatelic and historical background notes. Price \$24.50 including postage to Saudi Arabia. Wilson Stamps, P.O. Box 3054, Humble, TX 77347-3054, USA.

AVAILABLE for exchange: 100 Riyal Algeria Day contribution stamp. Write to Abdallah A. Ba-Gader, c/o Abubakr Ba-Gader Stores, P.O. Box 5101, Jeddah 21422, Saudi Arabia.

WANTED: Saudi Arabia packets of 100, 200 and 300 different used stamps. AVAILABLE: One set of VF Mint NH blocks of 4 of Scott 159, 160, 161, 163, 166, 168, 169 and 170, Price \$250. C. Timour, 423 N. Ave. 66, Los Angeles, CA 90042, USA. Ph. 213-255-6290.

HELP WANTED: I have positions 1-18 and 25-36 of the 1923 1/4p on 1/8p surcharge (Scott L40). Would like to view other multiples for comparison and to complete plating. If you can help, please send your multiples to me. I will return them promptly. W.A. King, Aranco Box 5797, Dhahran 31311, Saudi Arabia.

WANTED: Contacts with persons interested in Ottoman postal history, cancels, etc of the former Middle East territories. K.H. Jung, West Sidelinghe 78, 3043-SP Rotterdam, Netherlands.

YEMEN collector would like to exchange and correspond with another collector or dealer in Yemen or in Saudi Arabia. Ray Sternburg, 5250 Woodland Lakes, Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33418, USA.

WANTED: Book by the Survey of Egypt, Cairo. "A SHORT NOTE ON THE DESIGN AND ISSUE OF POSTAGE STAMPS PREPARED BY THE SURVEY OF EGYPT.....". State price to Arthur Bianchi, 1201 Redford #2205A, Houston, TX 77034 USA.

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.

AVAILABLE to A.P.A. members/subscribers only: Color album pages of Saudi Arabia at 50 percent of retail price, \$60. Supplement \$15. Binder and slip case \$29.50. Postage extra at 20% of total purchase. FILATCO, Box 1461, Appleton, WI 54913, USA.

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.

FREE: Catalogs for our periodic mail sales of Middle East. The Perfect Perf, Box 16127, Pittsburgh, PA. 15242, USA.

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.

APA AUCTION - 26th. February 1988

Prices Realised

LOT	SR	LOT	SR	LOT	SR	LOT	SR	LOT	SR
Forerunners		HEJAZ cont.		KINGDOM cont.		KINGDOM cont.		Airmails	
2	95							197	80
3	95	63	65	103	50	155	130	198	90
5	190	65	80	104	60	156	120	199	40
7	320	66	200	105	70	157	240	201	40
15	95	67	75	106	40	159	600	202	300
17	110	69	800	108	700	160	300	204	400
19	220	70	440	109	200	161	700	205	130
21	30	71	44	111	80	162	1100	206	190
23	30	72	65	112	280	164	150	207	90
24	30	73	55	114	60	165	180	208	480
25	30	74	120	115	75	166	280	209	400
26	40	75	100	116	48	167	320	210	300
27	130	76	120	117	50	170	30	211	90
				118	42	171	80	212	240
				119	550	172	1200	215	600
HEJAZ		NEJD		120	50	173	120	216	800
28	130	77	65	121	550	174	130	219	50
29	42	78	50	122	800	175	38	221	80
30	50	79	60	123	750	176	55	222	80
31	85	80	100	124	60	177	220	223	70
32	85	81	65	125	110	178	180	224	380
33	750	82	80	126	85	179	300	Postage Due	
34	750	83	100	127	55	180	30	225	400
35	95	84	40	128	650	181	50	226	60
36	110	85	42	129	34	182	70	227	55
37	150	86	120	134	850	183	3100	233	380
38	500	87	34	135	150	184	60	234	30
40	550	88	160	136	140	185	100	235	50
41	550			137	30	188	120	238	60
42	30	KINGDOM		138	70	189	50	Officials	
43	100	89	130	139	180	190	300	239	65
44	140	90	60	140	60	191	300	240	50
46	60	92	150	143	110	192	100	241	100
49	150	94	50	144	30	193	100	243	220
51	150	95	42	145	30	194	440	Misc. Cover	
55	75	96	100	146	30	195	150	245	50
56	150	97	50	147	34	196	340	248	40
57	150	98	46	148	30			249	55
58	110	99	85	149	30				
59	150	100	100	151	50				
60	240	101	44	152	110				
61	160	102	55						

Lots unlisted either received no bid or too low a bid to meet vendor's reserve.