



جماعة هواة الطوابع العربية ملاحظات عابرة

Arabian Philatelic Association Random Notes

JANUARY-MARCH 1989

NUMBER 44

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Beginning in this issue - a comprehensive series of articles by Kenneth D. Knight on the cancellations of Saudi Arabia. (See page 7)

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 employees and their dependents eligible to use Aramco facilities. Annual dues are SR 25. Others may subscribe to A.P.A. publications and participate in the A.P.A. new issue service and auctions. Annual subscription fee is SR25 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.

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.

Opinions expressed in articles appearing in this publication are those of the authors and should not be considered to be those of the A.P.A. or the editor.

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RANDOM NOTES FROM DHAHRAN

By: R. J. Thoden

1. RANDOM NOTES #41 presented "The Illegibles - An Update", a listing of known varieties of the fourth Jeddah provisional issue (Scott L135-141 and LJ26-34, SG 148-D171). I recently had the opportunity to see Mr. T.Alireza's collection of these issues, which contains a number of genuine varieties unrecorded in the RN #41 listing, as follows:

First printing, no handstamp:

- 1/8 Q postage due, variety B
- 10 Q postage due, variety B

Second printing, with handstamp:

- 1/4 Q on 1/4 Q on 1/8 Q, variety AIV
- 1/4 Q on 1/4 Q on 1/2 Q, variety AJb
- 1 Q on 1 Q on 2 Q, variety ABv
- 1 Q on 1 Q on 3 Q brown, varieties Abv, Ajb
- 1 Q on 1 Q on 3 Q brown red, variety ABv
- 1-1/2 Q postage due, varieties AFb, Hab
- 2 Q postage due, variety ABv

Second printing, handstamp errors:

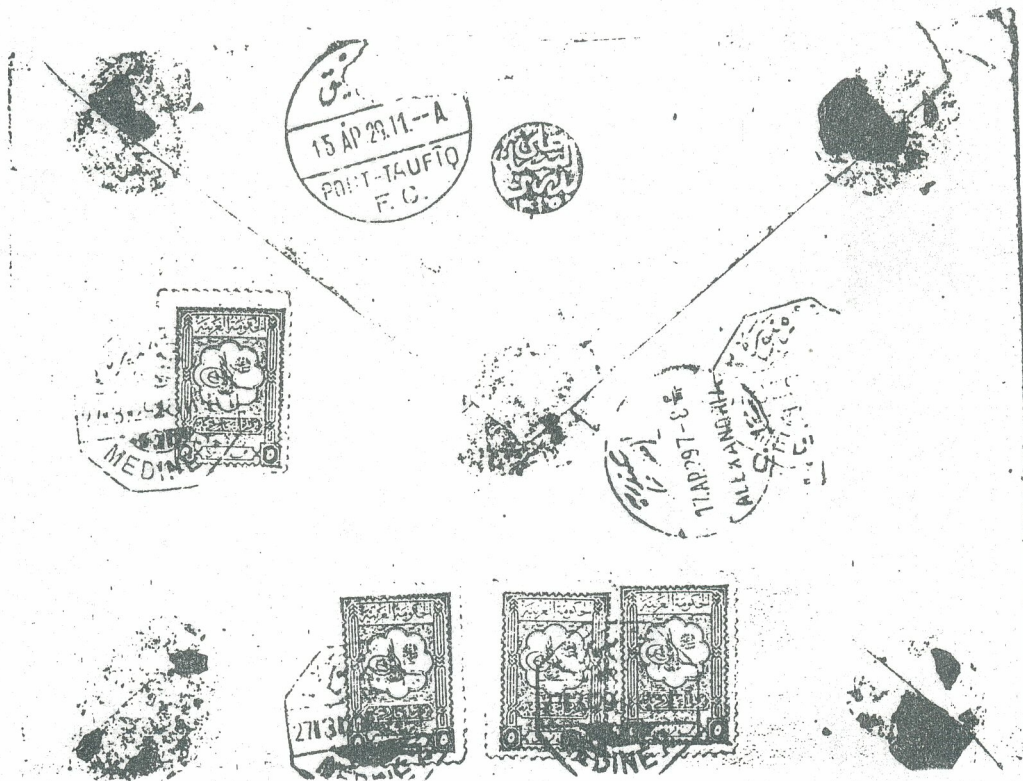
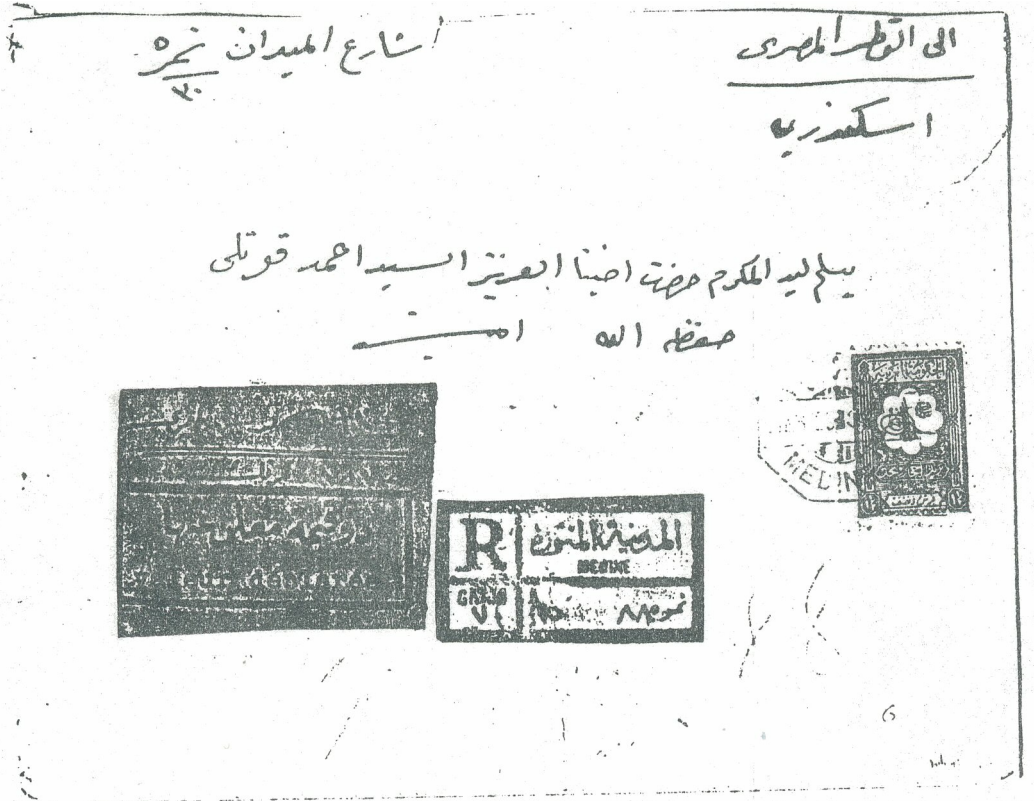
- 1/4 Q on 1 Q on 3Q brown, variety AAb
- 1 Q on 1/4 Q on 1/8 Q, variety ANb
- 1 Q on 1/4 Q on 1/2 Q, varieties ABb, ACv, AFb, AIb
- 10 Q on 1 Q on 3 Q brown red, variety AAb

Also, change the definition of handstamp variety "Z" to: "triple black, one inverted, plus one violet at top".

2. I recently saw varieties of several modern stamps:
 - (a) 1978 Taif-Abha-Gizan highway (Scott 770. SG 1215), black color double, resulting in a double road.
 - (b) 1978 Pilgrim (Scott 771 or 772, SG 1216 or 1217), black and blue colors omitted. Since the only difference between the 20h and 80h values is the color of the *frame* which includes the denomination, which is omitted, it is not known on which value the variety occurs.
 - (c) 1979 Dome of the Rock (Scott 781, SG1226a), green and mauve colors omitted.
 - (d) 1988 Blood Donors 75h, black (frame and inscriptions) double.



3. Here is a cover, submitted by Mr. T.A. Alireza, showing use in 1929 of the Ottoman octagonal MEDINE 2 cancel mentioned in RN #43. Mr. Alireza has a number of examples of this cancel used on later issues, including the 1/2q Heir Apparent and the 1/2q, 3-1/2q and 5q Tughra issues. Dates are not clear, but these prove this cancel was still in use at least as late as 1934.

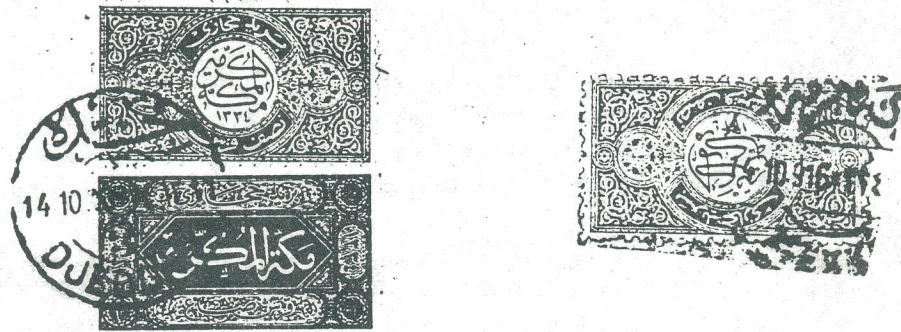


4. Mr. Alireza has a block of eight of Scott 39Bc (SG 225ba) with two central strikes of the DJIDDE 1 octagonal cancel reported in RN #43. The date is not clear, but I note bars in the segments above and below the name. I found a similar block of four in my collection. These blocks are not convincingly genuine, in my opinion.
5. More on Aramco mail handled by U.S. Army Post Offices (APOs) during World War II. As mentioned before, transport of incoming (but not outgoing) Aramco mail by APO 816, then located in Basra, Iraq, began in May 1943. Here is an example of a cover from this period, franked with the usual 33-1/4q in Saudi postage, but showing APO 816 as the return address.

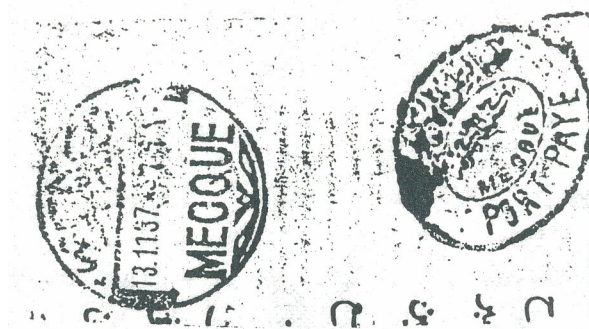
In RN #43, it was mentioned that APO 816 closed October 15, 1943 and was reactivated at Muharraq, Bahrain on June 14, 1944. During the interim, Aramco incoming mail was handled by APO 795, located at Khor-am-Shahr, Iran. Has anyone seen a cover with the APO 795 return address?



6. Mr. Alireza has a used vertical pair, imperf. between, of the 1/2q Heir Apparent stamp in his collection.
7. Dr. Elias Kawar's article in RN #40 proposed that a cover mailed from Jeddah by T.E. Lawrence on October 16, 1916 was a first day cover of the new Hejazi stamps. However, in the T.A. Alireza collection are cancellations dated 14.10.16 from both Jeddah and Makkah. Also, see Mr. K.D. Knight's article in this issue for more discussion of this subject.



6. T.A. Alireza reports a previously unrecorded FEE PAID handstamp used in Makkah. It reads "MECQUE" and "PORT PAYE" in French. The Arabic is blurred but appears to be the usual "khalis al-ujra". Mr. Alireza has several examples with accompanying MECQUE cancels between October and December 1937.



6. Another item in the Alireza collection not previously known to me is an imperforate sheet of the 1924 10p Makkah arms stamp. The top pane of 18 is in the normal colors of mauve and brown, but the lower pane of 18 is in rose carmine and brown. A trial printing, no doubt.
7. No new requests for FREE ADLETS have been received. Therefore, the FREE ADLETS page will be omitted from RN #44. Those requesting FREE adlets should state how long they want their adlet to appear, otherwise the adlet will appear for one issue of RANDOM NOTES only.

THE POSTAL MARKINGS OF HEJAZ, NEJD, HEJAZ AND NEJD, AND SAUDI ARABIA

By: Kenneth D. Knight

A Preliminary Note to A.P.A. Members

A.P.A. members who also belong to the Oriental Philatelic Association of London (OPAL) will be aware that since early 1986 I have been writing a series of articles for the OPAL journal entitled "The Postmarks of Hejaz, Hejaz and Nejd, and Saudi Arabia". The form of the OPAL articles is that of an incomplete but continuing study; each article identifies, and more often than not, illustrates types of postal markings not previously recorded by the study, then lists the office(s) known to have used that particular marking along with known dates of use. In addition, each article includes a section updating the dates of use, etc. for postmark types recorded and classified in previous articles. I intend, time and other relevant factors permitting, that the articles submitted to RANDOM NOTES will catch up with those already published in twelve to eighteen months time. Although the RN articles must perforce be based on material gathered when writing for OPAL they will not be a verbatim regurgitation of what has gone before. Also, certain facets of the study will be published in OPAL but not in RN (e.g. notes on forged/bogus postmarks are to be included in the next OPAL article, but will be omitted from the RN articles because such items are being dealt with in greater detail in the REFERENCE MANUAL OF SAUDI ARABIAN FORGERIES.

As will be appreciated, the subject of this study is vast, perhaps too vast to be undertaken by one person. Accordingly, comment and reports of unrecorded postal markings are always welcome. All correspondence will be answered, and any information used in future articles will be credited. My address is:

75 Ansdell Road,
Rochdale, OL16 4TT,
United Kingdom

There is a proposal that David Graham and myself will cooperate to produce a book on Saudi Postmarks and Postal History. However, because of David's current commitments (in particular the production of a specialized catalogue of Saudi Arabian stamps), and also the amount of postmark collecting, collation of material and historical research which remains to be done, publication of this book is some years in the future.

Prior to publication of the book it will be necessary to renumber the postmarks. Firstly, because over the years additional information has come to light and a few postmarks are now listed with an incorrect prefix. Secondly, because I would like to retain a rough chronological order to the numbering and certain sections of the listing are now out of order. However, in order to minimize confusion I propose, for the moment, to retain the numbers assigned when writing the OPAL articles.

INTRODUCTION

Explanation of the Numbering System

For reference of specific postmark types I devised a system which consists of a letter or letters followed by a number. The first letter indicates the historical period of the postmark's introduction as follows:

- 'H' for postmarks introduced by the Hejaz P.O. 1916-1925.
- 'N' for postmarks introduced by the Nejd P.O. 1925-1926.
- 'X' for postmarks introduced by the Hejaz and Nejd P.O. 1926-1934.
- 'S' for postmarks introduced by the Saudi Arabia P.O. 1934 to date.
- 'AA' for postal markings of the Al Barid Al Mumtaz service.

Datestamps which include a letter or wording to indicate a specific purpose, or are of an easily identifiable type (e.g. mechanical or all-Arabic), have a second letter preceding the number which indicates that the postmark is of a specific type or had a specific use, as follows:

- 'A' for Arabic only CDS.
- 'D' for departure (outgoing mail) types.
- 'I' for arrival (incoming mail) types.
- 'M' for mechanical cancellations.
- 'N' for negative seal.
- 'R' for registered.
- 'RD' for registered departure.
- 'S' for slogan
- 'Z' for meter cancellations.

For example, SR100 indicates a datestamp issued by the Saudi authorities for use on registered mail and given type number 100. Similarly, H50 indicates a general purpose datestamp used by the Hejaz P.O.

As the study progressed the parameters were extended to include registration, redirection and similar cachets. Such postal markings have the INITIAL letter 'M' (miscellaneous). The letter which follows 'M' is used to indicate the type/purpose of the cachet.

- 'C' for confusing (Private marks which could easily be construed as official).
- 'D' for postage due.
- 'FF' for first flight.
- 'L' for local.
- 'R' for registration.
- 'S' for special (commemorative).
- 'U' for unknown (return to sender).

Thus MD20 references a cachet which indicates that part or the whole postage has not been paid.

Additional indicators will be added to this last list as and when warranted by new types of cachet being included in the study.

Illustrations

Whenever possible postmark illustrations are photocopies but on occasion resort has had to be made to tracing, or even freehand sketches.

Coloured Datestamps

Coloured datestamps have been seen on covers emanating from Saudi Arabia since the 1920s to date. David Hardwick records Modern postmarks in black, blue, purple, red and pink inks. I can add green to the list. Though there is some evidence to support the view that in the 1920s and 1930s a red-violet was normally reserved for registered mail, there seem no logic behind the use of different coloured inks in modern times, and I do not list the colours of cancellations unless there is a pertinent reason for so doing.

Conversion of Hijrah dates to the Gregorian Calendar

When necessary to convert from Hijrah to Gregorian dates, I use conversion charts whenever possible. However, as I do not possess all the necessary charts, it is sometimes expedient to resort to other Means. Consequently I developed a computer program to calculate the equivalent dates for years other than those for which I have charts. I was unable to ascertain exactly how the Hijrah cycle is calculated and had to use averages, i.e. 29.5 days per Hijrah month and 354.5 days per Hijrah year. A consequence of using averages is frequent error. On checking the program against 56 known dates over the last 100 years, I found the program was correct 15 times (28.5%), gave a one day error 38 times (68%), and gave a two day error twice (3.5%). The nearer my 1st January 1986 base line, the more likely an error.

Despite the "built-in" error, I intend, until a more accurate method is found, to utilize the computer program whenever I need to convert from the Hijrah calendar to the Gregorian calendar. Therefore, any date appearing in the text which has been converted from the Hijrah calendar may be wrong by a maximum of two days.

Current Postmarks - Latest Dates of Use

Although relevant that a postmark study records the period of use of postmarks being recorded, it is futile to continually publish updates of the latest date of use of current postmarks, the sole exception being the last day of use for an office being closed. Therefore, for the moment, I do not list new latest dates of use for cancellations which already have a latest recorded use after 31.12.1985, an exception being when other pertinent data are being recorded simultaneously (e.g. a previously unrecorded number for datestamps which contain an office, counter, or cancelling device number). When the study is nearing completion, i.e. when reports of new datestamp types and data relative to the earlier postal Markings become hard to find, I'll produce a final listing which will update latest dates of use for current postmarks.

Slogan cancellations

When referred to, modern slogan cancellations are indicated by number as per the following list:

- (1) "CLEAR AND LEGIBLE ADDRESS IS IMPORTANT"
- (2) "IT IS BETTER TO USE ORDINARY MAIL FOR YOUR CORRESPONDENCE"
- (3) "DON'T FORGET TO INSERT THE POSTAL CODE"
- (4) "PROPER USAGE OF STAMP DISPENSERS IS FOR YOUR BENEFIT"
- (5) "POSTAL CODE HELPS TO EXPEDITE DELIVERY"
- (6) Slogan omitted Result a dirty black smudge.
- (7) "SUFFICIENT ADDRESS ENSURES PROPER DELIVERY"
- (8) "THE POST OFFICE ALWAYS AT YOUR SERVICE"

Bibliography

The following philatelic references have been used in the preparation of these articles:

- (1) Auction catalog for March 18-21, 1980 sale which included the M. M. Mayo collection of Saudi Arabia. Published by Sotheby Parke Bernet Stamp Auction Co., U.S.A. Also various other catalogues (Filatco, David Feldman, the "Hibbert" sale, etc.) containing good ranges and illustrations of Arabian material.
- (2) BARID AL-SA'UDIYYAH WA AL-HEJAZ WA NAJD by M. Max Mayo. Published 1973.
- (3) "The Capture of Al-Qunfudhah by Ibn Saud" by Dr. Randall Baker. Published in THE PHILATELIC MAGAZINE, May 1975.
- (4) THE POSTAL ISSUES OF HEJAZ, JEDDAH AND NEJD by D.F. Warin. Published by D. Field, London, 1927.
- (5) THE POSTAGE STAMPS OF HEJAZ by Haworth and Sargent. Published 1922.
- (6) A SHORT NOTE ON THE DESIGN AND ISSUE OF POSTAGE STAMPS PREPARED BY THE SURVEY OF EGYPT FOR HUSSEIN, EMIR AND SHERIF OF MECCA & KING OF THE HEJAZ. Published by the Survey of Egypt, November 1918.
- (7) Various issues of the Arabian Philatelic Association's RANDOM NOTES.
- (8) THE HEJAZ: A HISTORY IN STAMPS by John M. Wilson. Published by Lance D. Limoges, 1982.

The following historical references have been used in the preparation of these articles:

- (1) SEVEN PILLARS OF WISDOM by T.E. Lawrence. Published privately 1926, later editions from 1935 by Jonathan Cape.
- (2) A SHORT HISTORY OF THE MIDDLE EAST by George E. Kirk. First published 1948 by Methuen & Co., London.
- (3) THE DESERT KING (THE LIFE OF IBN SAUD) by David Howarth. Published Collins 1965; in paperback by Quartet Books 1980.
- (4) JOURNAL OFFICIEL. Official epistle of the Egyptian Government. Published regularly throughout the years.
- (5) ORIENTATIONS by Sir Ronald Storrs.
- (6) KINGDOM by Robert Lacey. Published by Hutchinson & Co. Ltd., London.

Finally, a list of fellow collectors who have contributed material for use in the study. Without their assistance, comment and encouragement, the study could not have reached its present (albeit far from complete) state: David Hardwick, David Graham, Carl R. Catherman, Wm. A. Sandrik, R. McGregor, James I. Kearney, Tarik Ali Alireza.

CANCELLATIONS OF THE SHERIFATE AND KINGDOM OF HEJAZ (1916-1925)

At first sight the Sherifate and Kingdom of Hejaz Post Office appears to be easily investigated and researched - after all no fewer than six of the books listed in the bibliography deal extensively with this period of history - however when I began to compare the writings of one author with the writings of another, inconsistencies started to emerge. For example, on page 55 of their book, Haworth and Sargent state "On account of the war pilgrimages [to Makkah] were suspended but in 1917 were resumed...", while in ORIENTATIONS Sir Ronald Storrs wrote that on 17 October 1916 Abdallah [the Sherif of Makkah's son, later to be Emir and eventually King of Transjordan] claimed 20,000 pilgrims attended the 1916 Hajj celebrations.

Mistakes and oversights are not infrequent, especially in philatelic works. Later in this article I shall correct Haworth and Sargent's illustration of the EL-WAJHE cancellation, and marshal evidence to show that the dates of issue as published by the Survey of Egypt, and later adhered to by philatelic writers and catalogue publishers are incorrect. Oversights are not limited to older works. Page 19 of Wilson's THE HEJAZ - A HISTORY IN STAMPS contains the comment that authorized dates of use for FEE PAID marks at Ta'if are earlier than the September surrender of the Turkish garrison there. It can be readily established (SEVEN PILLARS OF WISDOM, ORIENTATIONS, other historical works) that Ta'if fell on 24 September 1916, therefore the authorized dates of use quoted by Mr. Wilson - 5 July 1917 to 9 August 1917 - are quite feasible.

The purpose of the foregoing paragraphs is not to belittle previous works but to inspire the reader to examine everything that has been published, whether historical or philatelic, about the Hejaz at this time - including the present article - with an inquiring and critical mind. Some conclusions I draw from the evidence I have gathered are best described as speculative, and I would be just as happy to see hard evidence which disproves them as I would be to see them confirmed.

It is my intention that this article will establish which datestamps were used, and when they were used, to CANCEL ADHESIVES (i.e. NOT when used alongside FEE PAID markings). In order to achieve this it will be necessary to establish as accurately as possible the date of issue of the postage stamps concerned, and when the various Hejaz post offices opened.

First, a brief resume of Hejaz postal history prior to the issue of postage stamps for an independent Hejazi state. An Egyptian post office operated at Jeddah 1865-1881. After the Egyptian post office closed, various Ottoman offices opened in the Hejaz and, until 1916, were the only post offices operating there. By 1914 two post routes to/from the Hejaz existed, by rail via the Hejaz Railway, and by sea through the port of Jeddah. Apart from "local" mail travelling along the coast, say to Qunfudhah, mails leaving Jeddah by sea whether east or west bound connected with mailboat services using the Suez Canal.

Changes to the pattern came in 1914 when, in a series of announcements between 8 August and 12 December the JOURNAL OFFICIEL, organ of the Egyptian Government, let it be known that first insured parcels, then ordinary parcels, and finally all postal communications with Turkish Red Sea offices had been suspended, thus cutting the Suez route.

Bearing the last paragraph in mind. it is interesting to speculate on the route taken by Mr. T.A. Alireza's "Palembang" cover (RN #41). Prewar it would have connected with a mailboat service passing through the Suez Canal, but in January 1916??? The Dutch were neutral in WWI. Was the letter collected at Jeddah by a Dutch mailboat? If so. why no Jeddah transit stamp? And why was it unloaded at Singapore instead of going straight to the Dutch East Indies? Could it have gone north via the Hejaz Railway, through Europe to neutral Holland, and then onto Allied shipping? Or did the Red Crescent (Red Cross) organization somehow transfer it across front lines?

On 6 June 1916 Storrs met with Zaid. a son of the Sherif of Makkah. Later that same day he wrote in a communique to England. "It is to our interest and ultimate economy to allow this first independent [Hajj] season to open as brilliantly as possible hence it is my present preoccupation to create temporary cable, postal, quarantine, and other services sufficient to tide us over this next three months". At this time the postal service was just one of several options.

Meanwhile the Arab revolt was underway. According to ORIENTATIONS, Storrs' autobiography, Makkah surrendered 13 June, and Jeddah followed 16 June. However it was not until 27 June that Sherif Hussain declared the Hejaz free from Ottoman rule. Because the newly independent Hejazi state lacked a stock of postage stamps the use of FEE PAID handstamps was authorized. Haworth and Sargent state the periods of authorization as:

Makkah and Jeddah	- 24 June 1916 till 14 October 1916
Yanbu'	- 3 August 1916 till 5 January 1917
Ta'if	- 8 July 1917 till 9 August 1917

Other authorities differ in some instances by a day or two as to when the use of FEE PAID handstamps was sanctioned, but such differences are of no great consequence because the handstamps were not infrequently used after the period of authorization. Additionally, manuscript FEE PAID endorsements are known prior to the authorization of handstamps.

An entry in the JOURNAL OFFICIEL dated 7 August 1916 announced the acceptance of correspondence [from Egypt] for the towns of Jeddah and Makkah. Though 7 August is the date the announcement was published rather than the actual reopening of the mail route, the entry is thought to be reasonably current. Consequently Hejaz covers dated June or July and addressed to destinations other than Makkah or Jeddah should be treated with suspicion. Those to destinations outside the Hejaz should bear appropriate transit/arrival datestamps and censor marks. It should be noted that the earliest cover in the Hibbert auction to have a CIVILIAN censor's mark is dated 8 August 1916. thus suggesting that prior to the re-establishment of regulated postal services, mail that originated in the Hejaz was carried by military transport.

Referring back to Storrs' communique of 6 June, we see that he was concerned with the propaganda coup a successful Hajj would create. His need to provide evidence that an Arab revolt was in progress became more urgent when Berlin Radio announced (27 June), "We are in a position to deny absolutely that there has been a rebellion in the Hejaz at all"; and from the same source (2 July), "A rapid end has been made to local disturbances in the ... Hejaz ... Order in the province has been restored". Storrs asked the Arab Bureau, a small organization dedicated to intelligence and propaganda, to suggest means to counter propaganda. Thus it was that when publishing his autobiography Storrs was able to

write [in retrospect], "Shortly after the Arab Revolution we found that its success was being denied or blanketed by the enemy press (which was of course quoted by neutrals), and we [Storrs and Lawrence] decided that the best proof that it had taken place would be provided by an issue of Hejaz postage stamps, which would carry the Arab propaganda, self-paying and incontrovertible, to the four corners of the earth".

The Survey of Egypt agreed to produce the first Hejaz postage stamps. The story of their production first appeared in the Survey of Egypt's book (1918) and has been reproduced in whole or in part by virtually every philatelic handbook dealing with the Hejaz that has appeared since. The story is well known and need not be repeated here.

Their booklet claims 2,900 of the one piastre blue were issued 20 August 1916. Haworth and Sargent support the 20 August issue date but contend 900 of the stamps were presented as samples to Postal Union authorities or donated to various learned societies, leaving 2,000 for sale to the public. Warin. Gibbons. Hayo. et al. also quote 20 August as the issue date.

I have yet to see a cover franked with adhesives, whether genuine or by favour, bearing a cancellation dated August 1916. or even one with a September date. It is my opinion 20 August was the date the Survey of Egypt assigned the stamps to the Arab Bureau. In pursuance of its propaganda brief, the Bureau then spent a couple of days distributing samples as per Haworth and Sargent, before forwarding the remainder, via the British Representative at Jeddah, to the Sherif for his approval. The timing of such manouvering (2 to 3 days with the Bureau, 5 to 6 days in transit from Cairo to Jeddah, 1 or 2 days being delivered to Makkah) dovetails nicely with the date of the Sherif's reply - a letter dated 5 Dhul Qudah 1334 which is reproduced in the Survey of Egypt's handbook and alluded to by Haworth and Sargent. This short letter addressed to the British Diplomatic Agent in Jeddah, admits to having received some postage stamps and enclosed comment by Abd el Qadir, Director of the Telegraph and Post Office in Makkah. Abd el Qadir's letter, which is dated 6 Dhul Qudah 1334. expresses displeasure that the stamps are not in the design ordered, that the wording on the stamps is not as suggested, that the different denominations previously requested are not evident, and (reading between the lines) that the quantity is too small. He continues with the request that the Jebel Abu Qubeis design should be used and that the words "Hejaz Postage" be replaced with "Stamps of the Government of the Sherifate of Sacred Makkah and its Dominions".

There is nothing in Abd el Qadir's letter to suggest the stamps are, or are about to be, on sale to the general public. It is early September and the stamps are NOT ACCEPTABLE to the Sherifate authorities.

According to the Survey of Egypt's handbook, 4,100 of the half piastre red and 19,050 of the one piastre were "issued" during September. However, it is not until 1 October they replied to Abd el Qadir's letter (reproduced in full in the Survey's booklet and in part by Haworth and Sargent) and urge the Sherif to accept the Makkah al Mukarrama design. Two days later, 3 October, long before their letter could have exhorted the Sherif to accept their designs, the Survey "issued" 17,000 of the quarter piastre.

15 October 1916 found Storrs en ship aboard the LAMA bound for Jeddah. He wrote in his diary: "Prepared an informatory and propagandist list

for distribution from Jeddah of the new Hejaz stamp issue". Apparently the British were tiring of the Sherif's prevarications. The LAMA, which also had Lawrence on board arrived at Jeddah 7 A.M. on 16 October, the very day Lawrence mailed the item which became lot #70 in the 1987 Hibbert sale. It would be convenient to think of the Lawrence cover as a first day cover. The wording of Storrs' diary entry can only be taken to mean that it was his intent to instigate distribution of the stamps after his arrival in Jeddah. Indeed it would be forgivable to assume the LAMA also transported the stamps. However, lot #1279 [actually 1729] in the Mayo sale (1980) was a cover dated 11 October. I've also seen a piece cancelled 15 October 1916.

It must be concluded therefore that postage stamps preceded the LAMA to Jeddah, and Colonel Wilson, the British Diplomatic Agent there, released some of them on his own initiative. The real date of issue, that is, the date the stamps were actually available for sale to the general public of Jeddah, was probably less than a week prior to the arrival of Storrs and Lawrence. It should also be noted that an issue date of mid-October is in approximate agreement with the ending of the authorized period of use for the FEE PAID handstamps, and the "official" reason for the authorization was because no stamps were available. Later use of FEE PAID markings can be explained by temporary shortages of certain values or even by favour.

The issue and use of adhesive postage stamps at Jeddah was a British initiative. Possibly designed to force the Sherif's hand? Possibly designed to distribute as many of the new stamps as possible during the Hajj season?

By 17 October, in a letter to his brother, Lawrence claimed the whole of the half piastre stamp issue had sold out!

The final letter reproduced in the Survey of Egypt's handbook is dated 25 Dhul Hijjah 1334 (23 October 1915). is from Abdallah, Minister of Foreign Affairs for the Sherifian Government to Colonel Wilson, and announces the decision to accept the Makkah al Mukarrama design in preference to the Jebel Abu Qubeis design. In addition to accepting the previously unwanted design, Abdallah orders further stamps of various denominations to the value of £1000.

If we accept Abdallah's letter at its face value, use of adhesive stamps postage stamps at Jeddah and Makkah was not officially sanctioned by the Sherifian authorities until 23 October, at which time it could be expected adhesives to be on sale at both offices. Whether the Sherifian authorities were aware of the earlier sale and use of stamps at Jeddah, and whether they approved of that action. I cannot say.

Despite the expectation that adhesives were on sale to the public in Makkah by 23 October, the only cover from there prepaid with postage stamps and used during 1916 which I have recorded is the one from Storrs to Brigadier General Paul (lot #67, Hibbert sale). The MEKKE cancel on the cover seems genuine and it is known to have been used at this time in conjunction with FEE PAID items, but there are puzzling aspects: (1) no transit marks, (2) no censor marks, (3) Storrs was never in Makkah, (4) Storrs was not even in the Hejaz when this item was mailed.

At long last, we come to the postmarks themselves, starting with the offices known to have used FEE PAID marks.



H50



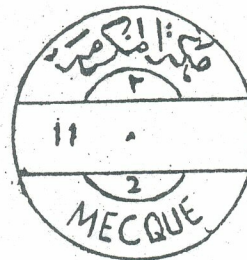
H20



HA10 *



HA50 *



X20

Makkah (MEKKE or MECQUE on datestamps)

According to Haworth and Sargent the earliest Makkah postmark is the the type illustrated as H50. an octagonal bicalendar datestamp with the vertical bars filling the inner segments. The English reads "MEKKE 3" and the Arabic translates as "Makkah al Mukarrama 3". Haworth and Sargent state that use of this datestamp ceased 27 November 1916. A similar cancellation with English "MEKKE 2, with corresponding Arabic, is known to have been used alongside FEE PAID markings until about 10 October.

A second postmark type used at Makkah was the type designated as H20, a bilingual bicalendar CDS with no numeral in the inner segments. Haworth and Sargent record this cancellation as only used on the perforated issue.

The most common Makkah cancellations from this period are the all-Arabic types illustrated as HA10 and HA50. On both types the upper Arabic reads "Makkah", the lower Arabic "al Mukarrama", and the datebelt contains only the Hijrah date.

A fifth postmark used at Makkah was type X20 (1).

Makkah capitulated to the forces of Abdul Aziz towards the end of September 1924. Some of the postmarks described above continued to be used by the Nejdi P.O., and later postal administrations, as indeed did several other postmarks described in this article.

* The types have been incorrectly transposed. Type HA10 above is actually HA50 and vice versa. See Random Notes #45 page 20.



H10



H10



H10 var



H20



S190

Jeddah (DJEDDAH or DJEDDA on datestamps)

Haworth and Sargent state the earliest Jeddah CDS to be a type H10 with the spelling DJEDDAH which incorporated the numeral 3. Later a variation of type H10 with the spelling DJEDDA was introduced. This is found with the numerals 2, 3, or 5. Haworth and Sargent say this cancellation was not introduced until May 1917, but I record it as early as 1 November 1916. The DJEDDA H10 datestamp with numeral 2 differs orthographically from the H10 datestamps which have either the numeral 3 or the numeral 5 and is illustrated as H10 var.

A type H20 cancellation, as H10 but with no number in the inner segments appears to have been introduced at Jeddah in 1924.

A fourth cancel used at Jeddah was type S190 (2). Type S190 has been noted on obviously philatelic covers dating from the 1925 siege period, but the earliest commercial use reported by a contributor to this study is 3.6.1926 (3).

Jeddah was besieged for over a year before King Ali capitulated to the Nejd forces just before Christmas 1925.

Yanbu' (YAMBO on datestamps)

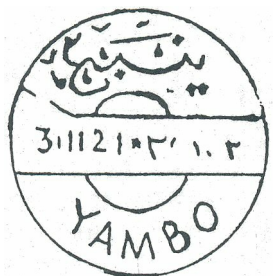
The third post office to open under the Sherifian administration was Yanbu'. The only references I have which give a clue to when the Yanbu' office opened, and when it received its stock of adhesives, are the authorized dates of use for FEE PAID markings. Therefore I assume the former Turkish post office at Yanbu' was re-opened by the Hejaz authorities 3 August 1916, but did not receive a stock of adhesives until 5 January 1917. The late date for the receipt of postage stamps does not preclude the use of adhesives before January 1917, as there is always the possibility of a traveller, or someone such as Lawrence, mailing items franked with stamps at Yanbu' prior to the arrival of stamp stocks.

Yanbu' commonly used a type H20 cancelling device.

Mr. R. J. Thoden reports a part strike of a second CDS used by the Hejaz P.O. at Yanbu'. It is similar to type H30 but with serified European lettering and ten or so thin narrowly spaced vertical bars inside the inner segment. I have assigned it the reference H35. Does anyone own a complete strike of this datestamp so that it can be illustrated?

I found no references to Sherifian forces making a stand at Yanbu', and consequently would expect the town to have owed allegiance to Nejd from sometime in the Autumn of 1924. Such being the case, I would further surmise that the Kingdom of Hejaz P.O. there closed in Autumn 1924. However, Mr. T. A. Alireza owns covers franked with Jeddah overprints which have been cancelled at Yanbu' in May and October of 1925. It would appear that the post office at Yanbu' operated until the fall of Jeddah.

Carl R. Catherman reports that the H20 datestamp used at Yanbu' is definitely a captured Turkish device. Both he and I, and indeed several other Saudi specialists I have spoken to, suspect that several of the cancellations used by the Hejaz P.O. were obtained by this means. With the sole exception of the "EL AKABA" cancellation, they are certainly of Turkish design.



H20

Not Available

H35



H10

Ta'if (TAIF on the datestamp)

The fourth post office re-opened by the Hejazis was at Ta'if. Once again I am forced to refer to the authorized dates of use for the FEE PAID markings and surmise the Ta'if post office began accepting mail 5 July 1917. and that adhesives went on sale there 9 August 1917.

A type H10 datestamp was used at Ta'if, with the index number always being 1.

The Hejazi P.O. at Ta'if was closed when Nejd forces sacked the town in September 1924.

Other offices

In addition to the offices already mentioned. Haworth and Sargent list Hejazi post offices at:

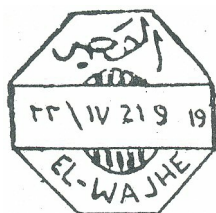
Wajh (EL-WAJHE on the datestamp)

Situated approximately halfway between the mouth of the Gulf of 'Aqaba and Yanbu', it was captured from the Turks 25 January 1917. Haworth and Sargent record the Wajh post office to have opened towards the end of

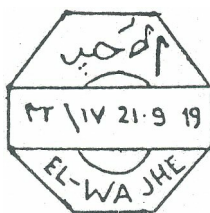
1917. FEE PAID handstamps were apparently not authorized so it must be assumed adhesives were on sale from the first.

Haworth and Sargent claim Wajh used an octagonal type H55 cancellation, and the illustration is from their book. However, every example of this datestamp seen by myself and correspondents has vertical bars filling the inner segments as type H50 (4).

I suspect the Hejazi P.O. closed temporarily during the 1924-25 conquest period, probably within days of the surrender of Makkah.



H50



H55



H60

'Aqaba (EL-AKABA on the datestamp)

Situated at the extreme north of the Gulf of 'Aqaba, and nowadays in Jordan, it was captured from the Turks 6 July 1917 and considered part of the Hejaz until the frontier agreement between Transjordan and Nejd (November 1925). FEE PAID handstamps are not recorded, so once again it must be assumed adhesives were available from the beginning. But when was that beginning? The earliest possible, but improbable date is 6 July 1917. According to Haworth and Sargent an 'Aqaba datestamp was used at Alexandria for CTO purposes until at least June 1917 - "used on sheets of the postage due stamps". A JOURNAL OFFICIEL entry dated 22 February 1917 confirms that the Egyptian Postal Administration was charged with selling "the new Hedjaz stamps (for face value plus 5%) from the Direction General des Postes, Alexandria". The 'Aqaba cancellation used by the Egyptian Postal Administration - illustrated as type H60 - has several similarities to a datestamp type in use in Egypt at the time. It has also been seen with impossible dates - June 1915 (prior to the issue of the first Hejazi stamps) and other dates later in 1916 - before the capture of 'Aqaba from the Turks. Because type H60 was used for CTO purposes, apparently with a flexible date, the only authoritative guides to when the 'Aqaba office opened are covers with corroborative transit stamps. The earliest cancellation on cover known to me is dated 8 May 1918 and is owned by Hr. T.A. Alireza.

CTO examples of this cancellation are more plentiful than genuinely used examples. Of eleven 'Aqaba cancellations known to me, seven have dates in 1916 and one an illegible date. The other three are Mr. Alireza's cover and two loose stamps with possible genuine dates in 1919.

The latest possible closing date for a post office under Hejaz administration is November 1925 on the surrender of Jeddah, but 'Aqaba probably closed some nine months earlier. Unlike most other Kingdom of Hejaz post offices, there is reason to suppose it may have remained open for some time after the fall of Makkah to Abdul Aziz, if only because when King Hussein abdicated the Hejaz throne, his first place of refuge was 'Aqaba.



HN10



H30



H10



H50

Not
Available

H20

Madina (MEDINE or MEDINE on datestamps)

Madina remained in Turkish hands until some four months after the 1918 armistice. The Hejaz post office reportedly opened 15 February 1919.

The first cancellation used at Madina which is found on Hejaz postage stamps is a negative seal which is reputed to have remained in use until 23 March 1919. I have called this type HN10. Because it was used for such a short time, part strikes of the negative seal are scarce, and complete examples of the cancellation are rare.

A second Madina datestamp used during the Hejaz period was a type H30.

A type H10 datestamp with a number 3 inside the inner segment, and an accent on the final "E" of MEDINE. was introduced in 1920. Examples of MEDINE H10 cancellation with the definite article omitted from the Arabic are known, but as yet no examples have been recorded from the Hejaz P.O. period, and this variety will be dealt with in a later article.

Current records of this study indicate that a type H50 was introduced at Madina in 1921, and a type H20 in 1922.

Madina was invested shortly after the fall of Makkah. The siege lasted until its surrender in December 1925 so even if the post office remained open the only reliable and regular service it could have provided would be a local one.

Most writers describe the siege as starving Madina into submission, but postal evidence indicates that the siege was not watertight. Mr. T.A. Alireza has a cover addressed to the Amir of Bahawalpur which bears a King Ali 2p stamp cancelled by Madina type H50. I cannot make out the date of the Madina cancellation, but a Port Said CDS, one of several marks on the reverse of the cover, is dated -6 XII 25. As the letter must have taken at the very minimum five days to reach Port Said from Madina, it would seem the siege was broken at least twice, once to let the King Ali stamps in. and again to let the letter out. Historical works stress that Abdul Aziz was at pains not to arouse opposition to his conquest of the Islamic holy places for Muslims outside of Arabia.

Because the Emir of Bahawalpur was a foreign Muslim of some standing, the possibility that mailed addressed to him was allowed passage cannot be discounted. It should also be noted that the continued operation of the post office at Yanbu' throughout 1925 would allow mail from Madina to connect with coastal and international mail routes.

Qunfudhah (CONFODAH datestamp)

Qunfudhah is a small port in southern Hejaz serving the Asir. A Turkish post office operated at Qunfudhah certainly until 1914, probably until October 1916 when it was first captured by the Arab armies, and possibly as late as 1918. The Turks regained Qunfudhah in December 1916; in fact, it changed hands several times. It was finally occupied by the Hashemites towards the end of the Arab revolt. The Hejaz post office probably opened 1919-1920.

A type H30 datestamp was in use at Qunfudhah.

I suspect the office at Qunfudhah closed for a period of between three and five months after the surrender of Makkah before being re-opened by the Nejdīs during the siege of Jeddah.

Rabigh (RABEGH on datestamp)

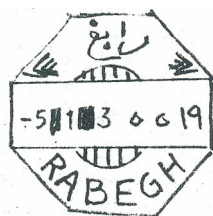
A port approximately 50 miles north of Jeddah, it owed allegiance to Sherif Hussein from the first day of the Arab revolt. I have been able to find out very little about this post office.

Mr. R. J. Thoden has an octagonal H50 part strike on the 1 piastre blue perforated 10. The Gregorian date is incomplete and the Hijrah date is 5.5.19. Assuming that the dateline should in fact read 35.5.19. we arrive at a date of 13 March 1917.

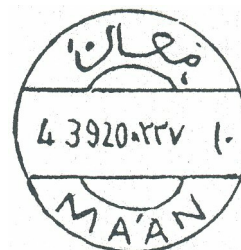
I suspect the Rabigh P.O. closed shortly after the surrender of Makkah.



H30



H50



H20

Ma'an (MA'AN on the datestamp)

Ma'an is situated where the Hejaz Railway crossed the temporary Hejaz/Transjordan border. Haworth and Sargent report the post office opened early in 1921.

The datestamp used at Ma'an was a type H20. The illustration of this cancellation is from a photocopy provided by David Graham. The Arabic half photocopied poorly and the illustration is my guess at what it should look like.

The Ma'an post office probably closed late in 1924 after the collapse of an effective Hejaz government, but as it must have operated virtually as a branch office of the P.O. at 'Aqaba, there is an outside chance it remained open for some months afterwards.

Possible Unrecorded Hejazi Post Offices

Writing in 1922, Haworth and Sargent say "Matters are, however, moving so rapidly that in all probability before these lines appear in print new ones [post offices] will have opened".

As far as is known, no further offices did open.

Mail Routes

When the Hejaz postal service began operating in June 1916, it had but one post route, overland between Makkah and Jeddah. A second route was established in August 1916 when the office at Yanbu' opened. It is possible that mail between Yanbu' and Makkah was transported along the Madina-Makkah pilgrim trail, but more likely that Jeddah became the hub of the Hejaz postal routes, with mail transported from Yanbu' to Jeddah by sea before being sent inland. In 1917, with the opening of offices at Ta'if and Wajh, a mail route was extended inland from Makkah and the sea route extended northward from Yanbu'. If, as current evidence suggests, a post office opened at 'Aqaba in mid-1916, the mail route from Jeddah via Yanbu' and Wajh would then be extended northwards to serve this new office. The commissioning of the Madina P.O. in 1919 probably marked the opening of two new post routes, one for internal mail following the old Makkah-Madina pilgrim route and one for foreign mail to Yanbu' and thence by ship. Later (1920) when the Qunfudhah office opened, the mail boat route extended southwards. The Ma'an office, which probably opened February/March 1921 when Emir Abdullah esconced there with ambitions to raise a rebellion against the French in Syria, was most probably served by a route through 'Abd el Lissan to 'Aqaba. Rabigh, a coastal town, would be served by mailboats plying between Jeddah and 'Aqaba.

The postal routes just described operated but a short time. With the sacking of Ta'if, capitulation of Makkah, and investment of Madina, in September 1924 the Hejazi Postal Administration effectively ceased to exist. With the exceptions of Madina, Yanbu' and 'Aqaba, there is no evidence to suggest a possibility that any of the Hejaz post offices other than Jeddah functioned after September 1924.

Footnotes

(1) When first classified, this datestamp type (for Makkah) was not then recorded as having been used by the Hejaz P.O., and will eventually be redesignated as H10.

(2) This particular cancellation, though of a smaller diameter, has all the attributes of a modern type already included in the study, hence the "S" prefix. Will probably be renumbered.

(3) Wherever dates consisting only of numerals are quoted in the text they are as per the postmark, i.e. day/month/year.

(4) Some weakly struck cancellations of Wajh appear to have a break in the vertical bars which would allow the insertion of a letter or number, but until a clear strike is found, this variety will not be listed.

List of Postmarks and Recorded Dates of Use

N.B. Office names in capitals in the following list are reproduced as they appear in the non-Arabic part of the datestamp. Lower case names are all-Arabic.

When it is known that a datestamp type continued to be used by the Nejdi postal administration. I have assumed it was in use by the Kingdom of Hejaz P.O. until the day the office closed. Such late dates are shown by use of an asterisk, e.g. *.9.24.

D/S Type	Office Name	Earliest Date	Latest Date	Diam. mm.	Notes
H10	DJEDDA	1.11.916	12.10.21	32	Numerals: 2. 3. 5. See illustration for Arabic orthographical differences of D/S with numeral 2.
	DJEDDAH	11.10.16	*.12.25	28	Numeral 3.
	MEDINE	14.6.20	*.11.25	29	Numeral 3.
	TAIF	28.4.18	24.4.20	28	Numeral 1.
H20	DJEDDA	-9.1.24	*.12.25	32.5?	
	MA'AN			32	
	MEDINE	3.3.22		29	
	MEKKE	14.10.16		31	
	YAMBO	18.4.18	*.11.25	33	Black. violet, blue.
H30	CONFODAH	?.?.20	?.9.22	28	Violet.
	MEDINE	20.12.19	?.3.1920	28	Earliest date reads 4.6.18*38/6/7. Greg, date assumed wrong.
H35	YAMBO				
H50	EL-WAJHE	?.?.17	*.*.24	26	Black, blue, violet. No numeral.
	MEDINE	27.12.21	*.11.25	26	Numeral 1.
	MEKKE		13.1.17		Numeral 3. Also seen with numeral 2, used until early Oct. 1916 but not seen on adhesives.
	RABEGH	13.3.17		27	Hijrah date 5.5.19.
H55	EL-WAJHE				Current evidence suggests type H55 does not exist.
H60	EL-AKABA	9.5.918	16.6.919	32	See text for notes on CTO use.
HA10	Makkah	?.?.16	* Sept 24	32	Several "cuts" of this cancel known. Slight differences in Arabic and diameter.
HA50	Makkah	7 Feb 17	1 Jan 19	32	
HN10	Madina	15 Feb 19	23 Mar 19	34	Dates of use per Hawthorth & Sargent.
X20	MECQUE		*.9.24	32	Numeral 7
S190	DJEDDAH		*.12.25	24.5	

The following datestamp types are known to have been forged or to have had dubious use:

Makkah H20. HA10 and HA50.
Jeddah H10 and H50.

Editor's Note: I have changed a few dates and CDS diameters from the values submitted by Mr. Knight based on items in my own collection and that of Mr. T.A. Alireza.

EDITOR'S COMMENTS

Page 14: The stamp illustrated on page 6 of this issue of RANDOM NOTES suggests that the stamps were released in Makkah. as well as Jeddah, before the arrival of Lawrence.

Page 15 (Makkah): I have an H50 cancellation dated 13.1.17.

Page 16 (Yanbu'): One of Mr. Alireza's covers, used in May 1925. bears a copy of the 2p three-line Jeddah overprint (Scott L94. SG119). The other, used in October 1925, has a copy of the 2p King All (Scott L173. SG 182). Both covers are to Egypt and bear the appropriate backstamps.

Historical references describe the capture of other Red Sea ports such as Qunfudhah, Lith, Rabigh and Wajh, but are silent regarding Yanbu'. Randall Baker's book KING HUSAIN AND THE KINGDOM OF HEJAZ describes the fall of Yanbu' in 1916. He says it was almost impregnable to land assault, being situated on a coral spit with water on three sides and an open area of scrubland landward. It was naval guns that pounded the garrison into submission. Since the Nejdis in 1925 are not known to have had a navy that could have bombarded Yanbu', this may explain why it held out.

Yanbu' probably was supplied with stamps from Jeddah by sea.

Page 19 (Madina): Randall Baker's book, KING HUSAIN AND THE KINGDOM OF HEJAZ. states that Madina was not isolated from Jeddah until September 1925 when the Harb tribe defected to the Saudis. This would explain why Jeddah provisionals, issued earlier in 1925, were available in Madina.

THE "MATBU'A" STAMPS OF 1925

By R. J. Thoden

Perhaps the most controversial issue in our field is the 1925 set of three newspaper stamps (Scott P1-3. Gibbons N208-209).

These are 1/8p and 1/2p stamps with the first "Sultanat al-Najdiah" handstamp with a second handstamp reading "Matbu'a" or "printed matter". The quantities reported to have been issued are 108 copies (3 sheets) of the 1/8p and 18 copies (one-half sheet) of the 1/2p. The 1/8p quantity is further subdivided by some references into 36 copies with the black first handstamp and 72 copies with the violet first handstamp.

Although accepted by all major catalogs, the following points deserve consideration:

(1) Why were the quantities issued so small? There was a considerable number of copies of the "Umm Al-Qura" newspaper being sent through the mails in 1925, so many that it was necessary to prepare a "FEE PAID" handstamp (see RN #31). In RN #27, Frank Patterson stated there were not enough of these stamps to use for newspapers, so they represent trials validated for ordinary postal use.

(2) Why was there a 1/2p value? All stamped newspaper wrappers seen have only a 1/8p, and there is no known 1/2p rate.

(3) Why are the only known (to knowledgeable A.P.A. specialists) used copies either on obviously philatelic covers addressed to Mr. Albert Eid, or on small pieces, neatly cancelled-to-order? RN #15 states that an exhibit in India included a wrapper with a properly used newspaper stamp. But who has seen this wrapper, and is it genuine?

(4) What evidence is there that these are official? The Philatelic Foundation in New York has a document stating that the "authority" did not issue any stamps overprinted "Matbu'a". See RN #12.

David Graham notes that on the back of a copy of the 1/2p on piece, CTO, recently examined by him, is written "Surcharge matboua garantie A. Eid 18 pieces". It is well known that the mysterious Albert Eid was deeply involved in the issuance of the early Najdi stamps, and David speculates that perhaps Mr. Eid ordered that 18 copies be prepared for himself.

Despite all of the above, these stamps are in demand these days and prices have reached astronomical heights. Another copy of the 1/2p CTO on piece, with a handwritten guarantee on the back by Angeloglou, was lot #30729 of the Feldman sale of Nov. 16, 1987, and brought SF34,000 plus 15% buyer's commission!!!

More of these stamps seem to be appearing in auctions recently, and many of these bear forged "Matbu'a" handstamps. As mentioned in RN #43, lot #50600 of the Feldman Dec. 1988 sale, and lots #1473 and 1474 of the Gibbons Dec. 1988 sale were apparent forgeries, all Type 1 per the following writeup.

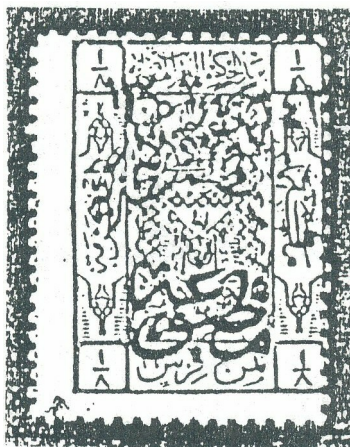
Genuine

Best signed A. Eid in black or violet. Also with genuine type "ela" in violet or red. May have both Eid and Angeloglou marks. However, beware of genuine signed first handstamp items where the fake "Matbu'a" was added later.

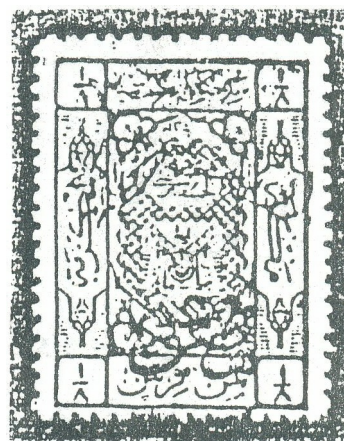
Top and bottom lines measure 12.3-12.5 mm. across. Maximum height at left 8.5 mm. Basic 1/8p stamps lake brown. Najdi Sultanate first handstamp bright violet. "Matbu'a" applied in oily black ink causing oily rectangular image on back and front similar to the Capture of Madina and Jeddah issues. Heavy impressions sometimes causing light tear in paper and ink spread on the back. See Lot 460 in Hibbert Sale. Typical handstamp inking - raised ink deposit around edges of letter, insides are lighter. Figure at top right either "◀" or "●". Upper hook of "Taa"



Genuine



Type 1 Forgery



Type 2 Forgery

Type 1 Forgery

Width 13mm. Height at left 9.5 mm. "Seagull" () at top left tilted to lower right. Figure at top right is "●". Ink doesn't leave oily mark on front or back. Seen as P2/N208 on light chestnut basic stamp, also on lake brown and as P3/N209. One variety has extension at lower left of dot in bottom center. Lot 459 in Hibbert sale was a Type 1 forgery.

Type 2 Forgery

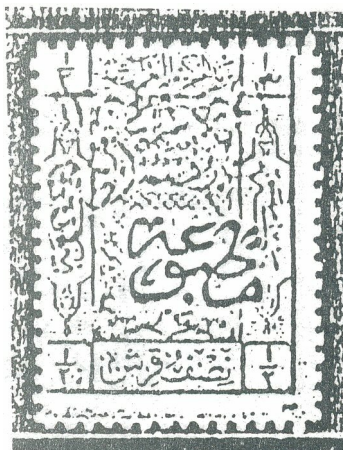
"Matbu'a" grayish, weak at top left. Width only 12 mm, height at left 8.0 mm. Seen on genuine Scott 7 and 10 (SG 198, 198c) signed "ela", one with dubious part CDS over "Matbu'a". Newspaper stamps with red Najdi Sultanate handstamp not recorded. "Ain" in top line more open. Photostat shown is best available at present.

Type. 3 Forgery

On genuine 1/8p (Scott 8, SG 198b), also on 1/2p with fake Type 2 Nejdi Sultanate first handstamp. "Matbu'a" handstamp very blotchy, grayish ink, no oily impression back or front. Top and bottos lines 12.5 mm. Height at left 8.5 mm. Thick heavy lettering; dot at bottom center has faint lines joining it to letters at left and right. Ornamental mark at upper right almost a hollow triangle with flat points. "Taa" has swollen curve at top of vertical; its point may be joined to upper part of "ain" by a short diagonal bar. "Ain" has jagged outline and a sharp bump at upper left which should be curved. "Seagull" thick and solidly joined to upstroke at extreme upper left.



Type 3 Forgery



Type 4 Forgery

Not
Available

Type 5 Forgery

Type 4 Forgery

Copy of Scott catalog illustration. The only ones seen were made by photocopier, but handstamped copies may exist. Measurements same as genuine type. No signed copies seen. Seen on 1/8p deep rose red Nejdi reprint (Scott 11, SG 198cb) and 1/2p with dull purple handstamp (Scott 14, SG 199a vars). Apart from the scan lines and other differences in inking, the ornamental mark at upper right resembles two halves of a bun. and the "waw" has a bulge at lower left.

Type 5 Forgery

On used pair of genuine 1/2p second Nejd handstamp (Scott 39Bc, SG 225ba). Weak impression over cancellation. Top 12.5mm, left side 8.5mm, same as genuine. Tail of "waw" clearly broken. Lines under "miym" and "waw" at bottom. No oily impression on paper. Suitable illustration not available at present.

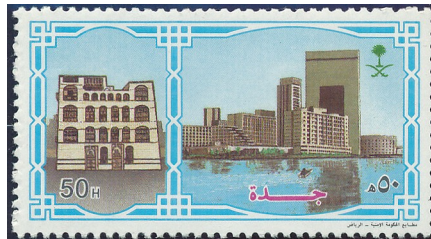
NEW ISSUES OF SAUDI ARABIA

By: Abdul Aziz A. Sa'id

January 31, 1989: Three additional 150h stamps in the Saudi Universities series were issued. They show the emblems of Madina Islamic University (founded 1960), King Fahd University of Petroleum and Minerals (KFUPM) in Dhahran (founded 1963) and Imam Muhammad ibn Saud Islamic University in Riyadh (founded 1974). All are printed in carmine red & black. Printed in sheets of 105 (7 x 15). Perforated 12.



January 31, 1989: A 50h stamp in the Saudi Cities definitive series was issued. The design shows modern and old buildings in Jeddah. Designed by Mr. Abdul Qader Al-Husseini. Printed in sheets of 50 stamps and 2 post code labels (4 x 13). Perforated 12.



February 16, 1989: Two stamps, 75h and 150h, were issued to commemorate the Fifth World Youth Soccer Championships held in Riyadh, Dammam, Jeddah and Taif. The design shows a soccer player and the championship cup superimposed on a globe. Designed by Mr. Abdul Qader Al-Husseini. Printed in sheets of 50 stamps and two post code labels (4 x 13). Perforated 12. Quantity: 500,000 sets.

A commemorative cachet showing the championship cup was applied to first day covers.



February 25, 1989: Three additional 50h stamps in the Saudi Universities series were issued. They show the emblems of King Fahd University of Petroleum and Minerals (KFUPM) in Dhahran, King Abdul Aziz University in Jeddah (founded 1967) and King Faisal University in Dammam and Al-Hasa (founded 1975). All are printed in bright blue and black. Printed in sheets of 105 stamps (7 x 15). Perforated 12.



March ??, 1989: A 65h stamp in the Saudi Universities series was issued. It shows the emblem of Umm Al-Qura University in Makkah. New blue and black. Printed in sheets of 105 stamps (7 x 15). Perforated 12.

This stamp was printed on luminescent creamy paper with slightly shiny gum. All the other stamps in the series issued thus far are on very white non-luminescent paper with invisible gum. The paper of this 65h stamp matches that of the 10h Ka'aba perf. 12 definitive.

Correct date of issue will be given in the next RANDOM NOTES.



All the above were printed by offset on white unwatermarked paper by the Security Printing Press, Riyadh.

Editor's Note: The issue dates given for definitives are the dates the stamps were released to the Saudi Arabian Philatelic Society, which is often earlier than the stamps are generally available at post offices. However, the 150h KFUPM and Madina Islamic University stamps were on sale in Dammam on January 28, and the 50h Jeddah stamp in the Saudi Cities series was on sale in Dammam on January 30.

PRICES REALIZED, 19th A.P.A. AUCTION

Compiled by: *W. A. King*

Lot	Price	Lot	Price	Lot	Price	Lot	Price	Lot	Price
1	200	74	60	152	60	228	70	326	800
2	110	75	105*	153	160	229	50	327	160
3	125	76	75*	154	210	230	40	328	95
4	42	77	130*	155	62	231	150	329	60
5	42	78	30	156	300	232	30	330	100
6	100	79	280	157	30*	233	230	331	66
7	100*	80	44	158	200	234	50	332	240
8	125	82	140	159	85	235	70	333	150
9	125	83	5750	160	130	236	160	334	750
10	95	84	125	161	105	237	135	335	600
11	30	85	100	162	125*	238	100	336	1000
12	52	86	210	163	30	239	64	337	600
13	150	87	300	164	40	240	62	338	135
14	6000	88	525	165	40	241	42*	339	8000
15	150	89	85	166	75	242	54	352	50
16	60	90	75	167	80	243	44	353	220
17	180	91	105	168	30	244	50	354	750
18	850	92	1200	169	210	245	130	355	550
19	30	93	600	170	525	246	650	356	600
20	30	94	30*	171	60	247	130	357	625
21	400	95	48	172	210	248	135	358	160
22	325	97	50	174	260	249	115	359	120
23	1100	98	110	175	125	250	1100	360	30*
24	30	99	105	176	160	251	150	361	500
25	625	100	525	177	160	252	170	362	105
26	1200	101	85	178	100	253	750	363	450
27	1200	102	60	179	115	254	750	364	75
28	950	103	44	180	42	255	400	365	10500*
29	1250	104	64	181	750	256	140	366	3250
30	100	105	80	182	56*	257	60	367	125*
31	60	106	180	183	30*	258	44	368	60
32	450	107	130	184	40	259	66	369	52*
33	150	108	210	185	30*	260	325	370	80
34	900	109	270	186	60	261	60	371	40
35	500	110	160	187	34*	262	48*	372	30*
36	525	111	62	188	350	263	100	373	105
37	425	112	140	189	475	264	1600	374	105*
38	140	113	105	190	34*	265	150	375	70
39	325	114	160	191	1500	266	220	376	150
40	210*	115	44	195	40*	267	62	377	100
41	350	116	50	196	105	268	54	378	350
42	600	117	56	197	50	269	68	379	270
43	475	118	115	198	115	270	500	380	170
44	180	119	105	199	60	271	165	381	220
45	50	120	60	200	500*	272	85	382	170
46	2300	121	2000	201	1700	273	750	383	200
47	80	122	2000	202	1250	274	120	384	325
48	30*	127	150	203	30	275	52	385	350
49	44	128	425	204	50*	276	105	386	170
50	62	129	325	205	38*	277	325	387	2200
51	70	130	425	206	40	278	48	392	150
52	375	131	260	207	40	279	40	393	140
53	48	132	750	208	70	280	52*	394	200
54	42	133	240	209	1050	281	6250*	395	115
55	75*	134	425	210	1050	296	260	396	120
56	300	135	210	211	105	297	60	397	80
57	80	136	125	212	220	298	64	398	62
58	250	137	675	213	90	299	30	399	105
59	300	138	135	214	1200	300	38	400	85
60	450	139	625	215	85	301	115	401	62
61	56	140	240	216	46*	302	280*	402	250
62	30	141	150	217	130	303	6250	403	42
63	95	142	34	218	6750	315	500	404	180
64	120	143	270	219	48	316	400	405	220
65	150	144	110	220	145	318	850*	406	115
66	40	145	40	221	100	319	140	407	130
67	70	146	210	222	110	320	75	408	125
68	125	147	250	223	75*	321	46*	409	52
69	66	148	525	224	30*	322	50	410	130
70	30*	149	70	225	170	323	60	411	32
71	30*	150	180	226	100*	324	110	412	8500*
73	130*	151	54	227	105	325	95	413	2400

Lot	Price	Lot	Price	Lot	Price	Lot	Price	Lot	Price
414	325	453	105	492	425	531	150	571	40
415	105	454	75	493	100	532	170	572	100
416	80	455	100*	494	450	533	230	574	500
417	90	456	32*	495	1200	534	44	575	52
418	85	457	525	496	80	535	190	576	40
419	115	458	40	497	85	536	325	577	200
420	50	459	575	498	46	537	40	578	160*
421	75	460	525	499	325	538	1050*	579	140
422	80	461	30	500	130	539	750*	580	90
423	525	462	325	501	425	540	85	581	100
424	600	463	30	502	270	541	46	582	50
425	100	464	40	505	30	542	160	583	36*
426	90	465	38*	504	240	543	140	584	50
427	115	466	30	505	130	544	50	585	650*
428	80	467	32*	506	150	545	120	586	42*
429	2600	468	34	507	475	546	85	587	30*
430	425	469	62	508	160	547	70	588	150*
431	325	470	62	509	850	548	80	589	110
432	50	471	700	510	80	549	70	590	325
433	40*	472	46	511	105	550	52	591	110
434	32*	473	56	512	600	551	85	592	525
435	250	474	1000	513	325	552	850	593	105*
436	46*	475	50	514	220	556	160	594	85*
437	160	476	40	515	60	557	150	595	90
438	140	477	30	516	62	558	500*	596	150
439	85	478	85	517	30	559	280*	597	190
440	75*	479	350	518	90	560	30*	598	105
441	46*	480	62*	519	95	561	54	599	64
442	56	481	80*	520	80	562	120	600	160
443	160	483	75	521	66	563	130	601	50
444	30	484	160	522	30	564	300	602	30
446	100	485	52*	523	62	565	150	603	30
447	105	486	52*	524	150	566	30	604	30
448	70	487	60	525	260	567	100	605	30
449	180*	488	62	526	4500	568	375	606	70
450	85	489	56	528	90	569	200*	607	30
451	125*	490	325	529	44	570	46	608	130
452	240	491	325	530	42*				

All prices are in Saudi riyals.

* Denotes price at which the lot was bought in on behalf of the vendor, the lot having failed to reach reserve.