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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 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.

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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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Scott's (1990) and Gibbons' (1990) catalog numbers are used with the kind permission of the copyright owners.

References are sometimes made in this publication to the following books by their authors' names:

Haworth, W.B. & Sargent, H.L - THE POSTAGE STAMPS OF THE HEJAZ (1922)
Warin, D.F. - THE POSTAL ISSUES OF HEJAZ, JEDDAH AND NEJD (1927)
Mayo, M.M. - BARID AL SA'UDIYYAH WA AL HEJAZ WA NAJD (1973)
Wilson, J.M. - THE HEJAZ - A HISTORY IN STAMPS (1982)
Coles, J.H. & Walker, H.E.- POSTAL CANCELLATIONS OF THE OTTOMAN EMPIRE, Part Two (1987)

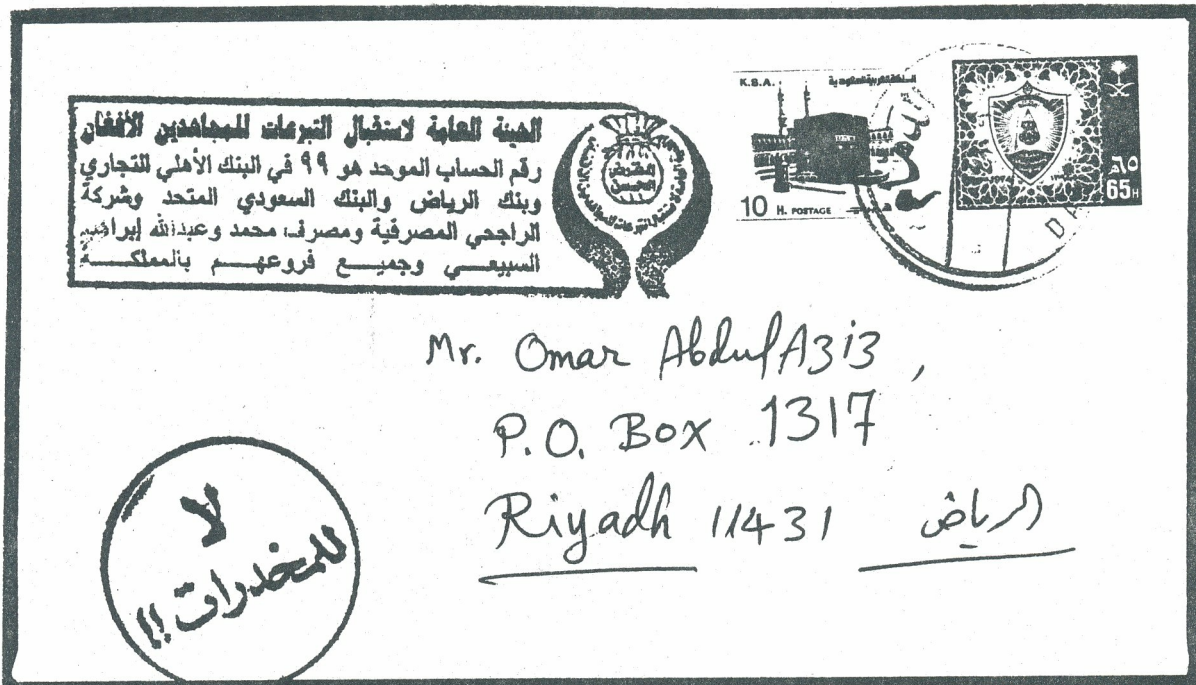
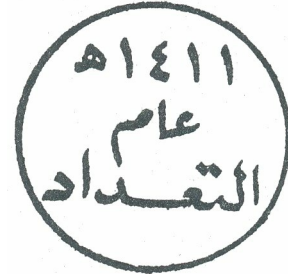
RANDOM NOTES FROM DHAHRAN

By: R. J. Thoden

1. Thanks to A. A. Sa'id for a cover bearing three cachets which were applied to mail by the Saudi Post Office during June.

On the front, the circular cachet reads "No to Drugs". The large rectangular cachet states that anyone wishing to contribute to the Afghan mujahideen can send their checks to account #99, followed by a list of banks.

On the reverse, the circular cachet reads "1411 Census Year". The census has since been postponed until 1412H.



2. Subscribers Tarik Alireza and David A. Graham have started a series entitled "FALSE IMPRESSIONS - A survey of errors, misconceptions, myths and dubious reporting in the postal history of Saudi Arabia" in GIBBONS STAMP MONTHLY. Three parts have appeared thus far in the April, June and September 1990 issues.
3. Thanks to subscriber David Graham for a photostat from the PHILATELIC MAGAZINE of March 7, 1925. It quotes a notice published in the Jeddah newspaper BARID AL HIJAZ, dated 12 Jumada II, 1343 (January 7, 1925), stating: "The Ministry of Communications informs the public that from 13 Jumada II, 1343 (January 8, 1925) postage stamps bearing the inscription "Al-Hakumah Al-Hejaziah" will be brought into use, and the old stamps will be withdrawn".

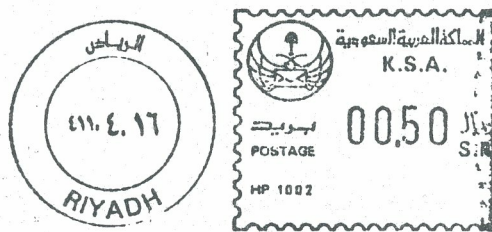
It goes on to describe the new stamps as having the three-line Jeddah overprints. This confirms David's opinion expressed in RN #45 that the three-line Jeddah overprints were the first ones issued, although the two-line overprints are listed first by all the major catalogs.

4. Thanks to Mr. Y. A. Al-Zoubi for a set of 6 essays for the Dhahran Airport commemorative set of 1963. The essays differ from the issued stamps in that the positions of the denomination and "POSTES" (in both languages) have been reversed. The positions of the outer Arabic and French inscriptions have also been reversed. The imperforate essays are all 3p values. They come in the colors of each of the five issued denominations plus one in brown red and orange yellow, a color combination not used for the issued stamps.

The Mayo listing of #995W is apparently one of this set. Essays are known of most of the issues printed by Dar Al-Asfahani of Jeddah in the early-mid 1960s.



5. Yusuf Aidroos' article "Saudi Sidelines" in RN #43 illustrated three types of franking machine (meter) impressions. I've recently come across this variation of one of the types shown in the article.



6. There has been a serious lack of contributions to this publication recently. Without Mr. K.D. Knight's continuing series on Saudi cancellations, I'd be hard pressed to put out one or two issues a year. Even short items of the type used in this "Random Notes from Dhahran" article have fallen off badly. There are well over 300 of you out there receiving the RANDOM NOTES. Some of you must know something that hasn't been published yet. Please write it up and send it in to share with the membership.

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

By: Kenneth D. Knight

CANCELLATIONS OF THE KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA POST OFFICE (1932 TO DATE)

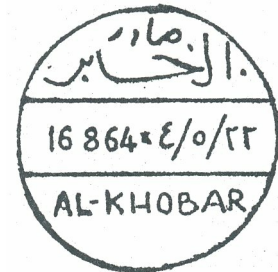
(continued from RN #47)



Type SDF90: A bicalendar belted single ring CDS which was probably intended for use on foreign outgoing mail. The straight line western office name gives no indication of the intended use. Two distinguishing features in the Arabic: (1) the last two characters of the word "sadir" (صادر), or "departure", are arranged vertically and (2) the letter "kha" (خ), which is believed to be an abbreviation for "khariji" (خارجي > or "foreign".

Type SDF90				
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	Diameter	Notes
DJEDDAH	? . 5.62	26. 7.62	34	

Type SD60: A bicalendar belted single ring datestamp. The Arabic is in two straight lines; the lower line is the office name and the upper line indicates intended use on outgoing mail. The western office name is in a straight line and has no indication of intended use.

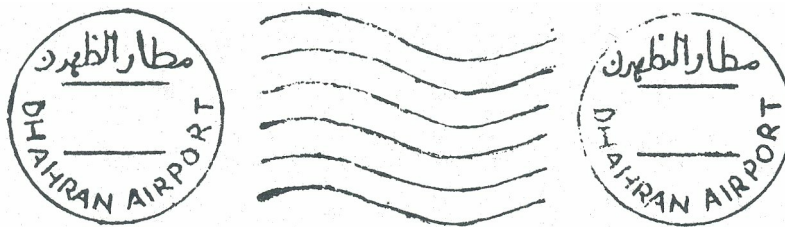


Type SD60				
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	Diameter	Notes
AL-KHOBAR	8. 1.63	16. 2.78	34	



Type SRD105: As type SRD100, but with the Arabic word for departure written in full.

Type SRD105				
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	Diameter	Notes
DAMMAM	29.10.63		34	
MEDINA			33	
TAIF	24. 6.63		34	



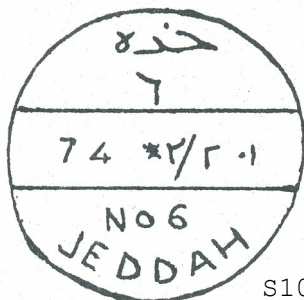
Type SM5: A mechanical cancelling device made up of two 28mm. single ring datestamps separated from each other by six wavy lines. Both the circles are bilingual; the Arabic is shaped to fit the upper segment and the western office name is semi-circular. The date, sandwiched between two straight lines, is Hijra in one circle and Gregorian in the other.

Type SM5				
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	Diameter	Notes
DHAHRAN-AIRPORT	10. 7.63	22. 3.73	--	

Type S101: A bicalendar belted single ring CDS. The Arabic office name is semi-circular enclosing office/counter number. Western office name in straight line with trailing number. Can someone supply a clear example of this type?



Type S101				
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	Diameter	Notes
DAMMAM	29. 1.79		40	Numeral 4.
MECCA	? . ? .65			Numeral 10.
RIYADH	20. 5.67			Numeral 3.
TAIF	02.10.72			Numeral 2.



S105

Type S105: A bicalendar belted single ring CDS. The Arabic office name is in a straight line with the counter/branch office number underneath. The western office name is semi-circular and encloses the counter/branch office number preceded by "NO".

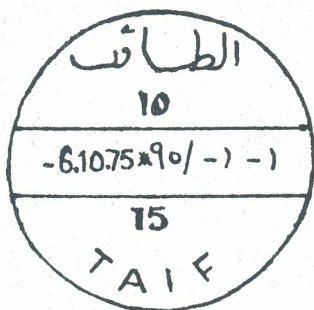
Type S106 (not illustrated): As type S105, but with semi-circular Arabic office name.

Type S105				
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	Diameter	Notes
DHAHRAN A.P.	12.12.74			No. 2.
JEDDAH	11.12.69	17.10.72	38	No. 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 10, and 11.
MECCA			39	No. 4, 8.
Type S106				
RIYADH	? . 1.70	16. 1.72	39	No. 2, 3, 9.

Type S85: As type S25, but both Arabic and western office names followed by an office/counter number.



Type S85				
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	Diameter	Notes
JEDDAH	11. 1.68		39	Num, 1.
MECCA		19.11.84	39	Num. 10.
MEDINAH	29.12.75	24. 3.76	38.5	Num. 5.
RIYADH			39	Num. 3.



Type S90: A bicalendar belted single ring CDS. The Arabic office name is straight and has the counter/branch office number underneath. The western office name is semi-circular and encloses the counter/branch office number. Distinguished from Type S105 by lack of the word "NO" preceding the counter number in the western segment.

Type S90				
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	Diameter	Notes
ABQAIQ	31.12.75		39	Num. 3.
AL HAFR	10.11.79		39	Num. 4.
AL-HASA	-7.11.73	21. 9.77	39	Num. 1, 4, 6, 9.
AL-KHOBAR	10. 8.74	13. 3.76	39	Num. 2, 8.
AL-MOBARAZ	9. 3.76	14. 3.76	39	Num. 2.
DAMMAM	7. 8.74	13.11.79	39	Num. 3, 10, 12.
DHAHRAN A.P.	31.10.73	10. 3.76	39	Num. 2, 3, 6, 8, 13, 14, 15, 16, 19, 20, 22, 32.
JEDDAH	25.10.70	10.12.77	39	Num. 1, 11, 20, 21, 22, 32.
MECCA	22.12.75	30. 7.77	39	Num. 2, 5, 6, 10, 14, 22, 23, 25, 27, 28, 33, 36.
RIYADH	3. 3.74	31.12.76	39	Num. 3, 5, 7, 13, 14, 21, 28, 31, 45, 53, 54, 60.
RYADH	18. 1.75		39	Num. 38.
TAIF	6.10.75	28. 3.76	39	Num. 2, 9, 13, 14, 15.



S170

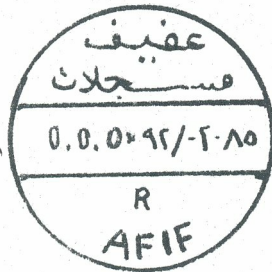
Type S170: A bicalendar belted single ring CDS. The Arabic office name is in a straight line. The western office name is semi-circular.

Type S171: As type S170, but the Arabic office name is preceded by "barid" (بريد) or "post".



S171

Type S170				
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	Diameter	Notes
ABHA	15. 1.76	16. 3.76	35	
AL-HAFR	10.10.79	13.11.79	36	
AL-MANDAK	17. 3.76		35	Greg. 8.8.76.
DHAHRAN A.P.	25. 9.71	25. 8.73	39	
FAIFA	15. 3.76		35	
HOTAT B. TAMEEM	3. 5.76		39	Western name in mirror image.
MECCA			39	
QURAYAT	1. 4.76	5. 4.76	35	
RIYADH	1.11.71		39	
RUFAIDAH	25. 3.76		39	
SAFANIYAH	13. 1.82		35	Arabic in 2 lines.
SAFWA	20. 3.76		35	
SEHAT			35	
TABUK	23.12.75	22. 3.76	35	
UNAIZAH	11. 5.83		40	
YANBOU	12. 3.76	21. 3.76	35	
Type S171				
AFLAJ	23. 3.76		39	Greg. 32.3.71.
AL-KATEEF	16. 3.76		39	
KHAIBAR	? . 3.76		39	
MAJMAA	26.11.71		39	

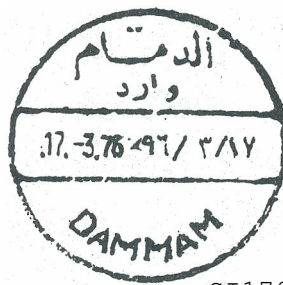


Type SR100: As Type S170, but with "musajjalat" (مسجلات) or "registered" under the Arabic office name, and an R (without commas) over the western office name.

Type SR100				
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	Diameter	Notes
AFIF	15. 3.76		35	Greg. date 0.0.0.
AL-HASA	? . 3.73		35	
AL-KHAFJI	9.11.75		39	
BRAIDAH	11. 3.76		35	
DAMMAM	20. 1.76		35	
OMLUJ			35	
SHAQRA	? . ? .76		35	
TRAI F	2. 2.76		35	



SD170



SI170



SO170



SD0170

Type SD170: As Type S170, but with "sadir" (صادر) or "outgoing" under the Arabic office name.

Type SI170: As Type S170, but with "warid" (وارد) or "receiving" under the Arabic office name.

Type SO170: As Type S170, but with "'adi" (عادي) or "ordinary" under the Arabic office name.

Type SDO170: As Type S170, but with "'adi sadir" (عادي صادر) or "ordinary outgoing" under the Arabic office name.

Type SD170				
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	Diameter	Notes
ABHA	4. 1.76		35	
AL-HAFR	1. 1.76		35	
AL-KHARJ	30.11.75		35	
BADR	? . 3.76		35	
BALJURASHI	3. 7.75		35	
DHAHRAN A.P.	26. 6.75		39	
HOTAT B. TAMEEM	? . 3.76		39	
KUNFODAH	15. 3.76	28. 3.76	35	
QATEEF	2. 3.76		35	
RANYA (?)	10. 3.76		35	
SAFWA	1. 3.76		35	
Type SI170				
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	Diameter	Notes
AL-KHAFJI	5. 8.78		39	
DAMMAM	29.12.75	17. 3.76	35	
Type SO170				
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	Diameter	Notes
AL-JOUF	29. 3.76		35	
YANBOU	2. 3.76	28. 3.76	35	
Type SDO170				
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	Diameter	Notes
MECCA	14. 3.76	30. 3.76	39	
MEDINA	12. 1.75	11. 3.76	38.5	



Type SDF0170: As Type S170, but "'adi khariji sadir" (عادي خارجي صادر) or "ordinary foreign outgoing" under the Arabic office name.

Type SD175: As Type S170, but with "gism al sadir" (قسم الصادر) or "outgoing section" under the Arabic office name. Arabic office name preceded by "barid" (بريد) or "post".

Type SRD170: As Type S170, but with "al musajjalat al sadirat" (المسجلات الصادرة) or "outgoing registered" under the Arabic office name.

Type SG170: As Type S170, but with "OFF." under western office name and "rasmiyat" (رسميات) or "official" under the Arabic office name. Intended for use on official mail, but also used on ordinary mail.

Type SDF0170				
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	Diameter	Notes
RIYADH	10. 3.69		39	
Type SD175				
BURAYDAH	13.12.75	15.12.75	39	
ONAIZA	22. 7.75		39	
SHAQRA	22.12.75		39	Greg. 36.9.63.
Type SRD170				
DHAHRAN A.P.	20. 6.73		38.5	
MEDINA	27.12.75		38.5	
RIYADH	3.12.71		38.5	
Type SG170				
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	Diameter	Notes
ABHA	4. 1.76		35	
AL-HASA	28.12.75	16. 3.76	35	
AL-KHARJ	21.12.75		35	
BISHA	17. 3.76		35	
HOTAT B. TAMEEM	? . ? .76		39	

* * * * *

Historical Note

After the Arab-Israeli War of 1973. oil royalties rocketed. In the sane period the literacy rate of the Saudi population rose, the numbers of foreigners working in the Kingdom increased, trade and business expanded --- factors which led to exponential growth in Saudi postal services.

* * * * *



SA90



SA85



SA88



SA95

Type SA90: A belted single ring postmark with the date added in manuscript. Arabic at top reads "Barid" (بريد) or "post". Office name at bottom. See RN #7.

Type SA85: As Type SA90, but datebelt divided into 3 parts by diagonal slashes with the first two digits of the year "13" (13) permanently in place. Example seen was undated. Date inferred from transit CDS.

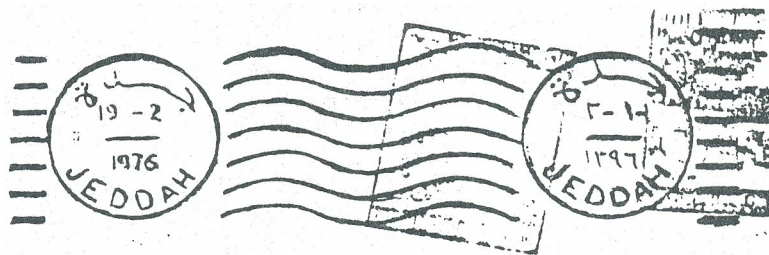
Type SA88: As Type SA85, but the Arabic at top reads "maktab barid" (مكتب بريد) or "post office". Center segment also has " هـ " for "Hijra" before the "13" for the first two digits of the year. Seen on Tughra issue, thus 1960 or earlier.

Type SA95: As Type SA85, but with Arabic letter "ق" at top. the meaning of which is unknown. The year in the central segment is expressed as "139" (hl39). Examples seen were undated, but used on covers with late 1975 transit cancels.

Type SA90				
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	Diameter	Notes
Al Qunfudhah	10. 2.72		29.5	Manuscript date.
Type SA85				
Al Ha'it	undated		30	Transit 23.10.82.
Type SA88				
Umm Asalmiy ?	undated		29	On Tughra issue.
Type SA95				
Ifgara'	undated		29	Used in 1975.

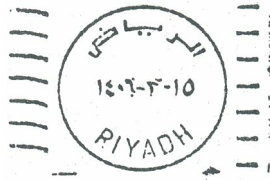
The SM10 Mechanical Cancellations

Type SM10: A mechanical cancellation consisting of two bilingual single ring datestamps. One datestamp has Hijra date, the other the matching Gregorian date. The two datestamps are spaced 40mm. apart by either six or seven wavy lines. Some offices, e.g. Dammam, have been noted using both.

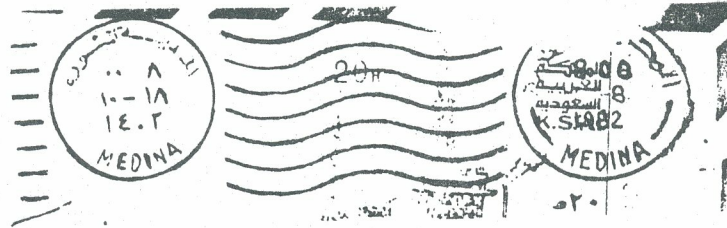
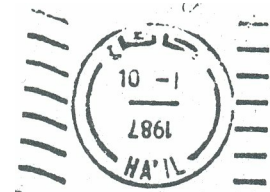


The next several pages are devoted to describing the many variations of the SM10 cancellation which have been noted to date. The illustration at the head of this section was selected as the archetypal example because it was initially both the earliest and commonest type in my collection.

The only constant parts of this datestamp are the short straight lines which occur at the right hand and left hand extremes. Even the wavy line matrix can be removed and reinserted, or perhaps it is a case of inserting the date circles upside down, then inverting the whole cancellation, regardless, the effect is the same -- inverted wavy lines.



The greater number of variations occur in the makeup of the circles, the most obvious difference being the presence or omission of the "arc lines" inside the circles. That arc lines are a variation and not a different datestamp is proved by the fact that examples are to be found with one circle having "arc lines" and the other not having them as per the example from Medina illustrated below.



Another date circle variation concerns the Arabic town name. At the time of first drafting these paragraphs (July 1986), three different styles of Arabic script had been noted. One of these scripts has only been seen with datestamps which incorporate a slogan, but as the wavy line/slogan portion of the datestamp matrix is apparently removable, I assume that eventually examples of this third style of Arabic will be found used in conjunction with wavy lines. All three types are described here.

The first script is fluid as in جدة (Jeddah) and الطائف (Taif).

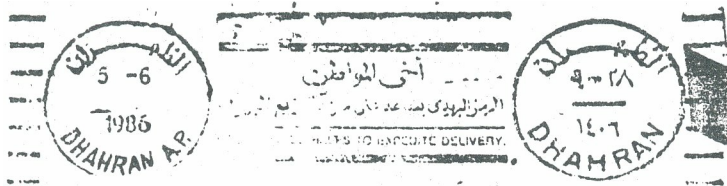
The second script is boxlike as in جده (Jeddah) and رفاه (Rafha).

The final script while still angular lacks much of the squareness which is a feature of the boxlike script.

Examples: جده (Jeddah) and سكاكا (Sakaka).

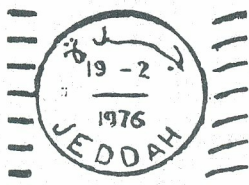
The western script occurs in two sizes, narrow and wide. To date the only offices known to use both western scripts are Dammam, Dhahran, Jeddah, Makkah and Riyadh. In the case of Makkah, the smaller western script is recorded only where the Arabic reads Makkah Al-Mukaramah, and the larger western script only where the Arabic reads simply Makkah. Both scripts are 2.25mm. high, but the difference in overall word length is easily seen. With Dhahran, Jeddah and Riyadh the length of the horizontal bar of the letter "H" varies from 0.6mm. wide on the narrow script to 0.75mm. on the wider script.

That the use of a specific western script is not dependent upon the particular Arabic script in use is demonstrated by the mixed scripts which are to be seen used in conjunction with both the boxlike and the fluid Arabic scripts. The angular Arabic script of Riyadh has been seen in conjunction with both narrow and wide western scripts.

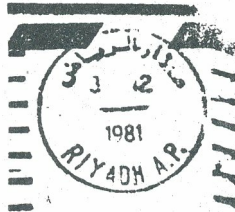


Though not all possible combinations of the different scripts have been recorded, this series of datestamps is still current and therefore allowance must be made for the possibility of combinations not yet seen being found at some future date. As can be seen from the table below and the following illustrations, twelve different combinations are possible. No less than eight of the twelve possible varieties have been recorded. In lieu of a more accurate description I have used the term "die" to annotate the different arrangements.

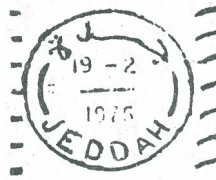
	NO ARC LINES		WITH ARC LINES	
	Lge. Ltrs	Sm. Ltrs	Lge. Ltrs	Sm. Ltrs
Fluid Arabic	Die I	Die Ia	Die II	Die IIa
Angular Arabic	Die III	Die IIIa	Die IV	Die IVa
Boxlike Arabic	Die V	Die Va	Die VI	Die VIa



Die I



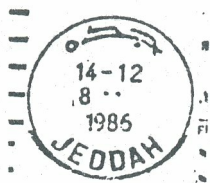
Die Ia



Die II



Die IIa



Die III



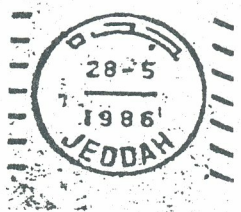
Die IIIa



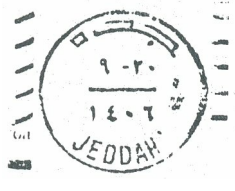
Die IV



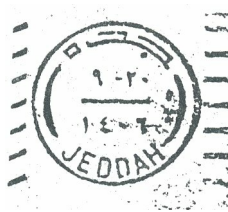
Die IVa



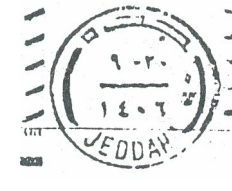
Die V



Die Va



Die VI



Die VIa

The next features to be considered are variations in the date portion of the device. Though the following notes relate to the Gregorian date circle such comments also apply to the corresponding Hijra date circle.

There are two basic "dateslugs". The earliest cancellations had a three line date but some more recent datestamps have been seen with the date in one line.

The three-line date is made up of three separate slugs which represent i) day/month, ii) time of day and iii) the year. There are two types of day/month slug and three types of the time slug (see below). The three slugs can be arranged in any sequence within the cancellation.

Day/month slugs: 25.12 (a) 25 Dec (h)

Time slugs: (b) blank (c) line 9.00 (d) time

Year slug: 1985 (e)

Various arrangements of the individual slugs which make up the three-line date have already been reported; they are (reading from top to bottom of the date insert): a/b/e, a/c/b, a/c/e, a/d/e, a/e/b, a/e/c, a/e/d, c/a/e, d/a/e, d/e/a, e/c/a, e/d/a, and h/c/e.

Two sub-types of the one-line date exist.

-2.10.85

-2.10.1985

(f): dd.mm.yy format

(g): dd.mm.yyyy format

In all, there are 38 possible arrangements of the date, a fact which when considered along with the twelve possible die types gives rise to a total of 456 possible sub-types (912 if we allow for Gregorian date being in either right hand or left hand circle), and this number must be doubled to allow for the occurrence of inverted wavy lines, and increased still more to allow for the errors such as inverted and part-inverted dateslugs. The following listings are of necessity simplified with date arrangements indicated in the notes column. The notes column is also used to indicate whether inverted wavy lines have been recorded for each sub-type. Where a "mixed" cancellation such as the one illustrated from Medina above have been seen, they are recorded twice, once for each die.

It should also be noted that two sizes of numerals (both western and Arabic) have been seen; the smaller are 2.5mm high, the larger 3mm tall. The two sizes of numerals are frequently seen used in the same cancellation, usually pre-1980 and usually with the taller numbers used only for the year of the date.

Type SM10 is further sub-divided dependent upon which circle contains the Gregorian date. Where it is on the right, this is designated by the suffix "R". and where it is on the left, by the suffix "L".

Type SM10R					
Office Name	Die	Earliest	Latest	Date Arrangements	Notes
AL-HASSA	IVa	25.10.1979	13.11.1979	a/c/e	
AL-KHOBAR	IIIa	13. 1.1981	25. 6.1981	a/c/e	
BURAYDAH	IVa	9. 2.1982	8. 8.1982	a/c/e	1,2
DAMMAM	Ia	9.11.1979	28. 5.1982	a/c/e	
	IIIa	10. 1.1981	20.10.1983	a/c/e	3
	IVa	19.12.1978	27.10.1980	a/c/e	
	V	8.11.1984	15. 3.1987	a/c/e	5
DHAHRAN	I	20. 3.1974		a/c/e	
DHAHRAN A.P.	Ia	9. 5.1977	13.11.1979	d/a/e	4
	IIa	5.11.1980		a/c/e	4
HAIL	IVa	? . 8.1982	27.11.1982	a/c/e	
JEDDAH	I	13.12.1984		a/b/e	
	IIIa	13.12.1984	27. 3.1985	a/b/e	
	V	4.11.1984	2. 2.1987	a/c/e	3,5
JEDDAH A.P.	Ia	24. 9.1977	26. 6.1986	a/c/e, a/b/e	4,5
	IIIa	6. 2.1978	25. 2.1987	a/c/e, a/b/e	
	IVa	1. 9.1981	16. 8.1986	a/c/e, a/b/e	7
MECCA	I	29.10.1981	16. 3.1982	a/c/e	D
	IIIa	1.12.1977		a/c/e	D
MECCA	IIIa	29.10.1979	12.11.1979	a/c/e	C
MEDINA	Ia	23. 2.1981	17. 8.1982	d/a/e	3
	IIa	? . 4.1983		d/a/e	E
	IIIa	19. 8.1978	17. 8.1982	d/a/e	3,E
	IVa	13. 8.1978	12. 2.1982	d/a/e	E
RIYADH	I	7.11.1972	14. 7.1973	a/c/e, e/c/a	8
	IIIa	12.11.1981	31.12.1983	a/b/e, a/c/e	3
	IVa	19. 8.1979	15. 3.1982		
	V	7. 4.1985	21. 5.1987	a/c/e	3
	Va	28.12.1983		a/c/e	
RIYADH A.P.	Ia	3. 8.1976		a/c/e	
	IIIa	3. 8.1982	20. 2.1985	a/c/e	
TABOUK	IIa	7.10.1979		a/c/e, e/c/a	9
	IVa	28.10.1979	11.11.1979	a/e/c	
TAIF	IVa	25.12.1981		a/e/c	10
TA'IF	IIIa	4. 1.1987		a/c/e	
	IVa	3. 4.1981	23.11.1982	a/c/e, e/c/a	11

See page 15 for notes.

Type SM10L					
Office Name	Die	Earliest	Latest	Date Arrangements	Notes
ABHA	Ia	4.10.1981		d/a/e	
	IVa	26.10.1979		e/d/a	
AL-HASSA	IVa	5. 6.1981	15. 1.1982	a/c/e	12,13
AL-KHARJ	IVa	8. 7.1981		a/c/e	
AL-KHOBAR	Ia	5.11.1979	12.11.1979	a/c/e	
BURAYDAH	IIIa	17. 6.1986		a/c/e	14
	IVa	17. 4.1982	17. 6.1986	a/c/e	
DAMMAM	IIIa	5.12.1981	29. 6.1983	a/c/e	3
	IVa	? . 3.1979	14. 6.1982	a/c/e, a/b/e	
	V	26. 2.1985	21. 4.1987	a/c/e	5,15, 16
DHAHRAN	I	5. 2.1974	22. 9.1974	a/c/e	17
DHAHRAN A.P.	Ia	18. 9.1977	1.11.1979	a/c/e	
	IIIa	18.10.1981	7. 3.1983	a/b/e, a/c/e	
	IVa	13.11.1979	7. 3.1983	a/c/e, d/a/e	3
HAFR	IVa	21. 3.1982	18. 5.1982	a/c/e	
HA'IL	IVa	10. 1.1987		a/c/e	18
JEDDAH	I	19. 2.1976	23.11.1982	a/c/e	3
	IIIa	18. 6.1986	9. 3.1987	a/c/e, a/d/e	
	V	1.10.1984	15. 4.1987	a/c/e	3,19
JEDDAH A.P.	Ia	26.10.1979	28. 2.1978	a/c/e, a/e/c	4,A
	IIIa	11.12.1977	26. 6.1986	a/c/e, a/b/e	20,A
	IVa	26.10.1979	9. 3.1987	a/c/e, a/b/e	3,11, B
				a/e/b	
KHAMIS MUSHAYT	Ia	26.10.1979	6. 2.1983	a/d/e	
	IIa	22. 6.1979	6. 2.1983	a/d/e	
MAKKAH	Ia	31. 5.1986		a/d/e	
	IVa	26. 1.1983		a/c/e	
MECCA	I	10. 1.1982		a/c/e	
	Ia	21. 3.1979		a/c/e	C
	IIIa	15. 3.1978		a/c/e	
MEDINA	Ia	26.10.1979		d/a/e	4,E
	IVa	22.10.1979	7.11.1979	d/a/e	3,E
NAJRAN	Ia	31.10.1983		a/e/c	21
	IIa	28.12.1980	4. 1.1982	c/a/e, a/e/d	
	IVa	24. 6.1981		c/a/e	
RAFHA	VIa	14.11.1979		e/d/a	
RIYADH	III	11. 9.1975	3. 3.1983	a/c/e	
	IIIa	6.12.1983	29. 1.1987	a/c/e	5,22
	IVa	10. 9.1980	2.11.1982	a/b/e, a/c/e	3
	V	3. 3.1984	29. 3.1987	a/c/e, a/c/f, a/c/g	3
RIYADH A.P.	Ia	17. 8.1977	16. 8.1990	a/c/e, a/b/e	3,F
	IIIa	29. 7.1978	17.12.1988	a/c/e, a/e/c	3
	IVa	1. 9.1981	8. 2.1983	a/c/e, a/b/e	
SAKAKA	IVa	20. 2.1980		a/d/e	
TABOUK	IVa	24. 6.1979		a/c/e	
TAIF	I	2.10.1979	?? . ?.1981	a/c/e, e/c/a	
TA'IF	IIIa	11. 1.1987		a/c/e	
	IVa	14. 1.1982	28. 1.1983	a/c/e, a/e/c	23
TA-IF	IVa	23. 5.1981		e/c/a	

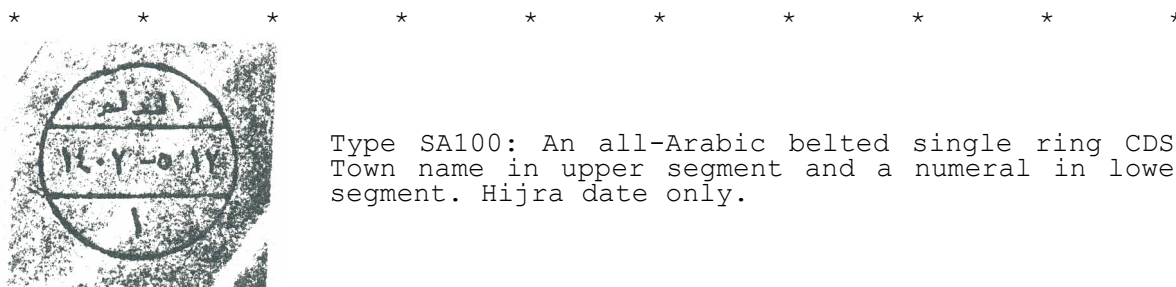
The following notes describe varieties of the SM10 cancellations listed on pages 14 and 15:

- (1) Right circle omitted and date in left circle inverted (8.8.82).
- (2) Both circles inverted (9.2.82).
- (3) Exists with inverted wavy lines.
- (4) Seen only with inverted wavy lines.
- (5) Exists with right circle inverted.
- (6) As (4), also with Hijra date circle inverted and day/month of Gregorian circle also inverted.
- (7) Arabic and western town names of right circle inverted.
- (8) Date slug completely omitted.
- (9) Hijra date, day of month omitted.
- (10) Date slug inverted.
- (11) Arabic and western town names of left circle inverted.
- (12) Day and month of left circle inverted.
- (13) Year of right circle inverted (14.12.81).
- (14) Day and month of both circles inverted.
- (15) Left circle date inverted.

- (16) Right circle month inverted.
- (17) Also seen with date slug completely omitted.
- (18) As (4), also with left circle inverted except for year slug.
- (19) Entire right circle inverted.
- (20) Left circle inverted except for day and month of date (b/e/a).
- (21) Day, month, year, time slugs of left circle inverted.
- (22) Year of Gregorian date inverted.
- (23) Date inverted in left circle (a/e/c).

The following describe variations in the Arabic office names.

- (A) Arabic reads "Mataar Jeddah al-dowli" (Jeddah International A.P.).
- (B) Arabic reads "Mataar Jeddah" (Jeddah Airport).
- (C) Arabic reads "Makkah Al-Mukaramah".
- (D) Arabic reads "Makkah".
- (E) Arabic reads "Madinat Al-Munawarah".
- (F) Arabic reads "Mataar Riyadh" (Riyadh Airport).



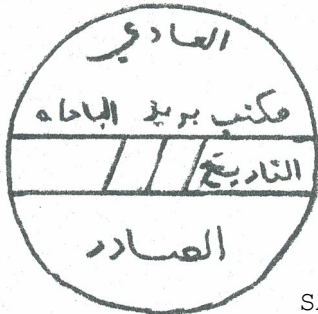
Type SA100: An all-Arabic belted single ring CDS. Town name in upper segment and a numeral in lower segment. Hijra date only.

Type SA100				
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	Diam.	Notes
Al Baha	24. 3.1976		25	Num. 3.
Al Buhkaria	24. 9.1986		25	Num. 4.
Al Dammam	22. 2.1976	1. 4.1976	25	Num. 9,11,15.
Al Dilam	24. 3.1976	17. 1.1987	25	Num. 1.
Al Hafr	12. 4.1984	25. 1.1986	25	Num. 1,7.
Al Khafji	27. 3.1976		25	Num. 2 (?)
Al Khobar	30. 4.1985		25	Num. 8.
Al Majmaa	1. 3.1976	27. 3.1976	25	Num. 5.
Al Namas	23. 3.1976		25	Num. 2.
Al Qatif	8. 2.1981	7. 7.1982	25	Num. 1,4.
Arafat	16. 9.1983	4. 9.1984	25	Num. 4.
Baljarshi	7. 4.1976		25	Num. 1,6.
Darin	22. 1.1986		25	Num. 1.
Dhahran	7. 1.1980	12. 4.1983	25	Num. 8,12,19.
Dhahran Airport	? . ?.1976		25	Num. 6.
Hail	14. 1.1977	21. 2.1983	25	Num. 2,8.
Hurma	24. 3.1976	27. 3.1976	25	Num. 1.
Jaizan	24. 3.1976		25	Num. 2.
Jeddah	16. 3.1981	17. 3.1981	25	
Jeddah Airport	? . 6.1976	25. 2.1982	25	Num. 1,2,6.
Jubayl	5. 7.1980		25	Num. 1.
Khamis Mushayt	4.11.1976		25	Num. 4.
Makkah	4. 6.1977	7. 6.1977	25	Num. 25.
Al Mukaramah				
Medina	2.11.1977		25	Num. 16.
Al Munawarah				
Najran	22. 3.1976	27. 3.1976	25	Num. 3,6.
Onaiza	8. 2.1986		25	Num. 2.
Riyadh	12. 7.1985	19. 3.1986	25	Num. 2,3.
Riyadh Airport	15. 3.1976	26. 4.1979	25	Num. 2,4.
Sharurah	12.11.1987		25	Num. 1.
Yanbu	29. 2.1983	26. 3.1986	25	Num. 3.
Zulfi	22. 7.1986		25	Num. 2.

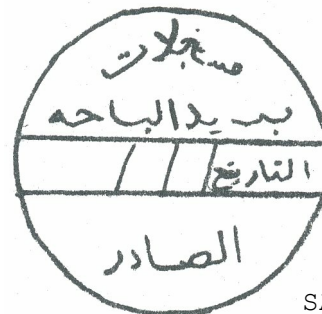
Type S130: A belted single ring datestamp. The Arabic office name is written in a straight line beneath a numeral; the western office name is semi-circular and encloses a numeral. Every example seen to date has Gregorian date only.



Type S130				
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	Diam.	Notes
ABHA	27. 3 1976		25	Num. 3.
ABQAIQ	12.12.1977		25	Num. 1,2.
BAHA	24. 3.1976	28. 3.1976	25	Num. 1.
BURAIDAH	23. 4.1977		25	Num. 2.
DAMMAM	19. 3.1976		25	Num. 5.
DHAHRAN A.P.	5. 5.1977	25. 5.1978	29	Num. 1,2,3,10.
DHIBA	30.10.1979	-4.11.1979	25	Num. 2.
DIYAIRIYA	24.10.1979		25	Num. 1.
HAFR	24.10.1979	14.11.1979	25	Num. 2.
HAYEL	10.11.1979	14.11.1979	25	Num. 2.
JEDDAH A.P.	19. 6.1976	-4. 8.1977	29	Num. 1,4,5.
JUBAIL	6.10.1980		25	Num. 1.
KAISUMA	? . 4.1977	22.-1.1983	25	Num. 1.
KHAFJI	26. 3.1977		25	Num. 1 (?).
KHOBAR	25. 3.1979		25	Num. 1.
MAJMAA	22. 3.1976		25	Num. 1.
MEDINA			25	Num. 1.
MEDINA	7. 4.1976		29	Num. 1. Diameter.
MUZNAB	26.10.1979	11. 2.1980	25	Num. 1.
QAISUMA	22.-1.1985		25	
QURAYYAT	24.10.1979	2.12.1981	25	Num. 1.
RAHEEMA	? . 6.1977	-7.-7.1980	25	Num. 1,2.
RIYADH	6. 2.1979	2. 7.1979	25	Num. 12.
RIYADH A.P.	1. 5.1979		29	Num. 1,6.
SIHAT	21.-1.1979	12.10.1982	25	Num. 1,2.
TAIF	? . ?.1977		25	Num. 1.
TAIMA	25.10.1979	28.10.1979	25	Num. 1.



SA110



SAR110

Type SA110: An all-Arabic single ring postmark for use on ordinary outgoing mail. Curved at the top is "al 'adi" (العادي), or "ordinary". Beneath this is the office name preceded by "maktab barid" (مكتب بريد) or "post office". The central segment has "al-tarikh" (التاريخ), or "date" and three slashes dividing it into segments. At bottom in a straight line is "al-sadir" (الصادر), or "outgoing". Undated.

Type SAR110: As Type SA110, except the top line reads "musajjalat" (مسجلات) or registered, and in the second line only "barid" (بريد) or "post" precedes the office name. Undated.

Type SA110				
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	Diameter	Notes
Al Baha	undated		40	Used in 1976.
Type SAR110				
Al Baha	undated		40	Used in 1976.



Type S175: A bicalendar datebelted single ring cancellation. Arabic office name is written in a straight line. Western office name semi-circular. Differs from type S170 in that both Arabic and western office name trails a number.

Type S175				
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	Diameter	Notes
ABHA	29.10.79		40	Num. 6,7.
AFIF	1.10.79	? . 9.81	40	Num. 1,3,5,7. Greg. date reads 00.00.00 or 08.08.99.
BALJARSHI			40	
BISHA	15. 7.81	? . 2.82	40	Num. 1.
CONFUDAH			40	Num. 4.
DAMMAM	19. 4.79	7. 2.88	40	Num. 2,3,4,5,6,9, 11,13,18,20,21, 23,24,28,29,41, 42,44,46. Dammam 5 exists with heavy or thin letters.
DHAHRAN	? . 9.78		40	Num. 1.
GIZAN	? .10.78	? . ? .83	40	Num. 1,2,4.
HASSA	5. 2.81	18. 2.82	40	Num. 6.
JEDDAH A.P.	25. 9.78	10.02.80	40	Num. 1,3,5,8.
KHARJ	7.10.79	8.11.79	40	Nums. 1 and 4.
KHOBAR			40	Num. 1.
MEDINA	20.10.79	2. 5.83	40	Num. 4,12,15,18, 20. Arabic is "Madinat al Munawarah".
MISHA'A			40	Num. 3.
MUBARRAZ	? .11.81		40	
NAJHRAN	23.10.79		40	Num. 1.
QUNFUDAH			40	
QUWAYIYAH	? . ? .79		40	Num. 4. Greg. date 00.00.99.
RASS	13. 4.85		40	Num. 10.
RIYADH	21. 7.81	24. 2.87	40	Num. 23,24,31,33, 74.
RIYADH A.P.	7. 3.80	14. 2.90	40	Num. 5,6,10,19, 20,21,22,30,31, 35,40,44,50.
RIYADH AL KHOBRA	5. 1.87		40	Num. 7.
SABYA	? . ? .84		40	Num. 2.
SAFWA	30.10.79		40	Num. 4.
SARAT ABIDAH	8.12.86	21.12.86	40	Num. 4.
UMM EL HAMAM	24. 4.85		40	Num. 3.
WEDJH	29. 9.79	26.10.79	40	Num. 16.



Type S195: Similar to type S175 but has EITHER the Hijra or Gregorian date, not both.



Type S195				
Office Name	Earliest	Latest	Diam.	Notes
ABA ADDUD	22. 9.1979		35	Num. 1.
ABQAIQ			30	
ARTAWIYAH	7. 7.1981		30	Num. 1.
ARWAH	15. 5.1985	? . ?.1985	30	Num. 1.
BALJARSHI	6. 2.1980		30	Num. 12.
BARRAH	? . ?.1984		30	Num. 2, 3.
DAMINA	30. 3.1985	3.11.1986	30	Num. 1.
DHAHRAN EL GANOUB	24.10.1982	29.11.1986	34	Num. 2.
DHIBA	? . 3.1987		30	
DIRIYA			30	Num. 1.
HAFR	? . 7.1982	11. 3.1987	30	Num. 1, 4, 5.
HARADH	8. 6.1982		30	
JEDDAH A.P.	28. 6.1981	22.10.1981	30	Num. 7, 9.
KHABRA'A	30. 4.1986		30	Num. 8.
MENA	17. 9.1983	5. 9.1984	30	Num. 8, 13, 14.
MIKHWA	6. 2.1980		30	Num. 1.
NIFI	1.11.1982		30	Num. 2.
RIYADH KHABRA'A	1. 2.1986	20. 6.1987	30	Num. 1, 4.
SELAYL	12.11.1979	1. 4.1981	30	Num. 1, 3.
SHARURAH	18. 1.1987	28. 1.1987	30	Num. 2, 4.
TANNURAH			30	Num. 1.
TAYMA	11. 9.1982		30	Num. 2.
ULA	25. 1.1982	23.-1.1984	30	Num. 5, 7.
UNAIZAH	6. 4.1985		30	Num. 1.
UYAYNAH	1. 1.1987		35	Num. 2.
UYUN	6. 3.1986		30	Num. 2.
UYUN AL JAWA	3. 5.1986		35	Num. 2.
WEDJH	8. 2.1980		30	Num. 2, 8.

* * * * *

As the result of new discoveries listed in this part, it is necessary to make the following additions to the list of cancel type/use prefixes given in the original article. See page 8 of RANDOM NOTES #44:

- 'AR' for all-Arabic registered
- 'DF' for foreign outgoing
- 'DFO' for ordinary foreign outgoing
- 'DO' for ordinary outgoing
- 'G' for official
- 'I' for incoming or receiving
- 'O' for ordinary

To be continued in RN #49.

AN INTERESTING FISCAL DOCUMENT

By: Zahid Islam and R. J. Thoden

The illustrated document provides some insight into how the Saudi fiscal stamp tax system worked in 1359H (1940).

رقم التسلسل العام ١١٢٨٦

الرقم التسلسل ١

وصول يعطى لقاء المدفوعات الى الجباة - (وموظفي الصالح المأذونين بالقبض باسم خزينة الملكة العربية السعودية)

السكوكات	الضرائب والرسوم المقبوضة
اسم الشخص دافع المال وصفته	قروش
نوع العملة	انواع الضرائب
١١٤ ١٠ ٦	٥٤٤
١٢٥٨	٥٤٤

مجموع ٥٤٤

قط فقط كسب في يومه قرشاوا سعرة من ساقنا لا غير في ١١/١٠/٤٠

انموذج رقم ٤١

ان شكلي فوكويمان و درو دركان مكانك (في محله شيكه في اميرت كرايه مال ١٣٥٩) كما مبلغ ٥٣٣ روبه كاستكس روبره ان بانى

حساب بتهذه في سكترا

٦-٤-٢٨

٧-١٠-٢٠

٢٠

٣١

٢٩

٢٧

The document itself is a "receipt given against payments to collectors (and department employees authorized to collect in the name of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia Treasury)". This is a translation of the top two lines of the document. The receipt was for 533 qirsh in real estate tax for the year 1359 paid by Syed Hussain Akbar for property in Al-Shubaika (a district of Makkah) which "belongs to His Excellency Nawab Sahib, Wali

of Junagarh, who is away in India who belongs to the British Government". The tax was paid by 48 Indian rupees converted at 11 qirsh per rupee (528 qirsh) and 10 nickels converted at 1/2 qirsh (5 qirsh). A nickel was presumably a type of coin used at that time. The receipt is dated 1.11.1359H, equivalent to November 30, 1940.

The Urdu writing at the top of the reverse of the document states that "income for house #3 (9 rooms), two shops and house #2 for 1359 was 323 rupees; tax was 48 rupees 7 annas 5 pies, stamps were 3 annas for a total of 48 rupees 10 annas 6 pies". This was presumably written by the aforementioned Syed Hussain Akbar as a report to the owner of the rental property.

The Gujrati writing at the right center of the reverse of the document is an authorization from Nawab Mahabat Khanji III, the ruler of Junagarh state in British India, for Syed Hussain Akbar to act on his behalf in Saudi Arabia and was presumably written when the receipt form was still blank. This authority is written across a one anna postage and revenue stamp of Junagarh (Saurashtra) State to give it legal status, as was the custom during British rule. The stamp depicts the ruler's portrait.

Finally, an analysis of the Saudi revenue stamps used on this document. The Fiscal Stamp Regulations of 1926, as amended, called for three kinds of tax on documents: (1) a flat rate tax per document which varied according to the type of document (2) a proportional tax on financial documents which varied according to the amount of money involved and (3) a tax benefiting the (Hejaz) railroad at one qirsh per document. Most documents were thus subject to taxes (1) and (3), while financial documents were subject to all three. The Fiscal Stamp Regulations do not mention a hospital tax.

The stamp at the left is a 1/2 qirsh flat rate documentary stamp (APA #RF66), the correct rate for a receipt for payments to the government of more than 100 qirsh. The stamp second from the left is a 1/2 qirsh proportional documentary stamp (APA #RQ56), which was the correct rate for financial documents involving 1 qirsh to 1,000 qirsh. The next stamp is the 1 qirsh railroad tax stamp (APA #RR69) and the last stamp is a 1/8 qirsh hospital tax stamp (Scott #RA3, SG #346).

The hospital tax stamps are listed in postage stamp catalogues as postal tax stamps. The regulations regarding the hospital tax have not yet come to light, but it is known that the stamps were required on all documents requiring other fiscal stamps starting in late 1936, as well as on some postal matter (letters, but not postcards, greeting cards, newspapers). Anyone having a copy of the hospital tax regulations is urged to contact the editor.

The concept of multiple taxes on a single document is a carryover from the days of Ottoman administration. It was continued by the Hejaz, and then by the combined Kingdom of Hejaz and Nejd. A road tax replaced the railroad tax in 1943. The separate flat rate and proportional taxes were consolidated into a revenue tax ("maaliy") in 1949, and the hospital tax was abolished in 1964. Until the discontinuance of all document taxes in 1973, the revenue tax and road tax were charged.

MINIATURE SHEETS

By: Ramy A.

Subject	NO.	Date of Issue	Size in mm.	Perf.
1 Expansion of Dammam Port	3	16. 8.61	89x104	Imperf
2 Malaria Eradication	1	7. 5.62	89x110	Imperf
3 King Faisal	1	6. 7.75	70x81	Imperf
4 50th Anniversary of First Commemorative Stamp Issue	1	4. 6.79	100x76	Imperf
5 1400th Anniversary of Hegira	1	26. 1.81	90x90	Imperf
6 Telecommunications Achievements	3	28. 2.81	88x78	Imperf
7 50th Anniversary of the Unification of Saudi Arabia	1	23. 9.81	100x74	Imperf
8 New Postal Buildings	4	14. 7.82	89x70	Imperf
9 Installation of King Fahd	1	12. 2.83	80x90	13.85
10 Installation of Prince Abdullah	1	12. 2.83	80x90	13.85
11 Solar Village	2	14. 8.84	80x80	Imperf
12 International Conference on the History of King AbdulAziz	1	1.12.85	120x101	Imperf
13 Extension of the Holy Prophet's Mosque	1	15.12.87	110x70	Imperf
14 The Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques	1	28. 4.88	120x85	13.75
15 Expansion of the Holy Mosque	2	30.12.89 13. 2.90	105x80	Imperf 13.75

SOME USEFUL NOTES

1. All miniature sheets mentioned were printed in the Government Security Printing Press, Riyadh, except for the first two, which were printed by Dar Al-Asfahani, Jeddah.
2. The first two miniature sheets were printed on watermarked paper, SG type 70, Scott type 337. All others were unwatermarked.
3. Malaria sheet exists with watermark right or left. It also exists in many varieties such as missing colors, one stamp omitted, printed on unwatermarked paper, etc. These, although collected, are of dubious status and possibly "printer's waste".
4. Only 2533 King Faisal miniature sheets (#3) were distributed to collectors. The rest were presented to heads of state and embassies. Similarly, the Hegira and telecommunications miniature sheets (#5&6) were limited in distribution to 3300 each.
5. All miniature sheets from #9 to #15 are difficult to find in 100% quality without fingerprints on the back, because of hand-counting and type of gum used.

OF SAUDI ARABIA

Yaghmour

Designer	Quantity Printed	Face	SG Cat #	SG Price (£)	Scott Cat #	Scott Price (\$)	Saudi Price (SR)
1 -----	900 each	----	446-8 F/N	275	245 F/N	300	1100
2 -----	5000	17p	445	14	254a	17.5	75
3 Ibrahim Tahtawi	5000	40p	1102	250	674	600	1100
4 Al-Turki & Ghorl	15000	100h	1223	38	778	60	125
5 Ibrahim Al-Turki	5000	300h	1249 F/N	--	805	--	350
6 Ibrahim Al-Turki	5000 each	100h each	1254 F/N	--	811-3	---	350
7 Ibrahim Al-Turki	10000	10R	1274	50	833	80	125
8 Ibrahim Al-Turki	10000 each	300h each	1334	125	844 F/N	---	125
9 Ibrahim Tahtawi	10000	115h	1348 F/N	--	862 F/N	---	175 pair
10 Ibrahim Tahtawi	10000	115h	1353 F/N	--	863 F/N	---	see above
11 Ibrahim Al-Turki	50000 each	100h each	1388	35	915-6	1.2	20
12 A. Ghani	50000	10R	1429	15	956 F/N	---	15-20
13 M. Ghareeb Barwar	25000	300h	1549	20	1068 F/N	---	30
14 A. Ghani & others	15000	3R	1565	20	1083 F/N	---	40
15 A. El- Hussini	20000 each	5R each	1593-4	--	----	---	30-40 pair

F/N = mentioned in footnote only.

6. Installation and Solar Village sheets (#9-11) exist with shifted printing or shifted lines (rare).
7. Extension of the Holy Prophet's Mosque (#13): many shades of color exist; e.g. the background color varies from light to dark yellow, similarly the green varies from light to dark. The Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques (#14) sheet also exists in different shades; e.g. the background blue color exists in light and dark, similarly the brown color.
8. MS#15: The perforated sheet was issued about two months later. It was printed in a sheet of 9 with color proofing bars in the bottom margin of the sheet. The height varies from 79mm to 82mm. The imperforate sheet exists in several shades; for example, the green minarets and the yellow background vary from light to dark.
9. Prices listed in the last column reflect current market prices in Saudi Arabia. Of course, sales may be made above or below these prices.

S. G. 1990 CATALOGUE - COMMENTS

By: David Graham

1. HEJAZ:

In general, I suggested price reductions of 20% to 33% in this section for mint stamps. Gibbons have mainly kept prices as before, or made modest increases - one can hardly expect any commercial undertaking to devalue its stocks to such an extent for a 3-4 year period.

The problem seems to be that an anticipated increase in the number of collectors has not materialized, or has been overwhelmed by the appearance on the market of hoarded stocks in response to the publicity given Saudi stamps over the past decade, and the resulting substantial price increases.

For used stamps, I recommended keeping prices about the same for the commonly used values, and deleting most others. As this would entail some explanation of postal rates, and distinction between bogus, favour and "commercial" or postally-used cancels, Gibbons were reluctant to open an industrial-size can of worms! In most cases, they have kept used prices as before; they have also added a note in the Introduction about forged and bogus cancels.

The "King Ali" control issue has been rewritten, with prices for Jeddah overprints - the type illustrated is Jeddah I. Gibbons seem to feel justifiably that it would be beyond the scope of their catalogue to distinguish between the two types, especially as the second (Cairo) type is of unknown status. It may be noted that some colors of basic stamps have also been revised.

There are other important changes in the various footnotes.

2. NEJD, HEJAZ & NEJD:

Pricing generally as above; substantial revisions to the 1q and 1-1/2q surcharges.

3. KINGDOM:

I only suggested some revisions to the issues up to the 1939 Hospital Tax stamp. The 1934-1960 Toughra series has been sensibly rewritten. Regarding later issues, pricing has generally followed the earlier pattern, with reductions for some of the more extravagantly priced material, such as the "Tourist" 100 and 200p, and certain miniature sheets. Prices of some used stamps have been evened out, with small increases to cheaper items, and a few cuts in cases where it would appear that someone has turned up at the Strand shop with a few dozen previously rare items, e.g. SG 776, down from £250 to £121.

In my opinion, the latest pricing does not reflect the actual scarcity of fine used commemorative stamps from about 1960, where many of the few actually used were ruined by poor cancels, dog-ears and the like. However, the new catalogue prices are probably in line with the demand for such material - verbum sapienti satis!

WILDFLOWERS OF SAUDI ARABIA

By: *A. A. Sa'id and J. P. Mandaville*

A series of definitive stamps showing flowers of Saudi Arabia was issued in January-February 1990. There were 21 different designs for each of the three denominations issued. See RANDOM NOTES #47.



Shown below are the scientific names of the flowers.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
ALOE SHEILAE	BLEPHARIS CILIARIS	PERGULARIA TOMENTOSA	TALINUM CUNEIFOLIUM	ECHIUM HORRIDUM	CLEOME	GYANDRIRIS SISYRINCHIUM
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
SENECIO GLAUCAS	CISTANCHE TUBULOSA	PLUMBAGO ZEYLANICA	CAPPARIS SPINOSA	PEGANUM HARMALA	ACACIA	GAGEA RETICULATA
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
DIPLTAXIS HARRA	ANVILLEA GARCINII	STRIGA ASIATICA	RHANTERIUM EPAPPOSUM	OENOSTACHYS ABYSSINIA	ROEMERIA HYBRIDA	PAPAVER DUBIUM

Following is some information regarding each flower. Numbering is from the top left of the block of 21.

1. ALOE SHEILAE: Lily family (Liliaceae). A succulent discovered west of Bishah in western Saudi Arabia by British wildflower photographer Sheila Collette, and named after her. Many species of Aloe have traditional medicinal uses. This plant, found on granite outcrops, has flowering stalks to about 1 meter high. The flowers are in 3.5 cm clusters with each single flower 0.5-1 cm long. The flower is dark red with a green top. It can stand drought. When it rains, the leaves open and are filled with water. The leaves have a waxy covering to conserve water. It blooms in the winter period, November to January. Arabic name: sabar. English name: Sheila's Aloe.

2. BLEPHARIS CILIARIS: Acanthus family (Acanthaceae). An extremely prickly perennial growing to about 20 cm high. Found in many parts of western, central and southeastern Saudi Arabia as well as in neighboring countries. It blooms year-round. The smooth leaves at the bottom of the plant are eaten by reptiles. The flowers are sometimes eaten and are said to "have a good effect on the stomach". Arabic name: naqqi'.

3. PERGULARIA TOMENTOSA: Milkweed family (Asclepiadaceae). A twining milkweed that bleeds copious milky juice (latex). The fruits (follicles) grow in pairs and are covered with hardened tubercles. Widespread in western and central Saudi Arabia as well as some parts of the east. It flowers year-round. Somewhat poisonous and avoided by livestock, the plant was used in earlier times in the treatment of hides to remove the hair. It has some traditional medicinal uses, such as for treating asthma. Arabic name: ghalqah.

4. TALINUM CUNEIFOLIUM: Portulaca family (Portulacaceae). With stems up to 1 meter long, this plant is found in the mountainous parts of southwestern Saudi Arabia. The flowers are about 2.5 cm wide. It blooms in the evening.

5. ECHIUM HORRIDUM: Borage family (Boraginaceae). A rough-haired annual to about 25cm high with purplish, reddish or white-pink flowers. It is widespread in Saudi Arabia, including the northern plains and the Summan region of the Eastern Province. It blooms in March-April. It is said to be useful in the treatment of diabetes and fever. Arabic name: kahl or kahil. English name Viper's bugloss.

6. CLEOME, probably CLEOME TRINERVIA: Caper family (Capparidaceae). A genus sometimes placed in a separate family. The herb grows to 30-35 cm high and is covered with a hairy texture. It is found abundantly in the Riyadh area and less commonly all over the Kingdom. It blooms from December to May each year.

7. GYANDRIRIS SISYRINCHIUM: Iris family (Iridaceae). The desert iris of Arabia, more common in the central part of the Kingdom than in the east, growing to about 30 cm high. It flowers in February, in mid-day if the weather is clear. The flowers often remain closed in overcast weather.

8. SENECIO GLAUCUS: Sunflower family (Compositae). This groundsel, with somewhat fleshy leaves, is a very common annual of near-coastal sands in the Eastern province. It also grows in valleys north of Riyadh. Blooming in February-April, it grows to about 25 cm high. Arabic name: rijlat al-ghurab (crow's shank).

9. CISTANCHE TUBULOSA: Broomrape family (Orobanchaceae). A parasitic perennial spending the hot season below ground as dormant tubers growing on the roots of its host shrubs. After rains it sends up its flowering spikes which may grow to 75 cm high. The plant is leafless and without chlorophyll, and thus entirely dependent on its host for nourishment. It produces great quantities of dust-fine seeds which mix in the soil and are capable of infecting new host plants, even after 20 years. It is found in central as well as eastern Saudi Arabia. Arabic name: dhanum. English name sometimes used: desert candle.

10. PLUMBAGO ZEYLANICA: Leadwort family (Plumbaginaceae). Growing to about 75 cm high, this plant has been recorded from the mountainous southwestern parts of the Kingdom. Not found in desert country. It has a white flower 17 mm in diameter.

11. CAPPARIS SPINOSA: Caper family (Capparidaceae). This is the wild caper, from which the flower buds are collected in Europe to make the pickled condiment capers. The plant, with dangerous hooked spines, grows as a spreading bush in many parts of the Middle East, including much of Arabia. It grows in rocky areas and at edges of valleys. The fruits split open when ripe, exposing their red interior and purplish-grey seeds. Arabic name: shafallah. English name: caper.
12. PEGANUM HARMALA: Caltrops family (Zygophyllaceae). This bushy, somewhat ill-smelling, perennial herb contains narcotic alkaloids. It is not uncommon around disturbed ground in the central to northern parts of Saudi Arabia. The flowers are about 2 cm broad and bloom in April. It is very dark green in color. It is poisonous and was used medicinally. Arabic name: harmal (from which the Latin name was derived).
13. ACACIA, probably *Acacia ehrenbergiana*: Pea family (Leguminosae). The acacias, nearly all strong-spined trees, are common from central to east Africa across parts of Arabia. They provide the dominant trees of many parts of central and western Saudi Arabia. It flowers from April to June and has a sweet odor. It grows to several meters high. Camels eat the leaves. Arabic name: salam. English name: Ehrenberg's acacia.
14. GAGEA RETICULATA: Lily family (Liliaceae). A desert dwarf lily growing to about 15 cm high. It is found in many parts of Saudi Arabia, including the Eastern Province. It often grows at rocky edges of valleys near wild iris. It blooms in February-March. Arabic name: shahhum.
15. DIPLLOTAXIS HARRA: Mustard family (Cruciferae). A rough-leaved annual common in most parts of Saudi Arabia, often in rocky areas. It grows to about 25 cm high. It has a sweet odor. It blooms in February-March. The leaves have a hairy covering to reduce water loss. Arabic name: khafsh.
15. ANVILLEA GARCINII: Sunflower family (Compositae). A low stiff perennial often seen on silty basins in inland desert. It can grow into a sizeable bush in favorable conditions. Its leaves are covered by dense fuzz which gives the plant a grayish color. It blooms in February-April.
17. STRIGA ASIATICA: Foxglove family (Scrophulariaceae). Semi-parasitic plant sometimes seen around croplands in southwestern Saudi Arabia. The flowers are about 1 cm broad on 10 cm branches. English name: Asiatic witchweed.
18. RHANTERIUM EPAPPOSUM: Sunflower family (Compositae). A dense, intricately branched, rounded shrublet dominant over thousands of square kilometers of central to northeastern Saudi Arabia. It sheds its leaves in early summer but puts out new growth soon after the first rains. It grows to about 85 cm high and is an important grazing plant. Arabic name: 'arfaj.
19. OENOSTACHYS ABYSSINICA: Iris family (Iridaceae). A showy plant of 'Asir. Grows to about 75 cm high and the flower is 3.5 cm long.
20. ROEMERIA HYBRIDA: Poppy family (Papaveraceae). This annual sheds its four fragile purple petals almost as soon as they open. Its seed capsule is bristly-hairy. Not infrequent in many inland desert parts of Saudi Arabia.
21. PAPAVER DUBIUM: Poppy family (Papaveraceae). A 45-cm high poppy found in 'Asir. Its flowers are about 4 cm in diameter. It blooms in March/April. The juice of the fruit has been used for a cough remedy. It is reported to be poisonous to cattle. The seeds can be used to activate horses. Red ink can be extracted from its petals, which fall down before midday.

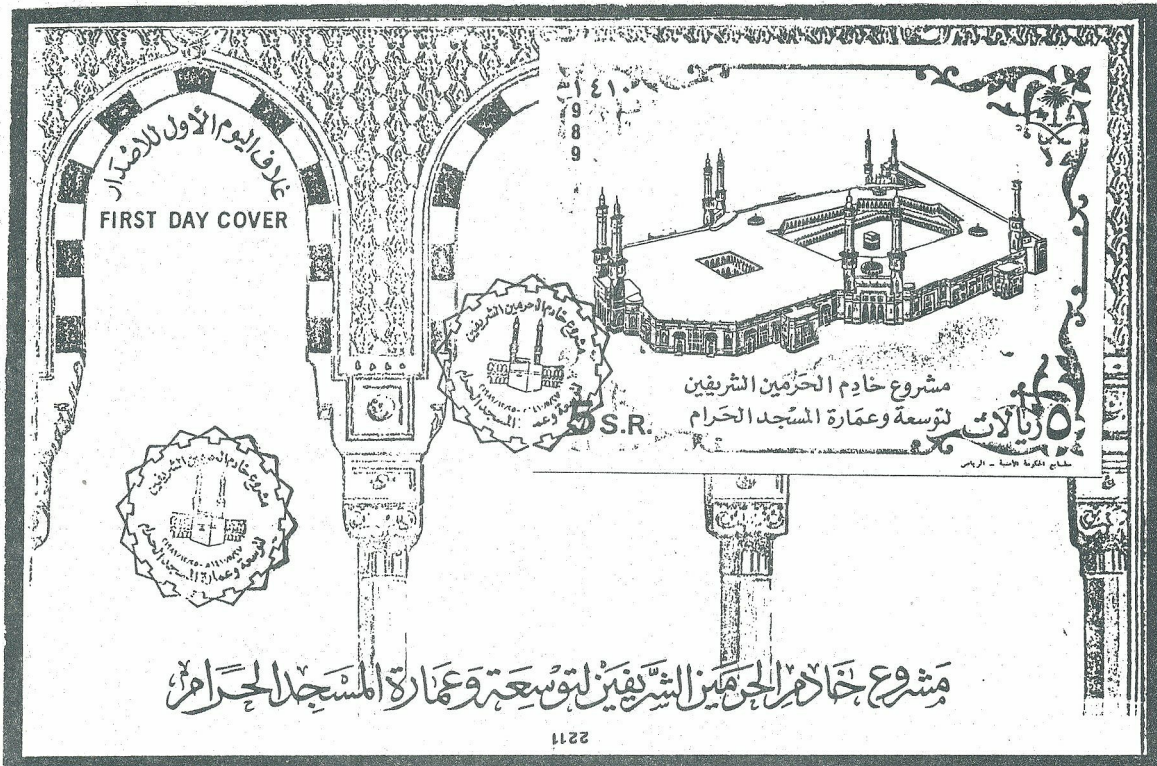
Editor's Note: Messrs. Sa'id and Mandaville independently submitted information on the Saudi wildflowers. This information was consolidated by the editor into the above article.

NEW ISSUES OF SAUDI ARABIA

By: **Abdul Aziz A. Sa'id**

The date of issue of the 75h Ta'if definitive was April 3, 1990.

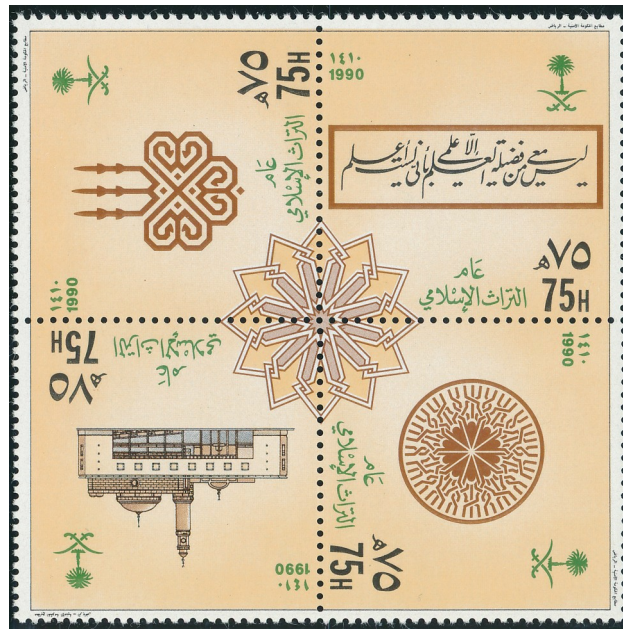
A very limited quantity of perforated and imperforate Expansion of the Holy Mosque souvenir sheets were affixed to official first day covers and canceled by the special commemorative handstamp used to cancel the corresponding stamps.



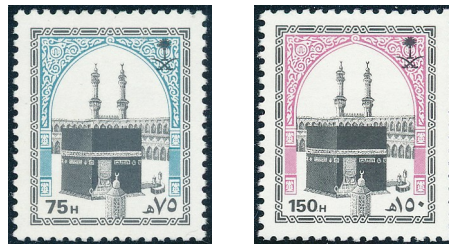
July 21, 1990: A set of 2 stamps, 50h and 75h, was issued to mark the 25th anniversary of Saudi television, which started on July 17, 1965. The design shows a TV tower and telecast production center. Printed in sheets of 50 stamps and 2 post code labels (13 x 4). Perforated 12. Quantity: 400,000 sets.



July 29, 1990: A se-tenant block of four 75h stamps was issued to commemorate the Islamic Heritage Year 1410. The designs show a mosque, Islamic inscriptions and ornaments. Printed in sheets of 12 blocks of four (3 x 4). Perforated 12. Quantity: 100,000 blocks.



July 30, 1990: Two definitives, 75h and 150h, in the upright Holy Ka'aba type were issued. Printed in sheets of 100 stamps and 5 postcode labels (15 x 7). Perforated 12.



September 3, 1990: Se-tenant pairs of 75h and 150h stamps were issued to mark the achievements of Saudia (Saudi Arabian Airlines) during the 45 years of its existence. One design shows the international route system, and the other the domestic route system. Printed in sheets of 25 pairs and 4 postcode labels (6 x 9). Perforated 12. Quantity: 200,000 sets of pairs.



September 26, 1990: A set of two stamps, 75h and 150h, was issued to commemorate the 30th anniversary of the founding of OPEC on September 14 1960. The design shows "30 YEARS" and the OPEC emblem upon a colorful background. Printed in sheets of 50 stamps and 4 postcode labels (9 x 6) on thick paper with grayish shiny gum. Perforated 12. Quantity: 400,000 sets.



All stamps were printed on medium white unwatermarked paper with invisible gum by the Government Security Press, Riyadh, unless otherwise noted.

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