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ملاحظات عابرة
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Birds of Saudi Arabia (see [page 28](#))

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.

Dr. S.S. Amr, President	R. J. Thoden, Vice president
R.R. Barracano, Vice president	W.A. King, Membership Secretary
D.E. Jessich, Treasurer	R. Ul-Haque, Corresponding Secretary
W.A. King, Auctioneer	R.R. Barracano, Annual Show Chairman

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, provided sufficient contributions have been received. 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 (1992) 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. I was recently asked to expertize a copy of the Hijaz 1/4p rouletted 20 stamp with a large three-line Jeddah overprint (unlisted in Scott and Gibbons. Mayo #135). The stamp submitted proved to have a type 6 forged overprint. This stamp has never been by us with a genuine overprint.

Unfortunately. the Mayo catalog lists a large number of items not known to the A.P.A. to exist as genuine stamps. including, but not limited to. the following Mayo numbers: 33, 34g, 43R, 65A, 67i, 67k, 67m, 67p, 67Af, 67Aj, 67Al, 67An, 67Ar, 68i, 68k, 69g, 69h, 69k, 69m, 69p, 69Al, 69An, 69Ar, 70i, 70k, 71k, 71Al, 72k, 72Aj, 72Al, 73k, 73s, 80, 89, 99, 100, 109, 111, 126i, 127d, T129, T129i, 133, 135, 138A, 140d, 140A, 140j, 141b, 143d, 144d, 144Ae, 145, 145A, 145Ae, 145At, 148, 1481, 148A, 148AJ, 147W and vars, 147AW and vars, 150A and vars, 158f, 158Ae, 160, 160i, 161, 161i, 163, 163A, 164b, 164d, 164A, 167b, 168b, 168Ae, 169b, 169d, 169Ac, 169Ae, 169Am, 169Ap, 172i, 179i, 181, 185A, 187d, 187i, 188i, 188m, 188p, 188A, 188Aj, 189i, 189AJ, 196, 196i, 196A, 196Aj, 199m, 199p, 254, 255, 255i, 261A, 269A, 269AJ.

If anyone has any of these that he thinks is genuine, please let us know.

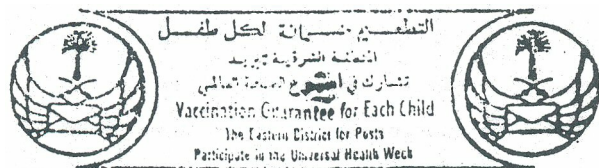
2. RANDOM NOTES #11 dated January 1, 1978 mentions that "part of an imperforate sheet of the 6pi Prophet's Mosque, second watermark, has been found in a bookseller's shop in Ta'if. Reported by John Beavis". I had never seen this item until recently. The photostat below shows that the strip of 3 has been folded and torn out of the sheet by hand. This would hardly be the case if this were a "philatelic" item. It should be listed in the catalogs as a variety of Scott 494a, SG 860.



3. The A.P.A. annual show and auction will be held November 19-20 in Dhahran. Members and subscribers in the Kingdom are urged to start preparing their exhibits. Those with material to sell in the auction should contact Willie King.
4. You should have received a new RANDOM NOTES INDEX in April, covering all 50 issues. Thanks to Willie King for the initiative in putting this together.

5. Thanks to Abdul Aziz Sa'id for information on two cachets applied to mail:

- (a) "Vaccination Guarantee for Each Child / The Eastern District for Poets / Participate in the Universal Health Week".
- (b) "General Census of Population and Housing / 1413 / The census is the foundation of progressive development. Help make it succeed."



6. More on forgeries at auction

Phoenix International's Sale #82 of March 7, 1992 had a number of items which were examined by David Graham and determined to be forgeries, based on A.P.A. standards of genuineness. Most of these lots had 1991 Holcombe certificates. The items did not sell at the auction, but were still offered in the "unsold list" after the sale. Apparently, the auctioneer does not believe A.P.A. opinions.

I was in New York on vacation and able to examine the Hijaz lots at the Cherrystone sale of May 7. I found three lots containing or consisting of forgeries by A.P.A. Standards, one with a Holcombe certificate. To Cherrystone's credit, these lots were withdrawn.

Again, you should be wary of Holcombe certificates. Many such lots are genuine by A.P.A. standards, but an equal number are not.

7. A review of Scott's 1992 Saudi Arabia listings shows another year of essentially no change, other than prices, as the editor continues to ignore A.P.A. suggestions for improvement. The only editorial changes I could find are:

- (a) A note about gold overprints after #L19.
- (b) Deletion of #L40d, the inverted 1/4q on 1/8q surcharge of 1923.
- (c) A note above #35 stating the second Najd handstamp "is said to be in private hands".

A number of outright errors in the listing were left uncorrected. We have been receiving requests for #911A, which does not exist as listed (the stamp does exist on unwatermarked paper, however).

Apparently, Scott is concentrating its energies in listing all the issues produced by philatelic agencies of the last 25 years that were not listed until Scott's change in policy last year.

8. There are some stamps underpriced in Scott's, in my opinion. Among such are L16c, L17b, L18d, L52c, L54b, L63b, L78, L87d, L95a, L136c, L138c, L138d, J5.

Likewise, there are overpriced stamps. One example of such is the Caliphate set with black Jeddah three-line overprints, normal and inverted (Scott L123-128, plus "a" varieties). There seem to be enough of these around. The blue and red overprints seem to be much scarcer than the black, yet are priced lower.

Another vastly overpriced item is the Post Office souvenir sheets (unlisted by Scott, listed by SG as MS1334 at £125). These seem to be showing up in auctions all over the world, usually at ridiculously high estimates, for example in FILATCO's June 12 sale at \$150. They are available here at SR 150 or less (\$1 = SR 3.73).

9. The A.P.A. had 321 members and subscribers in 1991, a decline of 6 from the 327 in 1990. A breakdown by country of residence follows:

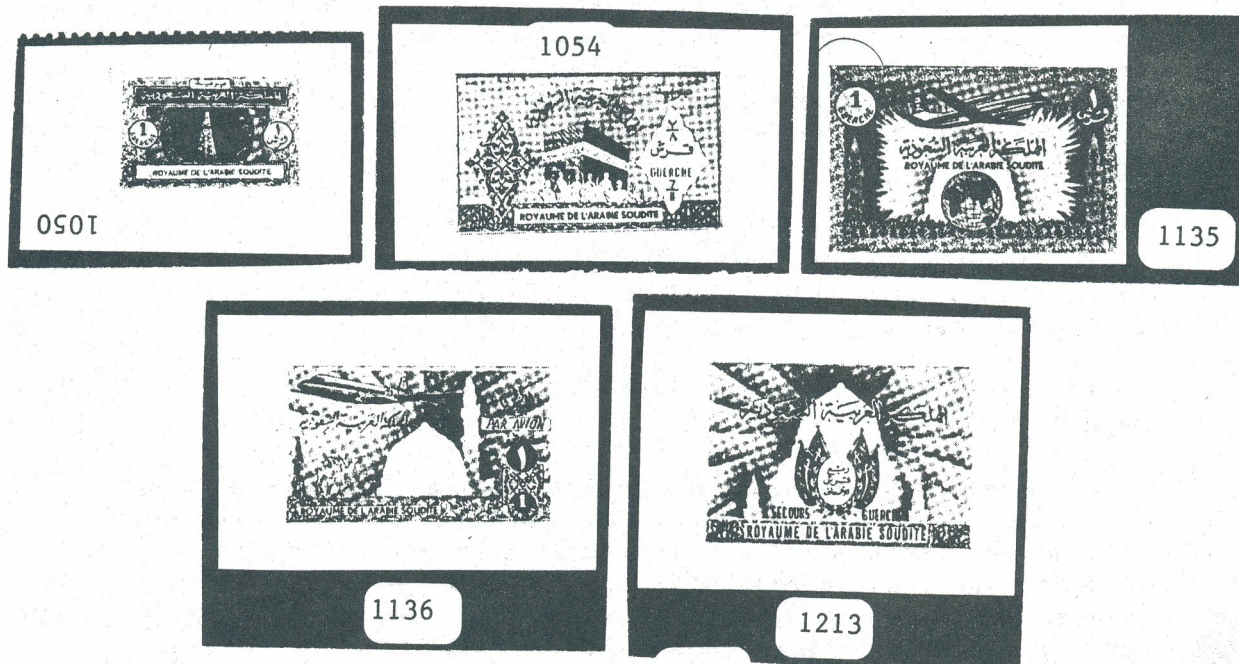
Saudi Arabia	155	Bahrain	4
U.S.A.	96	Pakistan	3
U.K.	35	Canada	3
Netherlands	10	Address unknown	3

Two each: Germany, Indonesia, Norway, Qatar.

One each: Belgium, Cyprus, Syria, Turkey.

10. The next installment of Mr. K. D. Knight's series on cancellations is delayed again. Hopefully, it will appear in RANDOM NOTES #52. Information is still being gathered. It seems there is an enormous number of unlisted cancels, especially of the more recent styles.

11. FILATCO's June 12 sale offered a number of items described as essays (lots 1050, 1054, 1135, 1136, 1213) in 3 or 4 colors each. Does anyone know anything about them? Are they legitimate? Who printed them?



12. A.P.A. subscriber Tarik Alireza of Jeddah received gold medals for his exhibit "Saudi Arabia: Development of the Postal Service 1836-1936" at PHILANIPPON (Tokyo - Nov. 1991) and the Granada Expo (Spain - April 1992). Congratulations. Tarik!

I understand that the new F.I.P commissioner for Saudi Arabia, Mr. Yousuf Ageel of Jeddah, also exhibited definitives of Saudi Arabia 1934-1980 at Granada, but I do not have any information on the award he received.

13. RANDOM NOTES #50 mentions that Fred Benedict will be making a study of the Najdi surcharges (Scott 46-48. SG 239-243). David Graham sends the following comments:

"Tarik Alireza's collection brings out some interesting points. It appears that the smaller 1q surcharge, which I've noted as between 15.5 and 16.5mm and has thicker and cruder lettering, was introduced shortly after the Najdis entered Makkah. The November Feldman sale had one of these on a cover dated 16/6/1925, which is probably the earliest recorded use of the second Najdi handstamp as well - it has a first handstamp 2q beside it, and was sent via Qunfudah to Cairo.

The second type of 1q surcharge, which I have noted as between 17.5 and 18mm. with finer lettering, was apparently introduced in 1926, during a shortage of stamps for the domestic rate, caused mainly by Albert Eid's vast philatelic mailings throughout the year. Tarik's earliest cover with it is dated 12/5/1926, from Jeddah to Makkah. Before then, the 1/2q without surcharge in pairs, seems to have been the commonest domestic franking.

The 1q on 1/2q was a real "workhorse" stamp up to the end of 1926, and can also be found on foreign mail, for all rates. Tarik also has covers of late October to December, with it beside the Hijaz & Najd 2q postage due, to make the basic 3q foreign rate.

I don't know if the 1-1/2q surcharged value was done at two different times, as these are very rare on covers or pieces, and are not too common with decent cancels either. I would suspect that the printing with coarser lettering was done first, and the finer one later. as with the 1q surcharges, but I haven't enough material to draw conclusions from, especially as 1-1/2q wasn't one of the common rates.

The 2q on 3q also seems to be an odd surcharging, since 3q was the basic foreign rate, which in 1926 was generally made with combinations of 2q and 1q values, as noted earlier. I'm only aware of the coarser type of setting on this one."

14. David continues with more comments on Najdi Sultanate and Hijaz & Najd issues:

" On the subject of Najdi Sultanate stamps, it appears that most used ones went to Albert Eid, with only about half a dozen of the hundred-odd handstamped varieties actually used commercially. Apart from the 1/2q and surcharged 1q mentioned above, the "workhorse" stamps included the 2q fiscal (SG 217), and the railway 1q and 2q (SG 218b and 219). Most other "used" values that I know of, apart from those on Eid's covers, have dealer's or favour cancels, usually

the Makkah all-Arabic type, and even some of these may be fake.

All these Najdi stamps were used either philatelically by Eid, or, less often, commercially, during 1926. This was the first year of the Hijaz & Najd administration under AbdulAziz Ibn Sa'ud, apart from the few days at the end of 1925. when Madinah, Yanbu and Jeddah came under Saudi control. So we find another problem arises, concerning the two sets of Hijaz & Najd definitives attributed by the catalogues to February of 1926, although the earliest use on cover that Tarik has recorded is 20/3/1926, being a 9q franking of the second colours on a registered envelope from Makkah to India. This was followed two days later by a cover bearing the first colours set from Makkah to Albert Eid, which may have been part of a larger mailing.

On 26/3/1926 there followed another batch of covers to our friend, including imperforate and perforated 14 varieties. These have registration numbers between 592 and 759, and it seems safe to assume that the total sent to Eid was nearly seventy. Further bulk mailings, from both Makkah and Jeddah, went to him every few days in April and the first half of May, which included a mass of Najdi Sultanate stamps with both first and second handstamps, and many varieties of the Hijaz & Najd designs, including double prints, which can only be described as printer's waste - which should probably also include the perforation varieties mentioned above.

All this has led us to a further suspicion - were the first colour varieties in fact proofs that leaked from the printers, or a small trial printing that the Saudis rejected for some reason? The principal one would be, in my opinion, that the colours of the second set are in accordance with the U.P.U. system for different rates, as indeed were those of the 1916-17 first Hijaz issue. Does anyone have a commercial cover with any of the first colour values that might disprove this theory? The only stamps of this issue that I have bear suspiciously nice partial Jeddah cancels, and may well have come from Eid's covers. It would also be interesting to find out the earliest date of use of either type, even philatelically - it has struck me that the reported February date of issue might be similar to the long prevailing error about the 1916 stamps.

For those not familiar with the story, the stamps were requested from the Survey of Egypt, where T.E. Lawrence worked on the designs, with others, and generally took charge of the project. The stamps were then printed and distributed abroad, with dates of their release by the printers given as dates of issue. In fact King Hussain*, through his postmaster, objected to both the designs and the texts of the new stamps. However, he was in a weak position as far as the British authorities in Egypt were concerned, so he was persuaded to authorize their use from mid-October, rather than August and September, as books by the Survey of Egypt, Warin and Howarth & Sargent led everyone to believe until recently".

* In Saudi Arabia, King Hussain is known as Sharif Hussain.

THE JEDDAH TWO-LINE OVERPRINT

by W. A. King

Following the King Ali* issue the Two-Line is often the next overprint acquired by a new Hijaz collector. Since a forgery problem does exist the best security for the Two-Line collection is to be able to 'plate' your stamp to the only known genuine setting. Whilst many positions are difficult, an equal number have very easy 'plateable' characteristics. This article is intended to help you to correctly plate sufficient of your own Two-Line stamps to let you determine those on which you either need help or are suspect.

Historical Note

In late 1924 Ibn Sa'ud, unhappy with King Hussain's* assumption of the title of Caliph and the way the Hajj was being run, entered Taif on September 5th 1924. Following pressure from Jeddah merchants and municipal leaders, King Hussain abdicated, and was succeeded by his son Ali on October 4th, 1924 - the 5th Rabi' Al Awwal 1343. King Ali retreated from Makkah to Jeddah on October 13th taking with him all the valuables, including stamps, left in the treasury. Ibn Sa'ud followed the Hijazis to Jeddah and the siege of Jeddah commenced on December 6th 1924.

In Jeddah they were uncertain if all of the stamps had been collected so it was decided to overprint all the current stocks to ensure no unoverprinted stamps had any validity. The treasury held not only current 'Makkah Arms' issues but also remnants of various original issues printed by the Survey of Egypt press. However it should be noted that unoverprinted 5p 'Makkah Arms' issue have been seen with cancellation dates late into 1925. King Ali held out in Jeddah until December 19th 1925, finally resigning and seeking exile in Iraq.

The Sequence of Jeddah Overprints

The Two Line overprint is the first Jeddah overprint listed in the catalogues and books by Gibbons, Scott, Mayo, Wilson and the APA Forgery Manual. All these publications follow the sequence listed by D. F. Warin in her 1927 publication THE POSTAL ISSUES OF HEJAZ, JEDDAH AND NEJD.

However recent work by David Graham and Tarik Alireza, working from dated covers, shows that the Two-Line was almost certainly one of the later Jeddah overprints to enter service.

This seems to be reasonably logical as the stocks of stamps came from the treasury and the first stamps overprinted were almost certainly those of the most recent issue i.e. the 'Arms' issue. A new issue was ordered from Egypt - the King Ali issue - however part of the consignment was 'lost' in transit and overprinting was adopted making the unoverprinted stamps unusable. Therefore as the requirement continued, and these problems with the new King Ali issue occurred, it is likely there was a requirement for older stamps to be overprinted. Of course there was also possibly some philatelic demand!

For the record, therefore, Alireza & Graham's sequence of usage is as follows:

Large Three-Line - Overprinted in Red, Blue, Black & Gold.

Illegibles - Surcharged in Black only.

Illegibles with Handstamps - Black with some violet handstamps.

Four-Line - Surcharged Black, Red & Blue.

Two-Line - Overprinted in Red, Blue & Gold.

Small Three-Line - Overprinted in Red & Blue.

King Ali - Overprinted in Red, Blue & Black.

* In Saudi Arabia known as Sharif Ali & Sharif Hussain

Warin indicated that the Two-Line and the Small Three-Line were printed in January or February of 1925. However, it is mid-April 1925 before any covers with these overprints are recorded, whilst the Large Three-Line was authorized and is known from January 7th 1925.

The information written-up by Warin was more extensive on the Two-Line issue. However the quantities she recorded as 'official' must also be questioned. APA members have seen, in a New York dealer's stock, quantities exceeding the reputed printing quantity listed by Warin.

Mayo provides a Two-line overprinted list which includes a number of issues which must be dubious. A number have only been recorded as forgeries by the APA. A check list is provided below showing all Two-line overprinted issues known to exist with a genuine overprint plus the others listed by Mayo. Any collector having a copy of any of these unconfirmed stamps is invited to contact the APA. Similarly anyone knowing of a copy of the Two-line overprint on the Arms issue on cover please advise the APA.

TWO-LINE CHECK LIST			Face Values (Colour)					
Basic Stamp	Opt. Col.	Opt. Variety	1pa Brown	1/8pi Orange	1/4pi Green	1/2pi red	1pi Blue	2pi Magenta
Perf 12	Blue	Normal	?					
Roul 20	Red	Normal		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	"	Inverted		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	"	Other		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	?	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	Blue	Normal		F	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
	"	Inverted			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
	"	Other			<input type="checkbox"/>	?		
Roul 13	Gold	Normal			<input type="checkbox"/>			
	Black	Normal		?				
	Red	Normal	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	"	Inverted	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	"	Other	<input type="checkbox"/>	?	<input type="checkbox"/>			
	Blue	Normal	F	F	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		?
Framed + Surcharge	"	Inverted		?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>
	"	Other			<input type="checkbox"/>			
	Gold	Normal			<input type="checkbox"/>			
Unframed	Blue	Normal			?	<input type="checkbox"/>		
		Inverted						
Framed	Red	Normal					F	
	Blue	Normal	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Framed + Surcharge	"	Inverted		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>
	"	Other			<input type="checkbox"/>			
Arms	Blue	Sideways				<input type="checkbox"/>		10pi(<input type="checkbox"/>
Postage Dues	Red	Date Left				20pa	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
		" Right				<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		Other				<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	Blue	Date Left				<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	"	" Right				<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

- Legend : Stamp exists with genuine overprint.
 ? : Listed by Mayo but no examples recorded by APA.
 F : Recorded **ONLY** as a forgery.

Variety '**Other**' : Refer S. Gibbons Cat. Or RN Index for description.

The Arabic Lettering

From description by
Samir Amr M.D.

الحكومة الحجازية
٥ ربيع الأول ١٣٤٢

The Government of the Hejaz
4th October 1924

Al-Hakumaht Al-Hijaziyaht
5 Rabi' al-Awwal 1343

Dr. Amr has kindly provided this classical interpretation of the development of the Arabic letters in the overprint inscription. Please note that each letter or feature has been numbered for ease of identification when plating.

'The' Government : Al-Hakumaht :

الحكومة

Correct Classic Form

الحكومة or الحكومة

- 1 : A : The alif is a single down stroke beginning the overprint. There are no specific varieties noted. ١
- 2 : L : The laam is the second down stroke and joins the next letter by a smooth curve to the left. It should join the next letter underneath but in fact leads in to the upper part. ٢
- 3 : H : Ha is the first letter of 'Government' (Hakumaht). The right end is embellished to extend through the previous two letters producing a very distinctive nib. More 'correct' Arabic in certain forgeries fails to copy this embellishment. Position 35 has a very characteristic 'break' in the nib. ٣
- 4 : K : Kaf is the extended swan-like letter 'closing' the Ha on the right. No variations noted but see Forgery 10 if broken! ٤
- 5 : O (U) : The Arabic letter 'waw' equivalent to the English 'O' or 'U'. Begins with a loop which should be open, but is almost invariably completely filled in the Two-line overprint. ٥
- 6 : M : Miym links with the previous letter which is unusual in Arabic and the loop is artistic calligraphy. This linking 'loop' from O to M is very variable, often distinctive and a very useful 'guide'. This feature is used to initially separate out the groups for plating purposes. ٦
- 7 : A : The sloping line is a modified 'A' (alif). See Forgery 10 if broken. ٧

- 8 : (h)T : This letter is in two distinct parts. Both parts are important plating aids and are discussed under separate 'numbers'.
The letter T is the convex curve leaving the 'M' and phonetically is 'at'. To be technically correct Arabic the letter should end at the bottom of the curve - the upward stroke which is used as a key identifier for plating is purely artistic embellishment! Hence this upstroke is also a key to identifying many forgeries - which are more technically 'correct'!
This length of this 'upstroke' is the second feature which is used for plating the Two-line overprint. In many positions this is distinctive and a 'KEY' to a specific position.
- 9 : (h)T - part 2 : the 'at' is modified to 'aht' by the addition of two upper dots - normally these are horizontal and not vertical as in this case. This pair of dots show characteristics providing a guide to several positions - and to several forgeries!

'the' Hejazi : Al Hijaziyaht : **الحجازية**
Correct Classic Form المجازية or المجازية

- 10 : A : This alif actually points into the concave curve the character above (8). Although not separately a 'key' feature the relationship with the upward embellishment of the 'aht' is very important.
- 11 : L : In this case the laam is again unusual in that it links not to the 'H' but to the 'J' of Hejazi.
- 12 : H : The same letter as before (3) but in this case the link to the 'J' is by a much extended lower stroke.
- 13 : J : Jiyim includes the lower dot the size and shape of which is a useful plating feature. Also the experts can tell several forgeries since this dot is placed too far to the left. Position 15's key characteristic is a bulbous projection from the main stroke of the letter just to the right of the dot.
- 14 : A : The slanted line above the word is a modified alif. This extends the length of the upright alif which is the next letter.
- 15 : A : The upright stroke ending this part of the word.
- 16 : Z : The 'Z' is the curve with the dot over the right upright. This is, but should not be, joined to the next letter. An exception being position 5 where the link is broken and, also several forgeries!
- 17 : EE: Part 1 : The short concave curve with two dots misplaced to lower left denote 'E'. The dots are a useful indicator for several positions.
- 18 : Part 2 : The 'E' is emphasized to 'EE' by a diminutive 'w' shape above the curve. However, this appears as a dot in all positions but is variable in size and shape and therefore a useful aid.
- 19 : (h)T : Part 1: Exactly as in the case of the ending of the first word this 'T' should end on the downward stroke but is embellished in this overprint with an upward flourish. The length of this upward stroke provides the third major 'guide' to plating the Two-line overprint.
- 20 : (h)T : Part 2: Again the two upper vertical (but should be horizontal) dots provide a useful guide for plating.
- 21 : , : The large comma above the word is pure embellishment and has no phonetic significance. It is however a useful plating aid.

4 October 1924 :

5th Rabi' Awwal 1343 :

٥ ربيع الأول ١٣٤٣

Correct Classic Form

٥ ربيع الأول ١٣٤٣

- 22 : 5 : The 0 is the Arabic 5 and in position 35 is a useful plating key.
- 23 : R : The generally rather small comma like character is the Arabic letter Ra. It should not be joined to the next character. However this erroneous joining provides the 'key' for position 30.
- 24 : B : This very indistinct curve should also have a dot under it which is totally absent in all genuine overprints. Note this dot may be blended with the end of the curve A'a (26 below) giving the slightly bulbous tip to the end of the curve.
- 25 : E : This letter should appear as on the right - the line is not apparent and the twin dots have become a single dash. This dash is useful as a plating aid.
- 26 : A'a: The loop followed by the long curve represents the extended A'a sound. See 'B' (24) above on the bulbous tip which is occasionally almost separate.
- 27 : A : A dwarf of an alif which is a useful plating guide varying from short to minute - and is occasionally just a dot in certain forgeries.
- 28 : L : The laam is this time linked to the alif letter via a special lower link, which is useful for an occasional position and also an aid to identifying several forgeries.
- 29 : A : The alif is shown by an upward stroke completing the odd Y shape with the prior letter. A 'hamza' character, which gives the alif a snappy guttural sound appears to be the small dot within the Y shape character.
- 30 : W : The comma shaped lower character.
- 31 : L : A simple and usually clear letter L which occasionally has 'key' features at the top.
- 32 : 3 : Arabic 3 with peaks barely visible.
- 33 : 4 : An unusual Arabic 4 which forgers frequently 'correct' to the more normal form i.e. a reversed 3.
- 34 : 3 : Arabic 3 poorly designated as above.
- 35 : 1 : Arabic 1 which varies significantly and is a useful plating aid and should always be checked with the short 'A' (27)

٥
ر
ب
يد
ع
ا
ل
س
و
ل
٣
٤
٣
١

21 15 14 12 11 10 9 7 2 1
20 18 17 16 13 8 5 3
19 17
29 27 24 22
35 34 33 32 31 30 28 26
٥ ربيع الأول ١٣٤٣

PLATING THE TWO—LINE OVERPRINT

The traditional way to plate is to compare against a genuine sheet but, even if you have this access, it can be a long process. The procedure described here is to try to eliminate as many positions, and forgeries, as quickly as possible and to narrow down your research to 'like' positions. Once you have the smaller groups many of the positions (and forgeries) may be clearly identified. Please note the main procedure you should use initially is to sort by elimination - before trying to be positive, i.e. get rid of the exceptions.

Primary Sort

The first element to examine on the Two-Line overprint is the 'loop' where the Arabic letter 'M' links to the previous letter 'O'. (Letter 5 to letter 6)

1. Loop definitely and completely broken at left : Clearly broken varying from the whole side of loop missing to a major break.
2. Loop Complete but may have slight small break : If you can clearly see a small break then try group 1 first. However a number of 'breaks' can vary dependent on inking and in these cases are included here.
3. Loop virtually completely closed: This occurs in only 4 true positions. However there are many forgeries of this basic type, which avoid the 'artistic' link between the letters 'O' and 'M'.



Printing Ink Variances

Due to printing ink consistency these groups do vary slightly from sheet to sheet and occasionally are difficult to see, especially the red overprint on 1pi stamps. However experience will assist as more overprints are studied.

Generally if a match is not found then move to the next likely group.

Second Sort :

The second sort enables the division of group 2 above into three smaller groups, i.e. the 34 stamps which have a complete loop (or almost) linking the letter O (5) to letter M (6).

This sort depends on the upstroke decoration for the Arabic 'T' (8). The length of this upstroke is used to roughly divide the stamps into 3 groups.

The 10 with shortest upstrokes are retained in Group 2. Eleven of the very long upstrokes are moved into group 4 and the remaining 13 of intermediate length placed into group 3. Obviously the division is somewhat arbitrary and, since the very short or long upstrokes are usually easier to plate, it is recommended you look at groups 2 and 4 before group 3.



Third Sort

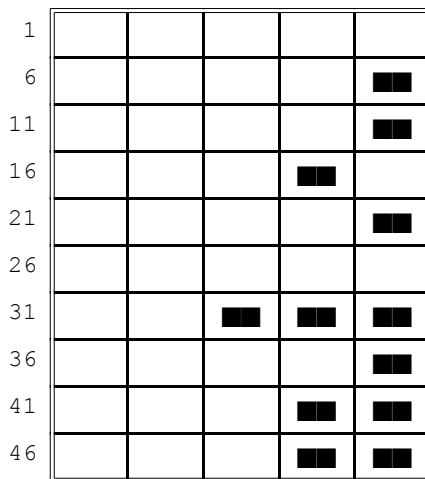
The final sort sequence is to examine the length of the 'T' upstroke on the extreme left of the upper line - letter (19). The positions with the shortest upstrokes are shown first and the longest at the end of the genuine overprints.

The forgeries have also been similarly sorted and those that have similar characteristics are displayed on the same page as the genuine overprints.

The 5 Groups of Overprints

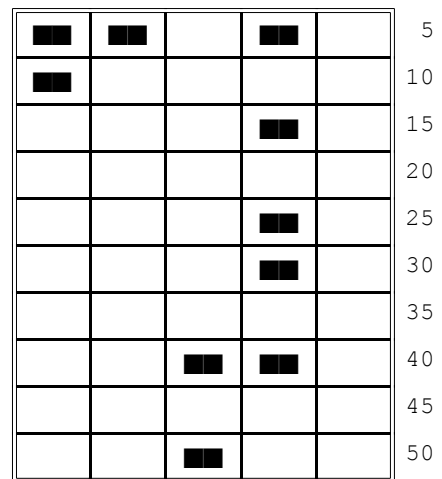
Group 1

Loop : Broken
Central Upstroke : Any



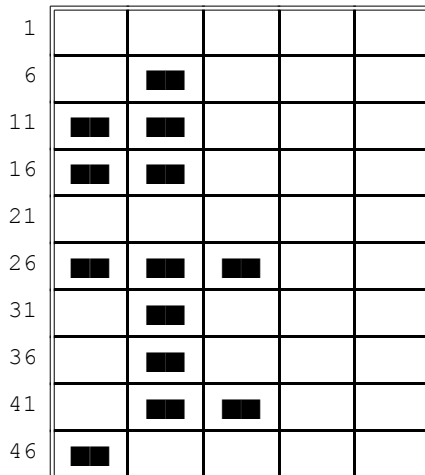
Group 2

Loop : Complete (or nearly)
Central Upstroke : Short



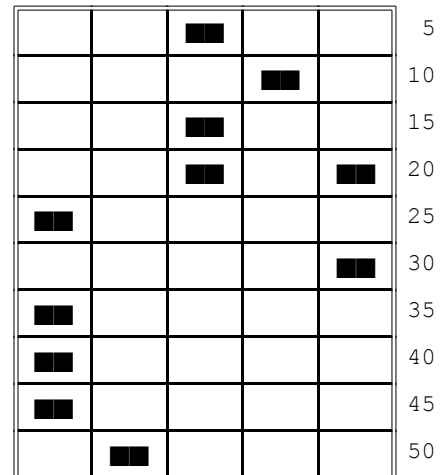
Group 3

Loop : Complete (or nearly)
Central Upstroke : Medium



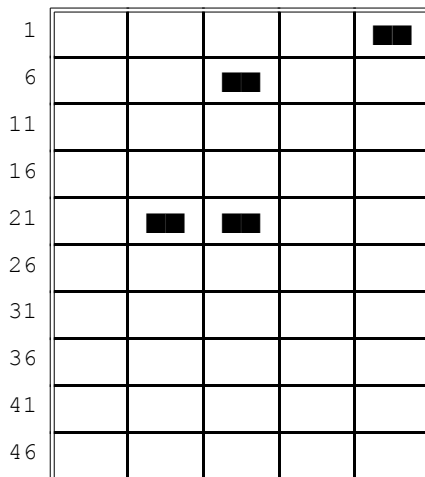
Group 4

Loop : Complete (or nearly)
Central Upstroke : Long



Group 5

Loop : Closed
Central Upstroke : Any



Forgeries

Similar to	APA Reference Number
Group 1	9 , 13, 20.
Group 2	4, 5, 7, 10 , H12-13.
Group 3	1A & B , 3, 6, 18.
Group 4	2, 3, 11, 13.
Group 5	8, 13, 15, 16, 17, 19, 21.

■ Shows position of stamps on sheet from each plating group

FORGERIES of the Two-Line Overprint

Like the other Jeddah overprints, the Two-Line has been extensively forged for sale to collectors. At present there are almost 30 known forgeries of the Two-Line overprint and this fact frightens off many potential collectors - however I wish to highlight that most of these forgeries are not difficult to recognize and should not prevent you building a sound collection. Most of the forgeries that have been discovered have been assigned an APA reference number. The majority are fully detailed in the Forgery Manual, available from Rudy Thoden, and colour photographs are available from the author of this article.

Forgeries : Frequency of Occurrence

The forgery identified as Type 1 is undoubtedly the most common and exists in an original and a damaged form, i.e 1A and 1B.

The forgery designated as Type 10 is seen occasionally, as is also the forgery identified as Type 9.

The most dangerous forgery is one classified as Type 13. This apparently exists in several different cliches which are very close to the true overprints. This forgery is particularly dangerous on the more valuable stamps. Any sightings of this forgery as a multiple would be especially valuable, however all observations made of this specific type would be appreciated. Many of the listed forgeries have been seen only as a single copy or single block, many are crude and easy to eliminate, others use 'better' Arabic than the original and are easy to distinguish, others have been found only on the rare, or even on non-existent Two-Line varieties.

Therefore, until collectors begin to look for the rarer Two-line issues, the problem is not serious - if the main forgeries listed above are recognized. If you do find a 'rare' forgery on a common stamp it may add more to your interest in the collection than the genuine stamp! It would be useful if you registered such findings with the APA.

Most forgeries are considerably rarer than the stamps they purport to be and many, as noted above, have only been recorded only once or twice. Forgeries in multiples or with marginal paper are particularly scarce and all sightings should be reported and registered with the APA. The following short table indicates the approximate level of scarcity.

Plating Group	Frequency of Forgery Occurrence (By APA Type Number)		
	Common	Scarce	Rare
1	9	13	20
2	10	7	4, 5, 12, 14
3	1 (a & b)		3, 6, 18
4		13	2, 3, 11
5		13, 15, 17	8, 11, 12, 16, 19, 21

Note : Where a forgery is mentioned twice it indicates sub-varieties matching the different plating groups. Several forgeries were produced from multiple plates which, like the genuine, show variances in different positions.

Two-Line Overprints : Unlisted Stamps

Please note that the following stamps have NEVER been seen as genuine but are still being reported and, when examined, have always turned out to be forgeries.

BLUE overprints on **1 Para brown** or on **1/8 pi Orange** - both roulette 20 or 13.

RED overprint on 1pi blue with Framed overprint

Remember also a number of stamps listed by Mayo - see page 9 - have not yet been seen either as genuine or as a forgery.

Forgeries : Listed Stamps

There is no listed stamp which seems to be exempt from forgeries, usually FORGERY 1A or 1B, but the proportion of forgeries does seem to increase with the rarity of the basic stamp or variety! Please note even the stamps of the lowest catalogue valuation have been found with forged overprints.

Of the scarce issues the 20 para postage dues appear to have more than their share of forgeries. In fact, there appear to be more Two-line overprint forgeries in circulation than genuine stamps.

The Arms issue has also been the subject of many Two-line forgeries. The Two-line overprinted Arms issue has not been reported on cover - even the Colonial Photo Stores philatelic productions. The APA would welcome reports from anyone holding a cover with an example of the arms issues with the Two-line overprint.

Certificates and Expertization

Generally all valuable stamps should have a certificate of genuineness based on the standards of the Arabian Philatelic Association. This should be an APA certificate (offered only on lots sold at the APA auction) or a certificate provided by or the stamp signed by one of the current authorities who adhere to the standards of the APA Forgery Manual. The APA recognized experts are R.J. Thoden, D. Graham and J. Wilson. Presently these experts are in Saudi Arabia, UK and USA, respectively, so there is worldwide cover.

For a certificate to be reliable it should normally state the position from the original overprint or surcharge setting. Note certificates signed by philatelic 'experts' not adhering to the APA Forgery Manual standards cannot be considered as reliable.

At this date, June 1992, certificates issued by P. Holcombe for Hijaz overprints are untrustworthy. APA members and subscribers are advised only to bid at auction, or buy a Holcombe certified Hijaz stamp, on condition that **"This stamp is reverified by an APA recognized expert to the standards of the APA Forgery Manual"**. Experience has shown that this condition is generally accepted by auction houses.

Some Final Plating Hints

Build your own reference collection : You should make out a 5 across by 10 down matrix and each time you either successfully plate a stamp or buy a stamp that is plated then record it in the matrix. Gradually as you acquire some of the 73 listed genuine Two-Line stamps you will have examples of many 'positions' even if you do not have a complete sheet. Obviously a block or a few multiples will enhance the collection.

Some Plating Terms

Keys and Guides

The Key is usually the final detail which confirms the position. It should be used only once all the related details have been confirmed as correct.

Guides are items that are more likely to vary from sheet to sheet and also fit several other stamps. Obviously it is not possible to present in a photocopy or print the necessary fine detail and hence the fairly long descriptions.

Cups and Dents

In many positions the ends of lines may show deeply concave "cups"- perhaps the sheets were hung up to dry! In particular the alifs, laams and dots in the upper line may show this variance. It does vary from sheet to sheet and depends on ink colour or consistency.

"Dents" are generally used to indicate hemispherical holes in the side of a character. "Breaks" usually refer to broken lines in the Arabic which are seen in all cases. If you see a break in the illustration, but not mentioned, it is probably because in other examples it is there as a thin line.

Dots and Dashes

You need to become familiar with the "dots" identified in positions 13, 16, 18 and 30 and the dash 24. These vary occasionally in size and frequently in shape and are very useful for detecting forgeries and sorting out exceptions. They are very useful as you get down to choosing between 2 or 3 possible positions - even when a 'Key' is available.

Alifs and Numbers - especially 1

Another 'sort' could be based on the size and aspect of the alif (27) and the 1 of 1343. The changes on these characters are referred to when very obvious. However, just as in the 'dots and dashes' above these are particularly useful to finalise the choice between similar overprint positions - or forgeries! In this case the picture is worth many words!

FINAL POINT

Please remember to sort by elimination - LIST the possibilities, then as you check out the keys or guides, strike out the number when you are confident it is not that one. Eventually your choice will be reduced until only one or two possibilities remain. With a little bit of luck you may just have the 'key' to complete the plating - if not, jot the number in pencil in the likely slots in your master sheet until you can find another - or send it with your analysis to one of our experts who has a master sheet. For those who wish, as well as photographs of forgeries we have a set of photographs showing each Two-line overprint position from a genuine sheet.

PLATING GUIDE -GROUP 1 OVERPRINTS

All positions have a broken loop joining 'O' (5) to 'M' (6).

Group 1 overprints have fairly easy features for identification. Only position 45 is rather difficult. This group does not have a serious forgery problem. It does include forgery type 9 a number of which have been recorded.

Note this group contains 6 stamps which may have marginal paper at the right i.e. **MR** + a corner copy and one more with **MB** margin at the bottom. If your stamp has top or left margin you are on the wrong page!

Genuine Positions : Listed in same sequence as opposite page i.e. shortest T (19) is first. Position number is close to overprint.

44 : Guide-1 : G1 - Tiny dent in lower left dot at 7 o'clock (17).

Guide-2 : Occasionally a spot over alif (14).

Note : Very short (not broken) upstroke on 'T'(19). See Forgery 13.

19 : Key-1 : The upper left dots (20) are almost completely missing showing just a small vertical right edge.

Key-2 : There is a semi-circular piece missing from lower left side of 'T' the upward central stroke (8).

Guide-1 : The dot of jiyim (13) is an upper semi-circle only.

Guide-2 : The upper dot (9) is cupped, also alifs and laam.

49 : Key-1 : laam (28) is broken above loop to alif. **MR**

25 : Key-1 : Protrusion on left of laam (2). **MR**

45 : Guide : Check for 49 and 50 first! Then compare every other feature!
You need a bottom left corner block of 4 for comparison! **MR**

33 : Key-1 : Left dot (17) is hollow at 7 o'clock.

Guides : Alifs (10+15) and laam (11) may be 'cupped'.

35 : Key-1 : Notch in lower edge of Ha (3) where it protrudes through alif.

Key-2 : 5 (22) is hooded. **MR**

50 : Key-1 : Damage to A'a (26) and pear shaped alif (27). **MR**

15 : Key-1 : Protrusion on jiyim (13) just to right of dot. **MB&R**

Key-2 : Dot on Z (16) is larger than normal. **MR**

34 : Guide-1 : Distinctive upstroke on T (19).

10 : Key-1 : Slight dent/damage to top of comma (28). **MR**

40 : Key-1 : Unusually long alif (27) extending above laam (28). **MR**

The Forgeries Similar to Group 1

APA Forgery Type 9 : Possibly a handstamp and fairly poor.

Key-1 : There is a break in the 'laam' (11) at the lower end - this never occurs in the genuine.

Key-2 : Notch in the J (13) just before it goes into the upward 'alif' (14).

Guide-1 : The 'laam' (2) does not join the 'Ha' (3) in a smooth curve.

Guide-2 : The upward stroke (8) is shorter than any genuine.

Guide-3 : The laam/alif (28/9) loop is non-existent and the waw (30) and the 4 (33) are poor.

Forgery 13 : Possibly from a series of very good forgeries.

Guide-1 : A very small alif (27).

Guide-2 : Possible 'dent' in left lower ledge of 1 (35).

Appears very like position 44 so cross check.

Forgery 20 : Thin unnatural overprint on Framed Overprint copy. 'E' (25) is two dots. Alif (27) almost gone. Dot for waw (30) is a vertical dash. 4 (33) is wrong. Not shown - colour photo available.

Forgery 1pi Due : An unclassified forgery is known. It is very light with many breaks. The key is an incorrect Arabic 4 (33) in the year.

TWO LINE OVERPRINTS : GROUP 1
 Loop to 'M'(6) is Badly Broken
 Sequence is by length of Final Upstroke (17) - Shortest First

المكوث الجانبي
 ١٣٤٣ ربيع الأول
 44

المكوث الجانبي
 ١٣٤٣ ربيع الأول
 19

المكوث الجانبي
 ١٣٤٣ ربيع الأول
 49 K1

المكوث الجانبي
 ١٣٤٣ ربيع الأول
 25

المكوث الجانبي
 ١٣٤٣ ربيع الأول
 45

المكوث الجانبي
 ١٣٤٣ ربيع الأول
 33

المكوث الجانبي
 ١٣٤٣ ربيع الأول
 35

المكوث الجانبي
 ١٣٤٣ ربيع الأول
 15

المكوث الجانبي
 ١٣٤٣ ربيع الأول
 50

المكوث الجانبي
 ١٣٤٣ ربيع الأول
 34

المكوث الجانبي
 ١٣٤٣ ربيع الأول
 40

المكوث الجانبي
 ١٣٤٣ ربيع الأول
 10

المكوث الجانبي
 ١٣٤٣ ربيع الأول
 F9

المكوث الجانبي
 ١٣٤٣ ربيع الأول
 F13

PLATING GUIDE - GROUP 2 OVERPRINTS

The second group contains 10 stamp positions and a similar group of forgeries. Some are quite rare, others generally reasonably easy to identify.

All stamps should have complete loop to M (6) or at most just broken. The central 'T' upstroke (8) is slightly shorter than average, varying from 0.7 to 0.95mm in height. Rather difficult to measure but it is suggested if undecided then check this group before group 3. The most difficult positions are 1 & 2 and so perhaps you have a positional block in your collection. That leaves only position 29 without a reasonably unique 'key' - happy hunting.

Genuine Positions : Listed in order shown :

- 48** : Key-1 : Left dot of 'EE' (17) is badly damaged. **MB**
Key-2 : Very short (broken?) Upstroke on 'T' (19).
Guide-1 : M (6) may be broken.
- 14** : Key-1 : The upper left dot (20) is completely cupped.
Guide-1 : Upper dot (9) is badly damaged - half / missing.
Guide-2 : The dot of jiyM (13) is semi circle only.
- 29** : Guide-1 : A short thin alif (27).
Guide-2 : Squat 1 (35) maybe cupped at foot.
- 24** : Key-1 : Left dot (17) is sheared off at angle - see also position 48.
Key-2 : Very small indent on outside of alif (11) at bend.
Guide-1 : Broken 'T' upstroke (19).
- 38** : Key-1 : Top dot (20) is hollow at top (or badly cupped).
Guide-1 : Top dot (9) cupped. Also possibly alif (10) & laam (12).
- 4** : Key-1 : Damage to waw (30) **MT**
Key-2 : Top of laam cupped (31). Unusual in this position.
Guide-1 : Top dot (20) almost completely missing.
- 2** : Guide-1 : R (23) is cupped - unusual in this character. **MT**
- 39** : Key-1 : Mark over alif (14) - but note position 44 in group 1.
Guide-1 : Large cup on dots (9), alif (10), laam (11).
- 1** : Guide-1 : Small dot near alif (15). Compare to forgery 10.3.
Guide-2 : 1 (35) possibly very long. **MT&L**
- 6** : Guide-1 : Upstroke (19) is distinctive.
Guide-2 : Loop to M (6) possibly open.
Guide-3 : Long 1 (35) **MT**

Forgeries Similar to Group 2

- Forgery 5 : Key-1 : Ra (23) missing or small dot.
Guide-1/2: Upward strokes (19 & 8) are missing. Rare forgery.
- Forgery 14 : Key-1 : Dots (20) small and separate.
Key-2 : L (31) is broken and Key-3 : Ha (3) too large.
- Forgery 12 : Key-1 : 1 (36) slanted.
Key-2 : May be small dot at lower left. Rare forgery.
- Forgery 7 : Key-1 : Dots (9) join alif (7). Probably central on Arms issue.
- Forgery 10 : Common forgery with at least 4 in setting.
Key-1 : Clear break in alif (7) and Ka (4). Forged cliché 10.1 only.
Key-2 : Clear break in alif (7) under dots. Cliché 10.2 only.
(Position shown on cliché 10.1)
Guide-3 : Small dot to left of alif (15) - compare with genuine position 1.
Key-4 : Upper left dots (20) just a dash. 4 (33) may have heavy top.
- Forgery 4 : Key-1 : Protrusion on right of alif (11).
Guide-1 : Long and thin 1 (35).

Forgery Note: Genuine blue overprints on 1 para and 1/8pi do not exist. See manual.

TWO LINE OVERPRINTS : GROUP 2

'M'(6) usually a complete loop. Short central upstroke (8)
Sequence is by length of Final Upstroke (17) - Shortest First

المكوهة الحجازية ١٣٤٢ ربيع الأول ٥ 48
المكوهة الحجازية ١٣٤٢ ربيع الأول ٥ 29
المكوهة الحجازية ١٣٤٢ ربيع الأول ٥ 14
المكوهة الحجازية ١٣٤٢ ربيع الأول ٥ 24
المكوهة الحجازية ١٣٤٢ ربيع الأول ٥ 38
المكوهة الحجازية ١٣٤٢ ربيع الأول ٥ 4
المكوهة الحجازية ١٣٤٢ ربيع الأول ٥ 2
المكوهة الحجازية ١٣٤٢ ربيع الأول ٥ 39
المكوهة الحجازية ١٣٤٢ ربيع الأول ٥ 1
المكوهة الحجازية ١٣٤٢ ربيع الأول ٥ 6
المكوهة الحجازية ١٣٤٢ ربيع الأول ٥ 5
المكوهة الحجازية ١٣٤٢ ربيع الأول ٥ 14
المكوهة الحجازية ١٣٤٢ ربيع الأول ٥ 12
المكوهة الحجازية ١٣٤٢ ربيع الأول ٥ 7
المكوهة الحجازية ١٣٤٢ ربيع الأول ٥ 4
المكوهة الحجازية ١٣٤٢ ربيع الأول ٥ 10

PLATING GUIDE - GROUP 3 OVERPRINTS

Group 3 contains a number of very difficult overprints to plate. It consists of 13 genuine stamps and a number of forgeries - which are not too difficult to eliminate. The forgeries include the most common forgery 1 A/B, which should always be your first check! - and 1B is VERY EASY.

Genuine Positions : All with medium length central upstrokes (8) and normally unbroken 'M' loops (6). Sequence is roughly by length of final upstroke (19) but this is not as varied as other groups. Generally look for 'keys' first - stamps with 'guides' only may be difficult. Remember to compare all 'dots' and alif (27) and 1 (35) - may help eliminate a position. If all else fails, recheck the other pages of the plating guide!

- 27** : Guide-1 : Possibly dot in waw (30) is diamond shaped.
Guide-2 : Very small segment missing on curve of 'T' (19).
- 43** : Key-1 : Large extraneous blotch above 'Ka' (4).
Key-2 : Occasionally blotch below Ra (23).
Key-3 : Small extra dot between alif (15) and Z (16).
- 32** : Guide-1 : Slight left twist at bottom of alif (10).
Guide-2 : Poor dots (20) - more of a dash.
Also : Slight cupping on dot (9), alifs (7, 10 & 11).
- 42** : Guide-1 : Dots (18) large & irregular.
Guide-2 : Loop to O (6) may be broken.
Guide-3 : 1 (35) is small curved 'sausage' ").
- 46** : Key-1 : Distinct protrusion under alif (7). **MB&L**
Guide-1 : Bottom of upstroke (8) is damaged.
Guide-2 : Dot (13) is irregular.
- 17** : Guide-1 : Dots (18) oval.
- 28** : Guide-1 : Tiny indent in top dot at 1 o'clock (9).
Guide-2 : Small indent on top dot at 11 o'clock (20).
- 7** : Key-1 : Distinctive twist to upstroke (8).
Guide-1 : Upstroke (19) slightly heavy.
- 26** : Key-1 : Apparent partial doubling of EE (17). **ML**
- 37** : Key-1 : Tip of T (19) is notched - almost separate.
- 12** : Guide-1 : Sector missing in dot (9).
Guide-2 : Very small protrusion on side of alif (1).
- 11** : Key-1 : Notch on left side of 1 (35). **ML**
- 16** : Guide-1 : Upstroke (19) is distinctive, but see position 37 above. **ML**
Guide-2 : Dents in side of left dot (18).

Forgeries similar to Group 3

- Forgery 1 : Key-1 : The Arabic 4 (33) looks more like the 'correct' form - a backwards 3! Compare with the genuine.
Key-2 : The dot in 'jiym' (13) is too far left.
Key-3 - 1B ONLY : Very easy! The end of 'EE' (17) under the dot cracked and finally broke off.
- Forgery 18 : Key-1 : Alif (29) and waw (30) touching.
Key-2 : Marks to left and right of date.
- Forgery 6 : Key-1 : Very large mark across top of overprint.
Key-2 : Z (16) not joined to EE (18).
- Forgery 3 : See details under Group 4.

TWO LINE OVERPRINTS : GROUP 3

'M'(6) usually a complete loop. Medium central upstroke (8)
Sequence is by length of Final Upstroke (17) - Shortest First

المكوه الحجازية ١٣٤٣ هـ ربيع الأول 27

المكوه الحجازية ١٣٤٣ هـ ربيع الأول 32

المكوه الحجازية ١٣٤٣ هـ ربيع الأول 43

المكوه الحجازية ١٣٤٣ هـ ربيع الأول 42

المكوه الحجازية ١٣٤٣ هـ ربيع الأول 46

المكوه الحجازية ١٣٤٣ هـ ربيع الأول 17

المكوه الحجازية ١٣٤٣ هـ ربيع الأول 28

المكوه الحجازية ١٣٤٣ هـ ربيع الأول 7

المكوه الحجازية ١٣٤٣ هـ ربيع الأول 26

المكوه الحجازية ١٣٤٣ هـ ربيع الأول 37

المكوه الحجازية ١٣٤٣ هـ ربيع الأول 12

المكوه الحجازية ١٣٤٣ هـ ربيع الأول 11

المكوه الحجازية ١٣٤٣ هـ ربيع الأول 16

المكوه الحجازية ١٣٤٣ هـ ربيع الأول 13

المكوه الحجازية ١٣٤٣ هـ ربيع الأول 18

المكوه الحجازية ١٣٤٣ هـ ربيع الأول F 1

المكوه الحجازية ١٣٤٣ هـ ربيع الأول F 6

PLATING GUIDE - GROUP 4 OVERPRINTS

The fourth group of overprints have the very long upstroke for T (8) and this is often quite distinctive. There are 11 stamps in this group generally quite easy to plate. There are also 4/5 listed forgeries but these are not major problems except on the rarities.

Genuine Positions : Always check the 'T's (8/19) which are significant.

- 18** : Key-1 : Missing piece from lower left dot (17).
Guide-1 : Short 'T' (19).
See Forgery 13.
- 13** : Key-1 : Top of 1 (35) is cupped.
Guide-1 : Upper dot (9) cupped. (See 9 below)
- 47** : Guide-1 : Tiny indentation on bottom of 'T' (8). **MB**
- 9** : Guide-1 : Top dot (9) is cupped.
Guide-2 : Left dot (17) lower dot (20) has piece missing.
Guide-3 : Dot (13) is semi circle.
- 41** : Difficult - compare with 21 & Forgery 3.3. **ML**
Guide-1 : Dot (18) Large relative to Dot (16).
- 21** : Difficult see 41 & Forgery 3.3 & 13. **ML**
Guide-1 : Dots (20) may be weak and poorly shaped.
Guide : Length of alif (27). Longest in position 21, medium in position 41 and shortest in Forgery 3.3. (Comparison is of these 3 only!)
- 20** : Key-1 : Either a break or distinctive left kink in 'T'(8). **MR**
- 31** : Key-1 : Very distinctive 'T' (8) joined to alif (10). **ML**
- 30** : Key-1 : Large Ra (23) may touch A'a (25).
- 3** : Key-1 : Distinctive T (8). **MT**
Guide-1 : Dot (13) Is semi-circle.
Guide-2 : Upper dot may be damaged (20).
- 36** : Key-1 : Very long 'T' (8) upstroke. **ML**
Key-2 : Small hook at bottom end of 1 (35).
Guide-1 : Long upstroke (19).

Forgeries similar to Group 4

- Forgery 13 : Guide-1 : Distinctive upstroke (8).
Guide-2 : Short Upstroke (19).
Guide-3 : Short Stubby alif (27). Closest to position 18 but also see 21.
- Forgery 2 : Guide-1 : 3 ex 4 - mark at top of alif (15). Seen on 20pa dues.
- Forgery 11 : Large thick alif (27). On expensive stamps.
- Forgery 3 : Rare - only seen in blue on 1/8 q. orange including 1 block.
Key-1 : Break in alif (15) in one position.
Key-2 : Dash (25) almost missing in two varieties.
Key-3 : Z (16) not joined to ?? (18).
Guide-1 : 1 (35) with top 'bulge' in one position.
Guide-2 : Unusual line widths junction of alif & Ha (2-4).
- Unclassified Forgery : Gold Opt on 1/4 : Guide-1 : Notch in top of alif (14).
Guide-2 : Alif (27) curved thus). Not shown here.

REMEMBER all valuable items should be formally plated and signed by an expert - especially if apparently a position that has 'guides' only. Many forgeries, even although reported on specific stamps, obviously are likely to be discovered elsewhere.

TWO LINE OVERPRINTS : GROUP 4

'M'(6) usually a complete loop. Long central upstroke (8)
 Sequence is by length of Final Upstroke (17) - Shortest First

<p>المكوهة الحجازية ^{G1} _{K1} ١٣٤٣ ربيع الأول ٥ 18</p>	<p>المكوهة الحجازية ^{G1} _{K1} ١٣٤٣ ربيع الأول ٥ 13</p>
<p>المكوهة الحجازية ^{G1} _{G2} ١٣٤٣ ربيع الأول ٥ 9</p>	<p>المكوهة الحجازية ^{G1} _{G2} ١٣٤٣ ربيع الأول ٥ 47</p>
<p>المكوهة الحجازية ^{G2} _{G2} ١٣٤٣ ربيع الأول ٥ 9</p>	<p>المكوهة الحجازية ^{G1} _{G2} ١٣٤٣ ربيع الأول ٥ 41</p>
<p>المكوهة الحجازية ^{G1} _{K1} ١٣٤٣ ربيع الأول ٥ 20</p>	<p>المكوهة الحجازية ^{G1} _{K1} ١٣٤٣ ربيع الأول ٥ 21</p>
<p>المكوهة الحجازية ^{G2} _{G1} ١٣٤٣ ربيع الأول ٥ 3</p>	<p>المكوهة الحجازية ^{G1} _{G2} ١٣٤٣ ربيع الأول ٥ 30</p>
<p>المكوهة الحجازية ^{G1} _{K1} ١٣٤٣ ربيع الأول ٥ 3</p>	<p>المكوهة الحجازية ^{G1} _{K1} ١٣٤٣ ربيع الأول ٥ 36</p>
<p>المكوهة الحجازية ^{G1} _{F2} ١٣٤٣ ربيع الأول ٥ F2</p>	<p>المكوهة الحجازية ^{G1} _{F13} _{G3} ١٣٤٣ ربيع الأول ٥ F13</p>
<p>المكوهة الحجازية ^{G1} _{K2} ١٣٤٣ ربيع الأول ٥ F3.2</p>	<p>المكوهة الحجازية ^{G1} _{K2} ١٣٤٣ ربيع الأول ٥ F3.1</p>
<p>المكوهة الحجازية ^{G1} _{F11} _{K1} ١٣٤٣ ربيع الأول ٥ F11</p>	<p>المكوهة الحجازية ^{G2} _{F3.3} _{K2} ١٣٤٣ ربيع الأول ٥ F3.3</p>

PLATING GUIDE - GROUP 5 OVERPRINTS
JEDDAH TWO-LINE OVERPRINT

Genuine Positions: There are only 4 genuine positions which show the loop to 'M' loop either filled in or just a hint of an unfilled centre. Two are quite easy and the main problem is differentiating positions 22 and 23! There are numerous forgeries, and not all are shown here. However none should pose any real difficulty in comparison with the genuine overprint.

- 23** : Guide-1 : Misshapen dot (18) but see position 22.
Guide-2 : Upper ends 'cupped'in dots (9) and also alifs (2/10/11).
8 : Key-1 : Upstroke (19) is thick - almost bulbous.
22 : Key-1 : Tip of laam (31) bent to right.
Guide-1 : Misshaped dot (18). See position 23.
5 : Key-1 : Z is not linked to EE. (16)
Key-2 : Long distinctive upstroke (8)
Guide-1 : Very short and stubby 1 (35)

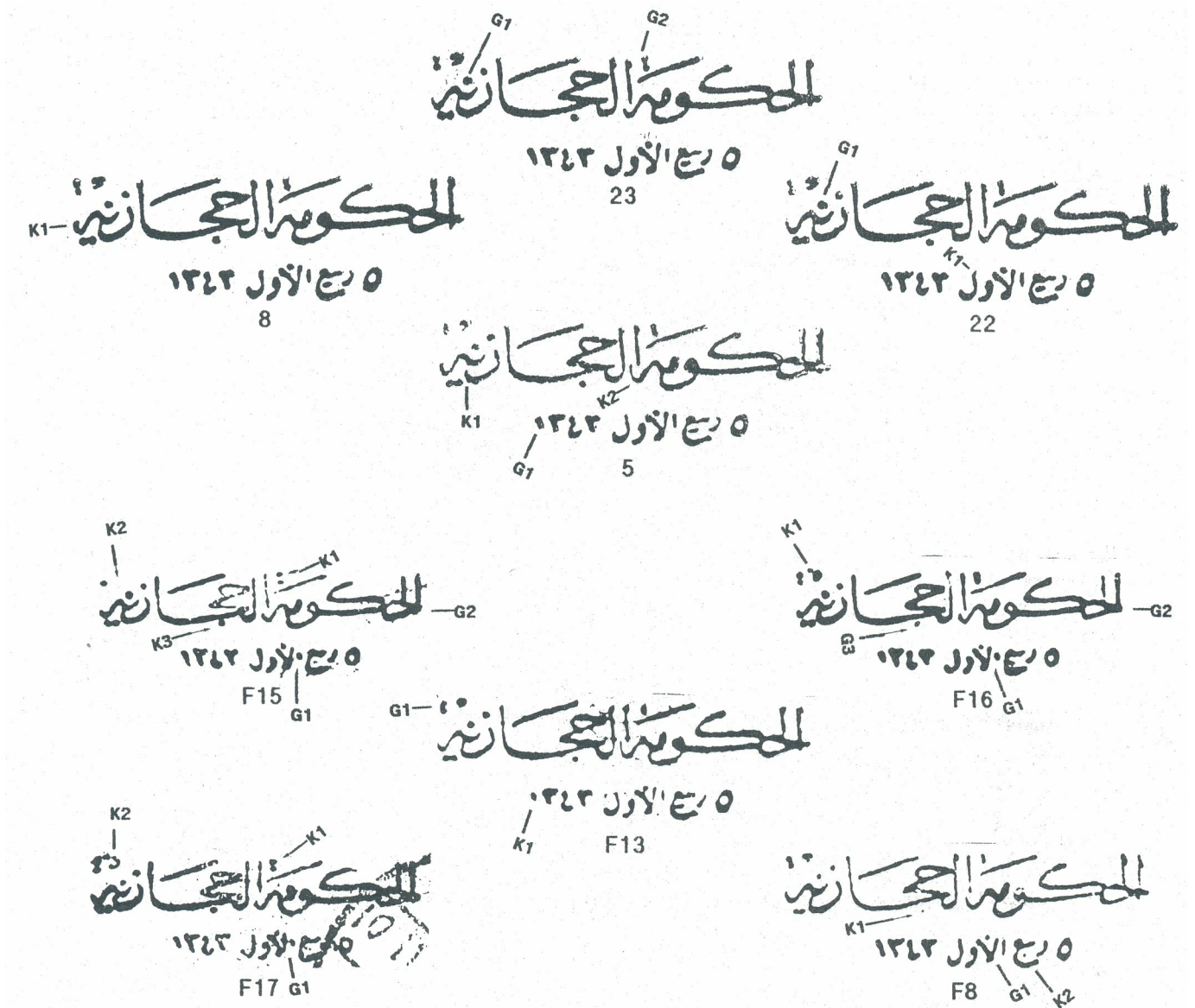
MT&R

Forgeries similar to Group 5

Note all have no loop joining O (5) to M (6). Apart from that most have clear differences from any genuine position. The majority are very scarce, several have only had single sightings reported.

- Forgery 15 : Key-1 : Dots (9) are two small and not joined.
Key-2 : Comma (21) is missing and Dot (20) is a single dot.
Key-3 : Dot (13) is far to the left and touches alif.
Guide-1 : Alif (27) is just a dot.
Guide-2 : Nib on Ha (3) is missing.
Forgery 16 : Key-1 : Extra dot to left of comma (21).
Guide-1 : Alif (27) is just a dot.
Guide-2 : Nib on Ha (3) is missing.
Guide-3 : Dot (13) is tiny and too far left.
Forgery 13 : Key-1 : Tiny 1 (35).
Guide-1 : Dots (20) are damaged.
Forgery 17 : Key-1 : Dots (9) not joined.
Key-2 : Comma (21) an open curve with dot towards (20).
Guide-1 : Very poor date line - alif (27) is a dot.
Commonest of this group of forgeries.
Seen with fake cancel and on fake covers.
Forgery 8 : Key-1 : Dot (13) too far to left and tiny. See Forgery 19 Below.
Guide-1 : E (25) is just a small dot.
Guide-2 : Laam to Alif (28/29) link is vertical and stubby.
Forgery 21 : Key-1 : No date line! i.e. 22-35 missing.
Poor amateurish overprint. Not shown.
Forgery 12 : Key-1 : 1 (35) is diagonal. See under Group 2.
Guide-1 : Tiny alif (27).
Guide-2 : Mark below to left of overprint.
Forgery 19 : Not shown. Very similar to Forgery 8 but a very thick printing.
Key-1 : Dot (13) too far to left and tiny.
Guide-1 : E (25) is just a small dot.
Guide-2 : Laam to Alif (28/29) link is vertical and stubby.

TWO LINE OVERPRINTS : GROUP 5
'M'(6) loop almost completely closed or just an upstroke



NEW ISSUES OF SAUDI ARABIA

By: *Abdul Aziz A. Sa'id*

December 1, 1991: The 150h value of the endangered animals definitive set was issued. It was issued in a block of 9 different designs, similar to the other four values issued on May 1, 1991. Refer to RN#50 for the illustration. Designers, sheet format and paper are the same as before, but this value was issued in perforation 13-3/4 x 13-1/2 as well as 12.



December 7, 1991: A set of two stamps, 75h and 150h was issued to commemorate World Infancy Day. The design shows the face of a child and the emblem of the International Children's Organization. Designed by Ashfaq Ghani. Printed in sheets of 50 (5 x 10). Perforated 12. Quantity: 400,000 sets.



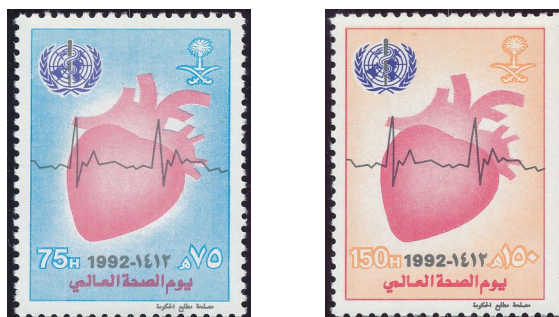
January 8, 1992: Four 75h stamps in the Saudi Universities series were issued. They show the emblems of King Abdul Aziz, King Saud, King Faisal and Madinah Islamic Universities. Printed in sheets of 105 (7 x 15) on white unwatermarked paper with invisible gum. Perforated 12.



February 8, 1992: The 50h definitive in the Saudi Cities series showing views of old and modern Riyadh was re-issued on thin white unwatermarked paper with invisible gum. The original issue was on creamy watermarked paper. Printed in sheets of 52 (4 x 13).

March 18, 1992: A block of nine 150h stamps depicting birds of Saudi Arabia was issued. It is illustrated on the front cover. The blocks of 9 (3 x 3) are printed in sheets of 8 blocks with gutters between both horizontally and vertically. Designed by Abdul Qader Al-Husseini. Perforated 13-3/4 x 13-1/2. Quantity: 110,000 Bets.

March 28, 1991: An additional 75h value in the Saudi Cities series, depicting views of old and modern Riyadh, was put on sale in a limited quantity in a sub post office in Riyadh. A new supply was released on May 9. Printed in sheets of 50 stamps and two post code labels (4 x 13). Perforated 12.



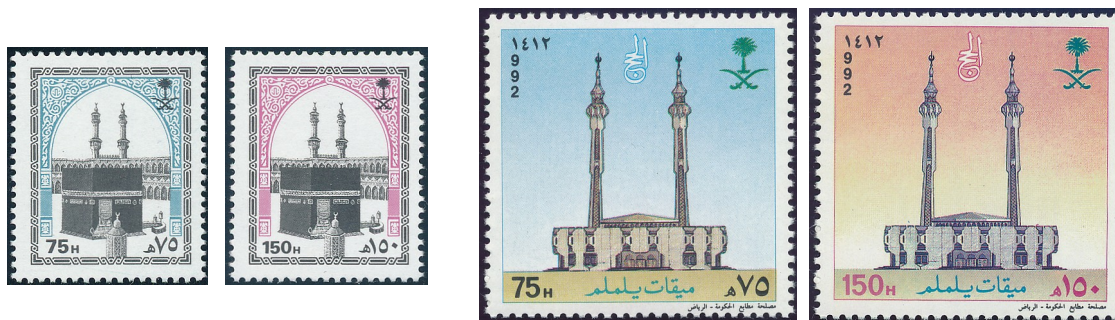
April 8, 1992: A set of two stamps, 75h and 150h, was issued to mark the World Health Day with theme "Heartbeat - the Rhythm of Health". The design shows a heart and the emblem of the World Health Organization. Designed by Abdul Qader Al-Husseini. Printed in sheets of 50 (10 x 5). Perforated 12. Quantity: 400,000 sets.



April 18, 1992: A set of two stamps was issued to commemorate the battle of Uhud on 15 Shawwal 3 (625 A.D.) between the Muslims of Madinah under the leadership of prophet Mohammad and the polytheists of Makkah. The design shows the name of the battle in Arabic within a circular Islamic decoration. Designed by Abdul Qader Al-Husseini. Printed in sheets of 50 stamps and 4 postal code labels (6 x 9). Perforated 12. Quantity: 400,000 sets.

May 4, 1992: A new printing of the 75h definitive showing the arms of King Saud University was released. It is on creamy paper with slightly shiny gum, instead of white paper with invisible gum. All other details are the same as the original issue of January 8, 1992.

June 1992: New printings of the 75h and 150h Holy Ka'aba definitives originally issued in 1990 were released on June 6 and 13, respectively. They are now perforated 13-1/2 x 14 instead of 12. All other details are the same as the original printings. **



June 9, 1992: Two stamps, 75h and 150h, were issued to commemorate the pilgrimage (Hajj 1412). The design shows the mosque of Yalamlam Miqat, located about 100 km. south of Makkah. Designed by Abdul Qader Al-Husseini. Printed in sheets of 50 stamps and four post code labels (9 x 6). Perforated 12. Quantity: 400,000 sets. **

All the above commemoratives and the animals and birds definitives were offset printed by the Government Security Printing Press. Riyadh on medium-thick white paper with grayish slightly shiny gum. All other definitives except the King Saud University reprint were printed on a thin white paper with invisible gum.

** Corrections (see RN52). Dates for Holy Ka'aba are June 13 and June 6 and perforation is 13-1/2 x 13-3/4. Sheet of Hajj is 6 x 9.

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