



الجمعية الدولية للطوابع البريدية العربية

ملاحظات عابرة

Arabian Philatelic Association International

Random Notes



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**The First Issues : 1916-20**

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## The Arabian Philatelic Association International

The Arabian Philatelic Association (APA) was established in 1968 in Dhahran, Saudi Arabia by a group of Aramco employees particularly interested in Saudi Arabian philately. The APA had over 300 members and subscribers worldwide during most of its existence. Its journal (*APA Random Notes*), and *Reference Manual of Saudi Arabian Forgeries*, auctions and new issue service contributed to the large increase in the popularity of Saudi Arabian philately in the 1970s and 1980s. However, interest declined in the 1990s. An initial attempt to start up a conventional Saudi stamp society in the USA failed in the late 1990s. Since then, we have realized that an Internet-based society has a better prospect of success and we have founded the Arabian Philatelic Association International. (APAI). An APAI website [www.arabian-philatelic.com](http://www.arabian-philatelic.com) and an e-mail address [arabphilassocin@aol.com](mailto:arabphilassocin@aol.com) are being set up by Willie King, but they are not yet functional. A *Catalog of the Fiscal Stamps of Saudi Arabia* has been written and published by Rudy Thoden. A limited number of copies of *APAI Random Notes #57* is available for free distribution to all who request an APAI Membership Application.

Longer range, we hope to prepare a second edition of the *Reference Manual of Saudi Arabian Forgeries* to cover the issues not in the original edition, plus the many new forgery discoveries, including very dangerous ones created by modern computer technology.

The following members are currently serving the APAI in the capacities indicated:

Membership secretary: Marwan Nusair  
USA representative: John Wilson  
European representative: Willie King  
Middle East representative: David Jessich  
USA Distribution Manager: Beverly Swartz  
Treasurer: David Jessich  
Editor, Random Notes: Martin Lovegrove  
Webmaster: Willie King

## Random Notes

The APAI's publication, *Random Notes*, will be issued four times a year, assuming sufficient material is available. The editor is Mr. MC Lovegrove, e-mail: [weatherings@aol.com](mailto:weatherings@aol.com), (The Weatherings, East End, Gooderstone, KINGS LYNN, PE33 9DB, United Kingdom.) Articles on all aspects of Saudi Arabian philately are urgently needed for publication in *Random Notes*, and can be submitted in manuscript, as a text file, as an e-mail or a MS Word document. The right to edit or reject all submissions is reserved. Opinions expressed are those of the authors only. Material from this publication may be reprinted provided credit is given to "Arabian Philatelic Association International" and the author of the article. Please send a copy of the reprint to the editor.

Scott's (2003) and Stanley Gibbons (1996) catalog numbers are used with the kind permission of the copyright owners.

Reference may be made in this publication to the following books by their authors' names:

HAWORTH, W.B. and SARGENT, H. L.- *The Postal Issues of the Hejaz* (1922)  
WARIN, D.F.- *The Postal Issues of Hejaz, Jeddah and Nejd*. (1927)  
MAYO, M.M. - *Barid Al Sa'udiyah wa al Hijaz wa Najd* (1973)  
DONALDSON, N- *The Postal Agencies in Eastern Arabia and the Gulf*. (1975)  
WILSON, J.M.- *The Hejaz - A History in Stamps* (1982).  
COLES, J.H. & WALKER, H.E – *Postal Cancellations of the Ottoman Empire Part 2* (1987)  
THODEN, R. J- *A Catalog of the Fiscal Stamps of Saudi Arabia*, (2001)  
VON UEXKULL, J.- *The Early Postal History of Saudi Arabia* (2001).

# Random Notes #60

*Assembled by the Editor*

Before we get down to the philatelic items, I would like to mention one or two things about this publication. This is the first edition of Random Notes to be produced specifically for distribution in Adobe Portable Document Format (PDF). The benefits of this will be seen by those who view Random Notes on their computer; those who receive paper copies will, I hope, notice at least a consistent style. The computer addicts will notice the introduction of hotlinks and bookmarks, allowing easy navigation of the document. I am in the process of converting the recent editions of Random Notes to this format. If you have problems with the bookmarks, it is probably because you require an updated version of the Adobe Acrobat Reader; this can be downloaded (free) from <http://www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/readstep.html>.

The success of Random Notes depends not only on full articles, but also on smaller reports, observations, questions and answers. In fact, some of the most useful information I have found in past issues has been in the very short notes, so please contribute something, even if it is a question; questions seem to initiate debate.

Now for the main business....

1 **Survey of Egypt Books :** The APAI have added four numbers to the register this quarter being compiled by David Beech FRPSL. The additional are inserted in red and underlined in the following list. This register currently lists the following from the 200 copies printed: Numbers 3, 4.5, 6, 8, 18, 23, 24, 27, 28, 29, 35, 36, 37, 40, 42, 43, 45, 46, 52, 53, 63, 74, 86, 92, 94, 101, 118, 121, 129, 131, 132, 133, 134, 139. 4 & 5 were assigned to the Sultan of Egypt, No 8 was number assigned to General Wingates copy. Number 118 went to M. J. Boyd Carpenter. (DL 11/02) Continued from RN59 p6 item #2.

2 **Date of Issue of Equestrian Issue:** Recently I checked the cancel against the catalogue date and found both Scott and Gibbons

quote the 14<sup>th</sup> April 1990. The cancel on my cover is shown here and is 1 day later on the 15<sup>th</sup>. I immediately referred to Random Notes AND this confirmed (RN47p29) the Equestrian issue as being issued on April 14<sup>th</sup> 1990 and that the First Day Cover date was April 15<sup>th</sup> 1990! This contradiction in terminology was not explained at the time and I do not pretend to have an explanation now. (WAK 2/03)



3 **Date of Issue of late 1997 Stamps:** In most recent years in Saudi Arabia the commemorative stamps were released to the Post Offices in time for the issue date. However four of the stamps inscribed with 1997 dates did not arrive and get released in the Eastern Province until early 1998. The Prince Salman Welfare Centre and Battle of Tabuk stamps listed in this copy of Random Notes have been assigned July 12<sup>th</sup> and August 12<sup>th</sup> 1997 'issue' dates, which was long before the stamps became available in the Eastern province. Those of you collecting 'commercial' covers are therefore unlikely to find any with 1997 dates. Normally new issues disappear very rapidly from a Saudi Post Office, typically within a few weeks

so genuine commercial usage does not extend far beyond that period. The World Food Day and Disabled Persons stamp were also inscribed 1997 in the design but for these the issue date was confirmed as 1998. Some of you may already be frustrated by the lack of chronological sequence of Scott numbers – I am afraid that is part of the fascination this hobby – nothing is ever quite what it seems! However printing and distribution returned to normal and all of the centenary issues were available in January 1999. These will be described in Random Notes 61. (WAK 2/03)



- 4 **Cinderella Issue for 3<sup>rd</sup>. GCC Stamp Exhibition:** A self-adhesive ‘label’ was issued to advertise and promote the 1997 stamp exhibition in Riyadh. The label, which was not valid for postage, was based on the same design as the issued stamp and was printed in sheets of 25 (5 x 5). The slogans were very appropriate and read above the design “Saudi Stamp Collectors”, and under what we share i.e. “Enjoyment, Culture (or education) and Investment”. The exhibition was held in the Postal Museum in Riyadh Head Post Office and was well attended by both collectors and children. The 2003 exhibition will be in Qatar. (WAK 2/03)
- 5 **Definitive Listing for Saudi University Series (RN59):** Three variations of items mentioned in the article have been reported (CAL 2/03)

#### King Saud University

SG 1487 50h Colour close to grey-blue and paper brightly luminescent.

#### King Fahd University of Petroleum and Minerals

SG 1506 50h Paper brightly luminescent.

SG 1508 150h Brown-rose, paper brightly luminescent.

- 6 **E. L. Angeloglous:** In May 2002 I added a page to my Web Site (<http://mysite.freemove.com/saudi>) describing a copy of the Nejd second handstamp in black on a 1/8 qirsh Makkah Arms stamp (Scott 38A, SG 224a). The stamp has been certified as being genuine and also has what appears to be a genuine ‘ela’ backstamp. However, the handstamp is a Type 1 forgery, and I posed the question ‘How did the ela mark get there?’ One obvious answer is that Angeloglous made a mistake. But I did wonder if the handstamp was applied to a plain, genuine, stamp that had received the blessing of Angeloglous. At that time, I had not seen such a stamp, but I have recently acquired one. It is a 5 qirsh Makkah Arms (Scott L39, SG 46) and is reproduced here.



Scott L39, SG 46



Forgery - Scott 38A, SG 224a





Alongside the ela mark is a pencil annotation '39A'. Does anyone know if there was ever a Scott L39A? (MCL 2/03)



Forgery perf 10



Genuine perf 11.5

- 7 **Heir Apparent Forgery:** The entire set of Heir Apparent forgeries described in RN58.6 - 10 also occur perforated 10. The genuine stamps are perforated 11.5. (MCL 2/03)

- 8 **Unlisted 'Illegible':** SG 149a exists! The Makkah Arms 'illegible' ¼ pi on ½ pi scarlet, previously listed in Gibbons as 149a but removed sometime between 1978 and 1983, does exist as a genuine stamp. The stamp illustrated has a genuine 'ela' backstamp and was included in a large collection that appeared on eBay in December 2002. I assume that the catalogue status was withdrawn because the inverted overprints usually seen were forgeries. This stamp is unlisted in Scotts. (MCL 2/03)



- 9 **3-Line Jeddah Gold Overprints:** In his book, *The Hejaz A History in Stamps*, John Wilson

makes a comment about the large 3-line Jeddah overprints in gold: *The gold powder did not adhere well to the black ink. Most copies seen of these stamps other than the one piastre have most of the gold rubbed off. The collector will notice a "bronzy" sheen*



*to an otherwise black overprint; a strong glass will bring out a few specks of gold adhering to the edges of the thicker lines of the overprint.* In some cases you have to look hard, and I had overlooked two such examples in my collection. One is illustrated here, together with an enlargement of part of the overprint in which a few specks of gold can be seen. (MCL 2/03)



- 10 **Does it Exist?** Number 1318 in the Mayo catalogue is the 3 qirsh GOSP with Faisal cartouche on watermarked paper. This stamp is not listed in either Gibbons or Scott, so the question is: Does it exist, either as a genuine stamp or a forgery? (MCL 2/03)

# Collecting Hejaz and Nejd (1916-25)

By *W. A. King FRPSL*

This article continues the series introduced in RN#59 and is planned to cover the questions likely to confront collectors of this early period of Saudi Arabia. 14 sets or groups of stamps were listed and in this article I will deal with the first group. For the stamps discussed in this article you will need a perforation gauge and a normal magnifying glass of x3 or x4 power.

## The First Issues : 1916-20

SG 1-D19 Scott L 1-13 and LJ 1-3

**Historical Background :** In 1914 British desires to open another front against Turkey matched Arab desires to be free of Ottoman control. Secret negotiations began in October 1914 between Hussain ibn Ali, Shereef of Makkah and the British. Hussain declared Hejaz independent on June 5<sup>th</sup> 1916 and the uprising in Makkah was immediately successful. On June 9<sup>th</sup> the British ships HMS Hardinge and HMS Fox shelled Jeddah and soon after Jeddah, Rabegh and Qunfidha also came under Shereef Hussain's control.

On behalf of the Shereef, **T.E. Lawrence (of Arabia)** arranged that stamps be printed by the Survey of Egypt in Cairo. The purpose was to publicize that the Hejaz was now an independent state. Lawrence, was reputed to have insisted on these wholly Arabic designs rather than developments of Turkish or western designs.

**The Designs :** There are six definitive stamps and three postage dues which are best shown by reproducing the frontispiece from the book produced by the printer, The Survey of Egypt in Cairo. 200 copies of this book were printed in 1918 and numbered copies presented to many notables of the period. (See RN59 page 6 item 2) .

### Currency Units :

40 Paras = 1 Piastre **or** 1 Qirsh. Articles and catalogues may refer either to piastre or qirsh as the main currency unit. Mayo quotes qr which is probably more accurate, but Wilson, Gibbons and Scott all use pi for piastre and that convention is used for these articles.





**The Basic Set:** The only values listed in the Gibbons “Simplified” are the 6 roulette 13 stamps. That list excludes all other perforation varieties and the postage dues. However, if you are reading this article you will aspire a slightly more sophisticated collection. The main catalogues all differentiate perforations and I suggest the basic collection consists of the 18 stamps as shown in the table.

Value	Colour	Basic Set				Varieties		“Proofs”			
		Perforated		Roulette		Perf		Roul	Imperf	Heavy	Thick
Definitives		12	10	20	13	Shades	12x10	20	w/Gum	Paper	Card*
1 para	Lilac Brown				<input type="checkbox"/>					<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1/8 pi	Yellow			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1/4 pi	Green	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1/2 pi	Red	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u><input type="checkbox"/></u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1 pi	Blue	<u><input type="checkbox"/></u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2 pi	Claret				<input type="checkbox"/>					<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Postage Dues											
20 para	Red				<input type="checkbox"/>					<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1 pi	Blue				<input type="checkbox"/>					<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2 pi	Claret				<input type="checkbox"/>					<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

\* All 'card' proofs in Blue

The two stamps indicated in red and underlined are catalogued at over my limit for a group A stamp. However these can usually still be obtained at under my \$/£30 limit for a mint stamp with the ½ pi being slightly more difficult. Always use a perforation gauge to verify, since the cheaper ziz-zag roulette 13 can be confused with a normal round perforation to the unpractised eye. Also use your magnifier since experienced dealers also make mistakes. If you screw your eyes up slightly and look at the scan below of the roulette 13 and see how easily the perforations become round! Similarly become familiar with the roulette 20 straight line roulette which can be mistaken for imperforate – look for the tiny tufts of paper at regular intervals.



Zig-Zag Roulette 13



Straight Line Roulette

**Basic Set Costs :** Total cost for the 18 stamps should be under \$/£100 for mint and under half that for used copies. Those who collect never hinged will find supplies readily available but with the very enhanced costs that this collecting obsession generates.

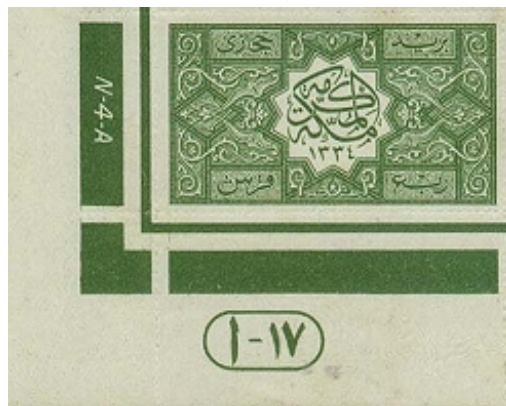
You may stop the collection with the basic set as noted above, but as you have the magnifier out you should check if you have an interesting variety.

**Varieties :Early postmarks :** Any clear cancel on ¼, ½ or 1pi for October or early November 1916 should be highlighted in your collection. Lawrence arrived in Jeddah on 16<sup>th</sup> October 1916 with additional stocks of ¼, ½ and 1pi so dates near to this are always collectible. However dates before this should also be recorded in Random Notes and all dates in October should have a certificate.



**Town Postmarks** : Any town marks are interesting such as Rabigh, Ma'an, Taif, Yanbu etc basically any except Jeddah and Makkah unless early dates as above. Note Madinah in early 1919 is also of interest since it was held by Ottoman forces until the end of 1918.

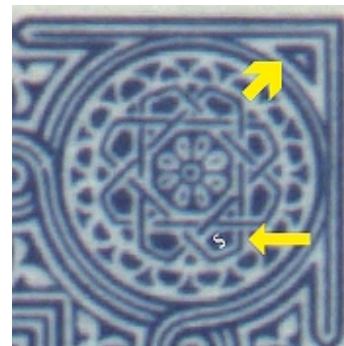
**Control and Plate Numbers** : The Survey of Egypt printed an Arabic Control Letter and Numbers indicating the year of printing under stamp 46 as shown\*. A plate number was also printed at the side of this corner stamp or under the stamp at the lower right corner. Corner plate blocks or singles add a premium item to a collection.



\*In one piastre perforated issues these were over stamp 3, under stamp 47 and under 48 for the first three printings.

**One Piastre Shades : Perforation 10** : Gibbons list a Pale and a Dark blue additionally to the listed blue perforation 10 and these are the two 'C' items in the first issues list. The pale blue comes from the very first printing and is woefully under catalogued. So if you get a really pale blue then grab it. Otherwise ignore them as it is impossible to be specific without a positional block and the difference is not particularly noteworthy. Note the pale blue you are most likely to find is on a used copy with a early Makkah cancel. Since these are not listed by Scott's the light shade may not be noted by US dealers or in US collections.

**1 Piastre with Secret 'S' Mark** : All one piastre values have this 'S', reputedly for 'Survey of Egypt' the printers. This appears at 5 o'clock in the top right round design as indicated by the horizontal arrow. It is clearer on the early printings which were perforated. I have seen this offered as a special item - but it exists on every stamp of the sheet! Note, however in position 31, the triangle design at the top right is damaged, and this may be a deliberate anti-forgery device.



**1 Piastre Blue with Perforation 12 across x 10 – or even 10 x 12**

I am seriously beginning to wonder about this variety and whether it actually exists! Basically until I can confirm in a block I will remain doubtful. The pair shown here was estimated at \$7,500 to \$10,000 in the Kawar sale (with a certificate) even although Gibbons catalogue at just £500 mint or used and Scott at \$775 used! This looks good but just why are these stamps narrower than 'average'? Only by ½ mm BUT? Note the vertical white 'gutter' between stamps is 2mm, the horizontal gutter is 1.6mm.



If offered a copy by a dealer you should insist on an APAI certificate or purchase 'subject to expertization'. I continue to list this stamp as a group 'D' variety in acceptance of the superior knowledge of my predecessors.

It is still a possible find – keep looking in dealers boxes and old pages of stamps for this variety, almost certainly used.

If it only costs a few \$/£ why worry? Since, as a forgery collector will almost certainly buy. With an APAI certificate, registration number and good appearance you could indeed have a genuine rarity! Good hunting – I will continue the search with you. Like all things Arabian – there are still many mysteries.





### Half Piastre : Perforation 12 x 10

One sheet was reported by John Marriott to John Wilson to exist in the Royal collection. No copies are known in any other collections. This variety is not listed in any major catalogue – except by John in page 24 of his excellent reference *The Hejaz : A History in Stamps*.

### Quarter Piastre : ‘White Dot in Barid’

A minor flaw found in the upper right rectangular box in position 47. This position is part of the lower left plate and control number block. This flaw is found on the roulette 13 printings and does not exist on perforated or roulette 20 stamps.



### Quarter Piastre : Forged Perforation 10, 12 x 10, 10 x 12 or 10 x 12½:

The quarter piastre was issued regularly **ONLY as perforation 12**, and later with both 20 and 13 roulettes. HOWEVER Warin in 1927 (page 15) recorded that a *unique* sheet perforation 12 x 10 was in the Royal collection and Brigadier Grylls, in 1947, added that one sheet had been ‘lost’ and another sent to Hejaz and had been broken up! When John Wilson queried the presence of the quarter piastre compound perf sheet at Buckingham Palace over 20 years ago it was not confirmed. However a sheet of the perf 10 forgery and a previously unknown sheet of perf 12 x 10 half piastre red listed above were recorded!

The upper stamp shown on the right is a perforation 10 forgery. All specialists are now agreed that quarter piastre stamps with perforation 10, all round or in combination, are forgeries, created to supply the demand, which developed when these varieties were listed in the major catalogues. None have ever been seen on cover, although singles occasionally appear, even being included in major sales, e.g. lot 1723 in the Mayo sale. That example had the suspiciously ‘clean-cut’ perforations, which is often typical of these forgeries and it failed to reach estimate whilst many closely related items sold at 2 to 3 times estimate. However since these varieties are no longer listed by Scott or Gibbons these ‘varieties’ are no longer a major problem but may still be encountered.



### Quarter Piastre : Perforation 12 x 12½ :

The lower stamp is also from my forgery collection and shows a peculiar perforation – larger than normal holes and a perforation that measures 12½ at the sides! Just why this was produced is a mystery when obviously the forger had the perforation 12 tool readily available.

However there is an extra demand for the normal perf 12 stamp as it is number one in both Gibbons and Scotts catalogues and is therefore targeted by collectors of No 1’s of the world.

### One Eighth Piastre, Two Piastre, Twenty Para, One and Two Piastre Dues : Varieties :

No special varieties of any significance have been recorded on these stamps.



**One Para : Varieties :** There are 14 stamps on the two panes which have 19 printing flaws in the central circular part of the design. Most are easily visible and definitely with a small power magnifying glass. These are great fun to collect and the stamps cost very little.

The one para was printed in sheets of 100 in two panes of 50, which were divided before issue. D. F. Warin has noted many varieties in the central circular part of the design and whilst some flaws were common to both panes the majority were on one pane, which she arbitrarily named pane A.

However which was originally the left pane and which was right pane I cannot determine. I thought rouletting might give a clue but, as far as I can determine, rouletting was carried out after the sheets were divided. I can find no examples of sheets where both margins were rouletted. For the record I have position 50 both not perforated and perforated to the margin. Considering the very high printing standard of the other values these defects are surprising. There is no evidence that any of these flaws were ever removed in later printings, possibly since the stamps were of such low face value.

I have scanned the flaws and used Warin's sheet assignment of 'A' and 'B'. Below are shown the known flaws in the three 'quarters' of the central part of the stamp design.

**Lower Right Quarter of Central Design**



Posn 17 : Major flaws.  
All three flaws on pane A. Flaw with blue arrow on pane B.



posn 2



posn 18



posn 26



posn 43

Further flaws in lower right area of central design – all on Pane A only.

**Lower Left Quarter of Central Design**



Posn 50 Major Flaw in this area. ONLY pane A. See in Plate Blocks.



posn 4



posn 5



posn 33



posn 36

Harder to find flaws. Posn 4 & 5 on pane A Only. Posns 33 and 36 are on both panes.

**Upper Left Quarter of Central Design**



Posn 27. Principle flaw and easy to see. Only on Pane A.



posn 22



posn 23



Posn 18 upper and 48 on left (Approx)

Posn 22 Pane A, Posn 23 both. Posns 18 and 48 are from Pane B and I have still to find actual examples.





## Proofs of First Issue

These are for the advanced collector but the novice should beware a non-knowledgeable dealer listing the cheap roulette 20 stamps as imperforate. The following proofs are known :

### Imperforate on Thin Paper with Gum :

Just three values are on the checklist - quarter, half and one piastre. Mayo also lists the eighth piastre (Mayo p.15) but I cannot recall ever seeing an example at any sale. The Kawar sale in 1998 records just four sheets of each of the three values. Since two of each of the sheets, originally from the Royal Collection of Egypt, are still intact only 100 stamps exist for general collectors. The stamp is an example of the one piastre. It would be useful if everybody with this position contacted to help verify the quantity of sheets.



### Imperforate on Heavy Paper : Issued Colours

All nine values exist printed on heavy thick un-gummed paper. In this case the Kawar sale catalogue records that six sheets were printed of seven values, only a single sheet of the one eighth and four sheets of the two piastre postage due. Only the eighth does not exist as a complete sheet. An example of this scarce one eighth is shown.



### Imperforate on Card and Printed in Blue

All nine values exist printed in blue on 'card', ie thicker than the paper of the previous example. Only one sheet of 50 was printed and a number of these proofs were in the Egyptian Royal collection. Examples appear occasionally on sale, marked on the back with the cartouche of King Farouk.



### Roulette 20 Printed in 'Powder' Blue

Four sheets of the one piastre value were printed on the heavy proof paper in a very distinctive blue shown here and then rouletted with the straight line roulette 20 machine. One of these four sheets is still intact.



### Imperforate on Heavy Paper : Non-Issued Colours

Additional proofs are reported in various colours by Haworth. Mayo indicated these to be on card but the only example I have seen is the one piastre printed on heavy paper in the magenta colour of the two piastre which was originally in the David Graham collection.

We would like to hear from anyone who has examples of these proofs in the other reported colours of red, green, blue or orange on stamps other than those issued in that colour.



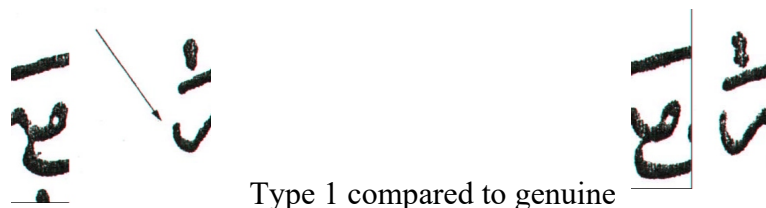
### 3-Line Overprint Forgery Summary

*By Marwan Nusair*

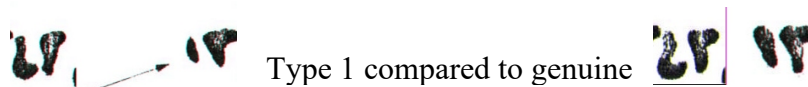
The following is a "recipe" summary allowing an initial determination of whether a three-line overprint is a forgery. In many cases, the type of forgery is found very quickly and that is the end of the line. In some, positive identification is not possible and more detailed methods, including plating against a known genuine sheet, will be necessary.

All illustrations are taken from the APA Forgery Manual with the permission of the publisher. It is recommended that any matches found with the help of this article should be checked carefully against the corresponding entry in the Forgery Manual.

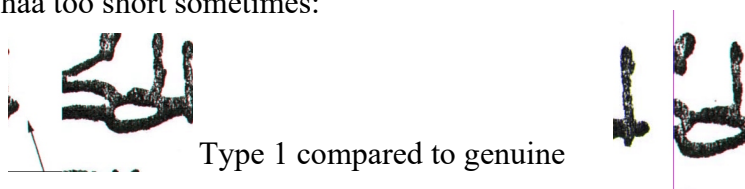
- Top line 17mm long, Type 3 compared to genuine 16¼ to 16½mm long
- Top line 15½mm long, Type 10 compared to genuine 16¼ to 16½mm long
- Basic stamp perforated other than 11½ (different types, see APA Forgery Manual)
- Last stroke of taa marbutah in top line too low:



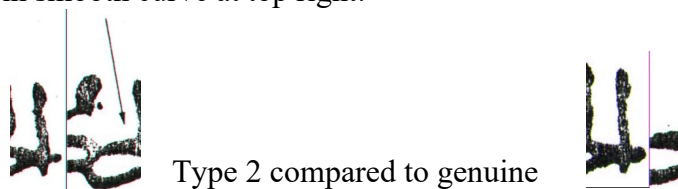
- Variant characters:



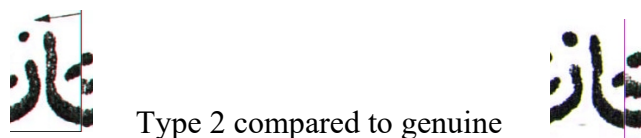
- Projection of haa too short sometimes:



- Laam joins haa in smooth curve at top right:

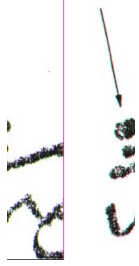


- Dot over zaa in second line can be too small:





- Crude printing, usually large dot at top left:



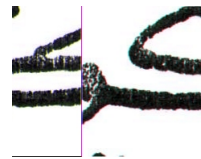
Type 4 compared to genuine



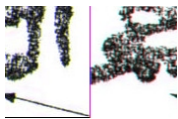
- Could have a break in center of kaaf in top line:



Type 4 compared to genuine



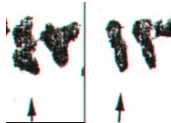
- Narrow space between dot and laam in second line:



Type 5 compared to genuine



- Long thin 1 and variant 4:



Type 5 compared to genuine



- Tapered laam in top line:



Type 6 compared to genuine



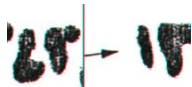
- Haa and kaaf in top line solidly joined:



Type 6 compared to genuine



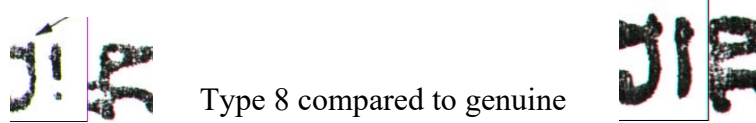
- Long thin1 in date:



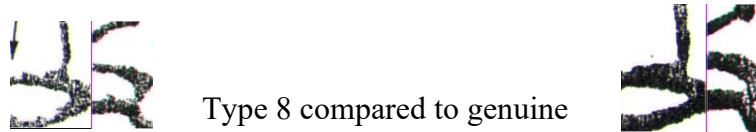
Type 6 compared to genuine



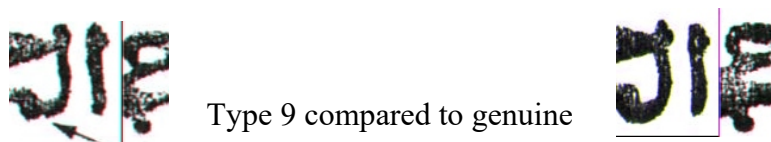
- Haa touches top of laam in second line:



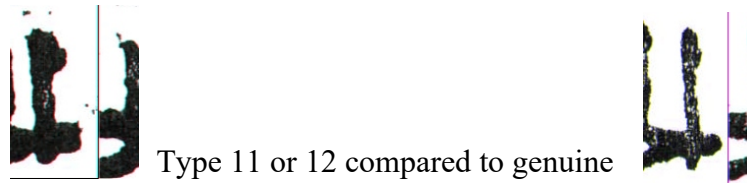
- Haa and kaaf smoothly joined in top line:



- Flattened bottom curve of laam in second line:



- Large head of alif at right and laam shorter than alif:



RN



**Saudi Revenue Catalog Update.** Another unlisted item has come to light. This stamp is RQ6 but with the usual ‘al-Hijaz’ handstamp and should therefore be cataloged on page 38 as RQ23. The handstamp is in violet and perhaps it should be allocated RQ23a, but that will not be possible until a specimen with a handstamp in black is reported. Any suggestions? (MCL 2/03)



# Laser Forgery of a 16mm 3-line Jeddah Overprint

*By: Martin C. Lovegrove*

Although the title of this article implies that it will describe a laser-printed forgery, the printing process is thought to be xerography, a technology used by both laser printers and photocopiers. With the widespread use of personal computers at home and work, this technology is widely available and produces excellent results. The aim of this article is to provide a brief overview of the results provided by the main printing processes and to describe a very realistic forgery that, if shown as an image in an auction catalogue, would lull the viewer into a false sense of security.

First, let us take a look at the characteristics of the various printing processes that may be encountered. To demonstrate these, I have produced four images of straight lines and one image of part of one of the Dammam Railway stamps, and one image of a stamp produced by photogravure. All of these images were obtained using a 60x microscope, but when considering the differences it should be borne in mind that different grades of paper were involved.



Figure 1: Relief



Figure 2: Lithography



Figure 3: Ink-jet



Figure 4: Xerography

## Relief printing (Figure 1)

This process, often known as typography, was used for many of the Saudi stamps including the Makkah Arms stamps and others of that period produced by the Government printing press at Makkah. There are two main features of this process, both caused by the pressure of the printing plate on the paper. There are often raised lines on the gummed side, and the ink is squashed outwards towards the edge of solid colour.



### **Lithography (Figure 2)**

This process does not normally involve printing plates that have any raised or recessed surfaces with the result that the ink is evenly spread and the design has a very 'flat' appearance.

### **Ink-jet (Figure 3)**

This is the process that many with personal computers will be familiar with. It is a process capable of producing prints of reasonable quality, but because drops of ink are being fired at the paper to produce the print, lines are never perfect, and the process is easily recognized under magnification. The use of this process for producing postage stamps is highly unlikely. I have not seen this process used for forgeries, but no doubt someone will try it.

### **Xerography (Figure 4)**

This process uses an electrostatic force to attract minute drops of ink powder to the paper that are then fixed by heat. The results are very good to the naked eye, but under powerful magnification, small spots of ink can be found along the edges of printed areas.

### **Intaglio (Figure 5)**

Often known as engraved printing, this process produces results that are of excellent quality and are easily identified as being produced by this process. This process holds the ink in the engraved parts of the printing plate resulting in raised lines of ink on the paper. In the example above, the raised ink can be seen when the print is illuminated from the side.

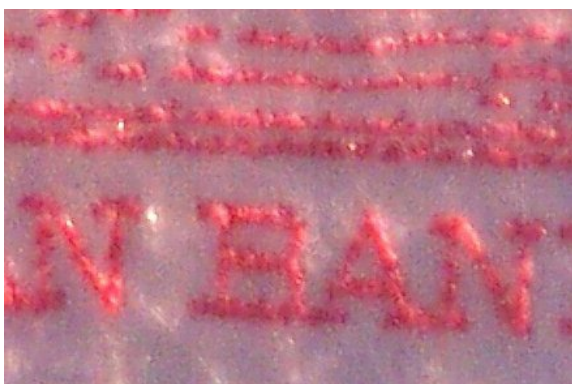


Figure 5: Intaglio

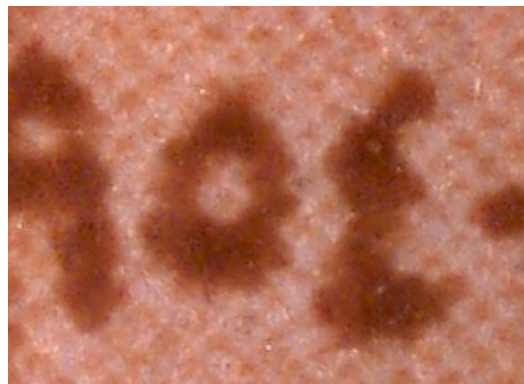


Figure 6: Photogravure

### **Photogravure (Figure 6)**

Easily recognized by the regular pattern of cells created by a cross-line screen. The tones are obtained by etching the individual cells to different depths according to the depth of colour required; the deeper the colour, the deeper the etching.

### **Practical Difficulties**

It should be noted that it is often difficult to determine the process used. Relief printing performed with very little pressure on the plate can look like lithography, and may be the cause of the inconsistencies in descriptions between the stamp catalogues. In my experience, the poorer the printing quality, the harder it is to identify the process used.





## The Forgery

The stamp (figure 7) is a Makkah Arms 2 qirsh with an apparently double 16mm 3-line Jeddah overprint. This double overprint is unlisted in Gibbons and Scott, but the upper-most overprint can be plated to position 13 as is the stamp; the obvious feature being the large dot in the Arabic character 'kaaf' in the top line of the overprint, and this is shown in the inset in figure 7. This dot is missing in the lower overprint, but there is no reason why the doubled one should be from the same plate position; shifted overprints are known.



Figure 7: Stamp with enlargement of genuine overprint



Figure 8: Genuine overprint at top  
fake beneath

Inspection of the overprints under high magnification reveals the telltale dots of a laser forgery in the lower overprint, but the relatively sharp line of relief printing in the top one. Figure 8 shows this contrast well, and although the image was produced at 60x magnification, you will be able to detect the differences at 25x.

### Finally...

This stamp is not unique. I have seen a laser overprint of the 2-line Jeddah, one of the 'illegible' overprint, and a very fine version of a 'Framed Hashemite' with overprint double, one being inverted! All stamps looked genuine when displayed in web auctions or under a low-powered magnifying glass; the first had plating characteristics and the 'illegible' had all of the correct features. One was not too expensive so I kept it, another was returned, and one I do not mention anymore. Beware!

# Makkah Arms ¼ Qirsh

By: *Martin C. Lovegrove*



Figure 1. ¼ qirsh

The Makkah Arms 1/4 qirsh stamp of Hejaz (Saudi Arabia) catalogued by Stanley Gibbons as SG57, was not widely used but provides more philatelic interest than is possibly imagined. As with many of the Hejaz issues, this stamp and its overprints were forged, and these forgeries far outnumber the genuine stamps. This article sets out to describe some of the different variations of this stamp, both genuine and forged, but it should not be seen as the definitive work on the subject.

This stamp (figure 1) was not one of the original values issued in the Makkah Arms series, but made its appearance in September 1924 together with the 10 qirsh, and the 3 qirsh printed in a new colour. The reason for these issues is not altogether clear. The requirement for a 1/4 qirsh value can perhaps be justified by the existence of the earlier 1/4 on 1/8 qirsh surcharge of 1923 (SG47) and the later 'illegible' and 4-line Jeddah overprints, but copies of these values that have seen genuine postal use are rare, if they exist at all, although I know of one copy of the 10 qirsh on a cover that probably had philatelic influence. There are however, genuine stamps with fake cancellations. One such type of cancellation is referred to as a 'dealer cancel', and is thought to originate from the aftermath of a disastrous fire at the premises of a stamp dealer in Cairo. The dealer concerned held good stocks of many scarce Hejaz items, but the water used to extinguish the fire damaged these. They were subsequently stuck to paper and cancelled, and although the mark applied was fake, the stamps were genuine. An example of a dealer cancel is one marked MEKKE 9-11-916, a date well before the stamps were produced, however, unlike modern cancelled-to-order marks, the dealer cancels are often indistinct and show only a small part of the mark. Figure 1 shows a stamp with the '9-11' part of the date showing very clearly.

Like the other Makkah Arms values, this stamp was also overprinted (in black for this value) in Amman for use in Transjordan and many of the illustrations in this article reflect this usage and figure 2 shows such an example. In the Hejaz, the stamp can be found without overprint or with

a large 3-line Jeddah overprint in red. Two plates were used for this red overprint that can be found upright or inverted; examples are shown in figures 3 and 4.



Figure 2  
(Transjordan)



Figure 3  
(Hejaz - upright overprint)



Figure 4  
(Hejaz - inverted overprint)

The stamps are arranged in 6 rows of 6 stamps; the 36 stamps may have been surrounded by a marginal rule, although only traces can be seen on the sheets seen by the author and is more likely to have been the result of printing 'furniture', used to secure the stereotypes, receiving ink. The subject value is unique in the Makkah Arms series in that the lower three rows are inverted in relation to the top three. Detailed study shows that the plate actually comprised

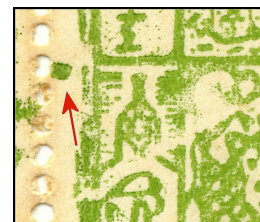


two 18-cliché stereotypes, and it was when the stereotypes were fixed to the printing base that one was fixed inverted in relation to the other.

The colours used for this value are consistent for genuine stamps with only minor shade variations occurring. The Transjordan printing is Bright Green and those for Hejaz are Apple-Green, the colours are taken from the Stanley Gibbons 'Stamp Colour Key'.

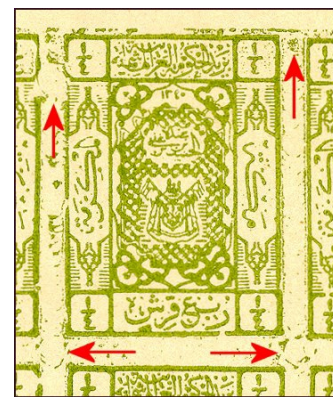
Two main states of the plate exist, with the first state having two sub-states; I refer to these as 1a, 1b and 2. A major flaw occurred in state 1 in the form of a crack in a left marginal stamp in the third row. By convention, the sheet is orientated so that this flaw is in position 13 and this convention is followed in this document. In two sheets of this value overprinted for use in Transjordan and seen by the author, manuscript notes have been placed in the margins in a position that implies this stamp is in position 24. In practice it matters little, but it is important to state which convention is being used when referring to cliché positions. A complete sheet from Transjordan is illustrated in figure 31 and one from Hejaz in figure 32, both at the end of this article.

It would appear that the crack was stabilized to some extent by additional fixing of the stereo by a nail to the printing base. The head of this nail occasionally received ink and appeared as a dot in the margin. It is of course possible that the cause of the crack may have been the exact reverse of this and was the result of an attempt to fix the stereo at this point; the exact sequence of events may never be known.



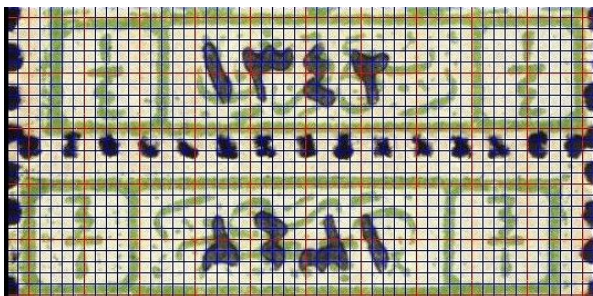
**Figure 5**  
Fixing nail visible

At some stage the condition of the attachment of the two halves to the printing base became unacceptable. Substantial re-fixing was done which appears to have required at least one of the halves to be removed. This assumption has been made in the light of the larger gap between rows 3 and 4 in state 2. Evidence of re-fixing can be seen by the large number of punch marks and nail heads in stamp margins; some nail heads were not visible in the margins at first, but appeared during the course of further use. Figure 6 illustrates these punch marks. These marks are frequently obscured by perforation holes and can therefore be seen more easily on imperforate blocks.

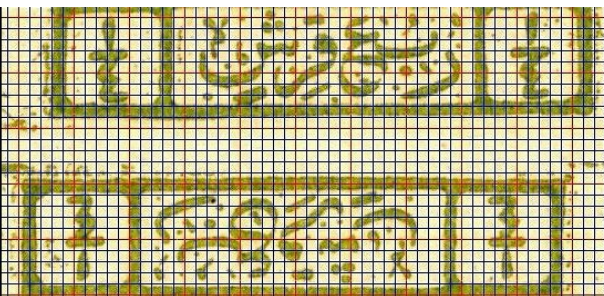


**Figure 6**  
Evidence of punch marks

The different gap between rows 3 and 4 can be seen in figures 7 and 8; in each case, one small square on the grid represents 0.5mm. The gap for state 1 is 2.5mm and 3.25mm for state 2, the distance being measured between the centres of the outer frame lines. The normal separation between rows is approximately 4mm.



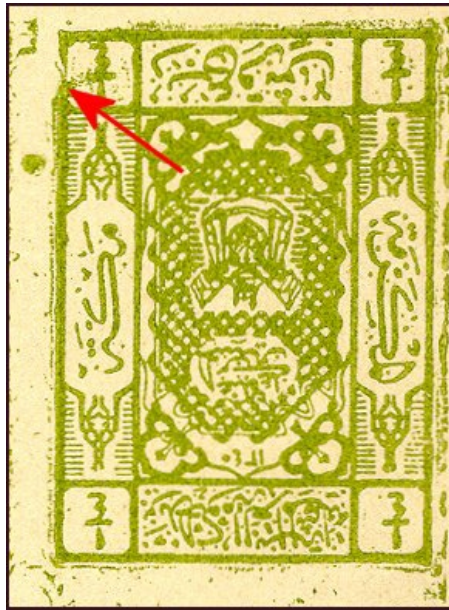
**Figure 7.**  
State 1 - Narrow gap between rows 3 and 4



**Figure 8.**  
State 2 - Wide gap between rows 3 and 4



It is also apparent that during use, some of the fixing nails loosened to the extent that the heads picked up ink, causing the typical nail head impressions. A good example of this is provided by stamp position 24 which is, of course, inverted:



**Figure 9**  
Nail position identified by punch mark



**Figure 10**  
Nail head visible

When studying individual stamps it is not always easy to determine whether they were printed from state 1 or 2, although many individual stamps do carry plate-specific marks. The larger gap between rows 3 and 4 in state 2 is probably the easiest way of distinguishing between the two states when studying the tete-beche pairs; punch marks are only found on state 2. Only position 13 can be used to differentiate between state 1a and 1b and examples of this position in all three states are shown in figures 11 to 13.



**Figure 11**  
Transjordan – positions 13 and 19 from state 1a



**Figure 12**  
Transjordan – positions 13 and 19 from state 1b



**Figure 13**  
Hejaz – positions 13 and 19 from state 2





Initial investigation has shown that states 1a and 1b were used to print the stamps sent to Transjordan, and state 2 for use in Hejaz. I have reached this conclusion because I have found no genuine copies of Transjordan stamps from state 2, and similarly, no Hejaz stamps were found from state 1.

The number of genuine 1/4 qirsh stamps available for this study was small. Apart from three complete sheets and a scanned image of another, I had less than forty of these stamp covering both Hejaz and Transjordan. Several tete-beche pairs from both countries were available. Although this number is small, the conclusions are supported by examples illustrated in various auction catalogues covering such auctions as the Harry Hibbert and George Asch collections.

This plate usage could provide the reason for the introduction of this value and the others issued at the same time. The request for the two new values and the colour change for the 3 qirsh was made by King Abdullah of Transjordan, the brother of King Hussein of Hejaz, and that the copies released in the Hejaz were not the result of a postal requirement there. It is certain that this family relationship was the reason for Hejaz stamps being used in Transjordan in the first place. Also of interest is the fact that a considerable amount of documentation relating to the introduction and overprinting of Hejaz stamps in Transjordan exists, but no evidence of payment or a request for payment has been found. An example of plate 1a use is illustrated in figure 14.

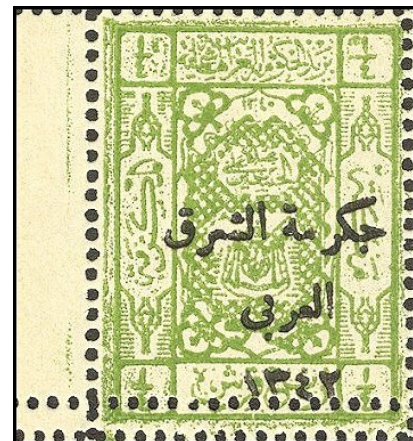


**Figure 14**  
Cover showing 1/4 qirsh stamp, position 13 state 1a, used in Transjordan

As with the other values in the Makkah Arms series, the stamps were line perforated by hand, a process that resulted in several perforation varieties; two are illustrated in figures 15 and 16.



**Left - Figure 15**  
Imperf horizontally, misperf vertically



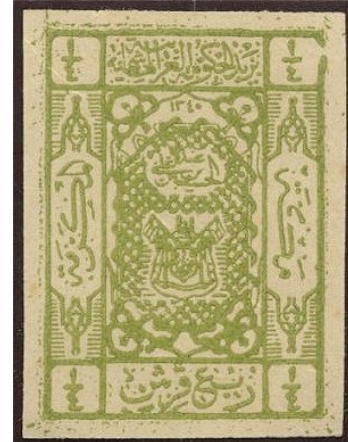
**Right - Figure 16**  
Double horizontal perforations

Note that the stamp in figure 15 displays part of the MEKKE 9-11-916 'dealer' cancel.

Stamps of this value are found genuinely imperforate, although they are greatly outnumbered by the forgeries. One type is on standard paper and in the normal colour, the other is printed on thick cream paper without gum and is probably a proof taken after the plate repairs leading to state 2.



**Left - Figure 17**  
Imperforate on normal paper  
and also showing part of the  
MEKKE 9-11-916 dealer cancel



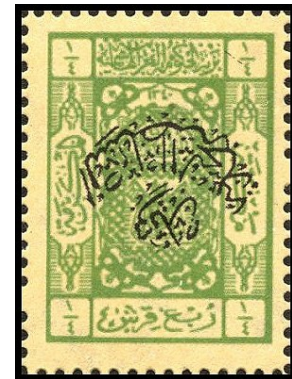
**Right - Figure 18**  
Imperforate proof on thick  
cream paper

### Forgeries

A mention must now be made of the forgeries of this value, and I am limiting this to the basic stamp only; investigating the various forged overprints is a task large enough to warrant a separate study.

There are two groups of forgeries of this stamp. One is a product of more modern times and is an obvious forgery; the other was contemporary with the genuine stamp and is much more of a threat to philately. I will deal with the less harmful variety first.

These more recent forgeries, of which figure 19 is an example, are litho-printed in sheets of 30, arranged in 5 rows of 6 stamps and all upright. Two types of paper have been used, both white but one containing an optical brightening agent. In both cases a solid background of cream has been printed to give the impression of old paper and is quite convincing. Less convincing however, is the design which is not completely accurate, and the overprint, the second Nejd provisional handstamp, which was never genuinely applied to this stamp, and is in fact not a handstamp at all but is printed; a complete sheet is at figure 34.



**Figure 19**  
Litho printed fake  
stamp and overprint

The older, more convincing, forgery has escaped detection for many years and comes in several different versions, although all may be related. The main reason for the confusion over the status of these stamps is the fact that the stamps can generally be plated against genuine sheets, and the sheet layout is the same as the genuine. It has been suggested that the plates used were the genuine plates and that the stamps were produced after the plates were no longer officially in use, and in many cases, worn; this has resulted in the term 'reprint' being frequently used for these forgeries. However, this cannot be so in the case of the 1/8 and 1 qirsh values where the forged sheets correspond to early states of the genuine. Examination of complete sheets reveals that the printing method used was probably lithography, although it can be difficult to tell from single stamps. Examples showing raised parts of the design on the gummed side as a result of





relief printing have not, to my knowledge, been found. To further support the illegitimate status of these stamps is the fact that none have been found with a genuine Hejaz overprint. A complete sheet of this forgery is shown in figure 33.

As with the genuine stamps, these forgeries were line perforated in the correct gauge, but the perforator used had one pin missing. This missing perforation can be a useful feature for identification, since such a feature is not known on genuine sheets. This missing pin, see figure 20, can appear on the horizontal or vertical perforations, or both (one stamp in each sheet). Imperforate copies of the Hejaz versions abound, both with and without overprint, and it is a common sight to see these advertised as ‘excellent for display’ or ‘exhibition item’; they are of course nothing of the sort.



Figure 20  
Missing perforation pin

The colours of this forgery vary considerably, and range from yellow-green to deep green. Two very distinct types of paper have been used for this forgery. One is similar to the genuine paper (figure 23) used for this value, but with the design of the stamp showing through the paper (figure 24), the other is a thick creamy paper with brown gum (figure 25). Both types of paper are likely to have offsets of the stamp on the gummed side, but this is not in itself a sure indication of a ‘reprint’. Additionally, stamps may show extra ‘blobs’ of ink, either on the design (figure 21) or between adjacent stamps; I have not seen any on genuine stamps, but they are frequently encountered on these ‘reprints’. Figure 22 illustrates some of the shades encountered.



Figure 21  
Extra ‘blob’ of ink

The forgery illustrated in figure 26 is a copy of position 7 from state 2, and I would also be very wary of any Transjordan Makkah Arms stamps showing the wider gap between tete-beche pairs, having a missing perforation, or being in a shade other than the normal. I do not have the expertise to judge whether the Transjordan overprints applied to these Hejaz forgeries are genuine, but there is the potential for many of the Transjordan ‘rarities’ to be fakes. An example from an auction catalogue of a block clearly showing the missing perforation is shown in figure 27.



Figure 22. Examples of shades found on ‘reprints’



Left - Figure 23.  
Genuine, cream  
gum, design barely  
visible



Left - Figure 24. ‘Re-  
print’, white gum,  
design visible, ink offset



Right - Figure 25.  
‘Reprint’, brown  
gum, ink offset





Left - Figure 26  
Inverted Transjordan  
overprint on fake  
Hejaz stamp



Right - Figure 27. 'Reprint'  
with inverted Transjordan  
overprint

There is one printing of a 'reprint' that deserves special attention. The quality of printing is good and the ink colour and paper used are very close to the genuine making the correct identification of this stamp is difficult if the missing perforation is not present. A block of 4 is shown in figure 28. So how do we know that this block is a 'reprint' forgery? The main visible feature is the condition of the gutters between stamps. Compare those in the illustrated block with those in the complete sheet of state 2 (figure 32). The genuine stamps have a considerable amount of printed marks between the stamps, whereas the 'reprints' are reasonably clear. For further evidence, two further examples have to be studied. The first of these, in figure 29, shows printing flaws that are common to 'reprints' but not found on genuine stamps. The flaws indicated are (1) large irregular blob of ink, and (2) small spot of ink surrounded by a white 'halo'. The second stamp, figure 30, is remarkably similar to the genuine, moreso than the first, but has a blob of ink on the end of the Arabic 'sh', a flaw that is only present on the 'reprint' position 35.



Figure 28



Figure 29



Figure 30



These examples have shown that from what is believed to be a single forged plate, many differing versions of the ¼ qirsh stamp have been produced, many closely resembling the genuine stamp.

### Summary

Printing	Features
State 1a	Only position 13 can be positively allocated to this state - the stamp does not have a large crack. The two stereos that make up the plate are separated by a gap of approximately 2.5mm. This, and state 1b, were used to print the stamps sent to Transjordan. Stamps printed in a bright green colour.
State 1b	Identical to state 1a except that the stamp displays a large crack.
State 2	Repairs to the plate resulted in the stereos being fixed further apart. In this case, the gap between rows 3 and 4 is approximately 3.25mm. This state produced the stamps used in the Hejaz. This state can further be identified by a large number of punch marks, nail heads and other printed marks in the gaps between stamps. Stamps printed in an apple-green colour. The gum is a creamy colour with the design barely showing through.
'Reprint' forgery	A copy of state 2 but with extra flaws. Many colours and papers were used, some very close to the genuine. Perforation pin missing. Normally one pin missing in each vertical and horizontal row of perforations. Used for forgeries of Hejaz and Transjordan stamps.

As was stated at the beginning of the article, this is not the definitive work on the ¼ qirsh Makkah Arms stamp. I will be grateful to receive:

- Evidence that anything stated in this article is incorrect.
- Additional information, especially about postal use and varieties.
- Information about the postal requirement for a ¼ qirsh value.
- Quantities printed.
- Colour trials and proofs.
- Anything else that is relevant!

This article has, I believe, shown that the 1/4 qirsh Makkah Arms stamp was initially produced for use in Transjordan and that three states of the printing plate exist. Although there are many forgeries of this stamp, with experience they can be detected with relative ease.

There is still much to be discovered about this stamp: What was the real reason for its issue, why did the top stereo crack, and was it ever used postally in the Hejaz?

If sufficient further information is forthcoming, I will produce an updated version, hopefully before the end of 2003.

Examples of complete sheets are on the next four pages; I hope you find them of interest.







Figure 31. Sheet from Transjordan (also showing a double row of perforations)







Figure 32. Proof Sheet from the Hejaz







Figure 33. Forgery, copy of state 2







Figure 34. Forgery, incorrect sheet layout



# ISSUES OF SAUDI ARABIA : 1997-1998

*By Willie King*

This listing continues with back issues previously not recorded in Random Notes. Firstly there is a correction to RN 58. Please renumber the 3<sup>rd</sup>. GCC issue to 1997-13. There are still doubts about the officially planned first day of issue and actual release of several of these issues.

## 1997-11 Prince Salman Welfare Centre

**Issue Date** : Officially was for July 12 1997

Printed : August 12<sup>th</sup> 1997

Released in Eastern Province : January 1998

**1 SR** : Sun symbol between blue curved supports

Single value . Size 3 x 4 cm.

Sheets of 50 (10 across x 5)

**Perforation** 12

**Catalogue Numbers** : Gibbons 1932

Scott 1268.



## 1997-12 Battle of Tabuk

**Issue Date** : Officially was August 12 1997

Printed : August 12<sup>th</sup> 1997 (ie as previous)

Released in Eastern Province : January 1998

**1 SR** : Arabic Cartouche and Script within ornate design

Single value. Size 4 x 4cm.

Sheets of 50 + 4 Post code Labels (9 across by 6)

**Post Code Labels** : 4 in column reading up in upper left corner

Position 1 PC # 3, Position 10 PC # 8

Position 19 PC # 4, Position 28 PC # 1



**Perforation** 12

**Catalogue Numbers** : Gibbons 1933

Scott 1269

**Notes** : Tabuk in north of Saudi Arabia was Byzantine Roman army retreated when they saw the large Muslim army.



## 1998-1 World Food Day

**Issue Date** : 9<sup>th</sup> February 1998

(Normally in October Note dated 1997!)

Printed : February 9<sup>th</sup>. 1998 –

perhaps this is where date of issue originated.

Released in Eastern Province : February 1998

**2 SR** : FAO symbol and Globe with leaves.

Single Value. Size 2.5 x 3cm.

Sheets of 98 in two panes of 49 (7 x 7).

Vertically separated by a blank perforated gutter.

**Perforation** 12

**Catalogue Numbers** : Gibbons 1934, Scott 1270.



## 1998-2 Disabled Persons Day

**Issue Date:** 3<sup>rd</sup>. May 1998  
(Note dated 1997!)

**Printed :** Not Known

**1 SR :** Sun over Mother & Child in a house  
Single Value. Size 2.5 x 3cm.  
Sheets of 98 in two panes of 49 (7 x 7).  
Vertically separated by a blank perforated gutter.

**Perforation** 12

**Catalogue Numbers :** Gibbons 1935, Scott 1271.



## 1998-3 Hajj 1418 (1998)

**Issue Date :** 17<sup>th</sup>. May 1998

**Printed :** Not Known

**2 SR :** Shows the sacred meteorite in Ka'aba  
Single Value. Size 3 x 4cm.  
Sheets of 60 in two panes of 30 (6 x 5).  
Vertically separated by a blank perforated gutter.

**Perforation** 12

**Marginal Art :** Over stamps 3 & 4 – Ka'aba in blue (see above)  
Under stamps 25-27 : “The Black Stone” and dates



الحج



1998 الحجير الأسود ١٤١٨

**Catalogue Numbers :** Gibbons 1936, Scott 1272

## 1998-4 King Fahd Dam in the Bisha Valley

**Issue Date:** 17<sup>th</sup>. May 1998

**Printed :** Not Known

**1 SR :** View of the Bisha Dam  
Single Value. Size 3 x 2.5cm.  
Sheets of 98 in two panes of 49 (7 x 7).  
Horizontally separated by a blank perforated gutter.

**Marginal Art :** Sideways left of rows 1-3. Solid Arabic.  
Sideways right of rows 5-7 Hollow Arabic

**Perforation** 12

**Catalogue Numbers :** Gibbons 1937, Scott 1275.

**Varieties :** The background hills vary from brown to green.

**Notes :** The dam provides a storage for **rain water** in the SW>NE running valley 25 miles from the town of Bisha, which is 200 miles SE of Makkah. It is the largest dam in the Middle East and was opened on 15<sup>th</sup> May 1998.



سد الملك فهد بوادي بيشة  
سد الملك فهد بوادي بيشة



## 1998-5 50<sup>th</sup>. Anniversary of WHO

Issue Date : 31<sup>st</sup>. May 1998

Printed : May 9<sup>th</sup>. 1998

1 SR : WHO symbol and Mother & Child .  
Single Value. Size 2.5 x 3cm.  
Sheets of 98 in two panes of 49 (7 x 7).  
Vertically separated by a blank perforated gutter.

Perforation 12

Catalogue Numbers : Gibbons 1938, Scott 1274.

Marginal Art :



صحة المرأة والأمومة الآمنة

يوم الصحة العالمي 1998



“Women’s Health & United Nations” “World Health Day 1998”  
Over columns 4 to 7 **Inverted** Under columns 1-4 **Inverted** in relation to stamps

## 1998-6 Islamic Organization for Education & Science

Issue Date : 12<sup>th</sup>. July 1998

Printed : May 21<sup>st</sup>.1998

1 SR : Flag of Organization.  
Single Value. Size 2.5 x 3cm.  
Sheets of 98 in two panes of 49 (7 x 7).  
Vertically separated by a blank perforated gutter.

Perforation 12

Catalogue Numbers : Gibbons 1939, Scott 1276.

المنظمة الإسلامية للتربية والعلوم والثقافة  
المنظمة الإسلامية للتربية والعلوم والثقافة



Marginal Art : Solid over and hollow under columns 3-5.

## 1998-7 Arabic Stamp Day

Issue Date : 7<sup>th</sup>. October 1998

Printed : August 15<sup>th</sup>.1998

2 SR : Dove carrying letter over Globe.  
Single Value. Size 3 x 4 cm.  
Sheets of 60 in two panes of 30 (6 across x 5).  
Vertically separated by a perforated pictorial gutter\*

Perforation 12

Catalogue Numbers : Gibbons 1940, Scott 1277.

Marginal Art : Arabic over columns 4-6 and under columns 1-3.

يوم البريد العربي

\*Insignia in Gutter margin :

Rows 1, 3 and 5 :  
Arab Postal Union



Rows 2 and 4 :  
Saudi Arabian PO



RN