



الجمعية الدولية للطابع البريدية العربية
ملاحظات عابرة

Arabian Philatelic Association International
Random Notes



NOVEMBER 2009

NUMBER 78

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Nice one!
See [page 25](#)

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). The APAI e-mail address arabphilassocin@aol.com is no longer in use, please contact Willie King at willieking@btinternet.com

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 and Random Notes distribution: Marwan Nusair

USA representative: John Wilson

European representative: Willie King

Middle East representative: David Jessich

USA Distribution Manager: Marwan Nusair

Treasurer: David Jessich

Editor, Random Notes: Martin Lovegrove

Random Notes

The APAI's publication, *Random Notes*, will be issued three times a year, assuming sufficient material is available. The editor is Mr. M C Lovegrove, e-mail: 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 (2009) and Stanley Gibbons (2005) catalog numbers are used with the kind permission of the copyright owners.

Several organizations and individuals have granted permission for their work to be reproduced in this journal; our thanks go to them and their details are given on the final page of this edition.

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 #78

Assembled by the Editor

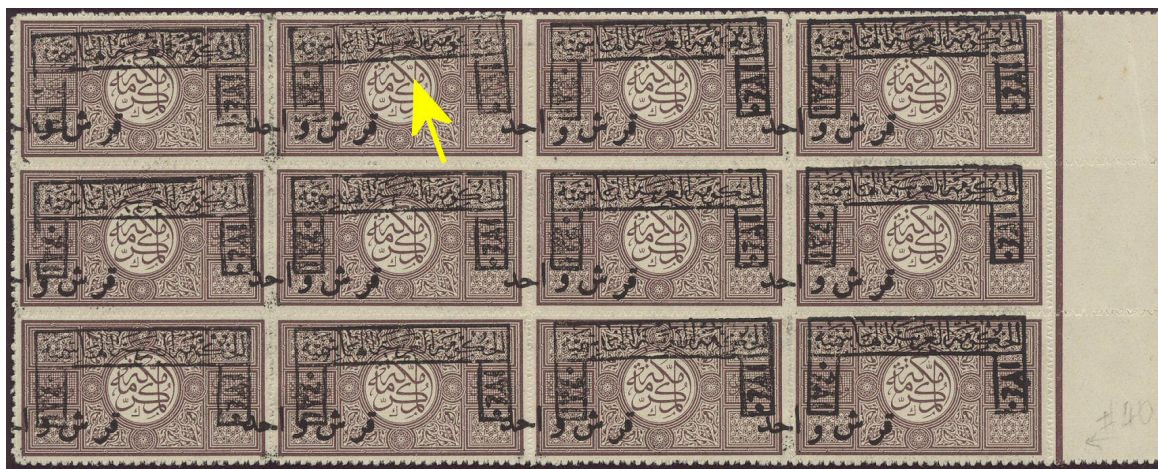
The lack of contributions has caused this edition to be mainly pictorial; when the pictures run out, there may be nothing left! Unfortunately Willie King is very busy with other philatelic organisations and has been unable to provide the next part of his 1934 Tughra series articles for this edition; I hope we will be able to see it before too long.

I need anything you can offer, from short notes to full articles. Please help me to keep Random Notes alive.

Now for the notes.

1. The 'Al Saudia' Medina provisional item illustrated in 'From the Auctions' in RN 77.29 appeared on eBay in April with a reserve of USD 2500 - it did not sell.
2. A couple of interesting varieties can be found on this block of the Survey of Egypt 1 para with framed Hashemite overprint and 1 qirsh surcharge. The block covers positions 27 to 40 at bottom right.

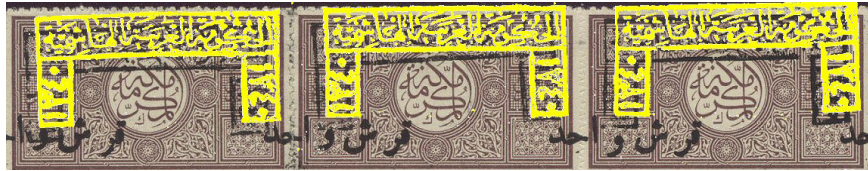
The obvious variety is the shifted surcharge and to such an extent that it affects the adjacent stamp to left. Not so obvious is the framed overprint on stamp position 28. This is rotated anticlockwise by about 1.5 degrees compared to the other positions.



Shown on the next page are positions 27, 28 and 29 with the normal overprint in yellow offset slightly to show the rotated position 28.

Although the position 28 overprint is not completely clear, there is enough evidence to show that it is the original position 28 cliché and not a replacement.





I suppose this shows that each cliché of the framed overprint was fixed individually to the backing of the plate, but perhaps we knew that already.

3. Mystery perforation varieties relating to the 1937 Tughra definitive series and the Dammam Post commemorative issue have appeared in recent issues of Random Notes. I have seen a cover with the 4 qirsh airmail stamp having similar perforations and may possibly give us a clue to the origin to all of these varieties. The perforations are no more than pin-holes and measure approximately 8 in 2cm.

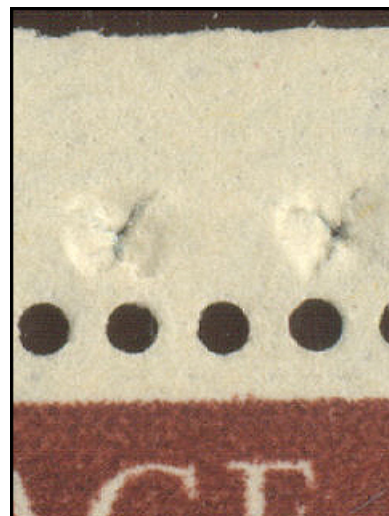


1949 air with 'pin-perf' 8 on cover.

A detailed examination of these pin-holes revealed a pattern that seemed to be familiar to me; it was one that could be found on GB stitched booklet panes. A comparison is illustrated below:



'Perforations' on 4 qirsh air



Detail from GB booklet pane



It was fortunate that this variety appeared on the double-pane printing of the 4 qirsh air and that the stamp had not been separated along one row of perforations. I suggest that the similarity is striking and that in this case the ‘perforations’ were produced by a sewing machine; it might explain the slightly irregular spacing found on these varieties. Note also that the cover was postmarked Jeddah, as our previous examples have been. Official or private? Who knows? The postmark date is 23 September 1958.

4. Nutmeg auction 183 held on 23 April 2009 provided an interesting item. Lot 4902 was described as:

38A, 1925 1/8pi Red brown, overprinted in black, VF appearance, usual disturbed o.g., small faults, an attractive example of this rare second Nejd handstamp which only exists mint, 1996 Filatco certificate.

An excellent image appeared on the web enabling some investigation to be performed. The handstamp passes all of the APAI tests and the stamp is from position 13; that position interests me. At some time during the life of the plate, cliches from positions 13 and 19 were replaced and various Hejaz overprints can be found on both states, indicating that state 2 was not just a Nejd printing. In fact, I have not seen a Nejd handstamp on the early state of the plate. So was this Nutmeg item produced from a complete sheet of state 1 or just from some remainders, either blocks or singles? I would like to hear from anyone who has a Nejd handstamp on a 1/8 qirsh stamp from state 1.

The basic stamps are shown below for reference:



Positions 13 and 19 from state 1



Scott 38A, SG 224a, from position 13, state 1.



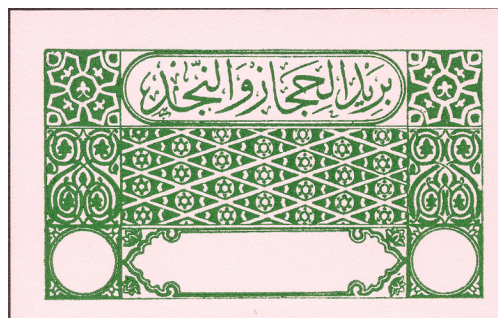
Positions 13 and 19 from state 2



5. The oversize 'essays' for the 1926 Hejaz and Nejd definitive and postage due stamps may not be the most popular of items, but forgeries of these stamps do exist.



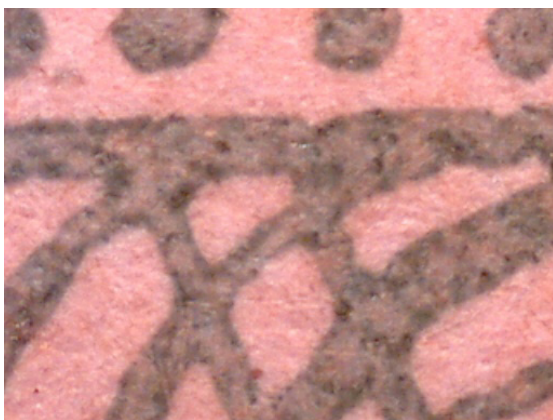
Genuine on thin dark pink paper



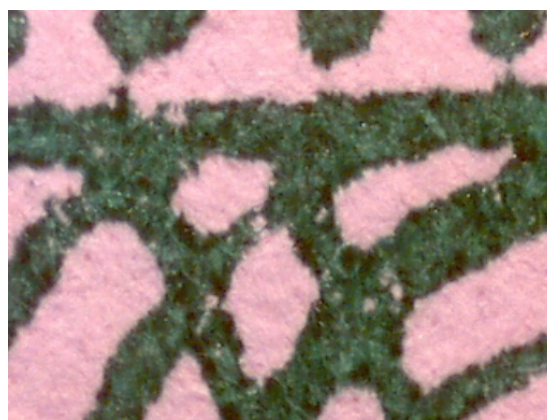
Forgery on thick pale pink paper

Those that I have seen are probably litho printed on thick, pale pink paper, 0.007 inches (0.175 mm) thick, the genuine items that I have seen are on a much thinner and darker paper and having a thickness of approximately 0.003 inches (0.076 mm).

The standard of print is inferior to that of the genuine stamp and the ink colour is not an exact match. The accuracy of the design is good and the forgeries were probably produced from a photograph. A comparison of images taken using a 60x microscope show these differences.



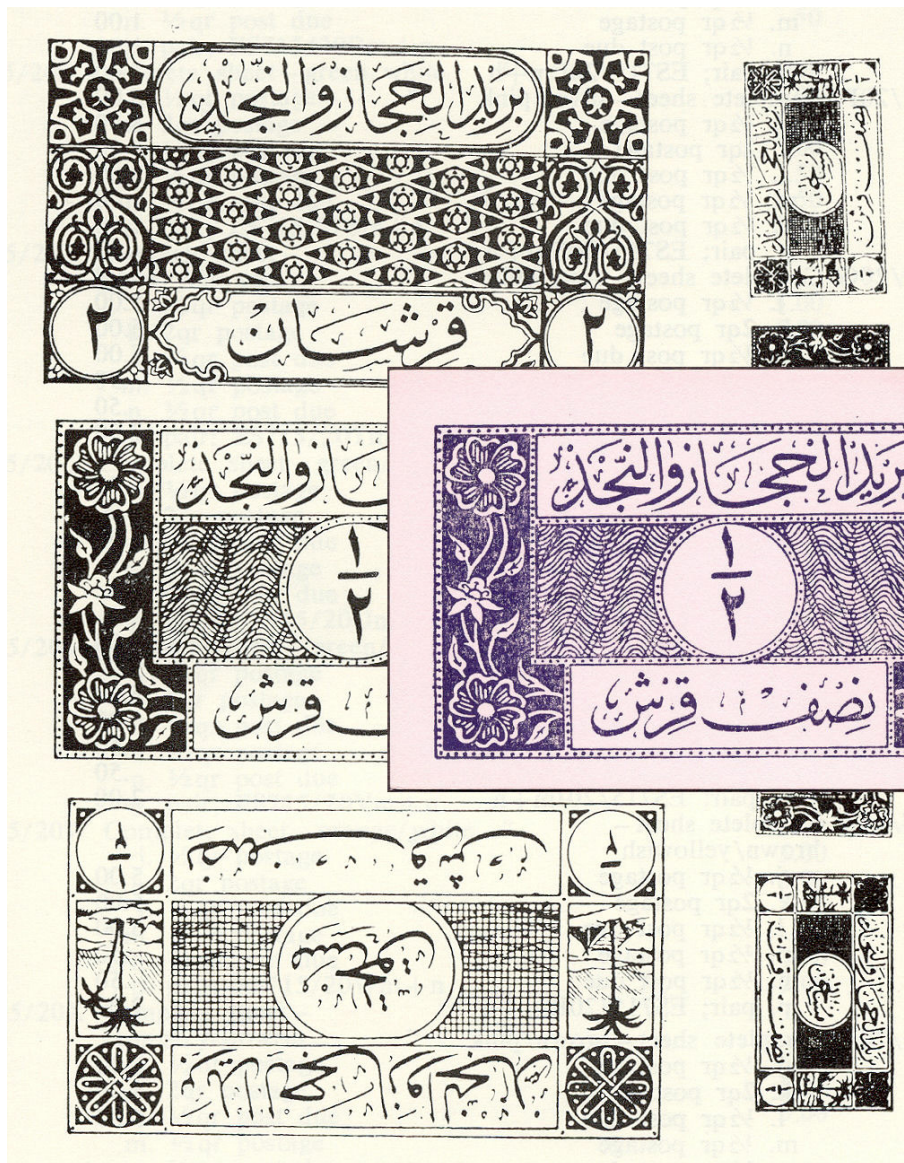
Clean lines and distinct 'ink squash' of genuine typographed stamp



Flatter and less clearly defined printing of forgery

The most obvious indication of a forgery that I have seen is that all of the forgeries have been well centred on paper cut to approximately 100 mm x 63 mm. The genuine stamps were cut from sheets, a representation of which is shown on the next page, and the arrangement of the stamps should result in the ½ qirsh having narrow margins at top and bottom and the other two values having at least one narrow margin. A forgery superimposed on the genuine sheet is shown on the next page and clearly shows that the top and bottom margins are too wide and if genuine would have shown part of the neighbouring stamp.





Forgery superimposed on genuine sheet and clearly showing the wide margins and absence of part of the design of the two-qirsh stamp above.

These forgeries are good enough to deceive until a more detailed inspection can be made, so beware of buying without actually seeing the item. Those I have seen advertised are located in Lebanon but I have been informed that they are printed in Canada.

6. Documents and covers that have been embellished to make them more attractive to philatelists appear to be on the increase. First shown here is an Ottoman document with Tughra stamps and a $\frac{1}{4}$ qirsh Medical Aid stamp added and 'tied' to the document with several poor impressions from a negative seal. An attempt was made to reconstruct a circular date stamp, but the finished result was not truly circular, used different coloured inks and had text facing in different directions! One of the 2 qirsh stamps had quite a nice genuine RAHEAMA postmark.





I have been sent an image of two covers with inappropriate stamps, apparently from an eBay auction. One of these is illustrated below. It clearly shows two road tax stamps and a Medical Aid stamp cancelled with the 'PRINTED MATTERS/AirMail' mark illustrated in RN 77.24 and ties the Medical Aid stamp to the cover, and a single strike of a 'PRINTED MATTERS' handstamp. The Road Tax stamps show a cancellation from their previous, probably genuine, use. All of these forgeries are probably good enough to fool the casual observer.



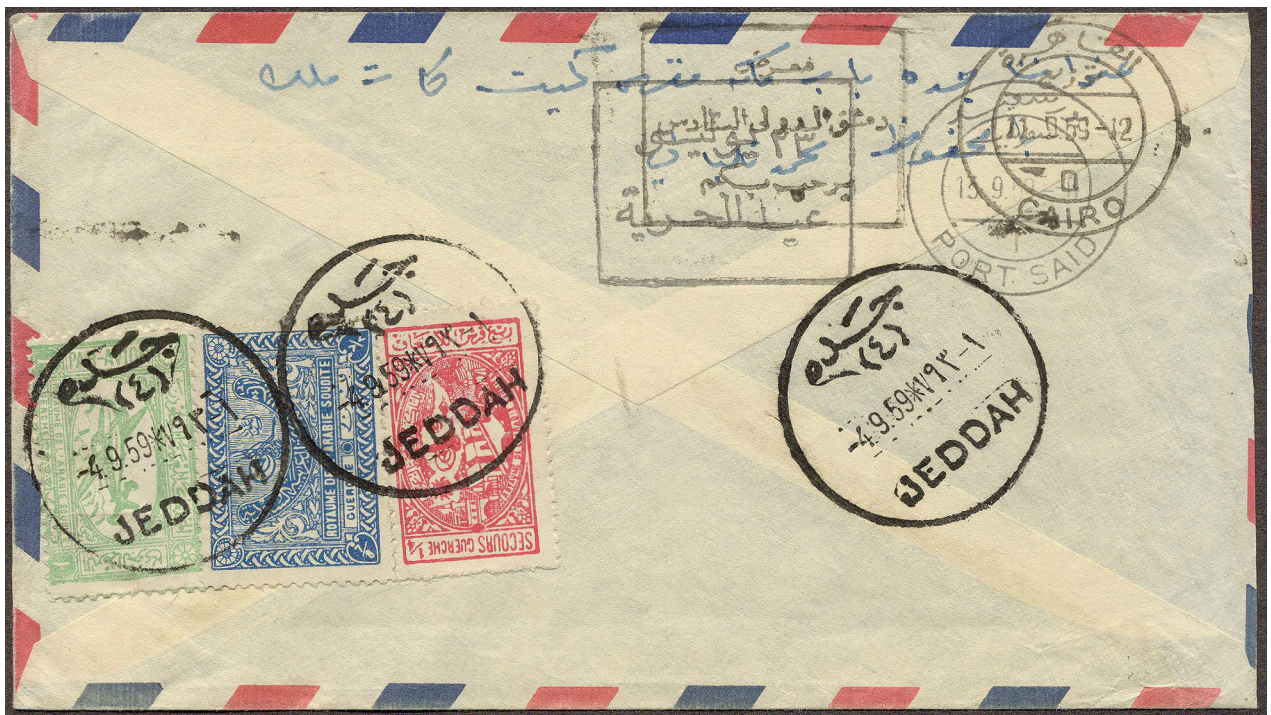
7. Unlisted in Gibbons and Scott is the Makkah Arms 2 qirsh orange with the large 3-line Jeddah overprint in black but printed sideways reading up. I have stamp position 26 with parts of overprint positions 26 and 27 and this seemed to me to be an unlikely combination. All became clear when I constructed a 'virtual' sheet of this variety; this is shown on the next page. It is clear that the overprint was done on a half-sheet with the left hand column of the overprint centred on row 4 of the stamp sheet. I wonder if any of the stamps with the overprinted bottom selvedge still attached still exist?

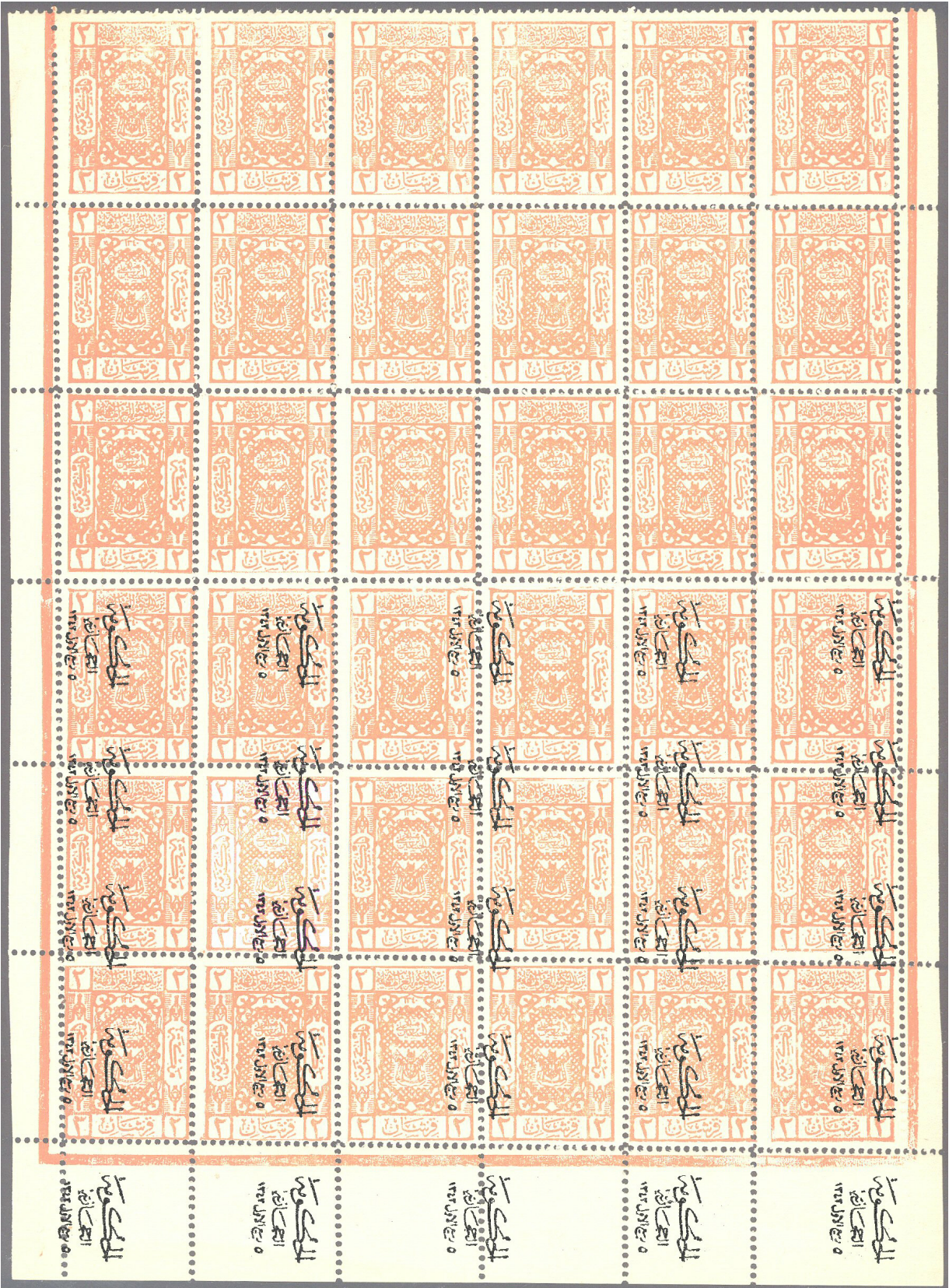


8. This cover provides answers and poses a new question. In RN 76.13, Willie King asked if anyone had seen the 7/8 qirsh Tughra with normal, properly formed, perforations. Dick Tjaden provided the two images shown in RN 77.17. Here is a cover from Jeddah to Egypt, dated 4 September 1959 that has a clean-perf example, but can anyone confirm that the franking is 7/8 qirsh domestic surface rate for 20 grams (applicable to APU countries) and 1 qirsh for air mail?



In RN 47.14 the type S81 JEDDAH cancel is listed but the numeral was not known at that time. This cover clearly shows it to be number 4.





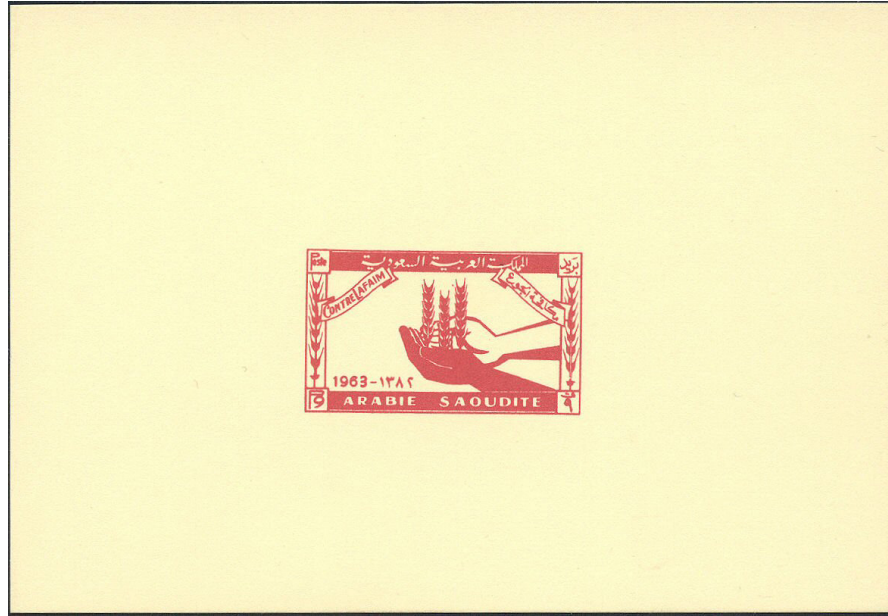
9. This domestic cover from Jeddah to Makka has a cancel not listed in Ken Knight's series of articles. It is circular, belted, and bi-calendar with the Arabic office name in a straight line and the western office name curved to fit the perimeter. A counter number appears above both office names. As a matter of interest, if the requirement for a medical aid stamp ceased in May 1965 (reference Thoden 2008) then this cover should have such a stamp. According to RN 54 the domestic rate was 2½ qirsh. We definitely require more information about postage rates. Can anyone help?



10. More forgeries from a dealer based in Lebanon are items claimed to be reprinted die proofs of the Survey of Egypt printed Hejaz stamps. I have only seen four of the six values advertised but no doubt the complete set exists.

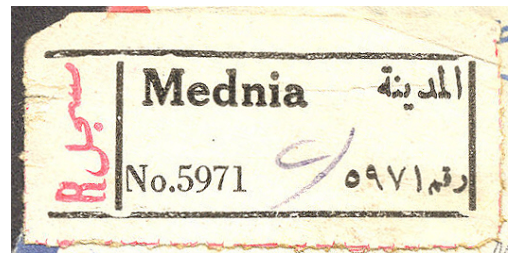


11. Almost certainly from the same factory as item 10 and also from Lebanon come sets of die proofs for several issues. The issues I have seen are the 1963 Freedom From Hunger, 1934 Railway Tax revenue, and the 1969 Airport Tax revenue, but many more have appeared on eBay. These issues span quite a few years and the originals were printed using different techniques, yet the so-called die proofs used the same printing process for all types and each set came in the same twelve (I think) colours! These were sold as actual die proofs and not as reprinted.

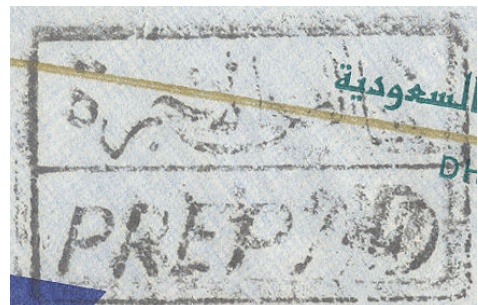


Bogus 1963 Freedom From Hunger die proof

12. An interesting variety on a registration label came to my attention recently. This has the town as MEDNIA.



13. A Fee Paid mark that I am sure has not appeared in Random Notes is this one. There is no town name on the mark but it has been seen on official covers from Dhahran dated 1980. Unfortunately my copies are not very clear so this is the best I can do.

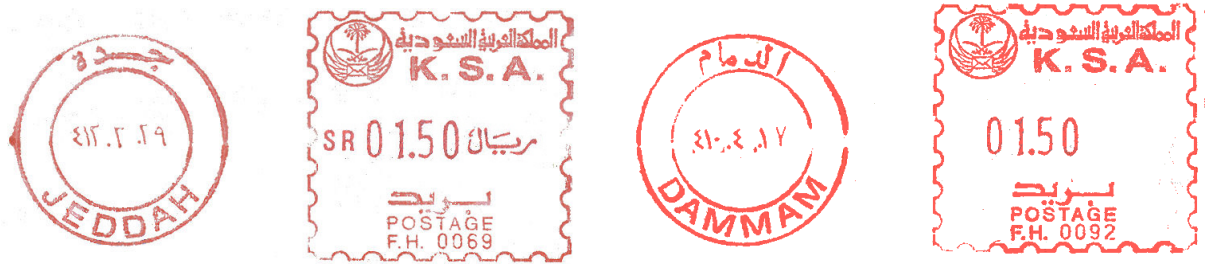


14. King Ali control forgeries have been mentioned before, but here are some illustrations of handstamp versions. Note the messy print quality, inverts, and missing overprints.



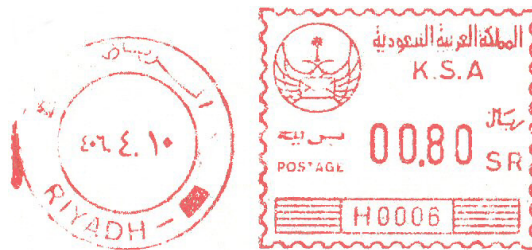
15. In his article Saudi Sidelines in RN 43, Yusuf Aidroos described Meter Marks. An additional mark was illustrated in RN 48.4 item 5. As part of my work gathering information to update Ken Knight's postmark series, I am also noting details about meter marks. Below are shown the basic types that I have recorded, the minor varieties will be published at a later date.

Type MFH01



Value without SR and Arabic riyal

Type MH01



Type MPB01

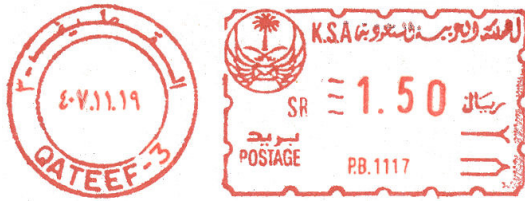


Hijra date with western numbers

Hijra date with Arabic numbers



Type MPB02



Type MPB03

Similar to MPB01 but with K.S.A moved below value.



Type MPB11

As Type MPB01 but with a slogan. Known with date types as MPB01.



Type MPB12

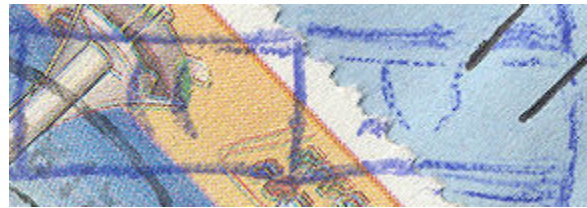
As Type MPB02 but with a slogan.



Quite a few varieties have been noted so far, such as the use of small and large size numbers, the year with only two digits, and different characters used as separators between date elements.

If anyone is interested in helping compile a catalogue of these meter marks I will be pleased to hear from you.

16. The 1926 El Wajhe cancels had problems with the dates and it seems that not much has changed since. This type S157 cancel from 1995 has the day and month digits inverted.



17. While we are on the subject of cancels, I have a poor copy of a Dhahran cancel of a type not listed in Ken Knight's series. The western date is shown as 0.31.6 and the Hijra is unreadable. Can anyone supply a good image of this type and can anyone decipher the date?



18. A cancel listed by Ken Knight as XR20 (RN 46.11) with an office name of MEKKE (RG) and an equivalent in Arabic. With the characters between the brackets, both western and Arabic, removed, he lists it as XR20a. I have seen a cover, part shown below, dated 15-7-1345 (19 January 1927) where one strike has the Arabic present and the other is without. I have seen other strikes that suggest that the contents of these brackets is inconsistent.



Postal Rates

Prepared from Information Supplied By: David Jessich

The information listed here has been extracted from a leaflet obtained from the Dammam Post Office in March 2009.

AIRMAIL POSTAGE RATES

No	Categories of Items	Categories of Weight	Inside Kingdom	G.C.C. & Arab Countries	Rest of the World
			S.R.	S.R.	S.R.
1	Letters	Up to 50 grams	2.00	3.00	4.00
		>50 to 100 g	4.00	6.00	7.00
		>100 to 250 g	8.00	14.00	16.00
		>250 to 500 g	15.00	26.00	30.00
		>500 to 1000 g	25.00	45.00	55.00
		>1000 to 2000 g	35.00	70.00	100.00
2	Postal Cards	Per a Postal card	1.00	2.00	3.00
3	Printed Papers	Up to 100 grams	2.00	3.00	4.00
		>100 to 250 g	3.00	5.00	10.00
		>250 to 500 g	5.00	10.00	15.00
		>500 to 1000 g	6.00	18.00	25.00
		>1000 to 2000 g	11.00	35.00	45.00
		More than 1000 g	6.00	18.00	25.00
4	Printed Papers Medium Bag	Per 1 Kilogram	00.00	15.00	18.00
5	Enveloped Letters	Per a letter	1.00	2.00	3.00
6	Small Packets & Voice mails	Up to 100 grams	3.00	4.00	5.00
		>100 to 250 g	4.00	6.00	9.00
		>250 to 500 g	7.00	12.00	16.00
		>500 to 1000 g	12.00	22.00	30.00
		>1000 to 2000 g	25.00	40.00	55.00
7	Ordinary Mail	Up to 50 grams	4.00	6.00	8.00
		>50 to 100 g	6.00	8.00	12.00
		>100 to 250 g	10.00	15.00	20.00
		>250 to 500 g	16.00	30.00	40.00
		>500 to 1000 g	30.00	52.00	70.00
		>1000 to 2000 g	50.00	100.00	110.00
8	Formal Mail	Up to 50 grams	5.00	7.00	9.00
		>50 to 100 g	7.00	10.00	12.00
		>100 to 250 g	11.00	17.00	21.00
		>250 to 500 g	18.00	30.00	35.00
		>500 to 1000 g	28.00	49.00	60.00
		>1000 to 2000 g	38.00	74.00	105.00



INLAND POSTAGE PARCELS

No	Weight Categories	Rates S.R.	Description
1	Up to 1 Kilogram	5.00	SR 10 to be added
2	>1 Kg to 5 Kg	10.00	for every
3	>5Kg to 10 Kg	15.00	1 Kg or fraction
4	>10 Kg to 20 Kg	25.00	by air conveyance
5	>20 Kg to 30 Kg	35.00	

SPECIAL POSTAL SERVICES RATES

No	Categories of Service	Inside Kingdom	G.C.C & Arab States	Rest of the World
		S.R.	S.R.	S.R.
1	Registration	3.00	4.00	5.00
2	Reclamation	2.00	3.00	4.00
3	Delivery Receipt upon Mailing	2.00	3.00	4.00
4	Registration Bag M up to 5 Kg	0.00	4.00	5.00
5	Registration Bag M more than 5 Kg with 20 Kg maximum	0.00	8.00	10.00
6	Refunding Receipt and changing of Address	2.00	3.00	4.00

(EMS) AL-BARID ALMUMTAZ

No	Description	Up to 500 grams	For every extra 500 g or fraction
		S.R.	S.R.
1	Inside Region	30.00	5.00
2	Inside Kingdom	50.00	8.00
3	G.C.C. Countries	60.00	10.00
4	Arab Countries	75.00	15.00
5	Rest of the World	130.00	20.00



DOMESTIC DIRECT MAIL RATES

No	Domestic Direct Mail Items	Outside City	Inside City
		S.R.	S.R.
1	Domestic Direct mail Items with Address	1.00	0.75
2	Domestic Direct mail Items without Address	0.80	0.50

DOMESTIC DIRECT MAIL ACCEPTANCE CONDITIONS

- 1 Direct Mail items are accepted open or inside open envelopes.
- 2 Maximum weight is 50 grams for the item.
- 3 Minimum quantity is 500 items.
- 4 Direct Mail items are not returned to origin in case of non-delivery.
- 5 Direct Mail items are forwarded by surface.

CUSTOMER P.O. BOX RATES

No	Customer Segment	Annual Rate in Saudi Riyal
1	Individual / Private	100
2	Family	300
3	Establishments	1000
4	Companies, Banks & Governmental	3000

RN

Notes continued from page 16:

19. There is a little bit of postal history in this cover. I will quote from the sender:

This is a letter I sent to my parents when I was working in Jeddah 1979-83. During this period a new main Post Office was being built, and the old building had been knocked down. There were some tables set up at the construction site and postal clerks conducted business at these outdoor tables. Stamp choices were limited, so I brought my letters already stamped. They were cancelled at one of the tables using an official Post Office meter machine set at zero and with an Islamic date, in this case 8/9/1402.

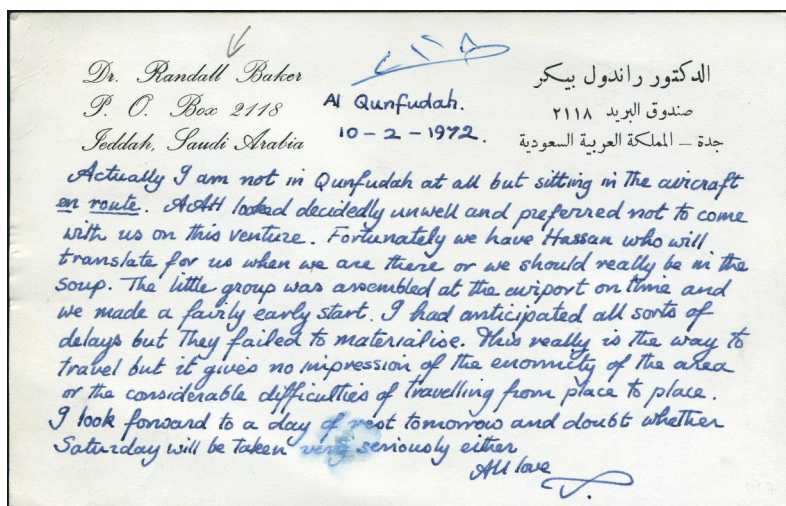
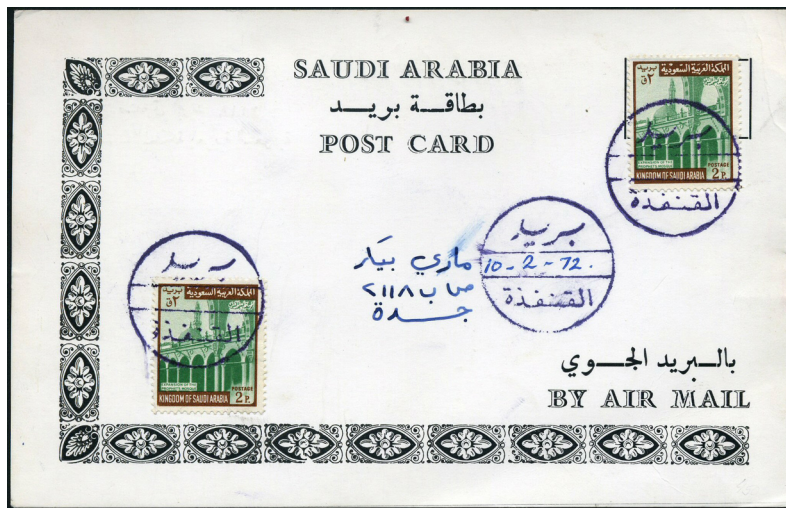


Notes continue on page 24

En Route to Al Qunfudah 10 February 1972

A Post Card Written By Dr. Randall Baker

This card shows the Qunfudah type SA90 cancellation with and without a manuscript date, in fact it was the source of the illustration of SA90 in RN 48.11. It looks as though the cover was carefully prepared by Dr. Baker who also no doubt supervised the cancelling.



Revenue Update

By: Martin Lovegrove

The comment in Thoden 2008 and also in Rudy Thoden's original version, in the section dealing with Certification Fee stamps, that the Jeddah Chamber of Commerce was no longer using the stamps, appeared to me to be the end of revenue stamps in Saudi Arabia. Many types ceased years ago and even passport visa stamps were replaced by self adhesive labels, so I was delighted when David Jessich sent me a scan of a visa stamp issued in March 2009 for his trip to an Aramco reunion in Dhahran.

On checking some documents in my collection, I found one dated 2006 that had a Certification Fee stamp, but not in the usual brown colour, but brown and green. I had assumed the document had been contaminated causing a problem with the stamp colour; I did not even have a close look at the stamp. A mistake!

It was only when I obtained a similar green and brown Certification Fee stamp that I investigated further. I believe that there is a connection between the visa stamp and these, but I will deal with the Certification Fee stamp first.

This new stamp measures 21 x 26mm and is smaller than the earlier version (type CE1) and also has some minor design changes in the shading and ornamental design surrounding the oval centre.

The stamp is printed in two colours on watermarked paper; only the upright direction has been noted. Although there are two colours, the stamp appears to have been printed in one operation as there are no signs of a break in the design where the colours change and the two copies seen so far show slightly different amounts of the design in each colour. It may be that the stamp was printed in a single colour and before the ink was dry, part of the stamp was subjected to further treatment (chemical, heat, ultra-violet?). There are certainly irreversible thermo reactive inks available.

One of the stamps seen was printed on paper that was covered with orange-brown lines at different angles, the other on plain paper, the latter being on a document dated 5 Rabi II 1427 (4 May 2006).

The stamp will be catalogued in the next edition of the Thoden catalogue as RCE4 and RCE4a for the version on plain paper, both as type CE2.



Type CE1



Type CE2





Orange-brown hatch underprint



Colours blend without break in design, but note that area coloured brown is not the same in each case.



The Single Visit visa stamp is probably printed using the same technique; it is not known if these stamps are printed on watermarked paper but the copy seen has the security tagging. The design is the same as type P13 in Thoden 2008 and it is currently assumed to be a variation of the brown-orange 200 riyal visit visa single listed as RP65, although it may be the same stamp. The Thoden catalogue number for this stamp is not yet known; there are major revisions in progress for this section of the catalogue.



The final example, not mentioned previously in this article, is a new version of the 1985 issue SR 50 entry visa stamp, type P11. Like the Certification Fee stamp, this also has minor design changes, but its size is unchanged. It is perf 14, blue-green and brown-olive with fluorescent security tagging and hatch underprint; its watermark status is unknown. This example is on a passport page and the mark applied at point of entry to Saudi Arabia is dated 5-3-1426 (14 April 2005).



Type P11



New Type

The hatch underprint mentioned on the previous page can also be found on RP58, RP60, RP63, and RP64. These will all be allocated new catalogue numbers.

Not in Thoden 2008 is the litho printed SR 90 residential visa stamp. Under the current numbering system this will be RP54A but the current reworking of this section may result in a different numbering system. The example I have is watermark sideways right.



RP54A

I have completed the initial reworking of tobacco stamps and that did result in renumbering and to assist the transition I have included a cross-reference table. There is a long way to go with updating the Thoden and I anticipate the next version will be Thoden 2011 and with a publication date early in 2011. If anyone can help with the control numbers on tobacco stamps, I will send them a copy of the draft of that new section.

Occasionally visas get cancelled and illustrated on the next page are two different methods used:

Red handstamp applied and visa stamp punched.

Red handstamp and value scratched off visa stamp and hologram defaced.





Stamp with circular punch hole



Page with hologram and stamp defaced



'Cancelled'

RN

Notes continued from page 19:

20. Occasionally I provide information about Hejaz Railway stamps and the Makkah Arms series overprinted for use in Transjordan. Transjordan revenue stamps are listed in 'The Revenue Stamps of Jordan' by Joe Ross and Avo Kaplanian, ISBN 0-9677307-1-6. The stamp illustrated here is the three qirsh brown-red Makkah Arms with the 1924 (September - November) three-line overprint and additionally overprinted طابع واردات (revenue stamp) and surcharged قرش واحد (one qirsh); all overprints are normally in black. This stamp is not listed by Ross and Kaplanian. To my knowledge the stamps in this issue are:



		<u>R&K cat. No.</u>
½ qirsh on 5 qirsh	Olive	46
1 qirsh	Blue	47
1 qirsh	Blue, طابع واردات in gold	
1 qirsh on 3 qirsh	Brown-red	
5 qirsh	Olive	48

If anyone has additional information about this series I would be very pleased to hear from you.

RN

Gems and Others from a Grand Collection

By: *Martin Lovegrove*

How many gems are locked away in private collections and never see the light of day? Perhaps most are known about and some have been described in auction catalogues, a few may have been illustrated in monochrome. On the next few pages are some items from an important collection, the owner of which currently wishes to remain anonymous. I thank him for the opportunity to show part of his collection.

Blue overprints on King Ali blue stamps are only found with Cairo overprints and are listed in Mayo. Not listed are the 2 qirsh imperforate varieties on normal and buff papers.



Varieties of the first Nejd handstamp are difficult to find as genuine items. The se-tenant pair of red and blue handstamps, both inverted, is probably unique. Other blue inverters do exist as is shown below. The 10 para and the railway tax inverters are not listed in Mayo.



The second Nejd hanstamp series provides several rarities and many more interesting items. The 1/8 qirsh with blue handstamp is rare but a pair with the handstamp sideways reading up and down is special. The blue handstamp on the 1 qirsh railway tax is Mayo 568.



Of the Framed Hashemite issue, the 1 qirsh with inverted handstamp is unlisted by Mayo, the 2 qirsh with inverted handstamp is Mayo 574i, and the inverted handstamp on the 2 qirsh postage due was unissued and unlisted by Mayo.



Missing 'mustahiq'



Mayo T596



Mayo T594 var



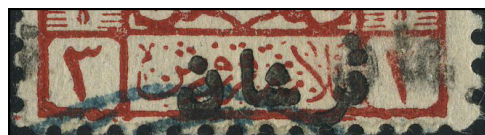
Mayo T597



Mayo T595 var



The two qirsh surcharge has featured in Random Notes before. Below are the inverted surcharge at top, surcharge double one inverted, and a similar double one inverted but with surcharges at the same position. The centre stamp has an additional surcharge, offset horizontally, in grey. The stamp does exist without this extra surcharge.



Extra offset surcharge in grey

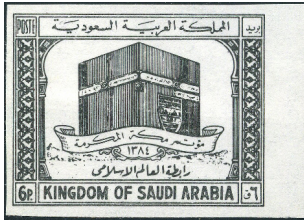
In RN 65.13 I showed my example of the Makkah Arms ½ qirsh with the second Nejd handstamp in blue and a surcharge in blue reading *wahid qirsh*. I suggested it may be a candidate for the forgery bin. However, a pair exists in this collection and one of them has the surcharge inverted, so mine might be good after all. Also shown below is a copy of the normal one qirsh surcharge but with the Nejd handstamp omitted. The stamp is position 19 and has a position 19 surcharge from the first plate.



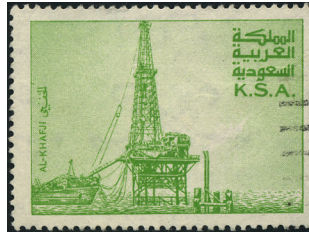
The Hejaz-Nejd items here are mainly partly imperforate examples, but there is a copy of the five qirsh 1927 Unification commemorative with overprint inverted, unlisted by Mayo.



And finally a few from more recent times. There are several Dar Al-Asfahani & Co proofs in the collection but images are too large to include this time.



Mayo 1155W



Orange colour omitted
Watermark inverted
Paper A



Cream colour omitted



Value and country omitted



Mayo SS980Lt



Mayo SS980Lu



Acknowledgements and Contacts

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