



الجمعية الدولية للطابع البريدية العربية  
ملاحظات عابرة

Arabian Philatelic Association International  
Random Notes

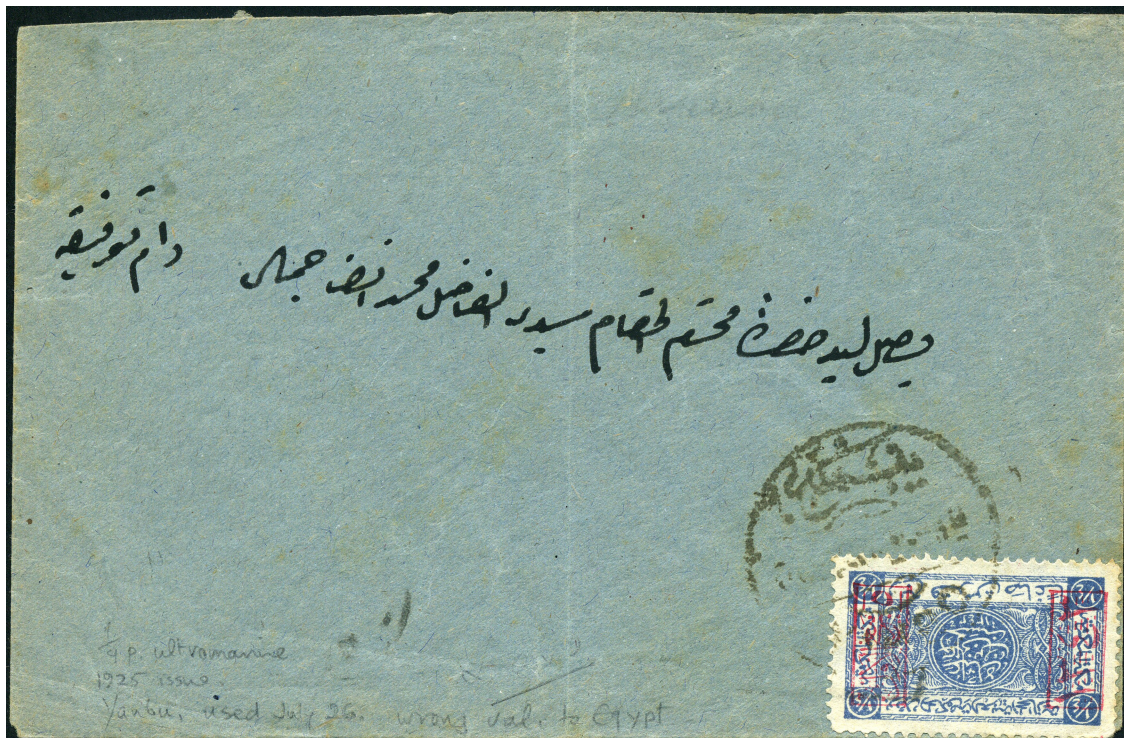


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Siege of Jeddah Exhibit  
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## The Arabian Philatelic Association International

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

A *Catalog of the Fiscal Stamps of Saudi Arabia* has been written and published by Rudy Thoden and updated as Thoden 2008.

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](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 (2009) and Stanley Gibbons (2009) 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 #79

*Assembled by the Editor*

As usual, it has been a struggle to fill the pages, but I hope you will find some interest in this edition. Fortunately new member Stephen Roche sent some scans and I have included most of them and added some of my own comments.

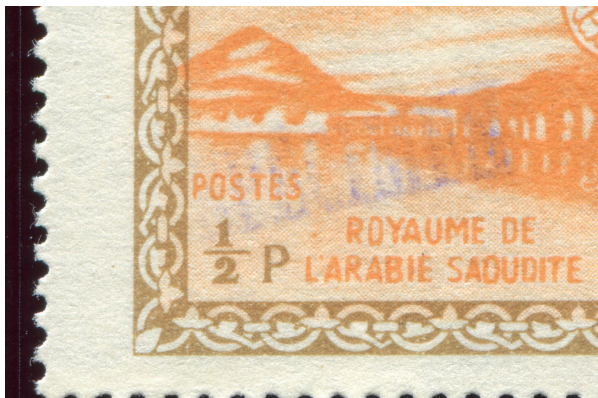
I need anything you can offer, from short notes to full articles. Please help me to keep Random Notes alive.

Now for the notes.

1. Perhaps as an attempt to make the issue look official, someone had an envelope bearing some of the unauthorised Malaria overprints cancelled at the post office in Riyadh. The date is 25 August 1962 (25-3-1382).



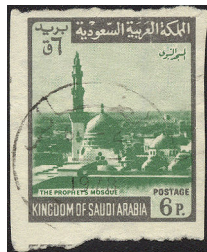
2. Stephen Roche sent some images of stamps with specimen overprints. They are not very clear on the ½ qirsh dam. Has anyone an opinion?



3. Another of Stephen's items is a pair of the 10 qirsh Prophet's Mosque Extension with misplaced vertical perforations. Although a minor variety, I believe these should appear in Random Notes; in fact in the past, quite a lot of 'fly speck' items also appeared. If you would like to see more of these, send them in!



4. While on the subject of the 'Tourist' definitives, I have details of an imperforate copy of the 6 qirsh Prophet's Mosque issue. It has the second watermark sideways right and a clear TAIF postmark for 6 February 1978, cancel type SM10L. The original discovery of this item in a Taif bookshop was reported in RN11 and RN18 noted that it was originally a strip of four but one was removed for Rudy Thoden; finally RN51 provided an illustration of the strip. Willie King sent me a scan which is reproduced below. The single stamp shown below was not part of the original discovery.



5. Another of Stephen's items shows postmarks for RAS-TANURA. The one on the 5 qirsh stamp shows that the Arabic office name at the top is curved to fit the outer circle and as such it is a type S60. Ken Knight's article in RN 47 only lists Ras Tanura as a straight-line office name type S50; is that a mistake?



6. Stephen also sent part of a cover with a WASHINGTON cancel. These diplomatic covers had stamps applied in Saudi Arabia and cancelled on arrival in Washington. They have a two-line cachet stating: *This article originally mailed/in country indicated by postage.* This cover has a medical aid stamp and a 3 qirsh postage; I have seen them without the medical aid but with 4 qirsh postage. Can anyone give us the full details of such diplomatic mail? (Illustrations on next page)





7. The final offering for this time from Stephen is a block of twelve lithographed medical aid stamps, perf 11 x 10 with the horizontal rows showing a missing perforation pin. Close inspection shows the horizontal rows are pin-perf and one of the rows even shows partial doubling. I checked my few copies of perf 11 x 10 and they seem to be the same as this block, so was this pin-perf done separately to perf 10 sheets that missed the horizontal perforation process? The stamps in this block are positions 17 (top left) to 36 (bottom right).



Double perfs under top row of block.



8. RN78 showed an example of a 'Mednia' registration label, this time there is another variety for Medina - MHDINA. I have also seen an interesting variety for DJEDDAH where the letter J is reversed.



9. In the early days of the Arabian Philatelic Association members pooled information, discussed findings and theories evolved about the various stamps and sets that fall under the umbrella of Saudi Arabia. The Nejd surcharges received attention, but there is much more to do. It is known that the surcharges come in two basic types: those with thick characters and those with thin. It is thought that the former appeared first. The number of plates actually used is not known, but I suspect it was more than two.

Below are copies of the 1½ qirsh inverted overprints showing the thick and thin varieties.



**Thick type**



**Thin type**

The thick type stamp is position 1 but the overprint does not plate against position 36 of my sheet. I suspect that because the overprint plate is built from individual pieces of type, it was dismantled after use and a new one constructed when a further print run was required. That could explain the plating difficulties, but what about the inverted characters and transposed words that occur on these surcharged stamps? Were they corrected during a print run or did they exist for the short life of the plate? A sheet of the one qirsh surcharge with inverted 'qirsh' was illustrated in RN19. I have a complete sheet without the variety and apart from the inverted 'qirsh' on row 3, the surcharges do plate, so in this instance it would appear the error was corrected. If anyone is researching these issues, let me know and we can exchange ideas and scans.

10. Gibbons lists the Caliphate overprint with missing 'R' on the one and two-qirsh stamps (SG 52b, 54b) but fails to list the variety on the 5 qirsh. It has been suggested to them but so far they have not included it in their catalogue. The variety is not listed at all on the 3-line overprint on the Caliphate issue but I have a copy from position 17 with the 3-line overprint in blue.



# Revenue Update

By: *Martin Lovegrove*

The next edition of the revenue catalogue is scheduled to be published in March 2011 and will be, perhaps unsurprisingly, Thoden 2011. The tobacco and passport stamp sections are being reworked and at least for the tobacco stamps, new numbers have been allocated; a cross-reference between the old and new numbers will be provided. Following the precedent set by Rudy Thoden, the draft of the tobacco section is reproduced here for information and hopefully some comment. The control numbers listed must be far from complete and I would appreciate any new information, preferably with scans at 300 dpi, that members may be able to send.

The listing begins on the next page.

Work permits have not featured since Rudy Thoden produced his original catalogue, but I have seen 100 and 200 riyal permits dating from 2007. They are now printed on card approximately 100 mm x 80 mm, roulette 6.5 at right and imperf on the other sides. The card has green label affixed to back giving details of the person, work, and expiry date of permit.



## TOBACCO TAX STAMPS

No information is available as to whether tobacco tax stamps were in use in the Hijaz Kingdom or in the Hijaz and Najd Sultanate. However, it is believed that a number of stamps were in use in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia that predate those listed here. See Appendix G.

According to the Customs Regulations, tobacco, *tumback* (Persian tobacco), cigarettes, cigars, *jurak* (honeyed tobacco smoked in hubble-bubbles) and cigarette paper must have banderole stamps affixed. "The banderole stamps shall be affixed in the factories making the tobacco, cigarettes, etc. so firmly and so securely that they cannot be removed and used again. If the banderole stamps cannot be affixed at the place of export, the goods shall not be released from the Customs area until after the stamps have been affixed to them carefully and under Customs supervision so that such stamps shall not be misused". The preceding is quoted from Chapter XIII, Article 177 of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia Customs Regulations and Rules for Implementation, Royal Approval #425, issued 5 Rabi' al-awwal 1372 (Nov. 23, 1952) with subsequent amendments.

The above regulations resulted in (a) many of the stamps being affixed with water insoluble adhesive so that it was almost impossible to remove the stamps from the packages without damaging them, (b) some of the stamps being overprinted with code letters or numbers by the manufacturers of the goods, and (c) many of the stamps having trimmed margins because their size did not match that of the affixing machines. The stamps were not cancelled.

### ISSUES OF THE KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA

T4



T5



Top inscription is *al-mamlakah al 'arabiyah al-sa'udiyah* (the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia). In the center is *maslahat al-jamarik* (Customs Department).

#### Values in para

<u>1937(?)</u>		Perf. 11½.	Typographed.	Unwmkd.
RTB12	T4	1p light green (33 x 49 mm)		
RTB13	T5	1¼p Brown-lake (21 x 30½ mm)		

Additional values probably exist.







T6



T7

The inscriptions for designs T6 and T7 are the same as those of T5.

<u>1951(?)</u>	<b>Imperforate.</b>	<b>Typographed.</b>	<b>Unwmkd.</b>
----------------	---------------------	---------------------	----------------

RTB19V	T6	3p bright rose-red	
		a. bright rose-red, Arabic "2" for "3"	
		b. rose-red	
		d. orange-red	
		e. orange-red, Arabic "2" for "3"	

**Rouletted 7**

RTB23R	T6	3p chrome-yellow	
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**Rouletted 7 x perf. 11.**

RTB23W	T6	3p chrome-yellow	
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**Perf. 11½.**

RTB18X	T6	2p bright green	
RTB19X	T6	3p carmine	
		a. Arabic "2" for "3"	
		b. magenta	
RTB22X	T6	3p black	
RTB24X	?	3p blue	
RTB25X	T7	3p carmine	
RTB26X	T7	5p carmine	
		a. orange-red	
		b. red	
RTB28X	?	5p brown	
RTB29X	T7	8p turquoise-green	
RTB30X	?	10p red	

**Perf. 11.**

RTB19Z	T6	3p carmine	
		a. Arabic "2" for "3"	



The Arabic "2" for "3" variety has "٢" instead of "٣" in the lower right corner. The lower left corner is correct.

RTB24, 28 and 30 have not been seen by the author, but are mentioned in the 1951 Customs Schedule, according to Frank Patterson. The author has not seen a copy of this schedule. The design and perforation of these values is uncertain.

According to Frank Patterson, stamps of design T6 were printed in sheets of 80 (20 x 4) with outer frame line and dated inscription in the lower margin. One reference states that these stamps are of the "third series".

RTB23W may have been printed by an independent printer in view of the unusual method of separation (rouletted 7 x rough perf. 11). This may also apply to RTB23R.

These stamps are denominated in para (40 para = 1 qirsh).

**Overprinted with 6mm high control numbers 343, 350, 436 and 507, and probably others.**



#### **T6 with control overprint**

The catalogue numbers for this series are the catalogue numbers for the basic stamps followed by the control number followed by the appropriate suffix, e.g. RTB19V-343a

<b><u>1951(?)</u></b>	<b>Imperforate.</b>	<b>Typographed.</b>	<b>Unwmkd.</b>
RTB19V-343 T6	3p bright rose-red		
	a. Arabic "2" for "3"		
	b. rose-red		
	c. orange-red		
	ca. Arabic "2" for "3"		

Only control 343 is shown above; all of the other known control numbers follow the same format:

RTB19V-350

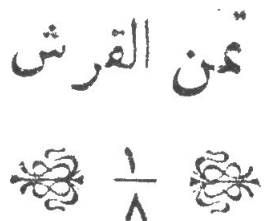
RTB19V-436

RTB19V-507

The variety 'Arabic "2" for "3"' should exist for all control numbers but it is not known whether they all survive.



## RTB19V surcharged with new value in qirsh



13.5 mm wide



14.2 mm wide



T6 with surcharge

The two sizes of surcharges are likely to be from different plates. The 13.5mm surcharge is typeset and the joins between the Arabic characters is usually clearly visible and the Arabic number 8 is clearly separated from the fraction bar in the value. The larger surcharge has characters that are joined smoothly and is probably stereotyped. The number 8 is joined to the fraction bar and the ornaments either side of the value are slightly different to those in the smaller surcharge.

<u>1956</u>	Imperforate.	Typographed.	Unwmkd.
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### Surcharge 13.5 mm wide

RTB34V	T6	1/8q on 3p bright rose-red
		a. on RTB19Va (Arabic "2" for "3")
		b. rose-red
		c. orange-red
		ca. on RTB19Vca (Arabic "2" for "3")

### Surcharge 14.2 mm wide

RTB35V	T6	1/8q on 3p bright rose-red
		a. on RTB19Va (Arabic "2" for "3")
		b. rose-red
		c. orange-red
		ca. on RTB19Vca (Arabic "2" for "3")



Overprinted with 6mm high control numbers 521, 529, 535, 541, 543, 549, 603, 606, and probably others.



### T6 with surcharge and control overprint

As with the previous series of control overprints, the catalogue numbers for this series are the catalogue numbers for the basic stamps followed by the control number followed by the appropriate suffix, e.g. RTB37-549a

**1956**

**Imperforate.**

**Typographed.**

**Unwmkd.**

Control overprints on RTB34V are not known but catalogue number RTB36V has been reserved for their use.

### Control overprinted on RTB35V (surcharge 14.2 mm wide)

RTB37V-521 T6  $\frac{1}{8}q$  on 3p bright rose-red  
a. on RTB35Va (Arabic "2" for "3")  
b. rose-red  
c. orange-red  
ca. on RTB35Vca (Arabic "2" for "3")

Only control 521 is shown above; all of the other known control numbers follow the same format:

RTB37V-529  
RTB37V-535  
RTB37V-541  
RTB37V-543  
RTB37V-549  
RTB37V-603  
RTB37V-606

The variety 'Arabic "2" for "3"' should exist for all control numbers but it is not known whether they all survive.



**Type of 1951, but values in qirsh.**

Inscriptions are the same as previous issues. Printed in sheets with colored outer frame line and "Stamps Printing Press Makkah 1954-55" at bottom.

<u>1957-63</u>	Imperforate.	Typographed.	Unwmkd.
----------------	--------------	--------------	---------

RTB40V	T6	¼q deep blue a. blue (shades) b. azure c. ultramarine d. dull blue	
--------	----	--	--

RTB43V	T6	¼q slate-purple	
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**Perf. 11.**

RTB40Z	T6	¼q deep blue a. blue (shades) b. azure c. ultramarine	
--------	----	--	--

RTB44Z	T6	½q carmine	
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**Overprinted with control numbers/letters.**



**T6 with control overprint**

**Overprinted with 6mm high control number 933.**

RTB48V-933	T6	¼q deep blue	
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**Overprinted with 3mm high control number F-7, sideways reading down.**

RTB51V-F-7	T6	¼q slate-purple	
------------	----	-----------------	--



Type of 1951, but values in halalah.



T6 with value in halalah

Design 18.5 x 44.5mm

<u>1964</u>		Imperforate.	Typographed.	Unwmkd.
RTB55V	T6	2h deep blue a. dark blue b. dark gray-blue c. dull violet-blue d. slate-purple e. chalky blue f. blue		
<b>Perf. 11.</b>				
RTB55Z	T6	2h deep blue a. dark blue b. dark gray-blue c. dull violet-blue		
RTB56Z	T6	3h green		

Design 18 x 44mm

<b>Perf. 11.</b>				
RTB58Z	T6	2h deep blue		

The design sizes quoted above are only approximate; the difference between the two sizes is apparent when examples are placed side by side.



Overprinted with control numbers or letters 434, GK and 7D. Others may exist.

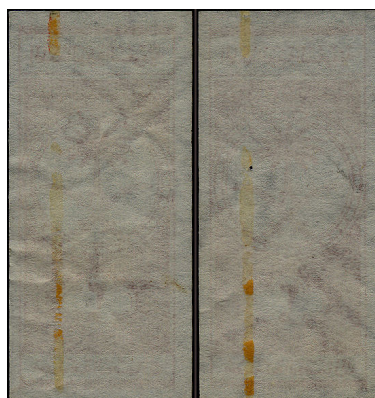


T6 with value in halalah and control overprint

RTB60V-434	T6	2h deep blue
RTB60V-GK	T6	2h deep blue (4mm high control)
RTB60V-7D	T6	2h deep blue



T8



Part of sheet watermark

The inscriptions on Type 8 are the same as those on Type 5.

The watermark covers a number of stamps in the center of the sheet of 50 (10 x 5) thus not all stamps show part of the watermark. In the illustration above, the image at left shows crossed swords and the base of a palm tree covering the top half of the stamp. The image at right shows diagonal lines at bottom right and just visible is part of an inverted sword. The complete watermark cannot yet be described. It is not known if all of the following values were printed on this paper; those actually seen with part of the watermark are listed with a 'w' suffix.



**T8 redrawn. Type of 1968, but size now 18½ x 45 mm.**

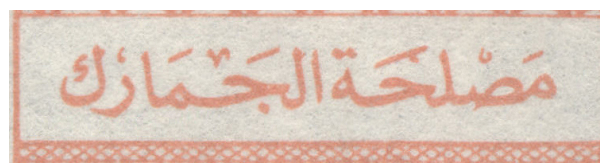
The height of the panel at the bottom of the stamp is 3.8 mm. in type T8a and 3.2 mm. in type T8.



**T8a**



**T8**



**T8a showing more white-space above and below the Arabic**

<u>1971</u>	Imperforate.	Lithographed.	Sheet wmk.
			Wmk. direction
			U    D    R    L
RTB75V	T8a 3h salmon		
	w. stamp with part watermark		
	a. brown-red		
	aw. brown-red with part watermark		

<u>1972</u>	Perf. 14.	Lithographed.	Wmk. 1.
			Wmk. direction
			U    D    R    L
RTB76	T8 2h new blue		X
RTB77	T8 3h dull vermilion		X

Tobacco tax stamps were discontinued early in 1976.





The expanded listing of tobacco stamps in this edition has resulted in the renumbering of stamps. To clearly distinguish the items in this edition, the number prefix has been changed from RT to RTB.

### **Cross reference of catalogue numbers**

<b>Thoden 2008</b>	<b>Thoden 2011</b>
RT12	RTB12
RT13	RTB13
RT18 series	RTB18 series
RT19 series	RTB19 series
RT22 series	RTB22 series
RT23 series	RTB23 series
RT24 series	RTB24 series
RT25 series	RTB25 series
RT26 series	RTB26 series
RT28 series	RTB28 series
RT29 series	RTB29 series
RT30 series	RTB30 series
RT34	RTB34V, RTB35V
RT35 series	RTB40 series
RT38V	RTB43V
RT39Z	RTB44Z
RT42 series	RTB55 series, RTB58Z
RT43Z	RTB56Z
RT45 series	RTB65 series
RT46V	RTB66V
RT47V	RTB67V
RT48	RTB75V
RT49	RTB76Z
RT50	RTB77Z

## The Siege of Jeddah

*Compiled By: Martin Lovegrove*

I don't think an exhibit has appeared in Random Notes, so this is probably a first. The pages are reproduced here by kind permission of the owner.

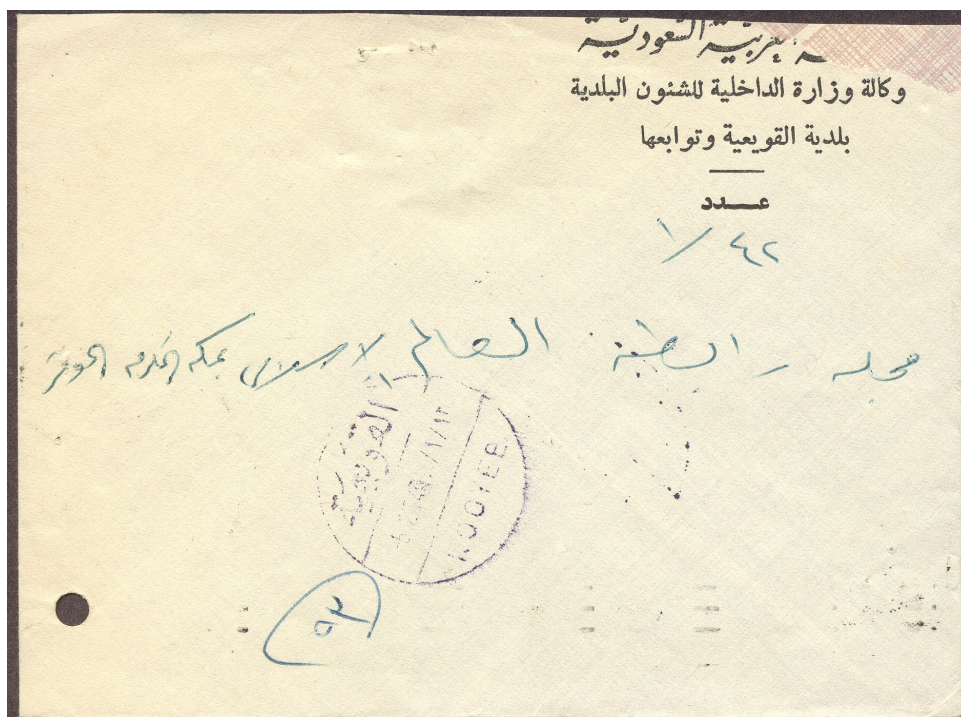
I was sent scans of this exhibit and have had to manipulate them slightly to fit the RN page format; the text remains in its original size but a few of the illustrations have had to be reduced to 80%.

The exhibit starts on the next page.



Notes continued from page 6

11. In RN78 on page 29 there was an illustration of the 1976 - 1981 Al-Khafji, Original Design, Paper A, 10 halalah bright green and orange, watermark inverted, orange (value) omitted. RN15 item 16 refers to a similar error on the 20 halalah value (also green). Can anyone confirm the error on the 20 halalah or was the incorrect value stated? If the error does exist, does anyone know the watermark direction?
12. An interesting stampless item for collectors of official covers:



It was sent from the Ministry of Interior for Municipality Affairs Quwayiyah on 5th February 1974, cancelled KOOYEE, via Riyadh on the 6th, to the Islamic League magazine in Makkah, arrival on the 9th. Official covers from small towns are not common.



# KINGDOM OF HEJAZ 1925 THE SIEGE OF JEDDAH

Sultan Abdul Aziz ibn Faisal al Saud and his army were invading the Hejaz and King Ali retreated from Makkah to Jeddah on October 13th 1924 taking with him all the valuables, including stamps, left in the treasury. The stamp printing plates and stocks of paper were left in Makkah and the only resources available to provide stamps for the postal service were the stamps in Jeddah and Madinah and the facilities provided by local printers.

King Ali decreed that all postage stamps in possession of his government should bear a mark to distinguish them from any that may have been captured by the invading forces. This was achieved by overprinting the stamps and by the end of the siege five groups of overprints had been employed. The order in which these are shown in the exhibit is not that found in most catalogues but is that resulting from research by members of the Arabian Philatelic Association. These provisional overprints remained in use until stocks of stamps were exhausted and the new definitive set of stamps was delivered from Cairo.

This exhibit shows that a postal service existed during the siege and tracks the progression of the provisional overprints and the new definitive series throughout the siege period from 6 December 1924 to 19 December 1925.

**LARGE THREE-LINE PROVISIONAL OVERPRINT** (Top line measures 16 mm)  
Applied in black, blue, red or gold



7 January 1925. Early siege period 2 qirsh letter rate from DJEDDA to Cairo franked with a large three-line provisional overprint in black.



LARGE THREE-LINE PROVISIONAL OVERPRINT (Top line measures 16 mm)  
Applied in black, blue, red or gold

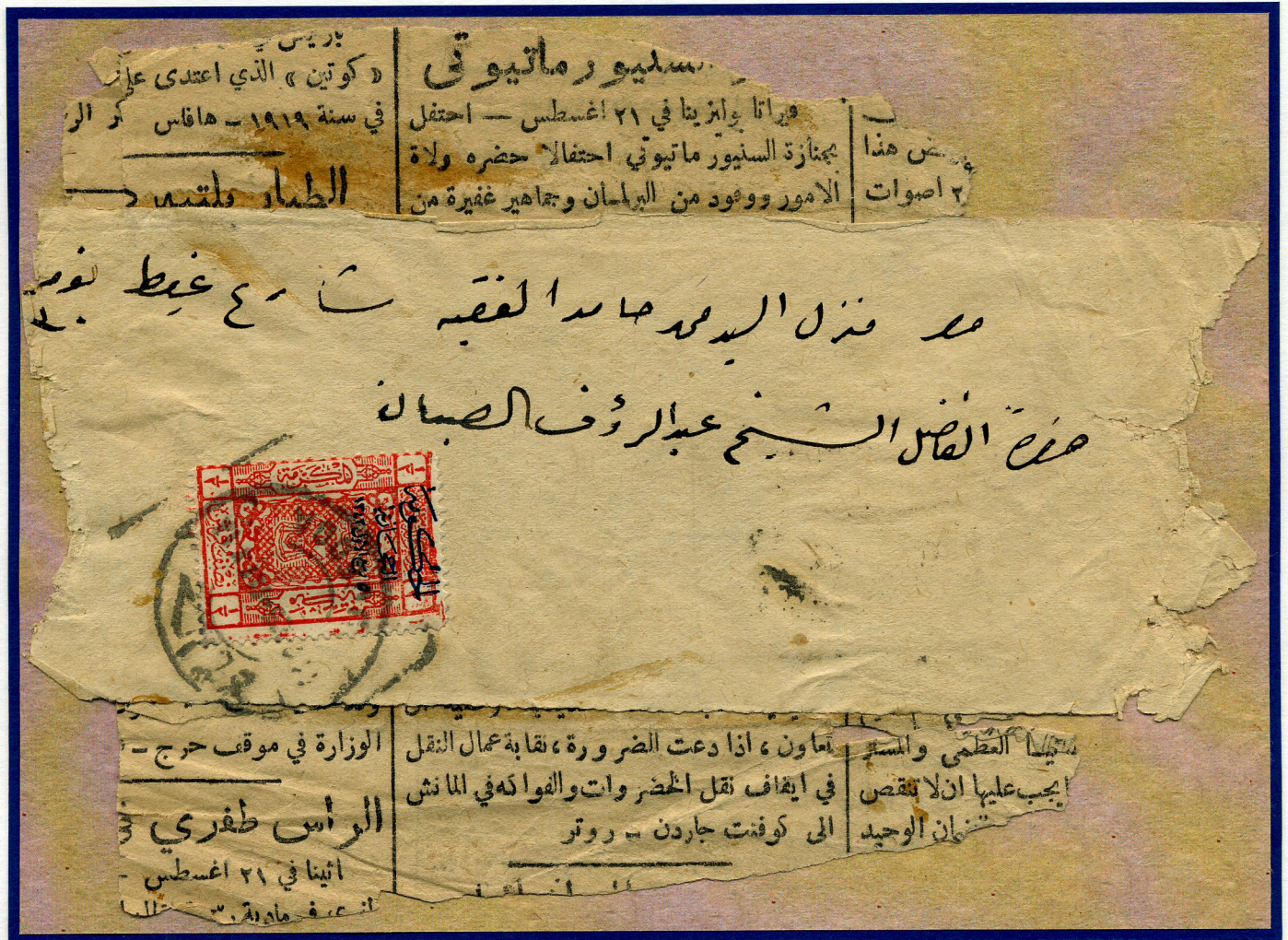


29 January 1925 with backstamps of PORT TAUFUQ and CAIRO both 4 February. Official Hejaz National Party registered letter to Egypt showing the discounted registered letter rate of 2 qirsh granted to the Party. The DJEDDA cds shows the incorrect date 29 February 1925; the Hijra date 4-7-1343 is correct.

3 July 1925 late use of this overprint. Colonial Photo-Stores covers were generally produced with a philatelic eye but did pass through the postal system and have provided students of Hejaz philately with valuable evidence of genuine overprints.



LARGE THREE-LINE PROVISIONAL OVERPRINT (Top line measures 16 mm)  
Applied in black, blue, red or gold



11 February 1925 newspaper wrapper from DJEDDA to Egypt.



THREE-LINE OVERPRINT ON CALIPHATE ISSUE



9 May 1925 with correct 2 qirsh foreign letter rate from DJEDDA to Egypt franked with a 1½ qirsh with red overprint on gold Caliphate and a ½ qirsh with black overprint. Covers with the provisional overprint on the Caliphate issue are extremely rare. The addressee is Sheikh 'Abd ar-Ra'uf as Sabban, the delegate of the Hejazi National Party in Cairo.

**This is the only recorded non-philatelic example.**



THE 'ILLEGIBLE' PROVISIONAL OVERPRINT

A shortage of certain values resulted in stamps being surcharged in black with a new value. The bottom line of the overprint is the new value and is so small as to be almost illegible.

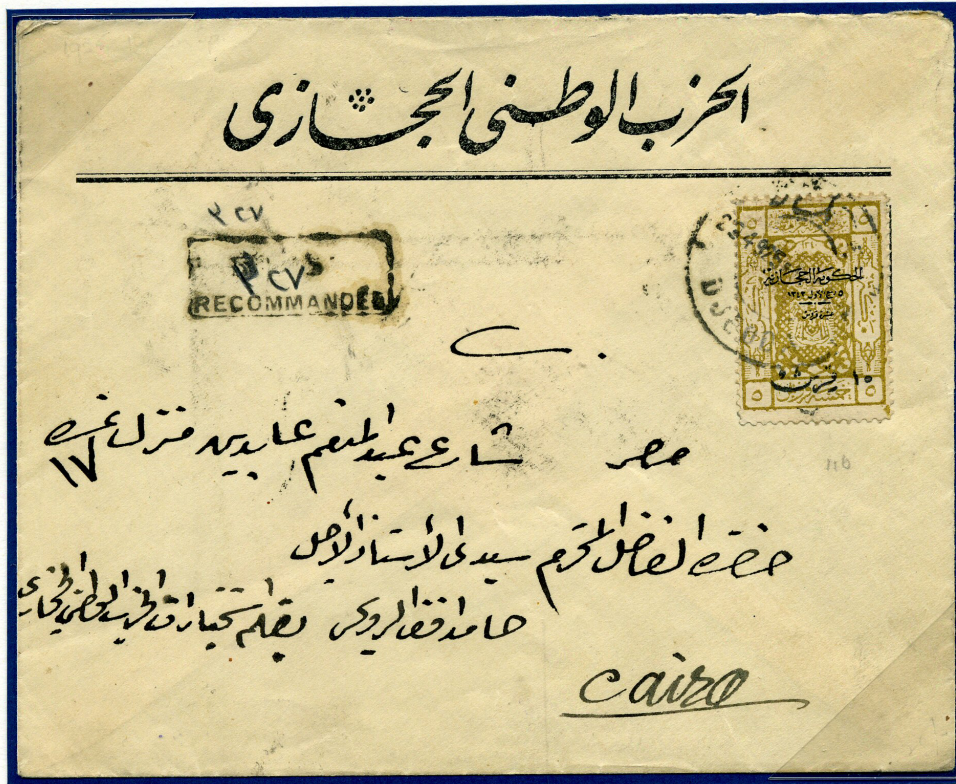


26 February 1925 cover addressed to the Cairo stamp dealer E. L. Angeloglou and franked with a 1 qirsh on 2 qirsh orange and a 1 qirsh on 3 qirsh brown of the 'Illegible' series together with two examples from the three-line overprints.

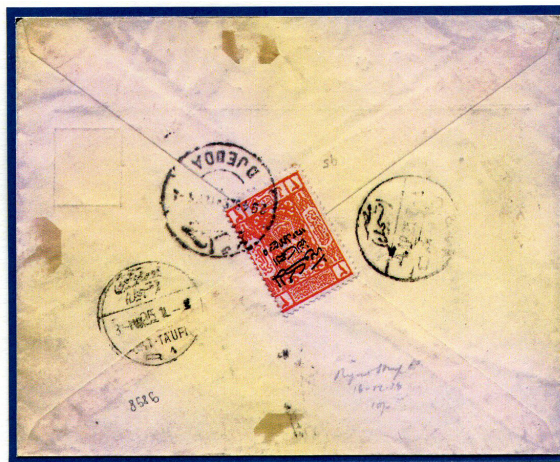


## THE 'ILLEGIBLE' OVERPRINT PLUS HANDSTAMP

Problems with the illegibility of the printed surcharge resulted in the stamps receiving an additional handstamp in black or violet showing the amount of the surcharge in figures.



23 April 1925 franked with a 10 qirsh on 5 qirsh Makkah Arms on the front and 2 qirsh on the back added on 29 April. Official "Hijaz National Party" addressed to the Party's representative in Egypt. The normal rate for a registered letter was 4 qirsh but to the Party it was 2 qirsh. This item must have been overweight to require 12 qirsh.



Reduced copy of back showing additional 2 qirsh franking at DJEDDA 29 April 1925, PORT TAUFIQ 3 May and CAIRO 4 May.





THE 'ILLEGIBLE' OVERPRINT PLUS HANDSTAMP

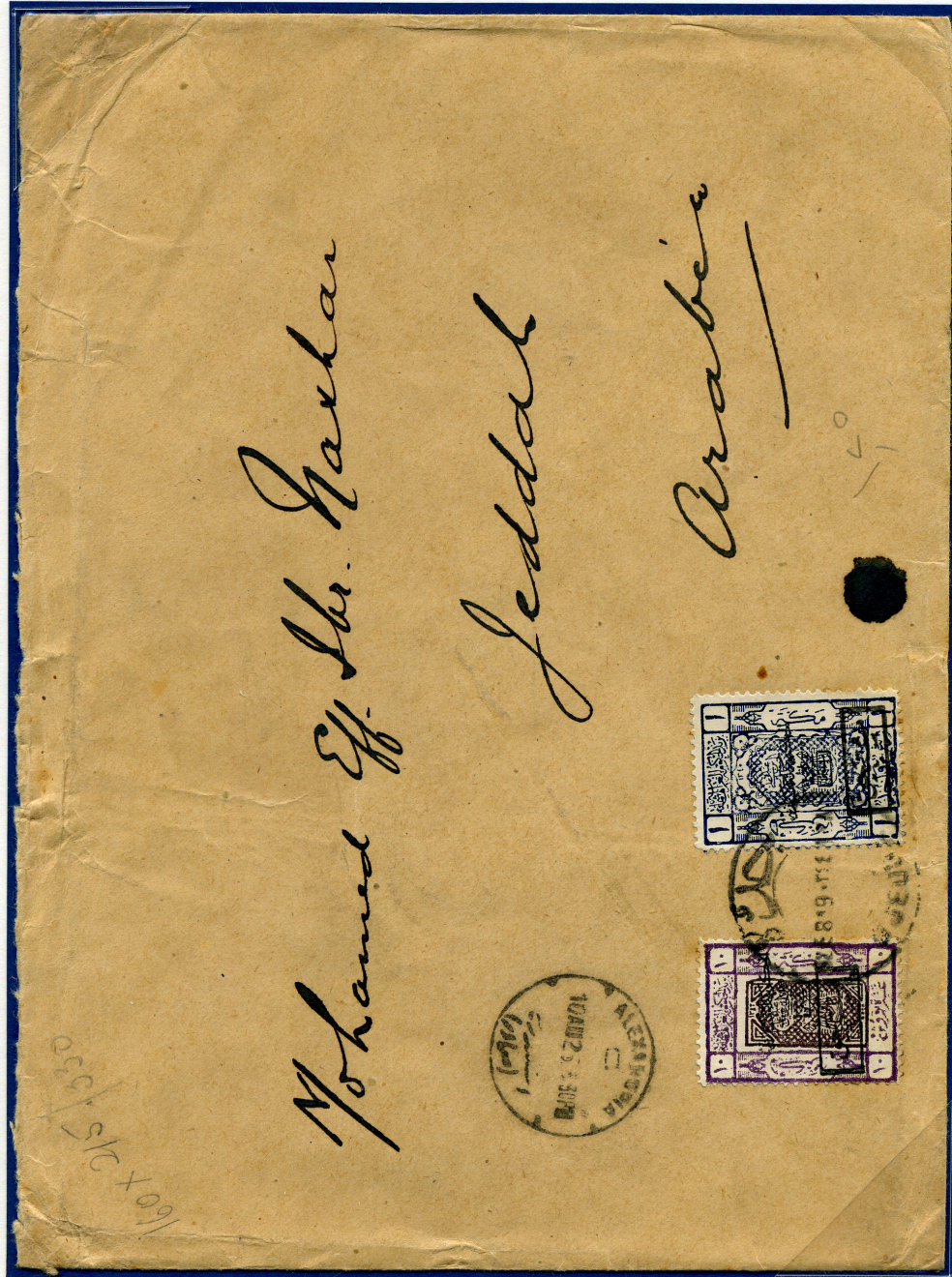


June 1925 postcard to Port Said, franked with 1 qirsh surcharge on 3 qirsh, and 10 qirsh on 5 qirsh Makkah Arms stamps.



## THE 'ILLEGIBLE' POSTAGE DUE PLUS HANDSTAMP

Problems with the illegibility of the printed surcharge also applied to postage due stamps and they received an additional 'mustahiq' handstamp in black or violet.



9 August 1925 rare use of postage due on cover from Alexandria.



## FOUR-LINE PROVISIONAL OVERPRINT

Replacing the unsatisfactory 'illegible' surcharge, a four-line surcharge was introduced with larger characters. The values prepared were 1/8, 1/4, 1 and 10 qirsh and stamps were overprinted in black, blue or red.



24 April 1925 from DJEDDA to BEYROUTH, franked with 2 copies of the 1 qirsh surcharge in black to make the foreign rate.

Philatelic cover, July 1925 from DJEDDA to E. L. Angeloglou.



OVERPRINTS ON REMAINDERS OF OLD ISSUES

TWO-LINE PROVISIONAL OVERPRINT

Stamps overprinted in red, blue or gold

With supplies of the Makkah Arms stamps dwindling, two overprints were prepared for remaining stocks of Hejaz stamps printed by the Survey of Egypt.



7 August 1925, two ¼ qirsh with two-line overprint used in conjunction with earlier provisionals to provide the 2 qirsh overseas rate to Egypt. PORT TAWFIK transit 11 August, CAIRO arrival 12 August.



OVERPRINTS ON REMAINDERS OF OLD ISSUES

TWO-LINE PROVISIONAL OVERPRINT

Stamps overprinted in red, blue or gold



1 August 1925 Jeddah local with 3 qirsh franking made up with two-line overprints on various framed Hashemite overprints.



SMALL THREE-LINE PROVISIONAL OVERPRINT (Top line measures 14 mm)  
Applied in blue or red



Four two-line postage dues and two small three-line postage dues on cover from Alexandria. DJEDDA arrival 10 October 1925.



KING ALI DEFINITIVE  
Control overprints in red, blue or black



29 November 1925. Addressed to Sheikh 'Abd ar-Ra'uf as Sabban, delegate of the Hejaz National Party in Cairo, recorded mail at Party discounted rate of 2 qirsh. Backstamps for PORT TAUFIQ and CAIRO both 4 December. Talismanic number "8642" has been added to the address.

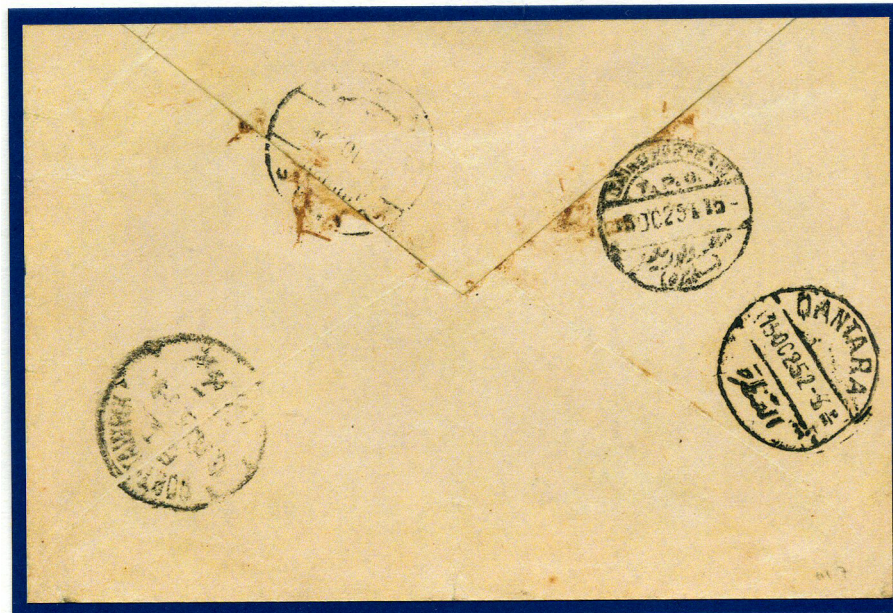
*The use of the 'Talisman' was to ward off disease, accidents and ills of all kinds and to bring good luck. When applied to letters it was to ensure their safe transmission and delivery. Every envelope bearing this number was certain to reach its destination in safety.*



KING ALI DEFINITIVE  
Control overprints in red, blue or black



October 1925. Standard 2 qirsh foreign rate from DJEDDA, date unclear, to Damascus via PORT TAWFIK, CAIRO PORT SAID 15 October and QANTARA 15 October.

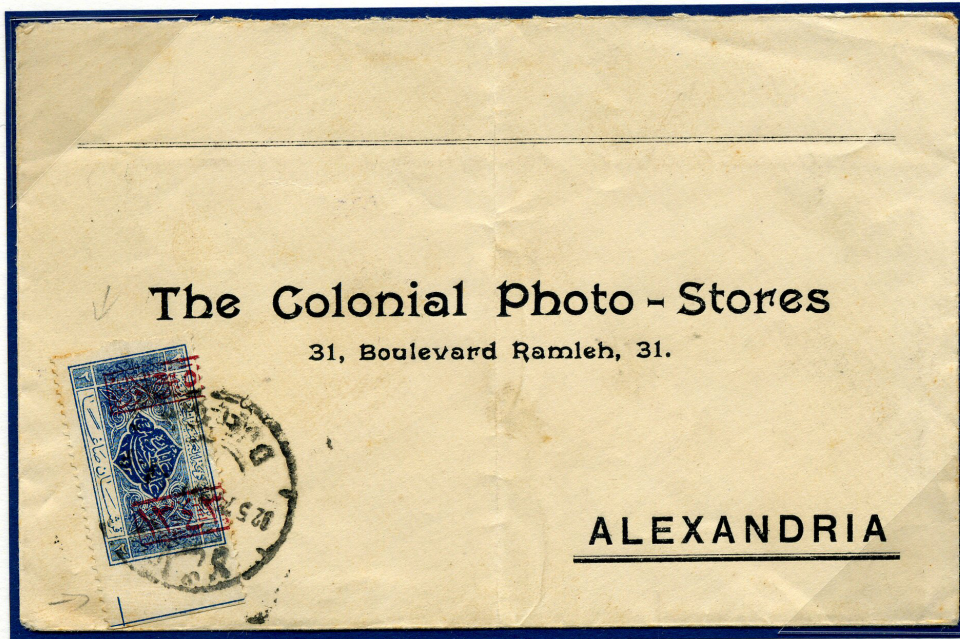


Reduced copy of back showing transit marks for PORT TAWFIK, CAIRO PORT SAID, QANTARA, and Damascus arrival.





KING ALI DEFINITIVE  
Control overprints in red, blue or black



July 1925. Cover bearing the correct overseas rate but franked with a 2 qirsh stamp that is vertically imperforate.

19 August 1925. 1 qirsh King Ali used in conjunction with a strip of four 1/8 qirsh red two-line and a single 1/2 qirsh blue two-line overprints on roulette 20 Survey of Egypt stamps.



KING ALI DEFINITIVE  
Control overprints in red, blue or black



Although most of the siege mail was from Jeddah, supplies of stamps were sent via Jeddah port to Yanbo, also on the Red Sea. This cover from Yanbo, date unreadable, is addressed to His Excellency Mohammed Jamali with no address stated and franked with a ¼ qirsh King Ali. The ¼ qirsh rate is unexplained and is the subject of ongoing investigation within the Arabian Philatelic Association International.

**Only known cover showing ¼ qirsh rate.**

The siege of Jeddah ended on 19 December 1925 and Sultan Abdulaziz triumphantly entered Jeddah on the 22nd.

## Acknowledgements and Contacts

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<a href="http://www.filatelia.fi/experts/">http://www.filatelia.fi/experts/</a>	Experts
<a href="http://www.wnsstamps.ch">http://www.wnsstamps.ch</a>	WADP Numbering System - WNS
<a href="http://www.arabianstamps.com">http://www.arabianstamps.com</a>	Good information on Saudi new issues