



Arabian Philatelic Association

c/o Aramco, Box 1929
Dhahran, Saudi Arabia

ARABIAN PHILATELIC ASSOCIATION
RANDOM NOTES NO. 8
JUNE 11, 1976

With this set of Random Notes, we are going to start a general revue of all the Hejaz - Nejd - Saudi Arabia issues to summarize the state of our knowledge to date. The attached "Preliminary Handbook" is carried through to the framed overprints of January, 1922. The next section will take off from there.

We have a number of studies planned, under way, or just completed. In the last category is "A Study of the Jeddah Large Three-Line Overprint" by Benedict and Thoden, a copy of which is attached. We have all been shocked at the depletion of our collections when faced with the facts developed in this paper. In fact, fakes of this overprint "far outnumber the genuine", according to the authors of the study. On this basis, the value of a stamp with the genuine large three-line overprint should be many times that shown in the catalogues. Also just completed is a "Preliminary Study - Forgeries of the Unframed Overprint" by Wilson. This study is fairly incomplete - access was had to two complete sheets of the genuine overprint; plus a small quantity of fakes.

Under way, there is a study of the framed overprints and one of the two-line overprint. A study of the Tughra issues, extending and perfecting the epic work of Tom Wood, is planned, and some valuable suggestions have already been received from Max Schreuder, who points out that the design changed from time to time.

Also attached are some brief notes by Dr. Randall Baker, who seems to be able to find very interesting items:

- a. Italian Maritime Markings Used on Covers from Western Arabia.
- b. A Mixed Hejaz/Transjordan Franking on Cover from the Siege of Jeddah.
- c. Some Notes on the Islamic Calendar.

The first of these has appeared in the Italian Study Circle journal, "FILITALIA".

Some Random Notes follow.

JOHN M. WILSON,
Editor

RANDOM NOTES No 8.

1. "Watchman", in the March 11, 1976, issue of "Stamp Collecting Weekly" recommended accumulating the "definitive issues of 1960, 1964, and 1966, which do in fact provide scope for much study outside the simple listing offered by the major catalogues". Nice to know that somebody is interested in us.
2. In the latest Gibbons overseas catalog, there is an error which is causing a lot of confusion on the British auction scene. The listing is:

"218	28	1pi. Blue (R)	75
		a. in blue	75
		b. in black	50.00"

My copies are black, not blue, and not worth any fifty pounds. Several covers have been offered up at auction with high estimated values, taking advantage of this listing.

3. Max Schreuder has discovered a retouch on the center of the Expansion of the Prophet's Mosque series. It occurs on recent printings with the redrawn frame. In position 69, about 2mm. under the right upper corner of the center impression, an empty space of about 1 x 1.5mm. In earlier impressions, this space is blank; later, it appears partly retouched (a rather crude job); then, the retouch appears to have worn thin and was apparently renewed in two stages. I was able to find a few copies from his description.
4. The catalogue of the Royal Collection by Sir John Wilson (no relative of mine, so far as I know) lists, under "Hejaz", a block of four of the ½ piastre scarlet of 1916 perforated 12½ x 10. I corresponded with the current curator, Mr. John B. Marriott, who told me that there is no such block in the Collection. He says that the Collection contains a sheet of 50 of the ½ pi scarlet (1916) perf 12 x 10 and a sheet of the ¼ pi green with forged perf 10 all around.
5. Excerpt from Riyadh Daily, No. 819, March 24, 1970. The stamps referred to are evidently Scott Nos. 614-615.

NEW POSTAGE STAMPS MARKING THE ISLAMIC
CONFERENCE OF FOREIGN MINISTERS

Riyadh, Mar. 23 - About 800,000 stamps, marking the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers in Jeddah, have been issued.

His Majesty King Faisal has ordered to send 1/4th of the revenue of these stamps to the Palestine Fund.

These stamps are available in the denomination of 4 and 10 Kurs.

6. The APA is Chapter # 694 of the American Philatelic Society. For this reason, we like to keep track of those of our members who are also APS members. Next time you write, please let me know if you are an APS member. If not, let me know if you would like to join.

7. The current price in Saudi Arabia for the Faisal first day cover and souvenir sheet, is about SR265, or US \$75,00. It will never get cheaper. Cancellations have been seen from Riyadh, Jiddah, Dhahran, and Mecca. In Jiddah, the souvenir sheet was laid on the space in the enclosed folder and cancelled with the same first day cancel so as to "tie" it to the folder, without actually sticking the sheet on. This was not done in Riyadh or Dammam; we have not seen Mecca. I am trying to buy some of these and will offer them in our auctions if I am successful.
8. In the recent 10 pi Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, position 14 shows a dot in the left upright stroke of the second letter "N" in "CONFERENCE".
9. The 4 pi stamp for the Islamic Solidarity Conference in Science and Technology shows two interesting varieties. Positions 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, and 50 (the lower right hand vertical row of six from the bottom) has the left hand "electron" (in red) reduced in size, cut away at the left. Positions 16 and 21 of this pane show extra red blobs along the electron orbits,
10. Many copies of recent Saudi stamps (going back to 1967) show gum creases. We have always had problems with creasing of corner stamps because of the way that post office employees count the sheets, thumbing the corners as they count and setting in what can be severe wrinkles. For stamps printed on watermarked paper, 1967-1975, the printing press officials found that the sheets tended to curl and would not feed properly. To correct this, a deck of paper would be flexed in the hands to deliberately introduce creases that would make the paper stiffer and make it feed better. These creases come diagonally from edge to edge in the sheet.
11. We are told that there will soon be a complete new definitive issue consisting of 24 values. There will be a 5 halala, 10 halala, and so on every five halalas all the way to one riyal. There will then be SR1, SR2, SR3, SR4s and SR5. One hundred halala make one riyal.
12. We have listed for a long time on our checklist of definitives the 3 pi GOSP, Faisal, watermarked. We can't recall who it was that showed us this item, and the lack of ability to find any more makes us wonder. If you have this item, please write - send it for verification if you can. We'd like to make sure.
13. Starting with the King Faisal issue last year, the press in Riyadh has been using a white, coated paper without watermark for its commemorative issues. The designers at the press tell us that this paper was chosen to make the colors look brighter - they had been dissatisfied with the appearance of their stamps previously.
14. In a recent Random Notes, I pointed out that the numbers '8642' in Arabic appear as a talisman on the face of many old covers from various parts of the Ottoman Empire up to about the end of the first world war. I recently acquired a cover in which the corresponding letters were actually written beneath the numbers:

٨٦٤٢

8642

بدوح

Translated:

HWDB

Read the numbers left to right as in English, but the letters right to left: Buduwh. I would still like to know who or what Buduwh was.

15. We have begun to notice that there are two different papers with the second watermark (Scott Wmk 361). The first paper with this watermark was used on the 1967 definitives. It contains a rectangular pattern of "laid" lines on about a half-millimeter spacing. The second paper was first used for the Dammam-Jiddah Road issue; it has no laid lines or other pattern, and it is somewhat whiter, thicker, and more substantial feeling. Selected values of the Tourist Issue (Ka'abah, Expansion of the Prophet's Mosque) come on both papers, as does the new 20 h Quba Mosque.
16. Our fifth annual show, APEX-5, was held April 29 in Dhahran. Art Bowsher was chairman. Abdal-Jabbar al-Yahya, one of the designers at the Government Security Press in Riyadh, brought along exhibits showing photographs, artists' drawings, color separations, die proof impressions, and proof sheets for two recent commemoratives. Best in Show went to Warren Latshaw for a specialized showing of Cape of Good Hope triangles. Your editor won first prize, adults for "Empire Brazil", and Jim Kearney was second with a collection of Nejd. The quality of the show was very high, and we are achieving our aim of getting our local members to mount up their material.

For the show, we prepared special cacheted envelopes. One hundred twenty-five were registered and cancelled on the day of the show, 29 April 1976. For overseas members not in my new issue service, I am holding your copy of this cover; if any of you want yours, send \$1.50. If I don't hear from you by the end of September, I will sell yours off. The cachet shows a reproduction of the $\frac{1}{4}$ pi green of 1916 and was beautifully executed by a local printer.

17. There used to be, in the Jiddah Suq, an old stamp dealer named Abdul Qader Qutah. He started his stamp business back in about 1916, at the time that the Sherif of Mecca was put in charge of the Hejaz. He used to have a fabulous stock of genuine issues, but had sold most of this by the time I met him, although I was able to get one or two goodies from him. I learned recently that he passed away last year. This is a great loss for Saudi Arabian philately and for the growth of the stamp business in general. He had only a very small shop in Jiddah, hardly more than a closet behind a couple of doors, and I doubt that anyone is carrying on his business.

HEJAZ, NEJD, AND SAUDI ARABIA
PRELIMINARY HANDBOOK - PART I

1. The First Survey of Egypt Issues:

Hussein Ibn All was elected to the post of Sherif of Mecca by the Turkish authorities in 1908. However, when Great Britain and Turkey went to war, he seized the opportunity to move the Hejaz out from under Turkish rule, and on June 27, 1916, proclaimed an "Arab State". Most likely, he saw that postage stamps were a visible symbol of sovereignty as well as an evidence of payment, and he very soon contacted the Survey of Egypt, a printer of maps in Cairo, on the advice of British friends.

While the work of preparing stamps was going on, a variety of "fee paid" handstamps was authorized, and in fact, their use goes back a few days to June 24, 1916. Good illustrations of these can be found in Warin and Mayo. Their use persisted well into the latter part of 1917 even though stamps had become available.

1.1 Perforated Stamps

The first issued stamps were a 1 piaster blue, a ½ piaster red, and a ¼ piaster green, in that order. The 1 piaster appeared August 20, 1916. Printing quantities and dates are as follows (these and subsequent data are from Warin):

1 piaster	
milky blue (20 August 1916)	2,900
each sheet numbered by hand in the margin 1-58	
bright blue (20 September 1916)	19,050
plate = ب - ١٦ (under second stamp from left)	
deep metallic blue (24 October 1916)	13,600
Plate = ت - ١٦ (under third stamp from left)	
½ piaster	
red (10 September 1916)	4,100
plate = ا - ١٦	
brighter red (same ink) (18 October 1916)	15,600
Plate = ب - ١٦	
¼ piaster	
green (3 October 1916)	17,000
plate = ا - ١٦	

The ¼ piaster exists in two distinct shades; a bright green in full color, and a duller, pale color. This is in spite of there being but one printing done with the same ink throughout.

Perforations present problems. There were two perforating machines in the Survey of Egypt plant, one perf 10 and one perf 12. Records were not kept of the quantities perforated by each machine, but experience with the availability of copies in dealers' hands leads to the following conclusions :

	Common	Scarce
1 pi blue	perf 10	perf 12
½ pi red	perf 12	perf 10
¼ pi green	perf 12	perf 10 (scarcest)

The catalogue of the Royal Collection by Sir John Wilson (no relative of mine so far as I know) lists, under "Hejaz", a block of four of the ½ piaster scarlet (1916) perforated 12½ x 10. Warin says that a sheet of the ¼ piaster green perforated 12 x 10 "is in the possession of His Majesty King George, but this sheet is obviously unique". I wrote to Mr, John B. Marriott, Curator of the Royal Collection (which is at Buckingham Palace) and asked about these as well as a copy of the ¼ piaster perforated 12.4 x 10 that I recently obtained from Mr. Max Mayo. Mr. Marriott informed me that they have "a sheet of 50 of the ½ pi (1916) scarlet p12 x 10 (it is not 12½ x 10 as stated in the book)", and by book he is referring to Sir John's catalogue. He went on to say that the collection also contains a sheet of 50 ¼ pi green with forged perf 10 all round as well as a sheet of 50 with genuine perf 12 all round. He does not mention any ¼ pi green perf 12 x 10. The ¼ pi perf 12.4 x 10 remains unexplained.

The only mixed perforation known to us is the 1pi blue perf 10 x 12. APA members possess two used copies, both with smudged cancel; a third was sold in the Brigadier Glynn Grylls sale in March, 1973. My own copy has a certificate and has been examined and OK'd by a number of experts. I think it probable that a sheet with mixed perforations was actually put on sale with the ordinary stamps. Please write the APA if you have copies of this item, mint or used; I have not seen it mint.

Collectors must be on guard against fraudulent perforations. One method is to trim the perforations or roulettes (roulette 13) from a cheap stamp and apply perforations; these will generally be too close to the design and not the proper distance between rows, and are thus not too hard to detect. The second method is to take stamps from the roulette 20 series and apply the perforations directly. To detect these, you should examine the ends of the perforation teeth and see if they show signs of the letterpress rules used to produce the roulette 20.

A complete fake of the ¼ pi green stamp exists; I have seen only one copy. It is not quite the same design as the genuine stamp and should cause no difficulty; in any case, it is my experience that you are not likely to come across it.

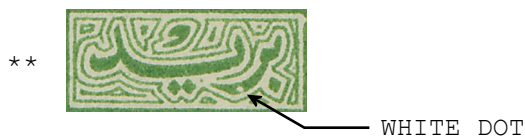
1.2 Roulette 20

The officials at the Survey of Egypt apparently were not satisfied with the results obtained from their perforating machines. While they make this statement, they do not say what it was that they didn't like about it. In any event, they next tried a straight line roulette made up of ten short bits per centimeter.

½ piastre red (23 Dec 1916)	48,850
plate: ت - ١٦	
1 piastre blue (23 Dec 1916)	49,600
plate: ث - ١٦	
¼ piastre green (23 Dec 1916)	49,450
plate: ب - ١٦;	
green (5 Feb 1917)	185,000
plate: ا - ١٧; N-4-A	

The shade of the 5 Feb printing is different from the 23 Dec. Position 47 of one pane contains the plate flaw "dot in 'r' of 'barid'"; this flaw is not found on the perforated stamps. **

1/8 piaster orange (Feb 1917)	180,000
plate: N-5-A	



1.3 Roulette 13

A zig-zag roulette 13 was tried next. The rouletting is done by means of alternating slanting lines in the format shown below:



The printings:

1 piaster deep blue; pale blue (same ink) (May 1917)	176,000
plate: ا - ١٧; N-1-C	
deeper blue (4 Aug 1919)	27,000
plate: ب - ١٩; N-1-D	
cold blue (19 Jun 1920)	110,000
plate: ت - ١٩; N-1-D	
blue (1 Dec 1920)	174,000
plate: ث - ٢٠; N-1-E	
½ piaster red (May 1917)	174,500
plate: ا - ١٧; N-2-C	
deeper red (Sep 1918)	90,000
plate: ا - ١٨; N-2-D	
brilliant red (Jan 1919)	48,000
plate: ب - ١٩; N-2-D	
red (8 Nov 1920)	110,000
plate: ت - ٢٠; N-2-E	
red (1921)	?
Plate: ث - ٢١; N-2-F	
1 para (one-fortieth of a piaster)	
dull purplish brown (24 Jul 1917)	185,800
plate: ا - ١٧; N-9-A	
deep purple brown (8 Oct 1917)	97,650
plate: ب - ١٧; N-9-B	

cold purple brown (9 Feb 1918)	193,250
plate: ٣ - ١٧; N-9-C	
purple brown (17 Jun 1918)	194,000
plate: ١ - ١٨; N-9-D	
chocolate brown (30 Jan 1919)	143,000
-an ink made by a different company	
plate: ٥ - ١٨; N-9-E	
bright chocolate brown (17 Jul 1919)	184,000
plate: ٣ - ١٩; N-2-F	
-similar shade (2 Feb 1920)	240,000
plate: ٣ - ١٩; N-2-F	
-similar shade (21 Feb 1920)	370,000
plate: ٤ - ٢٠; N-9-G	
2 piaster pinkish magenta (20 Aug 1917)	44,750
plate: ١ - ١٧; N-10-A	
bright magenta (3 Aug 1919)	25,000
plate: ٥ - ١٩; N-10-A	
magenta (25 Jan 1920)	14,000
plate: ٣ - ١٩; N-10-B	
magenta (2 Dec 1920)	30,000
plate: ٣ - ٢٠; N-10-C	
1/8 piaster orange (24 Oct 1917)	45,950
plate: ١ - ١٧; N-5-A	
orange (4 Jul 1918)	94,000
plate: ١ - ١٨; N-5-B	
orange (2 Mar 1919)	95,000
plate: ٥ - ١٩; N-5-B	
orange, dull (3 Sep 1919)	95,000
plate: ٣ - ١٩, N-5-C	
orange (29 Jan 1920)	243,000
plate: ٣ - ١٩, N-5-D	
orange (15 Nov 1920)	?
plate: ٤ - ٢٠; N-5-E	
¼ piaster deep green (6 Nov 1917)	47,550
plate: ٥ - ١٧; N-4-B	
yellowish green (11 Mar 1918)	94,400
plate: ٣ - ١٧; N-4-C	
very pale green (4 Aug 1918)	92,000
plate: ٣ - ١٨, N-4-D	
Note: Warin says "٣ - ١٧ (TH-18)", which is contradictory.	
bluish green (22 Jan 1919)	73,000
plate: ٤ - ١٨, N-4-E	
green (6 Jun 1919)	73,000
plate: ٤ - ١٩, N-4-F	
green (15 Jan 1920)	155,000
plate: ٤ - ١٩, N-4-G	
green (31 Oct 1920)	212,000
plate: ٥ - ٢٠; N-4-G	
green (?)	?
plate: ٥ - ٢٠; N-4-H	

-the flaw "dot in 'r' of 'barid'" also occurs on these printings.

2. The Unframed Overprints

The stamps of the first issues contained Arabic wording that translates as "Hejaz Post". King Hussein began at about this time to entertain ideas of a bigger and grander empire than the Hejaz, and he ordered the previous issues overprinted with wording that translates as "The Hashemite Arab Government - 1340".

Data on printings, quantities, and plate numbers of roulette 13 sheets overprinted are given below as given in Warin. I repeat Warin's injunction that other plate numbers may have been overprinted; however, I have not seen any. The overprint was typographed at the Mecca Press, and the stamps were released in December, 1921. The overprint in all cases is black except that in addition red and brown were also used on the 1 piaster.

1 para	3,000
plates: ح - ١٩;	N-9-F
ج - ٢٠;	N-9-G
1/8 piaster	10,000
plate: ح - ٢٠;	N-5-E
¼ piaster	10,000
plate: د - ٢٠;	N-4-H
½ piaster	10,000
plate: ح - ٢١;	N-2-F
1 piaster	10,000
plates: ت - ١٩;	N-1-D
ح - ٢٠;	N-1-E
2 piasters	10,000
plates: ا - ١٧;	N-10-A
ب - ١٩;	N-10-A
ت - ١٩;	N-10-B
ث - ٢٠;	N-10-C

The data do not tell how many of the 1 pi were overprinted in each of the three colors or which color went on which plate. Warin says "we have seen (N-1-E) on a sheet with brown overprint". I have seen black on ح - ١٩; N-1-D. Black is the scarcest color by far, and red the most common. The reason for preparing only 3,000 of the 1 para is not known. The 1/8 orange seems relatively scarcer than the other values; I would like to get a plate block. I have not seen any plate numbers not in the above list.

In addition, the 1 pi blue perf 10 and the 1/8 pi, ¼ pi, and ½ pi roulette 20 are listed as having been overprinted with this same overprint. I have not yet had a chance to plate any. If they exist genuine, they are among the rarest of all Hejaz stamps.

I have seen the ¼ pi and 1 pi with inverted overprints, a double overprint on the ¼ pi, and a double, both inverted, on the ½ pi. All of these came from the Jeddah dealer, Abdul Qader Qutah. In addition, Warin lists the 1/8 pi with inverted overprint and the 2 pi with double overprint.

Missing side dates occur. Sometimes this occurs because of imperfect inking. The Mecca Press seems to have had a great deal of trouble in applying this finely written overprint. I have a lower left vertical block of 14 (seven high by two) where the overprint on the left column is largely missing because of faulty inking. Many copies are heavily overinked.

Other missing side dates occur because the type slug fell out (was removed?). A missing right-hand date occurs in position 41; I have the $\frac{1}{4}$ pi, $\frac{1}{2}$ pi, and 2 pi in blocks showing this variety. The repetition on several different items and sheets of the same item raises the possibility that it was created deliberately.

Fakes are very numerous and show considerable variety. A paper discussing these is appended.

During the same month, December, 1921, there was apparently a shortage of the $\frac{1}{2}$ pi and 1 pi values. An additional surcharge was added to copies of the overprinted 1 para to produce each value. They are very scarce. The catalogues list double and inverted overprints, but all that I have seen have been fraudulent.

3. The Framed Overprints.

For reasons that no one seems to have made clear, the unframed overprint was replaced by one containing the same wording and dates but enclosed in a heavy frame line. Perhaps the cause was the difficulty in printing its predecessor. This overprint, like the previous one, was typographed by the Mecca Press. Issue date is January 7, 1922. It is much more common than the unframed. Quantities printed and controls are listed below from Warin:

1 para	17,000
plates: ت - ١٩;	N-9-F
ث - ١٩;	N-9-F
ج - ٢٠;	N-9-G
1/8 piaster	16,000
plate: ج - ٢٠;	N-5-E
$\frac{1}{4}$ piaster	36,000
plate: د - ٢٠;	N-4-H
$\frac{1}{2}$ piaster	21,000
plate: ث - ٢١;	N-2-F
1 piaster	121,000
plates: ت - ١٩;	N-1-D
ث - ٢٠;	N-1-E
ج - ٢١;	N-1-F
2 piasters	39,000
plates: ب - ١٩;	N-10-A
ت - ١٩;	N-10-B
ث - ٢٠;	N-10-C

Again, there were two provisionals: half piaster on one para and one piaster on one para.

½ piaster on 1 para 12,500
plates: ٣ - ١٩; N-9-F
 ٣ - ١٩; N-9-F

1 piaster on 1 para 177,500
plates: ٣ - ١٩; N-9-F
 ٤ - ٢٠; N-9-G

A paper on this overprints and its forgeries is scheduled for preparation later this year. There are many forgeries, some excellent, and plateing against a full sheet of genuine copies is the only means of assuring the soundness of a given copy.

- to be continued -

11 June 1976

ITALIAN MARITIME MARKINGS USED ON COVERS FROM
WESTERN ARABIA

This short note is written more to elicit information than to present it. However, I hope it will encourage those with the appropriate expertise to cast their minds in an unfamiliar direction.

During the time of the Hejaz Kingdom (June 1916 - December 1925) mail was carried between the Arab ports of Jeddah (for Mecca) and Yanbo (for Medina) and the Egyptian port of Port Taufiq by the Khedivial Steamship Lines. This service was provided free for the Hejazis as a result of one of those wartime incentives offered by the British in Egypt to their new allies across the Red Sea. I have no evidence of mail from the Hejaz ever having been cancelled on board ship, though covers are known where Hejaz adhesives have received the familiar straight line boxed PAQUEBOT marking of Egypt.

The Italians entered the picture in 1925 when mail from Mecca was no longer able to exit through the port of Jeddah following the capture of Mecca by the Saudis, the hold over Jeddah remaining in the hands of the Hashemites. I have outlined the routing of mail via Qunfudhah and Massaua elsewhere, but it appears that it was at this time that the link between the Nejd (Saudi) postal system and the Italians developed.

Jeddah fell to the Saudis in December in 1925, and the mail once more reverted to the usual Jeddah - Port Taufiq route. The Khedivial Line, I suspect, took this opportunity to relieve itself of the free mail burden and re-negotiate a contract for mails. Perhaps this is why, suddenly, and on one occasion only, an Italian maritime marking appears on covers from the Hejaz.

A batch of covers posted in Jeddah in February 1926, addressed to Albert Eid, the Cairene philatelist, all bear the marking I illustrate as Figure 1.



Figure 1

All known copies of this marking, which is struck in blue, bear the date 25-2-1926 and the name of the vessel, the "Sassari". The marking is in the form of a transit strike as the adhesives have already been cancelled by the strike of the accepting post office.

In 1933, another mark, this time in black (Figure 2) appears for a moment on Arab covers and then is not seen again. The vessel concerned in this case is the "Eritrea" and the marking is seen on a cover sent from Jeddah to Bombay. The difference between this strike and that used by the "Sassari" is that, in this case, the mark is used to cancel the stamps. In fact, there are no Arab markings whatsoever on this cover, though it bears only Hejaz-Nejd stamps. On the reverse of the cover is the cachet of a well-known Jeddah firm of shipping agents. The stamps are cancelled by the "Eritrea" marking on the 19th of May and the transit marks are: Port Taufiq, 22 May 0930; Port Said Traffic 22 May 3:25 P.M. There are no Indian markings.

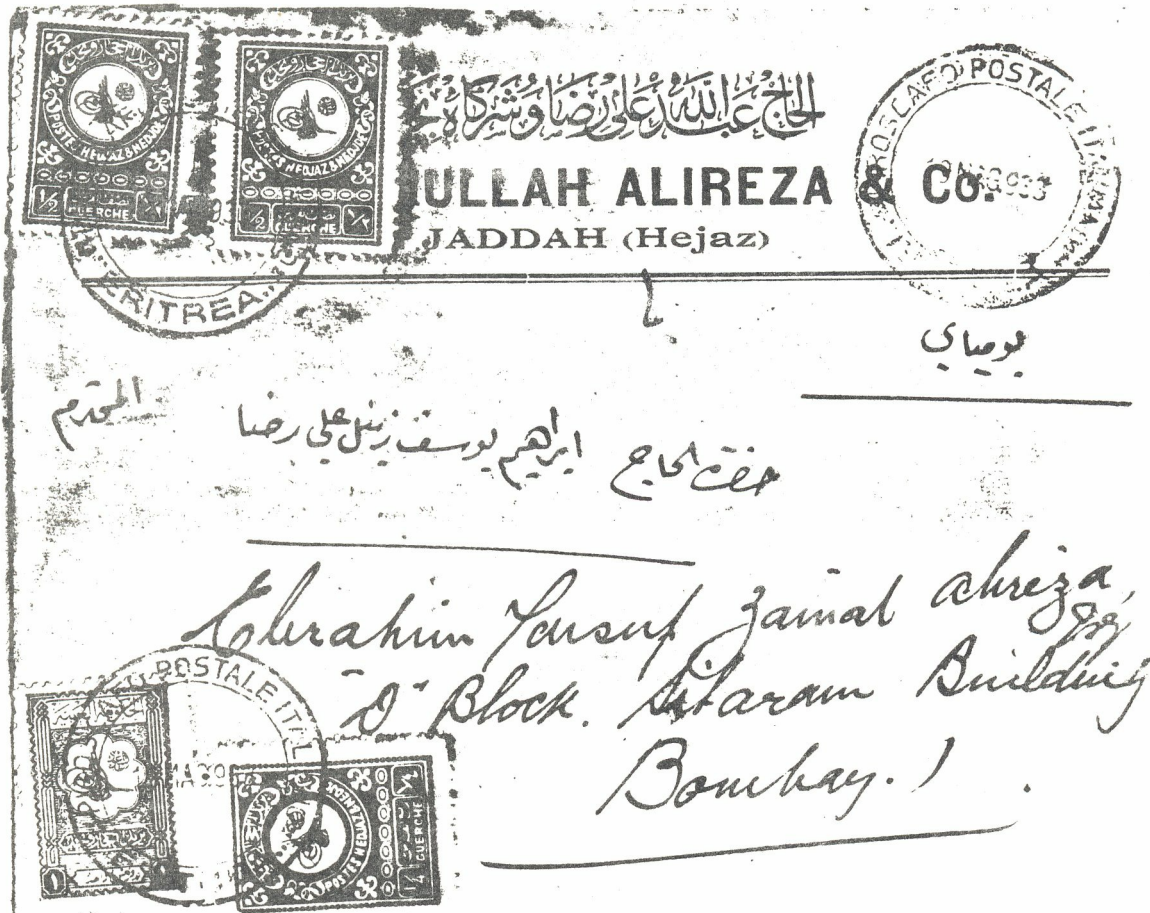


Figure 2

I would be very pleased to hear from anyone who can cast some light on these isolated episodes which marry Italian and Arabian postal history.

Randall Baker

1. P. R. Baker: The Capture of al-Qunfudhah by Ibn Saud, Phil. Mag., May 1975, p. 407.

The two markings referred to in the above article are illustrated below:



A MIXED HEJAZ/TRANSJORDAN FRANKING ON COVER FROM THE SIEGE OF JEDDAH

Few covers drawn from the postal history of the Hejaz could illustrate the traumatic last months of the Hashemite Kingdom (1916-1925) better than that which I illustrate here. In 1924, the star of the King (Hussein ibn Ali) was descending rapidly as a result of his worsening mismanagement of domestic affairs. Taxation had bled the merchants of Jeddah dry and, to compensate for the falling revenues of his state, the King transferred the financial burden to the backs of the long-suffering pilgrims and their bedouin guides and carriers. In January of that year the old King paid a visit to his second son - Abdullah - in his Emirate of Transjordan. Although Hussein regarded Transjordan as an integral part of his Hashemite Kingdom, Abdullah had in fact signed a treaty in May 1923 with Britain, the mandatory power, which recognized the limited independence of Transjordan under Emir Abdullah. To his father, however, Abdullah was still the Viceroy, not the ruling Emir.

During the visit, Hussein learned that the new government of Turkey had abolished the Caliphate, the institution of protector of Islam, which had become an hereditary title of the Sultans of the Ottoman Empire. With a degree of prompting from Abdullah, Hussein immodestly assumed the title on March 11, 1924. As a further act of self-adulation, Hussein ordered stocks of his 1922 and 1923 arms definitives to be overprinted in gold to record and publicize this event. Stamp 'a' on the cover is a 1½ qirsh definitive so overprinted.

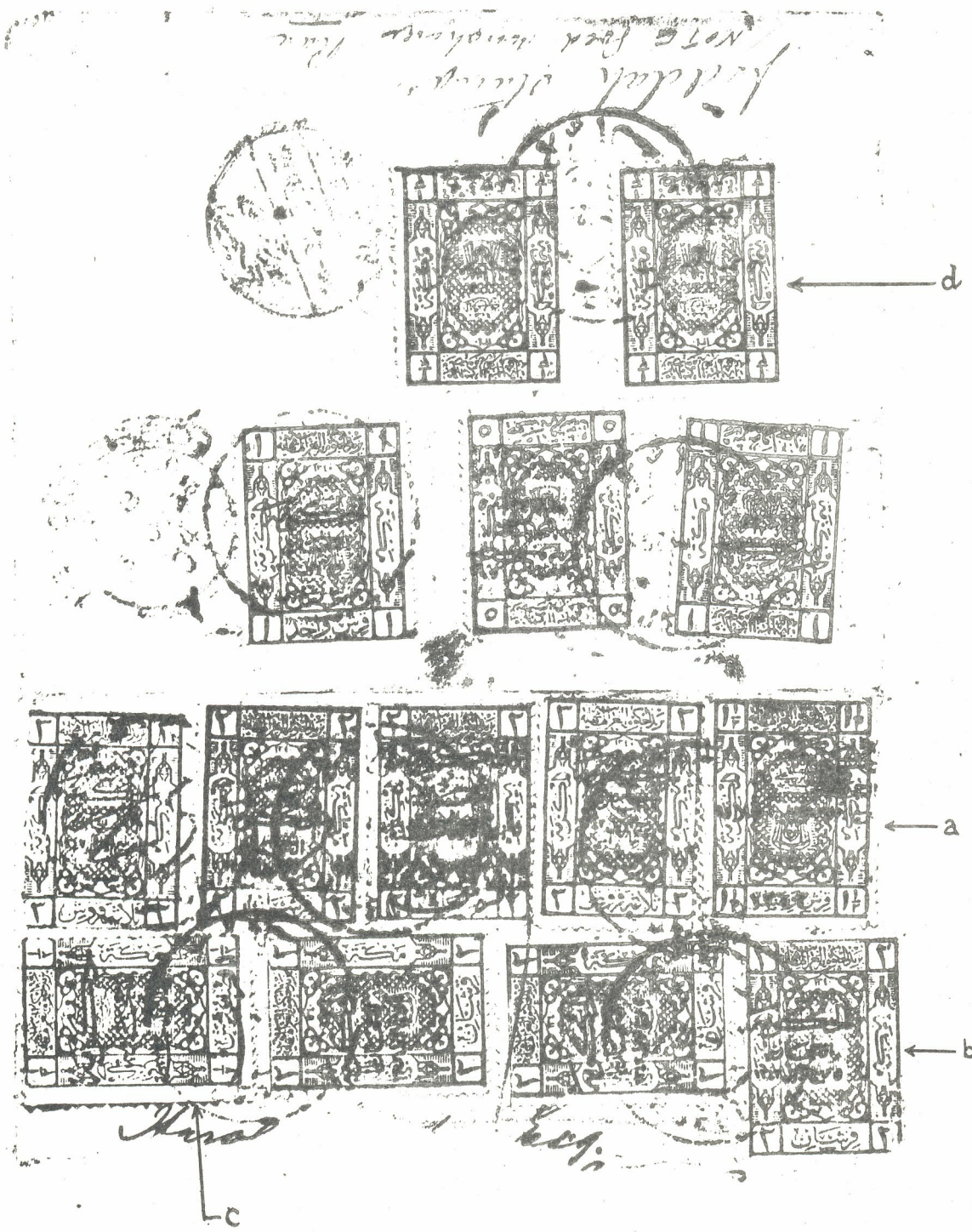
To the orthodox Nejdīs of interior Arabia, this was an act of indecent presumption and, compounded with older territorial disputes, precipitated the invasion of the Hejaz in September, 1924. Following a series of disastrous defeats and routs, the Sherif abdicated his throne on the 4th October 1925 and his eldest son Ali ascended in his place. At the same time, the ambitious territorial claims of Hussein, who had styled himself "King of the Arab Lands" , were dropped in an attempt to appease the Nejdī ruler, Abdulaziz ibn Saud, and encourage him to give up his campaign. The old definitive stamps with their grandiose designation "Hashemite Arab Government" were overprinted "Government of the Hejaz" to emphasize the more modest territorial claims of the new authority in Jeddah. The date of the new government's inception was also printed on the stamps (stamp 'b'). As the state press in Mecca was captured when that city fell to the Nejdīs, the overprinting had to be done in Jeddah, which accounts for the erratic results of positioning, legibility, etc.

As 1925 wore on, problems of supply developed as the Hejaz was now reduced to a few isolated cities - Jeddah, Medina, and Yanbu' - and the government was bankrupt. Provisional surcharges were introduced to ease the shortage of certain key issues (stamp 'c'). By May, 1925, when this cover was posted in Jeddah, the city was besieged and surrender moves were already being discussed by members of King All's government. Ibn Saud's cavalry

meanwhile had swept north and around the Hejaz and was threatening the area of Aqaba and Ma'an. This district was claimed by both the Hejaz and the British in Transjordan; possession of the strategic Wadi Sirhan would lay Amman open to raiding and destruction. The British moved ex-King Hussein out of Aqaba where he had taken refuge in late May and sent him to lonely exile in Cyprus. Then, pressuring Abdullah, they secured Ali's agreement to the transfer of this area to Transjordan on June 5, 1925. This sad event is recorded by the use of two Transjordan stamps on this cover - (stamp 'd'). These are basically Hejaz arms definitives overprinted "Government of the Arab East 1924". It has long been suspected that these issues were accepted for use in the Hejaz as Hussein laid claim to the territory, but I believe this is the first time they have ever been found in combination with Hejaz issues or used in the Hejaz; it could not have been at a less auspicious moment. This cover travelled by way of Jeddah's only life-line, the Khedivial Steamship route to Port Taufiq, and finally arrived in London thirteen days later on the 3rd June 1925.

Randall Baker

This article appeared in the June 17th, 1976, issue of Stamp Collecting Weekly, published by Stamp Collecting Ltd, 42 Maiden Lane, Strand, London.



The Islamic calendar is based on the Hegira or "emigration" from Mecca by the Prophet in 622 A. D. The calendar itself was not introduced by the Prophet but is reputed to have been the creation of Omar, the second Caliph, in 639 A. D., (17 A. H.). At that time the Hejaz was using a calendar which commenced with the month of Muharram and so the Caliph used that month as the first month of the new Islamic year. Hence the first Islamic date is equivalent to the 16th of July 622 A. D.

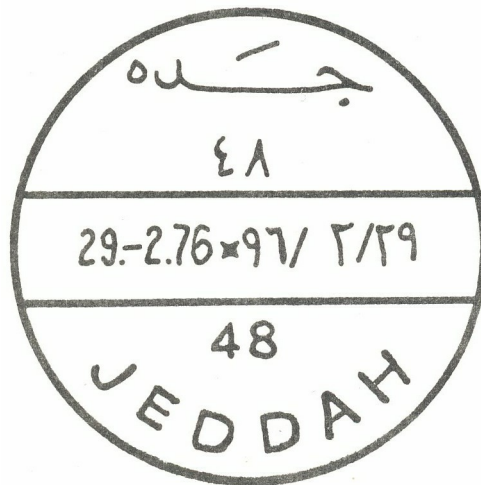
The Hegira year is a lunar year based on alternating months of 30 and 29 days though a compensating principle is inbuilt so that in each thirty year cycle there are 11 leap years having 355 days and 19 years with 354 days; the compensation-being built into Dhul Hajja, the 12th month. The correction is, of course, aligned to the phases of the moon and so the year is not consistent with the solar year and that is why it wanders through the seasons in a backward direction. The tropical year is precisely 365. 2422 days, which, if one accepts a "year" of 365 days, leaves a gap of about 3 days in each period of 400 years. This was matched by the Gregorian revision of the Western (Julian) calendar which incorporates a leap year every 4th year and every century year unless that century year is divisible by 4. Thus, the Islamic calendar moves through the seasons completely every 32½ years.

The Islamic year has been moving closer towards coincidence with the Western (Gregorian) calendar over the last few years and in February of this year it coincided exactly so that 1/2/1976 = 1/2/1396. Even more coincidental was the fact that, as Safar contained 29 days and February 1976 was a leap year of 29 days the coincidence continued through March until, on the 31st, they parted ne'er to meet again for many decades. My maths is quite incapable of calculating the next two-month coincidence. Illustrated is a strike of the Jeddah postmark for the critical day: February 29th 1976.

As a matter of related interest, on the 21st March 1976, Iran will adopt a new calendar backdating the existing calendar to the year 533 B. C. so that from that date, the year in Iran will be 2535.

Dr. Randall Baker.

Editor's note: The last time this happened was in 1748.



A STUDY OF THE JEDDAH LARGE THREE-LINE OVERPRINT

By: F. C. Benedict and R. J. Thoden

INTRODUCTION

It has been apparent to those with a large sampling of the Jeddah provisional large three-line overprint issue that more than one type of overprint exists. There is sufficient evidence now to show that there are at least five different overprints which can be identified by size and printing variations. Some of these five types of overprints are limited in their usage while others cover every conceivable variety. A check list (Table I) of the known distribution by types is attached. Based on many hours of study of a wide range of reference material which has recently been obtained, it is the opinion of the authors that, of the five types of overprints, only one is genuine and that the other four are forgeries. Some of these forgeries are of excellent quality and deceived the authors for a long time.

These stamps were issued in January-February 1925 and, like all the Jeddah issues, owe their existence to the siege of the city by the Wahhabi forces opposing King Ali of the Hejaz. The overprints were intended to prevent the use of stamps captured by the opposition. D. F. Warin's book gives extensive background information on this issue (see Chapter VII).

These stamps are listed in Scott as nos. L76 and L82-131, in Mayo as nos. 135-199, and in Gibbons as nos. 94-147.

THE BASIC STAMPS

It will be useful here to take a brief look at the basic stamps used for overprinting. These were:

- (a) The $\frac{1}{2}$ p. of the 1917 roulette 13 definitive issue (Scott L10, Mayo 20, Gibbons 13).
- (b) All values of the 1922-24 definitive issue (Scott L32-39 and L49-50, Mayo 50-57 and 77-78, Gibbons 39-46 and 57-58).
- (c) All values of the 1924 Caliphate commemorative issue (Scott L42-48, Mayo 67-73, Gibbons 50-56).

Mayo also lists the $\frac{1}{4}$ p. of the 1917 roulette 20 definitive issue (Scott L5, Mayo 8, Gibbons 8), but this has not been seen by the authors.

The use of the 1917 issues printed in sheets of 50 (5 x 10) is puzzling since the overprint plates, to be described in detail later, were set up to fit the 1922-24 issue. This $\frac{1}{4}$ p. overprinted stamp is very scarce and may have been a trial printing.

The 1922-24 definitive issues were printed in sheets of 36 (6 x 6). The individual positions can usually be plated, and this is important in the detection of forged overprints, as will be seen later. The 1/8p, 1/2p, 1p, 1 1/2p, 2p, 3p, and 5p sheets are normal. The 1/4p, however, had the bottom three rows inverted with respect to the top three rows, thus producing six tete-beche pairs in each sheet. The 10p was printed in still a different format - two panes of 18 (6 x 3) separated by a gutter. Warin states that the 10p was also printed in normal 6x6 sheets, but the authors have never seen one of these. These stamps were evidently reprinted many times, as several shades and/or types of paper exist of all values. It is interesting to note that some of these shades and paper varieties are not known either genuinely used in unoverprinted condition or with an overprint of the type considered genuine by the authors.

The Caliphate commemorative issue of March 1924 consists of a three-line overprint in gold on the original seven values of the 1922 definitive issue. This overprint has been extensively forged, and some of these were given a forged large Jeddah overprint as well.

TYPE I OVERPRINT (GENUINE)

This type overprint is considered by the authors to be the only genuine type. It is the only type that has been seen genuinely used on "Colonial Photo Stores" and other covers. The Colonial Photo Stores covers are large envelopes carrying a variety of the overprinted Jeddah issues. They were mailed to the Colonial Photo Stores in Alexandria, Egypt. Although obviously prepared by or for a philatelist, they did go through the mails. See Mayo, page 34, for an illustration of one of these covers.

Two separate plates of this overprint were made, each consisting of 36 individual cliches arranged in six rows of six each. This format matches that of the basic stamps of the 1922-24 issue.

Plate A was used for overprinting the 1/8p, 1/2p, 1p, 1 1/2p, 2p, 3p, 5p and some of the 10p stamps of the 1922-24 issue, the 1/4p of the 1917 issue, and the Caliphate stamps. See Figures 1 and 2. There are numerous dots, blotches, scratches and variations in the Arabic lettering that permit plating. Table II lists and describes the most easily identified cliches. The length of the top line of the overprint (as measured from the middle of the tail at the left to the edge of the horizontal line at the right) varies from 16.1 to 16.3 mm. Ten full sheets with overprints from Plate A have been examined.

Plate B was used only for the 1/4p and some of the 10p stamps of the 1922-24 issue, so far as is known by the authors. This is puzzling, as this plate was not really suitable for either, its format being identical to that of Plate A. Two full sheets of the 1/4p have been examined. One has 36 different cliches all reading the same way, thus giving inverted overprints on the lower half of the sheet (Figure 3). The other sheet has the same 18 cliches from the upper three rows of the plate repeated twice, but the sheet has been turned so that there are no inverted overprints (Figure 4). Position 17 has an easily noticeable flaw which allows this conclusion to be made. Figure 5 shows an upper pane of 18 of the 10p stamps which has been overprinted with the bottom half of Plate B. The top selvage shows the third row of overprints, with the flaw of position 17 again easily recognizable.

The individual cliches of Plate B are not the same as those of Plate A. The top line varies from 16.0 to 16.3 mm in length. Plating is more difficult, with fewer stamps having distinct flaws. See Table III for a listing of the most easily identified positions.

Figure 7 shows an enlargement of a typical cliche of the Type I overprint.

Genuinely used stamps are much scarcer than mint, especially those with blue, red or gold overprints. Cancellations should be those of Jeddah dated in 1925. It should be noted that there are stamps with genuine Type I overprints that have been cancelled with Mecca, Jeddah (with wrong dates), and other false cancellations. The identical false cancellations can be found on stamps with both genuine and fake overprints.

TYPE II OVERPRINT (FORGERY)

This forgery exists on a wider range of stamps than does the genuine overprint, as can be seen from Table I. The overprint plate consists of 36 different cliches, similar to the genuine, to permit overprinting of a full sheet in one operation. See Figure 6 for an illustration of a full sheet of this type. The quality of the individual cliches varies widely. Some are poor and easily identifiable - characters poorly formed and misshaped, differences in the top line at the left and/or right, top line too short etc. Other cliches are excellent and virtually indistinguishable from Type I unless subjected to careful examination under magnification. In some cases, only plating the basic stamp and then comparing the overprint with that in the same position on a known reference sheet of Type I will give the answer for sure.

The top line of the Type II overprint is smaller in most instances than the genuine (27 are 15.7-16.0 mm, 8 are 16.1-16.4 mm, and one is only 15.2 mm). The differences in size are due primarily to the variations in the length of the horizontal projection at the right side (it is completely missing on the cliche that is only 15.2 mm wide, position 36 in the sheet).

The quality of the printing also varies considerably. Some sheets were clearly and evenly printed, while others are heavily overinked with many extra blotches of ink.

Figures 8 to 11 show enlargements of a range of Type II overprints, some good, some poor.

TYPE III OVERPRINT (FORGERY)

This is about as numerous a forgery as Type II in terms of the number of varieties of stamps on which it is known (see Table I). A full sheet has been examined. There are only 12 cliches of overprints in two horizontal rows which are repeated three times to cover the sheet. Unfortunately, we cannot illustrate this sheet in a way that would show this. It is a sheet of red $\frac{1}{2}$ p stamps, and the proper facilities to fade out the red of the basic stamp while retaining the black overprint are not available at present.

The top line of the overprint varies from 16.1 to 16.4 mm, which is essentially the same as Type I. The twelve cliches are nearly identical. This is a very good forgery, but there are distinguishing features which permit telling it from the genuine Type I. In the top line, the two vertical lines at the right (laam-alif) lean slightly to the left. The second vertical line (laam) curves onto the horizontal line (Haa) with a larger radius curve than the genuine. The "Haa" itself is larger than the genuine (about 2-3/4 mm inside length instead of 2¼ mm for Type I). In the second line of the overprint, the dot over the "zaa" is noticeably smaller (on 11 of the 12 cliches) than on the genuine. For those readers who do not know Arabic, refer to Figure 16 which shows an enlargement of the overprint on which the Arabic characters are identified.

Apparently at some late stage of the printing of these forgeries, cracks developed in several of the cliches.

See Figure 12 for an enlarged illustration of a typical Type III overprint.

TYPE IV OVERPRINT (FORGERY)

This is a longer overprint than the genuine, with the top line about 16.8 mm in length. The printing and letters are often quite good, but somewhat thicker than Type I. Some examples, however, have the two dots at the left of the top line much too large.

No multiples of this type are available. However, plating of single copies based on the basic stamp indicates that the plate may consist of 12 cliches like that of Type III. For example, basic stamps 3 and 15 have been found with an identical overprint, as have stamps 5 and 17.

This type is much less common than Types II and III, and most copies seen had inverted overprints. See Figures 13 and 14 for enlarged illustrations. It is quite possible that the two cliches illustrated actually represent two different overprint types, rather than two different cliches of the same overprint plate. However, they are both tentatively assumed to be of Type IV, based on the top line overprint length of 16.8 mm.

The authors would like to receive further information on this type, as well as to examine multiples.

TYPE V OVERPRINT (FORGERY)

This seems to be the least common of the forgeries, and is the latest one found by the authors. Only one block of four has been seen on which the overprints differed slightly. Size of the plate remains unknown. Like Type IV, this type seems to have been used primarily to produce inverted overprints.

This forgery has several distinctive features. The top line is 16.2-16.3 mm long, i.e. about the same as Type I, but the projections are too short at the right. The space between the dot and the junction of the characters "laam" and "jiym" in the second line is much less than on Type I or on any of the other forgery types. And finally, the Arabic "4" in "1343" in the last line is distinctly different. See Figure 15 for an enlarged illustration.

Further Information on this type is solicited.

OTHER WAYS TO DISTINGUISH FORGERIES

The basic 1922-24 stamps have been excellently forged, however, they are perforated 10-3/4 instead of 11½. While none of these have been seen by the authors with three-line Jeddah overprints, they may well exist.

Stamps with a known forged Caliphate overprint will, of course, also have a forged three-line Jeddah overprint as well. Unfortunately, the study of forged Caliphate overprints is incomplete and thus no complete guidelines for detecting them can be given here. However, one type of forgery has the overprint very heavily impressed, so that it appears raised when observed from the back of the stamp. The overprint is also noticeably thinner than the genuine.

Close examination of the overprint color is sometimes helpful. The genuine red overprint comes in two shades, a clear bright red and a brownish red. Both of these appear dark red under ultraviolet light. The red forgeries exist in several shades, and some of them fluoresce a very bright red under ultraviolet light, and others appear brown. Genuine gold overprints usually are dull and brownish due to most of the gold having flaked off. These stamps were created by dusting stamps already overprinted in red (1p) or black (other values) with gold dust while the ink was still wet. The 1p sometimes appears a little brighter, but all other stamps with bright overprints seen by the authors proved to be Type II or III forgeries. Some stamps when held up over a strong light show gold over brown ink rather than over black or red. Some fake 1p stamps are gold over black instead of gold over red.

For those who have studied these stamps in detail, the shades and paper of the basic stamps can provide the easiest way of detecting forgeries of certain values. Describing shades and papers is not easy; nevertheless, because of their significance here, an attempt will be made.

- 1/8p. All dark yellow brown, dark red brown and brown stamps seen had forged overprints. These are on thin paper with the design easily visible from the back. There are usually traces of ink on the back. Genuine (as well as forged) overprints are on red brown or orange brown basic stamps on a slightly thicker paper where the design is only slightly visible from the back.
- ¼p. All yellow green and dark green (with brownish gum) stamps seen had forged overprints. There are usually ink marks on the reverse. Genuine (and forged) overprints are on light green stamps.
- ½p. All stamps seen of the original printing in "deep rose", to use Mayo's color description, had forged overprints. Originals (and forgeries) are on red basic stamps.
- 1p. Forgeries exist on several shades not seen with genuine overprints, but these are difficult to describe. The best way to detect them is by the thin paper showing the design clearly from the back, and by the ink traces frequently present on the back. Genuine (and forged) overprints come in several shades on a thicker, more opaque paper.
- 1½p, 2p, 3p brown. Forgeries and genuine overprints are on the same basic stamps.

- 3p brown red. All stamps seen in orange red, brick red, or dark carmine (bright red in ultraviolet light) had forged overprints. Original (as well as forged) overprints are on brown red stamps. In this case, some forgeries are on thicker paper than the genuine which are on the thin paper.
- 5p. Forgeries and genuine overprints are on the same basic stamps.
- 10p. Many forgeries are on stamps on grayish-white paper. Genuine (as well as fake) overprints are on stamps on yellowish-white paper.

CONCLUSION

This paper has pointed out the distinguishing characteristics of five types of Jeddah large three-line overprints, of which only one is thought to be genuine. There may well be more types of forgeries in addition to the four types described here, but still unknown to the authors. It must be stressed that the labelling of Types II to V overprints as forgeries is the authors' opinion, as there is no definite way of proving this. However, the circumstantial evidence seems quite strong. The authors would like to hear from any reader who disagrees with their conclusions, and who can present evidence to support his opinion.

Reading this paper will not make one an expert in recognizing all forged Jeddah large three-line overprints, but should help considerably in detecting Types III, IV and V, as well as some Type II. As mentioned earlier, reference material and very close comparison is necessary to detect the better Type II forgeries.

These forgeries are quite plentiful, even on the cheapest stamps. For some varieties, they far outnumber the genuine. Stamps of the Hejaz were quite popular among collectors at the time of issue, and were included in the British Colonial section of the catalog, according to Warin. Apparently, the quantities genuinely issued were inadequate to meet the demand and forgers simply produced additional quantities on the apparently large remaining stocks of the 1922-24 basic stamps. As mentioned before, many of these basic stamps are of different shades and papers; perhaps unissued stocks looted when Mecca was captured, or even privately printed from captured plates. D. F. Warin states that printing machinery, paper, etc. were abandoned when the Hejaz authorities fled from Mecca.

The authors also speculate that there may have been philatelic influence behind the Jeddah overprint issues originally. Why else the frequent changes of overprint, the overprinting of the same stamps in four different color inks - black, blue, red and gold - and the enormous number of varieties? Warin's account of the inexperience of the printer does not seem to ring entirely true.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

To Mr. W. H. Bradshaw for his assistance in arranging for the photography.

To several APA members who cooperated with the authors by loaning material for photographing, or by allowing the authors to examine their collections in order to compile the check list of varieties (Table I).

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- D. F. Warin, "The Postal Issues of Hejaz, Jeddah and Najd", 1927.
M. Max Mayo, "Barid al-Sa'udiyyah wa al Hejaz wa Najd", 1973.
Scott Publications, "Standard Postage Stamp Catalog", Vol. III, 1976.
Stanley Gibbons, "Stamp Catalog, Overseas 4", 1975.

Arabian Philatelic Association
March 1976.



FIGURE 1.
TYPE I GENUINE OVERPRINT (PLATE A) ON FULL SHEET OF 5P. STAMPS

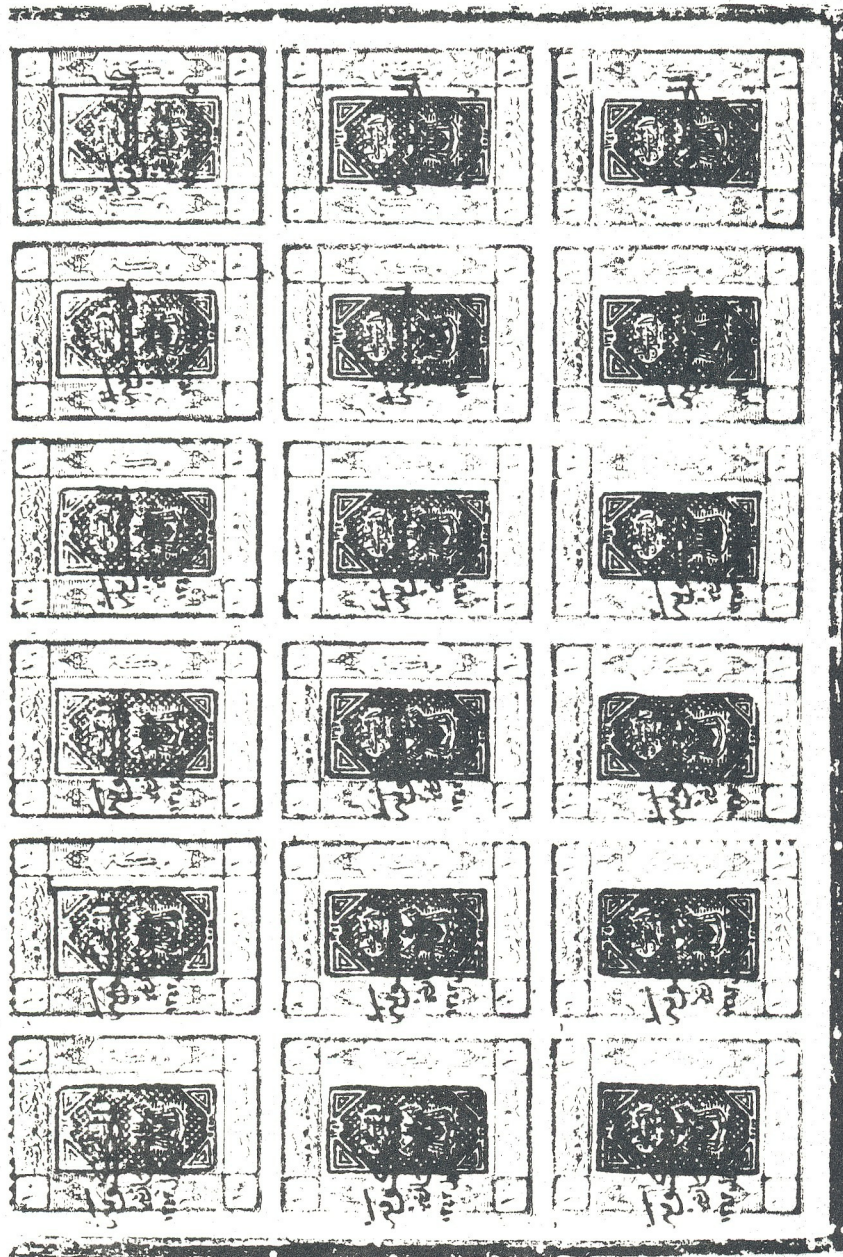


FIGURE 2.
TYPE I GENUINE OVERPRINT (PLATE A) ON LOWER PANE OF 10P. STAMPS



FIGURE 3.

TYPE I GENUINE OVERPRINT (PLATE B) ON FULL SHEET OF 1/4P. STAMPS



FIGURE 4.
TYPE I GENUINE OVERPRINT (PLATE B) ON FULL SHEET OF ¼P. STAMPS

الملك وهدية
 الحكمة
 ١٣٢٦
 الملك وهدية
 الحكمة
 ١٣٢٦
 الملك وهدية
 الحكمة
 ١٣٢٦
 الملك وهدية
 الحكمة
 ١٣٢٦
 الملك وهدية
 الحكمة
 ١٣٢٦
 الملك وهدية
 الحكمة
 ١٣٢٦

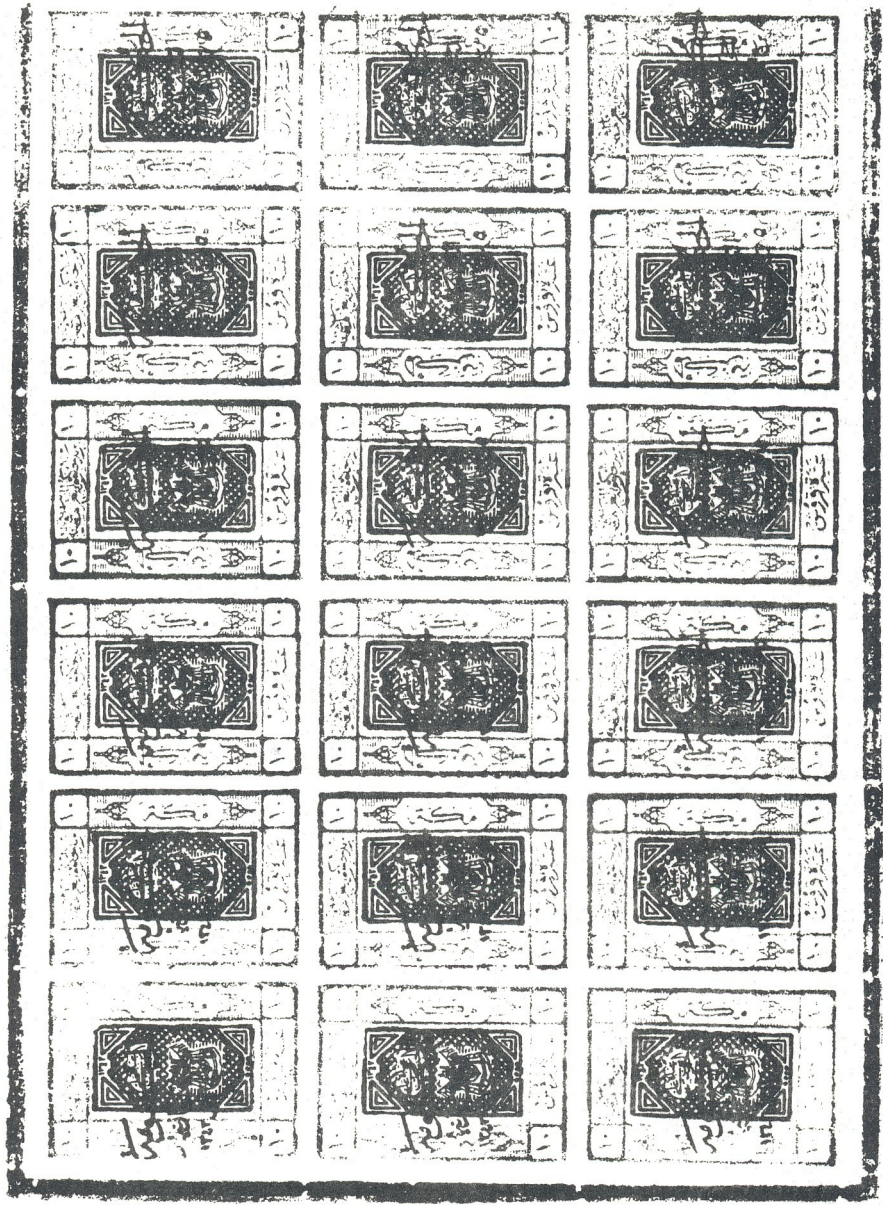


FIGURE 5.
 TYPE I GENUINE OVERPRINT (PLATE B) ON UPPER PANE OF 10P. STAMPS



FIGURE 6.

TYPE II FORGED OVERPRINT ON A FULL IMPERFORATE SHEET OF ¼P. STAMPS

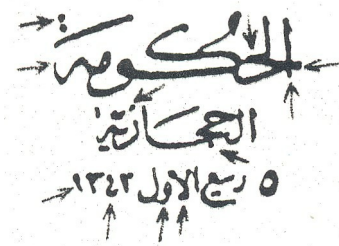


FIGURE 7.
TYPE I GENUINE.

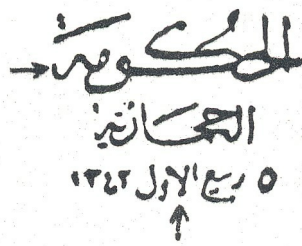


FIGURE 8.
TYPE II FORGERY.

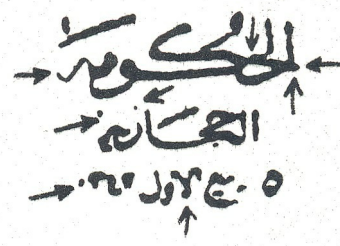


FIGURE 9.
TYPE II FORGERY.

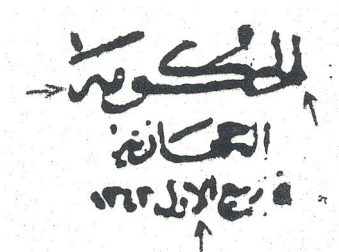


FIGURE 10.
TYPE II FORGERY.

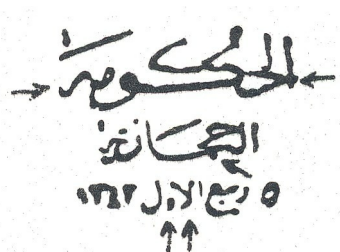


FIGURE 11.
TYPE II FORGERY.

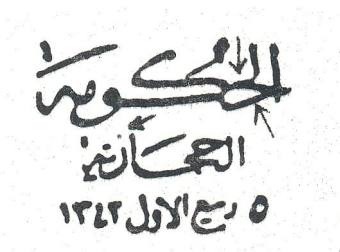


FIGURE 12.
TYPE III FORGERY.

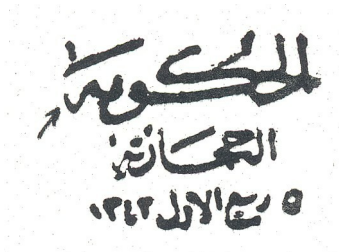


FIGURE 13.
TYPE IV FORGERY.

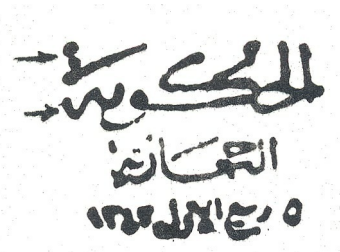


FIGURE 14.
TYPE IV FORGERY.

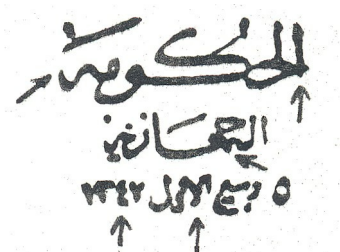


FIGURE 15.
TYPE V FORGERY.

EXPLANATION OF FIGURES 7 THROUGH 15

- Figure 7. Type I genuine. A typical example (position 22). Top line 16.2 mm long. Distinct projections on "Haa" of top line. Tail of "taa marbutah" of top line comes well up. Large dot over "zaa" in second line. Long "1" in Arabic year "1343" in last line.
- Figure 8. Type II forgery. A very good forgery (position 5). Top line 16.3 mm long. Tail of "taa marbutah" of top line too low. Bottom of "laam-alif" in third line incorrect.
- Figure 9. Type II forgery. A poor example (position 23). Top line 15.9 mm long. Tail of "taa marbutah" of top line too thin and much too low. The projections of the "Haa" of top line are almost completely missing. The middle dot of the three dots which should appear over the left end of the second line is missing. A very short "1" in the Arabic year "1343" in the last line. Small dot over "zaa" in the second line. Somewhat overinked.
- Figure 10. Type II forgery. A very poor example (position 32). Top line is 15.8 mm long. Tail of "taa marbutah" of top line too thick and too low. Very heavily overinked, extra spots of ink. Projections of "Haa" of top line too short.
- Figure 11. Type II forgery. A poor example (position 33). Top line 15.7 mm long. Tail of "taa marbutah" in top line too low. Irregular strokes in top line characters. Projection of "Haa" of top line too short. "Laam" joins "jiym" in second line diagonally. Very small "waw" in bottom line.
- Figure 12. Type III forgery. An excellent fake (position 8). Top line is 16.4 mm long. "Haa" of top line too large. "Laam" joins "Haa" in a curve. Small dot over "zaa" in second line.
- Figure 13. Type IV forgery. A good fake (position ?). Top line 16.8 mm long. Heavy overprint. Tail of "taa marbutah" of top line a little too low.
- Figure 14. Type IV forgery. A poor fake (position ?). Top line 16.8 mm long. Heavy overprint. Dots at left of top line much too large. Tail of "taa marbutah" of top line a little too low.
- Figure 15. Type V forgery. An easily recognized fake (position ?). Top line is 16.2 mm long. Short projections on "Haa" of top line. Tail of "taa marbutah" of top line too heavy and a little too low. Short space between dot and junction of "laam" and "jiym" in second line. Very differently-shaped Arabic "4" in year "1343" in last line.

NOTE: Not every feature is described above. Additional differences between the genuine and the forgeries are indicated by the arrows in the figures.

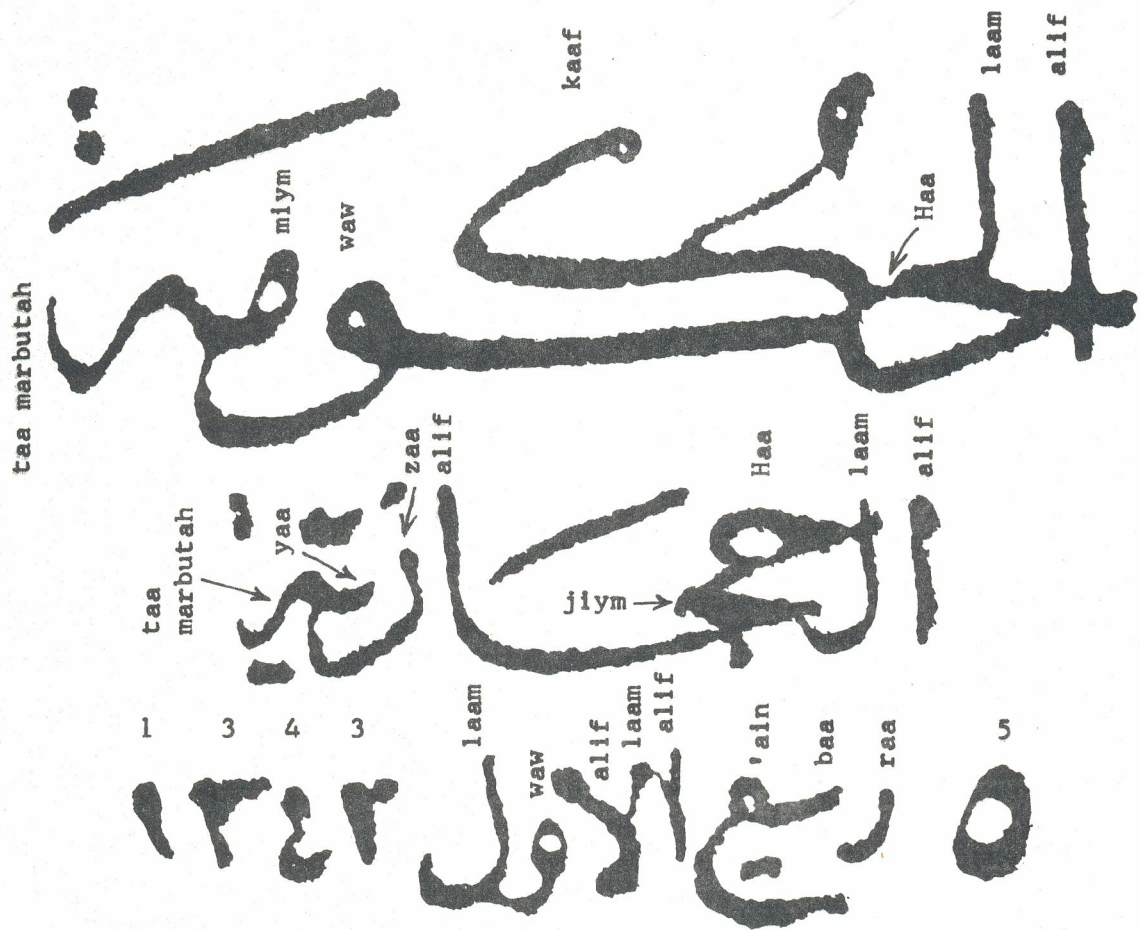


FIGURE 16.

TABLE I

JEDDAH LARGE THREE-LINE OVERPRINT - DISTRIBUTION BY TYPES

SCOTT		TYPES					
<u>NO.</u>		<u>IA</u>	<u>IB</u>	<u>II</u>	<u>III</u>	<u>IV</u>	<u>V</u>
<u>RED OVERPRINT ON 1917 ISSUE, ROULETTE 20</u>							
-	¼p. ovpt. reads up.....						
<u>RED OVERPRINT ON 1917 ISSUE, ROULETTE 13</u>							
L76	¼p. ovpt. reads down.....	X					
-	ovpt. reads up	X					
-	ovpt. reads horizontally						
-	ovpt. reads horizontally, inverted	X					
<u>BLUE OVERPRINT ON 1922-24 ISSUE</u>							
L82	1/8p.	X		X	X		
a	inverted ovpt.				X		
-	pair, one w/o ovpt						
-	horiz. pair, imperf. btwn.	X					
L83	½p.	X		X	X		
a	double ovpt.	X		X	X		
b	inverted ovpt.	X		X	X		
c	double ovpt, one inverted	X		X	X		
-	double ovpt, both inverted			X	X		
-	pair, one w/o ovpt.						
-	ovpt. reads up						
L84	1p.	X		X	X		
-	inverted ovpt.	X		X	X		
-	pair, one w/o ovpt.						
L85	1½p.	X		X	X		
a	inverted ovpt.	X		X	X		X
-	horiz. pair, imperf. btwn.						
-	pair, one w/o ovpt.						
L86	2p.	X			X		
a	double ovpt, one inverted	X		X	X		
b	inverted ovpt.	X		X	X		X
c	double ovpt.	X		X	X		
d	pair, one w/o ovpt.						
-	ovpt. reads up						
L87	3p. olive brown.....	X			X		
a	inverted ovpt.	X		X	X		
b	double ovpt, one inverted	X		X	X		
c	ovpt. reads up						
-	double ovpt.			X	X		
-	double ovpt, both inverted	X					
-	pair, one w/o ovpt.						

SCOTT NO.		TYPES					
		IA	IB	II	III	IV	V
L88	3p. brown red.....	X		X	X		
a	inverted ovpt.	X		X	X		
b	double ovpt, one inverted	X		X	X		
-	double ovpt.			X			
-	double ovpt, both inverted			X			
-	horiz pair, imperf. btwn, invtd. ovpt.						
-	pair, one w/o ovpt.						
-	ovpt. reads up						
L89	5p.	X			X		
a	inverted ovpt.	X		X		X	
-	double ovpt.						
-	pair, one w/o ovpt.						
-	ovpt. reads up						
-	ovpt. reads down						
-	10p. ovpt. reads up.....						
-	ovpt. reads down						
<u>BLACK OVERPRINT ON 1922-24 ISSUE</u>							
L90	1/8p.	X		X	X		
a	inverted ovpt.	X		X	X		
-	1/4p.						
L91	1/2p.	X			X		
a	inverted ovpt.	X		X	X		X
-	double ovpt, one inverted						
-	double ovpt.						
L92	1p.	X		X			
a	inverted ovpt.	X		X	X		
-	pair, tete-beche ovpts.						
L93	1 1/2p.	X		X	X		
a	inverted ovpt.	X		X	X		
L94	2p.	X			X		
a	inverted ovpt.			X	X		
-	double ovpt, one inverted						
-	horiz. pair, imperf. vertically	X					
-	horiz pair, imperf. btwn.						
L95	3p. olive brown.....	X		X	X		
a	inverted ovpt.	X		X	X		
-	double ovpt.						
-	double ovpt, one inverted						

SCOTT NO.		TYPES					
		IA	IB	II	III	IV	V
L96	3p. brown red.....	X		X	X		
a	inverted ovpt.	X		X	X		X
b	double ovpt, one inverted			X	X		
-	double ovpt.			X	X		
-	double ovpt, both inverted						
-	triple ovpt, one inverted						
-	pair, tete-beche ovpts.						
L97	5p.	X			X		
a	inverted ovpt.	X		X	X	X	X
<u>RED OVERPRINT ON 1922-24 ISSUE</u>							
L98	1/8p.				X		
a	inverted ovpt.	X			X		
L99	1/4p.		X	X	X		
a	tete-beche pair, tete-beche ovpts.		X				
-	tete-beche pair, both ovpts. read up		X	X	X		
b	inverted ovpt.		X	X	X		
-	imperf.			X			
-	imperf, inverted ovpt.		X	X			
-	imperf, tete-beche pair, tete-beche ovpts						
-	imperf, tete-beche pair, both ovpts read up				X	X	
L100	1/2p.	X		X	X		
a	inverted ovpt.	X		X	X		
-	double ovpt.						
L101	1p.	X			X		
a	inverted ovpt.	X		X	X		
b	double ovpt, one inverted	X					
-	pair, tete-beche ovpts.				X		
-	vert. pair, imperf horiz.	X?					
-	vert. pair, imperf. Btwn.						
L102	1 1/2p.	X		X	X		
a	inverted ovpt.	X		X	X	X	
-	horiz. pair, imperf. btwn.						
L103	2p.	X		X	X		
a	inverted ovpt.	X			X		X
-	double ovpt.						
-	ovpt. reads up	X					
L104	3p. olive brown.....	X		X	X		
a	inverted ovpt.	X		X		X	
-	vert. pair, imperf btwn.	X					
-	double ovpt.						

SCOTT NO.		TYPES					
		IA	IB	II	III	IV	V
L105	3p. brown red.....				X		
a	inverted ovpt.				X		
-	double ovpt, both inverted				X		
-	double ovpt.						
-	pair, tete-beche ovpts.						
L106	5p.	X		X	X		
a	inverted ovpt.	X		X	X		X
-	ovpt. reads up	X		X			
-	ovpt. reads down	X					
-	pair, one w/o ovpt.	X					
L107	10p.	X	X	X	X		
a	inverted ovpt.	X		X	X		
b	center inverted			X	X		
-	center and ovpt. inverted			X			
-	ovpt. reads up				X		
-	ovpt. reads down				X		
-	center omitted				X		
-	center omitted, ovpt. inverted				X		
-	imperf.				X		
-	imperf, ovpt. inverted					X	
-	imperf, center and ovpt. inverted					X	
-	imperf, center inverted			X	X		
<u>GOLD OVERPRINT ON 1922-24 ISSUE</u>							
L108	1/8p.	X		X	X		
a	inverted ovpt.						
L109	1/2p.	X		X	X		
L110	1p.	X		X	X		X
L111	1 1/2p.	X		X	X		
-	inverted ovpt.				X		
L112	2p.	X		X	X		
L113	3p. olive brown.....	X		X	X		
L114	3p. brown red.....	X		X	X		
L115	5p.	X		X	X		
-	inverted ovpt.						

SCOTT		TYPES					
<u>NO.</u>		<u>IA</u>	<u>IB</u>	<u>II</u>	<u>III</u>	<u>IV</u>	<u>V</u>
<u>BLUE OVERPRINT ON 1924 CALIPHATE ISSUE</u>							
L116	1/8p.	X		X	X		
a	double ovpt, one inverted	X					
b	inverted ovpt.						
-	double ovpt.						
L117	1/2p.	X		X	X		
a	inverted ovpt.				X		
L118	1p.	X		X	X		
-	inverted ovpt.				X		
L119	1 1/2p.	X		X	X		
L120	2p.			X	X		
a	inverted ovpt.	X			X		
L121	3p.	X		X			
a	inverted ovpt.	X					
L122	5p.	X		X	X	X	
a	inverted ovpt.	X					
<u>BLACK OVERPRINT ON 1924 CALIPHATE ISSUE</u>							
L123	1/8p.	X		X	X		
a	inverted ovpt.	X		X		X	
L124	1/2p.				X		
a	inverted ovpt.						
L125	1 1/2p.	X		X			
a	inverted ovpt.	X				X	
-	2p.			X			
L127	3p.	X		X			
a	inverted ovpt.	X		X		X	
L128	5p.	X		X	X		
a	inverted ovpt.	X			X	X	

SCOTT		TYPES					
<u>NO.</u>		<u>IA</u>	<u>IB</u>	<u>II</u>	<u>III</u>	<u>IV</u>	<u>V</u>
<u>RED OVERPRINT ON 1924 CALIPHATE ISSUE</u>							
L128B	½p.						
L129	1p.	X		X	X		
L130	1½p.	X			X		
L131	2p.	X		X		X	
-	3p.						

NOTE;

All stamps personally verified by the authors are indicated by an "X". Other varieties listed by Scott, Mayo, Gibbons and Warin are also included in this check list.

TABLE II
EASILY IDENTIFIED CLICHES - TYPE I OVERPRINT PLATE A

<u>Position</u>	<u>Description of variety</u>	<u>Overprint Line</u>
1	two dots connected to slant line at left	top
3	blotched second "3"	bottom
4	dot above "1"	bottom
6	ink marks to right of "alif" and "laam"	top
8	large triangular dot over "zaa"	middle
10	larger triangular dot in "ain"	bottom
11	dot to lower left of "ain"	bottom
13	dot in "kaaf"	top
14	very small projection top right of first "3"	bottom
15	projection top left of second "3"	bottom
16	dot in "waw"	top
17	dot over "zaa" large and attached to top line	middle
	dot right of "alif"	top
18	projection on top of curve left of "miym"	top
19	top dot at left has only outline visible	top
20	"waw" and second "laam" joined at center	bottom
22	first "alif" and "laam" touching	bottom
25	bottom of "taa marbutah" broken	top
26	dot in second "laam", first "alif" and "laam" touching	bottom
30	projection in bottom curve of second "laam"	bottom
33	first "3" touches top of "4"	bottom
36	comma instead of dot below line	middle
	extra dot left of top of "zaa"	middle

TABLE III
EASILY IDENTIFIED CLICHES - TYPE I OVERPRINT PLATE B

<u>Position</u>	<u>Description of variety</u>	<u>Overprint Line</u>
1	top slant line and dots very weak or missing*	top
3	blob connecting first "3" and "4"	bottom
16	broken "alif"*	top
17	large dash below and to right of "ain"	bottom
24	first "alif" missing except small part at top	middle
26	projection on left side of tail of "taa marbutah"	top
28	break where tail of "waw" touches "miym"	top
31	short round tail on "waw"	bottom

* variety frequent but not constant

NOTE: Above to be used in conjunction with Figure 16. Each position has its own distinguishing features, but most are so small they cannot be clearly described in writing.

ADDENDUM

A STUDY OF THE LARGE JEDDAH THREE-LINE OVERPRINT

Since the preparation of the main body of the report, additional photographic work has been successful in getting clear prints of the Jeddah overprints on the orange and red basic stamps.

Figure 17 shows the genuine Type I, Plate A, Jeddah large three-line overprint on a sheet of the orange 2p. All of the characteristics of the individual cliches listed in Table II can be seen.

Figures 18 and 19 are repeats of Figures 3 and 4 which provide sharper details of the Type I, Plate B overprints.

Figure 20 shows one of the most interesting examples of the forgers art on a sheet of the 1/2 p. red. Both the Caliphate and the inverted Jeddah large three-line overprints are forgeries. There are at least two different Caliphate overprint forgeries known. One has 36 different cliches and is the one shown in Figure 20. The other Caliphate overprint forgery is made up of 12 cliches which are repeated three times to cover the sheet in the same manner as the Jeddah Type III overprint in Figure 20. The Caliphate overprint shown has three positions with the "one" in the date inverted. These are stamp positions 3, 28, and 34.

The scratches and faults in the individual cliches on the Jeddah Type III overprint in Figure 20 clearly show that the overprint is repeated three times to cover the sheet. In Rows 3 and 4 a faint outline of a double overprint can be seen while there is no sign of this in the other rows.

Figure 21 is of interest in that it shows the various stages of wear and damage to the Type III plate. Overprint Position 7 progressively goes from no scratches to one scratch at the bottom of Figure 21 to two scratches in Figure 20.

Figure 22 is the only multiple seen of the Type V overprint.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

To Mr. B. H. Moody for his photographic assistance.

Arabian Philatelic Association
May 1976

Figure 17

Jeddah large three-line overprint
Type 1 Plate A on 2p. sheet



Figure 18

Type I, Plate B overprint on full sheet
of 36 ½p. stamps. All overprints read in the same
direction making those in the last three rows inverted.
Note flaw in lower right of position 17.



Figure 19

Type I, Plate B overprint



Figure 20

Type III overprint (inverted) on sheet of 1/2p. from which stamp 6 has been removed. Sheet also has a forge Caliphate overprint (normal) with all different. The Jeddah three-line consists of two horizontal rows which are repeated three times to cover the sheet. The arrows indicate where scratches repeat in the border stamps. The X indicates where the broken Arabic "5" repeats in the border stamp (Positions 12, 24 and 36).



Figure 21

Type III overprint showing various stages of wear to the plate. The top example with normal and invert on $\frac{1}{2}$ p. (Positions 25-27, 31-33) shows all 12 cliches in good condition except for horizontal scratches in the "alif-laam" top line overprint position 12 (the invert position on stamp 25).

The lower example is a double overprint on $\frac{1}{2}$ p (positions 13-18, 19-24). Overprint position 1, top line dot at left not printing; Pos.2 top line has scratch in slant line; Pos.6 bottom line has broken "5"; Pos.7 top line has vertical scratches at left; Pos.8 bottom line 2nd "laam" is broken; Pos.12 does not yet have broken "5" in bottom line which shows in Figure 20.

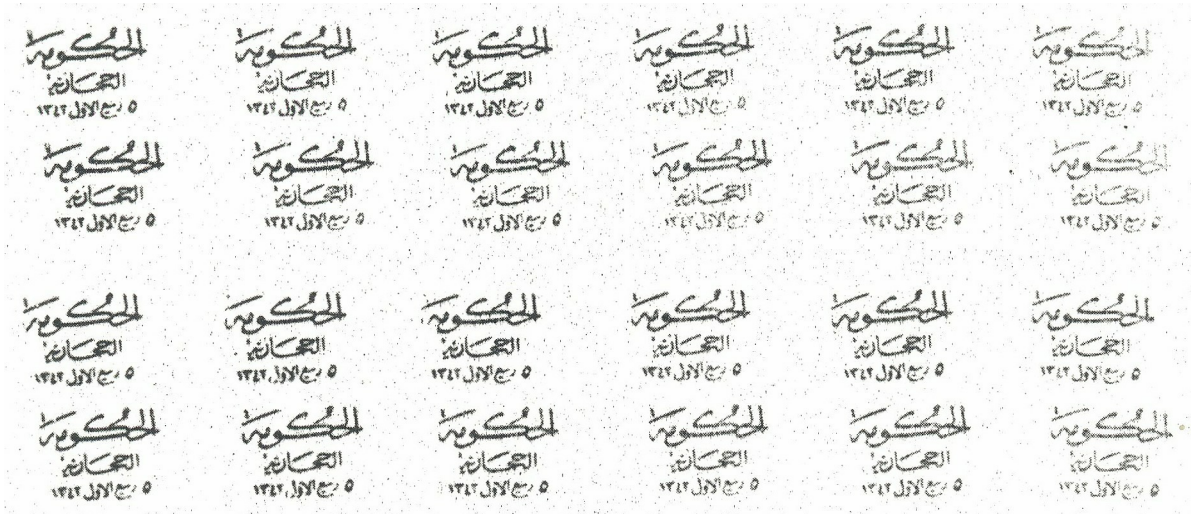
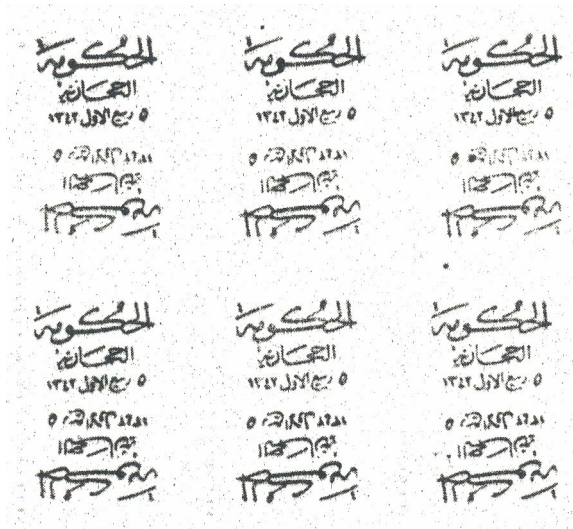


Figure 22

Type V overprint

Invert on $\frac{1}{2}$ p. (Pos.17/18, 23/24)

