



Arabian Philatelic Association International

Random Notes



February 2020

NUMBER 94

CONTENTS

The Arabian Philatelic Association International	2
Random Notes #94	3
King Ali Update - Greg Pos & Martin Lovegrove	17
Cairo DGA Perforations - Martin Lovegrove	20
Bogus Transjordan Issue? - Martin Lovegrove	22
From the Auctions - Martin Lovegrove	25



See [page 7](#)

The Arabian Philatelic Association International

The Arabian Philatelic Association (APA) was established in 1968 in Dhahran, Saudi Arabia by a group of Aramco employees particularly interested in Saudi Arabian philately. The APA had over 300 members and subscribers worldwide during most of its existence. Its journal (*APA Random Notes*), and *Reference Manual of Saudi Arabian Forgeries*, auctions and new issue service contributed to the large increase in the popularity of Saudi Arabian philately in the 1970s and 1980s. However, interest declined in the 1990s. An initial attempt to start up a conventional Saudi stamp society in the USA failed in the late 1990s. Since then, we have realized that an Internet-based society has a better prospect of success and we have founded the Arabian Philatelic Association International. (APAI). The APAI e-mail address arabphilassocin@aol.com is no longer in use, please contact Willie King at willieking@btinternet.com

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

European representative: Willie King

USA representative: David Jessich

USA Distribution Manager: Marwan Nusair

Treasurer: David Jessich

Editor, Random Notes: Martin Lovegrove

Random Notes

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

Scott's (2020) and Stanley Gibbons (2016) 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'udiyyah 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), Thoden 2008

VON UEXKULL, J.- *The Early Postal History of Saudi Arabia* (2001).

RIACHI, G.D. - *The Sultanate of Nejd, A Philatelic Manual* (2015).

Random Notes #94

Assembled by the Editor

It has been some time since I produced a copy of Random Notes, but health issues have caused me to look at my collection in preparation for sale. I quickly concluded that a collection in boxes and packets was not going to get the best results, so I have been mounting as many items as possible. Work is still ongoing, but I feel the need to pass on some of my recent findings.

During the period when the Arabian Philatelic Association was active in Dhahran, several research projects were completed, but mostly relating to Hejaz philately. There is a need for some of the more modern material to be studied in depth. Is anyone actively involved in such a study? Perhaps someone would like to be part of a study team. Let me know your interest.

In this edition, I have included information about Hejaz stamps overprinted for use in Transjordan. I believe that there are quite a few collectors of Hejaz who also collect these overprinted stamps and I hope to be able to produce more articles on the subject.

Now for the notes:

1. I have a few envelopes with printed postage paid impressions with the number 7563. So far I have seen three types, all from the same company in Riyadh. These are illustrated below along with one of the covers. Are there any other examples?



Single colour printing (blue)



Multicolour CMYK



Postage paid cover (65%)

2. The 'illegible' issue of Hejaz has provided us with many varieties including many with genuine overprints or handstamps that are questionable. High on the list of those that may have been created to order are the postage dues with double handstamps.



All of the above stamps have one handstamp in black and one in blackish violet, either at the top of the stamp (½, 1½, 2, 3 brown, 3 brown-red) or just above the first (5 qirsh). The blackish violet handstamps are identical to the black ones apart from the two dots that are part of the Arabic 'qaf'. These two dots have an additional projection and may lead the observer to believing they are forgeries. On the examples I have, the projection is not constant and is either a foreign object that has become partially attached to the device or is part of the handstamp that is becoming detached. The images below show a normal pair of dots and pairs with the projection in various positions.



Normal, no projection



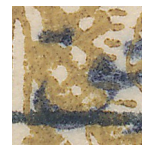
Projection



Projection at centre



Projection right of centre



Projection at right

3. This copy of SG 122b with both overprints being xerography forgeries, was produced with skill. The stamp is genuine from position 24 and the overprints matching positions 24 and 13 as they should be. This was offered at auction by Rasdale and there is no way that the forgery could be detected from a catalogue or internet image.



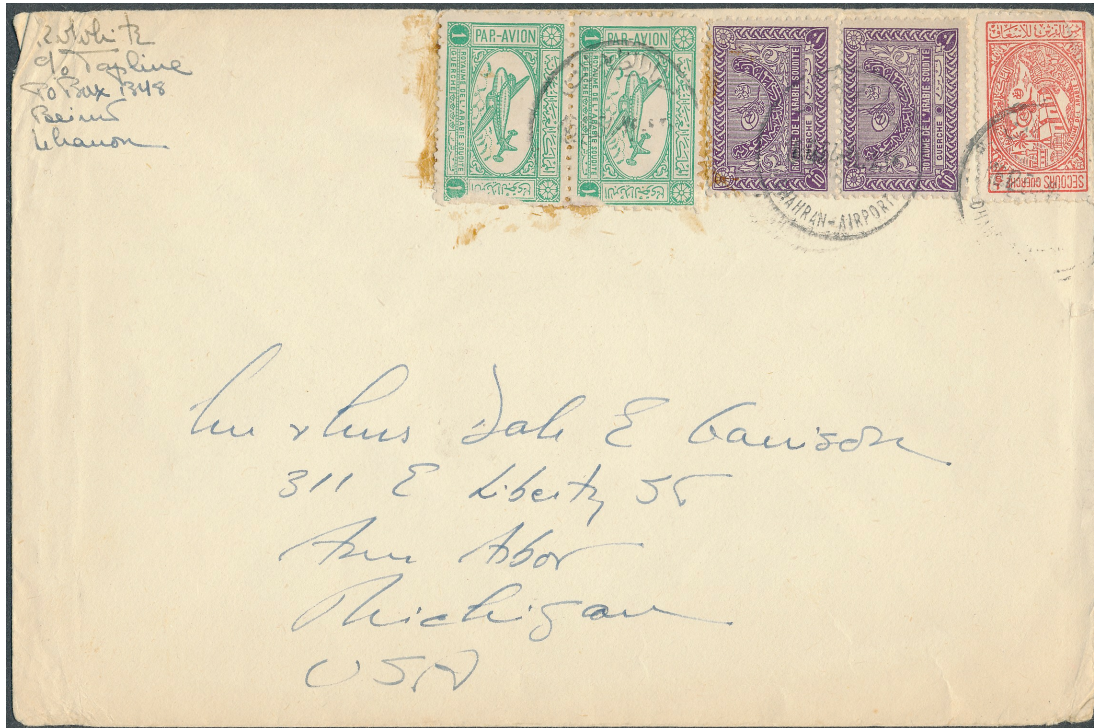
4. This cover, marked with both TRANSCONTINENTAL & WESTERN AIR, INC. and Trans World Airline (no final 's'), reminded me of some notes made by John Wilson in RN 30, Winter 1985. He made some comments about the history of TWA:

Early 1940	There was an airline called Transcontinental and Western Air. This Company evolved from Transcontinental Air Transport (TAT).
Late 1940	Transcontinental and Western Air renamed Trans WorldAirline (TWA) - [note no 's' on the end of 'Airline'].
1946	TWA inaugurated flights to Europe and elsewhere. [JMW - I have first flight covers for TWA to Dhahran from Washington, Philadelphia, New York, and Boston dated July 2, 1946].
1 December 1948	Tom Wood comments: I have a timetable for TWA which gives its full name as Trans World Airline (no 's') and lists a ticket office in Dhahran. The timetable is dated December 1, 1948.
Mid 1950	Tom Wood comments: I have a TWA bridge score pad which shows the name Trans World Airlines (with 's').



Although this cover is postmarked KHOBAR 25 August 1947, it would appear that the envelope dates to the 1940s. The TWA name lasted until 2001.

5. This cover shows that the type S60 postmark is DHAHRAN-AIRPORT and not as in Knight which omits the hyphen. It is not surprising that differences like this occur because the quality of impressions is quite often very poor. Your editor would appreciate information about any other differences noted. The image is reduced to 80% but the office name is clearly visible.



6. The Hejaz postage due set with Caliphate overprint are unlisted by Scott, but see footnote after L48a. Gibbons list the basic set but not the stamps with the missing character in the overprint (positions 14 and 17). I have seen two of the three stamps in this set with the missing character; has anyone seen the 1 qirsh with the missing character? I believe that this is the first time the 1/2 qirsh has been reported.

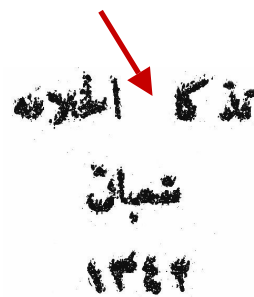
Missing Arabic 'raa' in top line



Position 17



Position 14



(enlarged)





7. I have some background information relating to the 2019 EMS stamp issue. The UPU issued a circular on 10 December 2018:

The EMS Cooperative of the Universal Postal Union will be celebrating its 20th anniversary in 2019.

Founded at the Beijing Congress on 10 September 1999, the EMS Cooperative works with designated postal operators to deliver a high-quality, competitive Express Mail Service (EMS) worldwide. The EMS product is the fastest postal product, combining speed with reliability, affordability and customer focus. EMS Cooperative members have achieved significant results in all of these areas over the past two decades.

To celebrate this milestone, the EMS Cooperative and its members are organizing a range of activities, including the issuance of a joint commemorative stamp in 2019. A special 20th anniversary stamp template has been created by the UPU International Bureau for this occasion.

The International Bureau invites all member countries of the UPU's EMS Cooperative to actively take part in this initiative, which serves to promote EMS.

For further information and visual guidelines, please visit the EMS Cooperative website at www.ems.post/en/20th-anniversary-stamp, or contact the EMS Unit at ems.unit@upu.int.

The Saudi Express Mail Service (Al Barid Al Mumtaz) started on 8 Shawwal 1404 (7 July 1984).

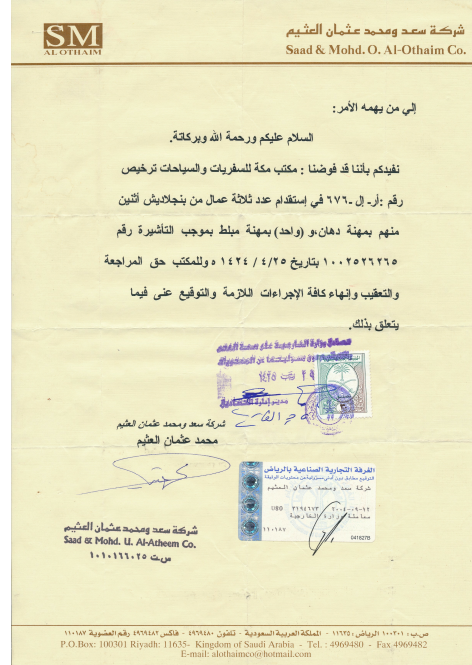
8. In RN90 there appeared an article by David Jessich describing various issues where some of the stamps on the sheet had a wide perforation tooth. Only the 75 halalah value of the framed Kaaba series was mentioned. Since that article was published, I have found two more values, the 100 halalah red and black and the 2 riyal blue and black; all are perforated 12. Are any perforated 13½ x 14, wide tooth left, or other values known?



9. There is a requirement in Saudi Arabia for certain documents to be attested by a Chamber of Commerce. In recent years this has required the addition of a certification fee revenue stamp and a Chamber of Commerce label. At first a small label was used, then a larger one having detail added by computer. Following the change of status of such Chambers, the revenue stamp is no longer used, but a fee is added to the label. Is this now the end of Saudi revenue stamps?



Document with small label and RCE2b



Document with large label and RCE5



Document with large label showing fee charged



Label from Abha Chamber of Commerce showing fee charged

10. Courtesy visas are issued at the discretion of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs but cannot be used for Hajj. The low serial number of this visa, 3509, suggests not many are issued.



11. Below are two examples of a bogus postmark that is new to me. Both are dated 24 MAR 25, but I have seen examples without a date. They seem to appear on genuine stamps or those that are partial forgeries. I have yet to see the bottom half of the mark. Can anyone help?

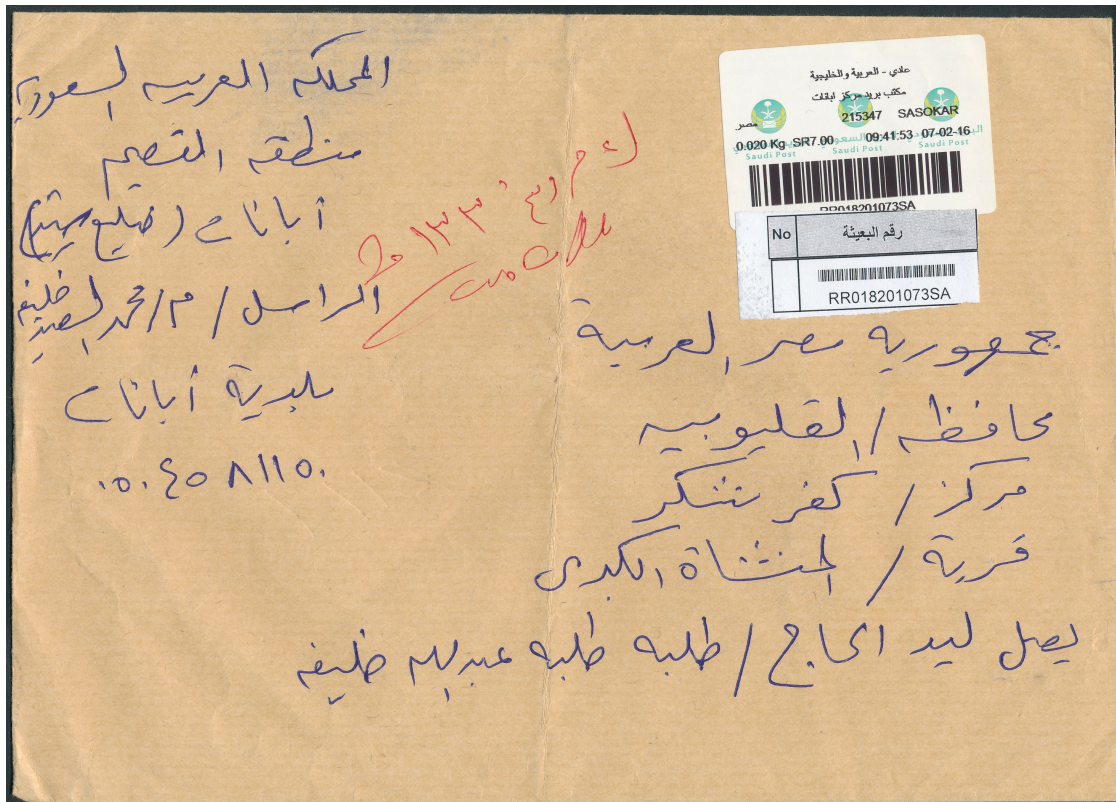


Left: Postage due, forgery type 4.



Right: Genuine stamp and overprint

12. Another variation of the normal barcode registration label currently in use is shown below. The dimensions of the barcode are 46.5 mm x 9 mm instead of 38.5 mm x 10 mm. This label also displays the destination country in Arabic on line 3. Something obviously went wrong with this label because the barcode is unreadable and an additional label was added to enable proper scanning of the item number.



13. Saudi Arabia introduced Value Added Tax (VAT) on 1 January 2018 at a rate of 5%. Unfortunately ARAMCO did not observe the rule that government services were exempt from this tax and they added 5% to postal charges and continued this for over one year. Thanks to David Jessich, I can show a photograph of their postal charges document.

POSTAL RATES (including 5% VAT)

LETTERS

	1-50 g		50-100g		100-250g		250-500g		500-1000g		1000-2000g	
	ORD	REG	ORD	REG	ORD	REG	ORD	REG	ORD	REG	ORD	REG
KSA	2.10	5.25	4.20	7.35	8.40	11.55	15.75	18.90	26.25	29.40	36.75	39.90
ARAB & GCC	3.15	7.35	6.30	10.50	14.70	18.90	27.30	31.50	47.25	51.45	73.50	77.70
NON ARAB	4.20	9.45	7.35	12.60	16.80	22.05	31.50	36.75	57.75	63.00	105.00	110.25

SMALL PARCELS

	1-100g		100-250g		250-500g		500-1000g		1000-2000g	
	ORD	REG	ORD	REG	ORD	REG	ORD	REG	ORD	REG
KSA	3.15	6.30	4.20	7.35	7.35	10.50	12.60	15.75	26.25	29.40
ARAB & GCC	4.20	8.40	6.30	12.60	12.60	16.80	23.10	27.30	42.00	46.20
NON ARAB	5.25	10.50	9.45	14.70	16.80	22.05	31.50	36.75	57.75	63.00

REGISTERED	
KSA	3.15
ARAB & GCC	4.20
NON ARAB	5.25

POSTCARD	
KSA	1.05
ARAB & GCC	2.10
NON ARAB	3.15

May-18

Saudi Aramco: Company General Use

14. Imperforate copies of commemorative stamps have been appearing on eBay recently and as an example two pairs of the 1990 25th Anniversary of Saudi Television stamps (Sc 1128, 1129, SG 1674 and 1675) are shown below. As a claim to fame (!) your editor was in the audience of one of the first television programs broadcast from the old studios in Riyadh. I believe one of the vendors of these stamps may have had a contact in the Ministry of Finance and has a significant holding of stamps not usually released for public sale. Whenever there is a downturn in the Saudi economy, expect more interesting items to come on the market.



An article 'Evolution of K.S.A. Postage Stamps' by Yusuf Aidroos appeared in RN 47 and gives us an insight into the origin of imperforate sheets:

After the quality control and proof reading, only two proofs, usually imperforate sheets, are generated for the approval of the stamp review committee of the postal authority.

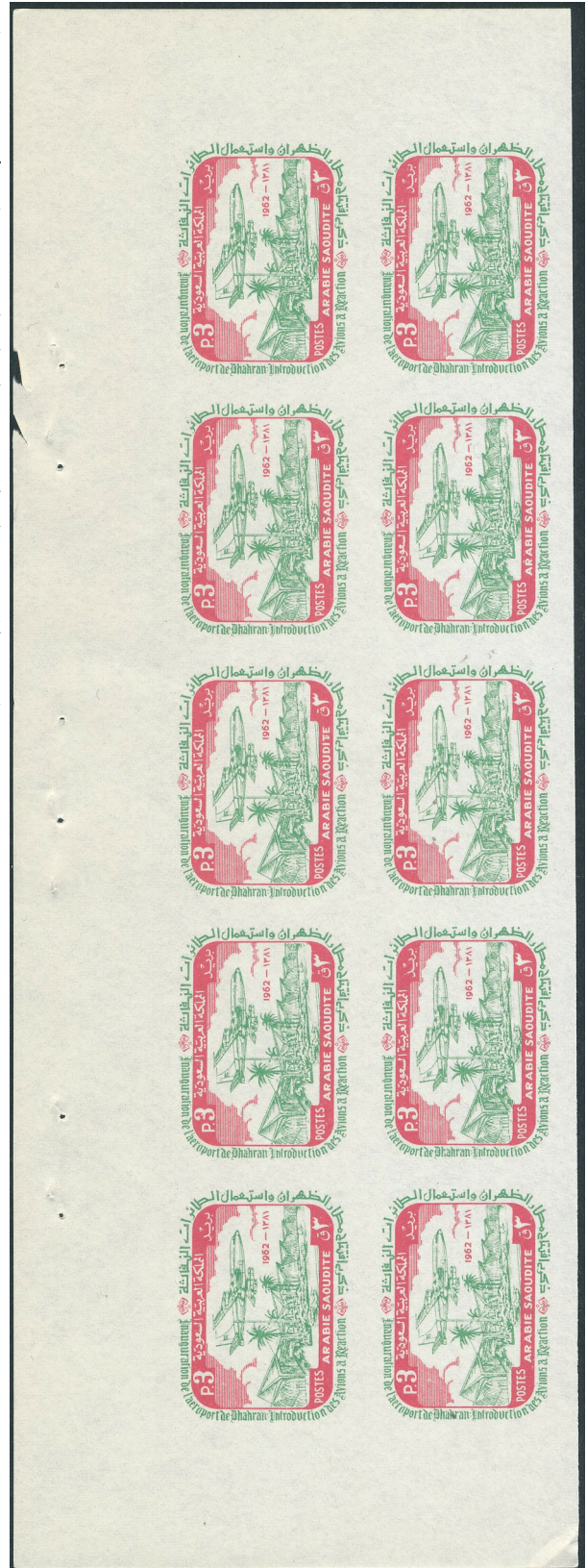
15. Some details of the 1949 air series have been discussed in RNs 64, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73 and 75. Two basic types have been identified, probably coming from different plates. The first type covers the stamps found genuinely used and the second covers the stamps found with favour cancels. Unfortunately both types are found in mint condition and often the only way to separate them is by plating, and that is often not easy. From what I have found in my collection, the 100 qirsh stamps are easy to separate. Under ultra-violet light, the ones found postally used have ink that fluoresces pink whereas the ink of the other type shows no reaction.



16. This 1950 cover to the BBC Arabic section in London has quite a lot to offer. The front has an extremely clear DAMMAM registration cachet, the best I have seen. On the reverse are nine postage stamps, the highest denomination of which is just one qirsh. That demonstrates very nicely the custom of post offices maintaining good stocks of low denomination stamps and perhaps not even bothering to stock anything much higher. In the period 1964 - 66, the main post office in Riyadh, rarely had anything higher than 5 qirsh in the counter stock. Perhaps there were other stamps in the back offices, but I never saw them. The stamps were cancelled with a type S48 in black, but it was a DAMMAM 38 and not 28 as in the Knight articles. Although not very clear, the clear 38 on black background can be seen in the image at right. The Gregorian date is clearly 35-2-40, obviously incorrect for several reasons, but the Hijra date converts to 27 February 1950, tying in nicely with the BAHRAIN transit of 28 February 1950.



17. The printing house Dar Al Asfahani in Jeddah produced several postage stamps for the Kingdom and essays and proofs have appeared on the market. The illustrated block of ten is one of six colour combinations of the unissued 3p Dhahran Airport; the design also differs from the issued stamps. Mayo lists only one stamp of these essays or proofs, 995W emerald and blue. The other colours are lake and dull orange, magenta and light blue, red and slate-violet, slate-violet and orange-brown, and yellow-green and rose-red. All are on ungummed paper without watermark. In the margin of the illustrated block can be seen staple holes, evidence of the sheets having been stapled in booklets for distribution. Whether the booklet contained the complete set of colours, the number of sheets, and the final destination of the sheets is not known to your editor. If anyone knows the answers, perhaps they could share them with us.



18. Not reported before in RN is the 10 qirsh air printed on paper that is approximately 50% thicker than normal. The postmark is dated 9 January 1960. I am not aware of any other values printed on this thick paper.



19. Copies of the Hejaz and Nejd large format essays, printed in various colours on pink or white paper, seem to be plentiful, although to me many are forgeries. It has been suggested that they have been printed from the original plates but at a much later date. Well, I still don't like them, but I can add some more information about the paper. Some of my copies show part of a watermark and I reproduce below my best example. There are two words in the watermark; the top one is ELECTRIC and the lower one starts ARC. There is a paper manufacturer called Arches, but it may not be them. Can anyone help?



Example of the late printing or perhaps forgery



Watermark to be identified



20. Some issues made in 2015 in sheetlets of four stamps have different backgrounds for each stamp. This appears to have escaped the notice of the Scott catalogue and the Saudi Post office in Dammam. The Scott numbers involved are 1440, 1441 and 1442 for stamps similar to the sheet shown below and 1445 and 1446 for stamps with the background shown at right.



Scott did note the differing background on the 2015 Arabian Gulf Cup Soccer Tournament, Riyadh, but only as a footnote to Sc 1443. They did not mention that one stamp, position 3, had the Saudi logo missing, and that was the one they used to illustrate the set. This error occurs on all stamps in that position of the block, wherever it occurred on the printed sheet. I think it would be useful to know the format of all printed sheets from the Riyadh press, but I fear that will never happen.



21. The description of postmark type SA95 listed in Ken Knight's article in RN48 included the comment that the meaning of the Arabic at the top of the mark was not known. I have not seen an explanation for it, but can I offer a suggestion?

I have several of these marks on covers and they all come from small villages. Could it be that it is an abbreviation for , the words used to describe acting or workers post offices where a small business acts as an agent for Saudi Post?



Perhaps someone could prepare an article on postmarks used by such offices. There is a very wide range of designs; a few examples of different styles are shown below.



Al Bahari



Nira



Al Malga



Brahrh




Al Muwaylih



Shawas



Al Hulaylah

Continued on page 24 

King Ali Update

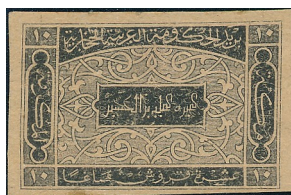
By: *Greg Pos & Martin Lovegrove*

As ever with this issue, more new information comes to light and new or better images become available. This short article updates RN 63, 64 and 87 and contains both new information and images which should help identify and plate overprints of both Jeddah I and Jeddah II printings.



Left: Not included in the list on page 6 of RN63 is this 1½ qirsh with Jeddah I, medium spacing, year at right.

Right: Reportedly from the Survey of Egypt archives is this essay of the 10 qirsh postage in black, imperforate on buff paper. It differs from the final design in that it combines the frame and centre on one plate.



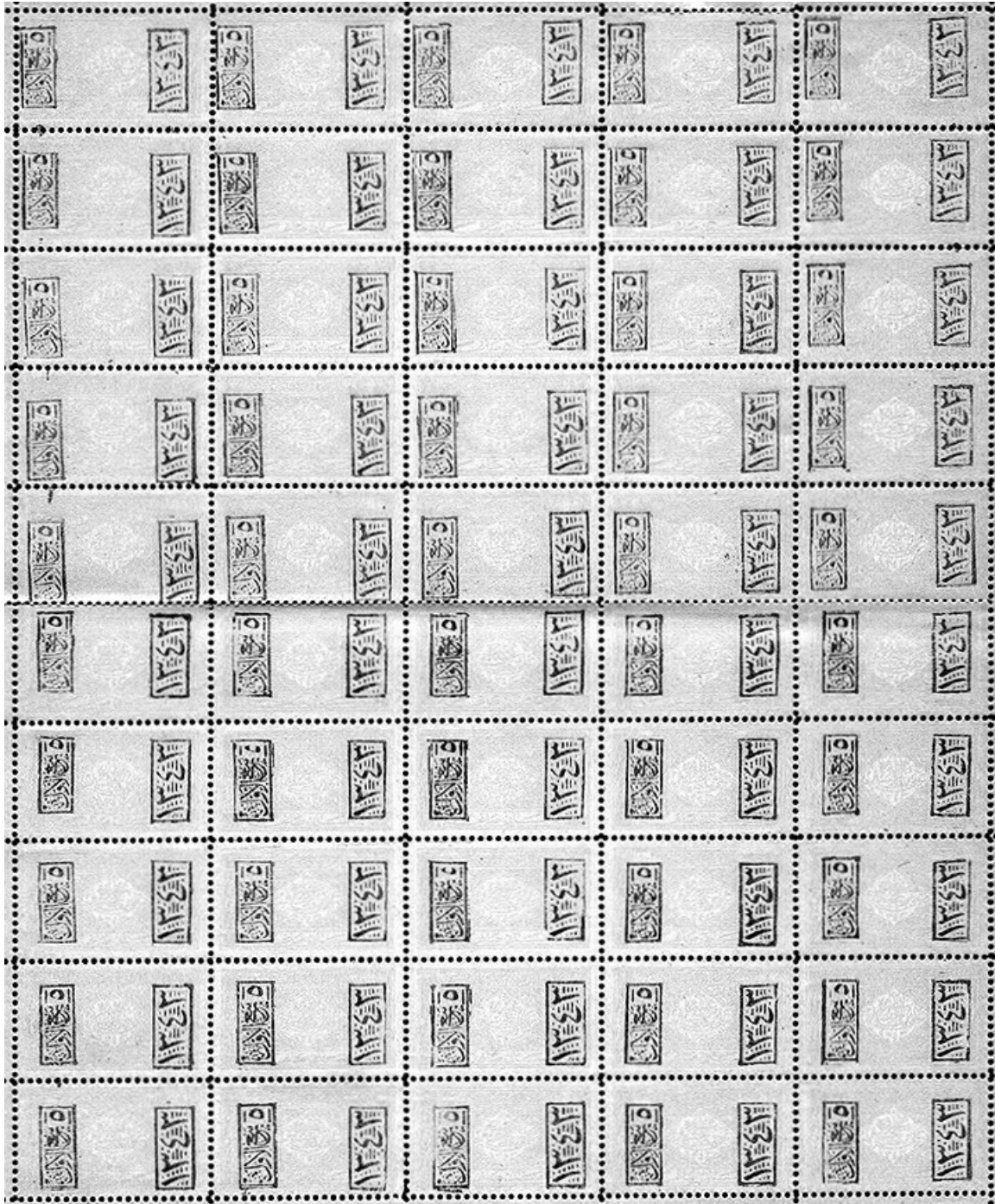
Right: Vertical strip of Jeddah I in red, year at right, with top five rows having the wide spacing of tablets and the lower three rows having the medium spacing. This mix of settings is also known on the 2 qirsh blue, also year at right.



Left: Mayo does not distinguish between the two Jeddah overprints; this pair with imperforate between, Mayo 331h, shows that this item has Jeddah I controls, medium spacing.

On the next page is a monochrome image of a sheet having a mix of wide and medium spacing; that image is from a sheet of 2 qirsh stamps. That is followed by a sheet of Jeddah II.

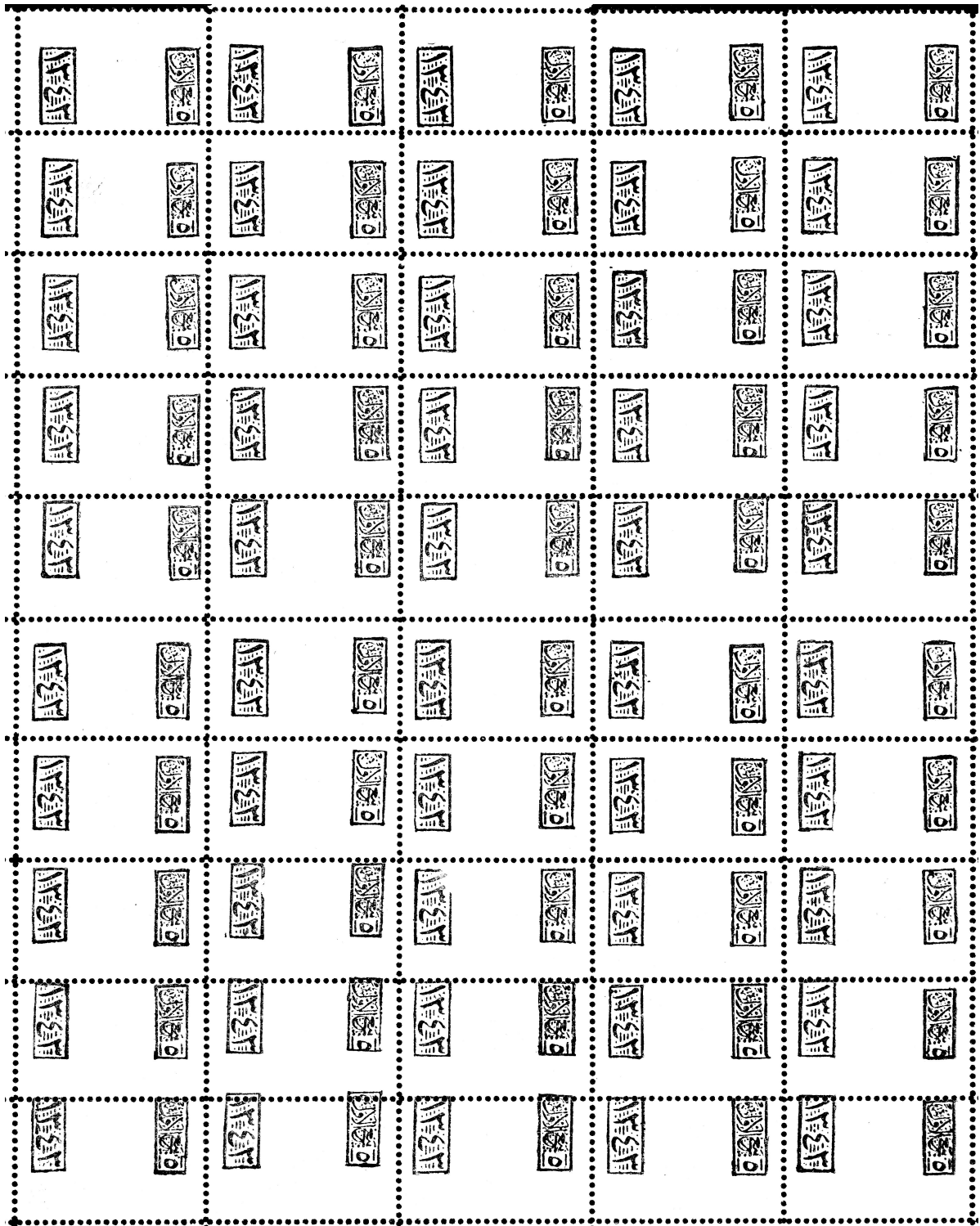




Jeddah I sheet with top five rows having the wide spacing and the bottom five medium spacing,
on 2 qirsh blue

(Reduced 80%)



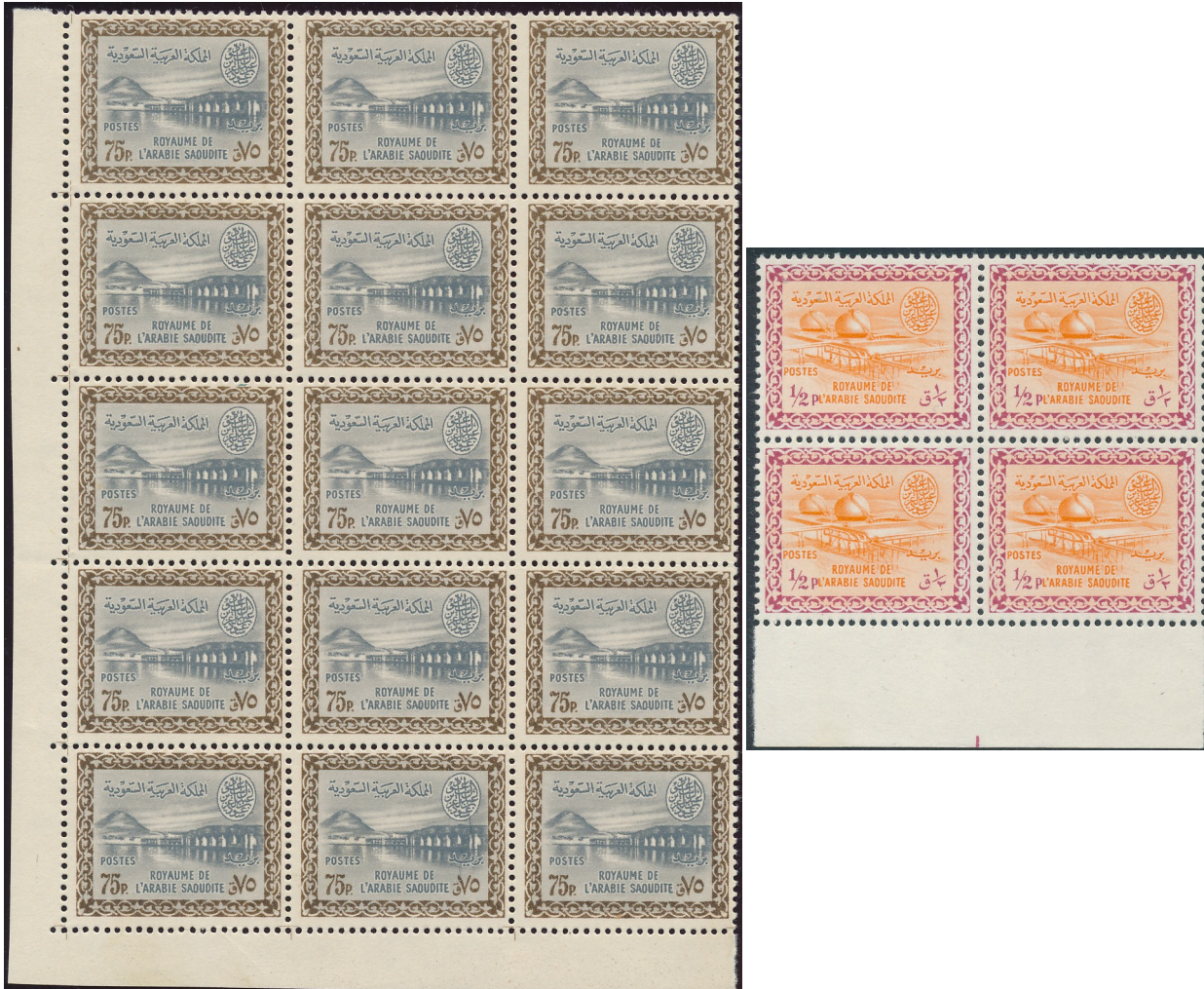


Jeddah II sheet on 1½ qirsh orange
(Reduced 80%)

Cairo DGA Perforations

By: *Martin Lovegrove*

Occasionally I revisit some of my Kingdom issues looking for interesting varieties and this block of the 75 qirsh Cairo dam issue caught my eye. Just like the Dar Al Asfahani definitives, this block has a wide perforation tooth at top, but this block has it on every row. For comparison a block of four of the 1/2 qirsh value without a wide tooth is shown.



As far as measurement is concerned, the difference is small and I do not trust perforation gauges to be very accurate. I show the results obtained by two of my gauges:

Stamp	SG Instanta	SAFE Albums
Wide tooth at top	13.9 x 13.9	14.0 x 14.0
Normal'	13.9 x 13.75	14.0 x 13.8

Perhaps we should ignore the absolute values and use the rule that if the horizontal perforation gauge equals the vertical than we have a 'wide tooth' variety. This is actually a better check than a visual one and is because the perforation comb sometimes does not increment by a constant distance, leading to a 'wide tooth' perforation measurement not showing a wide tooth or a 'normal' perforation actually showing a wide tooth. The following illustration shows this quite well.





The pair of stamps above has the 'wide tooth' perforation gauge but the stamp at left shows normal perforations. Checking the measurement shows the stamp at left has a distance between row perforation hole centres of 24.5 mm whereas the stamp at right has 25.1 mm.

The pair below is a good example of height difference for the same perforation spacing.



Just to make it harder, there are two other perforation problems I have encountered. Perforation pins can become bent in use causing irregular spacing when working in fractions of a millimetre and spacing of the pins may not be perfect when manufactured.

I have found that after the initial measurement using a perforation gauge, I compare the stamp with my 'standard' stamps; I have an image of one of each type that I use. As can be seen from the image below, the difference in perforations is about the radius of one hole.



In conclusion, we can see that at least two perforation combs were used for the Cairo DGA stamps and although not illustrated here, applies to both the original series and the later one on watermarked paper. At the time of writing, I have not found all values with both perforations; there is a lot of searching for the specialist to do!



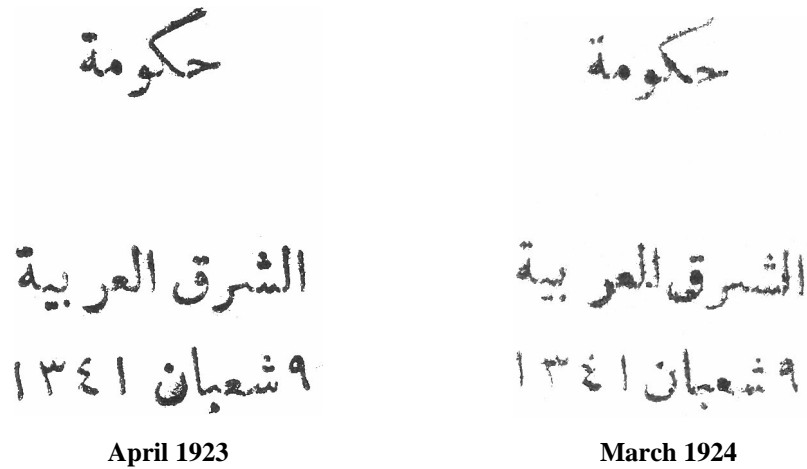
Bogus Transjordan Issue?

By: *Martin Lovegrove*

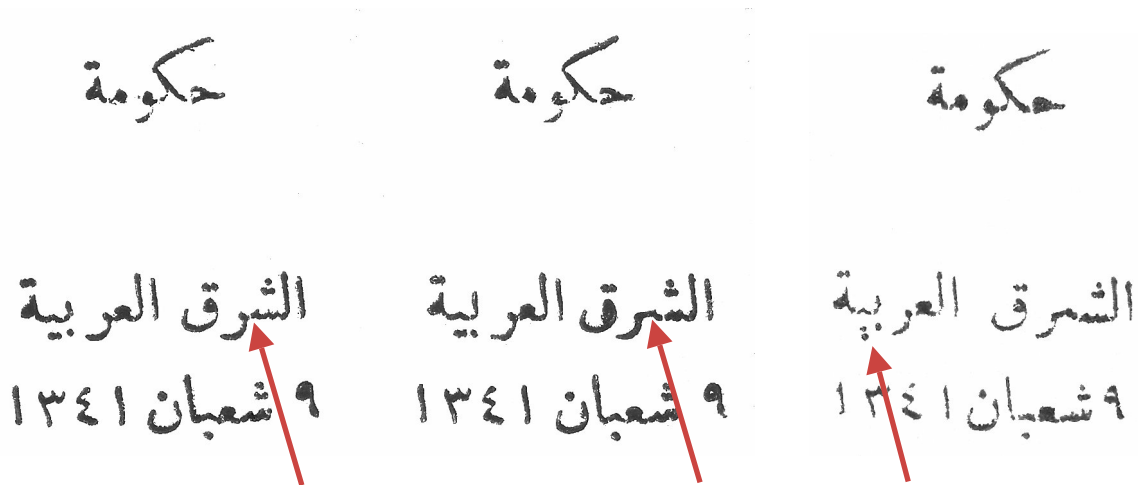
In his book *The Stamps of Jordan 1920 - 1965*, Abed Najjar includes a chapter '1923 - 1924 (?) Overprints on the stamps of the Hejaz'. The overprint in question is in three lines and is similar to the April 1923 and March 1924 issues. In the text he suggests that this issue may be totally bogus and I am sure that many students of Hejaz philately will recognize that several of the illustrations depict forged Hejaz stamps.

This article examines these bogus overprints.

First of all, let us look at the genuine April 1923 and March 1924 overprints, SG types 10 and 16a.



As can be seen, these overprints are similar, but the trained eye can readily distinguish between them. Perhaps a detailed article will appear in a future *Random Notes*. Both plates were constructed using individual pieces of type and variations between clichés does occur, some minor others quite significant.



Pair (positions 17 and 18) from April 1923 issue showing the long "sh" and short "r" at left and the short "sh" and long "r" at right. The first variation only occurs on the April 1923 issue.

Example from March 1924 issue showing vertical dots under Arabic "yeh". This only occurs on the March 1924 issue.



The Hejaz stamps involved in this issue are the 1, 3 red-brown, and ½, 1½, 2, 3 brown and 5 qirsh, the first three being 'reprint' forgeries and the rest are genuine stamps; not all have been seen by the author. From plating several examples I have determined that the 'reprint' forgeries were overprinted using a plate containing twelve clichés and the genuine stamps used a plate of eighteen. The genuine stamp sheets were folded between rows three and four prior to overprinting resulting in an inverted albino overprint sometimes being visible on the gummed side.






1 qirsh 'reprint' forgery



½ qirsh genuine stamp



Left: As with many forgeries, inverted overprints are going to appear

Recognizing the 'reprint' forgery overprint is easy; if the stamp is a 'reprint' then you have a forgery. The overprint on genuine stamps is not too difficult. Positions 7 and 8 of the plate had flaws; position 7 has  instead of  in line 2 and position 8 has a broken alef in the bottom line. In all positions, the top of the  is a lot broader than the genuine and its vertical stem is wider and sometimes tapered.

الشرق العربية الشرق العربية
 ٩ شعبان ١٣٤١ ٩ شعبان ١٣٤١

Position 7

Position 8 broken alef

April 1923 ٣
 March 1924 ٣
 Forgery ٣

Comparison of Arabic number 3

There is some history attached to this bogus issue. The author of a series of books entitled 'Philatelic History of Jordan', K. C. R. Souhan, wrote a letter to 391 Strand, London, presumably Stanley Gibbons, on 20 May 1974 from Kuwait, the contents of which appeared in one of the books, '55th Anniversary'. The relevant part of this letter follows:

I have the pleasure to submit the following offer of some various rare material of Jordan stamps to your most esteemed Firm; hoping that it will be of interest and satisfaction. This lot of which I enclose a photocopy I could obtain after tedious efforts I had to exert especially the blocks of six and four and which I could not list in my catalogue 'Philatelic History of Jordan 1920 - 1970 Golden Jubilee' and that because I could obtain some items recently only.

The stamps are genuine and I hold full responsibility as to their genuineness; more over; they are mint and in very good condition as seen from the photocopy.

Included in the book are the illustrations sent to 391 Strand; it is obvious that they are all the 'reprint' forgeries and one stamp even has the missing perforation pin found on sheets of those forgeries.

If this is how some stamps and varieties got into catalogues, we have to treat such listings with care; there are listed items I do not believe exist. Perhaps that will be the subject of another article.

RN



Continued from [page 16](#)

22. Sets of the 1970 - 1972 officials have been appearing for sale from various sources in Riyadh. There would appear to be no shortage of these and at the time of writing a set containing one of each value MNH can be obtained for \$200 or in blocks of four for about \$950. The catalogue prices of these stamps require a considerable reduction. Several different watermark directions seem to have been offered, so more than one sheet of each is involved. As I write this, a set in blocks of twenty has appeared on eBay with an initial asking price of \$6000. At \$300 per set, that is still well below catalogue, but will the catalogues revise their prices? A MNH set has just sold on eBay for \$130!



RN

From the Auctions

Compiled by: Martin Lovegrove

There has been quite a lot of activity since my last report; here is a selection of items.

ClassicPhil GmbH, Hardtgasse 25/14, 1190 Vienna, Austria

Auction #3 held in October 2019 had four interesting Hejaz-Nejd 'proofs'. I will give you the descriptions and illustrate one of them.

Lot 10371 1926, 1/2 p., Kingdom of Hejaz-Nejd, carmine proof of Scott 69 and J16 (Postage Due) in vertical alignment on light ochre paper (72x100 mm), final colour of J16 (!), NG, VF. Estimate 2.000€

Lot 10372 1926, 1/2 p., Kingdom of Hejaz-Nejd, dark brown proof of Scott 69 and J16 (Postage Due) in vertical alignment on light ochre paper (72x100 mm), NG, VF. Estimate 2.000€

Lot 10373 1926, 1/2 p., Kingdom of Hejaz-Nejd, deep blue proof of Scott 69 and J16 (Postage Due) in vertical alignment on light ochre paper (71x100 mm), original pencil marks, NG, VF. Estimate 2.000€

Lot 10374 1926, 1/2 p., Kingdom of Hejaz-Nejd, blue green proof of Scott 69 and J16 (Postage Due) in vertical alignment on light ochre paper (72x100 mm), NG, VF. Estimate 2.000€

Lot 10371

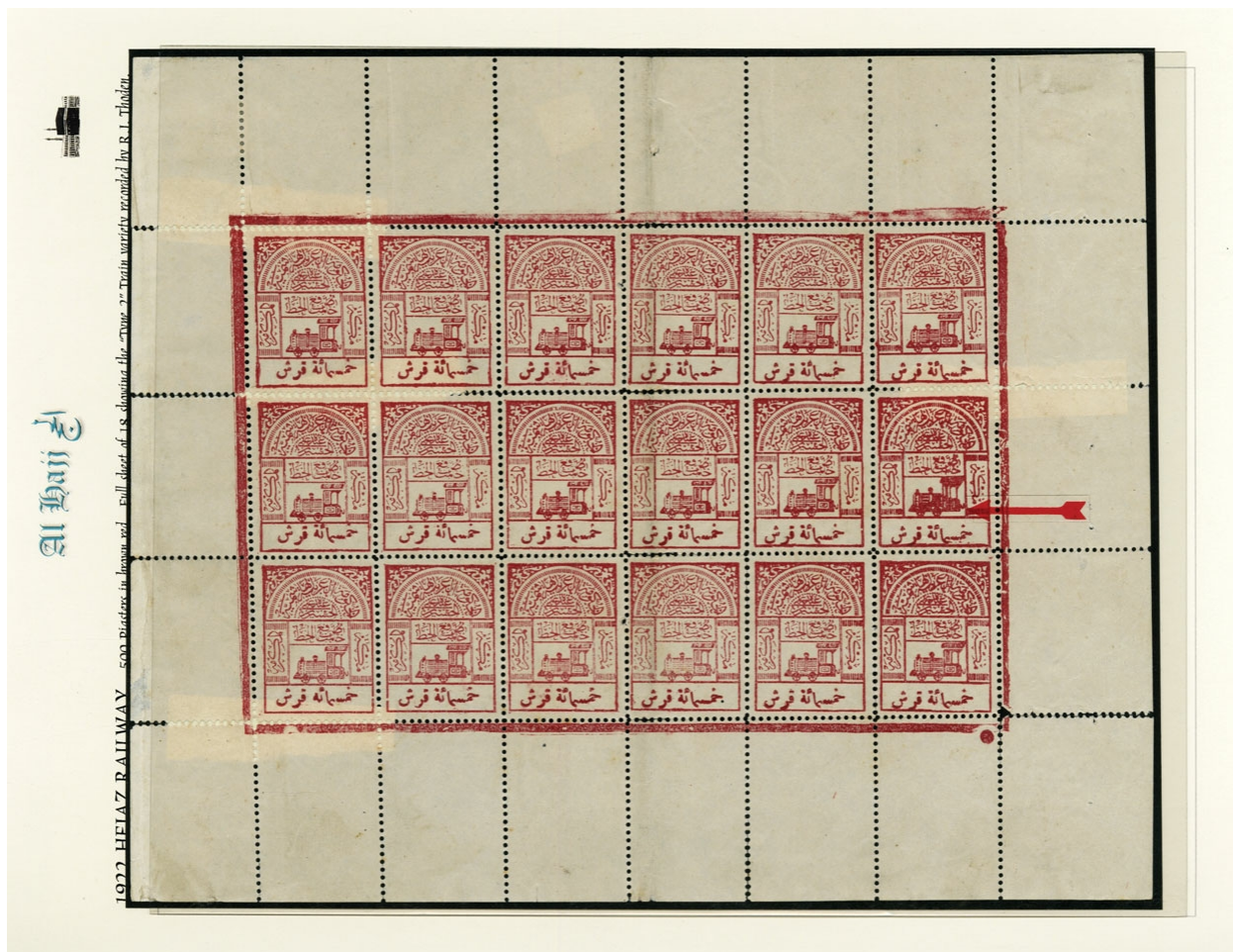


These lots did not sell and in auction #4 the estimate was removed and a suggested minimum bid of €190 was added. That did not tempt anyone.

Cherrystone Auctions, Inc.
119 West 57th Street, Suite 316
New York, NY 10019

Their September 2019 auction had some good Hejaz Railway material, but illustrated here is a useful reference piece for revenue collectors. It sold at estimate.

Lot 1280 1925 Hejaz Railway Revenue stamps, 500pi brown red, complete sheet of 18 with intact margins on all sides, showing a Type II train variety (recorded by R.J. Thoden), some perf. separations paper reinforced on back, rare sheet on Al Hajj album page. Est \$1000.



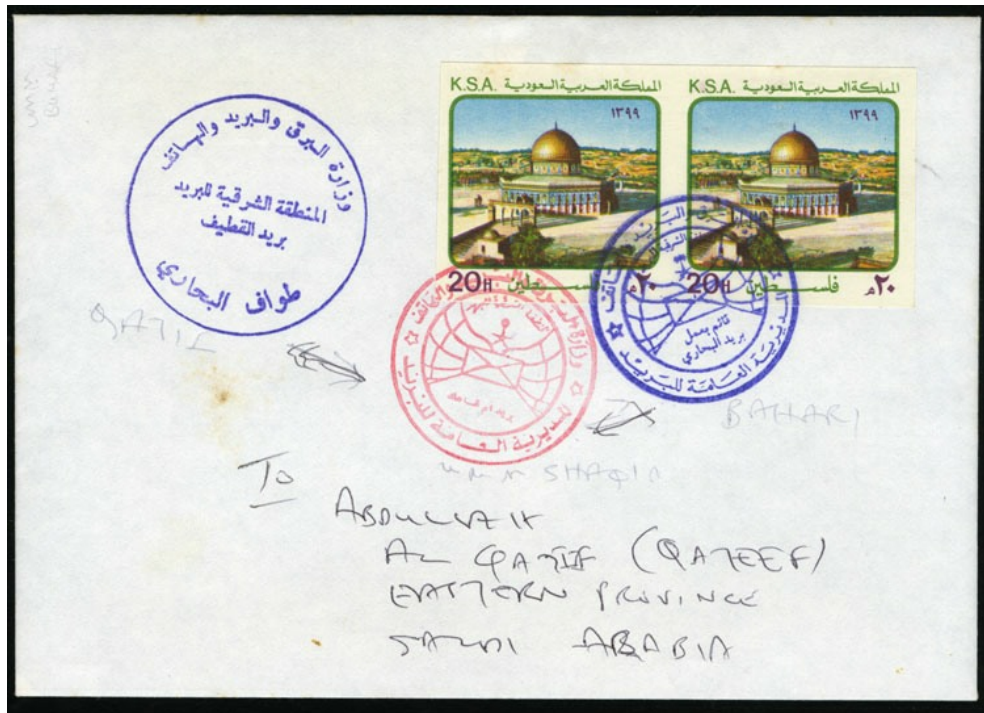
Although reduced here to 50% it is available full size from:

http://www.tcincinnati.com/cherrystone_1280.jpg

The Cherrystone November 2019 auction contained several covers with imperforate stamps, both definitive and commemorative, and some with miniature sheets. All are almost certainly philatelic and many probably did not pass through the postal system; covers addressed to Abdullah, Al Qatif would be a challenge for any postal system.



Lot 772. 1979 Dome of the Rock, imperforate horizontal pair used on cover from Bahari to Qateef, minor toned spots, still v.f., with arrival pmk. Hammer \$425.



Lot 772. Postmarks for Bahari workers post office, Bahari circuit post and Umm Al Sahik. (reduced)

Lot 780. 1981-83 five different souvenir sheets, used on individual covers, various pmks, usual overall toning, otherwise v.f. Hammer \$240.



Part of lot 780. Two strikes of Al Jish circuit post. (reduced)

David Feldman SA
PO Box
Petit-Lancy 1
1213 Geneva
Switzerland

The Feldman June 2019 auction (The von Uexkull Family Collection) had a lot of Saudi interest, but there was one item that provided useful information.

Lot 30156. 1950 Hospital Tax stamp 1/8g. pinkish carmine with clear double printing, rouletted and imperforate, on commercial airmail cover from Mecca (30.9) to Bombay (30.9), where the recipient could not be found and sent to the Dead Letter Office (9.10 and 11.10), this is the only recorded example of this error on cover Litho medical aid with double impression on cover. Estimate: 200 – 300 EUR. Hammer EUR 600.



The postmark is for MECQUE 30 September 1954. My copy of this stamp, not on cover, has a postmark for DJEDDAH 23 March 1954. So we can almost be certain that this error was issued in at least Jeddah and Makkah, but how many sheets were there? The answer may be just one printed sheet, but the printed sheets are cut into several post office sheets.

Free Adlets

Random Notes will publish as many free adlets in each issue as will fit on one page. Adlets will run for one issue only but can be renewed by sending a request by email to the editor. There is a maximum of five lines per adlet. The adlet must be relevant to Saudi Arabian philately and the editor's decision is final as to whether an adlet is suitable.

If the adlets can fill a full page, they will appear as the last page in the journal, but partial pages may be used as fillers as required.

New

One Man's Collection - Part 1 - Saudi Arabia: Modern Technology (1970 - 2018)

This part contains Postage Meter Stamps and labels used by the Saudi Arabian postal system that display barcodes. It covers normal registration, EMS (*al barid al mumtaz*) and general purpose postal labels. 142 pages. GBP 15 (USD 20) plus post and packing at cost.

eMail Martin Lovegrove weatherings@aol.com for further details.

Part 2 dealing with items relating to the Hejaz Railway is nearing completion.

Bound copies of Kenneth Knight's series 'The Postal Markings of Hejaz, Nejd, Hejaz and Nejd, and Saudi Arabia' are available for GBP 10 (USD 13) plus post and packing at cost .

eMail Martin Lovegrove weatherings@aol.com for further details.

Acknowledgements and Contacts

The following organizations have granted permission for images from their catalogues/websites to be reproduced in this journal:

Cherrystone Auctions Inc.	http://www.cherrystoneauctions.com
Corinphila Auktionen AG	http://www.corinphila.ch/en/ The Saudi expert is Gregory Todd who can be contacted at todd@corinphila.ch
Daniel F. Kelleher Auctions	http://www.kelleherauctions.com Auction house operating from Danbury, CT, USA. Very good catalogues.
Schuyler Rumsey Philatelic Auctions	http://www.rumseyauctions.com

Useful links

http://mela.us/hegira.html	Date conversion sites
http://www.islamicfinder.org/dateConversion.php	
http://www.filatelia.fi/experts/	Experts
http://www.wnsstamps.post	WADP Numbering System - WNS.