



Arabian Philatelic Association International

Random Notes



July 2021

NUMBER 96

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The Arabian Philatelic Association International

The Arabian Philatelic Association (APA) was established in 1968 in Dhahran, Saudi Arabia by a group of Aramco employees particularly interested in Saudi Arabian philately. The APA had over 300 members and subscribers worldwide during most of its existence. Its journal (*APA Random Notes*), and *Reference Manual of Saudi Arabian Forgeries*, auctions and new issue service contributed to the large increase in the popularity of Saudi Arabian philately in the 1970s and 1980s. However, interest declined in the 1990s. An initial attempt to start up a conventional Saudi stamp society in the USA failed in the late 1990s. Since then, we have realized that an Internet-based society has a better prospect of success and we have founded the Arabian Philatelic Association International. (APAI). The APAI e-mail address arabphilassocin@aol.com 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 whenever 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 (2021) 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).

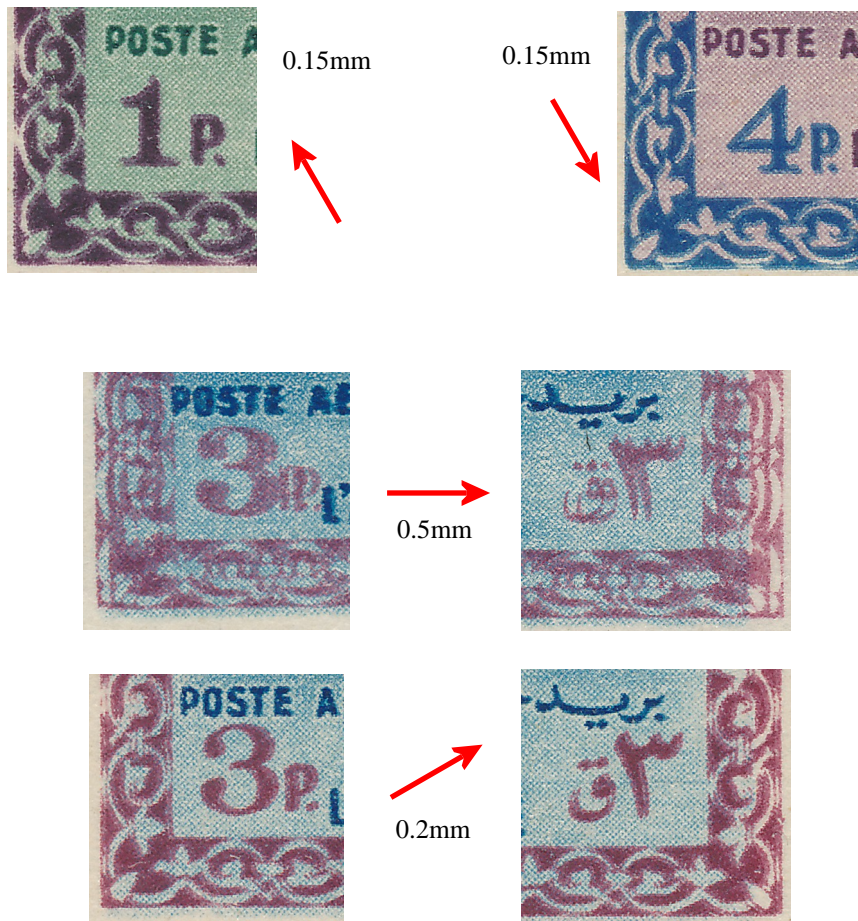
Random Notes #96

Assembled by the Editor

The Covid-19 pandemic has caused many societies to hold virtual meetings using such products as Google Meet and Zoom. The APAI has held two such meetings and although some problems have been encountered, the meetings seem to have the approval of the participants. If any member would like to join the meetings, please let the editor know; the email address is on the previous page.

Now for the notes:

1. The 3 qirsh Convair 340 stamp, imperforate, of the 1961 Cairo printing is known with a double printing of the frame and it may be that it occurs on all copies of this value from imperforate sheets. The double frame was not caused by the sheet being printed twice but accidentally touching the plate after the first print had been completed. This is not uncommon with litho printing and can be found on several of the later Riyadh printed stamps. In the Cairo Convair imperforates I have also seen it on the 1 and 4 qirsh stamps, although it is not as obvious as on the 3 qirsh. Note that it was only the frame on this issue that was printed in lithography.



In the diagrams above, the arrows and measurements indicate the movement of the second, weaker, print in relation to the main impression.



2. The Cairo DGA perforation varieties mentioned in RN94 have, I think, been mentioned in earlier notes.

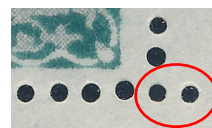
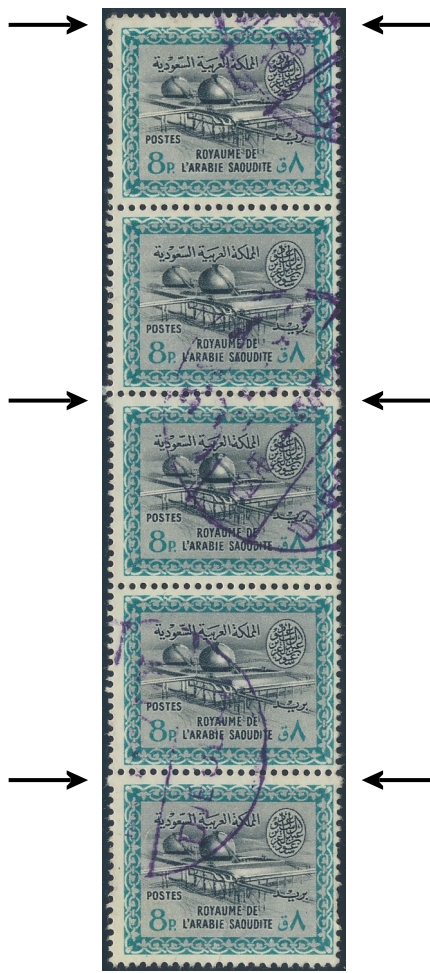
RN3 page 4: We have found the 9p GOSP and 20p GOSP, Cairo printings, in a comb perforation differing slightly from the regular perforation and showing a wide tooth. Can anybody comment?

RN5 pages 2,3: Further, two different perforating methods appear to have been used. The first was a comb perforator that did one horizontal row of stamps at a time; the top tooth in the vertical rows is very slightly wider than the rest (most easily seen in joined copies). This is the more common method of the two. The second involves a comb that did two horizontal rows at a time; the top tooth is quite wide and appears in every other row. So far, Scott 233, 234, 235 and 237 are reported

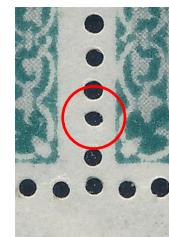
Note that the Scott numbers are the old ones; the current numbers are 236, 237, 238 and 240. (GOSP 9p, 10p, 20p and 75p).

These statements appear to have received no further attention - until now. RN3 dates from about 1972, RN5 dates from 1974 and RN94 from 2020; that is quite a long time for a question posed in RN3 to remain dormant. If anyone has some large blocks of any of the Cairo printings, the editor would appreciate scans of them. It would be useful if we could document the perforation process.

The strip illustrated above, perforated 14 x 13.8, clearly shows the wide perforation tooth repeating every two rows. The block below, perforated 14 x 14, shows perforation hole features repeating on every row. Feature 'A' is two small diameter holes at the end of a row and feature 'B' is an oval-shaped hole.



Feature 'A'



Feature 'B'



I had just about completed this short note when I found examples of a single line comb version of the two-line shown above; it has a gauge of 14 x 13.8. In this version of the comb there is an offset pin hole repeated on every row on the left side of column ten.



Offset perf hole

These are my observations and my conclusions may be incorrect; should that be the case, perhaps someone would let me know and I will publish a correction next time. Keep looking, there may be more out there!

A summary of the combs is:

Approximate Perforation Gauges

Single row comb	14 x 13.8 14 x 14
Double row comb	14 x 13.8

- Every now and then I find a postmark type that is new to me. The machine cancellation shown below is similar to type SM5 but the text is vertical and the wavy lines are shaped to fit the circular date part. Unfortunately the date is incomplete but it looks as though it dates from the late 1950s or early 1960s. The office is MECQUE and the date shown as - -1 ??- - . Its usage here is as a receiver on a letter from India. Has anyone got a complete scan of this mark and information about its usage?



Type SM5 (reduced)



4. A Transjordan cover was illustrated in RN95.18. The 3p registered rate to Egypt was fulfilled by a 3p postage due stamp. It had a registration number 557 and it was postmarked AMMAN CENTRAL 16 October 1924, HAIFA-KANTARA T.P.O. SOUTH 18 October 1924, HAIFA 18 October 1924. Below is a part cover posted on the same day and following the same route but with the postage paid by a normal 2p postage stamp and a 1p postage due with inverted. The registration number is 544. These two covers illustrate quite nicely the problems the postal system had with stamp supplies.



5. Delcampe provided an interesting Hejaz item in May of this year. It was a ½ qirsh in the deep rose shade with a good impression of the small *mustahiq* handstamp. This may be a variety of the 'Illegible' series but this handstamp was also applied to the large Jeddah 3-line overprint. I am confident it is genuine and from the water-damaged stock of E. L. Angeloglu. The stamp is cancelled by a weak MEKKE 'dealer' cancel with 9-11 just visible. The mark is illustrated in RN43.5 and also below:



MEKKE 9-11-916

6. The blue Kehr type III interpostal seals of GEDDA are not difficult to find but the type V B in scarlet-vermilion is a different matter and before spending money on them, the collector should be aware that forgeries exist. An article on interpostal seals appeared in RN 59.

In November 2020, an interesting pair, figure 1, was offered on eBay, but without guarantee. Another type of forgery is at figure 2a and an example of a genuine item at figure 3. It could be worth examining the back as my forgery example revealed printed paper (figure 2b). Genuine stamps as well as some forgeries, have a thin outer circle as shown in figure 4. Another useful comparison is the quality of printing; genuine stamps are much better. Figure 5 is a forgery and does not exhibit the fine lines shown in figure 4.



Figure 1



Figure 2a

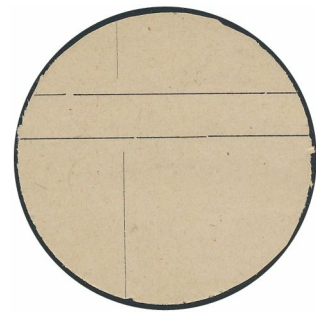


Figure 2b



Figure 3



Figure 4



Figure 5



7. The Spink auction 21112 held on 13 May 2021 had an interesting selection of Nejd handstamp errors, most of them probably philatelically inspired. Nevertheless, high prices were paid. One lot deserves further scrutiny. Lot 74 was a sheet, minus two stamps, of the ½ qirsh with first Nejd handstamp and the three cliché '*mustahiq*' handstamp. The bottom two rows are shown below.



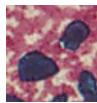
It can be seen that the first remaining stamp on the bottom row, sheet position 33, has the '*mustahiq*' double and the original sheet may have contained the only examples known. Ghassan Riachi in his book 'The Sultanate of Nejd - A Philatelic Handbook' states that no varieties of this handstamp are known. I suspect that when the two stamps were removed, the person doing it did not know about this handstamp, otherwise wouldn't three stamps have been removed? I would have kept the bottom two rows intact. This error looks to me like a genuine handstamping error and just in case someone still has the removed pair, I have created an image of what I think the double print looked like.



An article - PLATING OF THE LARGE FRAMED "MUSTAHIQ" OVERPRINT By: F. C. Benedict and A. Kaczmarczyk - appeared in RN40 and suggests that this handstamp was produced using clichés from positions 16, 17 and 18 of Setting A of the Hejaz plate.



8. A nice misperforated marginal block of the 2SR 1986 framed Kaaba stamp has appeared on eBay following the appearance of a similar, but smaller block of 4 in December 2019. Another misperforated block, this time of the 150 halalah, was mentioned in RN 91.7.
9. Take nothing at face value; we all make mistakes. This time it was made by David Graham when plating a Hejaz ¼ qirsh roulette 20 stamp with small 3-line Jeddah overprint. When David signed the back of the stamp, he added the plate position 14. This was incorrect, it should have been 38, but it is easy to see how the mistake was made. In both plate positions the diacritic mark over the Arabic *yeh* appears as a triangle, but as can be seen from the images below, the shapes are slightly different.



Position 14



Position 38

10. Thanks to Dr. Elias Kawar I can show you some unusual examples of stamps with the first Nejd handstamp. Unfortunately the images are scans of scans, but I hope they are of interest. We hope to get better quality images of these in due course. A note about this possible misuse of the handstamp appeared in RN38.5 item 6.



Notes continued on [page 16](#).



Two Interesting CASOC Covers to Bombay

By: J. I. Kearney

Cover 1.

Bahrain to Bombay 24 January 1940. Postage was 2 annas per the Indian Inland Postage Rates effective April 1935. The surface rate was 1 anna for the first ½ tola of weight and 1 anna for the first ½ tola of weight for airmail. The tola is a unit of weight equal to 11.7 grams. This is the only known example of a CASOC employee using this rate. The sender was V. Albuquerque. The CASOC return address is on the reverse. Bahrain cds is Donaldson type 7. Backstamped Bombay 31 Jan 1940.



Cover 1



Cover 2.

Khoobar to Bombay redirected to Colombo cancelled March 18, 1943 by a Khoobar cds. The weight was 4 grams and the postage was 16¾ guerche. This is the only CASOC cover known to be from Khoobar to Bombay. Sender of this letter was John Ames, a well-known CASOC employee. Censored in Bombay. In later years other covers exist from the Arabian American Oil Company to Bombay with this rate.



Cover 2

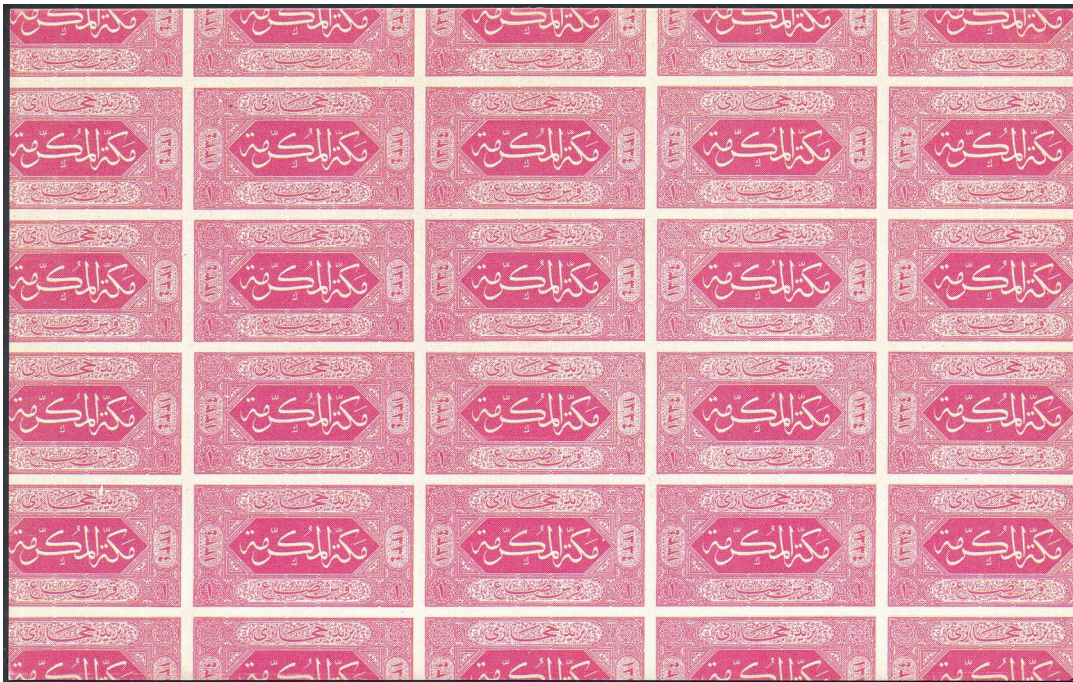
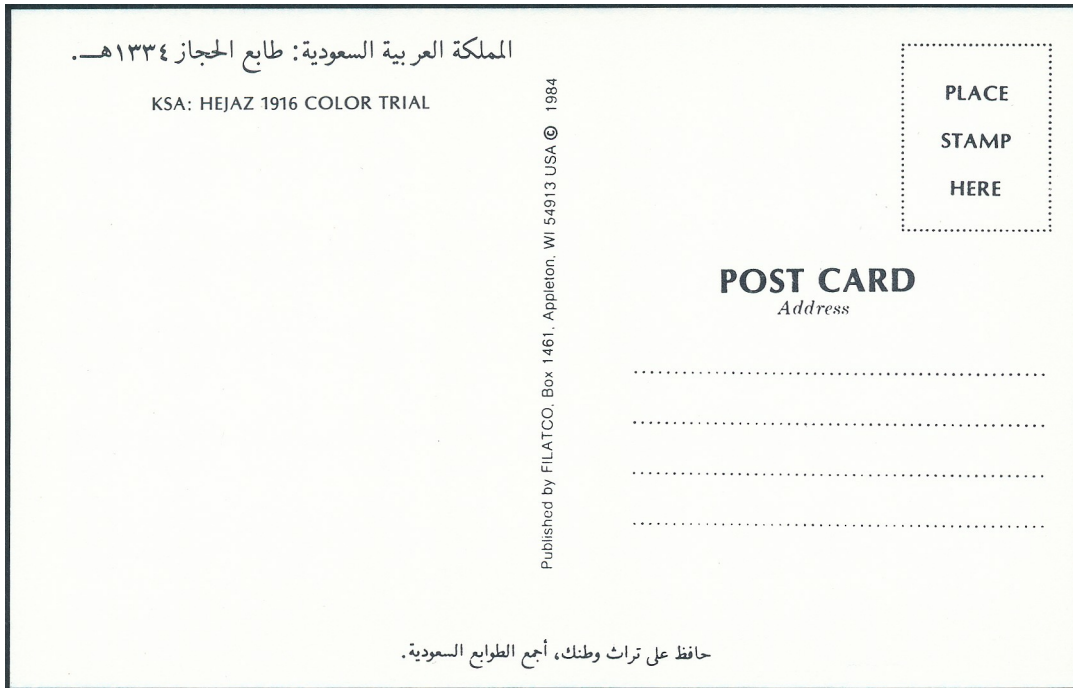
Editor's Note

If anyone has anything interesting in their collection, please send me an image and some text describing your item. Producing a Random Notes is becoming increasingly difficult.

The 1984 Filatco Postcards

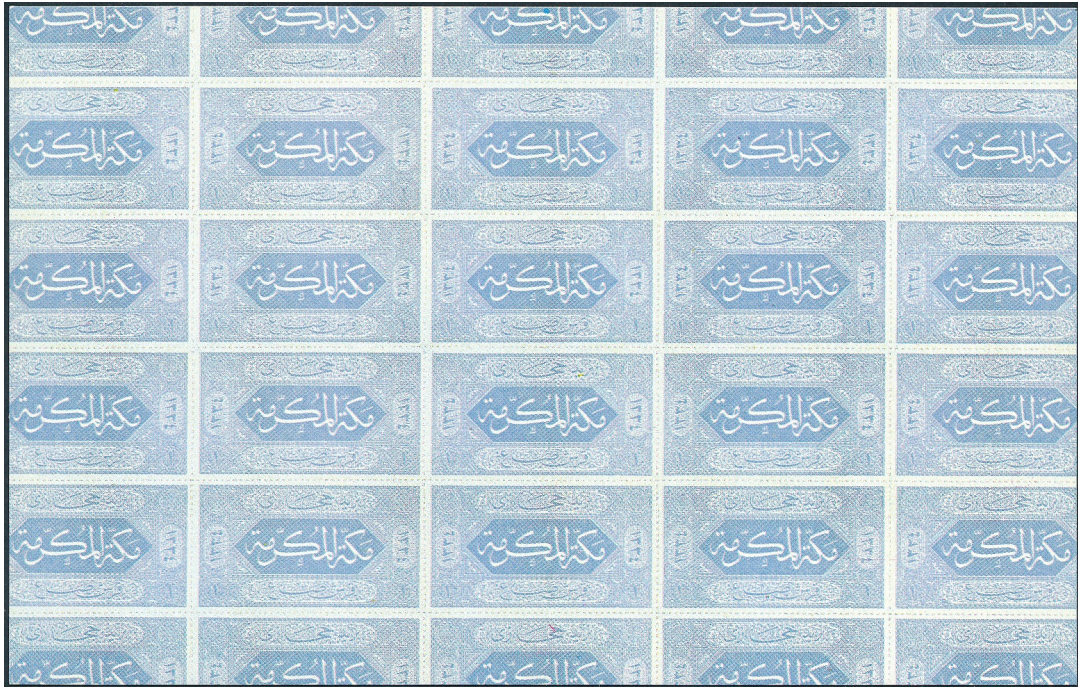
From information supplied by: Dr. Elias A. Kawar

In 1984 Filatco produced a set of eight postcards depicting Hejaz and Saudi stamps. For the record, the postcards are illustrated here. All of the cards had the same design for the address side; only the description in the top left corner varied.

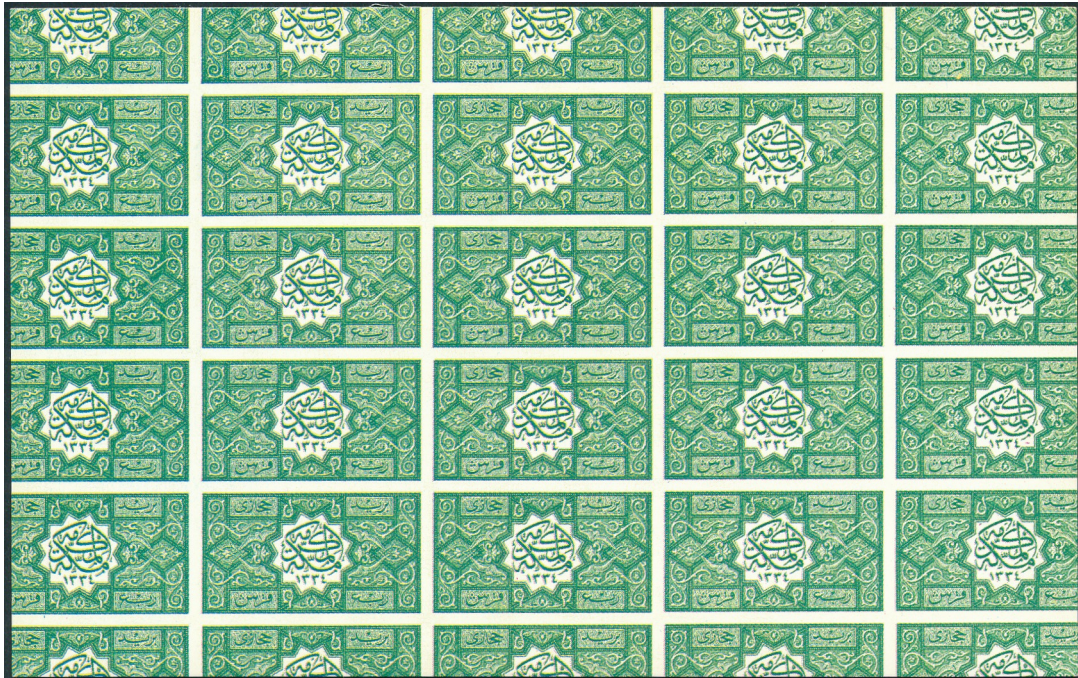


KSA: HEJAZ 1916 COLOR TRIAL



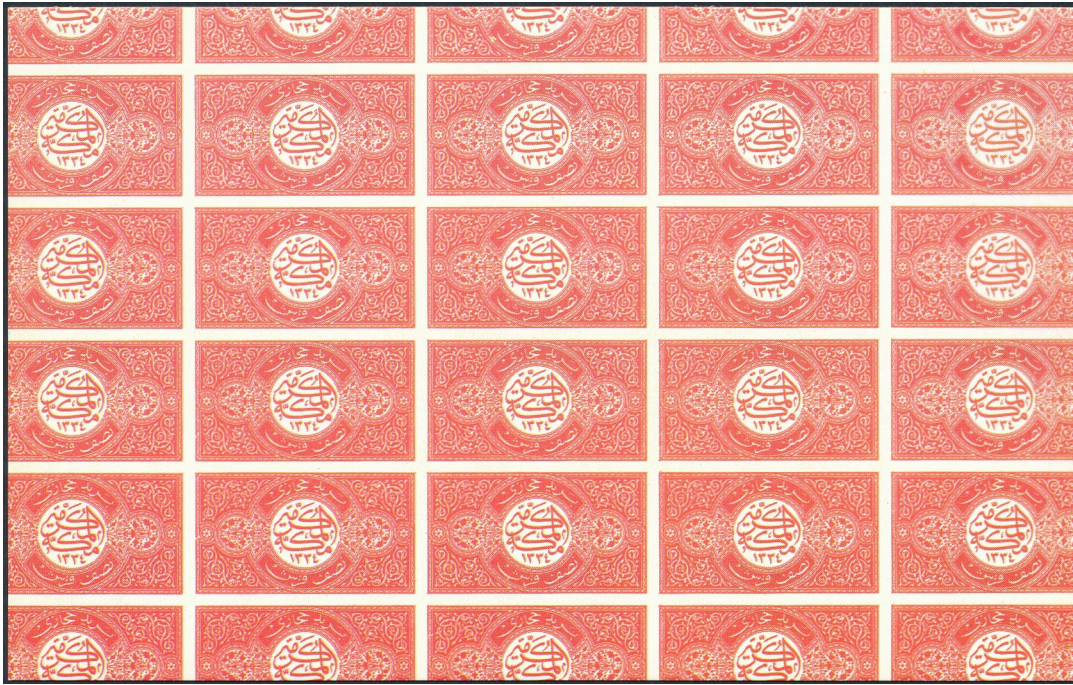


KSA: HEJAZ 1916 COLOR TRIAL



KSA: HEJAZ 1916 IMPERFORATE PROOF



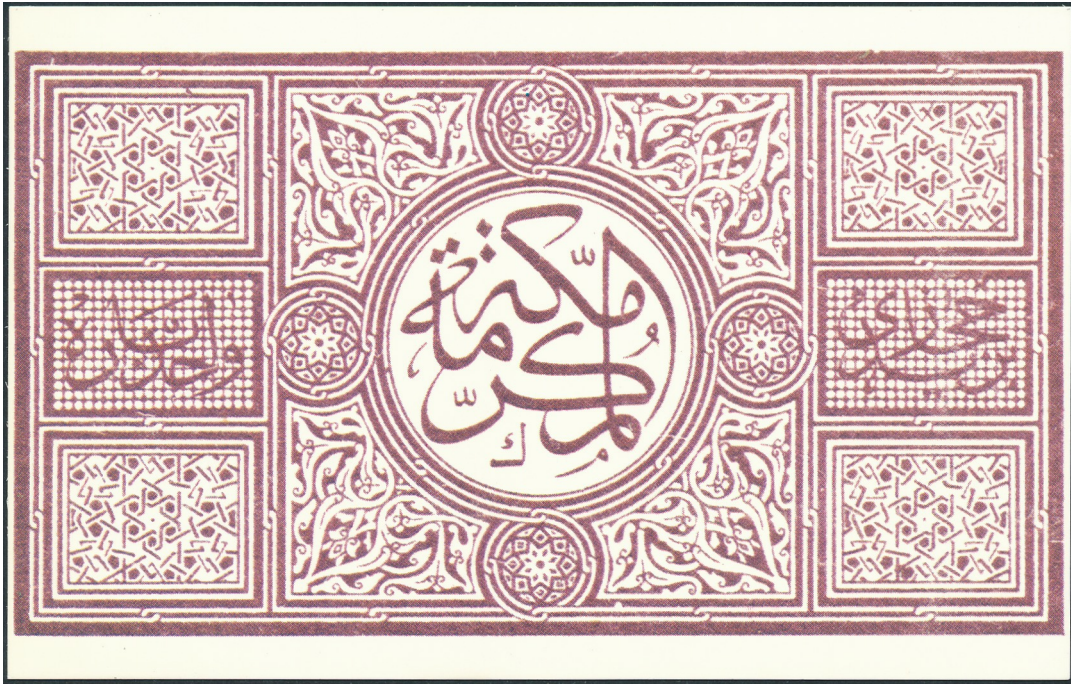


KSA: HEJAZ 1916 IMPERFORATE PROOF



KSA: HEJAZ 1916 IMPERFORATE PROOF



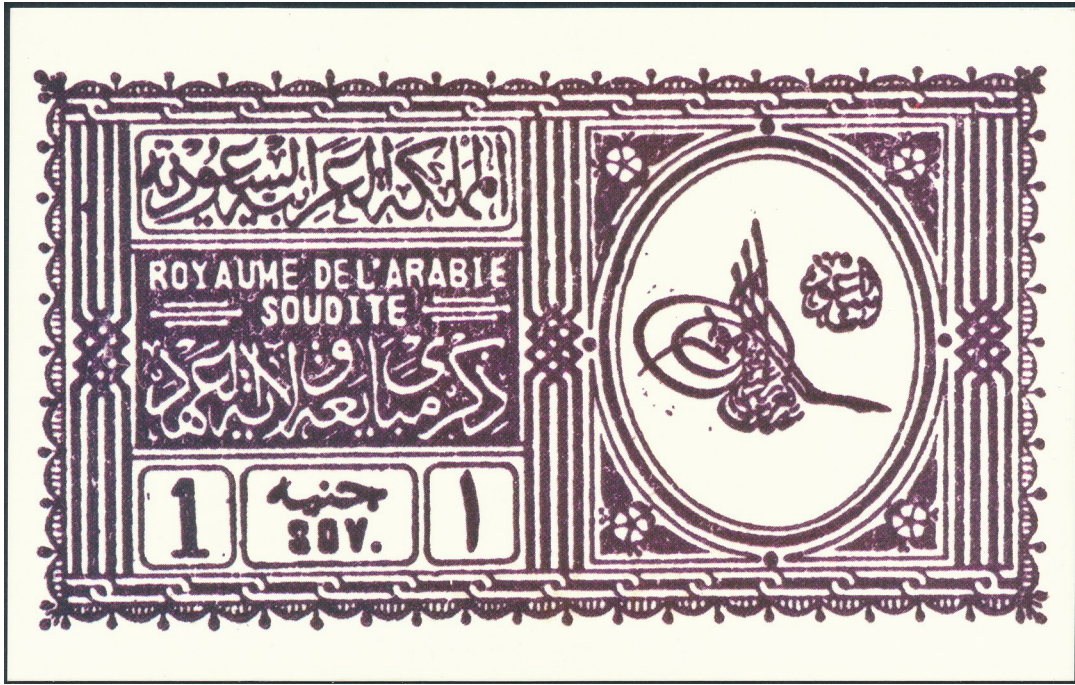


KSA: HEJAZ 1917 ONE PARA



KSA: HEJAZ 1917 1/8 GUERCHE





KSA: 1934 PROCLAMATION OF HEIR APPARENT

RN

Notes continued from [page 9](#).

11. In RN95 on page 13 item 17, a Transjordan forgery was illustrated. This 10 qirsh forged overprint does exist on genuine Hejaz stamps but appears to be uncommon. Below are two slightly different examples, suggesting that the overprint was applied using a printing plate. Note the absence of the dots required by the Arabic 'qaf'.



عشرة قروش

عشرة قروش

RN

Regional Postmarks of Saudi Arabia - Part 1

By: Martin Lovegrove

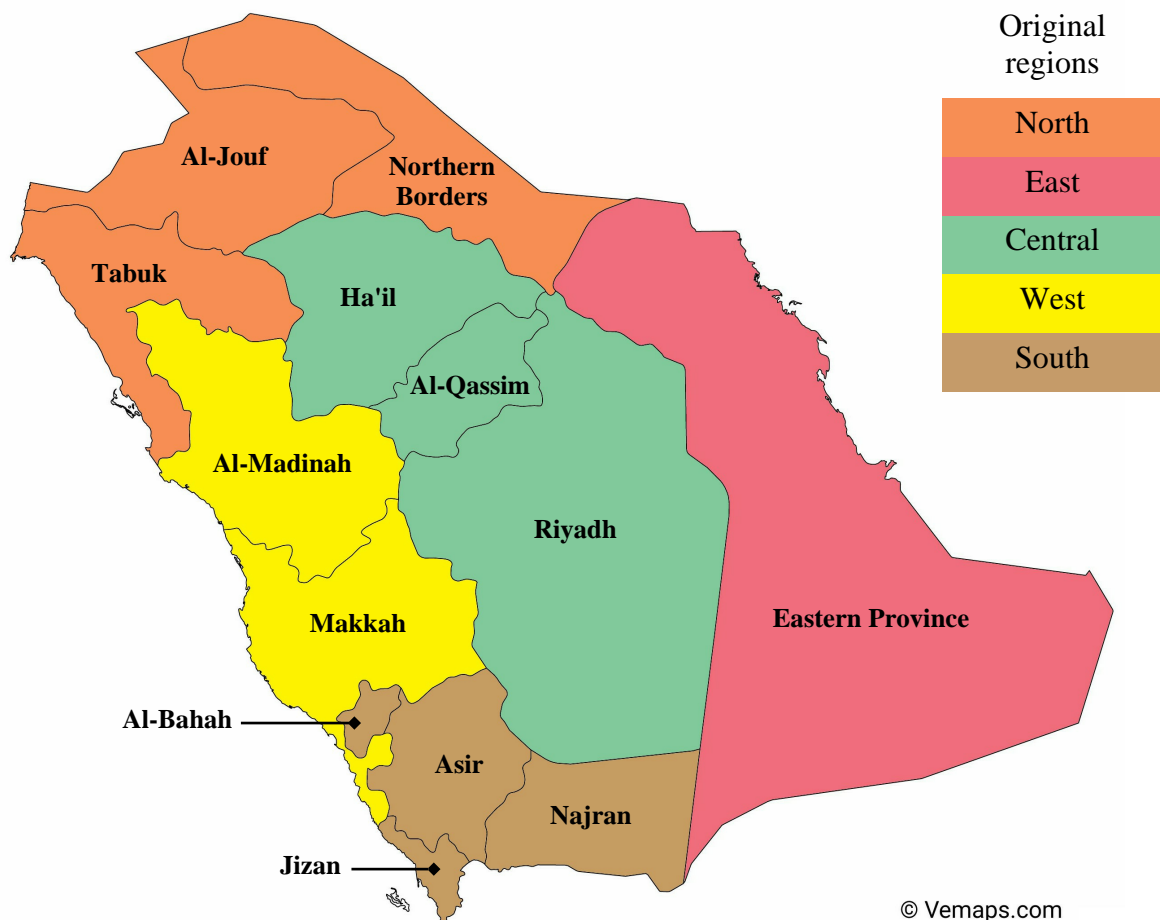
The excellent series of articles in Random Notes 44-52 'The Postal Markings of Hejaz, Nejd, Hejaz and Nejd, and Saudi Arabia' by Kenneth Knight, finished at a time when very few postmarks attributed to postal regions had been recorded. This article is the first in a series providing an overview of regional postmarks, dealing with the designs used rather than the actual usage.

The task of providing a detailed listing may never be possible; many of the postmarks seen are difficult or even impossible to read and the number actually seen represents just a small fraction of the devices that must have been issued to the postal facilities in the villages of Saudi Arabia.

It is hoped that an enthusiastic collector will continue to build on the information provided.

Postal Regions.

There may be differences between the areas covered by the postal regions and the administrative regions and is probably caused by the difficulties transporting mail to some remote areas. To add to the confusion, regional postmarks were introduced when there were only five regions whereas there are now thirteen. A map showing the original and current regions is shown below and is based on [Saudi Arabia Map](#) by Vemaps.com; restrictions on its reproduction may apply.



© Vemaps.com



Postmarks

All of the examples shown or discussed are from the author's collection and thus cannot be classed as complete, but hopefully can be used as a start of a study.

In this first part of the series, I will start with postmarks from three of the original five regions, North, South and West. The author has no examples from the Central Region and Eastern Province did not split into smaller units and is large enough to warrant a part on its own.

As well as individual designs, a common design has been observed for all three regions and was for use in businesses, such as shops or garages, providing limited postal services on behalf of the Ministry of Telegraph, Post and Telephone. A schematic representation of this common design is shown below. The Arabic text is displayed using single characters without the use of ligatures, mainly because the style used on the devices are not available for use on the author's computer!

Following these three of the original five regions, I will continue with the currently active thirteen regions but omitting postmarks designed to mimic envelopes as these will be dealt with as a separate piece of research; they are far more complex than these circular ones. An example of the envelope style is shown below, but circular envelope designs also exist.

In the schematic diagrams, words in angle brackets (<>) indicate the word that appears on the postmark, usually the name of a town or region.



Schematic diagram. Diameter 38 mm.



Rectangular envelope style

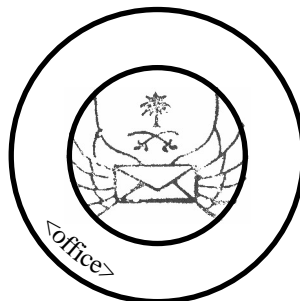
The text in the common design can be translated as:

Top line: <region> postal region.

Bottom line: Acting (qaim beamaal) post <office>

North Region

Only one example has been seen and that was from Al Khushabi, a group of buildings approximately 40 km from Rafha in the current Northern Borders region. Its usage dates to about 1983.



North Region



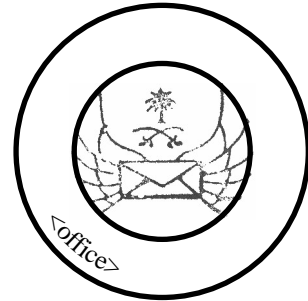


Example from Al Khushabi (Reduced 80%)

South Region

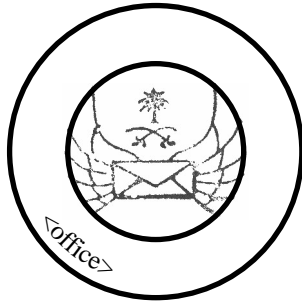
Examples from ten locations have been seen used in the period 1986 to 1995.

Below is a Serum receipt on a letter from Sharurah but marked as return to sender because the addressee's name was omitted.



West Region

Examples have been seen from two locations, Al Afus and Al Suor, but only as stamps on fragments of envelope, making dating impossible. The stamps were the 20 halalah small Kaaba design, making the usage sometime in the 1980s.



Example from Al Suor

Two other designs unique to the West Region have been seen, neither indicate use at acting post offices.

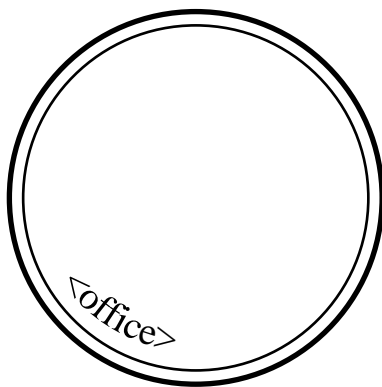
The first shown has a diameter of 50 mm. and has been recorded from Misaan in October 1979.

The text has the meaning:

Line 1: Ministry of Telegraph and Post and Telephone.

Line 2: West Region Post

Line 3: Post Office <office>



The second type has a diameter of 39 mm. and has been recorded from Asfan in March 1977 and from an unidentified location near Rabigh, possibly Thowal, in 1978.

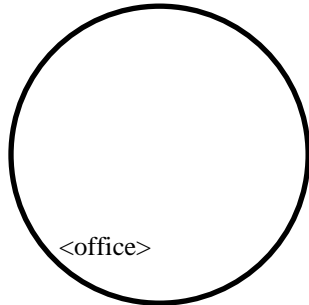
The text has the meaning:

Line 1: Ministry of Telegraph and Post and Telephone.

Line 2: The General Directorate of Post

Line 3: West Postal Region

Line 4: Post Office <office>



From Thowal? January 1978

This article will be continued in the next edition of Random Notes.

My thanks go to Mohamed Nagim for helping me with translations.

Literature and Major Articles

(Updated version of listing in 1992 Random Notes Index)

Compiled by: Martin Lovegrove

- | | |
|---|--|
| THE POSTAGE STAMPS OF THE HEJAZ | Haworth and Sargent, 1922,
Pub. H.F. Wilson
London |
| THE POSTAL ISSUES OF HEJAZ, JEDDAH AND NEJD | D.F. Warin, 1927 |
| ARABIAN PHILATELY, THE HEJAZ | Brigadier Glynn Grylls
series of articles in
THE PHILATELIST, 1945-49 |
| TITLE UNKNOWN! | PHILATELIC JOURNAL OF INDIA
Vol 31, 1927. Article by
Abdur Rahman Kashmiri |
| BARID AL-SA'UDIYYAH WA AL HEJAZ WA NEJD | Max Mayo, 1973 |
| THE HEJAZ, A HISTORY IN STAMPS | John Wilson, 1982
pub. L.D. Limoges, USA |
| THE REFERENCE MANUAL OF SAUDI ARABIAN
FORGERIES | R.J. Thoden
Available to
A.P.A. Members
Price on request |
| The Ottoman Post in Yemen and Asir | OPAL AND THE TUGHRA TIMES,
article April 30, 1986. 34.4 |
| Postmarks of Hejaz, Nejd & Saudi Arabia | OPAL.
Articles by Kenneth J. Knight |
| Postal Cancellations of the Ottoman Empire | THE PHILATELIST & PJGB
Article by J.H.Coles &
H.E. Walker, Nov.Dec 1985.
34.3 |
| Ditto : Part II (of 3 Volumes)
The Lost Territories in Africa & Asia : | Book by J.H. Coles & H.E. Walker.
Pub. Christies-Robson Lowe, 1988 |
| A SHORT NOTE ON THE DESIGN AND ISSUE OF
POSTAGE STAMPS PREPARED BY THE SURVEY OF
EGYPT FOR HIS HIGHNESS HUSSAIN, EMIR AND
SHERIF OF MECCA AND KING OF THE HEJAZ. | Survey of Egypt, Cairo,
21.2 |
| THE POSTA EUROPEA & 1984 KEHR CATALOGUE
OF INTERPOSTALS | E.A. Kehr & P. Cockrill
(Cockrill Series No. 33)
Stanley Gibbons Ltd.
399 Strand
London WC2R 0LX |
| Saudi Arabia : Preliminary Survey | STAMP MONTHLY, July 1972
Article by M.C. Lowe |



- Stamps of the Hejaz : 1916 - 24
STAMP COLLECTING, Jan 3 & Jan 10, 1980. Articles by David Graham
- Saudi Arabia : The Middle Period 1934-1960
STAMP COLLECTING, Oct 19, 1978. Article by David Graham
- Saudi Arabia : The Modern Period 1960-1978
STAMP COLLECTING, Nov 9, 1978. Article by David Graham
- False Impressions : A survey of errors, misconceptions, myths and dubious reporting in the postal history of Saudi Arabia
Series of Articles in Gibbons Stamp Monthly, 1980 April, June & September
Tarik Alireza and David A. Graham.
- Arabia : The 'Harry Hibbert' Collection
Harmers of London.
Catalogue March 1987.
- The Kawar Family Collection of Saudi Arabia
Ivy & Mader, June 30, 1998
- "Mount Sawda" auction catalogue
Kelleher Auctions, June 28 - July 11, 2012
- "Pearls of Arabia" - Saudi Arabia auction catalogue
Spink, London. October 19, 2011.
- Saudi Arabia - The von Uexkull Family Collection
David Feldman, June 5, 2019
- Auction including Max Mayo collection
Sotheby Parke Bernet Stamp Auction Co
March 18-21, 1980
- Saudi Arabia Postage Stamps & Postal History
The Baron Jakob von Uexkull Collection Part I
Sotheby's 11, 12 December 1996
- The Postal History and Postage Stamps of Saudi Arabia
Harmers of London. December 15, 1999
- One Man's Collection - Part 1 - Saudi Arabia:
Modern Technology (1970 - 2018). Barcode registration, EMS (al *barid al mumtaz*) and general purpose postal labels.
Martin Lovegrove
ISBN 9780955824616
- Thoden 2008 A Catalogue of the Fiscal Stamps of Saudi Arabia 1916-2001
Rudy Thoden, Published by Martin Lovegrove
- The Early Postal History of Saudi Arabia
Jakob von Uexkull.
Sahara Publications Ltd.
ISBN 190302210X
- The Sultanate of Nejd
A Philatelic Manual
Ghassan Diab Riachi
ISBN 9781885184085

Historic Scott Catalogue Number Changes

By: Martin Lovegrove

Readers of some of the old issues of Random Notes may have been confused by the Scott numbers used to describe items when the actual description was not given. Below is a conversion list of numbers in the Scott 1981 catalogue that have numbers differing from those in use today. Separate lists have been produced for DGA stamps and for the complex Tourist issues.

Because the 1981 catalogue did not list the Tourist series redrawn frames, the type of frame cannot always be determined from the catalogue number. Where this doubt exists, the catalogue numbers are followed by an asterisk (*).

Year	Set	1981	Current
1946	Return of King Ibn Saud from Egypt	177	RA4B
1960	Cairo DGA Dam	211 - 223	211 - 226
1960	Cairo DGA GOSP	224 - 239	227 - 242
1961	Dammam Port	240 - 242	243 - 245
1961	Arab Union of Telecommunications	243 - 245	246 - 248
1962	Arab League Week	246 - 248	249 - 251
1962	Malaria Eradication	249 - 251	252 - 254
1963	Islamic Institute, Medina	252 - 254	255 - 257
1963	DGA (Large size Dam)	255	258
1963	Cairo DGA watermarked Dam	256 - 260	259 - 263
1963	DGA (Large size GOSP)	261 - 262	264 - 265
1963	Cairo DGA watermarked GOSP	263 - 270	266 - 273
1963	Freedom from Hunger	287 - 289	274 - 276
1963	Dhahran Airport	290 - 294	277 - 281
1964	Human Rights	296 - 298	282 - 284
1964	Installation of King Faisal	299	285
1965	De La Rue DGA Saud Dam	300 - 322D	286 - 313
1965	De La Rue DGA Saud GOSP	323 - 341D	314 - 341
1966	De La Rue DGA Faisal Dam	393 - 402I	393 - 421
1966	De La Rue DGA Faisal GOSP	403 - 420A	422 - 450
1967	Scouts	421 - 425	451 - 455
1967	World Meteorological Day	426 - 430	456 - 460
1968	De La Rue DGA Faisal Dam watermarked	431 - 441A	462 - 473
1968	De La Rue DGA Faisal GOSP watermarked	442 - 452	474 - 483
1968	Dammam - Jeddah Road	453 - 457	484 - 488
1968	Tourist	458 - 597a	489 - 526b



Detailed Definitive Listing - DGA

1960 Cairo DGA Dam

Face	1981	Current
½p	211	211
1p	211A	212
2p	212	213
3p	213	214
4p	214	215
5p	215	216
6p	216	217
	216a	217a
7p	217	218
8p	217A	219
9p	217B	220
	217c	220c
10p	218	221
	218a	221a
20p	219	222
50p	220	223
75p	221	224
100p	222	225
200p	223	226

1960 Cairo DGA GOSP

Face	1981	Current
½p	224	227
1p	225	228
2p	226	229
3p	227	230
4p	228	231
5p	229	232
6p	230	233
7p	231	234
8p	232	235
9p	233	236
10p	234	237
20p	235	238
50p	236	239
75p	237	240
100p	238	241
200p	239	242

1963 Large size DGA Dam

Face	1981	Current
½p	255	258

1963 Large size DGA GOSP

Face	1981	Current
½p	261	264
1p	262	265

1963 Cairo DGA watermarked Dam

Face	1981	Current
½p	256	259
3p	257	260
4p	258	261
5p	259	262
20p	260	263

1963 Cairo DGA watermarked GOSP

Face	1981	Current
½p	263	266
1p	264	267
3p	265	268
4p	266	269
5p	267	270
6p	268	271
8p	269	272
9p	270	273



1965 De La Rue DGA Saud Dam**1965 De La Rue DGA Saud GOSP**

Face	1981	Current
1p	300	286
2p	301	287
3p	302	288
4p	303	289
5p	304	290
6p	305	291
7p	305A	292
8p	305B	293
9p	306	294
10p	307	295
11p	308	296
12p	309	297
13p	310	298
14p	311	299
15p	312	300
16p	313	301
17p	314	302
18p	315	303
19p	316	304
20p	316A	305
23p	317	306
24p	318	307
26p	319	308
27p	320	309
31p	321	310
33p	322	311
100p	322C	312
200p	322D	313

Face	1981	Current
1p	323	314
2p	324	315
3p	325	316
4p	326	317
5p	326A	318
6p	326B	319
7p	326C	320
8p	327	321
9p	328	322
10p	329	323
11p	330	324
12p	331	325
13p	332	326
14p	333	327
15p	333A	328
16p	334	329
17p	335	330
18p	336	331
19p	337	332
20p	337A	333
23p	338	334
24p	339	335
26p	340	336
27p	341	337
31p	342	338
33p	343	339
50p	343A	340
200p	343D	341



1965 De La Rue DGA Faisal Dam**1965 De La Rue DGA Faisal GOSP**

Face	1981	Current	Face	1981	Current
1p	393	393	1p	403	422
2p	394	394	2p	404	423
3p	395	395	3p	405	424
4p	396	396	4p	406	425
5p	397	397	5p	407	426
6p	398	398	6p	408	427
7p	399	399	7p	409	428
8p	400	400	8p	410	429
9p	400A	401	9p	411	430
10p	401	402	10p	412	431
11p	401A	403	11p	413	432
12p	401B	404	12p	413A	433
13p	401C	405	13p	413B	434
14p	401D	406	14p	414	435
15p	401E	407	15p	415	436
16p	401F	408	16p	416	437
17p	401G	409	17p	416A	438
18p	401H	410	18p	417	439
19p	401I	411	19p	417A	440
20p	402	412	20p	418	441
23p	402A	413	23p	418A	442
24p	402B	414	24p	419	443
26p	402C	415	26p	419A	444
27p	402D	416	27p	419B	445
33p	402E	417	31p	419C	446
50p	402G	419	33p	419D	447
100p	402H	420	50p	419E	448
200p	402I	421	100p	420	449
			200p	420A	450



1965 De La Rue DGA Faisal Dam wmk**1965 De La Rue DGA Faisal GOSP wmk**

Face	1981	Current	Face	1981	Current
1p	431	461	1p	442	474
2p	432	462	2p	443	475
3p	433	463	4p	445	476
4p	434	464	5p	446	477
5p	435	465	6p	447	478
6p	436	466	9p	448	479
7p	437	467	10p	449	480
8p	438	468	11p	450	481
9p	438A	469	12p	451	482
10p	439	470	23p	452	483
11p	440	471			
12p	441	472			
13p	441A	473			

Detailed Definitive Listing - Tourist

The Prophet's Mosque
Original frame, watermark Scott 337

Face	1981	Current
1p	458	489
2p	459a *	490a
3p	460a	491a
5p	462	493

The Prophet's Mosque
Original frame, watermark Scott 361

Face	1981	Current
3p	460	491
4p	461 *	492
6p	463	494
	463a	494a
10p	467 *	495
20p	477 *	496
50p	484	497
100p	485	498
200p	486	499



**The Prophet's Mosque
Redrawn frame, watermark Scott 337**

Face	1981	Current
2p	459a *	490b
4p	461a	492b

**The Prophet's Mosque
Redrawn frame, watermark Scott 361**

Face	1981	Current
2p	459	490
4p	461 *	492a
10p	467 *	495a
20p	477 *	496a

New Arcade, Makkah Mosque

Face	1981	Current
3p	489	500
4p	490	501
10p	496	502

**The Prophet's Mosque Extension
Original frame, watermark Scott 337**

Face	1981	Current
2p	508a	504a
3p	509a	505a
5p	511a	507a
6p	512a	508a
10p	516a	510a

**The Prophet's Mosque Extension
Original frame, watermark Scott 361**

Face	1981	Current
3p	509 *	505
4p	510 *	506
6p	512	508
8p	514	509
10p	516	510

**The Prophet's Mosque Extension
Redrawn frame, watermark Scott 337**

Face	1981	Current
2p	508a	504a
3p	509a	505a
5p	511a	507a
6p	512a	508a
10p	516a	510a

**The Prophet's Mosque Extension
Redrawn frame, watermark Scott 361**

Face	1981	Current
1p	507	503
2p	508	504c
3p	509 *	505c
	509b	505b
4p	510 *	506a
5p	511	507
10p	516b	510b
20p	524	511



Madayin Saleh

Face	1981	Current
2p	528	512
4p	530	513
7p	533	514
10p	536	515
20p	546	516

Arabian Stallion

Face	1981	Current
4p	550	517
10p	556	518
14p	560	519
20p	566	520

Camels and Oil Derrick

Face	1981	Current
4p	571	521
10p	577	522

Holy Kaaba, Makkah Original centre plate, original frame

Face	1981	Current
4p	591 *	523
6p	593	524
10p	597 *	526

Holy Kaaba, Makkah Redrawn centre plate, original frame

Face	1981	Current
6p	593a	524a
8p	595	525

Holy Kaaba, Makkah Original centre plate, redrawn frame

Face	1981	Current
4p	591 *	523b
10p	597 *	526b

Holy Kaaba, Makkah Redrawn centre plate, redrawn frame

Face	1981	Current
4p	591a	523a
10p	597a	526a

From the Auctions

Compiled by: Martin Lovegrove

The Spink auction held on 13 May 2021 had a good range of excellent material from the Egyptian post office in Gedda through to some DGA sets. There were some obvious Hejaz forgeries and several lots were withdrawn prior to the sale. Many of the gems were Nejd handstamp varieties, probably philatelically inspired but nevertheless produced enthusiastic bidding.

There is insufficient space here to look at more than a couple of items, but a file has been produced containing descriptions and images of the entire sale and includes the hammer prices. The file is named Spink_21112_v4.pdf and can be downloaded from the same location as this issue of Random Notes.

The midmarket exchange rates at the time of the sale according to www.xe.com were:
GBP 1 = USD 1.4038, EUR 1.1620.

Lot 83

A front displaying no less than four newspaper stamps and several other rarities. This item is that shown in Ghassan Riachi's in his book 'The Sultanate of Nejd - A Philatelic Handbook'. To me, the cancels and registration mark are of a much later date than the datestamp suggests; the lines look worn and lack the sharpness of the early states. An example of the registration mark from 5-10-1344 is at right.



Furthermore, the cancellation date of 11-10-1343 (5 May 1925) precedes the earliest known date for the usage of the second Nejd handstamp.

We hope to have some more information in the next issue of Random Notes regarding the concerns that this cover raises.

The item sold for GBP 8,000.



Lots 129 and 130

Each lot was a horizontal pair of 1 qirsh on 10 qirsh Capture of Jeddah imperforate between stamps, SG 249a and catalogued at GBP 1000 per pair. Lot 129 sold for GBP 700 and lot 130 for GBP 650.

Lot 131

A vertical pair of 1 qirsh on 10 qirsh Capture of Jeddah imperforate between stamps, SG 249b and catalogued at GBP 1000. Sold for GBP 800.

These imperforate between pairs are unlisted by Scott.



Lot 129



Lot 131



Lot 130

Lot 62

For the revenue collector there was a complete imperforate sheet of the Hejaz railway tax stamp in blue but without the value being added, Thoden RR3 (var). Estimated at GBP 200 - 300, it sold for GBP 520. The description in the auction catalogue for this item was incorrect, but revenue collectors knew what they were looking at.

An illustration of the sheet is in the PDF file mentioned on the previous page.

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.

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 mumtaẓ*) 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 at weatherings@aol.com for further details.

Acknowledgements and Contacts

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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.