

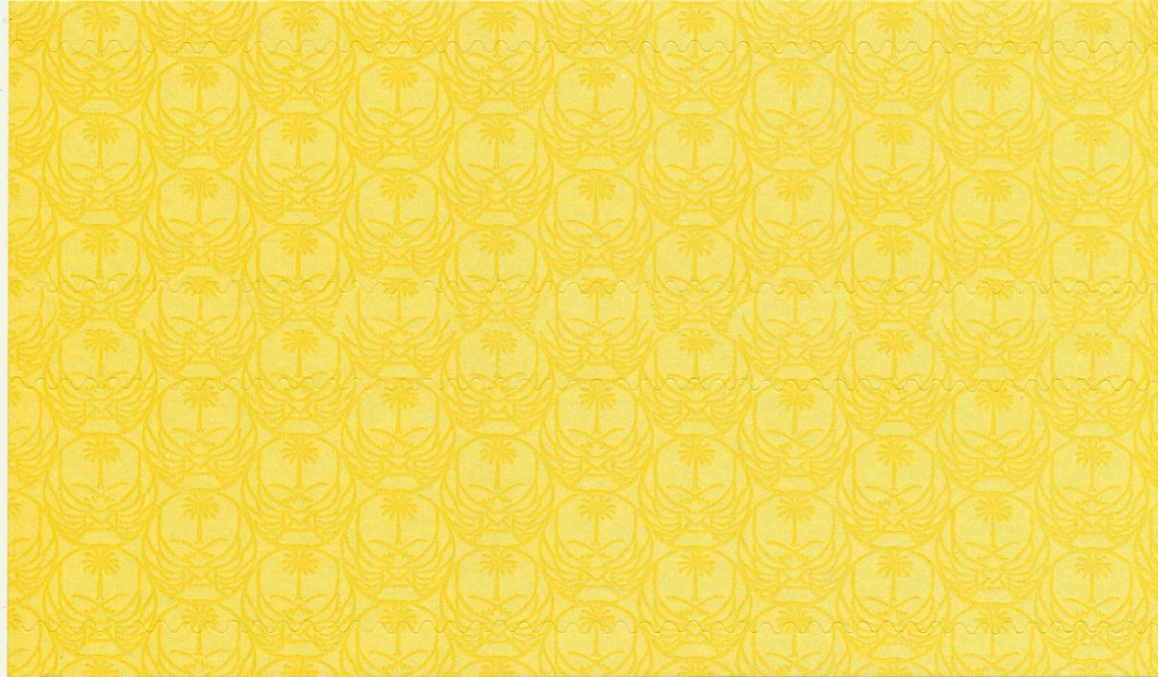
Saudi Miscellany



April 20th, 2024

Martin Lovegrove

First – A Piece of card?



Not an ordinary piece of card



It has multiple copies of the Saudi Post logo and some lines of serpentine die cuts. The logo design is shown below in blue.



All is revealed



The card provides the labels used by postal meter machines. The subject card is the one used for the Pitney Bowes-GB "A900" series, as shown above.

Other labels have been used by Saudi post and it would be a real challenge to identify them all.

An example of a PitneyBowes tape



The example above, from Damman, was produced on a Pitney Bowes-GB "5000" series machine. Note that the die cut is a saw-tooth shape.

PitneyBowes name and logo highlighted in blue

Mission Héraclès

Charles de Gaulle was the aircraft carrier used in the operation.

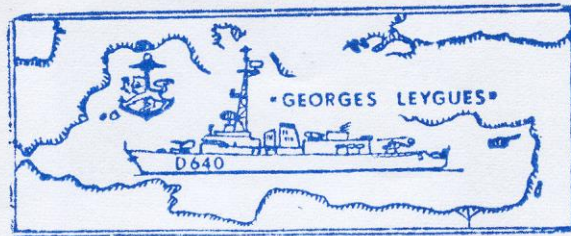


Posted 27 May 2002 probably on the return trip from the Indian Ocean to France. Note the use of JEDDAH EMS 11

Mission Héraclès was an operation of the French Navy from 1 Dec 2001 to 2 May 2002, in support of the War in Afghanistan against the Taliban. Its main tasks included the provision of security and order around Kabul as well as the training of the newly created Afghan Army.

Visit to Jeddah by the Marine nationale

Destroyer Georges Leygues (D640) is an Officers training ship. It has been involved in long cruise training missions.



CMT Céphée was a minesweeper. (Pennant number M652).

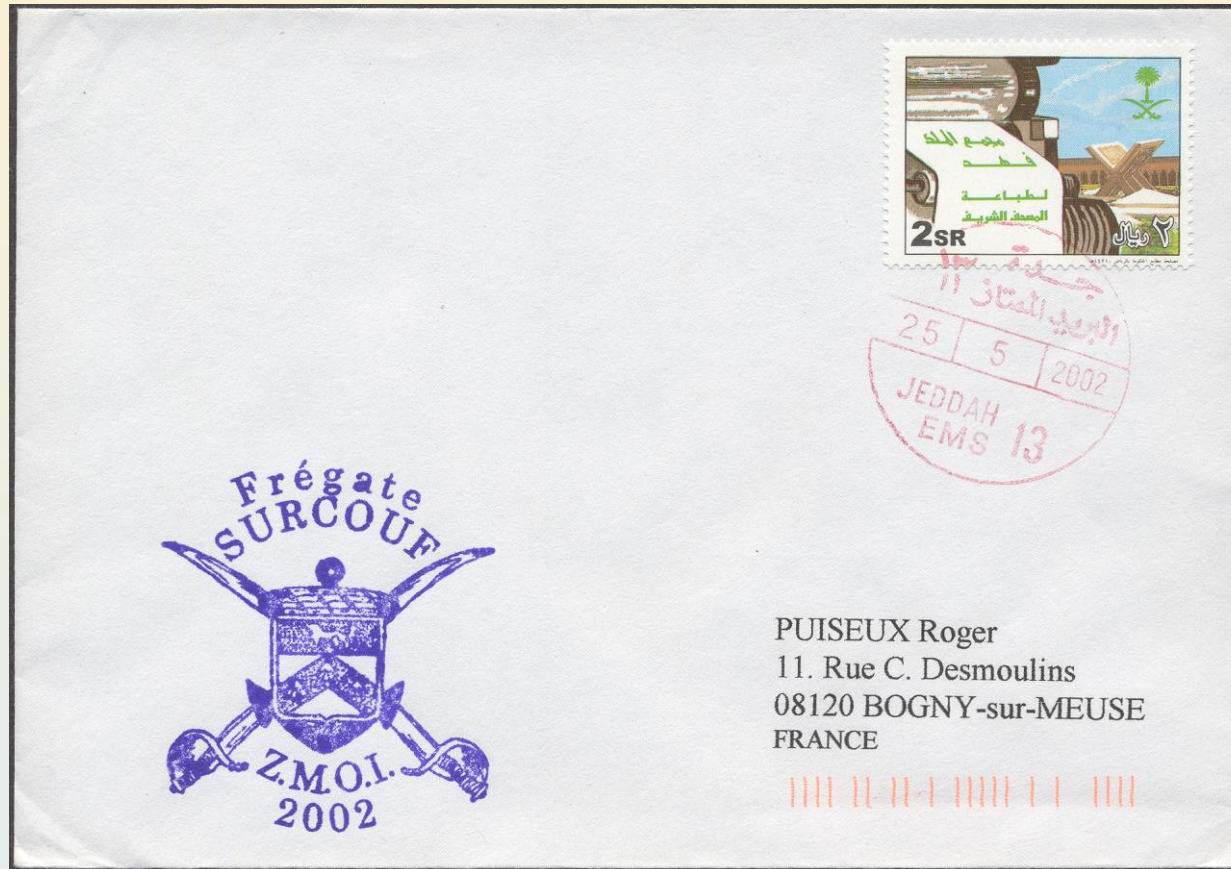


24 April 2001
Note the use of
JEDDAH EMS 12

ALLANÇON. D
Avenue de Kéravellec
29200 BREST

Visit to Jeddah by the frigate Surcouf

Frigate Surcouf (F711) is a La Fayette class frigate of the French Navy.



25 May 2002
Note the use of
JEDDAH EMS 13

Z.M.O.I. was the Indian Ocean Maritime Zone and the visit to Jeddah was possibly made when Surcouf was returning to France after Mission Héraclès.

Visit to Jeddah by the CMT Croix du Sud

Croix du Sud (M646) is a minesweeper of the French Navy.



14 Shawwal 1421
(10 January 2001)
Unusual cancel.

Posted when returning to France following Mission LUG 2000.

A Question of Shades



Centenary of the First Saudi Postage Stamp.

A Question of Shades

A close study of the scanned sheet showed that the stamps in column 1 were a different shade of blue to those in column 2.

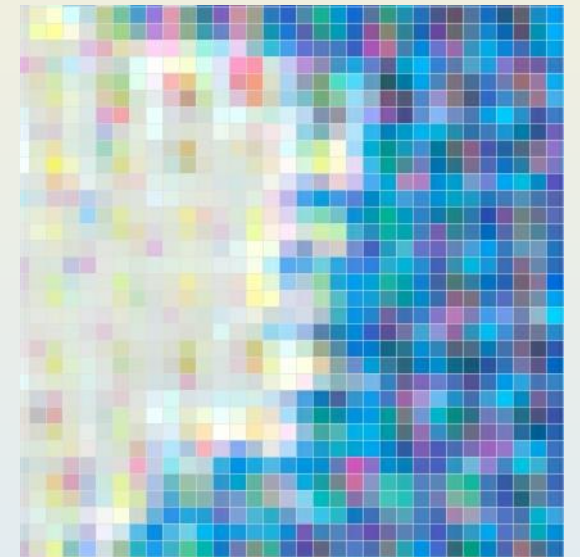
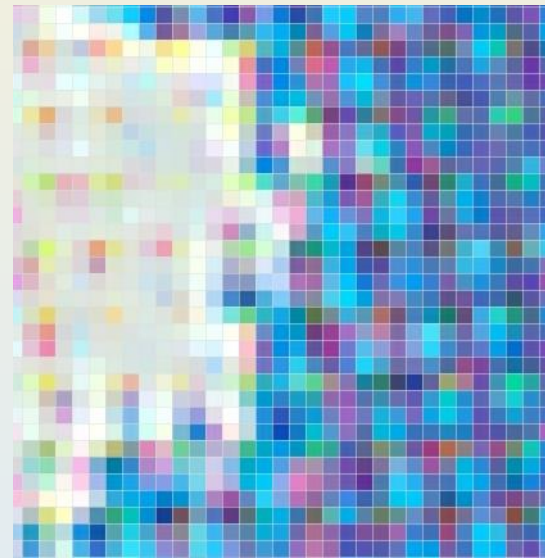


The difference in colour was confirmed using a microscope to examine the same perforation in each column. The difference in shade was caused by the differing arrangement of the CMYK pixels in the two columns.

Column 1



Column 2



A Question of Shades



A similar effect could be seen on the 2017 King Faisal Air Academy 50th anniversary. Once again it is the blue background in the stamp that differs.

A Question of Shades



The stamp uses a rosette pattern for the CMYK colours and it is unlikely that similar parts of the stamp design for the two stamps fall on exactly the same part of the rosette. I am sure that this contributes to the shade differences rather than a different mix of ink. Perhaps a printing expert can advise.

Suggestions on a Postcard, Please



This was a phrase often heard in the UK in the days before email, when radio and television shows wanted feedback from their audience.

Here is a postcard that perhaps suggests collecting themes relating to philately.

Suggestions on a Postcard, Please



'Envelope' style postmark.



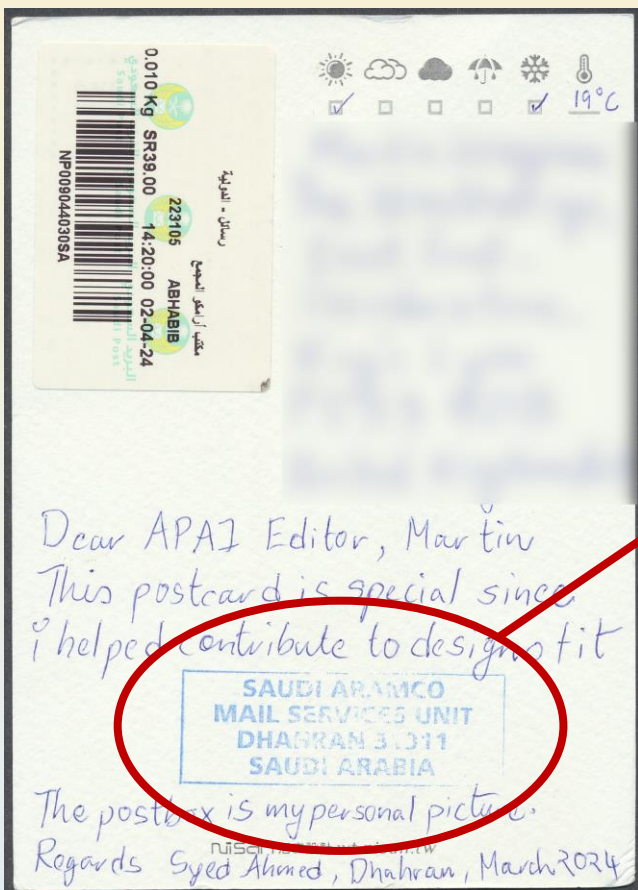
Suggestions on a Postcard, Please



Postal infrastructure (images!).



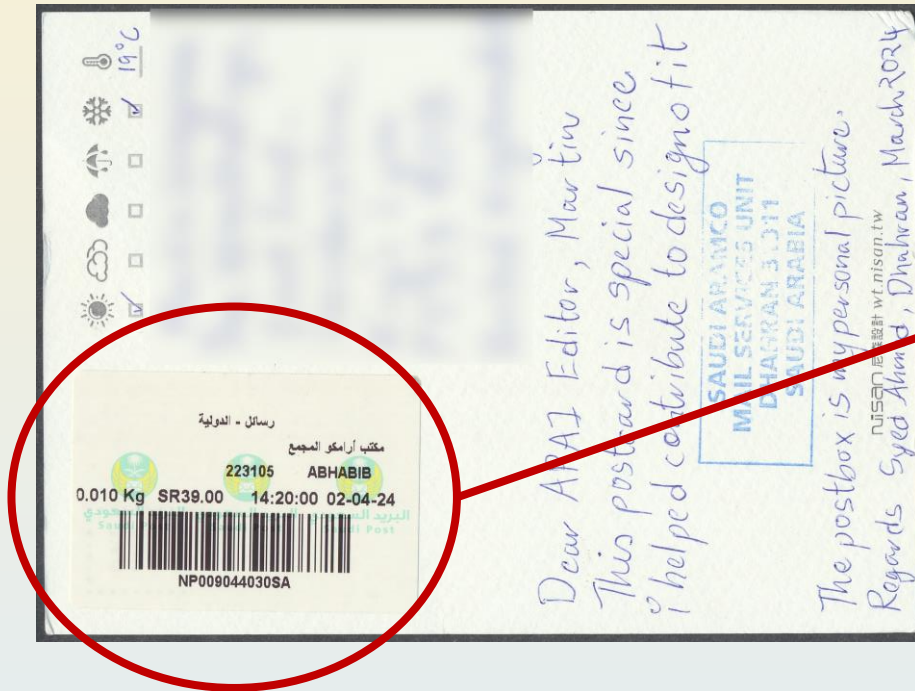
Suggestions on a Postcard, Please



ARAMCO postal marks.



Suggestions on a Postcard, Please



Postal Label.



Suggestions on a Postcard, Please

If you have any information about the subjects raised by this postcard, please contact me. Your information may be of use to Random Notes or a study being undertaken.

Martin Lovegrove
weatherings@aol.com

Members' Questions

From Jan Hart: Information required about extra dot.



We need to know the plate position (the BCMY marginal mark should help) and whether the flaw is constant.

Members' Questions

From Jan Hart: Information about these stamps is required.



Boulac (or Bulaq) was Cairo's port on the Nile. P&O steamers would arrive here late at night and passengers and baggage would be met by camels, donkeys and 'omnibuses' provided by the Company, for the remaining journey into Cairo.

Finally...

Does anyone have information about this **'BOULAC** mark?



Boulac (or Bulaq) was Cairo's port on the Nile. P&O steamers would arrive here late at night and passengers and baggage would be met by camels, donkeys and 'omnibuses' provided by the Company, for the remaining journey into Cairo.

This 'Show & Tell' will be published on the APAI website. If answers to members' questions are received, they will be added to the relevant page

The website URL is shown on page 2 of Random Notes