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# THE QUARTERLY CIRCULAR

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Circular Datestamps of the Civil Post  
Offices during the Postal Concession  
Period (Pre-Censorship) 1932 - 1939

by Charles Minett and John Firebrace  
(No.77)                      (No.71)

## INTRODUCTION

The study of the datestamps of the Civil Post Offices follows logically after the study of the Military datestamps which appeared in the Q.C. Vol.V, page 81 et seq.

Civil Post Offices fall into two categories:-

- (a) Those officially recognised to take Concession Mail
- (b) Those not so recognised.

We are principally concerned with the civil post offices in the first category all of which were, with one exception, recognised in Army Orders and we shall show that their periods of use dovetail in with the periods of use of the Military Post Offices. Almost complete coverage of datestamps for the seven pre-war years of the Concession Period is obtained in this way for Abu Qir, Abu Sueir, Alexandria, Cairo, Moascar and Port Said.

We shall deal with these places on a geographical basis, Alexandria, followed by the Canal Zone. After a reference to Cairo we shall consider in brief the Post Offices not recognised for Concession Mail.

## ALEXANDRIA

- (a) ABU QIR and MANURA

Crowned Circles Nos. 13 and 14 were used by the R.A.F. Depot at Abu Qir from the beginning of the Postal Concession Period on 1 November 1932 until fifteen days after the issue of the Army Post adhesives on 1 March 1936. The R.A.F. Depot was about half a mile from the civil post office at Abu Qir and



201



203



207



211



212



213



214



215



216



217



218



221



231



233



241

Arabic  
Date Line  
D  
PORT-SAID TRAFFIC  
241a  
(As type 241)



242



243



244



246



247



248



251



253



255



257



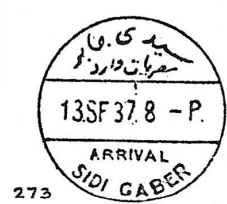
259



261



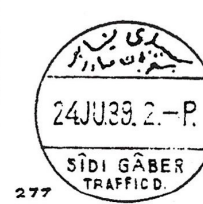
271



273



275



277



301



331



333

about one and a half miles from the civil post office at Mamura. These two villages lie immediately to the east of Alexandria and will therefore be considered together.

Letters from the R.A.F. Depot were first posted in the Camp Post Office where the seals were cancelled and the envelopes franked and they were then taken by a post orderly to the civil post office at Mamura where they were postmarked by a civil circular datestamp. Letters were then sorted for transmission to Alexandria G.P.O. where they normally received a civil datestamp applied on the reverse.

One month after the beginning of the Concession, however, on 1 December 1932, arrangements were made to use the civil post office at Abu Qir as well as that at Mamura, letters again being transmitted to Alexandria G.P.O., also receiving a civil datestamp on arrival.

Letters travelling between Mamura and Alexandria and between Abu Qir and Alexandria were often sorted on the train and about half the covers which we have recorded have collected a t.p.o. datestamp en route.

The use of both Mamura and Abu Qir post offices continued until the formation of M.P.O. Abu Qir on 1 March 1936. Letters from the R.A.F. Depot all passed through the M.P.O. so that, during its life, no examples from Mamura and Abu Qir of civil post office datestamps are known. M.P.O. Abu Qir closed on 24 January 1937 and instructions were issued that "..... all correspondence for the R.A.F. at Abu Qir will be dealt with by the civil post office at that place. For the present, the civil post office at Mamura will not be used for any correspondence, in or out. An orderly from the R.A.F. at Abu Qir must collect and deliver from and to the civil post office at Abu Qir ....." This arrangement continued until the beginning of Censorship.

Civil and Military datestamps from Mamura and Abu Qir are known for the periods shown. A classified list of date-stamps is given later. Abu Qir is thus spelled throughout as this is the spelling on datestamps. The more usual form of spelling is Aboukir.

<u>Place</u>	<u>Civil or Military P.O.</u>	<u>Number of datestamps</u>	<u>Earliest date</u>	<u>Latest date</u>
Mamura	Civil	2	24 Nov 1932	18 Jan 1936
Abu Qir	Civil	2	1 Dec 1932	27 Feb 1936
Abu Qir	Military	1	1 March 1936	24 Jan 1937
Abu Qir	Civil	1	10 April 1937	27 Aug 1939

(b) RAS-EL-TIN, SIDI GABER, SIDI BISHR and ALEXANDRIA

At the beginning of the Concession Period, Crowned Circles Nos. 15 and 16 were issued to the Military Hospital at Ras-el-Tin and Nos. 17 and 18 to H.Q. Alexandria Area at Mustapha Barracks near Sidi Gaber.

Letters from the Military Hospital were despatched through the sub-post office at Ras-el-Tin where they received the Ras-el-Tin civil datestamp and, generally, in due course, the Alexandria datestamp on reverse. Letters from Mustapha Barracks went to the General Post Office at Alexandria where they received, on the obverse, the civil datestamp of which a great variety was then in use (Figs. 211 to 218 for those so far recorded).

The Main Guard of Alexandria was located at Kom-el-Dik, an old fort not far from the General Post Office, which received also the Main Guard letters.

On 1 November 1935, the Military Post Office at Alexandria was reopened and Crowned Circles Nos. 15 to 18 were withdrawn from the Military Hospital and Mustapha Barracks and were re-issued to L.P.O. Alexandria. Letters from the Military Hospital and Mustapha Barracks were then taken direct to L.P.O. Alexandria where the Crowned Circle handstamp was struck, the seal cancelled with the retta and the military post office datestamp applied. The L.P.O. remained open for nearly fifteen months, closing on 24 January 1937.

Reverting again, therefore, to the use of civil post offices, letters from the Military Hospital once more bore Ras-el-Tin civil datestamps and were delivered to the post office by an orderly who also collected incoming mail.

Arrangements for Mustapha Barracks, however, were changed, in that outgoing correspondence was now to be routed through the sub-post office at Sidi Gaber, the nearest civil post office. The postal N.C.O. who took the letters to the post office was also responsible for the delivery of incoming mail to the various units and for the delivery of registered letters received by him from the Sidi Gaber post Office.

The Main Guard at Kom-el-Dik was the only unit to continue to use Alexandria G.P.O. Mail was delivered and collected daily by a post orderly, one of whose duties was to help with military mail which was insufficiently addressed and so obviate the retention of any military staff at the G.P.O.

The only civil post office which we classify as "recognised" on account of the commonness of recorded items after the first known date in 1938 (but for which we can find no authority) is the sub-post office at Sidi Bishr which is on the railway nearly four and a half miles to the east of Sidi Gaber and on the fringe of a desert area. During 1919 there had been a British Army Transit Camp here and it may well have been brought into use again at the beginning of 1938.

Civil and Military post offices were used as follows:-

<u>Place</u>	<u>Civil or Military</u>	<u>Number of datestamps</u>	<u>Earliest date</u>	<u>Latest date</u>
	<u>P.O.</u>			
Ras-el-Tin	Civil	2	28 Nov 1932	18 July 1935
Alexandria	Civil	8	24 Dec 1932	25 Oct 1935
Alexandria	Military	4	1 Nov 1935	24 Jan 1937
Ras-el-Tin	Civil	4	29 March 1937	27 Feb 1939
Alexandria	Civil	3	2 Dec 1938	4 Feb 1939
Sidi Gaber	Civil	4	12 Feb 1937	1 Sept 1939
Sidi Bishr	Civil	1	10 Feb 1938	28 April 1939

THE CANAL ZONE(a) PORT SAID

Crowned Circle Nos. 9 and 10 were used at Navy House, Port Said, having been issued probably to O.C. Troops, Port Said, and they remained there until withdrawn on 15 March 1936.

Letters were taken under military arrangements to the General Post Office, Port Said and there received civil datestamps. Military Post Office Port Said was opened on 1 March 1936 and was open for exactly nine months.

On the closing of the Military Post Office on 30 November 1936 letters again bore datestamps from the civil post office.

Civil and Military datestamps were used as follows:-

<u>Place</u>	<u>Civil or Military</u> <u>P.O.</u>	<u>Number of datestamps</u>	<u>Earliest date</u>	<u>Latest date</u>
Port Said	Civil	5	15 Dec 1932	27 Feb 1936
Port Said	Military	1	1 March 1936	1 Dec 1936
Port Said	Civil	3	19 Oct 1937	14 May 1939

(b) ABU SUEIR

Abu Sueir was entirely an R.A.F. station and Crowned Circles Nos. 11 and 12 were issued to No. 4 Flying Training School which used them for the complete life of the seals. Letters were handed over to the local post office, which was the railway station, and they received the civil datestamp spelled Abu Suwér. Letters were routed through either Alexandria or Port Said and received one or other of these datestamps on the reverse.

In Leslie's collection is a cover bearing Crowned Circle No. 12 clearly datestamped "ABU SUWER 13 Aug 22" but from the Alexandria machine cancellation on the reverse side the date should correctly have been struck "13 Sep 1933".

In Revell's collection there is a cover dated 15 March 1936 and this is the only cover that we have recorded of a civil usage in the Dual Currency period. Vary many covers of the last day of the seals exist and we suggest as circumstantial evidence rather than as a condemnation of the cover itself that it is philatelically manufactured and we therefore list the next latest date that we have recorded, 26 Feb 1936.

Military Post Office Abu Sueir was opened on 1 March 1936 and the last recorded date was 31 March 1938. Since no material has been recorded between 22 March 1937 (c.d.s. in black) and 3 Aug 1937 (c.d.s. in blue) the M.P.O. is twice listed in the following check list to emphasise the gap in our knowledge.

Civil and Military datestamps were used as follows:-

<u>Place</u>	<u>Civil or Military P.O.</u>	<u>Number of datestamps</u>	<u>Earliest date</u>	<u>Latest Date</u>
Abu Suwêr	Civil	1	15 Dec 1932	26 Feb 1936
Abu Sueir	Military	1 black	1 March 1936	22 March 1937
Abu Sueir	Military	1 blue	3 Aug 1937	1 June 1939

(c) MOASCAR

A military post office was in use from 1 Nov 1932 continuously up to the beginning of censorship.

CAIRO

Military Post Office Cairo was already open at the beginning of the Postal Concession Period on 1 November 1932 and the named datestamps remained in use well into the period of censorship.

Cairo Civil post office was not therefore recognised to receive Concession Mail.

CIVIL POST OFFICES NOT OFFICIALLY RECOGNISED

The offices which we classify under the above heading are those which accepted mail at Concession rates, the letters thus accepted being delivered without surcharge at their destination.

We have discovered two offices which qualify in this category, Allaqi and Foka. Examples from these offices are very rare.

We are not concerned with civil post offices through which odd examples of mail have passed when other nearby offices, civil or military, should have been used.

ALLAQI

Allaqi is on the Nile, 624 miles south of Cairo and 128 miles north of the Egypt-Sudan frontier by rail and river. There was a landing ground here according to the 1934 Survey of Egypt map.

Only one item of mail has been recorded bearing the datestamp illustrated as Fig. 301 and that is a cover dated 1 August 1938. How a cover came to be posted at this small civil post office is yet to be discovered, likewise whether there was a detachment of British Troops in Upper Egypt at this time or whether it was posted by an officer or other rank on leave or on a journey. The cover bears an Air Mail etiquette, although franked only by a single 10mils. adhesive.



FOKA

Foka is on the railway about 30 miles west of El Daba where there was a military post office functioning in August 1939, and about 50 miles to the east of Mersa Matruh where there was a military post office in use in 1936 and again in 1938-1939.

Two examples of a Foka civil datestamp have been found and they are different types. The earlier is dated 16 January 1936, before the opening of M.P.O. Mersa Matruh, and was a letter to England bearing a one piastre letter stamp on the reverse cancelled by the Foka c.d.s. (Fig. 331). It was routed through the Mariut-Alexandria T.P.O. and Alexandria civil post office. There was no Crowned Circle handstamp, none having been allotted to Foka and although this was an irregular usage of concession mail, no postage due was indicated in Egypt or collected on arrival in England.

The second example known is found on a loose 10mils. Army Post adhesive and is dated 29 August 1939, which is during the life of the military post offices at El Daba and Mersa Matruh. Being an adhesive off cover, it cannot be stated whether or not Foka civil post office accepted Army Post Office adhesives in full payment of the rate concerned.

DESCRIPTION OF THE DATESTAMPS

The lists that follow again keep the recognised post offices separate from those that were not recognised.

In Alexandria and Port Said many different datestamps seem to have been used at the same time for the same purpose and we do not imagine that we have recorded all that exist. We are aware that individual postal clerks held their own sets of datestamps. Fig. numbers are again spaced out to allow for the insertion of other types subsequently discovered. The wording records what is to be found in addition to the place name in English and Arabic. The layout refers to the relationship between the Arabic and the English place name and to the pattern of the latter. Basic measurements of diameter and distance between date bars are given in millimetres.

<u>Fig.</u>	<u>Civil Post Office</u>	<u>Datestamp wording</u>	<u>Layout</u>	<u>Diameter (mm.)</u>	<u>Date bars (mm)</u>
(a) <u>Recognised Offices</u>					
201	ABU QIR		Arabic/straight	27	8
203			Arabic/curved	29.5	8
207	ABU SUWER		Arabic/curved	29	8.5
211	ALEXANDRIA	DEPART	Arabic/straight	30.5	9
212		DEP 3	Arabic/straight	26.5	8

<u>Fig.</u>	<u>Civil Post Office</u>	<u>Datestamp wording</u>	<u>Layout</u>	<u>Diameter (mm.)</u>	<u>Date bars (mm)</u>
213	ALEXANDRIA	2	Arabic/straight	29.5	9
214		(5)	Arabic/curved	26.5	8 boxed
215		(4)	Arabic/curved	26.5	8 boxed
216		1	Arabic/straight	30.5	8.5
217		G	Arabic/straight	27.5	8
218		DEPART	Arabic/straight	26.5	9.5
221		D - 1	Arabic/straight	26	8.5
231	MAMURA		Curved/Arabic	29	8.5
233			Arabic/straight	26.5	8
241	PORT SAID	B TRAFFIC	Arabic/curved	29.5	7.5
241a		D TRAFFIC	Arabic/curved	29.5	7.5
242		U	Curved/Arabic	25.5	10
243		F	Arabic/straight	27	9
244		G TRAFFIC	Arabic/curved	29	8
246		TRAFFIC G	Arabic/straight	30	9
247		TRAFFIC	Arabic/straight	25.5	9
248		TRAFFIC	Arabic/straight	31	8
251	RAS EL TIN		Arabic/curved	29.5	8
253		T	Arabic/straight	30.5	9
255		P	Curved/Arabic	25.5	8.5
257		C. O. 5.	Curved/Arabic	26	9
259		T	Arabic/straight	26.5	9
261	SIDI BISHR	(STATION)	Arabic/straight	27.5	8
271	SIDI GABER	CASH	Curved/Arabic	29	9
273		ARRIVAL	Arabic/curved	27	9
275		T	Arabic/straight	26.5	9.5
277		TRAFFIC D	Arabic/straight	26.5	10

(cont'd)

<u>Fig.</u>	<u>Civil Post Office</u>	<u>Datestamp wording</u>	<u>Layout</u>	<u>Diameter (mm.)</u>	<u>Date bars (mm)</u>
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(b) Offices not recognised

301	ALLAQI		Arabic/straight	27.5	8
331	FOKA		Arabic/straight	27	7.5
333			Arabic/straight	26	9

LIFE OF THE DATESTAMPS

The circular datestamps of the civil post offices are found struck in black only, so far as our records go.

The following tables show earliest dates and latest dates before the introduction of censorship. Datestamps which had two periods of use, one before and one after an M.P.O. usage, as in Abu Qir, Fig. 203, have these periods indicated by (i) and (ii).

<u>Civil Post Office</u>	<u>Fig.</u>	<u>Earliest Date</u>	<u>Owner</u>	<u>Latest Date</u>	<u>Owner</u>
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(a) Recognised Offices

ABU QIR	201	1 Dec 1932	recorded	16 Dec 1935	Firebrace
	(i) 203	Dec 1932	Gilbert	27 Feb 1936	Minett
	(ii) 203	10 April 1937	Smith	27 Aug 1939	Minett
ABU SUWER	207	15 Dec 1932	Revell	26 Feb 1936	recorded
ALEXANDRIA	211	24 Dec 1932	Firebrace	11 July 1934	Firebrace
	212	3 May 1933	Minett	11 Sept 1934	Firebrace
	(i) 213	23 Sept 1933	Minett	16 Dec 1933	Comber
	214	18 Dec 1933	Firebrace	25 Oct 1935	Minett
	215	7 Feb 1934	Leslie	21 Oct 1935	recorded
	216	10 Sept 1935	Firebrace		
	217	26 Sept 1935	Firebrace	30 Oct 1935	Comber
	218	3 Oct 1935	Firebrace	26 Oct 1935	Firebrace
	(ii) 213	2 Dec 1938	Minett		
	221	4 Feb 1939	Minett		

(cont'd)

<u>Civil Post Office</u>	<u>Fig.</u>	<u>Earliest Date</u>	<u>Owner</u>	<u>Latest Date</u>	<u>Owner</u>
MAMURA	231	24 Nov 1932	Minett	31 Dec 1932	Firebrace
	233	26 Jan 1933	Firebrace	18 Jan 1936	Minett
PORT SAID	241	31 Dec 1932	Firebrace	27 Feb 1936	Byam
	241a	15 Dec 1932	Comber		
	242	27 April 1933	recorded	7 Oct 1935	Leslie
	243	26 Aug 1935	Leslie		
	244	15 Nov 1935	Firebrace	22 Feb 1936	Leslie
	246	18 Feb 1938	Potter		
	247	Dec 1938	Minett		
	248	19 Oct 1937	Firebrace	14 May 1939	Minett
RAS EL TIN	251	28 Nov 1932	Minett	15 April 1933	Firebrace
	(i) 253	3 Nov 1934	Leslie	18 July 1935	Firebrace
	(ii) 253	29 March 1937	Minett		
	255	17 July 1937	Firebrace	8 Oct 1937	Minett
	257	18 April 1938	Firebrace	16 June 1938	Revell
	259	27 Feb 1939	Firebrace		
SIDI BISHR	261	10 Feb 1938	Heap	28 April 1939	Minett
SIDI GABER	271	12 Feb 1937	Firebrace	14 Feb 1938	Minett
	273	24 April 1937	Heap	4 April 1939	Minett
	275	18 May 1938	Heap	21 Feb 1939	recorded
	277	24 June 1939	Minett	1 Sept 1939	recorded

(b) Offices not recognised

ALLAQI	301	1 Aug 1938	Firebrace
FOKA	331	16 Jan 1936	Minett
	333	29 Aug 1939	Firebrace

CONCLUSION

We have tried to show how the civil datestamps are complementary to the military datestamps as they were used to supplement the date brackets of the military datestamps to cover the period from 1 November 1932 up to Sept. 1939. Covering this whole period Cairo and Moascar used only military datestamps

while Abu Qir, Alexandria and Port Said sandwiched the life of their Military Post Offices between periods of civil use. Abu Sueir, the only other place with both civil and military datestamps did not revert to civil datestamps, the military post office probably remaining open continuously into the period of censorship, although examples so far recorded cannot be said to confirm unbroken use.

Examples from the post offices that were recognised are not very difficult to come by, but examples of specific datestamps may be difficult, especially certain datestamps from Alexandria and Port Said, where we have recorded only single examples. The scarce marks are undoubtedly those from the unrecognised offices and we expect more to be revealed.

As with our previous study on the Military Post Offices, we acknowledge with grateful thanks the loan of material which has been of assistance to us with the civil post offices. We are also grateful for letters containing new information on the military post offices previously dealt with and some newly recorded dates where relevant to this study have been included.

Our next study will deal with Named Post Offices during Censorship. If it is not convenient or desirable to send original material for recording please send the following information about each cover:-

Post Office - Civil or Military, wording, type, colour, date.

Postal Rate - including details of adhesives, Army Post, Air or definitive.

Destination of cover - with dates of arrival or forwarding c.d.s.

Censor - type (sketch), number and colour, name of censoring officer (if legible), base censor and labels and whether privilege envelope.

Location and/or Unit - whereabouts of sender and unit.

to:- Charles Minett, Keeper of the Philatelic Record,  
Egypt Study Circle,  
"Fairmead",  
Bridgefield Rd.,  
Tankerton,  
Kent.

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Marc Pourpe. Our member Mr. George L. Lee (No. 101) of 2400 Vauxhall Rd., Union, New Jersey, U.S.A., is anxious to obtain one of these covers. Would any member who can help him in any way in this difficult search please write to him direct.

The following members have expressed a desire to enter into correspondence with any member(s) interested in their particular subjects:-

No. 114 - Peter R. Feltus, Hong Kong American Hotel, 515 Central Building,  
Hong Kong - Revenue and Salt Tax.

No. 115 - L. Thompson (address on page 13) - Forces' Mail and Air Mail covers.

The meeting of the Circle due to be held on January 19th. 1963, and of which a report would have been included in this issue, was postponed until February 23rd. due to weather conditions.

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The Record

The following publications have been donated to the Circle and the Keeper has made grateful acknowledgement.

1. Australia and New Zealand to Great Britain (Wartime Services 1939-45) by O.R.J. Lee, reprinted from "The Aero Field" and presented by John Firebrace (Circle No. 71). This is a condensed article of the Research Study that won the first prize in "The Aero Field" Anniversary Award, 1961, and gives some details of the 1940-42 period when the Mediterranean route was closed and the Anti-Blockade Horseshoe Route via the Cape came into being (when Waghorn turned in his grave!).
2. The Egyptian Government's "Postal Administration Annual Reports" for 1934 and 1935, passed on by John Gilbert, who received them on "permanent loan" from E.C. Baker Esq., lately Archivist at the G.P.O., London.
3. A copy of an Official Post Office List of all British Field Post Office Numbers of World War II, with dates of issue etc. and locations. Presented by Brigadier C.D. Rawson C.B.E D.S.O. (Member No. 54).

It is intended to publish relevant extracts from each of the above in future numbers of the Quarterly Circular.

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New Members

- No. 116 Herr Erich Haffele, Westermanstrasse 5, 8940 Memmingen, West Germany.  
No. 117 Mr. C. Angus Parker, 408 Strand, London W.C.2.

Resignation

- No. 56 Major H. Lees-Randell

New Addresses

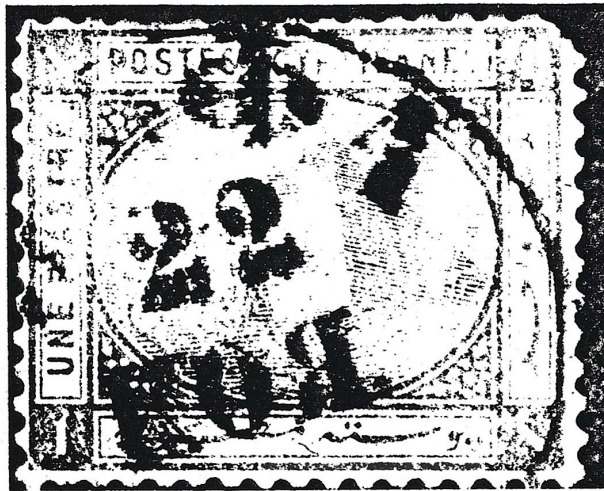
- No. 17 Mr. Charles Fox, 351 West 24th. Street, New York 11, N.Y., U.S.A.  
No. 100 Mr. Richard A. Voegeli, 2784 Union Street, San Francisco 23, Calif'a  
U.S.A.  
No. 115 Mr. L. Thompson, 138 A.M.Q., R.A.F. Marham, King's Lynn, Norfolk.

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Russian Consular Post Office in Jaffa

A marking previously unrecorded  
on an Egyptian stamp

by J.H.E. Gilbert (Member No. 50)



This stamp was shown at a recent meeting of the Society of Postal Historians in London by Mr. A. Droar.

It is a 1P. rose-pink adhesive of Egypt, 4th. issue of 1879, with the Russian cancellation of Jaffa. The cancellation is shown as Type III in the Russian used abroad books, i.e. a thick serified type in greenish-blue, name at top, and it was introduced in 1870. There is also a later type which has the last two figures of the year added.

The translation of this Russian cancellation reads, I am informed, JAFFA 22 Nov.

It is believed that the Egyptian Post Office in Jaffa was opened from July 1870 and closed in Feb. 1872, and the few known copies from this office are cancelled between these dates. The adhesive illustrated above was not issued until April 1879. Could this Russian cancellation be an arrival or transit mark put on a letter from Egypt, possibly addressed to Jerusalem and going via Jaffa, which was years after the Egyptian Post Office in Jaffa was closed?

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Booklets (Q.C. Vol.V Nos.11/12 Page 120)

Attention of members interested is drawn to Q.C. Vol.II No. 10 (March 1945) Pages 133-135, "Egyptian Stamp Booklets - by A.S.Mackenzie-Low", which includes a check-list and refers also to notes in earlier numbers of the Q.C.  
(Editor)

It was grand to receive a letter from G.T.Houston (Member No. 83) in which, among other interesting points, he reminds us of certain references to booklets, viz. Q.C. for January 1955 (Vol. IV No. 8 Page 106, Whole number 44) which contains an analysis of material in his collection of various de la Rue booklet stamps; and Robson Lowe Encyclopaedia - Africa, pages 260 and 262.

Mr. Houston continues, "In this connection I would like to mention that in the late Douglas McNeille's, as well as Angeloglou's, opinion the rarest Egyptian booklet is the 5mils. pink with the Crown overprint - mentioned in the Mackenzie-Low and Byam study on the Crown overprints (L.O.P. July 1935 page 15 and October 1935 page 13).

"As the Crown overprints were my favourite stamps of Egypt, and McNeille was also a keen student of these, we spent many hours poring over this material. I well remember going with McNeille into Angeloglou's shop in Cairo one day during the early days of the 1939 war. McNeille bought a few items and then turned to Angeloglou and said, 'Look here, Angeloglou, we specialists must encourage youngsters like H. to carry on our work. So what about letting H. have that last booklet pane and pair in your stock of the 5mils. Crown overprint?'. Angeloglou promptly agreed and took that treasure out of his safe and so these eight mint booklet stamps changed owners .....

"Of course, I treasure this Crown booklet pane and pair as one of the star items of my Crown overprint collection, surpassed only by my recent acquisition in the Byam sale of the unique bottom right corner block of four 1mil. inverted overprint Type II, with the two varieties 'dots missing' and 'broken frame', neither of which are listed by Zeheri - otherwise they should be Z69IIca and cb, both unique!".  
(Editor)

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Q.C. - Back numbers

It is clear from the volume of correspondence received as a result of the notice that one of our members had bound volumes for sale, that many members are interested, and in particular in those numbers containing matter referring to their special interests.

The matter is to be discussed at the next meeting, but should any member already have copies which he is willing to pass on would he please write to the Secretary.

.....