

THE QUARTERLY CIRCULAR

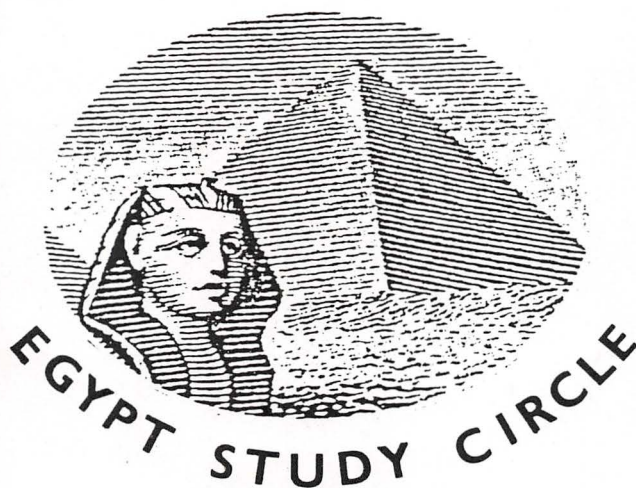
EH.

Volume XI

Number 3

September 1981

Whole Series 119



All contents Copyright (c) 1981 Egypt Study Circle,
London and the contributors.

Next Meetings

1981

- October 10 - J.A.Firebrace
(1) Napoleonic and 1882 Campaign
(2) 1914 - 1916
- December 12 -

Volume XI Number 3 Sept 1981 Whole Series Number 119

C O N T E N T S

	page
Announcements	53-54
Obituary, the late R.A.G.Potter	55
Report of 1981 Provincial Meeting, Birmingham	56
Report of London Meeting, August	56
Named Military Datestamps used in Egypt 1895-1920	
J.A.Firebrace and F.W.Benians	57-65
United States APO's in Egypt	66-73
Turkish Prisoners of War in Egypt, 1914-18	74-76
Fuad 1927, Maritime Cancels, additional Notes	77,81
Fuad 1927, Flaw on 3-mills, No. 100, Comment	78
Q. Time 32 Flaws on 1915 Official Overprint (litho)	78-79
Q. Time 33 1908 Official cachet	78-79
Q. Time 34 Greek Consular Agencies in Egypt	80-81
Q. Time 35 Registered Letter posted out of course	80,83
Q. Time 36 Return to Sender	82-83
1869 20 para: New Discovery: pair Imperf. between	82,81

A N N O U N C E M E N T SBRITISH PHILATELIC EXHIBITION, 1981

B.P.E. was held at the Wembley Exhibition Complex, being open from 29th September to 2nd October.

Volume X of "The Quarterly Circular" of Egypt Study Circle was entered in B.P.E. Literature Section; it is believed that this is the first time that our journal has been shown at an exhibition.

The Q.C. gained the only Silver-Gilt medal awarded for Literature, and was also awarded the Francis Webb Memorial Trophy for Literature. (It is believed that this is the first occasion that the Literature Trophy has been won by a study circle journal).

The basis of marking was changed this year and the details, in fact, were first generally known on publication of the Exhibition Catalogue. The Rules as to marking are :-

- (c) Marking: Generally the judges will not be influenced by bindings, gold blocking, paper, printing, etc., but items which are notably badly produced are liable to downgrading. Marks will be given for :-
- Originality, significance and depth of research (40%)
 - Presentation of contents: style, accuracy, clarity, skill in communication (40%)
 - Technical production / Editing: Use of illustrations, index, references, bibliography, etc. (20%)

It is clear from these marking rules that the success of the Q.C. at B.P.E. is very much the result of a team effort, with the emphasis on the quality of research.

Announcements - ContinuedB.P.E. (continued)

Mr D.J.Davis (ESC 213) is to be congratulated on his B.P.E. entry "Airmails of Egypt" which won a Bronze-Silver medal.

The Q.C.

Apologies to the following Members, whose submissions could not be accommodated in the pages of this issue, but which will appear in our next issue :-

Mr F. Rowland Hill (ESC 212) - 'Industrial Relations - Waghorn style'
 Mr C.E.H.Defriez (ESC 172) - New Issues, August-December 1980
 Maj. E.L.G.MacArthur (ESC 125)- Expert Committee certificates Nos 425
 to 461

MEMBERS' WANTS

De La Rue 1879-1913: all cancellations; postal history; supplementary frankings on postal stationery; frankings on cover; plate blocks. Priced Xeroxes or descriptive lists please. - Alain R. Stragier (ESC 241)

French Postal Activity: French P.O.'s in Egypt; French Ship lines; French involvement in World War I. Priced Xeroxes or descriptive lists, please.

- Alain R. Stragier (ESC 241)
 Bd. Mettwie 83, Bte 15,
 B - 1080 Bruxelles
 Belgium

ESC EXPERT COMMITTEE

We are glad to say that the Chairman of the E.S.C. Expert Committee, Major E.L.G.MacArthur (ESC 125), is asking for submissions.

The charges made by our Expert Committee have to be increased, as was mentioned previously, and will now be as follows :-

Single items	£ 2
Pairs	£ 2.50
Multiples	£ 3
Cover	£ 3

PLUS return Registered postage in all cases.

The scale of charges above is dependent, partly, upon an economic quantity for photography. Major MacArthur needs about 20 items per photographic session. If you submit about 20 items, you are likely to have them dealt with reasonably speedily but, if you submit less, there may well be a delay while an economic quantity is being built up.

These charges still represent an enormous bargain ! They are much less than charges made by other bodies competent to issue certificates, and whose certificates are accepted by world-wide philately.

ARTWORK SUBMITTED TO THE Q.C.

Unless Members specifically request the return of their artwork, or other original material, the Editor will presume that this can be passed to an appropriate department of the Circle, after being finished with for printing. Such material will normally be passed to the Keeper of the Philatelic Record, or to the Study Leader concerned.

O B I T U A R Y

The Late R. A. G. Potter (ESC 86)

It is with the greatest regret that we have to record the death of Ronald A. G. Potter on 7th May 1981.

'Ron' was a long-standing Member of the Circle and had recently begun to attend meetings again after a long and severe illness which had obviously taken its toll physically. Most Members will probably know of the sterling work carried out by Ron as Editor of the 'Quarterly Circular' - often under very trying conditions - but he had also undertaken studies on behalf of the Circle, notably on the Official stamps of Egypt.

Being a stamp dealer as well as a collector, and also a member of a Study Circle, must have raised problems at times, but it was one of Ron's cardinal rules that his dealer status did not interfere with membership of the Circle nor with his relationship with his fellow members. However, if any interesting items came to hand and were of interest to the Circle, they were invariably shown at meetings, and of course assistance was always given should any Member require items for his collection. As an instance of the interest and help given to Members perhaps I may be forgiven for quoting an example. The late Charles Minett have invited the writer to stay the weekend at Whitstable to study a particular issue; when, at approximately midnight on the Saturday, we realised that further material was required, a neighbour provided the transport and off we went to Maidstone, and knocked up the Potter household. Despite the hour (everyone was of course asleep in bed) we were invited in, plied with tea and refreshments, and all the relevant material (a considerable amount) which was in stock. The session finally ended about midday on Sunday with the wish that the Study had been furthered.

This outlook made Ron a staunch friend and a very valuable Member of the Circle. He will be missed greatly by the Circle, as I am sure he will be missed by his family, who have all our sympathy in their great loss.

- Peter Andrews (ESC 122)

REPORT OF ESC MEETINGS

Provincial Meeting held on 13 June 1981 at the Birmingham & Midland Institute, Birmingham.

Present: Mr J. Sears (Chairman) and Messrs P. Andrews, W.C. Andrews, F.J. Rowland Hill, E.H. Fraser Smith, R. Lockwood, D.H. Clarke, J. Davis, E.C. Henderson, C.E.H. Defriez, K. Pogson and E. Hall (Secretary).

After welcoming the Members to Birmingham and thanking Mr Peter Andrews for making the arrangements once again, the Chairman formally reported the death of Ron Potter (ESC 86), and paid tribute to him, and to all the valuable work he had done for the Circle and for Egyptian philately in general. In accordance with the usual custom, the members stood in silence in remembrance.

A new member (R. Lockwood, ESC 250) was welcomed to his first meeting, and he mentioned that his main interests were Postal History, Military Mails, Hotel postmarks, etc.

The Chairman passed on the greetings of the President, Prof. P.A.S. Smith, and those of A. Gordon Bruce (ESC 204), both of whom he had met during the past few days.

The Meeting was then passed to Keith Pogson (ESC 130) who introduced his study on the Second Fuad Issue. This proved most interesting and instructive and Keith was congratulated on the quality of his material and on the clarity of the presentation. Messrs Peter Andrews, Bill Andrew and Cyril Defriez also contributed. As a result of this, it was decided that K. Pogson and P. Andrews would collaborate in preparing a pamphlet dealing with the Issue, to be available for members.

Finally, Peter Andrews showed a selection of Postal Stationery which was also much appreciated.

Circle Meeting No. 195 held on 7 August 1981 at the Peacock, Maiden Lane, London WC2

Present: Mr J. Sears (Chairman) and Messrs P. Andrews, W.C. Andrews, D.H. Clarke, D.J. Davis, P.L. Grech, C.E. Grey, E. Hall, J.S. Horesh, J.M. Murphy and P.E. Whetter.

The Chairman commenced the Meeting by welcoming Mr Pierre Grech to his first meeting, and then reminded members of the Meeting to be held in October. John Firebrace, who is leading on that occasion, particularly wanted contributions from Members' own collection to support his subject.

Mr Stanley Horesh then showed his study of the Palestine first issues, demonstrating the connection between this period and the events taking place in Egypt at the same time.

Mr John Sears showed to members the progress he was making in bringing the study of Egypt Airport cancellations up to date and appealed for details of postmarks in the collections of others. As a measure of light relief (?) he then laid out his album pages of Miniature Sheets mounted with the Commemorative Stamps with which they are associated, together with the Miniature Sheets on cover.

Finally, members were privileged to have a preview of an exhibit destined for B.P.E. 1981. This was presented by Mr John Davis, the subject being Airmail routes, the emphasis being the part played by Egypt as a crossroads of many of the earlier Air Services. Many covers of great interest were shown, and Mr Davis was wished every success in October.

SCANNED JULY '09

Type i Military Post Office.



A i



A ii



A iii



C i



C ii



C iii

Type ii Military P.O.



C iv

Civilian Type of Datestamps (English/Arabic.)

Type iii British Barracks.



C v



C vi



C vii

by J. A. Firebrace (ESC 71) and F. W. Benians (ESC 123)

Authors' Preface

This study is concerned with the datestamps which were either military issues or civilian datestamps with military wording, in use by BRITISH FORCES between 1895 and 1920.

Datestamps which might fall into this category but which were allocated to Australian, Indian or New Zealand Forces ARE NOT INCLUDED.

Army Post Office and Field Post Office datestamps were in use between 1915 and 1920 and accounted for the bulk of the mail but the named military datestamps had an uninterrupted life of 25 years.

This study is in three parts which will be published in consecutive issues of the Q.C. :-

Part I	1895 - 1913	The early period
Part II	1914 - 1919	The war period
Part III	1920	The aftermath

The datestamps are classified and numbered as follows. There are seven main types which are denoted by large Roman figures. Then follow the initial letter of the town, and a number in small Roman figures denoting the chronological order of use of the datestamps of that town. For example, IAI = the first datestamp (i) used in Alexandria (A) of main type I.

It is not proposed to illustrate the minor differences which occur in some of the datestamps as this would involve a mass of detail not directly relevant to the survey attempted in this study. Possibly specialists will want to deal with details of this kind in the future.

- - -

PART I 1895 - 1913 THE EARLY PERIOD

Preliminary: 1807 - 1895

From the disastrous campaign in 1807, when the British withdrew from Alexandria without having achieved any of the objects for which their campaign was designed, upto 1882, British Forces played little part in the history of Egypt.

There was a lot of naval activity at the time of Ibrahim's invasion of Syria when, in 1840, Mehemet Ali became hereditary Pasha of Egypt under the suzerainty of Turkey. There may have been a small British military presence in Egypt at the time of the Abyssinian Campaign of 1867 and there were troop movements across the isthmus of Suez, between Britain and India, especially after the opening of the Suez Canal.

The year 1882 saw the revolt of the Egyptian Army led by Colonel Arabi, Pasha, and Britain was forced to intervene in support of the Egyptian Government to ensure the security of the Suez Canal and thereby protect her communications and trade interests with India and the Far East. The British Expeditionary Force feinted to land on the north coast near Alexandria but in fact landed at Ismailia on the Canal, fought the decisive battle of Tel el-Kebir on the 13th September and occupied Cairo. The British Army Post Office functioned between 28th August and 5th October.

At about this time, Mohammed Ahmed, a religious leader and recluse, later to become known as the Mahdi, began a Holy War in the Sudan. He totally destroyed an Egyptian Army under Major General Hicks near El Obcid in 1883.

MILITARY POST OFFICE / CAIRO.

Post Office Form No 15 D, advising collection of letter with Postage Due of 8 mills payable, with Type C if dated 1.JA. 07.

(No. 15 D ١٥ نمرة)

POST OFFICE — مصلحة البوستة — POSTES



The Delivery Office hereby informs }
Le bureau de la Distribution informe }

يعلم فـالم التـم ووزبع

St. A. Warde-Aldain Esq. Col. Grds. Albassia
جناب

that the following articles are lying to his address, viz: — }
qu'il existe à son adresse:

له موجود باسمه المراسلات الآتية

Letter

Unpaid correspondence for 8 Millièmes مليم _____ مراسله مستحقة عليها أجره بقيمة

Correspondance taxée pour Millièmes _____

Bulky articles.

Objets volumineux.

مطغان كبيرة الحجم

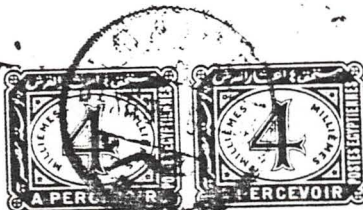
Please forward.



St. A. Warde-Aldain Esq.
Oldstream Guards

Cairo

gypt.



One of his chief lieutenants, Osman Digna, was in revolt along the shores of the Red Sea and campaigns in 1884 and 1885 were carried out by the British primarily to defend the port of Suakin. In the latter campaign the Army Post Office again functioned, between March and May 1885. It did not, however, function in the advance up the Nile by the River Column which failed to reach Khartoum in time to prevent the fall of that city to the Mahdi's troops and the murder of General Gordon.

Following the successful conclusion of the 1882 Campaign, the British Government had every intention of withdrawing from Egypt. The Mahdi's activities in the Sudan and the chaotic state of Egypt's finances militated against a withdrawal. Under the guidance of the British Agent and Consul General, Sir Evelyn Baring, later Lord Cromer, however, the financial situation improved and with the British Army having garrisons at Cairo and Alexandria, the political situation became more stable. To the south there were garrisons at Suakin and Wadi Halfa but the remainder of the Sudan was in the hands of the Mahdi, and after his death the Khalifa, as well as Osman Digna on the Red Sea. There was a state of permanent hostility along what was effectively the southern frontier of Egypt and this was defended by troops of the Egyptian Army alongside regiments of the British Army.

The Army which had stayed on after 1882 was known as the Army of Occupation but the correct official title was the "Force in Egypt". In 1895, this Force consisted principally of :-

- 2 Dragoon Guards: The Queen's Bays
- 32 Field Battery, Royal Artillery
- 2 Fortress Company, Royal Engineers
- Four battalions of Infantry

Ten years after the closure of the British Army Post Office at Suakin, the next British military datestamp came into use.

1895 - 1913 The Early Period

We come now to the introduction in Alexandria and Cairo of the named military datestamps. Egypt, as a member of the U.P.U., maintained the right to carry all mail within its frontiers and postal charges on overseas and internal mail were prepaid by Egyptian postage stamps. The post offices using these datestamps were Egyptian civil post offices situated in or near British military garrisons and the uses to which these datestamps were put were principally on incoming or redirected mail or very occasionally to cancel the stamp on outgoing mail.

The first three types of datestamp and their wordings were :-

Type I	Military Post Office	Alexandria, Cairo
Type II	Military P.O.	Cairo
Type III	British Barracks	Cairo

Type I Military Post Office

The first type of datestamp, sometimes known as the barrel type, had the wording wholly in English with the words "Military Post Office" round the top and the town name at the foot. The date was between horizontal bars, above and below which was a number of vertical bars in segments. Two versions are known from Alexandria and three from Cairo. Distinguishing features are the layout of the wording at top and the way in which the month is expressed.

ON HIS MAJESTY'S SERVICE.

REGISTERED

CAIRE
No. 5,846 R

ARMY PAY OFFICE

CAIRO, EGYPT

Lieut. W. St. A. Warde Aldam
3rd Bn Coldstream Guards
Abbassia.



25 11 08 5 30 PM. CAIRO.

On His Majesty's Service.

Registered Letter postage free to Abbassia.

Civil Registration Caire R 5846.

REGISTERED handstamp.

ARMY PAY OFFICE, CAIRO, EGYPT.

via MILITARY POST OFFICE, CAIRO. 26 11 08.



Lieutenant W. St. A. Warde Aldam.

3rd. Battalion, Coldstream Guards.

served in Egypt from June 1906 to Aug. 1910.

3rd. Battalion served in Egypt

from October 1906 to February 1911.

	... ALEXANDRIA C A I R O				
	<u>IAi</u>	<u>IAii</u>	<u>ICi</u>	<u>ICii</u>	<u>ICiii</u>
Diameter, mm	28.5	29.5	28	28	28
Length of name, mm	20	24	17.5	18	19
'Military Post Office' - no. of lines	Two	Two	One	One	Two
Space between date bars, mm	4.25	8	4.5	4.75	7.5
Number of vertical bars	5.5	5.5	5.5	5.5	7.8
Month expressed in	Roman	Roman	Roman	French	Roman
Recorded dates (for incoming mail):-					
Earliest date	27 JL 97	30 JA 13	18 FE 95	2 AU 00	26 JY 07
Latest date	10 JL 07	28 JY 16	14 JL 99	23 OC 07	15 FE 16

Recorded examples of letters and postcards addressed to military units :-

ALEXANDRIA

IAi

22 JL 97 Army Service Corps
 17 JU 00 H.M.S.
 23 JA 02 - 20 JL 02 Military Hospital, Ras el Tin
 21 AP 04 10 JL 05 Royal Berkshire Regiment, Mustapha Barracks

IAii

30 JA 13 - 28 FE 13 Military Hospital, Ras el Tin

CAIRO

ICi

17 MY 95 Senior Chaplain to the Forces, Cairo
 21 AP 96 Queen's Bays, Abbasiyeh
 25 AP 97 North Staffordshire Regiment
 22 AU 97 A.S.C. Kasr el Nil
 14 JY 99 Rifle Brigade (attached Egyptian Army)

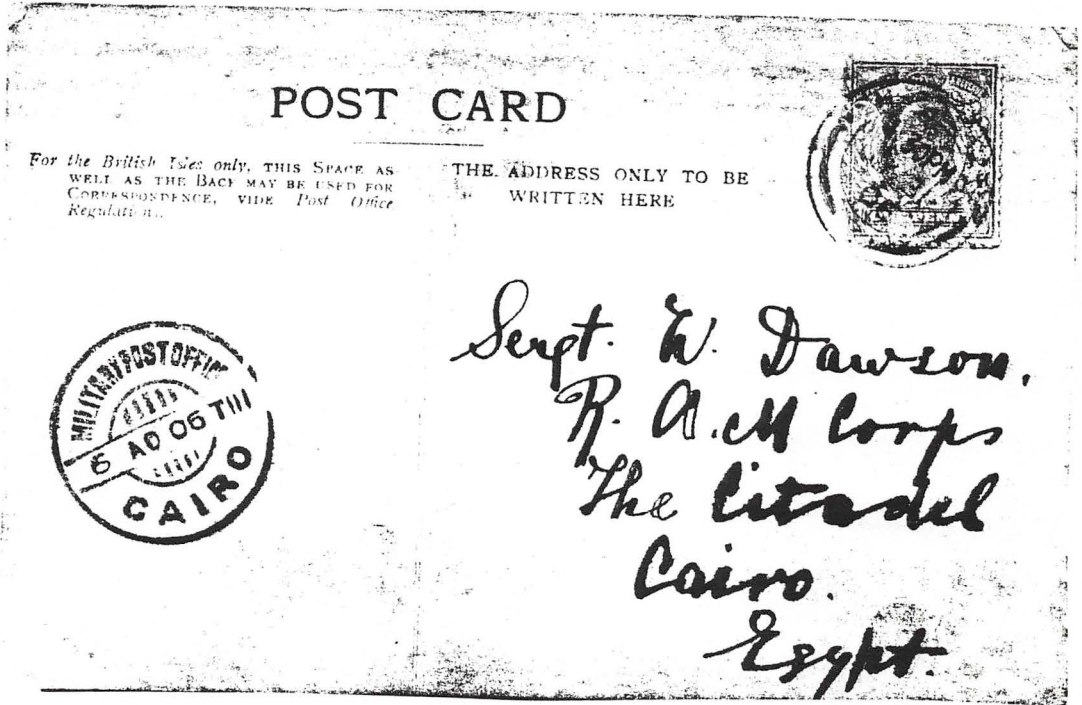
ICii

24 AU 00 - 22 AP 01 XI Hussars, Abbasiyeh
 22 JA 02 - 20 OC 05 Military Hospital, the Citadel
 2 JY 05 Army Service Corps, the Citadel
 18 MR 06 - 17 SE 06 Royal Berkshire Regiment, the Citadel
 22 OC 06 - 1 JA 07 Coldstream Guards, Abbasiyeh
 25 OC 07 Army Service Corps, Abbasiyeh

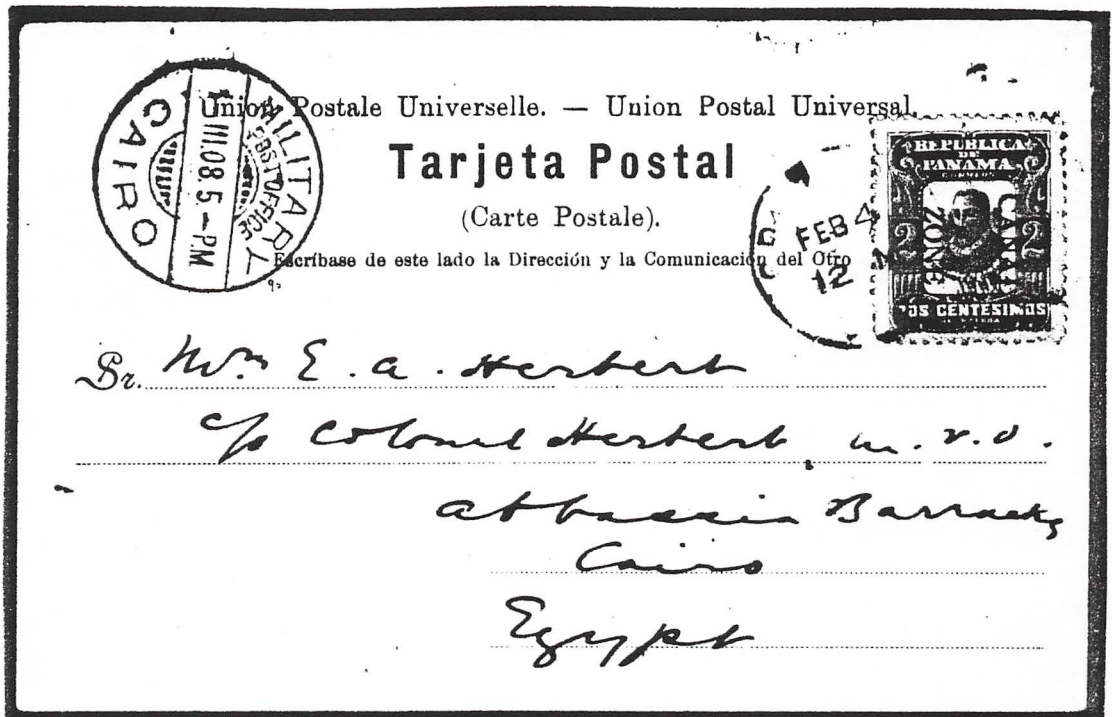
ICiii

11 AU 07 - 16 MR 08 Coldstream Guards, Abbassia
 26 DE 07 12 MR 08 R.A.M.C. The Citadel
 13 SE 08 King's Own Scottish Borderers, the Citadel
 18 FE 12 Suffolk Regiment, the Citadel
 25 OC 12 19 DE 12 Welch Regiment, Abbassia

Post Card addressed to 'Sergt. W. Dawson, R.A.M. Corps,
The Citadel, Cairo, Egypt.'
Date stamp Type C ii dated 6 AO 06 T iii.



Post Card from The Republic of Panama, addressed -
c/o. Colonel Herbert, M.V.O., Abbassia Barracks, Cairo.
Date stamp Type C iii dated 1 iii 08. 5-PM.



The letter addressed to the Rifle Brigade, Cairo, received on 14 JY 99 was addressed to an officer attached to the Egyptian Army. In 1899 there were 144 British officers serving with the Egyptian Army.

Only one date has been recorded for the use of Type I datestamp being used to cancel stamps on outgoing mail in the early period. That date is 3 MR 97, Type IAi, the earliest known date for Alexandria.

More than one postcard is recorded for this date addressed to the well known Captain Brooks, either in Greek or Arabic, in the latter case in his capacity as the Secretary of the R.S.P.C.A. in Cairo. Captain Brooks had a distinguished military career and a little help from philatelic friends.

He served for 21 years, 12 days, in the ranks, for a time in Egypt in 1867 in connection with the Abyssinian Expedition. He was wounded in the Zulu War of 1879 and was at the Battle of Tel el-Kebir in Egypt in the 1882 Campaign, serving as a Warrant Officer, a rank he held for 3 years, 329 days. He was a Conductor of Supplies and as a result of his services in this campaign was promoted Quartermaster in the Commissariat and Transport Corps. He took part in the Nile Expedition, 1884-85 and saw action at the battle of Kirbeken. He was promoted Captain in 1893 and retired in 1898 after serving for forty years.

Type II Military P.O.

The second type of datestamps has been recorded from Cairo only - IICiv - and has the initials 'P.O.' instead of 'Post Office' in full. The diameter is 24 mm, the town name length 14 mm, the space between bars 8 mm, and the month is expressed in Roman figures.

Earliest date 9 DE 13. Latest date 28 JA 14

Recorded examples :-

9 DE 13	The Suffolk Regiment, The Citadel
28 JA 14	R.A.M.C. The Citadel

Type III British Barracks

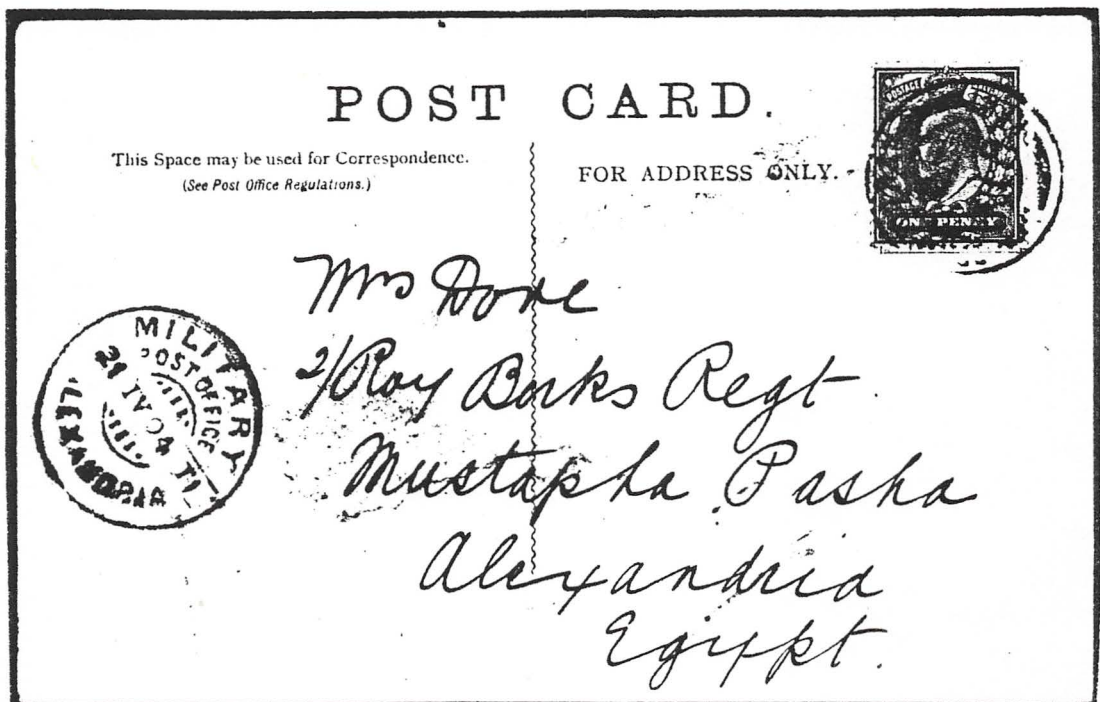
These datestamps are of the normal Egyptian type, with the English inscription at the top in two lines and the Arabic equivalent at the foot. They are normally found as datestamps of origin cancelling Egyptian stamps and most letters found are addressed to Britain. Two versions are known, from Cairo only, and the life of both extends into the War Period.

	<u>IIICv</u>	<u>IIICvi</u>
Diameter, mm	29	29
Length of name, mm	8.25	9
Space between date bars, mm	10.5	10.5
Characteristics	'C' under 'SH'	'C' under 'S'
Earliest date	SE 12	23 AP 13
Latest date	6 FE 15	27 FE 15

Post Card addressed to : 'Captain Brooks, Secretary for the Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, Alexandria.' It is unusual to find this type of date stamp cancelling the postage stamp. Cancel dated 3 iii 97.



Post Card addressed to '2/Roy. Berks. Regt. Mustapha Pasha, Alexandria.' The date stamp has been used as an arrival mark. Cancelled 21 iv 04 Ti.



UNITED STATES ARMY POST OFFICES IN EGYPT

by Prof. Peter A. S. Smith (ESC 74)

A recent chat with John Sears reminded me that the last time that the subject of these notes was mentioned in the QC was no less than 26 years ago (Vol. IV, No. 8, pp 102-103, January 1955). Since that time, there has been an illustrated article in EGYPTIAN TOPICS (Vol. 4, pp 84-89, August 1972). Meanwhile, the War Cover Club has published a new edition of the list of locations of US APO's in World War II (GEOGRAPHIC LOCATIONS OF U.S. APO's, 1941-1978, compiled by James Shaffer, 1979), and there are some small changes from earlier lists, resulting from further access to official archives. The list presented here incorporates this new information.

Soldiers had the free-franking privilege, but it did not pay for air mail; many covers therefore bear stamps, adhesive or impressed stationery, to defray the 6¢ air mail rate. Civilians attached to the armed forces were allowed to use the APO's, but they had to use stamps even for surface mail (the rate was 5¢ per oz.). I have never seen an example of registered mail, and do not know if registry service was available. The stamps I have seen used on covers from Egypt are :-

- 1938 Presidential series: 2¢ carmine, 5¢ blue.
- 1942 "Win the War" 3¢
- 1940 "Defense" 1¢, 2¢
- 1938 "Northwest Territory" commemorative 3¢
- 1942 "Kentucky Statehood" commemorative 3¢
- 1934-44 postal stationery envelope with 6¢ orange impressed stamp, with or without red and blue border, and in two sizes.
- 1941 Air Mail, 6¢ carmine.

The cancellations used were of various types, generally consisting of a circular date stamp bearing within it, in various locations, the number of the APO, in duplex with an obliterator of parallel bars. A machine cancellation with wavy lines for obliteration was also used at some offices. A selection of these is shown on the illustrated covers. Inasmuch as regulations required the obliterating bars to fall on the stamp, and the date stamp on the envelope, stamps off cover can almost never be identified as having been used in Egypt.

From July 1st 1942, to March 9th 1943, a directive from the War Department required the APO numbers to be absent from the cancelling devices. The purpose of this is not clear, for covers from the period almost invariably include the APO number in the return address written clearly on the outside ! There are many instances of a return address having a different APO number from that seen in the postmark. This situation results from mailing addresses not always being identical with the post office of despatch. In all examples I have seen, both APO numbers are from Egyptian locations.

The APO's were not permanently fixed in most cases, but were relocated as operations required. For this reason, one must pay attention to dates to be sure of a location in Egypt. Although the dates given in the list are for the most part official ones, they should not be regarded as infallible; it may have taken a number of days for an ordered relocation to be put into effect.

Mail not addressed to the USA or possessions required Egyptian stamps. Examples are extremely scarce, but they do exist.

(A) APO Numbers believed to have been put in use.

		Opened	
485	Kabrit	12 Jan '43	(to Castel Benito, Libya, June '43)
486	Deversoir	12 Jan '43	
	Heliopolis	1 Mar '45	CO 31 Oct '45
498	Camp Huckstep, Heliopolis	(from Benghazi)	
		14 Oct '43	(to Tripoli 1 May '44)

United States Army Post Offices in Egypt - Continued(A) APO Numbers believed to have been put in use. (continued)

Opened

616 Cairo 27 July '42
Camp Huckstep Oct '43
Cairo Dec. '46 (to Dharan, Arabia, 7 March '47)
616-2 Camp Huck. (seen 11 Sep. '43) (616-1, Dharan; 616A, Teheran;
616 Box 5, Beyrouth)

678 HQ, Middle East Command
Camp Huck. (Seen 2 Mar. '42) CO Oct. '46
678-1 Camp Huck.

681 Abu Suweir 20 Nov. '42 (from Palestine; to Libya Apr. '43)
683 Fayid 20 Nov. '42 (to Gambut, Cyrenaica, 1 Feb. '43)
684 Mobile Unit, US Air Force in Middle East, Egypt
17 May, '43 (from Asmara)
Camp Ataka 3 Oct. '43
Camp Huck. 16 Jan. '44
Alexandria Apr. '44 CO 13 Dec. '46
685 Cairo (mobile) 16 May '43
Cairo 16 Jan. '44 (to Benghazi 1 Aug. '44)

686 HQ, Suez Canal Ports
Suez 3 Oct. '43 (from Massawa)
Port Taufiq 27 Oct. '43
Camp Ataka 16 Jan. '44
Cairo (mobile) Nov. '44 (susp. 6 Dec. '44; CO 15 May '46)
Cairo 1 Mar. '45

696 HQ 9th Air Force
Cairo 23 Dec. '42 (to England 25 Nov. '43)

785 Alexandria 30 Nov. '42 (to Gambut 4 Jan. '43)
786 Alexandria 5 Dec. '42 (to Gambut 24 Jan. '43)
787 HQ US Army Forces Middle East; HQ Africa-Middle East Theater
21 Jan. '43 (CO Sept. '46)

788 John H. Payne Field, Heliopolis
3 Oct. '43 CO 7 Mar. '47

814 Cairo 25 June '42 CO 12 Aug. '42 (Replaced by 616)
1060 Cairo (seen 8 Aug. '42, mailing address only)
1221 (Egypt) (seen 15 Sept. '42, " " " ")
(also seen for Palestine and Libya)
1222 (Egypt) (seen July '42, mailing address only)
1224 Heliopolis Depot (seen Oct.-Dec. '42; mailing address only)

* * *

608 Khartoum, Sudan: 9 June '42 CO 17 July '45
(608M ? ? (seen 9 May '44)

* * *

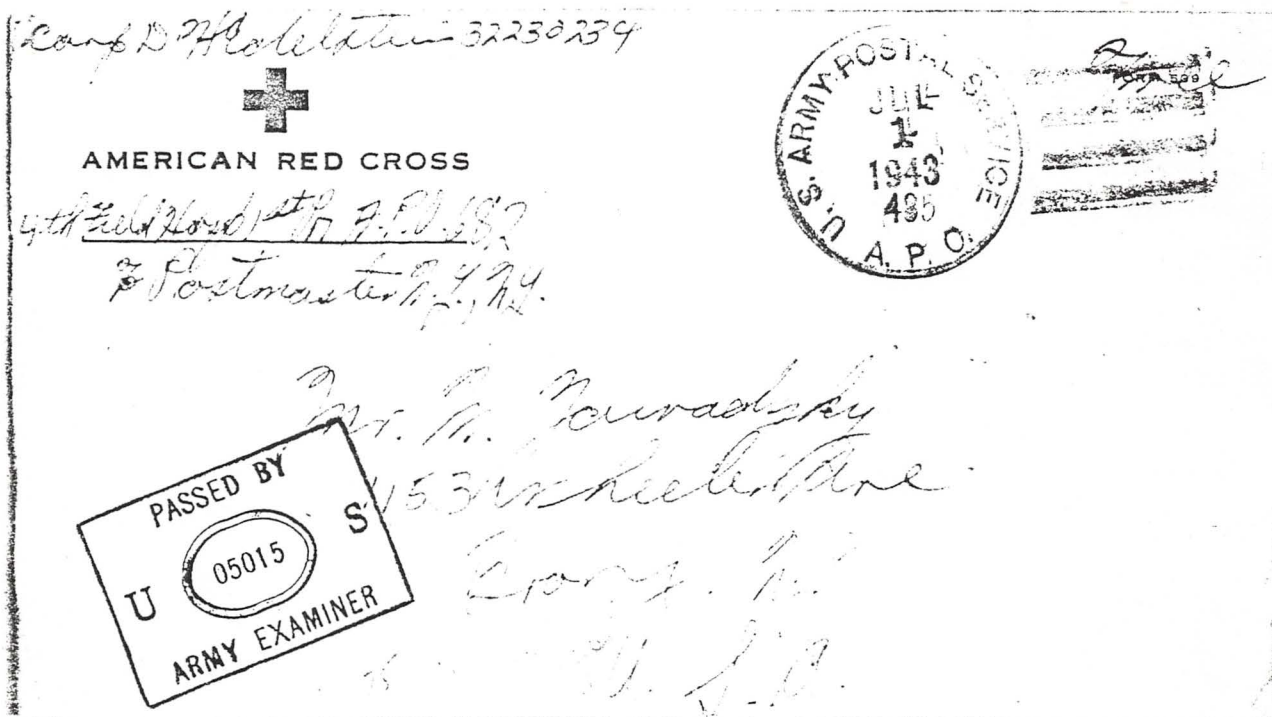
(B) Offices not believed to have been operated in Egypt, but assigned to Cairo in January 1946, for termination in April or May, 1946.

523, 535, 680, 795, 797, 799, 816, 824
(APO 816 was issued to Dharan in March, 1946)

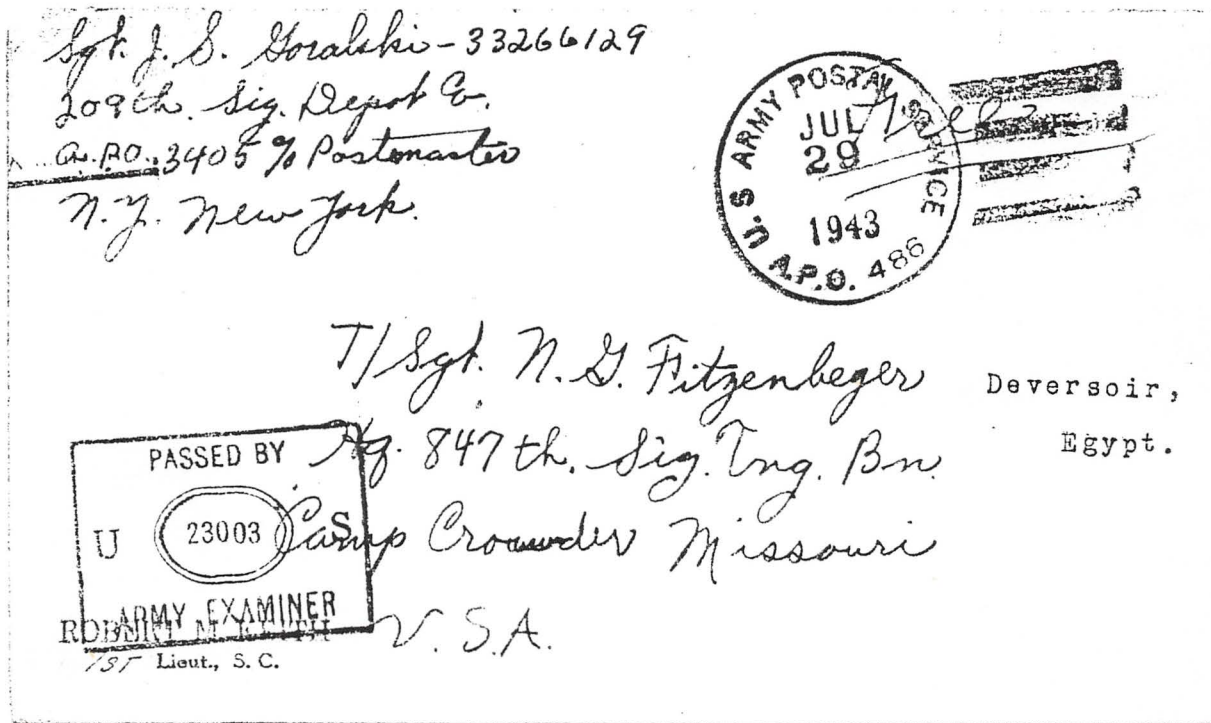
* * *

(C) Uncertain

APO 626 assigned to Heliopolis 16 Jan. '43 (from Nairobi), and assigned to
Benghazi in March, 1943.



Cancellation of APO 485, return address APO 682, probably just after removal to Libya



Surface Mail cover from APO 486; both cds and censor mark in blue

Vol. Harry O. Kraft
Amer. Field Service
A.P.O. 616, % Postmaster
New York, New York.



Miss Laura

5799 Lakewood Avenue,
Detroit, Michigan
U.S.A.

AIR MAIL



Cover from APO 616 in 1943, with APO Number restored

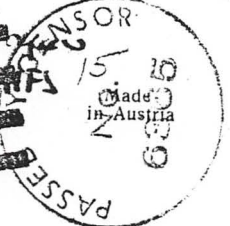
Nicholas J. Parrino
OFFICE OF WAR INFORMATION
OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
CAIRO, EGYPT.



Mr. Bede Irvin
Associated Press Photo
The News
Detroit, Mich.
U.S.A.

Cover with APO Number excised (probably 616), identifiable as to location only by return address

Vol. John N. Wisotzky
Amer. Field Service
A.P.O. 616 - % Postmaster
New York, N.Y.



Mr. George Love

Dear George:

In fine health and busy 53 N. Duke Street.

Regards
John

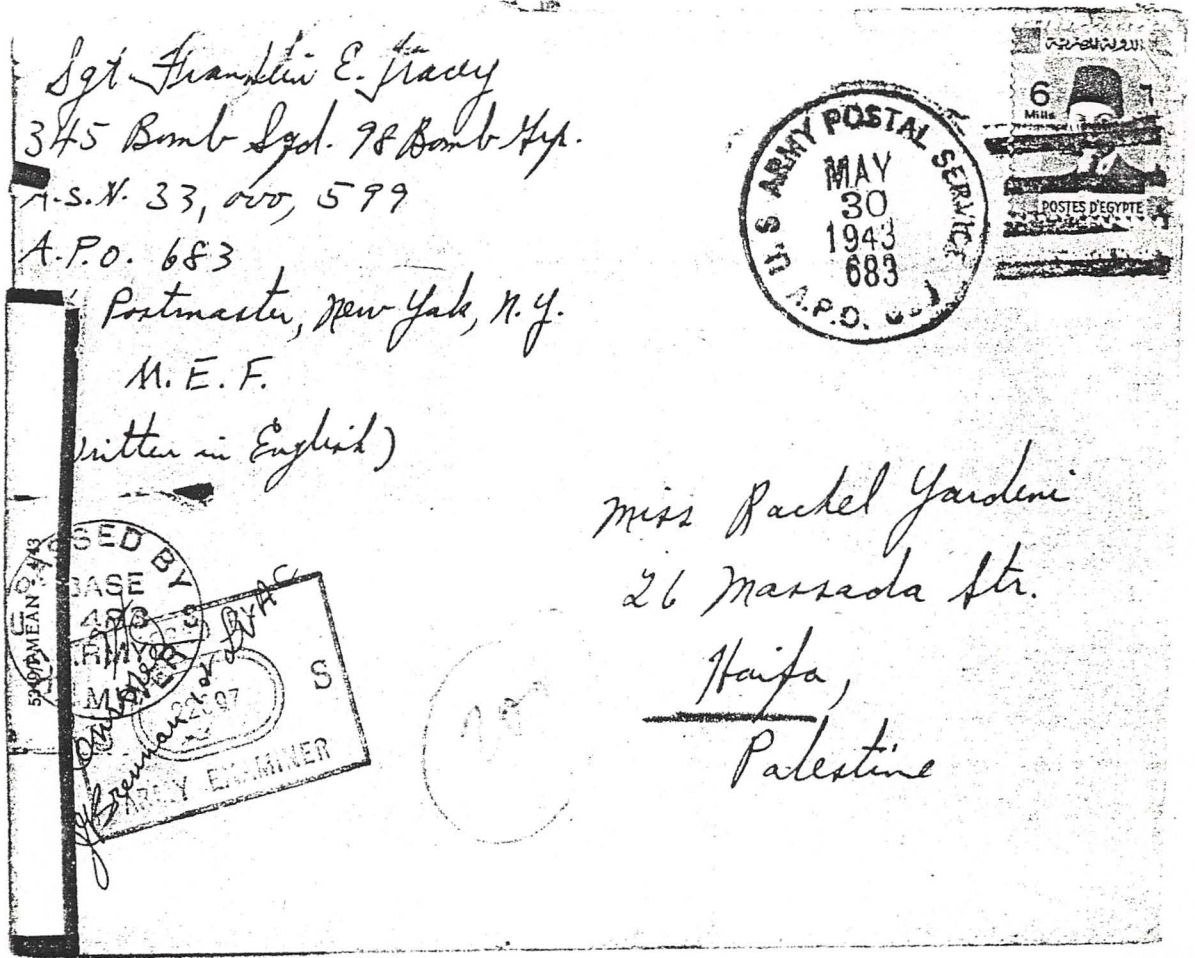


York Ora.

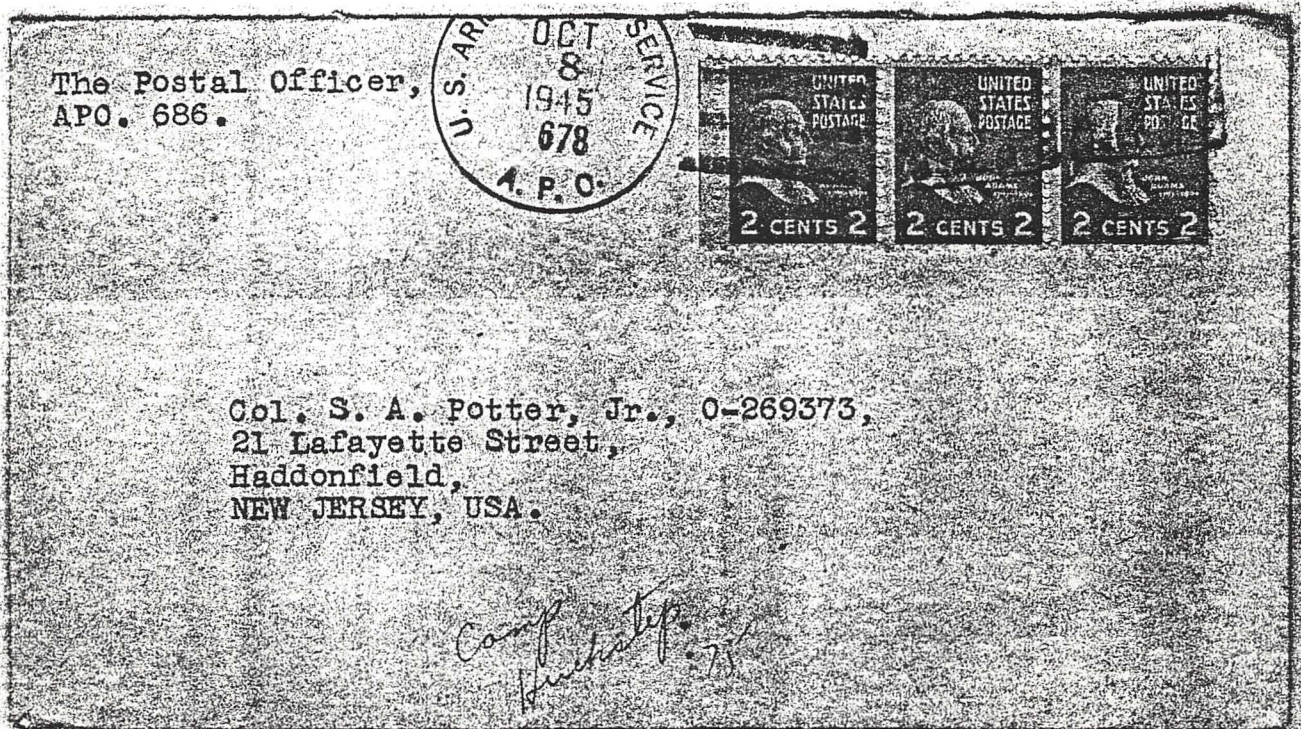
U.S.A.

76/143

Postcard from civilian at APO 616; surface rate overpaid



Cover from APO 683 (Fayid), franked with Egypt 6m because it was addressed to Palestine. (This APO recorded to have been removed to Cyrenaica three months before)



Cover from APO 678, return address APO 686

U.S. A.P.O.'s

APO 678, Post Office Official
Mail

71

PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE TO
AVOID PAYMENT OF POSTAGE \$300



POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT
POST OFFICE INQUIRY SECTION
OFFICIAL BUSINESS
APO 616
(No. 13)

Postmaster
New York 1, New York

Money Order Division
App. for Dup. M. O.

*Helena
EAT*

Cover cancelled APO 678 by machine;
return address APO 616

*F. Shalek
Construction Co.
APO 616 NYC*



*Herlocker Pub. Co. Dept X
20 Greenwich St.
New York 6, N.Y.*

75

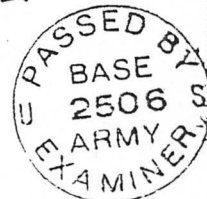
Col. D. T. Nelson, F.A.
A.P.O. # 787,
% Postmaster, N.Y.

Cancellation APO 616; return address
APO 787 (Cairo/Heliopolis)



*Canceled by
Col. D.T. Nelson, F.A.
A.P.O. # 787*

Mrs D.T. Nelson
2300 N. Columbus St
Arlington,
Cairo Egypt Va 500



MAJOR William Wall O'HEARN, F.A.,
0-192519

William Wall O'Hearn

JICA
A.P.O. # 787,
% Postmaster,
NEW YORK,
NEW YORK.



Mr. P. T. BARNUM,
7 BASWORTH STREET,
Boston,
Massachusetts,

Cover cancelled at APO 696;
with return address APO 787
(both Cairo); Sept. 13th, 1943

*Canceled By:
William Wall O'Hearn*

United States
of
Cairo Egypt 100 America.

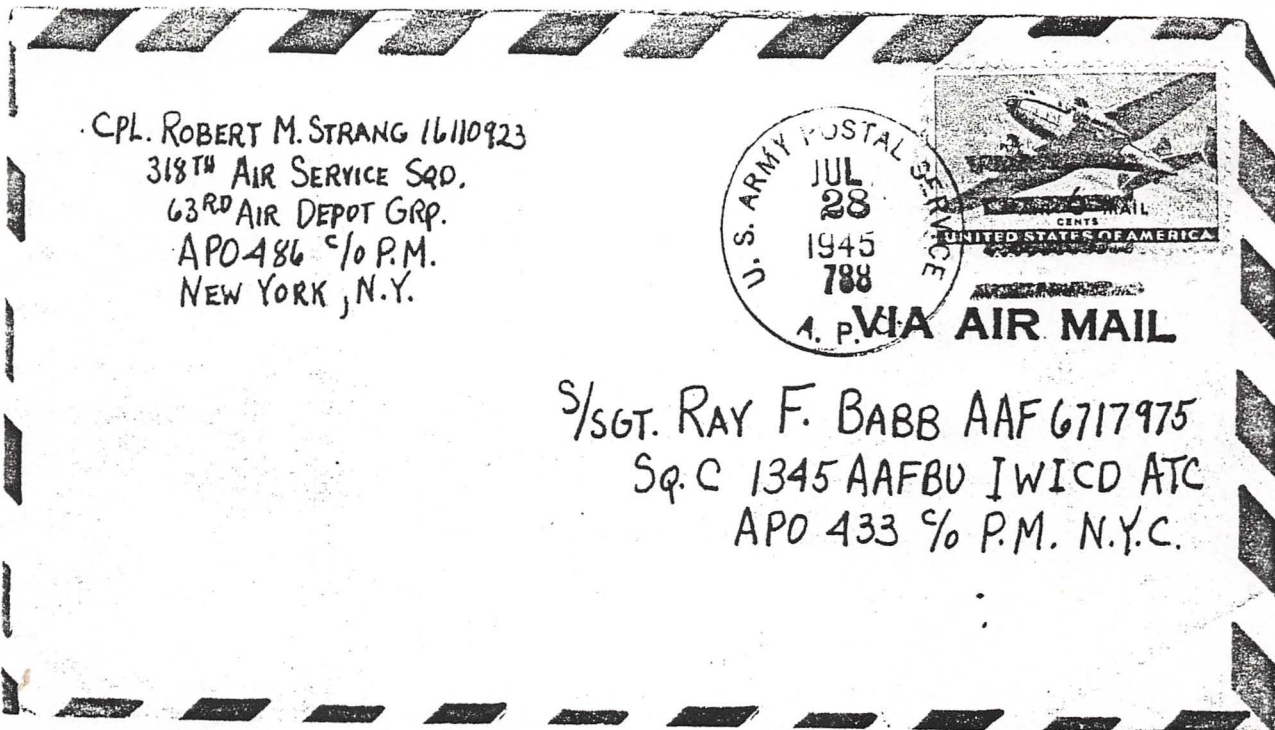
V5 Walter R. Abbott
170 Military Police Co.
A.P.O. 787, c/o P.M.
New York, N.Y.

APO 787 (Cairo), July 4th, 1945

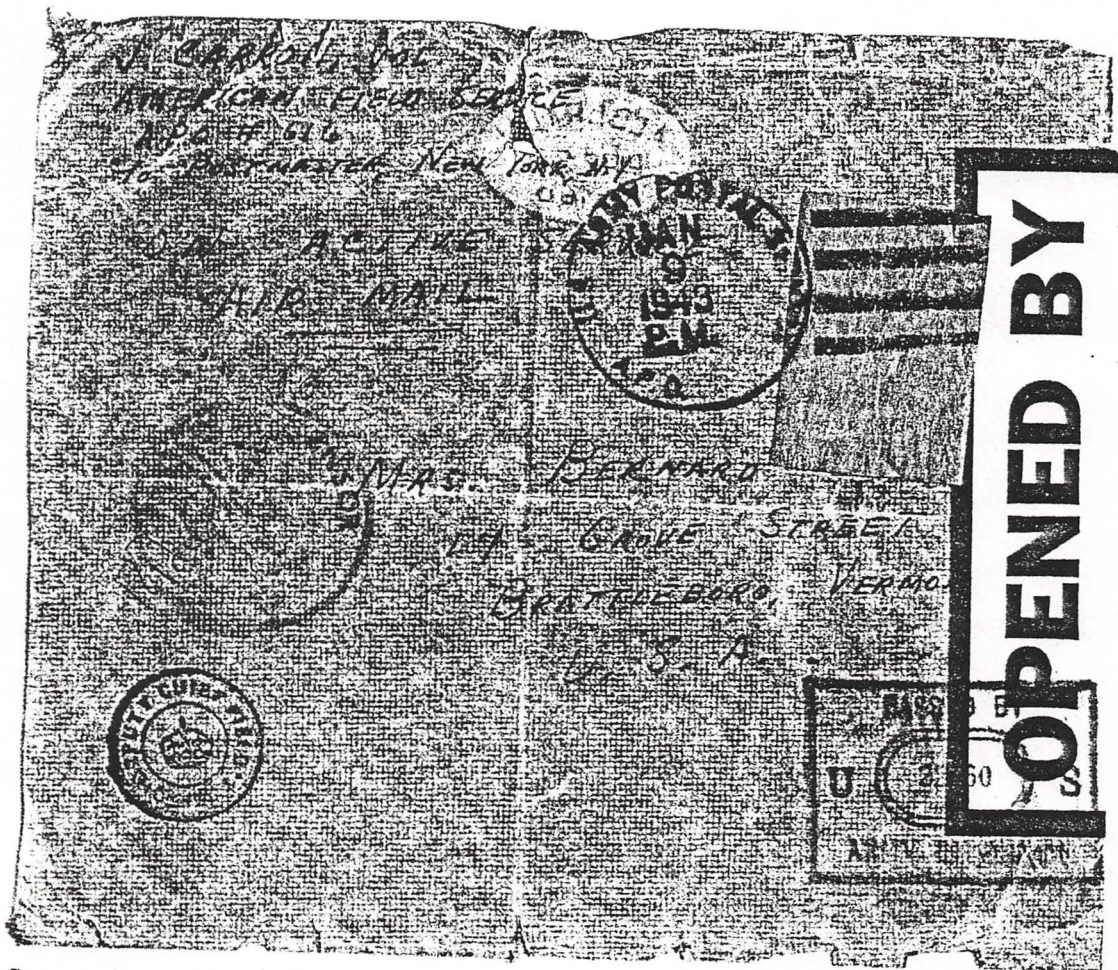


George D. Stribley,
301 Muskegon Building,
Muskegon, Michigan.

VIA AIR MAIL



Cover from APO 788 (John H. Payne Field, Heliopolis)



Cover from APO 616, Jan. 9th, 1943, showing APO Number excised from the date stamp; British and U.S. Censorship; stamp (Egyptian ?) removed by authorities

Scanned July, '09

by Dennis H. Clarke (ESC 165)

The following information is not of a philatelic nature, but it may well be of importance to Circle Members who have any items of mail that come into the above category. Such mail must be considered scarce to rare, due, by and large, to the fact that a majority of such prisoners were illiterate. It is of importance, if Members do have items, to send details and Xerox or photographic record, so that information can be collated, leading to the ascertainment of the routing of such covers, either by Military Post or by the Civil Post Offices of Egypt.

In late November / early December 1916, the Red Cross International Committee deputed a delegation to visit and report on Turkish Prisoners of War in Egypt. The Delegation arrived at the Office for Naval Transport in the British Office at Marseilles. By Order of the War Office, the Officer i/c obtained berths for the Delegates on the P. and O. liner "Morea", embarking on 19 December 1916; after a routine sailing they arrived at Port Said on 27 December.

On reaching Cairo, an approach was made to General Murray, C. in C. of British Forces, who put the party in touch with Brigadier-Gen. H.G. Casson, C.M.G., Director of the Prisoners of War Department. A car was placed at the Delegation's disposal, and Colonel Simpson assisted in drawing up a schedule of visits of inspection at the various camps. Permission was given to take photographs, distribute gifts and converse freely with the prisoners.

No. 1 - Heliopolis Camp - visited on 2 January 1917, located to the area developed in 1905; a group of Hotels and Villas formed under the name of "The Oasis of Heliopolis".

The number of P.O.W.'s held at this date was as follows:-

3,906 Turkish Non-commissioned officers and men; 3 Turkish soldiers of the Sanitary Corps; and 2 Armenian doctors, both officers in the Turkish Army.

Heliopolis Camp was arranged to hold a total population of 15,000 men, the area being separated from the surrounding properties by a barbed-wire fence. The Barrack accommodation was arranged in groups, in parallel lines sixty-five feet apart. These barracks, built under supervision of the Egyptian Engineering Department, were constructed with a solid wooden frame, the wall panels being made from reeds, with roofing of tarred felt and a reed thatching. Each barrack was constructed to accommodate 50 men.

Each Camp Report consists of a detailed account of conditions, etc., which I omit from this account, but I list the group headings:-

Exercise; Food; Hygiene; Medical Care; Employment; Religion; Recreation; Prisoners' Aid; Behaviour.

The only group item of importance is headed "Correspondence". Of course, it is possible that this was organised by a section of the Egyptian Post Office, which could have been set up for the duration of the war, but it is highly likely that this was handled by the Camp staff, or by Red Cross voluntary workers, particularly in the matter of distribution of parcels, but perhaps not in the case of Money Order transactions.

Most of the prisoners brought money with them, some received sums of money from their families through the Turkish Red Cross (Crescent ?) and the International Committee of the Red Cross. They (the prisoners) receive about 30 piastres per month (about 6/-)

Letters took any time from three weeks up to three months to get from the sender to the prisoner-recipient. Some of the letters were sent through the

/ Continued . . .

American Consul at Cairo (America not having at this date entered the War). Prisoners were allowed to write as often as they wished but, as already stated, few were able to write. There was no system of delaying correspondence after delivery or before despatch.

No. 2 - Hospital No. 2 at Abbassia, Cairo - was also visited on 2 January 1917. The Hospital, which was built on a Pavilion system, was reserved for German, Austrian, Bulgarian and Turkish Prisoners of War. The staff was headed by Dr Wickermann, who was assisted by four English doctors, some English Red Cross nurses and eighteen Turkish orderlies with native auxiliaries.

No. 3 - Maadi Camp. The chief camp at Maadi was just over 9 miles south of Cairo, on the right bank of the Nile. All prisoners were taken to it after capture, and thence distributed to other camps in Egypt.

The number of prisoners at 3 Jan 1917 was: 5,556 Turkish non-commissioned officers and men, which included 1,200 men captured at El Arish in the Sinai Peninsular. No Officers were interned at the Maadi Camp.

The prisoners included, besides Turks, Arabs, Armenians, Greeks, Jews from Palestine and Mesopotamia, and some Senoussi. The majority of prisoners were taken at Gallipoli.

The quarters of the prisoners at Maadi Camp include the old buildings originally erected as a School of Music, and subsequently used for a factory, also barracks which were erected about this time for housing the Prisoners of War.

The Report states on the question of Correspondence: " Most of the prisoners receive very few letters or none at all. They are allowed to write in their own language once a fortnight but take very little advantage of the permission. It appears that many of the letters addressed to their families are returned, the addresses being 'untraced' ".

No. 4 - The Egyptian Red Cross Hospital at Cairo. (Visited 4 January 1917). The Egyptian Red Cross, under the Presidency of His Highness Prince Fuad, Pasha, being anxious to help its co-religionists, founded in March 1915 a hospital for sick and wounded Prisoners of War. This hospital is under the sole management of the Turkish Red Cross, who liaise with the British authorities through Dr Kaatinge, Professor of the Faculty of Medicine at Cairo.

The Egyptian Red Cross Hospital was installed in the Old Palace of Omar-Pasha Lufti.

No. 5 - The Cairo Citadel Camp (Visited 3 January 1917). This Camp occupied the curious Jewel Palace, one of the monuments of the Citadel, it contained only women and children coming from Hedjaz, who were captured near Mecca.

The accommodation was the important group of buildings known as Saleh-el-din (Saladin). These comprised a great number of rooms whose vast and ornamental splendour must have contrasted greatly to its probably overawed inmates of the concentration camp of civilian prisoners of war, whose total included 229 women and 207 children, with a further anticipated arrival of at least another 200 women.

Correspondence - each person interned had the chance of writing once a week; those who do not know how to write were permitted help from their more literate companions. Many letters arrive through the medium of the International Red Cross Committee, but the exchange of correspondence is not generally very active.

No. 6 - The Ras-el-Tin Camp. This camp was established for interned civilians, situated on rising ground beside the sea, 3 miles from Alexandria. On 5th January 1917 it held 45 Ottoman civilians of military age and 24 others, mainly elderly. In addition there were 400 Austro-German internees, many of them having been in Egypt when war was declared and unable to go home. All of the internees were in tented accommodation.

The summary on Correspondence refers to Money Orders and Parcels - very few Money Orders were received. The interned Turks were mainly illiterate and those whose wives were interned at Cairo Citadel were allowed occasional visits, thus they seldom wrote as they knew their wives were being well treated. Parcels were seldom sent to the camp.

No. 7 - Sidi Bishr Camp. The camp of Sidi Bishr was situated about $9\frac{1}{2}$ miles to the north-east of Alexandria on the sea shore.

On 6 January 1917 the number of prisoners was 430 Officers, 60 of whom had been prisoners since their capture in February 1915; 410 Orderlies who were captured with their Officers on whom they continued to attend. In addition there were 10 Immams, 20 civilians - these had been captured by the Sherif of and handed to the English.

The Commandant of Sidi Bishr Camp was Lieut-Colonel Coates. Accommodation was constructed of timber and cement but this barracks was still under construction.

It would seem that from this camp of 430 Officers that here would be a source for mails to originate; however, the Delegation wrote in their survey on Correspondence: "Prisoners were permitted to write as often as they wished but seldom took advantage of the privilege and as a rule received few letters which took 40 to 45 days in reaching them. Few Money Orders came to the camp.

No. 8 - Bilbeis Camp - surrounded by barbed wire, was situated on the Delta about 40 miles from Cairo. It was founded in August 1916, and at 16 January 1917 had 540 inmates. These were split into two divisions. Division I - 135 Bedouins from the East and Sinai peninsula; civilians who came from El Arish; 9 Arab soldiers of the Ottoman Army; 5 Turkish soldiers from Syria and 30 Egyptians. Division II - 175 Senoussi and soldiers from Tripoli, 185 Bedouins from the West and civilian prisoners of divers nationalities.

As with the previous camps, correspondence was sparse, there being at Bilbeis a 98% illiteracy of the prisoners.

This concludes the precis of the extracts from the Official Report :-

Turkish Prisoners in Egypt, published London 1917, printed by Cassell & Co., London.

Dennis H. Clarke (ESC 165)

SOME ADDITIONAL NOTES on the MARITIME CANCELLATIONS on the 1927 FUAD

by Lars Alund (ESC 105)

(See also Mr P.E. Whetter's article on this subject, the Q.C. for March 1981, pages 13 - 17)

AUSONIA

My copies of the second Fuad issue are postmarked between 25 July and 8 November, 1933. I have, however, part of a cover franked with two 4-mills and two 1-mill stamps of 1906, very clearly postmarked with Mr Whetter's fig. 1, dated 30. 5. 1929.

After having written my short notes on the maritime cancellations on the 1927 Fuad issue I have found amongst some duplicates one more item which might be of interest. It is a pair of the 20-mills blue (large format) with a very clear impression of the AUSONIA postmark (Mr Whetter's fig. 1) and the date "... 4 35 ". The day of the month has unfortunately fallen outside the stamps. This means that this postmark was used on the Ausonia as late as in April 1935, which is about half a year later than recorded by Mr Whetter.

PFO TEVERE

I can add a "latest date" to Mr Whetter's notes, viz. 16 Feb. 1930.

MARSEILLE GARE B'CHES DU RHONE PAQUEBOT

Of this one I have a copy, dated 20 ... 1932.

ESPERIA, GANGE, HELOUAN, VIENNA

Postmarks from these ships are also in my collection, and especially the HELOUAN cancellations seem to be fairly frequent. All the postmarks are dated within the limits given by Mr Whetter.

OTHER SHIPS ?

I have also found two postmarks which I cannot place. As far as I can see, there must have been a ship ERITREA with a postmark of her own. Amongst my ship cancellations I have found a 5-mills Fuad 1927 with part of a circular postmark, showing (..)RITREA at the bottom of the postmark between double circles (similar to Mr Whetter's fig. 10). I have also a 13-mills stamp of the same issue with clear (.....)EA at top and ...TINO at bottom. Most of the date has fallen outside the stamp but one can read the final figures, viz. 35 XIV.

Was there a ship named ERITREA, not mentioned by Mr Whetter ?

May I add one more item, although it belongs to the first Fuad issue ? I have a 15-mills stamp of 1923 bearing a postmark, similar to Mr Whetter's fig. 2. At top there is the name NEPTUNO and at bottom (within brackets) (ROMA), and the date is 21. 6. 26. This must also be a maritime cancellation, but I have never seen another copy. (See illustration on page 81).

* * * *

Lars Alund is to give a display to The Royal Philatelic Society, London, on 8 October, entitled 'Egypt'.

Lars Alund writes that, due to three eye-operations and other personal reasons, he has unfortunately not been able to take part in the activities of Egypt Study Circle for some time. He hopes to be more diligent from now on, and the Additional Notes above are just the start. We all look forward to having more contributions of this calibre, and we hope that the operations have been completely successful. - Editor.

Comment by J. S. Horesh (ESC 118)

I refer to Bill Andrews' query in the June 1981 Q.C., No. 118, regarding the blob on the knot of the tie in the portrait.

I have a strip of the two bottom rows with control A/29 showing the same flaw, which I believe has been called the "tie pin flaw". The stamps are diagonal screen and the strip is from the first pane. Both Bill Andrews' strips also appear to be from the first panes. I do not have any loose stamps with this flaw.

Following the Editor's line of thought I would offer a possible explanation that the flaw is on the multi-positive and that it was used for both A/26 and A/29 but that the grid used - before "photographing" on to the carbon tissue - for the former was horizontal, and for the latter diagonal (see articles by the late Dr Gordon Ward in London Philatelist, 1948).

Q U E S T I O N T I M E - N E W Q U E S T I O N S

Q. Time 32 - Flaws on 1915 Official (litho) Overprint
Question put by Dr S. Luitse (ESC 232)

For several years I have had, in my collection of Egyptian Officials, a sheet of the 1915 lithographed overprint, with a lot of overprint defects, about which I have never heard or seen anything.

My question: are these known varieties and, if so, what went wrong with the printing at Boulac ?

Description of the sheet, Plate No. 3 :-

- Stamp No. 1 - Left upper corner: Γ indication mark
- Stop in front of, above, and inside, letter 'O'
- 2 to 10 - Stop in front of, and inside, letter 'O'
- 10 - Right upper corner: \neg indication mark
- 11 - Stop in front of, and inside, letter 'O'
- 12 to 20 - Stop inside letter 'O'
- 14, 15 - Stop between *Sr* ; third dot over the two dots of *Jr* making *Jr*.
- 23 - Stop inside letter 'O'
- 24, 25, 29 - Stop between yah and ra *Sr*
- 26, 29, 31, 39 - Stop inside letter 'O'
- 34 - ra blurred or double *r*
- 35 - Dot in 'E' of 'FIVE', and between yah and ra
- 36, 38, 39, 44, 45, 49, 50, 51, 64, 85, 94, 95 - Stop in 'O'

Please refer to illustration of the sheet on page 79.

Q. Time 33 - 1908 Official Cachet - Question put by G.M.Dorman (ESC 211)

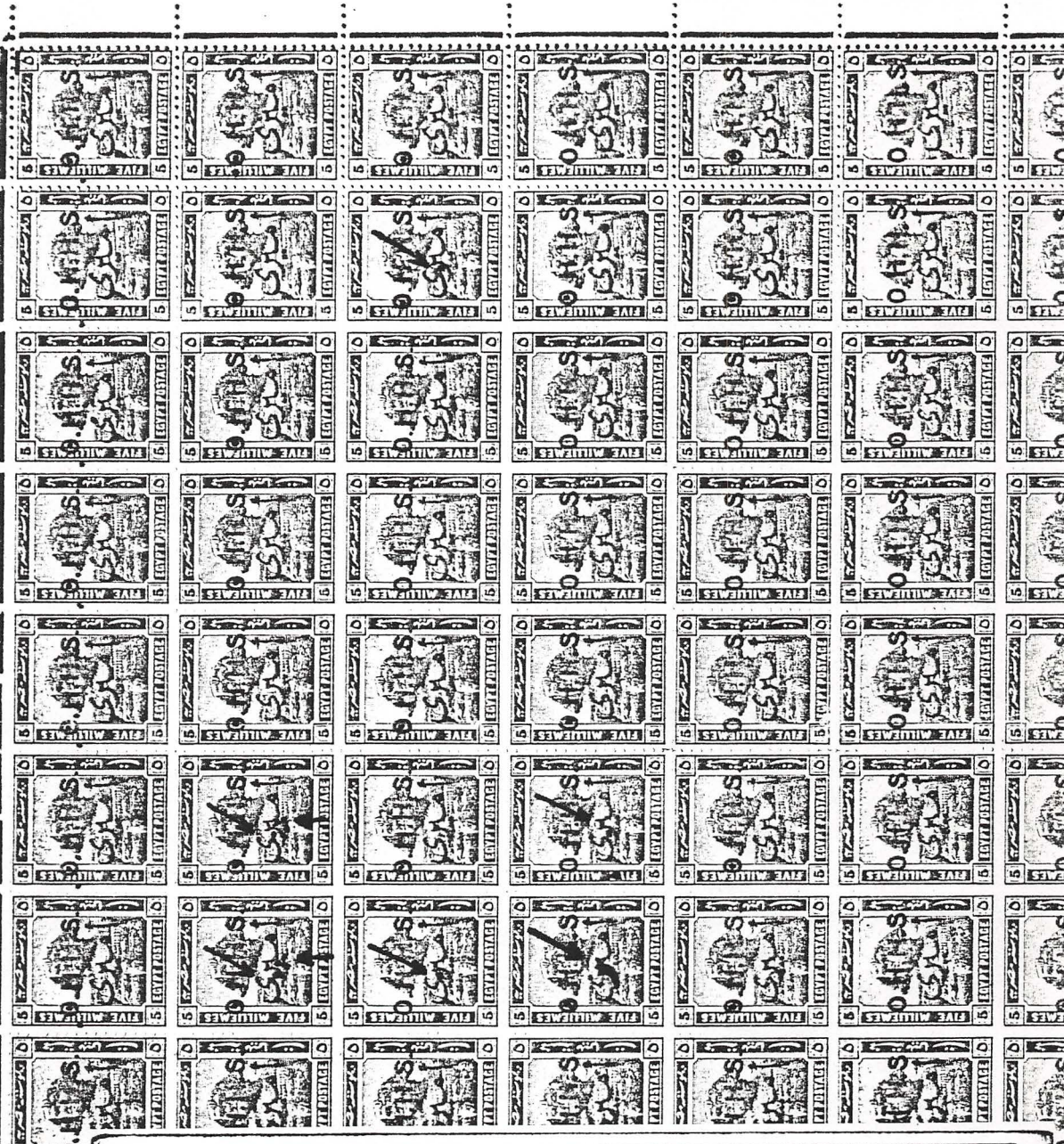
The postcard illustrated, which was used on 10 March 1908, is franked with the normal rate of 4 mills. It also carries a strike of an official cachet ON HIS HIGHNESS SERVICE / AIDE - DE - CAMP , with Crescent and Star.

ESC Members to whom I have shown it have not seen this mark before. Can anybody help ? When I return from abroad I might try delving in the War Museum archives to see if there is anything on an officer, Herbert Jarvis, serving then.

3

1000

3



اتحادى والپوسته لى
م
تذكرة پوس



UNION POSTAL
EGY
CARTE P



Mrs Herbert Jarvis
Ayleton 22 High St
Haverhill
Duck Lane
Suffolk

Au Cartospört Max A. Rudmann, Leipzig 601

Cachet - ON HIS HIGHNESS SERVICE / AIDE-DE-CAMP

Q. Time 34 - Greek Consular Agencies in Egypt - Question put by
T. Dacos (ESC 220)

I have an entire sent from the Consular Agency of Greece at Shibin-el-Kom to Madam Emilie Douca, Alexandrie. Dispatch and delivery were effected on the same day, 31st July, 1887.

The Consular strike appears on both sides of the envelope. It is a greenish-blue double circular strike bearing between the circles the inscription in Greek: Consular Agency of Greece at Shibin el Kom. In the centre is the Greek State Royal Emblem. Four black Post Office bilingual handstamps show the route which the letter has followed:-

- 1) SHIBIN EL KOM-TANTA (front)
- 2) TANTA-S (back - 'S' stands for Station)
- 3) CAIRE-ALEXANDRIE (front)
- 4) ALEXANDRIE (back)

It is interesting to note that No. 1 and No. 3 handstamps are ambulant, and that No. 3 handstamp bears a star and crescent.

No Postage Stamps or other adhesives were used.

I enclose Xerox copies for easy scrutiny (illustrated).

What puzzles me is this :-

- 1) Why there are no adhesives
- 2) What do we know about Greek Consular Agencies in Egypt? When did they open, when did they close, in which towns did they operate?
- 3) Did other similar Agencies exist for the British or French?
- 4) How rare are these Consular Agency strikes of Greece?
- 5) The envelope shows a handwritten reference No. 404. Would that mean that 404 letters have been dispatched, or is it just the reference number of the document which had been enclosed and that the preceding 403 documents were not all necessarily forwarded by post?

I would appreciate hearing comments from ESC Members.

Q. Time 35 - Registered Letter posted out of course - Question put
by J.M.Murphy (ESC 240)

I wonder if any Member can help me with further information about this unusual marking? It is in a long rectangular box with rounded corners (6.05 cm x 1.5 cm), reads FOUND IN LETTER BOX / Arabic / TROUVÉ DANS LA BOITE AUX LETTRES. It is struck twice in black - once smudged and once faint - on what is unfortunately only a front of a Postal Stationery envelope (H & G B6 of 1889, wmk inverted), additionally franked with a 10-mill of the De La Rue 1914 issue (wide wmk) to cover the Registration fee to London. Despite being marked 'Registered' in red ink and underlined in the top left corner, which also carries a black on white CAIRE Registration label No. 791 (bottom right of the sheet, since only top and left are perforated), and despite being crossed in blue pencil, the cover is cancelled by the Cairo G cds for 7-.X.18.3.45PM, indicating its having passed through the normal mails. But the envelope was spotted by a sharp-eyed sorting clerk, marked FOUND IN LETTER BOX, and cancelled again the next day at Cairo R.D. (number illegible, may be 4) of -80C.18.9.-A.

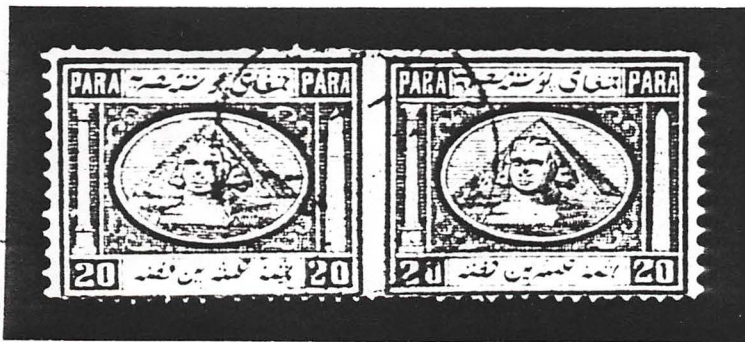
Presumably a) the messenger entrusted with its safe delivery to the Registration section merely popped it into the nearest post box, indicating that the CAIRE Registration label was available in the business office where the cover was prepared; and b) if the manuscript '9' in pencil on the cover indicates its number among a batch; there once were at least eight similar covers with the unusual FOUND IN LETTER BOX marking.



Marina

Emilie Douca

Alexandria



2nd Issue - Variety IMPERF BETWEEN on 20 para

New Maritime Cancel - NETTUNO (ROMA) →



Q. Time 36 - 'RETURN TO SENDER' - Question put by J.M.Murphy /ESC 240)

This marking is on a cover sent from Leeds on 5 AU 41 to an address in Kubbeh Gardens, Cairo, only to find that the would-be recipient had already returned to England. The reverse carries in black the usual UNCLAIMED /Arabic /NON RECLAME boxed marking of Cairo (rectangle 3.35 x 2.1 cm) and the front, also in black, the large RETURN TO SENDER / Arabic / RESTITUER A L'EXPÉDITEUR referred to by Dr Gordon Ward in L'OP Vol. IX No. 92, page 212, October 1955 (7.5 x 3 cm; Dr Ward's illustration is slightly larger and narrower, struck on 24 July 1939). But of more interest is an oval (3.8 x 2.5 cm) marking in red-lilac reading RETURN TO SENDER above and Arabic equivalent below, enclosing a rectangular boxed (2.0 x 0.8 cm) date slug for -4.DE.41.

The cover had already taken a long time to reach Egypt (franked 2½d) - from August 5 to the Heliopolis (indicating Air Mail ?) and Hadra EL-Qubba back-stamps for 20 OC 41 - and it did not return, to London F.S. 1(?)20, until 19 MR 42, when it was additionally stamped UNDELIVERED FOR REASON STATED / RETURN TO SENDER in purple and marked by the recipient 20 MAR 42. Such is the large size and clear handwriting of the return address that I suspect this is a philatelic cover, sent off with no hope of delivery. If so, Mr George S. Holdsworth, of Farsley, Leeds, must have been well pleased with his collection of markings !

* * *

NEW DISCOVERY ON 1869 2nd ISSUE - by Themis Dacos (ESC 220)

20-Para - Variety: 'IMPERFORATE BETWEEN'

Some months ago, having bought a large stock of used stamps for study, mainly of the De La Rue 1886-1905 issues, I found among them a used horizontal pair of the Second Issue 20 para green IMPERFORATE BETWEEN. (See illustration).

The stamps of the pair are Types III and IV. The second stamp, Type IV, bears the extra dot on the bottom left first Arabic word which assures that the issue is of 1869, Stone B.

The pair is genuine. Dr Peter Smith and Mr Peter Feltus confirm this and also state that they have never come across a similar variety on the 20 para until now. As expected, the variety is not included in the Zeheri catalogue, but similar varieties are recorded for the 5 para, 1 and 2 piastre values, Zeheri numbers 8c, 11b and 12f respectively.

Naturally I felt curious why this variety appears on three values (now 4) and not on all six of this issue. So I went through several past Auction catalogues, including the Palace Sale, and also through the previous Zeheri catalogues. The only thing I found was an insertion in the Zeheri 1939 edition for a similar variety on the 10 para value, numbered as Zeheri 9d. Later, however, it has been omitted from subsequent editions. Perhaps it was found later to be a fake - I wish I knew !

Now, after this find of mine on the 20 para, it seems possible that this 'Imperforate Between' variety may well have occurred on the other values. Although it may be unlikely that we shall ever be able to find this variety on other values, we should bear in mind that my 'find' has taken 112 years to come to light ! So there is always hope !

It would be interesting to know how the stamps of the Second Issue were perforated; perhaps the answer to this variety may lie there. I invite Members of the Circle, who have studied this subject, kindly to enlighten me as to this aspect of the production of the stamps. If, possibly, such a study exists and has been published in the past, it might be thought worthy of being re-published as it would enrich the knowledge of newer members.

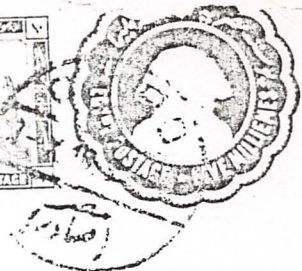
* * *

Registered

R

CAIRE.

No. 791

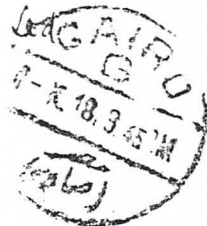
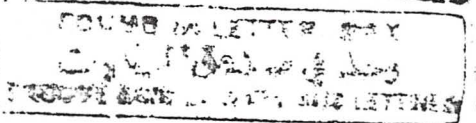
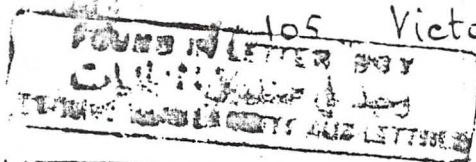


The Secretary.

The Army Navy Co-operative Society

105 Victoria Street,

London



4 AUG 1941



RETURN TO SENDER

Mr. Capt. Crosswhite

11 "Sella" Station

4 St. Anne

Hubbeck Gardens

Cairo

Egypt

Leeds



Question time 36 - 'RETURN TO SENDER'

from George S Holdsworth, 20 MAR 1942

9 Ketherock Terrace

Farsley, Leeds

Yorkshire

England

