

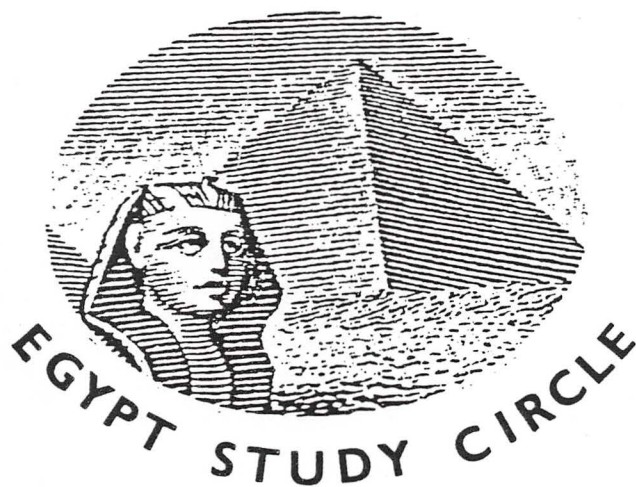
# THE QUARTERLY CIRCULAR

Volume XI

Number 4

December 1981

Whole Series 120



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## Next Meetings

1982

February 13

PAQUEBOT Markings (all attending should bring material)

April 10

\* J.A.FIREBRACE: Late 19th C, also 1920-32

\* to be confirmed

EGYPT STUDY CIRCLE - THE QUARTERLY CIRCULARVolume XI   Number 4   Dec 1981   Whole Series Number 120C O N T E N T S

	<u>page</u>
Announcements	84
Editorial	85
Report of Meeting, London, 10 October 1981	86
Membership Report	86
Expert Committee - Certificates Nos. 425 to 467	87
Named Military Datest: - Part II    J.A.Firebrace & F.W.Benians	88-96
"Fifty Years On"                            F.W.Benians	97-99
Update 14 - Star & Bridge -                Lars Alund	99-100
Question Time 37 - Constantinople cds	99, 102
New Issues - Aug to Dec 1980                C.E.H.Defriez	101-102
Waghorn - 'Industrial Relations'            F. Rowland Hill	103-105
Gt Bitter Lake Association - Faked Censor mark ?        J.Cousins	106-107
Question Time 38 - Marseille / Cours au Chapitre cds	107

A N N O U N C E M E N T S

SUBSCRIPTION, 1982 - this has been fixed at £ 6, the same as for 1981.  
The due date for payment is 1st January 1982.

OVERSEAS MEMBERS - are asked kindly to pay their subscriptions by BANKER'S DRAFT, and not by cheque on a foreign bank, or in currency notes, as both latter means of payment involve considerable expense and delay.

POSTAL SALE - E.S.C. Secretary Edmund Hall is intending to conduct a Postal Sale early in 1982. Please notify him with details of any material which you may have for disposal (address: 6 Bedford Avenue, Little Chalfont, Bucks, England).

'PHILATOKYO '81' INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION - Congratulations to F. W. Benians (ESC 123) on his Silver Medal award for 'British and Empire Troops in Egypt - First World War.'

INDEX TO PHILATELIC LITERATURE OF EGYPT - E.S.C. Secretary Edmund Hall (ESC 239) has made a good start on his INDEX. This will be published as appendices to 'THE Q.C.', starting with the March 1982 issue, which will contain the Index of references to definitive (regular) stamp issues. Edmund Hall's Index will, of course, feature contributions in 'The Q.C.' but will also extend to other publications of importance, past and present, including L'Orient Philatelique, Egyptian Topics, Philatelic Journal of Great Britain, OPAL Journal, and others. A full listing of the journals included in the Index will be issued. A feature of the Index is that it will provide space below each subject, so that the user will be able to update it with whatever is published in the future.

REVENUE STAMP COLLECTIONS - have now become 'respectable'. Britain's leading national exhibition, Stampex, will have a special sub-group of the General Competitive Class for these, starting with the February 1982 exhibition. The new class of Revenues is defined as :-

' Material officially accepted as being necessary for the transmission of messages or packages (e.g. telegraph and railway stamps), and such stamps as were used for the collection of revenue which, by their method of printing, can be associated with postage stamps (e.g. fiscals). '

MAKE 1982 be the year when YOU start contributing regularly to this journal !

F r o m   t h e   E D I T O R . . . .

Mr Jim Benians (ESC 123) has found time (when not engaged in winning a Silver Medal at International, nor engaged in researching Military Datestamps) to produce his article ' FIFTY YEARS ON '. This deals with the beginnings of this Study Circle and draws attention to the fact that the Circle will have been established for 50 years in January 1985.

'A little premature?', one might think - but that would be to lose the real message of this important article. The founder members clearly had the intention of recording the results of their researches for posterity; the idea of ' THE BOOK ' may well have preceded the establishment of this journal in 1938. Jim Benians suggests that Study Records could be published in 'The Q.C.' and, as Editor, I should welcome a flow of such material for publication.

But is it quite out of the question that we could still issue ' THE BOOK ' ? Several other Study Circles have produced their own handbook, so why not this Circle ?

The reason why ' THE BOOK ' was not published in the early days appears, from reading ' The Q.C. ', because it was judged that the research was not complete, and it was considered important that it should be 100% complete before being published.

A lot of time has been lost since this position was reached. The great collections owned and studied by active members of this Circle have become dispersed, and are unlikely ever to be assembled again. Death has robbed us of most of those who were most active in researching and recording.

But not all has been lost, far from it. We have new researchers as active as any in the past; original research reports exist. In some ways we are better able to publish than in the old days: the standard of printing available to us is much higher, especially as regards illustrations.

\* We should resolve to publish 'THE BOOK' in our Golden Jubilee \*  
 \* Year, 1985. If we concentrate on the several Study Sections, \*  
 \* we shall have enough to bring success, even if some sections \*  
 \* are necessarily deferred. If we fail to produce 'THE BOOK' \*  
 \* we shall still end up with considerable material for 'THE Q.C.' \*  
 \* We shall have an "each-way" bet ! Who is for it ? \*

We congratulate Lord Chief Justice Lars Alund (ESC 105) on being invited to display his collection of EGYPT to The Royal Philatelic Society, London, on October 8th, 1981. By kind permission of the President of the R.P.S., Mr Leslie Wheeler, a party of E.S.C. Members attended. Lars Alund's display was strong in the first three issues and in postal history; the only known cover franked with 1913 Official (variety overprint between commas and inverted) was exhibited. Lars Alund suggested, in his address, that the overprint between commas may have been present on part only of one of the sheets. The vote of thanks was given by your Editor and seconded by your Chairman.

Lars Alund has contributed UPDATA 14 in this issue. It is another updating of the delightful 'Star & Bridge' cancels. I am no longer surprised that claims to earliest/latest dates are overthrown so quickly, but I am surprised, after all the updatings we have had, to find such large changes in the new dates (Luqсор improved by 3 years, 3 months; Suez by 2 years, 6 months).

In welcoming the widening of Exhibition Rules (at 'STAMPEX', at least) to admit Revenues, one feels unhappy that this was not done before, so as to make this class available to 'London 1980'. Mr Peter Feltus (ESC 114) was refused a place in 'London 1980' because Revenues were not then respectable, and that Exhibition was deprived of what must be the best collection ever of Egypt Revenues, and which has been the focus of Mr Feltus' considerable knowledge and research capability.

REPORT OF ESC MEETING

Circle Meeting No. 196 held on 10 October 1981 at "The Peacock" Maiden Lane WC2

Present: Mr J. Sears (Chairman) and Messrs P.Andrews, W.C.Andrews, F.W. Benians, D.H.Clarke, D.J.Davis, C.E.H.Defriez, R.C.Emery, J.A.Firebrace, P.Grech, J.A.Grimmer, E.Hall, J.S.Horesh, J.M.Murphy, P.E.Whetter, P.E.Woodland.

The Chairman reported on the display at the 'Royal' given by Circle Member Lars Alund on 8th October. The display had been well received by a large number of members of RPS, and a party of ESC Members attended.

The Chairman also reported to the meeting on the awards gained by the Q.C. at BPE.

The recent Bournemouth Auction sale of Egypt material was reported. Mr Whetter had attended the sale and had been entrusted with bids from a number of Circle Members, who had had an opportunity of viewing in London. The prices realised were much above the auctioneers' estimates and almost all of the material went to just two dealers. There was criticism of the published estimates which were thought to be grossly under-estimated. It was believed possible that material sold included some Circle property.

The Secretary raised the question of admittance to membership of three applicants.

The Meeting proceeded to the displays given by Mr J.A.Firebrace. His first subject was 'Napoleon' and he showed maps, very fine engravings of battle scenes and personalities; the more formal exhibits included Napoleonic strikes of Le Caire, Alexandrie, Damiette, Rosette, Beni Souef and Siouth. A strike in red of Le Caire was thought to be unique.

Mr Firebrace's second topic was "The British Reply to Napoleon"; this was much less popular, partly because of there being no special postal strikes. Material shown included correspondence from the 1801/2 period, the calamity of Rosetta, the later capture of Acre, Egyptian support for Turkey against Greece, the battle of Navarino, etc.

The last of Mr Firebrace's displays was concerned with World War 1 and Mr Firebrace made an appeal for more support from ESC Members in regard to the research into this period, for which there was little material. Named Military datestamps were shown, also Base Post Offices of the British Forces, but the point was made that, throughout the War, most military letters went through the Egyptian Civil Post Offices and not via the British or Dominion postal organisations.

Mr F.W.Benians also displayed material of this period. He added his plea for sight of material owned by ESC Members and reported on the series of articles on this subject to be published in the Q.C.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

by the Secretary

Welcome to two new members :-

ESC 265    Ralph E. Miller  
          P.O. Box 92  
          Wayland  
          Massachusetts 01778  
          U.S.A.

ESC 266    Pierre Louis Grech  
          16 Toll Bar Court  
          Basinghall Gardens  
          Sutton  
          Surrey    SM2 6AT

Member resigned:    ESC 157    F. A. Ford

Changed addresses :-

ESC 255    Larry Kend, 481 Morgan Drive, Mt Morris, Michigan 48458    U.S.A.

ESC 154    M.M.Sacher, 31 Kinnerton Street, London S.W.1

Error correction :-

ESC 246    Ramez Atiya; Postcode should be 84102

EXPERT COMMITTEE CERTIFICATES issued by Major E. L. G. MacArthur

continued from The Q.C., Volume XI, No. 2, page 29

<u>No.</u>	<u>Year of Issue and Description</u>	<u>Opinion</u>
425	1866 10 pi mint perf. $12\frac{1}{2}$	Genuine
426	" 10 pi mint $12\frac{1}{2}$	"
427	" 10 pi mint $12\frac{1}{2}$ x 13	"
428	" 10 pi mint	Salama Forgery
429	" 10 pi mint $12\frac{1}{2}$ x $12\frac{1}{2}$ x 13 x $12\frac{1}{2}$	"
430	" 10 pi mint $12\frac{1}{2}$	Genuine
431	" 10 pi mint $12\frac{1}{2}$	"
432	" 10 pi mint $12\frac{1}{2}$ x 13 x $12\frac{1}{2}$ x $12\frac{1}{2}$	"
433	" 10 pi mint $12\frac{1}{2}$ x $12\frac{1}{2}$ x Imperf x $12\frac{1}{2}$	"
434	" 10 pi mint $12\frac{1}{2}$ x Imperf	"
435	" 10 pi mint imperf.	"
436	" 10 pi mint imperf.	Forgery
437	" 10 pi used perf. $12\frac{1}{2}$ cancelled by retta	Genuine
438	" 10 para used $12\frac{1}{2}$	"
439	" 10 para mint 13	"
440	" 10 para mint 13 x $12\frac{1}{2}$	"
441	" 20 para used 13 x $12\frac{1}{2}$ x $12\frac{1}{2}$ x $12\frac{1}{2}$	"
442	" 1 pi mint 13 x $12\frac{1}{2}$	"
443	" 2 pi mint $12\frac{1}{2}$ watermark upright	"
444	" 2 pi mint $12\frac{1}{2}$ watermark upright	"
445	" 2 pi mint $12\frac{1}{2}$ x 15	"
446	1874 10 para mint vert. strip of 3, middle stamp inverted, perf. $13\frac{1}{2}$ x $12\frac{1}{2}$	"
447	1866 5 pi used $12\frac{1}{2}$	"
448	" 10 pi mint $12\frac{1}{2}$	"
449	" 10 pi mint $12\frac{1}{2}$	"
450	" 10 pi mint 13	Forgery
451	1867 5 pi used 15 x $12\frac{1}{2}$	Genuine
452	" 5 pi used 15 x $12\frac{1}{2}$	"
453	" 5 pi used 15 x $12\frac{1}{2}$	"
454	1875 5 para mint left marginal block of 4, 2 vertical tete-beche pairs, perf. $13\frac{1}{2}$ x $12\frac{1}{2}$	"
455	1874 2 pi mint block of 4, perf. $12\frac{1}{2}$	"
456	1875 5 para mint, top marginal block of 4, 2 vertical tete-beche pairs, perf. $12\frac{1}{2}$	"
457	" 1 pi used vertical tete-beche pair	"
458	1868 5 c mint Suez Canal Co	"
459	" 20 c mint " " "	"
460	" 40 c mint " " "	"
461	1867 5 pi mint perf. 15 x $12\frac{1}{2}$	Forgery
462	1884 20 para on 5 pi mint SG 56 displaced overprint	Genuine
463	" 20 para on 5 pi mint SG 56a inverted overprint	"
464	1931 Air 50 m on 27 m Graf Zeppelin, mint horizontal pair, double overprint	Kiss or bounce, not genuine double print
465	" Air 100 m on 27 m Graf Zeppelin, mint vertical pair, double overprint	(same as for 464)
466	1943 5m + 5m Princess Ferial, mint block of 4, colour trial of overprint in black plus albino overprint	Genuine
467	1953 Air 3m mint SG 456 (var), single bars and double King of Egypt & Sudan overprint	Forgery

A further list of Certificates issued by the Chairman of the ESC Expert Committee will be published in the next issue of the Q.C.

Type III BRITISH BARRACKS (continued)



C viii



C ix



C x

Type IV WAR OFFICE



C xi

Type V BRITISH CAMP



H i



H ii



M i

Type VI MILITARY CAMP



H iii

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

PART II            1914 - 1919            THE WAR PERIOD

At the outbreak of war, the Force in Egypt was commanded by Major-General The Hon. Julian Byng and numbered some 5,000 men, principally :-

Three Dragoon Guards  
Two batteries, Royal Artillery  
One company, Royal Engineers  
Four battalions of infantry

and this Force was located as follows :-

Cairo:            British Barracks (Kasr el Nil): one battalion in a very old barracks  
Abbassia: cavalry regiment and infantry brigade  
The Citadel  
The Citadel and Nasrieh Hospitals  
Alexandria: Mustapha Pacha Barracks  
Ras el Tin.

On 8 September Lieut-General Sir John Maxwell, who had commanded the Force in Egypt from 1908 to 1912, took up his former appointment, to find that the Egyptian Camel Corps had already been deployed along the Canal since 31 August.

To replace the British garrison, which was under orders for France, the 9th Sirhind Brigade of 3rd (Lahore) Division which had reached Suez - also on 8 September and also on its way to France - was held as the main force to defend the Canal until it continued on its journey on 22 November.

On 25th September the East Lancashire Division, a Territorial Force formation, and two Yeomanry regiments, the Herts and the 2nd County of London, arrived. The East Lancashire Division in particular was very untrained but began rapidly to improve in military fitness. On 30th September the fighting troops of the Force in Egypt sailed for France.

On the political front, General Maxwell proclaimed Martial Law in Egypt on 2nd November and, three days later, Great Britain and France declared war on Turkey. On 18th December, Egypt was proclaimed a British Protectorate and on the following day Khedive Abbas Hilmi was deposed and His Highness Hussein Kamel was proclaimed Sultan of Egypt.

On 16th November the Indian troops destined for the defence of Egypt reached Suez and battalions were deployed at Ismailia and Port Said. A brigade of Imperial Service Cavalry and the Bikanir Camel Corps had already arrived. Major-General A. Wilson was appointed G.O.C. Canal Defences, and Indian troops were in the main responsible for the defence of Egypt.

On 20th November the first hostilities were experienced when a patrol of the Bikanir Camel Corps was attacked 20 miles east of Kantara.

At the beginning of December, Australian and New Zealand troops began to arrive and their role, like that of the East Lancashire Division was to train, and their planned theatre of operations was to be the Western Front.

By the middle of January 1915, the canal defences were organised in three sections. These were :-

Section I        Port Tewfik to Geneifa, with H.Q. at Suez  
                  II        Deversoir to el Ferdan, with H.Q. at Ismailia Old Camp  
                  III       El Ferdan to Port Said with H.Q. at Kantara.

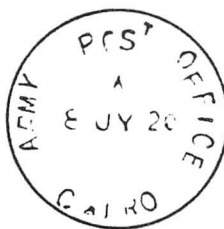
General reserve was at Moascar.

/ Continued . . .

Type VII ARMY POST OFFICE



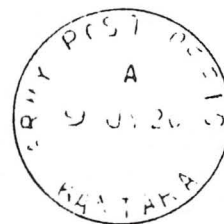
Ab i



C xii



K ii



K i (Two varieties)

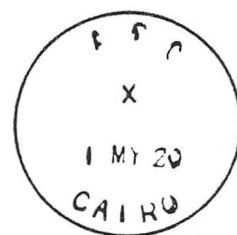
Type VIII A. P. O.



Ab ii



Ab iii



C xiii



P S i

- A.P.O. ABBASSIA from A.P.O. SZ 15
- A.P.O. CAIRO from A.P.O. SZ 10
- A.P.O. KANTARA from B.A.P.O. K
- A.P.O. MUSTAPHA from A.P.O. SZ 11 ?
- A.P.O. PORT SAID from B.A.P.O. T



Named Military Datestamps, 1895 - 1920 (Continued)

The six Brigades of Indian Infantry, which later became 10 and 11 Indian Divisions, were supported by the Imperial Service Cavalry, the Bikamir Camel Corps, the artillery of the East Lancashire Division and some units of the Egyptian Army. British and French warships were also deployed in the Canal and in the lakes.

Between 1st and 10th February, the period of the Turkish attacks, the defences of the Canal stood firm.

In August 1914, there was one Military Post Office datestamp in use in Alexandria and one Military Post Office and two British Barracks datestamps in use in Cairo. Egyptian civil post offices were extensively used by the troops. This is a quite separate study.

The earliest Indian Field Post Office datestamp is known in November 1914 followed by Australian and New Zealand datestamps in December. The first British Army Post Office to be opened was the Base Post Office in Alexandria on 5th April 1815 and three infantry brigade field post offices were first opened in this month, the earliest known example of a cancellation being from F.P.O. 87 on 6th April 1915.

Having summarised the position with regard to Type I at Alexandria and Types II and III at Cairo, we can state that Type II has not been recorded later than January 1914. There are in addition three new types, with their wording :-

Type IV	War Office	Cairo
V	British Camp	Heliopolis, Maadi
VI	Military Camp	Heliopolis

Type I Military Post Office

Type I A ii of Alexandria continued in use and was joined by I A iii. After the opening of the Base Office the main use of this type was on letters passing in transit from the civil post to the military post and vice versa. Details of both these datestamps are given here for ease of comparison.

	<u>I A ii</u>	<u>I A iii</u>
Diameter, mm	29.5	30
Length of name, mm	24	21.5
Military Post Office, in lines	two	two
Space between date bars, mm	8	8.5
Number of vertical bars	5.5	5.5
Month expressed in	Roman	Roman
Earliest date	30 JA 13	2 MY 16
Latest date	28 JY 16	21 JU 19

Type I C iii of Cairo remained in use until 15th February but the small vertical bars in the segments tended to become blurred, giving an almost solid appearance. A cover dated 11 FE 16 is known with this type of datestamp of origin, and also with the oval cachet in violet of the Commandant, Red Cross Hospital, Giza.

/ Continued . . .

BRITISH CAMP P.O. MAADI 16 June 1915  
5 Mills letter rate to ENGLAND



*M. S. Spooner*

*"Flight"*

*44 St Martin Lane*

*London W.C.*

*England.*

BRITISH BARRACKS CAIRO 11 April 1915  
5 Mills letter rate to ENGLAND

*9/4/15.*



*Miss Toms*

*136 Edgeley Road.*

*Stockport*

*Cheshire*

*England.*

Named Military Datestamps, 1895 - 1920 (Continued)

Type III British Barracks

Four new datestamps were introduced in Cairo and details of all six in use during this period are shown. One main characteristic about each is given in order to make identification easier.

	<u>III C v</u>	<u>vi</u>	<u>vii</u>	<u>viii</u>	<u>ix</u>	<u>x</u>
Diameter, mm	29	29	24.5	27.5	25.5	25
Length of name, mm	8.25	9	9	7.25	7.75	9
Space between date bars, mm	10.25	10.5	8	7.5	8	8
Earliest date	SE 12	23 AP 13	28 MR 14	26 JA 15	14 MR 15	21 JA 16
Latest date	6 FE 15	27 FE 15	7 JA 16	27 MY 15	2 OC 16	6 SP 16
<u>Characteristics</u>	III C v	'C' of Cairo under 'SH' of British				
	vi	'C' of Cairo under 'S' of British				
	vii	Rounded 'C' and 'O' in Cairo				
	viii	'Cash' in brackets below Cairo				
	ix	Arc between British Barracks and Cairo				
	x	Squarish 'C' and 'O' in Cairo.				

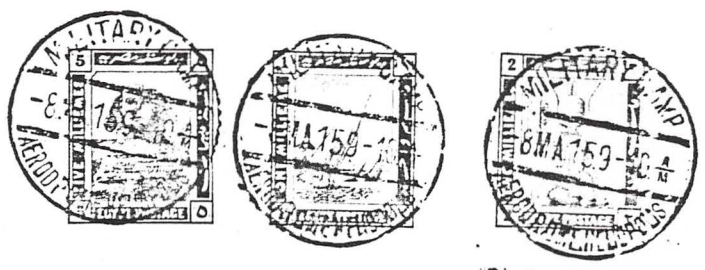
Egyptian post office datestamps containing the word 'Cash' signify that they were used for registered mail, money orders, postal orders and similar transactions.

Some examples of the use of these datestamps are given. All that can be recorded giving information about Units and Censor Marks will help fill out the overall picture.

- Type III C vi. 16 OC 14. Post Card with 4m postage from "2nd County of London Yeomanry, Abdul Mouniem Barracks, Abbassia, Cairo." This regiment arrived on 27th September 1914.
- Type III C viii. 26 JA 15. 15m registered letter to England from "Corporal H.J.Briggs, Machine Gun Section, 3rd Battalion, A.I.F."
- Type III C x. 22 DE 15. Post card endorsed "Free O.A.S." to England from F.H.Knights, Suffolk Yeo" with oval cachet in violet of the Rest Camp, Abbassia, Cairo. This regiment returned from the Gallipoli Campaign during December.
- Type III C x 12 FE 16. A Cairo Trust postcard endorsed "Free OAS" addressed to England with hexagonal censor No. 2451 in red, over stamped by the datestamp. It is generally accepted that this censor type was not used in Egypt.
- Type III C x 19 MR 16. Post card endorsed "Free O.A.S." addressed to "(Bonnie) Scotland" from W.Kerr, 43rd Remounts, M.E.F.

/ Continued . . .

MILITARY CAMP - AERODROME HELIOPOLIS 8 May 1915  
Letter addressed to Postmaster, BRITISH CAMP, HELIOPOLIS



*Monsieur*  
*Victor Anhoway*  
*Postmaster*

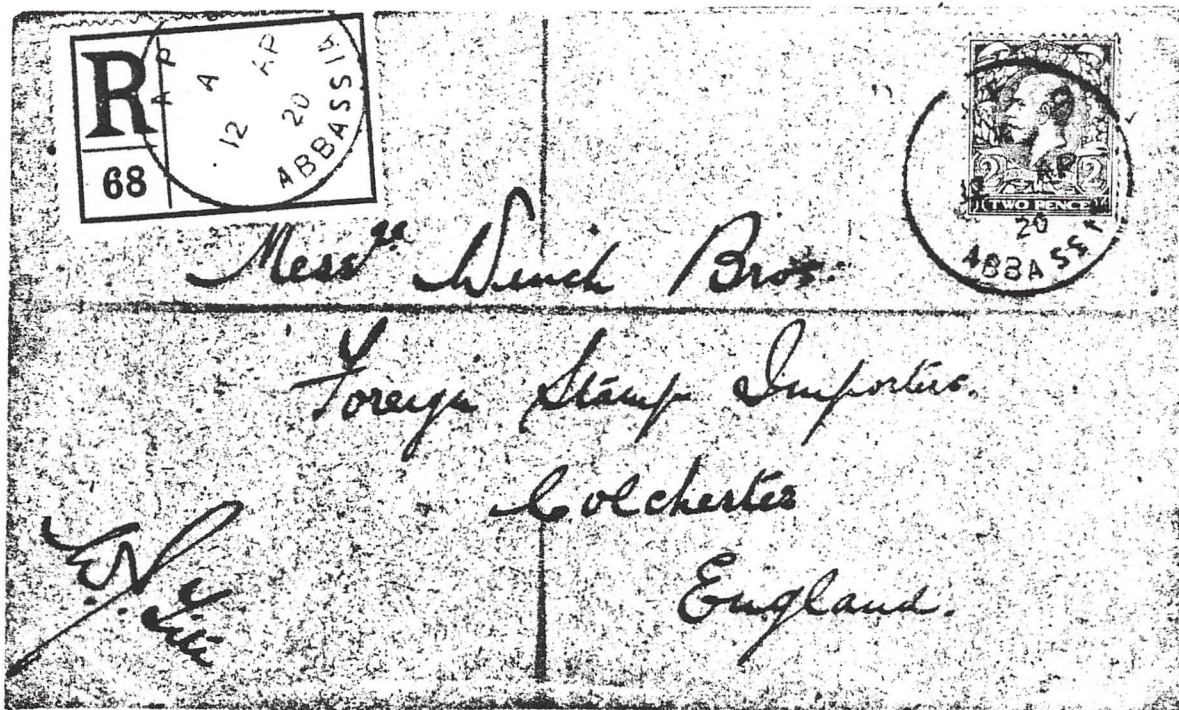


*British Camp*  
*Heliopolis*

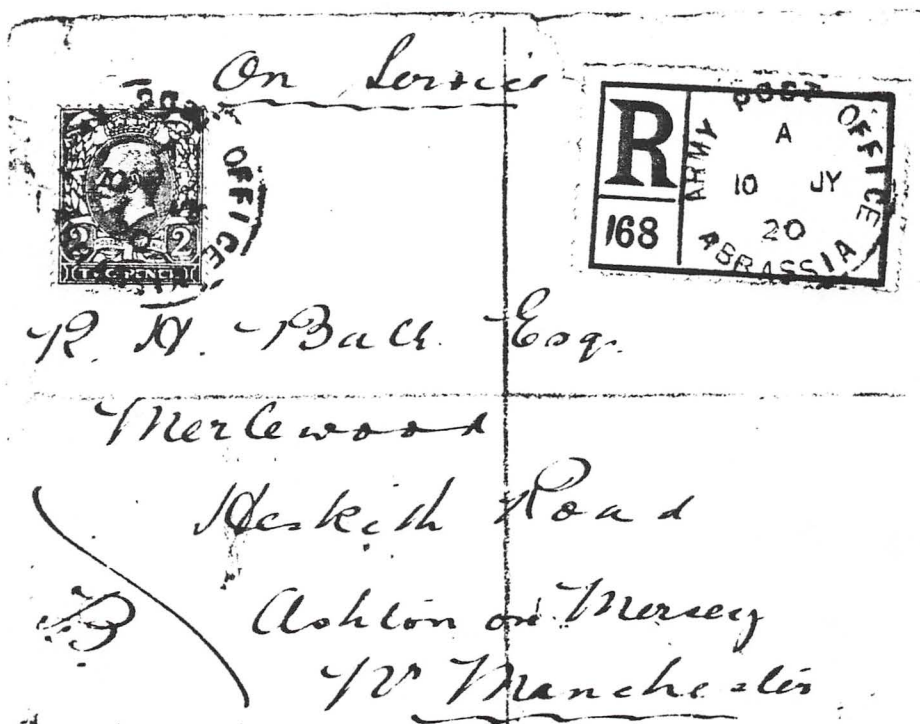




A. P. O. ABBASSIA 12 April 1920  
Twopence Registered Letter rate to ENGLAND



ARMY POST OFFICE ABBASSIA 10 July 1920  
Twopence Registered Letter rate to ENGLAND



Today there are many specialist societies catering for varied needs and interests. The Egypt Study Circle was one of the first to be formed to study and specialise in a specific field. And now we are approaching the Golden Jubilee of the founding of our society.

In the very early days it would appear that Dr W. Byam, O.B.E., and his friends met in each others' homes to study, discuss and mutually to learn from each others' collections. Those who attended were by invitation only. From this grew the idea of forming a specialist society which was to have some very precise rules and a code of conduct.

The issue of L'Orient Philatelique dated April 1936 carried one of the first reports of the proceedings of our society :-

" The 'Egypt Study Circle ' "

" Founded on January 23rd 1935, the circle has met on the following dates: March 23rd, May 4th, September 14th, October 12th and December 7th, 1935, also on January 25th and February 22nd 1936, at the residence of the Chairman, Dr W. Byam O.B.E., 92 Harley Street, London, W.1.

" Keeper of the Philatelic Record      A.S.Mackenzie-Low

" Secretary-Treasurer      F.S.Mumford

" Exchange Superintendent      E.F.Hurt

" List of Founder Members with their Reference Numbers :-

"    Ref No.		Ref No.	
1	Thompson, G. Seymour	13	Thompson, Dr R.J.C.      x
2	Mackenzie-Low, A.S.      x	14	Hinde, William C.      x
3	Byam, Dr W., O.B.E.      x	15	Blomfield, R. Seymour      x
4	Lowe, Hubert F      x	16	Boulad, Jean      x
5	Grylls, Col. G      x	17	Fox, Chalres      x
6	Weakley, Dr L	18	Diena, Emilio
7	Alterskye, C. G.	19	Worthington Wilmer, Col. I.R.      x
8	Armstrong      x	20	Bramble, Major J.J.      x
9	Hurt, E.F.      x	21	Angeloglou, E.L.
10	Hearn, Capt G.L.      x	22	Mumford, F.S.      x
11	Kalman, D.H.      x	23	Lubran, Dr John
12	Stead, Col. Richard	24	Sillitoe, F.S.      x

" Members whose names are marked with a 'x' have joined the re-constituted Circle, also S. Lord (25) and J.R.Raeburn (26). "

Then followed Report No. 1, being the Interim Report on Study IV which had been entrusted to Mr A.S.Mackenzie-Low, 'Pre-stamp Egyptian Postal History in the nineteenth century, and the Posta Eyropea'.

The objectives and organisation of a Study Circle were summarised in detail in a paper which Dr W. Byam read before Congress on the morning of June 23rd, 1938, held that year at Cambridge, when he defined a Study Circle as :-

" A group of philatelists bound together by a common interest; with a desire to study the stamps they collect; and acknowledging no order of seniority, in that a Circle has neither top nor bottom, ends nor sides. As with every circle, a centre there must be: a member who acts as chairman; and on his powers of leadership and his capacity for inspiring interest and enthusiasm much of the success of the Circle will depend. Such a leader should not always occupy the centre of the group but should delegate his functions to each member of the periphery as occasion offers. The 'common interest' which was

" referred to in the definition may be one of many kinds: the stamps of a single country, or countries, allied politically or geographically; the process by which the stamps were produced; the uses to which the stamps are put . . . One of the charms of our hobby is that it attracts its devotees in such countless ways. Those having a 'common interest' are scattered far and wide and yet a circle may bind them together. To some extent, on joining a circle, they sink their individuality in an effort to promote the study they attempt; the knowledge to be obtained from the collections they are forming becomes common property of them all; a bond of fellowship is created and much happiness results. "

On the matter of research, he said :-

" When research work is to be attempted, a team, acting under the guidance of an experienced leader, is often able to tackle a problem which may be too unwieldy for an individual working alone; but the converse is not equally true, for too great a number of co-workers may lead to confusion and dissipation of effort.

In respect to the procedure then adopted by the Egypt Study Circle :-

" Studies: each year a full list of studies was drawn up, some of which had been going for over two years, while others were marked 'not yet opened'. When a study was to be opened it was reported in the agenda, and members were requested to bring or send relative material from their collections. All relative notes were made by the Keeper of the Record, but it became apparent that when some members had shown their material they began to lose interest and the study was put aside in an unfinished state. To stimulate progress a summary was made by the Keeper of the Philatelic Record, and a volunteer would take charge of the study to act as leader to continue the research. "

(Of the list for the 1938 Season, it is interesting to see that Study VI - 'The Postal Markings of Egypt in the Nineteenth Century' had been entrusted to R. Seymour Blomfield, and this is still going strong. A truly remarkable record - may he be spared to complete his half century of effort on our behalf).

In his talk, Dr Byam spoke of the possibility of publishing the results of the studies. This idea grew and 'The Book', as it later became generally known, became the focus of much effort with special meetings being set aside for its consideration. But alas! the pressing weight of modern times has engulfed this worthy project. The work done must not be altogether lost to us, but where it is possible could be used as a basis of articles in the Q.C. To this we can all add our own knowledge and data.

Though many of our separate studies are well looked after, some may be lagging in completeness, remembering that studies, like cars, need continual maintenance if they are not to become corroded. Their well-being is completely dependent upon individual members' ability to work and to 'care' for them. Something new is always coming to light.

Dr Byam, in outlining the organisation of a circle, expressed the desirability of the routine business being undertaken by the Executive Committee, this consisting of the Secretary/Treasurer, the Keeper of the Philatelic Record, the Exchange Packet Superintendent, the Leader of the Circle, and such others as may be deemed necessary, these officers to be elected to serve for one year:-

" To meet current needs, new offices have since been created, with the subsequent transfer of some of the duties. "



With the approach of our Golden Jubilee it has been expressed that it would not come amiss if something of the aims of Dr Byam and his friends be recorded:-

" To advance the interest and knowledge of all philatelic aspects of Egypt. "

Their foresight and endeavours have left to us a legacy of comradeship and the joy of meeting our fellow members at our International Exhibitions. The gatherings, too, of those who are able to meet our overseas members when visiting the United Kingdom.

The value of the exchange of knowledge is as important today as ever it was in the past, and will continue to be so as each succeeding generation of the future takes the stage.

- F. W. Benians (ESC 123)

U P D A T A            1 4

"Star & Bridge" Cancellations

Submitted by L.C.J. Lars Alund (ESC 105)

Having seen the tables of the earliest and latest dates of the "Star and Bridge" cancellations (ESC Type XI) I have had a look at my own collection of these postmarks. I did not find much of public interest but, all the same, I can extend the dates of use in both directions (so to speak) in some cases as will be seen from the following list :-

Town:	ISMAILIA	15. IX. 15	(in blue)
	LUQSOR	8(?) III. 14	
	PORT-TAUFIQ	... VIII. 07	
	SUEZ	(.)0. III. 19	

I enclose photostatic copies of these cancellations.

The above-mentioned dates mean new latest dates for Ismailia, Luqсор and Suez and a new earliest date for Port-Taufiq.

Lars Alund (ESC 105)

\*\*\* The illustrations are reproduced on page 100 and some have been retouched for printing. The Ismailia cover is also of interest because of its 'named Military Datestamp'. - Editor.

Q U E S T I O N            T I M E

New Question

Q. Time 37 - CONSTANTINOPLE (?) Date Stamp      Submitted by B.B.Owen (ESC 259)

What is the complete name on this c.d.s. ? It appears to be of Constantinople (Turkey) but, to be symmetrical, there must be at least ten characters after the second 'N'. The date is in French, as also seems the word 'ARR . . '

Note: I have been informed by Major E.L.G.MacArthur (ESC 125) that these odd cancellations have been seen in the past, e.g. NAIROBI, LAGOS, etc. They have been attributed to letters arriving with stamps uncanceled from Egypt, and have been cancelled by the arrival post office, so as to preclude their further use.

Please see illustration on page 102.



NEW ISSUES by C. E. H. Defriez

(all stamps are printed Rotogravure by Postal Printing House, A.R.Egypt, and with watermark Multiple Eagle unless noted otherwise)

<u>Commemorative Stamps</u>	<u>SG 1424</u>	<u>SG 1425</u>
Occasion	Festivals 1980 (Folklore)	Seventh Anniversary of Suez Crossing
Date of issue	8th August 1980	6th October 1980
Designer	Lotfy el Sawaf	Kamal Hammouda
Design	Erksous Seller and Nakrazan Player	'6th October' written in English & Arabic, Building Construction & Peace Doves
Denomination	10 mills	20 mills
Sheet	100 (10 x 10) No watermark	25 (5 x 5) No watermark
Stamp dimensions	25 x 30 mm	51 x 43 mm
Perforation	11	11 x 11½
Quantity printed	5,000,000	500,000
Supplementary	-	Printing: Off-set litho
	<u>SG 1426</u>	<u>SG 1427</u>
Occasion	United Nations Day	
Date of issue	24th October 1980	
Designer	Sami Rafei	Wahib Farag
Design	Islamic & Coptic Capitals	I.T.U. Emblem
Denomination	70 mills	140 mills
Sheet	35 (7 x 5)	35 (7 x 5)
Stamp dimensions	40 x 40 mm	40 x 40 mm
Perforation	11½	11½
Quantity printed	500,000	500,000
Supplementary	UNESCO Campaign for the saving of Egyptian monuments (Islamic and Coptic)	International Telecommunications Day
	<u>SG 1428</u>	<u>SG 1429</u>
Occasion	Start of the 15th Century (El Hegira Calendar)	Opening of Third Branch of Suez Canal
Date of issue	9th November 1980 A.D. 1st Muharm 1401 A.H.	16th December 1980
Designer	Nadia Abdel Fattah	Nadia Abdel Fattah
Design	Spider's Web, dove, olive branch within crescent, El Kaaba and El Nabawi Mosque	Ships carrying cargo of 60,000 tons & 150,000 tons symbolizing deepening of the Canal
Denomination	45 mills	70 mills
Sheet	35 (7 x 5) No Watermark	50 (5 x 10)
Stamp dimensions	40 x 42 mm	43 x 26 mm
Perforation	11	11½ x 11
Quantity printed	500,000	500,000
Supplementary	Printing: Off-set Litho and Photogravure	President Sadat opened the 3rd branch of the Canal on 16th Dec. 1980 and celebrated the completion of the 1st stage of deepening & widening.

NEW ISSUES - August to December, 1980  
and their SPECIAL CANCELLATIONS



SG 1424



SG 1424



SG 1425



SG 1425



SG 1426



SG 1426/7



SG 1427



SG 1428



SG 1428



SG 1429

QUESTION TIME

Q. Time 37

What is the full name on this c.d.s. ?

How is it arranged symmetrically ?



by F. Rowland Hill (ESC 212)

It is to be feared that all was not sweetness and light in the Waghorn organization - we hear of too many employees being sacked, one way or another. Let us start with an appropriately obscure matter of Mr Mills.

There is an undated letter from Waghorn to Haslam, immediately before one of Waghorn's departures to Egypt. I, for no very good reason, consider it to date to 1835. It refers to an effort to get a job for a relation, young Mills, with the Pilot Service. Miss Sankey states that there is no trace of any Mills ever getting such a job. In an auction sale catalogue there appears a letter of 1837 from H.P.Mills to J.Morton, Waghorn's representative in Cairo (contents not specified) and Waghorn's reply to Mills firing him. Whether this was the same Mills is questionable, and what his letter did to infuriate Waghorn is unknown, but the incident is worth noticing, as there is a suggestion that Mills was pushing his snout into what, at least in Waghorn's estimation, was none of his business. This is, as far as I know, the only mention of Mr Morton either.

Now let us push on to 1840, and begin with the deplorable Mr Stubbs, The Man Who Lost The January Periodicals.

" 6 Jan'y 1840

" . . . The Periodicals despatched by you early in December . . . did not reach Marseilles in time . . . I enclose part of Mr Stubbs letters of 6th and 16th respecting them . . .

" What day did you despatch the Periodicals in question to Mr Stubbs ? Was he to blame or not for not having them at Marseille by the 11th Decr. "

So Mr Stubbs was already a marked man over the December Periodicals, and worse was to come.

" 25 Jan'y 1840

" I am sorry to tell you that the french Steamer arrd here yesterday did not bring . . . Periodicals altho I see by the enclosed rough of Mr Stubbs that they got to him . . . Encloz Mr Stubbs lost make him pay up to 31 Decr instantly. I cannot get it out of my mind that he is a bad one - surely there is plenty of people at Boulogne, Mr Ince for Instance if you can't get a better. Mr Stubbs is a bad one depend on it. "

What Mr Stubbs lost is not specified. By 7 February the Periodicals were still missing . . .

" . . . I send you an incld letter (portion of one of our Mr Stubbs) dated 6th Jan'y stating that the said Periodicals had come to him, but how he send them on I don't know, as Gowers do not know . . . therefore Stubbs never adviced Gower of sending them on . . . I have all along told you to decharge Stubbs. I am now convinced this delay to the January Periodicals . . . is owing to his negligence . . . Stubbs must be to blame.

" I now write to Stubbs telling him that it is my opinion his negligence is the cause of the non arrival of Janry Periodicals in Egypt. "

Mr Stubbs was duly 'decharged' and replaced by Mr Ince, who was still acting as Boulogne agent in June.

At the end of the year terrible things came to light about Mr Brown, the agent in Bombay; here we have a man who had had two years' training and still fell down on the job.

/ Continued . . .

" Industrial Relations " - Waghorn Style - Continued

" 14 Novr 1840

" . . . you did wrong about writing to Frith to pay Brown . . . "

" 27 Decr 1840

" . . . Messrs McGregors give us a very bad a/ct of Mr Brown and that they cannot become our agents . . . but that they have appointed Messrs Callett & Co Booksellers at Bombay as our agents subject to our approval vice Brown. "

Who McGregors were, other than some sort of merchants, I don't know.

" 20 Jany 1841

" . . . having had complaints of my late agent Mr Brown who was two years with me in England training I have dismissed him & appointed Messrs Callett . . . "

" 6 Feby 1841

" . . . Mr Brown has turned out very bad indeed & owes us by his own admission £90 independant of totally neglecting our interests at Bombay &c &c &c. "

One wonders if he succumbed to boredom and Booze. Also why he needed two years' training for a job which apparently any local merchants or booksellers could do in their spare time. But all was not well. Messrs Callett (whose name Waghorn spells differently every time) dropped a pyramid-sized brick at the first attempt.

" 23 Feb 1841

" Recharge all these parcels at half our usual rates, as Callet & Co have not understood our instructions & have not charged scarcely anything on them. They have cost us four times what they received for coming thro' Egypt alone. "

Wow ! ! ! !

Between these, and almost simultaneously, there were the old hand, Mr Langley, and the mysterious by apparently tragic Captain Nicholson.

Mr Langley had been agent in Madras and, indeed, his name appears on one of the cachets - Sidebottom's type 5 - the only agent whose name does so. Did he make his own? However the problem of the cachets is another matter. This cachet was superseded in 1839 by Type 9, presumably when Mr Langley went to Alexandria. Trouble started in September.

" 27 Sept 1840

" Pay Mrs Langley no more money her husband is a good man but swears at Mr Pathonier therefore when they meet they quarrel Mr Langley is a very useful man but he will return by the "Great Liverpool" if she comes to Alexa. "

It seems a slight reason for sacking a good trusted old hand; surely he could have been transferred to another office. Admittedly this could be what is implied except for the stoppage of payments to his wife. However, just to make things easier for his London staff . . .

" 17 Oct 1840

" Keep paying Mrs Langley her money ~~pr~~ Quarter . . . "

. . . but in November . . .

" 5th Nov 1840

" Mr Langley will return by the "Oriental" this month to England, don't pay his wife another farthing after 1st Octr last.

/ Continued . . .

" Industrial Relations " - Waghorn Style - Continued

" If Mr Langley returns to Egypt to bring his family & takes the Suez Hotel as our tenant on his own account without salary from me. So your office will be relieved of Mr Langley for the future. "

Not at all clear what it was all about. One could speculate a good deal. But the last of our examples is even more obscure. We first hear of Captain Nicholson in the first letter Waghorn wrote on his return to Egypt from England in August 1840. It would appear that he had appointed Captain Nicholson to a job in the London Office whilst he was in England. At first all seems wonderful . . . " 20 August 1840

" The enclosed note . . . is to be delivered by Capt. Nicholson if he is at the office . . . "

" 7 Sept 1840

" On the first of every month I hope to hear from Capt. Nicholson in his acct for each past month, & hope you all get on quietly & profitably. "

. . . though that last bit seems to be more in hope than expectation. In a P.S. to this letter . . .

" I beg Mr White, Capt. Nicholson & Mr Wheatley to accept my best wishes . . . "

. . . which is all very charming. But by 22 Sept. Capt. Nicholson is apparently having delusions of grandeur . . .

" . . . tell Capt Nicholson I will have nothing to do with west end rooms . . . "

" 27 Sept 1840

" Enclosed is a note to Capt. Nicholson which send . . . "

" . . . I suppose Capt. Nicholson will leave you. "

" 17 Oct 1840

" . . . tell Capt Nicholson we cannot afford to pay his services in the present state of affairs. "

So apparently the trouble was financial. But Capt. Nicholson wouldn't go.

" 5 Nov 1840

" . . . If Capt Nicholson has not left it is my wish that he should. I can't afford to pay his services & I am determined not to have them without payment. "

He seems just to have wanted to hang around the office, paid or not. He was still there a fortnight later . . .

" 22 Nov 1840

" . . . It is my wish that Capt Nicholson leave your Office forthwith as I do not see that his service is worth £10 a month . . . "

And then on 22nd December . . .

" I am sorry to hear Capt Nicholson ended his days so shockingly. "

That must mean suicide. One wonders why. The persistent refusal to go, the apparent willingness to work without payment, was he just a lonely man desperate for company, driven out of his mind when he had to leave his little job ?

Waghorn doesn't really seem too much affected.

Faked Censor Mark on G.B.L.A. Covers ? - by John Cousins (ESC 202)

The story of the "Great Bitter Lake Association" labels is pretty well known. Suffice it to relate that, after the 1967 Arab-Israel war broke out, fourteen ships of various nationalities were stranded in the Suez Canal.

To lighten their enforced idleness the G.B.L.A. was formed and with the limited materials and methods available local "stamps" were produced on board some of the ships. Although initially a charge was made for the stamps this soon proved impracticable and they were handed out freely to crew members. There are reports that some covers bearing only G.B.L.A. stamps passed through the posts without becoming liable to postage due charges - surely unofficially !

Probably the majority of covers, at least in the early days, were used as intended - routed through shipping agents to Port Tewfik, appropriate Egyptian stamps added, and the covers consigned to the mercies of the Egyptian Post Office. As a result, any genuine cover will bear G.B.L.A. label(s), plus Egyptian stamps, with Port Tewfik c.d.s. and censor mark (usually of Peter Andrews' type No. 32, and in one case, No. 27 - see Q.C. Vol. VIII, No. 8).

Recently, however, Mr K. D. Knight (ESC 150) mentioned the possibility of a forged censor mark on G.B.L.A. covers on which I should like to comment further.

The mark in question is Peter Andrews No. 32 which, when perfect, appears as shown in fig. 1. More commonly, due to over-inking, the Arabic character 'saad' to the right of the number in the lower half of the mark has the top loop filled in, as in fig. 2.

The forgery appears on, apparently, only one set of covers addressed to a Mr R. E. Hornby (figures 3 & 4). Mr K. D. Knight has another such in his collection. Only the character 'geem' to the left of the '9' passes muster. The '9' itself is misshapen and the 'saad' to the right is misproportioned and with no trace of the open upper loop even when under-inked, as in fig. 3. In addition, the supposed Arabic characters in the upper half defy description. Add to this the absence of a Tewfik c.d.s. or indeed any c.d.s. either for despatch or arrival, and the use of a Revenue stamp (fig. 3), and suspicion that the censor mark is forged hardens into near-certainty.

\*\*\* Mr Cousins expresses the hope that his contribution will produce some reaction - 'anything is better than a stony silence'. If YOU do not, at present, have a contribution to submit, can you find something in this issue to comment upon ?

To ensure that the G.B.L.A. fakes do not totally fail to produce a reaction, I should like to enquire whether Mr Cousins has attempted to contact Mr Hornby in Morecambe, the addressee of the faked covers ? He must be a prime suspect ! Possibly, after a dozen years, he might be willing to 'come clean'. - Editor.

Q U E S T I O N            T I M E

New Question

Q. Time 38 - ' MARSEILLE / COURS AU CHAPITRE ' c.d.s. - Submitted by P.E.Whetter (ESC 133)

In a recent mixed lot of Postal Stationery etc. Robson Lowe selected for special mention: " a picture postcard used to Beira with 2m and 3m stamps and France 25c, all just tied by 'Marseille / Cours au Chapitre ' c.d.s. of 24 Sept 1898. Is anything known about this datestamp please ?



FAKED CENSOR MARK ON G. B. L. A. COVERS ?



32

← Fig. 1 & Fig. 2 →

Genuine type 32 censor mark

Fig. 2 from cover dated August 1970 is over-inked/worn



Figures 3 & 4 (below)

Suspected faked censor marks

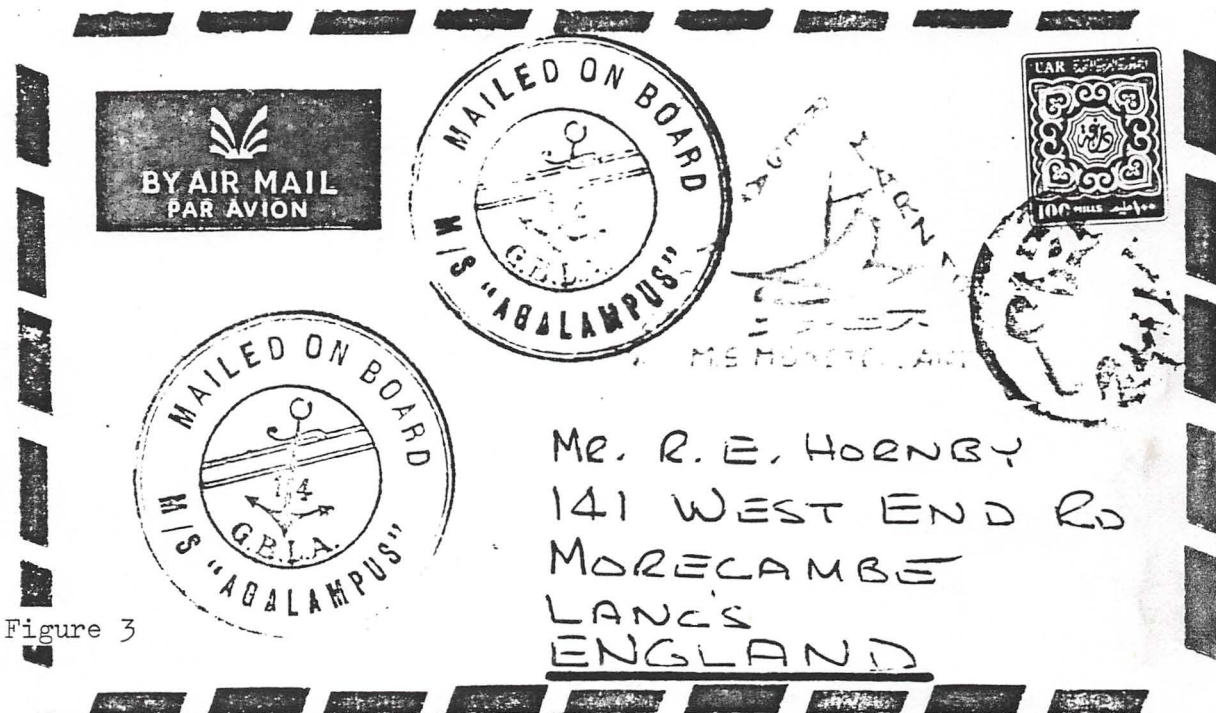


Figure 3

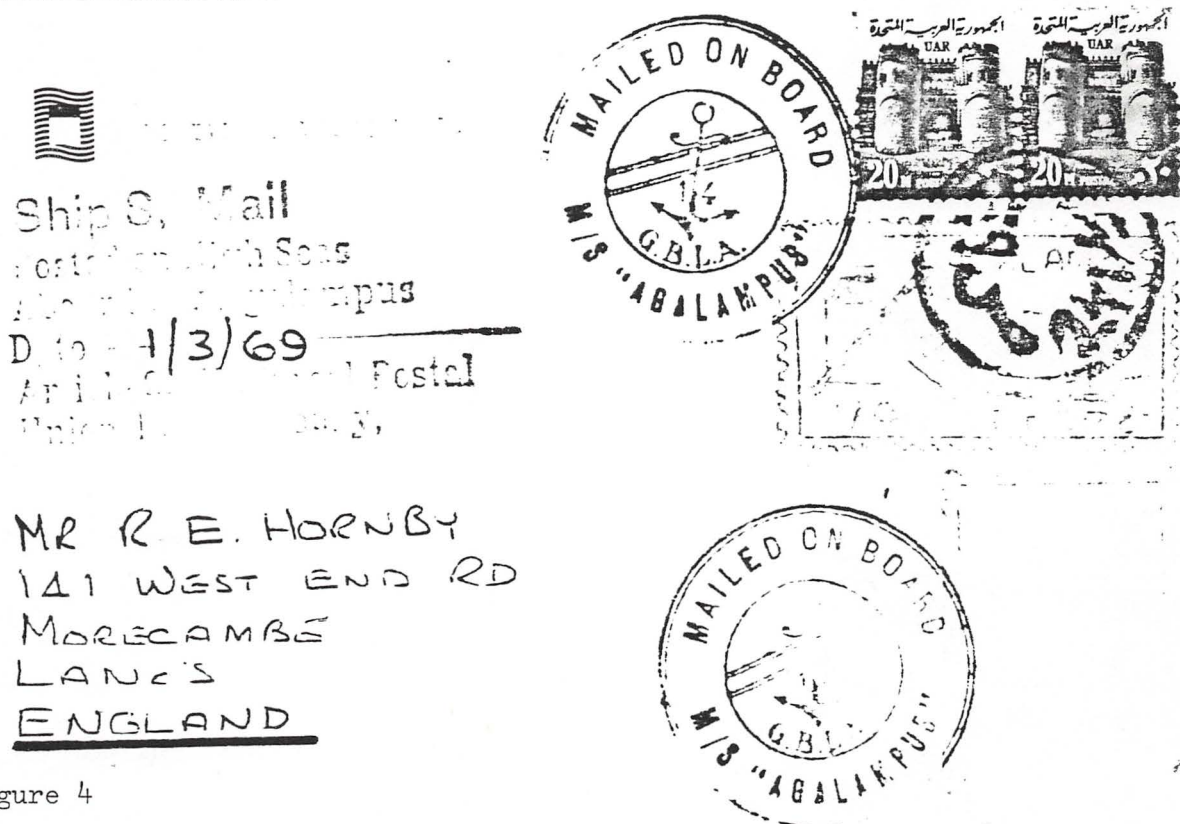


Figure 4