

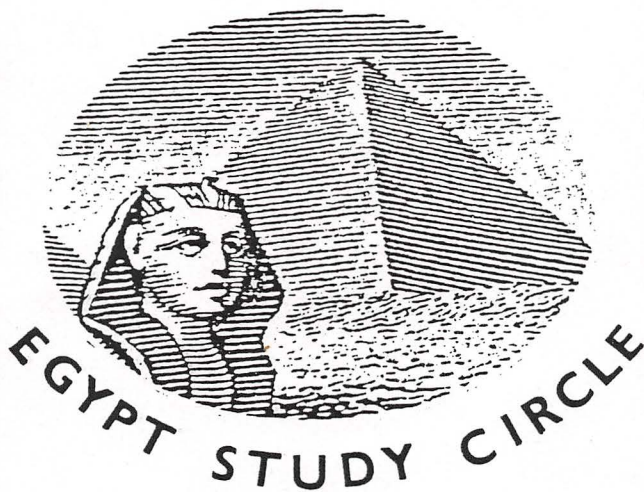
# THE QUARTERLY CIRCULAR

Volume XI

Number 7

September 1982

Whole Series 123



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## Next Meetings

To be held at "The Peacock"  
Maiden Lane, London W.C.

1982

October 16

December 11



EGYPT STUDY CIRCLE - THE QUARTERLY CIRCULARVolume XI Number 7 Sept 1982 Whole Series Number 123

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REPORT OF ESC MEETING

Meeting held on 14 August 1982 at 'The Peacock', Maiden Lane, London W.C.2

Attendance: Mr J. Sears (Chairman) and Messrs W.C.Andrews, F.W.Benians, D.H.Clarke, P.R.Feltus, P.Grech, J.A.Grimmer, E.Hall, C.F.Hass, J.S.Horesh and P.E.Whetter.

The Chairman was especially glad to welcome two well-known United States members, Mr Peter Feltus and Mr Charles Hass.

The Chairman reported with regret the death in April of Mr Mehanny Eid, a former leading member of the Philatelic Society of Cairo and Editor of the 9th (1972) edition of the famous Zeheri Catalogue.

The Chairman reported on the state of the Circle. Membership was increasing but there were problems. One problem which became worse each year was the arranging of subjects and speakers for the six meetings. A second problem was that little active study was being done; that done by John Firebrace, Jim Benians, and a few others were outstanding examples of good quality research.

The talk was on the subject of the Farouk Portrait Obliterations, and was given by Bill Andrews and Charlie Hass. It is hoped to publish a paper on this in a future Q.C.

Editor  
of the  
Q.C.  
John A. Grimmer  
48 York Road  
New Barnet  
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Secretary  
Edmund Hall  
6, Bedford Avenue  
Little Chalfont  
Bucks

THE CIRCLE, PRESENT AND FUTURE

We are fortunate in that over the past few years we have attracted a gradually increasing membership, and we are growing at a net rate of about 4-6 members a year. We have an attendance at our meetings in London which varies between 10 and 20. The continuing high quality of the Q.C., due to the contributions of the members, and the excellent efforts of our editor, adds to our status. Generally speaking, therefore, we are in a healthy state.

However, I feel there are two problems which we must tackle straight away in order to continue our growth, solving one will go a long way to curing the other. The first is that very few of the existing studies are being actively developed. I may be quite wrong, if I am I can only say that apart from the notable exceptions of Messrs Benians, Firebrace and Rowland Hill, we seem to get very infrequent progress reports for the Q.C.

Secondly, the programmes for our bi-monthly meetings are becoming increasingly difficult to arrange.

The solutions, as far as I can see, are as follows :-

- (a) The studies must be revitalised by small groups of members working together.
- (b) Each group to collate everything that has been written before on the particular subject.
- (c) Each group to report to a meeting of the Circle every 2 years.
- (d) Each group to publish its findings, added to the knowledge previously collated, either in the Q.C. or as a separate pamphlet.

The drawback, of course, is that our membership is world wide, and practical difficulties may ensue as a result of the correspondence involved and subsequent delays.

This, then, is the way I can see the Circle developing in the time ahead. But if any members have any additional or alternative suggestions, please let me know.

In order to get these proposals working, volunteers are urgently needed to form groups; please can you let me know which particular study you are involved with at the moment, or would like to be associated with in the future. For the benefit of our newer members here are some suggestions for their consideration :-

- 1) The De La Rue issues
- 2) The pictorial issues of 1914 and 1922
- 3) The Fuad issues
- 4) The Farouk issues
- 5) The commemorative issues, pre 1956
- 6) The commemorative issues, post 1956
- 7) Airmails
- 8) The various aspects of Postal History

You will notice that there appears to be more emphasis on stamps than Postal History, please do not think that this means that this area is more important than the other, but of recent years it is felt that the stamps have been somewhat neglected.

I look forward to hearing from as many members as possible, so that the Circle may continue to grow in knowledge and expertise.

John Sears, Chairman







MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

The Secretary is glad to report the following New Members as at 11 August 1982:-

- ESC 267 Lt Col C. N. M. Blair, C.M.G., O.B.E.  
Portbane, Kenmore, Aberfeldy, Perthshire PH15 2HW
- ESC 268 Mr Brian Sedgley  
Green Peckers, Seven Hills Road, Cobham, Surrey
- ESC 269 Mr Paul John Calhoun  
3454 Fenton Avenue, Apartment 2C  
Bronx, New York, N.Y. 10469, U.S.A.
- ESC 270 Dr John M. Buckner  
Gainesville Mall, 2560 N.W. 13th Street,  
Gainesville, Florida 32601, U.S.A.
- ESC 271 Mr James Edwin Hamp  
Box 400, Manurewa,  
Auckland, New Zealand
- ESC 272 Mr Stephen William Bunce  
Stratton Wycombe Road  
Princes Risborough, Bucks HP17 OEY
- ESC 273 Mr Ulrich Eckstein  
Krögerskamp 42  
D - 2900 Oldenburg, West Germany
- ESC 274 Mr Nicholas David William Thomas  
8, Wellington Road  
Bebington, Wirral, Merseyside L63 7NF
- ESC 275 Mr Royston Alfred Simmons  
17 Seaton Avenue,  
Hythe, Kent CT21 5HH
- ESC 276 Mrs Janice M. Jackson  
20070 W. Casdoza Road  
Los Banos, California 93625, U.S.A.
- ESC 277 Mr Peter Jenkins  
10 Irwin Street  
Farsley, Pudsey, West Yorkshire LS28 5AY
- ESC 278 Mr Peter Gregorio  
6247 Garretson Street,  
Burke, Virginia 22015, U.S.A.
- ESC 279 Dr Tarek Ossman  
62 Abou Takia Street  
Shoubra, Cairo, A. R. Egypt
- ESC 280 Mr Michel Varin  
57 Rue des Duacs  
55000 Bar Le Duc, France
- ESC 281 Mr S. A. H. Passenier  
Eyken Donck 22  
2211 SE Noordnykerhout, Holland

\*\*\* The editor of the 'Q.C.' is always glad to hear from New (and Old !) Members as to their achievements at Philatelic Exhibitions, etc.



THE MILITARY USE of the CIVIL POST OFFICES in EGYPT, 1914 - 1916

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

(Continued from The Q.C., Number 6 of Volume VI)

SECTION 5 MILITARY CACHETSDescription and Recording

The outer frame of many oval, circular and rectangular cachets consists of two lines close together. A double oval, for example, consists of wording between this outer frame and an inner line. In all framed cachets the wording is recorded first at the top, then at the foot and then in the centre. Wordings on different lines are separated by an oblique stroke / , centre wordings being preceded by a double oblique stroke //.

Where dates or symbols form part of the cachet they are treated as part of the text, but where the words "Date", "No.", etc. appear within oval or round cachets, whether accompanied with manuscript or not, they are ignored.

A few handstamps exist consisting only of an officer's facsimile signature, sometimes with rank and corps and these are also ignored at this stage. Every attempt has been made to interpret officers' names correctly whether in manuscript or cachet and checks have been made where possible.

In the examples which follow, words between quotation marks are taken directly from covers and cards. Measurements are in millimetres.

Types and Sub-types

The six main types are listed hereunder with their sub-types. Very many are illustrated either as covers or from line drawings and are numbered as follows :-

- I Oval
  - a. double undated and a.i. dated.
  - b. single undated and b.i. surmounted by crown.
- II Circular
  - a. double and a.i. with cogwheel.
  - b. single and b.i. with cogwheel.
- III Rectangular
  - a. double frame, four lines.
  - b. single frame, two lines and b.i. one line.
- IV Unframed
  - a. three lines, a.i. two lines and a.ii. one line.
- V With provision for signature
  - a. four lines, a.i. three lines and a.ii. two lines
- VI With officer's name
  - a. four lines.

Section 5. Military Cachets - double oval, undated: Type I a

1 JA 15 Alexandria 29 x 49 black 1st FIELD AMBULANCE / ROYAL ARMY  
MEDICAL CORPS, E.L.D.  
"Free" O.H.M.S. to Alexandria

On 10 Sep: 1914, the East Lancashire Division sailed from  
Southampton and on 25 Sep: landed in Egypt

/ Continued . . .



EGYPT.CIVIL POST OFFICES.CAIRO M.MILITARY RECREATION. FREE E.

POST CARD

THE ADDRESS TO BE WRITTEN ON THE

*The Honorary Secretary,**"Comforts for Troops Fund,"**Washington Buildings,**56 High Pavement,**England.**Nottingham.*

28 XII 15 11 30 AM.

Postage Free to ENGLAND.

"Comforts for Troops Fund" Nottingham  
Private Jacques, South Notts. Hussars

Esbekieh Gardens Club.

J. L. Hay, New Zealand, in charge.

Illustrating Section 5, Type I b (Military Cachets - Single Oval)

Note the signature of J.L.Hay.



Military Use of Civil P.O.'s, 1914/16 - Military Cachets Type I a - Contd

3 JU 15 Alexandria 23 x 38 violet WORCESTERSHIRE / YEOMANRY  
Postage Free to England, taxed,  
T cancelled in London.

On 11 April 1915, The Worcestershire Yeomanry (The Queen's Own  
Worcestershire Hussars) sailed from Avonmouth and on 22 Apr:  
landed at Alexandria.

18 JY 15 Ismailia 31 x 51 violet HEADQUARTERS / 4th LONDON MOUNTED BDE.  
Free O.H.M.S. to England

On 7 Apr: 1915, London Mounted Brigade sailed from England, on  
19 Apr: landed in Egypt and in May became 4 Mounted Brigade.

H o s p i t a l s

3 JY 15 Hilwan 42 x 57 violet AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND /  
CONVALESCENT HOSPITAL // E.B.NORTON /  
Capt.  
Free "On Active Service" to England

On 5 May 1915 the Al Hayat Hotel, Helouan, was taken over.

5 AU 15 Heliopolis 35 x 42 violet FIRST AUSTRALIAN GENERAL HOSPITAL  
Free "On Active Service" to England

On 24 Jan: 1915 The Palace Hotel, Heliopolis, was taken over  
and on 29 Apr: the first wounded from Gallipoli were admitted.

23 SE 15 Cairo 26 x 48 red GOVERNMENT HOSPITAL / KASR EL AINI,  
CAIRO  
FREE (handstamp) on Active Service to  
England.  
Arabic in centre is in intaglio.

Employed as a Convalescent Depot.

Section 5. Military Cachets - double oval, dated: Type I a i

14 DE 14 Sidi Gaber 32 x 52 violet ORDERLY ROOM / 5TH BATT. MANCHESTER  
REGT.  
Free O.H.M.S. to London on 5 Bn. printed  
stationery.

On 10 Sep: 1914, 5 Battalion, The Manchester Regiment, Manchester  
Brigade, East Lancashire Division, sailed from Southampton  
and on 25 Sep: landed at Alexandria.

13 FE 15 Alexandria 29 x 50 red EMBARKING STAFF OFFICE / ALEXANDRIA  
Free "O.H.M.S. within Alexandria.

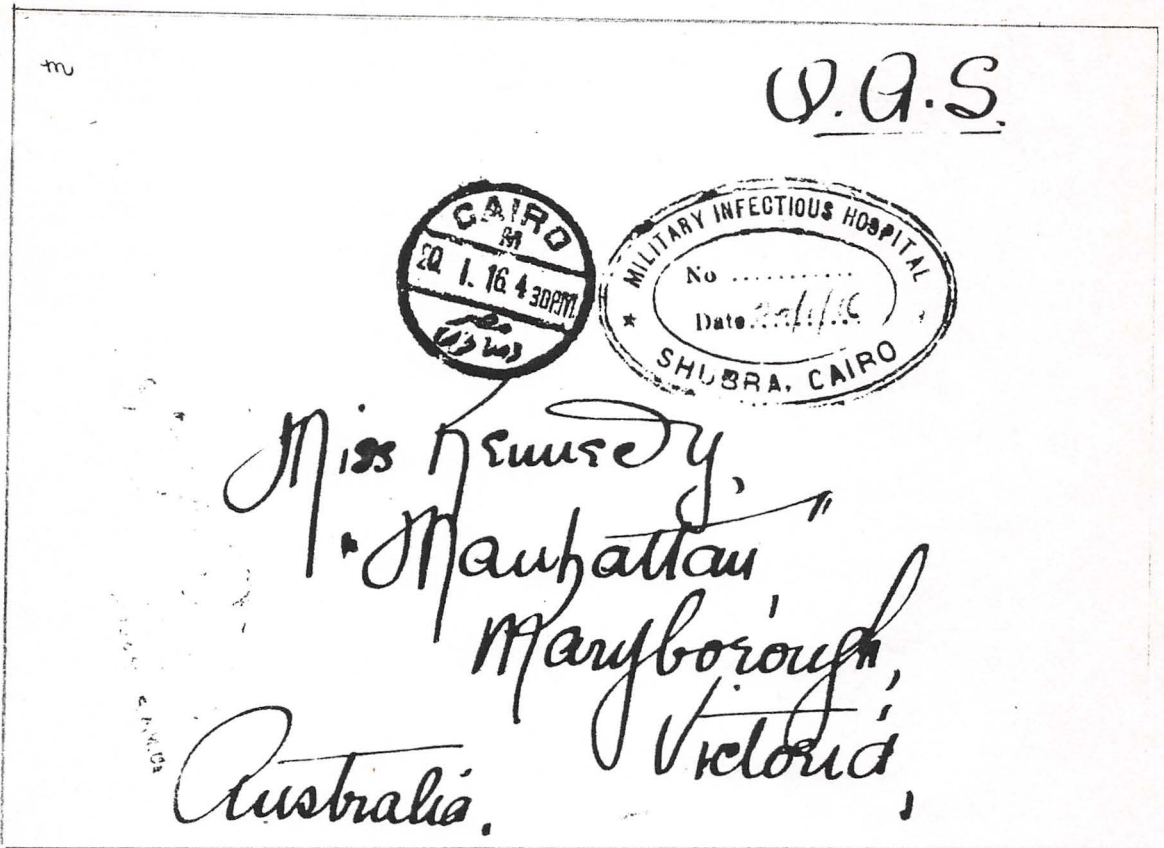
29 MY 15 Cairo 32 x 48 violet OFFICER COMMANDING / 'D' MOBILE  
Brit. Bks. VETERINARY SECTION  
Postage free to England.  
In mss: "'D' Mob. Vet. Sect., 4th London  
Mounted Bde, 2nd Mtd. Div., British  
Mediterranean Expeditionary Force"  
Signed "P. McIntyre, Capt. A.V.C."

On 3 Apr: 1915, 2 Mounted Division began to sail from Avonmouth  
and by 29 Apr: had disembarked at Alexandria. The Veterinary  
Sections did not serve on Gallipoli.

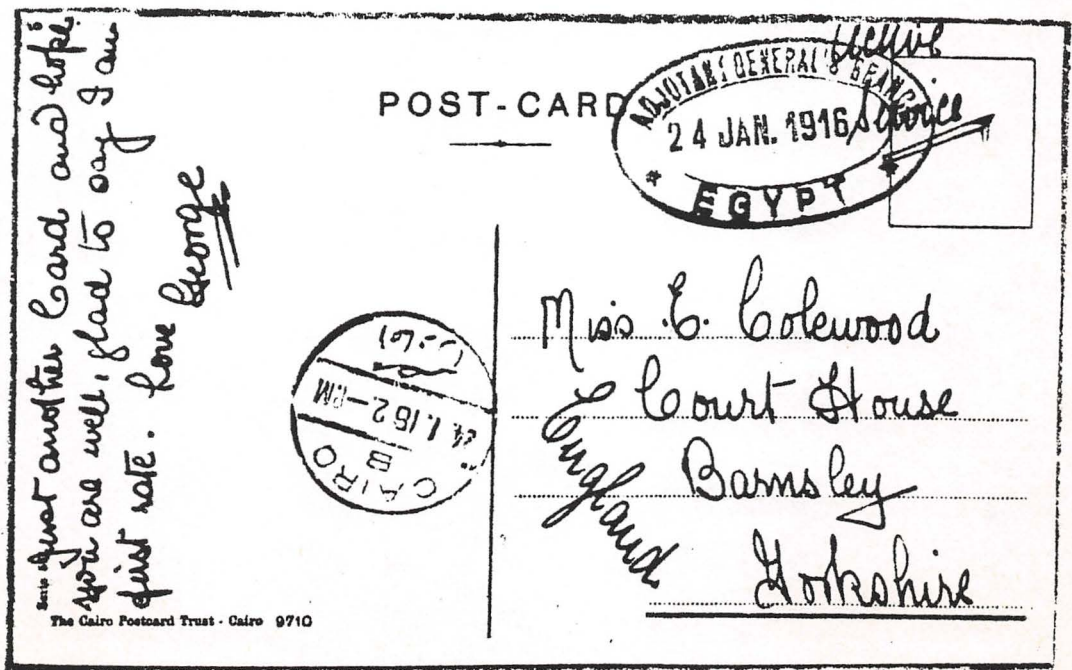
/ Continued . . .



Illustrating Section 5 (Military Cachet - double oval, undated) Type I a



Illustrating Section 5 (Military Cachet - double oval, dated) Type I a i



Military Use of Civil P.O.'s, 1914/16 - ContinuedSection 5. Military Cachets - Single oval: Type I b

- 15 JY 15 Alexandria 32 x 52 blue BRITISH GARRISON / ALEXANDRIA //  
MAIN GUARD / CARACOL, ATTARINE  
Postage free to England  
Signed "R.Colville, Lt"
- 26 NO 15 Cairo 23 x 34 red MILITARY RECREATION / E // FREE  
"On Active Service Y.M.C.A. red triangle"  
stationery.  
Postage free within Egypt  
Signed J.L.Hay

The Esbekieh Gardens Club consisted of club facilities, a theatre and a skating rink, commandeered by the military and handed over to the Y.M.C.A. to manage. Letters had to bear the official club stamp and be signed by J.L.Hay who landed in Egypt from New Zealand on 25 May 1915 and was appointed to manage the club.

- 6 JA 16 Cairo 23 x 34 blue SOLDIERS' CAFÉ, CAIRO / E // FREE  
Postage free to Australia.

Type I b . i

- 20 DE 15 Port Tawfiq 37 x 43 violet PASSED BY / THE CENSOR // LIEUT.  
COLONEL / CHIEF CENSOR  
"On Active Service. No Stamps  
available."  
Postage free to Australia  
Signed "G.J.W.Meares, Cpt. 14th Battery,  
Asst. Censor"

Section 5. Military Cachets - double circle: Type II a

- 15 AU 15 Cairo 36 mm violet FIRST AUSTRALIAN GENERAL HOSPITAL //  
FRANKED  
Postage free within Egypt.

On 14 Jan: 1915 first established in Alexandria and on 24 Jan: moved to Heliopolis, until sailing for France on 29 March 1916.

- 14 OC 15 Heliopolis 36 mm violet No. 1 AUXILIARY / LUNAR PARK //  
FRANKED  
Free "On Active Service" within Egypt

On 6 Apr: 1915 Lunar Park was taken over by 1 Australian General Hospital.

- 6 NO 15 Cairo 31 mm violet AUST. IMP. FORCE / INTER. BASE //  
FREE  
Postage free within Egypt

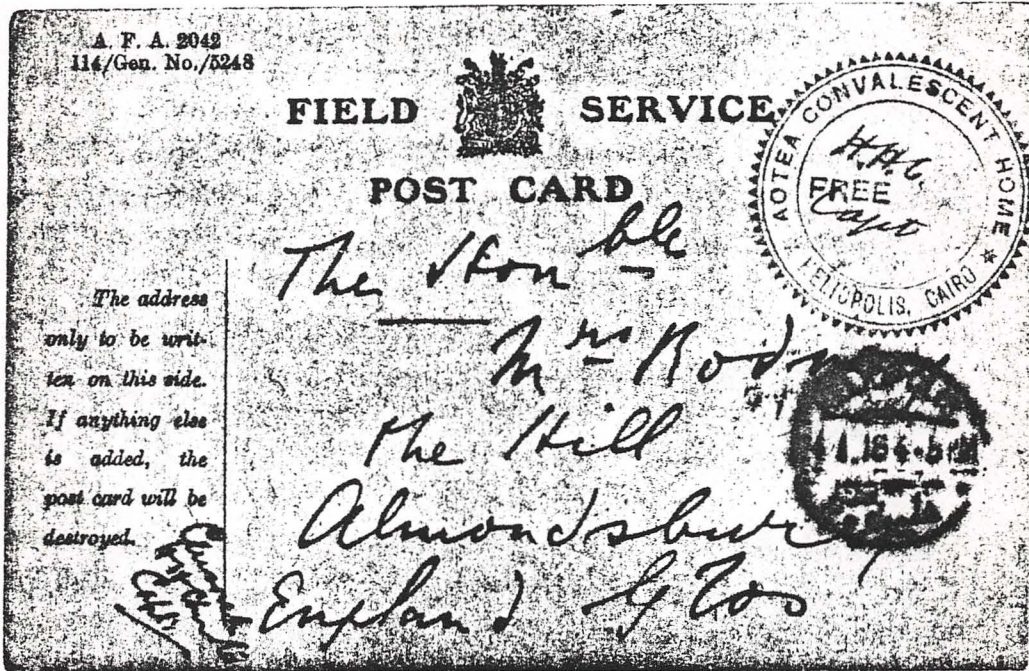
Section 5. Military Cachets - Double circle, cogwheel: Type II a i

- 24 JA 16 Heliopolis 37 mm black AOTEA CONVALESCENT HOME / HELIOPOLIS,  
CAIRO // FREE  
Field Service Post Card "Censored"

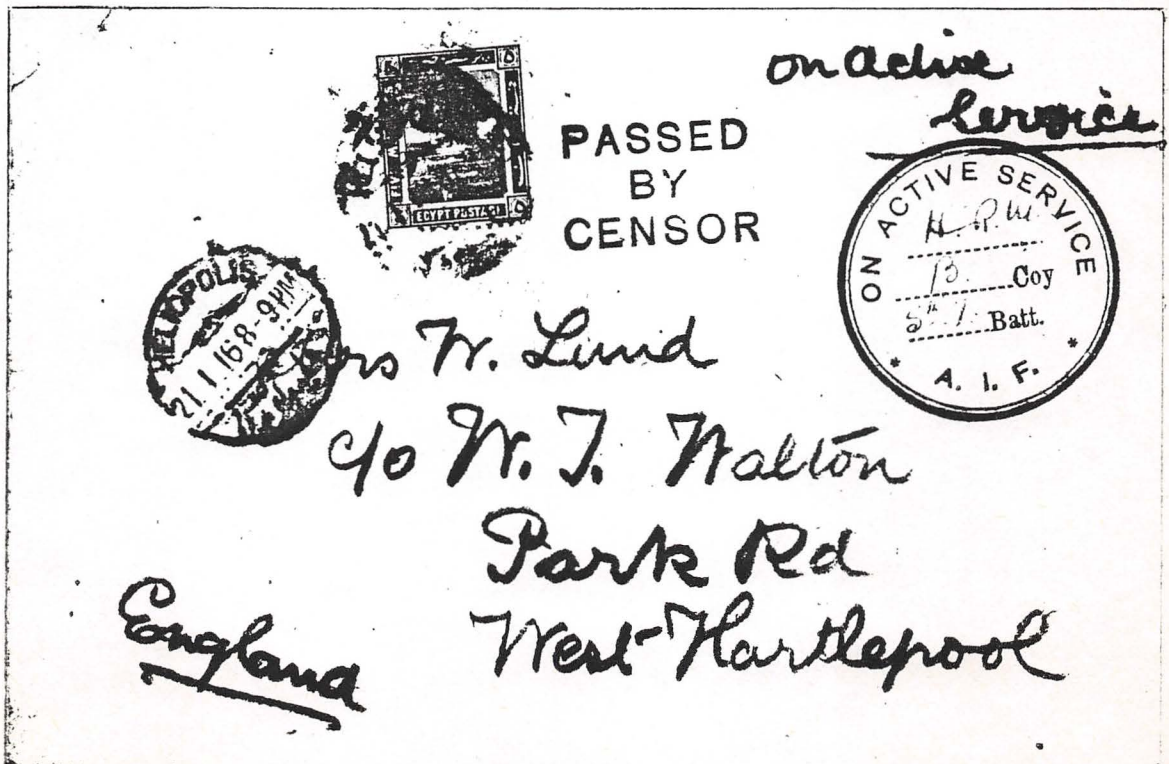
On 20 Oct: 1915, the staff of the "Aotea Home for Convalescent N.Z. Soldiers" consisting of a Matron and eight sisters and nurses landed in Egypt. The Home was open until 1919.



Illustrating Section 5 (Military Cachet - Double Circle, Cogwheel)  
Type II a i



Section 5 (Military Cachet - Single Circle) Type II b  
Also illustrating Section 3 b (Unnumbered Censor Mark)





Military Use of Civil P.O.'s, 1914/16 - ContinuedSection 5. Military Cachets - Single Circle: Type II b

- 2 AU 15 Ras el Tin 34 mm black INDIAN HOSPITAL / SHIP //  
GLENGORM CASTLE  
Postage free to INDIA  
With two straight-line cachets, same wording.  
A ship of the Union Castle line, serving  
until 1921
- 21 JA 16 Heliopolis 36 mm violet ON ACTIVE SERVICE / A.I.F.  
Signed "H.R.M. B Coy 5th T. Batt."  
5 mills "On Active Service" to England  
PASSED BY CENSOR, type AUS. 10  
On 6 Dec: 1914, 5 Battalion landed in  
Egypt and on 25 April 1915, landed on  
Gallipoli.
- 31 JA 16 Cairo 33 mm violet ABBASSIA / D.B.I. HOSPITAL / FRANKED  
"On Active Service. No stamps available."  
Postage free to Australia.  
Post card begins: "I am sending you this  
to let you know the type of w men we  
have over here."  
The Detention Barracks Isolation Hospital  
was for venereal disease cases.

Section 5. Military Cachets - Single Circle, cogwheel. Type II b i

- 16 JL 15 Heliopolis 43 mm violet 27th BATTALION A.I.F. / 7th INF BGDE //  
Mil. Camp ON ACTIVE / SERVICE / POST FREE  
Aerodrome Free "On Active Service" to England  
On 6 July 1915, 27 Battalion landed in  
Egypt and on 6 Sep: landed on Gallipoli

Section 5. Military Cachets - Rectangular, Double Frame, four lines Type III a

- 2 OC 15 Hilwan 33 x 53 violet CONVALESCENT HOSPITAL / GRAND HOTEL /  
Helouan (Egypt) // No. 3 (adjutant's  
signature)  
Free "On Active Service" to England
- 12 MR 16 Hilwan 33 x 53 violet CONVALESCENT HOSPITAL / GRAND HOTEL /  
Helouan (Egypt) // No. 3 H.M.Graham,  
Col.  
Free "On Active Service" to England.  
These are identical cachets except for  
the officer's signature. The Grand  
Hotel was the convalescent part of No. 1  
Australian General Hospital, Heliopolis.

Section 5. Military Cachets - Rectangular, Single Frame, two lines Type III b

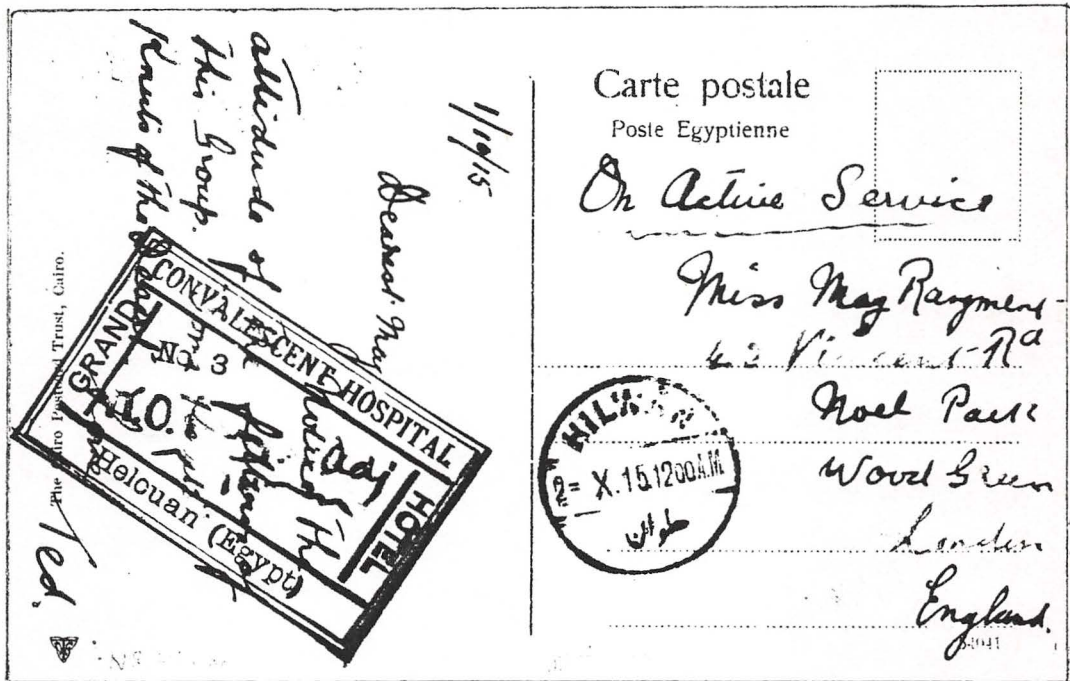
- 26 NO 15 Heliopolis 14 x 50 black 6th A.A.S.C. 1st A.I.F. / ON ACTIVE  
Mil. Camp SERVICE  
Aerodrome Postage free within Egypt.  
With "Franked by C.P.Austin, Lt"

/ Continued . . .



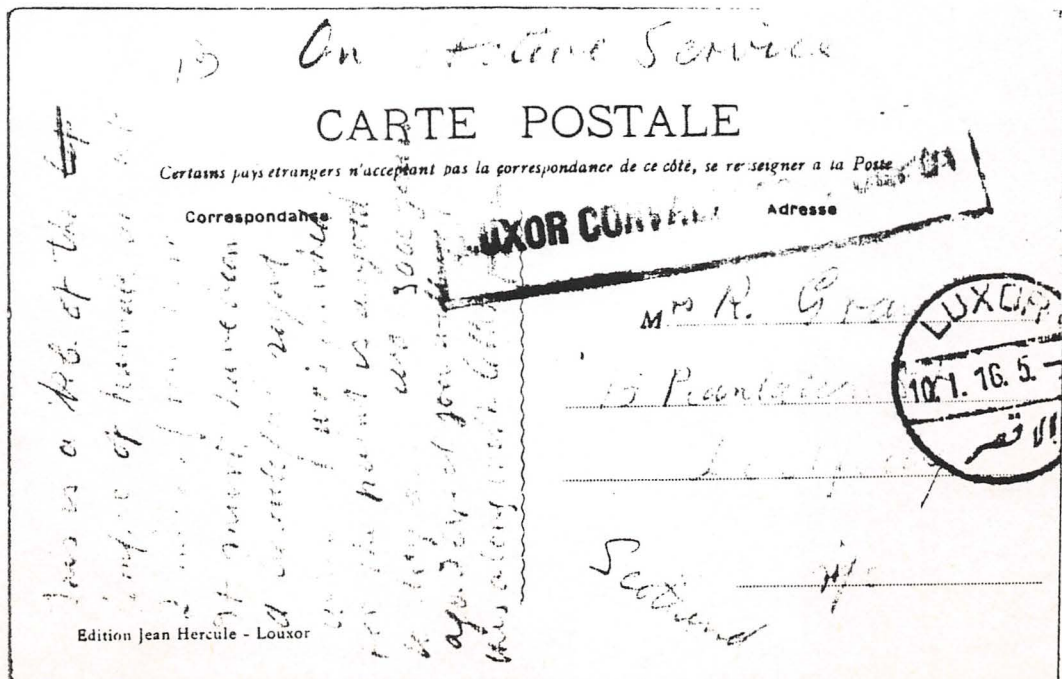
Illustrating Section 5 (Military Cachets)

Type III a (Rectangular, double frame, four lines)



Illustrating Section 5 (Military Cachets)

Type III b i (Rectangular, single frame, two lines)



Section 5. Military Cachets - Rectangular, Single Frame, two lines Type III b

(Continued)

15 DE 15 Cairo 33 x 47 violet MAIN SUPPLY DEPÔT / M.E.F.  
Free O.H.M.S. within Egypt  
This cachet has chamfered corners.

Rectangular, Single Frame, one line Type III b i

17 AU 15 Suez 30 x 64 violet H.M. HOSP. SHIP "SYRIA"  
Free "On Active Service" to India  
signed "B.Higham, Capt. I.M.S."  
This cachet is made with "perforations" on  
the frame.

A ship of the Peninsular and Oriental line,  
served from 10 Oct: 1914 to 10 Feb: 1920.

24 NO 15 Luxor 15 x 73 blue LUXOR CONVALESCENT DEPOT  
postage free to England  
from "Sergeant Weston, No. 1957, Winter  
Palace Hotel, Hospital, Luxor, Egypt."

an unframed type also exists

Winter Palace was one of the six hotels,  
with almost 2,000 beds, which formed Luxor  
Convalescent Depot.

(The third, and concluding, part of this Article will appear in the December  
1982 issue of the 'Q.C.')

- - - - -

M O D E R N I S S U E S

R E P O R T on the Watermark details given in Stanley Gibbons catalogue,  
Part 19, 1980 Edition.

by C.E.H.Defriez (ESC 172), K.D.Knight (ESC 150) and J.M.Murphy (ESC 240)

We have studied the watermarks on modern stamps commencing with the 'A.R.E.'  
issues, SG 1110 up to the end of the catalogue SG 1420, then on to SG 1461 to  
include the Supplement entries in Gibbons' Stamp Monthly.

We have found several discrepancies in the catalogue regarding the listing  
of watermark details, in particular the sideways watermark is only sometimes  
mentioned. Closer examination has revealed very faint watermarks on stamps  
that at first appeared unwatermarked. Watermarks are usually (but not always)  
upright on horizontal stamps and sideways on vertical stamps.

Issues where doubt exists have not been included on the following list.  
Difficulty was experienced with the definitives SG 1131 to 1138 and the  
Officials 1161 to 1166a where there have been later printings in various shades  
using different paper: these require further study.

Our findings have been reported to Stanley Gibbons who have undertaken to  
consider them when preparing the next edition of the Part 19 Catalogue, due to  
be published early in 1983.

/ Continued . . .



REPORT on Watermark details given in Stanley Gibbons Catalogue, Part 19 (1980)

W = Watermark 236 (upright)  
 W.s = Watermark 236 (sideways)  
 O = No Watermark

<u>S. Gibbons Part 19 Cat. 1980 Edition</u>			<u>Study by Egypt Study Circle</u>	<u>S. Gibbons Part 19 Cat. 1980 Edition</u>			<u>Study by Egypt Study Circle</u>
No. 1122	O		W	No. 1257	O		W.s
1164a	O		W	1258	O		W.s
1206	W		O	1259	O		W.s
1207	W		O	1260	W		O
1208	W		W.s	1261	W		W.s
1209	W		W.s	1262	O		W.s
1210	W		O	1263	O		W
1212	W		W.s	1264	O		W.s
1213	W		W.s	1265	W		W.s
1214	W		W.s	1266	W		W.s
1215	W		W.s	1267	W		W.s
1216	W		W.s	1268	W		W.s
1217	W		W.s	1269	W		W.s
1218	O		W.s	1270	W		O
1223	W		W.s	1271	W		O
1224	W		W.s	1276	W		W.s
1225	W		W.s	1277	W		W.s
1226	W		W.s	1278	W		W.s
1228	W		W.s	1279	W		W.s
1229	W		W.s	1280	W		O
1230	W		W.s	1281	W		W.s
1231	W		W.s	1282	W		W.s
1232	W		O	1283	W		W.s
1233	W		W.s	1285	W		W.s
1234	W		W.s	1286	W		W.s
1235	W		W.s	1287	W		W.s
1238	W		W.s	1289	W		W.s
1240	W		W.s	1298	W		W.s
1241	W		W.s	1366	W		W.s
1242	W		O	1367	W.s		W
1244	W		W.s	1384	W		W.s
1245	W		W.s	1403	O		W
1246	W		W.s	1428	O		W.s
1247	W		O	1430	O		W.s
1248	W		O	1431	O		W.s
1249	W		O	1432	O		W.s
1250	W		O	1440	W		W.s
1251	W		O	1457	W		W.s
1252	W		O	1458	W		W.s
1255	W		W.s	1460	W		O
1256	W		W.s	1461	W		W.s

I L L U S T R A T I O N S

Mr John Firebrace (ESC 71) regretted that some of his covers in his collection of 'Military Use of Civil P.O.'s 1914/16' were not good enough for illustrations.

Mr Cyril Defriez (ESC 172) regretted submitting two New Issue items without the corresponding postmarks, as he had no legible strikes.

The point is that our regular contributors take care to supply good and clear illustrations and do not want to see sub-standard illustrations in their articles. A good policy ? - Editor

Postage Due on the Upper Nile

A remarkable cover showing the use of Egypt Postage Due stamps in the territorial offices of the Sudan.

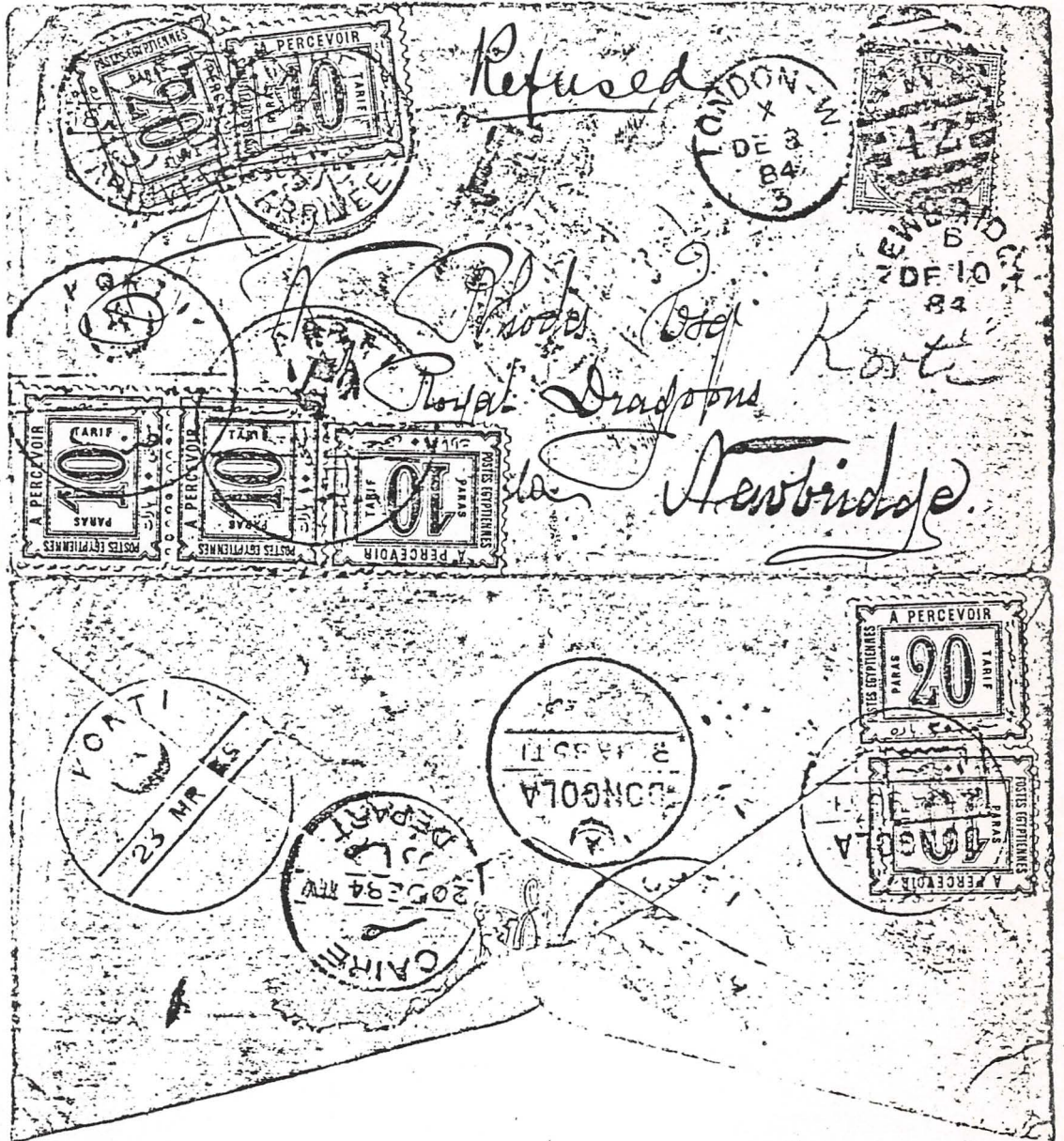


Figure 1: London via Newbridge, Cairo, and Dongola to Korty



A remarkable cover showing use of Egyptian postage due stamps in the territorial offices in the Sudan was offered by Stanley Gibbons Auctions Ltd. at their sale of April 14th to 16th. The obverse was illustrated in the catalogue (lot no. 1246), and independently, through the courtesy of two different collectors, sight of the reverse has been made available to us. The complete folded-out cover (which lacks a flap) is illustrated here (fig. 1).

The cover is addressed to "F. N. Rhodes, Esq., Royal Dragoons, Newbridge", and was forwarded successively to Cairo, Dongola, and Korti, incurring postage due charges of 30 paras at each place. The envelope is marked "Refused", even though it strains the credibility of a modern postal historian to believe that anyone could turn down a letter of such outstanding character for a mere 30 paras! The peregrinations of this marvelous cover can be pieced together as follows :-

Posted in London on Dec. 8th 1884, franked at the domestic rate of 1d;

Forwarded from Newbridge on Dec. 10th, to arrive in Cairo on Dec. 18th, where it was taxed 30 paras for the difference between domestic and overseas postage;

The addressee having already moved on, the letter was forwarded from Cairo on Dec. 20th to Dongola, where another try was had to obtain the 30 paras; this required a second lot of postage due stamps, applied to the reverse, and duly cancelled at Dongola, Jan. 8th, 1885;

The letter having reached Dongola too late, it was forwarded a third time, to reach Korti on March 23rd, where, once again, it acquired 30-paras worth of postage due stamps.

Since there are no later markings, the subsequent fate of the letter can only be the subject of speculation (perhaps it was rescued from the post office waste bin by an itinerant tinker, who bequeathed it to his second-favorite mistress, who gave it to her illegitimate daughter, who later married a Bolivian dirigible pilot, who flew it over the north pole, but lost it from his pocket during a parade on the Strand --- its eventual appearance at auction need not then strain the imagination further).

The Korti cancellation is of the familiar type, the only one to have been used there during the short period in which that office operated prior to the reconquest of the Sudan in 1897. It is, of course, a rarity on cover, although several covers are known (all, to my knowledge, being normally franked with ordinary stamps, and not postage due stamps). The Dongola cancellation, however, is even more remarkable. It is the last of the three types of cancellation known to have been used before the reconquest, and is distinguished by having the name DONGOLA inscribed in a straight line beneath the crescent and star, in contrast to the type that is more commonly seen, in which DONGOLA is inscribed in an arc above the crescent and star. This is an extremely rare cancellation, even on loose stamps. An example on a stampless cover was in the Danson collection.

The cover brought £ 420, against an estimate of £ 100 !

The explanation for the rate of the postage due lies in the difference between the domestic rate, 1d, and the overseas rate, 2½d, per half ounce. At that time, 2½d was equivalent to 1 piaster = 40 paras, and the penny was thus 8 paras. The deficiency in postage was therefore 24 paras, but the rate stages of the Egyptian Post Office did not take into account increments of less than 5 paras for prepaid items and 10 paras for deficiently franked items. It was thus necessary to charge 30 paras (10 paras was the lowest denomination of postage due stamp issued until 1888). Normally, insufficiently franked mail was liable to be taxed for double the deficiency, but according to U.P.U. regulations, letters that were properly franked for their original destination should be charged only the single deficiency when forwarded.



Postage Due on the Upper Nile



Fig. 2a: London via India and Souakin and back to England, in 1884.

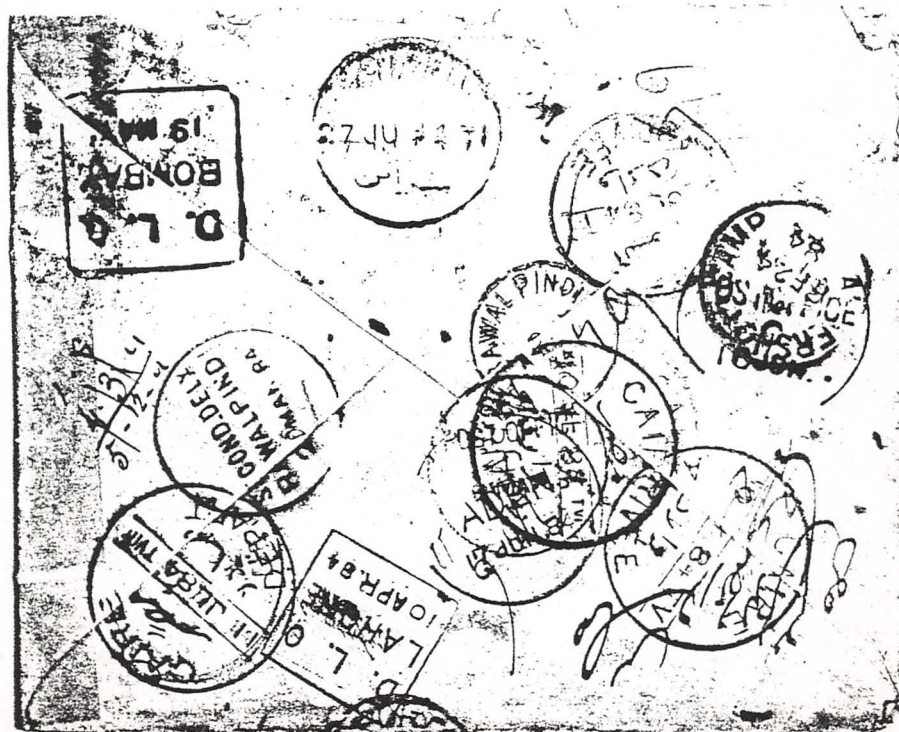


Fig. 2b: reverse of cover from London via Souakin and India.



The second illustration (figures 2a, 2b) shows the front and back of another cover originally franked 1d, and forwarded to the Sudan (note the large but faint "Suakin" written across the upper part of the envelope). Like the previous cover, it was charged 30 paras postage due at Cairo. In this case, the fact that the fee was not collected was indicated by invalidating the postage due stamps with the boxed "T" handstamp.

The third illustration shows the correct rate of 2½d for letters to the Sudan in 1885 (figure 3 below).

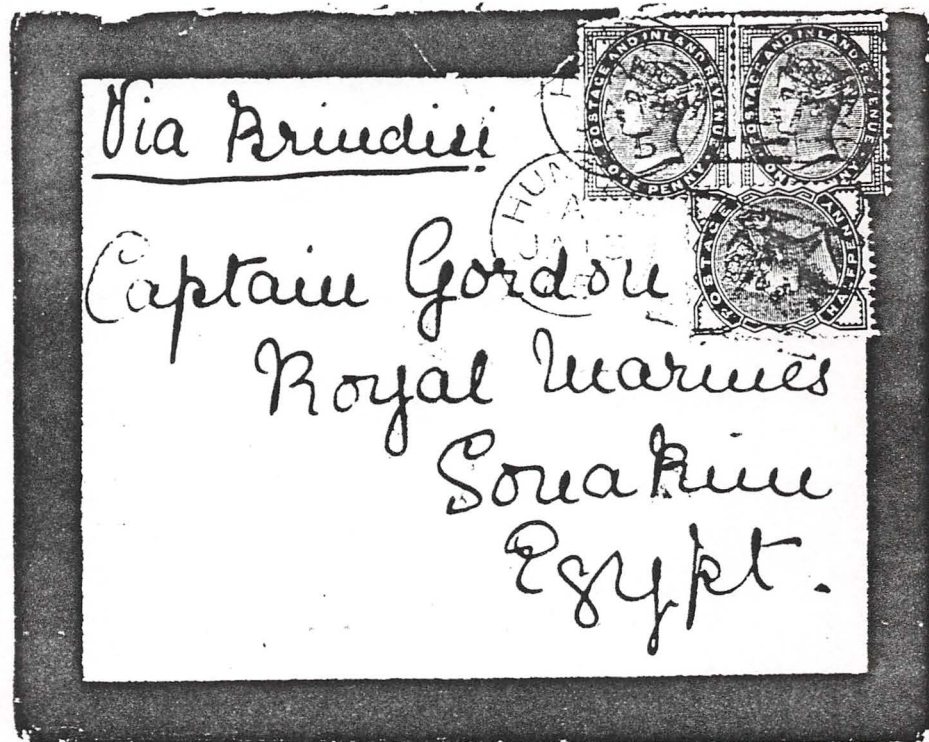


Fig. 3: Prepaid letter, Huntly to Souakin, 1885 (arrival 27 January).

The last cover shows a later manifestation of postage due (figures 4a, 4b).

It is a letter addressed to Cairo, and forwarded to Halfa. It was originally franked 1d, the domestic rate, like the previous two covers, but in this case, the letter was insufficiently prepaid to start with, since its original address was abroad. Furthermore, it was apparently a heavy letter, weighing over 1 oz., making it liable to a triple rate, 7½d. The deficiency was noted in England, and was converted to French currency, according to prescribed rules, as "65c" (= 6½d). This amount was converted to 28 mills. in Egypt, and since the letter was underfranked from the start, double the deficiency was charged, 56 mills (= 5 piasters, 6 mills.). The charge was not collected at Cairo, however, so the postage due stamps were invalidated with the boxed "T" as before. After forwarding to Halfa, a further 56-mills. worth of postage due stamps was applied; they were affixed to the back for lack of room on the front. Presumably the addressee paid the fat fee to get his letter.





Fig. 4a: Aberfeldy via Cairo to Halfa in 1893.

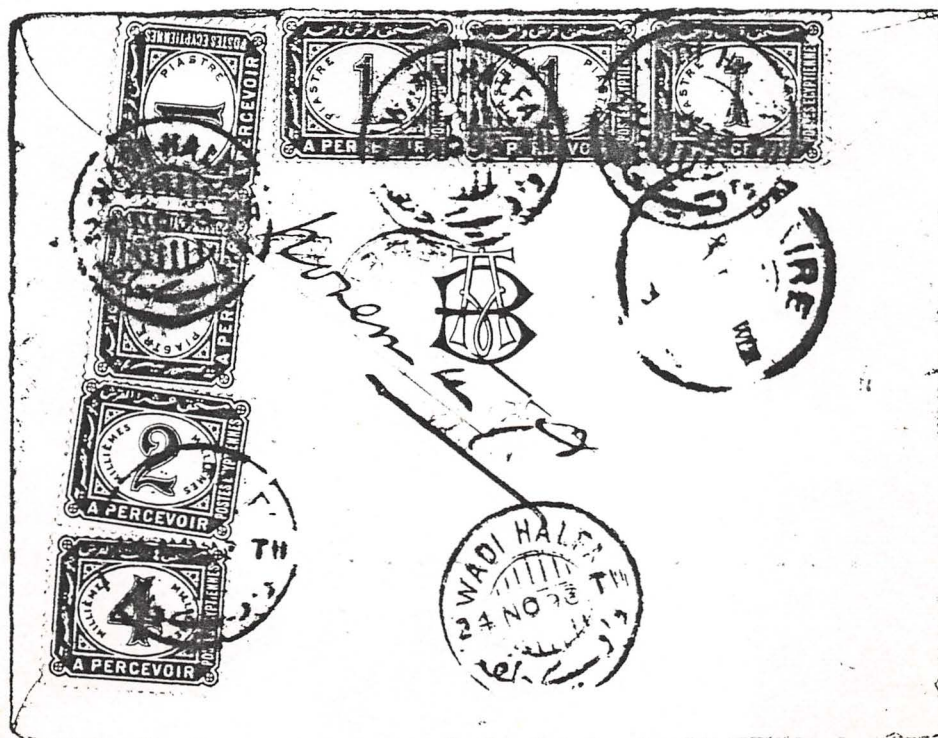


Fig. 4b: reverse of cover from Aberfeldy to Halfa



NEW ISSUES by C.E.H. Defriez May / July 1981

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

<u>Commemorative Stamps</u>	<u>SG 1442</u>	<u>SG 1443</u>
Occasion	Nurses' Day	10th Anniversary of the Rectification Movement
Date of issue	12th May 1981	15th May 1981
Designer	Lotfy el Sawaf	Ibrahim el Tahtawi
Design	Nurse and Badge	Irrigation machine spraying desert land
Denomination	20 mills	20 mills
Sheet	50 (10 x 5) Wmk S'ways	35 (5 x 7) Wmk Sideways
Stamp dimensions	26 x 43 mm	40 x 40 mm
Perforation	11 x 11½	11½
Quantity printed	1,500,000	1,000,000
Supplementary	-	The latest scientific methods of cultivation have greatly increased production from desert lands.
	<u>SG 1444</u>	<u>SG 1445</u>
Occasion	Air Defence Day	Solidarity for the Afghan People
Date of issue	30th June 1981	15th July 1981
Designer	N.A.Fattah	Lotfy el Sawaf
Design	Rocket and Military Equipment	Map of Afghanistan, Olive Branch & Invading Forces
Denomination	20 mills	20 + 10 mills
Sheet	50 (10 x 5) Wmk Sideways	35 (5 x 7) Wmk Sideways
Stamp dimensions	26 x 43 mm	40 x 40 mm
Perforation	11 x 11½	11½
Quantity printed	?	500,000
Supplementary	-	-
	<u>SG 1446</u>	<u>SG 1447</u>
Occasion	. . . . 29th Anniversary of the Revolution . . . .	
Date of issue	. . . . 23rd July , 1981 . . . .	
Designer	A.K. el Houseini	N.A.Fattah
Design	'29' and Social Defence Badge	Egyptian Flag, Ships and Suez Canal on Graph
Denomination	20 mills	20 mills
Sheet	. . . . each 35 (5 x 7)	Watermark Sideways . . . .
Stamp dimensions	. . . . each 40 x 40 mm . . . .	
Perforation	. . . . each 11½ . . . .	
Quantity printed	. . . . each 1,000,000 . . . .	
Supplementary	Celebrating Social Defence Year	Celebrating the 25th Anniversary of the Nationalisation of the Suez Canal

/ Continued . . .



SG 1442



SG 1442



SG 1443



SG 1443



SG 1444



SG 1444



SG 1445



SG 1446



SG 1446/7



SG 1447



SG 1448



SG 1448



SG 1449



SG 1449



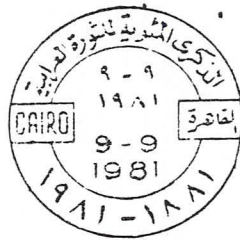
NEW ISSUES by C. E. H. Defriez July/Sept 1981

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

<u>Commemorative Stamps</u>	<u>SG 1448</u>	<u>SG 1449</u>
Occasion	Festivals 1981	Birth Centenary of Kemal Ataturk
Date of issue	29th July 1981	10th August 1981
Designer	I.A. el Tahtawi	Lotfy el Sawaf
Design	Lotus Flowers	Mustafa Kemal Ataturk
Denomination	10 mills	140 mills
Sheet	100 (10 x 10)	50 (10 x 5) Wnk Sideways
Stamp dimensions	25 x 30 mm	26 x 43 mm
Perforation	11	11 x 11½
Quantity printed	5,000,000	500,000
Supplementary	The stamp is valid on envelopes containing greetings cards	The Turkish Nationalist leader. President of the Turkish Republic from 1923 to 1938
	<u>SG 1450</u>	<u>SG 1451</u>
Occasion	Centenary of Arabi Revolution	World Muscular Athletics Championship, Cairo
Date of issue	9th September 1981	14th September 1981
Designer	Lotfy el Sawaf	?
Design	Ahmed Arabi	Muscular Athlete, Sphinx and Pyramids
Denomination	20 mills	45 mills
Sheet	50 (10 x 5) Wmk S'ways	50 (10 x 5) Wmk Sideways
Stamp dimensions	26 x 43 mm	26 x 43 mm
Perforation	11 x 11½	11 x 11½
Quantity printed	1,000,000	1,000,000
Supplementary	Leader of the Egyptian rebellion of 1881. He was later defeated and captured at Tel-el-Kebir	The event was held at the 'Sound & Light' Theatre at the Pyramids, from Sept 14th to 19th.
	<u>SG 1452</u>	<u>SG 1453</u>
Occasion	25th Anniversary of the Ministry of Industry	20th International Medical Industries Congress, Cairo
Date of issue	26th September 1981	28th September 1981
Designer	I.A. el Tahtawi	Lotfy el Sawaf
Design	Factory and Atomic Symbol on Graph	Congress Emblem and Im Hotep
Denomination	45 mills	20 mills
Sheet	50 (10 x 5) Wmk S'ways	50 (5 x 10)
Stamp dimension	26 x 43 mm	43 x 26 mm
Perforation	11 x 11½	11½ x 11
Quantity printed	8,000,000	1,000,000
Supplementary	-	-



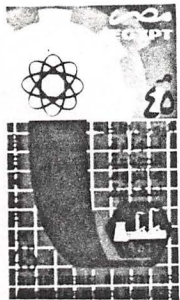
SG 1450



SG 1450



SG 1451



SG 1452



SG 1452



SG 1453

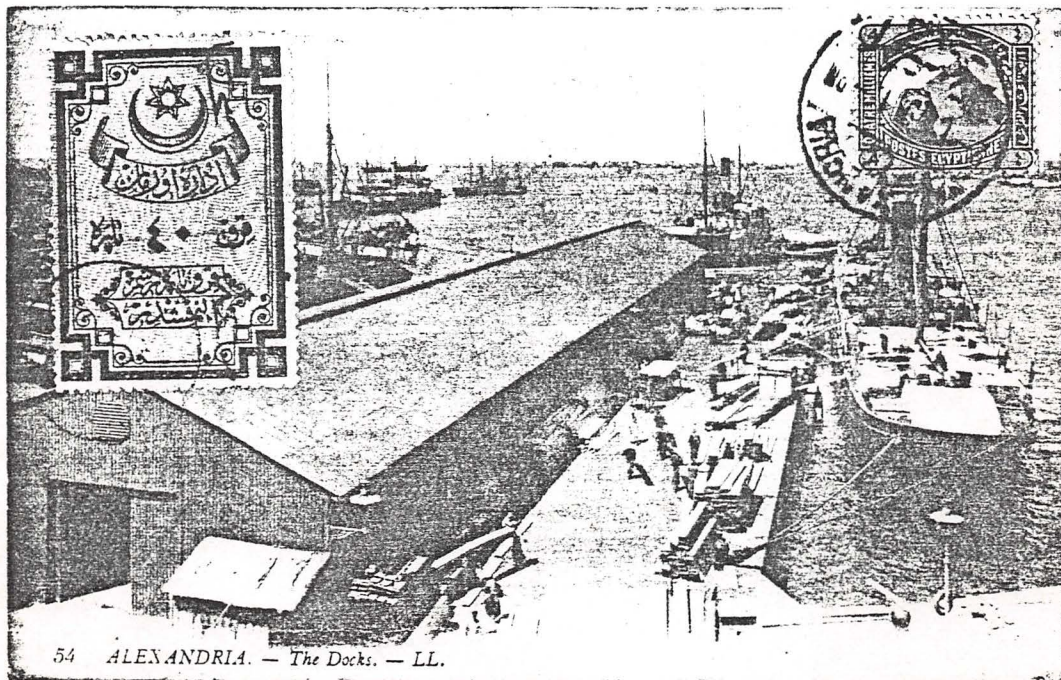


SG 1453

( Mr Defriez regrets not having examples of the special cancels of SG 1445 and SG 1451 of adequate quality for illustrative purposes)

QUESTION TIME 43

(see text)



54 ALEXANDRIA. — The Docks. — LL.



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 42      Prisoner of War Camps in Egypt, World War 2

Question put by P.E.Whetter (ESC 133)

I have recently acquired a small selection of cards sent from Italian Prisoner of War Camps in Egypt, all addressed to Italy :-

Camp 304	Helwan	26 November 1942
Camp 306	Geneifa	26 July 1942
Camp 308	Mustapha Barracks	26 November 1942
Camp 309	Ismailia	7 August 1943
Camp 310	Suez	19 November 1942

The locations of the above camps are as given by the seller and I should be grateful if any member could confirm their accuracy. I would also be interested to have any other details such as the dates of opening and closing of these camps and of course particulars of any other P.O.W. camps set up in Egypt. Were the missing numbers 305, 307 etc. allocated to other camps in Egypt ?

Q. Time 43      Label on Postcard      Question put by R. Toth (ESC 242)

I have a postcard sent from Alexandria to Vienna on 2 January 1909 (see illustration on previous page). This is franked with a 4-mills stamp of the 1893 issue, but can the seal on the left be identified ? It is blue on white or buff paper. There is a penned manuscript marking in Arabic (\*) and also a circular handstamp (\*) typing the item to the card.

\*\* May we please have a tracing of the Arabic manuscript cancel, and of the circular handstamp ? - Editor

Q. Time 44      Talismanic Numbers      Question put by E.Blackburn (ESC 244)

Among my Egyptian covers bearing talismanic numbers (B'duh's) is one cancelled 21.1.83 at GOTOUR which combines the most common form 8 6 4 2 with the 4 4 4 4 said to allude to the four relatives of Mohammed most closely associated with his upbringing. Another cancelled 26.11.81 at FOUA bears the numbers 8 8 8 8, a combination to which I have never seen any reference. Can members comment on the significance of these combinations ? (Both covers illustrated on next page).

Q. Time 45      Interpostal Seal on Cover      Question put by E. Blackburn (E. 244)

A registered 1-piastre Postal Stationery cover with additional postage stamp removed, cancelled 6.6.89 at EL WASTA, bears two quarters of a Type X Interpostal Seal showing a common edge. This may be contrived but could have resulted from the two halves of the seal being used to attach some postal documents to the back of the envelope. Has anyone knowledge of such practice ? (Illustrated on next page).

Q. Time 46      Rural Service location      Question put by E. Blackburn (E. 244)

I have a 5-mills Postal Stationery cover cancelled 25.2.21 by Rural Service from SHUBRA ZINGI to CAIRO via HAMUL-KOM-EL-AMMAR and EL HAMIQ, with strikes also of CAIRO TANTA & V V and ALEXANDRIA CAIRO T.P.O. Could members indicate the location of the three minor place-names which are not shown on the maos I possess ? (See illustration).

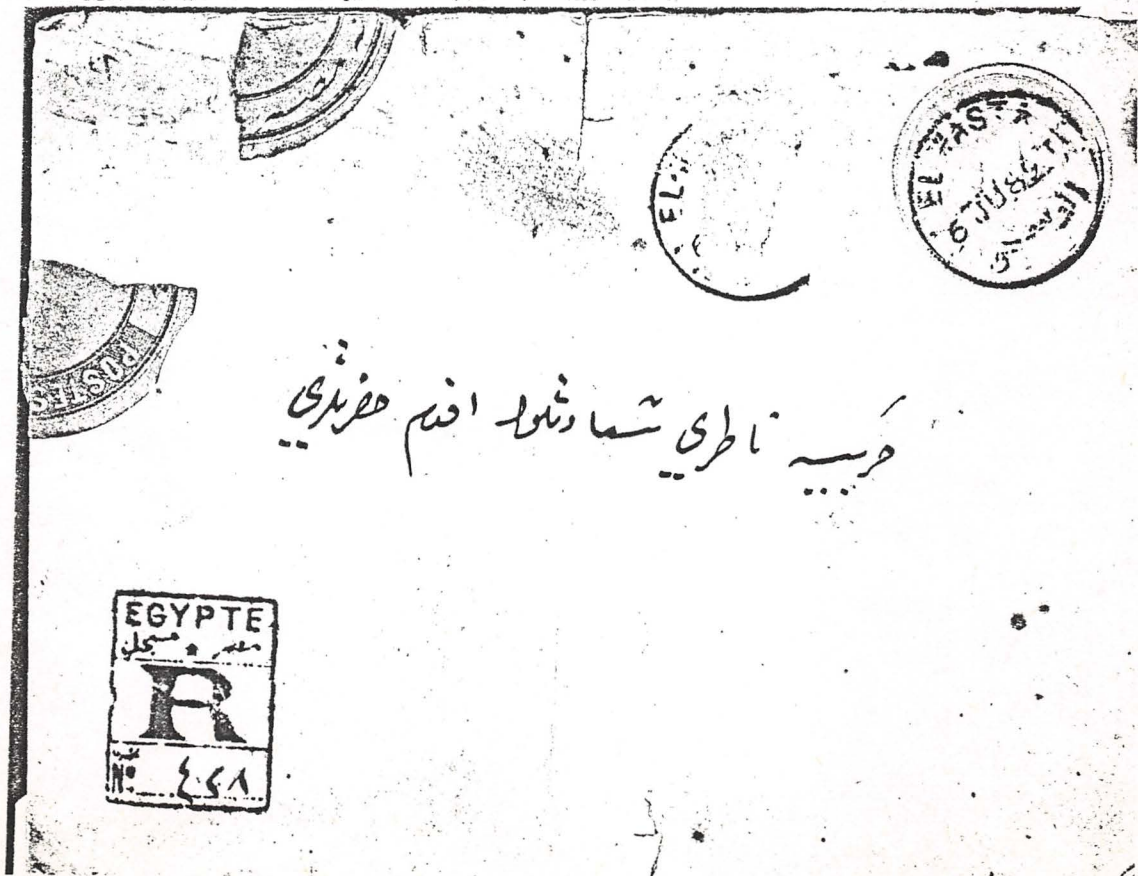
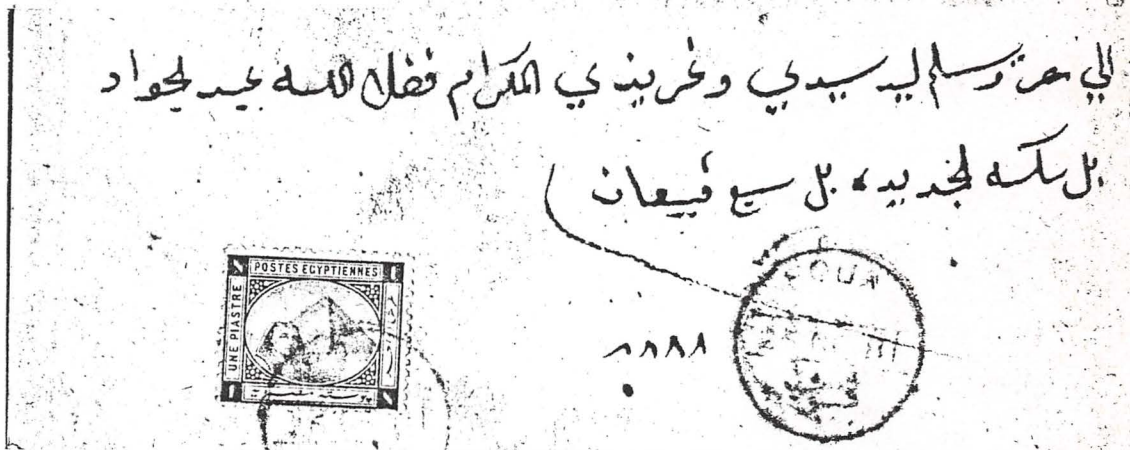
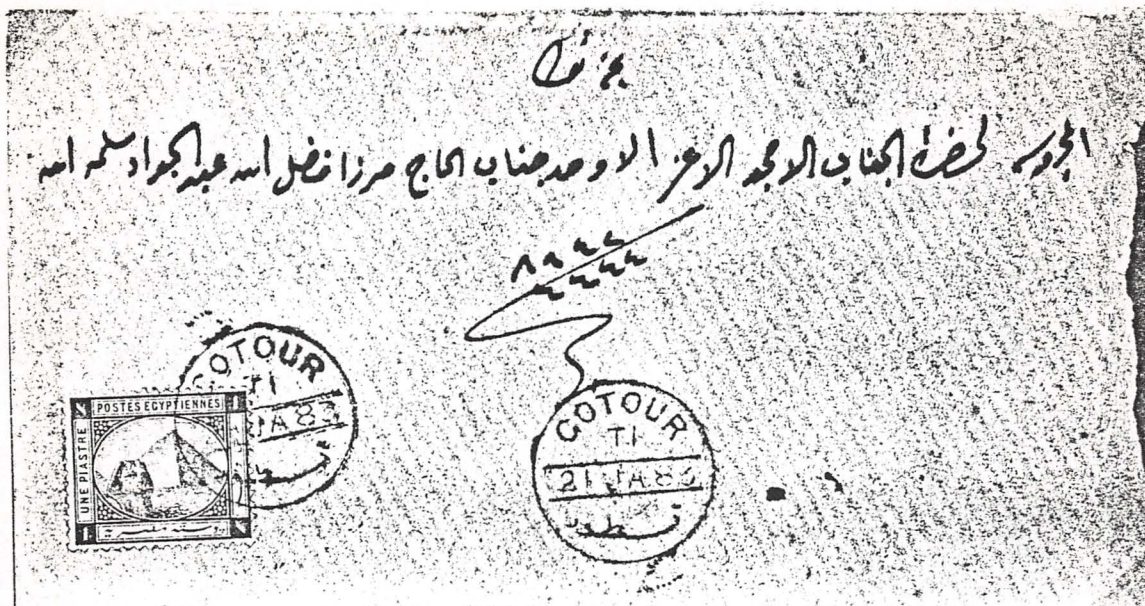
Q. Time 47      Civil Censorship 1914-19      -      Dumb Markings

Question put by J. Cousins (ESC 202)

Way back in 1981 there was published in Q.C. Volume XI, Number 1, Whole Series 117, an article by Mr F.W.Benians and Mr J.A.Firebrace on "Civil Censorship in Egypt 1914-19" included in which was a section on 'Dumb' markings.



Top and centre: Talismanic Numbers; below: Interpostal Seal portions on cover





QUESTION TIME 46  
Rural Service - Locations ?

SHUBRA ZINGI  
شبرا خينجى



Miss Western

C. M. S. Girls' School

Mass el-Doubara

Cairo.



HAMUL - KOM - EL-AMMAR.  
& EL HAMIA.

HAMUL - KOM - EL-AMMAR  
EL HAMIA

TYPE 12  
see R.I. (23/12/24)  
on only single half only.



Question Time 47 - Civil Censorship 'Dumb' Markings 1914-19 - Continued

I recently had occasion to refer to this when writing up two covers recently acquired which bore the 'dumb' mark CD.1. - - double lined St. Andrews Cross - one in black and the other in a rather faded blue. Both covers were addressed to 'Conseil d'Administration Central de l'Union Generale Armenienne' in Cairo and emanated from Adana and Mersina respectively - bearing, of course, Cilicia overprinted stamps, appropriate censor marks and despatched on 24th July and 20th May 1919.

What aroused my interest, however, was a phrase in the article to the effect that this mark was 'invariably struck on the postage stamp'. On both the covers in question the senders, for reasons best known to themselves, placed the stamps in the bottom left-hand corner and the censor/checker placed his St Andrews Cross in the blank space in the top right-hand corner where, of course, the stamps should have been.

Was the instruction from on high that the mark should be placed in the top right-hand corner without any explanation of the reason for this? The theory being, no doubt, that thus placed it would always fall on the stamps? Or - was the instruction that it should be placed on the stamps and these two officials banged it on without looking and didn't realise the stamps were elsewhere? We shall, I suppose, never know!!

(Your Editor consulted one of the joint authors, Mr F.W.Benians, and his reply follows).

"DUMB CENSOR - Square with double lined St Andrews Cross

" I have had the opportunity of examining photostate of Mr Cousins' covers and in the light of these it would be possibly more accurate to say: that this particular marking was invariably struck in the top right-hand corner of the envelope, thereby defacing any stamp in that position, or c.d.s. previously applied.

" To the information then available, John Firebrace and I added data from our observations and collections, fully realising that it was not the end of the story, but invited amendments, addition and corrections.

" Our thanks are due to Mr Cousins for taking the trouble to write, bringing to our notice a valid and interesting point."

F.W.Benians (ESC 123)

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

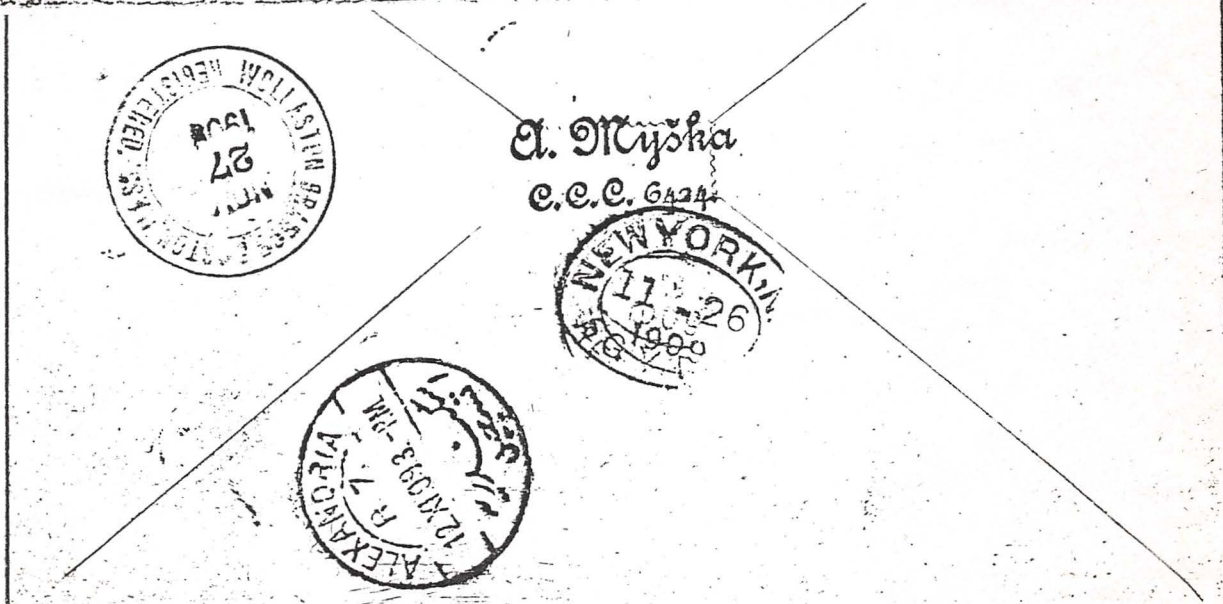
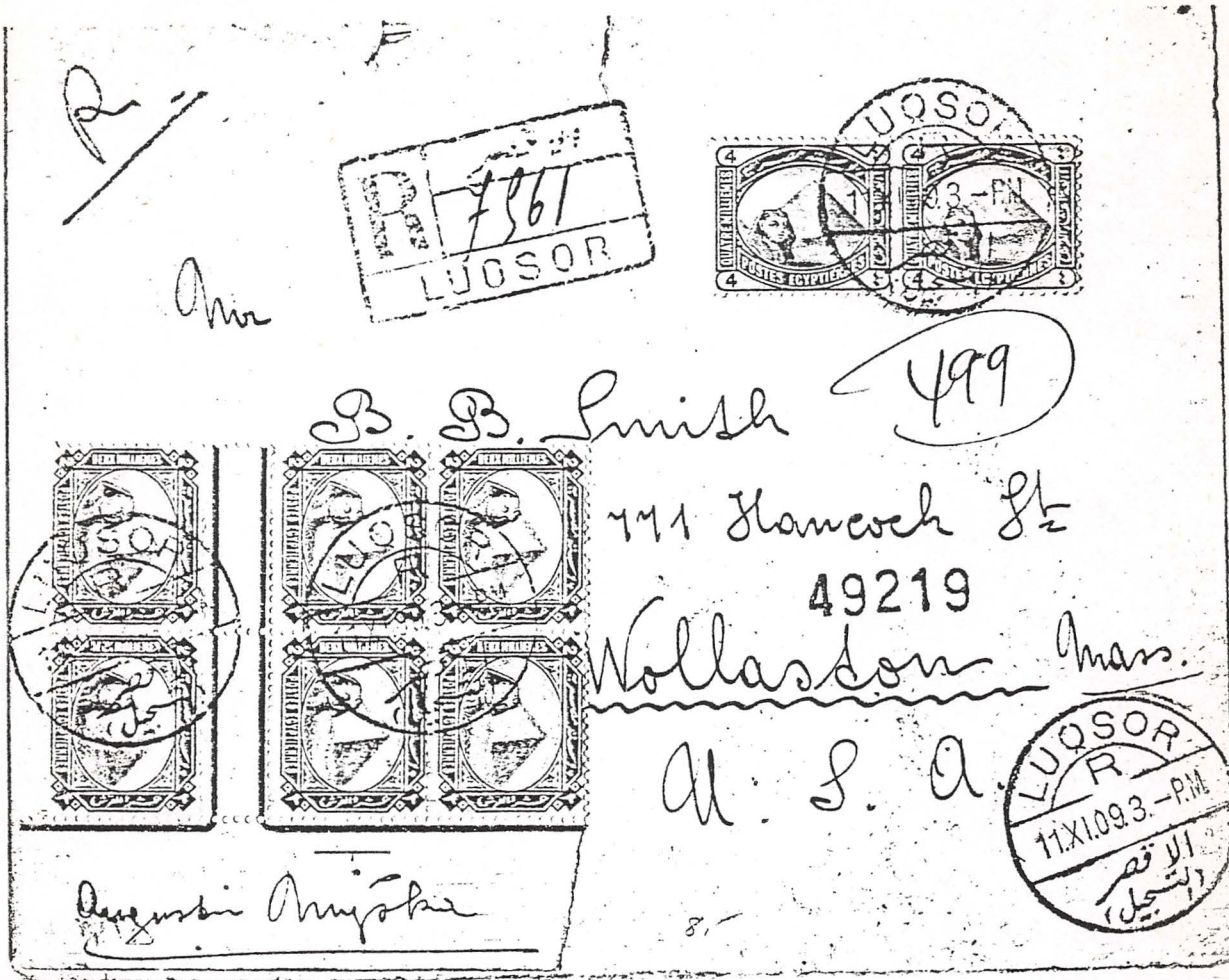
from Mr V. Denis Vandervelde, Editor of 'Postscript' (the Journal of the Society of Postal Historians).

" Reading the latest 'Quarterly Circular', I am struck (not for the first time) by how limited is the general knowledge of most very knowledgeable specialists. I think everyone would agree that it is highly desirable to collect stamps of the world before settling down to the study of the philately of one or two countries. But this is much more important in postal history - every cover is likely to pick up marks of 'foreign' significance, even if only through a mis-sort - yet who collects postal history of the whole world, even for a few years?

" Fortunately I did (and still do, though "the world" ran out of interest for me in most spheres at the beginning of the XXth century) . . . "

Q.C.Editor: Moral: don't specialise at the expense of a good general familiarity with stamp-collecting and its branches. It was at my school in 1946 that Sir Lawrence Bragg said that the specialist is the man who aims to know more and more about less and less, so that he ends up by knowing everything about nothing. 'Postscript' Editor is the philatelic editor of whose work the Q.C. Editor most often thinks: ". . . I wish I'd thought of that . . . "





UNUSUAL DATESTAMPS (E. Blackburn)

BARRAGE with Star and Crescent on Interpostal Seal

FESCNE on 2nd Issue





QUESTION TIME 48

Gutter Margin block, 1909

Submitted by E. A. Hirdler (ESC 226)

Illustrated on next page is a registered cover sent from Luqсор on 11th November 1909 to U.S.A. It is franked a total of 20 mills, including a 'gutter block' of six 2-mills. It is probably philatelically contrived and has 'Poste Restante Luqсор' on reverse. Is 20 mills the appropriate rated to U.S.A. ? Is Augustin Myska known to have been a dealer ? - note that he has signed the gutter block and his rubber stamp has been applied on the stamp margin on reverse. Was the collecting of gutter margins in fashion as long back as 1909 ?

Editor: Post Offices are likely to have been supplied with stamps in the form of half sheets containing two panes of 60, arranged vertically. The gutter block is a 'vertical' one and so could have been bought at a Post Office.

UNUSUAL DATESTAMPS

In response to the appeal for these (Sept 1980 QC), Mr E. Blackburn (ESC 244) has supplied the two items illustrated on next page.

What are YOUR unusual datestamps ?

JOURNAL OFFICIEL, 1912 Supplied by J.M.Murphy (ESC 240)

Main features: a reorganisation of the Austrian Lloyd service, leading to a re-stating of all principal foreign mails, opening of new PO in Moharrem Bey (Alexandria), and consequential renaming of former Moharrem Bey PO (at Bab el-Guedid) as Attarine PO; notice of which of two suburban Cairo PO's deals with correspondence for a large number of Government offices; reduction of parcel post rates.

Issue 7, page 111	Jan 20	Letter rate to Northern Rhodesia reduced to 5 mills (Jan 16).
14, 240	Feb 5	Public requested to add Mudiria and/or Markaz (ie, Governorate and/or Province) to addresses in Minsha, el-Minsha and Manchia, to avoid errors and delays (Jan 31).
		Letter rate of 5mills/20gm now applies to British Solomons and Gilbert and Ellice Isles (Feb 3).
29, Supplement	Mar 11	Postal Savings Bank interest fixed at 3%.
50, 963	Apr 29	Office opened at Safaja (Red Sea) for all postal services, including Savings Bank and Money Orders (Apr 27).
62, 1224	May 27	Office opened to all postal services except specie groups in Moharrem Bey quarter (rue Menasce) of Alexandria. In consequence, the Bab el Guedid station, hitherto known as Moharrem Bey, will in future be termed Attarine Post Office (May 25).
65, 1283	June 3	Austrian Mail steamer services modified: <u>1st Express Line</u> (from June 13) will leave Alexandria on Thursday at 3pm; (from June 10) will arrive Alexandria Monday at 2pm. <u>2nd Intermediate Line</u> (from June 22) will leave Alexandria on Saturday at 2pm; (from June 7) will arrive Alexandria on Friday at 3.30pm.