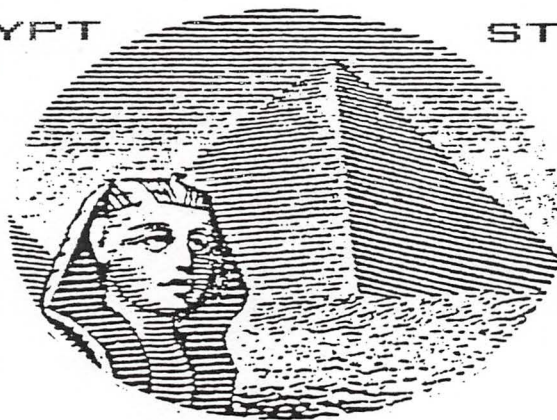


THE QUARTERLY CIRCULAR

EGYPT STUDY



CIRCLE

Volume XII

Numbers 3 & 4

SEPTEMBER & DECEMBER QUARTERS, 1984

Whole Series 131 & 132

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Next Meetings

to be held at "The Peacock"
Maiden Lane London WC2

1985

- February 9 - Ten Sheets per Member
- April 13 - Prisoner-of-War and Internee
mail (Mr J S Horesh)
- June 8 - Fuad 1927 issue
(Mr A J Revell)

EGYPT STUDY CIRCLE - THE QUARTERLY CIRCULAR
 Volume XII Numbers 3,4 - Sept and Dec Quarters 1984
 Whole Series Numbers: 131 and 132

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SUBSCRIPTIONS

The subscription rate is to remain at £ 6.00 for the year 1985, it has been decided. ESC will have extra outlay in marking the 50th Anniversary and Members are earnestly requested to pay subscriptions promptly (and to pay any earlier year's subscription outstanding !).

Pending a new secretary/treasurer taking over, payments should continue to be made to :-

Mr Edmund Hall,
 6 Bedford Avenue
 Little Chalfont
 Bucks HP6 6PY
 England

Overseas Members are asked to pay by draft or International Money Order, expressed in sterling. If not possible, please add £2 to any foreign-currency paper to compensate us for collection charges.

Editorial . .

This issue goes to the printers on 26 January 1985; the next issue for the March Quarter 1985 is nearly ready and will, it is hoped, be despatched to Members before the end of March. We shall then be completely up to date.

This issue contains a preliminary study report by Mr J M Murphy on the 'Proprietary - 2nd Echelon' offices. As will be seen, this covers many interesting 'fringe' offices, and all members will have examples of these. Please support Mr Murphy by supplying your data urgently, so that this area can be included in the definitive 'Proprietary' report planned by Mr F W Benians for this year.

REPORT OF ESC MEETING IN LONDON

Meeting held on 11th August 1984 at "The Peacock", Maiden Lane, London WC2
 Mr J Sears (Chairman) and Messrs P Andrews, W C Andrews, D H Clarke, D J Davis, P L Grech, C E Grey, J A Grimmer, C F Hass (USA), J S Horesh, A J Revell and P E Whetter.

An apology for absence from Mr E Hall was reported; two New Member applications from him were approved.

The Chairman referred to his notice about the intended celebration of the 50th anniversary year of the Circle, in 1985. Mr Horesh spoke of an 'Hors Concours' exhibit at an exhibition in 1985, perhaps coupled with a notice in the exhibition catalogue. Mr W C Andrews proposed a function, on the lines of that for the London International Exhibition in 1980. These suggestions were generally approved, with the proviso that any ESC expense was not to be too costly. Mr Clarke mentioned his list of Post Offices in Egypt, which would be ready in 1985; the splendid printing facilities kindly made available by Mr K Davis would be put to good use. It was agreed that this would be an excellent reference work and should proceed as part of a special publishing venture for the Jubilee Year.

The revision, by Cockrill, of the Kehr Catalogue of Interpostal Seals was discussed in the light of the ESC President's critical review. After discussion it was agreed to be left to the Committee to decide any action to be taken.

The Meeting then turned to the displays of ten sheets per member. ** Mr J Sears dealt with Airmails, including a novel study of the means of denoting the deletion of the sender's instructions for transit to be by air.

Mr D H Clarke presented a study of Returned Mail, and quoted the late C W Minett as affirming that each Post Office's 'Return' cachet was distinguishable.

Mr P E Whetter showed varieties, including the 'Thunderbolt' flaw on 3rd issue 2 piastre.
 Mr D J Davis showed Consular P.O.'s, French, Austrian and British.

Mr A J Revell showed an excellent marine collection including Cyprus Sea Post Office, also the cancel: Uffizio Natante / ALES / which is rare.
 Mr J A Grimmer showed Air adhesives and drew attention to the changed position of the horizon on the 1941 revision of the design of the 'long' 1933 issue.

** Mr P L Grech displayed overprints on the French Port Said adhesives (while awaiting French printing) and noted that the Postmaster at Port Said was 'helpful' as to varieties !

Mr C E Grey dealt with Civil Censorship in the 1940's and after.
 Mr P Andrews showed varieties on DLR and Harrison pictorial issues.

The Editor of 'The QC' hoped that the many excellent displays would be the subject of articles for 'The QC'. ** Display reports by Mr Sears and Mr Grech appear in this issue - Editor.

REPORT OF ESC MEETING IN LONDON

Meeting held on 13th October 1984 at "The Peacock", Maiden Lane,
London WC2

Mr J Sears (Chairman) and Messrs P Andrews, W C Andrews, F W Benians, D H Clarke, D J Davis, J A Grimmer, C Th J Hooghuis, J S Horesh, M Kremener, Major E L G MacArthur, Messrs J M Murphy, A J Revell, A Schmidt, and P E Whetter.

The Chairman welcomed members, and particularly Mr Th. Hooghuis, whom he congratulated on his success at Madrid; also new member Mr Mordecai Kremener; and was very glad to see his predecessor Major MacArthur able to attend.

The Chairman reported that he and Mr D H Clarke would comprise a team to visit National Philatelic Society on 3rd November to give a display as by the Circle.

The matter of confidentiality of members' addresses was discussed. It was finally agreed that there would be a notice in the next issue of 'The QC' to appear, which would report the intention to publish an updated list of members, and would say that members' addresses would be included only if they positively notified the Circle that this was their wish. The new List of ESC Members could be published as a separate list, and not as part of 'The QC'. An unresolved problem was that members would not easily be able to communicate with one another; so that either the Secretary would be overloaded with the extra work in forwarding members' mail to other members, or a new officer would be needed with this special function. Another possibility is that the helpful correspondence between members would suffer.

On the subject of the publishing venture to be undertaken as part of celebrating the Circle's 50th anniversary, Mr F W Benians reported on the position with his intended publication. This was a Study Report on the **PROPRIETARY POST OFFICES** which he hoped would be the definitive report. This did not preclude further research and the publishing, in the future, of later details, dates, etc., but it did mean, he believed, that the 1985 edition would be the definitive work of reference, subject only to possible addenda, later.

Mr Benians acknowledged with pleasure the collaboration he had been receiving from Mr J M Murphy in the matter of the Proprietary Post Offices. Mr Murphy was also studying the 'fringe' post offices, e.g. Government Offices, Palaces, Savings Bank.

Mr Murphy hoped to have a preliminary report on these 'fringe' offices ready later this year, and hoped this could be published in 'The QC', and so generate a response from Members, enabling a more accurate and comprehensive Study Report to follow in 1985. These arrangements were agreed and welcomed. (Mr Murphy's initial Study Report: 'PROPRIETARY STUDY - Second echelon' appears in this issue - Editor).

The display for this meeting was given by Mr J S Horesh, on the subject of the Overland (Desert) Mail. The need for a prompt mail service was felt and the route was surveyed in 1923. The overland route improved the Europe-to-India service. Material is scarce in the UK, for both East-West and West-East directions.

REPORT OF ESC MEETING IN LONDON

Meeting held on 8th December 1984 at "The Peacock", Maiden Lane,
London WC2

Mr J Sears (Chairman) and Messrs P Andrews, W C Andrews, F W Benians, D H Clarke, C E H Defriez, D J Davis, P L Grech, J A Grimmer, J S Horesh, J M Murphy, A J Revell and P E Whetter.

An apology for absence from Mr E Hall was reported.

The Display for this Meeting, given by Mr A J Revell, was on the subject of the De La Rue printings. Before the display, the following administration matters were dealt with.

Subjects for Circle Meetings in 1985. The following subjects were proposed : Suez Canal Forgeries, Forgeries generally, Crown overprints, Postal Stationery, French Post Offices, Fuad portrait.

Programme for 1985. The following were agreed upon for the first half of the year :-

February Meeting:	10 Sheets per Member
April Meeting:	Prisoner of War mail / Internee mail
June Meeting:	1927 Fuad (A J Revell)

50th Anniversary Celebration. Mr Horesh spoke of the proposed Hors Concours exhibit, by the Circle, at British Philatelic Exhibition in the autumn of 1985.

New Issues. Mr Defriez reported recent changes in stamp production, both as regards printing method and perforation. Stamps had, for many years past, been printed by Rotogravure and the perforations seen had been :-

$11\frac{1}{2}$	x	11
11	x	$11\frac{1}{2}$
11	x	11

New Issues recently seen had been lithographed, and their perforations had been :-

(Vertical format stamps)	$13\frac{1}{2}$	x	$12\frac{1}{2}$
(Horizontal format stamps)	$12\frac{1}{2}$	x	$13\frac{1}{2}$
(Square format stamps)	13		

However, there were variations from these, as he had seen Lithographed stamps which were perforated 11 (75th Anniversary, Cairo University).

M. Jean Boulad d'Humieres (ESC 16). Mr P L Grech (ESC 266) had received a letter recently from Jean Boulad d'Humieres, conveying his greetings to the Circle.

Regrettably, however, Mr Grech had to report that Jean Boulad had suffered a fall while on holiday in Belgium in September, causing fractures which required a stay of several weeks in hospital. Mr Grech visited Jean Boulad at his home in Switzerland, in November, and found that it would be difficult for him to travel at present. It appears that, due to his accident, and more especially due to the bad accident two years ago when he was struck by a car, M. Jean Boulad is not able to show the interest in philately, a subject in which he has excelled for so many years.

INTERPOSTAL SEALS - USE AS FREE FRANKS ?

Mr Rudi Jeidel (ESC 127) writes:-

"I am reluctant to butt in 'where angels fear to tread' especially in response to such an erudite person as Professor Peter Smith.

"However, his Book Review of the Interpostals¹ (on pages 303/304 of The QC, Volume XI, Number 12) prompts me to comment that at least sometimes Interpostal Seals have been used as Free Franks.

"As proof I submit photocopies of two letters where seals - duly tied by postmarks - were used on registered mail on correspondence between post offices at CHERBIN and MAHALLET respectively and Alexandria."

NOTE ¹ THE POSTA EUROPEA AND 1984 KEHR CATALOGUE OF INTERPOSTALS by Ernest A Kehr and Philip Cockrill.

Editor: because of the importance of these covers to the question of whether Interpostal Seals had franking power, both of Mr Rudi Jeidel's covers are reproduced in full, and Prof. Peter Smith's view was sought. Our President has contributed the following authoritative article.

FRANKING OF OFFICIAL MAIL IN THE NINETEENTH CENTURY

- Prof. Peter Smith, President, ESC

This is a big subject which has received much less attention than it deserves, perhaps because it has been overshadowed by the question of the status of the interpostal seals. However, I have become convinced that to understand the latter, one must first study the former. Unfortunately, material is scarce and not easily assembled. I think I have nearly enough now, however, to present a good picture. This will require more time than I have immediately available, and more space than is ordinarily feasible in the Q.C. On the other hand, the marvelous covers bearing interpostal seals that Rudi Jeidel has now shows us require some comment.

A central question to consider is what evidence is necessary to establish whether an adhesive label on a cover was the franking means. The position is not decisive, for such non-franking labels as air mail etiquettes are found on the face, as are registration labels. The presence or absence of a postmark on the label is also not decisive. I have several covers having air mail etiquettes tied by a postmark, for example. More to the point, the "Found Open and Officially Sealed" labels are nearly always postmarked with the same datestamps as are used to cancel stamps; in fact, a specific space is designated on them to receive the postmark. The critical question is whether similar letters without the labels were treated as unfranked. That is where we have to turn to the handling of official mail in general.

/ Continued . . .

FRANKING OF OFFICIAL MAIL IN THE NINETEENTH CENTURY - Continued

To begin with, I illustrate two official covers roughly contemporary with Rudi Jeidel's covers. One is headed on the face "DIRECTION GENERALE DES POSTES", and was mailed from Alexandria to Cairo in 1895. It bears no interpostal seal on front or back, and the place over the flap where one might have been put is instead struck with the receiving mark of the point of delivery. The cover was evidently franked by the printed heading on the face.

The second cover is headed "SECRETARIAT DU KHEDEVE", and was sent from Cairo to Alexandria in 1891, by registered mail. There is no interpostal seal on it, and the back shows only the postmark of arrival. Again, the printed heading on the front was sufficient to frank the letter, and incidentally to pay the registration fee.

The third cover is much earlier, having been sent from Cairo to Alexandria in 1873. There is no printed heading, but on the flap is a large handstamp inscribed "MINISTERE DES AFFAIRES ETRANGERS EGYPTES". I think it is safe to conclude that there was never an interpostal seal on this cover, even though a large part of the flap is torn away. The elaborate handstamp was presumably the franking.

These covers are representatives of a large number that I have slowly acquired, and are not isolated examples. None of them bears an interpostal. The official franking is indicated in one of three ways: a printed heading on the face; an official handstamp on the face or back, or a manuscript notation on the face. Other covers bear interpostals in addition to postage stamps, or have several interpostals on the same cover, used to hold it together. I think that the most reasonable conclusion is that official mail did not usually bear interpostal seals, and certainly did not require them. In the absence of any of the three ways mentioned for indicating official mail, however, an interpostal seal may have been acceptable for the same purpose, but I have not seen such a cover.

Lastly, I show a Mexican cover, by way of analogy. It is registered, and franked on the face with a 50c. stamp. The back, however, is sealed with the Mexican equivalent of an interpostal, a red seal with a die-stamped, serrated edge. The inscription "CORREOS MEXICO" is the equivalent of POSTE EGIZIANE, but there is the additional inscription CORRESPONDENCIAS REGISTRADAS. It is thus clearly intended to be used to seal registered letters. It is also postmarked with a date-stamp, but that was presumably to tie it to the envelope, and does not indicate that the seal had franking power. This is a cover from a far different country and from another time, but analogies can be helpfully suggestive.

My conclusion is that the interpostals on Rudi Jeidel's two wonderful covers served much the same purpose as the Mexican seal. That fact does not prevent them from being rare, valuable, and high desirable covers, and I congratulate Rudi for having been able to obtain them!

- Peter A S Smith (ESC 74, President)

INTERPOSTAL SEAL ON REVERSE OF OFFICIAL REGISTERED COVER

FROM MAHALLET - ROH TO ALEXANDRIA, 7 AUGUST 1888

- Rudi Jeidel

POSTES EGYPTIENNES -- A -- *بوستة مصریه*



علم و فن و صواب و حقیق ۲۲۴۴
دولت کتب و مطبعات کبیرہ

بند ۱۲۱



INTERPOSTAL SEAL ON REVERSE OF OFFICIAL REGISTERED COVER

FROM CHERBIN TO ALEXANDRIA, 18 MARCH 1891

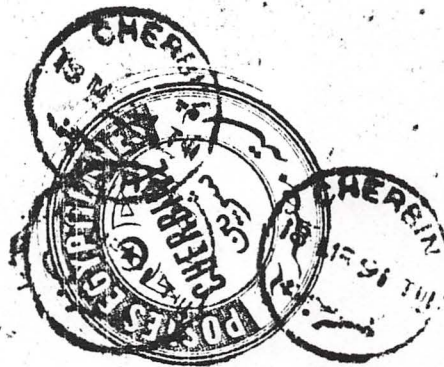
- Rudi Jeidel

POSTES ÉGYPTIENNES —A— *بوستة مصریه*

Monsieur

*Le chef de la 1^{re} Division
B. M. des Inspectorats*

Alexandrie



1891 OFFICIAL MAIL FRANKED (for POSTAGE and REGISTRATION)
by ENVELOPE IMPRINT - Peter Smith

SECRETARIAT DU KHÉDIVE

Monsieur le Comte Max Lavisson



Alexandrie



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1891: Registered cover from SECRETARIAT DU KHEDIVE

DIRECTION GÉNÉRALE DES POSTES

عموم ادارة البوسته

Monsieur,

Le Comte Max Lavisson,
Administrateur

du Ghizeh Palace Hotel,

Cairo.




MP



1873 OFFICIAL MAIL FRANKED BY HANDSTAMP (on reverse) OF
MINISTERE DES AFFAIRES ETRANGERS - Peter Smith

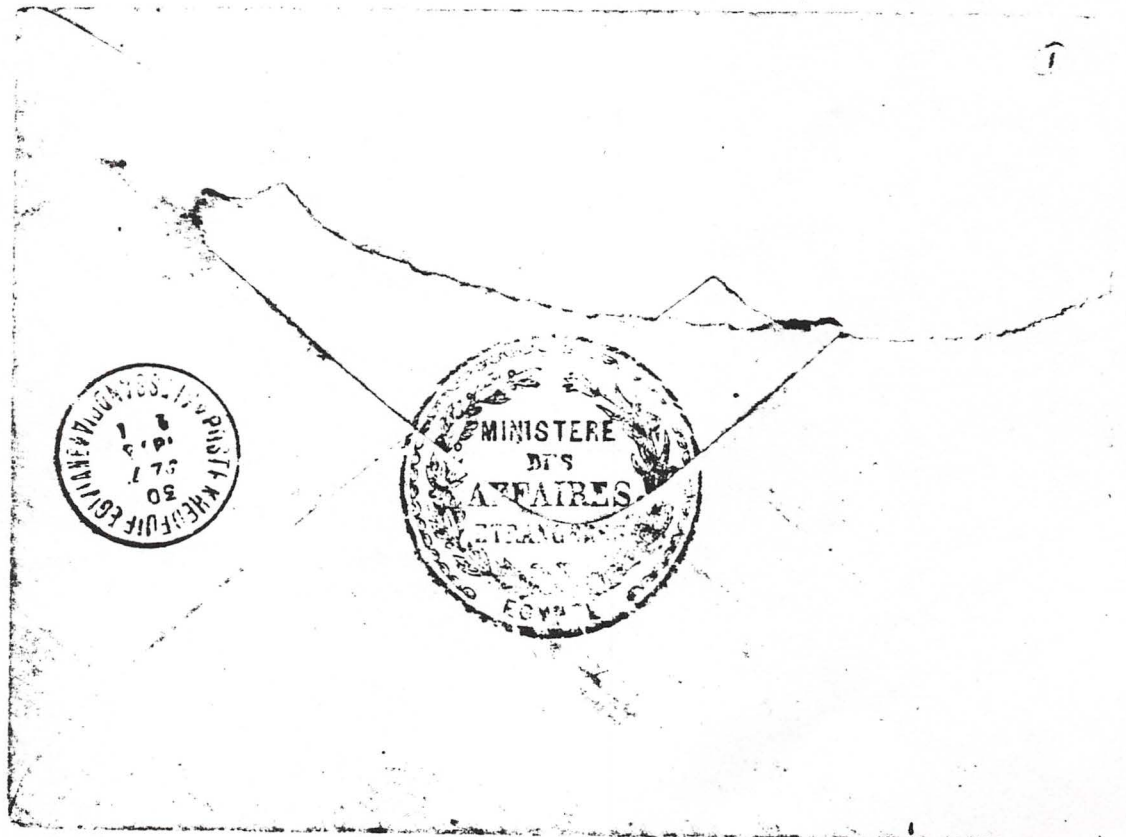
Monsieur
 Monsieur Jacquin
 avocat



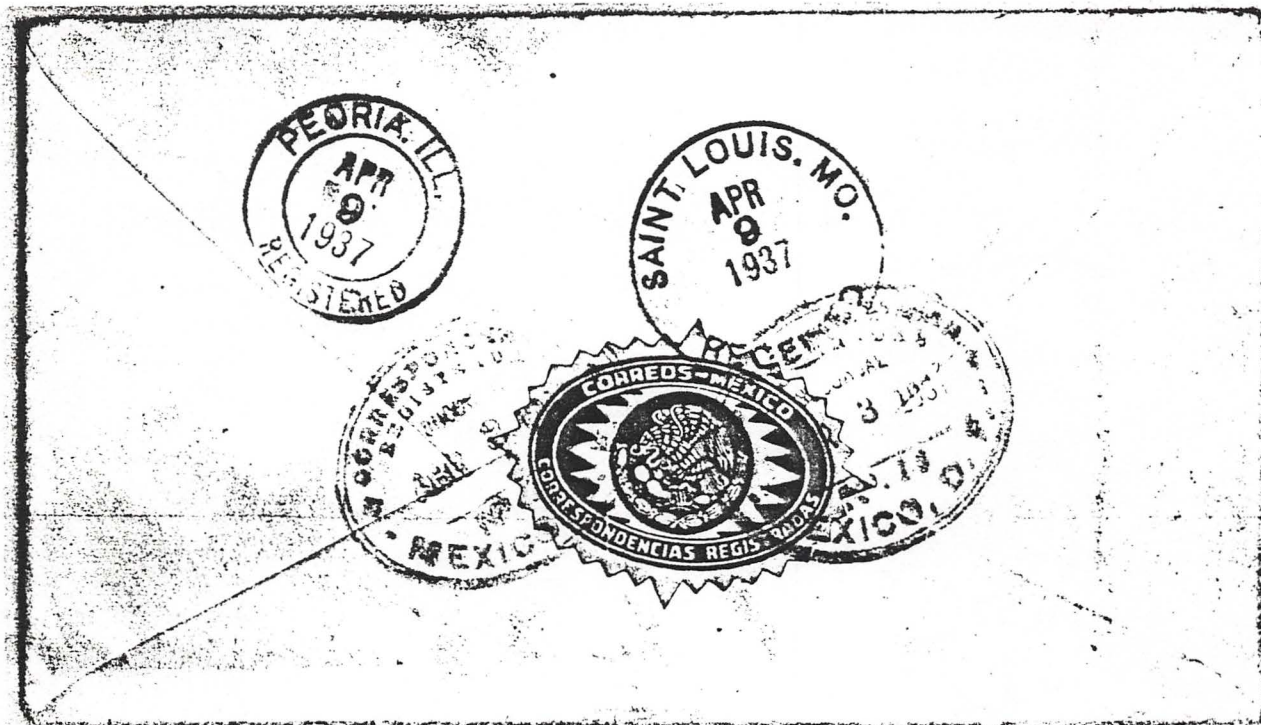
Alexandrie

(En son absence, Monsieur La Tommeraye)
 Très courtois. Très agréable

1873: Cairo to Alexandria.

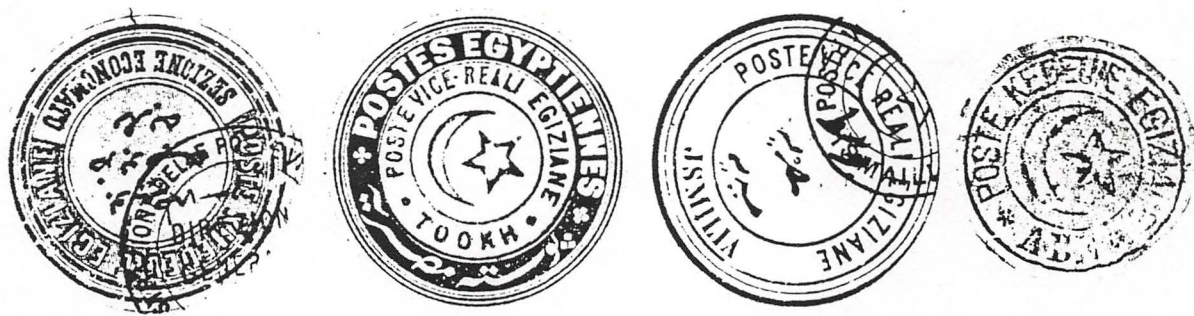


1937 MEXICAN REGISTERED COVER -
 SEALED WITH THEIR EQUIVALENT OF AN INTERPOSTAL SEAL ?
 - Peter Smith



A Mexican equivalent of an interpostal seal?

**INTERPOSTAL SEALS
 FORTHCOMING CATALOGUE**



Tony Schmidt (ESC 198) is now starting work on a new catalogue of the INTERPOSTAL SEALS of Egypt, in which he aims to incorporate not only the considerable body of information which has built up since the 1940's, but also the results, many of them unpublished, of painstaking researches by a number of keen collectors. However, Tony is still seeking the answers to a lot of questions, and he is very anxious to communicate with as many members as possible in the hope of obtaining some of these answers. If you have a collection of interpostals, or if you possess rare material such as blocks, examples on cover or on piece, or unusual paper colours, Tony would be most grateful if you would write to him at Stonecroft, Leafy Lane, Ludloe, Corsham, Wiltshire, England SN13 0LE.

NEW ISSUES by C. E. H. Defriez

(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 1516</u>	<u>SG 1517</u>
Occasion	10th Anniversary of Crossing of the Suez Canal	2nd International Pharaonic Car and Motor Cycle Rally
Date of Issue	6th October 1983	7th October 1983
Designer	M. Roushdy	Lotfy el Sawaf
Design	Momument to Unknown Soldier, Wheat and Oil Well	Rally Cars, Emblem and Map of Stages of Race
Denomination	3 piastres	23 piastres
Sheet	50 (10 x 5) Wmk S/ways	50 (10 x 5) Wmk S/ways
Stamp dimensions	26 x 43 mm	26 x 43 mm
Perforation	11 x 11.5	11 x 11.5
Quantity printed	1,000,000	500,000
Supplementary	-	140 Cars and 90 Motor Cycles took part in the Rally, competitors were from many countries.

	<u>SG 1518</u>	<u>SG 1519</u>	<u>SG 1520</u>	<u>SG 1521</u>
Occasion U n i t e d N a t i o n s D a y			
Date of Issue 24th O c t o b e r 1983			
Designer	Lotfy el Sawaf	A.K. Mokhtar & M.Y.A. Hamid	A.K. Mokhtar & M.Y.A. Hamid	M Roushdy
Design	Pharaonic and Modern Ships and Radar	Emblems of W.C.Y. I.T.U. & U.P.U.	Ear of Wheat	Fishing Boat and Fish
Denomination	3 piastres	6 piastres	6 piastres	23 piastres
Sheet	50 (5 x 10)	50 (10 x 5), Wmk S/Ways	50 (10 x 5), No Wmk	50 (10 x 5), Wmk S/Ways
Stamp dimensions	43 x 26 mm	26 x 43 mm	26 x 43 mm	26 x 43 mm
Perforation	11.5 x 11	11 x 11.5	11 x 11.5	11 x 11.5
Quantity printed	750,000	500,000	500,000	250,000
Supplementary	International Maritime Organisation	World Communications Year	World Food Programme	Fishery Resources

	<u>SG 1522</u>	<u>SG 1523</u>
Occasion	4th World Karate Championships, Cairo	International Day of Solidarity with Palestinian People
Date of Issue	21st November 1983	29th November 1983
Designer	?	Lotfy el Sawaf
Design	Karate Display, Pyramids and Sphinx	El-Sakhara Mosque and U. N. Emblem
Denomination	3 piastres	6 piastres
Sheet	35 (5 x 7) No Wmk	50 (5 x 10) No wmk
Stamp dimensions	40 x 40 mm	43 x 26 mm
Perforation	13	12.5 x 13.5
Quantity printed	500,000 Off-set Litho	500,000 Off-set Litho
Supplementary	The event was held from 21st to 23rd November	-

NEW ISSUES AND THEIR SPECIAL CANCELS
Please refer to the DATA SHEETS for dimensions, as not all illustrations are actual size



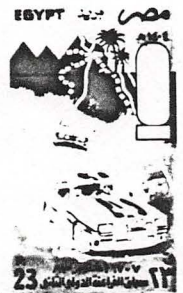
SG 1516



SG 1516



SG 1517



SG 1517



SG 1518



SG 1518/21



SG 1519



SG 1520



SG 1521



SG 1522



SG 1522



SG 1523



SG 1523



SG 1524



SG 1524



SG 1525



SG 1525

NEW ISSUES by C. E. H. Defriez

(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 1524</u>	<u>SG 1525</u>
Occasion	75th Anniversary of Faculty of Fine Arts, Helwan University	75th Anniversary of Cairo University
Date of Issue	30th November 1983	30th November 1983
Designer	Mohammed el Sayed	M. Roushdy
Design	Artist's Palette	Dome of Cairo University and Statue
Denomination	3 piastres	3 piastres
Sheet	35 (5 x 7) No Wmk	50 (10 x 5) No Wmk
Stamp dimensions	40 x 40 mm	26 x 43 mm
Perforation	13	* 11 x 11.5 (* see note)
Quantity printed	1,000,000 (Litho)	1,000,000 (Litho)
Supplementary	-	-

* Note re SG 1525: I have two different FDC's, both bearing these stamps with perforation 13.5 x 12.5. Mint stamps seen are perforated 11 x 11.5, per SG listing - (C E H D)

	<u>SG 1526</u>	<u>SG 1527</u>
Occasion	Egyptian Society of Maternity and Child Care, Conference	20th Anniversary of Organisation of African Unity
Date of Issue	30th November 1983	20th December 1983
Designer	A. K. el Houssini	W. Farag and M. Abdalla
Design	Mother and Child and Emblem of the Society	O.A.U. Emblem on Maps of Africa
Denomination	3 piastres	3 piastres
Sheet	50 (5 x 10)	50 (10 x 5) Wmk Sideways
Stamp dimensions	43 x 26 mm	26 x 43 mm
Perforation	11.5 x 11	11 x 11.5
Quantity printed	1,000,000	500,000
Supplementary	-	-

	<u>SG 1528</u>	<u>SG 1529</u>	<u>SG 1530</u>
Occasion	. . . 10th Anniversary of World Heritage Convention . . .		
Date of Issue 24th December 1983		
Designer Lotfy el Sawaf		
Design	Head of Rameses II on the ground at Thebes	Coptic woven decoration	Islamic carved wooden panel
Denomination	3 piastres	3 piastres	3 piastres
Sheet 50 (10 x 5) No Wmk		
Stamp dimensions 30 x 50 mm		
Perforation 11		
Quantity printed 1,000,000		
Supplementary	The three stamps were printed together se-tenant within the sheet.		

NEW ISSUES AND THEIR SPECIAL CANCELS
Please refer to the DATA SHEETS for dimensions, as not all illustrations are actual size



SG 1526



SG 1526



SG 1527



SG 1527



SG 1530



SG 1529



SG 1528



SG 1528/30



SG 1532



SG 1531



SG 1531/2



SG 1534



SG 1533



SG 1533



SG 1535



SG 1535



SG 1534



SG 1536



SG 1536



SG 1537



SG 1537

PROPRIETARY STUDY - SECOND ECHELON - J M Murphy (ESC 240)

Editor's Note: There follows a study of the "Proprietary Post Offices", (other than Hotels, etc., dealt with by Mr F W Benians).

Egypt Study Circle has decided that our 50th anniversary - 1985 - will be marked principally by two publishing enterprises, one to be a definitive work on the "Proprietary Post Offices" by Mr F W Benians. In addition to Hotels, Thos Cook and Simon Arzt, it is hoped that the 1985 publication will contain the "second echelon", the initial exposure of which is dealt with below. Mr J M Murphy, who has initiated this new section of the main Study, hopes to have active help from all Circle Members, and with some urgency, so that a definitive version can be produced in 1985.

Your Editor feels certain that all Members will find this new extension of the "Proprietaries" of great interest, and that this excellent initial exposure by Mr Murphy will attract a big response. Please refer to the marks by their reference numbers (which are of course provisional).

PROPRIETARY STUDY - Second echelon - J M Murphy (ESC 240)

A fledgling study of this type, while benefitting above all from the wisdom and experience of Jim Benians (ESC 123) and the former colleagues who originated similar pieces of work, needs one vital asset - information. So I hope that in presenting this early offering fellow members will bear with me as I seek information as much as giving it.

I append in the following pages brief information and illustrations of cancellations known to me which might fall into the above category - divided under the these headings :-

- a. PALACES
- b. DAMS & RESERVOIRS
- c. THE STOCK EXCHANGE
- d. PARLIAMENT
- e. GOVERNMENT OFFICES
- f. UNIVERSITIES
- g. SAVINGS BANK
- h. JOURNALISTS' UNION
- j. INFORMATION OFFICES
- k. SALE OF STAMPS
- l. MISCELLANEOUS

It will be apparent where the illustration is a photocopy of the genuine article, and where my own rough aide-memoire.

It has not been thought appropriate at this stage to include cancellations either of, or connected with, the Philatelic Society of Egypt or Egypt's Philatelic Bureau, and I should very much welcome members' advice as to whether they should be added. Similarly, I should be very grateful indeed for any extension of dates of the cancellations covered, or any similar datestamps which may come to light.

Many cancellations in the "Miscellaneous" section in particular have queries, mainly as to whether the datestamps are of genuine long-term Post Offices, but also sometimes as to their whereabouts. This is merely a start on the study of these fascinating (mainly post-Revolution) cancellations, and I should very much like to thank those who have so far offered help and advice; and I hope that more names might be added to the list.

NB. In the lists below, an asterisk indicates that a Registration cachet is also known for the cancellation; each such asterisked item has an individual note.

Mike Murphy (ESC 240) October 1984

P R E L I M I N A R Y R E P O R T

P R O P R I E T A R Y S T U D Y - S E C O N D E C H E L O N - J M M u r p h y (E S C 2 4 0)

THE PALACES

Both as a means of self-aggrandizement and as a necessary means of keeping at arm's length the often-disputing members of the Khedivial royal family, Cairo was spattered with palaces in the latter part of the nineteenth century. But two of them, both massively enlarged by Ismail (reigned 1863-1879), took precedence over all the others, and it is these two which had their own Post Offices.

Kubba Palace (in Arabic Saray el-Qubba, French Palais de Koubbah), just over 4 miles north-east of Cairo proper on the suburban rail line to Matariya and Shibin el-Qanater, was the Khedive's winter palace, a country mansion enlarged by Ismail to 400 rooms and 70 acres of gardens. The childhood home of Farouk, it became Nasser's headquarters after the abdication, and has today given its name to an inner suburb of the city.

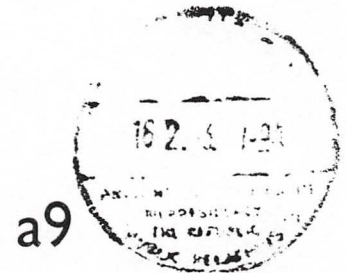
Abdin Palace (Arabic Saray el-Abdin, French Palais d'Abdine) is in central Cairo, on its own square just south of the Ezbekiyeh. Roughly equivalent to our Buckingham Palace (with Kubba Palace as Windsor Castle), it was expanded by Ismail to 500 rooms by dint of demolishing 25 acres of surrounding housing. Farouk was born there; after the abdication it became a museum, with a school and other buildings in the grounds; today it has taken on new life as the Palace of the Republic.

The datestamps

Kubba Palace has retained its name on the datestamps, from 1901 to the latest known to me, 1972; but Abdin became in 1954 the Palais de la Republique and a 1983 datestamp has the modern name of the palace unfortunately effaced.

The Datestamp Reference Numbers are PROVISIONAL only
- but please use them !

Do you have earlier / later dates, or better strikes ?



THE PALACES	-	PRELIMINARY		
A 1. PALAIS DE KOUUBA	27mm	15 VIII 01	20 XI 06	
A 2. QUBBA PALACE	25mm	5 I 29	23 III 38	
A 3. QUBBA PALACE / CASH	25mm	29 VII 37	09 I 41	
A 3a. as last (in blue)		2- II 16		
A 4. QUBBAH PALACE	29-30mm	-6 MA 51		
A 5. QUBBA / PALACE / C.	26mm	23 2 69	05 7 72	
A 6. PALAIS D'ABDINE	27mm	21 NO 44	DE 45	
A 7. PALAIS D'ABDINE / R,P	29mm	10 NO 48	25 OC 52	
A 8. PALAIS / DE LA REPUBLIQUE	29mm	11 AP 54		
A 9. ???? / PRESIDENCY / THE REPUBLIC / PUBLIC RELATIONS*	34mm	16 2 83		

* Also part-strikes with similar wording on stamps of 1965-66.

Registration cachets: PALAIS DE KOUUBA (40mm by 22.5mm) 1937; PALAIS D'ABDINE (36mm by 20mm) 1944.

Notes: Qubba Palace and Qubba Palace/Cash show characteristic buckling of upper date bar: but very much earlier datestamp in blue (Qubba Palace/Cash), though clearly the same stamp, does not have this damage. Qubbah Palace known only from Farouk wedding FDC.

Help with unclear / part strikes will be appreciated !

The Datestamp Reference Numbers are PROVISIONAL only
- but please use them !

DAMS AND RESERVOIRS

Egypt, said Herodotus, the Greek historian, is the gift of the Nile. And for efficient farming that gift has to be treasured, stored, eked out, and the land protected from its ravages. Work on damming and conserving the Nile waters has occupied Egypt's best brains for more than 100 years, and today there are several restrictions on its flowing straight through to the Mediterranean. Either while the work of construction was going on, or afterwards, many of these centres of public works have had their own Post Offices.

Nile Barrage (Arabic Qanatir el-Khaireah). It was Napoleon's idea to dam the Nile just north of Cairo, at the point where the river split into two main branches and three canals, in order to control the fertility of the whole Delta. Work was started by Mohammad Ali and renovated by the British in 1885-1890. The five spans total nearly a mile in length.

Asyut Barrage. 250 miles south of Cairo, this 900-yard long barrage regulates water flow to the Ibrahimiah Canal which supplies middle Egypt and the Fayoum. Completed by the British in 1903.

Aswan Dam. Built between 1898 and 1912 by the British just south of Aswan, some 600 miles from Cairo, the intention was to control the flow of all Nile water. Found to be insufficient, it was lengthened and heightened just before the Second War. Built of granite from the ancient quarries of Aswan, it was superseded by...

Aswan High Dam, which was built for Egypt by the Russians in the mid-1960s, leading to the massive back-up of water called Lake Nasser. Enormously important for hydro-electricity and fishing industry,

The datestamps

Since the closest town to the site of the Nile Barrage is Qalyub, it is easy to understand the early Kallioub Barrage stamp: but Abbassia Barrages remains a mystery. This centrally-important dam has had a plethora of names on datestamps, while the Asyut and Aswan counterparts are straightforward.

The Datestamp Reference Numbers are PROVISIONAL only
- but please use them !



b1



b2



b3



b4



b5



b6



b7



b8



b9



b10



b11



b12



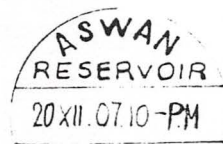
b13



b14



b15



b16



b17



b18

Help with unclear / part strikes will be appreciated !

The Datestamp Reference Numbers are PROVISIONAL only - but please use them !

Notes: The mysterious Abbassia Barrages is known only from an FDC (Abbassia is not far from the Barrage, but there remains doubt about this datestamp). The size of lettering in the two Delta Barrage datestamps is sufficient to distinguish them. Qanatir el Qahireih is a curious transliteration of the Arabic. Assouan Reservoir is I think clearly Assouan Reservoirs with the final s cut out.

B 1. KALIOUB BARRAGE	25?mm	IX	88			
B 2. BARRAGE / (5bars)	27mm	18	NO	92		
B 3. BARRAGE / (star/crescent)	26mm	25	NO	89	1	X 96
B 4. (DELTA B)ARRAGE	27?mm	23	V	03		04
B 5. (D)ELTA BARRAGE	28mm		VIII	07		
B 6. (K)ANATIR EL DELTA	27mm	12	III	12		
B 7. QANATIR EL KHAIRIA / CASH	29mm	27	AP	31		
B 8. QANATER EL QAHIREIH	29mm	-6	NO	54		
B 9. ABBASSIA BARRAGES	26mm	20	JA	33		
B10. ASSIOUT / RESERVOIRS	28mm	22	10	99		
B11. ASSIOUT / RESERVOIR(S?)	27?mm	14	XI	01		
B12. ASYUT / (RESERVOIR) / R&P	27mm	15	OC	37	30	JA 39
B13. ASYUT / RESERVOIR / R.P.	29mm	-4	DE	39		
B14. ASSOUAN / RESERVOIRS	27mm	16	XI	99		
B15. ASSOUAN / RESERVOIR	27mm	12	I	00	11	VI 02
B16. ASWAN / RESERVOIR	27mm	20	XII	07		XII 08
B17. ASWAN RESERVOIR	28mm	-7	MR	2?		
B18. HIGH DAM EAST / R.	26mm	32!	3	81		

Registration cachet: ASYUT RESERVOIR (38.5mm by 24mm) 1937

T H E S T O C K E X C H A N G E

The Alexandria Cotton and Stock Exchange, at the eastern end of the Place Mohammad Ali (now Liberation Square, but retaining his equestrian statue), was closed after the sweeping nationalisation measures of 1961, but recently re-opened after the economic reforms of Sadat, and this year proudly celebrated its centenary.

T H E S T O C K E X C H A N G E - Continued

The datestamps

Only two are known to me, the indication changing from Bourse Royale to Bourse Republicaine after the fall of the monarchy.



Note: A break between Re and publicaine is characteristic.

C 1.	ALEXANDRIE / BOURSE ROYALE	26mm	7 FE 46	21 NO 46
C 2.	ALEXANDRIE / BOURSE REPUBLICAINE	31mm	15 ?? 61	28 MA 62

Registration cachet: ALEXANDRIE - BOURSE ROYALE (37mm by 21mm) 1946.

P A R L I A M E N T

The Egyptian Parliament has gone through several changes of name to reach today's People's Assembly, but whatever political shade it reflected the imposing Parliament House on Sharia Dar el-Niyaba, filling the whole block through to Sharia Rihan, has constantly been in use.

The datestamps

Three are known from the early period with the title Parliament; four in two sizes for the National Assembly; one for the People's Assembly; and a ninth from the office of the President of the Council of Ministers (Prime Minister).

The Datestamp Reference Numbers are PROVISIONAL only
- but please use them !



d1



d2



d3

d4



d5

d6



d7



d8



d9



Help with unclear / part strikes will be appreciated !

D1. PARLIAMENT / T	26mm	22 DE 36	28 FE 40
D2. PARLIAMENT / R.& P.	26mm	22 DE 36	15 OC 37
D3. PARCELS / PARLIAMENT*	26mm	-9 JA 41	
D4. NATIONAL / ASSEMBLY	33mm	23 2 63	9 12 63
D5. NATIONAL / ASSEMBLY / R.P.	33mm	1 4 59	6 7 61
D6. NATIONAL / ASSEMBLY	26mm	23 1 74	
D7. NATIONAL / ASSEMBLY / T.	26mm	date illegible	
D8. PEOPLES / ASSEMBLY / R.D	26mm	5 82	
D8a. as last (in red)		2 10 83	
D9. POST PRESIDENT OF / MINISTERS COUNCIL / CAIRO (red)	33?mm	date illegible	

*Also strikes in black and blue with R and P in place of PARCELS, 1939-1948.

The Datestamp Reference Numbers are PROVISIONAL only
- but please use them !

S A V I N G S B A N K

Use of Savings Bank datestamps for postal use is known from only three examples, all emanating from the same correspondence to the United States. It is difficult to say whether this practice is widespread, but Savings Banks have historically generally been housed in the same building as a post office, particularly in the smaller centres. Loose cancelled stamps are unlikely to be acceptable as having had postal use.

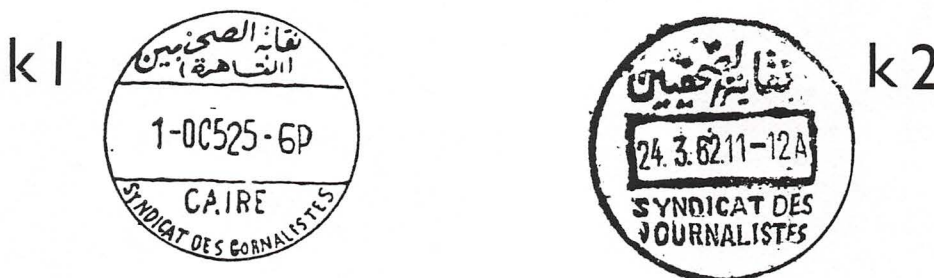


J 1. IDFU / SAVINGS BANK	28mm	28	8	80
J 2. EL HORDAGHA / SAVINGS / BANK	26mm	21	1	81
J 3. EL KHARGA / SAVINGS BANK	26mm		4	81

Notes: El Hordagha is an unusual variation on Hurghada, the Red Sea resort; and el Kharga appears to use an X for the K.

J O U R N A L I S T S ' U N I O N

The headquarters of the Syndicate des Journalistes in Cairo is in Sharia Ahmed Khalek Sarwat, down towards Bulaq and surrounded by the major newspaper offices. The early datestamp, an apparent mixture of French and Italian, falls between the two stools and was one of those errors Gabriel Boulad delighted in discovering.

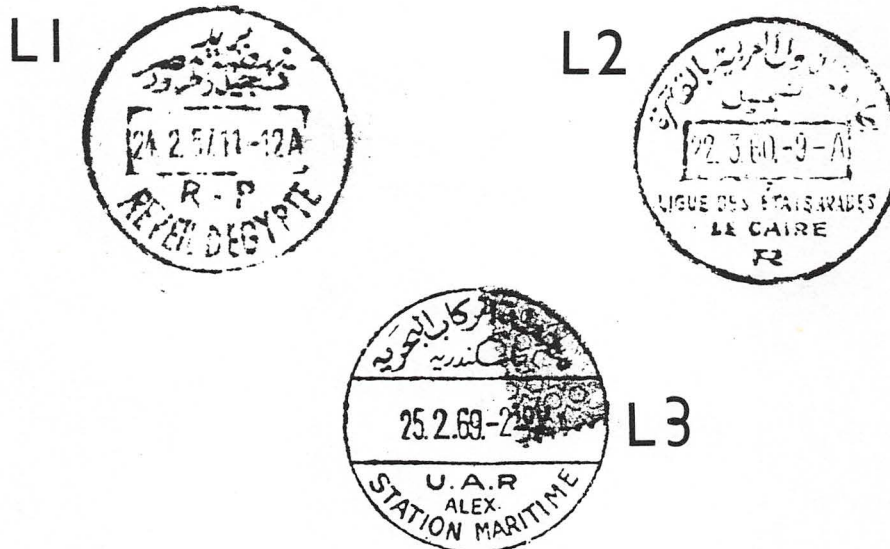


K 1. CAIRE / SYNDICAT DES GORNALISTES	33mm	1	OC	52	17	OC	57
K 2. SYNDICAT DES / JOURNALISTES	33mm	1	11	61	23	5	62

The Datestamp Reference Numbers are PROVISIONAL only
- but please use them !

M I S C E L L A N E O U S

A cover-all title for a very mixed bag, some of which may be no more than commemorative datestamps for a single issue of stamps or for a specific event, others of which may have had a much longer life as a genuine Post Office datestamp.



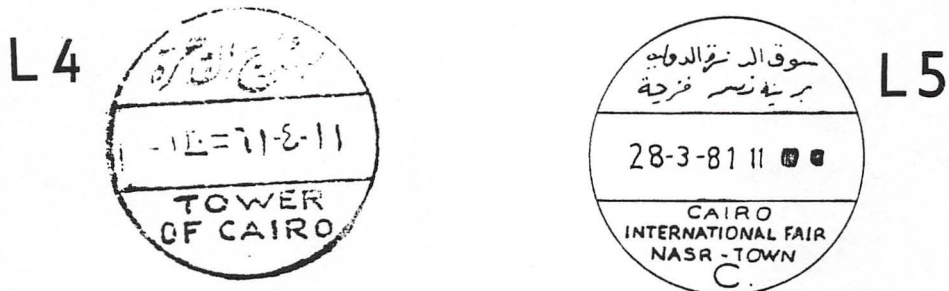
L1. R-P / REVEIL DEGYPTE	34mm	20	8	56	22	7	57
L2. LIGUE DES ETATS ARABES / LE CAIRE / R	34mm	22	3	60		7	77
L3. U.A.R. / ALEX. / STATION MARITIME	34 mm	25	2	69	30	11	74

Notes: All of the above three seem to have served as genuine Post Offices, and perhaps still do. Reveil d'Egypte, literally, "the awakening of Egypt", will have seemed a suitable slogan for the period after the abolition of the monarchy, though at which office it was used is not known. The imposing statue in front of Cairo University bears the same name. The latest date recorded above is from a part-strike in which the lettering appears to be much smaller, and the apparent earliest (though it cannot clearly be determined) is on a 1954 stamp.

The headquarters of the Arab League, in normal political times, is next to the Hilton Hotel on the Nile overlooking Victory Bridge. The Maritime Station in Alexandria's Western Harbour is still going strong, though whether it retains its Post Office is unknown.

The Datestamp Reference Numbers are PROVISIONAL only
- but please use them !

MISCELLANEOUS - Continued



L4. TOWER / OF CAIRO	34mm	11	4	61
L5. CAIRO / INTERNATIONAL FAIR / NASR-TOWN / C.	35mm	23	3	81

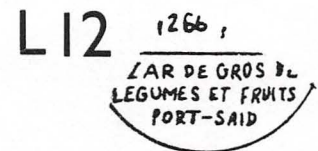
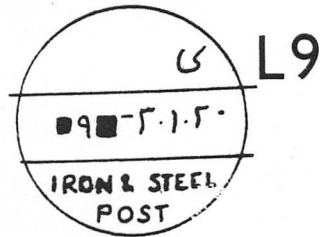
Notes: Both of these would appear to be commemorative only. The Tower of Cairo on Gezira Island remains a tourist draw, and might have its own Post Office, though this mark is known only from an FDC. Cairo has an International Trade Fair each year: in 1981 it was in Nasr-Town (usually Nasser City) near Heliopolis.



L6. ABU ZAABAL / QUARRIES	26mm	30	JL	18	(1923)
L7. WORKSHOPS / ABU ZAABAL	26mm	17	MA	49	
L8. DOMAINE DE SIOUF	26mm	27	MA	41	?E 54

Notes: Abu Zaabal, north-east of Cairo in the Delta, is long famous for its basalt quarries, and the workshops of the Egyptian State Railways moved there from Bulaq in 1929. Domaine de Siouf remains a complete mystery: the only Siouf to be found is an estate in the Ramle area of Alexandria, which seems reasonable. But why it had a Post Office is unknown.

The Datestamp Reference Numbers are PROVISIONAL only
- but please use them !



L9. IRON & STEEL / POST	30mm	20	1	63		
L10. ATOMIC ENERGY / POST	34mm	28	3	81	4	7 81
L11. ARAB TELEVISION / R.	26mm	31	3	79		
L12. (BA)ZAR DE GROS DE(S) / LEGUMES ET FRUITS / PORT-SAID	31mm		12	66		

Registration cachet: ARAB TELEVISION (39 by 26mm) 1979.

Notes: Iron and Steel and Atomic Energy might usefully be added to the list of Government offices, probably representing headquarters of the relevant institutes. Arab Television, its headquarters on the Nile bank opposite the old Gezireh Palace Hotel, is certainly Government-controlled; and the Fruit and Vegetable Bazaar in Port Said is unlikely to have been a private enterprise.

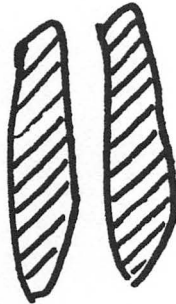
CANCELLATION OF 'AIR MAIL' INSTRUCTIONS - by J SEARS (ESC 188)

(Report of one of the "10-Sheet Displays"
given by Members at the August 11th Meeting, 1984)

'Instructions' in this context cover printed cachets (official or not), etiquettes affixed, or handwritten by the sender, any of which, or more than one, may appear on a letter intended to travel by Air at least for the initial part of its journey to its destination. Over the past few years I have come across covers with these instructions deleted or cancelled in various ways, and one tends to jump to the conclusion that the reason for doing this was that the postage paid was insufficient for Airmail. On investigation, however, it appears that this was hardly ever the case, unless the letter was in excess of the weight covered by the postage paid, but all I can say is that none of the covers in my possession show any signs of strain which might be caused by over loading.

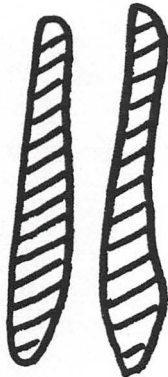
The cancellations come in a number of different forms, which I list below with details of the covers.

1.



Irregular red bars, length approx. 35 mm cancelling BY AIR MAIL privately-printed cachet.
 CAIRO 24 DE 34 to Benicia, California.
 Stamped 33 mills - apparently the correct rate for 20 gms to USA.
 No arrival or backstamp.

2.



Distorted parallel red bars, length approx. 45 mm, cancelling the usual Air Mail etiquette.
 CAIRO II JA 35 to Toronto, stamped 39 mills.
 The preferential 'Dominion' rate at this time was 28 mills for 20 gms, plus 26 mills for each extra, or part of, 20 gms.
 No arrival or backstamp.

3.



Black Cross, each arm 48 mm long, cancelling an Air Mail Etiquette.
 CAIRO 7 MA 35., to Berlin.

Stamped 33 mills, apparently the correct rate for 20 gms.

No arrival or backstamp; there is an offset impression of the black cross from another envelope on the reverse of the cover.

/ CONTINUED . . .

4.



Slightly distorted parallel red bars, each measuring 40 mm x 5 mm approximately, cancelling an Air Mail etiquette.

ALEXANDRIA 29 FE 36 to Tiverton, Rhode Island, USA.

Stamped 33 mills, the correct rate at the time for 20 gms. No arrival or backstamp.

5.



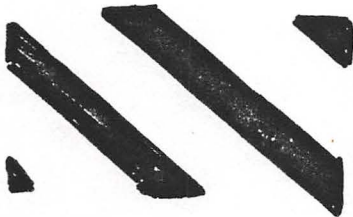
Two parallel red bars of regular proportions measuring 51 mm x 7mm, with 3mm space between, cancelling an Air Mail etiquette.

PORT TAUFIQ 7 MR 36, to Tiverton, Rhode Island, USA.

As no. 4 above it was stamped 33 mills.

No arrival or backstamp.

6.

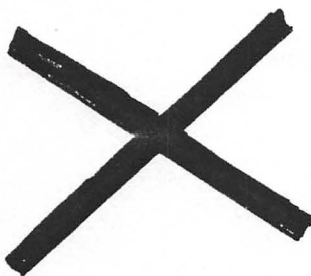


A handstamp consisting of diagonal bars in black cancelling a VIA AIR MAIL cachet, commercially printed on the envelope. The handstamp measures 43 mm x 23 mm.

ALEXANDRIA '2' - 21 JL 38, to New York. Stamped 26 mills, this must be a case of insufficient postage, the 10 gms rate to UK only at the time was 28 mills. No arrival or backstamp.

I have a second example of this handstamp on a cover to New York, CAIRO D 5 - 8 NO 39. Stamped 50 mills. This was shortly after the outbreak of war when the Air Mail Route was from Alexandria to Marseilles, then overland to London, etc. The rate was 75 mills.

7.

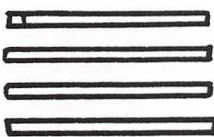
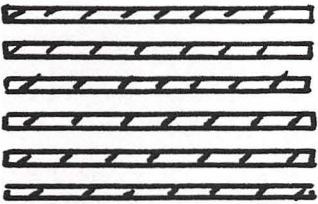



A black cross, each arm measuring 50 mm, cancelling an official cachet Air Mail in English and Arabic. CAIRO II JA 40.

Arrival stamp - New York Feb 3 1940; it was addressed to New York. The cover was Registered, and the postage paid amounted to 80 mills. Presumably the stamps would have been affixed at the Post Office, and one must assume therefore that the rate was in order.

CANCELLATION OF 'AIR MAIL' INSTRUCTIONS

- Continued

8.  Four parallel bars in mauve, 27 mm long, cancelling BY AIR MAIL printed on a standard light-weight envelope. CAIRO MOUVEMENT ETRANGER 8 AP 42, to Toronto. By this time in the War, mail was flown to Durban and thence travelled by sea. The 10-gm rate to UK was 45 mills; this cover was stamped 52 mills. No backstamp.
9.  Six bars in red, cancelling the printed BY AIR MAIL cachet on a light-weight envelope. CAIRO postmark illegible, but probably 1944 or 1945, in view of the late censor mark. Addressed to Sweden, stamped 67 mills, which seems more than adequate as to 10-gm rate to UK was 47 mills. No arrival or backstamp. (Each bar 40 mm long).
10.  A symmetrical black cross, 50 mm x 20 mm, cancelling 'By Air Mail' handwritten. CAIRO FOREIGN TRAFFIC, date illegible, but probably 1952, to London. Stamped 22 mills, (the rate to UK at this time was 27 mills) but this envelope was sent unsealed. I have a second example of about the same period, a 6-mills stamp added to the small stationery envelope of 4 mills. This is addressed to Leek, Staffs, England. Again sent unsealed. No arrival stamp in either case.

It will be noted from this small selection that covers to North America outnumber those to Europe and the UK, and the other examples I have seen support this trend. These Cancellations appeared over 20 years or so from 1934 onwards, thus covering periods of peace and war. Apart from the consideration of weight, only items 6 and 10 above appear to be obviously under-stamped.

There seems to be no consistency in the Cancellations; perhaps in the late 1930's, before mail went by air from UK to USA, the postage paid did not cover air mail inside the United States, but this would indicate that the marks were put on after the letters left Egypt. However, one of those so cancelled is addressed to New York, the port of entry. I feel sure the marks originated in Egypt.

This is a mystery upon which the members at a recent Circle Meeting could not shed any light. Will any readers who have examples of these or other similar cancelling marks please let me have the details so that we can hopefully arrive at a proper conclusion. If anyone has a theory, or better still, firm knowledge of the purpose of these marks, please let us know.

John Sears (ESC 188)

UPDATA

UPDATA 18 - INTERPOSTAL SEALS

Mr H M Barker (ESC 290) has written to fill two blanks in our knowledge of these seals, and has provided the photocopies of the IP's which have generated the accompanying illustrations.

The article now updated was by Mr A Schmidt (ESC 198), "INTERPOSTAL SEALS - A Review of the 1962 Edition of Kehr's Catalogue". Part 1 (the relevant part for this update) appeared in "The QC" for September 1979, Vol. X, No. 7, Whole Number 111, on pages 176-180.

Members may like to alter their copies to show :-

Type VIII - NAZALI-GANOUB - existence now confirmed, should be **deleted** from Table 1.

Type VIII A - NAZALI-GANOUB - not listed by Kehr, should be **added** to Table 2.

Congratulations to recent member Mr Michael Barker on providing the first UPDATA on Interpostal Seals.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

"While writing [in his capacity of Honorary Librarian, on the subject of "Recent Additions to ESC Library" which forms Supplement 3 to this Issue - Editor] I would like to raise another controversial subject - though I do not understand why it should be a difficult subject.

"It is the question of publishing a list of Study Leaders because, although I have been a Member for something over seven years now, I am still unaware of **what studies there are** and of **who lead the studies**, with some exceptions of course.

"It seems to me that this is a chicken-and-egg situation because **new Members feel inhibited** about putting forward a suggestion or a 'new find' because they are often **unaware that what they have is new**. The Record is not accessible to Members so you cannot add to it if you do not know what it contains.

"What do you think, could we publish ?"

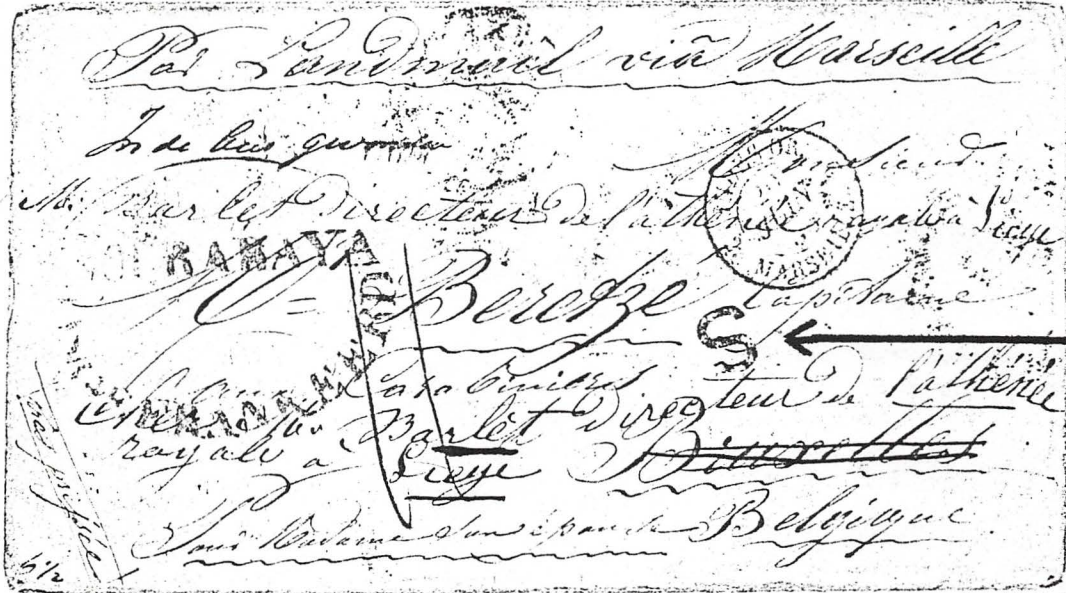
D John Davis (ESC 213)

>> There have been difficulties which have conspired to prevent a suitable listing of Studies and Leaders from appearing in The Q.C. for a long time. The consequences are unhelpful, to say the least, and probably a number of reports have not been researched and written about, because of this. Quite possibly this has caused members to lose enthusiasm, and even perhaps the Circle to lose members. Your Editor hopes that Mr Davis's letter will help to start off a successful attempt on the problem. [Editor].

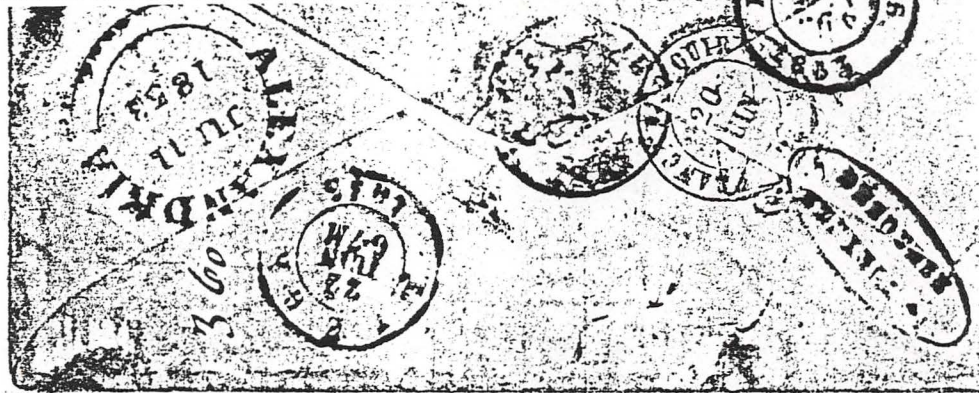


UPDATA 18

Interpostal Seal type VIII (left) - recorded by Kehr for this office, but not seen
Interpostal Seal type VIIIA (right) - not recorded by Kehr for this office.



QUESTION TIME 75 - Explain the large S



Q. TIME 76a

Q. TIME 76b

COOK'S TOURIST SERVICE

EPARGNE SCOLAIRE



10-SHEET DISPLAY

Your editor drew attention to the changed position of the horizon in 1933 & 1941. Airs of same design

illustrated regardless of cost with real stamps !

AL-AZHAR MILLENNARY

Mr Rudi Jeidel (ESC 127) writes in response to the article on the FDC, by Mr J M Murphy (ESC 240), which appeared in The Q.C. for September 1983, Vol. XI No. 11, Whole No. 127, on pages 282-285 :-

"I can report that I have a similar FDC, same measurements and design, except that mine is in green.

"Furthermore, the illustrations on the third page are in a darker green, being printed as a block - 130 mm wide and 181 mm high - screened in a very light yellow-brown. While the lettering in Arabic on top and "Old Islamic Characters" and (presumably) the Arabic equivalent in the centre are **part of the block**, the bottom line "Islamic Arts" and Arabic are **set below the block** - just below the screened bottom line.

"Another FDC has been produced by E.M. Berry, Lytham, with the same stamps but cancelled with an ordinary Cairo postmark 27-4-57 12H. The neutral cover is marked FIRST DAY COVER in a box 63 x 14 mm.

"By the way, the use of a block for the illustrations on page 3 is easily recognisable on your reproduction on page 284."

- - - - -

QUESTION TIME

NEW QUESTIONS

- Q. Time 75 - Large S mark on June 1853 envelope sent from Alexandria to Belgium.
- Question put by Mr C Th J Hooghuis (ESC 126)

What is the purpose of the large S hand-struck mark? Does it have any postal significance? Where was it applied?

Editor: and are there other points of interest on this item?

- Q. Time 76a - 1907 cancel on 5 piastres, DLR issue 1884,
- Question put by Mr T Dacos (ESC 220)

This mark includes ". . . TOURIST SERVICE". Can Members advise in what cases this was used, and how rare it is?

REPLY from your Editor, noting that this is an easy one. It is a canceller used at the Post Office in Cook's Tourist Office in Cairo. The usage, and marks, of this office have been studied by Mr F W Benians, (ESC 123) who has published a number of Articles on the subject of "The Proprietary Post Offices" in The Q.C. He is at present engaged on producing a definitive Study Report, which will be published in 1985 to mark the ESC Jubilee Year.

- Q. Time 76b - Cancel: EPARGNE SCOLAIRE on 1914 DLR 5 mills
- Question put by Mr T Dacos (ESC 220)

This means 'School Savings' or 'School Funds'. Unfortunately I do not have a complete picture of the strike. Can any Member say how used, and whether scarce?

QUESTION TIME

Response to Q Time 74

Question put by T. Dacos, QC 129/30

Major E L G MacArthur, MC (ESC 125) kindly directed the Editor's attention to L'Orient Philatelique, No. 33, July 1937, pp 102-3; also to The Q.C. Vol. 6, Nos 8/9, pp 87-88, from which the notes below have been produced.

L'OP shows an illustration of an auction item, a loose postmarked stamp which had been wrongly classified as of Constantinople (although the part Arabic text shows ...TANTIN... clearly). This item had been acquired by Mr G Seymour Thompson. M. Jean Boulad, who consulted the postal archives in Cairo, reported that CONSTANTINIA is, or was, a small village near Mansourah, in the province of Dakhalieh, which used to have its own Post Office from about 1906 to 1913; by about 1912 its name was Anglicised, becoming QO StantonINIA. The period from 1906 to 1913 was one of great prosperity for Egypt, but this ended in a slump. At this period certain big undertakings, which had been set up to develop the country, had their own post office, with their own name. Then, when the estates split up, these post offices were no longer needed and were closed. This, without doubt, is the case with Constantinia, as this estate belonged originally to a man named Constantin.

Writing in the QC noted above, the late Charles Minett who, referring to another illustration of a loose postmarked stamp, says: ". . . CONSTANTINIA, a small town or village which is, or was, in the Delta north of Mansura. According to "LOP" No. 33 (July 1937) this office operated circa 1906-13, and a later rendering of the name was "QO StantonINIA". However, the illustration in the "LOP" of a 1 piastre of 1884 (i.e. the one reported in the paragraph above - Editor) is dated 26.VI.00. I have two examples dated in March 1902 and George Mee has a postcard of 7.DE.04.

"I have not been able to find this place on any map nor is it mentioned in Baedeker for 1908, or the Egyptian Postal Guide for 1928.

"However, the United State Board on Geographical Names (Gazetteer No. 45) gives AL QO StantonINIYAH as being a map reference 31.14 N, 31.28 E, which gives a point about 1/2 mile east of the Bahr Basandila, 2 1/2 miles NNE of Basandila and 4 1/2 miles NW of Cherbin."

Editor: 1 Our thanks to Themis Dacos for starting us on this trail - can any member extend the dates of use ?

2. This post office is included in Dennis Clarke's comprehensive listing of the Post Offices of Egypt, which is nearing readiness, and which will be published in 1985 as part of the Circle's celebration of its 50th jubilee year.

TWO VARIETIES ON DE LA RUE - by Themis Dacos (ESC 220)

1 - More about the 'P' flaw variety on the 5-mills 1888 issue
(= THE 'P LOOP' VARIETY)

In The Q.C. No. 126 of June 1983, I had mentioned the finding of a second example of the 'P' flaw variety, the first one having been reported by Professor Peter Smith in L.O.P. No. 117 in 1967.

I had borne in mind Professor Smith's remark that his stamp showed the white area of the 'P' more solidly filled. A note from the Editor completed the article suggesting, among other remarks, that "none the less, it is of interest, and can be plated if other examples can be found."

Now we have more news on the subject, for a short time ago I was again lucky enough to find two more examples of the same variety.

One is on a single stamp mailed from Alexandria on 19.III.14 where the loop of the letter 'P' is more solidly filled and I suppose this must be identical to that of Professor Smith's stamp.

The other is on a pair mailed from Alexandria on 21.IV.11 (three years earlier) where the loop is less filled, even less than the one I had reported in June 1983.

However, things are getting more complicated !

The stamp of the pair has an **additional flaw**; a red dot under the Arabic letter  of 'Misriya'. This dot does not appear on any of the other stamps.

This gives rise to the following three possibilities :-

- 1) That there are three different cases :-
 - a) one with the loop filled fully
 - b) one with the loop filled lightly
 - c) one with the loop filled lightly **and** an additional red dot flaw.
- 2) That there are two different cases :-
 - a) one with the loop flaw having passed through several stages
 - b) one with the loop flaw and an additional red dot flaw
- 3) That there is only one case which has passed through several stages including the red dot flaw.

Comments are invited please. Members specialising in the DLR issues, or having multiples in their collection, may be able to provide useful information.

Enlarged photos are provided. (Reproduced - Editor)

/ Continued . . .

2 - Another 'P' flaw variety on the 5-mills 1888 definitive issue
 (= THE 'P FOOT' VARIETY)

Last year, seeking more examples on the 'P' flaw variety (where the loop of the letter is filled with red colour) I asked Mr Peter Feltus to help. He responded by sending me nine examples.

But the examples which he so kindly sent me had a 'P' variety quite different. The foot of the letter was deformed as if the letter was resting on a wide white base.

It is apparent that this is a plate variety. The plate had been damaged and the damage area was getting progressively wider.

I have noted four stages. In the fourth stage, the damage is beginning to extend downwards, and to affect the curved frame under the letter.

I am enclosing enlarged photos of six examples covering the four stages (reproduced - Editor). The remaining three examples (out of the nine sent by Mr Peter Feltus) and covering three of the four stages have been given to our member Mr Kostas Kelemenis.

It is to be noted that the stamp of the fourth stage shows a piece of the sheet selvage with a small piece of the "Jubilee Line" and that is a good hint to locate its position on the sheet.

So thanks to Mr Peter Feltus a new 'P' variety is announced. He also advised me that he had acquired them from Mr Ibrahim Shaftar, and that he valued them at U.S. \$ 5 each at the time, in 1983.

Finally, since there have now appeared two different flaws affecting the same letter, I suggest that we call the first one THE 'P LOOP' VARIETY, and the second one THE 'P FOOT' VARIETY.

T. Dacos

[Editor: the discoverer of a flaw has the privilege of naming it and Mr Dacos' apt titles have been adopted to head the text.]

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EXHIBITION NEWS

1. Lord Chief Justice **Lars Alund** (ESC 105) not only exhibited in Madrid at ESPANA 84 (Large Silver, as reported in our previous issue): he also exhibited in Iceland at NORDIA 84. Congratulations to this Member on winning a Vermeil in Reykjavik.

2. **Mr Peter R Feltus** (ESC 114) will exhibit his Second Issue at ISRAPHIL in May 1985. Peter has already won a substantial point, in that he has persuaded the authorities to allow him to enter this exhibit on his 'giant pages'. He is very pleased at being able to show the Post Office announcement, the whole 'Trombetta' with bisect, his half sheet of the 1 pt black proof, and other good and important items. Photocopy pages are promised for the Circle Record. Good luck, Peter !

"P LOOP" FLAW ON 1888 DLR

- Themis Dacos (ESC 220)

1. Loop more filled



2. Loop less filled

"P FOOT" FLAW ON 1888 DLR

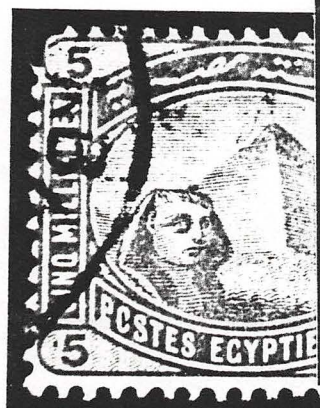
PROGRESSIVE DAMAGE



Stage 1



Stage 2



Stage 3 (three examples)



Stage 4 : right-hand location proved by marginal rule fragment

THE FRENCH POST OFFICES IN EGYPT - by P L Grech (ESC 266)

(Report of one of the "10-Sheet Displays"
given by Members at the August 11th Meeting, 1984)

Mr Pierre Louis (Peter) Grech presented ten pages related to the French P.O.'s in Egypt. The first three contained mixed frankings of the Posta Europea and the French Post Office at Alexandrie :-

1) - 1852. Letter from Cairo to Marseilles. "Agenzia della Posta Europea" oval cachet (ESC type II) of 5 July, French P.O. cds type 15 "ALEXANDRIE (EGYPTE)" OF 8 July, "10" decimes due mark. Marseilles arrival, 16 July.

2) - 1863. Letter from Cairo to Aix-en-Provence. "Posta Europea, Cairo" cds (ESC type IV) of 7 March. French 10c and 40c Empire perf. cancelled "5080"; cds type 15 "ALEXANDRIE, EGYPTE" of 7 March. Also boxed P.P. (black) and "Paquebots de la Mediterranee (red). Aix arrival, 21 March.

3) - 1865. Letter from Cairo to le Bourget, Paris. "Posta Europea, Cairo" cds (ESC type VI, in blue) of 27 February, used by the Egyptian State Post pending the arrival of its new date-stamp. Sent unpaid (postage due "10" decimes) from Alexandria. French P.O. cds type 15 "ALEXANDRIE, EGYPTE", 28 February. Also red cds "PAQ. AN. V. SUEZ, AMB. MARS. 2" (Salles No. 870) of 8 March. Le Bourget arrival 9 March.

The other seven pages dealt with LOCAL overprinting of stamps for the French P.O.'s of Alexandrie and Port Said. Among these :-

a) - The Alexandrie surcharges in milliemes of April 1921, including inverted surcharges, errors on stamps of Port Said, etc.

b) - A registered cover from Port Said to Alexandrie bearing eleven 10-milliemes on 25c "PORT SAID" local overprint of April 1921 (a block of 8, a pair and a single) dated 20 April 1921 (SG 143, Yvert 41). Multiples on cover of this issue are rather scarce.

c) - "Errors" (inverted overprints, etc.) from the November 1921 "PORT-SAID" issue commemorating the passage of Marshal Joffre through the Canal on his way to the Far East.

* * * * *

The inauguration of the **Statue of de Lesseps** at Port-Said on 17 November 1899 led to an influx of visitors with a corresponding increase in the volume of mail. The French P.O. ran out of 25c stamps and so surcharged the 10c sage "PORT-SAID" issue with the words VINGT-CINQ, (both varieties of this were shown: with a square dot, or a dash, between VINGT and CINQ) converting their value to 25c.

Less well known is an earlier local overprint "PORT-SAID" on the French sage stamps (see L'OP No. 121, Jan-July 1969, pages 178-179 and No. 125, April 1972, pages 121-124). Of this, a postcard was shown bearing a vertical pair of the 5c (yellow-green) locally overprinted "PORT-SAID", cancelled by the French P.O. cds of 17 Nov. 99 and addressed to Alexandria, where it arrived on 20 November.

P L Grech (ESC 266)

RECENT ADDITIONS TO THE EGYPT STUDY CIRCLE LIBRARY

This listing is subsequent to the list published as Supplement 9 to Volume XI of the Quarterly Circular for December 1983.

CATALOGUES AND HANDBOOKS

THE OVERLAND MAIL by JOHN K. SIDEBOTTOM O.B.E.

Published in 1948 for the Postal History Society by George Allen & Unwin Ltd, this is well illustrated and runs to 175 pages in hardback; it is of course the "standard work" on the life of Thomas Waghorn R.N. and gives much detail of how the overland route to India was set up - the route across Egypt, of course, as there was another route through Iraq - but this is a fascinating work and gives much interesting detail.

ALL ABOUT POSTAL MATTERS IN EGYPT

This is a reprinting from 1977 by Harry Hayes of the original of that title by one Willard Fiske first published in Florence in 1898 by the Landi Press. A 24-page leaflet edited by John Alden, it gives some geographical background, a listing of the sixty-five "most important post offices in Egypt" together with the populations served, from the 1897 Census. There are lists and descriptions of names of foreign places, personal names and a little about the postal services as well as a few statistics.

LA POSTE MARITIME FRANCAISE by RAYMOND SALLES

Tome V "Les Paquebots de l'Extreme-Orient"
Tome VI "Les Paquebots de l'Ocean Indien"

These are complementary one to the other in that they give complete listings of the steamers that plied the respective sea routes (both of which would have passed through the Suez Canal once completed). Both are really excellent works of reference and will enable the enthusiasts to establish which ships actually carried their particular covers as well as being very well illustrated with the appropriate cancellations.

More's the pity that Tome II is out of print as this is entitled "Les Paquebots de la Mediterranee". If you can locate a copy the library is in need of one.

M I L I T A R Y

**ARMY AND FIELD POST OFFICES OF EGYPT AND THE EEF, 1914-20
by MICHAEL M. SACHER**

Published as a supplement to The London Philatelist in August-September 1970, this is a 32-page booklet with a map and illustrations of cancellations as well as photographs of five covers. It links many of the military formations with their cancellers.

/ Continued . . .

THE POSTAL HISTORY OF THE BRITISH ARMY IN WORLD WAR I BEFORE AND AFTER - 1903 TO 1929 by **ALISTAIR KENNEDY** and **GEORGE CRABB**

Published by George Crabb in 1977 this is a 300-page, spiral-bound, full A4 size book and imparts an immense amount of information including dozens of maps, illustrations of many cards and covers as well as very comprehensive listings of the dates, locations, user formations, and reflects the progress made since the previous listing by Sacher (which see above) in 1970. It does however cover all the theatres of war so it is essential to look carefully for what you need.

EXHIBITION CATALOGUES

C. TH. J. HOOGHUIS

Many will recognise the name of one of our members of repute and we are indebted to Mr Hooghuis for photostat copies of sheets from his collection in six groupings as follows :-

1. Old Documents of Egypt: this includes parts of two papyri, a French map of Egypt 1763, and two 1419 letters to Egypt from Venice.
2. Napoleon in Egypt: fifteen sheets in this series include cancellations (straight line) of Alexandrie, Le Caire, Rosette, Damiette, Siouth, Benesouef, plus early postcards from a series entitled "Napoleon et son Epoque".
3. The Story of the Overland Mail: 27 sheets in this series and full of interest not only for the wealth of marks but also for the added interest of illustrations from a printed article by Mr Hooghuis in Spanish and entitled "El Istmo de Suez y su importancia para el correo por via terrestre (Overland Mail) en la epoca prefilatelica" which accompanies the series.
4. History of the Suez Canal: this is a 20-sheet series which gives much information of the ancient canals as well as the modern one; it includes the stamps themselves in singles and multiples including what looks like a complete sheet of the 20 centimes as well as interpostals connected with the canal.
5. Foreign Post Offices: this 20-sheet series includes more early letters from Venice, all the consular offices, Austrian, British, French, Greek, Italian and Russian, and a mine of information about them.
6. The Posta Europea: a 24-page series this, and it includes some combination covers as well as seals for the Posta Europea.

AUCTION CATALOGUES

The "OSPREY" collection of AVIATION and AIRPOST COVERS & CARDS

This was a Phillips sale which took place on November 3rd & 4th and included listings of Egypt material under several headings. There are of course many flown items illustrated including 3 Heliopolis Meetings cards, a Marc Pourpe, EEF Aerial Post etc.

D. John Davis (ESC 213) Hon. Librarian