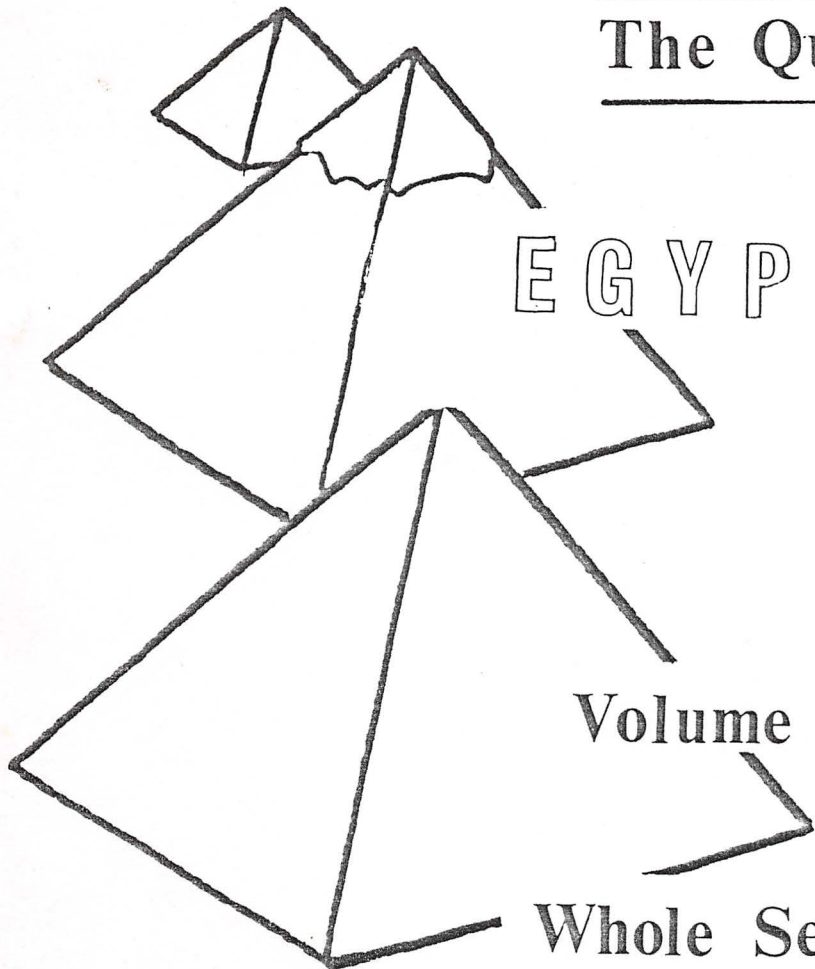


The Quarterly Circular



EGYPT STUDY
CIRCLE

September Quarter 1988

Volume xiii No. 7

Whole Series No. 147

VENUE FOR MEETINGS:

THE VICTORY CLUB, SEYMOUR STREET
MARBLE ARCH, LONDON

MEETINGS DETAILS

1988

Nov 12

Allenby Room, Victory Club
- Boy King

OFFICERS of EGYPT STUDY CIRCLE as at September 1988

PRESIDENT: Prof. Peter A S Smith
DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr J S Horesh
EDITOR: Mr John A Grimmer

CHAIRMAN: Mr John Sears
SECRETARY/TREASURER: Mr C E Grey
CHAIRMAN, Expert Cttee: Mr P Andrews

LIBRARIAN: Mr D John Davis
KEEPER of the PHILATELIC RECORD: Mr Dennis H Clarke

All contents (c) copyright 1988 Egypt Study Circle, London, and the contributors

EGYPT STUDY CIRCLE - THE QUARTERLY CIRCULAR

Volume XIII Number 7: September Quarter 1988: Whole Series 147

C o n t e n t spage

Calendar of Events		(front cover)
Officers of Egypt Study Circle at 30 September 1988		(front cover)
Contents		120
"Finlandia" International 1988: achievements by members		120
Members' help wanted		120, 121, 139
Meetings Reports: 9 July and 3 Sept 1988	J Sears	121
Napoleon Bonaparte in Egypt	C Th. J Hooghuis	122-128
New Issues: March-April 1987	C E H Defriez	129-130
Civil Censors in the Cairo Postal Museum	J M Murphy	131-133
Varieties in Egypt Philately	S A Fikry	134-136
International Express Mail Service	J Sears	137-139
Journal Officiel - extracts Jan-May 1926	J M Murphy	140-142

- - - - -

Members' achievements at "Finlandia" International Exhibition 1988

Mr Samir Fikry (ESC 305) writes to announce further successes by Circle members in the recent Helsinki international exhibition, Finlandia 88, held between June 1 and 12 :-

Khatcho Hagopian (ESC 304), Classical issues to 1874: Large Vermeil
 Anatole Ott (ESC 261), TPO's and Hotels, Vermeil
 Ismail Reda (ESC), Crown Overprint & Fuad issues, Large Silver
 Mohamed Shams ed-Din (ESC 337), Postal Stationery, Silver

Congratulations to Mr Ott in achieving such a good award in his very first International; and also to all three Egyptian members for improving on their previous International results.

As a member of the Jury, Mr Fikry did not compete in Helsinki, but his second collection, the "Sphinx" collection, was exhibited hors concours in the Jury Section. Mr Fikry adds that Large Silver medals were awarded to two German collectors in the Thematic Section, for "Sphinx and Pyramids" and "Art and Culture in Egypt".

Members' Help Wanted ?

(1) The Circle is looking for a member resident in Egypt to act as Correspondent to the Circle, to report changes in postal matters, such as increases in postage rates, for regular publication in The QC. (Please see page 139).

(2) The collections of deceased members are often handled so that they realise much less than fair worth. The reason for this is chiefly that dependants know little or nothing of the value of the collection, nor do they know whom (not !) to accept help from. The Circle is looking for members willing to help. (Please see page 121)

LONDON MEETINGS REPORTS

Meeting held 9th July 1988 at the Victory Club, Marble Arch

Attending were Mr J Sears (Chairman) and Messrs P Andrews, W C Andrews, A I Bates, D H Clarke, D J Davis, P L Grech, E Hall, J S Horesh, J M Murphy, B Schofield, A J Revell, and P E Whetter.

Apologies for absence were reported from Mr P R Bertram and Mr A Schmidt.

In regard to the Circle Auction, the chairman reported that all invoices had been sent out to the successful bidders in the Auction, and that the material was on the way to Mr Pip Whetter for despatch.

The main subject of the meeting was the Rural Postal Service and this was jointly led by Mr Mike Murphy and Mr Dennis Clarke. The latter introduced the subject with theories as to the organisation of the Service, and showed many covers with different types of cds and cartouche, followed by Mr Mike Murphy who completed the story as far as present information permitted. Mr Murphy hopes to prepare an article for The QC incorporating requests for further information.

(Notes by Mr J Sears)

Meeting held 3rd September 1988 at the Victory Club, Marble Arch

Attending were Mr J Sears (Chairman) and Messrs P Andrews, W C Andrews, A I Bates, D J Davis, C E H Defriez, E Hall, J S Horesh, B Schofield and P E Whetter. There was an apology for absence from Mr C E Grey.

Several of the members present voiced their dissatisfaction at the manner in which the collection of a deceased member was dealt with by one of our leading Auction Houses earlier this year. The material was offered in more than one sale and the description of some of the Lots left something to be desired. It was suggested that members' dependants should be encouraged to contact the Circle for guidance before finalising arrangements for the disposal of a collection, and this was agreed. It was also agreed that we should ask for volunteers to assist in this task, a minimum of two people to be available to deal with each case.

This is a service we should like to offer: members willing to help please advise the Chairman who will keep a Register of those available to assist in these cases.

The main subject of the Meeting was a study of the express Mail in Egypt, led by Mr Pip Whetter. He showed a very comprehensive collection of the stamps, and many covers, and also gave a very able description of the working of the service. A most interesting topic, it is hoped that an article about it will appear in a future Q.C.

(Notes by Mr J Sears)

Napoleon Bonaparte in Egypt

by C. Th. J. Hooghuis, Madrid (ESC 126)

[This article appeared in a section entitled "pre-philately corner" in the Spanish journal "Revista de Filatelia" - Review of Philately - and our thanks are due to the editor of that journal: Editor, QC]

During the years 1793 up until 1797, Charles Magallon, the French Consul in Egypt, recommended to the Revolutionary Directory in Paris that, for political and economic reasons, the occupation of Egypt by France would be not only beneficial but also a political stroke obliging England to take note of the territorial acquisitions of the French Revolution.

Napoleon Bonaparte, owing to his popularity among the masses having converted him into an object of distrust and suspicion in the eyes of the Revolutionary Council, figured that it would be prudent for him to leave France temporarily.

Having had access to the reports from Consul Magallon, he persuaded the Revolutionary Council to occupy Egypt and the French expedition sailed from Toulon on 19th May 1798.

Avoiding an encounter with the English fleet under the command of Nelson, the French expedition to Egypt disembarked at Alexandria on the first of July 1798.

Napoleon held the conviction that Egypt was one of the keys to the world, and he planned to strike a blow against English power, by occupying this territory, which would also open the route to India.

But one inherent weakness in any confrontation with England was that France did not have at its disposal a powerful fleet. On the first of August 1798 Nelson destroyed the French fleet at the Battle of Aboukir Bay, thereby interrupting communications between the French army and their bases in France.

In vain did Napoleon execute a brilliant campaign, occupying Cairo during the battle of the Pyramids. Also the Delta and Upper Egypt, and by this feat the entire nation was subjugated in three weeks.

But the reality is that, in consequence, his whole campaign came to be shattered.

Napoleon sailed from Cairo on 10th February 1799, his destination being Syria. In two months he captured El Arish, Gaza and Jaffa, winning the battle of Mount Tabour.

However Napoleon did not accomplish the defeat of Admiral Sidney Smith, the defender of Acre, and so lost the battle for Syria.

/ continued . . .



Fig. 1 Napoleon and his epoch

Frontispiece to
"Napoléon in Egypt"
by Barthélemy and Mery.

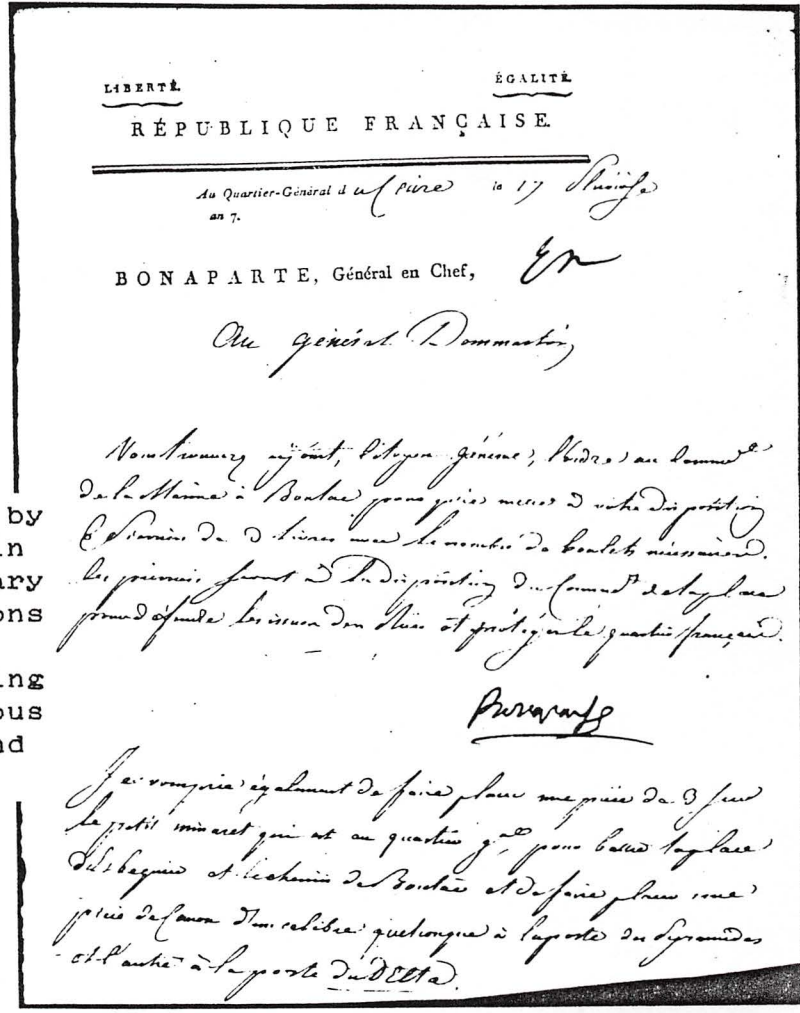


Fig. 2 Letter signed by Napoleon Bonaparte in Cairo, dated 5th February 1799, giving instructions to General Dommartin regarding the positioning of artillery in various places, in and around Cairo.

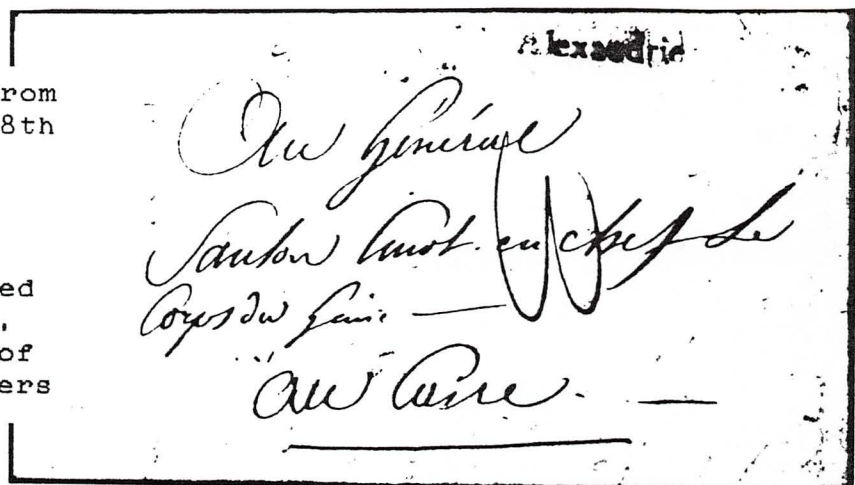


Fig. 3 Letter from Alexandria, dated 28th July 1800, from Monsieur Sorbien, commandant of a battalion of engineers, addressed to General Sauton, Commander-in-Chief of the Corps of Engineers

Napoleon Bonaparte in Egypt - continued

Napoleon returned on 14th June 1799 to Cairo and in August of the same year he abandoned his army and left Egypt in a swift little ship, making good his escape yet again from the English fleet.

Meanwhile however the Turks, who had been occupying Egypt before the arrival of Napoleon, disembarked at Aboukir, but were repulsed on 15th July 1799, and were defeated in the Battle of Heliopolis on 20th March 1800 by the French troops.

Notwithstanding, with the arrival before Alexandria on the first of March 1801 of an army under the command of Sir [Ralph] Abercromby, escorted by the British fleet under the orders of Lord Keith, the scene changed and there was a series of battles which produced, from the time of the landing of the English at Aboukir Bay on 8th March 1801, up until the surrender of Cairo by the French on 27th June 1801, thirteen thousand French who were re-embarked on a course to France from Rosetta on 31st July 1801. By now, solely continuing the struggle, was General Menon and 4,500 men in Alexandria; but they also yielded on 2nd September 1801.

Thus ended Napoleon's adventure in Egypt and Syria.

We ought to make evident that in spite of this unfortunate adventure, Napoleon's presence in Egypt has handed down to us a most interesting heritage, over the whole of the scientific and artistic points of view.

Napoleon's expedition was accompanied by 165 French scientists, artists and writers. In Cairo, the learned Frenchmen founded the famous Institut d'Egypte, dedicated to the study of the antiquities, language, agriculture and medicine of Egypt.

The most outstanding of their achievements were the report of an initial idea for the future Suez Canal, and the discovery of the Rosetta stone with inscriptions in Demotic, Greek and Hieroglyphs giving the key to the translation of Egyptian Hieroglyphs, for until that time it had not been possible to decipher the language.

Although there were faults in small details, it is obvious that the French had organised a very efficient postal system.

The use of special messengers, ships, camels and donkeys was normal, but we can surmise that the French were also making full use of the Turkish postal system, which provided established places available to receive the mail transported to there by donkeys and camels from the interior, and sent by means of carrier pigeons to the cities and the more important towns of the country.

/ continued . . .

Napoleon Bonaparte in Egypt

Fig. 4 i Official letter from F. G. Rouvier, Chief of Staff, Commandant of the Nile Military Marine at Boulac (the river port of Cairo), addressed to Citizen Barrano, Public Prosecutor at the Military Court in Alexandria.

ii The letter is dated 22/8/1798 (5th fructidor, eighth year of the French Republic).

iii Mark: LE CAIRE (in red)

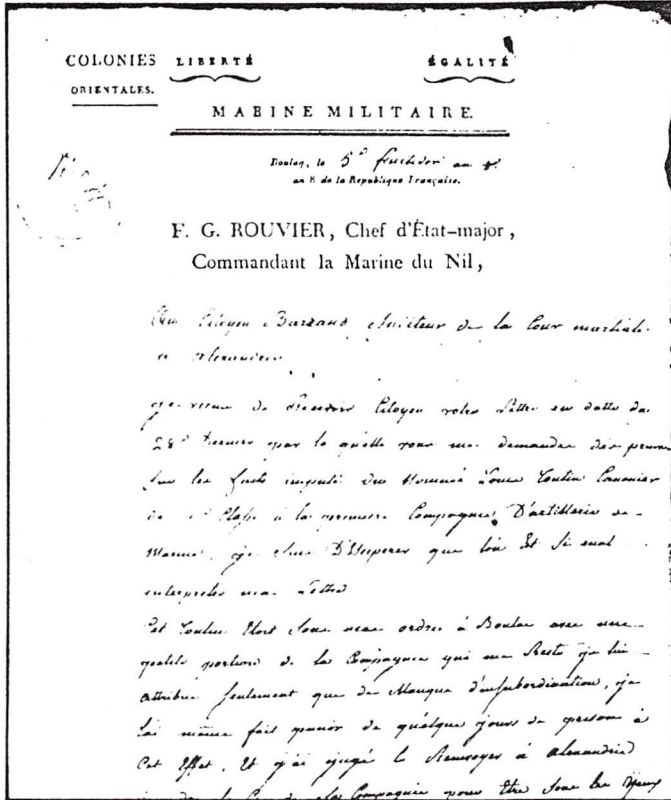
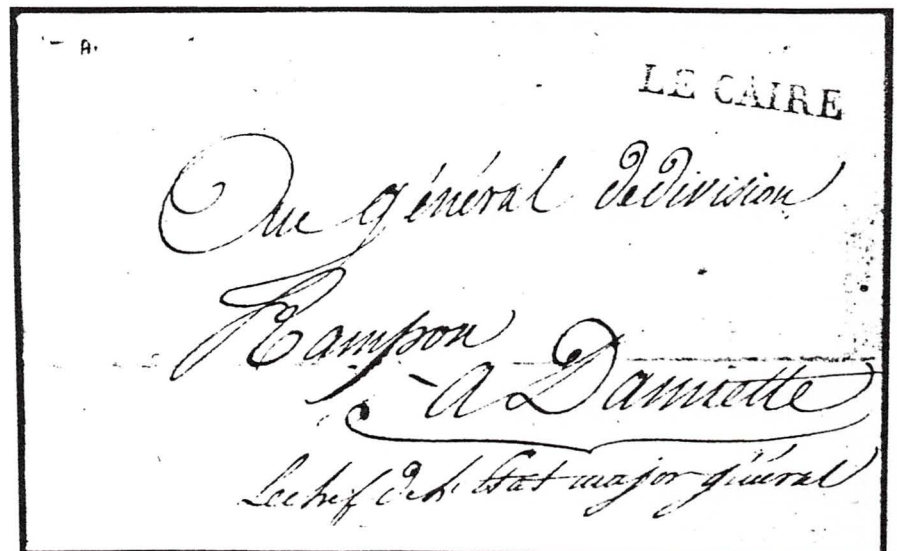


Fig. 5 Map of Cairo published in France in 1763.

Fig. 6 i Official letter from General de Brigade (= Brigadier-General) Lagrange, Chief of Staff to the Army in Cairo, addressed to General of Division (= Major-General) Rampon, in Damietta.

ii dated 27th September 1800 (ninth year of the French Republic, 6th Vendemaire).

iii Mark: LE CAIRE (in black)



Napoleon Bonaparte in Egypt - continued

It is known that there were six central points ready to receive and despatch military and governmental mail, namely Cairo, Alexandria, Damietta, Rosetta, Benesouef and Siouth. The marks of these cities are illustrated in this study.

It is possible that there existed other marks, because the French had established military stations in other places, like Katieh, Bilbeis, Benesseh, Esna, Assouan, Qena, Tanta, Suez, Kosseir, Samanoud, Aboukir, Girga and Fayoum. We can suppose that postal facilities had existed between the important centres, though personally I do not know more centres than those listed above.

C. Th. J. Hooghuis, Madrid

[transl. JAG]

Notes by Editor

Referring to illustration number 10 (receipt for purchase of dromedaries) the manuscripts, which may not be easily legible in the actual printed copies of The QC, are translated below.

The French text: "We, the undersigned, certify that Sheik Mahomet Satini has received from General Donzelot the sum of sixty thousand mudins the price of twelve dromedaries at the rate of five thousand mudins each. (Signed) at Siouth on the third Thermidor, year 8 of the Revolution."

The Italian text: "Received for 12 Dromedaries purchased by General Donzolo from Sheik Mahamet Salini for 5,000 Para each dromedary. Total: 60,000."

From this it is clear that the unit of currency mentioned in the French text, a mudin, is equal to one para.

In case some Circle Members have difficulty with the French "Etat-major" I can positively advise that : in the singular it means "Staff" and particularly General Staff, "Chef d'Etat-major" is "Chief of Staff"; the plural (états-majors) means Headquarters.

Figure 7 shows the French civilian title of "directeur des revenus en nature et du mobilier national"; the Spanish has "Director de Hacienda" (Estate), and my translation: "Director of revenue in kind and chattels" is clumsy. Citoyen Reynier would probably have made a diligent Gauleiter in Hitler's Europe, harvesting produce and manpower for the occupying power. The local population are likely to have seen nothing unusual in Napoleon's occupation.

My thanks are due, firstly to our Circle Member in Spain, Mr C. Th. J. Hooghuis (ESC 126) for making available, through the good offices of Major E L G MacArthur (ESC 125), his most interesting and unusual article, with the excellent material illustrated, including all six of the French postal town-names; also to Mr John Firebrace (ESC 71) for his help in advising the British equivalents of Napoleon's officers' ranks, and in other ways, not least for the suggestion that I speak to the French Embassy in Knightsbridge, Military Attaché's section. This resulted in friendly and willing help, thereby avoiding some gaffes. Those gaffes which have not been avoided are all my own work ! - Editor.

Napoleon Bonaparte in Egypt

Fig. 7 1. Letter dated 8th March 1800, addressed to the Citizen Reynier, director of "revenue in kind" and "chattels" in Cairo, from the Inspector of the Second Region, in Benesouef.

ii Mark: BENESOUEF (in red)

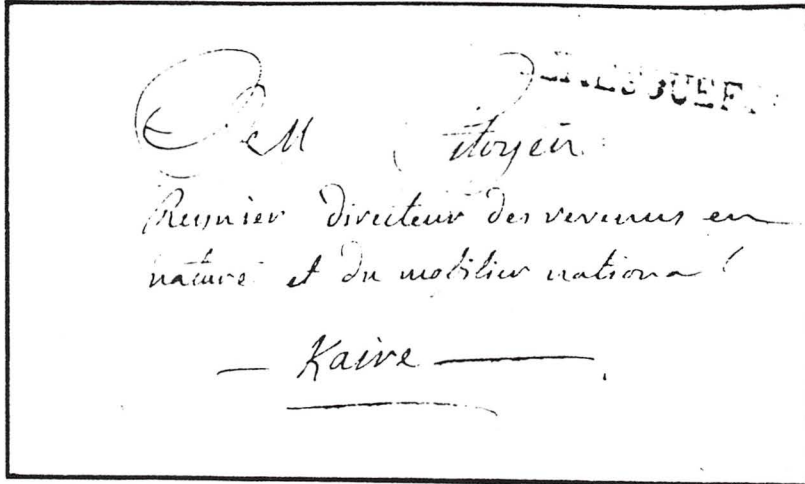


Fig. 8 1 Undated letter from General Moran of Damietta, addressed to Major-General Belliard in Cairo, to inform him of a 2-day inspection by Captain Vidal with the Dromedary Corps and exploring the route towards Syria.

ii Mark: DAMIETTE (in black)

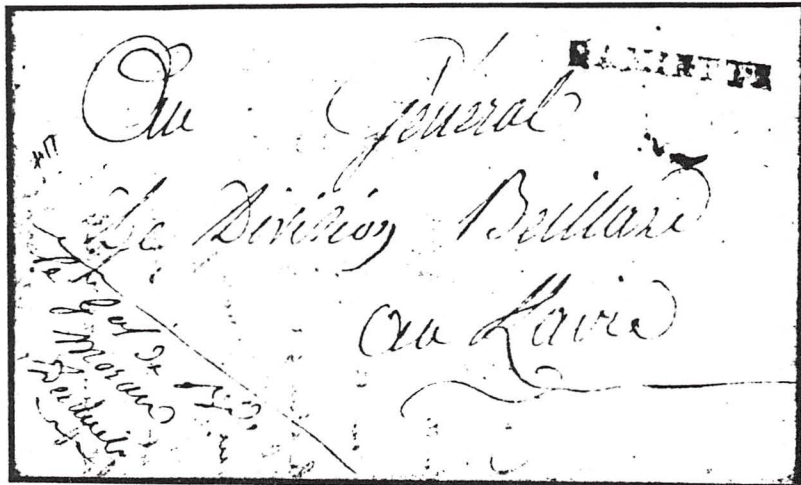


Fig. 9 1 Outer cover from Rosetta addressed to General Regnyer, commandant of the First Division of the Army of the East.

ii Mark: ROSETTE (in black)

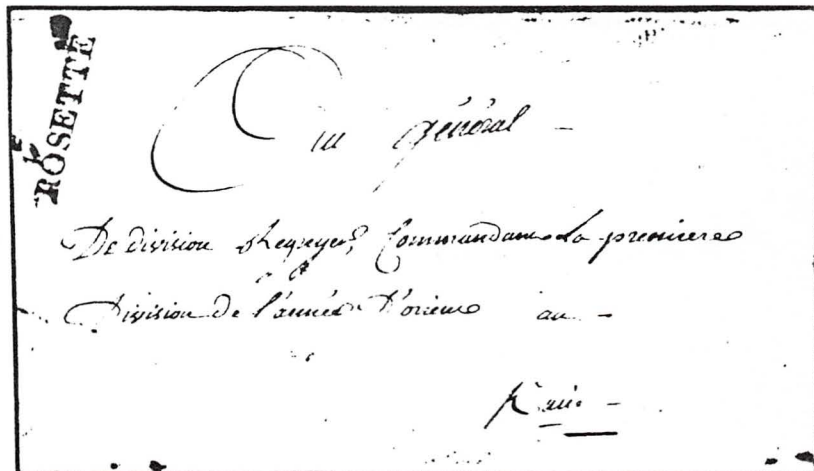


Fig. 10

- i Receipt for one purchase of twelve dromedaries for the French troops in Siouth, Upper Egypt, on 24th July 1800.
- ii The receipt, for an amount of 60,000 mudins, was written in French, Italian and Arabic and signed by the Chief of Brigade Commanders in the Siouth Region, General Eppler.

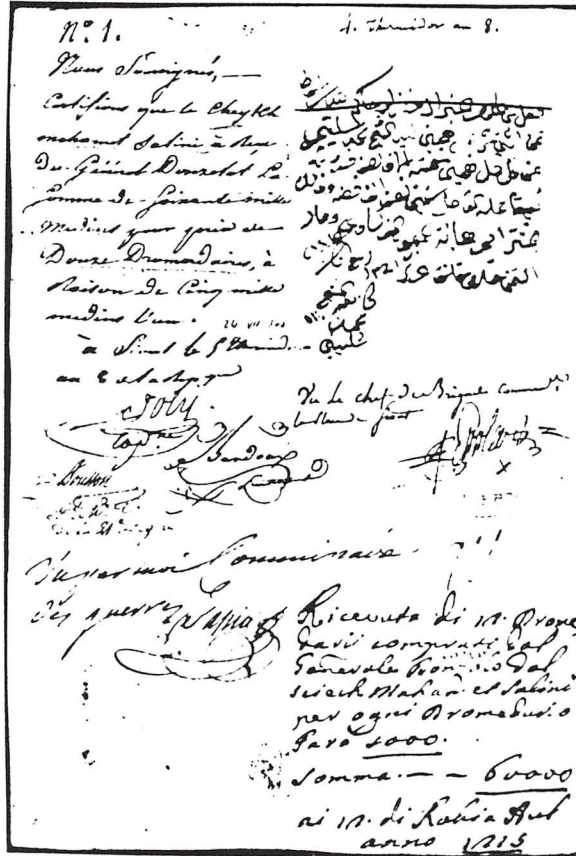
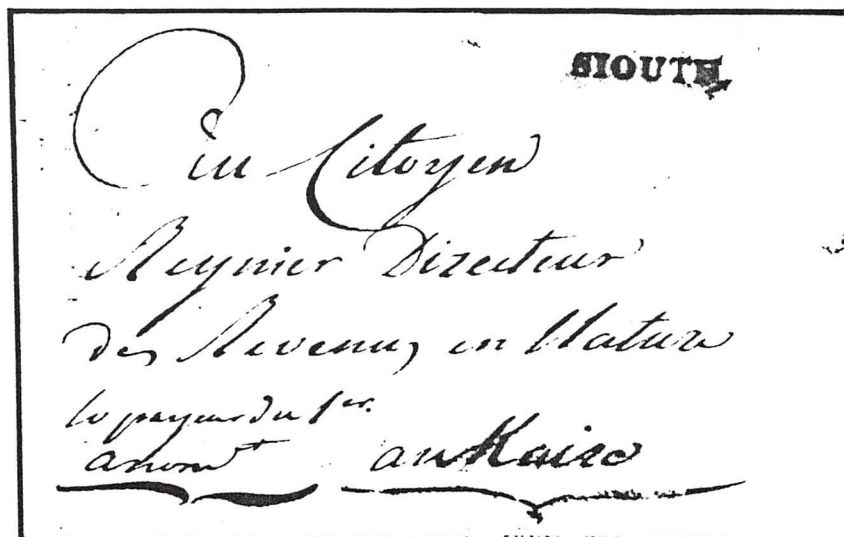


Fig. 11

- i Letter from Siouth dated 23rd December 1800, addressed to Citizen Reynier, director of "revenue in kind and movable property" in Cairo, advising the sending of five barges of wheat.
- ii Mark: SIOUTH (in red)



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)

Commemorative Stamps

	<u>SG 1653</u>	<u>SG 1654</u>
Occasion	Veterans' Day	International Garden Festival
Date of Issue	26th March 1987	30th March 1987
Designer	Lotfy el Sawaf	Ibrahim el Torky
Design	Olive Branch, profile of Unknown Soldier and National colours	Trees, plants and Festival Emblem
Denomination	5 piastres	15 piastres (Air Mail)
Sheet	35 (5 x 7) No watermark	42 (7 x 6) Wmk sideways
Stamp dimensions	40 x 40 mm	40 x 40 mm
Perforation	11.5	13
Quantity printed	500,000	500,000 lithographed
Supplementary	The Veterans' Association was set up in 1951 and has over 100,000 members	The Festival was inaugurated on 30th March in Nasr City

	<u>SG 1655</u>	<u>SG 1656</u>
Occasion	- - - - Internatinal Health Day	- - - -
Date of Issue	- - - - - 7th April 1987	- - - - -
Designer	I el Torky & M Roushdy	I A el Tahtawi
Design	Baby receiving oral vaccination	Woman giving oral re-hydration therapy to baby
Denomination	5 piastres	5 piastres
Sheet	35 (5 x 7) No Watermark	35 (5 x 7) No Watermark
Stamp dimensions	40 x 40 mm	40 x 40 mm
Perforation	13	11.5
Quantity printed	500,000 lithographed	500,000
Supplementary	The theme of the Health Day is: "Vaccination is a security for every child"	

	<u>SG 1657</u>	<u>SG 1658</u>	<u>SG 1659</u>	<u>SG(MS) 1660</u>
Occasion	Egypt winning the	Football	Cups	of Africa
Date of Issue	- - - - -	19th April	1987	- - - - -
Designer	- - - - -	I. A.	El Tahtawi	- - - - -
Design	Africa Cup (El Zamalek team)	African Nations' Cup (National team)	African Cup-Winners' Cup (El Ahly team)	Flag, Cairo Stadium, and 3 Cups
Denomination	5 piastres	5 piastres	5 piastres	30 piastres
Sheet	- - - 42	(6 x 7)	Watermark Sideways	- - - Min. Sheet, No watermark
Stamp dimensions	30 x 50mm	30 x 50mm	30 x 50 mm	115 x 85 mm
Perforation	13	13	13	imperforate
Quantity printed	- - - - 150,000	each	lithographed	- - - - 60,000 litho
Supplementary	Numbers 1657-59 were printed together in se-tenant strips of three 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 1653



SG 1654



SG 1655



SG 1656



SG 1657



SG 1658



SG 1659



SG 1657 - 1660



SG MS 1660

CIVIL CENSORS IN THE CAIRO POSTAL MUSEUM

NOTES by J M Murphy (ESC 240)

Among the sadly-unheralded treasures of the Egyptian Postal Museum in Cairo lie a dozen and a half sheets of A4 paper, typed in English and covered with impressions of censor hand-stamps. They seem to form a file record of those persons or offices to whom the hand-stamps were entrusted as at June 15, 1944, the only date on the sheets.

The original order of the sheets in this record can no longer be ascertained, and the present order is at random. But what is clear is that the types of hand-stamps covered total three, and that each has a file number, even though that number may not appear on the hand-stamp. There are gaps in the file numbers (see below). The three types of hand-stamps are :-

1. (Boulad Type 7-8) Small (22mm diam) double-circle, with central figure in English, إدارة الرقابة *idarat ar-raqabat* (Department of Censorship) above, and CENSORSHIP DEPT. below;
2. (Boulad Types 34-60) Wide range of geometric shapes, either single or double-bordered, containing another single or double geometric figure, رقابة البريد *raqabat al-barid* (Censor of the Post) above and Postal Censor (not invariably in lower-case) below; but no number. Each of these figures has a file number alongside, but the method of allocation escapes me. Perhaps by language?
3. (Boulad Types 19-33) Similar to the last but larger, and with a central English figure.

In the following list I shall follow as closely as possible, consistent with sense, to the order of the Museum sheets. The illustrations are partly those of the ESC record and partly my own, and my comments are placed within square brackets.

[The illustrations for the following data sheets were taken from very poor copies and the contributor has gone to great effort to provide improved copies with good legibility. However, the actual impressions on cover are themselves, mainly, very poor and the first illustration on each page has been left unimproved to serve as a guide. It is likely that actual impressions found will more closely resemble these than the illustrations which have been improved - Editor.]

1. Boulad Types 7-8

[Impression in purple]

1. The above is the only impression of the undermentioned Metal Stamps.
2. They are in use by the following:-

Stamp No.	To Whom Issued
1	Omar Rouchdy Effendi
3	Commercial Section
5	Despatch Section
8	Machine Room
11	" "
23	" "
24	Commercial Section
39	" "
46	Transit Section
58	Internee Section
71	Registered Section
77	" "
79	" "
82	Omar Rouchdy Effendi
87	Sorting Section
96	Despatch Section
105	Sorting Section
107	Despatch Section
110	C.P.C.HQ. Delegate at G.P.O.
111	Registered Section
112	Travellers Effects Section
114	" " "
118	Reception & Despatch Section

[NOTES: C.P.C.HQ. presumably Central Postal Censorship Headquarters.

No date for this sheet - but the preamble says "in use by"; thus presumably this is a restating of a position rather than an issue of hand-stamps. In which case, how are the gaps in the file explained; and why such different numbers for the same sections?

Who was the only named person - Omar Rouchdy?]


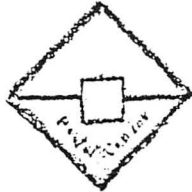


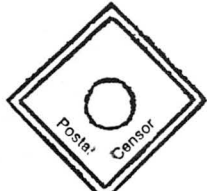


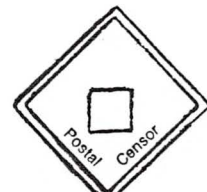

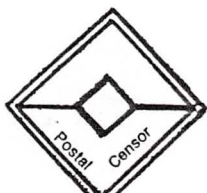
2. Boulad Types 34-60

[In the lists that follow I have followed the order as on the sheets, but to save space have used two columns instead of one, where possible. All impressions are in purple except as noted.]

Official Pass-Stamps Issued in C.P.C.HQ. on 15th June 1944

Impressions

Diamonds

<u>No.</u>	<u>Impression</u>	<u>To Whom Issued</u>		
Single-bordered diamond with a square or oblong				
159		Mr. L.Racnos		No. 159 (unimproved)
Double-bordered diamond with a circle				
165		Mr. P.R.Simeonides	167	 Mr. M.J.Drossos
168		Mr. L.Ellegard	175	 Mr. J.Massabki
Double-bordered diamond with a square or oblong				
166		Mr. M.Sherman	172	 Mr. E.Courmi
179		Miss R.Halfon	180	 Mrs. E.Atkins

VARIETIES IN EGYPT PHILATELY

CLASSIFIED BY TYPE RATHER THAN CHRONOLOGICALLY - Part 3

derived from Album Pages exhibited by Arch. Samir A Fikry (ESC 305)

VARIETY TYPE 6 - Overprinting varieties.

As is well known, there are always many varieties where overprints are concerned.

Examples illustrated :-

Fig. 26 Type 6a Double bar (deleting CAIRO) on 15m value, 1926 commemorative of the inauguration of Port Fuad.

Type 6b 1926 surcharges on 1926 Agricultural Exhibition :-

Fig. 27a Broken "5" on 5-mills surcharge on 50 mills (shows on 17th stamp on every sheet)

Fig. 27b Broken "S" on 10-mills surcharge on 100 mills (shows on 41st stamp on every sheet)

Fig. 27c Broken "M" on 15-mills surcharge on 200 mills (shows on 24th stamp on every sheet)

Fig. 27d Double overprint on 15-mills surcharge on 200 mills

Type 6c 1946 overprint (Cairo Aviation Congress) on 1941 issue, 10-mills value :-

Fig. 28a Misplaced overprint

Fig. 28b Double overprint

Fig. 28c Inverted overprint

Type 6d 1943 overprint of year "1943" on 1940 issue for Child Welfare Fund, to form a commemorative issue of the 5th birthday of Princess Ferial: there is a known error of "1493" instead of "1943" in the Arabic figures, on 98th stamp on every sheet (not illustrated).

VARIETY TYPE 7 - Stamps printed on the gummed side: only one sheet each is recorded of the following issues :-

Type 7a Definitive issue, 1937, 2 mills and 100 mills

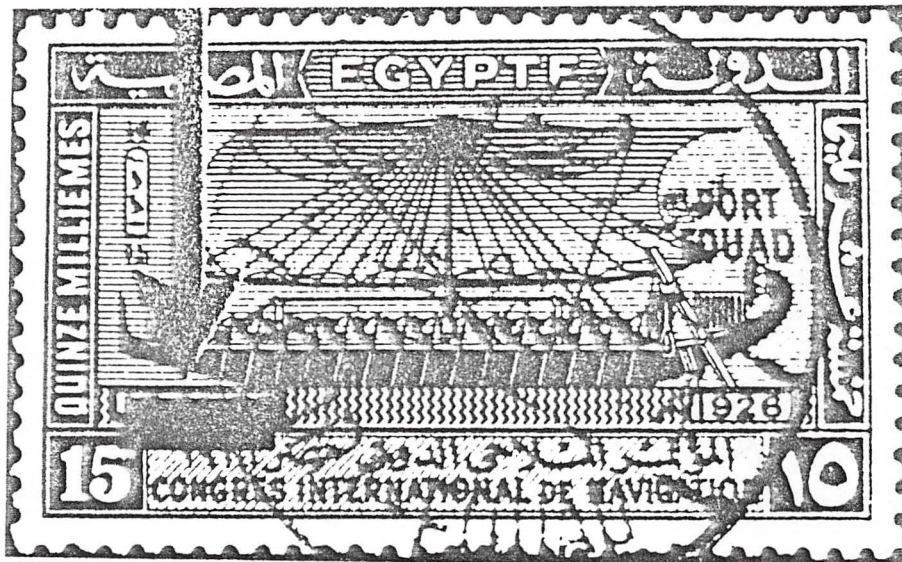
Type 7b Definitive issue, 1944, 10, 15 and 20 mills

[The photographs of varieties, type 7, are not suitable for printing from; in any case they cannot, of course, show that the printing is on the gummed side - Editor]

(Completion of Varieties of the Monarchy Period)

VARIETIES IN EGYPT PHILATELY

Fig. 26 Type 6a Double bar (deleting CAIRO)
on 15m value, 1926 commemorative of the
inauguration of Port Fuad.



Varieties of the 1946 overprint (Cairo Aviation Congress)
on 1941 issue, 10-mills value :-



Fig. 28a Misplaced overprint

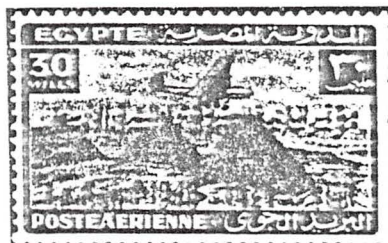


Fig. 28b

Double overprint

Fig. 28c Inverted overprint



VARIETIES IN EGYPT PHILATELY

Varieties of 1926 surcharges on 1926 Agricultural Exhibition

Fig. 27a Surcharge variety Broken "5"



Fig. 27b Surcharge variety Broken "S"

Fig. 27c Surcharge variety Broken "M"



Fig. 27d Surcharge variety Double surcharge

(the "fading" at right is not real but is due to the photography of the original stamp - Editor)

International Express Mail Service

by J Sears (ESC 188)

This service (known as 'Data Post' in the UK) has been established to guarantee the quickest possible delivery of mail, but it is difficult to determine whether it has proved effective in practice. At a recent Circle meeting a member present quite definitely stated that, as far as post to the Continent was concerned, his firm preferred to rely on the GPO "Swiftair" service, it being far cheaper and just as reliable.

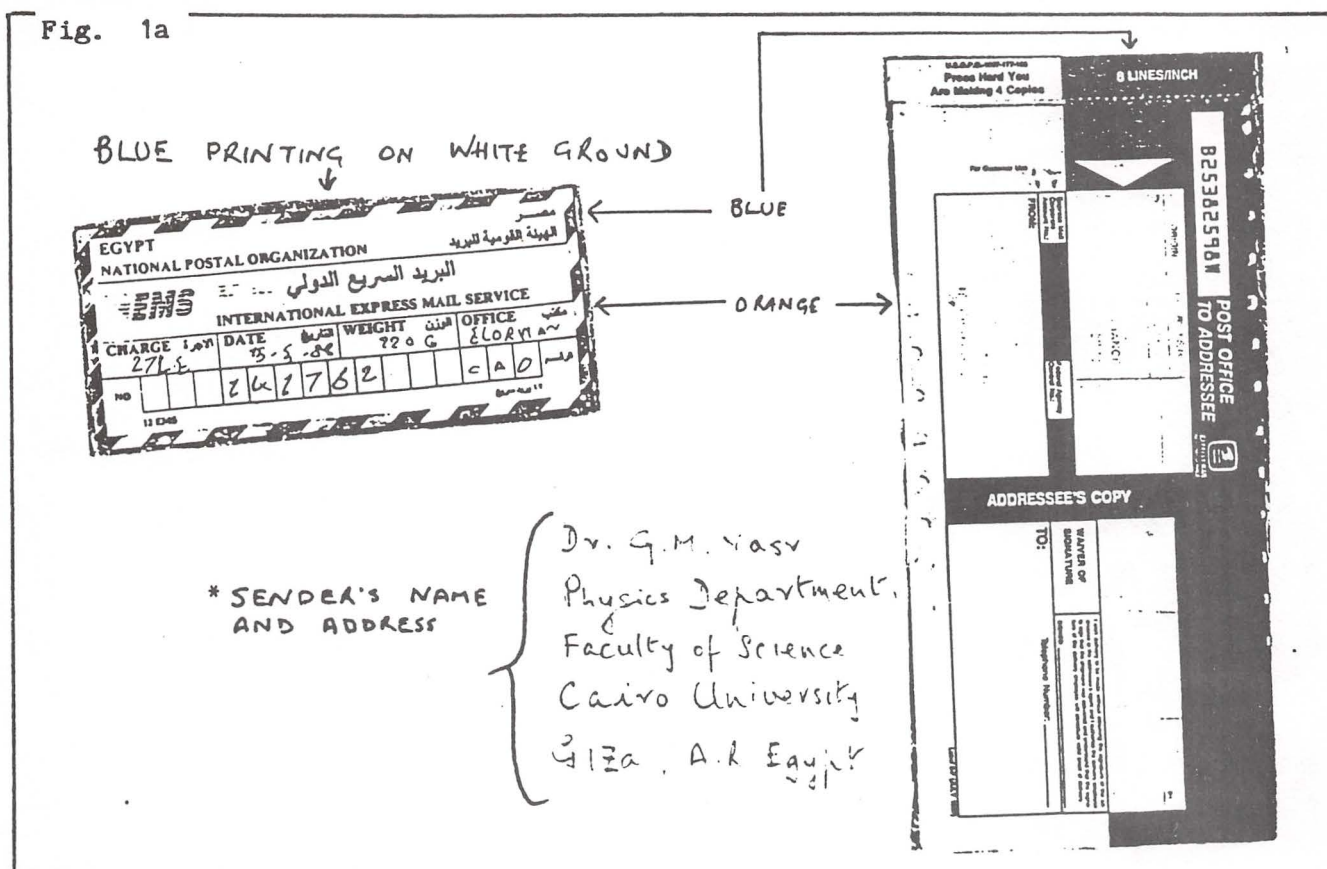


Figure 1(a) is a reduced illustration of the reverse of an E.M.S. cover from Egypt to Ann Arbor, Michigan, USA, the full size being 385mm x 250mm. The *address appears on the obverse, of course. No stamps nor Airmail Cachet appear. The Form on the right is American, and the original (unfortunately too lightly typed to appear on this photocopy) contains these details :-

Airport of entry - JFK
Date - 05.18.88 (= 18th May)
From - Country EG City CAI
Customs Clearance.

In the right-hand panel of this Form appear :-

Destination: Date of Delivery 5/19/88 (= 19th May)
Time of Delivery 10.30 am
Space for details of addressee.

The printed details in the top half of both left and right panels are in orange, the colours blue and orange being internationally accepted for this service.

/ continued . . .

The International Express Mail Service - continued

Fig. 1b


EGYPT		مصر	
NATIONAL POSTAL ORGANIZATION		الهيئة القومية للبريد	
		البريد السريع الدولي	
INTERNATIONAL EXPRESS MAIL SERVICE			
CHARGE 27 £	الاجرة	DATE 15-5-88	التاريخ
WEIGHT 220 G	الوزن	OFFICE ELORMAN	مكتب
NO	241762	CAO	الرقم
12 EMS		١٢ برید سریع	

Figure 1(b) shows the Egyptian EMS label, full size.

Charge	-	£E 27	
Date	-	15.5.88	(= 15th May)
Weight	-	220 gms	
Office	-	??	(suggestions please !)
Number	-	141762	. . . CAO (presumably Cairo)

At first glance the cost of sending the packet seems exorbitant, but the charge for Datapost from the UK to USA (East Coast) is £ 18 for the first 500 gms and £ 1.50 for each subsequent 500 gms (or part of). From UK to Egypt it is £ 25 for the first 500 gms, and £ 5.50 for each subsequent 500 gms (or part of). The date of posting in Cairo was 15th May (a Sunday), date of receipt in Ann Arbor 19th May, probably as quick as could be expected, taking into account the two probable changeover points of New York and Detroit.

Fig. 2a



NATURAL GAS PROJECTS COMPANY		شركة مشروعات الغاز الطبيعي
	DORMAN DIESELS LTD. CENTRAL SPARES DIVISION, LINCOLN, FIRTH Rd.	
VIA AIR MAIL	UNITED KINGDOM	
2 Midan Kasr El Doubara Garden City Cairo. Tel. 22762-21689 P.O. Box 1478 Cable : PRONATGAS		٢ ميدان قصر الدوبارة - جاردن سيتي القاهرة تليفون ٢٢٧٦٢ - ٢١٦٨٩ ص.ب : ١٤٧٨ عنوان تليفرافي : بروتيجاس


Fig. 2a is a reduced illustration (full size 230mm x 150mm) of a cover showing an earlier use of the service: it came to light following a discussion with Mr Robin Bertram (ESC 137).

/ continued . . .

The International Express Mail Service - continued

In this case evidence that the postage was paid appears on the face of the covert in the shape of the Postage Paid cachet, the full size of which is 40mm x 48mm.

Fig. 2b

 البريد السريع ١٣ EMS	البريد السريع INT-EXPRESS MAIL SERVICE.		
	رقم العقد CONTRACT. NO.	الوزن WEIGHT 10g	مكتب OFFICE CAIRO
رقم المادة ITEM. NO 11392	الرسم CHARGE £15	التاريخ DATE 2, 1984	

This is the label (full size) which appears on the reverse of the cover illustrated as Fig. 2a. The printing is in blue on a white ground, but the small letter shown held in the hand of the motif is in orange.

The details seem to be :-

Weight	10 gms
Office	Cairo
Item No.	11392
Charge	£E 15
Date	2.10.84 (= 2nd October)

Unfortunately there is no trace of arrival.

I should like any one of our members in Egypt to send me the Egyptian Post Office leaflet (if there is one) setting out the details of the Express Mail for inclusion in the ESC Air Mail Study Records.

[]	In conclusion, and speaking as a chairman of Egypt	[]
[]	Study Circle, I feel it would be most useful if	[]
[]	someone in Egypt would kindly volunteer to act as	[]
[]	the Circle's Correspondent, supplying us with	[]
[]	regular news of Postage Rate changes as they	[]
[]	occur, FOR PUBLICATION IN THE QC. Such details	[]
[]	are very difficult for us to obtain and I am sure	[]
[]	that students of Egypt Postal History now, and	[]
[]	the future, will welcome the availability of such	[]
[]	records.	[]

JOURNAL OFFICIEL - January to May 1926

Extracts by J M Murphy (ESC 240)

1926 comment by JMM

Arrangements for temporary POs and commemoratives marking Agriculture/Industry Exhibition; King's Birthday commem announced; issue of 27mills Air Mail stamp and restrictions on its use; further extension to Express service and (at last) official Decree giving it royal approval.

Jan 11 (3,4): It has been observed that certain messengers entrusted with the withdrawal of correspondence from the private letter boxes are not capable of reading the numbers of the boxes and try to open those belonging to other subscribers.

As the practice may result in the deterioration of the locks or in the eventual loss of correspondence should the boxes be accidentally opened, the Postmaster-General has the honour to request the subscribers to private letter boxes to send messengers acquainted with the reading of numbers exclusively, drawing their attention to the necessity of ascertaining the number of the box before opening it.

The Postmaster-General has the honour to inform the public that Postal Guide No 43 for 1925, which is also effective for 1926, has appeared and may be purchased from all Post Offices at the price of 50mills. Any modifications appearing in the course of the year will be communicated to the Post Offices for compliance and for the information of the public where necessary.

The Postmaster-General has the honour to inform the public that the Postal Administration has in stock a remaining quantity of the Geographical Congress postage stamps of the 5mill denomination exclusively. These stamps are being put on sale at Cairo, Alexandria and Port Said Local Directorates of Posts, up to March 15, 1926.

Jan 14 (4,6): It is observed that certain senders of parcels destined to be delivered by special messenger omit to indicate the address of the addressees in a clear and complete manner, delaying the parcel.

Siwa PO admitted to Inland Telegraphic Money Order service, Feb 1.

Jan 21 (6,4): Armant PO admitted to Inland Telegraphic Money Order service.

Jan 25 (7,5): Notice clarifying the last two: "Inland" includes Sudan.

Abu Zaabal Quarries PO will be admitted to the exchange of insured letters, boxes and parcels not exceeding L.E.20 in value from Feb 1.

Feb 8 (11,5): Class 3 Post Offices are to be opened on February 1 at Dandit, Bichla, Barhamtouche, Nekita, Bayoum and Kafr Allam.

Feb 11 (12,6): Further to the notice published in the press [Note - not published in JO] on January 30, 1926, the Postmaster-General has the honour to inform the public that according to the request of the Exhibition Authorities, the opening of the temporary Post Office at the Agricultural and Industrial Exhibition, Gezira (Cairo), has been postponed to February 15, 1926.

Feb 15 (13,9): A Class 2 PO also admitted to the Savings Bank service will be opened at Ezbet el Burg (near Damietta) on February 16.

The Postmaster-General has the honour to inform the public that on the occasion of the Agricultural and Industrial Exhibition which will be held in Gezira, Cairo, from February 20, 1926, a commemorative postage stamp representing ploughing in Egypt by means of the ordinary plough has been issued in six denominations, ie 5, 10, 15, 50, 100 and 200mills.

(Continued.....)

EXTRACTS FROM THE JOURNAL OFFICIEL - continued

1926 - 11

Feb 15 continued...

The new commemorative postage stamps will be sold at the chief Post Offices of Governorates and Mudiriehs between February 20 and May 20, 1926, inclusively, and will be used in the Inland and Foreign services for the prepayment of letters, postcards, commercial papers, samples, printed matter, impressions in relief for the use of the blind, insured letters and boxes and parcels.

The new postage stamps will be valuable for prepayment during the above period only, and any articles prepaid therewith with effect from May 21, 1926, will be considered as being unprepaid and consequently taxed.

Feb 18 (14,2): Abu Suweir PO admitted to the exchange of Inland, Sudan and International Money Orders from March 1.

Feb 25 (17,5): The Postmaster-General has the honour to inform the public that Biala and Mellawi have been admitted to house to house delivery of correspondence.

Mar 4 (20,5): The Postmaster-General has the honour to inform the public that with a view to facilitating the despatch by Air Mail of letters addressed to Baghdad, a special postage stamp of the value of 27mills has been issued for the prepayment of ordinary correspondence (per port of 20gm or fraction) which are to be conveyed by air to the above destination.

These postage stamps will be put in circulation from March 10, 1926, and will be sold at the windows of the principal Post Offices of Governorates and Mudiriehs.

Mar 7 (Special): Royal Decree modifying Decree of 3 October 1921 fixing import charges on tobacco.

Mar 11 (23,6): Dekernes has been admitted to house to house delivery of correspondence; Dishna will be so admitted from March 10. From March 8, Kafr Shuqr PO will perform the duties of a No 2 PO, including the Savings Bank service.

During Ramadan (Mar 15 to April 13) the Cash and Parcels section of the Alexandria, Cairo, Port Said and Suez Post Offices will close daily at 5pm instead of 6pm.

Mar 22 (26,4): A Class 3 Post Office has been opened at Mit el Korashi. The work will be carried out by the Stationmaster.

Mar 25 (27,3): At the request of Greece, the inauguration of the Insured Letters service will be further postponed, to further notice instead of on Apr 1.

The Postmaster-General has the honour to inform the public that on the occasion of the Birthday of His Majesty the King Fouad I, Sunday hours will be observed on Friday March 26, 1926, in all Post Offices.

Apr 1 (30,8): The Postal Administration informs the public that on the occasion of the Anniversary of the Birthday of His Majesty the King, a new commemorative P.T. 50 postage stamp has been issued and is now on sale for the prepayment of postal matter until exhaustion of the available stock.

Apr 5 (33,6): Shibin el Qanatir admitted to house to house delivery of correspondence from April 9; A Class 2 Post Office has been opened at El Alaqi (Upper Egypt).

Apr 8 (34,6): State Railways, Telegraphs and Telephones announcement of "new telegraph form with coloured designs on it" which will come into force on April 12, for messages of a congratulatory nature. Surcharged 20mills for up to 25 words, and 20mills for each extra 25 words of part thereof, above the normal cost. Restricted to Cairo, Alexandria, Port Said, Suez, Tanta, Mansura, Zagazig, Minia and Assiut.

EXTRACTS FROM THE JOURNAL OFFICIEL - continued

1926 - 111

Apr 19 (37,4): The Postmaster-General has to draw attention to the fact that the 27mills postage stamp recently issued is especially made for prepayment of ordinary correspondence only for despatch by Air Mail from Egypt to Baghdad.

It should not be used for prepayment of correspondence either exchanged in the interior or addressed abroad

Henceforth all correspondence exchanged in Egypt or destined for abroad and prepaid by the above mentioned stamp will be charged as unprepaid and will be taxed as usual.

Class 2 Post Offices also admitted to the Savings Bank have been opened: Shatanuf (Menoufia) Apr 10; Kafr Rabii and Astanha (Menoufia), Shandawil (Girge) Apr 12. Class 3 PO opened at Saft el Enab April 1st.

Japan calls for an itemised Customs note on all insured parcels and boxes containing commercial articles.

Noting an increased in returned correspondence, China advises that the names of the office of destination and its province should be carefully written in Chinese characters, according to the Official List published by the Chinese Postal Service and in the Dictionary of the International Office, Berne; and to wrap the parcel in thick paper.

Since no Post Office exists at El Hodaida (Yemen), ordinary correspondence duly prepaid for that locality will be accepted and despatched only via Aden. Insufficiently or not prepaid ordinary correspondence addressed to Hodaida, as well as registered items, will not be accepted.

Apr 26 (39,6): Class 3 PO opened at Hafs (Behera).

May 4 (42,9): Naqada admitted to house to house delivery.

The Postmaster-General has the honour to invite the attention of the public to the necessity of prepaying correspondence addressed to Ministries and Government Departments as already prescribed in the Egyptian Postal Guide (Egyptian edn, page 35, second paragraph).

Class 2 PO and Savings Bank opened on May 7 at Kafr el Ghanamieh (Menoufia), El Shawashna (Fayoum), El Douer (Asyut).

May 17 (46,10): The Postmaster-General has the honour to inform the public that the Registration in Departure Section of the Alexandria Central Post Office will be transferred to other quarters in the same premises with effect from May 17, its entrance in rue Caillard Pasha, opp. Claims Section.

May 20 (48,4): The Postmaster-General has to direct the attention of the public to the necessity of inscribing on the parcels exactly the same address as shown on the related despatch notes, as the slightest difference would result in delay in delivery of the parcels to the addressees.

Following the notice published in the press [not in JO] yesterday, the Postmaster-General has the honour to inform the public that the P&O mail which arrived at Port Said today also comprised only a portion of the mails usually sent from Great Britain to Egypt.

May 24 (49,4): The Telegraphs and Telephones headquarters (of the Egyptian State Railways, Telegrpahs and Telephones) will remove to a new building in Shareh El Maleka Nazli on May 24, 1926.

Mr Murphy's extracts from the Journal Officiel for June to December 1926 will appear in the December 1988 issue of The QC - Editor