

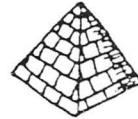


The Quarterly Circular

March Quarter 1994 - Whole Series No. 168

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EGYPT STUDY



CIRCLE

CONTENTS

Officers, Forthcoming Meetings, 110, Editors Notes, In this Issue 111, Secretary's Report, Membership News, Study Circle Meetings 112, Chairman's Report for 1993, 114, Accounts and Balance Sheet for 1993, 115, Auction Accounts for 1993, 117.

ARTICLES

1941-6 Air Mail Issue P.E. Whetter	118
The 2½ Piastre of 1874: Substituted Stereos and Three States of the Plate P.A.S. Smith	121
New Issues - SG 1843 -1862 (17 Mar 1992 - 2 Jan 1993) C.E.H. Defriez	123
Air Mail Cachet - Transatlantic Service from Lagos, 1945 J. Sears	129
Letters	
1st Fuad Issue - 5 mills Imperforate Reply	R. Bloomer 130 J. Sears
Another Crowned Circle Frank of the British Post Office at Alexandria	R. Bertram 131
Forgeries - 1879 Provisionals on Cover	P.A.S. Smith 132 K. Wolfsbauer 133

continued on back page

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RECORD: Mr. D.H. Clarke, UK

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

May 14th Cancellations of Minor Towns and Villages up to
1939. J. Sears

July 9th De la Rue Watermarks. J.A. Revell

September 19th 1972 Officials (an introduction) and "New
Issues" C.E.H. Defriez

November 12th British Consular Post Offices in Alexandria and
Cairo. D.J. Davis and P.R. Bertram

Meetings are normally held at the Victory Club, Seymour Street,
Marble Arch, London. Members usually congregate in the Bar from
1.00 p.m. onwards and meetings start at 2.30 p.m.

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EDITORS NOTES

In the last issue, John Sears paid tribute to the work of John Grimmer as previous editor. He mentioned that the Circle had presented him with two watercolour essays of unaccepted Egypt stamp designs. I have received the following letter of thanks.

48 York Road
New Barnet
Herts EN5 1LJ

Dear Dr. Dahl,

Thank you to the Egypt Study Circle for the kind gift of two framed unaccepted artist's designs for postage stamps conveyed to me by Robin Bertram.

They make attractive pictures and I am most grateful.

With best wishes to you all,

Yours sincerely,

JOHN A.GRIMMER

Being a very junior member of the Circle, I have never had the opportunity of meeting John. However I do have a complete run of QCs and one has only briefly to look through them to appreciate the improvements in format and content which he instituted during his tenure of the editorship. I would like to add my own thanks to him for leaving our journal in such good heart.

IN THIS ISSUE

This number contains the administrative details of the Circle's activities for 1993. These are not perhaps the items of greatest interest to which most members will first turn. Nevertheless, it is important to remember that the well being of the Circle is dependent on the hard work of the individuals who undertake these tasks. My own job as editor is fascinating and exciting and the end result is more than sufficient reward. However, auditing accounts and extracting subscriptions from impecunious (?) members is less exciting. John Sears draws attention to the less than glamorous work of some of our Officers in his Chairman's Report for 1993.

Pip Whetter has contributed a most interesting article on the 1941 Airmail Issue. Careful study of his enormous collection of Control blocks has provided new evidence for two printings of the 5 mill value. Fascinating new information on the flaws and printing of the 1874 2½ piastre is detailed by Peter Smith. The author tells me that none of this information has been previously published and that it is based on "conversations with Dr. Byam many years ago" together with his own observations over a prolonged period. Cyril Defriez

contributes another of his meticulous articles on New Issues. I regret that a few errors occurred in his previous contribution to the Series and corrections and additions will be found at the end of this one. Airjottings continue to fly piloted once again by John Sears.

The letters column continues to expand and flourish - so much so that the index has had to overflow from the front cover! Letters are beginning to cover an increasingly wide range of topics and interests and I am delighted with the development of the column so far. Do continue to write - my postbag for the next issue suggests that you will!

Michael Dahl, Editor.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

AWARDS AT EXHIBITIONS

At the Nordic Exhibition "NORDIA 1993" last May Anatole Ott (ESC 261) gained a Vermeil award for Egypt Postal History 1843-1914. At Bangkok in October 1993 he gained a Large Vermeil award for TPO Cancellations and not for Hotel Cancellations as reported previously (QC No. 167 Dec 1993, p.82).

NEW MEMBERS AND THEIR INTERESTS

- ESC 438 MR. ROGER THOMAS
1830 North Verdugo R, Apt. 308,
Glendale, California 91208, USA.
19th century errors, proofs, essays and
20th century varieties.
- ESC 439 MR. WILLIAM F. LEAHY Jnr
8005 - D Traynor Court, Fort Meade,
Maryland 20755, USA.
Egypt, Arab Middle East, King Farouk material.
- ESC 440 MR. JOHN E. LARKIN
5 Executive Circle,
Reading, Pennsylvania 19606, USA.
Classical Egypt.

Meeting on 8th January 1994

Present:	P. Andrews	H. Barker	P.J. Beckett
	P.R. Bertram	D.J. Davis	C.E. Defriez
	G.M. Dorman	P. Grech	S. Horesh
	G.A. Jeyes	A. Schmidt	J. Sears

There were apologies from:

W.C. Andrews	S. Bunce	J. Chellingsworth
M.G.C. Dahl	E. Frazer-Smith	J.M. Murphy

The Chairman wished everyone a happy New Year and looked forward to an interesting programme. Unfortunately one of the speakers, John Chellingsworth, could not be present due to ill health. Those present wished him a speedy recovery.

The Chairman reiterated the need for ideas and suggestions to celebrate 1995 - the 60th year of founding of our Study Circle.

The first part of the meeting was led by Tony Schmidt on Interpostal Seals. He dealt with the first three types and had clearly advanced the subject well beyond the work of the late Ernest Kehr. He had managed to identify different types or settings of Types I, II and III. Attempts were being made to identify the numbers printed on each sheet and their positions. Mention was made of the valuable work which had been done by Dennis Clarke on this subject.

The second part of the meeting was led by Peter Grech on the "Paquebot" markings of the Suez Canal. Standing in for John Chellingsworth he dealt very ably with the subject. He started by giving a brief history which led up to Sea Post Office and paquebot markings. He mentioned the UPU Congress of 4th July 1891 held in Vienna which stated that all countries in the Union which had posts in the harbours on sea routes should apply the markings to mail coming off the ships. Assisted by members present who had brought a wealth of material, he showed examples of the 'Pleine Mer', 'Ufficio Natante' and paquebot markings for Port Said, Suez and Port Taufiq. Much discussion took place on the different types of 'paquebot' marks and the debate became especially lively while trying to determine how many types there were of the circular Port-Said paquebot markings (ESC types 4 and 4.05). It is hoped that something will appear in the QC to generate further research.

The Chairman thanked both Tony and Peter for their talks and displays and for a very absorbing afternoon.

THE ASSOCIATION OF BRITISH PHILATELIC SOCIETIES

Many members, especially in the United Kingdom, will know that the British Philatelic Federation (BPF) ceased to exist last year. There were many reasons for this, the main one being lack of finance. A new and better run Federation/Society has since been formed called The Association of British Philatelic Societies. This Association began on 1st January 1994. The Egypt Study Circle had always been a member of the BPF and because of our total membership it used to cost us £50 per year. The new Association's subscription is 50p per UK member and therefore it now costs us less to be a member - £31.50. Although membership benefits the provincial societies in the UK slightly better than it does the ESC (a specialist society) it is certainly worthwhile being a member and we do get new members through this. I am the ESC representative with the Association and if any ESC member has any queries or problems with the ABPS he or she should contact me.

Robin Bertram, Secretary

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT FOR 1993

The year showed a small net increase in membership. Attendances at our bi-monthly meetings were maintained at the usual level. There is always plenty of room for more members to join us at the Victory Club and they can be certain of a warm welcome.

Recently I was looking at the wide range of topics we have covered at the meetings over the past 10/12 years. There has been little or no duplication of subject matter, and I feel that this displays the immense diversity of interests in Egypt Philately. We depend, of course, on an active membership. Once someone has got past the stage of being a general collector of Egypt (as we all were at some time) and progresses to concentrating on a few particular aspects, he or she may be expected to contribute to the overall work of the Circle. I feel that this "contribution" can take many forms; mere attendance at the meetings for example, perhaps asking questions and chatting to the other members helps to support the person leading the subject that day. Submitting questions to the Editor of the QC for publication will bring answers, again for publication and notes (perhaps just a single paragraph) for the QC. I think the golden rule here is not to feel shy about such things. Dr. Byam's original concept of a "Circle" was an organisation for mutual help and I should like to think that this still applies. However contribution and participation by as many members as possible is the key to future progress.

From a functional point of view, we could not hope to survive without the involvement and input of a team of 'officials' joined this year by Mike Dahl who is already doing a fine, professional job with the QC. This is our main communication link with the worldwide membership and the thanks of all of us are due to Mike for this vital work. Robin Bertram handles the administration most competently and is a very tenacious collector of subscriptions. I like to think that there is little chance of the Circle failing financially while he is in charge. Robin has co-opted Dr. Nabil El Hadidi to act as our agent in Egypt who collects subscriptions there and also acts as a distributor of QC's and Auction Catalogues. This is a most efficient method of dealing with these matters and our thanks are due to Nabil for his help; as they are also of course to Charlie Hass who collects the subs in North America who has the same enthusiasm as Robin for making sure that members do not forget when payment is due. This is the first year Stephen Bunce (ESC 272, a professional Accountant) has agreed to audit the accounts and we are grateful to him for this.

The Auctions are still very popular, we seem to be getting more bidders each time and most are successful to some degree. Mike Murphy has continued to produce the Catalogue in spite of major domestic difficulties, and Alan Jeyes is most efficient at sending out the Lots bought. Many thanks to both of you.

John Sears, Chairman

EGYPT STUDY CIRCLE

INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT (GENERAL ACCOUNT)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 1993

	1992	1993
Income		
Subscriptions	1,925.00	2,023.80
Library Account	200.00	190.00
Auction Account	150.00	100.00
Bank Deposit Interest		
Received (Net)	42.05	9.10
Members Contributions	27.50	60.49
Sale of Ties (50)	-	283.00
Sundry Receipts	<u>20.90</u>	<u>12.00</u>
	2,365.45	2,678.39
Expenditure		
Meeting Room Hire	182.00	202.50
Cost of Quarterly Circular	771.61	1,305.17
Affiliation Fee - B.P.F.	50.00	-
Printing of Programme Cards	60.00	60.00
New Issues	-	13.85
Stationery	30.00	-
Cost of Ties Sold (50)	-	189.73
Retiring Treasurer's Honorarium	-	61.00
Secretary/Treasurer's Postages	44.11	49.78
Chairman's Postages	38.63	40.39
Depreciation of Photocopier (15%)	-	45.00
	<u>1,176.35</u>	<u>1,967.42</u>
Surplus of Income over Expenditure for the year	1,189.10	710.97
Surplus at 1st January 1993	<u>837.00</u>	<u>2,026.10</u>
Surplus at 31st December 1993	<u>£2,026.10</u>	<u>£2,737.07</u>

EGYPT STUDY CIRCLE

BALANCE SHEET (GENERAL ACCOUNT) AS AT 31 DECEMBER 1993

	1992	1993
Assets		
Circle Library & Records	-	-
Photocopier at cost less depreciation	300.00	255.00
Association of British Philatelic Societies 1994 Subscription Prepaid	-	31.50
Stock of Ties (156) at cost	-	592.29
Due from Library Account	-	190.00
Cash at Bank - Current Account	1,150.59	1,837.17
- Deposit Account	<u>1,063.01</u>	<u>499.11</u>
	2,513.60	3,405.07
Liabilities		
Members Subscriptions 1994-97	187.50	390.00
Cost of December Quarterly Circular	<u>300.00</u>	<u>278.00</u>
	487.50	668.00
	<u>£2,026.10</u>	<u>£2,737.07</u>
Representing Accumulated Surplus	<u>£2,026.10</u>	<u>£2,737.07</u>

I have prepared the Income and Expenditure Account and Balance Sheet on pages 1 and 2 from the records and explanations provided to me and confirm that they are in accordance therewith.



S W Bunce
Chartered Accountant

5 February 1994

EGYPT STUDY CIRCLE AUCTION ACCOUNTS

Profit & Loss A/c's	Auctions Held	
	Spring 1993	Autumn 1993
Net Sales	<u>7278.80</u>	<u>4962.30</u>
INCOMINGS		
7½% Com on Sales	545.91	372.17
Invoiced Postages	126.65	125.40
Postage costs owing	<u>58.31</u>	<u>15.15</u>
	<u>730.87</u>	<u>512.72</u>
OUTGOINGS		
Copying & postage of Catalogues	171.65	194.81
Post & Packaging of Lots	181.04	146.81
Sundry Expenses	45.83	49.11
Insurance		<u>18.75</u>
	<u>398.52</u>	<u>409.48</u>
NET PROFIT	<u>332.35</u>	<u>103.24</u>
	<u>730.87</u>	<u>512.72</u>

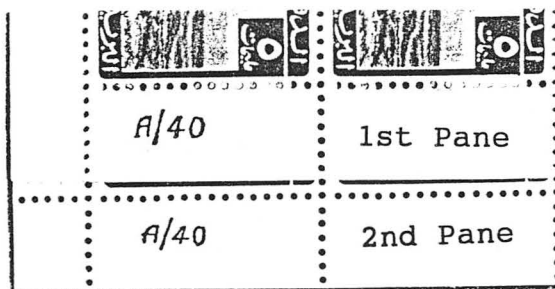
BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 1993

NET ASSETS	
Balance at Bank	1466.81
Less refunds due	<u>194.52</u>
	<u>1272.29</u>
SURPLUS OF CURRENT ASSETS	<u>1272.29</u>
AUCTION FUND	
Amount brought forward from 31st Dec 1993	836.70
Add profit from Auction 16 (Spring '93)	332.35
Auction 17 (Autumn '93)	103.24
	<u>1272.29</u>

1941-6 AIR MAIL ISSUE

P.E. Whetter (ESC 133)

Hitherto, I have accepted without question that stamps of this issue were printed in sheets of 100, ie two panes of 50 giving rise to no more than two different control blocks for each value. There are easily recognizable differences between the two control blocks for each value which, for the record, I have set out below.



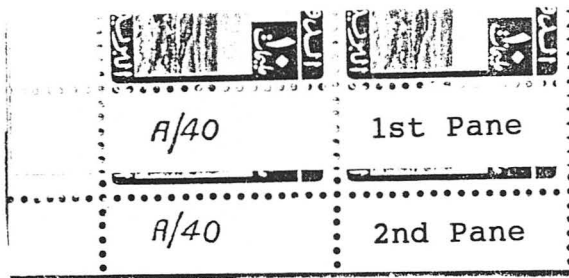
1st Pane

The crossbar of the 'A' does not extend beyond the uprights.

2nd Pane

The crossbar extends beyond the left hand upright.

5 mills A/40



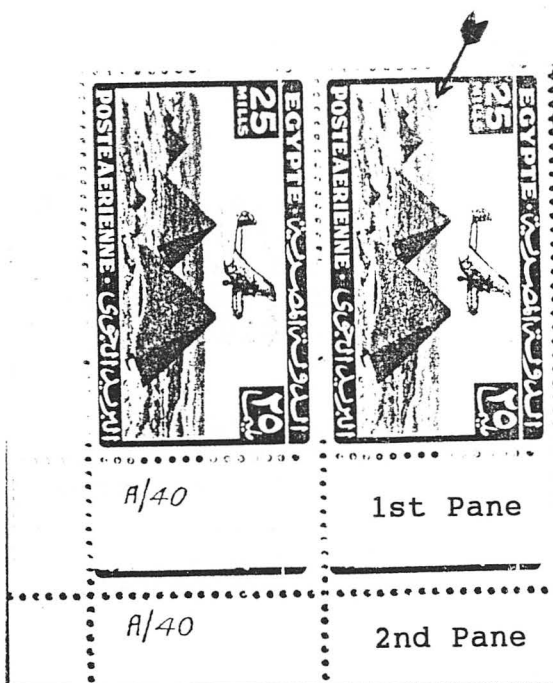
1st Pane

The figure '4' almost touches the stroke.

2nd Pane

There is a 1 mm. gap between the '4' and the stroke.

10 mills A/40



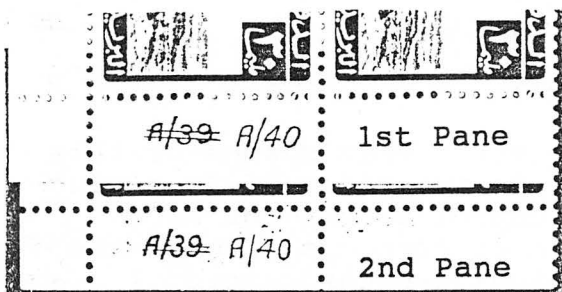
1st Pane

The 'O' slopes to the right. There is also a tiny dot on the horizon of stamp No. 45 3 mms. from the left hand border.

2nd Pane

The 'O' is rounder and more upright.

25 mills A/40

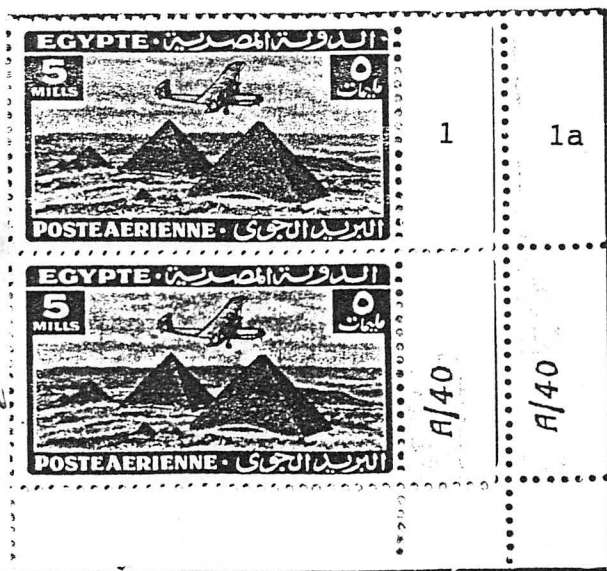


- 1st Pane The overall width of the control is 17 mms.
- 2nd Pane The overall width of the control is 16 mms. but this pane is easier to identify by the splatter of coloured dots around the control.

30 mills A/39 A/40

Recently, with nothing better to do, I started sorting my duplicate control blocks starting with the 5 mill A/40 of which I have 67. Fifteen of these proved to be first pane as described above and the remaining 52 second pane. However when I came to put the second pane blocks in a stock book I noticed a dot in the left hand margin adjacent to stamp No. 44 almost level with the horizon. A further examination of the second pane blocks showed that 24 had the dot and 28 did not. The 28 blocks without the dot, however, had a small dash to the left of the top of the 'A' and a small dot to the right of the top of the 'A'. All this plus other minor variations satisfied me that I was dealing with two quite distinct control blocks. This being so it was reasonable to assume that the 15 first pane blocks might also be capable of division and this proved to be the case. In 9 of the blocks there was a tiny spot in the margin to the left of stamp No. 50, 6 mms. below the horizon. There was no trace of a dot on the other six. Behind the control numbers on both types there is a faint coloured area which looks more like a stain. This is small, about 10 mms. wide and very faint in the blocks with a dot, but on the other blocks it can easily be seen and tapers off as far as the perforations across the margin to the right of the control number.

For ease of reference I have numbered the four blocks as follows and indicated how many of each type I possess.



- 1. Old type 1st Pane with dot in margin to left of stamp No. 50 plus a small indistinct area of colour behind the control number.
9 blocks.
- 1a. Old type 1st Pane without dot but with prominent large area of colour behind control number.
6 blocks.



2. Old type 2nd Pane with dot in margin to left of stamp No. 44. 24 blocks.
- 2a. Old type 2nd Pane without marginal dot but with a dot and a dash right and left of the top of the 'A'. 28 blocks.

Having satisfied myself without question that there are four distinct control blocks of the 5 mills value, the question arises whether they were printed in sheets of 200 (4 panes of 50). I think not. Had this been so I would expect to have accumulated roughly the same number of blocks from each pane. A more likely explanation is that there were two separate cylinders with control A/40 - the first comprising types 2 and 2a and the second - perhaps a reserve cylinder - for types 1 and 1a.

The next step was to examine the other values. I have fifty 10 mill blocks, thirty nine 25 mill blocks and seventy three 30 mill blocks, but a careful scrutiny failed to reveal any evidence that there are more than two types for each value. Disappointing!

I would welcome views and comments.

The illustrations in this article are all enlarged by 20%. Various techniques have been used to enhance the features illustrated. Ed.

THE 2½ PIASTRE OF 1874: SUBSTITUTED STEREOS AND THREE STATES
OF THE PLATE

Peter A.S. Smith (ESC 74)

The stamps of the Third Issue, and especially of the 1874-5 printings, have a generally unpolished appearance. Considering this, it is rather surprising to find that the printers were nevertheless sensitive to flaws in their work and did their best to correct them. The 2½ piastre of the 1874 issue provides a new example of their efforts.

Several decades ago, Dr. Byam discovered an example of substitution of a defective stereo. He had two blocks identifiable as including positions No. 101 and 102. On one of them, stamp 101 had a normal, undamaged frame line, and 102 showed a moderately severe break in the bottom thick frame line (Fig. 1). The other block differed in that stamp 101 had a semicircular indentation in its right frame line, and 102 was from a quite different stereo, having an undamaged frame line, but a diffuse white area nearly obliterating the ANE of EGIZIANE (Fig. 2). The conclusion was reasonably obvious: the broken frame line on stamp 102 was noticed, and the stereo was replaced. In the process of removing the original stereo 102 from the forme, the tool used to prize it out pressed into the adjacent stereo (101), leaving its frame line deformed. Since examples from the two stereos for position 102 seem to be about equally common, the substitution was probably made after one work shift was completed.

However the story does not end there. Some years ago, I came across an example of the 2½ piastre on which the bottom frame line had a similar indentation characteristic of damage by a tool (Fig. 3). Subsequently two others turned up. The mysterious aspect of this discovery was that this damaged stereo could not be located on a full sheet of state 2; therefore, a third state of the plate was implied, resulting from yet another substitution. This conclusion has now been verified by study of a complete sheet of state 3 in the Hass collection. The stamp with indented bottom frame line is in position 92, directly above the replaced stereo 102, and stamp 102 is from a third stereo that does not have the diffuse white flaw. Apparently the printers noticed the white area and considered it unacceptable, and made a second substitution.

State 3 has another feature. On position 6, the lower right corner is damaged ("crumpled corner"). The bottom frame line is bent, and the value tablet is weak, perhaps because the damage to the bent frame line raised it slightly, thereby interfering with proper contact of the adjacent area with the ink roller or the paper (Fig. 4).

Stamps from all three states were in the stock that received the 187/8/9 surcharges.



Fig. 1 Position 102, state 1. The bottom frame line is broken beneath the EDE of KHEDEVIE. The ANE of EGIZIANE is clear.

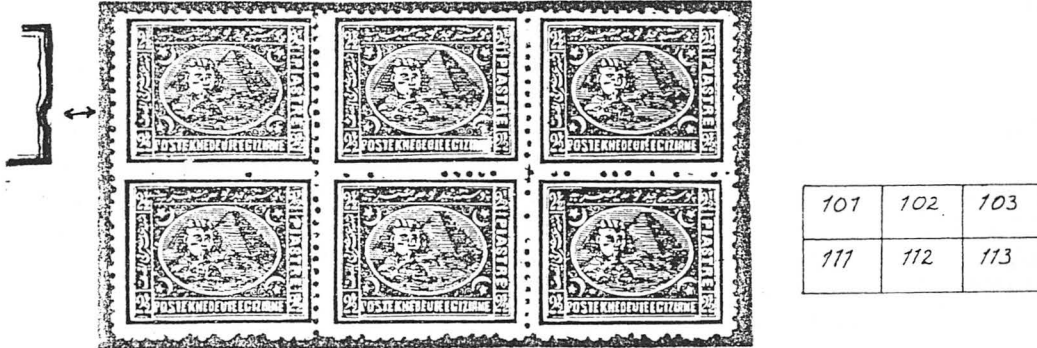


Fig. 2 State 2. Position 102 has been replaced but now exhibits a white area obliterating the ANE of EGIZIANE not present in state 1. The right hand border of position 101 shows indentation damage sustained at the time of removal of the original stereo of 102.



Fig. 3 Position 92, state 3. A further substitution of position 102 below has resulted in indentation damage to the bottom frame line similar to that seen in position 101, state 2.



Fig. 4 Position 6, state 3. Damage to the right lower corner.



NEW ISSUES

C.E.H. Defriez (ESC 172)

(all stamps are printed Rotogravure by Postal Printing House, A.R.Egypt and without watermark unless noted otherwise)

Commemorative Stamps

	<u>SG.1843</u>	<u>SG.1844</u>
Occasion	Birth Centenary of Sayed Darwish (composer)	Festivals 1992
Date of issue	17th March 1992	18th March 1992
Designer	Lotfy El Sawaf	Lotfy El Sawaf and S.A. Aziz
Design	Darwish and musical score	Hoopoe (bird)
Denomination	10 piastres	10 piastres
Sheet	50 (10 x 5) Litho	80 (8 x 10)
Dimensions	30 x 50 mm	30 x 25 mm
Perforation	14 x 13½	11
Quantity	500,000	1,000,000
Supplementary	Darwish lived from 1892 to 1923	-
	<u>SG.1845</u>	<u>SG.1846</u>
Occasion	World Health Day	20th Arab Scout Jamboree
Date of issue	26th April 1992	10th July 1992
Designer	Wahib Farag and Galal el Badei	Lydia Farid
Design	Heart and cardiograph	Tent, emblem and map of Arab nations
Denomination	10 piastres	10 piastres
Sheet	42 (6 x 7) Litho	50 (5 x 10) Litho
Dimension	40 x 40 mm	50 x 30 mm
Perforation	13	13
Quantity	500,000	500,000
Supplementary	The subject for the day was coronary vascular diseases	The Jamboree was held at Al-Azhar University from 10th - 20th July 1992
	<u>SG.1847</u>	<u>SG.(MS)1848</u>
Occasion	Olympic Games, Barcelona 1992	
Date of issue	20th July, 1992	
Designer	Hanan Abdel Fattah	Ibrahim el Tahtawi
Design	Olympic Games Emblem and modern sports activities	Olympic Games Emblem and 'Pharaonic Games' background
Denomination	10 piastres	70 piastres
Sheet	50 (10 x 5) Litho	Miniature sheet Litho
Dimensions	30 x 50 mm	80 x 60 mm
Perforation	13	Imperforate
Quantity	500,000	50,000
Supplementary	Egypt participated in	14 events

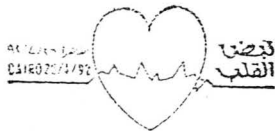
SG. 1843



SG. 1844



SG. 1845



SG. 1846



SG. 1847



SG. (MS) 1848



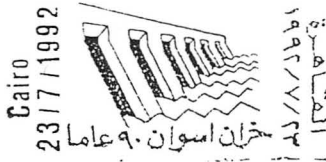
Commemorative Stamps

	<u>SG.1849</u>	<u>SG.1850</u>
Occasion	90th Anniversary of Construction of Aswan Dam	Centenary of El Helal (Periodical)
Date of Issue	23rd July 1992	14th September 1992
Designer	Wahib Farag	Ibrahim el Tahtawi
Design	U.A.R. 60 mills stamp 1960 depicting the dam	"Dar El Helal"
Denomination	10 piastres	10 piastres
Sheet	42 (6 x 7) Litho	50 (10 x 5) Litho
Dimensions	40 x 40 mm	30 x 50 mm
Perforation	13	13
Quantity	500,000	500,000
Supplementary	The dam is 1950 m. in length and 946 km. from the Delta Barrage	El Helal was the first cultural magazine issued in the Arab world

	<u>SG.1851</u>	<u>SG.1852</u>
Occasion	Federation of Travel Companies International Congress, Cairo	Alexandria World Festival
Date of issue	20th September 1992	27th September 1992
Designer	Nadia Abdel Fattah	Ibrahim el Tahtawi
Design	Sphinx and Pyramids	Lighthouse, Pharoanic ship and world map
Denomination	70 piastres	70 piastres
Sheet	50 (5 x 10) Litho	50 (5 x 10) Litho
Dimensions	50 x 30 mm	50 x 30 mm
Perforation	13	13
Quantity	300,000	500,000
Supplementary		The Festival's object was to foster fraternal exchanges with other places in the world with the name of Alexandria

	<u>SG.1853</u>	<u>SG.1854</u>	<u>SG.1855</u>
Occasion	World Post Day	United Nations Day	
Date of issue	9th October 1992	24th October 1992	
Designer	Galal el Badei	D.Hassan Ali (Aged 8)	Lotfy el Sawaf
Design	Stamp perforations and U.P.U. emblem	Girls face	Wall paintings of agriculture and medicine
Denomination	10 piastres	10 piastres	70 piastres
Sheet	42 (6 x 7) Litho	50(10x5)Litho	42(6 x 7)Litho
Dimensions	40 x 40 mm	30 x 50 mm	40 x 40 mm
Perforation	13	-----13-----	-----
Quantity	500,000	500,000	300,000
Supplementary	-	Children's Day	World food, agriculture and health conference

SG.1849



SG.1850



SG.1851



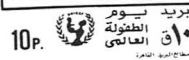
SG.1852



SG.1853



SG.1854



SG.1855



Commemorative stamps	<u>SG.1856</u>
Occasion	20th Arab Scout Conference, Cairo
Date of issue	21st November 1992
Designer	Lotfy el Sawaf
Design	Conference Emblem
Denomination	10 piastres
Sheet	50 (10 x 5) Litho
Dimensions	30 x 50
Perforation	13
Quantity	500,000
Supplementary	The conference was held from 21st to 24th November 1992

	<u>SG.1857</u>	<u>SG.1858</u>	<u>SG.1859</u>
Occasion	-----	Arab Personalities	-----
	-----	Birth Anniversaries	-----
Date of issue	-----	23rd December 1992	-----
Designer	-----	Lotfy el Sawaf	-----
Design	Mohamed Taymour (Centenary)	A.Z.Abu Shadi (Centenary)	Talaat Harb (125th Anniversary)
Denomination	10 piastres	10 piastres	10 piastres
Sheet	-----	50 (10 x 5) Litho	-----
Dimensions	-----	30 x 50 mm (each)	-----
Perforation	-----	13 (each)	-----
Quantity	-----	500,000 (each)	-----
Supplementary	Author and theatre critic (Numbers 1857 and 1858 were issued together in se-tenant pairs)	Doctor and poet	Economist and founder of National Bank

	<u>SG.1860</u>	<u>SG.1861</u>	<u>SG.1862</u>
Occasion	-----	Post Day	-----
	-----	Statues of Pharaohs	-----
Date of issue	-----	2nd January 1993	-----
Designer	-----	Lotfy el Sawaf	-----
Design	Sesostris I	Amenemhet III	Hur I
Denomination	10 piastres	45 piastre	70 piastres
Sheet	-----	Lithographed	-----
Dimensions	-----	30 x 50 mm (each)	-----
Perforation	-----	13 (each)	-----
Quantity	-----	300,000 sets	-----
Supplementary	Issued together in se-tenant strips of three within the sheet		

SG.1856



SG.1858



SG.1857



SG.1859



SG.1860



SG.1861



SG.1862



Corrections and additions to New Issues, QC.165, June 1993, 39.

SG.1797, 1798 and 1799. The numbers above the illustration should read (from left to right) 1799, 1798 and 1797.

SG.1830. Number printed was 300,000.

SG.1832 and 1833. Designer's name was L. el Sawaf.

SG.1836. Poet's name was Dr. Zaki Mubarak.

SG.1841. Designer's name was A. Makhlouf.

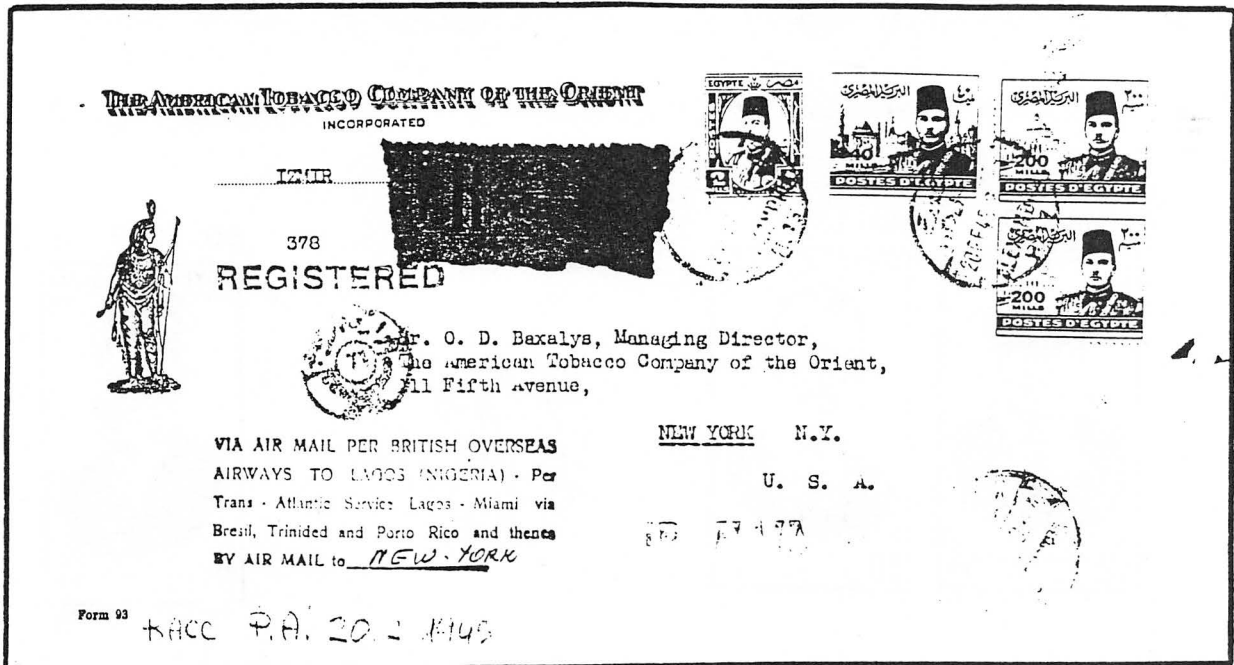
Quantity printed was 500,000.



SG.0.1808 and 0.1811. First Day Cancel is illustrated above right.

AIR MAIL JOTTINGS No. 9
AIR MAIL CACHET - TRANSATLANTIC SERVICE FROM LAGOS, 1945

J. Sears (ESC 188)



This is an illustration (reduced to 70%) of a cover in the possession of Dr. Luciano De Zanche of an Italian Society with whom we have close ties. His query concerns the cachet (in violet) in the bottom left corner referring to a BOAC service to Lagos "Per Transatlantic Service LagosBY AIR MAIL TO NEW YORK".

It is something which I have not seen before. We know by reference to Bradshaw's that there was a service from Egypt to Lagos at the time, but a British route to North America is problematical. I can relate the franking of 442 Mills to the rate charged on a Registered Letter from Egypt to USA carried by Pan Am in 1942 as follows :-

Surface Rate (up to 20 gms)	22
additional 5 gms	13
Registration Fee	32
Air Mail Surcharge (75 mills for each 5 gms)	375
<u>Total</u>	<u>442 mills</u>

However all this is pure surmise.

On the reverse there is a Miami transit mark of March 15, 1945, and a New York arrival mark of Mar 19, 1945. The Alexandria cancellation on the face seems to be 20 FE 45.

I referred the matter to Norman Clowes (ESC 349) who is an expert on all matters pertaining to the Air Mail in Africa. He could find no evidence that there was a BOAC transatlantic service from Lagos and felt that the letter was carried by Pan Am on the U.S. Foreign Air Mail Route 22 which commenced in December 1941. This was between Miami and Leopoldville via

Lagos, but there is some doubt that this route was still operational in early 1945. Norman also mentioned that the first reference he has found to a similar BOAC route was October 1945 from Poole via Lisbon, Bathurst, Natal (Brazil, or Bresil) to Baltimore. There was no reference to Lagos or Miami.

We are no further forward. Can any member please comment on any of the following points?

1. Is the cachet known to him?
2. Was the US Foreign Air Mail Route 22 in existence at this time?
3. Was there a BOAC Transatlantic route from Lagos?
4. Is the cachet an official or a commercial marking?

I lean towards the latter.

Any information would be useful.

- - - - -
LETTERS

1st Fuad Issue - 5 mill imperforate

Sir, I have a block of four 1923-4 Harrison 5 mill imperforate on gummed paper which I had presumed to be SG 115a. However the watermark is upright as opposed to that shown in Stanley Gibbons for the issue, ie, facing right (Wmk SG40). Zeheri shows the same watermark (Ze VII) for the issue, and does not differentiate for the imperforate variety (Ze 86b). However, it also shows that a proof of this stamp was produced in the issued colour on watermarked gummed paper with Wmk Ze IX or X, ie upright or inverted. Do I therefore have a block of the proof?

210 Stanmore Lane,
Winchester, Hants,
SO22 4BL, UK.

R. Bloomer (ESC 210)

Reply

Sir, I am assuming that the block of 4 is printed on 'ordinary' stamp paper. Zeheri includes other imperforates which have the watermark facing right. They are the values 3, 5, 15, and 200 mill & £1. That any of these were intended to frank mail is highly unlikely, and we are left with the conclusion that they are all proofs.

This issue is overwhelmed with essays and proofs, possibly because the portraiture of the King's head, as well as the change in printing process presented big problems to Harrison & Son Ltd of London who were responsible for the printing, and to the Postal Authorities in Cairo. However, as I hope to demonstrate in a future article, Harrisons kept a very strict control of their stock of stamp paper balancing their stocks to the last sheet both in its printed and unprinted state. I cannot believe that there is anything 'clandestine' about the production of these proofs as might be said of the irregular perforation of some of the later issues.

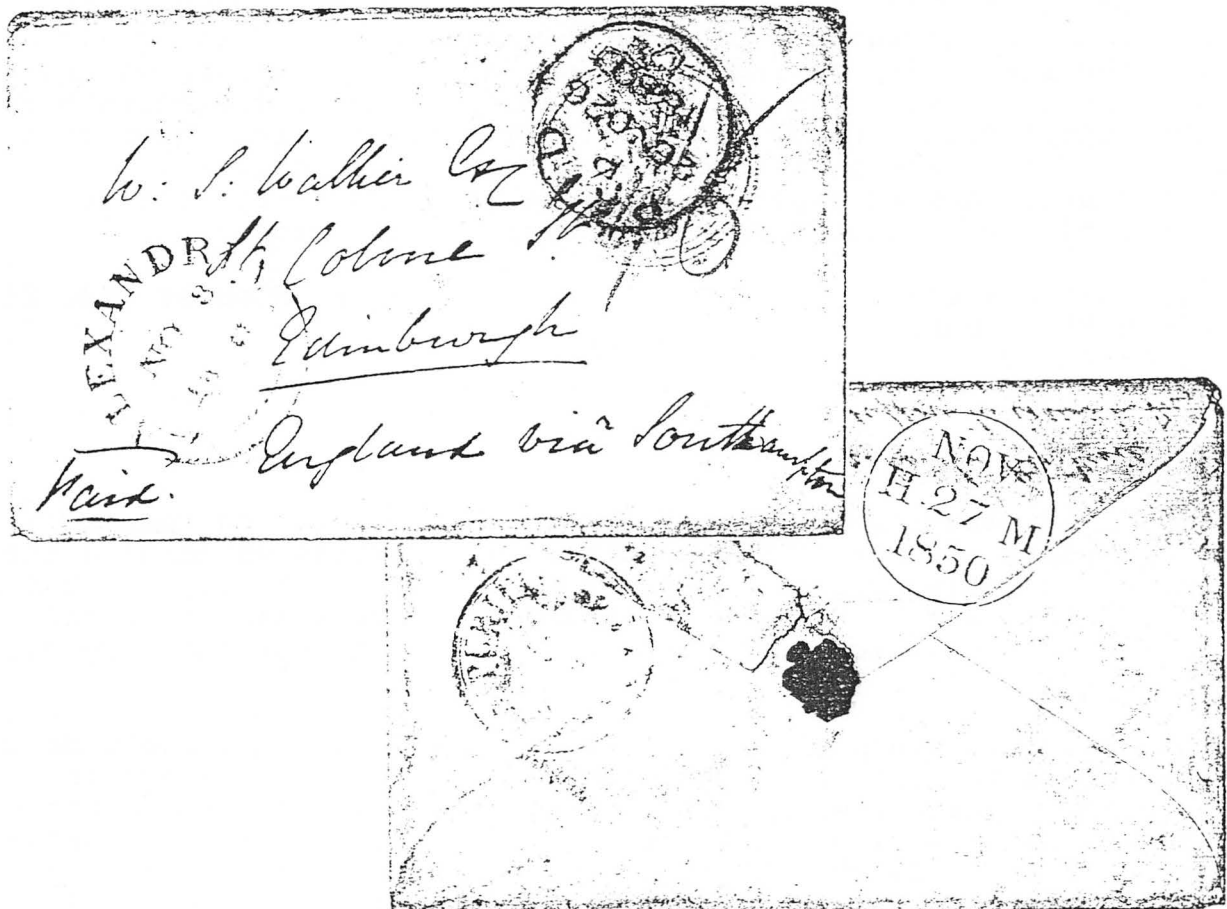
The up and down configuration of the watermark is harder to understand. To my knowledge, it only appears elsewhere on the imperforate unaccepted essays by Harrisons (Ze 82 & 83) with crescents facing downwards and on what appear to be perforation trials of the 5 mill (perf 14) which are found with either horizontal or vertical perfs missing and on which the crescents face upwards. I have an imperforate block of 4 of the item in question which I have been able to relate to a full normally perforate pane (no control) where similar flaws occur on positions 1,2,11,12. This pane has the usual watermark facing right. It is usually considered that the no control panes were the first printed. I have a second imperforate block of 4 which I have not been able to relate to this pane or to others.

To revert to the original question, yes, you have a proof, but how this watermarked paper came to be used is a mystery. I feel that the other imperforate printings should also be listed as proofs.

496, Uxbridge Road,
Pinner, Middlesex,
HA5 4SL, UK.

John Sears (ESC 188)

Another Crowned Circle Frank of the British Post Office at
Alexandria



Sir, Professor Smith (QC No. 166, Sep 1993, p.64) asks for details of Crowned Circle Franks of the British Post Offices not included in his census list. I have another cover to record. It is franked with the crowned circle PAID AT ALEXANDRIA in red. This is partially over-franked with the London PAID mark on 27th November 1850 again in red. It also

bears on the front (bottom left) the large type town & date stamp of ALEXANDRIA 8th November 1850 in black. The cover is rated 1/6d. in red manuscript. It is addressed to Edinburgh (Scotland) and has manuscript directions of 'England via Southampton' and 'paid'.

On the rear is the circular 'Purifie au Lazarete' strike of Malta although the cover bears no disinfection 'chops' and does not appear to have been opened and resealed. This circular strike is in black as usual. There is a further strike on the rear in red of the Edinburgh receiving mark of 27th Nov. 1850.

From research into Kirk's book on British Maritime Postal History¹ it would appear that this cover was carried on the wooden paddle steamer 'RIPON' which left Alexandria on 8th November calling at Malta on 12th November. It left on the following day calling at Gibraltar on 18th November. Leaving Gibraltar the next day it arrived at Southampton on 25th November.

11, Bishops Way, Buckden,
Huntingdon, PE18 9TZ, UK.

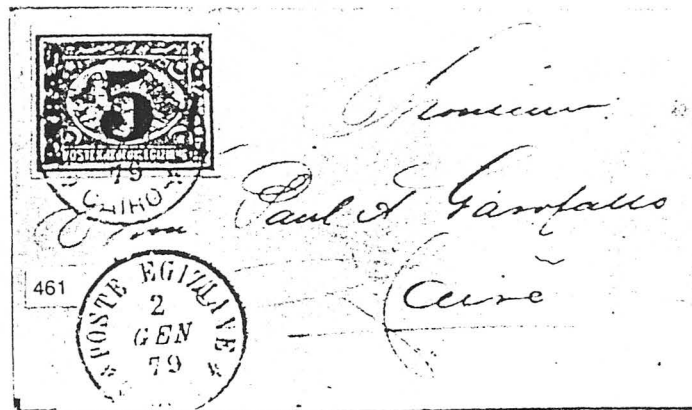
Robin Bertram (ESC 137)

Reference

1. Kirk, R. British Maritime Postal History - The P & O Lines to the Far East. Proud-Bailey Co. Ltd., 1970(?), Vol. 2, p.29.

Encounters with forgeries - 1879 Provisionals on Cover

Sir, The "1879" provisionals are real rarities on cover, and are a temptation to forgers. Forged covers were in fact made many decades ago and, although they have been publicised in many places, the same forgeries turn up again and again in auctions and offers by dealers. Worse still, major expert committees have inexcusably given them certificates of genuineness.



A recent example occurred in a French auction, in which an imperforate single 5 para/2½ piastre on a Cairo local cover was illustrated in colour. It had a starting price of Ff2750, and realized more than twice that. The cancellation was Type V, dated 2 GEN 79. Its fake character was immediately

apparent, for the cancellation was the forgery easily recognizable by the break in the circle below C of CAIRO, and the very low cross-bar of the A. This forged postmark has been described by myself¹ and by Jean Boulad d'Humieres² as well as by

Dr. Byam in the Holy Land and Middle East Philatelic Magazine. One of its more dangerous uses was to manufacture forgeries of

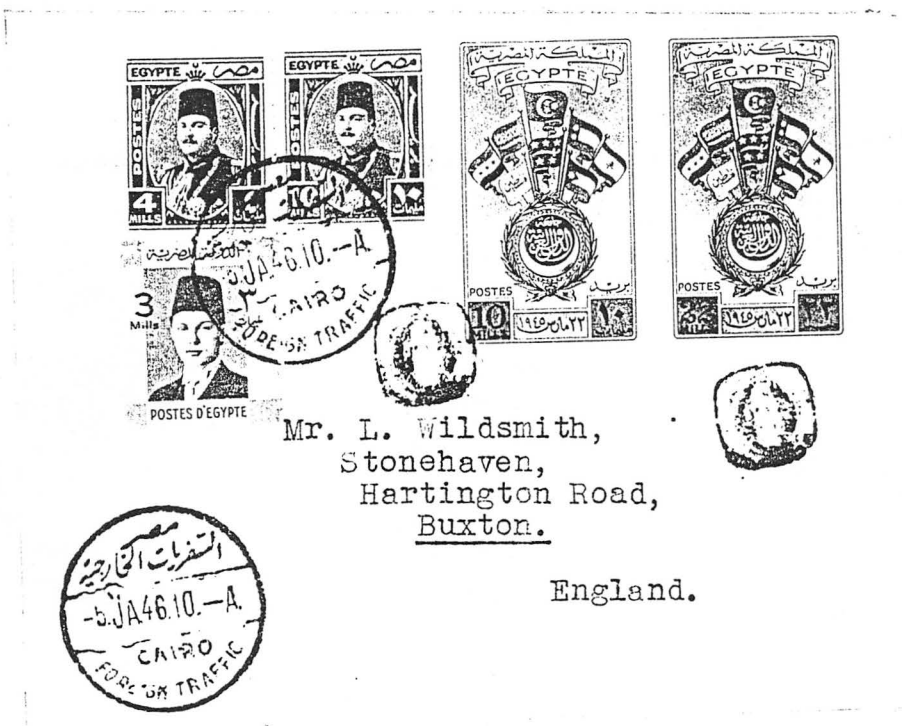
I informed the auctioneer that it was a forgery but nevertheless it was sold.

Hauptstrasse 1
A-3413 Hintersdorf
Austria

K. Wolfsbauer (ESC 197)

Boxed 'O' markings

Sir, I would like to record another example of the boxed 'O' mark (QC No. 166, Sep 1993, p.68).



Mr. L. Wildsmith,
Stonehaven,
Hartington Road,
Buxton.

England.

The cover illustrated above bears the Arab Countries Union pair which, according to Zeheri, was valid from 29th July to 12th September, 1945. The cover is postmarked 5th January 1946. Two boxed 'O' marks have been applied, one of which just ties the 10 mills value. There is no Air Mail label and no markings on the reverse. The other stamps total 17 mills which was the correct rate for sea mail to the UK so that no postage due was charged.

The cover is apparently "contrived". However it is still an interesting example of diligence on the part of the Egyptian Post Office.

Flat 4, Ravine Court,
293) Meriden Close,
Canford Cliffs,
Poole, BH13 7JU,
Dorset, UK.

Alan Jeyes (ESC 293)

A further example of the boxed 'O' mark has come to my attention. It was illustrated in the QC by Horesh in 1981¹. A local Alexandria cover was franked with two se-tenant De la Rue 2 mills definitives of 1888, the right hand one being an unauthorized bisect. The intact stamp was cancelled with a normal Alexandrie c.d.s. of 16 x 96. Two boxed 'O' marks were applied to the cover beside (but not tying) the bisect. There is also a boxed 'T' mark on the cover but no evidence of a postage due stamp. Editor

Reference

1. Horesh, J.S. Framed 'O' invalidation of bisect.
Quart. Circ. Vol XI, No. 118, 1981,
p.43

1938 Wedding Stamp - Dates of valid usage



Miss E. McLennan,

Barclays Bank (D. C. & O.)

Local Head Office,

Post Office Bag,

ALEXANDRIA

Sir, In a recent article (QC No. 166, Sep. 1993, p.68), John Sears has raised the question of the dates of valid usage of various commemorative issues. The Wedding stamp of 29 Jan. 1938 has no period of validity shown in Zeheri. I have a commercial cover used from Alexandria on 24 Jan. 1938 which is illustrated above.

Flat 4, Ravine Court,
293)
Meriden Close, Canford Cliffs,
Poole, Dorset, UK, BH13 7JU.

G. Alan Jeyes (ESC 293)

Return to Sender Cachets

Sir, I am puzzled by the cover of which I enclose a photocopy.

LUFTPOST BY AIR MAIL PAR AVION

GRANDS PAYS

10

RETURN TO SENDER

بريد للراسل

RETOUR

Frau
Christel Dars
c/o G. De Castro & Co.
Post Box Nr. 262
Alexandria
Egypten

Please write name of vessel in future. - thanks.

القومية العربية
رسالة سلام وحنان

Steinmetz, Garten / Rhodania

شركة طوبى البريد
ثقافة وارتقاء

21261-1

21261-1

AL MITTENTE

بريد للراسل

POST SAID

21261-15

السلامة وحضارة

بريد
السلامة

The letter was sent on 30.11.61 from Germany to Egypt (unfortunately two stamps have been removed) and later returned to the sender. The cover has a collection of cachets relating to this:-

- 1) A black "NON RECLAME" mark (text also in Arabic) on the reverse
- 2) A black "RETOUR" mark (text also in Arabic) on the front
- 3) A violet "RETOUR" mark (without Arabic) also on the front

and most remarkably,

- 4) A violet postmark "RETURN TO SENDER/AL MITTENTE" postmark (with text also in Arabic) on both front and back.

My questions are:-

- a) Why this 'overkill' in RETURN postmarks?
- b) Cachet No. 4 is tri-lingual English, Arabic and Italian. Are there more examples of such postmarks?

Churchillweg 114,
6706 AE Wageningen,
Netherlands.

Anton J. Jansen (ESC 383)

Port Taufiq: Clarification of its Location

Sir, I wish to confirm the observation of P.A.S. Smith (QC No. 166, Sep. 1993, p.79), about the location of Port Taufiq. It is on the African coast of the Suez Canal and not on the Sinai side, as popularly believed. In fact, the cancellation illustrated with the letter reads, in Arabic, "Port Tawfick Bil Sues" which translates as "Port Taufiq in Suez".

PO Box 103 Mohandessin,
Mohandessin, Cairo, Egypt.

L-H. S. Toutounji (ESC 264)

CONTENTS continued

Letters

Boxed 'O' Markings	G.A. Jeyes	134
1938 Wedding Stamp - Dates of Valid Usage	G.A. Jeyes	135
Return to Sender Cachets	A.J. Jansen	136
Port Taufiq: Clarification of its Location	L.H.S. Toutounji	137