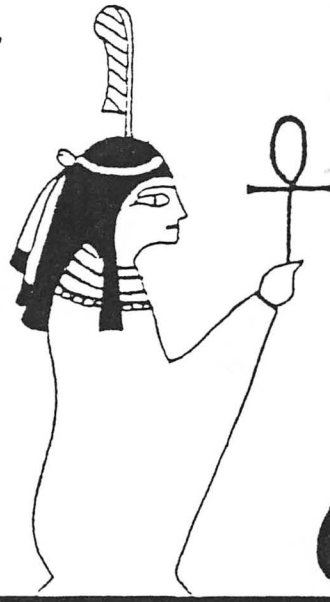


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EGYPT STUDY CIRCLE

60TH ANNIVERSARY ISSUE

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FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

May 6th	Postage Dues.	P. Andrews
July 8th	Perfins. Rettas.	M.G.C. Dahl J.S. Horesh
September 16th	Registration Labels and Markings.	J. Sears
November 25th	World War I non-British Military Markings.	E. Hall

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.

EDITORS NOTES

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

IN THIS ISSUE.....

Since the studies published in the QC in the 1940's and early 50's, the British Post Office in Alexandria has received little further attention until recently. Robin Bertram contributes a major review and update on this topic in this issue. It deals with the history of the Office and with the various handstamps and obliterations. There is a comprehensive list of British adhesives with BO 1 cancellations.

Peter Smith, who has recently written elsewhere about the British Post Offices offers a scholarly commentary on a rare cover to Brazil which was sent through the British Post Office at Suez. He also describes some interesting plate flaws on one of the less fashionable areas of our subject - the Harrison postage dues of 1921/2.

Cyril Defriez bursts into colour in his regular New Issues series. I will be particularly interested to see how well this works and whether there is a future for colour illustrations in the QC. Bill Andrews has unearthed fascinating details from the Journal Officiel in relation to a cover carried by the short-lived "Special Service" from Egypt to Lebanon which was operated by the Nairn Transport Company for just over 9 months in 1923/4. An unrecorded variety of modern postal stationery is reported by Peter Andrews. Further examples almost certainly lie unrecognized in members' collections - please send a letter to the QC with further reports.

Hotel cancellations featured in the last issue when Mike Murphy promised to reveal all about early Continental Hotel postmarks. He keeps his promise in this issue and describes three further types to add to those already known. I am not sure whether his newly proposed numbering system will clarify the situation or not, but do send him further observations, preferably with photocopies.

Finally and appropriately, Alan Jeyes reflects the early days of the Study Circle with a description of the very first Egypt Study Circle Certificate. I have been able to provide some brief historical comments on this item from the earliest QC's.

FORTHCOMING STUDIES

In the Editors Notes of the last issue I expressed the hope that leaders of forthcoming studies would submit requests for information which they needed for that study. It is hoped that publication of such requests beforehand will offer all members, whether or not they can attend Study Circle meetings, the opportunity to supply relevant information and thus participate in the study. In the short time since then I have had no other requests but, in the hope of stimulating others, here are some requests relating to my own subject for later this year.

- - - - -

Subject: Perfins Leader: M.G.C. Dahl Study date July 8th 1995

Information relating to following is requested.

1. Details of any of the following perfins on printed covers which would identify their relevant companys.

AB/E, B.M., C &/Co., EOB, JR.C, K & H/A, K & H/C, LS
R.O.L. RS & Co., R/Co/LTD,

or any information or details known from other sources.

2. Any information at all on WEK.
3. Details of towns and dates of cancellation on any perfins.
4. Lists of SG numbers of any perfins.

I look forward to hearing from as many members as possible. Without your participation there won't be much to report in July!

Michael Dahl, Editor

SECRETARY'S REPORT

NEW MEMBERS AND THEIR INTERESTS

ESC 456 DR. S.K. EL KERDANI
12, Sabbagh Street, App.1, Heliopolis,
Cairo, 11341, Egypt.

General Egypt 1866 to 1953.

ESC 457 DR. T.K. EL KERDANI
12, Sabbagh Street, App.1. Heliopolis,
Cairo, 11341, Egypt.

General Egypt.

ESC 458 MR. RAFIK BALIAN
5176 Anse aux Chenes, Pierrefonds,
PQ H8Z 3E4, Canada.

20th Century Egypt.

ESC 459

MR. AHMED ELSEROU
No. 5 El Saray Street, Elmanial,
Cairo, 11451, Egypt.

Egyptian postal history, banknotes, cheques
and revenues.

ESC 460

MR. ROGER P. WEST
Ashleigh, Monument Lane, Codnor Park,
Nottinghamshire, NH16 5PJ, UK.

Dealer. Collects the Kingdom Period of
Egypt (1922-1952).

CHANGES OF ADDRESS

ESC 368

MR. K.F. DOIG
26363 Club Drive, Madera,
California 93638, U.S.A.

Robin Bertram, Secretary

- - - - -

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT OF THE MEETING OF 14TH JANUARY 1995

Present:	P. Andrews	W.C. Andrews	M. Barker
	P.R. Bertram	S.W. Bunce	D.J. Clarke
	D.J. Davis	C.E.H. Defriez	E.H. Frazer-Smith
	P.L. Grech	E. Hall	J.S. Horesh
	G.A. Jeyes	J.M. Murphy	A. Schmidt
	J. Sears	B. Watterson	

There were apologies from:
M.G.C. Dahl

Honorary Life Member:

Major E.L.G. MacArthur M.C. C.de G. (ESC 125) was unanimously
elected as an Honorary Life Member.

The Circle - present and future

The Chairman briefly outlined the progress of the Circle since he
had been in office. The membership had risen from 101 to 181 and
the average attendance at meetings had risen from 9 to 14. He
reminded members that the Circle had no written "constitution" and
that it had functioned rather like a benevolent dictatorship with
the help of key individuals including the Secretary, Editor,
Librarian and Auction Committee. The major decisions had always
been taken by those members present at the meetings. He suggested
that consideration should be given to whether this situation should
continue. He pointed out that he had been Chairman since 1976 and
suggested that a change should soon be considered. He indicated
that he would not wish to continue as Chairman after 1996.

- - - - -

The meeting then discussed the following matters which had been
raised by members.

"The Book"

It was thought that "The Book" had been part of the Circle's mythology for 50 years. The Chairman admitted that it had never been one of his priorities. Various members had published in their own particular areas and this should be encouraged. Our President, Peter Smith, was completing his own Handbook of Egypt Philately and it was hoped that it would be published in 1995. The QC offered a further opportunity for publication. It was recognized that it was impossible to coerce members into writing. It was decided finally and formally to abandon the concept of "The Book" as a Circle project.

Recent acquisitions

It was decided to add a "Recent Acquisitions" period to precede the main subject at the meetings. This would be restricted to 20 - 30 minutes and would be introduced on an experimental basis at the meeting on 25th May.

Date and time of meetings

It was decided that, if possible, meetings would be held on the first Saturday of the appropriate month and that a meeting should coincide with Autumn Stampex. It was also decided that meetings would start at 2 p.m. All these changes would take effect from the beginning of 1996.

Advertisements

It was agreed in principle that Advertisements should not appear in the QC.

Auction reports

It was suggested that reports of Auctions (other than our own) should be published in the QC. A volunteer will be required to collect relevant information and to supply a report to the Editor.

De la Rue Archives

A suggestion had been made that relevant material from the De la Rue archives should be photocopied and kept in the Record. It was recognized that this would be a massive and time consuming task. A volunteer is required to investigate the scope and size of such a project and to report back. The Circle would be able to reimburse the costs of the photocopying which would be necessary.

Current postal rates in Egypt

It was considered essential that information on current postal rates in Egypt should be continually updated and recorded. The Secretary undertook to write to the Postal Authorities in Egypt and also to our Agent there.

Reports of meetings in the QC

The Editor had indicated that he strongly encouraged the publication of detailed reports after all Study Meetings. However such reports need to be factual sources of reference and not merely an expansion of the present Secretary's summaries. The information contained in handouts would be a valuable basis for such items. It was accepted that if meetings were of a display nature a detailed report might not be appropriate.

Do we do enough for new members?

It was felt that new members needed encouragement to do something for themselves, for example, by attending meetings, by contacting other members for advice or by addressing questions through the QC.

Some new members were already successfully participating in this way. Publication of members interests (see Studies and Study Leaders below) should be helpful in this respect.

Applications from dealers for Membership

It was decided that applications would only be considered from dealers if they were bona fide collectors of Egyptian stamps or postal history. It was decided that in future such applications must be supported by 2 members having personal knowledge of the applicants collection and of his or her enthusiasm to help the research work of the Circle. If elected, a note to the effect that he or she is a dealer or professional within the philatelic trade will be added to the New Members entry in the QC.

The Record

It was decided that items of the Study Circle Record should be incorporated into the library. They should be accessible to members on the same basis as other library material.

Studies and Study Leaders

The Chairman produced a list of members who were known to have particular specialised interests. These members will be contacted and asked whether their names and addresses and special interests can be published in the QC. This information will enable other members to contact them for advice or to pool information. It is hoped that groups of members with similar interests may become established and that a co-ordinator will be able to report progress, new information and questions to the QC. Such developments should prove particularly helpful for new members.

Postmark Study

Unfortunately this item was reached late in the afternoon and after one of the principal leaders in the field had had to leave. It was agreed that the postmarks of the classic period should be left in the hands of Peter Feltus (ESC 114). The subsequent numbering of postmarks in the Blomfield tradition was thought to be cumbersome. For the time being Edmund Hall (ESC 239) will lead in this field. However he made it plain that he was ready to share all his knowledge with anyone who wished to contact him.

- - - - -

The meeting ended at 6.30 p.m. Everyone was shattered but felt that it had been a useful and productive afternoon.

John Sears, Chairman

THE BRITISH CONSULAR POST OFFICE IN ALEXANDRIA

P.R. Bertram (ESC 137)

Introduction

This study started with the acquisition of a small auction lot of loose G.B. stamps cancelled with the 'BO 1' obliterator used at Alexandria. On going through them I came across a G.B. stamp with the ten bar 'BO 1' cancellation. What intrigued me was that the stamp (a Victorian dark green halfpenny value) was issued during 1880 which was some two years after the British Post Office in Alexandria had closed on 1st April 1878. After some research I discovered that I was the owner of a previously unrecorded example of a De la Rue trial/proof cancellation used by that company when submitting examples of their work to Somerset House.

Our President, Peter Smith (ESC 74) had recently published on the Consular Post Office¹ and I decided that it was time to re-examine my own collection. It is over 40 years since an update was produced of the postal markings found on stamps and covers emanating from or passing through the British Post office in Alexandria². After a discussion with John Davis (ESC 213) we decided that we would lead an ESC meeting on the subject in an attempt to expand known dates of the various cancellations and produce an updated list. Some of the important dates and details of the development of the British Postal Services in Alexandria are summarised in Appendix A.

This report does not cover either the various routes taken by the mail or the rates charged.

The Handstamps

During August 1839 a British Packet Agency was opened at Alexandria and a large type 'Town & Date' stamp was introduced (Fig. 1). Smith¹ has identified two types of this mark which were apparently used contemporaneously (see Appendix B). It is known in red, black and in blue. Initially the mark was struck in black on the rear of letters indicating that the letter was unpaid. When struck in red and on the face of the letter this indicated prepayment and usually the manuscript rate marking was written in the same colour. The significance of the colour blue is not fully known but it is believed to have superseded the black strike in the middle 1850s. It is usually found in blue as a receiving mark applied on the rear of incoming letters.



Fig. 1

In May 1843 the 'Crowned Circle - Paid at Alexandria' handstamp was introduced (Fig. 2). This is nearly always found in red and is seen struck on the front of letters. There is some confusion in early reports. Rawson³ in his first paper stated:- "The stamp was struck in both red and black inks, but I have only been able to examine the red variety". However in the table of a later paper^{2a} the datespan is listed under "black"



Fig. 2

with no entry under "red", whereas in the accompanying text the same dates are listed under "red" with no entry for "black". Stanley Gibbons⁴ still lists it "in red or black". However Smith's recent census⁵ mentions only one example in brown (probably a colour changeling from red), all the others being in red. It is always accompanied by the town and date stamp previously described in black or blue, but never in red. It is not clear when the 'Crowned Circle Paid' stamp was to be used since pre-paid letters are known posted during the period of use of this mark but without it being applied to them.

On 17th March 1858 the Packet Agency at Alexandria was upgraded to a Post office which was later established at the British Consulate on 23rd February 1859. In 1859 a smaller type of 'Town & Date' stamp was taken into use (Fig. 3). Smith¹ has also identified two types of this mark (see Appendix B). It can be found in red or black (one example has been reported in green?) and it is always found on the front of letters.



Fig. 3

The 'BO 1' obliterators

On 2nd August 1859 the General Post office in London started to supply the then current Great Britain adhesives for use at the British Post Office in Alexandria. A 'BO 1' obliterator was also supplied for cancelling the adhesives on the letters. There are four types of the 'BO 1' cancellation used during the period from when the first obliterator was supplied until 1st April 1878 when the British Post Office closed (see Appendix B). The 'BO 1' obliterators are always seen used in conjunction with the small 'Town & Date' stamps (Fig. 3). They have never been seen used with the large type. The small type 'Town & Date' stamp in red has been seen on a small number of prepaid but unstamped letters. It is also seen, in black, as a receiving mark applied on the front of incoming mail.

During 1884 (some 6 years after the closure of the British Post Office in Alexandria) Messrs. De la Rue in England 'acquired and retained' a ten bar 'BO 1' obliterator for making trial cancellations on stamps⁶. De la Rue had been conducting various experiments on their printing inks and cancellations and used this obliterator in preparing documents submitted to Somerset House.

Unresolved questions

At the ESC meeting on 12th November 1994 when this topic was discussed, the following questions were raised but not fully answered:-

1. Scarcity of mail to the East. The letter in my collection illustrated in Fig. 4 was posted in France and addressed to India. It was received in Egypt at the French Consular Post office in Alexandria and then taken across to the British Post Office for transmission on to India. Very little mail has been seen posted at the British Post Office in Alexandria and addressed to countries in the East. Why is this? There must have been plenty of trade taking place between Europeans in Egypt and India. Where did these correspondents in Alexandria post their mail for India or other Eastern countries? Was it

at Suez and if so, how was it transported there?



Fig. 4

2. Absence of combination items with the Posta Europea. Why during the Posta Europea period do we never see 'combination' covers or letters bearing both British Consular Post Office and Posta Europea markings? Did European or British people living elsewhere in the Nile Delta arrange for their mail to be carried privately and delivered personally to the British Post office in Alexandria or Cairo when they had letters addressed to England? Later on in the 1870's mail can be found bearing Egyptian adhesives to pay the postage to Alexandria used in combination with British adhesives applied at the British Post Office in Alexandria.

3. Rare use of red 'Town & Date' mark on unstamped items. Why, when British adhesives were on sale at the British Consulate in Alexandria, do we find the small 'Town & Date' mark (Fig 3) used in red on unstamped letters indicating that postage had been paid? Why were adhesives not used? Was there a shortage on some days? Was the mail 'official'?

4. "More to pay" and "Insufficiently prepaid" markings. Were "More to pay" and "Insufficiently prepaid" markings (see Appendix B) placed on the letters in Egypt or England? They have only been seen by the writer on mail to or passing through England. Does any member have any underpaid mail to places other than England (Malta for example) with these markings. If so this would tend to confirm that they were applied in Alexandria. The writer has seen one letter in the possession of Betty Watterson (ESC 409) on which both the 'more to pay' and 'insufficiently prepaid' markings are in red. Other examples have always been in black.

Can members provide any information which might assist in answering any of the above questions.

Will members please check and compare their collections against the appendix and report back any new early or late dates and types of the markings shown together with any British adhesives or plate numbers with unrecorded types of the 'BO 1' obliterations.

Because mail to addresses in the West from the British Consular Post Office in Cairo came through the British Post Office in Alexandria (where the adhesives received the 'BO 1' obliteration), I have included the markings seen in use at that Post Office at the end of appendix.

References

1. Smith, P.A.S. The British Post Offices in Egypt.
The Philatelist and PJGB Vol 14, No.
739/992, Jan-Mar 1994, p.2.
2. Rawson, C.D. The Posts of Great Britain in Egypt.
 - a. Quart.Circ. III No. 35 Mar 1951, p.140.
 - b. Quart.Circ. III No. 36 Sep 1951, p.153.
 - c. Quart.Circ. IV, No. 37 Dec 1951, p.1.
 - d. Quart.Circ. IV No. 38 May 1952, p.12.
3. Rawson, C.D. The Crowned Circle Handstamps of Egypt.
Quart.Cir. III No. 25, Mar 1946, p.3.
4. Stanley Gibbons Stamp Catalogue, part 19, Middle East.
4th Edition, 1990, p.123.
5. Smith, P.A.S. The Crowned Circle Franks of the British
Post office in Egypt.
Quart.Cir. XV, No. 166, Sept 1993, p.64.
6. Stanley Gibbons Great Britain Catalogue. Vol. 1
Queen Victoria. 9th Edition 1989,
p.318.

APPENDIX A

THE BRITISH POST OFFICE IN ALEXANDRIA

Some important dates

- 1827 All packets (mail boats) sailing out of Falmouth (England) were transferred to the ADMIRALTY (against the most vigorous opposition of the Post Office).
- 1830 The ADMIRALTY sent out their first steam packet, the 'Meteor' specifically to carry mails to the Mediterranean area (including EGYPT).




- 1839, August BRITISH PACKET AGENCY opened in Alexandria.
Mr. H. Johnson appointed as 'British Agent'.
- 1843, May The 'BRITISH CROWN CIRCLE STAMPS' introduced in ALEXANDRIA.
- 1852, March 30th Treaty signed with the Egyptian Government to carry mails across Egypt (in sealed bags carried by camels). Journey time agreed from ALEXANDRIA to SUEZ - 75 hours.
- 1858, March 17th Packet Agency at ALEXANDRIA upgraded to a POST OFFICE. Mr. Johnson replaced by Mr. R. Thorne (1858 to 1866).
- 1858, June 16th New Treaty arranged by the 'novelist' Anthony TROLLOPE who was a Post Office servant. Time of journey between ALEXANDRIA and SUEZ now cut to 24 hours.
- 1859, Feb. 23rd Post Office established at THE BRITISH CONSULATE._
- 1858, August 2nd G.P.O. in London supplied the Post Office in Alexandria with ADHESIVE POSTAGE STAMPS.
Simultaneously a 'BO 1' OBLITERATOR was supplied.
- 1860 The control of mail packet services transferred from the Admiralty to the Post Office.
- 1873, May 18th Treaty involving the carriage of mails across Egypt revised and transit time between Alexandria and Suez cut to 16 hours.
- 1877, Nov. 14th Convention signed in LONDON on behalf of the Khedive and the General Post Office concerning the withdrawal of a Post Office at Alexandria and substituting it with a British Postal Agent.
- 1878, April 1st British Post Office at Alexandria CLOSED but the General Post Office in England retained the right to maintain an Agency if they wished and send its own messengers with the mails.
-

APPENDIX B

THE BRITISH POST OFFICE IN ALEXANDRIA




The Handstamps and Obliterators

The numbering system is based on the original ESC list devised by Rawson^{2a} (QC III, No. 35, Mar 1957, pages 145-150). The dates listed have either been published previously or seen and verified by myself.*



Type I	colour	period of use		remarks
		earliest date	latest date	
 I	red	22.10.45	? ? 60	20 covers recorded so far. Nearly all addressed to Brit. Isles or U.S.A.
<u>Type II</u>				
1.	red	21. 1.40	6.11.57	Date-stamp has a narrow 'N', a longer name (ca.202° of arc) and a gap only 1 mm wide between the serifs of the first and last 'A's and the ends of the inner arc.
	black	25. 5.40	24. 3.56	
II.1	blue	21.10.51	3.12.57 (3. 4.58)*	
1a	red/blue/black	as above (apparently used contemporaneously)		Date stamp has a wider 'N', a shorter name (ca.198° of arc) and a gap of 2½ mm between the serifs of the 'A's and the ends of the inner arc.
				II.1a

* The Editor's bound volumes of the QC contain many pencil manuscript additions to the original datespans which were made by the late J.H.E. Gilbert (ESC 50). Such entries identify the then owners e.g. "Danson", "Shepherd", "JG" (his own). Since these almost certainly represent genuine examples, the dates have been added in brackets with the authors permission where they lie outside his datespans. If any members possess these items please send photocopies to Robin Bertram for the record. Editor.



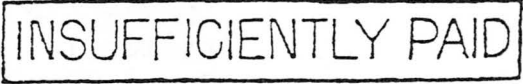


Type II (continued)

2	(with code letter 'A')	red	5.10.58	29. 1.64	Letters 2.5 mm high, narrow 'A's in ALEXANDRIA which begin and end at about the mid-point of the month day date line.
		black	. 3.59 (25.4.58)*	17. 3.78	
	(with code letter 'B')	red	17. 1.65	3. 4.65	
		black	13. 2.66	10.72	
		green	19. 5.58	seen on unstamped cover	
			II.2		
2a	(usually without code letter)	black	24. 7.56	20. 1.78	Wider 'A's in ALEXANDRIA, taller letters ca. 3 mm, and a longer name which begins and ends near the base of the month day line.
			II.2a		
3			nothing shown against this type in the Q.C.		
4			nothing shown against this type in the Q.C.		
5		black	19. 4.58	19.11.59	Only two examples known. Used on letters posted in the movable box provided on British packets.
			II.5		

Type III

1		black	30.12.66	6.11.73	Usually struck on the envelope in conjunction with type III.2, 2a or 2b.
			III.1		
1a		black	.73		ditto
		red	?. 5.61		III.1a

Type III (continued)

2	black	24. 2.65	24. 6.73	Usually struck on the envelope in conjunction with type III.1 or 1(a).
	red	? . 5.61		
	III.2			
2a	black	3.10.64	3. 9.67	ditto
	III.2a			
2b	black	6.11.73	2. 1.75	ditto
	III.2b			
3	black	.66	.70	
	POSTED AFTER CLOSING	III.3		
4	black	31. 8.73	17. 6.76	
	POSTED AFTER DEPARTURE OF PACKET	III.4		
The GPO proof books record two similar framed 'UNCLAIMED' handstamps (September 1867 and March 1869), but examples of their use have yet to be reported.				
5	red	20. 8.70	15. 6.74	No code letter seen.
	III.5			
5a	red	30. 4.76	1. 3.78	Seen with code letter 'A'.
	III.5a			
5b	red	1.10.64	4.12.67	
	REGISTERED	III.5b		

Type IV

1 (early state)



black

9. 9.60

23. 2.72

In QC Vol
III No. 11
page 149 -
reported
seen in blue
ink.

(late state)



IV.1

2

black

15. 5.66

10.10.69



IV.2

Used in duplex with type II.2 in a device holding the obliterator and date stamp together (the two may be detachable as the distance between each can vary). Seen with and without code letters.

3

black

1. 6.71

6. 1.78

Reported as
having been seen
(unconfirmed)
used in duplex
form.



IV.3

4

black

11. 5.73

10. 2.78



IV.4

5



IV.5

not seen used.

This obliterator was inventoried on 15th October 1857 and was presumably intended to be used with type II.5 (moveable box).

APPENDIX C

BRITISH ADHESIVES KNOWN WITH "BO 1" CANCELLATION

' X ' indicates those that are known or have been seen

Key:-



IV.1



IV.2



IV.3



IV.4

Stamp and Plate No.	T Y P E IV				Stamp and Plate No.	T Y P E IV			
	1	2	3	4		1	2	3	4
½d rose-red (1870-79)					1d rose red (1864-79)				
5			X	X	99	X			
6			X	X	101	X			
8					102	X	X		
10				X	103	X	X		
13					104				
14					106				
15					107				
19					108				
20			X		109				
-----					110	X			
1d. rose red (1857) (large crown wmk)	X				111	X			
-----					112				
1d rose red (1861)					113	X			
50	X				114	X			
-----					115	X			
1d rose red (1864-79)					116	X			
71	X	X			117	X			
72	X				118				X
73	X	X			119			X	
74	X	X			120	X			
76	X	X			121			X	X
78	X	X			122	X			
79	X				123	X		X	
80	X	X			124				
81	X				125	X	X		
82	X				127	X	X	X	
83	X				129		X	X	
84					130	X			
85	X				131	X		X	
86	X				133			X	
87	X				134	X		X	
88	X				136			X	
89					137			X	
90	X				138	X			
91	X				139			X	
92	X				140				
93	X				142			X	
94	X				143			X	
95	X				144			X	
96	X				145			X	
97	X				146			X	
98	X				147			X	
					148			X	
					149			X	X
					150	X			
					152				
					154			X	X
					155	X		X	

British Adhesives known with "BO 1" Cancellation

Stamp and Plate No.	T Y P E IV				Stamp and Plate No.	T Y P E IV			
	1	2	3	4		1	2	3	4
1d rose red (1864-79)					2½d rosy mauve (1876-79)				
156				X					
157									
158			X		3			X	X
159				X	4			X	X
160				X	5			X	X
162					6			X	X
163				X	7			X	X
165			X	X	8			X	X
166			X						
168			X	X	9			X	X
169			X	X					
170					3d rose (1862)				
171			X		2	X			
172			X						
173					(1865)				
174			X	X	4	X	X		
175									
177	X				(1867-73)				
179				X	4	X	X	X	
180					5	X	X		
181					6			X	
182					7			X	
183					8				
185	X				9			X	X
188									
190	X		X		(1873-76)				
192			X		11				X
198					12				X
200				X	14			X	X
203					15				
210					16			X	X
220				X	18			X	X
223				X	19				X
-----					-----				
2d blue (1858-69)					4d rose (1857)	X			
7									
8	X				4d red (1862)				
9	X	X			3	X			
13	X		X	X	4	X			
14			X						
15			X						
-----					-----				
2½d rosy mauve (blue pap) (1875)					4d vermil. (1865-73)				
1			X		7	X			
2					8	X	X	X	
(white pap) (1875-6)					9	X	X		
1			X	X	10	X	X		
2			X	X	11	X			
3			X	X	12	X		X	X
					13	X		X	X
(error of lettering)					14			X	X
					(1876)				
2				X	15			X	X

British Adhesives known with "BO 1" Cancellation

Stamp and Plate No.	T Y P E IV				Stamp and Plate No.	T Y P E IV			
	1	2	3	4		1	2	3	4
4d sage-gn. (1877)					10d red brn	X		X	X
15				X	1/- green (1856)	X			
6d lilac (1856)					1/- green (1862)				
1 (1862)	X				1 'K' variety	X			
3 4 (1865-67)	X X				1 1/- green (1865)	X			
5 6 (1867)	X X	X X			4 1/- green (1867-73)	X	X		
6	X	X			4 5 6 7 (1873-77)	X	X	X X X X	 X X X
6d violet (1867-70)					8 9 10 11 12 13			X X X	X X X
6 8 9 <u>imperf</u> 8	X X X X	X X	X		8 9 10 11 12 13			X X X	X X X
6d chestnut (1872)					2/- blue (1867)	X	X	X	X
11	X		X	X	5/- rose (1867-74)				
6d buff (1872-73)					1 2	X X	X X	X X	X X
11 12	X		X	X X	=====				
6d grey (1873)					TEST OR TRIAL CANCELLATIONS CARRIED OUT IN ENGLAND				
12 13 (1874-76)			X	X X	½d green (1880)		X	X*	
14 15			X X	X X	2d green & purple (1887)			X*	
9d straw (1862)	X				10d purple & carmine (1890)			X*	
9d bistre (1862)	X				1/- green (1883)			X*	
9d straw (1867)					1/- green (1887)			X*	

* These are known cancelled only with the 5 bar BO 1 and not with the circular part of the duplex.

APPENDIX D



THE BRITISH POST OFFICE IN CAIRO

Since letters sent from the British Post Office in Cairo to the United Kingdom, Europe and the USA were sent via Alexandria, the following brief notes on the British Post Office in Cairo may be useful.

1859, Feb. 23rd Post Office opened in British Consulate.
 March 23rd The 'BRITISH CROWN CIRCLE STAMP' taken into use at CAIRO
 August 2nd G.P.O. in London supplied the Post Office in Cairo with ADHESIVE POSTAGE STAMPS.

NO OBLITERATOR WAS SUPPLIED

1873 British Post Office at Cairo CLOSED

<u>Type I</u>	<u>colour</u>	<u>period of use</u>		<u>remarks</u>
		earliest date	latest date	
	red	25.4.60	9.4.61	only seen in red. Used as a frank to defray postage.
<u>Type II</u> 	code letter A black	26.4.61	24.6.72	came into use at the same time as the Crowned circle Frank.
	blue	29.1.72	14.4.73	
	code letter C black	26.10.60	25.1.64	recorded in the Quarterly Circular but no dates seen.
blue				

HARRISON POSTAGE DUES: PLATE VARIETIES

Peter A.S. Smith (ESC 74)

The Harrison printings of the pictorial series in 1921-2 are well known for the many plate flaws and retouches found in them, but the corresponding postage due stamps have received less attention. I present some observations here, knowing that they are preliminary and incomplete and in the hope of encouraging others to revitalize the subject by examining their holdings for overlooked features. Except in the instances noted, the observations are confined to the 2m. vermilion and 10m. carmine-lake, but it is probable that all the varieties noted exist also on the 2m. green and 10m blue.

2 MILLIEMES

Position 90, right pane (Fig. 1):- The outline of the numeral 2 has a sharp break at the top of the foot. In addition, the right panel is abnormal. The letters of POSTAGE are thinner and appear to have been recut. The outer frameline is slightly thicker at right, and the parallel white frameline is slightly thinner.

Position 30, right pane (Fig. 2):- The right panel has characteristics similar to position 90. The word MILLIEMES has a heavier impression, with thicker lettering, and the oval frameline is thickened at right.

Position unknown (Fig. 3):- The letters PT POSTAGE of the right panel differ from the normal; the difference is especially noticeable in the two P's and the first T, in which the top is separated from the stem. I do not know if the last feature is constant, but the other variations must surely be.

10 MILLIEMES

Position 2, right pane (Fig. 4):- A substantial bump extends up from the outline of the central inscription panel towards the second M of MILLIEMES, and almost touches it; the same M has a serif leftwards from its right leg. This variety exists on stamps of both colours.

Position 20, right pane (Fig. 5):- The T of EGYPT and the P of POSTAGE are made of thin strokes, and appear to have been recut.

POSITION 59, right pane (Fig. 6):- The foot of the first L of MILLIEMES is mostly cut away, and the lower right corner semi-circular frameline is gouged at the bottom.

POSITION 100, left pane (Fig. 7):- The second I of MILLIEMES is shortened at the bottom (this is noted in Zeheri for both colours: Nos. 25b and 26b).

POSITION "57 of the sheet of 200" (presumably position 57, left pane) is also described in Zeheri as having "P of EGYPT deformed" on both colours of the 10m.

I would be surprised if there are not additional varieties to be found on these stamps and on the 4m. value.

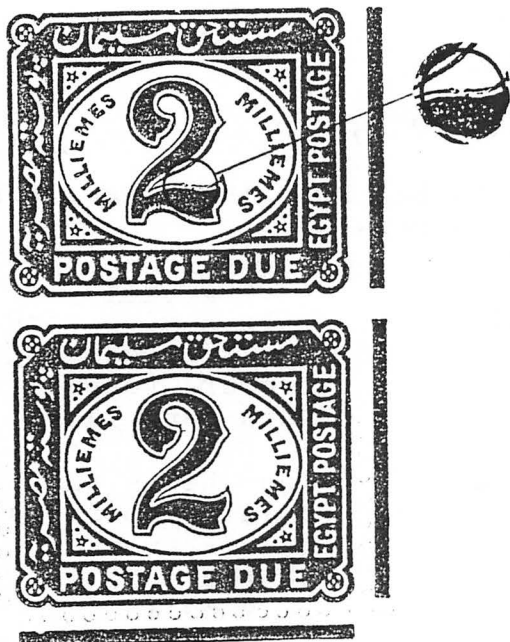


Fig. 1



Fig. 2

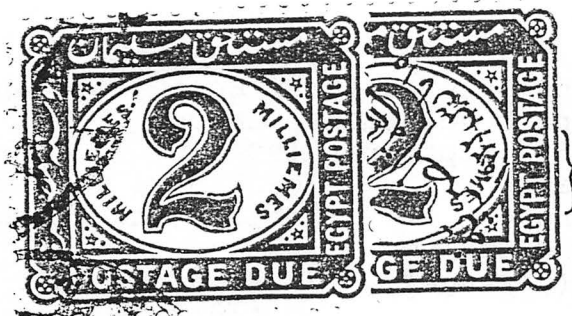


Fig. 3



Fig. 4



Fig. 5

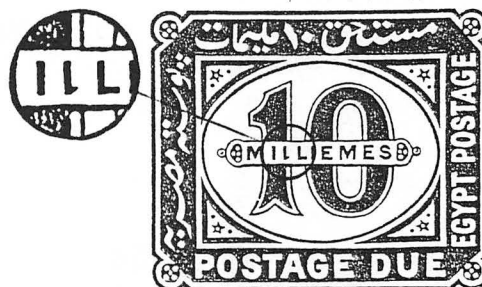


Fig. 6



Fig. 7

NEW ISSUES

C.E.H. Defriez (ESC 172)

All stamps are printed in lithography by Postal Printing House, A.R. Egypt, and without watermark unless noted otherwise.

<u>Commemorative Stamps</u>	<u>SG1915</u>	<u>SG1916</u>
Occasion	"Reading for All" Summer Festival	75th Anniversary of the International Labour Organization
Date of issue	15th June 1994	28th June 1994
Designer	Waheeb Farag	-
Design	Library books and family	Cog-wheels and hands holding spanners
Denomination	15 Piastres	15 Piastres
Sheet	50 (5 x 10)	50 (10 x 5)
Dimensions	50 x 30 mm	30 x 50 mm
Perforation	13	13
Quantity	500,000	-

	<u>SG1917</u>	<u>SG1918</u>
Occasion	United Nations International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo	
Date of issue	- - - - - 5th September 1994	- - - - -
Designer	Lotfy El Sawaf	Ibrahim El Tahtawi
Design	Conference and United Nations emblems	Emblems and Pharaonic murals
Denomination	15 Piastres (postage)	80 Piastres (air mail)
Sheet	50 (5 x 10)	50 (10 x 5)
Dimensions	50 x 30 mm	30 x 50 mm
Perforation	13	13
Quantity	500,000	300,000

<u>AIR MAIL</u>	<u>SG1725a</u>	<u>SG1727a</u>	<u>SG1728</u>	<u>SG1729</u>
Occasion	- - - - - Air Mail Stamps - - - - - (Additions to the series first reported in Q.C. No. 157, March 1991 issue)			
Date of issue	25th February 1991	20th July 1991	25th February 1991	20th July 1991
Designer	- - - - - Each: Ibrahim El Torky - - - - -			
Design	Islamic lantern	Plate with gazelle motif	Islamic wooden balcony	Plate with fluted edge
Denomination	45 Piastres	65 Piastres	70 Piastres	85 Piastres
Sheet	- - - - - Each 50 (10 x 5) - - - - -			
Dimensions	- - - - - Each 26 x 43 mm - - - - -			
Perforation	- - - - - Each 11 x 11½ - - - - -			
Quantity	-			
Supplementary	- - - - - Each printed in Rotogravure - - - - -			

SG 1915



SG 1916



SG 1917



SG 1918



SG 1725a



SG 1728



SG 1727a



SG 1729



LETTERS

Suez to Brazil through the British P.O. in 1875

Kurt Wolfsbauer (ESC 197) has kindly submitted a most unusual cover from the British post office in Suez. Since it is the only one of its kind that I know of, it merits special comment. The letter was sent from Suez to Greville Douglas, in care of the British Legation in Rio de Janeiro, on November 23rd, 1875. Although it is marked "to be forwarded", forwarding was apparently not necessary. There are no backstamps, but there is a LONDON/PAID transit mark in red dated 5 DE 75. The franking consists of six copies of the 4d. vermilion, and one copy each of the 2½d lilac and the ½d brown-red, making a total of 2/3d.



At that date, the UPU (as the GPU) was already in existence, and Great Britain was a founding member. However, Brazil was not yet a member (and would not be until 1877). The postage rate for this letter thus falls outside the uniform UPU scales. How can one rationalize the charge of 2/3d? There seem to be two possibilities, each of which involves unverifiable assumptions.

One possibility is that the letter weighed between 1 oz. and 1½ oz. for which the postage from GB to Brazil was 2/3d, with an ostensible beginning date of 1st December 1875. Although this is the reported date, actual effect might have been earlier (the date of the letter is only one week before, and it is not implausible that the notice of the new rate would have been sent out somewhat in advance). To accept this explanation, one would also have to assume that after the formation of the GPU, effective 1st July 1875, the rate from the British P.O.s in Egypt became the same as those from GB.

The other possibility is that the letter weighed between ½ oz. and 1 oz. and came under the rate system that was in effect from 1866: 1/- per ½ oz. from GB to Brazil. A letter of that weight from Egypt to GB would have cost 5d., which included inland carriage in Britain. If one may assume that the inland portion of 1d. for each half ounce was deducted from the

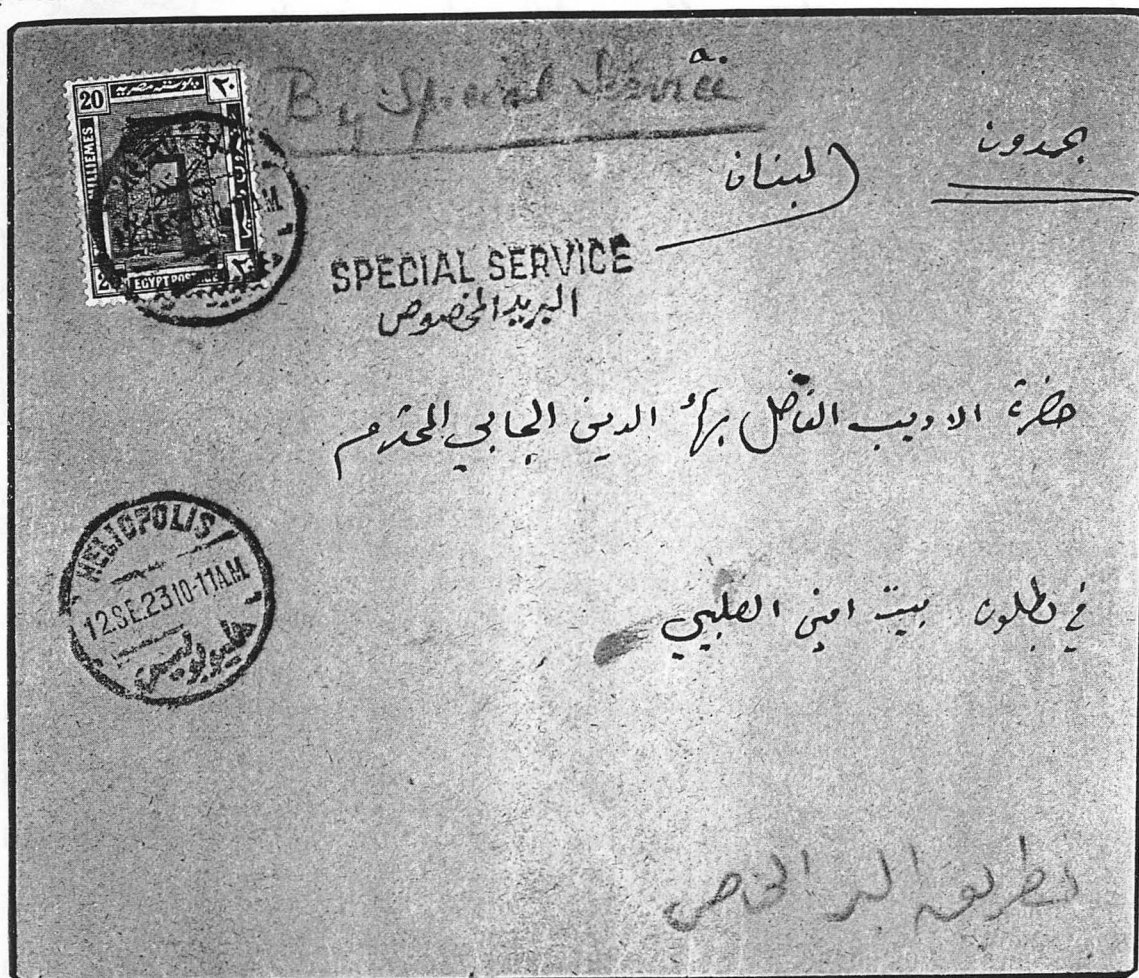
It would be interesting to hear if anyone has a better explanation. Regardless of the rate, this must be a rare cover, for surely there was very little mail sent from Egypt to Brazil in those days. In fact, this is the only cover from a British P.O. in Egypt to any South American destination that I have heard of. Can any reader tell us of another?

811 Mount Pleasant Avenue,
Ann Arbor,
Michigan 48103, USA.

P.A.S. Smith (ESC 74)

A 1923 "Special Service" Cover

Several months ago Charles Hass sent me a photocopy of the cover illustrated below. He said that it was the first one he had found in many years of hunting and collecting and asked if I knew anything about it. It is a cover, bearing the unusual postage rate of 20 mills, from Heliopolis to Lebanon with a manuscript "By Special Service" and its Arabic equivalent in red pencil and with a bilingual "Special Service" hand stamp in black. It is dated 12 September 1923.



Needless to say I knew nothing about it but fortunately had access to extracts from the Egyptian Government's Journal Officiel which gave me the complete answer as follows:-

1923 April 23. Journal No. 43, page 7

"The Postmaster-General announces that from April 23 ordinary and registered correspondence for Beyrout only may be despatched by way of Qantara-Haifa and thence by motor service to Beyrout.

Correspondence despatched by this rapid postal service, posted in Alexandria before 3.30 p.m. and Cairo before 5.30 p.m. will arrive in Haifa the following day at 12.45 p.m. and will be immediately reforwarded thence by car arriving at Beyrout by 6 p.m. on the same day.

The rates for this special route are:-

- (1) The usual postage;
- (2) A special charge of 5 milliemes per unit of 20 grammes or fraction of 20 grammes.

The words "By Special Service" must be indicated in red ink upon the address-side of every letter for inclusion in the special mail; correspondence not fully prepaid as above will be forwarded by sea.

The Transport Company accepts responsibility within the customary postal limits for loss of registered correspondence except in the case of loss by brigandage.

The service for Haifa to Beyrout is daily, Sundays excepted".

1923 April 26. Journal No. 44 page 7

"The Postmaster -General announces with reference to the recent notice published in the press concerning the special service for the rapid despatch of ordinary and registered letters to Beyrout via Qantara-Haifa that the itinerary has been altered as follows:-

Correspondence posted in Alexandria before 3.30 p.m. and in Cairo before 5.30 p.m. will arrive in Haifa the following day at 9.30 a.m. and the time of arrival in Beyrout will be at 3 p.m."

1923 May 3. Journal No. 48 page 7

"The Postmaster-General announces that registered and unregistered correspondence for the whole of Syria and the Lebanon will be accepted for despatch by the special motor service between Kantara and Haifa, particulars of which have already been published in these columns".

1924 February 4. Journal No. 12 page 6

"The Postmaster-General announces that as the contract with the Nairn Transport Company, whose motor cars were utilised for the transport of mails between Haifa and Beyrout, expired on January 31 1924, the special fee hitherto collected from the public on correspondence for Syria and the Lebanon will not be levied with effect from that date.

All correspondence for Syria and the Lebanon will be despatched daily (except Sundays) by way of Qantara-Haifa and thence by motor cars of the Syrian Postal Authorities without any surcharge as from the above date, in accordance with the arrangements made to that effect with the Syria and Palestine Post Offices".

The usual postage defined in the above regulations was the foreign postage of 15 mills for up to 20 grammes plus 10 mills for every 20 grammes or part in excess thereof. The postage on a letter of 20 grammes or less to be conveyed by this service was therefore 15 mills plus 5 mills special charge, i.e. 20 mills - the rate shown on the cover.

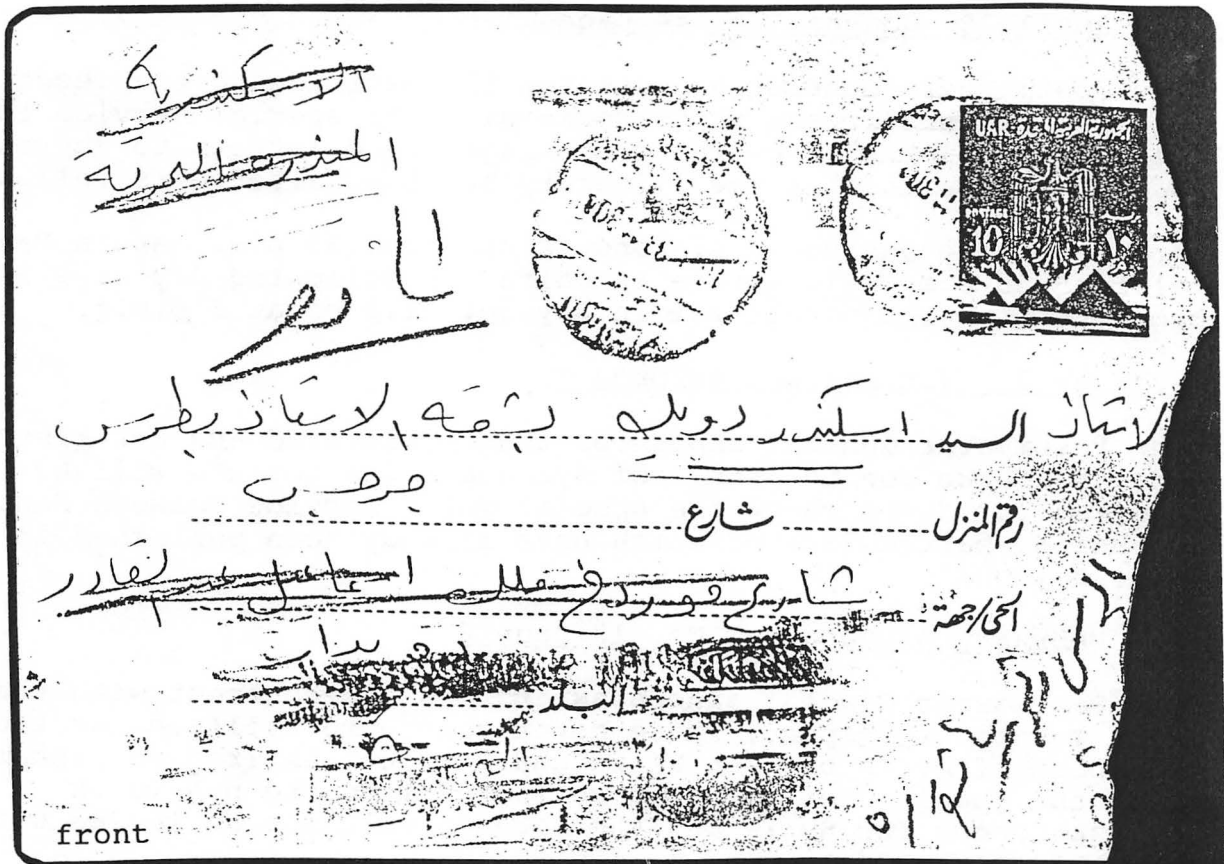
The service for which the special charge was made operated from 23 April 1923 to 31 January 1924, a period of just over 9 months and covers carried must be scarce. It would be interesting to know if any other member of the Circle has, or has seen, any similar covers so that a proper record can be made of those covers which still exist.

12, Browning Drive, Winchester,
Hampshire, SO22 5AR, UK.

W.C. Andrews (ESC 132)

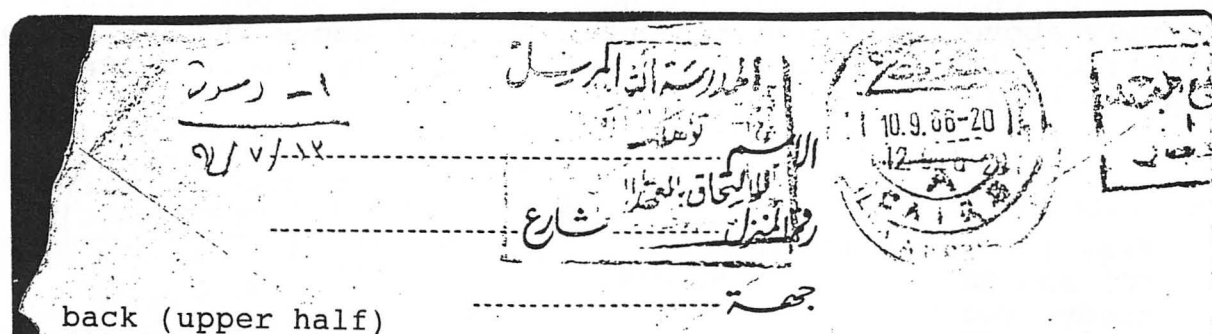
Variety of Postal Stationery Envelope H&G 43

While browsing through a pile of covers the other day, I came across a copy of the postal stationery envelope H&G 43. Although it was scruffy and the end of the envelope had been roughly torn off, I purchased it since it was not expensive and I did not have a used example.



While preparing to mount it I started to make pencilled notes on the album page to assist in the future writing up but found that I could not decipher the date on the cds cancelling the stamp, nor a second one struck on the envelope next to it. Fortunately there were backstamps since part of the 'scruffiness' was due to the fact that the recipient could apparently not be found and the letter had been returned to the sender, although there was no cachet to this effect. Of seven backstamps, six were quite legible, giving a date of September 1966. However on checking this item against my

listing I found that the H&G date description was 1967. So how had this envelope come to be used in 1966?



Further comparison with unused examples of this envelope and the previous issue (1965) confirmed that this was indeed the stamp with the uncoloured text and value. It also had the identical Arabic text on the flap as on the 1967 issue. However my notes indicated that the 1967 issue had the multiple eagle watermark whereas this cover had a blue geometrical design inside without watermark!

What are we to make of this envelope? Firstly, it must be genuine having started its journey in Cairo (cancelling stamp) with backstamps of Cairo A 10.9.66-20, Alexandria T 11.9.66-10, El Mandara (on the Alexandria-Edfina line) 12.9.66-8, Alexandria 12.9.66-20, and finally Cairo D 13.9.66-20 (two strikes) and appears to have been roughly torn open to find the senders address, since it was not on the reverse.

Secondly, it coincides with the 1967 description of the envelope and the stamp design and has an identical Arabic inscription (the 1965 and 1967 inscriptions are slightly different) but with the blue geometric design instead of a watermark.

Could this be an interim printing with the new imprinted stamp on left-over paper of the previous issue and does it require a revision of the catalogue listing? I would be pleased to hear from anyone who has a copy of this envelope (with date of usage if used) or anyone who can shed light on the issue date or circumstance under which it was issued.

51 Elizabeth Road, Mosely,
Birmingham, B13 8QH, UK.

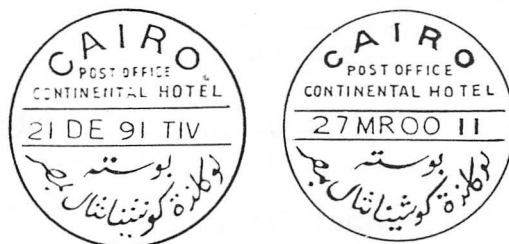
Peter Andrews (ESC 132)

Continental Hotel, Cairo - Six types of HC 1 Postmark

When I inherited the Hotels study from the late "Jim" Benians, I took for granted that the illustrations of the postmarks supplied with the study included all of those known to that date. I set them aside for study when there was time. Now Betty Watterson's recent query (QC XV No. 171, Dec. 1994, p.217) has forced a reappraisal. Immediately it became clear that though Benians listed dates for three subtypes of the earliest Continental Hotel mark HC 1, 1a and 1b, he illustrated only Type 1a (without the T in the duty), which was erroneously labelled Type 1¹. The illustration was taken from a master drawing now in my possession. However the master drawing for the actual Type I was also passed to me, though not illustrated in the article, and it has all the characteristics

Watterson describes for her "unrecorded" mark. The date-slug bars are 5 mm. apart instead of 3.5 mm. on the illustrated "Type 1", the letters of CAIRO are clearly bigger, and the P of Post stands directly above the N of Continental, and not above the I. Slight differences in diameter are not easy to clarify. Both types are shown in Fig. 1.

Fig. 1 Master drawings of HC1 and HC1a from the Hotels studys record.



So we have two clearly distinguished types, with wide and narrow date-slug bars: they are patently different handstamps. But that is not the end of the story. Further examination of my collection (limited though it is in this area) reveals that both of these have sub-types depending on the treatment of the date indicators. That with wide bars, for instance, is recorded with both European (FE, MR etc) month indicators and with Roman (I, VII etc), but always with a T for the duty. The narrow-bars type, however, has European month indicators with and without T for the duty; and Roman month slugs with and without the T. So instead of three sub-types as originally listed we have six, as below (retaining old type numbers as they are well established):

Type HC1	(old 1, narrow bars, with T)	12 DE 91	2 FE 02
lc	(new, narrow bars, no T)	12 FE 97	27 MR 00
ld	(new, narrow, Roman, with T)		30 I 00
le	(new, narrow, Roman, no T)		16 I 00
la	(old, wide bars, with T)	14 DE 91	26 FE 94
lb	(old, wide, Roman, with T)	18 I 94	29 I 94

The above dates for la-e inclusive are based only on my own records. Clearly members will have more, and I should be grateful for photocopies. Especially interesting would be a sight of the original of the card illustrated in Fig. 2 which I found in

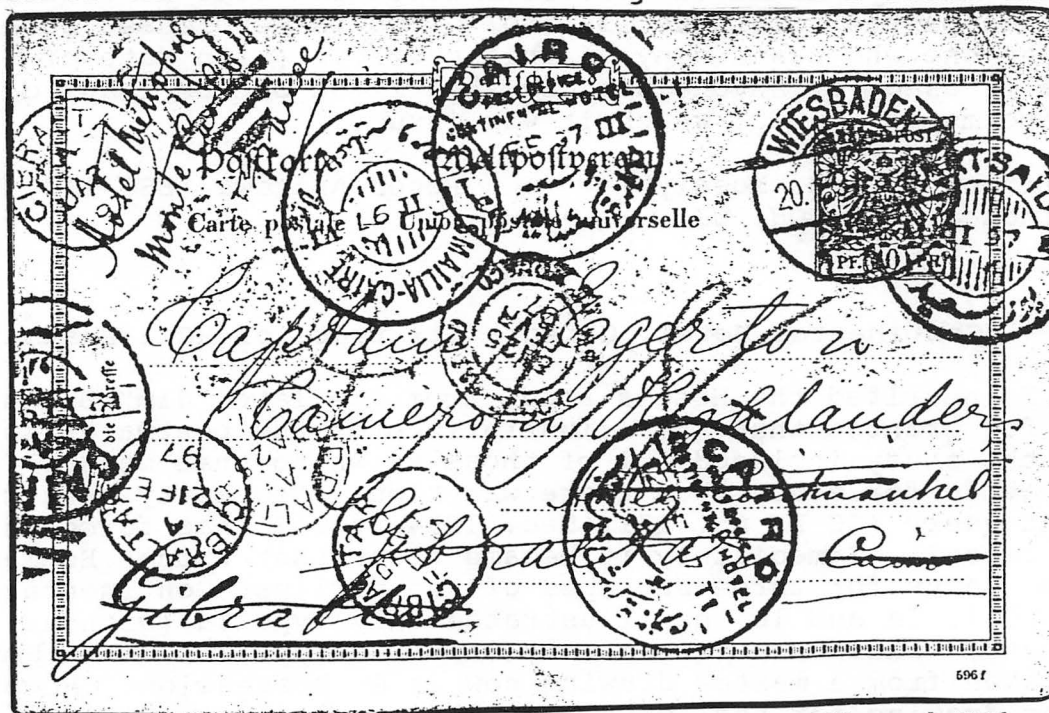


Fig. 2 Card bearing examples of both HC1 and HC1c.

photocopy form in the study papers. It appears to carry both the old HCl and the new HClc, perhaps indicating inward/outward use.

109 Chadwick Road, Peckham,
London, SE15 4PY, UK.

Mike Murphy (ESC 240)

Reference

1. Benians, F.W. The Proprietary Post Offices in Egypt. Quart. Circ. IX, No. 103/104, Sep/Dec 1977, p.82.

Egypt Study Circle Certificate No. 1

I thought that members might be interested in details of the first certificate issued by the Study Circle. It relates to a mint block of the 2 mills O.H.H.S. overprint with "double overprint". The certificate which was issued to "E.F. Hurt Esq." is dated 20th May 1939 and signed by William Byam. It is interesting to note that the photograph is not tied to the certificate in any way nor is there any attempt to position the stamps on the sheet. It would certainly not be acceptable by today's standards.

As a matter of fact it is now doubtful whether the item represents a true double overprint. It seems more likely that it represents a "kiss". However I think the interest lies in the certificate itself.

No. 1

Date 20th May 1939

THE EGYPT STUDY CIRCLE

We have examined the enclosed

Egypt: S.G. 012c mint block of 4

Stamps sent by *E. F. Hurt Esq.*

of which a photograph is attached hereto, and are of opinion that *it is a genuine double overprint.*



W. Byam

Chairman

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

Alan Jeyes (ESC 293)

Certification by the ESC is briefly chronicled in various entries in early QC's. In the minutes of the twenty sixth meeting of the Full Circle (sic) held on May 20th 1939 there is the following entry:-

"The provision of Certificates of Expertisation was discussed and it was decided that the Keeper of the Record should have these prepared". The Keeper of the Record, A.S. Mackenzie-Low (ESC 2) must have acted with the utmost speed and efficiency in order to produce the first certificate ready for issue on the same day! The minutes of the next meeting on July 22nd 1939 state:-

"Certificates of Expertisation. It was agreed that if stamps are passed as genuine, the Chairman should sign the certificate. If passed as Forgeries the Chairman and two full members present at the meeting should sign".

Erik Hurt (ESC 9) regularly attended Circle meetings from the early days and through the 1940's. At one time he was Exchange Packet Superintendent. He contributed regularly to the QC on a wide variety of topics.

"A collector from boyhood, Hurt graduated from amateur to professional philately somewhat late in life, bringing with him a remarkable flair for the unusual. His interest lay not with the ordinary run of catalogue varieties, but the more eclectic items that go to the embellishment of the more advanced type of collection and he had a rare faculty for finding them out" (QC IV, No. 38, May 1952, p.14).

The item illustrated above clearly demonstrates his interest for the unusual. Editor.