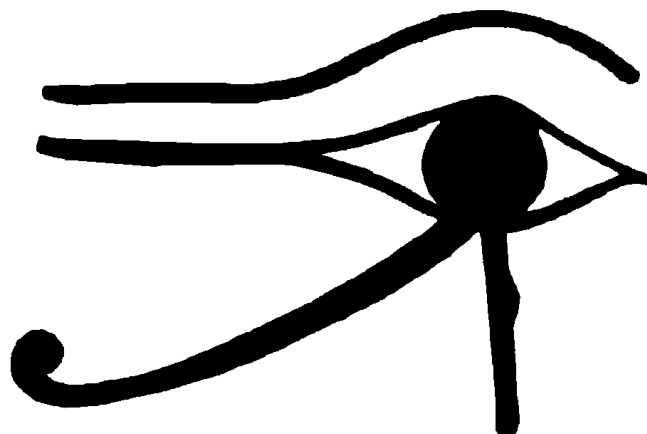


The  
Quarterly Circular  
of



THE  
EGYPT  
STUDY CIRCLE

June Quarter 1998      Whole Series No. 185  
Volume XVI No.10      Pages 236 - 259

CONTENTS.

Officers, Meetings 237-239, Obituary 240, Accounts for Auction 241,  
Library List 242-244, Exhibition News 245, Thanks to Samra 245.  
Auct. News 241 Editorial 238, Wanted Perfins 257

ARTICLES.

Air Jottings	J. Sears	246-247
New Used Abroad ?, International Reply Coupon	P.A.S.Smith	248
Public Custodian Label	J.M.Murphy	249
Araby Pasha cover	M.Barker	250-251
Listing of Money Order Branches 1903	P.A.S.Smith	252-253
Postal Markings 'Information Offices'	L. Alund	254
Egyptian Postcards	T.Chisholm	255
Pete's Ponderings, effect of humidity on perf size.	P.F.Goodwin	256
Queries - New	Various	257-258
Queries - Replies to	Various	259

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- Committee Mem. Mr. J.M. Murphy.

### **Forthcoming Meetings.**

- September 19<sup>th</sup>. The Express Service & Stamps                      P.Whetter.  
November 14<sup>th</sup>. Revenue stamps.    P.R. Bertram.  
(other then salt tax or cigarette stamps.)
- Sept.30<sup>th</sup> to Oct 4<sup>th</sup>.                      Autumn Stampex.

Meetings are normally held at the Victory Club, Seymour Street, Marble Arch, London.  
Members usually congregate in the bar from 1.00pm onwards and meetings commence at  
2.00pm.

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use on Circle business only.

**REPORT OF MEETING HELD ON 28<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 1998**

Present: All those at AGM (except S.Sigalis & C. Kelemenis) plus B.Babister, E.H.Frazer-Smith, P.Grech, S.Horesh, A.Ott(Sweden) A.Sobhi(Egypt), A.Schmidt, V.Varjebadian (Egypt).

The subject of the meeting was 10 Sheets and, as usual, a wide variety of subjects was produced. A brief summary as follows :

**J. Sears :-** The 1948 SAIDE Airmail flights to Athens & Rome. The stamps with all the listed varieties including the rare double over- print. Covers both philatelic and the much scarcer commercial usage. Assorted items included timetable & luggage labels.

**R.Wheatley :-** A selection of Hotel Postmarks on cover with some of the scarcer cancellations

**G.A.Jeyes :-** The 1934 Congress issue. Some more unusual items with covers to unusual destinations- philatelic and commercial. J.Sears also brought an example of the medal struck for this conference.

**M.Barker :-** Two rare covers with correct usage of Interpostal Seals.

**H.Kleinstuck :-** The Oriental Zeppelin Flight to Egypt & Palestine. Covers from Germany to Egypt including mail accepted from other countries & mail posted on board. Then mail from Egypt to Palestine with both the Zeppelin and normal Egyptian stamps. As the airship was not allowed to land in Palestine all of the mail was flown on the round trip and returned to Cairo for delivery by ordinary mail. Finally letters from Egypt to Germany. Examples of the scarce Port Said and the rare Suez cancellations were shown.

**R.Bertram :-** A specialized study of the first aerogrammes showed differences in the shape of the flaps which had not previously been noted.

**A. Ott :-** Early under franked covers/cards with postage due markings and stamps. Mail to and from Egypt was displayed and Anatole explained the use of the markings and the changes in procedure over the years.

**E.H.Frazer-Smith :-** Two separate displays showing postmarks from towns and villages with Category 1-3 post offices with the initial letters Q & R.

**D. Clarke :-** Postcards of Egyptian Dams with an interesting sequence of cards showing the construction of the first Aswan Dam.

**S.Horesh :-** Cancellations and covers of the Italian Office in Alexandria including scarce incoming mail.

**P. Grech :-** A study of the Alexandria/Ramle railway/ tramway with a study of its development from horse drawn wagons, to steam railway and finally, to electric tramway. Cards and postmarks of the stations were displayed.

## REPORT OF MEETING HELD ON 2<sup>nd</sup> MAY 1998

Present : P.Andrews,R-Bertram,S.W.Bunce,M.Bramwell, L.Butcher,M.Barker,  
D.Clarke, J.A.Clarke, C.Defriez, J.Davis,S.Horesh,E.Hall,G.A.Jeyes,  
M.Parker,J.Sears,R.Wheatley.

Apologies: W.Andrews,M.Murphy,F.Oddy.

Prior to the meeting members stood silently for a few moments in memory of one of our oldest members, John Revell.

The meeting, led jointly by Stanley Horesh and John Davis, examined in considerable detail the NAAFI Seals & Xmas Seals and Army Post Stamps used by British Forces in Egypt from 1932 to their withdrawal in 1941. It was noted that the Seals and Xmas Seals were only valid for postage to the UK and Ireland and were not valid for airmail, registration etc. Many examples were shown of stamps used invalidly, sometimes attracting Postage Due, but more often not.

After an examination of the stamps, panes and complete booklets, covers used both correctly and incorrectly were illustrated. The numeral franks were then discussed, the scarcity of some numbers noted (though nearly all were shown) and the use of colours (black and violet) in place of the usual red. Stanley then concluded the meeting with usage's and postal rates.

The use of the Army stamps by Commonwealth Forces had to be left due to time running out. Most members present brought material and lively discussions ensued when many obscure points were raised - few of these were solved.

---

### FALLEN AT THE FIRST HURDLE BUT LIMPING ON, EDITORIAL.

Arriving late at a meeting at the end of last year, I entered in the middle of a discussion, or was it a plea, for a new editor for the Q.C. Before I had taken another step I said "I'll do it, I've got a computer, printer etc..". Bemused looks spread across several faces, relief on others and one downright grin of 'sucker'. This was certainly a case of not putting brain in gear before opening mouth. Even more so of out right naiveté, "I'll just scan into a computer those neatly presented erudite articles, collating them and print it all out. What could be simpler. So I bought myself a nice new scanner with the irresistible slogan "No more typing!, the words are converted to editable text." The software intelligently picks out text or image regions, it does it all for you.

This was going to be easy, what could be simpler. Any way three months later 'where's all the formatting gone? That lovely formatted article ending up as one long line. From the scanned cover the address being chosen as text sent to one file, the postmark as a picture to another, the stamp to another... Help. That helpful word processor deciding to autoformat adding line numbers where it felt like it. OK into clipboard, into notepad, back to clipboard and then back to word processor, got it. Will you change the format of the Q.C. I was asked, "Not particularly" I said and then in all innocence "The main thing is to get the Q.C. out regularly four times a year March, June, September and December". That was the hurdle, so now it's June in August. Taking a weeks holiday I eventually made it - Q.C. 185

Fallen at the first Hurdle. My apologies to our members but I think I've got it cracked and half of the next Q.C. is already done. So the promise is 'Q.C. four times year out on time'. However for that I need those articles. I've got enough for one more Q.C. I shall be writing to all those members for which I have articles yet to appear. If your article is not here or you don't receive a letter and you think you have something outstanding please contact me. Ed.

### REPORT OF MEETING HELD ON 11<sup>th</sup> JULY 1998

Present: P.Andrews, R.Bertram, M.Barker, L.Butcher, M.Bramwell,  
C.Defriez, M.Dorman, J.Davis, P.Glyn-Jones, P.Grech,  
S.Horesh, A.Jeyes, M.Murphy, J.Sears and A.Schmidt.

Visitor: Mrs. H. Grech

Apologies: W.Andrews, D.Clarke, J.Clarke, E.Frazer-Smith, R.Wheatley.

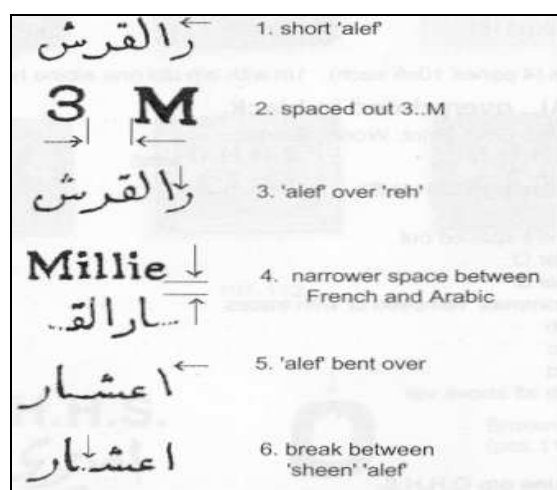
The Chairman welcomed all members, particularly Helen Grech who assisted Peter in setting up his display and P.Glyn-Jones visiting from Greece.

The meeting, led by Peter Grech, with additional material from Michael Barker, Stanley Horesh and Robin Bertram, examined in detail the French P.O. in Alexandria. Peter dealt with the various locations of the Post Office with illustrations and the reasons for the changes, between its opening in 1837 and its closure on 31 March 1931.

Rates between Marseilles and Alexandria - at first via Syria and later direct - were illustrated by covers, originally unstamped, then with French stamps used in Alexandria and finally by the issues for Alexandria itself. Next came details of the various postmarks and other markings for insured and registered mail with examples of the marks applied on the vessels themselves. Changes in rates and the reasons for these were shown and a particularly rare cover of Dec.1870 by 'Ballon Monte' from the siege of Paris to Alexandria was displayed. Postal Stationery of France and Alexandria followed, Peter noting that many used items were elusive.

The second part of the display dealt with the stamps, the varieties and the forgeries. A few sheets of Military mail pertaining to French Forces in, or passing through, Alexandria concluded a first-class display.

#### NOT TO BE MISSED.



When I started collecting Egypt, and before knowing about the Circle, I walked into Vera Trinders and quite innocently bought the last copy of the 1972 Zeheri. This now much sort after book, a collector's item in its own right, many of our members seek in vain. We now have a worthy successor, Leon's Catalogue "Stamps of Egypt" printed on high quality gloss paper in full and true colour. It covers all the stamps up to the beginning of 1998 and much else besides; Essays, Suez Canal Co., British Forces, Posta Europea, Interpostal Seals etc. It also details the varieties and overprints of which I have shown a small snippet. If you haven't got your copy yet do so

quickly, or before long you could be one of those searching in vain for a 'Leon'.

Hopefully we will see a full review in a future Q.C. but why wait. For our members in the Americas contact C.Hass, in Europe J.Sears otherwise contact Leon Balian in Egypt.

**OBITUARY. JOHN REVELL, (ESC 78)**

John Sears ESC 188

It is with great regret we have to report the death of John Revell at the end of March, he was 82.

As will be seen by his ESC Number he was one of our oldest members and was one of the last remaining links with our Founder; he attended meetings under the chairmanship of Dr. Byam. John was always ready to relate his experiences of those days; apparently the Circle leadership was far more autocratic in the early years.

Philatelically, John will be remembered for 3 major contributions to the stamps of Egypt.

Firstly, his study of the variations in the size of the Star & Crescent watermarks on the De la Rue Issues of 1879 - 1902 was entirely original work, and his masterly article on the subject appeared in QC No. 41 of December 1953, concluding in No. 42 of June 1954. This article was the result of several years of research involving the examination of over 100,000 stamps of these issues in panes, blocks and single items. Although other members of the Circle co-operated by lending him their stamps for study, the primary discovery was made by him.

His second major work was the study of the 5m value of the second Fuad Portrait Issue, 1927-37. This formed his contribution to the Circle's display at Stampex, Autumn 1985, and was certainly one of the highlights. John set out to show how a 'cheap' stamp could offer so much in study and research, and succeeded admirably.

John was not a collector who exhibited Nationally or Internationally, although one thinks the calibre of his collection would have enabled him to do so, and the display mentioned above was probably the one occasion when his work was seen by the general public. Having said that, he was always willing to show at local stamp clubs, and up until about 3 years ago he regularly attended our meetings and often led them.

Until the end of 1997 John was actively adding to his collection as opportunities arose, to those of us privileged to see it, it was an unforgettable experience, especially as he had extensively re-mounted and written it up in recent years. This led to his third major work, the listing and illustration of the Booklets which became available to members when he privately published it in 1997. Although hand-written, it is completely legible and is composed with his usual great attention to detail.

His interests covered the whole of Egypt Philately, from pre-stamp, *Posta Europea* to the present day; at this point I should mention he was the U.K. Representative of the Philatelic Society of Egypt for some years and instituted a New Issue service for members in this country. From the Postal History angle, he was an authority on Maritime Mail, having collections of the Cyprus and Indian Sea Posts.

John Revell was a kind, gentle man, always being ready to help others and he will be greatly missed. Naturally, our sincere condolences go to his wife, Amaryllis and his daughters.

**YET MORE ADDITIONS TO LIBRARY LIST No. 6 12.6.98**

John Davis ESC 213

**Please note:** these additions have come about with the amalgamation of the Egypt Study Circle Record with the Egypt Study Circle Library. Further information relating to the Record files connected with individual studies will be published when the files themselves have been sorted out, re-labelled and generally tidied up. Meanwhile, if any member is in possession of files belonging to the Record, will he/she please contact the Librarian: thank you.

**1.1 Catalogues**

- Catalogue des Timbres d'Egypte  
by S. Albani and Y. Zeitoun  
Publ. The United Trading Agencies, Alexandria 1948
- Catalogue des Timbres d'Egypte by L31.1 ZeW 2  
Ibrahim Chaftar BeyPubl. The Philatelic Society of Egypt 5th Edit 1950 L31.1Zeh12
- Catalogue des Timbres d'Egypte  
by Ahmed Mazloun Publ. The Philatelic Society of Egypt 6th Edit. 1956 L31.1Zeh13
- Zeheri Catalogue for Postage Stamps of Egypt, UAR. and  
the Sudan by Mehanny Eid  
Publ. The Philatelic Society of Egypt 8th Edit. 1967 L31.1 Zeh22

**1.2 Philatelic Handbooks**

- The Encyclopaedia of British Empire Postage Stamps  
Vol. 1 G.B. & Empire in Europe Publ.  
Robson Lowe Ltd., London 1948
- New International Encyclopaedia of Stamps  
Vol. 1 Parts 1 to 14  
Publ. IPC Magazines, London 1970. R41.2NIE
- Entier Postaux d'Egypte  
by J. Boulad and A. Cocatre  
Publ. Paris 1947 (2nd copy) R41.2Bou15
- The Interpostals of Egypt 1864 - 1892  
by E. H. Kehr (1962 Edition)  
Publ. Stamp World Inc. New York 1962 R41.2Keh11
- The Overland Mail by John K. Sidebottom OBE (2nd copy)  
Publ. (for Postal History Soc.) by Geo. Alien & Unwin Ltd. London 1948 L31.2Sid25
- The Production of Egyptian Postage Stamps 1866-1946  
Unpublished manuscript of an official from the Survey Department Giza 1947  
(Put together by and donated by P. Feltus) L41.2Fel

Les Vignettes de Franchise d'Egypte  
 by Georges Chapier (photo-copy)  
 Publ. l'Echangiste Universel, Bischwiller (Bas Rhin) 1950 R41.2Cha

### 1.3 Auction Catalogues

Mosden Mail Auction Cat. No. 4  
 Mosden Stamp Company, London Nov. 1955 L41.3Mosl 1  
 Mosden Mail Auction Cat. No. 5  
 Mosden Stamp Company, London Dec. 1956 L41.3Mos12  
 Mosden Mail Auction Cat. No. (no number)  
 Mosden Stamp Company, London Aug. 1959 L41.3Mosl 3

### 3.1 General Geographical and Historical

Gazetteer No. 45-Egypt & the Gaza Strip  
 Publ. US Board on Geographic Names  
 Washington DC 1959

### 6. Reference Collections

6.1 Feltus Revenue Collection Bound Photostats 1984 L46Fel49

### 7.1 Periodicals - with long runs

The Holy Land & Middle East Philatelic Magazine  
 Vol. 1 Nos. 2,3,4,5,6,8,9(2),10  
 Vol. 2 Nos. 1,2,3,4,5, (from March 1957 to February 1959)  
 Vol. 3 Nos. 1

The London Philatelist  
 (The Journal of the Royal Philatelic Society)  
 Whole Numbers: 401, 553, 554 (2), 555 (2), 557,  
                   as above 559, 567, 571, 587, 604, 611,  
                   as above 615, 624, 625, 658, 659, 679,  
                   as above 690(3), 756, 764, 916, 917, 96819,  
                   as above 978, 979, 984.

L'Orient Philatelique Whole Nos. 3,7, 18,19,22,28,32,34,35,36,  
                   as above 39, 40, 47, 49 to 54, 56,57, 60  
                   as above 62,63,64, 67, 69,72,73,74,75,  
                   as above 76,77,78,79,80,81,82,83,84,  
                   as above 85,86,89,91,92,93,98,100,106,  
                   as above 107,109,112,113,114,116,119,  
                   as above 120,126,127,128,129

Please note: we require 1,2,37,95,115,117,118, and any subsequent to 130 in order to complete the run.

### 7.2 With 'one-off' numbers only

The Arab World Philatelist No. 2 Publ.  
 R. Howard Coulter, Winois USA



The BAPIP Bulletin No. 24  
 Publ. The British Association of Palestine-Israel Philatelists Apr. 1958

The Philatelic Journal of Great Britain Nos. 417, 418 Sept/Oct 1925  
 Publ. Sefi, Pemberton & Co. Ltd.

## 7.2 Continued

La Revista Filatelica ffitalia No. 10  
 di Ezio Ghiglione Publ. October 1955

The Stamp Collector's Bulletin Nos. 3,5,12,13,  
 Publ. Ramsay Stewart May 1947 to May 1950 R27.2RSM

The Stamp Collector's Guide to Philatelic Literature  
 Nos. 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14,  
 Publ. F. Hugh Vallancey May 1947 to May 1950 R27.2HVM

The West End Philatelist Vol. MVIII No. 412-413  
 Pubi. David Field Ltd. London Autumn 1948

## 8.2 Tourist Literature

Souvenir of Alexandria (book of pc size photographs)  
 Publ. The Cairo Postcard Trust Co. L28.2CPT

Souvenir of Alexandria and Environs (book of pc size photographs)  
 Publ. Livadas & Coutzicos, Cairo L28.2CPT

Souvenir of Cairo (book of pc size photographs)  
 Publ. The Cairo Postcard Trust Co. L28.2CPT

**INDIA 98 -RESULTS WITH EGYPT INTEREST.**

Samir Fikry ESC 305

**CHAMPIONSHIP CLASS**

Samir Fikry	The Sphinx Collection	Large Gold
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**TRADITIONAL PHILATELY**

Dr Farid Mehiar (ESC 431)	De La Rue 1914-1922	Large Vermeil
Arto Kasbarian	Sudan	Large Silver

**POSTAL HISTORY**

Milad Hanalla	Egypt Postal Stationery	Vermeil
Dr Ibrahim Shoukry (ESC 423)	Hotel Cancellations.	Large Silver
Samir Attia	Station Cancellations	Large Silver

**AEROPHILATELY**

Dr Mohamed Adel Farid (ESC 495)	Egypt Air Mail	Large Vermeil
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**YOUTH CLASSES**

Tamar Hagopian	Egypt Postal Stationery	Vermeil
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**AUCTION 26: OUR THANKS TO SHERIF SAMRA.**

Mike Murphy ESC 240

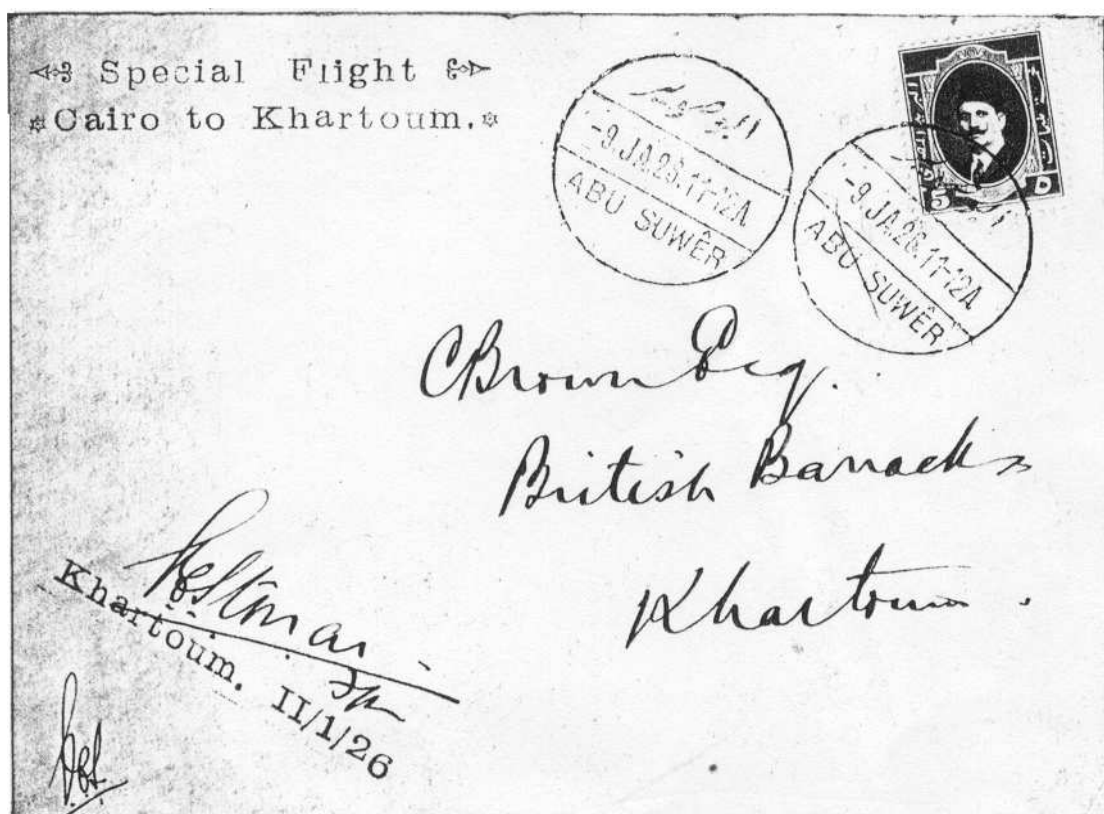
We owe an enormous debt of gratitude to Sherif Samra (ESC 311) for the success of Auction 26, and for the ability of our Egyptian members to take part in it. Only six days before the closing date for bids on May 1<sup>st</sup> did our Egyptian agent, Nabil el-Hadidi (ESC 369) use e-mail to ring the alarm bells: the Auction lists (and accompanying copies of the QC) had failed to arrive! An immediate check with John Sears revealed that the packet had gone off to Nabil a whole month before, by Swiftair Express but the Eid had intervened, and they were no where to be seen ... what to do?? A flurry of email messages found the way - I was able to fax all 28 pages of the list to Sherif's Zamalek office, where he had it photocopied 17 times and despatched a dozen copies around Cairo, two more to Alexandria and Mit Ghamr by courier, and the remainder to Nabil at the University to be passed on. The closure of the Auction was delayed for five days, and bids rolled in by email and fax from our Egyptian colleagues. There was fierce late bidding on some of the lots, and several nice pieces have found new homes in Egypt thanks entirely to the generosity of time and spirit of Sherif Samra, President of our sister society in Cairo. Thank you Sherif. Your efforts were much appreciated.

AIR MAIL JOTTINGS.

John Sears ESC 188

The R.A.F. flight to Khartoum in January 1925

Members with a particular interest in Air Mails will be familiar with the covers flown from Abu Suwer to Khartoum, an example of which is shown below.



They appear regularly in auctions, one of the most recent being Harmer's of May 1997, the estimate was £400, it sold for £440. It seems the prices of these items have advanced in line with those for the 1919 EEF covers. And yet, there is something of a mystery surrounding them. Consider the following points .-

- (1) The dozen, or so, I have Seen out of a total said to be 70 are all written in the same hand.
- (2) The Addressees have all had "common" English names, e.g. Jones, Brown, Robinson.
- (3) None of the covers has any "Post Office" Khartoum CDS as an arrival mark, only the "Khartoum II/1/26" on the front. Both this and the legend at the top "Special Flight Cairo to Khartoum" look as if they were applied with a child's printing outfit (John Bull ?).
- (4) The only mark on the reverse of my cover is a purple handstamp (the same colour as those on the front) which reads "BCMIF7S", perhaps the FF stands for Francis Field and is his guarantee of it actually being flown

(5) The R.A.F. aerodrome Abu Suwer was near Ismailia, not Cairo.

(6) Sometimes these covers are described as being carried on a Survey Flight, I wonder why ?, the route to Khartoum was already well know, in fact, Alan Cobham on his flight to the Cape surveying the Africa route arrived at Khartoum on December 22nd, 1925.

(7) I have searched the Public Records Office at Kew for details of this flight, but can find no mention of it, but I must say that the records for the period were rather sketchy.

(8) Unlike other "special flights" I can find no trace of the type of aircraft used, nor details of the Squadron from which they came.

Covers are franked 5 Mills - the correct surface rate to the Sudan.

It is generally accepted that about 70 pieces of mail were carried of which 5 were Official letters, I have never seen one of the latter. Letters were also carried on the return flight and they were marked in the same fashion "By return of Special Flight Cairo to Khartoum", with the straight line "Khartoum 15.1.26". The return flight covers seem scarcer than the outward ones, they have no Egypt arrival mark, nor are they franked in any way.

What conclusions can be drawn from these fact? I am afraid I am rather cynical about the matter, I think they were the creation of someone close to, or in, the R.A.F. who produced them for the market, it is highly likely they were flown, but what was the real purpose of the flight ? Perhaps just a proving trip for the aircraft, or a training mission.

I sincerely hope someone reading this will violently disagree and provide us with some concrete details, or another theory.

**PUBLIC CUSTODIAN OF ENEMY PROPERTY**

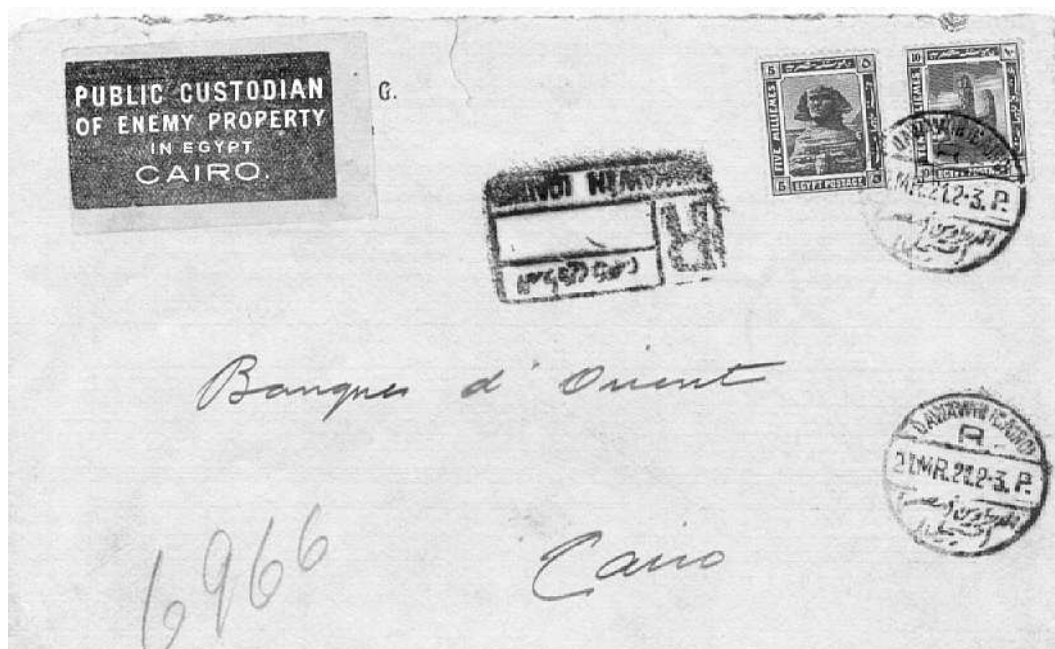
Mike Murphy ESC 240.

Egypt was placed under Martial Law on November 2, 1914, two days before war with Turkey, its nominal suzerain, was declared. The proclamation, by Lieutenant General J. G. Maxwell, Commanding British Forces in Egypt, was short and to the point: "Notice is hereby given that I have been directed by His Britannic Majesty's Government to assume military control of Egypt to secure its protection. The country is therefore placed under Martial Law from this date. Cairo, November 2, 1914." Two months later, after the removal from office of the Khedive, Abbas Hilmi Pasha, and his replacement by Hussein Kamil Pasha, Maxwell asked the Minister of Finance to appoint a sequestrator "for the disposal or protection of His Highness' private property". It was to be the first of many such appointments as the Martial Law authorities attempted to control the flow of funds out of Egypt and to protect creditors, of companies owned by nationals with whom Egypt was at war. Yet it was almost 18 months - July 31, 1916 - before Sir John Maxwell's successor as GoC British Forces, General Sir Archibald Murray, announced the appointment of a Public Custodian of enemy property in Egypt "with a view to the preservation of such property pending arrangements to be made at the conclusion of peace, and to the protection of creditors and other persons interested". Next day Mr B Hornsby, of Cairo, was appointed. Among his duties were to control all enemy-owned businesses, to liquidate them as required, to account for monies accruing or lodged with him, and to keep a register of all financial affairs concerned.

The cover illustrated is fairly nondescript - franked with an additional 10m to cover registration from DAWAWIN (CAIRO) / R of 21 MR 21-2-3P., with DAWAWIN (CAIRO) Registration cachet alongside - but for the black on pale blue label affixed at top left. The label, clearly cut from a sheet, has a printed surface 44mm by 25mm and states clearly :-

PUBLIC CUSTODIAN / OF ENEMY PROPERTY / IN EGYPT / CAIRO.

It was gummed on the reverse, has no watermark, and is affixed to obliterate the name of the company printed on the envelope: DEUTSCHE ORIENTBANK A.G. / Zweigniederlassung Alexandrien/ Alexandrien / Agypten. The cover, addressed to the Banque d'Orient in Cairo, forms a striking reminder that the Public Custodian's duties extended well beyond the end of the war. Can any member provide a date for the end of the office, or a later date for use of the label?



**JULY/AUGUST 1882 “ARABY PASHA” COVER TO LONDON.**  
**SEALED OVER STRING WITH “TIED” INTERPOSTAL**

M.Barker ESC 123

The unique cover, shown on page 250, is addressed to Messrs W.H. Cole and Company in London and carries a 1 Pt. rose 1879 definitive (correct tariff rate) with an illegible departure postmark: it was apparently opened twice before reaching the addressee.

Originally by Egyptian military censorship in the Delta.

Note: From 11th July (British Naval bombardment of Araby's rebel army in Alexandria in support of the Khedive and European lives and loans) to 13th September (Battle of Tel el Kebir where Araby was finally defeated) Araby Pasha's army, in rebellion against Khedive Tewfik, occupied the Delta except for Alexandria and the Suez Canal. All traffic from Cairo would have had to use roads going through the rebel army. It is perhaps surprising that letters to England reached their destination.

The cover is inscribed “Arrivee a Port Said en cet etat et supposee ouverte abusivement par ordre d'Araby Pasha” (arrived at Port Said in this condition and presumed to have been opened roughly by order of Araby Pasha): the inscription is signed by the local postal official and his clerk.

The Egyptian postal authorities bound a bundle of letters with string, putting this cover at one end, then applied a Port Said (type VII) Interpostal Seal over the string and “tied” the Interpostal to the cover with a Port Said “PS-1 Star and Crescent” official mail cancellation; additionally a Port Said arrival post mark dated 29th July 1882 was applied. The bundle was then forwarded to London.

The cover was again found open on its arrival in London where the British postal administration applied two official labels reading “Found open - officially sealed” before delivering the cover to the addressee in Gracechurch Street on 10th August 1882.

This is one of two known covers bearing interpostals that also have a manuscript notation about damage caused by order of Araby Pasha, and both are illustrated in Ibrahim Chaftar's article “The Interpostal Seals and the Early Postal Services of Egypt” in L'Orient Philatelique No. 115 of April-July 1965.

The Schmidt cover to Smyrna is Photo No. 7 (p. 480) and the Barker cover to London (see above) is Photo No. 8 (p. 481). In both covers the interpostal was applied over the ends of the string but on the Schmidt cover the seal is not “tied” by a cancellation and the original string has gone.

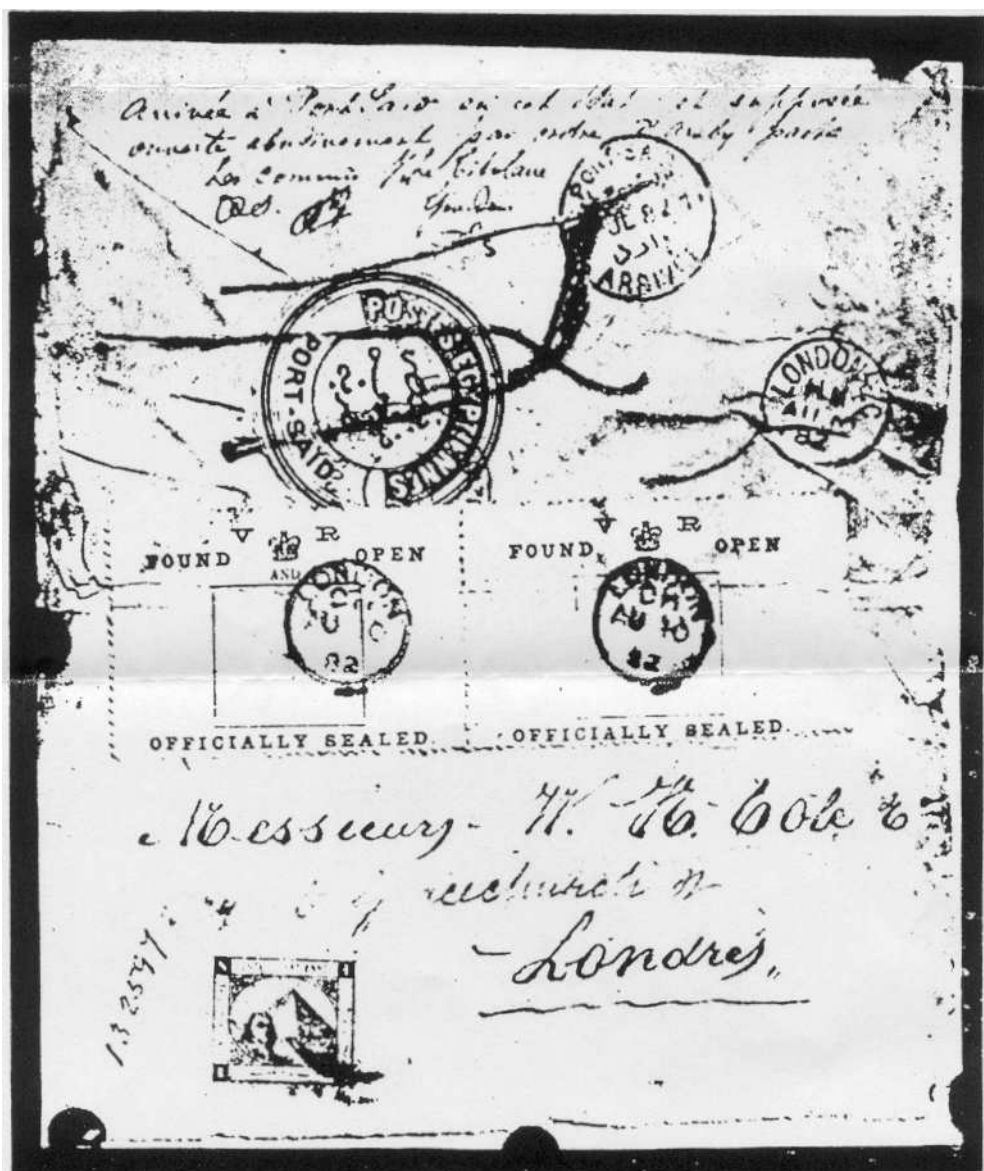
The London cover, at one time in the Danson collection (Christies 1977 catalogue lot no. 27), is unique because a substantial amount of the original string remains and the Seal is ‘tied to the London cover by the “PS-111 cancellation of Port Said. One other cover is known with string (LOP 115 page 482) remaining under the seal but the seal is not ‘tied’ by a cancellation.

There are fewer than 10 known covers with a 'tied' interpostal of any type.

A major use of the interpostals was to seal the string tying the bundles of letters: examination of the reverse of many interpostals used in this way shows that, in the majority of cases, the interpostals were applied over the loose ends of the string.

One of the few known official documents referring to interpostals is a Circular from the Headquarters of the Postal Administration then in Alexandria, concerning the transmission of mail in Upper Egypt and the Sudan, and it defines this practice: dated 26.4.1877 it states "... vous ferez un seul pli pour chaque bureau de destination. Ce pli devra etre soigneusement lie et cachete avec des tickets et devra renfermer les correspondences gouvernementales et celles de commerce" (You will make a single bundle for each "office of destination". This bundle must be carefully bound and sealed with interpostals ("tickets") and contain the governmental and commercial mail).

The whole document is reproduced on page 472 of LOP 88 of October 1954.



LIST OF PLACES IN EGYPT ON WHICH MONEY ORDERS MAY BE DRAWN

Peter A. S. Smith ESC 74

Trough the kindness of Edward W. Proud this list is presented. It is said to be taken from the Indian Postal Guide for January, 1903. Note that the spellings are not necessarily the same as found on postmarks.

Aba-el-Wakf	<b>A</b>	Old Cairo	
Abou-el-Choukoug		Savoy Hotel	
Abou-Hammad		Shepherd's Hotel	
Abou-Hummos		Pyramids	
Abou-Hor		Chabas-el-Chohada	
Abou-Kebir		Challal	
Abou-Korkas		Chandaouil	
Abou-Sembel		Cheblanga	
Abou-Tig		Chebrekhit	
Achmant		Cherbine	
Achmoun-Gres		Chibin-el-Kanater	
Akhmim		Chibin-el-Kom	
Alexandria (Central office)			
Alexandria Ras-el-Tin		Dalangat	<b>D</b>
Minet-el-Bassal		Dalatoun	
Port		Damanhour	
Armant		Damietta	
Assiout		Darwa	
Assouan		Daraw	
Atfe		Dechna	
Ayat		Deirout	
		Dekernes	
		Dessouk	
Badrechein	<b>B</b>		
Bagour			
Bahnay-el-Ghanam		Ebchaway	<b>E</b>
Baliana		Ebrim	
Bardis		Edfena	
Barrage		Edfou	
Beba		Edkou	
Belbeis		Edwa	
Belkas		Embaba	
Benha		Enchas	
Beni-Korra		Esna	
Beni-Mazar		Ezbet el Zeitoun	
Beni-Suef			
Birchams		Fachn	<b>F</b>
Birket-el-Sab		Fakous	
Bordein		Faraonia	
Bouche		Faraskour	
		Farchout	
Cairo (Central office)	<b>C</b>	Fayoum	
Abbassia		Foua	
Cook's office			
Azhur		Ghaba	<b>G</b>
(Cairo) Boulac		Guerga	
Ghezira Palace Hotel		Guiza	
Continental Hotel			



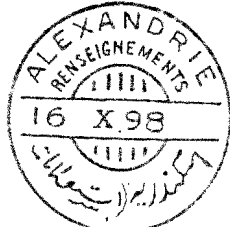
Hawamdia	<b>H</b>	Naggar	<b>N</b>
Hehya		Naghi-Hamadi	
Helouan		Nakada	
		Nanaiya	
Ismailia	<b>I</b>	Nawa	
		Nazali Ganoub	
Kafr-Ammar	<b>K</b>	Neguila	
Kafr-Daoud		Nekla-el-Enab	
Kafr-el-Cheikh			
Kafr-el-Dawar		Port Said (Chief Office)	<b>P</b>
Kafr-el-Ghonaimia		Port Said (Arab Quarter)	
Kafr-el-Zayat		Port-Tewfick (Suez)	
Kafr-Sakr			
Kalioub		Rahmania	<b>R</b>
Kalline		Ramleh (Alexandria) Bacos	
Kantara		Ras-el-Khalig	
Karinein		Roda	
Kena		Rosette	
Khatatba			
Koddaba		Saft-el-Menlouk	<b>S</b>
Kolosna		Salhagar	
Kom-Hamada		Salhia	
Korachia		Salmia	
Korosko		Samalout	
Kotour		Samanoud	
Kouesna		Sannoures	
Kous		Santa	
		Sarawa	
Luxor	<b>L</b>	Sedfa	
		Setris	
Maghagha	<b>M</b>	Siala	
Mahalla		Simbellawein	
Mahallet-Abou-Ali		Sohag	
Mahallet-Diay		Soroumbay	
Mahallet Roh		Soubk-el-Talat	
Mallaoui		Suez	
Manawahla			
Manchah		Tahta	<b>T</b>
Manfalout		Tala	
Manial-el-Guedi		Tanta	
Mansoura		Teh-el-Baroud	
Manzala		Tel-el-Kebir	
Maragha		Tema	
Matai		Teria	
Matana		Tocheka	
Mataria (Lake Manzala)		Tor	
Menouf		Toukh	
Mex		Toura	
Minet-el-Kamh			
Minia		Wasta	<b>W</b>
Miniet Guenag			
Mit-Bera		Zagazig	<b>Z</b>
Mit-Ghamr		Zefta	
Mit-Salama			
Mit-Yazid			

**The Postal Markings of Egypt.**


VII. "Information Offices." Lars Alund ESC 105.

There are only four various types of these postmarks, three of them with French text "Renseignements" or the Arabic equivalent, whilst the fourth, emanating from the post-monarchy period has the English text "Information Office" (but with the name of the town still in French "Caire". AS this latter postmark is later than the postmarks in my lists I have not illustrated it here. (For illustration see Mike Murphy in QC Vol. XII page 58.)

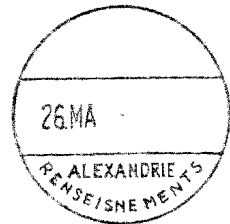
Probably these postmarks were used in a section of the main post- offices in Alexandria and Cairo which gave information about service, fees etc.. It has been suggested that this canceller was used on replies. Personally I doubt it as these postmarks are rather scarce, perhaps with exception of Inf.-3. I guess that they were used internally and were used on stamps only by favour (see also Mike Murphy *ibid.*).

	Office	Earliest	Latest	Note
	Alexandrie	6.V.98	6.X.98	Dates given by Murphy. I have not seen any copies.

Inf. - 1.

	Alexandria	5.XI.10	*	Date taken from the ills. I have not seen any copy They might be difficult to detect as there is no European text indicating the origin.
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Inf. - 2.

	Alexandrie	18 MA 40	23 NO 52	The latest date given by Murphy. For complete postmark see Fig.1
				

Inf. - 3.

EGYPTIAN PICTURE POSTCARDS.

T.Chisholm ESC 288

I was heartened to read the introductory article, QC March 1998, on Egyptian PCs, but I am wondering if the gremlins got into the works somewhere.

The measurement of the standard postcard is between 135mm and 140mm by 89mm, not as stated 115 x 89 mm.

Corrections needed to the names and titles of publishers and photographers:

As recorded from cards:

Emil Pinkau & Cie., Soc. An., Leipzig  
 or Ernil Pinkau & Co. Aktiengesellschaft, Leipzig  
 P.Coustoulides - Alexandria  
 C.Andreopoulos, Port-Said  
 Marques & Fiorillo - Assuan/Assouan  
 Fritz Schneller & Cie., Nuremberg  
 Muller & Trub - Aarau  
 Boehme & Anderer, Cairo  
 Ephtimios Freres - Port Said

As Shown in QC March'98

Emile Pinkay - Leipsig  
 P.Coustoulid Es - Alexandria  
 C.Andreopoulds, -Port Said  
 Marques and Florillo - Aswan  
 Fritz Schnell and Ce - Nuremburg  
 Muller and Trub - Aargau  
 Boahme and Anderer - Cairo  
 Efthimios Freres - Port Said

Now for a plea to all ESC members for L.L. postcards.

It has been my intention for about 8 years now to publish a catalogue of Egyptian Post Cards. From the collections of New Zealand members I have been able to catalogue 8,500 cards, the majority from 1890 to 1925. We now have over 500 publishers and printers of these cards, and it is the intention to get to print as soon as we have enough material on one publisher to make the catalogue meaningful. Members who want to assist are welcome to write to me, and I will supply the missing numbers that I want to record. The study will start with the L.L. cards.

Thank you for your co-operation.

TONY CHISHOLM(ESC 288)  
 13 ARDEN WAY  
 WILTON  
 WELLINGTON 6005  
 NEW ZEALAND

Or alternatively by fax (64 4 472 9865) or email [j\\_t\\_chis@clear.net.nz](mailto:j_t_chis@clear.net.nz)

## PETE'S PONDERINGS ON PERFORATIONS & PRINTINGS.

Peter F. Goodwin ESC 297

On reading the article by John D. Davis which appears in the December issue, 1997 on pp.203 (Vol.XVI) about the "Perforation Find" on some of the printings of the British Forces Letter Stamps & Seals, I feel that some thought should be given to the subject as to the properties and characteristics printing in general, and perms. in particular.

We as philatelists study our stamps in great detail, in the hope we can verify other collector's discoveries and even perhaps make a discovery ourselves which if RARE will greatly enhance the value of the collection and add kudos to any display we might make at exhibitions.

Paper comes in various forms and is made up of several ingredients in differing proportions, which in turn give the paper certain characteristics, this gives the Printer a greater choice to produce a product suitable to the method of production be it Lithography, Letterpress, Photogravure etc. depending on the application it is to be put to and the machinery available at his plant.

As a bookbinder myself with over 53 years in the trade, I am well aware that paper stretches ... which at times is a very useful property as it helps to control various factors in the production of fine bindings, in general thinner paper stretches greater than thicker paper depending how much water/moisture is being used, and as paper made by machine has a GRAIN to it there is more stretch with 'the grain' as opposed to 'against the grain'.

Therefore we have to consider how this affects our stamps? - at the time of printing, was the paper wet? if so the image and perforations would be smaller if the sheet dried out at a later stage, also once the stamps have left the Printer, and supposing his plant had air- controlled conditions for good quality control, if the stamp under review is in a humid climate? the paper will stretch and so we will have a minute movement with the 'grain', possibly enough to give us this 1/2 perf. difference to what the catalogue states.

To demonstrate this fact members might like to sort out some spare material of different thickness, measure the stamps 'dry' and then steam them and/or immerse them in water and re-measure the printed area and perforations and note how much movement has taken place with and against the grain of the paper.

So unless your stamp is in the same conditions as it was at the time of production? it could be bigger or smaller depending on the humidity factor it is in at the time of measurement.

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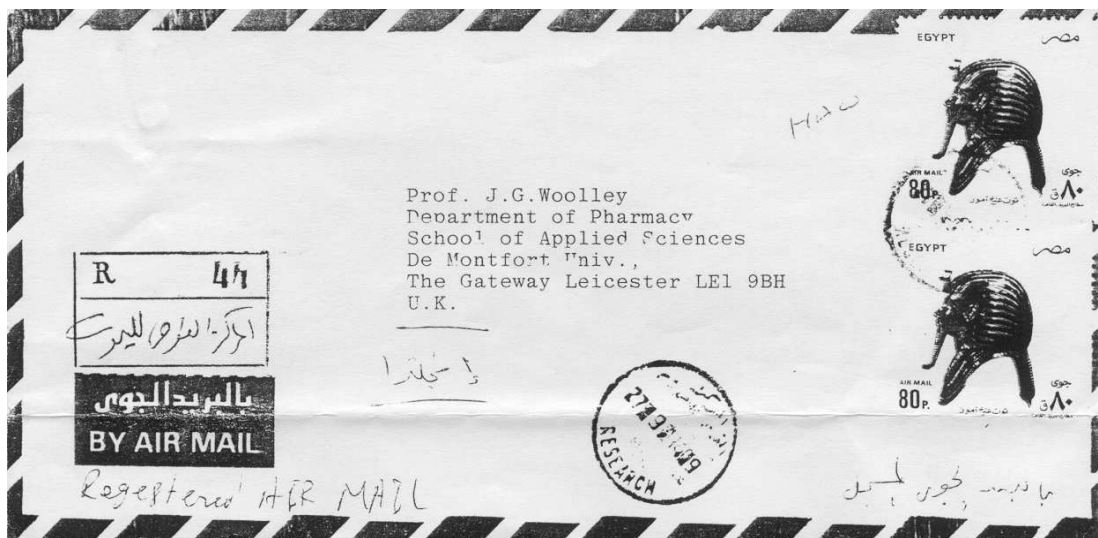
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The information does not warrant rescanning i.e. advert, note no longer relevant or simply just not worth the effort to reconstruct

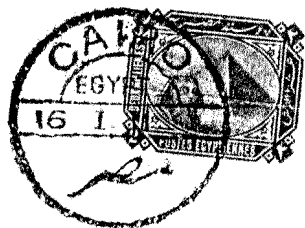
**Research Postmark**

John Chellingsworth, ESC 363.

Recently purchased at the local stamp club 'rummage' sale, this cover from the National Research Centre in Cairo has a 'Research' c.d.s. Does any member know when this cancellation was first used, the date here is 27-9-74, can anyone supply earlier or later dates please.

**CAIRO/EGYPT Postmark**

John Chellingsworth, ESC 363.



In the March 1989 issue of the Q.C., Anatole Ott, ESC 261, requested information regarding a "CAIRO/EGYPT" cancellation he had found on, a C.T.O. I889 letter sheet. Edmund Hall, ESC 239, had a similar mark, ALEXANDRIA/EGYPT on a similar letter sheet. Last November at the Leeds Society Fair I found a similar mark on a C.T.O I889 news wrapper, the mark is slightly larger than that reported by Anatole and the size and type of lettering is also different. The mark is dated 16-I-II. Any suggestions please.

ANSWERS TO QUERIES

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**Used Mary Postcard QC 184 p233**

A J Chisholm (ESC 288)

I was interested to read about the Cairo Military Datestamp in the article by W J Johns in the March 1998 QC. John Firebrace, in his book -British Empire Campaigns and Occupations in the Near East, 1914-1924, lists the Egyptian Civil Post Office datestamps and earliest recorded dates for military use as follows: Cairo 16 October 19 1 4; Giza 8 February 1916.

So it is logical to conclude that the military article concerned was written in Giza but it has the Cairo datestamp because the Giza postal marking was not in existence at that time.

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**ALEXANDRIA-CONSTANTA QC 184 p235**

Peter Smith (ESC 74)

This is in answer to the Query about a postmark said to read ALEXANDRIA-CONSTANTINOPLE (QC 194 ). It is actually ALEXANDRIA-CONSTANTA, and is Romanian sea post office cancellation. The mistake is very easy to make, especially when the end is not clearly struck! The following is an excerpt from the chapter on Maritime Posts from my book on Egypt, which I hope to see published by late summer.

**Maritime Mails:-**

The Royal Rumanian Steamship Line, which had a connection with Norddeutscher-Lloyd, carried a post office on board on the route Constanta-Alexandria, which may have begun in 1898 or earlier. Two types of cancellation are known from it[10].10 The first is a double-circle device, inscribed simply CONSTANTA-ALEXANDRIA or vice versa. It was apparently in use up to 1914 or later, and has been seen cancelling stamps of Egypt (1902 issue)[11,11 Austrian Levant, French Levant, and Turkey, and must surely exist on Rumanian stamps. The service was probably interrupted by World War 1, but afterwards, a new type of date-stamp appeared, inscribed BIR. AMB. MARITIN/CONSTANTA- ALEXANDRIA or vice-versa (Fig. 7). It has been reported with dates from 1927 to 1938. It has been seen on stamps of Rumania, Italy, France, Lebanon, and Egypt[12].12 Examples of either date-stamp are very scarce. and the few covers that are known are largely (but not exclusively) philatelic.